

## FED GOLF SOCIETY - COME AND JOIN US

From Pat Keogh, Region 2E Organizer and Captain of the FED Golf Society

The pictures with this article are of Pat Keogh and Alan Chard, current Captain and Vice-Captain of the FED Golf Society and the attendees at the Society's first outing of 2006 at Chesfield Downs Golf Club, Stevenage.

The Society is celebrating its 20th season this year. Alan Chard was Captain of the Society in its first season and will again be Captain next year to kick off the next twenty years.

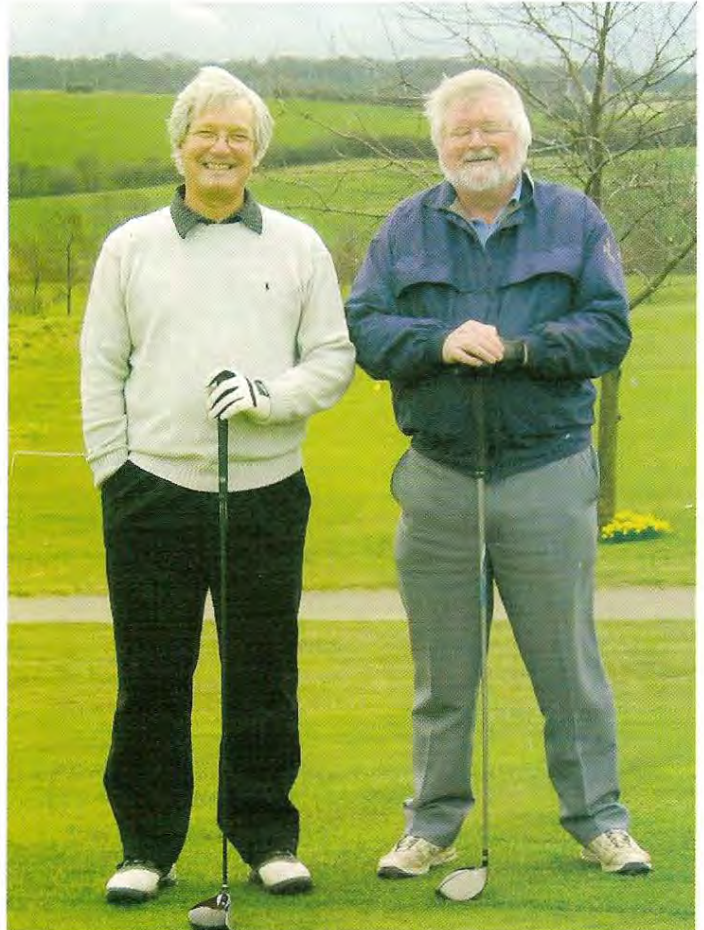
While it started as the Field Engineering Division Golf Society, it has evolved over the years to include other NCR employees, ex-NCR employees, friends of members and some of NCR's business partners, forming a real 'friendly society'. Also, a lot of the wives attend the events. One or two actually play but most just attend the evening dinner and presentation. Most of the founding members have now retired but continue to enjoy the 4/5 outings each year and we would be really pleased if some of the other NCR retirees and their friends would like to join us.

Our season starts in April/May with the Southern game at Chesfield Downs, Stevenage, organized by Dave Hubbard. The Northern game at Otley GC is organized by Pat Keogh in June, and Graeme Edwards organizes the Haggis Bash at Lochmaban, near Locherbie in July (15th July 2006). We then hold the Captain's Day at Gainsborough GC, the home of Ping UK, in early September each year (9th September 2006). Every second year we hold an Irish event in Dublin, organized by Pat Keogh and Jimmy Flood in late September (28/29th September 2006).

If you think you may want to join us at any of our events simply send me an e-mail to [pat@keogh1.co.uk](mailto:pat@keogh1.co.uk) and I will place you on the global e-mail list. This means that you will receive an e-mail each year with the calendar of events for your diary and an e-mail about four weeks prior to each event asking if you wish to attend. If you are not on e-mail then find a friend who is and use that, as e-mail is the only way we can communicate.

I look forward to seeing some new faces at future events.

Pat Keogh





## NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

### Region 1 - Wallace Hay

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2005 eighteen Fellowship members enjoyed a leisurely lunch at the Art House Hotel in Glasgow.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome new members Cecil Alexander and Bill Chapman to Region 1 and Jimmy O'Conner, past porter at Glasgow Centre.

Try as I might I cannot get anyone to volunteer to organise further lunches, for instance in the East of Scotland, which would be fairly local for them, as it would not be a viable exercise for me to undertake same.

So to sum up, we are left with an annual lunch in the Glasgow area with an approximate attendance of around 20 Fellowship members. As always there is a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to attend these get-togethers.

### Region 2E Pat Keogh

On 10th May we held our first lunch at our new venue at Otley Golf Club. As you can see from the photographs it was an excellent choice and all who attended gave it the thumbs up for our October lunch. The clubhouse is on high ground and has beautiful views across both the golf course and the Wharfe Valley. By good fortune, the date we selected was one of the very hot sunny days and we were able to continue after the meal with drinks outside on the patio. Although we started at 12 o'clock it was well gone 4pm before everyone left.

The attendance at the lunch was 33 and I had communications from another eight members who couldn't attend but wanted to be mentioned to all. We had a number of new faces and are looking forward to the October lunch and an even higher attendance. It was fantastic to listen to the constant noise of conversation and realize just what the fellowship is all about. The fact that we have to pay our own way now at these lunches certainly hasn't dampened the enthusiasm in this region.



*A group at Otley Golf Club*

### Region 2W - Charles Southall

We had our Spring lunch and a really good chat at 'The Grange Country Club' on the 28<sup>th</sup> March as we had arranged. It was a very successful day if I do say so myself, even though the weather was a bit mixed. The attendance too was down a little bit, but that was far outweighed by the enthusiasm. I never cease to be surprised to find how much these events are enjoyed by everyone.

The replies to my invitation were very encouraging initially, even though Harold and Margaret Willey had declined, once again failing to get their dates sorted out and preferring to visit their daughter in the States rather than attend our little function. David Bielby, would you believe was on holiday, and some others were not so well and I hope by now are feeling very much better and perhaps will be able to join us all on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2006. I sincerely hope so.

The eventual attendance was a very creditable 36 members and wives and guests from far and wide. The civil service strike in Liverpool closed the Mersey Tunnel, which deterred no one and nor did the distance from Birmingham for Ian Ormerod and his wife Sheila and from Shrewsbury for Eric Patton, who drove his own car at the grand old age of 85. Well done Eric. I hope I got it right this time.

Everyone is invited to do it all again, as I said on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Get all your holidays in beforehand and I look forward to seeing everyone.

### Region 3 - Eric Grace

The second of the New Fellowship lunches was held at The George Hotel in Litchfield on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2005.

We now have 44 members, so it seems that more people are signing up for the New Fellowship, which is encouraging for the Committee and organisers.

There were 32 members and guests who enjoyed a very good three course carvery meal.

We were fortunate that our Chairman, John Burchfield, was able to attend and he very ably updated us on the situation, as far as he knew, with the progress of the Company. He then updated the meeting with the pension progress and the efforts being made to obtain an increase.

Unfortunately Doreen Butterfield was unwell on the evening before the lunch and was unable to attend. We hope she has made a full recovery.

There were messages from the following members who were unable to attend, but they all sent regards:

M. Alliband, Jon Page and A. Thomas had previous engagements.

Mrs Owens' husband is still recovering and we wish him well.

Sheila Williams also felt that she would not be well enough to be with us, but we hope she will be able to come next year.

Jill Macphail, who usually brings Sheila Williams, was also unable to attend.



It was obvious from the chatter and general noise that the group were thoroughly enjoying catching up with old friends and having a good lunch.

I much appreciated the thanks given to my wife and I for organising the lunches and I must say that those thoughts give us great pleasure and make it a worthwhile effort.

### Region 4 - John Burchfield

Following last year's successful gathering of the combined Region 4 luncheon, we again held the annual lunch at the London Cricketers Club on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2005. Attendance was very similar to last year, with 105 members enjoying a sit down lunch in two restaurants.

Although we were missing some regular members, due mainly to holidays, many members attending for the first time compensated for this reduction. It never ceases to amaze me the distances travelled by members to attend the London function. The reason for this is of course due to many NCR employees who worked in the many offices in the London area, having now moved out into the provinces. Samples of some of the travelling involved were from Somerset, Devon, East and West Sussex, Hampshire and the Home Counties of the South East. I believe that this desire of those members to attend the luncheon is indicative of the strength of the New Fellowship.

We were also pleased to receive Geoff Jackson, who now resides in Exeter and who acted as our photographer. Steven Swinbank, Chairman of the Trustees of the NCR Pension Fund also accepted an invitation, and gave us a revealing talk on the current situation regarding the Fund.

It was a unanimous agreement of the attendees that we repeat this function for next year, so we have already booked our luncheon for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2006 at the same venue, where we believe that we will enjoy another successful reunion.

### Region 5 - Peter Bodley

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying your retirement.

For those in Region 5, covering rural Kent and East Sussex, we have an interesting Summer planned. Firstly we have a visit to Denbies Vineyard, the largest vineyard in England and nestling at the foot of Box Hill near Dorking. This is to take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June and I have circulated details to all those I know within the Region.

The second meeting of the year returns to The George and Dragon at Headcorn in Kent on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September and those concerned will receive more details from me nearer the date of the event. If you are not on my current list, please get in touch for more details.

These two events will provide us with better coverage than ever before and I hope that you can manage to attend either one or both of these events.



*At the Sir John Barleycorn, Cadnam last May*

### Region 6 - Alan Hutchins

Region 6 held a lunch on 3<sup>rd</sup> May at the Sir John Barleycorn, Cadnam. We have not been to this venue before. We decided to have a change from last time. I must thank Allan Bartlett for his help in finding this restaurant. This is a very pretty thatched country pub/restaurant on the edge of the New Forest. The food and the weather were excellent and the company, of course, superb.

Unfortunately Dick Sheppard and George Phillpot had to cancel due to family commitments and Dorothy Meek telephoned the restaurant to wish everybody well as she was unable to attend. Twenty of us sat down to a very enjoyable lunch.

The next lunch for Region 6 will be at Shoreham-on-Sea or thereabouts. This is nearer for the members who live in the Brighton/Eastbourne area. It is attended practically exclusively by former FED members from Brighton, Eastbourne and Guildford.

If any member from the Bournemouth/Southampton area would like to attend, please let me know as you will be very welcome.



*The George & Dragon, Pluckley  
(The place that is - not the people!)*



### Region 7 - John Jones

We have had a very quiet year since the last Annual meeting.

We have had one get together at the Toby Carvery in Bradley Stoke, which was reported in the last issue of Postscript.

Since that meeting we have gained at least three members that I know of Maurice Davis, Chris Mumford and Keith Ponting.

I had all the letters printed and ready to send out for a get together to be held just after this Annual meeting, only to be told by our preferred watering hole that they no longer take bookings (company policy). Where have I heard something like that before?

So, it's back to the drawing board in search of a suitable venue. Never fear, Bill Parks is on the job, so a get together will soon be arranged at somewhere appropriate.

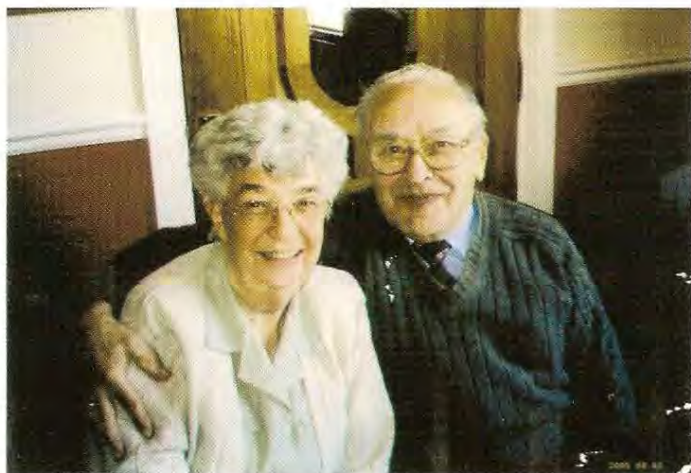
### Region 8A - Des Woodall

Due to the success of previous meetings at the Black Horse, Swaffham Bulbeck, near Newmarket, it was decided by those attending that we should hold two such get-togethers in future years.

A very good lunch, with many choices, is available at the Black Horse, including a pensioners' lunch for £4.95, which includes two courses. It is almost worth driving to Newmarket to find such an economical (and delicious) meal!

Four new members have joined Region 8A during the past 12 months.

The latest visit to the Black Horse took place on 5<sup>th</sup> April and a record number of members and friends took part in the event 22 in fact. Seven wives attended. Denis Gill's wife Hazel, John Limn's wife Doris, my wife Beryl, Richard Chamberlen's wife Linda, Richard Craigie's wife Gloria and, great news, Betty Timlett, recently married wife of Peter.



*Newlyweds Betty & Peter*

We were delighted to welcome four other guests, Les and Marjory Clarke, Tony Packham from Region 4 (Greater London), and prospective member Tom Atkins.

Geoff Walter arrived in grand style for a pensioner, having

ridden from Royston on his motorbike!!

In accordance with our new decision, we are due to meet again on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

The following is claimed to be a true extract of a conversation between a police officer and a driver, stopped in a 30mph limit:-

Police Officer: Not only have you been driving too fast, but you've been overtaking where overtaking isn't permitted. Your lights don't work, your tyres are completely worn out and they're going to throw the book at you in court. Now, what's your name?

Driver: Schtrathewisizeski Vocgerilognchinic.

Police Officer: Well, I'll let you go this time, but don't do it again.

(With compliments to 'Magistrate' Magazine)



*Ted Long & Roy Clifford of Region 8A*

### Region 9 - Geoff Jackson (on behalf of George Wallace)

George is unwell in hospital at this time, so Jessie has asked me to stand in on his behalf.

The Region only has one meeting each year and this was held last year at a new venue; The Three Horseshoes, Cowley, just outside Exeter. This was on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October, it having been agreed that holding it somewhat in advance of Christmas would ensure that we would get a better turnout.

There were 20 members present and we welcomed John and Pam Burchfield as our guests, the former speaking, amongst other things, about pension increases. A report of this meeting appeared in the last issue of Postscript.

Because of George's current incapacity, plans for this year's meeting are still in the air. I have, however, agreed to organise this if necessary and have suggested that we should use the Three Horseshoes again. Members signified their approval of this venue last time and, with a three course meal for £10.00 per head, it would be difficult to do better!



## Region 10 - Ron McGowan



*Region 10 members attending a lunch at the Europa Hotel, Belfast were:  
(L-R) Sally English, Colum Hughes, Jack Martin, Victor Frizell, John Bates, Ron McGowan and Sally Hamilton (née Keel).*

Jean and Brian Gresty have returned to Texas and continue to regale us with their adventures:

**From:** Brian & Jean Gresty  
**To:** Readers of Postscript  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 15, 2006  
**Subject:** Hello from Fort Clark

Morning All, we arrived back at Fort Clark after spending a great time with our friends in the large and very busy town of Victoria. They had booked us into a VERY RUSTIC log cabin which was for guests staying on their RV Park, it was adorned inside with many photos of Roy Rogers & Trigger and of Roy and his wife Dale Evans. Not sure which he was happiest with???? We also explored the sites of the Battle of Coleto Creek and the Goliad massacre, here almost 400 men were killed after they had surrendered to General Santa Anna. Our friend Charlie's extensive knowledge of the history of the struggle for Texas independence in 1836 made our visits even more memorable. We went bird-watching at Port Lavacca on the Gulf of Mexico and Jean got her shopping 'fix' at the big Hobby Lobby and Joannes Fabrics and Craft stores situated in the huge Victoria Shopping Mall. It was well worth the very long drive across the seemingly endless Texas coastal plains to do all this and put into perspective the incredible stamina required by the Mexican Infantry who marched across these vast distances.

On arriving back at Fort Clark we were invited to a big 'fish fry' in the RV Park. This is laid on by a RV'r who has 4 fishing boats on the Gulf. Every January he brings a big box of freshly caught fish and some buckets of 'shrimp' (like very large prawns) to lay on a free feast for everyone on the RV Park. Luckily Jean and I still qualify as 'honorary' RV'rs. Life is tough here eh!!! Cheers folks, love as ever Jean & Brian.

**From:** Brian & Jean Gresty  
**To:** Readers of Postscript  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 22, 2006  
**Subject:** Hello from Fort Clark

Good Morning All Jean & I are both well and have enjoyed another week of lovely sunshine.

However we are OFFICIALLY now in an area of severe drought and hoped for some much needed rain today, whilst

it has been dull & grey and rain has been falling high up, it was NOT heavy enough to reach the ground as the air is so dry near the ground. I have been pre-occupied this week working on my presentation to the Fort Historical Society next Saturday about 'Balaklava Ned' the last survivor of the Charge of the Light Brigade who was born in Wrexham. I am told to expect an audience of at least 150 and as it will include a couple of ex-US Army/Air Force General and many other senior officers I have to make it very good, just to show them we had & still have the best army in the world. There is a major dispute on the Fort at the moment concerning a decision by the Board of Directors to allow a VERY dubious developer to build 5 large houses on a former Fort picnic area that is rich in history and wildlife. He also wishes to cut down a number of very old 'shade' trees that are much valued during the extremely hot summers they get here. We have been to 2 public meetings out of curiosity, skin and hair flew in all directions as it got VERY acrimonious. There is now talk of legal action against the Fort Board of Directors. It sure beats the crap they show on US television. Tomorrow there is a BIG 'Chilli Cook-off' at the Fort RV Park. The idea seems to be to use the most fiery chilli peppers available to the winner, so we shall eat with EXTREME CAUTION (Remember we are just 17 miles from Mexico). I have been told this week that a large Mountain Lion has been spotted in the area I go running early in the morning, so if you receive no more of these emails you can consider that I became his breakfast. 'Thank God' did I hear you say!!!! Hope you are all OK and this little story amuses you.

TTFN Love Jean & Brian xxx

**From:** Brian & Jean Gresty  
**To:** Readers of Postscript  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2006  
**Subject:** Hello from Fort Clark

'Mornin All At last I have my email connection running again, had problems with the Forts antiquated phone lines. My presentation to the Historical Society last Saturday seemed to go off very well, I have been asked to do it again to the local Rotary Club on Thursday. We continue to enjoy very lovely weather, but this area is DESPERATE for some rain, everything is so dry and the risk of major bush fires is VERY high. Most vegetation has either become brown and dried up or dropped all its foliage and is just bare stems and twigs, if we have a decent amount of rain it will BURST into life again almost overnight and many spring flowers will come out, as we have seen happen before in desert areas. Attended a Dinner/Theatre show at the Post Theatre last Saturday evening, it was quite good but went on a bit.

Our next social event is the 'Cavalry Sweethearts Ball' on Feb 11 when many people dress up in replica 1880's uniforms/costumes to dance to the music of that period. Not to let the Brits down, we have got our outfits and Jean's 'bonnet' WOW!! it has to be seen to be believed, wait for the photos???? Have to get ready for my Rotary talk now, TTFN love & best wishes to all Jean & Brian xxx

**From:** Brian & Jean Gresty  
**To:** Readers of Postscript  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2006  
**Subject:** Hello from Fort Clark

Hello Y'aalll Spring arrives in a GREAT rush here in the desert, the trees come out almost overnight, blossom



suddenly appears, as do many migrant birds, including little hummingbirds that regularly now come to my feeder. Whilst you had all that snow, we had temps at 93f, on Monday it plummeted 45f! This spawned 100's of tornados to the north of Texas that killed 7 people, thankfully we were OK in this area. Last Saturday was the Fort Clark Festival, which is a huge event. It was a real fun day, held in brilliant 90f sunshine. Lots of re-enactors, shows, competitions, food, beer etc etc. Jean & I made up some costumes and had much fun strolling around as cavalryman and his 1880's dressed wife, until it got too hot, then it was back to T-shirts and shorts. 2 weeks today we shall be on our way home, so this will be my last email (who said thank goodness!!!) We hope you have found my word pictures of our day to day life here at Fort Clark entertaining, thank you for reading them. As ever I end on a joke, love & best wishes to all J & B xxx

Subject: LITTLE JOHNNY

Little Johnny's neighbours had a baby. Unfortunately, the baby was born without ears. When mother and new baby came home from the hospital, Johnny's family was invited over to see the baby. Before they left their house, Little Johnny's dad had a talk with him and explained that the baby had no ears. His dad also told him that if he so much as mentioned anything about the baby's missing ears or even said the word ears he would get the Spanking of his life. When they came back home, Little Johnny told his Dad he understood completely.

When Johnny looked in the crib he said, 'What a beautiful baby.'

The mother said 'Why, thank you, Little Johnny.'

Johnny said, 'He has beautiful little feet and beautiful little hands, a cute little nose and really beautiful eyes. Can he see?'

'Yes', the mother replied, 'we are so thankful - the Doctor said he will have 20/20 vision.'

'That's great,' said little Johnny, 'cuz he'd be stymied if he needed glasses.'



*"Take a last peek - we have sold HO and have to be out by September!"*



*Athens CPC (L-R) Ron Goodrich, Roy Newman, Morris Hogg, David McIntosh (who sent it), Di Evans, Les Philpin (hand raised) and Ian Sutherland (requesting more drink)*

## NCR PENSION PLAN - AN UPDATE from the Trustees:

The Trustees are pleased to report that significant progress has been made over the last few months with the Corporation to secure the long term future of the Pension Scheme for all current members. At the time of writing the Trustees are meeting with Corporate Treasury at our Lawyers' offices in London on June 5th to review and agree the final draft of a 30 year Deed of Corporate Guarantee to the Pension Plan. This is significant for three reasons, firstly the plan will no longer be reliant solely upon the strength of NCR UK Ltd, secondly the Trustees have agreed a lower risk future investment strategy which is underpinned by Corporate contributions and thirdly and most importantly the Trustees and Corporation have agreed, in principle, a formula to be used to provide future Pension Increases for the next 15 years with a

commitment to review and renew the formula for the remaining 15 years of the 30 year Guarantee. Also, the Corporation has agreed to implement a backdated pension increase for post-1990 pensioners who were omitted from last year's increase within 60 days of the Deed of Guarantee being signed. Full details of this and the increase formula for the next 15 years' increases will be published and sent to all Pensioners once the final 30 year Corporate Deed of Covenant has been entered into and signed by your Trustees and the Corporation. The Trustees hope that this will have happened by the end of July 2006. Thank you to all of you for your continued interest and support to the Trustees.

Stephen Swinbank - Chairman



## My Years with N.C.R. By John C. Thompson

In the early months of 1948 I completed my National Service in the Royal Air Force, and was looking for a change from my previous employment as a Telephone Exchange Technician, and spotted that the local office of the National Cash Register Co Ltd in Birmingham had vacancies for Technicians.

A telephone call later found me being interviewed by Jack Dellar the Depot Manager at Birmingham, following all the usual form filling and questions, Jack presented me with a "LID" counter and a screwdriver and asked me to take it apart and then put it back together, set at 9999, this I did, he operated it and all the wheels turned to Zero so far so good, OK he said, now take it apart again and I will jumble up all the parts and then I want you to put it back together again, set at 9999 and lets see by adding one we can bring it to zero! It worked! A few more questions, including would I be prepared to go to London for more tests and if successful join the Company and stay in London for about four months being trained in the Service School. Yes, Sir, I would!

A week or so later a letter arrived with a Railway warrant inviting me to London Office in Marylebone Road. The first day was given over to travelling and finding the Hostel in Porchester Terrace, Bayswater, where accommodation had been arranged for me, 7.50 am on Tuesday found me walking through the main doors of 206 reporting to the Personnel Department, I together with two other "would be" technicians (one from Chester and the other from London if I remember correctly) were ushered into the lift and whisked off to the 6th Floor, the then Service School, and introduced to Percy Townsend, Reg Sherwood and Jack Wright.



*This shot was taken during High Grade Retail training 6th Floor Service School, Marylebone Road, London. The Mechanic (name unknown) was from South Wales - the Machine a Class 6000 Cash Register Date: c1950. Photo: John C. Thompson*

Here again we were introduced to the famous "LID" counter, I was soon able to deal with that and passed with flying colours next we each were presented with a basic 700 Class press down Cash Register and an Instruction book and told to learn all about it and that there would be a test on Thursday and if successful we stay and receive about four months training on all the basic Press down machines (300/700/1000/4000/5000 class) followed by the basic handle operated and Electrically operated rotary Machines (400/800/900/1600 and 1800 class) if you did not pass the

tests on Thursday you went home on Friday!

I am pleased to say all three of us passed and allocated Bench space in the Service School. So started one of the most interesting periods of my working life, apart from being trained on all the basic Cash registers in general use then, we attended lectures and film shows, all about the Company, which I found most inspiring and found myself turning into a "Company Man".

Armed with all this information and training, all too soon it was time to go back to Birmingham and start to put all I had learnt into practice.

So I turned up at Birmingham Office the following Monday, greeted by Office Manager John Keeble who handed me over to Jack Dellar, who welcomed me, asking me how I had got on in the Service School, he seemed satisfied with what I had learnt, and introduced me to all the Depot staff and allocated a Bench in the basement of the Corporation Street Office and Service Depot, I was soon made to feel at home with the rest of the Staff and settled in well and day after day armed with a bunch of Repair and Service calls wandered all over the Midlands, dealing with all types of Machines, some in spotless Ladies Fashion stores, others in Greengrocers and Wet Fish merchants, nobody wanted you in the Shops on Fridays so you nearly always spent Fridays in the Depot working on Machines for overhaul.

At about this time the number of Class 3000 Accounting machine installations in the Birmingham area had increased to such an extent that Service Calls were falling behind and following a talk with Archie Hunter the Area Supervisor it was agreed that I should have some local Training on Class 3000 Accounting Machines, Ernie Gilham took me under his wing and gave me a crash course on the basic servicing of the Class 3000 and I soon settled down to spending time in Banks and Commercial offices, quite a change from MacFisheries!! and again enjoyed this new role.

However, it was not all work and no play, and I recall some very happy social events during those first years at Birmingham, Social evenings at the Crown and Cushion, Perry Barr, a Coach trip to Blackpool when Frank White nearly got away with driving a Tram, and every Saturday lunch time (we worked on Saturday mornings in those days) we would retire to the Pub near the Office and enjoy a good laugh over a drink or two!

Then out of the Blue, I was told that Bill Roberts the Depot Manager at Worcester Office, like so many Depot Managers at that time was becoming overwhelmed with the Machine population and was falling back on with Service work on all types of Machines and it was agreed that I should transfer to Worcester Depot and after a very busy few months catching up with outstanding Service calls on all types of Cash Registers, C13000 (including some very old Ellis machines with cork clutches and 3 cycle overdrafts) and even some Adding Machines, in an Area stretching from the Welsh borders, to the edge of Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, all this to be covered for the most part by public transport. We had only one Van at Worcester, and that was always busy, so I became a walking Bus and Train Timetable, however, I settled in well, and we were soon joined by Don Williams who had completed his basic training CRD service training, and Bill Roberts arranged for me, (in 1950) to attend the London Service School for training on high grade retail machines, C1



1500, N2000, 6000, R2000 and up grade on the latest 100 class machines, again a most enjoyable experience, and to meet up with Technicians from other Depots and able to exchange experiences. (I still have the elaborate Notebooks compiled at the time).

It was during this time while at Head Office a number of Technicians were approached and asked if we would be prepared to serve at NCR Offices Overseas, and when asked I said Yes, I would.



*NCR Service Depot Worcester UK  
John C. Thompson seen working on a Class 1500  
Cash Register. Don Williams is working on another  
machine of the bench behind.*

*Date: Mid 1951. Photo: National Post*

I returned to Worcester quite inspired, I had turned into a real "Company Man" - I even joined the 6 o'clock Club! I read the Companies Bibles, Part one "Where ever Men trade" and part two, "Our Company" and Part Three : "Open the mind and close the sale!" and so again I settled down to life at Worcester Office which suited me well all the Staff were nice people to work with, the Agent was a Mr McGarry, who had a small Pre-War Standard Car, which when carrying anything as big as 100 Class was down in its springs at the back!

One interesting event which I recall, was while I was servicing the Class 3000 Machine Installation at High Duty Alloys, Redditch.

One of the several Six Register Machines, had some binding typewriter keys, to overcome this problem entailed an extensive strip down of the machine and usually required the machine being returned to the local Depot where the repair could be carried out in more suitable surroundings, however, because the installation was a very busy one, and the office had plenty of space, it was agreed with Mrs Plunket, the Department Head that I should carry out the work on site.

So the day arrived and I set up a large table, covered it with Newspaper, moved the machine away from the others and the Operators. Started by removing the Carriage case both back and front, all six accumulators, the keyboard, all the adding racks until the machine was down to the base and at a point where I could start to remove the typewriter keys.

Every now and again Mrs Plunket would come over and look at what I was doing the repair involved removing the typewriter keys from the base of the machine and hammering flat all the burrs from the end slots, then stoning and cleaning

the slot to ensure smooth action.

By this time it was mid-day, and High Duty Alloys always provided you with a Free Lunch, so I went off and washed my hands and prepared for lunch, I just looked into the Office and was about to tell Mrs Plunket that I was off to lunch, and saw she was standing by the table with all the machine parts laid out on it looking quite worried, and as a joke I said, "I am afraid that's as far as I have got with my Correspondence Course" and off I went to my Lunch! Half way through my Lunch there was a phone call for me, from the Worcester Office Bill Roberts the Depot Manager "What have you said to Mrs Plunket? She's up in arms!" I explained I was only joking, she thought I was serious, and had phoned the Office!

I went back and apologised and assured her that the machine would be put back in working order, and that afternoon it was! She tested it to her satisfaction. Later Bill Roberts gave me a real dressing down when I got back to the Office! Ever after that, every time I went to High Duty Alloys to repair or service the machines Mrs Plunket used to ask me "Now are you sure you have covered this problem in your Correspondence Course?"

I am pleased to say we remained good friends ever after!

So we come to 1952, and I remember I was servicing a machine in a Hotel in Shipson on Stour when over the Radio there was an announcement that King George VI had died, and that Princess Elizabeth on holiday at Treetops, Kenya, had been pronounced Queen. (Little did I realize that within the year I would be spending part of my Honeymoon at Treetops).

My Fiancée had always wanted to visit the French Riviera so at the end of February we booked a Holiday centred on Nice to be taken in August. A little time afterwards, I was working out on the territory when I had an urgent phone call from the office to meet Archie Hunter (the Area Supervisor) later that same day this usually meant "being on the carpet" for some misdemeanour! However, we met and Archie told me I had been selected to have further training and subject to certain conditions I would be seconded to one of the Overseas Depots.

And so in April 1952 I reported to Reg Sherwood (Respectfully known as "Jesus Christ and the four cycle overdraft!") at Bravington Road (just off Harrow Road) Training centre for a 10 week course on the Class 3000 Accounting Machine, followed by a two week course on Adding Machines. During the course we studied hard but it was an enjoyable time, I was paired with a Technician from Rotterdam and on week-ends when I did not go home had the pleasure of showing him some of the sights of London.

Then the day came when I was summoned to Head Office to be interviewed by Jim Battersby the Overseas Manager, the interview was a success, and I was told that the posting would be to NCR Agent in East Africa. Very soon after I received my letter of appointment from John Avery the Agent for East Africa based in Nairobi, with the princely salary of £750 p.a., with 10% commission on any C.R.D. Sales no commission on A.M.D. Or Adding machine sales. Based on a 4-year tour, the Territory covered Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia.

Having had all the necessary "Jabs" at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in London, I was ready for my Overseas





*John C. Thompson (aged 26)  
Seen here outside the Offices of John Avery  
(NCR Agents for East Africa) in Nairobi  
Date: 1954*

Tour, well not quite, there was the matter of a booked Holiday in Nice, this we managed to slot in on my way to Nairobi. My Fiancée Susan had agreed that she would follow me to Kenya, subject to me confirming that it was all OK and we would marry when she joined me in Nairobi. So in early August we set out from Victoria Station for the great adventure, the first part of which was the passage on the S.S. "Canterbury" from Folkestone to Boulogne which turned out to be the worst crossing since the War!

However, it was a comfortable ride on the Train down to the Riviera, and we had a wonderful holiday, touring all along the coast, including a visit to the Casino at Monte Carlo, we even found time to visit the NCR office in Nice. All too soon it was time for us to part, Susan to return to the UK, and me to board a BEA Vickers Viking for the flight to Rome, where I was to pick up the BOAC Hermes which was to take me on to Nairobi.

I arrived in Rome on a Friday afternoon, my connection to Nairobi was not due until Sunday morning, so BOAC put me up in a very smart Hotel in the centre of Rome. On Saturday morning I went out to explore the sights and found the NCR Office and met Mr J.H. Angleton the NCR Agent for Italy he took me to his Villa and introduced me to his family then took me on a conducted tour of Rome in his London Taxi he said it

was the most suitable vehicle to get through the traffic in Rome because of its tight steering lock, a most interesting visit.

Early on Sunday morning saw me boarding the BOAC flight to Nairobi (a Hanley Page Hermes) -- on weekends this flew via Rome - Cairo and Aden - the flight from Rome to Cairo was uneventful, but in style, after a short stopover at Cairo we settled down to our flight over the Red sea down to Aden, breakfast was due to be served when we experienced a Major Electrical failure on board - the rest of the flight was under emergency conditions.

We landed at Aden with RAF Crash Tenders escorting us along the runway, the Aircraft was grounded and we were taken to the Crescent Hotel in Crater Town, here we stayed, eating very strange food, but there was a good bar, and the RAF arranged for us to use their Beach Club, until some planes could be rustled up from East African Airways in Nairobi. The first of the planes (an ancient Lockheed Loadstar) arrived on Tuesday morning and we drew lots as to who would fly out in the Loadstar, I drew a short straw and got a seat.

I soon had my bags packed and on my way to the Airport with about 20 other passengers off the Hermes, we were soon airborne, it was early afternoon and it was doubtful that we would reach Nairobi before nightfall, having settled down to the Nairobi newspapers brought up by the crew (only the Captain and 1st Officer - no steward or stewardess so no food or drink) just then the flight deck door opened and the 1st Officer announced that the radio had packed up, and without the radio we could not fly in darkness, and we would be putting down at Mogadishu in Somaliland (which at that time was still under the control of Britain and Italy) and so we landed on this very primitive Airfield.

We were taken to the only 'European Style Hotel' in the town who rustled up a meal of spaghetti Bolognese, we were told it was goat meat, personally I thought it was ancient camel! However, it was washed down with some very welcome Italian red wine! I spent a very uncomfortable night on a very rough bed under a useless mosquito net and I am sure that I was not the only occupant of the bed! I was quite relieved when morning came and we were on our way back to the airfield.

With the radio fixed we soon took off and were at last on our way to Nairobi! We landed at Nairobi West Airport. There, waiting for me, was Percy Sayer the Service Manager (ex 4th Floor Factory London) and I was presented with a bar bill as he had been waiting for me since Sunday and it was now Wednesday! A short drive in Percy's 1948 Humber Super Snipe brought us into Nairobi and we were soon at the Government Road Offices of the company and I was introduced to John Avery and the rest of the staff.

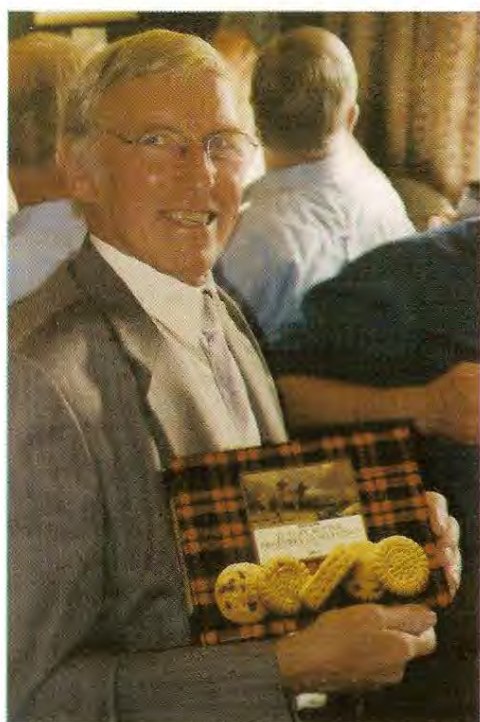
Nairobi, set at the edge of the Great Rift Valley is 5,500 feet above sea level, about 200 miles south of the equator, with quite a mild climate, quite warm by day but could be quite chilly during the night and early morning. The year I arrived (1952) Nairobi was just 50 years old, built as a centre for the Uganda Railway. It had grown up to be quite a sophisticated city with a population of over 180,000, covering an area of about 33 square miles, being the centre of banking and commerce for the whole of East Africa.

(To be continued)



### 39 things you should have discovered by the time you reach your age

1. Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.
2. Don't worry about what people think, they don't do it very often.
3. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
4. Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.
5. If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.
6. My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.
7. Not one shred of evidence supports the notion that life is serious.
8. It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.
9. For every action, there is an equal and opposite government programme.
10. If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.
11. Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of cheques.
12. A conscience is what hurts when all of your other parts feel so good.
13. Eat well, stay fit, die anyway.
14. Men are from earth. Women are from earth. Deal with it.
15. No man has ever been shot while doing the dishes.
16. A balanced diet is a biscuit in each hand.
17. Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.
18. Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.
19. Junk is something you've kept for years and throw away three weeks before you need it.
20. There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.
21. Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again.
22. By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.
23. Thou shalt not weigh more than thy fridge.
24. Someone who thinks logically provides a nice contrast to the real world.
25. It's not the jeans that make your bum look fat.
26. If you had to identify, in one word, the reason why the human race has not achieved, and never will achieve, its full potential, that word would be ..... "meetings".
27. There is a very fine line between "hobby" and "mental illness".
28. People who want to share their religious views with you almost never want you to share yours with them.
29. You should not confuse your career with your life.
30. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
31. Never lick a steak knife.
32. The most destructive force in the universe is gossip.
33. You will never find anybody who can give you a clear and compelling reason why we put the clocks back.
34. You should never say anything to a woman that even remotely suggests that you think she's pregnant unless you can see an actual baby emerging from her at that moment.
35. There comes a time when you should stop expecting other people to make a big deal about your birthday. That time is age eleven.
36. The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that, deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are above average drivers.
37. A person, who is nice to you, but rude to the waiter, is not a nice person.
38. Your friends love you anyway.
39. Never be afraid to try something new. Remember that a lone amateur built the Ark. A large group of professionals built the Titanic.



*Lucky raffle winners at Region 5's George & Dragon event*



## Another Informal Group

Dennis Cash writes:

In the Autumn of 2005 Bill Daniel reported on an informal NCR get-together of ex-salesmen from the Nottingham/Leicester area and asked if any similar groups existed. The answer is "yes, at least one!"

For the last ten years a group of some twenty ex-Elliott/NCR 315 mainframe engineers have met for a lunch at a restaurant near Sevenoaks in Kent, being quite separate from the Fellowship lunches.

For the benefit of readers who may know to care what past colleagues do with themselves I can tell you that the following regularly meet at this lunch which is organised by Stuart Osmer.

Stuart Osmer, Dennis Cash, Nick Carter, Ted Chatley, Bill Cleaver, Tony Flynn, Alan Gilham, Ted Grundy, Ron Hale, Mike Low, Peter Matthews, Phil Mole, John O'Shea, Nobby Partridge, John Price, Owen Riches, Brian Seddon, Dick Siatka, Bill Statham, Dave Teasdale, Alan Wall, Tom Boles (former FED Director).

Sadly, one of our regular attendees, Mike Webb passed away two years ago.

## From NCR Retirement News - Dayton

I went into town to call at a shop. I was only in there about five minutes. When I came out there was a warden writing a parking ticket. I went up to him and said "Come on, Warden, how about giving an OAP a break?" He ignored me and continued writing a ticket. I called him a jerk. He glared at me and started writing a ticket for worn tyres .... so I called him a piece of dog doo. He finished the second ticket and put it on the windscreen with the first. This went on for twenty minutes. The more I abused him the more tickets he wrote.

Personally, I didn't care. I came into town by bus!



## GRANDAD AND THE COMPUTER

The computer swallowed Granddad,  
Yes, honestly it's true.  
He pressed 'Control' and 'Enter'  
And disappeared from view.  
It's devoured him completely,  
The thought just makes me squirm;  
Maybe he's caught a virus  
Or been eaten by a worm.  
I've searched through the Recycle Bin  
And files of every kind,  
I've even used the Internet  
But nothing did I find.  
I asked Jeeves in desperation  
My searches to refine,  
The reply from him was negative,  
Not a thing was found online.  
So, if someday in your 'In Box'  
My Grandad you should see,  
Please 'Scan', 'Copy' and 'Paste' him  
In an e-mail back to me!

## A Career with NCR - Jim Kembery

1940 was not the best time to be in one's last year at school. At my school the male teachers had left in 1939, they were all in the T.A. and had been called to the Colours. My parents decided that I best go to work.

Mr A.R. Hayes the chief mechanic at the Bristol offices took me on, I was 15. The staff were W.S. Downer, H. Lewell, E. Meynell, C.R. Randy and H. Dunk; we were part of the Sales Division in those days. No T.S.D. or F.E.D. they came later on.

As the 'boy' I swept the floor - answered the telephone, wrote out the repair call slips - collected the mechanics repair sheets to add up the hours worked, to 48 hours a week. But the first job of the day was to light the fire, the basement workshop at 54 Baldwin St was heated by a coal fire. After two months' service I was required to join the Pension scheme, my contribution per week was one Shilling and two pence. Rather than deduct that from my wage of 15 shillings per week I was given my first rise of one shilling and two pence.

On occasions Arthur Hayes would take me to assist him (carry his tool bag) on calls to the Bristol Electricity Co. offices. The installation was of class 2000(101) transverse



Transom House, Bristol with mechanics Vic Court, Bert Morgan, Angus Ross, John Cheev, H Lewell, Bill Downer and me



type line billing machines; a class of machines which much later on I was to work on.

In 1941 the workshop was moved and a production line of renovating cash registers for the Sales force set up. The work force was 10 ladies and me, the ladies stripped and cleaned the machines, I was 'Mr fix it' and I fitted the S.H. number plate. After a short time two ladies were selected to be Service Girls with a tool kit and a smart uniform with NCR on the lapels they visited the Users. The plan was they would replace Mr Dunk who had left the Company and Bob Randy who was about to join the R.A.F. Eventually it became my time to join the R.A.F. When my time came my replacement was Bill Park.

Returning to the Company after 4 years with the R.A.F. The Company was expanding well with new machines to sell. The Service Division as we were titled was headed by Mr C.S. Webb. Ex service employees were to spend six months on refresher training, the school was on the 6th floor at 206 Marylebone Rd. The school (really a production line) was presided over by Mr P. Townsend. He sat at a large desk, his instructors were Jack Wright (retail training) Reg Sherwood & H.S. Newman (class 3000 training). How many of you can remember the time spent in the lantern room? With the growth of N.C.R. the school was to move to Bravington Rd and then to new premises at Brent.

Back at Bristol growth was the order of the day not only did the Service expand so did the Sales. Under the District Manager G.H. Dyer his staff was Tim Bale, Jack Ritchie and Ernie Giles; Mickey Myers was CRD district Manager his staff Jerry Wallace and Tim Hendy. Territory known as District 4.

The Depot Manager was Norman Cole, his assistant Bob Randy I attended all the training courses until I was 'line trained' and a specialist on the Class 2000 range. With my R.A.F. electronic training (valves and relays no I.C.s then) I was well placed to be Reg Sherwood's first for CI 29 Postronic Training. There were no installations then, my job was to travel with the demonstration team on exhibitions. As time moved on Norman Cole became Area Supervisor, Bob Randy Manager of Bristol and I as Assistant Manager. As a manager and line trained I was able to replace E.N. Hunt Depot Manager Jersey. My first tour in that role was three months when Leslie took holidays followed by a training course. Taking my family with me we stayed with a Jersey family who became life long friends. The next move at Bristol came in 1964 when Bob Randy left to become the Manager of Sydney Australia, I was promoted to Manager of Bristol. Time was fast approaching in the UK to change to decimal currency; Bristol was an early centre for that work. An interesting and demanding time in our history. Conversion to decimal was not offered on the CI 29; but at Bristol I had an installation at Carsons Chocolate Co and they insisted conversion be carried out. Over a weekend I converted theirs and on the Monday morning work of converting their ledgers started.

Whilst my job was Centre manager my knowledge of the CI 29 was to be called for again. Charlie Green Assistant Manager of the Division telephoned me mid 1971 Would I do a job for him? After my reply, he replied you had better come to London tomorrow you will need some inoculations, the job is in Ghana West Africa. The Ghana Commercial Bank had a CI 29 installation in trouble my instructions you are not to do the work yourself, advise and oversee the work, report back to



*The Ashanti Queen's Stool*

me. Twelve months after that visit I received a telephone call again from Charlie Green, you are needed in Ghana again get yourself an air ticket from the Travel dept and report back to me. The reminder of those occasions after my second visit is an 'Ashanti Queens Stool' given to me by the West African Company Management.

Yes an interesting and rewarding career with N.C.R. in working with and for some wonderful Company characters and Customers Staff.

Jim Kemberey.

## BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER

Barry Marcus

With my 'Postscript' I received a beautiful 2006 diary, so I thought the least I could do was call Geoff Jackson and thank him. Blunder. 'Don't mention it' Geoff said. 'And what about an article for Postscript?' Being the polite chap that I am I agreed and, having promised, here it is. I've called it 'Before, During and After' so where better to begin than at the beginning.

In March 1958 at the ripe old age of twenty four, already with a wife and a child under two, I found myself working for my father in his off licence business. To say I detested it is an understatement. To me it was marginally worse than being press-ganged into Nelson's navy and I knew there was no way I could possibly contemplate continuing in my role as a bottle washer, wheelbarrow pusher and general dogsbody. But what was the alternative? A flat above an off licence came with the job, so changing my employment meant finding accommodation and having to pay rent to boot. And what work did I want to do? I was trained for nothing, but I used to see salesmen (then known as 'commercial travellers') when they called to see us. I could do that I thought, but getting a job was much harder than I thought it would be. Every potential employer asked me what selling experience I had. Well I had lots of experience unloading crates of beer and stacking shelves, but selling? Not a jot. Just like trying to get an Equity card as an actor. Without experience no chance. But how do you get experience if no one gives you an opportunity to start? Result stalemate. And then a miracle happened. I spotted a small ad in the Daily Telegraph. 'Young men (try that today) intent upon a selling career (intent? What did that mean?) are invited to



apply to the National Cash Register Company.' And then the best bit. 'No experience necessary as full training given.' I couldn't wait to get my pen and paper and send off my letter requesting an application form to Brian Hitchins, Head of



*Barry Marcus*

Sales Training. As I explained to my wife Eileen, I don't really want to sell cash registers. 'After all' I said 'everyone has one.' But this was the answer to an aspiring salesman's dream. Work for NCR for say six months and then get a proper job. I stayed 17 years. Up to Marylebone Road I came in my best and only suit, trilby hat in hand. Would I impress Brian? I prayed I would. The first thing Brian said on looking at my application form was that we shared the same birthday, 20<sup>th</sup> October. He was exactly 20 years older than me to the day. This must be a good omen. It was, and Brian said he would like me to meet the manager for London, Bernard Oppenheim. If Bernard liked me I was in. Between meeting Brian Hitchins and my appointment with Bernard, I bit my nails to the quick.

The day arrived, Bernard did like me and I was engaged. Wonder of wonders, miracle of miracles, I was going to be an assistant cash register salesman. In March 1958 I reported to begin my eight weeks training on a salary of seven pounds ten shillings (£7.50) per week plus £2.00 married man's allowance. I didn't know so much money existed. So I and the other twelve aspiring geniuses started to learn how to sell cash registers under the tutelage of Brian Hitchins, a lovely, tolerant man if ever there was one. To sell new cash registers we had to learn the weaknesses of the Autographic Till, the OCD (Open Cash Drawer) and the shortcomings of early NCR machines, together with the weaknesses of Clary Anker, Hugin, Regna and host of other SOT's (Some Other Types). Lord help us if we elevated SOT's with their brand names. And then the wonder of the 100 class. The only machine on the market with 'two way natural indication'. To sell it we had to learn the standard 100 class demonstration, much of which I remember to this day 48 years later. Ridiculous but there it is. No-one could brainwash like the NCR of the 1950's. But how did we get to talk to retailers?

Simple. We learnt the 'pound approach' together with the 'detail strip approach' and for good measure the 'funnel approach'. Eight weeks went by in a flash. With all this learning, selling cash registers would be a piece of cake.

At the conclusion of our training I reported to District One in Head Office to find that Bernard Oppenheim, my new district manager a) had no idea I was joining his team that day and b) didn't remember me from Adam. My morale dropped like a stone. Bernard assigned me to Sid Webber, who already had an assistant and didn't want another. It showed. I sat all morning looking out of the window until, at 12 noon, Ray Pateman, Bernard's Assistant District Manager said it was time to make a move. We drove to Chapel Market in Islington, made a half dozen 'cold calls' and then Ray treated me to my first encounter of NCR largesse. We stopped for fish and chips. At the end of this sumptuous spread Ray, cigar aglow, bid me farewell and I was on my own.

My first call was to a grocer. I was terrified. I thought I was going to throw up in the street. But I thought of my wife, my starving child, my seven pounds ten shillings plus two pounds married man's allowance and pressed on. Some prospects (PP's as we called them) were polite, but many were openly hostile. My attempt to woo them with the 'pound approach' or seduce them with the 'detail strip approach' fell on deaf ears. I shall never forget J H Talby, a fishmonger who, rubber boots on feet, cleaver in hand, told me in response to my introduction to 'turn my a... round and f... out of his shop'. He must be long dead, but I shall never forget him. When I go to the great cash register company in the sky, I hope I am remembered for better reasons.

So why did I press on? Simple. The thought of returning to my dad's off licence in Mile End Road, East London was an option too dreadful to contemplate. Also my wife, Eileen, who had become used to my regular salary, insisted I carry on.

Every morning I reported to Sid Webber, who perused my call card with a gimlet eye. Lord help me if I said a user had a 126(3) if it was a 126(7) which Sid of course had sold. 'Don't guess' he'd bark at me. 'If you're not sure get round the front and look'. Of course getting around territory demanded a car. As far as I was concerned a car could have been Concorde, so I enjoyed the rare distinction of coming to the office on a bicycle. Portfolio strapped to the back, I would cycle to Camden High Street, padlock my bike to a railing, take off my cycle clips and go to war with the retailers of North West London. If a miracle happened and I could persuade a retailer to agree to a demonstration, Sid Webber would take me in his car (what a treat) and demo a cash register. I prayed Sid would make the sale. I was on one eighth of his commission! If Sid wasn't available we would have the use of one of the three NCR vans with a driver. I well remember Dick Shearing and the incomparable 'Geoff' Jeffries. I understand Geoff died recently at the age of 94. Geoff could have been on the stage. The funniest man you could hope to meet. I would tell him where I wanted to go and if he wanted to go there we were up and away. He would look at my call sheet of say 20 calls, sneer and say 'pick the best three'.

I must have been doing the job right because the points came in and nine months later I was promoted to the Brixton territory. Bicycle binned, replaced by a second hand Ford Consul. In 1983 five CPC's, including one directorship later, Norman Waller appointed me Head of CRD Sales Training to



replace Bert Brockington, who had been promoted to District Manager. Based in Greenford, the years I was there were the happiest of my NCR career. The training centre was headed up by Basil Garsed who was a wonderful boss. His only shortcoming was that he would call you into his office and then take several twenty minute phone calls whilst you sat there twiddling your thumbs.

In 1969 I was promoted by George (Mack) Mackenzie and Norman Waller to District Manager in Liverpool. Together with Eileen and my two boys, Steven and Alan, we uprooted ourselves from North London and made our way to a rented house in Southport. A real adventure for a family who had never ventured further than Watford. In Liverpool my team of salesmen enabled me to secure a further four CPC's to add to the five I already had.

In 1974 a new word entered the NCR language. 'Integration'. I was brought back to Head Office to manage an integrated district. I and all the other sales personnel had to learn to 'migrate', a new word coined by Graham Miller, meaning to sell the entire product range. Cash register men had to learn to sell electronic accounting machines, and accounting machine salesmen cash registers. An impossible task in my opinion.

And then another new word, one we thought we would never encounter in NCR. 'Redundancy'. One day all District Managers were called into Head Office under extreme secrecy. We had to nominate 25% of our team who would be made redundant. I tried to select those who I thought would be able to find work the easiest, and I know everyone else in my role did the same. One of my team, who had been with the company from school, burst into tears when I told him his NCR career was over. I knew it wasn't going to end there and sure enough, in early December 1974, I was called into Mick Myers' office and told my fate. Mick said he didn't know how the Company was going to manage without me, but from 31<sup>st</sup> December it was going to have a very good try. So after nearly 17 years, at the age of 41, I was out of work. What a prospect for a good new year. So what was I to do? What did I know? Just three things. How to work in an off licence, how to sell cash registers and how to train salesmen.

The family business was out of the question, not that I wanted to go back. Dad had died and the business had been sold. Sell cash registers again? Not likely. Once was more than enough. That just left sales training. I was fortunate that my very close NCR friend, John Bohn, could see the writing on the wall and was prepared to take a flyer with me. John left the Company and on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1975 we started a training company, Marcus Bohn Associates. We never looked back. The company prospered and in 1985 it was acquired by a plc the Barham Group. John and I stayed on until 1991 when we called it a day. John retired and I started another training company, Redwood Associates, which I operate from home to this day.

So that's the end of my story. Do I regret joining NCR? Not a bit of it. I had 16 wonderful years with the company. Trouble was I was there for 17 years. NCR took an inexperienced off licence worker and transformed him into a salesman. I am extremely grateful. And has there been any lasting legacy of my NCR career? Yes. To this day, more than 30 years after leaving, I cannot go into a shop or store without trying to see 'what they're using'. Not many NCR's I'm afraid. John H Patterson would turn in his grave.

## A VISIT TO DUBLIN

Mike Hughes

NCR Ltd., formerly the National Cash Register Ltd. had developed a program package called IDCS or Integrated Distribution Control System. It ran on one of their medium sized computers and looked after stock control, sales and purchase invoicing and accounting. It was my job to market its package, to teach it to the sales staff and, early in its life, to demonstrate it to prospective customers.

The associated Irish company had found a prospect for IDCS and I had to fly to Dublin to do the demonstration, taking the program disk and all the necessary documents and brochures. On arrival in Dublin, customs asked me how much the disk was worth, I shrugged and said maybe £20. I didn't tell them of the thousands of pounds it had cost to develop the program that the disk contained.

I was met at the airport by an NCR systems man called Pat who took me to the Dublin office, oddly it was situated on the North Circular Road or NCR. You could have wondered who was named after whom.

We had a lot of work to do. It was necessary to change the standard demonstration to reflect fictitious Irish purchase and sales names and addresses, together with stock items that would be found in Dublin. Pat and I set to in the computer room. While we worked I discovered that Pat had a huge supply of Irish jokes, mainly at the expense of the inhabitants of the South West of Ireland. This made the time pass quickly but we had to be careful not to reflect those Irish jokes into the names and addresses we were developing.

We were just approaching the end of the task in the early evening when we heard loud noises in the corridor outside. Pat opened the door and to our horror we saw the cleaners trying to quell the flames of a large rubbish fire. Computer companies seem to generate vast amounts of burnable scrap paper and it was pretty obvious to me that the cleaners were not about to win.

The cleaners soon realised this and in desperation phoned the fire brigade, who appeared fairly smartly. I could see the whole building bursting into flames and so we powered the computer down and removed as much equipment as we could carry. We were escorted outside and parked on the pavement outside. At this point I realised that I had left my jacket on a chair in the computer room. I had to have it because it held my wallet, passport and airline ticket. If they had been burned, I had visions of being forced to stay in Dublin for the rest of my life. There were many things in England that I would not miss and, while I enjoyed Dublin, it was not the West Indies or New Zealand.

I went back into the office rather quickly to get my coat, trying to look official. This was much to the displeasure of the fire brigade and I was accompanied by hoarse Irish shouts of "Where's that man going?" and "Here you, come back". I just ignored them.

I managed to retrieve my coat without even seeing a flame and resumed my place on the pavement. I wondered what



the fuss was all about. Maybe the firemen were just filling in time before dinner. Perhaps they did things differently in Ireland.

It was at this time that they found the note. The firemen gathered round looking at it in horror and then one of them dashed off to call the police on the fire engine radio. I found out shortly after that the note said: "KEEP AWAY FROM NCR THERE'S A BOMB PLANTED".

Wow.

A police car came screaming down the road with siren blaring and lights flashing. Had it been me, I'd have had a sympathetic illness and stayed away, me being allergic to explosions, but the Irish police were made of sterner stuff. I had to admire the driver; he made a well controlled drift through the entrance and came to a screaming halt in the courtyard.

We were told to crouch down outside and under no circumstances to go back inside. I felt that this instruction was aimed at me. At least I had my coat, which was just as well because the evening was becoming a bit chilly and the passport felt comfortable in my inside breast pocket. You did not normally need to carry an English passport to Ireland but, as I had not been born in England, I had it with me just in case.

I had the distinct impression that one of the cleaners had christened his underclothing.

It's funny how you think of things when in possible danger. If the office had blown up the computer would go up as well. Then we couldn't do the demonstration and all our work would have been wasted and I would return to London without any success.

What a shame.

The policemen did a careful search of all of the offices and fortunately they found no trace of a bomb. Then they gave the note their attention. They all burst out laughing and the fire brigade packed up their gear and went off to fight another fire or have their tea.

It seemed that the note had been written on the back of a prescription form from the doctor next door. It was written and planted by his young sons and it was a certainty that they were going to feel the arm of the law on a rear part of their anatomy.

Pat and I decided that we had done enough for one day and I can't say we were over keen to go back to work, so we went off to drink copious draughts of restorative Guinness. For some reason, Guinness in an Irish pub always tastes so much better than anywhere else in the world. It must be the Liffey water.

The next morning I looked at where we had been crouching. It was merely an iron railing. Had there been an explosion, glass splinters from the office windows would have been directed at us and would have cut us to pieces.

Just as well it was a hoax.

## BRIAN FLOYD Thespian Memories

A response from Brian Floyd following the piece in the last issue has now been received from him. He tells us that he has now been retired from gainful employment for almost ten years and has found it to be like an extended holiday! Following his redundancy from NCR he moved over the road from HO to BHS as the result of a kind word from a CRD Salesman. This job took him back to his early days with NCR as it was in the Stock Control Section.

He spent two years at British Home Stores until he saw an advert in the local paper seeking an "Assistant to the Accountant". This was with a family firm employing some 100 souls and was in stark contrast to the two huge concerns he had previously worked for. After a year the Accountant changed and the new man decided to computerise with (guess what?) an NCR 299!

Along came an NCR Installation Operator to teach us the ropes it was a lady I had briefly known at NCR but whose name I have now forgotten. Just before my retirement in came a computer but not an NCR!

Finally Brian says "If anyone out there would like to remember 50 years ago plus, the days of AAMD Sales Promotion Department, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor HO, I would be pleased to reminisce. However, you will need my address as I am not on the 'Spider Web' or the 'Fishing Net' my phone is not 'Mobile' and my mail is not 'E'. It will have to be good old fashioned Penny Post! I shall be intrigued to see what might turn up".

Contact me at:-

Brian Floyd, 64 Cornhill Avenue, Hockley, Essex. SS5 5BZ

## From Ian Sutherland and referring to Brian Floyd's piece in the previous issue:

A small correction to Brian's article where his memory has played him tricks: in 1957 in Sales Promotion with Brian and Alan Holman there were two Ians. Ian H P Laughland, the rugby player and Ian (J O) Sutherland, myself. Both Ians played together in the NCR tennis doubles where we got to the final and had to concede due to Ian's rugby commitments. Ian H P may have had a Sales Territory (in England) but I can't remember him being successful as Brian suggests.

I, as Brian says, returned to the Aberdeen territory and by 1964 became top Salesman in Scotland. W R Hart then persuaded me to join management in Leicester. I always felt I was a better salesman than a manager I always hated firing people. The lowest point being when, following the introduction of computers, I was instructed to fire 18 demonstrators (so beautifully and accurately described in John Jenkins's article).

If you can contact Brian please pass on my regards and tell him that I can even remember his performance at the London CPC described in his article.





### KEITH ROSSITER

Keith Rossiter sadly passed away in December 2005.

Keith joined NCR in 1942 and was soon made an essential employee, thus missing War Service.

He started in Field Engineering (TSD at that time) working on NCR state of the art products, eventually specialising in C2000, C6000 Post Tronic and Bank Proof machines. He became a very knowledgeable engineer, constantly being sent out into the NCR Field to 'Grief Cases' to 'Dig Out' other engineers throughout the UK.

Keith also made visits to NCR Beirut and NCR Gibraltar and attended courses in NCR Dayton in America.

A very pleasant person who would always have a ready smile. He was never hurried or frustrated in his work, always giving satisfaction the Field Engineering Division.

Keith retired in 1984. In 1994 he moved to Barton on Sea, Hampshire and spent his latter years by the sea enjoying the views to the Isle of Wight.

Keith was 81.

GORDON TROW

Ex FED and Sales Logistics  
Also retired to the same area!

### KEITH WILLIS

Head Office Brent Watford

It is with great sadness that I have to report the death of my old work mate Keith, who died on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2006 aged 73 after a short illness. He was cremated at the Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip on 18<sup>th</sup> May. Ex NCR attendees were Martin Froude, Colin Norwood, John Fieldson, Derek Coles and yours truly.

Keith had worked at NCR for forty nine years. He started as an apprentice at Head Office, moved to the new building at Brent in 1954 and, when I first met him, he was the foreman in the engraving shop.

When the re-organisation of the Service Department came along, Keith joined the Management Team of the stores at Brent and later at Watford and retired from this location in 1997.

In his time at NCR Keith made many friends throughout the Company and possibly one or two enemies, but was able to get on well with most people.

To end on a light note, there was the time when Keith arrived at work and hadn't noticed the shoes he was wearing. It was a pair all right as he had two pairs almost the same; one pair BROWN and the other pair BLACK. Need I say any more?

Condolences to his wife Brenda and family.

Charlie Balding

### A Memory of 'Jeff' Jeffries

Albert 'Jeff' Jeffries died on 13th December 2005 at the age of ninety-four and a whole library of memories was lost. He had a marvellous recall and events and could bring them to life with his sharp wit and intelligence.

Had he not lost most of his left hand in an accident when a young man of eighteen, he would probably have followed in his father's footsteps as a toolmaker or engineer, where he started his career. His marriage certificate gave his occupation as a shop assistant but soon after this happy event he joined The National Cash Register Company somewhere around 1940.

He worked in the machine shop for a while and then as a storeman. Finally he became, what he remained until his retirement in 1977, a Company driver. For a while he was driver to P.A. Brown, the Company Managing Director, reputedly a formidable boss. On one occasion Jeff was driving a car full of top brass to an appointment when he had cause to brake suddenly, scattering the occupants all over the car. Upon recovering his composure, P.A. Brown, tyrant that he was, leaned forward and cuffed Jeff smartly round the lughole in the manner of a schoolteacher with a recalcitrant pupil. Jeff was flabbergasted but good jobs being scarce said nothing and nonchalantly resumed driving. P.A. Brown was never fond of Jeff after that and I think the affection was reciprocal.

Later, Jeff became the driver of a small van based at Head Office that was used for deliveries and collections but mainly as a vehicle for transporting the sales reps and their machines to demonstrations. He was at the beck and call of the reps but he enjoyed every minute and became a very able assistant to them. I heard nothing but praise from them for this job he did. Often they used him as a chauffeur on their many illicit outings to racecourses, night clubs and sometimes amorous liaisons. He had the lowdown on nearly every Rep at Head Office but never breathed a word until years later when most of the Reps were gone. One well known gangster of a Rep had a successful account which he managed without making much effort, his private activities far exceeding his business ones. Jeff said of his sales ability that if he sold a cash register to a customer then the customer really wanted two.

When the need arose he helped with deliveries. One of the regular deliveries was of adding machines to a prominent bookmaker, where he was certain of a tip. If he had four adding machines to deliver, he would deliver two in the morning, collect his tip, then deliver two in the afternoon and collect another tip. He would have made a good salesman.

After his retirement he became warden of the chalet and



caravan site at Leysdown where he had owned a chalet for four years. He was a great friend of the owner/manager. One day when the manager failed to show at his normal time, Jeff went to his house adjacent to the site to see if anything was wrong. He found his friend dying from a drug overdose. He called the ambulance and forced his friend to take the necessary action that ultimately saved his life. His friend, Arthur, thanked him for a second chance of life but would not or could not say why he'd tried to commit suicide. A few months later, this was in 1987, Jeff found Arthur hanging from the banisters. He cut him down but it was too late. Arthur was a wealthy man, well loved locally and a Justice of the Peace. Apparently he had everything to live for. Jeff gave up the warden's job, sold his chalet and bought a caravan on another site.

I became friendly with Jeff in 1967 and we remained good friends until his death. His only son died from cancer aged twenty-eight, in 1971 and his wife died in 1989. He seemed always to be attending funeral, outliving his six siblings and most of his friends and colleagues.

Left alone after his wife died, he moved into a residential palace of a place in Beckenham, built and run by The Morden College Trust for the benefit of retired 'Ladies and Gentlemen'. He made many friends there and was the darling of the 'Ladies', for whom he performed many favours as handyman and chauffeur, and in return received some of their culinary delights. He was still driving at the age of ninety-four, having bought a new car eighteen months ago. He often popped in to see my wife and I and to finish my Times crossword. Among his effects were a winner's medal for a school quiz, a fine CD collection of classical music and a two-ringed binder full of his lovely poetry, one of which I have enclosed.

He kept his sense of humour to the last day. The day before he died he told me about the woman who had a caravan near his. She kept one of those yappy little dogs, two pennyworth of nothing, what it lacked in size it made up for in sound. Furthermore it used to bite. Jeff said it was the fairest-minded dog he knew, it had no favourites it bit everybody.

One the day he died he shook my hand warmly and thanked me for being his friend. As I left him I knew it was over and so did he.

Miss Me – But Let Me Go.

When I come to the end of the road,  
And the sun has set for me.  
I want no rites in a doom filled room,  
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little, but not too long,  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the times that we once shared,  
Miss me - but let me go.

For this is a journey we all must take,  
And each must go alone.  
It's all a part of the master's plan,  
A step on the road to home.

When you are lonely, and sick of heart,  
Go to the friends we know.  
And bury your sorrow in doing good deeds,  
Miss me - but let me go.

Albert Jeffries Nov. 2002

## WE ARE SORRY TO REPORT THE PASSING OF THE FOLLOWING UK NCR EMPLOYEES

Title	Inits	Surname	Date of Death
Mr	K R	Ashcroft	17/11/05
Mr	J A	Batchelor	04/12/05
Mr	R	Beard	03/10/05
Mrs	M I	Blacker	18/01/06
Mrs	P	Burke	16/11/05
Mr	G	Cook	04/03/06
Mrs	C	Cooper	07/10/05
Mr	G A	Davidson	05/04/06
Mr	K G	Davis	23/01/06
Mrs	I P	Devaney	03/04/06
Mrs	M	Dixon	31/01/06
Mr	A H	Ewen	14/01/06
Mr	R U	Fisher	04/11/05
Mr	P F	Foster	23/09/05
Mr	R P C	Grubb	14/11/05
Mr	C J	Harrington	24/09/05
Miss	J E	Holmes	16/11/05
Mr	A W	Jeffries	13/12/05
Mr	E A	Mullins	30/12/05
Mr	G W	Parsons	16/01/06
Mr	M H J	Paynter	08/09/05
Mr	D R	Pearce	06/12/05
Mr	D	Pengilly	23/01/06
Mr	W G	Prince	11/12/05
Mrs	M	Proctor	25/10/05
Mr	H R	Richardson	03/09/05
Mr	K H	Rossiter	19/12/05
Mr	J J	Smith	05/10/05
Mr	A J	Smithson	01/01/06
Mrs	V R	Smithson	06/03/06
Mr	L T	Stanhope	08/12/05
Mr	C E	Stern	24/01/06
Mrs	M P	Tasker	01/11/05
Mr	K A	Thompson	08/09/05
Mr	K D	Verhoeff	14/09/05
Mr	W	White	11/11/05
Mr	J M	Williams	12/01/06
Mr	F W	Wooldridge	04/03/06

### KEN ASHCROFT

It is with sadness and regret that I have to tell you of the death of Ken Ashcroft, quite suddenly just before Christmas last year. Ken was quite well and although 76 years old was always in fairly good health.

I worked with Ken in Liverpool as his manager up to his retirement in 1988. He was employed throughout the whole of his career with NCR as an Engineer on AAMD in Liverpool, at the latter end on 7750 equipment in the National Giro and other banks, having trained in Dayton on this new line of equipment.

Ken was a very private person who lived alone, but to those who knew him he was a kind and gentle man. We will miss him.

Ken Ashcroft was cremated at Colwyn Bay in the presence of his family and friends.

Charles Southall  
Region 2W



## NCR RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2005/2006

The Chairman's Report for the previous year was compiled prior to the 2005 Annual Meeting, so it would be appropriate for this year's report to commence with a synopsis of that meeting.

The Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup> in the Boston Room at NCR Head Office. All members of the Committee were present and two additional guests, namely Steven Swinbank (Chairman of the Trustees, NCR Pension) and Keith Pyle (Secretary to the Trustees, NCR Pension Plan) were invited to address the members.

Two new Regional Representatives, Pat Keogh and Peter Bodley were introduced and welcomed to the Committee by the Chairman. The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports were discussed and agreed. Additional items discussed and agreed included a realignment of the regional boundaries; by amalgamating the old Regions 4, 4A, 8 and part of 5 into a single Region 4 resulted in there not being an organisational position for Ted Young. Due to his long and valued service to the Fellowship, it was the express wish of the Chairman that he remains a member of the Committee in an advisory capacity, which was unanimously agreed.

Other items discussed and agreed were the continuation of the annual subscription at the previous year's fee of £10.00 per annum, eligibility qualification to join the New Fellowship and a new process for the notification of deceased and potential new members.

The Chairman had previously prepared a renewal letter and subscription form and the contents were agreed. As the Spring 2005 edition of the magazine was very near to publication it was agreed that the letter and form be included in the Postscript distribution process; this would save the Fellowship the additional cost of enveloping and postage to identical destinations. Additionally, printing the renewal letter and subscription forms back to back on the same paper rather than two separate pages would save extra costs. This suggestion was implemented, however later in the year it was noticed that approximately 70 previous members had not renewed their subscription. It was felt that by including the single page letter and subscription form in the pages of Postscript had resulted in some members, having read the letter, discarding it and not realising that the subscription form was on the reverse. This oversight resulted in further follow up letters and renewal forms being distributed in both mid year and late November. At the time of compiling this report I am pleased to see that most of these previous members have renewed for the current year. If the timing is appropriate for the 2006 renewals, then I believe that the same distribution process should be adopted. However, we should make it clear both in the letter and maybe in Postscript that we have utilised this cost saving exercise so that we do not have to go through the follow up process for as many members.

I pointed out to the meeting that the balance carried forward to the new financial year as declared in the final reconciliation

of the Fellowship's accounts provided a false impression of the viability of the Fellowship. The financial year ending April 2005 included only one edition of Postscript and did not take into account the members expenses in attending the annual meeting. This financial anomaly will be corrected in the 2005/6 and subsequent financial years as they will always cover two editions and the appropriate travel expenses. Having allowed for these additional costs in the current year and estimating the value of the renewals I determined that there were sufficient funds available for us to sanction an additional benefit for the members that had not been received for a number of years. I proposed that we investigate the possibility of resurrecting the distribution of a pocket diary to all members of the New Fellowship. This gesture would hopefully improve the credibility of the New Fellowship now functioning without the financial support of the Company and be an added bonus to the members. Geoff Jackson, editor Postscript, was tasked with the responsibility of researching the availability, quality and cost of implementing this suggestion. Two variants were obtained and forwarded to me for a decision. Based on the cost, quality and the ability to include a printed slogan on the cover a decision was made to proceed. Geoff Jackson also suggested that we distribute the diaries with the Autumn edition of Postscript due to be published in late November 2005, thus saving duplicate distribution costs. As this timing would also be early enough in the current year it would prevent members purchasing their own pocket diary if they so wished. The Postscript publication and distribution, including the diary, took place at the end of November and at the time of compiling this report, based on the feed back that I have received, the receipt of this gesture was very well received by the members. I must place on record my very grateful thanks to Geoff Jackson for the ongoing excellent quality of the Postscript magazine and the professional dedication that he put in to finalise this additional burden on his personal time.

In accordance with our Constitution, our accounts for the year ending April 2005 were audited by two respected ex financial managers and were found to be in order in all respects; a comment to this effect was published in the Autumn 2005 edition of Postscript.

The Summer months for the Fellowship are quiet, however as the New Fellowship becomes more established the regional lunches are now gaining impetus and I am pleased to report, being well attended as the word spreads amongst members. Most Regions now appear to be holding one luncheon a year and October has now developed into the popular luncheon season for this annual event. With my dual responsibility as Regional Organiser for Region 4, we held our luncheon in London on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October. As an invited guest, Steven Swinbank addressed the audience with an update on the negotiations being held between the U.K. and Dayton on the long overdue pension increase. Having heard Steven's presentation I was able to convey the same message to the Regional lunches that were also held in the month. I subsequently attended the following lunches; Region 3 in Lichfield on the 13<sup>th</sup>, Region 9 in Exeter on the 17<sup>th</sup>, Region 6 in Shoreham-by-Sea on the 19<sup>th</sup> and Region 2E in York on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Subject to personal commitments, I hope to attend further lunches during 2006.



Before completing this report, I feel that I must comment on the activities that have been taking place between the Trustees and the Corporation on the long overdue pension increases. It was not until Steven Swinbank, Chairman of the Trustees, addressed the attendees at the Region 4 luncheon held in London during October 2005 that it was realised that negotiations had been ongoing for some considerable time. I believe that we can learn a lesson from these revelations and put forward the following suggestions for future consideration. It was over three years since the last pension increase was granted by the Corporation and all pensioners had to assume that no progress or indeed any action had taken place during this period, due to a lack of communication to the pensioners. In reality, ongoing negotiations had been taking place between London and Dayton on a long term Corporate Guarantee to financially support the Pension Fund and to include a formula for future pension increases, however we were totally ignorant of these discussions.

May I propose that in the future, regular interim information be provided to the pensioners so that they are fully aware of any discussions and progress that has been made. This knowledge can be regularly disseminated through a "Pension Update" in Postscript which is published bi-annually or via a newsletter to all pensioners from the Trustees through the offices of the Secretary to the Pension Fund. If the Committee adopts either of these suggestions then we will be in contact with the Trustee Chairman to encourage the Trustees to contribute in providing all interested parties with an update on the ongoing dialogue between the Corporation, Trustees and the Pensioners. I believe that if either of these suggestions were implemented in the future, then it will reduce much of the worry and anxiety experienced by many pensioners simply through a lack of information.

I note from the covering letter included with the Annual Report & Accounts of the Fund for the year ending 5<sup>th</sup> April 2005 (received in February 2006!) that the tri-annual valuation undertaken by the Actuary is due as at April 2006. I trust that the result of this valuation will be communicated to all pensioners as soon as it is completed and not held over until the next Report is published, which, judging by past experience, will be in 2007. Given the adverse media publicity on pensions which we are subject to on an almost daily basis, an early communication on this valuation will hopefully provide pensioners with the confidence they require that the future financial viability of our Fund be adequately provided.

Whilst I applaud the recent granting of an increase to those elderly pensioners who have had their pension eroded due to cumulative inflation over the number of years, I am somewhat disturbed that the message from the Corporation contained in the appendix to the latest Annual Report & Accounts of the Fund indicates to me that those pensioners who have retired post 1990 should not expect an increase in the foreseeable future. This interpretation when judged against ongoing annual inflation, above inflation spiralling energy costs and Council Tax increases is a major concern for the future. I urge the Directors of NCR UK Ltd. To make strong representation to the Corporation to include all pensioners in future increases. I would reiterate that it is not

the responsibility of the Trustees to grant pension increases; the Directors of NCR UK Ltd. Make representation and recommendations to the Corporation in Dayton for their final decision.

These previous comments are a purely personal view, but as Chairman of the Fellowship I feel that I have a responsibility through the medium of the Chairman's Report to reflect what I believe are the opinions and worries of the majority of ex NCR employees. The only collective voice that pensioners have to express their views and concerns is through the Fellowship, and to ensure that these feelings are directed to the appropriate recipients, I will personally forward a copy of this report to the Directors of NCR UK Ltd. and the Pension Fund Trustees.

I would like to make it abundantly clear that my previous comments are not to be taken as a criticism of Steven Swinbank and his team of Trustees. On the contrary, I am personally aware that over the last three years they have undertaken their accountabilities as Trustees to the limit of their responsibilities in their discussions with Dayton, which have proved extremely difficult, time consuming and, at times, acrimonious. I have the greatest respect and confidence that they will continue in the future to undertake their onerous task as Trustees for the benefit of the pensioners not only for the present but well into the future.

It is appropriate that through this report I take this opportunity to thank all members who renewed their subscription for this year and to those who joined the Fellowship for the first time. I encourage all current members to renew their membership for the 2006/2007 year as without your support the Fellowship will not continue to expand and flourish as an independent organisation.

Finally, my personal thanks must be extended to all Committee members and especially to our Treasurer, Lin Sandell, for their dedicated efforts in providing their personal time and commitment in supporting the Fellowship.

John Burchfield - Chairman April 2006

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## SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FOR 2006/7

Contained within this edition of Postscript is the renewal letter from myself for the year 2006/2007. On the reverse of the letter is the renewal form, which should be completed and returned along with your cheque for £10.00 to our Treasurer as indicated on the form.

As a reminder, please do not discard the letter, as we do not wish to enter into a follow up procedure, which incurs additional costs. Failure to return your renewal subscription will mean that your details will be deleted from our database and that you will not receive future editions of Postscript or any other benefits that may be forthcoming.

May I thank you in advance for your renewal subscription that will enable the Fellowship to continue to prosper.

John Burchfield

Chairman



## NCR Retirement Fellowship May 2005 - April 2006

### Membership summary:

UK members	477
Overseas members	21
05-06 New members	50
<b>Total membership 05-06</b>	<b>548</b>

Deceased members	13
Duplicates and non renewals	19
<b>Starting membership 06-07</b>	<b>516</b>

### Membership by region

Region 1	21
2E	40
2W	39
3	43
4	206
5	45
6	30
7	22
8A	15
9	26
10	8
11 (overseas)	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>516</b>

### Financial Summary:

#### Income

Total b/f 04-05	2870.79
UK membership fees	4590
Overseas membership fees	45
New members	380
Donation	40
Early payments 05-06	110

**Total** **8035.79**

#### Outgoings

Expenses	1322.87
Postscript/diaries	4128.82

**Total** **5451.69**

**Balance** **2584.10**

NB. Subject to audit planned June 06  
Expenses covers all administrative costs (eg. postage, copying)

## NCR Retirement Fellowship

### Membership Application Form

I would like to join the NCR Retirement Fellowship please:-

Name .....

Address .....

.....Postcode: ..... Region .....

Send details and cheque for £10 (made out to NCR Retirement Fellowship) to: Lin Sandell, .....

## The NCR Retirement Fellowship

*PRESIDENT: Harry Redington*

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

*CHAIRMAN: John Burchfield*

*TREASURER: Lin Sandell*

*SECRETARY: John Nash*

*EDITOR "POSTSCRIPT": Geoff Jackson*

REGIONAL ORGANISERS



Regional Adviser:  
Ted Young

Region 1: Wallace Hay

Region 6: Alan Hutchins

Region 2E: Pat Keogh

Region 7: John Jones

Region 2W: Charles Southall

Region 8A: Des Woodall

Region 3: Eric Grace

Region 9: George Wallace

Region 4: John Burchfield

Region 5 (Kent): Peter Bodley

Region 10: Ronnie McGowan

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