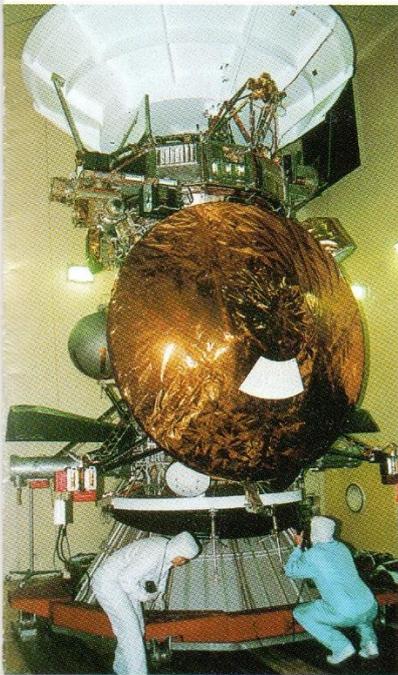


# eCHO

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CULHAM SCIENCE CENTRE & HARWELL BUSINESS CENTRE NOVEMBER 1997

## Destination Saturn for Cassini spacecraft



The Huygens probe, which will be dropped onto Titan, Saturn's largest moon, is the gold coloured conical instrument above the scientists.

**A**fter one false start, the Cassini spacecraft was successfully launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on its seven year journey to Saturn. On board was equipment worth millions of pounds, some of which had been developed by the team of experts at Chilton's Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) over a period of six years.

More than a hundred people gathered at RAL to witness the dramatic blast off on a giant television screen. The unmanned Cassini space mission will cost £2.2 billion, as the massive nuclear-powered spacecraft makes its way to the planet, travelling some two billion miles en route. On arrival a smaller Huygens probe will detach itself and parachute down to investigate the surface of Titan, Saturn's largest moon, transmitting data back to earth by the second.

The first man-made material to touch down on Titan is likely to be a metal ball, produced by RAL scientists, which will determine whether the surface is rock,

liquid or frozen methane. The scientists also produced equipment to measure the dust and electrified gases which surround Saturn and its distinctive rings. The collective work of many British universities, including Oxford, were co-ordinated at RAL.

The Cassini craft will be helped on its way by gravity assist flybys as it passes Venus twice, and Earth and Jupiter once. The immense size of the spacecraft will momentarily cause the Earth to slow down as it passes by in August 1999. At its journey's end Cassini will orbit Saturn for four years, gathering more data about the planet which is around 750 times larger than Earth.

## Culham move boosts battery business

**A**EA Technology will spend almost £4m in the relocation and expansion of its rechargeable batteries operation from Harwell to Culham. A six-month refurbishment programme is now underway at Culham's E1 building in readiness for the move from current premises in B552, Fifteenth Street at Harwell in 1998.

The existing workforce of 30 will relocate and staff numbers are likely to increase in line with the growth of the business. The move will allow expansion of the R&D and production facilities to meet

increasing levels of demand now and in the future. New capital equipment will include a dry room complex and film coating processes.

*Continued on Page 2*



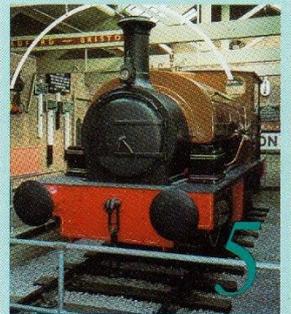
"The battery business is a growth area for AEA Technology and this move will help us meet existing and future demand from around the world," said Chris Wright, AEAT operations director.

### This Month

#### Marshall Building named



#### Library goes loco



#### Radiation Pond REVISS facelift



#### Jeans for Genes fundraising



from front page

The hi-tech rechargeable batteries have been a major success for AEAT which holds a key patent in the Li-ion (lithium-ion) technology. Important inroads have been made into conventional battery markets by these small, light-weight yet powerful products, ideal for today's notebook computers and mobile phones. In the near future the same battery technology is destined to power hybrid electric vehicles in response to stricter emission regulations.



## Managing functions



Our photo shows Lynn Hodgson who has rejoined Gardner Merchant as function co-ordinator following a break to have a baby. Her main role will be to ensure that all catering functions are well-managed, of the highest quality and meet the individual requirements of the organisers. Lynn will arrange everything from menu design to special dietary needs. To speak to Lynn about any future functions or to comment about the current service, she can be contacted on H5546 or write to her at Gardner Merchant Ltd, B532, Harwell International Business Centre.

## Royal Society JET video launch

Scientific media correspondents from around the world gathered at the Royal Society a few days ago to learn more about the JET fusion research experiments which set three new world records and have been widely acknowledged as the most important milestones to have occurred for many years.

Professor Dr Martin Keilhacker, director of JET, presented the results of the recent deuterium-tritium experiments and explained their implications for the development of fusion power stations in the 21st century.

The London press conference was also the venue for the launch of a brand new public

education video about JET and its many operations. Produced and directed by Andrew Millington, the JET story is delivered in a creative documentary style which is both innovative and stimulating. The 20 minute film is aimed at the wider business world and the community generally but can also be used for educational purposes; it is suitable for first year 'A' level students or as an introduction to JET for off-site lectures.

Called 'Energy for the Next Millennium - Fusion', the video will be available to ECHO readers at a special price of about £3, to cover production costs. Contact Tom Elsworth, head of PR at JET on 01235 464776 for more information.

The exciting developments at JET are currently on display at the 'Fusion Expo' exhibition in Brussels until 22 November. JET was invited to have a presence at this major event in the light of the deuterium-tritium experimental campaign.



Jubilation captured on Central TV footage as new world records were confirmed

## New CCLRC chairman

President of the board of trade, Margaret Beckett, has announced that Dr Albert Westwood will succeed Dr Paul Williams as chairman and chief executive of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils (CCLRC), which operates the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory at Chilton. Dr Williams will retire next year, at the end of March.

Dr Westwood joins CCLRC after a distinguished career in science and engineering in the USA, with many years of experience managing large scale research. Having visited RAL, Dr Westwood was impressed by the buoyant enthusiasm of the staff as they described their projects, and by the detailed knowledge, insight and dedication of the management team.



Dr Albert Westwood

Your news please



I am delighted to have replaced Sue Coxon in the ECHO editor's chair and will endeavour to maintain the high standards she has set. With three issues under my belt I am getting to grips with the many organisations located at Culham and Harwell but would like to appeal to all ECHO readers to keep me posted about any newsworthy stories - whether staff or company activities - especially the humorous ones. Your comments are also very welcome. Please see the back page panel for details.

Valerie Judd, ECHO editor

# Marshall building named in director's honour

**T**he newly refurbished UKAEA headquarters (building 521) has been renamed in honour of former director of Harwell, Walter Marshall, Lord Marshall of Goring. His widow, the Lady Ann Marshall unveiled a plaque at the opening ceremony attended by over 100 guests including staff, civic leaders and senior representatives from scientific organisations.

With thanks to the Lady Ann, Sir Kenneth Eaton, UKAEA chairman, said, "Walter Marshall was a most distinguished director of Harwell and chairman of UKAEA and was responsible for the diversification of

Harwell into non-nuclear research, laying the foundations for the privatisation of AEA Technology last year. He became an internationally known figure when, as CEBG chairman in 1984, he kept the nation's lights on during the miners' strike."

Walter Marshall was elected a fellow of the Royal Society at the early age of 39 and became chief scientist at the Department of Energy. He was knighted in 1982 and made a life peer by Margaret Thatcher in 1985.

The Marshall Building houses some 200 of UKAEA's 327 staff at Harwell (excluding the constabulary). UKAEA director of property management, James Bretherton, thanked staff for their patience during the programme of works. The £1.8m refurbishment was achieved within



(l-r) James Bretherton, UKAEA director of property; cllr Norman Matthews, vice-chairman, Oxfordshire County Council; the Lady Ann Marshall of Goring; cllr Joyce Hutchinson, chairman, Vale of White Horse DC; cllr Ken Hall, chairman, South Oxfordshire DC and Dr Paul Williams, director, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory.



UKAEA's Dawn Russell receives thanks for her contribution to the refurbishment project.

budget and included a new roof and windows, upgrading the heating system and landscaping the surrounding area to include a pleasant seating area, water feature and woodland walk. Special thanks were paid to

those involved including Tim Cockerill and Peter Greenhalgh (UKAEA property management); Mike Preston, Dawn Russell; the project officer, Peter Standing; and main contractors, H N Edwards.

## Memorable gift Goodbye Julie

**P**rofessor Roger Clarke, director of NRPB (left) is pictured with Michael O'Riordan, secretary of the

board at his recent retirement presentation, after 36 years' service with the Radiological Protection Services, Sutton and NRPB. David Talbot has been appointed acting board secretary.

In keeping with a long-standing tradition at the organisation, one of Michael O'Riordan's retirement gifts was a specially designed commemorative keepsake. Entitled 'A Bit of Blarney' the two items mounted on the plinth are a piece of rock to signify his heavy involvement with the radon research programme and a special edition mock-up of the Radiological Protection Bulletin, of which he was editor for many years.



**A**fter 12 years of unstinting effort as assistant secretary of the Harwell Laboratories Recreational Association, Julie McDonnell has left for pastures new.

She will be fondly remembered for her cheerful disposition and, in addition to the routine office tasks, Julie stood in as cashier, pulled many pints in the social club bar, served meals from the kitchen and, on occasion, even marked sports pitches. Julie is pictured here with various gifts from the Rec Association staff.

The Rec Association is now looking for a new assistant secretary. For more details about this challenging part-time position, please contact Tony Betteridge on H3296.



# OUT & ABOUT

## Opera at Wantage

6, 7 & 8 November

Puccini's La Boheme is being presented by Opera at Wantage at 7.30pm on 6, 7 and 8 November at Lains Barn. Tickets are £7 (£5.50 concessions) or £13/£11 with supper on Fri/Sat, from Wessex Press, Wantage or tel Julia Garrard, H4121 (mornings).

## Industrial Control Exhibition

Tuesday 11 November

Of interest to engineers of most disciplines, this exhibition will be staged in the Harwell restaurant from 11am-3pm. Everyone is welcome. A wide range of equipment will be on display with around 30 different exhibitors.

## East Hagbourne Craft Fair

Sunday 16 November

A craft fair, run by Hagbourne School PTA, will be held at the school and the village hall on Sunday 16 November from 10am-4pm. Sample a delicious homemade lunch or snack while browsing amongst 70 stalls.

## Oxford Physics Colloquia

14, 21 & 28 November

A lecture programme of interest to the wider physics community, held in the Lindemann Lecture Theatre, Clarendon Laboratory, Parks Road, Oxford on Fridays at 4.15pm (tea served in the Common Room at 3.45pm).

14 November – Prof K Nagamine, Riken and Kek, Tsukuba, Japan, 'Recent Progress in Muon Catalysed Fusion'.

21 November – Prof J C Briden, Environmental Change Unit, Oxford, 'Palaeomagnetism and the Environment'.

28 November – Prof M B Green, Dept of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics (DAMPT), University of Cambridge, 'Superstrings, M-theory and beyond'.

## East Hanney Reunion

Thursday 27 November

Calling all ex-Hanney school pupils! East Hanney School is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year and invites all past pupils, parents, governors and staff to a Reunion & Celebration evening on Thursday 27 November, 6-9pm. There will be displays and a presentation by current pupils of events from the school's history. To attend please contact the secretary, East Hanney School (01235 868232). If you have any photographs, reports, other memorabilia or any stories or memories connected with the school please contact the secretary.

## Advent Concert

Sunday 30 November

All Saints' church, Sutton Courtenay is the venue for this Advent Concert featuring the All Saints' Singers and Orchestra with music by Purcell, Vaughan Williams and Vivaldi. The performance starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £4.40, £4.00 concessions and £10 family. Further details from 01235 848205/848238/848429.

## Didcot Railway Centre

Didcot Steamdays – Sunday 30 November & 7 December

Santa Steaming – Wednesday 10 December

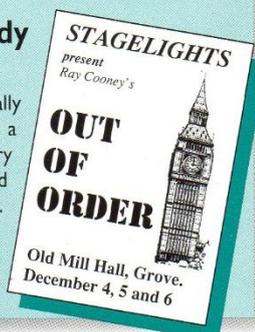
Thomas Santa Special – Saturday 13 & Sunday 14 December

More information on 01235 817200.

## Politically (in)correct comedy

4, 5 & 6 December

Stagelights present 'Out of Order', a politically (in)correct comedy by Ray Cooney involving a government minister and opposition secretary in a room with a dead body. Performed at Old Mill Hall, Grove on 4, 5 and 6 December. Tickets £4 (first night and concessions £3). Contact 01235 760244 or email [chris.chessum@aeat.co.uk](mailto:chris.chessum@aeat.co.uk)



# Health tips from RGIT, your occupational health department

## Meningitis – the facts

Most people are aware of meningitis but it still arouses fear due to the speed at which it can develop and because this infectious and potentially fatal illness can be overlooked in its early stages. The National Meningitis Trust was founded in 1986 and has since invested over £2 million in 35 different research projects.



**RGIT LIMITED**

Everyone can help save lives by being aware of the symptoms and acting quickly. Meningitis can develop rapidly over one or two days. Although not all the signs and symptoms may show at once, you should watch out for: headache, fever, vomiting, neck stiffness, joint pain, drowsiness or confusion leading to coma, dislike of bright lights, rash or red-purple spots or bruises.

With babies, the signs are: refusing to feed or vomiting, fretfulness, high pitched or moaning cry, a child is difficult to wake, has pale or blotchy skin.

### Did you know

- Meningitis is the inflammation of the meninges, the lining which surrounds the brain.
- Anyone can contract the disease, but those at greatest risk are the under 5's, 16-25 year olds and the over 55's, respectively.
- 2,000 cases are reported on average each year.
- 1 in 10 meningitis sufferers die.
- 1 in 7 is left with a permanent disability such as deafness, brain or physical disability.
- There are two distinct types of meningitis – viral and bacterial.
- There are several different strains of bacterial meningitis; among the most common are pneumococcal, meningococcal and streptococcal.

Available to call at any time:

Meningitis Support Line 0345 538118

Meningitis Information Line 0891 715577

General information on meningitis, contact RGIT on H4135.

**REMEMBER,  
REMEMBER, the  
8th of November  
at Harwell South  
Sportsfield.**

**Bonfire  
6.30pm**

**Fireworks  
7.00pm**

For the children, Punch & Judy, Magic Show and dancing. For the adults, belly dancer, fire eater and disco afterwards at the Social Club.



One of the first locomotives to be used on the London Underground.  
Photograph: Donald Barber.

## Library goes loco

**W**inchester Library has one of the largest collections of railway books in the UK – about 10,000 volumes in all. When staff discovered a flood in the basement store one Monday morning they calculated that half the total stock was at risk.

“We store about 6,000 of our railway volumes in the basement. They vary tremendously in age and content, but all are of interest to railway enthusiasts and historians” explains lending librarian, Robert Turner.

“When a ceiling collapsed, water penetrated through the floor into the basement. We were not immediately aware of the extent of the problem as the power and lighting was off until Tuesday.”

Harwell Drying Restoration Services arrived the day that the

flood was discovered to assess the situation. Fifteen HDRS crates were used to transport the damaged books to Harwell where they were frozen prior to drying in the vacuum chambers. Some 10 per cent needed further restoration but the majority were ready for immediate use.

“We were very fortunate,” says Robert Turner. “Approximately 1,500 volumes suffered water damage, but only about 15 were beyond repair. The drying service did a wonderful job.”

## No fuss, take the bus!

**W**hy take the stress when you could let someone else do the driving, converse with fellow travellers and arrive in style. Do you travel to Harwell from the Newbury area? Having changed company and upgraded from a minibus to a luxury 48-seater Bennetts coach, there are even more seats available on the private bus service which has been running successfully for 18 months.

### SAFETY FACTS

#### Lost time accidents

Culham/Harwell	C	H
Recorded since last issue	0	1
Total this year	2	16
Total reported to HSE '97	2	11
Total days lost in '97	26	110*

#### Minor accidents (no time lost)

Recorded since last issue	5	12
Total this year	35	154

\*Days lost for one accident not recorded as return date unconfirmed at time of going to press and one injured party still off work.

**There was one radiological incident, designated category 2, and no non-radiological incidents reportable since the last issue of ECHO.**

#### Glovebox incident

Examination of finger dosimetry following glovebox processing work by a tenant's employee, indicated a received dose of approximately one tenth of the annual limit. Further processing work was suspended and an investigation is underway to ascertain the cause and to recommend any changes to procedures.

The route starts from South Newbury at 7.30am, passing through the town centre, Oxford Road and Donnington then via the A34 to Chieveley, World's End and Beedon, arriving at Harwell at around 8.05am. The return journey leaves Rutherford Appleton Laboratory at 4.55pm calling at Harwell at 4.57pm. Friday collection times are 4.15pm and 4.17pm. For more information contact Mark Little at NRPB on ext 2806.

In addition, Johnson Controls Ltd (JCL) currently operates eight schedule routes to

and from Harwell from Swindon, Oxford, Wantage, Wallingford, Didcot, Abingdon and surrounding villages. Arrival and departure times coincide with working hours, with services arriving and leaving from the coach park, behind the restaurant, and a network of feeder coaches transporting staff around the sites.

To save time and money passengers can buy season tickets via a monthly standing order. Weekly and daily returns or single fares are available for less regular use from either the Rutherford cash office, weekday mornings, or from JCL helpdesk in the foyer of B150, weekdays from 1pm-2pm. If you have any queries contact the transport services office, JCL, B404, or call 01235 434143 (internal 720 4143).

### WASTE SACKS PLEA

- Please be careful not to overfill waste sacks, especially classified waste sacks. Several injuries have been caused by overloaded sacks. Any sacks heavier than 12.5 kgs – approximately 12 bags of sugar – will not be removed in future.
- Staff are also reminded not to put any sharp objects into bins or sacks. Please wrap any such items with several layers of paper and place in the Grundon skip.
- Finally, do not put cardboard into recycling bins.

## eCHO BRIEF

### Taking a stand

The first CBI National Conference since the general election has a full agenda; discussing the new government's ability to influence the direction of Europe and debate whether EMU is the problem or the solution. Mingling with the captains of industry and senior officials will be a team from UKAEA property management and services who will be manning an impressive stand at Birmingham's International Convention Centre from 9-11 November. Top of UKAEA's agenda will be to promote the Harwell International Business Centre, amongst other sites, as the relocation choice for organisations involved in science and technology, and set out the comprehensive decommissioning plans currently underway.

### Understanding fusion



As part of an official visit to the UK by a delegation from the Korean Basic Science Institute, a 'memorandum of understanding' was signed at the DTI by Derek Robinson, UKAEA Fusion director in the presence of John Battle, minister for energy and industry, science and technology. The group, headed up by Boo-Sik Yi, the vice minister for science and technology, also toured the START project with Alan Sykes. Pictured here are (clockwise from top left): Boo-Sik Yi, John Battle, Duk-in Choi (KBSI president) and Derek Robinson.

### Farewell thanks

Heather and Derek Harris wish to thank all their friends for their leaving gifts and also to say 'cherio' to those who they didn't manage to see before leaving at the end of September. Anyone visiting the Holbeach area, Lincs, should not hesitate to give Heather and Derek a ring. Heather worked at Harwell for 18 years, finally working in B413W for AEA Technology, while Derek joined six months after his wife, tempted by reports of the excellent canteen, and worked for UKAEA in B220.

### Try your hand at poetry

Pulsar, the quarterly book of poems edited by NRPB's David Pike, is running a poetry competition. Entry is free and open to anyone over 16. ECHO readers still have time to compose their poems which should be less than 40 lines in length and arrive before 31 December 1997. Poems must be your own work and not previously published or submitted for another competition. Send entries, with your name, address and telephone number on the back of each, to: Poetry Competition, The Editor, Pulsar, 34 Lineacre, Grange Park, Swindon, Wilts SN5 6DA.

# 'A Short History of Grove Airfield 1941-1996'

## Book Review by Nick Hance

**In his history of Grove Airfield, Don Summers of JET, claims it was 'the busiest airfield in Europe during World War II'.**

The 60-page book, published by the Ridgeway Military & Aviation Research Group, offers historians and the public fascinating insights into wartime activities at Grove Airfield, near Wantage. Of particular interest is the chapter about UKAEA's occupation of Grove as the Wantage Radiation Laboratory.

Grove started as a training base for Bomber Command and, as a satellite station for RAF Harwell, was used to train pilots on Airspeed 'Horsa' gliders; but

following America's entry into the war it became a USAAF air cargo base. Accommodation for more than 3,400 USAAF men led to temporary 'tented cities' at Challow and hutted camps around Wantage. The entire village of Grove was incarcerated inside the newly extended perimeter fence.

The book is full of interesting anecdotes: from the invasion secret of 10,000 tins of black and white paint, to the first civilians flown out from Grove – the entertainers Ben Lyon and Bebe Daniels. Apparently the local rate of exchange for a bottle of whisky was 10,000



*Piper L-4 Grasshopper aeroplanes like this one were assembled in their hundreds at Grove from crated kits shipped by sea from USA. It had a 65 hp engine and was used by artillery regiments as a low-flying 'spotter' aircraft.*

cigarettes, somewhat less for fresh vegetables but sufficient for the local allotment holders to get addicted to 'Camels'!

After the war Grove had a succession of occupiers: as an RAF Maintenance Unit, then by UKAEA, British Non-Ferrous Metals Ltd, Metal Box and currently as the Grove Technology Centre. Williams Grand Prix Engineering is located on the place where, 50 years ago, US Army trucks were serviced.

The book is filled with pho-

tographs, and whether one is interested in aircraft, local history or the social impact of thousands of American servicemen on the local community, there is much to enjoy in this professionally produced publication.

Copies, costing £4.50 plus P&P £1.50, are available from Don Summers at JET or from the Ridgeway Military & Aviation Research Group, 47 Elizabeth Avenue, Peachcroft, Abingdon OX14 2NS, enclosing your remittance.

## Harwell insight

**Graham Mather, MEP for Hampshire North and Oxford, visited the Harwell for the first time last month to hear about the exciting initiatives of existing tenants and future plans to develop the site as an international business centre for organisations involved in science and technology.**

Having first met UKAEA chief executive Derek Pooley and the incoming chief executive, John McKeown, he accompanied Kevin Langley on

a tour of the DIDO reactor to learn about the current decommissioning programme. Mr Mather completed his visit in the Iredale suite where Harwell's comprehensive plans for redevelopment were set out by Steven Moss of UKAEA property management.

"He was genuinely interested and excited about what we're doing at Harwell bearing in mind its history" comments Steven. "He was keen to support our plans in every way possible."



*(l-r) Steven Moss, Graham Mather MEP, Kevin Langley and Andy Munn, UKAEA corporate communications, who arranged the visit.*

## Don't travel light

**Tesco received high praise from roads minister, Baroness Hayman, at a seminar to explore reductions in the cost and impact of delivery vehicles.**

Aimed at the retail and distribution sectors, the seminar at Harwell International Business Centre was organised to promote the DoE's Energy Efficiency Best Practice Programme. The industry and transport aspects of the programme are managed on behalf of the department by ETSU, part of AEA Technology.

By reducing the number of empty return journeys, Tesco had saved three million miles, amounting to 1.7 million litres



*The roads minister, Baroness Hayman, urged companies to share vehicles and loads to reduce the number of empty vehicles in transit.*

of diesel, worth £720,000. Carbon dioxide emissions were cut by 4,600 tonnes.

## STOP PRESS . . . STOP PRESS

Authosign, the 'biometric' document verification system based on real signatures, has gained a special commendation in the BT Electronic Commerce Innovation Awards. Developed by AEA Technology, Authosign was selected for its potential to improve business processes and safety processes in the manufacturing sector.

**Staff classified advertisements on this page for Culham/Harwell, JET, RAL, NRPB, MRC and NIREX are free – subject to a maximum of 25 words, on a first come, first served basis.**

• **Note: Telephone extensions given below are prefixed as follows:-**

**H. Harwell; C. Culham; R. Rutherford Appleton Laboratory; N. NRPB; Ni. Nirex; J. JET and M. MRC.**

Advertisements are run for one month only (with the exception of Holiday Accommodation). Please resubmit any advertisements that are to be repeated.

## FOR SALE

**3 NATHAN** wall units – 2 are 40" wide with 2 shelves and 2 floor level cupboards (one has a drop-door cabinet), 1 is 20" wide with a floor level cupboard and glass display cabinet. All 3 have strip lights. £150 ono. Contact H2956 or after 6pm.

**3 SEAT SETTEE & armchair.** Minty, grey/pink colour, removable covers. £150 ono. Tel David H6877.

**3 PIECE SUITE,** good clean condition, brown, £100 ono. Electra fridge freezer, upright, good condition, £100 ono. Tel or lan H4117.

**12 JOYCE STRANGER** paperbacks £5. Cordon Bleu slow cooker – no instruction book; excellent condition £10. Tel:

**£100 HOLIDAY VOUCHER,** accept £80. Ring

**AUSTRIAN BLIND,** handmade, fully lined. As new. Green, pink and cream floral design, M&S material. 105" x 59" drop. £30 ono. Tel: daytime.

**BEBECAR** buggy/pram, includes carrycot, buggyseat, sun canopy and raincover. Very good condition. £90 ono. Tel: (eve).

**BT** Amber analogue mobile phone and charger, fair condition, £5. Tel H5982 or

**DOLL'S HOUSE,** recently refurbished low voltage electrics, fully fitted and furnished. Would suit 6/7 year old, £50. Phone

**GARRARD** record deck, fair condition, plays nicely but has earth hum, £5. Phillips car radio, early seventies, works, £5. Fog lamps, 1 Lucas, 1 Bosche, early seventies, £5 each. H5982 or

**GAS COOKER,** electronic ignition, eye level grill, Parkinson-Cowan 4000-L white with brown trim, fair to good condition, £50. Gas heater, black SuperSer, excellent condition, little used, includes gas bottle and instructions, £40. Tel H5982 or

**GUINEA PIG BABIES,** various colours and coats (smooth and rex), both sexes. Very tame and good-natured, make excellent pets. Females £10 each or £18 a pair, males £9 each or £16 a pair (2 males can happily live together). Contact Helen on

C3049, helen. @aeat.co.uk or tel. 01235 850483 evenings & weekends.

**HOUSE CLEARANCE SALE,** contents and household effects. Offers for individual items negotiable. Viewings on request. All items must go by December 1997. Tel H5872.

**PC GAME,** Destruction Derby CD Rom £30. Play station game, Formula 1, £30. Both unused. H5564 or

**PEDESTAL DESK,** traditional design reproduction. Top 4ft 6 by 2ft 3, approx 3ft high, 8 drawers, leather inlaid top. £250. Tel R6146 day or eves.

**TABLE AND 4 CHAIRS,** table 47" x 32" extendable to 75", good condition, £40. Swiss cheeseplant (approx 4ft high), £10. Buyer collects. Tel (answerphone).

**THREE-SEATER SETTEE** and 2 armchairs, almost new, solid wood frame, green upholstery, £350. Photo available on R5602.

**THREE-SEATER SOFA** and chair, 'as new' rattan style Caprice sofa and chair (ex-Habitat range). £400 ono. Tel H3154 or

**WOOD VENEERED** particle board computer desk, 40" long x 18" wide; pull-out keyboard shelf, excellent condition, £50. Tel :

**WANTED – OVEN** for fitted housing. Please phone , after 6pm.

## ACCOMMODATION

**ABINGDON,** room for let in large four bedroom detached house in a quiet location half a mile from town centre. Suit professional non-smoker. Off road parking, garden, all usual facilities, on Harwell bus route (50 metres away). £62.50 per week inclusive of bills (except telephone). Please phone day or eve.

**ABINGDON,** single room in comfortable house overlooking river Thames, 3 minute walk to town centre. Provisionally available for 6 months, no DSS, suit professional person. £65 a week, includes all bills (except phone). Tel:

**ABINGDON,** 5 bedroom, semi-detached house for rent, close to town centre. £750 pcm. Mrs Benham or Chancellors 01235 524505.

**ABINGDON,** room available in friendly home. Share all facilities with family and Rutherford worker. On Harwell bus route. Suit non-smoking lady. £36 per week (includes all bills).

**CHILTON,** large, comfortable, tidy furnished room to let. Use of all facilities. Available 1 Dec, £55 pw inclusive of bills (except telephone). Tel

**DIDCOT,** outskirts, room available Mon-Fri in detached house for non-smoking, friendly professional. Own bathroom and TV, off-road parking, 10 minutes walk from Didcot Parkway station and 2 mins from Harwell bus route. £55 per week inclusive (no telephone). Please call

**DIDCOT,** single room to let in modern, tidy flat with use of all amenities, sharing with one other non-

smoking person. Available weekdays (preferably), £50 per week inclusive of bills except telephone. Tel C3663 or

**DIDCOT,** 2 rooms to rent in detached property. All facilities, TV/ video/Sky, wash/dryer, conservatory. £40-55 per week all in (excl tel). Contact Ron 01235 510042 work or home.

**DRAYTON,** large pleasant bedsit room in detached village bungalow, own TV/video, shower, en-suite WC, entrance and parking. Share kitchen/diner, lovely gardens, all mod cons. Suit quiet non-smoking working lady. £55 per week (£240 pcm) inclusive. Tel

**WANTAGE,** large pleasant room to let. Share house with one other person. £65 incl (except telephone). Non-smoker preferred. 5 month short stay tenancy. Tel

**WANTAGE,** room to let in large house to share with two others. £165 per month plus share of bills. Tel or H2827.

## HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

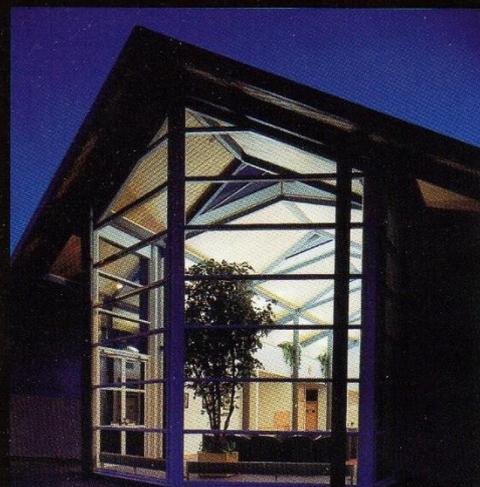
**CHATEL,** ski resort in French Alps, 80km from Geneva. Flat to rent, sleeps 5/6 people, fully equipped. Tel preferably after 6pm, email: @globalnet.co.uk

## NEW MEETING PLACE

As the NRPB training centre approaches its fourth birthday, this impressive facility is now available for use by those outside the organisation.

Perfect for training, meetings and other events, this striking building provides 500m<sup>2</sup> of dedicated accommodation with a light and attractive glazed atrium. The lecture theatre seats 100 in a tiered seating plan and there are three syndicate rooms which can be combined if required, all being temperature controlled and equipped with video projection systems for PC, video and off-air TV production. These rooms lead off the large and airy atrium where delegates take their lunch and refreshments.

Room hire charges are very competitive and are fully inclusive of all audio-visual equipment and teaching aids. Further information can be found under the 'services' page on NRPB's web site – <http://www.nrpb.org.uk>, or call the training centre services desk on 01235 822701 or by e-mail: [training@nrpb.org.uk](mailto:training@nrpb.org.uk).



Unusual and attractive venue for hire

# Investing in Harwell

**A** major renovation of the radiation pond in building 466 at the former reactor site, is nearing completion. REVISS Services (UK) Ltd, an Amersham International joint venture company, operates its multi-million dollar – and multi-million curie – business from Harwell and has achieved spectacular growth, tripling its market share in the past five years to become the world's second largest supplier of cobalt-60.

"When finished, the pond will be used as a showcase to demonstrate our wet storage irradiation capabilities to existing and potential customers" explains operations manager, Dick Rees. "We are investing in the site and have also taken a four-year lease on B580 which is being used for storing ancillary equipment."

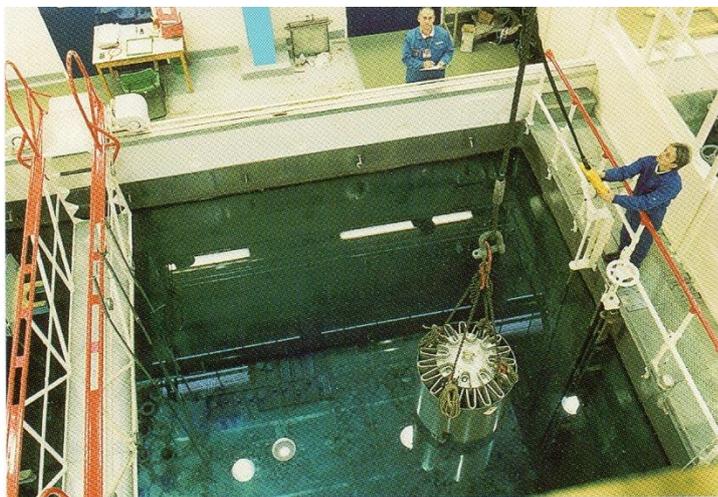
Revis has established the brand name PURIDEC™ as a leading supplier of cobalt-60 for industrial irradiation plants which deal mainly with sterilization of various products. When the supply of cobalt from DIDO and PLUTO was terminated in 1990, a new supplier was identified in Russia and a collaboration with P A Mayak was formed. Today Revis, with its partner Nukem Nuclear, offers a menu of complementary services including the design and installa-

tion of dry and wet storage plant, computerised control systems and specialist training.

With customers in over 30 countries, the company has recognised an emerging market in the Far East where low cost manufacture of medical products has generated demand for sterilization facilities close at hand.

"Irradiation is applied to all manner of items" says Martin Comben, Puridec's European account manager. "More unusual examples include golf clubs and window frames soaked in resin and irradiated to add strength. The strict quarantine laws in Australia call for beehives and stuffed animals to be treated.

"One of our pioneering projects involved the irradiation of liquid latex which causes it to 'cross-link' and eliminates the need for chemical additives



REVISS operations engineers, Graham Benning (left) and Dave Gilbert lowering cobalt-60 sources into the 20 foot deep pond.

which can provoke allergic reactions. This continuous irradiation process is unique to Revis and has important implications for health protection products including surgical gloves, teats and condoms."

Seven staff are employed at Harwell and a further 20 at the Chesham offices, most are ex-Amersham employees with many years' experience. The company also has the support of far larger organisations; over 1,000 work in P A Mayak's isotope production unit and around 3,500 at Amersham International.

The company has links with other Harwell tenants, principally AEA Technology's specialist import and export network and its radiation protection advisors. The latest Revis initiative with AEAT is the manufacture of a Revis cobalt-60 source design now being made in B220.

**R** Russian  
**E** English  
**V** Venture  
**I** Isotope  
**S** Supply  
**S** Service

## 'Jeans for Genes Day'



UKAEA personnel department at Culham need very little excuse for dressing up, but it was all in a good cause as £240 was raised with a raffle in the foyer of building E4. The group, which also raised a few eyebrows, are (l-r) Debbie Brooks, Jackie Allmond, Miriam Mason, Jenny Gibbard, Iris Jessett and Carolyn Bird.

**S**taff throughout Culham and Harwell had that end of term feeling when they swapped their business suits for blue denim to raise money for research into genetic disorders affecting children.

Called 'Jeans for Genes Day' the national appeal was repeated following its huge success in 1996 when £850,000 was raised. Anyone could take part by giving £1 to wear their jeans on Friday 10 October. In England alone, 20,000 babies are born every year with a genetic or congenital disorder. As well as funding research, some of the national £2 million target will provide valuable family support services.

Emma-Jane Taylor, who works in DNO Finance at UKAEA's Windscale site, coordinated much of the fundraising. Katy, her daughter, has Down's syndrome and she was keen to support the event after

reading about it in an Early Learning Centre magazine.

"Our current total is £1,174, but the money is still coming in" says Emma-Jane. "I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part or gave a donation."

Fundraisers showed their initiative by fining people for not donning denim. Others, like Helen Gilmour, John Baxter's secretary, were paid considerable sums not to wear their jeans. AEA Technology's Cathy Wright who works in B329 said there was a very positive response from staff and everyone contributed even though they had a variety of excuses for not dressing up.

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Editor: Valerie Judd.

Tel. (01865) 331153 Fax. (01865) 331154.

Designed and produced by: The Imaging Centre, Harwell.

Your contact is: Culham/Harwell PR manager, Nick Hance, RM1-72, 521 Harwell. Tel. (01235) 436909 Fax. (01235) 436899

Copy can be sent directly to the editor via e-mail: [vjpr@mail.globalnet.co.uk](mailto:vjpr@mail.globalnet.co.uk)