

FAIREY SURVEYS LIMITED

Staff Notice No. 272

Confidential to Staff of Fairey Surveys Ltd.

COMPANY NEWS

1. Fairey Group News

Fairey Marine's new high-speed power boat, the Fantome, won Boat of the Show award in the power boat class of the 1973 Boat Show, and four (at a mere £16,950) have already been sold. We shall probably be doing some joint marketing with Fairey Marine, who will be exploiting our contacts in the Middle East. Mr. Bawtry will be visiting Co. Rogers shortly for discussions.

Fairey Stainless's new beer keg aroused considerable interest at the Paris brewing exhibition. Good salesmanship this - empty beer kegs can be quite depressing.

2. Operations

Flying

We've recruited another new pilot, Ken Povey, ex.RAF, who started in December. Ken spent a few days in Mapping and a few more in Photo-lab as part of his FSL indoctrination. Dick Motterhead, after working on several of our contracts on a free-lance basis, has now jointed us permanently as a navigator.

Dakota Charlie Alpha eventually arrived back from Libya in the middle of February, almost two months overdue. After the accident in Corsica, illness, bad weather and the Libyan Government Survey Department had held them up.

B80 FS arrived back last week from Nepal. The wonders of Kathmandu seem to have brought out the crew's literary genius - here's an extract from the letters on file just before Christmas:-

"There's a blue and white B80 to the North of Kathmandu  
There's five eights strato Cu below the town  
There's a broken-hearted pilot  
And a strange anoxic crew  
And Rajouria forever gazes down"

With apologies to Rudyard Kipling.

Morale in Nepal was pretty high, despite mediocre weather and somewhat worse operating conditions. The crew entered a local raffle and won a return air fare to Calcutta - they've given it to Harry Ghosh so that he can visit his Mother. The operating conditions that prevailed will necessitate a return to Nepal next season, at our expense, if the photography is to be completed.

In Saudi Arabia the crew of G-AZOH has had a slightly better time of it, although Steve Fountain is home suffering from hypertension, and has been replaced by Chris Morton-Clarke. Christmas was celebrated in comfort in the home of one of the local English expatriates. In the spells when the weather has decided it didn't want to be part of the survey team, Ian has been playing the guitar, Ken hunting down the local still, Adrian counting his money, Steve buying carpets in the local market (note from Malcolm; we'd better start making plans for fitting the RC10 to a Persian 8 x 4) and Malcolm has been writing to tell me about it. Aeroplane and crew are now camping in a power station at Medina.

Dakota Charlie Alpha is now being fitted out for the geophysical off-shore Ireland aeromagnetic survey, due to start in early March. Crew will be:-

Capt. Pol. Heines, F/Officer Ron Neal, Navigator Dick Mottershead, Geo.Operator Ralph Mathias and Data Compiler Bob Dixon.

Dove SS has been prepared for the Ordnance Survey contract, due to start early in March. Given fair wind and fortune, we will have FM back in time to take over U.K. flying from SS, early in March.

Alan Woodcock has just returned from a brief visit to Saudi Arabia and reports that life is 'nt all hardship for the crew. They've been dining off an Arab dish of Muttam and rice with the Emir of Hai, and Adrien must have made a great impression - the Emir handed him.

#### Photo-Lab

Ernie Rash joined us in mid-December after spending some time in Canada. After working in the mosaic room for a while, he went to Libya to help out in the Darkroom.

There's been a spate of accidents and illness in Operations Division. Photo-lab's share started when Brian Corbin broke his leg and carried on with Graham Roberts and Tommy Thomas, both returning sick from Libya. Peter Sharman and John Kerode went down with bouts of the Nepalese version of 'flu but are now home looking very fit, and to cap it all, Bill Gardner has just had a week off with a badly twisted knee and is still hobbling.

The second edition of John Rushton's manual of air photography is in the last pages of production, after a marathon typing effort by Sally Thorne. This covers all aspects of air photography from operating and maintaining the camera to writing film reports and developing the film.

John Wooldridge has now finished the interpretation of one section of the ERTS satellite imagery, evaluating its usefulness. There were several delays in receiving our first material from ERTS but the results have been very satisfactory.

### 3. Mapping

We welcomed Mrs. Anne Linsey as secretary to Eric Holland at the beginning of January and Susan What joined us in February as Administrative Assistant to Bill Cheffins and Tony Furioux.

Plotting section has had a very heavy work load recently and have sent out the first final orthophotomap sheets of Yenwe, Burma to the client. The first batch of photography has been received from Libya and this project is now well under way.

Both Plotting section and the Drawing Office are now working on the Newmarket road mapping, due to be delivered early in April.

Drawing Office have been a bit quiet recently, with forces spread to the field as verifiers but a healthy workload has now built up and all staff have now been pulled back.

Small scales have been very active - the new edition of the AA Book of the Road is in full swing and more work for Mitchell Beazley is about to commence on town plan illustrations. We're producing our first speculative map in small scales - a tourist map of Corfu, production is well under way and we hope to have it on the market by Easter.

The RAF modelling contract for models of the whole of the UK is now well under way and modelling sections have acquired space at White Whaltham for storage, moulding and casting.

The Flextime pilot operation has now started in the Drawing Office, and the vicinity. Jack Briggs' office has now earned the name of the 'red light' district.

Dave Wright is studying for his .AC in Surveying, Photogrammetry, Cartography and Planning at N.E.London Polytechnic on a block release scheme.

#### 4. Surveying

Mrs. Margaret Lovell joined the Department in February as Technical Assistant/Secretary.

Five Surveyors are still working on verification at Newmarket, and three on the Polstrong to St. Erth Cornwall road mapping job. The party in Libya has notched up five months now and are progressing well. They hope to be back in mid-April.

We still have between three and five Surveyors doing additional work on the Wash with King P.F.G. Canute in charge of the party. Three Surveyors, including Ron Russell, have just started on the Stoke-Derby Motorway Link survey. Ron had some limbering up to do - it's his first field job for eighteen months. John Brownlee is taking over in the office for the time being.

Lee Kim Siem was seconded to Surveying at the beginning of February, for one month, and was immediately sent to Libya. What did he do to deserve that?

#### 5. Geophysics

The re-sale of our magnetic survey data continues, and since our last edition of Company News, the offshore Norwegian data has been sold to Elf-Norge and Bow Valley.

Owing to Charlie Alpha's accident in Ajaccio and the bad weather in Libya, the aeromagnetic survey planned to be flown offshore S.W. Ireland had to be postponed but now the plane is back, work is going full speed ahead putting in the geophysics equipment.

Bob Wallace, with the help of Peter Lilley, completed a shallow seismic survey in North Wales for Sir Owen Williams and Partners as a follow-up to FSL ground survey and photogeological work. Bob has completed the interpretation of the data and a report has been sent to the client.

Esso Exploration have accepted our bid for digitizing the analogue profiles and track plots for our offshore Ireland survey and we look forward to further requests for this type of work.

Maurice Huggett spent a week in New York and a week at the Society of Exploration Geophysicists Conference and Exhibition at Los Angeles - Disneyland.

Len Sellwood is still doing his bit for the Survey department in Libya - no requests yet for immediate withdrawal. Bob Dizon and Alex Copeland have returned to the department to help with the Ireland Survey. Bob will be going to Ireland with Ralph Mathias.

We've lost Trevor Miles, Peter Lilley and Peter Till - but Trevor came back from Johannesburg to claim a drink from Peter Till when he left at the end of February.

We're pleased to see Dick Mottershead with Fairey Surveys on a permanent basis. Dick has worked on several of our geophysical contracts previously and has been seconded to Geophysics for the offshore S.W. Ireland survey.

#### 6. R.&I.

A considerable amount of work has been done on the high-priority job for LVTE. This work is continuing and is likely to be with us for at least a couple more months.

R.&I. is involved in a sales promotion exhibition with M.O.D. to try to convince the R.A.F. of the need to use the environmental containers which have been developed by R.&I. for use in a Canberra PR7 squadron, which is about to be formed.

We have been awarded a contract by the Ministry of Defence to repair and overhaul their type 35 air camera controls.

The multi-spectral viewer being developed by R.&I. for photo-lab in connection with ERIS 'A' photography will be delivered during February.

There are a number of prospects for the department. One is to sell an anti vibration mounting system to Brazil as part of an automatic coffee inventory system. Discussions are taking place with two or three firms who will be tendering for the complete project. We are hoping shortly to receive a contract from the M.O.D. to modify and calibrate several more of the GWI target cameras, one of which we modified recently for Ministry flight trials on a new target in Australia.

#### 7. Flight Trials

When Charlie Alpha had the accident in Corsica, Freddie Worton flew to Manchester, picked up spares from Charlie Tango and took them out to Ajaccio the same day. He was then able to take advantage of the good weather in Malta to do some high-altitude flight trials there. These were completed in four days, very successfully, and there is a possibility of going again this year.

The weather in Britain has made flight trials almost impossible for the past two months, but Freddie Worton found better weather in Spain on his holiday for two weeks in December.

Talks have been going on with the Weapons Dept., at Farnborough on stereo-photography of waves for model making. This requires two cameras operating simultaneously and we have been experimenting with this technique recently for the National Institute of Oceanography.

Permission to conduct flight trials over France has been subject to some delay - apparently because the man at M.O.D. dealing with the application has 'left the firm' as the Ministry quaintly put it.

Congratulations to Freddie Worton on his appointment to membership of the Council of the Photogrammetric Society as representative of the Royal Photographic Society. He has also been appointed U.K. correspondent for Commission I of the International Society of Photogrammetry.

8. U.K. Marketing

U.K. Marketing have won the largest single U.K. Contract ever awarded to F.S.L. - more than half as big again as our previous largest. Predictably its a motorway job, the M1 - M6 link between Stoke and Derby, a distance of 50 Kms. We'll be providing mapping at 1:500, 1:1,000 and 1:2500. Client is the Midland Road Construction Unit, for whom we mapped the Little Eaton to Holbrook and Chapel-en-le-Frith By-Passes.

We've won a large orthophotomapping contract for road improvements in Berkshire and it is being done direct from the existing Berkshire County Cover. This is ideal U.K. work for the winter, when flying and photography is very unpredictable (due to the aircraft being in Libya).

We're very pleased to be working for Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners again - they've awarded us the road mapping contract for Ringway 3, the north-western section of London's new ring road system. Alex Gibb was the client for the M4 1:2500 mapping contract.

U.K. Sales staff have been excelling themselves recently - they've just won their first order from a European publishing house for small scales work, as a direct result of the mail-shot in June and all the negotiations have been conducted in Italian. They've also sold the first multispectral viewer being produced by R.&.I. before even the prototype is ready, and without knowing the price!

Bix Clark is in Scotland for the first half of March. We have contracts awaiting flying up there and diplomacy will be required as usual during his visit discussions.

9. Overseas Marketing

Following his visit to Saudi Arabia just before Christmas, Col. Rogers returned to finalize a mapping contract for planning of the Northern Region. Ken Pinkney made a very short visit to Libya and Reg. Caudle spent a few days in Portugal, but otherwise the staff has wintered in Maidenhead. New contracts include a D.O.S. photographic job in Ghana (March and April) and a number of small drawing and revision tasks.

At long last a satisfactory financial agreement has been reached with United Nations Clients to pay for all the extra work we have done on the Burma Contract. This is particularly satisfying in terms of the efforts of our Field Surveyors, which will now be rewarded.

10. Publicity and Public Relations

Kodak caused some disruption before Christmas, taking photographs of some of our production processes for use in a presentation on their new training centre at Hemel Hempstead. The lights they used were so powerful that they penetrated the supposedly light-tight box of the Topocart film. Vic Harding was not pleased, but they took some beautiful pictures of him. Memo to film club: if you want superb colour slides, use £5,000 worth of equipment and take 36 shots of every picture. You can't go wrong. I've got the slides for anyone who wants to see them.

The Technical Information sheets are all being reprinted - if anyone knows of anything that needs changing, please let me know.

11. General

Betty Harris has had more trouble with her slipped disc, and was taken back into hospital last week. We all wish her the best of luck with the operation at the end of this month.

In Accounts Department, Kathy Westall has left to have a baby and Liz Garraway has joined. We're glad to see Miss Lee back, after a long absence following a car accident.

Cissie was very welcome, returning to the canteen, after her illness, and we hope it won't be long before she's a hundred per cent. Since Maria left we've missed her Italian dishes from the menu but now we're in the Common Market how about a French or German Cook? Beef bourgignon or Kirschtorte would'n't go amiss at all.

The badminton team had a mens' doubles match against Hunting Surveys on 8th March. The honour of Fairey Surveys was upheld - we won 6 - 3. Return match - mixed - is to be held on the 15th.

Gillian Edwards  
12.3.73.

Stop Press

B80 G-AZFS left White Waltham 15.08 hrs 5.3.73 for Ghana D.O.S. contract - photography of 9,900 sq. mls. central Ghana for mapping at 1:40,000. Crew:- Captain Tom Kirkwood, Tony Bosely, George Spicer and 'Red' O'Dell.

We had a cable this morning from Jim Storrie to say that the Libyan photography was complete, subject to checking the last films. It'll probably take a week to wind up in Tripoli before the aircraft and crew come back to the U.K.