

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

IT was on December 9th, 1921, that the late Sir Arthur Pearson, BT., G.B.E., died at the age of fifty-five. This was thirty years ago. A deputation placed a wreath on his grave in Hampstead Cemetery and Memorial Services were held at Ovingdean and West House. Thus we remembered.

Addressing the Memorial Service, I said that we remembered the love of humanity which prompted the initiation of the work of St. Dunstan's and the genius which set it upon such strong foundations. Those St. Dunstaners who were his contemporaries will remember also the buoyant spirit, the quick temperament, the capacity for decision, and the warm heart.

I should like to recall the debt which St. Dunstan's owes to his widow, Lady Arthur Pearson, for her long and devoted service as our President, and to his son, Sir Neville Pearson, who is now our President, for his diligent, capable and understanding work on our Council and committees through all these years.

Since many St. Dunstaners never met Sir Arthur Pearson, I have asked the Editor to print, in another column, a brief biographical note. But so far as they are concerned, his monument is in the hearts of St. Dunstaners, and in the work of the organisation that still goes on.

What have we done in these thirty years? The main principle of ready and sympathetic help, and particularly of the encouragement of self-help which he inculcated has dominated our counsels. The view that blindness was a handicap and not an affliction, and that it could be overcome or mitigated to a large extent by careful training and the right spirit, and a continuing self-discipline, which was also one of his lessons, is still our guide. I think it may truly be said that the spirit of St. Dunstan's to-day is very much the same as it was in the earlier years, though it may be deeper and richer because of the years during which it has had time to mature. Perhaps the most notable achievement of St. Dunstan's has been to absorb into its ranks a whole new generation of young men blinded in the Second World War, and to make them truly St. Dunstaners irrespective of the considerable span of life that separates them from the older generation.

If the spirit of St. Dunstan's is the same, its material resources and its capacity for help in a great variety of ways has largely been increased. In Sir Arthur's day St. Dunstan's did more than any other organisation of its kind to care for every interest of its members. It still does this, but much progress has been made in the world outside us, and St. Dunstan's still leads the way. Many new occupations for blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen, whereby

they may earn their living or contribute towards a living or occupy their time, have been taught and practised with success. Many diverse and interesting new jobs have been found and many inventions have contributed towards work or play.

When I joined St. Dunstan's in 1916, and after I had passed through a year of training in most of the occupations which were available, I became the head of the after-care organisation, and we built this up all over the country to take care of the interests of those who had passed through training and were settled in their own homes. The services of the After-Care Department, or Welfare Department, as it is now called, have been greatly extended, covering a whole host of new ways of helping and advising. There is, for example, the Talking Book and wireless, neither of which were available in 1921. Older members of the staff who rendered yeoman pioneer service have passed on, but we are still blessed with a staff who give to us, whether it is at Headquarters or at the Homes or in the field, great devotion and service.

St. Dunstan's itself has spread all over the world, with its branches and affiliations in all the great Dominions, but it has done more than this, for the stimulation of interest in the well-being of blind people and in their capabilities, first emphasised and advertised by Sir Arthur Pearson, has been a great factor in developing work for the civilian blind as a whole in many countries within the British Commonwealth and outside it, and a number of St. Dunstaners have taken a leading part in guiding these enterprises. When I followed Sir Arthur Pearson as Chairman of St. Dunstan's, I was twenty-four and was just entering upon the threshold of public life. I have been asking myself, as I have been writing, these Notes, what I think about the last thirty years. I think of thousands of St. Dunstaners and their families in their homes all over the British world, pursuing their various professions, callings and occupations, bringing up their families, and making their own contribution to the work and character of their community and generation. I think of their loyalty to St. Dunstan's, and of the great contribution each has made to the world-wide reputation of our organisation. Each has indeed written his own page in the history of St. Dunstan's as a whole. I think of those who have made great successes as the world judges these matters, and of those who have plodded quietly along, setting a good example. I think particularly of those who are getting old, or who have always been sick or so grievously wounded that they could not do very much. They also serve, and the world is the richer for their patient and philosophical and courageous meeting of the blows of fate. I think of the wives who have cared for their men and their families, "seen" for them, and often done the work of more than one person, and of the many children, some of whom served in the second war, helping to carry on the patriotic tradition of their fathers.

My wife was with me at the beginning, for she was working at St. Dunstan's before we met and married, and she and I think often of the early days and of the years that have passed.

At this time of Christmas my heart warms to our many thousands of St. Dunstan's friends in almost every village of Britain, and every province or district of our widespread Empire, and we send a message of affectionate greeting and good wishes for peace and contentment in the New Year.

IAN FRASER.

St. Dunstan's on the Air

The popular record programme, "Family Favourites," will be broadcast from the Ovingdean Home on Boxing Day in the Light Programme from 4.30—5.30 p.m.

★ ★ ★

The "Have a Go" recording at the London Club will not only be broadcast in the Light Programme between 9.30 and 10 p.m. on December 19th, but also in the North Regional programme from 6.30—7 p.m. on December 20th, and in the Light Programme on December 23rd from 10.30—11 a.m.

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to Captain William Appleby, O.B.E., and Mrs. Appleby, who on Sunday, November 25th, celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary.

Presented

At the November Exhibition of Lord Roberts' Workshops, R. Wylie, who represented St. Dunstan's there, was presented to Her Majesty the Queen, to Queen Mary, to the Duchess of Gloucester, and the Duchess of Kent. An interview with him was also broadcast in Woman's Hour.

London Club Notes

The Committee of the London Club wish all members a very happy Christmas and lots of good luck in 1952.

The Annual General Meeting of the London Club will be held at Headquarters on January 18th, 1952, at 7.30 p.m.

It is hoped that all members of the Club will make a special effort to attend.

On November 21st the Club took part in the Wilfred Pickles' "Have a Go" programme. A jolly good evening!

On December 10th, at the Tavistock Restaurant, the Committee were privileged to entertain all those grand people who do so much to help us. Four St. Dunstaners were the entertainers to a very appreciative audience.

Bridge Section

The 14th Annual General Meeting of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club took place at Headquarters on Saturday, December 8th, and was ably presided over by our very good friend, Mr. W. G. Askew, C.B.E.

Before the afternoon's business was proceeded with, the Chairman suggested that those present should stand in silence for one minute to pay tribute to the memory of our late Chief, Sir Arthur Pearson.

The subscription for the ensuing year remains at five shillings; members will receive a full report of the meeting in due course. The committee for 1952 was elected as follows: Messrs. H. Gover (Capt. Secretary), S. H. Webster (Treasurer), N. Downs (Liaison), R. P. Coles and F. Winter. S. H. W.

As the REVIEW goes to press, Paul Nuyens' team has won one match, drawn one and lost two, in the London Business Houses' League, and Jock Brown's team has drawn one and lost three.

Indoor Section

The results of the finals for the Sir Arthur Pearson Games Competitions, held at Ovingdean on November 17th, are:—

Cribbage:		
Winner	H. Dickenson	Liverpool
Runner-up	J. Gill	Manchester
Dominoes:		
Winner	L. Jackson	Liverpool
Runner-up	J. Maxiecuno	Manchester
Darts T.B.:		
Winner	E. Edwards	London
Runner-up	T. Rosewarne	Manchester
Darts S.S.:		
Winner	J. Moseley	Ovingdean
Runner-up	J. Halsall	Liverpool

Darts Team:

Winners	W. Bishop	
	C. Williamson	
	Ed. Edwards	London
	A. Needham	
Runners-up		Manchester
Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Whist Trophy:		
Winner	D. Edwards	London

On November 30th we had a party of visitors from the Women's Section, Conservative Club, Dartford, who played St. Dunstan's Club at darts, whist, crib and dominoes. Everyone was engaged in one or other of these games, and we once again spent a very happy evening. Our visitors were delighted and hope to meet us on another occasion.

On December 3rd we visited the Thames Police, where our Darts Team won hands down.

CHARLES J. WALKER.

Institute of Magicians.—Madam Zomah and the St. Dunstan's Section of the Institute of Magicians wish all Club members a very happy Christmas.

Outdoor Section

A sunny afternoon greeted the 6 miles handicap walk on December 1st, and the field of nine which started made amends for lack of numbers by enthusiasm and high standard of performance. Jack Crump, A.A.A., who started the race and presented the prizes, congratulated all concerned on their efforts and the close handicap finish, two minutes covering nine men and three tying for fourth place makes the handicapper's job a tricky one. The next race is the All-England Championship on January 26th, Regent's Park, 2.30 p.m. Entries early please, and plenty of them, to Headquarters.

Order of finish	Act. Time	All. scr.	Hcp. Time	Hcp. pos.
T. Gaygan ...	52.45		52.45	4
C. Williamson ...	53.25	0.40	52.45	4
W. Miller ...	54.25	1.30	52.55	7
A. Brown ...	55.25	2.40	52.45	4
A. Bradley ...	57.25	3.55	53.30	9
S. Tutton ...	58.40	7.10	51.30	1
C. Stafford ...	59.07	7.25	51.42	2
T. Denmead ...	59.29	6.05	53.24	8
P. Cryan ...	61.05	8.35	52.30	3

Handicap—Prizewinners

1. S. Tutton.
2. C. Stafford.
3. P. Cryan.

Fastest loser, T. Gaygan.

Handicap Points:

S. Tutton ...	40	T. Gaygan ...	31
C. Stafford ...	37	P. Cryan ...	30
C. Williamson ...	34	A. Bradley ...	29
W. Miller ...	33	T. Denmead ...	26
A. Brown ...	32		

T. GAYGAN.

St. Dunstaners Have a Go

If you have listened to the "Have a Go" broadcast from the London Club, you will know what a grand show it was. If you did not listen, you will like to know who took part.

From a "short list" of some thirty names, Wilfred Pickles selected Messrs. Tom Daborn, Tommy Gaygan, Bill Lacey, and John Mudge, and Miss Beryl Sleigh. Bill Lacey brought down the house with his song, and Beryl charmed everybody with a lovely Hebridean song. Tommy was his own grand self, and John Mudge and Tom Daborn were magnificent with their quiet but assured answers. John won the jackpot. Altogether, a wonderful advertisement for St. Dunstan's.

It's All Done by Mirrors

We arrived at the hall, thirty of us, all our forms duly filled in, all the questions answered, and now came the ordeal; we were to meet the men who mattered.

Suddenly a hush, then a voice, loud and clear: "When your name is called, come to the table and just talk. Don't be nervous, just keep talking."

First one name, then another. Would my name never come? Be still, oh those fluttering butterflies in my tummy.

Yes, yes, that's my name. I shuffle forward. A cheery voice, and then come the questions. I talk, I talk, I talk; my inquisitor hardly gets a chance, but suddenly he does get in. "Right-oh, I'll take you to see the Chief later." I return to my little crowd desirous of nothing but the chance to crawl away, but the relentless hands of the clock creep round.

Others of my friends have had the summons. Good, I'm not going to be called. It's all over.

But no, suddenly a hand grips my arm and a voice hisses "Come along, down the stairs." I crawl down those stairs, through a door, and a cheerful voice says, "Good evening, take a seat." It all starts again. I repeat my answers, I enlarge, I give more details, I go on talking. I try to sound unperturbed. Then: "splendid. Say this. Do that. Above all, remember you'll be fine."

Again I wait, this time among only a few. Together we chatter and laugh—harsh, raucous laughs, then the summons again.

We stand in a little forlorn line, all our

voices still, the butterflies fairly tearing around our innards. Then through a door, to face a muttering, buzzing throng.

Through the maze of sound and hum of voices, I suddenly find myself standing there. It is me talking. I seem to be hearing myself from somewhere outside myself. Nothing really registers until a kindly voice, which has apparently given me confidence to go through the final inquisition, says in tones familiar to you all, "Give him the money, Barney." It's over. I've had a go. "JACK POTTS."

Yorks v. Lancs

When Wilfred Pickles said to me in his broad Yorks

"How do thee?"

Wheer's tha cum fra. What's thi name?

Wheer's tha bin and are tha lame?

Are tha coorting . . . Are tha wed?"

He druv me off me blooming yead.

Hey; Wait a minit, Wilf and Barney,

Aw'm not blest wit' gift o't blarney,

Aw've just cum fra Lancasheer,

Ever yead of Wigan pier?

Makes thee laugh? Well, 'ere's a word

'll rile thee . . .

Old Trafford!

Neaow then, Wilfred, mind thysen,

This 'ere's Wars o't Roses ower agen.

But when it comes to Britain's pride,

The Yorks and Lancs march side by side,

Wi' Jocks and Geordies, Borderers, and

Taffs,

Devons, Cornwalls, Buffs and Staffs.

Ivery county joining in—airmen, seamen,

civvy Jim.

Canucks, Aussies, Maoris too, stand to face

this Devil's brew,

Of those who by their force or stealth

Tax freedom from our Commonwealth,

And through the battle's roar and din,

Good comrades all, we grouse—or grin,

Until at last the cease fire sounds, 'tis then

we rest and lick our wounds.

And then we count our loss and gains,

And praise the Lord we're not in chains.

And in St. Dunstan's comfy wards,

The Yorks and Lancs again cross swords,

And argue which is best with glee,

Old Trafford . . . ahem . . . or Heading-

ley.

Aw' finished, Wilfred, more or less,

Except uv coorse,

Good neet . . . God bless.

H. CRABTREE.

Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt., G.B.E.

Founder of St. Dunstan's

CYRIL ARTHUR PEARSON was born at Wookey, near Wells, on February 24th, 1866. His father was an Anglican clergyman, the Rev. A. Cyril Pearson.

He was educated at Winchester College, attaining a good reputation in a number of sports and general athletics. He left school in 1882, and for two years read privately under the guidance of his father in a country rectory. Then his opportunity came. The proprietor of a popular weekly paper announced that he would give a situation with a salary of £100 a year to the reader who secured the highest marks for answering ten questions each week for three months. The competition, which was a keen test of knowledge, created great excitement; nearly 4,000 competitors entered it. The winner was Cyril Arthur Pearson.

In September, 1884, he came to London to take his place in the office of the late Sir George Newnes, at a salary of £100. He quickly rose to an important position and before he was thirty founded his own magazine, "Pearson's Weekly," and a number of other popular weeklies. In 1900 he founded the *Daily Express*, and was connected with a number of other newspapers, but his sight began to fail and he had to give up these newspaper interests. One of his best loved hobbies was the Fresh Air Fund, which gave holidays to millions of poor children from the slums.

His sight failed completely, and in 1913, Sir Arthur (or Mr. Pearson as he then was), joined the Council of the National Institute for the Blind. In 1914 he was unanimously elected President of the Institute, the highest honour it was in the power of the Council to bestow. In 1915 he founded St. Dunstan's, and in 1916 he was awarded a baronetcy for this great work. In 1917 the additional honour of G.B.E. was conferred upon him.

Sir Arthur Pearson died on December 9th, 1921, mourned by thousands of blind people all over the world. And before he died he wrote these words:—

"I confess to being very proud of St. Dunstan's. I regard it as a place full of wonders—the wonders of tragedy turned to joyful content, of helplessness turned to capability, of courageous resolution in the conquest of apparently overwhelming difficulties, of dauntless determination and of truest heroism."

In Memory of Sir Arthur

On the morning of Saturday, December 8th, Messrs. W. Shakspeare and W. Lacey, representing St. Dunstaners of 1914-1918, and John Mudge representing last war St. Dunstaners, went to Hampstead Cemetery with Mr. Askew and Mr. Watson, where a wreath was placed on Sir Arthur Pearson's grave.

Sunday, December 9th, was the thirtieth anniversary of Sir Arthur's death, and in the morning a Service was held at St. Dunstan's Chapel, Ovingdean, conducted by the Reverend B. Crane. Sir Neville Pearson read the Lesson, and Sir Ian Fraser gave the address. Lady Neville Pearson, Lady Fraser, Miss Pain and Mr. Nigel Pearson were among those present. Lady (Arthur) Pearson was regrettably unable to be present.

In the evening, at St. Dunstan's, West House, a Service was conducted by the Rev. W. Taylor, and Sir Neville again read the Lesson, and Sir Ian addressed the Service. At both Services, the hymn "Abide with me" was included. This hymn was written by the Rev. H. F. Lyte, great-grandfather of Sir Arthur Pearson.

Thanksgiving Prayers were offered at the Services for the restoration to health of His Majesty the King.

Both Services were filled to capacity, including a large number of St. Dunstaners from Brighton and further afield.

Braille Centenary Year

1952 will be the Braille Centenary year, marking the date of Louis Braille's death in 1852. The occasion will be marked by many events, among them broadcasts in which St. Dunstan's, with the National Institute for the Blind, will participate.

From Miss Gough

I would like to thank all the St. Dunstaners who so kindly contributed to a present on my retirement. As the choice has been left to me, I am buying a tea-set and an electric kettle. I don't need anything to remind me of all my friends at St. Dunstan's, but I am very pleased to have these mementoes.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all every good fortune in the future, and to tell you that I shall always take a great interest in all that concerns St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners. I think it was Sir Arthur who once said, "Once a St. Dunstaner, always a St. Dunstaner."

N. GOUGH.

London Reunion Dance

The evening of Wednesday, November 28th, once again saw St. Dunstaners in the London area gathering at the Seymour Hall for their annual Reunion. If there were not quite so many present as last year, this only made it easier to find old friends, and for the more energetic ones to enjoy dancing to the music of the Royal Horse Guards Band.

Our President, Sir Neville Pearson, welcoming the guests, recalled again the great pleasure it gave him to meet St. Dunstaners on this night above all others. It had been a great regret to them both that his wife, Lady Pearson, had not been able to come after all. For this a visit to the dentist that afternoon was to blame.

In a short speech, Sir Ian Fraser revealed that he had now been thirty years as Chairman of St. Dunstan's. He spoke of the genius and love of humanity of Sir Neville's father, the late Sir Arthur Pearson, the founder and first Chairman of St. Dunstan's, whom he succeeded. "We shared the battle against blindness, and conquered it as you have done," said Sir Ian. "St. Dunstan's," he added, "had been more than an encouragement to British soldiers, sailors and airmen. It had been an example to the world, and each one of them had written a notable page in its history."

A Gift to Toc H.

Sergeant Alan Nichols, in a letter sending Christmas wishes to friends of St. Dunstan's everywhere, sends us a long press cutting concerning a gift he is making to the town of Portslade. Sergt. Nichols is Chairman of the newly-formed Mile Oak Holiday Farming Group of Toc H, and he is giving to the Group three acres of land to be developed as a pig and poultry farm, with a section devoted to sports activities. In time it is hoped the little group will become self-supporting.

Test Results

Typing.—G. Chisholm, J. Fulling, J. W. Taylor, J. Walton, L. Scales, H. J. Taylor, J. Mosley, W. Burnett.

Writing.—M. Bryce.

Preliminary.—J. Fulling, C. Phillips, R. Towner.

Placement

E. Gaiger, of Devizes, as builder's clerk in his brother's business.

Ovingdean Notes

An annual event always most popular is the Brighton, Hove and District Grocers' Association Christmas Party. It was held this year on December 4th, at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, when over 400 guests were entertained. It was an evening which many St. Dunstaners will long remember.

Mr. H. Finlay, who is the new Secretary of the Association, following Miss Morley's retirement last year, is to be congratulated for the manner in which he had carried on in Miss Morley's tradition. We were all pleased too that Miss Morley, so long associated with St. Dunstan's, was able to be present at the Party.

This last week-end was the occasion of the Memorial Service to the Founder of St. Dunstan's, Sir Arthur Pearson, a special occasion, being the 30th anniversary of his death.

Christmas Entertainments at Ovingdean

Local St. Dunstaners are most cordially invited to join us at Ovingdean on the following occasions during Christmas:—

Saturday, December 22nd—

8 p.m., Games Evening.

Sunday, December 23rd—

8 p.m., Play-Reading.

Monday, December 24th—

8 p.m., Pantomime and Carols (Music Hut).

Christmas Day—

8 p.m., Informal Concert.

Boxing Day—

4 p.m., Ovingdean broadcasts in "Family Favourites."

8.30—11.30 p.m., Carnival Dance (Fancy Dress optional).

Friday, December 28th—

8—10 p.m., Dance.

Saturday, December 29th—

8 p.m., Domino and Whist Drive for local St. Dunstaners.

Sunday, December 30th—

8 p.m., Play-Reading.

Monday, December 31st—

8.30 a.m.—12.15 a.m., New Year's Eve Dance.

Chapel Services—

Sunday, December 23rd—10 a.m., Morning Service.

Christmas Day—

10 a.m., Holy Communion; 5.30 p.m., Evening Service.

Sunday, December 30th—10 a.m., Morning Service.

West House Notes

No occasion throughout the month gave us more pleasure than when we held our "Good Companions Party" at West House on November 14th. We were particularly happy that Sir Neville Pearson found time to join us that day.

Last month mention was made of the Sussex Handicraft Exhibition, and of the prizes awarded to St. Dunstaners R. J. Williams and J. Robson. There was, however, another prize awarded to G. Matrenin—making two awards for West House men.

Blackpool Notes

The Festival of Remembrance at Blackpool Opera House is an annual event, bringing ex-Service organisations together from all parts of the Fylde. Jock Inness and a young V.A.D. represented last war St. Dunstaners, and Harry Smith, escorted by Matron, the 1914-18 war.

W. Chamberlain laid a wreath on the Cenotaph on November 11th, and later we welcomed members of the Liverpool and Manchester Clubs at the Bourne Hotel. Our good friend, Mr. Blythe, brought along as a surprise Harry Johnson (captain) and Stan Mortensen, of Blackpool Football Club. The boxing world was represented by Jim Turner, promoter, and Ronnie Clayton.

All will be pleased to know that on the Promenade we have the zebra crossing, and on the tram standard a new sign which reads "St. Dunstan's, Stop."

And so will I

B. V-D.

Birth

MITCHELL—On November 22nd, to the wife of A. C. Mitchell, of Guildford, a son—Nicholas Charles.

Grandfather

J. Stedman, of Hayes; R. Scrimgour, of Middlesbrough.

The Fellows of St. Dunstan's

They're young, they're old,
They're tough, they're bold,
The fellows of St. Dunstan's.
From morn to night, their outlook's bright,
The fellows of St. Dunstan's.
Their handicap or limitation
Is as welcome as a poor relation,
But they're masters of the situation,
The fellows of St. Dunstan's.
For what has gone they do not grieve,
Nor do they live in make-believe,
But Excelsior! Do you get me, Steve?
Say the fellows of St. Dunstan's.
So, thankful for God's blessings, we
With courage and integrity
Will keep alight the torch of C.A.P.
Say the fellows of St. Dunstan's.

A. B. C.

"In Memory"

Kevin P. P. J. Henderson, Royal Army Service Corps

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Kevin Henderson, of Stockport, a St. Dunstaner of the last war, who had served with his regiment from May, 1939, until May, 1941. Already a very sick man when he came under our care in December, 1949, he suffered very severely, but bravely and patiently, until his death, which occurred at his home on November 19th.

We heard with sadness also that his father was taken ill a few days before, and he died in hospital on the same day as Kevin, not knowing of the death of his son.

Mrs. Dunphy and Miss Doel attended the double funeral at St. Winnifred's Roman Catholic Church. Sir Ian's wreath, from his St. Dunstan's friends, was among the many flowers at the funeral.

Our deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Henderson and her family in their tragic double loss.

Rifleman Albert George Peto, 9th Rifle Brigade

With deep regret we record the death of A. G. Peto, of Exeter. He was fifty-six.

He came to us immediately upon his discharge from the Service in July, 1916. He trained as a physiotherapist and had followed his profession until his last illness. He had been ill for a long time, and he died in hospital on November 27th.

Our deep sympathy is extended to his widow, son and daughter.

Seaman Andrew Bedderman Tanner, Royal Navy

With deep regret we record the death of A. B. Tanner, of St. Ives. He was sixty years old.

Discharged from the Navy in October, 1917, "Bob" Tanner came to St. Dunstan's the following year, where he trained in basket-making. He was a conscientious craftsman, and was never so happy as when he was busy in his workshop, and, in the summer months, chatting with visitors to his lovely little Cornish home town. His visits to Brighton, usually once a year, also were eagerly looked forward to, and greatly enjoyed.

He had been ill for some time past, and he died on December 4th, leaving a widow, and a son by his first marriage. Our deep sympathy goes out to them both.

A poppy wreath from Sir Ian Fraser was among the many flowers.

“ In Memory ”

G. M. Riseley, *Australian Imperial Forces*

We have heard with deep regret of the death of G. M. Riseley, of Woodbridge, Tasmania. He died in September, after a long illness.

Although serving with the 2nd Battalion, A.I.F., he was living in England when he came under our care in 1932. He had a little training, and his interest always was in farming. In 1940 he returned to Tasmania where he became interested in the welfare of ex-Servicemen, and he was selected by the Soldiers' Executive to serve as their representative on the Repatriation Committee, under Captain Marriott's chairmanship.

Our deep sympathy is extended to Mrs. Riseley.

Private George Tibbs, *Royal Army Service Corps*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of George Tibbs, of London, N.19, who died at the Blackpool Home on November 27th. He was within a fortnight of his 76th birthday.

He was discharged from the Service in 1919 and came to us in August, 1921, when he trained in mats and netting, and he had worked at his crafts right up to the time of his last illness.

The funeral service at Blackpool was taken by the Rev. Wardle Harpur. Messrs. H. Lea (representing first war St. Dunstaners) and B. Priest (second war), and Matron Vaughan Davies attended the funeral. The flowers included a poppy wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and a wreath from “men, staff and Matron of the Blackpool Home.”

Our deep sympathy is extended to his wife and sons.

Private Walter Sheridan, *9th Essex Regiment*

With deep regret we record the death of Walter Sheridan, one of our permanent residents at West House. He died there on November 19th.

Serving from August, 1916 until June, 1917, he came to St. Dunstan's in August of that year. He was wounded at Arras, and in addition to blindness received injuries also to his leg and arm. He trained as a netter and at one time had a shop, but for a number of years he had lived at one of our Homes.

The funeral took place at Brighton and wreaths from his Brighton friends, and from Sir Ian, were among the flowers.

Private Thomas Devlin, *6th South Lancs. Regiment*

It is deep regret that we record the death of T. Devlin, of St. Helens.

He was wounded at the Dardanelles and came to us in September, 1915. He trained as a boot repairer and mat maker and proved an excellent craftsman, but for a long while now, he has been a very sick man, and had stayed for long periods at our Homes at Brighton and Blackpool. He died at his own home on October 27th.

A wreath from the Chairman and his St. Dunstan's comrades was among the flowers at the funeral. Our deep sympathy goes out to his wife and family.

Private Lewis Alfred Wilson, *1st Northumberland Fusiliers*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of L. A. Wilson, of North Ormsby, Middlesbrough.

“President Wilson,” as he was usually known, served from September, 1914, until 1916, and came to St. Dunstan's almost at once, where he trained in joinery. Although of late his health had been very poor, he kept his keen interest in his work almost to the end. His death occurred at his home on November 1st.

The flowers at the funeral included a poppy wreath from Sir Ian; the R.A.O.B. was also represented. He leaves a widow, to whom our deep sympathy is extended.

Private Harry Faulkner, *King's Liverpool Regt.*

With deep regret we record the death of Harry Faulkner, for some time a permanent resident at West House.

Harry came to us in November, 1918, and was trained in netting and wool rug making, but he had been a very sick man for many years now. His death at West House occurred on November 29th.

Flowers from his Brighton friends, and a poppy wreath from Sir Ian Fraser were among the flowers at the funeral.

Private J. E. Howe, *King's Shropshire Light Infantry*

With deep regret we record the death of another one of our permanent residents at West House.

He served with his regiment from December, 1915, until August, 1917, when he lost his sight, and he came to us in May, 1921. He trained as a mat-maker but for a great number of years he had been under our immediate care. Although he had not been very well for a long time, his death on November 29th was unexpected.

A poppy wreath from Sir Ian, and wreaths from his Brighton comrades were sent for the funeral.

Joseph Edwards, *King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of J. Edwards, of Grimsby.

Although he was discharged from the Army with damaged sight as long ago as 1919 (he served from November 1st, 1914, until that year), it was not until June, 1947, that he came to St. Dunstan's, and he was then a very sick man and unable to undertake any training. His death occurred in hospital, after an operation.

A wreath of poppies from the Chairman and his St. Dunstan's friends was sent for the funeral.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to his family, and particularly to Mrs. Kearney, his daughter, who had cared for him until the time of his death.