

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

HIS MAJESTY'S FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY

On Friday, December 14th, Sir Ian Fraser sent the following telegram to His Majesty the King:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING,
Buckingham Palace,
London.

May I, on behalf of the men and women of St. Dunstan's blinded on war service and of our Executive Council, express to Your Majesty our loyalty and wish you many happy returns of the day.

IAN FRASER.

The following telegram in reply has been received from His Majesty:

SIR IAN FRASER,
St. Dunstan's,
Regent's Park.

I have received with much pleasure your loyal message on my birthday and I heartily thank all associated with you.

GEORGE R.I.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

ST. DUNSTAN'S has begun its return to Brighton. West House, Kemp Town Brighton, is a pair of old houses standing in their own grounds which we acquired as a gift from the Federation of Grocers' Associations of Great Britain towards the end of the first world war, for a Convalescent and Holiday Home. The majority of old St. Dunstaners know it well and have spent many happy times there. When we built our new Convalescent Home at Ovingdean, it was our intention to sell West House, but we saw the second war approaching and kept it, and it was lucky that we did. West House served as a temporary office during the early months of this war and then, when we left Brighton, was taken over by the Admiralty, as was the new Home at Ovingdean. In the last few months, having obtained possession of these places again from the Admiralty, Mr. Askew and his staff have done a splendid job getting them into shape again ready for our occupation. A few weeks ago, West House began its second lease of life as a Convalescent and Holiday Home. The permanent residents, who, during the war years, had been at Melplash, in Dorset, moved there in the middle of the year, and as the rest of the house was prepared, the number of St. Dunstaners on holiday or convalescence increased until this Christmas there will be some seventy-five men in the Home. It is our policy for St. Dunstaners of both wars who have completed their training and are settled in their own homes, to be able to go to our convalescent homes, that is to say, the one at West House,

Brighton, and the smaller one at Blackpool, for a change from time to time. The qualification for going is to be in need of a period of convalescence after illness or operation, or to be in need of a change for any other reason. Application should be made to Commander Smyth, the Head of the Welfare Department, at Headquarters.

Much wear and tear and some damage was caused at St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, by the occupation of the Admiralty, and a great deal of work requires to be done there before it will be ready for occupation. But if all goes well, our plan is to move the whole of the preliminary training from Church Stretton to Ovingdean during the Easter holiday. One hundred and ten beds will be available for trainees, allowing a few beds for a sick bay and a few beds also for blind instructors. The number of men in training at Easter will probably be nearly two hundred, and they will be accommodated in London so far as officers and masseurs are concerned, while preliminary massage students, telephone operators, those undertaking industrial training and boot repairing, etc., will stay at Church Stretton, and the final move will take place during the summer holidays, thus bringing the whole of the training, preliminary and advanced, to Ovingdean. I have every reason to hope and believe that these plans will be carried out, but if for any reason, such as a hold-up of building labour or materials, or a substantial increase in our numbers from any source should take place, we may have to delay the first move or the second move, or both, for a time. Up-to-date information about this matter will be given to all concerned and will be published in the REVIEW whenever it is available.

Another small home is just on the point of opening in Brighton, at Arundel Terrace. We shall call this home Arundel Lodge. It has only about a dozen beds in it, and is intended for those men whose serious wounds, or illness, make it difficult for them to get on in the busy, vigorous atmosphere of the ordinary training establishment. Arundel Lodge will be a training place, but also to some extent a convalescent and medical centre.

Some readers may wonder why we do not move the whole of St. Dunstan's from Church Stretton to Brighton in one operation. The reason is that our numbers are too great to be accommodated at Ovingdean, unless we were to incur very great expenditure in building huts and temporary quarters. By moving in two parts we take advantage of the splendid facilities at Ovingdean at the earliest possible moment, and still make the utmost possible use of the buildings and workshops and other facilities which we have obtained at Church Stretton. There will be some huts and workshop buildings erected at Ovingdean, but they will only be a relatively small addition.

Those Returning

Sons and daughters of older St. Dunstaners are beginning to return to civil life, and I learn in particular that a small number have reached home recently from the Far East, where they have been prisoners of war.

Some members of St. Dunstan's staff are also returning on account of demobilisation or release from prison camps. Commander Smyth came back nearly a year ago to take up his duties as Welfare Superintendent, Commander Paul, who was Commandant of the Holiday and Convalescent Home at Brighton, has returned to these same duties at West House. Mr. Lloyds, a Chartered Accountant, who was Assistant Secretary, has come back from a Far Eastern prison camp, and Messrs. Stevenson and Berry, of the executive staff, are back at Headquarters.

We welcome all back home again and wish them the best of good luck in settling down to civil life.

After-Care Visitors

Two changes are to be noted in the After-Care Visiting Staff. Miss Hester Pease, at one time Yorkshire Visitor, then Matron at Tembani, in South Africa, where she did a splendid job, has returned to England on the closing down of the South African home, and she takes up her duties once again, but this time in an area in the Home and Eastern Counties.

On the other hand, Miss Frances Lloyd, R.R.C., retires at Christmas. We first got to know Miss Lloyd when she was a Sister at No. 2 London General Hospital, or St. Mark's, as we used to call it. She rendered splendid service there and became such a good friend

to so many St. Dunstaners that, on the hospital closing down, we invited her to join our staff. Ever since then she has been one of our most valuable After-Care Visitors, and men in the London area and their families will be losing one of their best friends on account of her retirement.

St. Dunstan's has been most fortunate in the number of devoted men and women who have constituted its staff from the time of the first war until the present day, and Miss Lloyd ranks high in the regard and affection of St. Dunstaners and staff alike. All will wish her happiness in her well-earned retirement.

South Africa

By the time these Notes are read, my wife and I hope to be on the ocean, approaching the Equator on our way to Cape Town. I am going out on private and public business to attend to matters relating to a group of companies belonging to my family, for which I now have some responsibility for policy and general direction, and to promote the export trade to these companies and other groups. I shall also confer with St. Dunstan's Committee in South Africa, and hope to see a good many old St. Dunstaners, and I shall make contact, too, with ex-Servicemen's organisations who occupy the equivalent position in South Africa to our British Legion here at home. I am told that ocean travel is not what it was, for ships are crowded and standards are much lower. But nevertheless I hope that the voyage will be a change for us both from care and responsibility, which have been unremitting now for several years. I hope to be back in a couple of months' time, and will try and write something for the REVIEW on my travels.

Christmas

My wife and I wish all St. Dunstaners and their families, at home and overseas, and all members of our staff, a Happy Christmas and the best of good luck in the New Year.

IAN FRASER.

Sir Arthur Pearson Anniversary

December 9th, the anniversary of the death of Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt., Founder of St. Dunstan's, was commemorated by Memorial Services held at St. Dunstan's Training Centre, Church Stretton, at Blackpool and at Brighton. The Service at Church Stretton, which was held in the Central Hall, was conducted by the Padre, the Rev. Andrew Nugee.

In London, Mr. Askew, Horace Kerr, Drummer Downs and Corporal Major Dawkins attended Hampstead Cemetery and placed a wreath on Sir Arthur's grave.

At Westminster Abbey, on December 9th, an Offering was taken for St. Dunstan's.

Blackpool Note

After December 31st, Mrs. Hindley, of Blackpool, will no longer be able to reserve special beds for St. Dunstaners. Mrs. Hindley has given us valuable help during the war years, for which we are extremely grateful.

Private accommodation, however, will still be available, and terms can be obtained from Mrs. Hindley, at 3 Ventnor Road, South Shore, Blackpool.

Wireless Sets for the Blind

Purchase Tax Concession

In the House of Commons on November 28th, Major Turton moved an amendment to remit Purchase Tax from wireless sets sold to the British Wireless for the Blind Fund. Speaking in support of the amendment, Sir Ian Fraser said the blind person is robbed by circumstances of the enjoyment of many things for which he pays as a taxpayer. Conversely, there are certain things which mean more to him than to the sighted person, and radio is one of them.

Mr. Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, promised to introduce an amendment himself on the report stage of the Bill, giving effect to the proposal.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following upon their anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. J. Shread, King's Lynn, December 4th; Mr. and Mrs. O. Windridge, Wigston Magna, near Leicester, December 15th.

Church Stretton Notes

Church Stretton arranged its Thanksgiving Week from November 17th to the 24th, and asked St. Dunstan's to undertake Wednesday, 21st, for our effort. Thanks to our energetic Committee and everyone's loyal help, it was a most successful day, despite the disadvantages of the very short notice, and also its being a winter instead of the usual summer day. Work time tables were normal till 11 a.m., when the Centre transformed itself. Placards and sideshows appeared as if by magic, and by 2 o'clock all was ready to receive visitors, including demonstrations of all normal training. There was no work on the following Saturday morning to compensate for our being on duty on Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Bampton organised two performances of an excellent fifty-minute concert, "Civvy Street," which went with a swing—of which perhaps the most original item was "Hats off to . . ." Eight members of the chorus, in civvies and bowler hats, gave a well-rehearsed rendering, often with solo lines, beginning:

"This is a song to give our heartfelt thanks
To the Infantry, the Sappers and the men
who drove the tanks.
The Navy, the Merchant Men, and gallant
Airmen, too,
The men whose mighty efforts, folks,
brought peace to me and you.
To Mr. Winston Churchill, to him we
raise our hats,
To Field Marshal Montgomery, who led
the Desert Rats.
We'll sing of Alexander, of Portal and
the rest,
We'll raise our hats again, kind friends,
to those who gave their best . . ."

and so on, mentioning many others, well known and humble (with appropriate hat-raising) down to "Now we think the time is ripe to raise our hats to US!" Many old boys will smile to hear that the "Three Old Crocks" haven't succumbed yet.

In a missing word competition, pretty stiff, twenty-six perfect answers were returned; and even in a further more poisonous one there were nine undefeatables. These were in the order received: 1st prize (a Savings Certificate), Miss Staveley, Trevor Hill, Church Stretton; 2nd prize, presented by Mrs. Bankes-Williams, David Jennings; 3rd prize, Miss

Veale, typing teacher; and 4th, Arthur Finney, Battlefield. Most others only lost one mark—a brainy crowd! The proceeds were: From concerts, dances and sideshows, £251 13s. 9d. From the mock auction, £4,019. Total, £4,270 13s. 9d., making a worthy proportion of Church Stretton's total of £43,000.

The Musical Circle arranged a wonderful all-star Concert, which a large audience keenly appreciated. Miss Noel Eadie, soprano; Geoffrey Dams, tenor; Alfred Cave, violin; and Meyer Rosenstein at the piano.

One very enjoyable feature of our life here has perhaps escaped mention, but fully deserves it—i.e., visits from "old boys," which are such a tremendous encouragement to present trainees. The pleasure of having old friends back among us, but with the happy expression of self-reliance arising from "holding a job down," not only "amply repays any wearisome days" (to misquote Lewis Carroll) but warms the cockles of our hearts.

The weekly dancing classes are still most popular, under the delightful tuition of Mrs. Fisher, from Ludlow, and Miss Woodhouse, from Shrewsbury. We are most grateful to Miss Kennedy for years of service in this Department, and were very sorry when her local war work came to an end and she returned to her professional dancing teaching in London. She left many friends here.

Brockhurst had a very successful play-reading of "Laburnum Grove," by J. B. Priestley—these are popular evenings. There have been two more delectable Wednesday afternoon expeditions to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre to see "Worm's Eye View" and "The Quaker Girl"—each followed by a royal spread. Lucky invite-ees! Also the usual visiting bands, lunch-time concerts, etc., of which limited space precludes a full list this month.

Apologies for *errata* in our last issue are offered to Ernie Jensen, whose name should have appeared under the "Router" heading, not as a telephonist; and to E. Griffiths, who is in a capstan lathe job, not assembly. Every effort is made for accuracy, but a gremlin got a finger in here. (Quiz: *Have gremlins fingers?*)

Twenty-one new trainees have arrived during the month. Among the twenty

leaving are the four massage students, John Koehorst, Desmond Coupe, Bert Briggs, and Tom Niccol, for the next stage of their training in London; J. Burge, M. Luba, and P. J. Chovancek, Canadians for repatriation; Jack Caswell, to work on a capstan lathe with Messrs. Allen and Simmonds, Reading; Dougie Frith, as upholsterer with Messrs. Bristow and Townsend, High Wycombe; Jock Reagan, as telephonist to Messrs. Townson and Mercer, Thornton Heath; D. Donnelly, to Moulded Products, Ltd., Tyburn, Birmingham, as a plastic press operator; J. Marshall to greenhouse work (after hospital); and H. Holden, ready for settlement as shop-keeper. The best of good luck to each!

Congratulations to the following, who have passed tests:—

In Interline Braille.—J. McGinnis, G. Bond, C. Williams, A. Milne, J. Mudge, R. Foster, M. Lees.

In Interpoint Braille.—D. Donnelly, D. Jennings, P. Terrell.

In Writing.—N. Christal, G. Taylor, T. Burge, H. Collingwood, A. Peckett, A. Somervell, D. Cashmore, B. Temple, G. Bradley.

In Typing.—D. Cashmore, H. Scaife, R. Forster, W. Richardson, N. K. Storath, R. Parsons, R. Slaughter, E. Ashby, G. Edwards, S. Foyle, R. Sheriff, H. Marshall, G. Kavorie, W. Thomas, R. Osborne, L. Coulson, M. R. Hackett, J. Banks, T. Lukes, R. Smith, S. Warner, J. C. Searle.

Home at Last

Welcome home to the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Payne, of New Orwell, who is now home after having been a prisoner of war in Japan.

Armistice Day, 1945

Sir Ian Fraser led a party of St. Dunstaners of both wars to the Cenotaph on the morning of November 11th, and on behalf of the war-blinded men of the Empire placed a wreath in memory of the fallen. St. Dunstaners P. J. Conlin, A. J. Overill, W. H. Lacey, and C. Singleton represented the men of 1914—1918, while St. Dunstaners of this war were represented by I. Darling, J. Ellis, R. Vincent, and D. Parmenter.

On the evening of November 10th, a small number of trainees from Church Stretton were present at the Royal Albert Hall for the British Legion Festival of Remembrance.

Should we have another day for Armistice?

Last month the Chairman invited St. Dunstaners to give their views on this subject. We print below extracts from some of the letters received:—

I suggest the first Sunday in July for the 11 o'clock Two Minutes' Silence. It can still be called Poppy Day, with the usual ceremonies, and being Sunday the Churches could give Thanksgiving or Remembrance Services. Sunday is less likely to interfere with trade or business, and with our climate July would be a better time of year. We could call it Remembrance and Thanksgiving Day.

WALTER BURGIN, Southwick.

I suggest the 11th May or the nearest Sunday to the 11th May, as a remembrance for both wars.

A. CHIVERTON, Portchester.

I am strongly of the opinion that we should stick to November 11th.

F. JAMES, Hove.

On November 17th I was a delegate at the West Riding Legion Conference when the question of Armistice Day arose, and from that time I have made several inquiries on the subject. I find that the only reason for a change of date is the uncertainty of the weather. Therefore, if we must have a change I suggest the 3rd of September, when the 1918 Armistice came to an end. So many great events of this war centre around September.

E. RUSSELL, Leeds (New war).

In this war the whole country was in the front line and I suggest that another date, say, June 15th, Waterloo Day, midway between VE and VJ Days, would be a more appropriate day for remembrance day for both wars. The number of those for whom November 11th has so many associations is rapidly decreasing, and to those who have been at the front, abroad and in this country, a date nearer the two V Days will have something like the appeal that November 11th has to those of us who served in 1914-1918.

N. A. RAMSDEN, Oxford.

I think that November 11th will be acceptable to all involved in the Second World War, because they believe that 1939-1945 was a continuation of the conflict begun in 1914, and because both wars were fought for the same ideal against the same enemy.

W. GIRLING, Southampton.

I think Remembrance Day might well remain November 11th, that month being devoted by the Church to the Holy Souls. The familiar date should help to drive home the lessons of both wars.

A. T. BROOKS, Bourne-mouth.

I can see no good reason for changing Armistice Day. Alter the name to Peace Day, or any other name that will include all the days to be commemorated, but let it remain November 11th.

W. BRUGGEMEYER, Herne Hill.

For Sale

FOR SALE.—Rudge-Whitworth Tandem, three-speed gear. Gent. front, lady back. Tyres perfect. Bought for £16; will sell for £15.—Apply to the Editor.

Parliamentary Report

House of Commons Branch, British Legion

Col. the Rt. Hon. Douglas Clifton Brown, M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons, was unanimously elected President of the House of Commons Branch of the British Legion at the first meeting of the Branch in the present Parliament. The following officers were also elected: Sir Ian Fraser (Conservative), Chairman; Captain G. H. C. Bing (Labour), Vice-Chairman; Flight Lieut. B. J. T. Parkin (Labour), and Col. O. E. Crosthwaite-Eyre (Conservative), Joint Honorary Secretaries; Lieut. Col. F. C. Byers (Liberal), Honorary Treasurer.

The meeting of M.P.s was a record one in attendance since the first meeting, when Earl Haig and Sir Brunel Cohen founded the Branch over twenty years ago.

The House of Commons Branch acts as a service of information for M.P.s on matters concerning the welfare of ex-Servicemen, and arranges for Members of all parties to ask questions in the House relating to them. During the past month more than a dozen questions have been asked, thus keeping the needs of the ex-Serviceman constantly before the Government. Among the subjects dealt with were the suggested provision of a rent allowance for men drawing 100 per cent. disability pension; the time limit for the application for pensions; and the Ministry's attitude towards psychoneurosis. Questions and answers of special interest to our own readers were the following:

Lieut. Col. BYERS asked the Minister of Pensions whether he will consider making to men drawing 100 per cent. disability pension a rent allowance on the scale of that allowed to widows and children.

MR. WILFRED PALING: A seriously disabled pensioner who is unemployable already receives a special supplement up to 20s. a week, together with allowances for his wife and children. If he is employed he receives his full pension in addition to wages. I do not think that a special provision on the lines suggested by the hon. and gallant Member would be justified.

SIR IAN FRASER asked the Minister of Pensions whether he will authorise a special allowance to war-disabled men and women wearing artificial limbs to enable them to meet the cost of the extra wear and tear imposed on their clothes, and so to enable them to purchase the clothing for which the Board of Trade issues them additional clothing coupons.

MR. WILFRED PALING: I have under consideration the recommendation in regard to this matter made by the Committee under the chairmanship of Sir Brunel Cohen.

Other questions concerning pensions and grants were asked by Sir H. Lucas Tooth (Hendon, Cons.), Mr. Campbell Stephen (I.L.P., Camlachie), Mr. T. J. Brooks (Lab., Rothwell), Major Freeman (Lab., Watford), Mr. Quintin Hogg (Cons., Oxford), Major Beamish (Cons., Lewes), Squadron Leader E. Roberts (Lib., Merioneth), Mr. Keenan (Lab., Kirkdale), Mr. Allighan (Lab., Gravesend), and others.

Mr. Wilfred Paling, Minister of Pensions, in his replies, stated that the Royal Warrant and the whole question of war pensions was at present under review.

Replying to another question, the Minister of Labour said that employment exchanges had been particularly instructed, in selecting applicants for submission to employers, to see that ex-Servicemen were not placed at a disadvantage through lack of recent experience of civilian employment. The existing arrangements enabled the cards of ex-Servicemen to be picked out very easily. When ex-Servicemen were submitted for vacancies, a special introduction card was used which indicated that they were ex-Servicemen.

Staff Changes

Miss Hester Pease, who went to South Africa in June, 1942, to act as Matron of "Tembani," has now returned to this country and is resuming her work with the Welfare Department. From January 1st she will act as Social Visitor for the country districts at present covered by Miss Lloyd, who is retiring; country districts now looked after by Miss Cecil Wood; and those eastern countries which for some time have been without a regular Visitor.

Miss Cecil Wood will now be responsible for all the London area.

The Settlement and Estate Departments, which have hitherto been under the control of Mr. P. R. Lale, have now been separated in view of the growth of the work. Mr. Lale will remain in charge of the Estate Department, but the work of Settlement—the finding and acquisition of properties (other than Massage Settlements and re-settlements) will be in the hands of Mr. Peter Matthews.

Fuel Hints ?

From the "Hull Daily Mail":

"Two smart lads wanted for firewood . . ."

From the "South London Press":

"Telephonist required for heating engineer's office . . ."

St. Dunstaners Decorated

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser gave lunch at the House of Commons on Tuesday, December 4th, to Sergt. Leslie Constable, King's Royal Hussars, of Sidcup, after he had been to Buckingham Palace to receive his D.C.M. Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Constable (father and mother), Mr. G. D. Wallace, M.P. for Chislehurst, in whose constituency he lives, and Gen. E. R. Fitzpatrick, C.B.E., D.S.O., who represented his son, Lt. Col. Fitzpatrick, D.S.O., M.C., O.B.E., who was Sergt. Constable's commanding officer and recommended him for his award.

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser also arranged a lunch party on December 6th for Lieut. G. A. F. Mortimer, Royal Tank Regt., on the occasion of his receiving the Croix de Guerre from Commandante J. L. de Rougemont, General Military Attaché at the French Embassy.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer, his parents, and Mrs. Irvine, Matron at the Officers' House at Battlefield, Church Stretton.

News of Old Friends

Miss B. H. Beckwith, B.R.C.S., who has been acting as Welfare Officer in a hospital in Italy, where she had the special care of blinded men, is now back in this country.

* * *

The end of the war has meant that more St. Dunstaners look in at 9-11 Park Crescent, and lunch-time visitors are likely to meet two old friends in Sister Morrah and Mrs. Giorgi, whom everyone knows best as "Mrs. George."

Throughout the war years (and the raids) Miss Morrah came to St. Dunstan's when our offices were in the Park. When there were no St. Dunstaners to look after she helped the staff. She came with us to Park Crescent, and Mrs. Giorgi, who will be remembered by many St. Dunstaners as far back as the St. Mark's days, joined her in looking after the lunch-time needs of visiting St. Dunstaners.

Mrs. Giorgi and Miss Morrah send their very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to St. Dunstaners and their wives and families everywhere.

Wanted

Any short ends of sea-grass left over from stool covering. Please send to Joe McDonald (Mack), 24 Thomas Street, Shaw, Oldham. State price required.

All This and Heaven Too

Much publicity has been given to Radar aid to the blind and I decided to investigate via the grape-vine of Denehurst. These were my impressions:

The object is to give eyes to the blind, particularly where one lives in a neighbourhood of sprouting lamp-posts, pillar boxes and half-crowns. At great expense, the equipment has been condensed so as not to exceed one hundredweight. A huge coffin-like box is strapped upon the back; a 12ft. rigid steel aerial runs vertically from it, which, in the case of the semi-sighted, is painted black and white to announce that fact. On the back panel are scores of knobs and switches, the delight of all schoolchildren and others. A 6in. diameter cable runs to the head-harness; here a novel idea has been introduced. On the ear-phones pretty Angora flaps keep the lugs warm, and for the bald-headed, a velvet pad is suggested on the crown. From here the cable now runs to the chest to a glass ball like a fortune-teller's crystal.

Providing our V.A.D. by this time has not gone off duty, we go shopping. As we go down the road we listen-in to a couple passing by. "These men now can actually see round corners, and are in constant touch with Whitehall 1212." Now we are getting to a more densely populated area, and the head-harness is buzzing like bees around a jam-pot. Any obstruction within three inches is immediately notified by the use of a side-step-sucker—but in the case of blondes and brunettes we're not suckers, and we keep straight on.

We pause for a few moments to regain our composure, and a policeman arrives to accuse us of creating an obstruction. Someone has fastened a clothes line to our aerial and hung thereon the daintiest of smalls. We protest our innocence and go mildly home, feeling happy at having negotiated all obstructions—*only to fall through a man-hole*. In its murky depths we remember the letter from the Ministry of Pensions that morning, that having now had our set two years they want to expedite an adequate supply of batteries, and a prompt reply would receive the lowest priority. Then down came the coal!

(With profound apologies to the good work which is being carried out in this direction.)

N. O. PACKDRILL,
Student at Denehurst.

"In Memory"

Joseph Bolton

With deep regret we record the death of J. Bolton, of Wigan, who was blinded and lost a leg as a result of injuries received in an air-raid during the war of 1914-1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1920, where he was trained as a boot-repairer and clog maker, and later learned mat making. He carried on with this occupation until two years ago. His death occurred very suddenly at his home on September 7th.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades was among the flowers at the funeral. Our deep sympathy is extended to his wife and children.

Sapper Frank Patterson, *Royal Engineers*

We deeply regret to record the death of one of our oldest St. Dunstaners, F. Patterson, of Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, Ireland, who passed away on October 16th, at the advanced age of eighty-nine.

After serving in the Zulu War and the Boer War, he was wounded at Ypres, and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1923, but was then too old to take up serious training. For several years he has led a very quiet life, being cared for by another St. Dunstaner and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. C. Ward, who represented St. Dunstan's at the funeral. Many other ex-Service comrades were also present. A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his friends at St. Dunstan's was placed on the grave. Mass was celebrated in St. Michael's Church, Ballinasloe, and the burial took place in Creagh Cemetery.

Private William Charles Jose, *1st Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of W. C. Jose, of Falmouth.

After being wounded in France in September, 1914, he came to St. Dunstan's in November, 1916, where he was trained in netting and boot-repairing. He subsequently took up netting and wool-rug work as an occupation. Until 1939, he lived in Ireland, but he then came over to England and has lived here ever since. His health had never been good and he had been in hospital for over a year before his death, which took place on October 30th.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the flowers.

Private Michael John Shanners, *4th Middlesex Regt.*

With deep regret we record the death of M. J. Shanners, of Greenford.

He was wounded at Armentieres in February, 1916, and came to St. Dunstan's in the following month, where he trained as a mat-maker. This occupation he continued until August of last year, when he was taken seriously ill with a stroke. He gradually became worse and he passed away in Park Royal Hospital on November 8th.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's friends was among the flowers at the funeral, which was attended by St. Dunstaners W. E. Dunn and E. J. Thompson, with Mrs. Dunn.

Our deep sympathy is extended to Mrs. Jose and her family.

Private John Kirby, *Machine Gun Corps*

With deep regret we record the death of J. Kirby, a St. Dunstaner who only came to us in January, 1942, although he had served from August, 1915, until November, 1917. He was trained in basket-making at Church Stretton, but while there had a stroke. He had never enjoyed very good health since then and gradually he lost the use of his legs. At the beginning of November he was admitted to the Brighton Home and from there, a week later, was transferred to the Municipal Hospital, where he died on November 15th.

The funeral took place at Sandhurst, his home, and a wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the flowers.

Our deep sympathy goes out to his wife in her sad loss.

Births

BUGBEE.—On May 14th, to the wife of E. L. Bugbee, of Harefield, near Uxbridge, (new war), a son—Leslie Victor.

BARSTOW.—On September 29th, to the wife of Michael Barstow, of Hampstead (new war), a daughter—Henrietta Penelope.

MCCONNELL.—On November 30th, to the wife of J. W. McConnell, of Salisbury (new war), a son—Peter Desmond.

Marriages

HANCOCK—KEYS.—On November 29th, J. P. ("Rusty") Hancock, to Miss N. Keys.

PETTY—CLARKSON.—On September 15th, H. Petty, of Leeds (new war) to Miss Elizabeth Clarkson.

Deaths

Our sincere sympathy is extended this month to the following:—

ABRAM.—To A. Abram, of Reddish, Stockport, whose mother has passed away at the age of 87.

SCHOLLAR.—To E. W. Schollar, of Portsmouth, who lost his wife on December 1st.

MARTIN.—To A. W. Martin, of Peacehaven, whose mother, with whom he has always lived, passed away on November 30th.