

Good figures for TPM

Results for the first six months showed that ROCC's Technical Services Division had won £1.325m in third party maintenance contracts.

THE SERVICE SOLUTION

is on course to meet the targetted order intake for the year of £3m as the latest figure at the time of going to press was £1,633,896.

Partnerships

Technical Services Division has signed two partnership agreements, the first on October 23 with Andover-based **AG Peripherals Limited**, and on November 13 with Wokingham company **The Thomas Cairns Partnership**.

AG Peripherals is a distributor of computer peripheral hardware and The Thomas Cairns Partnership is an Acer-only distributor.



Our picture shows: maintenance services manager - Barry Woodburn demonstrating the incident action system in the Crawley operations centre to Thomas Cairns, managing director of The Thomas Cairns Partnership. Director Keith Bankes looks on.

These two contracts were won by Surbiton-based commercial managers **Brian Harris** and **Nick Evans**.

Under the Warranty Plus Scheme launched earlier this year, the two companies can now offer their clients a comprehensive 12-month maintenance service approved under ROCC's BSI 5750 registration.

New Client news

Midlothian District Council - Motorola 8420 Unix computer to run ROCC's Open Services Systems Fleet Management, Property Maintenance & Accounts Interface.

Worthing Borough Council - ROCC's Open Services System - Property Maintenance ported to run on an ICL DRS6000 computer.

ROCC Motorola Unix system for **Nottingham City Council**.

Other Motorola Unix systems for **Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council** and **Avon Direct Mail** at Portishead.

Orders for C-Check II application packages for data capture to run on PCs from: **University of London Exams and Assessment Council** and Reigate-based **Redland Information Systems**.

The manufacturing division also won nearly £16,000 in sub-contract work from **Denley** last month.



Issue 6 and we're still in business!

Any comments on the contents, style and the layout of Newsline will be most welcome, as John and I are here to please our readers. We have noted that you found the print to be a little pale in the last issue, so this has been rectified.

Beryl Hutchin, editor

Czechnews

ROCC's Czechoslovakian sales operation has won contracts to the value of around £242,000.

It's supplying Motorola Unix 8640 computers to petro-chemical companies **Koramo** and **Silon** to run their database management systems (DBS), accounts and personnel records.

Food importer and exporter **Koospol**, with distribution services throughout Europe, is to run on its 8640, distribution records, DBS, general accounting and sales & invoicing.

Statni Lesy, part of the Forestry Commission, has contracted for a Motorola 8420 to run DBS, accounts and its personnel administration system.

First, a welcome back to Crawley canteen supervisor May Jobe after her operation.

Simon's HNC

September 10 saw repair engineer **Simon Braddick** being congratulated by director Keith Bankes in obtaining an HNC in electrical and electronic engineering from the then Brighton Polytechnic.



Simon (centre left) at his presentation with I to r test training & quality manager - Dave Willoughby, Keith Bankes and divisional director technical support - Alan Dobson.

Simon was awarded a cheque for £50 by ROCC, which went towards purchasing a microwave oven.

Mark takes to the river



Surbiton-based customer engineer **Mark Farrow** occasionally has some unusual jobs to tackle but had never been rowed out to an island in the middle of the River Thames to maintain a client's PC located in a boatyard.

On arriving at Hampton Court Mark was puzzled when the client asked him if he could swim! Then, along with his toolbox, Mark found himself being rowed out to the island home in a very small boat. On landing he was told that if he didn't fix the PC properly, then he would have to find his own way back and would be doing the rowing if there was a next time!

...a watery grave envisaged

Some days later came another call from the client - the printed circuit board had failed. Mark began to worry as the weather had become somewhat inclement. Did the the client really mean what he said the last time? If so then they were both in for a pretty awful journey to the island. Not the best of rowers, Mark doubted whether they would ever reach land and envisaged a watery grave!

Fortunately, the client turned up in a motor cruiser so Mark's worst fears were not realised - although it was still a very choppy journey.

Who says that our engineers have cushy jobs?

Jo goes to Finland

Secretary **Jo White** was invited to accompany a party of underprivileged and disabled children (5 to 15 years) on a trip to Finland on November 24.

Jo went as a minder for CUCOO, (Crawley Underprivileged Children's Outing Organisation), a section of the Golden Lion Children's Trust, which invited a member of ROCC in recognition of the help given previously in organising functions under Operation Santa Claus.

Fifty children went from CUCOO in a total of 350 children and helpers boarding the plane at Gatwick.

Jo takes up the day's events:

3.30am - Rise and shine and make my way to a friend's house to be picked up for the airport.

4.45am - ROCC's manufacturing support manager, **Simon Head** collects us. On arrival at Gatwick, we make our way to the Winston Churchill Suite, South Terminal where the party is to check in.

7.00am - An army of mini buses arrived to take us to the Caledonian Airways plane ready for departure.

10.15am - We arrived in Rovaniemi, Finland and were welcomed by Father Christmas and 40 officers from the Finnish military, much to the joy of the children. Boarded coaches for a long journey to our hotel destination.

12.15pm - Arrived at the hotel and, after ensuring that the children were well wrapped up against the weather - it was minus 16°C outside, we went into the grounds to see Father Christmas, his reindeer and elves. The children then joined in the fun of tobogganing, sledging and going for sleigh rides.

Lunch was a barbecue outdoors! An enormous cauldron of potatoes, carrots and frankfurter soup had been made, together with hot dogs. The children drank hot Ribena but if they felt cold they could go into one of the six heated army tents.



Jo on the outward flight

After two hours of outdoor activity it was time to return to the hotel and dry the children off for the return trip. When I asked one little boy to remove his second pair of socks so I could dry them he was very embarrassed as he had his socks pulled up over a pair of pyjama bottoms and did not want me to see them. I promised not to look and eventually he removed them!



The snow is falling and the children love the sleigh rides.

Father Christmas boarded each coach before leaving to give the children their presents. He later came on to the aircraft to say farewell.

On the flight back, it was party time again and the aircrew joined in. The children were given little Christmas trees for planting in their gardens and a portion of the large chocolate snowman from the display at Woolworths in Crawley. There was also carol singing and the conga was danced. Some children went off autograph hunting as BBC presenters Esther Rantzen, Sarah Greene, Mike Smith, Simon Parkin and Emma Forbes had accompanied the children on this memorable trip.

What was the childrens' verdict of the day? "Brilliant, we want to go back" they chorused. One little five year-old girl, just wanted to return Finland and get back on the sledges which she thoroughly enjoyed.

8.00pm - Arrived back with the children now getting just a little tired. I was amazed at their stamina as I was nearly ready to drop!

21st surprise

Assistant departmental secretary, **Louise Kent** had a wonderful surprise to celebrate her 21st. Director Keith Banks, his managers and her friends clubbed together to buy her a portable colour TV.

She was delighted with her present as our picture (right) shows.



Seen seated are Keith Banks and Louise surrounded by staff the from Technical Services and Finance Divisions.

Newsline | BABIES

To **Robin Prior** (area sales manager) and his wife **Sandra** a girl Hayley born at Bellshill Maternity Hospital, Glasgow on September 12 weighing 8lb 1oz.

The couple already have a 3½ year old daughter Jenna.



Hayley

The Edinburgh office also celebrated the birth of a 7lb 2oz grandson, Jordan, for customer services manager **Sandy Smith**.

Sandy's daughter Carol and son in law John Niven already have two children, Nicola (5) and Michelle (3), who are pictured with grandad and their new brother in the next column.

Jordan was born on October 31 at Simpsons Maternity Hospital in Edinburgh.



Sandy with Nicola, Jordan and Michelle.

Newsline | WEDDINGS

Three weddings to report in this edition:

First, **Peter Blake** (applications programmer) in ASD was married to Kathleen at Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire on July 18.

The happy couple spent a week in Egypt touring Cairo and Luxor.

Attempts to prise a photograph out of Peter have proved to be unsuccessful!

Sandra Hutchinson née Phelan (team leader) married Bill (a former ROCC employee) on August 22 at St Mary the Virgin, Horsham.

Their reception was held at the King's Head Hotel and they honeymooned in Coombe Mill, Cornwall.

Chris Bankes (system verification analyst) and Selina Young were married on September 12 at All Saints Church, Patcham. The reception was held at Brighton Race Course.

The happy couple spent a two-week honeymoon touring Canada.



Bill and Sandra

Newsline | APPOINTMENTS

FINANCE

Accounts

Linda Schooling joined ROCC last August as a bought ledger clerk.

Previously she worked for Unihire Equipment Limited for four years as administration supervisor.



Linda Schooling

Linda is married to Robert and they have two girls Lisa, 15 and Kelly aged 13.

Leisure time is spent keeping fit, playing ten-pin bowling and swimming.



Chris and Selina

Sandra Taylor also joined ROCC in August, taking over the position of petty cashier.

She comes to us from Ken Butler an import/export wine business where she was a customs and excise clerk for 2½ years.

Sandra is married to Graham and they have one grown-up son David.

Gardening and swimming are her favourite leisure time activities.



Sandra Taylor