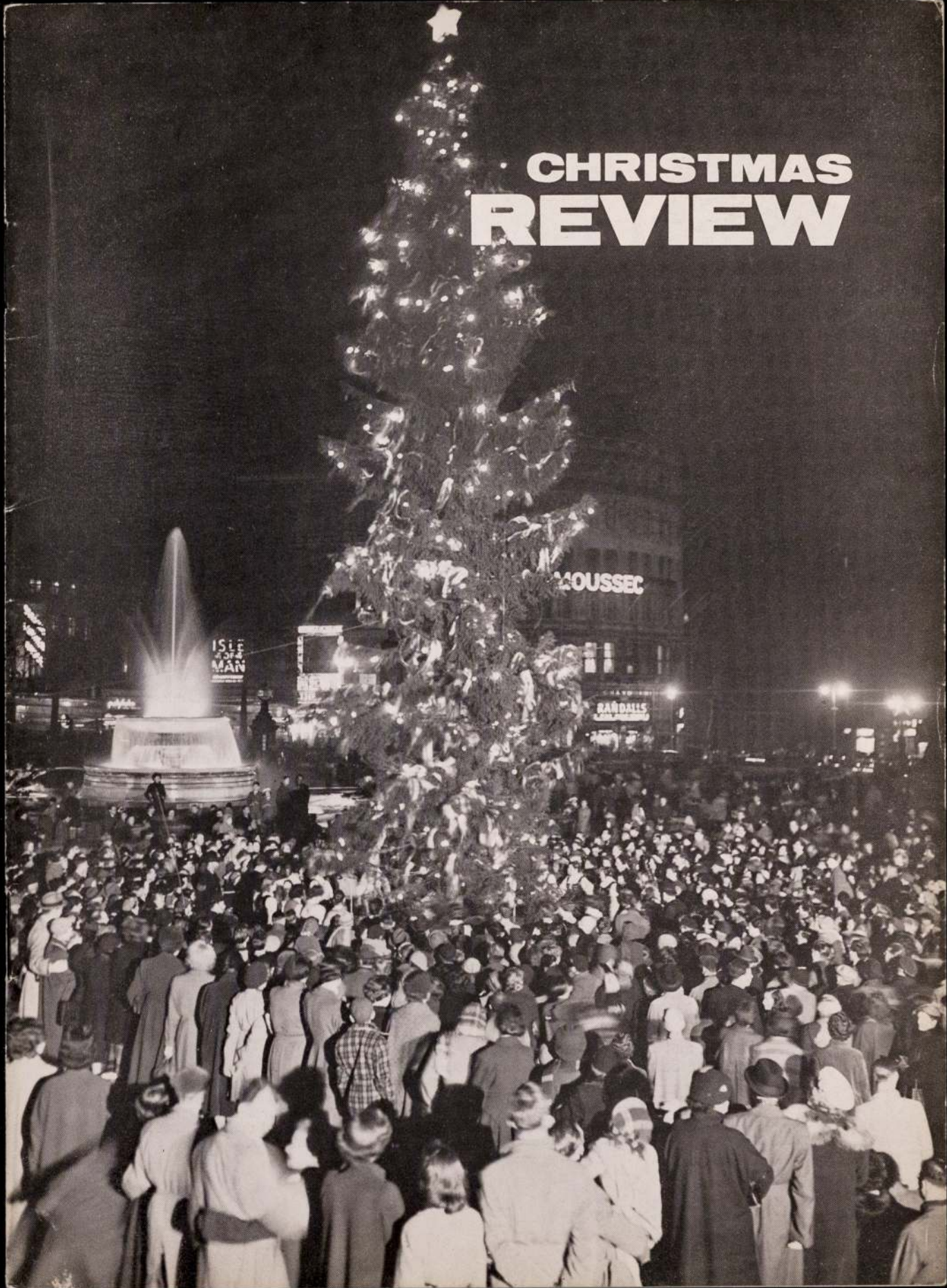


CHRISTMAS REVIEW





Lord Fraser (centre) with four of the five surviving members of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club. They are (left to right): Paul Nuyens, Jock Brown, Ted Slaughter, and Frank Rhodes.

BRIDGE CLUB'S THIRTY YEARS Celebration Dinner

In its thirtieth year the captaincy of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club has passed to the second generation of St. Dunstaners in the person of Roy Armstrong. In the words of retiring captain Paul Nuyens, "The time has come when one of you younger people should take over". Speakers at the anniversary dinner looked forward to another thirty years of success and back to the beginnings of the club and its founder, Charlie Gover, whose widow was one of the guests of honour.

Lord and Lady Fraser were coupled with the toast of St. Dunstan's proposed by Roy Armstrong and Lady Fraser received a bouquet from Sammy Webster, Club Treasurer.

Replying, Lord Fraser said: "Many congratulations to your new captain, Mr. Armstrong and good luck to him in office".

He recalled the past in which the club has been built: "I would like to say a word of deep appreciation of the previous officers of the club, the captains, the committees and the Treasurers, also too the founders—we owe them all a very deep debt of gratitude".

Lord Fraser went on: "The whole time we have had the help of various people including those connected with other Bridge Clubs and who have helped us in guiding, teaching and backing us to play

Continued on inside back cover

COVER PICTURE:

Each Christmas the people of Oslo, Norway present London with a huge Christmas tree, which is erected in Trafalgar Square. Our picture shows crowds singing round the illuminated tree with a Norwegian Girls' Choir.

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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DECEMBER 1968

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Free to St. Dunstaners

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Talking Book Troubles

There are now over 25,000 members of the Talking Book Library in the United Kingdom and the system is in use in seventeen other countries.

Some 5,000 of the old Mark I—that is the big talking book machine with the heavy cassette—have been converted to take the new small cassette, and a further 5,000 Mark IV have been issued making 10,000 in all. Of these, about 400 have given trouble by what is called 'spillage'. This means that in certain circumstances a tape spills out of the cassette and makes a tangle such as a fisherman experiences when he gets what he calls a bird's nest. These cassettes and some adaptor plates are being rapidly replaced by the manufacturer.

Some may think that so many faulty machines reflect badly on the manufacturer or the system but it is fairly commonplace that with all apparatus and machinery, even new motor-cars, the first have teething troubles which only emerge in daily use; 400 faulty machines out of 10,000 is only 4 per cent.

There is another trouble about talking books which is not the fault of the machine but a human failing on the part of the listener and I think it worth while explaining it. It arises when the listener goes to sleep thus leaving the machine running after the end of the track on unrecorded tape. When the listener turns the cassette over, he finds it is silent and thinks there is something wrong with it. What he should do is to let it run on and wait patiently. He will find that after a time the next track will start reading. The solution is not to go to sleep, which is very hard, or alternatively to have an alarm clock or a time mechanism which will switch the machine off.

There may be a number of St. Dunstaners who think their machine or their cassette is difficult, when all that is required is to give it time to come back from the blank tape to the talking tape.

The above remarks—about running-on at the end of a track apply to both the converted old machines and to the new Mark IV machines. In the Mark IV machine there is an automatic device which stops the tape about 20 seconds after the end of the reading.

Talking Book Readers

Various St. Dunstaners have praised the Talking Book Readers and have expressed a desire that they should be thanked for their services, which are so much enjoyed. In particular, this was suggested at the Physiotherapists' Conference in 1967. As a result, I gave a Luncheon in a private room in the House of Lords on 24th October, as a contribution by St. Dunstan's to the R.N.I.B.'s Centenary Celebrations, and to say "Thank you" to the Readers on behalf of all the blind.

Most of the well-known Readers came to the luncheon, including many very familiar News Readers, such as Eric Gillett, Alvar Lidell, Robin Holmes and Richard Baker. I proposed the toast of "The Readers of Talking Books" and since I spoke from an historical angle, it may be of some interest to quote what I said:

Greatest Invention Since Braille

"The Talking Book is the greatest invention for the Blind since Braille; 25,000 blind people enjoy it.

"It started in my own back garden in a hut, where I used to transmit, when I was a 'Ham', i.e. a Radio Transmitting Amateur.

"Although I have never been trained as an engineer or as a scientist, I am a natural amateur experimenter and inventions, Bridge, fishing and arguing have always been my hobbies.

"Incidentally, the first regular Talking Book Reader was my son-in-law, Anthony McDonald, once a BBC Producer, but primarily a Judge-Advocate. Indeed, the reason he became my son-in-law was because the hut in the garden was an obvious place in which to meet my daughter.

"Of course, we started with disc records and we were the first to make them run for 25 minutes—unheard of in those days and now a commonplace in L.P.'s.

"Thereafter, it was St. Dunstan's Scientific Committee that, as a by-product, developed the Tape Talking Book which has now been greatly improved and miniaturised—(what an awful word!)

"I have had the honour to be Chairman of the Committee since its inception and have always laid down the dictum that Talking Book Readers should not over-act. They may change the tone of voice to indicate a change of character but they must not turn their reading into play acting, any more than we would print books in purple type, even though the passages may suggest this. What we want above all is clear diction and easy listening.

"The Library now operates from two bases—one at Alperton, near London, and the other at Bolton in Lancashire—and provides a choice of fiction, non-fiction and indeed every aspect of literature. There are now 1,460 titles available.

"I remember one blinded soldier who wrote to me and said: 'I welcome the Talking Book but do not let us have any poetry or prose'. We have done our best: we try to suit all tastes."

Alvar Lidell, who has read more than one hundred books, replied in an amusing speech. "I remember the hut in the garden," he said, "but Anthony McDonald got there first and married the Chairman's daughter."

I think the new system is now well established but, as I have said, all new apparatus has its teething troubles. I would, therefore, be pleased if St. Dunstaners who have had their old machines converted, or have received the new one, would write and tell me if these are working properly.

Christmas Wishes

Lady Fraser and I wish all St. Dunstaners and their families, all over the world, and Members of our Staff, a very Happy Christmas and the best of good luck in the New Year.

Fraser of Lonsdale

Coming Events

Memorial Service, Ovingdean Chapel, **Sunday, 8th December.**

Invitation to Brighton, Hove and District Grocers' and Provision Merchants' Association Dinner, **Wednesday, 4th December.**

Mr. W. G. ASKEW, C.B.E.

The Chapel at Ovingdean was filled to capacity for the Memorial Service for Mr. Askew on Tuesday, 22nd October. A number of St. Dunstaners came from outlying districts to join with those already staying at Pearson House and Ovingdean in this act of remembrance; members of the family present included, Mrs. E. Askew (widow) and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Askew (son and daughter-in-law), Sir Neville and Lady Pearson, Lord and Lady Fraser, together with many present and former members of the staff, and representatives of organisations with which Mr. Askew was connected, were in the congregation.

The impressive Service was conducted by our Chaplain, the Rev. D. M. Harper, and a choir of St. Dunstaners and staff led the singing of the hymns—"The King of Love my Shepherd is", "Who would true valour see" and "Abide with me". With sincere feeling Sir Neville Pearson read the Lesson (Rev. 21, vv 1-7), and in a moving tribute Lord Fraser spoke of Mr. Askew's courageous character and his devoted work for the welfare of the blind—work in which he maintained an interest long after his retirement; he recalled the warm affection in which Mr. Askew was held and said that the whole of St. Dunstan's would remember with gratitude the able and splendid life-long service he had given.

HONOURING OUR FOUNDER

The 47th Anniversary of the death of Sir Arthur Pearson, Founder of St. Dunstan's, falls on Monday, 9th December this year and a Service of Commemoration will be held in the Chapel at Ovingdean on Sunday, 8th December at 11.15 p.m. The Rev. D. M. Harper, M.A. Chaplain to St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, will conduct the service. The Address will be given by our St. Dunstaner, T. Taylor of Farington, Nr. Preston, Lincs. Sir Neville Pearson, Bt. will read the lesson.

On the morning of Monday, 9th December a party of St. Dunstaners will be leaving Headquarters, for the Hampstead Cemetery to lay a wreath on Sir Arthur Pearson's grave.

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

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR

by Alfred Walker

Like most other St. Dunstaners I regularly obey the old Sgt. Major's orders to "get that hair cut sharpish" and trot off to our local barber to have a short back and sides.

Our local barber's is more a club than a shop and the barber himself, known as "Uncle John" deserves some little description. He is a stoutish man, very red faced, with a penetrating voice, as indeed, he should have, being an old Sgt. Major of the First World War. He has very definite opinions on most matters of the day (indeed if the truth be told he must be thought to be a trifle too dogmatic on some matters). When you are in his chair "being done", he relishes a discussion on any and every subject that may be proposed. I thought, therefore, that it might be of interest to eavesdrop on some of our speculations and arguments whilst waiting our turn in the barber's chair.

As it happens, a recent discussion of ours was one subject mentioned some time back by our chairman on the differences between television and radio. "Uncle John" was soon on his high horse and emphatically plumped for radio for all programmes, except nature and wild life studies which naturally T.V. has the great advantage. He could not say a kind word at all for the T.V. plays especially, maintaining very strongly (no one else getting a word in edgeways) that the two main objections were, firstly, the perpetual background music drowning a lot of the dialogue, secondly, the lack of explanation on what was happening. "Our old St. Dunstaner" said he, singling me out, cannot possibly follow what is occurring when all sorts of things and people are shown on the screen without a word being spoken, whereas, on the radio, said he, the action is explained and one has a good idea of what is going on. "Uncle John" grudgingly allowed a slight advantage for some sporting T.V. programmes but as I have told you, he gets a shade dogmatic on his favourite opinions.

Christmas Illuminations

by

A. G. Bradley

Smell of cigars, the taste of wine;
A groaning table, 'Come and dine'.
Flushed children's faces, roaring fire,
Excited voices; heart's desire.

So, Peace on earth, Goodwill to men!
But tell me where, and tell me when?
Two thousand years since Angel's song,
Was it a joke, what has gone wrong?

Of course we know the story well,
Christ lived, and died, and went to hell,
But now He lives above the sky,
What's that to do with you or I?

'Press on, press on', we seem to cry,
Let's plumb the depths before we die!
Progressive age . . . we've hit the moon;
Someone will stand upon it soon.

Is Christmas one gargantuan meal?
One vast kaleidoscope of 'Pop'?
Does it not sometimes seem unreal,
When day has passed and fun has stopped?

In case we've missed it, while we're able,
Let's stand again inside that stable,
And listen with advancing age,
To God's own Son upon earth's stage.

While standing here I heard a sound,
It was within, plain and profound,
A voice has spoken; as I live,
The Babe is asking me to give.

A present of myself to Him,
My heart, my soul, my life, my all;
My inward eyes, though partly dim,
Can know and recognise this call.

He wrote a list of gifts for me,
His life for mine; forgiveness free,
And power to walk life's paradox;
Horizons of Eternity.

That lowly Babe is with us still,
With priceless gifts from day to day,
His Valiant Peace, His Sovereign Will;
It's Christmas tidings all the way.

TED BARTON — *New Life*

Ted Barton is one of those rare individuals who gained a First Class Honours Degree in Engineering at Cambridge University and after being blinded and going to Church Stretton, obtained an important scientific post with I.C.I. After twenty-one years he retired and is now making a new life for himself in the Lake District. When he left his famous Company, Sir Paul Chambers, the then Chairman, wrote to Lord Fraser, saying: "I would like to express to you our appreciation of this man's career. He has set a fine example of courage; he has done a good job for us and he has shown great loyalty and commitment to the Company".

Mrs. Barton, née Marjorie Pitt-Watson, is a local J.P., their daughter is training to be a teacher and their son has obtained an outstanding scholarship for Cambridge. Ted and Marjorie Barton live in a beautiful house near Lake Windermere and report enthusiastically about the countryside and his hobbies, particularly gardening.

CHRISTMAS PARTY INVITATION

All St. Dunstaners are invited to a Christmas Party given by the Brighton, Hove and District, Grocers' and Provision Merchants' Association at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, on Wednesday, 4th December (6.30 for 7 p.m.). Anyone wishing to attend who lives outside the Brighton area and who has not received an invitation (excluding those who will be coming from Ovingdean and Pearson House) would they please get in touch with Mrs. H. G. Lillie, 11 Lancaster Road, Brighton. Telephone: Brighton 54648.

GUN DOG FIELD TESTS

J. V. DAVIES of Braunton, Devon, breeds dogs in his spare time. He tells us that he now has another Retriever bitch puppy and he is very pleased with her. At the Exeter and County Gun Dog Field Tests held at the end of last October, she won a silver cup in the Novice Competition for obedience.



The author (right) discusses a point with Ron Ettridge. In the background is Eric Rowe and a member of the exhibiting manufacturers' staff.

PHYSIOTHERAPY CONFERENCE 1968

by
R. W. Evans

The appeal of this conference to St. Dunstan's physiotherapists was again clearly indicated when a record number for recent years made the annual journey to Brighton, to be guests at Ovingdean, during the week-end of October 11th to 13th. The Advisory committee is to be congratulated in providing once more a programme of lectures, interesting and well varied, and for their choice of speakers who maintained the usual high standard of presentation. The week-end provided a good combination of work and pleasure in which the staff of St. Dunstan's worked hard to welcome and entertain us, the visitors.

On Saturday morning business commenced with the Annual General Meeting. The conference was opened by Gordon Smith, chairman, for the second year in succession. After outlining the programme for the week-end, he dealt smoothly and competently with affairs and events occurring since the last conference. Before concluding

the annual report he paid tribute on behalf of the assembly to Lord Fraser, for his continuing support and interest in the advancement of St. Dunstan's physiotherapists in their profession.

Lectures were given by Mr. G. F. Walker, F.R.C.S., Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Queen Mary's Hospital for Children,

Carshalton, and Epsom and District Hospital, Dr. E. R. Spearing, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Physician, Croydon Hospital Group, and Mr. W. J. Guest, M.C.S.P., Dip. T.P., Principal, School of Physiotherapy, West Middlesex Hospital.

The lunch was presided over by Lord Fraser. His presence and remarks at this function were much appreciated by the members, as was also his participation in the other events of the programme.

Before the dance in the evening, the Second War physiotherapists entertained their First War colleagues and others who participated in the Conference. The dance that followed was a great success, for which the M.C. Joe Humphrey, deserves a special mention.

In the Church service on Sunday morning, Leslie Webber was the organist, and the lesson was read by Norman Perry. After the service there was a demonstration of equipment; this year the former displays

of manufactured products for physiotherapy being amplified to include blind-aid equipment generally.

The debate at 11 a.m. was a "free for all" on standards of work in hospitals and private practice. After brief introductory remarks made by Bob Lloyd, Norman Perry, Tiny Pointon and Llew Davies, there followed a vigorous expression of views.

Lunch was a farewell meal, at which the chairman voiced the sincere thanks of the Conference to the Matron and Commandant of St. Dunstan's and the staff, for their kindness and hospitality. To these he coupled the name of Mr. R. Priestley, for his substantial and arduous work in making the Conference a success, and for his ready and efficient services throughout the year.

The result of the Conference can be fairly summarised as an excellent balance between professional benefit and happy social contacts.

GARDENING NEWS

Winter is here again and the nights are dark and cold. It is always very cheering at this time of the year to hear from our St. Dunstaner Gardeners and how they have succeeded in growing prize-winning fruit, vegetables and flowers during the rest of the year. Below will be found a record of some of their efforts for 1968.

Alfred Outtrim of Hereford, has won three 1st Prizes in the Hertford Blind Club Garden Competition. These were for Onions and Apples and Blackcurrant jam which he made himself from home-grown blackcurrants.

Thomas Wilson of Grimethorpe, Nr. Barnsley, Yorks, has had a most successful year. He has won the Garden News Shield, 2nd in the allotments and taken 14 first, 12 second and 4 thirds and has also won the local Dahlia Cup for 1968.

H. J. Rice of Bournemouth recently won the first prize in the Civil Service Exhibition of flowers and fruit in Bournemouth.

Gilbert Rushton of Whitley Bay, Northumberland, has nine bunches of very sweet grapes on a first year vine in his greenhouse. He would like to know from our other gardeners if this is a record.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Across the countryside at village war memorials the familiar scarlet poppy wreaths were laid and many St. Dunstaners with British Legion contingents, were present at their local service, which this year embodied some new prayers. These had been approved by the leaders of the Anglican, Free and Roman Catholic Churches, on this the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Armistice. Beside remembering those who died in the two World Wars the service emphasised the desire for peace and reconciliation.

Forty-three of our St. Dunstaners led by Lord Fraser attended the service at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, and were accompanied by Mr. Wills and Mr. N. Smith. It was noted in the national press that they gave a smart "Eyes Left" as they marched past the Cenotaph.

A luncheon party presided over by Lord Fraser was held at the Great Western Royal Hotel, for those taking part. In his speech Lord Fraser thanked everyone for coming and Bob Young proposed the toast, "St. Dunstan's" coupled with the names of Mr. Wills and Mr. Smith. This was seconded by Charles Symes, a St. Dunstaner from Australia.

'SUMMER'— Book of the Year

"Now has my Summer", Anthony Naumann's third book of verse, has been chosen as Poetry Book of the Year for 1967 by the magazine, *Manifold*, a review of poetry and the arts with an international circulation.

Anthony Naumann's book was chosen from some hundreds reviewed in *Manifold* during 1967 and judged by the editorial staff. The Editor, Miss Vera Rich, said, "Apart from the excellence of the work, these poems are a book. Although not on the same theme, they have a definite kind of pattern running through them. Nowadays so many people put 40 or 50 poems together and publish them but this doesn't make a book. The thing about Anthony Naumann is that his poetry is not obviously a blind man's work—other blind poets, even Milton towards the end of his life, showed a decreasing visual memory. Naumann's use of visual imagery is vivid. Most of all he is consistently good. One often finds in reading poetry a line which makes one wonder 'How could a poet of his talent write such a line?' In Anthony Naumann's work I have never found anything that jars or is out of key—an amazing achievement".

On 9th November in the Court Room of the Royal Scottish Corporation in the City of London Anthony Naumann received his presentation, a gold plated butter dish in the form of a shell.

It is the second year of these awards by *Manifold*, which are made also for achievements in international communication in poetry, the best edited anthology and other works in prose and poetry. The first winner of the Poetry Book of the Year was George McKay Brown, the Orkney poet who later received a Society of Authors travelling scholarship for the same work.

After the presentation Anthony Naumann was not resting on his laurels for he went on to take part in a poetry reading, where in addition to Blake's "Jerusalem" and Dylan Thomas's "Herne Hill", he read one of his own poems from "Now Has My Summer" entitled "Over My Shoulder" which we reproduce here.



Anthony Naumann.

Photo: Surrey Advertiser

Over my Shoulder

I would not wish to hear the echo
Of my green laughter,
Because it hurts so,
Nor see again my upturned castles of sand;
I dare not remember the rampart disaster,
It slowly crumbling under the sea's green
hand.
I cannot carry those six songs of sorrow,
One for each year, the voice now too faint,
Yet I was as bright as my pocket sixpence,
As clear as my yard deep stream.
When it sounds bluebells, they will be
borrowed chimes,
And my heart will long for the hills that I
gathered,
One summer dream in each Surrey day.
Idle that boy was, too lackadaisy,
Pitchforking thistle hay between the wood
shoulders,
Whistling the old horse out of his noonday
sleep.
I will make an end now because it hurts so,
With a tired fair boy trudging home with
the hay
As dusk slowly drowns in the dark.



St. Dunstaners who attended the handless reunion photographed with Lord Fraser.

HANDLESS REUNION

by
BILL GRIFFITHS

On Thursday, 17th October, our 9th Handless Reunion was launched in traditional style in the Winter Garden Canteen, with a delicious dinner, and an address of welcome from Commandant on behalf of Matron and all the staff, and to my colleagues and the wives and escorts. This initial get together always sets the high tone and friendly atmosphere of the whole Reunion. Before we dispersed for our particular choice of relaxation to round off the evening, Dickie Richardson gave the vote of thanks and also aptly proposed the toast, "Absent Friends", and this year we had in mind our dear friend and colleague, the late Geoffrey Preston, whose cheerful countenance was always so reassuring.

On Friday with Miss Dagnall as our hostess, we made the trip to Chartwell, home of the late Sir Winston Churchill. Our official and charming guide was Mrs. Broom, she swept us through the house with consummate ease, explaining, describing and commenting upon the innumerable honours, medals, trophies and gifts bestowed upon Sir Winston, and we soon captured the feeling of his mighty personality, and an awareness of the

historic, momentous decisions taken here, speeches written, and interesting, humorous conversations that must have taken place over the years. After a picnic lunch in the coach we departed for Ovingdean, stopping en route at Wyndham's Farm for a cream tea, where Joseph Loska must have been a little perturbed on hearing that his wife's handbag was missing, however, all was well, for my wife had inadvertently grabbed it after chatting with

them. In the evening some of us went to the Theatre Royal, whilst others located their own venues for entertainment.

On Saturday for the first time, Miss Scott took charge of our little party to Kempton Park Races, we stopped half way for refreshments, where Dickie Brett humorously kept Miss Scott on the alert with his witty conversation. We arrived at the race-course with ample time to study form and enjoy our picnic lunch. Before placing our bets, we all made our way to the paddock to inspect the horse of our choice, Stan Southall took a fancy to the grey one, fortunately for him, it won. The weather was excellent, allowing us to stay in the open air all afternoon, which gave us an appetite for a quick snack in the coach before our speedy return to Ovingdean, for our family party in the Winter Garden commencing at 7.30 p.m. The canteen staff excelled themselves with the buffet supper which consisted of a variety of savoury tasties, sandwiches, dainty sweet delicacies, and an assortment of liquid refreshments, Commandant, Matron and staff waiting upon us admirably.

Charlie Kelk

Amongst the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Banks, and Miss Ramshaw, we were all delighted too, that our colleague Charlie Kelk who has been ill recently, was able to spend the evening with us and we wish him a speedy complete recovery. There was no shortage of entertainment during the evening and it was all homespun, our V.A.D.'s Miss Brown and Mrs. Metcalfe sang delightful solos, Gwen Obern and Winnie Edwards sang two duets, and Alice and I made a little contribution with Henry on the drums, and Horace and Miss Dagnall at the pianos, who also recited an interesting story set to music. The area set aside for dancing too was seldom empty, and occasionally to avoid collisions we had to be shepherded around by Matron and company. Later on we had a few seconds silence for the defeated Manchester United and their fanatical supporter, Bill Wrigley. This wonderful evening was brought to a close with Joe Britton saying "Thank you" to Commandant, Matron and staff on behalf of us all.

On Sunday activity opened up unusually briskly with a rifle shooting competition arranged by Jock Carnochan; it was won

decisively by Dickie Richardson, with the remarkably high score of 51, out of a possible 60, I was 2nd with 33, and David Bell 3rd with 30.

After morning coffee my 12 colleagues and I assembled in the Winter Garden under the able chairmanship of Ted Miller, to discuss and co-ordinate our various ideas and suggestions in preparation for our meeting with heads of departments the following day.

To Cuckfield

Sunday evening, along with our wives and escorts, we were transported to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Evan Cook of Cuckfield and we all remembered our first visit here three years ago, wondering if that memorable evening could be repeated. It certainly was. The same warm convivial atmosphere soon emerged, giving us that inner glow of general well being. All evening, refreshments that had been specially prepared for us were handed round, and liquid sustenance too. A professional artist, Miss Iris Gillet had been engaged to entertain us. She sang several humorous and original songs, with a parody on persons present, and of our little diversion on route there. (see verses p. 12) Later we were all given a little present: headscarves for Gwen and Winnie, ties, handkerchiefs, or socks for the men. At the end of the evening our chairman, Ted Miller, gave a vote of thanks with great sincerity to Mr. and Mrs. Evan Cook, and in appreciation of their generous hospitality, presented them with a table, made by a St. Dunstaner. We were a very happy crowd that boarded the coach back to Ovingdean, and en route we were serenaded by Wally Lethbridge. This outing was arranged by our stalwart supporter and ever faithful friend, Mrs. Dacre, to whom we extend our grateful thanks.

Conference

Monday morning we were in conference in the Winter Garden, with Mr. C. D. Wills and Mr. N. French in attendance, who gave us as usual, their invaluable help and advice and took note of our various difficulties, problems and suggestions. Lord Fraser and Commandant joined us in the afternoon, along with Dr. I. H. Fletcher, Ministry of Health, limb fitting centre, Mr. H. J. Houlgate, B.B.C., and Mr. R. Dufton, St. Dunstan's Research Director,

they also considered our numerous suggestions, answered many questions and enlightened us with the specialist knowledge and information.

The Reunion ended with a farewell dinner at the Metropole Hotel, Brighton; Lord Fraser accompanied by Lady Fraser presided and in his address referred to the excellent work done for the 19 handless and 50 other limbless St. Dunstaners, by the Ministry of Health Limb Fitting Centres and he then toasted our guests.

Replying, Dr. Fletcher expressed pleasure in attending the reunion and emphasised that he was always anxious to help limbless St. Dunstaners. We were pleased to welcome amongst our guests for the first time, Commander and Mrs. Buckley, Miss M. Mosley, Miss Guilbert and also for the first time Mrs. Wally Lethbridge, Winnie's son, Christopher, and after a gap of 8 years, Mrs. Stan Southall.

Lady Fraser presented the prizes for the rifle shooting competition and (on behalf of my colleagues and me) Ron Slade gave an eloquent, warm and effective vote of thanks.

After dinner we enjoyed a social hour, with Lord and Lady Fraser, Mrs. Dacre, Mr. A. D. Lloyds and all guests chatting with us, ending our reunion as it began, with a heartwarming St. Dunstan's family atmosphere.

CUCKFIELD REVISITED

- 1 Welcome my friends, welcome to all,
Have a good time, I hope it's a ball,
Just sit back and listen while I bend
your ear.
Then maybe you'll want me to come
back next year.

CHORUS:

Singing—So long, it's been good to
know you,
So long, it's been good to know you,
So long, It's been good to know you,
A long time since I've been home,
And I've got to be drifting along.

- 2 John Evan-Cook I say thanks to you,
And to Elizabeth your sweet Lady too.
A most genial host—I think you'll agree,
And thanks we all give with sincerity.

CHORUS:

- 3 Sheriff of London, City Alderman too.
Well deserved credits bestowed upon
you.

Also Sir, I believe, will remove anything.
Be it Elephant, Panda or bright
diamond ring.

CHORUS:

4. Justice of Peace, Elizabeth Dacre,
Hop into her car and off she will take
you (YUH),
But be prepared friends your tempers to
tame.
You might easily land in a dark
muddy lane.

CHORUS:

5. Here's Mrs. Blackford—alias Jean,
Matron to all a veritable Queen,
Never off duty she takes care of you.
So patient, so kind and hard-working
too.

CHORUS:

- 6 Two of the girls it seems I must mention.
To applaud them both was my
intention.
Gweny who's singing is sweet and so
clear,
And Winnie whose sons hold her so
dear.

CHORUS:

- 7 Now meeting you all has been a great
pleasure.
This memory of you—I'll always
treasure.
Courage you've shown me is your Code
of Life.
And you'll always do battle wherever
there's strife.

CHORUS:

- 8 Goodbye my friends, I say to you all.
Thank you for having me, it's been a
ball.
The words of the chorus it seems now
come true,
So one more verse and I'll say bye to
you.

CHORUS:

THANKS

TOM WILLIAMS of Portslade, Sussex, would like to thank all his friends who were so helpful and all those who wrote to him when he lost his dear wife, Mary.

FRANK REVIEWS

Last month Lord Fraser paid a tribute to the late Geoffrey Preston who reviewed new talking books for us over a period of many years under the heading "Nelson's Column". Now we are glad to say that Frank Hicks has agreed to review new books for us and this is the first of the series.

"Our London Office" by Thomas Armstrong, read by Stephen Jack. A book for a quiet week-end. Charles Crowther, younger son of the Yorkshire mill-owning family, has left the board of directors following a disagreement with his brothers on policy. He is now living in a Notting Hill rooming-house, and with a young chemist, has started to manufacture cosmetics. Hard work brings commercial success but when Charles discovers a plan to sell out the Crowther Mills his reaction is ruthless. The novel throws light upon the problem of drug addiction and the situation leading to the Notting Hill riots.

"The Wide Sargasso Sea" by Jean Rhys, read by George Hagen. This book is likely to prove of interest to those who have read "Jane Eyre" as the authoress attempts to reconstruct the history of Mr. Rochester's first wife, or so I have since learnt. A note of explanation would be useful in this case. Antoinette Mason grows up in the aftermath of the emancipation of slaves in the West Indies. She suffers a series of misfortunes including poverty, the burning of her home by the ex-slaves, the death of her brother and the resulting insanity of her mother. If the reader—understandably—assumes that there may be a happy ending, let me hasten to dispel that hope. Antoinette marries an Englishman and Charlotte Bronte has already given his side of the story. Now we have her's, in which she gradually sinks into madness, is shut away in the care of Grace Poole, and finally ends her wretched life by burning down the house and throwing herself from a balcony. You must draw your own conclusions as to who is to blame for all this. But I certainly would not recommend the novel for a cosy evening in front of the fire.

"Go, Said the Bird" by Geoffrey Cotterell, read by Anthony Parker. Terris, a conceited, hard-working able young man, sees his way clear to the top. But his hopes of marrying the boss's daughter are shattered by the war. He returns to find her married to another man, who is well installed as a director. Terris's own hopes of a directorship fade after the death of his boss, when he is relegated to the job of invoice clerk. The book, however, ends on a note of irony which leaves Terris feeling himself to be one up. Rather too many clearly-drawn characters tend to make this novel heavy reading. Incidentally, the language is often far too ripe for children's ears, although this is not mentioned at the beginning of the recording.

"The Man Who Was Magic" by Paul Gallico, read by David Broomfield. A true magician comes to the City of Stage Magicians, together with his talking dog. This is an enchanting book in more ways than one and suitable for children from nine to ninety.

Have you a Friend?

Jeanette, daughter of our St. Dunstaner, Squire Brooks of 33, Fordwich Rd., Welwyn Garden City, Herts, is hoping to emigrate to Australia; she has been through all the formalities and hopes to get a passage sometime in January. She is heading for Brisbane. Mr. Brooks wonders if any St. Dunstaners have friends or relatives there whom Jeanette might contact as she knows no-one at all in Australia.

Shaggy Dog Story

A Vicar visiting the theatre noticed at the end of the row a blind man and his guide dog. At intervals during the performance he observed the dog bursting forth with hearty 'Ha! Haas!!' which intrigued him. Afterwards he approached the blind man and said:

"That is a very intelligent friend you have there, I was surprised to see him laughing".

"Oh yes" was the reply "he enjoyed the play but he did not laugh nearly so much as when he read the book".

Christmas Quiz

For all the Family

Who Dun it?

1. What man returned to England on 26th May 1660 amid general rejoicing? How had he come to leave the country? Score 2.
2. Who organised a caucus race? What was there peculiar about it?
3. Which Queen of England ordered the execution of the Queen of another country? Score 1.
4. Which Bill is J. H. Williams? Score 1.
5. A man lost his strength by having his hair cut off. Who was he and who did this to him? Score 1.
6. Who was "bred en bawn in a brier-patch?" Who told stories about him? Score 1.

Outer Space

1. Which Nation first put a satellite into orbit? Score 1.
2. What was its name? Score 1.
3. Which nation first sent an animal into orbit? Score 1.
4. Was it a dog, cat or monkey? Score 1.
5. What was the name of the animal? Score 1.
6. Which nation first sent chimpanzees into orbit? Score 1.
7. What was the name of the most publicised American chimpanzee?
8. Which nation sent up an unmanned satellite to photograph the other side of the moon? Score 1.
9. Which nation put the first man into space? Score 1.
10. What was his name? Score 1.
11. Who was America's first astronaut to orbit the earth? Score 1.
12. Who was the first man to "walk" in space? Score 1.
13. Which nation effected the first rendezvous in space? Score 1.
14. What were the names of the spacecraft? Score 1.
15. Who was the first woman astronaut to orbit the earth? Score 1.

Which town in England gave its name to:

1. A wheel chair for invalids? Score 1.
2. A special quality of duck or duckling? Score 1.
3. A special type of bun? Score 2.
4. A special type of cake? Score 2.

Which towns are noted for:

1. Carpets? Score 1.
2. Pottery? Score 1.
3. The Beatles? Score 1.
4. Being the place of pilgrimage to visit the shrine of Thomas a Becket? Score 1.

In which town:

1. In which town was Shakespeare born? Score 1.
2. In which town was Drake playing bowls when the Armada was sighted? Score 1.
3. In which town is Lady Godiva said to have ridden through the streets without any clothes on? Score 1.
4. In which town is there a new Roman Catholic Cathedral shaped like a crown? Score 1.
5. In which town is there a splendid very modern Church of England cathedral? Score 1.
6. In which town is there a statue of King Alfred the Great? Score 1.
7. In which town is the place where the ancient Kings of Scotland were crowned? Score 1.
8. In which town is there to be found a zoo in Phoenix Park? Score 1.
9. In which town lived a Sheriff who was the chief enemy of Robin Hood? Score 1.

Literature and Poetry

1. Can you fill in the blanks in these quotations from Shakespeare?
"The quality of is not strain'd"
"If be the food of love, play on".
"This royal of kings, this isle".
"This earth of this seat of"
"I know a bank where on the wild blows".
"The cowslip tall, her be. Score 8.
2. When the poet Browning wrote:
"The little children's dower
Far brighter than this gaudy melon flower".
What flower is he talking about and what was the poem called? Score 3.
3. "The King sits in Dunfermline town,
Drinking the blood-red wine".
What did he order one of his sea captains to do and what was his name? Score 3.
4. "By thirty hills I hurry down,
Or slip between the ridges,
By twenty thorps, a little town,
And half a hundred bridges".
Who is supposed to be speaking? Where does the speaker finish? Who wrote the poem? Score 3.
5. "Twas the sound of his horn called me from my bed,
And the cry of his hounds has me oft-times led"
Who was the huntsman referred to in this well-known song? Where did he live? Score 2.
6. "I have some papers here" said my friend . . . as we sat one winter's night on either side of the fire, "which I really think . . . it would be worth your while to glance over. These are the documents in the extraordinary case of the Gloria Scott and this is the message which struck Justice of the Peace Trevor dead with horror when he read it".
Who is speaking to whom? Score 3.

Answers page 18

Letters to the Editor

From L. W. Cook of Folkestone, Kent.

I have given much thought to the question of lamp standards, bus-stops and the like. The point being, the materials used in their construction, i.e. concrete and iron mainly, and the question of colour.

Now in my experience, most of these are of the colour that blends with the pavement and they are usually of such a design that when semi-sighted people do bump into them they usually finish up with a nasty cut due to the sharp edges.

My point is this. Would it not be possible to have these posts made in rubber, the crude type, moulded as I assume is done in the motor industry and they could be so designed at the base that they could be bolted to a plate on the pavement. Rubber these days can be made I am sure to be flexible and at the same time rigid so that posts would even take the force of a car crashing into them, thus minimising damage in the event of a crash.

Perhaps our experimental department might have some suggestions to offer. While I have a plan in my mind's eye I have not the facilities for producing a scaled down sample and I certainly do not know the temperature at which this material would become fluid so that I could pour it into a mould.

Are there possibilities of eliminating the chances of visually impaired people like myself sustaining injury when bumping into these posts?

Our Director of Research—Richard Dufton remarks as follows:

There does seem to be a trend towards blending-down lamp posts, parking meter posts, etc. with the "stone-work" of the ordinary pavement, for obvious reasons. Many lamp posts are prefabricated concrete designs with natural finish, while parking meter poles are metal sprayed "aluminium" which on weathering is very

difficult to distinguish from the pavement and hence the planners may feel that they have achieved their objective.

It is hardly likely that rubber construction would be a solution as it would be too liable to damage by vandals, etc. and the problem of painting or restoring colour is probably severe. There have, of course, been a lot of developments in the plastic coating of steel but again the question of keeping plastic surfaces clean involves detergents and or some form of regular cleansing. Natural colours referred to earlier have an undoubted advantage here in addition to the inherent mechanical strength.

The one development that I have noticed concerns lamp posts of the metal variety. Some are being mounted on a rubber collar at the base to enable them to fall like a felled tree when struck by a road vehicle. This presumably prevents the engine being forced back into the travelling compartment, while the pole falls clear of the roof.

Finally, durability of pavement furniture seems to be a prime factor and, for the reasons stated, I think we will have to put up with these hazards. Mr. Cook might like to consider the advantages of the long cane technique, it is particularly well suited to the detection of pavement obstacles.

From Mrs. Margaret Stanway of Macclesfield, Cheshire.

Being blind I get mad when people ask my escort—not me—what I like or want.

Being deaf in one ear I get mad when I turn my head so that a person can speak into my good ear, only to find in nine cases out of ten the person turns her head so that she speaks into my deaf ear.

Having multiple sclerosis but being able to walk a little way I get mad when my escort pulls me back to the pace she thinks I should walk instead of letting me set the

pace. Also the people who will put my cup and saucer to my right, when I have just moved it to my left, because as my left hand is now stronger than my right, I find it easier to lift "a cuppa" with the left hand.

From Mrs. Doreen Thompson, wife of our St. Dunstaner, Leslie Thompson, of Gateshead, Co. Durham.

We thought you might like to announce that our twin sons, Robert and Phillip have been admitted to the Salford University, studying for an Hons. Degree B.Sc. Civil Engineering.

This completes the education of our four children. Bill, our eldest boy qualified as a chartered accountant just after his 21st birthday, our daughter, Helen, 21, on 10th October last, is a most competent wife and mother of a six weeks old son and now the twins at 19 have left the nest and only the two old-timers are at home, slightly bewildered and wondering where the last 25 years have slipped to. Such is life—but what a wonderful one it is!

From George Fallowfield, Welling, Kent.

When Love grows cold a fire will warm thee,
When friends have fled your pipe will cheer thee,
When you have no money and your purse is bare
You can sit and smoke without a care!

My reply to Weight Watchers

Weight-watching, stuff and rubbish! One should be as nature designed, fat or thin, heavy or light, because you cannot alter your height. Eat and drink when and what you like. Sleep during the daytime or at night. Whatever you do you should never take any notice of a clock or watch waving its hands about telling you when you should go to bed or get up. The Bohemian life is the one 100 per cent he-man joy and if you have any work to do, well do that when you feel like it, only if you *must*.

Happy Christmas to everyone.

Chess Championship

The Annual Chess Championship took place at Ovingdean the weekend 26th-27th October and was attended by eleven St. Dunstaners.

It was run in two sections and the results are as follows:

Senior Section

Winner: **George Fallowfield**
Runners up: **John Cruse** and **Roy Hyett**

Junior Section

Winner: **Joe Culshaw**
Runner up: **Ralph Preece**

It was a great disappointment that, owing to sudden indisposition, Mr. Bon-

ham was unable to adjudicate, and he and his wife were greatly missed. However, we were extremely fortunate in getting members of the Brighton Chess Club to come at short notice to adjudicate, and our thanks go to Mr. Leopold Winter, Miss Gammans, Miss Renwick and Mr. Julian Simpole, who between them covered the weekend sessions. Thanks also to Charles Kelk for coming to organise the opening session and it was nice to have him and his wife here for the prize-giving.

It is hoped that Mr. Bonham will once again run a Chess Instructional Weekend in the Spring, so please watch our *Review* for an announcement.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

Not to be read before pages 14 and 15!

There are no prizes but you can gain points with each question correctly answered. Maximum points 60.

1. Charles II, who had left England in 1651 after his defeat in the battle of Worcester in the Civil War.
2. The Dodo in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland organized a caucus race in which everybody had a prize.
3. Queen Elizabeth I ordered the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots in 1587.
4. Elephant Bill—he is the author of the book of that name, which describes his experiences with elephants.
5. Samson's hair was cut off by Delilah. (Judges xvi).
6. Brer Rabbit in the stories told by Uncle Remus in the book written by Joel Chandler Harris.

Outer Space

1. Russia, on 4th October, 1957.
2. Sputnik I.
3. Russia.
4. A dog.
5. Laika.
6. America.
7. Ham.
8. Russia.
9. Russia on 12th April, 1961.
10. Yuri Gagarin.
11. John Glenn on 20th February, 1962.
12. Alexi Leonov, on 18th March, 1965.
13. America, 15th December, 1965.
14. Gemini VI and Gemini VII.
15. Valentina Tereshkova.

Which town gave the name to:

1. Bath.
2. Aylesbury.
3. Bath. Chelsea.
4. Eccles, Banbury.

Which towns are noted for:

1. Axminster
2. Stoke on Trent.
3. Liverpool.
4. Canterbury.

In which town

1. Stratford-on-Avon.
2. Plymouth.
3. Coventry.
4. Liverpool.
5. Coventry.
6. Winchester. Alfred, King of Wessex had his capital there.
7. Scone.
8. Dublin.
9. Nottingham.

Literature and Poetry

1. Mercy, Music, Throne, Sceptre'd, Majesty, Mars, Thyme, Pensioners.
2. The buttercup in the poem "Home Thoughts from Abroad", by Robert Browning.
3. He ordered Sir Patrick Spens to sail "To Norway o'er the faem, The king's daughter to Norway, Tis thou maun bring her hame".
4. "The Brook" in a poem by Lord Tennyson. "The Brook" joins 'the brimming river'.
5. John Peel, who lived at Troutbeck, in the Lake District.
6. Sherlock Holmes to Dr. Watson in the story The Gloria Scott by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Score 60.

Between 50-60. Uncanny!

Between 40-50. Uncommon!

Between 30-40. Unenlightened!

Under 30. Unsatisfactory!

Under 30. Unprintable!

Bridge Notes

The Autumn Bridge Drive was held on Saturday, 26th October, at the London Club Headquarters. Despite a late cancellation we were able to muster eight and a half tables. Seventeen happy St. Dunstaners with their guests took part and enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon.

The results were as follows:

1st R. Fullard and Mrs. J. Armstrong
2nd R. Armstrong and Mr. A. Fields
3rd S. Webster and Miss Molly Byrne

The prizes were presented by Miss Vera Kemmish and as always the guests were appreciative of the prizes of various items made by our St. Dunstaners.

The ninth Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 3rd November and the results were as follows:

G. P. Brown and Miss Vera Kemmish	78
R. Armstrong and R. Bickley	66
R. Stanners and R. Evans	63
P. Nuyens and H. King	61
H. Meleson and F. Jackson	55
R. Fullard and J. Lynch	55

The best five results out of nine are:

G. P. Brown	385
R. Armstrong	381
R. Fullard	367
R. Stanners	355
P. Nuyens	355
M. Tybinski	348
Miss V. Kemmish	345
R. Bickley	341
R. Evans	325
H. Meleson	317
H. King	306
J. Huk	286
P. Pescott Jones	268
F. Jackson	258
J. Lynch	180

The first six named played in the final at Ovingdean on Sunday, 17th November for the Lord Fraser Individual Cup.

P. NUYENS



Welcome to St. Dunstan's

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

Dennis Beddoes of Birmingham became a St. Dunstaner on 12th August, 1968. He is a single man, who served in the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in the 2nd World War.

John Frearson of Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire, became a St. Dunstaner on 28th October, 1968. Mr. Frearson is married and served in the Royal Artillery in the 2nd World War.

STAFF RETIREMENT

Miss C. M. Kidman

St. Dunstaners will join us in our warm thanks to Miss Kidman who has just retired after 29 years service with St. Dunstan's and in our best wishes for her future happiness. Miss Kidman joined us in 1939 as secretary to the late Jock Boyd. Appeals Representative at Brighton and remained with him until his retirement in 1961. She was a wonderful secretary to Mr. Boyd, keeping all his records and papers in apple-pie order and giving him devoted and efficient help.

After leaving the Appeal, Miss Kidman took on the dual roll of part-time clerical duties to the Estate Department and part-time V.A.D. duties at Pearson House, where she quickly established herself amongst our Permanent Residents there. It is in this latter capacity that she will be greatly missed.

Parliamentary Questions

In the House of Lords over recent weeks Lord Fraser has asked a number of questions important to St. Dunstaners, and other severely disabled men. We reproduce here extracts from the House of Lords' (Hansard) reports of the matters raised.

Directory Inquiries for the Blind

On October 14th, LORD FRASER asked "whether the proposed new charge for obtaining numbers from Directory Inquiries will be waived in the case of blind subscribers who cannot look up numbers but who have had most courteous and free help in the past".

LORD BOWLES: I am obliged to the noble Lord for his kind reference to the helpfulness and courtesy of the directory inquiry operators. The special difficulties of blind persons will be taken into account when coming to a conclusion about a new special search service which is being tried out at Bournemouth, Dundee, Leicester, Putney and Southend. Directory inquiries continue to be handled without charge when the operator can find the number wanted reasonably easily from the particulars given by the inquirer. But when this is not so, and as an alternative to the present practice of terminating the inquiry, the operators at these places are now offering a special search by a separate operator at a charge of 1s. The aim is to test how far this new service will meet a public need and to help the Post Office to serve its customers.

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, I should like to thank the noble Lord for trying sympathetically to answer my Question, but, with respect, he has not answered it. May I ask him whether he is aware that the special difficulty of blind persons is this? They may not know the address and number. They may be alone in their homes for a long time, or may even live alone, and cannot readily get someone to look it up. Therefore, I feel—and I hope the noble Lord will tell me if he feels—that blind persons should have the full service free. I hope that that is what he will be able to arrange.

LORD BOWLES: My Lords, my right honourable friend, when this experiment is being considered, will certainly have the most sympathetic regard to the noble Lord's point. The noble Lord may be under a slight misunderstanding. This service does not apply anywhere in the country outside these five towns. Elsewhere everything is free and there are no special charges even for vague inquiries.

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, presumably it is the object to introduce this nationally.

LORD BOWLES: Yes, my Lords, that is so; and when this matter is considered my right honourable friend will consider most sympathetically the noble Lord's point.

Three Wheel Vehicles

On November 7th, LORD FRASER asked how many invalid three-wheel motor vehicles provided by the Health Service and the Ministry of Pensions are now in issue; how many are purchased each year, and what is the price of such a vehicle; and whether they have considered the alternative of

supplying a standard modest four-wheel vehicle, for which two or three of the big motor manufacturers might quote.

BARONESS PHILLIPS: My Lords, in England and Wales at September 30th there were 17,790 powered invalid three-wheelers on issue. About 4,000 are purchased each year; it is not customary to disclose Government contract prices. Small four-wheeled cars are already available to war pensioners who are eligible for invalid three-wheelers and to certain limited categories of National Health Service patients. The more general supply of four-wheeled cars instead of three-wheelers is essentially a matter of priorities in the allocation of the resources available for the further development and expansion of the Health and Welfare Services and is reviewed, along with other competing demands, from time to time.

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, I understand the difficulty that the Minister may have in stating a price, but it would surprise me if the price of a vehicle of a special nature, of which 4,000 are ordered every year, could possibly be competitive with a standard four-wheeled small vehicle of which hundreds of thousands are made every year and to which, of course, adaptations could be made. Will the Minister of the Department look at this figure to see whether my alternative suggestion is not in fact more economical for the nation as well as better for the disabled person.

BARONESS PHILLIPS: My Lords, as the noble Lord will know, the Ministers constantly have this question under review. I have had conversations about these three-wheeled vehicles with people who have put the same point as the noble Lord. I find that these vehicles are specially designed for the ease with which the disabled person can get into them and the ease with which he can store his own invalid chair in them, and the nearest type of standard car would not be easily adapted or suitable for these purposes. But once again I will convey to the Minister the noble Lord's comments, as this is constantly under consideration.

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, while thanking the Minister, may I ask her to present to the Ministers concerned that the view she has expressed, which I am sure she fully believes is not generally adhered to by the people concerned and that I also think that the price would be lower.

Artificial Limbs

Later the same day LORD FRASER rose to ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are considering the recent Report by the new planning unit of the British Medical Association and the Paper presented in January, 1968, to the B.M.A.'s Working Party on Mechanical Aids for the Disabled; and what steps they are taking to find out

whether better materials and better methods are in use in other countries. LORD FRASER said: My Lords, during the First War and up to the Second War Britain made probably the best artificial arms and legs, and other aids to disabled persons (Lord Fraser went on to refer to the experience of a friend in South Africa who, through Lord Fraser's intervention acquired an English made artificial limb. He later turned to one manufactured in Germany because he had found it "better, stronger, lighter and more functional"). Therefore, in January last, I was not surprised to read a Report, called the Fulford Report, Fulford is a surgeon, I understand, which was written in 1967 and which said that the British were to be criticised because their artificial limbs and other artificial aids were not as good as those manufactured in certain Continental countries and in North America. This Report was followed up recently by a paper written for a B.M.A. committee which emphasised the criticism of British aids for the disabled and our system in this country.

Chairman

Before accepting that criticism, before even commenting upon it, I will tell your Lordships of my own experience as Chairman of St. Dunstan's. There are among the blinded soldiers in this country some 50 who as well as being blind have got one limb. There are 21 grievously wounded men who as well as being totally blind have lost both their hands. All these 50 men are known to me, as well as the 21 others, and they are known to the people of Roehampton personally. Every one of them, especially the handless men, is dealt with personally by Dr. Fletcher and Dr. Jolly, who are both to be warmly praised for their kindness and skill over many years. Every one of those men goes to Roehampton from time to time to get an easement of a joint which is hurting, or a fitting which is rubbing, or to have an adjustment made, or to set a new limb. I have nothing but praise for the system as I see it at work.

The point is that I cannot know what is being done in Germany. Nor can the blinded soldier, or indeed any other ordinary ex-Serviceman, be expected to do what my friend can do—because, as I have said, he was rich and could fly round the world to get the best artificial leg possible. We cannot do that. Therefore the point of my Question is to ask Her Majesty's Government to do this for us and to give us an assurance that at least they know what is being done in Germany, or in Russia, or in the United States, and to let us know. If St. Dunstan's, with its experience, can be of any service in helping in this matter, and if the Ministry would like my mechanical engineer, who is a very skilled man (he is not of course at Roehampton, but is in St. Dunstan's) to help the surgeons or doctors when they go to Germany, or to the United States, or anywhere else, we will gladly pay for him.

BARONESS PHILLIPS replied: I cannot claim that our methods and our aids are incapable of improvement—indeed, no Member of Her Majesty's Government would do so—but we shall be considering very carefully the many ideas that are put forward in the Report. I noted that the noble Lord, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, expressed disagreement with the criticisms of British artificial

limbs and mechanical aids when he recently addressed a St. Dunstan's conference at Brighton and, if I may say so, I am grateful to him for the expression of this view.

One of the recommendations of both the Report and the Paper is that the method of producing artificial limbs should be changed. At present, limbs are manufactured individually for each patient, necessitating in turn measurements, partial manufacture at a factory, fitting, completion at the factory and final delivery. The recommendation is for a much greater use of prefabricated parts, so that the finished limb can be produced within a few days, sometimes even on the day of measurement.

Prefabrication

My Lords, prefabrication is not a new idea, but specifications need to be drawn up and various concepts tested. The Department's Biomechanical Research and Development Unit has been working on a project of this nature for just over a year, and will have prototypes ready for preliminary trial very shortly. At the same time, one of the firms under contract to the Department has been pressing on with its own version of a prefabricated limb. We have welcomed this initiative, and have encouraged it. When a prefabricated limb is generally available, opportunities could arise for a change in the administrative arrangements for providing it to the patient. The Report and Paper go on to argue strongly for the complete integration of the limb service with the Hospital Service; that is, for the provision of a team at a selected district general hospital in each region to look after every aspect of care for the patient from amputation to delivery of the limb and training in its use.

At present, as the noble Lord, Lord Fraser, will know, limbs are provided through 22 artificial limb and appliance centres in England and Wales administered directly by the Department, the patient being referred to the nearest centre after amputation. The advantages of medical attention by the same surgeon throughout are clear, and the Department has for some years been building its new centres in the grounds of general hospitals as a move towards closer working arrangements. Seven centres have been built, and another 15 are in hand. The extent of eventual integration has not yet been determined. We have time for experiment because there will necessarily be a transitional period of several years before the new limbs are acceptable to all patients, particularly those needing replacement of traditional, bespoke limbs. During this time, existing administrative and contracting arrangements will have to be kept going.

The noble Lord has asked what steps are being taken to find out whether better materials and better methods are in use in other countries. The Department relies in this field upon its Biomechanical Research and Development Unit at Roehampton. Its Director, who is a figure of world standing in this field, his deputy and his senior officers maintain contacts, both formal and informal—particularly, I would emphasise, the informal—through conferences, visits and correspondence, with research workers in other countries. The Unit holds seminars from time to time, inviting workers from abroad; and it runs an information service through the library at Roehampton. I do not think there is any doubt but

that the Unit is aware of all worthwhile research being conducted abroad, and is quick to decide upon the scope for the introduction of improved materials and methods in this country. The noble Lord, Lord Fraser, will probably know that the Unit is now producing its own Bulletin, describing the work done at Roehampton and at other laboratories collaborating with it, and I have a copy with me which makes reference to some twenty different schemes in great detail.

Perhaps I could now just turn briefly to the remaining major points in the Report, which was not restricted, of course, to artificial limbs. I think the noble Lord, Lord Fraser, would agree that there are two main criticisms—First, much of the equipment furnished is clumsy and old-fashioned; and, secondly, its delivery to the user is often inordinately delayed by a slow and cumbersome administrative procedure.

There is clearly a need, which the British Medical Association Report recognises, for closer co-ordination between the different parts of the services responsible for supplying aids. This is one of the themes of both the Seebohm Report and the Green Paper on the structure of the National Health Service. There is also a sub-committee of the Standing Medical Advisory Committee looking at the question of rehabilitation, and I have no doubt they will have something to say about ways in which the provision of aids might be improved. But while we must do what we can to cut out duplication of effort, we must bear in mind that it is important for a person to be able to get help from the part of the services with which he comes into contact.

War Pensions

On November 12th, LORD FRASER asked Her Majesty's Government whether it is their intention when considering legislation "to increase the pensions of retired members of the public services and their dependants" (as foreshadowed in the gracious Speech) also to increase the pensions of retired members of the Regular Forces and their dependants; and war pensions and allowances.

THE PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE, R.A.F. (LORD WINTERBOTTOM) My Lords, the Question deals with two classes of Armed Forces pensioners. So far as Service pensions for retired members of the Armed Forces and their dependants are concerned, your Lordships will recall that increases in Armed Forces pensions are made under the Royal Prerogative, whereas increases in public service pensions require legislation. We intend that, as in previous years, increases in pensions for the Armed Forces should follow whatever pattern is laid down for the rest of the public service in the legislation foreshadowed in the gracious Speech.

As to war pensions and allowances, increases are made separately under War Pensions Instruments and, as my noble friend Lord Bowles told the noble Lord on May 21st, 1968, my right honourable friend the Prime Minister indicated that a further general uprating could not be undertaken before at least the autumn of 1969. I would remind the noble Lord that substantial increases were made a year ago, and I would add that the real value of benefits has increased 12-13 per cent.

since the present Government took office in October, 1964.

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, while acknowledging with thanks what has been done, may I ask the noble Lord whether he is aware that the basic war pension is already at this date 6s 10d. below what it might be expected to be if account had been taken of the cost-of-living rise; and that if the allowances which go to a great many of the men who are most severely disabled are also taken into account, then the deficiency is more like 12s or 13s, or even 22s? That being so, will he assure us that the Chancellor will make provision in his Budget so that during the forthcoming year these deficiencies may be made up?

LORD WINTERBOTTOM: My Lords, the noble Lord is of course quite correct in that the time for consideration is at Budget time next year. I have said that a general uprating could not be undertaken before at least the autumn of 1969, in the next Budget year. I will bear in mind what the noble Lord has said and will convey it to my right honourable friend the Secretary of State.

LORD INGLEWOOD: My Lords, may I ask the noble Lord this question? Are we to understand, both from his original reply and from my noble friend's supplementary, that even after a 13 per cent. rise in the basic cost of pensions those who receive them are still less well off, thanks to the drop in value of money over the last two years?

LORD WINTERBOTTOM: No, my Lords; I did not say that. In point of fact, the pensioners who receive this benefit have still had an abortive increase.

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, the noble Lord said that there had been an absolute rise in war pensions. That is true. But there has not been a relative rise. That is the point.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Dunkirk Veterans' Association

You may remember my article in one of last year's *Reviews* about my visit to the Dunkirk Beaches where the Pilgrimage is held each year during the Whitsuntide weekend.

There must be quite a number of St. Dunstaners who are eligible to become members of the above association who are not aware of the fact, so if any of you served in France during 1939-1940, I would be pleased if you will contact me and I will send you the addresses of our 23 branches and also the application forms to join. Please send a stamped, addressed envelope. My address is:

**Mr. C. Womack, 62 Winchester Avenue,
Leicester, LE5 1AY. Telephone number:
Leicester 824042.**

Club News

Brighton Club Notes

IMPORTANT

The Annual General Meeting of the Brighton Club will be held on Thursday, 12th December, 1968. All St. Dunstaners in the Brighton area, with escorts, are cordially invited.

FRANK A. RHODES
Chairman/Secretary

Cardiff Club Notes

On Saturday, 2nd November, the annual general meeting of the club took place and the following members were elected:

Chairman	Bert Evans
Secretary	Don Stott
Treasurer	Reg. Parsons
Committee	Charlie Durkin
	Rufus Jones
	Percy Blackmore
	Frank Bell

Mrs. Parsons who has over the past years looked after the refreshments for us has very kindly consented to continue the good work.

On behalf of all the club members and their wives, Charlie Durkin offered congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bert Evans on the birth of a granddaughter and also asked them to convey our sincere good wishes to the parents, Jane and Brian.

We played our usual games of dominoes, crib and bingo, and Bert Evans and Frank Bell won the dominoes and Reg Parsons the crib.

D. STOTT,
Secretary

Midland Club Notes

The activities of this club still proceed quite well. On Sunday, 22nd September we paid our usual visit to Stratford-on-Avon and as the weather was good we had a pleasant walk round the town before tea. The Ladies Section of the British Legion had arranged a lovely tea for us which we all enjoyed. As the evening turned out wet we were all glad to extend our stay in the British Legion Club. The wives and escorts of our members enjoyed the "one-armed bandits" getting two jack-pots during the evening!

On Sunday, 19th October, we had a good concert and buffet at the Kings Arms, Harborne. A coach load of friends from the Austin British Legion joined us and we had an excellent young singer with his pianist to entertain us together with a young male trio.

We have also had two club meetings. The first on Sunday, 13th October, this was our Annual General Meeting. All the Committee were re-elected for the third time. (They must be good!). Mrs. J. Cashmore arranged a most delightful tea for us for this meeting.

The other club meeting was held on 3rd November. Several games of dominoes were played off allowing us to reach the semi-finals of the doubles competition, which we hope to play off soon. We also ran a "Bring-and-Buy" sale to bring a few shillings into the club coffers and this it did very successfully. The details were announced at this meeting for the Christmas Party and the Christmas dinner, both of which are in December. The tea for the November meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. M. Cross and very excellent it was too!

Club News

It is with deep regret that I had to announce the death of our old friend and club member, Alf Williams. Alf has been a very good attender with his wife at all our club meetings for a number of years, and we shall miss him. Floral tributes have been sent from the Midland Club. We offer our deepest sympathy to his widow.

D. E. CASHMORE,
Secretary.

London Club Notes

Our October Football Pontoon Sweep was jointly shared by Miss V. Kemmish, Mrs. W. Harding and R. Stanners. The "Booby" was won by G. Stanley.

In the semi-finals of the Sir Arthur Pearson Fives and Threes Domino Knock-out Competition, W. Harding won his game from G. Stanley and R. Fullard was successful over W. Miller. In the final W. Harding gained his majority over R. Fullard. Well done, Bill!

For the semi-finals of the Cribbage Competition G. P. Brown will play R. Bickley and W. Miller will play P. Nuyens.

Winners of our Domino Games in October were as follows:

- 3rd October 1. **J. Murray**
G. P. Brown
P. Nuyens
- 10th October 1. **G. Stanley**
2. G. P. Brown
C. Hancock
- 17th October 1. **J. Murray**
2. C. Hancock
- 24th October 1. **W. Miller**
W. Harding

- 31st October 1. **C. Hancock**
2. W. Harding
G. Stanley
W. Miller

Welcome to our new member Tom Mara, and we hope he will find friendship and enjoyment in the London Club.

Good Wishes

Once again the joyful season is upon us and it only remains for me to wish all our friends of St. Dunstan's a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

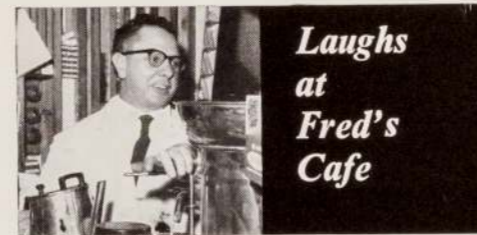
When I wish you a "Merry Christmas"

I'd like my friends to know,
I hope they will have more joy
Than words alone can show;
May everything that you may wish
This coming year come true,
May you have your share, my friends
Of wealth, health and happiness anew;
When holly and tinsel are put away
And Christmastide long gone,
May all the special joys it brought
For you, always linger on:

W. MILLER

TOP MARKS

Marion, daughter of C. D. PARKER of Grantham, Lincs, is a student at Grantham College and received a special prize in October, from the hands of the Director of Education, for her achievements over the past year, for the work she has done in her secretarial course.



Merry Christmas!

Olwen had gone off into one of her sullen tight lipped sessions again. "It's Dad's fault", was all we could get out of her but what I had done, no-one knew. Nevertheless, scowls and adverse comment were to the fore. It was while shaving with my Christmas gift—a cut throat razor the truth came out.

A little sob drew my attention to Olwen who had sidled up to me dressed in one of her Christmas gifts—a nurses outfit.

"Mum" she bawled, "he's doing it again".

"Doing what?" I asked.

"You won't let me play REALLY with my nurses outfit—and he's got a new razor to do it!"



Our St. Dunstaner, Manny Corbettis of London, S.E.24, has successfully passed his Silver Medal Test for Ballroom Dancing. He took this test at the Grafton Ballroom, Dulwich on 6th October 1968 and our photograph shows him receiving his certificate from the President of his Dancing School together with his partner.

Family News

Births

On 16th October, 1968, to Janet, wife of Jimmy Wright, of Shepperton, Middlesex, a son, Christopher James.

On 9th October, 1968, to Barbara, wife of Edward Pepper, of Cowplain, Nr. Portsmouth, Hants., a son, David Edward. A brother for Carol and Susan.

Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. C. DALE of Findon, Sussex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 9th November, 1968.

Sincere congratulations to MR AND MRS. A. H. ROGERS of Barrow-in-Furness, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 23rd October, 1968.

Warmest congratulations to MR. AND MRS. R. STANNERS, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 23rd October, 1968. Mr. Stanners tells us that two members of St. Dunstan's staff attended their wedding ceremony, Mr. Martin, Chief of the After Care Dept. and Mr. A. B. Hall, who acted as best man. They still have the silver teapot which St. Dunstan's presented to them on that occasion.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. F. WARIN of East Rainton, Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 16th November, 1968.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

G. EUSTACE of Chessington, Surrey, on the birth of his fourth grandchild on 12th October, 1968, when his daughter gave birth to a son, who is to be called Richard Mark.

Family News

A. C. EVANS of Newport, on the birth of his first grandchild. His daughter, Jane Smith, gave birth to a daughter on 24th October, 1968.

J. HARRIS of Stoneleigh, Surrey, announces the birth of his first grandchild—Matthew Phillip Dando, born to their daughter, Glenda, at Plymouth on September 28th, 1968.

R. HORNER of Holmfirth, Yorks, is a grandfather again, Gerald's wife having given birth to a son, Robert James, on 3rd October, 1968.

J. MASH of Jersey, Channel Islands, announces the birth of his sixth grandchild. Simon John Mash was born on 23rd July, 1968, to his elder son Maurice, and his wife, at Tidworth.

MRS. S. STOKES of Salford, has a second granddaughter, Lisa Jane, born to Carol on 20th July, 1968—a sister for Claire.

Great Grandfathers

Many congratulations to:

S. E. HUTCHINSON of Stockton-on Tees, who has become a great grandfather for the 10th time with the birth of Michelle to his granddaughter.

Esther, youngest daughter of J. DALY of Liverpool married Roy Prescott in Liverpool on 7th September, 1968.

Adrian Malcolm Halliday, second son of our St. Dunstaner, L. HALLIDAY of Saltdean, Sussex, married Miss Judith Nolan of Storrington, Sussex on 28th September, 1968.

Francis B. Inman, son of our St. Dunstaner, B. INMAN of Boreham Wood, was married to Ellen Gardner on 4th October, 1968, in Reading, Berks.

Linda Waring, only granddaughter of J. DIXON of Watford, Herts, was married to Michael Shanahan on 21st September, 1968.

Our St. Dunstaner, S. J. Fowler of Beeston, Notts, is very proud of his son John, who recently was awarded a Gold Medal in connection with his Junior Boys Brigade work.

Jack, youngest son of W. LEONARD of Hove, Sussex is now Deputy Station Superintendent of High Marnham Power Station the first of the new generation of large high power coal fired stations. He is a Member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers; and a Member of the British Institute of Management. In June this year he was elected Secretary to the Lincolnshire Branch of the B.I.M.

Arthur, "drummer" son of our St. Dunstaner, H. DAKIN of Blackpool, was invited to perform at the Royal Variety Command Performance, this year. Arthur's wife, Jacquie Stillwell, is a member of the Adams Singers and is appearing in the current Val Doonican T.V. Shows.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

P. APPLEBY of Luton, Beds, who mourns the death of his sister, Mrs. Rose Wright, on 25th October, 1968.

J. M. MILES of Folkestone, whose wife died in hospital on 18th October, 1968, after a serious illness.

G. SWADDLE of Dunston-on-Tyne, Gateshead, Co. Durham, who mourns the death of his brother, Andrew, on 7th November, 1968.

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.

George Armstrong Dawson. 10th Yorkshire Regiment.

George Armstrong Dawson of Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham, died on 29th October, 1968, at the age of 73 years.

He served in the 10th Yorkshire Regiment from 1914 to 1916 when he was wounded. His sight did not fail until 1934, when he was admitted to St. Dunstan's. He ran, for many years a wholesale Newsagents business from which he retired in 1963. To his daughters who cared for him devotedly we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.

John Cunnison. Royal Highlanders, Black Watch Regiment.

John Cunnison of Mere Valley, Scarborough, Yorkshire, died in hospital, on 9th November, 1968. He was aged 77 years.

He served with the Royal Highlanders, Black Watch Regiment, during the First World War and was wounded in France. He was, however, able to work until he was about 65 years of age and his sight only deteriorated latterly. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1966. He had been in failing health since mid-Summer and his death was therefore, not unexpected. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Harry Coad. Royal Air Force.

Harry Coad, of Earlestown, Newton-le-Willows, Lancashire, died in his home on 4th November, 1968 at the age of 74 years.

He served in the Royal Air Force from 1914 until 1919 and was the victim of a mustard gas attack. However, his sight did not deteriorate until later on in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1961. He did not undertake any occupational training due to his age but he enjoyed holidays at Ovingdean. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

James Edwin Gunn. 22nd Battalion Australian Imperial Forces.

James Edwin Gunn, of Gravesend, Kent, died on 26th October, 1968. He was 89 years of age.

He served in the 22nd Battalion Australian Imperial Forces from 1915 until his final discharge in 1920 but came to St. Dunstan's in 1917. He started training as a physiotherapist but had to give up owing to ill-health; and later on he was given a small poultry settlement on which he worked for a time. He and his wife settled in Gravesend, Kent, and enjoyed a quiet life with their married daughters living near them. During recent years Mr. Gunn's health deteriorated and he had to spend a period of time in the local hospital but was able to return home at the beginning of the year. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Albert Hinton. 6th Worcestershire Regiment.

Albert Hinton, of Malvern, Worcestershire, died in hospital on 28th October, 1968, at the age of 86 years. He had been staying temporarily at Pearson House, Brighton.

He served in the 6th Worcestershire Regiment during the First World War and was wounded whilst serving in France in 1917. He came to St. Dunstan's in that year.

He trained in boot repairs and carried on this occupation until his retirement in 1949, when he was able to devote more time to his garden and greenhouse. He was a widower and had been unwell for some time. To his elder son, who cared for him we send an expression of sincere sympathy.

William Edwin Morgan. 2nd Battalion, Welsh Guards.

William Edwin Morgan, of Eardisland, Leominster, Herefordshire, died in his home on 7th November, 1968. He was 83 years old.

He was a regular soldier serving in the 2nd Battalion, Welsh Guards from 1903 to 1921. He was wounded at the Battle of Loos. His sight did not deteriorate until later in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1964. Following his discharge from the Army he worked as a Sawyer for many years at a local Saw Mill.

He was a widower and to his four daughters we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.

Patrick Sheridan. 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers

Patrick Sheridan, of Wishaw, Lanarkshire, died in hospital on 12th October, 1968, at the age of 84 years.

He served in the 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers from 1915 to 1918 and was wounded in France. He came to St. Dunstan's in the same year. He trained in mat making, netting and boot repairing, and worked at these occupations for some time. He always enjoyed a visit to Ovingdean and attended the North Country Reunions when ever he could. He and his wife celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 25th September, 1968 and were the recipients of congratulations from the Queen. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Walter Price. 2nd Warwickshire Regiment.

Walter Price, of Meole Brace, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, died on 28th October, 1968. He was 75 years of age.

He served with the 2nd Warwickshire Regiment from 1914 to 1916 and he was wounded in France. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1916 and trained in basket making and wool rug work, both of these occupations he carried on for some time. He was enormously proud of a very beautiful garden and until latterly he very much enjoyed walking in the beautiful Shropshire countryside. He leaves a widow.

In Memory

Arthur Jenkinson. *12/13 Northumberland Fusiliers*

Arthur Jenkinson, of Sheffield, died in hospital on 19th October, 1968. He was 69 years.

He served in the 12/13 Northumberland Fusiliers from 1917 to 1918. He was wounded in France in 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's in that year. He trained in basket making and carried on this occupation for a few years. Unfortunately his health deteriorated and he had been in hospital for several years when he died. To his sister, Miss H. L. Jenkinson, we send an expression of very sincere sympathy.

Sydney Charles Smith. *5th Nottingham and Derby Regiment.*

Sydney Charles Smith, of Derby, died on 15th October, 1968 at the age of 74 years.

He served with the 5th Nottingham and Derbyshire Regiment from 1911 to 1918 and was wounded on the Somme. He came to St. Dunstan's in the same year and trained in mat making and boot repairing, both of these occupations he carried on for many years. He went into industry to help the War effort and retired in 1959. He had been in poor health recently and his death was not therefore, unexpected.

John Stubbs. *16th Manchester Regiment.*

John Stubbs, of Walton, Liverpool, died in hospital on 19th October, 1968, at the age of 68 years. He had been staying for some time at Pearson House.

He served in the 16th Manchester Regiment from 1917 to 1919 and was wounded in France in 1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1923 and trained in basket work and stool making, both occupations he carried on for some considerable time. During the 2nd World War in order to help the war effort he went into industry. His wife died in 1959. He had been in very poor health for some time and his death was not unexpected. He leaves a grown-up family.

William James Thompson. *Royal Garrison Artillery.*

William James Thompson, of Lower Broadheath, Nr. Worcester, died in hospital on 16th October, 1968. He was 74 years of age. He served in the Royal Garrison Artillery from 1916 to 1918 but his eyesight did not deteriorate until 1951 when he came to St. Dunstan's. He was a victim of a mustard gas attack whilst fighting in France in the First World War.

He always enjoyed holidays at Brighton and he and his wife celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1963. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Charles James Walker. *Royal Army Service Corps and 7th Middlesex Regiment.*

Charles James Walker, of Beckenham, Kent, died on 18th October, 1968. He was 76 years of age.

He served in the Royal Army Service Corps and the 7th Middlesex Regiment from 1915 to 1919 but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1930. Mr. Walker then set up business and continued with this for a number of years and this at one time included Newsagents work. During the Second World War, trade was less brisk so he worked in a factory whilst his wife continued to manage the shop. In 1947, having given up industrial work, Mr. Walker moved to a new business which was very flourishing but he retired from this in 1953 and moved to Beckenham. In 1957 his health began to deteriorate and gave cause for concern. He was devotedly nursed by his wife for a number of years until in 1962 when he became too ill to be nursed at home and was moved to Pearson House, Brighton, where he was visited regularly by his wife and family. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Hector Ernest Watts, D.C.M., M.M. *Royal Fusiliers, 1st World War. 2nd Battalion, A.I.F., 2nd World War.*

Hector Ernest Watts, of St. Leonards, Launceston, Tasmania, died on 19th September, 1968, at the age of 83 years.

He was born in Suffolk, England, and served in the First World War with the Royal Fusiliers, seeing service in India and France. He went to Australia in 1920 and enlisted again in 1939 with the 2nd Battalion, A.I.F. and was wounded in October 1941 and discharged from the Army in December 1943.

Mr. Watts, who has for some years been in failing health, is survived by his wife, Lydia. Their only daughter, who married, died in April, last.

Alfred Williams. *Worcestershire Regiment.*

Alfred Williams, of Ward End, Birmingham, died in hospital on 1st November, 1968. He was 68 years of age.

He served in the Worcestershire Regiment from 1917 to 1919 and was a victim of a mustard gas attack. His sight did not deteriorate until much later and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1961. He was able to manage a couple of holidays at Brighton and attended the Birmingham Reunions regularly. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.



Sammy Webster presents Lady Fraser with a bouquet of golden Chrysanthemums.

BRIDGE CLUB'S THIRTY YEARS

in competitions and matches. To all of these we pay our tribute and express our very deep thanks".

Paul Nuyens proposed the toast of "St. Dunstan's Bridge Club" coupled with the memory of Charlie Gover and our deceased friends: "Thirty years ago we started as a Bridge Club and when we look back on that time we remember the old ones, especially Harry Gover, better known to us as Charlie. He conceived the idea and in that year, 1938, some eighteen of our comrades came together and formed a little Committee. If I go back over those eighteen Members there are only five of us still alive, Frank Rhodes, Ted Slaughter, Jock Brown and myself, still playing, and Tommy Milligan, who gave up Bridge some years ago. We have had a very successful thirty years and now the time has come when one of you younger people should take over. I am very glad that you have nominated one of your younger friends and I sincerely hope that he will carry on for another thirty years like we did".

In her speech, Mrs. Gover said of her husband: "I am happy in the thought that he started this club which I know brought so much pleasure and happiness to all its members".

Play in the Bridge Congress at Ovingdean showed that our players are as keen as they ever were and the results of the 1968 tournaments appear overleaf.

At the Annual General Meeting held on Friday evening, 15th November, the following were nominated on to the Committee to take over on 1st January, 1969.

R. Armstrong, Captain and Secretary
R. Fullard, Vice-Captain
S. Webster, Treasurer

Other Committee Members:

Miss Vera Kemmish
L. Douglass
P. Nuyens
J. Whitcombe



Newly elected Captain Roy Armstrong speaking at the celebration dinner.

Afterwards Lord Fraser commented on Paul Nuyen's service to the Bridge Club in the following words:

"Lady Fraser and I want to place on record our gratitude to you for your leadership of the Club over the last four years, which we know has entailed a great deal of hard work.

"We wish the Bridge Club the best of good luck in the future".

Individual:

LORD FRASER CUP

1. R. Stanners
2. B. Ingrey
3. R. Armstrong
4. P. Nuyens

REGIONAL CUP

1. London
2. Brighton
3. Provinces

Individual (Eliminating):

GOVER CUPS

London: J. Brown
Brighton: B. Ingrey

Pairs (Eliminating):

1. N. S. R. Freer and G. Lynch
1. E. W. G. Gifford and J. Clare

Pairs:

SIR A. PEARSON CUP

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. V. Delaney | M. Delaney |
| 2. P. Nuyens | A. Caldwell |
| 3. F. Rhodes | E. Carpenter |
| 4. R. Armstrong | B. Simon |

Teams of Four:

SIR A. PEARSON CUP

1. V. Delaney and M. Delaney
V. Kemmish and T. Meredith
2. J. Huk and R. Gutowski
R. Evans and H. Ward
3. B. Ingrey and T. Woods
E. Carpenter and F. Rhodes

DRUMMER DOWNS CUP

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. R. Slaughter | R. Gutowski |
| 2. V. Delaney | P. Prescott Jones |
| 3. J. Clare | J. Carney |
| 4. A. Smith | P. Carr |

BRIDGE DRIVES

Sunday

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. E. Aldred | R. Goding |
| 2. R. Gifford | J. Clare |
| 3. J. Huk | R. Gutowski |

Monday

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. F. Dickerson | W. Lethbridge |
| 2. J. Chell | W. Burnett |
| 3. E. Aldred | R. Goding |

BEST PERFORMANCE FROM BEGINNERS

1. M. Stanway
2. E. Cookson
3. R. Pacitti