

(Although we are a bit into the "New Year", the thoughts expressed by "Bel Esprit" in this poem are nonetheless pertinent now . . . Ed.)

Laboratory Retirement . . .

Well known Laboratory identity, **Fred Hughes**, was farewelled at a function in the Main Laboratory before his retirement on Friday, 31st December. . . . Chief Chemist, I. O. Horys, chaired the gathering and, in his inimitable manner, made two presentations to Fred — one on behalf of the Staff Social Club and the other a personal token from himself as a mark of esteem for their many years' association.

Fred, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1914, was retiring from the Company somewhat earlier than the statutory age of 62 years for staff members. . . . He came to Sulphide in 1955 from the Newcastle Lampworks where he was also employed in the laboratory. Incidentally, Fred's father also worked here at Sulphide, starting in the late 1920's.

We understand Fred's early retirement is to allow him to travel around and pursue a number of interests. We certainly wish him well in his exploits. . . . **The photograph (below) shows Fred (on right) accepting the presentations from Mr. Horys.**

1972

Welcome in the New Year lads,
lift your glasses high —
Leave to "memory lane" the joys
of the years gone by.

Face up to the New Year lads,
with a hearty grin.
Think about tomorrow, now —
and just what it may bring.

Be resolute this New Year lads,
a better person be —
A credit to this wondrous land,
Australian proud and free.

Be pollution-wise this year lads
and keep Australia clear.
Do not be a "litter bug",
make this a real "New Year".

Take it easy this New Year lads,
cut the road toll down.
When you get behind the wheel —
don't be a ——— CLOWN!

Give a DAMN this New Year lads,
think of the "other bloke".
Give a little time and thought —
don't always "go for broke".

Have a happy New Year lads,
from all that's left on "B"!
Have the best we can wish you —
even old (?) R.C.P. ! ? ! ?

—Bel Esprit.

