



3-15 AMATEURS – PLEASE TAKE A BOW!

Our twelve page salute to the thousands of amateur lighting enthusiasts who also use our equipment.

RICHARD HARRIS

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TABS is published by Strand Lighting at PO Box 51, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9HR. Correspondence and articles for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

This is the final issue of Tabs, for the foreseeable future.

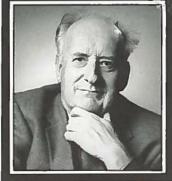
As I write I have before me a copy of the first edition which came out in October 1937. It had ten pages and was, of course, the original 'pocket' sized format.

There were three main themes. Heavy emphasis on helping the amateur with lighting information, great stress on the hiring out of lighting, now long since passed to our dealers around the country, and a great deal of brouhaha about the then new Manchester branch and its manager, Mr. Percy Corry, who is, I am delighted to say, not only with us but highly active and still provocative in his ninety second year

To, as it were, round off the Tabs story I have sought to include as many amateur lighting items as possible in this issue. I believe many of our professional lighting readers will be impressed by what can be achieved, by mixing enthusiasm with meagre resources. Our hope is that a small part of this enthusiasm has been aided and nourished by Strand, and by Tabs itself. The five Editors, Hugh Cotterill, Fred Bentham, Francis Reid, Phil Rose and myself would all regard that as a most worthwhile contribution and reward.

Why have we decided to draw a line after forty eight years?

There are several reasons. The circulation of Tabs, which has been freely available on request for all but a few years of its life, has grown to nearly fifteen thousand copies of each issue. Even though we have made every effort to control the costs, the actual production, paper



FROM THE EDITOR

and printing alone approach 80p a copy. Our authors are either volunteers or paid at little more than the honararium level. The Editorial Pentax has for long substituted for professional photography BUT costs have continued to rise.

So rather than bring out a poorer cheaper version we decided on a complete change.

We are bringing out a new publication – 'Strandlight'. "Why?" I seem to hear fifteen thousand voices shout.

Well, two main reasons.
We want to make our magazine more freely available, and this means making it less expensive to produce. We are thus switching to a tabloid format, but, I quickly add, not to the typical tabloid content.

Second, and far more important, the new Strand Lighting company has become fully international.

We now supply stage and television lighting and architectural dimming and control systems around the world.

Rancho Dominguez in California is our American base, Brentford our European centre, while Hong Kong services the Far East. We have sales offices in New Jersey, Toronto, Salzdahlum – in West Germany – Paris and Singapore and agents around the world.

'Strandlight' will have correspondents in each area and will, we are determined, be the first truly worldwide 'Lighting for Entertainment' publication.

Obviously, the role of the Editor of 'Strandlight' will be crucial. He will have to combine great knowledge and enthusiasm, while his journalistic flair must always be tempered by the most nit-picking accuracy.

Since no such paragon has come forward, I have been given the job.

We hope you will want to receive your copy of 'Strandlight' – but please note – it will not be sent unless you ask for it. This is because some Tab's readers will have moved without telling us, while some will have changed their interests.

How to get your copy of Strandlight:

U.K. Residents; Fill in and post the reply paid card: Overseas; Contact your local distributor or Sales Office.

Please don't forget to enter your address, including the postcode, and we would be very interested to know your occupation.

