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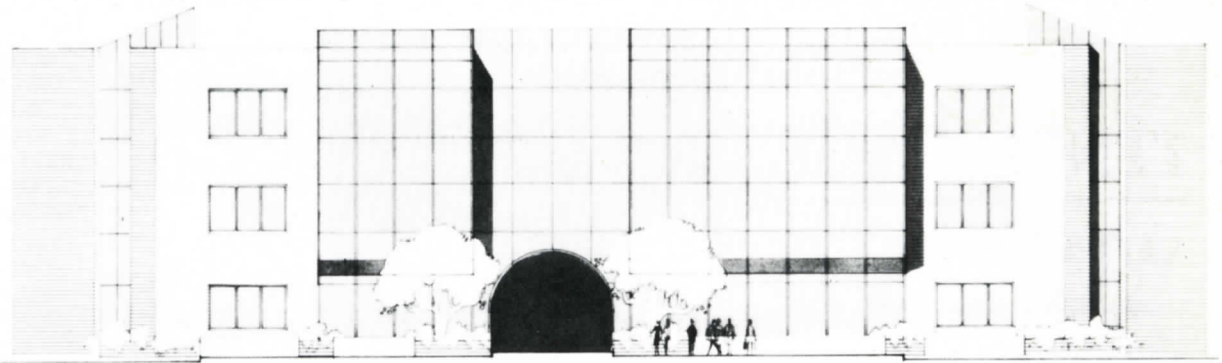
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THE LENS

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Proposed new site is first-choice for ITN staff

The South elevation of ITN's proposed new home in Triton Square, behind the Euston Road, showing the entrance hall area.



Plans for a move to new headquarters in Triton Square are being studied by an ITN board sub-committee and, all being well, will go before the full ITN board for consideration in September.

If the proposal gets the green light from the board, and providing that planning permission is forthcoming from Camden Council, ITN could be operating from its new home by the summer of 1989.

Triton Square is in the area which, by a large margin, came top in popularity with the staff in the survey which was carried out a year ago.

£25 million

The cost of the project has been estimated at around £25 million. The new complex will comprise a basement, ground floor and two upper levels and will provide 190,000 square feet of space - approximately twice the total area currently available at ITN House and other ITN-occupied offices in the Wells Street area.

The proposed new location is about ten minutes walk from ITN's current headquarters and is just behind the Euston Road next door to Thames Television. It is owned by Euston Centre Properties PLC and a part of the site is currently occupied by an accountancy training centre. Warren Street and Great Portland Street underground stations are both within about 100 yards of the site.

Although Triton Square is in fact an island completely surrounded by roadway, plans incorporate a ground-level entrance hallway with main pedestrian access from Euston Road.

The new ITN House, which will feature external elevations of brick and glass, has been designed by Sidney Kaye, Firmin and Partnership who prepared their plans in close consultation with ITN.

SHAPING UP FOR THE BIG SWITCH?

● The challenge of Rockall wins a few bob for cameraman Richard Rose - Page Three

● Sam Hall feels the cold in his trek to the edge of civilisation while rescarching the Eskimos - Page Four

INSIDE

● The Good Life - Michael Brunson takes a tongue-in-cheek look at the excesses of diplomacy - Page Five

● Britain's best-known Great-grandmother - a look at the Queen Mother's 85th: Centre Pages

● How ITN's first "girl reporter" took a step backwards to find fame and fortune as a writer - Page Eight

再見
祝好運
前程似錦

Michelle heads back to Hong Kong



Getting departing news presenter Michelle Han to write a message in Chinese seemed like an excellent idea at the time.

But it fell down when we discovered that Michelle can't understand Chinese.

So a quick trip to the nearest Chinese restaurant, and a word with a puzzled waiter had to suffice.

For those who do not read

Chinese, the message reads "Goodbye, Good Luck and Best Wishes."

Whatever option she goes for when she is back in Hong Kong, Michelle is returning with a wealth of experience after "working with the best in the business".

News of her planned return to Hong Kong has stirred newspaper speculation there about her next move and Michelle will be exploring a number of broadcasting offers.

One of the experiences of her Channel 4 News spell that she thinks of fondly is the reaction of people to her oriental face and English accent:

"If I were to have read the news from behind a wall then nobody would have guessed that I wasn't English," she said. "But a lot of people could not understand this apparent conflict. I think that a section of the public believe that you talk with your face."

She admits that some of the quainter English surnames and place names have troubled her. "The one that springs to mind is Mr Norman St John Stevas, which I pronounced as it's read."

The professionalism of her fellow Channel 4 News presenters has left its mark, she says. "Each has his own style and approach and I think that the blend is excellent for the audience we have for this programme."

Her opinion of news presentation in the UK is higher than that of the USA, where she has lived and worked. "Over there they are into very heavy hype and drama, which may be all right for an American audience. Here in Britain, with ITN, there is a bright but level-headed approach that hits the right note."

ITN'S SPACE WINNERS SIGN ON FOR 1986 BLAST-OFF



A 16-page document signed by Frank Miles (for ITN) and Brian Stockwell (for Ashford School) last month detailed to NASA precise conditions needed when the ITN Experiment in Space flies in a Space Shuttle next year.

For instance, it asks for a flight when the Shuttle can remain absolutely passive for a crucial 70-minutes during the running of one of the two experiments in the ITN container. It asks, too, that the Shuttle should be "earth pointing" at the time and details when switches need to be operated by an astronaut.

The document, known as the

'PAR' - in space jargon that's Payload Accommodations Requirements - was signed at Ashford School in Kent on Founders' Day (July 6) before an audience of parents, teachers and pupils. The four girls who won the competition, Lara Jukes, Sarah Brice, Sheena McLaggan and Amy Brown, were there. So, too, was an Ashford 'old-girl', Pamela Armstrong.

On display in the laboratory was a life-size replica of the experiment, made up from cardboard cutouts. It showed where cameras will be placed to take hundreds of time-lapse pictures of the

experiments.

Ashford School are also getting massive help from British Aerospace and also from Kent University who have started "bending metal" for them, already, and making electronic circuits. May and Baker are providing the chemicals, and advice. A local camera dealer is offering the cameras.

And now NASA have invited Brian Stockwell, Ashford School's Head of Science, to present a paper on the ITN Experiment in Space at a special seminar in the States in October.

Recent Appointments



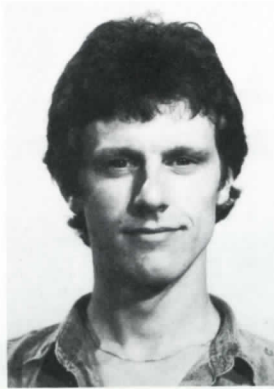
SALLY BALL

SALLY BALL joins the Personnel team as Secretary to the Staff Controller, Derek Walker.

CAROLINE BLOOMFIELD and FIONA have been appointed Assignment Assistants.

The outside crew strength has been boosted by the appointment of four new Film/ENG Sound Recordists, JOHN BOYCE, TOM BROWN, EUGENE CAMPBELL and MARTIN PALMER.

MICHAEL GEARY joins ITN as an Electrician.



JOHN BOYCE

ADELE SUTCLIFFE joins the News Information team as a Stills Librarian and NICHOLAS WALL recently joined the staff as an Accounts Clerk, after working with Barclays Bank International and The Bank of England.

CAROL McSTEIN joined the telephonists as a Senior Switchboard Operator last month.

RUSSELL FISHER joins ITN as a Vaults Labourer after spells as a Theatre lighting technician.



CAROL McSTEIN



**Brent Sadler looks
back at a piece of
rock and a man who
squatted for Britain!**

The reward for two weeks abysmal living, incessant seasickness and the wrath of the more serious minded for spending big sums on a nutty adventure was quite simply - **Rock-all!**

Not that ITNs exclusive club of sea-dogs and rock scramblers were in any way dissatisfied with Rockall - the fact is we loved every rolling, pitching, stormy minute of it.

What began as Hancock's whim to follow this lunny (Tom McClean) to a lump of granite in a wilderness of open sea ended in triumph. Firstly for beer over mineral water and secondly for the feminists who've always asked: "Why shouldn't women be sound-recorderists?"

Oh! and the story wasn't bad either!

Natural choice

Let me explain. For the macho-minded amongst us they'll understand why Sebastian ("I only run twenty miles a day before breakfast") Rich felt he was a natural choice for climbing Rockall.

On the other hand Richard ("I never run twenty miles and I do like a drink") Rose, newly-appointed cameraman had a point to prove too.

Facilities got wind of this tussle and bets were placed that Rose would not even try an ascent let alone succeed in climbing the rock.

At the same time as the ascent was being planned assignments were being nudged by the anti-feminist lobby to re-consider sending a newly-appointed sound person, Janice Shorten on this risky adventure.

Dates changed

Consider also the luckless John ("I'm a man I should climb rocks") Sharman who forked out £300 pounds from his own pocket to change his holiday dates so that he could do the job, only to find out later that the ascent dates were changed and he was stuck with his holiday.

And he lost £120 at seven card stud on the first trip - (never mind John - life begins at forty!)

By the time Vision (the trawler) had set sail again (locals in the Outer Hebrides called the old tub Double Vision because the crew drank so much) questions were being asked. "Who owns Rockall? The Irish? The Norwegians? The British? Or ITN?"

CLIMBING TO CONQUER AN EDITOR'S WHIM!



On the rocks! Brent Sadler and the ITN crew with patriot Tom McClean as he claim's Rockall for Britain. Before embarking on the job, the team had to undergo an intensive training course.

The Editor had already asked at one meeting: "Is it true that Rockall has Hancock's name written through it?"

By the time we came to learning how to climb a sheer rock face on Loch Ness to simulate Rockall we had settled into a team. Mind you Loch Ness and that other great ITN expedition - "Find the Monster" - conjured up some bad memories - Nessie wasn't spotted - could this

new mission end in failure?

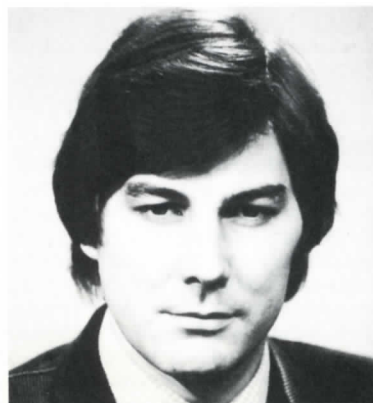
At this stage Ms Shorten proved her point. After Messrs Sadler, Rose and Rich had accomplished the necessary climbing skills our sound person piped in that she wanted to try. She abseiled down a 70' crag, made a safe landing and declared - "There I could have climber Rockall".

However, she did later find use for a multi-coloured nylon harness

strap. "It makes a grand Alice band," she said.

We all proved a point, Richard Rose climbed the rock and won his bets, Sebastian Rich made it too and Janice Shorten might have, but didn't.

Like Moonrock we brought our Rockalite chunks back to the mainland. They'll look fine mounted - and eventually ITN got it's money's worth. Rock-all!



... to see ourselves as others see us?

Reporter Tim Ewart recently had the misfortune to be involved in a minor traffic accident, reported to the police by the driver of the other car.

In his statement he described Ewart (36) as: 'aged 23-25, fair complexion, with close cropped hair and a moustache.'

Said Ewart: "I'm flattered to have 13 years lopped off my age, but this really makes you realise how inaccurate eye witness descriptions can be. The other driver and myself had a reasonably prolonged exchange of views... so it wasn't based on a fleeting glimpse of me."



OUTSIDE - Cold, but smiling?



INSIDE - all the home comforts of an igloo.

Reporter Sam Hall returned recently from his expedition to the Canadian Arctic, after travelling from Resolute Bay to Ellesmere Island - a distance of 629 miles - by dog team.

The journey took him 28 days. After three days recovering at Grisebjord, which, with a population of only 90 people, is the most northerly civilian community in the world, he then travelled the return journey in six days - by skidoo, a kind of tracked motorbike on skis.

"It was the most physically demanding thing I've ever done," says Hall, who was gathering material for his book "The Fourth World", to be published by The Bodley Head (and Alfred Knopf in America) next year.

"I wanted to find out how the Inuit (Eskimos) lived 50 years ago, before the High Arctic was opened by the American and Canadians," Hall explains. "With only two Inuit guides for company, I learned how to drive a dog team, hunt and flense a seal, and build an igloo in just over an hour. Not a very stable igloo, but adequate," he adds wryly.

When he started out the temperature was minus 42 degrees Centigrade.

"That's cold," Hall says, "and if there's a wind, dangerous. The worst part was getting dressed, which could take the best part of an hour because of the heavy clothing."

"This consisted of cotton underwear covered with long thermal underwear, over which I wore a thick quilted jacket and trousers. Those were the underclothes. On top of that I wore a heavy parka and down-filled trousers. For footwear I had cotton socks, thermal socks, thick underboots with triple layers of sheepskin, three protective insoles and thick rubber boots. Each boot weighed five pounds."

Every movement demanded ten times as much energy as normal. Apart from seal meat, Hall had a specially prepared daily ration of high calorie food. "For example, I was eating six or seven Mars Bars, each containing 750 calories, every day. That was in addition to my normal rations. Yet, when I weighed myself when I got back, I'd actually lost one pound."

Travelling through rough ice, with hummocks up to 30 feet high, was the most difficult part of the journey. "It was like driving through a jumble of gaint boiled sweets. You'd Climb to the top of one hummock and all you could see were miles and miles more of them. In fact, we'd strayed into an area of rough ice several hun-

dred miles long and 50 miles wide on the east side of the Wellington Channel.

"At that stage, we were making only three miles a day, and for five days we were 'grounded' in a 'white-out', (an arctic phenomenon during which thick cloud reflects the white ice, diffusing the horizon so that there is no depth of field.) You can't tell whether something is a mile in front of you or just a couple of yards. It's like being suspended in a bottle of milk."

The frustration was offset by the fine days, when they covered up to 40 miles a day, the sledge runners hissing on the ice and snow whirling behind them.

As they progressed, the temperatures warmed up - to about minus 20 degrees. "But on a fine day, you forget the cold," Hall explains. "The Arctic is exceptionally beautiful, and it's an incredible feeling when you can see nothing but ice in every direction - and know that if there are any problems, it's up to YOU because there's no corner store; you are hundreds of miles from the nearest human being, and if you miss

Ellesmere - its only 485 miles to the geographic North Pole."

In fact, during his acclimatisation period, Hall flew to the Magnetic North Pole, the point where all the world's magnetic forces meet and where a free-standing compass points directly **DOWNWARDS!** There, not forgetting ITN, he fashioned a flag out of an old T-shirt to mark the occasion.

"I know now that the geographic pole is a realistic possibility," Hall says. "The secret is meticulous planning, enough money to organise frequent re-supply flights from base camp - and dogs, but to ensure the greatest possibility of success, you need about £200,000, so tell David Nicholas to expect the worst!"

Summing up, Hall says: "There were a few rough moments, including one during the return journey when my skidoo slid down a crack in the ice. I had a glimpse of open sea at the bottom of it and jumped... but the incredible thing was that I travelled almost as far on my first day back at ITN as I did in six weeks in the Arctic!"

JOURNEY TO THE EDGE OF THE WORLD - AT 42° BELOW!

Following world leaders is no job for a lightweight

No more questions - his Lordship fancies a drink!

Although it's my job to watch his every movement, I cannot in all honesty number Sir Geoffrey Howe among my closest friends.

However, the Foreign Secretary and I do have two things, or more accurately, two problems in common. Both of us, as we have followed our chosen professions have grown somewhat larger than we were, and both of us have trouble with teleprompters.

I ceased to love the teleprompter long ago. Quite specifically, on that day when I couldn't read it properly, reached for the wrong script instead, with the result that the News at 5.45 finished well over a minute early. No matter; at least the public was soon spared further agonies, especially after a television critic in Blackpool, reporting on my performance, headlined his review: "Here is the News with and owl-like stare".

But what of poor Sir Geoffrey? He, too, has now acquired a teleprompter, and the stare to go with it, with which the better to serve his country.

Miniscule

Unfortunately, because his country is rather poor at the moment, he's been provided with the special-offer version, a rather horrid little thing with one miniscule screen, and driven by himself with a trigger control. (*Only the Prime Minister it seems, qualifies for the full scale, two-screen, operator-driven, GT model, which now precedes her to every major gathering of her fans.*)

Sir Geoffrey, who tends to attract the fans in smaller numbers, is therefore forced to struggle on with the economy version, peering ever more fixedly at his single, and alarmingly small, pane of glass. He has my sympathy.

Bathroom

He also has my understanding if he no longer decides he can risk the bathroom scales of a morning. The paths we sometimes tread together have brought a new meaning to the phrase "the diplomatic round". I sometimes wish that there was some other way of cementing good rela-

tions which did not involve such a heavy intake of calories, but not for long. I am the first to admit that I cannot see Diet Pepsi and Ryvita taking over from champagne and canapes as the stuff of international good-will.

Of course, certain countries are an object lesson in diplomatic abstinence. Mr. Gorbachev has banned hard liquor from Russian diplomatic receptions - which may be a cruel, but effective, way of reducing the vast numbers of freeloaders. Diplomacy continues despite the complete ban on alcohol in many, though not all, Moslem

countries; one of my happiest memories is of six be-robed sheikhs propping up the bar of a hotel in Oman, downing pints of Watney's Red Barrel.

You are no doubt thinking by now that it surely does visiting diplomatic hacks no harm at all to have the odd day off the booze in Riyadh or Rawalpindi. All I can say is that the habit hasn't caught on. I shall not easily forget a flight from Turkey to Pakistan, when we drank the back-end of the Foreign Secretary's VC-10 dry, not, of course, helped in our behaviour by those famed RAF stewards to whom

a treble is the normal unit of delivery. They excelled themselves, I might add, by sending out for relief supplies to Her Britannic Majesty's embassy for the onward leg.

Not that Foreign Secretaries themselves are entirely without sin in this matter. Lord Carrington, who was much given to stage whispers,

Conference

once used his prowess to devastating effect. Standing at the back of a crowded, and very late-night press conference in Luxembourg, his looks turned blacker by the second, as Mrs. Thatcher went deeper and deeper into the problems of the Common Market budget.

Finally, the Foreign Secretary could contain himself no longer, "Stop asking questions, damn you," he hissed at several newsmen nearby. "Can't you see I'm dying for a bloody drink?" The thought spread like a bush-fire and the conference was over in minutes!



Michael Brunson lifts his glass in a lighthearted toast to the calorific lifestyle of international diplomacy



THATCHER
- G.T. Modd



HOWE
- Economy version



CARRINGTON
- Applied the brake

Terrorvision airing at Edinburgh

The problems facing television journalists as more and more governments are increasing restrictions on allowing access to war zones was the subject of lively session at the Edinburgh International Television Festival last week.

Television companies argue that such pressure, as recently witnessed in Lebanon, South Africa,

Poland and India, is making the job of today's television reporter more difficult - and more dangerous.

"Terrorvision - Manipulating the News" was the apt title for the session in which many leading T.V. journalists and executives - including ITN's Stewart Purvis - participated.

Among issues discussed were the Beirut manipulation when Amal gunmen achieved widespread publicity for their cause, the restrictions imposed by the South African Government following the recent State of Emergency, and a British White Paper which would restrict coverage of issues deemed to concern military matters.



Just a few of th



1923: On honeymoon in Polesden Lacey, near Dorking in Surrey.

The Queen Mother gave her approval to make it, millions of viewers at home and overseas applauded it, and the critics praised it.

In short, it was probably the most popular "special" ever made by ITN for the ITV network.

The 60-minute documentary about the nation's best-loved great-grandmother was exactly what the title suggested: "The Queen Mother at 85: A Birthday Portrait."

It provided a unique insight into the startling energy and enthusiasm of a woman in her eighties, and coloured it with many delightful informal moments.

Throughout the past 12 months, ITN cameras have been compiling material from her public events, private visits, and even informal discussions with friends and members of her staff to present the most comprehensive programme ever made on the Queen Mother in her eighties.

The programme has proved to be a masterpiece of content selection and editing.

Even before the Queen Mother left for her Canadian tour, there were something in the region of 27 hours of new and recent material to view..... and the production team had barely a week

On location at Sandringham

to evaluate the pictures from Canada and wrap up the programme before the all-important press previews.

Even then, there was more location footage to be shot on location at Sandringham on the morning of the Queen Mother's birthday, to be included in the

All this - plus an ITN book

ITN is venturing into the world of coffee table book publishing with "The ITN Book of the Queen Mother".

The £5.95 volume has been produced in association with Michael O'Mara Books Limited and is available in shops from Monday, August 5.

Written by Alastair Burnet, the book is a publishing "first" because many of the pictures in it have been reproduced by a special "image enhancing" process which converts TV pictures into stills for printing.

Director of Development at ITN, Bill Hodgson, has been

working with consultant-producer Bob Hunter and Michael O'Mara.

Bill said this week: "There are other Queen Mother books on the market but ours has the major advantage of a text by Alastair plus very recent pictures lifted from the ITN special by Stewart Purvis."

The special which was produced for transmission on her birthday, August 4, provided a fund of good material for this revolutionary process.

Specialists at the BPCC subsidiary Video Graphics in Great Marlborough Street provided the

service which converted the video pictures into lavish colour stills that make up much of the 92-page publication.

About 150 pictures are featured in the book, of which 80 are colour shots. Designed by Martin Bristow, it traces the life of the Queen Mother from childhood through the Abdication drama and into the stability of post-war Britain and her daughter's year as monarch.

FOOTNOTE: The book is available to ITN Staff at a special discount price of £3 from David Clark in ITN Stores.

the roles she has played in 85 glorious years.



1936: The young mother arrives at Olympia with daughters Elizabeth and Margaret.



1937: Coronation Day when she became Queen Elizabeth.



1960: The proud grandmother with Charles, Anne and baby Andrew.

85

- And it's praise
all the way for
ITN's birthday
programme on
the Queen Mum

opening sequence.

Presented by Anthony Carthew, ITN's court correspondent, the special programme comprised much new footage never before seen on television, including scenes of the Queen Mother chatting informally with members of her household and staff at the Castle of Mey on the Northern coast of her beloved Scotland. These conversations revealed her to be an expert on the breeding of Aberdeen Angus cattle and showed that she takes a lively interest in sheep, game and fishing.

The Queen Mother's love of the turf (particularly steeplechasing) is well-known

and the ITN cameras captured her reactions to both success and defeat at Sandown Park. She takes an avid interest too, in the Royal Stud, where she personally selects which of her stallions

Her energetic lifestyle

and mares will breed together. But most of all, this birthday tribute showed the remarkable energy which enables her, in her eighties, to fulfill her official engagements, hobbies and other interests with such enthusiasm. Carthew, who has been reporting on Royalty for almost a

decade, is full of admiration for the way in which she carries out these commitments:

"Of all members of the Royal Family, she is the most professional. She never puts a foot wrong and always knows exactly what to do in any given situation," he said. "She has known about the ITN film for a long time and she has been a joy to work with."



Anthony Carthew: After years of reporting on the Royal Family, he is still amazed at the remarkable zest for life shown by the Queen Mother.

The best-seller of the sixties which was born in the newsroom!

When actor-singer Paul Robeson complained about questions asked during an ITN interview, he couldn't have dreamt that it would trigger off a chain of events which would lead to the publishing of a best-selling novel and a blockbuster film.

The year was 1957 and Robeson - famous for "Ole Man River" and other negro songs of the South - had become a victim of the MacCarthy anti-Communist witchhunt after a visit to Moscow.

Despite the "no political questions" dictum issued through Robeson's P.R. man, ITN editor Geoffrey Cox insisted that his reporter came back with political answers.

The questions were asked, stuttering answers were given and, according to the reporter, the P.R. man "was twitching like a junkie".

A heavy complaint was lodged and the reporter was confined to barracks with a scriptwriting brief, got extremely bored and proceeded to write a first novel "on ITN paper, with an ITN typewriter in ITN time".

The reporter's name was Lynne Reid Banks and the book became an explosive best-seller which is still in print almost 25 years after its original publication date. It is, of course, *The L-Shaped Room*.

Lynne is philosophical about being taken off the road. "The Robeson incident was probably part of it, but I think they were ready for a new face anyway".

Those early scriptwriting days were remarkably miserable for Lynne. She had already accepted failure in her first chosen career after trying to establish herself as an

Newsroom critics

actress for five years. Now she felt she was sinking on her second career.

"To an exhibitionist like me, it was the worst thing that could have happened. I felt demoted and pushed into the background. It was worse than the sack".

So she immersed herself in writing her first novel, trying hard to ignore the merciless jibes from critics-in-chief Reggie Bosanquet and Robin Day who would read aloud the purple passages in exaggerated melodramatic tones for the entertainment of their newsroom colleagues.

"They all took the mickey. I was furious but I had the laugh on them in the end," she said.

She also had the laugh on a leading publishing house when



Lynne - As she is today

Longman's turned down the completed manuscript in the Summer of 1959. It was then offered to Chatto and Windus who snapped it up and Lynne also pocketed £21,000 for the film rights.

On screen, *The L-Shaped Room* was greeted with critical acclaim when it appeared in 1960 and duly took its place alongside *Look Back In Anger* and *Room At The Top* as one of the "slice of life" pacesetters of the period.



Lynne - In her ITN days

With the success of her second novel *An End To Running*, Lynne Reid Banks felt financially independent - but still more than a little frustrated.

She had already met the man she was later to marry - Israeli sculptor Chaim Stephenson. Rather surprisingly, in 1962 she decided to turn her back on the rewards and trappings normally associated with a successful young author, and opted for life in a Kibbutz for the next nine years.

Accelerated Career

One war, two books and three children later, she returned to London and accelerated her writing career, but her Israeli experience clearly had a lasting affect upon her future life. But although she lived among the Jews for many years she has little regard for their religious beliefs. Or any religious beliefs, in fact.

"I am an atheist, but I have a great interest in Jewish history and their contribution to mankind."

She is an avid supporter of the Government-backed teaching course called "To Live Together" which aims at breaking the barriers between the Jews and the Arab minority living in Israel

It was to bang the drum for the cause that she recently came into the studios to face an ITN camera for

"Being taken off
the road was
the worst thing
that could have
happened. It
was worse than
getting the sack."

the first time in 23 years while recording a "Comment" piece for Channel 4.

"Hopefully, the course will prepare teachers to help break down the barriers between the two races and help them relate to each other without living separate lives full of hostility and suspicion," she said.

It's party time for the founders

Founder members who joined the company before the first day's transmission on 22nd September 1955 will be getting together next month for a reunion to celebrate ITN's 30th birthday.

The celebrations will be held at the Berners Hotel on Friday, 13th September the elite band of founders still working with ITN - there are 15 of them - will be joined by many of their former colleagues and management members.

Television tells a familiar story of a family at war —

A BROTHER REMEMBERS LETTERS AND LAUGHTER...

On April 3, 1943, four days after hearing that his bomber pilot brother Bob was missing in action, Bill Hodgson wrote a letter of encouragement to his sister Joan.

"I am beginning to think that he has every chance of being a prisoner or even an escapee," he wrote, fanning the faint hope that the 22-year-old flier had not perished.

Recently, 42 years after the International Red Cross wrote to confirm his death, Bill, ITN's Director of Development, took part in a unique-format TV drama-documentary that paid tribute to Bob and all those of Bomber Command.

In the Thames Television programme "Letters From a Bomber Pilot", the story of Bob Hodgson's RAF career was detailed in a special drama combining portrayal by actors, original war film and the voices of his family and friends.

Bill's on-screen contribution was an appearance in the cockpit of an RAF Wellington now on exhibition at the RAF Museum at Hendon.



BILL HODGSON
Fighter pilot

Bill, who served as a fighter pilot during the war, described his brother's reaction when asked how he felt about the bombing of towns where women and children were to be inevitable victims. "His reply was to say that when you are up there, trying to survive, you don't think about that aspect," said Bill this week when he spoke about his brother, his family and the making of the film.

"The programme was very successful, receiving high praise from all the critics," he said. "It was such a new, different approach to telling a story."

"The blend of documentary and drama was just right, and it managed to capture the man and the time superbly."

He added: "The idea for the drama emerged after a batch of letters were found in the bottom of my mother's wardrobe shortly after her death in 1978."

"My sister and I, were sifting through her belongings. The letters, dated between 1940 and 1943, were correspondence between Bob, our mother and father and a number of relations and friends."

Bob volunteered as a pilot in 1941 and was reported missing following a raid on a munitions target at Bochum near Essen. "Letters From a Bomber Pilot" traced his progress from joining up at the RAF Recruitment Centre in Cardington. His training and operational duties were punctuated by regular correspondence that displayed his writing ability, his wit and sharp humour, often including little cartoons featuring squadron personalities.

When brother Bill was called up in 1942, Bob wrote: "I suppose you've been busy, with blondes,



The Hodgson family before the war.

Bill is easily recognisable with his shock of dark, wavy hair!

brunettes, cock-eyed corporals and dodging church parades."

In the book "Letters From a Bomber Pilot" published after the programme there is an account of a 1940 German bomber attack on London in which Bill was caught as he went to visit a friend. He heard the whine of a falling bomb, jumped off his bike and lay by a church wall for cover; nearby, where it fell, the bomb killed a young serviceman found by another Hodgson brother, Leslie.

There were eleven Hodgson children in all. Their father James, was a noted cameraman and film maker and served with the Royal Flying Corps during the First World War, when he helped develop aerial photography

techniques at Farnborough.

Between the wars he worked as cameraman, editor and director with British Screen News and March of Time, where he directed many films, including the wartime "Britain's RAF".

Another of his sons, David, a documentary film maker, wrote "Letters From a Bomber Pilot" and directed the film, working closely with Bill and brother Leslie.

And what would Bob think about being the subject of such an unusual tribute? "He certainly would have been interested technically, as he was aiming to become a cameraman and was working for Kays Film Laboratories before he joined up," said Bill.

Spotlight on the Security problem which is now so vital

THE TEAM WHO CAN'T AFFORD TO BE CAUGHT NAPPING!

"If they could plant bombs in the Grand Hotel" says George Cutts, head of security at ITN, "they could plant one here?"

It's not a criticism of security arrangements at ITN, it's just a recognition that we live in the age of the terrorist. In the course of any one year ITN House plays host to members of the royal family, top politicians, diplomats and celebrities - its no wonder George thinks of the building as a possible target.

"Mind you" he says reassuringly, "we've always thought the terrorists wouldn't hit the media. Because, after all, without us they wouldn't get any publicity!"

Legitimate target

George Cutts has been with ITN for 16 years. He lived through the security nightmare of the mid-seventies when the IRA considered any civilian outfit a legitimate target. Those were the days when you had to check people's bags as they came into the building and showing your security pass was more than a bi-annual formality.

One thing George says he's learnt over the years is that you can't trust anyone. "They might be wearing a bowler hat and carrying a briefcase. But you mustn't think someone's important, just because they look important". He's even known a case of a man masquerading as a policeman. "It was the red socks that gave him away", he remembers.

Considering all the difficulties, there have been surprisingly few incidents at ITN. All the same no security system is foolproof

and there was the time when the Welsh Free Army got through the front door.

"They were planning to invade the studio when News at Ten was on the air", explained George, "then they were going to do a bit of flag waving". What happened to them? "They never got past the Green Room."

Of course on a day to day basis the work of security guards do is a lot more mundane - it's just a matter of dealing with the petty thefts that you can't avoid when a thousand people work together under the one roof. And the problem's exacerbated at ITN



because it's so easy for thieves to walk in from the street and make off again before they've been spotted.

So what can we do to help? George urges everyone to be more careful. It's foolhardy to leave handbags and briefcases unat-

tended in an empty newsroom. But more important, everyone ought to keep an eye out for strangers on their floor. If you do see someone you don't recognise, he could be a thief. Or he could also be something more sinister!

Just the thing for Royal Ascot...



The glamour of Royal Ascot, with its accent on style and fashion, is legendary. It's where people go to see, and to be seen, and rates among the most popular events in the Royal racing calendar. It is therefore an annual "must" for ITN news bulletins and court correspondent Anthony Carthew.

He, of course, is an old hand in the stride of his well-cut morning suit. For the ENG crew, however, it was all a bit different. Sebastian Rich is probably more used to the rattle of gunfire and the echo of bombs in Beirut than the genteel aura of the Royal enclosure. Janice Shorten, ITN's first female sound recordist, was also making her Ascot debut but inevitably found that sound recording equipment and Ascot dresses aren't really compatible!

WHAT A LOT OF BALLS AS ITN TEAM HEADS FOR A CRICKET RECORD



See it all, hear it all and tell it all.... the three wise men of ITN's cricket coverage are Moyse, Seymour and Thompson.

Our cricket may not be quite up to England standard, but at least the pubs do business!

"Cricket, lovely cricket...." that's the song of the season for the specialist ITN sports team will be filming every ball bowled in the six Tests against Australia this summer.

The ENG crew - cameraman Derek Seymour and soundman Geoff Moyse - also covered the three one-day internationals and, providing the weather holds they will have created a new record for international cricket coverage by the end of the season. Never before has a single crew covered every moment of play during a tour embracing six Tests and three one-day games.

Assigned

They anticipate that, by the end of the final Test at The Oval, they will have recorded something in excess of 18,500 balls bowled between the two rival cricketing nations. Sports correspondent Jeremy Thompson has been assigned to cover all six Tests (probably to keep count!).

But that's not all for the pair who are now accepted as ITN's regular sports team - in between the third and fourth Tests they managed to squeeze in the British Open Golf Championships at Royal St. George's, Sandwich.

Which probably explains why, although a bit long in the tooth to play cricket, they tend to pick up the honours fairly regularly at ITN Golf Society meetings!

A double century from Andy Tilley... ten wickets from Nick Pollard.

You're right... nothing like that has happened this season for the ITN/BBC Cricket eleven - (or ten or nine, depending on how many miscreants make themselves available.) But we've had a good season to date, winning as many as we've lost and, more importantly, prolonged each match until the pubs were open. It was never like this in Douglas Jardine's day!

The season started with a fine win over BBC Wireless News - who folded for 126 and were beaten with one wicket to spare in the last few overs, Malcolm Balen and Simon Cole were top-scorers. A wet Sunday at our new home ground - Bow Lane, Finchley - was to follow and a miserable collapse to 57 all out. But fine bowling and fielding meant that the expected defeat was by on-



ANDREW TILLEY
Unbeaten 50



NICK POLLARD
Preserving his average

ly three wickets - and the pubs were open when we finished.

Next came a fine win against Gentlemen of Hampstead - with a sparkling 43 from Neil Darbyshire. (Well, alright, he does write for the Standard but if Allan Lamb can play for England...) Good bowling too from Vic Price who emerged from his tape-room eyrie to play for the first time in years.

Two defeats - at Andover and Poulton - are easily glossed over but we weren't disgraced.

Then came another triumph, this time over Mere in Wiltshire. Such is life - entice a would-be player with a match in London and you get all sorts of excuses and no team at all. Tell him it's a 240 mile round trip and you end up with 12. Nick Pollard grabbed five wickets and Andy "Bodyline" Tilley hit an unbeaten 50. Since when he hasn't played purportedly because of work

and babies but in reality to preserve his average!

The win of the season so far came in the annual fixture against Jesus College High Table in Cambridge. Or in 5.45 parlance, "TV does the Dons." A huge (by our standards) 160 all out was aided by 32 from the number eleven, such is the depth of our talent. Then after a cream tea to curdle the lunch in hall - the Beeb's Clive Ferguson weighed in with five wickets - for victory by 30 runs.



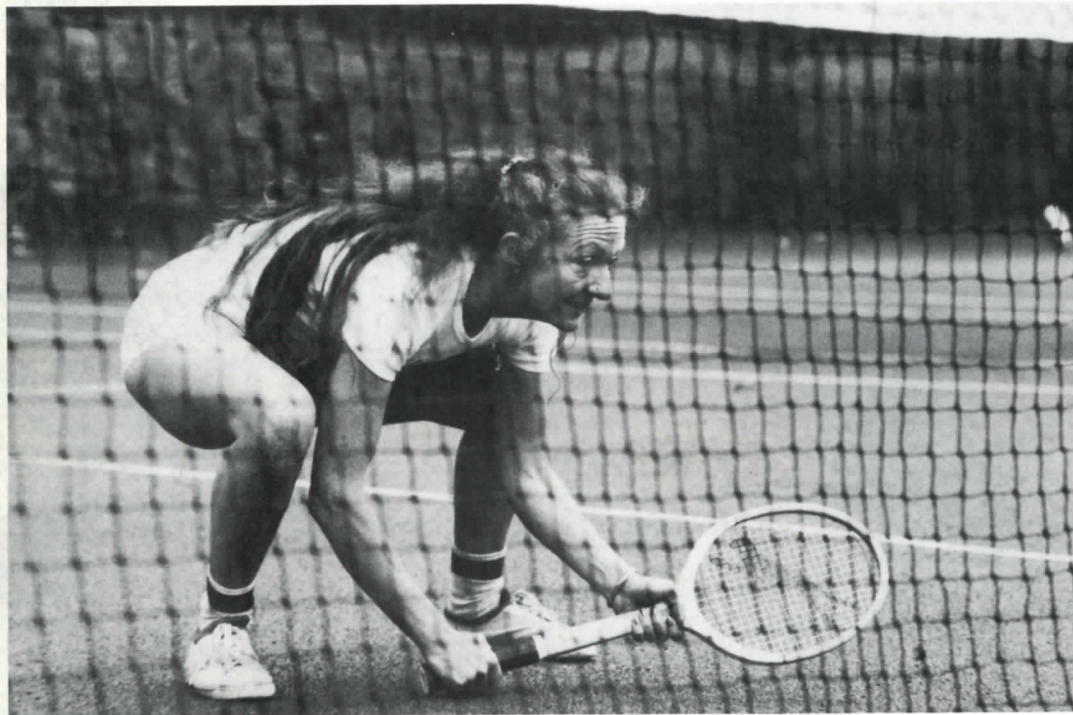
SIMON COLE
Flashing his bat

CORRESPONDENCE

I note from your Issue No. 14, the remarkable similarity between the company's new managers Messrs. Lancaster and Patterson. Has Paul Mathews perfected a "Cloning" method, or are they possibly related?

Michael Williams.

GARNER POWER THWARTS THOMSON'S LOBS



A study in grit, determination and tenacity.... Mary Lambe adopts an aggressive, if unorthodox, stance during the ITN tennis tournament. She lost the final but won the party honours afterwards!

Despite dreadful weather the third Annual ITN Tennis Tournament went ahead on Friday 21st June in Kensington. Nine competitors put the last minute drop outs to shame and battled bravely against their opponents and the elements.

The finals took place in driving wind and rain and Nigel Thomson's lobs were not weapon enough against the power of Mike Garner, who won the Men's title 6-2.

Last year's Champion, Amanda Boden, showed her strength and her opponent's weakness, by coming back from 4-0 down to take the Women's title and beat Mary Lambe 7-5.

Party time

Later, players retreated to the shelter of the Lambe home to restore the circulation to their frozen parts! Food and drink were eagerly seized and the afternoon (and the thunder) rolled gently by...

Thanks to the ITN Club for sponsoring the event and to the competitors for participating.

Footnote: Would Mike Inglis care to reclaim his gear (?) from Mary's dining room?

IT'S THE OLD ONE-TWO AGAIN

STOUT PROMISE KEPT BY MIKE



Jim Mitchell

The picturesque course at Cuddington, Banstead, was the venue for the most recent ITN Golf Society meeting, sponsored by Jack Daniel's Whiskey..... and again it proved a triumphant day for two members who are no strangers to collecting glittering prizes.

The Carris Trophy, for golfers with handicaps up to 20, went to in-form Peter Wicking who scored 42, less the penalty points.

The Angora Cup, for rabbits with handicaps of 21 and over, went to Jim Mitchell with 35 points, thanks to some sensational putting.

The ladies prize, awarded just for being there, rather than her total of 33 points, went to Rachel Stabb.



Peter Wicking

If you ask Mike Batchelor, he will tell you that a natural break on the North Berwick West Course is in quite definitely Good For You.

For non-golfers within ITN, it must be explained that the Natural Break is an annual thrash for golfing enthusiasts from all ITV companies. Traditionally, the ITN entry is high on bonhomie and sponsor's tastings, and low on prizes.

This year, however, it was different. Mike had always fancied winning the Guinness Trophy and from the moment he made the rash promise "This year we're gonna win the bloody thing", there seemed no real doubt. At least, not in his mind.

All-weather golfers

Despite the wild, wet and windy weather, Mike scorched round the course in a nett 66, with partner Frank Duesbury clocking up 70 to give them a combined winning score of 136.

The bespectacled genius came third in the both the RCA and HTV prize which was won by Frank Duesbury. George Thomson took the G&T Greenhall prize and came third in the Thomson CSP competition.



Mike Batchelor