



AROUND THE REGIONS

Region 1 – Jack Whyte

The autumn 2017 lunch took place at the Italian Kitchen Restaurant in Ingram Street in Glasgow on 25th October, which was considered by all to be rather better than the previous years' choices. The staff were friendly, the food was delivered very swiftly and was of an excellent standard.

Again, there were a few who could not make it – **Scott Caldwell** was returning from holiday the next day. **Iain MacLachlan** was off to winter in Spain on the day of the lunch, **Hamish McKenzie** was spending some of October on the Danube, **Roger Green** was down with flu and one of **Graham Nisbet's** grandchildren was off school and had to be cared for. **Jim Tucker** was also on grandchildren duties up in Lossiemouth. **John Falconer's** mobility is not so good so he elected not to come this year. **Ian Duncanson**, **Bill Ferguson**, **Ralph Chalmers**, **Gordon Mackenzie**, **Don McFadyen** and **Sandy Wallace** also sent their apologies.

This year 18 colleagues showed up – on a beautiful, dry autumn day in Glasgow – a perfect day for golf actually, unlike most days in the last few weeks! As usual, they came from all points of the Scottish compass – **Brian Strathdee**, **Ginger Gray** & **George Benson** from darkest Edinburgh, **Wallace Hay** and **George Brown** from sunny Ayrshire and some of the usual suspects from the far north and east including **John McElroy** from Aberdeen, **Peter Kemp** and **David Brown** from Dundee, **Fred Wieworka** from Forfar and **Bill Hudson** from Pitlochry. Those more local to Glasgow like myself, included **Bob Stewart**, **Peter Hardern**, **Neil Bathie**, **Jimmy Marshall**, **Allan Caldwell** and **John Mackay**.

The lunch was very convivial and low key and most of the party repaired after lunch for some liquid refreshment at a local hostelry – the Committee Room Number 9 in John Street.

My thanks are due to **Allan Caldwell**, **Ginger Gray** and **George Brown** for their assistance in organising the occasion; to **John Mackay** & **George Benson** for the photographs and to everybody who attended and made it a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.



Fred Wieworka with George Brown



Fred Wieworka with George Brown and Neil Bathie



David Brown, Jim Marshall and Bill Hudson

Region 1 continued



John McElroy & Peter Hardern



Peter Hardern, John Mackay and Wallace Hay



Bob Stewart and Peter Kemp



Jack Whyte, Neil Bathie, George Brown, Peter Hardern and Wallace Hay



Bill Hudson, Allan Caldwell & Jack Whyte



Brian Strathdee, Bob Stewart and John McElroy

Region 2E – Pat Keogh

Our October 2017 Lunch was held on the 25th at Otley Golf Club on the outskirts of Otley and 33 of us enjoyed a quality three course lunch and the usual banter. **Peter Cundall** and I are members of the golf club and the chef, Tim, looks after us very well. He gave us a choice of starters, Soup or Melon. For mains we had Loin of Pork or Salmon with Apple Pie or Crème Brule to follow, rounded off with Tea or Coffee. Not bad for £14. Tim has held this price for three years now but it will go up to £15 in 2018. It will still be excellent value and as you can see by the pictures the venue is of very high standard.

Apart from myself and **Peter Cundall**, who helped me on the day, the old Leeds admin team of **Susan Algar**, **Kathy Argilaga**, **Sandra Taylor** and **Elaine** graced us with their presence. In the couples category were **Sandy** and **Pauline McMillan**, **Norman** and **Denise Roberts**, **Don** and **Judie Ward** and **Mike** and **Mary Wood**.

Making up the rest of the York team were **Sheila Davidson** and **Silvia Beck**. The Leeds office residents were **Peter Carruthers**, **John Gilroy**, **Keith Penny** and **Keith Stansfield**. On the engineering side were **Mervyn Clapham**, **Dave Dawson**, **John Evanson**, **Baz Pickard**,

Mike Green, Graham Hatton, Andrew Hill, Alan Ludlam, Walter Scarth, Richard Slater and Brian Jackson. Our other friends were **Roy Burnell** and **Jean Pugh**, Ron's wife.

Harrold Hunter, Roger Fernside, Richard Willett, Philip Wilkinson and June Rudge-Priestley all sent their regards as did **Ian Ormerod** who intended to come but work once again pulled him in another direction. **Ian Beveridge** actually paid but had to pull out when his daughter fell ill and he had to look after the grandkids. Also on grandchildren duty were **Pete Scanlon** and **Walter Bullen** who usually attends with his wife, **Jean**.

Being a man of leisure these days after many heart attacks **Dick Sale** was in Spain taking it easy. The old heart attack theme is cropping up too often these days as **Terry Bearpark** couldn't make it as he was recovering from major heart surgery.

Derek Allen from Manchester has been attending the Leeds lunches with his wife Debbie but couldn't make it this time as he was booked in for an MOT. That's him, not the car. For similar reasons **Alan** and **Sandy Dixon** couldn't attend.

Margaret Ellis and **Barbara Duncan** sent their regards as they attend the Birmingham lunch at this time of the year and will see us in May.

Geoff Beaumont and his wife **Pauleen** from Manchester have always attended the Leeds lunches as he did a lot of work on this side of the Pennines but missed the May lunch as they were no longer fit enough to make the trip. I phoned Geoff to see how they both were and they are doing well but still not able to travel longer distances. Geoff commented on the articles in the summer issue of Post Script on the old machines. When he was demobbed from the navy in 1949 he joined NCR and was first trained on these machines so it brought back some great memories. He really enjoyed reading the articles. I made him feel even older when I told him that I was only twelve months old at that time, He and Pauleen are both 91 now so are doing well.

I related **Geoff Jackson's** decision to step down from producing the Post Script. Everyone expressed their appreciation of the great work Geoff has done over the years and wish him well. Geoff is handing over the reins to others so Post Script will continue.

We have always held our October lunch on the fourth Wednesday of the month but as it always seems to fall on half term it is a problem for those on grandchildren duty so we are moving this lunch to the second Wednesday in October next year.

Well another successful lunch was enjoyed by all and came to an end with the usual loads of banter. We never seem to tire of talking of the good old days. We will get together and do it all again in May next year. Don't the years fly.

Future Dates.

All of our future lunches will be on the 3rd Wednesday in May and the 2nd Wednesday in October.

Next Lunch:- Wednesday 16th May 2018.



The Leeds Admin team Elaine, Kathy, Susan and Sandra.



Denise and Norman Roberts, Mike Green and Baz Pickard.



Sandy and Pauline McMillan and Mike and Mary Wood.



Richard Slater, Keith Penny and Keith Stansfield.



Jean Pugh, Barbara Duncan and Silvia Beck.

Region 2E continued



John Evanson, Brian Jackson, Mervyn Clapham and Walter Scarth.



Alan Ludlam, Dave Dawson, Graham Hatton and Andrew Hill.

Region 2W – Graham Brookman

Having recently taken over the coordination of Region 2W I intend to restart the lunches either annually or six monthly (depending on demand). We are hopefully having the next lunch in May 2018 so I shall be reporting on the success of that in the next issue of Postscript.

Pat Keogh writes:-

The last lunch held in the Northwest region was in 2014 due to the absence of an organiser. As I spent my early years (16) as an engineer in Liverpool I agreed to hold an un-organised lunch at Birchwood Golf Club on the 7th December to try to get the Northwest lunches off the ground again. The golf club is at the junction of the M6 and the M62, midway between Liverpool and Manchester, an ideal location.

An un-organised lunch is a lunch that requires no organisation. I agreed with the golf club that we could turn up and individually order our food from the club's menu as we arrive.

The December date is too late to get a report into this copy of Postscript but I will do a report for the spring edition if more than three people turn up.

After making this arrangement, the very brave **Graham Brookman** stepped forward and volunteered to take over as the 2W organiser from 2018 onwards even though he lives in London. Well done Graham.

After speaking to Graham I agreed to go ahead with the 'December get together' and try to extend the contact list for his future lunches. I added the contacts Graham had already gathered to the 2014 contact list I got from **Ian Ormerod** to give me a starter list. Ian never throws anything away.

I sent an email out with the details of the event, asking the recipients to 'pass it on' to anyone they were in contact with who were not on the list.

On the day I will ask the attendees to fill out one of Graham's contact forms and help build an extensive list for the 2018 Northwest lunches.

Here's hoping for a good future for the Northwest Fellowship lunches.

Region 3 – Keith Templeman

Our Autumn lunch was held, as usual, at the George Hotel in Lichfield. A lively 26 managed to attend and the meal was its usual success.

Apologies were received from **Peter Heywood, Keith Hemming, Les Clarke, Bob Swingler, Phil Rock** holidaying in Scotland, **Ken Ford, Maggie Gilmore** who was attending a wedding in Cyprus, **Dave Green** who was spending 6 weeks in China, and **Ian and Sheila Ormerod** who were entertaining guests of their own at short notice.

Malcolm Alliband couldn't make it and probably will not attend future lunches, but he did email these comments that he wished to share with everyone.

"I'm afraid that age is catching up with me, I'm 90 years old in a couple of months, my eyes and mobility are not too good and I don't think I'll be able to attend any more lunches in the future. I should be very grateful to hear news of other members and always look forward to reading the NCR PostScript when it arrives.

I have fond memories of my 35 years with NCR and well remember the Computronic course when **Don Tilley, John Phillips** and I were staying with **Mrs Sloan** whose meat balls were a revelation I can assure you. They were great company and it was a pleasure to have known them. I hope everyone is keeping well and I send my best wishes for the future".

I'm sure everyone that knows Malcolm would also wish him all the best too.

Would anyone who can shed more light on Mrs Sloan's meat balls please step forward and explain more!

Our next lunch will be on Thursday 19th April 2018.



Clarence Allbutt and Nita Ridge

Region 3 continued



John Latty and Val



John and Lillian Williams



Jill MacPhail with Fiona



Noel Shaw and Graham Brookman



Joy Maskell and Joy Wright



Margaret Ellis with Joy Maskell



Yatish Ranch and Jim McHugh



Jacky and Dene with Dave Beattie



This may not be the most recent addition to NCR's line of cash registers, but it certainly looks the part. Harry Ridge couldn't resist tinkering with it for one of his grandchildren. I wonder if he found a fiver at the back of the till drawer. At least it has a genuine supervisor call bell attached as originally supplied to Woolworths.

Region 3 continued



Joe and Jenny Teeling



Dene and Keith Templeman



Nita and Harry Ridge



Kevin and Marion Rixson



Kay and Ian Davidson

Region 4 – Roger Whelan

The London Region's annual lunch was held at the Corus Hotel in Lancaster Gate close to Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens on Wednesday 4th October 2017. This was the 9th year at the hotel and again we found that many key staff had changed, including the Deputy Manager. Nevertheless, the new hotel staff quickly responded to our needs and I hope that everyone was satisfied with the service and quality of food. I hope you agree that this venue in the West End of London, the quality of service and reasonable price continue to serve our needs very well and, hopefully, will continue to do so.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions about how the arrangements can be improved and I will try to implement them if possible.

We had 63 Fellowship guests this year, one up on last year, in spite of a few expected guests not being able to make it at the last minute. As always, it was a great pleasure to meet up with former colleagues and friends from an NCR which seems to slowly recede into the past. Nothing we can do about that, but at least we can catch up with one another and compare notes.

It was a pleasure to have with us **Lin Sandell** and **Stephen Swinbank**, chair and president respectively of the NCR Fellowship. There weren't any developments to discuss about the NCR Pension Plan following the transfer of the Fund to PIC Plc but it is satisfying to remember how well that that transfer turned out!

I have included a list of attendees as a reminder for all those who were present and which could be used as a prompt to tempt others to come and join us next year and continue to make it an enjoyable annual reunion.

I would like to thank everyone who sent me their email address. I plan to send out next year's invitations by email to save postage. Of course I will post invitations to anyone who prefers that method or who doesn't have the facilities to receive or send emails,

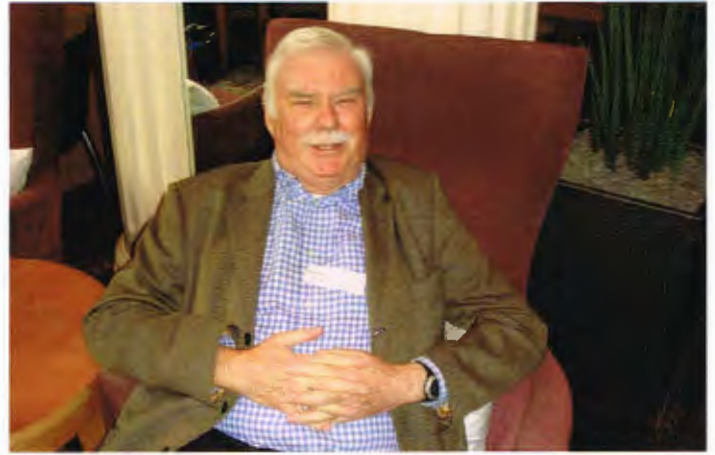
As always I am extremely grateful to **Chrissie Young** and **John Atkins** who generously helped out with the registration. The name-tags showing the menu choices were a great help to the waiters who were able to serve the guests quickly with the right choice. We started the lunch earlier than usual and I hope everyone appreciated having a bit more time for conversation.

Next year's London Lunch will be on Wednesday 3rd October 2018 and invitations will go out late June / early July.

Region 4 continued

Guest list:

Roger Allen, Niall Anderson, John Atkins, Douglas Baker, Norman Bowen, Ernie Brewer, Graham Brookman, Barbara Burvill, George Cass, Alan Chard, Roy Cheal, David Collins, Mary Cronin, Ida Daly, Ian Davidson, John Davies, Will Davies, Neil Demello, Chris Dunn, John Fenner, Peter Foxwell, Nanda Goonawardana, Robert Gray, Patricia Hague, Ray Harris, Bernard Harris, Tracey Harrison, Nigel Hensman, Mel Hill, Keith Hollands, Ann Humphreys, Geoff Jackson, Roger Lintern, Julia Lomas, Hilda Lott, Donald MacQueen, Douglas Milsom, John Munday, TA Nickell, Richard Packer, Eric Page, Vince Parry, Susan Penn, Allan Robertson, Andrew Robinson, Bob Robinson, Simon Rubin, Lin Sandell, Brian Sanderson, Peter Shipp, John Smith, John Souster, Roy Southward, Peter Staines, Stanley Statt, Mike Sumner, Stephen Swinbank, Rodney Velloso, Vince Wake, Roger Whelan, Paul Williams, Ron Wiltshire, Chrissy Young.

**Stephen Swinbank & Ian Davidson****David Collins & Alan Robertson****Pat Hague, Tracy Harrison, Nanda Goonawardana & Mary Cronin****Robert Gray****Bernard Harris & Will Davies****Roger Whelan & Ida Daly****Alan Robertson, Chrissy Young & John Atkins**

Region 4 continued



Geoff Jackson, Paul Williams & David Collins



Brian Sanderson & Graham Brookman



Ron Wiltshire, Alan Robertson & Roger Whelan



Ann Humphreys & John Davies



Chrissie Young & Paul Williams



Bob Robinson, Alan Robertson & Roy Cheal

Region 5 – Anthony Welch

We had our autumn lunch at our usual venue, the Malta Inn Allington, on Thursday 19th October. Unfortunately somewhat depleted, apologies from

Pete Withey, Peter Shipp, Mrs Elliott, Roy Wilkins who had all suffered from some ailment or other. Hope they will all recover.

Which just left **Tom Elliott** and granddaughter- that's a first- **Rod Nash** and **Jenny, Ray** and Carol Howes, **Estelle Sillett**, Myself and Wife, we managed to while away best part of the afternoon catching up on news families etc. Left agreeing to meet again in the new year, to be arranged.



Region 6 – Alan Hutchins

Region 6 held their Lunch this year on November 8th. There were 23 of us present. Unfortunately **Margaret Stevensom** was unable to attend due to a fall the day before. This year we had to find a different venue from the Castle where we have been very happy for several years. I am pleased to say **Barry Shorten** found the Hare & Hounds at Cowfold and this proved to be very good. Without Barry finding this place we would not have had a lunch this year. **Rod Nash** and **Tony Welch** from Region 5 paid us a visit. It is very nice to see everybody in good health, it is good that with advancing years people will travel, sometimes long distances to meet former colleagues. Sadly there are no photos as I left the camera at home. Those who came were **Dave Court, Nick Carter, Michael & Carole Brown, Tony Goddard, Dave Gilby, Linda Harper, Jim & Sylvia Lawmon, Colin & Peggy Norris, Michael & Jenny Ray, Barry & Pat Shorten, John Stevenson, John Stringer, Dave & Joan Wheeler, Rod Nash, Tony Welch & Alan & Sheila Hutchins.**

Region 7 – John Jones

Having failed to attend the last meeting I arranged it was only right that I got this one correct.

With a change of venue to the Hollow Tree a bit nearer to the M5 than some previous venues. It was the same as in June and being a "Two for One" needed a little more management of ordering.

Those attending were **Roy Back, Wayne Edmund, Maurice and Pat Keene, Peter Bodley, Geoff Jackson, Dave and Jean Jones, Annie Cunningham (Weekes)** and husband **Bev, Fred Macey, Dave and Jan Robinson, Bill Hudson** (jet lagged on return from California), **Dennis and Anita Williams, Keith Templeman, Kevin Rixson, Chris Stocker**, new boy **Paul Davis** and myself **John Jones.**

Keith and Margaret Ponting were expected but had to cancel last minute. **Rita Keitch** got herself double booked and **Jean Cheek** wanted to come but I couldn't find any one to bring her as both **Sue Hooper** and **Mary Leader** had previous engagements.

As usual holidays, health and travel problems coupled with family commitments were the main reasons for being unable to attend.

Those who were unable to attend were **Bill Parke, Chris Mumford, Colin Easterbrook, John Timberlake, Peter Roderick, Barry and Barbara Avery, Maurice Chivers, John Watts, Keith Middleton, (In Madeira), Paul and Angela Bryant, Rob Fairbairn, Graham and Carol Watt, Jessie Wallace** and husband **Martin, Michael Wells, Bob Kirkham, Jonathon Knight, Leslie Clark** and **Ian Omerod, Betty Vickery** has moved into a Nursing Home but still wants to be in contact with us.

We also sadly missed **John Shadbolt** who passed away recently.

Hopefully I will be able to organise another one in June 2018 and that those who couldn't make this one will be able to attend.

If you recognise an old friend in the lists above and would like an invite to our next get together contact me, my details are on the back page of Postscript.

Personnel in Photo

Standing Left to Right

Wayne Edmond, Paul Davis, Geoff Jackson, Dennis Williams, Peter Bodley, Dave Robinson, Kevin Rixson, Dave Jones, Bill Hudson, Maurice Keene, Chris Stocker, Fred Macey, Roy Back, Keith Templeman, John Jones.

Seated Left to Right.

Anita Williams, Jan Robinson, Jean Jones, Pat Keene, Annie Cunningham.

Photographer was **Bev Cunningham.**



Region 8 – Richard Craigie

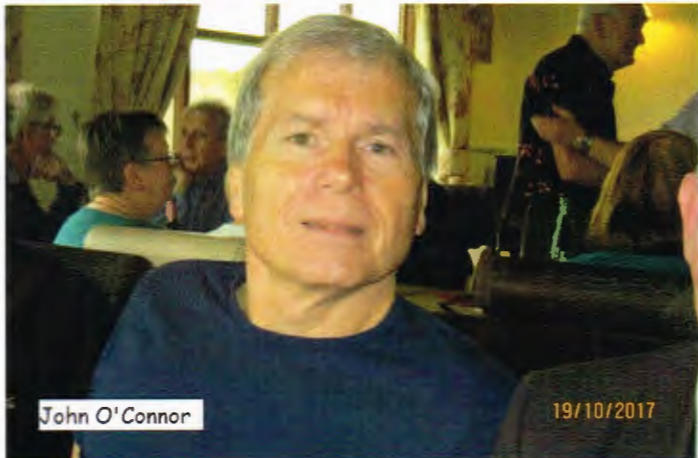
Region 8 had our Autumn lunch on the 19th October at The Lazy Otter. There were 27 of us, many new guests, but also some of our group missing. **Ted Miller** has not been too well, **Tom Boles** is steadily getting stronger and everyone sends their best wishes to them. **Pat Buck & Ted Long** both had other commitments. **Keith Templeman** came again together with his wife **Dene** as did **Kevin Rixson** and his wife **Marion**. **Chris Stocker** was back with us. **Neil De Mello** came for the first time and brought with him **Norman Fowler, Rod Velloso** and **John Fenner**. It was a good enjoyable if somewhat noisy lunch with all the catching up with people from our working past.

Lastly Gloria and I put together a small Christmas raffle for a bit of fun, with prizes going to **Eileen Fish, Neil De Mello & John O'Connor.**

In attendance were:- **Tom & Avril Herbert, Tom Atkins, Richard & Linda Chamberlen, Jimmy Wickham & Eileen Fish, Dave & Lesley Debnem, Frank & Gladys Bellamy, Colin Franklin, Jack & Cliff Ree, Dennis Pearce, John O'Connor, Neil De Mello, Norman Bowen, John Fenner, Rod Velloso, Keith & Dene Templeman, Kevin & Marion Rixson, Chris Stocker** and finally **Gloria & I.**

Our Spring Lunch is at The Lazy Otter Thursday 19th April 2018.

Region 8 continued



Region 8 continued



Region 8 continued



Region 9 – Jessie Wallace

Readers of the previous copy of PostScript will have noticed that we had to cancel our last lunch due to lack of support. Also, that our next lunch was scheduled for December 4th. By the time you read this that lunch will have or have not taken place.

This will depend upon the support for this event. Membership in Region 9 has always been quite fragile and the time may have arrived when we will have to consider merging with Region 7, having a lunch midway between the two Regions. Region 7 are amenable to this and a decision, depending on attendance at the December lunch, will be reported in the next issue.

Region 10 – Ken Carson

It was toward the end of October that the Region 10 main annual lunch was held, in time honoured tradition, at the newly refurbished Ginger Bistro in Belfast and while the surroundings had morphed somewhat since our previous meeting the menu was no less more-ish than before! We each had a little extra share of the circumference of the big table this time round, due to prearrangements and a harbinger of a weather forecast predicting hurricane tail end lashings that ended up serving little more than the bat of an eye lid.

Among our cheerful troupe it was good once more to have the company of **Martin Brunty**, who has been an occasional "luncheon" over the last number of years, but having recently surrendered his amp meter, we can hopefully look forward to the sound of his fun and banter more often in the future.

Enjoy your retirement Martin!



So, to Crown the day off and with hips and knees suitably rested, a party of stalwarts repaired to another Joint, from whence they had trundled at the outset of the proceedings. What a great day out altogether!

I will be in contact as usual towards the end of May '18 DV, to arrange our Spring/Summer outing.



NCR 500 COURSE No 2 BRENT 1967



Back row: Bernard Wagland (Luton) Bill Brown (Coventry, Mike Daly (Dublin), John Jones (Cheltenham)

Front Row: Brian Bourdon (Peterborough) Laurence Dyke (Guildford) Tom Baldwin (Instructor) ??? Jim Thompson (Londonderry) Charlie ??? (Romford).

I know some of the above are no longer with us, I also know that some of you are still with us., let me know.

Email is on back page of Postscript.

John Jones Region 7.

OBITUARY

We are sorry to have to tell you that the following employees are no longer with us. Our condolences go to all the affected families:

Fellowship Members

F	Duckworth	01/11/17	Region 2W
P T	Glyn	17/06/17	Region 3
A C	Gilmour	08/04/17	Region 1
K A	Harper	03/01/17	Region 6
J E	Hill	04/10/17	Region 4
M G	Seeney	20/07/17	Region 4
J J	Shadbolt	15/09/17	Region 9

Other Employees

T D	Aubrey	05/05/17
Mrs E J	Bain	12/06/17
P I	Boffey	29/08/17
M	Convery	20/06/17
R Q	Hayes	15/05/17
D F	Kerr	25/09/17
P	Morris	09/09/17
V E J	Orange	04.05/17
A F	Phipps	22/07/17
B	Rhodes	03/09/17
W A	Thorne	18/06/17
S T	Wootley	26/09/17

Note:

PIC do their best to provide with up to date information with regard to recent deaths. Sometimes such deaths are not reported to them promptly and, in such cases, they will not appear on our lists until our next issue.

WINTER MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As another successful year comes to a close I am pleased to report some recent positive developments.

After several attempts to find a replacement to take over Region 2W after Ian Ormerod stood down, we are delighted to announce that Graham Brookman (contact details on the back cover) has volunteered to take on the role. He will be re-starting regional lunches shortly.

We have also been trying to find a new editor so that Geoff Jackson can retire after some 36 years. Graham has also offered to 'shadow' Geoff for the next edition with the objective of taking over the role for the Summer 2018 edition. My sincere thanks go to Graham for getting involved with both activities.

My thanks go to Ann Humphreys, Gill Macphail and Eric Page who also volunteered their help.

It has been brought to my attention that some attendees at recent lunches were disappointed not to be given a pension update. Obviously, now that PIC are paying our pensions, there is nothing for us to report. However it occurs to me that you might find some information about PIC interesting, especially those who cannot make one of their open days. This can be found by looking at website www.pensioncorporation.com

Finally my thanks, as always, to all our members and the committee members for all that they do in support of the Fellowship. I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas.

Lin

JOHN SHADBOLT



Sadly, John Shadbolt passed away suddenly on 15th September 2017. As Betty (John's Wife), family and friends gathered at the Celebration of his life on 29th September I couldn't help thinking back to the first time I met John.

It was in 1965 nearing the end of my time in the Royal Air Force that I read an advertisement placed by Elliot Brothers who were holding an Open Day at Borehamwood for those interested in a career in computing. I duly went along and was interviewed by John who said that when I had 3 months to do I should contact him regarding possible employment. This I did and in 1967 was offered a position as a Commissioning Engineer on their 4100 Series of computers of which John was Manager.

In the latter part of 1968, Elliot Bros, International Computers and Tabulators and part of English Electric merged together to form ICL and I lost contact with John when I moved to ICL for a short time and then on to GEC.

In 1972 I heard of a position within NCR and went along for an interview, and whilst there, came across John who, following the formation of ICL, had moved to NCR as Manager of UK Development Engineering Dept, which designed computer peripherals and special interfaces. Following my interview I was offered and accepted a position within this department and to my surprise found that John was to be my new Boss.

Whilst the work was varied and challenging, so was our leisure time, sometimes taking our lunch breaks to go swimming and after work a good workout on the squash

court. We were always joined by Alan Beardon, who was on our team working solely on design. Also on the Agenda were meals at the Grosvenor Hotel in Borehamwood with John and Betty, Alan and his wife, Sheila, and Pam and myself.

It was in approximately 1980 when the factory in Borehamwood closed and the UKDE Department moved to Brent Cross. The next decade saw many changes in the computing industry and UKDE found itself involved in many financial design applications undertaking work for clients such as Lloyds Bank, Nationwide Anglia and Abbey National.

In 1991 AT&T acquired NCR and, by chance it was also the year that John was offered an early retirement package which he felt was too good an opportunity to miss.

In 1996 John and Betty moved down to the edge of Dartmoor in Devon. This was a move that they had always looked forward to since the days spent on summer holidays in the

West Country during the 1970's

Another relocation, this time to the Cotswolds, in 2005, with both John and Betty taking active roles in the Cotswold Canals Trust looking after the lock-side garden in Stroud and John volunteering in the secondhand bookshop raising vital funds for ongoing canal restoration projects. Apart from holidays in the West Country they enjoyed Narrow Boating on the canals and waterways of Great Britain and had many happy holidays with friends, hence their involvement with the Cotswold Canals Trust.

Although there were times when we didn't see each other, we always kept in contact and caught up on events at the NCR Pensions lunches (Region 9). For myself, I am so grateful for John's initial guidance when I left the Royal Air Force and of course for his friendship over the years.

Derek Knibb

From Hilda Lott:

I must thank you for the wonderful coverage you gave to Region 4 in the Winter PostScript. I must admit to feeling a little embarrassed when I saw me featured at the top of the picture collage! It was lovely to see a few of my husband's friends. It is amazing how many manage to attend the annual lunch at the Corus Hotel.

It takes me back to the day I started work, aged 16. I was employed as an accounting machine operator and loved every minute I worked at Marylebone Road. I walked into the machine shop one day and met a very nice looking lad called FRED LOTT. It sounds silly to say it but it was definitely love at first sight. Engaged at 18 and married, becoming Mrs Lott at 20!

I left after eight years to move to Abbey National in order to get a mortgage but Fred stayed with NCR for forty years



having to retire eventually with ill health. As a parting gift we were given a computer running on word 4 not Microsoft so you can see how long ago it was.

NCR has family connections for me too as I had a brother working in the City repairing machines.

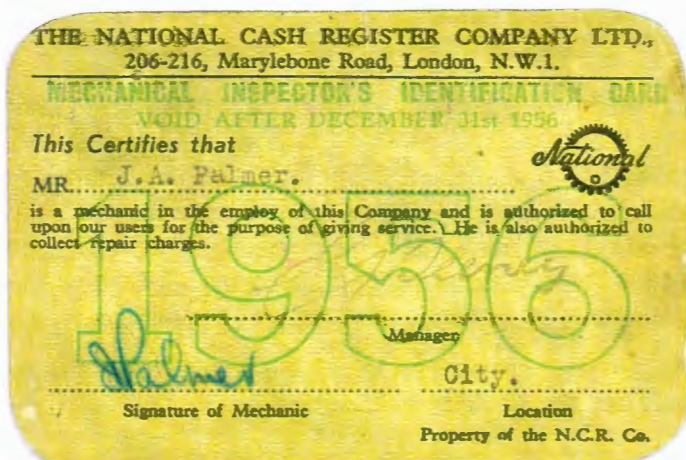
I also have a sister there and a brother-in-law, Steve Moore who are still around but unable to get to the annual lunch.

I fortunately have a friend, Peter Staines, who very kindly goes to the lunches with me. We do appreciate the wonderful job done by Roger Whelan organising them. I must add that I really enjoyed reading the article about Mortimer Mouse and am going to get a copy. In fact I love reading all of PostScript and look forward to receiving the next one.

Sincerely Hilda Lott



Hilda's brother John



ALLEN WALES

The Acquisition of Allen Wales and its contribution to the War effort.

For years NCR salesmen were repeatedly asked: "Do you sell adding machines?" It was obvious that the adding machine fitted into the NCR pattern of product and service. Although the Class 3000 embodied the adding machine feature there was need of a low-priced adding machine to be operated on its own. While many kinds of adding machines were on the market one in particular offered the advantages that the Company demanded. This was the Allen-Wales machine. In 1943 the Allen-Wales concern was acquired by NCR becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary. The Allen-Wales machine rounded out the NCR line of accounting machines which today provided mechanization for all accounting needs.

Allen Wales machines were backed by thirty years of progress and development. The first design was started by Heber Cushing Peters in the fall of 1913. W. J. Pickering was made president of the company in 1933 which position he held when the company was acquired by NCR.

Progress of the Company was rapid through an aggressive engineering and research policy. New machines were continually being developed and placed on the market. They met with instant approval and became vital factors in the field of accounting and calculating machines, not only in the USA but also in overseas markets.

In addition to the popular desk model adding machine, the line also contained Listing, Statement and Bookkeeping machines of high quality and performance.

Situated on a high hill at the edge of Ithaca, New York, the Allen Wales plant looked down over the city.

Recognition of the service rendered by accounting machines came after the United States was plunged into the Second World War. With the outbreak of hostilities conservation of raw materials became imperative. Early in 1942 a ban was placed on the production of cash registers. No accounting machines could be made save for the Army, Navy and the Maritime Commission.

By the end of 1942 such pressure was brought to bear by industry, banking, government departments, hotels, and wholesalers for the resumption of accounting machine manufacture that the War Production Board made a survey of the situation. It showed that the accounting machine saved 10 times the amount of labour required to build it. If a machine took 300 hours to build it saved 3000 man hours of work. The survey further revealed that there had been an increase of 20 per cent in accounts and an expansion of 60 per cent in business all due to war pressure. Hotels were jammed, stores crowded, industry boomed. The famine of trained employees due to the demands of the armed forces emphasized the acute need for accounting machines to



expedite and simplify the work of men and women.

Late in 1942 manufacturers of accounting machines were permitted to engage in production for essential business. The allocation represented about one half of normal sale. Priorities for consumers were fixed by the War Production Board. The accounting machine resumed its indispensable place in industry and business. During the following year the demand for machines was so great that the quota for production was again increased until it was almost normal. Conservation of man power was proved to be more important than conservation of raw materials.

Dec 1943

As one year closed and another started, the National Cash realized how greatly the picture of the business has changed in the last twelve months. A year ago, while in full production on some items of war material, the factory was just getting ready to manufacture some of those which were most important. The company was at almost maximum production on everything which had been under taken to make for the Army and Navy. Many a problem had been solved in reaching that point, long hours had been put in all through the factory, personal sacrifices had been many. The effort was great and the accomplishment equally so.

The number one job was to win the war. Every plan and every decision had that as its objective.

But the company was looking forward to the time when the

successful conclusion of the war would permit the building of regular products.

In 1943 the company was thinking about the probable conditions after the war. At that time there were practically no new machines on consignment either at home or overseas. The Selling Force was living on used machines. The demand for records such as our equipment provides is growing and it will not become less. It seems only reasonable to expect an increased demand for the company products.

An important addition was made to those products ... the Allen Wales adding machine. This ultimately meant there would be more sales which will be reflected in production and employment. Negotiations for this purchase had been long, but their completion filled a long recognized need to have such machines on the line.

For eighteen months 'The Cash' had not built a new cash register. Many of the present employees had never worked on a cash register part. The factory was geared to the making of entirely different products. In one sense the company had been getting farther and farther away from the traditional regular work but in another had learned a great deal about it.

War was a fast teacher and taught the company much about new materials, factory layout, scientific developments and close tolerances. The company was a better manufacturing organization than it was a year ago.

February 1944

Employees of the Allen Wales Adding Machine Corporation, like NCR workers at Dayton, were making war products and machines for war industries.

The Allen Wales Adding Machine Corporation, was now a wholly owned subsidiary of The National Cash Register Company, and was also doing its share for Uncle Sam, producing vital equipment for the Army and the Air Forces. This month in 1944, its employees began their fourth year of producing war material.

They had completed a contract building parts for bomb sights, similar to those produced at Dayton. One of their major items was the production of firing pins for carbine rifles. This work was transferred there from NCR Dayton upon the acquisition of the Ithaca plant. Allen Wales employees were also producing Link Trainer Units for training Army pilots. Another important item manufactured by them, was what is known as the M-2 modification of the S-1 bomb sight. It was designed by Gunnar Nelson, head of Research and Ordnance Engineering at NCR Dayton.

Along with their war items, Allen Wales employees were also producing adding machines and bookkeeping equipment for the government and industries engaged in war production.

One order called for several hundred two-total adding machines.

It was placed by Wright Field in Dayton for use in air depots

throughout the country.

Dec 1944

Employees of Allen Wales Commended for High Quality of Workmanship in Manufacture of Bomb Fuses

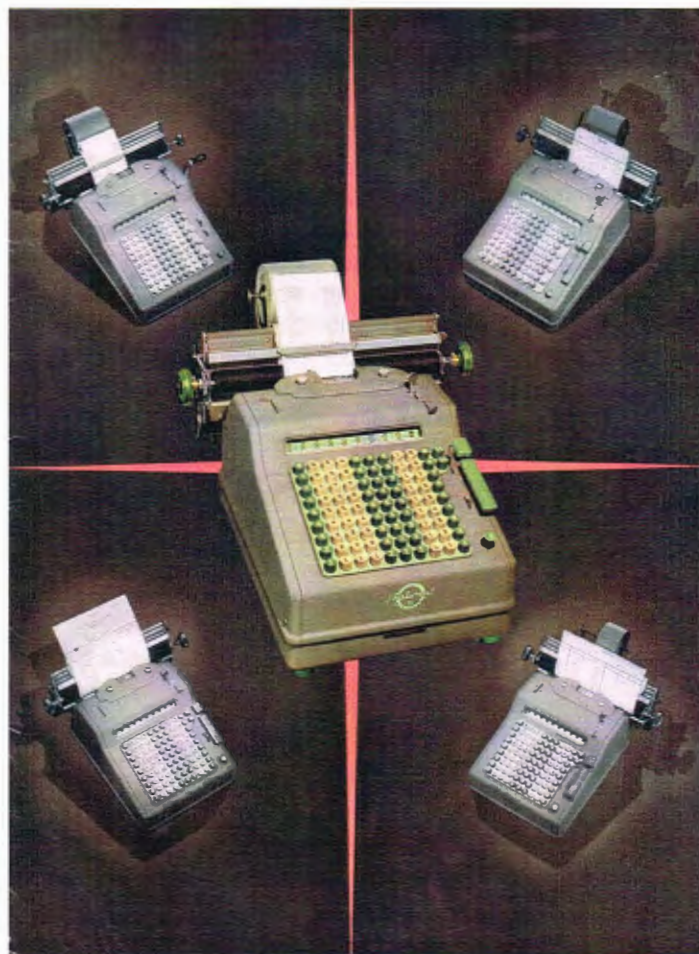
On November 1, Allen-Wales was presented with the Army and Navy "E" Award. The presentation took place in the newly remodelled offices on the second floor and was attended by the entire organization.

Col. Frank J. Atwood, Chief of the Rochester Ordnance District, made the award. He gave the organization the credit for low percentage dud bombs dropped over Germany and commended the company for the thousands of bomb-fuses, and praised suggestions which have led to improvements. He also made reference to the manufacture of shell primers and component parts for time fuses, .50-caliber machine guns, bombsights, automatic pistols and .30-caliber carbines.

The award was accepted by W. J. Pickering, president of the Corporation, and Donald J. O'Connor, representing the employees.

At the end of the war NCR began supplying Allen Wales adding machines to countries throughout the world.

Here in the UK and Ireland there were 72 centres supplying NCR – Allen Wales adding machines to their towns and local areas.



THE NCR DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AND ITS PART IN MY FAMILY HISTORY

September 2017

This article was intended to be a follow-on to my earlier story in Post Script, to show how the Allen Wales adding machine morphed into an effective and low cost data input device in the computer era.

As I sit here writing this I am reminded that it is 50 years ago since I first saw this combination of the 31EN adding machine, 461 Punch tape recorder and the 411 check digit verifier.

I wasn't trained on this particular equipment although I had done the adding machine training in 1966 and envied our basic electronics trained engineer at Burnley Office, Frank Ellison, who had a shiny brown leather briefcase which he had been presented with on completion of his training.

It was Blackburn September holidays and somehow Frank had been given the week for his holiday and at the same time the office had 'uncharacteristically' booked an installation of three sets of punch tape units to be installed at Blackburn Cooperative Society to replace their aging 20 column ICT punch card equipment which was used to calculate dividend payments at the end of each year.

And so it came about that when I phoned in after lunch one day to say my mornings work had been completed I was asked if I would go to the Co-op and install the units. I explained that I was not trained but was told to pretend that I had been and do my best as there was a rather upset demonstrator on site waiting to demonstrate the equipment and train the staff.

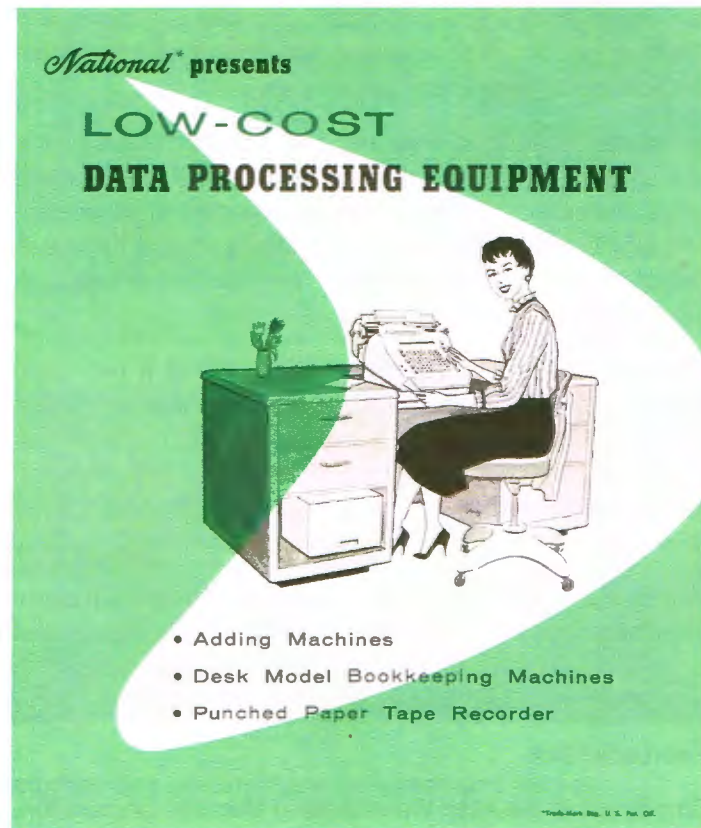
I didn't have any problem installing the equipment as it was all plug and play and the demonstrator knew how to load the paper rolls so having tested the equipment with the demonstrator's help, I got my 442 worksheet signed and was on my way not expecting to go there again until I had completed the training course.

To my surprise two weeks later I was asked to return there to do a very minor repair and from then onwards the office were giving me calls for the Co-op about every two weeks but on arrival I found that the faults reported had usually miraculously fixed themselves. The staff were always very friendly and I got on well with everyone and surprisingly they never complained that I had not been able to find the faults or permanently fix their machines. My visits usually ended with a cup of tea and a chat at their afternoon break usually about what I was doing at the weekend.

The mysterious fault calls were explained one Friday afternoon at the end of November when, again not having found the cause of a fault which they could not show me or explain what the problem was, I was asked what I was doing that weekend. I explained that I had nothing planned but in two weeks' time was going to a formal Police dinner dance (I was a Special Constable). At this point one of the girls said "if I break off my engagement will you take me?", my instant response was to say 'well actually I was going to ask Sheila'. Sheila, who was the office junior, was so shocked that she rushed out of the office and that was the last I saw of her that day. The following week the staff at the Co-op rang the office, not to place a call, but to say that Sheila would like to go to the dinner with me and, having arranged the time and address to collect her, that was our first date 50 years ago on December 9th, 1967. We

were married three years later in 1970, and have three children and nine grandchildren, a family which may never have come about but for the punch tape equipment and a bit of bad planning by the Burnley Office staff.

Ian Ormerod



ILLUSIONS SHATTERED

Some years ago, my son had a house in New Mexico, US of A, and when we visited him I was delighted to find we were not that far from Lincoln (Lincoln county wars, Billy the kid etc.). Having been brought up on a diet of cowboys and indians, I convinced Son we should go there.

When we arrived they were having a reconstruction weekend, so we investigated the jail courtroom, various bullet holes, and the store owned by one of the protagonists and there was a National cash register, and I thought engineers with custom saddle bags, fighting off indians and bandits between jobs. Then I realised this all took place 15 - 20 years before Mr Pattison started producing tills, another illusion shattered.

While on the subject of old cash registers, recently we, the wife and I dined in a pub and I noticed one of our old brass registers, I commented on this to the barmaid, she said yes it was rare and was just a decoration, I told her the reason they were rare was that most were scrapped because we never found a way around the 10 shillings, to which I got a non committal Oh!

I realised later she probably had no idea what I was talking about.

Was it really that long ago? It doesn't seem it!

Anthony Welch

CAREER TRAINEES

Following an email to the Editor, concerning me doing an item about my joining NCR in September 1967, for the next edition of Postscript, he considered it and decided it would be a good idea! The thought of recalling those early years was perhaps a bit daunting given it is 50 years ago, however here goes.

I joined NCR as a 'Career Trainee' in September 1967 following my final year at George Heriot's School in Edinburgh. Referring to the correspondence received at the time from Ron Hicks, Head of Career Training, the Scheme known as a 'Career Training Plan' was introduced during the 60's for 'young men aged 18-19 with 'O' levels and preferably 'A' levels'.

The 'Plan' covered 3 years during which the first two years covered 'training of a general nature in relation to all aspects of the Company operation and areas such as accounting and business methods'. The trainees were also required to study for an HNC in Business Studies and this was undertaken at West London College. In the third year the trainees received 'specialised training for the career that their aptitudes and abilities suited their appointment'.

My initial interview was at the Melville Street office in Edinburgh with a Mr M Mc Farquhar - District Manager, who appeared to know very little about the training plan! However, a more beneficial aspect of the day was being introduced to some of the office staff. I also met a number of the sales, systems and installation staff including Alan Hatelly, who explained the mysteries of the London Underground. This was to prove invaluable in finding my way to the Training Centre in Greenford for a further interview. On 18th September 1967, I travelled overnight on the 'sleeper' to London and reported to the Training Centre for a one day convention with seven other members of 'Group 4' who were based at various offices across the country.

During the following three years I was based in Edinburgh and undertook 'on the job' training. I gained experience of office administration, working with Joe Anderson, Office Manager, a great character, who ensured I had plenty to do! One of the challenges was operating the manual switch board and avoid 'putting through' calls to the wrong department! I spent some time in the service department filing maintenance calls and service details on a card rotary index. How systems have changed in today's call centre environment.

Memories of those heady days include Johnny and Willie McCrae, wearing their fedoras and flash suits, travelling to sales prospects in their big Vauxhall Cresta at 20mph, around Edinburgh. It was straight out of an American gangster movie! Most working mornings included a gathering of CRD sales staff, over coffee in a local café, discussing a range of issues and potential sales prospects. Another memory is of David Miller - Manager of AMD, Douglas Mortimer, David Anderson and others, at their desks, in a very smoke filled office on the second floor, on the phone to sales prospects. In those days, interestingly, the phone handsets were cleaned

each week by women from an agency. This would pre-date hygiene requirements that now presumably are contained within today's Health and Safety legislation!

As inexperienced sales trainees, we were tasked through our offices, during the decimal conversion program, with cash register conversion targets. This proved challenging when confronted by hardened shopkeepers, particularly butchers! Competitor offerings were also often having to be overcome at the time.

The introduction of NCR's ten key adding machine provided an opportunity for us to achieve sales success against the targets set for each of the districts.

Building 31/32 programme bars, wiring paper tape 461/462 boxes and learning about 299/399/446 programmes all added to the 'technical knowledge' gained during those early years.

Following the completion of the training programme the Group 4 members returned to their respective offices to continue with their chosen roles. I was fortunate to join the F&G Division in Edinburgh headed up by Gerry Cowie.

A couple of moves then followed, the first took me to St Alphage House in London working on a cheque sorting hardware project. This was followed by an appointment in Dundee to join the Training Education Centre which had relocated from Greenford. There I met up with Bill Kerr, who had transferred with the TEC. He was a formidable character. An example of his training technique was to scrunch up a piece of paper and throw it at one of the trainees, saying "sell me that"! Returning to Edinburgh in the mid 70's I re-joined Alan Hatelly and Dan Paterson in F&G Sales and note from my contract that my salary was £183.33 per month!

I look back on my time with NCR fondly, working with many great people, some of whom I still have regular contact. During the early months of product training and at college release spent in London, many weekends were spent in Reading staying with the Rose family. David Rose was a fellow member of Group 4 and based at Southampton office. Our friendship started all those years ago and has stood the test of time! 50 years and counting!

Ian Duncanson

Group 4 Career Trainee

More on The Career Trainee Programme in the next issue.



Career Trainees 1966

The NCR Fellowship

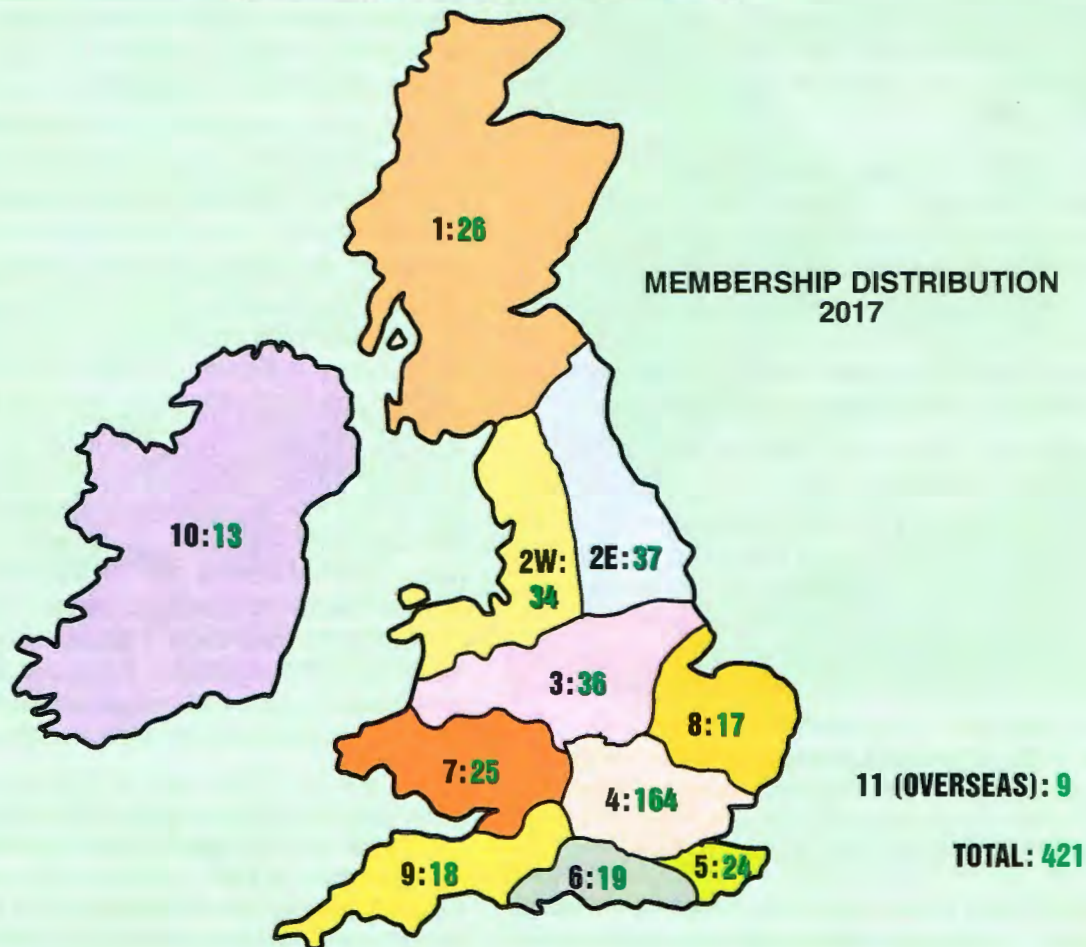
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