

# ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

**T**HE National Association of Magical Societies and the International Brotherhood of Magicians decided, for the year 1947, to conduct their National Day of Magic in aid of St. Dunstan's.

Mr. Tony Branson, who was appointed Organiser by the Societies for this day, accordingly issued an appeal to the Magicians of Great Britain to raise funds for St. Dunstan's. As a result, we have had a splendid cheque from these Societies all over the country.

One Society, the Institute of Magicians, in addition to subscribing, started teaching St. Dunstaners to do magic themselves and, as a result, some of the men who are members of our London Club have set up their own Magic Group, to which magicians come regularly to give lessons.

Most of us, I feel sure, at some time in our life, would like to have been magicians. I can well remember when I was a boy the greatest treat was to go to Maskelyne and Devant, at the famous Hall at the top end of Regent Street, which was destroyed in a blitz. I should still like to be a magician myself, but at fifty-one perhaps I am too old to begin; I must be content to be a politician.

In a talk with Mr. Tony Branson, he told me that he thought there would be magicians all over the country who would be willing to teach individual St. Dunstaners how to put on a few simple tricks. If, therefore, any St. Dunstaner is interested in conjuring, will he please write to me and I will see if there is a magician or a magical society near him who could help him along.

It is an agreeable paradox that conjuring, which, like acrobats and many other vaudeville turns, is the worst possible entertainment for the blind to attend, should be an admirable hobby when you are yourself the entertainer.

Talking of stage shows reminds me of an observation I have made which was emphasised when I had the pleasure of taking our Australian visitors to the Palladium soon after their arrival in Britain, namely, that the present-day music hall has become almost entirely visual, and is now of even less appeal to the blind than it used to be. I think this is due to the reaction of the stage show to broadcasting which, being wholly aural, gives wide currency to each new joke and takes the freshness out of it for the comedian.

### Welcome, Australians!

I should like to give a formal welcome in the REVIEW to the eighteen Australians, under the leadership of Tom White, who arrived in Britain during the August recess for training at Ovingdean. I am sure that there is much that we can teach other each about the way to conquer blindness.

### Adventure Unlimited

"The King's General," by Daphne du Maurier, has just come into circulation in the Talking Book Library. It is well read by Duncan Carse, and well recorded. Cloak and sword, love and intrigue, are the ingredients of a rattling good historical novel of the war between King and Parliament in the 1640s. The West Country men described by the author, whether on the Royalist or Parliamentary side, were as cruel and unscrupulous as the worst European or Asiatics, indeed, mutilation and the destruction of property for no good reason except revenge, and as a result of fear, seemed to go farther. The heroine of the book is a disabled woman; an interesting psychological study. An exciting story of escapes, battles, loyalties and perfidy, well-written and very easy to listen to.

"Brown on Resolution," by C. S. Forester, read by F. P. Bayley, gave me a very enjoyable escape from the cares of to-day by taking me back to the thrills of the hunt for commerce raiders at the outset of the first war in the Pacific. Forester knows how to tell a sea story, and his characters are as interesting and human as usual. His love for and admiration of the Royal Navy is infectious. A thrilling story of adventure. If you are fed up with war stories, or think you are, you will still enjoy this, I am confident. Personal heroism and the drama of battle between giant ships will carry you away. This book is recorded at 33 r.p.m., though it is an English recording. There are technical reasons for this, connected with shortages of materials, which the reader need not worry about except that, as in the case of the Americans, each record only lasts about sixteen minutes. This is a good recording with very little scratch, but the reader does not pronounce many words acceptably. He is, however, friendly, and the book gave me much pleasure.

### Loyal Service

"Thirty-five years ago, Miss Martha Wood, a young Scots V.A.D., went to work at St. Dunstan's, in London, and from that day on she has devoted her life to helping those blinded on war service. Yesterday, when she took part in the reunion of North East St. Dunstaners, in Newcastle, the measure of her popularity was not difficult to gauge. Whenever she stopped to chat to any of these blinded ex-servicemen of both wars, she was greeted with smiles, and during the luncheon warm tributes were paid to her work. For Miss Wood it has been far from a sit-at-home job. Living in Glasgow, as a welfare visitor, she is responsible for about 130 blinded men in Scotland, Northumberland, Durham, and Cumberland. Each one is visited at his home twice a year, besides any extra calls in case of sickness or trouble. It has meant thousands of miles of travelling for this slight, grey-haired Scotswoman, but she has never lost her charming smile, and it is easy to see that a visit from her is like a tonic when things seem to be going wrong."

This was an extract from a Darlington newspaper. It needs no comment, except that Miss Wood's outstanding service is typical of that given to St. Dunstan's by many of our After-Care Visitors, both men and women.

IAN FRASER.

### Club Dance

The London Club is organising a Dance, to be held in the Great Cumberland Hall, Bryanston Street, Marble Arch, on Thursday, September 30th, from 7.30—10.30 p.m. Admission by ticket, 1s. 6d., obtainable from any member of the Committee or from Mr. Willis, the Club Steward. Refreshments at moderate prices. Remittances for the number of tickets required must accompany each application.

Ernie Cookson's Band will play.

### Medals and Decorations

Those who have not already done so are reminded for the last time that any mistakes or omissions in the Honours List, which appeared as a supplement to our July issue, should be notified to Headquarters at once, and in any case not later than September 30th.

### Mr. Kessell's Funeral

Among the names of those present at Mr. Ernest Kessell's funeral should have been included that of Sergt. Alan Nichols, representing St. Dunstaners. We must apologise to "Nick" for this unintentional omission.

### London Reunion Dance

The London Reunion Dance will take place on **Monday, November 8th**, at the Seymour Hall, Seymour Place (close to Marylebone Tube Station), from 7.30—11 p.m.

It must be understood that the Dance is primarily for those who can return to their own homes the same night, as it will not be possible to book any accommodation in London.

Tickets will admit a St. Dunstaner and one escort (it is much regretted that children under 16 cannot be included), and applications for tickets should be made to Mr. Mackay at Headquarters, **as soon as possible** and in any case not later than Monday, October 18th.

### An Important Study

F. Le Gros Clark, author and journalist, has made an important contribution to the SIGMA series, "Introductions to Science." His book, "Feeding the Human Family—Science Plans for the World Larder," has just appeared.

Since the early 'thirties, our St. Dunstaner has been associated with the scientific and medical committees concerned with the study of food and the social reforms connected with this subject. During the recent war, he issued a series of reports on the various communal feeding services. A more recent publication has been a booklet, "The Social History of the School Meals Service." Praising this booklet, a *Times* leader describes its author as "one of the small band of food sociologists who have done so much to alter the public attitude to child nutrition."

### News from Australia

At the Royal National Exhibition of Queensland, which has recently been held, our St. Dunstaner, J. T. S. Scrymgeour, of Warwick, Queensland, took one championship, one reserve championship, four firsts, seven seconds, and three thirds with "Netherby Stock."

St. Dunstaners will recall the article on our St. Dunstaner by Norman Bartlett, of the Australian News and Information Bureau, which appeared in February.

Tom Fisher, of Longforgan, read this article, and through it has introduced to our Australian St. Dunstaner another Scrymgeour, who lives in his village.

### Retirement Pension and Unemployability Supplement

Before they attained the age of 65, a small number of St. Dunstaners were receiving as an addition to their Disability Pensions a Supplement given to them on account of their "unemployability." When the St. Dunstaner reached the age of 65 he became eligible for the Retirement Pension, and because he could not receive both the Retirement Pension and the Unemployability Supplement the Supplement was cancelled, leaving him with the Retirement Pension.

The Government have now increased the Unemployability Supplement to 30s. a week, and because of this increase it will be to the advantage of the St. Dunstaner, in nearly every case, to give up his Retirement Pension and revert to the Unemployability Supplement.

I raised the matter with the Ministry of Pensions, and they now inform me they will be making the necessary adjustments as soon as possible, and that arrears, which will be the difference between the Retirement Pension of 26s. and the Unemployability Supplement of 30s., will be paid with effect from the 18th August. No application need be made by the St. Dunstaner.

The only cases where it will not be to the advantage of the St. Dunstaner to revert to the Unemployability Supplement will be where he is over 65 and his wife is over 60. In those cases the St. Dunstaner will be receiving a Retirement Pension of 26s. and his wife will also be receiving a Retirement Pension of 16s., giving them a total of 42s. a week, which is greater than they would receive if they were to take the Unemployability Allowances.

W. ASKEW.

### Musical Successes

"Congratulations" to N. M. Steel, of Brighton, and his family upon their success at the recent Brighton Musical Festival. In the Original Composition Section, our St. Dunstaner secured four firsts and two silver challenge cups (one was for the best composition in the Festival). Mrs. Steel won the premier award and silver cup in the Chopin piano playing class, and a second in the diploma class, and Miss Janet Steel won a second and third award for violin playing.

### Physiotherapy Conference

A record attendance of St. Dunstan's physiotherapists and student physiotherapists met at the Training Centre, Ovingdean, on August 28th, for their Annual Conference. Sir Ian Fraser presided and Lady Fraser was present, and during the course of the proceedings, most valuable lectures were given by Dr. L. Guttman, who is Neurological Surgeon in charge of the Head and Spinal Injury Centre at the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Stoke Mandeville, and by Dr. James Henry Cyriax.

### Gift Food Parcels

During the last two years, over two thousand food parcels have been despatched direct to St. Dunstaners through the kindness of Mr. Arthur Richardson and other friends in South Australia. This is a magnificent total, and I have written to Mr. Richardson on many occasions, thanking both him and the kindly donors for their wonderful generosity.

The majority of the parcels bear the name and address of the donor, and several St. Dunstaners have written direct, expressing their thanks. Mr. Richardson tells me that these letters are very much appreciated, and I would be grateful if more and more St. Dunstaners would write direct to the lady or gentleman in Australia, whose kindness has made the parcel possible. I can assure you that your letters will be most welcome, and will do much to foster the strong bond of friendship which already exists. A. MACKAY.

### Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following upon their anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. P. Ingham, Liverpool, January 10th last; Mr. and Mrs. K. Howes, Montrose, September 19th.

### Of Course!

This story was told to us by Sergt. Nichols. It is absolutely true.

Our St. Dunstaner, C. E. Temperton, and his wife were sitting in the garden; the two little girls next door were talking. This was their conversation.

Six-year-old: "But how does Princess Elizabeth know she's going to have a baby?"

Four-year-old: "Don't be silly, Eileen; it's in all the papers, and she can read, can't she?"

### Reunions

Reunions have gone on steadily throughout the summer months. At Wolverhampton, on July 9th, at the Civic Hall, the Mayor, Alderman H. E. Lane, J.P., who was accompanied by the Mayoress, welcomed the guests, and Mr. W. Leighton, Chairman of South Staffs. British Legion, was another visitor. At Newcastle, on the 15th, Captain William Appleby, O.B.E., a member of St. Dunstan's Executive Council and President of the Northumberland Branch of the British Legion, presided. Captain Appleby referred to Sir Ian's speech in the House of Commons on the previous Friday, in support of increased pensions for the war-disabled, and a message of greetings and thanks was sent to Sir Ian from Captain Appleby on behalf of the St. Dunstaners assembled there. The Leeds Reunion was at the Queen's Hotel on the 17th. The Lord Mayor, Alderman G. Brett, O.B.E., J.P., welcomed the guests. The Lady Mayoress was also present and the British Legion was represented by Lieut.-Col. R. Grimshaw, O.B.E., J.P., a member of the National Executive Council.

We came south to Maidstone on August 5th, where Mr. Mackay presided. Lt. Col. F. C. D. Newport, Chairman of the Kent Council of the British Legion, was present, and among the St. Dunstaners present we were delighted to welcome "Grandpa" Beaufoy—Mr. C. E. Beaufoy, former Chief Constable, Special Police, Dover, and a former Mayor of Dover.

A month later, on September 4th, we travelled to Grimsby. In the absence of the Mayor, who regretted his inability to attend but sent a warm message of greeting, Mr. Mackay presided and Major G. S. Bloomer, M.C., President of the Lincolnshire County Committee, British Legion, was also a guest.

### Chess

C. Durkin, of York, writes: "Dr. Ross, who is the husband of the Hon. Organiser of our Collection in Hemsworth, is a keen player of Chess. He would like to know if any St. Dunstaners living in this area would like to play matches against him and his friends, either at a central point to be arranged or by correspondence. Hemsworth is in the Pontefract area, and not too far away from Leeds."

Will Chess players who are interested, get in touch with Durkin, at 23 Queen Anne's Road, York.

### West House Notes

In spite of the weather, which has not been very kind to us, the past two months have been packed with a variety of entertainments at West House, and it will not be possible in this small space to give more than a brief account of it all.

July 14th brought the annual Southdown Busmen's Outing. A cheery crowd left at 9.30 a.m. for Midhurst, where the men marched through the town to the lively accompaniment of the Patcham Boys' Band. Then they adjourned for lunch, plus beer and cigarettes, followed by a drive to Cowdray Ruins, where there was dancing on the lawn. After this came tea and the drive home, stopping at Crocker Hill for beer and snacks, with the party finally reaching West House at about 10 p.m.

While most of us were mopping our brows and looking for a bit of shade, the racing fans, like "mad dogs and Englishmen," were all set for Goodwood Races on the 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th.

Saturday, July 31st, saw the beginning of the Bank Holiday programme. Miss Morris and Orderly Webster organised the sports in the afternoon. The judges were Mr. Banks, Mr. Lale, and Mr. Mercer, and the prizes were presented by Mrs. Fawcett.

On Sunday morning, two busloads left for a 37 mile run to Bramber for coffee, returning via Shoreham and a stop at the Surrey Arms Hotel for a stirrup cup. At 5.15 p.m. the Chapel was packed to capacity (extra seats being placed in the Chapel yard) for the service in memory of Bill Hawketts.

On Bank Holiday Monday, one bus and two carloads left for a circular tour of 35 miles; the party returned to West House in good time to array themselves in their fancy head-dresses for Café Continental in the evening. Unfortunately, the weather made it quite impossible for this to be held in the garden, as we had planned, and it was all hands on deck to transfer everything to the Conservatory. The first event was the judging of the head-dresses by Mrs. Dacre, Mrs. Fawcett, and Miss Gregory, who was also our "star" of the evening.

Nick Carter and his Modernairs provided music for dancing and singing, and Colin Sydney had a rival in Father Power, who also sang popular songs. Perhaps one of the most crowded corners was around the Bier Garten, where Herr Mason, in Tyrolean dress, was kept busy drawing beer, which

was served at record speed by Frauleins Chaddock, Cox and Morris. Madam Zarah was a much-sought-after person, and there always seemed to be a queue of people waiting to have their fortunes told.

August 4th—7th, and 27th—28th, found the racegoers champing at the bit to be off to Brighton and Lewes Races.

On August 6th a dance was held to welcome the Australians to West House, and we hope that Miss Arnold did not make them feel homesick by decorating the walls of the Lounge and Conservatory with kangaroos!

August 23rd will go down in the history of West House, for it was on that evening that the Motor Yacht Club arranged an outing for the men, organised by Jack Sullivan and Mr. Ferguson.

The Stag Party set off at 5 p.m., complete with accordion players. Their destination was Strood's, where the most wonderful banquet was provided, the highlight of this being the fact that cold chicken was eaten Henry VIII style. There was a great deal more than chicken to eat; it would not be fair to go into details! As one of the men said afterwards: "It was the best party since Sir Arthur was knighted." Never has a happier crowd returned to West House from any outing.

On August 26th we went to Sidley for an enjoyable Social, organised by Miss D. A. Osborne and her whist drive players.

Other highlights of the month was a concert, given by Miss Hebe Simpson, Miss Tomms and Father Power, on August 15th, and a visit on August 20th to the United States destroyer, "Willard Keith," including coffee and cigarettes on board.

Sir Ian was well supported by representatives from West House when he made his very excellent speech at the Dome on Sunday, August 30th. This was Sir Ian's 51st birthday, and in response to a number of telegrams sent by different groups at West House, Sir Ian telegraphed: "Sometimes I feel one hundred and one; sometimes twenty-one. To-day I am fifty-one, and I express my very great pleasure and send my thanks for their very good wishes to the group in the garden, the old boys in the Lounge, the lads in the Sick Bay, the boys in the rug-room, and to Ousel and her Odd Bods."

We say "Cheerio" from West House until next month.

### Ovingdean Notes

Herr Hans Voigt, head of the German War-Blinded Organisation before the war, visited Ovingdean for three days during the early part of the month. Herr Voigt, who was blinded himself in the first World War, was escorted by his son, Dr. Heinz Voigt. They were both extremely interested in all they saw, and in particular the plastic shop and the handless loom, since there has been a large number of handless blind Germans from the second war. Herr Voigt joined the Discussion Group on one morning of his visit.

Two very interesting lectures this month were given by Mr. McGregor, on "Homicide in the Law," and by our old friend, Col. Davys, O.B.E., B.A., whose subject was on the scientific approach to food problems. The senior pupils of the Brighton, Hove and Sussex Grammar School were invited to the debate on July 19th: "That the creation of a world in which all people should have equal rights is the only solution to the problems in the world to-day." The majority voted against this motion, which was rather a big subject for young people. Their History Master, who accompanied them, took away with him a few hints from the way Ovingdean runs its Debating Society.

A new feature here is a "Shop" in the Lounge each Tuesday morning, which is run by two W.V.S. members. One can buy many useful items and an excellent variety of sweets—not off coupons!

Two evenings this month have been devoted to a very excellent Public Concert, given by the Choir in aid of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund. The Music Hut was packed on each occasion, and the audiences were extremely appreciative of the high standard of the concert, and the time and work which made it so.

Solos were given by Joe Ormond, Sid Kitson, Bob Osborne, Joe Walch and Les White, Les being the very able producer. Two monologues were amusingly rendered by Killie, and the very competent compère was, of course, Tommy Rogers.

Early in the month our Darts team competed successfully against the South Norwood Chamber of Commerce team, at South Norwood, the team on this occasion including Tommy Rogers, Bert Baldwin, Ron Tingay, Charles Campkin and Joe Carnay. Another very enjoyable evening

was spent with members of the Deaf and Dumb Social Club, when they visited Ovingdean to play their return Darts Match, which was won by Ovingdean by 8 games to 1. After the match, refreshments were served in the Braille Library where, with the assistance of Matron and Commandant, conversation was carried on very satisfactorily.

Sports Day this year was very disappointing as far as the weather was concerned. Half the programme was carried out in a fine drizzle, but after tea this had to be abandoned in favour of a dance in the Lounge so, after many strenuous practices, the Ovingdean team did not get the chance to win the cup! After everyone had managed to get themselves dried, the dance was a great success, and a splendid reunion.

It hardly seemed possible that one week later, when the end of term dance was held in the Lounge, we should be in the middle of a heat wave. However, in spite of the heat, the dancers did not hesitate in taking part in a jitterbug competition, arranged by Commandant, or doing the Highland Fling. Several trainees gave a very good entertainment during the interval, compered by Commandant.

So we came to the end of another successful term. We look forward to welcoming our new Australian friends next term. Au revoir and good luck to all who have left us.

### Placements

As shopkeepers: F. C. W. Fulbrook (Penge), F. D. Howe (Newcastle-on-Tyne), W. Lethbridge (Oldham), W. Rutledge (Belfast), and D. E. Taylor (Swindon); W. Crabbe (Treherbert) and W. Carr (Rochdale), as upholsterers with Messrs. Parker-Knoll, Ltd., High Wycombe; Alan Moore, as a telephonist with Messrs. Schweppes, Hendon; D. McGoohan, as a telephonist at the Ministry of Labour Training School, Watford; W. Orange, on inspection work with Messrs. J. Fowler and Co., Leeds; J. T. Jones, on spool-winding and film-packing, with Dufay Chromex, Ltd.; J. Dickey, as a pavior with Messrs. L. Marr & Sons, Liverpool; J. Ince, as a capstan operator with De Havilland Propellers, Ltd., Lostock, Bolton; and A. Downman, with Torrridge Vale Dairies (Devon) Ltd., Torrington, on conveyer duties.

### Bust of St. Dunstan as Memorial

A bronze bust of Edward Slaughter, of Salisbury, was, on July 25th, presented by Sir Eugen Millington-Drake to Eton College, and placed in the Macnaghten Library "as a symbol of fortitude and suffering on the Somme during the First World War." This Library, of about five thousand books autographed by the authors, was collected by Sir Eugen as his contribution to the First World War effort.

Mr. and Mrs. Slaughter were present at the ceremony, when the bust was accepted by the Provost, Sir Henry Marten. A plaque bears the name of the sculptor, Mr. Harold Youngman, of Chelsea, and the rank, name, age and details of our St. Dunstan's blinding on the Somme in 1918, with the words which we have quoted above.

The bust was completed in the spring of 1939, when it was shown in the Royal Academy.

### Test Results, April

**Preliminary.**—T. Hurl, T. Gaiger, J. Wilson, S. Bekhrad-nia, V. Reeves, E. Warren, W. Harby, A. Pollitt, A. Pointon, W. Thomas, M. Burns.

**Senior.**—G. A. Prince, J. Davies, R. Botley, G. Richards, F. Warin, J. Delaney, F. Ripley, C. J. Fawcett, F. E. Parker, F. C. Fleetwood, T. Rogers, S. Girling, W. Farmery, V. Formstone, A. J. Radford, M. Delaney, M. Burns.

**Advanced.**—W. Castle, R. Cameron, C. J. Fawcett, M. Burns.

**Writing.**—A. Pointon, T. Hurl, W. Harby, S. Edgar, E. W. Read.

**Typing.**—A. Pointon, E. Osborrow, F. Simonds, H. Driver, F. Nicholson, G. Jones, J. Braithwaite, H. Briggs, J. Hodgson, R. Pringle, F. Steventon, J. Hawkins, S. Oliver, W. Jay, S. Wolkowicz, R. Green, J. Loska, J. Langley, A. Hill, J. Ormond, S. Bekhrad-nia, R. Harmsworth, E. Jager, A. Hodges, T. Hurl, J. French, A. Carpenter, J. Whitley, D. Cribben, H. Allsop, C. Pilgrim, A. Carrick, W. Hamer, T. Myles, W. Sargeant, E. Warren, T. Gaiger, H. Langton, G. Ellis.

### Grandfathers

H. Blakeley, Okehampton; J. Triggs, Ashford (to a grandson and granddaughter).

### Mr. W. H. Hawketts

It is with deepest regret that St. Dunstaners everywhere will hear of the death of Mr. W. H. Hawketts, M.M. Every man who has visited Brighton will remember Bill Hawketts with affection.

Since April, 1920, he had been part of the daily life of our Homes—at Cheltenham, West House, Ovingdean, Church Stretton, and again, as Quartermaster, at Ovingdean. His whole life was devoted to the welfare of St. Dunstan's men.

The funeral took place at Brighton Crematorium. There were many flowers, among them a wreath of poppies bearing the words "In remembrance of a devoted friend of blinded ex-service men and women of both World Wars from Sir Ian and Lady Fraser and the Council of St. Dunstan's, and St. Dunstaners all over the world."

On Sunday, August 1st, a Memorial Service was held at West House. The Chapel was filled to overflowing. Padre W. J. Taylor, who conducted the service, spoke of our old friend as a man who had won the affection of his fellow men by his patience, sympathy and understanding. It might be said of him that he gave his life for St. Dunstan's. He has passed out of the sight of men, but not out of their memory.

During the service, Joe Walsh, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Joan Osborne, sang "Nearer my God to Thee" and "Requiem." George Birkett was at the organ.

Matron Pain writes:—

"There are many who can speak of the whole-hearted and untiring service Mr. Hawketts gave to St. Dunstan's at Cheltenham, West House and Ovingdean, but at no time could his qualities have been of greater value than during the early years of the last war when the move to Church Stretton took place and the Training Centre was started in Longmynd.

"His knowledge of St. Dunstan's men and their ways was invaluable, and none who were with us will ever forget his loyal co-operation and help."

★ ★ ★

### Mr. Argyle

Men in Mrs. Argyle's area will learn with the deepest regret that her husband has died, after a long and painful illness.

## "In Memory"

### Rifleman Raymond Thomas Harding, 1/6th City of London Regt.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of R. T. Harding, of Cirencester, after a long illness.

Ray Harding came to St. Dunstan's in 1916. He was blinded by the premature explosion of a bomb while serving with his regiment, which he had joined at the outbreak of war in August, 1914. He was trained as a shop-keeper and his capacity for hard work combined with his cheerful personality made him one of our most successful men in that calling. He was a keen member of the British Legion and of the R.A.O.B. The funeral service took place at Cirencester Parish Church, prior to the cremation ceremony at Cheltenham. A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades was among the many flowers. Our deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Harding and family.

### Sergeant Joseph Kirkham, 14th Worcestershire Regt.

With deepest regret we also record the death of J. Kirkham, of Swanmore.

Blinded in the second battle of the Somme, in 1917, he came to St. Dunstan's shortly afterwards and received training in poultry farming and basket-making. After a few years' poultry farming in Herefordshire, he moved to Swanmore in 1926, and he carried on basket-making there. During the last twelve months his health has gradually failed. He had for some time been at West House, but he became worse and was removed to hospital, where he died.

He was buried in the St. Dunstan's section of Brighton Cemetery. Matron Ouseley and many comrades and members of the West House staff were present. Among the flowers was a wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades and another from the Swanmore Branch of the British Legion.

We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Kirkham and her son.

### Births

**ARMISTEAD.**—On September 8th, to the wife of G. Armistead, of Culcheth, Lancs., a daughter—Doreen.

**BICE.**—On August 8th, to the wife of T. Bice, of Tottenham, a daughter—Yvonne Lesley.

**BROOMFIELD.**—On August 13th, to the wife of F. J. Broomfield, of Weybridge, a second daughter—Rose Mary.

**BURNHAM.**—On August 26th, to the wife of A. Burnham, of Oxford, a daughter—Marian Joan.

**DICKERSON.**—On September 1st, to the wife of F. Dickerson, of Thornton Heath, a son—John Anthony.

**GIMBER.**—On March 7th, to the wife of S. Gimber, recently of Brighton and now of Beckenham, a son—George Lister.

**GUYLER.**—On August 29th, to the wife of A. Guyler, of Grays, a son—John Joseph Anthony.

**HOYLE.**—On August 12th, to the wife of C. Hoyle, of Chadderton, a daughter—Joan.

**MILLER.**—On August 18th, to the wife of J. Miller, of Glasgow, a son—Alexander.

### Death

**DANIELS.**—We offer our deep sympathy to E. C. Daniels, of Norwich, in the loss of his mother.

### Marriages

**POOLE.**—On September 1st, I. H. Poole, of Redditch, to Mrs. Gladys Smith.

**TINGAY-WHITE.**—On September 4th, R. Tingay, of Brighton, to Miss Joyce White.

### Camp, 1948

A party of St. Dunstan's men, numbering about fifty, spent a very enjoyable week at the Royal Naval Barracks, Lee-on-Solent, from Friday, August 6th.

The first two days were left open for us to settle in, but for most of us the merry-making commenced immediately. We soon got to know the sailors and Wrens, and in small parties travelled to and from the local "pub." After a Church Service at Titchford, on Sunday morning, beer was given in the Ward Room, where we met many old friends. Other social evenings were given by the Petty Officers of both 23 and 34 Mess; there was tea and dancing with the Wrens in Heathfield House; an evening with the Chief Petty Officers, and a Grand Finale evening with Ratings in the "Hutted Camp Canteen."

Although the weather was not kind, we were able to have trips on the Solent and tours of the airfield. A grand surprise awaited us on Friday, the 13th, for permission was granted us to go aboard the *Queen Elizabeth*.

The Camp was broken up on Saturday morning, and we all came away with very happy memories and a sincere hope that next year will find us once more aboard the "Daedalus." B. B.