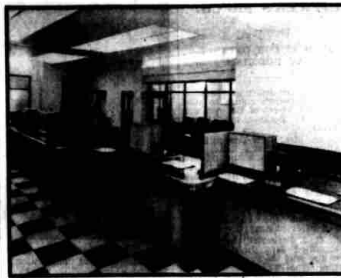


A NEWQUAY BANK HAS A NEW LOOK

**BARCLAYS BUILDING
MODERNISED AND
TRANSFORMED**

**Handsome New Banking Hall and
Offices, and Mechanisation, to
Serve Needs of Growing Resort**



The new banking hall described in this page.

THE premises of Barclays Bank in Bank Street, Newquay, have now been re-opened after a complete internal transformation which has taken almost twelve months to complete. From an old-town bank which had served Newquay since it was last "modernised" in 1915, the interior of the old building has been completely re-planned and largely re-built to produce an imposing spacious banking office which should meet the needs of this rapidly growing seaside resort for many years to come.

The roots of this business which has served Newquay as well for over 80 years, go back 187 years to 1771 when the *Minerva Bank* was founded by James Williams, Carnarvon, St. Columb. The first Newquay branch was opened in 1874 under the control of the St. Columb branch's sub-manager was appointed in 1893 and the first manager in May, 1922.

Three Managers in 56 Years

In the succeeding 56 years the business of the bank has been directed by only three managers. The first was T. H. Williams, who retired in October, 1924, and he was succeeded by Mr. W. Hewish, who retired in August, 1948. The present manager, Mr. L. R. Tibbrook, was appointed.

It was at the beginning of last year that the decision was reached that it was necessary to enlarge the premises to cope adequately with the increasing volume of business. It was decided that the reconstruction work should be carried out so that the reconstructed building should be ready for opening in time for this summer season.

The reconstruction work began on July 1 and the target date for re-opening was May 12. At 10 a.m. on that date the doors reopened and the first customers began to admire the fine new banking hall.

The task of preparing plans to meet the new requirements was entrusted to Messrs. Cow & Drevitt and Wheatley, the Penzance architects, who had reconstructed the premises in 1915. The plan was to incorporate an enlarged banking hall with a counter for an cashier, a securities department, manager's room, interview room, machine room, typist room, book room and a much larger strongroom.

The Alterations

In the plan adopted the space occupied by the old strongroom and manager's office was brought into the banking hall, and the ground at the back of the existing building excavated in order to build a new interview room, manager's office immediately off the banking hall and beyond that a new strongroom and bookroom with cloakrooms and staff room above.

Detailed plans, specifications and bills of quantities were then prepared and sent out to tender to seven firms. The lowest tender received was that of Messrs. W. C. Pearce and Sons, Ltd., of Newquay, and their tender was accepted.

Work on the new building began in July of last year at the rear of the existing building. This entailed excavating an area of about 40 sq. ft. to a depth of 14ft. before any actual building could start.

The discovery of a mine adit so interested the contractors and their employees that Mr. George White, secretary of the Old Cornwall Society, was called in. He came to the conclusion that it probably came from the old Newquay silver and lead mine at Mount Wise.

The excavations having been completed, work started on the construction of the strongroom, which is tanked in asphalt and built of reinforced concrete.

Six Weeks To Demolish Old Strongroom

With the bank still in residence, work continued until the end of September when, taking advantage of Newquay Urban Council's move to their new Municipal Offices at Marcus Hill, the Bank took temporary possession of the old Council offices in Beach Road.

The whole of the ground floor, and the flat above, were then taken

over by the contractors. One of their first jobs was to remove the old strongroom, which was built of reinforced concrete and although pneumatic drills were used, it took about six weeks to demolish. However, they were expected to take about two weeks.

The old strongroom is firmly believed to have been a piece of old Newquay workmanship with gravel laid from Little Pitra, and it was tough going breaking it up. It caused a serious delay in the programme of work the contractors had set themselves. However, they made up the lost time and the bank was able to move back in time to open the new premises on the appointed day.

Decorative Timbers

One of the outstanding features of the new building is the use of decorative timbers to provide dignified colour schemes in the general design of the banking hall, together with a most effective lighting system admirably suited to this type of building.

Owing to the length of the banking hall the lighting is of considerable importance. Because of this a harnessed ceiling has been used, consisting of panels of corrugated perspex with fluorescent light fittings behind them. This gives a pleasing and effective lighting system which is evenly

distributed over the whole area. The bank counters and fittings, all of which were designed by the architects and made by the Bouverton Builders of Totnes, have been planned to provide the maximum public space and make a feature of being stepped back towards the entrance in place of the usual single long counter.

Woodwork—and Lizard Serpentine

The timbers used are Sapele mahogany with panels of figured avodire, which is a honey coloured wood with a strong graining which takes up the light and gives an almost iridescent sheen.

The counter tops are in black paraquax or red linoleum, while the base of the counter is finished with green serpentine from the Lizard. It has a high polish, but unfortunately can be obtained only in small pieces and has to be made up in the form, mounted on a blockwood backing, but nevertheless it looks most effective.

The floor covering of the public space in the banking hall is in penny red and sycamore linoleum tiles on asphalt, while the walls are a soft green and the tiles to the ceiling are coloured pink. The manager's office is at the extreme end of the banking hall

and behind it, to provide light and air to this end of the building is an attractive paved quadrangle with provision for a flower bed along the wall.

Mechanised Book-Keeping

The building is heated by a gas fired boiler and hot water system using Crane Skirting Heating around the walls. In the boiler house is a thermostatically controlled gas boiler which automatically cuts out on Saturday afternoons and Sundays and can be adjusted to provide the temperature required.

Completed with the advent of the new premises comes mechanisation and on Monday all customers received notices enclosing a statement of account up to Saturday, after which the machines took over control of the book-keeping. From the public counter customers can see the petty clerks operating the recording and calculating machines which carry out this work.

The new premises and the much improved facilities offered therein should prove attractive and convenient to customers and staff alike, and already much favourable comment has been passed.

AS POPULAR AS EVER

"GAYTIME" OPENS TENTH YEAR AT NEWQUAY

When Hedley Claxton's 1958 version of "Gaytime" opened at Newquay's Cozy Nook Theatre on Saturday, the company was welcomed by Mr. Weymouth Bennett, Chairman of Newquay Urban Council.

It was the beginning of the show's tenth year at the theatre. Having said how pleased Newquay would be to see old friends back, Mr. Bennett welcomed the new members of the company.

Mr. Claxton paid tribute to the company, with a special word for leading comic Terry O'Neill, back at Newquay for his sixth season, and his fifth at the Cozy Nook.

It is a strong company that Mr. Claxton has brought with him to Newquay this year.

Sydney Snape had a big welcome after his twelve months' absence at Penzance, and this year becomes a full member of the company. From Anne Wilson returns to sing some more lovely arias, to join Sydney in his more serious musical moments, and to provide the occasional comedy character in the sketches.

Kay McKendrick is a comedienne with a speciality act of her own. She is a ventriloquist with a difference and her novel act was received with the enthusiasm it deserved.

A "feed" with a new line in comedy of his own is Johnny Lea, who not only supports Terry O'Neill, but also shows what a Welsh boy soprano can develop into if he turns comedian.

The lighter side of the music is provided by a two-some team, Tommy Wallis and Beryl. Their novel xylophone, drums and dance act was very popular and Beryl's part also as partner for dancer-in-chief Donald Craig, goes further to make them a valuable acquisition.

Donald Craig is again responsible for the choreography and leads the dancing himself with skill and ideas. His "three young ladies," Anne, Trishcher, Lisa Beecroft and Noelle Weston add charm, grace and vivacity.

Ronnie Masters, officially front-of-house manager, is again seconded now and again for a comedy role. Accompanying the show with lively vigour are Phyllis Mellor on the piano and Geoff Ritty, who is back again on the drums.

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Barclays in Newquay

We are pleased to announce that our branch at Beach Road, Newquay, has been rehoused in new premises at 2 Bank Street, Newquay. The telephone number is Newquay 2826 and the hours of business Mondays to Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturdays from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. The Manager, Mr. L. R. Tibbrook, will be happy to explain how our complete range of banking services, including the use of a night safe, can be of help to you.

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