



CCS-NW Christmas & New Year quiz 2019

I hope you found this interesting and brain teasing last year. Anyway, I've done it again this year. Unfortunately, I misplaced my notebook with a few quiz ideas recently, so there is less variety than I'd intended.

Several of the questions related to places I've been and people I've talked to in the last 12 months and have found fascinating. So, unapologetically, there *is* rather a hardware bias. I'll see if I can make it "softer" in 2020.

Answers sometime in January.

Good luck, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Bob Geatrell

Chair CCS NW Group.

Were you paying attention?

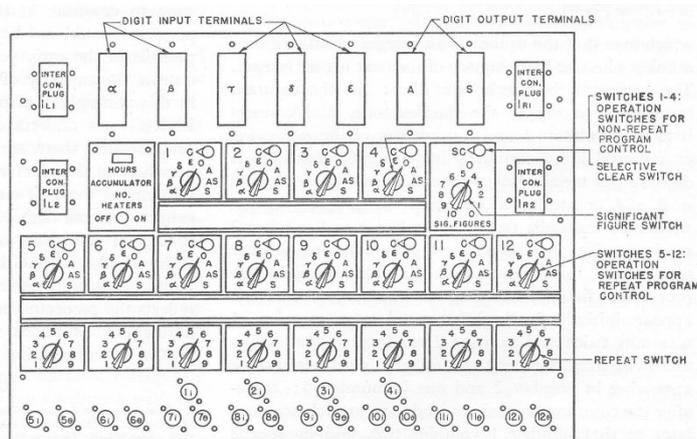
A few questions relating to the presentations this year. Which presentation and to what do they refer? There may be more than one ...

1. What novel method was used to communicate about weather conditions at distance?
2. What local legend did we see in film?
3. Complete ... "If the boss calls"?
4. What or who spent longer than planned at the dry cleaners?
5. Bit slices were mentioned twice. By who?
6. Who had an underground practice site?
7. Where was a Wren with a Finch?
8. Where did the perforated sheets come in?
9. What was no longer in use, but was "spotted" one 12th October?
10. Why was the Bloodhound Control Post painted a khaki colour?
11. Dik and Rod (which I thought was a *highly* unlikely name for a double act!) gave us a belated Christmas song: "The 12 bugs of Christmas". Can you fill in from the 5th day?

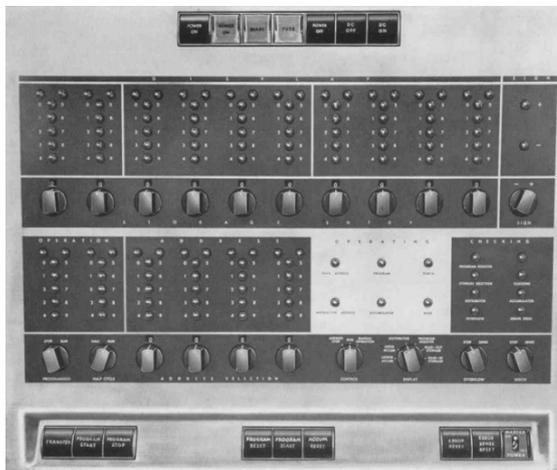
*"For the Fifth bug of Christmas, my manager said to me:
Ask for a -----,
Run with the -----,
Try to ----- it.
Ask them -----,
and see if they can -----"*

Consoles

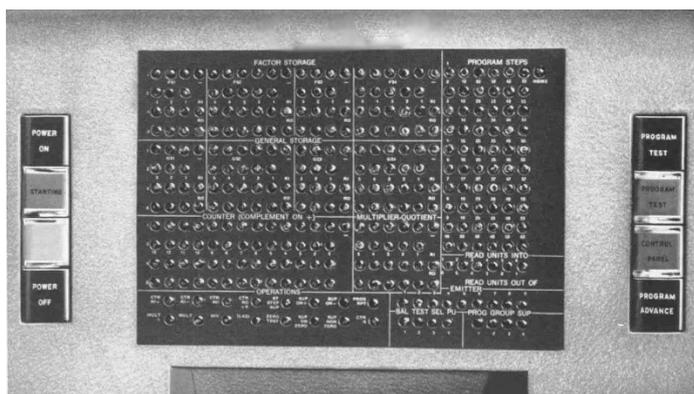
You know that I like old consoles and control panels and the like. What are these: ?



#1



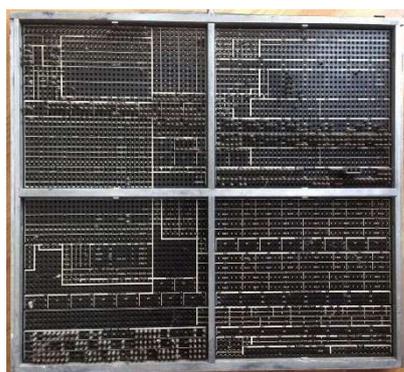
#2



#3



#4



#5



#6

Some things I saw this year

I've had a few trips this year and seen some fascinating stuff. Can you identify these objects I saw?



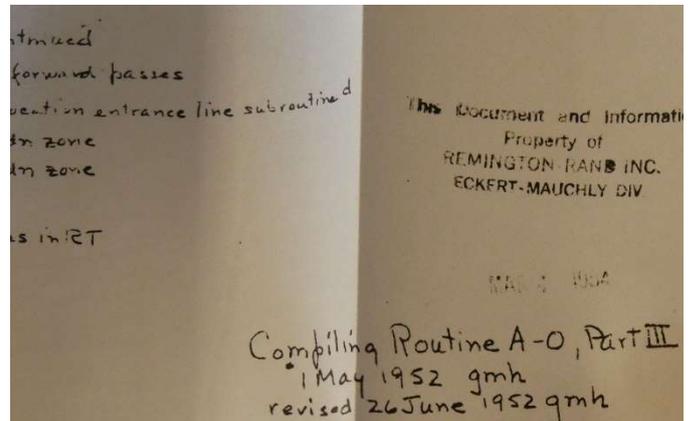
#1: What. And whose?



#2: My first ever Computer



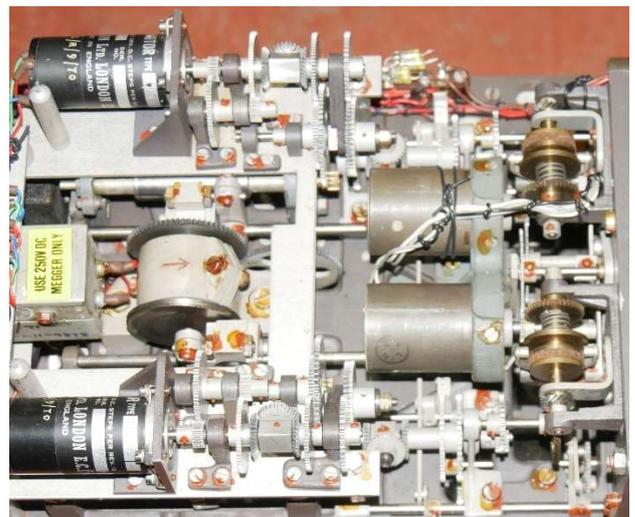
#3 May have been useful in the election?



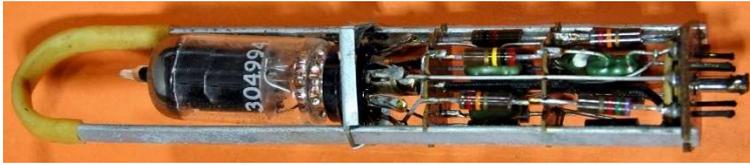
#4: Why "gmh"?



#5: From a washing machine maker?? Was it better than Mercury??



#6: All geared up for a trip?



#7 Early MSI?



#8: Where might it have jumped?



#9 a comput-Err?

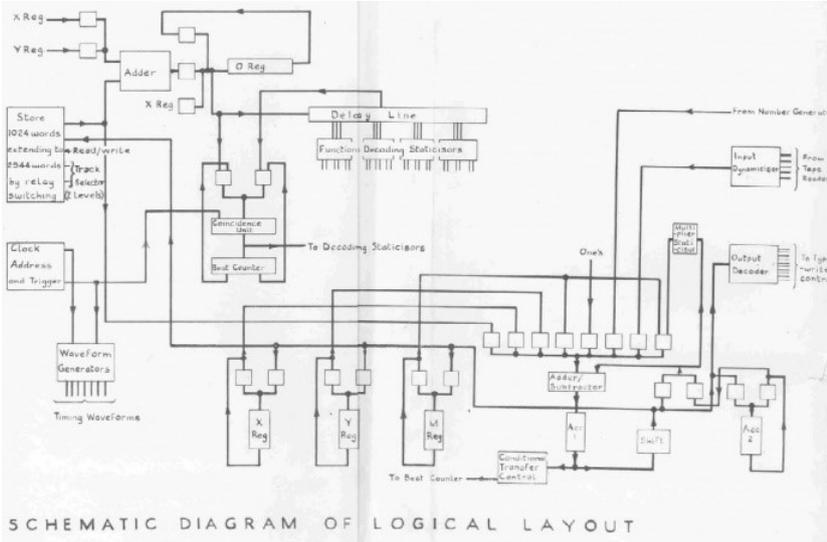
Resurrecting the past:

Some questions from the early days of the CCS

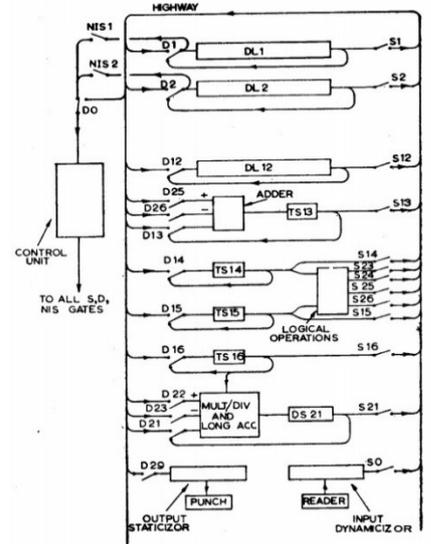
1. What was the first machine the society decide to restore?
2. Why did the EDSAC designer decide that “half-words” were a good idea?
3. How could you recognise early electronic engineers in the way they approached a piece of equipment?
4. Who produced the first ALGOL translator?
5. During development of his storage tube, FC Williams tried a two-tube system. Why two?
6. In 1993, the CCS had a reception to mark the 40th anniversary of the birth of which computer?

Computer System diagrams

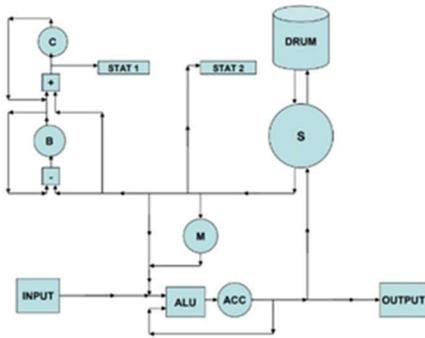
I know these are difficult, but can you recognise any of these early systems?



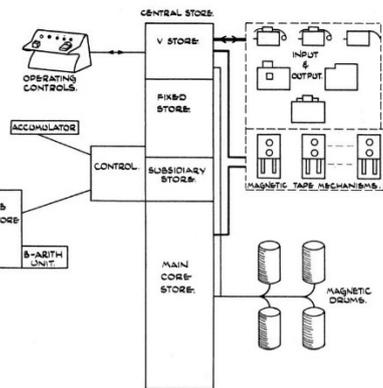
#1



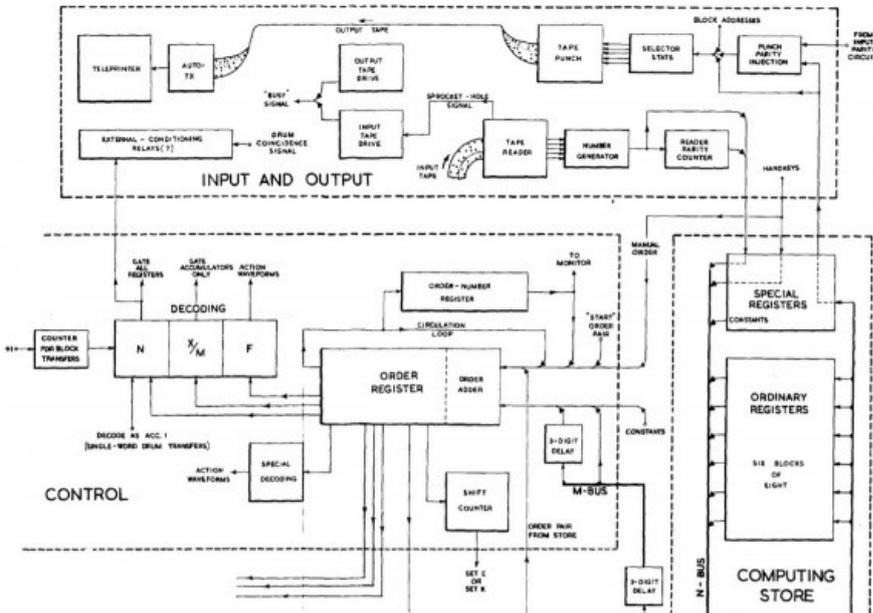
#2



#3



#4



#5 (This is only a part as it's a big diagram)



A few sums

In the course of trying to devour the entire "Internet of Old Computers", I came across some magazines from the 50s. Their idea of a Christmas Quiz was a maths puzzle. I think the world of computer puzzles has moved on from those days.

These are from 1954 and 1955. Give them a go.

GREETING TO COMPUTERS

$$\begin{array}{r}
\text{times} \quad \begin{array}{r} \text{M E R R Y} \\ \text{X M A S} \end{array} \\
\hline
\begin{array}{r} \text{O R T E E Y} \\ \text{L C R A A Y} \\ \text{P L A T T Y} \\ \text{O R T E E Y} \end{array} \\
\hline
= \begin{array}{r} \text{S L Y X M P M O Y,} \\ \text{S R E E A T X A Y C} \end{array} \\
\hline
= \text{P E A C E T O A L L} \quad \text{S I X} = \text{C I S}
\end{array}$$

and we wish you 32763 61456 38856 16513 4

GREETING TO COMPUTERS

December 25 is coming, and so we should like to wish you all:

$$\begin{array}{r}
\begin{array}{r} \text{M E R R Y} \\ + \text{X M A S} \end{array} \\
\hline
= \text{R S M E Y}
\end{array}
\qquad
\begin{array}{r}
\begin{array}{r} \text{H A P P Y} \\ + \text{N E W} \\ + \text{Y E A R} \end{array} \\
\hline
= \text{H R R E S}
\end{array}$$

G E M = H E W

and 86986 14756 94379 55431 70.

(Solve for the digits — each letter stands for just one digit 0 to 9.)