

*Rooney*

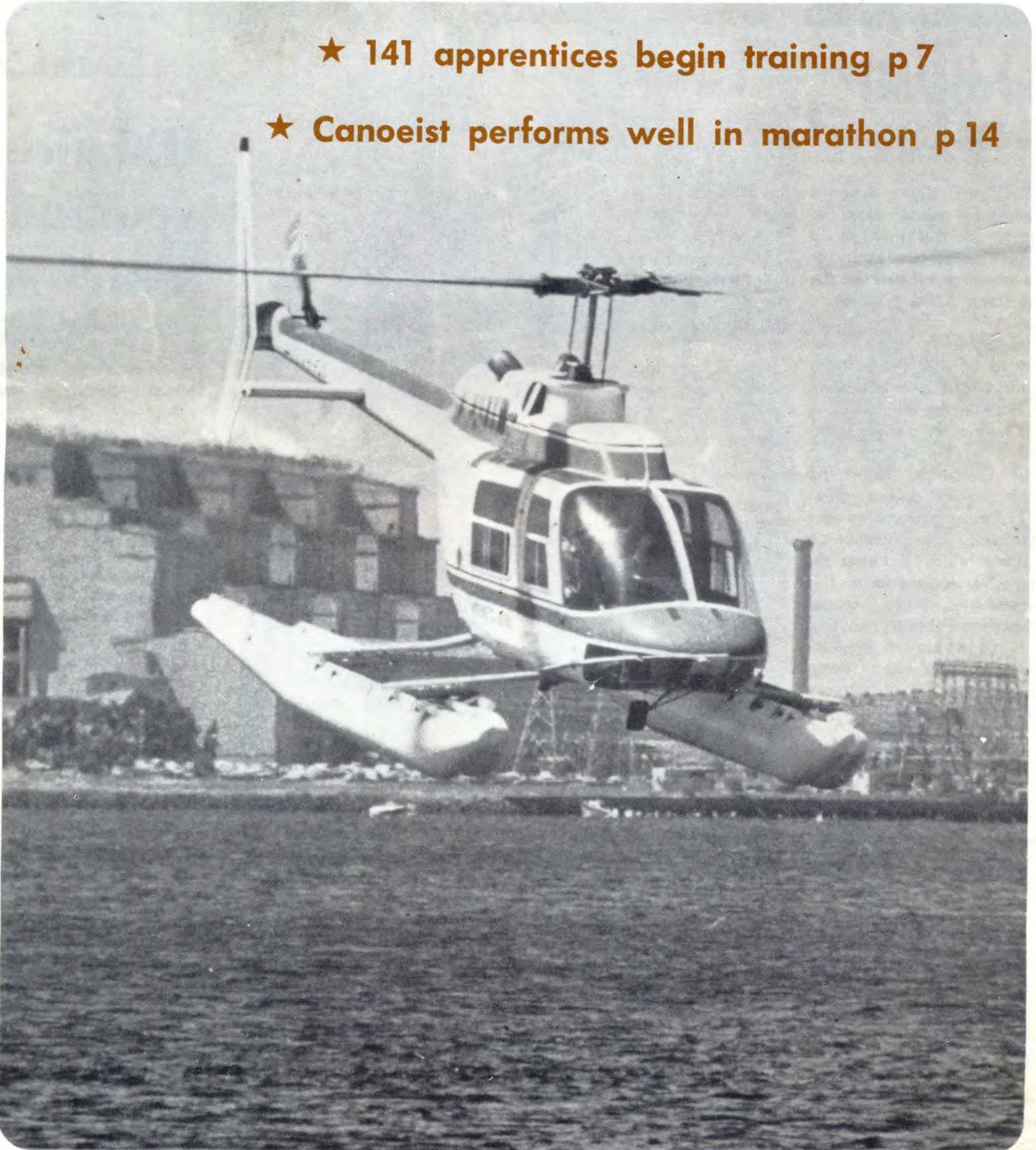


# CONTACT

FEBRUARY, 1978

★ 141 apprentices begin training p 7

★ Canoeist performs well in marathon p 14





# Yallourn high school closes down after 32 years

Yallourn High School's doors have closed for the last time. But there is a strong chance that part of the school will live on at the Gippsland Folk Museum, Moe.

Negotiations are under way to transfer the school's honor board and collection of trophies to the museum.

A temporary display is expected to be set up soon after Christmas. Later the honor board and trophies will be mounted in the Narracan East Mechanic's Institute which is being re-located at the museum.

Yallourn High School opened on February 6, 1945 with an enrolment of 306. The town had been served by a higher elementary school from 1928 to 1945.

Enrolment gradually in-

creased, peaking in 1961 with 741 students.

Last year the school had 120 students — most will be enrolled at Newborough High School this year. About 80 students will travel from Yallourn North, with the remainder coming from Yallourn and surrounding areas.

About 600 people attended the school's final presentation ceremony at Kernot Hall on December 7. Past principals, Mr. J. Menadue (1945-47), Mr. J. M. McAdam (1966-69) and Mr. A. C. Balfour (1970-75), teachers and students were among those who heard 1977 principal Mr. Laurie Huffer present his final report.

Mr. Huffer said the student movement from Yallourn to Newborough High School

was expected to go smoothly.

He said each Yallourn form had spent one week at Newborough to become familiar with the school's general organisation.

Yallourn students mixed socially and took part in the joint classes, taught by staff from both schools.

The presentation ceremony followed a social barbecue.

A special commemorative edition of the school magazine Pylon was produced to mark the closing of the school.

The magazine traces the school's history of achievement through newspaper stories and reports in past issues of PYLON. It also includes a collection of students' original poetry and prose used since the first PYLON was produced in 1947.

## Old girls reunion March 4

Yallourn High School Old Girls' Association will conduct its second annual reunion dinner in Morwell on March 4.

Guest speaker will be SEC chairman Charles Trethowan.

Attendance at the dinner will be limited to 150.

Further information on the reunion is available from the association president, Mrs. Lucy Bathurst (phone Morwell 34 3413) or secretary Mrs. Val Embrey (Morwell 34 2864).

## Contact



Prepared by the L.V. Public Relations Group for Operations Group employees.

## Cover

Hazelwood pondage had an unusual visitor early last month — a helicopter. The helicopter, from Vowell Air Services, Tyabb, carried out landing and taxiing tests for more than 1½ hours. It was an eleventh hour test for pilot Steve Jacobs, who with his instructor Vic Barkell left last month for a six week spell at Casey Base in the Antarctic. Jacobs needed endorsement to land and taxi on water before he could leave Australia.

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## SAFETY IN A GOOD CAUSE

Assistant General Manager (Operations) Bill De Campo is undergoing treatment for a serious illness.

Mr. De Campo has a severe liver complaint which has kept him away from work since mid-November.

## Illness of AGM (Ops)

While it is understandable that Mr. De Campo's condition will cause great concern to all Operations Group personnel, it would nevertheless be appre-

ciated if the De Campo family's privacy could be strictly respected, at least for the time being.

During Mr. De Campo's absence, the Chief Engineer, Production Co-ordination, Mr. Clem Joyce is Acting Assistant General Manager (Operations).



## Gifts galore for h/capped children

Christmas came early last year for the children at Cooinda Hill in Traralgon.

Santa Claus arrived on December 13 bearing many gifts including \$350 worth of musical instruments and sporting goods.

The instruments and sporting goods were donated to Cooinda Hill (school for the intellectually handicapped) by the 16 SEC employees from the central workshops, paint shop, Yallourn.

The men cashed in their 1977 safety award points to purchase the goods.

This has become an annual gesture by the paint shop, and one that is to be commended.

Those who donated their points were; Noel Robertson, Peter Vella, John Poelsma, Gary Downs, Kevin James, Gordon Draper, John Creighton, Joe Antal, Ron De Carli, Wayne Collins, Laurie Hunt, Max Ashton, John Brohren, Don McCasker, Jeff McGuinness and John Phillips.

Displaying some of the sporting equipment are (from left) John Poelsma, Les Barton, Gary Downs, Santa Claus and Kevin James.

Gary Downs looks on as two of the Cooinda Hill students enjoy themselves on some of the many musical instruments which the paint shop donated.



## Thousands of visitors look us over

More than 5,500 people visited the SEC's Latrobe Valley works areas in the five weeks from December 1, 1977 to January 4, 1978.

This was the highest number of visitors for December

since 1972 when 5,518 people toured the SEC.

The majority of visitors began their tours at the Latrobe Valley Visitors Centre at Morwell where they

viewed the spectacular audio visual presentation before touring the SEC's works area.

Visitors included school

children, casual visitors, organised parties and numerous people from overseas.

More than 60,000 people toured the SEC's Latrobe Valley works areas last year.

(Continued on Page 7)



## THE FEMALE SECS

THIS column would like to wish all its readers the best of health and good fortune for 1978.

☆ ★ ☆

WELCOME to this year's intake of typists. They are: Rosemary Eades of Yallourn North, Phyllis Frendo of Newborough, Cathy Schembri of Moe and Belinda Willcox from Trafalgar. The girls began their training on January 16.

☆ ★ ☆

CONGRATULATIONS to Mary Whelan (nee Danyluk) and Eddie on the arrival of Arlene Michelle 3.97 kg on January 7 in the Latrobe Valley Community Hospital at Moe. Mary was private secretary to Manager Area Administration George Bates.

☆ ★ ☆

WHILE talking of babies, Stella Vella (nee Frendo), wife of Alfie from Personnel, gave birth to Kristie Maree in late December. Stella worked for the SEC in Stores at Yallourn.

☆ ★ ☆

SHARON Scott from Personnel has been appointed to the new position of receptionist in Wing 5. Lynda Bertoli is now full time personal secretary to Manager Engineering Services Ray Greenwood.

☆ ★ ☆

TWO girls have returned to the ranks after being off on maternity leave. Welcome back to Ann Mitchell and Rita Sharrock. Both have resumed work in the Morwell typing pool.

☆ ★ ☆

JANET Dauksza (typist), who has been with the SEC for four years has been transferred to Monash House. Her husband Ray, a student teacher, has been transferred in his employment. Good luck to you both.

THAT'S all for this month, but more stories are required for the March column, so ring those snippets of news through to either ext. 3228 or ext. 3642.

## SAFETY AWARDS TO TWO MECH. MAINT. GROUPS



Group 26 (above) proudly display their safety pennant and certificate.

Two Hazelwood power station mechanical maintenance groups have achieved 100,000 manhours without a lost time injury.

The groups are the Workshops Group 6 and the Coal Ash, Maintenance co-ordination and station administration Group 26.

Group 6 accumulated 106,880 manhours from March 3, 1976 to November 8, 1976 - they have now reached 122,745 manhours without a LTI.

The group consists of 32 people including machinists,

fitters and trades assistants. They are engaged in machining and repairing a variety of components used in the power station.

They have the responsibility of maintenance in the water treatment plants and the hydrogen producing plant and are exposed to a variety of hazards.

Group 26 reached 105,210 manhours from April 21, 1976 to June 21, 1977 . . . and to date they have recorded 157,815 manhours and are still going strong. Group 26 includes main-

tenance co-ordination, station administration and the coal and ash group.

The group has reached 100,000 target twice before — in 1973 and 1975.

Manager Power Generation Jack Robertson presented the National Safety Council of Australia's pennant and certificates to Trevor Burgess, who accepted the awards on behalf of both groups at an informal function in the Hazelwood power station lecture room on January 11.



After the presentation of their awards Group 6 posed for CONTACT photographer Jack Hinshelwood.

## Distinction awards to four apprentices

Four distinction awards and 21 awards of merit were presented to apprentices at the SEC's annual 1st year apprentice presentation day on December 8.

Distinction awards went to Peter Weatherley of Sale (Fitting and turning), Peter Tabaczynski of Yallourn North (Boilermaking and structural steel fabrication), Kevin Roberts of Morwell (Boilermaking and structural steel fabrication) and Robert Lang of Glengarry (Electrical Mechanics).

Award of merit certificates were presented to fitting and turning: Russell Armstrong of Warragul; Philip Barnes, Morwell; Andrew Bootham, Traralgon; Michael Dieck, Newborough; Maxwell Hunter, Morwell; Gary Morrison, Traralgon; Charles Nickelson, Morwell; Robert Pederson, Warragul; Brian Rees, Traralgon; Edward Vell, Newborough; David Vickers, Mirboo North. Boilermaking and structural steel fabrication: Geoff Watts, Maffra. Instrument

making and repairing: John Grassens, Traralgon.

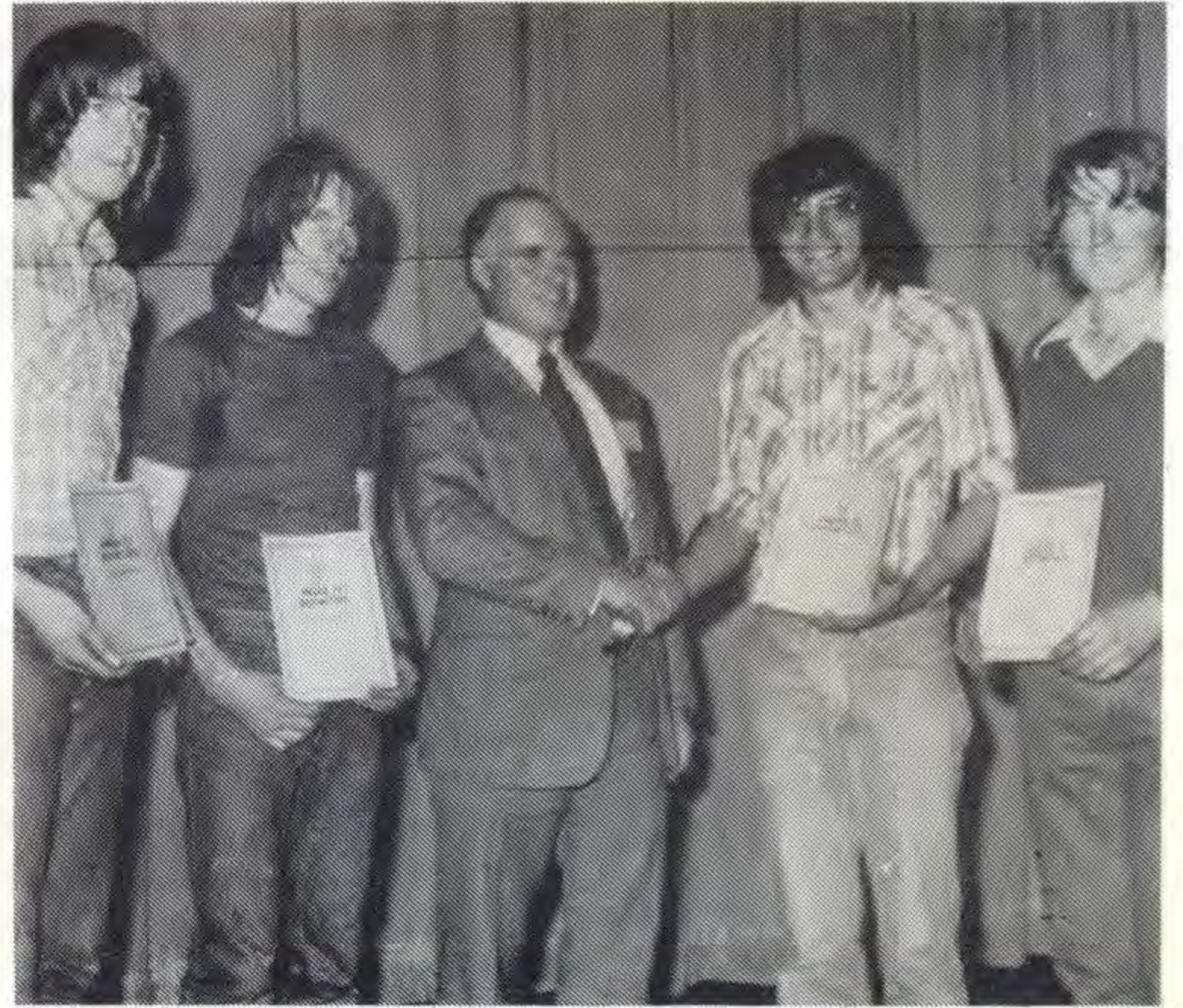
Electrical mechanics Ian Hebbard, Sale; Michael O'Hea, Moe Mark Seers, Moe.

Electrical fitter and armature winder: Peter Lowater, Newborough. Carpentry and joinery: Russell Martin, Moe. Motor Mechanics: Michael Carrigy, Moe. Bricklaying: Kelvin Butler, Leongatha; Michael Kenny, Warragul South.

All award winners received their certificates from Acting AGM (Ops) Clem Joyce.

A crowd of more than 400, including parents and families of apprentices attended the successful presentation day function in Kernot Hall Yallourn.

Among official guests were SEC departmental and sectional heads, as well as representatives from the Industrial Training Commission and former instructors from the apprentice training workshops.



Receiving congratulations from Acting AGM (Ops) Clem Joyce are the four apprentices who received awards of distinction. They are (from left) Peter Weatherley, Kevin Roberts, Peter Tabaczynski and Robert Lang.



John Grassens of Traralgon received plenty of congratulations after the presentation of his award of merit, especially from his sister Maree, mother Beth and his father John.

## Eight SEC employes in major roles

Eight SEC employes are playing significant roles in the development of one of the Latrobe Valley's fast growing sporting clubs—the Hazelwood Power Boat Club.

They are club secretary and publicity officer Mick Bren, who is a unit attendant at Hazelwood Power Station; past treasurer and the club's first and only life member Phil Boehm, plumber at Morwell; past records officer Noel Edwards, Morwell Stores; assistant social secretary Max Duncan, TA Hazelwood; Tom Stillman, Civil Works Engineer, Yallourn; Barry Mansfield, unit attendant, Yallourn 'W'; Harry Cornall, Morwell open cut and Ian McDonald,

fire services, Morwell.

The club's "home" is at

(Continued on Page 11)



The \$30,000 clubhouse which is situated at the northern end of the pondage, is one of the best in Victoria.

## FOR SALE

A 1977 Mazda Capella 1600 18,000 km. Extras include radio and protection strips. \$5,000.

Contact: P. Butcher, ext. 3759 A.H. 27 2171.

Quartz Halogen headlight replacement kit. Suit Ford Escort and Renault 12 models with rectangular headlights. \$35 ONO.

Phone: Glen Drover ext. 4141.



The two old pictures on this page will bring back many memories for numerous SEC employees.

The top picture is of a group of 30 men in the Yallourn 'A' station turbine room between 1940 and 1945.

Many of the men pictured have died, a number are enjoying retirement and some are still working with the Commission.

## WANTED

People interested in football umpiring. Field, Boundary and Goal Umpires are required for the 1978 Season to umpire in the Alberton, Latrobe Valley, Mid-Gippsland, North Gippsland and Latrobe Valley Junior Football Leagues.

For further details contact Kevin Laity ext 3192.

The second picture, believed to have been taken in the early 1930's, is of a Yallourn football team at Trafalgar.

CONTACT has endeavoured to obtain all the names of those pictured, however there are a few faces which have not been identified.

Top Picture. Back row (from left): Les Muzzard, Fred Stott, Mossy Crawford, Joe Palmer, Ray Wall, Vern Wiggins, Don McAlister, Bert Lester. Centre row: Mossie Williams, Alec Bartlett, Alec Morton, Frank McDonald, George Scholes, Harry Cook, Bill McDonald, George Wilkinson, Alvin Roberts. Front row: Stan Paatfield, Ted Parry, Jim Tickle, Jack Barnes, Jack Scholes, Bill Needham, Jim Fearless.

Right — Football team: Back row (from left): Jack Brooks, Mossy Crawford, Allan Hutton, Ted Harries, 'Plugger' Culph, 'Skipper' Stott; Centre: Vin Irwin, Jim Milne, Peter O'Neil, Stan Comber, Percy Palmer; Front: Jack Piggot, Harry Caddy, Albert Pratt, Les 'Tich' White and Ernie Davies.

## OLD PICTURES WILL BRING BACK MANY MEMORIES



## Bowls tournament

The Latrobe Valley Association of Social Clubs organised its first big bowls day for February 12.

Officials hope the bowls day will become an annual event.

Details of this year's event, held at Morwell Bowling Club, will appear in the March issue of CONTACT.



## New diving pool at Moe is an instant success

The first Yallourn facilities relocation project to be made available to the public — a diving pool at Moe swimming pool — opened late last year.

The \$100,000 plus pool was used for the first time on Boxing Day.

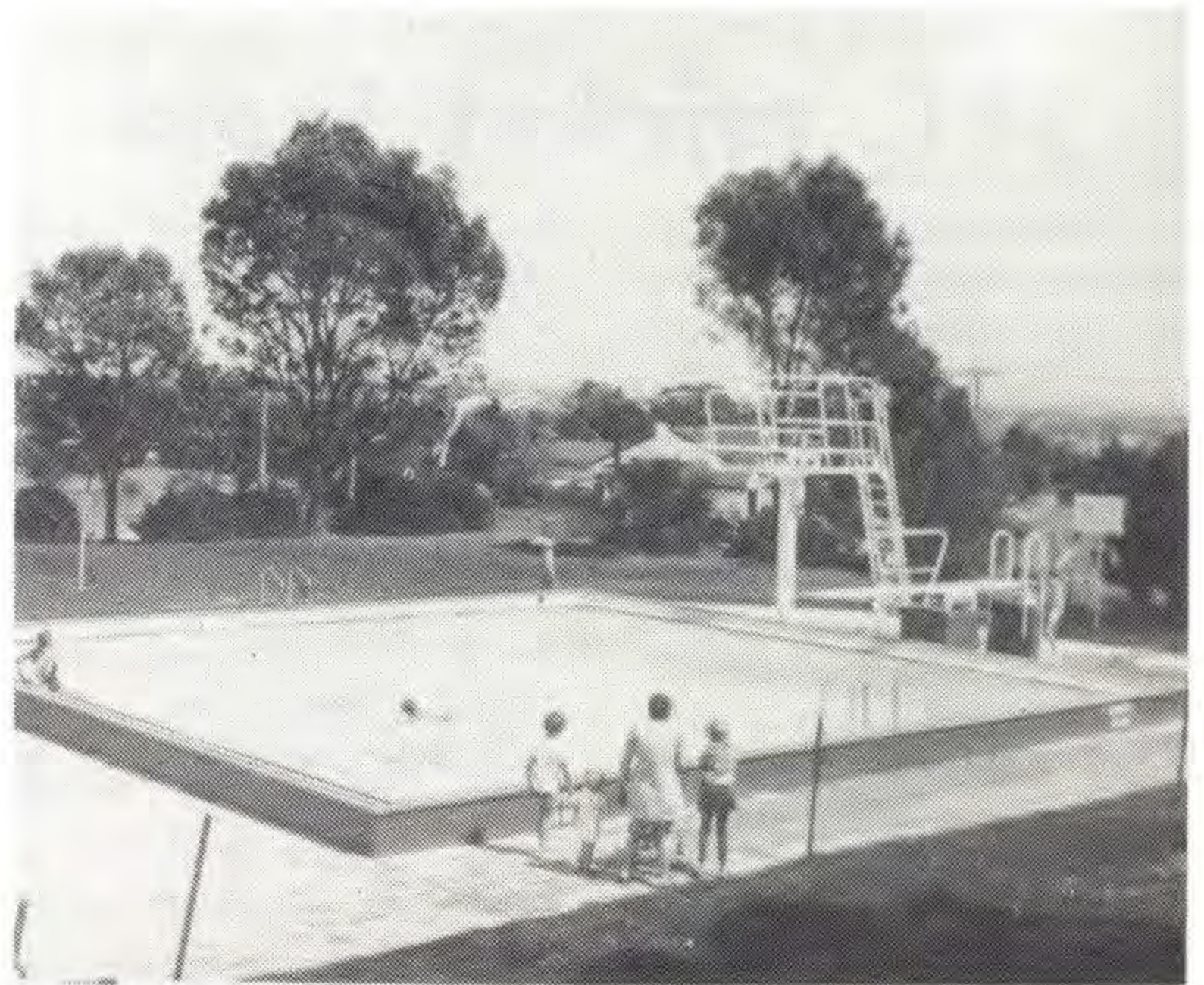
An Independent Arbitrator's report following the SEC's decision to relocate major Yallourn facilities recommended that the Yallourn swimming pool be replaced with facilities at Moe, Churchill and Yallourn North.

The SEC allocated \$100,000 in trust for the Moe project.

Work began on the diving pool about five months ago and the opening last week was well inside the target completion date of early 1980.

The pool measures 11.7 metres x 10.7 metres and is 4.3 metres deep. It features two diving boards — three metre and one metre.

Landscaping of the area around the pool is under way.



 Above: The new diving pool has blended in well with the surrounds of the Moe Swimming pool complex.

## 141 APPRENTICES BEGIN TRAINING

One hundred and forty one boys and one girl began apprenticeships with the SEC at Yallourn on January 17.

This was an increase of

(Continued from Page 3)

There has been a stream of visitors to the area, with the international flavor being maintained by guests such as Mr. Mario Luchetti, an industrial chemist with the National Electric Energy Agency of Italy.

Mr. E. Thomas, Acting Regional Manager of the ANZ Bank — with which the Commission has a significant Yallourn resettlement association — inspected SEC facilities and Mr. P. Mitchell-Hill, Victorian manager of haulage company Trans West was another to look us over.

15 on last year's initial intake.

Apprenticeships are being provided in 13 trades ranging from Fitting and Turning to Gardening.

The largest intake was in Fitting, with 50 apprentices.

There were also 32 Electrical Mechanics, 20 Boilermakers and nine Painters and Decorators.

Other trades include, Plumbing, Carpentry, Brick-laying and Motor Mechanics.

Apprentices were welcomed to the SEC by the Acting Power Station Superintendent Headquarters, Mr. Laurie Culph who outlined the role of the apprentices in the workforce.

The SEC, which employs more than 500 apprentices in the Latrobe Valley, is the largest employer of apprentices in Victoria.



Margaret Daly, one of two new gardening apprentices, signs on, watched by Brenda Simpson, Personnel,

# Yallourn draftsmen selected in Victorian SEC cricket team

Evan Rowlands and Merv Graham work together in the drawing office at Yallourn.

At weekends, they play cricket together in the strong Morwell team in the Central Gippsland Cricket Association A grade competition (Morwell is well clear at the top of the ladder at present).

As if that weren't enough, Evan and Merv both won batting places in the SEC Social League cricket team which retained the McColl Shield against a Sydney County Council team in Sydney late last month.

Two games - one day and two day — were scheduled with the SEC narrowly win-

ning the one day match and the second drawn after rain washed out one day's play.

The interstate clashes are played every two years, alternating between Melbourne and Sydney.

The SEC narrowly won the last encounter in Melbourne.

Evan and Merv won their places in the team after solid performances in SEC Social League matches in Melbourne and the Latrobe Valley.

This was the third time Evan had been selected for the interstate matches while Merv was making his first appearance.



*Busy at work when CONTACT's photographer called on them early this month were (from left) Merv Graham and Evan Rowlands.*

## A night to remember

An evening with gardening expert

KEVIN HEINZE

of the ABC's 'Sow What'

will be held in the  
TRARALGON TOWN HALL

on THURSDAY, 2nd MARCH, 1978  
at 8 p.m.

Proceeds to Latrobe Valley Festival Queen Entrant  
Linda Savage of Traralgon

Money raised from the contest goes to the Sheltered  
Workshop for Handicapped people in Morwell

Admission \$3.50

Tickets available from Bruce Savage, Public Relations  
Ext. 3228 or 3552

## SERVICE REGISTER

COMMISSION staff and wages employees who reached significant service milestones during February are included in the register below:

### 25 YEARS:

Tom Brown	Yallourn Workshops
Allan Hall	Coal, Morwell
Alan Jenkins	Yallourn Transport Workshops
Alan Bechaz	Coal, Yallourn
Jim McGregor	Coal, Yallourn
Don Richardson	Coal, Morwell
Laurie Rainbow	Forestry, Yallourn
Bob Nuske	Yallourn 'W' Power Station
Vic Ray	Civil Services, Yallourn
Barry Coad	Yallourn Power Station
Alan Faith	Yallourn Power Station
Len Gaul	Transport Workshops, Yallourn
Horace Hibbert	Transmission Services
Graham Robinson	Yallourn Power Station
Alex Ross	Morwell Workshops
Frank Sanders	Transmission Services
Bob Scorse	Transmission Operations
Bert Sewell	Hazelwood Power Station
Ross Simpson	Yallourn 'W' Power Station
Harry Bray	Personnel, Morwell
Lionel Briggs	Yallourn Power Station
Graeme Guy	Hazelwood Power Station
Bob Miller	Morwell Briquetting & Power

### 30 YEARS:

Chris Laird	Coal Production Headquarters
Richard Hewat	Morwell Briquetting & Power
Harold Young	Yallourn 'W' Power Station
Jack Huxtable	Area Administration, Morwell
Col Glen	Materials & Services, Morwell
Ray Hough	Yallourn 'W' Power Station

### 31 YEARS:

Cyril Morellato	Morwell Briquetting & Power
Noel Church	Civil Services, Yallourn
Bob Murray	Coal Production Headquarters
Eric Hanson	Coal, Yallourn
Stan Wright	Yallourn Power Station
Charlie Kean	Morwell Briquetting & Power
Geoff Hanson	Morwell Workshops
Bob Meredith	Yallourn Workshops
Norm Boys	Morwell Workshops
Norm Harwood	Coal, Yallourn
Bob Cole	Civil Services, Morwell
Charlie Manicola	Electrical Workshops, Yallourn
Keith Gow	Morwell Workshops

### 32 YEARS:

Hugh Taylor	Morwell Briquetting & Power
Arthur Oxley	Engineering Services
Cec Smith	Materials & Services
Norm Eason	Yallourn Workshops
Jack Scully	Yallourn Power Station
Bryan Moore	Morwell Briquetting & Power

### 33 YEARS:

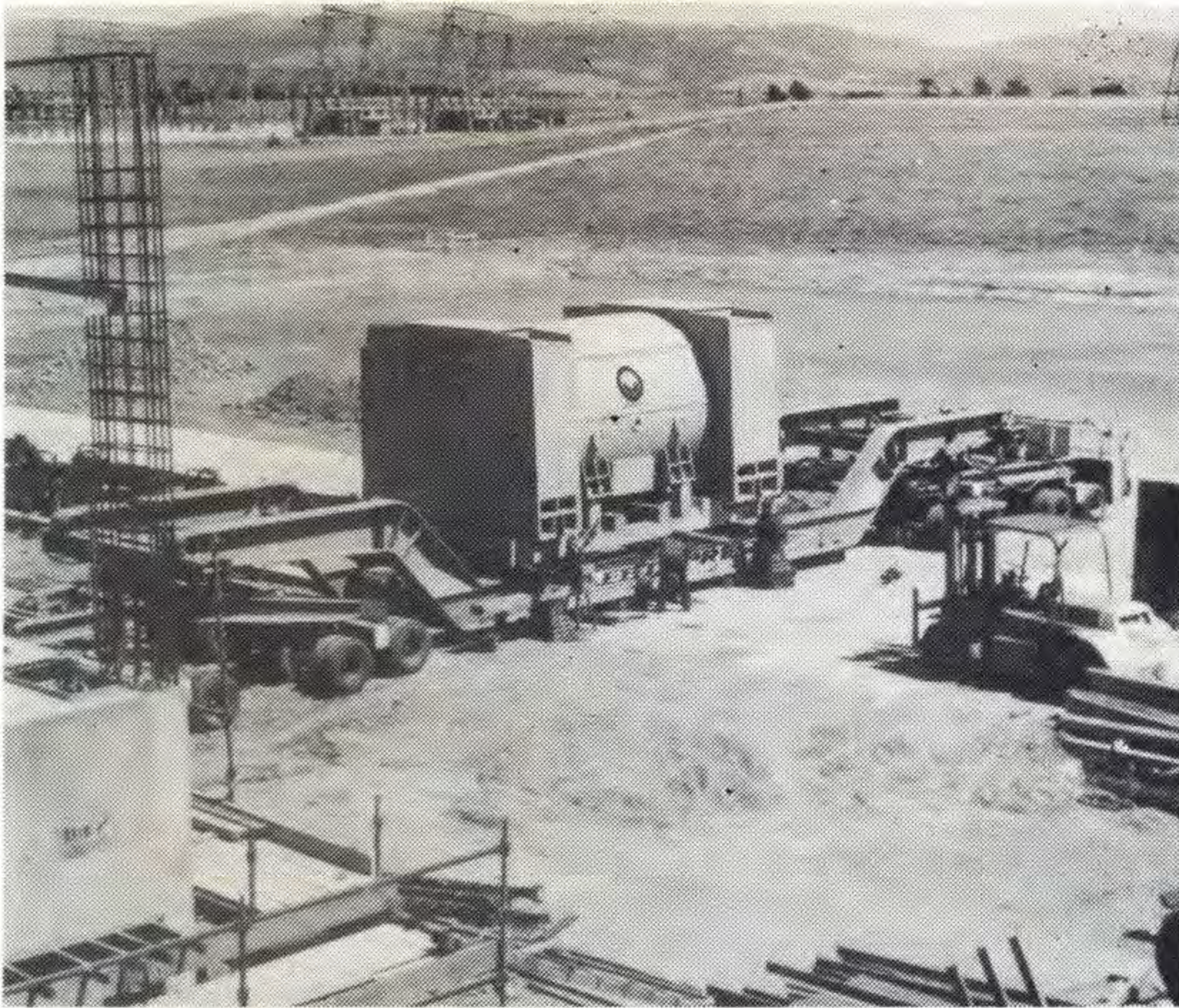
Jim Sagar	Yallourn Workshops
Jim King	Transportation, Morwell

### 34 YEARS:

Bill Johnson	Coal, Yallourn
Alan Daff	Yallourn 'W' Power Station
Laurie Porter	Morwell Workshops

(Continued on Page 9)





*Above: The generator stator for the station's No. 2 unit arrived on site on a large low loader.*

## PPWC tour

Members of the Parliamentary Public Works Committee late last month inspected possible sites in the Latrobe Valley for a second 200 MW Gas Turbine Power Station.

The Committee inspected three sites—Rosedale South, Jeeralang and Yarragon North — as part of its inquiry into all aspects of an SEC proposal for additional gas turbine units.

A 200 MW Gas Turbine Station is currently under construction on Bond's Lane, about five kilometres from Morwell.

PPWC hearings will resume at Rosedale on February 21.

Hearings are planned to continue at Warragul the following day and in Melbourne on March 1.

## GENERATING EQUIPMENT HAS BEGUN ARRIVING FOR GAS TURBINE STATION

Generating equipment for the SEC's 200 MW Jeeralang Gas Turbine Station has begun arriving at the Bond's Lane site south of Morwell.

The turbine and generator stator for the station's No 2 unit arrived on site before Christmas. Components for No 1 unit have arrived in Australia but are in storage.

The \$45 million station is comprised of four 50 MW

units.

Siemens Industries Ltd has a \$25 million contract to supply the gas turbine equipment.

The plant has been designed so that it can be shipped to Australia (most of it from Germany) in large modules, completely assembled and ready for operation.

This has been done to ensure the erection and commissioning period is reduced to an absolute minimum.

### Structural start

Construction of the Jeeralang station began last June, Concrete foundation works are almost complete and concrete structures for units one and two switch houses are well advanced.

Erection of the machine house steel structure has already begun.

The machine house will be about 70 metres long, 11 metres wide and 17 metres high.

The steel chimney stacks will be 32 metres high. Mechanical erection of the gas turbine plant is scheduled to begin on March 1, with the first unit expected to come into commercial operation in September and the second unit one month later. A Parliamentary Public Works Committee Inquiry at present is investigating an SEC proposal for an additional 200 MW Gas Turbine Station.

**A Dinner for SEC Freemasons — serving or retired personnel throughout Gippsland — will be held in the Kernot Hall, Yallourn, on Saturday, 15-4-78, commencing at 6.30 p.m.**

**Further information from Lodge Secretary.**

(Service Register from Page 8)

Bill Robinson  
Les Haines  
Bob Male

Ted Gannon  
Les Potter  
Bill Stephens  
Richard Sagar  
Les Kite  
Jack Weir  
Kevin Noy  
Jim Dyer

Mick James

Norm Spittal  
Bill Crossman

Alan Walton

Bob McDonnell

Alan Hemming

Jim Coyle  
Keith Lawrence

Wally Melbourne

Henry Taylor

Alex Howlett

Keith Hinde

#### 35 YEARS:

Finance, Morwell  
Coal, Yallourn  
Transmission, Yallourn

#### 36 YEARS:

Transport Workshops, Yallourn  
Coal, Yallourn  
Morwell Briquetting & Power  
Morwell Briquetting & Power  
Hazelwood Power Station  
Coal, Yallourn  
Public Relations, Morwell  
Civil Services

#### 37 YEARS:

Coal, Yallourn

#### 38 YEARS:

Civil Services, Yallourn  
Management Group, Power  
Generation  
Drawing Officer, Yallourn

#### 39 YEARS:

Industrial Relations, Morwell

#### 40 YEARS:

Morwell Briquetting & Power

#### 41 YEARS:

Municipal, Yallourn  
Yallourn Workshops

#### 42 YEARS:

Yallourn Workshops

#### 43 YEARS:

Morwell Power Station

#### 46 YEARS:

Morwell Briquetting & Power

#### 49 YEARS:

Morwell Briquetting & Power



**COAL  
PRODUCTION**

## THREE MORWELL OPEN CUT WORK GANGS RECEIVE SAFETY AWARDS

Three Morwell open cut work gangs have chalked up almost one million man hours without losing time through injury.

Acting Coal Production Superintendent Bob Lethlean presented safety awards to the Coal day gang, the Auxiliary Plant gang and the Coal and Overburden "D" Roster gang at a function on December 12 at the La-

trobe Valley Visitors' Centre, Morwell.

All three received 250,000 man hours LTI awards.

The Auxiliary Plant gang began its long injury free run on February 4, 1966. By November 30 last year it had recorded about 440,000 man hours without LTI—and is still going strong.

The Coal day gang had achieved 270,000 man hours from January 31, 1973 to November 30 last year. Their record is still intact.

Coal and Overburden "D" Roster gang recorded 265,446 man hours without LTI between August 31, 1973 and July 25 last year.

Coal Production Manager Jack Vines presented 100,000 man hours without LTI certificates to the Coal Operations section and Auxiliary Operations section.



**TOP:**  
Nine members of the Auxiliary Plant gang are pictured after receiving the pennant and certificate.

**ABOVE:**  
All smiles after receiving their National Safety Council of Australia pennant and certificate are 19 members of the Coal Day gang.

**RIGHT:**  
Displaying their NSCA pennant and certificate are members of the plant and coal overburden 'D' roster.





## TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS



Gippsland's new FM radio station is making an impression on the local air waves. . . . and SEC employes have played prominent roles in the successful development of station 3GCR-FM, which began transmitting from its studios at the GIAE campus at Churchill on November 28 last year.

Spare equipment officer (electrical) Alan Edwards and engineer (civil works, Yallourn) Ken Thompson are directors of the Gippsland Community Radio Society, which has been a co-operative for the past 18 months. Turbine driver at Yallourn, John Pace is the co-ordinator of the Maltese language programs.

Several other SEC personnel are involved in the station operation.

Alan Edwards, who was involved in the initial planning for the station three years ago, said the SEC had helped 3GCR-FM development by donating an old tower for the transmitter and had provided technical assistance in the design of tower footings.

The apprentice workshop at Yallourn contributed by making a reflector screen for the aerial, which Alan described as a "superb piece of workmanship".

Alan said the station's first two months of operation had been successful but the greatest need now was

## TUNING IN TO THE LOCAL SCENE

increased community involvement.

At present the station is operating about 10 hours a day. The afternoon session, which starts at about 1 p.m., is a replay of the previous night's programs.

The evening session kicks off at about 6.45 p.m. with a children's show, then follow segments of middle of the road music, community access, ethnic groups, education and several sessions of music.

All station employes are volunteers — receiving no payment for their time and effort.

There is no advertising as such on 3GCR-FM, but businesses and individuals are given the opportunity to sponsor programs.

Alan said the station had listeners throughout the Latrobe Valley and there had been reports of people picking up the signal from as far away as Bairnsdale, Inverloch and Cowes.

He said reception had improved in the past few weeks with the installation of a new transmitter, which

enabled the station to transmit at 1000 watts.

The station initially transmitted in mono but now has switched to high quality stereo transmission.

Alan said anyone interested in becoming involved with station activities could contact him, Ken Thompson or John Pace.

## New power boat home

(Continued from Page 5)

the northern end of Hazelwood Pondage, where members have completed a \$30,000 club house without any outside financial assistance.

Established in 1966, the club now has almost 90 members, some from as far away as Melbourne and Merimbula — there is even one member from Aberdeen, Scotland.

The club has hosted the Australian Inboard Power Boat Championships, twice hosted the Victorian Championships, plus several other

## Warning: watch those CB aerials

THE SEC has a safety tip for CB mobile radio operators — watch the tops of your aerials.

The SEC's Chief Electrical Inspector, Len Francis, warns that accidents with CB radio antenna mounted on vehicles contacting overhead power lines have already happened in Victoria.

"Fortunately, none has yet caused loss of life or serious injury," he says.

In one incident last year, the antenna of a mobile radio unit contacted a 22,000 volt line.

An SEC crew investigating the supply interruption found that although the vehicle had left the scene the antenna was still welded to the line.

successful major events.

The next big event is the Hazelwood Classic, carrying more than \$2,000 prize-money on February 26.

Entries are expected from NSW and South Australia, as well as Victoria's fastest hydroplanes, outboards and displacement hulls.

Supercharged craft capable of speeds around 200 km/h will compete in the 15 event program starting at 11 a.m. with the feature race scheduled for 1 p.m.



*CONTACT's* photographer took this picture of 'B' station early this month.

## Demolition program on schedule

Demolition of the old Yallourn 'B' power station is almost complete.

The demolition program, which began in August 1976, is running to schedule and is expected to be completed by March.

Whelan the Wrecker was awarded a \$667,500 contract to demolish the station in 78 weeks.

He had more than 30 men on the site at one stage but at present there are about 20 men involved in the project.

About one third of the boilerhouse is still standing, with two boilers still to be removed. The demolition contract includes clearing of the site once the station is removed.

Most of the scrap metal from the old station is being transported by rail to Melbourne, but the contractor is still selling some material on site.

## Safety performance trophy to

Yallourn power station has won the Power Generation Department's 'For Safety in Power' trophy for the most improved safety performance in 1976-77.

It is the first time for five years the Station has taken off the award.

The trophy is awarded to the power station with the best performance in reducing the number of accidents.

The trophy is contested annually by Hazelwood, Yallourn 'W'; Morwell, Newport/Richmond and Yallourn power stations.

Yallourn 'W' power station won the trophy last year.

Yallourn power station's safety figure improved by 14.9 per cent, the best of all stations. Other performances were Yallourn 'W' up 11.2 per cent, Morwell power station down 0.9 per cent, Hazelwood power station up 0.4 per cent.

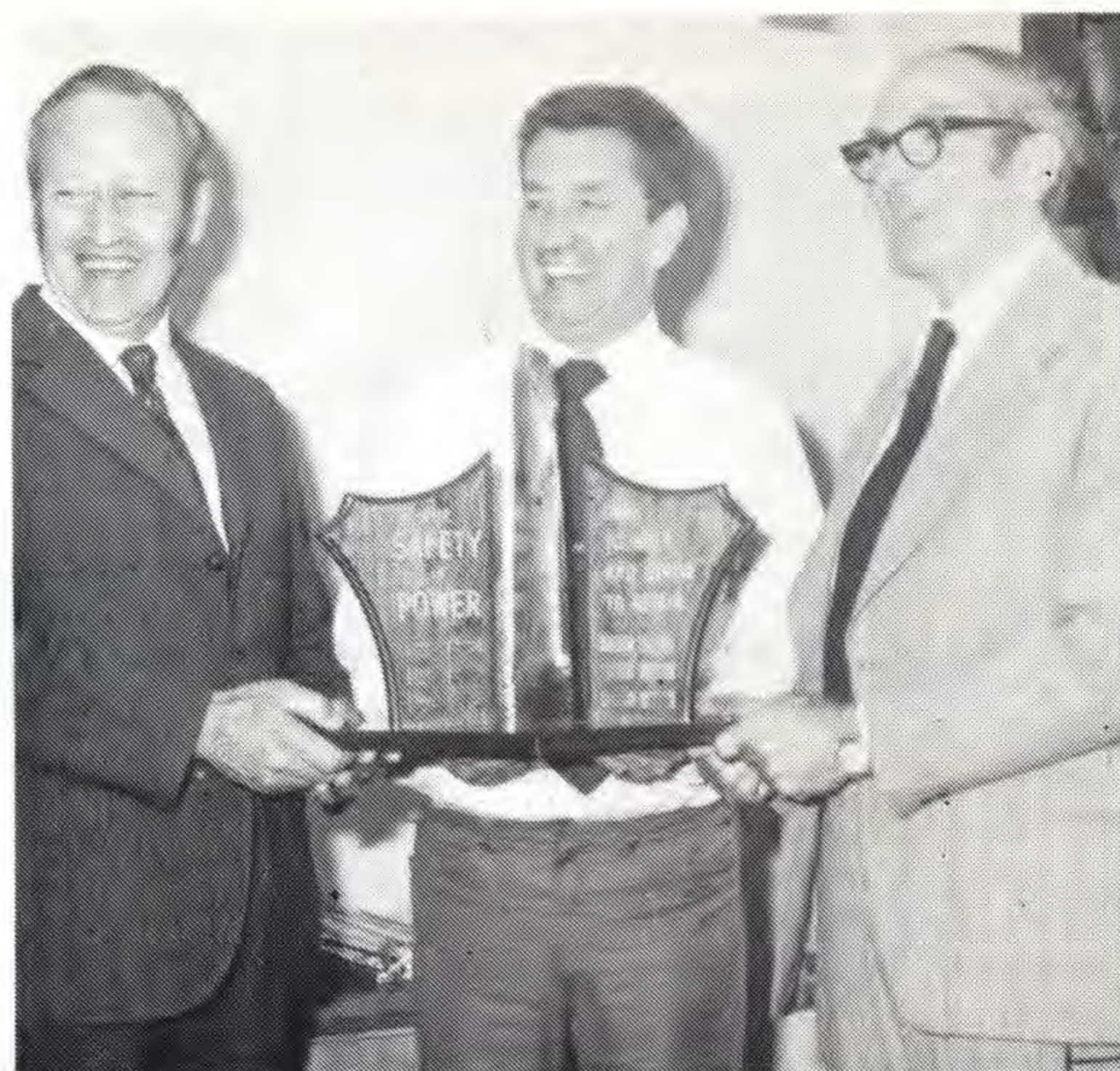
Manager Power Generation Jack Robertson presented

## Yall. PS

the trophy to Yallourn Power Station Superintendent Bruce Johnston at an informal presentation function on December 19.

In presenting the trophy Mr. Robertson commended the Yallourn power station for its excellent performance in improving its safety figures by 14.9 per cent.

The overall Department's figure improved one per cent.



## For Sale

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ENGINEERING  
SERVICES



## \$ .5 million road project complete

A new 1.4 km section of the Morwell-Thorpdale Road across the Morwell River diversion was open to traffic early this month. The new road replaces a section of Thorpdale Road cut by the diversion project.

The \$500,000 deviation includes a 112-metre long bridge, made up of 30 adjoining box-section culverts, each 3 metres wide and 2.3 metres high.

The new river crossing was designed by the CRB; approved by Morwell Shire Council, and constructed for the SEC by contractors Roche Bros.

A temporary road across the river diversion channel has maintained public access between Morwell and Thorpdale during the deviation project.

Work on the \$5.5 million Morwell River diversion is on schedule and will be completed by April.

The project involved the diversion of about 4 km of the Morwell River, with construction of a 3 km pipeline to carry the base flow of the river and a 3.7 km diversion channel to carry floodwaters. Water flowed through the diversion pipeline for the first time last September.

The project was required

in order to safeguard the Morwell Open Cut from flooding and to enable the open cut to be extended through much of the present Morwell River flood plain.

About 1.5 million cubic metres of material has been excavated during the project — mostly for filling and in the construction of levees.

The three metre diameter pipeline will take the complete river flow for about 95 per cent of the time.

During flooding the overflow water will be carried by a wide diversion channel

which has been grassed to blend in with the surrounding landscape.

The diversion channel ranges in width from 116 metres to 153 metres.

Two main levees — one 1.3 km long and one 0.8 km long will direct floodwaters through the diversion channel and back to the normal river channel. The levees are about 7 metres high at their highest points.

The project also involved a minor diversion of Eel Hole Creek, which carries overflow from Hazelwood Pondage, as well as some local drainage.

## Brodribb road resealing

The SEC Civil Works section has begun work on the reconstruction of Brodribb Road between the Midland Highway and Hazelwood cemetery.

The \$120,000 project involves the repair and resurfacing of the existing pavement.

It will be done in four stages, beginning at the Midland Highway intersection.

Work is expected to be completed by April.

During the reconstruction there will be some disruption to normal traffic flow but the road will remain open at all times.

The work is designed to upgrade the road to a standard suitable for it to be handed over to the Shire of Morwell.

The Shire at present is involved in the extension of Brodribb Road, west of Hazelwood cemetery. Eventually the road will provide a link between the Midland Highway and Morwell-Thorpdale Road.



## FLATHEAD A BEAUTY

*Port Albert is a good place to fish . . . just ask Bob Cole (painter, general services) of Morwell.*

*Bob and a small party of friends had a good days outing there recently, catching numerous fish including this 5lb flathead (pictured left) being held by Bob.*

*A keen fisherman, Bob often takes in a days fishing down Port Albert way.*



## SEC out in force for Melb. parade

The SEC was out in force for the Queen's Silver Jubilee combined armed forces parade through the heart of Melbourne on Saturday, December 3.

Thirty-three SEC employees were members of the Yallourn-based 38th Field Squadron, led by Captain Alec McQueen.

38th Field Squadron joined with 10th Field Squadron from Ringwood to form the 7th Field Engineers' Regiment for the March down Swanston Street, along Flinders Street to the Treasury Gardens.

Victorian Governor Sir Henry Winneke took the salute at the Melbourne Town Hall.

Thousands of people lined Swanston Street to watch the parade.

SEC employees marching with 38th Field Squadron were:

Lt Mike Meany, SSgt Alan Cameran, SSgt George Harris, SSgt Spencer Goss, Sgt Des Oldis, W02 Kevin Haines, Cpl Bob Munro, Sgt Ken Hamilton, Cpl 'Slim' Somerville, Cpl Peter Wakefield, Cpl Peter Bruerton, LCpl Charlie Armstrong, LCpl Dennis Stepley, LCpl Ray Haines, LCpl Fred Reiss, LCpl Bob Milburn, Spr Jimmy Born, Spr Joe Marmara, Spr Gordon Newton, Spr Lionel Perry, Spr David Wall, Spr Peter Stanbridge, Spr David Paul, Spr Max Bamford, Spr Alan Johnson, Spr Ian Ipsen, Spr Anthony Istchuk, Spr Robert Gordon, Spr Peter Stanbridge, Spr Neil Hough, Spr Kevin Russell, Cpl Linda Hall (WRAAC), Pte Susanne Dyer (WRAAC).

## Rene wins bronze medal and blisters

Rene Mole had the State's biggest power station behind him as he paddled his way into third place in the gruelling Red Cross Murray River Canoe Marathon.

Rene, 26, is a fitter at Hazelwood Power Station and his workmates in the turbine room mechanical maintenance section sponsored him in the 403km marathon from Yarrowonga to Swan Hill between Christmas and New Year.

Competing in a field of 415, Rene completed the course in 33 hours to earn a bronze medal - and a batch of very sore blisters. An injury to his right wrist on the second day was a set back to Rene's winning chances but he refused to withdraw from the race.

His rugged training schedule of riding a bicycle to

work from his Churchill home plus endless hours of canoeing on Hazelwood Pondage paid off as he kept up with the leaders.

Rene has been canoe racing competitively for only a short time.

His wife Christine and a workmate, Phillip Taylor accompanied him on the marathon, following him in a car . . . . on land.



Pictured above with his canoe is Rene Mole, who received numerous blisters on his hands during the gruelling marathon.

# retirements



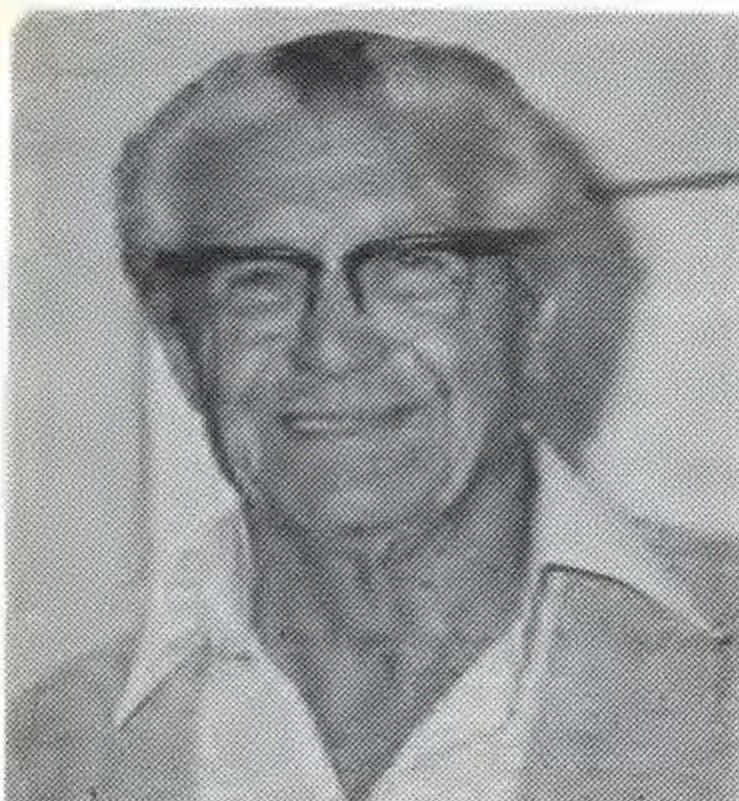
**ARTHUR HUNTLEY**

Arthur Huntley will always remember Friday, January 13, 1978. Not that it was a "Black Friday"—but it was Arthur's last day with the SEC after 27 years service.

He officially retired on January 15 but his workmates farewelled him at an informal function two days earlier.

Arthur joined the Commission on December 20, 1950 as a mechanical fitter at the Yallourn Briquette Factory. Two years later he was promoted to the position of Assistant Operations Overseer and on October 30, 1959 was appointed Operations Overseer. Following the closure of the Yallourn Briquette Factory he transferred to Morwell Briquette Factory on July 31, 1972 as an Overseer with the Mechanical Maintenance Section. In July, 1974 he transferred to Maintenance Co-ordination Group, Hazelwood Power Station, as Technical Services Officer, the position from which he retired. Arthur and his wife Betsy are planning touring holidays, during which they will enjoy their hobbies of golf, bowls and fishing. They will continue living at Newborough.

Hazelwood Power Station Superintendent, Arthur Ewen, on behalf of Arthur's workmates, presented him with a fishing reel and tackle box, and a bouquet of flowers to Betsy.



**Peter Shannon**

Peter Shannon and his wife Yvonne plan to make a new home in Sydney following Peter's retirement from the Commission on December 16.

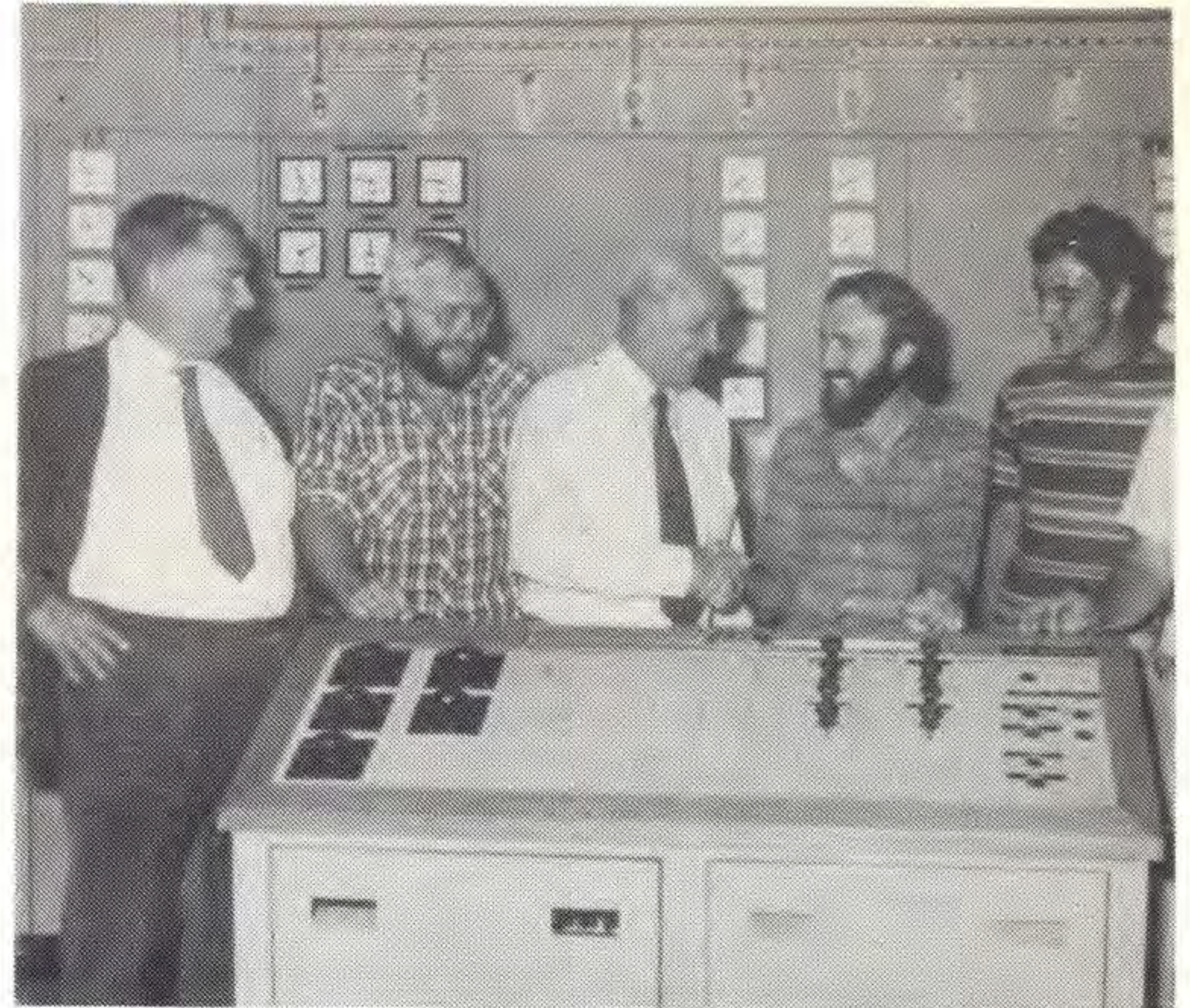
Peter joined the Commission on September 1, 1952

as a laborer with Coal Production, Yallourn. He worked in several positions before transferring to Transport, Morwell, on May 18, 1959 as a truck driver.

When he retired he was a motor driver.

After moving to Sydney Peter plans to concentrate on his hobbies of fishing, bowls and touring.

At an informal farewell at the transportation depot, Morwell, Area Services Officer John Pemberton presented Peter with an envelope of notes.



**RODNEY LANG**

After 18 years service with the Commission, Rodney 'The Colonel' Lang decided to call it a day on December 6, last year.

Rodney and his wife Colleen intend to make their future home in Queensland after living in East Newborough for more than 19 years.

He intends to take retirement day by day and enjoy his new hobby of bowling. Rodney began with the SEC in November, 1959 as an assistant operator with electrical operations in Yallourn. He transferred to Yallourn briquette factory in 1963. On the closure of these works in 1971 he returned to transmission operations section at Yallourn until March, 1972 when he was transferred to the Morwell power station, where he retired from.

At an informal farewell presentation function in the MPS control room Transmission Operations Engineer Ted Wilkinson presented Rodney with a cassette radio and some cassettes on behalf of Rodney's workmates.



**Bob Mawhinney**

A trip back to his native Ireland figures prominently in the retirement plans of Bob Mawhinney.

Bob, who is well-known throughout Gippsland for past performances as a cricketer and boxer, retired from the Commission on

January 1 after 18 years service.

He began as a trades assistant with central workshops, Morwell, on February 23, 1960. In April the same year he was appointed a rigger with Coal Production, Morwell, the position from which he retired.

Bob plans to set off in May for a trip to Ireland and Europe.

At an informal farewell in the Morwell training annexe, Morwell open cut Coal Production Superintendent Ian Runge presented Bob with a gold watch and binoculars on behalf of his workmates.

## valley visitors

# VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS AND INTER STATE

People from as far away as West Germany, Canada, Scotland, England, Western Samoa and New Zealand toured the SEC works areas in the past month.

Numerous visitors from interstate also looked us over, as well as school parties from Moorabbin, Kallista and some Gippsland schools.

Among the overseas visitors was a party from Energie-Und Verfagenstechnik of Stuttgart, West Germany. The party of five was led by

Dr. Vogt.

Another interesting party to visit was from BP Petroleum led by Mr. Robert Belgrave the Policy Advisor to the Chairman of BP in London.

The party held discussions with Coal Production Department then toured the Morwell open cut, Briquette factory and Loy Yang.

The Christmas-New Year period was a busy time for visitors to the SEC. See story page 3.



Pictured signing the visitors book in the Latrobe Valley Visitors' centre in Morwell are the members of the party from Energie-Und Verfagenstechnik.



Coal Production Co-ordination Engineer Headquarters Greg Stuart (third from left) explains the SEC's Latrobe Valley operations to the party from BP Petroleum.



Students from the Kallista High School are pictured after they had viewed the spectacular audio visual presentation in the Latrobe Valley Visitors' centre at Morwell.

## Wanted — treasure

The Latrobe Valley Unit of the Naval Reserve Cadets (T.S. Latrobe), will conduct a TRASH AND TREASURE SALE in Moe within the next 6-8 weeks.

Organisers are on the lookout for furniture, bric-a-brac, and any saleable items.

If you can help, please contact Tony Paul at the Property Office, Yallourn, to arrange collection (Tel.: 62 2161, Ext. 2751).

The Unit itself could use any items of camping equipment, tents, boats, canoes or any sporting equipment such as boxing gloves, basketballs, footballs, cricket bats, stumps or pads.

Tony assures us that every donation will be put to good use.