

INTERCHANGE

INCORPORATING ROADLINES

CRB Staff Newspaper
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Closing date for next issue

Closing date for Classies, Divisional Roundabout and contributions (including Black and White photographs) for the May edition of Interchange is March 19th.

MYSTERY FATHER CHRISTMAS AT H.O.

Head Office has a mystery Father Christmas . . .

Each Christmas for the past five years, a present has appeared on the fifth floor counter where Xerox operator Tom Dobbin works.

The latest present was a bottle of champagne and cans of beer decorated as a Christmas tree (pictured).

"It just appeared on the counter one day before Christmas before I came into work," Tom said.

"I don't know where it came from but I must be doing something right for someone."

Each year the pattern has been the same — a hand-made model or decoration mysteriously appears on the counter near the photocopier.

Tom has been the Head Office Xerox operator for the past six years. His easy going nature and efficient service have made him a popular figure in the building. In 1978 Tom made 1.6 million photocopies. "There's not much spare time on the job during the year," he said.

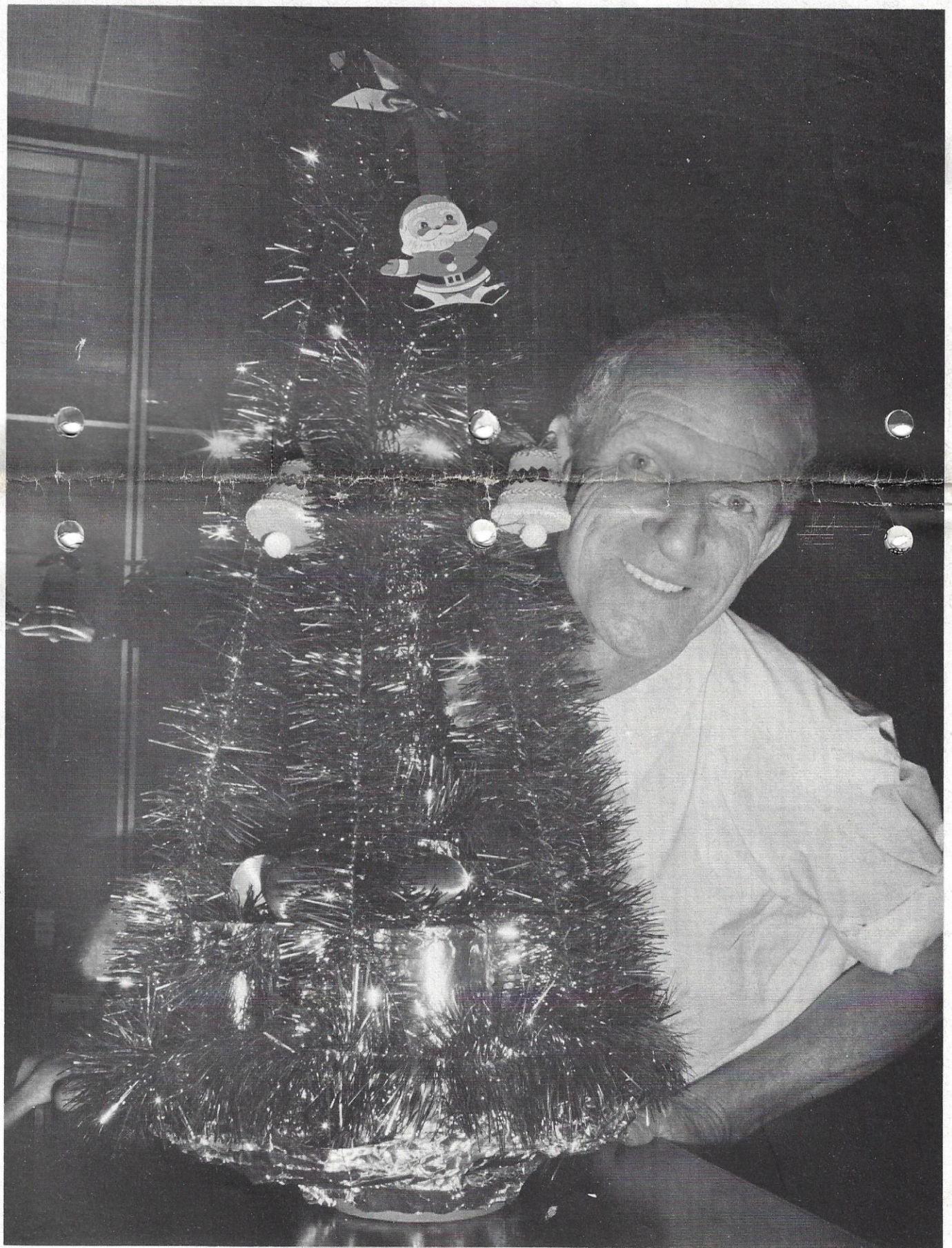
● When Tom joined the Board six years ago, he discovered a lifetime secret.

All his life he thought his first name was Tom — but his birth certificate that he presented on joining the Board showed that it was Oswald.

"It was a great surprise. I had never known there was another name," he said.

"All my life I had been known as Tom. I only learnt my proper name when I came here."

Before starting work with the Board, Tom had to sign a statutory declaration (no doubt with photocopies) that the two names belonged to the same person.



● Xerox Operator Tom Dobbin and his "mystery" gift.

Christmas the CRB way—P. 6-7

ANTI - VANDALISM CAMPAIGN



Mr Tom Russell's first appearance in front of the TV cameras as Chairman of the CRB, when he and the Minister of Transport launched the CRB's anti-vandalism campaign.

Victoria's road vandalism bill is approaching \$½ million each year, according to the findings of a CRB survey into the problem.

The survey carried out by CRB regional divisional engineers throughout the State showed that direct costs to the CRB were about \$250,000, and the cost to local government was at least equal to that figure.

The main targets of vandals are signs, guideposts, trees and shrubs, and facilities at roadside rest areas. Emergency telephones are also a target on urban freeways.

Damage to signs is a widespread problem. Many signs are bullet ridden, defaced, torn from their posts, or stolen. Guideposts are knocked over or even chopped up for firewood.

Police prosecution of vandals, together with penalties imposed by the courts and publicity can have an important deterrent effect on the growth of vandalism.

Many cases of vandalism occur during holiday periods at popular tourist locations.

Continued co-operation between motorists, police, the media and the CRB is essential in reducing the wasteful costs of vandalism.

In March last year vandals wrecked five emergency telephones on the Eastern Freeway, temporarily putting the freeway's emergency system out of action. On the Mulgrave Freeway recently three emergency telephone handsets were stolen.

Facilities at rest areas are also hit by vandals. At the Tolmer rest

area on the Western Highway the CRB was required to spend more than \$1,000 repairing facilities damaged by vandals

A recent major case of vandalism to signs occurred on the Maroondah Highway and the Goulburn Valley Highway between Mansfield and Molesworth, where vandals caused more than \$3,000 damage.

Warning and direction signs, guideposts and hazard warnings are erected for the safety and benefit of motorists. Interference with these roadside fittings can seriously reduce the safe conditions provided for the travelling public.

Examples of vandalism committed on roadsides throughout the State are:

- All kilometre plates were stolen from the guideposts on the Great Ocean Road between Lorne and Apollo Bay.
- Guideposts deliberately knocked down.
- In December, 1976, a 40-year-old memorial plaque at the Mt Defiance lookout on the Great Ocean Road was stolen.
- Warning lanterns stolen.
- Fatigue Zone warning signs on the Western Highway were stolen only a few weeks after being erected.
- All glass and perspex parts of a CRB backhoe were smashed while parked at a Ballarat road project over a weekend.
- Traffic counters damaged.
- Toilets, seats and eating facilities at rest areas damaged.

BURKE RD/BRIDGE

A new \$1 million bridge for southbound Burke Road traffic crossing the Yarra River at Kew was opened to traffic in January, 1979.

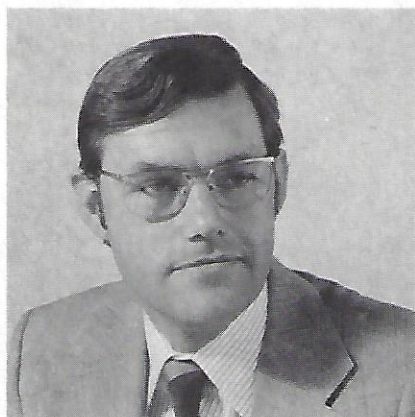
The bridge provides two lanes for southbound traffic plus a pedestrian footpath.

It is similar to and abuts the existing bridge for northbound traffic, which was opened in 1967.

The new 11 span bridge for southbound traffic replaces a lower level bridge constructed in 1926. The old 1926 bridge was subject to flooding and in 1934, was submerged to a depth of 1.5 metres.

FROM THE BOARDROOM

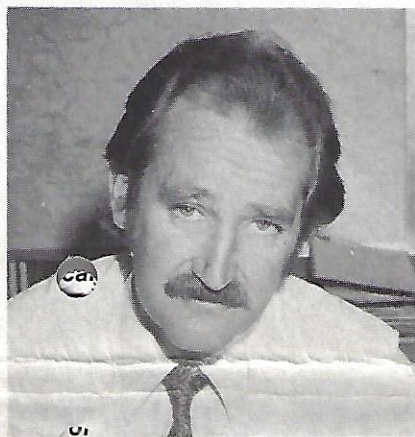
SENIOR APPOINTMENTS



SECRETARY • Graeme Cox

Graeme Cox, LL.B., joined the Board as Assistant Legal Officer in July, 1972. He was appointed Legal Officer in April, 1973, Principal Legal Officer in November, 1975.

He was appointed Deputy Secretary in July, 1977, and Secretary in December last year.



DEPUTY SECRETARY • Peter McCullough

Peter McCullough, B.A., B.Comm., B.Ed., M.B.A., A.I.P.M.A., joined the Board as a Personnel Assistant in September, 1966. He was appointed Assistant Staff Officer in November, 1967, Personnel Officer in March, 1971, Associate Administrative Officer in August, 1973, Deputy Estates Officer in June, 1974 and Personnel Manager in August, 1977.

Mr. McCullough completed his Master of Business Administration under the Board's post graduate scholarship scheme in 1976.

He was appointed Deputy Secretary in December last year.

Freeway emergency service

Motorists' calls to the Country Roads Board's emergency freeway service have topped 1,000 per month since the extension of the service to the Mulgrave/South Gippsland Freeways.

Latest figures show that the new Mulgrave/South Gippsland Freeways service accounted for more than a quarter of all calls during September and October last year.

The service provides 40 emergency telephones, covering the two freeways from Forster Road, Mt. Waverley, to Sommerville Road, Hampton Park. The service commenced at the end of August.

A total of 267 calls, the largest from any of the major arterial routes covered by the service, were received from motorists on the Mulgrave/South Gippsland Freeways during the first month of operation, September.

Thanks, says Ted Donaldson

Many thanks for the magnificent send-off last Friday (8th December) . . . I greatly appreciated both the party and the gathering in the theatre.

Mrs. Donaldson and I are most grateful for the lovely gifts and mementos. The record player has been duly assembled and is magnificent—quite the best I have ever heard. The album of photographs was a very kind thought and will form part of the family keepsakes together with the inscribed scissors, and leatherbound invitation.

I would like to thank the Board and staff for these gifts which we will always treasure and also for your assistance and friendship to me in the past.

**Yours truly,
Ted Donaldson**

(Footnote: The album of photographs illustrated some of the important events which occurred while Mr. Donaldson was Chairman. The inscribed scissors are a memento of the opening of the Western Freeway, Gordon Section, in 1972.)

ON THE BUSES WITH CHAS

The Australia Day holiday was a proud day for Charles Craig (6th floor, HO) when his two historic buses took part in the Cavalcade of Transport through Melbourne.

For the past eight years Charles has spent most of his spare time restoring the buses, a 1935 Diamond T and a 1936 Federal.

Both are small capacity buses (16-17 seats) and are typical of the many buses operating in Melbourne suburbs until the early 1950's.

Charles' first bus was the 1935 Diamond T which he bought for \$90 in 1970 after the vehicle had been lying idle in a Brunswick backyard shed for almost 20 years.

"The shell was in good condition but the timberwork had rotted away," Charles said.

Charles stripped back the interior woodwork in the ceiling and then varnished it. Painting and other restoration work has brought it back into near-new condition.

Charles acquired the 1936 Federal bus, which is similar in appearance to the Diamond T, in 1976.

However, both the Diamond T and the Federal require more work on the engine before they can be driven again.

Charles is a member of the Bus and Coach Society of Victoria, and was actively involved in organising this year's Melbourne Pageant Cavalcade of Transport.

The following extract from a letter received from the former Chairman will be of interest.

GORN FISHIN!

"Hiyajac"
 "Lobuddy"
 "Binearlong?"
 Cuplours"
 "Cetchanenny?"
 "Goddafew
 Lethereeznit'n"
 "Ennysizetoom?"
 "Cuplapowns"
 "Hittinhard"
 "Sordalike"
 "Wahchoozin?"
 Muslsnkwid"
 "Fishanonaboddum?"
 "Rydononaboddum"
 "Whatchadrinkin?"
 Boddlomelbin"
 "Igoddago"
 "Tubad"
 "Seeyaroun"
 "Yeahtakideezy"
 "Guluk"



CRB'S BASEBALL STAR



Surveyor Rod Chapman (Head Office) represented Victoria in the Australian baseball championships (Caxton Shield) played in Melbourne in January.

It was the first time that Rod, a centre field player, has played in the Australian championships, although he represented Victoria twice in interstate games in 1975-76.

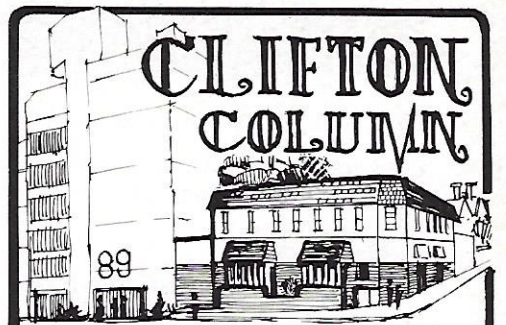
Victoria finished third in the 1979 Caxton Shield competition.

Rod has been working with the Board for one year full-time. He studied surveying at Melbourne University on a Board cadetship.

He started playing competitive baseball during winter in 1972 and made it into the State side in his first year.

When baseball became a summer sport he gave up playing senior cricket to concentrate on baseball. He currently plays with Melbourne in the Victorian Baseball Association competition.

● Another top baseballer with the Board is Graham Deany (Estates) who has represented Victoria and Australia, and is currently coaching a metropolitan "A" grade team.



A caller rang the CRB for some information about plans for a road project and was informed: "It has not been shelved; we just have not got around to it!"

Two Board officers on a trip from Beechworth to Bendigo stopped halfway to change drivers. They noticed an electric wire lead on the side of the road, and thinking that it had fallen off the back of a truck, started winding it up. After winding it over two crests, they realised that they had a lot of lead and after reaching the third crest saw the police amphetamine equipment . . . as fast as they were winding it in, the police were unwinding it.

The police saw the funny side, but made them replace the lead anyway.

Overheard at the Head Office Christmas luncheon . . . Dave Beattie with glass in hand: "I'm all right. The Chairman is driving home tonight". Joking, of course, as our new Chairman later confirmed.

Messenger Danny Makris (HO) did his bit to help employment. He was driving along the South Eastern Freeway and stopped to pick up a cardboard carton that had fallen from a truck. Danny caught up with the truck driver further up the freeway who thanked him. "I could have got the sack over that," the truckie said.

We know that many staff members feel they are married to the Board. And it's true, according to the Personnel Handbook. When you leave the Board's service, it is listed as a "Separation". So if you try and leave before your timeclock shows enough hours, it's desertion. Or if you start another job while still on the Board's payroll, that's Adultery.

West Gate Freeway, South Melbourne.

Work is continuing on the 3.6 km West Gate Freeway between Graham Street, Port Melbourne, and Kingsway, South Melbourne.

Alterations to the existing freeway between Graham Street and Rogers Street have been completed and were opened to traffic with the West Gate Bridge on 15th November, 1978.

Site clearance is well advanced and construction of 124 of the 416 foundation piles required for the 1.85 km elevated section of the freeway is scheduled to begin in March, 1979.

Cost estimate—\$87 million. Completion expected—late 1983.

NOSTALGIA

CRB patrol work in the 1930s involved pioneering spirit as well as hard work.

Here are some photos from the scrapbook of retired patrolman Joe Gilliland of Warburton, who joined the CRB in 1935 and spent 34 years on patrol in the Warburton area.

Joe recalled his first years on patrol . . . in the days when the patrol trucks had to be hired and

when the men went on a fortnight trip into the mountains issued only with a tent.

He said on a snow clearing patrol in the Great Dividing Range, the final task of the day would be to clear a patch of snow away so that they could pitch the tents alongside the road.

Most of the patrol work in the 1930s was carried out by hand shovel. It was hard work. Often the men would leave their families on a Monday morning and not return from a patrol trip until Saturday afternoon.



● After a day's work . . . the 1934 patrol at a roadside camp at Somers Park.

● LEFT: Patrol gangs clear a fallen tree from the Acheron Way after the bushfires of January, 1939.

● BELOW: Snow clearing in the Great Dividing Range.



POETRY

Eastern Freeway Engineer Bob Woodhouse provides this edition's contribution to CRB poetry with the "Ballad of Rolling Roy McCartney", Interchange is pleased to provide a forum for budding poets—so send any contributions to your Interchange representative.

Young Rolling Roy McCartney
Of international fame
Used his engineering skills
To learn the yachting game.

Rolling Roy the hardy type
Athletic, bronzed and tall
There's a million sailing tricks to
learn
And Rolling knew them all.

He'd sailed a rubber dinghy
In a swell of forty feet
His artistry was magic
To watch him was a treat.

Rolling was sure-footed
In any kind of seas
In gales he'd walk along the deck
At forty-five degrees.

But came his greatest moment
One sunny day in May
When the Chairman asked him
To sail across Port Phillip Bay.

Rolling Roy McCartney
He'll go down in history
As the engineer who once became
A living legend of the sea.

A sturdy craft had Rolling Roy
Nigh on sixty metres long
It was rumoured on the Elwood
coast
That he bought it for a song.

'Twas early in the month of June
That Rolling Roy set sail
He took the Eastern Freeway crew
Plus four more blokes to bail.

Terri took the job of cook
She's a Roman salt of old
Lesagne was her favourite dish
Naturally served cold.

When he reached the open sea
We headed to the South
And as the boom was lowered
It struck Ted Kelly in the mouth.

That night the cruel winds swept
the sea
And nearly sank the boat
So we lashed Ron Quinlan to the
side
And he kept us well afloat.

While Rolling sailed the ocean blue
The years went quickly by
And when the food supplies were
gone
We started eating Warwick Pie.

Sometimes when Ocean Liners
Passed us in the night
Rolling yelled out "ICEBERG"
To give the clods a fright.

And when the sea was stormy
And waves broke o'er the rail
Rolling Roy would yell to us
"OK you bludgers . . . bail."

Niall Quin had his throat cut
When he mutined one day
By shouting out at breakfast
"UP WITH THE IRA."

One young chap named Bromley
Came screaming thru the door
When MacAuley started singing
"Michael row the boat ashore."

Ray Marshall was a sailor true
With skin like sunburnt bark
He'd learnt the ropes some years
before
When he sailed on Noah's Ark.

We had Dave Hosking drawn and
quartered
And strung up by his neck
When Rolling caught him playing
golf
Upon the starboard deck.

Geoff Smith lost his glasses
When he stumbled in the dark
He couldn't see without 'em
So we tossed him to a shark.

"By gum that bloody man was
tough"
Cried the poor old shark
So to give him something soft to
eat
We threw in Brian Clark.

One day young Bobby Roberts
A pirate from the coast
Climbed aboard our sturdy ship
And at once began to boast.

He told some really vivid tales
About his escapade
With a bonny brunette lady
On a street in Adelaide.

Well Bobby teamed with Rolling
And what a team they made
Until Rolling turned against him
And slashed him with a blade.

Major General Captain Boyd
(Who used to drive a tank)
Was unstable on the rolling deck
And volunteered to walk the plank.

Vincent Quin and William Harper
Tried to stage a coup
But alas their plan aborted
And Rolling cut them both in two.

For forty days and eighty nights
Rolling stood fast at the wheel
On the other forty days
He dragged Vic Moll along the keel.

Paul Anglin thought he sighted land
In the ocean far away
So that night we celebrated
By eating Mick O'Shea.

Bob Woodhouse and Ron Gowan
Began to formulate a plot
First they grabbed Panuccio
And cooked him in a pot.

Geoff Hunt abandoned ship
Because he thought the tub was
sinking.
But as Peter Carter pointed out
It was the sound of Howard
drinking.

One day we spied an island
It's beach looked extra good
So Rolling dropped the anchor
And buried Colin Wood.

Angels went with aim
To vacuum up the grave
But Rolling met some natives
And sold him as a slave.

That very night while plotting course
Seaman Foley muffed the logs

So Rolling sent him for a swim
In a pair of concrete togs.

John Hendrix fixed the boondocks
Every time they stalled
What! Boondocks on a sailing ship?
Yes — we had a set installed.

The traffic King Rod Bertram
Found that sailing doesn't pay
When Rolling threw him overboard
For sleeping in one day.

Bob Meggs and Johnny Boston
And Peter Armstrong, too
Suddenly went missing
When Rolling cooked them in a
stew.

Young Dave the pommie sailor
Was giving cheek one day
So Rolling had Keith Eisenberg
File the jerk away.

This left only Billy Noonan
And Albert Kerian to check
But Rolling got old Johnny
To nail them to the deck.

And now at last there's three
aboard
Don't you see the plan
We rid ourselves of Rolling Roy
And the boat's at our command.

But Rolling Roy was extra smart
As cunning as a fox
He overheard us planning
And sealed us in a box.

To rid the yacht of ballast
Rolling jettisoned the box
As the cutter turned to pick us up
It smashed against some rocks.

Rolling headed nor nor east
Sailing all alone
Some say he drowned at sea
But his fate is still unknown.

Some say he's now living
On an island far away
Some say they've seen a yacht
Painted ghostly grey.

And although their sanity is doubted
Some sailors still insist
They they've seen a phantom
yachtsman
Drifting in the mist.

If you stand at night on Barwon
Heads
You'll often hear the call
"I'm Rolling Roy McCartney
Greatest Yachtsman of them all."

'POODLE' WINS THE DERBY

Syndal's inaugural Dunny to Dunny Derby was held on Friday, December 22.

The field of 10 starters (with their trainers) were:

"Bear" Barclay (trained by "Fish" Alden); "Bulldog" Yeomans (trained by "Father Oh" Malley); "Bitumen Burner" Parker (trained by "Fleetfoot" Brooks); "Speedy" Sorpreso (trained by "Godfather" Vozzo); "Clot" Sherwood (trained by "Vicar" Craig); "The Arab" Colakidis (trained by "Monument" Fryc); "Poodle" Yeoman (trained by "Dasher" Youdan); "Dark Horse" Pinto (trained by "Ghandi Edmonds"); "Muscles" Meneilly (trained by "Whatshisname" Watts); "Squeaker" Brown (trained by "Donkey Dave" Greenfield).

The 70-metre race, between toilets at the Syndal workshop, was won by David "Poodle" Yeoman.

The race got off to a very tardy start. The "Dark Horse" bolted three times, before the field was despatched as one by starter Dracoulas, who shouted in fluent Clayton-Creek "Feyer".

On settling down the Yeoman twins showed a clean pair of heels to The Bear and Muscles with Squeaker, The Clot and Speedy Sorpreso tucked in on the rails with The Arab — as

usual with his horses — going like a camel, and the Dark Horse appeared to have lost one of his racing plates.

The Bitumen Burner moved up on the outside of the Bulldog at the halfway mark with the Poodle yapping at their heels. Speedy Sorpreso blew a gasket and Squeaker wished it was three times around the block so he could keep the leaders in sight.

Muscles and The Bear appeared jaded, with The Dark Horse and The Camel — sorry — Arab, whipping them in.

Over the last twenty metres The Poodle forged to the front to win from twin brother Bulldog with the Bitumen Burner stuck in third place.

Official placings in the CRB Dunny to Dunny Derby 1978 were:

1st: Poodle Yeoman — Trainer "Dasher" Youdan.

2nd: Bulldog Yeomans — Trainer "Father Oh" Malley.

3rd: Bitumen Burner Parker — Trainer "Fleetfoot" Brooks.

Distance: 70 metres. **Margins:** Won by two shifters with a crowbar between second and third. **Time:** 8.8 seconds.

The presentation of the magnificent trophy was made to David "Poodle" Yeoman by Charlie (Father Oh) Malley.



● Derby winner, David "Poodle" Yeoman, with his trophy.

● BELOW: The 10 runners sprint to the finish line in the Derby at Syndal.



BENALLA'S FICKLE FINGER AWARD

Benalla Division's annual "Fickle Finger of Fate" award was presented to Engineer Peter Leyden in recognition of the attempted theft of a contractor's toilet.

The incident occurred when Peter was organising a cultural festival (i.e. a boozy weekend) on the property where he lives and had arranged to borrow two wheeled portable toilets from the Violet Town Bypass construction site, with the blessing of the owner and the Divisional Engineer.

A truck was despatched on Saturday morning to bring back one of the toilets, but unfortunately the driver picked the wrong one. A Contractor's WC was unceremoniously unpegged, loaded onto the truck complete with the thunderbox and full pan, and driven off.

Peter's escapade was discovered when the truck ran out of petrol on the way back (after being refuelled it irreparably broke down further along the road). Foul play is suspected.

Other nominations for the 1978 award were:

1. The Divisional Engineer, who as might be expected, is often a target for nomination. Mr Patterson had run up quite a collection of nominations (it is rumoured that this was the

reason he left for Metro Division), but unfortunately his successor had not been with us long enough to receive a vote.

2. Engineer Ken Pryor, who drank the ex-Chairman's coffee on his last visit to the office. There may be a moral in this, as Ken is still with us and the Chairman has resigned.

3. Divisional Accountant Max Stevens, who was heard to say "I cutn't evun spel accountant an now I are wun."

4. Cost Clerk Max Proksh, who locked the keys of his new Holden Commodore in its boot and had to pay \$20 to have them retrieved.

5. Clerk Des Hare who was bitten on the hind leg by the fox, whilst fox shooting.

6. Construction Engineer Norm Butler, who discovered a novel way of making sure his Engineers always do as they are asked.

7. Typists Dianne and Sophie who drove from Whittlesea to Wallan and back again and couldn't find the Hume Highway. From what they tell us they must have crossed it at least six times.

8. Engineer John Bond thought the above nomination was funny, until he was reminded that he couldn't find his way from Euroa to Mansfield. John also rang the switchboard to place a call but forgot who he wanted to speak to.

Metric Time

Metric time may be on its way to Australia, following the successful conversion to metric weights and measures. To assist Board staff in the event that metric time is adopted, Interchange provides the following information . . .

These will be 10 seconds to the minute, 10 minutes to the hour, 10 hours to the day and so on, delineated to the following table:

Old Time	New Time
1 Second	1 Milliday
1 Minute	1 Centiday
1 Hour	1 Deciday
1 Day	1 Day
1 Week	1 Decaday
1 Month	1 Hectoday

The fortnight will be withdrawn.

Due to the fact that one new hour represents only 5/12ths of an old day, employees might be expected to work longer hours, viz. 3½ decadays (or millimonths) per day; however, as this is convenient for administration and payroll purposes it is intended that luncheon breaks will be shortened by ½ a deciday, thus making a total daily working time of 3.542 new hours, or 2 new hours plus 4 millidays.

It is not expected at this time that any increase in salaries by way of compensation for extra

time worked will be made, except in the case of leap kilodays, where an adjustment will be built in at the end of the hectoday every 1.46 decamonths. Overtime will be paid to all employees for the time worked in excess of 5/6ths of a deciday, provided approval from the Department of Labour and Industry has been obtained beforehand.

Pension schemes will not be affected, but superkilodaycation will be adjusted accordingly.

Holidays will be affected only so far as the change to Metric Time is concerned and no one shall be worse off than previously. Thus if any employee was entitled to 22 days (old time) he will now be entitled to 220 Decadays, or one hectoday plus 20 decadays for every hectoday over and above 20 kilodays service since the tenth deciday of the third hectoday of 1954.

The term "a month of Sundays" is not to be used on official documents. The correct term will be "a hectoday of decadays".

If you require more details please do not contact us until next hectoday as the staff are having their 4 decadays leave due under their award.

INTER-DIVISIONAL SPORTS DAY

The 1979 Inter-Divisional Sports will be played in Benalla on Sunday, March 4th.

The sports planned are golf, tennis, sailing, lawn bowls, squash, snooker and table tennis.

Staff and their families are invited to make the trip to Benalla for a picnic and to watch the sports.



● After the speeches at the Christmas luncheon, HOSA President Robyn Martin gives the Chairman, Tom Russell, a Christmas kiss.



● From left, Mrs Susan Mordaunt, Katarina Renic, Geoff Allan, John Bethune, Vin Martin and Anita Treacey.



● Enjoying the Christmas luncheon . . . Lee Scott (MRD) and John Rowe (MRD).



CHRISTMAS, WAY . . .

CRB Head Office staff and their families started celebrating Christmas on Sunday, December 10, at the HO Children's Christmas party at Syndal.

On Friday, December 22, there were further celebrations for staff at the HO Christmas Luncheon.

At this function the Chairman, Tom Russell, wished staff season's greetings. Everyone enjoyed the food, drink and entertainment arranged by the HOSA committee.

At Syndal, the biggest crowd in about five years enjoyed the Children's Christmas Party.

Father Christmas (Merv Bailey) and his helpers gave away more than 500 presents to the overjoyed children on Syndal's beautifully prepared lawns. The Bar-B-Qs were well patronised and the HOSA committee was delighted with the increasing number of people who made the occasion a family picnic outing.

The trampolines, fish pond, train rides and horse rides were popular with the children and were run with clockwork precision, which is a tribute to the organisational expertise of the HOSA committee.



● A PRESENT from Santa . . . the scene at Syndal at the Children's Christmas Party.

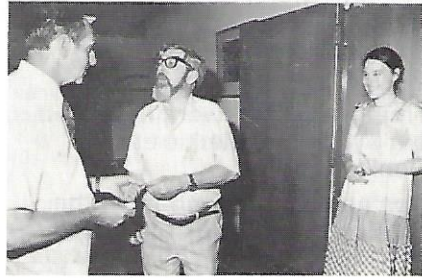




● **LEFT:** The luncheon in the Head Office thetrette is in full swing.

● **RIGHT:** At the Children's Christmas party at Sydal, Santa reads a Thank You letter given to him by Sarah Carr, daughter of West Gate Freeway engineer, Bob Carr.

● **BELOW:** Wally Neander (left) and Bert Ginn ham it up. Former HOSA President Joan Gilmer watches.



THE CRB



● **ABOVE:** Among the people celebrating at Ballarat Division's Christmas party are (from left) Lorraine and Ron Hrymakowski, Kevin and Judy Lavery.

The Ballarat Divisional office Social Club Christmas party was held at Mt. Xavier Golf Club on 20th December. With good food, drink, music and excellent company, a great time was had by everyone.

● **RIGHT:** Dancing the night away... Carmel and Graeme Day (Ballarat).

● **LEFT:** This girl was one of many children who had a fun day at Sydal at the Children's Christmas party.



BRIGGS' DREGS

Have you heard the advertisement for Ben Ean Moselle? It's the one that goes "Who wants to be a millionaire? ... I don't! I've got B.E.M."

Personally, I'd rather have the money everytime, for then I could consume the real thing—fair dinkum Mosel wine, all the way from Germany.

Last column I criticised French wines for being too expensive. However, when you look at German whites, the value for money considerations are on the purchaser's side.

Furthermore, German wines can be drunk at any time of day—breakfast, morning tea, lunch, etc.

In fact, I can think of no finer way to resume work after the lunch break than with a couple of glasses of white coursing through your digestive system.

Cafeteria please note—nicely chilled white is more salubrious on a hot day than espresso coffee.

Imagine that you are dining on the latest gourmet treat in the caf. Feeling a little parched, you look around for a drink to accompany your repast and are confronted by Board tea or fruit juice drink.

What an ideal opportunity to introduce deliciously refreshing fruity wine into the bill of fare. Instead of losing customers to the local, I could envisage having to make a reservation to dine in the caf.

I know I've digressed a little, but one of the advantages of German whites is their low alcohol content. Two glasses with lunch would have no more effect on your senses than a cup of Board tea—and would be decidedly more pleasant.

Other suitable occasions for drinking are: while watching sport on T.V. (you know—Wine, Be In It); after emerging from the pool on a hot day; and whenever you feel thirsty.

Naturally enough not all the wines are worth drinking, but there are many pieces de resistance from the Mosel, Saar, Rhine and Nahe Valleys.

The best wines are rieslings. They exhibit an incredible concentrated flavour, reminiscent of lime juice, which makes your palate secrete into action after the first sip.

The only problem with German wines is the foreign (strange this is so) nomenclature.

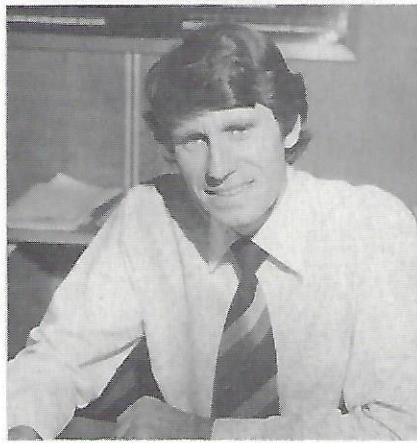
However, if you can say Schlossbockelheimer Kupfergrube Riesling Qualitatswein mit Pradikat Kabinett after you've been drinking it, you can't be schlossed.



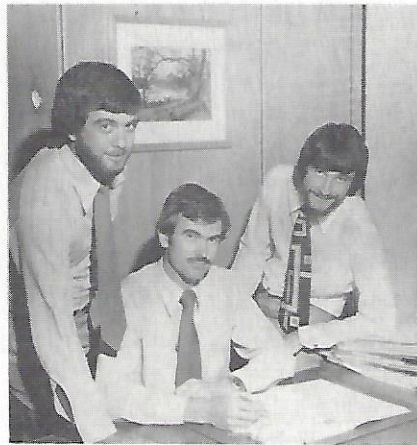
Jeff Briggs

PERSONNEL SECTIONS

STAFF



● Ron Muller.



● Staff officers (from left) Ross Furness, Peter Salway and Jon Chambers.

The Staff Group's main responsibility is for the recruitment, promotion and reclassification of salaried staff, so that appropriate staff levels are maintained with qualified and competent people to carry out the Board's work.

The Personnel Officer, Ron Muller, is responsible for the Staff Group. To assist him, Ron has Peter Salway and Ross Furness. There is a further position which is currently vacant due to the resignation of Jon Chambers.

The Group's administrative, typing and filing work is carried out by Pauline Meikle and Denise Hall.

Ron and other members of the Staff Group can be contacted at any time for advice on career prospects. While enquiries can be directed to any of the four officers, each has general responsibility for different tasks.

Ron generally handles the more senior professional appointments and deals with various staff matters including the Classifications and Appeals Committees.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Training and Development Group provides a training and education program for staff at all levels.

In the CRB, training is seen as the responsibility of line management assisted by the Training and Development Section which has a staff of five. This differs from many other organisations who do not use the expertise of senior management in training programs, but employ a large number of training officers with specialist skills.

The Training and Development Officers are ably supported by two typists, Lois Elmer and a new appointment about to be made.

Personal development of staff is also an important aspect of the group's activity. In addition the Group undertakes studies dealing with job satisfaction and morale problems.

The Training and Development Group manages the rotation programs for engineers and draftsmen. These programs extend up to 18 months, with six months spent in two or three different areas of the CRB.

One of the more important duties of the group is to advise staff on studies and study leave. Information on courses available, mainly for technical and administrative staff, can be obtained from Eric Black and John Gunson. Staff wishing to apply for study leave should contact them for advice.

Periodic training courses for African and Asian engineers are



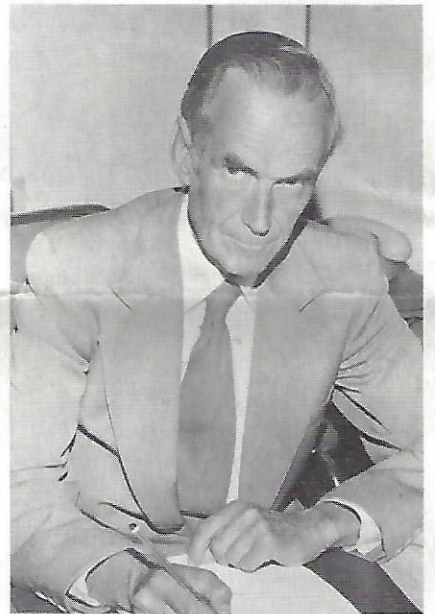
● Lois Elmer and John Gunson.



● Denise Hall (left) and Pauline Meikle.

Peter, who is the Assistant Personnel Officer, specialises in computer and EDP appointments and is responsible for administration of the Board's Vacation Employment Programme for engineering students.

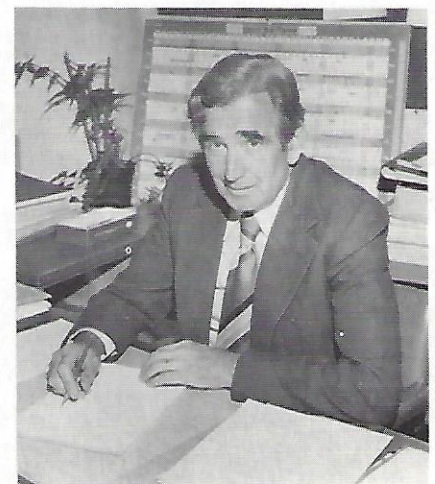
Ross and the other staff officer handle other technical and administrative appointments. They also administer the Board's apprentice recruitment and provisions covering salary increments for qualifications. Ross has particular responsibilities for the weekly preparation of the Board's Personnel Notices and the scheme for reimbursement of removal expenses.



● Bob Billinge.

also part of the CRB's training responsibilities. The CRB's training methods in this area are highly regarded — early this year three senior Indonesian engineers will visit the CRB to investigate modelling their own training program on the Board's methods.

The visit to Australia last year of 20 African and Asian engineers was highly successful. Bob Billinge, Principal Training and Development Officer wishes to thank all staff who generously provided hospitality during their visit.



● Eric Black.

Medal to 'Mick'

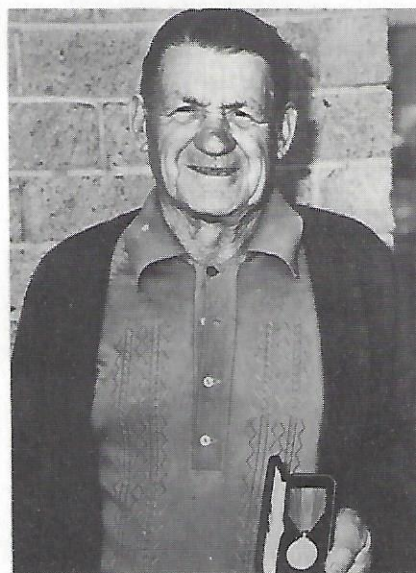
Former Benalla Division overseer Roland "Mick" Mitchell has been awarded the Imperial Service Medal for "meritorious service" with the Government.

"Mick" retired from the CRB in 1976 after 44 years service.

He was presented with the medal by the Governor, Sir Henry Winneke, at a ceremony at Government House.

His wife, Beryl, was unable to see the presentation because she was suffering from a broken leg.

"Mick" is enjoying his retirement although he admits that he misses the CRB work and some of his old workmates.



● "Mick Mitchell with his Imperial Service Medal. (Photo courtesy Shepparton News).

DIVISIONAL ROUNDABOUT



● BAIRNSDALE

Interchange rep. — Ian Ellis

WELCOME

Graham Symons, Welder at the Depot, commenced work with the Board on 16th January, 1979. Graham comes to us from Omeo.

Kevin Quirke, Fitter at the Depot, commenced with the Board on 22nd January. Keeping the CRB in the family.

RETIREMENTS

We wish Keith Somerville, Charlie Morris, Frank Hack, Ralph Flukes, Jack Doyle and Bill Willis, who have notched 75 years service between them, all the best for their retirements.

Keith, senior storeman at the Depot, has had varied experience with the Board over his 23 years service. He can now settle down and train his greyhounds full time. Jim Challanor takes over as Purchase Driver from Bill White who replaces Keith.

Charlie, after 21 years service, held the position of Patrolman in Charge at Genoa for the past eight years. He had great delight in burning his old work boots on his last day. John Peisley now takes over the reins at Genoa.

DEPARTURE

Because of family health reasons, Bob Wallace left us in January, after 13 years service, for a job close to home. All the best Bob.

SICK LIST

Hip operations to Browney Paton and Charlie McDonald (Retired) both proved successful and both are up and about again.

Ted McLeod (Retired) is still in good spirits even after frequent stints in the Bairnsdale Hospital due to crippling arthritis.

KNIGHT IN SHINING GRADER

Grader Driver "Cocky" Hadfield got a shock while grading the Bonang Highway near Goongerah recently. A worried housewife quickly approached him bearing a shotgun. Quite relieved that he wasn't the target he quickly stopped the grader and disposed of a 6'3" black snake in her back yard. Female shotgun lessons in order???

SPOT NEWS

Admin staff have now traded their antique model photocopier after countless copies and breakdowns. Hopefully no more fire alerts. There is a rumour that the new owner bought the old machine to use as a micro-wave oven. Roger Strickland trying his luck out (after work) in the Bonang River brought back a 3 lb. 10 oz trout . . . eat your heart out boys.

SOCIAL

The Association's Xmas party was held at the racecourse on December 10th. The highlight of the afternoon was the arrival of Santa Scott in the fire truck and many thanks go to all who provided entertainment for the afternoon.

The presents again were of high quality —consequently many delighted children. Our pool championship went off very well and congratulations go to Bruce Fraser on being the Association's 1978 champion.

In a challenge match we had to bow out to the more experienced Telecom boys.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE

The Divisional Depot Social Club Christmas tree was held on Thursday, 21st December at the Divisional Depot. The party was once again a great success with the children enjoying lots of goodies and gifts from Father Christmas.

● BALLARAT

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 8th the Depot Social Club members and their partners enjoyed a swinging party at Kryal Castle. The function was highlighted by a well presented three course meal with dancing to a three piece band.

One person at each table was chosen to be knighted by the King and he alone was made knight of that table. If anyone on the tables misbehaved in any way they were reported to the King and subsequently put in the Stocks. This was the fate of Margaret Sandford.

The function ended at midnight and as usual all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are eagerly awaiting their next fun night at the Castle.

ANNUAL BREAK UP

The annual break up day was held at the Divisional Depot on Friday, 22nd December. After pre-dinner drinks and appetizers the 1978 annual break up day

moved into full swing with the serving of a first class smorgasbord prepared by members' wives, Margaret Sandford, Joan Elsey and Glenda McPhan.

One of the highlights of the day was the drawing of the raffle by Divisional Engineer, Mr. Oppy. Divisional Depot workshop foreman Alan Cookson won second prize which consisted of a 'cuddly dog'. Alan who is very fond of the family dog wondered how he would cuddle his 'cuddly dog' so as not to make his own dog (who he also often cuddles) jealous. It was suggested that he share his affections with both of them. Alan accepted the suggestion favourably but was still slightly puzzled as to when he could fit his wife in.

DEATH

Henry Peter Fisher (78 years), one of the original patrolmen in charge with the Ballarat Division, died of a heart attack on December 27th in Hobart.

Peter commenced with the Board in 1927 and retired in August 1965. During his 38 years Peter was patrolman in charge of the Sunraysia Highway and Glenelg Highway and during the war he was part of a civil construction gang engaged in building the Ballarat aerodrome.

Peter was respected by all the Division during his years of service and enjoyed a very happy 13 years of retired life during which he took a keen interest in the sporting scene.

Our sympathies are extended to his son William (Bill) and family.

SICK PARADE

We extend our commiserations once again to Greg Whitecross who is getting better after undergoing another minor operation and to Bevan Martin, Donald Brown and a retired employee of the CRB, Jim Kierce, who also were operated on. We wish all a speedy recovery.

AS GREEN AS WOOD

If there was a conversation on plane travel Ron Greenwood would probably be the first person to tell you that it is the only means of transport; it is exhilarating, exciting and sometimes exhaustive.

Ron Greenwood, Engineering Surveyor, prides himself at being able to fly anywhere and in anything without being the least bit nauseous — one could possibly say that Ron was a seasoned flier.

In December Ron's views on plane travel came to an abrupt end. He was a passenger in a Cessna from which aerial photographs were being taken of the freeways. They were some 400 ft. in the air flying over Nerrina when Ron felt a bit off colour.

His immediate reaction was to reach for a sick bag and no sooner had he done that when he emptied his stomach into it, and his dentures.

● BENALLA

Interchange rep. — Mike Farmer

WELCOME

A warm welcome to our new Divisional Engineer, Brian Chandler, who returns to Benalla after an absence of eight years. Brian has not been in the office a lot as he arrived in time for the annual Municipal applications. Brian and Bill Stubington have been busy making inspections of the Shires, bit of a trial leaving an air conditioned office to brave the 40 degree heat.

A warm welcome is also in order for our newest member of the staff at the Divisional Office, he is Greg Dennis who has taken on John White's position.

RETIRED

Overseer Grade A Wally Kirsanovs retired on the 30th January, 1979, after 22 years loyal service to the Board in the capacity of bridge carpenter, Clerk of Works and then Overseer.

For the past 8 years, Wally has been Overseer in charge of the Benalla Precast Depot, a role which he has filled with distinction. His blend of organisational ability and engineering expertise has produced a highly efficient operation. In this time, though busy with record production figures, Wally has retained his warm and co-operative manner toward all he contacted.

His cheerfulness may be missed around the Depot but his mark will surely endure.

Farewell to Bill Mitchell, Patrolman at the "Acquatic Paradise of Australia", i.e. Yarrowonga, who retires after twenty-five years of service to the suburbia of Melbourne. Bill's family have all settled in Melbourne and all the best for a happy and healthy retirement. Thank you Bill for a good job.

Bill came to Yarrowonga fifteen years ago after ten years at Stawell.

FAREWELL

Farewell to Roz Baines who leaves the office for Alice Springs after two years. Roz who endeared herself to all in the office with a pleasant personality and willingness to co-operate to get jobs done. Roz visited the Red Centre about 18 months ago for a holiday. Roz met Peter, the tourist bus driver, and over the last year letters have been regularly arriving at the Baines' home; Roz and Peter have now decided to settle in Alice Springs. Its been about 40 degrees since they arrived there, however an air conditioned caravan will be an oasis in the heat. Anyway all the best for the future for you Roz and Peter.

TRANSFER

Patrolman "Rolly" Camm of the Mirimbah Patrol has transferred from the mountains to the Lorne Patrol and congratulations to Manfred Brauner who was successful in obtaining the Patrolman in Charge job at Yarrowonga.

GENERAL

Five months ago an article appeared in Interchange titled "Play Sport and Keep Fit?", featuring the many members of the staff who have been injured playing sport.

Fred Cook recently played in a Social Cricket Match with Major Projects at Seymour. Monday he came in sporting a very bruised mouth caused by a cricket ball hitting him and he was lucky not to lose a couple of teeth. Fred was acting as wicketkeeper, just as well that Helen Tooley, typist, did not take up Fred's invitation on the Friday to be wicketkeeper for the match.

Friday before Christmas was a black day for Bill Roscoe, crane driver at the yard, and his family, for his home was burnt out together with much of his furniture. However, Bill has been given a lease on a Housing Commission home for four months. The local Clubs have opened an appeal for the Roscoe family and have received a very good response including a "whip around" by workmates and staff members when they heard of the fire. "All was not lost" as Bill has since been successful in obtaining the position as Storeman at the Depot.

● DANDENONG

We have only one new member of staff to welcome — John Mead who has settled down as Divisional Accountant — happy days John!

RESIGNATION

Dandenong Division will not be quite the same in future without the subtle wit and quiet (?) efficiency of Paul Noisette (a former Board Cadet) since he departed on 4th January to take up an appointment with the Rural City of Wodonga after nine years service with the Board. Paul's special ability of speech-making should be an asset in dealing with awkward ratepayers, and was demonstrated at his farewell when he produced a 20 minute speech summarising his work and experiences — off a postage stamp sized note.

The Division's best wishes go with Paul, wife Janice and two children in their new enterprise in the warm north of the State.

LUNCHEON

The office staff Christmas luncheon held on 22nd December, 1978, took the form of a barbecue and salad main course held in the pleasant surroundings on the lawns adjacent to the office.

This was followed by sweets and festivities in the conference room where once again "Santa" Hodgson ran proceedings. Divisional presentations were made to Joe Hezky and Bill Kendall for 25 years service to the Board, and to Arnold Easton our children's "Santa". On a lighter note "Ms" Alan Hamley won the typing award (and a 4 litre can of white-out) for his one finger effort under emergency conditions.

TABLE TENNIS

In a tight and very exciting final Geoff Pullin emerged as our new Singles Champion defeating the 1976 winner Bruce Gidley in 4 games, 21-19, 23-25, 21-17, 21-5. Geoff had shown right from the beginning of the competition that he was the one to beat and once again played very well in the final.

Our new Doubles Champions are Peter Velcek and John Hunt who defeated Ron Ashton and Mike Jeffress 21-19, 21-15, 21-8 in an intensely fought match.

CRICKET

In a game as exciting and controversial as a WSC International Cup Final, Metropolitan Division defeated Dandenong Division by 14 runs at Chelsworth Park on 26th November, 1978.

For Dandenong Dennis Maxwell performed well with the bat, scoring a fine 40 not out and Garnett Gibbs, bowling his donkey drops, managed to pick up three wickets. The scores were Metro 121 and Dandenong Division 9 for 107.

DINNER DANCE

The Christmas Dinner Dance was held at "Karinya Lodge" Blackburn for the second successive year. Ninety-four people attended the function and a good time was had by all.

CHILDREN'S PARTY

Once again this event was held at the Syndal grounds and, once again, the weather proved unkind to us. However, thanks to the excellent facilities available for such an emergency, the day was not a complete washout, and Father "Arnold" Christmas was able to make a flying visit to the cafeteria.

In spite of the weather the children enjoyed the day thoroughly and the thanks of all concerned go to the Chief Mechanical Engineer and the staff at Syndal for making the grounds available and for providing entertainment and shelter.

● GEELONG

NEWCOMERS

We would like to welcome to our ranks Craig Benham, a new apprentice in our workshop, and Roland Camm, who takes over the helm at the Lorne Patrol.

RETIREMENTS

Farewell to Stan Albert, patrolman (Lorne) and Reg Dunn, patrolman (Colac). Between them Reg and Stan have over 60 years service to the Board. We also farewell Vin Elliott and Roslyn Bath, both office staff, Vin to take a position in Head Office, and Roslyn to continue her studies at University.

GOOD SPORT

It has become noticed that many of our staff are taking an increased interest in sporting activities, especially since cricket is now on two channels.

And we would like to congratulate Colleen Carlson for again coming "Runner Up" in the Corio Netball Association "Best and Fairest". She has previously won the award.

CHRISTMAS FEAST

Once again a magnificent effort was put in by our Social Club committee and our Christmas breakup was enjoyed by all. The day started with a "chicken and champagne breakfast" at Eastern Gardens, unfortunately from all accounts the champagne killed the "Pop" in our rice bubbles.

Congratulations go to Ian Smith for winning the "Raw Prawn Award"!!

GET WELL SOON

Ann Shaw is currently on sick leave after a leg operation. We all hope that it is not too long till we see you skipping around "the Ponds" on a Thursday night.

FLY BY LIGHT

Did Chris Portch get his lighter back after the Christmas party?? This question is asked because nobody has seen him botting cigarettes since.

● HEAD OFFICE

Pat Brenton (Registry) recently returned with interesting tales of her trip through Russia and China and managed to "lug" back a souvenir for everyone — thanks, Pat.

Loris Lee (Registry) and husband Derek (Accounts) also spent their Christmas with relatives in England.

PROMOTIONS

Julie Brown and Sally Brown (Registry) have both been promoted within the Registry.

MOVEMENTS

Departures from Registry are Lyn Cox who left in December after 15 years with the Board; we wish her good luck in her new role as "Mother" (Lyn is expecting in February), and Robyn Martin, one of the bright spots in the office; Robyn was appointed to Engineer in Chief's Branch (our loss — their gain). Good luck Robyn. Registry welcomes back Barbara Skidmore who returned after 18 months overseas with husband Norm.

Traffic Engineering welcomes Joanne Greaves, Admin Officer and Lloyd Rowe, Engineer.

Title Survey welcomes Alan Denham. Con Maknoyiannis (Traffic Engineering) has resigned to go back to school and Roger Wiggins (Traffic Engineering) ventures into teaching and left the Board on 2nd February.

Phil McNaught (Estates) resigned on 5th November to travel overseas.

Publications Officer, Danny Gocs (Public Relations), left the Board on 31st January to join TV Scene newspaper as a sub-editor after working in PR Section for more than two years.

Evan Harland (Legal) resigned to take up a position with Sunshine City Council (closer to home).

Pauline McKee (Computer) resigned on 12th January. Pauline and her husband are now living in Ballarat.

John Kitch (Computer) resigned on 31st January to be a Maths/Science teacher. . . . And "nothing ever happens on 6th Floor north".

"Life Be In It" in Title Survey Division: A squash day was held on December 10 at Doncaster Squash Courts. The handicap tournament was won by "Norm" Esdale who defeated Jim Tullberg. Afterwards a BBQ was enjoyed by all who attended.

Tennis Day: January 21st at South Hawthorn Tennis Club. Men's Doubles, Eric McLoughlin and Phil Harrison. Ladies' Doubles, Rosemary Woof and Julie Wilcox. Mixed Doubles, David Males and Rosemary Woof.

● HORSHAM

WELCOME

Welcome to the three new Cost Clerks, Peter McIntosh, Geff Pearson and Rob Scarsi. Rob is the new Cost Clerk at the Stawell Quarry. We wish them a long and happy stay with us.

Also a warm welcome to Robert Jory who has joined us from Plans and Surveys. We wish Robert and his wife a happy stay with us while in Horsham.

DEPARTURES

Peter Foster, Cost Clerk at Stawell Quarry, is leaving us to go to Warrnambool Division. We wish Peter and family all the best for the future.

Gerard O'Connor from the Accounts Section has left us to go to Head Office. All the best for the future, Gerard.

Trevor Smallacombe, Cost Clerk, will be leaving us just prior to his marriage to Robyn in February. Trevor is going into the family business at Natimuk. We wish both Trevor and Robyn all the best for the future.

TRIPS

Leigh Morgan is going overseas in February for two months. Leigh will be going over to Europe and the United Kingdom. We hope both Leigh and his wife Heidi have a memorable two months trip over there.

RETIREMENT

C. J. (Snowie) Cambridge commenced full-time as a labourer in 1935, although he first worked for the Board on a temporary basis in 1930.

Snowie, like many of his era, was required to be able to handle most types of plant and situations. His knowledge of the use of Board plant is second to none and will be missed in the construction field in Horsham Division.

Snowie's knowledge of sandstone pits and the manner of working them will be another area which will cause a few headaches until other personnel attain some of the expertise required.

And if one requires to know when a certain section of highway was constructed in Horsham Division it is just a matter of asking Snowie.

After some 43 years of service, Snowie has decided to retire and although he has not made any firm arrangements on his future, those who know him can rest assured that the old drive is still evident and it would not be surprising to hear of him revisiting some of the areas in the Northern Territory to revive old memories of the days when he worked for the Board on the North-South Road.

● MRD

TRAVELLERS

Micky Ma recently spent three weeks at home in Hong Kong. He returned with his mother, who has decided to settle in Australia. We think it 'mazing! Joyce Scott is back from her one month holiday in South Africa, and I'm off to New Zealand for two weeks.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Steve Day has left the Foundation Section and has gone to Bridge Division. Frank Rappatoni, however, has left Bridge and is now working in Foundation.

Jorge Krepelka left in January and is now working in the Customs Department at Tullamarine. Tony Youren (from Metro) is working in the Asphalt Section. Sam Maccarone is a Scientific Office and is working in the Petrology Lab. Sam is from Australian Gypsum Co.

DIVISIONAL ROUNDABOUT



GENERAL

Gary Chapman is directing a pile testing film, and John D'Concy is the Producer. Cliff Parfitt has reported sighting an eel in the Scrim truck!

The new tea lady in H.O. is none other than T. A. Andrew Tucker's mum. Peter Colgrave's (CBR) champion Pekinese was molested by an Australian terrier by strange coincidence on Australia Day. Will this weaken Chinese-Australian relations?

Just how big are Glen Green's feet? Does he really need size 12 boots? Everyone at work wishes Neil Quinn a speedy recovery and hope to see him back here soon.

● MULGRAVE

The Christmas breakup provided the usual highlights; Merv Williams addressed the gathering for about 35 minutes, Roger Cross started a game of cards, Gary Scott kissed the ladies at least six times and Tony Donnelly was last to leave.

Unlike last year when Dick Howland overordered by 100 lb. of sausages, catering for the BBQ went without any hitches.

Welcome to Engineer Richard Lipianin from the Engineers Training Scheme and to Draftsmen Mike O'Brien and Renny Kratky seconded from P&S.

Most notable farewell was that of the Project Engineer Don Durant, who has transferred to the Eastern Freeway. Don had worked on the Mulgrave Freeway Project since construction began in 1970 and he will be missed by everyone, especially those who fill the conference room for the lunchtime darts.

Don was farewelled at a small function at which the Principal Construction Engineer, Merv Williams, thanked him for his contribution in making the construction of Mulgrave Freeway run as smooth as it has.

The staff presented Don with a golf bag and a collection of novels written by various Project personnel.

In turn, Don presented the incoming Project Engineer, T. Goddard, with the tenures of office a crank handle for getting staff into gear and a whip to keep them there.

Other farewells included Engineer Mike Butler and Draftsmen David Kimpton and Warren Duncan.

● PLANS AND SURVEYS

BREAK-UP

The Christmas break-up party was held at Angelucci's Restaurant in Kew where people danced and enjoyed the night except for some coffee drinkers. Special thanks to Marcia Pallett for all the organisation.

MOVED

Robert Jary has left for Horsham and taken his tent, Howard Ellis has gone to Eastern Freeway Project. David Kimpton and Harry Mok have returned, Harry to help straighten out the computer section. John Maelean (Training scheme) and Bill Hooker (Traffic Division) have joined Plans and Surveys.

GENERAL

Our cricketers are going well with Brian Fitts and Alan Baker both making big scores — look out fellas, you might end up in the Australian Test team and you know what that means.

Gordon Jones has not had much luck with cricket and broke his arm at practice and is off work for a month.

Bruck Hicks survived his trip to China and is telling everybody about it. Bally Guttridge is still working on his holiday house with Brian Fitts' free help.

● ROAD PLANNING

A great night's entertainment was enjoyed by about 40 couples at the Naughty Nineties Music Hall for the Divisional Christmas party. The night was a great success and enjoyed especially by Jean Clarke.

A chicken and champagne breakfast followed by a snail race set the scene for a lively Christmas break-up.

NEW ARRIVALS

Welcome to Vin Elliott, Administrative Officer, and Geoff Christensen who returned from Plans & Surveys. Also welcome to Sue Ackroyd who has joined Environmental Studies Section.

DEPARTURES

Farewell to Andy Peeters, Administrative Officer, who has retired, after a long period of service. Margo Peacock, typist, has been promoted to a position in Metropolitan Division, and John McLean, Engineer, leaves to join the Training Scheme. Good wishes go with them from all their friends in RPD.

MISCELLANEOUS

Welcome back to Pat Meehan after a successful completion of the Traffic Engineer course at the University of New South Wales.

Peter Bartlett's house has been completed at long last. Extension planned to commence early 1980.

● SYNDAL

MOVES

We welcome Paul Woods our new draftsman, Bill McCormack Division Accountant and Gordon Mills Controller of Stores.

John Mead has been appointed as Divisional Accountant Dandenong Division, with Max Baker being appointed as Assistant Controller of Stores in John's stead.

We wish speedy recovery to Bryan Armitage, Design Engineer, who suffered a heart attack recently, and also to Bill Thiele, Senior Gardener, whose back was injured when one of the yard buggies played tricks on him.

Max Clark, technical library, recently proudly accepted the title of grandfather. Congratulations, Max.

TRAVELLERS

Included in our list of recent overseas travellers are Eric Curtis, Mike Durack, Bernie Kane, Clem Harris, Ken Whitney, Mrs. Pedersen, Margaret Holby, Colin Lindo and Allan Taylor. Parties visited include Kuala Lumpur, the Continent, Asia, England, Wales and Scotland, Hong Kong, America, Canada, New Zealand, Fiji, New Guinea, Germany and Norway. But, oh dear, the agonies of being young and single — for her next holiday one of our lassies doesn't know what part of the world to visit next — she has seen most of it already!

APPRENTICES

The 1979 apprentices started work on 5th February. Among them is our new gardener Allison Walsh. It has been suggested that the flowers and trees planted in the lawn area will be studied by all the young bucks at Syndal, however Overseer Graham Williamson has long taken care of that — he has "Keep Off the Grass" notices everywhere.

The Syndal Shop Committee decided to make an annual award to an apprentice whom they feel has performed well in all aspects of his work. To commemorate this award a Roll of Honour has been made and each year the new recipient's name will be added.

The apprentice who has pride of place on the Roll is David Hopes.

On 30th May, 1978, apprentice Peter Reynolds was awarded from The Scout Association of Australia, a medal for Meritorious Conduct for his prompt action in rendering first aid, possibly life-saving, to a seriously injured motor cyclist at an event at Sandown on 7th November, 1976.

Congratulations, Peter.

SOCIAL

Activities on the social scene can be summarised as under: The oldies, the ex's of Syndal in the tender care of Bob Frost, enjoyed a bus trip and barbecue lunch at Healesville recently.

A Cup Eve dance was held in the canteen, and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Table tennis is being played as much as ever; the golfing enthusiasts enjoyed the 1978 calendar so much that 1979 is already fully organised, and the Planning and Field Maintenance staff members held their Christmas break-up at the Baron of Beef.

CHRISTMAS

The Social Club in their usual good manner organised the Christmas break-up luncheon with over 300 people sitting down to do justice to the meal. Syndal lawns again catered for three children's Christmas parties, one for Syndal Social Club, one for Head Office Social Association and one for Dandenong Division Social Club. Syndal and Head Office organised the weather to perfection, but unfortunately Dandenong's weather was only O.K. to indifferent. However, reports indicate that

Santa was able to empty his sacks to the satisfaction of all the kids at the parties.

The "Syndal Flyer" train was in operation for each party, and items of construction plant were available for aspiring operators to inspect.

● TRARALGON

Interchange rep.—Rob Scott

We welcome — Ron Hill, Neil Adams, Brian McGregor, Richard Kasprovicz and Stephen Hearn, Welcome also to Training Scheme Engineer Ray Sprague, and welcome back to John Gorman who has been at Head Office for 12 months on the Draftsman's Training Scheme.

Farewell to — Arthur Holland and Bob Christmas (both retired due to ill health), Murray Wigg (Head Office), Jan Chmielewski (retired after many years service), Attilio Bortolin (gone to greener fields after 21 years with the Board) and Greg McKitterick. We also farewell Sheryl Coleman, our 12 months "temporary" who has gone to the City of Traralgon. We wish all these people well for the future.

Ron Whittle, truck operator, who has been on Workers Compensation for a considerable time had further tragedy on the Thursday before Christmas when his house was burnt out by fire. People were quick to rally and help Ron and he has asked that his thanks be passed on to everyone. Those who feel they would like to help with donations should contact the Divisional Office.

The Christmas period was an enjoyable one for all. The Depot and Social Club Chrissy Do's were thoroughly enjoyed by all who went, despite the fact that Workshop Foreman Brian Doyle allegedly had to be carried home from the Depot dinner dance. Children and adults alike, all had great fun at the annual children's Christmas party held in the grounds of the Depot, and there were several sore heads following the Office-Depot break-up on the Friday before Christmas.

Many people have been making use of holidays and flexi-days to get out and soak up the sun. However, we weren't too sure about Peter Aalbers and Lesley Griffiths both from the Admin Section who left for holidays the same day and returned on the same day. So receptionist Marilyn Templeton was despatched to Narooma for the long weekend to check on the truth of the rumours. You will have to wait for the next edition to find out the story.

Young Wayne Stobridge, 12, son of truck driver Dave, has cleaned up the under 16 cooking awards at this year's Traralgon Show. Congratulations, Wayne, and remember the office morning tea time is 10 o'clock and we all love fruit cake.

Divisional Engineer, Dr. Currie, fulfils many roles and on 21st November he took on a new role, that of referee. Two local schoolboys decided to settle their differences on the front lawns of the Divisional Office, outside Dr. Currie's window. With at least 40 onlookers to spur them on the lads were really "into it" when our undaunted budding referee burst through the crowd to separate the fighters. One fighter had lost his shirt and jumper. Amid "polite" jeers from the onlookers, the referee carted the luckless fighter into the office and then sent him (and bicycle) home courtesy of the CRB. Ray Kraus and Ivan Mumford, both from Drouin project, are aiming for promotion. So keen are they to work that they both reported for work on January 2nd — a public holiday.

Supervising Draftsman, Leon Sweeney, took long service leave during November-December to finish construction of his new mansion. Apparently it was the hardest he has ever worked. We also wonder what is going on with Leon and Design Engineer John Wilson who has bought the block one away from the Sweeneys.

Whilst on the subject of John Wilson, he was recently espied on pushbike at mid-afternoon with a load of papers doing the paper round his son normally does. We believe there is no truth in the rumour that he took over from his son to pay for the block of land.

It definitely is a world of "who you know". Roadmaster Henry Dunstone was on the waiting list for membership of the R.S.L. for a month when he was accepted. "Irate" office staff who have been waiting for up to 18 months investigated and found out the President is a good mate of Henry's. "C'est la vie." Marge Salter, wife of Engineer Ken, is thinking of divorce as she is sick of finding the golf clubs between them when she wakes up.

Was that Neil Jones, non-drinker, seen leaving the R.S.L. at closing time with the office alcoholics just before Christmas? Engineer Barry Bickel, batching for a night recently, is still trying to convince his wife that the reason for his not sleep-

BIRTHS

ABELE: Varis (Traffic Engineering) and Ilze announce the birth of Astrid Illona, on 22nd November.

BEACHAM: Les (Bridge) and Nola, a son, Mark John, born 29th November.

BOURKE: Peter (Traffic Engineering) and Lorraine, congratulations on the arrival of a son, David Michael.

BURLEY: Maurice (Dandenong) and Anna, their first baby, a son, Kent Samuel, born 12th February.

BYRDEN: John (Benalla) and Chris announce the arrival of Suzanne Renee, born 17th November, sister to Wayne.

CHRISTENSEN: Geoff (Road Planning) and Sue, a son, Daniel, on 2nd November.

CULLINAN: Murray (Advance Planning) and Maureen, a daughter, Elizabeth Maureen, on New Year's Eve. Sister for Mark, Paul and Lisa.

CUNNINGHAM: John (Dandenong) and Lynda, congratulations on the birth of Nathan Luke, a brother for Adam.

ELLIOTT: Kevin (Bairnsdale) and Sue welcome the arrival of Emma Kathleen on 14th November.

ELLIS: Ian (Bairnsdale) and Jenny welcome the arrival of Lacinda May on 1st December.

FELTHAM: To Robin (Ballarat) and Florence, a son, Christopher Paul, born 16th January, brother to Warren.

FITZGERALD: Tony (Bairnsdale) and wife proudly announce the arrival of Mathew Anthony on 10th November.

HALL: Joan and John (Syndal), on 25th January a son, Gavin Mark.

LOUGHROON: Kathie and Alan (Syndal), a daughter, Sally Anne.

MILLAR: Trevor (Traffic Engineering) welcome an addition to the family, Joshua Paul, on 3rd November.

MURRIHY: To Paul (MRD) and Pauline, a girl.

RAYNER: To Geoff (Dandenong) and Elke, a daughter, Gemma Kate, sister for Nicole and William.

TCHEPAK: Slav (MRD) and Lydia, a boy, David Michael.

TRACE: David (Road Planning) and Caroline, a son, Peter Johnathon, brother for Robbie.

VICKERY: Ken (Mulgrave) and Sue, a boy, Jason Kenneth, born 19th December.

DEATHS

HUGHES: Vincent (Benalla), Plant Operator, died on 13th October. Vincent retired in 1976 after 15 years service with the Board.

McGUINNESS: Jim (ex-Stores), passed away in January.

RETIRED

ALDRIDGE: Noel (Syndal), after 43 years service.

BUTURAC: Frank (Dandenong), after 17 years. (See Dandenong Divisional notes.)

DE BONO: Sam (Syndal), after 22 years service.

DOYLE: Jack (Bairnsdale), CMW 3, retired on 17th January after 4 years service.

FIELDS: John (Dandenong), retired on 24th November. (See Dandenong Divisional notes.)

FLUKES: Ralph (Bairnsdale), Load Checker, retired on 22nd December after 9 years service.

HACK: Frank (Bairnsdale), Owner Truck Driver, retired 20th November after 15 years with the Board.

HINE: Betty (Registry), retired on 24th November.

KIRSANOV: Wally (Benalla), Overseer, retired after 22 years with the Board, the last 7 OIC Precast Yard.

MITCHELL: Bill (Benalla), Patrolman, Yarrowonga, retired after 25 years service.

MORRIS: Charlie (Bairnsdale), Patrolman in Charge, Genoa, retired on 14th December after 21 years service.

PROUDFOOT: David (Syndal), after 36 years service.

SEDGWICK: Cliff (Syndal), after 18 years service.

SOMERVILLE: Keith (Bairnsdale), Storeman, retired on 20th February after 23 years service.

WILLIS: Bill (Bairnsdale), Skilled Builder's Labourer, retired on 13th December after 3 years service.

MARRIED

ATCHISON: Martin (Road Planning) married Licia Pevillo on 27th January at Newman Chapel, Carlton.

CHAPPLE: Steve (Shaky knees) of Title Survey married Jan Driscoll on 10th March.

FOR SALE

GUITAR AMPLIFIER: Peavey Musician 200 Watt stack guitar amplifier. Includes graphic equalizer, effects foot switch and covers. Perfect condition. Cost \$1600 new, will sell \$1000 or best offer. Eileen Morton, ext 2705.

MONARO: 1972 LS Coupe, V8 T Bar, laminated screen, radio-cassette, 7" mags and good tyres, dual system, 12 months reg, excellent condition throughout. Price \$3500 ONO. Phone Steve Chapple HO ext 2081.

FENCING OUTFIT: Woman's, size 36" jacket, size 10 pants, mask, foil, glove, as new \$60 ONO. Ext 2545, Justine Saville.

WANTED TO BUY

BICYCLE: Old style (pre 1950). Lee Scott, ext 2275.

BICYCLE PARTS: Have you any old bike parts at home that you've been wanting to throw out, well don't throw them out, ring me, Lou Marsal, ext 2081.

TOYOTA CORONA SE: 1970-1973, low mileage preferred. Reasonable price.

ENGAGED

McLEAN: Michael (TSD) announced his engagement to Kathy Gross.

CLASSIES COUPON INTERCHANGE

To: Public Relations Officer
5th Floor
Head Office

Closing date :
March 16th.

Please include in the next edition of "Interchange" my classified advertisement (below):

The categories available are:

- Births
- Deaths
- Marriages
- Engagements
- Retirements
- For Sale
- Wanted to Buy
- Swap Shop
- Public Notices

Advertisements should be kept brief.

CATEGORY

ADVERTISEMENT

Name _____ Division/Section _____

Signature _____

DIVISIONAL ROUNDABOUT

ing at home that night was an all-night card session at Rob Scott's place. His empty pockets are not convincing either. Sandy Miller is luckier in that his wife was there with him.

Workshop Foreman Brian Doyle has banned "Pug" Pugliese from going to Rob Scott's place as twice he has gone to sleep the following day at work.

What have John Liddell and Greg Fox got in common? Speeding fines! John for speeding in Drouin (no red number plate immunity, eh John!) and Greg for speeding in Trafalgar. Greg, the Cost Clerk at the Trafalgar job, must have been on a promise as he raced away from the site office so fast that he was booked on the job and just up the road from the office.

Patrolman Lindsay Marshall believes that people are getting much too public spirited. Recently whilst erecting a sign in Morwell he was taking particular care to ensure it was level, even to the extent of getting his offsiders, Bert and Snow, to measure it with a spirit level. When finished, an elderly lady ("got to be at least bloody 80") who had been watching commented several times how the sign definitely wasn't level. Even when given the spirit level she was quite adamant that it was not level. Lindsay is now hoping to get her a traffic controlman's job, but without stop bat or red jacket. Truck driver Peter White jumps at every opportunity for weekend overtime to water unprepared jobs, as he claims he has no money. The other week he then rolls up to the job in his new Ford Fairlane — no money, eh Peter!

SICK LIST

Gordon Gunn went on permanent sick leave on 4th December after being informed of having a terminal illness. He is greatly missed around the office, particularly his witty sense of humour.

TRAVELLERS

Ex-typist Di Smith dropped into the office after Christmas after returning home from 15 months in Europe only several days before. Di had many interesting tales to tell, including riding around the Pyramids on a camel. She also stopped over in India on her homeward trek.

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

The CRB's new automated road building machine is being put through its paces on the Hume Freeway, Avenel-Tubbs Hill Section.

The CMI Autograde TS500 is imported from the USA and arrived on the job in January. It will improve the construction of heavy duty roads in Victoria. It shapes the road foundation and spreads the layers of pavement material to accurate finished levels.

The Autograde could save a possible \$30,000 per kilometre of carriageway when compared with the costs of current methods.



WARRNAMBOOL

ARRIVALS

New typist Kerrin Grimshaw joined us in October 78. Kerrin replaces Maureen MacKay who left us to settle down to the serious business of starting a family. Engineering Cadet Julian Balmer joined us for six weeks on 8th January.

HO PEOPLE FLY HIGH ON CHICKEN AND CHAMPERS



Liberal quantities of champers and chicken provided the necessary lift for HO staff on Christmas break-up morning.

The annual champagne Breakfast gurgled off at about 6.30 am in the Kew Gardens with the early birds from Road Planning who were conspicuously absent during the afternoon festivities. No staying power there.

By 7.15 am most people had arrived bleary eyed but soon had the cobwebs washed away with champers and every other form of bubbly imaginable. The hot and cold chicken was consumed with obvious relish along with bacon and eggs and grilled tomatoes cooked on the electric Bar BQ, with some people going to the extreme of toast and marmalade. Thankfully nobody brought tea or coffee.

John Williams (left) from Traffic Engineering couldn't handle the pace on the ground and found it more comfortable in a tree. Although it was said that John had enough bubbles in his system to float to the moon.

Teresa Carter (below) from the Secretariat at HO was one of the earlier arrivals and voted the champagne breakfast 'one of the CRB's greatest social success stories of the year'.

