

JANUARY REVIEW



A NEW YEAR GREETING

THE GATEWAY OF THE YEAR

Here at the gate of the unlive year,
Stand still and call to mind,
The many happy memories
That Time has left behind.
Remember only what was good,
And say a thankful Prayer,
Before you take the unknown road,
That leads, you know not where.
Forget the troubles of the past,
Forgive what seemed unkind,
Let go of all your grievances,
And with a quiet mind,
Count the mercies granted you,
The undeserved reward,
The joys received,
The boons bestowed
The Blessings of the Lord,
And ask that he may make for you,
A pathway bright and clear,
So that you may safely pass,
The Gateway of the Year.

ANON.



COVER PICTURE:

This photograph from the Radio Times Hulton Picture Library captures something of the thrill of ski-ing described in Willi Hohm's article *Berg Heil!*

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 593 VOL. 54

JANUARY 1969

1/- MONTHLY

Free to St. Dunstaners

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The Game of Bridge

I learnt to play Bridge after I was blinded and have always enjoyed a game with friends so I was very pleased to be asked to attend the Thirtieth Anniversary Dinner of the Bridge Club a few weeks ago. Thinking of this very pleasant evening in retrospect I thought this month it might be a good idea to write about the game of Bridge and encourage those St. Dunstaners who are thinking of learning to play.

I commend Bridge to blind people and I would say that, even if you did not play when you could see, you should consider seriously starting now because there are not so many games and pastimes which you can undertake.

Bridge is a card game which is difficult to learn because the beginner must find three sympathetic friends who do not mind teaching him and putting up with his early faults. All the more credit goes to St. Dunstan's Bridge Club, which operates mainly in London and Brighton, for encouraging beginners and helping them.

Some may find Bridge too much of a strain after a hard day's work. This is not my experience: on the contrary, although it is an effort, it is a different kind of effort from the day's work and I find it in fact a relaxation.

However, a blind man must remember the Dummy, for it cannot be called over to him at frequent intervals, although he may ask for a reminder about a particular card or suit without embarrassing his fellow players.

Braille Cards

As a matter of historical interest, when I was first blinded I became Chairman of the Royal National Institute for the Blind's Inventions Committee and amongst other things, I discovered there were four or five different codes for marking Braille cards, all being made by the Institute for individuals. I accordingly codified the various systems, produced the present standard system and then presses were made so that a whole pack of cards could be marked at one time instead of each card having to be marked separately by hand.

Some players read the Braille with a finger. I personally prefer to hold the cards in my right hand and feel the Braille markings with my left thumb. I play what might be called reasonably good family Bridge but many St. Dunstaners play Club Bridge, which is of a much higher standard and some have won prizes. St. Dunstan's teams have taken part with credit in Open Competitions and Club Matches in London, Harrogate, Ilkley and elsewhere. In many places, especially country villages, Whist is preferred to Bridge and I know of a number of St. Dunstaners who excel at this game, which is basically similar.

I taught my daughter and my grandchildren to play Bridge when they were between nine and fourteen years of age and I am sure they have had a great deal of pleasure from the game ever since.

Apart from the intellectual and competitive pleasure which a good rubber of Bridge affords, it is a most congenial way of meeting your friends. I remember years ago going for a pleasure trip in a private yacht in Vancouver and the fog came down, so that we were marooned. Canadian St. Dunstan, Harris Turner, and his wife, were with us and we had no Bridge cards. With great difficulty, I Brailled an ordinary pack of cards, using a meat skewer and my thumb and, as bad as they were, we enjoyed a rubber or two.

Fraser of Lonsdale

From the Chairman's Postbag

From the Rev. Andrew Nugee,
of Lechlade, Glos.

Thank you for the article you wrote in the November *Review* on St. Dunstan's priests. Very kindly and well written, if I may say so. What a "Rogues' Gallery" those photos make of us parsons! I met Harold Gibb once or twice and thought him a very fine man.

From W. M. Jones of Southampton.

I wish to thank you for reminding Miss Rogers that I had expressed a wish to spend a couple of weeks at Ovingdean. I was there for two weeks in September and enjoyed every minute of it. There was, to me, every comfort and understanding with an anticipation of every want. I was there about three years ago to relearn Braille. I felt like one of the family.

I met so many people, "old" and "new", all very interesting. I will not presume upon your time to tell you about them but I brought back very many happy memories.

ROYAL ARMOURED CORPS MEMORIAL HALL

The R.A.C. Memorial Hall at Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset, will be opened on 12th April, 1969, by General Sir Charles Keightley, G.C.B., G.B.E., D.S.O., President, R.A.C. Benevolent Fund. Past and present members of the Royal Armoured Corps and relatives of the fallen will be welcome.

For further particulars and tickets apply:
Lt.-Col. C. H. Rayment, M.B.E. (Retd),
Secretary,
R.A.C. Benevolent Fund,
H.Q., R.A.C. Centre,
Bovington Camp,
Nr. Wareham, Dorset.

GROCCERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

We have received the following report from Mrs. M. G. Lillie, Hon. Secretary of the Entertainment Committee of the Brighton, Hove and District Grocers' and Provision Merchants' Association, and we feel sure that St. Dunstaners would want to thank her and the Committee most warmly for all the arrangements.

Wednesday, 4th December was the occasion of another mammoth Christmas party at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, given to St. Dunstaners by the National Grocers' Federation and organised by Brighton Grocers' Association under the chairmanship of Mr. K. S. C. Phillips.

A delicious meal of Christmas fare was eaten, at tables beautifully decorated in traditional style, to music by Percy Warden, who by reason of the numbers present had to play in the ballroom, the music being relayed to the dining room. This caused some concern as regards the loyal toast but owing to excellent timing he stopped playing just at the right moment. A member of St. Dunstan's Council, Mr. D. G. Hope-well, gave thanks to the Grocers on your behalf for their wonderful hospitality.

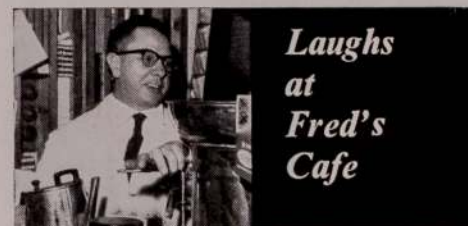
After the meal, everyone adjourned to the ballroom when dancing started in full swing and chocolates and cigarettes were given as spot prizes.

After a short "breather" a raffle was drawn by Mrs. Harold Smith, the wife of the Grocers' National President and this was followed by community singing etc., led by a local cricket club, interspersed with topical jokes, etc., more dancing followed and the evening finally finished at 11 p.m. with everyone tired but happy.

As well as the Grocers' National President, Mr. Harold Smith, who had travelled from Winchester to be present, presidents of various grocer's associations as far away

as Southampton, Portsmouth, West Sussex Huntingdon and London District Council attended, all of them bearing good wishes and help to Brighton Association.

On the following morning Brighton B.B.C. Radio news bulletin gave a resumé of the previous evening's entertainment.



Our Christmas Pudding

There was something wrong with our Christmas Pudding. It had been made the same way as we always make them, with the usual good number of sixpences added to the mix—but—when the pudding was turned out, instead of the usual firm basin-shaped Christmas pudding, a mass of bits and pieces tumbled out.

We wondered—had we made some mistake in the mix? Too much fat perhaps? The sixpences didn't seem so numerous either!

I wonder whether eight-year-old Olwen and her recent favourable financial status and her recent midnight trips downstairs (to the toilet, she claims) could throw any light on the Christmas pudding mystery?

FRANK REVIEWS

"The Mission" by Hans Babe, read by George Hagen. A convincing portrayal of a man's dignity in the face of oppression. Professor von Bender, world-renowned Austrian Jewish surgeon, is released from a Nazi jail, following an appeal by the Duke of Windsor. He is sent by the Gestapo to an international conference on refugees, bearing an infamous proposal for the ransoming of German Jews. Although reluctant he accepts this mission in the hope of saving at least some lives, but he finds that the conference is only interested in

Life's Simple Joys

by

T. Rogers

Arise with me to greet the dawn,
And share the joy of a day new born,
Delivered by nature from the womb of
night,
Unveiling for man his oldest light.

Now let us walk in earth's garden green,
And breath God's air still fresh and clean,
Sweet with the scent of flowers in bloom,
Drinking their fill of the morning dew.

Of the joy of that perfect hour,
Filled with the sound of the celestial choir,
Drenching the world with a musical shower
What human can hope those notes to
acquire?

Now Hermes in his wing'd flight,
Spreads the rare bouquet of fresh
ploughed earth,
Softly stirring those sun-kissed trees,
With leaves of gold in the summer breeze.

Where is the artist who capture can make,
Of that silver disc in its star-lit frame?
Or the ineffable beauty of that golden orb,
Bidding good-night to out tilting globe.

*Such are the simple pleasures of life,
Free to give and free to take,
When the mind and nature co-operate*

T. ROGERS

paying lip service to the cause of freedom. Offered sanctuary for himself and his family by the United States, he refuses this chance and returns to his fate.

"May We Borrow Your Husband" (and other comedies of the sexual life) by Graham Greene, read by Alan Line. A collection of twelve short stories, each reflecting a portion of human life. Some readers might question the author's interpretation of Comedy and think these tales rather sad. But few will find them unwelcome to the ear.

"The Wheelwright's Shop" by George Sturts, read by *Gabriel Wolff*. Written in 1920, this is the autobiography of a man who left school-teaching to take over his father's business. He describes with evident fondness the craftsmen he employed, the different woods and the various grains from which were fashioned carts, wagons, and wheels for all purposes. A relaxing book, if somewhat repetitive, nevertheless conveys a homely picture of the countryman and his crafts at the turn of the century.

"The Love Department" by William Trevor, read by *Alan Line*. A satirical book which concerns the tracking down and eventual come-uppance of Septimus Tuam, "Scourge of Wimbledon". If you have previously thought of "Agony columnists" as little, fat men with beer-stained shirts under their braces, you will not be too disillusioned by Lady Delores, who swigs neat whisky, removes her stays, and files them, presumably under the letter "S". That the young man she employs to hunt down the villain eventually decides to become a monk is hardly surprising. For although comic, this book fairly parodies life in that it is a little tedious at times.

Wakey Wakey, George!

W. Heath Robinson please note

by George Fallowfield

Before I entered St. Dunstan's, I used to repair broken Gramophone springs for friends and some of these motors were beyond repair, so I got a few old Gramophone motors and took some to pieces, got the gears soldered to Meccano parts and eight old bicycle free-wheels bushed and made a model tank, the old fashioned design, it had four of the free-wheels on each side and a bicycle chain for creepers. Being bolted together I took it to pieces when I left home and stowed all my junk away.

I was first living in a village 7 miles south of Hitchin, and a young chap who was goal-keeper for the village footer club (I was the trainer) used to call for me between 6 and 6.30 a.m., take me out

SIR ARTHUR PEARSON MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Chapel at Ovingdean was full on Sunday, 8th December, for the Service of Commemoration on the 47th Anniversary of the death of our founder, Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt., G.B.E. Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., read the Lesson taken from the New English Bible, Corinthians 1-13, in the service conducted by the Rev. D. M. Harper, M.A., Chaplain to St. Dunstan's. Our St. Dunstaner, Tom Taylor of Farington, Lancs, gave the Address, a précis of which we hope to print in our next *Review*. The flowers in the Chapel, pink gladioli, rose coloured chrysanthemums and small yellow chrysanthemum sprays, were beautifully arranged by Miss Tyzack, one of our V.A.D.'s.

On the morning of 9th December a party of St. Dunstaners accompanied by Mr. A. D. Lloyds, left headquarters in Old Marylebone Road and made their way to the Hampstead Cemetery to lay a wreath on Sir Arthur Pearson's grave.

Mr. R. G. Stanners of High Wycombe, Bucks, and Mr. N. D. Henman of Feltham, Middlesex, represented St. Dunstaners of the First World War and Mr. G. Jenrick of Wallington, Surrey, represented the Second World War men.

training for race-walking and to get up in time an alarm clock had to be set and this woke up a baby and toddler and upset the happy home so I set myself to invent a clock that would wake up only one person without making a noise and got my junk from home.

The first idea was like a 4 ft. pylon with a gear-box at the bottom. I wanted first to find out how to do the waking part, then add the clock part later. A string from the ankle went round these gears and up over a pulley and at the other end of the string was a Basket-maker's weight so that it would slowly go down at the appointed hour and put the sleeper's leg up. Unfortunately, the gears failed to function and the weight just dropped down. Next a

string from the wrist that would be wound-up and drag the arm till one was awakened but this interfered with Braille reading in bed and the old Gramophone was dragged on to the floor with noisy results!

The next experiment was a sort-of-Gas-engine with a camshaft, only the piston should have, when the motor started, poked the sleeper, only the sleeper moves about in bed and moves too far away or too near, so scrapped that one.

Now I was living in Leytonstone, London, E.11, and the house was wired for electricity and you can bet I asked the chap doing the job a lot of questions and now the idea was like an electric bell only

the hammer was like a long base drum-stick and should have beaten the sleeper until he awoke but like the Gas-engine device, it could miss the sleeper altogether!

Now things began to hum! I was given an old large office clock and soon after this a transformer. (I still have the latter!) I now started experimenting with electricity and the idea was, a bracelet on the wrist to vibrate or give a slight shock.

By this time the 2nd World War had started and I had other more important work to do it was just after the War that I told our Research Dept. of my bright ideas! Eventually Mr. French made the alarm clock for the Deaf and I have the first one he made here beside me.

Walking

Three Mile Handicap

"Wrap up", said someone in the dressing room, and we all obeyed, a wierder looking lot was never seen before in a walking race. Trousers, track-suits, sweaters, woollen caps and gloves. Ten St. Dunstaners and their escorts, all dressed up and 3 miles to go. Such was the scene at Ewell on November 16th, a most unpleasant day weather-wise.

Mike Tetley and Ted Bunting started together and stayed together throughout. They gave a thrilling race, with Mike getting away from Ted in the last few yards only.

Four-and-a-half Mile Handicap

The race on December 7th was a much quieter affair, for several of the boys were under the weather, which was still in a wintery mood. Escorts too were in short supply and Billy Miller had to manage without one.

It was good to see John Simpson and Stan Tutton getting back among the handicap prizes. Well done both of you.

COMING EVENTS AT EWELL

January 18th 6 miles handicap.
March 1st 7 miles handicap.

Three Mile Handicap

Name	Handicap Time	Allowance	Actual Time
Tetley	27.04	3.30	30.34
Bunting	27.14	3.30	30.44
Young	28.42	5.10	33.52
Miller	28.59	scr.	28.59 (FL)
Simpson	29.01	1.40	30.41
Tutton	29.04	5.15	34.19
Barratt	29.18	.50	30.08
Burns	29.20	5.50	35.10
Stafford	29.24	5.20	34.44
Mendham	30.14	scr.	30.14

Four-and-a-half Mile Handicap

Order of Time	Handicap Time	Allowance	Actual Time
Simpson	42.49	2.20	45.09
Tutton	43.03	8.05	51.08
Barratt	43.33	1.40	45.13
Miller	43.55	scr.	43.55 (FL)
Bunting	44.07	2.25	46.32
Stafford	44.14	8.45	52.59
Young	44.36	7.35	52.11
Tetley	46.01	2.15	48.16

W. MILLER.

Brighton Club Notes

The first club meeting of the New Year will be held on Thursday, 9th January, and I hope all members will be able to join us. The full report of the Annual General Meeting will appear in the February *Review*.

FRANK RHODES
Chairman/Secretary



Willi Hohm, author of this article, photographed with Dr. Josef Klaus, Chancellor of Austria. Willi will be remembered as our International Sports Champion.

Berg Heil!

In 1945 I became blind after an injury suffered during the war. I was not yet 21 years of age and in my sleepless nights I pondered over my fate and my dark future. I also tried to figure out what kind of sports I might be able to continue as a blind man. I had been a member of a gymnastic club as a child and sporting activities were not only in gymnastics on the apparatus but also in swimming, field and track events and ski-ing. As I had been very active in these sports at the beginning of my military service, I could well imagine in those hard days that as well as indoor gymnastics, athletics and swimming, ski-ing would be possible for me under certain conditions. I developed my own theory and thought that ski-ing would not be too difficult for me on a slope which I still remembered well.

I made my first attempts to ski blind in the winter of 1946 and as so often, practical experience differed greatly from theory. I realized that I had conceived ski-ing as a blind man much easier than it proved to be. In the first few yards I lost my balance and fell down. This incident showed me that I had overlooked important details in my theory. I did not know how to estimate my own speed and the angle of inclination of the slope so that it was extremely difficult for me to keep my balance. I tried again and again and after many falls, I acquired the feeling to calculate those unknown factors. As often as I had a chance I practised on the slopes of the Vienna Woods which are sufficient for modest ski-ing. Since I made quick and

considerable progress I endeavoured to find better conditions for my ski-ing.

By 1949 I was so advanced that I participated in an ordinary ski-ing course with my wife in the Ramsau, a very beautiful ski-ing area around the Dachstein, a mountainous range in the Federal State of Styria. Under the guidance of a ski instructor I improved my technique and the other participants could not believe that there was a blind man amongst them. I had, however, the privilege of following immediately behind the instructor, who guided me by means of his voice. From our experience we developed our own technique of guiding by sound which I still use today. If you have to rely only on your hearing ability when ski-ing you notice for

the first time the loud noise of the edges of the skis gliding down the snow and how difficult it is to understand words. This difficulty is aggravated by the wind usually blowing from the mountains plus the air current caused by the speed of the skier. I discovered that vowels are best understood under these circumstances and especially "a" (as pronounced in father) and "e" (as pronounced in bed). Ski-ing for me, on a practice slope or in the mountains, is only possible with a skier gliding down in front of me. It is done in the following way: During the traverse the skier in front shouts at short intervals "geht-geht-geht" (pronounced like "get", but with a long vowel) and at the spot where he turns "happ" (the vowel pronounced in "cup"). I usually follow at a distance of 3 to 6 yards and concentrate on his shouts. As soon as I hear his "happ" I calculate my distance from him, and also estimate his and my speed and the time it will take me to reach the spot exactly where he turned. Before I reached this spot I can already hear his "geht" disappearing in



the other direction. Thus I can calculate the angle of my turn in order to follow him as exactly as possible. This technique enables me to accomplish difficult ski-ing in high Alpine regions.

Kühtai

By 1955 I was so advanced in my technique that my ski-ing was rated as above average by experts. That year I went with my wife to Kühtai, the famous ski village in the Tyrol. In the meantime the ski-ing technique had been revolutionised and in Kühtai nobody practised my style any longer. In order to acquire the new style I had not only to start again in the beginners' course but also to bear the handicap compared with the real beginners of trying to forget the old style which had already become second nature with me. I was surprised not to find too much difficulty and soon I found myself in the advanced group. Individual downhill ski-ing I did under the guidance of an instructor so as not to slow down the speed of the other skiers on my course.

I have already mentioned that my guide has to be very efficient and his main qualification must be to have the necessary gift of empathy. He has not only to lead me by means of the human voice but he must also choose the most suitable terrain while gliding down, to adapt his speed to mine and to take care that no other skier bumps into me and of course, his voice must be powerful.

Günther Stärker

I have been with many ski instructors in the various regions of Austria, yet I must mention especially one, namely my friend Günther Stärker who comes from Grinzing, the same district of Vienna as myself. He taught in the world famous ski school Kitzbühel for seven years, he was a member of the Himalaya Katakorum expedition in 1960 when he managed to climb the summit, Distaghil Sar, 25,567 ft. for the first time with his friend Dieter Marchart. For five years he has run his own ski-ing school in the U.S.A. and whenever he returns from the States in Spring, he accompanies me into those high Alpine regions where ski-ing is possible between May and August. He helped me to experience my most impressive down-



hill ski-ings. For instance, we spent our ski-ing holidays on the Weisse, the famous ski area of the Hohen Tauern. During the two weeks of our stay dangerous avalanches around our area hung on the slopes so we could only use the practice slope. On the evening of the last day of our stay the sky suddenly cleared and we enjoyed a starry, yet very cold full moon night. We took advantage of the new weather conditions which made it possible to climb up the steep snowy slopes in order to reach the summit of Sonnlick, 10,025 ft. At about 11 p.m. we had set off from "Rudolfshütte" (the chalet where we stayed) and soon reached the foot of the slopes. We fixed our seal skins on our skis and started the ascent. At 4 a.m. we stood on the peak after climbing for about half-an-hour. For my own security my friend had fastened me to the rope. Standing on the summit we shook hands and Günther described the seldom experienced opalescence of the rising sun. We could see the stars above us while the sky in the West was still of a rich darkness. I had a happy feeling for it does not happen too often that a blind man has climbed a mountain more than 10,000 ft. high. After a successful descent I had the pleasure of downhill ski-ing in virgin snow.

Since that time I have been able to make many ski-ing tours. For instance, I climbed the ski-ing slopes of the Marmolada twelve times during a fortnight's stay

in that region. From approximately 10,000 ft. you start to go down hill, and once during that stay while the weather was especially suitable, my friend and I climbed the peak of the Marmolada known as the "Queen of the Dolomites" in Italy.

Since the glacier region of the Kitzelhorn in Salzburg has been opened for skiers by means of cable cars I have experienced many happy and, for a sportsman, satisfying hours. I also reached my limit in ski-ing there.

Though the Broadcasting Company of West Germany interviewed me for a quarter-of-an-hour last year, our television company showed me ski-ing this year, and presumably the television company of West Germany will telecast a film about my ski-ing this winter, I ski only for my own pleasure hoping that there will be others who follow my example. I hope to have many more happy experiences in my beloved mountains in the future.

Berg Heil! (mountaineers' greeting)
WILLI HOHM

STAFF RETIREMENT

The many St. Dunstaners who have visited Headquarters during the last nine and a half years will have been greeted by Mr. J. O'Connell who retired in mid-December and they will want to wish him every happiness in the future.

Mr. O'Connell has been succeeded as head porter by Mr. J. L. Neary.



It Strikes Me

Tears and Laughter

A visit to Lewes Gaol was one of the engagements arranged by Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, J.P., for Bill Griffiths when he and his wife were in Brighton for a week at the end of November. After the Governor had made the introductions, Bill Griffiths spoke for fifteen minutes about the work of St. Dunstan's to 60 young male prisoners on long term security sentences. Bill's audience was told that he could identify himself with them because, after he had lost his sight and both his hands in a booby trap explosion in Java, he had spent three-and-a-half years in a Japanese Prisoner-of-War Camp. The audience was greatly moved by the talk and some of them wept. Then Bill and Alice sang for half-an-hour. The concert included "Bless this House", introducing which, Bill drew attention to the line "Bless these walls so firm and stout". This, he thought, should please the Governor and he suggested that the words might be followed by an additional line, "When you get in you can't get out". Laughter from the audience almost raised the prison roof. At the end of the programme the applause was thunderous and prolonged. Said Bill later on, "We will go to prison anytime. It is a worthwhile experience. They give us such a wonderful welcome and make us feel at home".

One the Immigration Officers missed

A St. Dunstaner tells me that his wife refuses to wear her fur coat because the style is out of fashion. The lady arranged to meet her daughter in a Mayfair street a few days ago. She was wearing an old tweed coat, boots and a new head-scarf. Her daughter, who has perfect sight, failed to recognise her mother until the lady waved. "Oh", said the daughter afterwards, "I wondered who the old Russian peasant was coming towards me".

MAGOG

Bridge Notes

Christmas Bridge Drive

The annual St. Dunstan's Bridge Drive took place on Saturday afternoon, 14th December, when St. Dunstaners fore-gathered to play, partnered by sighted friends.

Thirteen tables had been arranged for this popular event and our 'boys' came, not only from the Greater London area but from places as far away as Eastbourne, Brighton, Newbury, High Wycombe, Ipswich and King's Langley.

At the end of play, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Lloyds were welcomed by our captain. In his short address Mr. Lloyds, Secretary of St. Dunstan's remarked that it was quite a long time since he had seen such a large gathering and congratulated members of the Bridge Club for showing such great interest in the game.

Mr. Horstead of Waltham Forest, N.A.L.G.O., then announced the winners, to whom Mrs. Lloyds very graciously presented the prizes. They were:

R. Fullard and Mrs. N. Manby
R. Armstrong and Mrs. J. Armstrong
R. Evans and Mr. D. Deeley
H. Kerr and Mrs. Wright
P. Nuyens and Mrs. Lester

The Consolation Prize was won by R. Goding and Mrs. E. MacDonald. A special prize, given by Mr. Jack Armstrong, was won by R. Bickley.

Miss Vera Kemmish charmingly presented a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Lloyds. She also presented Mrs. Smith, wife of Norman Smith our Club Manager, with a potted azalea plant as a token of our appreciation for the voluntary work she had done, with her helpers, during the year in providing well chosen refreshments at our meetings.

And now, this being my last gathering as Captain of the Bridge Club, may I put in a special vote of thanks to one member

of the Staff, who as steward of the London Club, has done so much for all of us. In fact, I would like to add, not only for the Bridge Club but also for the London Club and from all St. Dunstaners, who visiting Headquarters, have been able to appreciate his readiness at all times to give a helping hand. I am, of course, referring to "our Norman", Mr. Norman Smith. St. Dunstaners, like all old soldiers, seldom express their gratitude in many words whereas they soon make known their complaints! As I have never heard of any criticism, I know I can speak on behalf of all St. Dunstaners who have met him, that we all would like to thank Norman and send him our very best wishes for Christmas and for 1969. He is a "Grand chap" and so say all of us.

P. NUYENS



Welcome to St. Dunstan's

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

Albert Victor Hall, of Alresford, Hants, came to St. Dunstan's in October of this year. He is a widower living with his married son and served in the 11th Reserve Battalion, Machine Gun Corps, in the 1st World War.

Alan Gordon Noakes, of Fareham, Hants., joined us in November, 1968. He served in the Royal Navy for 22 years and was injured in an accident. He is married and has two sons and a daughter.

Thank You

To all St. Dunstaners at home and overseas, I would like you to know how very much I appreciate the good wishes conveyed to me this Christmas by the cards and calendars I have received from you. I hope you have all had a wonderful time with your family and friends and I wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

C. D. WILLS,
Welfare Superintendent.

Very many thanks to all St. Dunstaners who have sent me cards and calendars with their good wishes this Christmas, and I am sorry that it is just impossible to reply to them all personally.

I should like to take this opportunity, through the pages of the *Review* of sending you all my good wishes for the New Year to you and your families.

COMMANDANT,
Ovingdean.

Doctor John O'Hara thanks all St. Dunstaners and friends who have sent him good wishes for Christmas in so many cards. He is worried he cannot reply personally because of the large number who have written, but he is glad (through the medium of the *Review*) to be able to send his very best wishes to all St. Dunstaners and their families for their happiness at Christmas and in the New Year.

I am so glad there is this opportunity in the *Review* to thank all my St. Dunstan's friends who sent me Christmas cards and letters. I often think of you all—and your remembrance of me gave me a warm glow!

Best wishes for 1969.

PAT COLLINS,
Welfare Visitor (retired)

Mr. Peter Matthews would like to thank everyone who was so kind as to send him Christmas greetings and good wishes. Had time permitted he would have sent a personal note of thanks to the sender of each card but pressure of work has made this impossible.

On behalf of all Southern Area Staff, may I thank St. Dunstaners and their families for their numerous Christmas cards and gifts which have arrived in the office. We have also received greetings from relatives of St. Dunstaners no longer with us and we hope that our contact with many widows throughout the year, helps to comfort them.

May we wish you all a Happy New Year and thank you for your kind thoughts.

P. J. ROGERS,
*Southern Area Superintendent,
Welfare Department.*

I hope that you have all had a really happy Christmas and all of Northern Area join with me in wishing you all that is good in 1969.

I thank all of you most sincerely for the wonderful Christmas cards, calendars and gifts which have come into the office and brightened our post each morning recently, and only wish we were able to answer them all personally. However, through the medium of the *Review* I and my staff say thank you and send you our very best wishes.

M. A. MIDGLEY,
*Northern Area Superintendent,
Welfare Department.*

Thank you so much to all St. Dunstaners and their families who so kindly sent Christmas Greetings to Pearson House staff and to me personally. Good health and a very happy New Year to you all.

MATRON HALLETT,
Pearson House.

My staff and I very much appreciate the Christmas Cards sent to us and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking St. Dunstaners and their wives for their kind thoughts and good wishes.

We wish you all good health and happiness throughout 1969 and hope to see you at Ovingdean for holidays.

MATRON BLACKFORD,
Ovingdean.

Family News

Birth

On 28th October, 1968, to ROSE and SOBKI KHABBAZI of Tooting, London, S.W.17, a son, Daniel, a brother for Barry.

Marriage

VENESS-HART. On 16th November, 1968, William Victor Veness of Edgware, Middlesex, married Mrs. Betty Hart.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to MR. AND MRS. SERDET of Staines, Middlesex, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 4th December, 1968.

Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. J. E. BATTY of Sheffield who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 5th December, 1968.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. A. JORDAN of Ewell, Surrey, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 7th December, 1968.

Very sincere congratulations to MR. AND MRS. HARRY WHEELER of Merton Park, London, S.W.20, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 7th December, 1968.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

T. EVANS of Flint now has six grandchildren. Gerald and Brindley have recently become the fathers of Rachel and Tracy respectively.

P. FORSTER of St. Paul's Cray, Kent, on the arrival of a third grandchild, Ian Philip, born to Blanche and her husband on 30th October, 1968.

A. GROGAN of Leeds on the recent birth of another grandchild. He and his wife now have 17 grandchildren.

HORACE KERR of Ovingdean on the arrival of a grandson born on 7th November, 1968, to his son's wife. The baby is to be called Andrew Lawrence.

Great Grandfathers

Many congratulations to:

E. A. GREEN of Whittlesey, Nr. Peterborough, Northants, announces the arrival of his third great grandson, born on 15th November, 1968.

A. STERNO of Cheltenham, who has become a great grandfather for the third time. His eldest granddaughter Olivia, gave birth to a girl on 15th November, 1968.

Caroline, daughter of G. E. BULBROOK of Portadown, Co. Armagh, Northern Ireland, recently came second in an all-Ireland National Union of Journalists examination.

Josephine, elder daughter of F. J. BROOMFIELD of New Haw, Surrey, has won further tennis awards this summer at the Weybridge Lawn Tennis Club. She has won the Ladies Singles, Mixed Doubles and was runner up in the Ladies Doubles.

Patrick, son of our St. Dunstaner, C. P. COOK of Saltdean, Sussex, is in his early twenties and has designed two vending machines, one for hot drinks and the other for meals. He works for the Vending Centre Ltd., Bushey Mill Lane, Watford, Herts, and is the head of the Research and Development Dept.

John, son of our St. Dunstaner, the late H. C. MCCREA of Belfast, recently finished his training course with the Royal Ulster Constabulary. At the Passing Out Ceremony at the Depot at Enniskillen, John was awarded three medals.

William, elder son of E. MILLER of Leamington Spa, has obtained his degree and is now a Master of Metallurgy at Sheffield University.

Susan, daughter of T. TAYLOR of Farington, recently won four 1st prizes and three 2nd prizes for art and needlework at a local Youth Festival.

John, son of G. WATERWORTH of Coventry, won a prize of high commendation at Woodlands School last term.

Deaths

We offer our very sincere sympathy to:

J. P. CARRUTHERS of Belfast, at present at Ovingdean, on the loss of his daughter, Josephine, who died suddenly in November, 1968.

J. O. GANNON of Wigan, who mourns the death of his mother, who died on 30th November, 1968.

C. D. PARKER of Grantham, Lincs, who mourns the sudden death of his wife on 6th December, 1968.

G. A. PRINCE of Newcastle upon Tyne, whose wife died on 5th December, 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.

William Henry Marshall. West Yorkshire Regiment.

William Henry Marshall, of Bradford, Yorkshire died on 3rd December, 1968. He was 82 years of age.

He served in the West Yorkshire Regiment from 1916 to 1919. He was wounded on Active Service and was also the victim of a mustard gas attack. His sight did not deteriorate until later in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1966. He enjoyed a happy home life and leaves a widow and grown-up family.

FEBRUARY REVIEW

In Memory

James Crawford. *1st South African Scottish Regiment, 1st World War. Medical Corps, 2nd World War.*

James Crawford, of Hermanus, Cape Province, South Africa, died on 30th October, 1968 at the age of 76.

He enlisted in August 1915 in the 1st South African Scottish Regiment. He was wounded at Armentières in May 1916 and admitted to St. Dunstan's in July of that year. He started massage training but had to give this up for health reasons and underwent training in poultry-farming, returning to South Africa in 1919 to follow this occupation.

Mr. Crawford came back to England in 1924 and returned to massage training, also undertaking a course in osteopathy. He remained in England until 1941 when he returned to South Africa. He enlisted with the Medical Corps as a physiotherapist and became the first blind soldier on active service in the world.

When Tembani was officially opened in 1942 he was one of Mrs. Bates first recruits as an instructor in massage. He was in England again from 1945 to 1947, during 1952 and in 1965 for the St. Dunstan's Jubilee celebrations but unfortunately ill health prevented him from attending the reception at St. James's Palace. He retired from his work in 1952 and his wife died in that year. He was the first member of the original South African Legion of the British Empire Service League.

Robert King Lowrie. *King's Own Scottish Borderers.*

Robert King Lowrie of Portslade, Sussex, died on 19th November, 1968, at the age of 76.

He enlisted in 1915 with the King's Own Scottish Borderers and served with them until 1917. He came to St. Dunstan's in that year and trained in basket making and mat making and he continued with basket making up to the mid forties. His first wife died and he re-married in 1934. They lived in Sussex for many years but in the early part of this year they moved to a bungalow in Portslade. Unfortunately Mr. Lowrie's health began to deteriorate and in July of this year he was admitted to Pearson House where he died on 19th November. He leaves a widow and step-son.

Valentine Albert Clay. *King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.*

Valentine Albert Clay of Nottingham, died in hospital on 25th November, 1968, at the age of 78 years. He had been admitted to hospital a few days previously but he had been in poor health and frail for some little time.

He served from 1915 to 1917 in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was wounded in the Battle for Arras and came to St. Dunstan's in 1917. He trained in boot repairing and basket making and carried on these two occupations for a considerable number of years. He always enjoyed vacations at Ovingdean and attended the North Country Reunions regularly.

He leaves a son, Mr. J. A. Clay, with whom he lived.

Reginald Shirtcliff. *1st Herts. Regiment.*

Reginald Shirtcliff, of St. Albans, Herts., died at his home on the 7th December, 1968, at the age of 81.

He was a Territorial and served throughout the First War. His sight ultimately failed and in 1936 he came to St. Dunstan's, where he trained in joinery. He continued with this work and in addition, he and his wife led a very full life in the country, keeping animals at one time and always enjoying a very beautiful garden. He had been seriously ill for some months, during most of which time he was happily able to be nursed at home. He leaves a widow and one daughter.

Ernest Varley. *2nd Hampshire Regiment.*

Ernest Varley of Coventry died on 27th November whilst staying temporarily at Pearson House. He was aged 69 years.

He served with the 2nd Hampshire Regiment from 1916 to 1919 and came to St. Dunstan's in the same year. He trained in boot repairs and mat making and carried on these occupations for some years. He entered industry to help the War Effort and continued work until his retirement in 1957. He always enjoyed holidays at Brighton but had been in poor health for some considerable time. He leaves a widow.





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