



LAB NEWS

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Dear staff,
 Done that - bought the tee shirt!
 Last Sunday I completed the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust Magic Roundabout Ride (catchy title!) and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for sponsoring me. I will be coming round soon to collect the amounts pledged which, when totalled up, will come to £106.

I set off at 7.50am and got back at 12.30pm (included a few water and 'other' stops on the way).
 Apart from going through a bad spell on the way back through Charney Bassett (no reflection on the village, honest) there were no serious problems and the weather was excellent which always helps.

Thanks again,

Bob Young

The route was Milton Park - Hanney - Cunnamore - Long Hanborough - Leatfield - Whitney - Standlake - Kingston Bagpuize - Hanney - Milton Hall.

NOTICEBOARD

RAL Notices

All lectures are held in the Pickavance Lecture Theatre at 3pm.

24 Sep
 Beneath the surface of old masters pictures
 Dr Ashok Roy, National Gallery.

R88 Sports Hall
 The new quarter runs from 1 July to 30 September.

The current bookings are:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| Monday | 12.30 - 13.30 | Aerobics |
| Tuesday | 12.00 - 12.45 | Table tennis |
| | 12.45 - 13.45 | Line dancing |
| | 19.00 - 23.00 | Table tennis |
| Wednesday | 13.00 - 14.00 | Table tennis |
| | 19.00 - 23.00 | Table tennis |
| Thursday | 12.30 - 13.30 | Body shape |
| | 19.00 - 23.00 | Table tennis |

If you wish to book the Sports Hall for a regular activity then please submit a request to the booking secretary, Anne Shrimpton, describing the activity, the expected numbers and the time you require the hall. Any clashes will be resolved by the committee.

The Hall has its own G.P. diary and can be found using 'spot' in the search field. If you wish to use it for a one-off event, and it is free, then list it as a resource on the appointment so that others know it is being used.

DL Notices

DL public lecture
 Friday 18 September, 7pm
 Foam, fibres and food
 Professor Tony Ryan

Jigsaw link club
 The jigsaw link club will be operating a holiday physiohome once again during the school summer holidays.

The club which operates from Moore R.U.F.C. is open to all children between 4 and 12 years of age and offers a wide range of planned activities with the opportunity to take part in organised trips.

The club is open from Wednesday 29 July until Wednesday 3 September from 8am - 6pm and costs £12.00 for a full day and £7.50 for a half day (8am - 1pm or 1pm - 6pm).

For further details and booking forms, please contact Sue Brierley-Jones in room A29 or on ext. 3339.

Open Days

The Open Days at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory were a tremendous success, bringing nearly 5000 visitors from as far ahead as Surrey, Harrogate, Preston, Bristol and Southampton to the Laboratory.

Many of the 3000 visitors who came at the weekend stayed for much longer than they had planned, enjoying a self-guided tour of the

Laboratory and the activities on offer, as well as a programme of lectures given by people including Sir Isaac Newton, Galileo and many of our own staff. Sunday was especially for staff and their families and friends and included some special fun events. A competition to identify staff as they used to be (see page 15) was on offer in the marquee as well as face painting and maypole dancers from Chilton School.

During the week, the Laboratory welcomed over 1000 schoolchildren from primary, secondary and sixth forms, all of whom took part in hands-on experiments devised by the

participating departments as well as seeing the Central Exhibition and DCI staff demonstrated the many varied applications of computers (98R/C3520)

Articles, ideas and letters are very welcome!
 Articles to the Editor or Correspondent by 15th of the month.

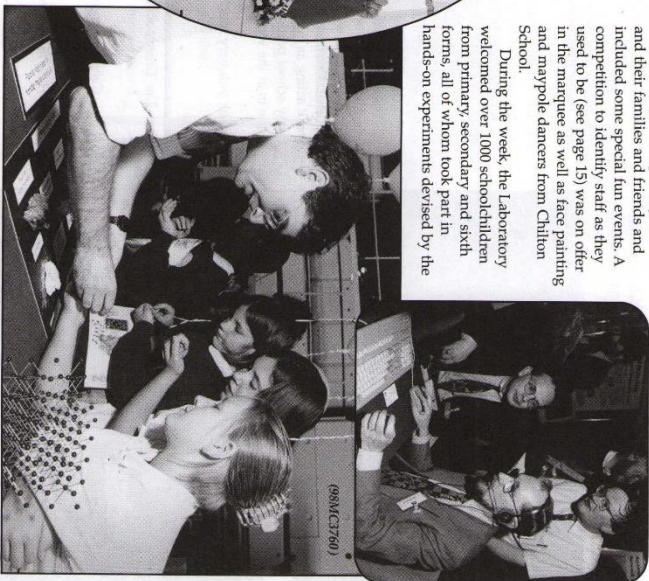
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The special green tee-shirts helped to identify staff at the weekend! (98R/C3331)



(98R/C3760)



Open Days continued..

Thank you for showing us around everything was great, I liked the dome with the stars. I like the big satellite. It was very interesting. I would like to come again.
Sam Cabral Age 8



Many of the Directors were spotted during the week and at the weekend talking to industrial visitors and the general public (98MC3562)

The Henry Dady Lab included many scale models of satellites and lots of information about past and present space missions (98MC3769)



visiting some of the other attractions including a planetarium and 'magic mathworks'.

There was also a Reception on Friday evening in the Central Exhibition attended by about 100 guests, many of whom came earlier in the afternoon to view the exhibits.

Monday was Industry Day, organised by the commercial office, which attracted 200 industrialists to a keynote speech given by Alastair Macdonald, Director General Industry at the DTI, on 'Partnership between industry and the science-base' as well as short seminars on industrial applications of our work and a chance to tour some of the facilities.

The event would not have been possible without the relentless hard work and dedication of all the staff behind the scenes who had worked for months to put the programme together. Thanks also to all the staff who helped out during the week acting as guides, stewards and demonstrators for the many school parties that visited and to all the people who came in at the weekend to help out.

Thank you very much.

The 'Green t-shirt brigade' were most friendly and helpful
Mr & Mrs Brightwell
Cyber cafe much enjoyed by our 9ann3/4 year-old son
E J Robinson
Have them more frequently - but that is being greedy!
Mr & Mrs Brightwell



Getting to grips with structures (98MC3429)

Thank you for the School trip yesterday was the dome.
From Richard Shingleton (age 10)

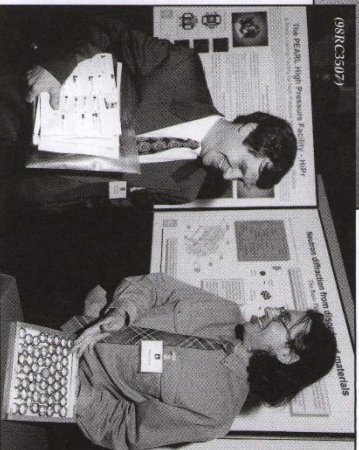


An interesting round-table discussion followed the opening seminar on Industry day. Panelists who joined Bert Westwood included Alastair Macdonald, Peter Williams, Peter Schneider and Ian Frederiksen (98MC3535)

We particularly liked the way the staff related very complex projects to everyday life and the potential of these projects for the future
Anon

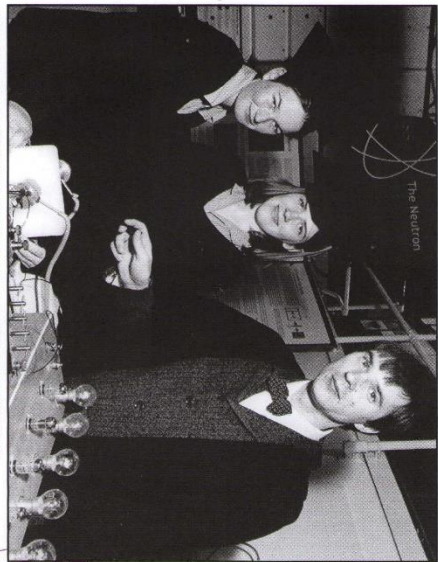
Very interesting and informative family day
Paul Dupher

Our 12 year old boy was treated as an 'equal' and was spoken to with interest by a wide range of people - it was a good day
Ellen Lessor



(98RC3507)

Open Days continued..



James Chadwick, aims Chris Ford, explained neutrons to JSIS visitors (98RKC3375)

All the members of staff were extremely helpful and patient and enthusiastic about the work they were involved in

Tricia Richard

Suggest you advertise in the Herby Standard, lots of intelligent people in this area

Mr & Mrs Spencer-Harper

I really enjoyed seeing such a busy establishment - after working on Nimrod construction, this is my first visit since 1964!

J B Mucklow

I had the thrill of a lifetime - I was allowed to hold a piece of a Meteorite

Mrs I Sheffield

Thank you very much for a very enjoyable day out. Everything was interesting. I particularly enjoyed the main and the planetarium. The models were really fun and the planetarium was amazing. All those stars looked very nice.

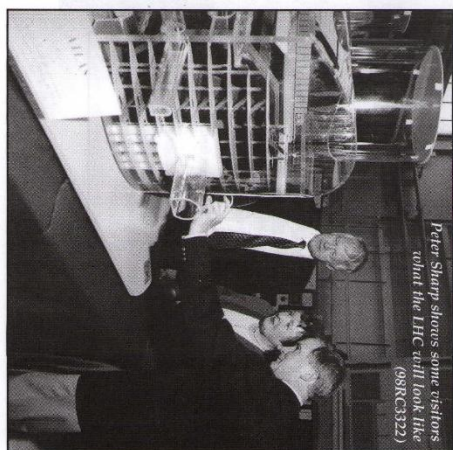
Thank you again,

from Evelyn Steffen age 11

Dear James & I Lik you for making the evening very interesting and fun. I think was very nice. I hope you had a good time. I will be in touch again soon.

From Bronnie

Thank you for a wonderful day out, it was very exciting. I loved the maths with all the puzzles. I have been before but not the places we went. Love Harriet age 10



Peter Sharp shows some visitors what the LHC will look like (98RKC3322)

Dear Appleton Rutherford Laboratory, that trip was spectacular your laser beams were super. I hope we meet again because your phone is cool

Yr 4's Sammie by Steve M 007-05

Dear Sirs,

Please find enclosed some letters of thanks from the children in year 6 at Oragon school.

We had a thoroughly enjoyable and informative day at Rutherford. The staff organising the excellent help, which had been guides were polite, friendly to gain from it, and even had enough time in classes or bored. It is always but not long enough to get experience. Thanks out of appreciation for the staff in which the staff particularly appreciate concepts to these fairly young children.

98RKC particularly enjoyed the planetarium and the cyber cafe, the afternoon session in that there was also much appreciated and provided many good ideas for us to use in school.

We would love this to be an annual event but if this isn't possible please email me or see me at your mailing list for the next one whenever you hold it. Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Higgs.

Phil today demonstrated the principles of fibre optics in the laser lab (98RKC3779)

It will be difficult to do better!

Congratulations

A Devolette

The size, the diversity of technology, the level of experience attained and number of dedicated, friendly staff

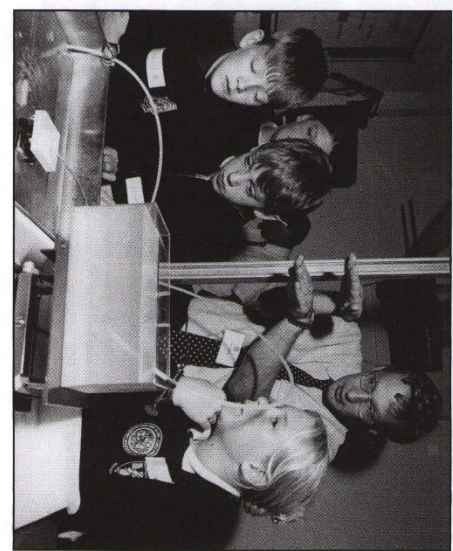
Leigh Harvey

It was good to see the attention given to children who must have gone away with an interest in science

Dr Patrick Elyan

I don't know, I didn't manage to see everything I wanted but what I did see was brilliant. Can you put more hours in the day??

Beth Ineson



You will have a job to improve!

J V Lanier

Excellent - particularly pleased with thought given to wheelchair users

R Capek

The end of an era

A meeting of users of SRS stations 6.1 and 6.2 to mark the occasion of their closure to make way for the new multipole wiggler beamline was held at Daresbury

Laboratory recently. Around fifty users and staff attended the meeting which was a celebration of the good times, difficulties, scientific highlights and amusing incidents during the stations' histories.

The delegates joined David Norman in raising a glass to toast the beamlines where they used to stand (only the front part of each beamline is left to protect the vacuum in the line 6 common section while station 6.3 continues to run). This was followed by lunch in the Science Centre where old acquaintances were renewed and tall stories of the early years were related.

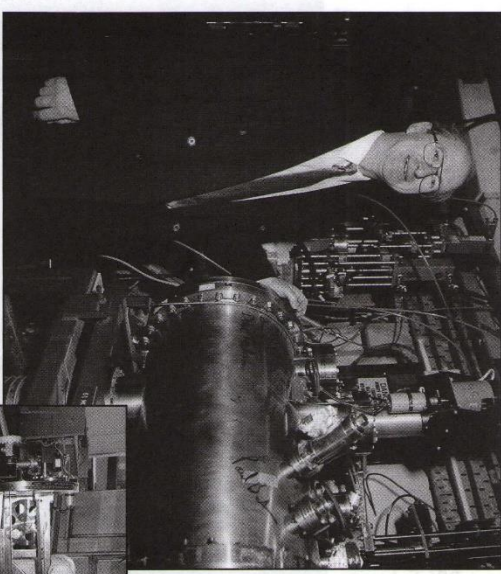
The highlight of the day was the afternoon session where notable speakers from the lifetimes of 6.1 and 6.2 gave very entertaining talks on their reminiscences. David Norman, who worked on the 6.1 'Miyake' monochromator very early on in his career, spoke about the early days of the monochromator and Station 6.1.

Wendy Flavell, a major user of 6.1 and 6.2 monochromators) related the history of their design. Steve Barrett, a long-time user, recounted the high points, low points and strange events that occurred during his time on the stations. Finally Iggie McGovern, one of the first users of 6.1, back in 1982, described his first experiences as a user and read several highly entertaining (and risqué) poems about DL staff.

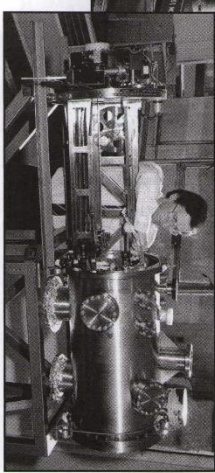
Station 6.1 was one of the very first to take light from the SRS in 1981 along with Station 7.1 and utilised a 'Miyake' geometry grazing incidence monochromator (GM). The GM is the only monochromator in the world known to have been used on three different sources as it also spent some time at the Tanalisus I synchrotron source in Wisconsin while the SRS was under construction. The station has been used for a wide variety of techniques including electronic structure or 'band mapping', surface structure, chemical nature and bonding on surfaces, X-ray excited optical luminescence and magnetic properties of surfaces.

Station 6.2 was completed in 1983 and was designed to be a dedicated angle resolved photoemission facility utilising the end-station from 6.1 (which acquired a new one) although users have taken advantage of the energy range available from the toroidal grating monochromator (TGM) to perform other experiments including shallow core level photoemission, resonant photoemission (now changing the composition of alloys affects their electronic properties) and fragmentation of molecules on surfaces.

Station 6.2 ceased operations on 1 April and 6.1 on 5 May. Mike MacDonald switched 6.2 off for the last

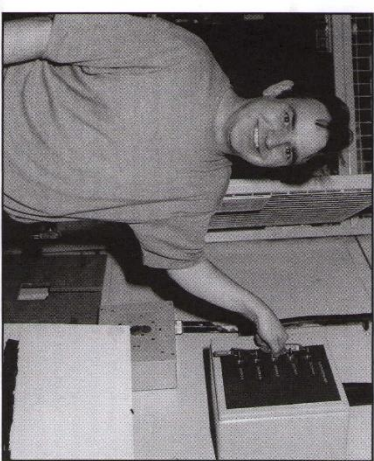


David Norman pictured with the GIM monochromator at 6.1 and (inset) when the equipment came back from Wisconsin in 1979 (DL98/638 and 79/194)



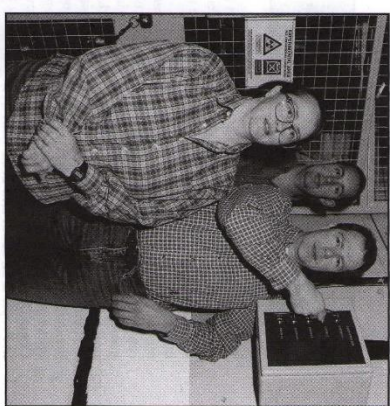
time with a 'final removal of the station key ceremony' after spending the final day taking data with the last user of the station and Dave Teahan did the honours for 6.1, watched by previous station managers

Frances Quinn and Paul Bailey, Paul Quinn (Assistant Director,



Operations) performed a ceremonial 'last closing of the station shutter' using a control unit he designed shortly after he joined the Laboratory.

Dave Teahan



Dave Teahan switches off Station 6.1 with Paul Bailey and Frances Quinn whilst Mike MacDonald does the honours at 6.2 (DL98/4712 and DL98/322)

From BSE to CJD via SRCD

Synchrotron Radiation Department hosted the first VUV Circular Dichroism (CD) mini conference at DL on 5 June, attended by over 50 delegates from UK academia and industry. The meeting was organised to review the work of the current UK national CD facilities at King's College, London, the University of Stirling and at the SRS, and to highlight the potential for a proposed extreme flux SRCD facility.

Garath Jones, Assistant Director Life Sciences, SRD, introduced the conference by explaining that the bid for the new VUV beam line will be at the heart of a proposal to link the three facilities to create a BBSRC Centre for Structural Biology.

The first speaker, Professor Ian Shaw, Head of Toxicology, University of Central Lancashire, charted the history of the BSE crisis and its links to CJD. He proposed how his research,

using the CD facilities at the SRS, would test the current theories held responsible for the mis-folding of the prion protein that has ultimately resulted in the BSE epidemic. Other speakers including Dr Andrew Doig of UMIST and Dr Jones, described how SRCD is being used to overturn present day beliefs regarding mechanisms for protein folding. Folding is an intricate mechanism by which the complicated protein structure is formed, and therefore able to carry out its specific function.

Dr Bonnie Wallace of Birkbeck College and Dr Kathryn Phillips, University of Cambridge, both discussed how SRCD is highly complementary to the protein crystallography work that they carry out at the SRS. The first was in the area of membrane proteins, which are notoriously difficult to obtain crystals of high enough quality to be useful.

However, structural information can be provided by CD after overcoming the problems of scattering and solvent flattening, etc. Dr Phillips explained how CD had been useful in checking the viability of protein-DNA complexes for X-ray crystallography studies involved in DNA reading and protein synthesis.

Prof Robert Woody of Colorado State University, tied the conference together by predicting how the high fluxes and extended wavelengths that would be available from the proposed new beamline, could be used to gain unprecedented information on biological molecules - "...a unique instrument that will allow us to use CD to its full potential".

The mini-conference, organised by Dr Liz Towns-Andrews, was a great success, and it is now planned to be an annual event.

Training update

IIP Update

Hopefully you have now read the summary of the IIP diagnostics report, in last month's LabNews - if you missed it please get in touch and we can send you a copy. The IIP project management team is making good progress.

I thought you may be interested in the following article in which Jacqui Burke of management consultants Crane Davies explains what Investors In People is all about and deals with the most common misconceptions, as all of these 'myths' have been put to me at one time or another over the last few months:

What is it (in a nutshell)

The Investors in People (IIP) standard represents good practice in training and development. Essentially, this means that to achieve recognition as an Investor, the company must be able to demonstrate that training and development:

- ◆ helps to achieve the organisation's business objectives,
- ◆ is based on an agreed assessment of individual training needs,
- ◆ is evaluated.

It was designed by representatives from leading business, professional and employee organisations following extensive research into what some of the most successful companies did in this area.

Popular myths

It is my feeling that a mythology has developed around Investors. These misconceptions need to be addressed in order to appreciate the value of the standard.

"It's prescriptive" The requirements of the standard are expressed in very generic and non-prescriptive terms. It describes what the organisation should aspire to achieve, not how they should

go about doing it. Each organisation must decide for itself the best way to meet the standard.

"It's bureaucratic" If new processes introduced by an organisation to meet the standard are unwieldy and poorly designed, managers will attribute the unnecessary burden to IIP. The solution is to ensure that the team implementing Investors is targeted with improving process efficiency or reducing bureaucracy as well as meeting the Standard.

"It's expensive" The only unavoidable cost related purely to the achievement of Investors, is assessment (where an independent assessor reviews the company's systems and processes and interviews a selection of staff to see if these meet the standard). All other costs relate to making the business more effective and so should not be attributed directly to Investors. For example, if a company's business planning is weak, it would presumably want to do something about this, whether or not it is aiming for IIP.

"It's just a training initiative" Investors is a far reaching initiative which cannot be achieved without genuine commitment from the top. It cannot be done for the organisation by the training and development team, managers throughout the organisation need to take ownership and help drive it on.

"It's about doing unnecessary things just to get an award" Companies which approach it this way are probably doing Investors for the wrong reasons. The achievement of the award is nice, but the real value is in the learning from going through the process. For many companies, achieving Investors requires new disciplines and behaviour changes which improve overall business performance.

"You have to use consultants" Organisations can minimise the use of consultants by training a team of internal staff to act as 'facilitators' drive the process and build internal capability.

So now you know! As always please do get in touch if you have any questions.

Diane Tunnicliffe
Training Officer

Future courses

AUGUST

4 Stress Awareness Training for Line Managers and Supervisors (RAL)

6 Stress Awareness Training for Line Managers and Supervisors (DL)

SEPTEMBER

7 Dealing with Stress at Work (RAL) (DL to be introduced)

7-8 Selection and Promotional Interviewing (RAL)

14 Customer Focus (RAL)

16-17 Presentation Skills (RAL)

22 Recruitment and Selection Update (RAL)

22-23 Selection & Recruitment Interviewing (DL)

DECEMBER

4-7 Pre-Retirement (RAL) (course has been expanded, so new places are available)

RAL Computing Training

Access and Excel

There has been an increase in the number of staff requiring training in Access and Excel. Courses are provided at introductory, intermediate and advanced level. So if you have been on an introductory course and would like to refine your skills, check with the RAL Computing Training web pages for details of the more advanced courses and contact Viv Walker for information on availability.

Annual Performance Review

If you have requested computing training on your APR and it has been approved by your line management, then please contact RAL Computing Training so that they can arrange for you to attend a suitable course.

TestMaster at Open Days

If you visited the DCE exhibition during the Open Days you will have seen the RAL Computing Training exhibit. Staff and visitors tested their WORD skills on the TestMaster - a windows based assessment tool that helps users to determine their skill level in any of the Microsoft Office packages. It takes the user through a series of tests and provides a report at the end showing how well, or otherwise, you have done. RAL Computing Training is exploring the possibility of purchasing this system so any comments on whether you think this would be a useful addition to the computing training facility would be welcomed.

Outlook 98

CLEO Bulletin 6 July 1998

(<http://admin.www.ral.ac.uk/admin/newsletters/ofis/ys/bulletin6/>) announced that Microsoft Outlook Calendar will replace the Tap diary system in September 1998. This is a component of the CLKC Exchange service for which users must be registered through CLEO. Outlook 98 also allows for further improvements to be made to this service, including email. RAL computing training will be providing courses for:-

- ◆ new users - an introduction
 - ◆ those transferring from Tap to Outlook 98 and requiring training in the new calendar and email facilities
 - ◆ existing users requiring a more advanced course
- The courses will be in place by September 1998. Course outlines will be provided on our Web pages and in the next issue of LabNews.

Forthcoming courses

| AUGUST | |
|-----------|--|
| 11-12 | Introduction to Access PowerPoint |
| 13 | Access Basic |
| 17-18 | Intermediate Word |
| 19 | Intermediate Excel |
| 20 | Advanced Word |
| 24 | Advanced Excel |
| 25 | Advanced Excel |
| SEPTEMBER | |
| 1 | NT Users |
| 2 | Introduction Word |
| 3 | Introduction Excel |
| 7-8 | MS Project |
| 9 | Introduction to PowerPoint |
| 14-18 | NT4 Course |
| 14 | Intermediate Word |
| 15 | Intermediate Excel |
| 16 | Going Further with NT4 |
| 21 | Advanced Word |
| 22 | Advanced Excel |
| 28 | Going Further with Access (NEW COURSE) |

SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS

RAL Golf Society



Chris Gascoyne with the Robin Walters Scratch Trophy (98RC358)

could tell from the middle of the starting times), I did hear of a few going fishing at the short par 3 holes (mine has my initials on it guys!) but all in all things went smoothly (I didn't get any complaints anyway).

The NEW Paul Williams team trophy was closely contested, ROE and DL 'A' both posted the same total points of 264, but on count back the ROE team were declared the winners.

Congratulations to the ROE team:

I Bryson, A Longmore, F Morrison, K Laidlaw, S Pitt and D Hughes.
Runners up, DL 'A': R Arden, M Holbourn, B Blackwell, M Dykes, P Durham and P Jones.

Congratulations to ALL our winners:

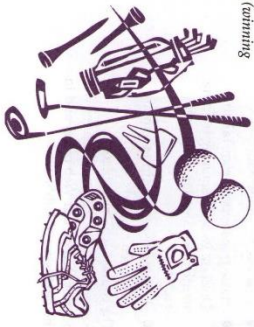
Robin Walters Scratch trophy winner - Chris Gascoyne (RAL), with a gross score of 167.
Runner up - I Bryson (ROE) with 169.

Point winners: 36 holes
D Rippington (RAL),
am W Gear (ROO),
p.m. A Longmore (ROE)
runner up: D Howe (RAL)

Par3 points winner:
B Blackwell (DL 'A')
runner up: J Sadlier (DL 'C')
Nearest the pin: D Jones (DL 'C')
Longest drive: C Gascoyne (RAL)
Those with a 2 on their card (winning



Paul Williams presented the Paul Williams team trophy to ROE (98RC356)



Football Club news

In keeping with recent form RALFC endured another season of mixed fortunes in division 2 of the Autbury Upper Thames Valley Sunday league.

We started badly, losing our first three games before the team settled in and players picked up the pace of our very competitive division. Thereafter we played some great football in both league and cup matches which moved us up to fourth position in the division at the end of 1997. Unfortunately our march to glory ground to a halt after the second match of '98 - we lost 8 of our remaining 9 games, which cast us back into the relegation zone, and knocked us out of the Deveney Cup at the quarter final stage. We finished the season third from bottom having played 18, won 4 drawn 3 and lost 11.

A disappointing finish to a season of much promise, though the attitude, character, endeavour and sportsmanship of the players cannot be faulted. This was duly acknowledged by the league when we received the Fair Play Championship Trophy for the second season running and Katie Hopgood received the Secretary of the Year Runners-Up award. We might not win many games but we enjoy our sport!

This year's end of season dinner and dance, held at The Cosener's House, was a resounding success, which is hardly surprising allowing for the salubrious venue and diligent staff. Elliot Jackson of Oxford United FC presented trophies to Pete Beoroff (player of the year), Bryan Deans (player of the year), Ian Williamson (leading goal scorer) and Jon Fulford (most improved player). An additional award went to Danny Barry for the best result of the season - our congratulations to him, and to Katie Hopgood on the birth of baby Imogen.

Details about this season's training and friendly matches will be posted around site and on the Rec Soc web page at a later date. Finally on behalf of the players and all our opponents who enjoyed the use of the Liberator's facilities, I would like to thank the Recreational Secretary and bar personnel for their continued assistance and support.

Ronnie Brunt
Player Manager

London to Brighton bike ride

The team cycled off to another first aid point so that we could again make use of St. John Ambulance. I was patched up and Team BOB Rides Against set off once again, if rather slower than before due to the fact that I had a buckled front wheel and no front brake.

Luckily there were no more mishaps and we all met up in Brighton at 3.45pm. My actual riding time was 4 hours 53 minutes, an improvement on last year.

After a BBQ and several drinks, team BOB Rides Against arrived home safe and sound (if rather tired) just before 11pm. Despite the mishaps, I have not been put off and intend to do the ride again next year.

Once again, many thanks for your sponsorship. The British Heart Foundation will be benefitting from the sum of £101.50 of very hard earned money.

Adrian Shepherd



Welfare and counselling service

A new independent, professional welfare and counselling service for Daresbury Laboratory employees is being provided by Ms Jaquie Edmunds of JEA Welfare /Retirement Consultancy. Jaquie holds the Diploma in Counselling qualification and is a member of the British Association of Counsellors (BAC) and the Institute of Welfare Officers. She is available to provide counselling on a wide range of issues including family or relationship problems, bereavement, stress, illness and financial difficulties, as well as

information about state benefits or local support agencies. Before becoming a welfare and counselling consultant, Jaquie worked for BNL, a Capenturist where she gained a wealth of experience in dealing with such matters. That experience gives her a unique insight into the scientific environment and an understanding of the issues that may arise at Daresbury. Employees who wish to discuss any welfare matter with Jaquie, on a one-to-one basis, can contact her, in complete confidence, on 01352 754029 or on 07050 157838 (mobile).

(D1/98/7/11)



Apprentices



Mark Pendleton

Daresbury apprentices Stewart Cordon (electrical) and Mark Pendleton (mechanical) were recently among the first group to successfully pass the Key Skills qualification, part of the Modern Apprenticeship. They are pictured being presented with their certificates by Steven Broomhead, Chief Executive of Warrington Borough Council, and Warrington's Mayor and Mayoress, at a ceremony at the Town Hall. Congratulations to both on all your hard work and commitment!



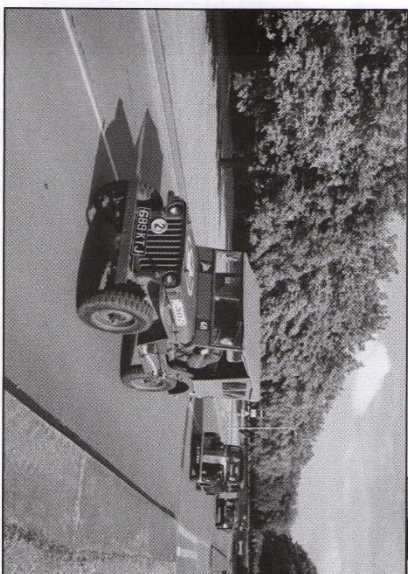
Stewart Gordon

Remembrance



Bert Westwood and his wife Jennie view the printed extract of *The Book of the Dead* presented to RAF 38 Group by John McKenna, UKAEA Chief Executive (98M/C3185)

Bert Westwood represented CLRC for the first time by laying a wreath at the annual D-Day Service of Remembrance on 6 June. Local residents, staff and veterans joined members of the British Legion around the memorial stone at Frome Road for the service.



D' Westwood lays a wreath from CLRC staff (98M/C3176)

Military vehicles added to the special ceremony (98M/C1193)

Daresbury Dash, 1998



The seventh Daresbury Dash took place on 17 June in hot, humid and still conditions; the ground was muddy underfoot.

Consequently the 1993 record was under no threat. Pete Weatherhead resumed winning ways after missing last year's event. He won relatively comfortably from Barry Searle who was involved in a titanic struggle with last year's champion, Andy Smith; Barry eventually had Andy off for second place by just two seconds.

The ladies' race saw a winner in Helen Brennan (the lab's occupational health adviser) who was over 45 seconds clear of second placed, Bridget Murphy. A pleasing aspect of this year's event was the fact that twenty people ran including seven women.

The day dawned damp for the Daresbury Dash.

The athletes made a colourful splash, Strucked around the laboratory road, A runner in front, the rest tamed.

Alongside the canal they all stream, Over a bridge, onto the field so green, Into the woods, up the dented hill, Not enough air for a fight!

Up and down steps and over tree roots, Ducking string branches, bunnies and shoots, Finally on the long hill - Yes! down, Back to the finish before they all drown!

Autun, 1998

| Wednesday 17 June 1998 | | Mens results | | Course record - Paul Pudney, 9:50" (1993) | |
|------------------------|--------|--|--------|---|--------|
| 1. Peter Weatherhead | 11:15" | 6. Phillip Lindan | 13:32" | 11. Joe Safarik | 15:03" |
| 2. Barry Searle | 11:57" | 7. Adrian Clark | 14:06" | 12. Ron Mahan | 17:54" |
| 3. Andy Smith | 11:59" | 8. Gareth Baker | 14:12" | 13. Paul Johnson | 19:58" |
| 4. Robin Tasker | 12:32" | 9. Graham Bushnell-Wye | 14:37" | | |
| 5. John Talley | 13:07" | 10. Dave Love | 15:03" | | |
| Ladies results | | Course record - Moira Behan-Martin 14:18" (1993) | | | |
| 1. Helen Brennan | 17:35" | 4. Joanne Misson | 22:54" | 7. Lorrie Murphy | 33:02" |
| 2. Bridget Murphy | 18:22" | 5. Vicky Noble | 29:01" | | |
| 3. Marion Bowler | 19:16" | 6. Debbie Franks | 33:01" | | |

Competition results

Congratulations to Charles Kilburn and Colin Cartlie, the joint winners who correctly guessed five.



1 - N
Diane Tunnicliffe



2 - F
Eric Dunford



3 - A
Natalie Bealing



4 - F
Martin Evans



5 - C
Janice Brown



6 - I
Andy Kurzfeld



7 - I
Richard Lawrence-Wilson



8 - M
Peter Sharp



9 - G
Rita Hollington



10 - L
Allyson Reed

SNIPPETS

Royal visitor
HRH Prince Phillip will be visiting Daresbury Laboratory at the end of July during a tour of the North West. He will be shown around two stations on the SRS and will be told about the pioneering research which takes place on them, including recent work discovering the best way to process chocolate to preserve the best taste and consistency, and the research into the structure of an important enzyme which helps create ATP - research which helped Dr John Walker of the MRC being awarded joint Nobel Prize in Chemistry last year. He will also officially open the exhibition area which will be renamed 'The Science Centre'. Pictures and full story next month.

SOHO in trouble
Scientists lost contact with the spacecraft Soho on 25 June. A team of experts from ESA, MIRA Marconi Space - prime contractor for the SOHO spacecraft - and NASA have been trying to establish what caused

SOHO to look away from the Sun, and to re-establish contact with it. Commands are being sent to SOHO about once per minute through the Deep Space Network's 34-metre antenna instructing the spacecraft to activate its transmitters, and other antennae across the World continue to listen for any communication from it. A recent press release indicates that the experts are closer to understanding what might have caused the problem, and everyone is still hopeful that, if SOHO continues to tilt slowly towards the Sun, eventually the solar panels will charge the batteries sufficiently for communication to be resumed. Fingers crossed.

Guest students
Central Laser Department again hosted CREST students for a week last month. These top class students, who come from all over the country, spent a week at Imperial College, London on a crash course on advanced chemistry, laser science and analytical techniques.

followed by a week at RAL on a project. This year the students were studying vitamin E, which performs a beneficial role in the body by destroying free radicals. Ian Clark, who worked with the students throughout the week, was impressed by their ability. "Here are some students who, if they continue with the same enthusiasm through their studies at university, will become the leading scientists of the future", he added.

The CREST master class programme provides an opportunity for gifted young scientists and engineers to experience a research environment through hands-on practical activity guided by national experts in their fields. CREST is an established national award scheme which is enthusiastically supported by UK businesses and the Government Office of Science and Technology.