

RMIT Benefits from HP's Computer Donation



Hewlett Packard Australasia has donated goods and services to the value of \$35,000 to the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) to assist the Institute to extend its HP3000 Administrative Computer Facility, thus allowing further development of programs for the administration of themselves and other colleges who are HP3000 users.



John Warmington presents the board which forms part of the upgrade to the administrative computing system, to Dr. Brian Smith.

RMIT is the largest post secondary (12th year) college in Australia. It has in excess of 24,880 students and more than 4,000 staff. It is the largest educational user of HP computers in Australia with 2 HP3000's, 1 HP2000 and 7 HP1000 or 21MX systems. They also use a large quantity of electronic instrumentation and calculators. Their bookshop is one of our largest calculator dealers.

Of the two HP3000's, one is used exclusively for teaching (Maths/Computer Science). The other (Administration) for general accounting and maintenance of the large student and staff data bases.

In addition to the donated upgrade, the Institute purchased additional memory, disc capacity and a terminal controller to cater for increased workloads as the Technical College moves its administrative data processing onto the HP system.

The donation acknowledges the unique place RMIT has in the Educational environment of Australia and generally assists HP3000 User Colleges throughout Australia by the provision of extended administrative software at significantly reduced development cost.

HP's Managing Director, John Warmington (seen below with RMIT Director Dr. Brian Smith) commented, "This donation is a fine example of HP's Corporate policy on good citizenship and we are proud to be associated with RMIT".



The board which forms part of the upgrade is slipped into the central processing unit of the Series 2 machine, as the first step in making it a Series 3 machine.

We Contribute to Major Pre-natal Research

In the late 60's the world was stunned by the discovery that Thalidamide, a drug taken by pregnant women to reduce morning sickness, was the cause of gross malformations of the foetus.

Dr. W. McBride, who discovered the effects of Thalidamide conceived Foundation 41 to fulfill a desperately lacking need in the community, that of research into the first 41 weeks of life, i.e. 40 weeks of gestation and first week of life.

Through private funding only, the Foundation has grown over the years and now includes the following major areas of research.

Dr. McBride's research unit uses an HP Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrophotometer and had the need for a computer disc drive to expand the data handling side of the research project. HP was pleased to be able to help Dr. McBride and his team by donating the needed disc drive.

AREAS OF RESEARCH BY FOUNDATION 41 INCLUDE:

CHILD DEVELOPMENT UNIT – Investigating the developmental risk associated with delivery techniques.

CYTOGENETICS – By growing cells in tissue culture, it is possible to find the reasons for chromosomal changes in disease conditions.

DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY UNIT – What development occurs and why, when cells are subjected to environmental changes such as drugs and pollutants.

FOETAL ENVIRONMENT UNIT – Research into such external contamination e.g. 2-4-5-T and Lead, which are both very current issues.

FOETAL PHARMACOLOGY UNIT – The work of this group is dedicated to monitoring the levels of drugs that cross the placenta. Determining the dose that, while still clinically effective for the mother is safe for the foetus and is the basis for preventing any future "Thalidamides". This area relies on classical analytical techniques – what is there and how much? In particular, the "how much", needs to be measured down to nanogram levels – i.e. one part per billion and lower.

John Doyle (HP Vice President) stated once on a video program that, as well as the normally accepted 'rights of man' he believed that an additional right should be possible for every individual "The right to have something to look forward to". The work of F-41 will assist in

reducing the terrible odds of one in twelve children being born with serious birth defects. Hopefully, in the long term, F-41 will ensure that right for a greater number of children.

In the words of Dr. Bill McBride – "We have the scientific staff, we have the laboratories and most of the equipment. We have the will and determination to strive to help future generations to be free of serious malformation or mental retardation."



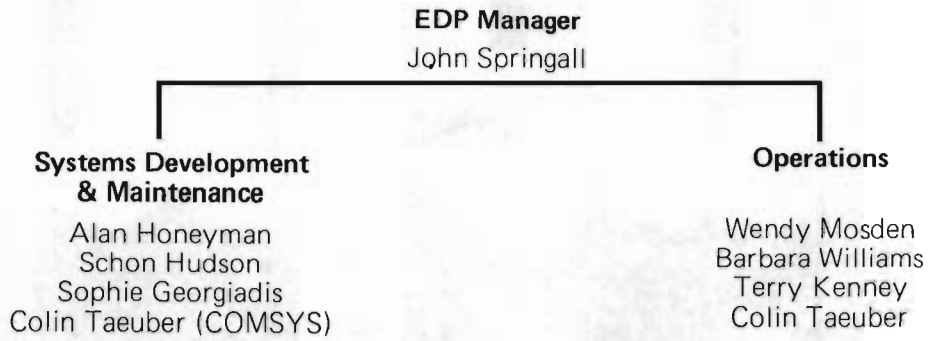
Jim Watson presents Disc Drive to Dr. W. McBride.

HP Computer Museum
www.hpmuseum.net

For research and education purposes only.

Department Profile: EDP (Electronic Data Processing)

Together with John Springall, Depth reviews the EDP Department to give us a better understanding of their role within the day-to-day activities of the company. Firstly, let's look at the EDP organisation chart, and then the major functions each group is responsible for.



John Springall



Alan Honeyman



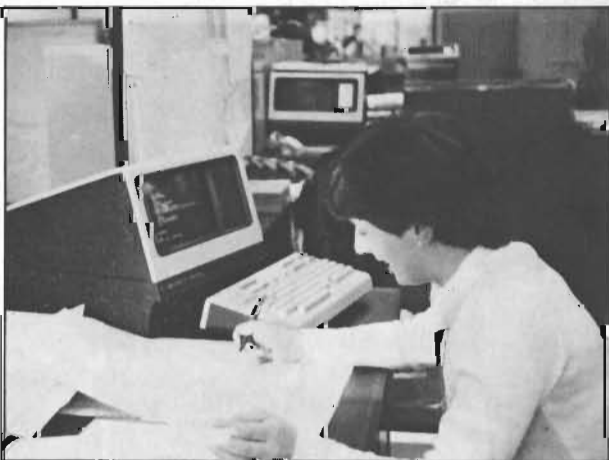
Colin Taeuber



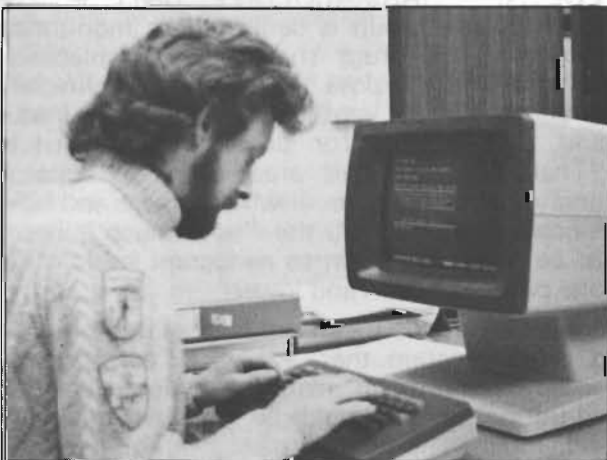
Schon Hudson



Wendy Mosden



Sophie Georgiadis



Terry Kenney

The Time: 6.00 a.m.

The Place: The EDP room in Melbourne office, and the Operations Group are about to start their day's work. By the time most HP Melbourne employees are having breakfast, the operators have received and processed incoming traffic from Palo Alto.

The OPERATIONS GROUP are responsible for three hardware systems – a 300 Series III, on-line COMSYS, and a smaller COMSYS used for communication and development. Their main tasks are divided into two areas (i) Housekeeping; and (ii) User Support.

Housekeeping – This phase of the operator's work load is transparent to most users as the tasks are performed mainly between 6.00 and 9.00 a.m. (receiving transmissions from the U.S.) and 5.00 and 8.00 p.m. (transmissions to the U.S.) They are also responsible for backing up the system in case recovery of the previous day's data is required.

User Support – These are the tasks most people see the group doing during the day – ripping off printouts; answering tape requests; running jobs for users; helping users with terminal problems. The group also supports interstate offices on COMSYS. Perth, Brisbane and Adelaide ring in on the COMSYS phone and are then connected to the system. Sydney is on-line all the time. It is interesting to note the group's work entails some 30,000 transactions per day. Both COMSYS and the HP 3000 are available to users 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT GROUP is responsible for creating, testing and implementing systems to meet specific user applications. They write local programs and then support them; and integrate applications received from the U.S. with what HP has locally. For this to be effective, the group works in close co-operation with a project team, which usually consists of a manager and several user members.

Once an application has been tested and installed and documentation is completed, responsibility passes to the co-ordinator, who is part of the user group and contributes most to the success or failure of a system. The co-ordinator is responsible for ensuring that the programs do what they are meant to do – that data file integrity is good and that the system is being used as planned.

One of the group's objectives is to provide a level and quality of EDP support such that users can meet their objectives.



Barbara Williams

Message from John Warmington



With Christmas again rapidly approaching, and our fiscal 1980 behind us, I would like to take the opportunity of thanking those responsible for such a good performance during the past 12 months.

Whilst we were a little short of the order quota established a year ago, our actual growth was particularly good when one considers some of the difficulties encountered through the year, in addition to which, our expenses were held within reasonable bounds of targets.

On behalf of the HP management, I would like to thank you for your support and wish you and your families a very happy and safe holiday season.

John Warmington

The Million Dollar Men

Congratulations to Field Engineers John Antonello (Instruments — Melbourne), Healey Blessing (Computers — Brisbane), Colin Boyle (Consumer Calculators — Melbourne), Denis Hitchens (Computers — Melbourne), John Keen (Consumer Calculators — Sydney) and John Schmidt (Instruments — Melbourne). All six have reached the \$1 million mark in orders for FY80. An outstanding achievement.

Also to be congratulated are those who have reached their FY80 Quota, and at the time of writing the list is looking healthy:

John Antonello — Instruments, Melbourne
Healey Blessing — Computers, Brisbane
Jere Bowcock — Instruments, New Zealand
Colin Boyle — Consumer Calculators, Melbourne
Bob Cattell — Medical, Melbourne
David Chambers — Computers, Perth
Ross Chapman — Computers, Melbourne
Col Colquhoun — Computers, Brisbane
Denis Hitchens — Computers, Melbourne
Bruce Ibbotson — Medical/Analytical, Brisbane
John Keen — Consumer Calculators, Sydney
Ion Klopogge — Computers, Melbourne
Chris Matthews — Cons. Calcs., Wellington (NZ)
Bruce McCormick — Instruments, Sydney
Paul McQuarrie — Medical, Sydney
Bruce Miller — Computers, Melbourne
Tim O'Sullivan — Computers, Sydney
Dave Robertson — Instruments, Brisbane
John Schmidt — Instruments, Melbourne
Gordon Smith — Instruments, Melbourne
Michael Stevens — Computers, Sydney
Bill Thomas — Computers, Sydney
Steve Watkinson — Instruments, Sydney
John Williams — Instruments, Adelaide

Well done all and may FY81 be as good or better.

Incidentally, although not eligible for the award, Russell Warmington in Melbourne was 124% of quota when he left the Computer Group to join Personnel at the end of July. Well done Russell.

In Memory Robin Schmidt

In this edition of DEPTH we would like to recognise the contribution made by Robin Schmidt who died on June 22, 1980.

Robin joined the Company in 1966 and was responsible for establishing the Personnel Department some years later.

In her personnel function she concentrated on salary administration and clearly established the HP salary survey both in Australia and New Zealand.

Robin was also the past editor of DEPTH.

We shall miss her.



Bruce Thompson

Bruce Thompson, who joined HP Melbourne in October 1968 as an Assistant Accountant, made a big move recently when he became Administration Manager of HP Taiwan.

Bruce, now 33, started his administration career with the Australian Road Research Group and then moved to HP Melbourne where he was promoted to an Accountant in June of 1972. His position was subsequently upgraded to Accounting Manager and late in 1979 Bruce took on the role of Australasian Commercial Services Manager.

His move to Taiwan is a first, as never before has someone from HP Australia moved into another management role in this Icon subsidiary. The Country Manager of HP Taiwan is Wen Ko, however Bruce functionally reports to the Far East Headquarters Administration Manager, Jeremy Beatty. Bruce's wife, Sue, and their two boys, Lachlan aged 7, and Aaron aged 5, have accompanied Bruce on this two year assignment after which Bruce will return to the Administration Group in Melbourne.

Bruce is probably a little confused as we hear they play pretty strange football in Taiwan.



WISHING YOU A

*Merry
Christmas*



AND A VERY
HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Hewlett-Packard at the 1980 World Vintage Car Rally



Scene at the opening of the Rally – some 1200 entrants all gathered together.

In 1974 the Vintage Car Club of New Zealand was selected by the International body (F.I.V.A.) to host the 21st International Vintage Car Rally in February/March 1980.

What followed then was 6 years of planning to put together the largest world rally ever held. Entries peaked at 1200 with registrations being received from New Zealand, United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Canada, the United States, Hongkong and a very large contingent from Australia.

With entries pouring in early in 1978 the Rally committee began to realise the logistics of managing a large and constantly changing registration as well as the enormity of scoring the competitive events and determining eventual winners. Prizes and trophies were to be keenly competed for by event, by class, by vehicle etc. over a 6 event rally.

Alan Thompson, District Manager for the Computer Group HP New Zealand, was cornered in a bar one evening by one of his customers. By 6 p.m. that evening there was a definite murmur of possible support for the event by HP. By 7 p.m. Alan had made a commitment of a loan of hardware. By 11 p.m. our generous District Manager had offered to write the software, key in the data base, travel to the rally and run the computer.

For many weekends and evenings over the next two years Alan could be found in the demo room tapping away on a System 9845B. Lawns and gardens reverted to a near wilderness and wife and family were kept from leaving home by the promise of two weeks holiday in Rotorua.

A still rather sceptical Rally Director and Committee visited Wellington when the software was completed, armed with dummy results data to test the system. A general feeling of gloom descended upon the room when the faithful System 45 considered the data for a few seconds and spat out a list of winners – but not in agreement with the disappointed committee.



An anxious crowd await the daily results.

Sensing he was about to lose the order our "Computer Never Lies" DM appealed for a recount. After much muttering the System 45 was declared correct and the manual tally in error.

Alan, his family and the System 45 were hosted in Rotorua by the Rally committee for the long awaited two weeks promised holiday.

Each competition day Alan's gallant team keyed in the data as the results came back from the field. Within 30 minutes of the last results arriving the progressive rally scores were posted outside Rally Headquarters. Alan and his wife Rosemary attended all official functions representing HP, including the opening luncheon with the Prime Minister. When introduced as "The Computer Expert" there was definitely an audible grunt from the Prime Minister.

As the 1980 International was a fantastic success for all those involved in it, organisers and competitors alike, so was the use of the System 45 Computer. The official rally report sent to the world body paid special tribute to the first ever use of a computer in a world rally.

The Rally Committee further guaranteed Alan's continuing support by giving him a 1938 Vauxhall 10 in appreciation for his personal contribution to the success of the Rally.



Alan Thompson and his "baby" now in the process of restoration.

Alan's programming/operating weekends have now been replaced with the restoration of the Vauxhall and outings with the local branch of the Vintage Car Club of which he is now an active member.

Rumour has it that Alan is trying to sign up the Whitbread round the world yacht race on the off chance they might donate him an ocean going racer to go with the Vauxhall.

.Alan Thompson

Calcs First on TV

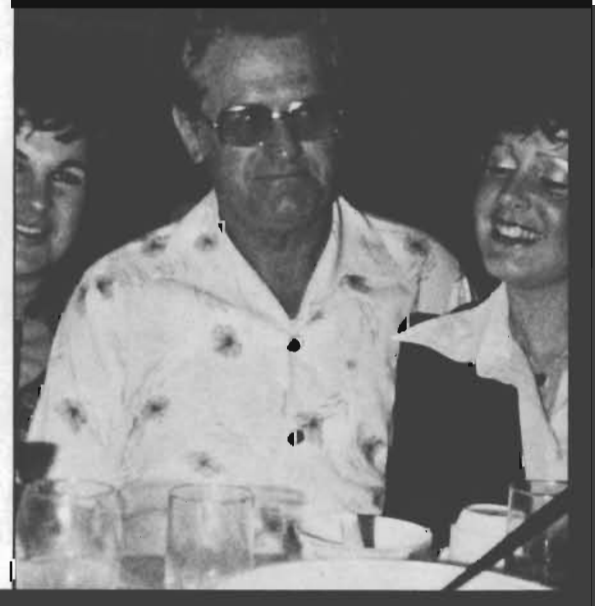
Melbourne TV viewers may have noticed ads featuring HP calculators running on Channel 9 during October. In a co-operative venture with Norman Bros. the large chain of stationers, we have been sharing a 30 second commercial with NAMCO office furniture. The ads were produced for Norman Bros.

The main HP 'prop' used in the commercial was a 4 foot high HP 33e calculator replica flown out especially from the U.S. In every way the calculator works just like a hand held model. Even the fist sized keys and 2 inch high display digits look just like the original mini. Said John Deftereos, Sales Manager of the Personal Computing Products Group, "I was going to take it home to show my kids, but it would not fit into my car", Better stick to the littlies, John!

Max Cogle

On Sunday, November 30, 1980, the people of HP lost a special workmate with Max Cogle's untimely death.

Max was a complete person within himself: he enjoyed his work and it was reflected in his warm approach to the people he worked with here at HP for nearly 7 years. We will all sadly miss his bright cheery personality and good nature.



Big Computer Exhibition

During October, Melbourne hosted the 8th World Computer Congress jointly with Tokyo. It was the biggest computer congress the exhibition ever held in Australia.

HP's stand at the exhibition was by far one of the largest at the exhibition. It was a two storey construction with demonstration areas downstairs and a meeting area and hospitality suite upstairs. Giant logos mounted high on the walls made the stand visible over the top of many surrounding stands.

Gauging by the crush of people on the stand,

lots of good sales leads must have come out of the exhibition for both HP and the many HP OEM's who were demonstrating their software.

The star of the show as usual was the System 45c colour graphics computer. At times the crowd around it was 3 deep as it went through its amazing bag of kaleidoscope tricks.

All in all, the exhibition gave HP a chance for public muscle flexing and helped to further establish a presence for the computer group in the computer industry in Australia.

Peter Delbridge



There's no doubt about it. Bruno Zeilke really runs a zappy sales meeting!

Dennis Hitchens during one of his wide awake moments.

Well actually, Dennis was not amused by these captions, so what we want you to do is write a caption for the photo that will make Dennis laugh!

If you can come up with one, and remember – Dennis is the judge – we will present you with a decanter of port, compliments of John Bieske. So go to it.



Raise (Raze?) the Titanic

When, or perhaps if, the movie "Raise the Titanic" ever hits Australian shores, the brief but straight-to-the-point review of the film by Susan Swehasky of HP in the U.S. is worth reading before you race off to see it.

As some of you may be aware, HP provided much of the equipment and expertise for the film, most of which ended up on the cutting room floor.

The review: For the moviegoer who wants to see brief flashes of HP equipment and simultaneously waste \$4.75 (plus the price of Jaffas), this movie is for you. The rest of us can stay safely at home and thumb through an HP Product Catalogue. It's cheaper and better entertainment.



"Oh, yes, you must be the petty, malicious, bigoted, blood-sucking computer salesman here to see Mr Purdom."

"Didn't We Have A Lovely Time"

How do you organise a sales meeting with two disciplines on a remote southern peninsular in the middle of winter and ensure success.

Easy – provided you follow a few simple rules:

(1) Plan the logistics to the last detail: (even ensuring the SURVIVAL KIT contains vital contents such as CHANGE for phoning home, room deodorant, bird seed, morning sickness tablets and of course several items that maintain an acceptable standard of personal hygiene.)

(2) Ensure the work agenda is solid but allow some time for rigorous head clearing mountain climbing expeditions. Mount Oberon is a 2000', one hour solid walk and worth every calorie when you get to the top.

George Wasyluk (Sydney Office) was so impressed with the view he was speechless for an hour.

(3) TOTAL TEAMWORK – The survival time for prima donnas at Wilsons Prom is about 10 milliseconds.

WHAT DID WE ACHIEVE?

(1) An active workable sales plan that will ensure our ability to overcome the many difficulties we face over the next 12–18 months – and commitment from **ALL**.

(2) A degree of teamwork and friendship within the group that would have to be the envy of the whole organization.

(3) A lot of fun doing it.

We also made many discoveries:

★ 'New Star' Tony Crocker (04 Staffie) Sydney, plays 12 string guitar better than Julian Bream (or at 3 a.m. it certainly sounded better).

★ George Wasyluk (04-CE) has a fetish about walking in the rain.

★ Tony Gullo bluffs on every third poker hand and does an excellent imitation of a frustrated green grocer.

★ Ray Gerwing – Snores loudly.

★ Tony Brewster – actually Tony re-discovered several of Newton's basic fundamentals, especially gravity – and gravity rediscovered Tony.

★ Everyone has hidden talents in the cooking of fine food. If ever HP gets out of Medical and Analytical, we are going to set up a restaurant.

★ The easy way to disable a wake up bugle is to simply shove in a cork (the bugle not the bugler).

All in all a first class meeting and if any other groups would like to learn how its done – Jill Digirolamo and Bruce Graham have the formula.

Jim Watson

Farewell to Olde Pymble

To the tune of "Farewell to Olde England Forever"

Farewell to old Bridge Street forever,
Farewell to the white office block.
Farewell to the cramped parking area
That we all seemed to fill chock-a-block.

There's Harold as is our Manager,
There's Chris and all the DM's.
There's the CE's and all of the sec'tries,
Packing the office in bins.

We have the hire of removalists,
And straight into North Ryde we will fly,
Straight into the wide open spaces
To stay there until we shall die.

Singing packing up Hewlett Packard,
Singing in HP we pack real hard

We'll all move this crampy old office,
At the end of this muddle charade.

Composed by Irene Cook
in about 30 minutes flat!!!

We have put together some candid photographs of the move from Pymble to North Ryde. Needless to say, it was quite an experience with everyone pitching in and assisting. We thought you might like to share some of the highlights of the move.

"WELL, WE'VE GOT TO BEGIN SOMEWHERE, WHY NOT WITH A COUPLE OF CANS?"



"HEY, WE'RE STILL NOT FINISHED YET.
COME OUT FROM UNDER THAT DESK AND HELP!"



"YOU CAN HANDLE ANYTHING ELSE
EXCEPT MY DRAWERS."



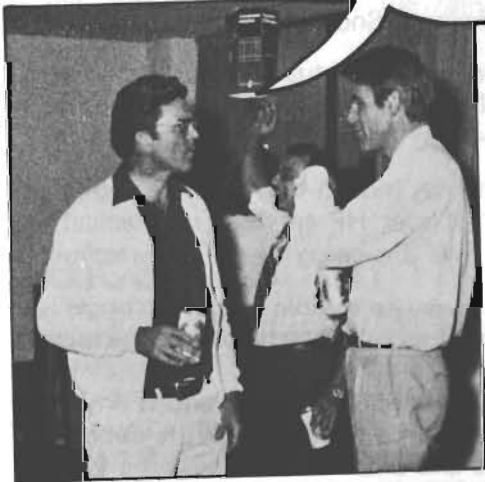
"AFTER ALL, THE SALE MUST GO ON!"



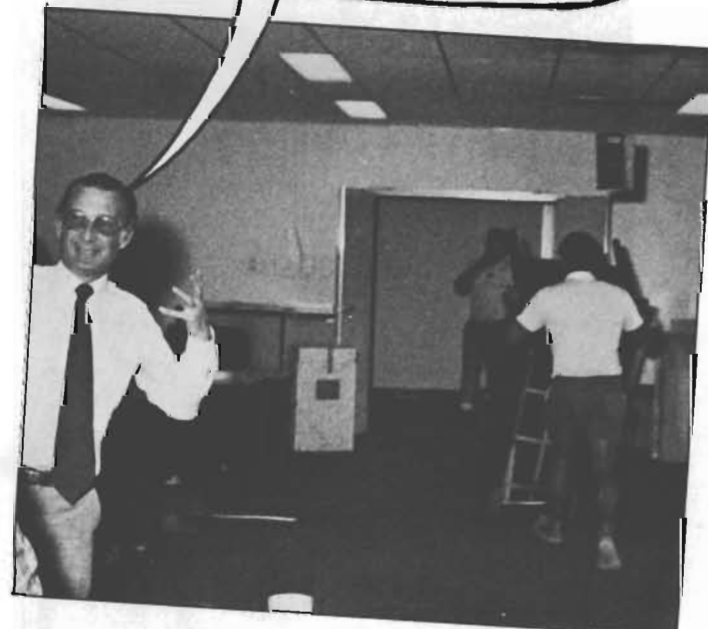
"I KNOW I'VE PUT THAT FILE SOMEWHERE."



"AND THEN MY ARM JUST WENT LIMP
AND I COULDN'T LIFT ANOTHER BOX."



"GEE, I WISH I HAD LEGS LIKE THAT."



"NOW THAT WASN'T SO
HARD AFTER ALL."



New Speed Records by Saab Turbo and HP

Using a Hewlett Packard 9845B, Saab-Scania of Sweden has smashed all 16 of the Australian Speed and Endurance records. The records, previously held by an Audi 5E, were taken in mid August at the Surfers Paradise International Racing Circuit.

There were 11 standing distance records and 5 time records to be broken. One of these was for the most distance covered in 24 hours.

The car had been specially prepared for the event by Saab and software for the 45B was written by HP Melbourne System Engineer, Dennis Malseed, and Rick Mermur from Computer Sciences Australia. Dennis informed us that the reason for using the 45B was to keep track of each record-breaking point and inform the team in advance what lap time the car would need to achieve in order to break each record by the required 1%. It was also used to calculate tyre and brake pad wear which would enable the pit crew to decide when to bring the car in for a pitstop. And whilst the car was out on the track running hard, the crew could compare its progress with Audi's standing records by looking at the graphical plots.



A driver change and the Pit Crew go in to action.



The Record Breaking SAAB in action.

The car started at 12.00 midday on August 12 and after 7 hours and with 11 records broken the run came to a grinding halt when it was found that due to an air leak via a spark plug the engine had overheated and burnt a hole in the top of one piston.

At this point, the General Manager of Saab, Sten Hansson, was faced with the need for a quick decision. Should he abandon the attempt or use another car. The latter would mean that the car would have to run 24 hours complete in order to break that record. The decision was made: Terry Liddelow, Scania-Truck Division Manager from Brisbane, had driven down to Surfers to have a look at how things were going. Before he had time to think, his 1979 model three door Saab 900 Turbo had been commandeered to continue the run.

Stiffer springs were fitted to the car and by midnight it was ready to go. In all other respects it was totally standard — in fact, not even the bonnet was lifted to check the oil level.

The car ploughed on into the night, being driven in turn by racing drivers Dick Johnson and John French from Queensland and Mike Minear and Rob Bride from Melbourne. The run was without incident.

The car went on to take the remaining 5 records, achieving the 24 hour non-stop run at an average of 116.94 kph. The Turbo had covered a total distance of 2806.46 kilometres which was 66.45 kilometres further than the Audi 5E was able to achieve.

The 45B performed immaculately and Melbourne driver, Mike Minear told us after the event "... it was invaluable, and in actual fact it outlasted the Turbo!"

Dennis Malseed had built in a feature which, each time a record was broken, printed out "Yahoo, another record broken, well done fellas!" And at 12.00 midnight at the end of the second run, that apparently gave the crew quite a laugh.

Brian Scerri

Watch-It

As Melbournians will know, there is a Safety Watch-It Campaign to help us to be more aware of every day hazards in and around the home.

This Safety Watch-It will endeavour to help you be more aware of one of the most common hazards of the home — that being cooking oil igniting on the stove.

The horror of fire in the home plus the pain that results is indescribable. Other common causes of household fires are sparks and coals dropping from open fires, failure to switch off irons, and children playing with matches. Many people are not aware that water should not be used to extinguish fires caused by boiling fat or electrical appliances. Smothering is the only way to quickly and effectively combat burning fat. Make sure you have a large item — e.g. towel or blanket. There is a fire blanket designed to be easily wrapped around a burning child or placed over an ignited pot on the stove, thus cutting off the oxygen supply and smothering the flames. In situations like this, seconds are precious.

Let's look at what happens when water is put onto burning fat at temperatures of 300 degrees (celsius) upwards. It first sinks and then explodes to more than 2000 times its volume, throwing out enough flaming fat to fill the average kitchen with a ball of fire. It is then likely to spread quickly through the house.

Another common mistake with fat fires is to attempt to move the burning pot. Time and time again people have slipped, falling onto the burning pan and totally engulfing themselves in the hot liquid.

- First aid action in burn situation.
- Remove the person from danger.
- Put out burning clothes.
- Hold the burnt area under cold water (approx 10 mins.)
- Apply a sterile dressing or a clean sheet and bandage lightly.
- Transport the person to medical aid without delay.

A final word of warning on fire in the home — toxic fumes can overcome children very quickly so it's best to get them out very smartly — but here's hoping you never have to.

Vincent Wilson

Vin is one of HP Melbourne's first aid officers, a first aid trainer with the Blackburn Football Club and an active member of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

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PACKARD**