

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

No. 486—VOLUME XLV

NOVEMBER, 1960

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

WHEN I was President of the British Legion and Major Spinks was Chairman, we set up a joint committee on which national membership societies such as the British Legion, the R.A.F.A., B.L.E.S.M.A., etc., and specialist societies such as St. Dunstan's, were represented to enable the ex-services movement to speak with one voice in making its submissions to the Government. This joint committee has remained in being and has continued its good work and we at St. Dunstan's are indebted to Mr. A. D. Lloyds, our Secretary, and Mr. H. D. Rice, our Pensions expert, for their work on it.

Towards the end of the last session of Parliament, I raised the question of war pensions and asked for a statement, indicating that I thought the time had come for something to be done to raise the standard.

On November 2nd a statement was made in both Houses of Parliament and St. Dunstaners will no doubt have heard of this on the radio or from their newspapers.

My view of the matter is best illustrated by what I said in the House when the announcement was made, which was as follows:

"My Lords, It might not be amiss if as an old friend of many ex-servicemen I were to make an observation or two on the war pensions statement.

It is now five years since a previous Government made some similar provisions to those which we hear announced to-day, and it is three years ago, almost exactly, since the largest review and favourable improvement in war pensions was made—and I may say, in passing, that I hope history will repeat itself. The cost of living has remained steady for three years, a most difficult accomplishment. In that same period average weekly earnings have risen from £12 11s. 7d. to £14 2s. 1d. That represents a rise of some 12 per cent. and from the figure given by the Minister to-day it appears that the basic rate of war pension is to be raised by 12s. 6d., or 14 per cent.

In their Election Manifesto the Conservative Party said that they wished to link the standard of living of war pensioners to the standard of living of the people generally. That was a wholly new conception. Before this, all Governments had concerned themselves with formulæ about the cost of living and whether certain sums of money matched certain changes in the cost of living. But now the new conception is that war pensioners and other pensioners shall enjoy the change in the standard of living, shall 'share in these good things,' to quote the words of the Manifesto. I congratulate the Government upon having carried out so swiftly those undertakings and upon having gone, so far as I can calculate in my head, a point or two better than the figures would have warranted."

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Wally Thomas is in his late thirties. On Easter Monday, 1944, he was a Corporal in a Bomb Disposal squad which had been detailed to dismantle a 2,200 pound German bomb dropped on an American-manned aerodrome in Essex. Something went wrong while the TNT was being burned, and Wally was blown up. After a series of operations it was obvious that he was to be totally blind and totally deaf for the rest of his life.



Wally Thomas

But **LIFE IN MY HANDS** Wally Thomas is no appeal for pity. Rather it is a remarkably well remembered and unsolemn account of what it means to be blown up (Wally retained consciousness during the explosion), to enter into a strange private world without sight or sound, and gradually to find a way back to contact with people and things.

To Wally, with a wife and family, the worst blow of all was to be told that he was not employable, at which news even his sense of humour deserted him. Today, however, he works in his garden shed for a light engineering firm, is looking forward to a new career as an author of books in Braille, plays the piano and goes regularly to football matches. How he learned to 'hear' again through his sense of touch, and how the patience and ingenuity of the staff of St. Dunstan's and various other hospitals guided his own determination to be an active person again are told in Wally Thomas's own racy language – taken from tape-recordings. **LIFE IN MY HANDS** Wally Thomas must be one of the most original and moving ever to be written in the annals of human courage.



I should like to add the personal thanks of all St. Dunstaners to Mr. J. Boyd-Carpenter, the Minister of Pensions, who has for many years been a good friend to us.

The details applying to various categories of St. Dunstaners are many and varied and we have arranged to set them out as clearly as possible in this issue, which has been published a week earlier to bring the good news to our readers as soon as possible.

Lord Amory Joins the Council

Lord Amory of Tiverton has been elected to the Executive Council of St. Dunstan's. As Mr. Heathcoat Amory he was Chancellor of the Exchequer until July last and before that was Minister of Agriculture and a Minister at the Board of Trade and Minister of Pensions. Though still in his early sixties, he was one of the British elder statesmen held in the highest esteem abroad and at home by members of all parties. We are fortunate, I think, to get the services of so distinguished and experienced a man. I have known him for many years in Parliament and can assure St. Dunstaners that he is also one of the most charming persons you could meet, and he has a fellow feeling with us for he was grievously wounded as a Parachute Colonel at Arnhem. On the occasion of his retirement, I said of him in the House, "If I were to write three words to describe him as I saw him in the House of Commons for so long, I would say that he is able, he is modest, and he is kind. I cannot think of any three words which I should regard as paying a greater tribute than that."

Immediately he retired, with the cordial approval of my fellow members of the Council, I wrote to Lord Amory and he replied:

"When I left the Treasury, I made a firm resolve not to take on any jobs for three months. However, you have touched a sensitive spot and of course I will most gladly accept your kind suggestion that I should serve on the Council of St. Dunstan's. It will be a pleasant renewal for me of my Ministry of Pensions contacts and a great privilege."

A Further Nuffield Gift

Through the personal influence of Lord Nuffield, who has taken a great interest in our Talking Book, the Nuffield Foundation has given us £100,000. This means that Lord Nuffield, directly or indirectly, has given us over £200,000 for the Library during the last ten years. This new gift, together with funds set aside by the R.N.I.B. and contributions from St. Dunstan's will enable us to carry through the conversion from gramophone discs to tape recordings about which I have kept readers informed from time to time.

I am sure St. Dunstaners generally, and especially the many hundreds who enjoy the Talking Book, will join me in expressing our very warm thanks to the Trustees of the Nuffield Foundation and especially to Lord Nuffield himself, whose warm heart and practical help is most deeply appreciated.

FRASER.

Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Service

On Sunday, December 11th, at 11.15 a.m., a Service will be held at the Ovingdean Chapel to honour the memory of the Founder of St. Dunstan's, Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt. Our President, Sir Neville Pearson, will read the Lesson at the Service which will be conducted by St. Dunstan's Padre, the Rev. W. J. Taylor.

The usual transport arrangements will be made for St. Dunstaners living in the Brighton area; a coach will leave the Arlington at 10.30 a.m.

★ ★ ★

On the morning of Friday, December 9th, the 39th anniversary of Sir Arthur's death,

a party of St. Dunstaners will leave Headquarters for Hampstead Cemetery, where a wreath will be placed upon his grave.

Subscriptions of not more than one shilling towards the wreath should be sent to Mr. Lloyds at 191 Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

Remembrance Day, 1960

St. Dunstaners were among those who paraded at the Cenotaph on Sunday, November 13th, and a party were present at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, November 12th, for the Festival of Remembrance. Lord and Lady Fraser also attended the Festival and our Chairman took part in the parade the following morning.

War Disability Pensions

Improvements Announced November 2nd, 1960

Details of the improvements are as follows:—

Basic Pension

All 100% Pensions will be increased by 12s. 6d. a week and proportionately for lower assessments so that a Private Soldier disabled in the highest degree will be entitled to receive 97s. 6d. a week instead of the present 85s.

Attendance Allowance

There is to be an all-round increase in this Allowance. A St. Dunstaner with guiding sight who at present receives 17s. 6d. a week will receive 20s. a week. A totally blind St. Dunstaner who receives 35s. a week will receive 40s. A St. Dunstaner with disabilities additional to blindness who receives 52s. 6d. a week will receive 60s. A St. Dunstaner with exceptional disabilities, such as the loss of both hands additional to blindness, who at present receives 70s. a week will receive 80s.

The Attendance Allowance which is now limited to pensioners assessed at 100% will be extended to those assessed at 80% or 90% where they are 100% disabled from all causes and their need for attendance arises mainly from the war disablement. St. Dunstan's will co-operate with the Ministry of Pensions in dealing with this particular improvement and a further letter will be sent to those St. Dunstaners who are affected.

Unemployability Supplement

This Supplement will be increased from 55s. a week to 63s. and the Family Allowances payable with such Supplement will also be increased as follows:

Allowance for wife or other adult dependant, from 30s. a week to 35s.

Allowance for first child, from 15s. to 17s. 6d.

Allowance for other children, from 7s. 6d. to 9s. 6d.

Education Allowance

This Allowance, where payable, will be increased from up to £80 a year to up to £120 a year.

Allowances for Wear and Tear of Clothing due to Artificial Limb

These Allowances, where payable, will

be increased as follows:

Lower Rate, from £6 a year to £7 10s. a year.

Higher Rate, from £10 a year to £12 10s. a year.

Allowance for Lowered Standard of Occupation

This Allowance is paid in exceptional cases only to those Pensioners receiving less than the 100% Pension. A new Allowance of 20s. a week will however be introduced for Pensioners who on account of exceptional disablement qualify for an award of Attendance Allowance at rates above the normal maximum (now 35s. a week to be increased to 40s. a week), and who, despite their severe handicaps, are normally in employment. This new Allowance will help only a limited number of St. Dunstaners, but will be most welcome.

Comforts Allowance

This Allowance has not been increased and will continue to be paid as at present.

EXAMPLES

The following examples show the altered rates, and may be of help to St. Dunstaners in appreciating their personal position:

	Employable		
	Present		New
Totally Blind	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
Basic Pension ...	4	5 0	4 17 6
Attendance Allowance...	1	15 0	2 0 0
Comforts Allowance ...	1	0 0	1 0 0
Wife's Allowance ...	10	0	10 0
Child's Allowance ...	7	6	7 6
	£7	17 6	£8 15 0
Guiding Vision	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
Basic Pension ...	4	5 0	4 17 6
Attendance Allowance...	17	6	1 0 0
Comforts Allowance ...	10	0	10 0
Wife's Allowance ...	10	0	10 0
Child's Allowance ...	7	6	7 6
	£6	10 0	£7 5 0
Totally Blind with Exceptional Maximum Rate of Attendance Allowance	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
Basic Pension ...	4	5 0	4 17 6
Attendance Allowance...	3	10 0	4 0 0
Comforts Allowance ...	1	0 0	1 0 0
Special Allowance ...	—	—	1 0 0
Wife's Allowance ...	10	0	10 0
Child's Allowance ...	7	6	7 6
	£9	12 6	£11 15 0

Unemployable		Present		New	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Totally Blind		4	5 0	4	17 6
Basic Pension ...		1	15 0	2	0 0
Attendance Allowance...		2	15 0	3	3 0
Unemployability Supplement		1	0 0	1	0 0
Comforts Allowance ...		1	10 0	1	15 0
Wife's Allowance ...		15	0	17	6
Allowance for First Child ...		£12 0 0		13 13 0	
		£11 2 6		£12 13 0	
Guiding Vision		4	5 0	4	17 6
Basic Pension ...		1	7 6	1	0 0
Attendance Allowance...		2	15 0	3	3 0
Unemployability Supplement		1	0 0	1	0 0
Comforts Allowance ...		1	10 0	1	15 0
Wife's Allowance ...		15	0	17	6
Allowance for First Child ...		£11 2 6		£12 13 0	

If a St. Dunstaner is sixty-five years of age or over he will be receiving in addition to the above the Age Allowance of 15s. a week. This Allowance has not been increased.

The improvements will come into force on the first pay day in April, 1961.

National Insurance Benefits Improvements and Alterations Announced November 2nd, 1960

Details of the new standard weekly rates of National Insurance Benefits which will become effective in the first week of April, 1961, are as follows:

Sickness or Unemployment Benefit		Present		New	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Single Person ...		2	10 0	2	17 6
Married Couple ...		4	0 0	4	12 6
Retirement Pension		2	10 0	2	17 6
Single Person ...		4	0 0	4	12 6
Married Couple ...		2	10 0	2	17 6
Widow's Pension		2	10 0	2	17 6

There will also be increases in Maternity Benefits, Widows' Allowances and in the Allowances for certain dependants.

These new Insurance Rates are subject to the necessary Bill being passed, but it is not expected that there will be any material changes on its way through Parliament.

In a contributory scheme such as this, the improved benefits must be matched by increased contributions. For the employed person not contracted out of the graduated National Insurance Scheme, which comes

into operation next April, the contributions will remain at about their present level. Employed persons contracted out of the graduated scheme will be asked to pay 11s. 4d. (men) and 8s. 10d. (women) instead of the present rates of 9s. 11d. (men) and 8s. (women). The self-employed man will pay 13s. 6d. a week as against the present 12s., and the self-employed woman 11s. as against the present 10s. a week. For non-employed persons the contribution will rise from 9s. 7d. to 10s. 9d. for men and from 7s. 7d. to 8s. 3d. for women.

St. Dunstan's is paying the whole of the contribution for the non-employed St. Dunstaner and is helping with the contribution of the employed and self-employed St. Dunstaner. When the new contribution rates become effective, St. Dunstan's will continue to pay the whole of the non-employed contribution and will pay 5s. 8d. of the contribution of the self-employed St. Dunstaner and of the employed St. Dunstaner whether he will be contracted in or contracted out of the graduated scheme which comes into operation in April, 1961.

Brighton News

Miss Nias, until recently Escort Sister at Pearson House, has been appointed Lounge Sister at Pearson House in succession to Miss M. Heap, who has retired.

We were very sorry indeed to lose Miss Heap and wish her a very happy retirement. She joined the Staff in February, 1944, and many will remember her as Escort Sister at Ovingdean, then as a transport driver and finally as Lounge Sister at Pearson House.

Brighton Club Notes

All St. Dunstaners in Brighton and district are cordially invited to the Annual General Meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, December 8th, 1960. This will be followed by a whist and domino drive.

FRANK A. RHODES,
Chairman/Secretary.

★ ★ ★

The Editor thanks those readers who have sent copies of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for January, 1949. A few more are still needed, as also is the issue for November, 1938. If any St. Dunstaner can help in this way, it would be appreciated.

Chess Weekend

Patience and tenacity were rewarded when F. H. Kirkbright won the Cup at this year's Chess Week-end. His first success after fourteen years, he gained 3½ points out of 4. Norman Russell came second with 3 points and Freddie Taylor third with 2½. It was a close-fought contest with the results being in doubt until the final round. Ray Sherriff put up a very good performance in his very first Tournament in spite of being in the top handicap class. I predict that he will be among the prizewinners in the near future.

After a discussion as to whether clocks should be used in future Tournaments, it was finally decided not to use them—but it is up to all players to get on with their games at a reasonable pace. A definite result cannot be given on adjudication if only a few moves have been made.

Matron presented the prizes after saying how pleased she was to see such an interest taken in this grand game which helped to fill in one's time and widen one's scope.

Miss Carlton was at hand during the whole period working out the arrangements at which she has now become very efficient. Very many thanks, Miss Carlton.

Mr. R. W. Bonham, of Worcester College, paid us his usual visit and demonstrated his skill as a chess expert and teacher. Our boys appreciated his valuable advice.

We were all very pleased to welcome Percy Stephens, who attended each day accompanied by his charming wife. Percy played chess many years ago and is now learning to play as a blind man. He shows great interest. We can assure him of every assistance in his efforts to get into the game again. He regaled us with stories of his experiences and of the great variety of people he has met. It was a great tonic to hear his stories told as only Percy can tell them in his own quiet modest manner.

CHARLES KELK.

On The Air

A. W. ("Tiger") Martin, of Peacehaven, recently took part in a new sound radio programme, "Listen Awhile," in which he gave an account of his experiences as a circus performer and travelling showman.

And On Television

F. Sunderland, of Greenford, took part in an I.T.V. programme, "It Happened to me," on Friday, November 4th.

Tales Of Ind

When Kipling wrote the "Ballad of East and West," he never dreamed of what he had started. A spate of novels about the North West Frontier appeared on the bookshelves and in the public libraries. Written by romantic women writers, they were avidly read by romantic Victorian, or was it Edwardian, maidens who in their dreams sought their hero, "the strong, silent man." Shades of Ethel M. Dell!

Indeed, the men who served with the Frontier regiments of the Indian Army were dedicated, living hard, lonely and dangerous lives in frontier posts and forts, often spending months without seeing their families or the face of a white woman or child.

I look back after nearly forty years and see in my mind's eye the grim mud-coloured fort with its squat tower over which flew the Union Jack. Jandola was "in peace" occupied by the South Waziristan Scouts. It was in the centre of mountains, hills and deep ravines, presenting a picture of barren desolation. Not a blade of green grass to be seen, only great rocks perched precariously on the edge of cliffs forming grotesque shapes as night fell.

The locals had a legend that when Allah created the world, he had a lot of building material left over and this was dumped on the North West Frontier.

I shall always remember the night in Jandola when a picket high up on a hill behind the camp started firing and when the post asked them by telephone what the trouble was about, they stated that they were being heavily engaged by the enemy. The picket was defended by about a dozen Indian soldiers. The attack may have been a ruse to entice a part of the garrison out of the post and destroy them so no attempt was made to rescue them. The firing went on for some time and then stopped; the telephone also went dead and it was concluded that the picket had been overrun. The next morning I was told that it seemed that the pickets heard movements in the barbed wire apron in front of the picket and the rattle of tins attached to the wire; they started firing thinking the enemy was all around them. When day dawned they found the "enemy"—a dead donkey.

DUNCAN McALPIN.

Talking Book Library

Guy Fawkes Special

Roughly speaking, two roman candles and two golden rain let off, or should I say released, this month. The bag contained no sparklers perhaps, but then neither did it hold any damp squibs.

"The Dragon Tree," by Victor Canning, reader Robin Holmes, is an entertaining story of political prisoners, terrorists, in exile under guard. The story of the Major appointed as gaoler and of the English wife of the terrorist leader on the tiny island where the exiles are confined, plus the subsidiary activities of the naval personnel, and a corporal of the garrison, make interesting reading and everything builds up to the dramatic rescue. *Cat. No. 411.*

"No Room in the Ark," by Alan Moorehead, reader Robin Holmes, is a most pleasant account of a journey to the source of the Nile by plane, by river steamer and occasional excursions on foot. A relaxed piece of writing and enjoyably educative. *Cat. No. 419.*

"These Twain," by Arnold Bennett, reader Eric Gillett, adds another volume to the saga of the Clayhanger family and all their fears, hopes, and aspirations up there in the Potteries. *Cat. No. 399.*

"The Heart is Highland," by Dorothy Black, readers Norman Shelley and P. J. Reynolds, is a pretty little double romance of a girl artist and her Scottish girl friend both sharing a flat in town. The main action takes place on a little Western Isle, the friend's birthplace, where painter heroine takes a holiday and gets wrapped up in the spiritual and economic life of the island with the interesting results one can only read for oneself. *Cat. No. 157.*

NELSON.

The Philosopher

The following little gem comes from T. Rogers, of Huddersfield.

"I was at a niece's for tea when her boy arrived with a little school friend. Giving them tea, my niece asked the youngster if he would like a piece of apple pie. 'Oh yes, please,' he replied. She then said, 'I hope you don't mind but it's a little soft from the juice of the fruit.'

"Imagine my amusement when the boy replied, 'Oh no, I don't mind. If you are too particular you miss a lot in life!'"

From All Quarters

H. C. McCrea laid the wreath at the Cenotaph in Belfast on Armistice Day.

★ ★ ★

H. Duxbury, of Manchester, who is a lay preacher, recently had his sermon recorded in the church, together with the service, and it was then taken to the homes of local blind people who are unable to attend.

★ ★ ★

A. T. Hazel, of Merton, left England last month with Mrs. Hazel for Cape Town. They will be returning next March.

★ ★ ★

Micky Burran and Mrs. Burran have now returned to this country from America.

★ ★ ★

S. Purvis, of Seghill, has won a writing desk, two chairs and a tea set this year with his leeks.

★ ★ ★

W. Griffiths, of Blackburn, has done very well at recent Blackpool and Fleetwood Musical Festivals for his baritone solos.

★ ★ ★

W. Bell, of Basingstoke, has a Border Collie which has just had a litter of puppies. He would like to find good homes for the puppies and also for their mother. There are six bitches and one dog in the litter. He would be glad to hear from any St. Dunstaners who would be prepared to give good homes to the dogs. His address is 142 Kempshott Lane, Basingstoke.

Birth

HARMER.—On October 18th, to the wife of A. J. Harmer, of Rubery, Birmingham, a daughter—Sandra Christine.

Death

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the following:

PALMER.—To H. A. Palmer, of West Hartlepool, whose brother died on November 4th in his 74th year.

Marriage

TOOMEY.—On October 17th, A. J. Toomey, of London, W.10. Mr. and Mrs. Toomey have now moved to Worthing, Basingstoke.

Ruby Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Shaw, of Walsall, November 3rd. Many congratulations.

Told at the Handless Reunion

"I have an artificial hand made by the expert who makes artificial eyes for St. Dunstaners. On a train recently another passenger went out of her way to compliment me on the way I kept my nails!"

GWEN OBERN.

"In 1944 I was a prisoner of war in Japanese hands. A telegram from England from a blind and handless sapper brought me such encouragement that I can still remember the message. It went like this. 'Out tandeming to-day. Typed this myself. Also lost my sight and hands. Don't be too depressed. Keep smiling.' The telegram was signed 'David Bell.'

"This week-end, nearly seventeen years after, at our Reunion, I have met David for the first time."

BILL GRIFFITHS.

Do You Play an Instrument?

Are there any St. Dunstaners in the London area who would be interested in forming a small jazz band? R. Pringle, of London, N.W.10, who already plays in one, would like to hear from others with a view to forming a St. Dunstan's Band. The Editor would be glad to forward any replies to Mr. Pringle.

Family News

Mrs. D. Munro is one of the founder members of the Aberdeen and District English Association and at a ceremony marking the opening of the Association's new premises, Mrs. Munro, with another founder member, was presented to the Lady Provost of Aberdeen.

★ ★ ★

Janet Marsh, Jersey, Channel Isles, has taken the juvenile St. John Ambulance preliminary certificates for home nursing and first aid.

★ ★ ★

Colin Biggs, Hildenborough, has passed in Advanced Level in pure maths, applied maths, and physics practical, and in "O" Level in pure and applied maths, physics and physics with chemistry and geography.

★ ★ ★

Robert Beales, Hereford, has won the Pengrove Prize for Junior Pianoforte at Hereford School of Music.

Marriages of Sons and Daughters

Colin Faulkner, Northwich, in October.

A Vision of Happiness

*I was standing upon a broad ledge upon a mountain-side,
Enveloped in a dense white mist—'twas neither damp nor cold
I knew not how I reached the ledge, I stood there much perplexed,
I knew the mountain towered above—I had not reached its peak
And then I felt a genial warmth, the sun was shining from above
And in a trice the mist all cleared, the mountain-side was now revealed.*

*I saw the varied greens of tree and herb at different altitudes,
The grandeur of the rugged rocks with precipice and deep ravine,
I saw where I had fallen down and had to make a fresh ascent,
And just below where I did stand a spring of water bubbled forth.
It trickled down the gentle slopes, cascaded o'er the rocks,
And in the space of many years had worn itself deep grooved.
And at the mountain foot a plain did stretch both far and wide
And as I stood there pondering, the interpretation came to me,
It was the mount of happiness up which I'd climbed so far
But if I would the summit reach I just climb higher still.*

*There is no easy way to happiness so we turn our backs upon the plain,
There's but one way and 'tis to conquer self,
To conquer self with all its base desires.
And so we face the mountain with its arduous climb,
As we ascend, the urge to higher climb doth stronger grow,
And when we fall we rise to make a fresh ascent,
And as we go a glow of warmth is born within which radiates to other folk we meet.
With happiness there comes content and also peace of mind
And the summit of it all is love which hath no evil thought.*

W. C. HILLS.

Grandfathers

F. S. Nunn, of Derby, a grand-daughter; S. W. Taylor, of Shepshed, a grandson; A. Taylor, of Colchester (the fifth grandchild); T. J. Floyd, of Teignmouth, a third grandchild.

"In Memory"

Private Frederick Bush, *King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry*

With deep regret we record the death of F. Bush, of Elland, Yorkshire, which occurred suddenly at his home on October 23rd.

He was a serving soldier when the First War broke out—he had enlisted in 1908—and he received his discharge in 1919. It was not, however, until 1946 that he came to St. Dunstan's. He trained in basket-making and netting and followed these occupations until early this year when increasing ill-health forced him to give up. He had been in indifferent health for some time and seriously ill since last August.

He leaves a widow and two sons to whom our deep sympathy goes.

Private Ernest William Wakelin, *Labour Battalion*

It is with deep regret that we record the death of E. W. Wakelin, of Huntingdon. He was within a week or so of his seventy-third birthday.

He served from March, 1917, until December, 1918, coming at once to St. Dunstan's where he trained as a boot-repairer and mat-maker. He carried on with mat-making until 1923 when his health forced him to give up for some years, but in 1931 he set up as a mat-maker again and was able to carry on his craft until 1953. His health then gradually deteriorated and he passed away on October 19th.

Our deep sympathy is sent to Mrs. Wakelin in her loss.

Trooper Samuel E. Worlidge, *3rd/2nd Scottish Horse*

We have to record with deep regret the death of S. E. Worlidge, of London, N.W.10. He was nearly 73.

He enlisted the day after the outbreak of war in August, 1914, and served until April, 1916, coming to St. Dunstan's in June, 1927. He trained in mat-making and later had a poultry settlement. He gave this up in 1937 to take up mat-making again and he carried on this work, with a little wool-rug making also, until 1945. He gave up finally a few years later when his health began to deteriorate, but his death on October 30th was rather unexpected.

We send our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Worlidge and family.

David Roy Borrie, *2nd/21st Battalion, Australian Army*

We have heard with deep regret of the death in September last of D. R. Borrie, of Yea, Victoria, Australia. He was 58 and a single man.

He came to St. Dunstan's in this country in 1948 to receive training and returned to Australia just over a year later where he built his own workshop to carry on basket-making, weaving and plastic work. We last heard of him a few years ago when he was very happily settled there.

C. R. Frencham, *Australian Forces*

We have heard with deep regret of the death of C. R. Frencham, of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in 1936 but he had not been in touch with us for some time.

We send our sincere sympathy to his widow.

Miss Dorothy Dane

We have heard with regret from Miss Morris of the death on October 15th, of Miss Dorothy Dane, who was a V.A.D. at St. John's Lodge from 1925 to 1927.

Personal

Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Webster and their daughter-in-law, Maureen, wish to thank the many St. Dunstaners friends for the many messages of sympathy received in their tragic bereavement.

Situation Vacant

A St. Dunstaner living in Berkshire wishes to contact kindly person willing to act as part-time RESIDENT HOUSEKEEPER. Accommodation, board and small remuneration. Applications in first instance to Area Superintendent (South), St. Dunstan's, 191 Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

Braille Tests

Repeat Senior Braille Test. W. C. Scott, of Sandbach.