

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Men and Women Blinded on War Service

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Guide - Comforter - Friend

MISS Frances Ramshaw left St. Dunstan's at the end of March on reaching retiring age. I wonder what she thought of us and we of her? My guess is that both she and we will like to think of our long relationship not as that of teacher and pupil or Matron and St. Dunstaner but rather as that of warm-hearted friends.

She is the kind of woman to whom you could take your most personal troubles and talk them over, knowing that you would get good advice and, above all, comfort. She is devout, unselfish, understanding—serenity strikes me as being a good word with which to describe her attitude to life. Difficulties melted when you talked them over with her; she gave you a sense of security and it was in this sense that she embodied so well the ideal of what St. Dunstan's wants to be for St. Dunstaners and their families.

Matron Ramshaw's record of work is a long and proud one. She was a member of the staff of the National Library for the Blind, responsible for book production, from 1925 to 1943. Herself an expert brailist and a good teacher, she came to Church Stretton in the middle of the Second War and soon became Education and Training Officer. In this work, as in all she did as Matron, she showed great administrative ability.

Many of the younger St. Dunstaners were guided and helped and encouraged by her in those important early years of their blindness. Then at the end of 1951, when Miss Pain retired, Miss Ramshaw became Matron of St. Dunstan's. Hundreds of St. Dunstaners, official Brighton and Hove, and indeed, all who visited Ovingdean, knew and admired her as Matron during the years when she graced the building with her good looks and welcoming personality.

Now her term has ended and I know that she carries into her retirement the affection and good wishes of all those who have enjoyed her friendship.

Reunions Again

As I write this note, I am preparing a speech for the Exeter Reunion which Lady Fraser and I will attend on Friday, April 19th, and where we shall meet thirty-nine St. Dunstaners from Exeter and the West Country. I see from the list that these will include physiotherapists, telephone operators and men undertaking a variety of occupations, amongst the most unusual being that of a gardener and a coach proprietor.

Bridge at Ovingdean

In the December issue of the REVIEW, I wrote a note recommending Bridge Week-ends at Ovingdean and urged in particular that the younger St. Dunstaners should take part. I am glad to learn that there have been two very successful Bridge Week-ends during the past

few weeks. Those present included a number of older men and all were lucky to have Mr. Field and Mr. Stokes and their wives with them to welcome, encourage and teach the substantial number also of Second War men who turned up.

Lady Fraser and I have just returned from our yearly visit to South Africa. We played bridge perhaps a dozen times each way on the ship. Unfortunately these trips seem to be the only times in the course of the year when I can play bridge, so I am not as good as I might otherwise be. I must try to remedy this and in particular to get quicker at sorting my hand. However, we do not play match bridge but only what might be called "after dinner" bridge or "family bridge" and I found my fellow players very tolerant of my shortcomings. As I get older I think I am going to enjoy bridge more and more and I look forward to the publication in October or November of "*The Acol System To-Day*," a new book on bridge which is being published by the R.N.I.B. The Acol system is one favoured by some of the finest players of today and is much used by our leading St. Dunstan's players.

The Pattern of St. Dunstan's

The pattern of St. Dunstan's is similar in South Africa to that of the Old Country. Keith Branson is a successful physiotherapist in Cape Town, head of his department with five people under him. F. D. Pluke, also of Cape Town, is a busy telephone operator with an insurance company, operating an active 5 x 10 line board. Michael Norman is highly spoken of as the Anglican Rector of an important Cape Town parish. Lady Fraser and I met these three amongst others at a Reunion Dinner in Cape Town, over which Lieut.-Colonel Sholto Grant, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, South Africa, presided.

While passing through Cape Town, I also attended two meetings of the St. Dunstan's Committee of which I am a member, and heard about St. Dunstaners in other parts of the Republic.

Handicap Overcome

We all know that blindness is a handicap but we are familiar with many examples of the way in which it can be overcome. Here is an interesting little victory for the record.

In South Africa a clergyman can only marry two persons—as Priest and Marriage Officer—if he swears that to the best of his belief the persons coming to be joined together in Holy Matrimony are fit and proper persons according to law. This means, for example, that they are old enough and, in the South African setting, do not belong to diverse racial groups such as European, Indian, Coloured or Bantu. One method of satisfying himself is to see the parties but Norman, being unable to do this, was barred from acting as a Marriage Officer—a deprivation which he felt deeply as it prevented him from undertaking one of the most important functions of a parish priest. I mentioned this in my book—"*My Story of St. Dunstan's*"—and since I have been able to correct the position, I refer to it again so that the broad-minded and humane action of Mr. de Klerk, Minister of the Interior, may be noted.

I pointed out to Mr. de Klerk—who is known to me personally—that seeing a person oneself is no proof of his or her age or colour and that a blind person could "satisfy" himself by other evidence than sight, such as documents, reputation, etc. The Minister accepted this argument and Norman now acts as a Marriage Officer when required. The Archbishop of Cape Town congratulated me on this little victory for commonsense and kindness. "You have succeeded where I failed," he said.

Jock Boyd

Jock Boyd, one of the best known St. Dunstaners in Brighton and Sussex where he was for so many years our Representative, died at the end of March.

I do not think I can express my tribute to him and his widow more personally than by the letter which I wrote to her a few days ago and so I have asked the Editor to print it with other tributes in this issue. We shall all miss Jock and many, inside and outside St. Dunstan's, will mourn his death.

FRASER.

Ovingdean Notes

It seems almost incredible that we are already over a quarter of the way through 1963. Here on the Sussex coast we have had our share of the extraordinarily harsh winter and are looking forward now to some sunshine and warmer days ahead.

March has, indeed, been an eventful month for us here. During its first week we welcomed our new Matron, Mrs. N. J. Blackford and she and Matron Ramshaw worked together until the end of March. Then, suddenly, it was time for us to say au revoir to Miss Ramshaw, to thank her for all her work as Matron at Ovingdean over the past eleven years, to wish her a long and happy retirement and to express the sincere hope that she will come and visit us from time to time. To Mrs. Blackford, we extend a warm welcome and the hope that she will be very happy working for St. Dunstaners.

Presentation to Miss Ramshaw

On the afternoon of Friday, March 29th, St. Dunstaners at the Ovingdean Home and many living in the Brighton area, gathered in the Lounge to pay their own tribute to Miss Ramshaw upon her retirement. The occasion was the presentation to her of a Dynatron Stereophonic Record Player, the gift of St. Dunstaners all over the country.

The presentation was made by Mr. Bill Young, one of Matron's first pupils at Church Stretton and now a resident at Ovingdean. Mr. A. D. Lloyds, as Treasurer of the Presentation Fund, introduced Mr. Young who in a most moving and sincere speech, expressed the affection of St. Dunstaners everywhere for Miss Ramshaw and the good wishes of them all for her happiness in the future. Miss Ramshaw, obviously very touched, expressed her great pleasure at "this wonderful present," which included also a cheque with which she was going to buy records. The years she had spent with St. Dunstan's men were most happy years and she would always look back on them with gratitude and affection.

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Earlier in the day, the Commandant, on behalf of members of the staff from Headquarters and the three Brighton Homes, had presented Miss Ramshaw with a most attractive clock for her bedroom.

From Miss Ramshaw

DEAR ST. DUNSTANERS,

Thank you all very much indeed for the wonderful presents which you have given to me on my retirement from St. Dunstan's. I am so touched by your generosity that words hardly describe my real feelings. The pleasure, and usefulness, of your gifts will be a constant reminder of you all.

It is hard to have to say farewell but I hope to keep in touch and meet you again. You have given me so many happy memories to carry me through the years ahead.

I wish you the best of everything, and sincere thanks again for the many kindnesses shown to me.

May God bless you all, and your families.

F. M. RAMSHAW.

Derby Sweepstake

You are reminded that the closing date of the Derby Sweepstake is **Wednesday, May 15th**. Each application for tickets, which are 2s. 6d. each, and are limited solely to St. Dunstaners or St. Dunstan's trainees, must be accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

The name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, should be sent, with the stamped addressed envelope, to the Editor, St. Dunstan's Review, 191 Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

The Draw will take place at the London Club on the evening of Thursday, May 23rd. All those drawing a horse will be notified.

Result of Easter Competition

The Easter Competition was so popular that the number of prizes has been doubled. The correct solution was:

EXISTING—TINGE = Six
BESTOWAL—BALES = Two
GATHERING—RANG = Eight
ENTERTAIN—TREAT = Nine
FLOUNDER—LEND = Four
PERSONAGE—GRAPES = One
PRETENCE—CREEP = Ten
ETHEREAL—ALE = Three
SEVERANCE—RACE = Seven
FESTIVAL—LAST = Five

The six winners, who each receive five guineas are J. S. Hodgson, of Fotheringhay; R. Parsons, of Cardiff; G. Rowley, of Canterbury; R. J. Vowles, of Portsmouth; W. Chas. Taplin, of Southwick, near Trowbridge; and Tom Taylor, of Farington.

Letters to the Editor

DEAR EDITOR,

Having lived all my life in the wide open spaces of Africa, I had heard very little music until I was blinded and came to England. With the loss of sight, hearing became the paramount sense and I tried to appreciate music. I could not claim with honesty that I derived any pleasure from listening to the classics, despite attending a course on musical appreciation whilst in training at St. Dunstan's. For nine years it has rankled that there appeared to be pleasure in hearing good music and yet when I listened I could not find it as others.

A year ago my problem was solved for me. I joined the Concert Hall Record Club, "Introduction to Music" Section. Each month they send you a long-playing record, costing you approximately a guinea, on which they instruct you on the life of a single composer. Details of his life are brought out and at the same time the more famous pieces of his music are played and explained. The emphasis is on simplicity and young children can appreciate the music.

Little by little the ability to appreciate classical music grew and by the time I had received the sixth record I could say that for me, this series on "Introduction to Music" had released a new world for me to understand and appreciate.

If there are any fellows in the same boat as I was—do have a crack at this series if you still thirst for the ability to gain pleasure from the classics. Write to Concert Hall Record Club, Ltd., Grove House, 551, London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

It is commonly said that you have to be "born with an ear for music." This is just rubbish, or, to put it another way, a load of "bull."

Yours sincerely,
MIKE TETLEY,
Luton.

DEAR EDITOR,

I wish to take this opportunity through the columns of the REVIEW to express my thanks to all my St. Dunstan's colleagues who contributed to make me such a wonderful presentation of a pair of candelabra to mark my year of office as Mayor of the Borough of Stalybridge.

It was a most unexpected and delightful

experience to know that I hold the goodwill of so many of my friends in St. Dunstan's.

I would also like to thank Mr. Wills and also Mr. Russell, of Leeds, who, I understand, organised the presentation.

Yours very sincerely,

H. WHITE,
*Mayor's Parlour,
Town Hall,
Stalybridge.*

DEAR EDITOR,

I would like to thank all those who made it possible to have two Bridge Weekends at Ovingdean for beginners.

After knowing nothing whatsoever about this Bridge game, we—that is, all who took part in these bridge lessons—feel that if a get together could be arranged amongst the older bridge players, we could give them a run for their money.

All credit is due to those persons who gave up their week ends just to get us younger men bridge-minded.

We were made very welcome indeed by our now retired Matron and her staff, not forgetting our new Matron, and all who took part in making this a couple of wonderful and worthy week ends. We shall show our results later on.

Yours sincerely,
ONE N.T.
Chaddesden.

DEAR EDITOR,

It may be of interest to St. Dunstaners to know of the existence of the Braille Chess Association. This is an association of blind people interested in playing chess through the post. Various tournaments are arranged among its own members and also with players on the Continent. These tournaments cater for all types of player from the beginner to the expert. There is also available now quite a lot of literature in Braille, again to suit all types of players. In addition there are braille chess boards and chess men.

I would suggest that anyone interested should write for full particulars to the Secretary of the Association, Mr. H. H. Cohn, 128 Walm Lane, London, N.W.2.

Yours sincerely,
T. O. LUKES,
Old Colwyn.

(Braille chess literature, chess boards and chess men are always available from Men's Supplies Department at Headquarters. ED.)

From All Quarters

F. le Gros Clark, of London, N.W.2. was the author of the Eleanor Rathbone Memorial Lecture on the economic rights of women published on March 22nd. The lecture was the subject of a leader in the "Times" on the day of its publication.

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A. Hobson, of Hastings, is a member of the North Country Club which entered a one-act play in the Hastings Festival. They missed the Silver Cup by one point but our St. Dunstaner won the award for the best individual performance. His part? The village simpleton!!! Telling us the news, he adds: "No comment please." No comment but our sincere congratulations.

★ ★ ★

During Harry White's weekend visit to Ovingdean recently, a presentation was made to him by Ernie Russell on behalf of his fellow St. Dunstaners to commemorate his year of office as Mayor of Stalybridge. At the presentation in the Lounge, Alderman White was given a pair of silver candelabra.

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Robert Finch, of Quinton, Birmingham, was awarded second prize for one of his cocoa fibre mats at the Midland Regional War Disabled Homecraft Competition held at the Town Hall, Birmingham, on March 1st. Last year he took first prize, also with a mat.

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T. Higgins, of Leighton Buzzard, won two first prizes for his pigs at the Easter Fat Stock Show.

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The first prize for hyacinths at Diss Blind Social in February went to H. F. Goodley.

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Billy and Mrs. Griffiths, of Blackburn, gave a grand concert in the Winter Garden at Ovingdean on March 31st. Joe McDonald, of Oldham, writes: "It was a beautiful concert. All those songs and duets must have taken some doing. And what a pianist! Miss Dagnall was really wonderful. It was an evening I shall never forget."

Broadcasting

Wally Thomas is to take part in the feature, "People Today," on the BBC Home Service at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, May 10th.

The Busmen's Outing

The Summer Outing organised by the employees of Brighton, Hove and District Omnibus Co., Ltd., and Southdown Motor Services will this year take place on Wednesday, July 17th.

Cardiff Club Notes

Our last meeting was on April 6th, at the Headquarters of the British Legion, Womanby Street, Cardiff. We were all pleased to have Tommy Selby back with us again.

I was very pleased to read Lord Fraser's reference to St. Dunstaners becoming members of a club in their area and I would like to appeal to St. Dunstaners in the Cardiff area who are not yet members of our Club to come along. There is a warm welcome awaiting you.

Our next meeting will be held a week later than usual owing to the South Wales annual Reunion falling on the first Saturday in May, so will members and prospective members please note the alteration.

A. C. EVANS,
Secretary.

Grandfathers

D. E. Bingham, of North Holmwood, Surrey; G. Powell, of Brewood, Staffs; C. G. Wilkinson, of Hull; H. Coad, of Newton-le-Willows (for the sixth time).

Bless All Mums

*All these little mums around us
Handing us our cups of tea,
Shoving grub before our faces,
Steering us from A to B.
Reading us the morning papers,
All the tit-bits and our stars.
What star, dear, were you born under,
Dear, the word is Mars—not bars.
Lonely in the Lounge you're sitting,
Gloomy is your face to see,
Comes the rattle of stillettos,
You've acquired one V.A.D.
Tell me, do you come here often,
Did you here that on T.V.,
Are you here for hobby training,
Are you down for joinery,
Still we wouldn't be without them,
Grateful to that lot we be,
Mothers' Day—We give our blessings,
Bless my soul, that's Chivalry!*

F. HICKS,
Trainee.

Subscriber Trunk Dialling

Since Subscriber Trunk Dialling (S.T.D.) is quickly becoming part and parcel of the telephone service throughout Britain, a word may be opportune to those St. Dunstaners who as yet have not become acquainted with it.

S.T.D. employs only automatic telephone exchanges and a subscriber or caller on this system is able to dial any destination without having to use the services, as formerly, of the G.P.O. Exchange telephonist. We are, however, reminded that if in doubt we can still dial "0" or "100" for the operator, whichever is appropriate, and receive the customary help and advice. A considerable amount of advance publicity, helpful pamphlets, and so on is given in every area by the G.P.O. prior to the changeover to S.T.D.

In dialling for ourselves any call under S.T.D. the important thing to remember is that *time is being charged from the moment a call, either local or trunk, is received or made.*

To encourage the use of the telephone at other than peak periods, the following concession has, however, been made.

From 6 p.m. until 6 a.m. every night, and all day Sunday, the unit of time for trunk calls will be increased by one half and for local calls will be doubled. So for longer time for your money, make calls within these concession periods.

Diamond Wedding

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. Wilson, of Pinner, whose Diamond Wedding was on Friday, April 19th.

Ruby Wedding

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Mills, of Walsall, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on April 2nd.

Silver Weddings

Mr. and Mrs. G. Brooke, of Holmfirth, March 26th; Mr. and Mrs. E. McClarnan, of Blackpool, April 6th; Mr. and Mrs. W. Wrigley, of Manchester, April 13th. Congratulations to you all.

Family News

We have heard with regret that Mrs. E. B. Kimber, widow of our St. Dunstaner of Alton, Hants., passed away on March 17th.

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Mrs. E. D. Bates, wife of our St. Dunstaner of Clacton-on-Sea, is now Chairman of the Social Committee of the local Conservative Club.

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Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Howes, of Thornaby-on-Tees, are very proud of their granddaughter, aged fifteen, who has recently become Junior Champion Ice Skater of Great Britain.

* * *

Sixteen year old Jimmy Spencer, Gillingham, is lead guitar in a rock'n'roll group which is making a name for itself in the Medway Towns. They are "The Statesmen," and as a spokesman said to the local newspaper, "we do not rely on fancy costumes or gimmicks. We get up on the stage and play our best and hope to provide a really good show."

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We have heard with regret that Mrs. R. Wharton, of Oxford, has lost her mother. She had lived with our St. Dunstaner and his wife and we send our sympathy to them both in their loss.

Marriages of Sons and Daughters

On April 15th, Anne Martin, Durban, Natal, to Ronald Schutze.

Mrs. Elizabeth Nugée

All St. Dunstaners, and especially those who were at Church Stretton, will learn with the deepest regret of the death on April 17th, of Mrs. Elizabeth Nugée, the wife of the Reverend Andrew Nugée, a First War St. Dunstan's officer who became our Chaplain at Church Stretton during the Second War. Mrs. Nugée will be remembered with affection for the friendship she extended to so many St. Dunstaners and their wives, all of whom will join in sending deepest sympathy to Mr. Nugée in his great loss.

Corrections

It was reported last month that our late St. Dunstaner, Mr. C. E. Bolton, of Bexleyheath, enlisted at the outbreak of the 1914-1918 war. This was according to our records. The true facts are, however, that our St. Dunstaner had enlisted as early as March 16th, 1909, and it was in August, 1914, that he went to France, being blinded only a week or so later. He was taken prisoner of war but repatriated in February, 1915, and he became one of the earliest St. Dunstaners, being admitted in April, 1915. (He was first at Bayswater and then at Regent's Park.)

We are grateful to Mrs. Bolton for bringing this to our notice.

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We also learn from Mrs. Peel, of Wibsey, Bradford, that her late husband's age was not correct. Our records showed him as having been born in September, 1890; in fact, Mrs. Peel says that her husband was 74 years old last September.

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In the tribute to Gunner William Graham, of Pearson House, in January, his war service was given as from 1918-1919; in fact he served from 1916 until 1919.

Braille Correspondence

A lady living in Dorset who has recently learnt to write braille would be glad to hear of any St. Dunstaner who would like to correspond with her.

Alternatively, if there are any relatives or friends who would like their letters transcribed into braille for someone at St. Dunstan's, she would be happy to do this. Those interested should write to the Editor in the first instance.

Slips that pass in the Type

A celebrated soldier, who had spent part of his war service on a Mediterranean island, later returned to spend his retirement there.

The local newspaper wrote up this event in quite a big way with a banner headline, which unfortunately came out as "BATTLE SCARED WARRIOR RETURNS."

The following week, the humble apology was somewhat bedevilled by the admission, "We deeply regret having inadvertently referred to Brigadier Blank as "a battle scared warrior." We of course meant to describe him as "BOTTLE SCARRED."

The Pemberton Quarterly.

Joe Walch

Charlie Kelk writes:

"I was on holiday at Ovingdean when the sudden news of the death of Joe Walch came. It was a great shock and we find it difficult to realise that our kindly cheerful friend has gone from us.

Joe and I have been friends for more than ten years and bridge partners for the last seven or eight. We had also been associated as members of the Committee of the Brighton Club, of which he was Vice-Chairman, and also in other activities both inside and outside of St. Dunstan's.

We often pulled Joe's leg about his position as Vice-Chairman, putting the accent on the word, "Vice," but he took it all in good part. There was nothing vicious about this generous and warm-hearted St. Dunstaner.

In spite of his very severe handicaps, and almost constant pain, Joe played a full part in life; passing on his knowledge of braille to younger men and giving them encouragement by his own example.

As we all know, Joe was a very fine singer and always gave of his best, whether on his own or with Joan and Bob in the "Osborne Trio."

In addition to the Annual Staff Concert at St. Dunstan's, and the Club Dinner, he would go to the various Old People's Homes and give them a good evening's enjoyment. One might almost say that he lived for singing. It was born in him.

Joe was also quite a good raconteur.

To my mind Joe was the ideal St. Dunstaner as he made full use of the very limited possibilities which were open to him; always ready to help others and very tolerant of their weaknesses. On the other hand, he could be very forthright when the occasion demanded.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to his dear wife, Nellie, to Joan and Bob, and to the two grandsons, Graham and Keith.

It was good to have such a man as a friend. I am sure that the world will be much poorer for his passing."

To Johnny and Joe

Terry Roden writes:

"Few St. Dunstaners were better known or had done more to help their fellow St.

Dunstaners than J. Boyd and J. Walch, more affectionately known as 'Jock' and 'Joe.'...Over and above their multiple disabilities, both suffered of late years from periodic attacks of neuritis which medical science was unfortunately unable to relieve permanently. In spite of their great handicaps, both retained a keen sense of humour and constantly radiated good fellowship. Both were so very nice to know and live with and both will, I am sure, have an honoured place in St. Dunstan's Hall of Happy Memories.

Good night, Jock, and good night, Joe."

Johnny ("Jock") Boyd

Micky Burns writes:

"The death of Johnny Boyd has come as a great shock to all of us. His passing will be a great loss not only to those of us who were fortunate enough to know him but will also be felt by many others who were able to benefit from his example of determination and the courage with which he overcame his severe disability.

We of the Second War have a great deal to thank Johnny for because it was this sort of courage and determination that the foundations of St. Dunstan's were so firmly built.

This is the end of a chapter—but not for Johnny. What he has left behind can never be forgotten. His place in the story of St. Dunstan's will be a very prominent one.

His was a spirit that all of us would like to emulate but few can succeed in doing so.

My life and the lives of many others have been the richer for having known him.

Goodbye Johnny and thank you."

* * *

Tommy Rogers, writes:

"Whenever I hear people talking about the triumph of mind over matter I am immediately reminded of the life of our recently lamented St. Dunstaner, Jock Boyd, whose whole existence mirrored the success of this mental achievement. No doubt others more competent than I will enumerate the many physical difficulties which Jock triumphed over. Let it suffice for me to say that all through the years since our hospital days at St. Mark's in 1918, Jock has remained for me, and for

all who have been fortunate enough to know him, the embodiment of all that courage and determination implies.

Au revoir, Jock. You have played your difficult part in the game of life with honour and distinction; we could ill afford to lose you but if ours is the loss, may yours be the gain."

* * *

In a letter to Mrs. Boyd, the Chairman wrote:

My dear Mrs. Boyd,

My wife and I learned with deep sorrow of your husband's sudden death. His passing will be a matter of grief to his very many friends in St. Dunstan's, of whom I am happy to count myself one.

I thought Jock set a splendid example of courage and serenity during his long life, in which he had great disabilities to battle with.

We always admired the tactful, charming way in which you helped him, and we realise what a shock you must have sustained.

St. Dunstan's is also grateful to him and you for the excellent work you did for us over such a long time.

We send you our affectionate regards.

Yours sincerely,

FRASER.

Brighton Club Notes

A wonderful St. Dunstaner has been called to rest. Mr. J. Walch, late Vice-Chairman of the Club, was an outstanding character in his example to those who had the privilege and benefit of his patience and skill as a Braille Teacher. The Lancastrians and other organisations will also feel his loss.

* * *

Any St. Dunstaner residing in the Brighton district is assured of a very warm welcome at the Club. You can bring an escort. Next meeting: **Thursday, May 9th:** Whist and Dominoes.

FRANK RHODES,

Chairman

Freddie Winter and "Tiny" Fleming

As we go to press, we learn with the deepest regret of the death of Freddie Winter, at Penshurst, Kent, and of J. ("Tiny") Fleming, in hospital. Full tributes will appear next month.

Births

BLACKMORE.—On November 30th last, to the wife of P. Blackmore, of Cardiff, a daughter—Barbara Irene.

JONES.—On March 9th, to the wife of R. C. A. Jones, of Merthyr Tydfil, a son—Richard Neil, a brother for Carol and Megan.

SPENCE.—To the wife of J. Spence, of Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, a fourth son. They already have three daughters as well.

Marriages

MCCORMACK—OVERTON.—On April 4th, P. J. McCormack, of Belfast (a Second War trainee), to Miss Jeannette Overton, They will live at Hove.

WALKER—JOHNSON.—On April 16th, J. Walker, of Manchester to Mrs. Agnes Johnson. They are living in Brighton.

Deaths

Our deepest sympathy is sent to the following:

BEDDOWS.—To A. E. Beddows, of Lichfield, whose brother died on March 5th. He lived next door to our St. Dunstaner.

BLACKWELL.—To C. G. Blackwell of New Tredegar, whose brother, with whom he lived, died suddenly on March 20th.

BROWN.—To M. Watson Brown, of Sedlescombe, Sussex, whose wife died in

hospital on March 28th, having been admitted there a fortnight before. Mrs. Brown was a staunch W.V.S. worker during the last war.

BURLEY.—To J. W. Burley, of Halton, in the loss of his sister, Mrs. Bell, on April 19th. They had lived together for many years.

HUTCHINGS.—To C. E. Hutchings, of Sutton, Surrey, whose father has died at the wonderful age of 99.

JARVILL.—To B. Jarvill, of Doncaster, whose son died at the beginning of April. Our St. Dunstaner is a widower.

KEY.—To A. Key, of Stone, near Dartford, whose mother passed away in Nottingham on March 5th, at the age of 78.

LAIRD.—T. A. Laird, of Haydock, in the sad loss of a brother and also a sister during the same week in March.

PATERSON.—To Margaret Paterson, of Chesington, whose mother died on March 25th. Margaret was the only child and lost her father some years ago. Her mother had been in ill-health for many years.

ROSEWARNE.—To T. H. Rosewarne, of Manchester, who mourns the death of his eldest brother in an accident at the Atomic Energy Station at Windscale.

WALLIS.—To Mr. and Mrs. Wallis, of Reading, whose son died on March 26th after a serious illness. He was only 27 and he leaves a widow.

"In Memory" (continued from page 10)

Private Joseph Thomas Walch, 15th Welch Regiment

With deep regret we have to record the death of another popular and well known St. Dunstaner, J. T. (Joe) Walch, of Saltdean. His death at the age of 66 came quite suddenly in the early hours of Saturday morning, March 23rd.

Joe Walch enlisted in February, 1915. He was discharged from the Army in September, 1917, coming to St. Dunstan's immediately. He trained in braille, typewriting, etc., and in 1941 he became Braille Instructor at Church Stretton, where many younger St. Dunstaners came under his kindly and patient teaching. When we returned to Ovingdean, Joe went with us again to carry on with the same instruction, until his retirement in January, 1962. Although his wounded arm had always given him pain, his health otherwise had been good and his sudden death came as a great shock to his many friends at St. Dunstan's. Joe was himself a great example to his pupils. A fine singer and musician, many will recall his part in the concerts at Church Stretton. He was also a member of St. Dunstan's Darts Team.

Our deep sympathy goes to Mrs. Walch, and to their daughter, Joan, who is the wife of another St. Dunstaner, Bob Osbourne, of the kiosk at Ovingdean.

Private Albert George Wise, Royal Army Service Corps (M.T.)

We have to record with deep regret the death at Pearson House, where he was a Permanent Resident, of A. G. Wise, late of Fakenham, Norfolk. He was aged 89 years.

His Army service began in 1912; he was discharged in 1916 and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918 where he trained as a mat maker and boot repairer. He carried on these two occupations until the end of World War II, being at the same time a keen backyard poultry man. It is of interest to note that his pre-enlistment occupation was "hansom-cab driver."

His wife predeceased him, dying in 1945. We send our deep sympathy to his other relatives and friends.

"In Memory"

Gunner Roscoe Ashwell, *Royal Field Artillery*

It is with deep regret that we record the death at his home on Friday, April 5th, of Roscoe Ashwell, of Cheadle Hulme, near Stockport. He was aged 83 years and he served in the Royal Field Artillery from 1915 to 1918. He was wounded at Zollebeke and came to St. Dunstan's in 1918.

He trained in poultry keeping and was able to continue with this occupation for a considerable number of years until increasing age compelled him to give it up.

He leaves a widow to whom we send an expression of our very sincere sympathy.

Corporal John Beattie, *Royal Irish Regiment*

We have to record with deep regret the death in hospital of John Beattie, of Belfast. He died on March 21st, aged 81 years.

He served as a Corporal in the R.I.R. from 1914 until 1919 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1952, when on account of his age, there was no question of training.

He had been in hospital for some considerable time and to his son and other members of the family we send our deep sympathy.

Corporal John (Jock) Boyd, *18th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders*

It is with deepest regret that we have to record the death of John Boyd, of Roedean. He died very suddenly and peacefully at his home on March 29th, at the age of 67.

Jock, as he was affectionately known, enlisted in November, 1915, and was wounded two years later at Arras. He was totally blinded and at the same time received injuries which caused him to lose the use of both legs, one of which was later amputated.

He came to St. Dunstan's in 1919, being trained as a shorthand typist. After a short period with the then National Institute for the Blind in their Brighton office, he became St. Dunstan's Appeals Representative (Brighton and Southern Counties), a post which he held until his retirement two years ago. He had then completed over forty years' service with St. Dunstan's. During that time his warm personality and magnificent personal example won him the admiration and affection not only of St. Dunstaners who met him at Ovingdean, but of a wide circle of friends both at St. Dunstan's and outside our Brighton homes.

At the funeral at Woodvale Crematorium, Brighton, on April 2nd, very many St. Dunstaners were present as well as other friends and members of the staff.

To Mrs. Boyd and her two sons and daughter is sent our deep sympathy in their great loss.

Private Arthur William Harman, *11th Btn. Royal Fusiliers*

It is with deep regret that we record the death on April 7th of A. W. Harman, of Cowden, near Edenbridge, Kent. He was 73.

His war service began in April, 1916, but it was not until 1952 that he came to St. Dunstan's. His age ruled out any training but he was a regular visitor to Ovingdean and spent a hobby training period there.

He lived with his married sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Merritt, and our deep sympathy is sent to them and to the other members of his family, as well as to his great friend and fellow St. Dunstaner, J. Baughurst.

Private Joseph Lowden, *11th Cheshire Regiment*

We have to record with deep regret the death at his home of Joseph Lowden, of Stalybridge. He was aged 78 years.

He served with his regiment from 1914 until 1917, being wounded at Vimy Ridge. He came to St. Dunstan's that same year and trained to make rugs, which occupation he followed for some considerable time. His death came very suddenly.

We send an expression of very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Lowden and her family.

Stoker Daniel Murphy, *Merchant Marine—"S.S. Orange Leaf"*

We have to record with deep regret the death at his home in Glasgow on March 27th of Daniel Murphy. He was 69. He was a stoker on board *S.S. Orange Leaf* during 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's the following year.

He trained as a mat maker and followed this craft for some time, but he had been in poor health recently following a spell in hospital last autumn, and his death after grave illness was not unexpected.

To his widow and grown-up family we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.

Private Robert Riddell, *18th Highland Light Infantry*

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death in a Brighton hospital on Monday, April 8th, of Robert Riddell, late of Scotland. He was admitted to Pearson House as a Permanent Resident on April 3rd. He was aged 70 years and his war service with the 18th Highland Light Infantry was from 1916 to 1918; he was wounded in France and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918.

He trained in poultry keeping, boot repairing and netting, carrying on these occupations for a considerable number of years until ill-health compelled him to give them up. His wife pre-deceased him in 1959 and to his daughter Annie, and other relatives we send an expression of sincere sympathy.

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