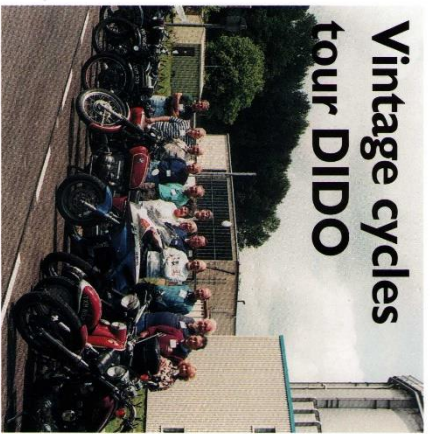


Vintage cycles tour DIDO



The bikers made an impressive sight travelling from Bangor to Harwell for their special day.

Staff at Harwell might have heard the distinctive sound of thirteen vintage motorcycles making their way around the site as part of a tour in July organised by ex-employees, Gilbert Smith.

The age range of the visitors from 30 to 70, was matched by the varying vintages of the bikes which included a pre-war 1926 Sun Beam, a 1938 New Imperial and post-war Ariel, BSA, AJS and BMW. One visitor chose to ride her Harley Davidson.

With 14,000 members

HARWELL HISTORY

Plans are under way to display examples of Harwell's history in the DIDO Shell building. Already on show are exhibition panels from the last Open Day, artefacts of reactor history and models formerly on display elsewhere on site. It is planned to extend the display, in a modest way, to include other historical items as they come to light. If anyone has items of Harwell history that should be part of a permanent display, please contact UKAEA PR manager, Nick Hance in B.521 with details.

THE COPY DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS: Monday 20 September for publication on Wednesday 6 October 1999.

A healthy addition

'A Touch of Health' has recently opened its doors at 363 Curie Avenue in the former beauty studio. Ann Griffiths is the proprietor of this complementary therapy clinic which has been imaginatively refitted inside and will provide a diverse range of treatments to improve health and well being.

With a background in nursing, Ann is an RGN and district nurse, having worked for many years in the NHS, latterly as a board director of an NHS trust. She is a qualified reflexologist and has trained in seated acupuncture. These are the two treatments which Ann will offer five days a week. Reflexology is a healing art practised across the world for thousands of years.

Pressure is applied to specific points on the feet or hands to bring about a sense of well being and relief from pain and discomfort. Seated acupuncture, or on-site massage, involves over 100 stress release points on the head, neck, shoulders, arms and back to leave you relaxed and calm yet energised and alert - a great stressbuster, according to Ann.

Her aim is to make available a range of health promoting complementary therapies which are delivered to the highest possible standards by dedicated, well trained, professional therapists. She has taken great care to assemble a group of experts in other fields who will be available on particular days. Elizabeth Hardy, an osteopath who works



Ann Griffiths offering a range of complementary therapies

from Dulcor Hospital will be at Harwell on Monday mornings from the end of this month. Beauty therapist and aromatherapist, Jenna Hoff, will return on Tuesdays, and on Thursdays a chiropractor, Jane Cumming, will be available. On Fridays, John Hill, a sports therapist will be at the clinic and Ann is also hoping to offer Indian head massage, Reiki healing, Chinese massage, and advice on menopause issues later in the year.

The enterprise is setting up its own website at www.hiway.co.uk/atothtohealth or call on 01235 821259.

JOHNSON LOCKSMITH SERVICES

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ECHO

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CULHAM SCIENCE CENTRE & HARWELL BUSINESS CENTRE

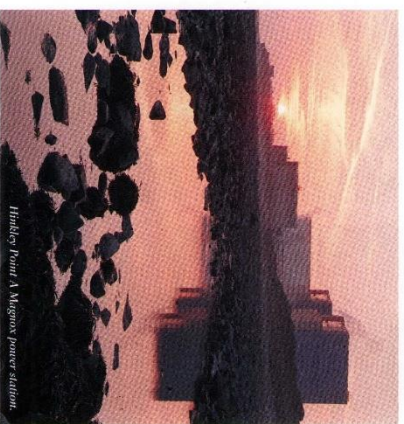
SEPTEMBER 1999

AEA Technology and BNFL £150m joint venture

AEA Technology and BNFL are forming a new joint venture company to offer nuclear support technology in the UK and overseas.

With a turnover of £150 million, the new company will employ some 1,360 people - 990 from AEAT and 430 from BNFL. Magnox Generation's technology and central engineering division, AEA Technology will hold a 65% majority stake in the new subsidiary company. AEAT staff will be drawn from the Nuclear Science, Consulting, Energy and Nuclear Engineering operations. A name and location has yet to be announced.

Subject to government approval, the new business will begin operations in April 2000. Initially it will serve BNFL's Magnox nuclear power stations and continue AEAT's contract to support the Royal Navy's nuclear propulsion programme. Other major customers are



Hintles from A Magnox power station.

likely to include British Energy and the Ministry of Defence.

The trend to outsource technical services in the nuclear industry is expected to offer growth opportunities for the new company in Europe, particularly in partnership with BNFL's recent acquisition, Westinghouse, in March of this year.

AEA Technology chief executive, Peter Watson, said: "The joint venture will push forward the process of simplifying our business structure by bringing together all our nuclear science and technology activities. It will enable us to strengthen our position in a market that we believe has considerable potential for growth." John Taylor, BNFL chief executive officer, said:

This Month

3 Storing power

5 Eclipse images

6 Walking companion

7 Orchids uncovered

Dave Trotman retires

Staff at UKAEA Fusion at Culham gathered to celebrate the retirement of Dave Trotman after almost 44 years.

Tom Todd, manager of the Fusion and Industry department recounted how Dave had arrived at Harwell in 1955 as a scientific assistant in the electronics division and was paid the princely sum of £249pa. He spent the first years of his career in a group developing advanced electronics systems for nuclear physics. These systems were the equivalent of early dedicated computers and used valves and early transistors, and later included the introduction of modern integrated circuits.



Dave is pictured with his wife Janet receiving flowers from Tom Todd.

Looking at Tomorrow's World

Innovative new product ideas devised by John Mason School students were on display at a national event in London to encourage interest in science and technology. AEA Technology had helped the Year 10 pupils prepare their concepts for the Tomorrow's World Live event at Eris Court which is based on the BBC's popular science and technology programme.

One team had designed a recycling bin prototype to be placed at bus stops or on buses. It could be used by people who want to recycle products but do not have a car to reach out-of-town recycling points. Another project, called 'Blazing Glazing', was a cheap, environmentally friendly way of room lighting.

With thanks

Maurice Hyde, who recently retired from Harwell Redwaste Services, would like to thank all his friends and colleagues for their retirement gifts, cards and good wishes, and for the beautiful flowers presented to all those colleagues who were unable to see personally.

Obituaries

Dr Ken Duncan CB FRCP FRCP



Keneth Duncan died unexpectedly at his home in Sleaford, Leicestershire, on 26 June 1999, aged 75.

Ken was the son of a Church of Scotland padre and before starting medicine studied Divinity. From being a general practitioner he moved into industrial medicine working for organisations including British Rail, the South Western Gas Board, the British Steel Corporation, and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

At the UKAEA he pioneered safety regulations regarding radiation. From 1958 to 1969 he was UKAEA chief medical officer and was instrumental in setting up the National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB). Merging to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) he was the director of medical services (1975-82) and then the deputy director general. In 1985 he received the Companion, Order of the Bath for his services to medicine. During his career he held academic appointments, notably as examiner in occupational health at Dundee University (1970-74), examiner to the Society of Apothecaries (1974-79) and visiting professor in occupational health at London University (1977-82). He was a member of the Medical Research Council (1975-83), president of the Society of Occupational Medicine in 1970 and a founding fellow of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine.

Ken joined NRPB in 1985 as assistant director (Biological Sciences) leaving for the first time in 1988. He then returned in 1992 to be the Medical Adviser until 1994. Since 1996 he had been assisting the board with the verification of death certificates for the National Registry for Radiation Workers and the Nuclear Test Veterans Database, and dealing with complex appeals cases involving radiation. In this latter role he was the absolute master of the breed often producing a succinct summary of a case from a myriad of papers.

Len Longshaw

Len Longshaw, former transport manager at Harwell and a mayor of Didcot has died, aged 89.

Born in Didcot Len first worked as a baker's roundsman for the Co-op before becoming a civilian driver with the RAF at Harwell. He joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve and during the Second World War he served in the Western Desert.

He returned to Harwell, being employed by the Atomic Energy Research Establishment. He was promoted to transport manager with responsibility for a fleet of 30 single and double-decker buses which carried 5,000 staff to work from a range of over 20-miles around the site.

Len was a life-long Conservative, elected to the former Didcot Parish Council, the then Wallingford Rural District Council and Didcot Town Council, serving as mayor between 1981 and 1982.

Dr Jack Howlett CBE (1912-1999)

A celebration of his life and work will be held at the RML Lecture Theatre, Chilton, at 5.30pm on Friday, 24 September. From 4pm light refreshments will be served in the Coffee Lounge. All friends and colleagues are invited to share in this tribute to him. Please inform J.E. Hailstone, 26 Brooksbury Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6LY. Tel: 0118 942 8345, or email JPHAIL@AOL.COM if you wish to attend.

NP launches electricity storage breakthrough

One year after moving to Harwell Business Centre, National Power has unveiled a revolutionary electricity storage technology that could fundamentally change the development of power systems of the future.

Called *Regenesis*, the electro-chemical system operates like a giant rechargeable battery, storing electricity when demand and costs are low and releasing it when demand is high, reducing the need to call up more expensive power plants. It can store thousands of megawatt hours of electricity,

sufficient to supply whole towns for hours at a time, and can deliver it instantly.

Research and development work for *Regenesis* is now being carried out at Harwell by a team of 36 National Power staff. The company moved to the site a year ago and now work from



Preparing for a pneumatic fall test on a mobile subsistence at B447.

buildings 418,415 and 447, the latter becoming operational earlier this year. The team at Harwell is now producing full-size electrochemical modules in a dedicated assembly plant.

Following successful trials at a pilot plant at its Aberhawe power station in South Wales National Power plans to build its first full scale commercial plant at Didcot. It would be the largest commercial electricity storage plant of its kind in the world with the capacity to supply around 10,000 domestic consumers for a day.

National Power believes that *Regenesis* can help make generation from renewable sources like wind and solar power more commercially and environmentally attractive.

About Regenesis...

Regenesis is the world's most advanced fuel cell technology. At its heart is a fuel cell module made of low cost materials that can be mass-produced and can operate at ambient temperatures

and low pressure. Two electrolytes flow through the fuel cell on either side of an ion exchange membrane. By applying a voltage across the electrolytes they change state and become 'charged', before being passed out of the cell for storage in tanks. Like a rechargeable battery the process can be reversed with the 'charged' electrolytes flowing back through the fuel cell to produce electricity.



UKAEA's Peter Greenhalgh (left) and Neil Sawney of National Power.

Satellites, bacteria and trees harnessed in clean-up

With around 100,000 contaminated land sites in the UK, the market for investigation and remediation is worth some £700m per year. As excavation and disposal become less acceptable, AEA Technology Environment is offering sustainable new techniques that employ a range of methods including satellites to map the pollution and trees that draw it up through their roots.

This new generation of high-tech land remediation, called Contaminated Land Solutions, provides a one-stop-shop for landowners and developers. AEA Technology has recently filed a patent for its revolutionary Groundhog™ system that is carried on a surveyor's back and uses Global Positioning Satellites to chart maps of radiological contamination. The system is being developed to map different kinds of pollution and is compatible with AEA's software, GroundView™, to help remediate contamination. Land



Ground Hog AEA/T, at Dunmore Hill, where a heavy load is carried on a heavily descent and spilt its formaldehyde cargo. The contamination was contained and inactivated collected. Natural biological processes were also stimulated to speed the clean-up operation.

Solutions will also draw on AEA's bio-remediation experts. Nutrients are added to the ground to stimulate naturally occurring bacteria which then eat pollutants. This technique was successfully used to clean up beaches at Milford Haven after the Sea Empress ran aground in 1996, spilling its cargo of oil. AEA can also offer phyto remediation - where trees can draw up pollution through their root system - and can design and install ground-water cleaning systems. Neil Spurway, manager of Contaminated Land Solutions,

said, "Britain has a huge legacy of contaminated land. AEA Technology has developed some sustainable techniques that are both cost-effective and environmentally-friendly."

SAFETY Update

There were two reportable incidents at Harwell since the last issue of ECHO. These were reportable as lost time accidents to contractors resulting in more than three days' lost time.



Restoring our Environment

Transport survey

Gilly Ohta, of the Institute of Transport Studies at Leeds University, is undertaking a confidential survey into attitudes towards car use in commuter journeys. Her father, Bob Ohta, was a former member of staff at Harwell. Gilly is doing a study of people's attitudes at the Harwell site. UKAEA has given permission for her to undertake this study and Nick Hance, Harwell PR manager, will co-ordinate the distribution of questionnaires and return of replies during September.

Coffee morning

You can take part in the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief by calling into the restaurant at Calson or the Redwings Café at Harwell on the morning of Friday 1 October and buying a cup of coffee. It's as easy as that!

Name that restaurant!

If you're feeling creative you could win a grand prize simply by thinking up a good name for the Calson restaurant. The prize is a beach pack including a camera, beach football, sunglasses and sun lotion. You will also have the satisfaction of seeing your suggested name displayed on the restaurant signs. To enter write down your suggestion and 20 words or less about why you like it, together with your name, department and e-mail number. Hand in your entry as soon as possible to the restaurant till point.

NVO success

Congratulations to staff at Kils Ulmington in Care Avenue who have been successful in gaining a number of NVO qualifications. Marion Jones and Kristy Young have achieved Levels 2 and 3 in childcare and education, Rose Vipond, Level 3, while Natasha Henry and Gill Ashwin have attained NVO assessors qualifications.

BNES lecture

Pat Andrews of AEA Technology will present a talk entitled 'Safety in the Nuclear and Fuel Industries - the benefits to be gained from a 700 day challenge of the rules on Vol 22 September'. The venue is the EHS conference room, B155 Harwell. 5.30 pm for open, light refreshments will be available after the talk. Entry is totally free. Contact: Louise Gould 15252.

Asphalt wastes resurface

ECHO readers may have seen local media coverage about the asphalt removed from roads close to the Harwell site and subsequently taken to the Ladygrove Estate at Didcot. John Williams, UKAEA head of site at Harwell explained what happened.

He said that sensitive surveys on the Harwell site had shown some areas of road with radioactivity levels higher than usual levels. Although these were low the surface layer was removed in places as a precautionary measure, partly to ensure there was nothing more serious underneath. Careful monitoring before and afterwards proved there was no problem.



Road surface work in South Drive

Analyses showed activity was due to natural uranium and well below the levels requiring special disposal precautions.

South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) said in its press release, that the waste was "considerably below the levels that would pose a risk to public health."



Marjory Wigmore (AEA Technology) shows SODC members the presence of natural uranium in the D-Day Memorial Stone. John Williams and Alice Irem (left) UKAEA, and Sam Corbridge, director southern division, UKAEA (right) look on.

NRPPB hosts UV workshop

NRPPB is to host a three-day International Workshop on Ultraviolet Radiation Exposure, Measurement and Protection from 18-20 October 1999 at St Catherine's College, Oxford. The event is intended primarily for the UV specialists with keynote speakers from Europe, the USA and Australia and much of the content will be of relevance to the informed layperson and policy makers.

Dose guide

One of the most widely used quantities in radiological protection is the dose coefficient for internal dosimetry. NRPPB has published a 'Guide to Dose Coefficients' which is an easy-to-understand booklet, giving readers an overview of how dose calculations are made and showing which to use in various situations. It also explains how other important publications are linked and has a list of frequently asked questions and a glossary.

Eclipse experiments

Scientists from CLRC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory were scattered along the path of totality during August's eclipse - some to carry out experiments and some to enjoy the spectacle. The following two experiments attracted a great deal of media attention, keeping the already busy scientists on their toes.

Professor Ken Phillips travelled the furthest with his Sosis experiment. He took this sophisticated digital imaging system to Bologna, and his long journey was rewarded by clear skies. During the two minutes of totality, his equipment captured over 12,000 high definition images of the Sun's corona. "We couldn't have hoped for better."

Barnford stayed closer to home.

the skies were clear and the equipment worked perfectly", he commented on his return. Ken hopes that when the images are fully analysed, they will hold the key to a question that has been puzzling scientists for years - why the Sun's corona is hotter than its surface.

Drs Chris Davys and Ruth Bamford stayed closer to home.



PHD student Lin from the University of Essex inspects the largest diameter of the Vulcan laser at RAL

£3m laser upgrade

£3 million upgrade which will enable it to produce a thousand million watts output power allowing focus to an area the size of a sharp pinpoint. This enormous power density will be generated in an extremely short pulse, less than half of one millionth of one millionth of a second in duration.

Vulcan is the high power neodymium glass laser sited at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. When the project is completed in 2002 Vulcan's new high power beam will give scientists new insights into many fundamental physics processes. These include the interaction of high intensity light with matter, photon induced nuclear reactions, electron and ion acceleration by light waves and the exotic world of plasma physics

They installed equipment at Helston School in Cornwall, which was used to study the effect of the eclipse on the ionosphere. As well as taking detailed measurements from the equipment at Helston, the Radio Communication Agency sites across the UK also took measurements. Over 1500 members of the public tuned in to a Spanish radio station which can normally only be heard at night in the UK, and reported whether they heard it during the eclipse. "We are interested to see



John Smith from RAL helping to set up the ionosonde equipment at Helston School in readiness for the eclipse.

what effect the Sun's corona has on the ionosphere", said Chris, "and during an eclipse is the only time we can measure this effect".

Totallity captured

Amateur photographer, Bob Talbot, who works for AEA Technology at Harwell, travelled to France and photographed these magnificent images of the eclipse. For other keen photographers, here is the key to Bob's success. The shots were taken south of Neuchâtel-en-Broye, within a few kilometres of the central line of totality. His Canon EOS camera was tripod mounted and pre-focused on the horizon, and aimed indirectly at the sun, without looking through the viewfinder. The film was a Fujifilm 100 transparency, no filters were used and the focal length was 600mm.



A relatively short exposure just as the sun disappeared behind the moon. A very clear solar prominence is shown at 2.0 clock. 1/2500th sec at f/8.

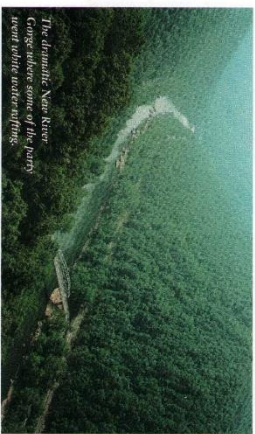


A much longer exposure, about 30 seconds into totality, to illustrate the extent of the corona. 1/40th sec at f/8.

Into Space!

The UK's best-known stargazer, Patrick Moore, brings his 'Into Space!' lecture to the Wyvern Theatre, Swindon, on Tuesday 10 November at 7.30pm. This fascinating and entertaining performance celebrates 40 years of 'The Sky at Night' programme. To book tickets call the box office on 01793 324481.

A wilderness walk to remember



The dramatic River Sever gorge offers some of the party's best while under-tiffing.

Like all great adventures, you never quite know what to expect and this was true for UKAEA's Janet Penney whose expectations about her holiday of a lifetime were a long way from reality.

She was one of a group of 30 trekkers who answered an advert to spend eight days walking 72 miles through the forests of the Appalachian Mountains of West Virginia on the Allegheny Trail with travel writer Bill Bryson. The author had written the book, 'A Walk in the Woods' and the trip would raise funds for the NSPCC through sponsorship.

Perhaps the most unexpected part for all the party was the highly demanding nature of the walk. Ages ranged from a girl of eleven up to a 73-year old but all were seriously challenged by the rugged terrain, steep ascents and

clambering over frequent obstacles like fallen trees. In temperatures well over 80 and high humidity, Janet did question her fitness at several points, despite her training of walking each lunchtime at work and taking her dog Deaf out more than he liked!

The trail had not been used for 15 years and although it had been cleared certain, steep ascents and descending over frequent obstacles like fallen trees. In temperatures well over 80 and high humidity, Janet did question her fitness at several points, despite her training of walking each lunchtime at work and taking her dog Deaf out more than he liked!



Crossing the finishing line with colleagues, Janet.

of animals whose home is the forest including deer, wild turkeys with chickens, and groundhogs.

A more illustrious character was Mr. Bryson himself. The party had expected to have the affable author as a constant companion but due to some organisational hiccup he didn't arrive until the second evening, following a 14-hour drive from his home. It was certainly worth the wait. "Bill was very apologetic and a really lovely man. He took time to talk to each member of the party and was interested in you and your experiences," says Janet. "He walked with me on the first day and said that his latest book on Australia should come out before the Sydney Olympics so that Americans would know where Australia is! He also revealed that he didn't really enjoy walking in the woods which he found a bit disastrous!"

The food was a highlight for everyone. A delicious meal would be ready for the weary walkers each evening accompanied by their favourite tipples, red wine in Janet's case. The other luxury which virtually all the party bought before the end of the trip was a comfy collapsible chair. "After a long exhausting day it was too much to sit on the hard ground," she recalls.

Amazingly everyone finished with no serious injury, apart from a few blisters and sore feet. By the time they walked under the banner saying 'You've done it!' they had struck up many new friendships and the camaraderie exclusive to those who've survived a unique experience.

One of Janet's treasured memories is relaxing in the evening with live music played by some of the organising party and singing along. Janet raised an incredible sum of £1,800, and would like to thank everyone from UKAEA and other sponsors who contributed so generously. The trip has generated around £40,000 in total.



Janet with Bill Bryson at the start of another day's hike

Free extinguishers



To congratulate UKAEA staff who clocked up a first time zero for 'lost time accidents' in 1998, each was given a free fire extinguisher for their home. Robert Jackson, MP for Wantage, visited Harwell to make the presentation with Stan Cordellier, UKAEA director who said, "I am thanking southern division staff for their care and attention to safety in the workplace" by giving them each a fire extinguisher to keep at home.

Green villagers visit



UKAEA staff, Jane Trevisy and Margaret Rowlands (Chairman of HEG), Brian Haddock, Nick Home (UKAEA), Martin Roberts, Clive Margaret, Timmer and Tim Cockerill

In meadow grassland, at the centre of Harwell, looking at the fish in the lagoon created after the demolition of one of the former RAF hangars.

Village members of the Harwell Environment Group (HEG) saw how UKAEA's nature conservation works at the Harwell Business Centre. HEG members, escorted by UKAEA property planner Tim Cockerill spent 3 hours walking the 600-acre site.

Tim explained that because the Harwell site had not been exposed to pesticides for over 60 years the underlying chalk-based grassland supported a very rich and diverse habitat for birds and insect life. Three species of wild orchid, including the Bee and Pyramid Orchids, flourished in several colonies.

In 1936 the RAF felled all trees on the wartime airfield but UKAEA had replanted new trees during the past 50 years with 2,000 since 1992 - including silver birch trees from Svaldness Common. Harwell now contained almost 10,000 trees of 61 species, including a rare example from China.

An environmental audit had recently been carried out and professional advice taken to preserve natural habitats and



New orchid colony found

UKAEA staff, Jane Trevisy and Margaret Rowlands, discovered a new colony of wild Bee Orchids growing near the UKAEA headquarters building (521) at Harwell recently.

Their find was quickly reported to Bill Temple (AFAT) who is compiling a site map showing the deposition of orchids at Harwell. The locations will be fed into the grass-cutting programme operated by Johnson Controls so that the orchid habitats are not cut until the correct time of the year.

"It's a bit of a mystery how these orchids came to the reactor site because they are a mile away from the nearest colony at Harwell," said Bill. "The seed pods contain over a million seeds but they require very specific conditions to germinate and it takes several years before they will flower."

"They might have come from the Ridgeway overlooking the reactor site but crop spraying has almost eliminated them from that particular habitat. One of the reactor orchids had seven very large seed pods showing that it is a mature and well established plant."



The orchid is so named because part of the flower resembles a bee taking nectar, as our photo shows.

Backing bright ideas

Are you someone with a bright idea that has great business potential and looking for suitable investors? Or are you someone who is looking to invest in an exciting new venture? If you answer 'yes' to either of these descriptions, you will be interested to attend a meeting on Tuesday 5 October at Rutherford Appleton Laboratories. Entrepreneurs looking for start up capital will be presenting their business plans to a group of 'business angels' seeking investment opportunities.

The meeting is run by the Oxfordshire Investment Opportunity Network (OION). The network is supported by the Oxford Trust, a technology management consultancy, and business links Heart of England.

Please give blood

The next Blood Donor Sessions at Harwell will be held in the Social Club, Harwell from 10.30 - 12.15 and 14.00 to 15.45 on Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th September. Donors are asked to note that the transfusion team will only be on site for two days. New donors are always needed and will be made particularly welcome.

to work with small and medium sized firms to help them achieve their ambitions. The investors bring a wealth of business acumen which they can invest into a small company along with their money. This experience can provide tremendous support for a growing company."

So far over 25 companies have received more than 24.5 million. The investments have ranged from £10,000 for small start-up projects up to £700,000 for more developed business ideas. Contact George Whitehead, on 01865 790910 for more details.

VIP system goes live at Harwell

On Thursday 1 July a new software system for producing visitor passes was successfully introduced simultaneously at Harwell's Main Gate Reception and North and Ferni Gates. The new system, known as VIP Visitor Manager, is based around a product designed and written by Wilson Graham Associates, a Thame-based software company.

The launch was the culmination of over twelve months' work by a project team comprising Harwell property manager, Johnson Contracts, IS&I, Security, Safety and the UKAEA Constabulary, to select and install a Y2K compliant system by September 1999.

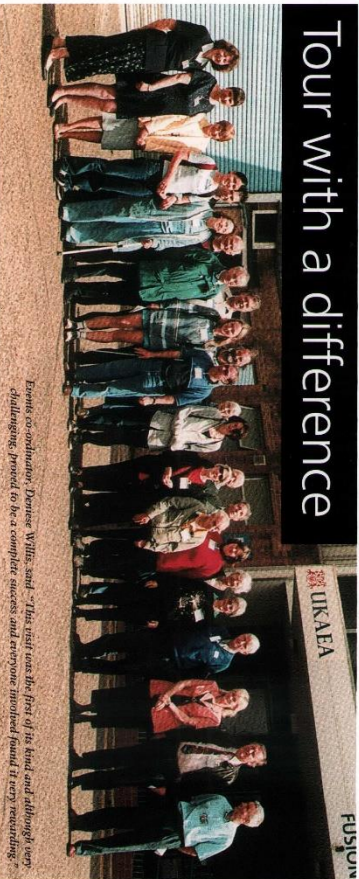
The new system is fully networked and enables the immediate provision of current visitor information on a real-time basis. As before, visits to the Harwell licensed site should be notified to reception by submitting an automated Visitor Notification Form. The seamless implementation

Harwell telephonists go for gold



The team of JCL telephonists at Harwell has been awarded a bronze certificate for call handling. The certificate was presented by Grace Lawrie, chairperson of THRA (Telecommunications Human Resources Association) at a ceremony held in B329 telephone exchange. The team, pictured here, includes Jackie Taylor, Jenny Walls (who also received the 1998 operator of the year award), Trudie Holder and June Craig. June has now retired. The girls are now aiming to achieve the gold award in the near future.

Tour with a difference



Events co-ordinator, Denise Wiles, said: "This visit was the first of its kind and although very challenging, proved to be a complete success and everyone involved found it very rewarding."

A party of eight visually impaired students attending the University of Bristol summer school recently visited UKAEA at Culham with their sighted guides.

The group was given an introduction on the aid of paper tokens, mangers, golf and ping pong balls to represent the fusion process.

Colin said "I had no idea how things would go and how to pitch this introductory session, but on

the day it seemed that everybody was well briefed and very interested in fusion. The props from Chris Carpenter and Heather Clark worked a real treat, and they raised some very challenging questions about the main engineering issues we will face in the first fusion power plant."

This was followed by a tour of the fusion experiments with the help of Ann Maynard, Kathy Paton and Julie Bishop who acted as tour guides.

Alan Sykes and Glenn Council guided the students around the STARKT experiment. Alan said "their interest and excitement in experiencing the touch of various materials associated with the experiment - copper, bus-bars, graphite machined tiles, aluminium tank, copper and solenoid winding of the spare centre column - and sensing the vibration and sound of the tank under vacuum, made their visit very rewarding to us."

Andy Cullen and Ray Watkins guided them around the COMASS experiment and scale models. Mark Nighthale, John Hill and Gary Voss guided the visitors around the MAST experiment and scale models. David Ward who guided them around the model of the fusion power plant said "that there was a great deal of interest in the future potential of fusion power, particularly concerning safety and environmental issues."

Add two years to your life!

An exhibition inviting colleagues to come and find out more about the Harwell Bicycle Users Group took place at NRPB last month. Over the past few weeks the exhibition had already visited NINE and is due at RAL around the week beginning 6 September. HarBUG aims to make it safer, easier and more commonplace for people to cycle to and from the Harwell campus.

The exhibition had plenty of information about the benefits of cycling, including the message that by cycling for just 60 miles a week from the age of 35 you can add two years to your life! Off road routes to the Harwell campus from Wantage and Didcot were set out in information leaflets with easy to read maps, along with details of Sustrans, a charity designed and promoted through the National Cycle Network (NCN). NCN supports local authorities on the implementation of the Network. Millennium funds awarded mean that routes from London to Oxford and beyond are due to be completed in year 2000.

HarBUG is always investigating further developments to existing routes and opportunities for new cycle paths. They can be visited at www.harbug.freeserve.co.uk where you will find information on membership details, news and events.

If you would like to arrange to have the exhibition at your place of work then please contact Jeremy Tait on 115611.



NRPBs Naomi Jarvis wheeling her way round the exhibition.

TV chef supports ABC

Celebrity chef Ross Burden is lending his support to the Culham-based charity, Action against Breast Cancer (ABC) during October, breast awareness month. Ross will front ABC's 'Cook for Cash' campaign and has created two exclusive recipes. Supporters will be encouraged to organise 'foodie' fundraising activities such as cook-off competitions, cookery demonstrations, recipe auctions, fundraising lunches or, more traditionally, cable stails and coffee mornings.

As a long-term ABC supporter, Ross says, "As a chef I am inspired by the ABC research team's focus on diet and lifestyle as a potential cancer-buster. Their pioneering work



is the inspiration behind the 'Cook for Cash' campaign. The ABC research team is designed to raise funds for their vital work." For more information please contact ABC on 01865 407384.

Cycle challenge

What started off as a whim has now become a firm commitment from Terry Hacker, head of histology and electron microscopy services at HRC.

On 23 September he will be attempting to cycle unaccompanied the 260-mile route from his home in Compton, Berkshire, to Trevellias near St Agnes, in Cornwall, in aid of the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust. If all goes to plan he hopes to complete the journey in just two days, but this will largely depend on the weather, in particular the prevailing southwesterlies!

In preparation Terry has been cycling and running for some time and he plans to buy a new saddle before departing! He would like to thank Harford at Didcot who have kindly donated some kit - the value of which has been donated to the trust - and all those who have sponsored him, including Adle Seymour, whose idea it was and who is co-ordinating the fundraising. If you would like to support Terry please call him at MRC on extension 360 or Adle on 370.



Adle wishes Terry well before the off!

Handy study

A team at Oxford University department of psychiatry, headed by Prof. Tim Crow, is running a fascinating study into the genetics of handedness and its links to personality. Both right and left-handed volunteers, aged between 18 and 50, are needed. You must also have a brother or sister who would like to take part. Please contact Mrs Judith Rute, University of Oxford, Warneford Hospital, on 01865 226290 or email: jhrute@psyh.ox.ac.uk

Left-handers unite
An ECHO feature on left-handed knitter, Nicky Sanford, was the inspiration for a display in the Harwell Social Club on National Left-Handed Day. Rec. Sec. assistant secretary, Sue Potts is left-handed herself and organised the event on Friday 13 August to give fellow left-handers more information about products, such as kitchen utensils, specially designed for them. She also gave out information about the Left Handed Club.

Harwell Laboratories RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION

EGM

Due to UKAEA's stated intention to close B161 (Harwell Social Club) on 31 March 2000, an Extraordinary General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 September 1999 at 12.30pm in the upstairs function room of the Social Club. The single agenda item at the EGM will be as follows: Motion in the names of the officers that the Social Club bar and catering services cease on the last trading day of 1999, namely 24 December. Background information to support this proposal will be supplied at the meeting.

All members are asked to make a special effort to attend. Please arrive early and bring your membership card with you.

Rounders round-up



Triumphs for both teams were presented by John Williams, UKAEA head of site at Harwell. Thanks were given to the organisers and participants and the committee would like to thank Tony Battenidge for marshalling the pitches.



After rain had threatened to disrupt its scheduled date the final was played between the two main protagonists of the last few years, namely, Wm A Weir Kipper (WWVK) and the Up and Unders (UU).

The UUs batted first and were down to nine without their captain. They had a job to score any part of the quality field of WWVK coming close on several occasions but only scoring one in their first innings. Then WWVK went into bat knowing the field was weaker than expected due to re-arranged and

depleted opposition. They soon started scoring and gaps were found with accurate shots to the 1 o'clock position. Half time score was 15-11 to WWVK.

The second innings for UUs was a pressured situation that makes for difficult batting. A couple of early departures sealed their fate with an innings unplayed. Final score - With A Weir Kipper 115, Up and Unders 25.

The plate competition, run in parallel to the main event, involved those teams not reaching the top half of the tournament, and saw a final between Underford Walkers (WWV) and Judge and Jury (J).

WW based at RAL have for many years reached the knockout stage of the tournament but lacked the edge to go any further. WWV battered first and started to score immediately with some good strikes and a number of halves scored by the female members of the team. They had reached up 9 by the end of their first innings. Paul Rabbits (3).

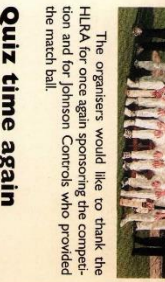


In the final of the Harwell inter-departmental cricket competition, the 220 Pensioners were bidding to win the Vice-Presidents cup for a third year in succession while their opponents, the B.A.T.T.E.R.S. were trying to secure their first victory.

Bating first, the B.A.T.T.E.R.S. made steady progress and after 18 overs posted a respectable total of 123-4 with Alan May (32) and Martin Ridley (45) bating very well. In reply, the 220 opensers Alec Ims and Paul Butler started to accumulate the runs to the point where both scored 50 and had to retire. This left Andy Burton to stride out to the

middle to hit the winning runs in the last over to complete the victory for 220.

Chris Wright, director of AEA Technology, kindly made the presentation of the Vice-Presidents Cup to Kevin Sanders and also presented the bowling award to Andy Rimmer (Bosham Greenleas XI) and the batting award to Martin Ridley.



The organisers would like to thank the HLEA for once again sponsoring the competition and for Johnson Controls who provided the match ball.

Quiz time again

The Quiz League starts again on 28th September. New teams are always welcome. Entry fee is £6 per team for a 10-week league. Teams of 4 answer 30 general knowledge questions with prizes for the league winners and runners-up. There is also a weekly spot quiz. The quiz is held on Tuesdays at 12.45 in the upstairs function room of the Harwell Laboratories Recreational Association. Team members must belong to the rec. soc. For more information contact Richard Bull on H4669 or Ian Adley on H5717.

New 6-a-side football league

There are plans to run an inter-departmental 6-a-side football league throughout autumn and winter months, run along the lines of the evening cricket league and rounders competition. All matches would be played on the main sportsfield in Harwell Avenue and open to all rec. association members, with both men's and women's sections. Qualified referees or unqualified competent individuals will also be needed for the competition to get off the ground. Any departments or relatives wishing to take part in this proposed competition should contact either Tony Battenidge, rec. assoc. secretary on H3396, or Colin Moody on H3434 as soon as possible.

ECHO exchange

FOR SALE

CHILD CAR SEAT - Britax Super-Cruiser for children 9 months to 6 years. Adjustable headrest for correct fit. Dec condition. £25.
Tel 01235 867999

COOKE (Trey) - almost new (1998) 1000cc (near Bampton). £1000. Tel 01855 500000

CREDA Hitmark Electric four fringed cooler, (white), double oven, fan assisted, excellent condition, more for sale. £1000.00.
Tel 01855 500000

DINING TABLE, mahogany, will seat up to 8 people, with extension table, 100cm x 150cm, 100cm x 150cm, plain pink seats, sturdy used. £150. o.n.o. Call Lesley on 01235 867999

DIPLOMAT "Heater Heat" ceramic hob in modish as new. Worth £200.00. Call Lesley on 01235 867999

GUINEA PIG BABIES, various colours, some castrated, all happy, healthy babies & very tame. Females £11 each, males £10 each. 1000.00. Call Lesley on 01235 867999 (eves & weekends)

OLD RADIO, Murphy valve, early 60s vintage. Free to collector. H4457

SMALL TOURING CARAVAN, sleeps 3, £50 ono. Slight dent in roof, needs cleaning. (01934) (near Bampton)

TWIN PUSH CHAIR, Thomas & Mather, 2 seats, 2 sunshades and carry cot. Excellent condition, as new. £230. Tel 01235 867999

TWO IN ONE PUSHCHAIR, Thomas, good condition. £70. Tel 01235 867999

WOODEN COIT - Must be good condition. Tel 01235 867999 or 01235 867999

ACCOMMODATION
ABINGDON, unfurnished, two bedroom house in North Abingdon. Gas/C double glazing, open fire. Located off the Woodson road, in a quiet area, with a small garden and off road parking. 5 miles. A44. Contact Mr. Duffell, 5, Home, 454 Oxford Way, Abingdon, Oxford OX14 4JW. Tel 01235 867999. Fax: 01235 867999. Email: david@echo.co.uk (wks) or 01865 201235 (no) or 01865 201235 (for non-residents).

ABINGDON, rooms for rent in a house in the centre of Abingdon. For non-residents working person. Call 01235 867999

BLEWURRY, furnished one bedroom character cottage to let. £400 pcm. Tel 0118 235 867999

DIDCOT, single and double rooms to let in quiet modern house. Shared facilities. All mod cons. £590/0 pcm. Tel 01235 867999

COOKE (Trey) - almost new (1998) 1000cc (near Bampton). £1000. Tel 01855 500000

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Adverts on this page are free to all staff at Culham, Harwell, JET, MRC, Nirex, NRRP and RAL. Please submit your ad (30 words maximum) to the editor, Valerie Judd, by email: vjudd@globalnet.co.uk or by fax: 01865 331184. They can also be sent to Nick Hane, UKAEA, B571, Harwell, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0BA. For next copy deadline see back page.



All ads, apart from holiday accommodation, will be run for one month. Please resubmit any ads to be repeated. For more information contact the Editor, Valerie Judd, by email: vjudd@globalnet.co.uk or by fax: 01865 331184. They can also be sent to Nick Hane, UKAEA, B571, Harwell, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0BA. For next copy deadline see back page.

LAKE DISTRICT, luxury apartment sleeping 4 in Lakeland mansion. English Tourist Board 5 Keys rating. Edge of Ambleside. Quiet ribbon location in 01899 grounds. The mountain views. £140 per week. Tel 01235 867999

SCOTTISH BORDERS, fully equipped holiday cottage. Sleeps 4. £140 per week. Tel 01235 867999

SOUTH WALES, Gower, holiday cottage, panoramic sea view, sea views, sleeps 6 in airy, split level sandy beaches, birds, walks, car hire, panoramic charm. £420 per week. 01380

TUCSON, ARIZONA, USA, house exchange, 3 weeks starting April 27th, 2000. Details Tel 01235 867999

WYEMOUTH BAY (Haven), 2 and 1 bedroom swimming pool, indoor/outdoor swimming pool, bowling, entertainment, NO PETS. Phone 01235 867999

WYEMOUTH Town Centre, one bedroom ground floor flat, 100 metres from beach. Tel 01235 867999

CUSTOMER MAIL VW GOLF/JETTA SW16R GTI with a set of alloy wheels, 175-50's, 175-50's, £250. A complete Scorpion stainless steel exhaust system (brand new, DTM back box) to fit 89V16V - £150. Set of 4 brand new alloy wheels - £150. Tel 0186 3280 or email: 0186 3280

FORD Granada, Club 2.9i automatic, Hi-leg, dark blue, electric windows, sunroof, clocking. £1,500 ono. Tel: K Williams on 01235 867999

METRO VAN, F-arg, Hot-T, until July 2000, based in Oct 99, recently overhauled. Good condition. £900. Tel 01235 867999

ROVER 116 GTI, Hi-leg, 7 months, tax and MOT, full service history, red, 64,000 miles, clocking, full body kit, 2 sets of alloy wheels. £2,150. Contact: Kerry (0189) (evening)

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It's good to talk

If public speaking is something you have to do or would like to do, why not join the Rideaway Speakers Club. Guests are always welcome and the club provides a friendly atmosphere, meeting on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the Guildhall in Abingdon. Staff members from Culham, Harwell and Rutherford have always played a significant role and have benefited from the training in communication and leadership provided by the club, which is a member of Toastmasters International. For more details contact George Gallagher-Daggitt on 01235 867999