

Interchange

December, 1985

The R.C.A. Staff Magazine

Vol 9, No 6

•ODD SPOT

Has Telecom gone into the poker machine business?

Rick Price, a carpenter from Bendigo Division, was recently visiting the Tooleybuc Club, north of the border, when he decided to make a phone call. He inserted 40 cents, dialled the number, received no response and replaced the handset. To his surprise the phone spat out, not only his humble 40 cents, but an additional \$6.40! Needless to say Rick abandoned the Club's poker machines for its more lucrative telephone boxes.

OUR NEW LOOK

With the advent of summer we launch the new format Interchange magazine.

It's brighter, more people oriented, and packed with news and pictures. But to make it a success, we're

seeking your ideas and views. On page 3 we've got a mini-survey where we are asking readers to describe what they would like to see in the staff magazine. We're hoping everybody will respond to the survey as it will help us produce a better product with a more satisfied readership.

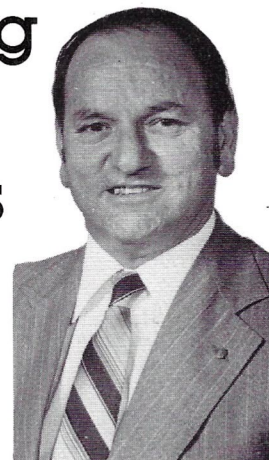
JEFF'S CLASSIC

In the good old USA the '55, '56 and '57 Chevy is regarded as a collector's car. There were five million of the classic machines manufactured in America, yet they're still in big demand. In hot rodding circles, they're regarded as Number One, whilst original cars are appreciating at more than \$US 100 a month. If you want to find out what a Chevy is all about, you don't have to go to America to inspect one. Jeff Garland, from the Head Office service station, has what one Aussie motoring magazine called 'one of the best 1957 Chevs we've seen'. We agree. Turn to page 12 for the story about Jeff and his Blue Meanie.

"Hi", says Rachel McArdle, our special Interchange Christmas cover girl. Rachel welcomes you to the new-look December edition of Interchange, and on behalf of everybody here would like to wish all our readers a happy and safe holiday period.



Managing Director's Christmas Message



The past year has seen the RCA make considerable progress in the development and maintenance of roads and bridges throughout the State of Victoria. This is only possible as a result of the dedication of RCA personnel and the contribution by local Government Authorities, Contractors and all involved in the road construction industry.

The road system is one of the State's most important resources and is of vital importance to future economic development. Whilst the limitation of road funds in real terms is of concern, the Authority is committed to improving the road system to achieve reduced transportation costs and improved road safety.

In the continuing effort to educate members of the public to use roads responsibly and safely, it is important that the staff of the RCA should provide an example. So during the holiday period especially, when you are travelling by road, please drive carefully, courteously and patiently.

On behalf of myself and the Members of the Authority, I wish all RCA personnel and their families best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas, and a fulfilling year in 1986.

T.H. Russell

T.H. RUSSELL
Managing Director

Operation Costa Rica

Melissa Weekes had a bad case of 'culture shock' when she first visited Los Angeles—it was her first taste of Western living after spending more than four months in the jungles of Costa Rica and Guatemala.

"I hated it," she says. "It took a while to get used to."

Just a few days before jetting in to the suburban sprawl of smog-prone LA, Melissa had been in Costa Rica, one of the more stable little countries in Central America.

It is not the sort of place you would read about in a brochure in a travel agency, but then again, Melissa a draftsperson in Road Planning, didn't go there as a tourist.

"I spent three months there doing community and scientific work as part of a scheme, called Operation Raleigh."

Operation Raleigh, Melissa explains, was named after Sir Walter Raleigh, and has been described by one newspaper as "an extraordinary global adventure". Basically it is a four year program involving 4000 people from 52 countries on every continent, including approximately 170 from Australia. Melissa is one of those 170. The scheme is under the patronage of Prince Charles, who Melissa and fellow travellers met at Government House during the recent Royal visit.

• Melissa, far right, in regal company at Government House. She met Prince Charles, patron of Operation Raleigh, during the recent Royal visit and found him "to be very easy to talk to". Melissa is seen with two other Operation Raleigh venturers, Jenny Sheehan and Ross Umbers. Photo: Australian Army



Continued on page 3

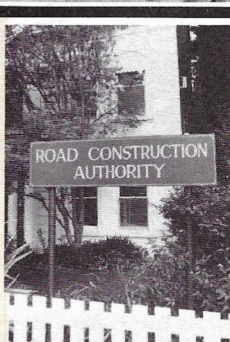


Hot Cars:
page 12



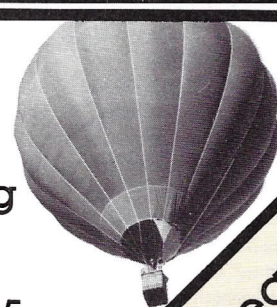
Peter's
Wall
Flowers

•Page 4



BENDIGO
IS 60

Story &
pix centre
pages



Flying
High

Page 5

News Deadline
Next Issue
Jan 17, 1986

PEOPLE

Our new feature, 'People', introduces you to three new members of the Authority; Councillor Leon Trembath, Mr Ivan Backman and Mr Bill Shum. More 'People' on page 10.

Mr Ivan Backman

Mr Ivan Backman has been appointed to the Authority as "a person having knowledge of and experience in the operation of road transport vehicles".

Ivan undertook commerce studies at Melbourne University and trained as a school teacher. He pursued this career for five years, teaching at Rushworth High and Balwyn High. He joined the transport industry in 1968, and until 1977 held many positions with Blakistons and Mayne Nickless in Victoria and New South Wales.

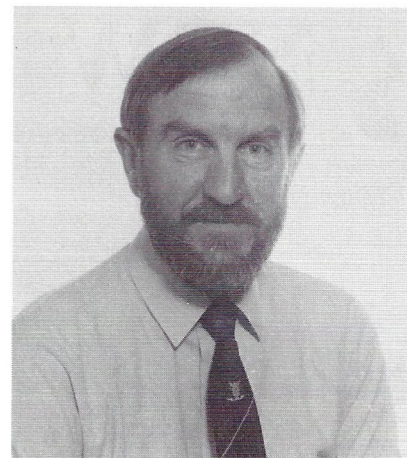
In 1978 he joined the Linfox Transport Group as General Manager, Victoria, for two years. He was subsequently appointed Operations Director in December, 1980, and was appointed Managing Director of Linfox Transport (Aust.) Pty Ltd in May this year.

During the last five years, Ivan spent considerable time studying overseas trends in road transport methods and equipment. He spent one period setting up a support operation for Redec, a Saudi Arabian Company, which had the commitment of transporting large quantities of bagged cement from Kuwait to Basra and Baghdad in Iraq.

Ivan is married with two children, and enjoys playing pennant tennis and squash.



Cr Leon Trembath



Councillor Leon Trembath has been appointed to the Authority as "a councillor of a municipality".

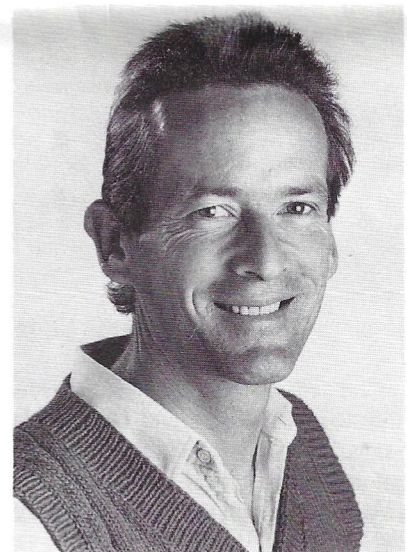
He has been a Councillor of the City of Springvale since 1975 and was Mayor of Springvale in 1980/81. He has been the Council's representative on the Municipal Association of Victoria for the past eight years and a member of the Executive since 1979.

Leon has been the MAV representative on a number of State Government bodies, including the Garden State Committee and the Registrar of Significant Trees. He was the convenor of the working party formed to ascertain the view of metropolitan municipalities to the METRAS Study, and is a member of the Fire and Emergency Services Funding Working Party.

Leon has been the Springvale City's delegate to the South Eastern Regional Refuse Disposal Group and the Dandenong Valley Regional Library Service and is its current representative on the Nuclear Free Zone Secretariat. He is a past chairman of the Natural Resources Conservation League.

A keen naturalist, Leon is also an amateur photographer and amateur botanist.

Mr Bill Shum



Bill Shum may not be known to many people in the RCA at the moment, but he soon will be.

Bill has replaced Les Bull as one of the Employee Representatives on the Authority, and attended his first Authority Meeting on November 19. (The other Representative is Ian Gardner, DE Traralgon).

"I am keen to take an active role in this new position with the Authority and intend to consult and report regularly with the widest possible number of employees," Bill says.

Born in Melbourne in 1949, Bill matriculated at Carey Grammar before moving on to further studies at RMIT.

After his schooling he left to "see the world".

"I travelled extensively throughout Australia, working on several projects in the Northern Territory and northern Western Australia," he says. "This was interspersed with several trips overseas until 1976."

During his travels he met a schoolteacher from Melbourne, Jane, and they "decided to return home and settle down". Bill and Jane were married in 1977 and now have two children.

Apart from family, Bill lists his interests as renovating his Carnegie house and fishing.

Bill took up the position of Shop Steward representing MOA members at Westgate Freeway Project after two years on the Nepean Highway Project. He has since become a member of the RCA Sub Branch Committee and the Victorian Branch Committee of Management, playing an active role in union matters at all levels.

He is shortly to take a new position in the RCA too, this time with Investigations and Development Section in the Survey and Mapping Division, Head Office.

Diversions

Hiring Squad under fire

A survey by the British Industrial Society has criticised the interviewing tactics of personnel people. The survey claims that a lot of personnel officers during job interviews simply ask too many stupid questions. During one interview for a managerial position, an officer asked the applicant: "What do you think of Geoffrey Boycott?" Other ridiculously irrelevant questions noted during the survey were: "Name three oilfields in the North Sea!", "How many animals did Noah take into his ark?" and "When did you last cry?"

□ □ □

Owen Thomas, an Engineer at Bairnsdale, was recently on the telephone with Barry Owens, the Acting Overseer based near the Cann River site. Suddenly the amiable chatter was interrupted by a deafening exclamation from Barry, "Get the hell out of here you big mongrel!"

After a brief pause an apologetic and more subdued Barry came back on the line with: "Sorry Owen...a two metre goanna just put its head through the door".

According to another worker at the site, nousey goannas are a common sight in the region during the lunchbreaks.

□ □ □

Is London's Parliament Square to get a new, multi-million dollar bypass? It may be on the drawing board. Traffic volumes near where the House of Commons and the House of Lords are located have reached a noisy 40,000 vehicles a day, and the MPs are kicking up a furor. That's more than some of the traffic volumes on several of Britain's motorways, and consequently a number of recommendations to lessen the flow have been made. One idea is for the construction of a tunnel beneath the Thames River to bypass traffic from the congested area.

A certain gentleman from Telecom was completely baffled the other day.

He set off across the road in Horsham to find the CRB office, just a hop-step-and-jump away from his work place.

But my spy tells me that Roy couldn't find the CRB.

"They must have moved" Roy said.

"I drove up and down, but someone else must have moved into the building. All I could find was the RCA."

"I wasn't game to go in and ask where the CRB had moved to."

Just as well he didn't—he might have been a trifle embarrassed to learn that the Country Roads Board disappeared more than two years ago, on June 30, 1983, and was replaced by the Road Construction Authority or RCA for short.

— Courtesy Wimmera-Mail Times.

□ □ □

If your star sign is Gemini and you drive a Rolls Royce, you wouldn't have been impressed with the auction prices at the RTA's number plate auction in October.

Of all the astrological signs, Gemini bidders pushed the cost of their personalised plates to \$1100, compared to \$500 for ARIES and PISCES and a paltry \$400 for VIRGO. Meanwhile a city toyshop owner paid \$3600 for the ROLLS plates, while another bidder invested \$2700 for RROYCE. That wasn't the highest price paid on the evening, however, as a keen Mazda owner dished out \$6750 for his MAZDA plates, and a German car lover outlayed \$4000 for MYMERC. Alternatively the humble AUDI only managed \$400 in the bidding stakes. And the top price for a personalised Aussie Rules plate! No, WOODS only fetched \$300, DEMONS managed a mere \$400 and DONS a conservative \$1000. The leading team was Geelong where a follower paid \$1400 for his CATS plates. The HAWKS didn't crack a mention.



Wayne Rhodes, Patrolman In Charge, Dandenong Division, received an urgent call to collect two deceased dogs which were reported to be on the Mulgrave Freeway reserve. Arriving at the scene, Wayne found that the canine duo, an immense Alsatian and an equally unappealing

Heinz 57 species, were only napping. The animals took exception to being disturbed and took their indignation out on Wayne by forcing him to seek refuge atop the freeway fence. Fortunately a stock inspector arrived with his own dog. Now what do they say about letting sleeping Alsatis lie?

□ □ □

Custom plates have been around in NSW for a number of years, and the October issue of The Open Road reported a number of recent plate sightings in Sydney. These included WALL ST on a red Ferrari, 5TH AVE on another Ferrari, and POM 000 adorning, not a Leyland, but a Holden Kingswood.

Disturbing news from Canada: Vancouver parking officers are using three-wheeled mini-cars to cruise the city streets. The officers apparently can prowl along next to parked cars, lean out to mark tyres and deliver penalty notices, all within a few minutes.

□ □ □

You Wouldn't Read About It Dept.

Black Top-ics

• ACCORDING to a recent tel-ex from the Counsellor (Commercial) Blantyre to the Director General of Trade and Industry, Pretoria, foreign

The title of the column is 'Black Top-ics', and we found it on page 8 of the latest edition of SABTA News, the newsletter of

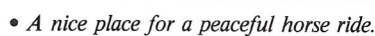
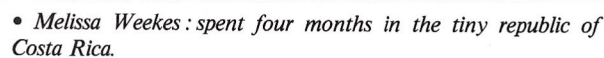
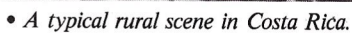
the South African Bitumen and Tar Association. It appeared adjacent to an article on the 1985 British Public Expenditure WHITE PAPER.

Interchange is the staff magazine of the Road Construction Authority, 60 Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria, 3101, (Telephone 860 2584). Contributions can be sent to the above address and will be returned if asked.

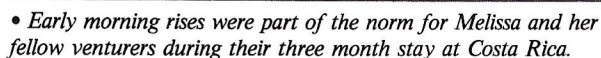
- *From Page 1*

Did Melissa and her colleagues encounter any hazards in the jungles? After all, aren't there wild animals in abundance?

Melissa spent about four weeks in the south before heading north again to an Indian village at Boruca. For Melissa, Operation Raleigh had come to an end. This was the second chapter of her Costa Rican adventure, staying with the head weaver of the village where she learnt traditional spinning and weaving crafts.



"On the first morning in the country we all rose early to have breakfast with John McArthur, the Australian Consular General for South/Central America. He was studying Spanish there and had just become involved in Operation Raleigh.



Costa Rica is a tiny republic located in Central America between Nicaragua and Panama. With a population of 2,200,000 people, its chief exports are coffee, bananas, sugar, cocoa and wood. By Central American standards it is a stable, democratic country with a tradition of multiparty democracy. Its judiciary, legislature and presidency are independent, and there is no standing army—just a civil guard.

Interchange is saddened to hear of the death of Mr Hubert S Gibbs, former Chief Engineer of the CRB. Mr Gibbs joined the CRB in October 1928, and became CE in July 1963. He retired in August 1970. We extend our sympathies to Mr Gibbs' family and friends.

Go for it now—it'll only take five minutes of your time.

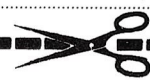
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Head Office 60 Denmark St., Kew Vic 3101

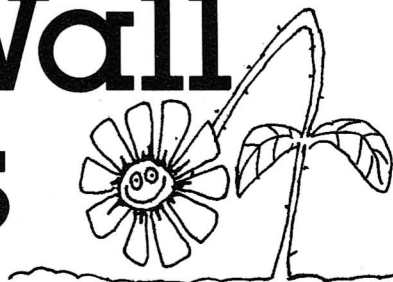
<i>*Regular Category</i>	<i>*Feature Category</i>
☐ People	☐ Human interest
☐ Odd/Spot/Diversions	☐ Sport/Hobbies
☐ Nostalgia	☐ Travel
☐ Flaggie on Tour	☐ Humour/Caricatures
☐ Vic Venture	☐ RCA related activities
☐ Divi Notes	☐ Topical issues (eg RSI, personnel matters, etc)
☐ Competitions	☐ Motoring/Transport issues
☐ Calling It A Day	

Other ideas, comments, dislikes, etc:

From (optional)



Pete's Wall Flowers



Roadmaster Gerry McLean calls it the 'best landscaped crib wall in the State'. He can't be far wrong.

Gerry is based at the St Kilda Patrol Depot which is tucked away in a small plot of land east of St Kilda Junction. The 'wall' that he speaks of runs for about one kilometre on both sides of the Princes Highway, or Queens Way, just near the depot.

For city motorists, the wall offers a pleasant vista of various shades of green ivy, creeping pigface, pink and white geraniums and exuberant daisies. It is a welcome relief from the advertising signs and undistinguished architecture which dots the highway. Few people, however, appreciate the arduous work that goes into maintaining this inner city horticultural oasis.

But the most astonishing aspect of it all is that it is the achievement of one man, Patrolman Peter Ciavarella.



When Peter arrived on the job three years ago, he was greeted by a drab section of wall covered in shrubbery. Peter was determined to transform it into something a bit more appealing to the eye. "I'm very proud of the way it has come up", he says. "But there's still a fair bit more to do".

Gerry says the landscaped wall has generated a lot of praise from the public. "The depot has received quite a few complimentary phone calls and letters. We also got some correspondence from Hume Pty Ltd who were wondering how we maintained the area so well. They were keen on showing it to some South Australian visitors who were in the concrete business."

For Peter, working on the landscaping is a full time job. Operating alone, he is kept busy not only planting but mowing, trimming, operating the vast sprinkling system and spraying. Every few months there is also some fertilising to be carried out.

On top of all that, Peter's job sometimes means that he's confined indoors. That is, inside the patrol's greenhouse and nursery.

It is here where he maintains cuttings and other young shrubs which either end up on the crib wall or at Metropolitan Division as indoor plants.

As you can see, Peter has always got his hands full, rain, hail or shine. Consequently on weekends he likes nothing better than to relax with his wife and three children in his Altona home where, perhaps, if he's in the mood, he may just do a spot of gardening.



• Peter Ciavarella adding some colour to the Princes Highway.

An Eye For Safety

Staff at Horsham's Workshop nowadays rarely worry about making a spectacle of themselves.

The Division's first EYE PROTECTION AREA was declared in September, and it is now mandatory for everybody within the workshop area to wear eye protection. Workshop personnel have been personally fitted with MSA silverlite safety glasses by local optometrists. Individual fitting has been carried out to ensure the spectacles fit each person comfortably (particularly important for continuous use.)

Visitors to the workshop are quickly flagged down if they cross the blue line of the 'safety eyewear zone' without borrowing a pair of safety glasses.

The eyes are now on Horsham's 'safety eyewear zone'. Observing the rules are fitter, Peter Fraser (left) and patrol operator, Bob Sleep.



Signed, sealed and delivered

On Tuesday, 29 October, the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr Tom Russell, and the Secretary of the Victorian Trades Hall Council, Mr Peter Marsh, signed the Occupational Health and Safety Agreement between the RCA and VTHC and several unions.

The RCA and VTHC have been negotiating on the Agreement for some time and is a major step towards implementing the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1985.

The Agreement provides for the appointment of employee occupational health and safety representatives who will be appointed at designated workplaces and who will have powers to ensure that their work environment is healthy and safe.

The Agreement also provides for a number of committees to consider issues of occupational health and safety. These committees will have both management and employee representation. An Authority-wide organisation, the Health and Safety Policy Committee, will be chaired by Mr



• Signing on the dotted line are the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr Russell, and VTHC Secretary, Mr Marsh (left).

Geoff Hunt (Group Manager—Road Construction & Safety Practices).

The Agreement also sets out the agreed responsibilities of management and employees for occupational health and safety, and agreed principles for control of the working area.

A Safe Idea

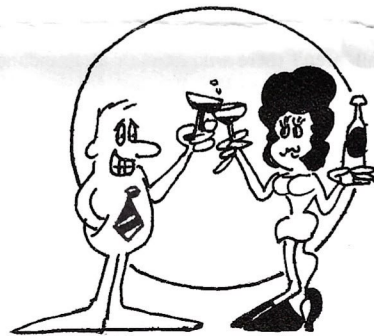
The problems caused by poor standards of occupational health and safety cannot be overstated. Estimates put the financial cost to Victoria at \$2.5 billion, with more than 120,000 workers being injured at work every year.

The State Government has adopted the WorkCare scheme to prevent occupational injury and disease, provide adequate compensation to those who do suffer

from injury or disease at work and provide effective rehabilitation services for these people. The Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985 is the first vehicle for achieving this, and it represents one of the most important reforms in the area of workplace health and safety ever seen in Victoria.

If you want to know more about the various aspects of WorkCare the phone number is (03) 628 2240.

Have a ball at the Bistro



It's not too late for that last minute Christmas/New Year Party.

So, you've not booked your Christmas/New Year breakup yet? Don't panic!

The Clifton Hotel and Bistro is an ideal venue for a festive gathering and it's still not too late to make arrangements. There is a bistro and a private function room available for groups and you can start and finish any time you like (until midnight, that is).

And best of all—Interchange readers get a December bonus—a 10% discount on the bill! That's for any RCA Christmas or New Year function!

Telephone **RONNIE** now on **861 8960** or **861 8740** and ask about our service...we're open every day.

THE CLIFTON...right on the corner at the KEW JUNCTION.

It's A Sign!

Victoria's country roads are numbered...or rather, they're about to be!

The Transport Minister, Mr Tom Roper, has announced that the State Route numbering system, now in use in the metropolitan area, is to extend to cover State Highways.

"Initially the system will cover nearly all declared State Highways and the RCA is investigating the numbering of tourist and connecting roads," Mr Roper said.

"There is no doubt that clear road and highway identification makes travelling easier and safer, particularly for the tourist and the 'stranger driver'.

"The numbering system fans from the west to east, with the Hamilton Highway Route 106, and the South Gippsland Highway Route 180."

The State Government has already instigated a \$2.45 million programme to install direction signs at more than 300 metropolitan locations.

Plans for the new State Route Numbering System will be sent to mapping companies and touring organisations.

The rural numbering programme which will help motorists stay on the right road will cost approximately \$420,000.

High Living

"Magic!" That's how Tony Joyce and Rob Jones, from Traralgon Division, describe hot-air ballooning.

Tony and Rob took to the skies over Stawell recently and haven't stopped talking about it since.

"Ballooning is magic. It's sensational...there's the view of the ground slowly slipping below you, and no breeze..." says Tony, who works in the division's accounts department. "We saw some marvellous sights over Stawell and the Grampians."

Both say they were apprehensive at first about flying, but now are more eager than ever to "hop in again".

Stawell, 230 km northwest of Melbourne, is famous as the 'Gateway to the Grampians' and

Australia's famous balloonists and has flown in both airships and hot air balloons.

They stress that balloon-travel is not as death-defying as it once was. "It has one of the safest records of any sport," says Rob.

Most balloons today are made of a lightweight material, high tensility nylon ripstop with silicon coating, and are equipped with liquid propane gas burners to supply the hot air. They can tower six storeys above the landscape and cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000.



• Up, up and...into the heavens.

launchsite and took to the air until 9.00 am.

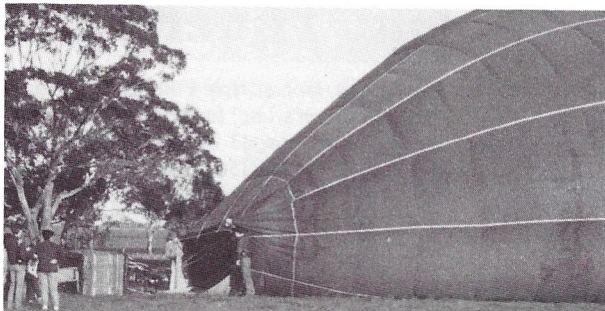
Because of the heavy bookings, the two had to wait until the later afternoon for their second aerial adventure. Throughout the day, however, they either followed the balloon around in their car or sought refuge in the nearby Great Western vineyards.

Tony says that landings are also an exciting part of ballooning.

"They vary from being cushion-soft landings to a little rough and tumble...the rough and tumble ones are a real buzz. It is also fun to chase the balloon across the paddocks so that a changeover of passengers can take place.

"It's a top weekend and well recommended to all with a little adventurous spirit."

Tony says that anybody keen on participating in this uplifting sport can contact him at Traralgon Division, (051) 74 3311, during business hours.



• Ballooning...an exhilarating sport for those with a taste for adventure.

it is now notching up points for being the major Victorian centre for hot-air ballooning. Annette and Tony Norton help run a company there specialising in weekend flights. Tony is one of

Each balloon supports a basket which holds the pilot, three passengers and the gas cylinders.

"On the first day of the weekend we were up with the birds," says Tony, meaning they had to rise for an early breakfast at 5.00 am. After eating, they set up a balloon on the nearby



• Tony, right, helps out with the preparations on the launchsite.

West Gate Rider Nobbled



A would-be Roy Rogers who galloped his horse across West Gate Bridge in September says he now wants to ride over Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Mario Coleiro has been fined for riding a horse over Melbourne's most famous landmark during morning peak hour traffic on 4 September.

He was charged at the Port Melbourne Magistrate's Court for illegally riding a horse on the bridge.

"Similar rules for traffic on freeways also apply to the bridge," explains Craig Garrett, the Regulations Enforcement Officer at Head Office responsible for prosecutions relating to West Gate Bridge. "In other words, it is strictly forbidden for

any type of animal or agricultural vehicle to cross the Bridge unless properly transported. The ban, which also applies to pedestrians, is imposed for safety reasons."

At the court hearing, Ronald Tagg, a West Gate By-Laws Officer, said he requested Mr Coleiro to stop but he refused. Two police officers, who happened to be also crossing the Bridge, were enlisted and they apprehended the elusive rider at the end of his jaunt near the toll plaza.

"It was obvious the whole thing was planned as he had arranged media coverage", says Craig, adding that a Channel 9 TV crew filmed the whole

"Pull over, rider!" Two police officers with Mr Coleiro on West Gate Bridge Photo courtesy Herald Sun

episode.

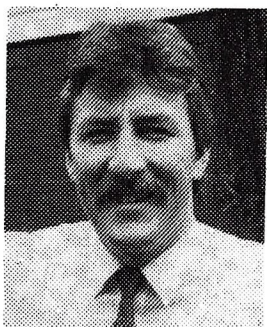
Asked why he rode over the Bridge, the rider replied: "I felt like doing it". He also claimed that next year he was "going to ride over Sydney Harbour Bridge". According to the police officers and West Gate Bridge personnel, Mr Coleiro's joy-ride nearly resulted in a number of accidents.

"Motorists were simply not expecting to confront a slow moving horse on the Bridge," adds Craig. "We were lucky nobody was injured."

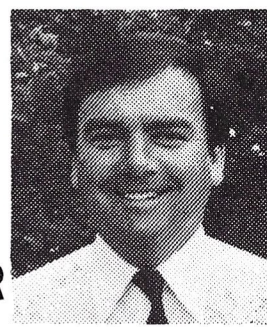
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BENDIGO : THE FIRST



According to the 13th Annual Report of the Country Roads Board, the financial year which ended June 1926 was relatively quiet for Bendigo's first Divisional Engineer.

The Division was in its infancy, and the then D.E., Mr E J Wilson, had only "21.2 miles" of work to maintain on the North-Western Highway. It is in sharp contrast to what currently falls within Tom Glazebrook's jurisdiction.

Bendigo Division, which celebrated its 60th anniversary in December, 1985, covers an area of more than 21,800 square km, from west of Robinvale on the Murray River in the north west, to Kalkallo on the Hume Freeway, north of Melbourne, to Nurmurkah in the Goulburn Valley.

Tom Glazebrook was appointed Divisional Engineer in December, 1969, after 12 years as Assistant Divisional Engineer at Benalla.

Tom says he enjoys his role in Bendigo and working with the municipalities in his division—of which there are 30.

"It is people that make life enjoyable," he explains, "and here I enjoy people both to work and socialise with."

Tom has seen quite a few people come and go; the names of current and former staff members flow easily.

"When I shifted to Bendigo, it coincided with a State-wide redistribution of the divisional boundaries. I lost some municipalities and gained some others, including Nathalia. Consequently I also gained Ted Ricardo, a patrolman from that area, who virtually moved with me in the same week."

conditions, but there can also be occasional "problems" maintaining roads throughout the irrigated fruit growing areas in the east. Tom has always preferred the life in the country to that of the city, be it the Mallee, mountains or whatever. In Benalla Division, he confesses to have been known as 'the Old Man of the Mountains'.

"The name came about because of my snow work," he hastens to explain. "And mainly because of my pavement design work at Mt Buffalo, Mt Buller and in other alpine regions."

It is unlikely we will ever see Bendigo's D.E. sitting behind a desk at Head Office. His thoughts on the city are well known: "The best view of Melbourne is in the rear vision mirror."

* * *

"I think the Division takes on the personality of the D.E.," says Joan Summers, Admin Officer in the Division. Joan knows a lot about the personalities of D.E.s too, as she has worked with Messrs West, Upton and Glazebrook.

Joan remembers moving into the Queen Street building with Frank West in 1960. "We seemed to have so much room in those days," she recalls, "now we seem to be bursting at the seams. The whole establishment has grown."

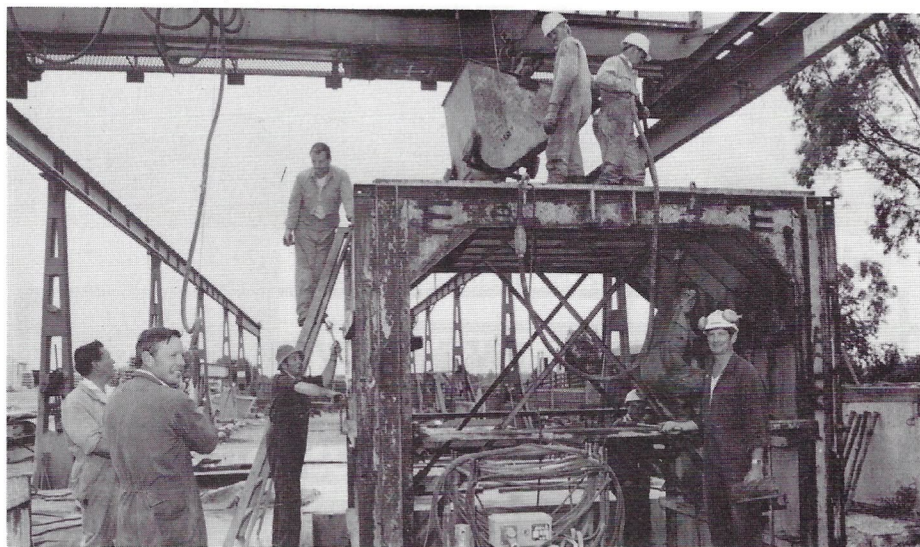
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During World War 2 a lot of plant from Bendigo Division had been transported to Northern Territory for major work on the Stuart Highway.

Ian Campbell had only been at the divisional depot for a short period when the equipment was returned in late 1945. "The official CRB colour in those days was bright red" explains Ian, now 2IC in Accounts. Evidently it was a colour that the military didn't take to and everything had been repainted in army khaki.

"Of course, the khaki didn't go over too well with the CRB so we had to paint everything red again," recalls Ian, who will notch up 40 years in 1987, when he will retire. Born and bred in Bendigo, Ian spent his first 14½ years at the divisional depot, moving out of the ex-council abattoirs to the Divisional Office, "Greystanes", in 1962.

* * *



Bendigo's precast yard is the biggest of those found in country divisions. The biggest, and one of the busiest. The yard, located near the divisional depot, employs about 12 men who are involved in manufacturing a variety of reinforced concrete components used in road and bridge projects.

Neville Haydon, Superintendent of Works, is well aware that his closely knit outfit produces a high quality product. Their high strength U-slabs, culverts and kerbing can be found all over the State and even interstate.

When Neville isn't inspecting some steel formwork or discussing a precast kerbing job, he'll probably be concocting up another of his labour-saving inventions.

• You can spray that again! Above, one of the Divisions first spray gangs at Durham Ox, circa 1940. The man to the far right is Bill Hinton, whose daughter Alison now works at Bendigo. Today the crew following in the same tracks consists of, left to right, Robert 'Diesel' Haig, driver Ricky Byrne, Overseer Leigh Robertson, Peter Greenwood, Bill Whatley and Robert Singe

Old Timers...

Tom Hughes, former Depot Foreman at Bendigo, leads the "Stayer's List" for being a long service member. Tom spent 43 of his 46 years at the Division and retired on 15th May 1979. Others who worked up to 30 years plus include Otty Maguire, Truckie (42 years), Charlie Williams, Roadmaster (41 years), Kevin Laity, Instructor Driver and George Pickering, Plant Operator (37 years), Ron Macdonald, Overseer and Stan Aldridge, Storeman (35 years), Frank Kirkham, Skilled Builders Labourer (34 years), Adam Jeziorski, Traffic Controller and Max Simmonds, Skilled Builders Labourer (31 years), Harry Everard, Traffic Officer and Bill McBain, Carpenter (30 years), Athol Thomas, Engineer (36 years). We hope we haven't missed anybody!

The Division is currently well served with field staff and since Overseer Joe Ketterer retired in 1982, Alan Arthur is the Division's longest serving OS with 23 years. Noel Spooner, OS, is the oldest member of the Field Supervising Staff (sorry, no ages).

In the B.S. area, where Bendigo Division is well known for its high standard, Gerry Jones, the longest serving Cost Clerk in the Division, complements the work of Overseer, Les West.

A couple of relatively new-comers to the supervisory ranks are Clerks of Work Stan Borserio and Dick Benson, who will be kept busy this year assisting in the supervision of the second largest Divisional output of asphalt resurfacing (on the Hume Freeway).



• Tom Glazebrook, Bendigo's DE, as you've never seen him: dressed in period fashion with girls from the office, Julie McQuillan and Joanne Foster

Tom replaced Mr Len Upton, who had moved to Ballarat after 12 years at Bendigo. Between 1946 and 1958 the D.E.'s role was filled by Mr Frank West whose move to Head Office eventually saw him become Board Member.

Mr Len Butler preceded Mr Frank West as Divisional Engineer.

"I think some of the Shire Engineers in those days thought Len really was God," says Tom. "After all, many of them were 30 years younger than he was."

Len moved on to Dandenong Division where he undoubtedly endured a similar reputation with his municipal colleagues.

The two have continued their friendship over the years, Ted now being one of the Division's two Roadmasters.

"Col Turner, our former Workshop Foreman; now there was one of the characters of the place. His bark was worse than his bite, though not many young Engineers realised it, except Ken Mathers, now Project Engineer, Wodonga.

"Our other Roadmaster, Jim Healy, originally worked with his father on a BS gang at Horsham. Both Jim and Arthur O'Donohue, a former Roadmaster, for some reason like working in the Mallee. I call them "typical Mallee hens" as they seemed to enjoy scratching around in the Mallee scrub."

The Mallee region in Victoria's north doesn't appeal to everyone. Patrol work is done in hot, arid



• Chris Zanelli and his 'old faithful' pictured on Milnes Bridge at Cohuna, circa 1940. Today Assistant Overseer, Jack Schilling, and Overseer, Les West, travel in a Falcon, circa 1985



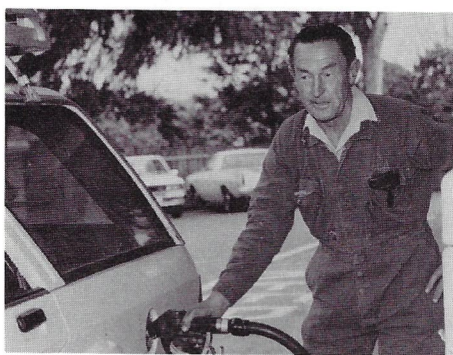
• Working at the RCA's biggest country precast yard are, from left, Neville Haydon, Bill Jones, Bob Miller, Bobby Ash (on ladder), Ian O'Brien, Milton Boyle (both on formwork), Don Leerson, Robert Quinn and Wally Ferguson

"Neville is an innovative sort of chap," says Lindsay Clay, the Precast Yard Engineer. "He has been responsible for dozens of gadgets to help make work easier and more efficient."

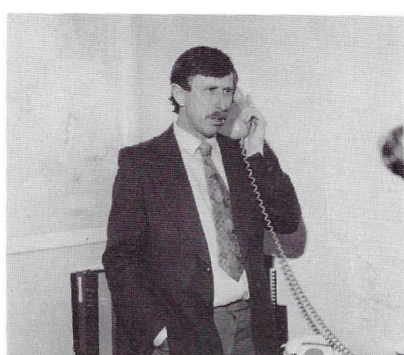
Adds Tom Glazebrook, "we're proud of the excellent quality product coming out of the Precast Yard".

* * *

60 YEARS



• Another family story: Storeman Ron Richter has been with the RCA for '30 years odd' and follows in the footsteps of his father, Harry, a Bendigo patrolman



• John Coles, Direct Works Engineer, is no stranger to Bendigo. He served there in the late '60s as a junior engineer



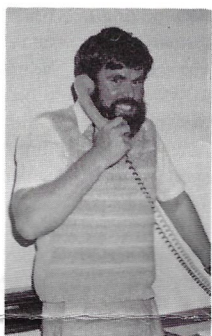
• Drafting up some plans are Keith Davies and John Izard



• Sandra Curnow was the second female Admin Officer appointed in a divisional office



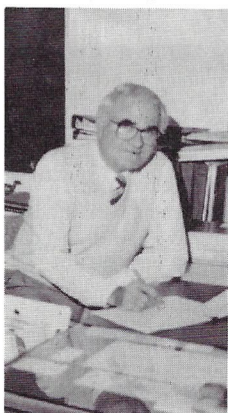
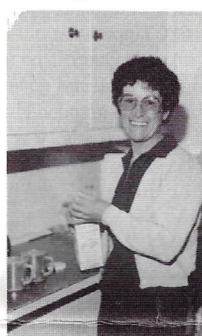
• Heading off for the day is Overseer Noel Spooner



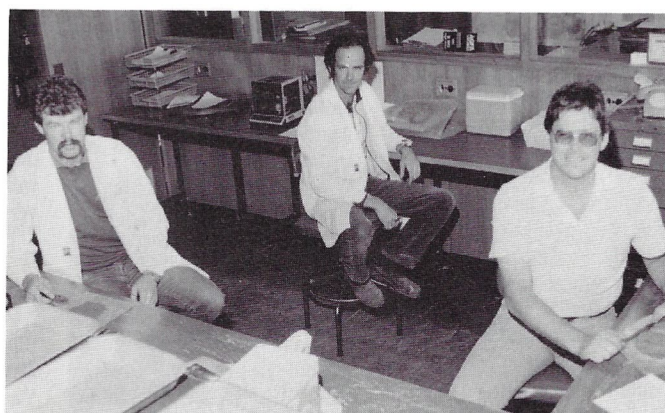
• "Buy BHP" - Graham Moyle hard at work in Accounts



• Outdoors we find Charlie Kemp in the garden while inside Dot Johnson prepares the morning tea round



• Ian Campbell, Accounts



• Left to right in the Lab are Terry Marslen, Rob Beard and Malcolm Talbot

For the record...

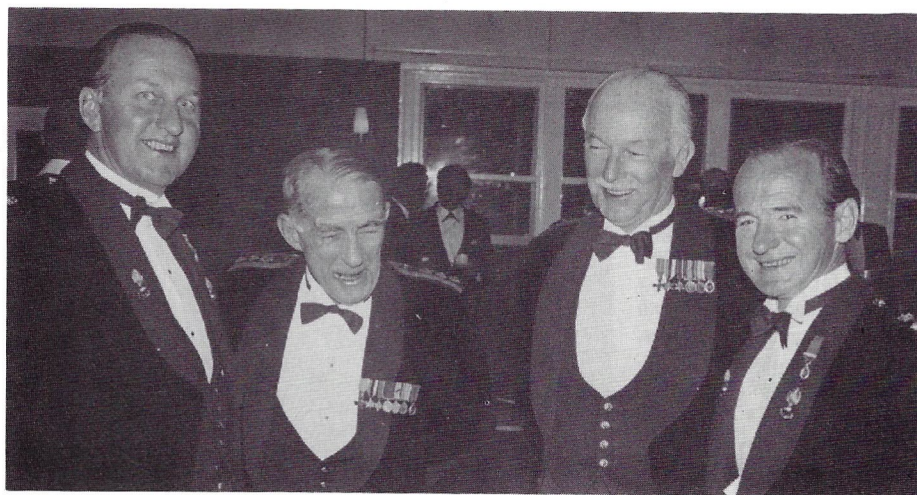
- The list of former ADEs reads like a Who's Who of the RCA. They include Ron Angus, Bob Handley, Frank Lodge, Peter Lowe and Graeme Marshallsea. Other ex-Bendigo based personalities include Brian Chandler, Geoff Allen, John Bethune, Bruce Phillips, Ken Mathers, Bruce Van Every, Leon Stevens, Clive Hamilton, Trevor Phillips, Gerry Sharkey and Reg Patterson.
- The CRB's first Chairman, Mr William Calder, died in February 1928 and one of his last official duties was to open a new concrete bridge at Harcourt, on the North Western Highway near Castlemaine. The bridge, which replaced a hazardous wooden crossing, was named the Calder Bridge in recognition of the Chairman's contribution to the State's road network. (The North Western Highway was also later re-named the Calder).
- Many field staff who worked for Bendigo Division in the early years often found themselves in some very isolated situations. The late Jack Scantleton, a Patrolman, often talked about the Murray Valley Highway, where he first began patrolling in 1931. Evidently it wasn't so much a highway as a 'fenced reserve', and a heavy downpour would always transform it into a quagmire. Pre-requisites for a Patrolman's job, Jack would explain, was a "strong back and a good pair of horses to pull the grader".

• The Workshop and Depot buildings were originally a council abattoir, built in 1911. The CRB bought the building for the sum of £3000 in 1946, and two years later its first occupant, Tom Hughes, moved in. It is rumoured that one of Tom's first jobs was to wash the cow blood from the killing floor.

• In the '70s Bendigo Division led the field in womens' fashions. It approved the wearing of slack-suits for female workers...approximately two years before Head Office introduced a similar move. To refresh your memory, the advent of slack-suits saw the decline of the mini-skirt.

Quiz Answers

Rear, from left: Tom Hughes, H Everard, Clive Hamilton, Athol Thomas, Geoff Allen, Col Turner, John Bethune, Joan Summers, Neville Haydon, Nola Dalrymple, Don Payne, Graeme Marshallsea, Shirley Turner, Lloyd Davies, Fran McLellan, Trevor Phillips, Mrs Poulton, Mike Nicholls, Len Upton (DE), Ian Campbell, R Christopher, Doug Turnbull, Peter Bolitho, Dennis Carolyn, Tom Kenyon, Jim Kennedy, Tom Gibson and Bob Thomas. Front: Bruce Michelle, Norm Barkell, Ken Curtis, David King, John Coles, David Peile, Leigh Osborne, Malcolm Bailey, Max Runnalls, Roy Jones, Bill Dunstan, Keith Davies, Neil Talbot, Ian Caddy and Graham Hill.

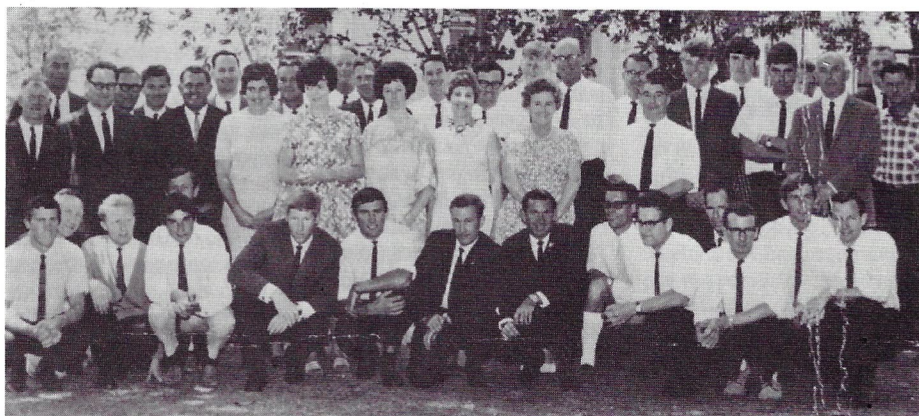


The 22 Construction Regiment R.A.E. (SR) is sponsored by the RCA, Rural Water Commission and Board of Works.

Mr I J O'Donnell, the former CRB Chairman who raised the Regiment in 1950, was guest of honour at the Regiment's 21st Anniversary Dinner at Puckapunyal during the 1971 annual camp.

The photo captures the happy occasion and was supplied by Divisional Engineer, Mr Tom Glazebrook.

Left to right: Maj. T M Glazebrook E.D., Officer Commanding 104 Const. Sqn. R.A.E. (SR), Col. I J O'Donnell, I.S.O., O.B.E., E.D., Regiments First Commanding Officer, Maj. Gen. K D Green, O.B.E., E.D., General Officer Commanding 3 Division, Lt. Col. B Addis, E.D., Commanding Officer, 22 Regt. R.A.E. (SR)



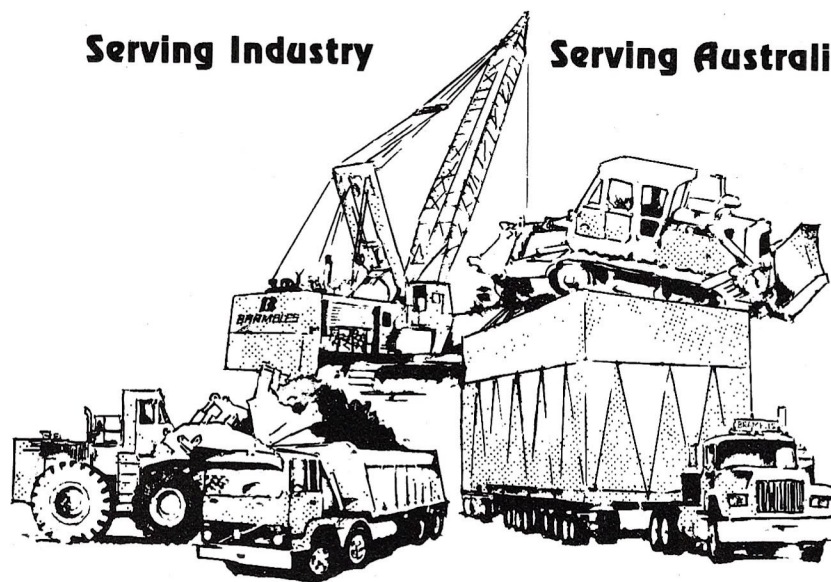
We thought about offering a free trip to Bendigo for all those who could identify any current staff member in this photograph. But we decided it was too easy. Anyway, just to help you out, seen in this 1967 Christmas shot are Clive Hamilton (now Asphalt), John Bethune (GM-Materials), Trevor

Phillips (Div Planning Eng-Metro), John Coles (DWE, Bendigo), Graeme Marshallsea (RM-Western Victoria) and Geoff Allen (Asphalt Eng). Answers elsewhere on this page (marked 'Quiz Answers').

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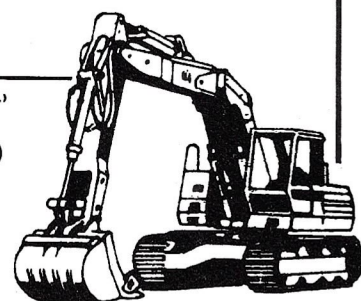


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INTRAY

WODONGA

By Paul Tucker

The welcome mat has again been placed at the Office door, this time for Debbie Matthes, a clerical Assistant from the Youth Guarantee Employment Scheme, Colin Cook, a Roadworks Engineer from Traffic Engineering, and Gary Girvan, a Roadworks Engineer. Gary has just joined the RCA from a Melbourne Construction Company. We welcome Gary, wife Anne Marie and daughter Kathryn.

Early Morning Breakfast

Our annual early breakkie was held on Friday 1 November at the Project Compound. Commencing at 6.30 am, bacon, eggs, and toast were excellently prepared by Chefs Hans Raun and John Anderson.

The highlight of the morning was the arrival by parachute of Herb Kaiserseder (Technical Assistant) and four of his skydiving club members.

All five jumpers displayed perfect accuracy—landing within four metres of the breakfast table.

BENDIGO

By Sandra Curnow and Ross Furness

'Office Manager', Ross Furness, excelled recently. Not only does he make things happen around the office, but makes them happen on the same day!

The grand old staircase received a facelift recently. Installing vinyl on the steps meant the staircase, the only internal one in the office, had to be closed off. Ross obviously had steps on his mind because he also organised a new non-slip surface for the rear external staircase. Noel Hartwell and Paul Ayres diligently arrived from the Depot on the same day the vinyl was being laid (during the office lunch break) and painted the back staircase, which meant it too had to be closed off! But all was not lost, a third and almost unknown set of steps, the fire escape, was uncovered tucked away at the side of the office and of course the door at the top of those steps was in its usual state—locked! Peter Millar, whose office is upstairs, was heard muttering about Rural Engineers trapped at the Class 2 level, but to lock them in the office was going too far.

Surveyor, Graham Loble, was seemingly determined to gain a place on the Office Social Club Committee. By the time written nominations had closed, the President had received three nomination forms all duly signed, all nominating Graham.

Morning tea is usually served upstairs around 10.00 a.m., although this tends to vary at times. Lloyd Davies was recently seen wandering around upstairs like a little boy lost. When asked what his problem was he replied "Have you people had your coffee yet?" The reply was "Yes, at about 10.15 a.m." The time was now 12.15 p.m. Where had Lloyd been all morning?

What does happen on inspection tours of the Division? First we hear of the Divisional Engineer pushing his car along the highway at Swan Hill out of petrol and greeting interested bystanders with the words "See how hard we try and save taxpayers' money". Then we hear of the Class 3 Engineer keeping a lovely young lady with the breakfast tray waiting outside his motel

door for 10 minutes. Apparently he did not hear her knock. Who knows?

How lucky can one get? Ask Stan Borserio, he won \$4,000 on the horses recently. Now his children have doubled their orders for Christmas.

During the past few weeks we have seen plenty of action involving the staff. The action has included comings and goings, promotions and for once, "Lucky Bill" Dunstan did not have a horse that ran a place in the Melbourne Cup.

New starters include Accountant, Bernie Slagman from Head Office, Draftsman John Izard, from Ballarat and Mike Perry who has commenced as an Engineering Assistant. New field staff are Mike Turner from Metro Division and Robert Singe who returned for another spray season. David Archbald has commenced work at the Depot as a fitter.

Congratulations are in order for Brian Hogan who was promoted to Experimental Officer Class 2 in the Lab and to Ted Ricardo and Charlie Kemp for winning the inaugural "Super Sweeps" at the office. Lets hope neither of them emulate "Lucky Bill's" record of 3 wins in a row. The popular depot sweeps saw two outsiders win: Frank Brown, Father of Patrolman Ian Brown, and Helen Cleeland, wife of Tony.

DANDENONG

By Victor Lawther

September marked the retirement of Pat Coleman after 35 years' service. At a farewell evening held at Frankston, attended by some 60 of Pat's work-mates, Divisional Engineer Stan made presentations of several items including an Irish (guess where Pat came from?) Stop/Go baton. The wording was a little different to the standard RCA issue, i.e. 'Flat Out' one side, and 'Faster' on the other. Pat worked on many jobs throughout the Division and for the last 20 years has been Patrolman in Charge at Dromana or Frankston. A great sense of humour enabled him to overcome many situations patrol-

men encounter in their daily chores, but 'the boys' learnt to keep out of sight on Mondays if the 'Blues' went down on Saturday.

Tom Karnatz is leaving us for SEMARL. Prior to his departure a farewell function was held 'on-site'.

Trevor Cooke has been on the sick list for some time, but hopefully he will be back in harness soon.

Farewell presentations were made to Alan Hamley (transferred to Metro Division) and Bob Jones to Road Traffic Authority prior to their recent departures. Alan had been in the Division for 12 plus years and was always the forerunner in the social/joke departments, so his presence (in more ways than one) will be sadly missed. Good luck for the future, Bob, and Alan. After several months touring overseas Sam Kutrolli transferred to Bridge Sub Branch to continue with the Career Development Program.

A 'Wine and Cheese' night was held at Garnett & Lesley Gibbs' home and the 30 people who attended learnt about a selection of New Zealand and Australian wines from a very talkative Italian wine representative.

That well-rounded traveller Alan Hamley showed 'lunchtime' slides of his recent European trip and this turned out to be an hilarious and enjoyable get-together. Another one of our travellers, Bruce Faull, also gave a talk about his travels to Europe.

Recent popular events have been a couple of instant 'sausage sizzles' organised by that excellent Chef, Peter McCulloch. The rumour that Peter has an interest in sausages as well as paper plates is not true.

Congratulations to Richard Warwick on his promotion to Class 3 Engineer, after many 'acting' stints. Congratulations also to Sam Tranter on his promotion to Roadmaster within the Division.

Joan Lo, David Anderson, Garry O'Donnell and Ross Paul are recent additions to the fold, a big welcome and trust you enjoy your stay with us.

Merry Christmas to everyone from the Premier Division.



Seen near his brand, spanking new patrol truck is Vasil Filip of Horsham Patrol. Vasil is evidently so impressed with his new acquisition that he won't let anybody else drive it...then again, isn't that one of the prerogatives of being a Patrolman in Charge?

HORSHAM

By Betty Sleep

A warm welcome is extended to Jan Baker—Jan is a temporary typist for 8 weeks. We wish Jan a happy stay with us.

Bet Tippetts Accounts to visit for 3 weeks in Queensland to see her daughter. Bet has gone to check out her first grandchild—we really wondered who was the most excited about the happy event.

Karen and Tony Fry have spent some of their long service touring Tasmanian.

Congratulations to Andrew Hobbs and his new wife on their recent marriage.

A "Get Well" also goes out to Divisional Storeman, Norm Ladlow, who is slowly recovering after the effects of an operation. Get well soon Norm.

Instructor Deiver, Les Lawes, also on the sick list, has returned home to recover after a stay in hospital. Hope to see you back on deck soon, Les.

The Social Club is now in full swing. Car rallies and evenings have been arranged for the New Year by the Club, so here's hoping for a large roll up.

We hope that our El-Prisidente Steve Garwood gets over his little bout of tonsillitis (could this be a "sign" Steve for more "Peace and Quiet")?

FAREWELL & GOOD LUCK

We recently farewelled Workshop Foreman, Brian Hutchinson, who is now at the Bairnsdale Workshop.

The send-off was held for Brian and his wife and family at the Sunnyside Bowling Club.

A mobile was organised and made by Workshop personnel as a farewell gift. Brian was also presented with a new fishing reel with tackle so that he could pursue one of his many interests.

TRARALGON

By Colin Scammell

We welcome a smiling face to the office in Sharon Soares, the new word processor operator, plus Paula Lambert and Yang Kim who are on the Government Youth Guarantee Program.

Congratulations to Rob (Waragul Lab) and Debbie Butler on the birth of Stephanie, a bouncing baby girl. Also congratulations to John & Maree Kaljouw on their recent wedding. Finally we say farewell to Terry Carroll (depot) who is resuming his former occupation as a "sparky".

A new Social Committee has

been elected for the forthcoming year and much planning is underway for next year's functions.

Joy Harrison (office tea lady) was seen around the office pushing her trolley with only the saucers—no cups. Wayne Briggs (Admin) wants to know if we are supposed to slurp the tea out of our saucers.

Congratulations to Mark Beech to completing his first marathon, also congratulations to Darren Sargeson who came 2nd in an engineer's project—building a dam—which is really useful considering the rain that has fallen recently.

Geoff Lawrence and Ken Barnhill recently unearthed hidden talents and a good set of legs to appear in the local Light Opera production—La Belle Helene.

Finally Chris Anderson (Accounts) has a problem about grey hairs—if any could solve this problem Chris would love to hear from you.

BENALLA

By Marj Jones

A severe rain storm a while back managed to get into some of the offices, including Bryan Hensley's. Helen commented that his writing was bad enough without having it distorted by water. Bryan's reply was that the water drove all the silver fish out from under his "In" tray.

Goorambat Football Club had a mini Tattsлото with the winner being office worker, Leigh Morgan, who won \$375.00. Can't remember if he did shout those cakes.

Went along to the Snow Dinner at Corowa Golf Club, but I think someone must have sabotaged my notes because they can't be found. The men and ladies were in good spirits and a good time was had by all. As we left, we noticed that Rex Dixon had money spilling out into the tray of one of "those" machines. It was making a lovely sound.

There was a chicken drive to aid the Red Cross and Kevin's wife took orders from the office. When the goods duly arrived, Sophie rang the Workshop and said there was a bundle of "deceased fowls" for anyone who wanted some.

Maybe there is something in the air in our Accounts as two people who have not been with us very long have announced their engagements. Lyn-Marie Berthum is engaged to Wayne Poole and Russell Kelly to Karen Hammond.

Janet came to work with half her index finger black as a boot. When asked what had happened, she explained she was dying her horse's false tail and the rubber glove must have had a hole in one finger. It certainly looked strange and Amanda commented—"I've heard of a green thumb but never a black finger."

Sophie is back at work after a month's long service leave, part which was spent in Hong Kong. Sophie said it is really an interesting place to visit and no doubt a good place to relieve one of some money!

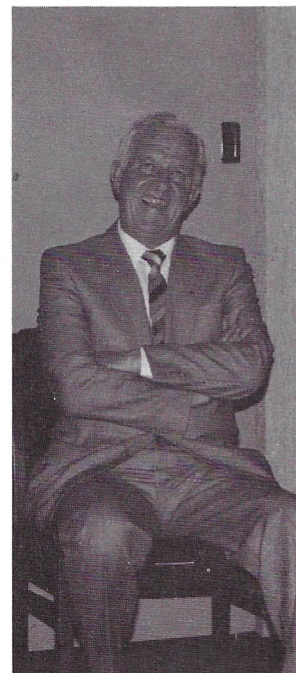
Patrolman Harvey Dennis is going into hospital for a hip operation. We wish him all the best.

Bryan Hensley is back at work after his holidays. Jan Mikitzuk is also back after being away for two weeks—wouldn't tell me where he had been or what he had been doing though.

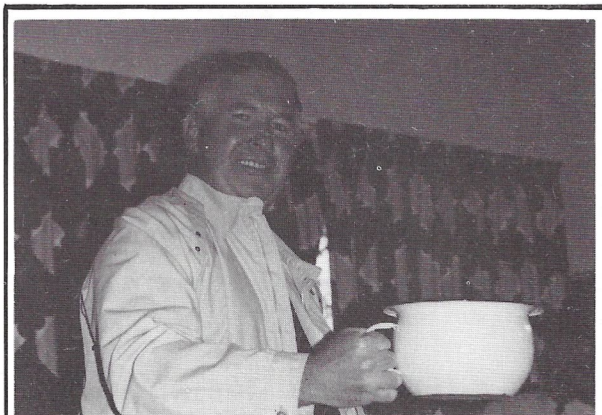
On Cup Day we had a barbecue lunch on the back lawn in our outdoor eating area. The weather was beautiful and it was very hard coming back inside.

Is the rumour correct that one of our bridge men may be announcing his engagement?

Alex Evans, Bryan Hensley, Bill Peyton, Rex Dixon and Ray Day attended the Golf Day at Yarra Yarra on 11th Nov. They didn't bring back a trophy, but apparently had a very enjoyable day.

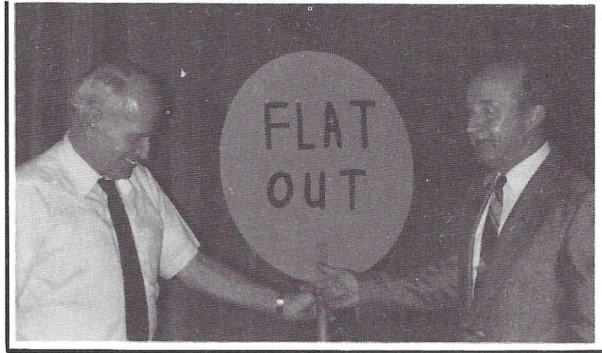


• A relaxed Frank Lodge responds to a joke at his recent sendoff. Mr Lodge retired from Warrnambool Division, as Divisional Engineer, in October.



Stan Hodgson, right, presents Pat Coleman with the new look baton. It is unlikely it will be accepted in traffic control circles. Story above.

▲ "Cheers!" gestures engineer, Alan Hamley, as he shows off one of his gifts at his recent farewell. Alan is heading to Metro Division from Dandenong Division.



INTRAY continued...

Still Going Strong

Made in an era before planned obsolescence.

This interesting old water cart was recently noticed in use on roadworks in Creswick Road, Ballarat.

The machine used to supply water to a road cutter, is a Furphy Water Cart. Manufactured in Shepparton, it carries a line "born about 1880, still going strong". It also carries a few philosophical lines which advise:

"Good—better—best; Never let it rest; Until your good is better; And your better—best."

Pictured using the road cutter is Greg Rodda of Ballarat Division. Photo: Courtesy Ballarat Courier



BALLARAT

By Ron Hrymakowski

After 9 years with the RCA, John King resigned in September. John, originally from Asphalt, had previously worked in Ballarat as a Vacation Student while doing his engineering course at BCAE.

John spent the majority of his time on Bituminous Surfacing works, and in recognition of his service, was farewelled by workmates at the Divisional Office.

John has taken up a position with Nu-Steel Construction and we wish him and his family success in their new venture.

John Izard (Drafting Officer) left Ballarat on 11 October for a warmer climate. After 15 years in Ballarat John will commence normal duties in Bendigo. He was farewelled by workmates at the Divisional Office and we wish him all the best.

Karen Willison resigned as office cleaner after 5 years service.

We extended a warm welcome to Fiona Millar and Robert Toohy. Both these young students have been employed by the RCA under the State Government Youth Guarantee Program.

This program is special in its own right in that it involves a work/study situation where the applicant is employed by the RCA for 3 days per week and continues his or her study for the remaining 2 days at the School of Mines, Ballarat.

Fiona has been employed as a Drafting Assistant and Robert as a Technical Assistant.

We wish Fiona and Robert a long and happy future.

We welcome Susan Beaumont as office cleaner.

BAIRNSDALE

By Ian Ellis

In September a patrol gang picked up in one week—one wallaby, one wombat, one kangaroo, one fox, one cow and apparently one low flying swan (and a partridge in a pear tree).

Part of Friday's agenda for the

Sale patrol ("Bluey" Pilgrim, Ivan Tobias, Keith Seers and Paul Charlton) is the rubbish pick-up from RCA roadside stops. It pays to keep one's eyes open as "Bluey" actually collected an old, original CRB wooden chair and a search light on one trip recently.

Congratulations to John Piesley, Genoa Patrol, who married Teresa Johnson on 19th October at Mallacoota. Thank goodness for the cook who baked the "bouncing wedding cake".

Ted Jones, Orbest Patrol, has arrived back at work after long service leave. Ted and Thora tripped around Europe and though Ted looked healthy he was much thinner. European food is "not much chop" as far as Ted's concerned.

We welcome into our midst two new Liza's—which makes three! Liza Shanahan and Liza Bromage are with us for 12 months as part of the youth guarantee scheme. Welcome ladies.

We also welcome new Depot Foreman, Brian Hutchinson. Brian has finally left Horsham after 25 years where he began his apprenticeship. Apparently with home-made boat and love for fishing, the move was inevitable.

Brian, an astronomer, likes to play golf by the stars and by the

way there's a lot of them up here. We wish Brian, Lorraine, Neil and Lyndel all the best. With all their interests it won't be long before they feel at home.

Maureen Napper spoke to the Prince, Wendy Holmes actually shook hands and both were just thrilled to the back teeth. By the way, Wendy hasn't washed her hands since.

MATERIALS

By Lee Scott

Well it's close to 'that time of the year' again.

First on the social calendar was Jean Hoelter's farewell. Jean officially left the RCA's service quite a few months ago, but we decided to say "thank you" and farewell to the lady who not only kept our offices sparkling, but also cheered us up with her lively chatter. We miss you already Jean, best of luck, hope they're biting!

The annual M.G. girls night out was held at Jims Greek Tavern, Richmond. A good time

was had by all, but we weren't allowed to smash any plates.

The M.G. BBQ was held once again at Alan Muir's residence. The food as usual was excellent and there was plenty to go around. Thank you to all those who participated with the great deal of preparation that's necessary to put on this event, especially Alan and Colleen Muir for letting us run rampage through their lovely garden.

The Pot Belly Deli was the venue for the M.G. Xmas Breakfast on Friday 13th December. The theme was 'bad taste' and many people came as they were, which was perfect! Luckily the food wasn't bad taste and we enjoyed a variety of continental-style fare.

Tom Flintoff is now Manager - Geotechnical Section, congratulations Tom.

Paul Davies (Tech.Serv.) married Kathy on Sunday 3rd November and honeymooned at Surfers. Best wishes to both of you.

Jean McCarthy will spend six weeks entertaining her sister, visiting from Hawaii.

Keith Barrasford (Asphalt) and family are off overseas for 12 months, stopping at Sydney, Hawaii, Vancouver and London.

Alan Banfield (Architect) has been confirmed to his quarters more than usual since his new assistant (an attractive female called Nada) has arrived. Nada thankfully has saved the Drawing Office from a fate worse than death, namely morning and afternoon tea-time chats with the Architect. Only jokin', we love you really ALL!

Patricia Healy (Eng'n.) and husband Richard, spent a couple of weeks in China, and like others in M.G. who have also been there, liked it very much and found it extremely interesting.

Lucy Auff (S.O.) spent two weeks in Bali soaking up the sun and buying lots of nice things (sandals and earrings).

Wayne Wilson left the Workshop on November 12th after 7 years service. Good luck in the future Wayne.

Kevin Smith (Tech. Serv.) spent 3 hot and muggy weeks touring Vietnam, Thailand and Burma.

I'm off for 6 weeks to England's icy shores, to spend a white Christmas (hopefully) with my family.

Oh well, Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year everyone for 1986. I'll catch up on all the latest news on my return...

P.S. Anyone seen a blue 1967 Valiant around?

LETTERS

Dear Sir

My thanks to Eric Lowerson for his explanation of the origin of WGP. But no sooner had my curiosity been sated than colleague observed that WGP only occurs on Wednesday's quote. I'm afraid this must open the WGP debate to speculation once again...this time with the first word being 'Wednesday'.

G. Moran.

• We've established a few suggestions featuring the work 'Wednesday' in the explanation, but an anonymous letter writer from the country claims he's got a different, more rational answer: the words W.G.P. represent the initials of an uncle or other relative of the calender manufacturer. Sounds reasonable.

METROPOLITAN

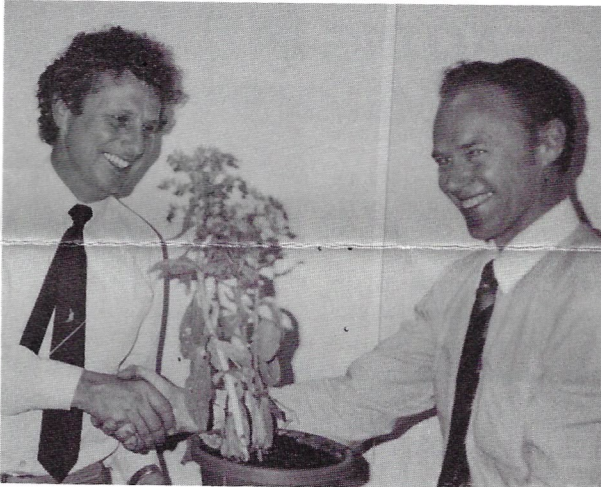
By Judy Boardman

New faces at Metro include Pat Toscano, Draftsman from Road Design, Senad Sabitovic from Springvale Council. We also have two ladies who are with us through the Youth Guarantee Employment Scheme, Jackie Pearson in Administration and Jacqueline Schiff in Drafting.

Maurice Brackett, Metropolitan Overseer, retires from the RCA after 33 years service. We wish him all the best.

A 'warning' to all who travel on the Maroondah Highway—Sandra Connan has bought a CAR! She is also the person who won the Metro Football Tipping Competition. We all know what her winnings were put into!

Metro had a night out on 18 October to the 'Amber Restaurant', Elsternwick. Excessive amounts of Champagne and the like was consumed by diners and the two cigar smokers were not in need of matches. You may ask why? The fact that it was an



Graham Gilpin, right, presents Ken Mathers with a 'well known weed from the Melton project site'. The gift was on behalf of staff at Melton site who were farewelling Ken who takes up the role of Project Engineer at Wodonga.

Indian Restaurant may give you a clue. We congratulate Phil Kibby for looking the prettiest on the evening as he was dressed in "PINK", (including his socks). He hasn't yet worn this outfit to work...we're waiting.

Bill Gouliotidis (known in the Typing Pool as 'Grumpy Bum') was nearly at our Counsellor John Boyle's office with a nervous breakdown. The reason was that the 'Cheque Summary Sheet' went amiss. Apparently it was accidentally picked up by Chris De Kretser. We're now slowly weaning Bill off the Valium.

Richard Gorkowski and Brian Tindall have recently moved their desks from the Construction area into a corner where they have placed partitions around the desks. This has now become known as "Gork & Tindi's Love Nest".

GOING FISHIN'?



Yes, that is a boat on the back of Ron Collins' RCA utility. No, he's not off on a fishing jaunt during working hours. Ron, an overseer at Bairnsdale Division, was snapped heading off on a bridge inspection job, and the boat forms part of his tools of trade.



Julie-anne Kett, left, a HO Cafeteria Attendant, became engaged to Peter Vanharselaar on 25 October. Celebrating with Julie-anne at an informal gathering at Head Office is Cafeteria Attendant, Marie Thomas.

PEOPLE

Ken now heads Wodonga



One of the RCA's biggest projects is now under new management. Ken Mathers, formerly from the Melton Project, has headed north-east for the sun at Wodonga.

Ken took over the role of Project Engineer on the huge Hume Freeway project in late October. He replaced Bruce Phillips who is now Divisional Engineer at Warrnambool Division.

Ken says that he has been looking forward to leaving Melbourne with his wife and three children.

"I'll be looking forward to playing more golf and tennis," he says.

•Ken Mathers, left, with Bruce Phillips on the Melrose Drive bridge, Wodonga. The two, who have both taken up recent appointments, once worked together some 15 years ago at Bendigo Division. Photograph courtesy Twin Cities Post.

Other 'family commitments' include scouts, guides and football.

The Hume Freeway project that Ken will be supervising extends from Chiltern to Wodonga, and is estimated to cost more than \$46 million by completion.

CALLING ALL AWU MEMBERS...

Due to a printing oversight, the AWU was omitted from the recently released Occupational Welfare Service brochure.

AWU members should be aware that their union does support the Occupational Welfare Service along with the ADSTE, AMWU, APEA, APSA, ASCJA, BWIU, FCU, FLAIEUA, FSPU, MOA, TWU and the VTHC.

Classies

BIRTHS

ATKINSON Barry (Bridge) and Katie, a son, Edward, born 11 September.

BUTLER Rob (Warragul Lab) and Debbie, welcome their daughter Stephanie, born 30 September. GRAY Bruce (Survey) and Marilyn, a son, Michael Jarrod, born 13 October. Brother for Steven, Karyn and Rosslyne.

KELLY Tim (Survey) and Debbie, announce the safe arrival of Breonie Maree on 23 October. Sister for Nathan.

ROBB Geoff (Survey) and Sylvia, a son, Nicholas James, born 9 November.

THOMAS Peter (Wodonga) and Marg, are the proud parents of a baby daughter, Carly Melissa, born 16 August.

THORPE John (Wodonga) and Anne, a son, Christopher John, born 17 September at the Mercy Hospital.

MARRIAGES

CHAPMAN Dave (Wodonga) married Bev on 12 October. Congratulations to both.

FOUNTAIN John (Bairnsdale) and Kerry were married on 1 November.

LOWNDES Heather (Bendigo) married Ian Malsced on 21 September.

PIESLEY John (Genoa Patrol) and Teresa were married on 19 October at Mallacoota.

SCARLETT Trish (Bendigo) married James Pilcher on 16 Nov.

TO RENT

ANGLESEA, HOLIDAY HOUSE 3 bedrooms, all facilities. Available from mid January.

Garnett Gibbs, Dandenong, Ext: 7*51 or 878 0555.

MT BEAUTY, HOLIDAY HOUSE accommodates 10 people in 3 bedrooms. Close to golf course, tennis, fishing, etc.

John Finlay, Head office, Ext: 2550, or 860 2550.

COWES, HOLIDAY HOUSE modern 3 bedroom house with all facilities, available from the end of December onwards (except January 25th to February 1st). Ring John Bronsgeest, Dandenong Division, Ext: 787 or 878 0555.

DEATHS

Regretfully we record the passing of 'Long' Jack Ryan. Jack worked in Dandenong Divisional Office for many years before retiring in 1973. He died on Friday October 25. Our sympathy is extended to all of Jack's friends and family.

WE WERE WRONG!

An entry under Births in the previous Classies (Oct) incorrectly stated that Mr and Mrs John and Lynne Anderson of Finance welcomed the arrival of a son, Jason, on September 24. This should have read 'James Phillip John'. The error was by a reporter, not the father. Interchange regrets any inconvenience or embarrassment.

Geoff Goes East



"Country life will be better than the city," says Geoff Hose, who recently became the new Direct Works Engineer at Traralgon.

Geoff departed from Head Office where he was Works Methods Engineer in Works Sub Branch. He replaced John Waddell, now Divisional Engineer at Horsham.

An avid golfer, Geoff is hoping to spend more time improving his handicap. This shouldn't be too difficult a challenge—his new house backs onto the local golf course.

Ill Health Forces Two From B'dale

Alistair Bryan has had to endure a long painful rehabilitation programme following his unfortunate accident with a car several months ago. Alistair suffered severe injuries when he was hit by the car while he was on duty as a traffic officer. His retirement comes after 20 years of service with the RCA.

A loyal social club member, Alistair was a popular figure in Bairnsdale Division and will always be remembered for his role as Father Christmas, a role which was complemented by his good-humour.

• Best wishes to Alistair and his wife, Moyra and family.

On December 12 Royce Lay, Plant Operator, retired also due to health reasons. Royce, who has worked from the Orbost area, has gathered 12 years of service. All the best, Royce.



HELP!
PLEASE COME
the Blood Bank
is low. Ph6160300

A New Angle

He could be biased, but Gary Knight says that the best fish in Victoria are found in the Wimmera area.

Gary is an Experimental Officer in the Horsham Divisional Laboratory, and author of the just published "Fishing Wimmera Waters", the result of two years' research.

Gary well known around the fishing traps in Victoria's north west, is hoping the book will appeal to both visiting and local anglers alike.

"The Wimmera region is fast being regarded as the premier fishing area in Victoria," Gary says. "Where else can you catch Murray Cod to 27 kg (40 lb), Golden Perch to 6 kg (14 lb), trout to 4.5 kg (10 lb) or Red Fin to 3 kg (6 lb)? It's an angler's paradise."

"The book took almost two years to write, and I've compiled information from both my own experiences and those of veteran anglers who are familiar with each particular fishing water in the Wimmera region."

"It includes all popular fishing waters including lakes, reservoirs and rivers."

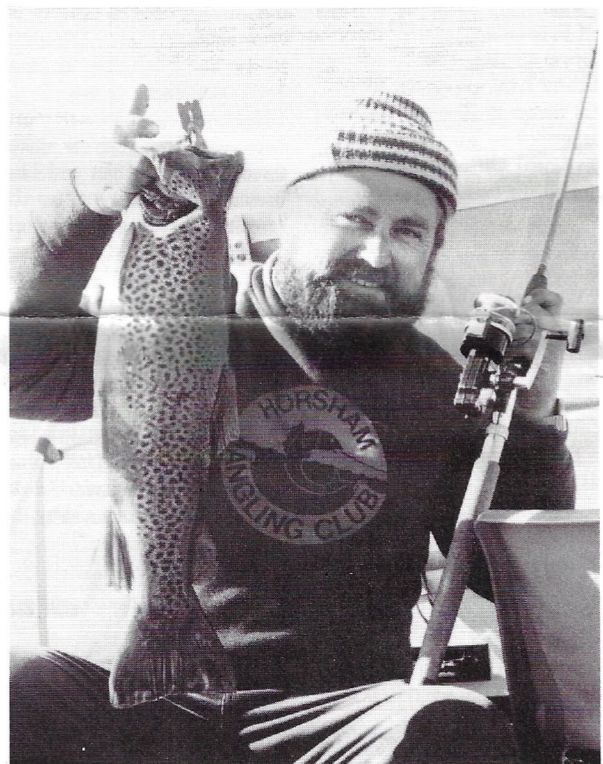
The book is aided by comprehensive maps and photographs, and shows where different species are located. Gary also writes about angling methods, tying knots, cleaning fish and where to obtain fresh local bait in the Wimmera region.

'Number One'

"Fishing is my number one hobby and I have been involved in it for 15 years," he says. By 'involved', Gary doesn't just mean he has been hanging out a rod in the Yarriambiack River. He is currently a member of the Victorian Recreational Fisherman Advisory Council, a past President of the State Angling Association, the Victorian Piscatorial Council, as well as holding positions in the Wimmera Anglers Association and the Horsham Angling Club.

"I am also hoping the book will help promote the Wimmera area in general," adds Gary.

Gary's book is published by Lawes Publishing and forms part of a series of informative books on fishing in Victoria. It is available State wide, can be found in all friendly fishing tackle shops, and retails at the recommended price of \$4.95.



• Gary with another fine catch, this time a brown trout weighing in at a mouth-watering 3.5 kg. He caught the fish in Toolondo Reservoir, south of Horsham.

TONY TURNS 21



• Tony Burns (above), Vocab Clerk, Glen Waverley, gets into the birthday spirit, and cake, at an informal office party. Tony was celebrating his 21st.

SPORT

•Indoor Cricket

RCA Still Heads ICA

"We may have lost the last game but we're still on top!" That was the resounding warning Brian Fitts recently delivered on behalf of the RCA's indoor cricket team, the Roadmakers.

The Roadmakers (Team One) lost the last match of the season but retained top place with 13 wins and just one loss.

Team Two finished in sixth place out of eight but has made

an impressive start to the summer season with two wins out of two matches.

With Ken Mathers being cleared to Wodonga, Barry Schmidt, from Metro, has taken over as Captain. New players recently signed up are Tony Carecos (Bridge, Charles McLaren (Survey), A Vijay (Traffic), Donald Lazaro (Printing) and Laurie Watson (Metro).

Late Report: The Roadmasters A-team defeated Mitch's Walruses in the recent Indoor Cricket Grand Final. The RCA crew humbled the opposition, from the Mitcham Hotel, with 89 runs to 27 runs.

"It was a good performance, and each player won an individual trophy," said Brian Fitts. The game was played at the Box Hill Centre (photograph next issue).

* * *

It's a hit!

Indoor Cricket has been a big hit in Victoria. At the Box Hill Centre, where the 'Roadmakers' can be found, there are approximately 450 other teams registered there.

It has been a success with both males and females, and a number of teams are all female or even mixed.

'Equity' is an apt word in more ways than one with indoor cricket, in that each of the eight players in the side has a "fair go" at both batting and bowling.

Each team bats for one innings of 16 overs. Players bat in pairs and each pair bats for four overs. When dismissed, players do not leave the wicket but continue batting: however every dismissal incurs a five run penalty and a reduction from the score.

A team score of around 100 runs is impressive. A 'good score' for a batting duo is in the margin of 20 runs.

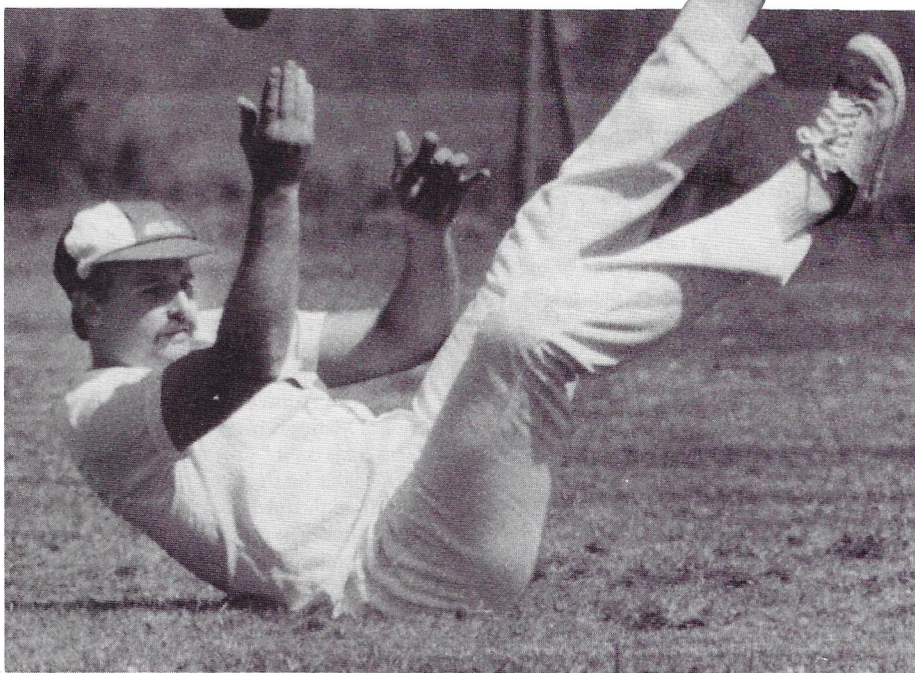
The game is within the confines of a netted area about the size of a singles tennis court. Runs are made by hitting certain areas of the net: forward of a halfway line scores one run; behind the halfway line scores two runs; striking the ball into the end net on the full scores six. Batsmen can be caught out off the net, and runs can be made—of course—between the wickets. These runs are added to the score made off the net. Each player bowls two 8 ball over.

An independent umpire officiates from an elevated position located behind the batsmen and outside the netted area.

It's a quick moving game and usually takes about 90 minutes to play.

• Cricket

Performing Pallot



At first glance we thought Malcolm Pallot, an auto electrician at Horsham, was in the middle of some gruelling outdoor aerobic lessons. Not so, we're told. Malcolm is actually showing off his unorthodox fielding skills during a match with the Horsham Cricket Association. The photograph is courtesy Wimmera Mail-Times.

•Tennis

Ring-in Underdogs Win



The Doubles Tennis Tournament conducted annually by Materials Group had a major upset this season when 'ring-in pair', Robert Page and Frank Maio took out the title.

The duo from Printing Section defeated number one seeds Anthony Rees and Graeme Perkins in straight sets 7-5, 6-4.

"Features of the match were some magnificent forehand drives and lightning interceptions at the net," said Alex Home, who kept order with some excellent umpiring in trying conditions.

The winners have accepted the challenge to defend their titles next year.

The Materials Group Singles Tournament is still in progress and will be completed in December.

•Frank and Robert: a tough team on the tennis court

A FINE LINE-UP



Posing for the cameras after a successful game of indoor cricket are the spirited members of the Glen Waverley Linemarkers Team. Up front, from the left, are N Goodman, C Davis and G Little. Bringing up the rear are P Holland, G Davis, G Shaune and G Downing.

Graeme at World Cup

Graeme Nicholls of the Secretariat was in Canberra in October. He wasn't there for work-related purposes, and he wasn't taking a sickie. Graeme had been given leave to act as Records Officer at the World Cup Athletics Meeting.

Graeme has been Records Officer of the Australian Athletic Union for several years, and in Canberra he arranged the necessary documentation to ratify no less than two World Records set by East German athletes. In

addition, he also made official 27 Australian Records, and numerous other "homeland" records set by visiting overseas athletes.

Graeme added that the Cup provided a forum for African, Western and Eastern Bloc athletes to meet without the boycotts that have limited the performances of the last three Olympics, and that in consequence the World Cup gave Australian athletes a far better picture of where their performances ranked in the world.



The World Cup is billed by the International Amateur Athletic Federation as the major meeting anywhere in the world in 1985. Graeme said that the Australian records set in almost every event made the Cup the highest calibre meeting ever held in Australia.

It surpassed, he said, both the Melbourne Olympics in 1956 and the 1982 Brisbane Games, at which he was also Records Officer.

Grand Effort

Everybody, it seems, pitched in to make Adelaide's Formula One Grand Prix the success it was.

Not least in the contribution stakes was the South Australian Highways Department, which provided an asphalt surface for the gala event.

The Department's Northfield laboratories realised they had to make the track's surface stronger than a normal racing circuit and sought advice overseas. Surprisingly, they found such specialised information 'to be jealously guarded', and decided to design a suitable asphalt mix of their own. Various samples were tried over a three month period before one was decided on. It went through a successful trial session on a busy Adelaide intersection.

The 4 km Grand Prix track is 11 to 12 metres wide and was surfaced with asphalt to a minimum depth of 30mm. The Department used approximately 4,500 tonnes of surfacing material.

The work presented a few headaches for engineers on the job.

The special mix proved to be more difficult to lay than normal asphalt, and the whole exercise was carried out during May, June and July. Consequently the work was restricted to sunny days between 10 am and 3 pm. Even then, said one senior engineer, they only had five to ten minutes to compact the asphalt once it had been laid. To ensure that there are no joints in the track, three pavers operated in a staggered line extending across the track's width, closely followed by steel drum rotating rollers.

As well as the asphalt, the Department was also involved in removing obstructing street lights, traffic signals and traffic islands along sections of the circuit.

The recent Belgian Gran Prix didn't quite enjoy the same success as its Aussie counterpart. When officials thought the racing circuit was not up to standard they took firm measures—and called the whole affair off.

IN BRIEF

The RCA could be looking at an up and coming table tennis champion in the making. Len Walker (Ballarat Div) took out the B1 singles championships on 27 October in the highly competitive Ballarat Table Tennis Association competition. Runner-up was Bruce Gray (also Ballarat Div) who, perhaps with some expert tuition from Len, may one day be a champion himself.

* * *

Traralgon depot and office enthusiasts clashed once again, this time in indoor soccer, for the highly regarded 'Ian Gardner Perpetual Trophy'. The office won the match 30-3.

* * *

Bendigo sports stars, Ken Rusbridge and Steve Belz, both were part of the Loddon Valley League's Bridgewater team whose firsts and seconds had a stunning year—they remained undefeated for the whole season.

* * *

The traditional Traralgon Div. Bypass Cup, held at the Trafalgar Golf Course, saw office staff hand out another traditional thrashing to Warragul field personnel. Geoff Hose, (DWE), revealed a distinct relish for the course and led the way for the



Look Who's Dropping In

•Bracing himself for a landing is skydiver, Herb Kaiserseder, a Technical Assistant at Wodonga. Herb was jumping with some colleagues from the local club (see story, page 8).

office, but it was cost clerk Keith Thomson who stole the limelight with a hole in one on the 2nd. Divisional staff, I believe, are STILL waiting for a drink, Keith!

* * *

Sandra Curnow, from Bendigo Division, has begun the rowing season in fine style by being part of a 'four' and 'eight' that recorded convincing wins at a regatta at Lake Weeroona, Bendigo.

Jeff's 'Meanie' Machine

They don't make 'em like this anymore, you say?

Well, Jeff Garland does.

Jeff, a Storeman in the HO service station, has always nurtured a passion for Chevs, especially '57 Chevs.

So he went out and built himself one.

When he first came across the car, it bore little resemblance to anything on wheels, let alone a classic American automobile. Two and a half years of perseverance, toil and devotion—that's what it took to transform a dream, and a lot of nuts and bolts, into what now must be one of the most impressive Chevs in Australia.

"If not THE most impressive!" Jeff quickly adds.

The history of Jeff's street machine actually dates back nine years, when he first took ownership of the car which was in dire need of restoration. Due to commitments, Jeff sold it to a mate—another car enthusiast—four years ago.

"He wanted to restore it", explains Jeff. "But I sold it to him under the condition that if the job

wasn't completed, I would have the option of buying it back."

It doesn't take much guesswork to realise what eventuated; Jeff bought it back and began working on it.

"It was a complete rebuild," says Jeff. "Every nut and bolt, every crevice was cleaned out. I just went to town on everything."

Jeff explains that the transformation wasn't without incident.

"100% Effort"

"A few guys I contracted to help on the paintwork and the interior completely botched the job," he explains. "I wanted a 100% effort and didn't get it. A lot of money was wasted on those guys."

The paintwork, incidentally, is Jeff's own mixture.

"It's a cross between the Ford metallic Regency Blue and Midnight Blue, and there are some ten to twelve coats on it."

The colour isn't the only area where the Chev differs from those which rolled off the production line in Detroit. The cockpit, for instance, offers some modern comforts including fast glass, swivel front bucket seats and air conditioning. It also has cruise control, which Jeff quietly admits is a Ford product. "The ONLY Ford related item in the whole car, though," he adds.

Inside Story

Underneath the massive bonnet sits a 407 cubic inch engine. Jeff explains its history: "A Caulfield company had come by a 400 engine as a bit of a clunker. They rebored it 30 thou for the full 407, rednecked the block, resized the rods and reground the crank. On top of that it's got genuine racing US

• The inside story...what lies beneath the Chev's huge bonnet



• Jeff and his 'Blue Meanie'

aftermarket heads, and direct port nitrous oxide injection..."

Jeff goes on to describe the Sig Erson IH cam, the TRW intake valves and the Sealed Power Single Moly rings.

To the lay motorist, that basically means the Blue Meanie is "a gutsy car."

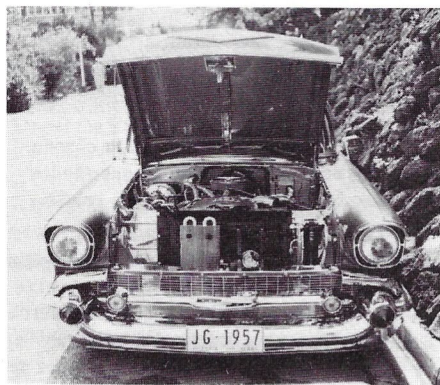
So, how did he find original Chev parts for the rebuild? After all, Melbourne is notoriously light on for Chev dealers.

"Obviously, it doesn't have all original or restored Chev parts in it," Jeff explains. "The engine was bought from Chev Offroad of Caulfield North, the

swivel buckets are lifted from a '73 Chevelle, and the ignition is a stock '57 Chevy, as are the suspension leafs." But to show that Jeff is a man with an open mind, Blue Meanie also enjoys Mercedes Benz controls on the console, Monaro V8 coils, modified HQ Holden front shocks, Datsun 180 B rear shocks, Commodore air conditioning and Camaro drum brakes.

Despite the foreign elements and modern comforts like the air conditioning, the car still retains its 1957 spirit.

"They're a beautiful shape and great to drive," he says. The cost for the mean street machine? A mere \$20,000. But Jeff assures it's worth every cent.



Hawk Fan

Some people are captivated by sporty MGBs. A few nurture a yearning for the classic E-Type Jaguar. Others seem to be smitten by the regal Rolls.

Greg Diffen, however, maintains that the ultimate driving thrill can only be attained through the Studebaker.

He captures that thrill not with one, but two, of the distinctive looking autos.

A draftsman in Bridge, Greg's favourite is his recently purchased 1964 Grand Turismo Hawk, (painted in a stunning Bordeaux Red). It is one of only six in the whole country and its service book helps to provide an interesting account of its colourful past.

Says Greg, "It was assembled in Indiana and sold in January 1964 to a guy in New Brunswick, Canada.

"He kept it about seven years, or for its first 24,000 miles. Nothing more is known about the car until July 1971, when it was purchased by a Canadian, Geoff Steel, in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, in Canada. By then it had covered 78,100 miles.

"He was obviously an enthusiast. He documented all the work on it and kept it indoors during the winters. By June 1972 it had only been driven 1500 miles.

"It was resprayed and had a new engine dropped in it for the '72 Studebaker National Concours in Indiana, USA. It got third place."

The next chapter in the Studebaker saga is set in Australia, where Geoff had decided to live. He brought the Studebaker to Melbourne where it was converted to right hand drive and its manual gearbox replaced with a three speed automatic.

"I think this Steel chap, who was a qualified civil engineer, must have been nuts about Studes," says Greg. "In three years after settling in Australia he owned nine Studebaker models."

Ironically, as an engineer, Geoff worked in Traffic Engineering at the then Country Roads Board.

"I had a call recently from somebody in Traffic who recognised Geoff's old car," adds Greg.

In 1979 the Stude was sold to a South Australian, Ram Lamming, who won several awards for the car in various shows. Greg bought it from Ray in June of this year, with a hefty 117,910 miles recorded on its clock.

"I have always been keen on cars," says Greg, "as we had a Stude Hawk in the family in my early childhood. I decided that when I got my first job I would buy a car to restore, and in mid-1983 I purchased a 1962 model GT Hawk. I was ready to start restoring early this year when this '64 model came up for sale in Adelaide.

"I couldn't resist its rarity and exceptional condition and was the first caller offering to buy it. I rang up about at 10.30 one night after I saw the ad, and two weeks later was in Adelaide with the cash.



For a 21 year old car it looks and drives like a new machine. I rate it as one of the best '64 Hawks in Australia, even if there are only six of them." Greg is keen on winning a few concours awards with the car, and already he is finding that sheer determination and hard work pays off.

"Two weeks after arriving back from Adelaide in the car I took it off the road for a massive three and a half month clean up and face-lift. I was aiming to show it off at the 1985 Victorian Studebaker Concours in October and for a while there was working on it up to midnight, seven nights a week."

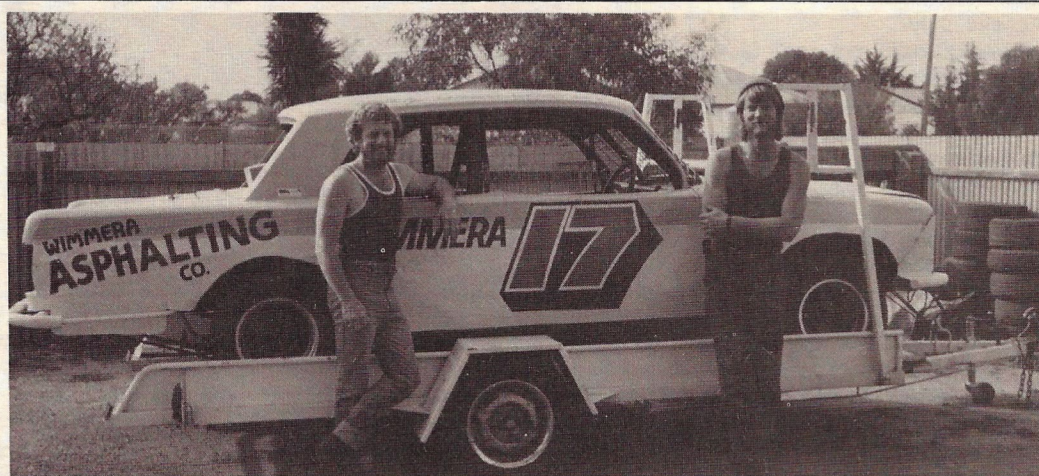
The result was second place in the show, with a total of 884 points out of 1000—missing out on first position by a paltry 8 points.

"It wasn't bad for my first effort, says Greg, adding that next year he'll beat the 'living daylights' out of this year's winner.

• Greg's red 1964 Studebaker Gran Turismo Hawk is powered by a Stude 289 cubic inch V8 engine and a 3 speed automatic gearbox. Only 1600 of the sleek machines rolled off the production line in that year.

There are six other '64 GT Hawks in Australia. They were the last of the popular Hawk models and all were fully imported, Sadly, says Greg, the Studebaker Corporation shut its doors in 1966.

• There are approximately 200 members in the Studebaker Car Club of Australia, which was established in 1967. Anybody interested in Studebakers or in the car club can contact Helen Schwertkolt, President, on (059) 707 4998, or Gary Cott, (03) 569 8053.



IN THE FAST LANE

Horsham Workshop Leading Hand, Greg Carter, and Fitter, Tony Fry, are looking forward to a fast but dusty summer.

The duo, in the guise of F & C Racing, have set up a "brand new second hand" EH Holden for Speedway racing. It is Tony's job to keep the car going and Greg's job to steer it out of trouble.

The lads are confident with their venture into A-Grade Saloons following Greg's success last year driving a B-Grade Torana.

Alan, Greg and the nimble EH made their debut on 16 November at the Inter-Capital Speedway, Nhill, and are also to appear at Borong Basin, Stawell, and Western Speedway, Hamilton.

• Greg (left) and Tony with the fastest A Grade Saloon in the Wimmera (maybe?).