

We're In...

issue

21

February
1997

After the driest January on record for 200 years, the move by Systems Division, the press office and international fell on a day when it rained and rained and the wind blew incessantly!

February 10/11 had been allocated as removal days and I think we all heaved a sigh of relief to see a number of offices back in some sort of normality by the 12th. The editor would like to thank **Chris Maywood** and **Steve Agace** for their help - Steve certainly sorted out my metal cupboards! Stanford Gate is now taking shape with just some cosmetic work to do.

CEM's **Colin Jamieson** had said to Newsline's editor: "No way, Beryl, will you get everything into your new office." But I'm 95% there, Colin, having off-loaded a couple of 'small' pieces of furniture onto marketing and **Malcolm Arrand** of DPS software group.

February 15 saw the Systems Division personnel based at Shoreham moving to Preston Village and part of CEM to Maxwell Way. That Saturday was a glorious day but the unpredictable British weather reverted back to form with strong gusts of wind and heavy rain when, on the following Monday, finance, personnel and the TSD directorate began their removal. This was followed later that week by the repair group, and the last to move were goods inwards and the stores departments.

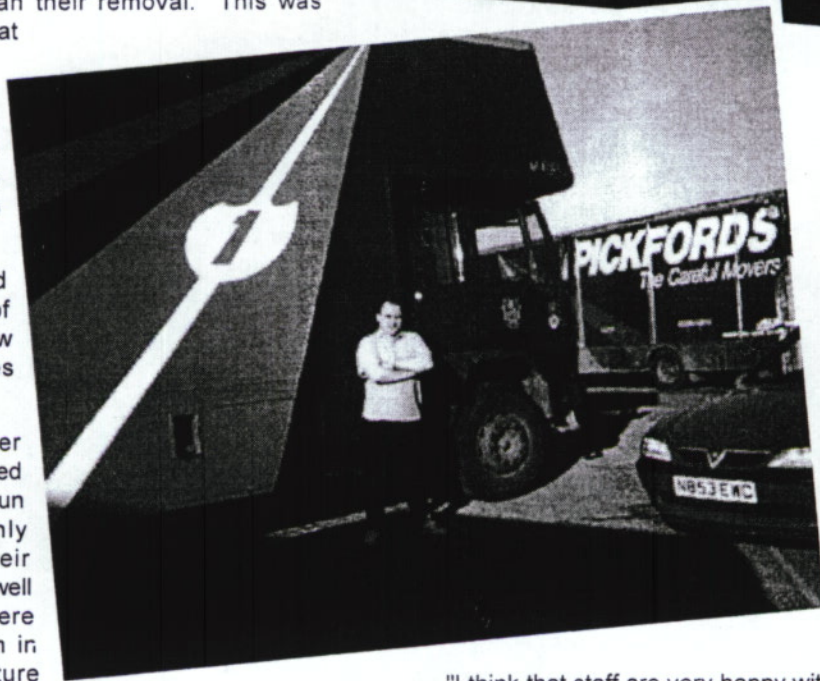
Newsline asked several heads of department how individual moves had gone.

Personnel officer **Janet Fox** reported back that it had run very smoothly indeed. All their crates has been well labelled and there was no problem in siting the furniture and cabinets in the designated places as per the layout plan she and personnel admin assistant **Christine Harrison** had drawn up. Employees' files had to be taken out of the cabinets and these were safely delivered as was Janet's cheese plant which arrived special delivery - courtesy of Pickfords!

From CEM, manufacturing manager **Steve Aplin** said that Pickfords started at 8.00am on the 15th and had moved all the benches, office furniture, etc to Maxwell Way by 1.30pm. Staff then worked on until about 5.00pm and were in early the following Monday to ensure that no significant time was lost. "We were back in production after lunch that day," he said. "The new Blundell CMS 400D flow soldering machine was installed a week prior to the move and no problems were encountered when we switched it on."



Part of the ROCC car park at Stanford Gate, Preston Village



Steve Aplin has that "I'm in charge" look about him during the move from Kelvin Way to Maxwell Way, at Crawley!

"I think that staff are very happy with their new working environment, it certainly is a great improvement on the old manufacturing facility."

Assembly operator **Anne Miles** told Newsline that the ladies in manufacturing were delighted with their new toilets with peach interior. The toilet facilities in Unit 2 at Kelvin Way were not exactly state-of-the-art and must have been originally installed by a left-handed sanitary engineer as one had to flush the toilets with one's left hand. She recounted to Newsline that she received a shock when, on using the toilet, she suddenly saw a gorgeous pair of blue eyes. There was a workman in the ceiling space, head protruding, fitting a fan extractor and he had obviously not thought to put a sign up 'men at work'.

The story and pictures continue overleaf.

ROCC Newsline

more moving news...

Technical support manager **Martin Palmer** reported that the repair group management staff had worked in close liaison with Pickfords to ensure a smooth and timely transition into their new accommodation. Of the 25 bench shelves resited only one did not slot in perfectly, but that was soon remedied by reducing it by a couple of inches. "The new centre will be a challenge, given the availability of the space," he said. "However, we are committed to increasing efficiency, thereby reducing turnaround times which will lessen the need for storage and provide our clients with an even better service."

ROCC's dp department was soon up and running and processing the month end accounts. DP manager **Jim Laing** commented: "We did not encounter too many problems due to the sterling work performed by senior technical support engineer **Brian Gent**."

At the scheduled dates for the removal to start at both locations workmen were still on site. As we trundled our belongings in, probably upsetting their flow of work - they certainly exercised a great deal of patience with us. The offices at the two locations have been purpose-designed for each site's particular functions. Keen to show off the flair and ideas which had gone into the interior design of Maxwell Way, the editor was invited to see the gents loos by financial controller **Kevin O'Neill**. I can confirm that the sanitary equipment and tiling was well chosen!

In rounding up the editor's report I think staff should extend their thanks to the Pickfords' removal men who were very long suffering, particularly with those of us who kept changing our minds on where furniture and equipment should go.

To transport manager **Alan Gould** who, with no previous experience of a project this size, brilliantly managed the Maxwell Way site. (There's a Porsche in it for you Alan!) And to **Ron Cavalier** who was charged with the task of overseeing the refurbishment of Stanford Gate and ensuring that Systems Division was safely and efficiently ensconced into the new offices.

Congratulations and well done!

Scotland & Manchester too!

February 27-28 and it was the turn of the TSD Edinburgh service centre to move some 11 miles down the road to new premises in Roslin, Midlothian.

The building was formerly an old research establishment owned by HM Government and has been totally refurbished. Among the facilities on offer is a 150-seater conference suite with two smaller rooms available for meetings.

And, finally, ROCC TSD Wythenshawe service centre and the landlords have exchanged contracts on excellent new premises at City Point, Trafford Park and are getting ready for their move. More on this in a later issue.



This sequence of pictures shows how things were transformed at Stanford Gate. At the top, the comms system is being installed; centre shows the programmers' new den being created; at the bottom is the new customer services operation.

From the Editor

Apologies for not publishing the newsletter in January, but with the impending move, I thought it best to incorporate two months news into one issue. Newsline wishes you all well in your new homes.

Beryl Hutchin, editor

& Maxwell Way views...

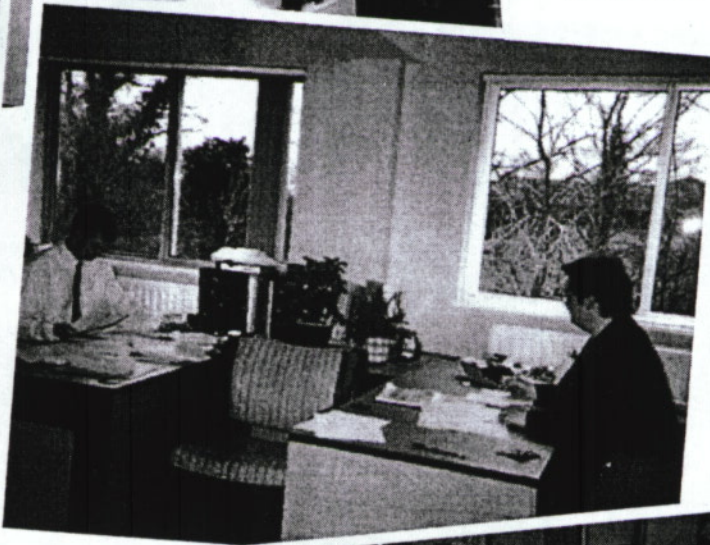


Far left, the Amistar machine arrives at Maxwell Way.



Left, this is the new Blundell flow solder machine.

Below, Katie and Matthew, in their vastly improved new offices.



Left, part of the new Contract Electronic Manufacturing facility.

Right, some of the Finance Department wait to be moved by Pickfords!



BUSINESS NEWS

Two new company locations - a traumatic time for staff as it was the first time in 30 years that a move on such a scale had been undertaken but, despite all this, the reward for all staff was receiving the excellent news that ROCC had won substantial contracts for the weeks ending February 14/21.

Contracted new business won over this period amounted to £727,759. New major clients won for sales were the **Atomic Weapons Establishment** (£236,512), **Lloyds Registrars** (£167,000 which also includes hardware and software maintenance) and **Yorkshire Purchasing** (£49,759 with £12,981 for software maintenance).

TSD third party maintenance came in with £127,584 and CEM £61,743.

A truly magnificent effort by all concerned and Newsline adds its accolades.

Sponsored

January 9 saw project director **Sue Davies** attending a dinner at the Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton to present a cheque for £150 to **Nicky Ford** from the University of Sussex. Nicky had won ROCC's sponsored computer prize for 1996.

Professor Powner - Dean of the School of Engineering and Professor of Electronic Engineering in informing ROCC said that the prize was awarded to Nicky for receiving the best final-year project mark for projects in the computer systems area. His was on '3D Graphics Processor'.

Sue told Newsline that she thoroughly enjoyed the presentation dinner and would like to represent ROCC at next year's function.

UNIVERSITY OF



SUSSEX
AT BRIGHTON