

MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYBODY

Steve Oxley, 26, and Dave Brown, 24, were driving to work in East Orange, when they saw a man collapse while mowing his lawn.

The man, Mr. Kazimierz Czarnota, 68, had suffered a heart attack.

The two linemen immediately rushed to his aid and began mouth - to - mouth resuscitation and heart massage.

A passing taxi driver called an ambulance and Steve and Dave continued their efforts until it arrived.

Mr. Czarnota was rushed to Orange Base Hospital and placed in the intensive care ward in a critical condition.

He is now out of hospital and recuperating with relatives in Sydney.

The medical superintendent of Orange Base, Dr. Jann Hunt, said that Mr. Czarnota probably would have died, but for the action of the two Telecom linemen.

Steve Oxley and Dave Brown said they were able to help Mr. Czarnota only because of a safety training course they undertook with Telecom.

All Telecom line employees do the course as part of their general training procedures.

Telecom's district manager, Mr. Andy Auld, praised the two linemen.

"Not only were they alert enough to notice a man in trouble, they were concerned enough to stop and offer assistance," Mr. Auld said.

Swift action by two Orange (NSW) Telecom linemen, saved the life of an elderly man who suffered a heart attack.

TELECOM TRAINING HELPED SAVE THIS MAN'S LIFE

"They were competent, through safety training, to suc-

cessfully apply resuscitation," he said.

A letter of commendation has been sent to each lineman

through the DTM Bathurst who was arranging a function to present the letters on behalf of the State Manager.



Telecom
No. 48, DECEMBER 1979

Correspondence to the Editor "Telecom"
Telecom Australia 199 William St Melbourne
Vic 3000 Telephone 630 6505

Steve Oxley (left), Lines Serviceman and Dave Brown, Lines Assistant, visit Mr Kazimierz Czarnota in hospital after saving his life at East Orange recently. Their reaction to a crisis made them front page news in the influential Central Western Daily, whom we thank for this photograph.

Seasonally, from State Managers

NSW Ron Cullen

The past year has not been an easy one for Telecom people in NSW as the State has been faced with a booming demand for new telephone services.

To keep pace with this level of activity and satisfy the public's demands has required a special effort from everyone. The way in which these challenges were met was generally outstanding and I am certain that in 1980, the skills of our people in NSW will enable us to come out on top again.

We can all be proud to be part of this successful team.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all most sincerely for the great team effort displayed and wish you and your families a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

VICTORIA Max Smith

Telecom is such a massive enterprise that its very size can often obscure what really makes it work — people. People are Telecom's most important asset. It's their commitment to doing a good job which creates an atmosphere of public confidence in Telecom.

This year Victoria again carried record traffic and connected record numbers of telex and data services. The total net growth in Victoria for telephones was 69,438

which means that 81 per cent of Victorian dwellings are now serviced by telephones.

Christmas is the time of year when most Australians will be making local, interstate and international calls to wish friends and relatives well. Without the continuing efforts of Telecom staff, Australians would not have this increased opportunity to "keep in touch".

I hope that all of you have a safe and a very happy Christmas.

QUEENSLAND Paul Dubois

Once again our people have been called on to do more than in previous years to meet demands for our services. As we reflect on our performances during the year, we take satisfaction in the records that have been broken to meet the needs of private citizens and business.

Now is the time to recognise the sustained efforts of our staff to meet the targets that were set. In recent years Telecom has built a reputation within the community for standard of service. It feels good to work for an organisation with that reputation.

By continuing to pull together as a team we will ensure Telecom's place in the community and guarantee job opportunities and security. Thank you all for your efforts during the year. I wish you and your families a joyous Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

SOUTH AUST. Murray Coleman

for new services, for good network performance and maintenance, for accurate personal attention to their communications needs, and sometimes just for speedy reliable information. The quality of service in many of Telecom's activity areas has measurably improved and for the most part I believe Telecom is in good standing with the community.

That does not just happen. It is the outcome of purposefulness and dedication of thousands of people, often carrying out their tasks in very trying circumstances. It does not derive solely from completion of major projects — it derives just as much from handling the less exciting, less obvious but nonetheless essential back-up jobs reliably and well.

I thank you all, and wish you and your families a safe, joyous Christmas and a very happy New Year.

WEST. AUST. Len Caudle

readers and members of your families.

I am pleased that I have been able to meet many of our 7,100 staff for the first time as well as renewing acquaintances as I have travelled around the State this year. We've had a very successful year over this side of the continent with connections well up despite some difficulties.

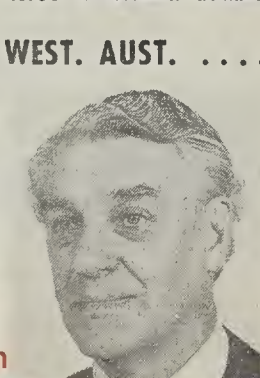
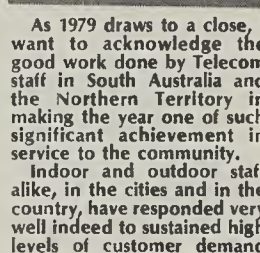
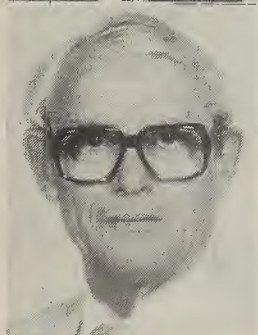
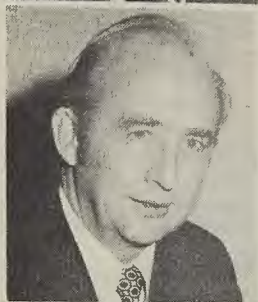
Thank you for your efforts during the past year and I look forward to your essential contribution to make 1980 even more successful. The most important message that I have for you is to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May it be both joyous and safe.

TASMANIA Ivan LeFevre

On this my first official Christmas as State Manager for Tasmania, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Telecom staff for their work performance in the past, and to say that I look forward to continued support in 1980. Together with my colleagues at State Headquarters, I wish every staff member and their families a happy and safe Christmas and a rewarding 1980."

MAXIMUM BONUS

The maximum annual leave bonus for staff availing of their 1980 annual leave is \$238.30. This figure was promulgated to all personnel staff by Industrial Relations Department General Notice No. 1979/26 which was issued on 21 November, 1979.



It's the dying Year of the Child . . . it's the living Season of The Child . . . it's a critical hour for the children of terror wracked Indo China. Telecom cartoonist Daag Durich here makes a subtle plea on their behalf.



"It's got us tossed, chief! We've tried every failsafe function to try to find the fault, but all we seem to get is a call for help." . . .

Telecom's Staff Suggestion Board has increased the level of awards paid for adopted suggestions, and has instituted a special award made for the suggestion of the year.

In deciding the suggestion of the year the Board will consider such factors as initiative and ingenuity displayed by the proponent, how novel the idea is and the interest which it generates.

SENIOR TECH. AWARDED \$1000 FOR BOARD WIRING SUGGESTION

The largest staff suggestion award since Vesting Day in 1975 was made last month to three members of the staff at Telecom Workshops, Melbourne. Victorian State Manager Max Smith presented STT02 Mr H. Rowe with a cheque for \$1000 for a suggestion known as Digiform.

HANDICAPPED OPPORTUNITY

At the same time he presented TO1 Mr M. Billsborough with a cheque for \$400 and Technician Mr M. Banik with a cheque for \$100 for their part in Digiform's development.

Digiform concerns an improved form making technique which enables operators to run wires between forming board pins.

These are progressively illuminated in groups by a programmable control circuit in accordance with the wire run requirements.

The system eliminates both reading the chart and locating form board pins specified in the chart for each wire run.

Mr Smith complimented Mr Rowe for the excellent contribution he had made to improving the Commission's operations in the Workshops and said another very important aspect of Digiform was the expanded opportunities it gave for employment of handicapped people.

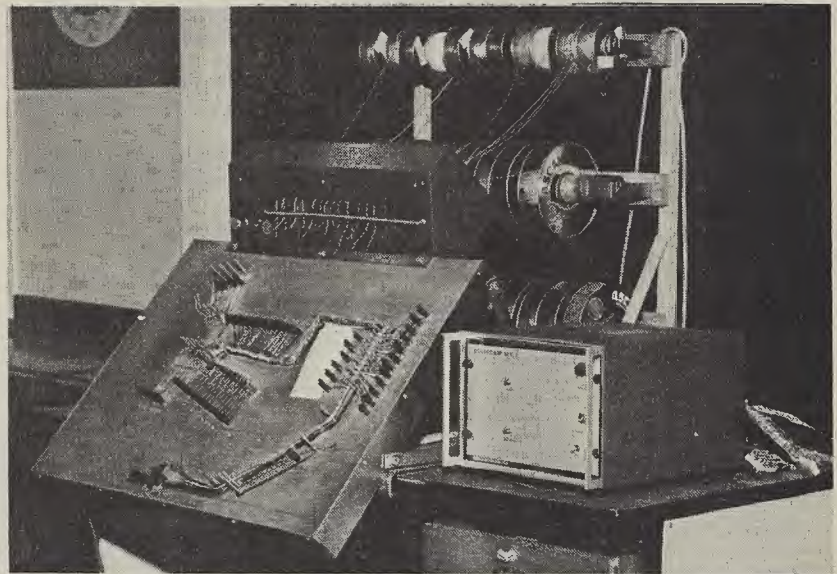
A partially sighted operator has been using the equipment at the Melbourne Workshops.

A further concept, Dictaform which involved using pre-recorded instructions relayed to an operator via Dictafone equipment and headphones, was conceived by Mr Rowe.

It was then developed into a workable form making system in conjunction with the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind, and totally blind staff have been manufactur-



Above: A smiling Howard Rowe receives his \$1000 Staff Suggestions Board cheque from Vic. State Manager Max Smith (right). Below: The invention which gave him and two colleagues their awards, the Digiform.



Mick Billsborough who received \$400 for his part in the Digiform development, and below: Mick Banik whose participation won him \$100.



ing forms using this equipment.

Mr A. C. Beckwith, the Customer Services representative on the Board, recently retired from Telecom. Mr Beckwith has been a member of the Board since Vesting Day and has made a significant contribution to the ef-

fective operation of the Suggestion Scheme.

The new member of the Board is Ian S. McDuffie, Manager, Computer Co-ordination, Customer Services.

Suggestion forms (P901) are available from staff clerks and suggestions can be sent post free to —

FREEPOST 13
Executive Officer
Staff Suggestions
Board
Telecom Australia
199 William Street
MELBOURNE, Vic.
3000.

For information on the Suggestion Scheme telephone (03) 630 7253.

Huge effort at Campbelltown to meet progress

The Campbelltown region of New South Wales has entered a transition period which will see the emergence of a metropolitan/city style of development replacing essentially rural type activity.

Located adjacent to the rapidly developing Sydney outer-metropolitan City of Liverpool, this region was bound to undergo such a change eventually.

Two large installation projects which have already been undertaken by Telecom's Campbelltown Technical Service Section are the Claymore Village Town Estate and the MacArthur Square Shopping Complex.

Every one of the 1080 houses in the Claymore Village Town Estate, a Housing Commission project, has been prewired for telephone services during construction, which means the occupants will not have the trauma of more holes being made in walls, floors, or skirting boards during future installation.

The majority of houses are of the "Town House" type and those of two storeyed construction have internal cabling between floors so that services can be easily connected to upstairs rooms if required.

Each home has been allocated an "o" pair and connection has been completed between pillar and house. Consequently each house is already prewired to the exchange.

All distribution conduits, including "lead in" pipes are located in a "joint use" trench in conjunction with the

electricity authorities. It is estimated that the use of this combined method has reduced installation costs by 33 per cent.

The MacArthur Square Shopping Complex consists of 107 shops and the retail area covers 31,000 square metres.

Provision was made for 2 x 100mm conduit entry pipes and 400 pair cables. Equipment connected as at the end of October was:

- 157 Exchange lines.
- 28 N.E.X. lines
- 6 Data lines
- 2 PABX's with 94 extensions
- 6 PAMBX's with 50 extensions

To the credit of the local staff all services required were provided when required.

The latest statistics available endorse the magnitude of the growth within the Campbelltown area. The exchange, with 10,040 services connected increased its capacity by 27 per cent last year, while the existing growth rate within the Business Office area, with 24,134 services, increased by 13.2 per cent.

The forecast figure for services by 1985 are 20,407 and 45,081 respectively.

Our technical and lines staff are to be congratulated on their efforts in this fast growing area.

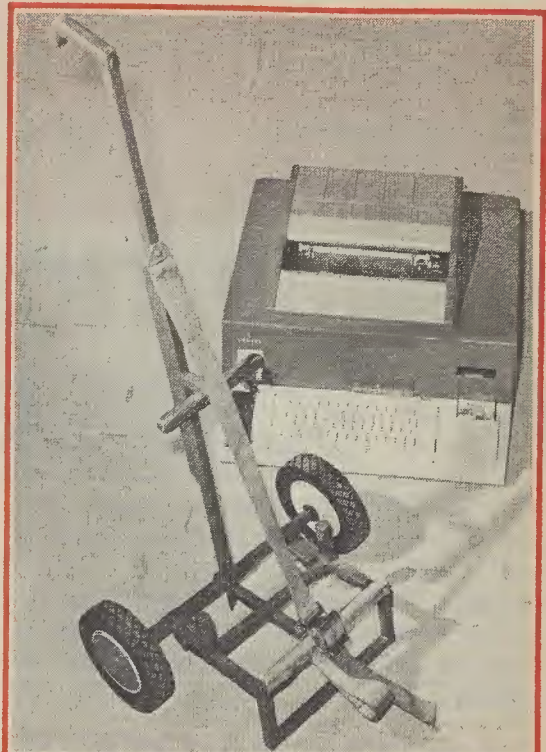
Below: A panoramic view of the MacArthur Square Shopping Complex. Photo courtesy Campbelltown - Ingleburn News.

NEW 10-PR TERMINAL BOX

A contract for the supply of the new 10 pair insulation crushing screw terminal box (Telecom No. 46 - October '79) has been let.

Supplies of the Box and Barrier Strips are expected to be available from your State Store in December, 1979 and should be ordered as follows:

Serial 29	
Item	Description
184	10 pair insulation crushing terminal box, complete with ivory lid.
185	10 pair insulation crushing terminal box, complete with teakwood lid.
186	5 pair barrier strip, insulation crushing.



TROLLEY AWARD

It could be that frustration was the mother of this innovation which since its acceptance, has simplified the manhandling of heavy teleprinters.

Brian Sims (TO1) and John Hadley (Tradesman) of Telegraph Installation recently received \$50 from the Suggestions Board for their trolley that they designed and built to tackle this problem.

Some months ago, a Sydney City bank requested the removal and transfer of one of their machines to the 5th floor of a new office block.

The Telegraph Instal Team under Brian Sims on arriving at the 5th floor discovered that nobody had any knowledge of where the machine should go. Try the 10th.

So up they went to the 10th but only faced a repeat performance. This situation continued for two more floors until at last the caretaker was found and the installation established: much to the gratification of the team who'd 'had' lugging the 50-kilogram machine all over the building.

Brian wasted no time designing a light trolley to transport telex machines and similar equipment, that would simplify the problems he had encountered earlier that day. He took his design to John Hadley and after three days, John had the prototype ready for service.

The "Folding Telegraph Machine Trolley" (N.B. 11771) weighs only about 3½ kilograms and is most economical to produce; the cost of materials being about \$14. The unit is designed and built to carry all machines used by telegraphs and is now being used at several installation depots. It also has a safety factor as it greatly assists the carrying and lifting of heavy machines, specially in awkward locations — a constant cause of back strains and associated physical accidents.



HQ Sydney outpost goes into action



Some staff and visitors outside the new Sydney Office: Front row (Left to Right): Blain Todd, E4 in charge of Lines Construction activities; Akira Fukano, Engineer, Nippon Electric Company, Tokyo, Japan, preparing for the installation of the Public Automatic Mobile Telephone System (PAMTS) Model in Parramatta Exchange; Pat Taylor, E5 in charge of Switching Design activities; and Brian Curran, C5 Administration Officer.

Back row: Terry Braybon, STO2, Lines; Frank Tilley, Branch Administration Officer, Lines Construction, visiting from Melbourne; Jeff Skeen, STO1, Lines; Jenny Thatcher, CA4 on short term relief duties from Melbourne; Ian Marshall, E3 Lines; Geoff Carle, E2 Switching; and Frank Dickson, STO1, Lines.

Staff members not present are: Peter Reid E4, Switching, on short term relief duties, from Melbourne; Laurie Vale, E3 Switching; Andrew Fung, E3 Switching; Eddie Chui, E3, Lines; and Bill Goss, E3 Lines.

The proposed establishment of a Sydney outpost of the Development Division, was circulated in a staff information paper during August and recruitment was undertaken during September - October with key personnel being transferred temporarily from Melbourne Headquarters to provide the necessary management expertise.

The Sydney Office, commenced operation on November 5, at Commerce House, 2nd Floor, 12-14 Wentworth Street, Parramatta, 2150. There were two staff on duty to open the office — Pat Taylor, Engineer, 5, Switching Design Branch and Brian Curran, Administrative Officer.

It is anticipated that the Sydney Office will have a staff of about 20 by January, 1980. However, Chief Development Engineer, Keith Simpson, envisages approximately 40 personnel over the next three years as various projects are transferred to Sydney.

The work to be performed in the Sydney Office

will be drawn from two Branches within Development Division — Switching Design and Lines Construction.

SWITCHING DESIGN

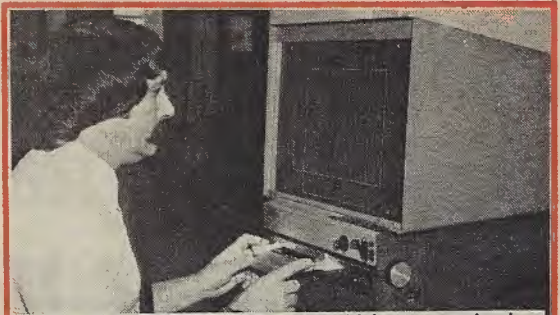
Pat Taylor is the controller of Switching Design activities allocated to the Sydney Office. Initially there are four projects to be undertaken in Sydney. These projects are:

- Public Automatic Mobile Telephone Service (PAMTS)
- National Paging Systems
- PABX
- Automatic Call Distributors

LINES CONSTRUCTION

Blair Todd, Engineer 4, will head the newly created "Urban Distribution Sub-Section" at Parramatta. The main categories of work specialisation are likely to be:

- Pipe and pit reticulation;
- Installation, jointing and testing of plastic insulated distribution cable and aerial plant;
- Work organisation, mechanisation and performance monitoring of operations.



Access to LRD Output Reports which are contained on microfilm is achieved through the use of a viewer or viewer/printer. The viewer/printer has the added advantage of providing a paper copy of the particular frame being displayed. The storage album for microfilm to the right of the viewer/printer, STO1 Bill Ryan at the console.

TRUNK RECORDS GO NATIONAL WITH LRD

A unified, national system of keeping trunk and junction records has been designed and developed by Headquarters Engineering and Information Systems staff in consultation with State Engineering personnel.

The new system, Link and Route Detail Application (LRD), is claimed to have many time and money saving advantages. It will:

- Provide every functional operations group with a complete and standardised picture of the entire Australian trunk and junction network — an invaluable benefit in times on network breakdown.
- It will greatly reduce the manual effort of maintaining the present records system and each error found and corrected will correct each occurrence of the error over the entire record.

- Significantly reduce error factors because it is a validated system.

- Promote savings in operations, construction, drafting, cable recording planning and service restoration areas.

Project Manager, Geoff Hedger, said LRD was a radical departure from all previous trunk and junction keeping systems employed by Telecom Australia, in that the record is more route than hierarchy oriented.

It will provide on microfilm display computerised information regarding bearer usage and on utilisation of the network, existing state of the network and pending details of the provision, removal and rearrangement of facilities and services.

LRD makes instantly available management and statistical reports which will afford a far better utilisation of existing network facilities. It will be of great assistance in the corrective operations and service restoration areas.

LRD is to be introduced in three stages.

A comprehensive report on the design, development and implementation of Link and Route Detail will be carried in the February 1980 issue of Telecom.



Technical Advisory Group consisting of Headquarters Trunk Records Project representatives with Design and Practices, Regional Operations and Transmission and Line Planning Branch representatives from all States. The Group meets at regular intervals to discuss the design, development and implementation progress of the LRD Application. BACK ROW: D. Johns (Tas), P. Way (WA), A. Barker (Hq), J. Guthrie (Hq), R. DeVink (Hq). THIRD ROW: R. Connor (Vic), L. Cousins (Vic), P. Robinson (WA), T. Reid (Qld), K. Nagy (Hq), J. Connors (Qld). SECOND ROW: N. McLaggan (NSW), R. Peterken (Hq), D. Herreen (Hq), G. Hedger (Hq), T. Moylan (NSW), I. Young (Qld), O. Winter (Tas). FRONT ROW: L. Thompson (Hq), F. Martucci (SA), D. Schrapel (SA), H. Bergin (Hq).

ANNUAL REPORT

The 1978/79 Telecom Australia Annual Report has been presented to Parliament and has been summarised comprehensively in a special Report to the Staff distributed to all employees.

For the record, salient features of the Annual Report will be reproduced in Telecom's first issue next year.

Buildings Branch in lightning clean-up of fire-gutted Greta Lines school

Quick action by Telecom's Sydney Buildings Branch enabled students at Greta Lines Training School to continue cable jointing class after their workshop and equipment were destroyed by fire. Buildings Branch sent a team of three officers, who within 48 hours had engaged and co-ordinated the work of local demolishers and tradesmen to clear the site and rehouse the students.

The fire started in waste bins at the workshop about 7 p.m. on October 11. Damage was estimated at about \$30,000.

The team leader, Paul Beedle (STO Buildings), was accompanied by Owen Walton (STO Engineering), and Phil Brooks (TO Buildings).

Before work could begin on clearing the site, a gas main had to be sealed off and re-routed.

Teachers sifted through the debris before the demolishers moved in with a front end loader and two tipper trucks. They spent six hours removing the fire wreckage.

Afterwards the site was excavated so that topsoil could be spread out ready for turfing the bare area left underneath.

A carpenter was brought in to repair the roof of another building holed by a flying piece of metal from an exploded fire extinguisher.

Heat from the blaze damaged a SCAX building.

Next the team had to rehouse the students who would resume their lessons after a weekend break and a rostered day off.

A metalwork classroom was wired for additional lighting and extra fans installed to create a proper working environment for cable jointers.

Engineering Training Section at Greta arranged desks and stools for the rehoused students.

Paul said afterwards: "The supervisor, Frank Morris, and the teachers were pleased to have the job done in such a short time without classes being disrupted."

A study into life-styles of older single women is being conducted by Ms Yvonne Stolk, Dr Warren Bartlett and Dr Robyn Penman of the Psychology Department, Univ. of Melb. They should like to hear from women who have not been married, are aged between 30 and 65, have no children, are Australian born, and are not living in a de facto relationship at present. If you qualify and would be willing to fill in a questionnaire completely confidential and anonymous, please write to Yvonne Stolk, Department of Psychology, University of Melbourne, Parkville, 3052. Or phone Yvonne at home on 380 2509, Wed., Thurs. and Fri. or any time after hours.



Above: October 12 — teachers sift through the fire devastated workshop. Below: Lawn already grows at left where the workshop stood. Repaired SCAX building centre foreground.



Creditable 12th for incredible rafters

Transmission Planning may be a small Section within the Telecom family but it makes up for it in initiative and enthusiasm. It all happened when a Sydney Radio Station proposed "The Incredible Raft Race" on the Parramatta River over a distance of 16km from Parramatta to Birkenhead point.

"We can do it" cried Steve Hush, and with that, heads were put together with only three weeks remaining before the race.

There was little time for official sponsorship and a desperate effort was put into operation to obtain

raw materials for the raft. The great 'scrounge' was on.

Assistance came in from all sides — from City South and Pitt Exchanges, Workshops and Primary Works No. 1 (Metropolitan).

Working at nights, at Wally Horsburgh's garage, the raft moved from drawing board to a gleaming gold reality. During the day the telephones ran hot organising sponsorship and assistance.

Budget Truck Rental came to the rescue with a truck for the day and the API supplied T-Shirts for the crew.

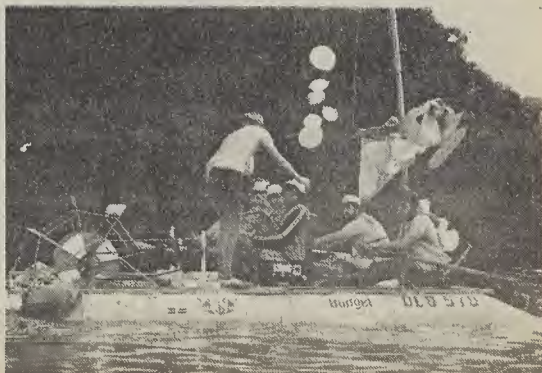
The night before the race was the first sea trial and then disaster struck. After only 20-minutes on the water, the drive shaft to the paddle had broken. So it was back to their workshop for last minute modifications and pre-race tactics. They finished at 2 a.m. on the morning of the race.

5 a.m. that Saturday morning, found the able crew of Wally Horsburgh (Captain and Chief Engineer), Steve Hush, Lew Cody, Allan Burrows, Peter Howe, Mike Job, Jeff Fitzsimmons and Glen Chance ready to go with 44 other rafts.

Three hours and forty-

eight minutes later, the gallant but exhausted team crossed the finishing line in 12th place — a very creditable effort.

Now the team is working on a modified design. So it will be look out for the Transmission Planning boys next year.



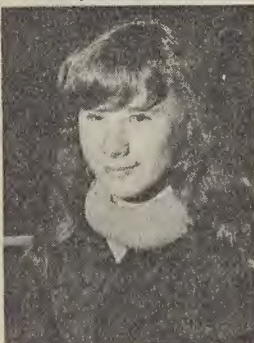
HEAVEN HELP PHONE VANDALS ... IF THESE KIDS EVER GET AT 'EM

PAUL McLEAN



My idea is to put smoke cylinders in the phone box which explode when somebody attacks the phone box. Then the doors slam shut and the phone box light flashes on and off. At the same time a light at the police station flashes on and off. Then a policeman comes and takes him away to jail.

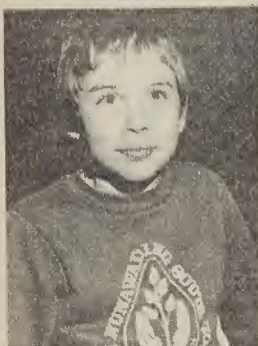
KELLY JAMES



My idea for protecting telephone boxes is to have in all of the telephone boxes a small camera.

Each time some one tries to vandalize a telephone box the camera takes a picture of the person and a flashing light goes on at the police station. When the police get to the telephone box and the vandal has gone the police can push a hidden button and the photo will come out of the hole.

MARK JAMES



My idea for protecting phone boxes is that as soon as somebody tries to vandalize a phone box a whole lot of glue comes out and they get stuck to the floor. Then sleeping gas comes out then the phone rolls off to the police station and locks the vandal in a cell.

Sixth grade pupils at Nunawading South (Vic) Primary School recently took part in a discussion on public phone vandalism and were asked by their teacher Mrs Carol Flynn to put their ideas on paper.

As Mrs Flynn said, some of the ideas are neither particularly practical nor humane, but they do show a certain public spirit.

Here are some of the class' more imaginative and hilarious solutions:

DANIEL HOPKINS



I have an idea for protecting phone boxes. The box has a robot behind it and when a person tries to vandalize it. The robot knocks out the vandal, and calls the police.

MINDY ROUTLEY



I would like to give you a suggestion to help you protect your phone boxes. I suggest you instal something that, as soon as somebody tries to attack the box, locks the door tight, lets out sleeping gas and gives a signal in the police station. This signal shows which phone box is getting vandalized. A policeman comes and the person is put in jail.

ANDREW PAROISSIEN



My idea is a cage that locks vandals in when they smash the phone and the glass. The cage is made of ten thousand volts and can knock them out. The cage is made around the phone and is one hundred feet high and five feet away from the phone.

CLIVE RUTTER



My idea is that if anybody is vandalizing a phone box the door automatically locks. Then it fills up with sleeping gas, then a siren is set off at the police station then police come and pick him up.

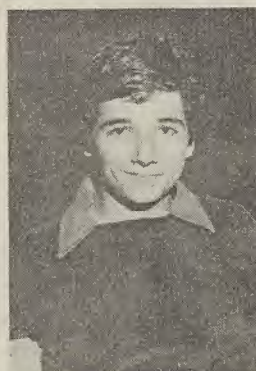
Hope you accept my idea.

LINDY BRYCE



I would like to show you my idea for protecting phone boxes is that if the phone has any pressure put on it or if it is banged, a hand with a punching glove comes out of a hole and punches the person. Then the door locks and is not able to open and wire on the windows so the vandal cannot get out. Then there is a very small camera that takes a picture of the vandal.

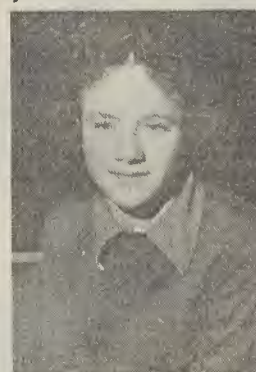
PETER MOURIKIS



My idea is you should have a wasps' hive and when somebody tries to vandalize the phone, the doors would shut automatically and the wasps' hive would open up.

All you would have to do is look for a person with wasp bites on him.

JANE GOODMAN



My idea for protecting phone boxes is when they try into the phone. The door locks and purple dye rises from the floor to one and a half feet high so if he gets out you can tell who broke the phone box.

At the police station a buzzer goes on.

ANDREW COX



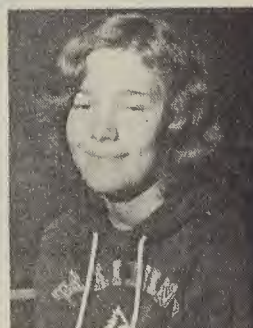
My idea is if a vandal tries to damage a phone box the



Teacher Mrs Carol Flynn who presides over a class of lively intellectuals at Nunawading South.

door shuts, bars go up on the windows and a boxing glove comes out and hits him in the face a couple of times. The floor drops away and the vandal falls into a cell, the top of the cell closes and everything goes back to normal but the cell that the criminal is in moves away and a new cell comes into position. The next day a policeman comes to see if any vandals have been caught.

SARAH BULKELEY



I would like to suggest an idea to stop vandalising telephone boxes.

When a telephone box is vandalised the floor starts spinning around very fast. The floor keeps spinning until the police come. While the floor is spinning a loud siren goes on and a little red light is shown up in the switchboard section of a police station. Then the police come and take the vandal away.

The children were greatly incensed when told that public phone vandalism costs Telecom and therefore their parents an estimated \$9 million a year plus inconvenience and suffering to many with out-of-action phones in emergency situations.

Bitten by funnelweb . . . an

"I don't know how I got from under that house so quickly" said John Garrett, Technician's Assistant of the Campbelltown Technical Services Section. John, obviously still shaken, was talking about his near fatal encounter with a funnel web spider while installing cable recently.

Lying on his stomach, supported by his elbows, and with very little headroom, John felt a sting on his right elbow. Thinking he had caught on a splinter or nail he shone his torch down only to see the spider, near a hole in the ground, poised ready to strike again.

John apparently moved so fast he even beat the spider.

Despite the fact that John was wearing a long sleeved shirt and overalls the poison spurs penetrated through both garments

NO KNOWN ANTI-VENENE

with enough power to enter the skin and leave a mark visible three weeks later.

Fortunately for John most of the poison must have been absorbed by his clothing as there is no known anti-venene for the bite of a funnel web spider.

John was rushed to Campbelltown Hospital, suffering from nausea, pains to his

right side and shoulder and lost use of his right arm. He had further tests taken at Royal North Shore Hospital the next day.

He resumed duty three days later although he still has not regained full use of his arm.

This incident really shook Telecom staff within the area and a seminar was quickly arranged for all technical and lines staff. Over 200 men, attended.

Guest speaker was Mr Ramon Mascord, one of Australia's leading authorities on spiders. Mr Mascord emphasised the dangers of spiders to staff in the field and especially un-

der houses, and illustrated his talk by showing slides of the various species which could be encountered.

Funnel webs are to be found in large colonies within the Campbelltown, Razorback Mountain and Bowral localities within the Campbelltown area of Telecom.

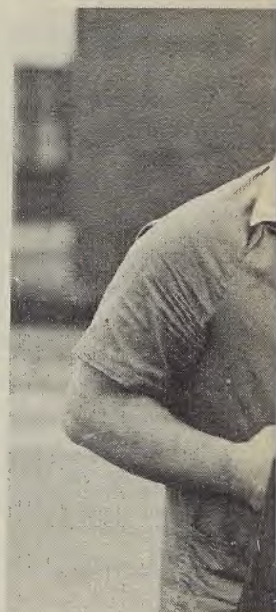
The population explosion and subsequent urban sprawl were finding species of the funnel web and "killer" spiders in areas where people thought they never existed.

COMMONSENSE PRECAUTIONS

Mr Mascord gave the following advice:

- Do Not store old rubbish or compost around yards or under a house.
- Do not poke fingers into holes in walls, ventilators, trees or ground.
- Do Not pick up house bricks, old tins or other debris without gloves.
- Do Not play with or wear old shoes without carefully checking for spiders.

The management of the Campbelltown Technical Services Division has also reacted to this situation by arranging supply of preventive equipment to all outdoor installation staff of:



John Garrett, Technician's Assistant, v

- Sheets, Waterproof (Serial 34/12 4' x 3')
- Lantern, Fluorescent, Portable (Serial 159 Item 8001)
- Publication "Treatment of Snakebites and Arachnid Poisoning", by Dr Struan Sutherland (Commonwealth Serum Laboratories)

John was very lucky, but maybe the next may not be so fortunate. Consider the advice given by Mr Mascord and ensure that all equipment possible is obtained, and used, to prevent a more serious, and possible fatal accident.



The photograph shows a male funnelweb in the striking position. The funnelweb rears back to allow a downward action of the fangs, which can penetrate finger nail or even leather. The male funnelweb is one of the world's most deadly spiders with venom approximately 3 to 6 times as potent as the female's. Funnelweb nests usually lined with a silken shroud are normally found around the base of trees, rocks or house foundations where the soil is damp and loose. Photo courtesy W. A. Flick & Co. Pty. Ltd. Pest Control.

PREVENTING SUN - CANCERS

The sun is fun and also good for you. But like most things, if too much is taken, it can cause illness ranging from sunburn to skin cancer. Skin cancers are caused by too much ultraviolet (UV) radiation, particularly the B fraction. Some of the various sorts of sun spots and skin cancers are shown in the accompanying colour photographs to help you recognise them and to deal with them appropriately. Remember the outlook for skin cancer treated early is good. Pull out and keep these colour photos for future reference.

Skin cancer and sunburn may be prevented by some simple steps:

1. Limit the time you sunbake to a few hours a day, particularly in early summer.
2. Wear protective clothing (e.g. hats), but remember that some open, cool materials can let the sun reach the skin and still be damaging.
3. Use an effective sunscreen. It is important to apply sunscreens evenly and every 2-3 hours. A sun block lipstick is useful for those working outdoors to prevent drying of the lips; skin cancers developing on the lips tend to be harder to treat than elsewhere.

Laboratory work has shown that some sunscreens give better protection from damaging UV-B than others. The most effective are shown on page 4 of this insert and are exempt from sales tax.

For further information contact your State's Anti-Cancer Council.

NSW 241 1068

VIC 654 2411

SA 22 3433

WA 21 6224

QLD 31 1461

TAS 30 3262

Sun Spots & Skin Care



Solar Keratosis on hand.

1 Sun Spot (Solar Keratosis)

● Features.

Dry.
Rough.
Stable.
Occurs on
exposed
areas.

● Action.

These are not cancers.
But they are due to sun
damage.
Use more protection!
Remove if becomes a
nuisance.



Seborrheic Wart.

2 Seborrheic Wart.

● Features.

Occurs mainly on
face, neck and
body.
Colour light but
gradually
darkens.

May be single or
many.

Surface varies
from waxy to
crumbly.
Appears to be
stuck onto the
skin.

● Action.

Get checked
when they first
appear, or if they
cause problems.



Freckles on back.

3 Freckles and Moles.

● Features.

Very
common,
occur all over
body.
Evenly
coloured with
smooth surface.

● Action.

None. Watch for:

Cancers: What to look for.

4 Skin Cancer (Basal Cell Carcinoma)

Features.

Often on the face, but may occur on other exposed areas.
Bleed. Crust.
Persistent sore on face or lips.
Pain is not a feature.

● Action.

See your doctor.



Early Skin Cancer on lip.

● Prevent Skin Cancer and Sunburn.

Sun hats.
Clothing.
Sunsticks for lips.
Class 1 & 2 sunscreen oils and creams.



Skin Cancer on nose.

5 Cancer (Malignant Mole Melanoma)

▶ Increase in size.
Itchiness.
Roughness.
Colour change.
Firmness.
Bleeding.
Crusting.

● Cancer.

(Malignant Mole.
Melanoma.)

● Action.

See your doctor without delay.



Malignant Melanoma on back.

GROUP 1 SUNSCREENS (OVER 99 % PROTECTION)

TYPE & MAKER

AEROSOL

Juvena

Piz Buin

ALCOHOL SOLUTION

Gilda

Heather Laboratories

ICI Laboratories

Owen

Pistache

Piz Buin

Piz Buin

Piz Buin

Robins

Sea and Ski

Uvosan

CREAM

Avon

Bayer

Craigston

Elizabeth Arden

Hamilton

Harriet Hubbard Ayer

Heather Laboratories

ICI

ICI

Innoxa

Juvena

Juvena

Nyal

Nyal

Piz Buin

Piz Buin

Piz Buin

Piz Buin

QRI

Roche

Roche

Sea and Ski

Uvosan

Vanda

GEL

Gilda

Juvena

Orlane

LIP, NOSE AND FACE PRODUCT

Bonne Bell

Bonne Bell

Bonne Bell

Charles of the Ritz

Charles of the Ritz

Coppertone

Coppertone

Glenell

Hamilton

ICI

Piz Buin

Revlon

Revlon

Roche

Uvistat

MILK (CREAMY LOTION)

Bayer

Con-stan

Harriet Hubbard Ayer

Harriet Hubbard Ayer

ICI

Juvena

Juvena

Piz Buin

Piz Buin

Roche

Roche

Vanda

OIL

Biokosma

Harriet Hubbard Ayer

Harriet Hubbard Ayer

Heather Laboratories

Mary Quant

Piz Buin

Trygon Laboratories

TRADE NAME

Sun Foam

Exclusive Creme Spray

Superscreen

Surf Ski Sun Shield

UV Sun Filter Lotion

Pabafilm

UV Filter Lotion 1

Broad Spectrum UV Lotion

Exclusive Lotion

Extreme Lotion

Phiasol

Blockout

UV Filter Lotion

Bronze Glory Sun Safe

Detail Sun Cream

Ultra Violet Sun Screen

Covering Cream (all four shades)

Sunscreen

Altitude Cream

UV Filter Cream

UV Sun Filter Cream

UV Ultra Block Broad Spectrum Cream

Kerodex 12W Total Sun Deflectant Cream

Sun Cream 3

Sun Protection Cream

BronZinc

Zinc Cream

Broad Spectrum UV Creme

Exclusive Creme

Extreme Creme

Extreme Creme for Children

Sun Protection Cream

Aquasun Sun-Cream

Eversun 7 Sun-Cream

Blockout Cream

Sun Bloc

Vandatan Shadow

Tan 'n' Ban Gel

Sun Gel

Bronze Orlane

Kristi Lip-Cote

Lip Gloss

Weatherproofer

Ritz Bronze Extra Protective Cream for the face

Sun Protective Stick

Lipscreen

Nosekote Clear

Butter Tan Nose and Lip Protector

Sola Stick

UV Sun Block Stick

Lip and Nose Protector

Bronze Lustre Protective Face Colour Cream

Sun Block Stick

Sunstick

Sunscreen for Lips

Delial Sunmilk

Nutri-Tan Sun-Block Lotion for Sun-Sensitive Skin

Sun Milk

Sun Milk Tinted

UV Sun Block Milk

Sun Fluid Bronze

Sun Protection Fluid

Exclusive Milk

Extreme Milk

Aquasun Sun-Lotion Normal Skin

Eversun 5 Sun-Lotion

Vandatan Sunscreen Lotion

Tibetan Sun Oil

Bronze Tahitian Normal Protection

Bronze Tahitian Super Protection

Surf Ski Sun Lotion

Sunshine Oil

Oil

Ralos Ultra-violet Filter Oil

A chartered helicopter took the heartache out of a telephone survey in outback NSW by a team of Telecom draftsmen and surveyors recently. The task would have taken three times longer using ground vehicles. Instead the survey team flew over the dusty roads, boundary fences and creek crossings.

CHOPPER CHOPS TRIALS OF OUTBACK SURVEY

They arrived at their work sites sooner and feeling fresh, having avoided the normal tiredness of a long and sometimes gruelling journey by 4WD.

During a trip lasting a month, the survey team had the use of a hired helicopter for a fortnight. With the Telecom logo attached to the chopper's side the party was welcomed wherever they went.

Their task was to peg out, on the ground, six potential sites for VHF concentrators which were identified from the air earlier this year.

The earlier tests were carried out using sophisticated radio equipment floated across the area in \$4,000 helium balloons owned by Telecom. (Alas no more . . . P. 13). A VHF concentrator transmits telephone calls by radio from areas in which conventional telephone lines for individual subscribers would be too costly.

A full automatic telephone service to about 250 subscribers living within 50 km of each site could result from the current survey. Some of the subscribers are already linked to the network through a privately erected line, but the rest have no telephone service.

The team included Jon Bayley (Senior Draftsman), Phil Etcell (Draftsman grade 2) and Col Watkins (Draftsman grade 2). There were two surveying assistants, Jack Brinson and Gary Bladen. From radio section were Neville Wern (Senior technical officer) and Stuart Wilson (technical officer).

The team was chosen from Survey No. 4 (Radio-Telephone) Sub Group, Drafting Section, Services Branch, Sydney. They left in two groups in mid September.

TWO DAY START

Gary, Jack and Colin drove in two 4WDs, packed with surveying equipment, sleeping gear and food. Two days later Phil and Jon boarded a helicopter at Springwood in the Blue Mountains. The groups met at Kayrunnera Station, north west of White Cliffs.

The sheep station is near Koonenberry Mountain, the location of the first site. The journey to the site took an hour by helicopter compared to four to five hours by 4WD. The Koonenberry survey lasted 1½ days during which the team measured a site for a VHF concentrator tower 76.2 m (250 ft.) high.

At Tabletop, a flat hill on Theldarpa Station,

which is about 60 km south west of Tibooburra, a large site was pegged out for a guyed mast. Here the helicopter cut the work time from a week to two days.

It was at Mt. Dering, about 60 km north of Broken Hill, however, that the air transport really came into its own.

The survey team simply drove to the base of the mountain, transferred themselves and their gear into the helicopter and five minutes later they were at work. They prepared a site for a free standing tower and helipad in a day. Without the helicopter the job would have taken from four to six days.

The story was the same at Willotia, a property on the Darling River, 160 km south east of Broken Hill. The team took five days instead of three weeks to measure a large site for a guyed mast.

From a property called Churinga the survey team commuted to a trig station at The Springs, 75 km west of Wilcannia. Unfortunately air transport was limited to a half a day at this site and for just a few hours at the last site on MacCullocks Range.

The luxury of flying to and from the survey sites was at least matched by the traditional outback hospitality. The team prepared for rough living by carrying with them



In front of the helicopter which made their survey job possible in a shorter time are: (from left) Phil Etcell, Draftsman Grade 2 (pointing to the Telecom logo); Jack Brinson, Surveying Assistant; Stuart Wilson, Technical Officer, Radio Section; Gary Bladen, Surveying Assistant, and Col Watkins, Draftsman Grade 2.

sleeping bags, tents and canned food. At Theldarpa the property owner treated the visitors from Telecom to a barbecue.

The team sat up to a home cooked meal at Willotia. Most nights they slept in shearers quarters on the sheep stations.

Now that the field work is completed the draftsmen will prepare six plans for the VHF con-

centrator sites. These plans, together with the result of the radio tests and engineering reports will go to Melbourne Headquarters for consideration.

If the submissions are approved, land will be acquired from property owners where necessary, and work can begin on erecting the towers and guyed masts.

Big turn for SMALL

On Wednesday 7th November, Vic Small was looking forward to enjoying a lunch break with a 'few' colleagues because, after 44-years, on that day, he would be signing-off for the last time.

But those few colleagues, unbeknown to Vic, became over 80 people who turned up to offer him their sincere wishes on his retirement — evidence of the esteem in which he was held.

Victor George Small said good-bye to Telecom as Senior Projects Officer N.S.W. Buildings Branch. It was 44-years ago that he started as a postal messenger at Eastwood Post Office. He was fascinated with the morse key and the work of the telegraphist.

After passing the

course, Vic thought he knew everything about being a telegraphist and so set forth to his first posting at Broken Hill. Vic considers that this was the time when he really started to learn his job.

After three years, he returned to the Sydney CTO where he was for a time press telegraphist for two Sydney daily newspapers. Then after a spell of clerical duties, he applied for a position as a clerk in the Buildings Branch.

This gave Vic an interest in properties, so he set out to do a correspondence course in architecture and also obtained his diploma as a valuer under the Real Estate Institute of NSW.

Below: Vic Small (left) receives a presentation from Jim McCarthy, Manager, Buildings Branch.



Helicopter ferries surveyors and their equipment between the site on the summit of Mt Dering and the road below. Picture shows a trig station (left) and a surveyor's tripod.

Ossie tours towers

Australia's first telecommunications tower on Black Mountain in Canberra would be "equal to any in the world", says the tower controller, Ossie Kleinig.

He said that the public and visitors from overseas would have a panoramic view of the nation's capital city that could never be built out.

"Our tower will be an instant magnet because a good view is hard to resist. It will supersede Mount Ainslie as the central lookout in Canberra," Mr Kleinig said.

His remarks are based on visits to nine towers during a recent tour of five and a half weeks in Europe and Canada.

Mr Kleinig observed at first hand the management, security arrangements and tourist facilities at towers already

operating in other countries.

The Canberra tower, which was started about six years ago, is expected to be opened early next year.

The design of the Australian tower closely resembles that of a tower in Munich so it is understandable that Mr Kleinig went there first.

Also in Germany he visited the world's first tower in Stuttgart and one of the newer towers at Hamburg. The Kaknas Tower in Stockholm was next on the itinerary. It is the tallest building in Sweden.

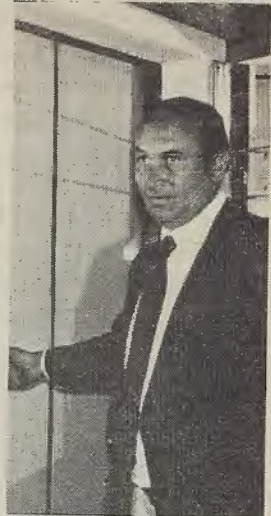
After seeing the Eiffel

Tower in Paris and making an official tour of the British Post Office tower in London, Mr Kleinig flew to Canada.

In that country three towers were observed. The CN (Charlie November) Tower in Toronto owned by the Canadian National Railways, overlooks Lake Ontario, and is the world's tallest at 553.2m. The Australian tower rises 195.2m from the summit of Black Mountain in Canberra.

Mr Kleinig said the Skylon Tower, at Niagara Falls, catered for tourists and has no telecommunications facilities at all. "It's certainly a million-dollar view," he said.

A look at a tower in Calgary, Alberta, concluded the Canadian part of the tour. Mr Kleinig had hoped to include the world's second tallest tower, in Moscow, but this could not be arranged.



Telecom's Black Mountain Tower, Canberra, Controller Ossie Kleinig about to inspect the restaurant of the famous Stuttgart tower. Left: The Post Office tower, London.

The telephone rings in the office of the Canberra tower controller, Ossie Kleinig . . . A woman's voice asks: "Can I hold my wedding in the tower?"

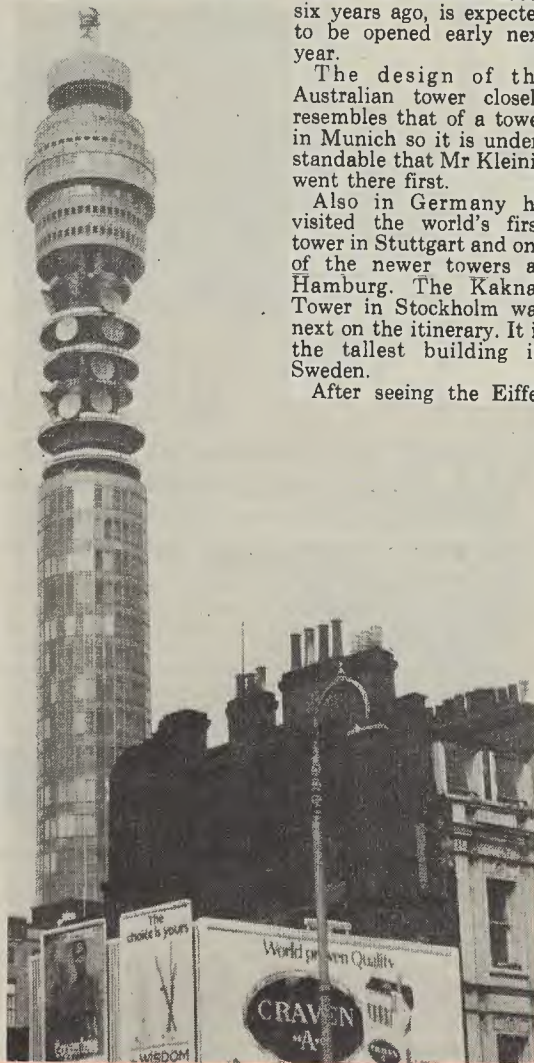
Mr Kleinig politely refuses, saying the venue would be unsuitable for a function of this kind.

This inquiry is one of the more unusual ones but requests to see inside the pinnacle on Black Mountain are many these days.

Mr Kleinig said the commission's policy was to prohibit sightseeing until the tower was completed and open.



The Skylon Tower, Niagara, Canada.



ABORIGINAL GIRLS LOVED MTX VISIT

Recently, a small group of people visited the Directory Assistance and International Exchange at Sydney GPO. As a result, Jim Downes — Manager, MTX/CTO District, received the following letter.

Dear Mr Downes,
As Teacher of the Coffs Harbour Aboriginal Women's Office Skills Group, I would like to thank you and all your staff for the hospitality and marvellous tour of your Telecom operations at the

GPO on the 20th September, 1979.

You gave the girls a rare opportunity to see how a massive communication system works — both within Australia and overseas, and I do ask, from the girls and myself, that you personally thank all the Supervisors involved, particularly the delightful man who met us and showed us the various different sections. I do apologise for not remembering his name — but we certainly do remember him and his interest in us.

Coming from a relatively small town such as Coffs Harbour, students just do not have any idea of such operations as overseas telephone calls, Directory Assistance etc. and quite frankly, Telecom was the highlight of the trip. They only wished that they had more time to see more of everything.

Colleen Newell,
Tutor

The name Mrs Newell could not recall in her letter was Jeff Boland (Manager G.P.O. Exchange) who says that it gave him great pleasure to welcome the group but added that he felt that the credit must go to the Supervisors, Ruth Shambler — International Manual Exchange and Clare Kiely, Directory Assistance Exchange, who so thoroughly and patiently explained the functions of

the exchange and the work of the operators.

Mrs Newell, who is a teacher at Coffs Harbour Technical College, told Telecom that she conducted a Receptionist Class outside the Technical College, as part of an Adult Education Extension Course.

At present she has six students, ranging in age from 17 to late 40's (including two grandmothers). The class, which meets twice weekly in a local church hall, is offered to Aboriginal women to give them the opportunity to understand the needs of office skills and the encouragement to better themselves in this area.

NEXT ISSUE

Telecom is not published in January. The next issue will be No. 49 appearing in early February. Copy by January 16, please.

Have a happy Christmas and New Year and above all, may it be safe.



Telecom people who made the Aboriginal girls' MTX visit so enjoyable: Jeff Boland (Manager, GPO Exchanges), Clare Kiely (Directory Assistance Exchange) and Ruth Shambler (International Manual Exchange).

Meet PIES

The Personnel Information and Establishment System — PIES is an automated staff statistical system that is to be implemented during the first six months of 1980. It is being developed, tested and implemented by a joint team from the Information Systems and Personnel Departments, Headquarters.

PIES will search the STAFF PAY files every four weeks looking for changed staff details, new or separated staff, movements, promotions, etc. and higher duties that are valid on the reporting date.

The changes in the STAFF PAY files cause transactions to be generated within the PIES system to bring the staff details up to date.

Ninety nine per cent of the input information for PIES is obtained automatically from the STAFF PAY files. However, a small amount of manual input is required from staff clerks to record details of long term leave, outpostings, secondments and casuals employed.

NOT CONFIDENTIAL

The personal information that is held in PIES is not of a confidential nature. PIES creates a statistical record from the designation status and location of each administration's officers and employees. PIES has not been designed for the recording of leave or furlough entitlements.

PIES produces regular four weekly, quarterly and yearly reports plus a number of reports that can be produced as required. All these reports are statistical in nature and do not present details specifically related to staff by name.

The principal reports list, by designation in designation group, staff numbers in functional areas, departments and administrations, staff recruited and wasted over defined periods plus an analysis of the reasons for the wastage and long term leave taken.

A personal details report can be provided on the request of the person concerned to enable any staff member to check the details that are held on file against his/her name.

The implementation of PIES throughout the Commission is to be by a staged approach. Headquarters will commence conversion on 2 January 1980, Victoria and South Australia, 27 February 1980, New South Wales and Queensland, 26 March 1980, Western Australia and Tasmania 21 May 1980.

Conversion in each State consists of an initial compare of Staff Pay on the nominated date followed by the first production or regular compare four weeks later.

When PIES is implemented it will relieve staff clerks of most of the work that is now associated with the regular four weekly, quarterly and annual collection and preparation of manpower statistics.

WELCOME RELIEF

This will provide a welcome relief from this regular task and free the staff to attend to the other matters which are always present.

To keep the interested staff association informed of what was happening with the system, a PIES Consultation Group was set up late in 1978. This group has met regularly during 1979 in order to explain various aspects of the system and to reach agreement prior to implementation.

It will continue to meet after PIES has been introduced to discuss any changes to the system and also to afford the opportunity to the associations to observe the operation of this system.



\$590 gift for kids

Telecom staff at Hamilton (Vic) Exchange set out about a year ago to prove that they were contributing members of the local community, and what a tremendous job they made of it!

The other day, they were able to hand over \$590 to the Children's Protection Society which has a \$30,000 appeal current to help finance urgently needed extensions to Currawong House at Hamilton.

The money came from 50 cent donations from each weekly pay over the past 12 months or so.

TOIC Trevor Nuttall said:

"Hamilton Telephone Exchange staff decided

that if they were to donate money to an organisation, it should be a local one and one that really needed help as opposed to a cause that is supported by large organisations.

"Being local allowed staff to gauge what their involvement meant to the organisation and also to see any growth that would be due to their efforts."

"The donation idea was put to a staff meeting by Bernie Rohde. The scheme was to involve all staff in a

project they could identify with and hopefully foster a good community image.

"The staff chose the Children's Protection Society."

"No-one on the staff is involved in any way with the CPS or its district committee but the choice was passed unanimously once we had visited the children's home at Hamilton and realised how much money was needed to run it."

Mrs Margaret Freemantle who accepted the Exchange Gift on behalf of the CPS is introduced to a test console by from left Peter Loria, Russell Collier and Gordon Smith. Hamilton Spectator pic.

SAFE CABLE STORAGE

Manhandling of drums onto cable jacks and rollers is a time consuming and dangerous exercise. That's why a cable storage bay was designed and installed at the Sydney External Plant Training School.

According to Bill Richards (STO Grade 2 Lines), the new method allows safe drum storage and quick and easy removal of cable.

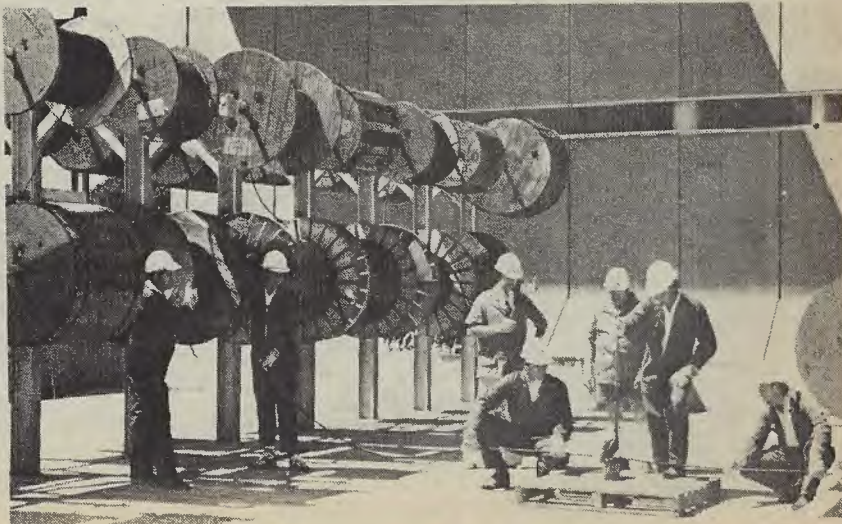
"Instructors can spend more time on teaching and the risk of injury has been removed," he said.

The frame can store up

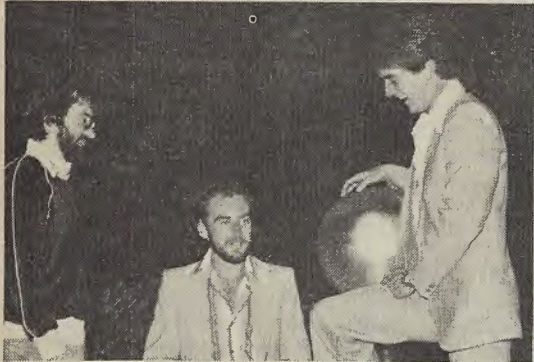
to 36 drums at once. A mechanical stacker transfers drums from delivery trucks onto the horizontal spindles of the cable storage bay.

The External Plant Training School at North Strathfield is part of the Engineering Training Complex, in George Street, Homebush.

Cable handling is made easy and safe by storing drums on specially-designed, vertical, steel frame. Pictured are (from left): L/M John Roch, L/M Peter McCusker, Technical Instructor, Les Dixon, Lines Superintendent, Jim Tyrell (kneeling), Lines Supervisor, Gordon Hample, L/M John Richter (using cable cutter), and L/M Alan Milne (kneeling).



Outstanding work by three telecom apprentices earned them bronze medallions during Apprenticeship Week in NSW. The award winners are Stephen Wilson, signwriter, Colin Armstrong, french polisher, and Barry Lever, technician.



● Telecom apprentices Barry Lever, Colin Armstrong and Stephen Wilson after receiving their bronze medallions from NSW Productivity Minister Hills.

APPRENTICES BRING CREDIT TO TELECOM

Stephen 21, of Gymea, was chosen the leading apprentice signwriter from 71 registered in the trade in NSW. He joined Telecom four years ago. His workshop performance with Telecom at Concord West plus his results at the NSW Institute of Technology won him the award.

Stephen said he first became interested in signwriting as an art student at Gymea High. "The more I get into it the more I like it," he said. Colin Armstrong 22, of Seven Hills, was judged the top

french polisher from 80 apprentices in the trade registered in NSW. He is attached to the miscellaneous artisans group at Telecom's workshops, Concord West and will have been with the commission four years next January.

Barry Lever, 23, of Stokers Siding near Murwillumbah, was selected as Telecom's Apprentice of the year. His story appeared in the September issue of Telecom.

CERTIFICATES FOR TELECOM

Telecom received certificates at the ceremony for its role in training Stephen and Colin as leading apprentices in their trades.

Leading apprentices are selected annually in NSW by the Apprenticeship Promotion Committee, a group of 30 people representing employer and employee organisations, trade unions and the NSW Government.

Police praise for Nola



This is Nola Evans, supervisor at Deniliquin Telephone Exchange, whose alert action uncovered a double murder on a farm near Jerilderie and saved two children who had spent four days alone with the bodies of their dead parents from great potential harm. Telecom last month published a letter from the NSW Commissioner of Police highly commending Nola's actions.

Balloon went up — and off



Telecom NSW's ill-fated blimp, pictured, near Wilcannia, where it was used to lift an antenna to a height of 80 metres in a survey of potential concentrator sites.

If your friend borrows your balloon and loses it, even by accident, he usually offers to replace the property.

Such an exchange will take place soon between Telecom's Radio Engineering Design sections in NSW and Queensland after a violent storm ended the brief but brilliant career of an 11-metre, \$4,000 helium balloon.

While Queensland section was conducting radio tests over about 120 km from Burketown and Mornington Island, winds of more than 60 k/hr snapped the guy ropes to set the balloon free.

The tail section was bent by the wind force upsetting the balance of the balloon which began a

series of somersaults just above the ground.

Shots were fired from a .22 rifle in an attempt to deflate the airborne escapee which instead took up the shape of a parachute and blew out of sight.

By alerting the Queensland authorities, the survey team ensured that aircraft in the vicinity were aware of a possible hazard caused by the blow-away.

Three days later it was found muddled and torn in a mangrove swamp on the east coast. It was decided from a description that the balloon was not worth recovering.

The Queensland section then proposed to make good the loss by offering an identical balloon it had on

order while borrowing the one from NSW.

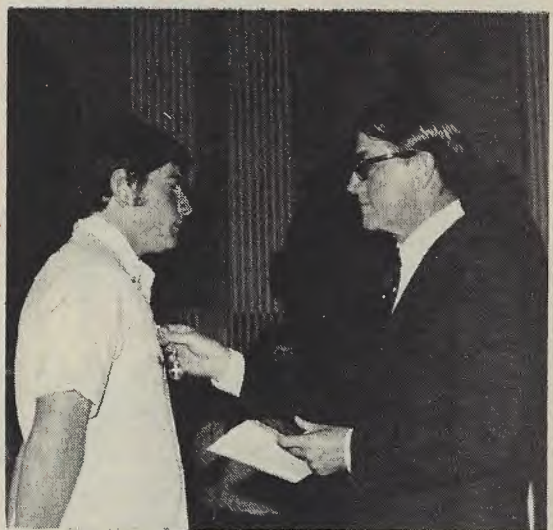
Despite its sad demise, the Telecom radio survey 'blimp' had already paid for itself several times.

In outback NSW it had completed five, separate aerial surveys. Most of the tests in Queensland had been completed when the balloon was accidentally blown away.

The Queensland section will now report on the feasibility of establishing a radio telephone service for outlying aboriginal settlements between the two centres.

Meanwhile, NSW section will have its pride and joy replaced new as a late Christmas gift from their luckless Queensland counterparts.

Tech. wins top Valor award



The Silver Medal, the highest honour awarded by the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales is here being presented to Glen James, Telecom technician by the Premier, the Hon. Neville Wran at a function in Sydney Town Hall. The award was recommended following his rescue of three swimmers at Warriewood beach on 9 April, 1978. It was the first Silver Medal award recommended since 1977. Glen was previously awarded the Certificate of Merit by the National Council of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia for the same rescue (Telecom No. 36, November 1978).

TELECOM ADOPTS SMOKES POLICY

SA HELD FIRE WEEK DISPLAY

Fire Safety Week in South Australia, was held last month with Telecom in Adelaide adding emphasis with its own public display.

Senior Fire Safety Officers, Stan Howarth and Murray Bampton, conceived the idea of a static display unit featuring action photo blow-ups of various types of fires and fire-fighting personnel in fire situations supported by a precise description of Telecom's activities and involvement in fire prevention in South Australia.

Photographic Section provided the photos, Graphic Design built and installed the unit, and a premium site carrying a large volume of pedestrian traffic — Southern Cross Complex linking King William Street and James Place — was selected as the display point.

To cap off Fire Safety Week, Telecom held a full-scale evacuation of BP House, one of its administration buildings in Adelaide.

Many forms of cancer are now considered to be preventable.

About 50% of cancers are thought to be due to diet (including alcohol), about 25% due to smoking and a further 10% due to occupational exposures with the residue of uncertain origin. Telecom through its Occupational Health Service is operating with various health agencies to assist in preventing cancer in the staff.

SMOKING POLICY

A smoking policy was recently approved by the CGM. The intent is to create a work environment helpful to the many who are giving up smoking these days. The main points are:

- To prevent lung cancer and heart disease.
- Fire & equipment hazards
Some areas already have smoking forbidden because of fire risks or potential damage to equipment. These restrictions are unchanged.
- Staff Dining Rooms
Each dining room operated by Telecom Food Services will have a non-smoking area. This area is to be self regulated by staff using it.
- Conference Rooms
Each committee will decide if smoking is to be permitted during a meeting. If it becomes a non-smoking committee there may be a break for smoking (say) every hour.
- Offices
Telecom will provide signs for staff to display on their desks if they wish to indicate to others that they would prefer a smoke free personal environment.
- Cigarette Vending Machines
Existing vending machines may remain on Telecom premises, but future machines should only be installed with the agreement of local staff.

Staff trying to give up smoking may also be helped by the message on the new Telmed service in Victoria 03-11682.

EFFECTS OF THE SUN

Elsewhere in this issue a special colour supplement is included with advice on the prevention of skin cancers and their early recognition.

ASBESTOS

An asbestos dust sampling program has commenced to assess if staff in various work areas are being exposed to this dust which can cause scarring of the lung and cancer, particularly in those who smoke.

DIET

Telecom Food Service Managers are introducing food choices which are low in fat and high in fibre. There is evidence that this diet helps reduce bowel cancer and possibly reduces female cancers of the breast and womb. Vitamins, particularly Vitamin A, offer some protection against many cancers. They can be obtained from a variety of fresh foods: pills are not necessary.

BREAST CANCER

Early detection of this cancer helps treatment. Dawn Nixon the Occupational Health Nurse in Canberra, has been piloting programs to teach staff about breast examination. If this pilot program is successful it will be expanded into other areas in Telecom.

POSTER CONTEST PRIZE WINNERS

Here are winners and place-getters in the Poster Design Contest for children of Telecom staff. A full report with pictures will appear in our February issue.

NSW — 1st Prize: Wendy Cooper (7), FIVEDOCK; 2nd Prize: Katina Cooper (10), FIVEDOCK; 3rd Prize: Jodie Caddy (10), EAST MAITLAND

VICTORIA — 1st Prize: Thomas Grubb (9), GRUYERE; 2nd Prize: Mardi Johnston (11½), FRANKSTON; 3rd Prize: Sarah Purcell (11), FRANKSTON.

QUEENSLAND — 1st Prize: Catherine Wise (11), THE GAP; 2nd Prize: Keith Schulz (12), RICHMOND; 3rd Prize: Suzanne Wren (11), BOOVAL (IPSWICH).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA — 1st Prize: Kathy Grimes (12), MT GAMBIER; 2nd Prize: Bronte Eckermann (12), HENLEY BEACH; 3rd Prize: Richard D. Warman (9), COWELL.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA — 1st Prize: Stephanie Metropolis (9), SHELLEY; 2nd Prize: Michelle Anne Merton (9), KALAMUNDA; 3rd Prize: Matthew Farr (7), WEMBLEY DOWNS.

TASMANIA — 1st Prize: Carolyn Lord (12), WYNYARD; 2nd Prize: Andrew Johns (9), LENA VALLEY; 3rd Prize: Paula Livingstone (5), NEWSTEAD.

SEMINARS UNDERWAY FOR EXCHANGE MANAGEMENT



A series of exchange management seminars are currently being conducted for managers of manual assistance centres, with the first one-week residential course held in Brisbane. Participants were from left, standing: Monica Malloy (NSW), Elaine Goodwin (Qld.), Dorothy Graff (HQ), Flon Vuichoud (ACT), Toni West (NSW), Keith Rogers (Qld.), Arthur Elley (Qld.), John McMillan (HQ), Allister Murray (NSW), Mary Todd (Vic.), Phyl Fry (Qld.), Velda Grulke (Qld.), (partly hidden), Joan Lill (NSW), Thea Traianou (HQ), Bill Dowling (Qld.), Ivy Sanderson (Qld.). Seated: Nance Loughheed (Vic.), Val Williams (Vic.), Christine Toner (Vic.), Mary Finnegan (Vic.), Betty Davis (Qld.), Margaret Fitzpatrick (Vic.), Jean McEwan (NSW), Ellen Moloney (NSW), Barbara Flynn (ACT), Beryl Hayes (WA).

Further information on the seminars can be had from Customer Services HQ — (03) 672 9522.

Those old timers really had a ball

Nowadays the time can be checked simply by ringing the Speaking Clock or turning on the radio for the hourly "pips". It was quite different fifty years ago when Bill Houlder was a messenger boy with the P.M.G. in Sydney. Timepieces then were adjusted by post office clocks, which had to be synchronised daily.

How this was achieved might amuse some people today but the old method demonstrates the teamwork and dedication of the early telegraphists.

Just before 1 p.m. each day Bill would leave what he was doing and climb a spiral staircase onto a platform above the top floor of the G.P.O. He stood at a high window which in those days allowed an unobstructed view of the Sydney Observatory.

GIANT BALL

The Observatory, as the official time keeper, gave its signal from the roof then, as it does now, by lifting a giant ball to the top of a vertical mast and releasing it right on 1 p.m.

As the ball rose Bill would tap his morse key once every couple of seconds. Each tap would ring a bell in the Telegraph Operating Room underneath. Telegraphists would stop what they were doing and slowly tap their morse keys, indicating to suburban and country post offices that the time signal was approaching.

When the ball fell Bill would immediately tap his key as quickly as he could (about five taps a second) and the telegraphists below would copy it. The signal was received at post offices throughout N.S.W. and staff adjusted their clocks accordingly.

Bill said this method was reliable "for those to whom a few seconds either way was of no great importance, but who wished to know just what time it was." By comparison, the accuracy of today's sophisticated and expensive atomic clocks is boggling.

The Speaking Clock, which is by far Telecom's most pop-

Laboratories in Melbourne, Telecom has three caesium atomic clocks, each worth about \$30,000 and imported from the US. These are checked regularly against atomic clocks around Australia and overseas including those at the US Naval Observatory and the Bureau International de L'Heure,

which is checked daily by an atomic clock.

The Speaking Clocks in Sydney and Melbourne are linked by telephone lines to the atomic clocks. A correction of 3,000 micro seconds (millionths of a second) is needed to allow for the delay in transmission from Melbourne to Sydney.

Australia for scientists, navigators, surveyors and industrialists. The time signal at the Sydney Observatory was originally intended for harbour shipping and a gun volley from Fort Denison coincided with the falling ball.

This practice was discontinued in 1942, however, because residents complained about the noise. A view of the Observatory from this point, of course, has since been obscured by the Opera House.

SENT BY WIRE

When the Kymba Building was erected in Margaret Street about 1928 it was no longer possible to see the Observatory from the G.P.O. The time signal was sent by wire although the transmission from the G.P.O. to the distant post offices remained the same.

Morse telegraphy was gradually replaced by teletypewriters after the Second World War and the daily time signal made redundant with the introduction of hourly time checks on radio.

Bill Houlder was Traffic Officer-in-Charge of the Chief Telegraph Office, GPO Sydney, when he retired in August 1970. Recalling his days as a messenger boy Bill said he used to read the time signal when the regular operator was on holidays or away ill.

"I suppose I read it about 30 or 40 times. I don't know why I was picked. Perhaps the boss wanted to get rid of me," Bill quipped. With a natural ability for morse Bill was not unnerved by the responsibility of the job. "I never had any trouble seeing the ball," he said.

Bill learnt morse in his own time at night before taking a full-time course with the department. He was a qualified telegraphist in 1929 and served as Superintendent until appointed Traffic Officer-in-Charge of the CTO in 1967.

During the mid 1950's Bill supervised courses on personnel management for NSW postmasters in Sydney. In 1971 he and his wife, Maude, moved from Croydon Park to Blaxland. Both are keen bowlers and play with Glenbrook Bowling Club.

Bill also enjoys gardening and copper tooling. He was awarded the Imperial Service Medal on October 8, 1970. The Houlders have a son, John, who is with Telecom at Dubbo, and a married daughter, Joan, at Roselands.



Morse code has special memories for Bill Houlder, a retired telegraphist in Sydney. He is pictured at his Blaxland home translating typewritten material into dots and dashes, using an old "jigger" device and morse code key.

ular recorded telephone information service, is correct to within 20 milliseconds. (thousandths of a second).

At its Research

which is the world authority on time.

Introduced in 1954 the Speaking Clock is run off an adjustable quartz oscillator

Telecom's atomic clocks control Radio Station VNG at Lyndhurst in Victoria. From here a time signal is broadcast continuously around

OUR TOP DIPLOMAT RETIRES

Tom Broughton, who as Manager, International Branch, was Telecom Australia's top diplomat, recently retired and was farewelled at a gathering of about 60 colleagues, who included Managing Director Jack Curtis and Mrs Curtis, Chief General Manager Bill Pollock and Mrs Pollock and Deputy Chief General Manager Jim Smith.

Tom's working life began in Hobart in the livery stable and horse-drawn taxi service of his father. In 1956, he became private secretary to the then Postmaster - General Charles Davidson and in 1962 joined the Finance Branch of the PMG.

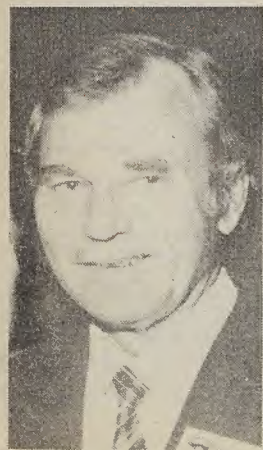
In 1962, Tom Broughton joined the

International Branch and was responsible for the organisation of several international gatherings in Australia. He was appointed Director, International Relations in 1973 and transferred as Manager, International Branch on formation of the Commission in 1975.

Mr Curtis said: "Anyone who has

travelled overseas on an official visit, as an aid expert or as an overseas scholar remembers and appreciates Tom's efforts to ensure travelling and accommodation arrangements, living and other allowances, visas, passports etc. were as they should have been."

Mr Cliff Colliver succeeds as Manager, International Branch.



PHILOSOPHY OF A TELECOM ARTIST



Perth Metal Shop worker-artist Len Zuks and some representational samples of his work.

Ten years ago, an apprentice fitter and turner with Telecom had a chance meeting with two girls that set him on the road to becoming an artist who today has works hanging in many Western Australian homes. His name is Len Zuks and he works at the Perth Telecom Workshop in the Metal Shop.

In this interview with Perth media officer Ian Teasdale, Len gives you an in-depth look at his story.

"On the way to Bunbury, South West of Perth one weekend, we were about 90 kilometres from the town when we came across two girls stranded in a mini minor. They happened to be the nicest girls I think I've ever met, so we really went out of our way to be well mannered.

"They invited us back to their place and when we were in their loungeroom, my mate said — giving the real pose talk — that I could draw. So the girls ran out, got a pencil and paper and I did a quick sketch.

"After finishing the sketch one of the girls asked me whether I painted in oils. Of course I said yes. Then she said "Well, when we get back to Perth you can show us some." I didn't have any paintings so I came back to Perth and quickly did a few paintings and that was the start.

"I had only ever painted in oils before at school and

being at school it was a task, so when I suddenly found I liked doing it under my own steam, it was completely different.

"When I did my first painting, I thought it was the best — I thought it was really great — and now, at 29, 10 years later, the paintings I did every year since I thought those were the best.

"Best is always one step ahead, there is always better but you don't know it until you arrive at it, so I feel there are going to be a lot of good paintings coming out in the future.

"I've had two exhibitions. I don't go out of my way to have exhibitions, all I like to do is let people see my paintings. I have works hanging at the Workshops, in the API building, a large variety at home of course and a lot of paintings in private houses around Perth but none in galleries.

"It's hard to say how many I've sold over the years. There would probably be about ten a year but sometimes you may go through a drought

period and you wouldn't sell anything for 6-8 months, but it never stops me painting.

"There is a style of painting that I can do which can produce a quick painting — but that's not my way. There are paintings that I spend 3 and 4 months on. The most I've spent on one painting is 10 months but the original idea and the story changed so the painting ran into 10 months.

"I paint as I feel like painting. I feel my best paintings are most personal. The paintings that expose my personal nature best are my abstract paintings, but people who see my abstract paintings — at a glance — don't like them.

OTHER STYLES

"If you give yourself time to understand the painting then you should get to like it. There are other styles I have where they are completely representational — where a house is a house, and the average viewer likes to see that.

"I feel that I'm flying in a direction that I like but I can't tell you where the goal is. What I mean by that is I started painting on canvas and I found that very satisfying, but only for a few years.

"After that, you begin to experiment and in the last 10 years I've developed to the stage where I've gone off the original picture plane, the straight flat canvas, and now I have ventured to about 3 inches off the picture which makes the painting more like relief sculpture.

"The use of different metals symbolise strength, like in the painting of the storm there is the anchor — that is sort of security for the ship. I used a chain in a painting previously where it meant bondage.

"Can I ever see the time when I become so well known and am selling so many paintings that in fact I'll leave Telecom and be solely an artist?

"Well, that's quite

romantic. I'd like it to be that way where I produce a few paintings in a year and receive such a price for them that I could survive, as a job — as a lifestyle.

"I have put a bit of thought into it and I worked out if I made 15 paintings a year and sold them for \$1000 each, in actual profit you would make maybe \$10,000 — but you take tax out of it and it's back to my normal job, and I'd hate to think that all that effort goes into turning my paintings into a job.

"I like to think better of my paintings than that. They are my relaxation and my way of communicating and I don't want to spoil that form of communication."

GLIMPSSES OF ARTIST'S LIFE

Internationally recognised Melbourne artist Neil Douglas is an admirer of Telecom and there are plenty of people in Telecom who admire Neil for the beautiful naturescapes which so clearly indicate his great love for the environment.

Says Neil: "I appreciate Telecom applying where possible re-appraisal of methods used in the natural environment ... from the Northern Territory where it is using solar energy to power isolated installations to close by home where it co-operated with our group in saving some of our rarer trees."

Neil comes to mind at this time because there's a new book of anecdotes, pictures, photos, drawings and paintings about him ... charming tales of his life from Depression days involving him in low and high society ... It's entitled *A Far Cry* by Abbie Heathcote and it strikes one as the ideal solution to a Christmas Gift problem.

Available from Koralla Publications, Main Rd., Kangaroo Ground Vic. 3907. \$10 paper, \$18.50 casebound.