



# Susan MacFarlane Press Photographer in the 1960s

Working for the Oxford Mail she had to cover stories relating to:

- Local events
- Celebrity stories
- Theatre reviews
- Sporting events



# First Inspiration!

“My eight years at Oxford High School did nothing for my confidence and I left not knowing what I wanted to do. A wealthy family friend who was a chocolate maker, had all the latest Leica camera equipment, he gave me a simple £1 box Brownie, but I still got good results and loved taking pictures of people. When he saw them he said: 'Ah, you ARE a photographer!' “



# Making Photographs in the 1960s



Chemicals were then used to develop the images into pictures on special paper

Called negatives as they reversed colours to allow light through an 'enlarger'





First job working in a photographic shop as a sales girl.

Then moved on to becoming a script continuity and stills girl for Oxford Film Productions.

They made films to promote Blenheim Palace, marmalade and films of Olympic hopefuls!

## Oxford Film Productions



Dark room assistant at the Oxford Mail

Camera Girl Butlins in Bognor's holiday camp for 6000 holiday makers and 1500 staff. Sold snaps of swimming, fancy dress and talent competitions.

She worked with 6 men who only took black and white pictures customers could chose from. But her colour pictures needed longer processing. And they only saw them after payment in the post .

However, she still made more money than them. Enough to buy her first car and build her confidence to become a press photographer.

## Colour Camera Girl

[www.passingtheflame.uk](http://www.passingtheflame.uk)

# Press Photographer

taking pictures of celebrities and V.I.P.s

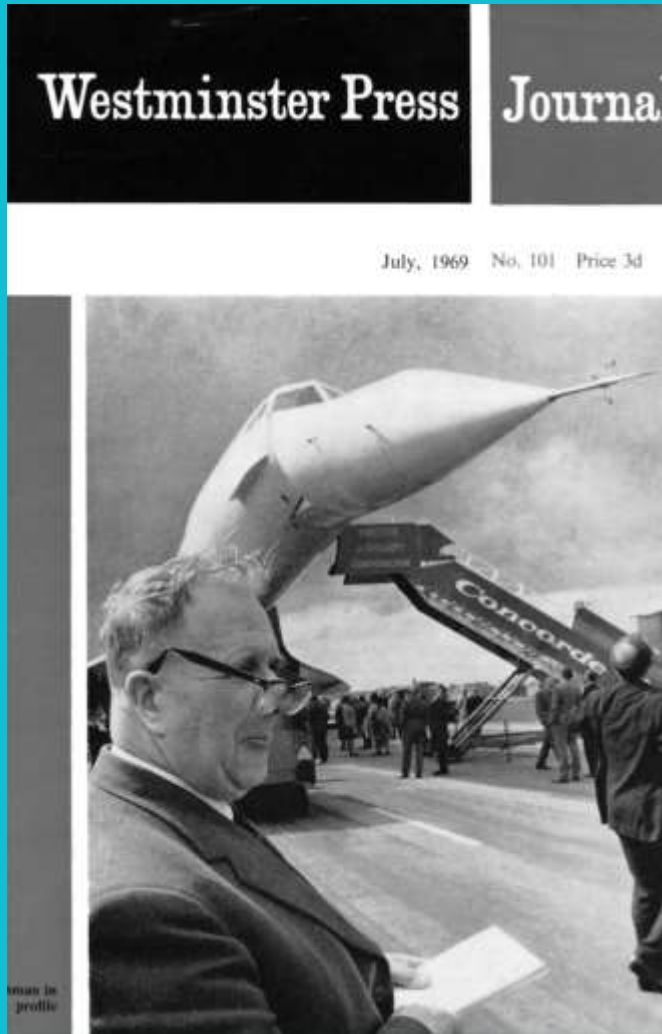


Paul McCartney from the Beatles and actress Jane Asher

Marcel Marceau –famous French actor and mime artist

The Queen and Royal family

Politicians, religious figures and activists like Nelson Mandela



- Still a big focus on the war and aviation
- Young boys training as army cadets
- Concorde – (flew faster than speed of sound)
- Travelled around the world with the RAF  
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# Other Countries:

Argungu fishing festival in West Africa. 1000 men along banks of the Sahara.

Allowed to fish 1 day of the year. A horn at 11am signalled them to start.

Charging like an army in full battle encouraged on by chanters and drummers.





“My pictures of the fishing festival earned a back-page spread in The Times newspaper for £25.

But I nearly missed my plane home. The gates were closed and the engines had started. Clambering over the perimeter fence, running up the tarmac I ran up to the cockpit with a long spear I was taking home for my father.

The pilot ordered the steps back out and jokingly said: 'I had to let you on, I thought you were going to puncture the fuselage.' Very naughty but I panicked as my flight only went once a week!”

# Pictures from Height

Men working up Mill Chimneys, Restoration of Witney Steeple no ropes and a VC10 jet liner – (harnessed out of another plane)

*And Susan Macfarlane climbed 130 feet to photograph the 'giant-killers'*



# Press Photography of local Sports events



Copy right of the newspapers.

One shot to get a good picture.

Couldn't check them like digital pictures.

# Rally Driving



# Rugby



# Judo





# Football

# Road Racing



Last minute instructions for those taking part in the 12-mile open road race, organised by Smiths of England, Ltd., at Witney

## WITNEY ROAD RACE WON IN RECORD TIME

By ARTHUR LARNER

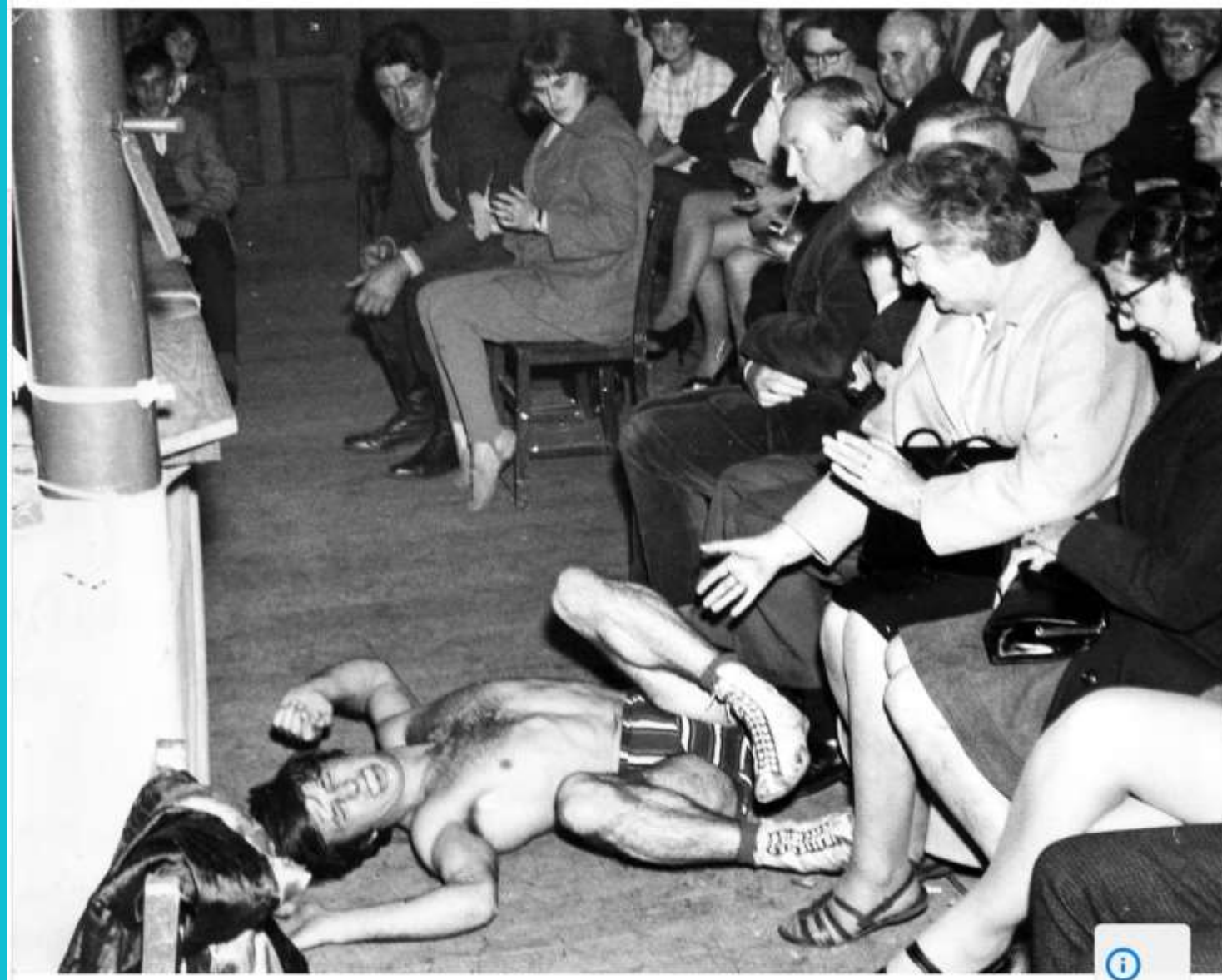
Witney 12 mile open road race, held on Saturday afternoon, was won by Austin of Worcester Harriers.

...surprising that he did not compete, as he had only just returned from Tokyo.

At the end of the first lap, Austin, Batty and Taylor were hunched together having completed the circuit in 10min.







# Wrestling

**In groups discuss.....**

What makes a good action shot in sport?

What has changed in the way we take journalistic pictures today?

