

## NCR TO SPLIT AGAIN

In September 2022, NCR Corporation announced its intention to split the company into two. Since then, little hard news has emerged. In February 2023, Corporate issued the following additional information.

NCR Corporation NCR recently announced its plan to spin off into two new publicly traded standalone companies following a strategic review. One of them will focus on the digital commerce business spearheading the retail, hospitality, and digital banking industries. The other will be providing solutions related to global ATM-as-a-Service and ATM network businesses.

On Feb 8, NCR declared the commencement of a strategic reviewing process evaluating alternatives to maximize shareholder value. Taking assistance from Goldman Sachs, Bank of America Securities and Evercore, the company assessed several alternative possibilities, which also included the possibility of the divestment of the whole company's business. Considering the ongoing macroeconomic headwinds and a thorough evaluation, NCR's board of directors decided that a spin-off would be in the shareholders' best interest among all the other options.

Upon separation, the digital commerce company will be a growth business positioned to leverage NCR's software-led model to continue transforming, connecting and running global retail, hospitality and digital banking. Meanwhile, the ATM-related business entity will be a cash-generative business positioned to focus on delivering ATM as a Service to a large, installed customer base across banks and retailers.

*Note: Fellowship members will be well aware that the Pension Fund is managed by PIC, and has no relationship with, or financial interest in, NCR Corporation, and our pensions will be unaffected by the change.*

Full details of the original NCR press release are at <https://investor.ncr.com/news-releases/news-release-details/ncr-separate-two-independent-industry-leading-companies?mobile=1>

## SUMMER MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In April we held our annual meeting via zoom. The financial results for 2022 were reviewed and I am pleased to report that despite reducing membership numbers the income was still sufficient to cover the costs. As a result, we are, therefore, still able to retain the membership fee at £10.

As reported in the last magazine BusiPrint, our printers had volunteered to distribute PostScript for us. This is an onerous task and not one that we want to ask any one of our members to undertake. However, distribution is not something that BusiPrint normally offer to their customers, but wanting to support as usual, they took on the task for a minimal fee. January was the first edition which they processed, and they did an excellent job. I would like to thank Lisa and her team for their support.

Regions 6 and 8 still do not have an organiser and therefore no lunches have been arranged. We have a possible volunteer for region 8, please see separate entry. We would also like to appoint a replacement for Roger in region 4, although we did manage to organise a lunch in April by pooling our resources. However, if anyone would like to help with any of these regions, perhaps on a shared basis, please let me know.

Earlier this year, sadly, we also lost John Jones from Region 7. John was a true supporter of the Fellowship having run region 7 since 2003 and it was a pleasure to have known him. We have included a tribute to him later in this magazine.

We are very pleased to be able to report that Mike Sanford has volunteered to replace John and our sincere thanks go to him for taking on the role. We also welcome him to the Committee.

I would also like to thank Ian Ormerod for his tireless effort in providing interesting items for this magazine.

Finally thank you to you all for your continued support and I wish you an enjoyable summer.

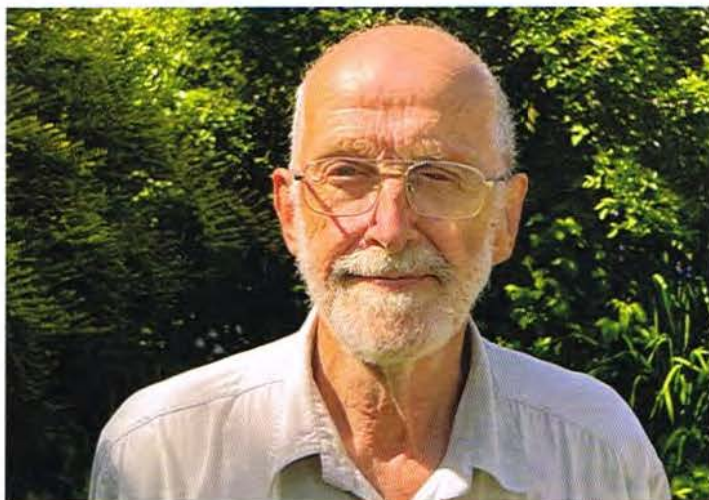
Lin

## MEET THE ORGANISERS HAMISH MCKENZIE, REGION 1

In this edition, we grill Hamish McKenzie, our Organiser for Region 1, about his NCR career, and beyond.

Read on, and enjoy!

See page 15.





## CONTENTS

Welcome to the Summer 2023 edition of PostScript. We have a very full edition for you, which I hope you will enjoy. So full in fact, that we have had to hold over one item, of which more later.

Our Regional lunches are back, and we have eight pages of reports and photos.

Sadly, we have also lost some beloved and respected colleagues, and we have tributes to them.

As ever, Ian Ormerod has been rummaging amongst the darker reaches of his files, and has produced a bunch of gems: details of the joint computer manufacturing operation between NCR and Elliotts through the 1950s and 1960s; A brief history of Express Boyd; and the first part of his comprehensive history of the 'other' London buildings. Due to space issues, we have only been able to present the opening section to this story – the rest will be in the Winter issue, and Ian will be putting the whole story on the website.

All this, plus we meet Hamish McKenzie, of Region 1, in the latest 'Meet the Organisers'.

Enjoy them all!

The full contents:

NCR to split, Chairman's Summer message, Intro to Meet the Organisers			Front cover
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## OBITUARIES

### Fellowship Members:

Name:	Region:	Date:
C W Allbutt	3	18.01.23
M H Jeeves	4	30.01.23
J I Jones	7	01.12.22
P E G Kilmartin	4	29.11.22
ECW Miller	8	03.01.23
Ms J M O'Farrell	4	12.01.23
R S J Sale	2E	03.02.23
R P G Southward	4	17.02.23

### Non Members:

	Date:
M Barrett	18.12.22
K G Bearman	19.01.23
M R Borrows	23.03.23
E Chatley	29.01.23
E Colman	18.12.22
J Connolly	17.03.23
D W Court	15.01.23
J B Crosson	06.12.22
Ms K Dawda	12.05.22
	<i>(not notified to pic until 27.02.23)</i>
Ms E A Dowson	25.03.23
J Falconer	11.03.23
J R Hayden	05.02.23
C Kearns	03.03.23
Ms M A Milton	23.01.23
Ms A Mooney	09.02.23
J A Moss	14.02.23
G F Noble	10.03.23
R B Penna	22.11.22
D Roberts	14.03.23
Ms C E Shaw	21.01.23
W R Siatka	12.01.23
A Slack	26.11.22
Ms B F Vickery	13.01.23
Ms J Y Whick	15.12.22

## THINK NOT WHAT YOUR FELLOWSHIP CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR FELLOWSHIP

That's a grandiose way of saying that if you fancy writing of your experience with NCR, in general or more specifically, in a serious vein, or light-heartedly we will try our best to fit your contribution in with all the other interesting items we receive. And don't forget to send photos too.

Come on, don't be shy, instead of reading about other people, read about yourself!

Send your article to Pat Stroudley by email at: [patrick.stroudley@btinternet.com](mailto:patrick.stroudley@btinternet.com)

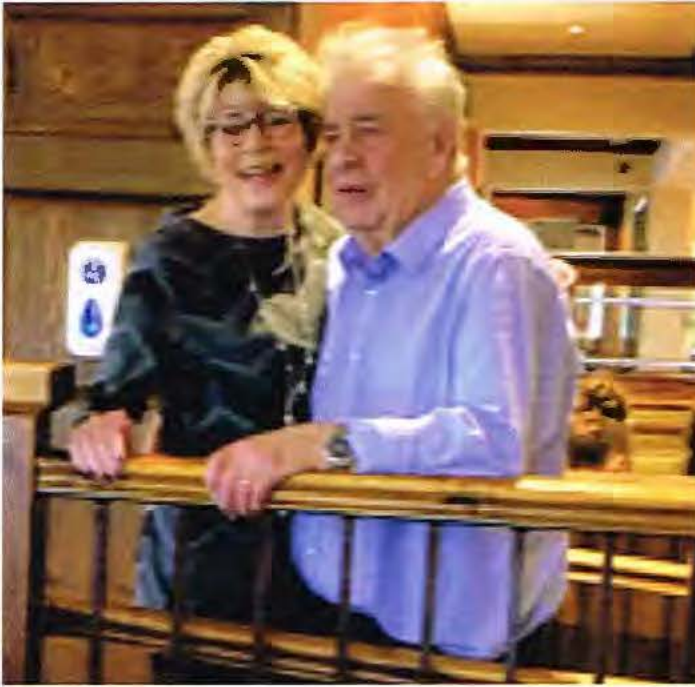
## YOUR COMPANY NEEDS YOU WE NEED YOU!



If you have anything you think may be of interest in a historical context (old machines, parts, manuals, newsletters, newspaper articles), please contact Ian Ormerod on [ian.ormerod@ncr.org.uk](mailto:ian.ormerod@ncr.org.uk) or by post at Jasmine Cottage, Hillersland Lane, Shortstanding, Coleford, Gloucestershire, GL16 7NU. Phone: 01594 780219

Ian curates the NCR Retrospective website, which is full of UK and US company history - visit [ncr.org.uk](http://ncr.org.uk)



**JOHN JONES**

I first met John when we were both in London on the 500 Course. The 500 course was 32 weeks split into 2 weeks programming and then 3 parts each of 10 weeks. His course no 2 was in its last part when my course, number 3, began.

We met up again in 1973 when I was on the 12-week 399 course at the International Training School in Dayton. We had various football games between ourselves and on occasions spent trying to teach a local school what football, or as they called it 'Soccer' was all about.

John was based in Cirencester Depot and moved to Bristol when his depot closed. When House of Fraser moved their Head Office to Swindon, he became one of a team of three dedicated engineers looking after their computer system giving 24/7 cover. He worked for NCR for 28 years before retiring.



He became Regional Organiser for Region 7 in the summer of 1991 taking over from Jim Kernbury.

He was a talented musician, playing the trombone in his own 'swing band'

About 1986 he set up his band from previous attempts to form a light orchestra and a wind band in Cirencester. He combined the brass of one Cirencester group with the woodwind of the other and formed the "JJSwingband" who came together to recreate the type of music made famous by the big swing bands of the nineteen thirties and forties. Sadly, it looks as though the band may have closed down now since John's death.

**Ian Ormerod**

My memories of John are limited to ones that could go into print! (including Dundee). However, I do remember when there was a knock on my door the evening of my 40th birthday gathering. Unknown to me, my wife had contacted him, and he turned up with 8 or so members of JJ Swingband and they all played in our back room.

**Bob Fairbairn**

**JOHN CROSSAN**

**John Burke Crosson 1924-2022**

My father, John Crosson, was born in London in 1924. He grew up in a flat above the wood store at John Nodes Undertakers in North Kensington, where his father worked as a chauffeur driving a hearse. My father told me he just used to tell his classmates at school that his father drove a Rolls Royce. At the age (I think) of 15 he left school and found a job at NCR Head Office as an office clerk in the service department. He worked there, in that position, until he was called up into the Army during WW2.

His first year or so in the army was fairly uneventful, he was trained to drive a Bren carrier but was then posted to one of the few regiments that didn't have any! This was the Kings Own Scottish Borderers at Berwick on Tweed – an Airborne division. He saw the only real action with the KOSB's when he was sent to Arnhem and took part in the infamous battle as a sniper. He returned unscathed, although his story of those times is quite harrowing. He sat out the remainder of the war in Norway, after the German troops left and had a job there as an office clerk with the British command.

After the war, he returned to his job at NCR but was unable to



settle back into office life and so became a service engineer. He worked on NCR accounting machines from that time on. Then he dived with death for a second time in his life when, in 1950, he contracted TB. He spent a long time in hospital and then was lucky enough to benefit from an NCR scheme which paid for employees to travel to Switzerland for convalescence – hence the NCR POST article.

He had a long retirement – from 1984 until December 2022, although the last 4 years were spent in a care home in Buckinghamshire. Up until he went into care, he'd been living independently and still driving. Then, out of the blue he had a fall getting out of bed and after a short period in hospital went to live in a care home of his choice. He had lost his sense of balance and couldn't any longer cope with looking after himself or his house, my mother had pre-deceased him by 14 years.

John was a very keen photographer – his other great passion being classical music – and in 2012 was invited to give an exhibition of his photographs in Arnhem. The exhibition was opened by the Mayor of Arnhem. He made many friends in the Dutch town and returned on many occasions to attend the annual remembrance ceremonies for the battle.

The long periods of lockdowns and isolation during the pandemic kept him safe, but took its toll on his mental health. He died peacefully following another fall on 6th December 2022.

Mike Crossan

**POSTBOX**

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP



Mr. Crossan (center) with Messrs. Tindoo and Schwartz.

Office at Zurich and I was favoured by a visit from Mr. A. F. Schwartz, Vice-President, and the Secretary, Mr. E. Tindoo. With them I spent a charming Sunday afternoon. Two days later, the district mechanic called when he came by Vancouver to Lusanne to service the 2900 (2nd register in the village garage).

My big regret is that I was not able to accept either the invitation of Mr. Schwartz to visit the H.Q. at Zurich or that of Mr. Schwartz, the mechanic, to spend a weekend with him and his wife at Neuchâtel.

The splendid spirit of friendship that has given me so much pleasure and encouragement during an anxious year, waves me in no doubt that the N.C.R. is not just a place of employment but a genuine family with an abundance of goodwill among its many members.

J. B. CROSSAN,  
Service Division.



Suzie Adathana Schwartz with Air Vanguard.

Sir,  
I should like to express to the Management and friends my thanks for their warm welcome back after an absence of thirteen months.  
In particular I am most grateful to Mr. M. E. POWELL for his several visits to my bedside to bring me the latest news of N.C.R. activities. Mr. W. E. SMITH and Sisters WIZELAND also came to my home and hospital and the Post arrived each month so that, all in all, National was never far away.  
Even when I was lucky enough to be sent to Switzerland for three months, N.C.R. extended its friendly hand via Swiss Head

FROM THE MALAYAN JUNGLE

Excerpt from a letter of Mr. R. Redwood, Chief Accountant.

Dear Mr. Bellamy,

It seems only a very short time ago since I was in your office saving a widow and yet nearly three months have passed by. Time slips by out here without one noticing. I am now settled down, and have been posted to this Company as a platoon commander. The work is very interesting and I take forty-six men out on patrol, come back to camp for a rest period, maybe do a little training and then out again. So my time is a busy one and out here we keep pretty fit. I must admit that there are times when I think to myself what a good firm I left and of all the advantages offered. However, this life is a good one, apart from bandit activity conditions are far better than at home.

Please give my regards to all my old colleagues and superiors there at Head Office.

Yours sincerely,  
Dnl Lt. J. R. DUNNILLIFE,  
13th Federal Jungle Coy.,  
Bullong Camp, Nake Road,  
Alor Star,  
Kedah, Malaya.

\* Fred Dunnillife met a C.R.D. Assistant Salesman at the Blackpool Office. —Ed.

### Clarence Allbutt

Clarence was born on 10th February 1937 and spent the whole of his childhood in Knutton, Newcastle under Lyme. He was always an out-of-doors person and much of his early years was spent playing football in any space that was available. First there had to be the blowing up of the bladder for the ball, then dubbin for the ball and maybe the shoes. Football Boots only came at Christmas so it could be old

school shoes that had a hole in the toe, until his mother bought him some black football boots. He lost his father at 6 years of age and ultimately went to Wolstanton Grammar School.

After leaving school Clarence went to work as a typewriter technician. When he was 18, in April 1955 he was drafted into the Royal Air Force and was trained as an Instrument mechanic. He joined 249 Squadron where he worked on Venoms. This started what was to be a lifelong passion for airplanes. He travelled the world with 249 Squadron including Cyprus, Jordan, Kenya, Malta, Egypt and a short detachment to Bahrain. When 249 Squadron was disbanded in October 1957 he returned to the UK and was lucky enough to get his dream job with 111 squadron working on the Hunters of the Black Arrows aerobatic team, the predecessors to the Red Arrows that we know of today. As far as Clarence was concerned, the Red Arrows have never been as good as the Black Arrows were. He left the RAF in April 1959.

After returning home Clarence worked for Hoover as a technician for a while, and also spent a week working for the local Electricity Board, but he did not like this one bit. He met his 'wife to be', Ann, on a canal boat trip from Barbridge to Middlewich organised by the church, having already met his future sister-in-law Mary a few months earlier on a youth weekend to Willersley Castle. Clarence and Ann were married on 1st September 1962 at St Luke's Methodist Church. They were both very active in the church for many years and Clarence also played, and later umpired, for Westlands and Clayton Methodist Cricket Club.

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Clarence joined NCR in 1966 as a computer engineer. He was always busy, either in the garden, with the church, helping his mother, or doing DIY. However, he always insisted that when he was on holiday from work it was a holiday, not a time for DIY, and for many years holidayed twice a year in Devon where he was always at his most relaxed with Ann and their daughter Rachel.

He took early retirement from NCR in 1992, in order to care totally for Ann, who had suffered from a form of Multiple Sclerosis for many years. Ann, sadly died just over ten years ago.

Clarence still had many interests. If he was not in the house, he was often to be found in his garden. He liked nothing better than growing crops from seed, especially salad and vegetable crops, picking them straight from the garden for use in that day's meals. He was known to keep a pot of salt in his greenhouse so he could pick tomatoes straight from the vine and eat them with a pinch of salt. He enjoyed cooking, particularly jams, curds and marmalade, often entering them into the Whitmore Village show, enjoying nothing more than when one of his jams or curds came first, beating the ladies of the WI. He enjoyed a round of golf and was a member of Onnerley Golf Club.

For around 40 years Clarence sang in a Male Voice Choir. He started with The Daleian Singers before joining The Audley Male Voice choir, later returning to The Daleians,



who sang for him after escorting his coffin into the full church. He was a very active member of both choirs, being part of the committee or actively raising money for the travel fund. He enjoyed the concerts and the trips away and was particularly proud when The Daleians were crowned Best UK Choir at Cornwall International Festival of Male Voices in 2019.

Clarence enjoyed many holidays in the Channel Islands where he would meet the same group of people. The role of Grandad was a role that he could not have been prouder, he was devoted to grandsons Callum and Jordan, and he would often take them for days out, most recently both boys accompanied him to the Cosford Air Show in 2022. He and Jordan shared a love of planes, often visiting museums and air shows together and was particularly proud when Jordan chose to study Aeronautical Engineering at University. Callum inherited Clarence's itchy feet and urge to travel when he took the opportunity to study in Finland, travelling on his own and fully embracing the Finnish culture.

Since Ann passed away, cruising became Clarence's preferred holiday allowing him to visit many new places over more recent years with the Fred Olsen Cruise Line, deservedly too after caring for Ann for so long and being an example to all in selflessness. He will be missed by many that knew him.



Rachel Allbutt, Keith Templeman, Region 3

### TED MILLER

Ted Miller, long standing Region 8 member, passed away on 3 January 2023.





## PAT BUCK

Pat sadly passed away at West Suffolk Hospital on Sunday 30th April 2023.



*Pat at her desk in February 1979*

Pat joined NCR in 1969 as part of the Software and Technical Support Group which was divided into five smaller groups: Large Computer Software and Operations, Documentation Services, Product and Competition Evaluation, and UK Development Engineering and Interactive Computer Systems. These groups were divided into sections and Pat was Head of Distributed Processing and Terminal Communications within Interactive Computer Systems. This was at a time when computers were moving from machine code programming to Languages where the binary code was written by compilers to create a program that the computer could understand. All very different from the computers we know and love today that never fail or breakdown. In those days, yes only fifty years ago you had to be very clever to understand computer programming and engineering and Pat was thought of as a Boffin within the company. Interactive computer systems were the latest technology and referred to software (Programs) which accepts input from the user as it runs. This was the latest technology at the time.

Pat spent a lot of time at NCR Dayton, the world headquarters of one of the top five computer manufacturers.

Much of her time was in experimental work such as trying to make computers talk to each other over Post Office lines using dial up modems. This was a problem in the UK but even worse when trying to connect computers across continents. No such thing as the internet then.

Pat met Derek at NCR as he was the engineer supporting the Century 8200 computers that Pat helped customers develop programs and install systems and were married in the spring of 1978.



*Derek and Pat Buck - 4th October 2012*



*Pat Caldecourt and Derek Buck in 1998*

She was once asked how she felt about working with her husband "It's not an ideal situation," she laughs, "but it seems to work out alright. It has to, really, as Derek is always the first to be called out if there are any problems with our 8200 series-the computers I normally work with."

They worked together at NCR Marylebone Road, London before retiring and moving to Sussex.



*Pat (left), her Field Engineer husband, Derek and assistant Jan try to call up Zurich on a dial-up VDU.*



*Pat and her assistant, Cath put some of the MASM library onto the microfiche reader.*



## Tribute to Dick Sale



It is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of Dick Sale. His Funeral took place on Monday the 20th February at Barnby Moor Crematorium and was well attended by his NCR colleagues.

Although he struggled with his health for the past couple of years, he still managed numerous holiday trips with his wife Jacqui. They attended our October Lunch last year (with his oxygen pack) and was, as always, in high spirits. He will be greatly missed. The attached photo is from an earlier North-east Lunch but it is how I will always remember him, smiling broadly and a pint in his hand.

In his 49 years with NCR he became well known for his 'larger than life' character and phenomenal technical skills, throughout the UK and many other countries.

He moved from his native Newcastle in 1984, giving up his season ticket to 'The Toon', Newcastle United and moved to Doncaster, progressing his career on the Northern Region and subsequently UK Retail Systems Support.

When they needed someone to go to Moscow to install the first Russian McDonald's, who did they send? Well, Dick, of course.

His wife Jacqui always attended our lunches with him and she was present at this May 2023 lunch when she was picked up by Steve Gates. Thank you, Steve. It was great to see her there and we look forward to seeing her at future lunches. Jacqui was always considered a full member of our Lunch Group. She talked with and got to know all the regular attendees.

If anyone outside the Northern Region wishes to contact Jacqui, or send a message, then contact me and I will put you in touch. My details are on the back page of this Post Script magazine.

Good Bye Dick, but never to be forgotten.

Pat Keogh

## REGIONAL REPORTS

### Region 1 – Hamish MacKenzie

The Retirement Fellowship 2022 lunch took place at our popular haunt: 'The Italian Kitchen', Ingram St, Glasgow on Tuesday 25th October, an occasion welcomed by all after such a long Covid induced break.

Numbers were down a little this year, with 16 colleagues due to attend - on a fresh, dry autumn day in Glasgow's city centre. While **Ian Fairbairn** sent his apologies due to family commitments, the remaining stalwarts came from far and wide, eager to compare waste-lines and prescriptions:

**George Benson, Jim Tucker and John (Ginger) Gray** (Sorry - no autographs please) travelled through from Scotland's capital, to ensure that good order was maintained, with **Wallace Hay** and **George Brown** travelling up from scenic Ayrshire, well prepared – should a Burns recital be requested.

**John McElroy** made the long trip down from Aberdeen - well done John, navigating by the stars, as always, while **Brian Behr** scooted down from Dundee accompanied by **Ron Gammie** from Linlithgow – the term "scooted" doubtless referring to their preference these days for two wheeled travel on Vespa scooters. **Hamish MacKenzie** arrived,



*Brian & Hamish check that they are on the right wavelength, and have turned up on the correct day.*



Region 1 continued



*Men In Black from Wild West. George and Wallace cutting a dash!*

well insulated, from Strathpeffer in the arctic north, firmly attached to his bus pass!!

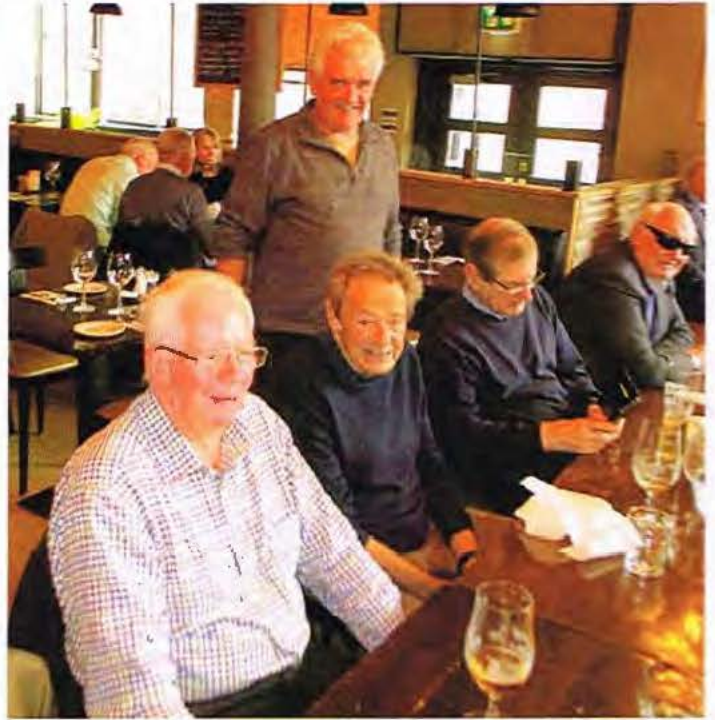
**Graeme Edwards** left from home in Alloa travelling the whole length of Clackmannanshire - yes, all 16 letters, to join us. Graeme is looking forward to a renewed contribution to traffic calming, as his new caravan takes to the road.

It was great to see the "locals" **John MacKay**, **Jack Whyte**, **Peter Hardern**, **George Benson** and **Bob Stewart** from the Glasgow area, all eager to translate the menu from Glaswegian Italian to a variety of Scottish dialects.

As always, we enjoyed an excellent meal, surprisingly still good value, and served by an attentive and friendly staff. Much of the conversation centred round those who had passed away since our last meal, all respectfully remembered - but with many a "good story" fondly recounted, bringing



*Bob Stewart & Jim Ticker - hoping for a Menu*



*Graeme Edwards, standing, with Neil Bathie. Brian Strathdee, George Benson & John 'Ginger' Gray.*

reflection, smiles and laughter in equal measure to what was becoming a memorable time together.

The single, long table prepared by the restaurant proved challenging for the eyes and ears of several of those present, as various forms of communication were attempted, but the challenge was met as memories were rekindled of times long past, and as new interests were planned - both triggering fascinating discussions.

Hamish's renewed interest in amateur radio was encouraged by **Brian Strathdee** recounting his life-long interest in the hobby. Snippets of conversations drifted up and down the table; motorcycle trips (or maybe Vespa?) far and wide, Tour de France visits covering half a century, memorable cruises to distant shores, and the inevitable memories of times together in NCR.

Names popped up in conversation of past colleagues, some now approaching 100 years of age. Others came to mind who



*Peter Hardern & John MacKay*



Region 1 continued



*Brian Behr and Ron Gammie compare scooter rally memories!!!*

are currently under the care of loving relatives. Memorable stories of recently departed friends were fondly exchanged – the names of **Scott Caldow** and **Eddie McMahon** bringing smiles and respectful contributions from all present.

Messages were also exchanged from “a’ the airts” – including a much welcomed greeting from **Barry Harrison** in the U.S.

With colleagues gathered from across our largest geographic region, Hamish recorded his thanks to all who helped organise the event – and eager to reinforce the stereotype of the “thrifty Scot” requested that the doors be locked as he sifted out the metric and imperial washers from the collection of global currency offered by those present. Without the advantage of cash register training Hamish still managed to announce the total bill to a hushed and sombre audience.

As in past years this stage in proceedings triggered the unanimous decision to repair for “a wee swally” to the ‘Committee Room Number 9’ establishment, adjoining the City Chambers’ committee rooms, overlooking George Square.

As anticipated, much banter was enjoyed by all, and in due course brought the long awaited afternoon to a close.

Thanks to those who recorded the photographic evidence and to **Brian Behr**, whose “360 video” is expected soon on Netflix.

Hamish would like to record his gratitude to **Ron Gammie** who joined him in assembling this long awaited report.



*Jack White, standing, with George Brown, Wallace Hay and John McIlroy*

Regions 2E & 2W – Pat Keogh

REGION 2 MAY LUNCH REPORT

Region 2 held their lunch on 17 May, and as the photos included in this article show, had a very enjoyable time. As attendees will probably know, Pat Keogh, Regional Organiser, has not been in very good health recently. Despite that, he sent me the photos of the lunch, but has been unable to complete the report, or send the eulogies for valued members Dick Sale and Peter Carruthers, as he intended.

We will try to include those items at a later date. In the meantime, we wish Pat a speedy recovery, and look forward to hearing from him again soon.



*Steve Gates & Jacqui Sale*



*John Evenson & Alan and Sandy Dixon*



*Pete Scanlan and his partner Sue*



Regions 2E & 2W continued



Ian Ormerod, Ian Beveridge & Dave Torrance



Keith Penny, Keith Stansfield & Frank Pusey



Pat Keogh, Graham Hatton & Dave Dawson

**Region 3 – Keith Templeman**

Region 3 Lunch Report April 2023, Keith Templeman.

Present today were 25 members and their wives.

Members present were:

Ian Ormerod, Ian Davidson, Phil Rock, Keith Templeman, Jim McHugh, David Beattie, Joe Teeling, Richard Baker, Jill MacPhail, John Latty, Kevin Rixson, David Cooksey, Yatish Ranch, Pete Selwyn, Barry Skelding, Gert Bakker and Graham Carter.

I was pleased to welcome Graham Carter who had not long retired from the TeraData Division, and more would be welcomed as other ex NCR folks retire from what is now a

separate company I believe, but we won't hold that against them, will we? As a matter of fact, Ian Ormerod updated everyone with the latest news of NCR being split into two separate companies, but it is not yet known what the names of the companies will become. So that will make 3 separate companies with the inclusion of TeraData.

Apologies were received from:

**Les Clarke, John Williams, Keith Hemming, Marilyn Almond, Bridget and Chris Allen, Brian Briggs, Margaret Ellis and Peter Heywood.** All sent their regards to others and will try harder to attend next time.

Our numbers in recent times have ranged between 20 and 25, including members and guests, with some preferring to attend only the Spring lunch, others only the Autumn, with a good number at both. The visits do provide an opportunity of maintaining frequent contact and good humour, and I for one enjoy our reminiscences of times gone by with quite a good company in its day.

Unfortunately, our lunch experience was not up to previous standards in that the tables were rather cramped within the restaurant, as though we had been squeezed in at last minute, and the food slightly under par. Although the price was still good value at only £16.75 per head for a three course, carvery style meal, the event organisers were based at another hotel within the family-owned group, and it appeared there wasn't the local hands-on control that was required. Car parking was also difficult with hotel parking full due to other meetings, and the adjacent pay and display parking almost full.

My complaints were heard and the next lunch, if we book it there, would be provided at the same price instead of the increased cost of £18.50 without coffees.

After polling our guests though, the majority were still in favour of returning here as Lichfield does offers local shops, walks and atmosphere. Not everyone shared their opinions with me, so, would members please let me know if they have strong views one way or another.

My plan is to explore other venues to see if I can find something more suitable for our next lunch which will be on **Thursday 12th October 2023.**

Most of the following pictures do at least look as though we enjoyed the overall experience.





Region 3 continued



Jill MacPhail with Fiona



Barry Skelding and Gert Bakker



Ian and Sheila Omerod



Pete Selwyn



John Latty and Phil Rock



Dave Cooksey



Angela and Jim McHugh



Kay and Ian Davidson



Region 3 continued



Yatish Ranch and Graham Carter



Joe and Jenny Teeling



Jacky and David Beattie



Dene and Keith Templeman



Kevin and Marion Rixson

Region 4 – Lin Sandell

It was with sadness and regret that we had to cancel the London lunch last October but were delighted to arrange one for this spring. The lunch was held at the Corus hotel Lancaster Gate as in past years, on Wednesday April 26th and was organised by **John Atkins, Stephen Swinbar** and myself. The menu had been agreed with the hotel by Roger and it was nice to think that he had some input into the gathering. We were also pleased to be able to keep the same price.



Mary Cronin & Barbara Burvill



*Region 4 continued*

As we are now a smaller group, there were 32 attendees, we were located in the hotel restaurant which is a nice airy space, the food was very good and event enjoyed by all.

After lunch there was some discussion regarding future lunches, should we use the same hotel, would attendees be concerned about inevitable price increases and would they prefer to stay with April or revert to October. There was a unanimous vote to stay at the Corus and to have another lunch in October if at all possible.

Whilst we would like to be able to support this request, we would appreciate some help. If anyone would like to join the organising group as a replacement for Roger or could offer a few hours of admin support for issuing invitations, please let me know.

In organising this gathering we did not have access to all of Roger's records so if anybody did not receive an invitation and who would have liked to attend, or anyone from the other regions who would like to be included please again let us know.

It was pleasure to meet up with so many friends again and my thanks to **John Atkins** and **Chrissie Young** for helping with the registration on the day,

We have made a reservation with the Hotel for Wednesday October 4th at 13.00 and look forward to seeing you all again. Invitations will go out in August.

The following guests attended this year's lunch:

**Nial Anderson, John Atkins, Wallace Avery, Ernie Brewer, Brian Briggs, Barbara Burvill, Alan Chard, Roy Cheal, Mary Cronin, John Davies, Trevor Friend, Chris Gillespie, Robert Gray, Bernard Harris, Ray Harris, Melville Hill, Roger Main, Chris Marles, Steve Mathews, Douglas Milsom, Ian Ormerod, Eric Page, Gulshan Persha, Lin Sandell, John Smith, Mike Sumner, Cath Sanderson, Stephen Swinbank, Keith Templeman, Paul Williams, Chrissy Young, Nigel Hensman**



*Roger Main & Douglas Milsom*



*John Atkins*



*Steve Swinbank, Mike Sumner, Wallace Avery & Ray Harris*



Region 4 continued



John Davies & Lin Sandell



Chris Gillespie, Steve Mathews & Cath Sunderland



Eric Page, John Smith & Alan Chard

Region 8

Due to the lack of an organiser, lunches are no longer being arranged in this region. We had a new member in January, **Cliff Buck**, who has offered to arrange a lunch if an existing region 8 member would be willing to work with him. This is a very generous offer, so would anyone be willing to take it up? Please let me know. (linsandell@btinternet.com)

Lin

Region 9 – Adrian Gallagher

Hope you are all keeping safe and well?

Nothing much to report for our region at the moment.

The committee have discussed the cost of providing the Post Script and running the fellowship, and have decided, for now, to keep the cost of membership at £10 per annum payable in January each year. If possible, please pay by annual standing order. I have removed my landline, so if you need to contact me please use either my mobile, email or write to my home address. If mobile, I can call you back if needed. The details on the back of post Script have been updated but if needed my number is 07770 034600.

I have set a provisional date for our annual luncheon: Monday 23rd October 2023 12.30pm, at a venue yet to be decided. I will contact everyone either by email or letter with further details.

If you have any suggestions of where to meet for lunch, feel free to let me know either, email, letter, phone call or text. I am trying various venues but have yet to find a suitable one.

VACANCY: ENGINEER PLUS BIKE

This advert for a job in India came to our attention because of the unusual requirement for the successful applicant to have his own bike.

Deoghar is in the Jharkand region of India. The area has religious significance and receives approx. 8 million tourists each year. IT is one of the areas main industries after tourism.

NCR ATM Engineers

Public group - 10.5K members

About Discussion Featured Topics People More

Jafar Zaidi  
August 5, 2021

We are hiring for  
ATM Service Engineer

Qualifications : Btech & Diploma in E&C, Mechanical, Electrical

Salary : Negotiable + travelling allowance +DA

Location : Deoghar, Jharkhand

Must have Own Bike

Interested can Whatsapp resume do not call - 7033698866



## MEET THE ORGANISERS – HAMISH MACKENZIE

**PS:** Welcome to PostScript, and the third in a series of discussions with fellow coordinators.

Region 1 covers the largest amount of ground of all the regions, and is the least populated.

Tell us about how you became a regional organiser, and what is involved in running the region, and your regular regional meals/get togethers.



**HM:** Coordinating the region with the live accompaniment of a global pandemic, lockdown, and the encroachment of health issues as one approaches one's 80's was unsurprisingly marked by almost total inactivity. My predecessor, Jack Whyte, was the polar opposite of this and set an example that was going to be hard to follow. I eventually succumbed to

his persuasive skills and now find myself soldiering on, yet happy that we have succeeded in holding our first post-covid meal in Glasgow which was well attended.

**PS:** When did engineering start to interest you? At school? How did that interest develop?

**HM:** As the son of a blacksmith – and Master Farrier – as he frequently reminded me, I received basic training from my father on 'all things mechanical and practical'. However, I was always curious about electricity and 'all things electrical' soon took my fancy, even as a 12 year old. This was possibly initiated by the presence of a substantial radio antenna in our back garden – this having been erected by a wartime lodger – who went on to join the team who developed the Decca Navigation System after the war. As an avid reader of "Exchange and Mart" and "Practical Wireless", I hounded my parents over the adverts offering ex wartime short wave receivers, all priced between £5 and £10. After the application of some emotional pressure with the symptoms of that fearful illness, 'male flu', they relented to my bed-ridden appeal.

Parents and neighbours were suitably embarrassed when a 40 ton "Highland Haulage" articulated lorry arrived with what is acknowledged as the heaviest WW2 receiver ever made, on board – Cossor's R 206 Mk2, requiring two very strong adults to carry it over the threshold – over a hundredweight in old money.

I explained to onlookers the radio's complete silence by sharing that the substantial Power Supply – not shown in the photograph, had yet to arrive, on another suitably sturdy lorry. However, a lifelong interest in radio was triggered, and steered me towards electrical engineering – the "school of



**LR206 Mk2 Communications Receiver – without Power Supply.**

electric shocks" proving an effective training ground during enthusiastic home study, in the garden shed.

My interest in 'all things mechanical' had not waned however, and I seemed to possess a knack at "fixing things" – although this was itself prompted by a desperate need to fully understand, how things actually worked. Teenage life in Inverness found me in demand fixing motor bikes, engines of any sort, and of all things - tuning carburettors and early superchargers on sports-car engines – none of which were owned by me! My own car collection was restricted by my hard earned but limited £10 budget - yet this rewarded me with Morris 8 Tourer at £8 ( including delivery and a tank of fuel) followed two years later by a 1937 MG TA and an MG TC of 1946 vintage. These I stripped down to the last nut and bolt and rebuilt over several years.

I checked recently with the MG Owners club, and both MGs remain registered and "on the road". Now that - is sustainability!!!

Flying seemed to be in my blood, and the Air Cadets offered me ample opportunity for "air experience flights" at RAF Kinloss – where I clocked up, as a passenger, over 60 hours in Avro Shackletons, and some time piloting light planes – Chipmunks, etc, and eventually gaining a basic glider license – in a blizzard! My future from these experiences was now surely fixed in stone – the RAF, and nothing else! I already had the MG, and as a Flight engineer, or perhaps an Air Electronics Officer - I was ready to start – fully prepared. What could possibly stop me?



**My pride and joy, in my late teens – the 1946 MG TC was £35 well spent – seen here following a 2 year rebuild at approx zero cost, such was the availability of funds when petrol rocketed to 5p per litre (in new money)**



I had not prepared myself however for the RAF's view on a matter deserving of some consideration. They seemed to consider that aircrew should ideally be equipped to see clearly what they were doing – an attribute in life I had never thought essential, far less mandatory! I doubt if I have ever been as crestfallen as when this sunk in. My pals who were similarly driven, during school and university days, all progressed to flying careers. Life had taught me an early but valuable lesson. As I write this article, my fellow Shackleton, Chipmunk and glider teenage aviator, of the 1960's, Murdo, has contacted me, after 60 years, having retired to Dingwall, ten minutes drive away.

**PS:** *When did you start with the company, and in what capacity? Did the job and the company match your expectations?*

**HM:** From the Scottish Highlands, annually, school-leavers left home in their droves for education or employment, there being few opportunities locally. British Rail used to extend the south-bound trains by several carriages in the late summer months, taking youngsters to pastures new. In the early 1960's I found myself in Glasgow, a spotty 17 year old, studying electrical engineering at what became Strathclyde University during my stay. While possibly amongst the most enjoyable and influential years of my life, life-long friendships were also formed, especially with climbing associates.

However, I veered away from academia towards the emerging world of computers, and found myself gainfully employed, working on an early example of the world's very first business mainframe computer - the Leo III, Serial Number 32, at Ravenscraig Steel Works, in Motherwell. Meet LEO, the world's first business computer | Science Museum

I surprised myself by progressing through the ranks as an operator – relying on personal help from site engineers as to its electronics. Recently my wife Cora and I accepted an invitation to meet the Leo's inventors (ex Bletchley Park) at a delightful and memorable event in London. Surprisingly, I now find myself regularly meeting an ex Leo programmer, now retired to the highlands and living a few miles away, having formerly worked together on Colvilles Leo Number 32 at Ravenscraig.



LEO III Computer

**ACHTUNG!  
ALLES LOOKENPEEPERS**

Das computermachine ist nicht für gerfingerpoken und mitten-grabben. Ist easy schnappen der springenwerk, blowenfusen und poppencorken mit spitzensparken. Ist nicht für gerverken bei das dummkopfen. Das rubbernecken sightseeren keepen hands in das pokets—relaxen und watch das blinkenlights.

BEI ORDEN

**Engineers Health & Safety Notice**

and 200 all without the promised training course. Training arrived in 1972 however and life settled down as a site engineer, progressing through the Criterion mainframe range to the technically majestic 8800 – a mainframe wonderful to behold. All this was thanks to Clydesdale Bank's justified confidence in NCR mainframe hardware.

In both Ravenscraig Steelworks and Clydesdale Bank, as with the outside world, the arrival of computers was a mystery to many. Visitors were frequent, and were proudly guided round the glass walled computer rooms by proud owners – themselves fairly ignorant of what exactly their investment entailed. Down to earth engineers however sought to educate such visitors and amusing notices were often helpfully displayed.

**PS:** *What territory did you cover in those days?*

**HM:** I remained a site engineer at Clydesdale for approx 15 years when I transferred to FED's regional office in Glasgow as a Senior Engineer. This opened up very rewarding if challenging times as customer "system down" predicaments would present many regional office techies to attend emergency call-outs, almost anywhere on the planet. Life was never dull – but a single phone call could turn family life upside down – and often did!

In the 1990's, I was invited to join a London based venture incorporating NCR and Nat West in the development and testing of Microsoft's new Windows NT Server platform – with an estimated 6 month stay in London to present to the family in Scotland. The family should have known better, as a six year marathon steeplechase ensued – there being obstacles after brick walls to overcome on a daily basis. The flood of challenges was matched by NCR's emerging multi-processor platforms as we fought for the lead against IBM and Compaq competition, with each incorporating their own emerging RAID data storage solutions. This was a huge learning curve for those on the team and for the band of field and support engineers essential for maintaining expected orders. Out of the blue, a new opportunity presented itself – as an instructor. I put together training courses with Dave Cooksey and we ran several for NCR's FED, Microsoft, and Nat West – with no textbooks, but home-made handouts fresh from our imagination, composed and printed on the day





*My Transceiver - with everything available on computer screen, and not a valve in sight!*

of issue. This was a rewarding if exhausting time, with both my teenage daughters borrowed from school (supposedly on work experience) and roped in to distribute FED Libretto Laptops across the UK in an attempt to introduce FED engineers to the 20th century, before it expired.

Dave Cooksey, Chander Bali and I worked absurd hours, often chasing our tails. We were obliged on several occasions to attempt engineering solutions completely outwith NCR's policies and procedures – often via midnight phone calls to Dayton or Columbia, SC. My stubborn nature helped on such occasions and with extraordinary effort by everyone in the team, NCR eventually won the day – reaching the finishing line in the lead. On that particular year my car mileage jumped to over 60,000 miles and with US flights monthly to crown it all, something had to give. But not yet! As NCR dipped it's toe into the Microsoft server market working conditions were extreme, to say the least. I, with my colleague Dave Cooksey and many others, pushed the boat out just too far for – not only comfort, but especially health and safety. I well remember Dave spending 47 hours, alone, continuously on-site on the same weekend as I spent 43 hours being similarly foolhardy elsewhere in the city. While we enjoyed considerable success, NCR had neither the manpower nor the strategy to allocate sufficient resources to this mushrooming market, one to which our hardware seemed ideally suited. It was disappointing when NCR retreated from many opportunities presented by this mushrooming market.

*PS: Did you have outside interests and hobbies? Do you still partake in those activities?*

**HM:** Life in NCR while hugely rewarding, laid an enormous burden on my wife Cora, who single-handedly took on the task of raising our family and running our home. With no time to enjoy regular climbing trips with my mountaineering pals – we settled on an annual get together in a mountain bothy in Glen Affric every single winter, for several decades, when we gathered to compare aches, pains and politics, and to bring the world back onto an even keel. My radio interests were restricted to taking short wave receivers around the world on NCR business – monitored with interest at several airports. However, As I approach my 80's, rather than leaving the matter to the last minute, I have now gained

my amateur radio transmitting license, and with the family's blessing am currently setting up my "shack". I find myself, as I type, back to memories of a 12 year old, hearing, over the airwaves, these sad pleas for assistance from Hungary on my precious R206 Mk2, in the 1950's, when Hungary was over-run by the Russians. Sounds familiar?

*PS: To what extent do you need a sense of humour to survive as an engineer?*

**HM:** I could not survive life without it, far less the workplace. While my job enjoyment was 100% complete solving computer problems, yet true job satisfaction always came from bringing long awaited good news to a customer, as a human being. My own sense of humour was triggered via radio by the Goon Show, and fellow Goon fans were my chosen school pals. Our antics in those days are best left 'off the page'. Computer operators at Clydesdale Bank had intensive training as they mastered the new world of computer mainframes. Their training towards joining a shift in control of half a dozen mainframes included the complete mastery of "booting-up" a mainframe from its power-off state to being fully operational and ready for a week's work. Months of training led to a 1hr test, – completely alone in the computer room. The "booting" of the system alone took 40 minutes, and during their initial attempts, trainees (often young ladies) were extremely nervous – so we, the site engineers willingly engaged in some empathetic support. As the final minutes of 'booting-up' approached and each entry on the keyboard was tentatively tapped, a "laughing bag" complete with substantial amplifier and helpfully pre-installed by ourselves, would explode into outrageous laughter. The ensuing screams from the computer room were enjoyed by staff in adjoining rooms, if not, initially, by the hapless victim. However – humour cemented good relationships in the workplace, and more than one of our engineers subsequently married a computer operator.

*PS: You regaled us in Postscript Summer 2021 edition about your ham sandwich tale, <https://www.ncr.org.uk/media/other/1077/NCRPostscriptIssue64Summer2021.pdf>. Was that fairly typical of life in FED at the time?*

**HM:** Yes! Absolutely typical. Stories abound and keep my fellow engineers in full voice during annual events. Outstanding in more than 30 years of memories was however the ever-present camaraderie, linked with a brutally essential technical dependency on each other, founded on honesty and personal integrity. These were instilled in me during the Clydesdale Bank days, when Jim MacLaren, Tom Boles, Fred Langer and many others extolled these very virtues every single day. In summary, 30 wonderful years in such surroundings established extra special friendships. Were I to form a list of these - Brian Caughey would be at the head. These days ended when illness in the family prompted my accepting early redundancy, and I found myself settling down, home at last, in my late 50's. While much in need of a break, I was happy to accept some part-time work – ironically back in Strathclyde University, where my education started – but this time supporting server hardware





*Self-Build Contractors, checking that everything is straight and level.*

for a short time. Subsequently I retired fully, leaving me free to volunteer basic I.T support services to charities, and the local community. These days however I am fully dependant on my own grand-children for I.T. support!!

**PS:** *You now live in a remote location. Benefits? Problems?*

**HM:** Born and bred in the highlands, there is nowhere I'd rather be, but back in these same surroundings. To crown it all, I'm here with my wife, Cora, sharing memories and enjoying frequent family events with children and grandchildren. We bravely took on our new home as a self-build project 12 years ago, and, other than during my "attention seeking phase" (see later) – things have worked out really well.

We have indeed been richly blessed.

**PS:** *You're in the process of 'recruiting' an assistant to help you running the region?*

**HM:** Along with my favourite pen knife, I'm not as sharp as I used to be, and memory problems are a daily burden. However, one particular ex colleague has offered to help with the organisation of the annual meal, so I'm aiming to accept this with open arms. Watch this space, specially Ron!!

**PS:** *How is your health?*

**HM:** At my annual optician's visit recently, the comment was made "Is it just an age thing Calum?" "Oh no! – we don't say such things now" replied Calum. "These days we say, It could well be 'birth date related'." So, like most folk in any retirement fellowship, we will all have 'birth date related' health issues – myself included. I've survived a broken back during our self-build here in Strathpeffer – don't even ask!!!!

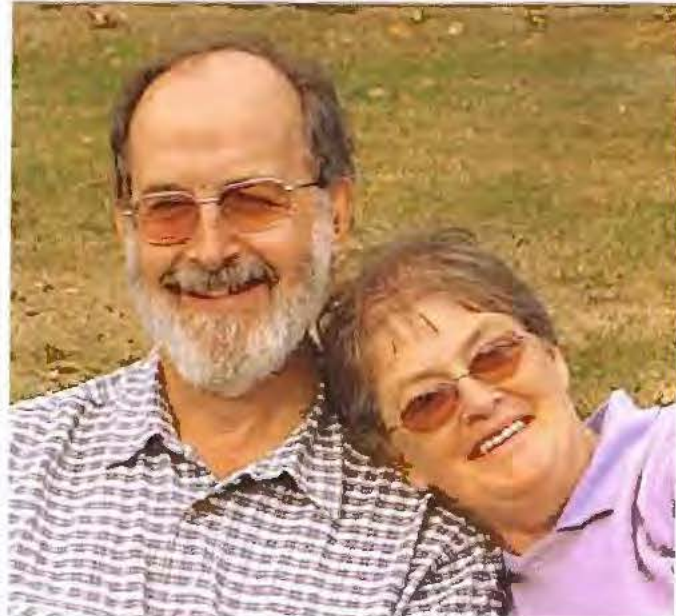
My climbing associates brush the matter aside considering it my 'attention seeking phase'. Through all this, and more, my glass remains more than half full! Time for a final dose of health-related humour, to be taken as directed. During my final years with NCR I lost an eye to glaucoma. At the time I was touring Europe on some FED EMEA scheme (which I would not escape me). Regular meetings in Brussels were massive with folk attending from across the globe. Everyone was very sympathetic as my facial alterations were observed over many months. Such matters are awkward to deal with as folk greet each other regularly. I eventually appeared following surgery, and passed a wee note to the Danish chairman who shared my sense of humour. During the standard introductory announcements re minutes, reports, etc, he announced. "We have an Email Distribution List, a correction for our UK representative whom we welcome back today. From today, remember that Hamish is spelled H A M I S H. Have we all got that? - Its Hamish with one 'H'. Laughter exploded, and my back was slapped throughout the remainder of the day.

**PS:** *What do you enjoy about retirement? Does your enjoyment increase as time goes by?*

**HM:** Both mind and body remind me to slow down. As I gradually apply the brakes, I am certainly enjoying life tackling amateur radio with ridiculous enthusiasm – and hopefully not making too much of a fool of myself.

I have every reason in the world to be content, so remain exactly that – content, and that's more than enjoyable in much more!, and yes – it increases as time goes by. I have been blessed with a wife like no other, and a wonderful supportive family – so I have much to be thankful for.

The rock on which our lives have been anchored has however been our Christian faith – so everything else naturally falls into their own places, and that's exactly where they should be.



*Elderly Couple on park bench.*





*Self-Build Contractors, checking that everything is straight and level.*

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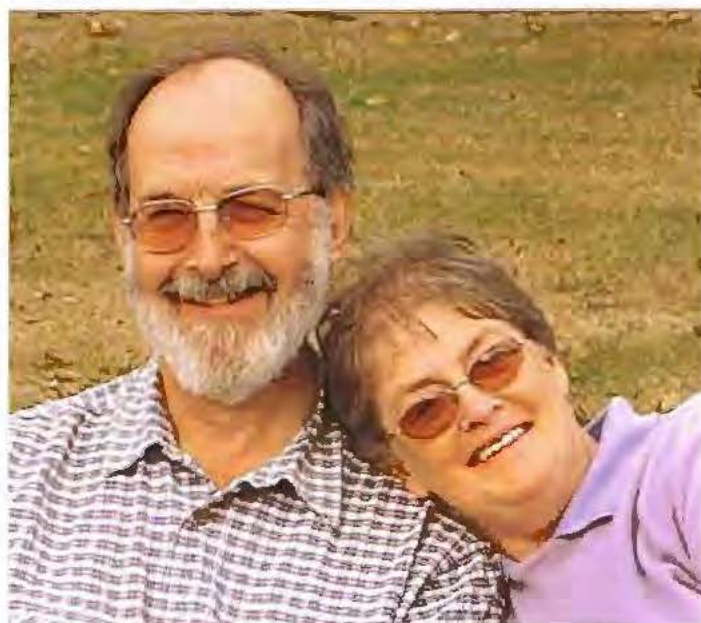
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*Elderly Couple on park bench.*



## NATIONAL-ELLIOTT COMPUTERS

The Elliott-Automation company was formed from Elliott Brothers of London, which began as the Elliott Instrument Company founded in 1804. Elliott's had been involved in the design of mechanical analogue computers since 1916 and moved into electronic digital computers by 1946.

During the second world war, Elliott's had been working on Government contracts, and, in 1946, found itself with an empty order book, and had lost its main customer. The Admiralty, wishing to extend its field of naval gunnery fire-control into the new electronic era, backed the creation of an Elliott research laboratory at Borehamwood in the disused fuse factory.

By 1961 the company based at Borehamwood a few miles north of London, was supplying 50% of the digital computers delivered to UK customers in that year.

The electronic skills developed at the Borehamwood Laboratories during the 1950s grew from government-sponsored contracts on secret defense projects.

There were 11 different computers produced at Borehamwood; of the 11 designs, six were designed and built for classified defense contracts. Only the Elliott 405, was focused on the commercial data-processing market from its inception.

The design of the Elliott 800 series and the 900 series were strongly influenced by the emerging requirements for industrial process control and factory-floor automation.

In 1966 In that year Elliott Automation was given a Queen's Award to Industry, in recognition of 'outstanding achievement in the technical development of process-control computers'

### THE NCR 315

By the end of 1966 Elliott-Automation had sold 728 computers: of these 578 were its own design and manufacture and the remaining 150 were NCR 315 computers manufactured for

the National Cash Register Company. Elliott's entry into commercial data-processing (EDP) market really had to await the arrival of the 405 system, the first being delivered in July 1956.

In June of that year, a marketing collaboration was agreed between Elliotts and the UK arm of the ' National Cash Register company (NCR), whereby NCR took over responsibility for marketing the 405 'for all business applications'.

This also led to NCR providing some software support for the 405. NCR, it was said took some time to fully embrace the stored-program digital computer culture since NCR had a long historical involvement with retail and financial application based on electro-mechanical accounting machines and small cash-register systems.

The concept of "electronic counting" at the speed of electricity - using vacuum tubes instead of mechanical means to retain sums - had been under study at NCR as far back as the late 1930s. The Company's patent literature of that period is full of insights into the "blue-sky" thinking of our engineers, said SJ Allyn in his book 'My Fifty Years with NCR.'

### NCR'S COMPUTING HISTORY

In 1939, NCR sponsored a series of studies on electronic computing by Massachusetts Institute of Technology scientists. In those days, everyone's concept of electronics for business equipment was limited to calculation merely doing what mechanical adding machines had been doing all along, but doing it at phenomenal speed.

The first "giant brain" ( so beloved of the era's journalists and so awesome to the public) took shape only in the late 1940s. Known as Mark I, its creation was directed by Harvard mathematician Howard W. Aiken, later a consultant for NCR.

Computer	Dates first working	No. built to 1967	Relative size	Initial application
152	1950	1	Medium	Defence
153	1954	1	Large	Defence
Nicholas	1952	1	Small	Defence
401,402	1953, 1955	11	Small	General
403	1955	1	Large	Defence
311	1954	1	Medium/large	Defence
405	1956	33	Large	EDP
800 series and 503	1957-1962	219+32	Small, medium and large	Automation and general
ARCH101,1000, etc.	1962-1966	Many embedded	Small	Automation
502	1963	3	Large	Defence
900 series	1963-1970 and later.	391+	Small	Defence and automation
4120,4130	1965, 1966	160+	Medium	General



To support all the above EDP platforms, NCR's software teams developed a business-oriented language and applications programs.

Prominent amongst NCR's output at this time was Language H a business-processing language 'designed to permit COBOL style operations in a simpler language, and suitable for running on a smaller machine'. The first Language H compiler for the NCR/Elliott 405M 'was completed in August 1961 and validated by December 1961.

January 1962 saw the start of a project to develop a Language H compiler that ran on a 405M but produced object code for an NCR-Elliott 803B'. In time, Language H compilers were produced for the Elliott 803 and the 4120/4130 and for the NCR 315. Language H is believed not to have been implemented on later NCR computers such as the Century.

Another Elliott/NCR product was the NEAT Assembly language for the NCR

315 and for the Elliott 4100 series computers, the first NEAT manual for the 4100 series being dated June 1966. The NEAT assembler for the 4100 series was developed at Borehamwood by a team led by Roger Cook.

#### DATA PROCESSING CENTRES

NCR was active in providing computing bureau and data-processing centres in large cities, in due course extending the bureau concept to cover both training and self-service facilities. For training purposes, NCR established its own special centers for example, in Baker Street, London, independently from the original training facilities which had been organised by Elliotts at Borehamwood since the mid 1950s.

The NCR company magazine NCR Post for October 1962 reports on customer training for an Elliott 803, which had been delivered to Northamptonshire County Council's Treasurer's Department. The 803 at Northamptonshire was used for two initial tasks: (a) monthly analysis of income and expenditure under about 10,000 headings; (b) costings for 17,000 meals served each day in 70 schools throughout the County. The Post article enthuses that: 'Programs for both tasks were written by a member of the Treasurers' Department trained in the NCR I Education Centre at 88 Baker Street.'

'On 1st June 1966 a new service, NCR Elliott Computer Workshops Ltd., was announced by NCR and Elliott-Automation Ltd., under which time can be hired on an electronic computer with magnetic tape files and high-speed printer, for as little as fifty shillings [£2.50 in decimal currency]. The inclusive charge for using one of the Workshop's [Elliott] 4100 computing systems is £20 per hour at peak periods and £10 per hour at off-peak periods. This means that a minimum 'time-segment' of 15 minutes, during an off-peak period, can be purchased for fifty shillings....

Unlike conventional computing centres, which do everything for their customers, The Workshops provide a 'laundrette' service with customers writing the computer programs and operating the equipment themselves....

The four established Workshops, which use NCR Elliott 803 computers, are being augmented by a country wide chain of all-purpose Workshops which will be equipped with the much more powerful NCR Elliott 4100 system. The first of

these is already in operation at Greenford and a further three will be opened during the next nine months at Manchester, Birmingham and Borehamwood.'

#### ELLIOTS JOIN ICL

Elliott-Automation merged with English Electric in August 1967, the merged companies then being taken over by GEC in September 1968 a couple of months after the formation of ICL in July 1968. By that time, ICL had effectively brought together the commercial data-processing capabilities of all the major UK manufacturers, including BTM, ICT, Ferranti, EMI, English Electric, Leo, Marconi and Elliott-Automation. ICL was only interested in the commercial data processing side of Elliott computers, confining its acquisition to the Elliott 4120 and 4130 computers.

#### **A statement by Chairman and Managing Director, British Selling Organisation, S. J. Conway January 1968** **On Our Own**

*At this point it seems appropriate to discuss the change in our association with Elliott-Automation.*

*As you know, this association has lasted ten years. It began because we believed, when business computers came on to the scene, that it would be in our interest to draw on the expertise and manufacturing resources of an established British company that had already gone a long way in the development of scientific computing techniques.*

*That decision is not regretted now. With the help of Elliott-Automation, NCR were first in the field of commercial EDP ; and today we can look back on an impressive list of highly successful installations.*

*But over the years a new situation has developed. The first significant change in the association was in 1960, when Elliott-Automation began to make certain parts of the NCR-designed 315 computer. This development continued through the introduction of the 4100 data processing system. More recently, we started to 'go it alone' by setting up a 500 Series production line in Dundee. This, of course, was done with Elliott's agreement.*

*During 1967 it had become apparent that we were getting ready for a big step forward in our 'NCR first' policy. Discussions had already begun when Elliott-Automation was taken over by a competitor. Our first thought was to safeguard the interests of firms which had bought Elliott-built computers from NCR-an important factor in maintaining our reputation for service.*

*Now, however, the last links have been formally broken. NCR stands on its own in computers; and I believe that it is a time of great opportunity.*

*Our policy here-as everywhere else is expansion. Exciting plans are at a very advanced stage, and you will see them brought into action during the year. For the time being, just let me assure you that the words 'computers by NCR' will take on a much fuller meaning and will be seen and heard much more often than in the past.*

*And, indeed, they did. But during the time of the association of NCR and Elliotts both parties tasted success. And we, NCR, are still here!*

Ian Ormerod



## EXPORTING THE 315

Ian's main story on the Elliotts 315 tells the fascinating tale of how Elliotts and NCR jointly produced the 315 at Borehamwood in an historic venture.

NCR UK set up a Production Support department, based in Borehamwood and headed up by Dr Ben Rostron, to work with Elliotts on the production of the computers. The dept was split into two sections, one handling the order and production side, headed by John Baker, and there was also a technical support team. The UK Electronic Sales Division placed their orders with Production Support, and overseas orders came via the UK International Office.

That's where I come in, as I joined UK International Office in December 1965 when the process was in full swing. ESJ 'Tom' Farmer managed UKIO, with Ron Payne handling the orders, and I worked as Ron's assistant. The International orders were mostly from Europe with several from the Middle East. However, all of the orders were big sales within their countries, and were often breaking new ground, in the smaller organisations.

At that time I was a clean-shaven, slim 21 year old with hair. My previous experience was working for the Inland Revenue and for my father's floor tiling company. And this was the cutting edge of the world of technology. What a change! After a few months, Ron, who was a great guy to work with, resigned, and Tom Farmer (who was, and remained, Mr Farmer to me, and was also terrific to work for) offered me Ron's job. Most of the work was documentation related - applying for export licences, arranging the shipment (usually by land or sea, sometimes by air), invoicing. Possibly more interesting was liaising with Production Support over factory timetable issues and/or customer site delays. I dealt with John Baker, and his assistant Alan Rose on those issues. Lots of agitated phone calls as we dealt with delays in production, which I reported back to the ordering country. Sometimes a problem might work in your favour, as the factory delay coincided with a site delay, other times not. Also occasions when the factory finished ahead of schedule but the customer wasn't ready. Not often though. But as we said at the time, and it applies to every job ever created, if the company did not have a problem, they wouldn't need us to do the job.

UK International was a fascinating dept to work in, we had a stream of overseas visitors from NCR companies, mostly Africa and Middle East, usually bringing over customers for their bigger installations where the products were new, and Tom Farmer's team would set up site visits for them with the hope of finalising an order. As I've said before, everyone I met from another NCR organisation had that NCR spirit irrespective of where they worked, and you felt you were part of a big team. That's not necessarily true of Government tax offices, and floor tiling companies!

As Ian explains the production of the 315 stopped in 1967, and with it my job in UK International. Terrific times. I took another role in UKIO, that too folded in 1973, when I left, only to return six months later. Redundancy hit in 1993, I came back in 1996 and stayed until 2009 when I retired.

**Pat Stroudley**

## HILDA LOTT WRITES

*We've had a very interesting letter from Hilda Lott, reprinted below.*

I have read the Winter 2022 Postscript from cover to cover. Found it so very interesting, and it has taken me back quite a number of years. I joined NCR in 1942, when I had just left school at 16.

I found it great straightaway, and was helped by everyone, especially a friend called **Joyce Bishop**, who was a little older than me and I have been friends with for many years until she passed away last year.

The other good thing that happened almost straightaway was that I had to go to the machine shop for somethings, and it didn't take more than a couple of weeks to meet my husband. We got engaged two years later, and two years after that we were married.

He was a cash register mechanic and also went to NCR straight from school. Definitely love at first sight. He was there until he retired sadly with cancer and died. I think his boss was a Mr English, not sure but they arrived with others that my husband worked with, and presented him with a large computer, all set up with many games that would help to pass the time away. I do not remember what model no it was, but it took ages to get going and you never could get the mouse to put the arrows where you wanted them to go!

There were many dances and lots of occasions where we all got together and I will never forget the two years that we spent both spent together at NCR.

I was so very sorry to hear that **Roger Whelan** is no longer with us as he took such good care of Region 4, which my husband Fred was in. I went to the lunches with another mechanic, **Peter Staines**, but he is no longer able to take me and I shall miss the one in April. I will think of them especially **John Souter** who I am sure will go.

I wrote to Roger Whelan saying all the groups are having lovely photos, and we missed them one year, and I was a bit embarrassed as in the very next Postscript, there was a full length photo of me! That is the sort of lovely man he was.

I was very interested in all the things **Ian Ormerod** has done, and loved all the pictures of the Cash Registers. Wish I lived nearer. He pops up in many of the region's lunches, and never seems to change.

NCR has been a family for me as my sister was there for a short while, then my brother-in-law until he died a few months ago, and of course, Fred Lott my husband and eight years for me before Abbey National took me over.

I find all the Postscripts very interesting.

Finally, I would like to convey my sympathy to Roger Whelan's wife and family. He will be greatly missed by us all too.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hilda Lott



## The ups and downs of the Express Boyd Travel & Transport company.

*(Being a short history of the origins of Express Boyd)*

In the Winter 2022 edition of Postscript we told the story of Express Boyd under AT&T

But how did the company get its name?

### ORIGIN

In 1964 NCR UK acquired the Express Travel and Transport Company which had acted as its travel agent for many years. In 1970 Express Travel purchased the freight company T Boyd Boyd and the two companies operated as separate entities until 1972 when the then Managing Director, George Muggleton, was appointed to merge the two companies plus NCR's transport department to form one company - Express Boyd.

*The initial take over of Boyd Boyd was a surprise to the UK transport business, as Boyd Boyd were a market leader, with a significantly larger turnover than Express.*

### BOYD BOYD BEGINNINGS

Thomas .Boyd Boyd was born in Newcastle upon Tyne in 1888 the son of Robert Boyd, a steamship owner and shipbroker, a British subject who was born in Jamaica in 1868. By 1901 the family had moved to Birkenhead and in 1911 Thomas Boyd Boyd, then age 22, was a shipping clerk and his father Robert manager of a Steamship Company.

A move to London in 1919 gave him the opportunity to become the Manager of Gerhard & Hey shipping agents by 1921

Elected as vice chairman of the Institute of Export for 1943, in succession to Sir Patrick Hannon he became increasingly involved in public life.

The Bromley & West Kent Mercury reported on Friday 03 October 1947 that "Councillor T. Boyd Boyd, of 92, St. James-avenue, Beckenham, was nominated Mayor-elect at Monday's Town Council meeting. A Freeman and Liveryman of the City of London, he first became a member of the Council in November, 1937, representing Manor House Ward, and was Deputy Mayor 1944-45. Mr. Boyd has served on every committee and been chairman of pensions, valuation and electricity committees, was managing director of a firm of shipping agents and chairman of the Institute of Export"

In June 1948 the Princess Royal was welcomed to the town by the Mayor of Beckenham, Councillor T. Boyd Boyd, who was accompanied by the Mayoress, when she arrived to inspect the Red Cross flag day depot there. Her Royal Highness, who is Commandant-in-Chief of the British Red Cross Society, was accompanied by her Lady-in- Waiting, the Hon. Mrs. Balfour.

### EXPRESS BOYD BEGINNINGS

L.T.Nights Ltd was registered as a company on the 23rd August 1949 at 59/60 Greenwich Street London E.C.3 to acquire and carry on the business of Leslie Thomas Knights



THE PRINCESS ROYAL HONOURS  
BECKENHAM.

Red Cross Commandant-in-Chief Visit, Loon Hall Depot



H.M. Princesse Reale, Commandant-in-Chief of the British Red Cross Society, Beckenham, June 1948. The Mayor of Beckenham, Mr. Boyd Boyd, and the Mayoress, Mrs. Boyd Boyd, are seen with the Princess Royal and her Lady-in-Waiting, Mrs. Balfour.

trading as Express Travel and Transport Company as travel agents and contractors, for freight

At an Extraordinary meeting at NCR's headquarters at Marylebone Road, it was resolved that the company name be changed to Express Travel & Transport Co. Ltd. and this was approved by the board of trade on the 31st December 1965. A special Resolution was passed on the 15th December 1966, again at NCR's office with L.T. Nights as chairman to the effect that the directors could appoint any managers or other employees of the company as Associate Directors. An Extraordinary meeting on the 23rd September 1966 authorised a new set of Articles of Association. By this date Stephen Conway had taken over as Chairman of the Express Travel and Transport Co. Ltd. *At that time, Stephen Conway was NCR Ltd's Chairman and Managing Director.*

By the 28th September 1972 the company had acquired T.Boyd Boyd's company and changed the name to Express Boyd.

### GROWTH

By 1980 Express Boyd covered a wide range of operations and the NCR Post of June 1980, gave the following description of the company operations at that time.

On the travel side the company had three travel shops in Hatfield, Addlestone and London - dealing with the passenger holiday side of the business, a business house travel section and a groups and congresses section.

On the cargo side the company operates a Freight Forwarding and Transport Division directed by Brian Cooper.

The International Freight Forwarding part of the Division is located at Bonhill Street and covers all aspects of the business including surface, air freight, storage, packing and overseas removals.

### Provincial offices

"We have our own provincial offices in Liverpool and Manchester," says Brian Cooper, "and we have reciprocal



arrangements with other agents in every major British port so that we can handle shipments into or out of any port."

A freight forwarder's function is to make arrangements for the shipment of cargo into or out of the country either by sea, air or road. This involves arranging the booking of the ship, aircraft or vehicle, all relevant documentation, clearing the cargo with customs on import jobs and generally seeing that the goods arrive at their destination on schedule.

### **Air freight popular**

Air freight is becoming more and more popular because of the speed with which overseas orders can be executed. To satisfy this demand, Express Boyd have an office at Heathrow Airport which is on line to the LACES (London Airport Cargo Electronic Data Processing Scheme). "We operate vehicles to and from the airport daily," says Brian.

Express Boyd has a network of overseas agents. "They handle the customs clearance and import operation for cargo exported from the UK through us," explains Brian.

"Although we have agents in all major ports, we have the contacts to arrange clearance anywhere in the world."

### **Regular clients**

The company has an impressive list of regular clients from all sections of industry. These include Berger Paints, Helena Rubinstein, the Tate Gallery, and Unigate among others.

"We pack all types of business equipment and are also involved in the packing and movement of blood banks," says Brian. "This is very delicate equipment which requires the specialised packing we are able to offer."

### **Short notice**

Another area in which Express Boyd specialises is the air freighting of ship spares. "These often have to be flown out at very short notice to coincide with the arrival of a ship in a certain port, and speed and efficiency plays a very important part in this operation."

An unusual feature of Express Boyd's facilities is that the company is willing to supply a member of its staff to work at a client's premises if they have a large freight movement to organise. "This, of course, depends on the availability of our staff at the time," explains Brian, "but our presence in the client's shipping department is always welcomed during peak periods."

### **Transport Division**

Brian Cooper is also responsible for the Transport Division as Director of Freight and Transport Services, but he leaves its day-to-day running to Peter Reynolds, Transport and London Warehouse Manager.

The Transport Division is based at Piggery Wharf, Wembley, with warehouse premises at Park Royal, and two additional transport depots at Manchester and Dundee.

Before NCR's in-house transport department merged with Express Boyd in 1972, its main function was to deliver NCR

hardware. NCR remains a major client, making up a total of 70 per cent of Express Boyd's business.

The Division has 54 vehicles and eight trailers. "We operate scheduled van services each week all over the country, and a daily overnight Freightliner service to and from Dundee," says Peter Reynolds.

The Transport Division is understandably proud of the Dundee service which is renowned for beating the first class post!

Specialised business Transporting computers is a specialised business. "We take great care to select the right drivers for the job," explains Peter. "They do the loading and unloading themselves and it is important that the equipment is secured properly inside the van and that great care is taken when handling it." Jim Barber is the site viewer. His function is to judge from the salesman's reports whether the job is straightforward, whether special equipment will have to be brought in, and to overcome any difficulties there might be in getting the computer into the site. He spends his time travelling between locations and supervising any difficult movements. "We have to notify the local police if we are likely to obstruct the road in any way," says Jim. "We sometimes have to use a crane in which case the road may have to be closed off."

### **New workshop**

A new workshop is in the process of being built at the Piggery Wharf premises. "It will be a great improvement over the old one," comments Peter.

It covers an area 80 feet x 40 feet with a headroom of 21 feet. Half of this area will be used for vehicle repairs and half for goods in transit.

### **Business Travel**

Express Boyd has specialised in business house travel since 1915. "To the businessman, time is vital," says Gerry Cutler, Customer Relations Director, "and it is our job to ensure that his itinerary is free from delays as far as it is humanly possible."

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Share Capital of Express Boyd began at £6000 but on the 7th August 1981 this was increased to 15,000 to capitalise on part of the credit from the profit and loss account in place of a dividend.

This was increased to £20,000 on the 24th July 1986 and again on the 11th July 1991 to £80,000.

After the acquisition of NCR by AT&T in 1991, Express Boyd came under AT&T Holdings.

Under the control of AT&T, the GIS (NCR) directors of Express Boyd resigned over the next few months and the company business was sold on the 1st January 1997 and taken over by Omega World Travel.

NCR retained the 1 share held in Express Boyd in the name of NCR Leasing until 2015 when the company was finally wound up.

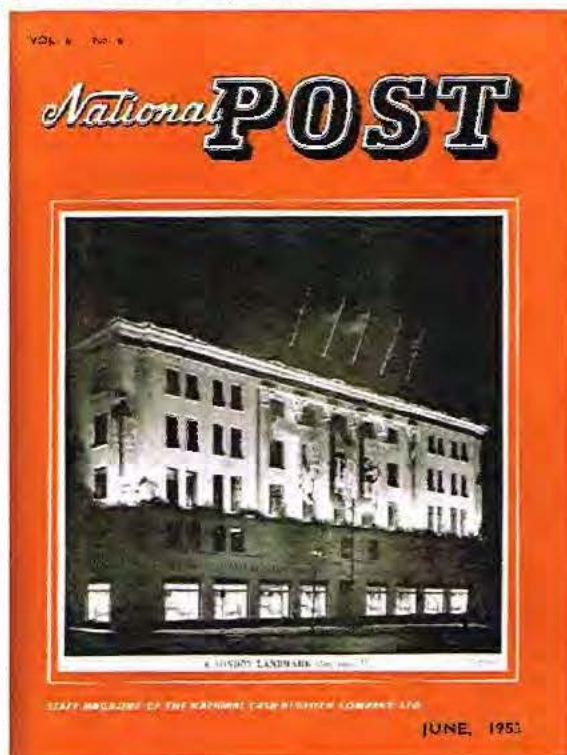


## The 1953 Coronation

### A LONDON LANDMARK

During the Coronation celebrations, Head Office in Marylebone Road, with its colourful display and striking floodlighting, was one of the outstanding landmarks in gaily decorated London. Based on Britain's traditional symbols, the huge centrepiece, 60ft. by 25ft., displayed the Lion and the Unicorn, surmounted by a banner proclaiming "Long May She Reign"

Credit for the design and supervision of construction was given to L. G. Harris, A.R.C.A of the Art Studio, Advertising and Public Relations Department.



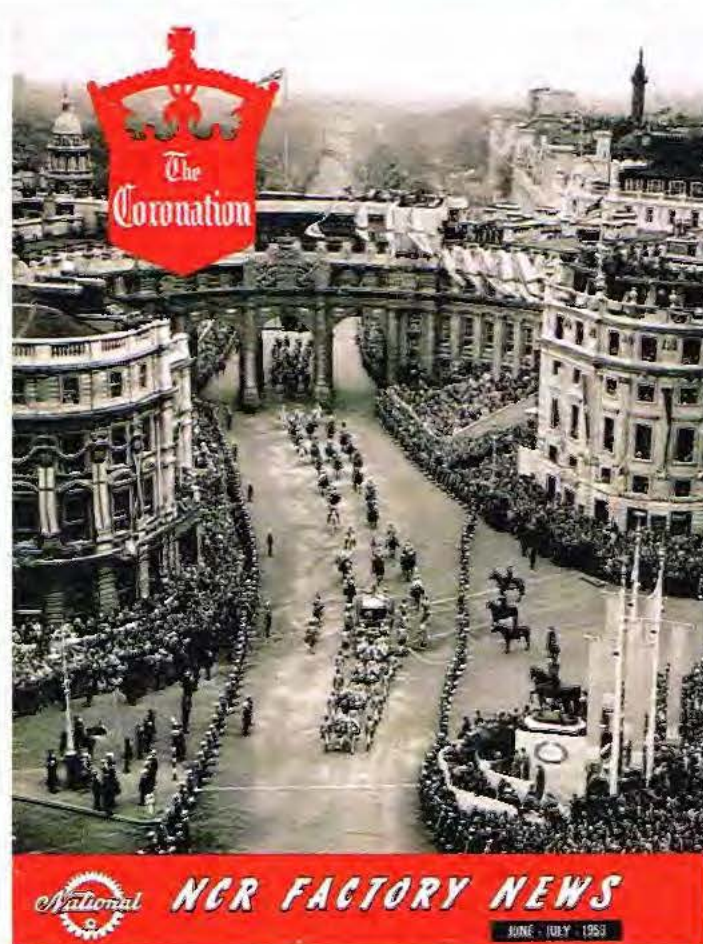
S.C. Allyn who by 1953 had risen from starting in the Bulletin Room at NCR in 1913 to becoming President in 1940 came to London to watch the Coronation. He and senior management of the British organisation were guests of Mr. Arthur Ensor, the chief general manager of Lloyds Bank. Their positions were in the bank's quarters on St. James St.

He reported later that "We had been told to be in our places by seven-thirty Tuesday morning. At that hour every vehicle had to be out of the procession area and the gates barring all traffic from the area were to be closed. It was also understood that once having gone to your position, it would not be possible to leave until after the procession was finished".

*The guests were able to watch the Coronation Ceremony on TVs provided by Lloyds Bank.*

In 1953 The Dayton Factory Post featured the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth on its front page and and eight pages of photographs and descriptions of the coronation ceremony and the processions.

Stanley C. Allyn recalled his memories in the June/July edition.



"We arrived in London on the Sunday before the Coronation. It was a London I had never seen before.

The center of the city was literally transformed by elaborate and varied decorations. Streets, buildings, public squares and store windows were decorated as I am sure they have never been before. The results were striking and impressive.

Little wonder that people came from all parts of London and the Provinces just to view the decorations.

The Mall, a wide thoroughfare running from Buckingham Palace to Admiralty Arch was the centre of the decorative scheme. Graceful steel arches spanned the roadway, towered fifty feet into the air. From each was suspended a huge crown and above it the royal supporters, the lion and the unicorn.

The Mall was especially beautiful at night when thousands of lights outlined the arches and illuminated the crowns.

It was not through decorations alone that the face of London had been changed. All along the route of the procession, thousands of seats had been erected. Some ran up like bleachers (North American English: or Stands, tiered rows of benches) from the edge of the street, others clung to the sides of buildings.

Pre-coronation tension reached its peak on Monday. For the full length of the route, thousands of men and women had already taken their positions along the curbs. With raincoats, umbrellas and blankets, they were prepared to sit, stand and sleep it out until the procession passed. Monday morning, I



asked one group of weary looking people how long they had been there. "Since this time yesterday," was the reply. They still had twenty-four hours to go. Many a person spent forty eight hours in the open, with rain much of the time, in order to have a point of vantage on the big day".



Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II was the greatest and most impressive spectacle I have ever seen or ever hope to see. Against a background of pageantry and ritual which reaches back for centuries, a young queen, dear to the hearts of her people, solemnly pledged herself to their service. Monarchs have been crowned before, but never under a combination of circumstances and conditions as they existed on June 2, 1953.

It must be true that no event in history has been so thoroughly covered by the press of the world, films, radio and television. Yet to every person who was privileged to be in London on that day and see some part of all that took place, the Coronation was a series of very personal impressions. As one of the more than 2,000,000 people who lined the six and a half mile route of the procession, I would like to give you mine.

During June, Mr. Allyn visited the Dundee and Augsburg factories and attended the Coronation at the beginning of the month. He has sent back this story of that day's events.

*That was a comprehensive review of NCR and the 1953 Coronation.*

*The cover of Private Eye in May 2023 probably expresses the view of the Corporation in modern times; as far as we can trace NCR UK did not arrange anything.*

### The Other London Premises - Part 1

At our Fellowship Regional Managers Zoom call in the autumn of 2022 it was mentioned that John Smith's excellent story of his working life at Harrow Road brought back memories of the now long forgotten offices, warehouses, and factories that NCR occupied over many years and the many different processes which went on there.

Previous articles in Postscript have mentioned the old showrooms from 1980s until Marylebone in 1936 so I will begin with the expanding company from that time at Marylebone, until the mid-1950s.

I started doing some research on the number of offices and dates which the London offices, and those in the provinces, existed throughout the years. It has taken a lot of research, which will probably continue for a long time yet.

#### Perivale

Once Marylebone head office had been completed and opened in 1936 the company began looking for other

premises for future expansion and the first one leased was **51 Aintree Road, Perivale** on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 1938, intended to be occupied for 21 years as factory premises. This was partly used as a research facility and by 1939 Patents were applied for, resulting from invention work done there.

The Perivale facility proved very useful and on the 15th September 1938 the company exercised its option to buy the land and premises to house the Experimental Department who worked on various electromechanical projects.

By 1939 the Laboratories and Patent Department had taken residence there from their short-lived residency on the top floor of **Darnoc House**, in Alfred Place, where it shared the space with the AMD School.

The Laboratories and Patent Department were at Aintree Road, Perivale under the control of N. T. Carne, who later became the General Manager of the Dundee organization. In 1938 Charles F. Hampton was the European Patent officer and was moved from Head Office to Perivale. During the



war, the small library was equipped as a do-it-yourself air raid shelter, consisting of a small alcove with sandbags packed on top. It was little consolation, however, as the whole of the surrounding areas were enclosed by glass partitions. This, however, was soon replaced by a proper, substantially built, air raid shelter. The war years were not without their humorous side as Charles was initially in charge of A.R.P. arrangements and can remember Mr. Carne's famous exhortation to his staff, 'If you smell a funny smell, tell Mr. Hampton immediately!' At the end of the war the Armaments Section became the Manufacturing Division, in preparation for the institution of the Dundee operation, leading to most of the staff there moving to Scotland.

He was the vice-Chairman of the Armament Section Social Committee the forerunner of the NCR Sports and Social Club and during the war years he put in much useful work as Secretary of the Joint Works Production Committee, formed to promote war production.

Mr. W. H. Harbor was Manager, Mechanical Development, who joined the Company in May 1931, as a technician. Soon he was on special work and machine construction and, as more technicians were coming to the Company, he started a Class 700 training school.

After NCR bought the Remington Cash Register Company, Mr. Harbor became supervisor of the Repair Department servicing Class 800 and 900 cash registers.

In 1936, he started the Apprentice Training School and, in 1938 went to Berlin to compare training methods. In 1941, after a severe illness, he went to Perivale and took charge of the NCR unit working for the Radar Research and Development on war work and he continued in this position until 1945, when the unit started working on NCR projects.

When the unit moved to Borehamwood, in 1956, Mr. Harbor became Manager, Mechanical Development.

S. A. Weston joined the Company in 1937 as a CRD technician and at the beginning of the war he transferred to the Grinding Shop where he eventually took charge until the end of the war. He then went back on service and maintenance of cash registers for a short time, later transferring to the Research Division at Perivale.

When the whole section moved to Borehamwood, he became a mechanical research engineer in the International Research Division under F. R. Saxby

*F. R. Saxby joined NCR as Mathematics Staff Engineer in the Research Laboratories, then located at Perivale.*

*During the war the Research Laboratories were taken over by the Royal Aircraft Establishment and later by the Radar Research and Development Establishment when Mr. Saxby was put in charge of the laboratories on secret war work.*

*With Mr. Carne he surveyed possible sites for manufacturing plants and eventually spent some time in Dundee helping to*

*set up the manufacturing facility. He returned to Perivale under the direction of*

*W. B. Woods and a number of minor and major developments were completed there.*

*On the advent of NCR paper, Mr. Saxby's operation transferred to Boreham Wood where he had designed and supervised the setting up of an almost completely automated and remotely controlled Emulsion Plant. When the Emulsion Plant was detached from Research and Development, he became Chief of Research and Development for 'International R and D' responsible to Dayton. At almost the beginning of his career with NCR the Company published a book 'The Theory of Indeterminate SpaceTime written by Mr. Saxby.*

*R. PRITCHARD joined the Company at the old Perivale Experimental Department to work on various electromechanical projects. He transferred to the Armament Section, later becoming Assistant manager. At the end of the war he transferred to NCR Dundee and purchased machine tools and equipment for the Dundee Factory.*

*In 1946 he was promoted Plant Engineer and then returned to Perivale in 1948 to take up the post of Manager, Advanced Engineering Laboratory at Borehamwood. Mr. Pritchard visited Dayton in 1955 to investigate the Compu-Tronic and was later responsible for the design and construction of the Sterling Compu-Tronic.*

### 52 Greys Inn Road

In the following month on 29th June a 7-year lease was taken out on 52 Greys Inn Road, for the use of "for the use of Sasieni & Smith". Who are they?..... you may well ask. Well, that's another story for another day.

### MORE TO COME

That is just the start of the story. In the Winter edition, Ian will cover the premises at 327-329 Harrow Road; 12 Warwick Road (Elstree; Kent House, Lower Mall, Hammersmith; 107 Baker Street, Marylebone; Bravington Road and many, many others.

Of course, the story behind all the activities around buying or leasing those properties reflects the company's own history, and gives a fascinating insight into that history.

More next time, but check the website, <https://www.ncr.org.uk/about-us>. Ian plans to put the complete article on the site although Ian is still completing an upgrade of the site, and the article may not be available immediately.

Regular users of the site will already be aware that all editions of NCR Postscript are available just by navigating a couple of buttons, and opening a pdf file.



# The NCR Fellowship

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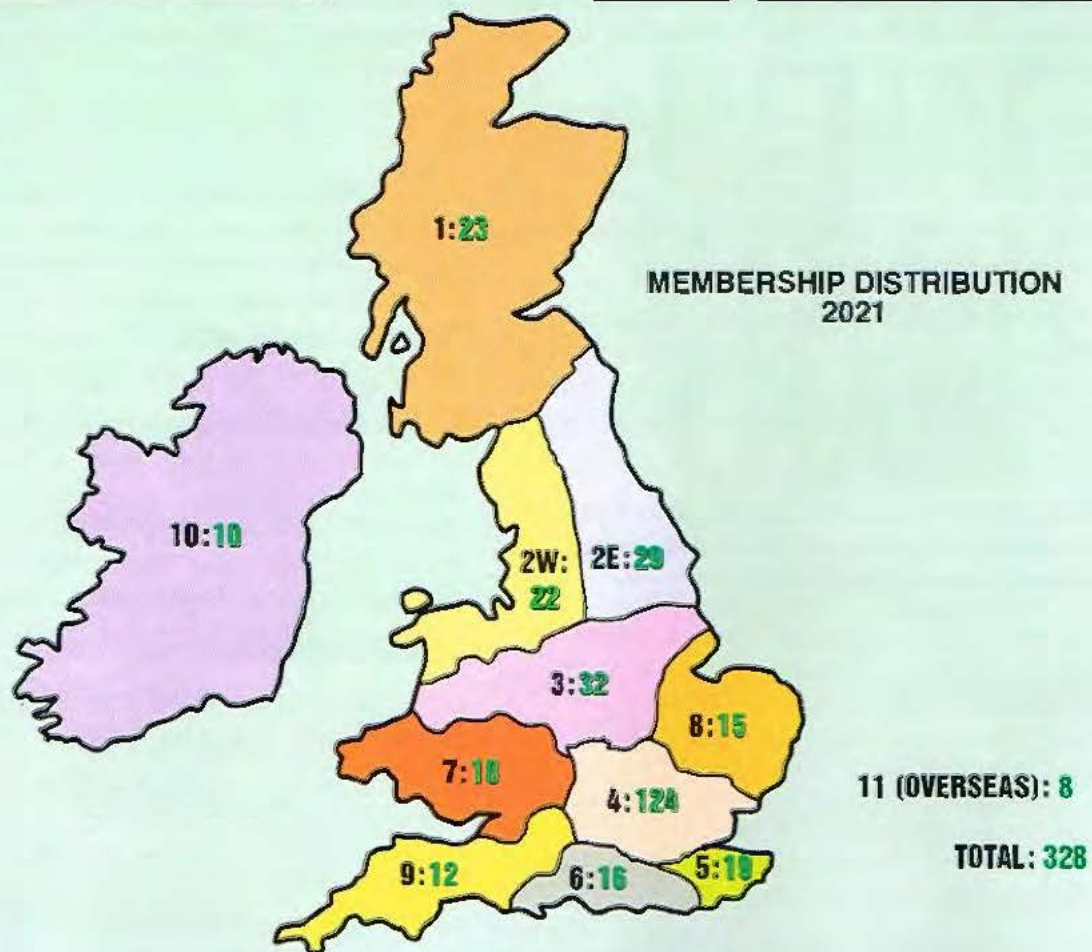
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