

Wright Ahead

Head Wrightson news

March 1977

PEL share in coal research project

The announcement last month by the NCB of contracts totalling £3.6m. for major parts of a new coal research project at Grimethorpe Colliery adds a further £1.5m. to the PEL order book.

The PEL order which comprises four cyclones and associated exhaust gas plant is part of a £17m. project being undertaken by Britain, USA and West Germany to build a large test facility, one of only two in the world, for the fluidised combustion of coal. The objective being to build a plant that will burn low quality coal for power generation. In theory almost anything that has a calorific value can be burnt by this method. The system is also virtually pollution free.

While this is primarily a test facility and it will be some years before we can look forward to electricity generated this way, the project has aroused tremendous interest world wide and the Grimethorpe plant was the subject of a recent Tomorrows World programme.

Mini Exhibition in Holland

As part of their export sales effort this year HWT will be taking part in two one day petrochemical exhibitions to be held in the Netherlands.

Barry Preece and John Coulson will be in charge of the display which will depict HWT capability in heat exchangers, chemical process plant and associated equipment.

The exhibitions are sponsored by the Council of British Manufacturers of Petroleum Equipment and will be held this month in the Hague and in Rotterdam.

Davy/Head Wrightson Merger

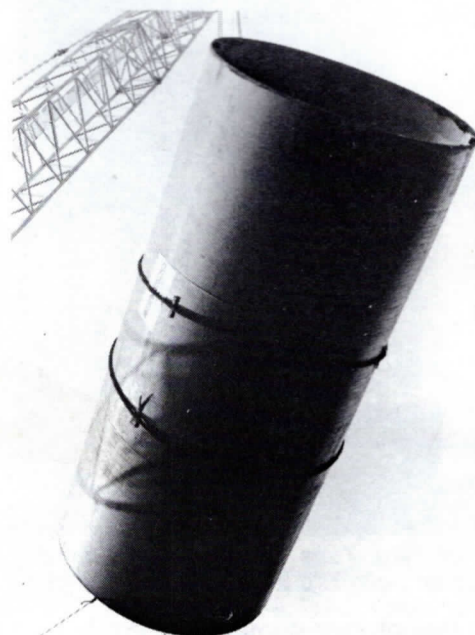
The merger between Davy International and Head Wrightson was successfully completed before the target of the end of January. At 28 February the offer had been accepted by more than 95% of our Shareholders and the outstanding shares will now be compulsorily purchased by Davy.

Big Lift operation

Having already supplied three rotary kilns to British Chrome and Chemicals Ltd at Urray Nook, Eaglescliffe, Head Wrightson Teesdale were pleased to be able to supply yet another, much larger, kiln to replace one that was very old and worn out.

The installation of three sections of the 100ft. long kiln, manufactured at the Thornaby Works, took place in January without a hitch under the supervision of HW Teesdale's site engineer, Gordon Marshall and his confederate at British Chrome and Chemicals, Frank Howell.

When fully assembled and welded together the kiln, weighing 100 tons will increase the production of sodium dichromate at British Chrome and Chemicals Ltd and thereby improve their position in the overseas market.



Centre section of the kiln, manufactured by HW Teesdale, being lifted into place at the works of British Chrome and Chemicals Ltd., at Urray Nook, Eaglescliffe.



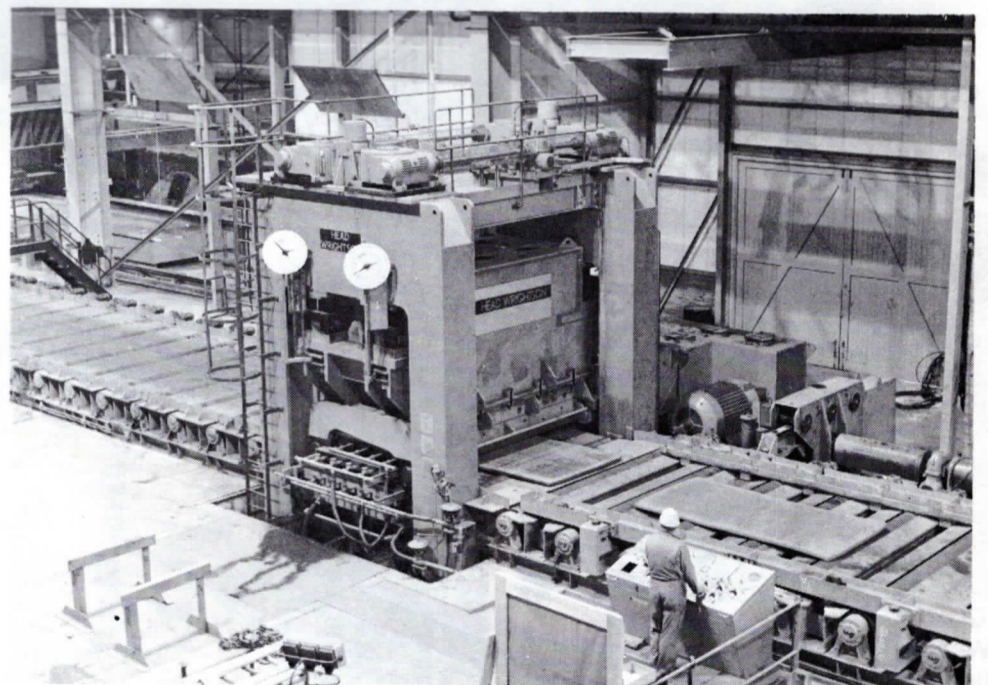
Down at Dinnington

Some of the Head Wrightson engineers and site staff who are working at the National Coal Board's Dinnington Colliery site near Sheffield, where HWPEL Thornaby are carrying out work on a contract for a new skip plant. The skip winding installation will utilise the steel framed headgear designed and supplied by Head Wrightson in 1961 and will increase the mine's shaft capacity to 360 tonnes per hour.

(L-R) Keith Talintyre (Senior Mech. Eng.), Charlie Humphreys (Civil Eng.), Tony Gosling (Erection Foreman), Dai Jones (Site Clerk), Ken Aldred (Site Clerk), Joe Ritchie (Electrical Eng.), Bob Ashley (Graduate Eng.).

(Back) Dave Bedson (Planning Eng), Wally Anderson (Resident Eng.), Wilf Wood (Piping Eng.).

Heavy plate leveller

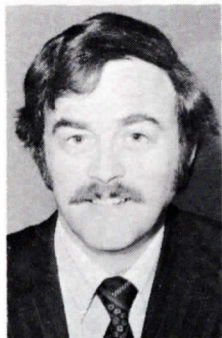


Forming part of the new plate finishing plant at BSC Stainless' at Shepcote Lane, Sheffield is this heavy plate leveller designed and manufactured by The Head Wrightson Machine Company. Weighing approximately 195 tonnes, the leveller will flatten stainless steel plates up to 3200mm wide, with a maximum thickness of 30mm in the cold condition and 50mm in the hot condition

dependant upon the grades of steel being handled. It stands 8.5 metres high and is powered by a 200 Kw drive motor.

It is an interesting fact that when the existing Shepcote Lane plate mill was first put into operation in 1964, HW Machine Company also supplied two plate levellers for handling stainless steel plates up to 2 metres wide.

Appointments



G Burns



P Lithgow



P Lamb



L Shadbolt

HW TEESDALE (Thornaby)
G. Burns, Commercial Director (formerly Contracts Manager)
HW (STEELCAST) (Billingham)
P Lithgow, Commercial Director (formerly Deputy Chief Accountant at HW & CO)
P Lamb, Technical Director (formerly Quality Assurance Manager).
GROSVENOR STEEL
D Bailey, Project Manager.
HW (STEELCAST) (Thornaby)
L. Shadbolt, Assistant Works Manager.
B & S MASSEY
A J Nicholson, responsible for the overall management of the Procurement department. Mr Nicholson retains his existing responsibilities for Production Control and Shop Loading
J Robins, Assistant Production Manager.

Winning Welder receives award



Geoff Richards

Well on the way to becoming a fully fledged welder is Geoffrey Richards from the Bridge Yard at Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd who is this year's winner of the Sandy Muir 'best trainee of the year' award.

Geoff, who is 19, joined the Head Wrightson training centre straight from Sedgefield Secondary Modern School. His interests include football, squash, table tennis and working on cars.

For the fourth year in succession, a welder from the Bridge Yard wins the Sandy Muir award.



Some of the canteen staff who received food hygiene certificates on 14 December.

Battle Against Bacteria

There won't be many people at Head Wrightson who understand the meaning of words like "Salmonella", "Staphylococcus" and "Clostridium Welche". At least 27, all of them ladies working in canteens throughout Head Wrightson companies in Cleveland, know that these are names that refer to main groups of food poisoning bacteria arising from a cut finger, from coughs and sneezes or from not washing hands properly before handling food.

These learned ladies attended a short course on food hygiene organised by the Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Environmental Health Department in association with Phillip Casey, Training Officer at HW & Co and Vernon Spence, Canteen Manager at Head Wrightson Teesdale Ltd.

The course, which was open to all Head Wrightson canteen staff in Cleveland, was organised in two one-day sessions and included talks and

film presentations by the Environmental Health Officer. Those ladies who successfully completed a small test at the end of the course were presented with certificates by Mr J H Doran, Group Personnel Director on 14 December.

R & D diploma awards

At the Teesside Polytechnic graduation ceremony on Wed. 2/2/77, two people from the R & D Division were awarded diplomas:- Mr P F Meadley, Grad. IM Section Leader, Welding Diploma in Welding Technology.

Mr S Quinn, Grad. IM Physical Met. Dept. Advanced Diploma in Metallurgy.



Mr P S Paine (right), Managing Director of Tyne Tees TV presented Bland Payne Safety at Work awards to Jackie Hunter (left) and Dennis Crisp (centre).

Safety First

Safety should be, but invariably isn't, at the forefront of our thinking — two Teesdale men have however, proved this statement false in their case and

in that of their company. "Jackie" Hunter and Dennis Crisp shared equally the Northern Region Bland Payne Safety at Work Award for 1976 with the company being given a trophy for display. The presentation was televised showing an example to us all.

Have you a bank account yet?

All the major banks nowadays are competing for new business and are eager to point out how their facilities can be just as relevant to the wage earner as to the man operating a business.

During the year they will be putting on small exhibitions in one or two of our canteens when they hope to convince some of our weekly paid employees who still receive cash each week that it would be to their advantage to receive payment through a bank. Why have your wages paid this way? It is obviously more convenient both for the employer who merely makes a book transfer to the bank each week and for the employee who doesn't have to stand in a queue to be paid; but an executive of Barclay's Bank in London says that safety for their money is the reason why many people open an account. He can cite examples of people losing pay packets and of housebreaking where the family "nest egg" has been stolen. Both are things which no one thinks will ever happen to them. But apart from these there must be other advantages and the banks are eager to point these out. They can arrange for payments such as mortgages, rates, insurance premiums etc to be paid. All the customer does is to sign a standing order form and forget the lot. The banks make sure they get paid at the correct time.

There is no need to carry around that extra bit of cash in case of emergency, or for that something special at the weekend or on the way home. That's what a cheque book's for, and if you run out of cash for beer, bus fares, or whatever, the banks have ironed out this problem as well. If you can't get into a bank during opening hours many branches have cash dispensers outside where at least £10 can be drawn at any time, day and night, seven days a week.

They can help on holidays abroad, arranging travellers cheques and foreign currency. They give expert advice about insurance and investment and if required can act as an executor of a will.

They provide safe keeping for valuables and important documents.

They can provide their customers with loan facilities something most of us have needed at some time or other for that new car or house extension.

Which bank to choose? All of them make a small charge for their services. So it makes sense to shop around. Barclays claim that three out of five of their customers pay no bank charges at all and by leaving a minimum balance, which varies from bank to bank, most of them will provide a number of services free.

If you receive your wages in cash each week why not find out what banks can offer from their representatives at the exhibitions this year.

The first will be held at the **HW Teesdale Works canteen in March**

LOOKING AHEAD

The next issue of Wright Ahead will be published in May 1977 so please send your contributions to the Publicity dept. or your W/A representative by 22 April.

Your Representative

The newly appointed editorial committee of Wright Ahead, having met for the first time on Wednesday 5 January, has, now established what it intends to do in order to encourage employee participation in the preparation of the newspaper. Basically, the tasks of the committee will be to:-

- a) express the views of employees in various companies/departments.
- b) recommend on form, layout, range of content and frequency.
- c) assist in improving channels of communication between works and

offices and publicity department. d) provide or initiate criticism of each edition to achieve improvement.

The role of this committee is purely advisory and the publicity department will continue to make final decisions as to what to print etc. See below the committee representative in your area who will be only too pleased to pass on any comments, criticisms or contributions that you may have concerning Wright Ahead.

Remember — it's your newspaper.



Eva Coulson, Technical Clerk, HWPEL, Thornaby.



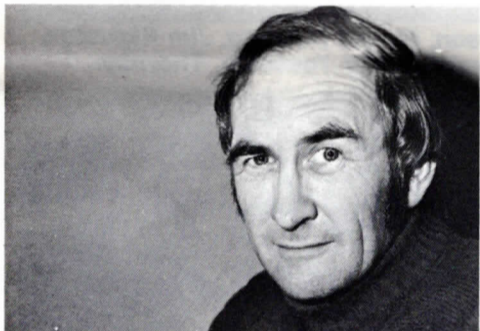
Joe Doran, Group Personnel Director, HW & Co. Yarm.



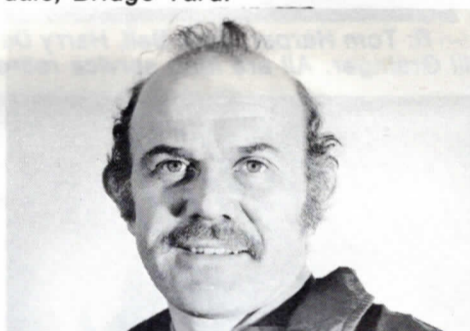
Jim Hall, Office Manager, HW Machine Co.



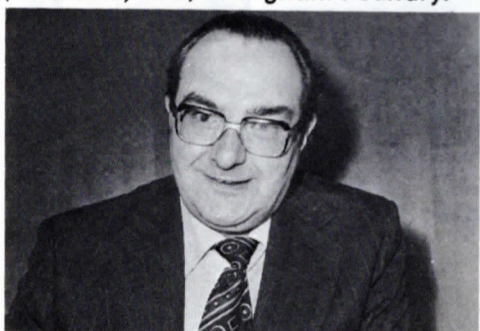
Bob Nicholson, Welder, HW Teesdale, Bridge Yard.



Len Robinson, patternmaker, HW (Steelcast) Ltd., Billingham Foundry.



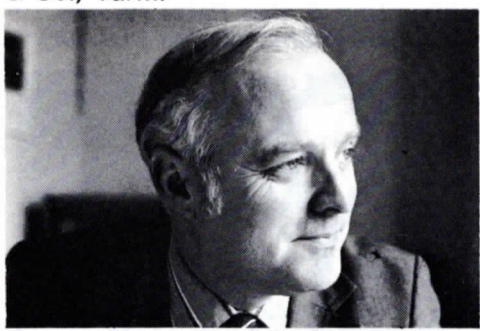
Albert Roxborough, tool room fitter, Machine Shop, HW Teesdale.



G Wilks, Employee Relations, HW & Co., Yarm.



Teresa Taylor, secretary to the Director & General Manager, Grosvenor Steel.



Peter Whitton, Publicity Manager, HW & Co Ltd., Yarm.



Christine Steer, secretary to the Managing Director, HWPEL, London Division.



Ena Wilson, Office Supervisor, HW Stampings.

HW band dates

6/3/77: National Brass Band Championships, Area Contest. City Hall, Newcastle.

16/3/77: Middlesbrough Town Hall.

3/7/77: Whitby Spa. Playing at 8.00 p.m.



Alan Batty

Mark of the sun

On a number of evenings last summer Alan Batty a director of HWM could be seen gazing up at buildings in Yarm High Street and in Alan's own words "in danger of being apprehended for loitering with intent". He was trying to identify the policy numbers on fire marks as part of a project by Yarm Civic Society to restore Yarm's eight remaining fire marks to their original colours.

Alan received tremendous co-operation from the Sun Alliance and London Insurance Group who not only supplied the correct colours to be used but also searched their records, which go back 250 years, to trace the original policies. They managed to identify five of these, the earliest of which was dated 1747.

For those who do not know what a fire mark is the following notes by Alan, which were published last year in a Yarm Civic Society Newsletter, may be helpful.

"Fire has always been a hazard to the householder. In the early days when dwellings had thatched roofs and lots of timber construction, fires were catastrophic and could spread rapidly from roof to roof. Large areas of a town or village could very quickly be reduced to ashes.

Before the days of established local fire brigades each parish had to fend for itself, and in the 17th century most had little more than a few fire buckets and a fire hook for protection.

These were usually kept in a prominent place such as the church or town hall.

The invention of an engine in the mid 17th century to fight fires marked an important stage in dealing with the fire hazard, and in the late 17th century the invention of a flexible hose was a further big step forward. An engine, patented by Newsham in 1700, influenced engine builders for over 100 years and the later introduction of steam engines provided firemen with far more power than they had been able to generate with hand pumps. The Great Fire of London with its incalculable amount of human suffering hastened the development of the concept of insurance.

One of the earliest methods of sharing the risk of loss of property was to form groups of people contributing to a fund, each member carrying a fixed portion of the total risk. From this arrangement evolved a method by which an insurer paid a premium related to the value of his goods or property.

The early Societies formed for the protection of their members often incorporated the words "Mutual" or "Friendly" into their titles. In 1683 William Hale of Kings Walden, Hertfordshire, was a co-founder of the office with the oldest known mark, "The Friendly Society of London".

The "Hand-in-Hand" office was founded in 1699 and was known as the "Amicable Contributionship".

The 18th and 19th centuries saw a great expansion in the number of companies involved in fire insurance. One of the problems facing these companies was that of identifying insured properties, particularly as in those days there were no precise addresses and the companies had to guard against fraud. It was to identify protected properties that these companies adopted "Firemarks". Some of these marks bear a number below the company's device, indicating the policy number relating to the building.

The marks helped members of the companies' fire brigades to identify their responsibilities and were also an early example of advertising. It is not true that firemen arriving at a blazing building bearing the mark of another office just sat and watched it burn to ashes. There is, in fact, a good deal of evidence of different brigades rendering assistance to each other. Out of this co-operation grew in time the larger town fire brigades. The signs that the insurance companies devised were many and varied, and were made in a variety of metals such as lead, copper, iron, brass, tinplate, and tinned iron and, painted in their appropriate colours, looked rather splendid.

Many of these signs still survive on buildings on our older towns and villages and add interest to any town walkabout. York, for instance, is rich in its variety of company marks, and its Castle Museum houses a fine large collection.

Yarm also has its share, there being no less than eight firemarks in the High Street, all of the Sun Fire Insurance Company.

The choice of the sun emblem by the Sun Fire Office may not simply be an allusion to the element fire. The sun disc was a device of extreme antiquity and its use was commonplace as a horse ornament two centuries ago. Few emblems were thought to possess as much power to reflect the "evil eye".

The success of the Sun Fire Office in the countryside may be due to the support it derived from folklore.

A number of the Yarm marks can easily be missed, having been over-painted or rendered during property redecoration."

Bravery Award



David Pearson

David Pearson, an apprentice draughtsman with Process Engineering at Thornaby is to receive a bravery award from the Royal Humane Society.

David, who will be 18 in June, rescued a swimmer who was being swept out to sea on an inflatable dingy. This happened last year in June when the swimmer tried unsuccessfully to paddle and then tow the dingy back to shore. Finally he attempted the swim alone, but strength failing, made little headway.

On seeing the difficulty David swam out and towed the man to safety with the help of another who joined him in more shallow water.

What a reception



The redesigned main entrance for Head Wrightson Teesdale and the interior display make a striking impression on visitors to the company.

The panels which have the theme craftsmanship and technology show the various markets in which the company is engaged and examples of the equipment manufactured.

Long Service Retirements

50 YEARS

BERNARD BASHFORD, Customer Liaison Manager, HW Stampings Ltd joined HW in 1927 as office boy. Following his appointment as Chief Clerk to the Works Manager he progressed to the forging department of which he became Commercial Manager in 1940 and later Production Manager. Appointed Customer Liaison Manager in January 1975.

On behalf of management, staff and works, a presentation of two cut glass decanters was made to Bernard by Mr A Muir, Assistant General Manager.

49 YEARS

BERNARD MIDDLETON, Head of the Machine Service Department at B & S Massey. Joined Massey in 1928 as Apprentice Engineer and after finishing his apprenticeship in 1933 he took charge of the Pneumatic Power Hammer test floor, a position which involved visiting customer's works to investigate and advise on hammers which were in the development stage.

His work has taken him to France, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, Canada and India.

Bernard's hobbies include building radio and television sets, golf, caravanning and photography. Since he was presented with a greenhouse on his retirement he may extend his hobbies to include gardening so look out for new food in the shops — pneumatic pumpkins or marathon marrows — his inventiveness could result in almost anything!

RONNIE ALLISON, Senior Erection Engineer, joined HW in 1927 straight from school. He worked in the template shop, bridge yard, machine shop, tool shop, pattern shop and iron foundry before setting up, in 1941, the erection department. He became responsible for all erection work on blast furnace equipment, sinter plants, mining equipment, bridges and dock gates.

48 YEARS

JACK BELL, Senior Preparation Foreman, joined HW straight from school as an apprentice marker before becoming a template maker. Appointed Preparation Foreman in the Bridge Yard in 1961. Jack was a

one time bowls player for Yorkshire County.

46 YEARS

BILL GRAINGER, Senior Designer

40 YEARS

TOM HARPER, Inspector, Bridge Yard. Joined HW in 1936 as a template maker after completing a seven year apprenticeship at Teesside Bridge Engineering and was appointed an Inspector in 1969. He has been an active member of the HW Employees Divisional Works Council for many years. Tom is a member of the FA and secretary of the North Riding County Football Association.

38 YEARS

HAROLD DUNNING, Time Clerk, Bridge Yard. Joined the abstract section of the Wages department of Head Wrightson in 1946. Secretary of the Avenue Church Mens Meeting, Middlesbrough and a keen bowls player.

35 YEARS

SAMUEL MORGAN, Planer, B & S Massey

31 YEARS

TOM PICKING, Tooling Foreman, HW Teesdale, M'bro. Works.

29 YEARS

HARRY DAWSON, Steel Buyer, Purchasing Dept, joined the progress department at HW in 1947. After 10 years he set up a Materials Control Department and joined Purchasing 15 years ago. Member of HW Senior Staff Guild. Founder member of the Stockton on Tees Photo Colour Society. Other interests include music (he plays the organ) and walking.

JIM RICKLETON, Head of Security Dept. Jim was once a professional athlete (sprinting) and wrestler and played football for Newcastle in his youth. When he first joined HW Jim coached the apprentices in physical training. His main interest is bee-keeping.

24 YEARS

THOMAS O'GORMAN, Packer, B & S Massey. Mr O'Gorman also served on the Social Club committee for over 7 years.

16 YEARS

OWEN KERSHAW, worked first on maintenance and in the canteen and then went as a Painter in the Fitting Shop.



Bernard Bashford (right) was presented with two cut glass decanters by Mr Archie Muir, Assistant General Manager at HW Stampings.



Bernard Middleton, head of the Machine Service Department at B & S Massey who has retired after 49 years service.



L — R: Tom Harper, Jack Bell, Harry Dawson, Harold Dunning, Jim Rickleton, Bill Grainger. All are long service retirement at HW Teesdale, Thornby.



At the retirement presentation of Tom Picking. L — R: Ken Raine (Works Manager, M'bro.), Tom Picking and Alan Stoddart (Manufacturing Director).



Tommy O'Gorman (left) is presented with his retirement gift by Ian Ford, Managing Director, B & S Massey.



A farewell handshake for Owen Kershaw (right) of B & S Massey, by Ian Ford.



Christmas Caracas

Before Christmas a buffet lunch was organised by Head Wrightson Process Engineering Ltd for site staff working at the Colombia gold mine near El Callao in Venezuela which is owned by Compania General de Minería de Venezuela CA (Minerven). Head Wrightson are currently supplying approximately £4m of extractive metallurgical equipment to the mine which includes a 100 tonnes per hour skip winding installation and surface plant for grinding and crushing the gold ore.

The reception was held at the Bar El Caracal. Photo shows: (L-R) Neil Cherrett (Managing Director, HWPEL Thornaby), Dr Paredes (President of Minerven), Eric Brown (Overseas Director, HW Management), A Gonzalves (HW de Venezuela), CVS Raju (HWPEL), Dr A Andreieu (General Manager, Minerven) a Minerven engineer, Porto, the Minerven site administrator, a Minerven engineer and Gifford Moody (HW de Venezuela).



Ronnie Marron.

Shop Steward at HW (Steelcast) Ltd Billingham foundry, Ronnie Marron, has recently been elected onto the executive committee of the

New appointment for Ronnie

Associated Metalworkers Union. A union member for 22 years, he was previously secretary of the Stockton branch, mittee and Employees Divisional Works Council.

Ronnie, who works in the dressing shop, has been with the company for 15 years and is a member of the HW (Steelcast) Health and Safety Com-

Farewell Presentation



Brian Evans, Engineering Director at HW Teesdale (left) with Norman Hutton and his wife.

After almost twenty three years with Head Wrightson, Norman Hutton has left Head Wrightson Teesdale, Thornaby to join Shell, Aberdeen as Chief Inspector. During his years of

service with the company, Norman worked at Head Wrightson Stampings as Chief Inspector and at HW Teesdale as Quality Control Manager. We wish him well in his appointment.

The world of wheels

This issue we are featuring those whose sport calls for skill, nerve and more than just week-end enthusiasm.

It involves cars and it's not just for men. The stories below tell of two very different people and what they do in their leisure.

The first pictured (left, right, etc.) is John Harris, a profile burner from NESSTOCK and a keen formula 1 & 2 stock car enthusiast. John, builder/mechanic of a four man racing team keeps the cars in shape and in doing so spends as many as 80 hours per week, working on some occasions till the early morning hours.

Both cars, for the last and this coming season are specials, built from scratch and designed to be as strong as possible yet as light as possible. Formula 1 rules mean weight must be between 22-28 cwt, at least 4 times the weight of a mini.

The new car shown (in the foreground) must be completed by the new season's racing which begins in March. Already the hollow section body is complete and mounted with a 6.8 litre V.8 Buick engine and lorry gear box. Front and back axles come from a van although the roof, when fitted with the body shell must come from a car. In fact the roof is the only item which according to the rules must come from a car.

John is in formula racing for the sheer delight he gets from it and unless you've felt the roar of a V.8 you'll not perhaps appreciate just how the power can affect one. He admits it's dangerous and not for the faint hearted. Last year John drove in the Mechanics Races at Newton Aycliffe and Hartlepool, and this year is applying for a full driving licence which will allow him to enter all races. If you are interested in the sport keep your eyes on the track —

that silver/black NESSTOCK car is John's.

Also on four wheels (most of the time) is Barbara Thewlis, Secretarial Assistant from the Legal Department at the Friarage; Barbara began her sport — Rally Driving in 1974 with the Northallerton Automobile Club, and since those early days she has won the Lady Driver of the Year Award in 1975, been 2nd in The Novice Championships and was also Lady Autotest Champion the same year.

Barbara explained that Rallying for which she possesses a National Licence took two forms, the first, Road Rallying which for her meant driving on local public highways with penalties for excess time taken and navigational errors (getting lost). The responsibility to minimise disturbance is always stressed. Secondly, Stage rallies which take place mainly on private land, usually during the day unlike road rallies. Perhaps the most famous of these is the RAC rally.

When questioned why she enjoyed the sport Barbara was forced to admit uncertainty although excitement played a big part. "It's one way of spending Saturday night and it's definitely not boring!" As to cost, "It's expensive — the new car and fittings reaching around £600, and there'll be insurance and entry fees as well. On the other hand if I were rallying in a different grouping the competitive engine necessary could cost at least £600."

Barbara's advice to aspiring lady rally drivers? "Be able to take a bit of teasing and a lot of joking." Finally, "Although help is always available don't be afraid of getting your hands dirty."

Barbara's ambition is to reach the starting line of the RAC Rally with every intention of reaching the finish.

Next issue we'll try and feature other sporting readers. If you're one of them let us know.



John Harris and his two "special" stock cars.



Rally driver, Barbara Thewlis in action.

SOCIAL SCENE



On Saturday, 22 January, 1977 a party of 70 employees' children from Grosvenor Steel visited the Pantomime at the Davenport Theatre, Stockport. Little and Large headed the cast of Jack and the Beanstalk, and in the periods between eating crisps, sweets and ice cream, no complaints were heard.

Indoor games at Massey



Geoff Wilson, winner of the table tennis competition.

The semi-finals and finals of indoor games competitions were held as part of a social evening organised by the Massey Social Club committee on Wednesday 22 December 1976.

Prizes were handed to the winners and runners-up by Alan Howard, the President of the Social Club.

Darts winner — Jeff Whitehead — runner-up — David Farrell



Doreen Thomas won a prize for the Ladies' highest aggregate (all games) at the B & S Massey indoor games competition.

Cribbage winner — Frank Swift — Dominoes Winner — David Fosbrook — runner up Tony Cauchie Table Tennis winner — Geoff Wilson — runner up Alan Millington

The Committee reserved facilities at the Higher Openshaw Conservative Club for the event which was the first of its kind at Massey and is part of the new management policy of community involvement at Openshaw.

Badminton

Fancy a game of Badminton? A Head Wrightson Badminton section has now been formed playing at Bassleton School, Thornaby on Thursdays 7 - 10 p.m. (school holidays excepted).

All members interested in membership of this new sports section should contact Howard Wood — HWPEL — T.R. Ext. 424.



Howard Wood (left) and Peter Chapman.



General view of the gymnasium at Bassleton School, Thornaby.

Childrens party

The Xmas party for children of B & S Massey employees was held on Saturday 22 January.

The event is organised by the Massey Social Club Committee and in the morning the children were taken by coach to see International Circus at Belle Vue, Manchester. Afterwards the children were brought back to a party in the canteen where volunteers from the canteen, works and offices, waited on the children and provided entertainment and organised games.

Presents for the children were handed over by 'Father Christmas' in the person of Dan Green, one of our old colleagues who came back for the occasion. Before his retirement Dan was our Cashier cum perennial Father Christmas. At the end of the day the children left happily clutching bags of sweets and fruit, handed out as parting gifts.



HWPEL's (Thornaby) Christmas Dance, held in the Ladle Hotel, Middlesbrough was a very enjoyable evening attended by 250 employees and their friends.

One of the numerous surprises of the evening was the lively performance of John Willis as Father Christmas!

The festive season gave individual sections the opportunity to arrange their own celebrations, parties etc with the engineering department holding a 'stag' night, the female staff dining at the Wainstones Hotel and the construction department organising social evening at the HW Club.



Derek Pollitt

Bird Fancier

Derek Pollitt, Stockyard Chargehand at Grosvenor Steel and pigeon racing enthusiast, reckons that up to £10,000 can be paid for a first class racing pigeon! Although he doesn't pay that kind of money for his birds, Derek had a fair bit of luck two years ago when one of his pigeons came third in a race after flying 554 miles from Niort in France back to his home.

A member of the Droylsdon Flying Club, (Manchester Federation) Derek spends most of his spare time looking after and training 24 pigeons. Just recently, he went to the Olympiad 15 exhibition at Blackpool where pigeons from all over the world were on display.

SPORTS PARADE

On Sunday, 14th November, a challenge match was played at Hartlepool when the HW Stampings team, the 1976 Departmental champions, were guests to a team from Grosvenor Steel.

Stampings showed just how good they were with a fine 10 - 2 win, but nevertheless Grosvenor made them play all the way, and a very enjoyable game was had by all. Scorers for HW Stampings were Barry Murray - 3, Noel Hewson - 2, John Peek - 2, Tony Boylan - 1, Peter Donnelly - 1, and Gerald Boylan - 1. After the match players and officials attended a local hall for a buffet, during which thanks were given by Mr P F Pugh to all involved. He then presented plaques to the referee and linesmen who received sound applause for their efforts.

A return match is to be played at Grosvenor Steel sometime in the future, details to be arranged at a later date.

Snooker Support

Dave Thomas of Bramall & Wax Ltd and colleagues in the Wrightstock office at Worsley would like to arrange a friendly inter-company snooker evening with one of the other Manchester based Head



Dave Thomas

Wrightson companies. Come on all you snooker enthusiasts at B & S Massey or Grosvenor why not accept the challenge! Contact Dave on tel. no. 793 - 9610.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Head Wrightson Bowls Section held on Monday 24 January at the HW Social Club, Thornaby, the following officers were elected:-

President: A Lackenby

Vice President: W Morley

Secretary: R T Waller

Treasurer: J White

Committee: A Waton, A Turley, J Place, T Harrison, R Brown.

Secretary: J White

Veteran Secretary: W Morley

Auditors: A Waton and A Turley

Publicity department
Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd.
Yarm
Cleveland
England
TS15 9DA

telephone Eaglescliffe (0642) 781010
telex 58-606 cables Teesdale Stockton-on-Tees