



CONTACT

MARCH, 1982



Conference brings visitors to works areas

The Commission regularly plays host to people from many different nations, and this month two girls from Tonga visited the Latrobe Valley works areas.

Vao Pole (left) and Elsie Funaki were guests of Mrs. Betty Jacobs of Traralgon for a week during their visit to Australia for the Association of Country Women of the World conference which was held in Shepparton.

Altogether 21 girls from Tonga were sponsored to the conference by the Victorian Branch of the Country Women's Association.

The girls were overwhelmed by the size of the power stations.

"We've never seen anything like this before," Elsie said.

"Our country is very small and we have nothing like this."

Vao and Elsie's Australian visit will extend to three months—they were selected from the group to take part in a study group at Lansell Road, Toorak, the CWA headquarters.

After their three months in Australia, Vao and Elsie will be off back to Nuku'alofa, the capital of Tonga where Vao works as a salesgirl and Elsie as a police-woman.



In receipt of the past

Receipts are those little sheets of paper issued to show that payment has been received for goods or services.

No doubt many people file receipts "just in case" they're ever needed.

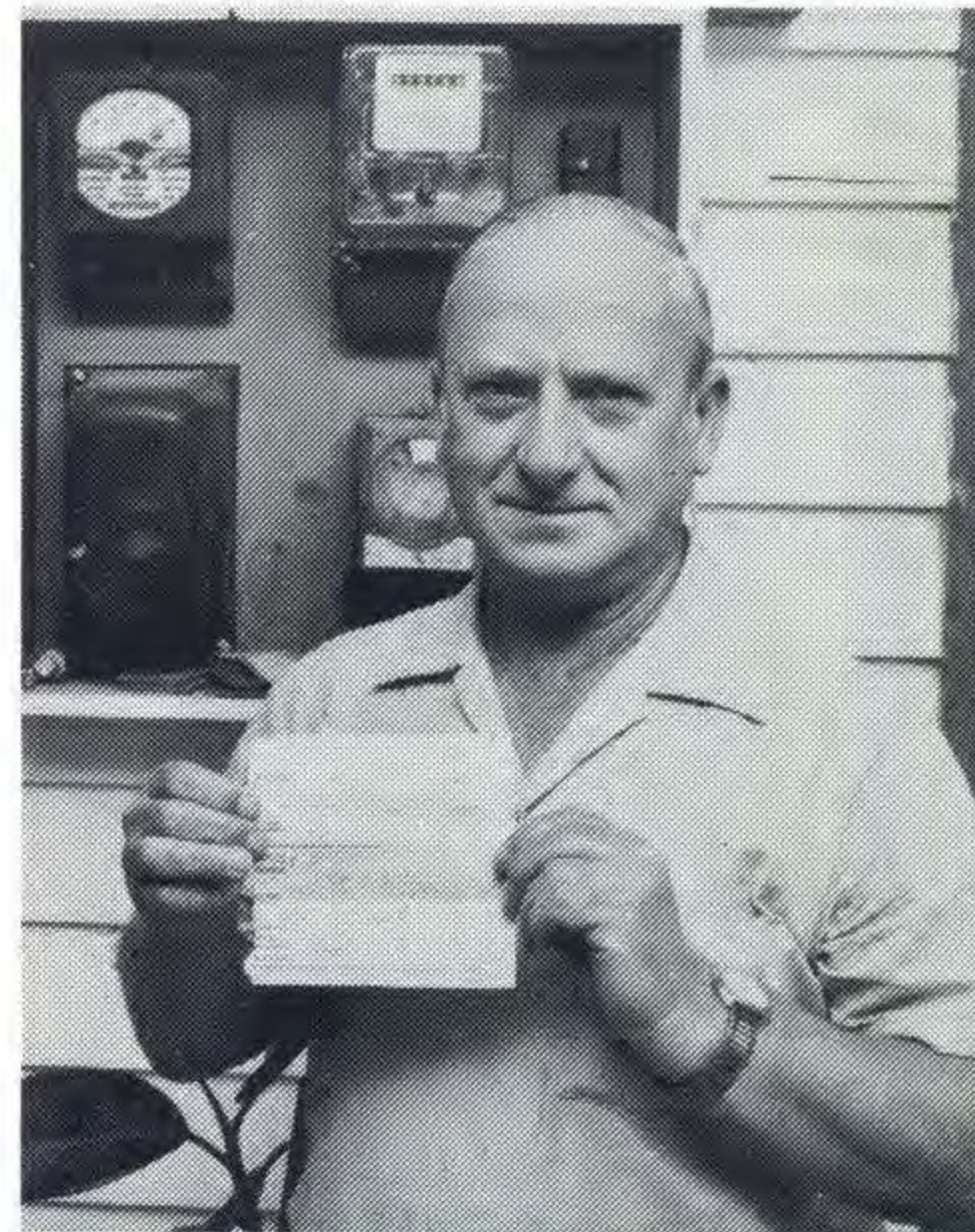
But it's not often that we come across receipts that were issued way back in the pre-depression days of 1925.

Brian Nuthall, a Unit Controller at Hazelwood Power Station, has come across such a receipt which was issued by the Melbourne Electricity Supply Company to his aunt, a Miss Kennedy, who in those days lived in Drummond Street, Carlton, for the grand sum of three shillings and ten pence — about 39 cents in today's terms.

1925 was the year the SEC took over the Melbourne Electricity Supply Company and various other organisations which supplied it, eliminating many problems associated with electricity supply.

For example, 56 years ago a lamp bought in Essendon would not function effectively in East Melbourne because of a difference in voltages.

In those days, supply companies, frustrated by large numbers of complaints, started issuing notices on the back of their receipts warning customers that appliances of the wrong voltage would be defective.



Above: Brian Nuthall shows the 57-year old reminder that people of another generation also had their bills to worry about.

FOR SALE

1972 Datsun 1600 sedan. Economical four cylinder with its fair share of get-up-and-go. Features include eight-track stereo, radio, radial tyres, sunroof and 100w driving light inserts. Asking \$2000 ono for a fine example of this popular model. Phone Ray Gillies on (051) 33 1311 A.H.

CONTACT



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

Newly crowned festival queen Kerryn Donchi has been kept on the move between her new "job" as festival queen, and her work in the Hazelwood lab. Our Contact photographer Jack Hinshelwood managed to persuade her to take a break to pose for this photo.

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Outward bound — a lesson in survival

Noel Dennison, a shift machinist in Morwell workshops and Glen Elliot, an engineering assistant at electrical tests in Yallourn shouldn't feel too guilty about sitting back for a while and resting on their laurels.

Or at least, resting on their certificates.

Both have recently returned from a 26 day course with Outward Bound Australia at Tharwa in the Australian Capital Territory.

Apprentice officer Chris Banfield also looked in on a segment of the course as part of a special "insight course," designed to provide those who nominate others for the course with an appreciation and understanding of the philosophy underlying Outward Bound.

While Noel and Glen were slogging it out up and down cliffs, skimming down the Goodradigbee River on li-los, or spending three solitary days in the bush, Chris took part in a one day familiarisation course, and then visited groups of "Outward Bounders" in the field.

Chris said it was a marvellous experience.

"We climbed about half-way up Mount Coree one morning and watched the sun rise. Just as it appeared above the horizon, an enormous owl rose out of the bush and circled around briefly before heading off. I've never seen anything like it."

Chris explained that each year two Commission employees, one commercial and one technical, are selected for the course.

"Outward Bound concentrates on personal development via physical activity," Chris said. "It's a success oriented course, and the emphasis is placed on overcoming a set task. It calls for initiative through surviving time spent in the bush."

At the end of the course, all those who successfully completed it are presented with a certificate and a Blue Peter, a blue and white badge traditionally an ensign hoisted by a ship before it sets sail.

Noel was unfortunate to injure himself during the climb up Mount Coree, and was unable to complete the course. However, due to the outstanding progress he made during the time he was on the course, the



organisers decided to award him the certificate.

Noel and Glen said the course was extremely demanding. "You really appreciate it when it's over, but during the time we were out there, we often wondered why we were putting ourselves through it," Noel said.

"The general consensus was it was pretty painful while we were doing it."

Noel said he was disappointed he couldn't finish the course.

"After 22 days of hell it was frustrating when the injury prevented me from taking part in the final four day trip. I was told later it was not quite as tough as what we had previously done.

"All in all, the course showed me what reserves we have inside us when the pressure is really on. It's amazing what you can do when you have to."

Above: Fast and furious activity at Outward Bound. After 26 days of this, it's time to go home and put your feet up.

Retirement fund advice keeps Rod busy

Sweeping changes made to the Employees' Retirement and Benefit Fund about 18 months ago have ensured Commission Amenities Officer Rod Doig is being kept right on his toes.

Rod, who is the Latrobe Valley representative for both the Superannuation Fund and Employees' Retirement and Benefit Fund, says he is receiving a steady stream of inquiries from wages employees preparing for retirement.

"We're finding a great number of people taking advantage of the opportunity to discuss a wide range of retirement related matters," he said.

"People really appreciate being able to find out exactly what their specific retirement situation is.

"We are able to provide information on leave entitlements, Retirement and Benefit Fund entitlements and other areas such as pensions and

facilities available to retired people."

The counselling service is available to people about to retire, those who have already retired or their beneficiaries.

Wages employees who would like to talk to Rod should make an appointment to see him in his office in Personnel, wing one (lower floor)



Busy as he might be, Rod Doig can always be found with a smile on his face.

of the Morwell Administration Building. He can be contacted on extension 3663.

Rod is also able to make appointments for staff employees to talk with Superannuation Fund representatives during their regular visits to the Valley.

3500 see L.Y.

The fourth annual Loy Yang open day on March 14, saw more than 3500 visitors pass through the works area.

Guided bus tours left Traralgon showgrounds throughout the day as visitors from all over Gippsland queued to take in the sights of the \$3.2 billion project.

Visitors from Melbourne, the Mornington Peninsula area, Bega on the NSW south coast, and even several from overseas toured the site.

Gippsland artists get new hope

Not only is Brian Nuthall, unit controller at Hazelwood, the owner of an ancient receipt (see page 2), but he is also an accomplished artist and part-owner of the Mount Hope Art Gallery in Tyers.

Brian, his wife Beverley, and Graeme and Diane Blackman felt there was a need for a local gallery where Gippsland artists could be promoted.

"Giving local artists a chance to display their work was foremost in our minds when we decided to go ahead with the idea," Beverley said.

"We also wanted to give aspiring artists who may not have the confidence to display their work the opportunity to do so," she said. "There are many artists who produce some really good work, but feel it isn't good enough to put on public display. We want to encourage them to do so."

Beverley said she was surprised at the response the gallery has had.

"We don't have time now to do our own painting," she said.

The gallery opened on November



27 last year and already is mounting its second exhibition. Local artists John Mutsaers and prominent Melbourne water color exponent, Robin Schubert are presently exhibiting their work which opened last month. 170 people attended a wine and cheese night to open the exhibition.

Beverley said she hoped the presence of Melbourne artists would encourage more Gippsland painters to exhibit their work.

The present exhibition will run until March 28, and the gallery is open on Saturdays and Sundays between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Private viewings can be arranged by ringing Diane Blackman on 91 8364, or Beverley Nuthall on 91 8272.

Above: Beverley and Brian Nuthall — providing a venue for not only established artists, but for many new hopefuls.

Sid's seen more than just the sea

There's no danger of new Inter-church Trade and Industry Mission chaplain, Sid Sjbranda feeling all at sea in his new post.

At one stage during his colorful secular career, Sid served as a deck officer with the Dutch Merchant Navy. He also worked as an administrator with the Dutch Civil Defence Association and was a sheet metal and timber industry worker in Western Australia before his ordination in 1963.

Now living in Newborough, Sid arrived in the Latrobe Valley in December last year from Portland where he was a Uniting Church Minister. He has also served churches at Mt. Beauty and in Western Australia.

His appointment to the Gippsland region has resulted in a shuffle of responsibilities for the team of chaplains working with the Commission.

Sid will be responsible for Yallourn and Yallourn W power stations, including both contractors and Commission employees.

Charles Dodd has retained Morwell



Briquetting and Power and has taken over Loy Yang from Bruce Burn, who is now responsible for Hazelwood and the remainder of the Commission workforce.

Sid, who is married with four children, said he decided to become

an industrial chaplain because he felt a strong call to work in industry.

"I believe that God is just as much present in the workplace as he is in a church. I see my main task as providing support and encouragement and working in a counselling situation," he said.

"This includes helping and listening to people. I hope that if people feel a need to talk to a chaplain they won't hesitate in seeing myself or either of the other chaplains.

For Sale

JVC stereo amplifier, type JA-S11 G. 30 watts RMS per channel with a frequency response of 20 hz to 20 khz at less than 0.12 total harmonic distortion. Provision is made for all inputs including two tapedecks as well as two sets of speakers. Unit is in excellent condition. Price \$150 ono. Phone Ray Gillies on 2011 (B.H.) or (056) 33 1311 (home).



AREA ADMINISTRATION

Commission appeal raises \$1924

The Commission has recently concluded its annual appeal throughout Latrobe Valley works area for the Victorian School for Deaf Children. During a three month period which began last November, Commission personnel raised \$1924 for the Central Gippsland auxiliary of the school.

Secretarial officer, Kevin Gould presented auxiliary president Pearl Hill and secretary/treasurer, Margarete Green with the cheque.

Kevin said the organisation as a whole, as well as the auxiliary, put a lot of effort into their work for deaf children.

"A lot of co-ordination is needed to provide the facilities which assist these children," he said. "I'm very impressed with their work, and I know Commission personnel are more than delighted to help in any way they can."



Pearl, in thanking Kevin, said she was very grateful to the Commission for their assistance. "It's a lovely amount of money," she said.

There are ten country auxiliaries throughout Victoria which meet annually in Melbourne for a group conference.

All money raised by the auxiliaries helps provide facilities for the school

in St. Kilda Road, Melbourne.

Each year the Commission assists by holding a fund-raising drive.

Above: Pearl Hill receives the cheque for \$1924 from secretarial officer Kevin Gould as Bev Dawson (left), Margaret Green and Ron Brooks (acting Secretarial Services Officer) looks on.

Goodbye Ed and Zeb — Hello Cedar

Patrons of Breeny's Old Time Music Hall in Old Gippsdown, Moe, would remember Ed and Zeb — short for Ebenezer and Zebediah — the two brash yanks who entertained them with colonial and bush music.

Nowadays Eb and Zeb are more sophisticated performers, and the duo has graduated to the more becoming name of "Cedar".

Paul Devlin of Land Management Section, Morwell, accounts for one half of Cedar and Gordon Carruthers, his friend, is the other.

Both are accomplished musicians and met about two years ago when they were teaching at the same music shop. They started playing together 12 months ago.

Since leaving Breeny's (which incidentally has moved to Traralgon) Paul and Gordon have been playing a wider range of contemporary music.

Paul plays guitar and bass while Gordon plucks away at the dobro, guitar and banjo. They work out their own arrangements to songs by Paul McCartney, Kenny Rogers, Mike McClelland and Jim Croce, among others.

"Work has started to snowball recently and we're finding ourselves pretty busy. We've played at Churchill Hotel, Cedar Lodge in Morwell, Traralgon Tavern and at various charity functions as well as doing an on air segment for 3UL," Paul said.

"We also used to play quite frequently at the George Bass Motor Inn at Lakes Entrance."

Although the Lakes Entrance performances required a lot of travelling, Paul said it was enjoyable. "We took our families and stayed for the weekend mostly."

Both Paul and Gordon are married, each with three



young daughters, so they made quite a sizeable travelling party.

Cedar now intends to perform mainly in the Latrobe Valley.

Gordon Carruthers and Paul Devlin seen with the tools of their musical trade. From brash yanks to a skilful duo.

Melinda sings while dad manages

Rob Johnstone, a boilermaker T/A in Morwell open cut is finding himself more and more involved in the country western business these days.

During the past 12 months, Melinda has established herself as an up and coming country and western singer.

And Rob is her manger.

Melinda made her debut appearance at the Moe festival in March last year and followed up with performances at both Morwell and Traralgon festivals. She has also appeared with the Latrobe Valley Country Music Club on many occasions and has given a number of charity concerts at Hobson's Park and retirement homes.

Things really started to happen for Melinda when she won first prize at the Orbost country music festival earlier this year — a cheque for \$300 and an invitation to appear at the Wandong country music festival, the biggest in the southern hemisphere.

During the early part of this year Melinda made more than 20 cabaret appearances in many places in southern Gippsland. She uses a number of different backing bands depending on the music she sings, but has relied heavily on local group, "Southern Mist".

Life has been pretty busy for both Rob and Melinda now that she is getting established, and also since she is a student at Maryvale High School.

"I spend about 25 hours a week organising venues and helping wherever I can," Rob said. "Also, since I'm pretty new at this sort of thing I've been getting a bit of advice from blokes who do it full-time."

Melinda is pretty happy with her new-found success. "I really enjoy the concerts but I get a bit nervous when I'm at a country music festival," she said.

"There are so many really good musicians performing, that I feel I've got to do my best. I don't mind cabarets though — the pressure isn't so great."

Up until now, Melinda has been singing different arrangements of songs by such country stars as



Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt, Patsy Cline and Crystal Gale, but she is planning to record a song in the near future which will possibly be written by Cash Backman.

Also in the pipeline at the moment is the formation of her own backing group.

So far a bass guitarist, lead guitarist and a drummer have been

selected, and a decision is yet to be made whether the final member will be a rhythm guitarist or a pianist.

"I'd really like a piano in the band," Melinda said. "It would add a bit of difference to the group." When finalised, the group will be known as "Melinda Johnstone and Country Plus."

The grapefruit challenge

Eat your heart out Don Coupe!

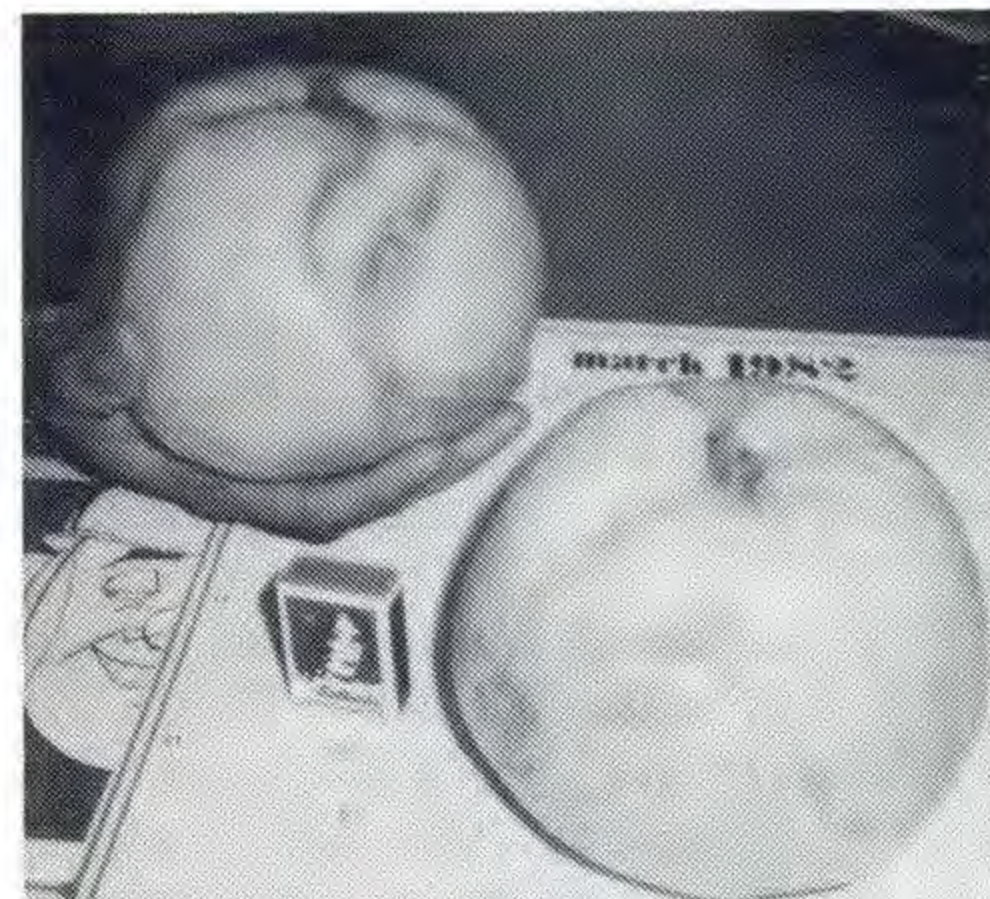
This is the unspoken message from Bruce Ronalds (Coal Production, headquarters) who turned up these beauties from his grapefruit tree.

Bruce said he's never really bothered about measuring or weighing his fruit in the past.

"However, when I saw Don and his fruit in Contact I thought I'd take up the challenge," Bruce said.

Each fruit weighs slightly over a kilogram and measures between 49cm and 52cm in circumference.

"Actually, I've had still bigger grapefruit than that," Bruce said.



Will anyone else take up the challenge?



ENGINEERING SERVICES

Survey sizes up dredger

Loy Yang's No. 14 dredger has received its fair amount of attention since construction of the giant began in 1979.

The construction itself was a formidable task requiring two years work, but when the constructure was completed, the job was nowhere near finished . . . it had to be tested, weighed and moved across Traralgon Creek Road to the gullet cut, a major undertaking in itself.

The latest task on the agenda is to measure the dredger, and the Survey boys really had their job cut out for them.

"How", you might ask, "Can you measure a dredger?"

Two sets of measurements are required.

The first relates to the dredger's performance. Will it do what it was designed to do? A comparison is



Peter Jackson (Yallourn Coal Production), Dave Bowditch (Loy Yang Survey), Jack Hinshelwood (Photographer, Yallourn), Terry Bittner (Loy Yang Survey) and Wayne Porter (Yallourn Survey), During the dredger survey.

made between the design and actual measurements. Extremely small tolerances, often not exceeding 3mm, are required. Using a series of surveyor's calculations, the exact slew centre is located, and from this other measurements can be made.

The second set of measurements relates to the clearance points around the bucketwheel head when it is operating on a coal or over-

burden face. This is generally a separate exercise from the first, although some figures do overlap.

Measurements are taken at 14 critical points on the main frame and 32 points around the bucket-wheel.

Photographs are also taken with measuring staffs placed at certain distances from the head, and these assist in pin-pointing critical locations at a later date.

CAD system boosts drawing of office

Central Drawing Office, Yallourn, has recently joined the "space race" with the installation and setting up of a computer aided drafting (CAD) system.

The system's hardware comprises a central processing unit and has provision for four visual display units, a magnetic tape unit, a disc drive unit, an input keyboard, one plotter and a digitiser.

The system can be expanded as needs arise and by May it is

expected that five visual display units will be operating for design drafting.

The system is programmed to deal with all drawing office functions — civil, electrical and mechanical. The disc drive unit is the day-to-day working medium while the tape is used for long-term data storage.

The system has been integrated with the present office procedure of information retrieval without

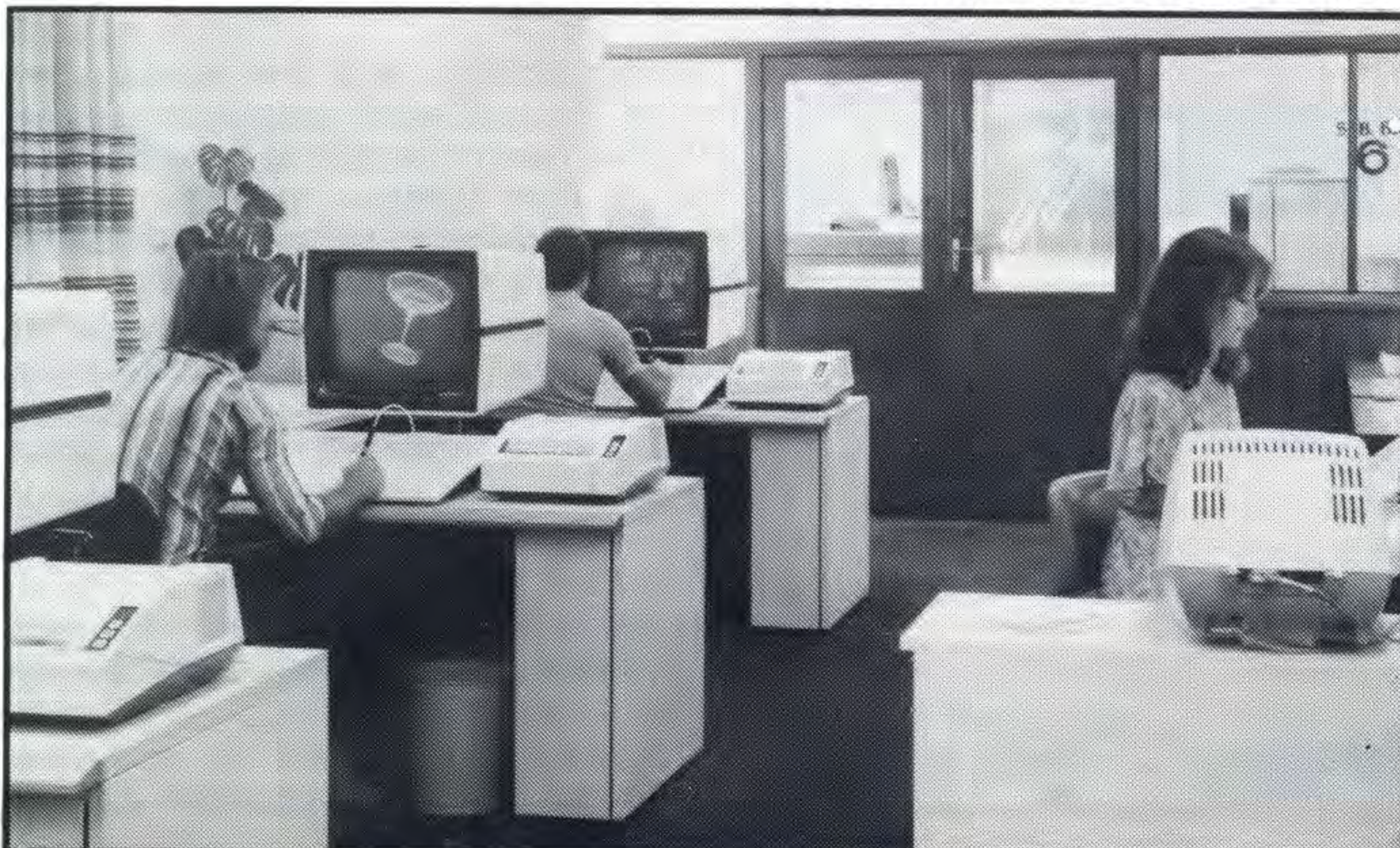
having to modify the existing organisation. Security at various levels has been ensured by a cross-reference system of operation passwords and job/drawing numbers.

Chief Draftsman, Jim Helms, said the new system has speeded up the revision of drawings considerably.

"The different levels of security has resulted in certain areas being standardised which makes for greater efficiency," Jim said. "However, these can be changed if necessary."

The system incorporates a Xynetics plotter which utilises a head which can hold either biros, felt-tip pens or ink pens of different colors. The head "free floats" with the aid of magnetism and a cushion of air resulting in no wearing parts. The head is accurate to .03mm and it can repeat over the same line with an accuracy of .09mm.

Jim said the hardware may expand at the rate of one or two new VDU screens each year.



Part of the CAD system in Central Drawing Office, Yallourn showing three of the video display units.

Is being near a Cartophilic worrying?



In some ways it could be catching, but the only serious symptoms exhibited might be smoking, buying cornflakes, chewing gum and drinking lots of tea.

All this in the name of collecting the cards contained in the packets, for being a Cartophilic is nothing more drastic than an avid collector of cards.

Barry Warner, a stores supervisor at Yallourn has been plagued by this affliction for 39 years — ever since his father gave him a collection of cigarette cards that he'd put together as a child.

Barry is also a suffering Numismatic and Philatelic — his interests extend to coins and stamps.

Barry has a collection of 40 000 cards of every type — swap cards, cigarette cards, bubblegum cards, cards from packets of tea, and even breakfast cereals. This is not to say that he chews gum, smokes cigarettes and drinks copious amounts of tea.

"I prefer to swap with other people, and I'm always on the lookout for items that I don't have," he said. Barry believes that buying items for his collection detracts from the true spirit of collecting.

Barry's coins are especially interesting, perhaps because, according to Barry, money has more universal interest than anything else yet devised by man.

He has thousands of coins from all over the world — some dating as far back as early Roman times.

Every coin, card and stamp in Barry's collection is indexed and he says he's lost count of the time spent doing it.

"I spent most of my spare time on it — it's such an interesting hobby," he said.

"The earliest set of cards I have dates back to the early 1900's and features the football stars of the day.

"But perhaps the most interesting are the cigarette cards; they are virtually an encyclopaedia in card form."

"If anyone has any old cards, coins or stamps and they aren't too keen about catching my affliction, I'd be most interested in helping them out by taking them off their hands."

Barry can be contacted on 2182.

Above: Barry with some of his thousands of cards and coins. It seems that such afflictions as Cartophilia might be a lot of fun.

Roadworks in progress

Work has started on the Commercial Road Extension past the Morwell works area.

Traffic coming into the works area and to the car park near number one gate has been diverted to the southern half of the existing roadway and a temporary unsealed strip will be provided for outgoing traffic.

This diversion will be necessary for about three weeks while construction of the northern half of the new roadway is completed. Traffic will then be diverted to the north side to allow completion of construction of the remainder of the roadway.

Work on this section of the extension should be completed before the end of April.

Motorists are asked to exercise caution during the construction period.

Watch these beasties!

Summertime seems to have been spider time this year in Valley works areas.

And among the range of creepy-crawlies that have been spotted lately is the dreaded red-back.

One of the red-back's favorite haunts seems to be on fire extinguishers, but no doubt there are plenty of other places where they can be uncovered. If you need to use an extinguisher make sure you check it first, and the same can be said for any other fixtures that have been in place for some time.

If by chance you are bitten make sure you seek medical assistance as soon as possible. It helps if you are able to capture the spider because the anti-venene is different for males and females.



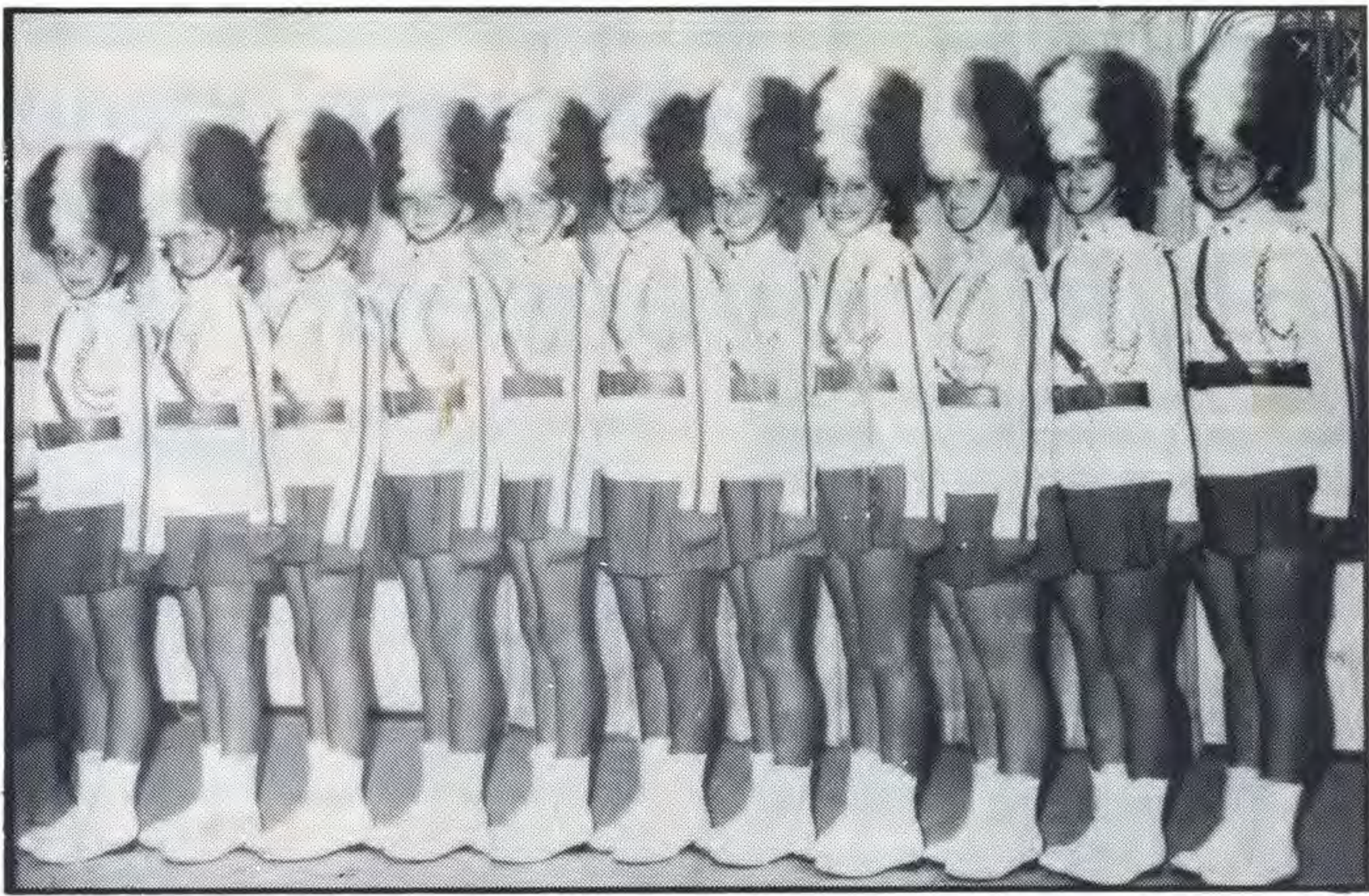
Marching for the fun of it

When Bill Boddington, Apprentice Instructor at central workshops, left the artillery unit of the Territorial Army in Great Britain as a warrant officer 27 years ago, it wasn't all that easy to completely forget the "By the centre, quick march" order of many years training.

Arriving in Australia, he joined the 16th regiment of the Royal Engineers, supplementary reserve as a regimental sergeant major. "By the centre, quick march" was still firmly implanted in Bill's way of life.

Bill's two daughters were part of a marching team, and over the years his interest has grown in display marching to the extent that a local junior team, the McMillan Marching girls, was formed, of which Bill is president.

The team of 12 girls between 12 and 14 from Morwell and Moe have not only appeared in non-competitive marching displays, but have also met with considerable success in competition.



They recently gained a second place in display marching and were also awarded the junior trophy for their efforts in promoting marching throughout Victoria. They also made it to the grand final in New Faces, and three years ago they won the national titles in Tasmania. As well as being president of the team, Bill is also chief marshal of the Victorian Marching Girls Association. In this role he is in charge of all the other marshalls on competition days. He is also responsible for designing

the mass displays of teams.

In 1980 Bill was chief marshal for the inter-dominion competition which included teams from all over Australia and New Zealand, and last year he was chief marshal for four teams at the VFA grand final.

At the moment Bill and the girls are gearing up for the national titles in Darwin during April. Fund raising is occupying a fair amount of his time as the trip is expected to cost \$6 000.

Stage one of dust study complete

The first stage of a long term study of brown coal dust levels in SEC Latrobe Valley works areas is complete.

The study, designed to determine the level of operator exposure to coal dust and any possible effects on health, has been undertaken by the Commission's occupational health team.

The first stage involved measurement of fine and coarse airborne dust particles using fixed site sampling equipment in various work locations.

Commission Medical Officer, Dr. Ross Lazarus said first stage results had shown total dust levels were low in open cut areas but higher in enclosed areas, such as raw coal and station bunkers.

"However the level of very fine dust, the type most likely to affect health, was very low," he said.

"Although at this stage very little is known about the effects of brown coal dust, the evidence so far suggests that it is not a serious problem. It is known that older deposits of black coal are the most dangerous from a health point of view."

Ross said the second stage of

the study would use a method called "personal dosimetry" and concentrate on measuring the exposure of individual employees to coal dust.

"This method will require employees to wear small battery-powered samplers throughout their shifts to provide researchers with an accurate measure of exposure.

"Measurements will be taken over many years, and different working conditions will be monitored each day.

"In another part of the study we will be asking volunteers to have their lung health tested and to fill in a questionnaire on chest symptoms every second year.

"Initial results of the personal dosimetry program will be available after two years, but it's expected to take between six and 16 years to obtain conclusive results."

Ross said men working in areas where high dust levels have been measured can be equipped with personal protective equipment and dust filter masks can be obtained from safety officers.

He said that if high levels of dust were found in particular jobs, several steps could be taken.

These include:

- use of improved dust suppression equipment or ventilation,
- rotation of employees working in dusty areas during shifts so that they are not exposed to high dust levels for long periods, and,
- use of dust filter masks or battery-powered filter respirators.

"The most important part of the study is the research of the effects of coal dust on health, and the ultimate aim is to measure the effects accurately. The co-operation of people on the job will be a major factor in making the study a success.

For Sale

System 80 computer, featuring 16 K memory, level 2 basic, level control and meter, built-in cassette with rec/PB, RV and video outputs, demonstration software tapes, and all original manuals. Unit is almost new. \$650. Contact R. Kopler on 3712 or (051) 22 2693 A.H.

Monier electric icecream maker, excellent condition — \$30. One set (24 volumes) Colliers Encyclopaedia complete with year book — \$300. Contact P. W. Butcher, Yallourn 4214 or (051) 27 2171 A.H.



POWER GENERATION

Flying overseas trip for talks

Power Generation Manager, Don Clark and Hazelwood Power Station Superintendent, Bruce Johnston made a 'flying' overseas visit this month.

Don and Bruce were invited to take part in discussions with the managing director of N.E.I. Parsons Mr. Duncan McDonald, following his visit to the Commission and discussions regarding six Parsons units at Hazelwood.

The discussions took place at Newcastle-on-Tyne in England.

Don and Bruce also had the opportunity to talk with the Director of Production (Midlands Region) of Britain's Central Electricity Gener-



Don
Clark



Bruce
Johnston

ating Board, Mr. Hugh Matthews.

Prior to arriving in Great Britain, Don and Bruce stopped over for

three days in Johannesburg for talks with management of the Electricity Supply Commission of South Africa who also use a number of N.E.I. Parsons' units.

"The main thrust of our discussions will be directed towards problems associated with the ageing of the units which are installed at Hazelwood," Don said. "We would like to see ourselves in a position where we can prepare for any problems which might arise as the units get older. By preparing for them in advance, we can be assured of as little downtime as possible when and if problems do occur."

Queen Kerryn is busy

March has been a hectic month for Hazelwood power station trainee scientific assistant Kerryn Donchi.

Following her crowning as Latrobe Valley Festival Queen at the festival ball, 18 year old Kerryn has been flat out doing the rounds of festival attractions.

Happy but tired, Kerryn said she was thoroughly enjoying her new "job".

"The past few weeks have been very hectic," she said. "I'll be sad

when it's over but I'll also be glad to have a rest."

Kerryn, whose father Dick Donchi is Mechanical Maintenance Engineer at Hazelwood, was sponsored in the queen quest by Hazelwood Rotaract Club.

The club ran a bush dance, raffle and a number of other functions to raise about \$1000. About half the money raised will help pay for a hoist for disabled people at the Morwell indoor swimming pool, with the remainder going to the festival organisation.

The six festival queen entrants raised more than \$15 000.

Outgoing festival queen, Baree Egan, crowned Kerryn at the festival ball on March 12. Fifteen year old Kerrie Ford of Traralgon, who raised \$7000, was crowned Miss Charity Queen.

Kerryn's prizes included \$1000 cash and a gold watch.

She joined the Commission in February last year as a trainee scientific assistant and recently has embarked on a part-time science degree.



From test tubes and Bunsen Burners to festival queen, Kerryn Donchi is equally at home in the Hazelwood lab or as guest of honor at Latrobe Valley festival functions.

13 new starters for Power Generation dept.

This year's intake of graduate engineers sees Power Generation Department with 13 new starters.

A total of 72 new engineers were selected for posts throughout the Commission.

Assistant Power Engineer, Clive Williams said graduates from all over the country were interviewed by a number of boards.

Some interviews were conducted in Queensland and South Australia.

"Each year Power Generation looks for between 10 and 15 new graduate engineers," Clive said. "Generally we would like to recruit two new mechanical engineers for each power station each year. At the moment we're trying to expand to meet the demand generated by the Loy Yang project."

Assistant Power Station Superintendent (Hazelwood) Peter Euman, who sat on one of the selection boards, said the calibre of applicants was very high.

"The applicants' appreciation and understanding of the Commission was very thorough," Peter said. "Most were attracted to the broad scope of experience they could gain within the Commission."

"The spectrum encompasses areas including planning and maintenance right up to management. A great deal of interest was expressed in the experience/career scale where promotion is based on their increasing experience."



TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS

Morwell's 21st century exchange

Ninety seconds — that's all it took to end 26 years of service from the Commission's old Morwell telephone exchange and to phase in the half-million dollar Dimension 2000 computer-based exchange on March 6.

It seemed almost an anti-climax after four years of hard work, from the time the system was proposed to when it became an operating reality. With the change came improved service and a wider range of facilities for Morwell based personnel.

Transmission Engineer, Services, Alan Scott said the "switch" was part of the first stage in establishing a state-wide SEC communications network.

"The capacity of the old exchange was being exceeded," Alan said. "It couldn't cope, and we were finding it increasingly difficult to expand. The exchange was suffering from wear and spare parts were getting harder to procure. It was time to move into something completely new which would, in the long run, result in a saving.

"There were all sorts of problems with the old system. It was difficult in some cases to get a connection, noisy when you finally did get one, and also our operators on the switchboard were under great

pressure."

Alan said introduction of the new exchange represented a significant technological leap forward. "By going from the old exchange to the new electronic type we've virtually gone from the very oldest to the very latest," he said.

The new system has also resulted in a few changes of numbers. Morwell switchboard has changed from 34 2244 to 35 3222 and outside Telecom users will be able to reach extensions beginning with '3' direct by dialling '35' plus the wanted extension without having to go through the manual exchange.

The new system features a number of facilities previously unavailable. Among these are a three-way conference facility and an automatic call back should the number being dialled signal engaged.

"I think it's important to stress the improved environment for our switchboard operators. They were pretty cramped in their former surroundings, and now each one has their own cubicle as part of a module in a much larger space.

Communications Major Projects Engineer, Stan Brown said the installation program comprised four stages: laying the cables from the old exchange to the Latrobe Valley

Control Centre, extending the LVCC, installing the cable carried multiplex system, and finally, installing and connecting the new equipment.

"We relied heavily on overseas experience in choosing our equipment, in particular the United States," Stan said.

"Our ultimate aim is to provide all those phones that have the need with the facility to reach anywhere within the proposed state-wide SEC communications network simply by dialling seven numbers. Each zone will be prefixed by three numbers, and provided that diallers phone has been programmed for that purpose, he will be able to reach part of, if not all of, the network.

"It's important to realise that the status of any particular phone is a departmental decision — we have nothing to do with it. If a user feels he should have greater access with his phone, he should approach his own department."

"All in all it's been a big job well done, and I appreciate the great efforts by the members of the Communications Group."

The next stage in the development of the state-wide SEC communications network will see the introduction of identical automatic exchanges at Loy Yang and Yallourn in June and November respectively.

\$IMPLE \$UGGESTION LEADS TO AWARD

Some of the best ideas are the most simple ones.

Barry Harkins, an electrician special class (electrical fitter) at Morwell recently scored a \$300 suggestion scheme award for designing a bracket.

Simple? Certainly, but the bracket enabled two existing pieces of equipment to be used in conjunction with each other which resulted in a significant time saving.

The large copper commutators on the armatures of the Hazelwood exciters are separated by pieces of mica. Each commutator is made up of 422 copper segments, and the Mica between these segments has to be removed.

Previously it was done with a hacksaw blade, but care had to be taken to prevent the blade slipping out of the cutting slot and scratching the surface of the commutator.

Barry adapted a bracket to a moveable frame so that a small circular saw, about 20mm in diameter, could be attached to the frame and be moved in a perfectly straight line, removing the Mica and not jumping out of the slot.



Geoff Hall, acting Transmission Engineer, Services, said it was an extremely simple idea.

Above: Acting Transmission Engineer, Services, Geoff Hall presents Barry Harkins with his suggestion scheme award.

Club Notes . . .

Yallourn W Social Club

Yallourn W Social Club is another group organising a "Rocky Horror" trip to Melbourne. Club treasurer, Tony Disisto said there was one trip early in March, and the demand was so great, they decided to organise another one.

"People were ringing up and trying to get on the last one long after it was sold out," he said.

"The last trip we had was a tremendous success. We stopped for tea on the way, and all in all it was great fun."

Future events planned for the social club include a country and western evening at the Gippsland Folk Museum later in April and a social night is being planned for July. A busy year ahead for Yallourn W Social Club!

Tony wishes to remind everyone that memberships are now due. The going rates are \$40 for membership and \$2 joining fee for all new members. Inquiries should be made to Helen Procak on 2960 or Bart Puts on 4365.

Workshops Area Social Club

Like so many other social clubs seem to be doing lately, the Workshops Area Social Club is planning a "Rocky Horror" bus trip to Melbourne. For a show that's been around for years, it's certainly going through a revival.

Club secretary John Hoffard has organised two buses, leaving from number two carpark at 3.00 p.m. on March 27. The show starts at 6.30 p.m., although it could prove interesting if the bus driver gets as involved in the chicken and champagne as much as the rest of the crew on the trip.

John would also like to make a final reminder that memberships for this year will close on April 30, so get those forms and subscriptions in.

Yallourn Power Station Social Club

Yallourn Power Station Social Club is planning a bus trip to Dirty Dicks later in March.

Two buses are going down to Melbourne and all told 90 people have booked in. Unfortunately there are no more seats available but there's always the chance of a last minute cancellation for the odd lucky person. Club secretary Jack Davis said it promised to be a good night, and this was reflected in the enormous response.

Morwell Briquette and Power Social Club

Morwell Briquetting and Power Installations's April social is scheduled for the 16th this year at Kernot Hall.

Two bands have been booked — Dusk Till Dawn and Pyramid — and a smorgasbord supper will be served. The evening's entertainment will run from 7.30 p.m. to 1.30 a.m. At \$16 a double, good value is assured and club secretary Bill Barnes says it will be "a beauty".

Further information and booking inquiries can be directed to Bill on 3219.

Looking a little into the future, a ladies night is being planned for May 7th at the Morwell Bowling Club. Details haven't been finalised yet, but if it's the ladies equivalent of the "men's night's", look out — it should be a good evening.

And even further into the future, the social club's annual general meeting has been set down for May 19th. Nominations for committee will go out in mid April and the new secretary will be elected by the out-going committee.

Main Office Social Club

Main Office Social Club (Yallourn) held the annual general meeting on February 22, and a number of new faces have appeared on the executive and club committee.

Harold Bridge and Geoff McKay still occupy the positions of president and secretary respectively, while new faces, Jim Henderson and Ken Flanigan hold the posts of treasurer and vice-president.

Last year's committee members who were returned this year are: Jim Bechaz, Terry Gooding, Geoff Marland and Reg Walley, and these members welcome new starters: Peter Chappel, Vic Lovison and Rob Vesty. This year, Survey got back into the act with Phillip Lowe and Tony Van-Rossum also elected to the committee. Survey personnel have been absent from the committee for the last four years, and it's good to see them back amongst it.



Laurence Plunkett (father Laurie Plukett, temporary foreman at Morwell briquette factory) looks fairly pleased with his scholarship interview with board members Jim Dyer (foreman painter, Hazelwood), Cyril Morellato (M.B. & P.I. Superintendent), Ken Hewitt (Overseer, Briquette Factory) and Pat Higgs (Occupational Health Sister). Bill Barnes (kiosk) is in the background.

A lot of media attention has been paid recently to the No. 14 dredger at Loy Yang, but Loy Yang's TS4 stacker — which is preparing to move from its erection site to the overburden dump conveyor — is another giant, one with a big appetite.

The 2100 tonne stacker is capable of moving 10 800 cubic metres of overburden ever hour, and that's equivalent to filling an area the size of the Melbourne Cricket Ground to a depth of 14 metres in one day.

The machine stands 33.5 metres high and has an overall length of 167.5 metres.

It's completely mobile, moving on large caterpillar tracks, and both the tripper car and stacker unit can be steered independently. It has a top speed of 10.5 metres per minute.

The major difference between the TS4 and other stackers operating in the Latrobe Valley is that instead of running on fixed rails along a ground conveyor, the tripper car straddles the conveyor on crawlers.

The drive for the dump conveyor is mounted on the tripper and not on the head of the conveyor as it is with other stackers.

These innovations give greater flexibility of operation, especially during the movement of the ground conveyor from one location to another.



The initial overburden dump to be worked by the stacker will fill a small valley on the south side of the power station site in a three-level operation.

The first level, which will take about five years to fill, will hold approximately 20 million cubic metres of overburden.

The second and third levels will hold between 45 million and 55 million cubic metres of overburden.

The stacker was built by Johns Perry/MAN Consortium.

Many of the mechanical com-

ponents, including the conveyor and travel drive gearboxes, were made in West Germany by MAN.

However, more than 1500 tonnes of structural work was manufactured at Johns Perry's South Australian workshops.

The electrical contractor was Brown Boveri, Australia, and McFee Constructions handled the mechanical erection.

Fire services were supplied by Gean Valley Ltd. and wiring was installed by Bailey and Grimster.

ONE SMALL NIBBLE

Loy Yang's No. 14 dredger has begun taking tentative nibbles at the overburden in the gullet cut.

SEC engineer, Ian Coad said the operation had gone smoothly, apart from the inevitable minor problems.

Explaining the current program, Ian pointed out the reason for the digging was twofold — to build a small ramp on the eastern approach to the cut so that final ramp testing could be carried out, and to test the dredger's digging ability.

Discussions between the SEC and Krupp Australia have been held recently and it appears likely that the dredger will be handed over to the SEC very soon.

"All commission bar load testing has been completed," Ian said.

Ian said some fouling points showed up after the dredger was driven into some extreme operating positions. These will need modifications which involve reorganising walkways and loading hoppers on the bridge conveyor.

A spicy contract

Variety, as they say, is the spice of life, and if there's any doubts about that, they will be quickly dispelled by Gathercole Industries new contract at Loy Yang.

The contract calls for the general architectural fitting out of the central services building, and also includes work on the stair wells, ground floor, entrance foyers, external cladding of the building excluding the ground floor or roof—and all internal walls.

All air-conditioning is included in the contract, which SEC contract engineer Brian Gladman described as one covering an unusually wide range.

"There's something for everyone in this contract, although generally speaking it covers miscellaneous building works and concentrates mainly on the lab area."

The lab area is comprised of an investigations lab, boiler and feed water, specialist water, coal, and lubricant analysis sections. Also included are an instrument maintenance section, station chemists' office, conference rooms and amenities areas.

In all, the lab section occupies about 40 per cent of the second floor, with the remainder housing an instrument workshop and training areas.

"We've only just handed over the site services building up near the canteen the other week and moving to the main station area has given us a change of scenery," he said.

Most of the internal work involves detailed fitting out of the lab areas.

Gathercole Industries' project manager Ian Cuthbert said the site provided a great deal of variety.

"The diversity of this contract will certainly keep us occupied."

Service Register

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

25 YEARS

George Hutton	Operations, Transmission Operations
Tony Smith	Materials and Services
Chris Jacobs	Coal, Morwell
John Nuttman	Yallourn Power Station
Anton Bek	Yallourn W Power Station
Frank Jakob	Coal, Morwell
Charles King	Hazelwood Power Station
Stanley Wilson	Morwell Briquetting and Power
Duncan Fergus	Yallourn Power Station

30 YEARS

Derrick Darby	Mechanical Services
Sam Brymner	Yallourn W Power Station
Ron Croot	Yallourn Power Station
John Carswell	Payments Section, Finance
Eustachij Lesiw	Central Workshops, Yallourn
Vernon Rainbow	Transport, Yallourn
John Todd	Transport Workshops, Yallourn
John Mellups	Yallourn W Power Station
Lloyd Allison	Yallourn Power Station
Bernard Clayton	Yallourn W Power Station
Emil Kobiela	Coal, Yallourn
Dusan Milojevic	Coal, Yallourn
Kevin Blanch	Yallourn W Power Station
Arthur Camenzuli	Transport, Yallourn
Jezdimir Ivkovi	Coal, Yallourn
Wladslaw Pegiel	Morwell Briquetting and Power
Franz Faltum	Coal, Yallourn
Milivoje Jovanovic	Coal, Yallourn
Richard Roberts	Yallourn Power Station
Wladslaw Koscielicki	Morwell Briquetting and Power
Stan Kowalik	Coal, Yallourn
Ray Healand	Hazelwood Power Station

32 YEARS

Jimmy Ireland	Area Security, Secretarial
Stefan Gural	Yallourn W Power Station
Joseph Galea	Yallourn Power Station
Emmanuel Ellul	Yallourn W Power Station
Charles Mallia	Yallourn W Power Station
Francis Balzan	Yallourn Power Station
Peter Vella	Civil Works, Yallourn

33 YEARS

John Lawson	Management, Power Generation
Rob Miller	Morwell Briquetting and Power
John Bielajs	Accounting Section, Finance
Doug Tee	Coal, Morwell

34 YEARS

Ron Allpress	Coal, Headquarters
Ian McArthur	Morwell Briquette and Power
Norm Ross	Coal, Yallourn
Vin Cameron	Mechanical Services
Ken Hender	Coal, Yallourn
Len Rawling	Electrical Services, Yallourn
Bill Slade	Yallourn Power Station

35 YEARS

Bruce Hutchinson	Industrial Relations Group
Fred Badenhope	Coal, Headquarters
Ken Cooper	Payments Section, Finance
Frank Hiscock	Finance

36 YEARS

Don Foster	Hazelwood Power Station
Vern Collings	Industrial Relations Group
Bub Whitbourne	Public Relations

39 YEARS

Don McAlister	Yallourn Power Station
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41 YEARS

Maurie Rodda	Mechanical Services
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42 YEARS

Ken Woff	Property Services, Secretarial
Jim Shaw	Civil Services

44 YEARS

Gordon Taylor	Hazelwood Power Station
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47 YEARS

Keith Parker	Yallourn W Power Station
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Conveyor contracts soon to rise

Eglo, PWH, main contractors on stage one of the overburden conveyors and the remaining section of the raw coal bunker conveyor at Loy Yang are about to get a big lift.

Site erection has recently begun on the rising conveyor section which, when completed, will stretch 685 metres from an intersection with the L115 open cut conveyor at the Eastern end of the raw coal bunker.

Included in the contract are two auxiliary overburden conveyors, L800 and L801, which will allow greater use and improved reliability of the coal supply system to the raw coal bunker.

Eglo will be responsible for erection of the remaining superstructure and all associated mechanical works.

SEC contract engineer Greg Mitchell, said the contract is expected to be completed by March 1983.

Eglo PWH's other contract, the stage one conveyor system, is in its final phase. When completed, the conveyor will carry 8000 cubic metres per hour with isolated peaks of 10 000 cubic metres per hour.

Greg said the L115 conveyor can shuttle 90 metres between overburden conveyor L700 and rising conveyor L220 which would allow coal to be conveyed to the raw coal bunker.

"As an anti-pollution measure, there is a reclaim conveyor, L700R, which will move any spill material from L115 back onto L700 for transportation to the overburden dump," Greg said.

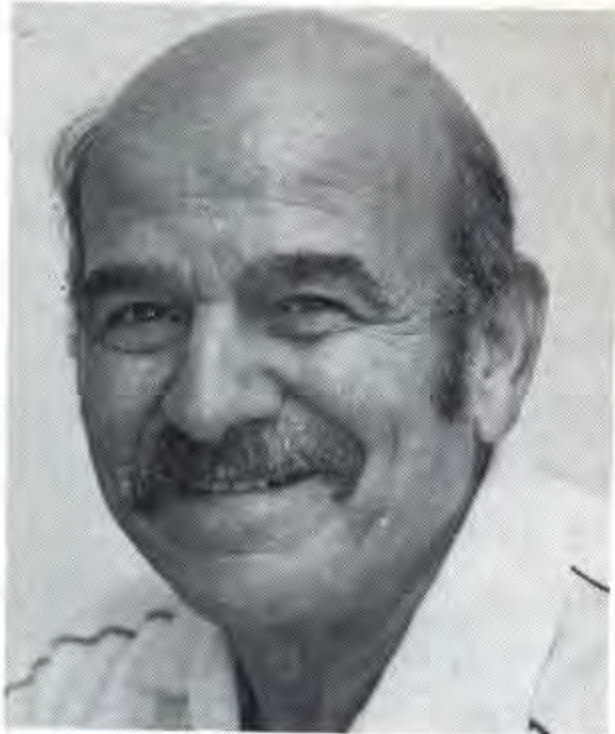
"In previous open cuts, spill material was washed down, but here we are trying to recover spill to prevent it polluting water sent to Traralgon Creek."

Subcontractors Oliver J. Neilson are carrying out associated electrical work.



retirements




**TOM AMALOS**

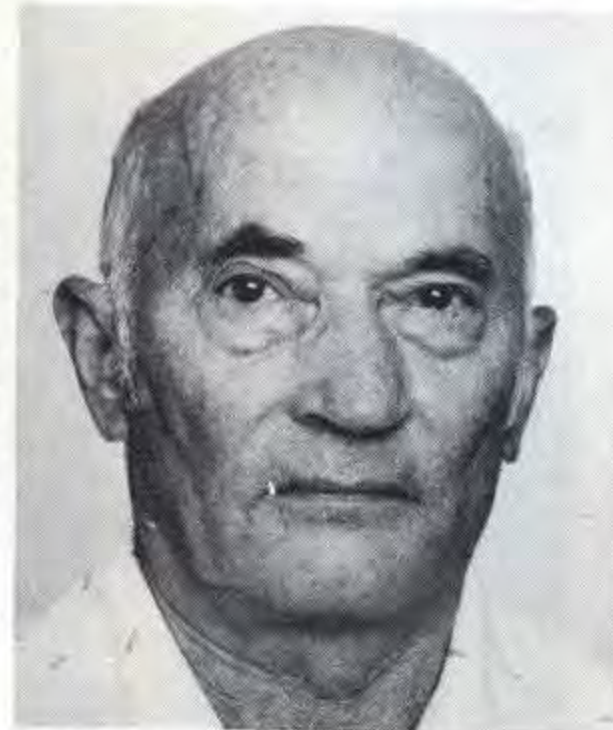
A cheque was presented to Tom Amalos at a retirement dinner held for him when he retired on January 22. He retired from the position of Overseer, Mechanical Maintenance Section, Morwell Briquetting and Power Division, Power Generation, after more than 30 years of service. He joined in 1951 as a Motor Mechanic with Transport workshops, City Road, South Melbourne. Tom is planning to move to Bateman's Bay and continue his interests in fishing, junior soccer and photography.

**BOB KOZENIAUSKAS**

After 33 years of service with the Commission, Bob Kozeniauskas retired from the position of Supervisor, Morwell Open Cut Division, Coal Production. He joined in 1948 as a Laborer at Construction, Yallourn. Colleagues farewelled him with an afternoon tea and presented him with a wallet of notes. He is a keen chess player.

**HENDRIKUS ZOMER**

After more than 22 years of service, Hendrikus Zomer retired on January 15 from the position of Machinist, Morwell Briquetting and Power Division, Power Generation. He joined in 1959 as a trimmer at Briquetting Yallourn. He was farewelled at an informal gathering and plans a holiday in northern New South Wales. He is a keen gardener and is interested in wood working.

**INNOCENZO DICORLETO**

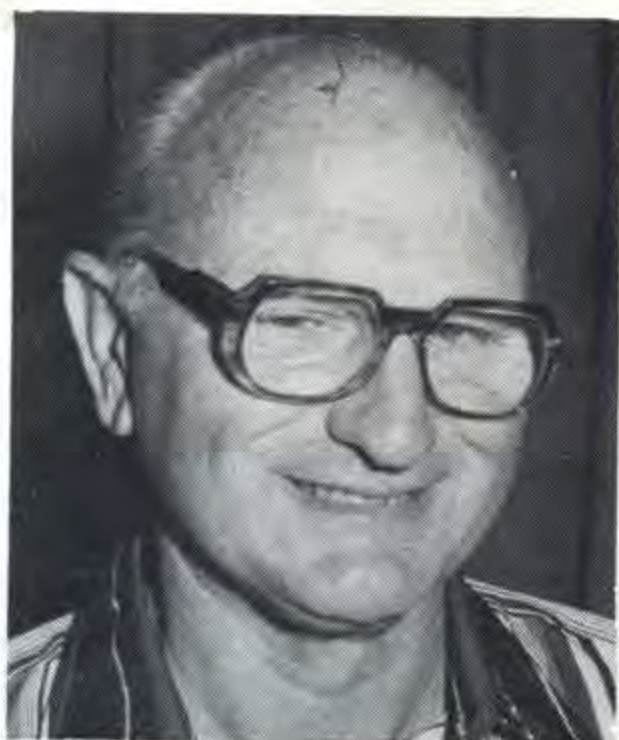
Gardening and fishing are two interests that will keep Innocenzo Dicorleto busy in his retirement. He joined in 1955 as a Laborer, General Services, Morwell and retired on January 9, from the position of Operator, Morwell Briquetting and Power Division, Power Generation. He is also planning a visit to Italy.

**IVAN NAUMENKO**

After 32 years service with the Commission, Ivan Naumenko retired from the position of Rigger with the Yallourn Open Cut. Ivan was presented with a rod, reel and a small model wheelbarrow by Mechanical Maintenance Superintendent, Ian Newnham, at a send-off held in the Yallourn Mechanical Maintenance canteen. Ivan will continue his interest in picture framing and making wooden flower pots. He is planning a possible caravan trip around Australia.

**NORM EASON**

Norm Eason retired from the position of Technical Officer, Mechanical Services, Engineering Services Department after 34 years with the Commission. He was presented with a golf buggy by Yallourn Workshops Superintendent, John Duncan at a send-off at the Workshops Administration canteen. Norm is presently working out the wheres and whens of a possible trip.

**BILL SPENCER**

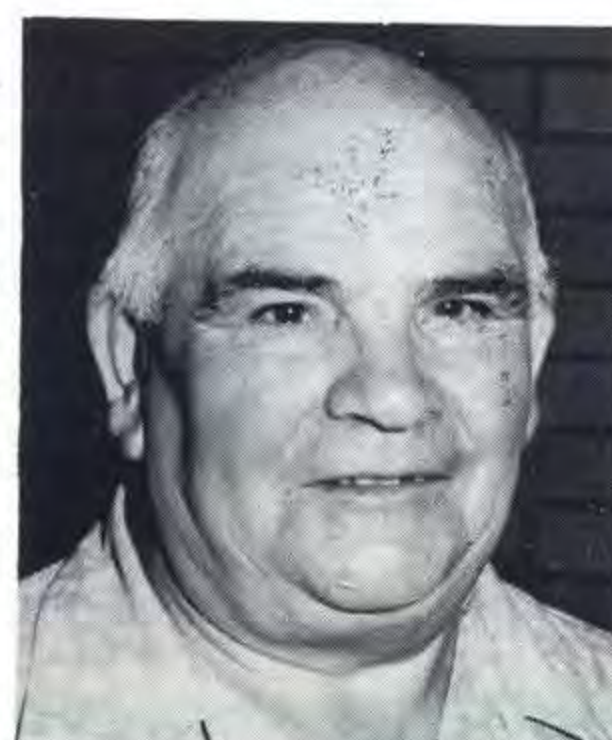
Bill Spencer recently retired from the position of leading hand painter with Municipal Services, Yallourn. Transmission Engineer (Operations) Ted Thompson, presented Bill with a wallet of notes at a send-off. Bill spent 30 years with the Commission and is particularly interested in propogating shrubs and is also very keen on travelling.

**JACK BREEN**

Jack Breen retired from the Commission recently after 34 years service. Jack retired from the position of Auxiliary Operations Supervisor in the Yallourn open cut division. Jack was presented with a wallet of notes by Yallourn open cut superintendent, Ian Runge, at a presentation in the Coal Production canteen. Jack has recently bought a caravan and intends to follow the sun up and down the coast and do a spot of his favorite sport — fishing.

**FRED STOTT**

Fred Stott was presented with a wallet and cheque at an afternoon farewell function. Fred's interest in lawn bowls will keep him busy in his retirement. He joined the Commission in 1938 as a Metal Trades Junior at Central Workshops, Yallourn. After war service he rejoined the Commission and retired on December 1 from the position of Overseer, Form Setting, Operations Section, Morwell Briquette and Power.

**Laurie DeBONO**

Laurie DeBono recently retired from the Commission after 27 years service. Laurie joined the Commission in 1954 as a laborer in the Morwell briquette factory. He retired from the position of relief shift rigger. Laurie is planning a trip home to Malta, and during his spare time he will pursue his hobby of breeding colored Canaries.



SPORT



18 hours and fresh as a daisy

Stan Bennet, stores officer Yallourn has a unique claim to fame.

He is Australia's oldest registered competition roller skater, and last month not only took part in, but completed an 18 hour marathon at the Traralgon Skateland.

The skate-a-thon began at 6 p.m. on Saturday 27, and finished at 12 noon the following day.

The skate-a-thon began at 6.00 p.m. on Saturday 27, and finished at 12 noon the following day.

Stan said he was well prepared for the event with a couple of hours sleep before he started.

"I did the 18 hours with no worries," he said. "I could've gone to work or even skated another 18 hours."

For a man of 61, that's a pretty fair effort.



Skaters were allowed to have a ten minute break each hour during the gruelling event.

"I was really pleased with the condition of my mind and body when the event finished. I didn't get the slightest bit bored as I used the time to practise my figure work and the time just passed really quickly."

"There were a couple of really young girls, about nine or ten who also finished the 18 hours," Stan said.

Stan, who has been skating less than three years, skates six nights a week.

Of the 68 who started, 24 lasted the 18 hours. Through about 20 sponsors, Stan raised \$103 for Kerrie.

Stan is president of the Central Gippsland Roller Skating Club, and last year he represented Victoria in the Australian figure championships where he came fifth in Australia, and third in Victoria.

Left: Stan with his present dance skating partner, monika Raber from Churchill.

Morwell take out premiership

More than 800 people witnessed the final of the SEC's social league's lightning cricket series at Gaskin Park, Churchill.

A record 22 teams entered the series.

In the final, Morwell Power Station batted first, and with J. Mason (42) and G. Paine (38) in good form, were able to hit up a score of 104 for the loss of three wickets. In reply, Yallourn Power Station could only manage 6/94 with David Addis and Ray Burgess both scoring 26.

The batting aggregate for the series was won by Yallourn Power Station's Mal Whatmough (143), with the bowling honours going to Rob McCorrison (8/34) of Yallourn Power Station.

The fielding award on the votes of the umpires was won by Coal Production's Shayne Brock.

Loy Yang's Shane Pentland was the only bowler to capture a "hat trick", a feat that has only happened once before in the eight year history of the series. ("Truck" Williams pulled it off in the 1980 Series.)

Umpires from the Central Gippsland and Traralgon panels officiated in all the games with Elmo Orchard and Jenny Beulke being appointed for the final.

The large crowd not only watched good cricket but ate their way through 600 hamburgers, 600 chops and 600 sausages, washed down by 243 litres of beer and 143 litres of soft drink.

The organizers would like to thank the volunteers who manned (and womanned) the barbecues and booth. Organizer Frank Pye said it was an excellent afternoon's sport.

"We scored a record number of entrants with the 22 teams which were fielded," Frank said. "I wouldn't mind betting we can do even better next year."



Coal Production Manager, Jack Vines, presents the SEC Social League lightning premiership trophy to Morwell Power Station team captain Herb Kennedy.