



HOP LEAF NEWS



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NUMBER 1

BUMPER SOCIAL SEASON PLANS

Programme of Coming Events

DANCES, Dinners, Parties and Outings are being planned on a bigger-than-ever scale for staff, their families and guests at Reading and the Branches this season.

Some of these events have recently taken place and reports will be found elsewhere in this issue, but the peak will be reached in the New Year.

The Staff Dance at Reading

The list of events announced to date are :—

The Children's Christmas Treat on Saturday, January 12.

Friday, February 8, is the date selected for the Staff Dance at Reading, which will be held in the Olympia Ballroom.

Tuesday, February 12, for Bristol Branch's Staff Party, a Dinner and Dance at the Berkeley, Clifton, Bristol.

On Friday, March 8, the West Country Staff Party will be held at the Exmoor Hall, Devonport. Staff from our Tamar Brewery, Devonport, Octagon Brewery, Plymouth, and from sub-Branches at Torquay and Penzance will be attending. The function will commence at 8 p.m. and end at 2 a.m. Music will be by the Embassy Ballroom Orchestra.

On Friday, March 29, the Staines and London Staff Dance will be held at the "Pack Horse Hotel," Staines.

Proposed Events

Other functions which are still in the planning stage and for which the final arrangements have not yet been completed are :—

Ludgershall Branch is arranging a Dinner and Social for members of the staff and their wives at an early date in the New Year: Brighton Branch which is proposing to hold a first ever Staff Party, arranged purely for the Branch staff—a Dinner, followed by a visit to a theatre; and at Bridgend Branch, another this-year-for-the first-time function is under consideration.

The Season's Opening Events

The Dinner and Dance of Simonds Branch of the T. and G.W.U. and the Cricket Club's Annual Dinner and Dance were two of the opening events of the season.

More than 70 people sat down to dinner and were afterwards joined by other guests for the dancing which followed at the Annual Dinner and Dance of Branch 2/184 (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.) of the Transport and General Worker's Union on November 9.

Altogether the guests numbered more than 150 for the function held at the Oxford Ballroom, Reading, at which the guest of honour was the Regional Secretary, Mr. E. Hyman.

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Plum Pudding and Mince Pies FOR OUR HORSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY



George Mylum (left) and William Rose (right) with Fiddler and Unicorn in the stable yard.

CHRISTMAS pudding and mince pies will be among the special tit-bits for the seven horses in the Brewery stables at Reading on Christmas Day.

The stable staff, George Mylum, horse-feeder, and William Rose, stableman, who have spent 36 years in the stables between them, will bring pies and the pudding from their homes on Christmas morning when they visit the stables to make special bran mash for their charges.

For both George and "Bill" their work in the stables is something of a labour of love.

Both of them have spent all their working lives with horses at the Brewery, and in the Army before that. As true animal lovers they develop a strong affection for the horses in their care.

Peppermints for "Unicorn"

"We almost always have little extras in our pockets for the horses and they look forward to them," Mylum said.

"Unicorn—he is 16 years old and one of our veterans, who has been sick recently—has a great liking for peppermints, and he must have eaten nearly half a pound of them on some days," added Rose.

At one time there were 48 horses in the stables, but since the war the number has gradually declined, and now there are only seven. Although they will get a special feed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, the men who take care of them are sure that the horses will not be sorry when Christmas is over. "They like to be at work, out and about, and are always impatient to start work again after a holiday," they said.

The "Young'un"

Two more animals, Minnie, the cat, and "Young'un," one of her offspring, who are officially recognised as the stable cats, and are on the pay roll, will not be forgotten, and will find that their Christmas meals contain extra rations, including turkey or chicken, brought from the homes of the stable staff.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Weddings

BIRTHS

Mrs. V. E. Sawyer (late Surveyors' Dept.) gave birth to a daughter on October 19.



Appointments

D. T. Catton has been appointed as Assistant to Mr. C. P. T. Wadlow, with effect from September 1.



National Service

We welcome the return after National Service of the following :
D. J. Hayes, Accounts Dept., Reading.

Wines & Spirits Dept. SOCIAL EVENING

A most enjoyable evening took place on Friday, October 5, in the Social Club, when practically the whole Department took part in a Darts Competition (organised by Pete Harper and "Der" Main), for which Mr. Manners Wood had given a silver cup.

The climax of the evening was the exciting game between Brian Sayers and Stan Collins, the final result being :

Individual Champion : Brian Sayers.
Runner-up : Stan Collins.
Beaten Semi-Finalists : Pete Harper and Frank Foster.
Highest Score : Brian Sayers.

Presenting the prizes, Mr. Manners Wood (who was also a competitor) congratulated the entrants on their skill, and said he was glad to see the friendly relations that prevailed in the Department.

A further presentation was made to Brian Sayers as winner of the Department's Tennis Tournament.

The evening ended with a cordial vote of thanks by Mr. Ruffles.

New Arrivals

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

READING :

Miss A. Chandler, Stocktaking Dept.
Mr. P. Goss, Cask Dept.
Mr. K. C. Hockley, Accounts Dept.
Mrs. J. Iltott, Correspondence Office.
Mr. C. A. Wakefield, Hotels Dept.

BRANCHES :

Tamar : Mr. R. Langford.
Miss A. Soden.
Swindon : Mr. D. S. Hounsell.
Bridgend : Miss P. M. Roy.
Mr. P. Ball.



People on the Move

The following staff changes have taken place :—

READING :

Mr. K. T. Morrell, Accounts Dept. to Cashiers' Section.
Mr. R. Kury, Personnel Office to Brewing Room.
Mr. R. W. Smith, Cashier, to Personnel Office.
Mr. J. W. Chandler, Representative, to Staff Training Course.
Mr. M. F. Ridler, ex Newport, to Staff Training Course.
Miss R. Dickson, Stocktaking Dept. to Correspondence Office.
Mr. E. F. Munt, Accounts Dept. to Surveyors' Dept.
Mr. M. Imberg, Cask Dept. to Estates Dept.
Mr. M. Burroughs, Cask Dept. to Delivery Dept.
Mr. G. E. Shiel, Accounts Dept. to Accountant's Dept.
Mr. E. Hosler, Cask Dept. to Bottled Beer Dept.
Mr. D. J. Hayes, Accounts Dept. to Branch Dept.
Miss M. Rickards, Correspondence Office to Estates Dept.
Mr. B. J. MacFarlane, Hotels Dept. to Branch Dept.

25 YEARS AGO

A HEALTHY, HAPPY AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
TO ALL

*Which shall it be?
Great joy for thine own self, or blessedness
Of healing, helpful life, and power to bless?
Which shall I ask for thee?*

*Life's very best
Be thine! Whether it come as Joy or Pain,
So it should work thy good,
'Twere wholly gain.*

God bless thee—for the rest!

(REPRINTED FROM THE HOP LEAF
GAZETTE, JANUARY, 1932.



Miss Margaret Davis, a member of the staff of the Banbury Branch of Arthur Coopers, was married on August 6 (August Bank Holiday) to Mr. W. Budd at the very old village church of Hanwell, near Banbury. The photograph shows the happy couple with two other members of the Banbury staff who attended at the wedding.

Miss Peggy May Parsons, a member of the Wine and Spirit Department, married Mr. William J. Evans, of the Transport Department on October 27 at St. Andrew's Church, Newport.

Here's the best
'HOP' of all-

THE STAFF ★ DANCE ★

at the OLYMPIA
Ballroom, Reading

DANCING FROM 8 p.m.-1 a.m TO

ERIC WAKEFIELD

AND HIS BAND



make a
note of
the date-
Friday,
Feb. 8th,
1957

Arthur Cooper

Mr. Dennis T. Catton has been appointed assistant to Mr. P. Wadlow, of Arthur Coopers.

Mr. Catton will be remembered as the genial Host of our "Bacon Arms" at Newbury, from September, 1950, to April, 1953, a post to which he was appointed following training in our Hotels and Catering Department.

They Were a Picture!

ROUND THE BRANCHES

Bridgend bids farewell to Mr. Pitts

A farewell Dinner Party, arranged by the Clerical Staff at Bridgend on September 20, was held at "The York Tavern and Restaurant," when Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Pitts were the guests of honour, and it proved to be the most successful function of its kind ever held by the Branch.

During the course of the evening Mr. Pitts was presented with an electric razor in a hide case, which had been subscribed for by both

the clerical and manual members of the staff.

A short speech was made by Mr. C. L. Carvill, conveying to both Mr. and Mrs. Pitts the best wishes of the assembled company and also extending a welcome to Mr. F. R. Scott, the new Manager at the Branch.

In his reply Mr. Pitts expressed his appreciation for the loyalty and endeavour of all the members of the staff over the previous six years, and said both he and Mrs. Pitts would carry away many happy memories of Bridgend.

As a mark of the very high esteem in which Mrs. Pitts was held she was presented with a very fine and large bouquet of flowers.

Newport bids farewell to Mr. Ridler

Many good wishes on his future success were expressed to Mr. M. F. Ridler when the staff of the Newport Branch gathered together to say au revoir on September 28.

Mr. Ridler had spent six years at the Branch as Free Trade Representative, after being transferred from Bristol Branch. He was due to commence a managerial course at Reading the following week.

As a farewell gift and a token of regard, Mr. A. G. Gould presented Mr. Ridler with two travelling bags. In response Mr. Ridler expressed his appreciation of the co-operation and good fellowship he had enjoyed whilst at Newport.

A Free Trade Farewell

Shortly after his departure for Reading to commence the course there, Mr. and Mrs. Ridler returned to Monmouthshire on October 11 for another farewell party.

At the Conservative Club, Cross Keys, to which they had been invited by the Western Valley Club stewards they were the recipients of further farewell gifts.

Several rival Trade "Rep's" were present at a large gathering in the Club, and two of Mr. Ridler's former friendly competitors made the presentations of, to him, a brief case; and to Mrs. Ridler, a reading lamp.

The function included entertainment by a number of well-known artistes.

SOCIAL CLUB DINNER AND DANCE

Dancers try out new floor

A new oak floor in the Social Club at Bridge Street, was given a try out and was voted "a wonderful improvement" and "an outstanding success" by the dancing enthusiasts at the Social Club's Annual Dinner and Dance held there on Saturday, December 1.

A record number of 102 guests sat down to Dinner. There had been a "sell out" of all available tickets. Among those present at the Dinner were about 20 children who are reported to have "enjoyed the feed immensely."

The Social Club premises had been attractively decorated for the event and congratulations are extended to Messrs. Hawkins, Patterson, Turner and Whale for their efforts in organising such an enjoyable evening.



A Dutch visitor to Reading, Mr. T. Van Kranenburg from Rotterdam took this excellent photograph when on holiday in England in August and very kindly sent us the picture which is reproduced. The driver is 'Alf' Hunt.

They were all Smiles

A cheerful group enjoying a "Tavern" after the hectic "make your own clothes out of newspapers" contest at the Cricket Club Dinner and Dance. They are, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hawkins, Mr. K. White and friend.



SPORT

Season's opening Events

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

The Heralds of Swing band played for the dancers and the M.C. was Mr. Len Saunders.

A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all.

Cricket Club Dinner

The Cricket Club held its annual Dinner and Dance at Grosvenor House, Reading, on Thursday, November 15.

Some seventy members and friends, including Mr. & Mrs. F. H. V. Keighley, spent a most enjoyable evening.

At the conclusion of dinner a short report on the past season was given by the chairman and this was followed by the presentation of the Batting and Bowling Cups by Mr. Keighley.

The "Louis Simonds" Cup for Batting was gained this year by Mr. Neville Bedding of the Surveyor's Dept. and the Bowling Cup to Mr. David Batson of the Scalds Dept.

Mr. Batson came to England from Barbados early this year and has proved to be a valuable and popular member of the club.

The remainder of the evening was spent enjoying a mixed programme of games and dancing and everyone voted it a great success.

NATIONAL SAVINGS NEWS

The savings group's Hon. Secretary at Reading announces that a new savings 'cycle' commences on December 13.

LATE NEWS

Pensioner's Dinner

An alteration of the date for the Pensioner's Dinner at Reading from December 19 to Wednesday, January 2 has been announced by Mr. W. Bradford.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations for Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Ridler on the birth of a daughter, Barbara Jane, on December 1.

Mr. Ridler was formerly a Free Trade Representative at Newport Branch and is at present on a staff training course at Reading.

Simonds Cricket Club

SIMONDS ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB

DOGGED BY MISFORTUNE

For the first eleven in their new Division, this season, so far, has not been too successful.

Out of seven games, two have been won, one drawn, and four lost. Three of these defeats, however, have been by the odd goal.

On each occasion our football has been superior to that of our opponents, but our forwards through bad luck and poor shooting have been unable to finish off the good approach work. However, a welcome return to form was made when Newbury Northcroft were visitors to the Sports Ground. Northcroft, last year's runners-up in the section, inflicted our heaviest defeat earlier in the season 5-1: we almost reversed this score, but had to be content with a 4-1 victory. We made an early exit from the Reading Senior Cup, but in the two rounds of the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup we have scored 16 goals with 2 against.

The Reserve Team

The reserve team have also had a bad start to the season, with only one win so far.

The team has never been as strong as it was expected to be at the beginning of the season for a number of reasons.

Many players who signed have not turned out: Fred McCarthy, thinking of emigrating, sold his boots; Brian Sayers transferred to his old club; Brian Chandler also transferred away; Will McCune could not find time to keep fit with his studying; Ray Lovejoy's new house has kept him busy on a Saturday when we needed him on the football field; rheumatism forced Tony Maslen to stop playing; Don Paul has had an unlucky series of injuries which we now hope are at an end; Ralph Lee played two games, and ever since has been attending hospital for treatment to his knee. Need I go on? The lads now playing in the reserve side try like mad every Saturday, and we hope that they may see a turning for the better before the season is over.

Congratulations

We congratulate Pete Peters, of the Canvas Department, our club coach, for helping Margate, the Kent League side to reach the first round proper of the F. A. Cup once again.

AVERAGES 1956

BATTING—Qualification 6 innings	Innings	Not out	Highest Score	Runs	Average
1 Bedding, N.	7	2	46*	119	23.80
2 Ayers, G.	11	1	48	230	23.00
3 Hawkins, A. J.	13	1	45*	215	17.91
4 Rose, J.	13	1	91	194	16.16
5 Merryweather, R.	7	1	39	76	12.66
6 Organ, K. G. S.	9	6	16	34	11.33
7 Harding, G.	14	4	28*	110	11.00
8 Smith, R.	14	—	34	141	10.07
9 Lambourne, R. J.	12	—	33	120	10.00
10 Peters, P.	7	—	17	60	8.57
11 Roberts, R.	17	1	16	121	7.56
12 Gibbons, K.	9	1	35	60	7.50
13 Ward, K.	11	3	16*	39	7.37
14 White, K.	12	3	20*	64	7.11
15 Barrett, E.	8	1	19	44	6.28
16 Munt, E.	7	—	18	44	6.28
17 Shiel, G.	11	—	23	68	6.18
18 Foster, F.	11	1	18*	58	5.80
19 Benham, F.	6	1	11	25	5.00
20 Crump, E.	7	2	10*	24	4.80
21 Batson, D.	13	—	15	61	4.69
22 Crutchfield, G.	7	2	8	23	4.60
23 Gardiner, J.	8	1	8	30	4.28
24 Wells, F.	6	3	7*	12	4.00

* signifies not out.

Also batted	Innings	Not out	Runs	Average
McNab, R.	4	1	81*	28.33
Gibbons, T.	1	—	13	13.00
Moggs,	2	—	8	7.50
Greenaway, W.	4	—	15	6.00
Smith, J.	3	—	8	6.00
Harper, P.	3	1	10	5.00
Cartwright,	1	—	3	3.00
Jeffcoat, J.	4	—	4	2.25
Patey,	1	—	2	2.00
Brown,	1	—	2	2.00
Bearman, D.	1	—	1	1.00
Sayers, B.	2	—	0	0.00
Darling	1	—	0	0.00

BOWLING—Qualification 30 overs	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
1 Batson, D.	65	17	150	15	10.00
2 Merryweather, R.	46	8	144	14	10.2
3 Smith, R.	122	25	338	31	10.9
4 Lambourne, R. J.	90	18	283	25	11.3
5 Foster, F.	61	22	152	13	11.6
6 Bedding, N.	31	4	103	8	12.8
7 Gardiner, J.	90	11	322	23	14.0
8 Ward, K.	102	25	275	15	18.3
9 Organ, K. G. S.	89	18	242	11	22.0
10 Rose, J.	44	14	146	4	36.5

Also Bowled	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Smith, J.	14	5	30	6	5.0
McNab, B.	8	—	16	2	8.0
Harper, P.	8	1	23	2	11.5
Sayers, B.	5	—	14	1	14.0
Moggs	11	1	57	4	14.2
Wells, F.	6	—	31	2	15.5
Munt, E.	15	—	68	3	22.6
Shiel, G.	8	—	70	1	70.0

CATCHES—8 Lambourne, R. J. 7 Roberts, R. 5 Merryweather, R., Jeffcoat, J. 4 Smith, R., Ward, K. 3 Hawkins, J., Barrett, E., Gibbons, K., Foster, F. 2 Organ, K., Rose, J., Batson, D., Peters, P., Shiel, G., Gardiner, J., Greenaway, W., Dearman, B., Crutchfield, G. 1 Smith, J., Ayers, G., Bedding, N., McNab, R., Sayers, B., Patey, Benham, F., Harper, P.

WICKET KEEPING	Stumped	Caught	Total
Harding, G.	3	8	11
Crump, E.	—	1	1

SIMONDS SPORTS CLUB Tennis

The 1956 season has been a most successful year, and Simonds once again gained prominence in the Berkshire L.T.A. League. It is a considerable achievement by the Berkshire league team to have gained their position in Division I, for it was only in 1955 that we entered in this field in the lowest Division. The team consists of the following players:—

1st Pair:	J. McNaughton ... (Assoc. Member)	H. Kelsey ... "
2nd Pair:	A. Randall ... (A. S. Cooper)	B. Glasscock ... (Accounts Dept.)
3rd Pair:	R. Wheeler ... (Hotels Dept.)	A. McNaughton ... (Assoc. Member)

The fixture list comprised 31 matches, including the L.T.A. matches, ten of which were cancelled owing to inclement weather and holidays, etc.

The Finals of the Club Championships (with the exception of the Ladies' Singles) were held on Sunday, July 22, and congratulations to the undermentioned, who won the honours:—

Simonds Men's Singles:
B. Glasscock (Accounts Dept.) beat R. Wheeler (Hotels Dept.).

Open Men's Singles:
J. McNaughton (Assoc. Member) beat H. Kelsey (Assoc. Member).

Men's Doubles:

J. McNaughton and G. Goswell (Assoc. Members) beat B. Glasscock and R. Wheeler.

The Ladies' Final was played on Sunday, September 16, and on this occasion honours went to Mrs. G. Greenaway, who beat Mrs. A. Bowsher.

The usual quota of Wimbledon tickets were obtained through the Association and, after drawing for tickets, twelve lucky members made the trip to Wimbledon. Likewise a coach trip was organised for those wishing to see the Indoor Professional Tennis Championships at Wembley. A party visited the Empire Pool on Thursday, September 27, when a very exciting evening was enjoyed by all. Very many thanks to Miss Hobbs, who must take all credit for the preparations for this outing.

Congratulations go to John McNaughton, who jointly won the Berkshire Doubles Handicap Tournament, and also to Barry Glasscock who, in the Phyllis Court Open Championship Junior Tournament reached the last eight of the Boys' Singles, got to the Finals of the Boys' Doubles, and won the Mixed Doubles.

In conclusion it is hoped that even more enthusiastic support will be received during the 1957 season.

New faces are always welcomed.