

COUNTY OF AVON FIRE BRIGADE

OCTOBER 1981



The Old Mill, Weston Island Bath, at 1425 August 18th a call was received to the above, B1 was duly despatched.

The Mill is around 190 years old, built on 5 storeys approx. 65m x 20m has been void for the last few years, formerly a wool mill until Stothert and Pitt took it over as an engineering works.

As you can see it was going well, seven jets from four pumps and a turntable ladder were used, the City Engineers declared the building unsafe at 1,00hrs as the floors collapsed. B1 were on the scene until late the following day.

Flying brands from the fire started a further fire in a furniture factory some 400 metres away in the roof.

A cause of deliberate ignition was recorded and since then the Police have charged a youth.

Our deepest sympathies go to Mrs Prewett and the children following the tragic accident in which Michael lost his life. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him at work and within his local community.

We all take this opportunity to wish Reg James and his wife a speedy and full recovery following his unfortunate accident whilst on holiday in France.

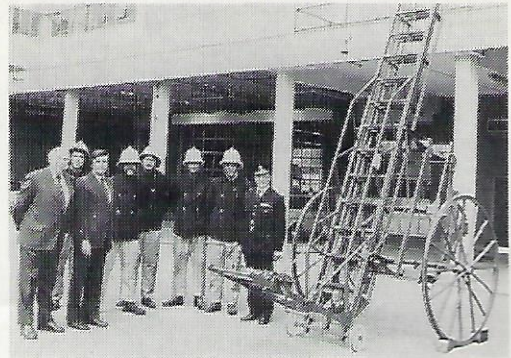
Reg retired from the workshops where he was well known for his welding skills. He says the most unfortunate part of his experience was the loss of his watch which was presented to him by Red watch, when he retired from the Brigade after 28 years service, as this is unreplaceable.

Reg was then in workshops for 10 years after he retired from the Brigade.

S/D house, partial central heating, garage. Broomhill, Brislington. £23,000. Dave Coles, A2 Blue.

No bird soars too high, if he soars with his own wings.

THE LAST ESCAPE IN AVON



Cllr Terry Walker handed over the last operational wheeled escape to C.F.O. Hayley of Bedfordshire F.B. Chairman of the Fire Service Museum Trust. A last drill and demonstration was performed by members of Blue Watch A1.

Left to right:-

C.F.O. Hayley, Fm Alan Perry, Cllr Terry Walker, Fm Pete Taylor, Adrian Brimble, Tim Lovell, Clive English, C.F.O. Ponsford.



Visit by the Officer in Charge of Ettingen Fire Service, West Germany, Aubery Wilcox Stn.O. C2 hosted the visit. Herr Kurt Wulf Muller, pictured above with D.C.Brian Hellin at their visit to C1. The highlight to the visit was Sunday lunch at the Highcliffe Hotel, Clevedon, where the lads from C2 were joined by their wives.

Retired Station Officer Keith Jones from Clevedon received the British Fire Services Association Centenary Medal. This was a great honour for Keith recognising his work and involvement over many years with the Association.



At 1445 hours on Thursday, 6th September 1951 practically the whole of Bristol Fire Brigade personnel were on parade at Brigade Headquarters, Bridewell Street on the occasion of His Majesty's Inspector's visit and inspection. As a fireman, I was feeling rather pleased over the fact that being a member of the appliance crew on first call, I was not required to parade. Others to be involved in the dramatic three days that were to follow, and still serving today, were Fireman D. Boyne (Assistant Chief Officer), Fireman J. Roe (ADO), Fireman R. Esson (Station Officer), Fireman R. Bowden (Control Officer), Fireman T. Jackson (Station Officer), and Fireman J. Robbins (ADO). Fireman A. Wilcox (Stn.O. C2), Fireman R. Fryer (L.Fm. C2).

The affected compound was approximately 500 ft. by 160 ft. and contained eight cylindrical upright tanks and four cylindrical overhead tanks. The tanks that were involved in fire contained 2,500,000 gallons of motor spirit, 1,250,000 gallons of gas oil, 100,000 gallons of aviation spirit, and 7,000 gallons of benzole - a total approaching 4,000,000 gallons.

The call of fire to the Regent Oil Company was received by Brigade Control at 1456 hours on Thursday, the 6th September 1951, and the original message which stated simply "FIRE IN TANK, ROYAL EDWARD DOCK" gave no indication of the magnitude of the task which lay ahead.

It is generally agreed that the fire started in a tank containing gas oil. The oil was being pumped into the tank from the M.V. "FORT CHRISTINA", gross tonnage 10,619, and two employees of the Regent Oil Company were working on the tank. The explosion in which these two men lost their lives was heard by the Deputy Installation Superintendent. He telephoned the ship to stop pumping and made sure the call had been sent to the Fire Brigade. Meanwhile, fireman Joe Gore, on the Fireboat "Endres Gane", which was moored at its customary berth in the docks, had also notified Avonmouth Station at Green Lane.

On receipt of the call the pre-determined first attendance of Pump Escape, Foam Tender Major, Wireless Car and Fireboat was completed promptly and, on arriving at the main entrance to the depot, the Officer-in-Charge (the late Sub Officer Ted Nash), was confronted by a situation possibly, at that time, without parallel in the history of peace-time fire-fighting. Coming over Shirehampton Hill in response to the assistance message, I remember the crew was struck dumb by the sight that met their eyes. It seemed as though half of Avonmouth Docks was on fire, with a pall of black oily smoke reaching hundreds of feet in the air.

On arrival we were instructed to complete a line of hose abandoned by employees in order to provide a cooling jet to an overhead tank plainly at risk from a huge fire in an adjacent tank containing about 100,000 gallons of aviation spirit. Suddenly there was a tremendous explosion as the tank erupted in flames and everybody ran for their lives (nobody passed me!). The whole position became untenable and it was necessary to concentrate the attack on the land side. Despite determined efforts the fire spread to involve other upright tanks and the sight of one of these huge tanks exploding, and its roof being blown off, is a spectacle which all those who were there will never forget.

Water supplies were a problem in the initial stages but this was relieved when Fireboat "Andres Gane" charged the 6" pre-laid steel pipe line circumventing the nearby Shell Mex installation, and the fixed pumps in the L.B.A.'s pump house were set into operation to charge a 10" salt water main, a branch of which ran along the east side of the fire. A portable canvas dam was set up at an outlet from the 6" steel pipe line to enable a trailer pump to supply two No. 10 foam-making branches.

Uppermost in all our minds was the possibility of a "boilover" occurring and it was a great relief after some hours to learn that the fuels involved were not capable of producing this condition.

By Thursday evening the fire had spread to involve the whole compound, and even the bund walls were showing ominous signs of collapse.

However, by 0430 hours on Friday, the 7th, the situation appeared to be sufficiently well in hand to justify a reasonable amount of optimism, but within minutes an explosion occurred in one of the largest tanks (R4) containing half a million gallons of motor spirit, again 'blowing its top'. The resultant terrific and rapid spread of fire forced crews on the coast road to abandon their appliances and equipment as fire engulfed the road and foreshore, and consequently some of the foam-making branchpipes and cooling branches which were being used with good effect were lost.

The danger of burning spirit flooding the coast road and flowing towards other installations immediately became apparent, but fortunately it had been envisaged that large quantities of sand might be required in view of the evident weakening of the west compound wall, and at this stage supplies were rushed to the coast road.

The possibility that some men may have been trapped caused great concern, but a check accounted for everyone with the exception of one man from the Exeter contingent who was subsequently found on the foreshore with back injuries.

When the Chief Officer was satisfied that the fire was once more held at strategic points, he called together all senior officers then on the fireground to direct them in the measures they were to take to put into effect a plan he had formulated for a massed foam attack on the fire. To this end, all foam equipment not in use was collected, checked, and placed in pre-arranged positions evenly spaced at the north-east and east sides of the compound, and at approximately 1000 hours on Friday, 7th September, the concentrated attack commenced. At the peak period twenty six No. 10 foam branches and 30 cooling jets were in effective operation. As a result of this concentration, backed up by the determination of every officer and man engaged on the fire,



CONCENTRATED FOAM ATTACK

extinguish the fire, but by the quantity of foam compound and other supplies which were used, as shown below:-

Foam Compound:	50,000 gallons
Petrol for Appliances:	2,600 "
Diesel Oil for Appliances:	300 "
Lubrication Oil:	800 "
Hose:	100,000 feet

This fire proved beyond all doubt that the spirit of comradeship in the Fire Service, which showed itself so markedly during the war years, was still very much alive. The following Services, many of which disappeared in the 1974 reorganisation, readily responded to the call for assistance, and gave outstanding support to the Bristol Brigade.

Bath C.B.	Exeter C.B.	Middlesex	Shropshire
Berkshire	Gloucestershire	Monmouthshire	Somerset
Birmingham C.B.	Gloucester C.B.	Newport C.B.	Southampton
Cardiff C.B.	Glamorgan	Oxfordshire	Warwickshire
Devon County	Hampshire	Oxford C.B.	Wiltshire
Dorset	London C.C.	Plymouth C.B.	Worcester

Naval Air Station, Yeovilton

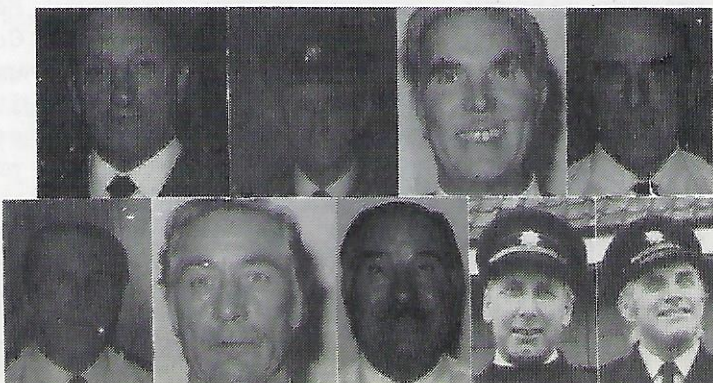
Army Fire Service, Hampshire

Horfield Barracks, Bristol

Ministry of Civil Aviation

Esso Petroleum Co. Ltd.

Shell Mex & B.P. Ltd.



CHIEF OFFICER

steady progress was made, and despite extremely bad conditions brought about by dense smoke and intense heat, the ground lost when tank R4 exploded was gradually recovered. By midnight the situation was under control and the last flicker of flame was extinguished at 0450 hours on Saturday, 8th September, thirty eight hours after the initial explosion, but from this time onwards until Thursday, 20th September, it was necessary to maintain constant fire cover.

The fire destroyed two and a half million gallons of oil and spirit and was the largest fire of its type to occur in this country in peace-time. A total of 60 pumping appliances attended, together with 853 officers and men.

Some appreciation of the difficult task which confronted the Brigade can be assessed not only by the number of appliances and personnel, and the number of jets required to

IVOR WALDRON the Brigade Deputy Senior Fire Prevention Officer. He has been in the Brigade for 31 years starting his service at Bath in 1949, a well known and much respected man throughout the Brigade.

Ivor's initial training was at Stoke Hill in the old Bristol Brigade and at the time the Brigade was receiving adverse national press regarding its Gestapo methods of training, but Ivor came through none the worse for his experience, he has been associated with the Union for many years and was the national officer's rep for the last 10 years.



We all wish Ivor and his family a long and happy retirement, he will be spending a bit more time on the garden but has offered his Fire Prevention expertise back to the Brigade should we need it at a figure to be negotiated.

Ivors official resignation reads:- Mr Hook

'Unacustomed as I am to leaving my place of employment it appears I have failed to officially inform you that I shall cease to have the security of Avon County Council as from the 30th August, 1981.

Can I place on record that this departure has nothing whatsoever to do with the fact that Sally is pregnant, neither is it because I am unable to cope since the departure of Norman.

It is just that I can stand you no longer, being a case of all this and Bruno too!..

'FIRE ENGINES OF THE U.K.'

This title appears in OCTOBER 1981 and can be obtained from this address by sending £3.95 plus postage (50p UK). This work has many original 'ACTION' shots of UK fire engines, and should be of immense interest to firemen and fire enthusiasts.

IAN HENRY PUBLICATIONS
38 PARKSTONE AVENUE
HORNCHURCH ESSEX.

This book can be inspected at the Brigade library.

FOR SALE

JACKSON TOP-LINE COOKER WITH CERAMIC HOB AND DOUBLE OVEN. 2 YEARS OLD IMMACULATE CONDITION. £250 o.n.o.

Ext. 204 - Mrs. Clark

PAIR WARFDALE HI FI SPEAKERS £25
CONTACT DAVE HUTCHINGS Ext. 272



On Saturday 19th Nov. at Kingswood Methodist Church, Mike Stone of Brigade Control married Jenny Roberts, the day was a huge success and both the wedding itself and the wedding party in the evening was greatly enjoyed by everyone present.

The congregation at the church was greatly overcome by the sight of Mike buckling at the knees overwhelmed with emotion??? Jenny's only complaint was that Mike's lovely greeny complexion clashed with the bridesmaids dresses.

BRITISH FIRE SERVICES ASSOCIATION

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT COMPETITIONS

HELD AT TOPSHAM IN JULY.

2 teams from Clevedon did very well the 'B' team overall 2nd and the 'A' team 4th. Nailsea had 3rd position.

The competition consists of nine events and range from one man hydrant drills to ladder and pump drills. Very well done to Clevedon and Nailsea.

FOR THE LADIES

Natural Skin Care, Beauty Aids, Food Supplements and an organic, non-detergent household cleaner are just part of the large range of products distributed by Nutri-Metics.

All the products are organic, formulated and compounded to include many of nature's good things, including extracts from such nutritious foods as fragrant lemons, soya beans and sesame seeds, honey, mint and almonds, and the oils of rich avocados and exotic apricots.

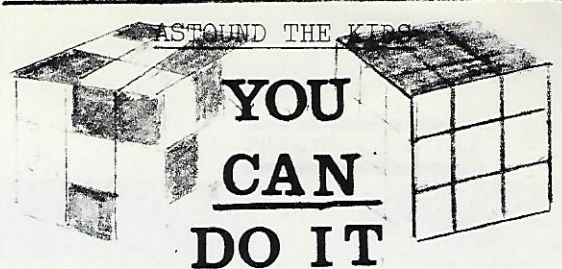
No animal products are included and no animal testing takes place. The beauty range is hypoallergenic and should suit the most sensitive of skins.

If you are interested in learning more about this unique range, or in having a personal consultation, ring or write to, Carol Denham, 8 Haycombe, Whitchurch, Bristol, Avon, tel. Bristol (0272) 838101.

Carol is a beauty consultant and beautician, she used to work for the top fashion houses in London, Carol is also available for beauty work for your special occasion.

FOR SALE

1967 WOLSELEY 16/60 NEW TYRES MOT TAXED WELL ABOVE AVERAGE FOR YEAR IDEAL CHEAP AND RELIABLE CAR. OFFERS AROUND £250 TO ALAN TOTTEDELL A1 WHITE.



AN UNDERSTANDABLE SOLOUTION TO

THE "DREADED" CUBE

JUST 20p IN AID OF FSNBF.

Contact Comms. Officer. BHQ.



We all wish David and Ann all the best for the future.

David from B5 was married on the 15th August. Pete Snook was the best man and his daughter one of the bridesmaids.

Also at B5 Phil Ashman was married to Sharon. All the best to you both. Unfortunately Sharon had a nasty experience on her wedding day, when at the reception a Trout bone became stuck in her throat. So a mercy dash by Ambulance to R.U.H. in Bath. Within 1½ hours Sharon and Phil were back at the reception but Sharon was unable to eat or drink for a time.

I would think it will always be a day to remember.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Most people would succeed in small things if they were not troubled with great ambitions.

SUB AQUA DIVING

European Fire Services Underwater Swimming Championships.

These Championships used to be held annually in Holland just for the Dutch Fire Service, each division competing against the others. The Dutch Fire Service have their own brigade trained divers for search and rescue and also have special appliances equipped with diving gear and boats.

This competition was then thrown open to all European Fire Services and a circular was sent to all Brigades in this country. About 12 firemen from this country put their names forward and all had to be qualified divers. Trials were then held in London on August 11th and 5 had to be picked to represent the British Fire Service, so the fastest 5 at the trials were picked, they included Nick, 2 men from London and 2 from Yorkshire. The trials consisted of 3 events similar to those in the Championships in Holland.



SUB.O. NICK BAKER

Event 1

8, 25 metre lengths of the pool and at least 10 metres of each length had to be swum underwater. No breathing apparatus allowed.

Event 2

Swim 1 length of pool to deep end and dive down 3 metres and fit diving gear without surfacing, surface and swim 1 length to finish line.

Event 3

Swim 2 lengths using diving gear, underwater, ditch aqualung and weight belt in deep end, swim 2 lengths, retrieve diving gear and fit, underwater, swim further 2 lengths wearing diving gear but not breathing from it to finish line.

The 5 selected now go to Holland in October to compete against 6 other countries.

Nick said, "I have been diving for 10 years and have logged over 500 dives in fresh and sea water, and have dived in France, Spain and Israel as well as the U.K.

Before the County of Avon was founded I used to dive with the Bristol Police diving team in the search and recovery of such things as cars, bodies and lost equipment. Once qualified, there are many courses an amateur diver can attend from underwater explosives, to recovery of large craft, the list is endless."

We all wish Nick luck in the forth coming event.

Harry Davis A7 with the INVALID BATHING CHAIR for the F.S.N.B.F. convalesant home, bought with the money raised at the White Lion, Yate.



THE REBIRTH OF IVOR

Heaps of twisted metal aren't usually a welcome sight to the eyes of Don Bevan in his role as officer in charge of Paulton.

But two years ago he discovered a heap of rusting car parts which brought true joy to his heart. They were the dismantled body of a 1933 Austin Newbury Light 12.6 Sports Tourer, one of probably only three left in the country.

Since then he has spent much of his spare time restoring "Ivor" - named after a friend and helper - and now she stands, resplendent in black and cream and chrome, in the driveway of his home in Specklemead, Paulton.

"I'm not mechanically minded myself, but I can take a challenge," said Don. "And this was a challenge."

He found Ivor after she had been dismantled and abandoned by a previous owner. "He started work on the chassis and got red lead poisoning, so he had to give up," he said. "I bought her ten years after she had been chucked into the garage."

Don needed professional help for some work, but most has been tackled by himself. The small six cylinder, 15.9 hp engine had completely seized up, but now runs like a well-tuned watch. The proper 19" tyres had to be found, and they cost £40 each. She did have, however, the original headlamps - "Lucas, King of the Road" - which are in perfect condition after being left out in the elements for nine years.

Don has spent 18 months making Ivor road-worthy, and reckons on taking another two years to perfect her. He has spent about £1,400 on the restoration job so far, but by the time he has finished he should have a masterpiece worth about £6,000.

And she goes, too - "I've got 60 mph out of her so far," says Don. Anyone who wants to admire his handiwork can see Ivor at Tunley fete on Saturday. She is truly a sight worth seeing.



DON STANDS PROUDLY WITH IVOR

ANCIENT AND MODERN



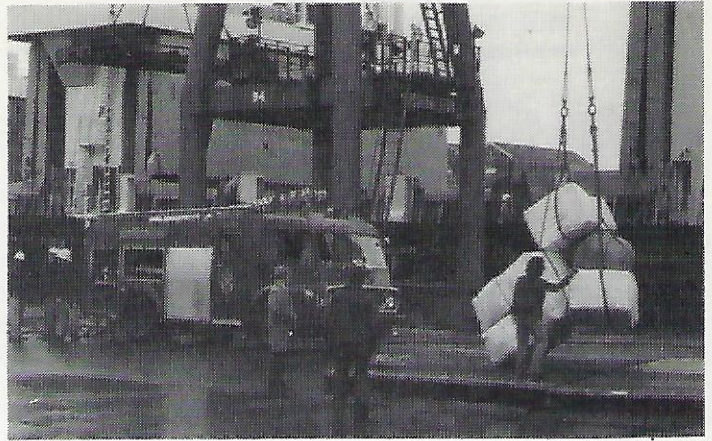
Members of White Watch B1 at the Bath Royal Pagent a very impressive display which stole the show. Uniforms and equipment loaned by Pete Marsh B1

Congratulations to Caroline and Bryan Short (G5)
on the birth of their son

JOB CENTRE

A very successful ships fire fighting operation led by the D.C.O. at Avonmouth Docks.

Using Co2 throughout the night with battened down hatches and when the hold was opened up only 319 of the 625 bales of cotton were affected by fire and the remainder of cargo was also unaffected.



(Pic. A.Wilcocks. Control)

CHICAGO PIZZA PARLOUR

When B1 White arrived at the Pizza Parlour they found the first floor heavily smoke logged and with an intense heat build up, entry was made with 4 B.A. men and the fire confined to a servery area of about 6sq m and the roof area immediately above, with the close boarded and laminated roof, it made a difficult job to deal with pockets of fire in the roof.

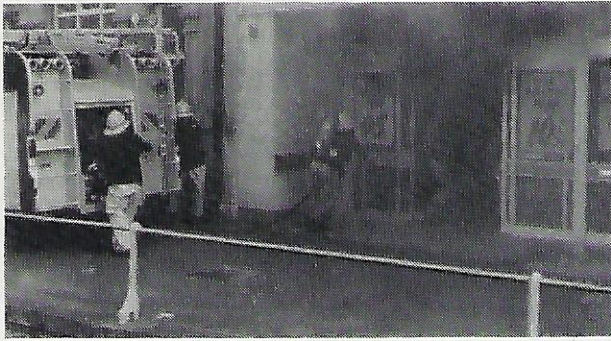
The oven like conditions were caused by the old construction on the building, and the double glazing, with no ventilation. Fm Malcom Jenkins was conveyed to hospital with heat exhaustion and Fm George Ham with cuts to his hand.

B7 RESCUE

B7 arrived in High St Hanham to find a ground floor well alight and were told that a gentleman was inside, to make matters worse, two young boys had kicked down the door, broken windows to let out the smoke, but all this did was to further damage the property intensifying the fire and ensure injury to the occupant. He was removed to open air where upon it was found that he was not breathing, respiration was commenced, on arrival of the Ambulance, he was handed over and conveyed to Frenchay burns unit.

WHEN C WHEN WILL THEY LEARN

A1 Temple have had a number of very difficult and nasty malicious ignition fires around the city recently, one of which appears to be the Metro Furnishers in St Pauls, an eight pump fire in a former cinema. The C.F.O. took command of this very difficult, dangerous and protracted incident, problems were encountered by the B.A. men as in the main auditorium seats had been removed and furniture was stacked on makeshift racking, then on the balcony, safety barriers were missing, some seat frames were in position, other areas were used for storage. At one stage the safety of the structure of the building was in doubt. Over 200 three piece suites and other furniture was well alight on arrival, giving off dense volumes of thick, black smoke. The owner valued the stock lost in the fire in excess of £35,000. As the fire was brought under control shortly after midnight, large numbers of spectators had gathered making a very uneasy atmosphere following some looting. Appliances were at the scene until 0900 the following day.



damage was caused by heat and smoke with the fire being confined to the store room area.

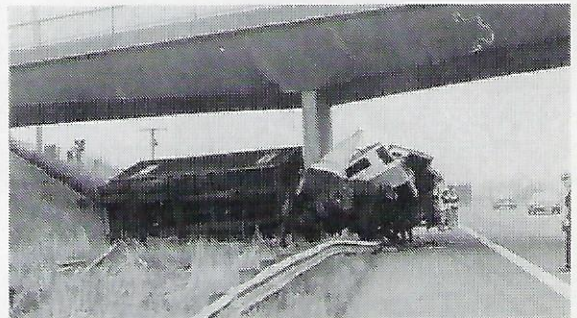
Radstock and Paulton were called to G. Discount food store High St. Midsomer Norton, on arrival the whole of the store was heavily smoke logged, two B.A. teams made entry to the front and rear and make pumps four message sent. On arrival of the back up machines, a further four B.A. were committed. The whole of the premises were searched and the fire was dealt with using two hose reels. A tremendous amount of

Another very interesting incident at Radstock, where a woman was using a Rayburn stove which was not connected to the water supply.

After some hours of burning the back boiler blew up, fragmenting causing serious injury to the occupier and structural damage to the house.

On arrival, an ambulance was called and first aid rendered to the woman, the house was then made safe and investigations commenced, Forensic Science Laboratories were called in so as yet the exact reason is not known.

A5 Patchway faced a gruesome difficult task releasing the driver from the cab of this artic lorry. The lorry was fully laden and went out of control on the M4, running into the concrete pier head on.



A5 and A2 had problems when a heifer in calf became entangled with some girders, trapping her on her back. Oxy-acetylene was used to cut away the girders and the task of getting her back up began, she had been trapped for some time and in thrashing about had injured her head, neck and legs badly, but fortunately, having been released only just in time she is making a recovery.

B5 are making a name for themselves catching Kestrels.

Willis a tame Kestrel has twice fled the roost and on each occasion became entangled high up with a leather leash on its leg. On the last occasion it badly broke its leg when he got tied up with an aerial.



C5 Bedminster spent 4 hours recovering a body from the banks of the Avon. A very difficult and nasty operation as it was on the waterline at low water and had been there over a week.



LYMINGTON TO YARMOUTH

Blue Watch from A1 Temple, led by StnO. Mike Hughes, crossed the Solent from Lymington to Yarmouth on Sunday 27th September.

Despite high winds and spring tides, a successful crossing was made in 2½ hours, thanks to Coxswain & Navigator, SubO. Roger Hacker. Roger had painstakingly plotted the course and without him and the assistance rendered by the Lymington Lifeboat and local fishing boat, skipper Humphrey Elliot, the crossing would not have been possible. A vote of thanks for their hospitality must also go to Lymington and Yarmouth lads.

After a delay 'Tintanic' cast off at 1000 hrs. The row began, heading south east in what is best described as rough conditions; it was decided that the crew should change after an hour of rowing. We were visited by the Royal Navy Rescue helicopter and encouraged by passengers of the Sealink ferry although it looked like we were going somewhere completely different but all trust was in Roger. Two hours on the same course, then, following a change of crew, a directional change was ordered, and off with the current against the wind it went, and 30 minutes exactly, Yarmouth harbour, to the amazement of Yarmouth lads who thought we would be arriving around 4.00 pm.

The first time ever that the Solent had been crossed in a raft at 200-1 odds against. The lads had made it after weeks of preparation and cancellations because of weather.

At Yarmouth Station a tremendous buffet/reception awaited. Isle of Wight CPO. Les Griffiths attended, congratulating the crew on their success and suggesting a swim across next year.

He apologised for being late, but explained there was no way he could finish the washing and ironing on a Sunday morning quicker than Avon firemen crossed the Solent on a raft.

Many thanks must go to Alec Coster, Pete Harvey and Nicholas Hayward, the lifeboat crew, Humphrey Elliot, Skipper of the 'Compass Rose' and all the men and their wives of Lymington and Yarmouth.

Mr. Charles Munroe, Chairman of the R.N.L.I. without his assistance the crossing would not have been possible.

The Crew: Mike Hughes, Roy Yandell, Roger Hacker, Adrian Brimble, Tim Lovell, Timmy Cattle, Pete Taylor, John Marshall, Phil Deane, Ben Hollier, Bob Fraser, Rod Chidgey, Bob Hatherly.

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Deep Sea Fishing

Winter or Summer from Lymington (only 1½ hrs. drive) on the Compass Rose, skipper Humphrey Elliot. Contact evenings at the Mayflower Hotel Lymington 72160.

Special rates for Avon Firemen, around £40 for up to 12.

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AMSTERDAM

Ron Watkins of C4 organised a very successful weekend trip to Amsterdam, the party being made up by members from Pill, Nailsea and Yatton.

En-route to Amsterdam sign posts to Dunkirk, Lille and other names brought back memories of the war years to many members.

On arrival all were tired and hungry, so off for a meal and stroll to the hotel for a wash and brush up. Advice to potential visitors, 'Do not try following canals for aid of direction or you will get lost', they did.

That evening a romantic cruise along the canals, drinking wine and eating by candle light looking at the famous floodlit landmarks.

A truly enjoyable weekend was had by all, shopping in Bruges on the way back.

CRICKET



FIRE BRIGADE V JESUS CHRIST

SEPTEMBER 1981

On Thursday September 17th 1981, The Avon Fire Brigade Cricket team played the cast of Jesus Christ Super-Star which was being shown at the Hippodrome Bristol. The venue being Easton-in-Gordano Cricket Ground, commencing at 11.30 am.

Chris Edwards won the toss and elected to bat on a very soft wicket.

It was agreed by the two captains to play two innings of 1½ hours each, and an interval for lunch in the local pub, due to the cast having to be on stage for the evening show.

The Brigade openers batted steadily, until the score reached 91, when Roger McKeown (A3) was well caught for 47. Chris Edwards (C1) and Chris Quinlan (C1) pushed the score to 114 before Chris Edwards was caught by Topping for 55.

Wickets began to fall rapidly, and at the allotted declaration time the Fire Brigade had reached a total of 137 for 7 wickets.

Richard Osborne (C1) being the only other batsman to reach double figures of 13 not out.

At this stage everyone rushed into the pub for a well earned pint, ploughmans lunch and chat.

The Super-Stars had a very poor start to their innings (perhaps we should not have gone for lunch) losing three wickets for 12 runs, but a fine partnership by S.Joel and T.Spencer took the score to 81 before T.Spencer was bowled out by Chris Quinlan for 48.

He then had the following batsman stumped off the next ball, and on the third ball which would have given him a hat trick,

Bob Maggs (A1) dropped a "dolly" at long off. (Must stay out of the pub at lunchtime). He made up for this catch by running out D.Duffy for 19 with a brilliant throw from the boundary to the wicket.

Catches continued to be dropped, Rich Osborne being the worst offender, dropping three in succession, one being difficult.

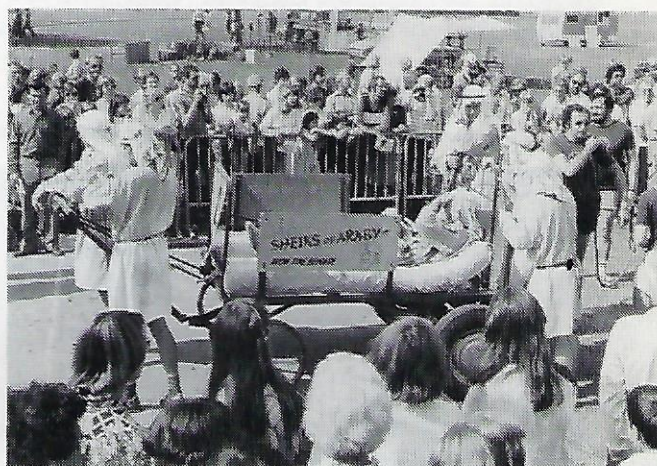
The score being 126 - 7 the other opening bat S.Joel was brilliantly caught at short mid-off by P.Walker (A2) for 37.

Roger McKeown bowled the last man for 0 and the Super-Stars innings closed at 126 - 8.

May I take this opportunity in thanking all players concerned for a very enjoyable game of cricket.

Also I hope the enthusiasm from the Fire Brigade players will continue on to next season.

CHRIS EDWARDS.



2nd Clevedon Bedrace

On Sunday September 6th, the 2nd Clevedon bedrace took place. The course, approximately 10 miles long, was around the town. This event was organized by members of C2 Clevedon.

Over 28 Beds and 260 competitors took part in the race.

Joint first place for fastest all male team went to:-

Sheiks of Araby, captained by Andy)
Young A1 Clevedon Garage)

Best fancy dress

1st Willow Warriors

2nd The Clowns, captained by Martyn Hill,
Brigade Control.

over..

cont...

Fastest all Ladies Team:-

Firemans Fancies, (Wives, Girlfriends,
and Lovers of the firemen)

Team which raised most sponserhip:-

Fryers Fliers, organised by Ralph
Fryer, C2

Fastest Mixed Team:-

Special Branch, Fallen Tree

The judging for the race was done by Tommy
Banner (Wurzel), Susie Willey from Radio
Bristol, and Deputy Chief Fire Officer Aris.

It is hoped that over £2,000 was raised by
this event. The proceeds will go to the Fire
Service's National Benevolent Fund and other
Local Charities.

A thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all and
I wish to thank everyone that helped with this
event to make it such a huge success.

BILL HARRISON, C2



On Wednesday, 5th August 1981 a "do" was
held at C5 to mark the retirement of Nigel
Pennycott. Nigel is not leaving under the
happiest of circumstances, but knowing him,
he will overcome.

It looked as if a different venue should have
been chosen, as the Station bulged at the
seams with colleagues past and present, to
ensure he knew how he was regarded by us all.

Nigel, his wife Mary, and their eldest son
were present and a presentation was made to
Nigel by Terry Condon of a polished axe. He
was advised the paint was still wet! Mary
received a bouquet. Nigel then received a
wrapped gift from Mike Mullany, which most

people assumed to be a breeze block,
following remarks from a wag.

Nigel joined in 1963 and has spent
his service at C5, a Station which
will always benefit from his un-
questionable artistic skills - pity
about his spelling.

As a final summary, may I say that
all of us present must have felt as
I do, that to know Nigel was a joy
and privilege.

DAVE WILLIAMS H.Q.

**THE 'JOE' AND LINDSEY COCKER MEMORIAL
FOUR-STAGE RELAY RACE AT BLAISE CASTLE**

Rain on the day before, and in the
morning, made conditions underfoot
rather worse than in the previous two
years. Nonetheless, a total of seven-
teen teams, and three odd runners from
A2 Southmead, competed for prizes, or
just to enjoy the pure joy of running
two and three-quarter miles through
woods and across parkland.

For those who survived, there was a
buffet meal at the prize-giving ceremo-
ny at Headquarters, after the race. The
prize-winners were:-

Fastest Team	W.Midlands	66min 16se
Second Team	G.M.C.	69 " 56 "
Third Team	Cleveland	80 " 06 "
Fastest Individual:	T.Settle of	
	W.Midlands	15min 53se
Fastest Avon Team	B7 Kingswood	85min 17se
Second Avon Team	Training School 'A	86min 05se
Third Avon Team	B6 Speedwell (Whit	86min 48se
Fastest Avon Individual:	Dave Hayward	
	Bde H.Q.	17min 53se
Fastest Avon Over-Forty:	Trevor Evan	
	C5 Bedminster	20min 42se
Most Improved Runner:	Bob Hepden	
	B4 Brislington	

Anyone interested in more races should
contact Alan Lawson, B1 Bath, White, or
Dave Hayward, Bde. H.Q. for further in-
ormation.

Finally, thanks to all who helped, esp-
ecially June and all the ladies on the
buffet.



Tony (Kessler) Wotton alias the Wotton Fuhrer.

This photograph was taken with a super telephoto lens at a secret training camp just outside Rio. The facemask hides the cruel and heartless features of the Brigade 'Basher'.

This man was once believed to be a lucky 3rd Class in the employ of the Gestapo. He admits to being trained at all notorious camps. Said he was once the terror of the Russian Steppes (however, we think it was Christmas Steps!)

This thoroughly nice man now resides at Green Watch, A1 Temple.



A timber built house at St. John. The speed of fire spread was incredible, Radstock and Paulton did a good job to prevent too much damage to next door.



left to right: Robin Adair, Weston-super-Mares' CRS Store Manager, Ian Beachgood, Mrs. Beachgood, Anthony Baxter and Mrs. Baxter.

Ian Beachgood and Anthony Baxter, County of Avon Firemen, who were called out 6 months ago to the fire which gutted the W.S.M. Co-op, being welcomed by Robin Adair to the Civic Reception and official preview of the new-look department store.

----- + + -----

RUGBY

On Wednesday 7 October 1981, the memorable match of South West District V. Rest of England was played at Taunton. This was in special honour of Charles Wynn, who was that day retiring as the South West District selector.

The eventual result was a 12-10 win for the Rest of England squad. This was largely due to selected members who had been chosen to play, being unable to attend owing to duty and other commitments.

As a result of the acute shortage of players for this match, Brian Counsell, who had travelled all the way to Taunton in his own transport as a special guest and to give moral support to the lads, was asked to play in the match. Needless to say, Brian played a good match and stopped several tries, so thanks and well done to Brian.

STEVE WATEING.

C1 Weston held their annual Open Day and Fete on Bank Holiday Monday raising over £2,000 to date, the funds will be split up between the Benevolent fund and the William Knowles Handicapped Centre in Weston.

Sally Alford of H.T.V. kindly opened the event and then sold autographed pictures to raise money.

All the Emergency services put on displays, Police, Avon Ambulance Service, R.N.L.I. and the Coastguard. People remarked how good it was to see the services together, we believe it is the first time and hope not the last.

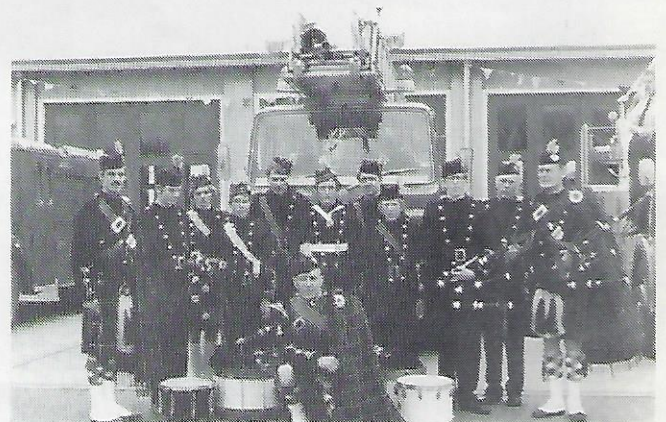
Again a superb effort by all concerned, very few are aware of the work and Preparation that goes into an event like this, with sidewhow drill demonstrations etc.



Stn. O Brian Chairman of the organisation Committee showing Sally Alford around the station.



A road accident rescue display which also involved the Ambulance service



Stn. O Bill Flenty and his Pipe Band after the display

OPEN DAYS AND FUND RAISING

A tremendous effort in Bath by the station and division paid dividends when an estimated 2,500 people visited B1 on their open day.

Cllr. Terry Walker kindly opened the Drill Display after lunch, although the station was open for inspection from 1000hrs.

The Drills covered Fire and Rescue situations including Chemical incidents and Fire Prevention but the highlight of the day was a demonstration of a Fire and Rescue situation in the 18th century using a manual pump kindly loaned by Wiltshire, a hand hose cart made by the lads on the station, hand bellows B.A. and the rescue effected using a pulley block and sheer legs. To add to the spectacle all were in period dress and signals were by whistle.

Peter Marsh loaned much of the equipment and what they did not have was made.

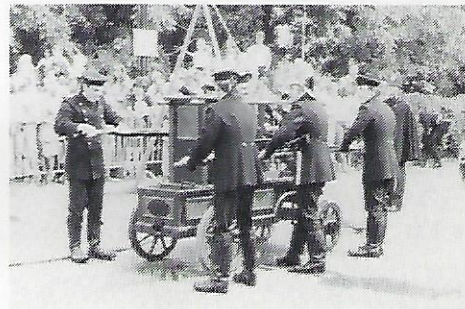
A credit to all who took part in all the days events and organisation.



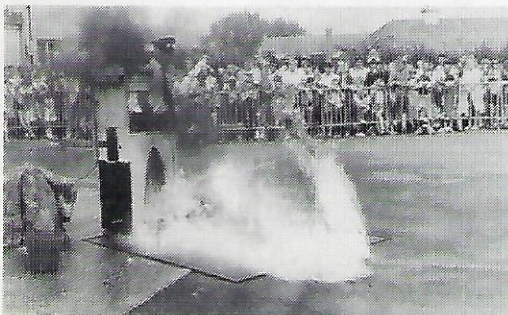
The period crew with Captain P. Marsh



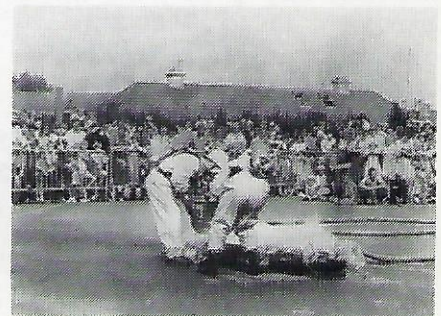
The home made hose cart



Keep pumping



Fire prevention, pan of fat demonstration



Handling hazardous chemicals

FIRE SERVICES NATIONAL BENEVOLENT FUND

Some information which may help you, set out are the members of the councils, also a list of items available for sale.

A Division Council

Chairman	Mr M. Britton	A Div:H.Q.		Mr L. Hill	A7
Secretary	Mrs P. Deverill			Miss V. Sullivan	H.Q. Registry
Treasurer	Mr J. Dowse	A5 Blue	Co-opted	Mr I. Satherly	A2 White
	Mr T. Cattle	A1 Blue		Mr R. Hartley	A2 Green
	Mr C. Jackson	A1 White		Mr C. Deverill	A5 Red
	Mr C. Higgins	A1 Green		Mr J. Clark	Pensioners Asso.
	Mr C. Cummins	A2 White		Mr L. Roach	Old Comrades Asso.
	Mr D. Williams	A3 White		Mr H. Davies	A7
	Mr G. Foulgar	A6		Mr D. Hutchings	Brigade H.Q.

B Division Council

Chairman	Mr G. Smith	B2		Mr S. White	B6
Secretary	Mr K. Pugh	B1 Red		Mr B. Rodda	B7
Treasurer	Mr T. Gazzard	B1 Red	Co-opted	Mr R. Morgan	B2
	Mr M. Dodd	B1 Red		Mr G. Bennett	
	Mr R. Gibbs	B3		Mr J. Commons	B Div:Workshops
	Mr T. Moore	B5		Mr R. Marchant	
	Mr R. Screen	B4 White		Mr R. Broderick	B3

C Division Council

Chairman	Mr C. Palmer	C3		Mr D. Brooks	C10
Secretary	Mr B. Hellin	C Div:H.Q.	Co-opted	Miss G. Rowe	C Div:H.Q.
Treasurer	Mr A. Hutchinson	C2		Mr G. Wills	C1
	Mr D. Wicks	C1		Mr J. Ratcliffe	C1
	Mr B. Walters	C3		Miss V. Ward	C2
	Mr P. Grindon	C4		Mrs E. Brooks	C1
	Mr P. Austins	C5		Mr R. Watkins	C4
	Mr Cole	C6		Mr C. Hornett	C Div:H.Q.
	Mr S. Carpenter	C7		Mrs J. Gillings	C10
	Mr W. Hares	C8		Mr M. Parks	C Div:H.Q.
	Mr A. Fudge	C9			

Brigade Council

President	C.F.O. Pensford		Mr R. Gibbs
Chairman	Mr T. Gazzard		Mr A. Fudge
Secretary	Mr C. Deverill		Mr C. Palmer
Treasurer	Mr J. Dowse		Mr B. Hellin
	Mrs P. Deverill		Mr R. Watkins
	Mr I. Satherly		Mr D. Hutchings
	Mr K. Pugh		Mr A. Hutchinson
	Mr G. Smith		Mr M. Dodd
	Mr K. Young		

Group Council

Mr T. Gazzard	Mr C. Deverill
Mr B. Hellin	Mr J. Dowse

MONEY WELL SPENT

AVON Cases assisted by the fund, January 1st to June 30th 1981

Widows allowances	£840	
Orphans allowances	£1787	
Apprentiship	£50	<u>Total Grants = £3252</u>
Death Grants	£200	
Prolonged sickness	£225	
Handicapped children	£150	
Convalescent accomodation	8 cases	

ESTIMATED grants to be paid July 1st to December 31st 1981

Widows allowances	£245	
Orphans allowances	£572	
Hardship grants	£350	<u>Total Grants = £2467</u>
Christmas Hampers	£1300	

PLUS ANY DEATH GRANTS OR SPECIAL HARDSHIP.

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE.

<u>Fireman Fred pens</u>		20p each
<u>Painting books</u>		50p each
<u>Key rings</u>	Leather	25p each
	Plastic	40p each
<u>Car stickers</u>	Tax disc holder	40p each
	Support the F.S.N.B.F.	40p each
	Benevolent Fund crest	15p each
	Fire Brigade personnel	40p each
	Fire Service personnel	40p each
<u>Car badge</u>	Fire Brigade personnel	£3.00p each
<u>Wall plaques</u>	20 different fire engines	£1.70p each
<u>Lapel badges</u>	12 different cartoon	25p each or 12 for £3
<u>Christmas cards</u>	Assorted	25p per pack of 12
<u>Christmas cards</u>	Chris Reynolds cartoon	20p each or 6 for £1
<u>Christmas wrapping paper</u>	Medium grade	3p per sheet
<u>Christmas cards</u>	County of Avon F.S.N.B.F.	5p each
<u>Printed "T" Shirt</u>	Adult sizes from	£2.65p each
	Child sizes from	£2.25p each
<u>Book marks</u>	Leather County of Avon	25p each
<u>Victorian Fireman Prints</u>		30p each
<u>Webb Ivory Catalogues</u>	Christmas gifts	

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR CATALOGUE CONTACT:-

Mr C.Higgins
Mr M.Dodd
Mr A.Hutchinson
Mr C.Deverill
Miss V.Sullivan

Green watch, Station A1 Temple
Red watch, Station B1 Bath
Station C2 Clevedon
Red watch, Station A5 Patchway
Registry, Brigade Headquarters

FACES TO NAMES

Recent moves in the county



Divisional Officer Ken Young
Deputy Senior Fire Prevention Officer



Divisional Officer Roy Kennedy
Deputy Divisional Commander 'A' Div.



Divisional Officer Richard Brimmell
Divisional Fire Prevention Officer 'B' Div.



A.D.O. Brian Townley
H.Q. Staff



A.D.O. Graham Watkins
'A' Div.F.P.

WARNING.....Funny Going On's at the Mumbles Thornbury

It has been heard that branches attack ~~THE~~INGS while
going through narrow gates.