

NCR SPLIT – NEW NAMES & RATIONALE

As you know, NCR is splitting into two on 1 January 2024, just as this magazine goes to press. The following information is edited from an article in ATM Marketplace by Bradley Cooper, and may help readers understand where the split is, and which parts of the old company are called what names.

NCR Corp. made a big announcement that it would separate into two businesses, one to focus on retail, hospitality and digital banking and the other to handle ATMs. It recently announced the names of these two businesses: Voyix and Atleos. Both of these names have particular meanings for the industry at large.

To learn more about this announcement and what impact it will have on the ATM business, ATM Marketplace spoke with Scott Sykes, executive director of corporate communications, and Jennifer Personette, CMO of NCR Corp.

Q. What was the inspiration behind the names NCR Voyix and NCR Atleos?



Sykes: NCR Voyix is a nod to the ever-present vision, innovation and partnership that NCR offers its customers as we work with them in their voyage to succeed. NCR Voyix will leverage NCR's industry-leading software to continue transforming, connecting and running global retail, hospitality and digital banking technology platforms. In speaking with thousands of stakeholders to finalize each company's name, it became clear that "NCR" is a proven badge of experience and service that customers, industry analysts and employees encouraged NCR to retain. For the digital commerce company, the "Voyix" name demonstrates the concept of a voyage, which is how customers describe their journeys with NCR. The company is with them every step of the way, ever-present to unify technologies and guide customers toward their visions. The inclusion of "x" is purposeful — representing the actionable insights delivered to customers and the visual manifestation of the company's ability to "link" the digital and physical worlds.

The new name for the ATM business, NCR Atleos, reflects the strength of the NCR brand and our success in helping banks and retailers create best-in-class solutions, within and beyond the branch or across their map of expansive networks. This business will build on NCR's leadership in solutions that enable customers to meet global demand for ATM access while leveraging new ATM transaction types, including digital currency solutions, to drive market growth. As with NCR Voyix, constituents surveyed encouraged the

company to retain the NCR name in some way. "Atleos," for an atlas or map, speaks to the company's focus on expanding transactions and access worldwide. "At" also nods to the company's past and present history with automated tellers, which combined with "eos," or the dawn of a new era, speaks to NCR's drive to scale ATM as a Service (ATMaaS), interactive tellers and future innovations.

NCR conducted a thorough naming process with global consultancy Interbrand that included surveys, research and the engagement of thousands of stakeholders including employees, customers, investors and industry analysts.

Q. What were the contributing factors that led to the decision to separate into two companies?

Sykes: It has become clear that NCR has the opportunity to unlock value for our shareholders by separating our digital commerce business and our ATM business. We have made significant strides over the past four years in creating a leading software-as-a-service business while continuing to strengthen and grow the ATM business. By creating two best-in-class independent companies, we should be able to accelerate the pace of transformation by enabling each to execute its own growth strategies and better capture the value-creation opportunities ahead.

Q. What type of products and services will Voyix offer?

Sykes: This is our digital commerce business which includes industry-leading software for transforming, connecting and running retail, restaurant and digital banking technology platforms.

Q. What kind of innovations are in the near future for Voyix and Atleos?

Sykes: The separation would create two strong companies at scale, each with distinctive business goals and capital structures and allocation, as well as increased flexibility to innovate. Each company can simplify its operations and focus on what it does best, and because they will have different growth profiles and economic models, separating them will also provide investors with greater transparency and a better ability to value each of the businesses. And, importantly, we believe this approach will put us in the best position to drive the most competitive products and solutions for our customers.

Q. What excites you the most about this move by NCR?

Personette: We took the responsibility of renaming a company with more than 130 years of history very seriously. The strength of both brands, which build on our existing positive brand value, is evident in the recent momentum of the business and customer feedback. I am also proud that we chose names through a process that included feedback from 12,000 employees who expressed their pride in NCR.

Editor: That's the end of the extract from the article.

Readers may want to take a note of the new websites.

WEBSITES

<https://www.ncratleos.com>

<https://www.ncr.com> – still the address for NCR Voyix

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Welcome to the Winter 2023 Edition of Postscript.

A short blast of Covid hit Postscript's Editorial Towers just before Christmas, and slightly delayed production.

However, generally the Fellowship recovered well from the ravages of the pandemic, and Regional lunches mostly resumed their normal pattern, so we have a full set of reports, and the promise of more to come in 2024.

Featuring this month are the final part of Ian Ormerod's 'The Other London Buildings' story; Keith Templeman in the 'Meet the Organisers' chair; Chris Dunn and Pat Keogh share details of their hobbies, which we think you will find makes for good reading, and hopefully encourages you to do the same.

The next edition, Summer 2024, will be a Special, and will celebrate 20 years of the Fellowship in its current format. You are invited to share your memories of what you were doing in that summer, see page 23.

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We hope you enjoy the magazine.

WINTER MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I am sorry to report that Hamish McKensie has decided that he must retire from the role of organiser for region 1 for health reasons. We have enjoyed having him as part of the team, his effort and support in organising lunches and the Fellowship in general, was much appreciated and we will miss his Scottish humour.

However, I am happy to announce that Ron Gammie has agreed to take on the role and welcome him to the Committee.

Sadly, Mike Sandford has also decided that due to a change of

circumstances he will not be able to take on region 7, to replace John Jones, so if anyone would be willing to volunteer, please let me know. It would be a great pity if we cannot continue the regional lunches which John so successfully organised.

I would like to thank all of the committee members for helping to keep the Fellowship running and as always to thank Ian Ormerod for all his effort.

Finally thank you to you all for your continued support and I wish you all a happy 2024. **Lin**

OBITUARIES

PIC has advised us of the following who have passed away.

Fellowship Members:

Name	Region	Date
Mrs P H Buck	8	30.04.23
Ms G Ellis	4	3.05.23
N Roberts	1	30.07.23
J Sharp	1	10.09.23
P G Staines	4	02.05.23
S Statt	4	30.08.23
B Strathdee	1	25.09.23

Non Members & Date

P B Adams, 27.09.23; Ms S Atkinson, 4.05.23;
 S J Boruch, 24.07.23; G E Bourne, 14.07.23;
 P Carruthers, 28.04.23; G C Catchpole, 4.09.23;
 S J Corcoran, 25.06.23; M F Daly, 13.05.23;
 T V Davies, 17.10.23; P Docherty, 18.10.23;
 J Ferguson, 23.09.23; D S Fleming, 12.07.23;
 Ms L R Gold, 18.05.23; A M Gowman, 30.05.23;
 D J Guildford, 3.06.23; Ms J B Hanna, 25.07.23;
 H S Heath, 7.04.23; M J Howard, 5.09.23;
 J A R Jackson, 7.08.23; S Otter, 25.08.23;
 G Parker, 16.08.23; M D B Reed, 02.07.23;
 R J Reeve, 31.05.23; M R G Richmond, 1.05.23;
 P Schwartz, 29.08.23; Ms G Stark, 20.06.23;
 H L Stewart, 27.03.23; Ms J M Watson, 26.05.23;
 R S White, 11.06.23

NEWS OF 206 MARYLEBONE ROAD

This is an extract from the website of Buildington

'Patterson Building at 206 Marylebone Road is an office building in Marylebone, London NW1. The 120,000 sq ft office building is expected to complete in 2023. The Grade A office building will have a new and prominent reception plus significant outside/ amenity space.



The 135,000 sq ft (12,541m²) building was once purpose-built as a headquarters building for NCR (National Cash Registers) in the 1930's. It is now undergoing a comprehensive refurbishment to reinstate the office building into its former glory, whilst being fit for modern-day occupiers'

Editor's note: Ian Ormerod has been working with the developers, and we hope to have more information next time from Ian regarding the nature and content of that work.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Region 1 – Ron Gammie

The Retirement Fellowship 2023 lunch took place later this year as a result in change of Regional Organiser, thanks to **Hamish McKenzie** for all his stalwart efforts over the years and welcome to **Ron Gammie** taking up the reigns. It was a case of "Deja Vu" at our popular haunt: 'The Italian Kitchen', Ingram St, Glasgow on Wednesday 22th November, on a surprisingly warm day (12 degrees, albeit it dropped to 5 degrees by the Friday!!)

Numbers were great considering the short notice with 11 colleagues (not quite the "Dirty Dozen") attending. We had a long list of apologies due to ill health, hospital appointments, looking after 3 years olds (well done Jack) and even being on holiday!! This included, **Peter Kemp, Ian McLauchlan, Don McFadyen, Roger Green, John McElroy, Graham Nisbet, John McNicol, Jack Whyte, David Brown** and last but not least, **Barry Harrison** who has promised to come across the pond next year to join us. The remaining stalwarts dusted down their bus passes and railcard savers to make it on time (or 15 mins late due to Gingers train being cancelled – body on track!!),

George Benson, and **John (Ginger) Gray** travelled through from Scotland's capital, escaping the Christmas market while **George Brown** and **Ian (Andy Cap) Fairbairn** travelled up from Ayrshire.



Ian "Andy Cap" Fairbairn says hi to Ron Gammie and Bob Stewart!

Brian Behr popped down from Dundee accompanied by his carer **Ron Gammie** ☺ from Linlithgow. **Hamish MacKenzie** did the epic journey from Strathpeffer where the Aurora Borealis is visible 24 x 7!!



JW McKay and Ginger await their 1st course

Graeme Edwards managed down from Alloa leaving his 5th wheel (with extension) safely tucked up at home (were just jealous!).

It was great to see the "locals" **John MacKay** and **Bob Stewart** from the Glasgow looking no different from when they left NCR (what's the secret guys?).

Special mention also to a new attendee **JW McKay** (yes its confusing) who thoroughly enjoyed the outing (especially in the Piper Whisky Bar afterwards!).



Bob Stewart praying for seconds

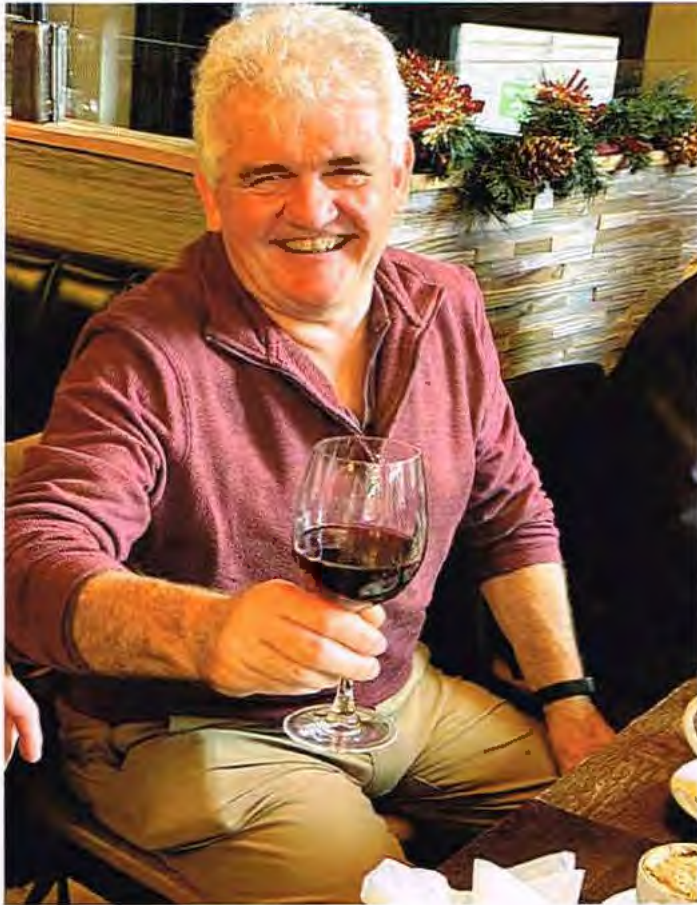
As always, we had an excellent meal, some even managing three courses (good practice before Christmas) in a busy environment. To be expected prices for the food have gone up a little but it may have been the bigger drinks bill which meant it took three/four of us to sort it out at the end (thanks George) and Bob please don't sneak off to the toilet when we are after the spondoolies!!!



George Brown points out to Hamish MacKenzie "It's rude to point"

A wee glass was taken in respect of our departed friend **Brian Strathdee** and also others caught up on who is still around or no longer with us with a promise to a concerted effort to track down lost colleagues.

Region 1 continued



A very happy Graeme Edwards caught in his native habitat.

Changes to NCR overall were talked about with the splitting of the current company and probably feeling we have all gone through enough change what with NCR, Teradata, AT&T (GIS Global Solutions Ltd) FSD, RSD not to mention the paper side. It was also mentioned that the current refurb of the old NCR Headquarters is we believe to result in the building being named The Patterson Building, if true, a fitting legacy considering our long tenure there.



Ginger Gray, JW McKay, George Brown., John McKay and Hamish MacKenzie polish off a fine lunch with a few coffees.



Brian "I only have one meal a day" Behr tries to polish off an enormous pud..

Some (more foolish) of us, 8 in total managed to navigate up to the Piper Whiskey establishment (without Sat Nav) on the edge of George Square for an aperitif or two (maybe more).



The two John's look on bemused as Ian Fairbairn does his Superman impression!



Bob Stewart, John McKay, Ron Gammie and George Brown get ready to strut their stuff on the streets of Glasgow.

Region 1 continued



George Brown, Hamish MacKenzie and Graeme Edwards debate who has run off with the Kitty!

Meanwhile Ginger, not content with the drama of arriving late managed to try and throw himself down a pothole on the way home, saved by the supporting efforts of his two girls, well done ladies.



The two Johns practice synchronised leaning!

As normal the tales flowed thick and fast (probably many repeated from last year as no one remembers that long ago) but it's amazing how much we enjoyed working at NCR over the years and the various characters we all came across. So even after it's 20th year in current form, long may the Fellowship last.



Ron Gammie promises to have "just one more"



Brian Behr contemplates if he had joined IBM he may have made friends.

Thanks to those who recorded the photographic evidence (Brian Behr, John McKay) which may appear in a court near you!!

Looking forward to our next outing already and wishing everyone in the fellowship a Great Christmas and a Very Happy New Year from Region 1 Fellowship.

Regions 2E & 2W – Pat Keogh

2E Oct 2023 Lunch Report

I'm pleased to report an improvement in our attendance to 20 following our lowest ever figure in May of 16.

We had a very enjoyable two course carvery lunch of Soup or Pate starter, Beef and Ham Carvery with all the trimmings followed by Tea and Coffee.

In May we recorded our lowest attendance figure of 16 and with a fixed booking fee of £50, any further drop in numbers would have put the lunches at question. The lunch is currently set at £20. This was an increase from £16 pre-pandemic. I thought this was a large move till I looked at other reports and local choices and realised that it was a reasonable price.

So I was quite pleased with the improvement and the very strong commitment from all attendees to continue the lunches. The attendees at this lunch, photographed here, 19 in all, are all strong and regular supporters of the lunches. Andrew Hill managed to avoid the camera.

I also received messages from others who couldn't attend so I think the future of the Leeds Lunches is in no doubt.

With that in mind I have booked the two dates for 2024. Third Wednesday in May, 15th, and the third Wednesday in October, 16th.

I hope to start work again on recovering the 2W West lunches with a target of holding a May 2024 lunch.

Pat Keogh

Region 2 continued



Ian Beveredge & John Orell



Ian Ormerod



Graham Hatton



Keith Stansfield & Keith Penny



Mrs Smith & Mrs Hill



Alan & Sandra Dixon



Geoff Smith & Sue, Pete Scanlon's partner

Region 3 - Keith Templeman

Region 3 Lunch Report October 2023, Keith Templeman.

Present today were 24 members and wives.

Members present were:

Ian Ormerod, Doreen Butterfield, Ian Davidson, Peter Heywood, Phil Rock, Keith Templeman, David Beattie, Richard Baker, Jill MacPhail, John Latty, Kevin Rixson, David Cooksey, Yatish Ranch, Pete Selwyn, Barry Skelding and Gert Bakker.

I was pleased to welcome Tony Barnett today having now retired from TeraData. Together with Graham Carter, I wonder if this is a record number of ex TeraData attendances at one of our lunches?

Apologies were received from:

Les Clarke, John Williams, Marilyn Almond, Brian Briggs, Margaret Ellis and at the last minute Joe Teeling having a bad cold and didn't wish to share it with us. All sent their best regards to others and will try harder to attend next time.

Our dining experience was much better this time around, the table layout being much improved over our last visit. The

Region 3 continued

meal was very good consisting of soup or a good selection of cold starters, followed by a carvery with a fine selection of meats and a varied selection of deserts. At least it shows the restaurant listened to my complaint and acted upon it. I think everyone enjoyed the meal. This was followed by plenty of friendly banter and conversations of past times.

As usual time flew by and I look forward to our next lunch which will be on the 18th April next year.



Jill MacPhail and Fiona



Richard Baker and Doreen Butterfield



Gert Bakker



Ian and Sheila Ormerod



Ian Davidson



Marion and Kevin Risson



Pete Selwyn and Graham Carter

Region 3 continued



Tony Barnett and Barry Skelding



Jacky and David Seattie



Keith and Dene Temoleman



Yatish Ranch and David Cooksey



Phil Rock and John Latty

Region 4 – Vacant

Region 4 lunch report October 2023 – Lin Sandell

I am pleased to report that we held another successful lunch on October 11th at the Corus hotel in Lancaster Gate. This lunch had been arranged for October 4th but at the last minute we had to change the date due to train strikes. We were fortunate that the hotel could accommodate us on the different date but unfortunately 6 people could no longer attend. Changing dates at the last minute was quite a challenge and we must thank **John Atkins** for all his help in coordinating things.

Once again it was agreed by the members that they would like to hold the lunch on a six monthly basis and John and I committed to trying to do this. However, in order to make this as easy as possible we have decided that going forward invitations will only be issued by email and have defined a master list of invitees. If anyone would like to join us but does not receive an invitation please contact John or I and we will add you to the list.

The date of the April 24th 2024 has been agreed with the hotel for the next lunch and invitations will be sent out in February/ March.

The following guests attended:

- Wallace Avery, Alan Chard, Ian Davidson, Chris Dunn, Terry Exton, John Fenner, Trevor Friend, Robert Gray, Bernard Harris, Ray Harris, Melville Hill, Rodger Main, Steve Mathews, Eric Page, John Smith, Mike Sumner, Cath Sunderland, Paul Williams, Lal Kerai, Andrew Robinson, Paul Nichols, John Atkins, Lin Sandell



Region 4 continued



Derek Prescott



Andy Fisher



Cliff Buck



Keith Templeman

Region 8 – Vacant

Region 8 lunch report

The first region 8 lunch since before Covid was arranged at a new venue, "The Cherry Tree" in Soham, for Wednesday 18th October.

Region members and attendees of previous lunches were invited and while not all were able to attend, numbers were bolstered by members from other regions and guests as follows.

Tom & Avril Herbert, Richard & Linda Chamberlen, Keith Templeman, Kevin Rickson, Debbie Miller, John O'Connor, Denis Pearce, Derek Prescott, Geoff & Susan Gilbert, John Pearce, Andy Fisher, Cliff Buck

Everyone appeared to enjoy the day with the location, the room, the food and the service appearing to be acceptable to all concerned. Informal discussions on the day seemed to confirm interest in further lunches and so no doubt this will be arranged, probably for May next year.



Debbie Miller



Richard Chamberlen



John O'Connor



Dennis Pierce



Keith Rickson



Tom Herbert

Region 9 – Adrian Gallagher

Region 9 annual luncheon.

On Monday 23rd October 2023, we held our annual lunch at the Saddlers, Lymington, Devon.

Our numbers were lower this time. Attending were **Geoff and Angela Cooper, Cris and Wendy Mackie** (Cris attending with a walking stick after a recent knee operation), **Graham Storer, Louise Gallagher** and myself.

Apologies were received from **Derek and Pam Knibb, Geoff Jackson, Jessie Wallace and Martin Prosser, Julie Mair, John and Margaret Stevenson** (who currently have covid). We wish John and Margaret a speedy recovery.

An enjoyable meal was had and I think everyone enjoyed it, even with the lower number attending and the pub having recent new management with low staffing levels with failed beer deliveries. It was great to meet up with everyone again.

Looking forward, next years luncheon is expected to be on Monday 28th October 2024 12.30pm at a venue yet to be decided. Further details to follow.

If anyone has any information or stories they would like published in Post Script, please contact **Pat Stroudley** the editor.

On a personal note I would just like to thank the Committee for all their hard work and dedication in keeping the Fellowship going all these years. I'm sure many people do not appreciate how much time and effort is spent organising the Fellowship. Thank you.

I would like to also wish everyone a safe, happy and prosperous Christmas and a very Happy New Year. 🎄🍷🥂

Please remember that the membership for the Fellowship is due on the 1st January each year. Please arrange to pay by standing order so as it renews automatically each year and saves the committee unnecessary work. Forms can be obtained from **Lin Sandell**.



Cris Mackie, Louise Gallagher, Graham Storer, Geoff Cooper, Angela Cooper and Wendy Mackie.



Louise Gallagher (facing away from the camera), Graham Storer, Geoff Cooper, Angela Cooper, Wendy Mackie and Cris Mackie.

Region 10 – Ken Carson

It had been such a long time since Region 10 had managed to get together, for all of the reasons over which the drawing of a veil seems most appropriate. For the quizzers amongst you, in the year we last frequented the Dirty Duck on the Esplanade at Holywood, the Local Hero pocketed both the Open and US PGA Championships but has failed to master another Major since.

The setting from the upstairs Bistro is spectacular, with panoramic windows painting the marine backdrop northward up Belfast Lough and outwards towards the Irish Sea. The menu is extensive and the quality of food and service is first class, as is the presentation of St. James Gate's black Nectar which was amply enjoyed.

It was wonderful to find everyone in such good form despite various uninvited strictures since we last met and once again a delight to see the rekindling of old friendships forged through decades of common purpose.

A special mention is obligatory for **Sean Moloney** who made the trip from Dublin to spend the afternoon with us and sprinkle his usual Craic over proceedings. More particularly however, that special mention is extended to **Ron Magowan** and **Bill Barclay** who couldn't be with us and were sadly missed. We look forward to seeing you both again soon.

So, now that we've got the show back on the road, let's look forward to getting it together again around May time '24 all being well. I'll let you know WhatsAppening!



Region 10 continued



MEET THE ORGANISERS

Keith Templeman

	NCR Limited 206 Marylebone Road London NW1 6LY	
	Name K TEMPLEMAN	
Engineer's Number 246921		
Location SHELDON		
VALID FROM 1992		
Holder's Signature		

PS: Welcome to PostScript, and the fourth in a series of discussions with fellow regional organisers.

Region 3 sits squarely in the middle of England, aka the Midlands.

Tell us about how you became a regional organiser, and what is involved in running the region, and your regular regional meals/get together. I note that your report of the April meeting listed 25 Fellowship members in attendance, from a regional membership of 32, which is quite impressive. I imagine there were some attendees from other regions, even so the region seems to have a keen following?

KT: I became organiser when Eric Grace had expressed a wish, on more than one occasion, to relinquish the role due to failing health. I didn't want the role, but no one else volunteered and as I knew Eric well when he was a support specialist in head office, volunteered to take it on temporarily until someone else came forward. Guess what, that was in 2015 and I am still doing it. I guess I may as well continue now!

Yes, region 3 does sit in the heart of the Midlands, but covers quite a large area, from Stoke-on-Trent at the most northerly point, Derbyshire and Nottingham the North East, Leicestershire to the East, Birmingham and Wolverhampton the west and Worcestershire in the South West, with members at all points. I think in 2015 there were 37 members, and now the membership is only 5 fewer at 32, as you say. We have been inviting partners and friends which increases attendance, even if our wives become bored with 'job talk' for much of the time. We have two lunches each year, spring and autumn which enables members to choose which to attend, one or both, depending on holidays, grandparent duties and, more frequently these days, medical appointments! I like to think that region 3 does have a keen following, but wouldn't like to take any credit for it, as it is most certainly the members themselves, a bunch of friendly members, tolerant wives and an eagerness to continue the 'NCR family' for as long as possible. I don't mind the role of organiser, it being mostly stress free once the meal is booked and a deposit paid. I can then relax until six weeks before, when I send out e-mail invitations. It is much easier now all members can be emailed, rather than having to send out 'snail mail', paper.

**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 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

invitations. The only stress is during the week of the meal, ensuring that the numbers match and the hotel is ready for us. When we arrive my wife, Dene, helps by recording the numbers whilst I say hello to everyone over a drink in the bar, before telling the restaurant manager we are all 'present and correct'. After the meal I update the group on any news and then take the obligatory 'mugshots', which show magazine readers from other regions how much we have all aged since the last meal, surely not! The time passes all too quickly, but it's great to have a catch-up and a natter.

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

KT: Yes, at secondary school as a matter of fact. I became interested in all things practical, including metalwork and woodwork, although maths and the sciences were my favourite subjects. I was always tinkering at home with stuff. Transistors had just become affordable, and I made several kits, the 'cat's whisker' radio receivers and various transistor radios. I had a Saturday job at a radio and television retail shop, so I had some 'hands-on' experience with transistor radios and valve televisions in their service department. I was also interested in photography, buying my first 35mm camera with my 'Saturday money', from a photographer's shop that offered me a Saturday job at a holiday camp as the photographer's assistant, but I turned it down, hmm! My first job was with the G.P.O. and Post Office Telephones, 'God's Poor Orphans' we called ourselves, taking home a weekly wage of £5, 3s, 6d I think when I came out of my apprenticeship. It taught me all manner of things about telephony and telephone exchanges, with recognised City & Guilds qualifications and leading to passing my O.N.C. in mechanical engineering and H.N.C. in Electrical and Computer Engineering. This began an interest in digital and analogue computer design and engineering. My grade within P.O.T. was Technician 2A, then Technical Officer – in training, where I worked in telephone exchange construction. When a local Technical Officer went on long term sick leave, I became his 'stand in' until he became well again. Of course, when he returned to work, I returned to my previous post with a corresponding drop in pay. Needless to say, having tasted higher income, I began looking for work in the computer industry. I applied to two computer companies advertising in the national press then attended an interview with NCR in their Grimsby office, my home town. I was interviewed by Fred Jayne, the northern regional Superintendent of NCR's Computer Maintenance Section. Living in Withernsea, Yorkshire, just across the River Humber from Grimsby, he came over on the Humber Ferry, a much shorter journey than by road around the river in those days, as the Humber Bridge had not yet been built. He brought his wife with him so she could do some shopping whilst he interviewed me, nothing more than an informal and friendly chat. NCR must have been desperate as he offered me a job at the interview, with a company car, to work on the newly released Century Computer systems, provided I pass a couple of tests, the S1 and S5 tests I recall. Whilst I completed them he went off to find his wife. I met the centre manager, a nice chap by the name of Cyril Peterson I think, who issued the paperwork. At the end he checked my answers and advised me that I had

passed both tests. At this point I felt rather pleased with my efforts, having had a productive morning's work, just having had the promise of a new job, a company car, and an increase in pay from something like £900 to £1200 per year in 1969. There was a Chinese restaurant close by, so I could afford a 3 course Chinese lunch for 3s, 9d. I had just been shown to a table when Fred and his wife walked in. He bought me lunch so the day couldn't have got much better.

When I got home there was a letter on the doormat from the other company I had applied to, offering an interview. I decided not to attend as I had accepted the offer with NCR. That other company was IBM.

For many years after I wondered if that was the biggest mistake, or the best decision of my computer career. I shall never know.

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

KT: I joined NCR in October 1969, as a Technical Officer, coincidentally, the same grade as I had just left. I went on a long Century 100 mainframe training course, including various peripherals, in Brent, North London, in digs in Hendon, for months, then returned to Grimsby with my new company car, a Hilman Imp!

The car previously issued to engineers was a Ford Anglia, a slightly bigger car than the Imp, but purchasing decided 10 Hilman Imps could be purchased for the price of 9 Ford Anglia cars, at £650 each. The Imp, being a rear engine car, with a small 'boot' in the front was designed for low mileage city use, not for a 20,000 miles per year job car. The front storage was just about big enough for my NCR issued toolbox and my Tektronix oscilloscope, itself costing £1200 at the time.

My job was to look after a new Century 100 at Clugston Holdings, a civil engineering company in Scunthorpe, 30 miles from Grimsby. The Century was due to be installed before I started my training, but was delayed and turned up whilst I was on course. The Data Processing Manager, a John Midgely, wrote to our directors in Dayton, complementing the U.S. on just having put man on the moon, but then complaining that NCR could not get a computer delivered to Scunthorpe! Unfortunately, I was unable to benefit from valuable 'hands-on' experience during the installation. I have since learned many times that hands on installation experience was more useful than training courses, but in my case the in-depth theory training, very new to me, was essential in this case. The equipment was installed by **Peter Hardern**. Hello Peter, you did a good job, as it hardly ever broke down and never did suffer a 'head crash' which was quite a common fault with the 655 disk sub-systems at the time.

I rarely visited the local NCR office, only to collect parts, so I worked alone, unlike in my previous job where I was never alone, and getting to know the customer's staff more than the NCR staff was rather odd, although I did meet **Mike Green** and **Baz Pickard**, from the Grimsby office, who are now retired and in region 2, as is Peter in the Scottish region 1.

From this point of view, I guess, the job did not meet my expectations.

PS: What territory did you cover in those days?

KT: The computer was very reliable, giving me time to study this new to me technology, at my own pace rather than on the training course. The only times I got my hands dirty and able to practice some of what I had learned was during the couple of hours per week preventative maintenance periods. The customer was reluctant to give this rooky engineer time to take his computer to pieces, but as time went by, they got to trust me more, and when it did actually break down, they were impressed that I managed to fix it.

The early 1970's saw much activity, Century 100 and 200 machines being installed up and down the country, I was asked to go all over. Clugston Holdings were tense when I told them I would be away on installation work, I'm sure they thought I was their own full-time engineer, but I was pleased to get away.

Three machines that I remember installing during that period were Libby, McNeil and Libby, an American canning company famous for their tinned fruit, based in Kenton, North London. They supplied me with as many dented cans of tinned fruit I could fit into my Hillman Imp after the installation. I think this was where I met **Robert Gray** and we have been good colleagues ever since. He is now also retired in region 4 and we meet occasionally at the lunches. Another installation was Tri-ang Toys in Morden, (famous for being at the end of the Northern Line, the place that is, not the company). Tri-ang of course was famous for their Hornby train sets, Dinky toy cars, Meccano sets and toy pedal cars, but they never offered me a pedal car, they must have seen my Hillman Imp outside and assumed I had one already. The third installation that sticks in my memory was Quayle Carpets in Kidderminster, then famous for Axminster carpets and rugs. Here some, bright, carpet-weaving-machine-electrician came up with an ingenious humidity control for the computer room, made from a lavatory cistern, mounted in a polished wooden cabinet and hung on the wall. It had an electric kettle element inside which would boil water and issue steam into the room from a pipe, as necessary to raise the humidity. It quickly became known as 'Puff the Magic Dragon', doing the job for a while, until the ballcock jammed and water flooded the room.

Being my first commercial computer, the Century 100 machine holds fond memories, but it wasn't long before Scunthorpe and the Century 100 were no longer the centre of my NCR universe. My experience and training quickly progressed to the Century 200 and needing to be 'where the action was', I based myself in the Lincoln office, meeting **Steve Gates** and **Chris Hannington** until my supervisor, **Dave Teasdale**, asked me to formally re-locate to Leicester, where he was based. I would still be able to go to Sunny Scunny if required, but I would be closer to Newark, Leicester, Nottingham and Northampton for planned Century installations. In 1972 my wife, Dene, three children and I moved to a small village south of Leicester, and my base became the Leicester Office.

I worked with other C.M.S. engineers, notably **David Beattie**, **Harry Tovey** and **Allan Green** and, for the first time, the rest of the friendly crew comprising the local Field Engineering and Sales Centre in Leicester. There I met others from the Sales divisions such as **Richard Baker**, **Brian Briggs**, **Tim Snashall** and **Harry (Henry) Hardacre** from Nottingham. I

had already met Harry at Clugstons, him being the Systems Consultant for NCR involved with the Clugstons. He later transferred to Sales in Sheldon, as did **Dave Teasdale**.

I was still called upon to travel the country to repair and install systems and where equipment training and holiday cover dictated, including a large Century installation in Birmingham, Kalamazoo in Northfield, where I met **Keith Hemming**, programming the NCR 4100 there.



Later my career had a boost with the chance of being promoted into the technical support area in the Birmingham Regional Office in Fazeley Street.

I was interviewed for the job by the F.E.D. Divisional Director **Charlie Green**, who was quite a stern, but fair, individual. He said "OK, you've got the job, but I want you to re-locate closer to Birmingham". I replied that although I then lived some 40 miles from that office, I could still get there in about 50 minutes on the new M6 and equally cover all required areas. He didn't seem to like this insubordination and responded in no uncertain terms. "If you want the 'deleted expletive' job I would like you to be within 20 miles of the office". Well, of course, I said yes sir, and moved to within 20 miles of Fazeley Street, but it still took me about 50 'deleted expletive' minutes to commute 18 miles each way in heavy traffic.

PS: How did the work within Regional Support vary?

KT: The regional support position was a busy one, the midlands region being large and covered not only the midlands, but Bristol, Devon and Cornwall, East Anglia and the Channel Islands. I became trained on the Criterion systems, IRX and VRX, the 9300, 9400 and 9500 ITX systems and various Communications products including the 605 based 721 communications processor and the Comten SNA front end processors when NCR bought out the Comten company, spending 8 weeks in Copenhagen for training.

1980 saw the opening of the Sheldon office and I supervised the move of the Century 200 from Broad Street into the ground floor and later the move of the UKIPC Century

200 from Brent into the 4th floor of the Sheldon office. This system, in particular, became very important to NCR nationally and it kept growing, becoming responsible for all in-house company information processing, along with the customer fault reporting and engineer scheduling for F.E.D. All engineering centres then closed and were concentrated into regional offices. This led to the installation of the Closely Coupled Multiprocessing Criterion systems which I needed to be trained on in Dayton.



This system took up much of my time for a while, until it became stable, then it was left in the capable hands of **Fred Daniels**, sadly now passed away, and **John Latty** until their retirement, and then **Dave Cooksey**, **John Wooley** and **Dave Beattie**. UK communications were looked after by **Gert Bakker**. All are now retired and I see them at our lunches.

The support work outside of Sheldon entailed quite a lot of travelling and further training, either in Dundee or Dayton, as new equipment was introduced. The first trip to Dayton was in 1973 to train on a very old, but very large, cheque sorting machine, the 407. This had already been replaced in the Clydesdale Bank with the newer, Century equivalent, the 607, but Barclays Clearing Bank, in Northampton, had six of the older machines, looked after locally by **Geoff Burdett** and **Tom Atkins** from the Northampton area, and supported by supervisor **Dave Teasdale** in Leicester. I was then able to assist in a support capacity, freeing Dave Teasdale to do more, well, supervising. These large machines, some 14 feet long, were each capable of sorting 1200 cheques per minute. Cheques were fed, separated then sorted into pockets very quickly until a bunch had been stapled together, resulting in a jam in the 'doubles' detector. This caused a mighty bang as a large lead flywheel, turning at speed, tried to force the thick bundle of cheques through a tiny gap intended for two. These were often removed with a hacksaw and then taped back together by the operators, as they represented currency, and sorted manually. I'm sure this would be a process familiar to other engineers that worked on this equipment. Later these stand-alone machines were replaced by the 7750 cheque processing system, necessitating going back to Dayton in 1977 for training.

PS: Was the frequent update training a problem?

KT: Not really, it was, fortunately, accepted by my wife as a necessary part of the job. All told I think I must have visited the Dayton training facility about a dozen times. When AT&T took over, I was involved with the training and integration of the 3B2 and Star Server Unix systems, then the integration of AT&T's Definity Telephone system. I took to this 'like a duck to water' having done my apprenticeship years ago, like riding a bike I hadn't forgotten it, only now, it had gone full circle and was telephony controlled by computer and 'just up my street'.

I attended several AT&T Bell Labs training centres in the US, in New Jersey, Washington DC, Chicago and Colorado. I remember on one such visit, walking to the canteen for lunch, passing an odd-looking guy, with long grey hair, walking backwards along the corridor and talking to himself. Asking the instructor about him back in the classroom the reply was something like "Oh that was one of our Unix gurus from Bell Labs", 'enough said' I thought. The Denver training was extended to include a bigger telephone switch that was to be installed in Sheldon, a much larger version of the Definity system called the G3. Training was in high demand having to be done in shifts to maximise equipment usage and engineer throughput. I was booked on the night shift, so I saw it as a good opportunity to get Dene on a plane for a holiday enabling us to see the area during the day, whilst I was trained during the evenings. This was enjoyable, although tiring, and we both enjoyed seeing some of the Rocky Mountains and places around Denver. On my return it was decided that Sheldon would not take the G3 system after all. We enjoyed the experience regardless.

I continued to work on systems and communications equipment for some time until I was seconded into the management area of F.E.D, or AT&T Global Information Systems, as it was then called, working my last year with NCR on the 4th floor of the Marylebone Road office as Group Manager of Mid-Range Unix systems. This period was not a particularly happy one, due to pressures of work, trying to keep sections of the engineering support going, customers happy and travelling to and from London, whilst upper management were wanting to get rid of the support layer all together. Ultimately, at the end of 1995, I saw an opportunity to take voluntary redundancy. Initially this was refused, but later accepted and I left NCR after 27, mostly enjoyable, years.

PS: What happened then, did you retire?

KT: By now I was tired of computers and ready for a change. I wasn't old enough to retire, but ready to work as a postman, or perhaps as a wrinkly adviser in B&Q, however this was not to be. I was approached by **John Anthony** and **Karen Malysz** to join their 'break-away' company called Commercial Software Management. In 1993 AT&T was no longer interested in non-Unix software support and encouraged it to be outsourced to a separate company. CSM was formed. The support of IRX, ITX and Galaxy systems was transferred to this company, so I joined them in 1996 as their technical support manager. It was strange for me joining a new company, yet knowing everyone within it, continuing to speak with all the support folk inside NCR and with familiar

customers too. This provided me 12 more years work within the industry, so no posting letters or helping B&Q customers with D.I.Y.

In 2008 the CSM business folded and after thinking I would finally take retirement at age 60, two important customers of both CSM and NCR, namely Tamworth Coop and the Channel Islands Coop were left somewhat in the lurch after CSM's demise, so three of us, **Barry Skelding, Frank Pittaway** and I continued to support them in our own ways. Mine was to form a limited company, **Templex Services Ltd**, offering computer software consultancy to Tamworth Coop for their NCR point of sale system, and ultimately project managing a replacement POS system for them. For the Channel Islands Coop offering NCR Fastlane self-checkout support, hardware upgrades, pre-commissioning and installation assistance, and providing electrical PAT services in their stores. This entailed spending about a week each month in their stores on Jersey and Guernsey, sometimes in cold warehouses setting up the equipment then attending installations. They called me Nanook from the north.



This provided me with an enjoyable, if different, 7 year period, this time being my own boss, but doing essentially the same job since joining NCR in 1969, repairing systems and supporting customers. I finally retired and became a fully paid-up member of the NCR Retirement Fellowship.

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

KT: Yes, I continued my hobbies of photography, watch repairing and wood working mainly in the form of D.I.Y. when time permitted throughout my career, and still do today. In 1988 Dene and I bought a sea-side shack, or holiday chalet, close to Grimsby and Cleethorpes on a chalet park for local holiday properties originally created in 1923.



The intention was to modernise the property myself and be able to see our wider family in Grimsby and Cleethorpes more often. The property was in a poor state of repair, but I saw it as a way of enjoying my self-taught D.I.Y. skills spending much of our free time there, me with hammer and saw in hand, whilst the others were on the beach, just across the road. Originally, the 'shed', as it became known to my workmates, was erected by a fishing trawler owner in Grimsby, so he could take family and friends to the seaside for recreation. The name on the wall was 'Lingalonga' so we did. The initial concept was that these chalets be made of wood and materials readily available in the day they were built. They were owned by people prepared to do just that, D.I.Y. Ours was a one or two roomed 'shed' originally, erected in 1923 with sleeping accommodation in adjacent tents and then extended to the version we bought in 1988. I completed my work of almost rebuilding it in 1998 after re-roofing, re-cladding and extending it into a 'shed' with three bedrooms, electricity and running water. There was always something more to be done, the hammer and saw never being far away.

As for my clock work, I had always been interested in time pieces and had repaired watches and clocks since the late 1960's, but I also enjoyed working with wood. After retiring and having more 'time on my hands' I thought it would be neat, if I could make a clock entirely from wood. I created a small workshop in the garden and bought plans for making a wooden clock and enjoyed combining the hobbies. I have now made three wooden clocks and just completed my 'Planetary Orrery', a simplified wooden representation, demonstrating how the six major planets known to exist in 1750 move around the sun. This has been quite an interesting project with a different slant on time and has kept me out of mischief for a while.



I still enjoy my hobby of photography and have ever since buying my first 35mm camera, then turning down a Saturday job with a holiday camp photographer in favour of a job in a radio and television shop. Now which of those would have been the more interesting long-term career I shall never know that either!



The year after joining CSM the company won a prize, courtesy of NCR, for being one of their top resellers of equipment into local government. The Managing Director, **John Anthony**, Salesman, **Bob Saunders** and his technical bag carrier, me, aided by NCR's **Stuart Gilks**, with our wives, went on safari to Tanzania. I happened to win a photographic competition and I was very pleased, but with so many photographic opportunities on display, who could fail!

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

KT: Oh yes, I now enjoy everything about retirement, it is the best job I've ever had, and don't know why I didn't think of doing it earlier. We enjoy going on holiday when time and money permit, with no real ties keeping us at home now the family has vacated, probably going more to the USA than anywhere else. I can also thank NCR for that, having met an American by pure chance on one of my training trips and becoming life-long friends.



I boarded a flight at Heathrow on my way to Dayton, I think in 1977, and found someone already in my allotted seat, having the same seat number on our boarding passes. I sat next to him and we started to chat. He was on his way home to Dayton, via Chicago, Heathrow and Brussels, from a work trip to Saudi Arabia. We found we had much in common, Paul of a similar age, had three children, two girls and a boy, of similar ages to our two girls and a boy, our interests were the same, photography and D.I.Y. The difference being Paul troubleshooting engines in the F16 fighter aircraft, as a civilian in the U.S. Air Force and me troubleshooting computers with NCR. He introduced me to his wife at Dayton airport. They lived in Tipp City, Ohio, a small township close to the Wright Paterson Air Force base where he worked. A long friendship with both families followed. Since then, we have holidayed together on both sides of the 'pond' and have visited different parts of the US and the UK together.

Looking back at my time with N.C.R. I don't think I would have changed anything.

American Settlements by Pat Keogh

Background

Myself and my close friend Peter Cundall, who passed away three years ago, had a hobby of buying and selling at auctions, mostly vintage English Bone China Tea and Dinner Services. A number of our sales were from different parts of America. I guessed that they were from the descendants of English families who settled in America wanting to own a piece of Old England. So I did a bit of research into where the

English settled in the USA. The following is the information I gathered. Some of the figures are from the early 2000s and will have changed today. I believe a more recent census showed much lower figures for residents calling themselves English and Irish as the younger generation more often call themselves American. Pat Stroudley, editor, recently asked us if we had any articles of interest for Post Script and I thought this would qualify.



American States



American Regions

English (26,923,091)

One of the largest grouping of people in the United States by ancestry are those who claim to be English-American. Predominantly found in the Northwest and West, the number of people directly claiming to be English-American has dropped by 20 million since the 1980 U.S. Census because more citizens have started to identify themselves as American. They are based predominantly in the northeast of the country in New England and in Utah, where the majority of Mormon immigrants moved in the middle 19th century.

Notable American people with English ancestry are Orson Welles and Bill Gates and 26,923,091 people claim to come from the land of the original Pilgrims.

Irish (35,523,082)

Another group who joined the great story of the United States were the Irish and the great famine of the 1840s sparked mass migration from Ireland. It is estimated that between 1820 and 1920, 4.5 million Irish moved to the United States and settled in the large cities like New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and San Francisco. At the time of this data, almost 12 percent of the total population of the United States claim Irish ancestry - compared with a total population of six and a half million for the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland today.

Irish residents of note include John F. Kennedy, Derek Jeter and Neil Armstrong and 35,523,082 people call themselves Irish.

New England

New England is a region which comprises six states of the Northeastern United States: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. It is bordered by New York to the west, Long Island Sound to the south, the Atlantic Ocean and the Canadian province of New Brunswick to the east, and the Canadian province of Quebec to the north.

In one of the earliest English settlements in North America, **Pilgrims** from England first settled in New England in 1620, forming the Plymouth Colony. Ten years later, the **Puritans** settled north of Plymouth Colony in Boston, thus forming Massachusetts Bay Colony. Over the next 126 years, New England fought in four French and Indian Wars, until the British and their Iroquois Confederacy allies defeated the French and their Algonquin allies in North America.

In the late 18th century, the New England Colonies initiated the resistance to the British Parliament's efforts to impose new taxes without the consent of the colonists. The

Boston Tea Party was a protest to which Great Britain responded with a series of punitive laws stripping Massachusetts of self-government, which were termed the "Intolerable Acts" by the colonists. The confrontation led to open warfare in 1775, the expulsion of the British authorities from New England in spring 1776, and the Declaration of Independence in July 1776.

Some of the first movements of American literature, philosophy, and education originated in New England. The region played a prominent role in the movement to abolish slavery, and was the first region of the United States transformed by the Industrial Revolution. Today, New England is a major world center of education, high technology, insurance, and medicine. Boston is its cultural, financial, educational, medical, and transportation center.

Each state is principally subdivided into small, incorporated municipalities known as towns, which are often governed by town meetings. The only unincorporated area in New England exists in the sparse, northern regions of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Since 1970, voters have more often supported liberal candidates at the state and federal level than those of any other region in the United States.

New England is one of the United States Census Bureau's nine regional divisions and the only multi-state region with clear, consistent boundaries. It maintains a strong sense of cultural identity, although the terms of this identity are often contested, combining Puritanism with liberalism, agrarian life with industry, and isolation with immigration.

Vermont Town Names include Manchester, St Albans, Chelsea and Windsor.

New Hampshire Town Names include Manchester, Plymouth, Lancaster, Lincoln, Peterborough, Newport and Dover plus many others.



CHRIS DUNN – CHAMPION SWIMMER

Chris Dunn updates on his continuing progress through the age group swimming records.

I have been competing in Masters competitions for over 40 years now and these are in 5 year age bands from 25-29 onwards. My current age group is 75-79 years.

I was training seriously for this age group as I had a couple of challenging world records I was chasing. However, 2021, my first year in this age group, was a wash out as covid knocked out any masters competitions and most of everyone's swimming as pools were closed.

2022 was considerably more successful than expected, being a year older and not quite so swim fit. At Swansea & Crawley masters I managed 9 British records, of which the 5 freestyle swims were European records. All of these being 50m long course pools as opposed to the shorter 25m pools.

100, 200, 400, 800 & 1500 free, 100 & 200 back, 200 & 400 Individual Medley



This year, 2023, I managed a few secs improvement on the 400 free and 400 IM and finally on my 4th attempt attained the elusive 50m free.

You know at the Oscars and the like the winners always thank anyone and their dog for their achievement! Well I certainly know I could not have achieved any of my swim bests without the assistance of Sheila my wife who has provided the healthy food to keep me going, not forgetting her self sacrifice in putting up with my antics.

THE OTHER LONDON PREMISES - PART 2

Ian Ormerod

Ian's mammoth story of the other London premises continues. Part 1, in the Summer 2023 edition, covered Perivale and Grey's Inn Road. We pick up the story with Harrow Road.

327/329 Harrow Road



Further expansion of the company premises portfolio took place on the 2nd of December 1938 when a 21-year lease was agreed by the company board, for **327/329 Harrow Road**.

Not five minutes' walk away from Bravington Road, laying back slightly, next to the police station, was Harrow Road Depot. Believe it or not, this place was of number one importance to the company, yet very few N.C.R. people knew what went on there. The purpose of its existence was machines-receiving machines, storing machines and despatching machines.

Nearly every machine sold by the Company passes through these doors-in and out-cash registers, adding machines, accounting machines, electronic equipment, etc., some from Dundee, Germany, Sweden, the United States, by rail, road, sea and air; new loaners, second-hands, even break-ups, they all come in here.

The Ground Floor was 15,400 square Feet and the first floor 13,200 square feet. The ground floor was used for the storage of Mill Reels; Cores and other Raw Materials and included a Print shop using a five unit rotary press.

This was the repair warehouse for all the registers that couldn't be fixed in the field and where John Smith started his career.

I. J. Salmon a *Development Engineer at Harrow Road*, gave the following explanation of his role in a letter to the *NCR Post* in November 1948

"An Engineer is a man who knows a great deal about very little, and he goes on knowing more and more_ about less and less, until he knows practically everything about nothing. Whereas a Salesman is a man who knows a little about a great deal, and he goes on knowing less and less about more and more until he knows nothing about everything.

In 1948 The Production of Electros (printing plates for cash registers) was entirely re-equipped and located at the Harrow Road premises Electro Plant from Marylebone.

In October that year the plant produced 1,482, which brought the total year to date figure to 29,505.

For the next few years, the following departments of the Supplies Division operated out of Harrow Road.

- Carbon and Ribbon Department.
- Roll Production Department
- Printing and *Bindery Operations*. *Printing Division, Harrow Road,*
- Postal Section of the Finished Stock and Despatch Department.

- Supply Stock Department, Check Roll Department
- Goods In, Printing and its own Maintenance Department

In 1953 it was reported that Sales of carbon paper for the month of March this year reached a new high level.

Before 1947 a large portion of the carbon paper sold for use with *National* machines was supplied by competitive firms. In 1947 the Management decided that the company should obtain a larger share of the carbon paper business resulting from the use of our equipment. Following this decision, carbon processing machines were installed at the Harrow Road Factory and a representative engaged with a specialised knowledge of carbon paper to work in liaison with the A.A.M.D. (Accounting and Adding Machine Division).

In 1961 some of the remaining staff at Harrow Road moved to Coombe Road Neasden.

By 1962 The former Supplies Depot in Harrow Road had, for some months, been in the hands of the re-planners, the builders, painters and electricians. this work was completed, and the machinery arrived. The new printing works which took shape there became an extension of the Borehamwood operation and, in full production, employed nearly one hundred personnel.

The Printing Department moved there into the old Order and Shipping Department and before that, part of the Supplies Division, under the Managership of C. Norman. It was reported that "the building has undergone an amazing change. It has to be seen to be believed, it is so light, spacious and spotless. Every machine there is highly technical so that almost every employee has to be fully trained in some aspect of the speciality printing which is developing there".

In 1962, due to expansion in the Borehamwood printing works, part of the offset printing had been transferred to Harrow Road. There were nine presses turning out thousand upon thousands of accounting machine cards, etc., most of them to customer specification. Harrow Road depot was a complete unit and jobs are started and finished there. Customers' individual requirements drawn up, in draft form, and returned to the customer for his approval. When this has been received a plate is made, photographically, and the order is run off. In three years, the Harrow Road section had nearly 7,000 repeat orders for customers' special requirements. This is, of course, in addition to the many thousands of standard accounting machine forms and wage slips that were continually being printed. Harrow Road has its own guillotines and its own bindery.

By 1965, installed at Harrow Road were two machines which print the magnetic strips on to the reverse side of cards for use on the Class 29 Post-Tronic. There are only three NCR plants in the world which have these machines- Dayton, Japan and Harrow Road- Harrow Road supplies the whole of the United Kingdom, Europe, Africa, British West Indies and other overseas countries.

An extension to the lease for **Harrow Road Paddington** was taken on from December 1946 and agreed by the board on 25th March 1947.

Alterations were planned and signed off by the board for 327/329 Harrow Road on 31st August 1949.



NCR Borehamwood

12 Warwick Road, Elstree, Borehamwood was the next factory to be added on 12 July 1940, leased for 10 years with an option to purchase at 13 times the annual rent during the first year. The company did not take up the option to buy and instead renewed the lease which was signed on the 02 April 1949 to last for 10 years.

During the war Elstree was manufacturing armaments for the government.

W.W. ROBINSON (Retail Technician, Newcastle) started his career as shop-boy at Carlisle, worked in Newcastle and then transferred to war work, in the Armaments before moving back to Newcastle.

H. M. CHRISTIE (Depot Manager at Sterling in 1951), spent some time in the Armaments Section in Elstree and then after the war, went back to Scotland where he worked in all the Scottish Depots.

In August 1949, it was forecast that within the next two years, output at our modern letterpress printers at Boreham Wood, Elstree, will leap to 50 per cent. above today's figure.

During the war the Elstree Printing Department produced a magazine for the Free French Forces in Great Britain. It was called *Les Francais de GrandeBretagne* and MR. A. E. SMITH, Manager of the Printing Department, reported that me that about eight or ten thousand copies of this 16-page publication were distributed each month. The editor was a Madame Arbus and all copy was ofcourse supplied to Elstree. But from then on, the accuracy of the magazine depended on the Printing Department and achieving this meant proof-reading letter by letter-for lack of French linguists.

As befits a war-time publication, there is nothing lavish in the presentation of the issue of May, 1941, which had a cover, portraying a blue sky above a rising sun and symbolising the resurgent spirit of the Free French, must have been an inspiration to homesick French patriots. Its title page had a large picture of the late King George VI. Articles dealt with organisations providing help to Free French and reports of a naval conference and a meeting of the French Chamber of Commerce. Sport was given a place in the shape of a report on an Anglo-French football match.

Kent House, Lower Mall, Hammersmith was leased on the 3 June 1940 until 6 months after the end of the war for purposes unknown. An extension to this lease was agreed to cover until 6 months after the end of the war.

107 Baker Street was leased on the 3rd July 1940 for 5-years and strangely on the 3rd of January 1941, a room and lavatory

there were surrendered to the landlord (presumably for his convenience!) A lease for this office was signed for 3-years on the 18th June 1948.

In May 1954 The Print Order Department who had been there since April, 1948, moved from 107 Baker Street to the offices at Elstree.

Also on the 3rd of July 1940 a lease was agreed for 'The Vache' Chalfont St Giles on a 1 year renewable lease until end of the emergency. This was intended as NCR's emergency Head Office in case of the need to evacuate Marylebone Road.

On the 7th May 1941 a contract was agreed between the Government and NCR to manufacture 5000 sets of rifle parts per week.

At Marylebone new equipment provided by the government was installed on the 7th May 1942. This comprised of lapping machines to produce aircraft parts.

An Agreement with the Government Stationery office on the 19 June 1942 appointed NCR as agents for handling of machines supplied from USA under lease lend act.

A new office was leased for 4 ½ years at 12 & 14 West Street on the 20th June 1942 which included an air raid shelter and in Canterbury the NCR premises at 10a Burgate Street were badly damaged in an air raid necessitating a move to 56 Palace Street.

A manufacturing facility outside of London was needed and the company reached an agreement on the 31st of December 1942 with George Kay Ltd, to rent floor space at Keystone Works, Rugeley, Staffs for the manufacture and assembly of Armament parts.

Agreements were made on the 28th of May 1943 for financial assistance, from the Government for machinery procured for the manufacture of Spring Bolt Locking and cocking pieces for the no 4 rifle and also for capital assistance for machinery required for the production of Special Instruments

To support the armed forces in Wales NCR sublet the 1st floor of 39 Charles Street Cardiff to the Navy, Army & Air Force Institutes in January 1944.

On the 16th of March 1944 an additional agreement with George Kay Ltd, to rent additional floor space at the Keystone Works, Rugeley, Staffs for the manufacture and assembly of Armament parts was made.

Apart from the manufacture of armaments NCR, were investing in War Bonds and by 24th March 1944 this totalled £50,000 and the following month let of the second floor of the Cardiff Building to the Navy, Army & Air Force Institutes for a Furnishing Department. By October 1945 the War Bonds purchased totalled £70,000.

The end of the war saw The National Cash Register Co. Ltd purchase 50 acres on the 12th of December 1945 at Camperdown, Kingsway, Dundee for a "Factory for the manufacture and assembly of Cash Registers, Accounting Machines and Adding Machines" as approved by S.C. Allyn during his visit to the UK in August 1945

Storage facilities were leased at **47 West End Lane, West**

Hampstead on the 28th October 1948 which also included a Vehicle Maintenance Depot for the company cars and vans.

By 1951 additional storage was rented also at Abbey Mews in Kilburn and Kings Road, Chelsea

In the **Baker Street** office, it was getting crowded, so an additional room was added taking the lease until 24 June 1951. The European Patents Department was housed there at the end of the war.

Additional Garage space was needed, and space was leased at **7&8 Abbey Mews, Belsize Road** for 5-years from the 11th of April 1950.

Room 165 at the **Ingersoll Rand Building**, 165 Victoria Street was leased for 21-years for an unknown purpose on the 24th of April 1950.

In 1951 the renewal of the **Baker Street** place was agreed for 3-years and signed by the board.

Bravington Road was taken on a lease for 14 years on the 17th July 1951 ending when Bravington Road was closed on the 30th April 1965. It was used as the main warehouse for Display design and manufacturing, Stationery and Supplies and Packing and Shipping.

The June 6th 1951 edition of the National Post reported that "Another step has been taken in the Company's expansion scheme. Following the decision to clear part of the Head Office basement for training the new mechanics, a long and protracted search was made before the discovery of premises for the displaced Service School, Window Display, Stationery Department and general storage.

Five minutes' walk from the Harrow Road Factory is Bravington Road and in that road are the spacious new premises. Many years ago, it was used to garage public vehicles of all kinds - from horse-buses to Blue Line "pirate" buses which raced along London streets just after the first world war. During the second World War a meat company moved their Bacon Factory from Smithfield to No 2 Bravington Road. Mr Fred Nash, a bacon porter, stayed on when the war ended after the meat company vacated the premises and he became NCR's Night Watchman.

The Post reported "So, for a while, staff employed in Bravington Road were "roughin' it," but for the building a new era has begun. In keeping with the Company's policy, a complete redecoration of the premises will take place, such as that carried out at the Harrow Road Factory and then working conditions there will be of as high a standard as those for N.C.R. workers in other places".

In 1951, the Supply Stock Department moved from our Harrow Road Factory to the Bravington Road Depot.

H.W.H. Sexton reported in the December National Post that L. H. Gerbert of the Supplies Department, Harrow Road, became the Manager of the N.C.R. premises at Bravington Road, Paddington, on Thursday, 1st November.

Part of this building is being used as an extension of the Harrow Road Factory five minutes' walk away. Since this 'space' was taken over by the Company in March, the condition and appearance has been transformed. A really grand job of work has been carried out by our N.C.R. team

of painters and electricians and outside contractors under the able direction of Mr. H Turner, Manager, Premises, London.

From a "dump" it has undergone so remarkable a change that it had to be seen to be believed. Apart from the Supplies Division on the ground floor what goes on at Bravington Road?

Upstairs are situated the four classrooms where everything, even the walls and ceilings, is 100 per cent new and super-smart.

This is the new Service School where any day now Mr. Reginald Sherwood and his team of instructors from Head Office will be imparting new technical secrets to the ready victims. Each room can be immediately converted into a cinema for showing instruction films and slides. near the school we find MR. H. Croft and the Stationery Department, at the moment in the throes of moving in, the painters brushes above and the lino layers beneath. Also on the first floor is the Display Department, almost an ideal studio, spacious and well lit, ready for every type of work from that nameplate on the Maseeley (printing press) to a 30-foot scene for the Convention Hall.

In 1953 Both Head Office and Bravington Road Training Schools were said to "have been kept busy this year. and in addition to our own personnel, we have trained several men from Overseas Organisations or who are taking up positions abroad".

In 1960

Painters and constructors were mighty busy working against time so that the Photographic Department, formerly at Earnshaw Street, could move in. Chief Photographer E. Askem and his photographic four are slowly getting adjusted to the atmosphere on the ground floor which, at times, resembles a factory. Upstairs in the sign writing studio it is very different. During the peak of the exhibition season the complete Exhibition Section (construction and storage) changed places with the second-hand machine storage section. As this building is very long and narrow, this was no mean feat.

February 1964 saw Bravington Road move over to be joint occupiers of 327 Harrow Road with Printing. This is the same building which they occupied during the war but now a tremendous difference has been made and it is 101 per cent clean and light.

Bravington Road remained an NCR property and continued to be used as a machine store until April 30, 1964, when after fourteen years, Bravington Road closed.

Borehamwood

The NCR Projects department moved to Borehamwood in 1956 from Perivale and renamed the International Research Division

During the war the Research Laboratories at Perivale 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.

On the advent of NCR paper, Mr. Saxby's operation



The Printing Division plant at Elstree is equipped with 34 presses.

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.' At almost the beginning of his career with NCR the Company published a book 'The Theory of Indeterminate Space-time written by Mr. Saxby .

By 1965 the unit was named The Advanced Engineering Laboratory.

Earnshaw Street



It was 1953 when a new branch of Head Office in Earnshaw Street, London, W.C.2, which houses the Supplies Division, Advertising and Public Relations Department and European Patent Department in a new building of thoroughly modern design, was opened.

It is twenty minutes' journey from Head Office, but it was said to be is full of N.C.R. atmosphere and spirit.

The well-appointed administrative offices of the Supplies Division were situated on the ground and first floors of the Earnshaw Street building. Also was the Customers' Records Department, Order Department, Commission and Provincial Stock Control Department, Carbon and Ribbon Department and Stock Control and Invoicing Department.

All offices had direct contact with the Harrow Road Factory where rolls and ribbons were produced and with

Bravington Road Depot where the finished stock was housed and despatches to customers carried out.

While the main administrative control of the Supplies Division was located at Earnshaw Street, because of the close association between costing and production, the Costing Department was situated in the Factory at Harrow Road.

All exhibition display stands were then designed completely at the Earnshaw Street Studio.

The work of the European Patent Department was of a highly complex nature requiring a comprehensive knowledge of technical and scientific subjects, and an intimate knowledge of international patent law. The primary purpose of this Department was the protection of the Company's legal interests in so far as proprietary rights are concerned in a wide area which included Great Britain and its Dominions, and Europe. The Department and its work were directly associated with the Patent Department in Dayton.

On the third floor of Earnshaw Street was the offices and art studios of the Advertising and Public Relations

Department under its Manager, Mr. D. A. C. BUTLIN. This Department was responsible for all Company advertising in the national and provincial newspapers and business trade journals; for the preparation and production of brochures and other sales literature; for the design of the Company's stands at all major

trade and public exhibitions throughout the country; and for the publication of the National Post.

On the lower ground floor was the spacious and well-equipped Photographic Studio where all Company photographic and photostat work is carried out.

In April 1957 the Supplies Department was moved to the new offices at Brent

After much speculation and rumour about the vacant space the new arrivals turned out to be the City Service Depot who moved into the green-decorated room, and the Programmers and Systems Advisors of the Electronics Department. Altogether, there were 76 additional Nacarecans at Earnshaw Street, bringing the total number there to about 110.

At Head Office in 1958

A department was opened on March 1, 1958, as an amalgamation of four sections: **Stationery Department** (formerly at Bravington Road and then under the supervision of the Printing Department), **Reproduction A.A.M.D. and C.R.D.** (previously under the respective Sales Promotion Departments), **the Micro-Film and Document Copying Process** (which was part of the Filing Department) and **Duplicating** (from the Service Division, Addressograph Department).

Also taken over were the Advertising Department's stocks of brochures, and all general A.A.M.D. and C.R.D. Sales Promotion literature. Hence, all stationery, printed literature, duplicating services, etc., were then are now housed under the one department.

In 1959, 88 Baker Street was leased to accommodate several departments including the European Patent Office.

CRD (Cash Register Division) District 1 Salesmen moved to Baker Street in 1959

By November of 1959 they had been joined by: Maintenance Provincial Premises, Electronics Group (Programmers and Punch Tape Operators), Special Projects and European Patents - these departments were housed in the new office block over the Midland Bank.

During 1960 Sales courses for CRD Sales were held there.

In addition, there was, at Baker Street;

- a computer education centre capable of accommodating up to twenty-five people from prospective customers at one time.
- AM (Accounting Machine) and DP (Data Processing) Systems Departments.
- The Advertising and Public Relations Department.

There was an Announcement by D. Triggs of build-up of Computer Education facilities at Baker Street

During 1961 a variety of courses were held there including courses for;

- AAMD Accounting and Adding machines.
- CRD Cash Register Division Basic Training.
- AAMD Systems Advisers Technical Course
- Wired Machine Course
- Installation Operators' Course
- And 315 Neat Compiler Programming Course for Engineers

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The Borehamwood NCR (No Carbon Required) Paper plant. 1955



The Warwick Road, Elstree plant produced NCR paper emulsion and encapsulated aspirin

Microencapsulation was invented in 1952 by two NCR chemists Lowell Schleicher and Barry Green who were looking for an alternative for the ink used on the ribbons used in cash registers but instead discovered its use in paper manufacture. During 1952 and 1953 Schleicher and Green worked together to further develop and refine the microencapsulation system. They co-invented the paper coating system that is used to produce much of today's carbonless paper and filed the patent on June 30, 1953.

The product was first produced and sold for the North American market and then in 1954 it appeared for the first time in Great Britain at the Motor Show. In 1955 production facilities were put into place for the manufacture of the coatings and the production of paper in Boreham Wood, by 1957 the British 'NCR Paper' plant was in full production and the new supplies building at Brent completed to handle the increased demand for the paper.

No CARBON REQUIRED paper is, of course an N.C.R. patent but, in Britain, the company did not handle the coating operation or Sales. The National Cash Register Company's part was the production of the emulsion containing the 'magic capsules', which eliminated the need for carbon paper, in order that paper manufacturers Wiggins Teape and Company (1929) Ltd., could produce No Carbon Required paper in marketable form and distribute it through their world-wide sales organisation.

The Wiggins-Teape coating plant was erected at Treforest near Cardiff in Wales and began production there in 1957.

At Borehamwood the new emulsion plant was in full production by September 1957 under the supervision of Frank R. Saxby, Chief of Research and Manufacturing Laboratories, who specified this four-platform structure where the complexities of chemical reaction were harnessed to manufacture in bulk the 'magic capsules' from which come the blue-green carbonless copy now being used more and more in business forms and stationery throughout the country.

The Borehamwood Emulsion plant was sold to Wiggins-Teape in 1972.

As a by-product of the manufacture of No Carbon Required Paper, waste water containing PCBs was produced and possible discharges into rivers are now being investigated in the same way that the Fox River and Kalamazoo Rivers were in the USA which resulted in large scale and costly clean-up programs.



The NCR Emulsion plant at Borehamwood. The plant produced £10,000,000 worth of emulsion

IT WAS 20 YEARS AGO TODAY.....

NCR FELLOWSHIP CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2024
NEXT EDITION OF POSTSCRIPT WILL BE A 20TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL
HELP US WRITE IT! – SHARE YOUR MEMORIES OF 2004

The NCR Fellowship in its current self-funding format was created in 2004, with the much-missed John Burchfield as Chairman. Our current, long-standing chairman, Lin Sandell, was Treasurer then, and Geoff Jackson edited PostScript. The full story of the creation of the Fellowship can be seen in the Postscript Autumn 2004 edition, available on the NCR Retrospective website (along with all other editions of PS): <https://www.ncr.org.uk/media/other/1077/NCRPostscriptIssue31Winter2004.pdf>

We thought the 20th Anniversary of the Fellowship's foundation worthy of a special edition, to be published Summer of 2024 (usually end June/early July).



APPEAL....

...And we want **you** to help write it – yes, **you**, dear reader!

Tell us what you were doing in the summer of 2004 – either your work (especially so if it was with NCR of course) or your spare time/retirement or both. What projects were you working on, what equipment were you selling, or maintaining.

Just to remind you of what happened in 2004, these are selected news items during that period – with no apologies for the preponderance of sporting events...

Jose Mourinho joins Chelsea as manager, for the first time.

UKIP make big gains In European elections.

Ken Livingstone re-elected as Mayor of London.

Rafael Benitez appointed manager of Liverpool.

England lose on penalties to Portugal in Euro quarter finals.

Britain win 9 Golds in the summer Olympics.

Piers Morgan sacked as editor of Daily Mirror after publishing fake pictures of Iraqi prisoner abuse.

Greece win the Euros, held in Portugal.

US led coalition hands over power to Iraqi Interim government.

Saddam Hussein is put on trial in Iraq.

Summer Olympics held in Athens.

10 million watched the final episode of Cheers.

Britney Spears topped the UK charts in June 2004 with 'Everytime'.

Send your memories (and photos if you have any) by 31 May 2024 to patrick.stroudley@btinternet.com
You can send articles and photos at any time from when you receive this magazine right up to 31 May 2024.

The NCR Fellowship

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Stephen Swinbank

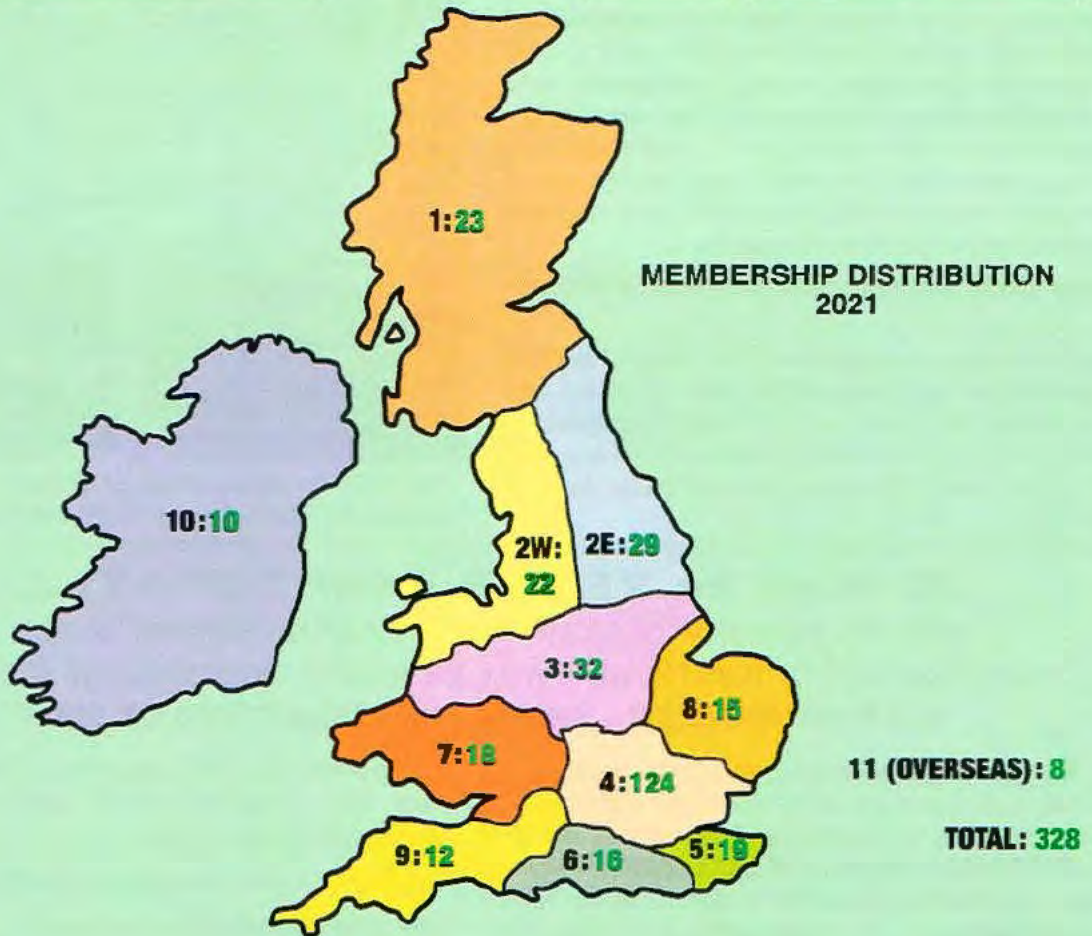
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