

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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The British Legion Annual Conference

Sir Ian's Last Year as President

THE annual Whitsuntide Conference of the British Legion was held this year at Douglas, Isle of Man. Sir Ian Fraser was re-elected President, but he told the delegates that he would not be offering himself for re-election after this year.

Recalling that it was at the Douglas Conference ten years ago that he was first elected President, Sir Ian went on:

"I will serve until the Annual Conference at Whitsun, 1958, and this will complete eleven years in which I have been your national president. I have been thinking that ten years was long enough and that it was time we had a change. But I offered to stay on another year because I think the next twelve months will be the most important year in the Legion's history.

"My reason for saying this is that I have no doubt that the Government will make a major reform in War Pensions during this Parliament. Having taken part in the War Pensions Campaign for the last ten years, I naturally want to see the fruits of this exceptional representation."

Sir Ian reaffirmed the Legion's determination to press forward with the 90s. a week "basic" claim and continued: "Although a small number of very severely disabled persons have been treated with relative generosity, the fact remains that over 90 per cent.—600,000 in all—of war pensioners are now being paid weekly amounts which are actually and relatively inadequate having regard to the general improvement in the standard of living."

Wages, salaries and profits had risen considerably and quickly. War pensions, especially the basic rate applicable to the majority, had risen little and slowly. The Legion's claim would cost twenty million pounds a year. To do the right thing as he saw it would not mean an increase in taxation, but possibly a slightly lower rate in its reduction. A measure of what the Legion was asking for the war pensioner was the equivalent of only four hours extra work per year by every working man. Many Legion officers did more than four hours voluntary work in a week.

Concluding, Sir Ian said: "After I have ceased to be your President, I hope that from my place in Parliament, I shall still be able in various ways to help ex-servicemen and women and blind people, whose welfare is very near to my heart."

Among those present at the Conference were two St. Dunstaners—Mr. Howard Simcocks, M.H.K., who is an Advocate at the Manx Bar, and who had taken a leading part in the arrangements for the Conference, and Mr. T. N. Christal, who is a master at King William's College, Isle of Man. Whilst in the Island, Lady Fraser visited a very early St. Dunstaner, Mr. W. Christian, of Douglas.

The famous diarist, Atticus, wrote in the *Sunday Times* :—

"There will be sad hearts when it becomes known to-morrow that Sir Ian Fraser is giving up as his post as National President of the British Legion. For ten years he has led and guided the Legion with an energy that has never flagged. I hope that this is not the beginning of a retreat from his other activities, including membership of the House of Commons.

"Sir Ian was blinded whilst serving in France in the 1914—18 war, but with a spirit that could not be crushed he determined to live and work and serve as though he were the same as other men. He has business interests in South Africa and flies out there each year to see that things are going right. As Chairman of the Executive Council of St. Dunstan's since 1921 he has helped hundreds to find a full life in the realm of darkness.

"Almost every evening his wife comes to Westminster to drive him home when Parliament rises. To dine with the two of them at the House is to enjoy a gay party. The mutual consideration and the laughter when they are together are a joy—yet he has never seen her face. This is a man! And this is a woman!"

The Honours List

Our warmest congratulations to our St. Dunstaner, Major David Ronald Bridges, Blind Welfare Officer in the Department of Social Welfare, Federation of Malaya, who received the honour of Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in the Queen's Birthday Honours. Major Bridges married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Clutha Mackenzie.

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Mrs. Olive Kersley, a Vice-Chairwoman of St. Dunstan's (South Africa) Bulawayo Branch Committee, received the M.B.E.

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Mr. H. C. McCoy, Chairman of the Trustees of the New Zealand Institute for the Blind, was awarded the O.B.E.

Personal

Our President, Sir Neville Pearson, entered hospital on May 9th to undergo an operation on his knee. St. Dunstaners will be glad to know that it was successful and that Sir Neville has now left hospital, but to his and our regret he was prevented from attending the Freemasons' Dinner at Brighton May 15th and the Newcastle Reunion on May 23rd.

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Air Commodore Dacre, who has suffered from a duodenal ulcer for some time, underwent an operation at the King Edward VII Hospital, London, recently. He is now well on his way to recovery.

St. Dunstan's Great Work

On May 17th, Sir Ian Fraser opened a new Social Centre for the Warrington, Widnes and District Society for the Blind.

Sir Ian, who was accompanied by Lady Fraser, had gone to Warrington at the invitation of their old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Rex Furness. Mr. Furness is a St. Dunstaner who met Sir Ian in the early days of the First World War, and he is himself one of the finest exponents of the teaching of St. Dunstan's. By profession a distinguished research chemist, he became Manager of the Research Department of Messrs. J. Crosfield, but for more than thirty years he has worked tirelessly for other blind people. He is Chairman of the Warrington and Widnes Society for the Blind, which he and his wife were largely instrumental in founding in 1925, and as Sir Ian said, "has contributed more than any other single person to the comprehensive, up-to-date and generous-hearted provision which Warrington makes for its blind people."

Although the local authorities now are responsible for the workshop under the 1948 Act, Mr. Furness continues to care for all social activities at the Council's request. Sir Ian said: "You might have thought that when the workshops were municipalised, the voluntary spirit would have died. On the contrary, it took a new lease of life. Under the guidance of Mr. and Mrs. Furness and local helpers, the social services have been developed and maintained, culminating in this new splendid Centre which I am to open."

London Club Notes Derby Day

"I've got a horse." That was the cry as the coach moved off from the London Club on Derby Day to the strains of "Oh! Oh! Crepell-io." Harry-Boy, with his concertina, supported by Bill and Charlie with their mouth-organs, made up our Skiffle Group. Thus the tone was set for the day's outing.

We soon heard Bob Willis shout, "Do we have a sweep, although there will be ten blanks?" "Of course we have a sweep." Had we not already had three bob back from our quid?

We arrived in good time at Epsom and then out came the eats and drinks. Plenty of beer, jolly good food, then a walk round to see where we should lose our money.

The weather was perfect so we all enjoyed the fresh air. One bookie went broke, but none of us was responsible for that as we were all a bit bent ourselves.

All went well for the journey home. We sang all the way as if we had won pounds, for we look upon this trip as one big party and an annual affair for most of us.

We did not stop for tea this year and got back to the Club about 6.30, where Mrs. Willis provided us with tea and biscuits. A good finish to the day, and our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Willis. It was so well organised and a lovely time was had by all.

Looking forward to next year,

BILL LACEY.

Outdoor Section

Five Mile Walking Match

St. Dunstan's v. Erycinus S.C. v. Pearl S.C.
Regent's Park, Tuesday, 30th April, 1957

MATCH RESULT (three to score)

1	Erycinus S.C.	1, 5, 6	12 points
2	St. Dunstan's	2, 3, 7	12 points
3	Pearl S.C.	4, 12, 13	29 points

St. Dunstan's v. Bowring S.C.

Regent's Park, Tuesday, 7th May, 1957

Order of Club Time All. H'cp. Pos. Finish Time in Hp.

1	J. Comber	... B.S.C.	41.26
2	J. Culver	... B.S.C.	44.45
3	W. Miller	... St. D.	44.45 Scr. 44.45 4
4	A. Brown	... St. D.	46.42 2.20 44.22 3
5	T. Gaygan	... St. D.	47.55 4.00 43.55 2
6	S. Tutton	... St. D.	48.05 4.40 43.25 1
7	J. Gunn	... B.S.C.	48.32
8	A. Bradley	... St. D.	49.08 4.20 44.48 5
9	G. House	... B.S.C.	49.41
10	H. Sykes	... B.S.C.	51.40
11	S. Croucher	... B.S.C.	58.15

MATCH RESULT (five to score)

1	St. Dunstan's	3, 4, 5, 6, 8	26 points
2	Bowring S.C.	1, 2, 7, 9, 10	29 points

The Derby Sweepstake, 1957

Enthusiasm for our own Derby Sweepstake does not grow less with the years, and the number of tickets sold—2,966—was only eight short of last year, which itself was almost a record.

The draw was made at the London Club on Thursday, May 30th. Many St. Dunstaners and their wives and escorts were there to watch the proceedings. St. Dunstaners Sammy Webster, Charles Hancock and Freddy Winter made the actual draw, with Mr. Bob Willis as Master of Ceremonies. Miss Morrah and other old friends were also present.

After printing and postage expenses had been deducted (£24), the balance to be distributed in accordance with the published rules was £346 15s., and the final result was as follows:—

1st	Crepello A. J. Colclough (2248)	Stoke-on-Trent	£173 7s. 6d.
2nd	Ballymoss G. W. Pell (848)	Hove	£69 7s. 0d.
3rd	Pipe of Peace F. Bush (1866)	Elland	£34 13s. 6d.

Nineteen ticket-holders drawing starters each received £2 13s. 0d. They were:

Albergo	A. H. Craigie, Brighton	80
Alcastus	R. H. Cook, London, E.4	2730
Apostol	G. R. Bickley, London, S.W.4	1252
Barred Rock	J. H. Burt, Southampton	109
Bois de Miel	P. Spencer, Weston-super-Mare	477
Brioche	F. Winter, Henley	684
Chevastrid	W. Harding, London, N.4	1232
Chippendale II	F. Stratton, Shirebrook	2471
Doutelle	E. H. North, Taunton	594
Eudaemon	S. Jennings, Bradford	1764
Hedonist	F. Winter, Henley	2495
Lightehran	L. Ollier, Bury	720
London Cry	E. W. Read, Portchester	1867
Messmate	B. Murton, Faversham	165
Mystic Prince	C. F. Roughton, Hailsham	1392
Palor	C. H. Cornwell, Rottingdean	1514
Prince Taj	G. M. Jordan, Hove	385
Royaumont	L. R. Coussins, Southwick	556
Tempest	B. A. Hamilton, Thetford	2071

It was very hard luck that H. W. Matthews, of East Wittering, drew Bellborough (Ticket No. 1698) which was the only horse scratched. The Field was drawn by A. Tillotson, Blackpool (Ticket No. 926).

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Writing to acknowledge his prize-money, Mr. Colclough said: "It came as a wonderful birthday present, as I was 62 on the 8th of June, and it was also our 38th wedding anniversary, so you can guess how we all felt."

The Deaf-Blind Reunion

Home again after spending a wonderful Reunion at Ovingdean. We started off with a lovely dinner, with Matron and Commandant, and had lots to talk about. We went to London Airport and had a very interesting day and another lovely lunch in the Queen's Room.

Some of us went fishing off the West Pier. The fish were very shy and we were on the point of throwing the rods into the water when one gave itself up. That won us a prize. It could have been put into a 50-cigarette box and still be able to move, but many thanks to the Everyman's Angling Club in Brighton for a very nice day, and that includes the little boy who was so kind to us.

Our final dinner as usual was at Strood's. Mr. Wills and the Vicar from the Brighton Deaf and Dumb Club joined us. In the afternoon we had had tea with Lady and Sir Ian Fraser. We all had different things to tell Sir Ian and he was very interested.

I would like to thank all staff at Ovingdean and West House for making our Reunion a very happy time. Every time we go we find new faces amongst the V.A.D.s, yet still they can speak to us as if they had known us for years, and first class they were at the job. We all knew that they were short of staff and yet everyone had a word for us. Matron and Mrs. Macdonald saw we were not left out of anything. Many thanks to all who made us happy.

All the boys will be home now at their jobs. As for me, my tomatoes and egg plants are doing very well.

BILLY BELL. Newcastle.

Great-Grandfathers

I. Corns, of Hampstead, whose eldest grandchild, living in Australia, had a son on the mother's 26th birthday.

J. Bentley, of London, N.12, whose fifteenth great-grandchild has arrived.

Grandfathers

Canon W. G. Speight, of Oakham.

W. A. Brookes, of Southampton (Mrs. Brookes *nee* Miss Arnold, of West House, has had a son).

G. Davis, previously of Gloucester, and now of Brighton.

W. McCarthy, of Manchester. Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy, who are at present visiting their children and grandchildren in Canada, were presented with a grand-daughter a few days after their arrival.

Talking Book Library

June's Jaw

Five more new ones to tickle the old cardrums. The mixture as before thus:

"Bless This House," by Norah Lofts, reader Andrew Timothy, is a saga of a house built in the days of Elizabeth I, spanning the years up to the present day. An interesting East Anglian yarn set on the border of Suffolk.—*Cat. No. 68.*

"The Mill on the Po," by Riccardo Bacchelli, reader Andrew Timothy, traces the career of an Italian survivor of Napoleon's Moscow fiasco. He eventually settles comfortably on the Po (the river, not the utensil) and thrives, despite brushes with smugglers and the troubled, corrupt state of the Italy up to 1860. His son, a proper Charlie, figures in a somewhat sticky dénouement.—*Cat. No. 96.*

"Someone at a Distance," by Dorothy Whipple, reader Andrew Timothy, is a homely, true-to-life sort of tale. A French girl, crossed in love, leaves home, comes to England, and quite casually breaks up a happy home. The publisher-husband liked the smell of her and left his wife and teenage daughter. However, the whiff proved to be only chloroform and his misery then equalled his insanity before.—*Cat. No. 139.*

"The High and the Mighty," by Ernest Gann, reader Stanley Maxted, gathers together the life threads of a plane-load of people crossing the Pacific towards San Francisco. Things go wrong and the tremendous tension reveals the unsuspected quality of each member aboard.—*Cat. No. 968.*

"To Let Furnished," by Josephine Bell, reader Marjorie Anderson, was also released.—*Cat. No. 101.*

"NELSON."

Golden Wedding

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Condon, of Basingstoke, who celebrated their Golden Wedding on June 8th.

Among the many messages of congratulation they received was one from H.R.H. The Princess Royal, to whom our St. Dunstaner was presented, with Queen Mary, in September, 1917.

Ruby Weddings

Mr. and Mrs. H. Prior, of Portchester, April 7th; Mr. and Mrs. H. Watford, of Cudham, near Sevenoaks, on April 30th. Congratulations.

Reunions

Our Scottish St. Dunstaners met at Edinburgh on May 21st, and although it was only a small meeting, it was a most enjoyable one. It was held for the first time at the Roxburghe Hotel, Mr. D. G. Hopewell presiding.

The Newcastle meeting on May 23rd was, as always, a very lively one. Mr. Hopewell again presided and during the afternoon the guests were entertained by Mr. Fred Lawson with popular songs, which were much enjoyed by the St. Dunstaners present.

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser were present at the Bournemouth Reunion on June 1st. Speaking at the meeting, Sir Ian said:

"Amongst our number is a small band of most grievously disabled men, namely, those who are both deaf and blind or who have lost their hands as well as their eyes. Some of the obvious benefits of St. Dunstan's, such as radio and the Talking Book, cannot be made available to the deaf, and we try in various other ways to help them. For example, many of the staff at Ovingdean and at West House can talk fluently on the hand by means of the manual alphabet. I attended a special Reunion of deaf St. Dunstaners at Ovingdean the other day and was deeply impressed by the ready manner in which conversation went on between the staff and deaf men, and between the deaf men themselves. Many St. Dunstaners who can hear have also learnt the deaf language so that they can talk to their fellows. This is a most admirable and kindly service and I praise all those who have learnt the manual alphabet and encourage as many as possible to try. If you are deaf as well as blind you are terribly cut off from the outside world and it is up to each one of us to help to break down this barrier.

"The problem for the handless St. Dunstaner is a different one, but here again our experimental workshop has devised all kinds of gadgets to help.

"I have said that some 500 St. Dunstaners are sixty-five years of age or over. The ageing of our membership brings special problems, and we do much in our Welfare Department to meet the needs of this group."

Sir Ian reminded his audience of the four Homes at Brighton, namely, Ovingdean, where training was continued though the beds were now mainly given over for periods of holiday and convalescence.

West House, which was primarily set aside for permanent residents who were lonely or ill. The Girls' Home, Port Hall, and the Children's Home, Northgate House.

Eight hundred St. Dunstaners enjoyed holidays at Ovingdean last year. At West House there were 60 beds mainly for permanent residents, but including a most valuable hospital element. Seventeen women St. Dunstaners went to Port Hall for holidays, and 38 St. Dunstaners' wives, who were particularly ill, were provided with holiday and convalescent periods. At Northgate House, 190 children were looked after during the year.

No body of disabled ex-servicemen had such a complete system of training, settlement and welfare as St. Dunstan's. They were proud of the example they had set to ex-service world as a whole.

Concluding, Sir Ian said: "Each one of you by your example has made his own contribution to the success of St. Dunstan's and the high regard in which it is held in the world."

Presentation to Miss Wilson

The Leeds Reunion on May 25th was of course, a very special one, for it was the occasion of the presentation to Miss Wilson. Mr. Hopewell welcomed the many guests who were present and then Mr. A. D. Lloyds, Secretary of St. Dunstan's, introduced to the company Mr. Charles Temperton, M.M., who made the presentation to Miss Wilson of a gold watch and a cheque on behalf of the men of the Northern Area. This he did most capably. Miss Wilson, in her reply, reminded her hearers how she had come to St. Dunstan's, "for the duration" of the 1914-18 war, but had stayed thirty-nine years. She said how much she would miss her "family."

Mr. T. Niccol, of Harrogate, expressed everyone's appreciation of all the arrangements which had been made for this memorable occasion and then, while Miss Wilson remained in her place at the table, all those present formed a queue to see her watch and to shake her hand.

From Miss Wilson

DEAR "NORTHERNERS,"

As a climax to several weeks during which I received so many wonderful expressions of goodwill on my retirement, Charlie Temperton, of Hull, on behalf of you,

friends in the Southern Area and Overseas, presented me with your farewell gifts at the Leeds Reunion.

I am overwhelmed by your generosity—the gold watch is absolutely charming, and I am getting great joy in planning something for the house and garden with the cheque to remind me of you always.

To each and all I can only say a big "Thank you," not only for this marvellous presentation, but for the many happy years together and all your grand good wishes which have helped so much in laying down tools.

I shall miss you and the loyal staff of St. Dunstan's very much, but shall look forward to seeing you at Reunions, and am happy to feel that already Miss Midgley is quite "at home" with you all.

God bless you, your wives and families always.

Yours very sincerely,
MARIE K. WILSON (*alias* M.K.W.).

The British Legion Conference

At the British Legion Conference held at Whitsun, Conference renewed its pledge to fight on for the 90s. a week basic pension and proportionately increased allowances for war widows.

The following were among other resolutions passed:

That post-war credits should be paid immediately to all ex-servicemen invalided from the Service, irrespective of their age, or to their next-of-kin if they have died since leaving the Service.

That the war pensions of war widows should be exempt from income tax.

That the cash award to holders of the Victoria Cross should be increased from £10 to £100 per annum.

That the co-operation of the Government and Service Departments be invited in setting up an insurance scheme which would safeguard all serving men and their dependents in the event of wounding, injuries, disease and death occurring during service, such insurance to be additional to the normal State benefit.

A motion protesting against the appointment of ex-Nazi General Speidel as Commander of N.A.T.O. was also passed unanimously.

An N.C.O. Who Saved a St. Dunstaner's Life

Before the preview of the Royal Tournament in London recently, Corporal Reguton, of the King's African Rifles, whose splendid performance is a feature of this year's show, met again Lieut. Michael Tetley, M.B.E., whose life he saved in Kenya in February, 1954.

We take the following from the *Daily Telegraph*:

"The corporal, who was mentioned in despatches, straddled Lt. Tetley while beating off a Mau Mau attack with a Sten gun.

"The lieutenant was blinded by a bullet through the head in the action, and when he and his former batman met in the arena (at Earl's Court) he used his white stick as a rifle to explain how Cpl. Reguton had saved his life on another occasion. The corporal shot a terrorist in the nick of time."

Miss Naisi Gordon

We regret to announce the resignation, on the 31st May, of Miss Naisi Gordon, who joined our Welfare Visiting Staff in November, 1948.

Miss Gordon visited our men in Scotland and the Border Counties until June, 1955, when she assumed responsibility for the Midlands area, and her work for St. Dunstan's during her years of service is very much appreciated. We all send her our very best wishes for the future.

Miss Gordon will be succeeded on the 16th July next by Miss B. R. Blebta, of 54 Alcester Road, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, who comes to us from the Stratford-on-Avon Hospital, where she at present holds the position of Ward Sister. Miss Blebta has had considerable experience of welfare work during her past career which will stand her in good stead in her new post.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. L. Price, of Manor Park, whose Silver Wedding was on June 12th.

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Mr. A. Mace, who went to Australia ten years ago, now has his clinic and residence at 4 Alameda, 806 Military Road, Mosman, Sydney. Will his physiotherapist friends please note his new address as it may be some time before he can notify all of them.

Letters to the Editor

DEAR EDITOR,

Mr. George Fallowfield's argument is strong enough to impel me to cast my vote against condensing books specially for the blind before translating into Braille or Talking Book. His objections would presumably not apply to Braille books which have been published for sighted readers in a shortened version. I therefore hope that, having selected our books, the Committee concerned will continue to follow the printed word.

Yours sincerely,

R. C. B. BUCKLEY. *Barnes, S.W.13.*

DEAR EDITOR,

Can I help you? In case you are looking for a home for one of the Sweepstake prizes, the enclosed ticket proves that my daughter drew a horse and I put in a claim on her behalf. Isn't English a silly language?

Sincerely,

GEOFF. PRESTON. *Addlestone.*

[Sure enough, little Gail *had* drawn a horse—on the back of her father's ticket! And this suggests a competition. Can you suggest a list of phrases (not more than ten) each of which might be taken two ways? No illustrations needed. There will be 10s. 6d. for each list used and, of course, the Editor's decision is final. Entries to 1 South Audley Street, please.—Ed.]

South Norwood St. Dunstan's Group

At the 17th annual meeting of the South Norwood St. Dunstan's Group, which has given us such wonderful help through its organiser, Miss Mary Jemeson, M.B.E., two St. Dunstaners, Messrs. W. H. Lacey and L. Dennis, were interviewed by Major Basil Curtis. Mr. Lacey delighted the audience by concluding with a song and monologue of his own composition, and everyone wished Mr. Dennis well in his coming "century" walk from Bath to London.

This year's guest performer was Mr. David Buchan, who gave improvisations on the piano, followed by a "Name the Tune" quiz.

The Chairman, the Rev. D. Ingram Hill, who is leaving South Norwood, was presented with a St. Dunstan's oak tray, and handed a letter expressing Sir Ian's warm appreciation of his work for St. Dunstan's.

The Dog

The human who has never welcomed the adoring attentions of either a dog or a cat could not welcome anything. For he, or she, is so wrapped up in self-love that the world outside is a complete mystery to them. If you are one of these, please do not read any further, as it will not interest you.

The scene of this story is set in the little Hampshire township of Basingstoke. The period is between the autumn of 1945 and the spring of 1946. I was then stationed there as an employee of the M.O.S. (Inspectorate of Fighting Vehicles division), and my story is based on my own observations and that which was told me by the townfolk. The district is that adjacent to Worthing Road, at the top of which hill is a well-known motor works.

Every morning, just before 8 a.m., I would meet the dog coming up the hill, trotting along with the workmen in the direction of the factory. As the "five to eight" buzzer blew as a warning to the workmen, the dog would break into a frantic gallop in order to reach the works before eight o'clock. His pace would outstrip even the fastest of the running men who were endeavouring to "beat the clock." The dog, I was informed, would stay quietly within the works until the mid-day interval warning sounded, and then it would sedately trot downhill to its home.

It appeared that the dog's master, who was dead, had been an employee of these works, and the dog was merely continuing with the routine that it knew so well. If any of the great family of St. Dunstan's live at Basingstoke now, and therefore have more recent knowledge of it than I, I should be very interested indeed to know of the end of the tale of the dog.

ERNEST E. J. S. BURTON.

The Braille Reading Contest

St. Dunstaners from the Training Centre, Ovingdean, were among the competitors at the Braille Reading Contest held at the National Library for the Blind on June 1st. It was a particularly momentous occasion because Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was present.

Maurice Aldridge, who this year had to compete in a higher grade, was highly commended for his poetry reading.

"Operation Ebbie"

Fools step in where angels fear to tread, so goes the old saw, but Ebbie, as we all know, walks and walks to wherever he wishes. Possessed of that weird thing called "guiding vision," he told me he could easily find his way over the quick cut across the Downs, past the Plough and up to Whiteways, so on this glorious afternoon I expected him, and of course he arrived. Now some folk appear with a fanfare of trumpets, some creep upon you unaware, but Ebbie appeared with his voice hooting out in full cry.

It was thus; he left Ovingdean, navigated Rottingdean High Street, passed the Plough, and with his face towards the East, he set his feet firmly upon the white chalky road and followed the dazzle and well defined track. All went well and after some eight or ten minutes he discerned a shadow on the skyline. "Success!" this was it, this must be the road, so on to the tarmac road he went, and soon discovered a car being tinkered with. With an air of knowledge he asked, was this Lustrells Vale? A charming young lady said, "No." So, explaining his predicament he was told that the lady would take him to the correct road.

So Ebbie, escorted by his lady, whose garb was but a wasp-like bathing dress, was soon placed farther along the Downs, and so into the top of my Vale.

Profusely thanking his charming escort he said all was well, he knew the house and so turned his steps to my direction. He found the house, as he thought, then found the front door was not there, so carefully stepping over the wire fencing he proceeded past the wall with no front door and found the back garden.

Here all was peace, no sound disturbed the tranquillity, no sound from the house, and no doors open, so raising his by no means feeble voice he boomed, "Where are you John? Wake up, I'm here."

At this moment I was in my bedroom putting some things away so hastened out into my garden calling, "Where are you?" The effect was immediate. Ebbie was in my neighbour's garden, and with a burst of laughter he retraced his steps, round my neighbour's house into the road

and so into my front path, and found my front door where it should be, and in a few minutes was quenching his thirst and explaining things.

They say, "None so blind as those who will not see," but to we St. Dunstaners the motto is, "See what I can and guess the rest."

JOHN A. MUDGE.

An Interesting Reunion

On June 16th, J. W. Evans, of West House, who is a survivor from the "Lancastria," which was sunk in June, 1940, during the evacuation of France, attended a reunion of survivors from this disaster.

The day began with the laying of a wreath at the Cenotaph by Captain Niccols, who actually saved our St. Dunstaner's life at the time. There followed a trip up the river, a visit to the Tower of London, and then a meal. Each one present was presented with a handsome 'survivor's tie.'

Should any other St. Dunstaners be survivors from the "Lancastria," Major C. V. Petit, of 161 Tulse Hill, London, S.W.2., would be very interested to hear from them.

(The previous two items were too late for inclusion in the *Braille Review* and will appear next month).

From All Quarters

R. Coupland, of Hessle, Hull, was presented to Her Majesty the Queen as the representative of the Wholesale Trade when she visited the Fish Docks, Hull, recently.

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H. White, of Stalybridge, was re-elected in the municipal elections for the Lancashire Ward of Stalybridge for the fourth time, and with an increased majority.

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Micky Burns, who contested the Chalkwell Ward of Southend, was unsuccessful, but he doubled the poll for the previous year.

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W. Griffiths, of Blackburn, obtained third place at the Blackburn Music Festival, with 83 marks. The first and second prizes were won by 87 and 84 marks respectively.

Family News

Monica Durkin, Tunbridge Wells, was involved in a serious car accident last month when the car she was in with three friends hit a bank and overturned. Monica was the only one not rendered unconscious, and though badly bruised and shaken, she was able to leave hospital a few days later. One of the other passengers, the father of a friend, was killed.

The daughter of R. Seymour, of Warrington, was a Standard Bearer at the British Legion (Women's Section) Conference at the Royal Albert Hall last month.

Gerald Horner, Holmfirth, now on National Service, will be part of the Guard of Honour when the Queen goes to Balmoral.

Singing with their school choirs in big public performances have been Malcolm Simpson, Doncaster, and the eight year old daughter of G. Poole, of Preston.

Jeanette Brooks, Welwyn Garden City, has won a silver medal for dancing.

Thirteen year old David Knape, Handcross, with his Scout Patrol, took part in the Tinsley Green Marbles Championship for the Youth of Great Britain. They won.

Helen Embleton, Trimdon Village, last term gained her hockey colours (a year ahead); she sings, too, and was in the school's production of "Iolanthe" recently.

Marriages

Kenneth Horner, Holmfirth, on June 8th, to Miss Kathleen Hallas.

Morris Storer, Rugby, on April 29th, to Miss F. Bradbury.

Maurice Mash, St. Heliers, on June 1st, to Miss Alma K. Wilkinson.

National Egg Laying Test

Report for the 8th Period of Four Weeks, April 23rd—May 20th, 1957.

	Score	Value to date
1. Bagwell, Philip	...	855
2. Holmes, Percy	...	680
3. Webb, W.	...	665
4. Dix, John A.	...	555
5. Smith, W. Alan	...	463

Average number of eggs per bird per month, 17.94.

Average number of eggs per bird to date, 118.97. D.W.F.

Ovingdean Sports Day

Ovingdean Sports and Garden Party will be held on Saturday, 6th July. Entries for the field events will be taken on the field. St. Dunstaners wishing to attend, if they will not be staying in the building, are asked to apply to Miss Guilbert in writing. A ticket for tea for a St. Dunstaner and escort will be sent. Any additional ones required may be obtained at the charge of 1s. 0d. per head.

The Passing Years

Now we have passed three score and ten, our minds look back across the years

To happy care-free days when we and love were young,

We love the part of England's garden where we've lived since we were born,

We lov'd to walk along the field paths and the lanes,

To wander in the meadows when the sun was going down,

However oft we passed those ways, 'twas never quite the same.

There was always something fresh to see and some new sound to hear,

And then there were the lovely scents diffused from tree and flower,

We lov'd to walk along the lane when moon and stars were shining bright,

For then romance was in the air, 'twas Fairyland just made for two,

And we would dream of days to come when we more closely knit would be,

And in due time we pledged our troth, to love and cherish long as both should live,

We shared life's joys, and when the strains and stresses came, as come they do,

Each to the other courage gave until the strain was safely passed,

And through the passing years, the bond which bound us closer grew,

And now we reap the fruits of those past years, Peace, contentment, happiness.

"Love conquers all things," a Latin proverb says,

And we do feel that we have proved it true,

And in that faith we face the years that lie ahead until the time of parting comes.

W. C. HILLS.

Shatterling, nr. Canterbury.

“ In Memory ”

Sergeant Frederick Ernest King, *Royal Army Medical Corps*

St. Dunstaners of both wars will hear with deep regret of the death of “ Freddy ” King, of Patcham, Brighton. He was 62.

When he first came to St. Dunstan's, in December, 1918, he worked on baskets. Then he had a shop, and later he ran an allotment and greenhouse. When the 1939-45 war broke out he was engaged as a braille teacher at Church Stretton, and he continued this when we returned to Ovingdean, but ill-health forced him to retire in February of this year. On June 2nd he had a stroke and he died in West House, where he had been taken, the following day.

There were many of his St. Dunstan's friends at the funeral.

A single man, he had been cared for by his widowed sister, Mrs. Wood, and our deep sympathy is offered to her.

Private Thomas Shepherd, *7th South Lancashire Regiment*

We record with deep regret the death of T. Shepherd, of Cliftonville, Margate, at the age of 66.

He first came to St. Dunstan's in December, 1915, when he met Sir Arthur Pearson; he stayed for two weeks but returned the following June and trained as a poultry-farmer and mat-maker. Ill-health, however, forced him to give this up in 1923. Later he took a shop but gave this up also when he went to Australia in 1950, but returned the same year to settle in Margate. His health had deteriorated consistently and he died on May 28th.

Our deep sympathy is extended to his wife and family, and especially to his daughter who with her mother, had nursed him.

Private John Richard Ridley, *27th Labour Corps*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of J. R. Ridley, of Finchley, at the age of 67.

He came to us in March, 1919, and trained as a joiner, and he carried on this work until the end of 1956. In March of this year he went into hospital at Winchmore Hill and he died there on May 15th.

The flowers and St. Dunstan's wreath of poppies sent for the funeral were placed on the War Memorial of the Finchley Ex-Servicemen's Club, of which he was a life-long member.

To Mrs. Ridley and her family our very sincere sympathy is sent.

Births

BROWN.—To the wife of J. R. Brown, of Liverpool, on May 16th, a second son.

NESBITT.—To the wife of A. Nesbitt, of Maidenhead, on June 4th, a son—Alexander Rodney.

NEWTON.—To the wife of R. Newton, of Oldham, on June 2nd, a daughter—Elaine Linda.

Marriages

WILLIAMS—BENNETT.—On May 25th, T. A. Williams, recently of Sheringham, and now of Brighton, to Miss Mary Bennett, of Hove. John Mudge was best man and the verger at the Church was also an old friend, Syd Kitson. The bride was for some months a V.A.D. at Ovingdean.

Deaths

Our deep sympathy goes out to the following:—

BUTLER.—To J. Butler, of Waterford, Ireland, whose wife died in hospital on May 29th.

BUTT.—To W. Butt, of Worthing, who has lost his sister.

DANCE.—To F. T. Dance, of Takeley, whose eldest son, with whom he had been living since the death of Mrs. Dance, died suddenly on May 18th, at the age of 44.

EDWARDS.—To J. Edwards, of Tottenham, whose wife died on June 17th.

KAY.—To A. Kay, of Letchworth, who lost his wife on May 23rd.

MURTON.—To B. Murton, of Faversham, Kent, whose wife died on June 18th.

NICHOLS.—To W. Nichols, of Colindale, and Mrs. Nichols, whose little grandchild, aged only seven months, has died.

SIMPSON.—To E. Simpson, of Salford, whose father has died after a long illness.

VICKERS.—To H. Vickers, of Bolton, whose wife died on May 13th.

Holy Baptism

On April 6th, Nigel Mackenzie, son of Gordon and Rosemary Joan Smith, of Rottingdean, was baptized at St. Dunstan's Chapel, Ovingdean. The Reverend W. J. Taylor, Chaplain at Ovingdean, officiated.

Mr. Gordon Smith is one of our physiotherapists.