

# Bulletin

of the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

12 July 1982 No.10

## 25th Anniversary Celebrations





# INTERNAL Events

REMOTE SOUNDING SEMINARS  
R61 CONF ROOM - 1530 hrs

20 July Dr P H Moffat/RAL  
"Results from the LIMS  
Experiment on NIMBUS-7"

NIMROD LECTURES  
R61 CONF ROOM - 1400 hrs

19 July Dr Chris Hamer -  
to be announced

HEP SEMINARS  
R61 CONF ROOM - 1100 hrs

14 July Dr M Ibbotson/Manchester  
"New evidence for photo-  
production of F mesons

COMPUTING EXHIBITION  
COLLOQUIUM - 1230 to 1430 and  
1830 to 2100 hrs

14 July "Students Computing Project"

LECTURE THEATRE - 1400 hrs

21 July Prof D Soper/Oregon  
"Does the Drell-Yan Cross  
Section Factorise?"

28 July Dr B Combridge/RAL  
"Untangling large- $\rho_T$   
reactions"

## 25 Years

## at

## Chilton

*In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, two garden parties were held on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 June.*

*The Cosener's House, Abingdon, with its delightful grounds, mill stream and beautifully restored out-buildings provided a picturesque setting for the occasion and the rain usually associated with June garden parties, managed to hold off on both days. A photographic exhibition of the historical events and life of RAL through its quarter century proved a focus for nostalgic memories; much mirth and some ribald comments as guests recognised themselves and each other pictured in their 'young pioneering' days. (Not only Physics, but tailoring appears to have come a long way since then). The ladies rose to the occasion with style and panache, the hats were magnificent!*

*The front-page collage tries to give a flavour of the proceedings.*

*Top row:*

*left Myra and Fred Gilbert in conversation with Ron and Peggy Russell*

*right The milling throng!*

*Centre row: Directors past and present*

*left Dr Godfrey Stafford and his wife Goldie notice something of interest*

*centre (seated) Dr Gerry Pickavance accompanied by his wife Lal reminisce with Professor Sir John Gunn*

*right Dr Geoff Manning and his wife Anita (in white) receive their guests*

*Bottom row: Two newly honoured guests*

*left Leo Hobbis shares a joke with Trevor Hyman, Marianne Hyman (half hidden), Margaret Hobbis and Les Mullett (back view)*

*right Harry and Vera Aram*

*Leo was awarded an OBE and Harry an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List this year*



---

## Obituary

---

### Paul Nelson

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Paul Nelson on 30 May 1982.

Paul had been on the site for over 20 years. Initially he worked in the Computer Group at Harwell and very early on his career became interested in the field of computer graphics.

In 1963 he moved to the Atlas Computer Laboratory and helped to pioneer much of the graphical work at the laboratory. He also helped to choose the equipment at the laboratory subsequently used by a very wide community. It was at Paul's initiative that the SC4020 microfilm recorder was purchased in 1968 and during the mid-1970s he helped to choose and install the FR80. During this period he was a regular speaker at computer graphics and computer animation conferences throughout the world and was widely acknowledged as an expert in his field.

Last year Paul moved to the Electron Beam Lithography Group, Technology Division. His vast experience in computer graphics was greatly valued and he was able to influence the work of his new group immediately. At the time of his death he was working on the problem of using electron beam lithography machines to write uncommitted logic arrays - an extremely important field of application.

Paul brought many good qualities to all the work that he undertook perhaps most significantly a meticulous attention to detail. He was cheerful and pleasant to all around him and had an enormous number of good friends at the Laboratory.

He will be sadly missed but not forgotten by all of us privileged to know him and to work with him over the years.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family.

---

## Rutherglen Memorial Prize

The fund which was set up in memory of the late Professor J G Rutherglen is used to finance an annual award to a postgraduate student in experimental particle physics from one of the universities associated with the electron synchrotron NINA. The award for 1982 will be made to Mr Alexander R Bell of Lancaster University.

---

## Film Badge Notice

---

It is now Period 7 colour strip PURPLE. The next film issue is Monday 19 July. It will then be Period 8 colour strip RED.

## 'A' Level Computing Exhibition

A project has been running at RAL for the last three years to provide computing facilities for students studying computing at Wantage 6th form. In 1981 PRIME Computer Inc. generously donated equipment to enable us to provide a service, on a PRIME 400 computer, to students and teachers from 6th forms in Wantage, Abingdon, Didcot and Wallingford.

Students from these schools have been invited to demonstrate some of their 'A' level computing projects at RAL on July 14th. This Exhibition should provide a good opportunity for staff at RAL to gain some idea of the work involved in an 'A' level computing course and to talk to the students. All RAL staff are welcome to attend.

Some of the projects on display include:-

- 1) Mathematical Functions:- A suite of programs written in FORTRAN 77 to analyse and display user input functions.
- 2) Sixth Form Dating:- A good natured simulation with fully word processed output, using BASIC and RUNOFF.
- 3) Animation by computer:- The user provides every tenth frame and the computer fills in the rest, using BASIC and GINO.
- 4) Mailing System:- A complete system for the mailing list for Lains Barn. Implemented on a micro.
- 5) Graphics:- A set of computer generated drawings.
- 6) A slide show to present the history and present state of development of the schools computing project.
- 7) A hardware board for the Apple Computer.

The exhibition will be held in the Colloquium of R27 between 12.30 and 14.30 and between 18.30 and 21.00 on Wednesday July 14. OK.

## Holiday Offers

Thomas Cook in Reading are offering RAL staff a 5% reduction on the cost of some holidays. Twenty-six tour companies are involved, so you may easily find one to suit your requirements. For information please contact Bob Wilkinson on Windsor 51199.

## From Jim Foster

Thanks to all my friends for the generous farewell gift and the flowers for my wife. Cheerio to all those I failed to see before I left. We hope to see some of them later in Devon (as PGs)!

## I have not brought my specs

It must be 3 years at least since I came across Verowire. It was just what a lazy erk like me wanted. A method to wire circuit boards that was simple, very quick and required little effort. The outlay for the basic bits is under £10 and can be done on any 0.1" pitch board.

My enthusiasm was greeted with laughs and jeers and cris of "It'll never work". My colleagues contempt was replaced by mild curiosity when after 2 days in the drawing office (I'm sure circuits drawn up neatly work better than some peoples untidy scribbles) and a couple of hours board wiring gave birth to yet another working module.

Six months later Verowire was adopted as the standard system by that group and a large portion of the SNS Injector saw it.

I find people fall into 3 groups. Sceptics (don't want to know) Wildly enthusiastic (lazy as I am) Can't see it mate (bifocals elsewhere)

If you are not in the first group give me a ring for a chat and a demo, its better than working.

## Crib Evening

The yearly Crib Evening was held on May 14th. This year 40 people entered and the Pairs and Singles were each divided into four leagues. The winners of each league had a play off as a Semi-Final and then the Final rounds. The Singles league was won by J Peurling who beat Mrs A Forster and the Pairs league was won by G Brown and M Selley.

An enjoyable evening was had by all. I would like to thank the two ladies from the Restaurant for all they did to make it a good evening.

Tudor Morgan

## Darts

Mr A Forster has tried quite a few times to run a Darts Evening on site but so far he has not had much response.

The Indoor Sports Darts was won by R18 Workshop.

The SERC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory entered a darts team in the Southern Area Civil Service and again this year reached the Final held in Basingstoke, which they won. This now takes them through to the Civil Service All England Final to be played off at a later date. The team was:-

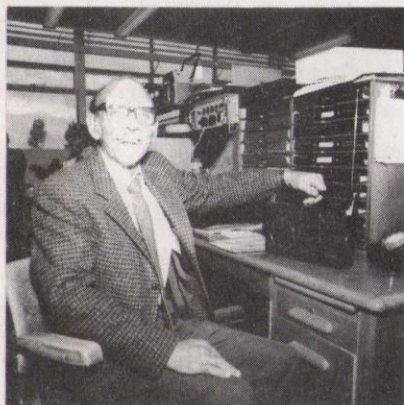
A Forster (Capt.), R Wyatt, K Biles, P C Angell and T Morgan.



## Is There Life After RAL?

If our latest three retiring colleagues are typical, then the answer is definitely yes, as we found out at the farewell gatherings organised by colleagues to mark their departures.

### Tony



82RC 3180

Tony Morris' presentation took place on Friday 18 June in the R18 Electronics workshop, where Peter Wilde extolled Tony's many virtues, and in the process gave us a glimpse of the interesting life and hobbies that Tony had followed.

In the late 30s and early 40s Tony was a Technical Assistant at EMI researching into (amongst other things) early television development. He then spent 3 years in the Navy as a radar mechanic, and then seemed to lose the urge for electronics, for the following 17 years he devoted to pig breeding. In 1962 he went back to electronics and joined Rutherford where his work has been much valued, especially in the last few years when he has been tremendously successful at ferreting out large quantities of essential components very difficult to find.

Alongside these official duties he has operated a fishing boat out of Selsey, and bred border canaries. The latter hobby has brought him many trophies. He is an acknowledged expert and has been in the England team.

As Peter said he presented Tony with the traditional leaving card and a transistor radio from all his colleagues "We are sorry to say goodbye, you will be missed as a workmate and friend. However you will now be able to concentrate on your latest successful activity and breed bigger and better canaries".

In reply Tony thanked Peter for his kind words, they made him feel better about leaving. "After twenty years, colleagues become closer and its like leaving family, which is strange as at my first visit to Chilton I felt very depressed. The site almost finished me off. But the people made it all worthwhile. Thank you very very much for all your friendliness, especially the production ladies", he concluded.

### Charlie



82RC 3400

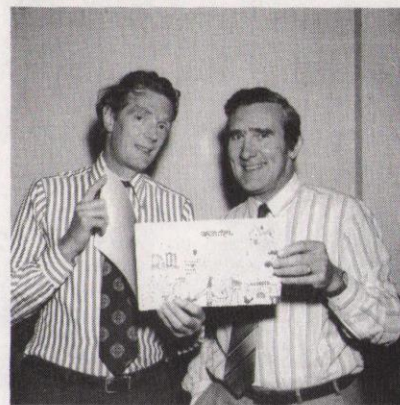
Charlie Halliday, when he left us on Monday 28 June had the distinction of being the 2nd longest serving member of staff on site. As he said, he had known the PLA when it was a hole in the ground.

Now an entirely new career has opened up for him and he is going back to being a student for a year before he takes up a teaching post. His hope is to pass on the benefits of his experience at RAL, to children, in due course.

Ron Newport, with whom Charlie had worked for the past ten years, presented him with a pair of binoculars on behalf of all Charlie's friends and colleagues. He had mostly worked on cryogenics during that time, a thorough, careful, perfectionist, said Ron. As a member of the Rapid cycling bubble chamber he had done an excellent job of work. He would be very much missed, and everyone wished him the very best of luck in his new career.

Charlie thanked Ron for his kind words and everyone for the present. He would especially like to thank three colleagues for their influence on his life at RAL; Mike Russell, Wally Walford and Ted Micklewright. To everyone else, he also gave his thanks and wished them all well for the future.

### Jim



82RC 3402

Jim Foster, the last of our trio to depart, had his farewell ceremony in R12 Conference Room on Wednesday 30 June.

He is off to Devon to live in a beautiful farmhouse with 3 acres and a stream, to indulge in providing B & B for us less fortunate mortals. As he also sails, gardens, and is going through a camera craze at the moment, one feels his wife is going to be busy.

Jim started his working career at Sheerness dockyard with Fred Gilbert as an instructor. Later he met Norman Venn on a degree course and eventually worked with him on various Nimrod projects. He also worked with Paul Williams on the Saclay bubble chamber, hence, according to Gordon Walker his unrecognisable French! He then joined ERSU, and has lived happily thereafter. This last statement also according to Gordon Walker, who presented Jim with a very exotic barbeque on behalf of all present.

"We wish you bon voyage," concluded Gordon, "thanks for your great contribution to the work of the Lab. We are sure you'll enjoy your new life and we're most envious."

Jim in reply said that he would like to dispel the rumour that he was leaving because he hadn't been invited to the Garden Party! He put it down to an unwritten rule that no two people in the Lab should have the same name; one of the David Gray's had had to go and now another Jim Foster had arrived with Appleton, so after 25 years he had volunteered to go too. He had, he said, enjoyed his life at RAL; had fun at Saclay; enjoyed the Energy Unit on Wave machines, windmills and heat pumps, and had enjoyed friends here, at the universities and in industry. There had always been something to learn.

"Thank you all for coming to see me off, and thanks for the present - it's just what I wanted" he finished amid applause.

Editor: Jean Banford  
Building R20  
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory  
Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0QX  
Abingdon (0235) 21900 ext 484

Deadline for insertions:

# Bulletin