



CONTACT

MAY, 1982





A world-travelled writer

Globe-trotting journalist, Doug Booth joined the Public Relations group late last month.

Doug comes to the Commission from New Zealand, where he spent two and a half years. He was born in Yorkshire, England.

His first steps into journalism were in England where he worked in Leeds, Northampton, London

and Shropshire before emigrating to Kiwiland in 1979.

"It's great to be working in a big organisation," said Doug who will marry an Australian in October.

His main interests are sporting (England's world cup soccer fortunes in Spain next month will be closely followed) although he has been known to tread the amateur theatre stage as well.

Monash House arts festival gearing up

KID'S KAPERS

MONASH HOUSE SOCIAL CLUB ARTS FESTIVAL



Planning for the ninth annual Monash House Arts Festival to be held in August is getting into full swing.

The festival provides many opportunities for exhibitors to display their talent, with the emphasis on painting, photography and craft.

The popular photography section, with categories for black and white prints and color salon prints, will again feature some fine displays. There will also be a separate 35 mm slide section.

The easy to enter snapshot competition will be available again

this year for standard size photographs, with no enlargements cropping, or special treatment, and entries can be black and white or color.

The four categories are:-

- Moment of life — something out of the ordinary.
- Texture and design.
- Animal portrait.
- People portrait.

There will be a \$20 prize for the winner in each category and a \$10 prize for the runners up. In addition, an overall winner will be presented with the Sir Willis Connolly trophy donated by Kodak.

Entrants can enter a maximum of four prints and any photo may be placed in more than one category.

Other features of the festival will include performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's Princess Ida in the Monash House auditorium on selected days with lunchtime and some evening performances. There will also be organ recitals in the

gallery, karate demonstrations and a slide show with a taped commentary.

The very popular "Kids Kapers" will feature all the sections which have made it such a success in the past two years.

This includes a Wilbur the Ant colouring competition and model, craft and drawing competitions.

The competitions are divided into four age groups up to the age of 15 and no entrant may submit more than one entry in each of the model, craft and drawing categories.

Models should be restricted to 37.5 cm by 50 cm by 50 cm in size.

Entries for the coloring competition close on June 11.

A Monash House open day will be held on Sunday, August 8. A magician will entertain the kids and the winners of the coloring competition and the arts and crafts competition will be announced. More than 400 attended the open day last year, and organisers expect an increase on that figure this year.

Further details will be available in the next two issues of Contact.

CONTACT



Prepared by the L.V. Public Relations Group for Operations Group employees.
Editor: Pat Herley
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Cover

The Jenkins Family, Stella and Alan, light up their life in their Trafalgar home back-yard.

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WHOLLY SET UP AND PRINTED BY THE L.V. PRINTERS PTY. LTD., TRARALGON & MOE

Community can air views on access radio

The once popular song "Video Killed the Radio Star", would be doubtful of getting a lot of airplay if Paul Fearon (Hazelwood Reconstruction), Ken Thompson (Civil Works Morwell), and Rod McDonald (Training Centre Yallourn), have anything to do with it.

Paul, Ken and Rod, as members of the 3GCR-FM board of directors, would strongly deny any suggestion that video would do any such thing.

Not that they claim to be stars, but for a community access station such as 3GCR-FM, people and contributors are what make it work. Any potential stars are welcome to try out their "style" as long as they have a general interest to share. Station secretary/treasurer Ken Thompson emphasises the community aspect of the station.

"3GCR-FM is completely run by volunteers and is funded by members of the local community," he said. "We encourage individual community groups to assist the station with program production and not merely to use it as an avenue for advertising coming events."

Paul Fearon, the board's chairman said the station's aim was to compliment existing commercial and national broadcast content.

"We aim to supplement existing listening with what we see as a viable alternative in terms of high Australian and local content. Community access is just that — members of the community contributing to the benefit of all listeners.

"We have three ethnic programs covering Italian, Greek and Maltese communities, as well as programs featuring such diverse areas as current affairs, rock music, Australian writers and classical music.

"There's a bit there for everyone, and the more people involved the better."

The station originally broadcast from the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education when it went to air in November 1977.

However, many changes have taken place since then with the installation of a micro-wave link at Hernes Oak and the studio being relocated to the Churchill shopping centre.

The station still transmits on 103.5 MHz and operates from 6 pm to midnight Monday to Thursday, 6 pm till 3 am on Friday, from 2 pm till 1 am Saturday, and 2 pm till midnight on Sunday. These times will be extended in the future.

Funding for the station is provided by individual shareholders, sponsor-



ship from local businesses, and Government grants.

Individuals and groups are encouraged to become shareholders at a cost of \$15 and \$25 respectively. Of this, \$5 represents five shares and the balance is the annual subscription.

Under the station's licence, 3GCR-FM is prohibited from advertising goods or services for sale. However, the station is able to acknowledge businesses as sponsors for as little as \$150 a year.

Marketing manager Rod McDonald said the station provided groups and individuals with the opportunity to use their imagination and originality in a team situation.

"Anyone seeking a challenge will certainly find it in a variety of roles at the station," he said.

"With a wide variety to choose from in such areas as announcing, programming, promotion, and production, it can be as rewarding as any other hobby."

Among the many Commission personnel actively involved in the station are Mike Answerth (Acting

Personnel Development Training Officer) who hosts "Football on Friday" including both interviews and previews; John Pace (Yallourn Power Station) hosts the Maltese show; and Warren Knight from Morwell Power compiles an interesting combination of gardening and the best of Aussie rock music in "Rock Garden".

Paul Fearon said the station was now gaining considerable credibility.

"From 1981 till the present, the station has increased its position to one of real strength," he said. "In that time we have become an effective broadcast medium.

The station's area of primary reception stretches from Drouin to Sale with Erica in the north and Mirboo North in the south able to tune in. Planned equipment updates, will eventually increase this range.

Above: Geoff Ryan (Commercial Officer Loy Yang Construction), Paul Fearon, Mike Answerth, Ken Thompson and Rod McDonald, in the studio of 3GCR-FM at Churchill shopping centre.

REGULATIONS AID SAFETY

The Motor Traffic Act and its associated regulations are designed to provide a system of safe motoring for all road users.

In an effort to further encourage a safety conscious attitude on the road, there is a system of penalties, the dreaded "blueys", which makes non-compliance, at the very least, financially painful.

The Commission actively encourages a similar safety conscious attitude.

However, all too often drivers adopt the approach — "It couldn't happen to me, I'm a good driver."

This may be the case, but the accompanying complacency fails to keep a driver alert for the mistakes that others on the road can and do make.

With this premium on safety in mind, the Commission established a set of regulations under the State Electricity Commission Act of 1958.

The State Electricity Commission (Latrobe Valley) Works Protection Regulations (1979) cover not only the use of vehicles within Commission works areas, but also all activities where safety of personnel

(Continued Page 14)

How Hunt the hunter was almost the hunted

We've all heard stories about the one that got away, but Les Hunt (Training and Development Officer) has probably got the daddy of all fishing stories about "the one . . .".

Les, Denis McGrath (Monash House) and another friend, Paul Hughes, were taking part in the Victorian Game Fishing Club's tournament at Bermagui. They'd been putting in 11½ hours each day for five days with not a lot of luck.

"On the sixth day we were sitting about 15 miles out to sea on the New Zealand side of Montague Island and were dropping a bit of rubbish around to encourage some action," Les said.

"We had three rods out and a larger rod with a 24 kilo line on which we were each taking a half-hour shift. Two of the rods had live yakkas on them, one had a lump of stripey tuna and the 24 kilo line had a live 3.5 kilo stripey tuna.

"At 3.31 pm the 24 kilo line took off. Paul made a dive for it but being one minute after the half hour, it was my turn so I took it. We let this thing run for about 100 metres at a pretty rapid rate and then pulled the reel into gear, the hook went in but the reel didn't change pace until the whole lot went slack.

"About one minute later, the 15 kilo line with the lump of stripey tuna also took off and the 24 kilo line again showed that it was still

attached to something large. You can imagine the panic with the thought of two big fish hooked from a not very large boat.

"The next thing we knew was seeing the biggest Mako shark any of us had ever seen leaping out of the water about two metres from the boat. In the heat of the moment, we estimated it had to be at least 3.5 metres long and around 200-240 kilos. It was really a little difficult to tell. It somersaulted and crashed back into the water throwing spray into the boat.

"At this point the two lines went a further 100 metres out the back of the boat. The Mako did another leap and tail-walked for about six seconds.

"It would had to have been one of the most magnificent sights I've ever seen.

"We then realised that both lines were hooked to the one fish. However, that didn't last long as the 24 kilo line broke, probable severed by the wire trace on the other line.

"The Mako took off again and peeled off about 700 metres and we decided we'd have to chase him. But the boat wouldn't start, and so we had two alternatives — either let him peel off all the line and go, or put in a call for help.

"Mind you, we didn't really know what we'd do with the help when it

arrived but there were a few boats in the area and so we radioed for assistance. We decided to transfer the angler into the other boat and they could chase the shark on the line. At the time, we weren't sure how the transfer would go.

"I mean, we're out on the high seas, we've got 200 odd kilos of fairly unhappy shark on the end of a 15 kilo line, and we've got a bloke in full game-fishing harness.

"Anyway, the transfer went smoothly enough and Denis went on to the other boat.

"Paul and I were left on our boat wondering what to do with the mechanical problem. We decided to swap the main fuel tank with the five gallon auxiliary fuel tank thinking there may have been some water or condensation in the connection. The motor started up and we went back to Bermagui.

"Denis fought the shark for 4½ hours without seeing it again and without making any real impression on it. At 8.15 pm the line broke. We considered it a bit of a blessing as the thought of trying to land a heavy, angry shark in pitch black with a wire trace was far from appealing."

Did Les get a photo of the shark?

"Well," he said, "We were a bit busy for that."

WELL WELL WELL!

Three pump wells situated in the basement of the 30 year-old Yallourn A turbine block have received a new lease of life.

New pumps are to be installed in the old wells to pump low quality water to Loy Yang, said Jim Webb, supervisor for civil works plant and transport.

Removal of the turbine block took place earlier this month using a low loader and a crane. Material was taken to the ash disposal pond where it will be eventually covered over.

Commission artwork on show

A collection of Commission-owned artworks on permanent loan to the Latrobe Valley Arts Centre is at present on exhibition at the Morwell Civic Centre.

The works include a bronze bust of the Commission's first chairman Sir John Monash by sculptor Paul Mountford, which stood in the Yallourn town square for many years.

Also in the collection are a number of paintings previously on display in the Yallourn library. These include an oil painting of Sydney Harbor by James Jackson, purchased by public subscription in honor of the foundation conductor of the Yallourn Madrical Singers, William Connolly, and the R. A. Hunt testimonial collection of water colors by John Luxton.

Mystery still surrounds the final piece in the collection — a small

marble bust of a young woman wearing a delicately carved bonnet.

Arts Centre Director, Prue McColl said she was keen to hear from anyone who may know the origin of the bust.

The collection is on display in the foyer of the civic centre.

For Sale

Australian Native plants. Grevilleas (large number of varieties). Melaleucas, acacias, hakeas, callistemons etc. Contact Ray Williams 73 6309, or 66 1306 (home).

Three ferrets — good workers \$5 each. Will sell separately. Phone Sid Osborne 3568.



AREA ADMINISTRATION

Throwing herself into judo

Dianne Lake has good reason to think that her life has more than its fair share of ups and downs — she even feels a bit tossed by it now and then.

But that's understandable, since Dianne's a blue belt judo competitor.

Dianne, an office assistant in the duplicating room, Area Administration, has recently returned from Perth where she came fifth in the 56-61 kilogram weight division of the Australian championships.

She was a little disappointed with the result.

"Fifth isn't too bad," she said, "But of course I would've liked to have done better.

"Most of my opponents had black belts which made it a little difficult, but it was excellent experience and gave me real incentive.

"Besides, there were five below me so I had a few wins."

Dianne has been involved with judo for a little more than four years and already has two Victorian championships under her belt. She also won the Gippsland championships earlier this year.

In 1980 she finished fourth in the Australian championships.

In the rough and tumble world of judo competition, bouts usually last seven minutes.

The winner is determined in several ways — involving either an "Ippon" or clean throw, where the opponent lands on the mat with no resistance, or a number of other throws using a combination of holds.

The Ippon throw results in an

The Hallyburtons have done it again.

Last year John (personnel) entered a competition in the Sunday Observer newspaper and won the family a Vulcan/Dishlex dishwasher worth \$550.

This year they entered a Sunday Press newspaper competition and have won a trip for two adults and two children to Hollywood.

The competition was run over three weeks, with a question concerning the film world asked each week.



outright win for the "thrower". In the other throws, one opponent must hold the other for thirty seconds. If held for that time, this also results in a win.

If neither a clean throw or a thirty second hold result, a winner is chosen on the highest number of throws executed. If a tie results, then a number of referees — two outside the mat and one actually on the mat — decide the winner.

Dianne, who trains with the Traralgon Judo Club, and another club member were sponsored to the Australian championships by the Traralgon police, who donated \$1000 to each, covering fares and accommodation.

Dianne said she was very grateful for the sponsorship and said she wouldn't have been able to attend the championships without it.

Dianne said she would be competing for her brown belt in the next four to five weeks.

A year after that should see her gaining her black belt.

A teams competition will be held in Melbourne in June, and Dianne sees them as an important step toward the national championships which will be held in South Australia next year.

Dianne puts Lisa Touhy from typing in an inescapable hold.

Hallyburtons heading to Hollywood

The first question was who played opposite Henry Fonda in "On Golden Pond"? Easy answer — Katherine Hepburn.

The second question asked for which other movie did Katherine Hepburn receive an Oscar? Another

easy answer — "Guess Who's Coming To Dinner".

The third one was a bit trickier. Who out of Richard Burton, Walter Brennan, Gary Cooper and Spencer Tracy has never won an Oscar?

John was all set to nominate Walter Brennan, but Jan his wife set him right with Richard Burton.

"I didn't believe her until I checked it up," he said. "But she was right.

"I guess we all contributed to the winning. I got two of the answers



COAL PRODUCTION

John's green fingers pay big dividends

John Bognar needn't worry too much about having a severe case of green fingers.

John, a foreman for the track gang, auxiliary operations in Morwell, recently received a cheque for \$300 for one of the best regional gardens in Victoria.

The annual competition run by the Housing Commission divides Victoria into four regions. The region won by John covers Drouin to the NSW/Victorian border. John said he didn't even know he was entered.

"My wife entered our garden unbeknown to me," he said. "The first thing I knew about it was when my wife told me a landscape architect would be arriving.

"He did, had a look at the garden and took a few photos.

"A while later we received a letter from the Minister for Housing telling us of our win.



"I concentrate mainly on shrubs and landscaped the whole garden myself. At the moment I'm putting up a big trellis, but the vines have yet to grow. I'm also planting the annual bulbs for next Spring. I also have a lot of vegetables and have kept the family supplied since we've been here."

John said he and his wife had

been living in the house for 16 years and the garden had changed its appearance a number of times.

"At the moment we're gearing up for the overall state prize of \$500, probably next year or the year after."

Above: John and his wife pictured in their award-winning garden.

Rescue squads ready to go

Morwell and Yallourn open cuts are in the process of fitting out their two newly-formed rescue squads.

The two six-man squads resulted from recommendations made by a steering committee formed in 1979. Applications were called for volunteers and after a short list was drawn up, final members were decided on.

Selection was based on expertise in a number of areas including rigging, first aid, fire fighting and the use of oxy-acetylene.

Training is presently being carried out at both Yallourn and Morwell, with members undergoing one half-day training session each month.

Each squad is presently building up their equipment with such items as auxiliary lighting plant, stretchers, first-aid items and equipment trailers.

Assistant Coal Production Superintendent (Morwell), Brian Ryan said that one rescue squad member would initially be available on each day shift.

"In the future this may be extended to cover a 24 hour/seven day shift," he said.

"On the present basis, if there is an emergency, the rescue squad member will be available at short notice. Each member of the team will have a paging device while on duty and this will provide rapid availability in the open cut."

Squad personnel for Morwell are Gary Campbell (captain), Alan Hayes, John McCafferty, Ian Holmes, Graeme Stevens and Bill Armstrong. In Yallourn, Roger Reeves will head up team members, Jack Buckley, Bert Young, Denis Boulton, Uberto Penco and Ken Patullo.

Ken and Joan tie the knot

Not only is Ken Patullo a member of the newly-formed Yallourn rescue squad, he also recently got married. Not that the two are necessarily linked, but with a little bit of urging from his work-mates, Ken and Joan Manicola finally tied the knot.

Ken's best friend and best man at the wedding, John Van Driesum,



said it took a lot of work and some loud talking in the Yallourn canteen where Joan worked to finally get Ken to talk to Joan. They had known each other for about two or three years at the time.

Ken and Joan were married in St. Brigid's Church, Yallourn North, last month, and on last report, were both settling into being a house-proud couple.



ENGINEERING SERVICES

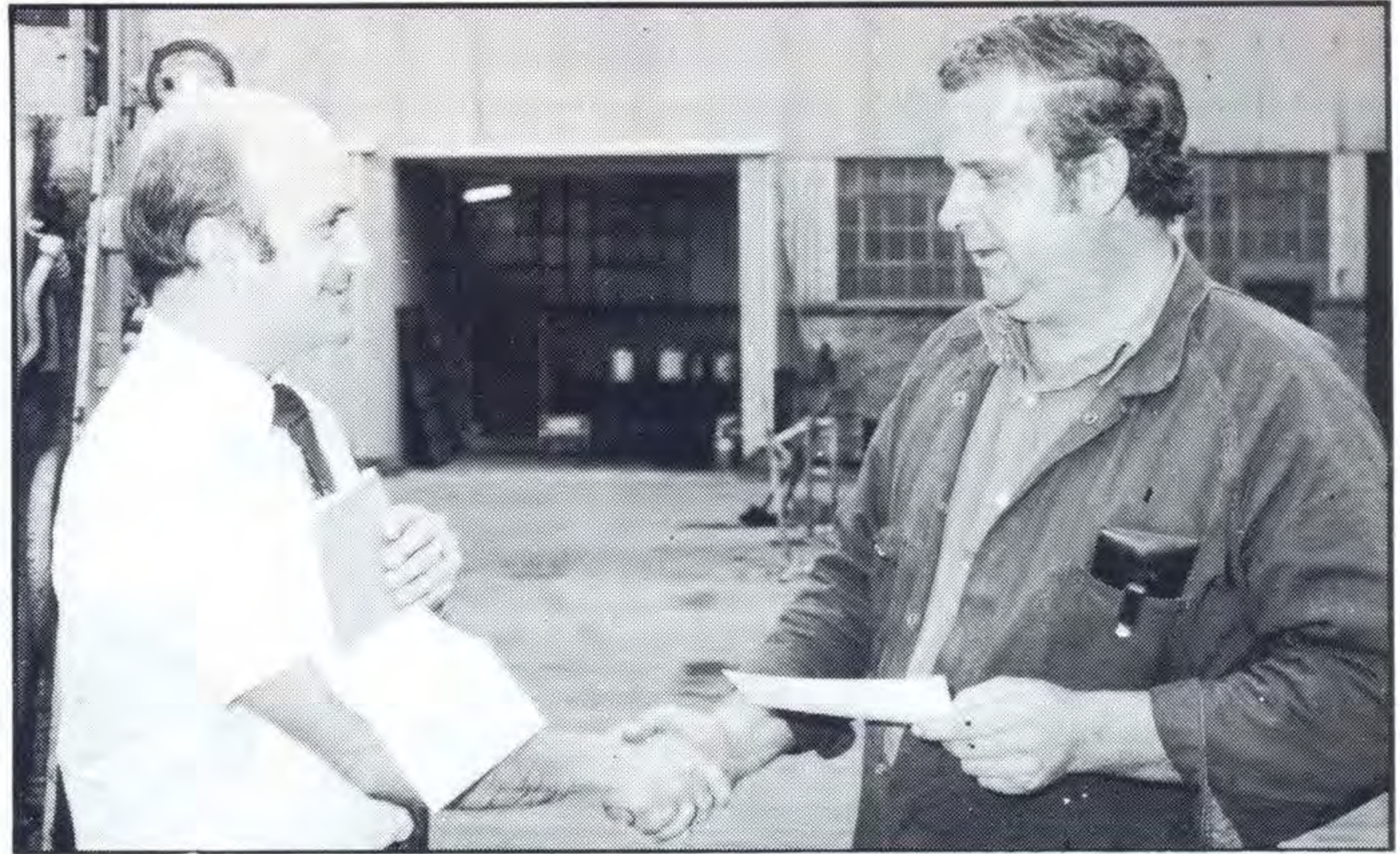
Super scoop leads to \$1000 award

When it comes to scooping the pool Elliot Batchelor knows all about it.

Elliot, a boilermaker at Yallourn Transport Workshops received a suggestion scheme award of \$1000 for improvements he made to the "frying pans" or scoops which retrieve material spilled from conveyor belts. The standard ones were cracking along the welds, and as Elliot said, they needed repairing every other week.

Elliot used pieces of high quality steel taken from old D4 dozer blades to weld a superior cutting edge onto the scoops. He then welded a length of heavy duty steel at an angle between the floor and side of the scoop, forming a reinforcing gusset.

The scoops empty their load backwards instead of forwards, so he also scalloped out the rear discharge hatch to allow for greater flow.



Elliot said that even though he was pleased with the award, it was really just a part of the job.

"There's always problems with the on-the-job-application of manufactured items," he said. "We might get a half million dollar piece of equipment in that needs half-a-dozen jobs done to it before it is practical to use in the open cut.

"What we try to do is to adapt things to suit the blokes who actually use it.

"All the theory in the world can't take into account what actually happens when a piece of equipment is put to work in the field.

"That's the good thing about working in the transport workshops — there's always the opportunity to improve on things. It's just a matter of looking around."

Above: Peter Elliot presents Elliot Batchelor with his cheque.

Fourth ash pond complete

The biggest ash pond ever built to serve Morwell and Hazelwood Power Stations is completed.

Number four ash pond, built on the south side of Morwell power station between the overburden dump and the station, is needed because existing ponds are either full or nearing capacity.

It will form part of the integrated saline waste system which will eventually convey waste water from all the power stations in the Latrobe Valley, including Loy Yang A, to the ocean outfall at McGaurans Beach.

The new ash pond, built by Thiess Bros. at a cost of \$20 million, has a capacity of four million cubic metres of ash and a life expectancy of eight years. It has taken eighteen months to complete.

Situated two kilometres from Hazelwood, the pond will take ash from both Morwell and Hazelwood when it comes into service.

Civil Services Engineer, Max Williamson said the new ash pond was necessary because the existing ash ponds were situated on top of the overburden dump and another layer of overburden has to be spread there soon.

The ash, from the boiler combustion process, will travel in style to the new pond which is 20 metres deep.

A network of pipes will carry the water-borne ash from the power station precipitators to the pond.

Contractors, Thiess Bros., built the large ash pond at Loy Yang which has been planned to take ash throughout the station's 40-year life expectancy.

Project engineer, Rob Stewart, was also involved with the Loy Yang project on the SEC's behalf.

Material for the construction of the pond's embankment was obtained both on-site and from overburden especially taken from the west side of Morwell open cut.

This overburden was to have been removed anyway so it was specially trucked in for the embankment construction.

LIGHTS LIVE ON

Stopping and starting could get to be a way of life in the Jenkins' household since Alan (foreman Yallourn workshops) bought his new set of lights.

They're not your ordinary set of lights, mind you, but one set of the old Yallourn traffic lights from Eastern Road.

They're the only ones in captivity, being the first and only set in Yallourn's lifetime.

Alan has wired them up in his Trafalgar home backyard and they are fully operational, lighting up his fish-pond. Both he and his neighbor's youngsters have put them to great use for starting BMX races.

Alan is pretty pleased with his unique acquisition.

"I wanted something from Yallourn before it disappeared, so I bought the lights from salvage," he said.

"They are the old style of lights, with 'stop' written into the red. Later lights just have the red lens."

With his preference for things "antique", Alan is now looking around for an old style red phone-box. It's use? Well we won't mention that.

A GLASS GLIMPSE OF THE PAST



Above: The staff of the National Bank in Yallourn with J. P. Campbell (far right) who is believed to have taken most of the photos on these pages. "J. P." was chief clerk at the main office (Yallourn) from the beginning of the Commission.

Below: The old Yallourn A power station. Things haven't changed much since then, although in the late 1920s it was the newest source of power in the state.



The services group of the drawing office, Yallourn is at present undertaking a massive historical reconstruction of the early days of Yallourn.

They are transferring about 800 old glass negatives taken in the late 1920's onto soft negatives which will be catalogued and cross-referenced both by subject and on a chronological basis.

Services group section leader, Kevin Goldie said that once the glass negatives were recorded on soft negative, there was no chance of losing the glass negative image through the emulsion breaking down.

Commission photographer, Jack Hinshelwood, at work re-photographing the glass negatives onto soft film with the Polaroid MP4 universal vertical studio camera.

Kevin said it would also enable history to be accurately recorded and the glass negatives could then be archived as important and valuable historical items.

"Only recently a number of these types of negatives were auctioned in Brisbane and they brought an astounding price," he said.

"By re-photographing them onto soft film, we can store them and preserve them as a visual history of early Yallourn days. Being only about 1.5 mm thick, they are extremely fragile — not the sort of thing to leave lying around."

The glass negatives vary in size — 10 by 10 cm, 12.5 by 17.5 cm, and 20 by 15 cm — and were taken on an old 21.25 cm by 16.25 cm Graflex view camera — perhaps one of the earliest examples of what is now the single lens reflex camera.

The negatives were pre-treated optically flat glass which were carried around on a bicycle by the photographer in those days, who is believed to have been one J. P. Campbell. He carried a bag containing about 12 negatives in frames — each weighing almost half a kilo.

On the back of his bicycle he carried his camera and all manner of paraphernalia. Over the years, he produced about 800 negatives which have now become an important part of the early history of Yallourn.

Right: The turbine room of the old Yallourn A station with an unidentified worker.



Above: The old method of time exposure photography is apparent with the different light sources. Note the overexposure through the open windows in the Yallourn transport workshop. This photo dates back to the late 1920s/early 1930s.



Above: Very early days in the Yallourn Brown Coal Mine (Yallourn North), when horsepower and manpower meant exactly what it said. This photo was taken around 1923.





Hazelwood half-life refit begins

Contractors have moved into a specially-created reconstruction zone to begin the half-life refit of unit two at Hazelwood power station.

Unit two is the first of three older Hazelwood units to be reconstructed in a program scheduled for completion for the winter of 1983.

Unions affiliated with the Gippsland Trades and Labor Council have agreed that contract labor be used in this instance for the reconstruction of units one, two and four boilers, while Commission day labor will undertake reconstruction work on the turbines.

The contract workforce will progressively build up to around 400. About 70 Commission employees will be involved in the project.

Reconstruction manager Tom Davey said number two boiler had undergone a normal clean and its operational aspects had been checked out before it had been made available to contractors.

Major on-site contractors are Babcock Australia, who are working

on the boiler, Simon Carves on the precipitator and Kent Instruments who are upgrading the boiler automatic control.

Tenders have been called for unit two chimney repairs and stack shell structural improvements which will be carried out during the present outage.

The reconstruction zone which runs virtually throughout the boiler basement, has been identified by blue lines, signs and notices.

Work on the boiler includes —

- Total replacement of economiser tubing.
- Redesign and replacement of the primary superheater elements.
- Addition of a high temperature economiser at the top of the combustion chamber.
- Replacement of all sloping wall tubes on the furnace hopper.
- Replacement of small valves and drain pipes.
- Complete replacement of the internal electrode system on

the electrostatic dust precipitator (which will significantly improve control of emissions from the station).

Turbine reconstruction by the Commission maintenance workforce includes —

- Installation of new steam sealed gland systems.
- Installation of new hydrogen seals on the generator.
- Removal of the turbine cylinders to the Central Workshops for machining repairs and then re-installation.
- Governor gear modifications, and installations of an additional turbine supervisory instrumentation system.

Repairs to the turbine blading system and inspection of the generator rotor will also be carried out.

Reconstruction work on unit two is expected to take 18 weeks followed by one week of re-commissioning.

Work on unit one will then proceed, followed by similar work on unit four.

Model engineers steam along

“Success through steamwork,” could be the motto of a small but enthusiastic group of model engineers in the Latrobe Valley.

The Latrobe Valley branch of the Melbourne Society of Model and Experimental Engineers was formed in 1980 and now has between 15 and 18 members, with the word still spreading.

The interest of members is diverse, but all have a common interest in steam, and typically, steam locomotives.

A number of interesting projects are currently being undertaken by members.

Albert Reid, a foreman at Yallourn Workshops is one of the

more prolific modellers. He has a number of locos, ranging from 70 mm gauge right up to 150 mm gauge.

The well known “Puffing Billy” features in the 120 mm class and Albert is presently constructing a model of it.

Power Generation Manager, Don Clark is the president of the Morwell Branch of the MSMEE.

Don said the hobby was most absorbing, since it covered not only the coachwork side of building, but also highlighted boiler construction, especially when it came to “firing up”.

“While a number of locos are at the early chassis stage a few have reached the point of completing the chassis and commencing the boiler,” Don said.

“Our branch has got to the stage where we are looking to establish a track of our own.

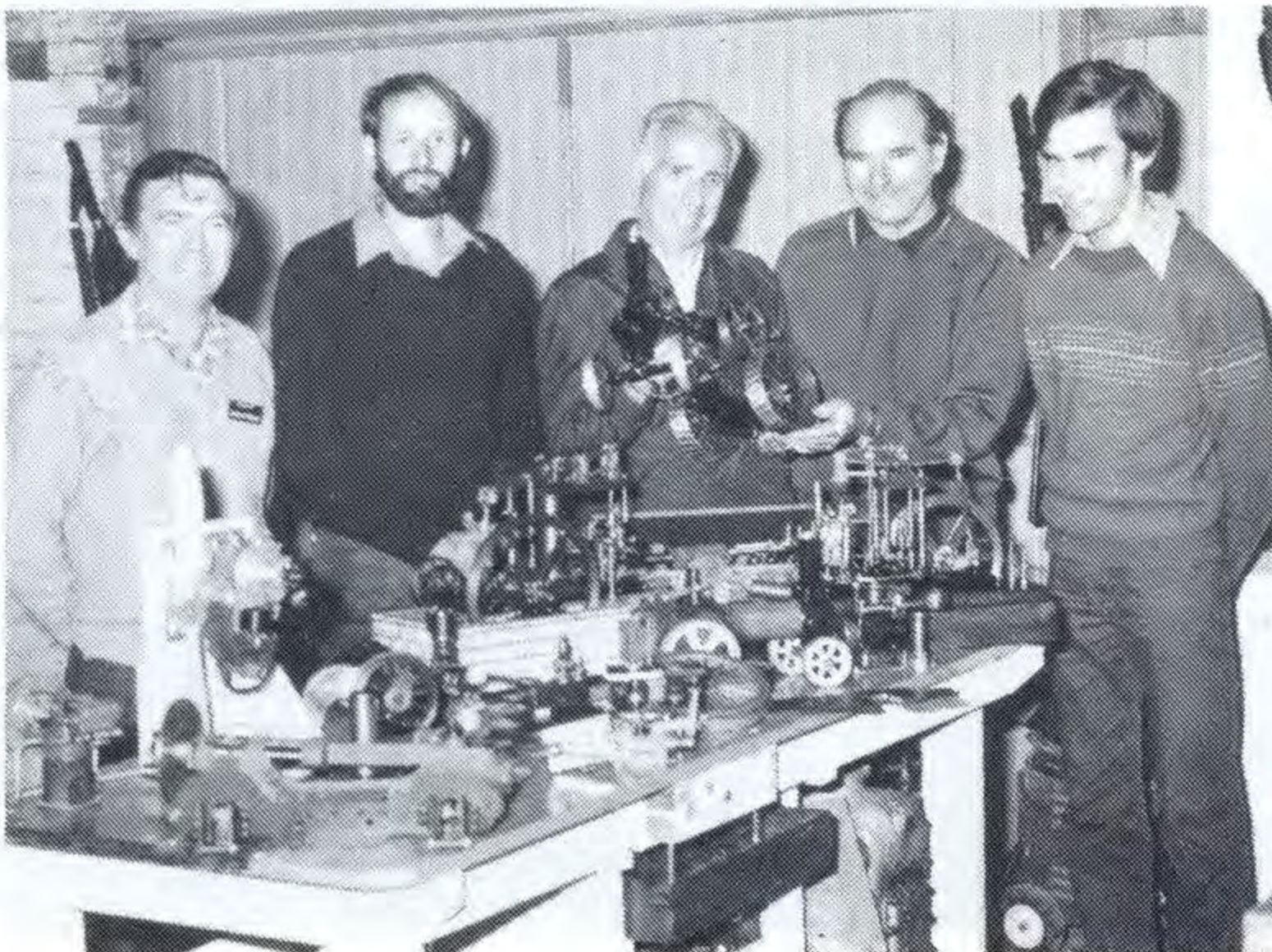
“Members have been on the look-out for appropriate locations and some preliminary approaches have been made to the local council.”

The present branch is not, however, the first group of steam power enthusiasts to join forces in the Valley. Back in the early 50’s a column in a popular model engineering magazine briefly referred to a Morwell club being formed.

None of our current membership is aware of what happened to this early group so we can only assume sufficient numbers of interested people did not exist to support an active club at the time,” Don said.

The current branch was established thanks to the efforts of Noel Haywood, Ron Dubber, Dick Donchi, (mechanical maintenance engineer, Hazelwood), Albert Reed and others.

Martin Yendall, Michael Young, Albert Reed, Don Clarke and Peter Clarke with some of their fully-operational steam engines.



(Continued on Page 14)



TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS

Duke of Edinburgh award to David

After three years of hikes, bush survival, community services and a little hand-to-hand combat thrown in for good measure, David Payne has been awarded his gold medallion in the Duke of Edinburgh's award in Victoria.

David, 18, a first year apprentice electrical mechanic was awarded the medal by apprentice training officer Chris Banfield last month at a small ceremony in the electrical training annexe at the old Kernot Hall.

David was accepted for the scheme in 1979 while he was a student at St. Anne's and Gippsland Grammar School in Sale.

David has already been awarded his bronze and silver medals. He explained that three years is usually the minimum time in which a participant in the scheme takes to reach the gold medal standard.

"The scheme involves completing various sections, including community service and physical activities," he said. "The bronze and silver medals involve mostly group work, however the gold medal is an



individual effort."

David was extensively involved with the Sale 1st division team in Latrobe Valley soccer for his physical requirement, and took up archery as a personal interest, another requirement of the scheme. He also devoted a considerable amount of time to assisting an elderly lady during his final 12 months.

A more demanding task was a 5-day hike from Tamboritha to Glenmaggie where David covered some 30 kilometres each day. When finished, he had to submit a day by day log.

David said there were many other

requirements over the last three years leading to his gold award.

"There were so many I can't remember them all," he said. "But in the long run I'm glad I stuck it out — it's a real sense of achievement."

David has yet to be awarded his gold certificate. This probably won't take place until Prince Phillip is next in Australia.

David's twin brother, John who works with Esso at Longford also received his gold medallion recently.

Apprentice training officer, Chris Banfield presents David with his gold medallion.

Big scouts from little acorns

On the tree of success, acorns are a big achievement.

That particularly applies to the scouting business where the silver acorn award is the third highest medal of honor.

Max Grubb, overseer Stations Section, Yallourn was recently presented with the silver acorn by State Governor Rear-Admiral Sir Brian Murray in a ceremony at Gembrook.

Max has been extensively involved with the scouting movement for 42 years, much of that time being spent in the Latrobe Valley.

Max's first contact with scouting came when he was eight years old when he joined the Ballarat scouts in 1940. Twelve years later he was warranted as an assistant cub leader and in 1955 he became a rover leader.

In 1964 Max was transferred from the Captain Hurley rover crew to the 1st Newborough group, McDonald district.

Max's previous awards included the Medal of Merit from which the next step would've been the Medal plus Bar.

"I guess you could say they skipped one," Max said. "I was really excited as it came like a bolt out of the blue. I didn't know anything about it until the letter arrived from the Governor-General Sir Zelman Cowan telling me I'd been awarded the Silver Acorn.

"A citation was read out at the presentation which included why the award was made. I hardly heard a word of it I was so nervous."

Max's wife Helen, who has had 32 years with the scouts, was



awarded the Medal of Merit in 1978.

Max is presently the district commissioner for scouting.

Club Notes ..

Morwell Briquette and Power Social Club

Morwell Briquette and Power social club's April social was held on the 16th in Kernot Hall. More than 400 people turned up for the night which featured two bands, "Dusk Till Dawn" and "Pyramid".

The smorgasbord supper was first class with pork, chicken, ham and a "tower" of the biggest prawns ever seen. When shelled, these little beauties were still easily 12 centimetres long. It was definitely a case of "first in best dressed" as the queue didn't get any shorter for quite some time.

Club secretary Bill Barnes said it was a most successful evening.

"We got a really good roll up and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves," he said.

"It was the first big function of the year and its success indicates a very good year for the club."

Hazelwood Power Station Social Club

Hazelwood Power Station Social Club have been running hot with a pretty full calendar of both past and coming events.

Four buses recently took almost 180 people to the Swagman for a night of superb entertainment. Organiser, David Lees said it was an excellent evening and that all who went were very pleased.

"Actually we were swamped," he said. "We'd originally planned for two buses, but the demand required an extra two buses."

Forthcoming events are a smoke night and co-incidentally on the same night, a ladies Chinese banquet.

The smoke night is being held at the Italian/Australian Club in Morwell on May 28.

Feature event of the evening, among others, will be Ron Blaskett and Gerry Gee.

The alternate ladies entertainment will take place at The Inn of Happiness in Morwell.

The annual general meeting is



Above: Another crowd obviously enjoying themselves at the April social were Alan Keely, Dot Keely, Dot Reynolds, Mick Reynolds, Frank Mortagh, Julie Mortagh, Ben Cushceri and Maureen Cushceri.



Above: John Lawson celebrates his birthday in advance at the M.B. and P.I. April Social, which was two days after the social, with Ruth Howes and Joyce Clark.

scheduled for a date to be set in July. Further details will be available in later editions of Club Notes.

Also in July is a planned trip to Merimbula. At the moment it seems the ninth is the date, with the Black Dolphin probably being booked out for the planned two busloads of social club members.

The social club annual ball is planned for August 6.

Yallourn W Social Club

Yallourn W Social Club has some pretty interesting activities coming up in the not too distant future.

June 26 will see two buses heading off to "The Cuckoo" for a night of wining and dining.

Club secretary, Helen Procak said

it promised to be a terrific night, what with two floors of entertainment and great food.

The restaurant features a German atmosphere, and the smorgasbord are first class.

Cost for the evening is \$25 a double which includes the trip and meal. Drinks are a "buy-your-own" affair when you arrive.

It's a first in best dressed turnout, and Helen said bookings can only be made with the color of your money — that is, no bookings will be taken "on the slate."

A further night out on July 10 is being planned for "The Greatest Musical On Earth", featuring the one and only Reg Livermore in "Barnum". Two buses are being booked for the trip to Her Majesty's Theatre. More details will be provided as they come to hand.

David's a master with computers

The first recipient of a Master of Applied Science degree from the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education is Power Generation's David Hoch.

David, who received his degree on the campus at this year's graduation ceremony on May 8, compiled a thesis entitled "Automation of Brown Coal Tar analysis".

This month's award ceremony culminates a five year study and waiting period for 27-year-old David.

"I started out in 1977 with the Victorian Institute of Colleges but it was dissolved two years later. I completed the degree myself but I have been waiting for the last 18 months to obtain the official paper," he said.

His studentship was provided by the Victorian Brown Coal Research and Development Committee.

David wrote the thesis, which he completed in August 1980, after joining the commission three years ago.

Three particular streams of thought are covered under the thesis. They are:

The application of digital computers to data collection and presentation of analytical information.

The development of new analytical techniques using deuterium-labelled isotopes.

The development of microprocessor-based automation systems in systems maintenance of computers.

"The knowledge gained from undertaking this course and studying computers has helped me a great deal in my job," said David, who is married and lives in Churchill.

And there is some even better news on the horizon for David in a little less than a year's time.

He has been put in charge of systems maintenance of the three large computers which form the Loy Yang A simulator.

A training program in either the United States or in



Australia, given by the manufacturers, is on the cards.

David moved to Power Generation in June last year after spending his first two years with the Commission in the Atmospheric Science Section of the Research and Development Department.

In Power Generation he is responsible for Hazelwood's computer simulator which trains unit controllers and attendants.

Outside work David grows orchids in his greenhouse but his love of the computer age is still apparent. He tampers with micro-computers in his spare time.

David at work with the computerised simulator at Hazelwood.

51 RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Morwell Briquette and Power Social Club has presented 51 scholarship awards in three categories.

Power station superintendent, Cyril Morellato, together with social club president, Ken Hewitt and life member, Jim Dyer, presented the winners with certificates and cheques at the presentations held in the Latrobe Valley Visitors' Centre.

Scholarship winners —

Year 7 — O. Mitsios, G. Zidar, A. McMillan, A. Stewart, S. Clare.

Year 8 — S. Clare, L. Howes, T. Lais, F. Fazioli, W. Edwards.

Year 9 — T. Howes, P. Lais, K. Grech, C. Whittaker, D. Bostedt.

Year 10 — S. Mann, S. Skee, D. Lovison, G. Latimer, A. Stewart.

Year 11 — D. Howes, P. Sheahan, L. Cook.

Year 12 — T. Lawson, V. Skee, A. Sheahan, J. Corry.

Encouragement winners —

Year 7 — P. Walmsley, D. Grech, D. Nilsson.

Year 8 — K. Ipsen, I. Lehos, N. Griffen.

Year 9 — W. Nilsson, J. Panoutsopoulos.

Year 10 — T. Nilsson, A. Ipsen, R. Marriott.

Book award winners —

Year 7 — N. Nilsson.

Year 8 — S. Beaton, M. Cardillo, T.

Panoutsopoulos, N. Lake, C. Sheahan, A. Endrizzi, B. Whittaker, L. Tutin, A. Stewart.

Year 10 — L. Plunkett, G. Cook, C. Lissa.

Book prizes can be picked up at the Morwell Briquette and Power Installation kiosk.



Goran Zidar receives his award from M.B. & P.I. social club president Ken Hewitt and life member Jim Dyer.



Jim Dyer presents Tracey Lawson with her award at the recent M.B. & P.I. scholarship presentation.

Service Register

Commission staff and wages personnel who reached significant service milestones during May are included in this register

25 YEARS

Chris Stavrou	Coal, Yallourn
Stan Ayton	Coal, Yallourn
Frank O'Donnell	Coal, Morwell
Les Johnston	Morwell Briquette and Power
Nicola Manzo	Morwell Briquette and Power
Doug Mundy	Morwell Briquette and Power
Salvatore D'Amico	Morwell Briquette and Power
Peter Clark	Yallourn Power Station
George Lewis	Yallourn Power Station
Doug McKenzie	Yallourn W Power Station
Phillip Ward	Civil, Yallourn
Jim O'Donnell	Civil, Yallourn
Henrijk Michalak	Transport Workshops, Morwell
Theo Haberl	Electrical Laboratory, Transmission
John Parsons	Tests and Communications, Transmission

30 YEARS

Don Bath	Coal, Yallourn
Antoon Sas	Coal, Morwell
Antonin Stranik	Hazelwood Power Station
John McNaughton	Morwell Briquette and Power
Len McIntosh	Morwell Briquette and Power
Lindsay Fordham	Yallourn Power Station
Jaroslav Matejka	Yallourn Power Station
Frank Leister	Training Group
Rick Fuentescartel	Drafting

31 YEARS

Denis Coffey	Coal, Yallourn
John Lovison	Coal, Yallourn
Clem Rogers	Hazelwood Power Station
Pat Forrestal	Morwell Briquette and Power
Lou Vizkelety	Yallourn W Power Station

32 YEARS

Radosav Djordjevic	Coal, Yallourn
Zapisir Giovanof	Coal, Yallourn
Dragoljub Petrovic	Coal, Yallourn
Mychailo Pawliw	Coal, Yallourn
Czeskew Nikodemski	Coal, Yallourn
Marian Smalera	Hazelwood Power Station
Donald Mactaggart	Morwell Briquette and Power
Tony Micallef	Yallourn Power Station
Jan Paszkiewicz	Yallourn Power Station
Henryk Opalinski	Yallourn Power Station
Ben Sutcliffe	Loy Yang
Jan Wojciow	Civil, Yallourn
Ron Williamson	Civil, Yallourn
Alf Rogowski	Civil, Yallourn
Josef Prokopiwskyi	Workshops, Yallourn
Alvin Boyes	Operations, Transmission
Charles Spencer	Secretarial

33 YEARS

Bill Shaw	Yallourn Power Station
Wasy Melnyk	Yallourn Power Station
Iwan Kowal	Yallourn Power Station
Paul Carabott	Yallourn W Power Station
John Insley	Workshops, Yallourn

34 YEARS

Harold James	Yallourn W Power Station
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36 YEARS

Stan Hillbrick	Transport Workshops, Yallourn
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38 YEARS

Ernie Rawiller	Drafting
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42 YEARS

Jim Helms	Drafting
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43 YEARS

Gordon Wilson	Yallourn Power Station
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45 YEARS

Rex Cooper	Morwell Briquette and Power
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from Page 5

Hallyburtons heading to Hollywood

correct, Jan got the third one right, and it was our five year old daughter Rachael, whose winning entry was drawn. We had entered three sets of answers — one in my name, one in Jan's name and one in Rachael's."

The trip for 15 days leaves on June 27 and the prize includes a return flight for four plus accommodation. They will be accompanied by the Sunday Press movie critic Denbeigh Salter, who will act as tour guide through the Hollywood movie studios, Las Vegas, Disneyland and on the way back they will have a couple of days in Honolulu.

Rachael and son Adam, who is four years old, will accompany John and Jan. Baby Lauren, two will have to wait until they win another trip.

from Page 10)

Model engineers steam along

Dick Donchi was club president from the club's inception till the end of last year.

"The executive of the MSMEE indicated its support of the formation of a local group as a branch of the Melbourne Society," Don said.

And if any Melbourne members find themselves in the Valley on the last Friday of any month, they would be most welcome to attend the monthly meeting.

It is held at Morwell Technical School starting around 7.30 pm.

"With the nature of developments in the Latrobe Valley for many years to come and the enthusiasm of our membership, we feel sure we too have the potential to grow and expand our scope in a creative and most enjoyable hobby," Don said.

from Page 3

Regulations aid safety

and equipment may be jeopardised.

The regulations cover such diverse areas as wastage of water, use of streams and reservoirs, and animals in or on Commission property.

Vandalism and theft of Commission property are also covered and the regulations provide for penalties.

All warning and speed signs within Commission works areas are supported by penalties contained in the regulations, and they can be enforced by prosecution through court proceedings with penalties up to a maximum of \$500.

In many cases where a breach is committed, a warning only is issued. However, monetary penalties do exist and can be enforced.



retirements



Tom Stillman

Tom Stillman retired from the Commission after 22 years of service, having first joined in 1958, as an Engineer with civil construction in Morwell. Tom retired from the position of acting planning and co-ordination engineer with headquarters division, Engineering Services, Morwell. Manager Engineering Services, Don Bromilow presented Tom with an echo sounder, an esky, a transistor radio, a pair of binoculars and a wallet of notes. He was also presented with a painting by survey section and an aerial photograph of one of his greatest involvements — the Morwell golf course.



Len Morgan

Len Morgan will be spending a lot of time in his new glasshouse now that he has retired from the Commission. Len joined in 1955 as a storeman and retired from the position as stores supervisor in Morwell stores. At a dinner at the Golden Hill Restaurant, storekeeper, Owen Cameron presented Len with a watch.



Jack Berry

Jack Berry retired from the Commission after 15½ years service. He joined the Commission in 1966 as a boilermaker, and retired from the position of Welder special class at Morwell Briquette and Power.

He was presented with a wallet of notes at a presentation in the M.B. & P.I. canteen.

A very keen painter (see Contact June '81), Jack intends to visit England in between keeping up his hobby.



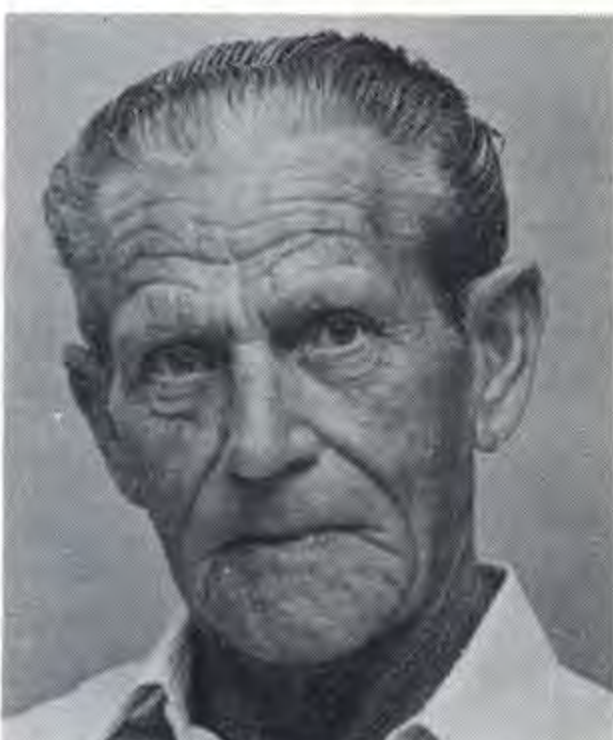
Tony Daddo

Tony Daddo was presented with a wallet and a cheque when he retired last month from the position of assistant briquette distribution superintendent.

Tony had served with the Commission for 33 years, having joined in 1949 as a storeman at Yallourn.

Tony's presentation was made by power station superintendent, Cyril Morellato at a send off held at the Visitor's Reception Centre Morwell.

He is planning a trip to Western Australia later this year and a trip to New Zealand next year.



Bill Howes

Bill Howes recently retired from the position of driver with Morwell transport workshops. Bill joined the Commission in 1960 as a T/A with central workshops and progressed through a number of classifications until his retirement.

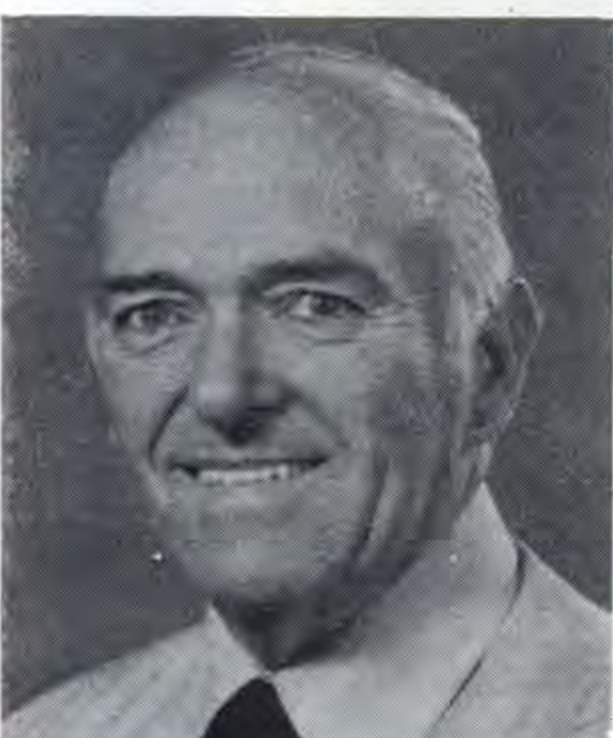
Area services officer, John Archibold presented Bill with an electric drill and a shaving cabinet at a farewell with workmates held for Bill at Morwell transport workshops.

Bill intends to keep his game of golf in shape while enjoying a holiday at Merimbula later this year.



Ron Burslem

After 22 years of service Ron Burslem retired from the position of Fireman, Yallourn power station, Power Generation. He joined in 1959 as a Cleaner at Yallourn power station and has worked as a Trimmer, Electrical Plant Attendant and Greaser. Ron plans to enjoy a game of golf and gardening. He is also planning a touring holiday of Tasmania.



Jim Helms

Jim Helms retired from the Commission recently after 42 years service. He joined the Commission in 1940 as a student draftsman in Geelong. He was subsequently transferred to Ballarat and arrived in the Valley in 1962. He retired from the position of chief draftsman at Yallourn.

Section leader, Kevin Goldie presented Jim with a drill press and an album covering his years with the Commission at a send off in the drawing office canteen.

In his retirement, Jim will be spending time at his favourite hobby, restoring antique furniture.



Lloyd Allison

Lloyd Allison recently retired from the Commission after 30 years service. Lloyd joined the Commission in 1952 as a driver at Yallourn. He progressed through a number of classifications to the position from which he retired — that of plant controller at Yallourn Power Station. Being a keen Fitzroy supporter, Lloyd was presented with a selection of Fitzroy paraphernalia and a wallet of notes by Station operations engineer, Richard Elkington at a send off by workmates at the Yallourn Golf Club.

Life for two

Two Commission personnel have recently been awarded life memberships from the Morwell Little Athletics Centre.

Les Dalton, (assistant station operation engineer, Hazelwood) and Neville Henshaw, (unit controller, Hazelwood) have both been involved with the centre since 1973/74.

Des' interest began when he first joined the Churchill club where he has occupied a number of positions including president. He transferred to the Roosters in 1978/79 where he was coach and executive member.

Neville has been involved with the Morwell centre since 1973/74, undertaking such activities as track and field, registrations and fund raising.

Neville was first elected to the executive in 1976.



DES DALTON

NEVILLE HENSHAW



SPORT



Jack shows experience is the thing

Retired Jack Thorpe showed his younger opponents a clean pair of heels to take out individual honors at Transmission Operations' seventh annual golf day at Yallourn.

Jack, 76, who was operations supervisor at the old Yallourn Briquette Factory won the A grade individual trophy after a countback with Gordon Bailey.

Playing off a handicap of 19, Jack scored 39 stableford points.

Twelve men's teams and a group of five women took part in the golf day.

The Trans. Ops. number one team of Ivan Harris, Jack Morris, Dennis Farmer and Stan Tatlow (another retired employee) won the teams event with a best three card total of 109 points.

They also scored on a countback from the Stations Group team of Kevin Brogan, Wayne Casey, Gordon

Bailey and Stefan Michaelowski.

The A grade individual best nine holes event was won by Alan Logan with 21 points after a three-way countback with Phil Watts and Wayne Casey.

Bob Scorse's 42 points was good enough to take out the B grade individual trophy from Stan Tatlow on 40. Grant Cowley scored 22 points to win the best nine holes trophy.

COLD WATER POURED ON HOT SHOT

Former Commission fire chief in the Latrobe Valley, Darby Bremner has poured cold water on a chance of winning a Commonwealth Games medal.

Darby, who has been retired from the Commission for 12 months, was named in the five-man trench and skeet shooting squad from which the Australian team of three will be selected for the Games.

But the cost and time involved in attending squad training sessions, all of which are being held in Queensland, have forced 62-year-old Darby to withdraw.

"I have had a lay-off since the national championships in Melbourne last year. I told the squad organisers a month ago I would not be able to compete. The cost and a loss of initiative on my part brought about the decision," he said.

Darby's experience, however is sure to be missed in the Games' build-up.

He has won a total of 16 national titles, including the 1981 champion of champions title. He has also won 340 state and district championships.

He has represented Australia seven times and was first emergency for the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. He has been selected for the Victorian team on 20 occasions.

Being a member of the Games squad meant a lot of inconvenience



and time and expense and it has not got the same emphasis these days for me," he added.

But Darby does have one bonus up his sleeve.

He is aiming to go on a five-week trip to America later this year as part of an Australian eight-man skeet team. The tour will be Darby's first visit to America and will take in seven states.

Darby, who has been shooting competitively since the 1930's retired from the Commission after 31 years service.

Above: Champion marksman, Darby Bremner with (left) son-in-law, Barry Flanigan (unit controller, Hazelwood) and son, Robert (test section, Hazelwood).

100 years of nostalgia

Present Commission employees and retired employees who have been associated with Morwell Football Club in any way since the club's formation will have a chance next month to get together and relive past glories.

The football club is celebrating its centenary on June 19 and 20.

Past and present players, officials and supporters are welcome to attend the celebrations.

For further information, contact Mr. Dennis Quinn, 5 Grandview Grove, Morwell. Telephone 34 2582.