

# OCTOBER REVIEW



## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

### Mr. W. G. Askew, C.B.E.

With the death of Mr. Askew on 29th August, at the age of 78, we mourn the passing of a man who was for many years what might be described as the keystone of St. Dunstan's. He was engaged by Sir Arthur Pearson in 1919 to join our ranks as Pensions Officer and the work which he did for many years in this capacity was of immense value to a large number of St. Dunstaners, because in those early days the Government's attitude towards disabled servicemen applying for pensions was much more rigid and much less generous than it is today. For instance, at that time the onus to prove that his loss of sight was due to his military service rested upon the blinded man, whereas nowadays the onus is on the Government to prove the contrary.

The Appeals Board of the Ministry of Pensions, which was itself set up in 1916, had turned down numerous applications by servicemen applying for pensions for blindness or severely impaired vision resulting from their war service. Mr. Askew prepared with meticulous care each case which was then presented to an independent Appeals Tribunal and he was successful in 85% of these renewed applications, a figure which speaks for itself.

In 1931, Mr. Askew was appointed Secretary of St. Dunstan's, our chief administrative post, in which he remained until his retirement in 1955. His administrative skill was brought to bear on all aspects of the work of St. Dunstan's and he played a prominent part in all our affairs. There is no single individual member of the staff to whom St. Dunstan's owes more than Mr. Askew. I was always able to speak to him with the utmost frankness and there was no matter of policy, personnel, or attitude that I did not talk over with him, certain that my confidence would be respected and that I would get good advice.

Mr. Askew was a member of the Working Party appointed by the Ministry of Labour and National Service on the Employment of Blind Persons, between 1948 and 1950 and after his retirement he continued to serve on many Committees including the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, the British Wireless for the Blind Fund and the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

Appointed O.B.E., in 1936 and C.B.E., in 1951, Mr. Askew is survived by his widow and one son. A private burial service was held at Amersham on 3rd September at which St. Dunstan's was represented by Mr. D. G. Hopewell, M.A., LL.B., a Member of our Council and an old friend of Mr. Askew.

### Memorial Service

A Memorial Service will be held in St. Dunstan's Chapel at Ovingdean at 12.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 22nd October.

If any St. Dunstaner who was an old friend of Mr. Askew's would like to attend the Memorial Service, but whose journey would necessitate a stay of a night or more, will he please write immediately to Mr. Wills at Headquarters. At this time of the year there are often a number of vacant beds at Ovingdean, possibly a dozen or more, and St. Dunstaners from a distance may like to take the opportunity of a few days or even a fortnights holiday there at this time.



Lord Fraser with deaf/blind St. Dunstaners who visited him at his home in Regent's Park during their reunion. (left to right): Wally Thomas, Teddy Mills, George Fallowfield, Lord Fraser and Billy Bell.

## Muffled Drums Meet Again

by

GEORGE FALLOWFIELD

Only four deaf/blind men met this year since the forces dwindle and Ron Ellis was unable to make it. Wally Thomas at the Welcome dinner thanked our Guest of Honour for all she had done for us during her period at Ovingdean and he did not say too much for we lose a good "Pal" with the retirement of "Mrs. Mac."

Friday found us on our way to London to visit the new G.P.O. Tower where before going up, we went down to the basement where mysteries of the telephone system are hidden. 150,000 telephone conversations are dealt with at the same time plus TV and other items.

We were then taken up to the top of the 580-foot Tower (250 feet higher than St. Paul's) and enjoyed lunch in the Revolving Restaurant, but do not be mistaken, it doesn't spin round but turns two and a half times to an hour and it is the outer part of

### COVER PICTURE:

Tim Kirk, of Lancing, (left) alongside the pilot in the cockpit of a glider at Lee-on-Solent.

the restaurant, about 15 feet of the outer floor and walls. There's an outside balcony and I went out to see what the air was like up there... only like standing on high cliffs.

We were to visit the Queen Mary Rose Garden in Regent's Park now, and did go but the clerk of the weather upset it as he did the Test Matches! So we went along to the Chairman's home where we were first entertained to tea and interesting conversation with Lord and Lady Fraser, after which our Chairman interviewed us and our escorts separately in his study.

*Continued inside back cover*

Men from the Brighton area and even from London or other nearby centres may be able to go down for the day, but those from a distance will have to stay a night or more. That is why we have fixed the date of this Memorial Service so as to give time for arrangements to be made especially for those who may come from a distance.

Lady Fraser and I visited Mr. and Mrs. Askew a few weeks ago at their home in Marlow. We were delighted to find them enjoying their retirement and we talked of many experiences which we had shared together, particularly during the war period when both Mr. and Mrs. Askew helped us all so much.

I have said that St. Dunstan's, and I personally, owe more to Mr. Askew than to any other single man. Lady Fraser and I feel, as many will feel, that we have lost an old friend and will wish to express our warm and affectionate appreciation of him to his widow and son.

### *Deaf-Blind Reunion*

If you are blind, you have a severe handicap; if you are deaf, this is also true. If you are deaf and blind, this creates a grievous situation for you are cut off from easy communication with your fellows, and from the radio, which means so much to the blind.

The poignancy of this situation was brought home to me on 16th August when a group of St. Dunstaners, who are deaf and blind, came to tea with Lady Fraser and me at our house in Regent's Park during their recent Reunion Week-end.

Some of these men are good at Braille and I have always welcomed communication with them by this means. Braille is a medium for communication by letter but it cannot be easily used for conversation. However, I did foresee this point and wrote down half a dozen questions on my Braille slate, which I wanted to ask my friends, and gave them these little Braille notes to read. So they were able to talk to me easily.

Then, of course, there is the manual method of talking and I was very pleased to note how competent my friends' wives were at translating for us; for that matter, the members of St. Dunstan's Staff, who came with the party, were also extremely good at this.

I am glad to know that a number of individual St. Dunstaners who occasionally visit Ovingdean or Pearson House have learned the manual method so that they can talk to the deaf/blind St. Dunstaners when they meet them.

My deaf/blind friends would be the last to moan their fate—they are so courageous. Perhaps we can adapt the familiar line to—

“What the eye doesn't see or the ear hear, the heart doesn't grieve for.”

This is the spirit of the deaf/blind St. Dunstaners and all of us who are blind but who can hear will commend and praise them.

St. Dunstan's does everything it can think of to help the doubly disabled, including the deaf/blind but interesting or remunerative occupations remain a real problem.

### *Evangelos Georgakakis*

Recently the story of a civilian blind boy in Greece reached me which illustrates very dramatically the conquest over disabilities. It was sent me by Mrs. Brockhoff, the well-known voluntary helper in Australia who is now in this country and who gives such devoted help to some of our Australian St. Dunstaners. Here it is:—

Evangelos Georgakakis, 33, is blind, has an artificial right hand and only one finger on his left hand that has any sense of touch. A one-time Cretan shepherd boy who received his disabilities from a German mine explosion in 1944, Georgakakis uses the tip of his tongue to “read” Braille and got through law school by tape-recording and memorising 60,000 pages of legislation.

Georgakakis graduated at the top of his class. In 1959 he ranked fifth among 2,000 applicants to Athens University's law school, won a scholarship as the first blind student ever admitted and after three years' required apprenticeship in an Athens law office, he capped his bar exam by successfully arguing a moot case before a panel that included Greek Supreme Court justices.

All to no avail. The law office where he had served his apprenticeship decided against engaging him. Georgakakis goes on in Athens, studying tape-recorded legislation, handling a few minor cases sent to him by friends, and hunting the bigger elusive job that would vindicate his efforts. We all wish Georgakakis recognition and good luck.

### *Brighton Homes*

In the July *Review* I wrote a note on our intentions with regard to the improvement and modernisation of Pearson House and the Ovingdean Home and asked for comments.

I have received about seventy letters from St. Dunstaners and I thank them very much for writing their opinions and suggestions.

I have read all the letters myself.

They have been most valuable confirming our plans, and all the suggestions, in general or in detail, will be passed on to our General Purposes Committee for full consideration.

Fraser of Lonsdale

### *From the Chairman's Postbag*

#### *From M. Aldridge of Grahamstown, South Africa*

The entire Aldridge family has settled down wonderfully in Grahamstown. You probably know it as well as I do, so I shall not bore you with descriptions. I shall say only, we love the quiet of its streets, the quaintness of some of its ways, ox waggons still come into town once a week and, the other day, Christine had to stop the car practically in the high street to let a mounted African drive through his herd of cows; most of all, however, we are charmed by the people, not just those of British origin, but also the Afrikaaners as a community, they are more friendly and helpful, than one would have believed possible.

We have a small, but very pleasing house almost in the town centre. It is in one of the prettiest streets in town, lined with Jacaranda trees and is so quiet that one could easily be living in an English village before the mass production of the motor car.

All is going very well for me in the department. I lecture from eight to ten times a week on everything from Anglo-Saxon to Modern English Semantics. I get on extremely well with my boss who has a good understanding of how blind people should be treated. He makes no allowances for me through sentimentality, in fact my teaching load is as heavy as the other lecturers' and my non-teaching load is probably greater than most. However, he has great tact in small things.

### *Festival of Remembrance*

St. Dunstaners are reminded that a limited number of tickets will be available for the Afternoon and Evening Presentations of the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, 9th November. Any St. Dunstaner who has not previously had the opportunity of attending is invited to apply to me at Headquarters, not later than Friday, 14th October, if possible, for inclusion in the ballot for these tickets, indicating which Presentation he would prefer to attend.

Those St. Dunstaners allocated tickets who do not live within daily travelling distance of London will be assisted with fares and accommodation for one or two nights at St. Dunstan's expense and will be invited to join the St. Dunstan's contingent in the Cenotaph Parade on Sunday, 10th November.

C. D. WILLS,  
*Welfare Superintendent.*

#### **IMPORTANT TO CHESS PLAYERS**

**The Chess Tournament week-end at Ovingdean will be 25th to 27th October. Please disregard dates given in March and April Reviews.**

DAVID BELL of Edinburgh has been appointed Vice-President of the Association of Ex Round Tablers this year, and next year will become President.

## DECIMAL CURRENCY

The United Kingdom will change over to decimal currency on Monday, 15th February, 1971, which gives us rather less than two and a half years to attune our minds to the new system and we thought St. Dunstaners might like to have a few basic facts. Further information can be given in the *Review* from time to time should this prove desirable.

The British decimal system will be based on the pound sterling which will retain its present value, but the shilling and penny, as we know them today, will disappear. In the new system the pound will be divided into 100 new pence. There will be a new halfpenny as the lowest value coin. There will thus be two units only in the new currency, the pound, symbol £ and the new penny, symbol p. Neither should be followed by a full stop unless it ends a sentence. The new halfpenny should be expressed as a vulgar fraction— $\frac{1}{2}$ p. A decimal point should be used to separate pounds from new pence and amounts should be written either like this:

£275	or like this: £275.00
97p	£0.97
6p	£0.06
$3\frac{1}{2}$ p	£0.03 $\frac{1}{2}$

There will be six new decimal coins instead of the seven coins in use at present. The new coins are:—

- (a)  $\frac{1}{2}$ p—current value 1.2d.
- 1p—current value 2.4d.
- 2p—current value 4.8d.

The new penny will be much smaller than the present penny, about the size of the old farthing. It will be half the weight of the 2p and twice the weight of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ p so weight will be proportional to value. These three coins will be made of bronze (copper) and will become legal tender on Decimal Day, but not beforehand. The present halfpenny will cease to be legal tender from 1st August, 1969.

- (b) The new 5p and 10p coins, both made of cupro-nickel (silver) have already been introduced into our system. Their value is equivalent to the present shilling and two shilling pieces respectively and they are similar to these coins in size and weight. The present shilling piece and florin can continue in use after Decimal Day as 5p and 10p pieces respectively, although, of course, no more of the old silver coins will be minted. The present half-crown will cease to be legal tender from 1st January, 1970.
- (c) The new 50p equivalent in value to the present 10 shilling note, made in cupro-nickel, will be a seven-sided equilateral

curve heptagon slightly smaller than the present half-crown. One practical reason for the disappearance of the 10 shilling note is that coins have a life of about one hundred times as long as paper notes. The new 50p piece will be introduced in October, 1969, after which the present 10 shilling notes will be rapidly withdrawn from circulation.

Our present £1, £5 and £10 notes will be replaced eventually by smaller notes with new designs, but the changes will not begin to be made until 1972.

### Shopping

Detailed arrangements for shopping and other cash transactions during the change-over period have still to be worked out, but it is likely that for some time before D Day and afterwards shops will show both £ s d and decimal price labels to help customers. The predominant price on the price ticket will be in the currency used by the shop; the other price will be for guidance only.

A body known as the Decimal Currency Board has been set up by Act of Parliament to facilitate the transition from the existing currency and coinage to the new currency and coinage. The Board's Chairman is Lord Fiske of Brent and its Vice-Chairman is Lord Erroll of Hale.

## REUNIONS

### LONDON

The last and by far the largest of the eleven 1968 reunions was held at the Hotel Russell in London on Saturday, 20th July. Altogether about 360 people attended and the arrangements were made by Miss B. Picken organising her first reunion assisted by Miss Blebta and Miss de Burlet.

Presiding at the reunion Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., who was accompanied by Lady Pearson, thanked Miss Picken and the Welfare staff for all the arrangements which helped to make the gathering such a happy one. He welcomed four St. Dunstaners attending their first reunion; Walter Andison, Joseph Carruthers, Joseph Laverty and Albert Spooner and two guests from Australia, George Bell and Keith Symes.

Sir Neville disclosed that it was the birthday of Alfred Osmond who smiled as everyone sang "Happy Birthday to You", and a further disclosure was that James Ballantyne had recently celebrated his 96th birthday and he is we believe, our oldest living St. Dunstaner.

We were proud, said Sir Neville, of Eric Boulter, Second World War St. Dunstaner who is Associate Director of the American Foundation for Overseas Blind and President of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind. In this capacity he was in London and had been guest speaker at the R.N.I.B.'s Annual General Meeting in its Centenary year.

Sir Neville spoke about the careful study which the Council were giving to the question of bringing the two Brighton Homes up to date and reminded St. Dunstaners that Lord Fraser would welcome any constructive comment. He told his listeners that Mrs. Esther Macdonald (Mrs. Mac) who retired from her post of Assistant Matron at Ovingdean at the end of June was present at the reunion and this announcement was received with loud applause.

Mr. Wills then gave a summary of the Welfare Department's work over the past twelve months after which Fred Ripley moved the vote of thanks.

It was nice to come each year to the reunion, he said, to meet friends among St. Dunstaners and members of the staff. He thanked Mr. Wills and the department for the arrangements and the Welfare Visitors for all that they did throughout the year. St. Dunstan's did everything well and generously and Fred added that he was glad the organisation thought he and his colleagues were worth it. He also thanked the staff for aid given to the families, where this was needed. He said that St. Dunstan's was the finest welfare organisation in the world and he was proud to be a member. This gave a strong sense of comradeship and he was glad of St. Dunstan's enlightened policy which respected the individuality of each person and attended to his needs.

### CAPE TOWN

Lord and Lady Fraser attended a Reunion of South African St. Dunstaners at Pinelands, Cape Town on 29th August, held under the presidency of Mrs. Natalie Opperman, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, (South Africa). Mr. Gerry Ferry, Mayor of Cape Town was an honoured guest and 50 members of the Afrikaans University of Stellenbosch gave a short recital to honour Lord Fraser on the occasion of his 71st birthday.

Praising the work of St. Dunstan's in South Africa, Lord Fraser said it was the only country apart from Britain where such a well-run organisation worked independently. The Commonwealth countries did not have this advantage and were content to merge the interest of blinded ex-servicemen with those of civilian bodies, though all blinded ex-servicemen were themselves, members of St. Dunstan's.

Welcoming Lord Fraser on behalf of the city of Cape Town, the Mayor said: "In years of war, funds are established to meet wartime needs. Their necessity falls away in time of peace and some of us become a little forgetful of the sacrifices made—the horror diminishes, and it remains for those who still carry the scars to keep us aware of our debt".

# NELSON'S COLUMN

## October Yarns

Five titles and quite a deal of reading for this month's report. By the way, this column has lived off and on now for 20 years for which I thank the Editor and commiserate with any uninterested or puzzled readers. Now, to get down to brass tacks:

**"English History 1914-45"** by **A. J. P. Taylor**, reader *John Richmond*, is a précis of three or four vast history books in three volumes, two six trackers and a five. It is rather like looking at back numbers of newspapers we have read before and it is all too close to achieve any sort of historical perspective. My impression was that this is a slapdash work but putting a barrel in a pint pot is liable to leave such an impression.

**"Across the Common"** by **Elizabeth Berridge**, reader *Gretel Davis*, is a story for the ladies. A young wife leaves her husband, an Art master, to return to her aunts in the house where she was brought up. Her object was to adjust her state of mind to prevent her 12-year-old marriage going on the rocks. During her stay she discovers things about her grandfather and one of her aunts which humbles her sufficiently so that she can pick up the threads of her own life again quite happily.

**"Death in the Castle"** by **Pearl S. Buck**, reader *John Curle*, concerns a baronet and his wife living in a 1,000 year old castle. Modern taxation and cost of upkeep have backed them into a corner from which their only hope is sale to an American buyer. Wells, the butler and his granddaughter, Kate, are the staff of the castle, Sir Richard arranges a sale and the story starts as an American comes to see what he is going to buy. The few days the Yank stays are full of surprise and incident with all skeletons out of all cupboards and a ghastly rattle as a climax.

**"Third Girl"** by **Agatha Christie**, reader *Eric Gillett* shows an aged M. Poirot solving a mystery in his old secretive manner all in the last 20 minutes or so. The title refers to girls sharing a flat. Norma, the heroine, seems not quite balanced and calls upon Poirot for help, telling him she thinks she has committed a murder then running away saying he is too old to help her! Arty boy friends and her wealthy newly married father arouse Poirot's interest and he makes some enquiries helped by an excited lady novelist. A good and nasty thriller—best first hand from the library.

**"Stranger than Fiction"** by **Denise Robins**, reader *Gretel Davis*, is the autobiography of a novelist who, after 139 romantic novels, claims this to be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Childhood, adolescence and a ghastly sojourn in the U.S.A. fill the unhappy first part of the book. Womanhood, marriage, motherhood and hard work in England and Scotland make the second part much happier on the whole.

## Dancing Successes

Hilary, daughter of R. FORSTER of Leeds has been successful in her dancing examinations. She has passed the Cecchetti Ballet Grades I and II with credit, I.S.T.D. Modern Stage Grade III with honours and also I.S.T.D. Bronze Medal Tap, highly commended.

Brian, son of our St. Dunstaner, A. H. BOSELEY, recently passed the examination for the Premier Award in Ballroom dancing and was highly commended. He was also presented with a cup for his achievements on 21st July, 1968.

## I WAS THERE

*Doreen Thompson describes her holiday at Dubrovnik with her husband, Leslie Thompson—*

This year, being assured of a warmer climate, we visited Dubrovnik in Yugoslavia. We left London by jet Caravelle and in a few hours saw our first glimpse of Northern Yugoslavia, surprisingly rather similar to our own country. The airport at Ljubliana was delightful, nestling among a belt of green trees, flanked by snow-capped mountains gleaming spotlessly in the brilliant sunshine. We were instantly captivated. The warm welcome from the airport officials, the friendly manner in which we were advised, impressed us most favourably. All too soon, we re-embarked and took off for Dubrovnik. The journey by mini-bus from the airport to our hotel was the most hair-raising and hazardous journey in my life. I descended from this vehicle with shaking knees and a profound conviction I would not repeat the journey in that bus.

From our hotel, we could gaze across the bay to where the walled city of Dubrovnik rose proudly from the water's edge to dominate both land and sea. We could hardly contain our excitement and at the first opportunity walked down the narrow road which led to the city walls. Here, to our delight, we traversed a drawbridge and entered into a world of ancient history. The portcullis chains and weights were there, evidence of the times when Dubrovnik was an independent state, guarding its independence, an enclosed community sheltered and protected by 80 ft. high walls on all sides. These walls vary in width from 3 ft. to 9 ft. and can be traversed by climbing endless steps. Having survived the climb, one is amply rewarded by the views from the ramparts. Below our eyes lie the rooftops of hundreds of houses—the colours range from terra-cotta, through rust, yellow brown, with a splash of green here and there denoting the whereabouts of the monastery cloisters. From the outer ramparts, one looks down over the harbour and far out to sea. One can well imagine the numerous foes who have tried to ravage this fortress and been repelled by the men who manned the bastions. Everything is built or constructed of stone. The roads are made of block stone polished like glass through centuries of usage. The buildings are architecturally different, for they have been built and modified since 947, when the first tower was erected. Parts have been rebuilt after being destroyed by fire, and again by earthquake.

The tranquility and peace which enfolds the city can be deeply appreciated—no vehicles are allowed within the walls,

except very early in the mornings, when goods are brought from the outlying villages to the market, and again at night, to clear the stalls away. Only the tolling of the bell at Mass, or the chiming of the clock shatters the peace. The predominant religion is Roman Catholic, and within the walls we found a Dominican and a Franciscan monastery, the Roman Catholic cathedral and a Jesuit church, only a few of the many places of worship. How easy it was to imagine those men, moving sedately in quiet contemplation along the cloisters throughout the centuries—how far away our busy, noisy, hectic life seemed.

During our two weeks' holiday, we never set foot inside a wheeled vehicle of any kind. We were entranced by the solemn dignity of Dubrovnik, and are relieved to hear that as the city is now a National Trust, it will never change, but always be maintained, a proud, magnificent heritage.

DOREEN THOMPSON

## FIRST PRIZE

In his poem "The Garden" R. Kipling says:

Our England is a garden,  
And gardens are not made,  
By saying 'Oh, how beautiful',  
And sitting in the shade.

Mrs. W. H. Harding, wife of our St. Dunstaner, WILLIAM H. HARDING of Finchley, N.3 is not one of those gardeners mentioned in his poem. She has won first prize in the Finchley Horticultural Society garden competition. She says she has achieved her ambition of beating the men!

## HANDICAP HORIZON

How can one describe the holiday of a life-time, or adequately praise Mrs. Dorothy Axson of Indianapolis who eleven years ago founded the Handicap Horizon: one of the objects of which is to provide holidays which but for her would not have been available for handicapped people, without taking up the entire *Review*?

On 8th August four handicapped people from Liverpool and two helpers took off from Speke Airport for London where we joined contingents from other parts of Britain, who had been invited to Indianapolis to join the first international holiday party organised by Handicap Horizon. We received a royal welcome on arrival despite it being 4 a.m. local time and the police provided us with a special escort so no time was lost getting to our hotel, which proved most comfortable, the food wonderful and the staff very courteous and helpful.

The first evening we had a "Get acquainted" banquet at which we met many cheerful and very friendly handicapped. Excellent entertainment was provided on this and many other occasions by first rate artists.

Every day had its full programme arranged by Mrs. Axson and amongst the places we visited were the Indianapolis Auto Speedway track, Louisville, Kentucky for horse racing, Indiana University at Bloomington and Marian College, a ranch with cowboys and indians and various historic places including the last indian reservation west of Marian. Everywhere we went the hospitality, friendship and helpfulness was superb. We appeared on television and on the radio and were dazzled by photographers' flashing lights!

We also had an opportunity to observe American rehabilitation at work and visits to rehabilitation centres, blind workshops and other industries which employed a high proportion of handicapped people, were very enlightening.

I should just like to mention that Handicapped Horizon membership is open to all handicapped people, their relatives and friends, for a very modest annual subscription. The Organisation is non-profit making.

VIOLET DELANEY

## SOUTH AFRICAN BOWLERS

Our St. Dunstan's Bowlers in South Africa are all members of the National Association of Blind Bowlers and have been playing recently in the Annual Bowling Championships organised by the Association. The following were chosen to represent their area.

Johannesburg—Dick Beaumont  
Denis Dilworth  
Guy Lawrence

Cape Town—Keith Branson  
Port Elizabeth—Jimmy Myron  
East London—Richard Megenis

Denis Dilworth of the Southern Transvaal won the totally blind men's singles final and the Henry Bradlos trophy by beating the holder Mannie Alberts of Western Transvaal, 21—11.

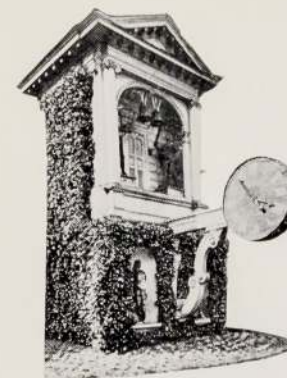
Richard Megenis and his partner reached the finals of the Men's pairs but were beaten 16—7 by the Rhodesian pair.

## MATRON VAUGHAN DAVIES

Matron Vaughan Davies died in hospital on 18th July, 1968, after a long illness most courageously and cheerfully borne. During her illness flowers were sent to her from all St. Dunstaners and these, together with the telegrams sent from the Manchester and Liverpool Reunions, just a week before she died, gave her great pleasure.

The funeral service was held at Lytham Crematorium on 20th July and in his address the Minister spoke of Miss Davies' life work of service in caring for others and added that hers was not merely a job but a true vocation. The Minister said that neither the beautiful Crematorium chapel nor the largest cathedral in the land would have held all the people who would have wanted to pay tribute to Miss Davies but it was her wish that the service should be very quiet and simple.

At the funeral Mr. A. J. Lane of Sale, Cheshire, represented all St. Dunstaners and Miss P. W. Everett represented St. Dunstan's.



ST. DUNSTAN'S CLOCK

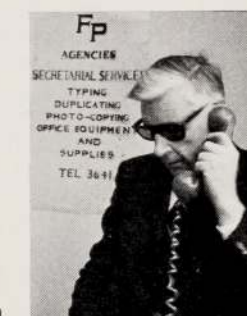
## It Strikes Me

### Five Bob Short

"In setting up a secretarial agency in this town I knew I was introducing an idea which was entirely foreign. I know that the service we can give can be of great value to business in this town and our standards are at least as good as anything to be found here. In fact, I insist that all the paper work that leaves this office is immaculate, and an equally high standard is achieved when we work on client's premises". Frank Pawson outlines his creed in establishing a secretarial business in Northallerton. His standards are paying off for already he has work from big farms, commercial firms, an insurance broker, solicitors, accountants, the cricket club, the local bookie and organisers of events like horse shows. "We had a beauty recently though, the treasurer of the bible society came in desperation, foaming at the mouth. His A.G.M. was that night and he hadn't had his accounts duplicated. So we duplicated his accounts for him. When he came back he said, 'Did you notice we have a deficit of 5s.?—I can't pay you!' Of course, we got our money later."



Left Jock Brown with his tapping



Right Frank Pawson

### The Case of the Purloined Pelargonium

"It was pre-meditated. You could see the complete mark of the trowel where he had dug it out. It was magenta, a sort of reddy mauve colour—a beautiful thing."

Jock Brown of Twickenham describing to me how he lost one of his best Pelargoniums, was rightly indignant—"He'd have been welcome to a cutting but he wanted the whole lot. He must have done it very early in the morning, because going by the feel of the piece he broke off I reckon it had been there twelve hours. I picked it up at two o'clock in the afternoon."

Unfortunately Jock's clue has not helped the police find the thief but he hopes it will replace the lost plant—"I looked at it and I thought 'this will be a tapping' and I potted it and it looks as if it will be." Let's hope Jock's green fingers don't let him down this time if only to show the thief that it takes a lot to deflect a St. Dunstaner from his chosen garden path.

MAGOG

## GROCCERS' OUTING

On the afternoon of Wednesday the 17th July, Brighton Grocers Association on behalf of the National Grocers Federation took St. Dunstaners and their escorts to the Spa Hotel, Tunbridge Wells where a sumptuous tea had been prepared.

After the meal the company were then entertained by singers and musicians having travelled with the party from Brighton; Brian Hawkins a tip-top comedian from Worthing and finally by the Tunbridge Wells Salvation Army Band under Band Leader Ashdown supported by Brigadier Watts who interspersed with humorous anecdotes. During this time drinks, cigarettes and sweets were handed round and then back to the coaches and away for the return journey at 7.45 p.m. For this Tunbridge Wells Buying Group under the direction of Mr. Dowling had provided supper bags, always welcome, arriving back in Brighton about 9 p.m.

This having been one of the best attended outings for many years, numbers being well over 200, the organisers with the help of their stewards having coped with the situation in their usual capable manner earned the grateful thanks of their guests.

## National Health Prescription Charges

All persons aged 65 or over are exempted from the payment of prescription charges and do not need an Exemption Certificate. They simply complete the appropriate declaration on the prescription form.

The Exemption Certificates sent out by the Ministry of Social Security to War Pensioners who are under 65 years of age authorise the War Pensioner to claim exemption from charges for prescriptions for medicine etc. for the treatment of his accepted War Disability, but the War Pensioner who is under 65 cannot claim exemption from prescription charges for the treatment he receives for any illness or disability which is not connected with his accepted War disablement. Such charges have to be paid for by the War Pensioner. This is made quite clear by the leaflet dealing with exemptions and refunds issued by the Ministry of Health.

## THANK YOU

Dear St. Dunstaners,

I would like to try and express my thanks and appreciation to you all for the very handsome cheque and the beautiful antique carriage clock you have given to me on my retirement.

At the moment I feel completely overwhelmed by your gift but when I have settled down I hope to buy something very special with the cheque, which along with the clock will always be treasured and a constant reminder of you all and my many happy years at Ovingdean.

It would have been nice if I could have sent you all a personal letter but this is not possible, so I hope you will accept my sincere thanks and appreciation of your gifts through the *Review*. Your letters too have been much appreciated and have helped to soften the blow of my advancing years. I know I am going to miss you all a great deal, but I hope to meet many of you again from time to time.

My good wishes to you all and to your wives and families and a thousand thanks for your many kindnesses to me.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) ESTHER MACDONALD.

## Home and Safe? Furniture Insurance

It is advisable for all St. Dunstaners to take out a policy expressly to cover the risk of damage to the contents of their home by fire, storm or tempest or from loss sustained through theft. The normal rate for this is 5s. per cent gross. Arrangements can be made for this insurance to be effected by the ESTATE DEPARTMENT OF ST. DUNSTAN'S through one or other of the leading insurance offices.

I should point out that the insurance policies for the actual buildings do not cover the contents.

Whether or not you are living in a St. Dunstan's property you ought to make certain that you have the contents covered by insurance.

PETER MATTHEWS,  
*Estate Manager.*

## STAFF RETIREMENT

### Frederick John Grover

During those early years of St. Dunstan's in Regents Park, among the many voluntary helpers was a local troop of Boy Scouts who acted as escorts, three of whom later joined St. Dunstan's staff, and this month marks the retirement of one of their number, Mr. Frederick John Grover.

From 1919 to 1925 Mr. Grover served as an instructor in the Boot Department. With the tailing off of training, he left to join the more commercial world and in due course ran his own business in the Marylebone area. With the advent of the Second World War and in 1940, he re-joined St. Dunstan's soon however to join the Forces where he served as a Lance Corporal with the Royal Corps of Signals. Returning on demobilisation, he served as a technical visitor in the Boot Department under Mr. Durrant, taking over when the latter retired in 1958.

Mr. Grover, with his quiet, efficient and homely manner, will be missed by his St. Dunstaner friends and staff alike, and we take this opportunity of sincerely wishing him, with his wife, a long and happy retirement.

## Staff Obituary

### The late Mrs. E. M. Dunphy

We have learned with deep regret that Mrs. E. M. Dunphy, our Welfare Visitor in the North-West from September 1930 until her retirement in September 1946, died in hospital on 2nd August, 1968.

Following her retirement Mrs. Dunphy regularly attended our Reunions in Manchester and Chester until she moved to Devon in 1955 and settled with her sister, Miss Redford, at Paignton. She was an old and valued friend of many St. Dunstaners and our sincere sympathy is extended to Miss Redford.

Miss E. Goole who had spent a day with her early in July attended the funeral and a wreath was sent on behalf of "St. Dunstan's Friends".



## Welcome to St. Dunstan's

*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome new St. Dunstaners, recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Stanley Frank Loram** of Bristol, came to St. Dunstan's in July of this year. He is single and lives with his two sisters. He served in the first World War in the Duke of Wellington's, the Dragoons and the 6th Gloucesters.

**Stanislaw Milewski** of Swindon, Wilts, joined St. Dunstan's in August of this year. He is married with two children and served in the Polish Armoured Division in the second World War under British Command.

**John Sedgley** of Newquay, Cornwall, became a St. Dunstaner in August of this year. He is married with three grown-up children and served in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in the first World War.

**Brigadier H. E. Pike, C.B.E., D.S.O.**, of Sidmouth, Devon, joined us in August, 1968. He served in the Royal Engineers until he retired in 1952; he is married and has one son, who is in the Army.

**Joseph Rains** of Nottingham joined us in July, 1968. He served in the Grenadier Guards during the first World War. He is married with a grown-up family.

**John Henry Ross** of Southport, Lancs, joined St. Dunstan's in 1968. He served in the 7th Kings Liverpool Regiment in the first World War. He is a widower.

**Harold Williamson** of Manchester joined St. Dunstan's in 1968. He is married and served in the Royal Artillery in the second World War.



Micky Burns receiving a trophy from the Mayoress of Gosport, Mrs. V. E. Neal.

## NAVAL CAMP—H.M.S. DAEDALUS

*16-24th August, 1968*

At the invitation of the Captain and ship's company of H.M.S. *Daedalus* a party of fifty St. Dunstaners travelled from all parts of the country to Lee-on-Solent for the annual camp as guests of the Fleet Air Arm. While this camp had so many items on the programme which have been there for so many years, such as the trip to Cowes by boat on Monday and Wednesday, this camp was unique for two events which haven't appeared before.

On Saturday morning the indoor sports took place under the direction of CPO Pat Beresford, PTI to the Field Gun's Crew. The events, including throwing the discus, putting the shot, long jump, goal kicking, were very efficiently carried out with the assistance of the "guide dogs", the Field Gun's Crew. The morning finished with a walk round the perimeter which this year had the largest field for many years, if not the largest ever. This gave Bill Harris, the handicapper, quite a headache but as usual he rose to the occasion and there was an exciting finish. The Saturday dance was preceded by a visit of the Mayor and Mayoress of Gosport who interrupted their holiday to come and present the prizes. Sunday morning the Church service, con-

ducted by the Rev. Frank Spurway was followed by one of the unique occasions mentioned earlier. Anthony James, son of CPO "Bagsy" and Mrs. Baker was christened and our St. Dunstaner, Tony Morton was one of the god-fathers. There is no doubt that with such parents and god-parents as he has, coupled with the best wishes of all St. Dunstan's campers, young Anthony has an extremely bright future. After the service we were invited to the wardroom for drinks before lunch.

While Sunday afternoon was free, Sunday evening saw an event which has become a very popular part of the camp. The Braille car rally organised by Ben Mills was a great success and for Chief Bagsy Baker it finished a very happy day as

he was the driver of the winning car.

On Monday as well as the trip to Cowes there was a fishing trip organised and while the weather was a little rough and the catches small, everyone who took part enjoyed it so much that a second and more successful trip was arranged for Friday. There is no doubt that the highlight of Monday was the concert sponsored by Dennis Deakin. Enjoyable though this concert was, it was the very moving ceremony which occurred before, that set the seal on the evening. This was a presentation by Bob Young to Dennis Deakin on the occasion of the anniversary of his fifty years with St. Dunstan's. This was a unique occasion and one which gave all of us a great amount of pleasure. As Bob said in an extremely apt and well delivered speech: "Denny started with St.D's as a boy scout and fifty years later he is still a good scout."

On Tuesday evening we were invited to the Eagle canteen for a dance. We were very grateful to Dutch Holland and the ratings for an enjoyable evening. Thursday

saw another annual event. The visit of the Gosport Thistle Pipe Band who were accompanied by a group of dancers who entertained us with excellent Highland dancing. The Friday evening dance is always a nostalgic occasion—camp was drawing to an end.

We would go home the next day full of stories to tell our families of the hospitality of the Chiefs' mess under the presidency of Chief Bungy Williams and the vice-presidency of Chief Pete Francis. Of the hard work of John Rich and his colleagues behind the bar; of the entertainments organised by Chief Alex Baxter. What of the Field Gun's Crew under this year's first and second trainer's, Chiefs Jim Broadly and Jock Scott and next year's second trainers, PO George Gilhorne. It is said that a dog is a man's best friend. This may be so but no group of men were ever served more faithfully or with greater devotion than we were by our "guide dogs", the Field Gun's Crew. Here is a group of young men who for nine months were engaged in what is probably one of the

Fred Galway and Theo Giles with their "guide dogs" at the start of the walking race.







Mrs. Avis Spurway presents a bouquet to the Mayoress.

greatest feats of endurance and team work. Many of them were very young, but all of them endowed with those two qualities which have made the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm the finest ambassadors this country has ever had, the qualities of common sense and humanity. Our own helpers under the leadership of Mrs. Avis Spurway, they too are the very epitome of the motto of Service not Self. It may be that some of these people will be comparatively unknown except to their families and immediate circle of friends, but all of them have one thing in common, they are entitled in their own rights to their own chapter in the Story of St. Dunstan's. And this is why camp is such an exciting and enjoyable event. It brings together men and women of all walks of life and different social spheres but all of them with one object in view to serve their fellow human beings.

MICKY BURNS

#### Extracts from Bob Young's Speech

"This evening I have been asked to make a presentation to Denny Deaken on the fiftieth anniversary of his coming to St. Dunstan's. I have been given this privilege because he and I came to St. D's in the same month fifty years ago.

"Denny started as a boy scout. He was a pleasant, kindly lad, and was very popular with the men and the staff, especially with the V.A.D.s. There, of course, he has not changed; in fact, he has not changed in any way—except in his vital statistics.

"He left St. D's to enter the world of business. He did this at a very difficult time of keen competition and unemployment. Thanks to his own courage, imagination and integrity, eventually he established himself.

"When the Second War broke out he joined the R.A.F. What he did there I don't know but I am quite sure he was a credit to himself and to them, and won for himself full membership in the freemasonry of the fighting services.

"After the war he returned to his business and became very successful, so that he has been able to travel widely abroad, including several world tours. Despite this plutocratic way of life Denny remains essentially the unassuming, self-effacing, thoughtful and kindly fellow he always was. Dennis is still a good scout.

"And so, I want to thank Denny Deakin for all he has done on behalf of those who are here and those who are not here. I have in mind two of the most seriously handicapped men of the first war, Drummer Downs and Johnny Boyd. Dennis was a good friend to both of them and whenever they asked his help he never failed them. I can hear Drummer saying, 'Come on, Brussels, let's have the racing,' or the quiet Scottish voice of Johnny Boyd saying, 'Oh, Denny, could we have the paper?' Or again, a sighted member of the staff, a smart figure with rolled umbrella and bowler hat and his Guard's tie who helped Mrs. Spurway so much with the earliest camps, saying 'Well done, Denny, my jolly old sportsman!' There is the voice of a lady from Norfolk that comes to mind, a great friend of ours and of Denny's, saying 'Well done, Dennis, still batting, good luck!'

"And so, Dennis, my old friend, it gives me the greatest of pleasure to present you with these gold cuff links, hoping that wherever you are, in your home, on your travels or anywhere else they will remind you of the very warm place you have won for yourself in the hearts of so many war-blinded men over those fifty years."

## Sports Results

No one took more than one prize and the results of the sports held during the week's camp are as follows:—

### Shot

Best performances were:—

T.B. C. Walters 50 ft. S.S. A. Black 50 ft.  
A medicine ball was used as a shot.

### Discus

T.B. W. Phillips 63½ ft.  
S.S. F. Barratt 63 ft.

### Jump

W. Phillips 8 ft.  
R. Collins 7 ft. 6 ins.  
F. Barratt 7 ft. 6 ins.  
M. Burns 7 ft. 2 ins.

### 2½ Mile Walk

Order of Finish	H/Time	Allowance	Actual Time
F. Galway	19.00	9.00	28.00
T. Giles	19.58	9.00	28.58
W. Allen	20.32	6.00	26.32
J. Simpson	21.43	2.35	24.18
R. Collins	21.45	6.30	28.15
R. Haslam	22.37	8.20	30.57
R. Young	22.59	2.00	24.59
M. Burns	23.20	5.10	28.30
J. Taylor	23.50	5.50	29.40
S. Southall	24.07	9.15	33.22
F. Barratt	24.10	Scratch	24.10
E. Cookson	25.7	6.30	31.37
A. Black	25.14	4.15	29.29
J. Humphrey	25.17	2.50	28.07
C. Stafford	25.29	1.40	27.09
F. Dickinson	25.56	8.30	34.26
C. Walters	26.10	2.40	28.50
G. Jakins	26.42	5.50	32.32
W. Phillips	26.59	4.50	31.49
L. Halliday	27.10	1.45	28.55
W. Shea	28.56	2.20	31.16

Fastest—S.S. F Barratt

Fastest—T.B. J. Simpson

### Joint Holders of Victor Ludorum Cup

R. Collins, 78 pts.  
W. Phillips, 78 pts.  
J. Simpson, 78 pts.  
Doubly Handicapped  
1st, S. Southall, 41 pts.  
2nd, R. Young, 40 pts.  
3rd, R. Haslam, 38 pts.

## The Rev. Dennis Pettit

*The Rev. Dennis Pettit retired from his work as the Vicar of Spratton to live in Duston, Northampton, on 30th September, 1968, and we should like to quote from the September number of the Brixworth Deanery Magazine what his Rural Dean has said about him.*

"The Rev. Dennis Pettit relinquishes the benefice of Spratton and departs from us on the last day of this month, to live in well earned retirement at Duston where he had once served as curate and has many friends.

"Spratton has known him as their vicar since 1947, a ministry in one place of twenty-one years, which is now ending in the strongest mutual regard and affectionate esteem between priest and people.

"Service in the 1914-18 war as a gunner equipped with the 18 pounders of the old Royal Field Artillery, left Dennis Pettit with a handicap of blindness which few would have recognised in him, so resolutely and so gallantly does he carry it, with the devoted help and care of his beloved wife.

"Where many would have given in long ago, Dennis Pettit has resolutely and successfully, pursued a life of cheerful service to others ignoring his handicap and disdaining reference to it, while doing his whole duty as priest and pastor and everyone's friend.

"Not only the people of Spratton but all of us in the Deanery are grateful for Dennis Pettit's splendid example and for his friendship among us.

"We rejoice in his resolve to take a well earned rest at Duston, which is not so far away that we cannot expect to see him often in retirement and continue our long friendship with him, as he takes his well deserved ease."

### If you don't succeed . . .

*We have heard from Mrs. M. Leigh of Warrington, Lancs, who is the wife of our St. Dunstaner and her story is as follows:—*

"I entered a crown green bowling main and I came home with a large Silver cup to hold for 12 months. I have entered for it every year for twenty years and I have just won it. I can't believe it."



*Mainly for Women*  
**CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING**  
 by Weight Watcher

"You must keep to the programme". Mrs. Weston lecturing a class of Weight Watchers in Staines, Middlesex.

*Weight Watcher is a member of St. Dunstan's Staff and wrote this article for St. Dunstaners and members of their families who might share this problem. The programme has been translated into Braille and those interested should contact Weight Watchers at 2, Thames Street, Windsor, Berks. Telephone number—Windsor 69131.*

Before and After. Mrs. Weston with photograph of herself before she became a Weight Watcher.



I have a brooch with four diamond chips to which I am going to add more diamonds! Please do not misunderstand me when I say that I have worked hard for this brooch and it has cost me fifty pounds! The secret is that last winter on a dark and foggy night I joined Weight Watchers—and not only are they helping me to lose all my surplus fat on three good meals a day—with encouragement and understanding—they also rewarded me with a brooch after 16 weeks as I had lost more than 10 lbs. and they are adding a diamond chip for each 10 lbs. lost after that.

When you join Weight Watchers you are never alone with your weight problem again. Obesity is not just having to buy Outsize clothes—every 10 lbs. over your correct weight can shorten your life by two years. Weight Watchers shows us how to lose weight and stay slim through the rest of our lives.

When I first joined my local class I was weighed and measured. (It is always more than you think!) and told my goal, which is what I have to aim at and is based on insurance figures. (No-one ever believes they can reach their goal—but they do!). It costs 21s. to join and 14s. per week until you reach goal or have attended 16 consecutive weeks and you then become a Life Member and go on to a maintenance course where you are again given help and advice on how to remain with your new slim self. You attend meetings free—only paying a penalty if you put on 2 lbs. over your goal weight.

"There are only two rules you must keep when you join," I was told. "They are both equally important. You must come to the weekly meetings and you must keep to the programme," as the diet is called. I did not find it a difficult programme—it is based on normal foods obtainable all over the world. Of course you have to give up some things in order to lose weight but on this programme you are never hungry and there are items of food you are allowed to eat at any time.

Weight Watchers works through the programme and the group therapy of a weekly meeting. Dieting is a lonely thing to do and it can only be done really satisfactorily in a group with people who care if you have lost weight during the past week. You are "weighed in" every week and this is entered up in your own book. There is a lecture and recipes are given to you. There is also time to talk to the many friends you make there—all fat to start with, then gradually emerging as slim, glamorous people in size 12 dresses! There is also the added fun of running into friends and acquaintances, not Weight Watchers, whom you have not seen for a little time and the gasp of surprise when they see you, especially if you are now slimmer than they are! Never again will you be the fat person of your home town, office, department, or club!

American doctors have taken over thirty years of research work to evolve a method of eating which will fit any walk of life; everyone will find that they can keep to the programme and lose weight whilst living their normal life. Weight Watchers was brought to England by Mr. and Mrs. Weston of Datchet, Bucks, where classes were first held. They are now gradually covering the whole of the country and at



Mr. Harding receives his third chip having lost three stone.

the moment there are 5,000 of us including many men who find their physical fitness improves as they lose the pounds.

Most diets aim to get the weight off but as soon as you come off the diets on goes the weight again. Weight Watchers programme, on the other hand, gets the weight off and also teaches you how to eat so that you will never put the weight on again, by learning to like the foods that keep you slim. Nowadays I find I am just not interested in birthday cakes, ice cream sodas or cream in my coffee. We lose weight by eating normal easily obtained food at the price it is in the shops. When I first learnt that I was going to lose weight eating bread, eggs, meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, I thought "it may be all right for some, but will it work for me?" I am so pleased to tell you that it has! I have lost 50 lbs.—9ins. from my hips and 6 ins. from my waist measurements! Imagine the fun I have now on a shopping spree! What is more, I have never felt so well in my life.

No one who is fat should be too busy to come to Weight Watchers for their health's sake. Those who have a weight and a financial problem, there is a scholarship for those who cannot afford the full fees.

Fatties, find out where your nearest classes are held by writing to Weight Watchers, and buy yourself a size 12 dress for Christmas!

# Bridge Notes

## London and Brighton Results

The seventh Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 7th September and the results are as follows:—

R. Stanners and M. Tybinski ..	71
G. P. Brown and P. Nuyens ..	70
R. Armstrong and H. King ..	66
R. Fullard and R. Bickley ..	54
Miss V. Kemmish and J. Huk ..	50

The cumulative positions are as follows:—

R. Armstrong .. .. .	380
G. P. Brown .. .. .	377
R. Fullard .. .. .	364
M. Tybinski .. .. .	348
R. Stanners .. .. .	348
P. Nuyens .. .. .	341
H. Meieson .. .. .	317
R. Bickley .. .. .	311
R. Evans .. .. .	310
Miss V. Kemmish .. .. .	307
H. King .. .. .	299
J. Huk .. .. .	269

After four matches

P. Pescott Jones .. .. .	268
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After three matches

H. Kerr .. .. .	183
F. Jackson .. .. .	162

After one match

G. Lynch .. .. .	55
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## Summer Bridge

The Summer Bridge Drive was held on Saturday, the 27th of July at the London Club, Old Marylebone Road.

Despite last minute cancellations which regrettably reduced the number of tables to seven and a half, the fifteen St. Dunstaners taking part with their partners spent a very enjoyable afternoon.

Mrs. R. Fullard kindly presented the prizes to the following winners:—

1. M. Tybinski and Mr. Deeley
2. F. Matthewman and Mr. Woods
3. L. Douglass and Mr. Horstead

P. NUYENS

The eighth Individual Competition, Brighton Section, was held on Saturday, 27th July. The results are as follows:

B. Ingrey and S. Webster ..	69
F. Rhodes and M. Clements ..	68
J. Chell and C. Kelk .. .. .	64
J. Whitcomb and S. McNamara ..	63
W. T. Scott and F. Griffiee ..	61
R. Goding and W. Burnett ..	53

The ninth Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on 7th September and the results were as follows:—

J. Whitcombe and Partner ..	76
B. Ingrey and F. Griffiee ..	64
W. Scott and S. Webster ..	63
W. Burnett and S. McNamara ..	62
J. Chell and M. Clements ..	60
C. Kelk and F. Rhodes .. .. .	53

The cumulative positions are as follows:—

B. Ingrey .. .. .	377
A. Smith .. .. .	350
S. Webster .. .. .	346
S. McNamara .. .. .	345
R. Goding .. .. .	343
F. Rhodes .. .. .	340
W. Burnett .. .. .	337
C. Kelk .. .. .	334
J. Whitcombe .. .. .	327
M. Clements .. .. .	323
W. Scott .. .. .	318
F. Griffiee .. .. .	313
J. Chell .. .. .	305

## From the Chairman's Office

25th July, 1968

Dear Paul,

How very kind of you and the members of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club to send my wife and me your congratulations upon the Fiftieth Anniversary of our wedding.

We greatly appreciated hearing from you and would be glad if you would convey our thanks to all your members.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) FRASER,

## FIXTURE CHANGES

Will members who usually attend our Bridge Drives, please note that we have had to change the date for our Autumn Drive from Saturday, 12th October to **Saturday, 26th October**. The match originally fixed with the Great West Road Club for that date has now to be brought forward to 12th October.

May we also remind those members who play in the "Individual" competition, London Area, that the last match will be held on **2nd November**. Would you please be kind enough to amend your fixture cards to bring them up-to-date with these alterations.

P. NUYENS

## Club News

### London Club Notes

In the Second Round of the Sir Arthur Pearson Fives & Threes Domino Knock-Out Competition, R. Fullard won in two straight games against P. Nuyens. The resultant winner of the game still to be played between R. Bickley and W. Miller will then meet R. Fullard in the Third Round.

We are pleased to note that Bill Miller has completed for the tenth time the London Stock Exchange to Brighton Walk. Well done, Bill.

Winners of our Domino Games for the latter part of the month of July were as follows:

18th July	1	<b>G. P. Brown</b>
		<b>G. Stanley</b>
	2	R. Fullard
25th July	1	<b>G. P. Brown</b>
	2	W. Miller
		G. Stanley

Unfortunately owing to belated holidays and illness we were only able to muster three tables when the Club re-opened on 5th September, but hope that our membership will be back to full strength again soon.

Talking of holidays makes me wonder how many of our members or the staff who enjoyed their sojourn in the northern part of Sunny Spain, the Atlantic Coast, or the Pyrenees, know the derivation of the name of our own Britain. "This is", according to Isaac Taylor, "derived from that family of languages of which the LAPP and the BASQUE are the sole living representatives; and hence we reasonably infer the earliest knowledge of the island, which was possessed by any of the civilised inhabitants of Europe, must have derived from the Iberic mariners of Spain, who coasted along to Brittany and then crossed to Britain at some dim prehistoric period." That certainly scotches the idea of the Celtic "brith"—to paint with the allusion to woad, so perhaps we are not a nation of wild, blue-painted cave men after all!

G. STANLEY

### Thank You

Mrs. Gladys Hancock of West Drayton wishes to thank all friends, wives and St. Dunstaners in Ovingdean and London, for all their good wishes and "get well" cards received after her recent operation in Moorfields Hospital.

### Midland Club Notes

#### Important Announcement

A Social Evening is to be held at the King's Arms, Harborne, on Saturday, 19th October, 1968. The charge is 7s. 6d. per head. A running buffet has been arranged and there will be artists to entertain us. All St. Dunstaners and their wives are invited to come along and you may bring friends if you wish. We start at 7.30 p.m.

If you are interested would you please contact me any evening—Telephone 021-472 1432.

The King's Arms is in the centre of Harborne, near the Duke of York and on the Outer Circle bus route.

On Sunday, June 23rd we had our annual outing. This year we went to Dovedale, where we had lunch at the Dog and

Partridge, going on afterward to Alton Towers where we enjoyed ourselves looking round the garden.

We held our usual Club meetings of 14th July and 11th August and although some members were on holiday we managed to reach the semi-finals of our Sir Arthur Pearson Domino knock out. This was played off at our meeting on 8th September and the finals took place after tea and the results were as follows:—

**1st, W. Jones**

**2nd, D. E. Cashmore**

Runners up, L. Kibbler and D. Faulkner

We were all very pleased that Walter Jones won as he is a new St. Dunstaner having only joined our family in February.

We all welcomed Dennis Beddoes into our family circle. Many St. Dunstaners will remember Dennis at Stoke Mandeville Hospital and at Church Stretton where he trained but he left us after training. He has been coming to our meetings for some time and has been a great help to us.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday,

13th October, and will be the Annual General Meeting.

Mrs. Faulkner arranged the tea for us at the July meeting, Mrs. Kibbler at the August one and Mrs. Bilcliff in September, and we all thank these three ladies for our most enjoyable meals.

D. E. CASHMORE,  
*Secretary.*

### Cardiff Club Notes

On Saturday, 17th August, we had our annual outing to the Gower Coast arriving at Port Eynon at lunch time—the weather was very kind to us and we spent a pleasant afternoon on the beach. In the evening we went to the Woodman's Inn at Blackhill, Swansea for dinner and Mr. Cyril John, the proprietor certainly put on a wonderful meal for us all.

We extend a very warm welcome to any St. Dunstaner who would like to attend our club meeting.

D. STOTT,  
*Secretary.*

## My Garden

*by*

HAROLD SWAIN

My garden's not a show-place,  
Not large or very neat,  
No bloom would take a single prize,  
At Village Floral Fete.

It's a garden built through friendships,  
With kindred souls I've known,  
Who've seen the beauty in each flower,  
Which nature's hand has sown.

From little roots of this and that,  
Conveyed in pot or pan,  
Those gems upon the rockery,  
A gift from Tom's wife, Ann.

The tall hydrangeas near the fence,  
To blossom, never fail,  
Were cuttings struck by Charlie's hand,  
And given, with a tale.

When Russell's shed their glorious form,  
Then flowers the lupin tree,  
Where did I get it, yes of course,  
A treat, from Mrs. G.

Old Harry loved the English rose,  
And tried so hard to convert,  
But I give flowers equality,  
He failed, but wasn't hurt.

My garden is a meeting place,  
With friends both old and new,  
And friendship through a mutual love,  
Is friendship long, and true.

Some alas, have journeyed on,  
To spend eternal hours,  
At peace in Heavenly Gardens,  
With their Maker, and His flowers.



### Signs of the Times

A local resident isn't too well off, in fact her hard times come around far more often than her good times, but today she was buoyant—on top of the world—nearly.

"My 'ole man got me a real new fur coat for my birthday. It is the first fur coat I've ever had," she beamed. "Just wot I need for the winter. But . . ." she said, with a note of puzzled apprehension in her voice, "He tells me I can only wear it indoors as it is too hot to wear outside!"

## Fascinating Witch

For anyone who has the least difficulty in threading her needle, the new "Witch" Needle Threader has appeared on the market, which is easy to operate and small enough to fit into any work-basket. It is made of red and white plastic and besides threading your needle with ease it also has a stand for the cotton reel. London Stores are selling them for 3s. 3d. and one would make a small but useful present from the Christmas tree. If there is any difficulty in obtaining one, write in the first instance to Messrs. H. Penny Ltd., 1-39, New Cavendish Street, London, W.1.

### Public Servant

Alderman Frank L'Estrange Fawcett of Stowmarket, who has always devoted much of his time to public work, has had a very busy summer. Amongst many other activities, he officially opened the new "Richard Charles" Twin Operating Theatres at Ipswich and East Suffolk Hospital, the most modern theatres in the country, and he and his wife attended the opening of the new Fire Station at Holbrook by the Queen Mother.

## Family News

### Silver Weddings

Congratulations to MR. AND MRS. G. M. ALLEN of Hull who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 8th August, 1968.

Sincere congratulations to MR. AND MRS. S. JONES of Wembley, Middlesex, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 17th August, 1968. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jones come from South Wales and a large number from both families came from there for the celebrations.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. H. WARD of Leeds who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 28th August, 1968.

Warm congratulations to MR. AND MRS. E. PARIS of New Malden, Surrey, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 31st July, 1968.

### Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. A. GEMMEL of Southampton who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 12th September 1968.

Very many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. G. W. WARDLE of Brixworth, Northampton, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 4th August, 1968.

### Grandfathers

#### Congratulations to:

G. M. ALLEN of Hull on the arrival of a granddaughter, Kerry Anne Allen, who was born in August, 1968.

R. BELCHER of Birmingham, who became a grandfather for the first time when his daughter Shirley Wetton gave birth to a daughter, Samantha Jane, in July 1968.

H. LEA of Derby on the arrival of another grandchild, Stephen Lea, born on 2nd August, 1968.

## Family News

### Grandfathers—continued

D. Bingham of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex on the birth of his 5th grandchild, to his second son John and his wife. The baby has been christened Ronald John and was born in July 1968.

A. H. BOSELEY of Wallasey announces the arrival of his first grandchild, Robert Berriman, born on the 17th August, 1968, the anniversary of his grandfather's birthday!

W. CARR of High Wycombe, Bucks on the arrival of his fourth grandchild, when his daughter Marlene gave birth to a son, Kevin Grant in March, 1968.

P. BARGER of Aston Clinton, Bucks has become a grandfather for the third time when his daughter-in-law gave birth to a girl, Rachel Clare on 14th July, 1968.

D. E. MCCARTHY of Northampton announces the birth of another grandchild when his daughter, Barbara gave birth to a girl on 17th August, 1968.

MRS. E. McCLARNAN of Blackpool, who announces the arrival of a grandchild, Lisa Marie, born to Peter's wife, on the 29th August, 1968.

R. NEWTON of Salfords, Surrey, on the arrival of twin grandchildren, Susan Ann and Kevin Anthony Naris on 14th June, 1968. They were born to his daughter Ann and he now has three grandchildren.

F. S. NUNN of Ilkeston announces the arrival of another granddaughter on 14th August, 1968.

A. REAGAN of Hastings, has become a grandfather for the third time when his son's wife gave birth to another son.

To Sylvia and her husband, daughter and son-in-law of the late WILLIAM CHARLTON and Mrs. Charlton, of Brighton Sussex, a daughter Julia, born on 2nd July, 1968.

### Great Grandfather

#### Congratulations to:

D. E. MORGAN of Tredegar, Monmouthshire, on the arrival of a 4th great grandchild, a daughter born to their grandson.

### MARRIAGES

#### Congratulations to:

Charles, youngest son of D. BINGHAM of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, married Miss Elizabeth Ware on February 24th, 1968.

Leslie, son of our St. Dunstaner, E. L. BUGBEE of Harefield, Middlesex, married Miss Barbara Holloway on 31st August, 1968, at Denham Village Church, Bucks.

Kenneth James Durkin, grandson of our St. Dunstaner, C. DURKIN of Porthcawl married Miss Janet Hazel Evans of West Drayton on 21st September 1968.

George, son of our St. Dunstaner, G. CHISHOLM, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, married Miss Irene Carr of Killingworth on 17th August, 1968.

John, son of F. JEANMONOD of Eltham, S.E.9, was married to Miss Anne Kallio in Connecticut, U.S.A. on 27th July, 1968. They then went to Scotland for two weeks for their honeymoon and then spent a week with Mr. and Mrs. Jeanmonod in Eltham.

Margaret, daughter of T. W. HARRISON of Sheffield, married Richard Alistair Hindle on 21st September, 1968.

Kenneth, son of K. WARD of Winchester was married to Miss Shirley Cox, S.R.N. on 17th August, 1968.

Pamela, daughter of J. D. WHITE, of Chilwell, Nottingham, married Brian Heath on 24th August, 1968.

Anthony, son of J. J. MEDWAY of Chiswick, W.4 was married to Miss Carole McGoldrick, at St. Peter's Church, Acton Green, on 20th July, 1968.

Jennifer, daughter of our St. Dunstaner, J. B. PURCELL of Urmston, Manchester married Neil Whiteley on 27th July, 1968.

Barry, son of the late A. H. ROBINSON of Rayleigh, Essex, married Miss Caroline Field on 24th August in Westcliffe.

Susan, daughter of R. COUPLAND of Hessle, East Yorks, has passed her final examination and is now a B.A. in Economic and Social Studies with Honours.

Rosalyn, daughter of J. CRUSE of Longbenton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in addition to doing well at school, has passed grade 3 piano examinations and with a friend won a first class certificate at the Musical Festival, held in Consett, for the duet section for the second year in succession.

Dorothy, daughter of F. COLLINGWOOD, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, is Head Girl of the 600 girls at her school this year.

Hilda, daughter of G. H. JAKINS of Guildford, Surrey, has completed her studies and obtained a B.A. degree. She began her teaching career in September at the school where she was previously a pupil.

Alan, grandson of J. R. MCKINLAY of Hounslow, Middlesex, has obtained his B.A. with honours in Sociology.

Oliver, grandson of our St. Dunstaner, A. STERNO of Cheltenham, has been studying at the College of St. Mark and St. John, Chelsea, in London and has successfully completed his three years gaining passes with distinction in Geography and Music in the Teacher's Certificate Examinations for 1968. This now gives him the opportunity to apply for a University place in order to gain his Bachelor's degree.

Allan, son of W. WRIGLEY of Droylsden, Nr. Manchester, has recently won the Droylsden Individual Bowls Championship and received a Cup and prize.

### Deaths

#### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

F. WETHERELL of Mitcham, Surrey, whose wife was admitted to hospital on 15th August and died on the 16th. Our sympathy is extended to our St. Dunstaner's grand-daughter who has looked after her grand-parents most devotedly.

T. A. WILLIAMS, Portslade, Sussex, whose wife died on 9th September, 1968, in hospital, following a serious illness.

## In Memory

**It is with great regret we have to record the death of the following St. Dunstaners, and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.**

#### Frank Golding Braithwaite. Royal Engineers.

Frank Golding Braithwaite of Guildford, Surrey, died on 14th July, 1968. He was 71 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Engineers in 1915 and served with them for a year until his discharge in 1916 when he came to St. Dunstan's.

He trained as a bootmaker and started work as a boot repairer. He proved to be an excellent workman and in 1919 he opened his first business in Guildford which was a great success. Before long he was employing men to help with the work and as business increased he opened two retail businesses and a wholesale one. One of his other interests was joinery which he much enjoyed as a hobby. His first wife died in 1951 and his daughter Mary, cared for him until his second marriage to a member of the Nursing Staff at Ovingdean in 1957.

Over the past few years his health had gradually deteriorated and he became seriously ill. Throughout this time he had been nursed devotedly by his wife but at the beginning of July he was admitted to Pearson House where he died on 14th July, 1968.

He leaves a widow and a daughter by his first marriage.

## Family News

### In Memory

#### Arthur Clover. *Essex Regiment.*

Arthur Clover of Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk, died on 17th July, 1968 at the age of 72 years.

He served with the Essex Regiment from 1915 to 1918 and was the victim of a mustard gas attack. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1925, and trained in joinery. From the end of his training to only a month or so before his death he was a really first class expert joiner, making beautiful articles. He was taken ill earlier in the year and his death was not unexpected. He leaves a widow and grown-up daughter.

#### John Hughes. *Merchant Navy.*

John Hughes of Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, Cheshire died on 25th July 1968. He was 74 years old.

He served in the Merchant Navy from 1910 to 1945 serving in both World Wars. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1952 and took up hobby training learning to make string bags and baskets, which he carried out for some little time. He had been in poor health recently and was in hospital towards the end of 1967 and the beginning of 1968. He was convalescing at Pearson House when his health deteriorated very considerably. His death was not therefore, unexpected. He leaves a widow.

#### Harry Leonard. *5th Suffolk Regiment.*

Harry Leonard of Mildenhall, Nr. Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, died suddenly on 26th July, 1968.

He served with the 5th Suffolk Regiment from 1914 to 1916 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1967. On account of his age he did not undertake any occupational training but he interested himself in his local affairs and was a member of the Mildenhall Red Cross Club. He spent a very enjoyable holiday at Pearson House recently. He was a widower and leaves a daughter, Mrs. R. Houghton, who lived near him.

#### Ferdinand Alexander Martin. *Royal Berkshire Regiment.*

Ferdinand Alexander Martin of Stubbington, Hants, died on 18th July, 1968. He was 79 years of age.

He enlisted with the Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1915 and served with them until his discharge in 1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1929. He trained as a basket maker turning out some very good work,

and he also made stools. He carried on with this until October of last year when owing to ill-health he had to give it up. He leaves a grown-up family.

#### A. R. T. Peareth. *4th Seaforth Highlanders.*

A. R. T. ("Bill") Peareth, of Lostwithiel, Cornwall, died on the 27th August, at the age of 84 years.

He served in the Army from 1915 to 1918 and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1919, but always retained some guiding sight. He had a varied career in the West Country, chiefly in open air work, and during the Second War his boat was chartered by the Royal Navy and he worked as its engineer.

He was a widower and leaves a son and daughter, both married.

#### Frederick John Sherwood. *Queen's Royal West Surreys, 47th London Division.*

Frederick John Sherwood of Norbury, London, S.W.16, died on 10th August, 1968, at the age of 76.

He enlisted in the Queen's Royal West Surreys, 47th London Division in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1953. Owing to his age he did not undertake any occupational training but lived happily with his wife and family. He leaves a widow and a son who is married.

#### Reginald Victor Tappin. *Royal Artillery.*

Reginald Victor Tappin of Eastcote, Middlesex, died on 25th August 1968. He was 48 years old.

He enlisted in the Royal Artillery in 1943 and served with them until 1947. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1956. Owing to ill health he was unable to undertake any training and over the years his health gradually deteriorated. Throughout this time he was nursed devotedly by his wife. He leaves a widow and a married daughter.

#### Camiel Verbrugghe. *1st Lille Regiment.*

Early St. Dunstaners may remember Camiel who, while serving in the 1st Regiment, Belgian Army, was severely wounded on 25th October, 1914, at Dixmuid. He was evacuated to England with other wounded soldiers and after his discharge from the hospital came to St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, for training. After his rehabilitation he was looked after by an English family in Pulborough. He returned home to Rumbek after the war had ended. For many years he had been in very poor health and he passed away on 22nd July, 1968.

## Muffled Drums

*Continued from inside front cover*

The rain just held off long enough for us to make the interesting tour of the Bentley Wildfowl Collection at Halland, Near Lewes, on the Saturday where we also enjoyed a nice tea. We played our usual dominoes in the evening and on Sunday morning went to Pearson House where we were entertained by Matron Hallett and members of her staff, met old Pals and drank coffee and sherry! Unfortunately Miss Rogers was unable to join us at our usual tea with Mr. Wills and other Welfare staff, as she has been involved in an accident but we hope she will soon be fit again.

Monday evening found us at Stroods again for our Farewell Dinner which as usual was a good 'un, Mr. Wills and Commandant spoke, and we can say without hesitation that the first reunion for us deaf chaps, organised by Miss M. Dagnall, was a great success.

Mrs. Wally Thomas and my wife were in on all the items and Mr. Wills, Matron Blackford and Matron Hallett, Miss Dagnall and Commandant came to the dinner. Dr. J. O'Hara was unable to join us until later in the evening.

## A Heartening Story

Whilst attending the deaf/blind reunion at Ovingdean, Wally Thomas went to Radio Brighton and recorded an interview with Mike Grealis, which was broadcast on 15th August. We give below a précis of the answers which Wally gave to questions from Mr. Grealis:—

"It is important that a deaf/blind person mix with the rest of the community. Happily St. Dunstan's arrange for us to come over once a year for a reunion and we go to places of interest. It helps us with the rest of the people we meet to have subjects to talk about. It pleases me to say the people of Brighton are very generous in their feelings towards St. Dunstan's for which we are grateful and thank them sincerely".

Asked how important it was to him actually to visit places like the GPO Tower, gardens etc., Wally replied: "It is some-



Lady Fraser chats to Teddy Mills and an escort

thing new, a new experience. You can die of a lot of things but it's no good dying of ignorance . . . You get the experience. They can tell you the whole history of the place and you can get the atmosphere and you can move around and ask questions and find things out for yourself".

Asked whether he enjoyed the electronic rifle range at Ovingdean Wally said: "The rifle range. You are competing, you are back to your previous life. You are competing with other men and you do so on equal terms . . . There is a small vibration pad which you hold between finger and thumb. The further you are away from the bull the more noise. When you come to the bull it is very quiet until you get to dead centre".

About the future, Wally said: "My hopes are very high. I have all sorts of interests. I have a gymnasium at home. I do a lot of reading and some writing and, well, I have a wife and three children. I have plenty of fun".

Well said, Wally Thomas. Thank you, Radio Brighton.



Above. The "Muffled Drums" with their escorts among the roses in Regents Park.

## Muffled Drums

Below. Lord and Lady Fraser with George Fallowfield.

