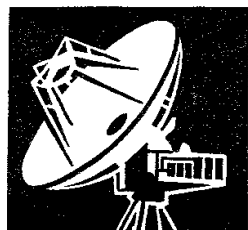


# RESEARCH LAB REPORTER



PRODUCED BY RESEARCH LABORATORIES, 59 LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

Vol. 5 Issue 5

October, 1971

"RESEARCH LAB REPORTER"



*In Memoriam*

*William Henry Otto*

We of the Research Laboratories  
extend our sincere sympathy to  
Mrs. Otto and her son Armin for  
the very sad and sudden loss of  
their loved one and our colleague,  
Bill, who passed away on Saturday,  
18th September, 1971.



*Personal*

*Glimpses*

Peter Gerrand, Engineer Class 2, Solid State Switching

Who better could tell us about his background than Peter himself.

"My LIAISON DANGEREUSE with the A.P.O. began in 1963 - I was an innocent young student, a Cadet Engineer; she was the Older Woman.

After graduating from the University of Melbourne in March 1967 she was kind enough to send me to Monash University to research "on the theory of linear time-varying systems and its application to parametric amplifiers" for an M. Eng. Sc. degree - I finished the thesis ready for binding on 4.30 a.m. of April 22nd, 1969, with the help of my wife and best friend. Four hours later I was inducted into the Army for involuntary military service. A more effective thesis deadline than most.

Our Modern Army had a place for a well-qualified engineer all right - they made me a certified Technician, Electronic, with the distinguished rank of Signaller. By the greatest of good fortune I was posted (2nd Class Rail) to the Mallard Project Office in Canberra, where I was able to keep myself more or less sane by learning composition from Larry Sitsky, the clarinet from David Shepherd, and writing a paper on the stability of parametric networks with Dr. Tony Kerr of C.S.I.R.O.

At the Mallard Project Office a few interesting jobs came my way - I am sworn to secrecy of course - and I was able to establish a semi-working relationship with an understanding Major. The rapid demise of the Mallard Project was somewhat of an embarrassment to both of us.

On retiring from active service (Lance-Corporal Gerrand, RL), my Old Flame the A.P.O. greeted me with undiminished passion - despite our eight long years of unrequited love. On returning as an Engineer Class 1 in the Switching and Signalling Section of the Research Laboratories, I have done my best to satisfy her with my development work on the I.S.T. project. Our relationship has its vicissitudes; yet even when close to despair, I still draw fresh breath from that fine old adage, the Course of True Love Never Runs Smooth."

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*Overseas*

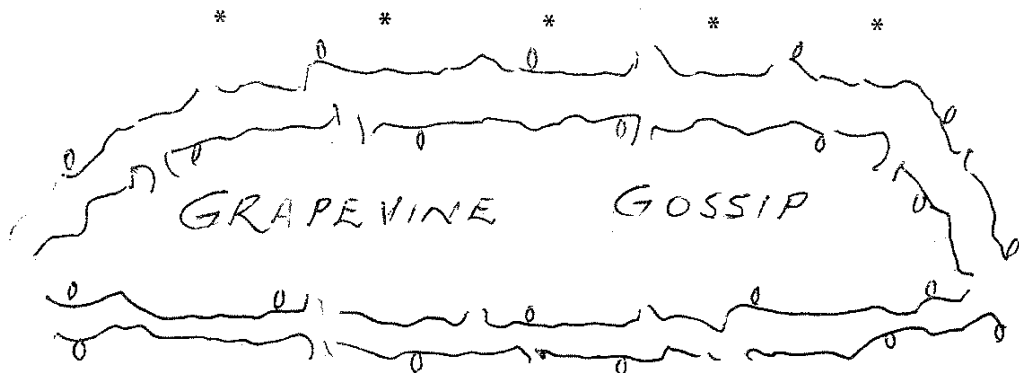
*Assignments*

Gerry Flatau, Physics and Polymer has been and returned since our last issue. Gerry visited Britain, Europe, U.S.A. and Japan to investigate the latest techniques employed by telecommunication authorities and equipment manufacturers in evaluating the reliability, life expectancy and reason for failure of materials, components and assemblies, together with a study of the resources devoted to this type of work. In addition he attended the meeting of Technical Committee 56 of the I.E.C. in Zurich to represent the Australian National Committee of I.E.C. in discussions of the proposed international certification plan for electronic components.

\* \* \* \* \*

Library users are eagerly awaiting the return of Merl Cuzens, Senior Librarian from her visit to Europe and the U.S.A. Merl is investigating systems for the collecting, processing and disseminating of information in libraries, mainly those comparable in size with that of the A.P.O. She is also attending the Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux (ASLIB) in Darmstadt and the Conference of the American Society for Information Science (ASIS) in Denver.

Jim Vizard, Electromechanical Switching, is making a flying visit to Geneva to attend a meeting of the C.C.I.T.T. Working Party FT6. Jim has taken over the role performed previously by Greg Crew and is the present Project Engineer directing A.P.O. participation in the national field trial of System No.6.



Alan Fowler, Pulse Systems has been awarded the Norman Hayes Memorial Medal of the I.R.E.E. (Aust.) for 1971. The award was given for Alan's paper entitled "RADIO FREQUENCY PERFORMANCE of ELECTROPLATED FINISHES" published in Proc. I.R.E.E. May, 1970, which was judged the best paper published in the Proceedings in 1970 out of the short list of 18 papers.

This is the third time that this award has been won by members of the staff of the Laboratories. 1959 saw the award granted to Albert Seyler (in co-authorship with Carl Wilhelm) and Albert took the honours a second time in 1963.

Incidentally, our congratulations go to Albert for his recent election to the position of President of the Institution of Radio and Electronics Engineers (Aust.) for 1971/72.

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One young engineer was heard to comment that he sincerely hoped the Public Service Board does not refer to the engineering restructuring and re-organisation exercise as an "R & R" exercise.

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We know the Transmission Systems Sub-Section is doing very well but who is the young gentleman who has caviar sandwiches for his midday repast?

\* \* \* \* \*

Emma Tomsons, our charming receptioniste in the Block A foyer, was highly delighted to see so many friends, from within and without the Labs gathered in the main library to wish her well on the day of her retirement. Ray Coath, after expressing our feelings, in his usual inimitable style, presented Emma with an electric blanket and, to her joy, an unusual Australian bark painting of her beloved Riga which brought back many memories of her young days in Latvia.

\* \* \* \* \*

Another presentation ceremony which was packed to the rafters took place in Block C when Adele Jabour, Equipment Development, was farewelled on the eve of her marriage to Neville Parsons from Telephone Exchange Equipment Section.

In addition to being presented with a porta-gas barbecue outfit and several attachments for her electric mixer, Adele received a fatherly word of advice from the Commodore, Les Murfett.

\* \* \* \* \*

Glad to hear that some of our well known "sickies" are on the improve. Don Waters, General Chemistry, had very little time to think before he was minus a gall bladder. Chas Eyre, General Services has no excuse for not seeing both sides of the tea club arguments in future following a successful operation on his other eye. Cheerio also to Svend Dossing, Systems, whose doctor has ordered a three months rest.

\* \* \* \*

Commiserations to Peter Bowtell, Electromechanical Switching, who arrived home from holidays to find a storm had removed a large section of the roof of his new home - rather a drastic way to "let the sunshine in".

\* \* \* \*

Dialogue was extremely limited, for a period, between a certain Engineer Class 4 and his Sub-Sectional Clerk. Despite very explicit instructions from Neil Walker on the best fishing spots in the Lakes Entrance area, Eric Craig returned empty handed.

\* \* \* \*

Remember our good looking Electrical Fitter, Doug Wilson? Well Doug has just taken occupancy of a flat. He has passed on the news, per Alva Allen, that his door is open at all times to his old colleagues (and naturally his colleaguesses) - address 32 McDowell Avenue, Mitcham.

\* \* \* \*

Bob Harvey, Path Evaluation and Mrs. H. set off to spend rec. leave exhibiting their dogs at the Royal Adelaide Show. During the journey, for reasons unknown, the car performed a few tumbles. Fortunately neither Bob nor his wife suffered serious injuries; their main concern being for the dogs who did sustain a few scratches.

However, according to Bob, the accident has its compensations; THIS time he wasn't driving so spouse has to tread warily when she speaks.

\* \* \* \* \*

When the pressure gets too tough, take a stroll to Ray Jepson's area in Block S and partake of the fish tank treatment - most relaxing. At no extra charge you can receive a short talk on the idiosyncrasies of the Siamese fighting fish.

\* \* \* \* \*

Did you hear about the Bucks Party arranged for Joe Scicluna, Iron Shop, which was held at the Albert Park town house of Kevin French/Murray McGaffin. Prior reports gave promise of an exceedingly wild night. However, some of the drinkers had made idle boasts because we're told that the guest of honour plus Bill Kuys and John Kalisz had retired to the arms of Morpheus not more than an hour after the celebrations had got under way.

\* \* \* \* \*





*Sports*

*2*

*40 Gbies*



# GOLF

Another successful golf day was held at the Whittlesea Country Club on Saturday, 2nd October where 48 members and a few friends turned out to battle for recognition. The Labs top swinger was mercurial Ted Hulley with a very respectable score of 90 despite the strong wind and rain. David "Oggi" Geldard (101) was the 'B' Section winner and the bearded one, Terry Murphy (116) from Long Line Section won the honours in 'C' Section. There was insufficient ink in the scoring pens to maintain the mammoth progressive totals of John Hughes and Bill Lavery who, for some unknown reason, failed to complete their rounds. The PIQUE AWARD of the week went to Staff Driver Bates for his display of club throwing on the green. (Frank Hanratty, the virtuoso of verbosity, ran a very close second). The PERSEVERANCE PRIZE was awarded to Stan Beadle (144). While ever he has a ball left in his bag Stan won't give up.

The remaining contestants apparently behaved like "normal" golfers and, once again, we are grateful to the Chief Security Officer of Block A, Alva Decimus Allen, for the splendred way in which he arranged this most enjoyable tournament. (No doubt the worries of the organising were responsible for Alva's outrageous tally of 122).

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FOOTBALL

The football season has now closed and in some areas of the Labs is best forgotten for 1971. The "smile on the face of the tiger" is non existent since Kevin Bartlett returned from the Western Australia carnival. Tom Lindsay now has sufficient time to get over his multitude of injuries since his team petered out in the Federal District League finals. Ashley Conroy, however, has high hopes for a big improvement in Essendon's form in the next few years since his No.2 son was awarded both the best and fairest, and the most courageous player trophies for his junior team in the Essendon District League.

\* \* \* \* \*

WANTED TO SELL

AC-DC Portable Record Player with inbuilt radio - \$30.00.

J. Sekfy 7920

\* \* \* \* \*

Holden Manual, 1962 Edition - Best Offer

Ashley Conroy 7904

\* \* \* \* \*

ENGAGEMENTS

Typing Pool ..... Toni Williams to Graham  
Leadbeater

\* \* \* \*

MARRIAGES

Iron Shop ..... Joe Scicluna to Cheryl Thornton

\* \* \* \*

Equipment Development ..... Adele Jabour to Neville Parsons  
(Telephone Exch. Equipment)

\* \* \* \*

BIRTHS

Network Studies & Techniques ..... to Fred and Mary Symons  
a son, John

\* \* \* \*

Accommodation & Facilities ..... to Len and June Dalrymple  
No.3 son, Ian William

\* \* \* \*

Lab. Equipment ..... to Tony and Pauline Newman  
a son, Adrian Michael

\* \* \* \*

Transmission Systems ..... to proud Auntie Christine Dudley  
a nephew, Simon Lewis

\* \* \* \*

Design, Mech. & Elect'l ..... to Siang and Marie Tjio  
a daughter, Sivat Lian  
(Snow Lily)

\* \* \* \* \*

Ex-Path Evaluation ..... to Bruce and Patricia Morton  
(now with Antarctic Divn) a son, Anthony Bruce

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### PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following whose promotions have been confirmed since the last issue :-

Chris Dunn	C.A. 2 (to National Service Training)
Jeff Walter	T.A. 2 (to Subs. Equipment)
Ted Heeley	Foreman Gr. 1, Model Shop
Fred Symons	Engr. Class 4, Nwk Studies & Techs
Paul Battlay	Engr. Class 2, General Services
Ian Macfarlane	Engr. Class 3, Devices & Techniques
John Hullett	Engr. Class 3, Data Systems
John Semple	Engr. Class 2, Pulse Systems
Bob Harvey	Engr. Class 3, Path Evaluation
Norm McLeod	Engr. Class 2, Electromechanical Switching

\* \* \* \* \*

WELCOME TO :-

Pam Quinn	Junior Assistant, Block C
Tony Whelan	Technician (back from National Service Training)
James Cendrillon	Clerical Assistant Grade 2 Procurement Group
Fred Keeley	Sub-Sectional Clerk, Physical Sciences
Gerald Lovett	Process Worker, Solid State & Quantum
Frank Ja	Engineer Class 1, Path Evaluation
Mary Nilsson	Typist, Block W
Emanuel Bussac	T.A. 1, Metallurgy Division
*	*                      *                      *

FAREWELL TO :-

Chris Dunn	Procurement Group who has commenced his National Service Training
Terry Dillon	Office Manager. Terry is on temporary transfer to the Staff, Industrial and General Services Section, looking after our industrial worries.
Emma Tomsons	Typist who has retired to look after her grandchildren and garden
Patricia Cooke	Clerical Assistant, Grade 4 who transferred to the Department of Defence
Ben Everett	Engineer Class 2 to Lines Section