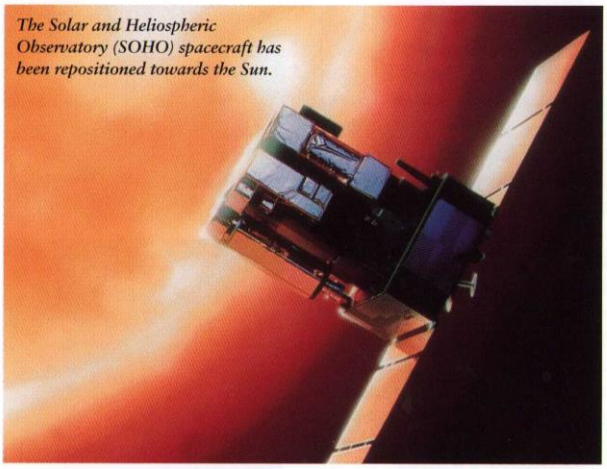
eCHO

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CULHAM SCIENCE CENTRE & HARWELL BUSINESS CENTRE **OCTOBER 1998**

SOHO spacecraft recovered

Scientists from CLRC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) are celebrating the recovery of SOHO following its dramatic loss in space at the end of June this year.

At 18.30 GMT, on 16 September there was a successful attempt to fire the thrusters to re-point the European Space Agency/NASA SOHO spacecraft towards the Sun. While SOHO had been spinning and pointing away from the Sun there was a total loss of power. Controllers managed to lock on to weak signals from the spacecraft in August. Since then they had been thawing out the fuel ready for re-alignment towards the Sun. SOHO telemetry (data transmission) was first received via the Deep Space Network station in Australia. Until the on-board batteries were fully charged only short bursts of communication were possible.



The Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) spacecraft has been repositioned towards the Sun.

In the run-up to the repositioning a problem was detected in one of the three gyros that control the roll of the spacecraft. This is currently under investigation but SOHO is in a stable condition and maintaining its course and position.

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Old lights shed new light on East Hendred

UKAEA was pleased to help the neighbouring village of East Hendred recently by donating five old street lights which would otherwise have been scrapped, following a major project to renew street lighting at Harwell.

"East Hendred Parish Council approached us some time ago, after hearing that we were replacing the street lighting on site, and asked us what plans we had for the old lights which were being removed" comments Mike Hurp from property management, who has overseen the street lighting project. "We are delighted that we have been able to help by providing East Hendred with a few of the old galvanised steel columns to supplement the existing courtesy lighting in the village. We are always glad to help the local community when we can, and it is gratifying to know that these lights will continue in use. Our contractors, Shafers Electrical, were very co-operative and took considerable care in removing the columns to ensure that they were not damaged".



New lease of life for old lights. Pictured here, from left, are Stan Francis, vice chairman of East Hendred Parish Council, UKAEA's Mike Hurp, Dr John Sharp, chairman of the parish council and Mike Goodhind, Shafers Electrical.

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Pedal push for Childline



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Lagoon created



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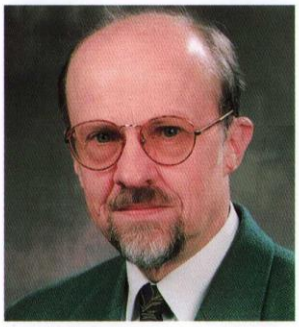
from front page

SOHO scientist at RAL, Dr Richard Harrison, was always optimistic about the retrieval of SOHO. He is principal investigator of the CDS experiment - one of twelve being carried out on board the spacecraft.

CDS instrument engineer, Jeff Payne, commented, "Now comes the nerve-racking wait while each of the twelve experiments is switched on in turn and anxious scientists see which ones have survived the extreme temperature variations of the last two months. Temperatures will have ranged between -100 degrees to 100 degrees and CDS was one of those facing the Sun."

Dr Harrison added, "We know that the British CDS experiment was switched off and its doors were closed prior to the loss of SOHO - and this is the best position in such an emergency. CDS was built and tested in the UK. It's a robust instrument and there's a good chance that it will function again."

Tony Wrixon is Vienna bound



Tony Wrixon leaving for Austria

Tony Wrixon, a divisional head in NRPB's occupational division, is leaving on a three-year secondment to the IAEA, Vienna.

Tony joined NRPB in 1972 where he became involved in the testing of consumer products containing radioactive materials, for example, smoke detectors and tritium watches. He went on to become a leading authority on the problems of radon gas and made many visits to Cornwall investigating the high natural levels of the gas occurring in this area of the UK.

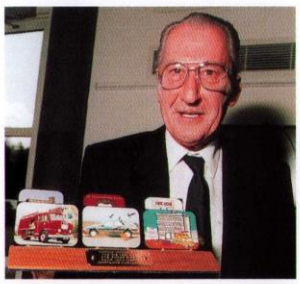
In wishing him well at his departure, Prof Roger Clarke said that he had unwittingly prepared Tony for his new job by sending him on assignments to far flung destinations.

"His new job will entail a lot of travelling but Tony has become accustomed to flying to remote parts of Europe in old Soviet Yak 40-seaters with luggage in the aisles, loose seats and no seat belts". He remarked that Tony's ability to get on well with foreigners would stand him in good stead, "Anyone who can eat the eye of a boiled sheep's head and wash it down with fermented mare's milk and one hundred per cent proof vodka will succeed at anything!"

Tony leaves Oxfordshire with his wife Nicole but warns everyone that he will be a frequent visitor to NRPB, where he has worked for the past 26 years.

Terry flies off

Terry Bird retires from NRPB after 26 years' service having been the Trade Union Side chairman for 18 of those and becoming a well-known figure at IPMS national conferences. He began his career in radiological protection when he joined the Sutton site in 1963, later moving to B168 at Harwell in 1972 and then into the new NRPB building. Terry became group leader of the Electromechanical Group, which included the NRPB Workshop, where he started the tradition of manufacturing 'mementoes' as retirement gifts for long-serving staff. On his own retirement on 11 September the tables were turned and Terry was presented with a memento depicting some of the events which were particularly memorable during his career.

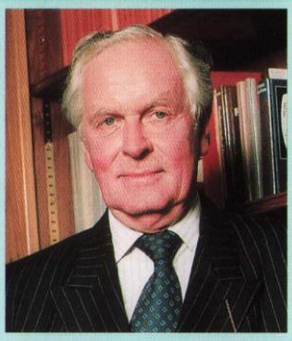


Terry's gift will remind him of the time he inadvertently set off the fire alarm, got trapped in self-closing fire doors with a hot cup of coffee and a slight incident in NRPB's car park!

Obituary

John Maltby CBE

1928–1998



We regret to announce the sudden death of John Maltby CBE, former chairman of UKAEA, aged 70.

Mr Maltby was appointed part-time chairman of UKAEA in July 1990 for three years, succeeding John Collier. He had previously held the position of chairman and chief executive of The Burmah Oil plc since 1983 and was a part-time board member of UKAEA since 1988. He later became chairman of Harrison & Crossfield plc.

He was born in 1928, educated at Wellington College and then Clare College, Cambridge, where he graduated with first class honours in mechanical sciences. He joined Shell in 1951 gaining experience in the oil industry in marketing, distribution, administration, economics and planning. He left Shell in 1969 and founded Panocean Shipping & Terminals Ltd and was its managing director. He joined Burmah in 1980 and became a Commander of the British Empire in January 1988.

Communication workshop



UKAEA's first ever communications workshop organised by the Culham Secretaries & Administrators Group (CSAG) was held on 24 September at Culham. The workshop is part of the CSAG's 'continuous improvement' initiative and was well supported by both managers and secretaries and administrators. With the theme, 'help us to help you', some 30 staff took the opportunity to exchange ideas and put forward proposals for improvement.

Could you teach autistic children?

On behalf of a number of families in a similar situation, I am looking for people willing to teach autistic children in their parents' homes. Such children have severe behavioural problems, which makes learning very difficult for them, but correspondingly the teaching consists of simple repetitive drills and training the teachers is very rapid; almost anyone can pick it up quickly. The skill lies in getting the children to behave while being taught, for which we also offer training. Typical sessions last 2-3 hours on a `one-on-one' basis, so tutors have to be mentally pretty tough. On the plus side, the work is often very rewarding and the children are very attractive. Our educational programmes have LEA support and expenses should not be a problem.

The minimum commitment sought is two sessions per week (between 9am-6pm approx, Saturdays and Sundays included), plus attendance at a team meeting every two or three weeks, regularly for at least six months. Candidates should come to at least one session before committing themselves.

If you feel you could teach autistic children on a one-to-one in Oxford and acquire valuable life skills please contact Wayne Arter, on C3716 for further information.

Sign of the times



New programmable LED displays have been installed at each entrance to the Harwell Business Centre and Culham Science Centre, replacing the old signs which were more than 25 years old. The new displays allow a wide range of messages to be displayed and will provide notice of Idaxon testing and warning of ice etc. Tim Hart of UKAEA property management (right) co-ordinated the project and Pete Burrows (left) of Johnson Controls was project manager. They are pictured here with Phil Couchman of the UKAEA Constabulary.

Cornish students study eclipse

Two students from Helston, Cornwall, travelled 'up country' to help set up an experiment which will take place at their school on 11 August 1999 when the county will be plunged into darkness during the solar eclipse.

Scientists from Rutherford Appleton Laboratory will be stationed in the school grounds to run a series of experiments during this rare and transient event.

"An eclipse is the nearest a scientist can get to actually 'turning off' the Sun" explained Dr Chris Davis, head of the ionospheric monitoring group at RAL. His team will monitor changes in radio reception to discover how medium radio waves are affected by the eclipse.

As the Moon gradually obscures the Sun, the ionosphere will decay and radio signals travel further. Scientists will be measuring how far they travel during an eclipse and for how long. This experiment forms part of a much larger RAL programme involving several universities throughout the UK.



Pictured here with Chris Davis (centre) are Steven Green and Louisa Tunstall of Helston School who were also sponsored by RAL to visit the total solar eclipse over Curacau on 26 February this year to check equipment and iron out any problems.

The ionospheric monitoring group at RAL continues the sequence of measurements started at Slough in 1931 and is the longest continuous sequence of measurements in the world.

In the right place

Student Joanna Wilding is helping to develop new methods of removing herbicides and pesticides from groundwater in a scheme which gives Britain's brightest young scientists and engineers the chance to shine.

Joanna, from Salford University, is among seven undergraduates, postgraduates and research staff who are taking part in AEA Technology's Project Placement Scheme. They were invited to submit imaginative project ideas relevant to the work of AEA Technology at Harwell or Culham. The scheme is designed to help AEAT develop links with universities to stimulate new technical and commercial ideas, and to identify new recruits through a period of paid work experience.

Nicola Richmond, from UCL, is working on a project to assess software to design new bio-materials used to make fillings, artificial bone and other implants. Helen Cook, from Oxford University, is studying the use of chemical sensors on AEAT's unique Groundhog system which identifies areas contaminated with radiation using Global Positioning Satellites. Carried as a backpack, Groundhog can help in the clean-up of brown-field sites.

Ainor Syahril, from Imperial College, is looking at the computer modelling of bubbly flows in industrial processes using computational fluid dynamics software. Effective modelling could lead to more efficient processes and less pollution. Andrew Rees, of UCL, and Stefano Marsano, of Cardiff University, are both working on software projects. Hoi Kin Ken Wong, of Imperial College, is exploring recycling opportunities for lithium-ion batteries.



The project placement scheme allows a mutual exchange of ideas. (from left clockwise) Helen Cook, Andrew Rees, Joanna Wilding, and Nicola Richmond.

Physics Olympiads

Some of the brightest teenagers in Britain have been given the opportunity to work with leading scientists and engineers at AEA Technology. The 10 young people, who are all British Physics Olympiads, are working at Harwell and Culham, and other AEAT sites, while waiting to take up places to read maths or physics at Oxford or Cambridge. Sixth formers face a tough round of examinations, both practical and written, to achieve success in Physics Olympiad competition and can count themselves among the most able students in the UK. Martin Shotter won a silver medal at the International Physics Olympiad in Reykjavik in July and Jonathan Monroe was a silver medallist last year with the best British score.

Race engineering business launched

Racing cars travel at speeds approaching 200mph and rely on cutting-edge technology to get them past the chequered flag. With the support of some of the world's leading scientists, AEA Technology has launched a new race engineering business to apply the group's expertise to benefit the fast end of the motor industry.

AEA Technology Race Engineering combines technology developed in the space, nuclear and software industries with high-tech engineering solutions already being offered to Formula One, GT and rally teams. The new business will provide everything from thermal barrier coatings to protect both driver and vehicle from the intense heat generated by high performance cars, to laser hardening to produce wear resistant surfaces. AEAT also makes lightweight carbon fibre drive shafts for the race industry.

Computation fluid dynamics software - already being used to help design Daihatsu cars - can be applied to racing car design, and fatigue and lifetime prediction software helps teams predict the life of components. Space shuttle technology used to develop bearings for extreme environments also has an application in the racing industry.

Cycle awareness day



Local police provide a free security marking service.

Despite uncertain weather which dawned on 10 September - Cycle to Work Day - there was a good turnout to both Harwell and Culham sites. Milton Park, which has just been awarded £150,000 by the county council for a cycle route from Didcot Parkway and Sutton Courtenay, also took part in the venture.

Having braved the elements cyclists met up at towns and villages across the area to cycle in groups. At lunchtime there was an informal get together at the sports pavilion at Harwell for a well-deserved picnic lunch and bicycle security marking. On a more serious note, a display was mounted giving information about plans for cycle routes in the area. Before tackling the journey home the two-wheeled commuters met for a drink and a chat at the Packhorse.

Culham cyclists used the event to launch their own Bicycle User Group, C-BUG. "Our catchphrase is 'Beat the Traffic' and we want to promote cycle commuting as fast, healthy and safe for everybody at Culham," said Will Blyth. "Our group will be focusing on making cycling an easier choice when leaving the house for work in the morning. The Cycle to Work Day is a good incentive for people returning to their bikes because they can find the quickest and safest routes to Culham in the company of other cyclists."

If you would like to start cycling to work or find out more about the bicycle user groups contact Marcus Jones on H3519 or Paul Davison on C3910.

Pedal push for Childline

A lesson in fundraising was learnt by 30 children, aged from one to five years, at the Little Stars Nursery, the workplace nursery at RAL. The sponsored pedal push raised £330 for Childline, the free national helpline for children in trouble or danger.

The circuit was set out in the safe confines of the nursery garden and was marked by cones and child-size road signs. They even negotiated a zebra crossing. The number of circuits was gauged to age and ability, with the babies being pushed around in pushchairs by staff or some of the older children.

"It was a brilliant morning," said nursery manager, Anne Pearson. "All the children took part to raise much needed funds and we all had a lot of fun at the same time! In fact, they all want to know when we're going to do it again".



Waiting for the start .... RAL's Tony Peters on the starting grid.

The 1998 Childline Pedal Push is a nationwide campaign, hoping to raise £100,000 to help Childline answer more calls from children. Childline is the only free national helpline for children, providing a confidential 24-hour counselling service for any child with a problem.

Johnson Controls Weekday Lunchtime Bus Service
Harwell International Business Centre

FROM WEDNESDAY THE 2/9/98 THE SERVICE PICKS UP AND DROPS OFF AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

Reactor Site/ B521	Rutherford R71/Canteen	B532/B220	North Gate/ Shops/Restaurant
12:00	12:05	12:10	12:15
-	12:25	12:20	-
12:30	12:35	12:40	12:45
-	12:55	12:50	-
13:00	13:05	13:10	13:15
-	13:25	13:20	-
13:30	13:35	13:40	13:45
-	13:55	13:50	-
14:00	SERVICE ENDS		

THE SERVICE TERMINATES AT 14:00 AT B521
THE MINIBUS WILL STOP AT OTHER POINTS ON REQUEST

Should you have any comments or queries concerning this service or any other transport related service please contact the JCL Transport Department on 01235 434756.

Kay's a runaway success

Kay Reynolds, a training services officer with NRPB, is also a talented athlete. Since giving birth to her son four years ago she has continued to improve and was ranked 20th in the UK last year in the 100m hurdles.

Earlier this summer she took part in the Civil Service Athletics Championships in Birmingham and won two events, the 100m sprint and 100m hurdles. She had entered the sprint as a warm up event and qualified for the final as the 'fastest qualifier'. Kay was amazed when she managed to run even faster in the final to take first place. With one down she was looking to break the championship record in the hurdles - 14.3seconds which has stood since 1986. Though she won by a large margin she ran 14.6seconds, her slowest this season, but is looking forward to trying again next year.

As a member of Radley Ladies - the best club in the area according to Kay - she competes regularly, often doing multiple events at a meeting. She was recently in the local papers having twice competed in eight events for the club and helping the team lift the senior trophy at one meeting.

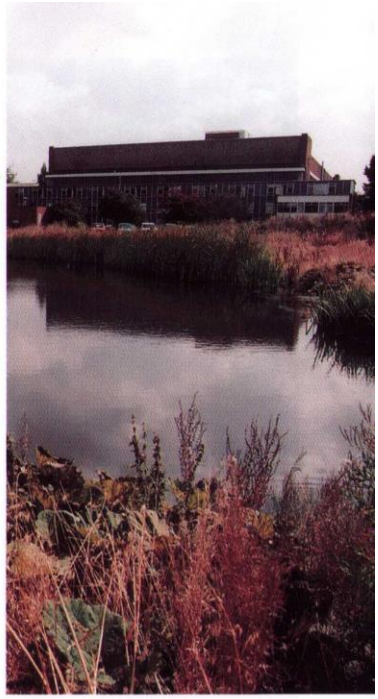
Disaster struck in February of this year when she injured her right ankle in a fall and could not hurdle in a race for four and a half months. On her return in July she amazingly qualified for the National Championships/ Commonwealth Games trials in Birmingham. With no pressure and no real expectations Kay was pleased to run 14.29 for a ninth place in the heat alongside Kerry Maddox who ran the fastest time in Britain this year and heptathlon Olympic Silver medalist, Denise Lewis.



Kay Reynolds is grateful to the NRPB sports and social club for their support and aims to reach the top 15 in the country next season.

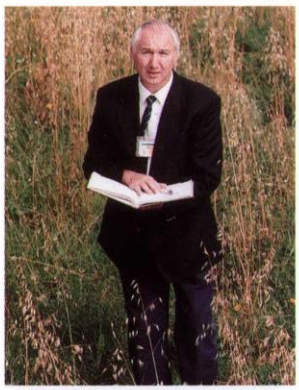
Ecology Spotlight – In place of Hangar 9





Freshwater lagoon near Hangar 8.

The space where Hangar 9 once stood is now the location for the main balancing lake to control surface drainage at the Harwell site. From the outset this small freshwater lagoon was designed as a visually attractive feature and one which would provide open water and marginal aquatic habitats to benefit and broaden resident wildlife.



Encouraging wildlife – JCL's Vince Smith.



Banks of reedmace will provide cover for mallard and moorhen, golden kingcups will form a mass of spring flowers and the water itself acts as a hunting ground for damselflies and majestic hawker dragonflies. Early plans have been extended to include the newly landscaped surrounding area. Further tree and shrub groupings have been planted to complement those already present - including the rare and exotic Euodia danielii As an experiment, conventional amenity grass seed has been exchanged for a mix of native grasses and wildflowers, formulated for maximum ecological benefit. As the sward becomes established it will be allowed free reign to flower and seed with paths maintained for lunchtime strollers.

This year's display was indeed impressive. From wild oats to wormwood, deep blue cornflowers and scarlet poppies, golden birds-foot trefoil, purple knapweed, nectar-rich teasel and welted thistles, popular with goldfinches as the seeds begin to set. The fragrant white flowers of the wild carrot curl inwards as they ripen into next-like structures are much favoured by sheltering ladybirds.



Other invertebrates include meadow brown and common blue butterflies, burnet moths, darting hoverflies, graceful lacewings, grasshoppers and money spiders. The squeaks and rustlings in the grass denote a busy population of field voles is feeding on roots, shoots and seeds and, in turn, providing a rich diet for kestrels, owls and other birds of prey.

More waterside plants like mint, purple loosestrife, gipsywort and water betony are being added for later summer colour. New paths are being created including one skirting closer to the water's edge, and more shrubs to screen the adjoining car parks. Some of the more invasive plants, such as docks and spear thistles, will be taken out.



Support for BBONT

UKAEA has joined other leading local organisations including National Power, Milton Park and Dow Agrochemicals, by becoming a corporate sponsor of BBONT, the local wildlife trust for Berks, Bucks and Oxfordshire. The support is part of the eco-friendly activities taking place on site at Harwell and Culham and will offer a number of benefits including free landscaping advice, opportunities for employees to become involved in conservation projects, a special day for corporate members and free copies of BBONT's various publications.

Culham Nature Reserve

A call for volunteers

Situated towards the back of the site behind JET, the Culham Nature Reserve covers an area of approximately six hectares. To date recording work and management of the reserve was carried out by enthusiastic volunteers including Peter Poole of AEA Technology. Due to other commitments he can no longer give the time needed to manage the site and Wendy Stephenson of AEAT Environment has been asked to drive forward the management of the reserve, including the recruitment of volunteers to carry out various tasks.

The reserve is a mixture of rough grassland and woodland. Species of interest include the marbled white butterfly, skylark and the bee orchid. Plans include managing the area to encourage these and other species, cutting through some pathways to allow access to the site - with minimum disturbance to the areas of special interest - and the creation of a pond with some seating.

Wendy hopes to complete the bulk of this work by spring of next year and work will start as soon as a safety inspection of the site has been carried out and insurance put in place. Some volunteers have already come forward but more will be needed for a range of jobs including litter and scrub clearance, marking out the paths and supplying the troops with food and drink!

So if you're willing to contribute a good quiche or some time 'scrub bashing' or you have any queries about the plans for the reserve then please email: wendy.stephenson@aeat.co.uk or call C3170. Please indicate which time of day will be most convenient, i.e., lunchtimes, evenings or weekends.

Out & About

BNES Lecture

14 October

The next BNES Central England Branch Evening Lecture will be held on the 14 October at 5.30 pm for 6.00 in the ETSU lecture room (B153 at Harwell). Ian Adsley and Mike Davies of AEA Technology will present 'The Measurement and Mapping of Radiological Contamination'. Everyone is welcome.

Craft Fair

Sunday 15th November

Hagbourne School PTA will be running a Craft Fair at East Hagbourne School and village hall on Sunday 15th November 1998 from 11.30am-4.30pm. There will be over 60 stalls and refreshments will be available all day. Entry: adults 50p, children free.

Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday 21 November

The Thames Craft Guild is holding a Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 21 November in the Abbey Hall, Abingdon from 9.30am - 4.30pm. All proceeds to local charities. Admission: adults 30p, free for accompanied children under 14.

Harwell Laboratories Recreational Association

Rec Association Future

EGM - 25 November 1998

An Extraordinary General Meeting is scheduled to be held on 25 November 1998 when the future of the Harwell Laboratories Recreational Association will be discussed. Confirmation of this date and the finalised agenda will be published in the next issue of ECHO.

The results of the recent questionnaire on the future of the association will form a major part of the discussion, so please return your completed questionnaire to the Rec. Association office, B161, Harwell or to Mark Cowper, B220 by Friday 16 October.



The Harwell angling club summer match series started off on a wet Saturday morning in June. Fourteen anglers turned up - the highest turnout for many a year. Although the weather was poor the returns were higher than average with two anglers cracking 20lb and another two above 10lb. Our resident fireman, Tony Munday took the honours with a creditable 25lb 9oz from fancied peg 18 (the small island) and consolidated his position with another win on the second leg with 18lb 15oz. He decided to give everyone else a chance by not fishing the open match which was won by Keith Jepson from the 'flier' with 14lb 9oz.

Leg 3 was a hard match with a gusty wind. All the fancied pegs fished poorly and the match was won from peg 3 with only 7lb 5oz from Pete Cairns, last year's cup winner. Tony, although still in a firm position was losing ground but with a third place on leg 4 was still favourite for the championship. Bill Ross won that leg from the 'flier' with 15lb 1oz.

Keith Jepson, who had quietly been accumulating a few second placings went one better for the fifth leg taking the honours from his favourite peg, 'the rock' with 11lb 3oz. This left the championship wide open with four people in with a real chance. Tony Munday started with a four point lead and, having drawn a decent peg, no.13, was odds-on favourite. Fishing can be so cruel and his peg just did not perform on the day, denying him the necessary points. Bill Ross won the match from 'the rock' with 10lb 1.5oz. Another second from Keith Jepson gave them equal points. It was down to total weight and Keith's first match weight of 23lb 15oz secured his victory. Congratulations to Keith for winning both the honours for '98 and commiseration to both Bill and Tony who came so close ... there's always next year though.

1st	**Keith Jepson**	**38pts**
2nd	**Bill Ross**	**38pts**
3rd	**Tony Munday**	**37pts**
4th	**Pete Cairns**	**35pts**
5th	**Ken Stratton**	**21pts**

Emergency Exercise

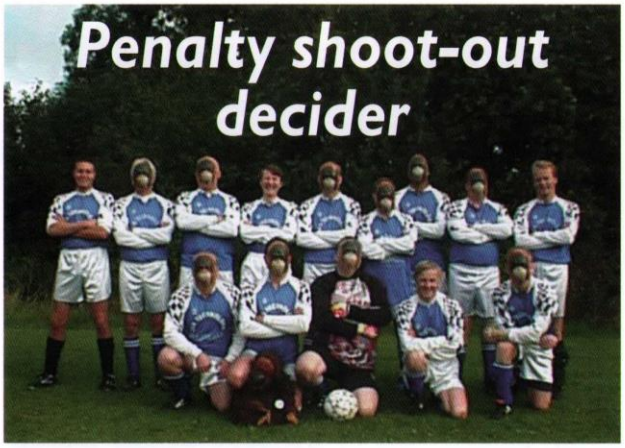
A brief reminder that the Harwell Site Emergency Demonstration exercise will be held on Thursday 15 October 1998. The exercise will run for approximately 2 to 3 hours during which time the site emergency klaxons will be sounded, the gates will be closed and movement on site restricted.

Staff within the Harwell boundary fence should avoid this date when arranging commitments with external representatives as visitors cannot be guaranteed entry to the site during the exercise.

Farewell and thanks

Bridget Benn of Johnson Controls would like to say farewell and thanks to all those who wished her well on her retirement after 29 years of being part of the 'fixtures and fittings' and is sorry she wasn't able to contact everyone before she left at the end of July.

Penalty shoot-out decider



Monkey business - the Harwell B team dressed up for the occasion in a bid to distract their opponents.

A penalty shoot-out decided the outcome of the sixth AEA Technology Football Tournament and brought the cup back to the south of England for the second year running.

Hosted in Derby for the first time, teams from the AEA Technology sites at Aberdeen, Culham, Derby, Dounreay, Harwell, Horsham, Risley, Windscale and Winfrith all took part in this year's tournament.

In a re-run of last year's competition Winfrith faced Dounreay in the final. When the match finished 1-1 at the end of normal time, the game went straight to penalties. The penalty shoot-out ended 4-2 to Winfrith, with Winfrith goalkeeper Roy Norman awarded man of the match after he saved twice. Winfrith has now won three of the last four tournaments. They reached the final after a narrow 1-0 victory over Risley in the semi-final, while Dounreay overcame the Harwell B team 4-3 on penalties to reach the final.

"The feedback from the teams at this year's event has been great" said this year's exhausted tournament organiser Chris Leadbeater, "and there are already indications that up to sixteen teams may wish to take part next year."

Players from the winning team, and runners up, were each presented with engraved silver trays and Winfrith received the cup from AEA Technology Deputy Chief Executive Dr Mel Wood.

AEA Technology hosts the tournament every year to help staff from across the country develop closer working relationships. This year about 200 AEA Technology employees from around the country attended the event. Staff from Aberdeen, Culham and ERG at Horsham entered teams for the first time and even the most recent acquisition to AEA Technology's business, TCI Ltd, managed to gain representation in the tournament as part of AEA Technology Rail's Derby B team. The company's sponsorship of the event was increased from last year to pay for travel, the tournament, and an evening reception and meal at the new Pride Park stadium, home of Derby County FC.

SAFETY FACTS

Lost time accidents

Culham/Harwell	**C**	**H**
Recorded since last issue	0	1
Total this fiscal year (98/99)	0	4
Total reported to HSE (98/99)	0	2
Total days lost in 98/99	0	27
Minor accidents (no time lost)		
Recorded since last issue	5	3
Total this fiscal year (98/99)	16	36

There have been two non-radiological incidents reportable since the last issue of ECHO, one lost time Category 2 accident and one incident at Category 3.

Irradiation facility fire

On 1 September a carton of empty plastic bottles being irradiated for medical sterilisation in the Helios 2 Accelerator Facility at Harwell jammed on its conveyor belt under the irradiation line and caught fire. The irradiation beam was switched off so there was no radiation hazard. Local attempts to extinguish the fire were unsuccessful but the site fire service quickly brought it under control. Damage occurred to the irradiation facility which will be out of action pending repair and clearance to restart from the Harwell Operations Safety Working Party.

Harwell Laboratories Recreational Association's

Annual Bonfire & Fireworks Display

NEW DAY!

FRIDAY 6th NOVEMBER

on the South Sportsfield

NEW TIME!

***Bonfire:* 7.30 p.m. *Fireworks:* 8.00 p.m.**

FREE OF CHARGE

Refreshments available

First Aid cover by St John Ambulance

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

AEA Technology – *for buying the fireworks.*

UKAEA – *for providing funds for security and safety back-up.*

Johnson Controls Ltd – *for provision of spectator barriers, tractor and trailer and lighting system.*

RAL Recreational Society – *for provision of clearance skips.*

SAFETY FIRST!

As always, safety is the paramount concern of the organisers and there are number of areas where this is of particular concern.

The Bonfire

- Disposal of rubbish will be strictly controlled; dumping is permitted only within the fenced compound and only with the express permission of the Recreational Association.
- If you have combustible rubbish you want to dispose of, ring Tony Betteridge (Rec. Assoc. Secretary) on Harwell 3296.
- All dumping to be carried out during working hours.
- Items containing metal, glass, chemicals, etc., are unsuitable and will be rejected.
- To ensure a safe and enjoyable evening, parents are asked to keep their children behind the spectator barriers.

Car Parking and Road Safety

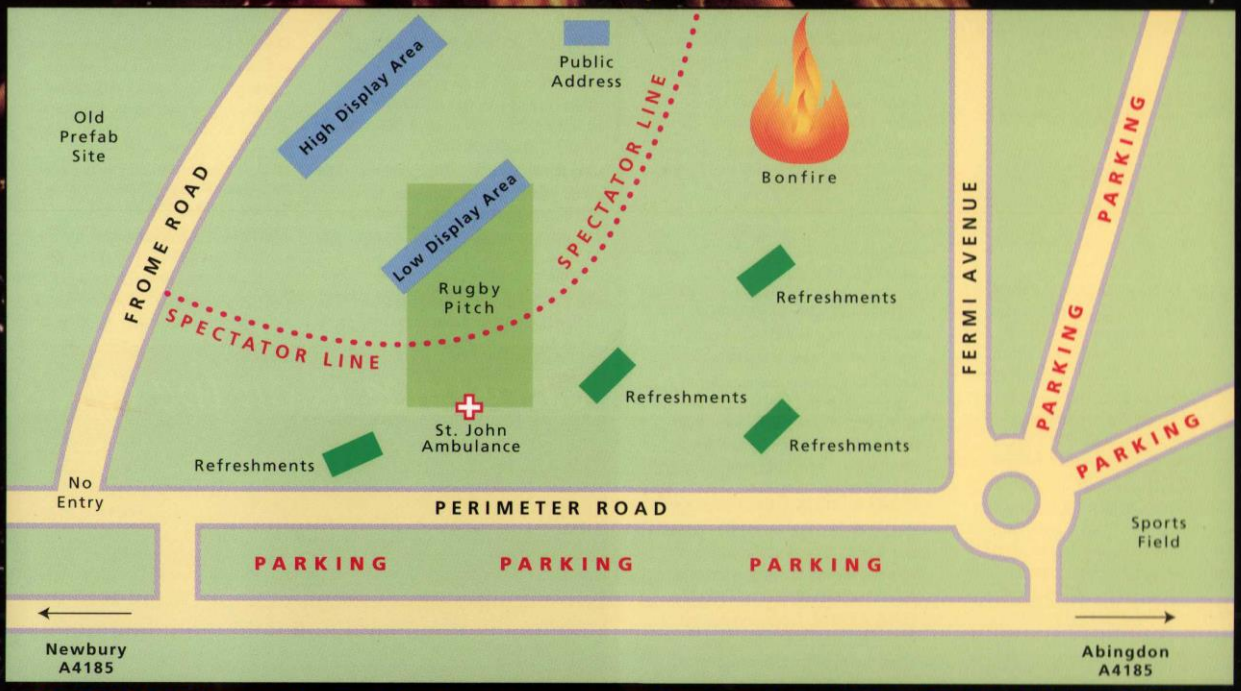
- Car parking is not permitted on the sportsfield.
- Please park in the designated areas (see plan).
- Please be patient when arriving and particularly when leaving the site.
- Please note that Frome Road will be closed.

Open House at the Social Club, Harwell

All are welcome after the display at the Social Club (both members and non-members) with their families. There will be children's entertainment, followed by adult music for dancing, and plenty of hot food - everything for a complete family night out!

SUPPORT YOUR ASSOCIATION!

A bucket collection will be made on behalf of the Recreational Association and the 1st Clifton Hampden & Burcot Scout Group. Please show your appreciation by giving generously.



FINALLY Please do not bring your own fireworks – NOT EVEN SPARKLERS!

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