



MASTER HOP LEAF NEWS



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MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. ERIC SIMONDS

Staff of all Grades at Dedication Service

Supplementing the report in the current issue of the "Hop Leaf Gazette" of the unveiling and dedication in St. Giles' Church, Reading, on Monday, April 18, of the memorial to our late Chairman, Mr. Eric Simonds, we record in detail the attendance of staff and employees, in addition to members of the family and directors.

They included :

Executives : J. D. Richardson (Secretary), A. G. Richardson, A.C.A. (Accountant), Capt. A. S. Drewe, M.C. (Chief Architect), S. H. Spurling (Estates Manager), H. C. Davis (Hotels Dept. Manager), P. Manners-Wood (Wine & Spirit Dept. Manager), A. E. Wake (Branch Manager), W. J. Watkins (Chief Engineer), F. E. Dryden (Transport Manager), W. C. Heley (Advertising Manager), H. Dines (Head Cooper).

F. L. Abbott, R. J. Waite, E. C. Bartlett, E. Martin, Mrs. Wright, R. Broad, A. Walsh, P. Ruffles, J. V. Hasker, F. E. Phipps, J. H. Wadhams, H. B. Webb, Miss Shorter, Miss Down, H. Stevens, E. Gibbs, H. M. Randall, M. St. J. Howe, Mrs. A. M. Bradford, F. Lawrence, Miss Josey, Miss Mullin, C. B. Cox, P. J. Luker, V. Richards, E. Jefferis, J. W. Hillier, E. Hurlock, C. R. Josey, W. P. Connolly, Mrs. M. Pilling, Miss J. Marcham.

Branch Managers : R. Paice and E. Pearce (Ludgershall), G. Hardwick and W. T. Sanders (Oxford), E. Gosney (Staines), C. Oram, representing S. M. Penlerick (London), E. D. Penlerick and A. Howman (Swindon), S. Treacher (Farnborough).

Pensioners : E. S. Phipps, J. H. Law, G. F. Andrews, A. H. Hopkins, A. W. C. Bowyer, W. Bradford, E. H. Kelly, H. C. Hillman, F. Josey, W. H. Davis, F. C.

Hawkes, J. Hammond, H. J. Timms, H. C. Shepherd, A. E. Smith, H. Osborne, T. E. Stevens, Major H. Kaye.

Hotel Managers : J. Chmurow, John Taylor and Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hewett.

Among others present were the following : T. Vincent (Reading Conservative and Unionist Association), E. J. Carter and Jack Smith (Reading Football Club Ltd.), Col. G. S. Field (Morland & Company), N. Lipscombe, G. C. Brannan (Director of J. Starkie Gardner Ltd., who made the tablet), R. M. Maris (Barclays Bank Ltd.), J. H. S. Mitchell (Barclays Bank Ltd., also representing W. G. Bryan), Peter Smith (Collins, Dryland and Thorowgood), H. L. Taylor (Chas F. Higham Ltd.), A. Adlam (C. & G. Ayres Ltd., also representing C. W. N. Sharpe), J. F. Evans, W. H. Shepherd, J. W. Hicks and M. Crookes (chauffeur to the late Mr. F. A. Simonds).

Letters of regret for absence were sent by W. G. Bryan (Barclays Bank Ltd.), Romilly B. Craze (Church Architect, who designed the Memorial Tablet), W. F. McIntyre, H. N. Deane, G. E. Ashdown, A. R. Bradford, D. Campbell, Philip Wadlow, J. T. Flook, L. C. White, F. W. Freeman.

The Members of the Choir included W. J. Watkins, our Chief Engineer, and P. Luker, of the Cask Office.



Mr. Aust receiving the barometer from Mr. Gosney.

Staines Head Bottler Retires

PRESENTATION TO MR. AUST

After more than 49 years' service in our employ, Mr. H. L. Aust, Head Bottler at Staines Branch, retired on March 31.

Before his departure, Mr. Aust received a presentation at an informal ceremony at the Staines Brewery of a china cabinet and a barometer from his colleagues at Reading and Staines.

Mr. E. Gosney presented the gifts to Mr. Aust, and wished him a long and happy retirement.

A further presentation to Mr. Aust was made by General Dempsey at a meeting of the Board of Directors on April 25 of a silver rose bowl suitably inscribed in recognition of his long and loyal service.

Mr. Aust, in reply to the congratulations of General Dempsey, recalled his years of happy service with the Company and, in thanking the Directors for their presentation, stated that it would be a gift he would treasure for the remainder of his days.

"Leadens Shots and Hot Liquor"

Mr. Aust commenced his service with the Company in June, 1906, as a label boy in the Wine and Spirit Department, subsequently being moved to the Bottle-Washing Department. In those days a vastly different system was used for the

cleansing of bottles and jars, compared with the up-to-date methods of today. Mr. Aust must be one of the few left who used the method of leaden shots and hot liquor for cleaning wine and spirit bottles.

The Company Sergeant-Major

During World War I, Mr. Aust served in the Royal Berkshire Regiment, and rose to the rank of Company Sergeant-Major. On demobilisation he returned to the Wine and Spirit Department as Foreman of the Washing Department, and later took charge of the Beer Bottling Department, and subsequently was in charge of the Bottled Beer Loading Stage.

In April, 1946, he was transferred to Staines as Head Bottler, and held that position until his retirement.



The Bottling Staff at Staines Brewery.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

STAINES BRANCH ANNUAL STAFF BALL

In the tastefully decorated Ballroom at the Packhorse Hotel, Staines, the Annual Staff Ball of the Staines Branch was held on February 3.



A party of Visitors from London Branch have an evening out at Staines Branch Annual Staff Ball.



A party from the Bottling Department.



Mr. and Mrs. G. Head.

Weddings

Congratulations and best wishes to :

Mr. E. W. Spackman, of the Transport Staff, Swindon Branch, whose marriage to Miss S. P. Reynolds, at Christchurch, took place on March 26.

A presentation of an "Acme" wringer was made on behalf of members of Swindon Branch.

* * *

Miss G. Durden, of the Hollerith Dept., Reading, who was married on March 19, at Christ Church, Reading, to Mr. G. Head.

Among the gifts presented to Miss Durden by her colleagues were a gift of cutlery, a kettle, cheese dish, bathroom cabinet, frying pan and a bowl.

Miss A. Randall, of the Hollerith Machine Room, acted as bridesmaid.

* * *

Miss B. W. E. (Barbara) Tobin, of the Bottling Dept., Newport Branch, who was married to Mr. James R. Mullens, of the Transport Dept., Newport, on April 2, at St. Andrew's Church, Newport.

NATIONAL SERVICE

With the R.A.F. at Cardington is Mr. S. Vought, of the Estates Department, who left for National Service on April 23.

* * *

It's back to duty at Arthur Cooper's, Andover, for Mr. K. Penton, who spent nearly 16 months of his National Service in Hong Kong.

New Arrivals

We are happy to welcome the following new members of the staff who have recently joined :

READING :

Miss P. G. Shelton, Hotels Dept.
Miss R. Keeley, Correspondence Office.
Miss M. Calladine, Hollerith Dept.
Mrs. G. Heather, Hotels Dept.
Miss A. M. Clark, Hollerith Dept.
Mr. K. Tipping, Cask Office.
Miss P. Hill, Correspondence Office.
Mrs. R. A. Aldridge, Hollerith Dept.
Miss S. May, Hollerith Dept.
Miss S. Pert, Hollerith Dept.
Miss B. Major, Hollerith Dept.
Miss D. Giles, Hollerith Dept.
Miss S. Neale, Hollerith Dept.
Miss R. Higgs, Hollerith Dept.
Miss P. Arlett, Hollerith Dept.
Mr. W. M. Field, Architect's Dept.
Mrs. P. Cambell, Laboratory.
Mrs. D. Leese, Laboratory.
Mr. L. K. Suter, Cask Office.
Mr. J. Wooldridge, Hotels Dept.
Mr. D. P. Yorke, Estates Dept.
Miss G. Hodges, Correspondence Office.

BRANCHES :

Devonport : Mr. S. B. Osborne.
Mr. E. L. Adams.
Mr. V. G. Jolly
Mr. D. P. Ingham
Bridgend : Miss L. J. Smith.
Newport : Miss I. F. Jennings.
Miss G. E. Kehmstet
Bristol : Miss A. E. Sellick.
Penzance : Mr. L. Harry.
Staines : Mrs. J. L. Lear.
Miss T. S. Watts

People on the Move

The following staff changes have taken place :—

READING :

Mr. J. Roynon, Accountant's Dept. to Accounts Dept.
Mr. R. Ballard, Cask Dept. to Surveyor's Dept.
Miss S. O'Keefe, Hollerith Dept. to Delivery Dept.
Mrs. M. Luckett, Correspondence Office to Accounts Dept.
Mr. J. L. Yendle, Cask Office to Estates Dept.
Mr. M. Tilbury, Correspondence Office to Engineer's Dept.
Mr. P. Heelas, Engineers, Brewery, to Engineers, Transport.
Miss M. Layley, Hollerith Dept. to Laboratory.
Mrs. E. Sayers, Correspondence Office to Architect's Dept.

NEWPORT :

Mr. J. Hamilton, to Surveyor's Dept.
Mr. B. E. Read, to General Office.
Mr. P. T. Aulsebrook, to Public House Inspector.

Appointments

Mr. G. Higgins, Appointed Representative for Windsor-Staines area from Ludgershall Branch.
Mr. J. W. Chandler, previously Representative at Reading, has been appointed Free Trade Supervisor at Newport Branch.
Mr. F. Miles, Appointed Assistant Bottling Foreman, Staines Branch.
Mr. S. R. Gray, previously a Public House Inspector, Reading, has been

appointed Free Trade Traveller, Bristol Branch.

Mr. E. Brown, appointed Head Bottler, Staines Branch.

Mr. W. M. Field, Appointed Senior Architectural Assistant in the Architect's Dept., Reading.

Retirements

Best wishes for a long and happy retirement to :—

Mr. C. S. Hole, of the Malt Stores, Reading, who retired on April 11, due to ill-health, at the age of 63, after completing 27 years' service.

Mr. A. E. Hockaday, Night Watchman at Devonport Branch, who retired on April 11, aged 68 years, after 48 years' service with the Company.

General Post

In connection with the rearrangement of duties for the Clerks of Works in the Surveyor's Department, we are informed that Mr. C. Wilcox has been assigned to the Newbury area in addition to Reading Borough, whilst Mr. W. G. Gerry has been assigned from the Newbury area to the Brewery Building Department in place of Mr. Allen.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mr. L. Kirby and Mr. E. Randall, who have completed 30 years' service with the firm.

Mr. Kirby commenced his service in the Bottling Department on April 28, 1925, and was later transferred to the Fermenting Department on June 8, 1925, where he is now employed as a Senior Beerman.

★ Births ★

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Steven-son, the popular and cheerful Managers at Arthur Cooper's, Cricklewood Broadway, on the birth of a baby daughter.

* * *

Birth of a son, Christopher Richard, to Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Lake, of Newport Branch on February 15, is announced. Mrs. Lake, formerly Miss Dean, was employed as Clerk in the Surveyor's Department, Staines.

* * *

A daughter was born on May 13 to Mr. S. Adams, Surveyor's Department, Newport Branch, and Mrs. Adams.

* * *

The birth of a daughter on June 3 to Mr. G. S. Spencer, Free Trade Representative, Newport Branch, and Mrs. Spencer, is announced.

GUESTS FROM BRISTOL

A party of staff from Bristol Branch visited Reading on Saturday, June 25.

After lunch in the Canteen the visitors had a steamer trip on the Thames in the afternoon, returning to the Sports Ground for tea and a social evening. Headquarters will always try to extend a similar welcome to other parties from Branches.

A DAY OUT AT SOUTHSEA

Child Guest's Letter of Thanks

Once again Simonds Branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union have shown hospitality to youngsters from a Children's Home at Reading on one of their outings.

Earlier this year they took some of these children to the Circus in London, and on their coach outing to Southsea on June 12, they included a number of the children as guests.

All of the party had a thoroughly enjoyable day's outing and subsequently Mr. G. J. Chandler has received a letter of thanks from Mr. H. W. A. Howlett, Master of the Church of England Children's Society Home at Wilton Road, Reading.

One of the children also wrote on behalf of the guests:—

"Dear Mr. Chandler,

We would like to say thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen who gave us such a nice time yesterday. I enjoyed the ride it was pleasant seeing the country side. When we arrived at the seaside the children went paddling and after dinner the little ones played sand castles. I thought the funfair was ever so good especially the ghost train I liked it very much. Thank you for buying all those prizes for us I showed all my friends my prize and liked it very much. Thank you for the two shillings you gave us all for refreshments as well. We're all very grateful for all you did for us yesterday. We were all tired out when we reach home as soon as the little ones were soon in bed and fast asleep. Thank you all very much indeed.

With love, Valerie Cowell. xxxx"

Simonds Angling Club

Our first match of the Angling Club is being held on the River Kennet on Sunday, July 3. "We hope," writes the Angling Club Secretary, "that it will be highly successful from the amount of fish caught, and also that the weather is kind to us."

The Club is now affiliated to the Reading and District Angling Association. Any member wishing to obtain season or day tickets for fishing on Association waters please contact Mr. D. A. Fry.

Newport Branch Alley Skittles Team

"You are fine ambassadors of the Firm and we appreciate the good work you have done in this direction," said Mr. S. C. Saunders, when congratulating the Newport Branch Alley Skittles Team on the occasion of their Annual Dinner on April 29.

The team plays in the Newport and District League, which is composed of Licensed Houses and Clubs.

The Annual Dinner which wound up the season was held at the Lewis' Hotel, Machen, and once again Mine Hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, provided an excellent meal. A social evening, which commenced with a friendly skittles match between the "Regulars" and the "Also Rans," and followed by musical items, was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

At Southsea—
Refreshment
Time



ROUND THE BRANCHES

Reading

A well attended Social and Dance was held to mark the opening of the new bar and the lighting installation in the Pavilion at the Sports Ground, Reading, on April 30.

Many guests from the Brewery attended the wedding of Miss Ann Spurling, daughter of Mr. S. H. Spurling, Estates Manager, at St. Peter's Church, Earley, to Mr. Geoffrey Maurice Allen, of Leicester, on Saturday, April 7.

An unwelcome guest at the home of Mr. Norman Tott (Engineers' Office, Reading) is a wasp which has built a nest in the sleeve of his jacket.

The nest, measuring about one-and-a-half inches across, now contains about four eggs.

Newport

We are pleased to record that both Mr. T. H. Antill and Mr. J. H. Hamilton have returned to duty after their recent illnesses.

Farnborough

A link with the past was severed by the recent death of W. "Bill" Dewey, a former driver at Farnborough Stores for many years, at the age of 72.

Starting as a stable lad to Mr. Louis de Luze Simonds, grandfather of Mr. Louis Simonds, Mr. Dewey later became his chauffeur.

During World War I he served in the Army Service Corps Mechanised Transport, and returned to our employ at Farnborough in 1919.

One of his proudest moments was when he was selected as chauffeur to drive the late Mr. Eric Simonds to his wedding.

For many years he delivered beer for the Army in and around Aldershot, where he was extremely well known in all the camps and messes in the area.

Oxford

A very keen young cyclist, Harold J. McIntyre, seventeen-year-old junior clerk at this Branch, has already won two handicap events over 25 miles, and has been well placed in several other races.

Mr. McIntyre is a member of the Oxford City Road Club.

East Africa

When Mr. James Frank Fuggle went to East Africa three years ago he went to take up an appointment as an accountant with the East Africa Breweries Company in Nairobi.

Now he is serving as a reserve inspector in the Kenya Police Force and is stationed in the middle of Mau Mau territory near Nairobi.

In one of his first patrols in the area he led a patrol of African Police which brought in eight terrorists.

Mr. Fuggle is a son of ex-C.I.D. Superintendent Frank Fuggle, of the Portsmouth City Police Force.

MR. SNELL'S HALF CENTURY OF SERVICE

A cheque and a gold wristlet watch in recognition of his long and meritorious service were presented to Mr. C. W. Snell at a lunch given by the Directors at the "Queen's Hotel," Newport, on May 5.

Mr. Snell had completed a half century of service, the greater proportion of this period being with Phillips & Sons Ltd., on May 1.

The presentation was made by Mr. A. N. Phillips, who spoke in glowing terms of Mr. Snell's fine achievement and valued services, both with the firms of "Phillips" and "H. & G. S. Ltd." General Sir Charles Allfrey then added his congratulations and said that Mr. Snell's services, since he came under the "Hop Leaf" banner had been much appreciated.



Mr. C. W. Snell.

In response, Mr. Snell thanked the Directors for their kindness and referred to the many interesting incidents whilst handling the transport at Newport for the greater part of his period of service. He had thoroughly enjoyed it and looked upon his colleagues as his friends.

Also present were Mr. S. C. Saunders, Mr. S. N. Bennett and a number of long service colleagues.

From Reading to Newport



Mr. F. Phipps being presented by Mr. R. Skidmore, Foreman-in-Charge of the Cylinder Department, with a Rose Bowl before his departure from Reading to take up his new appointment as Head Brewer at Newport.

Sports Round-up

SUCCESS IN EVERY SPHERE

THE Sports Club has every reason to congratulate itself. Every branch of sport thrived throughout the winter season. Many of our teams won distinctions and awards.

Credit for the successes won must go primarily to the nucleus of keen and hard-working Committees and their Officers. Their selfless application has made it possible for others to enjoy themselves and they deserve every possible support from the other members of the Club.

Cricket is now in full swing and even though victory is not always ours, that does not mar the enjoyment and relaxation that players and spectators obtain from this (dare we say it ?) the greatest of games.

The Cricket Club

After two years' absence through illness we were glad to welcome back Ken White (Free Trade Dept.), and he soon regained his position of opening bat.

Newcomer to the side is 15-year-old Roy Merryweather, of the Engineer's Stores. Roy, a forceful left-hand bat, has quickly made his way into the "A" side.

Through injury to a hand at net

practice while trying to stop a "hot" one from Skipper John Hawkins soon after the start of the season, we have unfortunately lost the services of "Dickie" Smith (Accounts Office).

Another member of the Accounts Dept. taking useful wickets in the "B" team is "Terry" Hawkins, also a comparative newcomer to Brewery cricket.

CRICKET RESULTS

SIMONDS 'A'

Saturday, May 7.
Frimley Green 80 v. Simonds 'A' 30.
Saturday, May 14.
Simonds 'A' 102 (Rose, 58) v. Goring 67.
Sunday, May 15.
Simonds 'A' 69 v. H.M.S. *Daedalus* 70 for 7.
Saturday, May 21.
Simonds 'A' 85 v. Dobell & Bartholomew 64. (Cheltenham)

Saturday June 4.
Simonds 'A' 37 v. White Waltham 127 for 9 dec.
Sunday, June 5.
H.M.S. *Daedalus* 55 v. Simonds 'A' 93. (Lee-on-Solent)
Saturday, June 11.
Courage's Brewery 46 v. Simonds 'A' 120 for 5 dec.

SIMONDS 'B'

Saturday, May 14.
Simonds 'B' 85 v. St. Sebastian's 87 for 6.
Saturday, May 21.
Viking C.C. 24 v. Simonds 'B' 29 for 2.
Saturday, May 28.
Simonds 'B' 28 v. No. 3 M.U., R.A.F. 86.
Saturday, June 4.
Shenfield 63 for 6 v. Simonds 'B' 62.
Saturday, June 11.
Simonds 'B' 45 for 7 v. Greys Green 67.

READING EVENING CUP (Second Round)

At Berkeley Avenue on Tuesday, June 7.
(20 over match).
Simonds 87 for 8 v. Earley 68 for 9.

Classified Advertisements

If you have a suitable advertisement for insertion in the next issue, for example, holiday accommodation, write out the advertisement, and send it at once to:—

The Editor, "Hop Leaf News,"
The Brewery, Reading.

Box numbers can be arranged if required. All advertisements must bear the name and department or branch of the sender.

This feature has been introduced for your convenience.

TO LET: 1955 4-berth Caravan, fully equipped (except linen) on A.A. and R.A.C. recommended site at Weymouth, overlooking sea. Moderate terms. Apply H. G. Sexton, Surveyor's Dept., Reading.

LATE NEWS

Death of Mr. F. L. Maskell

Mr. F. L. Maskell, Manager of Swindon Branch since 1945 until his retirement through ill-health, died on June 29.

Mr. Maskell, who was 50 years of age, had been in our employ since 1920. An account of his life and work will be given in our next issue.

FOOTBALL CLUB'S SUCCESSFUL SEASON

'B' Team wins League Championship

The Club completed a most successful season. The "A" team, who gained re-entry into the Reading and District Football League at the beginning of last season, settled down after a somewhat disastrous start—losing 7 out of their first 8 games. As the season progressed the team considerably improved and an excellent team spirit was built up. This augers well for the next season when even greater improvement is expected.

'A' TEAM

The team finished the season in good style, beating amongst others, the winners of the Reading Junior Cup, St. Sebastian's. Unfortunately in the last game of the season they were defeated by Greenslade's, who, by winning this match secured the Championship of the Division. Fred McCarthy, team skipper, missed this game through injury. Leading goal scorers for the season were John Rose (14), Fred West (11), Eric Munt and Neville Bedding (9), and John Smith (5).

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

The Second Team celebrated a thoroughly satisfactory season at a Supper at the Sports Club after their last match on Saturday, April 30. Playing consistently good football, they won the Championship of the Second Division of the Reading Minor League.

On presenting the League Cup to Skipper Bill Heybourne, Mr. J. D. Richardson, Chairman of the Football Club, said that the only player who let them down was the goalkeeper—he was the only one not to score. Their wonderful record of 21 points from 12 matches was a worthy effort. Of the 75 goals scored, R. Russell, the centre-forward, scored 28.

TENNIS

The tennis season started off with the usual good old English weather, but in spite of this a number of matches have been played. The "B" team have not done too well, but since this is their first year this is not unexpected. Better luck next time!

The "A" team have won two league matches and are eagerly looking forward to the third against Ray Mill, of Maidenhead, as the result will decide whether or not they enter the Second Division. The previous results were as follows:—

Simonds v. Portcullis 6—3
Simonds v. Manor 6—3

It is unfortunate that the proposed coaching scheme did not get under way, but the Berks L.T.A. Amateur Coach has been unable to find time to put the learners through their paces. However, it is hoped to get something organised later on.

In the Championship for the "E. D. Simonds" Cup, Ray Wheeler succeeded in beating the 1951-52 Champion, Bert Randall 8—7, 5—7, 3—6 to go on to the next round.

The Ladies' Championship will be run on American Tournament lines as there are so few entries.

OUR REFEREES

Nearly 3,800 miles were travelled during the 1954-55 soccer season by the Brewery's three football referees, Alan Hitchman (Delivery Office), Eric Scott (Wine Stores) and Richard Sawdon-Smith (Accounts) during their journeys to officiate at 138 matches.

Alan Hitchman's 51 matches took him to Henley on twelve occasions, and to Oxford, Didcot, Hounslow, Motspur Park, Chesham, Uxbridge, Edgware and Chesham amongst other places. He refereed two Semi-Finals and the Final of the Henley Charity Cup. For all this he travelled 1,456 miles.

To only three less matches, 48, went Eric Scott travelling 1,420 miles, to Oxford, Abingdon, Horsham, Weybridge, Uxbridge, Edgware, Yiewsley, Guildford and Chesham.

Eric was requested to referee the Inter-League match between the Reading and District League and the Reading and District Institute League, but had to decline owing to another appointment. He lined at Elm Park for Reading's floodlit friendly match against St. Mirren, thus making up for the match he missed against Partick Thistle which was cancelled owing to the weather.

BAGPIPES AT READING SPORTS GROUND

The stirring sounds of the bagpipes by the R.A.F. Apprentices Pipe Band were heard at the Sports Ground on May 11th. It was the occasion of a charity match—Reading Minors League v. R.A.F. (Halton) Apprentices.

The Reading team, who included Brian Goodenough (Electricians) and Bill Heybourne (Accounts) won 6 - 4.

The Band played before the match and during the interval.