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St Dunstans
REVIEW
JUNE

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Lt. Col. The Hon. Edward Dunlop, O.B.E., G.M., M.P.P.

Many Church Stretton St. Dunstaners will remember Major Edward Dunlop, who married the Canadian V.A.D., Dorrie Tupper. He has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on the retired list and appointed Hon. Lt. Col. of the 3rd Bn. of his Regiment, the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

He has been a member of the Ontario Legislature for many years and I learn that on the 1st March he was sworn to the Executive Council of Ontario, "colonial" equivalent of Privy Council, as Minister without Portfolio, which means that he serves the Cabinet in general ways without a department of his own. He writes that it is extremely interesting and he is enjoying it very much.

All his old friends will wish to send Edward Dunlop their warm congratulations.

Pensions and Allowances

Following the practice of earlier occasions, there is in this magazine an inset which deals with war pensions and other benefits in considerable detail. This is quite a complicated document but, as Mr. D. J. G. Jones, our Legal Officer, and Mr. L. Slade, our Pensions Officer, point out, any St. Dunstaner or widow, who wants to know how he or she is affected, may write to the Pensions Officer for information.

It is difficult to judge the true value of the awards because they do not come into effect until the last week in September and we do not know to what extent the cost of living may rise in the next six months. However, at the moment when the announcements were made in Parliament, the rise in war pensions and allowances varied from approximately 19% to approximately 28% and the cost of living had risen by approximately 11% since the last award. On the face of it therefore, the arrangement seems satisfactory, perhaps even not ungenerous.

When the matter comes before the House of Lords, I will point out how important it is that the value of these awards should be maintained and enjoyed and not whittled away by any future undue rise in the cost of living.

All my friends in the ex-Service world, including St. Dunstaners, know very well that I have been a parliamentarian for a very long time and also that I belong to the Conservative Party. Nevertheless I have always maintained an independent view about this matter and have dealt with it in Parliament on a non-party basis. Broadly speaking, we may say that all Governments of all parties have done their best to treat disabled ex-Servicemen reasonably well. I have made representations to all Governments and, when they have made reasonable awards, have praised them and thanked them, and I do so now.



Wally Thomas with Mike Neal in the cockpit of a T 21 glider.

Over Lasham.

RIDING THE WIND

by David Castleton

From around 1,000 feet the village of Lasham in Hampshire with its cottages, pond and church tower looks like the home of children's television puppets, Camberwick Green.

As the glider idles over the village the airfield from which we were launched comes into view. Its mile and a half runway, long enough for large jet aircraft, is just at present a track for the powerful motor-trucks which launch the gliders.

It is on the same principle that fathers use when they run into the wind to launch junior's kite that our glider rose into the air. Towed on 1,000 feet of steel rope the machine lifts off the runway in a surprisingly short distance to climb rapidly until the line is cast-off by the pilot, Mike Neal.

Now riding the wind in silence with the slipstream tousling our hair we can see the other gliders strewn around on the grass in front of the Lasham Gliding Centre

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Don't Keep Money Under the Mattress

In the March *Review* I read a paragraph in which St. Dunstaners were recommended to use a Bank for their money. The Editor most wisely pointed out that this was of particular value during the postal strike because monies could be transferred from St. Dunstan's Bank to the St. Dunstan's local Bank when the postal service was held up.

I mention this matter because there are two other reasons for using a Bank: one is to avoid keeping loose money in the pocket or the house and the other is that, if the money is placed on deposit, it earns interest. There are so many branches of the leading Banks that there is almost sure to be one within reasonable distance of any St. Dunstaner and, if any reader writes to the Accountant at P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, NW1 5QN, he will advise him how to set about making use of a Bank. If the St. Dunstaner wants to keep a little money nearer home, he can of course make use of the Post Office and a visit to the postmaster or postmistress will readily inform him how to do this.

Fraser of Lonsdale



Welcome to St. Dunstan's

On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome a St. Dunstaner recently admitted to membership. The *Review* hopes he will settle down happily as a member of our family.

Jaroslav Majchrowicz of London, W.12. He served in the Polish Army during the Second World War and is now living in London and working in a food producing factory. He is unmarried.

COMING EVENTS

Grocers' Outing 1971

Wednesday, 14th July. Coaches leave Ovingdean 1.40 p.m. and Portland Place 1.50 p.m. The Outing is to Hampton Court followed by a river trip to Richmond.

P.S. Please note any St. Dunstaner living within a reasonable distance of Hampton Court who would like to meet the main party for tea at 4 p.m. making their own way there, please notify **Mrs. Lillie, 11 Lancaster Road, Brighton, BN1 5DG**, before the end of June.

RALPH PACITTI of London, N.W.2, is a telephonist but his hobby is singing and he specialises in opera. He has recently obtained a Certificate of Merit at the Brent Music Festival held last February.

American Honour for Dr. Broadbent

DR. DONALD BROADBENT, F.R.S., Chairman of St. Dunstan's Scientific Committee, is one of three British scientists to have been elected a Foreign Associate of America's National Academy of Sciences. Those chosen for what has been termed "one of the highest honours that can be bestowed by the Academy on a scientist who is not a citizen of the United States" bring the total of Foreign Associates to 117.

The *Review* offers Dr. Broadbent its warm congratulations.

"Listening Ear"

MAUREEN LEES of Birkenhead, Cheshire, tells us of a new Society called the Joint Involvement Mutual Society (The Jims) and the idea is to help lonely people, the sick, the young, the old, the housebound, and the active. The speed of everything to-day is such that no-one has time to listen to anyone else. This is the aim of the Society—that there will always be a "listening ear".

There is a monthly magazine and members also get to know each other by telephone. Members range from the bedfast, wheel chair dwellers, blind, widows and widowers. There are also a large number of people anxious and willing to be involved in helping others including nurses, novelists, journalists and guiders.

The organiser of the society is **Mrs. Joan M. Butchard, "White-Rails", 86, Turnpike Road, Aughton, Ormskirk, Lancs.**

Reunions 1971

SOUTHAMPTON

The Reunion season opened at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton on April 22nd when the first of eleven regional reunions planned for this year took place under the Chairmanship of Mr. Michael Delmar-Morgan, the youngest member of St. Dunstan's Council. Mrs. M. Y. Lyall, was Welfare Visitor responsible.

25 St. Dunstaners, 8 from the first War and 17 from the second attended the Reunion with their wives or escorts. Mrs. Sheila McLeod, well-known to campers at H.M.S. *Daedalus*, was their guest. Mrs. Avis Spurway who was to have been with her was suffering from a bout of 'flu but sent a message of good wishes through Mr. Wills.

Mr. Delmar-Morgan, welcoming St. Dunstaners on behalf of the Council, referred to his membership in these terms: "It is the intention, I think, of other members of the Council that there should be younger people on it in order to carry on the spirit of St. Dunstan's. I hope I am going to be able to serve the Council and yourselves as well as the great people who have been on it before me."

Australian Visit

Mr. Delmar-Morgan went on to describe a visit to Australia during which he had the opportunity to motor through the centre of the continent.

"Australia is a country of many faces", he said, "the East Coast strip which is comparatively fertile and its inner heart which is desolate. There is nothing but dust and small pebbles. I am sure the people who went to the Moon could have just as easily obtained their samples from the heart of Australia."

Motoring along the bull-dozed roads can be a little frightening, he said, "You can see for miles ahead of you, the road just goes over the horizon. You go on and on through this barren wilderness. It really is not the place to break down or have a puncture. In fact you are advised to have enough water to keep alive for at least five days".

In contrast was Alice Springs, "It is a

lovely town set in the midst of a chain of hills and in the evening sunlight you can see the hills glittering with their ore deposits. Of all the unbelievable things it has 24 swimming pools in the midst of all this barren country." Mr. Delmar-Morgan explained that Alice Springs is sustained by an artesian basin, "and it is said that this particular basin is drying up. They are not prepared to say how much water is left".

Mr. Delmar-Morgan concluded by expressing thanks to the Welfare Staff, "who have done so much to make this lunch a success".

Mr. Wills in his speech, reported in the account of the Bristol Reunion which follows, also referred to his travels, this time in Soviet Russia.

Vote of Thanks

Leonard Arnold of Parkstone proposed the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. After expressing appreciation of Mr. Delmar-Morgan's speech and his presence at the Reunion "to shed the light of youth amongst us", he said, "It is remarkable to me that the staff of St. Dunstan's, although they, especially on occasions like this, do a 12 or 14 hour day, never seem to work to rule or to go slow. It is up to us not to be slow in showing our appreciation of all that they, from Lord Fraser through every branch of St. Dunstan's, do for us St. Dunstaners of both World Wars. I hope you will all give a hearty vote of thanks to our Chairman to-day, Mr. Wills, Miss Rogers, Mrs. Lyall and everybody else connected with our wonderful organisation."

BRISTOL

Two clouds hung over the Reunion held at the Grand Hotel on Saturday, 24th April. The first was the absence of Mr. Donald Hopewell, M.A., LL.B., the member of St. Dunstan's Council who should have presided but was unable to do so owing to a temporary indisposition. The second was the weather itself. Torrential rain fell on the previous day, and more rain on the day itself was soon followed by snow in

Gloucestershire with the coldest April day since records have been kept.

It was, however, a very happy reunion with a total of 123 people present including 56 St. Dunstaners. Miss Meyer was the Welfare Visitor in charge of the arrangements assisted by Miss Newbold. The guests included Mr. Gordon King recently retired from Shell-Mex and BP, Ltd., who are such splendid employers of St. Dunstan's trained telephonists. Messages of regret were received from Mrs. Spurway who had flu and Miss Oliphant who was indisposed but sent her love.

In his speech after lunch Mr. C. D. Wills, Welfare Superintendent, welcomed the guests with a special word for four St. Dunstaners, attending their first Reunion, Major Thomas Basson, Cheltenham, William Dunlop, Cardiff, Wyndham Pitt, Bridgend, and Trevor Tatchell, Cardiff.

Invitation to Russia

Following the interest aroused by the article "Russian Visit", which we printed in last November's *Review*, Mr. Wills said, that several St. Dunstaners had mentioned in correspondence that they would like to hear more about the visit which he made last September with two colleagues. The invitation came to St. Dunstan's from Mr. Boris Zimin, War Blinded President of the All Russia Society for the Blind. The Society looks after all blind people in Russia, including the war blinded, and makes a very thorough job of it though not in a way to appeal to British individualism.

"The majority of the blind population," said Mr. Wills, "is organised in communities around the factories, known as Training-production centres, where they work alongside an equal number of sighted colleagues. They live in blocks of modern flats and hostels which, like the factories, are all owned by the Society; and each settlement is provided with a community centre which includes a Braille library, theatre, gymnasium and other facilities for recreation, discussion and education. Each factory has a medical centre where everyone is given a monthly check-up.

"Blind people are employed mainly upon machine operating, assembly and inspection, but we met a number who are senior executives and engineers in the factories and there are several thousands

of intellectual workers, lawyers, musicians, lecturers, teachers and masseurs. There are also some nine thousand farm workers. All are trained in the Society's Work-Rehabilitation School or Vocational Training Centres.

"In Russia all blind people receive a state pension, which increases in proportion to their earnings, and students receive a 50% greater allowance than their sighted colleagues. Working conditions in the factories we visited were excellent and blind people work only six hours each day. One in Moscow, in a setting of gay flower beds and flowering trees and shrubs, was linked to a nine storey block of residential flats by an avenue of apple-trees. Inside it was decorated in pastel colours with curtains at the windows and pot plants everywhere. The main entrance was decorated with portraits of the best workers as a reward for their efforts. The Russians have a great love of flowers and everywhere we went we were presented with massive bouquets to our everlasting embarrassment.

Ancient Monasteries

"During our stay in Moscow we visited the country town of Souzdal about 120 miles due west where four ancient fortified monasteries were undergoing the process of renovating, having been badly damaged by the Nazis. In the Refectory of one of them we were entertained to a traditional meal by the Board of the local branch of the Society. A delicious kind of stew was served in earthenware pots covered with a lid of pastry, and mead, brewed from a recipe handed down by the monks, was ladled from ornately varnished wooden bowls into matching tumblers with similarly decorated wooden handles. It was a delightful brew but rather potent so you can appreciate that, after being topped up with much vodka in which many toasts were exchanged, we were more than a little hazy about what we saw during the afternoon that followed.

"From Moscow," Mr. Wills continued, "we travelled by night train to Pskov accompanied by our lady interpreter and the partially sighted editor of the Society's Journal *Our Life*. There we were met at 4 a.m. by the elderly lady director of the local branch and all her staff and presented with huge bouquets. They made

a great fuss of us during our stay and when we left by train for Leningrad, presented us each with more flowers and a key which, they said, would open the doors of all the lovely girls in Pskov. Unfortunately it was too late for us to use them.

"From Leningrad, the most cosmopolitan city we visited, full of American tourists, we flew to Kiev, a most beautiful city in the hills above the river Kniever and thence returned to Moscow by night train.

"I shall always remember several incidents during our train journeys. One was the soft voices of our two Russian companions singing folk songs in time to the beat of the train wheels as we meandered through the night at a top speed of 40 m.p.h., all five of us sitting in our compartment round a huge melon cutting it into great slices and dripping juice from ear to ear. I am sure we convinced our Russian friends that there is truth in the saying that Englishmen are a little mad, but nevertheless, they showed us warm friendship and even affection, when we said our farewells at Moscow airport. Perhaps the most amusing thing of the whole trip was, however, the way in which we were searched for arms by B.E.A. staff before we were allowed to board the B.A.C. 1-11 which brought us home."

Loyal Toast

Our St. Dunstaner Leslie Webber, Mayor of Tewkesbury, proposed the loyal Toast and later told the company something about the visit by Her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, to the borough of which he is first citizen for the presentation of Maundy money on 8th April, reported in our *May Review*.

Leslie, who has been re-elected Mayor for a second term in the year just begun, said that his duties included more than official functions. The Mayor was responsible for decisions on all sorts of Borough matters. This was the first visit of a reigning monarch to Tewkesbury for 120 years and the initial presentations to Her Majesty were made by the Duke of Beaufort, Lord Lieutenant of the County. The principle of the Maundy Service was humility, said Leslie Webber, although for a long time now the Monarch no longer washed the feet of the recipients of the money distributed as had been done hundreds of years ago. The recipients are

people of limited means who have given service to the community.

Mayor's Duties

The Queen and the Duke lunched at a local school and it was part of Leslie's duties as Mayor to present a number of officials to Her Majesty before the meal. Sitting at table with the Queen on his right and the Duke of Edinburgh on his left, Leslie Webber found conversation easy and informal. The talk ranged over problems of education and the family. The Queen said that there were not many occasions when the whole of her family could be together. Her Majesty spoke warmly of Colonel Sir Michael Ansell when his name was mentioned. After lunch, Leslie Webber made a presentation of a Spode plate to the Queen on behalf of the Borough and a Battle of Tewkesbury sword to the Duke of Edinburgh, who remarked as it was brought in, "What's that dangerous looking weapon?" Referring to the Duke of Beaufort, the Queen said smilingly that at the time of the battle his ancestors were on the other side.

Supporter of the Monarchy

Concluding, Leslie Webber said that both the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh went out of their way to make everyone feel at ease. There was an opportunity for all groups to meet the royal couple. The convention was that one merely touched hands when presented to Her Majesty but, said Leslie, the Queen gave him a warm handshake. He had always been a supporter of the Monarchy, but this visit, the memory of which he would treasure for the rest of his life, had given him an entirely fresh and enhanced admiration and affection for Queen Elizabeth II which would always be with him.

The lunch at the Grand Hotel included a Baron of beef borne in by two chefs and preceded by a Scottish Piper all of whom were given a good round of applause. This was referred to by Henry Foster who proposed the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. Mr. Foster expressed everybody's regret at the absence of Mr. Hopewell and deep appreciation of everything done by St. Dunstan's on that day and in the past. He thanked the staff especially Miss Meyer. The meal was of surpassing excellence.

What is in a Name, Anyway?

by

Phillip Wood

Everyone, I am sure, is familiar with the cruelly-misquoted line, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet . . ."

But would it, I wonder? Romeo and Juliet, those "star-crossed lovers", epitomise for all time the agony and the ecstasy of tragic teenage love. But just suppose they'd had different names, say, Albert and Gladys. Can you imagine . . .

"But soft, what light by yonder window breaks? 'Tis the east, and Gladys is the sun . . ." It doesn't sound quite the same, somehow.

And again in the same scene . . .

"Albert, Albert, wherefore art thou Albert?" Juliet, (Beg pardon, Gladys) would probably have collapsed in a fit of giggles, fallen off the balcony and ruined the whole thing.

Still with Shakespeare, take Iago. Now there was a double-dyed dirty dog—if you'll pardon the alliteration. Now if his mum had only called him Trevor (or even Phillip!)—well, it could have made all the difference in the world! He would almost certainly have proved a true and loyal friend to Othello and Desdemona would still be alive today, if you see what I mean.

The truth is that in literature we have come to associate certain names with clearly-defined human weaknesses and qualities. Dickens abounds in these evocative labels—the arch-sycophant Uriah Heep, Mr. Micawber, ever the impecunious optimist, and, of course, Scrooge, Top of the Misers League. Incidentally, it is worth recalling that Ebenezer did turn over a dramatic new leaf and became a very nice guy indeed. But, because baddies are much more interesting than goodies, the name of Scrooge will always remain synonymous with meanness.

In less exalted fiction names have become as stereotyped as the characters which bear them. Nigel and Howard are sophisticated whisky-&-soda, Old-School-Tie types who actually own their dinner-jackets and always know what to do with all those knives and forks.

Tom, Bill and Ted, on the other hand, are down-to-earth decent chaps who watch "Coronation Street", like the odd pint with the lads and are always considerate to *The Little Woman*.

The girls, oddly enough, seem often to have "utility" names. Kathleen or Joan or Veronica can be just about anybody, the maid who says, "You are wanted on the telephone, my Lord," a Chelsea debutante-model or a mini-skirted typist with a bed-sitter in the Fulham Road.

But you can't miss the villainesses. Apart from being very easy on the eye, they all seem to have slightly foreign names. Natascha, you can bet your Sunday cloak and dagger, is up to no good at all. Sonia is tall and slinky with expensive tastes in drinks and a weakness for black chiffon next to her boy-friends.

In real life we are all jealously protective about our names, ordinary though they might be. You can steal a man's money, steal his wife, even knock over his beer—and like as not he'll forgive you. But misspell or mispronounce his name—and you have made an enemy for life.

I once had a Sergeant-major, a very decent fellow indeed, liked and respected by all his men. But something dark and twisted in the man compelled him on all occasions to address me as "Woods". In vain I tried to reason with him.

"Wood! In the singular! Not the plural!" I said.

"Wood! Just think of the stuff they make doors out of—W-O-O-D!" I said. It was no use.

Our relationship never really got off the ground. What crumb of satisfaction I derived from calling him "Bombardier" wasn't much in the way of compensation, either.

The British have an unenviable reputation for child-cruelty. This manifests itself in the weird and outlandish names with which they saddle their helpless offspring.

Obviously I can't (or daren't!) give examples. But suffice to say that so often

when I hear mums addressing their small sons, it sounds more like a scene from a current Western extravaganza or a training-stable for Pop-singers!

Happily, there are exceptions. I like the story of the old lady who stopped to admire a new baby. "And what have you called him?" she asked the proud mum. "Adam", she replied. The old lady shook her head in amused bewilderment. "You modern young women," she said, "with your new-fangled names!"

But it seems to be baby girls who arouse the latent streak of refined sadism in parents. The result can be seen and heard in a rash of spine-chilling labels culled from the more exotic, less literary, paperbacks.

I think the French have the right idea. They have a kind of "official list" of permitted names. This does protect innocent children from the more repulsive flights of fancy to which so many parents seem unhappily to be prone.

Letter to the Editor

From F. G. Geller of Woodford Green, Essex

My father, Henry Geller, was pleased to hear of your welcome to him in the May issue of your *Review*. He wishes me to point out, however, that he is proud to have served in the 1st Battalion of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps (the 60th Rifles) in the 2nd Division, not the Kings Liverpool Regiment. He served in France from June 1916 until he was invalided home after a mustard gas attack in March 1918.

On a personal note, I served in the Fleet Air Arm for many years, and was pleased to note that H.M.S. *Daedalus* still maintains its tradition of entertaining a party from St. Dunstan's every summer. I remember well what good company your amazingly cheerful and competent chaps were.

New Lights Helping the Blind

Audible traffic indicator installations have been described as "a godsend". A set recently placed in Paignton, have prompted many letters of appreciation to Torbay County Borough Council.

Although I wouldn't be a bit surprised to discover that even they had become lax. At this very moment there is probably a little French boy called Jean-Shayne—instead of Jean-Paul after his dad.

On the other hand, perhaps the kids don't really mind their kinky names. Perhaps they learn to love them. Perhaps the children with the more prosaic names secretly envy them! I am reminded of my own daughter, then aged eight, who one day announced that she was going to change her name forthwith. She was a little tired, she said, of being Judith Wood. "Very well," I said, "And what do you propose to call yourself in future?"

She pondered a moment, then answered, "April Tchaikovsky". Surely, there must be a moral here, somewhere.

So—what's in a name, anyway? Possibly nothing at all. It occurs to me that my own name, Phillip, means "Lover of horses".

Which is ridiculous.

I never backed a horse in my life.

THANKS

Miss Everett wishes to thank the host of well-wishers who have sent gifts, flowers, get well cards, letters and kind messages to her. She is deeply appreciative of these expressions of good will and would find it impossible to thank everyone personally. Miss Everett has had an operation and is now making a good recovery and hopes it will not be too long before she is visiting St. Dunstaners again.

The Treble Chance

With the much coveted Archie Brown Cup for his consistent good performances during the past season, and the 7 miles Championship Cup Roy Mendham was striving hard to add the third, the London to Brighton Cup, to his collection on May 22nd. To succeed, would have made Roy the first St. Dunstaner to hold all three trophies at the same time. He almost made his treble chance but, with only 8 miles to go, Billy Miller overtook him to win the trophy by 7½ minutes. This was Billy's 15th, and last, London to Brighton.

OVINGDEAN NOTES

Easter Parade

The main event of April, has been, of course, Easter Weekend, and remembering all the advance publicity we gave to the subject in recent *Reviews*, it will come as no great surprise to our readers that we are about to report on "Easter Bonnets". Our first ever Parade last year was so outstanding that we were almost afraid to hold another in case it was a flop. What a relief! It was not! The number of bonnets was perhaps not quite so overwhelming as last year (and how overwhelming that was!) but we still had a wonderful collection and all were of such a high standard of ingenuity and originality that the judges had a very tough job. It would be true to say that some were outstandingly clever and all the prizes were very well deserved. Our judges were Mr. and Mrs. Lillie of the Grocers' Association and it gave us great pleasure to have them with us.

PRIZE WINNERS

Freddie Barratt	<i>Boat Race</i>
Bob Evans	<i>Triple Crown (Wales)</i>
Cyril Eighteen	<i>Strikes Galore</i>
John Lee	<i>All your Eggs in One Basket</i>
Marguerite Tickner	<i>Spare Roll</i>
Margaret Stanway	<i>Hot Cross Buns</i>
Teddy Mills	<i>Decimal Dunce</i>
"Mac" Macgregor	<i>Perth Pill</i>
Miss J. Meiluss, V.A.D.	<i>Alice Springs</i>
Joe Clare	<i>Last of the Old Pennies</i>
Dorothy Edwards	<i>Sweet Spring</i>
Miss J. Briant, V.A.D.	<i>Daffodil</i>

The house was full for the holiday weekend as usual. Parties went to Plumptre Races on Easter Saturday and Monday and fortunately the weather smiled upon them even if fortune didn't. We were similarly fortunate for the two Drives, when we sallied forth to sample the cream teas of Mrs. Gunn at Wineham's and at Drusilla's, Alfriston. We must surely be the cream tea experts in this part of the world by now! But it is a very good way to enable our less active guests to get out and about into the countryside.

On Easter Sunday we had a crowded Lounge for a Concert given by Jay Thomas and her party from Worthing. Miss Thomas has now been bringing her entertainers to

Ovingdean for 18 years. This is a wonderful record and as many of the young people she brings are her pupils, we do, as Miss Thomas says, watch them all grow up and look forward to their annual visit. Sid Tarry led a vote of thanks to Miss Thomas and Eric Neill presented her with a bouquet of spring flowers.

We were very ambitious on Good Friday when we presented, as a change from the usual play-readings, an anthology of poetry, prose, proverbs and music, specially designed for listening, and called it "Journey into Springtime". Words and music, taken from the works of several great and lesser poets, writers and composers—a lot of joy, a little sadness, a touch of nostalgia and the spice of humour, were interwoven into a continuously flowing pattern of sound illustrating the various facets of Springtime. The material was compiled and arranged by Miss M. Dagnall and Mr. Tom Eales, timed by Miss J. Meiluss and presented by Miss Dagnall, Miss Meiluss and Mrs. D. Williams. An interesting experiment with possibilities for the future, and as always with a new idea, particularly one of this nature, we had to keep our fingers crossed for its success. It was not an easy thing to do and—asked if we would be wearing flowers in our hair for the occasion, we could only wonder if we wouldn't have straws in our hair by Good Friday!

Mixture as Before

We have been asked to repeat the experiment, using some other subject, and this we will do when we can find the time for all the necessary preparations. With so many other things constantly happening it is sometimes difficult to fit everything in, but it is very encouraging to find that we have an audience for this kind of programme.

We have had just one discussion during April, when Mark Kingsnorth and Walter Leonard were the opening speakers for "That the Church is already United". This formidable resolution was ably tackled in excellent opening speeches by Mark and Walter and followed by remarkably good contributions from others present. The whole subject was well discussed under the chairmanship of Mr. J. Stokes and has given our Wednesday Group a good start for the Summer term.

BOOK REVIEW

"The Way I See It" by David Scott Blackhall, pp. 192, John Baker Ltd., London. £2.

Many will know of Mr. Blackhall from his part in the *In Touch* and *Woman's Hour* broadcasts. While young he had lost through an accident the sight of one eye; and that of the other he lost after a cataract operation at the age of 45. That was in 1955. Before it and since he held a post in the Housing Department of a Local Authority; now he has retired. I think that a number of people will read his book, attracted first no doubt because he is what is called a B.B.C. 'personality', but held to it by curiosity and by his charm of style. Several sighted friends of mine, seeing the book on my desk, have already asked to borrow it. But what would be its interest for the war-blinded? For we have limited time for reading.

Some of us are quite prepared to read about the intimate feelings, the efforts and the occasional mishaps of those who have had the same experiences as our own. People who have not had those experiences will not understand him exactly as we do. We may differ from him; but that does not matter. It is like someone with war experience reading the war diary of another man; they had shared in a special way the same alarms and the same humour. My personal inclination would be to have about half the chapters of Mr. Blackhall's book carefully selected and taped for use on the Talking Book. Those who wish for more could then decide whether to borrow the book from a lending library. It would be a simple procedure, because the narrative is not continuous.

Mr. Blackhall is a poet; and in appropriate places he quotes his own and other men's verses. He can in turn be poetical, graphic, philosophical and caustic. At whose expense is he caustic and often witty? I was intrigued to consider this point. In one chapter he makes fun of the conduct of some of the town councillors with whom as a local civil servant he had had dealings. Here and there he speaks acidly of the attitudes of members of the sighted public to those who are blind; and these passages, incidentally, could be read with profit by the sighted. But most significant perhaps are his comments on articles

that had been contributed to the *New Beacon*; the writers of these articles were critical about his B.B.C. programmes and later about his daring expedition with a group of blind persons up Ben Nevis. Let me be clear on the matter. I am sure that the two *New Beacon* articles referred to did not reflect R.N.I.B. official views; and I am equally sure that Mr. Blackhall has not been personally responsible for B.B.C. policy on the *In Touch* programmes. The point is that our modern generation of young journalists and radio producers believe that they must create an atmosphere of controversy and competitive rivalry. This is a dangerous principle. In what is termed the 'World of the Blind' there are, of course a number of different organisations, unions, institutions, etc.; and these will best serve their interests by making common cause and by avoiding the temptation to criticize one another.

Unlike some of his producers on the B.B.C. Mr. Blackhall has been relatively guiltless in this respect. He has always, I think, been rather a lone spirit, though by no means a solitary one. He mentions few officials or notables by name. On one page he refers approvingly to our own Chairman linking Lord Fraser's name with those of Armitage and Braille and other pioneers. Let me here quote his words, 'By his shrewdness, his drive and enterprise, and by his example, he (Lord Fraser) has done more for the cause of blind people generally than any other person I can think of'.

The most interesting chapters no doubt are first those describing his early efforts to become mobile and his acquisition of a guide dog, and later on those expatiating on his successful exercises in renewing his hobby of mountaineering. All in all, his book merits the attention and the praise it will probably receive; it modestly enough reveals a likeable and a self-critical character.

F. LE GROS CLARK.

Perhaps Britain Should

Perhaps Britain should copy this help-the-blind idea from Japan.

In some Japanese cities, the pavements outside certain buildings are deliberately "roughed up" to help the blind locate banks, post offices, and other important places.

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

SUPPLEMENT JULY 1971

IMPROVEMENTS IN WAR DISABLEMENT PENSIONS AND NATIONAL INSURANCE BENEFITS

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Social Services, has presented to Parliament proposals to give effect to the increases in Retirement Pensions and other National Insurance Benefits recently announced in Parliament. Details of the proposed increases and of the improvements to be made in War Pensions and in some of the Supplementary Allowances are given in this leaflet.

WAR PENSIONS

Basic Pension

The Pension for 100% disablement is to be increased by £1.60 a week, and proportionately for lower assessments, so that a private soldier with a 100% disablement pension will receive £10.00 a week instead of £8.40 a week as at present.

Constant Attendance Allowance

A St. Dunstaner with guiding vision at present receiving £1.65 will receive £2.00 a week and a St. Dunstaner with guiding vision and with additional disabilities which have been accepted by the Government as due to War Service and who now has £2.50 a week will receive £3.00 a week. The rate for total blindness which is at present £3.30 will be increased to £4.00. A St. Dunstaner with disabilities additional to blindness who now has £4.95 a week will be entitled to £6.00 a week, and a St. Dunstaner with exceptionally severe disabilities, such as the loss of both hands, additional to blindness who at present receives £6.60 will receive £8.00 a week.

Unemployability Supplement

This Supplement which is payable to those War Pensioners who by reason of

their pensionable disability are unemployable, is to be increased from £5.45 to £6.55 a week, and any family allowances which might be payable with this Supplement will also be increased as follows:—

Wife or other adult dependant:

from £3.10 to £3.70 a week.

First Child:

£1.55 to £2.95.

Second Child:

£0.65 to £2.05.

Other Children:

£1.95 a week.

Invalidity Allowance

In addition, people who fall sick more than five years before pensionable age will qualify for a new benefit which is to be called "Invalidity Allowance". The maximum rate for this new allowance—£1 a week—will be paid to people whose incapacity for work begins before an age 35; an allowance of 60p a week will be payable where the onset of the incapacity falls between the ages of 35 and 45, and an allowance of 30p where the onset occurs between 45 and 60 (55 for women).

Allowance for Lowered Standard of Occupation

This Allowance, which is paid in exceptional cases only to a very small number of St. Dunstaners who receive less than a 100% pensions, is to be increased from up to £3.35 to £4.00 a week.

Examples which may help St. Dunstaners to appreciate how the increases affect them personally may be found on page 4, but if there are any difficulties, will they please get in touch with Mr. Slade, our Pensions Officer, at Headquarters.

War Widows

The Standard rate of Pension for a War Widow aged 40 or over or under that age with children is increased from £6.50 to £7.80 a week. The Rent Allowance for War Widows with children is increased from up to £2.50 to £3.00 a week. A new Allowance of £0.50 a week will be paid to widows between 65 and 70. The Allowance of £0.75 paid to widows over 70 is increased to £1.00.

A new provision will be introduced to enable a War Widow's Pension and Allowances to be paid irrespective of the cause of death to a widow whose war disabled husband was receiving Constant Atten-

dance Allowance at the normal maximum or a higher rate. Other dependants of war disabled Pensioners who die in these circumstances may also qualify for the appropriate Death Benefit.

The increased rates of Pension and Allowances will operate as from the first pay day in the week commencing 20th September 1971, which means that the effective date of payment in the majority of cases will be Wednesday the 22nd September.

The proposed increases in War Pensions, which will be borne wholly by the Exchequer, will cost about £22 million.

Industrial Injuries Act

The 100% Disablement Pension payable under this Act to employees disabled in the course of their employment is to be increased from £8.40 to £10.00 a week with proportionate increases for lower assessments and some of the allowances payable with the Disablement Pension which are very much in line with those payable to War Pensioners are also to be increased.

The Industrial Pension for widows is to go up from £5.55 to £6.55 a week.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

The standard flat rate of Unemployment and Sickness Benefits and of Retirement Pensions will go up from £5.00 to £6.00 a week for single people and from £8.10 to £9.70 for married couples—increases of £1.00 and £1.60 a week respectively.

The Widow's Pension will also be increased from £5.00 to £6.00 a week. The Widow's Allowance for the first twenty-six weeks of widowhood will go up from £7.00 to £8.40 a week.

Other National Insurance Benefits to be improved include dependency allowances for children, widowed mothers allowance, guardian's allowance and maternity allowance.

The earnings rule for Retirement Pensions is to be further relaxed. From September there will be no reduction on account of earnings in Retirement Pension until the Pensioner has earned more than £9.50 a week. The present level is £7.50 a week.

The total amount needed to pay for the increased National Insurance Benefits and

to put the National Insurance Fund into credit is about £539 million in a full year and the extra cost of the Industrial Injury Benefits is estimated at nearly £20 million.

The Government has decided that the fairest way to meet the cost of the improvements in the national insurance benefits payable out of the National Insurance Fund is to increase the percentage rate of graduated contributions for earnings of upwards of £18 and at the same time extend the range of earnings on which graduated contributions are payable.

An increase will be required in the flat-rate contributions of self-employed and non-employed persons, who do not pay graduated contributions, in order to ensure that they pay their fair share of the cost of improved benefits. In general the flat-rate contributions of employed persons will not be increased. The graduated contributions paid by employees and employers on earnings between £18 and £30 a week will be increased from 3.25 per cent to 4.35 per cent, and contributions of 4.35 per cent

will also become payable on earnings between £30 and £42 a week. The additional graduated contributions will earn corresponding graduated pension rights. There will be no increase in the graduated contributions now payable on earnings below £18 a week. The increased emphasis on graduated contributions is a move towards the Government's long-term objective of fully graduated contributions for employed persons.

At present flat-rate Class 1 (employed person's) contributions become payable when earnings ordinarily exceed £4 per week, or otherwise in any week when actual earnings exceed £4. This threshold is to be raised to £5 from September 1971, so reducing the number of workers whose employment prospects are affected by a flat-rate contribution which is high in proportion to the value of the work done. At present self-employed or non-employed persons whose income is £312 a year or

less can obtain exception from the liability to pay contributions. This limit is being raised to £468 a year.

The cost of industrial injuries benefits is met by flat-rate industrial injuries contributions which are usually payable as part of the combined national insurance contribution. In order to secure that there should be no increase in the total flat-rate contribution to pay for the higher industrial injuries benefits, the cost will largely be met by adjusting the industrial injuries and national insurance components of the combined contribution. The resulting fall in the income of the National Insurance Fund will be met from the proposed higher graduated contributions. Under these proposals employees liable for an industrial injuries contribution only (e.g. married women who have chosen not to pay flat-rate national insurance contributions) will pay an additional 1p a week on their industrial injuries contribution.

Examples of the new weekly rates of combined flat rate and graduated contributions of the employed man are:—

	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
Not Contracted Out of the Graduated Scheme		
Earnings £10	£.p. .94	£.p. .94
£20	1.39	1.42
£30	1.70	1.85
£42	1.70	2.35
Contracted Out of the Graduated Scheme		
Earnings £20	1.13	1.15
£42	1.43	2.08

The contribution of the self-employed man is to be £1.50 instead of £1.24 a week and for the non-employed man the contribution is to be £1.20 as against the £0.90 he is now called upon to pay.

At present St. Dunstan's is paying the whole of the contribution for those non-employed St. Dunstaners who are liable and is helping with the contribution of the employed and self-employed St. Dunstaners. St. Dunstan's will continue to pay the

whole of the increased non-employed contribution and will pay £0.58 of the weekly contribution of the self-employed St. Dunstaner and of the employed St. Dunstaner whether he is contracted in or out of the Graduated Scheme.

Subject to Parliamentary approval the increases in National Insurance Benefits and in contributions are due to come into effect during the week commencing 20th September 1971.

EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS

Totally Blind	Employable	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
		£.p.	£.p.
Basic Pension		8.40	10.00
Attendance Allowance		3.30	4.00
Comforts Allowance		1.25	1.70
Wife's Allowance		.50	.50
Child's Allowance		.38	.38
		£13.83	£16.58
		£13.83	£16.58
Guiding Vision		£.p.	£.p.
Basic Pension		8.40	10.00
Attendance Allowance		1.65	2.00
Comforts Allowance		.63	.85
Wife's Allowance		.50	.50
Child's Allowance		.38	.38
		£11.56	£13.73
		£11.56	£13.73
Totally Blind with exceptional maximum rate of Attendance Allowance		£.p.	£.p.
Basic Pension		8.40	10.00
Attendance Allowance		6.60	8.00
Comforts Allowance		1.25	1.70
Special Occupational Allowance		1.00	2.00
Exceptionally severely disabled Allowance		3.00	4.00
Wife's Allowance		.50	.50
Child's Allowance		.38	.38
		£21.13	£26.58
		£21.13	£26.58
Totally Blind	Unemployable	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
		£.p.	£.p.
Basic Pension		8.40	10.00
Attendance Allowance		3.30	4.00
Unemployability Supplement		5.45	6.55
Comforts Allowance		1.25	1.70
Wife's Allowance		3.10	3.70
Allowance for 1st Child		1.55	2.95
*Invalidity Allowance		—	.60
		£23.05	£29.50
		£23.05	£29.50
Guiding Vision		£.p.	£.p.
Basic Pension		8.40	10.00
Attendance Allowance		1.65	2.00
Unemployability Supplement		5.45	6.55
Comforts Allowance		1.25	1.70
Wife's Allowance		3.10	3.70
Allowance for 1st Child		1.55	2.95
*Invalidity Allowance		—	.60
		£21.40	£27.50
		£21.40	£27.50

* Based on the assumption that the St. Dunstaner is between the ages of 35 and 45 when first drawing Unemployability Supplement.

If a St. Dunstaner is 65 years of age or over, he will be receiving in addition to the above an Age Allowance of £1.40 a week.



Mainly for Women

Big moment for the wine maker—bottling the 1971 vintage.

Fitting the air-lock in a fermentation jar.



Home-made Wines

Home-made wines can be delicious and are not difficult for the beginner to make. It has been made a much more simple process than it was in the past. For example, you can obtain concentrated juices from the chemist. There are many inexpensive books explaining the methods and all apparatus can be obtained quite cheaply at "Boots". You will need a fermentation jar, an airlock, a funnel, a rubber tube for syphoning the wine from the jar into the bottles and of course, storage jars or bottles, with new corks.

For sterilizing the fermentation jars sulphur dioxide tablets can be obtained from the chemists, and instructions on how to use them are on the packet. You will also want half an ounce of citric acid.

To sterilize the bottles after washing them well first put them in the oven at 350°F for an hour, then plug the top with clean cotton wool in the neck of each and store them until required.

Always use new corks and there again these can be bought at a chemist's shop. Straight sided corks are the correct ones to use. They should be softened before use by soaking in cold water for a few hours and finally dipping in boiling water.

Fruit for wine should be gathered in dry weather and care must be taken that the fruit is not over-ripe or with any signs of decay.

Wine should not be stored in a hot place or in a very cold one. An even temperature of about 55°F is desirable.

Gooseberry Wine

The Gooseberry season will soon be here so here is a recipe for Gooseberry Wine.

- 15 quarts green Gooseberries.
- 15 quarts cold water.
- 12 lbs. Loaf Sugar. $\frac{1}{2}$ pint Gin.
- $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. Isinglass.

Choose large green gooseberries before they begin to ripen. Top and stalk them and see that they are clean. Put in them a pan and bruise them well; the skins must be broken. Pour the water over them and leave for three days, stirring and pressing them two or three times each day. Then strain off the liquor through a sieve. Add the sugar and stir until it has dissolved. Then put it into a fermentation jar with the gin and isinglass. Insert air-lock and leave eight months before bottling. Keep for 12 months.

When the gooseberry season is over and waiting for the gooseberry wine to mature why not make some Plum Wine? This wine is made from the dark rich flavoured plums.

Plum Wine

- 4 lbs. Plums. 1 gallon water.
- 3 lbs. granulated sugar.
- 1 whole ginger,
- a piece of Cinnamon. 20 Cloves.

The plums must be ripe but not in the least over-ripe. Wipe them with a damp cloth and remove any stalks. Put them in an earthenware pan with the ginger, cinnamon and cloves. Pour over a gallon of boiling water, cover with a cloth and leave for twelve days, stirring night and morning. Then add the sugar and stir until it has quite dissolved. Strain into a fermentation jar. Bottle in six months' time.

Wittenham Cider

This apple drink is extremely good and easy to make and you do not have to wait so long before you can taste the results of your effort! It is most economical as it can be made with windfall apples.

- 3 lbs. cooking Apples.
- 2 lbs. Granulated Sugar.
- 3 juicy Lemons. 6 quarts water.

See that the apples are clean and free from any maggots. Cut them in pieces and put them through a mincer with the peel and core. Then put them into an earthenware pan—an old fashioned bread pan answers very well. Pour on 6 quarts of fresh cold unboiled water and leave them for a week stirring them well night and morning. At the end of the week, strain off the liquor carefully. Mix with it the sugar, the grated rind and strained juice of the lemons. Leave for twenty-four hours, then strain and bottle in screw-topped bottles—or failing these, use new corks, but they will need to be tightly tied down. The cider will be fit to drink in a week, but it improves very much if kept for a few months. If liked, 1 oz. of bruised ginger can be added to the lemons.

For those who want a recipe for making a drink in two minutes here is a quick method of making a thirst quenching lemonade

Two minutes Lemonade

- 2 Large Lemons. 2 oz. castor sugar
- 1 quart of cold water.

Put 2 oz. of castor sugar into a jug, add the strained juice of two large lemons, and a quart of cold water. Stir for a minute. Put in a slice of lemon—ice cubes and serve.

PONDER HIM

by
Randall Williams

Occupied with principles, ethics, or ideals?
Or prayerful petitions, needs and appeals?
Long discussions over each doctrinal whim,
Christian be careful! Ponder Him.

Daily reading over, time for daily prayer.
Must keep up the routine—guidance here and there!
Shipmates neglected though living lives of sin,
Christian be careful! Ponder Him.

Buried deep in ologies, or studying some isms?
(Urgent prayer is needed to amend those schizms)
Worth consideration—but someone's growing dim,
Christian be careful! Ponder Him.

Devoted to your Lord, or devoted to His cause?
Centred all on Him, when for prayer you pause?
It is you He loves, not the words you pray,
The Lover of your soul—ponder Him today.

Club News

BRIGHTON

The August meeting has been arranged for **Thursday, 26th August, 1971** and NOT 19th as originally fixed.

FRANK RHODES,
Chairman/Secretary.

LONDON

As the football season ended after a run of only four weeks, no one had reached the eleven goals necessary in our Pontoon Sweepstake. It was decided that the prize money should be given to the next highest number of goals. This was shared equally by **Les Douglass** and **Ron Stanners**, who both had ten goals, their teams being Manchester United and Carlisle respectively. **George Stanley** won the "booby" prize with Manchester City who had scored only one goal.

The winners of our Domino Prize for the month of April were as follows:

- | | | |
|------------|----|---------------------------------------|
| 1st April | 1. | J. Padley
W. Miller |
| 15th April | 1. | J. Huk |
| | 2. | R. Armstrong |
| 22nd April | 1. | R. Armstrong |
| | 2. | C. Hancock |
| 29th April | 1. | W. Miller
M. Sheehan |

We are pleased to note that the higher percentage coming to our Thursday evenings still holds good. It is nice to see so many of the Second World War St. Dunstaners joining the senior members so happily in the Club. It was pleasant to welcome Mrs. Agnes Murray in our midst again for the first time for some months.

W. MILLER

MIDLAND

Two club meetings have been held since the last club notes appeared. The April meeting was held on Sunday, 18th, a week later than usual owing to the Easter holidays. Two or three domino matches were played in our knock-out competition. The tea for this meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Androlia and we all thanked her for an excellent tea.

Sunday, 12th May was the date of our next meeting. Once again knock-out matches were played and we are now at the semi-final stage of our Sir Arthur Pearson competition. All the final details were announced regarding our annual outing which is to be held on 7th June and we are going to Chester Zoo. Mrs. Faulkner was our "tea lady" for this meeting and our usual vote of thanks went to her for another very nice spread.

I felt very sad at having to announce the death of our very old friend Harry Cooke. Harry had been a very stalwart member of the Birmingham Club and up until his wife's death a few years ago, had been a very regular attender. Flowers were sent from the club and all members extend deepest sympathy to his family.

Our next meeting is on Sunday, 13th June—the day after the Birmingham Reunion, and our July meeting will be on Sunday, 11th July.

D. E. CASHMORE,
Secretary.

SUTTON

The Knock-out Domino Competition played at our last Club Meeting was won by **John Taylor**.

The next meetings of the Club have been arranged at the Sutton Adult School, Benhill Avenue, Sutton, at 3 p.m. for June 5th and July 24th. Our August meeting will be held at the home of Reg and Betty Newton by their kind invitation. Their address is: "Casita", Lodge Lane, Salfords, Surrey, and we will all meet there on Saturday, 7th August, at the usual time of 3 p.m.

If you live in our area why not come along to some of our meetings. We welcome any St. Dunstaner living nearby and also any St. Dunstaner's widow who might like to become a Club member. Please get in touch with our Chairman, **John Taylor, at 21 Milwood Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, Tel. 01-894 9741** or myself, at **The Haven, 64, Coleraine Road, London, S.E.4., Tel. 01-858 3003** or at work **01-437 5113**, for further information.

DIANE HOARE,
Secretary.

Stranger in Mauritius

by
Bob Young

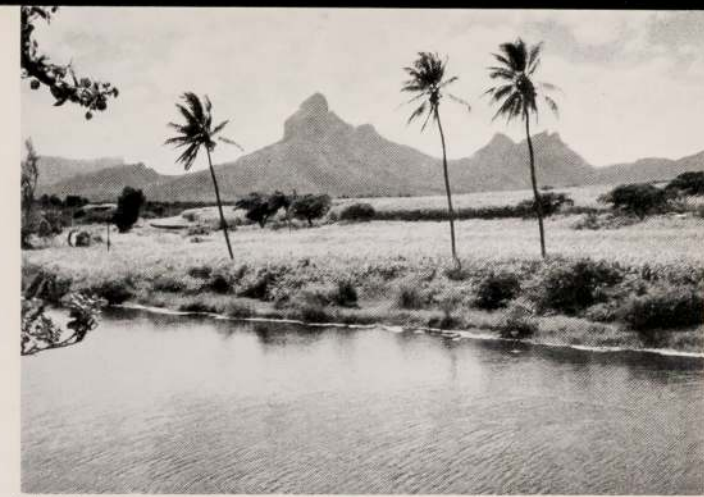
A bright new star has appeared over the travel horizon. Yet before the turn of the eighteenth century it was scarcely inhabited and fairly ignored since then. Suddenly it is the jet age and Mauritius, in the middle of world communications, eight hours to Australia, nine to India. Mauritius has arrived. For the weary traveller it is paradise.

It was a delightful hotel grouped over a large sandy peninsula fringed with casuarina trees and planted with palms and flowering shrubs. Air conditioned bungalow type rooms with large shaded balconies dominated by the huge rock of Le Morne.

The little Creole waiter sidled up to our table and whispered "Were you at Tobruk, sir?" It seemed like betrayal to say I was not, but my particular packet had been received some time before in the preceding war. Most of the older staff from the manager down had taken part in the '39 war. The head waiter, a big man with an easy manner was proud to have been a sergeant and to have served for ten years in the Mauritius Defence Force and in East Africa. It is an honour and a privilege to be an ex-service man in Mauritius.

State Lottery

It is especially a privilege. At the end of the war the usual war charities had been absorbed into a very popular state lottery run by the Ex-Service Association. There are 10,000 ex-service men. In a population of 800,000 where unemployment runs to 80,000 and the dole a pittance it would go hard with the ageing ex-service man were there no Ex-Service Fund to which to appeal for help. The chairman and chief administrator has been the warm hearted and intrepid Pioneer Corps veteran Major Jean de Baissac. There were 10 Pioneer units, 5,000 men in Egypt operating the vital docks in Tobruk among other work and advancing with the Desert Army right through to Tunisia and on to the Salerno landing and the hard slog onwards. Others, like ex-flying officer Maurice Rambert who completed 35 missions over Germany and is now the indefatigable secretary of the Association, spent their



The line of jagged mountains seen across the Tamarind River.



The Chinese Pagoda at Port Louis.

war in Britain. On the Queen's birthday every year the ex-service men turn out in solid phalanx led by a tall soldierly figure, looking even taller in hard bowler hat, Captain Henri Adam. It is a moving occasion for them and for the onlookers.

British since 1810 but you would hardly notice it, except for the road signs and the occasional British word over public buildings. Not a single English language newspaper. For the "British" are virtually French with French language, culture and architecture. Petainist many of them during the war. Exceedingly proud of their French ancestry and cultural heritage, their roots, unadulterated by alien blood, go back 250 years. Henri Adam, for instance, whose forbears arrived somewhere around 1720, and those of Jean de Baissac a little later. But there is no place for their children now in the country of their birth,

they go to Australia, to America, to the British Isles and of course to France.

The great problem for Mauritius, over-population, began with the freeing of the slaves. Sugar, as now, was the main industry and sugar cultivation is hard work. The freed slave refused to work any longer. But there were workers in India for the asking. Indentured labour ready to work for ten years and then return home. Only they seldom did return home. They stayed and they multiplied and they now constitute seventy per cent of the population, some very rich some very poor but all with a certain dignity, conscious as the French of their tradition and long history of civilisation.

The Indians dominate the scene. The brilliant colours of the womens saris, the weird funeral processions. No coffins, the corpse rests on a couple of planks covered in flowers, the planks rest on a dozen sturdy shoulders, six a side, the mourners crowd round the corpse and follow behind, all in their best suits, on their way to a certain hillside outside the town where the funeral pyre will be lit and the corpse consumed in burning ghi. The women stand in a group beside the road watching the procession pass.

It is a strange island. So many cultures, so many languages, so many old customs and religions that have not changed for centuries. Above all such a strength of obstinate clinging to the past. Both Indian and European stock defying time and change. The Creoles wait silently for them both to pass.

Superb Fishing

Everyone agreed that the fishing was superb, especially by the great rock of le Morne where the water is particularly deep. On the wall of the lounge, 16 ft. in length, hung a great blue marlin caught in these waters in 1968 weighing 1,200 lbs. There was a narrowing in the coral reef at the far end of our sandy peninsular and by a gap in the submerged rock stood the boat building yard with six game fishing boats lying at anchor. Accompanied by the best fisherman on the island, the same Jean de Baissac, we set out one morning on the gently heaving water on one of these craft to thread a tricky way through the reef. We thrust into the deep. Fish were leaping from the water, sea birds wheeling and shrieking overhead to dive

into the milling fish. We needed bonito to bait our hooks for that oversize blue marlin.

For six hours we ploughed through the waves, growing choppy every minute, turning incredible circles and leaving a crazy wake of foam. Fish everywhere. We could imagine them turning in fear from the path of our mindless monster. Burnt to a cinder, deafened by the engine roar, bitterly disappointed we signalled to return. After that one homeric day the weather worsened.

Cyclone Helga

It was February, month of cyclones. In the mounting heat the humidity was oppressive. The first warning came. Cyclone Helga was on its way. Torrential rain and scouring winds, mountainous seas beating over the reef into the lagoon. The second warning, cyclone instructions on the notice board, a map with moveable markers to plot the course of the storm. The third warning, the wind became a high metallic shriek, we waited. Within 60 miles Helga changed course, began to circle the island instead of tearing through, then continued on its previous course. After the cyclone sunny day after sunny day bringing out the beauty of the line of jagged mountains and the clarity of light. It was paradise again.

Miss H. K. Whittome

Miss Hilda K. Whittome died on 22nd January, 1971, and we have received the following tribute from one of her colleagues.

Miss Hilda Whittome began her long and valued association with St. Dunstan's when she came to Ovingdean as a Good Companion soon after the building opened in 1938 and shortly afterwards she joined the Staff as a Braille Teacher. Later she went to Church Stretton for a while and also taught Braille at the special unit at East Grinstead. When Church Stretton was closed and Ovingdean re-opened, she returned to the Training Centre to teach Braille until 1953.

There must be many St. Dunstaners of World War II and later who will remember Miss Whittome with gratitude, not only for her patience and skill as an instructor, but the kindness and friendship she extended to them.

Bridge Notes

The fourth Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 24th April. The results are as follows:—

F. Rhodes and M. Clements	76
F. Griffiee and Partner	71
F. Matthewman and W. Scott	68
R. Goding and J. Whitcombe	65
H. Kerr and W. Burnett	60
R. Bickley and J. Huk	59
J. Chell and S. Webster	57
P. Pescott Jones and A. Smith	48

The fifth Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 1st May and the results were as follows:

M. Tybinski and R. Armstrong	83
F. Pusey and Partner	66
J. Lynch and R. Evans	64
R. Fullard and Miss V. Kemmish	61
H. King and H. Meleson	56
W. Allen and R. Stanners	48

The cumulative positions are as follows:

R. Armstrong	345
F. Pusey	340
R. Evans	330
R. Stanners	306
R. Fullard	298
W. Allen	290
J. Lynch after 4 matches	280
H. Meleson	279
H. King after 4 matches	258
Miss V. Kemmish after 4 matches	241
M. Tybinski after 3 matches	227
P. Nuyens after 3 matches	185

R. ARMSTRONG

BRIDGE AT OIVINGDEAN

The week-end commencing 17th April was concerned very much with Bridge at Ovingdean. On Saturday afternoon twenty-three St. Dunstaners and their partners assembled in the Winter Garden to take part in a Bridge Drive. It was a very pleasant afternoon in every respect and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. We are very grateful to the Commandant, Matron and all those at Ovingdean for their co-operation. The prize winners were as follows:

1st	W. Lethbridge and Mr. Goodlad
2nd	Bob and Peggy Giffard
3rd	R. Armstrong and Mrs. Edwards
	Parity Jim Chell and Mrs. Buttimore.

The prizes were presented by our good friend Mrs. "Bob" Willis.

Sunday morning was given over to a match—London v. Brighton—two teams of four, the players representing London came out winners.

We paid our annual visit to Horsham Bridge Club on Sunday afternoon and were right royally entertained. Unfortunately we were defeated by a very small margin. Horace Kerr gave a vote of thanks which was very well received.

SAM WEBSTER

NEVER ENDING BRIDGE

The following tapes are now available:

Competitive Bidding, Tape Four.

Responses to Partners opening competitive bid of, one no trumps, double, two of openers suit. (D.P.).

Simple responses to partners opening bid (L.P.).

Harrogate

Once again the wedding bells have been ringing and St. Dunstaners who have visited Harrogate in the past will be delighted to hear that Mrs. Angela Beaumont was married on May 5th at Troon to Mr. William Hunter Paterson. She will be leaving Harrogate at the end of May to take up residence in Scotland. A letter of congratulations and best wishes has been sent on behalf of all our members of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club who previously had the pleasure of meeting her.

P. NUYENS,

Bridge Club Secretary.

In Defence

by

Aif E. Field

There are many hands which we deal and play that are shuffled back into the pack and forgotten, whereas if jotted down would be useful for study and improvement in technique. At the table we all have disagreements and in many cases the "cold analysis" later does not always resolve the difference of opinion. In the higher circles at this stage the hand is "toted"—given to experts to adjudicate.

During my 30 odd years with St. Dunstan's I have gathered many nostalgic memories but none so clear as those with the two senior wranglers—Paul Nuyens and the late Charles Gover. Almost every other day there was a "disagreement hand"—by phone. Divorce proceedings were always seemingly in the offing and yet name me two more understanding and loyal friends! There will always be two "views"—right and wrong!—at the table and if the temperature is warm the best way is to jot it down and later the two views or three or even four will appear and we learn more quickly.

Now talking of "Four Views", at the Christmas Drive I was assigned to a "likely lad"—Robert Evans no less, who I know will not mind me recalling this hand. Bob was North and dealt himself this bit of trouble. (Not vul.)

♠ 7 5
♥ A Q 10 4 3
♦ Q 9 7
♣ K J 2

Now you slide into his seat and make all the noises. Do you open? You have a legitimate bid of "one heart" and you do that. East butts in with "One Spade" and South (me) says "No Bid", West ponders and comes up with "Three No Trumps". You feel affronted and pass (I hope) as do East and South. You are on lead—take your time and select four leads in the order that they appeal to you, name the four cards. My four are 1, Club King; 2, Diamond Queen; 3, Heart Three and 4, Spade Seven.

My reasoning would be views I and II to sacrifice my King or Queen or Jack to create a possible entry into South's Hand for the lead through Hearts. Imagine you were in a "Two Heart" contract and you saw the Queen of Clubs in Dummy or King of Diamonds what would you lead? Its just the same. The lead of Hearts Three View III would be in the hope partner has a doubleton and one entry card outside. Lead IV is the very forlorn hope that partner has A.Q. or K.J.X of Spades, plus two hearts. I trust you did not name a small diamond or club to lead! That would destroy his entry card. Here is the complete deal:

	♠ 7 5		
	♥ A Q 10 4 3		
	♦ Q 9 7		
	♣ K J 2		
♠ Q 9 6	N	♠ A K 4 3 2	
♥ K J 9 6	W	♥ 5 2	
♦ A 8 2	□	♦ J 10 4 3	
♣ A 9 5	S	♣ 10 4	
		♠ J 10 8	
		♥ 8 7	
		♦ K 6 5	
		♣ Q 8 7 6 3	

Having spent many hours on this deal, I have concluded Views I, III and IV defeat the contract by reason of the dreaded "nine of diamonds"! I recommend this one to solvers. It is a fascinating study. The projection of this deal however, was to draw attention to the opening lead in awkward cases such as this one.

AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION

The AA is raising its membership charges to £4.50 a year from 1st July for new members or from the date when the subscription next falls due between 1st July 1971 and 30th June 1972 for existing members. Mr. Wills has been in correspondence with the AA in order to find out how the change affects St. Dunstaners who must rely on other people to drive their cars. From a study of this correspondence and a leaflet issued by the AA it seems that breakdown services are only available when a member or associate member is in the car. We, therefore, give below what appears to be the best course to adopt:

A. If the wife is the sole driver of the St. Dunstaner's car, it is best for her to be the member. In this way she is covered by the full services of the AA whether her husband is in the car or not.

B. If the wife is not a driver and car is driven by a person or persons outside the family, it is best for the St. Dunstaner to be the member.

C. If the wife normally drives but persons outside the family sometimes drive the St. Dunstaner in his car, it is best for either the wife or the St. Dunstaner to be the full member and for the partner to be an Associate Member at an additional cost of £1. Full benefits are given to the Associate Member except that he or she

does not receive copies of "Drive" or the AA Handbook which, of course, are posted to Full Members.

D. Sons and daughters of members who are under twenty-five and living at home may still join the AA without paying the enrolment fee (which stays unchanged at £1.50).

Overseas members living in Europe, who in the past have been allowed the full benefits for only 75p a year, even though often making frequent visits to Britain will now have to pay the full membership subscription (and, if they wish, associate membership). Those who live outside Europe will be charged £2.

Family News

Marriage

McGUIRE-SESSIONS. James McGuire of St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, and late of Sanquhar, Scotland, married Miss Winifred Sessions of Brighton, on 26th April, 1971.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to **MR. AND MRS. BERTRAM M. DUNKLEY** of Northampton, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 23rd April, 1971.

Many congratulations to **MR. AND MRS. ALAN REYNOLDS** of Shrewsbury, Shropshire, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 29th April, 1971.

Warm congratulations to **MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR SIMPSON** of Belle Vue, Doncaster, Yorkshire, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 22nd April, 1971.

Sincere congratulations to **MR. AND MRS. SARAH STOKES** of Pendleton, Salford, Lancashire, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 8th May, 1971.

Golden Weddings

Warmest congratulations to **MR. AND MRS. PERCY APPLEBY** of Luton, Bedfordshire, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 23rd April, 1971.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

HARRY BLUNDELL of Liverpool, who has become a grandfather, Gwelda, having given birth to a son on 16th April, 1971. He is to be called Iain David.

FRANK BROOKE of Wirral, Cheshire, is very pleased to announce that he is now a grandfather, Jill having had a boy on 29th January, 1971.

LESLIE COPELAND of Bexhill-on-sea, informs us that his daughter, Mrs. Valerie Lewis, had given birth to a second child. Tracy Marie was born on Good Friday, 9th April, 1971.

GEORGE FONE of Enfield, Middlesex, is proud to announce the birth of his first grandchild, Debbie Caroline, born 6th April, 1971 to his daughter and son-in-law, Veronica and Michael.

PERCY STUBBS of Norwich, announces the arrival of a grandson, born at Christmas time 1970.

Great Grandfathers

Many congratulations to:

WILLIAM LACEY, of Southend-on-Sea, who has become a great grandfather for the 7th time on the arrival of Jonathan on 30th March, 1971.

ALBERT TAYLOR of Stourbridge, Worcs., on the arrival of his first great grandson, his grand-daughter, Gwynneth having given birth to a boy on 20th March, 1971.

BERTIE PARTINGTON, of Bolton, Lancs., announces the marriage of his son, Ian, to Elizabeth Adrienne Walker on the 1st May, 1971

Judith, daughter of **JAMES CHELL** of Eastbourne, Sussex, married Roger Michael on 8th May, 1971.

CAPTAIN KEN REVIS, M.B.E. of Oxford tells us that he is giving quite a few broadcasts for Radio Oxford and that the City and County Museum asked him to give a lecture on the History of Cowley and the Motor Age.

JAMES MILLER of Rutherglen, Glasgow, recently retired from Messrs. Hoover Ltd. after over eleven years service and received the handsome presentation of a teamaker, a tankard, a scarf and a pocket book.

ERIC BRADBURN who now lives in the Isle of Wight has published a new monthly magazine of comment and analysis on Island affairs. Eric is Chairman and Managing Editor of the *Wightman* the first number of which appeared on 21st April. It has been warmly welcomed and praised by a number of people including some in high places

DENIS FREEMAN of Coventry is very proud of his son, Raymond, who has been awarded the Queen's Award for Scouts: he is a member of the 92nd Coventry Group. Raymond has also taken the Intermediate Certificate for City and Guilds Telecommunications and got two Distinctions and one Credit.

EDWARD MILLER of Leamington Spa is pleased to announce that his daughter, Susan, has passed her Diploma of Town Planning at Oxford School of Design and Planning (post-graduate course), and has obtained a good job as a Sociologist Planner.

Jeremy, nine year old son of GORDON HOLLAND of Newton Abbot, Devon has won a silver cup to be retained for this year, for the most courageous person in the swimming club in Devon. His coach won it last year! He is a very good swimmer and has already won many smaller cups and was chosen to go to a residential course for special coaching this Easter.

Bryony, daughter of FRANK HAWES of West End, near Southampton, Hants., was the only recipient of the Gold Medal in the examination for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and one of the youngest in her group to receive this. She has also been elected to the Swindon Youth Council and has made two stage



Earlier this year, Jim Griffiths on board the *Caroline II*, four miles off Newhaven, displayed his catch weighing 7½ and 9 lbs.

appearances with the Swindon Ad Astrian drama group. She has now been selected to make an exchange with a German student and is shortly leaving for Germany to work in a Library there for one month—this exchange having been arranged by the Swindon Borough Library Authorities.

Contractors engaged in the re-building of Pearson House claim that the largest temporary roof ever to be erected in southern England has been provided to cover the building.

Mills Scaffold Co. Ltd., Brighton, are erecting a free-standing scaffold structure to hold the temporary roof 66 ft. above ground level to cover the entire building.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

TIM GAIGER of Devizes, Wilts. who mourns the death of his wife after a long illness bravely born, on 18th April, 1971.

WILLIAM F. SHEA of Brampton, Huntingdonshire, who mourns the death of his father on 2nd April, 1971.

VICTOR POWELL of Solihull, who mourns the death of his father in November 1970.

WALTER TREMBLE of Knaresborough, Yorks, on his double bereavement, on the death of his sister on 1st April, and of his wife on 15th April, 1971.

In Memory

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

Henry [Harry] A. Buckley. *Royal Navy.*

Henry A. Buckley, known as Harry, of Brighton, Sussex, died suddenly on 19th April, 1971 in hospital. He was 45 years of age.

He served in the Royal Navy from 1943 to 1945 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1957. On completion of his training at Ovingdean he was placed in industrial employment. Unfortunately Mr. Buckley did not feel able to continue this work and for the past ten years he had followed homecraft and hobby interests. He was taken ill suddenly and rushed to hospital where he died soon after admission. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Doreen Buckley and three young daughters.

Henry George Cooke. *10th Royal Warwickshires.*

Henry George Cooke of King's Heath, Birmingham, died on 4th May, 1971, whilst staying at Ovingdean. He was 78 years of age.

He served in the 10th Royal Warwickshires from 1914 to 1916 and was wounded on the Somme. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1917. He trained initially in basket making, netting and boot repairs and carried on these occupations for some considerable time. On the outbreak of the 2nd World War he offered his services to industry so as to assist the war effort and in fact, remained in industry until 1953. His wife predeceased him in 1968 and since then he had lived with members of his family. He leaves a grown-up family and grandchildren.

John [Jock] Macfarlane, B.E.M. *4th Seaforth Highlanders.*

John Macfarlane (known as Jock), of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, died on 8th April, at Northgate House. He was 73 years of age.

He enlisted with the 4th Seaforth Highlanders from 1914 to 1917 and came to St. Dunstan's in the same year. He was awarded the British Empire Medal in the 1st World War. When he came to St. Dunstan's he received the usual training in handicrafts but was also trained as a telephonist and was employed in this capacity until his retirement in 1962. For well over twenty years he served in the very busy Export Credit branch of the Board of Trade. He worked both enthusiastically and successfully for the fuller recognition of his fellow blind telephone operators in Government Service, being their representative at the deliberations of the Civil Service Union. Soon after his retirement he and his wife moved to Shoreham-by-Sea where they have enjoyed a quiet retirement but unfortunately Mrs. MacFarlane's sight deteriorated in recent years and she, too, is registered blind. Mr. MacFarlane will be particularly remembered for the practical help he has given to many St. Dunstaners in helping them with Braille. He leaves a widow Mrs. Gladys MacFarlane and a daughter.

Mrs. Gladys MacFarlane wishes to thank all kind friends for messages and floral tributes, sent on her sad bereavement.

Richard O'Donnell. *Lancashire Fusiliers.*

Richard O'Donnell of Bury, Lancashire, died on 15th April, 1971. He was 79 years of age.

He served with the Lancashire Fusiliers from 1914 to 1918 and was wounded in 1916. However, his eyesight did not deteriorate until later in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1970. When he came to us he was in a poor state of health and was not able to visit either of our Brighton Homes. Earlier this year he became very ill and his death in hospital was not unexpected. He leaves a widow, Mrs. F. H. O'Donnell.

Geoffrey Arthur Revell. *7th Royal Tank Regiment.*

Geoffrey Arthur Revell of Watford, Herts, died suddenly in hospital on 5th May, 1971 at the age of 46 years.

He enlisted in the 7th Royal Tank Regiment in the 2nd World War and served with them until his discharge in 1947. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1955, and had been an invalid since admission. He has been cared for devotedly by his wife, and his two young daughters have shared their father's many home interests including gardening and music. Despite ill health Mr. Revell took a keen interest in everything around him. He leaves a widow and two young daughters.

Thomas William Saunders. *5th Labour Corps.*

Thomas William Saunders of Maidstone, Kent, died on 16th April, 1961 at the age of 75 years.

He enlisted in the 5th Labour Corps and served with them from 1915 to 1917 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1926. He trained in boot making and mat making and carried on these trades for some years. In 1946 Mr. Saunders' health gave cause for concern and he was admitted to hospital in Sussex. A few years later he was transferred to a hospital in Maidstone, where he remained a patient until his death. He leaves three daughters.

Harry Simpson. *Royal Engineers.*

Harry Simpson of Chelmsford, Essex, died on 29th April, 1971 at Northgate House, at the age of 67 years.

He enlisted in the Royal Engineers from 1938 to 1943 and came to St. Dunstan's that year. He opened a shop in 1952 to sell his baskets and other homecrafts. He had a very high standard of craftsmanship and a little later his wife worked with him and introduced to part of the shop, drapery and haberdashery. In 1955 Mr. Simpson thought he would like a change of occupation and he was re-trained for industry but unfortunately, after a few months at work, his health gave cause for concern and since 1956 he was unable to follow any outdoor occupation although he was able to continue with homecrafts until recent years.

In Memory

From 1966 Mr. Simpson's health deteriorated sadly and the last two years he has spent almost completely in bed at Northgate House. He leaves a widow and daughter, who were both frequent visitors at Northgate House.

Albert Vernon. *Royal Air Force.*

Albert Vernon of Woodley, Reading, Berks, died on 11th April, 1971 at the age of 74 years.

He enlisted in the Royal Air Force from 1918 and served with them until his discharge in 1920. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1924. On his discharge from the Royal Air Force Mr. Vernon spent some time recuperating and was trained in typewriting and Braille but his ill-health prevented him from taking up industry. He married in 1931 and in 1934 after further medical treatment he was able to start work as a telephone operator in Birmingham. A few years later Mr. Vernon moved to the Isle of Wight and his marriage ended in 1947 but a little later that year he remarried. Mr. Vernon was retrained and commenced work during the war in a factory and in consequence moved to Reading.

Due to ill health Mr. Vernon retired from industry in 1950 and unfortunately the latter years of his life did not bring any relief from constant ill health. He had been nursed devotedly by his wife Mrs. Jessie Vernon, who survives him.

Frank Whitehead. *Lancashire Fusiliers and Royal Field Artillery.*

Frank Whitehead of Liverpool, died in hospital on 1st May, 1971 at the age of 78 years.

He enlisted in the Lancashire Fusiliers and also he served with the Royal Field Artillery from 1916 to 1919. He was the victim of a mustard gas attack but his eye-sight did not deteriorate until later in life, and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1969.

Until latterly he had been a very active man and before his lost his vision played both darts and bowls. He was not fit enough to undertake the journey to Brighton but he did attend a North Country Reunion last year and enjoyed it enormously. His wife died a few months after he became a St. Dunstanian and he has been devotedly cared for by all members of his family.

RIDING THE WIND—continued

looking more angular and spidery than powered aircraft. On the far side of the field are the big machines of DAN-AIR which runs a servicing unit here.

"We often find ourselves sharing the sky with Comets or BAC 1-11's from London", says Mike, who is employed by the Scouts Association as a gliding instructor. "We give each other a wide berth".

There is a feeling of intense exhilaration as Mike puts the nose down and our speed increases. The grass of the airfield—the gliders land on the grass rather than the runway—rushes up towards us and we come to a rumbling halt.

My first flight in a glider came about when I accompanied Wally Thomas and Mrs. Yvonne Lyall who had arranged for Wally to have his second flight in one of these machines—with the cockpit canopy removed to permit him to sense as much as possible despite his double handicap.

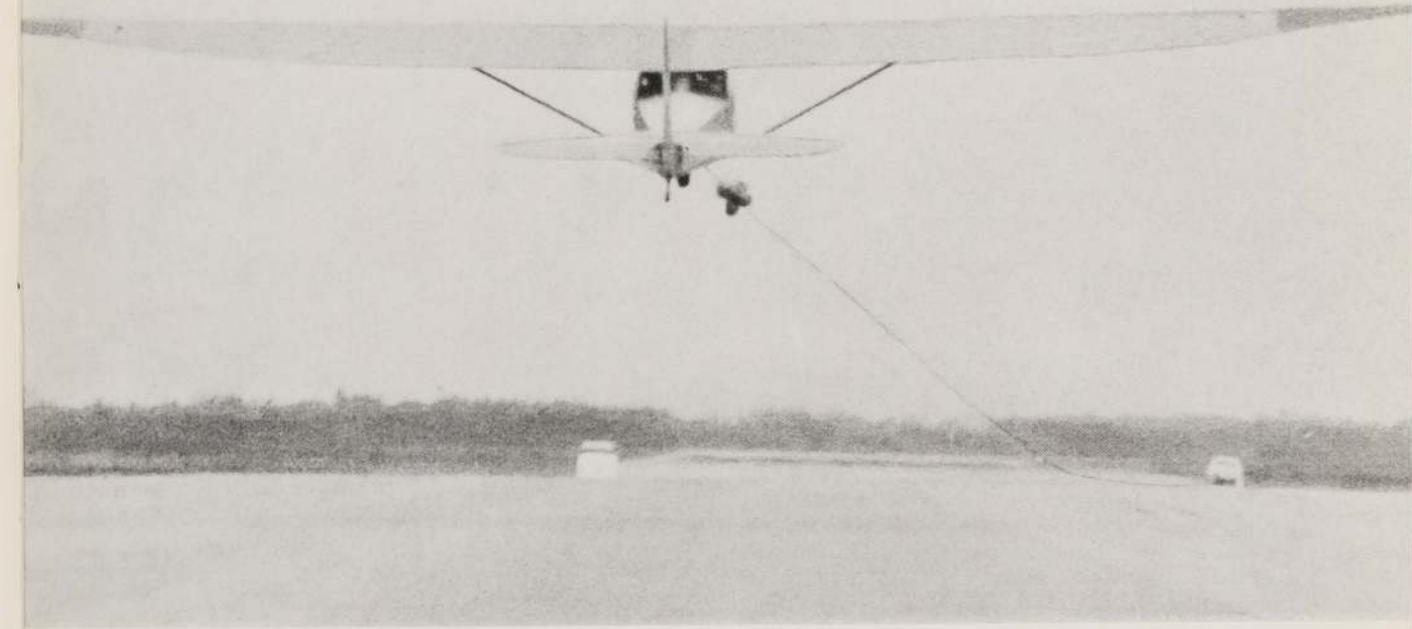
Wally is very enthusiastic about his new sport. As a deaf-blind man how do his reactions compare with those of a sighted and hearing person? I talked to him about it over a cup of tea, in the Gliding Centre restaurant.

"Before I get into the kite there is a feeling of adventure—something we all need different from the day to day way of life", Wally told me, "when I climb in, basically, I suppose I feel like a schoolboy going for his first ride on the back of a motorbike. It's a thrill and being clamped in suggests a little bit of danger somewhere. The waiting is over—here we go".

Wally's first reactions were similar to mine but his description of flying in a glider soon showed how different, yet effective, are his ways of experiencing something new.

"I have flown many times since being wounded in a powered plane. I like the take-off and the touchdown but in between it is a bore. Unless it is what they call a bad flight—bouncing up and down.

"With gliding you get a sense of flying—a sense of movement all the time. There is the wind coming at you when you are taking off. It is a good feeling, it takes your breath. Then when you are rising you feel a lovely climb up-up. You feel the wheel run underneath for the take-off, bang, bang, bang. Then suddenly it has gone and you climb. You feel your body go back slightly. It doesn't really push you back it just slides you.



Wally Thomas's glider takes off towed by a motor truck

"You feel the movement of the plane when you pull out of the climb. The air crosses your face and you feel your body move slightly as you are banking. Then I feel the vibration of the pilot's feet on the rudder bars.

"The first time I went up I touched nothing, just sat there and watched it all in my own way. This time he put my hand on the stick before we took off. I just rested it lightly and he moved it around. When we were up I took my hand off but he put it back on the stick. It was interesting because I was taking a mechanical interest in what was going on.

"With my hand on the stick I am watching his movements. He brings it back slightly, puts it over to starboard and he brings it back to centre. Then he moves it forward slightly, dips, and pulls it back. This is how it comes over to me: he is banking, he is coming out of the bank, he catches a pocket of air, the glider dips and he pulls it back again.

"When we finished banking I could feel we were losing height. Then the joy-stick came back and the wind roared in. It is a better feeling of landing than you would get in an aircraft for the simple reason the cockpit is open. No engine—you get none

of that—only the wind and a slight dip of the nose. When you touch down it rattles—not badly. How can I explain the feeling? Well, you have dipped-in and you have made it".

Mike Neal, who has flown handicapped children, blind people and deaf, had never flown with someone who is deaf and blind. Wally's description of the flights he had with Mike show he is a person sensitive to others' needs. He tried to learn the deaf blind manual in about two minutes before the flights but afterwards confessed, "I couldn't think of spelling the words while I was flying". I asked him if he was worried by flying a passenger with this lack of communication. There is not much can go wrong at 1,000 feet in a glider he told me and, "As long as it gives enjoyment—what the heck?"

And Wally—I asked him if, among his sensations of gliding, he felt any fear. "No", he said, "Just joy".

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Mike Neal has offered flights to other St. Dunstanians who might be interested in gliding. Parties of up to six could be arranged but on week-days only. Write to Mrs. M. Y. Lyall, 4 Weston Road, Petersfield, Hants.

**'There is the wind coming at you when you
are taking off. It is a good feeling'
Wally Thomas — 'RIDING THE WIND'**

