TROUP BYWATERS + ANDERS
40th Anniversary
The Foundations

Freddie Bywaters, an electrical engineer nicknamed “The Toff”, was a well-known character in the Consultancy World in the mid-fifties when he decided to leave Stinton Jones to set up his own Consultancy firm of F. R. Bywaters, Consulting Engineers.

F. R. Bywaters commenced in sole Practice in the West End of London around 1956/57, eventually taking a part lease in 26 Seymour Street.

As he progressed from small beginnings carrying out projects on his own and working with others, it became apparent that he needed to extend his project range and persuade a mechanical partner to join him. Among his many acquaintances were R G Troup and Percy Anders, a mechanical design engineer who had worked with Freddie at Stinton Jones Partnership. Both agreed to join him to form a new Partnership and, thus, the Practice of Troup Bywaters & Anders came together on 1st June 1958 with the joining of Freddie Bywaters and Percy Anders in Partnership to provide M & E Consultancy advice and Troup providing the project input from his numerous contacts.

Little is recorded of Troup who was not an active Partner of the Practice but took a commission on the fees on projects he brought into the Practice. He took no part in the Consulting side, moving abroad to live and a few years after the TBA formation, he was unfortunately killed in a motoring accident in South Africa.

However, as with most Practices, once formed the names are rarely changed and the name of Troup remains an important link with our past and our future and the Practice is still known to many in the business as “Troups”.

The Practice of Troup Bywaters & Anders commenced work on the 1st floor of no. 26 Seymour Street immediately behind Oxford Street and close to Marble Arch Underground Station. Our telephone number was Ambassador 1041.

The records show that the turnover for the first year to 31st May 1959 was £3,144. 5sh. 0d.

In 1959 Jim Wright, an Electrical Engineer who had spent some years with Freddie Bywaters at Stinton Jones left Sir Robert McAlpine to become the first employee of TBA, and later the same year he was joined by Les Fisher, a Mechanical Engineer also with Sir Robert McAlpine and Derek Lawes, an Electrical Engineer from Stinton Jones.
The Sixties
The Formative Years

From its commencement in 1958 through to the early sixties the Practice was engaged in a variety of projects.

The first recorded major projects in the Practice Archives during this early period were “The Chester Beatty Research Clinic” for the Institute of Cancer Research at Fulham and Pollards Wood and “The Royal Marsden Hospital, at Fulham and Sutton”. The latter project began a long association with the Royal Marsden Hospital (a Hospital specialising in the treatment of Cancer) and also laid the early foundations for the Practice’s involvement in major Health Sector projects which continues to this day.

The other appointments which were to prove to be a significant watershed in the Practice development were a series of Bank Branch refurbishments in the Midlands and South-East England for the then “National Provincial Bank”, later, of course, to be merged with the Westminster Bank to become the present major National Westminster Bank plc.

In 1962 initial design work was being carried out on the new H.Q. building for the then National Provincial Bank when the Labour Government of the day curtailed all planning permission for new office developments and this prestigious appointment was subsequently terminated. Fortunately for the Practice the project returned as an appointment for the newly formed National Westminster Bank and work recommenced on the NatWest Tower, the largest project ever undertaken by the Practice at that time.

At the same time, in 1963, a major project was secured for Cameron Ironworks Inc., a large American manufacturer. Cameron Ironworks had decided to set up a new manufacturing plant at Livingston in Scotland, not far from Edinburgh, to manufacture thick wall pipe and heavy duty valves to serve the North Sea Oil Fields which were rapidly expanding at that time.

Quick success had, therefore, been achieved in six years with additional space being taken in Seymour Street and senior staff attracted to manage the major projects secured by the Practice.

In the period 1960/65 Derek Crow, Tony Mason, Bob Shepherd, Ian Bush and David Arnold all joined the Practice, later to become Partners as the business continued to expand.

At the height of this success, however, fate took a hand and in December 1965 Freddie Bywaters died suddenly of a heart attack leaving Percy Anders as the sole surviving Partner. A difficult period absorbing this loss was to follow in 1966 but by 1967 the Practice was to expand again. Jim Wright and Les Fisher became Partners of the Practice and a new office was opened in Brentwood, Essex managed by Derek Crow to cope with the large Hospital projects secured for the North East Thames Regional Health Authority.

In the same year the Practice opened a Leeds office by acquisition of the local Practice of Kenneth Firth. The Leeds office was managed by Bob Sheppard, an Associate with the Practice, who later became a Partner.
The Seventies
Consolidation

The expansion of the Partnership continued at the commencement of the Seventies with the introduction of two new Partners - Derek Crow with specific responsibility for the Essex office and Tony Mason, in the London City Office.

In London, the Practice required additional space and extension offices to 26 Seymour Street were taken at Quebec Street (immediately round the corner to Seymour Street) and at 18 Seymour Street. David Arnold joined the Partnership managing the Seymour Street extensions and in the City of London, the Practice opened a City Office at Rivington Street to deal with the major projects in the City.

Design and Construction of the NatWest Tower continued in earnest and was an active project throughout the decade.

The Seventies brought steady expansion to the Partnership in the continuation of major contracts for Health Sector projects at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Chase Farm Hospital in Enfield, Hospitals in Middlesex, Edgware, Kingston and Barnet.

Leeds office saw a change in management in the mid-seventies with Les Fisher taking over from Bob Sheppard and major projects were undertaken at the Leicester General Hospital and Newton Green Hospital, Leeds.

In addition to the Health Sector, the Practice was carrying out major projects for IBM at their manufacturing plant in Greenock, various office developments in the London area, Leisure Projects such as the East Stand at Chelsea Football Club.

The mid-Seventies saw new Clients established in the H.M. Prison Service, the Property Services Agency, Hotel and Leisure Sector and the Commercial Sector.

The Property Services Agency (now privatised) was responsible for the procurement of Government buildings in the late seventies. The Practice was successful in securing several appointments with the PSA, the most significant being the refurbishment of the OPO (Old Public Offices) in Whitehall, a phased project which was to continue well into the eighties.

At the close of the Seventies, the Practice’s reputation was well-established with a nucleus of important construction sectors and strong client/consultant relationships.

In the late Seventies the Practice first introduced the “TBA Weekend” which became a regular feature for the next 12 years. The first weekend was at The Mansion House Hotel, Eastbourne in January 1977 and brought together all those who then worked for the Practice together with their wives/partners and family.
The Eighties
Booming Construction

W hereas the Seventies had shown a period of steady expansion with little change in the Partnership structure, the Eighties were to generate considerable change.

In 1980 the City Office was closed and a new office opened at Paddock Wood in Kent, managed by Tony Mason and Arthur Goddard.

In London the Practice expanded and opened two new offices in addition to Seymour Street. One at Edgware Road, opened in 1985 and managed by Brian Vince and one at Praed Street, opened in 1986 and managed by Derek Lawes.

In Essex, in addition to the office at Harold Wood managed by Derek Crow and Rex Bunker, an office was opened in 1987 in Brentwood managed by Ian Bush.

Les Fisher who had managed the Leeds office and Percy Anders in London, the last founding Partner, both retired in 1982 with Jim Wright taking over the role of Senior Partner for the Practice. Six new Partners joined the Practice during the period 1984/1987 including Terry Gilliland who was appointed Partner in the Leeds office after a period of management from Derek Crow in Brentwood.

By the end of the eighties Tony Mason had retired and John Crane had joined the Partnership. The Practice was then being managed by 10 Partners from seven different offices and the total Practice size had increased to 250 strong. The Construction Industry was going through a boom period in the mid to late eighties and the Practice prepared for the Nineties with the planning of new offices in London, Essex and Leeds.

The Practice remained active in its principal areas of Banking, Health, Government and the Prison Service and had extended its Client base into Retail and Leisure, Judiciary, Railways, Supermarkets, Motor Industry, the BBC and Laboratories.

Important projects during this decade were the new London Prison at HMP Belmarsh, Broadgate Phase 6 for NatWest Markets, the refurbishment of The Mansion House, home of the Lord Mayor of London, refurbishment over a number of phases of the Foreign and Commonwealth Offices, Whitehall, the new Parliamentary Offices in Bridge Street, BBC Television Centre, Cascades Development at Canary Wharf, and Chorley Hospital Redevelopment in the North West.

The Practice continued holding its Firm’s Weekends which had become a popular event visiting Eastbourne several times, Brighton, Stratford-on-Avon and Banbury before becoming regular yearly visitors to the Dormy Hotel in Ferndown.
The Nineties
Recession and Recovery

The confidence of the late Eighties spilled over into 1990 with the Practice making several significant office moves.

In May 1990 the three offices in Edgware Road, Praed Street and Seymour Street were brought together in one Head Office at the current address of Seymour House, 51 Praed Street, London and the last link with the original office, where the Practice commenced, 26 Seymour Street, was broken.

August 1990 saw the Brentwood office move to a new self-contained larger office at Cravengate and in Leeds new accommodation was taken at Eastgate House.

In London, Jim Wright retired in December 1990 and David Arnold assumed the role of Senior Partner.

Signs of the recession in the Construction industry were beginning to show and the years 1991 - 1995 proved to be some of the most difficult the Practice had had to face since it’s formation. Fee competition had reduced fees to virtually unprofitable levels; mergers, closures, limited companies, different procurement methods, and the Government PFI ‘initiative’ changed both the market place and the role of the Consulting Engineer.

In spite of these difficulties, the Practice carried out some major projects in the Nineties with some innovative design. The D.T.I. Headquarters at No. 1 Victoria Street was refurbished with chilled ceiling air conditioning and the new Barclaycard HQ at Northampton was completed with mixed mode chilled beam conditioning.

The Practice was successful in being appointed for the Defence Research Association (MOD) Rationalisation, a project involving the co-ordination and resources of all TBA offices and London and Leeds offices remained busy in the traditional Banking and Health Sectors.

In 1994 Arthur Goddard, in Kent, and Derek Lawes in London retired and the Kent office was closed.

In January 1995 the two Essex offices at Harold Wood and Brentwood came together under one roof in the Brentwood office and the Harold Wood office was converted to a Business Centre.

In December 1996 Ian Bush retired and the management of Brentwood passed to Rex Bunker.
Dr David Arnold, Senior Partner, Troup Bywaters & Anders
President CIBSE 1994
Dr David Arnold

David Arnold gained two years experience in an engineering factory before joining Edward A Pearce and Partners Consulting Engineers in 1962. Four and a half years later he joined Troup, Bywaters and Anders Consulting Engineers as an intermediate engineer. In 1973 he was made a partner and became senior partner in 1991.

He is a chartered engineer and fellow of The Royal Academy of Engineering, and holds the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy (in thermal storage) as well as Master of Science (in architecture). He is a member of the IMechE and ASHRAE.

He has been an active member of the CIBSE since 1975, and was chairman of the Meetings Committee between 1980 and 1985, a member of Council between 1984 and 1987 and chairman of the Strategy 2000 Committee.

David is currently chairman of the Clima 2000 Executive Committee and NEC, past chairman and co-founder of the CIBSE TSG, a member of the ASHRAE Journal editorial board and the ASHRAE Publishing Council.
Foreign & Commonwealth Office