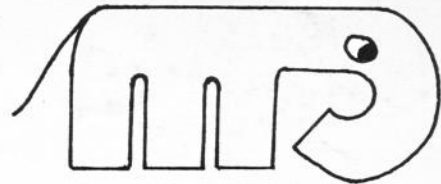


TRUNK-CALL

Cox & Wyman Group News



NAME GAME

At last the Group News has been christened. The name 'Trunk Call' was selected from about 70 names submitted by you. It was chosen by a committee for its appropriateness in terms of the distance between our constituent units (physical only of course!), and the resuscitated logo. It was a surprise that 4 people, all from Fakenham chose the same name, (they assured us they didn't get together), John Hoeg, Peter Mayor, Terry Norton, and Jack Youngs. They decided to split the prize, which was kindly increased by Mr. Jude, to £2 each.

We thank everybody for their efforts and ingenuity especially the winners – the decision was not an easy one.

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MR. ERIC BURT died on 1st February 1974 at the age of 68

He had guided the fortunes of this Company and Wyman & Sons Ltd., before it, from 1927 until his retirement in 1971.

A memorial service attended by members of the staff, representatives of Chapels and many others from all sides of the printing and publishing industry was held in the Crypt of the Church of St. Bride, Fleet Street on 11th February, 1974.

During the Service an Address was given by Dr. George Riddell, OBE PhD BSc FRIC, Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers and until recently Director of the Printing Industries Research Association.

As a tribute to Eric Burt we reproduce this in its entirety on the enclosed insert.

* * *



ERIC HENRY BURT

1906 - 1974

We have assembled to pay tribute to the memory of Eric Burt and to give thanks to God for his life. All who knew Eric acclaim that it was a privilege to have been associated with him. His qualities were such that the longer the association went on the greater became one's affection for him – such qualities are not given to many.

Eric, as his father before him, was a printer and proud of it. During the early years he spent at Oundle School and at Caius College, Cambridge, he had the intention to be an electrical engineer, but there was too much printing ink in his veins and after a year at the London School of Printing, where I first met him in 1927, he joined the family firm of Wyman & Sons, printers and bookstall proprietors, and it was to printing that he devoted the rest of his working life – the war years apart.

It is, therefore, fitting that we should pay our tribute to Eric Burt, printer, in St. Bride's Church and particularly that we should do so in this crypt. For as long as there have been printers in this country some of them worshipped in this room and some of them were buried within its confines – from Wynkyn de Worde onwards.

This crypt was re-discovered because of the destruction and rebuilding of the church and that work of reconstruction Eric Burt witnessed from his office near by in Salisbury Square. He became closely associated with the church, he was a liveryman of the Guild of St. Bride and was a regular lesson reader.

During his life's work in printing he not only developed his own business, first Wyman & Sons and then Cox & Wyman until it became world famous as book-printers, but he also undertook much public work in the industry both nationally, by serving on the Council of the British Federation of Master Printers, and in the printing industry of East Anglia, finally becoming the President of that Alliance in 1966.

Many of my associations with him in recent years were in connection with the Stationers Company, of which he was Master in 1970. He was an outstanding Master, his qualities fitted him perfectly for that office and he was a most generous benefactor to the Company. In his social duties connected with the Company he was greatly helped by his wife Valerie and it gave him great pleasure when his daughter Joanna was admitted to the Freedom of the Company last year.

Whichever facet of Eric's life one looks at it will be found that he did well and he did it with a quiet efficiency. He had a great capacity for making and keeping friends and he was possessed of an outstanding dignity which stemmed from moral and physical courage of a very high order on which, alas, he had to call during the last months of his life.

Our sympathies go out to his family that Eric was not spared so that he could have spent many years of retirement with them. How proud they can be and should be of Eric Burt and how grateful we should be that our paths through life crossed his. He was a good man.

DR. GEORGE RIDDELL
O.B.E., Ph.D., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

On Tuesday 22nd January, after much re-organisation due to the present power crisis, approximately 90 'Babes' prepared their assault on the 'New Theatre' Oxford to see 'Babes in the Wood'.

Accompanied by a strong detachment of parents and guardians, together with the spoils, e.g., coke, crisps, etc., the convoy made for its target.

Seated in the Grand Circle we were treated to a fine show of comedy, Terry Scott as the spinster Nanny was very funny and well supported by a first rate cast (and assorted multi-coloured corsets). After the so called 'Babes' had shouted themselves hoarse, they gave us a delightful rendering of 'When the Saints go...' on scanning the cherubic faces in the audience, smeared with everything one's imagination runs to, this was not too appropriate.

After the finale and a fast count up, ankle chains were re-applied together with hand-cuffs then our happy band of 'Babes' were quickly frogmarched back to the waiting coaches.

The trip home was uneventful with no abscondees, I am quite sure that everyone who went will agree that the Social Club Committee deserves credit for organising this annual event.

Cathy Cliftlands

* * *

WHITE HORSE STREET

White Horse Street, in Fakenham runs through the centre of Cox & Wyman's printing works, although there are some who say that the printing works has been built on both sides of the street. It is difficult to imagine, today, how the street looked before its development into an industrial area.

The street itself is not particularly old, the first building was the Independant Chapel (now a licensed club). It was constructed towards the end of the 18th Century and was in use until 1819. A few years later some cottages were built on the opposite side of the street and then another row further down the east side. The opening of the cattle market in 1857 completed the west side of the street, the east side being completed during the 1860's by the erection of a row of cottages of site pleasing design, pleasing that is until one realised that through the archway in the middle was another row of houses separated from the front row by a small yard.

White Horse Street, was now completed with small shops, a small chapel (in a back yard) and Fakenham's first Police Station. But nothing to suggest a White Horse! So how did the street get it's name?

It is not really clear how the name came about but it is possible that it is a confusion of Rampant Horse Street because at one time White Horse Street was considered an extension of what is now Queen's Road which until the 1850's only served the Rampant Horse Inn and was named after it.

Printing came to the street in the early 19th Century when Miller, Son & Co., built their new factory on the west side, only to be rebuilt after a disastrous fire in 1912. A small building was erected on the east side between the wars but the large scale *re-development* of that side of the street did not begin until the mid 1950's when the first half of the 'New Bindery' was built by Wyman & Son. Cox & Wyman completed the second half of the project by the end of the 60's. The acquisition of the last house/shop in the street meant that Cox & Wyman now occupied all the buildings in White Horse Street, apart from the club which is only occupied during licensing hours.

Jim Baldwin — Fakenham Production

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LOOKING BACK

This is the first of a series of articles on printing as seen through the eyes of one of our retired compositor friends, starting from his apprenticeship days to the present time. Please send any letters or comments to the Editor.

* * *

I entered a seven year apprenticeship at the age of fourteen, the year was 1919, and my first introduction to the mysteries of print, was as is now for all fledgling compositors, to learn the lay of the case of type.

It should be borne in mind that 90% of our type was Founders type, some in the old nomenclature from Ruby to Pica and indeed Double Pica, whilst at the same time the 'Point' system was in vogue. On the shank of Founders type was a nick or a series of nicks to facilitate recognition, all our rules were brass, and our leads were Founders leads (hydraulically cast). One can easily imagine how utterly confusing it was to differentiate between Long Primer and 10pt.

Possibly my first real job was to be given a large tin can nearly full of type of all sizes and faces, these I had to set, sort and 'diss', thus it was that I learnt to familiarise myself with type faces. Real Pie!

It is interesting to note that the difficulties of a young apprentice in distinguishing between a 'p' and a 'q' gave birth to the popular saying "mind your p's and q's".

Despite the fact that we had linotype and monotype we printed quite a few small magazines and as apprentices it was our job to hand set those in Founders type. This entailed our 'dissing' past numbers in order to set the new. Woe betide us if our cases were dirty, for example the quad box was the receptacle for one thing only — quads! The overseer would frequently examine our cases to ensure they were clean, and if a literal error occurred in our setting it was invariably the result of bad dissing or dirty cases. As time went by I achieved a rhythm and a speed that was to prove invaluable in later years. The ability to pick up type is an attribute sadly lacking in the present day compositor whilst scrupulously clean cases are a thing of the past.

Monotype was making vast progress against Founders type, consequently many of the beautiful faces of yesteryear are with us no more.

* * *

Nonpareil

STEPPING OUT

Money is now being raised to convert the former Methodist Manse in Fakenham into a rehabilitation home for psychiatric patients. Don Graham, 42 years old compositor, walked 30 miles to St. Andrews Hospital, Norwich on Monday 14th January. He set off at 8.00 am and arrived seven and a quarter hours later. But for a torn leg muscle he felt he could have completed the distance in six hours.

Don set out to raise £100 but in fact far exceeded this. In addition, Don wrote to Her Majesty the Queen asking for a donation and she replied by promising that a percentage of the money raised from one of Sandringhams open days would be given to the fund.

Well Done Don!

* * *

A GENTLE NUDGE

We are sure that both London office and Oscar Blackford must have a good deal of interesting news and topics that the rest of the Group would like to read about. So far, they have been hiding their lights under bushels, but we are pretty certain we will be hearing from them in further issues.

NICE ONE CYRIL!

Following last months article 'Book Your Space' by Jim Baldwin, an error has come to light which we felt you needed to know about.

You will vividly recall that the reported total number of graves in the Quaker Cemetary was 9. You were misled!

Cyril Ward, well known agent provocateur, alias Fakenham Warehouseman, came out with this shattering news at a recent discussion with the Editor. We can now reveal the total unexpurgated truth.

In the summer of '62, Cyril was passing by the graveyard when he was suddenly attacked and bitten in the leg by a small dog. Cyril still lives to tell the tale but not so the dog! The very next day the unfortunate animal was discovered dead – a post mortem revealed a severe case of Mal-de-Ward. Cyril in an unusual moment of compassion (or was it embarrassment?) hurriedly buried the poor beast in a quiet corner of the graveyard. It obviously caused Cyril great pain to reveal his secret after so many years, but public spirit pricking, he felt he had to tell the world that, there are 10 graves not 9.

* * *

FAKENHAM SOCIAL CLUB

WHAT'S ON AT YOUR CLUB HOUSE

SATURDAY 9th MARCH

DANCE TO THE ROSTYLES

SATURDAY 23rd MARCH

DANCE TO TWO PLUS ONE

also

200 CLUB DRAW – £ 700.00

100 CLUB DRAW – £ 125.00

Gordon Joyce – Club Secretary

* * *

EDITORS NOTE

We apologise for the late arrival of this months issue but, printing was unfortunately delayed due to circumstances beyond our control. We do assure you that we will endeavour to get next months issue out before the last day of the month.

Please don't forget if you have any criticism of your magazine we shall be pleased to hear from you and all articles of interest will be gratefully received.

ABSENT FRIENDS

Good wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr. Ron Humphrey – Reading Works Director, who is convalescing after an operation.

A WALK IN THE COUNTRY: 1928

Eight thirty on the village green,
Those were the Keeper's words,
His penetrating eye so keen,
Could spot the early birds.

From many homes despite the gale,
Three generations came,
The Keepers dogs worked well in Kale,
We could not say the same.

Strong limbs were needed on the flank,
The centre kept in line,
Until at last we cleared the bank,
And, filtered through the pine.

How soft the carpet 'neath our feet,
A layer for each year,
So different from the sugar beet,
One could get lost in here.

And so the morning slipped away,
The pattern much the same,
Dead pheasant, partridge, even jay,
The ceaseless quest for game.

Just one more drive then lunch at last;
We sat on heaps of straw,
Boys ate their sandwiches fast,
Men gazed at them with awe.

Came three more drives at slower pace,
The game cart rattled by,
The guns had bagged 500 brace,
A thousand less to fly.

We lined up far from Gunthorpe Green,
Head Keeper knew his job,
Father, Grandad, Jack-fourteen,
We each got just six bob.

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAKENHAM BRANCH

ENGAGEMENTS

Ruth Bowes (Production Office) to Paul Curl on December 1st.

Connie Tappin (Bindery) to Alan Bowes at Christmas.

Mike Nelson (Costing) to Barbara Yule from Dunbartonshire.

BIRTHS

Maureen and Tony Engall a son Stuart on the 1st February, weighing in at 10lb. 5oz and to quote Tony 'not so much a baby, more a way of life!'

Tony Engall is Plant Director of Wensum Graphics.

STRIKING A BLOW

Congratulations to Ray Lloyd, Reading Stereotyper, for having his photograph selected by the Karate Federation as a National Advertising Poster for the sport. The picture shows Prof. Tatsuo Suzuki (holder of the sports highest award), delivering a very painful kick to his opponents midriff.

Ray, apart from being a keen photographer, is something of an expert himself in Karate. He has recently been awarded a brown belt and explains that using the other mans power and movement to ones own advantage is the essence of the skill, an approach he used to come 8th in the recent National Championships at Crystal Palace.

Ray emphasises that although Karate can be used for self defence, students are strictly trained in the art of self control (a comforting thought), and that mental as well as physical 'fitness' is essential.

* * *

COX & WYMAN FOOTBALL CLUB - READING

Our club are not enjoying the best of luck in the league this season. After finishing 6th in their first season in the league last year and narrowly missing promotion to Division 5, hopes were high for this season, but now having played 9 games winning 2 and losing 7 the results to say the least have been disappointing.

We started off well with good wins in the Harold Lusted Shield, beating Caversham Park Reserves 2-0, Caversham being a Division 3 side. In the Berks. & Bucks. Junior Cup we beat Swiss F.C. 2-1, Swiss being a Division 5 side but went out in the next round to Fryer Whitehall losing by the odd goal after drawing 3-3 in the first game. Fryer Whitehall are still unbeaten in the league, having only dropped 1 point, so this was not a bad result at all.

We have signed on some new players now, Mick Bristow, Chris Wardle, and Billy Stockton, Billy played his first game last week and was very impressive, keep it up, Billy!

We all wish Ian Bristow a speedy recovery after being injured three weeks ago and who is still hobbling around with a plaster on his leg. I can't believe its true that he would play better with it on than off, as some players in the team have suggested.

John Carpenter - Manager

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FAKENHAM TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The results are as follows:-

Womens Singles	Elsie White beat Jane Phillips
Womans Doubles	Elsie White & Jane Phillips beat Madelene Futter & Vivian Cooper
Mens Singles	Mike Nelson beat Peter Clarke
Mens Doubles	Doug Fennel & Adrian Howes beat David Defew & Joe Barber

The victors were presented with their prizes by Mrs. Joan Hudson our Miss 'Print'.

SEA FISHING TRIP RESULTS 20.1.74

Fishing half mile from Needles Light, again proved successful for 11 members of the club. The party boated Cod, Conger, Bull Huss, Dogfish, Rays, and Pout. The best fish of the day was a 20lb Cod by the chairman Mike Brown.

Pete Griffiths, boated Conger, Thornback Ray and Dogfish while Ray Turner boated a plump Codling of 8½lb.

* * *

THEM v US

To attempt to break the boredom of cleaning windows, pushing baby, cooking dinner, and all the other chores of a three day working week, we at Fakenham decided to arrange a Football Match.

The problem of a pitch arose. Carrow Road, was out because the Directors of Norwich thought that we might kidnap some of their players (not even a professional club would want to do that). We eventually decided on the Playing Fields.

The teams consisted of 'them' and 'us' 'them' being 'us' and 'us' being completely 'us'. The first match ended in a 9-1 win for 'us' or 'them' if you prefer it. The games were all taken in good fun and spirit, I've still got the cuts and bruises to prove it. The second week the teams were much the same ('them' & 'us' again). Unfortunately during this game Billy Chivers fell and broke his wrist. It was in the third game that Danny Boulter was able to prove wrong the age old rumour, that he couldn't score goals - he scored a 'beaut'. The goal keeper was frozen to the spot and the ball rushed by and it was a miracle that it didn't tear the back out of the net. However, the other ten of his side, couldn't see the funny side of it. (Sorry Dan!)

Now we have had a little practice, we are awaiting a challenge from the Red Ravers!

DAVID SWIFT - LITHO

SCORE SO FAR:-

*Broken Legs 2 - Broken Wrists 1
(HOW ABOUT CHESS? ED)*

MIKE BROWN