



NO. 172

JUNE, 1984

SILVER ANNIVERSARY FOR NIPPON MARITIME

In our daily work in Shipping, many names of companies become so familiar that it seems they have always been there. One such Company is Nippon Maritime, who this year celebrate their Twentyfifth Anniversary.

Since being established in 1959, the Firm has developed to become Japan's leading Shipping Agents. Nippon Maritime was originally founded as Nippon States Marine Agency Co.Ltd. Earlier Mitsubishi Shipping Co.Ltd., had decided to transfer its general agency business for States Marine Lines to a third company and Nippon were organised to take over that business. In those days, States Marine had remarkable growth and Nippon was also growing smoothly. However, eventually, States Marine decided to withdraw from the Far Eastern routes and this left Nippon States Marine Agency with a serious situation. States Marine actually withdrew completely from the Far East in 1973, but in 1970 had already scaled down their activities. Nippon embarked on securing additional agency contracts and re-christened themselves Nippon Maritime Co.Ltd. They successfully obtained agency contracts with several firms and have added many more over the years. Reardon Smith's own agency had been secured by Nippon in 1964, together with Irish Shipping and Denholm's. It was, therefore, in 1970 that Nippon Maritime trod a new path and became independent Shipping Agents. They inherited Mitsubishi Shipping's traditional characteristics - close solidarity; strong organising policy; perseverance and all have proved an asset. There is no labour union in the Company attesting to the close relationship of mutual trust throughout the Company. This was apparently one of the major factors which enabled the Firm to overcome their crisis. Their aim is to become "a department store of agents" by serving as many companies as possible.

As to the future, Nippon are confident they can provide efficient agency services for all kinds of ships carrying any cargo. As to their relationship with shipowners, they are based on the maxim "act with sincerity". Their prime policy for the future is to devote greater energies to shipping agency business, but may consider diversifying by fostering its subsidiaries and associated firms.

Of interest to our staff is that Nippon Maritime Company Ltd., are currently Agents for Reardon Smith, Irish Shipping and T.M.M.

We congratulate Nippon Maritime on their achievements over the past twentyfive years and wish them every success for the next twentyfive.

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SHIP AND SHORE NEWS

CHEERIO AND GOOD LUCK: This month we say cheerio to **Mrs. Susan Newton**, Purchasing Department, Head Office, who leaves us to work nearer to her home. We thank her for her services to us and wish her success in her new employment.

WELCOME: We welcome **Miss Jean Bannoeks** to the Company as Telex Operator in our London Office. We trust she will be happy working with us.

EXAMINATION SUCCESS: Our congratulations to **Mr. M.L. Fraser** on obtaining his Class 1 Deck Certificate.

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NEWS OF RETIRED STAFF

MRS. L. FORD: We are pleased to report that **Mrs. Ford** is now back in her own home again, having made satisfactory progress and is able to look after herself once more.

MR. JIM HARRISON: He has recently been in hospital for a minor operation. We are pleased to know he has made good progress and trust he will soon be 100% fit again. We send him our best wishes.

MR. LIONEL WAINWRIGHT: He is in hospital at present, undergoing treatment on his leg. **Mr. Wainwright** is likely to be in hospital for a period of about five weeks and we hope will make good progress. Meantime, we send our best wishes to him also.

We recently saw **Captain T.W.D. John**, **Captain Lemon** and **Mr. John Crockett** at the Reardon Smith Cricket Match and Annual Barbecue. All looked very well and they all seem to lead very active lives.

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"M" NOTICE 1121 - The Merchant Shipping
(Medical Examination Regulation 1983, SI 1983 No. 808

This Notice supersedes "M" Notice M.1061 with the exception of the Medical Standards and "M" Notice M.1078. These Regulations make it an offence to employ a seafarer in a U.K. registered seagoing ship of 1600 g.r.t. and above, unless the seafarer is a holder of a valid medical fitness certificate appropriate for the area in which the ship is to operate or for the job on which the seafarer is to be employed (Regulations 3 and 4). In the case of a ship carrying chemicals in bulk, there is a further requirement that the medical certificate must relate to a medical examination undertaken not more than 12 months previously notwithstanding that the seafarer may hold a medical certificate valid generally for a period exceeding 12 months. Copies of the "M" Notice may be obtained from DTp Marine Offices.

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UNLUCKY DATE FOR "MARIA ELISA" EX "HOUSTON CITY"

Sadly, we report that the m.s. "ALPAC AFRICA" ex "MARIA ELISA" ex "HOUSTON CITY" was delivered to the Shanghai Shipbreakers on 13th June.

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LATE NEWS: - OBITUARY: We are sorry to hear of the passing of **Mr. Alec Collett's** mother during the past two days. We offer to **Mr. Collett** (Office Driver, Head Office) our sincere sympathy at this time.

ALL AT SEA

EASTERN VALLEY

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering

R. Crawford
D. Toon, M. Lovibond, J. Townsend
R. Smith
D. Harrison, N. Nesbitt
M. G. Evans, C. Jones
L. Rodrigues.

AMPARO

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Catering Officer
Cadets

R. Skinner
B. Hopper, J. Pagler
S. Broderick
M. Savory
P. W. Evans, J. Fooks, D. Simons,
M. McIundie, C. Broughton
C. Harry
J. Greenspan, P. Davies

WESTERN VALLEY

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering

R. Duncan
K. Jones, J. Neale, G. Provis
D. Bidmead
W. Gill, K. Rowney, R. Thomas
C. Lee
F. Brown
J. Sequeira

BIBI

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering Officer
Cadets

J. Pearsall,
J. Dunk, A. Morris, A. Abel
B. Everett
R. Chambers, P. H. Evans, R. Stead
J. Davies, I. Morgan
D. Grant
L. Slawinski
D. Hilton, M. Worsnop,
R. Williamson.

NORTHERN VALLEY

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering Officer
Cadets

W. D. Jones
I. Stutt, R. Davies, E. Naughton
E. Bromham
R. Diamond, J. Hocking
R. Deschamps, P. Heyman
K. Hampton
P. Gallie, S. Thomas

SILVIA SOFIA

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering Officer
Cadet

M. Bellamy
T. Haxell, M. Frazer, M. Cox
C. Macey
K. Morgan, T. Graham-Russeil,
I. Exton, S. Rawlings. D. A. Williams.
K. Bean
L. Haywood
T. Short

TACOMA CITY

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering Officer

J. Lee
W. Wood, P. Bullard, J. Coleman
V. Cullen.
L. Williamson, R. Bell, G. Ashton
A. Salter
J. Fernandez
R. Peach

OLMECA

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering

P. Boroughs
E. Wainmsley, P. Codd, P. Vaughan
P. Denehy
J. Scott, R. Rees, M. Holman
A. Grandram-Jones.
B. Batey
D. Fernandes

M. V. SKENA

Ships Company:-

Captain R. Stuart, R. Baker, A. Williamson, A. Prosser
D. Thomson, G. Hughes, C. Burton, P. Price, J. Akhurst,
K. Baines, J. Grainger, A. Gouldie, P. Tate, M. Bowen,
F. George, D. Long, S. Hurrell, J. Richards, R. Wilkins
S. Seagraves, G. Moore, M. Conlin, S. Hird, P. Mules.
K. Shire, B. Williams, A. Trabert, D. Lineham.

YAQUI

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
Electrician
Catering

M. Slayman
A. Field, M. Sealey, S. Brown
B. Carter
B. Draper, W. Bruce, K. Warner
P. Cocker
J. Atkinson
E. Dias

LACANDON

Captain
Deck Officers
Radio Officer
Engineer Officers
A. Keast, D. Aldus
Electrician
Catering

K. Milburn
D. Aubrey, P. Roberts,
D. B. Williams
P. Hodge
H. Fletcher, P. Prendergast
A. Keast, D. Aldus
D. Osborne
O. Rebello

SHIPS POSITIONS

As at 25th June, 1984

m.v. "EASTERN VALLEY" This vessel presently operating under Time Charter, account British Steel Corporation, sailed Middlesbrough 1907 6th June, with a cargo of 25,959MT Steel Products for discharge Port Kelang, Singapore, Hong Kong and Busan. Vessel arrived Port Said 1400 18th June and after transiting the Suez Canal, sailed Suez 1540 19th June. Vessel is presently proceeding to her first discharge port, Port Kelang, where she is due to arrive 0600 5th July and after completion of discharge sails the 7th July for Singapore 8/12th July, Hong Kong 17/18th July, and finally Busan, where she is due to arrive around 21st July and complete and redeliver 23rd July. Vessel's future business has not yet been arranged.

m.v. "NORTHERN VALLEY" This vessel, presently anchored at Elbe 1 Light Vessel since the 19th June is due to berth Hamburg at Berth Silo P. Kruse/Rethe Berth Kali-Kai 1800/1900 25th June to load a cargo of 21,900MT Bagged Barley for discharge Jeddah. Vessel requires 8/9 days to load and will sail Hamburg around 4/5th July. Vessel then arrives Port Said 17th July and after transitting the Suez Canal, sails Suez 18th July. Vessel then arrives her discharge port, Jeddah, 20th July and due to possible berthing delay this port, we can only estimate vessel will complete discharge around 15/25th August. Future business has not yet been arranged.

m.v. "TACOMA CITY" This vessel, presently operating under Time Charter, account Grant Trading, sailed Santos 1042 26th May, after loading a cargo of 21,931T of Steel for discharge China. Vessel called Singapore for Crew Change, arriving 0836 24th and sailing 2010 the same day. Vessel is presently proceeding towards China, where she is due to arrive her first discharge port, Shanghai, around 1st July. After completion of cargo operations that port, vessel sails for Lienyungang to continue discharge and finally Hsinkang, where we expect vessel to complete discharge and redeliver from Grant Trading Time Charter around 20/25th July. No future business has yet been arranged.

m.v. "WESTERN VALLEY" This vessel, presently operating under Time Charter, account Island View Shipping, sailed Richards Bay 1627 19th June, after loading 8178MT Ferrochrome and 2022MT Silica Manganese. Vessel then arrived Port Elizabeth 0550 21st June and after loading 4471.5MT Ferrochrome sailed 2000 22nd June. Vessel then arrived final loading port, Saldanha Bay 1118 24th June and commenced loading 0715 25th June. We expect vessel to load 11,462T Lead/Zinc Concentrates and sail Saldanha Bay am 27th June. Vessel then proceeds towards the Continent for discharge, arriving Antwerp around 16th July to discharge 11,462T Lead/Zinc Concentrates, sailing 19th July for second and final discharge port, Rotterdam, arriving 20th July, to discharge the remainder of the cargo being about 14,664T and completing and redelivering from I.V.S. Time Charter around 22nd July. No future business has yet been arranged.

m.v. "SKEENA" This vessel berthed Bellingham 0520 21st June and after loading 4127T Cargo, sailed 0840 22nd June. Vessel then arrived Vancouver, B.C. 1512 22nd June and after completion of loading operations, sailed 0440 24th June and arrived Nanaimo 0940 same day. Vessel is due to sail Nanaimo 25th June for her second call Vancouver, B.C., arriving 26th and after completion of loading, sails same day for Japan. Vessel is due to arrive first discharge port, being Tomakomai 9th July, sailing 10th for Sendai 11/12th, Chiba 13/13th, Tokyo 14/15th, Kawasaki 16/16th, Yokohama 17/17th, Nagoya 18/19th and finally Osaka 20/20th. Vessel then drydocks Japan (possibly Kobe) 21st July/2nd August and then we understand vessel loads Cars in Japan 3/6th August for discharge U.S. West Coast, where she is due to arrive around 20th August.

m.v. "AMPARO" This vessel, presently operating under MEX-BRAZIL SERVICE, berthed Vera Cruz 0730 21st June to load 10000/11000T Bagged Beans and Containers for discharge Santos. Vessel is due to sail Vera Cruz around 30th June, but could possibly be later due to rain. Vessel then proceeds towards her discharge port, Santos, where she is due to arrive around 18th July. After completion of discharge Santos, vessel then loads Kodak Cargo Brazil for discharge Mexico. We are still awaiting itinerary for above ports.

m.v. "BIBI" This vessel, operating under Voyage 22 Westbound sailed Keelung 0001 20th June and arrived Busan 1944 21st June. After completion of discharge operations Busan sailed midnight 22nd and arrived Osaka 0638 24th June. Vessel is due to sail Osaka 1700 25th for Yokohama, arriving 26th, sailing same day for Nagoya 27/29th and final discharge port, Chiba, arriving 30th and completing and sailing same day. Vessel then proceeds under Voyage 23 Eastbound arriving Shimizu 1st July and sailing 4th for Itosaki, arriving 5th and sailing 9th July. Vessel possibly then calls Manzanillo 24/26th July and then Lazaro Cardenas 27/31st July. Vessel then proceeds under Voyage 23 Westbound, arriving Salina Cruz 1st August, sailing 3rd for Guaymas 6/8th and finally Long Beach 11/12th, after which vessel proceeds back to the Far East, arriving Keelung around 26th August.

m.v. "LACANDON" This vessel sailed Coatzacoalcos 1830 13th June with a cargo of 12,700MT Urea for discharge Tampico. Vessel arrived Tampico 1812 14th June and after discharging 1450MT Cargo shifted to bunker berth 18th June. Vessel shipped 935T IFO and 117T DO 18th June and shifted to Anchorage 19th June due to berth congestion. Vessel reberthed 22nd June. As vessel is discharging around 1000T Cargo per day, we expect her to complete about 1/2nd July. Vessel then proceeds to Lake Charles, arriving around 3/4th July to load a cargo of 24,000MT Pet. Coke for discharge Gela (Sicily). We are still awaiting itinerary for above ports.

m.v. "OLMECA" This vessel, operating under Time Charter, account Furness Withy, arrived Hamburg 0645 18th June, and after discharging 13,750T Copper Concentrates and 464.38T Molybdenum sailed 1230 20th June for second and final discharge port, Huelva. Vessel is due to arrive Huelva 0600 25th June and after discharging 9750T. Copper Concentrates sails 27th June. Vessel then ballasts to Brazil to load a cargo of 22,000MT Soya Beans at Rio Grande or Paranagua, arriving around 10/12th July for discharge East Coast or West Coast Mexico (probably Manzanillo). After which vessel then loads a cargo of Copper Concentrates in Guaymas for discharge Hamburg. We are still awaiting itinerary for above ports.

m.v. "SILVIA SOFIA" This vessel, operating under Voyage 19 Eastbound, sailed Yokohama 1810 15th June and is presently proceeding towards Oakland, where she is due to arrive 0600 25th June. After discharge, vessel sails Oakland 25th June for Long Beach 26/27th, Guaymas 30/2nd July, Manzanillo 4/6th and finally Acapulco, where she is due to arrive 7th July and complete discharge and sail 8th July. Vessel then proceeds under Voyage 19 Westbound, where she is due to arrive Salina Cruz for bunkers 9th July and sail 10th for Guaymas 13/17th and Long Beach 20/22nd July. Vessel then proceeds back to the Far East, where she is due to arrive Busan 3rd August, sailing 5th for Hibi 6/8th, Miyako 9/11th and finally Yokohama 13/14th August.

m.v. "YAQUI" This vessel arrived Manzanillo 0700 7th June to discharge a cargo of Urea and due to present discharge rate is now expected to complete and sail around 14th July. Vessel then proceeds Guaymas, arriving 15th July, to load a cargo of Concentrates for discharge Hamburg. Vessel is expected to sail Guaymas 20th July for Manzanillo, probably for bunkers, arriving 22nd, sailing 23rd July. Vessel then proceeds to the Panama Canal, where she is due to arrive Balboa around 29th July and sail 30th for discharge port, Hamburg, arriving around 14th August and after completion of discharge is expected to sail around 20th August.

POT POURRIPOSTAL SERVICES - AT LAST, A BOUQUET!!

Most of us complain (sometimes quite bitterly) about delays in postal services, especially with the first class post, these days, but just for once, we have to applaud the Post Office.

This week, we received a letter at Head Office - from Switzerland - addressed to our Chairman, merely addressed as follows:-

Mr. C.R. Chatterton,
P.O. Box, Cardiff, Wales.

The Post Office must like a challenge, as it appears there was no undue delay. When you think of all the Post Office Boxes in Cardiff, someone had a good memory!

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Answers to last month's crossword:-

Across:

1. Hatchcover.
9. Lady.
10. Capitalist.
11. Ripple.
12. Seasick.
15. Scanner.
16. Ensnue.
17. Pate.
18. Gent.
19. Stage.
21. Troughs.
22. Exposer.
23. Broker.
27. Intentions.
28. Lier.
29. Fire engine.

Down:

2. Alas.
3. Crisis.
4. Chalice.
5. Vain.
6. Retrace.
7. Carpenters.
8. Typewriter.
12. Safety belt.
13. Astronomer.
14. Knots.
15. Surge.
19. Sheriff.
20. Expanse.
23. Outing.
25. Star.
26. Anon.

PUZZLE CORNERANSWER TO BRAIN TEASER:

First take 3 matches and lay them on the table making a triangle, then stand the remaining three matches with one end on the corner of the base triangle and the other ends meeting at the top. Now you've used all six matches and made 4 triangles.

(Easy when you know how!)

ANOTHER ?

You have 2 planks, each 9' 6" long and nothing to fasten them together. The castle moat is 10' wide. How can you use the planks to reach the castle?

(Answer next month)

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH...

Isn't it odd that it's always the wet blanket that never dries up.

THANKS: - to Mr. Dave Litson, Superintendent in Japan, for the information on Nippon Maritime, which was used for the article on Page 1.

SPORTS PAGECRICKET - (and other things)

The Annual Barbecue was held on 12th June at St. Fagans Cricket Club, on perhaps the bleakest evening of the month. Thankfully, there was not enough rain to dampen the enthusiasm of cricketers, spectators, or those only there for the beer, nor, alas, did the rain help to solve the Welsh Water Authority's latest difficulties!

As usual, Bruce Gully and his wife, Sheila Solomon and their helpers did a wonderful job, despite the difficulties. A special mention must be made of Alec Osborne's valiant work with the fire and we can confirm Reardon Smith are ready for the advent of coal-burners!!

The cricket match between the Captain's XI and the Vice-Captain's XI failed to produce the "home grown" talent currently needed, although in the long term, our problems will surely be solved by Jonathan Burston and Dylan Reardon Smith. There were, however, some interesting score lines, such as - Captain Griffith-Jones caught off the bowling of Robert Mayes - 0. The atmosphere in Personnel is just returning to normal!

It was nice to see such an excellent turnout at this function and it is to be hoped that it may long continue. Oh, yes, Colin Mundell's side won by 35 runs.

In the serious cricket - the results have been heartening and our League position healthy, despite a League defeat in the last over at the hands of Chemical Bank.

An important match soon to be played may appeal to our local readers. The match at Whitchurch Heath on 3rd July against Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Supporters will be most welcome.

RESULTS: (since the last Newsletter) are:-

v	PENARTH SPORTS	won by 89 runs
	RS	141 for 4 (P. Davies 72)
	Penarth	52 for 6 (R. Corsi 3-12)
v	LIGHTHOUSE	lost by 20 runs
	Lighthouse	102 for 9 (G. Johnson 2-7)
	RS	82 for 9 (N. Knight 21 not out. J. Jones 21)
v	SHARPE & FISHER	won by 59 runs
	RS	82 for 9 (J. Lewis 19)
	Sharpe & Fisher	23 (J. Jones 3-0)
v	PENARTH SPORTS	won by 48 runs
	RS	77 for 8 (J. Lewis 13 not out. G. Johnson 13)
	Penarth	29 (B. Nicholls 4-3)
v	CHEMICAL BANK	lost by 4 wickets
	RS	72 for 9 (J. Jones 24)
	Chemical Bank	73 for 6 (B. Nicholls 2-4)

SP2

RESULTS (CONTD)

v ST. FAGANS SAINTS won by 2 wickets

St. Fagans	124 for 3	(P. Davies 2-11)
RS	125 for 8	(J. Jones 47)

YOUR HOROSCOPE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY - BY "CRYSTAL BALL"

GEMINI - May 22 - June 21

Gemini people come into their element this month. Long awaited news arrives for most of you and others may well be on the move, either travelling for business or pleasure. Sporting events are well aspected and a lucky hunch could bring about a considerable gain, financially, or an achievement which brings recognition of your esteem. Any new project just started should now progress well and the end of the month will find you well in command of any situation.

CANCER - June 22 - July 23

Dont go off the deep end if things are not working out to your satisfaction at the moment. Lack of co-operation could cause you to despair in some areas of your work, but you could help matters by not keeping information to yourself but rather put colleagues in the picture where possible. Your personal life, however, is rather rosy at the moment and the initials B & J are prominently aspected. If you have a birthday soon, why not make a special day of it and include others in your celebration. Dates 20th - 23rd July are particularly highlighted.

LEO - July 24 - Aug. 23

An unusual month for most is forecast, especially if you have a July holiday planned. Changed arrangements could well put you in a quandary, but dont worry, all will turn out well in the end and you will enjoy new friendships and scintillating conversations with unusual companions. For those at home, a pleasant and entertaining month when social events play an important part in your personal life, with an element of fun entering every day events. Catch up on correspondence - someone wants to hear from you.

VIRGO - Aug. 24 - Sep. 23

If you have found life hard going recently, you could find that July brings a welcome change for most of you. Personal relationships take a turn for the better and someone with new ideas and a fresh approach could bring about a whole new horizon to something you have in mind to do in the future. Outside activities are well aspected and your company sought by acquaintances from the past. Your lucky numbers are 9 and 4 and any invitation connected with music or dancing should be taken up if you want to be noticed.

LIBRA - Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

"Team spirit" are the key words for this month. Whether it is in your work, your social club, even at home with the family or through friends and neighbours. Wherever you are your caring and sharing ways will be noticed and long remembered. Many of you can also expect a welcome break from routine when you can explore outside pursuits to your heart's delight. News from abroad is also highlighted and those with birthdays from 1st - 8th October will be particularly fortunate.

SCORPIO - Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Scorpios can expect a satisfying and uplifting month, especially where personal relationships are concerned. If you are working, there may be some changes taking place which you find hard to accept at first, but the end of July should bring about a more relaxed and congenial atmosphere where your work is concerned. On the home front there will be opportunities to make improvements where property is concerned and an offer of help could come from an unexpected source making you feel that the human race is not so bad after all.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

A steady month for most of you with social gatherings and outings highlighted. Workwise you may be called upon to fill in for absentees but you will find that you can cope admirably with not too much hassle. Someone could well ask your assistance in a personal matter and you will be pleased that you are able to help, albeit in a small way. News received through the post could have an exciting flavour giving food for thought concerning future activities and a special invitation to join in a celebration of some sort shouldn't be refused!

CAPRICORN - Dec. 23 - Jan. 20

A busy time for Capricorns during the month of July, although most of the tasks are not unpleasant and some of your own choosing. You like to be occupied even in your leisure time and there will be plenty of time to enjoy yourself. A close associate will be more than attentive to your whims and fancies, but don't take these favours for granted but return the compliment by falling in with another's plans, even if you think it is not really your cup of tea. Travel is also indicated or preparation for a social function of some sort. Lucky birthday December 24th.

AQUARIUS - Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

An upheaval of some sort is now in the offing. Definitely not a time for sitting back and contemplating on what might be but rather a forward looking month for most of you, with opportunities arising out of the blue which really force the issue over a matter that has been hanging in the balance for some time. A decisive month for most, so take the plunge now if you have really made up your mind about an important issue. You could also find out who your friends really are this month.

PISCES - Feb. 20 - Mar. 20

July could bring about a run of luck for Pisceans and "about time too" I can hear you saying. If you did but know it you really have a lot going for you but you must make an effort to bring this about yourself and not dream about your hopes being realised as a lot will depend on how you cope with situations that arise from the middle to the end of the month. You know you can overcome problems if you really set your mind to it. A friendly reunion is indicated towards the end of the month when you can catch up on news from people you rarely see.

ARIES - Mar. 21 - April 20

Aries people must get their priorities right from the word "go". Try not to be influenced by others when you know the right course to take in a very personal matter. You won't be lacking company either this month but it will be up to you to set aside some time for quiet reflection and for getting important jobs out of the way before you are able to mix and enjoy the company of friends and acquaintances. Someone in the family could also be looking to you for some real help whilst going through a "sticky patch" so turn a sympathetic ear to this person's problems and you will find that some of your own will be sorted out at the same time.

TAURUS - April 21 - May 21

It's not what you can do on your own, but what can be achieved on a joint basis that counts for most of you this month. So the more you turn to others for co-operation the better. Also make yourself clear to those who matter as your vagueness could drive the best of people to distraction. Whether at home or away, this month could be the start of a rewarding phase brought about by renewed efforts on your part to participate in events, and show concern to those who mean the most to you. If you like a gamble, the numbers 2 and 7 will be advantageous to you.