

Extracts from THE HIGHWAYMAN, 1973
June, 1973 (December follows)

MOTOR OBSERVATION RUN 11.3.73.
PITTFALLS OF AN ORGANISER

Incredibly, the day dawned bright and sunny, the first such Sunday after many wet weekends. An early arrival at Rosehill Racecourse Carpark revealed a lack of starters. Or, more correctly, no one at all! But by 8.15, however, cars started turning up from all directions.

A scream of burning rubber was followed by the arrival of, among others, IAN CHANTLER our most superstitious entrant who seemed very upset with his No. 13 starting position. As is usual, when the time arrived to start the cars, this writer's total lack of organising ability resulted in a 15 minute delay while entry fees were collected and various questions answered.

After 40 minutes of panic, all cars in the general area had been disposed of, and a check revealed that of 39 entries received, only 29 had actually started.

Strangely enough, while all entrants reached the first checkpoint (MARK EATON, GEORGE BEVAN AND FRIEND) without much trouble, my own car broke down in the middle of Parramatta, resulting in a 300 yard traffic jam and 40 minutes of frustration. I hadn't paid my N.R.M.A. membership!

Fortunately, while those in the event had to cover 40 miles from the first to the second checkpoint, I only had to travel nine miles, otherwise BRIAN and VICKI might have still been waiting for my arrival at their checkpoint near Windsor! After all cars had passed through, apart from a certain gentleman in the Costs Section who later insisted that the second checkpoint was at Caddie Park (he finished in last place) we made our way to the finish, skilfully manned by MR. and MRS. JOHNSTON, to discover that all had eventually arrived safely - almost!

Final results were GARY KNIGHT of St. Marys - 1st (Champagne and \$10), D. HARRIS of Construction - 2nd (\$8), RAY TUCK of Staff - 3rd (\$5) and ALAN LINDSAY, a friend of Gary's - 4th (\$4). The last named had an unfortunate accident on a minibike and had to be taken to hospital by the winner. For those who may have wondered why there was no presentation ceremony, this was the reason.

Other unofficial results were: outright fastest THE FULLERS, 2 hours 16 minutes (29 minutes early)! in their Datsun; slowest GEORGE FAIRBAIRN, a "game" competitor; safest - MERV CLACK (certainly the most consistent driver) and most importantly for all you girls reading this article, first "P" driver, LYNN FINNIMORE who finished 8th overall in, very appropriately a Morris Minor. The record for the biggest fuel bill goes to RICK CHANT in his Fairlane.

For those interested, the course was timed by BRIAN WEINERT and JOE TABONE, the latter being the Department's most eligible bachelor! Owing to last minute family commitments, Joe was unable to attend the finish but his assistance as Rec. Club Representative was much appreciated.

While many entries were received from Metropolitan Offices, the Accounts Branch, and Staff - large professional Sections such as Survey and Properties were not represented at all, apart from **MARGARET OLDROYD** in her Mini. You people in those Sections just do not know what a good time you are missing out on by not going in such events. So how about a bit more of the old competitive spirit, coupled with an enjoyable day's outing?

John Tipper

(PHOTO CAPTION- A good time was had by ... ALL?)

THE HIGHWAYMAN, December, 1973

WHO NEEDS EXAMINERS?

A term in voucher examining was once considered in the same light as a life sentence to Devil's Island - whereas one must now consider such an invitation as a rare honour and one not to be taken lightly. We have dragged ourselves out of the depths of obscurity and degradation and are now heading for greater heights!

After a trial period of * months the trainee will be informed whether she or he is eligible for further occupancy. This step is necessary due to the great number of staff applying for transfers to our Section and ensures that a high standard of * is maintained.

However, before you submit your application, be warned! No matter what you have been told, this Section is not a rest area, one is after all expected to make a show of it. "The important point to stress to prospective examiners is that quality is the order of the day, not quantity." So said Mr. John Davis, one of our former stars, now at Granville. Needless to say, he'll never be readmitted!

Now for an examination of some of the local characters presided over by Senior Examiner Ray Macfarlane and Ian Linderman (Groups A & B).

Well known by all is George Fairbairn, not only for the number of files (and female office assistants) which occupy his time but also for the verbal injuries inflicted on those who do not know the first thing about preparing contract vouchers (D.E.'s please take note!)

Beside George sits Bill Muskett, our amiable Internal Personnel Officer. Anyone desiring to join our Section would do well to consult with Bill, who will indicate the qualifications required. Bill can also perform some amazing card tricks!

Alan "A.J." Jennens is widely known for his ability to face Monday with a smile. Any members of the public who ring up A.J. after payment for overdue accounts find themselves apologising for worrying us, such is A.J.'s charm over the phone. A.J.'s only wish in life is to own a P76 - whatever that is!

Lindsay Heckindorf, otherwise known as "Heck" (as anyone who checks the bundys can tell you) is a musical devotee of the highest order. If there's anything you want to know about popular music during the last 30 years, ask Heck. This gentlemen also enthuses an atmosphere of gaiety with his many weird and witty remarks.

Joe Tabone, who together with Bill Muskett, John Ballantine, Greg Innes, Norm McInnes and Graham Johnsen make up our half of the M.R. Cricket Team, has decided to buy a new Celica as it embarasses him towing his speedboat behind a Hillman Husky!

By the way, Norm is a demon at the card table, as any of his opponents will tell you. How about financing Joe's new car, Norm?

Peter Robinson is another motoring enthusiast. He recently owned an Alfa 1750, but after suffering numerous nervous breakdowns over his beloved machine, decided to invest in a Corolla, saying he just wasn't ready for such an experience!

John "Buk Buk" Tipper has washed his hands of car rallies, preferring to spend his weekends "chasing" steam engines with the Rail Transport Museum.

Other examiners on whom more information is being obtained include Geoff Cooper, George Kemlo, Bob Dunlop, Arend Oets and Tony Winniart. George Bevan has also graduated through the ranks. Congratulations! George! Details on supervisor Ray Fox should also make interesting reading!

No words can fully describe our three charming and delightful typists, Trish Noyes, Lynn Finnimore and Helen Fuller. **It is hoped**, however, that an intensive study being conducted by a specially selected committee will enable more intimate details to be revealed in the next issue.

Other personalities seen from time to time are Brian Weinert who cruises around in a 1970 M. Benz 280SE when not at "work" (an excellent choice for CLEO'S centre pages, say his female admirers), Bronwyn Smith (our unanimous choice for "Miss DMR") and those purple pencil pushers from Audit, **Kel and "Babes."**

GOSSIP FROM THE GARAGE

Don't resent growing old, some people never get the opportunity! But, if you can remember when sex was dirty and air was clean, then you are getting old. **HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO THE ANCIENT.**

Ever since "Big Daddy" (Tom Moore) entered hospital for a cartilage operation, he has been unfortunate enough to contact further ailments. First the mumps, which was closely followed by complications, and then he had to re-enter hospital for suspected gall-bladder trouble. We all hope, very sincerely, that Tom is back at work and in good health to read this column, even though he will be minus a cartilage and a gall stone.

This month is beginning to read like a sick-parade report. Col Selwin has been seeing his doctor for stomach trouble, and has had numerous X-rays and tests. His doctor has prescribed total abstinence, and Col would think this type of prescription is worse than the complaint. We hope, also, that Col reads this over a nice cool "schooner" and is fit and well for his annual imbibing at Port Macquarie.

The continuing story of the Sick Report included David Sturgess, who was hospitalised for an operation on a toe, which had been troublesome for some time. This toe being a necessary part of his driving foot was the result of an in-grown toenail, and not from kicking his wife. By now he should be able to dig his toes in, for the hop, step and jump into complete recovery.

Ted Grundy had a severe case of 'flu which kept him in bed, and on his return, John Doyle-Jones "copped it." With John it was difficult because his wife had the 'flu at the same time, and with a young baby, it wasn't easy. With Ted it persisted for several weeks, and the only relieving feature was that he wasn't able to lose his money on the "Pokies" or horses - living alone, Ted wasn't able to contact anybody to act as a "runner."

In September, Bob Cox and Lance Carmichael left the Department. Bob went to Victoria, and Lance to another Government Department. Best wishes to both.

Wall-papering can be an arduous task, but not to Tom McIntosh. He papered a whole [MISSING NEXT PAGE]

Incidentally, Gwen will be a Grannie again next June!

Photographic assistant Fran Klien was suffering a sore neck for a few days when someone ran into the back of a car she was driving. Luckily not too much damage to Fran, but she says as far as shock was concerned, someone running into the back of your car is worse than seeing them coming at you head on!

Another photographic assistant also suffered a head-on collision - this time with a dog! Result, Ken "Sherlock" Holmes was sporting a "shiner" to end all "shiners", all because he was playing with his pet corgi (at least that's his story). Poor Ken, whose face has taken a terrible beating, one way or another, this year, is having a hard job convincing people it was only the dog we believe you, Ken.

In the months to come there should be many serene and shapely ladies in the Print Room! The Main Roads "Yogurt" Class has almost doubled its attendance with the enrolment of "Rocky" Rogerson, "Mad" Madge Martin, Early Shirley Black, "Crash" Fitzgerald, "Mrs." Sylvie "Fish" and "Pommie" Gwen Sutton - to name a few. The first Monday afternoon saw a good roll up and proceedings started with a "bang" when "Computer Run" Joyce Molloy measured her length on the floor during a warm-up session of table tennis with "Pommie" Gwen.

However, they all acquitted themselves well and except for confusing their left hand with their right and falling off their "hand-stands", the session was quite a success, and a continued attendance was promised by all.

Which junior member of our staff took a "rec" day off to wash her hair because she was appearing in the Waratah Procession? And then it poured with rain! Janet's hair was nearly as shaggy as the English sheep dog she was leading! Never mind, Janet, stick with the Cocker Spaniels next time.

One of the printers now has a new nickname - instead of "Hot-Lips" he is to be known in future as "Fly catcher". Spillane!! In an "all out" campaign George has waged a single-handed battle with any fly which was foolish enough to poke its nose into the Print Room. Having tried (unsuccessfully) to get on camera every time he sees a TV newsreel camera crew. Perhaps George is now trying to outdo John Laws with his Mortein Commercials!

So: A printing assistant named Spillane Had a dislike of flies on the brain He chased them with spray All through the day And the Print Room is germfree again!

Goodbye

WAGES EXAMINATION

Seeing almost two years have passed since our last contribution, we feel that a more up-to-date itinerary is warranted for the information of fellow staff members.

Firstly, our fearless leaders have changed. Fighting Clem Cawley decided he'd had enough of us after a few years of menacing and accepted a position at Supply -bet he is regretting his move. Replacing Clem is docile Barry Finn as Section Head. Barry is finally starting to settle down after the much organised chaos that eventuated at the distribution of employees' group certificates and the close of yet another financial year. We hope to have Barry "trained" at least by close of NEXT financial year. An addition to the higher category is our 2-I-C, Jack Maloney. Good ole' Jack tends to keep us all under control between his bone doctor, menus, meetings, social activities and retirement fund.

Leo Dalton is still No. 1 in control of computer wages and updates - not to forget his usual at the Chamberlain. Steve (Jock) Evans still assists Leo in every way possible - he seems to be turning all funny colours resembling computer printout sheets. Stuart Morrison has his finger in the computer pie too, by handling computer tax and master files. Incidentally, Stuart was previously in control of group tax and the employees group certificates till the beginning of June. Maybe the change was the reason for mishaps with the

group certificates. Between the change over of jobs, Stuart managed to slip quietly away on his honeymoon, which really surprised us all, especially when we weren't told.

Ceylon tea man, Des Gerreyn has filled in where Mick Wilson departed from on the manual wages system. Hygiene is still the chief topic of Des' itinerary together with the non-corruption of a gentleman of his status. Wally Kerrison and his "guffawing" laugh still continues to slay the Section and all newcomers just can't figure out if it is really human - we haven't really established what duties he carries out yet, but he and Des seem to cope between the endless conversations of awards (which type).

Vic (road runner) Byrne is still the toast of the Section with his training and running, especially since he finished ninth in the City-to-Surf. Recoups and long service are running smoothly and should qualify for the next 1500 metres.

Geoff Cox has his hopes of trying to obtain that "golden" sultan again this season - we think by now he would have given up after unsuccessfully trying for ten years. He claims to be king of the haulage and not many can argue because they don't know what else he does. His very reformed assistant, Brian Nolan, pulls his weight between his eerie singing and learnings of the Good Book.

The noisiest of the Section would without a doubt be "Mr. Body Beautiful", Dave Fraser, who seems to be always flexing his "invisible" muscles. He is on a vitamin kick at the moment and has been complaining of not being able to exert himself - we feel this maybe because he attended a weightlifting session and still hasn't recovered.

Steve (Boris) Coghlan is trying to compete with "The Body" and is continually attending workouts to gain his recognition with the girls. Steve is only a new member of our congregation, involved in the registration of recoups and general runabout of the Section.

The last additions to the male side are:

Garry MacDonald and Ian Chapman. Garry is a very smooth operator from what we can gather and he has filled Stuart's old job on group tax. Ian hails from Waterfall W.O. and seems to keep pretty much to himself, handling his dust diseases and computer abstracts.

Changes certainly have taken place with our girls. Only two calculating machine operators are left, namely Gloria Thompson and Christine Ollason. Cheryl Atkins resigned after four years for better things, and Margaret Day departed after 6 and a half years to start a row of little Days. Gloria still heads the race to the train after work and we are thinking of entering her against Vic in the next City-to-Surf. Chris is still on her way to join the Main Roads Subdivision estate at Engadine (one has problems when building a new house) and Chris certainly is building up those muscles after carrying all those bricks.

Irene Krautman has been joined by Sonia Hutchinson in the typist's room. Irene was sure glad of the company after being by herself so long. Now they both join forces in making our daily cuppa and the result is rather refreshing. Word has it that Irene will have made the plunge to matrimony before the end of September. Sonia is a country girl (Casino) at heart and is finding the ventures of the big city rather challenging, but she quite enjoys experiencing those challenges.

As usual we still have Super-Numeries coming and going to and from the Section. The latest is Peter Jackson (he doesn't pass 'em round) who claims to be a "Super Worker" - just read the notice he has erected on his desk.

Now that old and new members of the Section have been further exposed as briefly as possible, it may be many more moons before the inner secrets of Wages Examination comes to light.