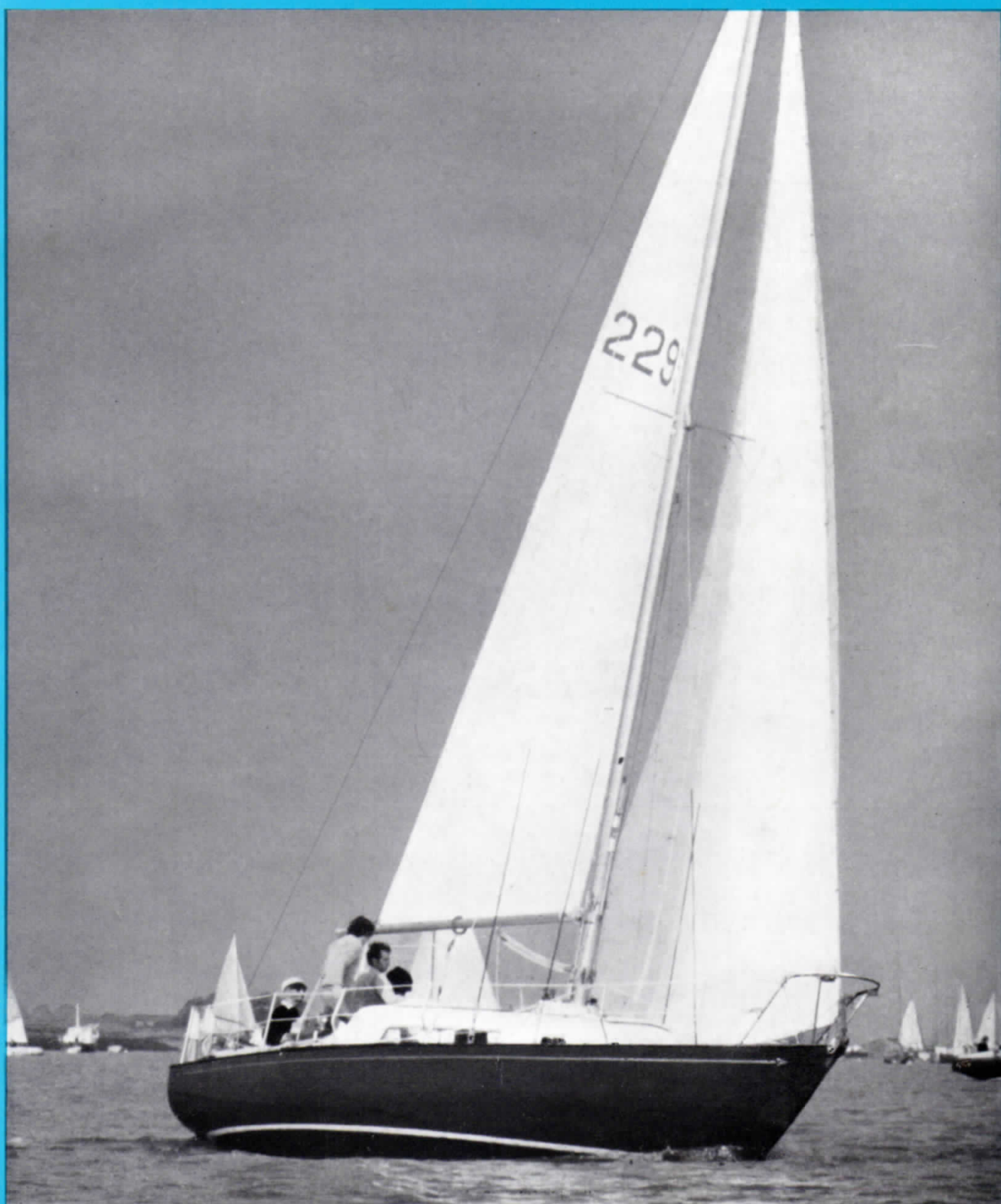


Summer 1971

# Wright ahead

the Head Wrightson magazine



# STEELCAST

Steelcast Ltd, located at Haverton Hill, Billingham, Teesside was recently purchased by Head Wrightson. This purchase greatly strengthens HW's position in the steel casting industry for with the two steel foundries at Thornaby and Stockton the Head Wrightson share of the market will rise from 4% to 7%.

'Wright Ahead' extends a sincere welcome to all employees of Steelcast as new members of the HW Group of Companies. An article on Steelcast will appear in a future edition, but we also hope that news from Haverton will be a regular feature of our magazine.

## APPOINTMENTS



Mr RJ Edwards, has been appointed Managing Director of Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.



Mr Jack Taylor has been appointed Managing Director of Head Wrightson Iron Foundries Ltd.

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Sir John Wrightson, who, at Durham Castle on the 1 July was invested by the Chancellor of Durham University with the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Common Law.

To Mr NC Lake who recently retired from full time executive duties after 35 years of invaluable service with the Company. Mr Lake will, however, continue as a main board Director.

To Mr WH Mather, Managing Director HW Steel Foundries Ltd, on his appointment as a Deputy Lieutenant of the North Riding of Yorkshire.

# THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Head Wrightson & Co Ltd was held at Teesdale Works,

Thornaby on Thursday 8 July 1971. The following are extracts from the Annual Report.

## Results

The year ended 31 January 1971 was both difficult and exciting. It was a period during which costs, particularly wages, rose very sharply making profit margins difficult to maintain. It has been necessary to review the prices of castings and forgings frequently and to change the formulae we use to recover increased costs on long term contracts.

New orders booked in the year reached the record figure of £44 million (1969-70 £34 million) and with the turnover rising to £27.5 million in the year (1969-70 £20.0 million) the volume of completed sales should rise in 1971-72 and most probably again in the succeeding year.

We continue to spend substantial sums on fixed plant and machinery, £359 thousand in 1970-71 and we have contracts outstanding for £520 thousand of capital equipment most of which will be delivered and working in 1971-72. It is essential that we continue to take advantage of improvements in the design and performance of machine tools and

equipment.

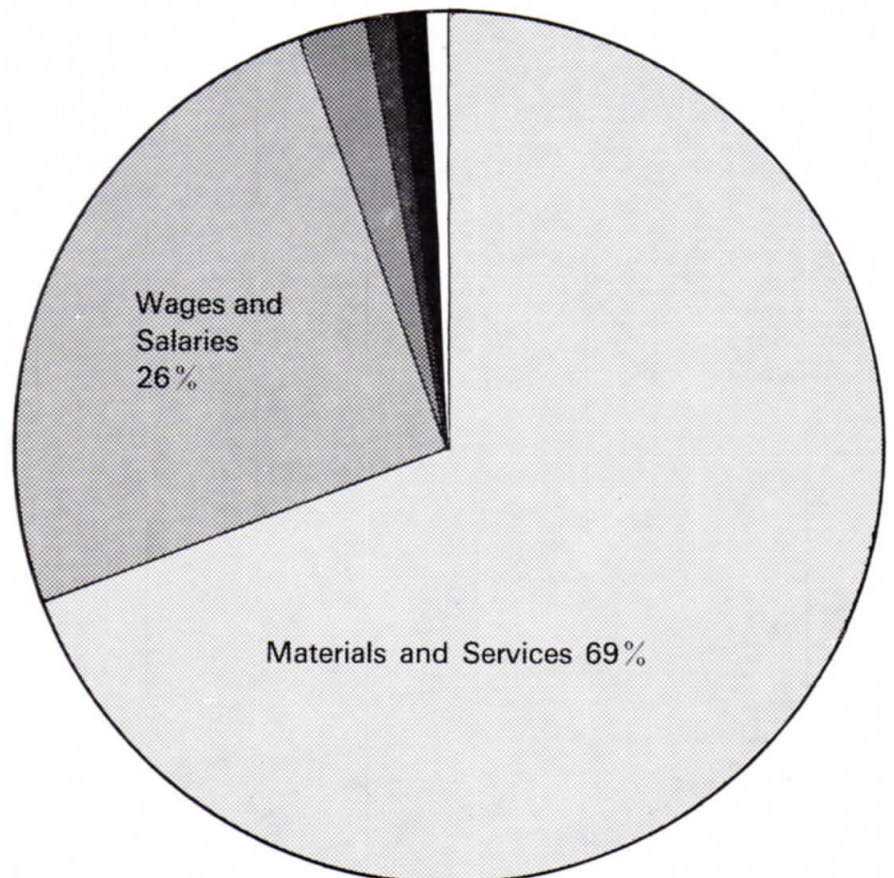
Summing up the results for the year they perhaps represent consolidation rather than dramatic progress. Much useful work was done, the volume of orders booked was excellent and we must now strive to continue the improvement in profits.

## Prospects

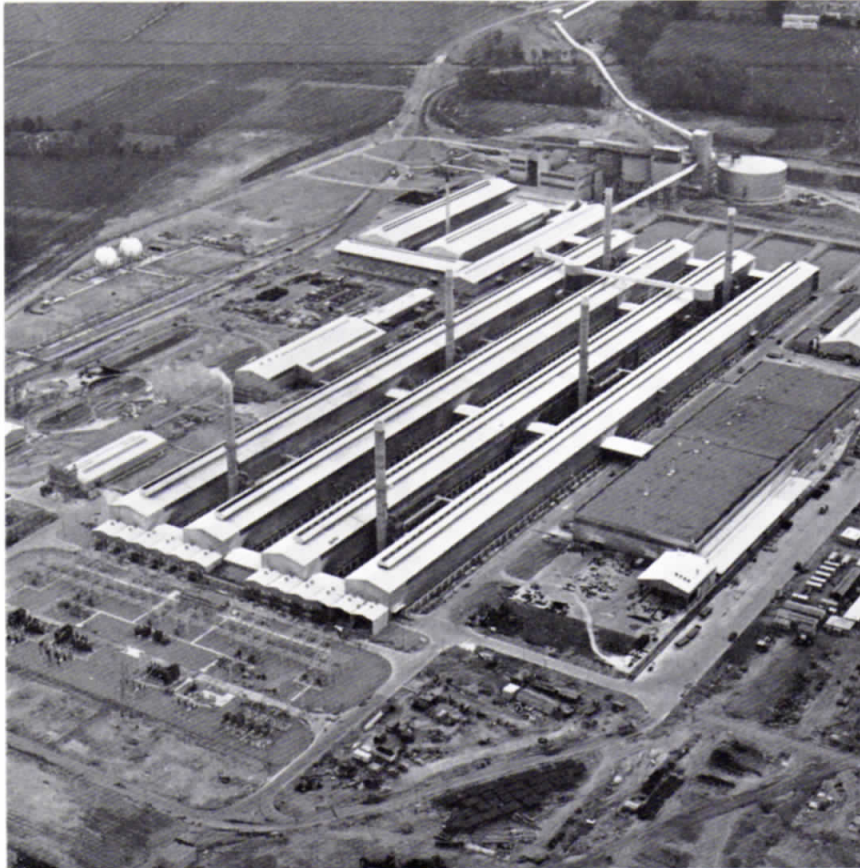
Although last year was a year in which profits before tax stood still we expect to have a better year this year. All our companies, except Head Wrightson Iron Foundries, are busy, though not overloaded and we are recovering overheads at a better rate than at any time in the last five years. We hope that present policies enable the Government to set the economy on the path to faster growth within the year. We also hope to see the rate of interest available for UK export credits lowered in step with Bank Rate and the interest rates available from other countries. The latter move would help us to maintain the export markets we have developed in the last two years. Provided that there is no long pause in capital investment at home and given reasonable support for our sales abroad the future of your Company is bright.

## WHERE THE MONEY WENT IN 1970/71

key	£000
materials and services	18,929
wages, salaries and employees benefits	7,456
depreciation	426
tax	292
dividend	316
reserve	189
<b>total income</b>	<b>£27,608</b>



# INVERGORDON-ON TIME AND TO BUDGET



A first-class plant. On time and to budget. This is what Taywood Wrightson promised their client British Aluminium when they undertook to build the Invergordon Aluminium Smelter in 1968. This forecast has now been proved correct and the plant is in operation having been completed within 34 months: an example of the company's skill in undertaking large scale management contracts.

Nothing could demonstrate more clearly that the confidence of British Aluminium was well placed when they awarded the contract to Taywood Wrightson, a company jointly owned by Head Wrightson and Taylor Woodrow formed solely for the purpose of building this aluminium smelter plant.

Commissioning took place in June this year and it is interesting to note that the date was exactly 75 years after British Aluminium produced aluminium in June 1896 at Britain's first smelter at Foyers Inverness-shire.

When work started on the Invergordon plant some three years ago no-one had ever built

an aluminium smelter of this scale in Britain before and yet the first pot line was handed over just 30 months after design had started.

In previous issues of Wright Ahead we have covered the progress of the contract and it may now be of some interest to briefly set out the parts played by Head Wrightson and Taylor Woodrow, and to try and give some idea of the scale of the whole operation.

At the outset it was agreed that Head Wrightson would be responsible for the engineering of the plant and its erection, for electrical work, plant project planning, cost control and accounting: and that Taylor Woodrow would be responsible for the civil engineering and building work, the pipework and the overall project planning. The basic design data for the plant was supplied by Reynolds Metal Company of America, a major shareholder of British Aluminium. Work began on 7 October 1968 and within a month 74 staff were working full-time on the contract at Taywood Wrightson's specially constructed temporary offices in

Southall, Middlesex, and 20 men were employed at site on behalf of the contractors. The number of site personnel increased rapidly as the job progressed and at one time over 2,000 personnel were employed at site and at Southall. The large numbers employed necessitated the closest co-operation with the local authorities at Invergordon, particularly in the provision of accommodation. Ross & Cromarty County Council allocated 75 new houses to staff engaged on the work, caravan parks were adapted and extended in the early stages prior to hostels being built, and a large camp with first-class refreshment and recreational facilities was built close to the working area.

Orders were placed with some 1,000 manufacturers and suppliers. Plant to the value of £13m was specially designed and ordered as well as electrical equipment totalling around £2½m.

Supplies came from all parts of the country, as much as possible being obtained in Scotland but specialist parts to the project were also supplied from America,

Canada, France, Holland, Norway and Switzerland.

It was necessary to set up iron and aluminium casting facilities on the site and foundry men from HW Steel Foundries undertook this work.

The cells and heavy cast aluminium anode bus beams and the super-structures were fabricated by HW Teesdale at Thornaby. Those who work at Thornaby will probably have seen the electrolytic cell structures or 'pots', in which the aluminium will be reduced, leaving Teesdale site by road en route for Scotland. In all, 324 of these 'pots' were manufactured with delivery extending over 15 months. The proof testing of the super-structures was carried out by R&D Div.

In the course of the construction of the project 175,000 cubic yards of concrete were used, 11,000 tons of structural steel erected, 36 acres of aluminium cladding placed, 5 miles of road were laid and 2½ miles of railway track were linked to the nearby main line. The smelter will use as much electricity as a town the size of

Middlesbrough and will take its power from the national grid under a long term supply contract. When the plant is fully operational British Aluminium will be the largest industrial employer in the Highlands this century. In addition to benefiting the Highlands development generally the aluminium output will help the national balance of payments situation by reducing aluminium imports from Canada at an estimated rate of more than £15m per year.

In addition, Invergordon will give British Aluminium a source of supply for most of its ingot requirements inside any tariff barriers which may exist should Britain join the Common Market, enabling the company to remain competitive with European aluminium producers.

The pace of progress was not without some more humorous incidents. A commissioning engineer whilst reading a general arrangement drawing fell off the end of the jetty into the Cromarty Firth. Needless to say he swears that the drawing was wrong! A recent fishing trip by 12

members of staff to the 22 mile long Loch Shin produced a total catch of 10 trout, and will be remembered for one of the boats being grounded in the middle of the loch and the occupants appearing to walk on water. And with the return to head office of such members of staff as Fred Watton and Jim McCarten there will no doubt be more stories told.

The final run-down of staff is expected by September. Our thanks must go to the 53 HW design and commercial staff at Southall, the 96 construction staff at Invergordon and all those within the group who helped bring this contract to its closing stages.

*far left:*

Aerial view of the Invergordon plant

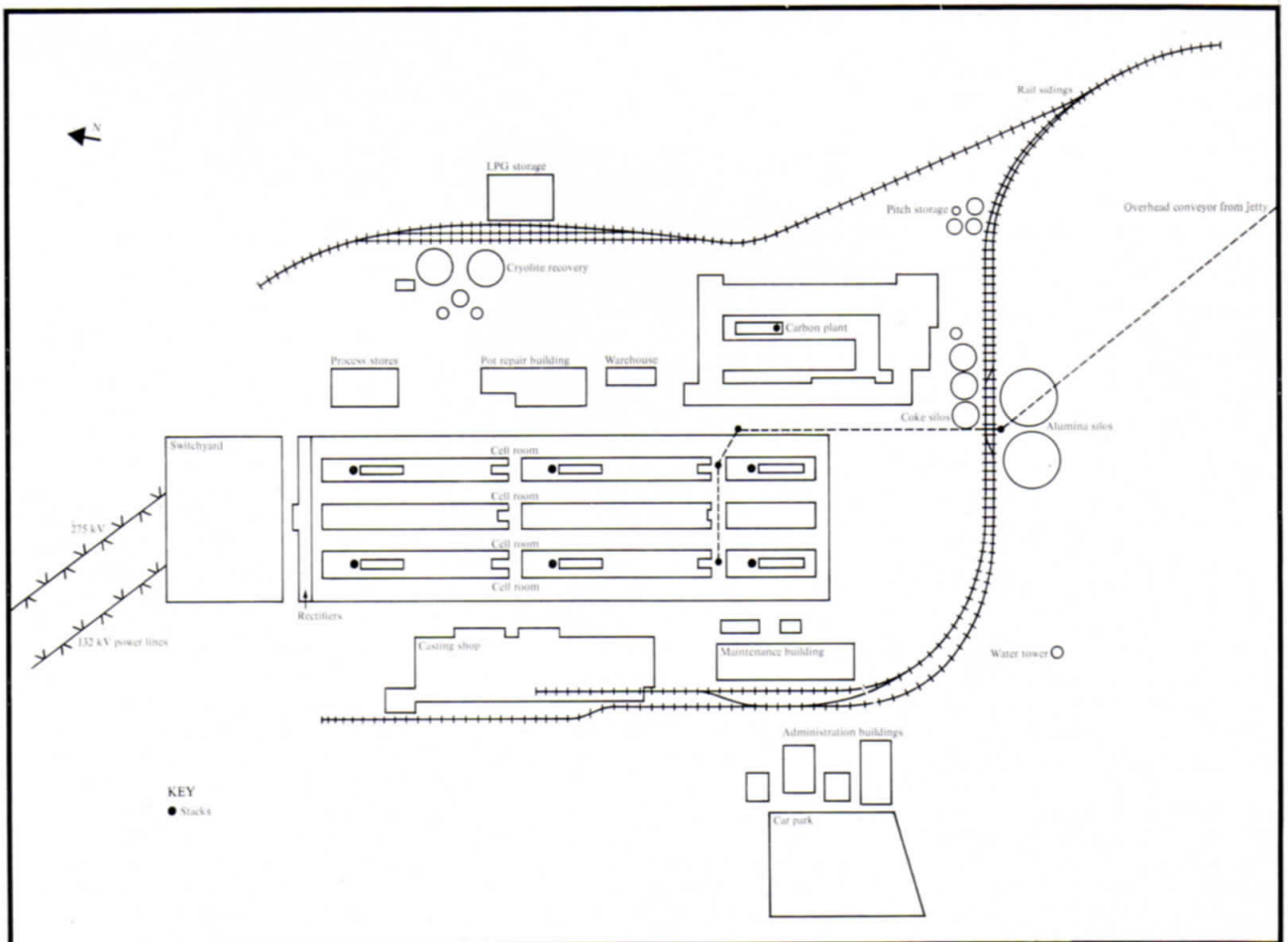
*above left:*

Pot line No 1

*below left:* 'Pots' during manufacture at HW Teesdale (The pots in the foreground being for Alnor)

*below:*

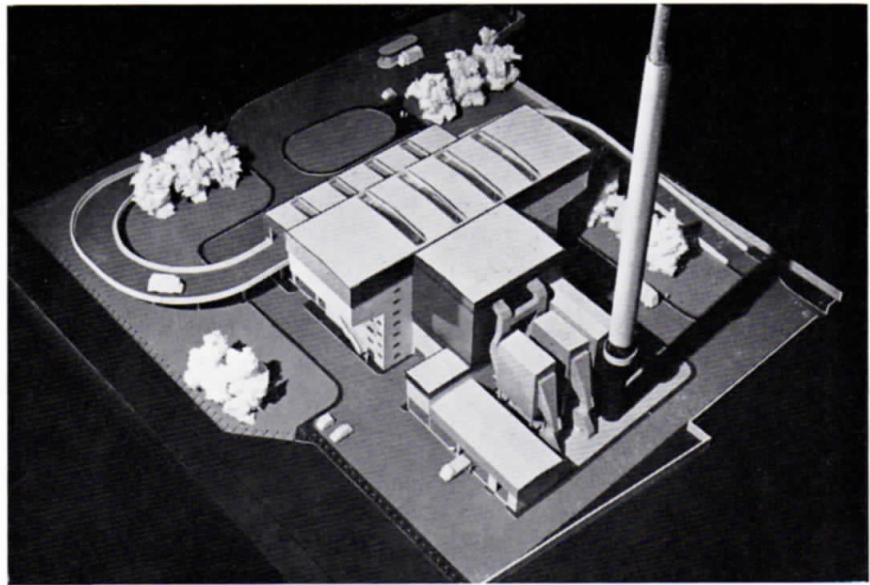
Plan of site



# HW FOR FUTURE ARCHEOLOGISTS

*photo:*  
Architects model of the City of Nottingham new refuse incineration and heat recovery plant  
*architects: Rosenberg & Gentle*

Imagine the year 3010 when enquiring superhumans are digging in the remains of the ancient City of Nottingham. Beneath layers of buildings amid what appears to be the foundations of an industrial site they unearth a sealed lead container. This container reveals plans of the site together with copies of newspapers dated 1970 and a City Engineer's Report giving reasons why a Head Wrightson-Martin refuse incinerator has been selected in preference to other less expensive designs. This at any rate is a prospect after a very interesting ceremony held on 24 June 1971 to inaugurate the works at the new refuse incineration and heat recovery plant for the City of Nottingham. The Deputy City Engineer Mr Lawson admitted to being an amateur archeologist when he



placed the documents within the lead container. As archeologists are always hoping to find coins he added a set of the current coins of the Realm for good measure. This plant is the first of its kind in the country to use the heat recovered from the incineration of domestic refuse for a district heating scheme which will serve some 6,000 homes. HWPEL have been successful in obtaining the order for the two 11½ tons per hour incinerators and associated heat recovery equipment against stiff competition. In fact the competition was so intense that there was press comment and political manoeuvring in Nottingham as to why the order had not

been placed with the lowest bidder. Hence the importance of the City Engineer's Report which was prepared in answer to these criticisms.

The works were inaugurated by Alderman Goddard who marked the occasion by setting a pile driver into operation.

The archeological touch was even reflected in the gifts, when Mr Ole Mørch the senior partner of the Consultants Pell Mørch & Partners of Denmark & London handed Alderman Goddard a genuine Viking axe as a memento of the occasion.

Head Wrightson was represented at the ceremony by Mr K Home and Mr E Walters of HWPEL.

# HW DOCK GATES IN PLACE AT LIVERPOOL

Seaforth, Liverpool, is the scene of a vast £40m extension scheme to the Liverpool docks complex being carried out by the Mersey Dock & Harbour Board. HW Teesdale have contributed one of the major parts of the scheme as manufacturers of the massive sector gates and guard gate which span the new Gladstone Passage leading to Seaforth Dock. Construction of the gates started

in Teesdale works soon after the orders were placed in mid-1969. High engineering standards were called for, as the gates had to be made to very close tolerances notwithstanding their great size. When complete, the sector gates were transported to site in sections by road. The one-piece guard gate will be towed round the South Coast later this year, the journey taking about a week. Believed to be the largest of their type to be built in the world, the two sector gates resemble huge 'slices of cake', each with a radius of 80 ft, a chord length of about 90 ft and a depth of 59 ft, and weighing about 450 tons per gate. They rotate through an arc of about 72°, withdrawing completely into the walls of the passage when closed. When open they can accept a head of water on either side, and can be opened

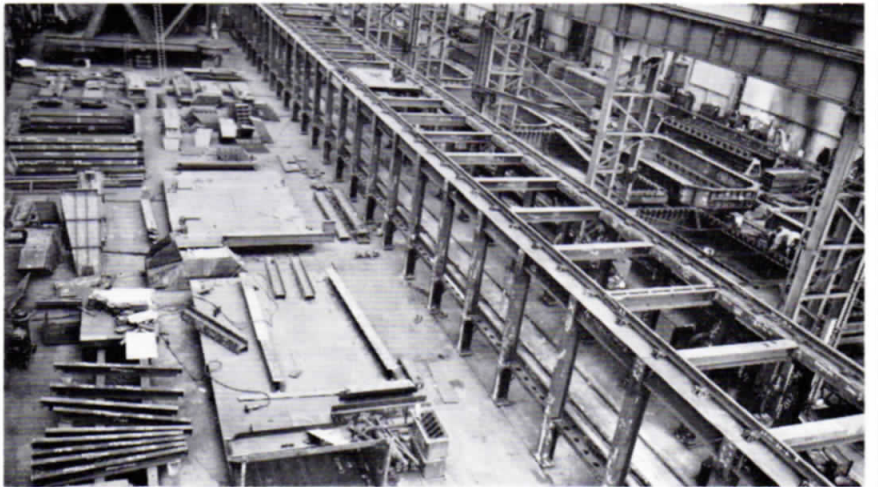
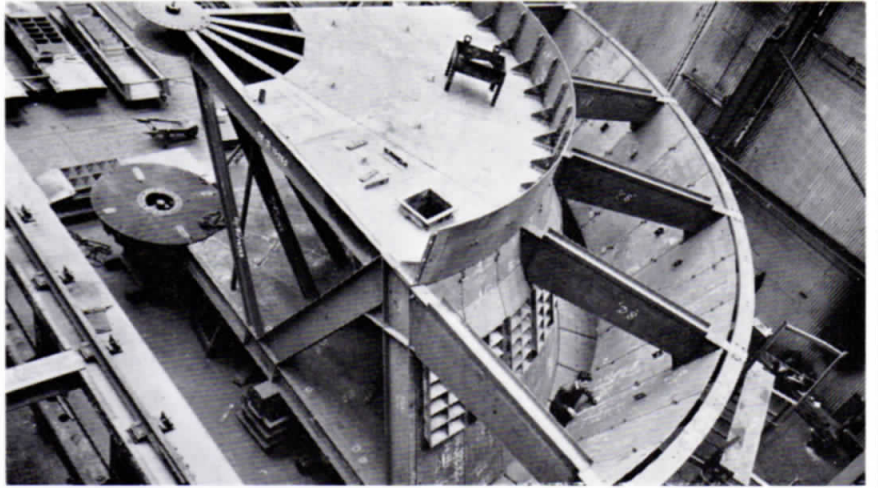
or closed regardless of the head. Normal operation at level through conditions takes approximately three minutes.

The guard gate, a structure measuring 133 ft long by 55 ft deep by 12 ft wide and weighing about 730 tons, is situated at the Seaforth end of the passage. It acts as a safeguard in the event of failure of the sector gates or during maintenance, and can also be used as a floating caisson to be positioned in other entrances as an emergency gate. Operating like an enormous door swinging on a 15 ton hinge frame, the guard gate takes about 5 minutes to open or close.

With the dock gates now in position on site, flooding operations started early July, and the first ships should be passing through the entrance in December.

## HWPEL'S SINTER PLANT...

The two photographs show the shop erection of part of the 200 ft long 10 ft wide sinter plant which HW have built for the British Steel Corporation, Corby as part of HWPEL's £2m contract. The sinter strand, major component of the plant, was erected in the Thornaby works of HW Teesdale for a trial run of the iron ore-carrying pallets. After a successful demonstration, with BSC representatives in attendance, the plant was shipped to site.

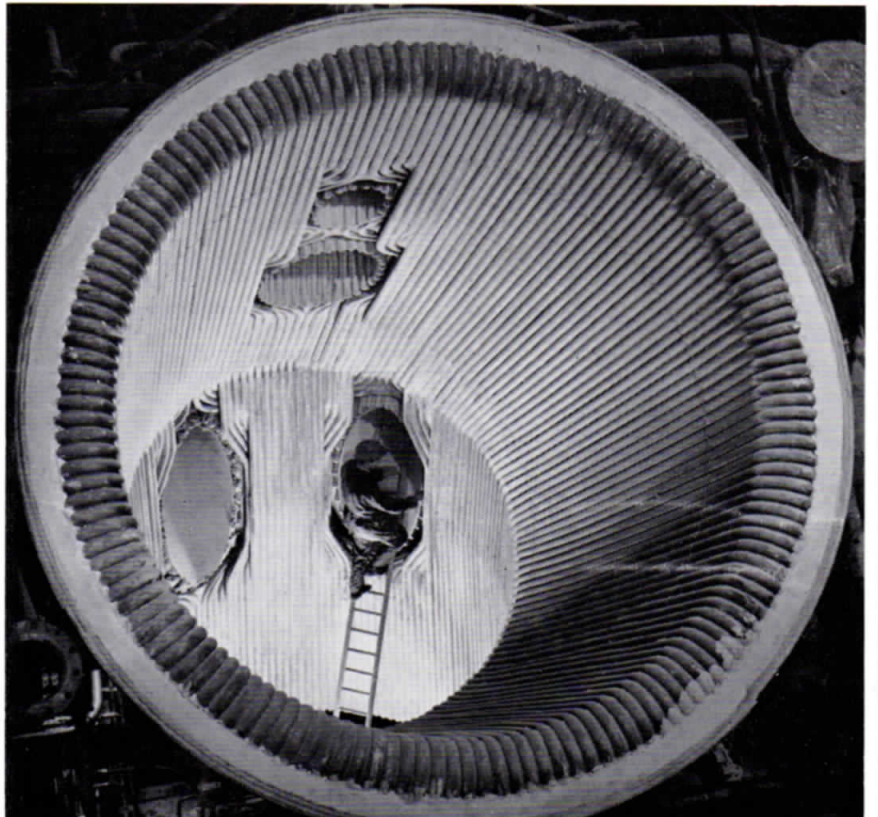


## ...AND FUME CLEANING PLANT FOR BSC

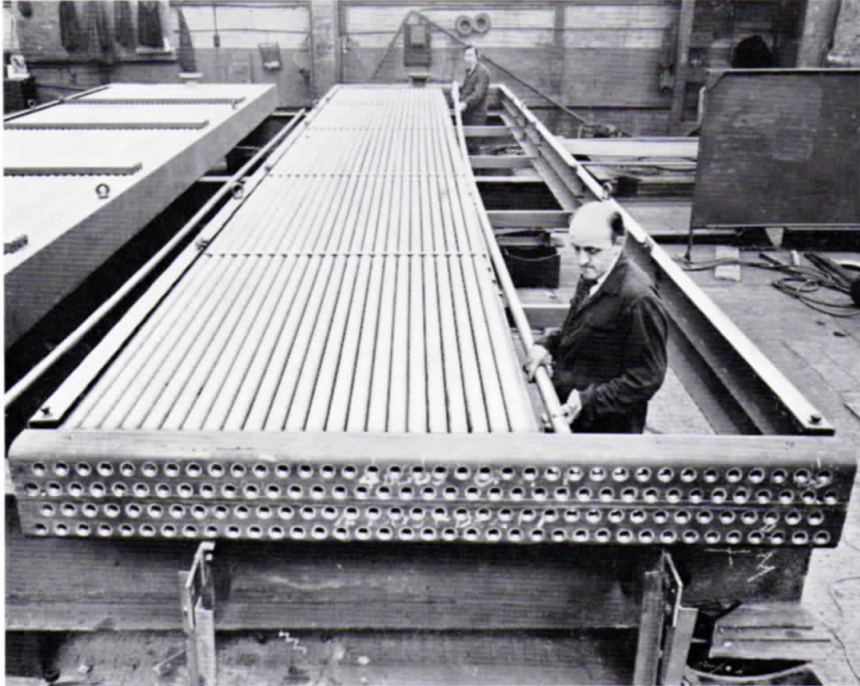
A striking view looking up into the mouth of the fume cleaning unit on the 240 ton BOS furnace, now in operation at the British Steel Corporation's Lackenby Works, Teesside.

This is the first British installation of the new suppressed combustion fume recovery system, developed by Head Wrightson in England and IRSID CAFL in France, which features water cooling by means of pumpless circulation. It collects the unburnt and cooled gases from the steelmaking converter and conditions them for transfer to the gas cleaning unit.

The contract was executed by HWPEL.



# STOCKTON WORKS PRODUCTS FOR AFRICA



HW Teesdale-Stockton works have just completed export orders for two very different parts of Africa: mine cages for use in Zambia's rich copper mining belt and fin-fan elements for a natural gas plant in the Algerian desert.

The Zambian contract was for two aluminium alloy double-deck cages, each measuring 7' 8" x 5' 0" x 18 ft high and capable of accommodating 25 men on each of the two decks. They were specially designed for the versatility of carrying heavy loads of men or materials in spite of the low overall weight of the cages being 5900 lbs.

The fabrications were despatched by sea and then travelled 1,000 miles by land to the mine site in

Zambia ready for immediate installation.

600 miles south-east of Algiers lies the oasis of Hassi Messaoud, which is one of many locations in the North African desert where oil and natural gas are being extracted in large quantities. It was here that HWPEL'S Special Products Division were successful in obtaining a £400,000 contract for cooling equipment for a new natural gas plant, and as a result HWT Stockton works received the order for 87 fin-fan elements. There are 15 different types of this air cooling device, which consists of two 'headers' (one fixed and one free) joined together by 30 ft long aluminium tube boxes and channel supports. Hot fluid passes

*above left:* Norman Poad and Trevor Briggs inserting the tubes for the fin-fan elements for Algeria

*above right:* Tommy Brown puts the finishing touches to a mine cage for Zambia

through the inlet header, along the finned tubes and towards the outlet header, and fans blow cool air over them from below – a principle rather like that of a car radiator. This type of cooler is particularly useful where water is in short supply.

The elements were sent from Middlesbrough Docks to the Algerian port of Arzew and then made the 600 mile journey across the desert to Hassi Messaoud.

## 95 INGOT CARS FOR BSC

HW Teesdale's biggest-ever order for ingot casting cars has been placed by British Steel Corporation, Scunthorpe. 95 cars, worth about £800,000 in all, will be constructed in Thornaby works for the Anchor Project, a new basic oxygen steelmaking plant at Scunthorpe which will adjoin the existing Appleby Frodingham Iron & Steel works complex.

The ingot cars are designed to run on standard gauge rail and their function will be to transport newly made ingots to the Anchor

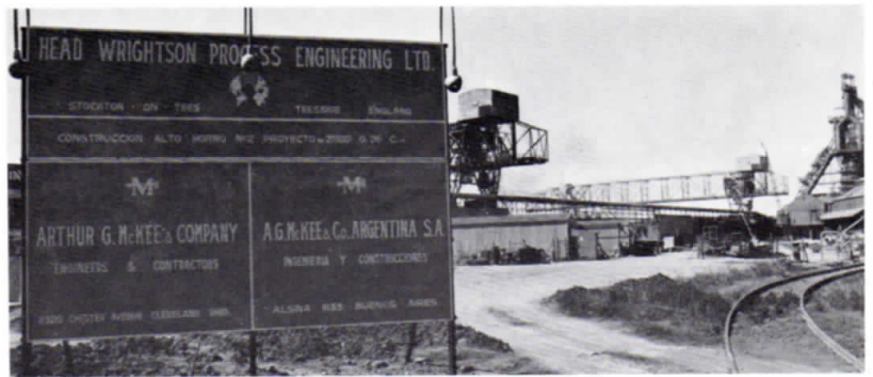
Bloom Mill and to the existing Frodingham Section Mill. They will measure approximately 25' long x 8' 6" wide x 3' 6" high and weigh about 36 tons unladen. With two 2-axle bogies and a sturdily built underframe, each car will be able to take loads up to 175 tons and stand up to the daily rigours of work in a modern steelmaking plant.

The first batch of cars will leave Teesdale works at the beginning of next year and the contract will be completed early in 1973.



# SOMISA SITE ESTABLISHED IN ARGENTINA

The photograph shows the establishment of yet another HW site abroad, the SOMISA blast furnace plant at San Nicolas, Argentina. In this venture HWPEL with our associates Arthur G McKee of Cleveland, USA and their Argentinian company, are building a 32 ft hearth diameter blast furnace to the latest four post design. Much of it will be manufactured by HWT at Thornaby and it will be the largest blast furnace ever designed and built in Britain for the export market.



Construction manager Mr Homer Barger, a man of wide experience who was responsible for the construction of No 1 blast furnace seen in the background, took up residence in San Nicolas some months ago. Soon the project manager John Brown will be leaving for Buenos Aires to join his HWPEL colleague Ian Hepburn, the co-ordinating engineer, who has been there since October. As construction work progresses the site will be staffed by our own UK engineers and by their

Argentinian counterparts, giving a truly international flavour. Civil work, including the pouring of the large furnace foundation block, is going ahead and the first shipment from HW has arrived in San Nicolas. Fabrication of the monster itself is taking place in HW Teesdale shops, dwarfing some of our previous efforts and making us wonder whether we shall have to lift the roofs as furnace sizes increase!

# HW AUSTRALIA

HW Australia are currently constructing a small 'township' for Hamersley Iron Co Ltd, at Paraburdoo in the Pilbara region of Western Australia. Hamersley are mining iron ore at the rate of approximately 25m tons per annum at Mt Tom Price and will, subsequently, be mining approximately 8m tons per annum from Paraburdoo. The Pilbara area is composed almost entirely of very high grade hematite iron ore and is being mined by several large consortia.

When the workings first commenced there was no sign of life other than natural wild life but since the development was opened a township has been built at Mt Tom Price which houses some 1500-2000 people and now has bowling greens, tennis courts, swimming pools, hotels etc. in fact almost everything that makes life livable in these remote areas except, of course, for night clubs. HWA have constructed the complete warehousing complex, the maintenance workshops, nitrate storage area and are currently building what are



referred to as community buildings which include the town hall, police station complete with gaol, bank, bakery, laundry amongst other things. It is anticipated that when the mine is in full operation at the end of Stage 1 there will be something in the order of 5/700

top: J W Colley and J Baker on site  
bottom: General view of site with the workshop building structure and the warehouses in the background

people in Paraburdoo. The number of people will, of course, increase as the mine is gradually expanded.

# HW STEEL FOUNDRIES- THORNABY

This, the second of two articles on HW Steel Foundries, is intended to give some impression in words and pictures of everyday life in the Thornaby Foundry where the present work force totals 460 personnel.

The Thornaby foundry has a capacity in excess of 7000 tons of steel castings per annum, made to more than 50 different specifications. HW castings serve a variety of industries; they range from a few pounds to over 22 tons in heat resistant, corrosion resistant, wear resistant, low alloy and carbon steels.

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## Training

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1971 has been an outstanding year for Steel Foundry apprentices, and three in particular have scored major successes.

The photograph *right top* shows Raymond Robson receiving the Foundry Industry Training Centre's Seal of Merit from Mr WH Mather *Managing Director* HW Steel Foundries. This seal is given to apprentices who pass their City and Guilds finals before completing the FITC Certificate of Craftsmanship; this achievement calls for a great deal of practical and theoretical work. Raymond is the first HW apprentice to win this award. Pictured left of Raymond is John Sanderson, winner for the second year running of the Institute of British Foundrymen's Merit Award for the greatest progress during the year. John has also won the IBF's patternmaking apprentice competition for the past two years, a unique achievement.

On John's left is Arthur Cairns, a trainee moulder core maker, one of three apprentices to represent Britain at the 14th European Foundry Apprentice Competition held in Holland during May. This competition calls for all-round foundry knowledge, both theoretical and practical. Arthur won his place after coming second in the national competition. Also shown are (left) Mr W Kallagher *Foundry Manager*, and (right) Messrs G Paterson *Director of Operations*, and FE McLoughlin *Works Manager*.

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## Export

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Tommy Isadore and Tommy Osborne, *moulders*, are seen working in the heavy bay, (photograph *right centre*) assembling cores which will produce a large ore-crusher body, part of a recently won Swedish order. The component weighs 26 tons complete – more than the normal foundry limit – so it is made in two parts and then welded together. This method of producing very large castings was developed through close collaboration between the customer, the steel foundry and R&D Division. Altogether the foundry will be making 23 crusher castings for their Swedish client, weighing a total of 273 tons and valued at nearly £100,000 or more than 1 million Swedish kroner.

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## Technical development

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In the photograph *right bottom* the outer and inner parts of the crusher castings are being processed prior to weld assembly. Adjacent is one piece crusher mantel, cast in manganese steel, for the same customer. This is the first casting of its type and size to be produced and results from the development of new techniques at Thornaby enabling the customer to have greater design flexibility. Heavy bay dressing yard foreman, Dick Fisher, a recent recipient of the 50-year Long Service award, is seen discussing the job with Horace Akers, heavy and medium bay dressing yard supervisor.

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## Production processing

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The photograph *far right top* gives the view looking down the induction bay from the southern end showing a production line incorporating burning, arc-air processing, welding, fettling and blasting facilities. In the foreground (left) are Don Fletcher and Harry Miller, the foundry's non-destructive ultrasonic and crack detection team. Looking on is George Suggitt, induction bay, foundry and dressing yard supervisor. On the right are a series of components for the oil, gas, petrochemical and nuclear industries.

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## Plant development

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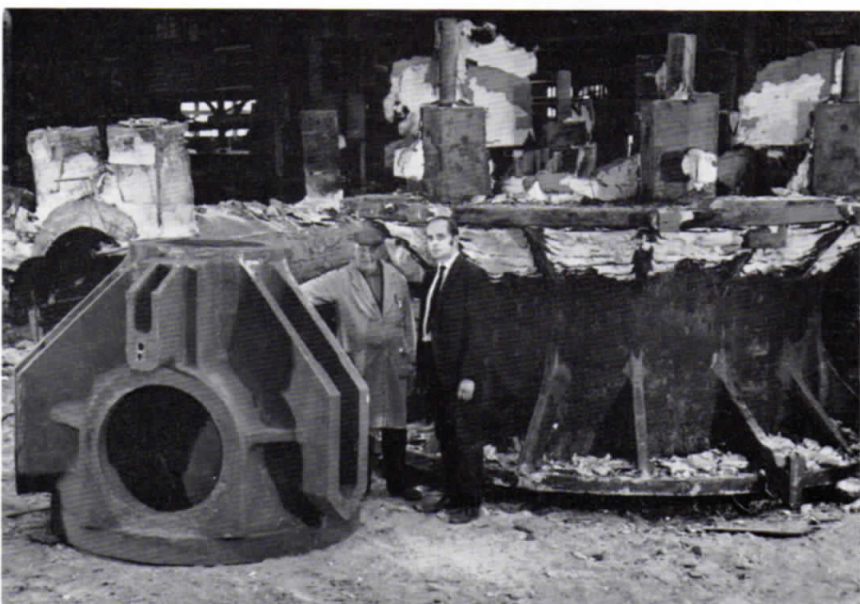
The photograph *far right centre* shows erection in progress on a 25ft square cabinet incorporating an 18ft diameter table, which will enable the foundry to blast castings up to 40 tons in weight. This is the latest plant development in the heavy bay of the steel foundry.

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## Quality control

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In recent years there has been an increasing demand for X-rayed castings and as a result the foundry's X-ray facilities have expanded. In the photograph *far right bottom* radiographers Tom Randall and Ernie Hodgson are seen adjusting a high power gamma ray source before X-raying a valve casting for nuclear submarine service.



# NORTH YORK MOORS RESCUE TEAMS



A typical river crossing. In this case the casualty was carried to the edge of the moor where a stream ran between the road and the moor. Trees were used as an anchor on the moorside and a member's Land Rover as the anchor on

the road side. The ropes are pulled tight and the stretcher attached to them by means of snaplinks called karabiners. This is obviously a case where the victim must be very secure.



A 'pilot' has baled out and been caught by his parachute straps in the trees in the woods above Guisborough. Unconscious, he is lowered carefully on to the stretcher, then carried to the awaiting ambulance.

Dave Cook, *R & D Photographic Dept*, might be a very welcome person to meet – if you happen to be stranded on the North Yorkshire Moors. He is a member of the Cleveland Search and Rescue Team, one of three highly trained teams operating over the moors area.

The 40-strong Cleveland Team was set up in 1965 to handle increasing search and rescue emergencies resulting from the growing popularity of the moors. On average the rescue teams are called out about five times in a year, though since last summer to date they have been summoned to eight emergencies. Last year they had to look for a body which was found on the cliffs near Ravenscar, to help National Park wardens with a forest fire and to rescue five soldiers who were attempting the Lyke Wake Walk and had to be carried off the moors suffering from exposure. After a quiet winter, the team has been very active during April, May and June; rescuing five girls who were stranded overnight near Chop Gate; helping with another forest fire, and, more recently rescuing large numbers of walkers lost during the ill-fated charity walk over the Lyke Wake route on the night of 18 June. This was their biggest operation for some time, as there were more than 500 people on the moors in appalling weather conditions, and the team made full use of their radio and transport resources to ensure that

all the walkers were accounted for. Incidentally a party of HW apprentices and instructors, organised by the Group Training Centre, attempted the walk on the same night. Fortunately they were better equipped than most, with adequate support vehicles, equipment (including a 160 lb tent loaned by the Army) and food, as well as good Army advice on the hazards involved – particularly on the need for compasses in bad weather! The HW trainees were able to assist the main rescue operation, providing much-needed shelter for a considerable number of tired and bedraggled walkers in their tent at Hamer House.

There is certainly no lack of variety in moors rescue, and to maintain good teamwork and sort out any weak points the team holds regular practices. Every other month, except during mid-summer when the group holds mid-week sessions, there is an organised full scale weekend practice of the members, when a real-life emergency is simulated as closely as possible. Exercises range from extracting parachutists from trees to carrying 'bodies' across rivers.

Each member of the team has to maintain a good, comprehensive kit of his own, which he brings with him on every practice or real-life call-out. In addition there is team equipment which has either been donated or purchased with money raised from sponsored walks and other gifts. It includes walkie-

talkie sets and car radio transmitters donated by BSC Lackenby, two Thomas stretchers, one made and modified by ICI to fold in half (car boot size) which incorporates a wheel for transporting, four 200 ft terylene ropes and various smaller but essential items such as first aid kits, thermos flasks etc. Like several other members of the team, Dave Cook is an instructor on courses run by the North Riding and Teesside Education Authorities. These courses teach people how to use map and compass; how to equip for expeditions, how to survive if it is necessary to spend an enforced night out, as well as Duke of Edinburgh expedition work. Weekends spent 'instructing' are well spent, say the team, as they teach people to respect the moors and enjoy them in safety, and reduce those occasions when team members are called out of their beds on cold, wet winter's nights!



# HW SOCIAL CLUB

The HW Social Club located at Teesdale Park, Acklam Road, Thornaby has recently undergone extensive modernisation. The renovation scheme included a new false ceiling; the complete rewiring of all electrical equipment throughout the building; a new enlarged service bar area; a refurbishing job; new floor tiles throughout; and a complete redecoration in the modern style. The modernisation project cost £5,000 and in providing first class club amenities, the result appears to be most gratifying to regulars and casual visitors alike.



The bar licensing hours are:

Monday	7.30 pm to 10.30 pm
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	7.00 pm to 10.30 pm
Saturday	1.00 pm to 4.00 pm 7.00 pm to 10.30 pm
Sunday	12 noon to 2.00 pm 7.00 pm to 10.30 pm

Bingo is played every Friday and Sunday at 9 pm. A 'modern sequence' dance class is held every Wednesday at 8 pm and regular Disco nights and concert evenings are planned for the future.

A sincere welcome is extended to all employees to visit the 'new' HW Social Club and enjoy the pleasant surroundings and facilities in a congenial atmosphere.

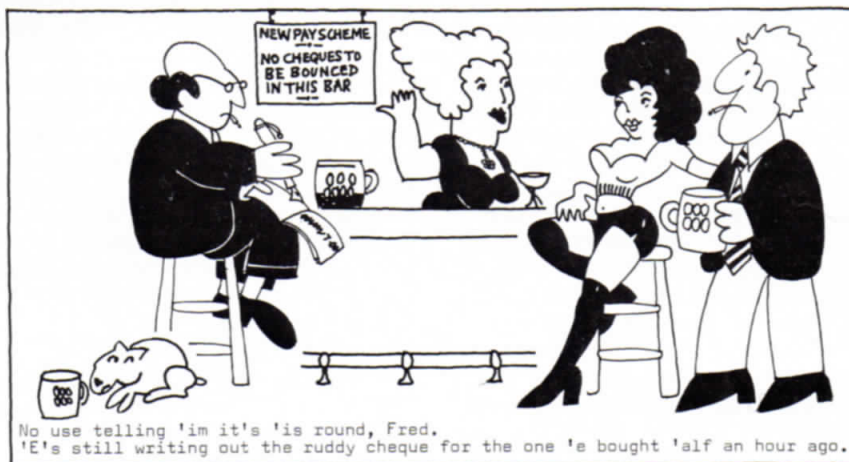
## NOTHING AT ALL

No Clothes  
No Sport  
No Toy  
No Joy  
Just Bad and Sad  
No Trees  
No Leaves  
No Horse  
No Gorse  
Just Fog and Smog  
Children wandering down the street,  
Tatty clothes and muddy feet  
Building sites being demolished  
'Danger - Keep Away'  
Where are all the children meant to play?

No Sun  
No Moon  
No Coloured Balloon  
No Kite in Flight  
Nothing at all

The above poem was written by Ross Paterson (aged 9 years) on 'Thoughts following a Blue Peter TV programme on deprived children', without doubt it is powerfully imaginative, creative, and a contrast of life, a budding poetic artist perhaps! (Editor)

## PAYMENT OF WAGES THROUGH A BANK



From mid-October, HW hourly paid employees will have the opportunity, on a voluntary basis, to have their wages paid direct into their personal bank account instead of receiving payment by cash.

This facility is now accepted by many progressive companies and their employees. During the first week in September, a booklet giving fully comprehensive information about the

scheme will be issued to all hourly paid employees. The first payment by the scheme will be on Thursday 14 October and application forms enclosed with the booklet should be completed and returned to the Pay Office by 30 September 1971. It is hoped that with the increasing acceptance of banking facilities in our every day lives, this new scheme will be of added service to our employees.

# FROM THE FAMILY ALBUM

Seaside piers and pavilions sprang up all round the coast of England during the last quarter of the 19th century as part of the great new Victorian craze – the seaside. Older, more functional wooden piers were replaced by lavish, ornate iron structures as the new resorts vied with each other for the distinction of having the biggest or the best pier. Our page from the family album recalls some of these grandiose structures engineered by Head Wrightson, for indeed HW were responsible for building many famous examples including those at Skegness, Herne Bay, St Leonards, Ramsey (Isle of Man), Dover and, more locally, Redcar and Whitby. Piers are notoriously vulnerable to the weather, to shipping, and to the hazards of war, and many have suffered severe damage or even total extinction as a result. Redcar pier, opened with great ceremony at Whitsuntide 1873, was originally 1700 ft long, but a severe storm in 1880 reduced it to 1300 ft. In 1897 a schooner collided with it, and shortly afterwards Redcar Corporation took it over and proceeded with a programme of restoration including a handsome new pavilion, glass windscreens and ornamental seating. It survived reasonably well until 1940, when the central portion was dismantled as a precaution against invasion, a fate suffered by many British piers. The isolated portion was weakened by a land mine dropped from an enemy aircraft and did not survive the war, and the portion attached to the pavilion was later dismantled. All that now remains of the once proud pier is the structure which still supports the old pavilion ballroom. Skegness pier has been rather more fortunate, in spite of a hair-raising incident in 1919, when, during a heavy storm, it was literally cut in half by the schooner 'Europa'. The pier was erected by HW to the designs of Clark & Pickwell of Stockton, and opened in 1881. Said to be the 'finest pier in England' it was 1,843



ft long and 25 ft wide, built of iron and planked with jarrah wood! with a handsome entrance in dark pine and beautifully designed shelters every 200 yards. In its long and colourful history Skegness pier has featured a flourishing paddle steamer service from its head, spectacular feats of diving from its sides and all kinds of entertainments in the popular pier theatre, now transformed from the original small saloon. Careful maintenance has kept the basic structure in good repair, reflecting credit on the men of Teesdale Ironworks who built it. This year is the 90th anniversary of the opening of the pier and to mark the occasion a magnificent new Leisure Centre and Variety Bar has been opened, replacing the previous entrance at a cost of £100,000. Another HW pier, the one at Herne Bay, was completed in 1899, but was not purchased by the Council until 1908 when it was improved and widened. The story

top: Redcar pier middle: Skegness pier  
bottom: Ramsey harbour pier

goes that since HW were unable to obtain payment for the pier, in the intervening period HW took over the pier and of course the takings by manning the turnstiles with staff from London Office. Herne Bay pier, one of the largest in the country, has successfully survived the tempests, war, and even a fire which completely destroyed the pavilion. A great deal of repair work has been done by the Council to keep the pier open as a sports & leisure centre for residents and visitors and it is still a popular feature of this East Coast resort. Perhaps the saddest pier story of all is that of Scarborough pier which withstood the sea for 35 years before disappearing completely one stormy January night in 1905. We hasten to add that Scarborough pier was not built by Head Wrightson.

# TRAINING NEWS



Congratulations to Miss Moira Cox, Secretary to Mr E Jopling Director HW Machine Co, who has successfully obtained The London Chamber of Commerce Private Secretaries' Certificate and also The Teesside Polytechnic Private Secretaries' Diploma.

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## Sandy Muir Award

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The Sandy Muir Memorial Fund award to the best apprentice boilermaker was this year awarded to Alan Purkis *HWT Bridge Yard*. At present Alan is studying for his final City & Guilds Certificate. During the past year he entered the International Apprentice Competition and in the regional finals came second to workmate Ken Poole, who, readers will recall won a bronze Medal at Tokyo. Alan's ambition is to work on the inspection side of engineering industry. The Sandy Muir Award this year will be presented by John Purvis, District Delegate of the Amalgamated Society of Boilermakers.

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## Module training successes

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Congratulations to the following Trainees who have successfully completed their first module training, validated by an Engine-

ering Industry Training Board inspection:

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### HW Stampings

J Baines N Moses  
*machining for toolmaking and experimental work*

### HW Machine Co

PA Bradbury DJ Elliott  
*mechanical fitting*

R Finns JD Hastings  
*turning*

J B Murray

*electrical maintenance*

GA Robinson

*mechanical fitting*

J Semper

*turning*

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## PRIZE Scholarship

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Congratulations to David J Goldsbrough son of JD (Jack) Goldsbrough *HW Maintenance* who has gained a 1st in his first year at Churchill College, Cambridge, and has been awarded a Prize Scholarship. At present David is working as a vacation student at HWPEL.

# LYKE WAKE FRIARS

It all began with a 4.30 am alarm call followed by a meeting on the green at Osmotherly, a quick trip to the 'trig' point and the Friarage Lyke Wake Walkers set off at 6.15 am on their 42 mile journey. The first blister was found after 5 miles by one of the members travelling in borrowed boots and socks. The second was found at Hasty bank by the same member on a different foot. The walkers were reduced by two at Ralph's Cross who succumbed to the support party driver's offer of a trip to the 'boozer'.

By this time the sun was beating down and as the walkers arrived at Wheeldale Lodge they almost all joined the fallen two and support driver who were sat cooling their feet and bottles of beer in the babbling brook. However with grim determination the walkers hobbled off to meet at the early warning station where the support party had prepared beefburgers. The last 10 miles were sheer agony but at 7.55 pm in the bar at Ravenscar the beer was sheer delight. Anybody for the return journey?

# MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Being a composition of cliches used by prominent personnel at Teesdale

Compiled by Denis Hagworth, as dictated to Edith Gronshaw.

Employees with managerial ambitions will probably find these invaluable for use at important meetings etc.

We must suffer the slings and arrows to mount an expedition up hill and downstream, into the grey areas of the global margins (where it is sometimes difficult for a cross-eyed bear, looking with a jaundiced eye, to recognise the strangers) to find any old soldiers among the stones.

If it is a viable proposition, make diplomatic noises, learn it chapter and verse, sleep on it, then do a horse deal, ensuring that we ride the winning horse, as every post is a winning post. When an elemental slice of a stone is dropped like, a hot potato, into a pool the ripples

move outwards; but like an iceberg we can't help wondering what's under the surface. This is not beyond the wit of man, so kick it around a bit, use the tie approach and we'll cross that stile when we come to it - to use a colloquial expression.

We should let sleeping dogs lie and all sing from the same hymn book for the fires are burning and time flies on leaden wings making haste slowly.

Off the cuff, and without commitment, as a lot of water has to flow under the bridge, the time has come to draw the stumps.

# SPORT & SOCIAL

## The 1971 Interdepartmental Competitions

As the table shows this year's competitions were all very well supported with the total number of competitors taking part being 22% above those in last year's events.

### HW football section

After an exciting grand final between HW Stampings & HWSF Thornaby Foundry, Stampings emerged the victors with the Steel Foundry as runners up for the second year in succession. The HW football section again won the North Riding Amateur Cup & both the first & second teams finished respectably in their leagues at the end of the season – the first team being fourth in the Teesside league and the second team sixth in the Southbank League.

### HW cricket section

The cricket section has been very popular this year, especially with Work's Social Committees' and the field has been in almost continuous use. Entries for the departmental competition reached an unusually high number and a preliminary round was played to eliminate three teams to make the first round proper of eight matches. In one interdepartmental match some 260 runs were scored in just over 2 hours – brighter cricket eh! Two HW teams are fielded every Saturday in the Cleveland and Teesside League and to date the 1st eleven has only lost one match. We have also progressed through two rounds of the Cleveland Cup, the first match being won by 100 runs and the second by 9 wickets.



above: HW Stampings—winners of the 1971 Interdepartmental Football competition  
back row left to right M Hutton, D Kinsella, N Pratt, B Rigby, M Day, I Short, R Bennison, T Brown, J Close, J Tubby  
front row left to right M Wild, J Laughlin, J Hutton (capt), G Thomas, T Boylan



above: HW Steel Foundry—1971 finalist runners up  
back row left to right K Waldby, D Westwood, W Chilton, R Retallack, J Harding, J Major  
front row left to right J Payne, DOC Holliday (capt), T Hartley, T Smith, M Bradley (absentee G Trigg reserve)

competition	no of teams entered	no of players	no of matches
football	16	192	15
cricket	19	228	18
Bowls—1 rink	25	100	23
Bowls—3 rinks	14	168	13
total 1971 entries	74	688	69
total 1970 entries	57	564	53

### HW bowls section

HW bowls section competition winners include:

**Club championship**  
winner F Hodgson *HWT Machine Shop*  
runner-up L Berry *HWPEL DO*  
**Four Wood championship**  
winner L Berry *HWPEL DO*  
runner-up A Waton *HWT Bridge Yard*  
**Joe Keedy Trophy**  
winner F Lee *Personnel Dept*  
runner-up W Maidens *HWM*

In the inter-departmental competition at the time of going to press the closing stages of the three rink competition have been reached resulting in a final to be played on 22 July between HWPEL v HWT

Bridge Yard or Office 'A' teams  
The single rink competition is now in full swing.

### HW darts section

The 1971 Inter-departmental Darts Competitions will commence in the autumn. Announcements about these will be displayed on all notice boards in due course.

### Teesdale Park

The bowls, cricket and tennis pavilions were recently repaired, reglazed and all exteriors repainted. The result presents a serviceable and pleasing appearance to the park for the enjoyment of players and spectators alike.



## HW South Africa Golf Tournament

The annual golf day organised by our South African Company has become an established success. This year a field of forty-eight players drawn from friends in the mining, engineering and steel-making industries, competed for the Sir John Wrightson Trophy. Played at Branston Country Club near Johannesburg the first three all returned stableford scores of



36 and the winner was selected on a count out on the even holes. The photograph shows the presentation. From left to right Eric

Brown *Managing Director*, Mike Barry *Chairman*, Ken Hurst *Sales Manager* and 'Tiny' Van Huysteen (ISCOR), winner of the trophy.

## Senior Staff Guild

A happy evening was spent at Marsden Grotto by a bus party of Guilder's and their friends on Monday 24 May. Other events scheduled for the summer months were the annual

bowls match with the HW Bowls section followed by refreshments in the Social Club, a social evening

in the grounds of The Friarage and a car rally. Forthcoming events include:

17 September	visit to Cameron's Brewery
October	visit to Northallerton Police HQ.
26 October	projection night
November	smoker - Blythome Club
3 December	buffet dance - Queen's Hotel Stockton
2 February	annual dinner - Queen's Hotel Stockton

## HWM Staff Benevolent & Social Fund Prize Presentation

A presentation evening was held in April at the Fountain Hotel, Ormesby at which the trophies and Prizes for the 1971 Annual Competitions were presented by Mr FA Batty, *Sales Director*. Results were as follows:

### gents darts

winner E Grainger  
runner-up BP Jordan

### ladies darts

winner Miss L Harbron  
runner-up Miss J Bennison

### table tennis singles handicap

winner T Taylor  
runner-up F McCullagh

### table tennis doubles handicap

winner I Atkinson and P Wilkinson  
runners-up HW Bradley and C Riseborough

### dominoes

winner D Branson and I Atkinson  
runners-up R Thompson and T Weatherhead

### chess

winner G Unthank  
runner-up M Ballard

Forthcoming sporting activities include a bowls drive and tennis tournament, as well as a number of friendly cricket matches, all of which will be played at Teesdale Park.

## Photographic Society

The Society has just completed a very active season of fortnightly events, the activities of which included instruction in studio portraiture, developing and printing and photographing models on location in Stewart Park. The highlight of the year was the monthly colour slide competition. The overall winner for the second consecutive year being Mr T Weatherhead who received the O'Connor Cup narrowly beating Mr J Wilson.

## Treasure Hunts

This year has seen the revival of the car treasure hunts. In order to overcome police regulations, two heats were organised each comprising 12 cars. The first heat was held in May, when a most enjoyable evening was spent by the competitors trying to solve the clues and find the treasure. The evening ended with pie and peas and liquid refreshment at Swainby. The second heat was arranged for July, with a final comprising of the first six competitors from each heat, scheduled to take place in September.

## HWIF pop star

It was with interest that we heard Phil Barnes, a crane driver at the Iron foundry, singing 'Reach for the Stars' on Radio Teesside. Good luck Phil, let us hope this recording is the first of many.



The above photograph was received from Phil Kenworthy of Victoria Australia and was taken on the day of his departure from the Steel Foundry last summer for the return trip home to Melbourne. Phil and his wife Audrey had spent six months with HWSF as part of a travelling scholarship to the UK. In a letter accompanying the photograph they stated 'once more we must thank Head Wrightson and all our friends on Teesside for making our stay something never to be forgotten in both experience and warmth. Time has only cemented the fond memories of Teesside and its people'.

# RETIRE- MENTS

A unique feature of our current list of retirements is the inclusion of two ladies, Miss Margaret Ayres of HWT with 30 years service & Mrs Mary Fish of Thornaby Canteen with 11 years service. We wish them and each of the gentlemen in the following list a long and happy retirement.

## HW & Co Ltd

Mrs Mary Fish 11 years' service

## HW Iron Foundries

Mr FE Maine 49 years' service

## HW Machine Co

Mr A Collins 12 years' service

## HW Process Engineering (London)

Mr LW Hess 28 years' service

## HW Stampings

Mr J Corcoran 17 years' service

Mr R Pearson 44 years' service

## HW Steel Foundries

Mr A Fisher 51 years' service

Mr F Hoban 15 years' service

## HW Teesdale—Stockton Works

Mr WH Armstrong 44 years' service

Mr WG Lakey 44 years' service

Mr E Logan 36 years' service

Mr JJ Mowbray 31 years' service

Mr A Ord 46 years' service

Mr J Walsh 11 years' service

## HW Teesdale—Thornaby Works

Miss M Ayres 30 years' service

Mr A Beddow 12 years' service

Mr TR Dobson 24 years' service

Mr SA Hillman 18 years' service

Mr N Hobbs 15 years' service

Mr R Mennell 30 years' service

Mr BT Price 14 years' service

Mr J Walker 13 years' service

## Mr J Mowbray and Mr A Ord HWT – Stockton

A dual celebration was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Norton to mark the retirement of John Mowbray and Albert Ord. John and Albert were both presented with electric razors by Trevor Briggs on behalf of their many friends at 'the Forge'.

## Mr Norman Hobbs HWT – Thornaby

Two presentations were made to Mr Norman Hobbs to mark his retirement on 26 March. First,

Mr J Hunter presented him with a wallet of notes from his workmates in Teesdale Machine Shop, followed by Mr R Flounder, *Tool Room foreman*, who presented a table lighter on behalf of Norman's colleagues in the Tool Room.



*photo:* A happy group of colleagues gather round Miss Margaret Ayres HWT, at the presentation ceremony to mark Margaret's retirement. Mr J Hunter AUEW convenor presented her with a handbag and matching accessories (shoes and gloves) on behalf of all her friends at Teesdale. Margaret spent most of her working life operating capstan lathes but during the past few years she was in the PFR clean condition shop clothing store.

# LONG SERVICE AWARDS



*photo top left:* Sir John with some of the recipients of Long Service Awards

*photo bottom left:* A group photo taken at the 1971 Long Service Award ceremony

The Chairman, Sir John Wrightson made the annual presentation of long service awards on Friday 16 April. This year's ceremony was quite unique due to several factors:

- 1 The Chairman himself was a recipient of a 40 year service award and was presented with a watch at a prior ceremony by Sir Cyril Hawker a main board Director.
- 2 Twin brothers Charles and David Littlewood both of HWT received 40 years awards and continue the long association of the Littlewood family with HW. Their father served 40 years with the Company and elder brother Alf continues to work at HWT as foreman template maker, having received his 40 year award six years ago. Altogether the family has contributed more than 166 years of service to the Company.
- 3 Two other brothers also received awards – Bill Heron *ex forge* received a 50 year award and Alf Heron *HWT Bridge Yard Maintenance* received his 40 year award.

## 50 years award

A Fisher *HW Steel Foundries Thornaby*

W Heron *HW Teesdale (ex forge)*

J Howe *HW Teesdale, paint and despatch*

JW Sowerby *HW Teesdale (ex forge)*

ET Taylor *HW Teesdale (now retired)*

A Vernon *HW Teesdale maintenance (posthumous award)*

Arthur Vernon HWT Bridge Yard received his father's award on behalf of his mother

## 40 years award

GH Bell *HW Steel Foundries Thornaby*

N Dalton *HW Teesdale Machine Shop*

D Gould *HW Steel Foundries pattern shop*

A Heron *HW Teesdale bridge yard*

D Littlewood *HW Teesdale*

*quality control*

JC Littlewood *HW Teesdale*

*planning*



Mr & Mrs McGhee



Mr & Mrs Larkin

## MARRIAGES- BEST WISHES

### The Friarage

Mr C G Ingham to Miss K Bage  
*computer section*  
Mr E Larkin to Miss L Trembath  
*training centre*  
Mr B Robinson to Miss O Garbutt  
*computer section*  
Mr PN Rutherford to  
Miss V Armstrong *telex*  
Mr R Summerhill to Miss P Gibson  
*computer section*  
Mr S Swinscoe to Miss S Bowe  
*computer section*

### HW Machine Co

Mr D Barker *DO* to Miss S Bunclark  
Mr M Copping *costs* to  
Miss P Walley  
Mr J Fawcett *fitting shop* to  
Miss E Keane *contracts*  
Mr E Grainger *purchasing* to  
Miss KE Macknight

Mr D Mushens *wages* to  
Miss C Bartley  
Mr IK Lickess to Miss M Gibson  
*print room*  
Mr S Parker to Mrs C Greenfield  
*reception*  
Mr L Richardson *DO* to  
Miss L Beedle  
Mr DJ Weatherley to  
Miss C Teesdale *DO*

### HWPEL

Mr J Conroy *Elect DO* to  
Miss A Duffie  
Mr P George *Clevo DO* to  
Miss J Berry  
Mr K McGhee *Services DO* to  
Miss S Dixon  
Mr T Scaife *Steelplant DO* to  
Miss WK McMillan  
Mr D Scurry *BF DO* to  
Miss C Edwards

### HWT

Mr DN Halliday *commercial dept*  
to Miss A Dunn  
(formerly of *contracts*)  
Mr S Wintersgill to Miss E McGlade  
*reception*

### HW Social Club



photo: see article page 11  
Some of the competitors in the Easter  
Parade at the Social Club on Easter  
Sunday evening

**TIDY WORKS  
ARE SAFE  
WORKS ...**  
keep your  
works tidy  
and safe

## 1971 AMATEUR SNAPSHOT COMPETITION

**Sponsored by the Senior  
Staff Guild**  
in association with 'Wright Ahead'  
**Open to all employees of the  
Head Wrightson group of  
companies**

Each employee may submit a total  
of four entries, which this year will  
be split into two groups as follows:

**Group one**  
black and white or colour prints

**Group two**  
transparencies

**Prizes in each group**  
1st £3  
2nd £2  
3rd £1

Entrants may only win one prize.

**The subject**  
people and pleasure

The panel of selectors will be  
looking for pictures portraying  
the enjoyment of life.

Send your entries with your name,  
company and department to:

F Mothersdale  
*Purchasing department*  
Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd  
PO Box 10  
Stockton-on-Tees  
Teesside  
TS17 6AZ

Please mark envelope 'snapshots'

**Closing date 14 October 1971**  
**Judging date 21 October 1971**  
**Public showing 26 October**

**1971**  
**Entries returned 31 October**

**1971**  
Please note the organisers cannot  
accept responsibility for damaged  
or lost photographs.

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**Head Wrightson & Co Ltd**

Yarm  
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