

18th August, 1941

Mr. A.E. Humphrey, one of our ex-Kidbrooke (and ex-Cardington) Grade I clerks was transferred away to-day. The clerical section will miss his jovial - if at times erratic - personality.

25th August, 1941

Mr. W.L. Harper, Assistant Inspector in Radiology was transferred to M.A.P. H.Q. (C.R.I) Millbank to-day.

27th August, 1941

Two new laboratory assistants commenced duty to-day, Miss J.C. Pearce in Non Metallic Materials, and Miss K. Wingfield in Metrology. Mr. P.R. Wright was also transferred here to-day as a warder.

30th August, 1941

Miss B. Cooke, examiner, resigned.

2nd September, 1941

We had to discharge Peter Hack, one of the few male laboratory assistants to-day. We have done our best with him, but he is really rather hopeless mentally, poor chap.

3rd September, 1941

We engaged a new assistant examiner to-day - Miss G.K. Woolley, and two more laboratory assistants - Miss J.M. Yorke, and Miss M.D. Bowers.

5th September, 1941

Miss M.D. Bowers resigned; she's only lasted two days!



W.L. Harper



6th September, 1941

Mr. P.R. Wright, our latest warder recruit, resigned to-day, and Mr. J.E.B. Harrison a member of the clerical staff who has been with us since the early days here, was transferred to Leatherhead at his own request.

8th September, 1941

Mr. F.E. Holloway commenced duty as an examiner, and Mr. H.A.G. Langley was engaged as an electrical fitter.

10th September, 1941

Miss B. Child was engaged as a laboratory assistant, for duty in the Chemical Laboratory.

11th September, 1941

Mr. C. Hare was engaged as a labourer, to be employed on general cleaning duties.

13th September, 1941

Miss M.I. Dengate, another of our 1938 "originals" resigned to-day. Her styles of dress and hair have often caused some amusement - it is rumoured she is to marry one of the film actors who has been working at Denham.

15th September, 1941

Mr. S.G. Ketchen was transferred here to-day from Kidbrooke, on promotion from A.S.C.III to A.S.C.I. He has been serving for some years in A.I.D. "Bond". Another recruitment to the clerical staff to-day was Mr. J.E. Wallis (Jnr), son of Mr. J.E. Wallis who joined us in December of last year. Mr. H. McLean was engaged as a warder to-day.



17th September, 1941

Mr. P.K. Hatcher commenced duties to-day as a temporary clerk.

20th September, 1941

To-day has been an interesting one in our history, for the staff (194 of them, anyway) assembled on the lawn for a group photograph. Taken by a revolving camera, it should make quite a good picture. All ranks were represented, and just before it was taken, the Inspector in Charge presented to Mr. H. Dudley, one of the ex-Kidbrooke staff, a miniature badge marking the completion of 20 years service in A.I.D. Mr. H. McLean, the new warder resigned. He has lasted just four days!

22nd September, 1941

Mr. E.E. Wright was engaged to fill the warder vacancy.

23rd September, 1941

Mr. G.C. McEwen, examiner in the Petrol Laboratory was transferred to North Western Area to-day.

26th September, 1941

Mr. G. Walker was engaged as a labourer to-day. We had one of our first coming of age celebrations to-day - Miss W.J. Garner of Drawing Office is 21.

29th September, 1941

Mr. D. Weatherley, examiner, was transferred to the Radiological Division to-day after training. He is a school teacher by profession, and promises to be an asset both to the social and technical life here. Mr. B.N. Aston, A.S.C.III. another of our 1938 "originals" was transferred away to-day.



4th October, 1941

Miss D.J. Harrison, laboratory assistant in the Metrology Division, resigned to-day. The second 1938 "original" to go in a week.

9th October, 1941

Mr. S.W. Lee was engaged as a stoker. So we come to the end of our third year here, and our staff has grown to 214 (89 have come and 54 gone).

15th October, 1941

Miss E.L. Wilkes was engaged to-day as a laboratory assistant in the Chemical Laboratory.

20th October, 1941

Mr. E.E. Hall was engaged as a tool maker.

21st October, 1941

A Typing Pool "occasion" to-day, when Miss L.E. Hawkins celebrates her 21st birthday. Good wishes and happy returns of the day.

L. Hawkins

Signature

22nd October, 1941

Miss J.A. Nailard, and Mr. L.H.J. Wise, two young folk, were engaged as laboratory assistants to-day.

24th October, 1941

Mr. E.E. Hall, tool maker, engaged on the 20th, was discharged.

25th October, 1941

Miss G.A. Worthington, laboratory assistant, resigned. Her genial, if somewhat bulky, personality will be missed.

28th October, 1941

Mr. G.A. Philps, Chief Examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred to Midland Area H.Q. Birmingham to-day.

3rd November, 1941


Miss E.L.D. Stoten, a laboratory assistant who has been with us since September 1940, resigned to-day.

8th November, 1941

Miss M.H.D. Chennells, another laboratory assistant who came to us in September 1940, resigned to-day.

13th November, 1941

Mary H.D. Chennells

 Mr. E.L. Owens, T.M.C.III, who has seen some service in Canada as well as this country, was transferred here to-day to augment our clerical staff.

E Owens

15th November, 1941

The third A.G.M. of the Social Club was held to-day. A presentation was made to Mr. A.B. Phillips who has been transferred away, and who did a tremendous amount of work for the Club in its early days.

17th November, 1941

To-day is another eventful one, for it sees the transfer here of the Headquarters staff of the Materials Division. It does not seem quite certain yet just how many are coming, but one of the first arrivals is Dr. J. Mason, one of the country's experts on Petroleum. The Assistant Director in charge of this Division is Major H. Myers, and others posted here to-day are Mr. H.J. Curnow, A.C.I.M., and Mr. C.R. Trippett, Insp., while some of Test House staff, including Mr. Hollingum and Mr. Melling are transferred to H.Q. strength.

H.J. Curnow

C.R. Trippett

20th November, 1941

A further dignity was conferred on us to-day, when Mr. Barlow, our Inspector in Charge, assumed the Title of Test House Superintendent. This is a good move, and will save any possible confusion with Headquarters staff who are of Inspector rank.



22nd November, 1941

Mr. W.F. Dunn, an examiner in the Aircraft Equipment Division who came from Kidbrooke, was transferred back there to-day.



24th November, 1941

Two clerical recruits joined the Materials H.Q. Division to-day. Mrs. K.V. Byers, wife of our clerk-caretaker, and Mrs. H.B. Doling, who has had some previous service in A.I.D. Miss M. Jones, an assistant examiner in Metrology, was transferred here to-day.

28th November, 1941

Mrs. M.F. Atchelar resigned her job as washer-up, and Miss J. Watts, another cleaner also resigned to-day.

29th November, 1941

Miss E. Ireland, laboratory assistant, who has been with us since September, 1940, resigned to-day.

1st December, 1941

Miss N.E. Fagan, who came with the original staff in October, 1938, has been appointed as S.I.O.(W) of Midland Area, and was transferred there to-day. She will be missed here, but it is promotion for her. Mr. J.W. White, who is the sole survivor of I.C.S.2.(a) was transferred to High Wycombe to-day.

3rd December, 1941

Mrs. B.D. Bignell was engaged as a cleaner, and Mr. S.F. Hendra, examiner, was transferred here to become I.C.S.2.(a) in place of Mr. White. A jolly little man, this, with an infectious laugh.

6th December, 1941

Mr. W. Shaw, examiner, was transferred here for duty in the Photographic Section. Miss D.B.E. White, laboratory assistant, resigned to-day - there are rumours of a Test House romance here, and we understand she is to marry Mr. F.J. Tranter one of our senior examiners.



W. Shaw

8th December, 1941

Mr. E.R.J. Pugsley, senior examiner, was transferred here to-day in the Aircraft Equipment Division. Mrs. S. Brent was engaged as a cleaner.

9th December, 1941

Mrs. D. Keyte, cleaner, resigned to-day. To-night in the Conference Room, quite a good Concert was given by our own Glee Club. The programme included part-songs, bass solos, pianoforte and violin items, all by our own staff. Mr. L.D. Jarvis conducted, and Miss Webb accompanied at the piano.



10th December, 1941

Miss G.T. Prosser, was engaged as a laboratory assistant in the Non Metallic Materials Division.



11th December, 1941

Mrs. E.M. Legon - wife of one of our semi-skilled labourers - was engaged for glass-washing duties.



Mrs. Legon

12th December, 1941

Mr. A.W. Dewdney, one of our younger clerks, was called up for military service to-day. The newly-formed Gramophone Section of the Club gave their first recital, in the Conference Room. An enjoyable evening, and we hope to have more of them.

16th December, 1941

Mr. A.W. Heighton, examiner, in the Aircraft Equipment Division, left us on transfer to-day.

20th December, 1941

Another very good Christmas Party in the Canteen. Hot, crowded, well-provided, and thoroughly enjoyable.

22nd December, 1941

Miss A.M. Bignell, commenced duties as a messenger in Registry. She has a genial personality, and will probably become very popular.

A Bignell.

24th December, 1941

Mrs. J.K. Perry was engaged as a laboratory assistant, and Miss Ivy Moore, shorthand-typist, who came to us from Cardington, resigned. Here is another A.I.D. romance, for she is to marry Mr. Smitham of Metallic Materials Division.

31st December, 1941

Mr. V.H. Cripps, a local lad, who shows some promise in mathematics, was engaged as a laboratory assistant in the Metrology Division to-day.

5th January, 1942

Our first entry this year is to a new grade - Miss L.M. Cooper, a young girl appointed as Laboratory Messenger, and Miss D.M. Jennison appointed as Librarian. We lose one of our clerical staff, Mr. C.W. Knight whose ruddy face and jovial personality goes to Goffs Oak.

12th January, 1942

Mr. Colin Lequesne, one of our chief examiners is transferred to Scotland to-day. We gain two more members in Mr. C.A. Rose and Mr. L. Southernns - Instructors in the Divisional Training School which the Department proposes to open here next week. Mr. Rose has been chief instructor at Kidbrooke and at Bristol, and Mr. Southernns, who is M.A., is an ex-lecturer of Sheffield University.

14th January, 1942

Still our cleaners come and go - Mrs. G. Marshall commenced, and Mr. L. Mallison resigned.

15th January, 1942

Mr. A. Wrack, examiner, was transferred here, for teaching duties in the School.

19th January, 1942

To-day the Divisional Training School commences at Harefield. Twenty-nine girls are on the first course, including five of our own staff. Some have come from a distance, and it has been quite a problem finding them accommodation.

20th January, 1942

Mr. L. Watts, labourer, was called up for military service to-day.

Boxshall

21st January, 1942

Miss V.M. Boxshall was engaged as a laboratory assistant to-day, and Mrs. E. Davison as a cleaner.



26th January, 1942

Muncey

Mrs. M.L. Muncey commenced duty as a second messenger in the Registry. Two of our senior examiners left us to-day on transfer - Mr. E.J. Miles, and Mr. T.C. Skipper. The Social Club held their A.G.M. to-day. They will miss Mr. Skipper, who has been treasurer for some time. A new piano for use of the Club was purchased to-day.

R.B. Reid

2nd February, 1942

A number of changes to-day in the Non Metallic Materials Division. Mr. R.B. Reid, ~~examiner~~ examiner and Mr. J.J.K. Rhodes, examiner, come to us on transfer, while Mr. H.H.L. Drew, examiner, goes to South Western Area, and Mr. F.D. Atkinson to North Midland Area.



4th February, 1942

Dr. D.W. Browne, one of our Chief Examiners, was transferred to-day to London Area.

Dr. Browne

9th February, 1942

Mr. H.R. Fleck, A.I.I., joined the staff of Materials H.Q. here to-day, and Mr. M.A. Kendall was engaged as a labourer.

10th February, 1942

Mr. E.J. Collett, one of the packers in the Stores, resigned to-day.

14th February, 1942

The Department have come to an arrangement with the R.S.A. to hold proficiency Examinations in shorthand and typing here at periodic intervals. The first of these - for typing - was held to-day when there were eleven candidates.

16th February, 1942

Mr. R.A. Nowlan, A.I.I., was added to the strength of Materials H.Q. to-day. He appears to be a very 'live wire' with a keen sense of humour, calculated to enliven any party.

21st February, 1942

Mr. L.C. Doubleday, one of our young labourers, was called up for military service to-day.

23rd February, 1942

Miss E.B. Windeler was transferred here as Instructress in the Training School, with the grade of senior examiner.

24th February, 1942

We lost one of our best cleaners to-day, when Mrs. J. Berry resigned.

27th February, 1942

Mr. T.R. Borgen was engaged as a labourer to-day, and Mr. W. Hammond was discharged.

2nd March, 1942

Another senior examiner, Miss M.M. Phillip, came to us to-day as Instructress in the School. She will also be very valuable probably in supervising the girls' welfare. Another Established clerk - Mr. H.P. Browne - was transferred to-day to Stores Accounts Department, and Mrs. Wardle was engaged as a cleaner.

4th March, 1942

Mr. E. Griffiths was engaged as an Electrical Fitter. We also had two resignations, Miss G.B. Scott, examiner in Non Metallic Materials, and Miss M. Jones assistant examiner in Metrology.

5th March, 1942

Another tragedy to-day, in the sudden death of Mr. W.E.D. Harries, examiner, in Materials. He has not been ill, but passed away unexpectedly at home.

9th March, 1942

Mr. W.J. Gardner, A.S.C.III, our genial C.S.C.A. Chairman, left us to-day on transfer to London Area. Mr. R.O. Roberson, examiner in the Physics Laboratory, also transferred to-day, to Eastern Area.

10th March, 1942

Mrs. E. Pearson, cleaner, resigned to-day.

13th March, 1942

Mr. G.J. Phipps commenced duty to-day as an additional Motor Driver. He appears to be very capable, and should be an asset to our Transport Section.



16th March, 1942

Miss Landman, assistant examiner, was transferred here to-day.

17th March, 1942

Mr. T.R. Borgen, labourer, was discharged to-day.

18th March, 1942

Miss L.M. Cooper, who was engaged as a Laboratory Messenger in January resigned to-day. Mrs. B. Bowden who was here as a cleaner some time ago has applied for re-employment. We have nothing against her, so have agreed to take her on again.

20th March, 1942

Mrs. M. Osborn was engaged as a temporary clerk for duty with Materials H.Q. Mr. T.H. Bourne, one of our clerical staff from Provision Office was called up for military service. We are sorry to lose him.

21st March, 1942

Two call-ups in two days - to-day it was Mr. L.H.J. Wise, laboratory assistant.

23rd March, 1942

Miss Mary Cotter was engaged as a temporary clerk in A in U Section to-day. Mr. L. Pilborough arrived as an additional Instructor in the Training School - it is rumoured that he will take over duties from Mr. Rose shortly. Mr. J.W. Lloyd of the Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred to Coventry, and last but not least, Mr. R.W. Slater, Inspector in Charge of Instruments, who came with the Division from Kidbrooke, was transferred to London Area H.Q. His forceful, if sometimes aggressive, personality will be missed here.

30th March, 1942

Mr. D.E. Stainton, senior examiner in Metrology Division, another of our 'originals', left us to-day on transfer to Ministry of Supply.

1st April, 1942

Backler
Mr. L.R.H. Backler, examiner of the Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred here to-day. He was formerly at Kidbrooke, so will be able to renew some old acquaintances.

The second of our R.S.A. Examinations was held here to-day. This one was for shorthand, and there were four candidates. We hope they'll all pass!

4th April, 1942

Mr. L.W. Dewsnap was engaged as a labourer, and Mr. B. Wright, one of our more efficient packers in Stores, was called up.



7th April, 1942

Mrs. G.H. Dick commenced duty as temporary clerk in the Pay Office. The wife of a local Doctor, she is diminutive in stature, but quite charming in personality.

9th April, 1942

Miss J.C. Ardery, examiner in Non Metallic Materials, was transferred here to-day.



11th April, 1942

Miss E. Landman, one of our assistant examiners, was transferred away to-day.

13th April, 1942

Two new examiners in Non Metallic Materials reported for duty to-day, after training - Miss A.K.M. Beater, and Miss B.P. Mallett. Mr. F.E. Holloway, examiner, was transferred for duty overseas, in the Near East. Miss Brown-Leslie was engaged as a telephonist.



14th April, 1942

Mr. A.W. Browne, examiner, was transferred here for training.

15th April, 1942

Miss K. Harrison was engaged as a laboratory assistant for duty in the Library. Mrs D. Osborne, was also engaged as an examiner. Prior to her marriage she had been with the A.I.D. at Cardington, so knows something about Test House work.

20th April, 1942

Miss V.D. Smith, was engaged as an assistant examiner, in the Metrology Division.



21st April, 1942

Mrs. E. Davison, cleaner, resigned, and Mr. A.W. Browne, who only joined us a week ago, resigned to-day also.

22nd April, 1942

Mrs. D.R. Milton, was engaged as a cleaner.

27th April, 1942

Aircraft Equipment Division was augmented to-day when Mr. C. Doczy, Asst. Insp. I, was transferred here to take charge of Instruments in place of Mr. Slater. Another Aircraft Equipment man, Mr. V.S. Chadderton, was also transferred here to-day, for duty in the Training School.



4th May, 1942

To-day sees the opening of the Telex System which has been installed here. It will now be possible for us to transmit and receive Teleprinter messages from London, Leatherhead, and many other places all over the country.

6th May, 1942

Miss V.H. Hannam was engaged to-day as a laboratory assistant. Mr. W. Hammond who has been with us once before was re-employed as a labourer.



9th May, 1942

Mr. Colin Smith, one of our younger assistant examiners in Metrology, was called up for military service to-day.

11th May, 1942

Miss U. Lassetter, examiner, was transferred here to-day for duty in Non Metallic Materials.

15th May, 1942

The results of the R.S.A. Typing Test were received to-day. Nobody has passed. Dear, dear!

17th May, 1942

To-day (Sunday) a party from Test House went for a tour over the Film Studios at Denham. The arrangements for this have been made by Mr. Jarvis, and the party was conducted over by Miss Valerie Hobson, a well-known Film Star.

Thomas Jarvis

26th May, 1942

Mr. V.S. Chadderton completed his sojourn here, as an Instructor in the Training School, and was transferred away to-day. Mr. C.L. Walker, examiner in Non Metallic Materials, was also transferred to-day - to Liverpool.

4th June, 1942

Mrs. R.C. Horne commenced duties as a cleaner to-day.



6th June, 1942

The enemy is still quite capable of making a concentrated air attack on Harefield, so we must have some practice in evacuating the buildings. The first of these rehearsals was held to-day, when, on the sounding of the alarm, all staff 'cleared out' and went (or were supposed to have gone) to the shelters. The whole affair was not without its humorous side, but did show us what we could (and could not) do if necessity arose.

8th June, 1942

Two new examiners were transferred to Metrology Division to-day after training - Miss J.F. McCully and Mrs. E. Linsdell, and two examiners also came to the Aircraft Equipment Division - Mr. R.J. Batey and Mr. A. Thompson.

12th June, 1942

Miss J.A. Ranken joined the staff of Metrology Division as an examiner, after training. A fine figure of a girl - it is said she has been working previously as a mannequin.

13th June, 1942

An air attack might bring with it a gas attack, so we must rehearse getting into our gas masks - which everyone is supposed to carry. A rehearsal for this was held this morning, when on the sounding of rattles, all staff donned their masks, and wore them for ten minutes, still continuing their work. The folk who got the most fun out of it were probably those who sounded the rattles, but, Oh! for a photograph of some of the offices and laboratories. It would have made a picture worth preserving.

22nd June, 1942

Mr. H.G.L. Wilkinson, chief examiner, joined the staff of Materials H.Q. here to-day.

24th June, 1942

A new labourer was engaged for work in the Stores to-day - Mr. G.H. King.

25th June, 1942

Mrs. Brookes was engaged as a Registry Messenger to-day.

26th June, 1942

Mrs. Brookes resigned - one day was enough for her! Mrs. R.C. Horne, cleaner, also resigned to-day.

29th June, 1942

Miss J.E. Crook was engaged as a Shorthand-typist to-day. She is the daughter of Mr. L. Crook in the Stores, and seems a very bright girl for her age. Mr. G.C. McEwen returned to-day to resume duty in the Petrol Laboratory, and Mr. A. McLay, A.I.I., joined the staff of Materials H.Q.



30th June, 1942

Miss D. Jennison resigned her post as Librarian to-day. Actually she has been away for some time nursing sick relatives and now finds she must devote all her time to this. Fortunately we have Miss Harrison to take her place.

1st July, 1942

Mr. G.W. Diggins commenced work in the Gauge Workshop, and Mr. Rowbotham was transferred back for duty here on X-Ray work. The result of the R.S.A. Shorthand examination was received to-day. One candidate (Miss P.R. Bartholomew) has passed. Well that's better than none anyway!



[Handwritten signature or scribble]

2nd July, 1942

Mrs. Liddell commenced as a cleaner. The Club held their Annual Sports Meeting in the grounds to-day. The usual programme was arranged and attracted quite a number of visitors.

6th July, 1942

Mr. F.A. Jackson was transferred here for examiner duties in Metrology. One of our ex-Kidbrooke examiners - Mr. E.H. Marson - left us on transfer to Carlisle.

7th July, 1942

Mr. G.W. Diggins who came to the Gauge Workshop last week, resigned to-day, having soon tired of us apparently.

8th July, 1942

Miss B.I. Garrod was engaged as a laboratory assistant in the Metrology Division.

15th July, 1942

Mrs. R.L. Arthrell, wife of Mr. Arthrell our Electrical fitter, commenced duty as a laboratory assistant in Radiology. Mr. P.C. Salmon was engaged as a toolmaker.



18th July, 1942

Miss I. Luscombe, assistant examiner, joined the staff of the Metrology Division to-day.



I. Luscombe

20th July, 1942

A major operation was performed on our strength to-day, when a detached unit for Gauge Checking and Storing was opened at Goffs Oak, Nr. Cuffley in Herts. A section of our Metrology Division is transferring there, headed by Mr. Davenport, and including Mr. Archer, Miss M. Holmes, Miss Ickeringill, and Miss Poole.

25th July, 1942

Mary Holmes
Signature

Mrs. G.M. Birkett, laboratory assistant - formerly Miss Greenstreet - resigned to-day.

29th July, 1942

Mrs. M.K.J. Phillips commenced duty as an examiner in Radiology. Before her marriage to Mr. Phillips, who was formerly in Metrology Division here, she was working in A.I.D. at Kidbrooke. She returns to the Department to make her contribution to the War Effort.

30th July, 1942

Mr. J.E. Smith was engaged as a Stoker to-day.

31st July, 1942

Mrs. E.L. French, cleaner, resigned. She was an evacuee from London, and it is understood she wishes to return there.

4th August, 1942

Mrs. I. Milton was engaged as a cleaner.

6th August, 1942

The second of the two Summer events was held to-day, when the Club had their Annual Garden Party. The weather was tolerable, and there were all the usual games, stalls and sideshows. A newcomer to the staff to-day was Monsieur E. Schoulal, a member of the Free French Naval Forces, who comes for duty as examiner in the Paint laboratory.



8th August, 1942

Mrs. D.H. Waters - who we know better as Miss Jones - was transferred to Birmingham to-day.



10th August, 1942

Miss Eileen O'Neil, a local girl, was engaged as a messenger. Mrs. D. Riley - who was in the Department before her marriage as Miss Mitchell - was transferred here to-day for duty in the Textile laboratory.

11th August, 1942

Mrs. E. Letts, another cleaner, resigned.

12th August, 1942

Mr. R.C.S. Merrilees was engaged as a toolmaker to-day.

14th August, 1942

Miss E.E. Harman, a pretty girl, the daughter of Mr. A.E. Harman, packer in the Stores, was engaged as a laboratory assistant.

17th August, 1942

Mrs. E. Linsdell, examiner, in Metrology, was transferred to our detached Unit at Goffs Oak to-day. Mrs. E.R. Page, a widowed lady who comes from Uxbridge, was engaged as a Messenger in the Registry, and Mr. J. Taylor was engaged as an additional labourer in the Stores.

24th August, 1942

Miss Barbara Woodruff commenced duties as a laboratory assistant in Non Metallic Materials - Chemical Laboratory - to-day.



25th August, 1942

Mr. E. Nicass was engaged as a storeman to-day.

26th August, 1942

Two new clerical staff to-day - Mrs. F.L. Baker was engaged as a temporary clerk in Stores Accounts, and Miss D. Dear, an established Shorthand-typist was transferred to us from Ruislip. It is understood she is to take over the supervision of the Typing Pool from Miss James.

31st August, 1942

Miss W.B. Knight, examiner, was transferred here to-day. She rejoices in the nickname of "Blossom" - I don't quite know why.

1st September, 1942

Miss B.C. Tucker, a local girl, was engaged as Trainee Typist. She seems to have had a very limited education, but perhaps we can make something of her. Mr. H.P. Browne, (A.B.C.III now) was transferred from Accounts Section to-day to Eastern Area, Cambridge.

2nd September, 1942

Mr. R.S. Taylor, a bright lad, was engaged as laboratory assistant to-day. Mr. P. Davey "Percy" our Storeman who came from Cardington as one of the '38 originals' was transferred to Gauge Checking and Storage Unit, Goffs Oak.



P. Davey

3rd September, 1942

Two of our 'original' staff gone in two days - for to-day Miss M. James, our senior shorthand-typist was transferred to North Midland Area, Nottingham.

M. James
Signature



8th September, 1942

Many happy returns to Miss Margaret Swan of our clerical staff, who is 21 to-day.

12th September, 1942

Mr. F.C. Salmon, the toolmaker engaged in July, resigned to-day.

14th September, 1942

Mr. F.C. Price, senior examiner of Non Metallic Materials, was transferred to North Western Area to-day. Another cleaner was engaged to-day - Mrs. H.M. Gibbs. If bulk is any guarantee of quality she should be good for she is surely the stoutest built one we have seen so far.



21st September, 1942

Two more laboratory assistants commenced to-day; Miss Y.C. Baines and Miss J.B. Savage as well as Mrs. V.A. Jopling, assistant examiner. Miss Baines goes to the Petroleum Department, and the others to Metrology - Mrs. Jopling looks rather fragile and very glamorous.



23rd September, 1942

Mr. R.C.S. Merrilees, another of our more recent toolmakers, resigned to-day.

26th September, 1942

Mr. P.A. Clyne, "Paul", A.S.C.III of Accounts was transferred to-day to London. His C.S.C.A. activities here have brought him both bouquets and brickbats, but his popularity was shown by a presentation made him last Saturday. He was given a book on play-writing and producing - his favourite hobby. Another of our frequent "moves" took place to-day, when Registry moved across the Yard to the old "Harness room", latterly the Club Games Room.

29th September, 1942

One of our toolmaker vacancies was filled to-day by the engagement of Mr. A.F. Jones.

30th September, 1942

Two more laboratory assistants engaged to-day - Miss Molly Bush for Metrology and Miss Mary Rees for Chemical Laboratory. Two quite attractive girls - the latter with a very strong Welsh accent.

1st October, 1942

Two stokers were taken on to our strength proper to-day from A.M.W.D. They are Mr. W.A. Sibley and Mr. J.W. Lee.

2nd October, 1942

Another cleaner - Mrs. S. Brent - resigned to-day.

5th October, 1942

Mrs. S. Dorizzi (a very good-looking English girl despite her Italian name) was engaged as a laboratory assistant and Mrs. L.A. Smith a local woman was engaged as a cleaner. Mrs. Billman of Metrology Department was transferred to G.C.S.U. Goffs Oak.

8th October, 1942

Another Stoker - Mr. A.C. Cullen - was taken over from A.M.W.D. to-day.



9th October, 1942

Mr. L.A. Bissett, Electrical Fitter, was released to H.M. Forces to-day. So we complete our fourth year at Harefield, and now have a staff (not including Headquarters) of 253 - this includes our dispersed staff at Goffs Oak. (105 have come and 66 have gone).

12th October, 1942

A young lad, Mr. R.J. Page, 'Dick', was engaged as a laboratory assistant to-day, and Mrs M.M. Pilcher, examiner, was transferred here for duty in Micro Section. Mr. J. Taylor, labourer in the Stores, resigned.

14th October, 1942

We had to discharge two of our electrical fitters; Mr. E. Griffiths, and Mr. P.G. Wing.

15th October, 1942

There were three transfers here to-day to Metrology Division - Mrs. Batchelar, Mrs. Nurse, and Miss C. Wilkinson. Mr. A. Steele was engaged as an Electrical Fitter.



16th October, 1942

Mr. L.G. Greenfield commenced duty as a Tracer. He is only expected to be with us for a short time before being called up for military service. With "Greenfield" and "Greenstreet" the Drawing Office is assuming a rural atmosphere!



19th October, 1942

Miss V. Watson commenced duty in Petroleum Laboratory after training. Mr. A. Steel, engaged on the 15th, was discharged. Not very durable steel evidently!

22nd October, 1942

Another assistant examiner joined the Metrology Division after training - Miss M.J. Drinkwater.

23rd October, 1942

Mrs. G.M. Hamer, T.F.C.III, was recruited to the staff of Pay Office to-day. A rather blunt-spoken Yorkshire girl, but probably a good worker.

24th October, 1942

Mrs. J.K. Perry, one of the laboratory assistants in Micro Section resigned.

26th October, 1942

Mr. H.E. Bradshaw - formerly at Kidbrooke - joined the staff of Materials H.Q. to-day. Curiously enough another of the same name - Miss M. Bradshaw - came to Metrology Division as assistant examiner after training.

28th October, 1942

Mr. W.A. Hughes was engaged as an electrical fitter.

30th October, 1942

A major tragedy befell us to-day when Dr. E.R. Styles, I.i/c. of Non Metallic Materials and formerly I.i/c. of Test House Kidbrooke, lost his life in a plane crash at Wendover. He had been out on a duty flight, and the plane struck a hill in the fog. He will be very much missed.

31st October, 1942

Miss B.C. Tucker, our young messenger-cum-typist, was discharged to-day. Her education was really too limited even for us.

2nd November, 1942

Mr. Neil Mundy was transferred to-day away to the North.

3rd November, 1942

Mrs. Cavigan was engaged as a T.F.C.III in Accounts to-day. A doubtful asset perhaps, but she may make good.

4th November, 1942

A local girl, Miss A. Purser, was engaged as Learner-Tracer in the Drawing Office.



5th November, 1942

Mr. A.F. Jones, electrical fitter, was discharged. He was inclined to be a law unto himself as far as timekeeping was concerned. Mr. J.V. Hodge was engaged as an electrical fitter in his place.

9th November, 1942

Mr. P.M. Greenfield, tracer, has received his expected call-up notice, and he left us to-day.

11th November, 1942

Mr. G. Rance, a smart young lad was engaged as a toolmaker-improver to-day. Mrs. Collett, cleaner, resigned. - again.

13th November, 1942

Mr. J.N. Garland, "Jack", was called up to-day for the R.A.F. He has made himself popular here, and we are sorry to lose him.

16th November, 1942

Owing to the greatly increased demand for gauges it has been found necessary to augment our staff dealing with gauge records, and for this purpose we engaged three additional lady clerks to-day. One of these was Lady Ian Wood - the first titled member to join our staff. The others were Mrs. Whyte and Mrs. Wyatt, from Moor Park and Rickmansworth respectively. Another typist was engaged also - Mrs. N. Richardson, as well as Mrs. A. Tucker, a local resident as an extra telephone operator.



18th November, 1942

Our gauge record staff was still further increased to-day by the engagement of Mrs. A. Sams, T.F.C.III.

23rd November, 1942

An attractive young lady - Miss G. Meiklejohn - was transferred here to-day to Aircraft Equipment Division, while Mr. Rowbotham was again transferred away for another spell of outside duty.

24th November, 1942

Mr. F.J. Dawes was engaged as a toolmaker and Mr. W.L. Lee, Stoker, was called up for military service.

30th November, 1942

Mr. A. McLay, who has been attached to the staff of Materials H.Q. was transferred away to-day. Mr. C.L. Walker, examiner, was transferred here for duty in the Physics Laboratory.

3rd December, 1942

Mr. G.W. Diggins, who was with us for a short time in July, was re-engaged to-day, as a toolmaker.

7th December, 1942

Yet another recruitment to Gauge Records staff to-day, in the person of Mrs. Byrne, T.F.C.III, and Miss E.J. Ward a girl from New Denham, was engaged as a clerk in Accounts. There were two transfers to Non Metallic Materials Division to-day; Miss D.G. Rayner, for duty in Metallic Analysis Laboratory, and the other, an old friend, Mr. J.C. Thomas, Inspector, who joins the staff of Materials H.Q. Mr. Thomas was formerly at Kidbrooke where he was for a short time I.i/c., succeeding Major Hurst.

10th December, 1942

Mr. B.N. West was engaged as a toolmaker, and Mr. P.T. Skeggs, A.I.1, was transferred to the staff of Materials H.Q. here.

14th December, 1942

Two changes in Aircraft Equipment Division to-day - Mr. A. Thomson, examiner, was transferred away, and Mr. W.G. Hille, examiner, came here. Mrs. N. Richardson, who joined the typing staff on 16th November resigned to-day.

15th December, 1942

Miss D.R. Holloway, assistant examiner, joined the staff of Metrology Division, after training.

16th December, 1942

Miss J.P. Walls was engaged as a temporary typist. Very temporary, we understand, as she is expecting to be called up for the Services. Mr. H.W. Young, who has been invalided home from the Army was engaged as a labourer. He is a son-in-law of Mr. C.W. Dockwray.

19th December, 1942

The Social Club held their first Christmas Party in the Conference Room to-day. A great improvement on the Canteen accommodation, and an excellent floor for dancing, though very crowded.

21st December, 1942

Mr. H. Lamb was engaged as a Gauge-maker to-day.

24th December, 1942

Our temporary typist, Miss Walls, left us to-day, on receiving her expected calling-up notice.

Q. Hamilton

28th December, 1942

Mrs. Hamilton, a well-known local resident, was engaged as a temporary clerk. She is Commandant of the local Red Cross, and will probably be of great value to us by virtue of her experience in first-aid. Mrs. Gibbs, our very fat cleaner, was discharged to-day. Her absenteeism was too much even for us to tolerate.



29th December, 1942

Mrs. Bowden, another of our cleaners, resigned to-day - for the second time!

31st December, 1942

Our last engagement this year was of Mr. A. Norris, who comes as a gauge-maker. So ends another year of war, but another year of steady expansion for us.

2nd January, 1943

The year opens with the transfer of one of our ex-Kidbrooke staff - Miss R.G. Newman - to London Materials Office. Miss Newman has been in Test House for some long time, and will be missed here.

4th January, 1943

A number of staff changes to-day: Mr. Smithan is transferred to South Wales, while Mrs. N. Tyrer (she will certainly be called "Tyrer") comes to us from Dartford, and an old friend Mr. E.H. Marson, returns from Milton. A new posting here is Mr. A.E. Smith, who comes as Clerical Officer to Materials Headquarters.

6th January, 1943

Mrs. Melonie, cleaner, resigned.

8th January, 1943

Mrs. L. Cavigan, T.F.C. in Accounts resigned to-day. She did her best, but was a type not exactly cut out for clerical work.

11th January, 1943

Mr. G. Rance, one of our bright lads, was called up for military service to-day. Two new assistant examiners were recruited for Metrology Division - Miss I.K. Estall and Miss M. Netley.

14th January, 1943

Mr. P.R. Quilter - our first "Q" - was engaged as a tracer. Miss Estall who came on the 11th found three days at Test House enough, and resigned to-day.

15th January, 1943

There was something like a "walk-out" of cleaners to-day, when Mrs. Stagg, Mrs. Desmond, Mrs. Rochester and Mrs. Milton resigned. We understand they have all got more lucrative jobs at Denham Studios - I suppose we can't blame them. We had to discharge one of the labourers, Mr. A.J. Long, and we lost one of our technical staff in the person of Mr. H.D. Williams who goes abroad on duty.

William

23rd January, 1943

Lady Ian Wood, our only titled member - resigned to-day. She is returning home to nurse her husband we understand, who is invalided from the Service.

26th January, 1943

Miss Iles, senior examiner, was transferred here to-day. She has the reputation of being something of a martinet. I hope we shall be able to cope with her.

1st February, 1943

Three new additions to the staff to-day - Mr. R.V. Swann, who comes as examiner in the Petroleum laboratory. Mrs. Melling - wife of our Mr. S.T. Melling - who comes on the clerical staff; and Mr. C.P. Woods who is engaged as a labourer.



3rd February, 1943

Miss S.A. Hanhart, laboratory assistant, was discharged to-day. Actually she had been wanting to go for some time.

8th February, 1943

Another recruit to the Petrol laboratory to-day in the person of Mr. I. Cameron, who comes as an examiner - with a strong Scotch accent. Mr. W.T. Waite A.S.C.I. was transferred here from Goffs Oak. His strong personality will be missed there, but will no doubt soon make itself felt here.



10th February, 1943

Mrs. F.E. Billman, examiner, was transferred back here from Goffs Oak - against her desire, and in spite of protests we believe. Miss F. Kay, examiner, was also transferred to Metrology Division here from Chadderton.

13th February, 1943

As we rather expected, Mrs. Billman resigned from the Department to-day.

15th February, 1943

Mr. E.L. Glew, examiner, who has had many years experience in X-Ray work was transferred to the Radiological Section here to-day. Mrs. C.R. Bailey, T.F.C.III. was recruited to the staff of Pay Office.



16th February, 1943

Mr. A. Norris, who has been working here as a gauge-maker since December, was transferred to Ministry of Supply to-day.

17th February, 1943

Miss Peggy Malkin, daughter of our Storeman, was engaged for work in the Gauge Stores to-day. She seems a bright little girl, and should prove very useful.

19th February, 1943

Mr. W. Gains was engaged as a labourer. He seems a conscientious worker, but does not appear to be in very good health.

22nd February, 1943

Mr. J.W. Osborne was engaged as an Electrical Fitter.

26th February, 1943

Mr. J.W. Osborne, electrical fitter, was discharged.

27th February, 1943

Mr. L. Twyford of Radiological Section was transferred to G.R.I. Millbank, and Mrs. Leney, Shorthand-typist attached to Aircraft Equipment Division, resigned. Mr. A. Stumbles, A.S.A.C. who has been at Test House for many years, first at Kidbrooke, and then here, was transferred to Leatherhead. His amusing stutter will be missed here, and we had a little ceremony in Conference Room, when he was presented with a handsome clock from the staff.

1st March, 1943

Miss L. Williamson, a new Superintendent of Typists, who will eventually replace Miss Dear, was transferred here to-day from Manchester. Two new examiners were attached to Metrology Division temporarily after training, and Miss H.T. Hodgkinson, was engaged as a learner-tracer in the Drawing Office.



4th March, 1943

Mr. N.G. Barber was engaged as a toolmaker-improver for the Gauge Workshop.

6th March, 1943

Tonight the first of a series of Divisional Socials and Dances was held in the Conference Room. This was in the hands of Metrology Division, and was laid out as a Nautical Entertainment - room decorated to resemble aboard ship, staff in sailor and stewards costume, and an original entertainment arranged. One of the best Social Events we have had so far.

8th March, 1943

Mr. V.G. Gardner, was engaged as a fitter to-day.

10th March, 1943

Mrs. D.M. Thomas, wife of our Mr. A.E. Thomas of Metrology Division, commenced clerical duties, attached to Aircraft Equipment Division.

12th March, 1943

Mr. W.S. Hughes, Electrical Fitter, was released to-day.

13th March, 1943

Miss B.J. Peacock, one of our laboratory assistants resigned to-day. We understand she intends to enter the Nursing profession.

15th March, 1943

Mr. B.N. West, Toolmaker, was discharged to-day. His work is hardly up to the standard we require.

16th March, 1943

Mr. H.G. Symmons, was engaged as a toolmaker in place of Mr. West. He seems to be a live wire, with plenty to say for himself.



H.G. Symmons

18th March, 1943

Mr. G.H. King, one of our Stores labourers resigned to-day. He is a useful man, and we shall miss him, but he is anxious to get back to his home in the Midlands.



22nd March, 1943

Mrs. Flatman (who came to us as Miss C. Wilkinson but has since married) left to-day on transfer to Newcastle. Mr. F. Brooker was engaged as a labourer in the Stores, and Mr. A.E. Rossiter as an electrical fitter. Mrs. J.B. Byrne, one of the T.C.IIIs in Gauge Records resigned to-day.

F. G. Brooker.

25th March, 1943

Miss Iles resigned to-day. The Test House atmosphere was not exactly congenial to one of her temperament.



29th March, 1943

Mr. J.H. Andrews joined the staff of Metrology Division, on transfer, to-day, and Mr. R.J. Scott, a local man, was engaged as a carpenter. Mr. W. Gains, labourer, was released on grounds of ill-health, and we are sorry to lose him.



31st March, 1943

Miss W.B. Knight resigned. So exits "Blossom", but presumably our technical plant will survive.

1st April, 1943

The foundation work on a string of new buildings across the lawn was started to-day. Seems a pity to eat up more of the grass, but we suppose it can't be helped.

2nd April, 1943

Mrs. Bignell, cleaner, resigned to-day.

5th April, 1943

Mr. C. Lequesne ("Colin") was transferred back to Materials H.Q. from Scottish Area to-day. Mr. C.G. Shepperd, chief examiner, was transferred from Standard Telephones to Aircraft Equipment Division here. One more of the ex-Kidbrooke staff re-appeared - Mr. F.C. Price, who comes back from the North. Mrs. N.A. Dennison, was engaged as a cleaner.

6th April, 1943

Our local telephone demand has outgrown our supply, so work was commenced to-day on the construction of a new and larger internal exchange. This is to be housed in the ex servants hall-ex Gauge Workshop-ex Stationery Store-ex Registry-ex Gauge Record Office!

7th April, 1943

A 70 mile-an-hour gale is raging to-day, and in the middle of the afternoon one of the large elms on the lawn came down with a terrific crash. It has left a gap which alters the whole landscape, but fortunately it fell without much damage to other trees. Mrs. F.M. Wardell, a lady with one leg, who walks with a crutch, commenced duty as T.C.III in Accounts, and Mr. A. Barrett, who has been "bombed out" from London, was engaged as a labourer.

10th April, 1943

Four women were transferred away to-day after undergoing training in Metrology Division. They were Mrs. Ballard, Miss Coaker, Mrs. Erdington-Brown and Miss Lomas.

12th April, 1943

A big influx of staff to-day, when eight new folk arrived. Miss Hubble, Miss Harding, Miss Douglas, Miss Jarvis, Miss Farrow, and Miss Bennette come to the Aircraft Equipment Division; Miss Greenwood to Non Metallic Materials, and Miss Minnery to Metrology. A mixed bag, but one or two outstanding personalities - notably Miss Bennette, who is a very good-looking girl.



13th April, 1943

The results of the typing examination were received to-day. We have four passes - Miss Penn, Miss Feasey, Miss Fantham, and Miss Carter. Congratulations to them all. Mr. J.H. House was engaged as a labourer to-day.

14th April, 1943

Mr. G. Adey commenced duty as an electrical fitter to-day.

16th April, 1943

Mr. V.G. Gardner, fitter, released to-day. He will be going into the Forces we believe.

19th April, 1943

Miss J.D. Broomhead was engaged as a laboratory assistant in the Metrology Division to-day. A strong-looking well built girl, she should be an asset to the Division.

20th April, 1943

Miss Bunbury was transferred here from West London District to-day. She seems to be of the Knight-Iles type, so probably wont last very long.

21st April, 1943

Miss C.M. Hunnings, a local resident, was engaged as a T.C.III to-day. Mr. P.J. Austin, who has been attached to Materials H.Q. as Inspector of Cordage, died suddenly to-day while away on duty. Actually he had been here but very little.

23rd April, 1943

Mr. P.R. Quilter, our young tracer, was called up to-day, for service in the R.A.F.

28th April, 1943

Miss B.C. Matheson - "a glamour girl" - somebody says, was engaged as a laboratory assistant in the Petroleum laboratory, and Mr. A.E. Brown, a stout, jovial fellow, was engaged as T.C.III in Accounts Section.

29th April, 1943

Mr. E.B. Dunham, one of our examiners in Aircraft Equipment Division, was transferred to-day for duty at Aylesbury. Mrs. C.R. Beal, wife of an R.A.F. officer, was engaged as T.C.III for duty in the Pay Office.

3rd May, 1943

Four additions to Technical staff to-day; Mr. Garlick returns to Metrology Division from Eltham, Mr. R.O. Scott, who was formerly at Kidbrooke, returns to Materials H.Q., and two girls come to Aircraft Equipment Division from the Training School, London - Miss A.D. Horne and Miss P.M. Greenhill.

4th May, 1943

Mrs. F.M. Wardell, who joined the clerical staff last month, resigned to-day. She found her disability too great a handicap, as we feared she would.

5th May, 1943

Mr. H.A.G. Langley, gauge fitter, resigned. He found travelling rather difficult and expensive.

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a toolmaker.



8th May, 1943

The second of the Divisional Socials was held in the Conference Room this evening. The arrangements were in the hands of the Administration and Clerical Division. It was the best event ever held in Test House without a doubt, and will long be remembered. The decorations were lavish and exotic, and the entertainment was in Continental (pre-war) style. The evening was honoured by the presence of D.G.A.I., Lt. Col. H.W. Outram, accompanied by Mrs. Outram. Let no-one despise the entertainment capacities of the Administration Division after this.

Kearan

10th May, 1943

Mr. L. Pearson was transferred to Materials H.Q. from South Western Area to-day. Another typist "grows up" to-day, and we congratulate Miss Penn who is now 21.

Beatrice L. Penn

Signature

12th May, 1943

A new T.F.C.III was engaged to-day - Mrs. C.L. Shipway, who comes from Rickmansworth.



14th May, 1943

Mr. N.A. Kendall, labourer, was discharged. He was found taking some small item out of the premises without permission, and although not a very serious offence, we had to discharge him as an example. Mrs. Fellows - formerly Miss Jane Ranken - of Metrology Division, resigned to-day.

17th May, 1943

Mrs. Bowden was re-engaged as a cleaner.

19th May, 1943

Mr. H.J. Hall was engaged as a labourer. He is still serving in Civil Defence, and comes to us part-time.

21st May, 1943

The Stores, which have been housed in one wing of Test House, to-day completed their move into the new buildings which have been erected for them near the main gate. Accommodation is none too adequate even now, but will be an improvement on the old anyway.

24th May, 1943

Mrs. R.A. Goodyear commenced duties as a T.C.III in Registry to-day, and Miss C.L. Wymer was engaged as laboratory assistant for work in the polishing room of Micro Section.

25th May, 1943

Miss J.P. Knott - a very 'live' character from Rickmansworth - commenced part-time duties as T.C.III in Accounts. Mr. A.E. Rossiter, electrical fitter, resigned to-day.

26th May, 1943

Mrs. G. Marson commenced duty as T.C.III in the Pay Office. The wife of our examiner, she has just suffered a blow in the death of her infant son. Her work here will occupy her mind and cheer her up, we hope.

29th May, 1943

Mr. M.E. Taylor ("Michael") examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred to Birmingham to-day.

31st May, 1943

Another influx of staff to-day - Mr. L. Twyford was transferred here for work in Radiological Division. Mr. P.S. Byrne, an Irish lad, who is unfortunately rather deaf, was engaged as a labourer in the Stores, and five girls were brought here as assistant examiners in Aircraft Equipment Division after initial training. They are Miss Brewer, Miss Messer, Miss Naish, Miss Parker and Miss Sidey. Mrs. Peters was also transferred here as assistant examiner in Metrology Division.

5th June, 1943

Mr. Batey, examiner in the Aircraft Equipment Division resigned to-day. A "combined" Social was held in the Conference Room this evening, embodying some of the best items from previous divisional efforts. Not the best time of the year for an indoor social, but it was quite a success.

7th June, 1943

Mr. R.E. Frost, senior examiner, was transferred here for duty in the Aircraft Equipment Division. We understand he is engaged to Miss Meiklejohn also of that Division, and that a wedding may be expected shortly.



9th June, 1943

Another Irishman - Mr. P.J. Galvin, was engaged as a labourer to-day.



16th June, 1943

Mr. J. Douglas was engaged as a labourer, primarily to help Mr. Carter in the garden.



22nd June, 1943

Mrs. G. Hamer, T.C.III in the Pay Office resigned to-day, on removal from the district.

26th June, 1943

Miss Bunbury, one of our 'characters', resigned to-day. Mr. L. Bevan reported for duty with Materials H.Q. He has just returned from the Middle East.

28th June, 1943

Mrs. G.M. Chalmers, another assistant examiner in the Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred here after training. Congratulations to Miss Pantham of the Typing Pool, who is 21 to-day.

P. K. Pantham

Bevan