

CLOSING DATE:
MONDAY 11th JANUARY 1982

INTERCHANGE

CRB STAFF MAGAZINE

Vol 5 No 6
December 1981

TRAFFIC STOPPER!

No—it's not the latest in Summer fashion for flaggies.

The Stop-Go sign belongs to the CRB—the young lady belongs to 3MP. She is Christine Hills, the traffic reporter on Leon Byner's morning radio show.



Christine was photographed giving workmen from Metro Division a helping hand on a project on the Lower Esplanade, St Kilda.

Christine told Interchange she enjoys her job as a traffic reporter, even though it does mean getting up early to meet the 6.00am to 9.00am shift.

Of course working such early hours, and living only 'five minutes away from the station', means she's fortunate enough to miss all the peak hour traffic.

"But I always sympathise with peak hour drivers" Christine adds.

Photograph: TV SCENE

PLOVER POWER



A plover is a gregarious little wading bird who likes to build nests along freeways.

While most members of the feathered fraternity are content to seek an abode in trees, plovers seem to prefer ground level. Workmen on the Hume Freeway have found a number of nests scattered along the road reserve.

The particular plover above was found nesting near Hughes Creek, on the Hume Freeway bypass of Avenel.

As she wasn't directly in the way of the work, a temporary barricade was built around her nest to inform the construction crew that she didn't want to be disturbed.

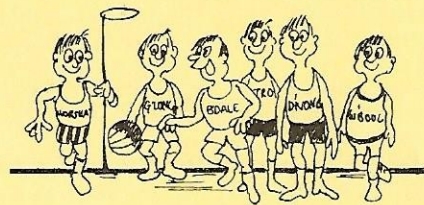
After a few weeks the eggs hatched, and mother and family fluttered away—to new, and unknown, quarters.

SPORTS FLASH!!!

Are YOU participating in the 1982 Interdivisional Sports Day???

Time is running out as Traralgon Division and HOSA are already making preparations for the gala sporting event planned for SUNDAY 21st MARCH 1982.

Got any queries? Ring Varis Abele in Traffic Engineering on 2010.

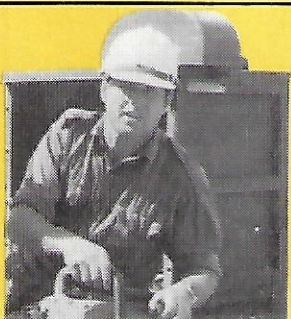


...ANOTHER SPORTS FLASH!!!

Perhaps golf or cricket are your game. The annual CRB vs Tasmanian DMR Golf and Cricket Challenge will take place in Hobart from 15th until 19th February, 1982. Keen golfers can ring John Davis on 2421 and cricketers can ring Alan Baker on 2206.



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**The CRB
at
Pucka
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FREE

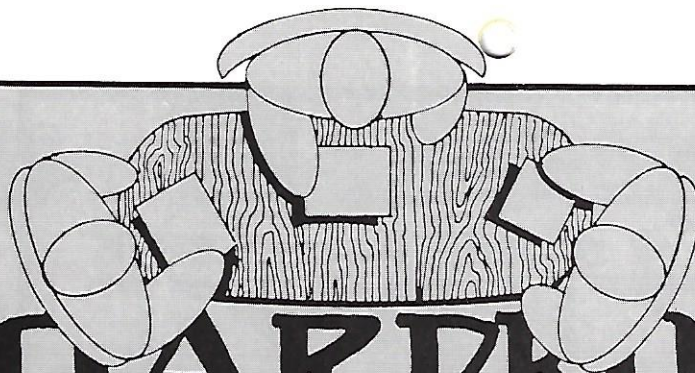
**1982
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**Bendigo's
Mini - town**

FROM THE BOARDROOM



HIGHLIGHTS OF 1980/81

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

During 1980/81, the Country Roads Board:

- expended \$229.9 million on new roads and bridges, and the maintenance and improvement of existing roads and bridges
- completed, and opened to traffic, 8.6km of freeway
- sealed or resealed with bitumen 4718km of road

Construction and planning

- opened two new sections of freeway: the Prince of Wales Freeway, bypass of Drouin and the Mulgrave Freeway from Huntingdale Road to Warrigal Road
- carried out roadworks, culminating in an increase in the total length of dual carriageways on freeways, State highways and main roads throughout Victoria to 819km
- published Environment Effects Statements on Route E6, Kew, and on a possible Omeo-Mitta Mitta low level road which were made available for public information and comment
- released details of major Road Planning studies for the Eastern Freeway from Bulleen to Ringwood, the widening of Punt Road and a strategy for the future development of the Calder Highway from Keilor to Bendigo
- planted 97,000 trees and shrubs as part of the landscaping of road reserves
- settled 527 land purchase cases for which \$17.75 million was paid in compensation and associated costs

Traffic services

- connected traffic signals as part of the Signal Co-ordination of Regional Areas in Melbourne (SCRAM) Project at a further 50 intersections on selected routes in the metropolitan area
- introduced a new "Keep Left Unless Overtaking" sign to encourage motorists to use the left lane on multi-lane roads
- expended almost \$470,000 on snow clearing on roads to Victoria's snow resorts
- installed 24 new emergency telephones on the Tullamarine and Calder Freeways at a cost of \$383,000
- issued 36,455 permits for the movement of overdimensional and overweight vehicles
- completed the construction of a new weighbridge at Kerang, bringing the total of CRB weighbridges to 18

Municipal allocations

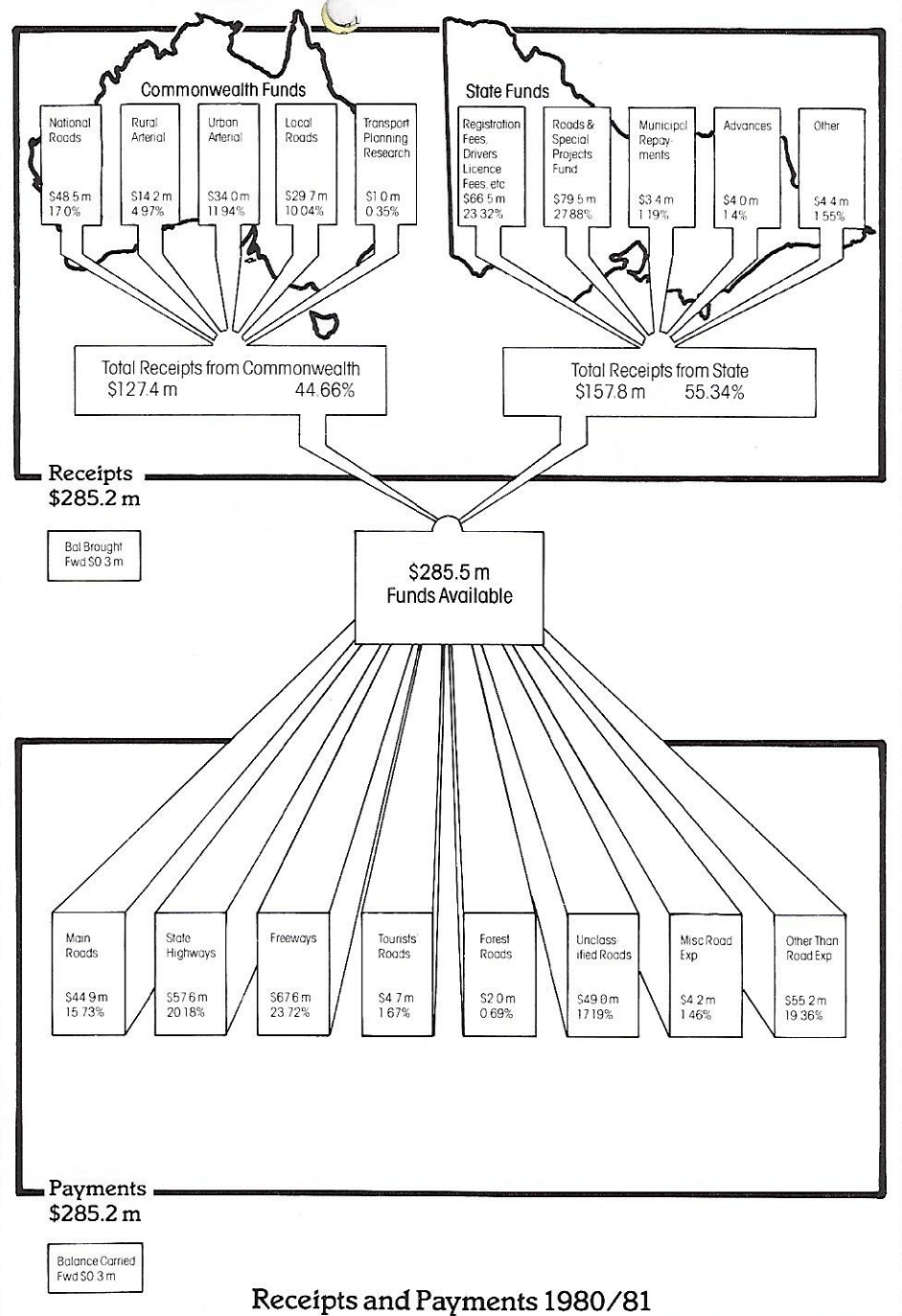
- allocated \$72,300 to assist municipal councils to construct access roads to 15 schools
- allocated \$86,605 to assist municipal councils to improve access roads to eight Surf Life Saving Clubs
- allocated State grants totalling \$157,000 to municipal councils for flood and storm damage restoration works, under a Commonwealth/State agreement
- allocated \$2,151,710 to municipal councils for special impact works
- allocated \$200,075 from the Municipalities Forest Road Improvement Fund to assist municipal councils with the improvement and protection of roads adjacent to State Forest areas in 1981/82

- commenced the construction of 81 new bridges (including 52 commenced by municipal councils with financial assistance from the CRB) with a total estimated cost of \$21,617,000
- linemarked 31,301 km of roads
- entered into 282 contracts with a total value of \$42,500,000
- allocated \$95,461,000 for expenditure on main roads and unclassified roads

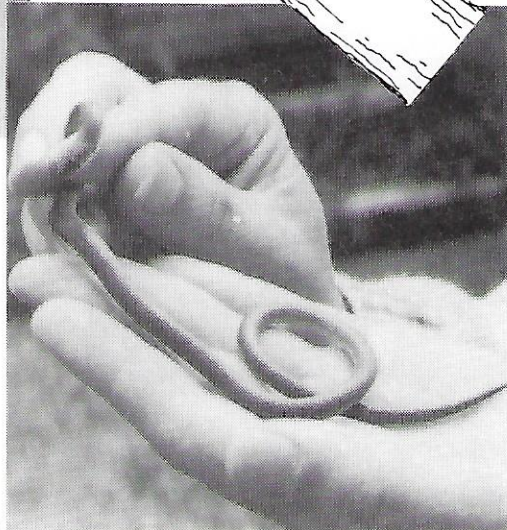
Finance

After deducting the cost of collecting revenue received under the Motor Car Act, total funds available to the Country Roads Board for 1980/81 were \$285,428,658.57.

Expenditure in the form of cash payments during the financial year amounted to \$285,131,694 leaving a balance of \$296,965 to be carried forward into financial year 1981/82.



SURVEYING MAMMALS...



When most of us are relaxing on weekends watching the district cricket, enjoying a lengthy counter lunch or visiting friends, Graeme Hill is climbing trees.

And if he's not climbing trees, chances are he's sitting in a rowing-boat in the middle of a swamp!

Graeme, a draftsman with Bendigo Division, loves animals.

Why else would he set out on expeditions into bushes and onto rivers and lakes, just to spend whole weekends studying sugar gliders, brown snakes, brush tailed possums or spotted owls?

An active member of Bendigo's Mammal Survey Group, Graeme has always been fond of animals. But instead of owning pets — "I don't like keeping anything in captivity" — Graeme prefers to trek around forests, lakes and national parks to study Australia's unique fauna and flora.

And that usually demands a lot of patience, dedication and great skill climbing gum trees.

Recently he scaled a nine metre ladder so he could photograph a nesting olive-backed oriole. Unfortunately orioles, like magpies, are notorious for their aggressive maternal behaviour — and before Graeme could even adjust the focus on his Pentax, he had been attacked!

Now sitting atop a ladder, thirty foot in the air and equipped only with some expensive camera gear, is not the best place to find that one is the target of an over-protective olive-backed oriole. Graeme had no alternative but to abandon his assignment and seek refuge on ground level.

"I usually mount a camera on a tree with a clamp, get to the bottom and then take the photographs using a shutter release," he explains.

Not all animals Graeme meets in their natural habitat, however, display such aggressive tendencies.

When the Survey Group discovered a colony of squirrel gliders near Toolleen, east of Bendigo, Graeme took one back home for a photographic session.

"Within a short time it was very friendly," Graeme says, "it even crawled up the tripod and sat on it."

As it turned out, the group of squirrel gliders is the largest known colony in Australia, located in a two square kilometre area on a road reserve.

"There's very little known about the range of animals in this region." The fact that the glider colony had remained undiscovered until recently confirms Graeme's observation.

"The Mammal Survey Group consists of about twenty members who explore and examine life within a 50km radius of Bendigo. We have been setting up nesting boxes in the Bendigo Whipstick Forest to encourage animals to use them." A nesting box is a small hollow log with a hole cut in the side so that the nesting mammal or bird can be observed. It is usually placed in a tree about 12 metres from ground level.

Between bush excursions and business commitments, Graeme still finds time to help produce a naturalist field magazine called Whirrakee. As co-editor, he not only writes material but also provides the artwork — a sample of his drawing skills can be seen on this page.

Above: It's not a snake but a harmless Fraser's Legless Lizard, which is distinguishable by its earholes, and small flaps and vents on its body.

Field glasses, a reliable camera and lots of dedication — they are the prerequisites of an experienced bird — and mammal — watcher. But Graeme hastily adds that the most important prerequisite is a "genuine interest in animals!"

"You've got to be interested because of the time involved.

"Sometimes it takes me six hours just to take one photograph.

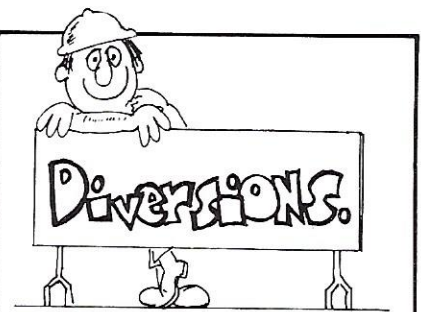
"But it's a great family exercise and the kids like to get involved."

Gavan, his youngest son, likes birdwatching, while his other son, Rohan, has recently developed a fondness for snakes.

And what is Graeme's favourite? He confesses that it's probably a choice between the *Petaurus norfolcensis* or the *Acrobates pygmaeus*...

"They're so beautiful..." he explains.

Top left: Graeme Hill, and his drawing of a *Petaurus breviceps* (sugar glider), not be confused with a *Petaurus norfolcensis* (squirrel glider).



Seen opposite 700 High Street one afternoon: two suspicious looking figures in the car park trying to break into a Ford Falcon. Further investigation revealed the pair to be Les Bull (engineer) and Les Bull (Divisional Accountant). Les(1) had apparently offered Les(2) a lift home when he found he had accidentally locked the keys inside the car.

After some frantic and unsuccessful attempts to enter the car Les(2) decided to make a hasty retreat. With a police helicopter hovering ominously overhead his sudden departure was understandable:

"If someone had called the police it would take some explaining...we'd get the treatment for sure when they question us and we both give the same name, and tell them we both live in Hawthorn and both work for the Board."

Since then we've been informed that Les has been appointed as Divisional Accountant at Horsham...Why an engineer would want an accounting position is anybody's guess.

It is very difficult to celebrate a football grand final, and get married, all in the one weekend.

Just ask surveyor Laurie Haylock from Bairnsdale Division. The Saturday after his team won the Latrobe Valley Grand Final, the spirited ruck rover was due to tie the nuptial knot. Consequently his agenda on that jubilant day was as follows — 9.00am: football team group photograph; 11.00: street procession to commemorate grand final victory; 12.00: civic celebration; 1.00pm: the wedding, followed by the reception. And following all of the conjugal formalities, Laurie had to make a quick dash back to the football club rooms for Presentation Night.

Foot(ball) Note: Laurie is denying rumours that he spent his honeymoon touring Junction Oval, Kar-dinia Park and VFL Park.

It's good to get away from it all, but Horsham Division's Mick Young has just had a Queensland holiday he'd sooner forget. Mick and his wife Margaret often head north with the children and family cat to revel in the sun at the Gold Coast...but this year things turned a bit catastrophic. According to Margaret, Mick took pussy for a visit to a topless beach at Noosa and apparently became so engrossed in a beach ball game that the neglected cat got bored and wandered away. Three days of searching failed to find the absconded feline and the Youngs eventually had to return home to Horsham — catless!

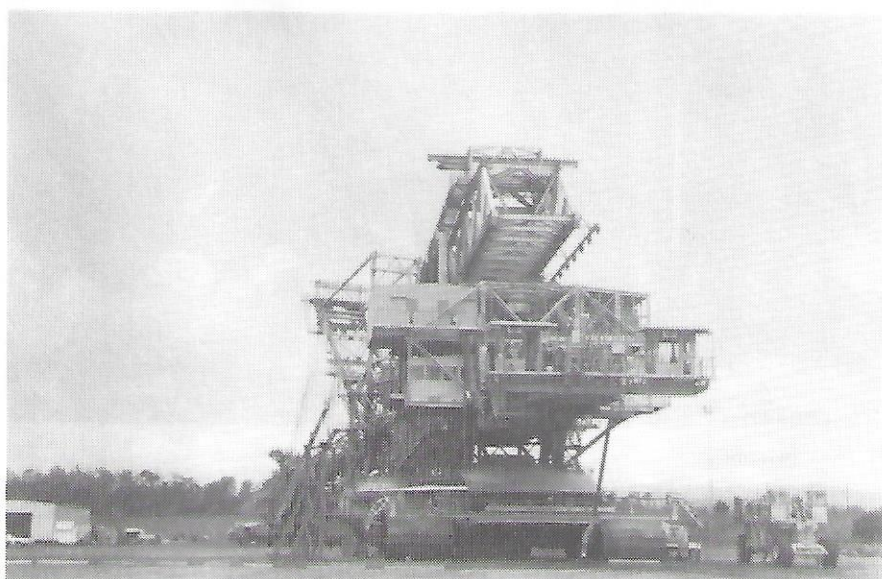
Fortunately for Mick they found a telegram on the doorstep advising them that the cat had been located. Margaret immediately paid for pussy's train fare and it is now back home.

Both Mick and cat are well.

Officers working for Emergency Services at Head Office receive their fair share of strange calls from motorists, but this one takes some beating. A Mr Bird rang in to say he had broken down on Tullamarine Freeway, and asked if his employer — Eat More Poultry — could be advised. Ron Gunn rang Eat More Poultry (suspecting that it could be a hoax), and the receptionist nonchalantly asked: "Which Mr Bird is it? We have two working here."

It isn't true that the new Wodonga Project office is run by a staff of assorted soaks and drunkards. This misbelief probably arises from the fact that the Project Office shares a car park with the Wodonga Hotel, and it also explains why so many CRB vehicles can be observed parked near the popular public-house at odd hours of the day.

MOVING IN A BIG WAY



They don't believe in doing things by halves in Traralgon Division.

Take this OverDimensional Permit for instance...all 4202 tonnes of it!

Divisional Engineer, Dr David Currie, issued the permit to State Electricity Commission Officers so they could transport a dredge from the Loy Yang dredge site to the Loy Yang open cut.

Dr Currie believes the mammoth machine must break a few records as far as OD permits are concerned: it is 42 metres high (that's over 13 stories), 198 metres long, 30 metres wide and weighs in at 4202 tonnes (more than one hundred times the existing legal mass).

The photograph shows the dredge on the move on Traralgon Creek Road.

THE CRB AT P



Above: Corporal Reggie Peterson: "It's a change from your normal life"

Below: Men from the CRB join fellow volunteers from the MMBW and State Rivers in the Forest Mill and Chainsaw Course.



Reserve volunteers on the Plant Operations Course work on a forklift

The CRB sponsors two Supplementary Reserve units of the Australian Army Reserve: Headquarters of the 22 Construction Regiment and 107 Plant Squadron (Heavy). Volunteers who enlist with the Supplementary Reserve attend a 14 day camp each year—CRB personnel are granted Military Leave for that purpose.

Last year CRB personnel in the Supplementary Reserve spent two weeks in the rugged terrain south of Eildon Weir, where infantry skills were practiced.

This October the two week camp was held at Puckapunyal and was designed to improve military engineering skills.

CRB personnel were joined by units sponsored by the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission—these units are also part of the HQ 22 Construction Regiment.

If you want to know more information about the Supplementary Reserve, and you don't know anybody associated with it, contact E.G. Renton: 860 2294.

TO many of us, 'military training' conjures up images of people running over hills with submachine-guns, shooting at imaginary enemy targets.

But 100 CRB army types, all volunteers with the Supplementary Army Reserve, will tell you the contrary.

In fact, this year at camp not one course involved using a rifle.

Instead, they covered such specialised areas as demolitions, field machines, radio operation, camouflage and concealment, navigation and patrolling, driving, forest mill and chainsaw operations and field engineering.

The courses ran for either six or twelve days, and for many it was a complete change in lifestyle.

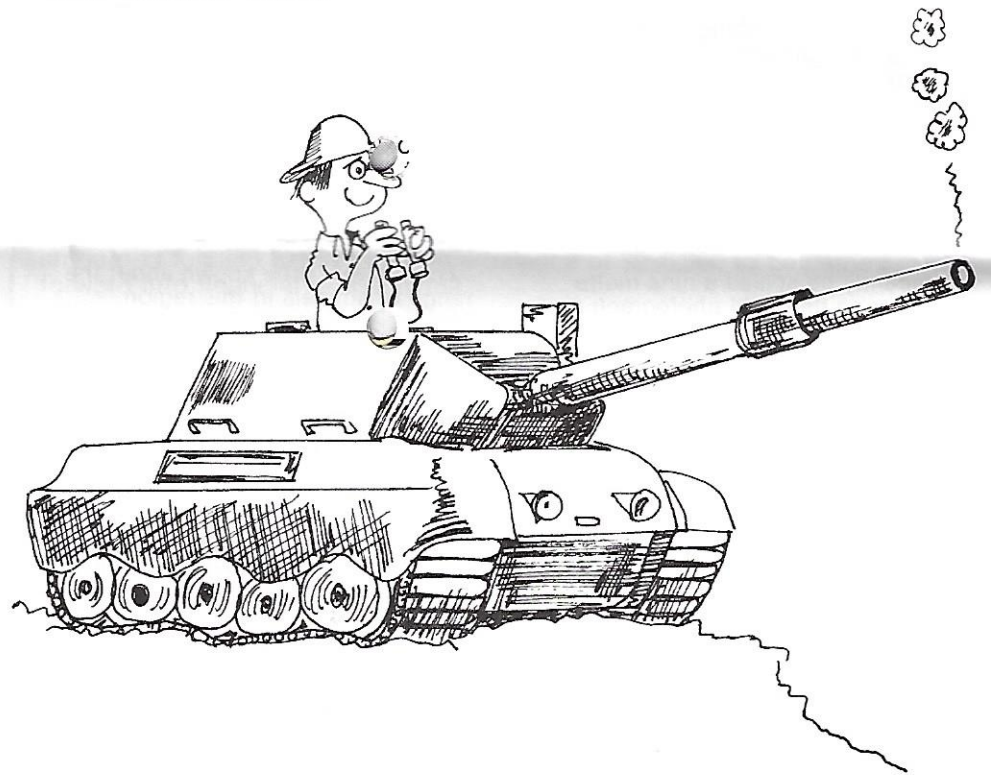
"Some of the guys have never been on an item of plant before," says Captain Noel Osborne (Seymour Project), who was supervising the Plant Operators Course.

That is what life with the Army Reserve is all about—learning!

The Driving Course is the most popular, says Major Geoff Hose (Metro Division), who was involved in the overall camp organisation.

"We get a lot of office people who want to do something different," Major Hose says. And that is understandable. Driving landrovers, dump and tray trucks across country and on highways is certainly a refreshing break from sitting in the family Kingswood during peak hour or at a desk all day.

For many, the military training exercise is also like an annual reunion... wherever the camp may be. In 1980, many members had the opportunity to spend two weeks at Shoalwater Bay, in Queensland. Under command of Major Hose the detachment relieved a regular Army engineer squadron which was constructing a road north of Rockhampton.



Corporal Jock Kerr, from Benalla



Deputy Chairman Mr Bill Brake with Warrant Officer Jim Chandler, who has been attending camp for nearly 30 years

UCKA



Getting stuck into it—two men working on equipment during the Plant Operation Course



Lance Corporal Alison Walsh—she enjoys life with her 'mates' in 107 Plant Squadron

"It's the only chance you get to see all the guys you joined up with," stresses Reggie Peterson (Bairnsdale Division) who has only missed one camp in 23 years.

Don Jackson (Bendigo Division) agrees. "It's one of the reasons you come...to see your mates from the other Divisions."

The mateship spirit, like in the Regular Army, is an essential part of Supplementary Reserve life. Indeed, it is probably one of the main reasons why people like Lance Corporal Don Welsh (Bendigo Division) keep coming back, year after year.

"I've been in the Reserve for 24 years," says Don. "I've also got my son Donald here now...I think it's the only father-son team here."

Warrant Officer Jim Chandler has been 'coming back' for 28 years, which must make him the longest serving CRB member in the Reserve. Jim, a veteran at Horsham Division too, says one of the biggest attractions is "the friendships you make over the year."

There were about 10 new recruits from the CRB in the Supplementary Reserve this year. But army camps, like Puckapunyal, are big places and there is plenty of room for a lot more volunteers.

And remember, it is also 'A Woman's Life In Today's Army'. Alison Walsh (Glen Waverley) has been getting up to reveille for two years now and says she "loves it".

Being outnumbered by men presents no problems either, she adds. "They accept us (girls) as mates."



Corporal David Reid, Road Design, with Bob Wodsworth, from Bairnsdale. Both were attending the Forest Mill and Chainsaw Course

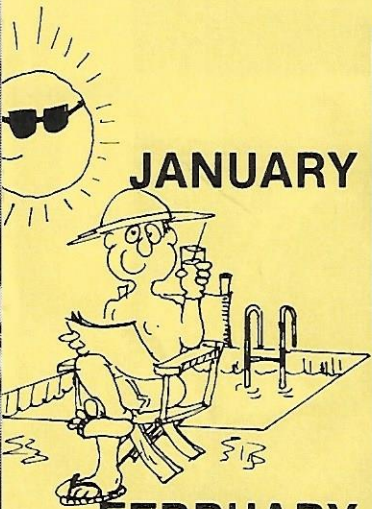
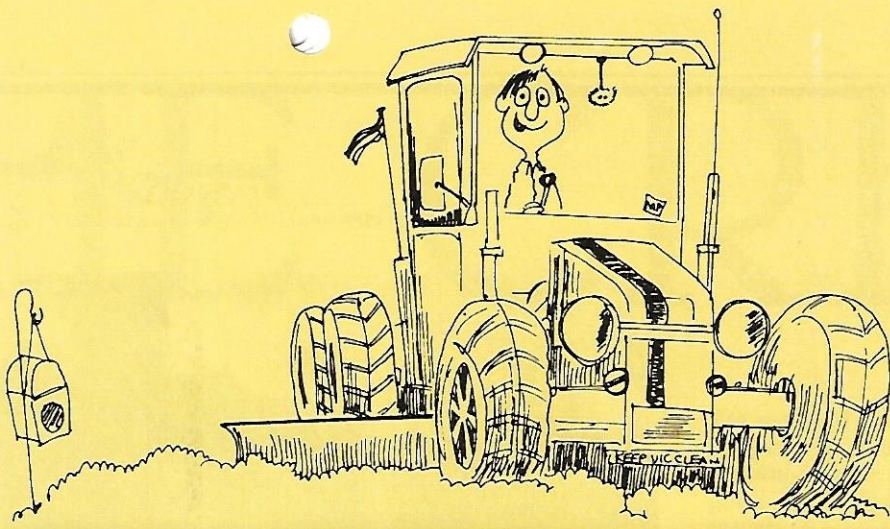


"A change is as good as a holiday," says Corporal Greg Newland (right) from Ballarat, with Sapper Barry Robinson, from Geelong

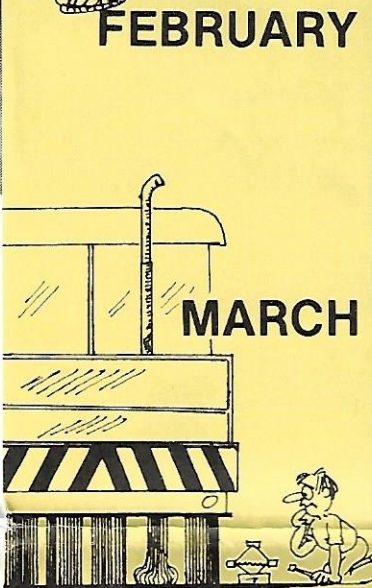


Mr Brake with Lance Corporal Don Jackson from Bendigo, Major Ted Renton, Board Member Noel Allanson and Captain Noel Osborne

1982



JANUARY



FEBRUARY

MARCH

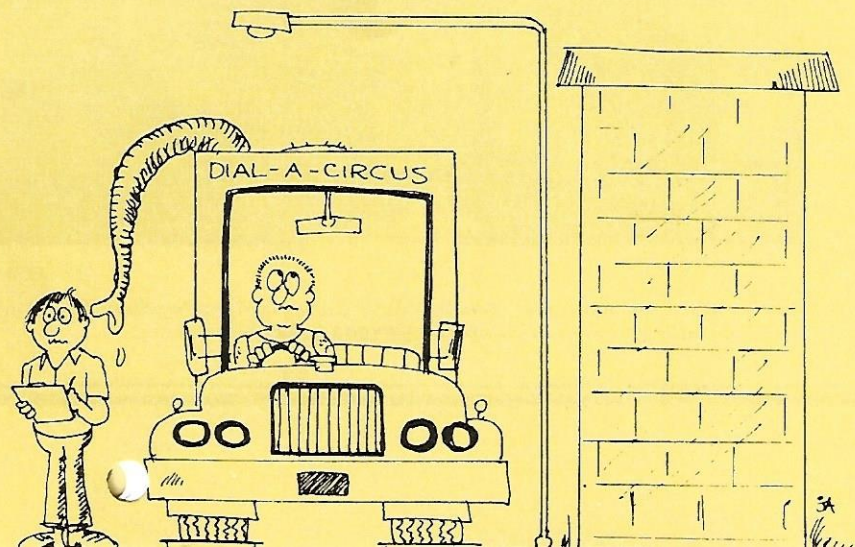
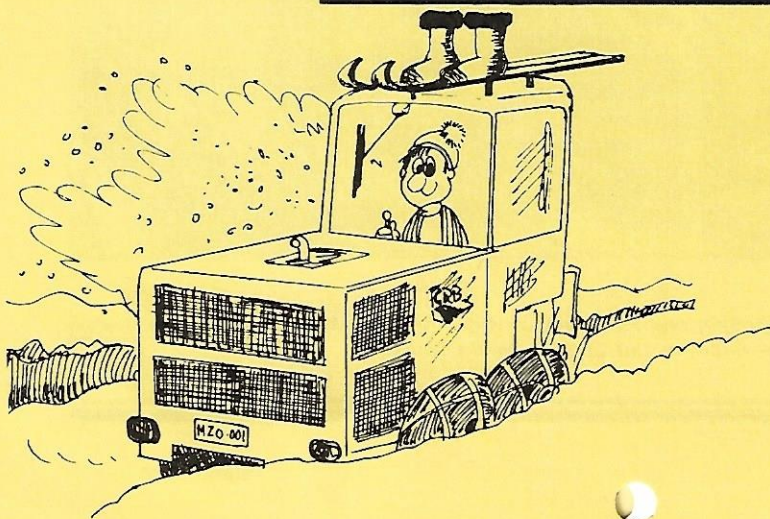
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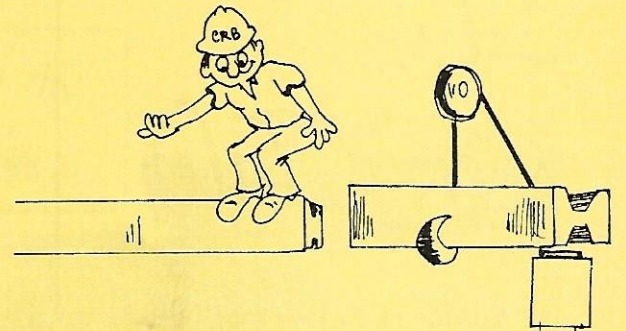
MAY

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Year Planner



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JULY

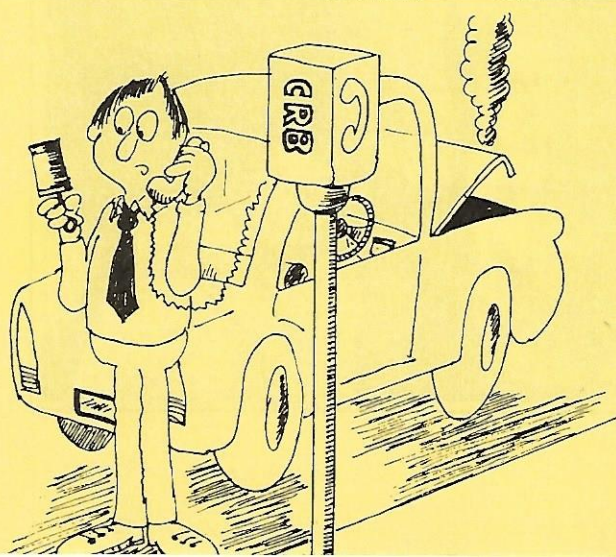
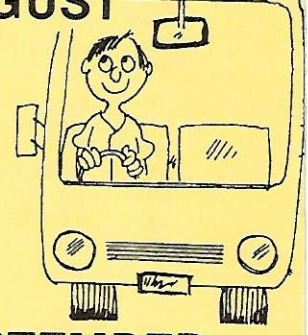
AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



A Ferry Tale

IT'S comforting to hear that some people still believe in ferries. They do in Bairnsdale Division, anyway.

The Paynesville-Raymond Island Ferry has been serving locals and tourists for 12 years now...and a lot of water has gone under its planks.

The ferry, which is operated by the Shire of Bairnsdale, and maintained by staff at the CRB Divisional Depot, began carrying cars and passengers in January 1969.

And if you complain about YOUR working hours, give some thought to the ferry. It operates nearly every day of the year from 7.00am until 6.45pm — give or take 15 minutes.

During holiday periods it may have up to 130 trips a day on its agenda, when 2000 people and 800 cars usually take advantage of its escort service.

"It's never been quiet at all...even when it's raining" says Keith McClean, one of the three operators who runs the ferry on a rotation basis. "The least I've done is 60 trips in one day."

Ian McCartney (left) and Col Gibbs at work on the ferry



Top: In dry dock the ferry, with her huge cylindrical pontoons, resembled something out of 'Star Wars'

Keith works with Fred Hammond and lunchtime relief driver Bill Wells to keep the daily service operating.

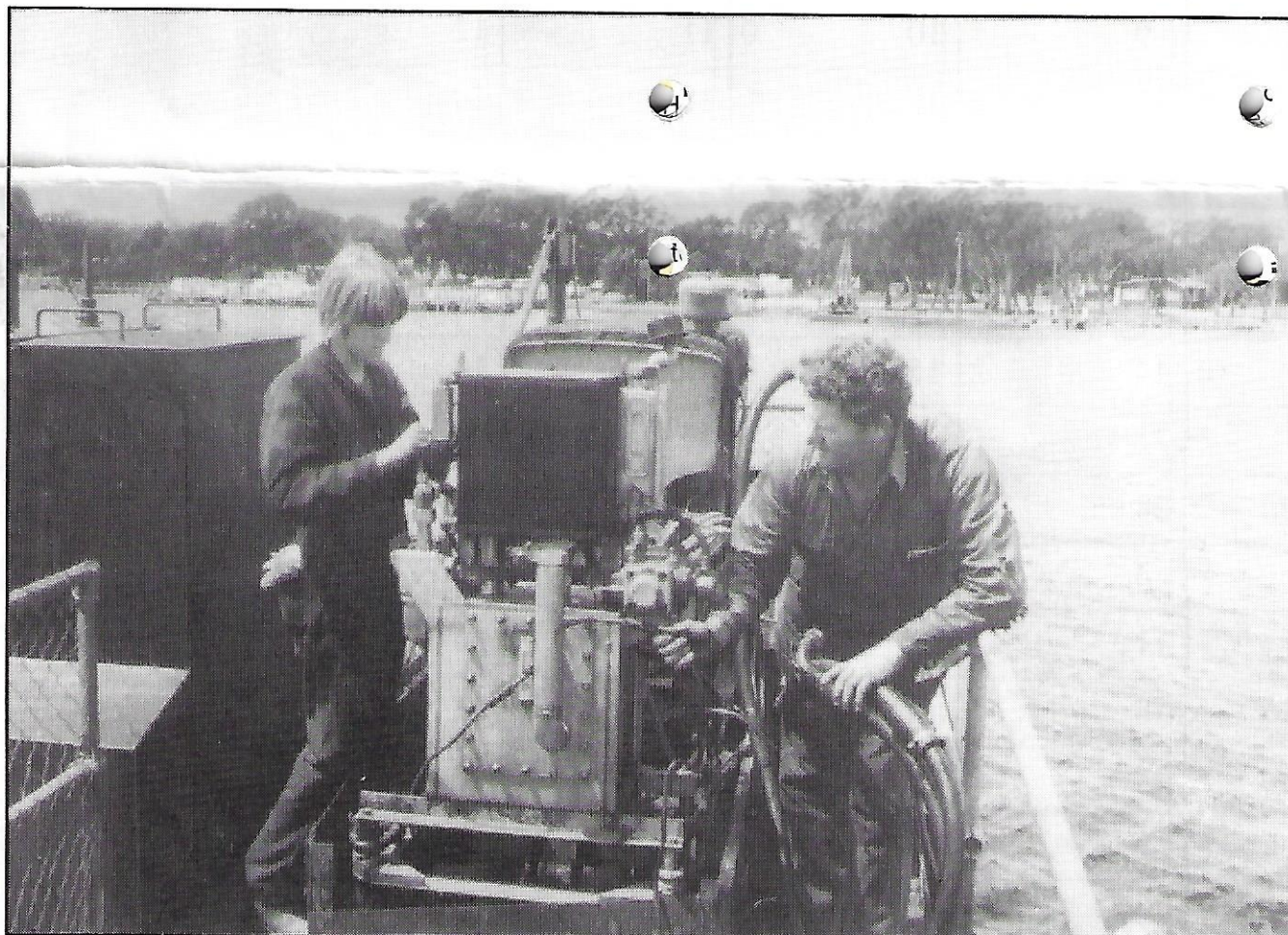
"She's on call for emergencies all night too!" Keith adds.

So, with all those long hours behind her wake, it's understandable that the busy ferry had to take a few weeks off recently for a 'complete check-up, overhaul and paint-job'.

She was towed to nearby Masons Bay, south of Paynesville, by 'Avon', an aged yet hardy Ports & Harbour tug. At the Bay she underwent sandblasting and painting.



Bruce Fraser (left) and Bairnsdale Depot foreman Pat Doyle



The hull structure and flotation cylinders then had a protective recoating applied, all under the watchful eye of Ian Stringer, an Engineering Assistant from Bairnsdale.

Next, a reconditioned flotation tank was installed, some routine maintenance work was carried out and her ramps were resealed.

The ferry is back in business now. But if you're keen on visiting the old girl, you've plenty of time. "It's the first time she's ever been out of the water," boasted Pat Doyle, the Depot workshop foreman, "and it'll probably be another 10 years before she's out again."

Pat, like most of his colleagues, still believes in ferries.

A GET-TOGETHER FOR THE GANG

Peter Fletcher's send-off recently was more of a 'get-together'.

Peter, the Final Ledger Accountant, who retired on 30th November, began his 45 years with the Board as a clerk at the South Melbourne depot.

Some of his former depot colleagues gathered at his retirement, held at Angellucci's in Kew, to exchange a few old memories.

Pictured with Peter (the young looking one in the centre) are, top left: John Bulman, Deputy Chief Accountant, Dick Whitehead, ex-Allocations Officer, Bob Swift, Plant Allocations Officer Glen Waverley, and bottom left: Mac Wilkinson, Superintending Draftsman Road Design, and Des Chapple, OIC Correspondence Registry.



IN MEMORIAM

It is with regret we report the death of KENNETH LEE VARNEY, who passed away suddenly on Saturday November 21st.

Ken was an Engineering Assistant with the Planning Section at Glen Waverley.

We extend our sympathy to his family.

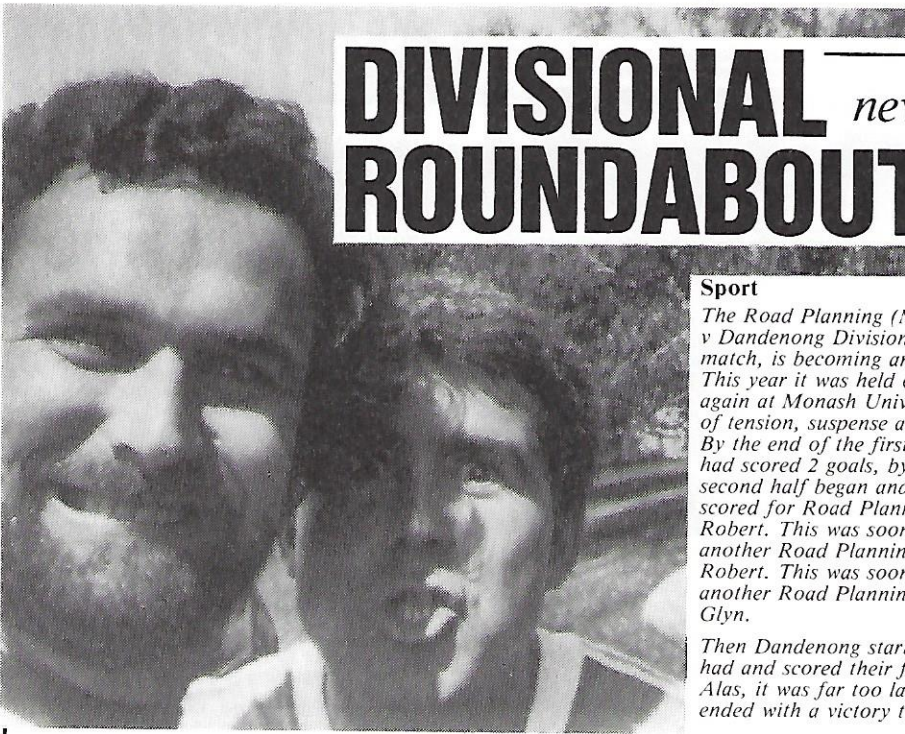
APPOINTMENT FOR MR RUSSELL

The Chairman of the CRB, Mr T H Russell, has been appointed a member of the West Gate Bridge Authority.

The appointment, from 27 October 1981, until 31 December 1982, was made by the Governor in Council.

DIVISIONAL ROUNDABOUT

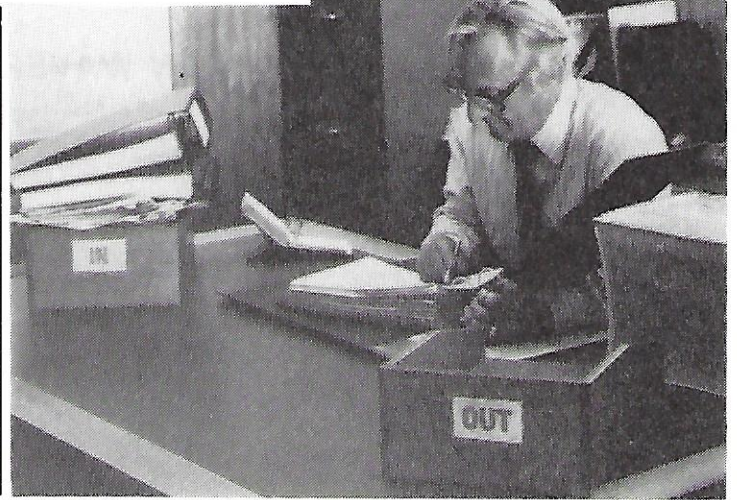
news and photos from the divisions and projects



Sport

The Road Planning (Misfits) v Dandenong Division (Demons) soccer match, is becoming an annual favourite. This year it was held on October 25th and again at Monash University. It was a game of tension, suspense and a battle of wits. By the end of the first half, Road Planning had scored 2 goals, by Joe and Bruno. The second half began and another goal was scored for Road Planning, this time by Robert. This was soon followed by yet another Road Planning, this time by Robert. This was soon followed by yet another Road Planning goal scored by Glyn.

Then Dandenong started to give it all they had and scored their first goal by Jackie. Alas, it was far too late and the game ended with a victory to the Misfits.



Above: Two star RP players in close-up

ROAD PLANNING

Reporters: J Boardman and L Brady

Office Movements

We stated in a past Interchange issue that we weren't sure whether or not our Palmolive Gold and Colgate were doing their job. That question has since been answered for us. THEY'RE ALL LEAVING!!!

We farewelled Dick Meloni, Chris Smith and Eng. Sim Lau, all have left for Greener Pastures—Best of Luck. Farewell to Arthur Dolley who retired, and will now be living in Queensland (Lucky Thing), he will be greatly missed. We also say goodbye to Ray Bridger (Metro), Tony Boyd (Traffic) and George Giummarra (Traffic) who will be replaced by Ian Mackintosh.

Hey! that makes three new members, Ian Mackintosh, Simeon Christoff and John Eldridge (Thanks Fellas)

Congratulations to Sven Eriksson on his appointment as Road Planning Engineer.

General

We would like to congratulate Chris Smith and his wife on their new baby daughter Jessica. Welcome back to Bruno Aleksic, after 3 months holiday in Yugoslavia. Commiserations to Mick Wood, who lately has spent many a harrowing weekend injuring himself through endeavours to catch his 4 sheep. He will be very relieved when they finally lamb (then he'll have 8 sheep to chase after).

Resignations

Engineer Class 2, Rob Jory is leaving the Board's service on 1st January 1982 to take a position as Works Engineer with the Shire of Mildura. We wish Rob and wife Jan all the best for the future.

Cec Compton, Patrolman 2 left to work with the Shire of Kowree on 4th September. All the best Cec.

CRB Depot Social Club

A Retirement Dinner was held to farewell Foreman Dick Mathews who has retired on account of ill health after 30 years service with the Board.

A team has been entered in the Raft Race which will take place on the Wimmera River at our 1981 Kannamaroo Festival in December. Engineer Glen Savage is one of the organisers of the Festival.

More Retirements

Herb Pryor retired from the Patrolman in Charge position at Nhill Patrol after 35 years service with the Board.

Herb spent most of his working life on the Western Highway between Dimboola and the Border with the past winter being one of the wettest in his memory.

Herb does not expect his arthritis to act up next winter no matter what the weather is like.

We wish Herb all the best for the coming years.

On the account of ill health, Gordon Croft, Stawell Quarry retired on 8th September 1981. We hope Gordon has a long and happy retirement.

On 30th October Divisional Office staff and guests attended a dinner at the White Hart Hotel to farewell the Divisional Accountant Max Goodier after 19 years service in Horsham Division.

The Divisional Engineer, John Heid, wished Max well in his retirement to Dimboola. The Deputy Chief Accountant, Mr John Bulman spoke on behalf of the Board.

A presentation was made by Charlie Robinson, representing the MOA, of which Max has been the local steward for many years.

The Divisional Office Social Club presented Max with a silver tray and goblets, which combined perfectly with the silver jug presently by the Depot Social Club.

We all extend our best wishes to Max, and Terese and family for a long and happy retirement.

Max, our Office Table Tennis Champion is greatly missed during lunch times.

A warm send off was given to "B.S. old timer" Harry Stewart at the White Hart Hotel.

Harry retired after twenty four years with the CRB as an owner truck driver. Noted for his wide smile and quick wit, many friends, including the D.E. John Heid, used the occasion to give back some of the punishment.

Harry now plans to continue his unofficial duties as Mayor of Dimboola.

WODONGA

Reporter: Bruce Phillips

Wodonga Welcome Mat

The welcome mat is seeing a lot of use as personnel gather to tackle work on the Wodonga Project. The arrivals thus far are: Bruce Phillips, Project Engineer, ex Seymour Project. Gerry Turner, Scientific Officer Quality Control, ex Materials Division. Debbie Deretic, Typist, ex State Rivers — Dartmouth. Paul Tucker, Engineer Bridgeworks, ex Seymour Project. Bill Farrell, Engineer, ex Benalla Division. Norm Esdale, Surveyor, ex Survey Division. Guy Quantrell, Admin. Officer, ex Benalla Division. Bill Tolley, Clerk of Works, ex Benalla Division. Wally Wolf, Clerk of Works, ex Benalla Division. Chris Foley, Field Asst. (Survey), ex Dept. Crown Lands and Surveys Dennis Summerfield, Field Asst. (Survey), ex Commonwealth Dept. of Admin. Services.

The mat is still out to welcome another six members, of the expanding Project team, expected in the next few months.

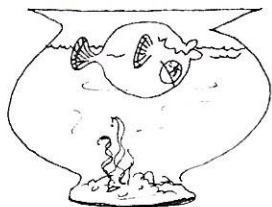
Great also to welcome Overseer Tom Reidy back to work after a prolonged period of sick leave.

Farewells

With the coming of the Project team Engineer Bob Gardner and Asst. Overseer Bob Mihan have transferred back to works within Benalla Division.

News

The Project, despite its infancy, expects to be able to announce its first birth and first marriage shortly. It's hastened to point out that the two events will involve different personnel.



Norm Esdale, a fancier and collector of tropical fish, had a disaster during his recent shift from Melbourne to Wodonga. Norm readied some fish for transit in a large esky complete with electric immersion heater, but forgot to adjust the temperature control. The result was about 3kg of poached tropical fish. You've got to admit — a different fish story; or maybe even — a strange kettle of fish!

A massive and very ornate "rock" turned up mysteriously, one morning recently, on Cost Clerk Max Proksch's desk. There was no shortage of advice as to what Max might do with the specimen but he ignored it all and, risking a hernia, deposited it in the office garden. It seems that Max is a keen gardener and had made it known that he could use some decorative rocks. Overseer Robin Tonks and the boys in the field had obliged by making use of some surplus concrete and suitably adorning same with river pebbles — Sort of, killing two birds with one stone?

Paul Tucker is a keen bird watcher and has placed himself in some very unusual and precarious positions in pursuit of his hobby. One night recently whilst a pot boiler was screening at the local drive in and Paul was trying to observe, with binoculars, the mating ritual of the Tawny Frog Mouth Owl, he accidentally discovered that by standing tiptoe, on one leg, on the ridge of the roof with one arm looped around the TV aerial mast, he could command an uninterrupted view of the drive in theatre screen.

BAIRNSDALE

Reporter: I Ellis

Welcome

The Admin staff welcome Cheryl Burgess, an old face into their fold (permanently). Cheryl started with us in Feb on the Special Youth Employment Scheme and worked intermittently before starting permanently on 18th October as a Clerical Assistant.

Admin

Rex Nash pulled a monkey muscle whilst monkeying around on the tennis court with Ron Glasser and Neil Jephcott. Incidentally Ian Hedley has been quite rash lately.

I've been informed that Chris Redenbach actually played as first rover in the premiership team, not in the back pocket.

Squash

Though numbers were down the Squash Day on Sunday 18th October went off really well. The day started at 11am followed by a BBQ dinner and refreshments. Someone blamed the sausages for the lack of squash skill after lunch but that was definitely a debatable point. Neil Jephcott caused an upset when he defeated reigning squash champ Bruce Fraser in the social club's squash championship.

Ian Ellis is one of our veteran Bairnsdale reporters—he was with us in the old Roadlines days. Ian would be glad to hear from anyone in his Division who has a story, photograph or whatever for Interchange.

TRAFFIC ENG

Reporter: Jenny Risol

Young Joe Rasulo made his deb at the Miss Victoria Quest recently. He was partnered by Miss Julie Cockrem.

We also wish to welcome new comers to the section: Rolf Reinhardt who recently immigrated from Germany, Mike Hodgson from West Gate, Peter Bubb from Works Sub-Branch, Geoff Spring from Road Design and finally George Giummarra from Road Planning.

Welcome back to our world wide travellers Dino Sartori and Ian Anderson and also hoping Teik N G enjoys his 7 week skit in Kuala Lumpur on the 23rd December. Welcome back to Bruce Hicks.

Late leavers are warned to beware of a two wheeled red flash seen to be leaving High Street shortly after 6pm every night. Bears remarkable similarities to another red flash previously seen in a land cruiser.

Ernie Mensforth, while engaged on a traffic survey on the roof of the Benalla Post Office apparently slipped and hit his nose resulting in a fracture to the little finger of his right hand.

Vince de Maria recently completed a 2 day trip rafting down a section of the Mitta Mitta River. He recommends it to anyone who has an adventurous nature and wants to catch double pneumonia.



MATERIALS

Reporter: Lee Scott

Welcome

There are many new faces in M.D. this month. Stan Banbury is the new Fitter in the workshop. The Geotechnical Section also has a newcomer, Chui an Engineer fresh from Monash.

Welcome to Margaret Goddard and Graeme Newman in the Geology Section. There are two new EO1's Michael Betts in the Soils Lab and David Walkon in the Geotechnical Lab. Bruce Harper is the new Electronics Technician from Melbourne Uni. The new Admin Officer is Russell Austin.

Farewell

Michael Banks (EO1) left MD in August and was given a fine send-off and to add to his delight, a singing telegram girl, dressed only in a leotard, coat-tails and fish net stockings, sang farewell to him.

Two of the Admin office staff left in October. Leith Wohlers has gone Bridge Construction and Gloria Stock to Metro. Everyone in MD wish them well in their new surroundings.

TA Steve Mumford resigned from the Pavement Section in October also. Farewell to Malcolm Talbot who is now at the Bendigo Lab.

Social

Sixty-eight people attended the smorgasbord in the MD dining room on August 12th and enjoyed the 20 various dishes supplied by the MD staff.

People here are very anxious to know if John Hanks will accept the offer to pose nude for the Interchange centrefold.

Congratulations to Pea Beau on finally receiving his long awaited car. And congratulations also to Graeme Gazzard (Jasper Carrot) on obtaining his EO1 position and to John Scrivens, who is now EO2 in the Calibrations Lab.

DIVISIONAL ROUNDAABOUT

BENALLA

Reporters: M Farmer & H Allan

Since the last Interchange two more members of the staff have departed, however these two are not far away as Bill Farrell and Guy Quantrell are now members of the Wodonga Project team.

Both left with the best wishes of the staff. Guy will be missed around the office as he was one of the longer serving members of the staff. Guy commenced at the Storeyard office in 1966 and since 1977 had been with the B.S. section upstairs.

Typist Roz Baines who left a couple of years ago to reside in Alice Springs is now back in Benalla and was able to help out in the office for a few days when several of the girls were off. Welcome back Roz.

Clerk of Works Zane Streeter is now a member of the Seymour Project team. With the commencement of the Benalla Bypass section of the Hume Freeway getting closer engineer Bill Peyton has been looking around at possible sites for a project office in the Benalla area.

Officially Bill is a member of the Seymour team, however he is still situated in his upstairs office at the Divisional office. There has been a lot of readjusting offices upstairs, re-erecting partitions etc. and the Design and Planning can not wait to step into Bill's office when he vacates it.

Two of the female members of the staff slipped away for a break during cup week. Stella Warton and her husband Alan returned for another vacation at Mt Buffalo Chalet, to renew old acquaintances. There must be something about the old Chalet as the Wartons have been there often and booked up again in 1982. Mary Young and husband Don had a break during the same week, their holiday was spent at Corowa, no doubt some of the time spent feeding the "one armed bandits". Mary returned with bad news however, as she put in her resignation from the Board to take effect at the end of the year to join her husband in the family stock and station business in Benalla. All will be sorry to see Mary leave, anyway she will only be up the street and no doubt we will see her from time to time.

Social Club Annual Cabaret

Another successful Cabaret was held in Benalla this year. Although numbers were down a bit on last year, those who attended had an enjoyable evening.

As usual a contingent from Gaffney's Creek, some considerable distance from Benalla, managed to make it to the Cabaret. They all said the trip was worth while as they enjoyed themselves immensely.

Once again this year it was most pleasing to see so many of the outside staff present, as they, like our friends from Gaffneys Creek, gives us the office staff, a chance to meet fellow workers from outside.

WARRNAMBOOL

Reporter: D Watts

On Leave

Stan "The Man" Turner manages to be on L.S.L. once again. Survey assistant Jack Burke has just returned from his epic journey to Cairns and back, via Randwick and all other race tracks inbetween. (for further adventures see cryptic oddspot)

Norm Henry had a sudden unexpected football trip to New Zealand for two weeks—really feel sorry for him.

Oddspots

Cryptic oddspots—"guess who"

Recently seen in Melbourne: The division's big time punter being rendered a concert by the world war II singing darling of the forces. There is only a one man audience so the matter needs further survey.

Coloured Cup Caper

It has been found out that our drawing office has tea out of green cups, while the rest of us have yellow ones. My informers say the drawing office are terrified of contamination from yellow cup fever.

D/A Blows Championship

Our former tennis champion decided to turn his hand to long distance rallying. Div. Acct. Bill "Brabham" Mc Connell was doing fine but had to withdraw from the event when Tom Wong's Japanese bred Datsun ran dry and no saki could be found to cool things down.

GLEN WAVERLEY

Reporter: Margaret Hollanby

Since the last Edition, several members of "The Glen" Staff have achieved success in their chosen activities:

Ken Stewart (Stores) came 1st in the Veterans road Cycle Championship, held at Surfers Paradise, and 1st in the Melbourne-Yarrowonga Open Cycle Race. Graham Moloney (Stores) came 10th in the same event.

Graham Kennedy (Stores Office) has recently returned from Montreal, Canada, where he represented Australia in the Montreal Marathon for the Nations Cup. Graham is now preparing to leave for Fukouka, Japan to represent Australia in the Fukouka International Marathon to be held on 8th December— Good Luck at Fukouka Graham.

Ted Minett (Purchasing) achieved his success at the Royal Melbourne Show with his two Red Setter Dogs winning the Gun Dog Group and the Reserve Champion.

Allison Walsh (Apprentice Gardner) was awarded the Rotary Club Award. We hear, on the grape-vine, that Allison was not quite so successful trying to change gears on an Army Truck at Puckapunyal.

The Workshops Volley Ball Team— Our team successfully achieved the 1981 Winter Series Premiership—they were undefeated during the season.

Les Hing & Bill Battersby have taken up Model Aeroplane Flying, we hope they will enter the International Championships being held in Melbourne in December.

Last but not least our very keen Trout Fisherman Ron Anderson, has discarded Rods and Flies and is now catching his Trout with Stones...sounds a bit fishy.

To all of these people and the ones we have not heard about, we offer our congratulations and good luck in the future.

Unfortunately Our Golf Team, lead by their illustrious leader Mr Bailey was soundly defeated. The team from Wm. Adams Tractors...better luck next time chaps. Congratulations to Kie & Max Baker on the safe arrival of their daughter Aisha on Guy Faux Day, Max likes setting things alight. Also Julianne & Richard Palmer a very little gift of a 2lb 11oz son Bradley and Barbara & Stefan Witt a daughter Tania.

"Honest Bob the Bookie" Frost has not been keeping the best of health, hope to see you back on the job very soon Bob.

The Glen travellers are Bernie Kane & Allen Taylor to Queensland, Helen Mills to Fiji and Peter Jeffries to Hong Kong.

Retirements

Our best wishes and good luck go to Lenny Brooks, Les Gosden and George Gibson on their retirement from the Glen.

The Staff at The Glen would like to send greetings to the Divisional and Head Office Staff for the coming Festive Season and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

BRIDGE SUB-BRANCH

Reporter: Bob Baker

Bridge Construction Division welcomes Leith Wohlers (ex MD) who has taken over from Alan Fogarty (retired).

Materials Supply Section had an enjoyable night at the Emperor Court which coincided with the birthdays of two of the elders of the section. Phil Allen suffered the morning after mainly due to Norm Clarke's "special Port".

Since his return from annual leave in Merimbula, George Curran has a new image. He was observed recently wearing a short sleeved shirt and shorts long sox. "Wot—no jumper"?

The number of Mars Bars won on a football bet in Bridge Design was incorrectly printed as 100, the actual figure was 1000!

Sandor Mokos, Ossie Kayak, Jim Wilson and Graham Burkitt of Bridge Design Division and Bruce Day ex Bridge, held their Annual Bush Walk from the Knobs Spur in Gippsland to Jamieson Hut via Mt McDonald and back. The walk was held over the cup weekend in excellent weather with minimum reference to Bridges.

BENDIGO

Reporter: Reg Marslen



Reg Marslen is our man on location in Bendigo. If that's your Division and you've got an item for the magazine, contact Reg NOW! He'd be glad to pass it onto the Interchange newsmen.

The recent floods in Northern Victoria caused considerable damage and hazardous moments for many people but the inspection of damage by Divisional Staff also had its moments, especially for Lloyd Davies whilst in Mclvor Shire. It seems the Board vehicle managed two flat tyres plus the fact that the jack broke when the car fell off in the jacking up process. It was a lovely day though for a walk in the sun back to Heathcote to borrow the Shire Engineer's car to return to Bendigo.

All in Bendigo Division were shocked by the sudden passing of Jeanette Burtonclay, wife of John and mother of two young children. Our deepest sympathy to John and family.

Joe Goossens, Tom Kenyon and Bill Dunstan made their yearly fishing trip to Khancoban only to find the water lower than usual in their favourite spot and few fish about. They managed to catch about a dozen between them but were able to avoid the inspectors this year.

Divisional Engineer Mr Tom Glazebrook and his wife Pat spent several weeks in Canberra baby-sitting for their daughter Sue when new grandson Daniel "Sam" was born.

Reg and Rose Marslen have joined the ranks of grandparents also.

Fran and Malcolm McLellan spent their holidays in Paris this year. They went for a stroll under the Bridges of Paris to get that romantic feeling but the smell of the place turned Malcolm off.

The Peterson family are travelling through Europe while Lin is on Long Service Leave. Last we heard they were in Jungfranjoch.

Renny Duckett is the new coach of the Golden Square Cricket Club in the Bendigo Association. Both the Club and Renny have commenced the season well.

PERSONNEL

Reporter: Karen

Sue Taylor commenced duty in Salaries Section, Personnel on 9th November.

Cheryl Joy (ex Metropolitan Division) commenced duty in Personnel Services Section on 23rd November.

A belated welcome to the new Electrician of the Head Office building. Call on Murray McErvalle to light up your day!

Miscellaneous

We understand that the stork is planning to visit the Workers Compensation Section in May 1982.

Miss CRB Terri Langridge, took part in the judging of the Miss Victoria Government Service Quest on 16th October 1981. Although she didn't win, Terri had an enjoyable evening.

Farewells

Farewell to Chris Redenbach from the Personnel Section. Although his stay was short, we will miss his smiling face and wish him all the best for the future.

Holidays

Bon Voyage to Pat Shinkfield who set off on holiday overseas to South East Asia. Hope you had a lovely time Pat and we will see you in February at the conclusion of your Long Service Leave.

Julie Cockrem and Terri Langridge spent 10 wonderful days in sunny Queensland. Both returned suntanned and refreshed from their holiday.

Norma Jones holidayed closer to home at Wilson's Promontory. Due to unfavourable weather it would have been advisable for Norma to have stayed at home. Thanks for the postcard Norma!

METROPOLITAN

Welcome

Metro welcomes Rosalind Jones, Cheryl Slatterie and Gloria Stock to the typing pool.

Peter Hensley has joined us from Bridge Sub Branch, Adrian George from Traffic Engineering, Ray Bridger from Road Planning and Mike Potesta from West Gate Freeway Project.

On a temporary basis, Dick Williams has joined us from Road Design Division and Nick Szwed has been sent to Metro from Traffic for "improvement" whilst Geoff Kloot is in Traffic "spreading the good word" for Metro.

Farewell

There has been a mass exodus from the Accounts Section with Les Bull leading the way. Les has been appointed as Divisional Accountant, Horsham, and their gain is certainly our loss. Peter Flavelle has been promoted to the Chief Accountant's Branch, Dallas Gist to the Eastern Freeway Project and Cheryl Joy to Personnel.

Not to be out done, three engineers have resigned from the Board to seek greener pastures, these being Ed Parker, Clark Frigo and Juris Bruns.

Extended Holidays

Mannie Hadjis seems to have developed a permanent squint after two months studying the "tanned all over scenery" in the Greek Isles.

John Fitz has been enjoying a five week break in the United States. It is rumoured that his wife and children are still trying to get him out of Disneyland.

Ken Mathers and family are still enjoying their "Leyland Brothers" style trek around Australia. Despite the old Kingswood needing two valve grinds along the way, things have been running smoothly.

News

At a recent lunchtime game of pool, a new Metro record was established—13 shots each at the remaining black ball. Teams: L R Bull, R Patterson vs R Parr, N Szwed. Coach: L J Bull (resigned)

Not long after, the Divisional Engineer issued his "Black Ball" list which comprises L R Bull, R Parr and N Szwed. The Divisional Engineer will not partner any of the above pool players in the lunchtime competition under any circumstances.

It is rumoured that a member of the Division locked the keys in a Board car outside Preston Town Hall recently. After 15 minutes using a re-modelled wire coathanger he managed to remove the ignition key only to find that with a Datsun 200B, this key will not open the door. It is not true that he then discovered that one of the back doors was unlocked.

HEAD OFFICE

Reporters: Jenny in Admin, Jenny in Registry

Fifth floor South Typing Pool welcomes Lyn Cummins who has had a variety of experience. After travelling around the world for two years, working in a bank, a nursing aide and finally as a Ward Assistant in Kew Mental Home she's confident that with the latter experience she can handle the typing pool.

Bird Talk

Congratulations to Tom Dobbin (Xerox) who won five first, three seconds and three thirds with his pigeons at the Royal Melbourne Show.

Arrivals and Departures

Correspondence Registry would like to welcome—Grace Licitra and Karen Senior to their humble ranks—and files!

We would also like to say goodbye to ex Registry member Vicky Galea on her new appointment in the Engineer in Chief's Section.

Trips

Pat Brenton is off on her second trip to China with her family in December—best wishes for a safe trip, Pat!!

General

"Snowballs" yes. Ross Trompf Registry has again successfully conned 140 dozen snowballs to 140 people from the Board who believe one can freeze snowballs!

John Broadrick is the new Printing Officer with Printing Section. Glen Buckeridge has drawn his last line as a linemarker with Traffic Engineering and is now an Admin Officer with Traffic Section.

DIVISIONAL ROUNDAABOUT

ASPHALT

Reporter: Rita McBain

Travel

Geoff Allen and Keith Barrasford have returned from their memorable and enjoyable overseas holidays. Keith has caught the travel bug and is already planning another holiday in the near future.

Carol Robinson spent ten glorious days on Dunk Island and apart from four wet days had a lovely time. She was even brave enough to go snorkelling in rough weather amongst the tropical fishes and coral of the Barrier Reef.

Congratulations

Carol has just purchased a Datsun 180B SS, which has been lovingly nicknamed 'Bayswater Terror'.

Rita, at long last and after numerous lessons, successfully obtained her licence at her first attempt. Unfortunately she has not had the opportunity to drive since then (what a relief!)

General

Deepest sympathies go to Anita Treacey whose father passed away recently.

Clive Hamilton is anxiously awaiting the wedding of his daughter, Ingrid, in December. Ingrid is well on her way to becoming a qualified Speech and Drama teacher having passed her Diploma examinations. These qualifications are so specialised that the examiner had to come from England especially for the examinations.

Don Bridges took on a new image recently at the experimental limil in bitumen trials at Swan Hill. Covered with limil, he looked like a cross between the abominable snowman and Snow White.

We had a visit from two distinguished Engineers from South Africa. Wally Holtrop had the pleasure of being their chauffeur and showing them Bituminous Surfacing work in Victoria and some illustrious sights of Melbourne.

Sport

Congratulations again to Carol whose team won the overall prize in two separate callisenthics competitions.

BALLARAT

Reporter: Ron Hrymakowski

New Staff

Our new cost clerk Alan Hooper has settled into his job remarkably well. Before his appointment to this position Alan was engaged in construction work on the Bungaree Freeway. Working at Norman Street, Alan is incapable hands with Gregory Cartledge, Gregory Whitecross and Lee Balducci teaching him the 'finer points' of costing.

Drag Races

Phillip Parker's (Storeman Divisional Depot) Suzuki GS750 motor cycle added another victory for him at the first summer meeting of the Ballarat drag race club championships. After competing and recording victories over his rivals Kawasaki 1000, Yamaha 1100, Harley Davidson 1200, Honda 750 drag bike and a 351 cu in. Ford 'T' bucket dragster, Phillip was awarded the 'B' grade Street Trophy. Phillip's best time over the standing quarter kilometre was 8.24 seconds. (No wonder he gets to work in two minutes)

Resignations

Tony Lynch left on 28th October to work for the social welfare department. We wish Tony all the best in his new career.

Overseas Holiday

Graeme Day (Accounts) is sporting a good suntan following his return from Europe. Graeme and his wife, Carmel, spent seven weeks tripping around the Continent and Britain, my mistake, five weeks, the other two weeks were spent in dragging Carmel out of jewellery stores.

Their most memorable experience took place in the sauna while they were staying at a hotel in Germany. Graeme and Carmel were relaxing in their bathers when two nude men walked in and sat down. Carmel, who was slightly bewildered, couldn't stand much more of it and walked out. Graeme was about to follow but quickly changed his mind when an attractive nude female appeared. Needless to say that Graeme had a very enjoyable time. On their return they spent a relaxing week at the beach.

Tuckered out

The Divisional Office's most eligible bachelor, Steve Collins, has joined Ballarat's newest Health Studio 'The Sportsmill' either to improve his physique or to check out the female talent. According to Steve it's to improve his physique. But rumours from reliable sources say that 'Steve might go in for physical fitness but he definitely comes out mentally exhausted'.

Dinner Dance

One hundred and ten attended the depot Social Club function. October 30th was the date, Sebastopol Bowling Club the venue, Rosanna the band and beginning time was 8pm. The above formula for a successful evening was completed with a great variety of bring your own food and drinks from the bar.

A most enjoyable time was had by all. During the evening two fresh crayfish and one bottle of champagne were raffled—winner Adrian Kennedy.

Short Stay

Thank goodness that Chris Carson's stay with us only for six weeks. In such a short time he cleaned out the petty cash tin, won 2nd prize in a church raffle (\$50 doll) and won Bungaree's Melbourne Cup Sweep of \$100. Chris was on loan to us from MRD and that's where he can stay in future because Ballarat is off limits.

TRARALGON

Reporters: S Delost & P Simmons

Resignation

Ross Anderson has resigned to work in Bougainville.

Table Tennis

Traralgon Division's lunch time table tennis matches have become a dangerous sport according to Sandy Millar, after having fallen and injured his knee, which has necessitated several weeks off work.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Henry Dunstone (Roadmaster) who was recently awarded a medal for his 20 years long service to the Traralgon Urban Fire Brigade.

Engagement Celebration on Cup Day

The office staff celebrated three engagements in the office on Cup Day. The celebrations were enjoyed by all, especially the D.E. and John Harding, who seemed to have enjoyed it more than most! John was a bit reluctant to face work the next morning and thought it best to have a "work out" at the gym first.

ACCOUNTANTS BRANCH

Reporter: Annette Taylor

Welcome

We wish to welcome the following people to the sixth floor: Peter Flavell (Metro Div) to the position of Earnings & Tax Records Officer. (Welcome back couldn't stay away from us ha?)

Warren Blandy has returned to us also after two years at High Street and now will be working in Assets & Equipment Section.

Travel

Paddy Ryan (Alloc. Section) had a very enjoyable two weeks in Hong Kong. Complete with a guide to all the good night spots.

Thane Prance is back from his usual trip to England (the pilots now address him by his christian name)!!

Even all the bananas said hi!! to Joan Tucker this year as she's been up there so often.

Retirements

All the very best to: Mrs Gwen Miha from the Ledgerroom who retired on 31st October. Also to Kevin Cross who retired because of bad health.

Mr Peter Fletcher (Final Ledger Accountant) has worked with the Board for 45 years and will retire on 30th November. He will be greatly missed especially from the girls in the typing pool.

ODE TO FLETCH

"The time has come", the "old" man said,
To lay my pen to rest
To gather up my golf clubs
And put them to the test.

Who is this man who looks so young
But is ready to retire
Known to many as "Peter Pan"
He's Peter Fletcher Esquire.

His looks and step belie his age
Barely a grey hair to be seen
Not like most accountants
Who start going grey at "nineteen"!!

He's been around the CRB
For forty odd years or so
Part of the furniture so to speak
But at last he's decided to go.

If life to Peter has been burdensome
He's been able to ride the bumps
He's always late for a "booze-up"
But he always stays till stumps!!

A well liked man is Peter
And gracious he's always been
We'll miss his unassuming style
As he finally departs the scene.

We wish him well in retirement
And may he live long to tell
Of his many years of memories
With the Board he served so well.

By Sir Loin

INTERCHANGE CLASSIES

MARRIAGES

CHAN: Ping (Claims) and Wendy Leung married on 12th September.

GRAY: Bruce (Ballarat) and Marilyn Matthews were married in the Skipton Street Uniting Church. After a honeymoon at Coolangatta, the couple will make their home in Ballarat.

GRIMSHAW: Kerrin (Warrnambool) and Peter Earls were married on 14th November.

ENGAGEMENTS

AMEY: Carolyn (Personnel) to Michael Aitken on 16th September.

ASHBY: Mark (Allocations) to Glenda Windebank on 10th October.

BURNS: Joanne (Registry) and Geoff Cooney (ex CRB worker) announced their engagement on 28th November.

EGAN: Kate (5th floor South Typing Pool) to Gerry Brussel.

EASTWOOD: Dennis (Bridge) to Joy Carsgallen on 31st October.

HAYES: Michael (Traralgon) to Jean Renden on 28th October.

NEAL: Lisa (Horsham) to Robert Matthews. They plan to marry in March.

SMITH: Jenny (Administration) to Frank Kapana on 5th September.

FOR SALE

MINI MOKE — 1980 (as new) RWC. \$3500. Les Dow, phone 710 1245.

WETSUIT — Girls, Long John and vest in excellent condition \$60 ono. Jenny, ext 2395.

WANTED

Back issues of INTERCHANGE editions: May 1979, Vol 3, No 2 and April 1981, Vol 5 No 2. contact D Pollard 2633.

PUBLIC NOTICES

HOUSE: Lake Eildon-Howqua, 14 bed house, available throughout year. Close to Mt Buller. Roy Fisher ext 2142.

BIRTHS

CLEMENCE: Geoff (Bendigo) and Fay proudly announce the arrival of a daughter, Michelle Louise, born 20th September.

CORNWELL: Phil (TED) and Di, congratulations on the birth of Joanna on 23rd October.

DEVER: Keith (Correspondence) and Sue, a girl Renee Louise on 22nd August.

FARRELL: Bill (Wodonga Project) and Carla, a daughter, Monica Louise, born Wodonga Hospital on 11th November.

FOX: Chris (TED) and Anne proudly announce the arrival of "Dave" on 12th October.

McSWAIN: David (Warrnambool) and Judy, their first child, Tristan Jon on 17th September.

PROWSE: Tony (MD) and Anne, a son Andrew Douglas, born 28th September.

RAE: Bill (Accounts) and Heather, their first child, Campbell James on 12th October.

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

REES: Steven (Traralgon) and Mary, a son Steven Henry born 11th November.

ROWE: Stuart (Ballarat) and Heather, congratulations on the arrival of Michael James, born 23rd October. A brother for Shane and Christopher.

RYAN: Dave (Bridge) and Robyn, a son, Timothy, born 15th October.

SERPELL: Keith (Accounts) became a grandfather on 24th August. Well done!

TURNER: Bill (Accounts) and Meryl, a son, Michael William, on 20th October. Brother for Kelly.

WILKINSON: Barney (TED) and Mal, congratulations on their second addition, Amy Lauren on 26th October at St Georges Hospital.

LAWTON: Cliff (Dand) and Lorraine, a daughter Erin Michelle.

DEATHS

SPROULE: Walley (ex-Metro) on 26th September.

PLAIN: Walley (Metro) on 25th September.

SINCLAIR: Charles (Bendigo) Snr Const.

SPORTSDESK

Sixteen members of our staff trained regularly through the long wet winter nights to prepare themselves physically and mentally for the 42.2km Big 'M' run from Frankston to Melbourne.

Sunday morning, 18th October, was a beautiful crisp sunny spring morning, and scattered amongst the 7,000 starters at Frankston were the 16 CRB members. Numbers on singlets, free Dencorub rubbed well into their legs, all eager with anticipation for the starter's gun to explode at 8am sharp. It did.

And off they set for Melbourne, up the Nepean Highway, along Beach Road, then Fitzroy Street and finally St. Kilda Road and Swanston Street to the Melbourne Town Hall. The majority of our 16 ran all the way, and had time to talk to other competitors and the spectators.

Of the entrants from the Dandenong Division, Geoff Pullin had a remarkable performance. At the 35km mark at Brighton his wife Irene was waiting with the car. Geoff was very, very, very tired. Temptation overcame him. He got into the car and sat in silence. Irene started to drive towards the city. She had only gone a short way when Geoff felt all the pangs of a marathon runner's conscience. With a glassy determined look in his eye he said to her: "Take me back to the 35km mark plus about 10 metres extra. I'm going to finish. I'm not letting all this training go for nothing". Irene took him back, helped him out of the car and left him to finish.

Claude Borstner, who just recently resigned from the Bridge Sub-Branch, had had a hard party night on the Saturday night. He was, as usual, in no condition to run. Too much alcohol and too little training. Yet with a big smile upon his face he ran up Swanston Street to finish well after the Town Hall Clock had struck 12 noon.

Congratulations to the 16 finishing on such a warm day, even though it was difficult to walk after finishing. The results, to the nearest minute, are: Geoff Elston (Road Design) 2 hours 48 mins. David Watt (Road Planning) 2 hours 54 mins. Andrew Walker (Materials) 2 hours 55 mins. Gary House (Road Design) 2 hours 56 mins. Ken Barnhill (Road Design) 3 hours 05 mins. Peter Carter (Materials) 3 hours 06 mins. Robert Dowd (Bridge) 3 hours 25 mins. Roy Gilmour (Materials) 3 hours 27 mins. Bob McLeod (Materials) 3 hours 32 mins. John Hart (Materials) 3 hours 40 mins. Nick Szwed (Traffic Engineering) 3 hours 55 mins. Peter Velcek (Dandenong) 4 hours 04 mins. Jane Anderson (Trade Claims) 4 hours 07 mins. Geoff Pullin (Dandenong) 4 hours 12 mins. Claude Borstner (ex-Bridge) 4 hours 35 mins. Norm Bettess (Dandenong) 5 hours 10 mins.



Brian's Bees

Brian Bagley's bees are a talking point in Bairnsdale.

Brian, a senior draftsman with Bairnsdale Division, has been breeding, studying and farming bees for more than 20 years. It's an interest that has paid off, not only for Brian but also for the Board.

For whenever somebody has a problem with a swarm of bees, they call in Brian.

"Some time ago a construction crew west of Bairnsdale knocked down a few old gum trees on a road widening job," he recalls.

"Two of the trees had hives in them, the dozer driver panicked and so did everybody else.

"So I got the SOS to gather up a chain saw and get rid of them. The job was delayed for two hours until I cleared them out."

As Brian will attest, bees have an unnerving habit of settling down in the most awkward of places: road reserves, chimneys—even car exhaust pipes.

"I got a call one lunchtime—a swarm had gathered on the exhaust pipe of some chap's car.

"Another swarm recently settled outside a joinery shop, no customers would go into the place so the owner called me to get them out!!"

Brian has about 300,000 bees at the moment—which apparently is a paltry number by Australian standards.

"I've got six hives now, and each hive would contain 50,000 bees. I did have about 20 to 25 hives around the area, though."

Whereas most beeffarmers own 500 to 600 hives—"to be a commercial proposition"—Brian finds his six are adequate.

"It's a very expensive field...with frames, extractors, a smoker...and anyway—I used to sell the honey years ago, but I just give it away now."

Time is another factor that curbs Brian's involvement in bees—he also runs a 60 acre beef farm north of Bairnsdale.

It is obvious that Brian has a love for bees, and his vast knowledge of every aspect of the little honey forager is impressive.

"Did you know one gallon of nectar provides enough energy for a bee to cruise four million miles at seven miles an hour..." he says nonchalantly.

Brian has got a lot of advice on how bees should be handled.

For instance, he says that if you do find a swarm of them in your backyard, or perhaps lingering on your car's exhaust pipe—call an apiarist, not a pest control firm.

"There's plenty of people around only too keen to collect a swarm.

"And if you get caught up in a swarm of bees, don't panic. Bees are very docile in a swarm situation and bees in flight are usually following the queen bee to a new site for a hive."

Actually bees only become aggressive when antagonised—as our Interchange photographer soon discovered.

Ian Ellis was photographing Brian working on his hives when some bees began buzzing around him. He started to wave his arms around, a natural but adverse reaction, which stirred a few more and before he realized it, he was stung. "About three times" Ian complains.

But as far as Brian is concerned, the prospect of being the target of a belligerent bee doesn't worry him. "Stings don't affect me in any way," he says in a typical jovial manner. His wife, however, is a bit more apprehensive—she's allergic to them.

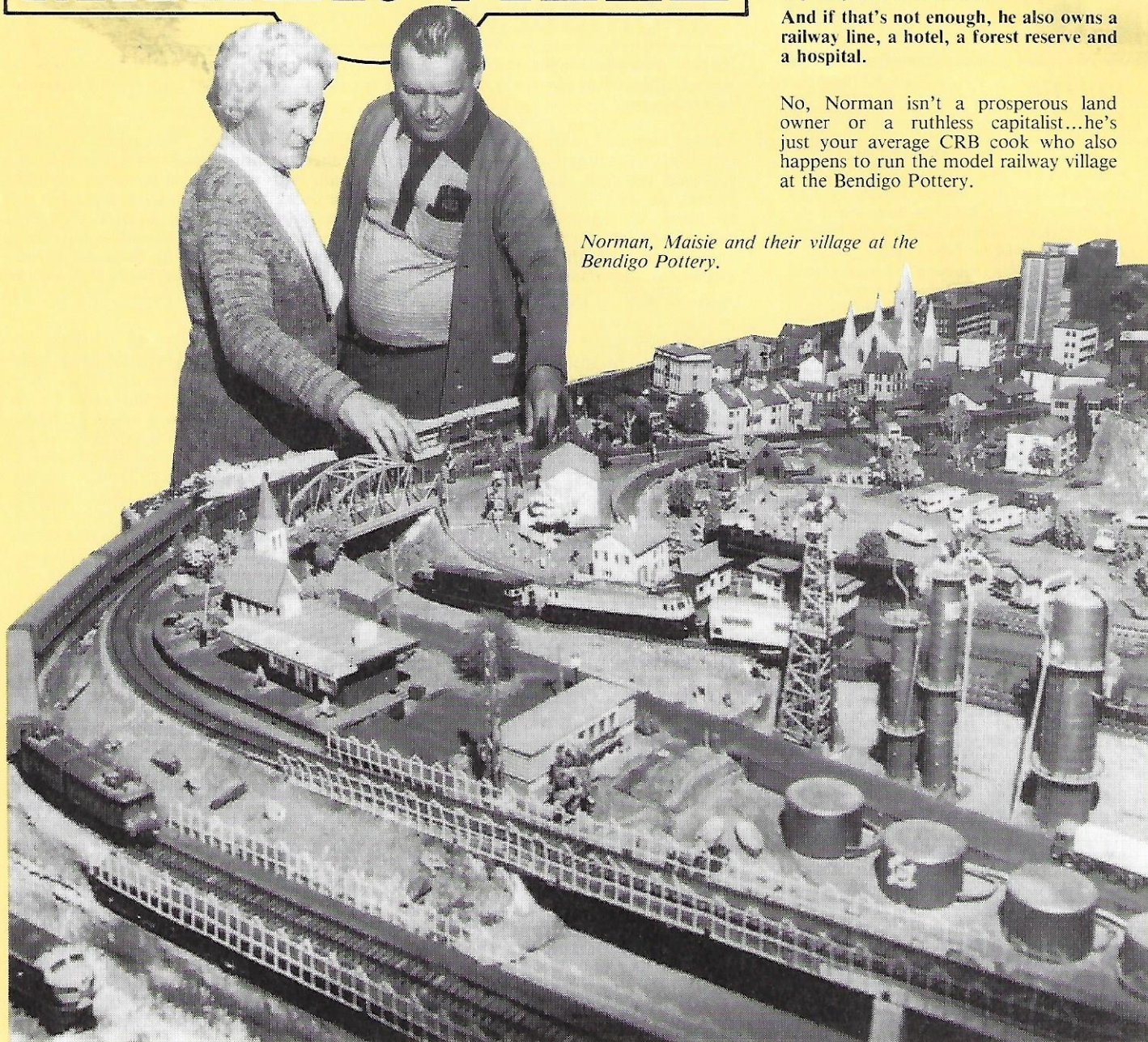
Brian confesses that he'll probably be associated with honeybees "forever".

Simply because, as he puts it, "it gets into your blood".

Brian Bagley and his bees



MAHER-VILLE



Norman, Maisie and their village at the Bendigo Pottery.

Norman Maher has probably got more roads under his responsibility than anybody else in the CRB.

And if that's not enough, he also owns a railway line, a hotel, a forest reserve and a hospital.

No, Norman isn't a prosperous land owner or a ruthless capitalist...he's just your average CRB cook who also happens to run the model railway village at the Bendigo Pottery.

Norman and his wife Maisie bought the now famous miniature village and railway in 1977. "It took a fair while to get it together," says Norman, who works at Bendigo Division, "it was about half the size four years ago, and we knew nothing about railways either."

Today the lilliputian landscape covers an area of seven metres by five metres, and six trains run simultaneously through a complex which includes a township, a rural setting and a dockyard.

The intricate village is testimony to many hours of hard work and patience; the Mahers toiled seven days a week preparing it for the Pottery tourist centre.

"Norman did the track and wiring work and I did the scenery and painting," Maisie says.

But one of the most impressive features of the display is the night scene: Norman flicks the controls and suddenly the room plunges into darkness. The viewer is then confronted with the spectacular sight of the village being illuminated by 250 tiny red, yellow and blue lights.

The maintenance and running of the village is time consuming, but the Mahers obviously love it.

And the way the tourists are flocking to see it, it won't be too long before it is as famous as Bendigo's trams, the Shamrock Hotel and the Fountain at Charing Cross.

In July and August, for instance, the worst time of the year in Victoria for tourism, more than 3000 people visited the village.

"All we have to do now is some scenery," says Maisie, indicating a barren section of terrain, "and do a little bit of linemarking."

So the next time you're in Bendigo, take a cruise along the Midland Highway to the Pottery, and call in and say hello to the Mahers.

And they'll provide you with some of that good old country town hospitality. Miniature country town, that is.

The Quest is on for...

The search is on.

Throughout the CRB, somewhere, is a young lady who will be Miss CRB 1982.

But we'll need YOUR help to find her.

Each year the Australian Cerebral Palsy Association conducts the Miss Australia Quest to raise funds for the treatment, care and training of spastic children and adults throughout the country. Terri Langridge, Miss CRB 1981, said she found the Miss Australia Quest she entered both rewarding and exciting.

"It's a good chance to find out about the needs of retarded and handicapped people," she said.

Although Terri is a stenographer with Staff Section in Head Office, she points out that entrants for the 1982 Quest can come from anywhere in the state—including rural divisions and project offices.

All entrants will have assistance from the Head Office Social Association (HOSA). Terri said she will also be only too happy to offer advice to any girls interested in participating in the worthwhile cause.

Terri, with her background with the 1981 Quest, has lots of ideas on fund raising.

Remember—Miss CRB 1982 is now on a **STATEWIDE BASIS**—we are keen on hearing from any girls from anywhere in Victoria. And if you think you know of somebody who has the qualities to make a good candidate, let us know too...we'll take it from there.

Information on how the Quest operates, what is involved in fund raising, etc., can be obtained from either Terri at Head Office on 2520 OR Innes Russell on 2467 (Innes was also involved in organising the Miss CRB 1981 campaign and is a member of HOSA).



...Miss CRB ~ 1982