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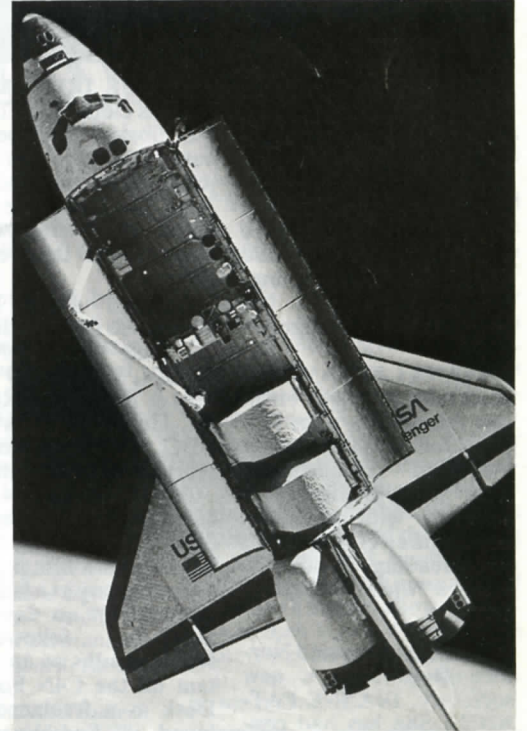
THE LENS

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News

May 1984 No. 9

National competition to find an experiment for the Shuttle

LIFT-OFF FOR THE STUDENT BOFFINS



Schoolchildren throughout Britain are to have the opportunity of designing an experiment to fly in space aboard the U.S. Space Shuttle.

ITN, in association with NASA and with one of Europe's leading space consultants, Space Services International (SSI), have booked a 'Getaway Special' aboard the Space Shuttle to be launched towards the end of next year.

ITN will hold a nationwide competition to choose the experiment that will be carried in the space shuttle's cargo bay. The competition is open to all secondary school students and apprentices.

Frank Miles, head of ITN's Space Unit, in explaining the competition said: "We want to encourage British youth to 'think space' - to help them recognise both the challenge and the potential that space offers their future. The type of experiment is up to them. We will be looking for one that takes into consideration the unique environment that space offers - weightlessness and a vacuum."

The simpler the project the greater its chances, as it must be small and simple enough to fit into a self contained



cylinder no larger than 19.75 ins in diameter and 14.3 ins in length.

The competition has also won plaudits from Cdr. Peter Longhurst, the man who is widely tipped to be-

come Britain's first astronaut next year. "I must congratulate both ITN and SSI on their ingenuity," he said. "I support any move which brings young people closer to understanding the opportunities and effects of space travel. After all, it will be playing a major role in their future."



Talking space - Cdr. Peter Longhurst R.N. with Frank Miles.

The ITN-SSI competition will be judged by a panel of experts in the space sciences.

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People in the News



WENDY ALBINSON, 25, is Mike Morris's new secretary. Previously she was secretary to Dickie Jeeps in his capacity as Chairman of the Sports Council. Wendy still takes an interest in sport as she is keen on swimming, squash, keep fit . . . but she is a reluctant jogger!

DIANA LATHAM, who celebrates her 20th birthday this month, joins ITN as a Junior Clerk in the Accounts Department. She was previously a secretary with a housing association. Her interests are reading, and the theatre "when I can afford it".

Derek Murray and Norman Rees have a new secretary, **DIANNE PATRICK**. She has had con-



siderable experience in television working at Granada TV for the programme controller and various producers for the last eight years.

Norman Rees has recently announced two new appointments to the Home News Desk.

STEVE CLARK becomes News Editor, a post he held at Central TV in Nottingham prior to joining ITN in April.

PETER WALLACE becomes Deputy News Editor with responsibility for forward planning. Peter, a News Editor at TV-am, replaces **VICKY KNIGHTON** who is taking over the Production Unit.



DENISE DOUIEB, 26, joins as clerk/typist in the film library on a permanent basis after doing the job as a freelance since last July. She has a great interest in literature/philosophy, the theatre and cinema.

Channel Four News have made some additions to their team. **NICK OWEN**, 37, joins as Business & Economics Reporter. He comes to us from BBC Television in the North East of England.

JO MAGNER, 34, is a secretary on the Foreign Desk. Previously she worked for a film production company as a facilities assistant for six days and hated it . . . followed by seven months as an assistant on the C4N Foreign Desk as a freelance and loved it. Somehow she finds time to do gardening, knitting, play tennis, shoot and watch opera.

ISABEL THOMAS, aged 31, is a secretary on the Home Desk. She comes to us from a film production company who made industrial/training films and videos. Before that Isabel was an exhibition/display assistant for Kodak. She swims, likes driving, music and photography.

PRU KEELY joins as Deputy Chief Sub.

NICKY PRESTON, 29, joins as secretary to Chris Long and Di Edwards-Jones. In 1982 he left England to travel in Asia and the Far East, returning last August to work for a computer consultancy.

Nicky was with Anglia

Tim kicks off with a hot one!

Most newcomers to ITN at least have the chance to ease themselves into the job and get the feel of the place. Not so **TIM SUMNER**, however. Tim's first



programme as a Studio Director was the News at One programme which included the widely-publicised outburst by the recently-elected member for Chesterfield, Tony Benn.

Tim, aged 30, joined ITN after 12 years with the BBC. He started in local radio (Brighton and London), later moving to Bush House as a studio manager. Then followed a spell as Current Affairs producer before switching to news programmes as a studio director at Television Centre.

Television for three years, working for the Promotions Department and Scenic Services Manager.

BOB WHITTINGTON, aged 33, comes to ITN as a writer from BBC Television Centre, prior to which he worked as a journalist with BBC Radio News. He enjoys horse-riding and also has something of a reputation as an expert in martial arts.



JOHN CLARE, 28, has joined as a writer. He was previously with TV-am as a news editor, and before that for two years he was a researcher/writer with Thames News after working for the News of the World as a reporter. John plays squash, and although he is keen on photography, he has won no prizes in the competitions he has entered, but he intends to keep trying!

DEREK TAYLOR has been appointed to the new position of Newsroom Manager following a spell as Middle East correspondent. His new role, which carries assistant Editor status, will involve him in the administration of all Independent Television News programmes on both ITV channels.

Taylor joined ITN in 1968 as an editorial trainee rising to the position of News Editor in 1973. He switched to reporting in 1975 and his many overseas assignments in recent years have included the Iran-Iraq war, the Italian earthquake disaster, and the interminable troubles in the Lebanon.

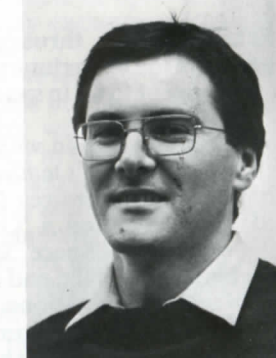
PAUL DUNNE, 28, joins Oracle from the Guardian where he spent three years as a sub-editor. He was previously with the Bristol Evening Post, and the Kent and Sussex Courier and his hobbies include cooking and malfunctioning at squash!



ALISON CORFIELD, 21, joined the Accounts Department as an accounts clerk in the cashiers department. She has previously worked for furniture manufacturers and an oil company. She enjoys most sports, particularly outdoor pursuits such as skiing, horse-riding and water-skiing, and has spent six months touring Australia.

JANE HICKEY, 20, has joined ITN as a Facilities Trainee. She is a trained computer operator and her interests include music, current affairs and travel.

Oracle has taken on two new journalists. **PAUL BRANNAN**, 29, was previously editor of a Prestel project called Club 403,



prior to which he was a sub-editor on the Birmingham Evening Mail and chief sub on the Redditch Indicator.

JON DOLAN, 25, was previously deputy chief sub at the Evening Post in Reading, and sports editor of the Wokingham Times. His interests are cricket, soccer and snooker.

A tribute to Lyndsay Hughes

Lyndsay Hughes, ITN's Deputy Shift Supervisor, Sound Operations, has died at the age of 38.

He came to Britain from New Zealand in 1965 and joined ITN as a sound technician in 1977. His record was im-

pressive and he advanced rapidly, from sound supervisor in 1978 to his last appointment which was made in June. Paul Mathews, General Manager, said: "Lyndsay was a key member of staff in the General Election Programme as

Sound Mixer and he did his job brilliantly. He will be sadly missed by all his friends and colleagues at ITN".

Lyndsay is survived by his parents, wife Pauline and three children, Christopher, 14, Kathleen, 5, and Lucy, 2.

New arrivals in brief . . . **TIM FRIEND**, journalist, **ROBIN HUMPHRIES**, graphic designer, **PETER STAUNTON**, sports writer, **DAVID TIDEY**, VTR engineer, **PETER WALLACE**, Deputy News Editor.



JUST LOOKING FOR A NEW ANGLE

All in a day's work . . . but the ITN crew who clambered 170 feet to the top of Nelson's Column last week needed nerves of steel and a strong stomach.

Lord Horatio Nelson, that doyen of British Naval tradition and pillar of convenience for thousands of pigeons, was about to undergo a spring clean.

The man charged with the responsibility of this regular task is steeplejack Reg Dosell. And the News Desk

felt that the only way to get a new angle on the story was to send reporter Paul Davies up with him. And where Davies went, cameraman Chris Squires had to follow . . .

The spring clean, which lasted ten days, commenced with the traditional removal of the mound of non-naval messages which adorned the hero of Trafalgar. Reg removed three hundredweight of it from the famous London landmark. Nelson, of course, turned a blind eye . . .

THE COMMISSION THAT LED UPITN TO A WORLD T.V. EXCLUSIVE

It started as a routine job. Within minutes it had blown up into a major international incident, and a young policewoman had been cut to the ground by machine gun fire, fatally wounded.

Now the siege of the Libyan Embassy is over . . . and diplomatic ties between Britain and Libya have been severed. But reverberations will long continue over a system which allows murderers to escape justice under the cloak of diplomatic immunity.

The BBC and Visnews have been barred from using coverage of the St. James's Square shooting pending an application by UPITN for a permanent injunction to be heard some time after May 22nd.

Visnews recorded the material as it was being fed by UPITN over Eurovision following the shooting on April 17th and then made it available to the BBC and other subscribers overseas.

UPITN was awarded a temporary injunction against BBC and Visnews the following day. UPITN maintains that the material is its copyright despite a request from Libyan Television to assign camera crews to the Libyan People's Bureau on the morning of the shooting.

When UPITN cameraman Richard Taylor left Foley Street on the morning of April 17th for a routine job in St. James's Square, he had not a clue that he was only minutes away from a world television exclusive. UPITN had been commissioned to film an anti-Gadafi rally outside the Peoples Bureau by Salem Najin, the London correspondent of the National Broadcasting Company of Libya. Two crews had been despatched with the simple brief "film anything that moves".

"There was no hint of trouble when we arrived," Taylor told Leonard Parkin on News at One less than three hours after the incident. "The police were in a good mood and the sun was shining. Then there was a burst of gunfire followed by a lot of confusion. It wasn't until after I saw

the W.P.C. go down and police officers suddenly produce firearms."

"Bullets had been sprayed into the crowd and there were screams of pain, but not much else."

Barely minutes after the shooting, an ITN crew was on the spot, and London-based representatives from the world's media were heading for this exclusive area of London.

They kept a constant vigil for ten days, when the Libyans finally left the building, and remained for a further 48 hours while police combed the building for weapons and booby-traps. Only then, were the occupants of St. James's Square allowed to return to their homes and offices to resume their lives as normal.

If, indeed, anything will ever be normal again.

Good news — 1

Latest research figures show Oracle's audience racing ahead.

There are now 1.6 million sets capable of receiving the teletext service and the number of viewers is put at 5.5 million.

The average viewer watches Oracle for about 20 minutes each day with the news and sports services from ITN among the most popular sections along with TV programme information and weather reports.

Good news — 2

ITN has emerged as clear winner in the battle of the budget ratings.

Figures issued by the Broadcasters Audience Research Ratings (BARB) show that the Independent Television News programme: 'Budget '84' won 51.7 per cent of the total budget audience, a margin of 3.4 per cent over the BBC's coverage of Chancellor Nigel Lawson's first economic package.



Now it's the good life for 'Tom of the Bailey'

After a career spanning more than 20 years in television, one of ITN's best-known "old boys" has opted for a sharply contrasting lifestyle in a sleepy corner of County Wicklow, on the Eastern coast of his beloved Southern Ireland a thousand light years away from the everyday pressures of television news.

Home is a converted crossing keeper's cottage by a disused railway line in the tiny village of Glenealy, where the reception is so poor that he doesn't even own a television set.

Such is the chosen lot of the venerable Tom St John Barry, a former radio actor turned crime correspondent who, almost single-handed, turned court reporting into an art form of its own.

So what does he do with himself without even the temporary diversion of the box?

"Bugger all, old boy," he intoned in the same Old Bailey style, "and thoroughly enjoying every moment of it." Old habits die hard, and one wasn't sure whether he was quoting an unlikely alibi offered by the defence counsel, or entering a plea for clemency.

Court personality

For nearly two decades, Tom St John Barry was television's best-known and most authoritative crime correspondent. Few who followed his unique style of court reporting from the early 1960s until his retirement in 1976, will forget the impact he made by injecting even the most protracted and tedious court proceedings with an element of drama and realism which, hitherto, had been strictly taboo.

If it is possible for a journalist to attain personality status by court reporting, then the accolade was certainly earned by Barry during the 'sixties when two lengthy trials attracted the ceaseless attention of the public — although for widely differing reasons.

It was exactly 20 years ago that sentences were passed on the Great Train Robbers who, in the summer of 1963, had stopped a London-bound mail train in the heart of Buckinghamshire countryside and relieved it of more than £2 million.

The simplicity, magnitude and above all, audacity, of the crime captured the

public imagination, and many were appalled by what they considered to be unnecessarily severe sentences.

It is a view which Tom St John Barry does not share. Instead, he feels that the jail terms were a fair reflection of their treatment of train driver Mills, a key prosecution witness.

"They beat up an old man very severely," he said. "Before the incident, Mills was one of the proudest and most respected drivers at Crewe. There wasn't a fireman or a trainee who didn't hold him in awe. He was never the same again."

Tight deadlines

Three years later, Ian Brady and Myra Hindley were on trial for the Moors murders — and Tom again loomed large in the television headlines. The trial was held in Chester — a location not recalled with relish by ITN's man-on-the-spot.

"The day's proceedings would finish at about 4.30 p.m. allowing most of the press contingent to go back to their hotels for a drink," he said. "But not me — I would have to sit in the back of a car typing the story on my knee while the driver went hell-for-leather to the Granada studios in Manchester."

"I had to do a piece down the line for the six o'clock bulletin and then a re-think for the 9.45." (News at Ten was still some months away.)

Tom came into the news business almost by accident. Before and during the war he was an actor, appearing mostly at the Gate Theatre in Dublin.

Today, ITN's former crime correspondent doesn't even have a television set!

He had also worked with Radio Eire and when he was offered the chance of joining the BBC Repertory Company after the war, he jumped at it.

He mixed this with some narration and commentating and came to ITN in 1955. But he is swift to point out that he wasn't one of the elite corps of founder members.

"I was approached by Aidan Crawley before ITN went on the air," he said, "they felt they needed 'a quality voice' and offered me a job writing scripts and doing voice-overs. I agreed to join them but was unable to do so immediately because I had an existing contract with the BBC. Consequently, I wasn't on board for Day One."

Roving Reports

Before making his name as a crime correspondent, he worked frequently on the Roving Report series and claims he has spent more time loitering with intent around the Berlin Wall than anyone else in television news. He also covered the turmoil in Algiers and Cuba in the early 'sixties, although it was the Indo-China confrontation which has proved to be a lasting enigma.

"I don't know what the hell stopped the Chinese," he said. "It certainly wasn't the Indian army. As far as I could see, they weren't even there!"

But perhaps most of all, Tom relishes the memories of the club atmosphere which pervaded ITN in the early days.

• Continued on next page

Lebanon coverage wins second award



"It was a team effort . . ." Norman Rees accepts the BAFTA Award on behalf of ITN while M.C. Michael Aspel looks on.

ITN's coverage of the war in Lebanon was honoured for the second time in a month when Norman Rees collected the coveted BAFTA award for Best Actuality Coverage of 1983.

Six weeks earlier, reporter David Smith and his camera crew

collected the Royal Television Society's award for Best International Report for their graphic filming of British troops under fire in Beirut.

Emphasizing that the award was a team triumph, Rees said: "It was made possible by every-

one who worked in the Lebanon for ITN, including reporters, cameramen, sound recordists and the VTR editors."

ITN received two of the four nominations in the Best Actuality category. Its General Election programme 'The Nation Decides' was the other nominee.

That Oriental touch for C4 News

Michelle Han, a newscaster on Asia Television's English news programme "News at Seven" made her British television debut on Channel Four News last month deputising for Alastair Stewart who was on holiday. She read "the newsbelt" which summarises some of the main points of the day as well as the business and sports news.

Michelle, 29, has been reporting and presenting television news since 1979 and has produced several documentary and tourist films on Hong Kong for cable television. She is an experienced magazine journalist and had also had spells as an orphan relief worker in Vietnam, and as a tourist guide in France.

She came to ITN House at the invitation of Stewart Purvis, Editor of Channel Four News: "Michelle's brought an additional dimension to the programme, while giving viewers the chance of seeing a presenter from the other side of the world," he said. "I am sure that she enjoyed the experience during Alastair's absence."



港英電視
 歲，從香港飛到倫敦，將出任倫敦獨立電視台兩個星期的客席新聞報告員，代替渡假的本來報告員史超域。(美聯)

↑香港亞洲電視台英語新聞報告員韓米雪(譯音)，廿九

This caption accompanied Michelle's picture in a Hong Kong daily!

● Continued from p.4.

"At the beginning there was something of a civil war between journalists and non-journalists, but this was soon straightened out. We were all on Christian name terms and knew every-

body. It was a great place to work."

Sadly, ill-health precipitated Tom's early retirement, but if he enjoyed his life in the television newsroom, there is little doubt that he is enjoying it even more in the tranquil surroundings of

Railway Lodge where he lives with his second wife Noreen.

And with the candour that one would expect, he insists that he doesn't miss the old life one bit.

"I don't miss it because, quite frankly, I know damned well that I could no longer do it. I was

New look and 'a little mischief' promised for TV Festival

The 1984 Edinburgh International Television Festival is to get a new look and a change of direction from previous years. It will be a "programme-makers Festival" with the screening and discussion of programmes playing a far more significant role than it has in recent years. This year's event, to be held in August, will live up to the name of "Festival".

"There is mischief in the air", claims 1984 Chairman, Michael Blakstad, Director of Programmes at TVS. "The mood of the Committee is to question the assumptions on which today's television is built. We want to encourage radical thought and creative discussion."

Discount

The new Organiser, Annie Buxton promises a less formal atmosphere and more opportunities for individuals to be heard. At this stage, should anybody have any strong suggestions that they would like to see raised at the Committee Meetings, she would like to hear from you.

Everyone who works within the television industry is welcome to attend as a delegate, for registration forms, please call the Festival office, there is a 10% discount for a guaranteed minimum of 25 people. You will also be given details of competitive travel and accommodation rates, together with information on the Festival Halls of Residence.

never a great journalist — never an ace investigative reporter."

But in his self-effacing way, he left ITN and television reporting one of its greatest legacies. Style.

For incontrovertibly, Tom St John Barry is a man of unique style.

D. DAY

PLUS 40

How Cpl Grant (later of ITN) filmed the allied landings which wrote June 6th, 1944 into the history books

ITN's live coverage during the D-Day anniversary celebrations will stir memories for anyone who took part in the historic Normandy landings on June 6th, 1944.

But for former ITN cameraman Ian Grant, the reconstruction will have a special significance . . . for not only was he there, he actually filmed the 176,500-strong invasion force as it swept ashore en route to liberating first France, and ultimately Europe.

Not unnaturally, he remembers the occasion vividly and later devoted much space to his D-Day recollections in his book "Cameramen at War" which he wrote 12 years ago.

Rough seas — But no delay for invasion

It was as Corporal Grant of the Army Film and Photographic Unit, that he found himself on board a large landing craft in Southampton, on the night of June 5th waiting to slot into the giant armada preparing to sail from virtually every port, harbour and creek along the South coast in the most critical — and significant — strategic move of the war.

Heavy seas had already delayed the sailing by a day and conditions were still far from ideal. But Churchill and Eisenhower decided it was on — and June 6th, 1944 became a date destined for the history books.

While a mock invasion force created a diversion at Calais, the main convoy headed towards Normandy — and Grant remembers the scene: "I was staggered at the number of



Dressed for action . . . Cpl Grant of the Army Film Unit in 1944.

ships — it was certainly an awe-inspiring sight," he said.

But to say that Cpl Grant wasn't exactly overwhelmed by the trip would be a masterpiece of understatement. The rough sea was bad enough, and natural stomach disorders were heightened by the acrid stench of fresh paint and diesel fumes. There was little opportunity for conversation, and during the

uncomfortable voyage he had plenty of time to reflect on the events which now found him being bounced across the Channel in a flat-bottomed boat with a 36mm De Vry camera slung over his shoulder.

Despite being an experienced stills photographer before the war, he had first been drafted into the infantry and

had already seen active service in France in 1940. Then someone, somewhere displayed a startling (and rare) glint of bureaucratic intelligence and realised that he might be of some use to the photographic unit.

Assigned to Royal Marine Commandos

He was one of 36 photographers and cameramen selected for training with the Army Film Unit at Pinewood in readiness for the second front. He emerged as one of six (four cine and two stills) selected to cover the D-Day landings.

He was assigned to the Green Berets — the 45th Royal Marine Commandos who were later to triumph in the Falklands — and was soon in the thick of the action. They came under fire about half a mile from the beach and, although the craft on their immediate left got a direct hit, they managed to escape any serious damage.

First to be liberated on Pegasus Bridge

"We hit the beach at 7.20 a.m. — about 20 minutes behind the third British Division," he said "They were meant to clear it of obstacles, but had been pinned down."

He had already seen the Airborne Division fly over on their way to land at Benouville Bridge on the River Orne, where the owners of a small cafe had the distinction of being the first French to be



liberated. Soon, Ian Grant would be on that same bridge – forever after to be known as Pegasus Bridge – as the Royal Marine Commandos achieved their objective of relieving the Airborne Division. Despite coming under heavy fire from the Germans, the Commandos, led by Lord Lovat and his piper, were barely half an hour late in relieving the paratroopers.

“It was a question of pride with Lovat,” remembers Grant. “He even ordered his entire Commando force to march across the bridge despite the heavy German bombardment. The Jerries were stunned – they were amazed at the guts of Lovat and his men and it paid off.”

Colleague killed while filming

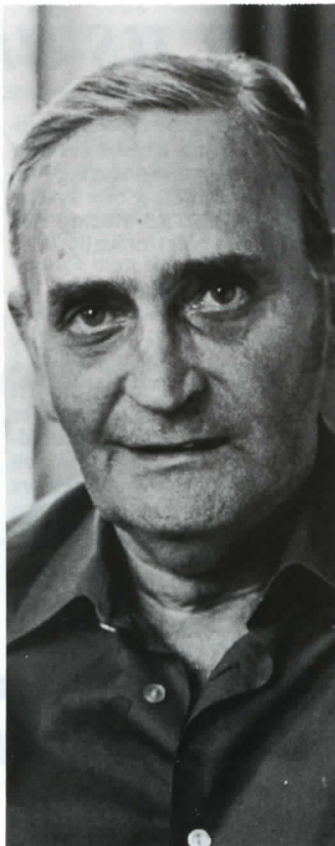
Years later, as a cameraman with Tyne-Tees Television, Ian Grant had the opportunity to meet Richard Todd, who was promoting the Hollywood version of events “The Longest Day”.

“Peter Lawford was playing the part of Lovat, and he was engaged in series of conversations with a Lieutenant played by Todd. I asked him who he portrayed in the film and was astounded when he looked me straight in the eyes and said ‘Myself’. Apparently, he was one of Lovat’s aides and I had landed with him.”

But there is a darker side to the Grant recollections of that historic day. One of the early casualties on the beaches of Normandy – and the first to be witnessed by Ian – was a fellow cameraman from the Army

Film Unit. And on a lighter note, he describes the De Vry camera as a joke.

“It was part of the U.S. lend-lease system. It was a diabolical machine – one of the worst I’ve ever encountered.”



Forty years on: Ian Grant today.

What Grant didn’t realise as he stumbled ashore early that morning was that he would remain at the sharp end of the European invasion force until the end of the war. He went through France into Belgium shooting historic film of the

German retreat as he went. He eventually finished in Denmark which he claims was virtually liberated by the Army Film Unit.

“There was hardly anyone else there,” he said.

Eventually it was all over and Cpl Grant reverted to his role as a photographer in Civvy Street, Glasgow. Soon he heard a whisper that the Rank Organisation was planning to launch a newsreel-cum-feature programme called “This Modern Age,” based loosely on the pre-war series “March of Time.”

His application was successful but the project soon ran out of money and was scrapped. He later worked for the Esso Petroleum Film Unit, and fol-

A return to that historic Normandy scene?

lowed this with a 12-month spell in Greece working for the U.S. Government Information Service.

He was one of the original ITN cameramen in 1955, and left to go freelance in 1962. Three years later he joined Tyne Tees, taking early retirement in 1971.

Now aged 67, he is preparing for a new life at Glebelands, the Cinematic Trades Benevolent Fund Home in Berkshire. He has been invited to attend the reunion celebrations in Normandy on June 6th, and is hoping to be there.

If not, he assured us that “nothing – repeat nothing –” will keep him away from the television to watch the celebrations of a slice of history which he not only helped to create – but also to record.

ITN CREWS PREPARE TO INVADE NORMANDY

ITN camera crews will be invading France on June 6th for “D-Day Plus Forty”, the ITN network coverage of the celebration of the Normandy landings in 1944.

During the day, ITN will be presenting a special three-part programme totalling 2 hrs 50 minutes as the Queen, accompanied by Presidents Reagan and Mitterand, join other heads of state and thousands of D-Day veterans in celebrating the day which was to change the course of history.

Nine crews and six reporters will be in France to capture the mood of the anniversary ceremonies of “Operation Overlord” code-name for the mammoth operation which saw 176,000 allied troops land in France within the first 48 hours of the invasion. The programme will include historic library film shot 40 years ago, and the recollections of many of the D-Day veterans who will be returning to the beaches where the liberation of Europe began.

“D-Day Plus Forty”, which will be introduced by Alastair Burnet, commences at 12 noon with further coverage at 1.25 and 7 p.m. The programme is produced by Nick Pollard and directed by Diana Edwards-Jones.

Want a quick miracle? Our engineers specialise in them!

Working in ITN's Engineering Projects Section in Mortimer Street has been likened to painting the Forth Bridge... it never ends.

But that is where the parallel comes to an abrupt halt. For, unlike the iron masterpiece, each project differs widely, and has its own problems and rewards.

The eight-strong team, led by Peter Marchant and his deputy, Phil Marter, revel in the challenge; as soon as the project is over, they are presented with new demands, new jargon and new technologies to master and integrate into ITN's already vast range of hi-tech hardware.

To meet the challenges as they come along, a carefully selected team of engineers has been assembled who come from good stables such as the BBC, BT and equipment manufacturers.

Unlimited

A firm base in Television Engineering theory and practice is essential and amongst the team are to be found several Chartered Engineers.

The range and scope of the schemes Engineering Projects deals with is more or less unlimited. They've got more than twenty "active" projects afloat at present, including one to upgrade the Quantel system. That's the machine which takes pictures from several input sources, changes the size and shape of the pictures and moves them around the screen (like the headline sequence on News at 5.45). At the moment Quantel can only take two picture sources at the same time, but Engineering Projects will soon be expanding it to take four sources simultaneously.

Overnight

But it is the speed and professionalism with which Engineering Projects has to work that makes it a department of silent precision. Performing major surgery on ITN House technology can only be done overnight, or at best at weekends. And it has to be done successfully first time so the patient is ready for work the next day.

The entire heart of the News-fury computer system used by Channel Four News was transplanted from its home in the Portacabin outside floor two-and-a-half, to the new computer room next to News at One in a single weekend, March 24th/25th. It was a major operation carried out so silently and efficiently the users probably still don't know it's happened.

High on the minds of the engineering team right now are the thorny problems of the proposed move from ITN House to new



The Engineering Projects team (left to right) Peter Marchant, Dave Unsworth, Eric Thorniley, Phil Holland, Phil Marten, Richie Butler, Richard Stokes, Tim Bourne, David Mansfield, Bob Tebbutt, Alan Bruce and Sybil Joseph.

The high-speed wizards whose scheming projects are keeping us ahead

Studios in the not-too-distant future. The Mortimer Street boffins would like to see that move coincide with a quantum leap in technology.

"We wouldn't want to move and take a lot of old equipment with us," says Peter Marchant. "We'd like a move when there's a whole new generation of technology we can use immediately."

Peter is pinning his hopes on a major technological leap in about three years. About then, also, ITN would have had good use from its present ENG recording equipment. "We normally renew equipment on a seven-year cycle, but with ENG gear it comes a little sooner," says Peter.

But perhaps the most immediate and exciting scheme currently under way in Engineering Projects is a completely new system for capturing and storing still photographs electronically.

Wide choice

It's all down to a revolutionary new machine which can freeze a single frame of video and store it for instant recall in a computer memory. It's a truly mould-breaking bit of hardware which will give producers and directors a previously unthinkable choice of topical still shots of personalities in the news.

The work of Peter Marchant's engineers would, of course, come to nothing if it weren't for

his back-up staff. In particular the draughtsmen and wirers, who come from an agency, draw up the engineers' plans on paper, and actually install the hi-tech wizardry into ITN House. There's the sterling work done in Admin by Sybil Joseph, secretary to the department, whose success as a top track athlete has been featured in The Lens recently.

All in all, when you consider installing the fast freeze-frame edit machines, upgrading Quantel, performing heart surgery on computers and revolutionising video stills, Engineering Projects is a melting pot of instant and diverse expertise.

Sometimes it's like painting the Forth Bridge... sometimes it's like building it!

New man heads Basys assault on Europe

Basys Inc., the ITN-owned company whose computerised broadcasting technology is changing the pattern of newsrooms throughout the world, has appointed a sales manager for Europe.

Adrian Scott, a former journalist with ten years experience in radio and television, will be expanding the Basys operation within the U.K. and the Continent. He has worked with Radio Clyde, LBC and IRN, and first

became familiar with Basys during his spell with TV-am, where he was Forward Planning Editor.

"Basys copes faultlessly with the demands of a daily three-hour news magazine programme," he said. "I know how good it is and I look forward to showing my colleagues in all parts of the industry how computers in the newsroom can help them."

ITN was the first U.K. orga-

nisation to install the system, and was so impressed that it bought Basys outright. ITN's Channel Four News has been produced on the system since it first went on the air, and the rest of ITN's operations will come on line during the next few months.

The latest installations are at BBC Radio in London and RAI in Italy, whose system will be the biggest yet with over 130 systems.

If you haven't mastered cricket yourself, it's the next best thing to write about someone who's played a bit!

"All West Indians have an affection for cricket which transcends their ability to play the game. I'm no exception."

With this poignant observation, ITN's Trevor McDonald kicks off his book on one of the greatest cricketers of all time — Mr. Vivian Richards of Somerset and the West Indies.

Trevor McDonald and Viv Richards are both cricketing fanatics. Trevor would ring ITN for scores after a day of being shot at in Lebanon. Viv plays cricket as if his life depended on it.

But the two men's careers couldn't have been more different. Viv Richards was discovered by a Somerset fan and brought to England when a teenager. He developed into a county and then a majestic test player. Conversely, Trevor gave up cricket after several valiant attempts at school.

They met ten years ago. By then Viv was making double centuries against England and Trevor was reporting for the BBC.

Viv was delighted by the idea of a book. The two talked in Taunton and London. Then this year Trevor followed Viv on the West Indian tour of India. There, unencumbered by the distractions of home, Richards relaxed. And Trevor picked up some of his best material.

He discovered that Richards is very modest about his ability as a batsman. And he

discovered an almost statesman-like attitude in him. Viv told Trevor he could never savage an attack so badly that the bowler would be totally destroyed.

"Not that Richards is a paragon," adds Trevor. "He has a rebellious streak — and a temper."

'Viv Richards — the authorized biography' is Trevor's first book. And he doesn't just look at Richards the cricketer. "I'm trying to write more than the biography of a player" he says. "I'm trying to place Richards in the development of West Indies cricket."

He explained how the West Indies first beat England at cricket in 1950. Twelve years later they also got their first black captain — till then captains had had to be white.

"That was a turning point" said Trevor. "From that time we began to feel as good as our colonial masters. We became more politically aware, more socially independent."

"Richards is directly a product of that age. In him you have an awareness of social change, an awareness of responsibility and also a political maturity."

'Viv Richards — the authorized biography' will be published by Pelham Books in June. "It wasn't hard to write" says Trevor, "Viv was always such a friend and gentleman."



TWO OF A KIND . . . Cricket fanatics Viv Richards and Trevor McDonald.

A RIPPING YARN ON THE MILITANTS . . .

Michael Crick, item producer on Channel 4 News, has written a book that is the first detailed examination of the Militant Tendency in the Labour Party.

There are two other facts about the book worthy of note: it's the first to be written almost entirely on the ITN computer (Crick eventually bought his own home computer) and it must be one of the few manuscripts to have been ripped up by an ITN producer in a fit of anger (prompted not by the book but by an unrelated disagreement).



On a more serious level, Crick's book, "Militant", is an investigation of what's been called the party inside a party. The idea for the book came from a piece on Militant Crick did for ITN in June 1982. In the relatively short time since then, he's

managed to dig up a great deal about Militant. He's interviewed ex-members, obtained copies of confidential internal Militant documents, and talked to Labour Party leaders who've tackled the issue of whether Militant should be expelled from the party.

The result is a fascinating insight into the group that has severely embarrassed the Labour leadership. The evidence that Militant really is a separate party inside the Labour Party with its own organisation, substantial funds and full-time workers is compelling. Crick also lays bare Militant's tactics by examining the history of its influence on the Labour Party in Liverpool.

It's a well-researched, thorough book that's bound to attract attention when it's published on 18th June (by Faber and Faber at £3.95).

FOR SALE

Surplus Stock:
Film — Kodak Super 8 M/S
Videotape — BASF VCR
for Phillips Type Machines

CONTACT: Margaret (Ext. 2212)

ITN's Gun Club celebrates its inaugural meeting at its own ground.

MIKE CHANDLER reports on the success of this growing sport.



Safety first . . . qualified coach Fred Rich passes on a few tips.

IT'S STRICTLY 'NO BIRDS' — AND

LADIES TAKE THE HONOURS

Barely a year after its inauguration, the ITN Gun Club has acquired its own shooting ground. Following successful negotiations by Peter Turley and Brian Foakes, the club will now be holding regular meetings at their new venue at Hicks Road, Markyate, which lies just off Junction 9 on the M1.

The ground itself is quite easy to find and is situated in pleasantly wooded countryside, which augurs well for summer. The prospect of a day's shooting followed by a barbeque in the evening holds very definite attractions!

The first meeting at the new venue was held at the end of March, with members taking turns to operate the clay trap. This is not as dangerous as it might appear — the traphouse is

built like a bunker and members observe very stringent safety regulations.

The clay trap had to be hand operated, so club members took turns in working it. Not as dangerous as it sounds for two very good reasons. Firstly, the traphouse is built like a bunker; secondly, and most important, the safety aspect is always very strongly highlighted, and no novice is allowed to shoot unless he or she has been thoroughly versed in gun handling and safety.

Shooting went smoothly, with some of the ladies, particularly Helen Rowe, putting some of the men to shame.

One of the highlights of the

afternoon was the celebration of Dave Clark's birthday! His cap was 'kidnapped' without his knowledge and fired from the trap as a target! This unexpected 'bird' came as a bit of a shock for the birthday boy much to the amusement of everyone else!

The day ended with Fred Rich and Caroline Yates collecting the winners' accolades.

The ITNGC was started in January of 1983 by Fred Rich and Brian Foakes, the Club's secretary and chairman. Both are keen shots and are familiar with all aspects of the sport, which ensures that the club not only enjoys clay shooting — currently the main interest — but also has the chance to experience rifle and pistol shooting. The club is affiliated to the National Rifle Association at Bisley in Surrey.

Enthusiasm

Thanks to the enthusiasm of Fred and Brian, the club has thrived to the point where nearly half the members possess their own guns. And it's not as expensive as it sounds! Clay shooting is a comparatively inexpensive sport, with guns ranging from £3,000 down to £100. The main types used are double barrelled shotguns (known as 'over and under' shotguns because of the positioning of the barrels), or the semi-automatic shotgun. Cartridges can be expensive, but the club obtains them at the reduced price of £2 per box. A Shotgun Certificate is needed before purchasing a gun.

Newcomers are welcome and tuition is available for those who have never used a shotgun before. Fred Rich has been a qualified Clay Pigeon Shooting Association coach for over six years and his mixture of good humour and excellent coaching has

turned many a raw novice into a capable shot.

Neither is it a sport restricted to age or sex. Dave Preppall's ten year old son Jason has put more than one of us to shame with his very capable performances, and at least one lady (notably Jo Magner) has proved more than capable of holding her own against the men.

Handicap

The club has started a handicapping system which makes it quite possible for a relative newcomer to walk off with the new ITNGC trophy presented to the club by Annie Scott and sponsored by the brewers. The magnificent cut glass trophy, which will be known as the Annie Scott Rose Bowl, will be awarded to the club member with the highest aggregate score over any four competitions shot during the year.

A popular highlight of the club's year is the Seashoot, which is run with the cooperation of Townsend Thoresen Ferries. Shooting from the back of a moving ferry is, to say the least, a unique experience — especially if the weather is a bit rough!

Clays only!

On dry land it's difficult to hit something the size of an ashtray moving at sixty miles an hour. From the stern of a ship it can be very, very tricky! But for me the sea shoots combine the best of both worlds. They are something friends and family can enjoy, with the obvious advantages of duty free allowances and shopping in France, as well as a good day's shooting.

And a final word for bird-lovers — we limit ourselves strictly to the clay variety!



A barrel-eye view of Dave Clark as he lets one go during a recent shoot.

Alf collects Champions Trophy as his swan-song... then heads upstream!

The ITN Angling Society has enjoyed one of its most encouraging seasons in recent years.

Average attendance at the club's monthly outings was up on last year and the total weight of fish caught over the season was well up on last season.

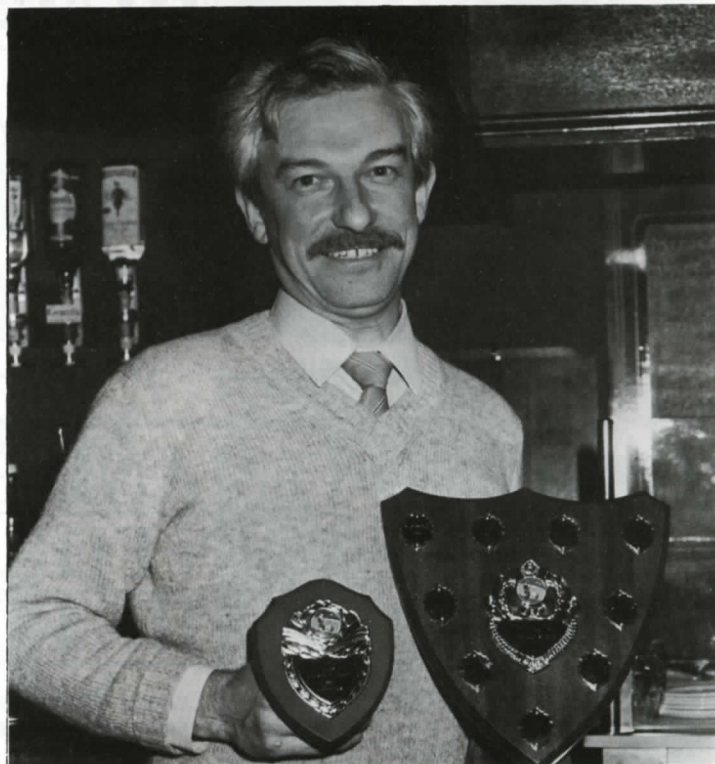
Much of this good fortune was attributable to the favourable

weather, and also to the acquisition of our new waters through the Group Angling Alliance.

The Club made the most of this association – particularly at Marcos Lake where Ian Freeman won the Specimen Cup with a fine 3lb 14oz tench. Unfortunately at the time of the AGM, Ian was in Australia and since the club did not have the re-



The one that got away – Alf Penn and the Championship Trophy on their way to Thames.



Harold Griffiths, winner of the Knockout Shield.

sources to “fly him 20,000 miles to be with us on the evening”, Fred Hickey collected the cup on Ian's behalf.

Marcos Lake also produced some good tench and prospects for next season look very encouraging. The most successful outing was again at Upshire where everyone weighed in more than 3lbs with the winner netting over 15lbs of good carp. The total weight caught over the day was 132lbs, 20lbs up on the same venue last year – so the venue is definitely on the cards for next year!

The club ran a new competition this season for the Knockout Shield which produced some interesting pairings. Harold Griffiths emerged winner on a very sparse day with little charity on behalf of the fish. A creditable win. This competition was successful and will become an annual event.

The League Championship produced an interesting situation which was only resolved at the last match of the season held on the River Lea at St. Margarets. It was possible for any of

the top five to win, and the top three were separated by only two points.

The match was always in good humour and the “best possible taste” – a quality that has always been the standard of the club. Alf Penn worked hard to produce the winning weight and hence clinching the trophy by ounces on the day and two points overall. Trevor Watson came second agonising over the “one that got away”, and last year's winner Colin Mallett was third.

It was fitting that Alf Penn should win the Championship prior to his move to Thames TV – although there is no truth in the rumour that Thames secured Alf with the promise of a season ticket at Teddington!

At the recent AGM, the club passed a vote of thanks to the ITN Club for its continuing support which has aided us to expand an enthusiastic and consistent band of anglers in the pursuit of pleasure and sport. Any prospective members should contact Bob Sparks (2238) or Harold Griffiths (2238).

Following recent controversy over the death of swans which has been mainly attributed in the press to the carelessness of fishermen, the club spent some considerable time discussing the impact that this may have on the sport. Members supported the proposal that conscientious anglers did not engage in wanton discard of used weights and line. In fact many anglers spend much time in “working parties” cleaning up litter from their waters,

ensuring that fish stocks were of good standard and openly supported wildlife using the same facility.

It is recognised however, that there are those who do break this code and in many instances as it is in our club that members found deliberately discarding used line are disqualified.

The Club also recognised the possible effects of lead weights, affecting wildlife and will be investigating the use of substitutes.

SORRY – BUT ITN WON'T BE MOVING TO BARBADOS!

The great where-would-you-like-to-work inquisition has paid dividends. With more than sixty per cent of the staff responding to last month's questionnaire, Senior Management has gleaned valuable information which will help

them determine the location of ITN's next headquarters.

A realistic moving date is early in 1988 – but with the tremendous technical upheaval involved, it is imperative that plans are laid early.

"The staff responded extremely well," said General Manager Paul Mathews. "There were few spoilt papers and it was clear that a good deal of time and thought had been put in by the staff in completing their questionnaires. There

weren't too many who opted for Barbados."

The survey results indicated quite clearly that a Central London location was preferred and that the accent was very much on ease of travel to and from work. Extrapolating from the returns, over 50 per cent of staff use surface trains and over 70 per cent of staff use tubes and/or surface trains. By far the most used main line station is Victoria, followed by Waterloo. The most used tubes are the Victoria and Bakerloo lines.

Edmonton switches on to take Sparks' Cup

The ITN Golf Society teed off for the first time this season at Woodcote Park, Coulsdon, with a new trophy as the big carrot.

The impressive pot was donated by Dennis Brennan of Location Lighting, and now adorns the mantelpiece of vice-captain Brian Edmonton who triumphed in the 18-hole Stableford Competition. A typically gritty Celtic performance saw Jim Mitchell take second place on a day when excellent weather attracted a turnout of 39 members.

★ ★ ★

The well-known disease "pressure of work" has ruptured Captain's Day for the second year running. The build-up to the D-Day special coverage has forced the postponement of this year's Tyrells Wood extravaganza originally scheduled for June 1st.

However, captain Geoff Moyses, that well-known golfing svengali, has successfully renegotiated the date for 3rd July.

Tennis dates

The annual ITN Tennis Tournament will be held in Kensington Memorial Park on Friday 8th June at 11 a.m. Entries to Mary Lambe on reception, at least four days in advance.

The ITN-TV-am Tennis Challenge will be held on June 24th. Again, all interest should be channelled towards Mary.

ITN AND BEEB TO JOIN FORCES IN THE FIELD

The ITN Cricket Club has joined forces with the BBC Television News team to form the T.V. Newsmen Cricket Club.

The merger has resulted from the problems of fielding eleven players from ITN for the normal fifteen fixtures throughout the season. In recent years, shift patterns, holidays and location jobs (plus general elections and other "specials") have hampered the availability of regular players, and has therefore presented selection problems for team secretaries.

ours, winning by 24 runs.

Batting first, the BBC rattled up a total of 111 runs, thanks to a violent 62 runs from Robin Walsh. Chris Hulme, with five wickets, and Andrew Tilley with four, bowled throughout.

ITN's batting was fragile despite a steady knock from Peter Staunton. A late rally by Jamie Donald and all-rounder Tilley failed to save the game and ITN were all out for 87.

★ ★ ★

The match marked a unique treble for ITN skipper Duncan Jones. It was the third time he had captained the side, and on each occasion he has been out first ball!

★ ★ ★

Fixtures

Fixtures for 1984 Season:

May: Sun. 6th – Weekenders at Barnet; Sun. 13th – Millfields at Heston Park; Sat. 19th – Kensington at Andover; Sun. 27th – BBC Radio News at Neston Park.

June: Sun. 3rd – Gentlemen of Hampstead at Hendon; Sun. 10th – (t.b.a.) at Heston Park; Sat. 16th – Poulton at Poulton, Gloucs.; Sun. 24th – (t.b.a.) at Heston Park.

July: Sun. 8th – Gentlemen of Hampstead at Heston Park; Sat. 14th – Jesus College High Table at Cambridge; Sun. 22nd – South Side at Heston Park.

August: Sun. 5th – Fleet St. Ringers at Ham; Sun. 19th – Pinewood at Heston Park; Sun. 26th – Millfields at Walthamstow.

September: Sun. 2nd – Capt. Scott XI at Heston Park.



ANDREW TILLEY

The BBC had been experiencing similar problems, and when they approached ITN it was agreed that both clubs should join forces, at least for the time being. The first captain of the new club will be ITN's Andrew Tilley, and the Beeb's Tim Barder will be vice-captain.

Before the merger took effect, ITN and BBC Television News faced each other in what will probably be the last "needle" match for several years . . . and the Beeb emerged with the hon-

Minority

Local amenities – shops, restaurants, etc. – figured as important to a majority of the staff, although the results indicated that this would reduce to a minority if the facilities in the new building were sufficiently good. A sizeable minority were in favour of local open spaces and sports facilities.

Commenting on the results, Paul Mathews said, "Quite clearly, a survey of this size is bound to throw up conflicts of opinion and mutually exclusive requirements."

"However, the main parameters are clear. If at all possible we have to find a building in Central London with reasonable access to Victoria and Waterloo railway stations. Within the limitations of Central London, road congestion around a new HQ must be the minimum possible. The local ambiance and amenities are also important.

Report

"A fairly tight brief along these lines has now been given to our agents and I hope to be able to report on progress in the not too distant future."

Realistically, ITN is looking for a suitable building of around 153,000 square feet – nearly 50 per cent larger than the current Wells Street headquarters.

The Next Issue . . .

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The next "Lens" will appear in two months time. All copy, letters, advertisements and comment for consideration should be forwarded to the Press Office by the first week in June, 1984.