



Wright Ahead

Christmas Edition

December 1978

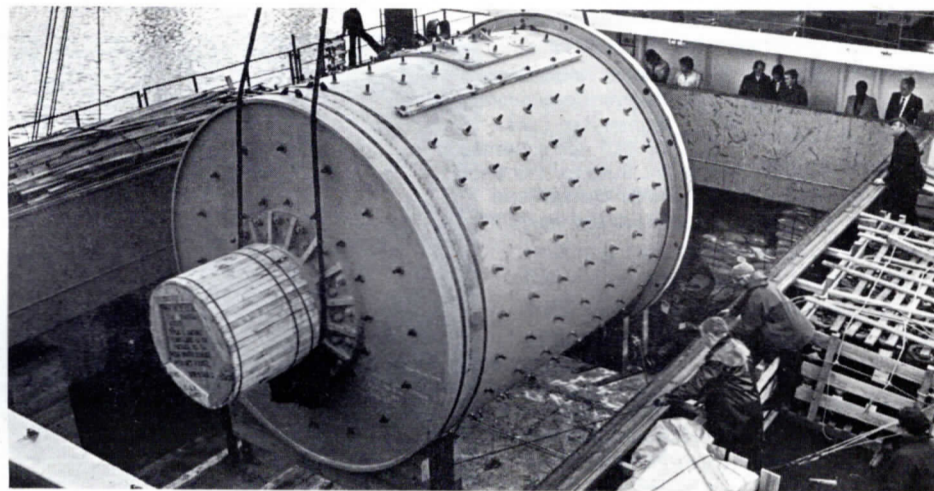
First shipment to Venezuelan gold mine

Last month PEL made the first shipment of mining equipment against the order they received earlier this year from Venesolana de Oro (VENORCA) for a £1¼m gold ore treatment plant.

This coincided with a visit to this country by one of Venorca's engineers Sr. Kenton St Bernard who made a special trip to King George V Dock in Glasgow to see the 117 tons of crushing and

milling equipment loaded aboard the "Hille Oldendorff" for South America.

PEL's contract for design, supply and management of crushing and grinding plant process equipment is part of an expansion programme by Venorca to up-rate their existing plant at El Peru gold mines, near El Callao, to increase the processing of gold ore from 432 tons to 720 tons a day.



Part of the milling equipment for Venorca, a ball mill shell being loaded at Glasgow docks.

Prince Charles visits Davy Ashmore



His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales talking to: Mr J. B. Orr, Mr R. L. Wordsworth and Dr K. H. Hoyle, managing director of Head Wrightson Process Engineering Ltd during his visit to Davy Ashmore offices on 16th November.

Another success for Indein-Wrightson

Following past success in partnership with other companies Indein-Wrightson have again demonstrated their ability to commercialise foreign technology in the Spanish market.

This time in association with Dominion Engineering Works of Montreal, Canada, they have won an order for a regrind mill, two ball mills and a rod mill from Rio Tinto Patino for their concentrator expansion at Huelva. This forms part of the first phase of the expansion programme and further

More gas cleaning work for PEL

Following PEL London's success at Ford Motor Company's Bridgend works where they are supplying machine shop dust extraction equipment they have now received an order for collection hoods, ducting and Devansco wet scrubbers for the second phase of the engine plant expansion.

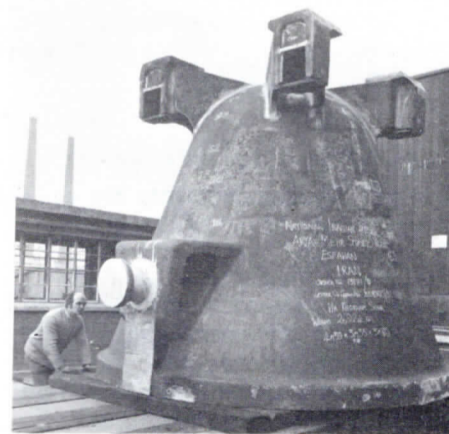
Although the second contract value is relatively small, at just over £100,000 it demonstrates Ford's confidence in PEL's plant which was the first of its kind to be supplied by them.

Another welcome addition to their order book is an electrostatic precipitator valued at over

£300,000 to be supplied to British Chrome & Chemicals at Urray Nook. This is to clean the gases from a rotary kiln being supplied by HW Teesdale to roast chrome ore.

The order was won in the face of strong competition from UK and German contractors one of whom had already built two precipitators for the client on a similar process. This contract affords an excellent opportunity for HWT and PEL to work together with a view to offering future package deals.

Ladles for Iran



The last of five cast steel slag pots manufactured at Steelcast, Billingham leaving the works en route to Iran. Each pot weighs 25 tonnes and is 3.35m high x 3.80m diameter.

work could be forthcoming when phase II goes ahead.

Negotiations for the contract, which is worth over 140 million pesetas to IW go back to April this year and in the final stages DEW/IW were in direct competition with American and German designed equipment.

The final mill is due to be delivered in December next year and some three quarters of the equipment supplied will be of Spanish origin.

A long long way to Yugoslavia

This 130 foot long load from Grosvenor Steel Fabrications is enough to slowly drive any driver round the bend.

It is in fact a 13' diameter stripper tower weighing 55 tons fabricated for KTI of The Hague and is part of an ethylene plant being built at Zagreb.

The photo shows it on its way from Grosvenor's works at Audenshaw en route to Manchester docks in Salford for shipment to Yugoslavia.



Head Wrightson Employees Council Accounts for 1977

THE HEAD WRIGHTSON EMPLOYEES' COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 1977

At the 29th Annual General Meeting of the Employees' Council, held at Thornaby on 3 November 1978, the Finance Committee submitted the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1977. The summarised audited results for the year were as follows:—

		1977 £	1976 £
INCOME	Employees' Contributions	13,577	13,851
	Company's Contribution	3,000	3,000
	Investment Income (Less tax)	1,020	914
		<u>£17,597</u>	<u>£17,765</u>
EXPENDITURE	Manor House Hospital	4,177	3,847
	Ropner Convalescent Home	800	800
	British Red Cross	180	180
	Dr Barnado's Homes	125	125
	Institute for the Blind	55	55
	H.W. Works Band	50	50
	Cleveland Scanner Fund	100	—
		<u>5,487</u>	<u>5,057</u>
	Sickness Grants etc to Employees	2,938	3,768
	Children's Cinema Visit	897	795
Gifts to Retired Employees	184	430	
Social and Athletic Association	5,615	4,137	
Miscellaneous	10	10	
Transfer to Modernisation Scheme	1,000	1,000	
	<u>£16,131</u>	<u>£15,197</u>	
SOCIAL CLUB ACCOUNT	Bar Sales	37,264	29,591
	Income from "special efforts"	5,094	4,511
	Investment Income (Less tax)	199	327
		<u>42,557</u>	<u>34,429</u>
	Less Cost of Sales & Expenditure	41,007	33,635
		<u>£ 1,550</u>	<u>£ 794</u>

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE BALANCE SHEET

	1977	
Accumulated funds at 31 December		
General Fund	22,517	18,439
Social and Athletic Funds	47	1,109
	<u>£22,564</u>	<u>£19,548</u>

Represented by:—

Cash at Bank and in hand	27,155	10,222
Deposit Accounts	8,668	8,150
Investments less reserve	10,888	14,388
Debtors	339	34
Bar Stock	1,531	922
Social and Athletic Modernisation	1,225	916
Furniture, Fittings and Equipment	324	205
	<u>50,130</u>	<u>34,837</u>
Less Creditors (including taxation)	27,566	15,289
	<u>£22,564</u>	<u>£19,548</u>

The full audited accounts are available for inspection at The Friarage, Yarm.

You are reminded that the Employees' Council contributes to Manor House Hospital and Ropner Convalescent Home. Should any contributor require information on either of these organisations, please contact George Wilks at Yarm or any Member of the Employees' Council.

Although there has been a fall in regular contributions to Ropner Convalescent Home, it is still providing a welcome service for a large number of patients as can be seen from the following letter George Wilks recently received from their secretary.

"Dear Mr Wilks,

From all at The Ropner Convalescent Home, to yourself, all employees and Committee Members of the Head Wrightson Employees' Council, many, many thanks for donation duly received.

As we are now feeling the loss of regular weekly subscribers due to redundancies in steel trade local

works, your more than welcome cheque will continue to "help us to help others" and provide the service we strive for.

This year (Jan-Oct) we have provided convalescence for some 150 patients, each for a 2 week stay.

May your order book continue to grow, and every good wish to all concerned who have made your donation possible.

With gratitude, Yours sincerely"
(signed D Black, Hon. Secretary)

We need your news

Information that could lead to news items for Wright Ahead will be gratefully received by your editorial committee representative. Alternatively ring Peter Whitton or Melanie MacBrayne at The Friarage, telematic no 137.

Modules validated

As a result of a recent visit by the FITC, the following modules have been validated.

STEELCAST THORNABY

M. Dawson J22, Electrical Maint.

Part 2

M Johnson F10, General Welding and Cutting

STEELCAST STOCKTON

A Elliott J22, Electrical Maint. Part

2

HW TEESDALE THORNABY

K McMaster F24, Manual Metal

Arc Welding

D B Cross F24, Manual Metal Arc

Welding

Elliott, Dawson, McMaster and Cross now all qualify to receive the EITC Certificate of

Craftmanship. In addition M

Dawson, because of his success at college, will also receive the Seal of Merit from the FITC.

Foundry trainee in top three

David Bunn, a trainee foundry technician at Thornaby Steel foundry was recently awarded an engraved silver tankard as a member of the winning team in "Operation Challenge" run by the FITC. This event, in its tenth year, is organised to allow 2nd year foundry trainees to show their ability and skill in foundry techniques.

David was nominated by HW Training Centre to participate,

along with selected trainees from other companies and Technical Colleges throughout the country, in this Seminar which was held at Chesterfield College of Technology, and was one of 17 trainees taking part.

As a member of the winning team David proved himself to be one of the top three foundry trainees in the country.



David Bunn putting the finishing touches to a mould at the Thornaby Training Centre.

The Shoutu special



A recent design study carried out by BSC and Davy for modifications to Shoutu Steelworks in China involved many hundreds of people. This picture shows members of the all disciplined task force at HWPEL who worked on schemes for raw materials handling and sinter plant enhancement.

Appointments

B & S Massey

Terry Nunnington — General Manager, Forging Machinery Division.

The Editor apologises for any embarrassment which may have been caused by an error in the appointment column in the last Wright Ahead. Brian Palmer has been appointed Dressing Yard Manager of HW (Steelcast) Thornaby and not Billingham as stated.



Terry Nunnington.



Tom Hebron and some of his workmates in the electricians shop at Billingham.

Retirements

41 years

Tom Hebron retired from HW Steelcast Billingham on the 31st October 1978 after completing 41 years' service.

Tom started in 1937, when the company was known as British Chilled Rolls, as an electrician and in 1938 he became foreman electrician until 1960 when he was appointed assistant works engineer.

The occasion of his retirement was marked by a presentation by Mr Jim Dickinson of a toaster on behalf of the electricians and on Friday 10 November at a social gathering of his colleagues at the HW Social Club, Mr J V Henderson presented him with a Full Nelson oil lamp from the company and a radio from the members of staff.



Jim Henderson, managing director of Steelcast, makes a retirement presentation to Tom Hebron in HW Social Club.

31 years

Jack Hall, fabrication supervisor at Grosvenor Steel retired in October. Jack was involved in the start of Grosvenor at its present location and has always been a respected and well liked member of the staff. Jack was presented with a cheque and a watch on behalf of the company by Bill McKew, works director. To give Jack and his wife a good start to a long and happy retirement his workmates clubbed together and put on a retirement dinner in the Hunters Inn, Chisworth.



Jack Hall of Grosvenor and some of his colleagues take a break from the action at the Hunters Inn, Chisworth.

Another employee who has been with Grosvenor since the early days is Harold Clayton who retired in November. Harold was presented with a digital alarm radio by Ron Wetton, on behalf of all the employees of Grosvenor who all sent their best wishes for Harold's healthy and happy retirement.



Harold Clayton shows his retirement gift after the presentation by Ron Wetton.

13 years

Harry Shuttleworth retired from Grosvenor Steel in March of this year after a total of 13 years with the company. Starting of as a burner in 1964, when he retired he was the plate edge planer operator.

Harry was presented with a radio/cassette player by Ron Wetton on behalf of all the employees.



Harry Shuttleworth says farewell to Ron Wetton, managing director of Grosvenor.

"Temp" to leave after 40 years

Eileen O'Hara retires this Christmas, after 40 years with the company and her many friends will miss her cheery and helpful manner.

Eileen started with HW by chance when she came as a temp to a drawing office for 2 or 3 weeks in July 1938, remaining there until joining the ATS in 1943 as a wireless operator. After the war Eileen returned to work for Mr Stayman in an old template loft down at the end of Trafalgar Street, now PEL. In those days there were very few ladies in the company and the offices were not as luxurious as they are today, having neither carpets or central heating but they did sound more fun — to keep warm during power cuts games of rounders were organised (using ruler and ball of paper).

The department progressed from the McKee Division — Eileen wonders if anyone else remembers Arther G. himself in his huge American limousine — to HW Iron & Steel Works Engineering Ltd ("Whistle") and the staff and buildings grew accordingly.

After a short spell in personnel in 1967 Eileen entered the world of steel foundries as secretary to Mr Paterson. Since that time HW (Steelcast) has been formed and Eileen stayed at Thornaby to work for the works managers, Fred McLoughlin and finally Charlie Elliott.

Eileen enjoyed her years with HW and says that working in different companies has given her an appreciation of many of their problems and why companies get so impatient with each other (HW Steelcast sometimes at the receiving end!) and along with her best wishes Eileen asks for a little more patience and tolerance from all sides. Our best wishes go to you too Eileen.



Eileen O'Hara.

Edward & Elizabeth Moss.

Golden Wedding

Some Wright Ahead readers may remember Eddy Moss, a chief estimating draughtsman with HWT, who retired some years ago after 50 years with the company. Eddy and his wife Elizabeth have just celebrated their Golden Wedding and, apart from the parties with family and friends, the celebrations included a thanksgiving service in their honour at the church in which they were married 50 years ago and a special service in Durham Cathedral, where Eddy has been alto for 26 years. Eddy still works in a drawing office and the couple, both in their 70's lead active lives saying that their 2 grandsons help to keep them young.



Cave man

Most of us look forward to the weekend and will admit to falling asleep to the drones of Frank Bough on a Saturday afternoon but what about taking up a new adventurous hobby? Paul Sturgiss, the ambulance room attendant at HW (Ironcast) is a keen potholer and his weekend enjoyment includes delving around caves in icy cold water hundreds of feet underground.

Paul started doing this unwillingly about three years ago when a friend persuaded him to make his first descent and since that first time he has become more and more absorbed with the sport. Paul strongly maintains that in spite of the occasional accident, which always seems to hit the headlines, potholing is not, in fact, dangerous providing you are well equipped, physically fit and the correct procedures are adhered to. It is not advisable to go it alone you most definitely need to join a caving club (you will find that most Universities and Polytechnics run their own) and make sure that the club is affiliated to the Council of Northern Caving Clubs.

Although a lot of caves can be entered without much effort at all and can be enjoyed by any of us you should always inform your club of your whereabouts before you set off to go down any pothole.

One of the attractions of the sport is that there are still many cave systems which have not yet been discovered and although most expeditions are through known routes, there is always the chance that new passages and caves will be found and some clubs devote much of their time to the study of geology and hydrology in the search for these.



Paul Sturgiss emerging from the duck at the valley entrance to Kingsdale master cave.

Although Paul says that the sport isn't dangerous he does admit to having been rescued on one occasion along with three fellow members of the Wensleydale Caving Club when they were exploring the 30 mile Easegill stretch of potholes along the Yorkshire/Cumbria border in September. The party went down a pothole known as the "Country Pot" to explore about two miles of passages. They were about 30 minutes from reaching the exit when they came up against floods, caused by a torrential rain fall while they were underground. Fortunately Paul didn't have to use his ambulance skills at all the team just sat tight and waited until a rescue team, from Settle, diverted the flood-water with sandbags into another part of the system and found them — six hours later!

After his ordeal, Paul is still as keen as ever and turns out with his Club most weekends. It is interesting to note that most of the potholers Paul knows are single like himself — it seems that marriage and weekend potholing just don't mix.

Massey impressive

B&S Massey, forging machinery manufacturers, recently played hosts to a delegation of top American forge executives and their wives when they visited various plants throughout Europe and England.

The Americans made their trip to gain information on the skills, technology and machinery, being applied in the English and European forging industry.

The visitors arrived in England on 5 November from Dusseldorf to visit Massey's Manchester factory for intensive presentations of their forging and wide ram presses. The following day the party was split with some delegates visiting Stockton Precision Forge to see the Massey Rotaform in action, some visiting the inlands to see Garringtons forge and some to see a brass forging plant of the Delta

Group. Needless to say, the wives would not have found these excursions too interesting so their own programme of sightseeing and shopping was arranged. Their visits took in, Chester, the Wedgewood Pottery in Stoke and Stratford-upon-Avon.

In Stratford, the entire party was entertained by a visit to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and to round off their trip they travelled to London for the final two days.

The Americans were delighted and most impressed by both the business and pleasure aspects of their trip. They found many ideas and improvements to take back with them to the USA and unanimously hailed their visit a huge success.

Massey have had early response from the States with enquiries having been received for forging presses, wide ram presses and Rotaform, the latest development in forging technique.



American forge executives in an attentive mood during their visit to B&S Massey.

MP visits HWT



Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, MP for Thornaby talks to HW Teesdale staff representatives and shop stewards in one of the conference areas during his visit to the works on 17th November.

Air show reunion

The A.T.C. activities of John Manuel who is a welding fabrication supervisor at HWT took him to the Teesside air show this year with a party of cadets from his squadron. One of the attractions at the show was a flying display, in a Buccaneer Strike jet, by Flt. Lt. Myers, who used to be a cadet and officer in the local A.T.C. squadron. John and the cadets were later invited to look over the aircraft and John took the opportunity to familiarise himself with the controls, albeit on the ground.



John Myers and John Manuel.

Massey Monopoly

B&S Massey monopolised the National Association of Drop Forgers & Stampers Symposium recently held at the Metropole Hotel, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

Four different "papers" were presented to the 300 delegates from forges throughout the world on various topics ranging from Rotaform to the viability of electro-erosion machines.

B&S Massey also displayed models of its forging machinery and ancillary products.

This was the first time that the Symposium had been organised with films, presentations and talks, and it was felt that overall it had been a huge success. It certainly was from Massey's viewpoint, with many new contacts and customers having been made and existing ones entertained.

Merry Christmas

That Christmas drink that cheers

A CHRISTMAS TOAST

by Charles Dickens
 "Reflect upon you blessings — of which every man has many — not on your past misfortunes of which all men have some. Fill your glasses again, with a merry faith and a content heart. Our life on it, but your Christmas shall be merry and your New Year a happy one! The following recipes for inexpensive Christmas drinks that are "different" have been supplied by Len Robinson of HW (Steelcast) Billingham.

ADVOCAAT 2

Six fresh free range eggs. Whisk the whites with a little sugar and then add yolks. Add 1 tin of condensed milk and whisk again (tin equivalent to 1½ pints fresh milk.)
 Add 1 pocket size or quarter size brandy and whisk again. Then add about 1¼ pints of wheat or barley wine and whisk again. Taste result. Shake well before drinking.

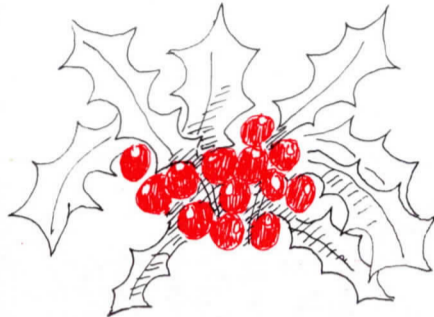


FEATHERBED PUNCH

Ingredients:
 3 glasses red wine
 3 dessertspoons honey
 1 glass whisky
 ¾ pint boiling water
 Method:
 Place the wine, honey and whisky in serving vessel and add the boiling water. Stir and serve. A half hot punch is half hearted, so serve sizzling hot.

GINGER DELIGHT

Ingredients:
 2 bottles ginger wine
 1 small piece root ginger
 2 oz. Sugar
 1 pint water
 2 eggs
 1 Lemon
 4 cloves
 Method:
 This is a favourite 'non-alcoholic' warmer. Boil the cloves, thinly pared lemon rind and root ginger in one pint of water for 20 minutes. Add the ginger wine, sugar and strained lemon juice. Heat up this mixture and pour half of it on to the beaten eggs. Whisk thoroughly and add the remainder if the mixture, and whisk once more. Serve hot and frothy.



HOT TODDY

Ingredients:
 1 bottle medium sweet red wine
 1 small stick of cinnamon
 3 oz. honey
 1 lemon
 Method:
 Put the wine, honey and cinnamon in a saucepan and gently heat and add the thinly pared lemon rind and juice and serve hot.

VIN CHAUD (Hot wine)

Ingredients:
 1 bottle red wine
 ½ pint water
 2 oranges
 Grating of nutmeg
 1 tablespoonful of sugar
 Method:
 Mix all the ingredients including the thinly pared rinds of the oranges — throw away pith — and place in a saucepan. Heat the mixture until it is very hot, avoid boiling. Pour into china mugs and drink as hot as possible as should all punches be drunk.



Childrens' word game

How many different words of at least four letters can you make out of

WRIGHT AHEAD

A prize for the child up to the age of 12, who sends in the most words by 8th January 1979.

(Don't forget to put your name and address on your entry). Open to children of HW employees only.



Season's Greetings

Wright Ahead editorial committee wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to receiving your articles, news items and photos by 31st January for the February 79 issue.



Childrens' colouring competition

The picture shows scenes from the Walt Disney film "Bambi" which is being shown at the Odeon Cinema, Stockton, over the Christmas holidays.

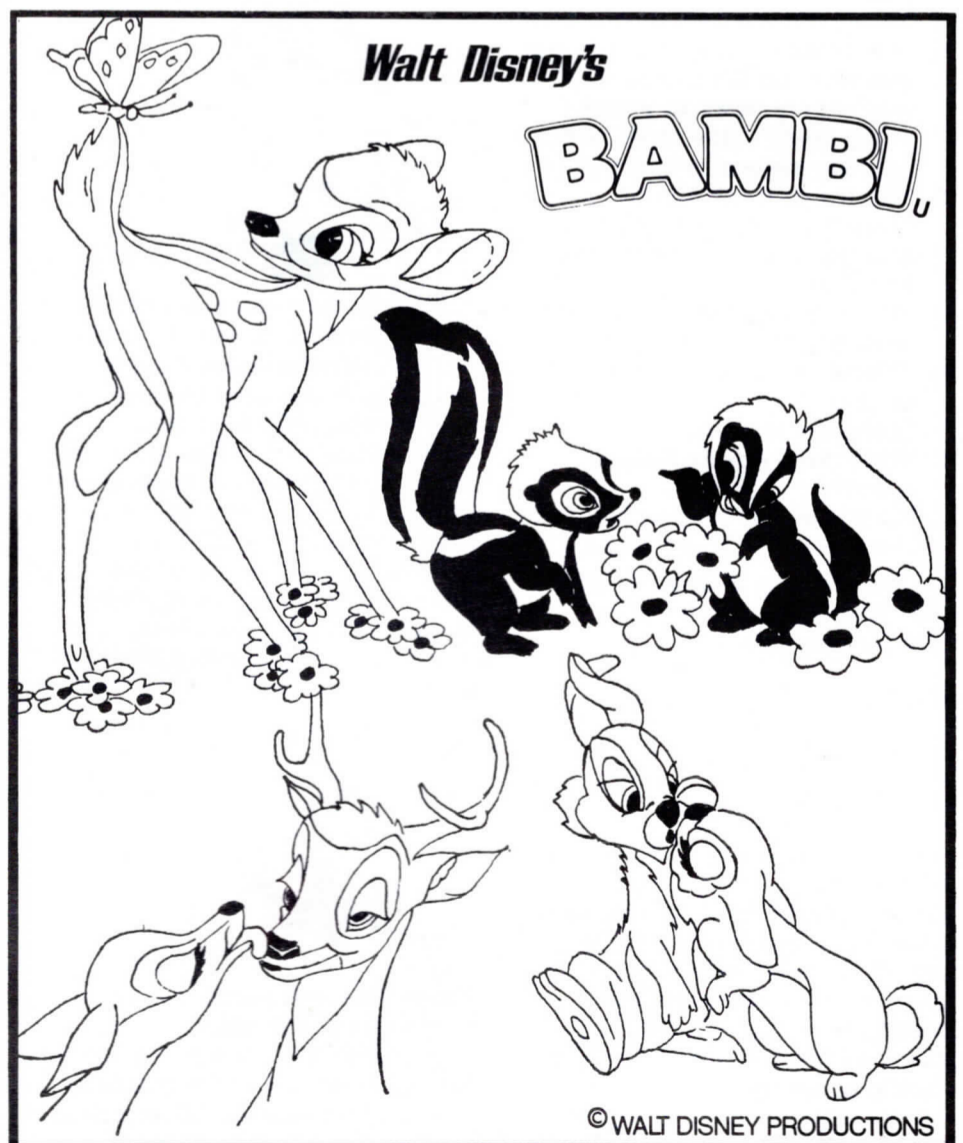
We invite children (up to the age of 12) of HW employees to colour in the picture and send their entry to the publicity department (see address on p.8) by Monday 8th January 1979. The competition will be judged in 3 age groups (5 years and under, 6 to 8 years and 9 to 12 years). A prize to the value of £5 will be awarded to the best entry and £2.50 to the runner up within each of these age groups. We will also be giving consolation prizes. Hurry! Don't miss this opportunity to win yourself a prize.

(Don't forget to put your name, age and address on the bottom of your entry)

NAME

ADDRESS

.....AGE



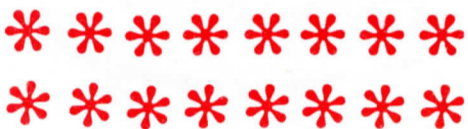
Kids' Christmas treat

The Employees' Council has arranged special Christmas cinema shows at the Odeon Cinema, Stockton on the afternoons of Thursday and Friday 28th and 29th December 1978. The main feature will be the Disney Film "Bambi".

An allocation of seats has also been reserved at the Odeon Cinema, Hartlepool, on Friday 29th December for HW Stampings. The main feature being "101 Dalmations" another Disney production.

Tickets are available for children of Head Wrightson employees, between the ages of 4 and 14 years inclusive, by completing an application form which can be obtained from divisional council representatives.

A number of tickets are available, at 50p each, for adults to accompany small children too young to attend on their own. We are sorry but seats are not available for children under four years old.



Carol quiz

All the questions are drawn from popular carols.

1. What were the three ships that came sailing in carrying?
2. What did Good King Wenceslas ask his page to bring?
3. What hung in the castle hall?
4. What came upon the midnight clear?
5. Where did we go a-wassailing?
6. "Remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas day" was cheery news to whom?
7. In the lowly cattle shed, which animals were standing by?
8. "On the seventh day of Christmas, My true love brought to me..." What did he bring?
9. We three kings we travel afar, what are our names?
10. "Silent night, holy night, Son of God," Complete the line.
11. What does Adeste Fideles mean?
12. What was the nationality of the composer of "Silent Night"?

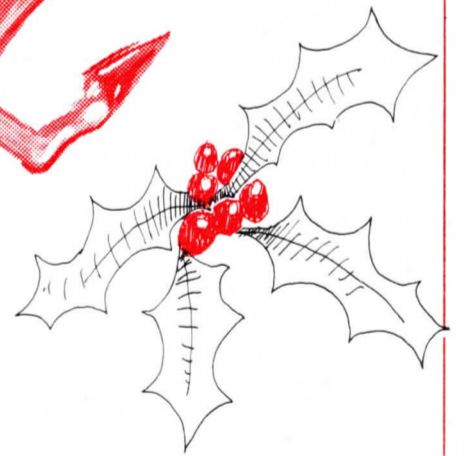
This competition is open to all Head Wrightson current and retired employees.

NAME

ADDRESS

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Completed entries should be sent to the Publicity Dept before 8th January 1979 on which date a ballot will be made of all the correct solutions. The first three drawn will each receive a prize of a bottle of spirits.



Christmas Curios

Carols were never hymns, the name once signified a dance. "A ring-dance with a song" was the original meaning in the Oxford Dictionary.

This is a translation of the first verse of the earliest known English carol, which was written in Anglo-Saxon:

*Lordlings, listen to our lay—
We have come from far away
Too seek Christmas;
In this mansion we are told
He his yearly feast doth hold;
'Tis today!
May joy come from God above,
To all those who Christmas love.*

Christmas has remembrances of sun and fire worship — the lighting of the pudding, the lighted tree and the burning of the yule log. An owner who saw the sun through an apple tree on Christmas Day was considered very lucky by country folk.



The Christmas tree was introduced from Germany. Before it became popular there was the Kissing Bough, still favoured by several country counties, including Northumberland. It was a frame covered with holly, decorated with bright red apples and by many bright decorations, all lit by candles. A centrepiece of the festivities (mistletoe was often hung from it), the carollers, mummers and guisers performed under it as it hung from the roof.



Mince pies and puddings are reminders of the spices of the Three Wise Men. It was traditional for everyone to stir the pudding and to make wishes. Silver coins, rings and other charms were added for good luck.

Cattle have always been closely associated with Christmas because of the birth in the stable. In some districts people believe that cattle speak that night. In the north, bees were believed to worship by humming in their hives the 100th psalm at the hour when the cattle fell on their knees to worship the Holy Child.

Holly and evergreens for decoration are again in the tradition of the ancients at their winter festivals. Mistletoe, sacred to the Druids and Norsemen, was said to protect the home from thunder and lightning.



Drinks were heavily spiced and supped steaming hot. Punches (the "steaming syrup" of Shakespeare) began with ales and eggs "brought to the fire" in a pewter pot with added roasted apples, beaten nutmegs, cloves and ginger and well brewed. (A royal kitchen recipe of 1633)

Before the introduction of turkeys into England, the traditional item of the Christmas feast was the boar's head, decorated and carried in on the head to carol singing.

Christmas cards were a Victorian novelty. Pantomimes are modern versions of the mummers' plays.

Scrum down at PEL

A wave of enthusiasm for rugby football is apparently spreading through PEL, Thornaby. This seems to have been instigated by Julian Brown who organises the PEL fifteen and Mike Jones and Len Horner who are responsible for Stockton Rugby Club's Junior Section. This section caters for the under 13, 14, 15 and 16 age groups bridging the gap between mini and colt rugby. All fixtures are played on Sunday mornings so as not to clash with school and other club games.

Eight clubs participate at this level and as well as the normal club fixtures there is a start of season seven-a-side competition and organised coaching and social activities.

All of the running costs — coaches, feeding visiting teams, shirts etc. are met by the boys' own fund raising efforts and sponsorship of local industry. PEL kindly assisted in the first year by donating a set of shirts.

While Mike and Len are doing a fine job at Stockton, we understand they could always do with help from anyone who is interested and has the experience.



Mike Jones.

Moving from the up and coming to those whom some would say are well past it, we have a report on PEL's newly formed XV. The morning of Sunday 5th November, beneath a bright autumn sky, saw teams representing HWPEL and Simpson, Coulson and Partners battle out an unprecedented game of rugby football at Billingham RUFC.

The evenly matched sides confronted each other with surprising displays of inspired tactical movements, driving attacks and in general, good fluid rugby. Surprising, because many of the enthusiastic participants doubted their own abilities after years of easy living since their last venture out on the pitch. Injuries were limited to a good all round dose of minor cuts, bruises and aching joints. One player hobbling back to the changing rooms was heard to comment "The mind boggles at what could happen if we play a serious match".

Feeling among spectators and players alike at the inevitable post-mortem when adjourned to the bar of the Smiths Arms, was that it was an event well worth repeating. Challenges are expectedly awaited.

We express our gratitude to the referee, V McCoy and the Billingham RUFC for the facilities.

Score:

HWPEL XV, 21

Simpson, Coulson and Partners 12

HWPEL's Team consisted: P Green, K Clarke, K Ducket, R Bilham, M Conquest, P Ferguson (Cap) A Henderson, M R Millman, N Mawby, E Wynn, P Dew, J V Brown, H Simpson and two reserves from the SCP team to make up the numbers.



The game at times bore a surprising resemblance to rugby football.

The HWPEL team looking remarkably unruffled discuss tactics.



Ambulance man honoured

Reg Maslin, ambulance room attendant at HWT Thornaby, who is also a superintendant in the St. John Ambulance Brigade received one of their highest honours when he was promoted to Officer Brother in September this year. This award is only given in recognition of outstanding service and is obviously well deserved by Reg who has devoted 44 years to

this worthy Order, joining in March 1935. This is the second honour he has received having been made a Serving Brother 16 years ago. Reg is in charge of the Norton Combined Division being kept busy with its numerous administration problems as well as training and outdoor work.



Reg Maslin at his Investiture at the Grand Priory Church, Clerkenwell when he was promoted to Officer (Brother) of the Order of St. John. The Investing officer was The Lord Prior, Lord Gaccia.



Len Horner.

Forty years service recognised



Arthur Suggitt, group engineer with HWPEL apparently still has something to smile about after forty years at, or near to the drawing board. Although he tried to keep it quiet his colleagues had arranged a small party in the office. Here he is being congratulated by Keith Hoyle.

Musicians wanted

The HW Works Band Requires the following players.

- Solo Cornets
- Solo Horn
- Solo Baritone
- Euphonium
- BBb Bass

Band practices are held on Wednesday and Sunday evenings in HW Teesdale Canteen.

For information contact:

Mr John Burton,
Middlesbrough Works
(Home telephone no.
Stockton 63828).

SOCIAL SCENE

HWPEL

About forty people attended a social evening in the social club on 9 November when the inevitable pies and peas provided the fuel for a very enjoyable evening. Other events in their calendar are a dance to be held with Davy Ashmore on 12 December at the Madison in the Cleveland Centre and the annual dinner dance at the Ladle Hotel, Middlesbrough on 21 December.

HWM

The annual indoor games championships are now underway to find the 1978 champions for table tennis, darts, dominoes, chess and draughts. About two dozen people are competing in each of these events which are run on a knock-out basis and we should know the winners before Christmas.

HWT

Teesdale employees dinner dance is to be held at the Golden Eagle Hotel Thornaby on 18th January 1979.

Massey males cruise to the sun

(from Aloa Tarra, Foreign Correspondent)

The Sales and Drawing Office staff of B & S Massey will be tasting the sun when they cruise by coach, to their first annual sunbathing session at The Coconut Grove Nightclub, Liverpool in January.

The Club is decorated in the theme of an Hawaiian Island with waitresses dressed only in grass skirts and garlands, yes, only grass skirts and garlands!

As everyone will be just a little hot under the collar, thirsts will be quenched regularly with the native juice and for those who don't sunbathe there's sightseeing, and what sights there are to see. The lads have also been warned to keep off the grass.



The Machine Company annual dinner dance at The Golden Eagle on 30 November went with a swing.

top: Some of the management building up their strength after dinner ready to join the fray.

bottom: The party in full swing someone takes a dislike to the photographer, or was it something he ate?



SPORTS PARADE

Angling



The HW Angling Association continues to expand its membership and its activities for enthusiasts of fresh water and salt water fishing — even in cold, bleak mid-winter brrrr.

Among recent events there was the Association's first "Christmas Cheer" match which was held on the River Swale at Baldersby on Sunday 26th November but unfortunately there was little to cheer about.

The swollen river and freezing conditions made the fish reluctant to feed.

Of the 29 shivering but extremely hardy entrants, eight caught fish and twenty-one vowed "never again", but all credit must be given to their dedication, since not one angler left the river to seek the warmth of the Black Bull at nearby Topcliffe.

The highlight of the day was a 5lb 14oz Barbel caught on 3lb breaking strain line, size 18 hook and a single maggot (lucky so and so!)

The top three weights were:

1st H Styan

Thornaby Steelcast 5lb 14oz

2nd D Elliott

Middlesbrough Works 9ozs

3rd G Douglas

Associate Member 3¾ozs

The other five weights ranged from 1¾ ozs to ½ oz.

Darts



Record entries were received for the 1978 Darts Competitions which this year covered three events — namely Individual, Pairs and Team competitions.

The competitions have been held on Wednesday evenings in the HW Social Club and the Grand Final of all the events will be held on Wednesday 10 January 1979 commencing at 7.45 p.m.

In the team event the finalists are Ironcast versus Stockton Steelcast. The pairs finalists feature F Gamble and D Bell (Training Centre) versus L Lorne and M Cook (Stockton Steelcast). Over 100 competitors entered the individual event, the first round of which commenced on 29 November. The final of this event will also be played on the 10 January.

This year there are five ladies in the competition. In the team event they went down 3—1 to a team from the bridge yard burners amid some good humoured barracking, and had to withdraw from the pairs because of holiday arrangements. They all belong to ladies' darts teams and could provide a shock or two in the singles games on December 13th. Best of luck Ivy, Edith, Evelyn, June and Dot.

Badminton

Having completed another enjoyable year the HW Badminton Section is looking forward to the prospect of league badminton in 1979 having joined the Cleveland County and District Mixed Division.

The section meets at Bassleton School, Thornaby on Thursdays 7—10 p.m. (School holidays excepted) and the new season commences on 11th January 1979. New members are most welcome and if you are interested in playing badminton and joining the HW Section please contact Howard Wood at HWPEL Thornaby for full details.

Record token

In a recent issue of Wright Ahead we mentioned that HWPEL had come to the rescue of an Inter-tie team, Bagad Men Glas Team from Trelaze in Brittany, France, when they lost all their spending money. HWPEL sales manager, Bryan Johnston presented a £75 cheque to the team who in turn presented Bryan with two records of their music as a token of thanks before they left for home.



Brian Johnston receives his records from the Bagad Men Glas team.

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