

# Bits & Bytes

No 21

## Editorial

This edition carries four articles that have been submitted by non-engineering pensioners. I think that this is the first time, so it might encourage others to produce something for the future.

I have been very busy in the past few months with Green Thumb and I have met quite a few people who used to work for ICL, and also the son of Basil de Ferranti. I have also sat in a Merlin helicopter at RAF Benson and sold the service to Marcus Hahnemann the Reading FC goalkeeper. It's almost as interesting as working in the computer industry.

As many of you know I organise the annual Punch Card Reunion in October at STE04. Ticket sales for this year are down on last year and one of the reasons (which I discovered while inputting the names into the obituaries) is that many of the old stalwarts who attended every year have fallen off their perch. I am also saddened to find that 10 of the people in the ICL Fund who have died recently did not reach 60. Does this say something about the stresses that people now suffer while working in the IT industry?

**Adrian Turner**

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## Fujitsu Services Good News

### Fujitsu Services increasing profit before tax by 69% and achieving a record order book of £6.2bn

Fujitsu Services Holdings PLC, announced on 3 June 2005 its financial results for 2004/05. The company made an operating profit before exceptional items of £73.8 million and a profit before tax of £85.0 million in the year ended 31 March 2005, an increase of 69% from 2003/04. The company's order book has grown to £6.2 billion.

2004/05 was an excellent year for Fujitsu Services with total revenue of £1,986.1 million, an increase of 14.5% from 2003/04. Good performance and growth in UK Government business plus a significant upturn in commercial sector new business, for example in retail and financial services, have all contributed to the company's growth.

David Courtley, CEO, commented: "Fujitsu Services continues to improve substantially since its return to profit in 2002/03. Major customers appreciate not only our capabilities but also our straightforward approach to business, and another year of solid growth and significant profit increase is testament to this."

He continued: "Not only have we increased revenue and profit this year, but the order book stands at a record £6.2 billion. This strong pipeline will fuel revenue growth next year and secure strong foundations for the long term success of our business."

### "Good service" at Transport for London as Fujitsu becomes one-stop-shop for network management

Transport for London (TfL), the body that runs London transport facilities, awarded a five-year wide area data network management contract 1 February 2005 to Fujitsu Services.

Fujitsu will now be the sole provider of network services support to TfL's 400 London offices, bringing together the supervision of its disparate networks onto one common platform. By standardising the level of network management and consolidating the delivery of information, TfL can expect to make up to 40 per cent savings in leased-line and network management costs over the five-year term.

By introducing a single support platform TfL is also a step closer to meeting its information management and business strategy of bringing improved integration of IT services to the group. The new measures will introduce a standardised approach to the delivery of business applications across the TfL Group, which includes London's buses, the Underground and the Docklands Light Railway (DLR).

Added benefits of standardising the administration of its network services onto one platform include a more focused approach to improving business continuity and increased network performance efficiency. Having just one platform from which to manage all networks also means TfL can prepare more effectively for future business applications such as mobility, CCTV over IP and IP telephony.

Mike Lloyd from Fujitsu Services said, "Network reliability is of paramount importance to any enterprise especially for one as large as Transport for London and particularly given the sheer scale and diversity of its individual responsibilities to London's travelling public. With TfL's specific network

requirements now in place, we can help with maximising the benefits that can come from a consolidated approach to IT management.

“Drawing on our long-standing relationship, and conscious of TFL’s overall strategy for its networking needs, we designed a cost-effective, flexible plan that will unfold in set phases over the next five years, in accordance with the customer’s specifications.”

## **Fujitsu to solve customer transfer problems in the utilities sector**

Fujitsu Services, is launching the first managed sales and contract control system for the utilities sector. The system gives utilities full control of the sales and contract management process to combat problems such as mis-selling, erroneous transfers and un-billable contracts.

Fujitsu can deliver this service due to its newly formed relationship with software company, Utility Retail Systems. The two companies will offer end-to-end processing of customer and contract details from the point of initial customer contact through to account creation. The system validates all of the information that is entered and ensures that the sales process adheres to agreed codes of practice and that the customer is offered the correct tariff and can be billed without delay. This means that direct sales and customer transfers can be dealt with efficiently and ethically, preventing damage to corporate reputation and consumer confidence.

Ian Campbell, utilities industry consultant for Fujitsu Services said “For the most part, utilities companies’ sales strategies and systems have developed piecemeal since deregulation. Most utilities companies use commission-based and often outsourced agents to generate sales, who are required to manually sign customers up to alternative suppliers and tariffs. This system is not only prone to error but also to abuse by unscrupulous agents. Working with Utility Retail Systems, Fujitsu has developed a way of ensuring that consumers know what they are signing up to and that utility companies have the correct data to bill the consumers that they do sign up”.

The system manages the entire contract handling process, from the initial capture of customer data, through information transfer from the incumbent supplier right to the moment of billing. The solution enables the sales agent to validate customer and contract data at the point of sale whether this is via telesales, field sales or any other channel.

Jeff Percival, chairman of Utility Retail Systems commented, “Having been directly involved in the competitive utility market for fifteen years we know the existing processes for contract management and we’ve seen first hand how fractured they are. Unbelievably the process is still largely manual and frequently paper based. All elements of the sales and billing process are completely compartmentalised and errors can only be identified once the form has been sent off to head office for processing. By this time the agent has been paid commission and the customer is under the impression that they are on a new contract. To correct this error is a logistical nightmare and incredibly damaging to customer relationships.”

## **Fujitsu hosts European ‘Responsive Retailing’ event**

Fujitsu Services hosted its ‘Responsive Retailing’ event at The Grove in Hertfordshire, on April 6 and 7, 2005. The event, attended by over 100 leading retailers throughout Europe, provided an industry forum to hear what some of the top names in retail are doing to meet the challenges of today’s customers.

The keynote speech was delivered by Andrew Higginson, finance director at Tesco Plc, who provided insight and knowledge into the value and use of technology from a business perspective. Andrew explained that technology is essential to understanding Tesco’s customers and, to ensure a competitive edge, it is the use of technology and not the technology alone that is the enabler.

Other speakers and topics included:

Bob Burlton, chief executive of Oxford, Swindon & Gloucester Co-operative Society – latest in-store technology to enhance customers’ experience and the transformation of their business

Jean-Fabrice Mathieu, managing director of Kelkoo Group – the value chain of online retailing and the influence of shopping comparison sites

Mim Burt, principal analyst and research director for retail in Europe for GartnerG2 – a cross-channel integrated approach to drive retail loyalty

Giovanni Colauto, finance director of de Bijenkorf (the largest top-end department store in the Netherlands) – business IT alliances

Dr Mark Dorgan, European retail partner at Fujitsu Services – integrated technologies through the creation of real-time simple solutions

Chaired by respected retail journalist, Penelope Ody, the theme for the event was responsive retailing. The theme was echoed by all of the speakers, in terms of the need for retailers to ensure agility in order for them to satisfy their customers’ needs and to stay ahead of the competition.

During Dr Mark Dorgan’s presentation, he talked about the need for retailers to operate in an integrated and responsive decision-support environment and offered six components to ensure an effective retail value chain:

Service package – a need to understand a customer’s business model

Responsive store – a one-stop shop to deliver convenience to both consumers and staff, with PoS at its heart

Responding to the customer – understanding the customer through loyalty systems

Responsive supply chain

Responsive networks

Managed services

Following the presentations, delegates also attended workshop sessions on:

Migrating to future PoS

Supply chain management’s progression towards real-time driven networks

Keeping pace with your customers

## **Fujitsu secures £170 million contract with Lloyds TSB to enhance core IT services**

Fujitsu Services announced 14 April 2005 that it has signed a new £170 million five year contract with Lloyds TSB. Under the deal, Fujitsu will manage all

desktop technology, in offices and branches, across Lloyds TSB's UK operations helping the Group make further improvements to its customer service and to grow its portfolio of products and services.

Fujitsu will provide desktop support to over 70,000 users including all customer-facing staff in nearly 2,000 Lloyds TSB branches and over 200 other offices. By handing the management of over 80,000 devices, including PCs, laptops and associated servers, to one supplier, Lloyds TSB will deliver a range of cost and time saving efficiencies, which are designed to ultimately improve the service delivered to the bank's customers.

Fujitsu will provide an end-to-end service for Lloyds TSB which will include IT support, helpdesks and maintenance, tailored to meet the specific needs of the Group's different business operations. Fujitsu will also take responsibility for hardware supply, configuration and installation. This will be a new and different approach for Lloyds TSB, with Fujitsu working through three stages of service evolution to ultimately transform the way in which Lloyds TSB reaches its customers, through branches and other channels such as telephone or internet banking.

Under the contract 300 staff from Lloyds TSB's existing operational teams and their incumbent suppliers will move to Fujitsu, under the "Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 1981" TUPE, which protects terms and conditions of employment in transfer situations.

Igor Andronov, director of Group IT, Lloyds TSB said: "Lloyds TSB is committed to driving its business forward and developing products to ensure it continues to stand out in an increasingly competitive financial services market. Fujitsu's approach to managing our distributed computing environment allows us to work closely with them and use their skills to develop and continue to grow our business."

Tim Gibson, director of Fujitsu Services' Commercial Business Practice commented: "Having worked with Lloyds TSB for a number of years, we have a clear vision of how we can work together to develop and improve not just the Group's IT requirements but also the operational aspects of managing IT services. Our thorough understanding of what Lloyds TSB demands from IT, allows us to provide a tailored service to assist in achieving its goals."

## **Fujitsu to solve customer transfer problems in the utilities sector**

Fujitsu Services announced 18 May 2005 that it is launching the first managed sales and contract control system for the utilities sector. The system gives utilities full control of the sales and contract management process to combat problems such as mis-selling, erroneous transfers and un-billable contracts.

Fujitsu can deliver this service due to its newly formed relationship with software company, Utility Retail Systems. The two companies will offer end-to-end processing of customer and contract details from the point of initial customer contact through to account creation. The system validates all of the information that is entered and ensures that the sales process adheres to agreed codes of practice and that the customer is offered the correct tariff and can be billed without delay. This means that direct sales and customer transfers can be dealt with efficiently and

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## **The Body Shop signs global PoS agreement with Fujitsu**

The Body Shop International Plc, the high quality skin and body care retailer, has appointed Fujitsu Services, as its global PoS technology and support partner.

Fujitsu will make available its TeamPoS 2000 point of sale system and infrastructure management services to The Body Shop's 2,000 plus stores worldwide. The Body Shop is planning to open a further 300 stores in the next few years and Fujitsu will be supporting the retailer with its ambitious plans, in terms of rolling out this technology infrastructure to all new stores.

Fujitsu will be deploying the systems on a geographical basis, commencing with the US and subsequently to the UK, the rest of Europe and Asia Pacific.

Famous for creating a global niche market for naturally inspired skin and hair care products, The Body Shop operates in 51 countries with over 2,000 outlets.

## **Life in ICL Management Training**

We are quite right of course, "Bits and Bytes" seems to be aimed at Engineers, and so it's of less interest to us from other walks of life. That's not surprising though, first of all I expect that's where it sprang from

originally, and secondly that's where all the articles and letters come from. So come on you salesmen, marketeers, manufacturers, personnel staff, accountants (well, maybe not accountants), let's hear your reminiscences. And I'll start the ball rolling with a few words about Management Training.

I suppose most of you must have been on a course at some time. You remember, those holidays from work where the reward for sitting still and listening to boring lectures all day was a free lunch and perhaps a free dinner, a folder full of notes and an attendance certificate.

One of the best things about being a being a Trainer was that you met so many nice people. And you were allowed to bore them to tears in the name of Learning. And indeed when we used to run "Basic Training Techniques" one of the lessons we taught the trainee trainers was how to wake any slumberers without disturbing the concentration of other members of the class. Of course, we didn't bore deliberately – no honestly we didn't. In fact in Management Training we made great play of "Student Centred Learning". What a pretentious piece of gibberish that now sounds, But it basically meant you shouldn't talk down to students from your lofty perch of knowing it all, but instead build on their knowledge and experience and help them to learn.

I first joined "The Management Training Unit" in 1976 having spent a couple of years in Sales Support and another couple in Marketing. I was at an all time motivational low and looking for a new challenge, when I discovered that the "MTU" was looking for new blood. I had to give an interactive presentation to a panel of existing Management Trainers, then spend the rest of the day watching other presentations and taking an active role in discussions (you know the sort of thing, you say things that make you look good and the others look bad). My boss at the time must have been keen to get rid of me, because he actually helped me to develop my presentation. It was brilliant, all about "The Latent Cost of System Change". Well it must have worked because, rather to my surprise but to my absolute delight, I got the job. The Manager of Management Training – Alan Mumford - told me later he hadn't a clue what I was talking about but I did it with such enthusiasm and panache that he supposed I was an expert. Little did he know.

I was taken under the wing of the two best trainers I have ever met – and if you've met them you'll know I'm being serious now – Mike Woolfe and Sue Knight. Mike was the only trainer I ever met who turned in a feedback score of 100% - that is, **every** delegate on the course rated him **excellent** against **all** seven criteria measured. We were not all as good as that! Sue became (and still is) an international consultant, speaker and author of several books on "NLP" – Neuro Linguistic Programming (no, don't ask me what it means), but not before she had done a great deal to help the managers of ICL understand and put into practice a lot of the new Management Theory that was coming over from the states at the time.

That was at Beaumont of course. Ah lovely Beaumont, beautiful country home of – was it Clive of India? Much altered by the Jesuits when they turned it into a Catholic School. We had several ex-Beaumont boys on courses over the years and they all said the same – they hated it! Cold showers, bullying, and the upper corridors with windows set so high a

boy couldn't see out of them (did you ever notice that?). But for all their apparent heartlessness the Jesuits couldn't spoil the essential beauty of Beaumont – the trees (apparently some quite rare ones), the fine frontage with the double columns, the sweeping drive, the gardens and the walks. And then of course the ICL innovations: the heating for the swimming pool; the squash courts; the tennis courts. All in all a lovely place to spend a few days. We used to say it would be great if it weren't for the bloody students, but there you go.

Something I never got used to was the continually changing nature of Beaumont. ICL always seemed in turmoil, last year's strategy didn't get us out of trouble so let's try a different one. More training; less training; focus on training our own people; focus on training as an income stream; training as an independent business, training as an integral part of the whole. So departments came and went, managers ditto. Turn that corridor of offices into lecture rooms to run more courses; next year turn the same corridor into bedrooms because there's more money in the hotel trade. So I frequently found a new door where there used to be a wall, or worse, walking into a wall which used to be a door.

And the technology changed too. We in Management Training were always at the forefront of technology of course. We decided that our courses which included a critique of a presentation required recording equipment. So we equipped ourselves initially with a microphone and a reel-to-reel sound recorder. Then it became possible to record pictures, so we bought cameras and reel-to-reel video recorders, plus floodlights (natural light was not good enough for those cameras). The camera mikes were not sensitive enough so we had to retain the sound recording kit. And the cables for all this paraphernalia had to be festooned out of one window, down the ivy-clad walls into the next room, where all the control equipment was housed. Eventually the powers-that-be rebelled at the sight of the ugly cables. They sent along a burly man and a sledge hammer to sort us out. He knocked a great hole in the wall. Which was much better. I expect the hole is still there, and people say "I wonder what that's for?"

And then there was the croquet – what would Management Training be without croquet? We trainers had to be experts of course both in the rules and in the techniques. So that we could help the students relax and enjoy their lunch breaks you understand. So we spent a lot of time hard at work learning the subtleties of the art. We had to go out and practice whenever there was a break in the schedule. It was really tough, but hell - someone had to do it!

There were other chores too, revolving around the bed linen for example, and the allotments. But this article is quite long enough. Those revelations and others from the world of the Management Trainer will have to wait for another occasion. Meanwhile, let's hear from you other career streams. Let's give the editor a headache about how he's going to find space for all your fascinating tales. Over to you folks!

**Roy Guy**  
**ICL 1971-1998**

## OPD

The OPD went on the market in the mid-1970's, way before anyone else had thought of Personal Computers, let alone invented the expression "PC".

There were two levels, one with a black & white screen and one with a – rather larger – colour screen.

I think they were priced at about £1,000 and £2,000 respectively.

They were intended to satisfy two needs: for computing power (of a limited kind) to be available on the desk of the user, and to combine the technologies of computer and telephone.

OPD stood for One-per-Desk

An OPD had four basic functions:

Quill. A word processing programme. Nothing like today's sophistication, but for its time, pretty clever.

Abacus. The 1970's version of Excel.

? I can't recall the name but it was a program for producing presentations.

So these three together were the equivalent of today's "Office" package.

And the really clever bit, a telephone. An elegant handset sat in its cradle next to the keyboard. To phone anyone you simply called up your list of contacts on screen, highlighted the one you wanted and pressed Enter. You could speak into the handset or use it "hands-free". A program recorded the duration and cost of all calls, so you could keep an audit trail.

Although the "Office" programs were the really clever ones, it was the phone attachment that seemed to me to move us forward, and which to this day has not been repeated in so simple and effective a way. You could intercept incoming calls with a message, which could be set up differently for each hour of the day, or for different classes of callers. And you created the message by selecting computer-generated sounds (not recordings) from a list. This was great fun and some spent a lot of creative energy devising rude words and phrases. But seriously, it was quite a useful feature.

From the start the MD of UK Sales had one on his desk (the coloured version of course!), for demonstration purposes. Though for a time it was his secretary who actually demonstrated it.

For some reason I never understood, sales were disastrous, and ICL was left with a warehouse full of the things. Which is how I got to have one (black & white of course) on my desk. Rather than throw them all in the bin the company generously installed them on the desks of staff.

For a considerable time we used them rather proudly. Improvements came and went in the form of little cassette tapes and – later – solid state inserts, and eventually I graduated to a colour version. I understand the Duke of Edinburgh was one of the first users and a great exponent of its virtues.

So why was the OPD such a marketing disaster? Does anyone know? Can anyone explain?

Roy Guy

## Life after ICL

### LIFE-TIME GUARANTEE

I recently replaced the asbestos cement guttering on our 50-year old house. We still regard the place as new, as we'd both been born in Victorian houses.

Gradually I'm replacing the worn out elements. None of the original components can be repaired, for there is no profit in supplying replacement bits. The last to give up the ghost were the 1957 fridge and the 1959 freezer!

It struck me I was the oldest thing in the place, and like the rest of the clapped-out devices, there were no spares available! This was bought home to me at my cataract operation, when I was fitted with a plastic lens, to my nearside eye, as the original issue was worn out. Through the new lens the world seems fresh and shiny. Until they do the right eye, the offside view is dull and yellowy. I don't think the cells making up the eyes regenerate like the rest of the body, so I wish I'd taken a bit more care of them. Let's hope the plastic ones last longer than replacement car spares like exhausts or batteries.

It seems ones fate is already decided by the inherited genes, so I think I'll pack up yoga when I get to 80. Subconsciously one adapts to bits wearing out. I convince myself I don't really want to bike the 10-mile round trip to my son, as it looks like rain or examining the state of the paintwork through my new lens convinces me the place doesn't need painting. Perhaps it's best one can't get spares for things, as I'm clumsier now and if I drop something, by the time I've got down and felt around, I've forgotten what it was I dropped! At least I can get up without hanging onto furniture. Back at the opticians who'd sold me new glasses and then referred me for cataracts, I now needed new glasses.

Even though the Varilux lens are priced at around £70 a lens and I'd only had one eye done, they could only be made as a pair of lens. Presumably, when they replace the other lens it'll mean another pair of glasses at £140.

Memory lapses irritate me. I've gone from not bothering to remember things I'm not interested in, to forgetting where I'd put the list of important things I must remember.

Compared to the reliability of main frames in the past, modern PC's are stable, but if they tried to convince me I'd be better off with my memory being replaced with a chip, I'd stick with the brain I have. It doesn't crash as often as my computer and though it frequently lets me down, I can usually manage to talk my way out of the impasse. As I'm usually chatting with fellow seniors, if I lose the thread and ask them what I was saying, they either weren't listening or have forgotten by then what I was going on about!

My New Year resolution was to learn something new every day. (I know it was, for I wrote it down) By mid-year I didn't know any more, as I seem to forget something every day. The new facts just don't stay. At quiz nights I just can't recall, say, the names of the new nations of Africa, but can probably get most of those I learned at school pre-war.

Repeating familiar old anecdotes is widespread, perhaps with fading memories neither party realise they are repeated. I'm sure if any of these ramblings have been published before, I'll hear, unless nobody remembers!

To sum up, there's nothing one can do about it. At least, some of one's faculties are working!

I find writing it all down therapeutic and feel better already, as I hope you do.

Dennis Goodwin

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## Letters

Reading your story about getting back to being a 'Field Engineer' reminded me of an experience I had back around 1970. I had been called to a breakdown of an EDS8 in a sugar beet factory in Thurles, near Tipperary, in Eire. During the flight to Dublin I had to fill in a landing card on which I had to enter my occupation. Like you, I was known as a Field Engineer and I duly entered this in the space provided.

When I got to the immigration check desk in the airport I was told to wait on one side until I was approached by an official who asked me to follow him. We set off out onto the apron and into another building, entered a room and without further ado they started to de-contaminate me, as you can image I was rather taken aback by this procedure and enquired what on earth was happening. They explained that as there was an outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease in England they were taking no chances and everybody connected with agriculture in any way was to be treated in the same way. I tried to explain that being a Field Engineer did no mean that I worked in fields but that I worked out in the field. My protestations were in vain and they carried on until they had finished their task. I remember that it involved some spraying but maybe that was only on my footwear.

I was then allowed to continue on my way, cleaner and a little confused.

The depot at Thurles had a 1901 with a minimum amount of peripherals and it turned out that the system was only used during the time of the sugar beet harvest of about a month and laying idle for the rest of the year. Most peculiar.

**Peter Harbour**

## ICL MEMORIES

I agree that a lot of the letters in Bits & Bytes seem to come from engineers, and so I thought it might be a good idea to have some nostalgia from someone who was in Training.

I joined BTM in August 1958 and, except for a couple of short spells outside, remained in the company until I retired in 1987, gaining membership of the Majority Club. I started at Moor Hall, Cookham where I was taught all about the Junior and Senior Rolling Total Tabulators by those well remembered instructors Stan Hook, George Cable and Vic Phillips. George Thompson was in charge at that time, who had such a thick Scottish accent that some of those at his welcome talks thought that he was Austrian! I then began to instruct customer staff in the mysteries of planning and plugging those tabulators. Incidentally, I was one of 12 newly recruited instructors at that time.

I eventually went on to instruct staff on the 542 and 550 calculators and later the 555. At the same time, together with Derek Hamlin, we ran the Executive Courses for customer senior management at the Grange where we were looked after by Mrs. Dellow. My next job at Moor Hall was to learn and then teach own staff and customers how to program the ICT 1500 (RCA301) in FAS and COBOL. By then, George Thompson had given way to Ben Aston who introduced a games afternoon in the week for own staff, and he was later replaced by Stephen Barber.

In 1970 I moved into Dataskil at Reading where Alan Roussell was M.D. and there, in David Camidge's Personnel Department I looked after the training needs of the staff. I also tried to bring in some revenue by running courses outside, the most successful being those I ran for Shell for several years, both in this country and abroad. It was in Dataskil that I was eventually joined by my wife Holly who ran the training unit when I was away running courses. Incidentally, we're still enjoying retirement and celebrated 61 years of marriage last December.

Alan eventually handed over to Tim Holley (later to become Chief Executive of the then newly formed National Lottery) and Hilary Cropper took over from Tim. Having had a spell as Sector Personnel Manager for Deryck Piercy's Sector, I decided that I preferred training and finished my time with the company at Beaumont where I took part in the second part of the training of graduate sales staff. Holly continued to more or less run the Dataskil training unit until almost the end of Dataskil.

I think I can truthfully say that we both thoroughly enjoyed our time with the company working with many very pleasant colleagues, and I hope that this will bring back a few memories for other readers, especially those who knew us.

Maybe this will encourage more non-engineers to be a bit nostalgic!

**Derek Fellowes Wyre Piddle Pershore, Worcs.**

## Reunions

### Punch Card & Stevenage Labs Reunion Group

The speaker at the 2005 reunion, on the first Tuesday in October, the 4<sup>th</sup>, will be Dave Clarke the well known instructor from the Letchworth Training School. The title of his talk will be "**From DP to IT: 34 years of interesting machines and much more interesting people**"

Tickets for this reunion are available from **Adrian Turner** at the address on page 1. Please send cheque for £10, made payable to **Punch Card Reunion** with a **SAE** for return of ticket, which will pay for tea/coffee and buffet lunch. **All pensioners are welcome.**

**Adrian Turner 01491 872012**

### ICL Australia

Albert Cook can be contacted via email at [albertcook@optusnet.com.au](mailto:albertcook@optusnet.com.au)

### ICL Central London Group

The next reunion will be on Wednesday 19 October 2005 at **The Flying Horse** at **52 Wilson Street**, from 12 noon. The pub is east of Finsbury Square.

**John Doo 01245 259862**

### Cophall House Newcastle Staffs

**Bob Green 01782 615290**

### East Grinstead 81 Club

**Gordon Franklin 01342 328479**

### East Midlands UB40s

**Brian Skeldon 0115 9725119**

### ICL Double Majority Association

**Joseph Gardner 01438 362806**

The Double Majority Association Dinner, held on Saturday the 14th May 2005 was the 18th since our association's inception in 1970.

Some 134 members, wives and guests enjoyed the evening dinner at the Thistle Hotel, Little Wymondley, Stevenage, Hertfordshire

In attendance on the night were 3 new members. One of the new members since the last dinner, Peter Goodwin who became the 429<sup>th</sup> member in 2003 was introduced to the gathering. **The total New Members since 2003 is 18.** There are 6 future New Members who will qualify in latter quarter of 2005.

Recently, though diligent searches by Natalie Alder, our HR coordinator we became aware of six members in Egypt who qualified in the past six months and one Italian who qualified 2 years ago and works in Switzerland.

A further six people who will become members of the association in the latter 4 months of this year will bring the current total to **193**. The overall number of members of the Double Majority Association since inception in 1970 is **438**. By year 2005 end this will be **444**.

#### ICL Midlands Group

Brian Trow 01785 257317

#### Leo Computers Society

Geoff Parry 01628 770129

#### Letchworth Group

Dennis Evans 01462 811273

#### Liverpool Engineers

George Lynn 01744 29984

#### Oxford Region

A reunion took place at The Chequers Burcot on 4 February 2005 when 19 people attended. This was the first meeting for some time and it was agreed that we should meet on a regular basis for a chat over a lunchtime meal. It is hoped that there will be meeting at the end of October. Contact me for details.

Ken Jones 01865 340388

kenwynjones@aol.com

#### STE04 Office and Retail Systems

Derek Tourell 020 8386 9465

#### Surrey Engineers

Trevor Harding 01483 565144

#### Tin Hut Reunion Group

Olaf Chedzoy 01278 741 269

#### West Gorton Reunion

Eric W Watts 01457 875080

#### Watford-Harrow- Feltham Group

Mike Ray 01895 230194

#### West Branch Engineers

Eric Reynolds 01452 712047

#### West Kent Reunion Group

Ron Harding 01732 761076

#### The Walthamstow Mob

Derek Windsor 01992 522761

## OBITUARIES

### DOROTHY (DEE) TOUT

TOPS the Training Opportunities Scheme was implemented by ICL from 1980 to 1985. A small self-managing team of administrators, based at Beaumont, in the Wendy House, was responsible for advertising, making presentations, holding aptitude tests, selecting and recruiting people from all over England.

Against a backdrop of redundancies and recession a chance to train to become a computer programmer or

system analyst for anyone who may have been without work for some time created a valuable opportunity. Achieving a course place meant free training and accommodation for between 10 and 20 weeks, work experience sometimes with one of ICL's customers, frequently achieved the all-important first job in a new career. In this period the team were making 80% placements, far more than other suppliers, with more requests for Government contracts than we could satisfy.

Dee was superb at getting work placements. Students on one of her courses could not fail to remember her natural exuberance, optimism and persistence, and her willingness to make every effort. The results contributed greatly to ICL's success.

When ICL ceased its participation in TOPS the administrators separated and found other positions. Dee became a technical trainer, and before she retired worked on an MOD contract.

The administrators remained in touch over the years and four were present at Dee's funeral.

**Gillian Lidbetter, Jo Habgood, Sian Foster, Pamela Treharne**

## ICL/Nortel Fund

*Taken from the Spring & Summer 2005 editions of the Nortel "Newslink"*

<b>Arndale H Birmingham</b>	<b>Cooke</b>	Edwin	20/03/05	71
	<b>Bagley</b>	Henry I	17/12/04	78
	<b>Eales</b>	Ronald B	31/01/05	81
	<b>Mayer</b>	Victor R	19/01/05	77
	<b>Thornhill</b>	Denzil R	01/01/05	73
	<b>Yarnell</b>	Frances V	03/01/05	76
<b>Bristol</b>	<b>Ford</b>	Neville G	25/01/05	76
	<b>Dundee</b>	Lindsay J	22/12/04	82
<b>Croydon</b>	<b>Griffith</b>	Jack G	16/02/05	90
	<b>Duckinfield</b>	Albert E	28/02/05	81
<b>Elstree</b>	<b>Boy</b>	Brian R	27/11/04	73
	<b>Maycock</b>	Douglas A	26/12/04	76
	<b>Darnell</b>	Eric A	04/03/05	90
<b>Hollerith</b>	<b>Gibbs</b>	Donald A	13/03/05	88
	<b>Hayes</b>	Ronald J	08/11/04	82
	<b>Howarth</b>	James	10/01/05	97
	<b>Kellehar</b>	Cecil	06/01/05	89
	<b>Miles</b>	Ronald C	07/02/05	87
	<b>Mills</b>	Noel D	14/04/05	74
	<b>Nicol</b>	John	18/02/05	79
	<b>North</b>	Edith M	27/03/05	88
	<b>Sewell</b>	Arthur S	20/02/05	79
	<b>Stokes</b>	Florence E	04/04/05	92
<b>ICL HQ Kidsgrove</b>	<b>Tugwell</b>	Ruby M	11/01/05	83
	<b>Buxton</b>	Michael	14/04/05	77
	<b>Ankers</b>	Dennis	12/03/05	76
	<b>Booth</b>	Cyril W	06/02/05	72
	<b>Douglas</b>	James W	09/02/05	79
	<b>Eaves</b>	Thomas W	24/03/05	79
	<b>Fallon</b>	Thomas	17/02/05	79
	<b>Grigg</b>	Hugh A	02/04/05	79
	<b>Hankey</b>	Graham H	18/03/05	59
	<b>Hughes</b>	Therese P	25/12/05	70
	<b>Ritchie</b>	Jane B	04/05/05	79
	<b>Selman</b>	Harry	01/03/05	73
<b>Letchworth</b>	<b>Smith</b>	John	17/02/05	79
	<b>Taylor</b>	Eric F	22/12/05	70
	<b>Thornton</b>	Iris	08/03/05	73
	<b>Anderson</b>	James	28/01/05	83

	<b>Bendon</b>	John E	08/02/05	84		<b>Summerfield</b>	Rosalind A	05/06/05	49
	<b>Boase</b>	Clement G	01/11/04	77		<b>Weston</b>	Peter W	20/04/05	59
	<b>Buckingham</b>	Donald A	24/04/05	79		<b>Fairchild</b>	Robert J	22/06/05	65
	<b>Bugden</b>	Robert	23/02/05	78	<b>BSN01</b>	<b>Tooker</b>	Anthony B	08/04/05	74
	<b>Burrows</b>	Eric M	29/03/05	77	<b>Bucks</b>	<b>Sheehan</b>	John C	03/03/05	58
	<b>Fitton</b>	William R	09/01/05	66	<b>CAF02</b>	<b>Neath</b>	Jeanette	28/06/05	57
	<b>Fox</b>	Joel	06/03/05	81	<b>EDI06</b>	<b>Constable</b>	Brian	21/07/05	64
	<b>Hall</b>	Reginald W	29/11/04	94	<b>FCY02</b>	<b>Scotney</b>	Richard J	09/05/05	52
	<b>Jennings</b>	Henry N	16/01/05	88	<b>HOM99</b>	<b>Smith</b>	Colin M	08/06/05	58
	<b>Low</b>	Harry E	14/11/04	88	<b>KID01</b>	<b>Parnell</b>	Anthony	11/04/05	68
	<b>Saunderson</b>	Maurice A	24/01/05	76	<b>LON11</b>	<b>Hebden</b>	Margaret	13/07/05	51
	<b>Shayler</b>	Colin M	16/05/05	77	<b>MAN05</b>	<b>Noble</b>	Stephen M	21/03/05	61
	<b>Sheary</b>	Richard	08/12/04	88	<b>MDN04</b>	<b>Cottage</b>	Jane	04/08/05	56
	<b>Spencer</b>	Thaddeus	23/11/04	84	<b>REA03</b>	<b>Clews</b>	Richard A	18/02/05	64
	<b>Thody</b>	Robert W	31/12/04	88	<b>STE04</b>	<b>Gunasekera</b>	K C	08/05/05	64
	<b>Valoczky</b>	Elizabeth	01/01/05	75		<b>Archer</b>	Kenneth L	30/04/05	67
	<b>Warner</b>	Florence I	02/11/04	84	<b>STE12</b>	<b>Young</b>	Charles	05/05/05	72
<b>London</b>	<b>Handyside</b>	John D	20/02/05	82	<b>WAK01</b>	<b>Wilson</b>	Alexander	12/07/05	69
	<b>Hook</b>	Bert	12/02/05	82	<b>WSR01</b>	<b>Tout</b>	Dorothy R	26/07/05	72
	<b>Rickcord</b>	Richard J	19/02/05	81					
<b>Manchester</b>	<b>Anderton</b>	Sidney G	12/11/04	76					
	<b>Cox</b>	Derek T	22/02/05	74					
	<b>Ward</b>	Michael	23/02/05	58					
<b>Powers</b>	<b>Biddle</b>	Ronald A	25/05/05	82					
	<b>Bland</b>	Gordon	13/11/04	90					
	<b>Cripps</b>	Alexander	15/11/04	84					
	<b>Crook</b>	Frank	16/11/04	78					
	<b>Davidson</b>	Thomas S	22/11/04	89					
	<b>Harding</b>	Frank W	21/11/04	83					
	<b>Holme</b>	Ronald	22/10/04	86					
	<b>Page</b>	Herbert A	30/03/05	87					
	<b>Payne</b>	Robert J	03/02/05	81					
	<b>Strange</b>	Eric W	22/02/05	96					
	<b>Williamson</b>	Helen	06/03/05	103					
	<b>Wood</b>	David	03/11/04	74					
<b>Putney</b>	<b>Blunt</b>	Grant A C	01/01/05	74					
	<b>Green</b>	Louisa E	02/04/05	84					
	<b>Nicholls</b>	Henry A	11/11/04	85					
	<b>Terroni</b>	Marie A	14/02/05	74					
<b>Reading</b>	<b>Pawley</b>	George T	04/01/05	91					
<b>S'hampton</b>	<b>Birkett</b>	Thomas A	20/05/05	79					
	<b>McCormack</b>	Allan W	22/03/05	90					
	<b>Moth</b>	John W	08/11/04	75					
	<b>Prowting</b>	James R	03/12/04	76					
	<b>Whittam</b>	Hubert C	29/05/05	82					
<b>Stevenage</b>	<b>McClumph</b>	Barbara	26/02/05	67					
	<b>Thomas</b>	Barbara A	22/03/05	72					
	<b>Watkin</b>	W B	21/02/05	92					
<b>Sydenham</b>	<b>Sadler</b>	Ronald	13/12/05	90					
<b>Taunton</b>	<b>Caddy</b>	Gwen	28/03/05	78					
<b>W Gorton</b>	<b>Cunniff</b>	Mabel E	07/10/04	84					
	<b>Edwards</b>	Alan	22/12/04	75					
	<b>Hughes</b>	Joseph	07/05/05	85					
	<b>Lowe</b>	Sydney	02/01/05	85					
<b>Windsor</b>	<b>Fielding</b>	Joan	21/09/04	68					
<b>Wilmslow</b>	<b>Devlin-Jones</b>	David M	15/05/05	68					
<b>Winsford</b>	<b>Ashton</b>	Janet	31/03/05	83					
	<b>Charnock</b>	Thomas C	28/03/05	80					
	<b>Duff</b>	John A	25/02/05	75					
	<b>Estcourt</b>	Horace	09/04/05	80					
	<b>Roberts</b>	Ronald	18/05/05	66					
	<b>Rowland</b>	Eunice	26/01/05	80					
	<b>Tellwright</b>	Gordon	01/12/04	78					

## ICL Fund

Includes people who died in service

<b>BRA01</b>	<b>Barbet</b>	David J	30/07/05	54
	<b>Ridout</b>	Neil W	29/11/04	35

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## Pensioners' Directory

Tony Riley maintains the directory for those pensioners who are on the Internet and want their email address and career details published.

His email address is: [tonyriley@europe.com](mailto:tonyriley@europe.com)

## NEXT ISSUE

Copy for the Spring 2006 issue must be submitted by 1 March 2006, but would be appreciated earlier.

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