

sophisticated camera and plate making techniques. This resulted in the appearance of the latest heat-set web-offset litho printing presses, which in turn led to the first tentative steps in magazine printing.

One notable success was with the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965. This took place on a Saturday, and using all the various latest technologies of the day, we produced a full-colour newspaper which was on the streets of London by 5pm on the day of the funeral, and additionally had full-colour special editions of our local titles on sale by the Sunday, thereby beating all the national dailies as well as the Sunday papers. This fast turnaround could not have been achieved without the advances in printing technology pioneered and put into practice in the Banbury factory.

By this time our presses were running close to full capacity with in addition to our own local papers, such publications as *Record Mirror*, *Soviet News*, *Yachting & Boating Weekly* and two massive monthly papers, *Rail News* and *Coal News*, together with several other smaller weekly and monthly titles, quite a few of which were house newspapers for various companies; an ideal solution using cold-set web-offset litho, a cheaper and faster process than letterpress.

We next began printing on contract a Sunday newspaper for the Channel Islands called *The Island Sun*. Once again we were in the forefront of technology using all the latest communication aids including teleprinters, fax machines and even one of the first microwave links. Additionally we had a helicopter courier service from the Channel Islands for late copy and photographs, and once again we did a quick turnaround issue to cover the Jersey Battle of Flowers, having a full-colour special edition on the streets the day after the event. The paper itself did not last very long but it left us with its communication infrastructure, which proved useful in later years.

By now the situation in origination had progressed to experimentation with true computerised phototypesetting. After a brief and unsuccessful trial with one system it was decided to try the Harris Intertype system; a company with which we had built up a good relationship during the hot metal days. It was decided, at the instigation of the union, to retrain existing operators on the 'qwertyuiop' keyboard and further to train proofreaders to read and correct on editing terminals. To this end I and some other colleagues from the Reading Department were sent down to the Harris factory for a short three-day training course, after which we were trained on the keyboard in order to be able to type in our own corrections direct onto the screen.