



“ ATTENTION ~ ALL STAFF! ”

From Jenny Low [SWK Kuala Lumpur]:

Ronnie Thompson (Thailand) has advised that he is able to receive mail sent to him using the lower case in his e-mail address. Could you please, therefore, ensure his address reads: swkt@mozart.inet.co.th with immediate effect.

Please also note that John Scott has now moved from Darwin to Bangkok.

An updated list giving the e-mail addresses, telephone numbers etc. for all the offices in the Asia-Pacific Region is attached to the back of this issue of *Scoutlight*.

From Bob McGowan [Basingstoke]:

In last week's *Scoutlight*, Martin Duris raised the problem of computer viruses affecting hard drives.

In the Times Information Technology Supplement (of which I am a regular reader!) dated August 28th 1996, a response was printed to a similar story as follows;

“On December 6, 1994, the US Department of Energy's CIAC (Computer Incident Advisory Capability) issued a bulletin declaring this virus a hoax and an urban myth, saying: “This message originated from a user of America Online and a university student at approximately the same time, and was meant to be a hoax.” Since then, the so-called Word Prank or Winword.concept virus, which infects Microsoft Word on both Dos/Windows and Apple Mac computers, has spread, although it does not damage infected machines. If you encounter this message being distributed on any mailing lists, simply ignore it or send a follow-up message saying this is a false rumour.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Country	Traveller	Date
Hong Kong/	Chris White	16/09/96 - 18/09/96
Australia		19/09/96 - 21/09/96
Hong Kong	Claire Woolveridge	09/09/96 - 20/09/96
Kenya	Ralph Cobham	02/09/96 - 20/09/96
Hong Kong/	Russ Canning	05/09/96 - 19/09/96
Malaysia		01/10/96 - 04/10/96
Hong Kong	Renia Lopez	18/09/96
Mongolia	Ian Lunt	20/09/96
Delhi	David Owens	20/09/96
Nepal/	Gareth Hearn	29/09/96
Mongolia		
Nepal	Jonathan West	11/10/96
Lilongwe	Martin Oaten	21/10/96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Kim Candler [Southampton]:

The Southampton office has been appointed to provide Project Management and multi-disciplinary design services under a two-year term commission for the Defence Estates Organisation (works) in the Portsmouth area (Fee Scale A). Project Managers for the commission will be Kim Candler, Nigel Cotling and Richard Field.

Similarly, SWK Southampton has also been appointed to provide advisory services under a two-year term commission for the Defence Estates Organisation (Works) at Wilton (Fee Scale A). The Project Manager for the commission will be Kim Candler.

From SWK Hong Kong:

SWK (Hong Kong) has been appointed by Ecoserve Ltd and the EPD as the Independent Consultants for the design and construction of the North Lantau Refuse Transfer Station. Gregory Asia Ltd will act as sub-consultants to SWK for electrical and mechanical services.

Ecoserve recently won the 15-year design, construct and operate contract to provide a transfer station for the reception of refuse for containerisation and subsequent marine transport by vessels to the WENT Landfill Reception Area, and then transfer by vehicle to the WENT Landfill disposal face. The Transfer Station is being designed to accept a daily waste throughput of 650 tonnes for the Initial Works stage and 1,200 tonnes for the Fully Expanded Works stage. The Transfer Station must be able to cater for significant increases of waste throughput at Chinese New Year. Operations will commence by March 1998 to enable it to receive waste from Chek Lap Kok Airport.

The project involves site formation, together with the construction of the main transfer station complex, including the transfer station building, administration offices, barging point, vehicle maintenance and washing facilities, wastewater treatment plant, dust and odour control systems, fuel and water storage areas, paved areas and fences, surface water drainage and the development of a landfill reception area.

SWK will be responsible for checking that all aspects of the design, construction and completion of the Initial Works conform with the contract requirements and meet the specified environmental standards.

Peter Chan is the Project Director and Ng Ngok-Kong is the Project manager. Associate, Geoff Phillips, will act as an independent consultant on the project.

From Richard Levett [Basingstoke]:

SWK is hosting a visit by 10 middle and junior managers from Vietnam National Construction Consultants (VNCC). The ten (5 men and 5 women) include Architects, Structural Engineers, Economists and a Geologist. The group has already visited the Davis Langdon Consultancy and John Laing International

before joining SWK on a five week training scheme.

They have already completed one week with SWK London, learning how a structural engineering practice operates and this included much appreciated site visits.

As part of their training in Basingstoke, the group has been given a project which encompasses the preparation of a proposal for the design of an Airport Terminal Building. This is quite demanding and I would like to express my thanks to all the Presenters for their time and effort given to the group. Actually preparing a proposal helps the managers gain good insight into the skills of a UK Consulting Engineer which is a major part of the ODA brief to SWK.

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Congratulations to Richard Brown (Plymouth) who was married on 31st August to Annabel Orfila. The wedding took place in the South of France, near Annabel's home at Le Luc, Provence.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Welcome to David Keggin who joined MainLine's Computing Department on 2nd September for one year's Industrial Placement.

Ian Marsh has joined SWK in Nepal as Mechanical Supervisor on the Third Road Improvement Project.

TRANSFERS

David Geilinger has jetted off to the sunshine of Mozambique. He will spend the first month learning Portuguese before joining Rob Geddes, Cameron Milne and the prawns in Quelimarne. Dave will be working as Field and Planning Engineer on the Feeder Roads project for at least 18 months.

Colleagues at the Sheffield office would like to wish Stuart Dungworth all the best on his imminent 'Presidential' tour of Malawi, courtesy of SWK. We would also like to remind him that the office will not be there when he gets back at Christmas, but we'll save him a desk in Bayheath....

LEAVERS

Emma Hayes left the Abingdon office on 6th September.

SPORTS & SOCIALS

From John Blackmur [MainLine, Swindon]:

MainLine Swindon are pleased to report the success of the inaugural golf competition at Marlborough Golf Club. The competition for the 'MainLine Rail' was won by local man and organiser, alias myself! with 35 points, followed closely by Exeter's Phil King with 34 points.

The longest drive and nearest the pin were taken by Richard Cooper and Martin Nielsen respectively, and MainLine's Andy Davies took the booby prize (stick to soccer Andy!) A good

time was had by all 12 participants and the trophy will now be up for grabs annually. We hope to see more people at Marlborough next year.

From Richard Cooper [Basingstoke]:

Consultants day is an annual golf match between teams of four from 12 of the UK's leading Consultants. The winners arrange and organise the next match and provide the prizes. In view of this and wary of the impending costs, SWK's team were informed by their captain that they could come second but on no account should they win.

Following the morning round, SWK was in second place with Atkins leading the field. During the afternoon round, news travelled around the course that Atkins were faltering and it was left to our Golfing Director to drive his ball into the nearest lake to ensure that first place was avoided. Final results: Atkins: 201 points. Halrow & SWK: 200 points!

From Colin Baker (A50 Meir Site):

Two more members of staff at Meir, Stoke-on-Trent, turn over another page in the calendar of life!

Yes, once more we have to report that milestone birthdays have been reached on the A50 site.

Laboratory Manager, Greg Barrett, recently notched up two score years and celebrated this with a bowls competition amongst site staff. Rumours that 40 was his night's score rather than his age were unfounded, but a late strike had to be disqualified when Greg's wild throw knocked over all the pins in his neighbour's alley instead of his own!

Last week our Liaison Engineer, Graham Goodall, on the other hand, having reached the full half century, sneaked away to Anglesey for two days. But this did not help him avoid the A50's usual celebrations and, like others before him, he returned to find his office properly festooned with "encouraging" graffiti and posters informing him it was definitely downhill from now on.

As someone remarked at seeing all this, its nice to know we care!

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££££

To Rent: Three bedroomed, semi-detached house on the south side of Derby, approximately 4 miles from the Derby Southern Bypass Offices. Rent negotiable. Anyone interested please call Diane Harrower (Ext. 222) at the Chesterfield office.



Experienced Administrator/Secretary, MainLine:

MainLine will shortly be opening a new office in Crewe. To help run this operation we need an experienced Administrator/Secretary to provide a comprehensive support service to a small team. Responsibilities include: setting up and organising systems, producing reports and covering reception. Candidates must have good typing (RSA II) and computer literacy (MS Office) skills. If you are interested in this position please contact Diane Goddard or Alison White (Tel: 01793 515262), having first spoken to your Section Head.

Resident Engineer, Pakistan:

There is a vacancy for a graduate or recently chartered engineer to work as Resident Engineer in Pakistan, for a period of six months, starting October 1996. The SRC Ormara project involves the construction of marine reclamation within existing sea walls, using land-sourced fill material. Although candidates do not need marine experience, they must have a minimum of 2 years post-graduate experience, 12 months of which must have been spent on site.

Qualified Engineer, Lilongwe office, Malawi:

SWK Malawi are looking for a qualified engineer with at least 5 years' experience to work in the Lilongwe office. The candidate must have good management ability, as s/he will be required to take on the day-to-day management of a small office, and provide assistance in the production of drawings and documents for national road and township infrastructure. The duration will be for a minimum of two years, starting in January 1997.

If you are interested in this position or the above position in Pakistan, please contact Caz Spencer, Basingstoke (Ext. 209), having first spoken to your Section Head.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Tanya Ball [Basingstoke, HQ of the Caring World]:

The Caring World responding to Satellite-Materialism (Ref. Issue N°57):

Perhaps the the '40-hour week' issue (oh yes, here we go again. I'm afraid!) is incorrectly focused. Exactly *how many* hours SWK employees 'should' work is not the fundamental issue at stake. The fundamental issue, as I see it, (and tried very carefully to put across in Issue N°54 of *Scottlight*), is the *spirit* in which any and all our work is carried out. I am genuinely delighted to read that 'MainLine give 110% to the Company every day AND (...) get paid for all the hours they do.' Good for you/them on both accounts! But what of the situation where the work required to be done (considerably) exceeds the cash available to pay the workers? Do we just turn round and say, 'sorry, Boss, no deal'?

In case this news has failed to reach the end-buffers of the MainLine track (despite MainLine's kind reminder that we are now in 1996), there are values, considerably more important, more rewarding, and above all more *lasting* than self-interested material gain, and the blinkered, short-sighted 'me first' attitude that generates it. Realities such as, responsibility; care and consideration for others; gratitude, both for what one *is* and what one *has*; pride in the work accomplished, not only personally but corporately; thinking long term; and - shock! horror! - willingness actually to freely *give*, without necessarily expecting to receive in return, particularly when others, be they persons or a 'corporate body' such as SWK, need and would benefit from it.

The issue is therefore not 'How many hours *must* I work for X pay?', ('what are *my rights*?') but 'What work *needs* doing in order to keep the Firm "afloat", and what contribution can I make towards this end, which will be to the benefit of all concerned?' (what are *other people's needs*?').

Someone who became so famous that we now count our calendar years from the year of his birth once said, 'It is more fortunate to give than to receive'; and 'Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two'. Wrong attitude? 'Loadanonsense'? Yet still adopted/practiced by many today?... Seriously, MainLine-Planet-Earth, it's time *you* caught up with the times: this 'giving' attitude which transcends that of self-interested materialism has been around for nearly two millenia if not more... and you haven't tried it yet??? You don't know what you're missing - for probably the greatest joy I ever experience in life is... giving, *freely*.

PS: Today has allowed my first glance at a *Scottlight* issue for a month (due to many thoroughly enjoyable and challenging 'extra' hours' work) - hence the delay in my response.

PPS: Be reassured. it wasn't a joke. In fact your 'call' in Issue 54, beside inaccurately reflecting my initial article, is perhaps a little tragic. But thanks for providing the grounds for a 'good, healthy debate'!

Editor's note: Many thanks to all who have contributed to the '40 hour week' debate. It is intended that a Director's response will be published in next week's *Scottlight*, upon which this issue will finally be laid to rest (unless, of course, new issues emerge for renewed controversy!)

Idea of the Week



From Mike D'Alton [Basingstoke]:

To add the SWK Internet and E-mail numbers to the Telephone Mailing Sheets - it would save on the repetitive notes from people around the world.

From Gerry Goodman [A564 Derby Southern Bypass Site]:

Reading Martin Duris's contributions on computer viruses, and knowing of an impending millennium virus, could I suggest that a risk assessment be carried out by the Computing Department and/or outside specialists to fully gauge the possible financial implications for the Company.

Editors's note: My thanks to all (especially Richard Cooper) who brought to my attention the less than economic layout and subsequent printing of last week's issue. I am told a mistake is something you do twice!!

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Regional Office Contacts
Updated : 9 September 1996

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D/L = Office Direct Line H = Home

Distribution by e-mail to SWK offices:

Sydney; Melbourne; Darwin; Hong Kong; Bangkok; Hanoi; London; Basingstoke; Johannesburg; Harare (please copy to other offices as appropriate)



To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke):

Date:

My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):



.....

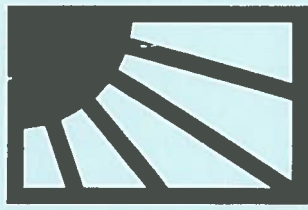
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.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name: Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION ~ ALL STAFF! ”

From Chris Sketchley [Basingstoke]:

In response to the suggestion from Tanya Ball (Issue 50 of *Scottlight*, 27th June 1996), staff in Scott House may well have noticed that a shower unit and changing area have now been installed in the ground floor gents toilet. In addition, the shower unit in the second floor Directors' toilet has been upgraded and this is available for the use of ladies in the building. A key for this will be held at Reception.

From Bob McGowan [Basingstoke]:

It was my intention in last week's *Scottlight* to reproduce a "question and answer" item from the "Times" weekly IT supplement "Interface". The article was relevant to the piece in the previous *Scottlight* (Issue 60) by Martin Duris about a computer virus being transmitted by e-mail.

Unfortunately, the article was too long and the editing process had two effects. Firstly, the quotation marks were omitted from the final paragraph which made it look like advice from me. It was not. It was merely reproducing the advice from the "Times". All instructions on computer viruses, or potential computer viruses, are issued by the computing section (see the special sheet with this issue). Secondly, for those who really are interested and have the capability to investigate further on their personal PC in their own time, the "Times" article gave a net site address which gives full details of research into the hoax virus. Anyone who would like a copy of the full text should speak to Pat Lock (Ext. 339).

From Geoff French [Basingstoke]:

We are approaching the final stages of the implementation of the CONQUEST accounting system. This means that we have nearly finalised the precise way in which we will operate the system and will then move on to system familiarisation and training for staff.

One of the main tasks to be undertaken is to set-up data on existing projects on the new system. This provides an ideal opportunity for some housekeeping. Would all Project Directors and Managers in the English operating Company please revise all the JEN's under their control and arrange for the closure of those which are dead and no longer required.

The objective is to commence parallel running from November onwards. Once the new system is proven FAMIS will no longer be maintained.

There will be a lot of pressure on all staff, but especially Accounts staff during this period and your continuing support, co-operation and understanding will be much appreciated.

From Sally Mason [Basingstoke]:

During the absence of Pam McIntosh, Scott House secretarial services will be coordinated by Pat Lock on Ext. 339. Pat will continue this support whilst Pam concentrates on providing

training on the new Word for Windows word processing system. Please let Pat know if you anticipate any difficulties with the provision of secretarial/word processing cover during the next few weeks.

From Mike Hayman [SWK Hong Kong]:

Mike D'Alton's Idea of the Week (ref. Issue 61) prompts me to mention that in Hong Kong as we reprint stationery (printed letterheads, fax forms and business cards) we are now adding our Internet address. SWK Asia-Pacific is doing likewise.

It is also relevant that, following approval by the International Board, the establishment of a wide-area network for SWK's internal electronic communication is now in progress. The advantages of this arrangement (compared to the Internet) are high reliability, the facility to transfer large data files, good security and, importantly, real-time data transfer. The network will be managed by an outside company and it is hoped the system will become operational during November 1996. Detailed implementation instructions will be issued to regional IS champions shortly.

From Peter Frankham [London]:

Expressions of Interest, Europe.

In order to keep a record and trace the numerous Expressions of Interest that the Firm submits for projects in Central and Eastern Europe, we now have Tracker 2 Database containing information about projects and contact details. It will help to keep in contact with Clients and Funding agencies and monitor progress. The Database is managed by Natasha Yermeyeva in Basingstoke.

At the moment Natasha has information about 37 EOI's submitted by the Company. It would be extremely helpful if Project Managers could supply her with information about any EIO they are submitting. Her job will be to monitor progress, inform Project Managers when contact is due and, if required, make contacts on behalf of Project Managers. She will need the following Project details:

- Name of the project
- Contact person
- Organisation
- Contact details: telephone, fax, address
- Job number
- Value
- Funding Agency
- Project Director/Project Manager
- Next contact date

From Peter Frankham [London]:

There is a change in responsibility for marketing co-ordination in Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick and Co. Ltd. John Maidment will be the co-ordinator for the Southern Region and Peter Frankham is leaving the Southern Region in John's capable hands and moving to the Europe region co-ordination. EC

notices, market opportunities etc. are to be channelled through to John at Plymouth for the South and to Peter in London for Europe. Please ensure JIF and JAF copies follow the same routes.

From David Hubie [MainLine, Swindon]:

A copy of a withdrawn British Standard, which is still in use by Railtrack for reference, is required by MainLine as follows; Imperial version of BS153: Parts 3B & 4: 1972 "Specification for Steel Girder Bridges".

If anybody can help, could you please contact me at MainLine, Tel: 01793 515933.

From Colin McKenna [Basingstoke]:

One of the few recently published books owned by the Basingstoke Bridge section has gone missing. If anybody knows the whereabouts of 'Bridge Design for Durability by B. Pritchard' would they please return it.

From SWK [Botswana]:

Please note the e-mail address for the SWK Botswana office is: swkbot@iafrica.com

We are currently using Eudora as a mailer, which seems appropriate at the moment. Please also note that any word processing documents for us (other than WP5.1) should first be "saved as" Lotus release 3.4 if possible. Drawings should be ACAD r12 or "DXF". Any further enquiries should be made to Keith Fraser.

From Jo Stanbury [Basingstoke]:

Just a friendly note to request all those who fax employees at home. Could you please double check that it will arrive at a reasonable hour!

From Amanda Hawkins [Basingstoke]:

Reminder: The deadline for entries for the Queen's Awards (concerning Technological Achievement, Export Achievement and Environmental Achievement) is 31st October 1996. If you would like further details and an application form, please contact me on Ext. 297.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Country	Traveller	Date
Mongolia	Lindsay Thomas	18.09.96 - 02.10.96
Dublin	David Dawson	27.09.96 - 29.09.96
New York	John Nutt	17.09.96 - 20.09.96
Cambodia	David Judge	24.09.96
Hong Kong	Martin Jacobs	23.09.96
Malawi	Hamish Goldie-Scot	2.10.96
India	Shammy Puri	30.09.96 - 21.10.96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999; D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From David Dales [Peterborough]:

Members of SWK's Coastal Group enjoyed a day at the seaside on 6th September, as they attended the official opening by HRH The Duke of York of the Preston Beach Sea Defence Scheme at Weymouth.

The opening was covered by local press and TV, and will be featured in a video of the scheme's design and construction being prepared by lead client, The Environment Agency. SWK was represented by Colin Holmes (Project Director), Ian Douglas (Resident Engineer) and David Dales (Coastal Engineering Team Leader).

The £6 million scheme is primarily intended to protect the main coast road and surrounding parts of Weymouth from flooding, but it also provides a greatly improved amenity for local people and tourists. The main elements are; an amenity beach, formed from dredged sand and shingle, a rock groyne, two outfalls, sea water intakes for the local Sea Life Centre, a promenade, wave wall, accesses, road crossings and a cycleway/footway.

The scheme has been very well received by the joint clients, which include: Weymouth & Portland BC and Dorset CC, and by members of the public. Congratulations are therefore due to everyone who worked on the scheme, particularly Ian and his team on site, and the principal designers in Peterborough, Graham Thompson and Ozgur Balaban

From Mike Dalton [Basingstoke]:

The Transportation section has been successful in obtaining a number of new commissions. These are:

- Basingstoke and Deane Council - The expansion of West Ham Leisure Park. SWK is to conduct an assessment of the transport and parking demand that would arise as a result of doubling the Ice Rink's spectator capacity and the addition of a leisure pool and eight lane competition pool. (Fee Scale E)
- RHW Architects - SWK is developing a transportation strategy suitable to ensuring the efficient circulation of traffic and that adequate paving is provided. (Fee Scale D).
- Hampshire County Council - Further work on the Winchester Traffic Model, assessing additions to the Park and Ride scheme, and further town centre traffic management schemes. (Fee Scale C).
- Gooch & Wagstaff - Traffic Impact Assessment for GAW to assist in proposals for the development of a 17ha site in Rainham, Essex, for residential development (Fee Scale D).
- Highways Agency - Under the West London Regional Improvements Commission. SWK has been asked to undertake a T'A for a proposed joint film studio and theme park development by Warner Brothers in North West London. (Fee Scale E with the possibility of further work).

From Stuart Coventry [Basingstoke]:

The Chartered Institute of Building is undertaking a study of 'The Environmental Effects of Latham', due for completion in October 1997. I have been invited to sit on the steering group.

The study will compare the environmental practices, threats and opportunities for those projects which have adopted the Latham principles with those that were carried out before Latham.

I would be pleased to hear from anybody with suggestions for consultees or thoughts of projects for case studies.

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

From MainLine [Swindon]:

The Directors are pleased to announce the following promotions with effect from 1st July 1996:

To Principal Engineer:

John Blackmur
Dave Brown
Ken Forshaw
John Williams

To Senior Engineer:

Steve Brook
Pete Jefferies
John Sharpe
Dave Sutton
Andy Willson

To Incorporated Engineer:

Mark Weymouth

To Senior Technician:

John Womack

Congratulations to Ruthie Aitken on passing her "Concrete Technology and Construction" part 1 exam with top marks - well done!

Congratulations to Richard Payne at the A50 Site Office, Stoke-on-Trent, who successfully passed the Institution of Civil Engineers exam in Civil Engineering Law and Contract Procedure. This 12 month course ended with a gruelling 3 hours examination in June, the results having only recently been published.

Congratulations and best wishes from all her friends and colleagues to Sally Brown (Chesterfield) who will be 21 on 20th September.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

David Owens is joining the Bihar project in India with effect from 20th September. His wife Marita will join him after he has settled in.

TRANSFERS

Martin Jacobs enjoyed the Hong Kong life so much during his recent two month trip, that he is now transferring to them for at least twelve months on 23rd September. Martin will be joined by his wife Janna and daughter Evangeline in October.

LEAVERS

Pam Masson has recently informed us that she will not be returning to the Basingstoke office, following the birth of baby James. Lisa Litchfield, who has been providing cover for the duration of this maternity leave will continue in the role of Personnel Assistant for the Southern Region.

John Ogilvie is leaving the Edinburgh office to pursue a degree in Civil Engineering (God bless him!) at Heriot Watt University where he will also take up residence. In his six years at the office, John has been an invaluable employee and staff wish him all the best in his aspirations.

Over the years, John has demonstrated the wide ranging characteristics of his personality including his great tenacity which helped him to give up smoking every other month resulting in severe mood swings, his keen sense of direction

which in one instance enabled him to navigate a car journey from Edinburgh direct to Aberdeen via Inverness, and finally his unwavering charm which has seen him enjoy coveted success with members of the more shapely sex!

Leaving "do" = Friday 20 September 1996.

Best wishes John - keep in touch!

S P O R T S & S O C I A L S

From Andy Davies [MainLine, Swindon]:

MainLine's first 11-a-side match of the new football season took place on Monday 2nd September against Halcrows in Wroughton (near Swindon).

The match was played in friendly almost carnival atmosphere and was admirably supported by a member of staff from each company. The MainLine fan (Arran Pickett) was soon doing his very own Mexican Wave as his colleagues took an early lead. One goal soon became six by half time and Arran, who clearly could not hide his delight, decided it was time for another cigarette and a lie down.

Peter Jefferies, our very own FA affiliated referee (honestly), had little to do and was disappointed not to be able to use his Blue Peter style red card which carried the inscription 'for Dave Owen!'

Three more goals followed for MainLine before Halcrows struck back with a shot and goal that our keeper Shaun 'the cat' Merrifield decided was too easy to save and therefore proceeded to dive over it. A tenth goal was soon followed by the final whistle which left the final score at 10-1, and all of the players adjourned to the pub for a buffet and a welcome drink.

On behalf of MainLine, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Halcrows for their warm hospitality and to Dave Owen for arranging the fixture.

A return match is being planned.

From John Andrews [Basingstoke]:

After a long hard season, the Basingstoke Cricket Team emerged with the very good record of:

Played = 15 Won=11 Lost=4

The friendly matches produced some very good performances and the team statistics are shown below:

BATTING

PLAYER	TOTALS			Ave
	Tot	N.O.	Inn	
T Moore	204	4	9	40.80
C Holmes	93	3	6	31.00
G Thomas	149	5	10	29.80
K Hackney	26	2	3	26.00
D McSweeney	155	1	8	22.14
G French	37	1	3	18.50
S Booth	34	1	3	17.00
J Riches	67	2	6	16.75
D Briggs	66	2	6	16.50
D Lambert	40	1	4	13.33
O Greenwood	37	1	5	9.25
D Andrews	18	2	4	9.00
P Rodd	3	2	3	3.00
G Handy	17	2	8	2.83
D Holmes	4	1	3	2.00
N Blake	7	0	5	1.40
R Morris	0	0	3	0.00

Qualification - 3 innings

Best batting - Tony Moore 59 not out

BOWLING

PLAYER	TOTALS			AVERAGES	
	Ov	R	W	R/O	R/W
P Rodd	22	113	13	5.14	8.69
K Hackney	18	82	9	4.56	9.11
D Holmes	10	47	5	4.70	9.40
T Moore	5	19	2	3.80	9.50
J Riches	13	78	5	6.00	15.60
N Blake	3	17	1	5.67	17.00
J Andrews	13	86	5	6.62	17.20
G Handy	32	88	5	2.75	17.60
Scotting	3	21	1	7.00	21.00
D Briggs	21	96	4	4.57	24.00
G French	12	55	2	4.58	27.50
D McSweeney	11	64	2	5.82	32.00
O Greenwood	10	69	2	6.90	34.50
P Newman	9	49	0	5.44	—

Qualification - 3 Overs

Best bowling analysis

P Rodd 6 wkts for 15 runs off 4 overs

From Greg Barrett [A50 Meir Site]:

Thank you Colin Baker! A summary of the Bowling night mentioned in Colin's entry of Issue 61;

After a delayed start due to site staff not being able to finish before 6.30pm, the bowling commenced.

Over the next 2 hours all the thrills and pains of winning and losing were experienced, all helped along by the odd refreshment from the bar (with post game analysis also held in the bar!) Star of the night was Ian O' Connel who narrowly beat Mathew Oxford and Eddie Feely into second place. A special award must also go to Evan Jones who most uncharacteristically came in with the lowest score!

Some of the die hard crew then proceeded to wind up a most enjoyable evening with a curry sometime after closing time!

Once again, thank you to all who came along for the evening.

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££££

To Rent: Single bedroom in a friendly, shared house in Basingstoke, near Basingstoke College of Technology/Worting Road. Available from the end of October. If anybody is interested, please contact Silvana Redler (Basingstoke) on Ext. 329.

VACANCIES

Resident Engineer, Nepal:

Subject to client approval there will be a vacancy for a Resident Engineer in Nepal, working on the Third Road Improvement Project, starting November 1996, for a minimum of 12 months.

The position is working under the Chief Resident Engineer for the construction supervision of the Sahajpur-Dadeldhura road (80km) in the west of Nepal.

This post would suit a chartered engineer who has a thorough knowledge of construction supervision and contract administration. Ideally, the successful candidate would have some experience of low-cost overseas roads and FIDIC conditions of contract. As the position is fairly remote it may not be ideal for staff requiring married terms and conditions.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From David Dales [Peterborough]:

I would like to congratulate the Firm for introducing the new LUC rates. At first, I could only see the negative aspects, such as an overnight increase of 12% in my job costs on projects where the charge out rates are fixed for a year ahead. But closer inspection has revealed enormous benefits. By making my LUC unconnected to my salary, whereas my charge out rate is, a pay increase would actually improve my job profitability. I look forward to my Project Director instructing me to take an increase to help out the Firm. And by making the change retrospective, the Firm has shown how urgent this is!

Editor's note: I have received a couple of articles concerning the 40-hour week debate this week. However, as mentioned in last week's *Scottlight*, articles concerning this matter will no longer be published unless new issues are raised. If new issues are raised and articles are sent to me, they will be featured in a future issue of *Scottlight*. (As promised, a Director's reply to the initial debate is featured in 'Reply of the Week').

Idea of the Week



From Cath Hudson & Richard Caseley [Telford]:

Why does SWK not have a standard company-wide filing system? Simply specifying colours for files common to all sections such as QA, correspondence, cost control and work/calculations, and whether QA documentation is to be located centrally (to a section) or with the other project files would reduce the time wasted (by newcomers to a section) locating information/adapting to a different filing system, while still affording some flexibility in filing arrangements.

... and the Reply of the Week



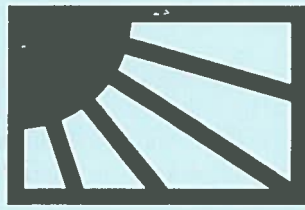
From Peter Innes [Basingstoke]:

A great range of opinions have been expressed in the columns of *Scottlight* recently on the subject of a 37.5 or 40 hour week. Comments have highlighted the fact that there are different circumstances applying in the different parts of the Firm. It was to reflect these different circumstances that the concept of 'Y' time was introduced and it still seems to be the most appropriate solution.

The amount of 'Y' time recorded increased steadily from its introduction until mid-1996 but now seems to have peaked. It is recognised that many staff also work unrecorded overtime. Paid overtime still exists alongside 'Y' time but is normally approved to compensate for exceptional efforts such as night and lengthy weekend working.

The Firm remains grateful for the amount of 'Y' time and unrecorded time that is being worked by many individuals.

PLEASE FORWARD ANY IDEAS OF THE WEEK OR ARTICLES FOR SCOTTLIGHT TO AMANDA HAWKINS IN BASINGSTOKE BY 5PM MONDAY



“ ATTENTION ~ ALL STAFF! ”

From Geoff French [Basingstoke]:

Throughout the organisation many people are working on projects for developers. Much of this work is being undertaken for good, established clients. However, some of the invitations we receive are from developers not well known to us, sometimes requesting work on a speculative basis.

Through Andy McNab in Abingdon and Gareth Jones in Basingstoke we have considerable experience of working with such people, and in particular of asking the right questions to evaluate the level of risk to the Firm. Anybody who receives an approach from a developer who is unknown to them should make contact with Andy or Gareth, who in turn may arrange for a company check through John Bean.

Also from Geoff French:

One of the main developments in computing this year will be the introduction of a “Windows” operating environment for all. Whilst many engineers who have access to a network PC already have this facility, most of our secretarial staff do not and so we are planning an introduction for them. With the introduction of “Windows” we will also introduce MS WORD to replace WORDPERFECT as our standard word processing system.

This means that all VAX monitors currently being used by secretaries will be replaced by PC linked to the network.

We hope that this will make life for the secretaries much easier. Standard, on screen, templates for memos, letters, notes of meetings and faxes will be immediately available and other QA material will follow. Linking their PCs with the network will make the process of document transfer and drafting much easier.

This development is an important stage in introducing an integrated office suite for general use by all staff not only in the UK but internationally, and will have significant long term advantages since we will have one computing system, not two, to support. Word processing will be directly compatible with spreadsheets, databases, presentation packages and e-mail.

The programme has started in the London office and we hope it will be completed by March next year.

Mike Oakley is the Project Manager for this development and he will be assisted in this task by Pam McIntosh. Detailed arrangements are being made for this work and more information is available from Mike, or through your computing representative (as listed in last week’s Special Issue no 9).

From Bob McGowan [Basingstoke]:

Chris Bennett has been appointed as Finance Director of SWK Holdings Ltd and Finance Coordinator of SWK International Holdings Ltd. He takes over the duties of Zarin Patel who has been on secondment to us from KPMG since last August (see

Scottlight, Issue no. 7). Zarin will be with us until the end of October to allow a suitable hand over period.

From Nicola Gordge [Basingstoke]:

Dr Asger Eriksen from Geo-Services International (UK) Ltd (GSI), has been invited to present a lunchtime seminar on Thursday 17th October.

His presentation will be entitled “Modern Geophysical Techniques in Landfill and Contaminated Land Investigation”. GSI (UK) Ltd is active internationally in environmental, geotechnical, groundwater and mineral exploration geophysics. Current environmental projects include: *landfill boundary delineation; *mapping contamination of soils/groundwater by organic and inorganic compounds; *detection of underground metallic and non-metallic structures - tanks, foundations, voids, industrial waste; *detection of leaks in geomembrane liners; *service location.

The advancement of high resolution geophysics as a tool for subsurface characterisation stems from the use of integrated techniques and evaluation of methods by pro-survey modelling and trials to maximise success and control costs.

This seminar will take place on 17th October from 12.30pm - 2.00pm in Conference Room 2, Basingstoke, lunchtime sandwiches will be provided. Anyone interested in attending should book their place with Nicola Gordge (Ext. 350) in Basingstoke.

From Les Edwards [Reigate]:

My latest book “Civil Engineering Insurance and Bonding” is now available from Thomas Telford Publishing, as part of The Institution of Civil Engineers/Thomas Telford Management Series.

It is a substantial update on the previous 10 year old publication which dealt with ICE 5th. This edition covers each of the major current ICE Conditions of Contract eg ICE 6th, Minor Works, Design and Build and the Engineering Construction Contract (NEC series).

Editor’s note: Is there a complimentary copy in SWK’s library Les?

From SWK Hong Kong:

The Hong Kong office is soon to be fully merged under one roof meaning that the entire 40th floor of Metroplaza will be occupied by SWK. Similarly, other movements of sections within Metroplaza will optimise the accommodation of the various sections between the 38th, 39th and 40th floors. Exact dates have not, as yet, been finalised but it is intended to move the CADD section down from the 43rd floor and to move all of Tsuen Wan Office across to Metroplaza. It is expected that all proposed movements will be completed by 31st January 1997.

Country	Traveller	Date
T'bilisi (Georgia)	Richard Levett	30/09/96 - 8/10/96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From David Dales [Peterborough]:

David Dales and Marjan Zwiers recently attended the LITTORAL '96 conference on Coastal Management, presenting papers on the Shorcham Beach Management Plan and Mablethorpe-Skegness Beach Nourishment Projects.

The conference was held at Portsmouth and was attended by 200 delegates. SWK has been involved with Coastal Management at Shoreham since 1992, starting with the Beach Plan and continuing through design and supervision of Coastal Defence works to our current responsibility for co-ordinating beach monitoring and physical modelling. On the Mablethorpe-Skegness Project, which is the UK's largest beach nourishment scheme, SWK is responsible for managing and interpreting monitoring data.

From Jerome Munro-Lafon [Basingstoke]:

SWK is 'leading the way' to world class entertainment in the UK, with the recent award of a commission to develop a Highway and Transportation Strategy for Wembley Park (Fee Scale B). Congratulations to John Orchard and Mike D'Alton in winning this study on the basis of best technical submission, i.e. not lowest price! This commission is funded through the Government's Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) challenge funding.

This complements our current work at Leavesden Aerodrome for the provision of not only highways and transportation services but a wide range of consultancy expertise (Fee Scale B and increasing) to the multi-national team that are developing the new Film Studios where James Bond and Star Wars filming is already underway. Also, as was mentioned in Issue 62 (19th September), SWK is providing development control advice to the Highways Agency for a proposed new film studio and theme park development by Warner Bros. in West London.

From Brian Murphy [London]:

London M&E (Facilities Management) has been appointed to provide term maintenance management for mechanical, electrical and public health building engineering plant and services at 4 headquarters buildings for the British Transport Police. The commission is for 3 years plus 2 x 1 year extensions and follows an earlier, similar commission for BTP London (South) area operations premises at Ebury Bridge (Fee Scale B).

From Bob Weekes [Basingstoke]:

Most of us have been regaled with tales of intrepid expatriate engineers stoically munching their way through the apocryphal sheep's eyeball in order not to cause offence to local dignitaries. I offer a story with a slightly different slant!

During the first days of the Ho Chi Minh to Phnom Penh Road Project, life was fairly hectic and, faced with the prospect of having to postpone a day-time meeting with the client, we

felt that the best way to recover the situation was to offer an evening meeting accompanied by dinner, which the client enthusiastically accepted. With hindsight, it was perhaps a mistake to allow our Vietnamese colleagues to organise the venue.

The meeting went very well, the latter part of it being lubricated by a beer or two. However, when things were at an end, the senior representative of the client, with somewhat exaggerated innocence, asked if business was at an end and, when assured that it was, he raised his hands and clapped in the imperious manner much beloved of old Hollywood films.

The door opened and in came the food, and more beer, accompanied by some of the most stunning young Vietnamese ladies it is possible to imagine! While, I confess, it is not an unpleasant experience to have one of these charming ladies glued to your side, alternatively plying you with chop-sticks and glass, it was noticeable during the evening that a worried expression passed over each of my companions' faces as the same thought occurred to them - "How is the evening supposed to end?"

It would doubtless have caused some of our colleagues elsewhere considerable amusement, and caused several intrepid reputations irreparable damage, had we been seen at the end of the evening in a tight, mutually protective phalanx, heading firmly towards the exit!

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

TRANSFERS

A warm welcome is extended to Martin Ellis who has departed the Sheffield office, crossed the Pennines, and joined the Manchester office as an Infrastructure Specialist.

S P O R T S & S O C I A L S

From Peter Newman [Basingstoke]:

Keen to respond to MainLine's recent football challenge, as featured in Scottlight (Issue 58), the Basingstoke team took to the 5-a-side pitch for the home leg of the challenge.

Basingstoke, assembling just seconds before the kick-off (ensuring completion of our 10% 'Y' time!) were confronted by a professional looking outfit, all kitted out in stylish SWK MainLine sponsored shirts and hefty shinpads. Apparently still stunned by their kit, we allowed MainLine to stroll comfortably into a 5-1 lead!

Determined not to be humiliated, we resorted to alternative tactics, strangely coinciding with the start of Aerobics class on the opposite half of the Sports Hall, accompanied by the obligatory loud dance music. The MainLine lads, obviously distracted, were enthusiastically requesting substitution in order to watch! Meanwhile, Basingstoke's lack of communication was unaffected by the music, allowing them to make a brief comeback, scoring 4 or 5 quick goals to trail by 2.

Heroics by Mike Jones kept the score down at our end, while Shaun Merrifield was equally effective denying our strikers.

A welcome final whistle resulted in an 11-8 win for MainLine, whose goals were rather unequally shared by Alex

Evason (7) - Who was marking him?!, Steve Brierly (3) and Andy Davies (1). Basingstoke scorers were Rob Morris (2), Mike Selley (1), Paul Eeles (2) and myself (3).

✍ V A C A N C I E S ✍

From Caz Spencer [Personnel]:

If anyone is interested in the Nepal vacancy (for the position of Resident Engineer) as advertised in last week's Scottlight (Issue 62), could you please contact Caz Spencer, Personnel (Ext 209) or Tim Hunt (Ext 303) both at Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section Head.

Copenhagen: Senior Resident Engineers:

Scott Wilson MainLine would be interested in hearing from experienced Resident Engineers who would be prepared to have their names go forward as possible candidates for supervision on the Copenhagen Mini-Metro Project. In particular, we are trying to identify candidates for supervision posts covering a) Deep stations, b) Tunnelling and c) Heavy civil works (diaphragm walling, heavy structures, bridges etc.).

A minimum of 10 years site experience is required for these posts which could last approximately three years.

If anybody is interested in these positions, could they please contact Diane Goddard at Scott Wilson MainLine, Tel 01793 515262, having first spoken to their Section Head.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Keith Jeffreys [Chesterfield]:

There have been a series of articles at regular intervals on such topics as pensions, redundancy and 'Y' time and to a certain extent they are all connected. How much 'Y' time do staff need to work before one of their colleagues becomes redundant and depending on his/her age how will this affect their pension?

As I understand it, the original objective of 'Y' time was to target selected projects to make fee bids more competitive. However, there now seems to be an opinion that it should be the norm. I have no complaint against unpaid overtime for peaks in workload - it has been going on for years and no doubt will continue to do so. 'Y' time for selected projects is a good idea if a large number of staff are faced with redundancy. If the situation is so desperate that it is needed for routine workload then a cut in salary (hopefully temporary) would be a much fairer way of distributing the load amongst all staff.

The Chesterfield office has now been in existence for 15 years and from memory during this time, 5 people have retired and 11 people aged 50 or over have been made redundant. The total number in the office has been about 100 excluding site staff. Redundancies have occurred throughout the period and it is not the new phenomenon which some people would have us believe.

The current pension scheme includes severe penalties if you do not maintain contributions to the full pensionable age and take the pension early. This is very different to some organisations where additional years service and enhanced pensions are offered to staff who retire early. The provision of

an adequate pension is the bottom line when you face retirement. You need a reasonable standard of living to enjoy life when you are no longer employable.

From the above figures it would appear that the Firm's pension scheme does not adequately cater for the circumstances which the majority of the older employees will have to face. Should this be allowed to continue? Is it not possible for some provision to be included in the superannuation scheme for redundancy?

Has the Firm considered the cost of an early retirement package for current staff? Various ages could be considered but 58 would appear to be the target based on Chesterfield experience. Would the additional cost of providing this cause a significant increase in contributions? This could well be better value than AVCs.

In retrospect, it would appear that the so-called pension holiday of a few years ago was a mistake. This period should have been used as an opportunity to build up a reserve to fund an early retirement package.

If staff knew they had this safety net, it could improve staff morale, help SWK to become a preferred employer and increase enthusiasm for 'Y' time.

Idea of the Week



From Les Edwards [Reigate]:

Isn't it about time the Quality Assurance Manual was totally reviewed?

I believe that for certification purposes a Quality Assurance Manual need be no longer than about 30 pages, including proforma, issue/receipt sheets etc., wholly self-contained with no cross references, complying strictly with the requirements of ISO9000, no more, no less.

This would make it user friendly with minimum opportunities for external auditors finding non-compliances.

If you do not believe that it can be done in 30 A4 pages, how about an SWK open competition, to be done in employees private time, with a prize of £1000, less £50 for every page over the ideal 30 page layout. I would be prepared to assist in providing the ground rules if such an idea were to be pursued.

... and the Reply of the Week



From Bob McKittrick [Chesterfield]:

In his article in Issue 60 of Scottlight, Bob Weekes refers to CVs. At present, each member of staff has a standard 'Master' CV which is revised at least once a year. I know that there is a demand in some technical divisions, and for some specific jobs, to have several CVs for each person.

Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to do this across the Firm and it is our intention to make CVs the responsibility of the individual disciplines. On transfer to another discipline, the CV would follow the member of staff. Full details of this system have yet to be worked out.



To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke):

Date:



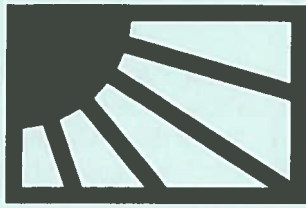
My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):

.....
.....
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name: Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION - ALL STAFF! ”

From Nicola Gordge [Basingstoke]:

I am in receipt of information from The Association of Building Engineers (ABE), formerly The Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors (IAAS). Corporate membership to the ABE is available to Chartered Engineers. Please contact me if you wish to borrow the information (Ext. 350).

"The True Cost of Pipelines" is the title for the Joint Central Southern Branch and the Pipelines Panel - CIWEM Training, on 16th October at Swindon. SWK is supporting the day. This may be of particular interest to Graduates as useful CET/CPD days. Please contact myself for further information (Ext. as above).

A reminder that Dr Asger Eriksen from Geo-Services International (UK) Ltd (GSI), has been invited to present a lunchtime seminar on Thursday 17th October, regarding "Modern Geophysical Techniques in Landfill and Contaminated Land Investigation" (see details in last week's Scottlight - Issue 63). A sandwich lunch will be provided. Please book your place by giving me a call at Basingstoke (Ext. as above).

From David Dales [Peterborough]:

The Coastal Group in Peterborough would like to hear from anyone who is using desktop mapping or GIS, to establish contacts and exchange information. We are currently using ATLAS for Windows, and are now considering use of ARCVIEW.

From Amanda Hawkins [Basingstoke]:

The Quality in Construction Awards have been created to recognise the very best in the UK construction industry, and in particular those firms and projects which have particularly helped improve the industry's image, efficiency and professionalism.

The following awards listed under 'Company Culture' will be for initiatives taken at any time in the three years to the launch date of the awards (September 5th, 1996). All 'Site Success' awards are for projects completed in the calendar year up to September 5th, 1996.

In brief summary:-

The Company Culture Awards (for initiatives taken in the three years to September 5th) are as follows:

- **Training Achievement:** To a Company that has made a significant contribution to training, ensuring the industry has the skills it needs to prosper in future years.
- **Research & Development - Materials:** To a Company that has developed an exceptional new product for the construction industry, helping the industry boost its performance.

- **Research & Development - Plant and Equipment:** - To a Company that has developed an exceptional new item of plant or equipment for the construction industry, to boost its performance.

- **Achievement Through Innovation:** Recognises a Company's commitment to the future through innovative management and construction techniques.

- **Safety:** Recognising a Company's outstanding contribution to improving the safety of all on site.

- **Marketing & Image:** Recognition of a Company that has contributed significantly to improving the image of construction in the eyes of clients and the general public.

The Site Success Awards (for Projects completed in the year to September 5th) are as follows:

- **International Performance of the Year:** Awarded for a UK construction firm's contribution to the success of a project anywhere overseas, and hence to the status of UK construction world-wide.

- **Specialist Contractor of the Year:** Awarded for outstanding performance on one particular element of a project, of any size or type.

- **Small Project of the Year:** Awarded for outstanding construction team performance on a project of under £1 million in value.

- **Medium-sized Project of the Year:** Awarded for outstanding construction team performance on a project of between £1 - £15 million in value.

- **Major Project of the Year:** Awarded for outstanding construction team performance on a project of over £15 million in value.

- **Project of the Year - Overall Winner:** Chosen from the above categories.

Entries should be submitted before 22nd November. The winners will be selected in March 1997.

If you would like more details on any of these Award categories, please contact either myself (Ext. 297) or Rachel Charmant at Construction News directly (Tel: 0171 505 6868).

From Gill Davies [Basingstoke]:

We have received a very nice letter of thanks from the Manager of both Deeside and Newman Bassett Older Persons Resource Centres for the flower arrangements, donated by SWK, after our annual event at The Anvil on 6th September. Flower arrangements were also given to:
Oakridge House, Oakridge
Sycamore Cottage, Skippets Lane West
Townsend Close Sheltered Housing Day Centre
2 Red Cross Referrals

From Les Edwards [Reigate]:

Further to last week's announcement in Scottlight about the publication of the book entitled "Civil Engineering Insurance and Bonding", there was an Editor's comment asking if there

was a complimentary copy in SWK's library - this is just a note to say that there is a copy available in the Reigate office library.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Country:	Traveller:	Date:
Georgia/ Turkey/ Uzbekistan	Adrian Tite	7/10/96 - 18/10/96
Pakistan	Don Wootton	14/10/96 - 18/10/96
Kuala Lumpur	Mark McMahon	27/09/96 - 13/10/96 (approx)
Russia	S. Turcheninoff	07/10/96 - 10/10/96
Vietnam	Eddie Foster	30/09/96 - 11/10/96
India	Shammy Puri	29/09/96 - 23/10/96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From David Dawson [MainLine, Swindon]:

MainLine has been commissioned for the following:

- Dorney Bridge

MainLine has won the design of Dorney Bridge at Maidenhead. This £5 million structure will take the four tracks of the GW Line over the proposed River Thames Flood Relief Channel for Maidenhead and Windsor being funded by the Environment Agency. The bridge will take the form of a box 23m wide, 8m high and 48m long which will be jacked into position through the existing embankment in 1998. This will be the biggest jacked structure under the railway in the UK. The client is Great Western MPD and the Fee Scale is A. Project Leader is Jeff Gibson.

- Euxton Station

Following our successful commission to carry out a feasibility study to investigate options for the construction of a new unmanned station at Euxton on the West Coast Main Line to the South of Preston, MainLine is shortly to begin work on the detailed design stage of this project.

Although a relatively small project, it will involve all disciplines normally associated with railway work including Civil and Structural Engineering, Permanent Way, Survey, Electrical (OHLE), Telecommunications, Signalling, M&E and Building Services, all of which can be carried out by our "In-house" design team.

Our client is Railtrack North West MPD and MainLine's Project Leader Mike Palmer, will be managing the Fee Scale B job.

- St Petersburg Station

MainLine has been appointed by the Russian railway company VSM (High Speed Railway) to produce a design specification for the new terminus to be built at St Petersburg. The client will use the design specification to instruct the already appointed architect on the operating requirements of the terminal and how the interfacing engineering issues are to be addressed.

The Fee Scale of C for this work is modest. However, it enables MainLine to demonstrate far more than simply engineering expertise. We were selected because of our extensive knowledge of what is required in operational terms, and how the requirements can be met by appropriately co-ordinated engineering. Ex-Western Region Assistant General Manager, Bob Poynter, has been a major contributor to this

commission which is due for completion in the next week or so.

Our connection with VSM has resulted in our submission of a design proposal for the first 150km of the new high speed route from St Petersburg to Moscow. This is possibly the largest single scheme for which we have submitted any proposal and represents a substantial step in developing our international standing.

- GW Zone

Railtrack Great Western have placed orders of £394,000 with MainLine for work associated with M&E Infrastructure Development. The work includes; MAS generators, points heating and remote monitoring. Software development forms an important aspect of the remote monitoring scheme. The implementation phases of the project will continue into the second half of 1997. Project Leader is John Harper with Trevor Webb as Deputy.

- Washplant for Fitzpatrick

Fitzpatrick has appointed MainLine to design the services of their new rolling stock washplant at the new Heathrow Express depot at Old Oak Common. The work will involve CE and QS disciplines as well as M&E. Project Leader is Mark Hillyard and the Fee Scale is C.

- Crystal Palace Junction

This project is a permanent way renewals scheme, which includes Survey, Permanent Way design, signalling, switch heating and third rail electrification. The work is for Railtrack Major Projects Southern and is the first such 'Total Package' for them. The Project Leader is Peter Hillier and the Fee Scale is C.

- MainLine Site Supervision in Kent

MainLine has won the job of supervising the reconstruction of a bridge at Dunton Green, for Railtrack Southern MPD. The work will involve surveyors, site staff and John Womack, our fabrication inspector. John Williams is the Project Leader and the Fee Scale is C.

- In Wiltshire and Dorset

Supervision of the reconstruction of five bridges for Railtrack Southern MPD in the Gillingham area. Surveying, Site Staff, a Fabrication Inspector and Quantity Surveyors will be involved. John Williams is leading the project (Fee Scale B).

- And Nationally...

MainLine has won a place in Railtrack's national 'call off' contract for site staff. This is a potentially very important contract and negotiations are in progress for the first appointment.

- Euston

Survey work in the Euston area has been awarded to MainLine by Railtrack WCML Route Modernisation. The work involves our Surveyors, Permanent Way staff, M&E Engineers, and some civil engineering input. Rob Lees is the Project Leader for this important job which should be of value in obtaining further work on the WCML project. (Fee Scale A).

- West Anglia Re-Signalling

MainLine has been appointed by Railtrack Anglia Zone to undertake feasibility studies into asset renewal, primarily signalling, but also including trackwork, telecoms, OLE over the next 20-30 years. This is intended to be a model appraisal, reflecting the newly privatised Railtrack's approach to asset management, return on assets and the availability of capital. Value Management Ltd, a subsidiary of EH Harris, is taking the lead with John Gibbon from SWK Basingstoke as Project Manager and the majority of engineering inputs from Swindon. We have employed Opal Engineering to advise us on advanced

signalling techniques.

This is a prestigious assignment, one that will further help to establish us as a truly multi-disciplinary railway consultant. The project will commence in November with fees to MainLine in excess of £250k (Fee Scale A).

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Congratulations must go to Rob Lewis (MainLine) on the presentation he gave to an In-house seminar organised by Hochtief for their graduates and incorporated engineers. Some of our own graduates attended and Hochtief have offered to assist in MainLine seminars.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

LEAVERS

Two people have recently left the A50 site office at Meir, Stoke-on-Trent. Dave Wilson, Laboratory Technician, left recently and Richard Payne, Assistant Resident Engineer, has joined the Bridges team at Chesterfield.

Similarly, Tim Murdoch, Laboratory Technician, is due to leave us later in October as he is returning to work closer to home on an opencast coal site near Sheffield.

All three go with our best wishes for the future.

From Silvana Redler [Basingstoke]:

It is time to say good-bye to Basingstoke!

After having spent just over two years in England learning "proper" English "on the job" and getting involved in a variety of interesting transportation studies, I am now ready to move to sunny, tropical Kuala Lumpur on the 14th October 1996, initially for three months but hopefully for longer (who knows?)

I would like to thank everybody at SWK for the friendly atmosphere and being patient with my English. A very special Danke Schön to all of my colleagues and friends in the Transportation Planning section who had to cope with language misunderstandings and who even ate (and liked!) my German cakes. They gave me a hard time after Germany beat England at Euro '96, but it looks like revenge is being sought by Damon Hill!

Everybody is welcome to join me for a good-bye drink at Magnums next Friday (11th October) at lunchtime and after work. Those who are bold enough can hit Utopia with me that evening!

S P O R T S & S O C I A L S

From Jeannette Barlow/Rhoda Hamer [Chesterfield]:

To all Central Region Staff at Chesterfield, Sheffield, SWK Resource Consultants Leeds, SWK Pavement Engineering Nottingham, Site offices at A50, Derby Southern Bypass, Foston, Doveridge, Regarding:

THE ANNUAL DINNER/DANCE AT THE DEVONSHIRE SUITE, SHEFFIELD MOAT HOUSE, FRIDAY EVENING, 29TH NOVEMBER 1996.

Dinner 7pm for 7.30pm. Music and dancing from 9pm to

midnight to the 'Odds & Sods' ceilidh band. Bar from 7pm to midnight.

If you have not yet received an invitation to the dinner/dance, please contact either Jeannette (Tie Line Ext. 15234) or Rhoda (Tie Line Ext. 15203) at the Chesterfield office, before 31st October 1996.

The Moat House is also offering special rates for overnight accommodation for anyone attending the dinner i.e. Double room £60, Single room £40 inclusive of breakfast and VAT.

From Nicola Gordge [Basingstoke]:

I am hoping to raise money for the Cancer Research Campaign this weekend by participating in a sponsored parachute course. The event is organised through "Fliteline Sponsored Events" who also organise rally car racing, paragliding and skydiving sponsored events.

I have never taken part in anything like this before, (a complete novice), so this will be a great challenge for a very worthwhile cause. I will receive a full day's training on Saturday, with the intention to do the actual jump from 2,200 feet on Sunday - which will be weather dependent.

Anyone willing to sponsor me to make it all especially worthwhile, will be donating money to Cancer Research. I thank those of you who have already pledged money and will think of this when I jump!

From Mike Thomas [Nepal]:

Having driven the wrong way down a dark, unlit, unsigned one-way street in Kathmandu, I was stopped at the end by Traffic Police who demanded politely my driving licence. All I could offer was the SWK business card of Nelson Hails (SWK Team Leader - TRIP).

"Sorry to stop you Nelson, off you go" says the policeman, so off I went.

It obviously pays to carry SWK cards and preferably someone else's! (Sorry Nelson!)

P.S. As my passenger/navigator, Martin Oaten of the London office must share in the blame for my driving error!

From Shaun Merrifield [MainLine, Swindon]:

The football match between the Basingstoke and MainLine teams was reported in last week's Scottlight (Issue 63). However, both teams experienced 'crossed lines' in the sense that another article promptly dropped on the Editor's desk a day after publishing, presenting MainLine's version of events, relayed as follows:

On Tuesday 17th September, MainLine's football team and travelling army of supporters used their 'Y' time to mass upon the night lights of Basingstoke.

After storming into an early 5 - 0 lead, MainLine's fans were delirious as chants of "You'll never beat the railways" reverberated around the Sports Hall.

However, the Basingstoke players soon had other ideas and to their credit, did their homework well. Plan B was launched with a devastating effect, and all the cunningness worthy of Baldrick himself.

Suddenly, disco music blasted out at 120 decibels and whilst the MainLine boys started their infamous 'bingo bongo' dancing, 100 finely tuned women started their aerobic workout. With the visitors' lines of communication in tatters and vision misdirected, Basingstoke came back into the game, closing the score to 9 - 6.

Stunned into retaliation, MainLine raised their game once more, giving 110% effort. The signs of a 40-hour week were

now showing on the faces of the Basingstoke players, as MainLine stretched their lead to an assailable 11 - 8. With the sound of the final whistle, the players retreated to the 'lounge' (via the aerobic court) to a well deserved beverage.

Final score: Basingstoke = 8 MainLine = 11

MainLine would like to thank the Basingstoke team for their hospitality and especially the visual entertainment provided! We look forward to hosting the re-match.

It is strongly advised to those who are brave enough to enter the lions den, to bring with them spare liver and kidneys, passports, E111 and a sick note from their mums!

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££££

For Sale: SWK Jordan has a Mitsubishi Pajero (4WD, short wheel base with fuel injection) for sale, which might interest another SWK project. The one previous owner was the American Embassy in Amman, who bought it for the US Secretary of State for Defence on his first visit to the Middle East after the end of the Gulf War. Bargain price US\$5,000 (plus shipping costs to final destination). Please contact Mike Jones in Basingstoke (Ext. 265).

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From David Staniforth [Bangkok]:

We read Bob Weekes' article in Issue 61 about Vietnamese hospitality with interest. After much discussion and research "In the field" we have concluded that his article is a wind-up because such a thing does not happen in this part of the world.

Perhaps Bob was hallucinating after munching one eyeball too many!

From Shammy Puri [Basingstoke]:

Following the announcement from Geoff French in Scottlight (Issue 63) concerning the majority of computers being equipped with 'WINDOWS' and linked to the network, I believe that we can now really commence to implement lots of ideas that many people in the Firm have been hoping to

implement over the past few months. This policy decision not only makes life easier for secretaries, but for all of us!

I strongly urge the hard pressed Mike Oakley and Pam McIntosh to 'adopt, adapt and improve' the various types of 'standard forms' that people in the Firm have developed and have been using for months. It would be a step backward if totally new macros/layouts and other forms are invented for use and then imposed on the current users of WORD, EXCEL, ACCESS etc. all forming an integrated package in WINDOWS.

SWK 2000, here we come.....!

Idea of the Week



From Ann Crawford [Reigate]:

Further to Stephen Vincent's comment in Issue 60 under "What's on your Mind" regarding the illegibility of the SWK fax number on the Facsimile Transmission Form Q25. The Reigate office has had several comments/complaints from outside agencies and clients about the company details not being clear enough when faxed. If we have found it important enough to send out a fax instead of a letter then it makes sense, if we expect a reply, to have our company details printed large enough to read after the faxing process. Please can we have it changed!

On the same subject, could a box be provided in the top section of the Q25 form to house the Serial no. /Msg. no. as given by the fax operator. At present (at Reigate) the number is written just at the top of the form which makes referring, in future communications, to a particular fax difficult if several have been sent to the same place on the same date.

~ Winner ~

September's winners for Idea of the Week are Cath Hudson and Richard Caseley (Telford), who suggested (in Issue 62) the introduction of a Company wide, colour coded filing system. A reply to the idea will follow shortly. In the meantime, could one of you give Amanda Hawkins a call at Basingstoke on Ext. 297 to let me know whether you fancy a box of choccies or a bottle of wine!

To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke)

Date:

My Idea of the Week (continue on a separate page if necessary):



(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION – ALL STAFF! ”

From Geoff French [Basingstoke]:

The Maritime Section will be moving from Reigate to Basingstoke over the next few months. This will enable there to be much closer co-operation with the other Transportation and Overseas related sections already located in Basingstoke. We believe that this will be of considerable assistance in marketing and utilising our total transportation capability as efficiently as possible.

When this move has been completed, together with a few staff going to London and other HRD staff going to Basingstoke, the Reigate office will close.

All full time staff in Reigate are being offered positions in other SWK offices and discussions are being held with individuals to try and ensure that any adverse impacts are minimised.

From Nicola Gordge [Basingstoke]:

I am now in possession of the September 1996 ICE courses guide, which is published three times a year, providing course information reference for trainee development and CPD for qualified members.

Several individuals have recently informed me that they do not receive this publication where, in fact, they are entitled. This guide is distributed free of charge to: • Supervising Civil Engineers of organisations on the Index of Employers approved for Training; • Trainee Civil Engineers under an ICE Training Agreement; • Organisations providing course information in the current guide; • Honorary Secretaries of ICE local Associations and Branches.

If you are an eligible candidate and have not been receiving your copies, please contact the ICE to check your details held on record are correct. Other individuals may obtain a Guide on annual subscription. In the meantime, my copy is available for reference in Basingstoke's Personnel Department.

I am currently receiving team nominations for this year's MERIT competition, (Managing Engineering Resources Involves Teamwork), construction management simulation. Involvement provides excellent CET other than formal course attendance for Graduates and of course CPD activity for others. Application forms can be obtained from myself. The competition is open to teams aged under 30 years and there is now also a second category for teams aged over 30 which SWK would subsidise.

The closing date is 8th November 1996, entries to be received by myself by Friday 1st November. Teams of up to 6 people can enter, having at least two members of any ICE grade. In the event of oversubscription within SWK, support will be awarded on a first come, first served basis and to those having not previously entered.

BUILD A BUILDING 1997 Competition is open for applications until the end of October. Another excellent activity for CET/CPD, this challenge invites applications from young professionals, aged under 28 on 1st January 1997 and should be student, graduate, chartered or incorporated members of their professional institution.

Teamwork is encouraged inter-companies, amongst professionals from different specialisms throughout the industry. A knowledge and practice in architecture, civil and structural engineering, building services, quantity surveying, planning, landscape, architecture and construction within each team is necessary. Each team will be required to submit a pre-qualification document used to select the final 9 teams.

Please contact me on Ext. 350 for further details on any of the above.

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999; D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Gareth Hearn [Nepal]:

SWK is now involved in three major road projects in Mongolia.

We have been appointed, in association with Intercontinental Consultants and Technocrats (Pvt) Ltd of India and UNETEC of Cyprus, to carry out phase 1 "Detailed Design and Preparation of Tender Documents" for the rehabilitation of the Darhan-Edernet road in Mongolia and the construction of two vehicle weighing stations. The project is funded by the Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development and the project client is the Department of Roads, Ministry of Infrastructure Development. The income scale for this phase of the project is A. It is hoped that the associated consultants will be appointed for construction supervision in due course.

The road is approximately 180km long and forms a westerly spur to the main road between Ulaanbaatar, the capital and Altanbulaag, on the northern border with Russia. The rehabilitation design and construction supervision of this latter road is also being undertaken by SWK and ICT, with Asian Development Bank funding. This road is 330km long and so far we have provided assistance with design, Contract procurement and environmental assessment. The project also includes the design and reconstruction of two bridges, procurement of road maintenance equipment and the design and hopefully eventual construction supervision of 70km of road to the south of Ulaanbaatar, towards the Chinese border.

SWK is in association with the Transport Research Laboratory, UK and ICT on the World Bank funded technical assistance in the road maintenance sector (Transport Rehabilitation Project). This project commenced in May last year and is due to be completed towards the end of next year. It

constitutes a multi-disciplinary technical and institutional strengthening programme involving training and strengthening in road survey and inventory, pavement investigation and sampling, laboratory testing, road maintenance techniques, computer applications, cost accounting, budget forecasting and prioritisation, and environmental assessment.

The following SWK staff have been involved in these projects to date:

• **Darhan-Edernet road:**

Ian Lunt	Senior Highway Engineer
Jane Smith	Environmentalist
Janette Hunter	Hydrologist
Bent Larsen	Pavement Specialist (External Consultant)

• **Ulaanbaatar-Altanbulaag road and related activities:**

Bob Weekes	Pavement Specialist
Jane Smith/ Gareth Hearn	Environmentalists
Leighton Williams	Hydrologist
Jack Gahir	Geotechnical Engineer
David Judge/ Mike Shalders	Contracts Specialists

• **Road Maintenance TA**

Bob Weekes	Team Leader
Lyndsay Thomas	Institutional Specialist
Kevin McPherson	Maintenance Mgmt Systems Specialist
Gareth Hearn	Environmentalist
Doric Tong	Computer Specialist
Neil Robinson	Materials/Pavement Specialist

From David Webster [Glasgow]:

The National Roads Directorate of The Scottish Office has appointed SWK as "Standards Adviser & Auditor" for the Department. This is a one year term commission which involves provision of a wide range of technical advice to the Standards and Environment Branch of the Directorate. (Fee Scale A).

The work involved in the commission can be divided into four broad categories:-

- Assessment of designer proposed Departures from Standard. This will involve detailed analysis and recommendation on Departures which may be proposed at any stage of the development of a scheme. This will include designs by other Consultants, D&B Contractors, DBFO Companies etc.
- Development and implementation of Trunk Road Design Audit Procedures.
- Provision of general technical advice on Standards including a detailed Cycling Advice Note.
- Development of Value Management Procedures for implementation on all Scottish Office Trunk Road Projects. (Assisted by Value Management Ltd). We will also be heavily involved in the VM Workshops themselves.

SWK is delighted to be appointed to undertake this commission in the face of stiff opposition. (It is understood that we won this job despite lower fee bids by others!) It could be said that this appointment is one further step along the path of being the "Preferred Consultancy"!

For those interested, I am the Project Manager under the Directorship of Hugh Blackwood.

From Scott Wilson Irwin Johnston [Australia]:

Scott Wilson Irwin Johnston is pleased to announce the formation of the Cleanroom Technologies Division within the company, closely related to the Building Services Division.

The new Division has been formed by the integration of Cleanroom Technologies Australia Pty Ltd into the Firm through a recent merger.

Cleanroom Technologies is a specialist Division in the design and technical management of controlled environment facilities.

In particular, the Division provides engineering expertise to those high technology industries where contamination control is of prime importance: Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology, Food Processing, Research, and Electronics.

Cleanroom Technologies Australia Pty Ltd worked alongside Scott Wilson Irwin Johnston on many projects, including Upjohn and SmithKline Beecham in China, CSL in Victoria and Merck Sharp & Dohme in New South Wales.

This move into a specialist High Technology area is in line with our plan to develop into areas of expertise that extend the boundaries of Consulting Engineering and set us apart from our competitors.

As a result of the merger, Greg Bosaid joins our Board, and Darren Green heads-up the Division in Sydney.

From Phil Shepherd [MainLine, Swindon]:

Incident at Euston station

Two men were reported to the Station Manager, as they were behaving suspiciously on the Euston throat. They were said to be viewing the flats overlooking the railway with binoculars. When questioned they said; "Honestly officer, we were only looking at the wires over the railway from a place of safety as defined in group standards."

"A likely story", replied the Constable. The pair turned out to be none other than MainLine's ace OHLE engineers Alan Clegg and Ian Moore. Both have been nominated for Engineer of the Year Award!

P.S [From Martin Nielson]:

For the avoidance of doubt or alternative definition, the "Euston throat" is parlance for the railway lines and crossings immediately outside the station

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Congratulations to Andrew McCracken. Andrew, currently on secondment from SWIDG to SWK's Glasgow office, was awarded a Highly Commended certificate in the Model Analysis Award 1996 by the Institution of Structural Engineers. Andrew's paper, entitled "Steel Beam Stiffeners", will now be published in summary form in the Institution of Structural Engineers' Informal Study Group's quarterly newsletter, and in full in the Institution's library.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Welcome aboard to Lucie Field at MainLine who started her permanent contract on 16th September after Sharon decided not to return from maternity leave. OK Lucie, you've had your mention, now lets see some "new starter" cakes!

TRANSFERS

Nick Blake will be leaving the Basingstoke office to go on site at Swanage Pier as from 14th October 1996 for approximately 4 - 6 months.

SPORTS & SOCIALS

From Barrie Partridge [Derby Southern Bypass]:

More news from SWK's Duplicate Bridge-playing duo! Jackie Starsmore (Chesterfield) and her team-of-four recently won a major one-day Regional event in Nottingham. This was one of four such simultaneous events held throughout the country.

This achievement helped towards her winning this week a further prize of a bottle of a ten year old Macallan Malt whiskey for recording the most competition points earned and recorded by any Derbyshire player in the 95-96 season!

My own highlight this summer occurred in the three day National Swiss Teams. In a "Swiss" event, a series of matches are played of about one hour's duration against other teams who are currently faring about as well as yourself. While my team-of-four finished just 47th out of the 320 teams, we did play and win a match against the eventual winners who were the British national team including Tony Forrester, Britain's top player and writer for the Daily Telegraph, Paul Hackett, an International Grand Master, and Jason Hackett, a current World Champion and Britain's youngest Grand Master!

Does all this mean that SWK's Bridge expertise extends beyond Civil Engineering?!

From Nicola Gordge [Basingstoke]:

I'm looking forward to a more relaxing weekend than the last - a tiring physical weekend. Jumping off wooden boxes and landing in an unnatural position to the way one's body usually reacts if jumping to the ground - in preparation of my sponsored parachute jump.

Taking in an abundance of information about the anticipated jump, sitting in a freezing cold hall not yet finished being built, being shouted at by "army like" trainers, finishing with military style exercises in the field, shouting our procedures in unison - last Saturday was a long, tiring, apprehensive day.

On the way home excitement rose and my friends and I could not wait for the real thing, being told it was likely the following day's weather would provide suitable conditions to jump out of the sky and land in one of the designated fields. However, by the time I got to bed the nerves had set in and I thought about all the insurance cover I hadn't taken - even though day one finished with only a broken finger nail!

A 5.00 am rise on Sunday (with cut nails) enabled us to reach the drop zone and put our names on the board as one of the first flights. Wrapped up in 9 layers of clothing, plus boiler suit and big boots - field exercises resumed as if on an army camp. It was then a matter of waiting! Sitting in a plane a size of a bath with 3 other madmen (fellow jumpers), trainer and pilot we set off. I was volunteered to go first, the worst part was looking down at the M40 below. The 2 minute jump seemed like 10 seconds.

After a good landing, I found the difficult part trying to get up before the parachute began pulling me along to create a new furrow in the farmer's field. I'd done it! And so had my friends, who, between us will raise £1, 600 for the Cancer Research Campaign from sponsors. Personally, from colleagues, family and friends, I've been promised a total of £400.00 which was pledged in a period of only 10 days prior to

the event.

A brilliant experience, in fact so good, we immediately decided to finance another jump (just to be sure of getting those sponsors) and watched and waited for a further 4 hours to do it all again! I was more fearful the second time, however, having now rested and recovered, I would love to have a third go! Certificate and camera film have accompanied me safely home to enable me to collect some monies for the charity - a very BIG thank you for all your generous support.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Martin Wheeler [Basingstoke]:

A message to car drivers who park adjacent to the print room at the back of Scott House:

Please can you try and leave space for cyclists; I have on a number of occasions had to lift my bike over cars to get it out. I certainly never park my car there when I bring it in as there is a risk that it might get scratched despite cyclists' best endeavours. (See Idea of the Week).

From Amanda Thompson [Sheffield]:

Further to Geoff French's progress reports about the implementation of the CONQUEST accounting system (Issues 54 and 62), I would be interested in answers to the following:

- How will Y-time, flexi-time, etc. be calculated on a weekly basis especially considering the apparent requirement for 10% Y-time per month?
- As CONQUEST and FAMIS are going to run in parallel from November, will all staff have to complete separate weekly and monthly timesheets?
- How are the Firm planning to monitor costs of implementation including not only the training sessions but also the increased administration time?

Idea of the Week



From Martin Wheeler [Basingstoke]:

Further to my message above in 'What's on Your Mind', highlighting the problem of cars obstructing the allocated spaces for cyclists:

I suggest we consider reserving the majority of this area for motorcycles and bicycles as the numbers of these are gradually increasing; we would only lose a few car spaces and access to the parking spaces between the columns opposite would be improved as well as general access behind the building.

... and the Reply of the Week



From John Bean [Basingstoke]:

In Scottlight Issue 59, Mike Coveny asked if it would be possible to show AVC's separately from the standard Pension Contributions on the payslip. Unfortunately, the payroll program is too old and inflexible to allow us to add or amend deduction lines.

Although greater flexibility would be a criterion in the

evaluation of any new salaries package (for which there are no current plans) it is perhaps of some comfort to AVC payers that as this is an employee driven deduction the vast majority pay either a fixed percentage or a fixed amount each month and can thus determine their AVC's without too much difficulty.

From Phil Green [London]:

In his "Idea of the Week" in Issue 63 of Scottlight, Les Edwards raises the question of the QA documentation and the need for its review. In essence I think Les's suggestion is that the current documentation should be abandoned and replaced by something very different.

The QA base document has already been thoroughly examined and significantly rewritten by John Taylor earlier this year. In addition, changes have been discussed both in the UK and internationally and the International Operations Group have it on their agenda for future meetings. There is no doubt that the early QA documentation was very comprehensive: this was necessary in order to meet external auditors' requirements but now that thinking has changed somewhat it may be possible to get away with something less, as suggested by Les.

The idea of a competition with a prize of £1000 will be put to the Operations Group. However, I am not sure how many people would be prepared to undertake a task which, in my estimation, would take one or more man months to complete.

Also from Phil Green:

Keith Jeffreys raises several interesting points in his article in Issue 63 of Scottlight (26th September 1996) and the opportunity to respond to them is very welcome from the points of view of both Personnel Management and the Pensions Fund.

• Y-Time

Y-Time was indeed introduced to make fee bids more competitive; in addition it offers the opportunity to retrieve projects which are becoming unprofitable for any reason, whether within the control of "Project Team" or due to external factors.

Those who work Y-Time can perceive it as an undue imposition when others are not contributing and fairness suggests that an averaging of Y-Time over a complete department, office or indeed company is a preferable way of improving profitability. However, the short term problems of project work will necessitate peaks and variability of working hours. In addition, recording Y-Time does assist in measuring the realistic input to each project, thus assisting future budgeting and fee bidding.

It is incorrect to suppose that Y-Time in one area should result in redundancies elsewhere. In fact the opposite applies in that Y-Time should be an important factor in the preservation of jobs throughout the Firm.

• Salary cuts

The idea of a salary cut has been considered at various times. It has been ruled out on the grounds of the hardship which would result for too many individuals and, significantly, on the reduced fees which would be obtained for multiplier based time charge projects. Reduced fees lead to lower recovery of overheads and a general downward spiral of income to the Firm, which has to be avoided.

• Redundancy

The Firm's policy on redundancy is set out in the staff handbook. We have not been immune to the general economic climate and regrettably some redundancies have been necessary although the Firm has taken all possible steps to keep them to a minimum.

• Pension Scheme

The current pension scheme is not very generous with regard to redundancy or early retirement, mainly because there is a 6% decrease in pension for every year of retirement prior to the age of 65. The Trustees have looked at this provision, which has been in the scheme since its introduction in the mid-70's, on a number of occasions and found that the cost of reducing the 6% would be very large. Unfortunately, the current climate means the Firm is unable to consider additional contributions to pay for this or other enhanced benefits.

The Firm has also considered the question of reducing the retirement age to 62 but again the cost appeared to be prohibitive.

The pension holiday resulted from a legal requirement that pension schemes should not be excessively over-funded (as defined by the Government). In retrospect, the pension holiday, which was shared between employees and employer, probably lasted for too long. The question of larger or early retirement packages was considered but as the holiday was a one-off it was felt that a long-term commitment to fund additional benefits was unrealistic.

The bottom line as far as pensions are concerned is that the employer must make sufficient contributions to ensure that the fund can meet all its commitments. Legislation over the last 8 years has increasingly forced employers to raise their contributions and there is clearly a limit to how far they can go. More enhanced benefits would make this financing problem even worse.

To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week (continue on a separate page if necessary):

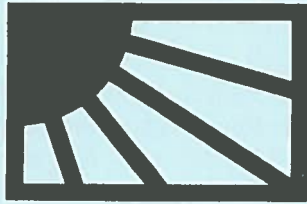
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(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION - ALL STAFF! ”

From Chris White [Basingstoke]:

Pathways for Progress Update

The elements which comprise the Pathways Framework are being evaluated by all operating companies throughout the Group. This phase is taking more time than was programmed. Therefore the promised second staff announcement has been postponed at least until after the International Directors have met in Glasgow over the 30th October - 1st November 1996. IHRG are of the view that it is better to delay than not arrive.

From Daniel Frost [Basingstoke]:

I have been asked to write a few lines about how incoming Internet e-mail is dealt with in Basingstoke.

At present, all e-mail coming into Scott House arrives in Computing. From Computing, the Internet mailbox is checked every morning and at frequent intervals during the day. The last check is at about 5.30pm.

The incoming e-mail can be divided into three types:

- 1) Text only messages.
- 2) Messages which are solely word processed or spreadsheet documents.
- 3) Text messages with attached documents i.e. a mixture of 1 and 2 above.

Any text portion is printed, date stamped and placed in the internal mail. Any word processed or spreadsheet part is transferred to a floppy disk and then sent to the recipient via the internal mail. If the document is too large to be placed on a floppy disk then it is placed in the transfer area of the PC network and the recipient notified by phone. All incoming files are virus checked by Computing.

Please remember that large e-mails are difficult to receive so please encourage senders to use compression programs, such as PkZip, to reduce the size of their files before transmission.

From Beryl Jones [London]:

BEFORE arranging a meeting in the London office, please check with Beryl or Janet that there is a room available, then confirm the booking by fax with a list of the people attending. If refreshments are required please give a Job number (stating whether Recoverable or Non Recoverable).

We would be grateful if you could also give 24 hours notice of any cancellations, as we only have two conference rooms and they are in great demand.

From Amanda Hawkins [Basingstoke]:

Just recently, SWK has often been featured in the key Trade press as a direct result of specific News Releases being sent, giving information on new projects

Consequently, in order to try and gain a higher profile and create more publicity for the projects that we do, a News

Release will now be prepared, in all feasible cases, for new projects of an estimated fee of £25, 000 or over.

Contact with the relevant Project Managers for such projects will be initiated from the information given in the New Commissions List, released at the beginning of every month. At least three or four paragraphs of solid information on each project will be requested for the compilation of an effective News Release.

Although the fee barrier has been set at £25, 000 (instead of £100, 000 as it previously was), this rule is not set in stone. If the fees for a project come under this figure, but it is felt that the project is newsworthy, please contact me and a potential News Release can then be drafted.

In addition, if anybody comes across any mention of SWK in any of the Trade journals, could you please forward a copy of the article (and the name and date of the journal in which it was featured) to either myself or Iona Sewell in the Marketing Department. Often it is difficult to keep track of the contents of every engineering journal to whom we send details of new projects. Many thanks.

From Hilary Kernohan [Leeds]:

As the recession has eased, developers are currently more land hungry than ever:- in particular for housing, retail and leisure sites. The planners would be pleased to receive details of any development, or possible development land. These sites can then be assessed for development potential, and, where suitable, submitted to appropriate companies - on the promise of the associated consultancy work of course. Sites can be:

- For sale with an existing consent
- Derelict land or premises
- Edge of town sites requiring promotion through the development plan system
- Gap sites in towns and villages
- Buildings with potential for change of use
- Surplus to requirement sport fields, or other institutional uses.

There are planners in Abingdon, Basingstoke, Edinburgh, Exeter, Leeds and Manchester. We look forward to hearing from lots and lots of engineers!

Country:	Traveller:	Date:
Ulanbataar	J. Smith	17th Oct 96 - 6th Nov 96
Germany	D. Farthing	17th/18th Oct 96
Malawi	D. Bovill	16th Oct 96 - 16th Nov 96
Malaysia	T. King	26th Oct 96 - 9th Nov 96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999; D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Grant Findlay [Ho Chi Minh City]:

On 3rd October. Lawrence Reddaway (SWK Hanoi) and I

represented SWK at a reception to welcome a mission from the British Consultants Bureau, headed by their President, the Duke of Gloucester. The reception, held at the Omni Saigon Hotel, was hosted by the British Consul General, and was attended by representatives of many British consultants and contracting organisations who are active in Vietnam.

Achille Calzetti and I attended meetings recently at the People's Committee offices of the three provinces through which the Ho Chi Minh City to Phnom Penh Highway Improvement Project Road passes. The purpose of these meetings was to present the proposed alignments and have them approved before proceeding to the detailed highway design. Although only partly successful in achieving this aim, the meetings proved to be a wonderful opportunity to sample rural Vietnamese hospitality.

In Go Dau, in the Tay Ninh province, some 50km NW of HCMC, we were treated to a lunch of local specialities, which included deep fried sparrow (including the head and legs) and what appeared to be sauteed gecko. Achille has adopted a gecko as a pet in his room at the Champagne Hotel, which he feeds on a regular basis. Given the affection he has developed for his small, green companion he felt it unacceptable to partake of its relatives. To ensure no offence to Achille I also chose to abstain!

On the subject of food I can report that HCMC and Phnom Penh have a huge selection of very good restaurants catering for local and international tastes. I have eaten my way around the culinary specialities of much of the world since arriving in HCMC on 29th August. Alan Frew should note that Ali no longer appears to be at the Club Camargue, however Laura made us most welcome (!), and the Camargue is now a regular choice for dinner.

From Diana Clarke [Basingstoke]:

On Saturday 5th October, a further £19.80 was made from a waste paper run. I have donated £50 from our recycling paper fund to Neil Armitage (Derby Southern Bypass) who ran a half marathon on behalf of The British Heart Foundation on Sunday 6th October. Well done Neil. (See Sports & Social).

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Congratulations to Rob Noble (Peterborough) on achieving certification in Personal Track Safety and PICOW Courses for railway work.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

• STARTERS

Martin Johnson has recently joined the Manchester office of SWRC as a Landscape Technician. With qualifications in both Landscape Architecture and Horticulture, he is in an excellent position to advise on all your planting requirements and is already working on schemes for the Countryside Commission and Maunders Homes.

• TRANSFERS

As from Friday 18th October, the SWRC Ecologists: Jo Hughes, Mick Hall and Alan Lewis will be working from the Basingstoke office and will be located on the 3rd Floor. Should you have any problems - such as dangly anthers, unripe stigmas, teeth marks on nuts or smelly badger setts - they will only be too pleased to advise or assist (or interfere)!

• LEAVERS

Ilona Anderson leaves the Chesterfield office (Construction) on 24th October to work at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield. All her friends wish her well in the new job and hope she'll keep in touch.

SPORTS & SOCIALS

From Neil Armitage [DSBP Site]:

Further to my article in Issue 57 of Scottlight, my attempt at the Chesterfield half-marathon took place on Sunday 6th October. I did begin to wonder about the wisdom of taking part, after I realised that a 'sociable drink' on the Saturday night would be out of the question if I had real ambitions/aspirations of finishing the event (or even waking up early on a Sunday!)

Race day arrived and, after a 7.30am 'wake up body' bath, I was 'up-for-it!' Conditions were good, a slight drizzle faded away once the race began. All the training to turn myself into a lean, mean, racing machine was about to be tested. I settled into a comfortable pace, and before I knew it, six miles had passed. On reaching the 11 mile marker I still felt good 11 1/2 miles and all of a sudden I was running with lead weights on my legs, however, I was determined to run the whole distance and the thought of a doughnut kept me going (!)

The last mile was very difficult but, ultimately, very satisfying as I finished the race, as promised to the doubters, in 1 hour 50 mins & 53 secs. This meant that my average speed was about 8 1/2 minutes per mile and race classification was 198th place.

Thank you to everyone from DSBP/A50 and the lone supporter from Basingstoke for your support and generous sponsorship which has enabled me to raise £214.03 for the British Heart Foundation. Now, about that little jog they call the London Marathon.....!!

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££££

For Sale: Computer: Acer 1120SX - 386SX plus 387 Math Co-processor, 8Mb Ram, 1Mb Trident SVGA Graphics card, 3 1/2" FDD, 160MbHDD, 14" MicroScan High-Res SVGA screen, Acer Grey-scale hand scanner, 3-button mouse, Windows 3+ and odd software. Please contact Nick Jansen, SWM, M&E, Swindon Tel: 01793 515946

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Colin McKenna [Basingstoke]:

I am pleased to see that after all the correspondence on Y-time, pensions and preferred employers, we have finally homed in on what the Firm really lacks - a space for Martin Wheeler's bike.

I do not disagree with the sentiment of his note - my motorbike is often accused of damaging the surfacing - but is Scottlight the place to raise such a local issue? It could be the start of a flurry of notes about the sundry facilities in other offices, but then again let's hope not.

PLEASE FORWARD ANY IDEAS OF THE WEEK OR ARTICLES FOR SCOTTLIGHT TO AMANDA HAWKINS IN BASINGSTOKE BY 5PM MONDAY



“ ATTENTION ~ ALL STAFF! ”

From Chris Sketchley [Basingstoke]:

After 38 years service with the Firm, Dudley Ings has retired on his return from his recent secondment to the Hong Kong office. For those who do not know Dudley, he led the Basingstoke Bridges Group from 1983 until his secondment to Hong Kong in early 1995.

Over the years he has been involved in many of SWK's major bridges projects including the Cheshire stretch of the M6, the Wuya Bridge in Nigeria, bridges on the M180 and M62 including the 1300 metre long Ouse Bridge, bridges for the A36 Warminster Bypass and the Rambler Channel Crossing in Hong Kong.

On behalf of all the Directors I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to Dudley for all the loyal hard work he has put in and to wish him a long and happy retirement

From Stephen Leach [Basingstoke]:

The cost of making telephone calls over the BT network has been steadily reducing over the last few years. This now means that it is no longer economic for us to maintain our own private tie lines between Basingstoke/Telford and Basingstoke/Basildon. Thus both these tie lines will be discontinued as from 28th October.

The Basingstoke/Chesterfield tie line carries sufficient calls to remain economic. As of the time of writing, it has been temporarily out of action since the Chesterfield telephone switchboard was changed. However, it will be reinstated once the current technical difficulties have been overcome.

From Richard Levett [Basingstoke]:

SWK Basingstoke is pleased to welcome the following Senior Managers from the Vietnam National Construction Consultants (VNCC):-

Mr Truong Nguyen <u>Man</u>	Deputy General Director of VNCC (Senior Engineer) and leader of the Group
Mr Ha Duc <u>Linh</u>	Director of the CDC Office (Senior Architect)
Mr Nguyen Ngoc <u>Huyen</u>	Director of Enterprise 6 (Senior Engineer)
Mr Van Duc <u>Loi</u>	Director of Centre 3 (Engineer)
Mr Duong Xuan <u>Tan</u>	Director Enterprise 8 (Senior Architect)
Mrs Nguyen Thi <u>Dan</u>	VNCC Interpreter (Engineer)

This is the second group of Senior Managers to visit SWK, beginning Monday 21st October 1996, as part of the ODA funded Institutional Strengthening Project. The group members will be gaining an overview of UK Consultancy skills so that

they can adopt and transfer appropriate skills to their organisation as it moves towards a more market originated approach. The group have earlier spent one week with Davis Langdon Consultancy, who are our associates for this project. John Laing International have also given the group the Contractors' view point

From Jancis Smith [Abingdon]:

Might there be anyone out there willing to pass to the Abingdon office their copy of New Civil Engineer - once they have read it of course (or not maybe?!) With so many copies floating around it seems a pity to renew our sub unnecessarily.

From Mark Harrison [Basingstoke]:

Could someone please lend me a dictaphone which will accept a Sony MC60 microcassette. (This is a smaller cassette size than that used in the "standard" dictaphones in Scott House).

From Louise Curme [Basingstoke]:

Has anybody seen the Marketing studio's cutting mat? Since the department's move it appears to have gone missing. If anybody finds it could you please let me know (Ext 312).

From Ken Goodingham [Basingstoke]:

A number of different suppliers are used throughout the Group for hiring cars - Basingstoke Motor Corp Ltd, Avis Rent a Car (through Lex Vehicle Leasing), Europcar and Hertz with vans from Kennings (through Lex Vehicle Leasing).

There are frequent occasions when an early start is necessary - say 0600am - so the car is delivered to the office or the home address the previous day. **THE CAR MUST NOT BE USED BEFORE THE TIME IT HAS BEEN BOOKED WITH THE HIRE COMPANY.**

Frequently, on short-term 24/48/72 hour hires, the vehicle is de-hired at the time of booking. This results in a considerable administrative saving for both SWK and the hire company. **THE CAR MUST NOT BE USED AFTER THE AGREED DE-HIRED TIME.**

For all hired in cars and vans it is **IMPERATIVE** that the vehicle details are given by the user to the person who made the booking so that it can be insured on the Group Motor Fleet Policy. The required information is MAKE, MODEL, ENGINE SIZE, and REGISTRATION NUMBER. Failure to do this means that you end up driving an uninsured vehicle with all its inherent problems should an accident occur.

Also from Ken Goodingham:

Where personnel are working overseas for a continuous period of twelve months or more, Sun Alliance have increased the excess on this policy for overseas medical claims to £100 per individual claim. We have agreed to this as the alternative was a substantial increase in annual premium.

Where an individual requires a number of visits to complete

a course of treatment for a particular illness, then only one policy excess of £100 will normally be applied. Obviously these visits would have to be over a reasonable time span and all relate to the original illness.

As a result of this change, there is little point in individual medical claims being forwarded to Basingstoke where the sterling amount will be equivalent to or less than the £100 policy excess.

From Mike Sales [Basingstoke]:

The windows of Scott House, Basingstoke will be cleaned on Saturday 23rd November 1996.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Country:	Traveller:	Date:
Sri Lanka	Iain Calder	22/10/96 - 28/10/96
Sri Lanka	David Hitchings	22/10/96 - 24/10/96
Malaysia	David Hitchings	25/10/96 - 25/11/96
USA	John Nutt	22/10/96 - 28/10/96
Malawi	Martin Oaten	30/10/96
Nepal	Leighton Williams	21/10/96
Israel	George Woodbridge	2/11/96
India/Nepal	David Bovill	24/11/96 - 3/12/96
Vietnam	Chris Tolley	29/10/96
Almaty & St Petersburg	Martin Edge	28/10/96 - 28/11/96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999; D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Ron Wall [Telford]:

SWK has been appointed as 'Designers' to Amey, Robert McAlpine, Taylor Woodrow A19 Construction Joint Venture (JV) who are contracted to Autolink Concessionaires A19 Limited to undertake the 'new construction widening' of sections of A19 Norton to Parkway, Teeside.

Autolink Concessionaires A19 Limited is a company set up by Autolink Concessionaires, a Roads Operating group established in 1994 to seek opportunities to operate and maintain Toll Roads in Europe. The principal partners in Autolink Concessionaires and Autolink Concessionaires A19 Limited are the Amey Group, Sir Robert McAlpine and Taylor Woodrow.

The project forms part of the A19 Design, Build, Finance and Operate 30 year Concession Agreement between the Highways Agency and Autolink Concessionaires A19 Limited which was signed on Monday 14th October 1996.

The section of new works comprises the construction of an additional lane in each direction on the existing A19 dual 2 lane carriageway over a distance of approximately 2.8 Km north of the River Tees and approximately 3.8 Km south of the River Tees in Middlesbrough. The network as a whole included in the Concession Agreement comprises approximately 120 Km of dual 2 and 3 lane carriageways, 50 Km of side/slip roads and includes 173 structures.

SWK is also advising the JV on the Routine Operations and Maintenance for the network and is discussing with the JV opportunities to undertake the testing of Pavements through SWKPE and provision of staff at the network Operations & Maintenance Centre including the Highways and Bridges

Inspectors, Network Quality Manager and Planning Engineer.

In addition, SWK has been appointed by Autolink Concessionaires A19 Limited on a direct separate commission to advise on the Refurbishment of the Tees Viaduct substructure, Strengthening of the Hylton Bridge, Designing Improvement Works to the network, Major Maintenance Strategy and Planning for the network, Traffic and Revenue Forecasting. It is also in SWK's remit to be responsible for Landscaping and Horticultural advice for the route.

These appointments and the award of the concession contract are the result of SWK being involved in critical aspects of the Concession Tendering process since June 1995, including Design, Value Engineering, Programming, Maintenance Strategy and Revenue Forecasting. Other advisors to Autolink include Morgan Stanley (Finance) and Ashurst Morris Crisp (Legal). The work will be principally undertaken in the Telford and Chesterfield offices.

From Malcom George [Abingdon]:

Since many SWK staff might still be wondering what it is that SWRC's Tourism and Leisure team get up to, the following summary of current work being undertaken in Abingdon, shows the wide range of topics that we can cover. It may prompt some thoughts as to how these new skills can link into other SWK activities:-

- Concept, design and feasibility study for a £5M Ice Age Visitor Centre at Creswell Crags, North Notts/Derbyshire;
- Tourism development strategies for Gloucestershire and South East London;
- Preparation of Millennium project bids for Cheltenham and Ely;
- Visitor surveys and management plan for Broadway, in the Cotswolds;
- Advising the Heritage Lottery Fund on the viability of projects applying for grants;
- An inspection of all hotel and self-catering accommodation in Malta, leading to the preparation of a new classification and grading scheme;
- Museum feasibility studies for Alcester, Warwickshire; Elgar's Birthplace Trust, Worcester; Sir John Betjeman Visitor Centre, Wadebridge and the Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere.

From David Green [Peterborough]:

On 16th October, I attended RAF Cranwell, which is the prestigious Officer Training Facility for the RAF, to hand over the New Simulator and Simulator Support Building. This facility is unique and the completion was phased to allow the closure of RAF Finninghay. Students have been training since Easter 1996, approximately 12 months after SWK's appointment as Project Manager.

Other work at RAF Cranwell, as part of the Term Commission to DWA Brampton, includes a Hazardous Materials Store and the Survival Equipment Section, which was recently awarded (Fee Scale C). SWK has also been appointed to project manage Concrete Repairs at RAF Wyton (Fee Scale B). Project Management of these works has recently passed to Norman Wyll who will be assisted by Graham Thompson.

From Dave Sutton & Kathy Langstaff-Roberts [MainLine, Swindon]:

Referring to recent articles on streamlining QA systems, we here at MainLine have in the past few months been actively doing just that. We have condensed what were 5 completely

separate Divisional Quality Management Systems into 1 QA System for the Company. At the same time we pruned the paperwork to such an extent that our new system consists of only 30 Procedures (most of which are a single side of A4 paper) and about 50 forms.

Although we haven't had our first surveillance visit yet the paperwork side has been approved by our Certification Body.

Please make the cheque out to Dave Sutton and Kathy Langstaff-Roberts!

(Editors note: A SWK colleague has also expressed interest in taking part in the formulation of a new QA manual).

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Congratulations to Ruth Aitken on the A50 site at Stoke-on-Trent who was officially made Deputy Laboratory Manager on 1st October 1996. Ruth has carried out these duties from the very beginning of the contract, so it is good to see her work appreciated.

Many congratulations to Rob Morris (Basingstoke) and his wife Cerion who are now the proud parents of a baby boy, Cameron, born on 16th October weighing 7lb.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

All at MainLine extend a warm welcome to Graham Whitfield, Braddan Thompson, Bob Allen and Adrian Peach, who have been at the Swindon office for two weeks but will be returning to Crewe to run the office there. Also, welcome to David Leahy who joins the Permanent Way Discipline as a Technician.

Welcome to Craig Dale who joined the A50 site team on 21st October as a Junior Laboratory Technician. Craig started work in the laboratory 14 months ago as a contractor supplied labourer/driver, but in this time has worked hard and proved himself to be worth much more.

SWRC Abingdon would like to welcome Janice Wiggins who joined the office on 14th October as a Part Time Admin/Accounts assistant.

The SWRC Edinburgh office would like to welcome David Selkirk, a Tourism and Leisure Consultant and Tessa Harding, an Ecologist as part of the team.

LEAVERS

Goodbye and good luck to Fatt Yong (MainLine) who left the Civil Engineering discipline for pastures new.

SPORTS & SOCIALS

SWK Overseas Roads (Basingstoke) will be holding their Christmas office dinner on Thursday 19th December. If there are any overseas staff who will be in the UK on that date and

would like to join us for the evening, please fax Diana Clarke in Basingstoke, fax no: 01256 460582. The cost of the meal is £19.50 per head inclusive of VAT.

▷ VACANCIES ◁

Prospective candidates are required for a project in Pakistan. The project is a major greenfield port works in a remote area, consisting of dredging which will be subject of tender in November, reclamation, piled quay structures and onshore infrastructure including roads, paving, buildings and services. The expected duration of the contract is 2½ years, commencing early in 1997.

The contract requires a Chief Resident Engineer, Deputy Resident Engineer and a Chief QS/Measurement/Contracts Engineer.

The posts will be on bachelor basis only, but regular interim leave passages could be available.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please notify Don Wootton in the Reigate office or Caz Spencer at Basingstoke (Ext 209).

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££

Accommodation is sought in Basingstoke for Anna-Maria Giacomello, currently working at Reigate, who will shortly be transferring to Basingstoke. Anna Maria is an Italian student, participating in the "Leonardo da Vinci" Young Workers Exchange Programme, supported by the Department of Employment.

The programme provides experience for both English and European students to undertake work in a different hosting country where they will get an insight into a new culture, language and working environment. Anna Maria's placement will be completed in March 1997.

Terms and conditions for the accommodating host family are supplied by European Training Services Limited. If interested, please contact Nicola Gordge, Ext. 350, at the Basingstoke office for further information.

For Sale: Sega Megadrive, two controllers, 13 games, everything boxed. Ideal for Christmas present. £175. Can be viewed at home (Chesterfield) or can bring to site. Please contact Neil Armitage, DSB site, Tel: 01332 691694.

For Sale: Two dumb-bells, barbell, 46kg of weights, weights bench. £50. Please contact Phil Wells, MainLine, Swindon. Tel: 01793 515924

Idea of the Week



From Iain Snaith [Basingstoke]:

We very recently had visitors to the Basingstoke office. They were very surprised to see the poor state of our office and how untidy it is. I have to say that I agree with them and in my

opinion, until we do something about it, we should refrain from escorting people around the building as it gives a very poor impression.

Without spending a penny, we could radically improve the look of our surroundings by removing all old drawings, files and scrap paper that are left around on tops of book cases, filing cabinets and table areas. Book cases that face outwards to the corridors could also be tidied up to look presentable.

I suggest, therefore, a quarterly clean-up day which would be policed by one of the Basingstoke Directors.

From Mike Coveney [Chesterfield]:

Now that the new Chesterfield phone system is in operation and the reshuffle of desks has nearly finished, it seems sensible that we should put our Direct Dial numbers along with our reference on letters whenever appropriate. (Someone will need to define any inappropriate circumstances!)

I'm sure Cath would be relieved to miss out on a few hundred "Good morning, Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick"s each week.

To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week (continue on a separate page if necessary):

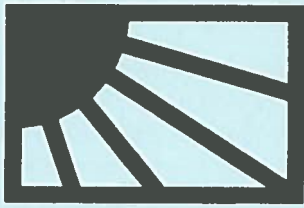
.....
.....
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION ~ ALL STAFF! ”

From Chris Jennison [SWK (PE) Nottingham]:

Chris Rigby-Jones - Memorial

The 18th October brought sad memories back to all staff at SWK (PE). It was exactly a year ago that Chris was tragically killed by a 'hit and run' HGV driver whilst FWD surveying on Warwick By-pass.

The case finally came to Court and we learnt (ironically on the 18th!) that the driver pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 15 months imprisonment and banned from driving for 2½ years. Considering he was under the influence of alcohol at the time it seems to be rough justice for the loss of a dear friend and colleague.

We all miss Chris and treasure fond memories of his relatively short time with us.

From Geoff French [Basingstoke]:

The Board of Scott Wilson MainLine is delighted to announce that Phil Shepherd has been appointed as a Director of Scott Wilson MainLine with effect from 1st November 1996.

Phil graduated from the University of Bath in 1969 with an honours degree in Mechanical Engineering and immediately joined the Traction and Rolling stock division of BR in the Western Region. During the following years, he held increasingly senior management posts including maintenance of the Intercity 125 locomotive fleet. He also spent periods on secondment to the German and Swiss Railways, before transferring to MainLine in 1993.

Since then, Phil has radically transformed a small building services section into an expanding and busy railway M&E group with a staff of 45, and rising. Since the transfer of MainLine to SWK, Phil has masterminded MainLine's expansion into electrification and signalling, along with the opening of a new branch office in Crewe.

Phil is a Fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and has a particular interest in team building, man management and training issues.

Also from Geoff French:

Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co. Ltd will be changing to weekly timesheets from 1st November 1996.

The previous timesheet has been amended for this purpose and copies of the new timesheet with instructions for their completion have been distributed. We will utilise the new timesheet for the next month or two and see whether any amendment or fine tuning is required before having the new version printed in large numbers. During this period, photocopies of the draft timesheet should be used.

The move to weekly timesheets will give Project Managers much better financial information. Initially the weekly timesheets will be input into FAMIS.

Any queries should be directed towards myself, David Lambert or Keith Hackney - all in the Basingstoke office.

From Claire Woolveridge [Basingstoke]:

SWK is currently operating a 24 hour environmental helpline for Balfour Beatty. Through this service we answer queries on a wide range of subjects - from oil spill clean up methods to construction noise levels.

This helpline really is a 24 hour service - so if a call is put through to you when you are in the Basingstoke office 'out of hours', please redirect it back to reception and ask them to follow the Balfour Beatty Helpline Procedures. Reception will then give the caller a home number for someone in the Environmental section. It is vital that no calls are 'lost' as we have been contracted for a 24 hour service.

From Ken Goodingham [Basingstoke]:

Scott House Parking

It never ceases to amaze Mike Sales and me when personnel returning Hire Cars to Scott House after normal working hours with virtually the whole parking area empty of cars, manage to leave them in Company designated parking spaces.

It would be greatly appreciated if returned Hire Cars were parked overnight in the empty staff parking bays at the rear of Scott House.

Postcodes

As you well know, the postcode enables the Royal Mail to rapidly sort mail with their sophisticated mechanical sorters. The equipment electronically scans the bottom line of each address in order to read the postcode. Unless the postcode comprises the bottom line, the equipment cannot mechanically sort the letter and it then ends up being done manually.

For example: Basingstoke
Hants RG21 4JG is incorrect

Whereas: Basingstoke
Hants
RG21 4JG is correct

Would you please ensure that all letters despatched in window envelopes and all address labels clearly show only the postcode on the bottom line.

From Keith Sutton [Basingstoke]:

The new SWK (M&E) brochure, in the corporate style, is now available and copies can be obtained from Barbara Brophy on Ext. 285.

From Mike Sales [Basingstoke]:

An amendment to the erroneous window cleaning date given in last week's Scottlight: The windows in Scott House will be

cleaned on Sunday 3rd November not 23rd November as previously stated.

From Amanda Hawkins [Basingstoke]:

The Building Awards for 1997 are awaiting entries. These Awards have become a recognised mark of excellence in the industry. The Consultancy Awards section asks for Entrants to explain and quantify how their practice has developed over the past financial year (1994/95 to 1995/96) in a typed statement of no more than 500 words. The judges will also be keen to assess the quality of the firm's work and any technical innovations or initiatives it has launched.

For further details please contact me at Basingstoke (Ext. 297), BUT HURRY, the deadline for entries is FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER.

The Association For Project Management is again formally acknowledging the achievements in project management by bestowing the following awards:

- The Sir Monty Finniston Award (To be awarded to an individual who is a member of the APM, considered to have made an outstanding contribution to developing the art and/or science of project management).
- The Project Manager of the Year Award (To be awarded to a project manager who has shown effective use of project management skills no matter the scale or type of project. Nominations will be taken from anyone regardless of affiliation to professional bodies).
- Project of the Year Award (To be awarded to a project considered as outstanding. Nominations will be invited from members of the APM).

Further details can be obtained from myself, the closing date for registration is December 31st and the closing date for entries is February 28th, 1997.

Reminder: The deadline for the Quality Construction Awards (as described in Issue 64 of *Scottlight*) is 22nd November 1996.

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Jim Baldwin [Basingstoke]:

I recently attended the 22nd International Conference on Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation held in New Delhi, presenting a paper entitled "Sustainability through Training".

The conference was attended by over 550 International delegates, was opened by the Prime Minister of India and sponsored principally by World bank UNDP and UNICEF.

SWK has been involved in training engineers and scientists in the water sector in India since 1990, and has gained unique experience of the problems of providing safe, sustainable water supplies for drinking, particularly from ground water sources.

From Willie Burrell [IDG Glasgow]:

IDG Glasgow has recently been appointed by Railtrack North West Zone (based in Manchester) to provide on a call-off basis Management of both Projects and Contracts. The projects may be single or multi-disciplined and may include Signalling, Telecoms and Overhead Electrification. The commission is for two years but may be extended to three years (hopefully).

The same client has also taken us on board to provide Safety & Quality Audits on a call-off basis.

We have recently been appointed by Railtrack in Scotland to prepare a feasibility study for the re-opening of a former branch line near Auchinleck for Scottish Coal. (Fee Scale C).

Railtrack LNE has appointed us as Site Access Management Consultants for Surveys by others for Bridgeguard III assessments (Fee Scale B).

We have also been commissioned to gauge and survey 12 stations in the West of Scotland for Bovis Management Contractors (Fee Scale C).

Laing Management (Scotland) has appointed us to design a replacement bridge over the railway at Dingwall Station (Fee Scale C).

Raynesway Construction Services (part of the Balfour Beatty Group) has appointed us as Designer for maintenance works at four structures in Central Scotland. (Fee Scale C).

Also for Laing management, Scott Wilson IDG is appointed as Designer for mining consolidation works at an existing railway bridge in Kirkcaldy which is to have its superstructure renewed at a later date. (Fee Scale C).

In addition, Pitchmastic (part of the Dew Group) has appointed us as designer and Safety Advisor for remedial works to Inver Tunnel. Dunkeld (Fee Scale C).

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Congratulations to Claire Woolveridge at the Basingstoke office who has won a place on the 'Group Study Exchange' - an educational scholarship provided by the Rotary Foundation. Claire will spend five weeks during March and April 1997 in Curitiba, Brazil to learn about solid waste management whilst experiencing Brazilian culture.

Many congratulations to Kenny O' Hara (Glasgow) and his wife Pam who are the proud parents of a baby girl, Lauren, born on 23rd October weighing 7lb 2oz.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Phil Grant will be joining the company from 6th November 1996. He will be working in Uganda as a Contract Management Advisor on the Twinning Project. Phil will be accompanied by his wife Evelyn and twelve year old daughter Kerry.

TRANSFERS

Chris Tolley transferred from Basingstoke to Ho Chi Minh on 29th October. Chris will be hoping to implement his recent learning gained from the MBA course in his role as Senior Highway Engineer. His wife Hilary and sons Jack and Tim will be accompanying him.

LEAVERS

Goodbye and good luck to Jill Postlethwaite who leaves the Company on 1st November 1996 after spending the last 3 years looking after the Personnel issues for the Central Region. Friends and colleagues wish Jill well in her new career which

takes her from the rolling hills of Yorkshire to the bright lights of London.

A fond farewell from all the staff in Glasgow to Alan Oliver who's "gone to ride the Aussie surf". He is taking a year (or more) out to 'find himself' - we thought we would save him the bother and give him a mirror, but he was determined!

SPORTS & SOCIALS

From Caz Spencer [Basingstoke]:

I am organising a trip to the theatre in the West End to see Disney's Beauty and the Beast on Thursday 22nd May 1997 (the show opens on 13th May). This show is billed to be the biggest production ever to hit the West End.

Tickets will cost £32.50 (these are the best seats) and an SWK discount of up to £10.00 per employee is available to help ease the pain! The coach cost is approximately £4.00. For further information, or to reserve your seat, please contact Caz Spencer on Ext. 209. A £10.00 deposit is required (it is also possible to pay off the cost in instalments if necessary).

From Peter Newman [Basingstoke]:

Sunday saw the resurrection of the former Wootton Jeffreys (now WS Atkins) 5-a-side football tournament held in Woking after a two year break. SWK, having been successful in the past, was invited to enter a team, along with 11 other consultants.

We arrived bright and early, ready for the 11am kick-off to find one team member in disarray after the gradual realisation that he had arrived an hour early forgetting that the clocks had changed!

None too confident, due to the scratch team thrown together last week, and again shown up by our lack of shirt colour coordination, we feared the worst. However, after a closely fought first game against Maunsell we realised smart shirts weren't everything! Two convincing victories and a draw quickly followed and the team's confidence levels rose.

Well placed in group B, we needed a draw against group leaders Arup to reach the semi-finals.....We lost! Harsh scheduling of fixtures resulting in the early completion of our group matches had taken its toll and we were left sweating out the remaining 4 group matches (literally!). We nervously watched whilst calculating the various permutations of results which eventually saw us proceed to the semi-finals.

Meanwhile, a close eye was kept on group A who provided the opposition. Hot favourites (and organisers) WS Atkins had demolished all challengers in their group, accumulating an impressive 30 goals. It was at this point of realisation, induced by the prospect of such tough opposition, that it was suggested the injury which I sustained in the final group match was feigned to avoid potential humiliation against Atkins - honest it wasn't! Our bubble promptly burst against Atkins in the semi-final with a deserved defeat.

To our delight, the rather over-confident Atkins lost the final predictably to Arup (who seem to win everything!). We then limped home happy with some good performances and only two defeats both against the finalists.

Many thanks to Alex Baker, Daniel Frost, Graham Handy, Mike Jones (and my mate Charlie) who gave up their Sunday to represent SWK.

Final statistics for those interested were:

P	W	D	L	GF	GA
6	2	2	2	13	18

Goalscorers: Peter Newman 4, Daniel Frost 3, Charlie 3, Mike Jones and Alex Baker.

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££

For Sale: 36'1/2" Targa Powerboat, Make: Sealine 365 Sportbridge, Built in 1989, A1 condition. Price and details upon application. Moored at Chichester. Phone (01635) 298805 evenings.

VACANCIES

CAD Manager, MainLine, Swindon:

MainLine (Swindon) have a new post for a CAD Manager. The duties will include management of technicians, planning drawing work and resources and guidance to engineers using Microstation, ensuring appropriate and consistent standards.

The post requires a minimum of HNC in Civil Engineering and 10 years experience in detailing of steel, concrete, highway works and/or drainage. A proficient user of Intergraph Microstation is preferred but candidates with sound AUTOCAD skills will be considered. If you are interested in this position please contact Diane Goddard, Tel: 01793 515262.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Brian Sweatmore [MainLine, Swindon]:

Dedicated to the faithful few in P/Way Section, Scott Wilson MainLine

THE 'Y' TIME RAILMAN

I get up in the morning
and I leave this shack of mine
The train pulls in the station
And its six and twenty-nine.

I pick myself a quiet seat
I open up my bag
I have a little read
And the eyelids start to sag.

Shuffling into Swindon
In the drear cold light of day
What do those empty footsteps
Clattering..
Really have to say?

Then in the lift or up the stairs
Where quips console and cancel cares
Next to site with heavy stride
With gleaming rainwet rails beside.

Armouries of kit resplendent
Round ones neck just like a pendant

Vanguard warriors like of old
Access permits in a fold.

A train just seconds off appears
Then boisterous bogies bend the ears
Yellow tripods set to measure
Nettles cleared but not for pleasure!

"Rail double zero-offset right"
The target slips but just for spite
The day rolls on; the husky bleeps
Obstacles galore he leaps.

Quiet now, but not for long
Those hammered rails burst into song
"Zonk"; "Wham"; clunk or clatter
Stealthy switches silence shatter.

Will time allow this brief delay?
What's the fee? How can it pay?
Wind Force Six; now transit round
Grab some lunch from off the ground.

So back to base
Ten hours have gone
The micro modelling will be fun
Surveyors do it in "Y" time
It's just as well they're in their prime.

To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke)

Date:

My Idea of the Week (continue on a separate page if necessary):

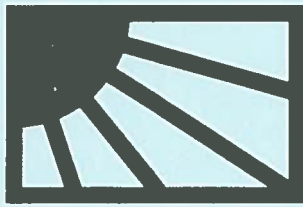


(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION – ALL STAFF! ”

From Bob McGowan [Basingstoke]:

I am pleased to advise staff that Phil Green has accepted an invitation from IRF Geneva to be their next Chairman and to serve a term from 1st July 1997 until 31st December 1999. IRF Geneva and IRF Washington are in unification discussions and the plan is for them to merge as one global body at the end of Phil Green's term of office.

From Mike Sales [Basingstoke]:

In response to the appeal, made again this year, that a national two minute silence is held to pay our respects to those who lost their lives in the wars, the fire alarm in Basingstoke office will sound at 11.00 am and again at 11.02 am on Monday the 11th November 1996 as a reminder for those who wish to join in. On this occasion the routine testing of the fire alarms that usually occurs at 10.00 am every Monday shall be superseded.

From David Dawson [MainLine, Swindon]:

MainLine offices in Western House will be closed from Wednesday 25th December to Wednesday 1st January (inclusive). MainLine will close down at 1500 hours on Christmas Eve.

From Gill Davies [Basingstoke]:

For staff living or working in the Basingstoke area - we have been given a number of discount tickets (10%) to be used in Woolworths store on Sunday 17th November, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm. If anyone would like a ticket please contact Gill Davies in Personnel (ext. 212).

From Lesley Brooks [Basingstoke]:

Can everybody ensure that they promptly return fax envelopes to Reception once they have received their fax (I keep running out of them).

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Country:	Traveller:	Date:
Poland	Eddie Foster	06/11/96 - 09/11/96
Albania	Mark Booker	28/11/96 - 07/12/96
Kenya	Ron Bisset	04/11/96 - 23/11/96
Johannesburg	Jim Baldwin	09/11/96 - 17/11/96
Hong Kong	Claire Woolveridge	12/11/96 - 02/01/97

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Alan Brookes [Mascott Ltd, Finchampstead]:
Mascott Ltd has made an honest man out of Shuva Sharma,

who has been working for us firstly in Nepal in 1993/4 and lately on work experience in Finchampstead. He also worked in SWK's environment division last year when he was gathering data for his MSc in Environmental Management. He is now taking up a post in The Gambia as Team Leader on the Integrated Rural Development Project for Livestock. He will be responsible for improving the infrastructure for meat and dairy operations, and will be assisted in this by two short term experts. We wish him all success with the project, and hope that the mosquitos are all small ones!

From Shammy Puri [Basingstoke]:

During their second visit to SWK's offices in Basingstoke, two senior Managers of SAMSUNG Global Research, agreed a Memo of Understanding, concerning our follow on work. The main purpose of the UK visit, by Dr Sang Hoon Lee (Global Research, Seoul) and Dr Sun Ki Kang (R & D Engineering, Yongin Shi), was to review and discuss our Draft Report on the Environmental Evaluation of Manufacturing Facilities in Korea.

We have been providing technical assistance to SAMSUNG since June '96 when I visited SAMSUNG to submit a proposal for work and later revisited to carry out a preliminary reconnaissance at 12 of SAMSUNG's 43 facilities throughout South Korea. Subsequently, Mike Jones spent six weeks at these facilities carrying out site work, involving drilling for soil & water samples.

The Memorandum concerns two issues: implementation of SWK's findings and future collaboration, in particular our role as a *resource centre* to support the Client's world-wide activities.

The next phase of our continued assistance to SAMSUNG will consist of another visit by Peter Chan of the Hong Kong office and myself during December.



Collaboration with SAMSUNG: Dr Mike Jones, Dr Sang Hoon Lee, Geoff French, Dr Sun Kin Kang, Shammy Puri, after the signature of the memo of understanding.

From David Dawson [MainLine, Swindon]:

Signalling in Scotland

Since August, MainLine has been assisting SWK Scotland with eight jobs. They include work concerned with signalling system wire degradation, redesign of track circuits and axle counters, feasibility studies, scheme development and design. John Caddick and Mark Williams have spent much time visiting sites all over Scotland. The Project Leader is Ron Seward (Fee Scale A).

Wavertree Technology Park New Station

In support of a regeneration initiative for Merseyside, the Passenger Transport Executive, Mersey Travel, are improving passenger facilities and the infrastructure within the area. The provision of a new manned station at Wavertree Technology Park on the line from Liverpool Lime Street to Manchester/Wigan forms part of this policy.

MainLine has been commissioned to carry out a review of existing planning studies into the proposed station, identify and make recommendations on options available, and prepare a full detail design for the preferred option.

The timescale is very short, with four weeks to complete the option identification stage and ten weeks for the detailed design.

The project will involve all disciplines including civil and structural engineering, permanent way, survey, electrical, telecommunications, signalling, M&E and building services, all of which can be carried out by our "in house" design team. In addition, architectural services will be contracted in to assist in aesthetic issues.

Our client is Railtrack MPD NW, MainLine's Project Leader is Mike Palmer and the Fee Scale is B.

West Horsley Bridge Design

MainLine has been awarded a design contract by Railtrack MPD Southern for replacement of a superstructure (with 'Z' type girders), and strengthening of foundations of an underline bridge near Guildford, Surrey.

This is the first design commission for Railtrack Southern MPD, although MainLine has provided staff acting as Assistant Project Managers and Resident Engineers on a secondment basis. MainLine was not the lowest tenderer for this commission, but was selected on the quality of the tender submission, and experienced design staff proposed for the work.

The Fee Scale is C, and will involve survey, civil engineering, permanent way and quantity surveying work. The Project Leader is Mike Summerfield.

Nunhead Junction - S&C Renewal

This multi discipline job has been awarded to MainLine by Railtrack MPD Southern. The scope of works includes survey, permanent way design, points heating, 3rd rail electrification and signalling design. The latter will involve design alterations to Victoria panel box, which will be a first for our M&E engineers.

The value of the work is Fee Scale C. John Sharpe will be the Project Leader with Ron Seward coordinating the M&E works.

Site Supervision at Northampton

MainLine has recently been awarded the site supervision

contract for three bridge reconstruction projects in the Northampton area. The construction value of the three schemes is approximately £900k and the fee bid value is circa £30k. The first project starts in early November, the final bridge will be complete in Mid March '97.

These projects are the first three of some 14 schemes for which MainLine is programmed to provide site supervision, under the terms of our call off contract.

More work at Luton Airport

In July, MainLine were engaged to carry out a Railway Impact Assessment for the proposed new station at Luton Airport Parkway. The study required evaluating the work of another consultant and in particular bringing MainLine's experience of construction into an operational railway environment to the project team.

MainLine's remit has now been extended by Railtrack MPD to carry out the detailed feasibility study of works inside the railway corridor and also provide advice concerning the associated infrastructure works such as the car parks and road layout.

The detailed feasibility study will involve civil, permanent way and M&E engineers, the latter particularly for OHLE and signalling work.

From Mike Earwaker [Bihar]:

SWK welcomes David Owens and Cyril Maude to the Bihar Project. Graham Hetherington has left the project due to medical reasons.

Since our last letter the ten Contracts have magnified to 20 with a further 47 in the pipeline with an estimated cost of £30M (HK \$360M). Technical staff now number 60 and are rising.

Land and forestry areas are a major problem and some of the original 10 projects may have to be curtailed in order to close the Contracts.

Bidding documents are showering thick and fast and Cyril Maude is under pressure preparing tender reports.

Terry German is taking a well earned leave and I have just returned.

From SWK Hong-Kong

SWK (Hong-Kong) has been appointed by Goodwin Engineering Co Ltd to carry out a traffic forecast study for the 50 km Class I Highway between Gongzhuang and Yongnian, Hebei Province, China. This is SWK's second appointment by Goodwin Engineering. SWK's expertise in conducting traffic forecast studies in Hebei Province is unrivalled, having undertaken a number of major highway projects totalling 800 km in the province.

Similarly, Cheung Kong Infrastructure Ltd has appointed SWK to carry out a traffic forecast study for the 30 km expressway between Jiangmen and Gonghe and the 30km Class I Highway between Jiangmen and Heshan in Guangdong Province, PRC. These roads connect the southwestern part of the Pearl River Delta to the 530km Guangzhou - Xuwen Expressway.

SWK has completed three separate traffic forecast studies for this expressway, one of which, the 96 km Guangzhou - Kaiping Section, was successfully listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange this year. These studies have established SWK internationally as a consultancy leader in the field of traffic forecasting in China. Albert Cheung is the Project Director and Samuel Wong is the Project Manager.

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Congratulations to Dick Watts (MainLine) - Since his presentation to the Exporail (Asia) 96 ICE Conference in Hong Kong back in June, Dick has continued his "lecture tour" on MainLine's contribution to the Heathrow Express Project, speaking to a full house at the Thames Valley branch of the Permanent Way Institution on 4th September and to an audience of about 250 at the ICE MainLine Railways Seminar at the Infrarail 96 International Exhibition in Manchester on 1st October.

Dick flew into Manchester from Maastricht where on the previous day, he had given a joint paper with Geoff Carter of Netion on the use of reinforced soil steep slope embankments at Airport Junction to the 400 delegate "EuroGeo" European Geosynthetics Conference and Exhibition.

You can see Dick's presentation soon, because he stars in the first of a new series of ICE training videos, the subject of which is the Heathrow Express Project.

Congratulations to Jim McNally (Manchester office) and his wife Celia on the birth of their first child, Kieran, who was born on 18th October weighing in at 6lb 1oz and 4 weeks ahead of programme.

VACANCIES

Graduate Engineer/Surveyor (London Office):
Senior Professional Engineer (Basingstoke Office):
The Facilities Management business of Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick requires a Graduate Engineer/Surveyor to work in the London office and Senior Professional Engineer to assist in developing the business based in Basingstoke.

Please contact Keith Sutton (Ext. 238) for further information, having first spoken to your Section Head.

Marketing Assistant (MainLine, Swindon):
MainLine (Swindon) are looking for a Marketing Assistant. The role involves the production of project sheets, CV's and other marketing material. The successful candidate must have excellent written English and good keyboard skills. The current software packages used by the Marketing Department are Word, Powerpoint, Pagemaker and Photoshop and experience in one or more of these would be useful.

If you are interested, please contact Alison White on 01793 515262 (int. 75262).

ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ Μιηδ?

From Mick Hall [Basingstoke]:

From this week's Scottlight (Issue 68) I notice that the P/Way Section, Scott Wilson MainLine, regularly clear nettles as part of their everyday tasks (The 'Y' Time Railwayman, verse 6). Presumably they complete Ecological Impact Assessments prior to undertaking this clearance: during these studies have the P/Way section noticed whether the population size and diversity of the Nymphalidae are affected by trichome density?!

From Neil Armitage/Daniel Brookes [DSB]:

Regarding Iain Snaith's Idea of the Week (Issue 67): Surely the Basingstoke office isn't so untidy as to deter visitors/would-be

clients? After all, it appears to be the only SWK office that has its windows cleaned, and that's without the effect of the dust that the site offices have to endure. Anyway, now that the clocks have gone back, it will be too dark for anyone to notice!!

Idea of the Week



From David Judge [Basingstoke]:

To help those who do not have a detailed knowledge of the Scott House layout and location of members of staff, how about:

- 1) Adding a page to the internal telephone list where people are grouped by department, with location (floor) and title/post (as is done for Western House);
- 2) On each floor (either by the lifts or by the tea machine) having a seating plan for that floor, so that people can find other members of staff without having to play 20 questions.

From Richard Atkinson [Manchester]:

As weekly timesheets are being introduced we need to know JIF numbers much sooner. Would it not be possible to call a central person who could issue a JIF number right at the outset i.e. before seeking Director approval. A Director not prepared to approve a JIF will still have the chance to say so before significant work is done.

~ Winner ~

October's winner of Idea of the Week is Ann Crawford (Reigate) who suggested (in Issue 64) the changing of the Facsimile Transmission Form Q25 to make the company details more legible and to add a box to house a serial number. Hopefully, a reply to this idea will follow in the not too distant future. In the meantime, could Ann give Amanda Hawkins a call at Basingstoke on Ext. 297 to let her know whether you fancy a box of choccies or a bottle of wine!

Large blank area for writing an idea, divided into two columns by a vertical line.

To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week (continue on a separate page if necessary):

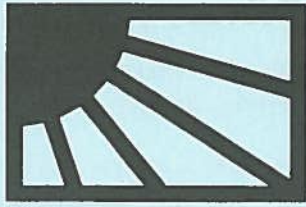
.....
.....
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION – ALL STAFF! ”

From Chris White [SWK Holdings Ltd, Basingstoke]:

I trust all engineering graduates, technicians, SCEs and section heads (all of whom are DEs) are following the current developments with respect to the changes in routes to registration for engineers. As those who have heard me go on over the past two years, the qualification for a mainstream engineering career is to be that of IEng, see the letter in NCE (dated 7th November 1996) written by R Wilson.

It is highly appropriate that an individual's technical competence be recognised and celebrated as an important stage of their career development. Unlike the sense of failure that surrounds a candidate who is unsuccessful at CPR even though their technical competence is undoubted and in some cases exceptional.

The Operating Companies in the Europe Region have or can access an approved Incorporated Engineer training scheme and those training under the Chartered Scheme can Proceed to IPR after 2 years under agreement. The achievement of IEng has advantages to the individual and to the businesses and thus far over the past 5 years we have not had a single candidate fail.

I strongly advise all staff who are able to submit for IPR to consider doing so and, as always, I am available to help with submissions and general preparation. The next available date for presenting for IPR is the Spring sitting, the last date for applications for this is 15th February 1997.

From Nicola Gordge [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

CIWEM Central Southern Branch has announced its 1997 Young Authors Competition, which provides an opportunity for those in the earlier years of their career to develop their communication skills in presenting their case. Papers of 1500 - 2000 words are required on ANY topic relating to Water, Waste or Environmental Management. Abstracts are to be submitted by 13th December 1996 and completed papers by 24th January 1997.

An assessment before 28th March 1997 will select three papers for presentation on 23rd April 1997. Cash prizes will be awarded to the first three winners, and the winner, receiving the Jack Preston Challenge Trophy, will automatically be entered into the CIWEM National Competition. The entry rules are as follows: Any potential candidate must be under 35 years of age; have written no previous papers outside their immediate employer or client circle; be following a career in water engineering or environmental management; and be a member, or actively pursuing membership, of CIWEM. For further details please contact me on Ext. 350 (Basingstoke).

From Amanda Hawkins [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

Information has just been received on the MIPIM Awards (Marche International Des Professionnels De L'Immobilier) for

the most outstanding property projects in the following categories: • Office Buildings • Shopping Centres • Business Centres • Residential Developments • Refurbished Office Buildings.

Entries are invited from companies world-wide. Technical and architectural qualities, environmental consideration, transport access, originality of the project and offer of services are the main criteria sought by the Awarding body. The deadline for entries is December 20th, 1996. For further information, please contact me on Ext. 297.

From Jackie Constable [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

There has been a couple of incidents recently, where parcels being sent out by TNT overnight courier have not been packaged sufficiently enough to protect them, resulting in parcels being split and contents possibly being lost.

We do use courier bags which will accommodate a package size of A3 or 1 full A4 leverarch file. For parcels larger than this, we must ask you to ensure that items are securely packaged in sound boxes before handing to the Admin. Department for sending.

Could you please also ensure that all address labels are ideally typed (or written clearly in block capitals) to prevent any mistakes being made when Airwaybill/Consignment Notes are written.

If you need any further advice on how best to send your courier then please contact Sarah Fisher (Ext. 349), Ken Goodingham (Ext. 316) or myself (Ext 252).

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Country:	Traveller:	Date:
Venezuela	Martin Nielsen	18/11/96 - 22/11/96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999; D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Steve McLoughlin [SWKCL, Reigate]:

Restructuring of Public Transport Enterprises In The Maritime Subsector - Angola.

SWK Reigate has been successful with the technical proposal submitted to the Government of Angola and have consequently won the contract for consultant's service for the above named project. The scope of works is comprised of three separate components:

- Restructuring of Shipping Enterprises
- Restructuring of the Angolan National Directorate of Merchant Marine and Ports.
- Restructuring of main ports.

The Fee Scale is C and the Project Leader is Adrian Tite. Mobilisation of personnel is currently underway.

From George Chang [SWK (PE) Inc. USA]:

SWK Pavement Engineering has been awarded a contract to evaluate joint/crack performance on Interstate 295 in southern New Jersey in the USA, using the Heavy (Falling) Weight Deflectometer (Fee Scale A). This follows a large project involving the pavement evaluation of eight shopping mall parking areas in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Toronto, Canada (Fee Scale B).

Concurrently, we will be busy working for the New Jersey Department of Transportation on Interstate 287 implementing new research developed as Part of the Strategic Highway Research Program (SRHP) (Fee Scale A). Also, in December we will be beginning our third year of research on evaluation of recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP) on New Jersey Route 46 (Fee Scale C).

Hopefully the weather will cooperate as we cannot perform testing on white top ("snow" - a forbidden word in our office)!

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

MainLine warmly welcomes:

- Robert Baker, Matthew Cole and Mark Richardson, who all joined the M&E Discipline on Monday 4th November.
- David Hodgkinson and Lisa Mulliner who joined MainLine on Monday 11th November and will be spending a week at Swindon before joining the M&E Crewe office.
- David Williams, Martin Bagshaw and Lee Oliver who have joined the Company for a short while.

The New Delhi office welcomes two new engineers; Venkat R Sheela and Pankaj Prasad.

The Abingdon office welcomes:

- Anne O' Sullivan, a Senior Secretary who joined the Company on 1st November and Susan Allred, who joined on 11th November as a Part Time Receptionist.
- (A belated welcome to) Alison King, Assistant Landscape Architect, who commenced on 16th September and to Kathryn Whitmore, Landscape Architect, who commenced on 23rd September.

TRANSFERS

MainLine welcomes Rod Jones and Stuart Allabush, who have both transferred from other parts of SWK.

SWK India welcome back Jack Gahir (Associate) who has recently spent two months in Hong Kong supervising geotechnical investigations for the River Trade Terminal. At the beginning of October Arun Ellassery, our MOSS wizard, went on temporary transfer for some 3 months to Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Reports indicate he is mastering the local food!!

S P O R T S & S O C I A L S

From Shaun Merrifield [MainLine, Swindon]:

Following MainLine's recent 9 -0 victory over Railtrack MPD-GW, Railtrack bolstered their squad and approached the return leg, confident of victory.

However, the MainLine Warriors, clad in their dazzling white battle robes, had other ideas. A display of silky skills and controlled passing, worthy of Premiership status, saw MainLine take a 2 - 0 lead. Rather than the names of Sheringham,

Armstrong, Campbell and Walker, the white shirts bore the household names of Davies, Evason, Brierley, Barry, Falvey, Allabush and Merrifield.

At the half-time interval, the Railtrack team congregated around the centre circle, looked skywards and started to chant and dance; seeking what was thought divine inspiration. It came.....The skies darkened and the clouds rolled overhead, like a scene from Independence Day. A moment later driving rain and bitter winds blew into the faces of the MainLine team.

Railtrack had made their tactical substitution.....the 'forces of nature' were on.

MainLine battled well to calm the 'early storm' and charged forward, like a highly trained Cavalry unit, cutting through the Railtrack ranks with precision passing. With the opposition's defence in tatters, MainLine extended their lead to 6 - 1. Despite Railtrack's late resilience, the final whistle blew, registering a 7 - 3 victory to MainLine. Man of the Match was awarded to Stuart Allabush, who fully justified his recent £2m transfer fee and Predator boot deal.

After the 16 - 3 aggregate win over our main client, the directors of Scott Wilson MainLine have now approached the Institution of Civil Engineers, to request that all contractual disputes, are in future, resolved on the football pitch.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Brian Sweatmore [MainLine, Swindon]:

In reply to Mike Hall on railway ecology (Issue 69).....there are several points to make:

1) Nymphaladae sightings are not uncommon from the Line-side; though it does take a trained eye to spot them when they commute at 125 mph. Even more so when time is spent engrossed by nettles and insects instead.

2) As for insect population density studies we find that there are two problems:

- Access to site already consumes the greater part of a surveyors time and Method statements become even more difficult to negotiate when extending the data collection to more absorbing matters of interest.
- The cost of Assessment tends to outweigh the cost of clearing a passage through their railway habitat; both of which tend to suffer from under-funding in this age of cut-throat competition.

Perhaps I will be forgiven for a final touch of comic opera.....to satisfy Mike's aphid curiosity: For his benefit this is verse 6/a of the story he commented on:

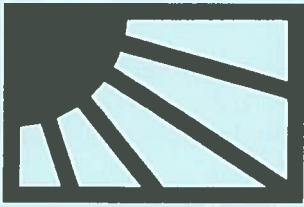
"Oh, to be in Basingstoke
With clever scientific folk
That they, in turn,
May roam Welsh valleys
With nymphs and shepherds
In their wellies."

Editors note: Derek Appleby, SWKC (Scotland) L, has raised an important point by highlighting the discrepancies often caused in Scottlight regarding which of the Companies certain news is aimed towards - the latest example being the change from monthly to weekly time-sheets (this is an SWKCL matter only). In future, all articles will fully identify the businesses within the Company to be affected by specific news.

• PLEASE SEND ARTICLES FOR INCLUSION TO AMANDA HAWKINS IN BASINGSTOKE BY 5PM ON MONDAY •

This is an SWK Holdings publication distributed to all staff in the operating, associated and subsidiary companies in the UK and Europe. It is not for outside circulation.

continued overleaf...



“ ATTENTION – ALL STAFF! ”

From Aileen Rusk [SWIDG, Glasgow]:

Douglas Atkinson has retired from his position as Operations Director of Scott Wilson IDG. Douglas commenced his career with British Rail in 1960 as a Graduate Engineer and progressed through the system and different Railway offices to become the Civil Engineer of the Regional Civil Engineers Office in Glasgow. Latterly, Douglas successfully steered the Company through the trials and tribulations of the privatisation process.

We wish to thank Douglas for his efforts and wish him well for the future.

From Stuart Coventry [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

INFORMATION URGENTLY REQUIRED

SWK is currently delivering to Balfour Beatty a series of one day courses addressing environmental issues and controls on construction sites. To date we have delivered five single day courses and they have been well received. We are seeking opportunities to provide similar training to other contractors.

We are aware that the course could be made even more valuable with the inclusion of more site specific examples and pictures and would therefore be grateful if anybody in SWK could provide slides (preferably) or photographs which we could use. These should show either good or bad practice or just illustrate the extent of problems in the following subjects:

- Water:
 - Works in or adjacent to watercourses
 - Discharges into watercourses
 - Settling tanks/lagoons
 - Discharge onto grassland or fields
 - Filtration (eg straw bales in skips) and flocculation
- Noise:
 - Plant with/without silencing
 - Use of screens, especially innovative uses
- Dust:
 - Dust problems on sites from:
 - Haul roads
 - Stockpiles
 - Demolition
 - General construction
- Contaminated Ground:

Examples of the appearance of various types of contamination.

In addition, we are interested in details of specific environmental constraints imposed on projects either through:

- Contract documents
- Planning conditions
- Statutory notices (eg COPA sections 60 & 61 on Noise)

If anybody can help please call Stuart Coventry (Ext. 324) or Rob Morris (Ext. 311) in Basingstoke.

From the Salaries Department [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

The Salaries Department deadline for November timesheets is noon on 3rd December.

From Mike Sales [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

When equipment etc. is hired by SWK, the insurance of same is generally required to be addressed by the hirer. The consequence of this being of course, that subject to policy excess, cost of damage, breakage etc. is recoverable.

Please ensure that all hired-in equipment of a value greater than £250.00 and requiring insurance cover, is advised to me prior to hiring. Indication of hire period, location of equipment (both in use and off-use) type of equipment and cover required together with any specific need should be advised, giving the maximum notification period possible.

From Richard Levett [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

The HRD Department has published the first issue of SCOTT TRAIN, which is to be an information and marketing tool for training.

We are aware that some areas of SWK's business interests, such as MainLine and CRC have not been included in the first issue, but these areas will be covered in subsequent issues. Publication is to be on a 6 monthly basis. One copy is to be sent to each worldwide and UK office for the information of SWK staff.

Should anyone have any ideas for future input, and/or logos to add some interest to the publication, please contact the HRD Department in Basingstoke on Ext. 321.

The initial issue has been sent by e-mail to overseas offices this week, and it is hoped that the questionnaire included in the issue will provide valuable information on future training needs which SWK can meet.

From David Magowan [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

The SWK Christian Fellowship is now meeting fortnightly on Wednesday lunchtimes in Scott House, Basingstoke. We discuss the application of Christian standards and principles to the working environment, study the Bible and pray together for the Firm and for individual needs. If you would like further details then please contact me (Ext. 345).

From Anamika Hawkins [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

I have just received information on the Young Members' Paper Competition 1997, an Award devised by the Institution of Civil Engineers.

The Award is aimed at young engineers, and is particularly invaluable to those who are pursuing Chartered status within the Institution. All entrants must be an Associate Member, Graduate or Student Member of the ICE and 30 years of age or under on 31st October 1997.

An 800 word synopsis of the intended paper (which can be

on any topic of interest to engineers) must be submitted by 25th January 1997 for the qualifying round, if the candidate is successful, they will be asked to submit their full paper (maximum 4000 words) and to give a short presentation at the Competition Final.

For further information, please contact me on Ext. 297.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Country:	Traveller:	Date:
Bahrain	Bob Ballard	22/11/96 - 26/11/96
Lithuania	Mike Le Gouais	27/11/96 - 30/11/96

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Tessa Harding [SWRC, Edinburgh]:

Here's proof that Ecologists, Geologists and Engineers can work together.

Earlier in the year, SWRC in Edinburgh was commissioned by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee to compile selected sections of the Coastal Directory.

This document is composed of a series of volumes, each relating to specific stretches of coastline. Within each volume, topics such as coastal land-use, development and nature conservation are dealt with as well as descriptions of the coastal environment. In carrying out the project, SWRC was able to draw upon the expertise of personnel in the Peterborough and Basingstoke offices of SWK (Fee Scale C).

More recently, the Ecology section in Edinburgh (now doubled in size as a result of my recent arrival!) has won a contract with English Nature to write the freshwater chapter of their Upland Management Handbook. The handbook aims to provide guidance and information for land managers on best management practice for nature conservation in the uplands (Fee Scale D).

It is hoped that the successful completion of these projects will establish our reputation in the area of research and 'best practice' manuals.

From Don Wootton [SWKCL, Reigate]:

SWK is taking advantage of Britain's stand to remain outside the European Social Chapter and, as the French say, reverting to Dickensian Child labour.

The passport photo of our newly appointed RE for a reclamation project in Pakistan is reproduced here:



Our willing candidate is to visit the site for 2 weeks, returning for Christmas and will then go to Pakistan for 6 months. The

project is to create the land area for a submarine rebuild complex and has been let to Turkish contractor STFA. Further contracts for a quay, shiplift, workshops and infrastructure will follow.

We do have a more recent photo of our new RE who is transferring from the Midlands, but does anybody recognise him?

From Aileen Rusk [SWIDG, Glasgow]:

- Bovis Construction (Scotland) Ltd, the Management Contractor for Railtrack Property, has appointed Scott Wilson IDG to undertake survey, gauging and backlog maintenance design for TEN stations in Central Scotland (Fee Scale A).
- Laing Management (Scotland) Ltd, The Management Contractor for Railtrack Scotland has appointed Scott Wilson IDG to undertake Structural Renewals/Maintenance Works for FIFTEEN bridges in Scotland (Fee Scale A).
- Railtrack MPD LNE has appointed Scott Wilson IDG as Lead Consultant for the renewal of the superstructure of an overbridge in Redcar. The commission includes feasibility, site investigation, environmental assessment and the provision of technical support during the construction phase (Fee Scale C).
- Scott Wilson IDG has been appointed as Planning Supervisor for Phase II of the pier stabilisation works at South Esk Viaduct on the outskirts of Montrose. We have just finished acting as Planning Supervisor and Engineer for the Phase I works which involved the placing of 2,500 tonnes of single sized stone at the base of the pier which is situated in a tidal estuary (Fee Scale E).

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

The A50 Meir Site, Stoke-on-Trent: Two of 'our girls' have come of age - many congratulations to Debbie Lea, our Laboratory Driver, who reached the age of 18 on 17th November 1996 and also to Kelly Riches, our Assistant Secretary, who will be 21 on 24th November 1996.

Now they have both joined the rest of us oldies, there's only retirement to look forward to!

Jon Ridley (MamLine, Swindon) and Kath are delighted to announce the birth of Joshua Davidson last Monday (11th November) weighing 7lbs 11oz. Kath attributes her speedy labour (5 1/2 hours) to raspberry leaf tablets.

Moves · Moves · Moves · Moves

STARTERS

Welcome to David O'Brien who joined the Transportation Planning section in Basingstoke as a Transport Planner on 18th November.

The Glasgow office welcomes Hugh MacNeil who has taken up the position of Computer Manager. Hugh has been with us for three weeks and his presence has been kept quiet in order that he could concentrate his activities on upgrading our PC network. Unfortunately for Hugh, the secret is out and he is coming under pressure from computer users to solve their

problems.

We wish Hugh success and trust that he can carry out the almost impossible task of satisfying the various requests for help, training, improvements, equipment, connections etc....

TRANSFERS

Roderick Mathers and Shelton Muchinenyika have transferred from the Reigate office to join the Project Management section in Basingstoke.

LEAVERS

Goodbye and good luck to Chris Kerry from the Abingdon office who left on 15th November and also to Roger Griffiths from the Basingstoke office who left on 18th November.

Similarly, from the Reigate office, Pauline Skelton left on 8th November, Jacqueline Hart left on 15th November and Joyce Pascall will be leaving on 22nd November. All three have found alternative employment and we wish them good luck for the future.

VACANCIES

Graduate Engineer, Basingstoke office:

There will shortly be a requirement for a graduate to work within the Water section in Basingstoke. Anyone interested should contact Sally Mason at the Basingstoke office as soon as possible (Ext. 210), having first spoken to your Section Head.

Marketing Assistant, Basingstoke office:

The Basingstoke office's Marketing Department requires an organised and committed junior, who is already conversant with office procedures to provide a wide variety of marketing support services, administration and general office duties.

The ideal candidate will have good verbal and written communication skills with accurate typing and basic computer literacy, and will be qualified with at least one A'level and/or good passes in GCSE's.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Sally Mason (Ext. 210), having first spoken to your Section Head.

Idea of the Week



From Suzanne Hallowes [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

For everyone to check their settings for each network printer that they use, and to turn off options for banner and form feed.

These options produce wasted paper each time someone prints something on a network printer. This should hopefully reduce the piles of scrap paper accumulating at each printer.

... and the Reply of the Week



From Geoff French [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

Richard Atkinson, in Issue 69 of *Scoutlight*, raised the question of the need to issue job numbers much more quickly now that weekly timesheets have been introduced. This is one of a number of issues that have come to light regarding weekly timesheets and which will be reviewed once the timesheet has been in operation for at least a month.

Clearly, the aim is to streamline systems wherever possible without losing the appropriate controls (in the case of job numbers, the requirement remains to critically review all aspects of a promotional job before initiating any significant expenditure).

Also from Geoff French:

Iain Snaith, in Issue 67 of *Scoutlight*, raised the issue of the tidiness of the Basingstoke office. I think he is quite right, and whilst not all sections are equally bad there is no doubt that all could make improvements.

This is something that can be addressed immediately, so would all sections start taking appropriate action right away. Chris Sketchley and I will be checking the Basingstoke office on 29th November 1996 to see how much progress has been made and to make helpful suggestions. Thereafter, Chris will be making regular checks.

From John Taylor [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:

With reference to Cath Hudson and Richard Caseley's Idea of the Week, in Issue 62 of *Scoutlight*, regarding the subject of introducing a colour coded filing system:

The extent of a filing system varies with the complexity of the project. For small projects a chronological filing system may suffice. However, for more complex projects it may be an advantage to file by correspondent. Project files can also be divided by subject as suggested.

Because there are so many ways of filing, the system to be adopted has been left to the Project Manager to establish as the most appropriate for the project. Colour coding of files appears to be a good idea, provided we could agree on how many common files we have.

Large blank area for writing an idea.

To Amanda Hawkins (Basingstoke)

Date



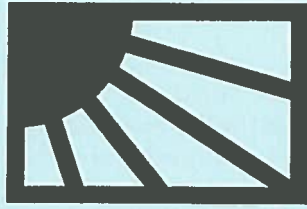
My Idea of the Week (continue on a separate page if necessary):

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.....
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name: Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Amanda Hawkins in Basingstoke by 5pm Monday



“ ATTENTION - ALL STAFF! ”

From David Dawson [MainLine, Swindon]:-

MainLine offers a full Fabrication Inspection service through its Senior Inspector, John Womack. John holds Welding Institute Certificates in Visual Inspection, NDT examination and Competence Approval Testing, and has twenty years' experience in on- and off-site fabrication work in steel, concrete and timber. He works all over the UK, and will work abroad very happily if provided with a return air ticket.

MainLine's clients appreciate John's pro-active and constructive attitude to inspection, resulting in problems being averted at an early stage. John Womack is contactable on 0860 490056 (mobile).

Since Fabrication Inspection is a sphere of expertise capable of expansion under John's guidance, we would like to hear from any staff wishing to develop their -and the Firm's - experience in this particular field. If you are interested, please contact Alan Dray on 01793 515900 or our Construction Manager, John Williams, on 01793 515906, having first spoken to your section head.

From Mike Sales [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

The Firm's telex number will be deleted from all future orders to letterheads, business cards etc. The telex machine is very old and non-maintainable, and will not be replaced upon its demise.

Also from Mike Sales [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

During the past week, several complaints were received with regard to **floor temperatures in Scott House**. On investigation, it was discovered that air ceiling ducts had been closed off by unauthorised personnel, thus causing an imbalance to both the heating and air-conditioning.

It is essential that any 'problem' with regard to heating and air-conditioning be channelled through the Admin. Department who will advise the Maintenance Department accordingly.

From Nicola Gordge [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

I am in receipt of an invitation from the *University of Southampton* for interested individuals to attend the first of a series of executive lectures organised by the **School of Management**, the first being *'IT Strategy: Some Myths Explored'*. The speaker will be David Avison, Professor of Information Systems. The lecture is free of charge and will take place on **Wednesday 4th December 1996** at 6.00 p.m. at the University. Light refreshments will be served from 5.00 p.m. onwards. Please book places through myself a.s.a.p. on x 350 - Basingstoke.

Also From Nicola Gordge [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Mr Grenville Kitteridge, Technical Sales Director from *Radmat Building Products Limited*, has been invited to Scott House on Wednesday 11th December to present a **lunchtime seminar**

regarding **waterproofing within the UK**. His topics are to include:- • current materials • BS Code of practice and building regulations • condensation risks • forms of construction (cold, warm and inverted roofs) • why inverted roofs? • why hot melt membranes? • tanking DPMS.

Mr Kitteridge will also be happy to discuss underground as well as overground waterproofing, and in addition invites advanced questions from candidates on any specific areas they would like covered at the seminar. Sandwiches and refreshments will be available, commencing at 12.30 p.m. If you would like to attend, please let me know a.s.a.p. on x 350 - Basingstoke.

From Tanya Ball [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

The sharp-eyed and observant among you will no doubt already have 'scotted the difference' (sorry, couldn't resist *that* one) at the bottom of the last page of this week's issue... For those who haven't, please note that **all items for inclusion in Scott Light should in future be forwarded to myself until further notice**. I am, temporarily at least, taking over the Newsletter production from Amanda Hawkins who is unfortunately leaving SWK at the end of this week [see 'MOVES']. May I just ask everyone who might send *Scott Light* material in hand-written form to please ensure that it is **readily legible**, as illegible text may be returned to its author... *oh dear!*

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

<u>Country/ies</u>	<u>Traveller</u>	<u>Dates</u>
RSA/Mozambique/ Kenya	Hamish Goldie-Scot	23/11/96-07/12/96
Israel	John Bickerdike	10/12/96-18/12/96
Israel	Colin Holmes	14/12/96-23/12/96
Lithuania	Mike LeGouais	27/11/96-30/11/96
Nigeria/Ghana	Andy Scott	01/12/96-11/12/96
Kazakhstan	Brian Empringham	25/11/96-24/12/96
Kazakhstan	Bob Draycott	25/11/96-24/12/96

The things people will do to get out of Xmas shopping! - Ed.

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Mike LeGouais [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

The Mid Kent Water merger enquiry is hotting up as the deadline for the MMC's final report and recommendations to the Secretary of State for Industry approaches. The protagonists have been cranking up their PR organisations in Kent. The target (*Mid Kent Water*) splashed (ouch!) their message to the (French) bidders in their PR pamphlet headed, "*Eau neau you deaun't*".

From Colin Morgan [SWKCL, Chesterfield]:-

Two adventurous geotechnical engineers at Chesterfield have just added to their skills - and muscular strains - whilst increasing the Firm's range of expertise in the process. **Steve Hodgetts and Tim Roff** have completed a one-week training course in roped access and passed an examination at Level 1 of the *Industrial Roped Access Trade Association (IRATA)*. The training, which involved *inter alia* abseiling from a disused 30 metre-high railway viaduct in Derbyshire, was provided by *CAN Ltd.*, a Chesterfield-based company offering specialist access services to the industry.

The intention is for *SWK* to work with *CAN* to enable the latter to provide geotechnical appraisal and reporting services; this cooperation has already begun, with Steve Hodgett undertaking his first roped survey, at a rock slope near Bradford-on-Avon.

Please note that at weekends, both Steve and Tim are available, by special appointment, for roof inspections, repairs etc.!

Sounds like these two guys have really got roped in! - Ed.

From Alan Baker [SWKCSL, Glasgow]:-

SWK Scotland have been appointed to undertake the **Independent Check of the substructure of the North Seaton Bridge**, carrying the A189 across the River Wandsbeck in Northumberland.

The substructure of the 178 metre-long, six-span bridge was redesigned by *Carl Bro Group* on behalf of Contractors *Balfour Beatty Construction*, who had submitted an alternative but compliant design with that of the Client's at the tendering stage (Fee Scale C).

From Alan Lewis [SWRC Basingstoke]:-

Specially protected species require careful consideration in the land development process, since failure to identify their presence on site at an early stage can result in costly delays if subsequently discovered during construction stage. One renowned such specially protected species (and which seems to positively favour proposed development sites!) is the Great Crested Newt.

SWRC have been appointed to design and supervise the translocation of a population of great crested newts from the site of a proposed car park adjacent to a breeding pond at Maidenhead. Once the project design had been agreed with *English Nature*, a licence was issued for the works to proceed. The development site was fully surrounded with temporary amphibian fencing consisting of strong polythene buried to 20 cm, with 80 cm above ground level, kept taut in a vertical plane by wooden stakes at 1 m intervals. Buried plastic buckets with the rims flush with ground level and tight against the fence were used to intercept foraging newts. The buckets were checked daily at dawn and newts removed to adjacent areas outside the development site.

Once *English Nature* had agreed that adequate trapping effort had been expended, site development was allowed to proceed. The newts are now prevented from entering the car park area by permanent amphibian fencing, but are able to cross to foraging areas through a specially designed amphibian tunnel under the access road.

The project (Fee Scale E) has now been completed to the satisfaction of all human parties involved. A survey of the breeding pond in spring 1997 will be required to determine the amphibians' verdict!

From David Dawson [MainLine, Swindon]:-

MainLine have been awarded the design of the new **Chalvey Bridge** situated on the Windsor Branch Line. The bridge is being constructed for the new Maidenhead and Windsor Flood Relief Channel proposed by the *Environment Agency* to prevent the River Thames flooding in this area. The £1.8M structure is initially to carry two tracks, one serving the branch line itself, the other leading to a freight siding used for the removal of gravel being excavated. When gravel extraction is complete, the additional track will be removed and its bed converted into a footpath/cycleway.

The bridge takes the form of three boxes lying side by side, each with a 14 m skew span, and cast as one structure. It is to be built to one side of the railway and later jacked into position when the embankment is excavated during one long closure of the track.

Great Western MPD are the Client, and Project Manager **Jeff Gibson** has now handed over to **Martin Cooper** (Fee Scale B).

Also from David Dawson [MainLine Swindon]:-

MainLine have been awarded a project from *Nuttalls* involving the **outline design for the lighting of important junctions along the Heathrow Express Rail Link route**, to enable contractors to quote prices for the installation work. Project leader is **Trevor Webb** (Fee Scale C).

... And encore from David Dawson [MainLine, Swindon]:-

MainLine have won a place on the **Railtrack East Anglia MPD team**, with responsibility for safeguarding the interests of *Railtrack* in relation to the Channel Tunnel Rail Link works. **Nigel Winter** will be taking up his appointment as design and construction Engineer at Liverpool Street on 2nd December 96 for an initial period of six months, for work which is likely to extend to the year 2003.

Congratulations to **Nigel Winter** and **John Williams** (project bid leader) for winning this key post against keen competition from other consultants.

☆☆ *Congratulations!* ☆☆

From Bob McKittrick [SWKCL, Chesterfield]:-

Congratulations to **Roger Dixon** whose Paper entitled *'The design and installation of ground anchors used in stabilising an Ancient Monument'* has been accepted for presentation at the International Conference on Ground Anchorages and Anchored Structures, to be held on 20th-21st march 1997 at the *Institution of Civil Engineers*.

This paper is complementary to the one published in *The Structural Engineer* earlier this year, but covers the more technical aspects of the anchor design, installation and testing.

From David Dawson [Mainline, Swindon]:-

Congratulations... to *SWK(M&E) Staff* involved in the contract for the implementation of the Great Western Development Programme for MAS generators. Praise for *Mainline* designs has come from two major UK contractors who had recently received our drawings, specifications and contract documents from *Railtrack Procurement*.

... and congratulations also to **Tim Cooney** who has produced two reports for *CrossRail* on the subject of access for Mobility Impaired Persons at Hayes and Amersham stations. A recent telephone call from the Client commended the quality of the reports. Unfortunately the caller had to add, 'It is a shame the reports are going to have to be put on the shelf until the scheme is resurrected'!

From C S Baker [SWKCL, A50 Site Office]:-
Well done **Paul Swales** at the A50 Meir site office for his recent success in the *Institution of Civil Engineers'* examination in Civil Engineering Law and Contract Procedures.

Our congratulations are somewhat belated as we have all been waiting for the past two months for Paul to tell us his result!

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Welcome to **Emma Millward** and **Beth Smith** who joined the Admin. Section, Chesterfield, on 4th November.

Welcome also to **Gillian Brown** and **Simon Dowse** who both started on 25th November. Gillian has joined the *SWKRC* Leeds office as Secretary/Administrator, and Simon, the Manchester office as Senior Landscape Architect.

Michael Williams, who has been working with *SWKRC* Exeter team on a temporary basis since October, has now accepted a permanent position with the Firm as Planner/Urban Designer, which takes effect on Wednesday 25th November.

TRANSFERS

Owen Phillips, **David Scrivener** and **Simon Wilkinson** have all returned to Chesterfield Bridges Section from site during the current month.

Welcome back to Basingstoke to **Sue Moore**, who has spent the past ten months based at the Durban office in RSA, working as Project manager on the Groenekloof Augmentation Scheme near Pietermaritzburg. Sue has now joined the Project Management Division in the Basingstoke office.

In answer to those who have been asking him every time they bumped into him over the past six weeks, **Nick Blake** (finally) transferred out of Basingstoke Water Section on Wednesday 25th November to go and 'work' on the beach at Swanage Pier - its alright for some! He is reputedly 'wrapped in his thermals and hibernating just like the hedgehogs'. So much for hard work!

Stephen McLoughlin transferred from Reigate office on Wednesday 18th November and is now in HRD Section in Basingstoke.

Peter Newman will not be able to comment on the Basingstoke five-a-side football for a while, as he will be concentrating on Al Ain team events. Peter has joined the Al Ain Town Centre project for a period of about four months. Among his concerns prior to departure was, what would he do for Christmas? I'm sure there will be plenty to keep you occupied, Peter!

LEAVERS

Steve Martin left the Firm for pastures new on Wednesday 27th November, while **Justin Hammerton** and **Colin Ogden** leave on Friday 29th November. Best wishes from the Chesterfield Structures Section.

Goodbye and good luck to **Anna Evans** (Basingstoke office) who will not be returning from maternity leave following the birth of baby daughter, Erin Fenella.

It's also unfortunately 'au-revoir' to **Amanda Hawkins**, who is leaving Basingstoke Marketing Section on Friday 29th November. In the few months she has been with us, she has proved an invaluable team member and her quiet, efficient and ever-helpful manner has been appreciated by many. Our very best wishes for your future, Amanda.

What do you want to borrow? - Ex-Ed!!

S P O R T S & S O C I A L S

From David Dawson [MainLine, Swindon]:-

MainLine Ball: the first 'MainLine Ball' on 26th October was a great success and all enjoyed themselves tremendously. The room was well decorated with Mainline colours and the buffet was varied and well organised. The success of the event can be judged by the thanks received from those attending and the question, 'when will the next one be taking place?'

Congratulations to **Eve McDonald** for arranging such a successful and enjoyable event!

From Saara Pinnell [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Basingstoke Ice Rink evening, Tuesday 3rd December 96, 08.00-10.00 p.m.: get your skates on and come down to the Basingstoke Ice Rink - meet either at the *Filling Station* [restaurant] at 07.00 p.m. or inside the Ice-Rink.

Cost is £2.00 per person, including skate hire. Friends and family are all welcome. For further information, please contact Saara on x 354 (Basingstoke).

From Sue Moore [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Attention all paragliders: having recently returned from RSA [see 'MOVES'], where I discovered the joys of paragliding, I would be particularly interested in hearing from any fellow-paragliders in the (Basingstoke) area, as I am very eager to continue in this sport now that I am back on 'home soil' (x 345 - Basingstoke).

For Sale & Wanted

£ £ £ £ £ £ £ £ £ £ £

For Sale: Peugeot 106 1.0 1 XN Plus

• Blue • vgc • two lady owners • 47,000 miles • K reg. (1992) • 100% reliable • Group 3 insurance • very nippy/fast • 50 mpg average • price on request. For further information, please contact André on x 255 (Basingstoke).

VACANCIES

Project Administrator - Scott Wilson MainLine, Swindon
A vacancy for a Project Administrator has arisen at SW MainLine's Swindon office. Duties include complying with the QA system in force, completing project administration and general secretarial work. Candidates should be meticulous, organised, cool under pressure and should abound in the energy and enthusiasm required to thrive in a busy M&E Department. If you are interested, please contact Alison White on 01793 515262, having first spoken to your section head.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Diana Clarke [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-
A further sum of £25.50 has been raised on a recycling paper run. Thanks to everyone for still keeping scrap paper for me.

Idea of the Week



To Fouad Ghamriny, [SWK Dubai office]:-
Welcome, Fouad - your idea concerning a website has been aired in these columns - ask if anyone has past copies, then if you have a new thought regarding the advantages of a website, write in again. - Ed.

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week/response to Geoff French is (continue on a separate page if necessary):

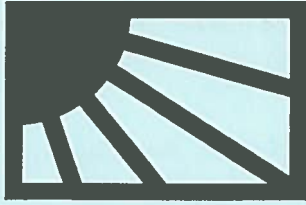
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(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



“ ATTENTION ~ ALL STAFF! ”

December Salaries

The Board of Directors of *SWKHL*, *SWKCL* and *SWK(M&E)* have decided that staff salaries in these Companies for December 1996 will be paid as normal for the rest of the year, namely on the second last working day of the month (i.e. 30th December 96).

From John Voysey [IHR Director, SWKHL, Johannesburg]:-

Staff Communications: Proposed Quarterly Magazine - Successful Name Proposer Wins US\$ 50 Prize

The International Board recognises the great importance of communication, particularly in a global organisation. As part of our efforts to improve internal communications, steps are being taken to introduce various methods by which this can be achieved. The Europe Region has had *ScottLight* for the past year, and similar publications are soon to be introduced in the Africa and Asia-Pacific Regions.

It is nevertheless considered desirable to produce a *global* quarterly staff publication, which concept was approved by the International Board at its recent meetings. This new publication will be produced in a similar format to *SWK Today/Out of Africa/InSite*, and will in fact supersede these, with combined articles of 'internal' and 'external' marketing interests.

The new 'quarterly' will focus on *SWK people* - their input into projects, their significant achievements in technical fields as well as in civic, public and sporting affairs, on where staff are being sent, new offices being opened, new companies formed and the people involved. It will *not* deal with local issues devoid of global relevance (e.g. 'motorbike for sale'). The publication is intended to give all *SWK* people a *global* understanding of who we are, where we operate and what we do. Articles will have to come from us *all* as members of the world-wide *Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick* Group.

Final details of the format are still being prepared. It is intended that the first issue should appear in April 1997. Articles should be sent to the International Human Resource Group Director in each Region. Editing and publication will take place in the Asia-Pacific Region. Please start submitting articles now.

Finally, we need a name for this publication and as in the past, this will be done as a competition. Please submit your proposals to the International Human Resource Group Director in your Region as detailed below by 3rd January 1997:-

- **Europe:** Peter Innes in Basingstoke
- **Africa:** Mark Wright in Durban
- **Asia-Pacific:** Martin Kwong in Hong Kong.

The winning name will be announced after the International Board meeting at the end of January 1997. The Prize will be US\$ 50.

From Sir Peter Innes [Vice-Chairman, IHRG]:- 1997/98 Fellowship & PIP Awards

I am pleased to announce on behalf of the Board of the *SWK Foundation* that **applications for the 1997/98 Fellowship and PIP Awards are now invited**. The Foundation Board felt that insufficient time had been allowed between invitation and closing date for applications last year for staff to adequately prepare their applications, and in particular to talk them through with their Directors, hence this year the invitation is being issued earlier.

For the information of any new staff who have joined the Group during the past year, these Awards are:-

- **Fellowships:** These provide paid leave of absence for full time study for a second Degree
- **PIP Awards:** These provide support for staff who by their own efforts (time and money) have undertaken their own development.

There was some ambiguity in the documentation surrounding the PIP Awards last year and the Foundation Board have therefore clarified the rules: thus, **to benefit from a PIP Award, you must already be undertaking a course of study when you apply**.

Application forms, which also detail the procedures and rules, are available from Jane Rouse in the London office (: 0171 233 0011; fax: 0171 233 0055; e-mail: swkhl@swkhl.demon.co.uk).

From Jérôme Munro-Lafon [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

The Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and Local Authorities
The Department of the Environment (*DoE*) has recently changed the rules for local authorities wishing to use the PFI to finance projects. Although the PFI has now been used for Central Government projects, its use by local authorities has been complicated by the rules affecting local authority finance, notably the capital borrowing and expenditure limits. The main effect of the new rules is that qualifying projects will not require credit cover, and will attract revenue support from Central Government, which will make them much more attractive to local authorities.

Whilst opening a new range of opportunities for *SWK*, these changes equally present a new series of pitfalls as the regulations concerning the use of PFI in local authorities are quite different from those we already have experience of with Central Government projects. The main issues when becoming involved with a PFI project for a local authority are:-

- **Size:** start-up costs are substantial and do not reduce significantly for smaller projects. It is unlikely that anything short of £20M will be viable, with £50M being a more realistic starting size
- **Authority:** the local authority must have a statutory power to authorise the project - a mere desire is not enough
- **Local authority's decision:** it is essential to ensure that the relevant Council has taken a minuted decision to proceed with the project.

A major difference to be aware of with local authority PFI projects is that the initial point of contact with *SWK* will often be between local authority officers and our local offices, hence the importance for any staff who have regular contact with local authority officers and councillors to understand the full range of what *SWK* can offer in respect of PFI projects.

SWK have been, and can become involved in PFI projects at various stages in their developments:-

- **Promoter's Adviser (i.e. Adviser to the local authority):** project conception and definition, asset evaluation, risk analysis and methods of risk transfer/sharing, preparation of tender documents, selection of suitable bidders, bid analysis, and assistance with award negotiations. *SWK* have undertaken this role on the M6 DBFO contract in Scotland, and on the A50 DBFO contract in England.
- **Bidder's Adviser:** detailed analysis of project costs and revenues leading to tender preparation; advice on alternative methods of construction or variations. *SWK* have undertaken this role for *Autolink* on three recently awarded DBFO road contracts, for the A19 contract, the *Hochtief/Coastain CTRL* bid and for *Broadway* highway maintenance contracts. This type of role may involve an equity stake in the project, but such issues are decided on a case by case basis. *SWK* would anticipate undertaking the detailed design in the event of a successful bid.
- **Contractor's Designers:** when a bid has been successful, *SWK* would undertake the detailed design for the scheme. This role is no different from a traditional 'design and build' capacity. *SWK* are currently designing the A19 upgrading works as part of the *Autolink* consortium.
- **Investor's Adviser:** *SWK* would also assist a potential investor carrying out audits of the business cases of PFI-financed projects. This would generally involve reviewing traffic forecasts, construction methods and costs, and revenue collection methods. *SWK* have provided such services on a number of occasions including an audit of the traffic forecasts for the Skye Bridge and the M6.

There is a role for *SWK* within these projects at most stages of conception, design and construction. To become involved however, awareness of forthcoming projects is essential to enable informed decisions to be made as to how to proceed and whom to be liaising with.

A brochure issued by the *DoE* entitled *PFI and Local Authorities* is available, which explains the new PFI framework applicable for local authorities. It can be obtained from the *DoE* (Crispin Tuckey - general enquiries) on tel. 0171 276 4565.

For further information on the PFI and on the support/advice available within *SWK*, please contact either **Jérôme Munro-Lafon** in Basingstoke, or **Neil Valentine** in the Economics Group at the London office, who has established contacts with the four P's and the Private Finance Executive.

From Tanya Ball [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-
New EC Regulation

By popular request, the EC have very recently introduced a new regulation whereby for any EC-funded overseas project publicised via an Official EC Notice (the standard one-page summary), there is now an automatic, unstated closing date for submission of prequalification documents 30 days from the date of the relevant Official Notice. Urgent attention (hint, hint) should therefore be

given in future to the decision-making as to whether or not to proceed with the prequalification stage once an Official Notice has been received.

From Sue Moore [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Project Management Division Computer Software

There have recently been a number of enquiries into which computer software the Project Management Division (PMD) is utilising, so we considered it appropriate to clarify the situation from our perspective:-

The PMD is majoring on the use of *PRIMAVERA P3* to provide Project (or Programme) Management Services to external Clients, unless a Client has a specific requirement for an alternative system to be used. Internally, we are also using *PRIMAVERA SURETRAK* and *MS PROJECT*, the choice between the two tending to be driven by the project size and our requirements for deliverables.

We are continuing to develop our capability on all of the above packages to ensure that we can offer Clients a wide range of options tailored to the project requirements. Hence we will be pleased to offer advice and support to any other users within the Firm. We will in the near future summarise the advantages and drawbacks of the various programmes to assist individual users, sections or offices in assessing which package will best suit their needs.

Some of us could do with advice on a house-work management package! - Ed.

From Colin Holmes [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-
e-mail Communications

The facility to exchange e-mail messages is one of increasing importance to all of us. In time, any *SWK* employee will be able to send e-mail directly to any other employee or any Internet addressee from any PC.

At the moment, the majority of e-mail is sent from the e-mail machine in the Computing Services Department in Basingstoke. Anyone located in the Basingstoke office wishing to send e-mail should provide a disk along with a note of the addressee and any requirements for encoding to Kim Simmons. Anyone wishing to send e-mail from any other office should place the files to be sent onto their local PC server transfer area and inform the Computing Services Helpline of their requirement on Basingstoke x250.

Development of our e-mail system is happening. We have found that using the Internet presents problems of security and speed. The *SWK* Group have therefore decided to trial the use of the *scrror* communications system which has been established to service international airline communications. These trials will start in December. In 1997, we will concentrate our efforts on developing the technical users' office networks and installing *MS Mail* as the e-mail driver.

From Peter Crane [MainLine, Swindon]:-

New Telephone Number for MainLine Swindon

For those who may not yet be aware of the change, please note that the new telephone number for *MainLine*, Swindon, is:-

01793 515 742

this has already superseded the old number. Please also note that although they had already been circulated, changes to *MainLine* direct lines have just been published together with the December issue of the monthly *SWK* telephone list.

From Pauline Coe [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Office Closure

The SWK Al Ain Airport office is in the process of closing down. All future faxes and correspondence should therefore be addressed either to the SWK Al Ain Town office, or to SWK Abu Dhabi.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

<u>Country/ies</u>	<u>Traveller</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Indonesia	Ron Bisset	07-11/12/96
Switzerland	Phil Shepherd	03-05/12/96

Reckon these ones have gone for their Xmas shopping? - Ed

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Colin Morgan [SWKCL, Chesterfield]:- **Geotechnical International Cooperation**

The Chesterfield Geotechnics Section are finalising arrangements to work together with their Hong Kong counterparts and **Bob Hunt** on the latest tranche of the *Landslip Preventive Measures Programme* issued by the Hong Kong Government. The study and design of remedial measures for ten out of the thirty sites in the current contract will be carried out by Chesterfield Geotechnics, assisted where necessary for design reviews etc. by other UK offices, while Hong Kong office will address the remaining sites. The work will extend through much of 1997 and require a number of visits to Hong Kong by the UK inspection and design teams (Fee Scale A).

Project Director for the UK input **Mehmet Yilmaz** comments that this further development in global work-sharing demonstrates the positive approach to international cooperation adopted by SWK offices worldwide.

From Mark Harrison [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

'Anguilla, the quintessential coral island, cradled in the multi-hued Caribbean sea. Soothing breezes, crystalline waters, powder-white sands...'

SWK have recently completed the detailed design and issued tender documents for the rehabilitation of Anguilla's Wallblake Airport (Fee Scale A). The project includes the resurfacing of the existing runway with Marshall asphalt and an apron extension.

Remarkably, we have yet to appoint a Resident Engineer (see 'VACANCIES'). The construction work will be carried out at night during runway possessions, leaving the daylight hours free to enjoy the beach.

Disco lovers therefore need not apply - Ed.

From Mike Jackson [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:- **Ashgabat Airport, Turkmenistan**

Development works on Ashgabat Airport (Fee Scale A) are well under way, where SWK are designers to JLAL, a John Laing/Alarko joint venture. The works include a new runway with parallel taxiway, apron extension and ancillary buildings. Although **Mark Harrison** and **David Rawson** in Basingstoke are the key design staff involved, they have so far been successful in evading the delights of a visit to Turkmenistan, which privilege has fallen to **Alister Tyler**, Project Manager **Richard Cooper** and... myself.

Also from Mike Jackson [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Airport Rehabilitation, Zambia

The Basingstoke and Harare Airports Sections have completed the initial phase of a major design study for the rehabilitation of 40 airports in Zambia, in association with German Consultants *Lahmeyer*. The study also included an institutional strengthening element which was subcontracted to UK CAA and ASA.

Bill Scarr from SWK Harare, **Mark Harrison** and **Neil Robinson** from Basingstoke were based in Zambia for some two months to carry out assessments and analyses of the rehabilitation works required. Some of the airfields had to be 'buzzed' in order to clear them of people and animals - including elephants - for landing, which suggests that fencing and air traffic control equipment may not have been quite up to ICAO standards... (Fee Scale B).

From Richard Cooper [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

SWK enjoy continued success in FSU States

SWK's successful campaign into the depths of Former Soviet Union (FSU) territories continued with the signing of two *World Bank*-funded contracts in the course of November, namely the *Highway Project* in Kazakhstan, and the *Transport Rehabilitation Project* in Georgia (both Fee Scale A and both of a fifteen-month duration). Mobilisation of the respective Team leaders both raring to experience the culture of these rapidly changing independent States, was completed within the same month.

The *Highway Project* is being led on site by Basingstoke's **Brian Empringham**, who cast his responsibilities for the *TRACECA Trade Facilitation Project* in order to set up base close to SWK's present *TACIS* office in Almaty, Kazakhstan. For the first month of the project, Brian is being ably assisted by **Bob Draycott**, also from the Basingstoke office. The requirements of this study/design are to prioritise some 400-600 km from an existing 1,800 km road network requiring rehabilitation, using the *World Bank Highways Investment Model HDM III*, then carry out detailed design and prepare contract documents in Russian and English, and finally invite international tenders for construction (Fee Scale A). A further *Road Safety sub-project* will commence in January for which SWK are enlisting the assistance of *TRL*.

For the *Transport Rehabilitation Project* in Georgia, SWK have teamed up once again with French Consultants *BCEOM*. Team leader **Zdenek Tomas Havelka**, whom we provided, having first become acquainted with him in the course of a highways project in Central African Republic where he represented a Luxembourg Consultant, *only* speaks seven languages - including Russian - in addition to his German mother tongue. He will be joined in January by Canadian Pavement Specialist and Russian speaker **Marian Kurlanda**, while *BCEOM* will provide a Winter Viability Expert, an Equipment Specialist and an Operating Engineer.

From Bob Ballard [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Prime Time to Chime

SWK are considering tendering for the Project Management of the *Ringing in the Millenium* Scheme, the aim of which is to provide a network of millenium bells by casting and hanging new church bells as well as restoring defunct ones, in order to celebrate the close of the second millenium and welcome the dawn of the third. Some 100 projects are anticipated, with a total capital cost of £6M. The Project Management role would require a knowledge of Faculty Planning through Diocesan Advisory Committees, and experience of Bell Restoration projects. Would anyone with the necessary expertise please contact Bob on x275 in Basingstoke.

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

Many congratulations to **Chandra Mohan** (Chandra is currently the Inspection Engineer on the Hawks Nest site near Leeds) and **Sivikala**, who celebrated their wedding day on Saturday 30th November 1996. We hope your honeymoon is as much fun as your *Mothiram Eduthal!* Best wishes for the future from all your friends in Geotechnics, Chesterfield.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Welcome to **Lesley Thomson** who joined the *SWKCSL* Edinburgh as Secretary on 2nd December 1996.

Welcome also to Engineering Geologist **Ben Smee**, and Project Management Section Technical Clerk **Jane Holden**, who joined the *SWKCL* Basingstoke office on 2nd December.

TRANSFERS

Jan Trask transferred from *SWKCL* Reigate to London office on 2nd December.

We would like belatedly to welcome **Martin Brandon** to *SWKCL* Basingstoke, who has temporarily joined the Railways Section from *SW MainLine*. Martin will be assuming some of **John Gibbon's** responsibilities whilst the latter is working as Project Manager on the West Anglia Route Modernisation project in *Value Management's* offices in Tavistock Square. **Tony King** will assume responsibility for the Railways Section in Basingstoke. Further to last week's transfer details, **Nick Blake** can be contacted at the Swanage Pier Restoration site on tel/fax 01929 421401.

MATERNITY LEAVE

Principal Ecologist at Basingstoke office **Jo Hughes** will be on maternity leave from Tuesday 3rd December. From this date until her return in 1997, her duties as head of the Ecology Section in Basingstoke will be taken over by Senior Ecologist **Mick Hall**, including the day to day management of all projects for which Jo is responsible as Project Manager. Jo will continue to work during her maternity leave on an *ad hoc* basis on a limited number of projects, but all enquiries should be directed to Mick Hall.

LEAVERS

Iona Sewells's last day in Marketing Section, Basingstoke will be Friday 6th December. Very best wishes for your future from all your friends at 'Scotts'.

'Friends', i.e. those who have never asked you for dozens and dozens of colour copies... - Ed.

The Glasgow office says farewell to **David Hamilton** who leaves to explore new challenges in Health and Safety. David joined the Firm ten years ago as a Graduate. He will be missed by all staff in Glasgow and we wish him well in his new venture.

↪ VACANCIES ↪

Resident Engineer - Anguilla

There is a requirement for a Resident Engineer for the *Wallblake Airport Rehabilitation Project*, Anguilla [see 'WHAT'S GOING ON?']. The post will be for a five-month period, commencing March 1997. The successful candidate will be a Chartered Engineer with a minimum of five years' post-chartered experience, including site experience of Marshall asphalt.

If you are interested in this position, please contact **Caz Spencer** on x209, Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section Head.

Would all candidates for this idyllic post please queue in orderly fashion. - Ed.

The following vacancies have arisen as a result of SWK's secondment to Routine Operation and Maintenance Company on the A19 DBFO Project near Middlesbrough:-

Bridges Inspector: three years' bridge inspection experience; Senior Chartered Technician

Network planning Engineer: three years' highways management operations/RMMS/ and preferably winter maintenance experience; Senior Technician preferred

RMMS Inspector: two years' recent experience as RMMS Inspector/LA or Consultant; NRSWA-trained or qualified Supervisor preferred

Junior Technician: highways maintenance experience preferred; Higher Technician level.

All of the above jobs are full-time and based at the *Autolink* compound in Middlesbrough from early February 1997. Anyone interested in applying should contact **Sally Mason** on x210, Basingstoke, having first spoken to their Section Head.

Graphic Designer, SWKCL Basingstoke

The Design team in Basingstoke require a Graphic Designer to work on a range of promotional material including brochures, covers, presentation material for exhibitions and internal seminars. Candidates should have good GCSE's, a Diploma in Design, and have experience in *Apple Mac* environment using *PAGEMAKER*, *FREEHAND* or *PERSUASION*. Anyone interested should follow the same procedure as for the Middlesbrough positions above.

S P O R T S & S O C I A L S

From Saara Pinnell [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Mikey & Saara's Mulled Wine House Party, Friday 13th December from 7.30 p.m. onwards. All are welcome (bring a mug!). For further details, please contact **Saara** on x354 or **Mikey Grant** on x240, Basingstoke.

From Barry Gore [SWKCL, Chesterfield]:-

Reference Paragliding (see *ScottLight* Issue N°72): will this become a spectator sport? Many people will be thrilled to see certain members of staff take a run and jump!

I'm happy to provide the running if someone will supply the jumping - any takers? - Ed.

From Rob Morris [SWKCL, Basingstoke]:-

Lunchtime Five-a-Side Football League

Following *SWK* Basingstoke's success (?) during recent football matches, I am looking to enter a team in the *Basingstoke Sports Centre's* Lunchtime Five-a-Side League, which is due to resume in February with some twenty squads taking part. The registration fee is £55 per team, and applications will urgently be due once registration opens in January 97. The only additional cost would be the admission fee to the Sport Centre for non-members. I am looking to raise a squad of ten reckless - or wreckless? - safety-oblivious volunteers (i.e. the two 'walking wounded' Andy's, take heed!). Previous experience is reportedly an advantage, as are shin pads... Would anyone interested please contact me on x311, Basingstoke or during our 'friendly' lunchtime five-a-side games.

It would also reflect well on SWK if we were able to acquire a proper football kit (hint, hint). Any suggestions as to how this could be implemented would be gratefully received.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From John Goodacre [SWKCL, Chesterfield]:-
Okay, Folks, so when is 'OK' not OK?

In the following true (if incredible) extract from the correspondence received in Chesterfield office concerning a certain well-known multi-million pound job, only the names have been omitted, to protect the innocent:-

Letter from subcontractor to main contractor, copied to our CRE:-

*'Dear Sir,
We acknowledge receipt of the Resident Engineer's letter of 25th October 1996, enclosed within your correspondence of 30th October 1996. We still await confirmation of the Engineer's approval of those fabrication drawings detailed as being "OK", without which manufacture will not commence.
Yours faithfully, Contracts Supervisor.'*

Letter from CRE to main contractor:-

*'Dear Sir,
I refer to your letter dated 13th November 1996 enclosing your sub-contractor's letter dated 7th November 1996 complaining over my use of colloquial terms when approving fabrication drawings.
In order to expedite matters I forwarded the informal list of comments received from our Chesterfield office in the belief that the colloquialism "OK" is in widespread use and its meaning quite clear. I can therefore only conclude that in this instance you chose to be pedantic and not to accept "OK" as signifying approval.
Please therefore accept the comment "OK" as signifying my approval of the fabrication drawings.
Yours faithfully, Chief Resident Engineer.'*

Editor's Note...

Good morning/evening, SWK, wherever and whenever you are - this is your Editor speaking:-

We are about to embark on an eye-opening, worldwide journey of unknown ultimate destination. We will be travelling at altitudes ranging from the sea-level offices of Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Plymouth, or Southampton, to the heights of Kathmandu, passing through climatic contrasts varying from the present arctic temperatures of Mongolia, China, Kazakhstan or Russia, to hot, sweltering, sun-bathed locations such as Mauritius, New Delhi, Kuala Lumpur or Bangkok.

How are we to launch ourselves into this worldwide tour? As you will already have guessed, through the pages of forthcoming issues of ScottLight, of course... but only if you, the readers, have sufficient will for this to happen...

The point I am making is that while all contributions to ScottLight from any quarters are genuinely welcome and genuinely gratefully received, there is a severe and chronic imbalance within most Newsletter issues between the broad percentage of articles received from the larger UK offices versus other UK offices on one hand, and from 'SWK UK' as a whole versus the 'rest of the world'. Seeking to remedy this imbalance ranks among my highest priorities as ScottLight Editor.

The prime objective of this 'address' is therefore to remind all of you readers worldwide, wherever you are and whatever your occupation, that you are each part of the global SWK 'family' and... we'd like to hear from you! What's going on in your part of the world? Who's doing what? What anecdotes could you report? I'm appealing to you to write in and contribute to future Newsletters so that they may truly reflect news from all the Group's geographical regions and their people.

There is tremendous potential for ScottLight to achieve this. And much of this tremendous potential lies... in the capable and talented heads and hands of each one of you. So let's get going! Let's communicate! Let's get the news pouring in! Remember - it's YOUR Newsletter, and it's YOUR opportunity to 'shape it' and 'make it happen'.

Other new features may appear in the near future, subject to SWKHL Board approval, so - Watch this space!

To conclude this little 'soap box address', (and then I will finally shut up, I promise), may I urgently request loads of 'special' contributions for the 1996 Christmas Issue of ScottLight. Please note the deadline... Close of Business Monday 16th December 96 AND NO LATER PLEASE! All ideas are welcome, but genuine (harmless) anecdotes, e.g. from site, jokes, games, X-words, word puzzles and the like would be much appreciated. The odd cartoon could also be reproduced barring any technical problems that I might not be aware of.

On a final, final note (and then I definitely, definitely WILL shut my face), I'd like to express how delighted I am to be involved in the production of our Newsletter, and how much I'm looking forward to gradually 'shaping it' in the form that you, the readers, wish it to be. But this will require TEAMWORK!

Idea of the Week



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To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):

.....

.....

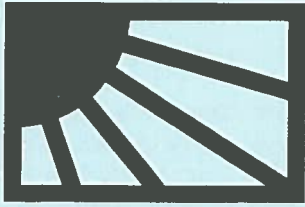
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



“ ATTENTION - ALL STAFF! ”

From Peter Innes [Pension Fund Trustee/SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Pension Fund and AVC Statements

I know that there has been concern at the delay in issuing Pension Fund and AVC Statements, showing individual positions at 30th April 1996. The delay has been caused solely by the handover of the Fund administration to *WM Mercer* and their desire to ensure that all records are complete and correct. I have now been assured by *Mercer's* that the Statements will be ready in mid-January 1997. They will be issued with the January 97 pay slips. Any urgent cases will, of course, be dealt with individually upon request (see *ScottLight* Issue N°53 of 18th July 1996 for your point of contact).

Also from Peter Innes [SWKCL, Basingstoke]...

'Pathways for Progress' General Staff Meetings

As announced in the *ScottLight* Special Issue of 21st November 1996, general staff meetings have now been arranged for as many as possible of the UK-based staff of all Companies. Notices informing staff of dates will be circulated in all offices and to site teams. Please would everyone make an effort to attend these meetings.

Packs of information are being sent to overseas offices and sites. Directors, Associates and Senior Staff travelling overseas from UK will be tasked with discussing Pathways locally and bringing any unanswered questions to the attention of Chris White in Basingstoke.

...And... more from Peter Innes [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Snamprogetti Sports & Social Club Corporate Membership

We have made a decision not to renew our Corporate Membership of *Snamprogetti Sports & Social Club* for 1997. Anyone who wishes to obtain individual membership may enquire direct from Liz Perry or Roger Lilley from January 1997 onwards at the Social Club.

From Geoff French [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

SWKCL Corporate Christmas cards

As in 1995, *Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co Ltd.* will not be sending corporate Christmas cards this year. A donation to an appropriate Charity will be made instead, as last year.

A message to this effect is included on the front page of the December 1996 Edition of *SWK Today*, which is currently being printed. Copies of *SWK Today* should be available for despatch to Clients by the end of this week.

From Allen Flatman [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

More on PFI/DBFO Projects

Jérôme Munro-Lafon's article on the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) (see *ScottLight* Issue N°73 of 5th December 1996) provided a succinct summary of the current Government policy in this area,

which went on to detail the opportunities thereby presented for *SWK*. The article did not, however, comment on the construction and operation phases of a PFI/DBFO project.

The ultimate aim of any project is to provide a facility which meets the end user's requirements in terms of programme, quality, cost and service. Although preparation costs for PFI/DBFO projects are high, the construction phase is when large amounts of money are expended, usually against a tight time-scale and a background of very commercial bidding. On PFI/DBFO projects, the *Highways Agency* have placed great faith in Quality Assurance (QA) to ensure that contractual requirements for construction, operation and maintenance are met. As Department's Agent (i.e. 'Promoter's Adviser') for the A50 Stoke - Derby Link, *SWK* are providing not only design reviews of the Doveridge Bypass Contractor's proposals, but also QA audits of his construction processes and of the Concessionaire's operation and maintenance. On the other side of the fence, *SWK* are providing design, operation and maintenance advice to *Autolink* on the A19, as well as a site supervision service for construction. These services are based on Quality Plans which have to have the approval of, and be audited by, the Department's Agent - i.e. the role which *SWK* are fulfilling on the A50 Stoke - Derby Link.

Needless to say, *SWK* have had to build a number of 'Chinese walls' in order to fulfil their various roles as Promoter's Adviser, Bidder's Adviser, and Contractor's Designer for these different projects. However, the hands-on experience gained is probably second to none, and should be emphasised in any proposals put to prospective Clients.

From Mavis Dedman [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Pre-punched Paper Stocks

The print room holds stocks of pre-punched A4 white copypaper for both small and large holed Wire-O-Bind and for Comb-Bind. Stocks of pre-punched *SWK* continuation paper are also held.

The A4 print machine prints complete sets of documents at a time, thus allowing binding to continue during printing.

It is not cost-effective or sensible for individuals to print sets of documents on floor copiers and then bring them to the print room to be punched and bound.

From Mike Sales [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Repairs to Scott House Car Park Access

As most of you are aware, the gully grid across the main vehicular access to *Scott House* is crumbling, thus necessitating repair work. This work is scheduled to be carried out on the Saturdays of 14th and 21st December 1996.

It is hoped that only the very minimum of inconvenience will be caused, but access to *Scott House* will be maintained during the week.

Also from Mike Sales [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Thank you for not smoking...

Personnel are reminded that smoking in the entrance lobby to the reception area of *Scott House* is not permitted.

The ashtray in the lobby is intended to encourage visitors to extinguish cigarettes etc., not encourage them or staff to 'light up' the same...

*Tobacco is a loathsome weed
The Devil sowed the only seed
It spends your money, it ruins your clothes
And makes a chimney of your nose'*

From Tanya Ball [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Christmas/New Year ScottLight Issues

With Christmas and New Year's Day falling in the middle of the week this year, it is proposed to produce one Christmas/New Year edition of *ScottLight* to cover the full 'holiday period'. Issue N°75 will therefore be the last one of 1996, and will be distributed at the very end of next week. The first 1997 edition (Issue N°76), will be produced at the 'normal time' during week beginning 06/01/97.

May I please remind everyone that the deadline for material for *ScottLight* - including the Christmas issue - is **Close of Business on Mondays**. While I have so far made every effort to include items received well into the Tuesday (because I'm such a *really nice* person - ask anyone in O/R Section!), I shall be strictly enforcing the deadline in 1997 (having turned *really mean and nasty* - ask anyone in O/R Section!). A deadlinezdeadlinezdeadline!

 **What's Going On?**

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Gareth Jones [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

SWK Advise on New Housing Development in N London

Gareth Jones and John Orchard have been called in by *Barratt Homes* to advise on their £20 M bid for land acquisition in North London.

Barratt's have now been short-listed for detailed negotiation, and Gareth and John are advising on a range of programming, contractual and engineering issues. If *Barratt's* are successful in acquiring the land, *SWK* can look forward to being retained to carry out all the detailed design input for a development involving upwards of 400 new homes.

From David Magowan [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

**Feasibility Study for New Terminal at
Seeb International Airport, Oman**

SWK have been appointed as sub-consultants to *KPMG* to review a 1986 airport masterplan and undertake a feasibility study for a new international passenger terminal at Seeb International Airport in Oman, the Omani *Ministry of Communications* being the main Client. *SWK* are being assisted by the *Chapman Cole Partnership* (Architects), *Alan Stratford & Associates* (Traffic Forecasting and Economics), and *Scott Neale & Partners* (Institutional). **David Magowan** will be leading the study team, who are to visit Oman in early January 1997 (Fee Scale C).

☆☆ **Congratulations!** ☆☆

Jim Cocksedge Declares his Retirement

After a career of 43 years, of which 33 with *SWK*, **Jim Cocksedge** wishes everybody to consider him as officially retired (nine months after his 65th birthday, because of his engineering work commitments to *SWK* offices in Nepal, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Vietnam, etc.!!).

The official retirement was suitably marked by a celebratory (or commiseratory) dinner in Kathmandu, hosted by *SWK-Nepal*, where Jim has recently been working during September/November 1996. TRIP and RMRP project Team leaders Nelson Hails and Mike Thomas ensured that Jim and Joan Cocksedge enjoyed a splendid evening, and at the appropriate moment (after numerous servings of *Planters' Punch*) asked Jim to visit the office to check on a penmac spec!

While Jim's international expertise in all aspects of pavement and geotechnics will be sadly missed, all *SWK* international offices will no doubt be pleased to invite Jim to call in whenever he is in the area and have a chat (plus look at this specification, slope problem, etc.) just to keep his retirement interesting. All Jim's many friends and colleagues within *SWK* wish them both a long and happy retirement.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

We extend a warm welcome to **Penny Bourne**, who joined the Structures Section at *SWKCL* Basingstoke as part-time Technical Clerk on Monday 9th December 1996.

WELCOME BACK SHIOBHAN...

Friends and colleagues of **Shiobhan O'Mahoney** will be pleased to hear that she has returned to work following a lengthy period of recuperation from a severe injury sustained on site at the Derby Southern Bypass last February. Shiobhan has not yet fully recovered and is easing herself back into work on a part-time basis in the Geotechnics Section at Chesterfield where, needless to say, her presence is much appreciated.

The accident prevented Shiobhan from taking up a position in Hong Kong (Geotechnics Section) earlier this year, but such a move may well be possible in the not too distant future if her recovery continues to progress.

 **VACANCIES** 

Note: If you are interested in any of the following positions, please in all cases unless stated otherwise contact Sally Mason on x210, Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section Head.

Senior Fresh Water Ecologist - SWKCL Leeds

Candidates for this position should be Graduates in Biological Science, and ideally possess a Master's Degree in a relevant specialised sphere. Knowledge and experience of environmental assessments are essential, and applicants should be able to demonstrate a minimum of seven years' practical experience, preferably including consultancy. Familiarity with Water companies and experience of liaising with the *Environment Agency* would be an advantage, as would proven marketing and leadership capabilities.

Restoration Ecologist - SWKCL Leeds

In order to ensure that ecological issues are fully addressed in their restoration projects, SWKCL Leeds wish to appoint a Restoration Ecologist to work closely with their engineering, contaminated land, hydrology and landscape design Sections. Applicants should be Graduates in a Biological or appropriate Environmental Science, and ideally possess a Master's Degree in a relevant specialised field. Experience of the restoration of post-industrial or other contaminated land is essential, and candidates should be able to demonstrate a minimum of five years' practical experience, preferably including consultancy.

Road Alignment Designer, Uganda

An experienced designer (not necessarily Degree qualified) is required for approximately 8-12 weeks from January to March 1997, to be based in the capital city of Kampala. The final design work continues on an SWK-led study to closely follow the existing HCL/VCL using an existing DTM to produce final design drawings and quantities, using AUTOCAD facilities.

Good local squash, tennis, golf and restaurant facilities are available, and the location enjoys a warm, comfortable climate. If you are interested in this position, please contact Caz Spencer on x209 or Mike Thomas on x314, Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section head.

Maternity Cover: Accounts Supervisor - MainLine (Swindon)

From mid-February 1997, MainLine Swindon will require four-five months' maternity cover for the post of Accounts Supervisor. Duties will include: overseeing day to day purchase and sales ledgers operations; preparation of applications for payment and processing of receipts for major projects; handling petty cash payments and allocations for the Swindon and Crewe offices; assisting the Finance Manager with month-end routines, nominal ledger journals, reconciliations and management account preparations. If you are interested in this position, please contact Alison White or Diane Goddard on 01793 515262, having first spoken to your Section Head.

Personnel Assistant (Training) - SWKCL Basingstoke

There is a requirement for a good administrator with a keen interest in people's training and development, and sound word-processing and organisational skills. The varied responsibilities for this post will include co-ordinating in-house and external training courses, graduate recruitment, establishing and monitoring training budgets, producing regular training reports and analysis, liaising with schools/careers fairs, and administering the staff appraisal system. Previous experience in the spheres of personnel/training would be useful, but by no means essential. If you have an interest in this position, please contact Alan Morton on x207, Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section head.

As a result of the imminent transfer of some Basingstoke staff from Scott House to Berk House, the following vacancies have arisen:-

Senior Secretary/Administrator - SWKCL Basingstoke

Working for three Directors/Senior Management Staff, your tasks will sometimes be of a confidential nature, and your responsibilities will include: coordinating secretarial services within Berk House; word-processing; using audio and shorthand; fielding telephone calls; maintaining files; distributing mail; keeping a diary of staff movements; overseeing travel and hotel bookings.

Applicants should be Senior Secretaries with a minimum of eight years' relevant experience, and should possess excellent typing, shorthand and word-processing skills; they should be good organisers and communicators, with self-motivation, a flexible approach to hours of work, and the ability to work under pressure.

Senior Secretary/PA - SWK Holdings Ltd. - Basingstoke

Working for the Financial Director and the Corporate Human Resources Manager (SWK Holdings Ltd.), your tasks will be demanding, varied, sometimes confidential, routine and (hopefully) enjoyable. The objective is for the successful applicant to assume responsibility for much of what he/she does, and therefore the post will require initiative, self-motivation, confidence and organisational skills, to ensure that things happen when they should.

Essential requirements are shorthand, word-processing and spreadsheet capabilities, the ability to prepare presentation materials, editing skills and a good sense of humour. The ability to work with figures would be an advantage, but candidates should be numerate and prepared and willing to learn.

Clerk/Typist - SWKCL Basingstoke

The Clerk/Typist will assist the Section Secretary with general office duties including word-processing, data entry, filing, photocopying, document binding, faxing, despatching couriers, collating proposals. Candidates should possess good word-processing skills, demonstrate maturity and a responsible attitude, be self-motivated, flexible and able to work under pressure.

Idea of the Week



From Dave Webb [SWKCL, Peterborough]

SWK Copy Letter System

My idea of the week is to do away with the current layout of the 'copy of letter from SWK' page used for sending copies of letters to external bodies other than the Addressee, and replace it with a sheet containing the full SWK heading and bearing the mention 'Copy'. Let's give the recipient a true copy of the original letter with details of telephone/fax numbers and of course address, like most other firms do.

[Samples of the existing 'Copy' sheet and the proposed replacement - a standard SWK-headed sheet to be marked 'Copy' - accompanied Dave's suggestion - Ed.]

STOP PRESS

Attention all SWKCL Chesterfield Staff

Lost during the past week at Bayheath House:

Electric 'scientific calculator', Model Sharp EL-5020, comprises initials 'RAH' in yellow road paint underneath. Would anyone discovering the whereabouts of this item please urgently contact its owner, Richard Hennessey on x231 at Bayheath House.

Thank you.

Large empty rectangular area for writing an idea.

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):

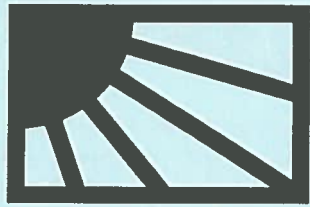
.....
.....
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



“ ATTENTION ~ ALL STAFF! ”

From Phil Green [SWKHL, London]

On behalf of all the Directors, I wish you all a very happy holiday season and best wishes for the New Year. Thank you for all your hard work over the past twelve months - it really is appreciated. Enjoy the break this Christmas!

From Val Hopwood [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
'JEN' Forms

Please note that now that *FAMIS* is parallel-running with *CONQUEST*, all the boxes on the JEN Form must be completed correctly. You will find guidance on this in Clause I of your QA Manual. Please further note that for *CONQUEST*, we also require details of the Sub-Manager's staff number or surname.

From Mike Sales [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Window Cleaning

Please note that window-cleaning at *Scott House* is scheduled for Sunday 22nd December 96. Please therefore ensure that all surfaces in the immediate vicinity of windows are cleared for easy access.

From Andy Scott [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Notice of CIWEM⁽¹⁾ Overseas meeting

Please note that the following *CIWEM* Overseas Meeting is to take place at *Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners Ltd.* on Wednesday 15th January 1997 from 17.30 to 20.00 hrs. The meeting will cover two very different overseas environmental projects, in **China and Egypt** respectively, under the following programme:-

- 17.30-18.00 Assemble, tea & biscuits
- 18.00-18.45 Yunnan Environmental Project - Martin Haddrill, Montgomery Watson
- 18.45-19.00 Discussion
- 19.00-19.45 Cairo Sludge Disposal Strategy - Jeremy Hall, WRc Plc.
- 19.45-20.00 Discussion.

Please note that there is a £3.00 charge for non-*CIWEM* members (no charge for students). For further details on the meeting, registration slip, directions and payment details, etc., please contact Andy Scott on x242, Basingstoke.

From Bernie Room [SWKCL, Chesterfield]
Further Reading on the Subject of the PFI

Further to Jérôme Munro-Lafon's article in *ScottLight* Issue N°73, I have a copy of the DoE publication, *The Private Finance Initiative and Local Authorities - an Explanatory Note*, if anyone wishes to borrow this. It will eventually find its way into the Springwell House Library in Chesterfield.



☞ What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Brian McKenna [SWKCL, Turkey]
Stage Five of Ankara Motorway Opens

The brilliant sunny afternoon of Sunday 24th November 1996 saw the opening, by Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, of Stage Five of the Gerede - Ankara and Ankara Peripheral Motorway project to traffic. Completion of the sixth and final stage of the 229 km, US\$ 1.5 billion scheme is scheduled for August 1998. The 120 km Gerede - Ankara section comprises two three-lane carriageways, while the 109 km Peripheral portion enjoys four lanes in each direction. The motorway stands as one of the largest infrastructural projects in Turkey, and forms a part of the Anatolian Motorway linking the Bulgarian and Syrian borders across the Anatolian Plateau via Istanbul and Ankara. The latter in turn forms a part of the Trans-European Motorway (TEM) extending from Norway to Syria.

SWK are part of a Turkish-British Joint Venture (JV) with Turkish Consultants *Kullutas Engineering*, and commenced work on this project by providing the Engineering Services in October 1987, the Design and Construction contract having been awarded to Turkish-American JV *Enka-Bechtel* twelve months earlier. To date, 60 members of *SWK* staff have worked on the scheme in Turkey, with a maximum number of resident personnel at any one time of nineteen in 1991. The current site team of eight comprises **Tim Baker, Malcolm Collison, Steve Davey, Ivan Hodgson, Tony Holdsworth, Graham Law, Brian McKenna and Samy Ramasamy.**

Also from Brian McKenna [SWKCL, Turkey]
Ankara Urban Traffic Improvement Study

SWK have been shortlisted by the Ankara Municipality and recommended for approval to the *World Bank*, who are funding this major scheme (Fee Scale A). Prequalification applications for this prestigious study were submitted by more than a dozen international firms. Bearing in mind that the shortlist was to comprise a maximum of six Consultants, and that only one firm per country was to be allowed to feature on it, *SWK*'s successful application clearly demonstrates the strength of the Firm's transportation experience. Having seen off all competition from UK quarters, and subject to *World Bank* approval, *SWK* will henceforth be taking on competitors from Canada, Egypt, Germany, Switzerland, and USA.

⁽¹⁾ *CIWEM*: Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management



From Richard Heard [SWKCL, Telford]

SWK wins major British Aerospace Commission

SWK have won a major *British Aerospace (BAe)* commission (Fee Scale A) to design and supervise construction of the restoration and strengthening of the main Warton Aerodrome runway near Preston. This main runway is some 2.6 km long and serves for both the testing of military aircraft and regular shuttle flights between BAE's various European production and assembly sites. It currently requires strengthening to accommodate a programme of *NIMROD*, *HERCULES* and *EUROFIGHTER* testing over the next few years. Windows of night time and weekend possessions of the runway will be available to carry out the works in summer 1997, and hence the detailed design will have to be completed within the first few months of next year. **Andrew Evans** [see 'MOVES'] will be leading the design team.

From David Dales [SWKCL, Peterborough]

New Jobs for the Coastal Group, Peterborough...

The *Environment Agency* have commissioned SWK to undertake an investigation of the 150 year-old Grand Sluice at Boston, Lincolnshire, which is to include an underwater assessment by divers of scour to the concrete apron (Fee Scale D). **Janette Hunter** is the Project Engineer.

SWK have also been commissioned to carry out an environmental assessment and detailed designs for replacement gates to South Ferriby Lock on the Humber Estuary. Project Manager is **Marjan Zwiers**, while assistance on gate design is being provided by the Maritime Division.

David Dales has returned from a three-week, *EU*-funded mission to Columbia to assist the Columbian Navy with coastal zone management. Highlight of the trip was a two-day journey by small boat with a pilot selected for his local knowledge... who then got his 'passengers' lost in the mangrove forest, and had to hail the occupants of a passing canoe to ask the way home.

From André Evans [SWKCL, Plymouth]

... And Good News for the Plymouth Office as well

SWK have just been commissioned to manage and design a landing stage for a new passenger ferry at Mountbatten in Plymouth, for Client *Plymouth Development Corporation*. The project is to incorporate a pontoon and dredged area to allow access at all states of the tide, and will be managed by **Chris Taylor**, with specialist input from **Peter Stebbings** (Fee Scale C).

Following a trial de-watering exercise for ten docks in Devonport Dockyard, the Plymouth office have been awarded further associated analysis and design work. De-watering the dock walls is designed to increase their seismic resistance. **Chris Taylor** will manage the work, assisted by **Richard Brown**, while **Steve Booth** will provide specialist input (Fee Scale C).

From David Dawson [SWMainLine, Swindon]

More Work on Thameslink

MainLine have been commissioned to carry out the next stage of work (outline designs) in the development of the schemes for the grade-separated junctions at Bermondsey and New Cross Gate for Client *Railtrack MPD Southern* (Fee Scale B for this stage). **Dick Watts** is Project Director, while **Rob Lewis** is Project Leader.



MainLine have also won a contract, for the same Client, to carry out feasibility studies for two underbridges and three overbridges to determine repair or reconstruction options. Project Leader is **Tim Cooney** (Fee Scale C).



☆☆ **Congratulations!** ☆☆

From David Dales [SWKCL, Peterborough]

Congratulations to the **Peterborough office staff**, who designed the Preston Beach Sea Defence scheme, which has been awarded a special Certificate of Merit by the *Weymouth Civic Society*!

From Nicola Gordge [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Congratulations to **all those entering teams and gaining places on the 1996/97 Merit Game**, which will take place via postal rounds against the computer, prior to the Final in April 97. Entries from SWK are:-

Team Name	Sponsoring Body	Team Leaders
MainLine Railheads	SW MainLine	Philip Wells
MainLine Mainmen	SW MainLine	Jeffrey Reece
On The Move	SWKCL	Suzanna Norton
Scott Wilson Konstruktion	SWKCL	Nicky Giles
BSE (Boring Structural Eng.)	SWKCL	Martin Duris
Sorry We Kollapsed	SWKC Scotland Ltd.	Chris Kurley

We hope to see some SWK representation at the final!

From Bernie Roome [SWLCL, Chesterfield]

May I, through *ScottLight*, thank all those members of staff, both in my own and other technical teams as well as administrative and support staff, who despite the interruption of our move from Sheffield, succeeded in issuing three tenders in November for our contracts at Grimsby, Doncaster and Leicester, including the subsequent analysis of the returned bids, in order that the Clients, *English Partnerships* and *Westbury Homes* might award these before Christmas. Many thanks to all concerned for the long hours and dedication, and I hope we can all enjoy a well-earned break over the Christmas holidays.

From David Dawson [SWMainLine, Swindon]

Congratulations to *MainLine* members who are taking leading roles in the *Permanent Way Institute (PWI)*. **Nigel Hellier** is Section Secretary for the Thames Valley Section, and **Mike Summerfield** will be Vice-Chairman for the Bristol Section in 1997.

Following privatisation of the Railway industry, the *PWI* is seeking to provide a forum for consultants, contractors, infrastructure owners and train operating companies. If you wish to join the *PWI*, please contact Nigel or Mike at *MainLine*, Swindon.

From Peter Stebbings [SWKCL, Reigate]

Congratulations to **Suzanna Norton** of Reigate office on being awarded her MSc in Maritime Civil Engineering from *Liverpool University*!



From Bob McKittrick [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

Congratulations to **John Tubman**, whose Paper entitled *Steel Bridges across 'the Pond'* is to be presented at the *Institution of Structural Engineers*, Upper Belgrave Street, London, on Thursday 9th January 1997 at 6 p.m.

It would be appreciated if as many staff as possible could find the time to attend the meeting to give John their support.



Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Welcome to **Alain Bain** who joined the Birmingham office as Chartered Transportation Planner on Monday 16th December 96.

Welcome also to **Stephen Mannings** who joined the Leeds office as Principal Environmentalist on the same date.

TRANSFERS

SWK Telford staff extend a warm welcome to **Andrew Evans** and family, who are in the process of moving from Basingstoke to Telford, where Andrew is joining the Airports Section.

A belated welcome also to Telford to **Matt Pearson**, who has been on temporary loan to the Airports and CAD Sections from Chesterfield.

LEAVERS

Farewell to **Jenny Spiller**, who will be leaving SWK Manchester on 28th December 1996. Jenny joined the Manchester office after it was established four years ago, and has undertaken many duties apart from secretarial work, such as for example organising social events!

Jenny will not be taking up a new appointment just yet, but it is believed that she intends to spend more time progressing her 'gladiatorial' ambitions. All staff in the Manchester office wish her all the best for the future, and thank her for the hard work undertaken during the last three years.

It's also goodbye to **Mark Webb**, who first joined SWK in 1990 and will be leaving the Basingstoke Marketing Section on 24th December 1996.

We can be sure not to be completely rid of Mark however, since his new position as Scanner Operator after the New Year will be with a firm located less than 300 metres from *Scott House*! All your friends and colleagues at SWK wish you the very best for the future.



👉 V A C A N C I E S 👈

Resident Engineer - Dubai

There is a requirement for a Resident Engineer to supervise concrete repairs and paving works for a new commission at Jebel Ali Port. The post will be for a period of approximately twelve months, commencing mid-January 1997.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the day to day running of the contract under the direction of the Dubai office. The ability to communicate at all levels will be an essential requirement, since planning, liaison and public relations will be necessary to ensure the smooth running of the contract.

The position would be a good opportunity for someone willing to travel on a single basis (accommodation would be shared) and wishing to be involved in an interesting project based in a warm and extremely pleasant location. If you are interested in this position, please contact Caz Spencer on x209, Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section head.



Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ ΜιηΔ?

From Pat Lock [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

'The Reason for the Season...'

Several youngsters from *St Thomas of Canterbury Church*, Worting, Basingstoke, spent the weekend before last at Old Alresford Place, which is a Diocesan Training Centre. The young people aged 10-13 were participating in a workshop on the theme, 'Road to Bethlehem'. One of the many activities they took part in was to write a short poem entitled '*This is the Reason for the Season*', which they read out in Church this Sunday. It forms an very appropriate inclusion for the Christmas issue of *ScottLight*:-

'This is the Reason for the Season

The Messiah to be born forever;

Mary and Joseph travelled together

They followed the star, Bring gifts from afar;

Jesus is the reason for the season.'

Thanks to everyone who contributed last year to the *Children's Society* by putting their change in the box in Reception, Basingstoke. The total was over £14. The box is now back on the reception desk for anyone who would like to donate.





Idea of the Week



*From Peter Sobczynski [A50 Site office, Meir, Stoke-on-Trent]
SWK Company Abbreviations used in ScottLight*

I note that the name of *Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick and Company Limited* has been abbreviated to *SWKCL*. The point is that 'CL' is a complete puzzle to me and is also not understood by other *SWK* employees, not to mention the general public and potential clients.

The *Concise Oxford Dictionary* recommends the use of 'Co.' for 'Company' and 'Ltd.' for 'Limited'; I therefore believe that we should stick to these rules of abbreviation in the formal use of the Firm's name. For the shortened version however, I would prefer to use the good old 'SWK' without any additional frills.



Christmas Specials

The following items were sent in by various members of *SWK* as 'specials' for the Christmas issue.

*From Ann Onymous [Somewhere in the Midlands]
Getting it Write*

Although as a general rule, engineers are notoriously bad at spelling, the contractor's staff engaged on the A50 at Stoke-on-Trent are seeking to set new records. To date, their public displays on traffic direction signs have included:- '*Pedestrains this way*'; '*Warrick Avenue*' (rather than Warwick); and '*Mere Road*' (for Meir Road). In addition, the contractor must be feeling that the local *Four-Star Taxis* firm is doing very well, having promoted it to *Five Star Taxis*!

NB: The author of this inclusion did provide details of name and office but requested to remain anonymous. - Ed.



*From Barrie Partridge
[SWKCL, Derby Southern Bypass /Eastern Section Site]
It'll Be Alright on the Night*

In this issue last year, Robin Dawson recorded my request to the Contractor to '*prevent premature arboreal fatalities*'. The circumlocution was intended to stick in the Contractor's mind, not the Project Manager's! Happily, the trees are now alive and well! But the correspondence undisclosed to the Project Manager is the initial typist's draft brought to the author of the text for checking. Before I let loose with a collection of my favourite out-takes from Derby Southern, I must emphasis that here, the Section Secretaries are employed by the Contractor, not *SWK*, and that the collection ceased to grow after the arrival of our present Secretary, who appears to have no difficulty in making sense of my handwriting! Among the 'gems' are:-

- '... seven day cruising results...'
- 'Care should be thrown to avoid segregation.'
- 'Outstanding fowling had been erected.'
- 'Provide a sand protection lager...'
- 'I do not consider that the actual conditions were unforgivable.'
- 'Tarmac are intending to revise the ballet wall construction details.'
- '... locate the supply by trial holes, for which reinforcement will be by dayworks.'
- 'The attached sketch was disturbed on site.'
- '... drainage pip...'
- '... the limits of the puddle clay killing...'
- '... conversation of Site Instructions to Variation Orders...'
- '... an installation for which will be issued in due course...'
- '... a diagnosed bracing member...'
- '... and grunting of bearings...'
- 'The following details rotate to the chambers...'
- 'Dust control was generously improved.'

*From Angie Winter [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
How to Make the 'Thickest' among us PC-Users
Feel Brilliant*

The following are genuine anecdotes of queries received by various computer 'Help Desks' in the USA, extracted from the *Wall Street Journal*:-

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:

My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):



.....
.....
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



- *COMPAQ* are considering changing the command 'Press Any Key' to 'Press Return Key' because of the flood of calls asking where the 'Any' key is.
- An *AST* customer was asked to send a copy of her defective disquettes. Some days later, *AST* received a letter with photocopies of the discs.
- A *DELL* technician was advising his customer to put his troubled floppy back in the drive and close the door. The customer asked him to hold the line, and was then heard to go and close the door of his office.
- Another *DELL* customer phoned to say that he couldn't get his PC to fax anything. After lengthy trouble-shooting, it transpired that he was attempting to fax a sheet of text by holding it in front of the monitor and pressing the 'Send' key.
- The *DELL* HelpLine received an irate call from a customer who had taken his PC's 'Bad Command' and 'Invalid' responses as personal insults.
- A man phoned *COMPAQ* to complain that his system was failing to read files on his old disquettes. After trouble-shooting for magnets and heat had failed to diagnose the problem, it transpired that the customer had labelled the disquettes before rolling them into the typewriter to type the labels.
- A woman was complaining that she couldn't get her new PC to turn on despite 'pushing and pushing on the foot pedal'. The 'foot pedal' turned out to be the mouse.
- Finally, a customer was enquiring as to how to get his broken PC 'cup holder' replaced. The 'cup holder' was in fact the load-drawer of the CD-ROM drive.

Will this open the floodgates for stories from good old SWK's Computing HelpLine? - Ed.

**Adaptation from ICL internal e-mail
... On Engineers and Risk...**

Engineers hate risk. They try to eliminate it whenever they can, which is understandable, given that the media and the world at large thrive on turning a tiny engineering mistake into a disproportionately 'big deal'.

The risk/reward calculation for engineers looks something like this:-

- **Risk:** public humiliation and the death of thousands of innocent people
- **Reward:** a certificate of appreciation in a handsome plastic wallet.

Being practical people, engineers decide upon evaluation of this balance that risk is not a good thing. So they conclude that the best way to avoid risk is to advise that a given proposed activity 'is technically impossible for reasons far too complicated to explain.' If that approach fails to halt the project, they resort to the second line of defence, which is to state that 'it is technically possible, but it will cost far too much'.

... and on Engineers' Fascination with Gadgets

To the Engineer, all matter in the Universe fits into one of two categories: 1° things that need to be fixed, and 2° things that will need to be fixed once an engineer has had a few moments to play with them.



Engineers like to solve problems. If there are none handily available, they will create their own. Whereas 'ordinary people' believe that 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it', engineers believe that 'if it ain't broke, it don't have enough features yet'. No engineer can have a shower without wondering whether some sort of Teflon coating could render this superfluous, nor can use a TV remote-control without wondering what it would take to turn it into a stun gun. To the engineer, the world is a play-room full of sub-optimised and feature-deficient toys.

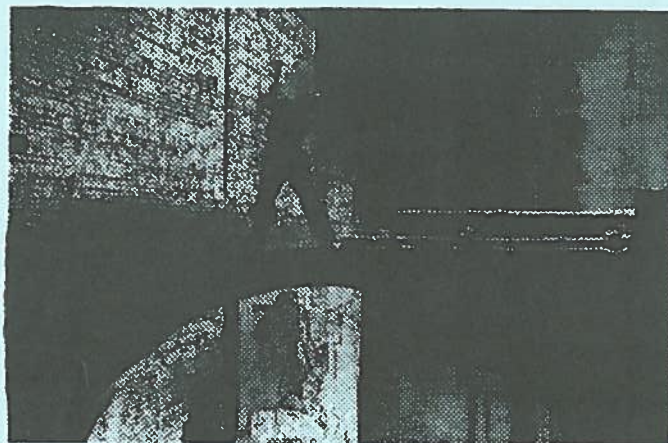
And further on the matter of Engineers, a contribution...

From Denis Spooner [SWKM&E, London]

Scott Life - C.D.M. Regs?!? How NOT to Do It...

The following picture, supplied courtesy of the above-named, represents the demolition of the last arch of the *Hoffnung's* building in Pitt Street, Sydney, on 15th November 1939.

(Ex State Library of New South Wales).



From Chris White [SWKHL, Basingstoke]

To the Class of '93

'A prince who desires to maintain his position must learn to be not always good, but to be so or not, as needs require.'

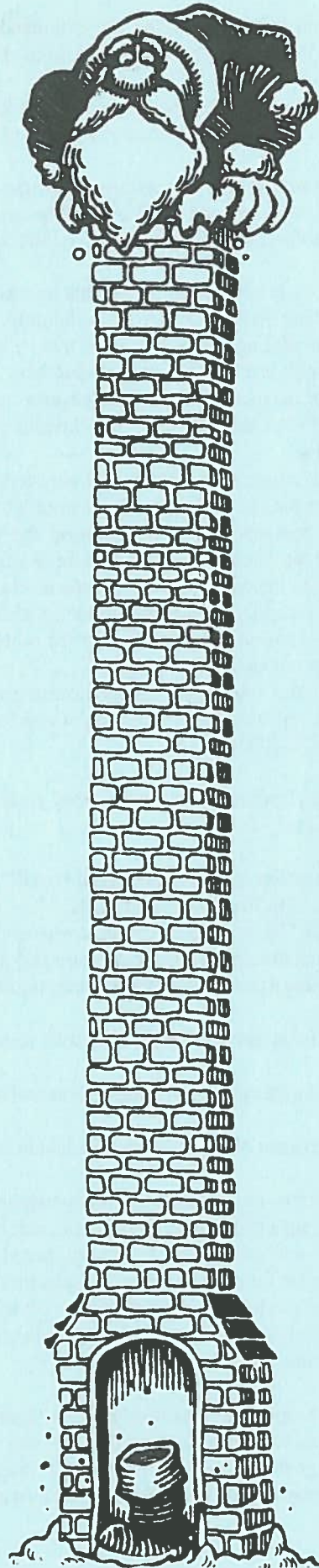
MACHIAVELLI

Happy Christmas to you all.

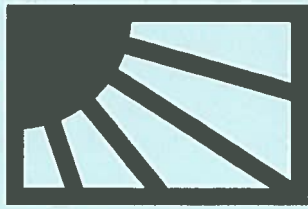
From Tanya Ball [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Thank you all very much for your support during my initial weeks as *ScottLight* Editor. May I wish each and everyone a wonderful celebration of the 'Reason for the Season'; precious moments of relaxation with their loved ones; and a New Year of promise, hope, and expectation.





All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



“ ATTENTION – ALL STAFF! ”

From Bob McGowan [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Obituary - Roland Bond

On return from the break for the holidays, we have sadly heard that **Roland Bond** died on 23rd December 1996. The funeral service has already taken place. Roland served as Partnership Secretary until his retirement in April 1983. He is survived by his widow and two daughters. Should any member of staff wish to offer their condolences, these may be sent via Jane Rouse in the London office, who will pass them on to the family.

From Phil Green [Chairman of Trustees]
SWK Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme

I am pleased to advise that a set of administrative procedures have been agreed with *William M Mercer Limited* that are to apply to their administration of the *SWK RETIREMENT & DEATH BENEFIT SCHEME*. These have been established and published in an Administration Manual that has been issued to all the Operating Companies in which there are members of the Scheme. The manual also sets down *Mercer's* performance standards for administration and accounting services.

Staff are free to refer to the Manual, copies of which are held by:-

- The Trustees (Phil Green; Richard Denton-Cox; Peter Innes; John Bean; Susan Brigg; Geoff Latham)
- Alan Morton for *SWKCL*; *SWML*; *SWK(PE)*; *SWK(M&E)*
- Peter Lumley/Peter Stenning - Payroll Basingstoke
- Chris White for *SWKHL*
- A copy is also to be placed in the Library at Basingstoke office.

Finally, and further to the pension update given before Christmas by Peter Innes, I can now advise that *Mercer's* believe they will have the Annual Statements of Members' Benefits available from 17th January 1997.

From Bob McKittrick [SWKCL, Chesterfield]
The Structural Steel Design Awards Scheme 1997

Entries are invited for the above award, in respect of which four categories are eligible:-

- Category 1: single or two-storey buildings
- Category 2: buildings of over two storeys
- Category 3: any form of (steel) bridgework
- Category 4: other structures (e.g. offshore/underground works/tower-type structures, etc.)

The closing date for entries is **Friday 4th April 1997**.

Further details on the Award can be obtained from, and entries should be forwarded to:- Miss G Mitchell, BCSA, 4 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2ES, tel. 0171 839 8566. For an entry form however, please contact Tanya Ball on x314 in Basingstoke.

From Mike Brown [SWK(M&E), Basingstoke]
SWK(M&E) Achieve QA Accreditation

After many months of applying the *SWK* corporate Quality Assurance (QA) scheme and using the name *SWK & Co Ltd.* where QA accreditation was required by clients, *SWK (M&E)* finally decided to pursue QA accreditation in their own right and invited *BSI Quality Assurance* to audit their facilities in their London and Basingstoke offices on 10th and 11th December 1996 respectively. The result was a success, with *SWK (M&E)* being recommended for accreditation. As an appendix to the corporate QA registration, the certificate should be with us around mid-January 1997. Under the registration, *SWK & Co Ltd.* will also be quality-assured for mechanical and electrical engineering, building services, facilities' management and planned maintenance, while for their part *SWK (M&E)* will be QA-assured for civil and structural engineering etc.

From Peter Innes [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Quarterly Staff Magazine

Thanks to all those who have suggested names for this new magazine. As other regions have been slow in responding, the deadline has been extended to 15th January 1997. The chosen name wins its proposer a prize of US\$50, so let's have some more ideas!

From Peter-John Meynell [SWRC, Edinburgh]
SWRC-Edinburgh Direct e-Mail Address

We have taken out an e-mail address subscription for a particular job requiring transfer of documents at our local Internet Café. Messages, documents, submissions and reports can now be sent to and from this address. If you wish to send something to us, please inform us so that we know to expect it. Our address is:-
pjm@electricfrog.co.uk

From Tanya Ball [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
New Director of Transport Planning for SWKAP

The Directors of *Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick Asia-Pacific Ltd* are pleased to announce the appointment of **Graham Bodell** as a Director of *Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd* with effect from 1st December 1996. Based in Kuala Lumpur, he will head the Transport Planning Group being established there.

His principal responsibilities will be to develop the practice in Malaysia and the Asia-Pacific region generally. He will be responsible for pursuing transport planning and traffic engineering projects throughout the region, and assisting country managers to win more transport-related business. He will also conduct high-level technical reviews and audits of on-going transport planning work being undertaken in the region.

TRAVELLERS		
Country	Traveller	Dates
Malawi	David Bovill	08/01-28/02/97
Russia	S Turceninoff	09/01-12/01/97
USA	Phil Green	10/01-14/01/97

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Colin Baker [SWK A50 Site Office, Meir]

A50 Meir - Progress Report

For the last twenty months, SWK's site team, under the control of CRE **Ray Bowyer**, have been supervising the A50 works near Stoke-on-Trent, including the reconstruction 2km of dual-carriageway and four foot bridges, and the building of a 280 m-long tunnel beneath the commercial and business centre of Meir.

The main deck and pedestrian ramps to one of the footbridges on the scheme were cast in the autumn. Recently the temporary falsework supporting the shuttering was removed, revealing the elegant lines of the bridge to local residents and motorists alike. At last we can all see 'in the flesh' how fine these footbridges will eventually look, no longer having to rely on drawings and artist's impressions to visualise the final effect.

A further important step took place recently with the start of tunnelling work. The last six months have been spent piling the outer and central walls of the tunnel and casting roof slabs, so it was satisfying to see the first section of ground being excavated from beneath the tunnel roof, even though we have only gone in a few metres. However modest, this start nevertheless seems like a giant step towards completing the works. We are now looking towards finishing the main structure of the tunnel this year, although all the fitting out will require many months. The opening of the tunnel and associated roads to traffic is scheduled for the summer of 1998.

From Eddie Foster [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Project Management Assistance in Poland

The New Year heralds the start of the fourth annual extension to our assignment with the *General Directorate of Public Roads (GDDP)* in Warsaw, to assist with management of road improvement contracts, with assistance from a *World Bank* fund.

Since commencement of this work in 1993, our two specialists, Contractual and Financial Advisers **Richard Kurek** and **George Raczynski** respectively, have been involved in supervising the tendering and site implementation of 48 contracts nationwide, with costs varying from US\$ 2 m to US\$ 18 m. The scope of the works has varied from minor road and bridge improvements, to the rehabilitation of sections of the A4 motorway and the construction of a 1.1 km long bridge over the river *Wisla* near Warsaw.

Over the three years, the emphasis has been placed on standardisation of the contract documents and training of local supervisory staff, in respect of both the engineering and financial aspects. This has involved the organisation of an extensive programme of training courses and seminars throughout Poland, usually conducted during the winter months when site work closes down. This year (1997), we will also be providing similar training courses for local contractors, which are still in the main state enterprises, although efforts at their privatisation are currently being made. Without substantial assistance from various sources covering a number of areas, it is unlikely that these firms would be capable of competing successfully on a commercially viable basis.

Richard Kurek joined SWK in 1993 after returning to his native Poland from many years overseas, including several in Uganda with the *ILO*, where he first met SWK staff. George Raczynski is a British QS of Polish descent, on secondment to us from Corderoy.

Both are happily settled in Warsaw with their families. The SWK Project Manager is **Eddie Foster**, who also acts as a visiting Contracts Specialist for the project. Other visiting specialists have included **Brian Empringham** (Basingstoke), **Mike Bancroft** and **Rick Elliot** (Peterborough).

During our time in Poland, we have established excellent relations with the *GDDP*, who have been most cooperative. In return we have hosted several study visits to UK for the Client's and Regional personnel. This project has also provided us with a good chance to explore other opportunities for the future, and it is likely that we will shortly be registering a local company and open a full office in Warsaw.

From Leighton Williams [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Restoration of Hermitage Stream, Havant

The section of the Hermitage Stream passing through Leigh Park Housing Estate in Havant, Hampshire, had been straightened and lined with concrete during an earlier flood protection scheme. In partnership with *Havant Borough Council*, the *Environment Agency* have recognised that restoring the stream to a more natural condition would greatly improve the landscape and visual amenity of the area. SWK have been appointed to carry out the detailed design and supervision stages of the scheme. The engineering will be led by **Erik Faithfull**, with **Nick Adams** and his team preparing landscape design for a linear park. SWK will also provide services under the CDM Regulations with **Andrew Friedrich** as Planning Supervisors (Fee Scale B).

From John Trinick [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

SWK to Advise on Rutland

Highways and Transportation Services

Rutland District Council have commissioned SWK to advise on Highways and Transportation Services to the new Rutland County Council, and to provide training for the Members on their new responsibilities (Fee Scale C).

From Alan Frew [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]

A701 Dualling

Following recent articles on the Firm's PFI capability, SWK (*Scotland*) have clinched a further commission in the field, thus reinforcing the position of SWKC(S)L as the preferred PFI adviser in Scotland.

Midlothian Council have appointed SWKC(S)L to prepare their detailed bid, to be submitted to the *Scottish Office*, for Challenge-Funding for the upgrading of a 5 km section of the A701 to the south of Edinburgh to dual-carriageway standard. The strong competition for the commission was primarily overcome by SWKC(S)L's solid background in the PFI field. The *Scottish Office* have indicated that the best chance of success of the scheme is for it to prove viable as a PFI scheme. With an overall value of less than £20 m however (which is lower than the 'traditional' threshold for PFI viability), a degree of lateral thinking will be required.

SWKC(S)L are currently undertaking some market testing among PFI-related firms (e.g. banks, financial advisers, DBFO companies/tenderers and the like) with a view to gauging the industry's interest in such a scheme (whilst also marketing SWK's PFI capability!).

Ronnie Hunter is Project Director, with **Alan Frew** as Project Manager, while **Russel Bissland** is undertaking the economic assessment of the scheme (Fee Scale C).

Also from Alan Frew [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]...

STOP PRESS

Whilst on the subject of PFI, SWK Scotland have just been appointed as the Secretary of State's Agent for the £245 m M6 DBFO project which was recently awarded to *Autolink* (Fee Scale A). This appointment continues SWKC(S)L's long ongoing involvement in the scheme, and will be reported in greater detail in a forthcoming issue of *ScottLight*.

...And still from Alan Frew [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]!

A96 Blackburn-Kintore Bypass

Once again, SWKC(S)L's close alliance with *Balfour Beatty* has paid off with the recent award of the £25 m design-build contract for a much-needed bypass on the main Aberdeen to Inverness trunk road. The BB/SWK tender was chosen by the *Scottish Office*, despite early reports in the *Construction News* that one of four competitors, *Morrison Construction Ltd.*, had been successful.

The scheme involves the construction of approximately 10 km of dual carriageway, with some 8 km of associated slip roads, side roads and access roads. There are 14 principal structures involved in the scheme, including overbridges and retaining walls.

The preparation of the tender submission involved the traditionally intense and demanding workload characterised by design-build contracts, and everyone involved is congratulated for their efforts. The detailed design will be undertaken by the same team that prepared the tender submission, led by **Ronnie Hunter** (Project Director), **Susan Briggs** (Project Manager), **Alan Baker** (Bridges team leader), and **Roger Doubal** (Geotechnical team Leader) (Fee Scale A).

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

From Mike Brown [SWK(M&E), Basingstoke]

Further to this issue's article on SWK(M&E) achieving QA accreditation (see *ATTENTION ALL STAFF*), credit and congratulations once again go to **John Taylor** for producing and managing such a good and comprehensive corporate quality system, and giving relevant advice to SWK (M&E).

From Mike Hillcoat [SWKCL, Derby Southern By-pass]

The *Yorkshire Wildlife Trust* celebrated its Jubilee by presenting the two winners of the Yorkshire Environmental Awards with special accolades for their contribution to improving the environment and habitats for wildlife in Yorkshire.

The Environmental Awards are given to companies which have made a positive contribution to the region's environmental health. One of the companies to receive an award was *St. Paul's Developments* for the reclamation of Cortonwood Colliery, so congratulations to SWKCL Civils and Geotechnical Sections, Chesterfield, who designed the final scheme!

From André Evans [SWKCL, Plymouth]

Congratulations to **Chris and Michelle Hicks** of Plymouth office on the birth of their son **Aaron Robert**, on 23rd December, weighing 8lb 9oz.

From Richard Field [SWKCL, Southampton]

Bridget, Richard and Hayden Field were the recipients of a slightly late Christmas present this year... and are delighted to announce the arrival of **Duncan Matthew** on 26th December 1996, weighing 9lb 5 oz. Congratulations and best wishes to all the family!

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Accommodation required in the Basingstoke area, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. Please contact **Martin Pickup** on x310, Overseas Roads, Basingstoke. Thank you.

↳ VACANCIES ↳

Personal Assistant/Marketing Secretary

A requirement has arisen for a Personal Assistant/Marketing Secretary to the Managing Director of SWK (M&E) based at *Scott House*. The tasks, which will be varied and sometimes of a confidential nature, will include standard secretarial duties, some production of publicity material, preparation of proposals and presentation material, liaising with clients and staff in other offices.

The successful applicant will have a minimum of five years' relevant experience. Candidates should be self-motivated, with a mature approach and flexible attitude towards hours of work, and should be able to work to tight deadlines under pressure.

If you are interested in this position, please contact **Caz Spencer** on x209, Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section head.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομρ Μιηδ?

From David Cragg [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

Charity Christmas Cards or Christmas message?

As I sit at my desk, surrounded by Christmas cards from friends, colleagues, contractors and clients (some people fit into two or three categories!), I can't help but feel that SWK ought to rejoin the card-sending tradition next year. After all, Christmas cards provide an opportunity to remind clients and contacts of our existence at a personal level, at a time of reflection on the passing year. We could buy our cards from charities easily enough, thereby relieving the need to issue the rather remote 'Christmas message' in *SWK Today*... a message which some clients may not have the time to read until the new year.

I suggest that next year we buy cards in bulk from a charity, and allow project managers and team leaders, as well as directors, to send them to their clients and contacts signed personally. The sentiment will then be in proper context, and the charities will not be neglected.

Idea of the Week



From Richard Levett [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

SWK Christmas cards

Why not revert to sending Charity supported Christmas cards? This would serve a good cause whilst providing publicity as a timely reminder of who we are, keeping the SWK name 'in the frame' - vis-à-vis clients in particular. Related costs could perhaps be saved and distribution simplified by sending the cards together with the December issue of the SWK magazine.

From Dave Sutton [Safety & Quality Engineer, SWML, Swindon]

Accident Reporting

I was pleased to read in 74 that **Shiobhan O'Mahoney** is recovering from her accident, and I'm sure everyone at *MainLine* would wish to join me in wishing her well for the future.

The nature of *MainLine's* activities demands that we pay a great deal of attention to safety, and we regard learning from other people's experiences and accidents as a valuable aid to accident prevention. So my idea is simple and cheap, as it probably only involves using existing resources. If a serious accident occurs, and I suggest that that is one which is reportable under *RIDDOR* (i.e. a major injury or three days' time lost as a result of the accident), then the Safety Adviser for the company concerned should be responsible for submitting a short account of the accident (circumstances, injuries, measures taken to prevent a recurrence) to *ScottLight* - say, within seven days of the accident.

This simple action will give all in *SWK* companies the chance to look at the circumstances and take appropriate action to help prevent a similar accident occurring to their own staff, and at the same time, hopefully help reduce the appallingly high construction industry accident figures.

... and the Reply of the Week

From Phil Green [SWKCL, London]

In response to Peter Sobczynski's Idea of the Week of Issue N°75 of *ScottLight*, I advise:-

- 1° On a point of detail, there is no such entity as 'Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick and Company Limited'. The registered name of the English operating company is *Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co Ltd*. For legal reasons it is essential that it be written EXACTLY in this form.
- 2° '*Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick*' is how the Group is to be expressed internally and externally. By 'the Group' is meant all the operating companies registered as owned by one of the three Regional Holding Companies.
- 3° To shorten the way in which elementary parts of the Group are referred to in internal communication/minutes of board meetings/directories, etc., and to ensure that this be carried out in an agreed manner, each part of the Group has been given a shorthand identity. These shortened identities were introduced into *ScottLight* in order to differentiate contributions from staff in the various companies of the Region, and the Group in general.

4° The abbreviations in use are:-

EUROPE	Company	Abbreviation
	SWK Holdings Ltd	SWKHL
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co Ltd	SWKCL
	(including Scott Wilson Resource Consultants	SWRC)
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co (Scotland) Ltd	SWKC(S)L
	Scott Wilson MainLine Ltd	SWML
	Scott Wilson IDG Ltd	SWIDG
	SWK (Pavement Engineering) Ltd	SWKPE
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick	SWK(M&E)
	(Mechanical & Electrical) Ltd	
	Scott Neale & Partners	SN&P
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick (India) Pvt Ltd	SWK(I)
	AFRICA	
	SWK Africa Ltd	SWKAL
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick South Africa	SWKSA
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners, Zimbabwe	SWKZ
	ASIA-PACIFIC	
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick Asia-Pacific Ltd	SWKAP
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick (Hong Kong) Ltd	SWK(HK)
	Scott Wilson Irwin Johnston Pty Ltd	SWIJ
	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd	SWKM

5° These abbreviations are only to be used in internal communications.

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):

.....

.....

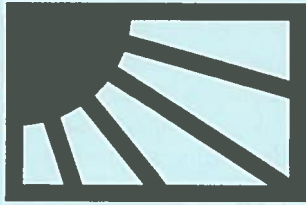
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



“ ATTENTION - ALL STAFF! ”

From Geoff French [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Processing of Weekly Timesheets

SWKCL introduced weekly timesheets some time ago, and have been running the *CONQUEST* system in parallel with *FAMIS* since 1st December 1996. Would all members of staff please ensure that:-

- 1° They are using the new timesheet
- 2° Their timesheet details are being entered into *FAMIS* immediately after the end of each week
- 3° Their timesheet details are being entered into *CONQUEST* immediately after the end of each week
- 4° The *same* timesheet details are being entered into both systems, as it is essential that the same data be input into both *FAMIS* and *CONQUEST* in order for the parallel running exercise to work.

It is appreciated that this is causing additional work, but it is an essential part of our testing of the *CONQUEST* system.

Several individuals have suggested changes to the new timesheet. These are currently under review, and the timesheet will be amended once we are confident that we have uncovered all the issues associated with its use.

From Chris White [SWKHL, Basingstoke]
'Pathways for Progress'

Thank you to all those who completed questionnaires following on from the general staff meetings held to communicate the *Pathways* initiative. John Voysey is coming to Basingstoke on 20th January 1997 for two days to review the current status on the project, ahead of the International Directors' Board Meeting later in the month in Australia. The promised update for all will follow these meetings.

A further thanks must go to all those who took the time and trouble to meet with Chris Johnson and myself to talk through their reactions to the presentations. Almost without exception, those who represented you had taken the trouble to seek out the views of their colleagues. This input has been extremely useful.

I must admit that we have run out of time and therefore if you are still awaiting the call to a meeting, I am sorry to report that this is no longer possible. Could I please ask anyone who has a questionnaire, and completed it, to send it to me in Basingstoke as soon as possible? I am particularly keen to hear from anyone with strong views and invite anyone to call me to discuss their ideas or concerns.

Also from Chris White [SWKHL, Basingstoke]
ICE Management Development Guidelines

I have been asked to update the *ICE's* Management Development Guidelines for Professional Engineers, together with two other members of the original working party. Apparently, this is the eighth best-seller after such worthy titles such as 'How to stop your home foundations cracking' and the various Fifth Edition and NEC Contracts.

Could I please ask anyone who has made use of this publication to send any comments, criticisms or suggestions for improvements to me in the Basingstoke office - by the end of January 1997 if possible. Thank you.

From Chris Jennison [SWKPE, Nottingham]
New SWKPE(AP) Appointment, Malaysia

The Directors of *SWKPE* and *SWKAP* are pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr Francis Wai Kun Chan** as General Manager of the newly incorporated *SWK Pavement Engineering Sdn Bhd* based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The appointment is effective from 11th December 1996.

Francis's principal responsibilities are to develop the Pavement Engineering market in Malaysia and the Asia-Pacific region. He will act as a focal point within the region, for all potential clients and members of the *SWK* Group alike, who want access to the pavement engineering knowledge and expertise developed over the past decades in Nottingham. He will also be responsible for pursuing projects related to pavement design and evaluation, pavement materials and pavement management. The client base will include highway, airport and port authorities as well as private sectors.

From John Tubman [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
New CIRIA Contact for EoI's

Those of you who receive *CIRIA News* will have noticed two lists of proposed projects in the latest issue, together with a request that interested parties contact *CIRIA* before the end of February.

Having taken over from Peter Innes as *CIRIA* contact, I would request that anyone wishing to express interest in any of the projects should now do so through myself. If you have already contacted *CIRIA* direct, please let me know (x284, Basingstoke) so that I can keep a full list.

The lists will be circulated to the Directors this week and next (incidentally, *CIRIA* were unable to tell me which list took precedence, so I suggest that we consider both).

From Stephen Leach [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Conversion of laptops to accommodate Microsoft Office
 As many of you will know, we have been changing our office software to *MICROSOFT OFFICE* (including *WORD FOR WINDOWS*). Many offices have already been converted, and the remaining will be so by the end of March 1997.

Laptop computers also require conversion, which poses logistical problems due to the globe-trotting lifestyle of these machines. We would therefore request all laptop users to advise Computing Section on x250 in Basingstoke when their machine will be available for conversion, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Conversion will take a couple of hours and will be available in most major offices. Standard templates for letters, faxes and memos will be included in the installation.

Conversion will mean that all users across the SWK world will be using the same software for word processing and spreadsheet work, so allowing an easier exchange of information.

TRAVELLERS

Country	Traveller	Dates
Malaysia/Australia	Richard Hoyes	15/01-10/02/97
Hong Kong	Mark Shaw	18/01-24/01/97
Philippines	Leighton Williams	16/01-04/02/97

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Steve Brundle [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Manchester Airport - Second Runway

The wait is over! At 3.30 on Wednesday (15th January) afternoon, the Government finally announced a positive outcome to the nine-month Public Inquiry for Manchester Airport's Second Runway. This clears the way for construction of the £200 M scheme to start later this year, with the objective of the runway being fully operational by Spring of the year 2000.

SWKCL have acted as Manchester Airport's Principal Consultant on the scheme for the past four and-a-half years, acting in a project management, engineering and cost consultancy capacity. In addition, *Cobham Resource Consultants* (now part of SWRC) were responsible for managing the environmental work. Congratulations go out to all the SWKCL/SWRC staff who were involved in the successful Planning Application and Public Inquiry process.

SWKCL, whose appointment for the construction phase of the project has been confirmed, will continue to act as the Airport's principal advisers, forming a large component of the Project Management team (Fee Scale A). The site team headed by **John Peters** will initially be finalising the tender evaluation process for the main Design/Construct contract, now that the planning conditions are known. The team will also be managing and coordinating the numerous other minor contracts as well as continuing to act as the cost Consultants for the project.

From Gordon Bathgate/Alan Frew [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]...

Erskine Bridge: Collision 04/08/96

On 4th August 1996, an oil-rig bound for *Texaco's* field in the North Sea from the *UiE (Scotland)* yard on the *Clyde*, struck the superstructure of Erskine Bridge, or to use local Sauchiehall Street parlance - 'skelped the bridge'. SWKC(S)L were appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland on 6th August 96 to investigate the collision and make recommendations for the future.

We have now submitted our Final Report after a period of hectic activity. Special thanks go to **Annette Downs** in Administrative Support, who eeked 100 minutes out of every hour. Our Managing Director and Director responsible for all matters structural in Scotland, **Jim McCafferty**, was Project Director, while **Gordon Bathgate** was Project Manager (Fee Scale C).

Anyone with a spare £3.5 million can send it to the Secretary of State, just in case those involved in the collision choose not to do so. *Nemo me impune lacessit* ⁽¹⁾.

... with a Footnote from **Jim McCafferty** [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow] I won't try to match Gordon's colourful and unconventional language, but thought that it might be of some passing interest that while he was unravelling the 'Great Erskine Bridge Disaster', we found ourselves at one and the same time acting as Consulting Engineers and Advisers on the two other major crossings of the River *Clyde*, namely the **Kimpton Bridge (Brian Robertson and John Redpath)** and the *Clyde Tunnel (Mike Hackney* with expert advice from **David G E Smith**). About a year ago, Mike Hackney was advising *Railtrack* on certain aspects of the Forth Bridge and, with **Duncan McKillop**, is currently giving advice on the Tay Bridge.

From **Jim Baldwin** [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

River Corridor Management Training Course

In association with *Binnie Thames Water*, SWK are carrying out training of three Brazilians in river corridor management (Fee Scale C), as part of a *British Council*-funded programme. At a mid-term review on 20th December 1996 with *British Council*, the trainees confirmed that the technical training being provided was excellent.

May I thank all contributors to the training programme from SWKCL Basingstoke, (River Engineering, Water Resources, River Basin Management, GIS), SWKCL Chesterfield (Solid Waste management, Contaminated Land), SWRC Leeds (River Ecology), SWRC Exeter and Abingdon (River Environment, Water Quality, Tidal Thames-Human Environment - including a boat trip on the Thames in late December!) for their outstanding work. The efforts put in at this stage may well give us an advantage when tendering for the ODA-funded Urban River Corridor Management Project, India, later this year.

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

From **Chris White** [SWKHL, Basingstoke]

Congratulations are due to the following, who have succeeded at the Autumn Professional Review of the ICE:-

CPR success and Chartered status for:-

- **Ron Morrison** [SWIDG, Glasgow]
- **James Grant** [SWKCL, Plymouth]
- **Tim Dawe** [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

IPR success and Incorporated status for:-

- **Jon Ridley** [SWML, Swindon]
- **Sean Meades** [SWKCL, Derby Southern Bypass]
- **Danny Keys** [SWIDG, Glasgow]
- **Tony Farren** [SWKCL, Telford]

TPR and Eng. Tech. status for:-

- **Lyn Clark** [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]

Additional note from David Webster [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]... on the matter of Lyn Clark's success, following his congratulations etc.: '... We look forward to the traditional liquid celebrations!'

[Grateful thanks to all those who sent in individual congratulations regarding any of the above people. It had however already been agreed among the various operating Companies that a single announcement mentioning all relevant names would be made. - Ed.]

⁽¹⁾ Translation: 'No one provokes me with impunity.'

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Welcome to **Lee Langdale** who joined *SWKC(S)L* Edinburgh as Senior Chartered Engineer on Monday 13th January 1997.

Welcome also to **Rebecca Green**, who joined the Marketing Section at *SWKCL* Basingstoke on the same date.

A warm welcome to **Tim Harris** who has joined *SWK* as Materials Adviser on the Bihar Plateau Road Improvement team, India, after leaving a Hong Kong-based firm.

LEAVERS

A belated farewell (since she has already gone!) to **Nicola Gordge**, who left the Personnel Department, Basingstoke, on 10th January 97 to move away to Bristol where she has bought a new house to go with her new job. We all wish her the very best for the future.

It's also goodbye and best wishes for the future to **David South**, who leaves the Basingstoke office on 17th January 97.

VACANCIES

Resident Project Manager, Nigeria

There is an immediate vacancy for a Resident Project Manager in Jos, Nigeria, for a period of six to nine months. The project involves the extension of an existing water treatment works and installation of trunk and distribution mains. Some 80 km of mains are to be laid and two new service reservoirs constructed, and the new works will have a capacity of 45,000 m³/day.

The ideal candidate would be a Chartered (Civil or M&E) Engineer, with a minimum of ten years' experience, preferably with some in Africa. If you are interested in this position, please contact Caz Spencer on x209 in Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section head.

From Bob McKittrick [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

Engineering Opportunity at SWRC, Leeds

Our current presence in Leeds resulted from the merger with *Cobham Resource Consultants*. The staff in Leeds at present comprise a Principal Planner/Landscape Architect, a Principal Environmental Scientist, two Ecologists, and a Secretary/Administrator.

We are considering developing an engineering presence in Leeds which, as a major city, we see as having a similar potential to Birmingham and Manchester. We would be pleased to know if any existing member of staff would be prepared to move to Leeds on a permanent basis to lead the development of an engineering presence. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Bob McKittrick on x201 in Chesterfield, having first spoken to your Section head.

From Lisa Litchfield [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Experienced CAD Technician

SWRC Abingdon are looking for an experienced CAD Technician with a proven capability for *AUTOCAD* (2D and 3D), *3D STUDIO* and *PAGEMAKER*. Candidates must have both technical and illustrative skills. A background in Architecture/Urban Design or Landscape Design would be advantageous.

Senior Highway Maintenance Engineer

SWKCL Chesterfield require a Senior Highways Maintenance (HM) Engineer to provide key support to the Head of HM. Prime duties would be:-

- Advising on operation of Highways Act 1980, NRSWA 1991 and other legislation affecting highways operation and maintenance
- Devising and tendering procedures for maintenance contracts
- Quality management systems for HM and auditing
- Operational management of highways networks
- Business developments in highways management
- Operating within the HM Group at Chesterfield and deputising for the Head of Highway Maintenance.

Candidates should be Chartered Engineers with five years' post-qualification experience of HM management for a local authority or maintenance agency. They should also have TRAMMS, PMS, NRSWA and Winter Maintenance experience, must be willing to travel regularly, be computer literate and possess good presentation skills.

If you are interested in either of the above positions, please contact Sally Mason on x210 in Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section head.

From Diane Goddard [SWML, Swindon]

Project Administrator, SWML, Swindon

This position will primarily involve word processing reports and contracts, liaising with engineers, and providing file management for our lively team of quantity surveyors. Candidates will require excellent word processing skills (*Word 6*), a flexible approach to hours of work (including occasional weekends), an ability to prioritise, and a good sense of humour.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Alison White or Diane Goddard on 01793 515262, having first spoken to your Section Head.

From Simon Thomas [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Technician/CAD Operator, Berk House, Basingstoke

Following a recent transfer to the London Office, an immediate vacancy has arisen for a Technician/CAD Operator to join the Port & Maritime Division at *Berk House*, Basingstoke. The work will mainly pertain to maritime works and involve the preparation of layout drawings and detailing, charts and programmes, management of maritime CAD, etc. Candidates should be HND-qualified and possess a minimum of five years' similar experience.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Sally Mason on x210 in Basingstoke, having first spoken to your Section head.

SPORTS & SOCIALS

From Rob Morris [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

The Pre-Season Warm-Up for SWK's Five-a-Side Team

In *ScottLight* Issue N°73, it was announced that *SWK* would be entering a team in the *Basingstoke Sports Centre* Lunchtime Five-a-Side League. Prior to this league commencing in early March, we have been 'sussing out' the opposition by filling in for a team which had recently dropped out of the current League. Our current record is as follows:-

Match	Result	Scorers
SWK v Visa Hawks	2-4	Mike Jones/Dan Frost
SWK v BM IT	3-2	Rob Morris (2)/Neil Evans
SWK v Merc A	0-2	
SWK v G men (B & D (Borough Council))	4-2	Graham Handy (2)/Neil Evans/ Roland Piezer

The result against the G-men was a particularly good outcome as they rank fifth in the current League. Star performances have been given by Alex Baker and Mike Jones (both in goal) and Graham Handy against the G-men. Most of us have found the pace of the games fast and furious, although, encouragingly, there has been little 'dirty play' as yet.

Would any other interested talented footballers who may be hiding in the depths of *Scott House* or *Berk House* please contact Rob Morris on x311 in Basingstoke.

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££

From Alison Knowles [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

FOR SALE

- 1 nest of tables, dark wood, glass inlay - £25
- 1 coffee table, dark wood, glass inlay - £25
- 1 double-head board, coral - £10.

If you are interested in any of the above items, please contact Alison Knowles on x300 in the Library at Basingstoke office.

Idea of the Week



From Steve Preen [SWKCL, Manchester]

Festive Compliment Slips

As *ScottLight* Issue N°76 contained at least two references to (corporate) Christmas Cards, here are my thoughts:-

I believe the general idea of donating money to Charities, *en lieu* of sending Christmas Cards, is a good one. However, it does appear that many of our clients, colleagues, contractors and friends etc. are not aware of the reason for SWK not sending cards.

The costs saved in not issuing cards are not just those of purchase, but also of the associated postage, which are quite considerable. My idea is to produce special festive Compliment Slips that can be attached to all letters etc. sent out during the month of December. These slips could wish the recipient a 'Merry Christmas...', contain an explanation as to the reason for not issuing cards, and name the Charities benefiting from the Firm's alternative donation. Personal messages could of course also be added by the sender. This option would inform the majority of SWK contacts of our donations, and provide a medium for personal messages of goodwill etc. The associated costs would be considerably less than those of the Christmas Card option, whilst conveying a similar, if not greater, message.

Apologies from the Editor...

Following Eddie Foster's article on Project Management Assistance in Poland (see Issue N°76), I understand that threefold apologies are due to Ric Elliott of SWKPE, for trying to make him out as "Rick Elliot of SWKCL(PE)"! I therefore 'apologise unreservedly to the House...' - and to Ric!

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):

.....

.....

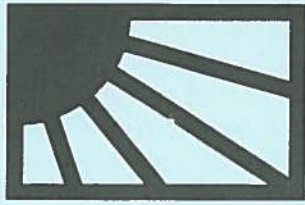
.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name:

Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



“ ATTENTION – ALL STAFF! ”

*From Ken Jores [SWRC, Abingdon]
Planning Team Joins SWKCL*

In December 1996, the Development Planning team of *Hanson Land*, led by **Ken Jores**, joined the SWRC office at Abingdon. The six-man team, previously employed by *Entec*, comprises planners, architects and urban designers who originally worked for *Shankland Cox*, and are currently engaged in the Hampton Scheme, a large-scale private sector urban expansion project at Peterborough.

The team brings the planning work associated with this high profile scheme and other important projects in leisure, recreation and employment-related private sector development to SWKCL. The planning team complements the skill base of SWRC Abingdon and is keen to become involved in development-related projects where they can bring their wide-ranging skills to bear to broaden SWKCL's capability in development planning, urban design and planning feasibility studies.

The members of the team have worked in both the UK and overseas on a wide range of projects which have included master plan preparation, regeneration, tourism and leisure, feasibility studies, urban design and environmental impact assessments.

The relationship between Ken Jores and SWK commenced in Hong Kong where Ken established the *Shankland Cox* office in 1980; on his return to UK, he then worked with Geoff French and Jérôme Munro-Lafon on the HASQUAD studies in 1989.

The team members comprise **Richard Thomson**, a Chartered Town Planner with extensive development planning experience who has worked internationally and has been closely involved with the Hampton project since 1988; **Peter Whitehead**, an Architect and Urban Designer who has worked on large, medium and small scale development projects for the private sector, and has developed the use of CAD techniques in the preparation of development briefs; **Paul Connelly**, a Chartered Town Planner who has provided master plan support to the Hampton project and undertaken market-related feasibility studies for institutional clients; **Rod Hatton**, an Architect and Town Planner acting as Consultant to the team and providing design guidance; and **Alex Roberts**, an Architect who has developed his interests in CAD as a design tool and provides the team with high standard graphic images to support development proposals.

*From Peter Guthrie [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Forthcoming SWRC Weekend Conference*

It is some nine months on from the formation of SWRC as a Division of SWKCL, and the merger with *Cobham Resource Consultants*.

As some of you know, we are holding a weekend conference on 1st and 2nd February in Newbury to learn the lessons of the last few months and set the course for the future. The weekend will address marketing, finance, management of projects, career development, and of course the 'vision thing'.

Partly for reasons of cost, and partly to gain the most from those attending, we have restricted the numbers to just 40 on this occasion, on the basis mainly of seniority. This inevitably means that many people who would certainly have been able to contribute very positively to the debate have had to be left 'on the bench' and I am sorry that this is so.

If you are not coming, please make sure you convey your views to a Director or Associate, or to a colleague who is attending. If you have any specific points which you wish to have raised at the weekend, please fax me in Basingstoke.

If, as we expect, the weekend proves productive and positive, it should hopefully become the first gathering of a series which would then (eventually) give everyone an opportunity to participate. Reports on the outcomes of the weekend will appear in future editions of *ScottLight*.

Can I just say how much all the Directors appreciate the commitment and flexibility everyone in SWRC has shown since 1st May 1996. These have been times of considerable change, especially for former *CRC* staff, and the continued high level of Client satisfaction throughout is a credit to everyone involved.

*From Bob Weekes [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
Creation of an 'Overseas Contracts Section'
at SWKCL Basingstoke*

The closure of the SWKCL Reigate office and transfer of many of its personnel, together with those of the Overseas Roads Section, to *BerkHouse*, Basingstoke, has brought together several engineers who have individually been specialising in, and advising on, overseas contracts and related matters for some time, and has created the opportunity to establish an Overseas Contracts Section, the principal objectives of which include:-

- Promoting continuing improvements in the standards of tender and contract documentation applied to overseas contracts, including the conducting of QA assessments, and assisting in ensuring good practice in their use and in the administration of construction contracts
- Providing advice and assistance on contract-related matters, particularly in relation to work overseas; and
- Acting as a focus for other SWK staff with specialist contract-related experience and expertise.

Headed by **Bob Weekes** and reporting to **Gil Thomas**, the Section will initially be staffed by **David Judge** and **Les Edwards**, although it is hoped to include **Martin Pickup** as soon as workload will permit.

Les Edwards has background experience in marine engineering, and is able to offer specialist advice in contract documentation, risk management, insurance matters and arbitration. He has written books on risk management and insurance, and is a Fellow of the *Chartered Institute of Arbitrators*.

David Judge's career has concentrated on contract documentation, measurement and claims administration from an early age. He has spent some 14 years in Hong Kong with the *Mass Transit Railway Corporation* and the *Provisional Airport Authority*, where he was involved in all the activities of their respective Contracts Departments.

Much of **Bob Weekes'** career has been in highway engineering overseas, during which he has been involved in a wide variety of forms of contracts for construction of roads overseas including Design & Construct, Target Cost, and Construction Management contracts. He also has extensive experience of the application of *FIDIC* Conditions and of *World Bank* and *Asian Development Bank* procedures.

Those seeking short-term advice can contact Les, David or Bob directly as appropriate. The Section must, however, pay its way (as with the rest of us!), so if significant time input is required, we would request that contact be made through project managers, who should provide job numbers against which the time spent can be charged. In addition, the Overseas Contracts Section will be pleased to consider undertaking short to medium-term input to projects overseas.

Clearly, there is a significant accumulation of valuable experience within *SWK* applicable to contract situations, both in UK and overseas (e.g. *SWKCL* has recently been involved in DBFO work, in which there is a great interest in India). It is therefore intended to create a register of those within the *SWK* Group who have specialist experience of contracts and related matters, and who would be prepared to give assistance and advice to overseas projects, and even undertake trips overseas to do so. Anyone who is interested is asked, in the first instance, to contact David Judge via the Basingstoke office. We would be particularly pleased to hear from anyone who has been involved in any of the following: the New Engineering Contract; Arbitration; Adjudication; and Alternative Dispute Resolution.

TRAVELLERS		
Country	Traveller	Dates
Australia	Phil Green	23-31/01/97
Malaysia/Philippines/ Hong Kong	Martin Nielsen	21-28/01/97
Poland	Neil Valentine	21-27/01/97
Russia	Sergei Turceninoff	27-31/01/97

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999; C: £10,000 - £49,999;
D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

From Tim Hunt [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

New Road Design Appointment in Philippines

In association with French Consultants *BCEOM* as Lead Firm, *SWK(HK)* have recently been appointed to carry out study and design work for the rehabilitation of 200 km of road in mountainous terrain between Baguio City, Bontoc and Banawe, Philippines (Fee Scale A). Both *SWK(HK)* and *SWKCL* are contributing to the project, the former providing Colin Chant as Deputy Team leader, while the latter are providing Gareth Hearn, Leighton Williams, David Williams as well as a number of independent Specialists and technical support.

The 18-month study pertains to a road that has suffered extensive earthquake and typhoon damage, and the UK team members will be drawing heavily on their collective experience of Nepal.

From Alan Frew [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]

New River Clyde Crossing

Strathclyde Passenger Transport in conjunction with *Railtrack* and *ScotRail* are investigating the potential for the joint running of light rail vehicles on the existing railway network. As part of this investigation, *SWKC(S)L* have been commissioned to undertake a wide-ranging study into potential sites for a new crossing of the River Clyde, over a 15 km length downstream of Glasgow city centre. Project Director is **Hugh Blackwood**, while Project Manager is **Simon Hindshaw** (Fee Scale C).

From Jim McCafferty [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]

A Footnote ... to the Footnote... to the 'Erskine Bridge'
Article in 'What's Going On?', *ScottLight* Issue N°77
For 'Kimpton Bridge', read 'Kingston Bridge'.

☆☆ Congratulations! ☆☆

From Ivan Hodgson [SWKCL, Ankara, Turkey]

Congratulations to our Chief Design Engineer **Graham Law**, who married **Serife Karakulak** in Gretna Green (who says Romance is dead?) on 31st December 1996. We wish them all the very best for their future together.

Moves → → Moves → → Moves → → Moves

STARTERS

Welcome to **Linda Brawn**, who joined *SWRC* Abingdon as Secretary/Administrator on 13th January 1997.

Welcome also to **Miles Fletcher-Brown** who joined *SWKCL* Birmingham as Technician on 21st January 1997.

TRANSFERS

A belated, but all the warmer WELCOME to Basingstoke to all former Reigate office colleagues who have now transferred to *Berk House*, and who are in the process of being joined by a number of local staff moving out of *Scott House*.

LEAVERS

Farewell and best wishes to **Angelos Panayides**, who will be leaving *SWKCL* London on 24th January 1997.

VACANCIES

Principal Project manager, *SWKCL*, Basingstoke

The Project Management Division in Basingstoke are looking to appoint a **Principal Project Manager** to be responsible for a variety of individual projects, principally (but not exclusively) involving buildings. For further information regarding this position, please contact Bob Ballard on x275 in Basingstoke office, having first spoken to your Section Head.

Part-Time Payroll Clerk, *SWML*, Swindon

SWML require an experienced Payroll Clerk to liaise between Personnel and an external Payroll Bureau for approximately 16-20 hours per week. Applicants must be familiar with PAYE, NHI and other deductions. If you are interested in this position, please contact Alison White or Diane Goddard on 01793 515262, having first spoken to your Section head.

For Sale & Wanted

££££££££££££

From Nandita Sarney [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

FOR SALE

- Waxed cotton 'Stormproof' jacket, size M - £30
- 'Puffa' jacket, white with blue stripes, size S - £20
- 'Puffa' waistcoat, blue with white stripes, size S - £15.

If you are interested in any of the above items, please contact Nandita on x232 in Basingstoke office.

From Don Johnston [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

FOR SALE

- 1 Creda fridge/freezer - £50
- 1 Creda four-ring electric cooker - £50
- 1 Creda tumble-dryer - £50

If you are interested in any of the above items, please contact Don on x206 in Basingstoke office.

From Grant Scholes [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]

FOR SALE

Fiat 'Panda' 1000 cl.

My imminently expanding family demands a larger toy and pram carrier, releasing my faithful 'Panda' to find (bamboo) pastures new.

1989 (G) Reg., red, 12 months' MOT and four wheels.

A snip at £750.

If you would like a test drive, please call me in Glasgow.

Ωλατ'δ φη Υομη ΜιηΔ?

From Roger Edwards [SWKCL, Telford]

Telford office recently received a letter from a local mental health hospital addressed to 'Kickpatrick & Co Ltd, for the attention of Mr S Wilson [read: Scott Wilson] and written by a Mr Burke [read...]'.

From Brian Sweatmore [SWML, Swindon]

The System Analyst: Fare N°2

*Slim-line and spruce, his straw in his juice.
Finely, divinely, his lap-top in use.*

*The Company's world-view noted and stressed.
Structure and process of the market addressed.
A clipboard displays, a pie chart just shows.
His system? Your system? Anything goes...*

*High risk? Low risk? Pleasant or mean?
• Hard system? Soft System? Both or between?
• New system? Old system? Safer like ours...
• Or 'shouting like crazy', like Fawltly Towers?*

*Projections appear, but he can't take a chance -
True to his clients, to his tune they must dance.
• So, main system, sub-system, great system, sad?
• Failed system, proved system, I.T. and C.A.D.*

*His train of thought following his System Analysis -
Its crucial path turned about, with its fallacies.
So deftly designing for Round-about-Man
He projected by compass: a Venn Diagram...*

- Rich pictures all there
- And a boundary, fair
- Evolved from the start.
- From the whole to the part.
- Control cell interior.
- Assured full criteria.
- Components and agents...
Without any vagrants.

*His scheme was a dream with none to compare
The genius knew it
So why did he
Stare?*

It's a foregone conclusion... on this train of illusion:-

With battery gone:-

System failure!

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week is (continue on a separate page if necessary):

.....

.....

.....

(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name: Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



Mike Hayman Memorial Service

The Memorial Service for **Mike Hayman** will be held at Ampleforth Abbey, Yorkshire, on Saturday 8th March 1997 at 11.30 a.m. Would anyone wishing to attend the Service please contact me or my Secretary in order to facilitate the necessary arrangements. Thank you.

Geoff French [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

ATTENTION - ALL STAFF!

Weekly Timesheets

From Geoff French [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

The entry of weekly timesheets into both *FAMIS* and *CONQUEST* is going most smoothly in Chesterfield. As a result, Martin Burton and Jeanette Barlow in Chesterfield have 'agreed to be volunteered' to help with all data entry queries associated with weekly timesheets.

In addition, a revised system for the issue of job numbers will be promulgated in the next few days.

It is hoped that both these actions will help overcome some of the most common difficulties being experienced with weekly timesheets.

... And SWK *definitely* lived happily ever after... - Ed.

Job Number 'BAGER' is closed

From Peter Frankham [SWKCL, London]

Project N°BAGER in Samara, Russia, was completed in mid-September '96. Expenses are still appearing against this number on the monthly Job Cost Reports. Any expenses incurred and allocated to BAGER after September '96 will be re-assigned. Please do not assign expenses (or time) to this number in future. Thank you.

Cast Iron Cutting 'Spec.' Required

From Richard Field [SWKCL, Southampton]

Richard Field would be pleased to hear from anyone who has experience of, or a specification for, cutting cast iron, for a current project. If anyone can help, please contact Richard on 01703 740025 in the Southampton office, thank you.

Lunchtime Seminar -

MMG Engineering Systems Ltd.

From Richard Payne [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

Representatives of *MMG Engineering Systems Ltd.* have been invited to give a presentation on their range of products. These include *FORTRAC* and *STABILENKA* for reinforced soil applications, and rapid widening techniques. The talk will last approximately one hour, with an opportunity to ask questions thereafter.

Details of the Seminar are as follows:-

Date: Thursday 6th February 1997

Time: 12.15 hrs

Venue: Meeting Room 1,
Chesterfield Library

The lecture may count towards CET and CPD requirements. Please let me know on x222 at the Chesterfield office if you wish to attend, so that I can organise the buffet in advance. Thank you.

SWK Master Specification #1

From John Tubman [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

For the time being at least, I have inherited responsibility for the Master Specification. The budget having been significantly reduced, only absolutely essential work is being done. Decisions regarding the future of the document, mechanisms for updating it, etc., will be made over the next couple of months. In the meantime, I suggest that those of you wishing to access the document adopt the following procedure:-

- 1° Log into the PC network and go into the "T" drive (i.e. the transfer area).
- 2° Go into directory "MASTER" on the "T" drive (there you will find the complete list of files relating to the Master Specification. These are still in *WordPerfect* format, but can be imported into *Word* - *Word* does the conversion without too much difficulty).
- 3° Look at file "WKINSTN.WPD" in directory "T:\MASTER" (this can be viewed either on screen or on hard copy). In this file, you will find a complete listing of sections contained in the Master Spec. Decide which sections are relevant to your project, e.g. E30 for 'Reinforcement for *in situ* concrete'.
- 4° Take copies (either electronic or hard) of all relevant files, e.g. starting "E30" in the above example. You will generally find two files for each section: the first will be "*SGCW.WP5", the second, "*NSGCW.WP5" (e.g. "E30SGCW.WP5 and E30NSGCW.WP5). The former contains the specification clauses for inclusion in the contract documents; the latter contains notes for guidance which should not be included.

Given current constraints, problems are likely to arise in relation to BS and BS EN references in the Master Specification. For as long as these constraints remain, I would request that all Project Managers using the document satisfy themselves that references to standards are correct, and that they are aware of the technical content of any standards

which they decide to substitute (a word of warning: there is not necessarily a one-to-one correspondence between a BS and the BS EN - or indeed another BS - which supersedes it; hence caution is required!). While this request is very important, it is also clearly at odds with the whole concept of the Master Specification. Hopefully, the present difficulties will be resolved in the near future.

Master Specification #2

To allow us to make some sensible decisions regarding the future of the Master Specification, could any users of the document within the last year or so please contact me in Basingstoke (x284). I would equally like to hear from those who have made a conscious decision not to use the Master Spec.! I would like the following information:-

- Number and size of projects on which the Master Spec. has been used
- General ease of use
- Problems (administrative or technical) encountered in trying to use it
- Feedback from clients/contractors
- If you made a conscious decision not to use it, the reasons behind this decision, and what course of action was taken instead.

Thank you in anticipation for your help.

Country	TRAVELLERS Traveller	Dates
Cambodia/Vietnam	Bob Weekes	03/02/97-20/03/97
Cambodia	David Judge	03/02/97 for 1 month
Kazakhstan	David Lambert	w/b 03/02/97 for 3 wks

What's Going On?

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D: £5,000 - £9,999; E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

Twins arrive in Uganda!

From Graham Thurston [SWK Uganda]

'Twins' Phil Grant and Graham Thurston have now arrived in Entebbe with the *Finnra* Twinning Project under the Uganda Road Transport Rehabilitation Programme. This is four-year World Bank-funded project (Fee Scale A?) aiming to provide technical assistance and institutional strengthening to the Road Maintenance section of the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications during the Ten Year Road Sector Development Programme. Inputs from Phil and Graham are scheduled to extend for about twenty and eighteen months respectively during the next two years.

Phil and Graham are now contactable on e-mail at: twins@imul.com.

Sun, Sand and Sea for Some!...

From David Dales [SWKCL, Peterborough]

SWKCL have been commissioned to develop a beach monitoring system for Weymouth and Portland Borough Council.

The system will be used by the Council to monitor movement of the beach, which was renourished as part of SWK's Coastal Protection Scheme, and will consist of a number of ACCESS/EXCEL modules (Fee Scale D).

Hawks Are Prey to International Venture

From David Farthing [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

Following the Australian Government's decision to buy the 'Hawk' as their Lead-In Fighter, British Aerospace (BAe) have confirmed the appointment of SWKCL/SWIJ to design the hangar and workshop complex which will initially be used to assemble the aircraft, and subsequently, to maintain the fighter during its service life with the RAAF (Fee Scale A).

The facility is to be located at Newcastle Airport, which is adjacent to the RAAF air base at Williamtown, to the north of Sydney. SWKCL are developing the Design and Build tender documentation with BAe who are based at Warton, near Preston. At tender award stage, we will pass over the project management to SWIJ, who are currently advising on tendering practice and local building approvals/procedures.

The international office cooperation that SWKCL and SWIJ could offer the Client was significant to BAe in their selection of a Consultant. This new commission follows our recent appointment by BAe for the resurfacing and reconstruction of the runway at their own Warton work site. Project Manager Richard Hoyes is currently in Sydney and manfully enduring all the hardships involved in such a trip!

M6 DBFO - Secretary of State's Agent from Alan Frew [SWKC(S)L, Glasgow]

As indicated in *ScottLight* Issue N°76, SWKC(S)L have been appointed by the Scottish Office to act as the Secretary of State's Agent for the £245 million M6 DBFO project. The contract to construct 28 km of dual three-lane motorway and maintain 92 km of motorway for 30 years was awarded just prior to Christmas to Autolink, the documents finally having been signed at 05.30 a.m. after an all-night negotiating session.

The Agent's principal duties include monitoring the design and construction of the new works, monitoring the operation and maintenance of completed sections of motorway and certifying payments to Autolink. The commission is for the period of the new works, extendable up to five years. Project Directors are Hugh Blackwood and Ronnie Hunter, Project Manager is Simon Hindshaw (Fee Scale A).

The commission is the latest in our involvement with the project to upgrade the A74 trunk road to motorway standard, which extends back to 1989. It follows on from our commission to develop the technical requirements of the contract documentation and the subsequent tender assessment, and to evaluate the risk transfer achieved by a DBFO contract as part of the development of a public sector comparator.

Double Hat Trick for MainLine

From Peter Crane [SWML, Swindon]

SWML have recently been appointed to carry out no less than six projects, namely:-

- **Heathrow Express Rail**
Additional bonding, earthing and gapping work; Project Leader is Ma Hillyard (Fee Scale C).
- **Railtrack - Western Zone**
MAS generators and points heating; site supervision; Project Leader is John Harper (Fee Scale B).
- **Railtrack MPD Midlands**
Bridge survey and inspection over Princes Risborough - Bicester route; Project Leader is Mike Summerfield (Fee Scale B).
- **Laing/Altram, Manchester**
Structural investigation of tunnel; Project Leader is Geoff Smith-Grogan (Fee Scale D).
- **Railtrack North Eastern MPD**
Wrawby Junction switch and crossing renewals feasibility study; Project Leader is John Perkin (Fee Scale C).
- **Railtrack Great Western MPD**
Permanent Way design services for Cheltenham Tuffey Junction; Project Leader is Peter Hillier (Fee Scale C).

**Derby Southern Bypass
2nd Anniversary Progress Report**
From Robin Dawson [SWKCL, Chesterfield]

On 30th January 1997, Derby Southern Bypass will enter its third year of construction. The work valuation passed £100 m late last year, and now everyone is aiming for the grand opening in the summer.

44 of the 72 structures are complete. The eight-span River Trent viaduct looks impressive, but its environmentally acceptable low profile will make it difficult to find! By the Toyota factory, the A38 traffic already runs around the top level of the vast amphitheatre that is the three-level A38 junction.

The 23 km length of bypass has 11 km of dual carriageway complete, and is up to road base over most of the rest. When the weather improves, the lonely 490 m of continuously reinforced concrete pavement will be laid. Possible cavities due to previous mining and/or solution of a gypsum bed led to the requirement for stone columns and this rigid pavement.

At the eastern end of the job, the existing A6 winds itself through the works in a complex traffic management scheme. The 1 km of existing A6 that will form the link between the completed Derby Southern Bypass and the M1 until our Client finds some more money is going to be very, very busy. Watch out at Junction 24!

CRE Len Briggs has led a team of up to 80 site staff. Such is the depth of experience there that the site office is known to some as 'Jurassic Park'. Site staff numbers may seem high, but in fact they are spread pretty thinly over this long and complex job.

When summer comes, the fruit of the site team's labours will become apparent in the form of a good-looking and useful addition to the trunk road network.

**Camperdown Country Park
Development Study, Dundee**
From Nigel Hackett [SWRC, Edinburgh]

SWRC Edinburgh have just been appointed to carry out a development study for three sites in Dundee which come under the umbrella title of 'Camperdown County Park' (Fee Scale C). The study is to investigate the leisure, tourism and landscape development potential of the existing areas. It involves a range of staff expertise including: leisure and tourism, planning, landscape and transportation planning (using the Glasgow office expertise).

 V A C A N C I E S 

**Snr Clerk of Works/Clerk of Works
at RAF Lossiemouth,
Morayshire, Scotland**

To commence approximately 1st May 1997 and finish mid-end November '97.

Full-time supervision of a contract for the resurfacing with asphalt of the majority of the taxiways at RAF Lossiemouth, together with drainage works and associated aviation ground lighting. A part-time RE based in Inverness will also be appointed.

To gain further information about the above position, please call **John Prosser** on x299 in Basingstoke office.

**Senior Secretary -
Structures, Basingstoke**

A Senior Secretary is required to work within Basingstoke's Structures Department.

Duties are to include: typing of letters, memos, reports from manuscript and audio, fielding telephone calls, maintaining section files, distributing mail, keeping a diary of staff movements. Candidates will need excellent secretarial skills, *Word 6* experience, a flexible approach to hours of work, and will require the ability to work on their own as well as on their own initiative.

**Secretary -
Project management, Basingstoke**

A Secretary is required to carry out general secretarial duties as follows:-

Word-processing of letters, faxes, memos, etc., distributing mail, keeping a diary of staff movements, filing, fielding telephone messages. Candidates should have good word-processing skills and be able to use an audio machine, a flexible attitude and a willingness to get involved within the Section.

If you are interested in either of the above positions, please contact **Sally Mason** on x210, Basingstoke, after having first spoken to your Section head.

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



My Idea of the Week is (continuc on a separate page if necessary):

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.....
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(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

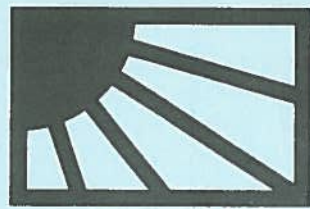
Name: Location:

All items for inclusion should be mailed, faxed or phoned through to Tanya Ball in Overseas Roads Section, SWKCL Basingstoke, by 5 p.m. on Mondays. Thank you.



"... And we can save 700 lire by not taking soil tests!"

NB: Would whoever kindly forwarded the above cartoon to me please make contact to enable me to acknowledge them? I appear to have misled the note accompanying the artwork! Thanks in advance and sincere apologies! - Ed.



ATTENTION - ALL STAFF!

79 Not Out...

From Geoff French [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

The first 'Idea of the Week' appeared in Issue N°16 of *ScottLight* on October 12th 1995. In the 64 issues since, there has been a total of 79 ideas, of which some 34 (43%) have been, or are being, implemented.

Thanks for all the suggestions, and I hope you keep them coming in.

CIWEM Contaminated Land Meeting
From Mike Le Gouais [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) are holding an evening meeting on the subject of **Contaminated Land** as per the following details:-

Date: Wednesday 12th February 1997

Venue: Hartley Room, Staff Club,
University of Southampton

Time: 17.30-18.00 hrs:

Assemble, tea & biscuits

18.00-19.30 hrs: Programme
including three speakers:-

Bob Barnes (*Environment Agency*)

Andy Rose (*Gifford and Partners*)

Paul Hillman (*Gifford and Partners*)

Cost: £3.00 for non-CIWEM members
(no charge for students)

If you require further details and/or wish to attend the meeting, please contact **Andy Scott** on x242 in Basingstoke.

'Specification'...

... on the **SWK Master Specification**
From John Tubman [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

My note on the Master Specification in last week's edition of *ScottLight* (Issue N°79) should have made it clear that the 'Master' or Base Document for the Specification for Highways Works (and associated Conditions of Contract) is still held by Construction Division in Chesterfield. **Roger Durgan** (x246, Chesterfield) is the contact. Apologies for any confusion caused.

Provisional Contact Numbers for Berk House, Basingstoke

Please note that until further notice, the direct telephone and fax lines for Maritime Section and any other staff currently based at *Berk House*, Basingstoke, are as follows:-

Tel.: 01256 816 793

Fax: 01256 816 835

Calling All Under-Thirty-Fives...

From Chris White [SWKHL, Basingstoke]

Where would you go on £3,000?

Up to £3,000 is available to help you travel anywhere in the world to research, explore and enquire into any area of geotechnical, foundation, or geological engineering, geo-environmentalism or geology.

Who is eligible?

Young engineers (under 35 years) with enthusiasm, ambition and flair.

What do you have to do?

- Tell us where you want to go; what you want to see; and why.
- Send us your travel proposal and CV.
- Tell us your ambitions, and give us an estimate of your proposed itinerary.

Likely candidates ...

... will be called to an interview and the successful candidate will be given help by leading experts in his/her field to develop the travel plan and make the necessary contacts to carry it through. In return, further help will be available to prepare a detailed report for presentation at a suitable venue.

Candidates may apply in any field of engineering, including: Foundation, Environmental, Land contamination, Ground improvement, Slope stability, Tunnelling techniques.

For further details, please contact:-

The John Mitchell Memorial Trust

Forum Court, 83 Copers Cope Road
Beckenham, Kent BR3 1NR

Tel. 0181 663 0947; Fax 0181 663 0949

Closing date for applications: 31/05/97.

Country	Traveller	Dates
Swaziland	Ron Bisset	10/03/97 for one month
Mongolia	Tim Hunt	12-20/02/97

What's Going On?

Scale: A: £100,000+; B: £50,000 - £99,999;
C: £10,000 - £49,999; D: £5,000 - £9,999;
E: £1,000 - £4,999; F: less than £999

Swaziland Environmental Consultancy
From Ron Bisset [SWRC, Edinburgh]

The Overseas Development Administration (ODA) have appointed **SWRC** to provide **Ron Bisset** to the *Swaziland Environment Authority* to carry out the following activities (Fee Scale C):-

- Evaluate the operation of the environmental assessment, audit and review regulations
- Harmonise the proposed draft solid waste regulations and the assessment, audit and review regulations
- Train Authority staff in environmental impact assessments (EIA's) and audit procedures
- Provide a series of five training courses for selected groups (e.g. private sector, NGO's)
- Investigate the potential utility of introducing strategic EIA's into the Swaziland development process.

This consultancy follows on from previous work carried out by Ron Bisset in 1994.

New Railtrack Commissions Enhance SWK's Railway Consultancy Capability
From Keith Wallace [SWIDG, Glasgow]

SWKCL Glasgow are enjoying further success in their lead consultancy term commission with *Railtrack MPD*, having been awarded four new commissions:-

- Perth resignalling study (Fee Scale A)
- Queen Street resignalling study (B)
- Signal post replacement switches design development (C)
- Polmaise signal box closure design development (C)

Encouragingly, some two-thirds of these multi-disciplinary commissions will be carried out within SWK, predominantly by SWIDG in Glasgow and SWML in Crewe. The commissions are a clear sign of SWK's growing capability as Railway Consultants.

Leisure time for SWKCL

From Mike D'Alton [SWKCL, Basingstoke]

SWKCL have once again provided advice to the UK's leisure industry with a new commission for *Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council*.

The existing Basingstoke Leisure Park comprises a typical mix of leisure-related activities including a 2,000 seat ice rink, and a moderately-sized swimming pool. Exciting new proposals, advanced by the Council, would facilitate increased spectator capacity, and construction of a themed leisure pool and an eight-lane competition swimming pool are also planned.

SWKCL will be examining the implications of these planned leisure improvements on the local road network and on the internal parking facilities/traffic circulation systems that service the Leisure Park. A variety of improvement measures deemed appropriate to accommodate peak traffic demands and innovative solutions to meeting excess parking demand will be assessed and recommended to the Council. Project Manager is Mike d'Alton (Fee Scale D).

SWKC(S)L Go Military

From Andrew Aikman [SWKC(S)L, Edinburgh]

Brigadier Charles Grant, Commander 51 Highland Brigade, officially 'turned the first turf' at a ceremony held on 29th January 1997 to mark the contract commencement on the second phase of the redevelopment of the Army (Scotland) Training Camp at Barry Buddon, near Dundee (Fee Scale A).

SWKC(S)L are providing Project Management services under a Defence Estate Organisation (Works) commission and were represented at the ceremony by Project Director **Jim McCafferty** and Project Manager **Andrew Aikman**.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Jo Hughes** and **Dudley** on the birth of **Samuel Robert** on 11th January 1997, weighing 7lbs 13oz. A welcome arrival also for 2^{1/2} year-old big brother **Joshua!**

Moves

STARTERS

A warm (and in some cases belated) welcome to the following staff:-

- **Mary Rook**, who joined Chesterfield office as Personnel Officer on 3rd February 1997.
- **Lynne Robertson**, who joined Edinburgh office on the same date as Assistant Office Administrator.
- Three recent recruits to the Geotechnics Section at SWKCL Chesterfield:-
Phil Ward, who joined on 2nd January 97 as Senior Chartered Geologist
Richard Nicholson, on 13th January as Engineering Geologist
Mark Walker, on 3rd February as Graduate Geotechnical Engineer.
- **Clint Walker**, who has come all the way from Western Australia on a ten-month Industry CBI Scholarship.

Clint has been working in the Australian Air Force and pavements industry for five years, and joined SWKCL's Airports Division in Basingstoke on Monday 13th January 1997. He can be quoted to have officially declared:-

'This year is the perfect opportunity for me to learn about the technical aspects of Civil Engineering with a British focus, whilst also exchanging work practices and ideas, and hopefully lending the Company a hand.'

Clint enjoys travel, tennis, all brands of football, and having a beer!!

- *And finally...* to the following SWML 'newcomers':-
Bob Langford, SWML Birmingham
Joanne Morrell, Civil Eng. discipline
Chris Holdship, SWML Crewe
Phil Pearce, Railway Systems Eng.
Tara Davison, Railway Systems Eng.
Simon Dyne, Permanent Way Discipl.
Anthea Benyon, Business Managmt.

LEAVERS

Very best wishes to **Steve Hinton** who left Maritime Section, Basingstoke, on Friday 31st January 97, and **Alain Fisher** who left Transportation & Planning Section, Basingstoke, on the same date.

What's on your Mind?

Acknowledgement

From Tanya Ball [SWKCL, Basingstoke]
 Grateful thanks to **Peter Ansell** from Telford office for supplying the excellent cartoon published in last week's edition of *ScottLight* (Issue N°79).

SWK - Engineers 'By chance'?

It is most most reassuring to have confirmation, from the lines of such a worthy publication as the *NCE*, that SWK's becoming a Firm of Consulting Engineers was not, contrary to what some may believe, purely down to 'chance'... Indeed, in the opening lines of a SWK advertisement for Geotechnical Specialists (*NCE* of 23/01/97, p. 54), it is quite clearly stated that, 'SWK is a major intentional practice of consulting engineers...'

To Tanya Ball (Basingstoke)

Date:



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(You do not have to fill in this part if you do not want to)

Name: Location:

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