

St Dunstans
REVIEW
MARCH

10



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 639

MARCH 1973

5p MONTHLY

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It will not, of course, be possible for all St. Dunstaners who subscribed to the fund to attend, but consent has been given for an invitation to be extended to one St. Dunstaner from each area not represented at the Reunion, to come, and names will be drawn by ballot in due course.

LEGAL OFFICER

We are glad to inform St. Dunstaners that Mr. W. C. WEISBLATT has been appointed Legal Officer and will be taking up his duties at Headquarters on 1st March.

Mr. Weisblatt is a Bachelor of Law, having graduated at London University in 1958. He comes to St. Dunstan's from the Civil Service where he has been engaged in probate and trust work. Mr. Weisblatt lives at Hampton in Middlesex and during his spare time has undertaken voluntary social work in that area.

Royal Tournament and Trooping the Colour

It is hoped that we may be allocated tickets again this year for the Private View of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court on the afternoon of Wednesday, 11th July, and also for the Trooping the Colour Ceremony on the morning of Saturday, 2nd June.

Would any St. Dunstaner who wishes to apply for tickets please contact Miss Bridger at Headquarters by 30th April.

C. D. WILLS,
Assistant Secretary

COVER PICTURE: Full frontal view of a Bullnose Morris. Our picture was taken at a rally of the Bullnose Morris Club in Cowley. See ways of Life on centre pages.

PROFESSOR A. J. M. MILNE, Ph.D., B.Sc.(Econ.)

Many congratulations to Alan Milne, who has just been made a Professor by Queen's University, Belfast. He writes: "I have been appointed to what is known as a 'personal chair'. Most universities have a small quota of these and they are filled by people whose standard of scholarship, teaching, and contribution to academic life is such that they would normally be expected to get regular chairs but have not done so. . . . It is quite an elaborate affair, they take external assessors' opinions of your work and so forth and generally make sure you are up to scratch". Alan first went to Queen's University as a lecturer sixteen years ago and was subsequently appointed Reader in Social Philosophy. Now all his friends will be delighted to hear of his latest outstanding academic success and will wish to send Alan and Anita their very best wishes.

British Sports Association for the Disabled

There are now Regional and Branch Committees in all areas of England and Wales, and many activities are being organised.

B.S.A.D. have Mr. Atkinson and Miss Newton travelling all over the country and helping with the new Clubs and Committees and Mr. Papps is the administrator. All this takes money beyond our Government grant.

I am now on the appeals sub-committee of B.S.A.D. and am organising a nationwide collection of green shield stamps. Many St. Dunstaners and their friends are already helping. Will you join in the Collection? Full books of green shield stamps can be sent to me but to save postage could be handed in at St. Dunstan's Reunions addressed to me—or to St. Dunstan's Clubs, or at Pearson House. We have a target of 1,000 books worth 60p each by the end of the year.

AVIS SPURWAY

Coming Events

SPORTS NEWS

Annual Sports 1973

The St. Dunstan's Annual Sports and the Lee-on-Solent Camp Sports will run in conjunction at Lee-on-Solent on Saturday and Sunday, 18th and 19th August. Would all St. Dunstaners who wish to compete in: (a) St. Dunstan's Annual Sports, (b) Camp Sports or (c) both, please write to: J. Carnochan at Pearson House for entry forms and further details. The British Sports Association for the Disabled, Sussex Branch, of which St. Dunstan's is a member, is holding a Festival of Sport for the disabled at the new Worthing Sports Centre, Shaftesbury Avenue, Worthing, on Saturday, 31st March from 2 to 5 p.m.

The purpose of this festival is to demonstrate to disabled people in the country and others interested some possibilities for sport and leisure activities and a wide range of such activities will be demonstrated by disabled sportsmen. St. Dunstan's will demonstrate rifle shooting and carpet bowls. If you are local or in the area on this date, come along, bring your friends and support this worthwhile project.

DERBY DAY COACH TRIP

It is proposed to run a coach trip for Derby Day, leaving H.Q. Old Marylebone Road, at 9.15 a.m., Wednesday, 6th June, this year.

Any St. Dunstaner wishing to join our party should send in his name not later than Saturday, 31st March to: **Norman Smith, St. Dunstan's London Club, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QN.**

The outing is always an unqualified success for the price charged. This includes the coach fare, a packed luncheon with either soft drinks or beer. This year the charge will be £1.50 per person. This must be paid when booking.

It is a most enjoyable day out and I hope more St. Dunstaners will wish to be included in this trip to the Derby. So hurry up and send your names in to Norman as soon as possible.

May it be noted that if insufficient St. Dunstaners book for the coach trip, this will have to be cancelled. W. MILLER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From Arthur Hill of Taunton, Somerset

My wife and I enjoyed a fourteen days' cruise over Christmas, calling at Lisbon, Dakar, Las Palmas and Madeira.

It was a great pleasure to meet the Rev. and Mrs. D. M. Harper. As St. Dunstaners will know, he was chaplain at Ovingdean two or three years ago. He met us at the ship and took us to his parsonage and entertained us for the afternoon. He sends his greetings to all St. Dunstaners and to Matron Blackford. He would like anyone visiting the Island to get in touch with him, and they would be very welcome.

We wish to convey our thanks to Rev. and Mrs. Harper for their warm hospitality and the happy afternoon they gave us, it was the highlight of our cruise.

Editor's Note

We repeat the Rev. D. M. Harper's address which we gave on page 4 of the November 1972 Review. It is: **The Rev. D. M. Harper, M.A., The Parsonage, Rua Do Quebra Costas, 20, Funchal, Madeira.**

retracing steps to a public fair where he hopes to hire himself out as a farm labourer to the highest bidder.

THANK YOU

My dear Friends,

I wish I could write to each and all of you to say thank you for my most handsome radio and very generous cheque, but so many of you have contributed, I would never in a "month of Sundays" answer you all.

I am most touched and quite overwhelmed, not only with your gift but your messages, letters, cards and your loving good wishes.

It was hard to leave after so many years. I felt quite lost, but as I now live in . . . I want to keep in touch

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KEMP TOWN NOTES

Having just emerged from January's dark days, we cheer ourselves by noting the lengthening of the daylight hours and looking forward to the end of Winter. On the South Coast we have been very fortunate in having an easy, mild Winter, which suits most of us very well. It does, however, lead the gardeners among us to wonder whether a few sharp frosts and a layer of snow wouldn't have benefited our gardens. All growing things seem to be too advanced at present and we notice that already the crocus are coming out in Brighton's public gardens. Very soon there will be a rich carpet of purple, yellow and white under all the trees in Old Steine—a most lovely sight each Spring. These thoughts lead us to look at our own Pearson House garden which is now taking shape. A lot of rose trees are being planted, there is to be a large lawn, plenty of sitting out space and a number of trees eventually, we hope. Visions of fragrant summer days ahead, sitting at our leisure in the garden! We can dream, can't we?

...quiet during...

...happenings. "Journey

into Winter", our seasonal anthology

thought up by Miss Dagnall and Mr. Tom

Eales and presented by Miss Dagnall,

Mrs. Dennis and Mrs. Williams was given

its second performance to a very apprecia-

tive audience, to most of whose members

it was new. Those who heard it last year

enjoyed it just as much and all seem to find the mixture of words and music very good listening. Our Sunday Stereo concerts have continued, one of them being a very popular session run jointly by Mrs. Dennis and Mrs. Williams. These two originals find something fresh to amuse and entertain most of the time and between them they filled the Winter Garden with pleasure and amusement. Another of our musical stalwarts, Mr. Les Harris, also came along on Sunday with his own particular brand of recorded music which is always enjoyed.

The Winter Garden was full of St. Dunstaners and Staff when Miss Scott came to visit us to be presented with her retirement gifts. St. Dunstaners throughout the country were most generous in their contributions and Miss Scott chose a V.H.F. radio for their present. A substantial cheque for the balance will enable her to add to her house furnishings. The staff presented her with a very smart suede coat, pint size of course! Harry Boorman made the St. Dunstaners' presentation and Commandant for the staff. Both paid sincere tributes to Miss Scott's work and our affection towards her.

Miss Peggy Everett

St. Dunstaners in the North-West will be pleased to learn that their Welfare Visitor, MISS PEGGY EVERETT, has become engaged to be married to Mr. Alexander Ballantyne on 1st March. After her marriage, Miss Everett plans to live in Sale and to continue her work with St. Dunstan's on a part-time basis.

We all wish Miss Everett and Mr. Ballantyne every happiness in their future life together.

Dancing St. Dunstaner

Congratulations to HAROLD HITCHEN of Nelson, Lancs., who recently won a Cup for Old Tyme Dancing at the Burnley Blind Centre. Mr. Hitchen only started dancing after losing his sight—he came to St. Dunstan's in 1961.

Frank Reviews

Cat. No. 1164

Kangaroo

by D. H. Lawrence

Read by Stephen Jack

This extremely descriptive novel about Australia, her people and their way of life is the first work by this author that I can say I have enjoyed. Set in the early twenties, Lawrence describes the friction between the socialists and a quasi fascist group. Somers, Lawrence's fictitious English immigrant wants only to watch from the sidelines but finds himself being drawn in by both sides. Himself a pacifist Somers is sickened by the ensuing violence and decides to quit Australia for America, although he knows he has fallen in love with Australia and one day must return.

Cat. No. 1178

Puppet on a Chain

by Alistair Maclean

Read by Michael de Morgan

Although not up to the standard of *The Guns of Navarone* or *Where Eagles Dare*, for hair-raising suspense this book, in which Major Paul Sherman of Interpol Narcotics goes out on a limb to tear asunder the Amsterdam drug smuggling syndicate, is packed solid with action. I think the fascination of this writer is his ability for super exaggeration while always keeping a firm grip on his reader's interest. With a couple of beers this story should make a lively evenings entertainment.

Cat. No. 1177

The Hired Man

by Melvyn Bragg

Read by Stephen Jack

Surely this book must be described as a modern classic. The author has an elegance of style and a simplicity of description which brings the story to life as it flows from sentence to sentence.

John Tallentire has incurred the wrath of his father by breaking off his apprenticeship to a blacksmith, marrying his sweetheart and setting off to hire himself out as a farm labourer. He loves his work and endures the poverty until the farmer's son

lays siege to the affections of his wife. Encouraged by his brother he leaves the land and becomes a miner. He misses the land and the good fresh air but is happy in the comparative comfort of his family.

Then comes the 1914-18 war when he and his brothers join up. John after being wounded is put to work in a blacksmith's shop while his fourteen year old son puts up his age and fights at the front. When his son is killed on the day before the armistice John returns home to find that the strain has seriously affected his wife's health. He returns to the pit, while she, suffering from consumption, is forced to retire to bed. On the day she dies John is seriously injured in a mining accident. In a half coma he wakes in a hospital bed, secretly dresses and goes out seeking to be reunited with his wife. His instincts direct his feet up away from the town to the old farm labourers cottage where he and his young bride had first set up home.

The author concludes with a sense of irony showing John, now a broken man, retracing his former footsteps to a public fair where he hopes to hire himself out as a farm labourer to the highest bidder.

THANK YOU

My dear Friends,

I wish I could write to each and all of you to say thank you for my most handsome radio and very generous cheque, but so many of you have contributed, I would never in a "month of Sundays" answer you all.

I am most touched and quite overwhelmed, not only with your gift but your messages, letters, cards and your loving good wishes.

It was hard to leave after so many years. I felt quite lost, but as I now live in Brighton, I hope always to keep in touch and I am very much looking forward to Ovingdean re-opening and seeing you all when you once again come down on holiday.

As always, with my love and good wishes,

Affectionately,
JANE SCOTT

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.

William Birkby of Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire, joined St. Dunstan's in January 1973. Mr. Birkby served with the 1/6 Duke of Wellington Regiment in the First World War. He is married.

Albert Marchant of Gravesend, Kent, came to St. Dunstan's in January 1973. He served in the Army Catering Corps in the Second World War. He is married.

Hugh Richard Hamilton of Eltham, joined St. Dunstan's in January, 1973. He served in the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders in the Second World War and is married.

Alfred Howe of Mitcham, Surrey, came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1973. He served in the London Scottish Regiment during the First World War. After his discharge in 1918 he worked for many years as an Accountant and Company Secretary.

Noel Hughes of Clevedon, Somerset, came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1973. He served in the Royal Navy during the First World War. Mr. Hughes is married.

Herbert Hutchinson of Barnsley, Yorkshire, joined St. Dunstan's in January, 1973. He served in both the Duke of Wellington Regiment and West Riding Regiment during the First World War. He is married.

John Herbert Underwood of Birstall, Yorkshire, joined St. Dunstan's in January, 1973. He served in the King's Liverpool Regiment in the First World War and was a civilian prisoner of the Japanese in China during the Second World War. He is married with a grown-up family abroad.

Derby Sweepstake

Applications are once again invited from St. Dunstaners and St. Dunstan's trainees for tickets in the *St. Dunstan's Review* Derby Sweepstake. The attention of everyone is drawn to the rule that **every application for tickets made in the British Isles must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.**

Tickets are 15p each, and applications for them should be made as soon as possible and will be received up to the first post on **Wednesday, 23rd May**. Each application must bear the name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, and, **with a stamped addressed envelope enclosed**, must be sent to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QN.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to St. Dunstan's and crossed. Loose money should not be sent unless it is registered.

Tickets will be issued consecutively, and are limited to twenty-four.

The total money subscribed, less the cost of printing and expenses, will be distributed as follows:

- 50 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.
- 20 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.
- 10 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.
- 20 per cent to be divided equally among those drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

No prize won in the Sweepstake will be paid to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket was sold.

The Draw will take place in the London Club on the evening of Thursday, 31st May, the race being run on 6th June.

Common Market Joke

- Q. What is the name for a French lawyer's child-minder?
A. Avocado Pear.



IT STRIKES ME

by
Magog

Microscope for Mauritius

In the June 1971 *Review* we printed an article by **Bob Young** on a holiday visit to Mauritius which he called "Stranger in Mauritius". Whilst on the island Bob learnt that a number of adults and even children had lost their sight because the serrated edges of the sugar cane leaf had pierced an eye whilst they were working in the plantations. On his return home he mentioned this to our physiotherapist, **Edward (Dick) Slaughter** who is past president of the Rotary Club of Salisbury and a member of the Rotary International Committee.

Dick Slaughter took the matter up with the International Committee whose secretary contacted the Rotary Club of Port Louis, Mauritius, and learnt that an operating microscope would be the most useful piece of apparatus for them because this would enable the island to dispense with routine visits by doctors from India which cost £300 annually.

As a result of this initiative the Rotary Club of Salisbury and other Rotarians in the district raised the sum of £400 to which was added the gift of £200 from the Rotary Foundation Fellowship. A sum of £600 has thus been made available and is sufficient to purchase the operating microscope which will be presented to the Port Louis Club by one of the past presidents of the Salisbury Club when he visits Mauritius on holiday this month. A suitable inscription will be attached and any necessary accessories will be supplied by the Port Louis Club.

This seems to me a splendid example of the blind helping the blind across a vast stretch of land and water with the generous support of many sighted friends in Rotary.

A Good QSO

Tommy Gaygan G4AFV—that's his radio call-sign—rang me to tell me about the success of the first St. Dunstan's net, a sort of reunion on the air between our war-blinded radio amateurs. "It was bad luck for **Bill Shea—G4AUJ**", he said, "because he had done so much to set up this idea and when the day came his set packed up. **Eric Rowe, G3ULX** down at Minehead took over the Chairmanship and he did it very well."



Eric Rowe

As well as Eric and Tommy, taking part in the hour long radio "confab" were **Jock Inness, G4AJP**, **Cyril Parker, G3XTV**, **George Taylor, G4BNI**, and **George Cole G4AWI**. In addition a non-St. Dunstan's blind amateur, **John Morgan G3YIK** of Stratford-on-Avon, joined in.

"There were no problems" said Tommy, "It was a quiet frequency—a good QSO. I hope the rest of St. Dunstan's radio hams will join in any Sunday at 11.30 a.m. on 3720 metres, plus or minus the QRM."

Off The Scale

We publish Silver, Ruby, Golden, even Diamond weddings in the Family News section of the *Review* so when I heard **Bill and Alice Dudley** of Horley, have been married 65 years, I looked up the book to see what anniversary theirs is. I found there isn't a name for the sixty-fifth—Bill and Alice have gone off the scale! It is not so surprising really because I should think the Dudleys have probably set a record among St. Dunstaners. They were married on 26th January, 1908 so they had been man and wife eleven years when Bill lost his sight in France in 1917. He is retired now and they live quietly in Horley, their four children are all married. In congratulating them I wish them more happy years together.



Ken Revis sits in the first MG.

A glance along a man's bookshelf, they say, can give you a pretty good idea of the man himself. In Ken Revis's study there is quite a collection, many of them autographed by their authors. The books around Ken include a set of the "Encyclopedia Britannica", "The Lawyer", John Masterman's "Bowhani Junction", Lord Fraser's "My Story of St. Dunstan's", "The Guinness Book of Records", "Old Cars the World Over", "Highly Explosive" by John Frayn Turner, "A Treatise on the Law and Practice of Arbitrations and Awards", "The Powerless Ones", a book on gliding, "Veteran and Vintage Cars"; also hanging on the wall is a guitar.

In assessing Ken Revis from the evidence in his "den" the guitar is the clue because he is a man who does things as well as reading about them. Since he was totally blinded when, as a Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers, thirteen anti-vehicle mines ex-

WAYS OF LIFE 19

DOING WHAT I LIKE— Ken Revis

ploded while he was working on clearing Brighton's West Pier, Ken has qualified as a solicitor, sung on television, worked in welfare, publicity and staff training for British Leyland; he has water-skied, piloted gliders and driven one of his company's fastest sports cars at a hundred miles an hour.

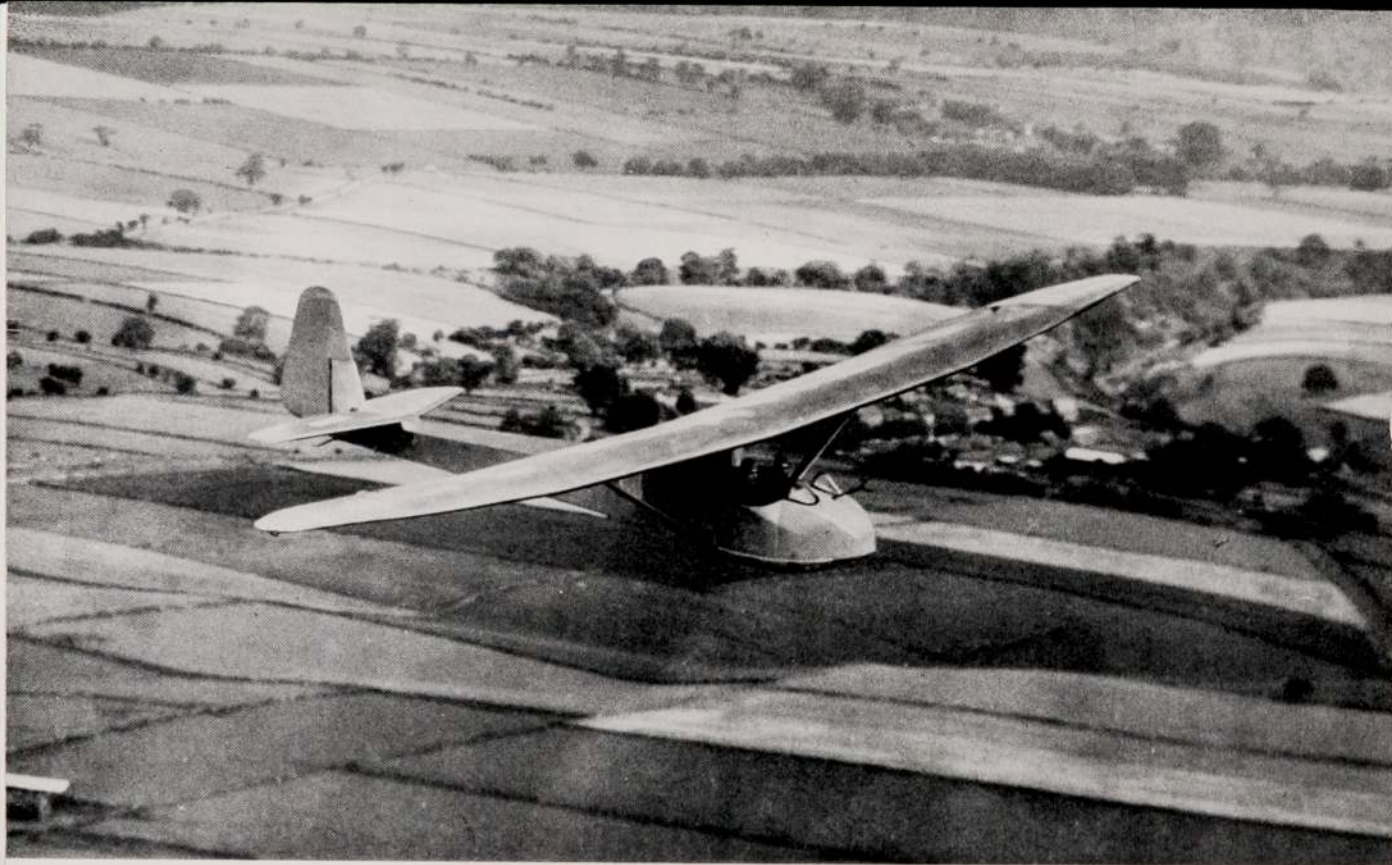
Strong visual memory

In his life he has been fortunate, or energetic enough to follow up most, if not all, his interests. It is as if he has been proving something and Ken agrees, "After all, most St. Dunstaners have been blinded in the prime of life. We've been blinded as young, pretty robust, adults. In my case I have a very strong visual memory. I feel sort of spurred on to do these things. I think we all like to be—this sounds rather shallow—but like to be admired. I feel that I've got these interests and I've got to keep them up".



Riding in a vintage Morris at last January's rally in Cowley . . . and, in contrast driving an MGA sports car at 100 m.p.h. in March 1961 with Jo as "navigator" on the runway of Chalgrove Airfield. Photo: Daily Mail.





Airborne over Yorkshire, Ken Revis pilots a glider. Photo: Daily Mail.

But there is more to it than just being admired as Ken explains, "Because I like them: I like cars, I like flying, I like singing, I like public speaking." Ken Revis, then, does the things he likes to do, although some might say that a blind man piloting a glider or driving a car at 100 m.p.h. on an airfield runway are pointless. To them Ken replies, "Agreed, you can say that but then some blind people go to Ovingdean and they get on the rifle range where you can tell whether you are on target by the pitch in your headphones. That wouldn't interest me in the slightest degree. I don't know why. Some blind people throw darts at the dart board. I don't know how they do it. Somehow that wouldn't interest me but whether that proves that I am an extrovert I don't know".

"When you are gliding you can feel the swing of the glider, the wind on your face. You can hear the noise. If you are flying too fast then the noise is too loud and you've got to pull the stick back to slow the machine down. If you are flying too slowly it will be too quiet so you've got to push the stick forward. These are what I

get out of gliding perhaps it's the more physical things." Ken flies with a "fast talking instructor" beside him as he puts it. In the car it is Jo, his wife, who gives him the vital running commentary to help him keep track down the runway. "It must be an open car, I wouldn't enjoy it if it wasn't. I wouldn't go in a closed glider because I wouldn't feel the wind."

Looking for a central thread running through a varied and full life the motor car is an obvious choice. Ken was not quite eighteen when he bought his first car, "It was a Rover 9 which had originally been one of those sort of aluminium bodies with a boat shaped back. It was an absolute scrap of a car and within 12 months I rebuilt it, got it going and got my first driving licence. The difficulties were with the actual body and I had a great deal of help over that." All that was in 1935 the year he started his articles as a civil engineer with the County Surveyor of Bedfordshire, a peace-time profession which led him into the Royal Engineers and the highly dangerous work of bomb disposal.

Perhaps surprisingly Ken was not a volunteer for this, "We were just posted into bomb disposal. Of course we were all a bit apprehensive. The way I looked at it was that once I had done the first one I could do it and I also used to think, well, if anything goes up it won't hurt me it will just kill me. Of course, in fact that wasn't so. When it did finally go up it wasn't big enough to kill me."

It was, however, big enough to make Ken feel that his practical interest in cars and in flying—another youthful enthusiasm dating from times at Cardington watching the airship R101—and, worse still, his profession as a civil engineer were over. It was something of a surprise to find himself, on his return from a spell of welfare work for St. Dunstan's in India, offered the chance to join one of Britain's giants in the motor industry—Morris Motors. He has been there ever since while his employers have become the British Motor Corporation and now, British Leyland. He has been in welfare, publicity and now on training as a lecturer to apprentices and to new supervisors.

Happy period

He was closest to the cars in publicity—an eight or nine year spell he describes as, "A very happy period in my life. It was my job to administer the fleet of press cars—loan them to press or television or any journalist who wanted to road test a car. I had to familiarise myself with all the cars. Literally scramble about them, be driven out in them and so on. You can get a good impression from the models used in design, that's a quarter scale which makes a car about 3 foot 6 inches long scaled down from a 14 foot car. You can literally feel the front and over the top to the back—you can pick it up in your arms. I would feel the actual car as well and, of course, I read up their brochures."

When Ken began, his fleet covered the latest in the Nuffield Organisation, Morris, Wolseley, Riley, MG and Van den Plas—examples of each model under these marks, "I had many of each model because, for example, the Morris Minor, there was the saloon version, the tourer, there were two door and four door, and some models had automatic or manual gear systems." It was Ken's job to administer this fleet, its servicing and maintenance, "This was not in any way a special group of cars in the

sense that they were tuned but we did have a show bay that prepared cars for the Motor Show and as a sideline they used to fill up my cars, make sure the tyre pressures were right, they kept them clean and made sure everything was working properly."

With the enlarging of the group Ken's press fleet grew too, taking in the Austins as well until he was keeping track of some fifty or sixty cars. "When the 1100 was launched in 1962 we ordered sixteen brand new ones specially to hand over to the press. We wined and dined all the journalists in one of the Oxford Colleges. We took them out, gave them picnic lunches with a bottle of wine and a flask of coffee and they could go on a pre-determined route. I'm afraid they didn't stick to it! But we did map out a route for them because the car wasn't officially announced. This was to be a couple of weeks afterwards so that they could get their reports written and ready for announcement day."

Feature writer—Ken

In addition Ken was employed as a feature writer for the Corporation's newspaper. He was, of course, also involved in the day to day work of contact with the press and other writers. It was through this that he became connected with the Bullnose Morris Club. "One of the leading lights of the Club was writing a book about the car. In fact it's up there on the

In the cockpit before take-off, Ken is shown the controls by Ralph Stothard while Jo keeps an eye on things. Photo: Daily Mail.



shelf with his signature on it, *The Bullnose Morris*. I helped in the research for this book by getting old catalogues, even asking people personal reminiscences, people who'd been there from Lord Nuffield's day. Lord Nuffield, himself, was in fact the first President of the Bullnose Morris Club. Well, he died in 1963 and some weeks or months after that they wrote and asked me if I would be President. Of course, I was very bowled over by it."

"I'd always been interested in the history of motoring. I think it started because my father was the senior local taxation officer for Bedfordshire. He used to tell me all about the early days when driving licences came in and how a man would register a car and the number was taken from one car to another. He told me about the Motor Car Act of 1903 and the Roads Act of 1920 and when discs—licence discs—first came. This goes back to my school-days. One of the masters at school had a supercharged Lagonda. I remember how we all used to think how wonderful it was."

No vintage car

Yet Ken has never thought of owning a vintage or veteran car. "Of course I've wanted to but I couldn't do justice to it if I did. We haven't the space. I know some blind people do muck about with cars but I just felt we hadn't the space here, and they are not cheap to own." As President of the Club Ken finds himself participating in many rallies. He has been driven in a 1902 Wolseley in the London-Brighton Veteran Car Run and in 1968 travelled from Cape Town to Durban in a 1926 two-seater Bullnose Morris. To a sighted person such rallies would seem to be essentially a visual experience. "That is true but there is something about sitting in a veteran or vintage car. You've got the feel of it, the open air and the lack of suspension, you know. There's the sound of the motor. It obviously is a visual experience but it's one you can enjoy without vision."

"All sorts of people belong to the Bullnose Morris Club, literally all sorts. Quite a lot of them are in the motor business. There's a chap in Abingdon who runs a carpet business; civil servants and maiden ladies, all sorts really." . . . And the reason they cherish these old cars? "I think the reason is this, people regard a vintage car as being properly made—craftsmanship.

That is why vintage will not change. Vintage isn't age. Vintage is before a certain year—before the end of 1930. Flow production as we know it today hadn't taken a grip by then. In the very early days when Morris built his first cars they were literally a chassis with a cluster of men round it putting bits on—humping the engine in, bolting the springs on and lifting the body on and so on."

History of the car

Ken often gives talks on the history of the car. He enjoys public speaking, "I like being asked to go and give a talk on the motor car and there's no doubt I like class-room work." The classes Ken refers to are part of his present work with British Leyland, "I give lectures on the principles of organisation, the history of the Corporation. Then I give them an introduction to Law—just a little bit of how Law developed—Common Law, Statute Law, Common Law duty as to safety, in other words negligence, and of course, modern legislation such as the Factories Act."

That Ken is qualified to talk on legal subjects is due to a decision he took in 1954. "I said I'd like to become a lawyer. I felt it would give me wider scope so I got myself articled to an Oxford solicitor. The Corporation were jolly good to me, they gave me a sabbatical five years. They were marvellous and they kept paying me because, obviously, there was no pay as an articled clerk."

In fact it was a five and a half year stint that Ken did, working at the solicitor's office and studying through readers and tape recorders in his spare time. "I had two periods of full-time studies in London either at the Law Society's School of Law or what they call crammer courses, specially designed for particular exams. Things don't stick when you are 38 like they do when you are 18. You've got to read things many more times. I did find that."

At examinations Ken had an amanuensis supplied by the Law Society, "I was put into a little private room and, at the stroke of nine or ten or whatever it was, the envelope with the questions was opened and they were read to me as many times and in whatever order I wanted. I dictated the answers and was allowed an extra half hour on a three hour paper." He heard that he had passed in a night club in

Liverpool, where he was listening to an artiste for the production company in which he is associated with Jo and Bill Scott Coomber, vocalist with Jack Payne between the wars and afterwards a BBC producer. It was Bill who got the news for Ken from the *Liverpool Echo* news desk.

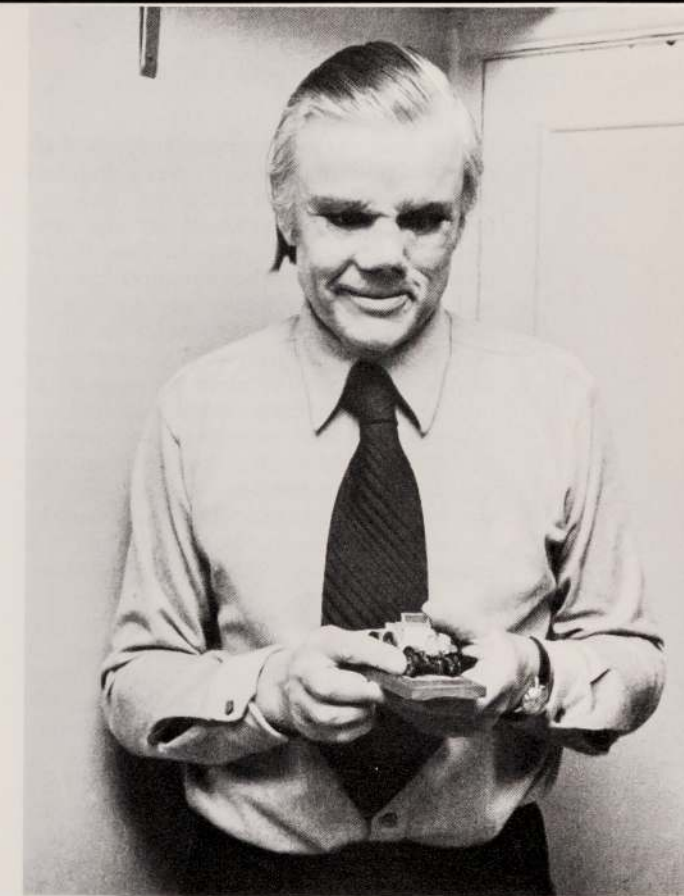
"I was delighted to have passed but I think being admitted as a solicitor, that happened a few weeks later in a ceremony at the Law Society, I think really that was just about the proudest moment of my life." Prouder than receiving his M.B.E. from King George VI at Buckingham Palace? "Yes, I think so. I suppose I thought I had done more. It had taken me five years."

Sandra Productions

Ken also uses his legal knowledge in contract work for Sandra Productions, the theatrical company named after his former guide dog. As local guide dog organisers he and Jo arranged the heats for Oxford's Top Town team for BBC television. "I sang one song specially written for me called 'Sandra by my Side'. Bill was Assistant Producer of the Top Town contest. I think it was always his ambition to run his own little company and when he met up with us and found we were leaning towards it, we formed Sandra Productions Ltd. We produce a show every year at Filey and we've done shows in Bridlington, Cromer, Minehead and Scarborough."

There is another segment of Ken's life which links with his interest in law. It began when he arranged for some ex-car carpet to be supplied to a discharged prisoners' hostel. "That is how I got on the Committee which is the Oxfordshire Prisoners' Aid Society. I go into the hostel and chat with these chaps. They seem to accept me immediately. It's christian names straight away and I don't seem to be regarded as Committee. Perhaps it is because I am blind. I have found that people are more willing to unburden themselves to a blind person."

He is quick to point out that he is not a "do-gooder" and he is also active on the side of crime prevention as Chairman of the Oxford District Crime Prevention Panel. "It is interesting work but it can only be telling people. We can't alter the criminal's mind. We can't stop him being a criminal. All we can do is to tell the public to be more careful of their own



Ken uses a model to get to know the lines of an early Bullnose Morris.

belongings. To lock their houses and their cars and their daughters, if you like."

Pressed, Ken will admit that prevention cannot stop crime altogether "You will never stop the professional. It's an awful problem, I really don't think punishment can ever be a deterrent because people never think they're going to get caught. I know prison is meant to reform and deter and in some sense to be a retribution and it is intended to fit the man for a better and more useful life. Whether it succeeds I wish I could tell you. I just don't know."

His legal qualification has opened another door for Ken. Recently he became a Fellow of the Institute of Arbitrators. "I read up the book, *Treatise on the Law and Practice of Arbitrations and Awards*. I didn't have to pass an examination, I merely had to fill in a form, a pretty comprehensive thing about my life and the fact that I was a qualified solicitor. You have to have a professional qualification."

Ken hopes to practise as an arbitrator in civil disputes, "It could be anything,

breach of contract, negligence or nuisance or people thinking they've been done by the shops. First of all the parties have got to agree to go to arbitration. The arbitrator's jurisdiction rests on that agreement. In other words you never get unwilling litigants. The hearing could take place anywhere. You can hire the Town Hall or you could have it in your drawing room. The rules of evidence apply—no hearsay. The claimant and respondent can call witnesses who may be cross-examined on oath and then, after consideration and generally not on the spot I wouldn't think, the arbitrator makes what is known as his award, which should be in writing. It is known as a judicial hearing. The award is final and binding."

Ken points to the fact that we are beginning to hear more of arbitration in disputes, particularly in the holiday travel field. It can be quicker and less expensive than going through the courts. He is now on a panel of arbitrators organised by the Industrial Society and is to attend a long weekend residential course at York University in May run by the Institute of Arbitrators. "I think the difficulty will be acceptance. There are a lot of people who don't accept blindness. But then Henry Fielding, the Chief London Magistrate in the old oppressive days, was blind".

He sets quite a store by arbitration for the future: "I would like it to happen but I can't honestly say that it is happening". Looking back on Ken's life so far it is clear he is the kind of man who, if he wants things to happen, generally manages to make them happen. "I think if you didn't, you would simply just sit and you would be regarded as just another blind chap."

CLUB NEWS

LONDON

The Football pontoon ending on 3rd February was won by Mrs. Meleson with Coventry, the booby prize went to Mrs. Carney, her team being Liverpool.

The Domino Winners were:

4th January	1 J. Padley	
	2 R. Pringle	}
	C. Hancock	
11th January	1 R. Pacitti	
	G. Stanley	
18th January	1 J. Majchrowicz	
	2 R. Fullard	}
	J. Padley	
25th January	1 W. Miller	
	2 J. Majchrowicz	

The Sir Arthur Pearson Domino Competition winners were:

Aggregate Competition

- 1 W. Miller
- M. Sheehan
- 2 D. Watkins

Fives and Threes Competition

- 1 J. Padley
- 2 R. Fullard

W. MILLER

Annual General Meeting

There were fifteen St. Dunstaners present at the 26th Annual General Meeting held in the Club Rooms on Saturday, 10th February.

The Chairman, Bill Miller, outlined the activities of the London Club during the past year and thanked the Committee for its effort on the members' behalf.

He remarked on the upward trend in attendances at the Club in the year 1972 and in particular the fact that the sections now appeared to be coming closer together. Only a couple of years ago, Bill continued, domino players did not play bridge, or vice-versa, but today most members who lived within reach of the Club took part in both dominoes and bridge, and some in swimming, too, in the warmer weather. Togetherness—what Clubs are formed for—Bill prays the union will continue.

The Bridge Section has had an excellent year, he said, with the November Congress, the recent Instructional weekend, the Harrogate week, the London Business Houses' League, the Masters' Match and the Christmas Bridge Drive, being six of the star attractions from a galaxy of interesting events. Paul Nuyens as the secretary, and the captains, both past and present, are to be congratulated on a wonderful job of organisation. Dominoes followed by Bridge instruction on a

Thursday evening had proved a very popular feature.

Bill thanked Jim Padley for looking after the Indoor Section and Mrs. Padley for her efforts in running the Monday evening Yoga classes. Yoga followed by swimming made an excellent combination during the summer months.

Walking had continued mostly at Ewell and this, too, had gained a little strength, he remarked and seems good for some time to come. The enthusiasm of David Purches had been like a kiss of life to that section.

Competitions for the Sir Arthur Pearson prizes were held in all sections and the Derby Day outing and the Football Pontoon were as popular as ever, and Bill could safely say that 1972 was a very satisfactory year for the London Club.

In ending his report Bill thanked Norman Smith, his wife Flora, the staff of St. Dunstan's, the wives and the many helpers who had helped to keep the Club running smoothly.

The accounts were read by Mr. A. D. Lloyds and approved by the members present.

On the election of officers, Bill Miller and Jim Padley, who were due to retire, were re-elected. Roy Armstrong retired. J. Lynch and Bill Phillips were proposed and elected.

A vote of thanks by Bill Miller was heartily accorded to Mr. A. D. Lloyds for his work and interest in the Club over the many years. The committee and the members present joined in wishing him a long and happy retirement.

Miss Carson, too, was thanked for her work in connection with the London Club.

Mr. A. D. Lloyds replied as the meeting ended saying it had been a pleasure to have served the St. Dunstan's London Club.

J. PADLEY

MIDLAND

The club calendar for 1972 was completed very well with an excellent Christmas dinner at the Royal British Legion, Northfield, Birmingham, on 16th December. We were made extremely welcome by our friends at the Legion and this year for the first time we had the pleasure of Miss Newbold's company.

Everyone enjoyed the meal and also the dancing which took place later in the evening. Christmas and the New Year were well celebrated that evening.

1973 started quite well, with our first meeting for the year held on 14th January. We had two or three new faces with us, including Tom O'Connor. It was good to see them and I trust they will enjoy our company and come along regularly to meetings whenever possible.

The draw for the dominoes competitions was made and we have got under way with the Sir Arthur Pearson competition.

An evening out, some time in March is now planned and ideas were asked for as to where we should go for our outing this year.

It would be very nice to see more local St. Dunstaners joining us, the more members we have the more outings and other events can be planned. If you do not come to meetings, why not give it a try? Come along and have a chinwag on one of the second Sundays of any month at the **Royal British Legion, Thorp Street, Birmingham**, commencing at 3 p.m. You will be made very welcome.

DOUG CASHMORE,
Secretary.

BRIDGE NOTES

The second Individual Competition of both London and Brighton was held on Saturday, 10th February. The results are as follows:

London

A. Caldwell and J. Lynch	69
W. Allen and J. Padley	68
W. Phillips and F. Dickerson	68
W. Miller and R. Stanners	65
W. Lethbridge and H. Meleson	56
P. Nuyens and R. Pacitti	52

Brighton

R. Fullard and F. Rhodes	77
W. Claydon and R. Goding	77
J. Chell and S. Webster	71
A. Dodgson and C. Walters	64
W. Burnett and J. Whitcombe	59
M. Clements and F. Griffiee	48
A. Smith and W. Scott	46

BRIDGE INSTRUCTION WEEKEND

Owing to the temporary closing of Ovingdean the annual Bridge Instruction weekend was held at the Ocean Hotel, Saltdean, on 2nd-4th February, this year. Thirty-two members took part including Mrs. V. Delaney, Miss Vera Kemmish and Miss Blodwyn Simon, and also some wives and escorts. Mr. J. D. Connell, Mr. A. Field and Mrs. Nora Field, having divided the number into three groups, held an instruction competition for teams of four. This was won by the following members:

- 1 F. Dickerson and W. Lethbridge
W. Phillips and R. Evans
- 2 E. Carpenter and A. Smith
W. Allen and R. Fullard
- 3 R. Armstrong and J. Lynch
A. Caldwell and P. Nuyens

Also the pairs competition gave the following results:

- N/S
- 1 Mrs. V. Delaney and Mrs. J. Lynch
 - 2 A. Dodgson and M. Clements
 - 3 R. Evans and W. Phillips
- E/W
- 1 J. Whitcombe and R. Goding
 - 2 S. Webster and T. Woods
 - 3 Mr. and Mrs. Meleson

On Friday evening Miss B. Simon, Miss V. Kemmish and her sister, Doris, visited J. Clare at Northgate House. Joe very much regretted that he could not be with the Bridge Party at the Ocean Hotel but sent his very best wishes. Matron Blackford very kindly brought them back to the hotel, and this gave her the opportunity of meeting and having a word with all those present.

Bridge Drive

On our final afternoon a Bridge Drive was held for the whole party, and was won by the following members:

- 1 Mrs. W. Phillips and M. Clements
- 2 Miss Vera Kemmish and P. Nuyens
- 3 Mrs. V. Delaney and K. Cole

. . . and so ended a pleasant and most enjoyable weekend.

P. NUYENS

BRIDGE CRUISE

This matter was fully discussed at the meeting held at the Ocean Hotel, Saltdean, during the Instruction weekend. Tom Woods gave some details of such a cruise now taking place on the *Alexandr Pushkin* for a duration of thirteen days sailing from Tilbury, Las Palmas, Casablanca, Tenerife, Tangiers, Rotterdam and back to Tilbury. He was asked to obtain firm details for a similar voyage during January/February 1974.

I have just heard from him that this ship will not be doing this similar voyage next year, but instead her sister ship the *Mikhail Lermontov* also of 20,000 tons will undertake a similar cruise to the Atlantic Islands during April 1974. Details will only be available in two months time. This seems a more favourable time when the weather would be more stable for sailing through the English Channel.

It was further stipulated that each St. Dunstaner should have his own escort. So far eight St. Dunstan Bridge Players with their escorts have notified me. Should there be any other Bridge Players interested will they please let me know as soon as possible.

When further details are available I will inform those whose names I have already received.

A party of 25-50 people would benefit by a reduction of 10% on the charge.

P. NUYENS

FAMILY NEWS

Births

Many congratulations to EDWARD AND BARBARA PEPPER of Bognor Regis, Sussex, on the arrival of a son, Robert, who was born on 11th January, 1973. Robert is another brother for David, Carol and Susan.

Silver Weddings

Sincere congratulations to MR. AND MRS. JOHN CASWELL of Reading, Berks., who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 14th February, 1973.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. RONALD FREER of Gravesend, Kent, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 28th December, 1972.

Warm congratulations to MR. AND MRS. JAMES LEGGE of Bristol, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 31st January, 1973.

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. ERNIE STENT of Worthing, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 14th February, 1973.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

ERIC ASHBY of Coventry, whose daughter presented him with a granddaughter, Clare, on 5th January, 1973. She is a sister for Simon.

GUY BILCLIFF of Sutton Coldfield, who is pleased to announce that his eldest daughter gave birth to a girl, Janet, on 22nd January, 1973. Guy now has six grand-daughters and two grandsons.

CECIL PARKER of Grantham, Lincs., who is proud to announce the arrival of his second grand-daughter, Clare, born on 4th January, 1973.

ALFRED WATERS of East Bergholt, Near Colchester, Essex, who is pleased to announce the safe arrival of his third grandchild, Sarah on 11th January, 1973, and his fourth grandchild, Joanne Ruth, who arrived on 29th January, 1973.

Great Grandfather

Many congratulations to:

HAROLD CRAMPORN of Eastbourne, Sussex, who has recently become a great grandfather for the first time on the birth of a great grand-daughter, Karen.

Long Life and happiness to:

Michael, son of HENRY WALTER BRAMLEY of Prestwich, near Manchester, who married Christine Edwards in Scotland on 16th December, 1972.

Michael, son of THOMAS JONES of Telford, Shropshire, who married Miss Gail Clements on 9th December, 1972.

Robert, son of JOHN LOACH of Dudley, Worcs., who married Elaine Taylor on 11th November, 1972, at St. Augustine's Church, Dudley.

Constance, daughter of JOHN SIMPSON of Brighton, Sussex, who married Graham Earl at St. Paul's Church, Thornton Heath, on 13th January, 1973.

Michael, son of RONALD TINGAY of Dartford, Kent, who married Sandra Nash on 14th October, 1972.

Deaths

We offer our very sincere sympathy to:

JOHN B. CAMPBELL of Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham, who mourns the death of his wife, Christiana on 30th January, 1973.

THOMAS GEARING of Lewes, Sussex, on the death of his wife, Mrs. E. L. Gearing on 26th December, 1972. Mrs. Gearing had been in ill-health for some time.

WILLIAM GLOVER of Bristol, on the death on 22nd January, 1973 of his only sister, Mrs. Winifred Seymour who lived in Birmingham, and was his last link with his family in that city.

Mrs. Hamson of Lower Stoke, Rochester, Kent, wife of our St. Dunstaner RONALD HAMSON, mourns the death of her mother last October, at the age of 99 years.

ERIC JENKINS of Ferring, Sussex, who mourns the death of his wife Ivy Jenkins, on 17th January, 1973, after a long illness bravely borne. Our sympathy is extended to friends and helpers who assisted Mr. Jenkins to nurse his wife over many years.

ERNEST JORDAN of Rottingdean, Sussex, who mourns the death of his brother last October.

SIDNEY LETCH of Hatfield Peverel, Herts., who mourns the death of his only son John, at the age of fifty-two, in hospital on 11th February after a short illness.

Mrs. Tingay of Dartford, Kent, wife of our St. Dunstaner, RONALD TINGAY, mourns the death of her mother at the beginning of January this year.

In Memory

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

William Frederick Aldridge. *Royal Field Artillery*
William Frederick Aldridge of Birmingham, died in hospital on 4th January, 1973. He was 78 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Field Artillery in 1915 and served with them until his discharge in the winter of 1916. Mr. Aldridge was wounded in Mesopotamia in 1916 but his sight did not fail completely until much later in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1972. Because of the injuries he received Mr. Aldridge was never able to undertake any employment following his discharge from the services. His health was not good but nevertheless his death was most unexpected.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Gladys Aldridge.

John Burley. *Royal Air Force*
John Burley of Lancing, Sussex, and late of Northgate House, Brighton, died on 27th January, 1973, at the age of 85 years.

He served in the Royal Air Force from 1916 until his discharge in 1919, coming to St. Dunstan's in that year.

He trained in joinery, netting and typewriting. On completion of his training Mr. Burley continued with carpentry work but in his earlier days gave a lot of thought to inventing and making a model bed-chair. He showed great initiative in his carpentry work and at one time made a set of parallel bars for a gymnasium. He also made a large radio cabinet with fire screen to match. In his spare time he worked hard in his garden and greenhouse.

Mr. Burley never married and he lived with his sister who looked after him for many years until her death. In recent years when Mr. Burley's health was less robust he went to live at Northgate House where he died peacefully.

He leaves a brother-in-law and family who live in Leeds.

Charles Herbert Hale. *Royal Engineers*
Charles Herbert Hale of Bristol, died in hospital on 3rd February, 1973. He was 58 years of age.

He served in the Royal Engineers from 1939 to 1943 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1959. He trained for industrial work and from 1961 he was fully employed in this type of work.

Mr. and Mrs. Hale moved to the West Country when Mr. Hale took up his employment and he had been in very good health until a sudden illness necessitated his admission to a local Bristol Hospital, where despite every medical care, his condition gradually deteriorated and he died in hospital.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Louisa Hale and a son and a married daughter.

John Henry Hogg. *Royal Artillery*
John Henry Hogg of Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, died on 10th February, 1973, four days after his 53rd birthday.

He joined the territorials in 1937 and was called to the colours in 1939 serving with the Royal Artillery. He was discharged in 1941 but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1965. Mr. Hogg's sight began to fail some fifteen years before he was admitted to St. Dunstan's and his disabilities included deafness. In view of his rather poor health Mr. Hogg could only undergo Hobby Training and he completed this in 1968. Mr. Hogg undertook a good deal of basket work for local sales and this was his occupation up to his death which was sudden and most unexpected.

He leaves a widow Mrs. Jean Hogg.

Ernest William Love. *Machine Gun Corps*
Ernest William Love of Chelmsford, Essex, died in hospital on 14th January, 1973, at the age of 74 years.

He enlisted in the Machine Gun Corps in 1917 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. Mr. Love's sight did not deteriorate until later in life and he had already retired when he came to St. Dunstan's in 1966. He was able to enjoy several holidays at Ovingdean and Mr. and Mrs. Love celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in April of last year. Mr. Love had kept in reasonable health until he was admitted to hospital in the summer of last year but was later discharged and was making steady progress at home when he was taken ill again and re-admitted to hospital where he died on 14th January, 1973.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ethel Love and two sons.

Daniel McAudley. *Royal Army Service Corps*
Daniel McAudley, late of Blackpool, Lancs., and latterly a patient at the Whittingham Hospital, Nr. Preston, Lancs., died on 12th January, 1973, at the age of 54 years.

He enlisted in the Royal Army Service Corps and served with them until his discharge in 1949 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1950. Mr. McAudley trained and settled in industry, but for health reasons had to give up this occupation in 1952. He was admitted to the Whittingham Hospital in 1964, where he remained as a patient until the time of his death. There were no next of kin but his landlady, Mrs. G. Jones, with whom he stayed before entering hospital was always kind enough to visit our St. Dunstaner from time to time, and of course, St. Dunstan's kept in touch with the hospital in addition to our Welfare Officer's visits.

David Sachan Munro. *Royal Army Service Corps*
David Sachan Munro of Woodside, Aberdeen, Scotland, died in hospital on 10th February, 1973. He was 83 years of age.

He served in the Royal Army Service Corps from 1915 to 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's in 1919.

He trained as a basket maker and took many prizes for his work at local shows. Mr. Munro continued with this occupation until 1971 when he retired. He enjoyed good health until the last couple of years when he began to suffer with heart trouble. He was admitted to hospital in December, 1972 and was discharged home during January but unfortunately his condition deteriorated and he died in February.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Eleanor Munro.