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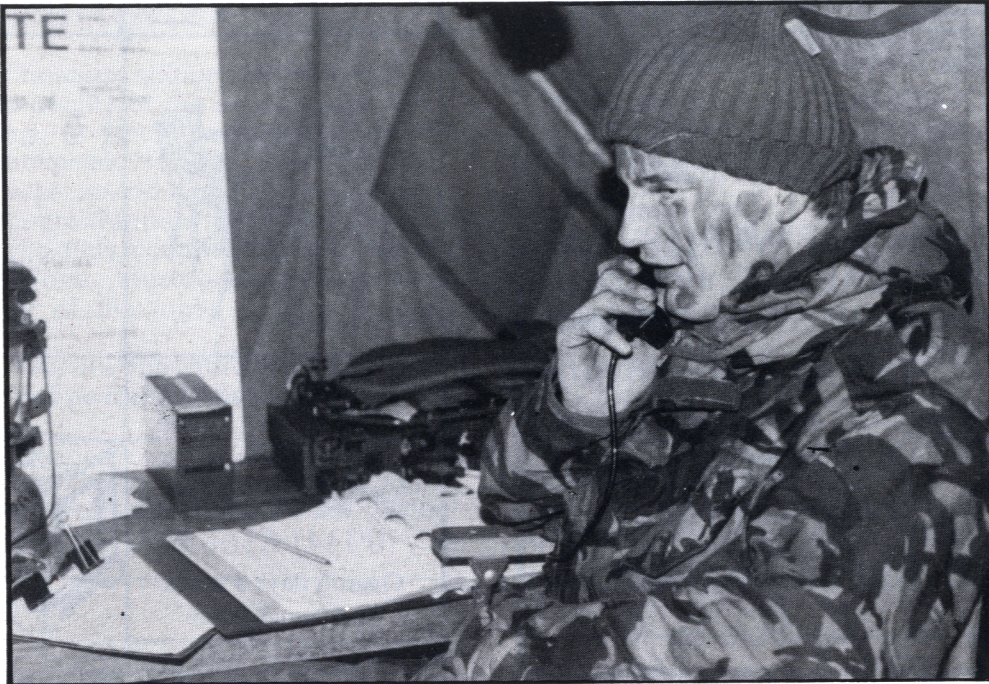
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Colin Hinson

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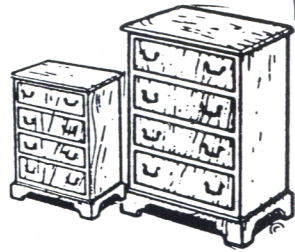
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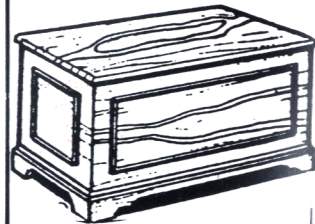
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AIRWAVES AIRWAVES AIRWAVES

Editorial

Welcome to the Christmas edition of *Airwaves*. Both the quantity and quality of the articles submitted were outstanding; in fact I had great difficulty making the final choices. However, I would like to thank all those who contributed and assure them that articles omitted will appear in the next edition.

I wish to particularly commend Helen Fish of Priory School, Worle, Weston-Super-Mare who redesigned many of the logos for our regular features.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish all our readers a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Cover photos: *Radio Communications and manoeuvres under field conditions — see centre spread.*

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Message from the Station Commander

As we approach the end of a busy year I would like to thank all the Officers, civilians and Service men and women at RAF Locking for their support and hard work during 1987. The Station's many achievements and our primary task, have included a successful TACEVAL, excellent AOC's Formal Inspection and impressive Freedom Parade. The many different fund-raising initiatives — Flowerdown Fair, the ascent of Jacob's Ladder, Darts Marathon and the BSAD Marathon, to name a few, have generated over £18,000 for charity.

Our many other activities in the local area have done much to cement our relationship with the civilian community. They are too numerous to mention, but RAVEX '87 stands out for the enjoyment it brought to so many disabled young people.

Next year will, I know, be just as demanding and the reorganisation of No1 RS and the introduction of two slice DE training will add a little extra spice to life.

I wish you and your dependants a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. Please enjoy a well-earned rest and drive carefully.



Gp Capt Ray Johnston

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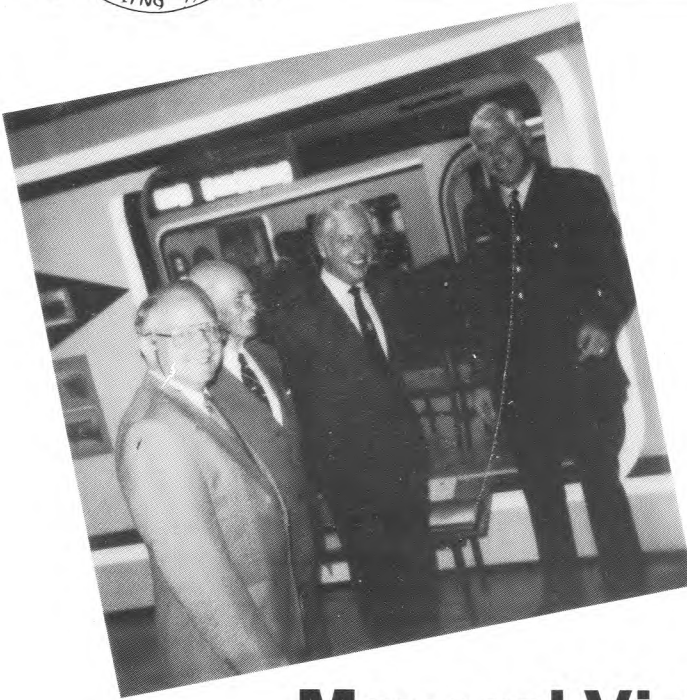
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LOCKING REVIEW



Mayoral Visit to Locking

A mayoral party from Kingswood, Bristol visited the camp last month as a trip down memory lane. The party consisted of the Mayor of Kingswood, Councillor David Upjohn and his colleague Brian Clark, both of whom had served at Locking in No 2 Boy Entry intake 40 years ago. The other member of the party was Sqn Ldr Harold Tavener RAF VR(T) who had completed both mechanic and fitter training at Locking in 1941.

The mayor presented the prizes at a graduation and the party were then shown around the museum by OIC Historical Trust, Sqn Ldr Peter Sanders. The final display item in the museum was too much of a temptation, especially for the mayor, who is pictured in the seat of the Gnat trainer.



GOLD FOR GERRY

EESF's golden girl at the moment is 21-year-old LACW Geraldine Mortimer-Bean. Gerry has just been to St James' Palace to receive her gold Duke of Edinburgh Award from Prince Philip himself.

Gerry joined the RAF in February and completed a lot of the requirements for the gold award whilst a 'civvy'. This included looking after disabled people at a day centre and working with mentally ill people at St David's Hospital, Carmarthen.

Gerry had a fair idea of service life before she joined up. For a long time she was a cadet Flight Sergeant with Cardigan ATC Sqn, but the lure of full-time RAF Service became too much for her. Having completed mechanic training at Locking she moved across the road to EESF, but eventually she hopes to be selected to fly as an air loadmaster.

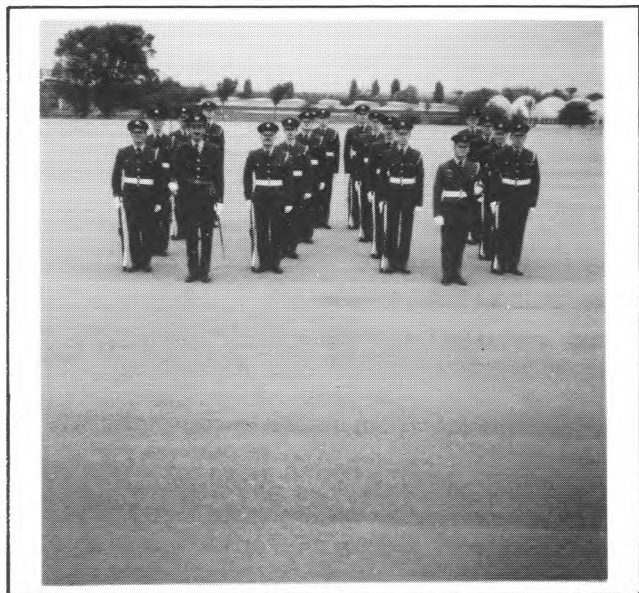
Continuity Drill Team

The RAF Locking Continuity Drill team is made up of basic trainees at RAF Locking. The team was originally formed to give a display at RAF Locking's open day; however, it also helps to develop a good standard of drill on the station, and gives the members an activity in which they take a pride. It also gives entertainment to many people who would otherwise not have the opportunity to see any form of military drill.

To produce the display involves many hours of practice and this, coupled with the fact that RAF Locking is often approached by local charity organisers to assist with their events, has resulted in the decision to offer the drill team's services at other venues. It is also felt that this extra exposure of a well-presented Royal Air Force activity is good for public relations.

The team is made up from the direct entry trainees of RAF Locking. The new team members initially train for two nights in their first few weeks so that their suitability can be assessed, thereafter, the team meets once per week for two hours training, with extra training sessions being used nearer an event if required. The drill sequence consists of approximately 160 movements with no words of command. When called upon to do so, the team is also used to make up the Station Guard of Honour.

The drill squad was originally formed in 1982 and the first Officer in charge was Flight Lieutenant M S Oszczyk with assistance from Sergeant Chamberlain



Back row: ACs Fennelly, Passmore, Crofts, Clarks; third row: ACs Ward, Douglas, Hobbs, Larkin; second row: ACs Thomas, Davis, Harvey, Fawcett; front row: ACs Denton, Watts, Wilson, MacGregor; Flt Lt Lloyd. Cpl Meston.

and Corporal Booth. Today the team is successfully managed by Flight Lieutenant Lloyd, Sergeant Humpage and Corporal Meston.

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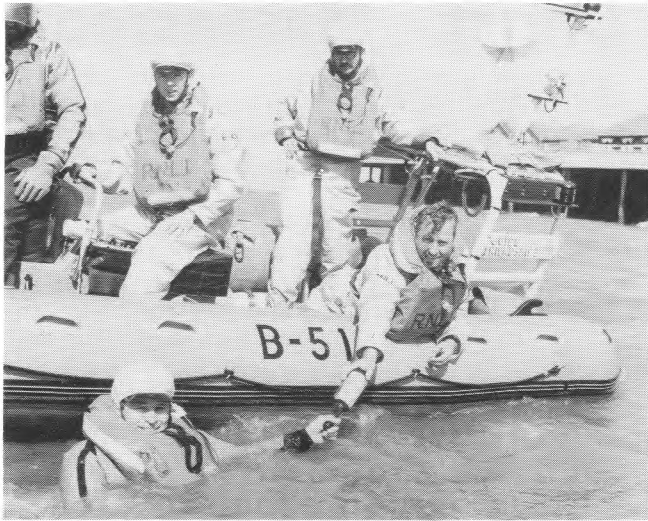
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What Some People Will Do For Money!

Members of RAF Locking and RAF Chivenor Sub-Aqua Clubs participated in 'The Chivenor Drift' an annual event to raise funds for the Weston-Super-Mare and Appledore RNLI.



What some people will do for a drink.

Twenty bodies participated, of which 18 threw themselves off Barnstaple Bridge in pairs (none wanted to jump alone!).



The Jump!



Chf Tech Leaver and boat.

The divers proceeded to drift the four miles down river (a feat that required little effort and no imagination and was therefore particularly suited to the officers involved). Three hours later the 'drifters' eventually beached themselves on Chivenor's Watersports Club slipway. The event climaxed with a curry and beer binge which, in retrospect, should have been served prior to the event, as this could have provided added propulsion.

The Locking divers raised about £300, a cheque for which was presented to Weston-Super-Mare RNLI by the Station Commander.



The Cheque Presentation

The Locking team were: Flt Lt John Mayes, Fg Off Sheona Ridley, Sgt Steve Dove, Cpls Al McDougall, Wally Bingham, Steve Swift, Dave Fitton, Jnr Tech Trevor Frampton and AC Mark Astley.

Thanks to: Flt Sgt of Chivenor Sub-Aqua Club, the Cook – excellent curry – and finally the Station Commander, for getting wet in Weston-Super-Mare.

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Padre's Piece

As I write this, Christmas seems so far away still. We have not yet seen the first decorations up, or the first Father Christmas in the stores, but as you read this, it will no doubt be in the middle of all kinds of frantic preparations – presents to be bought, food to be prepared, visits to or by relatives to be organised; so much to be done. Every year we say once more 'Never again!'.

But think, the hassle we have is that of affluence; the hassle of that first Christmas was of poverty and powerlessness. A young mother, caught up in the influx of crowds for the census and without status to demand or money to buy accommodation. The rich and powerful ignored the birth. The poor shepherds came to see what had happened and went away satisfied, if not much wiser.

Today, many in our world would dearly welcome the opportunity to worry over gifts or catering arrangements; unfortunately they are too busy trying to stay alive.

Jesus came to bring hope and healing to those in greatest need. Perhaps our Christmas present to Him can be a cheque to the value of our best present or at the very least, of our Christmas dinner, sent to some charity which today gives hope and healing.

Christmas – Sacred Christ – Massacred

Which will it be for you?

Your friend and Chaplain

Ken Brown.

SEARCHWORD 'CHRISTMAS STORY'

Word List

Angel	Donkey	Joseph	Nazareth
Ass	Frankincense	King Herod	Oxen
Balthasar	Gold	Manger	Sheep
Bethlehem	Hay	Mary	Shepherds
Camels	Inn	Melchior	Stable
Caspar	Jesus	Myrrh	Star
			Wise Men



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Now, let's see.... have I FORGOTTEN anybody?

Local Vicar's Christmas Message

We at RAF Locking value the close contacts we have with the local Village and are pleased to print this article from the local Church – Ed.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

In our family we make Christmas lists so we can give useful gifts to each other and I've been thinking – 'Well what do I need this Christmas?' and I'm finding it difficult to answer that question. Materially we have, or can get, all we need, but spiritually we are in great need.

Not one person I know has enough LOVE, JOY or PEACE. Indeed, some feel completely unloved and lonely, some live lives that have no joy, with soured relationships that have deprived them not only of joy but of peace as well.

We all need love, joy and peace of such quality that they don't fade away with the coming of the New Year, and these needs are met in Jesus Christ. He was born in Bethlehem, died on the Cross and rose again from the dead and He can meet our need for love because **He is Love**, he can meet our need for joy because we are secure and safe in His friendship. Our peace starts with forgiveness of our sins and **He is Peace** as we recognise our need and receive Him into our lives.

Materially we have few needs, spiritually we have great needs. Christmas is a good time to find out what Christ offers, there are no better presents than His **Love, Joy and Peace**. Along the way we shall discover other gifts like Hope and other needs will be met – that can't be bad, can it?

Christmas is a good time to make a list of those important things money can't buy and then realise they can be met in Jesus Christ.

Can I ask you, as I ask myself, 'Well, what do I need this Christmas?' The best and most important things we need are in Jesus. **We all need Him** and we can have Him as we sing again the old Hymn: 'Oh come to my heart Lord Jesus. There's room in my heart for Thee'.

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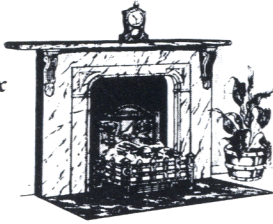
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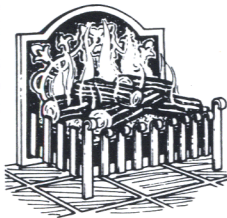
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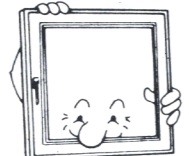
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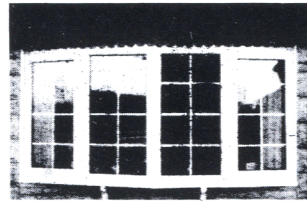
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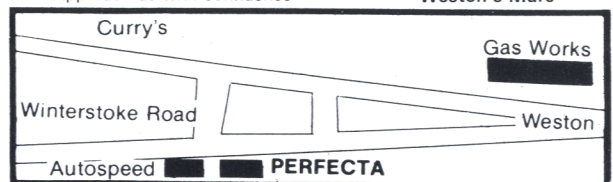


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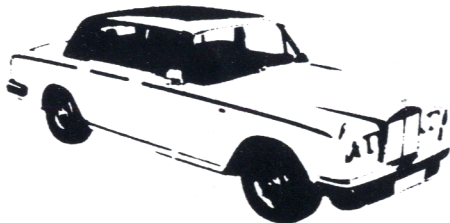
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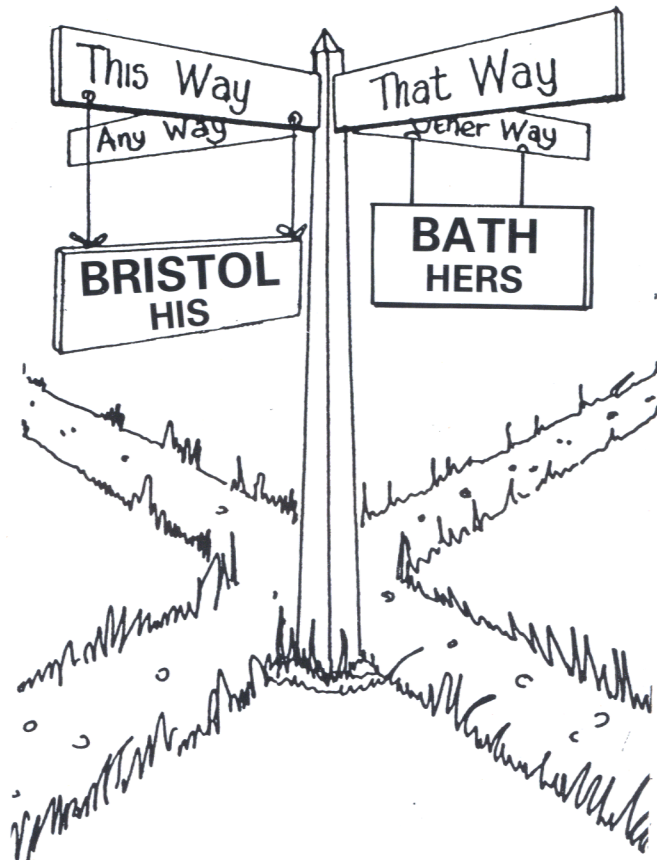
The season of goodwill is once more upon us; where do you go at this time of year - other than the bankruptcy court and the chemist for hangover cures. The joys of Christmas, a sagging bank balance, the kids shut in and bored, roads and car parks full. Your first inclination may be to lock yourself in a sound-proof room with a good book and a bottle of scotch, but wait: 'What light by yonder window shines'. Only the chance to stock up on smarty points for the new year.

Why not send your wife on a shopping trip to Bath - so much nicer than Coventry; she can also keep her clothes on and does not need horse-riding lessons. Seriously, though, Bath is a city of history and character as well as having a very good traffic-free shopping centre with the railway station very close to this facility. The chance to use the railcard and avoid all those parking problems, particularly in view of Bath's new parking policy.

Having looked after the children while your wife spent your money in Bath, how about some family entertainment? Christmas usually sees the start of the pantomime season, and we have at least two good ones on our doorstep. At The Playhouse in W-S-M, and at The Hippodrome in Bristol. The Bristol pantomime is usually a star-studded production; both productions usually require early booking though. If live theatre is not to your liking why not try the cinema? The festive season is usually the one time of the year when you can count on good family entertainment films.

Next month's article will take us out and about in a more 'Pathfinder' style. In the mean-time have a very pleasant Christmas and may I wish you and yours all you wish yourself for the New Year.

By ROVER



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The following series of illustrations cover the full gambit of tasks carried out by the student, including radio operation, guarding of positions, eating/sleeping arrangements and personal camouflage.



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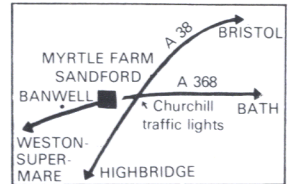
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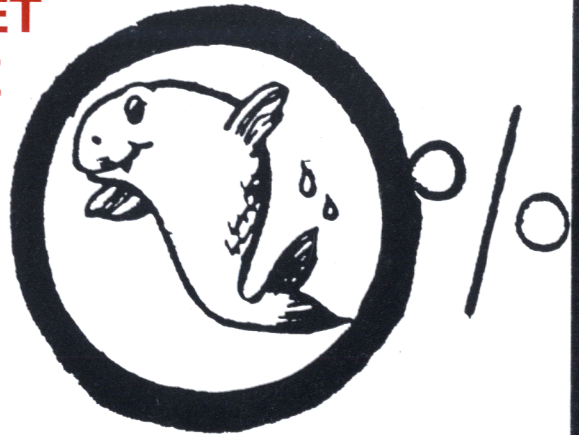
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Mart Ini – Private High

CHAPTER 1 – by ALAN BURROWS

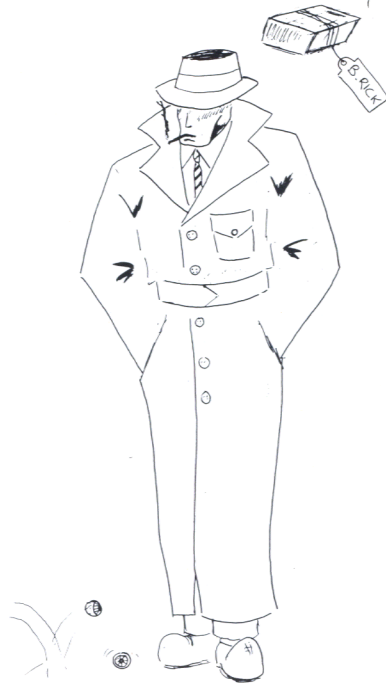
Mart Ini sat in his office. The office was cold and silent except for the dripping of water where the rain leaked through a small hole in the roof. Suddenly there was a knock on the Private Investigator's door, Mart ignored it; the knock came again. It was then that Mart remembered that he was the Private Investigator and someone was knocking on his door. He got up and opened the door. A tall blonde stood there, she rolled her eyes at him, Mart rolled them back. He just stood there not saying a thing, then the blonde broke the silence, 'My name is Tracy Otine, my father, Guill Otine, he's the head of a big company.' Mart nodded, she continued, 'He's gone missing and I want you to try and find him'. 'How much is it worth?' Mart asked. 'Three hundred pounds and a free key ring.' 'You've got yourself a deal' Mart replied and he shut the door.

He returned to his seat and pondered over where to start his search. At that moment there was a loud crash and an idea hit him. The idea was wrapped around a brick with the words, B Rick, Brick Co, 31 The Highway, Near Hear! 'Wonder where this came from', said Mart as he read the idea. It said 'why not start at Guill Otine's office'. Mart threw the piece of paper down at the shock of seeing paper talk. Still not a bad idea, he thought, as he grabbed his coat and rushed out of his office. It was painful for him to leave his office because he forgot to open the door first.

He decided to take the lift, as he thought it might be quicker; he soon gave up that idea though because it became too heavy. The rain had stopped



now, but a cold chill brushed past him as he left the building. He watched as the chill ran down the road. Mart walked towards Guill Otine's office and soon he reached the building, a sign above the door confirmed that this was the place. Mart read the sign which said 'Guill Otine and Friend – Founded quite a while ago'. Mart entered the building, remembering



to open the door this time. He walked up to the reception desk, a sign on top said 'Miss Uni Gate'; Mart stepped back, 'First talking paper now a talking sign', he said quietly to himself. There was nobody around, so he decided to try and find Guill's office himself. He looked at a map of the building, Mr Otine's office was on the top floor, so he went up the stairs this time, remembering how heavy lifts were these days.

He reached the top eventually and looked around for Mr Otine's office; he noticed it at the end of the corridor. Mart walked slowly towards it and when he reached it he knocked at the door. A voice inside the room called 'enter'. Mart opened the door and went in. In front of him sat a small, fat greyhaired old man. 'Mr Otine?' Mart asked. 'Who else do you think I am', the old man replied. Mart didn't answer, he just stood there with a surprised look on his face. 'Well?' the fat man asked. Mart answered 'Your daughter asked me to try and find you'. 'What do you mean?' the fat man asked, 'I haven't got a daughter, never did have'. Mart didn't know what to think, he just apologised and left.

Who was the blonde who had called at his office? He decided to try and find out, but first he had to watch the A-Team, his favourite programme, apart from cartoons.

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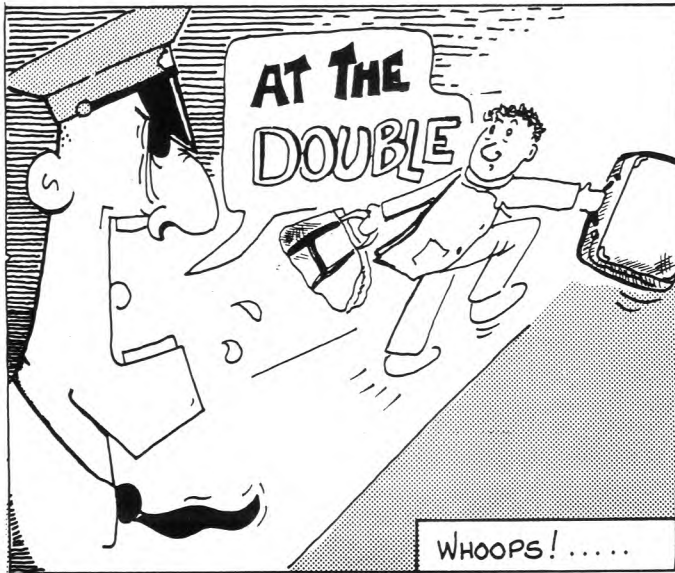
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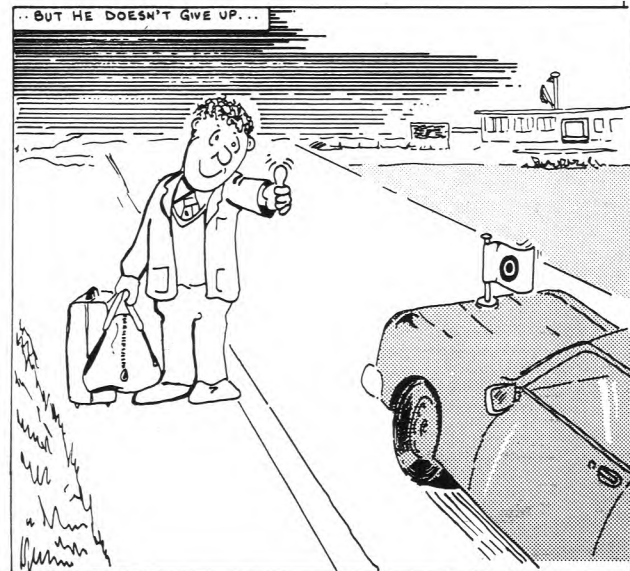


HE WAS KEEN TO MAKE FRIENDS

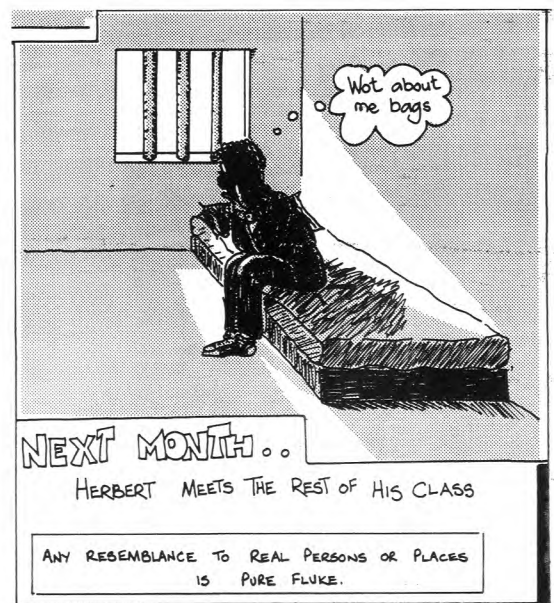
Any chance of a lift with the cases, sport?



.. BUT HE DOESN'T GIVE UP . . .



.. AND NOW HE'S SURROUNDED, WITH FRIENDS . . .



Have Yourself a Fire-Free Christmas

As we approach the festive season, our minds tend to overlook some of the dangers that can occur during the period. Christmas is a time of pleasure, parties, good food and drink (the occasional hangover!), but it can also be a time of great sadness. It is a time of year where statistics show that outbreaks of fire in the home rise dramatically.

Let us look at some of the causes which can bring misery to the yuletide holiday.

The Christmas tree is often a culprit, wax candles and faulty electric fairy lights are usually the cause. Try not to use real candles, as you have an instant source of flame and heat; as well as possibly setting the tree on fire, they have a habit of dropping off and setting light to all the expensively-wrapped presents below.

'It won't happen to me,' say some of you, 'I have an artificial tree'. Don't fool yourself; real candles may be traditional, but they constitute a real danger. Faulty fairy lights are another problem; make sure that they have a British Standard Safety symbol. If you are using an old set, check the wires thoroughly, and remember to switch off and unplug electric lights before leaving the house, or retiring for the night.

The biggest hazard however, is where alcohol is involved. Always check the house and clean up after



Now you tell me the supply fire team have disbanded!

parties; you may feel very tired and just want to go to bed, but all it would take is a smouldering cigarette end to turn your home into an inferno. Switch off and unplug all unnecessary appliances, and close all doors behind you.

Basic fire prevention in the home is mostly down to common sense and good housekeeping. A very merry and fire-free Christmas to you all.

Fearless Phil the Fireman



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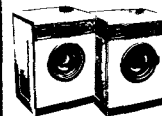
by MERLIN



The season of goodwill to all men is fast approaching, and to prove that this time of joy can reach even the stoniest heart, and melt it, the Editor has agreed to delve deep into the coffers of *Airwaves* and produce a bottle of NAAFI's best plonk for the winner of this month's quiz. Send your answers to reach the Education Section by no later than 0900 hrs on December 18 1987. The first all-correct answer drawn out of the hat at 1000 hrs on that day wins the bottle. In the event of there being no all correct answers the prize will go to the reply containing the most correct answers. Good luck and a very happy Christmas to you all.

1. After the birth of Jesus, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to flee with his family to where?
2. What gifts did the three wise men bring to the infant Jesus?
3. According to legend, what were the names of the three wise men?
4. Who had a hit record with 'All I want for Christmas is a Beatle'?
5. Who introduced the Christmas tree to England?
6. According to the song what did 'My true love send to me' on the 7th day of Christmas?
7. Which Christmas carol has the following second line 'That glorious song of old'?
8. In which book would you find the characters of Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim?
9. Many church bells will be pealing out over Christmas, but do you know the correct name for the hobby of bellringing?
10. Which country traditionally presents a Christmas tree each year to this country for display in Trafalgar Square.

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Wishing RAF Locking personnel and families a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New year

Plutôt Mouvir Que Changer

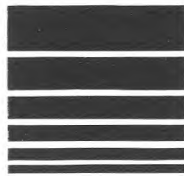
A Brief History of Air Defence 1916-1939

Development began in earnest at Orfordness on the Suffolk coast, but in late 1935 moved to Bawdsey Manor just to the north of Felixstowe, which became the Air Ministry Research Establishment. A single 250ft tower was erected on this site to accommodate the two receiver aerials which, along with the 360ft aerial at Orfordness, formed the first Radio Location Station. Early experiments using a frequency of 6MHz showed this to be prone to interference, therefore this was increased to 13MHz. During air exercises in 1936, it became clear that even at the increased frequency, interference was still a major problem. A section of the Bawdsey team had been working on a system that incorporated equipment working around 22MHz; this frequency was now to be used in the main radio location equipment with much improved results.

A transmitter was developed which was capable of 25kW of power with a pulse width of 15 microseconds. Receiver gain and sensitivity were improved and these then became the main components of the CHAIN HOME stations.

In late 1935 a recommendation from the committee to build a chain of stations from the Tyne to Southampton was baulked by the Treasury who sanctioned the building of just five stations. These were to become known as the Estuary Chain and were sited at Bawdsey, Canewdon, Great Bromley, Dunkirk and Dover. The sites were chosen to

— Con't



Chain Home Low Aerial, mounted on a 360 degree tower.

shortcoming another system known as Chain Home Low was evolved; furthermore, Chain Home was forward looking only. Chain Home Low was developed using a wavelength of 1.5 metres, and because of this the aerial array was much smaller allowing the incorporation of a rotating mount. The system could now scan a full 360 degrees.

By Good Friday 1939, 15 of the 18 planned stations were operational and, though development continued throughout hostilities, this was to be the backbone of Britain's air defence during World War II and proved instrumental in the successful outcome of the Battle of Britain.

Sgt T J Long



Chain Receiver, Comms and Filter Room.

provide air defence coverage for London with a reasonable operational overlap. Bawdsey, Canewdon and Dover were to be both transmitting and receiving sites while Great Bromley and Dunkirk were purely transmitter sites.

Air exercises held in 1937 were the first real test of this chain, which proved to be so successful that a decision was made to provide a further 13 stations. Air defence coverage would now stretch from Douglas Ward-Angus in the north to Ventnor on the Isle of Wight. Frequency allocations for these stations were in a band upwards from 22.4 MHz to the highest at 60MHz. Frequencies were spaced around the chain so as to minimise mutual interference.

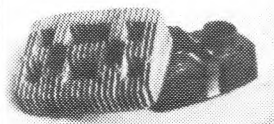
As successful as this Chain Home system proved, because of the wavelength used, it was not able to detect low flying aircraft. To combat this

LF

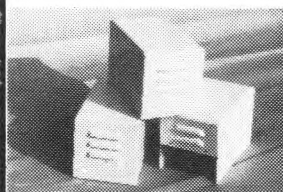
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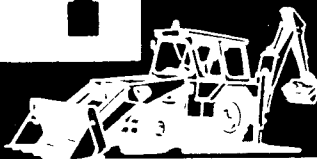
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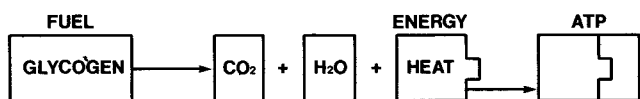
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Keep in Trim

'Just What Exactly Is Going On Here?'

Having been motivated to go out and start an exercise programme, we want to know what this series of self-inflicted torture sessions are going to do to our precious, if often overlooked, bodies. To do this we need to consider how our breathing, circulation and muscles will be affected and how we will be affected in general.

Before we begin, let us first consider what happens in the muscles when they perform work. Whenever we perform a movement we shorten (contract) one of our muscles. This work requires fuel which is supplied, for the most part, by the breakdown of glycogen to make carbon dioxide, water and ENERGY in the form of heat.



When this takes place in the presence of oxygen there are no harmful waste products, therefore we can surmise that for efficiency we need oxygen in the muscles, and the harder the work the more oxygen will be needed.

During exercise more oxygen is needed; this comes from the air that we breathe and during exercise we breathe quicker and deeper. Breathing involves using several muscle groups in the chest and chest cavity. This is apparently wasted energy as it doesn't directly help the activity which we are doing. However, over a period of time the lungs become more efficient; the airways open up and the transfer of oxygen to the bloodstream becomes more efficient. Breathing is much easier as there is less resistance and no need to breathe so quickly. In the trained person the breathing rate is lower and therefore he is not wasting as much energy.

Having now got the oxygen into the bloodstream, we need to get it to the muscles and vital organs as quickly as possible. This requires a strong, powerful and regular pump – the HEART.

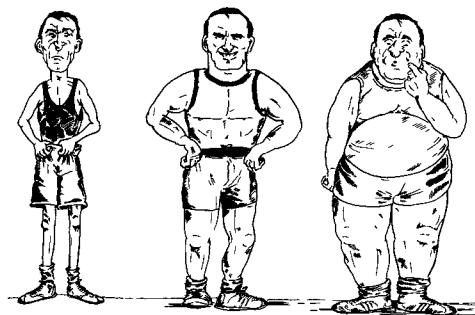
The heart reacts to any increase in activity by increasing the rate and force of its beat. During exercise, more blood is needed to carry oxygen around the body, and over a period of time the four compartments of the heart enlarge, therefore each cycle pumps out a greater volume (called stroke volume) of blood. The heart then does not need to beat so fast to do the same work, so it conserves energy and becomes more efficient. The trained person has a much lower resting heart beat than the unfit, and he also has to work harder to reach his training heart rate. As with any other muscle the size, weight and strength of the heart will increase.

An untrained muscle looks like this



The muscle fibres are interlaced with a network of very fine blood vessels called CAPILLARIES. In the untrained muscle the blood only flows through a few of these. When an increased workload is placed in the muscles, the increased blood flow means that progressively more capillaries open in a process called VASCULARISATION. This process does however work in the opposite way, and a period of prolonged inactivity will lead to capillaries closing.

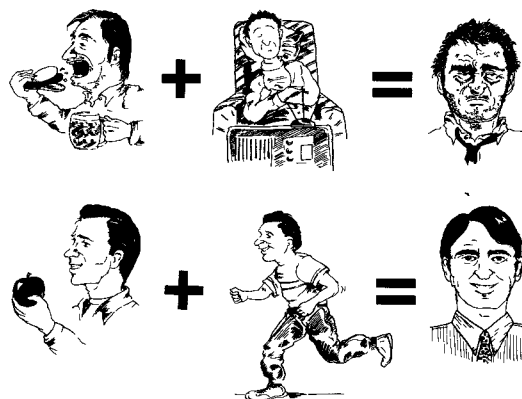
In the same sort of way muscles get bigger, and therefore stronger, with exercise because the muscle fibres split, increasing their number (hypertrophy). After a period of inactivity due to injury or holiday there is no need for the extra fibres so they waste away, and are turned into fat (atrophy).



BEFORE DURING AFTER

Energy is stored in muscle fibres and an emergency store in the liver. Any extra we take on board in the form primarily of carbohydrates is turned into adipose tissue – FAT; this is our long term supply of energy. When you are undergoing an exercise programme, as long as you are careful with what you are eating, you will start to use more energy than is in the muscles and so will start to use your long term supply and SLIM.

In general then, with muscles in good condition, co-ordination of skills becomes more efficient and can be performed for longer before you get tired. Posture will improve and flab will slowly, not overnight unfortunately, recede and therefore physically and mentally you will feel better. The increased vascularisation will enhance your natural complexion and therefore you will also look better.



Unfortunately nature has decreed that we do not get all of this for nothing; a sensible diet in combination with an exercise programme of some sort will help you get that vim, vigour and vitality back into you.

Next month we will look at ways of exercising.

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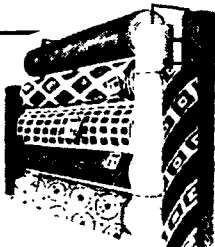
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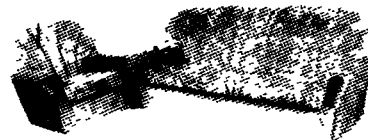
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Recipe of the Month

Here is a recipe for a delicious Christmas Cake that will grace the best Christmas tables.

Ingredients

6 oz Sultanas	6 oz Soft Brown Sugar
6 oz Raisins	4 Standard Eggs
4 oz Currants	4 oz Self Raising Flour
3 oz Glacé Cherries	Pinch of Salt
¼ pt Sherry	½ tsp Mixed Spice
6 oz Butter	1 oz Ground Almonds
3 oz Mixed Peel	

Utensils

8-in round or 7-in square baking tin.

Cooking Time: 1 hr at 325°F or Gas 3, followed by 1½ hrs at 300°F or Gas 2.

Method

About a week before making cake, mix together washed and dried fruit, peel and cherries; pour over the sherry and mix. Leave to soak, stirring frequently until required; keep it covered during this time.

Grease and line cake tin with double thickness paper, heat oven; cream together butter and sugar till soft and fluffy, gradually beat in the eggs, fold in the flour, salt, spice and ground almonds.

Drain off any liquor from fruit and add fruit to cake mixture, stirring until well blended; pour into prepared tin, smooth top and bake for 1 hr.

Cover with foil and cook for remaining time until firm to the touch, leave to stand in tin until nearly cold. Remove from tin, prick well and pour over the remaining liquor. Wrap in foil or greaseproof and leave to mature until a few days before Christmas.

Almond Paste

8 oz Ground Almonds	2 Egg Yolks
8 oz Icing Sugar	2 tsp Lemon Juice

Put almonds and sugar in a bowl, lightly whisk egg yolks and lemon juice with a fork, stir into bowl and blend to form a stiff paste, knead until smooth. Brush cake with a little extra egg white before covering with almond paste, leave 24 hrs before icing.

Royal Icing

2 Egg Whites	2-3 tsp Lemon Juice
1 lb Icing Sugar	

Whisk eggs together in large bowl using a wooden spoon or electric beater, gradually beat in icing sugar and lemon juice. The icing should be soft enough to spread but firm enough to form peaks; spread onto cake and leave 24 hrs to harden.

Decorate cake prior to displaying it on your table. Hope you enjoy it.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December 7	Quiz and Party Night
January 11	Skittles
February 8	Talk by Well Woman Clinic
March 7	Fashion Show by Daisies Don't Tell

Events held in the Flowerdown Centre at 7.45 pm.
Do try and come.

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Wednesday 9.30 am – 11 am

CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 14

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Lists at: Toddlers, NAAFI Notice Board.

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THE BACK ROW VIEW

On a wet and windswept Wednesday, October 14 1987, RAF Locking's brave 'Fifteen' went into battle against RAF Chivenor in the opening round of the Royal Air Force Cup. It was a fixture to daunt the hardest spirit; a foray into deepest Devon.

Doug (I hate RAF buses) McAllister looked decidedly ashen by the time the opposition's encampment was reached, and others in various states of repose drifted back to consciousness. The dressing room rituals were quickly put into motion and the captain, Dave (let's enjoy the game lads) Chidgey supercharged the team into a veritable 'mean machine'.

The course of the game went as planned, RAF Locking lulling the home team into a false sense of



Locking (dark shirts) jumping against Chivenor – 1st rnd RAF Cup.

security by 'tactically' infringing the rules, forcing the opposition to score with penalty kicks! Some unfair distraction techniques were employed by flying machines to unsettle Locking's play. Tony Edwards trying to knock a couple of these down, produced good defensive touch kicks and even 'posted' the ball to score.

In the second half, Locking decided that the wind was strong enough to blow them downhill, and fell upon the unsuspecting opposition. Ian Marshall and Neil McFall did some excellent work in this respect and Guy Hutchings, Win Williams and Alan Alder fell on anything that moved. 'Fingers' Edwards displayed perfect handling skills, mainly without the ball, whereas Terry (my ball) Long displayed similar skills without his glasses. Eventually, in a complex melee of rain, wind, sweat and tears RAF Locking scored the only try of the match. An inspired act of determination from the 'backs' put Chris West underneath a ton of opposition to score.

By the final whistle the score was even, nine points each. But, behold what rules govern such an occurrence? Nobody knew for sure. The Oracle had to be consulted and the book of words pronounced RAF Locking as winners, being the only team to score a try.

The result, though harsh, sends RAF Locking into the second round, where they take on the might of St Athan. But back at the clubhouse, the aches and pains are temporarily forgotten whilst the meaning of life is discussed and good deeds are done – until the next time!

May I mention in closing this article, thanks to John Galagher, Trev Morris and the MT driver for the support given to the team during this game.

Sgt A N Alder, Secretary, Ext 371

PS New members are very welcome. Contact me for information. Training is at 1730 hrs each Tuesday.

RAF LOCKING LAWN TENNIS CLUB REVIEW 1987

The RAF Locking lawn tennis team, one of the most successful station teams in recent years, had another good season, establishing themselves in the top four teams in the RAF. The season began with trepidation after a change in the rules for the RAF Cup meaning that for the first time singles had to be played at an inter-station level. Due to the advancing years of the majority of our team this was a worry, but experience counts for a great deal and after demolishing St Mawgan and Chivenor 9-0 we cruised to a 6-3 victory over St Athan, one of the early season favourites. Another 9-0 whitewash of Shawbury followed before eventual defeat 9-0 by High Wycombe in the semi-final.

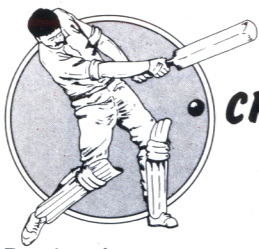
The Faville Trophy followed a similar pattern, with St Athan again suffering at our hands 5-4, before defeat in a closely contested semi-final at Cranwell, winners for the last four years. Locking lost 5-4 although our first pair of Cpl Chris Greenwood and JT Simon Williams won all three of their matches without dropping a set.

In the local league, after two successive promotion years, the team were relegated by just one point. The matches were used for experimentation for the more 'serious' RAF games and the continual swapping of partners confused us more than the opposition. The following players represented the station during the season:— Sqn Ldr P Jaques, OIC; Cpl C Greenwood NCO IC; Sqn Ldr P Sanders; Flt Lt M Goodwin; Flt Lt D Ross; CT R Croxford; Sgt M Pomorski; JT S Williams; SAC N Lake; AC G Southern.

Cpl Greenwood and JT Williams were both selected to represent the RAF during the summer, and played vital parts in the total demolition of Strike Command in the Inter-Command match.

In the recent RAF Championships all four of RAF Locking's representatives made it through the early rounds at Halton to play on the hallowed turf of Wimbledon. Unfortunately, due to the weather, it turned out to be the damp clay of Wimbledon. SAC Lake on his debut in these championships achieved great success making the final of the Mixed Doubles and the Semi-final of the Plate Doubles. Cpl Greenwood lost in the Quarter-final of the Open Doubles and with Sqn Ldr Jaques made the Quarter-final of the Inter-station Doubles.

Sqn Ldr Peter Jaques, the 'Tony Jacklin' of RAF Tennis who can take a collection of ageing superstars and ambitious young men and mould a successful team, was posted in September to RAF Newton and his successor FO 'What's a tennis ball' Wheeler has taken charge. The station team play in a winter mixed league, and although we cope by drafting in the odd wife and mother-in-law (I'm not joking) we are short of depth in ladies. Any WRAF or dependant who can wield a racket and enjoys a laugh should contact Cpl Greenwood, Computer Sqn, ext 369 on his occasional days at work.



CRICKET, LOVELY CRICKET

By the time you read this article you will probably feel that the past summer is best forgotten and that things next year can only get better, drier and warmer! However, it would be a shame to allow one of the brighter aspects of last summer, leastways if you are a cricketer, to go unnoticed by not reporting on the exceptionally successful season enjoyed by the Station Cricket team. The more notable statistics for the RAF Locking Cricket team 1987 season are: a. Royal Arthur six-a-side Champions; b. Watson Shield Champions; c. Western Units Cricket League (WUCL) Runners-up; d. Faville Trophy Finalists; e. Watson Shield 'Man-of-the-Match' Tim Reeve (RAF Locking); f. Royal Arthur 'Man-of-the-Day' Mig Goodwin (RAF Locking); g. WUCL centuries during the season: J Rattou (Hnnsworth), M Goodwin (Locking), D Coulson (Locking); h. Highest Team Score 262-7 (a WUCL Record) (RAF Locking); i. WUCL Bowling award (player who takes three wickets or more on most occasions) Mig Goodwin (RAF Locking); j. WUCL Batting award (player who scores 30 runs or more on the most occasions) Mig Goodwin (RAF Locking); k. Representative Players: Colin Debenham RAF, Mig Goodwin Support Command.

Clearly Flt Lt Mig Goodwin was the outstanding station cricketer in terms of personal success on the field of play. He scored runs consistently (925 runs in 21 innings averaging 82 runs per completed innings) and in an aggressive, yet responsible manner. He also took wickets (71 overs-8 maidens 28 wickets for 305 runs) and acted as stand-in wicket-keeper on several occasions. His dedication and enthusiasm for the game were an example to all who wish to become better cricketers. Sqn Ldr Colin Debenham, Cpl Dave Coulson and AC Steve Cowie each enjoyed several big innings, thus ensuring that on most occasions our bowlers had a big total to defend. In the Watson Shield Competition AC Vaughan John scored 44 not out in the semi-final and 29 not out in the final, but was pipped for the 'Man-of-the-Match' award by SAC Tim Reeve, who returned bowling figures of 4-13. Cpl Mick Ackroyd was undoubtedly our most fearsome strike bowler; in all matches he bowled economically and made all opening batsmen feel uncomfortable. One of his finest performances was against RAF Valley in the semi-final of the Faville Trophy when he took 3 wickets for no runs in his last 4 overs, finishing with 11 overs - 6 maidens - 4 wickets for 9 runs. But, as chance would have it, AC Dave Pollock went one better and took 4 wickets for no runs in his last 3 overs; his final analysis being 11 overs - 5 maidens - 6 wickets for 12 runs. Incidentally RAF Valley lost their last 7 wickets for no runs and were all out for 24 runs. Perhaps that is another record?

There is neither time nor space to mention all the 36 players who represented the Station in the '87 season; nevertheless, each one will have memories of his own; here are a few of mine...

Firstly, I arrived to see how the team was doing against RAF Upavon, the current league leaders, and discovered that, without my help, (and I had scored 75 for the RAF the previous day), they had beaten the league batting record of 256 by 6 runs. I should add that on August 18 Locking scored 261-5 which again beat the previous league record which just happened to be held by Locking.

Secondly, in the semi-final of the local evening league cup competition a strong Winscombe side scored 172 off their allotted 20 overs. In reply Locking scored 162-3, despite having to bat in near darkness for almost 10 overs. That evening Steve Cowie scored 71 whilst at the crease for only 11 overs and Mig Goodwin scored 51 off 24 deliveries.

Thirdly, in the Faville Trophy quarter-final against RAF Sealand, Wg Cdr Chris Cho-Young's magnificent catch at cover. Standing 30 yards from the bat with his view obscured by the umpire (who was standing on the wrong side of the wicket!), Wg Cdr Cho-Young suddenly realised that the batsman had mistimed a drive and a small, hard object was heading in his direction. As several shouts of 'catch' went up, the gallant Wg Cdr dived heroically (some say foolishly) at the umpire who intuitively stepped to one side just in time to see the catch taken cleanly at his feet by a dazed, slightly winded but delighted senior officer. Grim-faced, the batsman stalked off muttering under his breath about luck and other such nonsense. If only we could see the action replay!

Finally, again in the semi-final of the Faville Trophy, I was delighted to see the pleasure on the face of Fg Off Rohan Pathirage after he had scored a fine 42 not out against an RAF Valley attack that had restricted us to 160-7 in 45 overs. Rohan was one of two Sri Lankan Officers who played for most of the season; despite the weather, they enjoyed their cricket and added much to the overall team spirit.

Not everything about the 1987 cricket season was rosy. Too often we had difficulty fielding a team, even for the Faville Trophy Final, which we lost against RAF Fylingdale on September 2. We also had to wait until the end of May before we won our first game; again the weather restricted our number of fixtures, but many good players were slow in coming forward. This winter there will be indoor cricket training sessions, net practices and even an indoor cricket league, starting in January. All personnel who have a love for cricket, whatever their standard, are most welcome to come along. Details will be published in Station Routine Orders and at the Gymnasium. We also need a permanent scorer, and we can send you off on a course to become 'professionally' qualified - Wendy Wimbush watch out!

Last but by no means least I wish to thank Mig Goodwin, and especially FS Larry Lawrence for their considerable efforts 'behind the scenes' to ensure that we always honoured our fixture-list whatever the difficulties in raising a team. Thanks to them, 1987 was a year to remember - I believe that 1988 will be even better!

Colin Debenham
OIC Cricket

Are You Aged 16 To 95
If So
We Want You

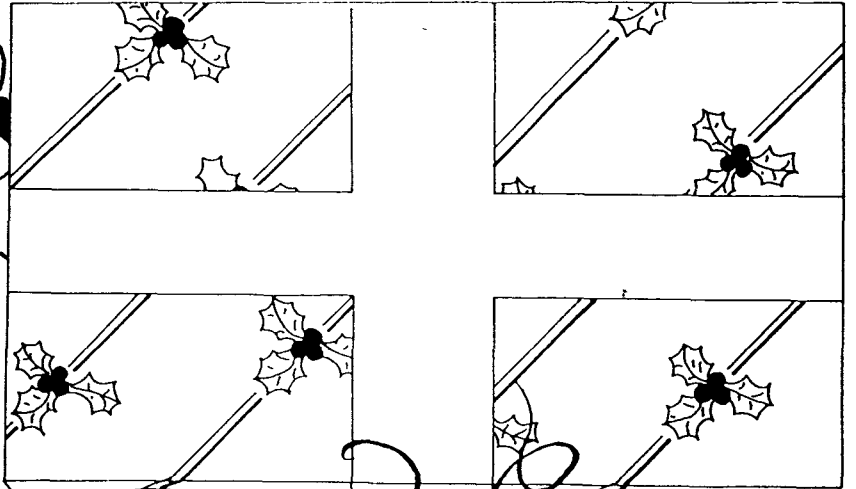
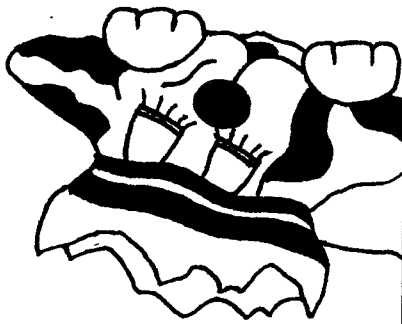
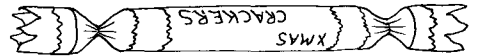


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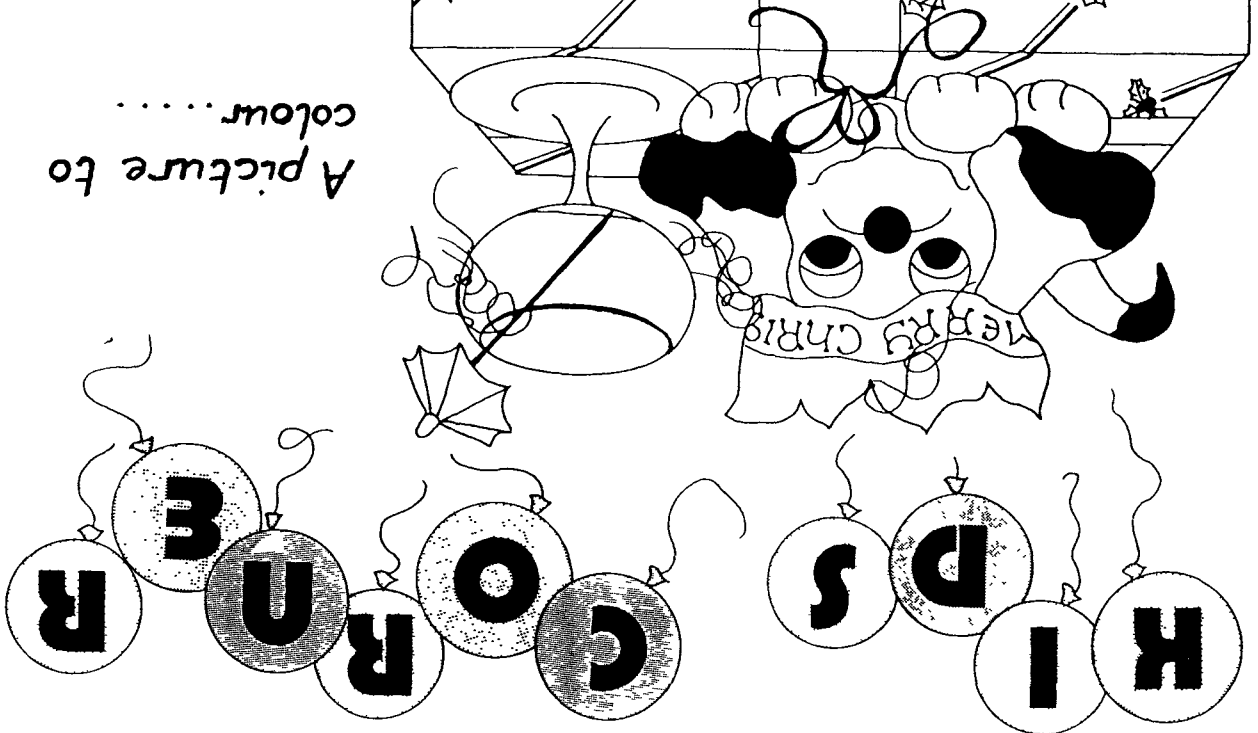
ANSWERS:

A. So it could be a First Aid Kit; B. Bunny; C. One wears trousers, another pants; D. Use a cowculator; E. A mouse on holiday; F. Nine; G. There are more of them; H. Norse code.

- A. Why did the cat join the Red Cross?
- B. How can you say RABBIT without using the letter R?
- C. What's the difference between a man and a running dog?
- D. What's the best way to count cows?
- E. What animal is grey and has a trunk?
- F. If two's company and three's a crowd, what are four and five?
- G. Why do white sheep eat more than black sheep?
- H. How did the Vikings send messages?



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