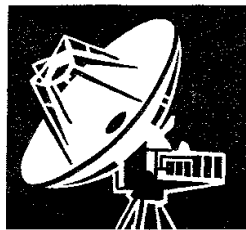


# RESEARCH LAB REPORTER



PRODUCED BY RESEARCH LABORATORIES, 59 LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

"RESEARCH LAB REPORTER"Six Serving Men

Kipling had six serving men "good and honest and true". They were What and When and Where, How and Why and Who.

These are the servants which produce ideas ..... how can time be saved, where is the best place to keep this, why not do it that way, what material is most suitable, when is the best time to do that .....???

Every officer should use these six servants to help get to grips with his job ..... to work out properly his duties in the complex diversity of not only our Laboratories but of the Australian Post Office.

So, take your six little men along with you each morning ..... and set them working for you. They will work for free, doing what you ask of them. And when they come up with an idea, watch the results - more work done with less effort, gratitude from those who are helped and personal satisfaction for yourself.

  
(A. B. Conroy)

Programme Review Clerk

# Personal Glimpses

Brian Christensen, Sub-Sectional Clerk, Block T.

Born in Bowraville on the north coast of New South Wales, Brian spent his school years, with his nine brothers and sisters, in Lithgow where he eventually joined the Railways Department as a Station Assistant for six years. A hankering for the bright lights of Sydney prompted him to leave the Railways and for the following few years he accepted positions with an Oil Company and an Insurance Company before commencing his Departmental career in 1957 as a Clerk in the Taxation Department. To occupy his spare time he enrolled in the original lecture class of the Sydney College of Osteopathy and was suitably rewarded with a Diploma of Osteopathy after four years of training. During these years he did manage time to win the hand of a Victorian lass and transferred to the Taxation Department, Melbourne, in 1963.

Brian was promoted to the Radio Section soon after setting up home in Melbourne and thence to Telephone Exchange Equipment Section before joining the Laboratories this year.

Helping to rear two young sons apparently does not expend all his energy. He is currently coaching himself to gain his Matriculation Certificate - having passed two subjects last year and hoping to gain the remainder next month.

Best wishes for the forthcoming exams Brian and congratulations on the recent confirmation of your promotion to the position of Sub-Sectional Clerk.

Judith Binfield, Library Officer, Lines and Switching Branch.

Judith is one of our many outposted library officers whom we see only on rare occasions in the Laboratories. Her duties in her large Branch Library do not afford her much time to frequent other areas.

Originally a member of the staff of the large London Public Library at Holborn for some time, Judith left the "Old Country" and sailed to Melbourne in 1966. Within a few days of her arrival she joined our Library staff and commenced duty in the Planning Branch Library where she spent several months before transferring to her present location.

Did You Know?

World trips "upset rhythm".

David Shaw, Multi-Channel Systems, informs us that a London scientist has warned diplomats and businessmen that when they fly around the world and go straight into a conference they are in danger of saying the wrong thing.

They are going against the biological clock, a mysterious system which in plants, animals and man keep the organism functioning rhythmically.

In man, body temperatures, secretion of water and certain chemicals and the pulse rate all operate in daily rhythms, which could be upset by moving around the earth to where the day started earlier or later.

The body adjusts itself, but not immediately.

For this reason, diplomats and businessmen should, for a few days, avoid major policy decisions or negotiations after a long east or west flight.

Perhaps this could provide food for thought for the members of the Overseas Visits Committee!

### East-West Drama.

Whilst stationed recently at Mundrabilla, Ron Cichon and Richard Kruger tuned into the Royal Flying Doctor Radio Schedule and heard traffic between the R.F.D.S. base VJQ at Kalgoorlie and 8UM, Madura. Apparently there was an emergency flight to Madura to pick up a patient who had the misfortune to have a piece of 4" x 2" timber fall 10 feet on to his head.

Kalgoorlie passed a request from the aircraft to 8UM for 8UM to transmit a clock ticking or other continuous transmission on 1610 kHz a half hour before the aircraft was due to land. 8UM could not do this as two of the three transceivers at Madura were unserviceable, and the third did not have 1610 kHz. The reason for the continuous transmission was to have a beacon available as the weather had become very dark and wet.

Richard and Ron then called VJQ and informed them that 1610 kHz was available on 8 WRE mobile, and that this transmitter could be at the Madura airstrip by the time the aircraft was due. VJQ conveyed their thanks, and 8 WRE left immediately for Madura. Fifteen minutes before the estimated time of arrival, 8 WRE's whip was erected and transmission continued uninterrupted while driving to the airstrip (a total distance of some 40 miles).

The Toyota Land cruiser with 8 WRE arrived at the airstrip at precisely the same time as the aircraft, this being explained by the pilot as the result of a 40 knot tail wind for the aircraft. As it happened the beacon service was not required, as the weather and darkness did not close in, enabling the pilot to make a visual approach.

## SANDBACH ON SAFARI

Ed Sandbach returned from his furlough/recreation leave break looking as brown as a berry after he and his wife had spent 10 weeks from mid-June until late August circumnavigating

the western half of Australia in a clockwise direction. We are indebted to Ed for the following travelogue and his impressions of various aspects of the tour.

"Route: Visited Whyalla and Port Lincoln on the Eyre Peninsula thence to Ceduna where we made contact with Eric Craig who had just completed a job in association with O.T.C. personnel and was waiting for Stan Barnard and other members from Melbourne to arrive. Thence across the Nullarbor where in a cloud of dust going the other way we passed Harry Ellis leaping from peak to peak of the corrugations. On reaching Norseman we turned south to Albany and up the coast to Perth spending a few hours only. (At Perth it was raining quite hard.) From there to Geraldton, Carnarvon, after a detour to the mouth of the Murchison River. From Carnarvon to Wittenoom and the Hammersley Ranges, Marble Bar, Port Hedland, Broome, Derby, Halls Creek, Wyndham, Kununulla, Katherine, Darwin. From Darwin we retraced our steps to Katherine and south down the 1,000 miles or so of nominal bitumen to Alice Springs. After spending about a week around Alice Springs, moved on to Ayers Rock and Mt. Olga thence south-east to Victory Downs, Kulgera, Coober Pedy, Port Augusta and back to Melbourne around the coast - total distance about 11,900 miles.

Vehicle: 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  litre long wheel based Land Rover equipped for sleeping and camping. In addition to provision for 28 gallons of petrol and 15 gallons of water, camping equipment, gas for cooking and small tent which attached to the rear of the Land Rover was carried.

We used 664 gallons of petrol, giving an average mileage of 17.9 m.p.g.

The dearest petrol price was 56c per gallon.

### Impressions.

Educated wildlife - Across the Nullarbor many of the telephone poles were decorated with eagles which waited for the passing traffic to flush out rabbits etc. as they passed along the road.

East-West Road across the Nullarbor - A narrow strip decorated with blown out tyres mainly truck tyres.

Kangaroos were a considerable hazard to night drivers on the E-W road either because they were likely to jump out suddenly from the side or after being killed by preceding vehicles were left on the road.

Carnarvon Bream - Very hungry fish that almost queued up to get caught.

The Red Centre - Not only the centre but most of the northern roads that are not sealed are mostly covered with red dust. This penetrates everything and everyone travelling across it. On one occasion we stopped when a cattle train was coming towards us over a particularly dusty section. For about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  minutes after the cattle train passed the dust rained down across the windscreen totally obscuring forward vision.

Beef grown in the N.T. and northern W.A. - Mostly third quality meat that finishes up as hamburgers in the U.S.A.

Roads - The worst road experienced was the N.W. coastal highway between Port Hedland and Broome along the eighty mile beach. Most of this eighty mile stretch was sandy and corrugated with corrugations 6 to 7 inches peak to trough.

Caravans - Many caravans seen were usually overloaded and reacted unfavourably to continuous battering over rough roads. Faults in order of numerical significance were: (a) broken axles, (b) broken springs, (c) broken chassis.

Wide open spaces - Off the main highways it was not uncommon to drive all day and not see another person or vehicle. Even on the highways it was not unusual to see only 4 or 5 vehicles in the one day.

Grass growth - In many places following good rains during the preceding wet season the grass was higher than the Land Rover.

Bird life - The good grass growth had resulted in large flocks of birds particularly green budgerigars, galahs, white cockatoos, black cockatoos and finches.

Tourist buses - These were in most places and travelled long distances each day maintaining high speeds mostly irrespective of road conditions. Passengers seem to require considerable endurance.

Weather - After leaving the rain behind between Geraldton and Carnarvon it was rare to see any clouds until we got back to Port Augusta. Day time temperatures from 85° to 90°F were common in the north with pleasantly mild nights. At the time of leaving Alice Springs they had experienced 35 frosts in a row."

# Your Move



Farewell to Sudah Shaheeb from Watkins who has departed for Sweden to study for a post-graduate scholarship. He will return later to take the BIG step to a Melbourne girl.

Also to John Limb, Pulse Techniques, who will spend the next two years working with the Bell Telephone Laboratories on Television Signalling Coding - a subject of particular interest to the Department.

Garth Jenkinson, Propagation, is at present visiting Japan, Germany, France, U.K., U.S.A. and Canada to investigate many aspects including the latest developments in the application of microwave refractive index measurements to radio propagation research. Whilst in the U.S.A. Garth will present a paper at an International Antennas and Propagation Symposium to be held at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Ken Mottram should also be on his way by the time this issue goes to print. Ken will visit Italy, Germany, Holland, U.K., U.S.A. and Canada to investigate recent advances in the technology of aluminium and its alloys, particularly production techniques and methods of protection against corrosion. He will also undertake studies into the properties, uses and protection of structural steel.



To endeavour to describe the misfortunes suffered by Dick Slade during a recent interstate plane journey would necessitate the issue of a special edition of the Reporter. Just try to imagine your own feelings after about 10 hours of continuous plane changing, broken down passenger buses, loss of luggage on several occasions and finally arriving in Mt. Isa to find that the car you have rented is not available and your luggage is on another plane. Only a docile chap like Dick could cope with such a situation. Not satisfied with the previous dilemma he steps onto a pedestrian crossing in Brisbane and is almost bowled over by a sedan bearing a Victorian registration. Profanities were contemplated but driver turned out to be Gordon Walker on recreation leave. "You can't get away from this mob" quoted Dick.

John Murphy, Propagation Division, has applied for two years L.W.O.P. to pursue studies, under his own volition, at various overseas establishments to gain further experience in the microwave field.

Greetings to those who have joined us since the last issue particularly Christine Dudley, J.P.O. at Taubmans, Ann Goss, Library Assistant outposted to Parkade, Tim Keogh, Metallurgist Class 2 and Basil Listopad, Technical Assistant, Grade 2, at Watkins.

*Social*

*Snippets*

How much mental strain can a person endure? Charlie Eyre is now an expert on the subject. At the time he was giving his daughter's, Robyn, hand in marriage, the Tigers were battling their way to victory in the second semi. The wedding plus the football finals proved too much for Charlie, who, accompanied by Mrs. Eyre is recuperating for a week in Adelaide.

Sandra Russell, Librarian at Block A, having obtained her driving licence, has purchased a Morris 1100, dark green,

and "Matilda" by name. She is proud of her claim that so far no one has refused to take a second ride with her.

Rodney Higgs of the Laboratory Equipment Division is now the proud father of a greyhound racing dog name of Toshack (Noddy). Anyone wishing to receive a tip on his form is requested to ring Rod. With further training it is expected that Toshack will soon be running on all four legs. On two recent occasions he almost beat Rod.

Congratulations to Mary Street who celebrated her Coming-of-Age Party recently at "Kenville Court" Ivanhoe. Several members of the Labs. who attended were noted entering a "Hernando's Hideaway" type of night club later in the night to round off the festivities.

Also to Denis Page who has received the key of the door. Unfortunately details of Denis' celebrations have been kept very quiet.

Wedding Bells for Jim Blake of the Laboratory Equipment Division - 30th September.

Members of Headquarters and their families journeyed by steam train to Bacchus Marsh on Show Day, to attend the A.P.I. Central Office Annual Picnic.

This most enjoyable occasion was a credit to the untiring efforts of Harry Wills from Taubmans and his band of helpers who provided barbecue facilities, races, games, etc. throughout the day.

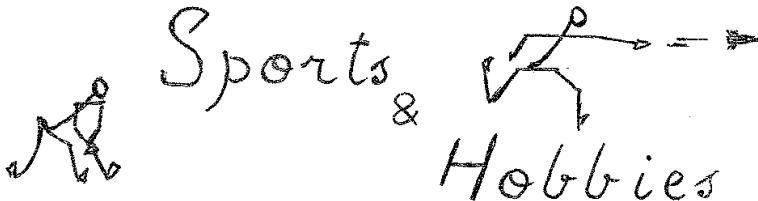
Mac Apsey came out of retirement to join in the football segment and only sheer determination is keeping him on his feet.

Richard Kruger and his wife, during a brief visit to the A.C.T., were fortunate to attend an International Ball. Unusual colourful features included tables decorated with national flags and exhibitions of folk dancing from the various countries represented.

Judy Eltham, Planning Branch Library, has just returned from a holiday in Chinchilla, Queensland. It is rumoured that she is willing to trade her block of land at Apollo Bay for a cattle station beyond the black stump.

Congratulations to Terry Dillon on the confirmation of his promotion to the position of Sub-Sectional Clerk. Also to Arnold Schwatschko who leaves us on the 11th October to take up his Clerk Class 5 position with the Department of Shipping and Transport. Arnold leaves behind many influential friends who have offered to hold open his vacancy in the lunch time school of skill should he wish to return.

Latest addition to the Dew family - a bonny daughter - congratulations to Mrs. D. and yourself, Ian.



#### Football

Congratulations to Kevin Bartlett who joins the select band of those who have played in a V.F.L. Premiership Team. His outstanding play, particularly in the last quarter when he kicked two magnificent goals, will long be remembered by the Tiger fans. Just to make his year complete Kevin was awarded the trophy for the best and fairest player in the Richmond Club for season 1967.

#### Darts

Displaying remarkable accuracy Bob Barclay, from Watkins, clearly outpointed his rivals to win the title of Champion in the recent Australian Postal Institute Interdivisional Darts competition. Well done Bob!

## Dancing

A most enjoyable night's entertainment was had by those who attended the Headquarters Ball at the Caulfield Town Hall last month, thanks to the organising efforts of Tom Broughton and the members of his Ball Committee. The star turn of the evening was provided by "Twinkletoes" Don Raines, who, despite his age, exhibited amazing agility during a rendition of Zorba the Greek.

## Golf

Thirty-six spartans descended upon the Ivanhoe Links at 8.00 a.m. on Saturday, 30th September, to compete in our third organised golf day. Unfortunately space does not permit the publishing of individual scores and after perusing the list I know many of the competitors will appreciate this fact - some of the totals could be confused with ten pin bowling efforts.

The ultimate winners in each group were:

Group A - Roy Potter

Group B - Frank Arter

Group C - Boyd Rayment.

Boyd Rayment also won the honours for sartorial splendour. It was said he wore shoes only because of the danger of snake bite.

Gavan Rosman attempted to eliminate some of the competition by forcing the remainder of his group to go to ground to escape the onslaught from one tremendous drive.

No name - no pack drill. One competitor left his wallet at home and could not provide the necessary deposit for the hire of his clubs. Before he Teeed off he submitted his watch as guarantee but after inspection it ~~is~~ believed he was only given three clubs.

Charlie Bates struck trouble with his putting - finished up with more cannons than the late Walter Lindrum in his prime. Charlie couldn't manage a birdie all day but he did score a rabbit on the 7th.

Any queries concerning the results should be directed to Ken Hall who handled the handicapping system in accordance with Lafferty's rules. The fact that Frank Arter has won the Group B title on each of three occasions and is in the same Sub-Section as Ken is purely coincidental.

# Reader's Mart

## WANTED TO SELL

Chinese Abacus and operating instruments - \$2.50 : R. Jepson,  
7975W.

Land Rover motor, 15 HP, dismantled - running well before removal - \$30 : E. Dodge, 6337T.

Standard 10 Sedan, mech. good, registered, body damaged - best offer : E. Dodge, 6337T.

Sports racing car, 140 BHP, 4 speed box, spectacular performer Calder Race Track - best offer : E. Dodge, 6337T.

Tyres 640 x 14, LP.41, brand new, \$30 the pair : E. Dodge,  
6337T.

## WANTED TO BUY

Bicycle, boy's, 24 inch - A.B. Conroy, 7904A.

Japanese Samurai Swords - B.W. Thomas, 6337T.

Workshops manual or any information on 1929 Series 7-40 Packard Sedan - B.W. Thomas, 6337T.