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St Dunstons
REVIEW
JULY

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Pearson House

Introducing the Duke of Norfolk at Pearson House on the 31st May (see another page) I said that the Duke was not only a most distinguished national personality but, more particularly, was the Lord Lieutenant of Sussex and I took the opportunity to thank the people of Sussex, who have made us so welcome in the County generally, where we have had our famous Homes since the First War days. I then thanked the Mayor, Alderman George R. Lucraft, the first citizen of Brighton, for the very great help which his Corporation and that of the neighbouring Borough of Hove have given us during all these years. We also remembered with appreciation the fact that the Federation of Grocers' Associations of the United Kingdom had given us our first Home in the town and still continued through their local Organisation regularly to help and entertain St. Dunstaners.

The official opening of our new Pearson House was a proud and happy occasion, which had been extremely well organised. St. Dunstan's was delighted to welcome many old friends amongst the guests and all who were present joined in thanking the Duke and the Bishop of Chichester for visiting us and for their most friendly and sympathetic speeches.

Birthday Honours

St. Dunstaners may like to hear about four persons, who have to do with our Organisation, who were included in a recent Honours List, though none of these awards was related to St. Dunstan's or our work.

Dr. John Hunt has been created a Life Peer for his work for general medical practitioners. Older St. Dunstaners will remember Dr. Bridges, our physician during and after the First War and indeed his work continued until the end of the Second War, when Dr. Hunt, having concluded his service in the Royal Air Force, became his assistant and ultimately followed Dr. Bridges as our Medical Officer. Some years later Dr. John Janvrin took over this appointment and Dr. Hunt was elected to the Council of St. Dunstan's and he has attended many Reunions. Lady Fraser and I look forward to welcoming the new Lord and Lady Hunt in Parliament.

Walter Thornton, well-known Second War St. Dunstaner, has been awarded the O.B.E. as Chairman of the Birmingham Federation of Boys' Clubs. He has had a life-time's connection with this type of voluntary service and, while he was an active member of the senior staff of the Cadbury Group, Bournville, his work was to a large extent concentrated upon staff welfare, more particularly amongst the younger employees. St. Dunstaners will associate Walter Thornton with the practical introduction of the long cane and he has distinguished himself as an expert and exponent of the use of this and other devices to aid mobility.

Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, J.P., T.D., has been awarded the M.B.E. for public services in Sussex. Mrs. Dacre was married to Air Commodore G. B. Dacre, who did a splendid job for St. Dunstan's as Commandant at Church Stretton and then at Brighton, and during a

COVER PICTURE: *Shot by Lord Montgomery? No, not Gwen Obern but one of the trophies on the wall at Flanagan's, where Gwen tries on one of the waitresses' grey toppers during the Handless Reunion.*

long life in the Air Force she devoted herself to many good causes and was one of a small band of women who helped to start the A.T.S. and the W.A.A.F. Some twenty years ago, she became a Magistrate at Brighton and was a distinguished and formidable figure on the Bench, and she has been continuously interested in the local Royal British Legion, R.A.F. organisations and other Sussex activities. And of course she has been a very active voluntary helper at St. Dunstan's, Brighton, and is President of the Brighton Club.

Another award that will give ex-Servicemen pleasure is that Captain D. E. Coffey, O.B.E. General Secretary of the Royal British Legion, has been promoted to C.B.E. St. Dunstan's and the Royal British Legion have much in common in their approach to Government and many of their branches all over the country are friendly to St. Dunstaners

Our congratulations go to all four!

Fraser of Lonsdale

From the Chairman's Postbag

Lord Fraser's remarks in the June *Review* about companionship and loneliness have brought a number of comments. We quote the following:

Charles Cornwell, of Ipswich: "It was interesting to hear your words about the men going to clubs. As for myself, I have joined a mixed club for blind folk run by the local Council and am also a member of a club just for blind and partly blind men only and we have a gathering every Wednesday morning in one of the Church halls in the Town. We are taken by car and brought home at the end of the meeting. This is also arranged by the local Council."

W. M. Jones, of Southampton: "I liked your homily on "loneliness" which appeared in this month's *Review*. It comes as timely encouragement to those of us of the First World War who have in the last year or two joined the ranks of "widowers". However you left the idea of "The Local" until the end of the paragraph but from my experience I believe I should have given it pride of place."

Mrs. Outtrim, of Hertford: "My husband attends both the Hertford and Hoddesdon blind clubs, also he is a member of the Hertford branch of the Old Contemptibles, so we get out quite often".

We are also informed that Allen Caldwell, of Croydon, has been introduced to the local Police Cadets, some of whom visit him from time to time; this gives him great pleasure.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY Greetings from St. Dunstan's

On the Queen's official birthday Lord Fraser sent the following telegram:

I am honoured to wish your Majesty many happy returns of the day on behalf of St. Dunstan's men and women throughout the commonwealth.

FRASER OF LONSDALE
Chairman

and Her Majesty replied:

I send you and the men and women of St. Dunstan's throughout the Commonwealth my sincere thanks for your kind message on the celebration of my birthday.

ELIZABETH R.

John Scott B.E.M.

St. Dunstaners, particularly those who go to H.M.S. *Daedalus*, will be pleased to hear that Chief Petty Officer Air Mech. I John "Jock" Scott was awarded the British Empire Medal in the Birthday Honours List. He has been connected with St. Dunstan's Camp as one of the keen helpers for 20 years. His award was for his work with the famous Fleet Air Arm Field Gun's Crew whom he has trained and taken to many victories in the event at the Royal Tournament.

PHILLIP WOOD of Crewe is pleased to report that his son, Christopher, who is 18, will go up to Oxford in October of this year to read German.



After the official opening of Pearson House the Duke of Norfolk (third from the left) is seen with (l.-r.) The Mayoress of Brighton, Mrs. Lucraft; Alderman George Lucraft, Mayor: Miss O. Hallett, Matron: Lord Fraser: Lady Fraser: Mr. C. D. Wills, Secretary.

Mr. L. Fawcett, Commandant, escorts the Duke on a tour of the building.

Duke of Norfolk Opens Pearson House

On 31st May His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., Lord Lieutenant of Sussex and a Vice-President of St. Dunstan's, officially opened the new Pearson House by unveiling a plaque in the Wintergarden.

Some six months have passed since St. Dunstaners and staff moved into the building following its 2½ years in the hands of the contractors. In that time the house has become a home. The garden, though as yet by no means established, is planted with roses, rooms have become "lived in" and on his tour of inspection after the ceremony the Duke saw it at its best.

On his arrival the Duke of Norfolk was greeted by the Mayor of Brighton, Alderman George R. Lucraft, who then introduced Lord Fraser and Lady Fraser. In the absence of Sir Neville Pearson, Bt.,



Joe Britton, a permanent resident at Pearson House, jokes with the Duke as he demonstrates the bedside control panel.

our President, who was unfortunately indisposed, Lord Fraser then performed the introductions of the Rev. The Lord Bishop of Chichester, R. P. Wilson, D.D., who has recently accepted the Council's invitation to become a Vice-President, St. Dunstan's Vice-Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme and Mrs. Garnett-Orme and Commandant L. Fawcett. Others introduced to the Duke of Norfolk included six members of St. Dunstan's Council: Mr. Nigel Pearson, who was accompanied by Lady Francis Pearson, Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, Rev. F. Darrell Bunt, General Sir Richard Goodbody, Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris, Mr. Michael Delmar-Morgan as well as Mr. C. D. Wills, Secretary of St. Dunstan's, Mr. A. D. Lloyds, Miss O. Hallett and Mrs. J. Blackford, Matrons, Dr. J. O'Hara, The Rev. W. Popham Hosford, Chaplain, and representatives of the architects and contractors.

Guests and St. Dunstaners were gathered in the Wintergarden, in the adjoining quiet room and in a marquee on the terrace

The Duke of Norfolk speaks after unveiling the commemorative plaque.



outside, the proceedings being relayed by loudspeakers to those outside the Wintergarden. After an introduction by Lord Fraser, the Duke of Norfolk unveiled the plaque which bears this inscription:

"This plaque was unveiled by his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., on 31st May, 1973, to mark the opening of Pearson House after renovation and the addition of a Nursing Wing.

The original building was presented to St. Dunstan's by the Federation of Grocers' Associations of the United Kingdom in 1918."

The Duke spoke of the work of St. Dunstan's and its long connection with Brighton, "I am sure," he said, "that this new building will make the lives of those blind people living here more happy and worthwhile." Lord Fraser then called upon the Bishop of Chichester to bless the house.

After the ceremony the Duke of Norfolk toured the building with Commandant Fawcett. He visited training rooms, the kitchen, medical departments and bedrooms where he met and spoke with St. Dunstaners.

Other guests also had the opportunity to look over the building guided by members of Pearson House staff.

Derby Sweepstake 1973

This year the total number of Derby Sweepstake tickets came to 2,723—175 less than last year. 25 runners came under starter's orders and after deducting the cost of printing the sweepstake tickets the prize money was as follows:

- 1st Prize MORSTON
F. Berisford of Whitmore,
Newcastle, Staffs.
Ticket No. 1992. £200.58
- 2nd Prize CAVO DORO
E. W. Dudley of Croydon,
Surrey
Ticket No. 2445. £80.25
- 3rd Prize FREEFOOT
F. Thame of Luton, Beds.
Ticket No. 329. £40.14

There were 22 other runners in the race and St. Dunstaners holding tickets for these horses received £3.64 each.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From J. Padley of North Greenford,
Middlesex.

Tribute to Bob Cameron.

These few lines are written on behalf of all members of the London Club. It is with great sorrow and shock that we learnt of the death of fellow club member Bob Cameron. We all looked forward to meeting Bob and his escort Marjorie on Thursday evenings, chatting together over tea, listening to him strumming on the piano, and playing dominoes with his good humoured remarks flowing from table to table.

Norman Smith along with my wife and myself attended the funeral on behalf of the London Club and the same evening a one minute silence of respect was observed by all of us at the Club.

We would like to thank Marjorie for honouring one of Bob's last wishes by bringing to the club a bottle of cognac, so that all of us could have a last drink with him. We all offer both her and Bob's wife and family our deepest sympathy.

From Mrs. Daisy B. Giffin of Crawley,
Sussex

Thanks for the memory, Scottie, in the June *Review*. It brought back to me also happy memories, as I knew all the names mentioned and I can remember a few more such as Bill Collins, Terry Rodon and my husband, Paddy Giffin, who passed away in August, 1970, at the age of 74.

Paddy was at Cornwall Terrace. Yes, we were able to celebrate our Golden Wedding Anniversary one month before he died a very sad death.

Thanks Scottie, for those happy memories of the "Dear Boys" as they were known.

From Mrs. Gladys Jackson, Milton,
Southsea

P.O.W.s Germany

May I take this opportunity of thanking those concerned for the spray sent for my husband, Sidney Jackson, who passed away on 9th April, 1973.

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.

James Eric Caldwell of Stockport became a full St. Dunstaner in May 1973. He served in the Royal Tank Regiment from 1952 to 1966. He is married with a son and two daughters.

William James Carthy of Dorking, Surrey, became a full St. Dunstaner in May 1973. In the Second World War he served in the Royal Air Force. Until his retirement he had a business in the Midlands. He is married.

James Higginbottom of Gateshead, came to us in May 1973. Mr. Higginbottom served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps during the Second World War and was wounded in France in 1940. He is married.

Leslie Frederick May of Lower Kingswood, Surrey, became a full St. Dunstaner in May 1973. He served with the Field Regiment, Royal Artillery in the Second World War. He retired two years ago from his work as a Surveyor. Mr. May is a bachelor.

Patrick Murphy of New Stevenstone, Lanarkshire, who joined St. Dunstan's in May 1973. Mr. Murphy served in the King's Own Scottish Borderers and was wounded in Northern Ireland in November 1972. He is single and is at present in training at Pearson House, Brighton.

Cyril Robert Hewitt Smith of Croydon, Surrey, joined St. Dunstan's in May 1973. Mr. Smith served in the Territorial Army and was mobilised at the outbreak of the Second World War. He served with the B.E.F. in France and was evacuated at Dunkirk. He also served with the 8th Army at El Alamein. He is married and is at present employed in industry.

KEMP TOWN NOTES

We cannot give an account of our days at Pearson House during May without touching upon the very pleasant occasion of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk's visit to unveil the plaque commemorating the re-opening of the House. It was flowers all the way and a garden party atmosphere after the ceremony and it gave us all much pleasure to welcome our distinguished guests. As there is an account elsewhere in the *Review*, we will not elaborate further except to say that it was one more item to add to our list of memorable days.

Each year during May, Brighton stages an International Festival of the Arts and a number of our Pearson House residents take advantage of the opportunity to listen to the very fine concerts which are presented. It is by no means an entirely high-brow Festival and our largest contingent of St. Dunstaners went to the Dome for the opening concert which was given by the Massed Bands of the Coldstream, Scots and Welsh Guards and which included music associated with the British Army in India. The Rt. Hon. Earl Mountbatten of Burma was there and made a speech to open the Festival and later in the evening there was a Display of Fireworks on the Lawns of the Royal Pavilion. Our St. Dunstaners came back with glowing accounts of the excellence of the performance and of their complete enjoyment of the evening. The Dome necessarily had to suspend the evergreen "Tuesday at the Dome" for the two weeks of the Festival and this was a great miss for our regular attenders, but, after all, what you lose on the swings you gain on the roundabouts! Among the very famous artistes appearing

Edward Tuck of Tondu, Bridgend, Glamorgan, joined St. Dunstan's in June 1973. Mr. Tuck served in the 5th South Wales Borderers in the First World War and was wounded at Vimy Ridge in 1917.

Sydney Wood of Peterborough, Northants, joined St. Dunstan's in May 1973. Mr. Wood served in the South Staffordshire Regiment during the First World War and was wounded at Ypres. He is married with a grown-up family.

in the Festival were Yehudi Menuhin, Daniel Barenboim, Julian Bream, John Williams, Flora Robson and Ian Wallace. The orchestras included the London Philharmonic, The London Symphony, and the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra. The Theatre Royal had Ballet and several members of the staff went to see Margot Fonteyn dance with the Royal Ballet. This was an experience difficult to describe in words, it took one out of this world. The final concert was a performance of Elgar's "The Dream of Gerontius" with full orchestra, choir and soloists and this was very much to the liking of all our music lovers. Altogether a feast of riches indeed!

Weybridge Choir

On a slightly different plane we had our own music making at Pearson House when members of the Weybridge Male Voice Choir came to give us a concert. We haven't room at present for the full choir but nevertheless we had a very enjoyable evening, as always with this highly rated group. For those friends of the Cecilian Singers who may be wondering about them this year we have news. They have decided not to send a smaller group to Pearson House but will save their talents until they can come all together again after Ovingdean re-opens. In the meantime they send good wishes to everyone and look forward to a grand re-union some time in the future.

Discussion

We had one Discussion during May which drew a good crowd of talkers, each one anxious to say his little piece. The subject, introduced by Mr. J. Stokes, was "Radio—the Voice of the Listeners". We had some interesting opinions on this, as one might expect from a group of people to whom radio means so much. Having chewed over the subject from almost every angle, we came to no earth-shattering conclusions, but decided that on the whole listeners were well catered for in most ways, though we are not averse to giving the B.B.C. a hint or two now and then!

After all our mental exertions we are now hoping to be a little lazy and bask in some summer sunshine. We have it with us at the moment of writing and it is amazing how we all blossom in its welcome warmth!

WIVES AND WIDOWS House of Lords Question

During the afternoon of Wednesday, 13th June, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale asked the following question in the House of Lords and the Debate which followed is printed below.

"To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, when the annual review of war pensions take place in the Autumn, in implementation of the undertaking to maintain and if possible improve the position of the war pensioner and his dependants, they will consider adjusting the wife's allowance from 50p per week—which has remained unaltered for over 53 years—to a figure which bears a more reasonable relation to the present value of money."

THE MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY (LORD ABERDARE): No, my Lords. The increase of 50p for a wife paid with 100 per cent disablement pension, and *pro rata* for lower assessments, dates from an era before modern social security provisions were introduced, and has long been regarded as obsolete. The unemployable war pensioner receives increases for his wife and children at the rates equivalent to invalidity pension under the social security scheme, and war pensioners who receive social security benefits such as sickness benefit are entitled to the appropriate dependency increases. These rates go up substantially in October, as of course will the war pensions themselves and all the supplementary allowances associated with disablement which are paid under the war pensions scheme.

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, while the net take-home money which the severely disabled men receive at the end of a week is not ungenerous, and all Governments are to be thanked for this, does my noble friend realise that his opening words, "No, my Lords," will be grievously disappointing? These women cannot be left with 50p after 50 years. They have looked after their severely disabled men all this time, and as widows or as wives are worth very much more than that. Will my noble friend ask the Ministers concerned in another place to think again when they review this matter in the autumn?

LORD ABERDARE: My Lords, I think I am right in saying that most of the ex-Servicemen's organisations have accepted that in the context of modern social security these allowances are obsolescent and it is the more important dependency allowances which are made under the social security scheme, where, for example, a wife would receive a dependency allowance increase of £4.15 and £2.10 for the first child. These are the important things which help a war pensioner when he is retired, sick or unemployed.

I might also mention to my noble friend that the ex-Servicemen's organisations have wholeheartedly welcomed the decision which we made, that from October next this special allowance will be paid in full with National Insurance dependency benefits, so there will be no set-off of the one against the other.

LORD MAYBRAY-KING: My Lords, while supporting all that the noble Lord, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, has said, and congratulating the noble Lord, Lord Aberdare, and his Government on what they are doing for the ex-Servicemen, may I ask whether the noble Lord is aware that all the ex-Servicemen's associations give a very high place to the need to improve the pensions of the widows of ex-Servicemen, and will he bear that in mind when the review takes place?

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE: My Lords, before the noble Lord, Lord Aberdare, answers that question, he says that the allowance of 50p allotted 50 years ago is obsolete; but these women are not obsolete; they are still looking after the disabled men. Will he ask the Ministers in another place to think about this iniquitously low sum? Is he also aware that that does not in the least mean that I am denigrating what Governments of all Parties have tried to do for ex-Servicemen? On the whole, they have done well.

LORD ABERDARE: My Lords, I am grateful to my noble friend for that tribute to all Governments. We certainly believe that our record is very good in the respect. But so far as his point about the wife is concerned, I can only explain to him that this 50p is a relic of the past and that we prefer to spend the money that is available on the much more effective allowance which is that which the pensioner receives

STAFF OBITUARY

Readers of the *Review* will be sorry to learn of the death of Miss JOSEPHINE DE MORGAN HENSLEY, in a Nursing Home in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on 5th June, 1973.

Miss Hensley came to St. Dunstan's in the very early days, around 1915/16. She had a number of jobs as a V.A.D. Later she became a part-time Welfare Visitor for Southern Area and she undertook this work from July 1934 until her retirement in June, 1949.

In her retirement she still retained her links with St. Dunstan's and was for many years a voluntary helper in the London Club, in the St. Dunstaners' canteen and in many other ways. Unfortunately her health deteriorated in the last couple of years and she spent these in a Nursing Home.

The funeral was attended by Mr. Slade and Mr. Thomas Gaygan at Great Amwell Church, Nr. Ware, Herts, on 8th June. The mourners were Miss Hensley's nephews and nieces.

Attached to the wreath from Lord and Lady Fraser and the Council of St. Dunstan's was a card bearing the message:

"In affectionate Memory and in Gratitude from all friends at St. Dunstan's for the great assistance and kindness rendered to us over the years."

BLINDED SOLDIERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S AUSTRALIA

At the 21st Biennial Conference of the Australian Blinded Soldiers' Association held in Perth, Western Australia, from 12th-15th March, 1973, it was proposed and carried that the Association's title should, in future, include the name St. Dunstan's. We welcome this change wholeheartedly. It is a further indication of the solidarity of feeling and friendship between the war blinded men and women of the United Kingdom with our comrades down under.

for his wife when he is out of work, sick or retired. That allowance will be going up in October and that will bring benefit to the war pensioner. I shall certainly take note of what the noble Lord said about widows. It is another question, but I shall draw it to the attention of my right honourable friend.



IT STRIKES ME

In Aid of St. Dunstan's

When we met at this year's Southampton Reunion, **Bob and Kathleen Lloyd** of Bournemouth, handed me a flag on a wooden stick which bore the words shown in our photograph.

This flag was found among the effects of a deceased relative who had evidently attended Dame Clara Butt's concert in aid

of St. Dunstan's, held in the Albert Hall, exactly two years before the untimely death of Sir Arthur Pearson.

Bob and Kathleen have made the suggestion that St. Dunstan's might consider arranging a permanent display of mementos of this kind in some suitable place at St. Dunstan's, perhaps at Ian Fraser House, after it is in use again.



On Stage

From time to time in the *Review* we report the progress of various young ladies in schools of dancing or drama. Now I have news of one who has succeeded in putting her training to professional use.

Ray Benson tells me his young daughter Sharron has just opened in Triumph Theatre Productions Summer Show at Margate. Called the "Pig and Whistle" it is a family song and dance show in Old Tyme Music Hall style. He was at the opening night, "I could hear Sharron's voice in the group", he said, "She is enjoying it but finding it very hard work. They put on three shows in rotation and now, at the beginning of the season they are rehearsing all day and doing the shows in the evening. She got quite a kick out of seeing her name on the show posters around Margate."

Sharron has inherited her mother's talent for the stage, and there is a theatrical tradition in the family as Sharron's great grandfather was an eccentric dancer. Just to keep the balance right, Lora, Ray's older daughter has followed her father's scientific interest, taking a degree in chemistry.

Gold Badge and Tankard

Another St. Dunstaner who has been waiting to receive his Royal British Legion Gold Badge is **Harry Wheeler**. The presentation took place on Saturday, 2nd June, at the Wimbledon Football Club. Bill Harris who attended, tells me the Area Chairman of the South West Counties, Mr. G. Butcher, presented the badge to Harry, congratulating him on his 45 years' service to the Wimbledon Branch of the Legion.

Only a few days before, Harry was the recipient of another honour when he was made an Honorary Life President of the Kingstonian Football Club, and presented with a tankard to commemorate 50 years' service to the Club.

Magog



Sharron Benson.

Photo: P. M. Varley



David Bell, Tommy Gaygan and Gwen Obern aboard the Princess Freda.

Tommy Gaydan and Bill Griffiths at Flanagan's

Cruising Down the River Out and About with the Handless Reunion

On Saturday, 19th May, a group of our handless St. Dunstaners, boarded a "pocket cruiser" at Westminster. This was to be the main event of a week-end reunion for the nine St. Dunstaners who were able to attend, with their wives or escorts. With them were Mr. C. D. Wills, St. Dunstan's Secretary, Miss Cynthia Mosley, Northern Area Superintendent, Mr. Norman French, Research Engineer, and your reporter.

The Princess Freda

Our cruise was planned to take us up river to Hampton Court and, as we were going against the tide, would take around four hours. Four hours! What would we do on a smallish Thames launch for four hours? We had under-estimated the resources of the *Princess Freda*. Small she might be but first came cocktails on the deck, then we sang some songs to the accordion playing of George Woodard from the Royal British Legion. Soon after one we went down to the saloon for an excellent luncheon served from what must

be the smallest galley in the world—which incidentally, also doubled as the bar,—with amazing resource by the two members of the crew.

All the time the varied scenery of the riverside slipped by changing from industrial South West London, through to the suburban countryside of Kew, Richmond and Kingston and those fascinating locks at Teddington.

Hampton Court

At Hampton Court our party was guided through the courtyards of the Palace and visited two exhibitions. The carriages from the Royal Mews, which proved to be of great interest. Touching a processional coach, Dickie Richardson thought it was glass, a tribute to the very highly polished finish on these vehicles. Then we visited a display of the costumes from the television series on Henry VIII.

It rained as we left the Palace so it was a dash for the towpath and the *Princess Freda*. Snug in the saloon, the company,



Under the famous calendar clock in the courtyard of Hampton Court Palace.

Flanagan's service for Gwen Obern and David Bell.





St. Dunstaners, wives and escorts outside Hampton Court Palace.

Sir Edwin Arrowsmith speaking at the dinner which concluded the Handless Reunion.



led by Gwen Obern, sang all the old songs they could remember. More cocktails before a hot dinner was served—more resource from the staff—and then, with the tide under her the *Princess* was back at Westminster early. So down into dockland where those of the party on deck discovered their “skipper”, a Freeman of the River, had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the Thames and its historic associations.

Waldorf Hotel

The reunion, based at the Waldorf Hotel, in London began with an informal dinner party on Friday, 18th May, attended by staff members from Headquarters and Brighton and the St. Dunstaners: David Bell, Dick Brett, Tommy Gaygan, Bill Griffiths, Josef Loskar, Ted Miller, Gwen Obern, “Dickie” Richardson and Stan Southall.

On the Sunday morning a party of St. Dunstaners attended a service at St. Paul’s Cathedral, in the afternoon a coach tour of London and in the evening a visit to one of the famous, Victorian style, Flanagan’s Restaurants in St. Martin’s Lane.

Monday brought the business sessions attended by St. Dunstan’s staff and our



Cruising Down the River.—Audrey and Dickie Richardson with Alice and Bill Griffiths catch the spirit of that familiar song as the Princess Freda sets course for the Royal Palace of Hampton Court.

outside experts including Mr. H. J. Houlgate, Chairman of our Experimental Devices Committee and Dr. I. H. Fletcher from Roehampton.

Dinner Party

The reunion ended with a dinner party presided over by Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, a member of St. Dunstan’s Council and attended by Talking Book readers Stephen Jack and Mrs. Phyllis Boothroyd. Lord and Lady Fraser had been called away from London but returned in time to hear the speeches by Sir Edwin, Stephen Jack, Dr. Fletcher, Gwen Obern and Mr. Wills. Lord Fraser then said a few words of greeting from himself and Lady Fraser to conclude a very successful Reunion.

80 Year Old Christening gown

Five Generation Link

A charming announcement in a local Cambridge paper informed us that ten week old Kerrie Laker was christened towards the end of March in a christening gown made 80 years ago by her great great grandmother.

Readers of the *Review* will be interested to know that this gown is the property of **Mrs. Elizabeth Laker** who is the widow of the late Eric Laker. The christening took place the week-end before Mr. Laker died and the gown was the same one in which he had been christened.



An ancient engraving of the Kremlin.

From Russia With Love

By David Bell

Sibyl and I left Heathrow on 18th January bound for Australia and New Zealand, visiting several countries on the way as an added interest to our journey half way round the world. Our plane was a DC8 of the Japanese Air Line, which was comfortable, and the crew very attentive.

Once settled we were given hot scented towels, slippers, night masks and refreshing green tea. A little later the cabin music was switched off while the steward explained the emergency procedure and equipment, then we were switched back to the music, and this raised a few smiles and many eyebrows, as the tune we heard was the Last Post theme from the Dawn Patrol—perhaps a subtle form of Oriental humour?

First stop was Moscow, and as we stepped out of the plane the intensity of the cold almost took our breath away, they told us it was 30° below and this was no

exaggeration; it was like being naked in a deep freeze unit. However, the greeting of our Intourist Courier in the airport building was warm and friendly. They knew all about us, where we came from, where we were to stay and where we were going, and while we waited for our baggage we had a lecture on procedure. After careful scrutiny through the usual controls we made our way to our taxi and hotel for our first night in the Soviet Union.

Our hotel was old, warm and comfortable. After a chat with the tourist receptionist about our programme, we made our way to the dollar bar for a pre-dinner drink. The dollar bars and dollar shops are so called because they are only allowed to accept foreign currency. This was a dull little room with a dull little barman, whose only other language was German, but certainly he knew how to

charge for the vodka, perhaps because this included the cabaret which was supplied by him in the form of a little record player in the corner of the bar!

The restaurant was very ornate, but not the waiters, who stood around wondering whether or not to serve us. However, the food was quite good. Later the restaurant came to life when more Russians arrived for the dinner-dance and the joint rocked to the dancing—Western style in fur boots, and after a little lubrication singing in Russian style.

Mr. Boris Zimin

The next day we braved the cold to walk through the city to an appointment with Mr. Boris Zimin, President of the All Russia Society for the Blind and his charming secretary Lucy, who were hosts to St. Dunstan's Party in 1970. In the afternoon we had an uninteresting tour around a big store which looked like a warehouse, there was little attempt at display and nothing we wished to buy.

On Saturday morning Lucy arrived with a car and driver, regretting that we had not given her notice of our visit so that we could be shown more. However, we saw quite a lot of Moscow in a short time, the Bolshoi Theatre, Red Square, the Kremlin, and a trip round the magnificent underground stations, then we returned to our hotel for tea and to pick up our baggage for the evening flight to Japan.

Tokyo was a smiling warm city after the cold of Moscow and the empty endless snow-covered wastes of Siberia which we flew over through the night. It was only nine hours flying time, but what a contrast from Moscow's big squares, buildings and roads to Tokyo's houses, factories and flats all squashed together in the second largest city in the world.

Nursing a heavy cold it was bliss to rest in the quiet of our hotel bedroom away from the thousands of diminutive Nippons charging about in an orderly fashion, before meeting some friends from London who happened to be on the same plane. It seemed only minutes before I was wakened by my bed shaking, turning to Sibyl I said, "Stop shaking me, it can't be time to dress already", Sibyl's drowsy reply convinced me this was none of her doing and we were both experiencing our first earthquake.

The following day we left on the Bullet Train for the ancient capital of Kyoto. Express trains leave every 15 minutes, over 80 a day, for Okayama in the South. They are said to be the fastest trains in the world, travelling at 130 miles per hour on jointless long-welded rails. A very smooth, quiet and comfortable journey.

Japanese Style Inn

We stayed at an inn—Japanese style, in Kyoto, which means leaving our shoes at the front door, changing into slippers and leaving them behind on entering each room including the toilet. Kneeling or sitting crosslegged at the table, when rheumatics would allow, we enjoyed the excellent food delicately prepared before us and politely served by charming girls.

During our three days there we visited many temples and places, among them the Imperial Palace, where only coronations take place, and the Nijo Castle, home of the first Shogun or War Lord, decorated lavishly in gold and damascene. The bedroom is encircled by a specially constructed wooden floor which squeaks at every step, thus giving warning of the approach of friend or foe. This is known as the nightingale floor.

A drive to Nara, another ancient capital, and into a park with hundreds of tame deer, that bow politely to everyone who speaks to them. Here we toured the Kasuga Shrine, whose 3,000 lanterns, donated by believers in Shintoism (ancestor worship), are lit once a year. Also in the park is the world's largest wooden structure, the Todaiji Temple, housing the largest bronze Buddha in Japan—78 feet tall and weighing 500 tons.

Gold Pavilion

The most beautiful temple we saw was the three tiered Gold Pavilion, its beauty reflected by a lake and surrounded by exquisite gardens. We called to see one of the most complete collections of traditional handicrafts, woodblock printing, processing of silk and cloisonne art, all very interesting but, like everything else in Japan, very expensive.

With friends made on the tour we enjoyed a farewell meal of Sukiyaki and Tempura, freshly cooked at our table, with drinks of hot saki. We returned to Tokyo and took a last look around the

famous Ginza shops, travelling there by underground, which was quite an experience in itself.

The overall impression of Japan was of a pretty countryside, small crowded houses, and everywhere, neat cultivated patches, an efficient industry with modern technique and outlook, yet based on a feudal system. Now it was time to say "sayonara" and join the Jumbo Jet for the next part of our journey.

The flight gave us a wonderful view of the 12,000 feet snow-capped volcanic Mt. Fuji and the so-called garden route (over Taiwan) to Hong Kong. Coming in to land the plane seemed to swoop down amongst the skyscrapers dotted about the steep hills, before settling down on the narrow strip of reclaimed land stretching out into the South China Sea.

Friends turned out in strength to meet us and whisked us off by car from Kowloon through the English designed tunnel which rests on the sea bed, to the island of Hong Kong, which is Cantonese for Fragrant Harbour. World famous for its spectacular beauty, Hong Kong did not disappoint us on our first tour up the Victoria Peak, with the panoramic view of the city, harbour and Kowloon. I don't know which was most impressive, the view by daylight or the myriad of twinkling coloured lights at night.

Chinese Village

The old Chinese fishing village of Aberdeen couldn't be missed. It is renowned for its floating restaurant and hundreds of junks anchored there, though now many families have been rehoused on nearby islands, some under the aegis of the Round Table Village scheme. An interesting afternoon was spent at Stanley, on the south side of the island, wandering through the market stalls, they were busy selling special foods and delicacies for the Chinese New Year.

Back over the island to the northern waterfront and the infamous world of Susie Wong, Wanchai, 28 blocks of bars, brothels and nightclubs, jammed between the waterfront and the lower edges of the Peak. Their giant neon signs are switched off one by one and this unique mixture of Chinese razzle-dazzle and glittering Western brass and stainless steel, will slowly disappear as re-development plans

materialise. Most of Wanchai will turn into a six lane freeway linking the business centre with the new cross-harbour tunnel, and the rabbit warren of tenements and famous "ladders" streets will be replaced with multi-storied buildings necessary for the growing population of six million, mainly Chinese.

Hong Kong is very proud of its high rise flats and offices, this rocky island is only 11 miles long and from 2 to 5 miles wide, they will have the highest block in the East when the 55-floor building is complete. An interesting point is that all scaffolding is bamboo, light, strong and easy to erect. A story is told that after a severe typhoon the only thing left standing was the bamboo scaffolding!

Industrious Chinese

The Chinese are very industrious, keen to get ahead, make money and educate their children. To cope with the numbers they have a three tier system for schooling, morning, afternoon and then evening school for the seniors. Their way of life is guided by strict and complicated principles.

Cantonese food is excellent, their fresh vegetables and many other things come over the border from the Peoples' Republic of China, European food and fresh vegetables are flown over from Los Angeles—50p for one lettuce!

Immigrants still pour over the border and make their way into the "Walled City", which is still disputed territory and has been since the 1897 Treaty. This is 6½ acres of multi-storied flats with narrow lanes and passages thrown up higgledy-piggledy by speculative builders with no regard to building regulations and principles. Since 1943 when the Japanese destroyed the Wall the Hong Kong authorities accepted that this site was outside their control. Europeans, police etc., are banned from the area and must seek permission to enter.

After a fire inside "Walled City", Mary Clark, wife of a voluntary fireman, was so appalled at the conditions she set up a clinic for children. This is now run by the Ladies Circle (wives of the Round Tablers), and Sibyl and I were invited to visit the Clinic and a small school. The children are now very well cared for and there is very little poverty in the Colony.

We had a look round the Ebenezer

Frank Reviews

Cat. No. 1614

Rope Boy

by Dennis Gray

Read by Stanley Pritchard

A story of rocks and mountains and of the men who climb them. The author losing contact with his school scout troop one Sunday in the 1940's wandered on to the moors outside Leeds and stumbled by chance on a small group of climbers scaling the face of an old quarry. Climbing then became his whole life and subsequently when he had to choose between his career and a place in an Himalayan expedition it was of course the expedition that won. This is an excellent story of success and failure and comradeship, although the narrative is spoilt at times by the stumbling of the reader.

Gray in his final chapter attacks the recent trend towards exploiting the sport by the Television media and the educationalists. Mountaineering, he says, is a personal sport not to be learned in the class room but by endeavours of the pupil on the rock face, led by a man with years of dedication, and experience of the sport. Not taught by somebody who has obtained a piece of paper after attending a couple of Summer Schools.

From Russia with Love

(continued)

College for the blind, very well run by Keith Marshall and his Chinese staff. They have a residential school for the children, swimming pool, gymnasium, training centre for workshops and a home for the elderly blind.

Throughout Asia we found there is a reluctance to disclose or register the disabled, families prefer to care for them in their own homes—prestige or saving face is very important to them.

During the six days spent in Hong Kong we felt we had been given an insight into life in the Colony. 31st January saw us on our way to the Philippines and New Guinea, but that is another story.

Cat. No. 1680

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich

by Alexander Solzhenitsyn

Trans. by Ralph Barker

Read by Anthony Barker

This is a story of one day in the life of a political prisoner at a hard labour camp in the isolated wastes of Siberia. One day in his life because a prisoner can only live for the day and never thinks of the morrow.

Like many of his fellow prisoners Ivan's only crime was to be captured by the Germans, and then escape. For this he is classified as a spy and sentenced to ten years.

Life is not easy for the guards either who have to stand guard in freezing watch towers while at least the prisoners can, and do, work off the cold by the sweat of their labour.

This is a horrifying story of hatred, greed, bribery, corruption and above all comradeship. It is also a description of camp life which would make a winter spent in the heart of Salisbury Plain seem like June in a Butlin's holiday camp.

Cat. No. 1644

Cold War in a Country Garden

by Lindsay Gutteridge

Read by Anthony Parker

I suppose that this could best be described as Science Fiction in miniature. Captain Dilke has volunteered to become the first pioneer in the battle to conquer the problem of over population.

Reduced by the scientists from six feet in height to two millimetres Dilke stands in his own garden and plans his survival. Ants and centipedes are his main enemies, and, joined by two other men, together they design a quick firing cross-bow which injects nettle poison when fired into the nests of insects.

British Intelligence decides that they are surviving too successfully for purely civil purposes and off they are sent neatly packaged in a cigarette carton behind the Iron Curtain. But the Russians too have their little men, and also a little dog, who smells out Dilke when he is on the run after the failure of the mission.

Most enjoyable light reading.

CLUB NEWS

LONDON

A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent by eight members of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club who visited B.P. on the 8th June at Devonshire House, Piccadilly for a duplicate match of Bridge. The game was match pointed. The result ending in a resounding win for the St. Dunstan's team by 55 match points which gave a 10 victory point to nil.

We were indeed happy to see Bill and Mrs. Harding back at the London Club if even only for a short visit. We do hope we shall see them much more soon now that the pleasant summer weather is here and we hope it will bring Bill the good health he so richly deserves.

The Domino winners for the month of May were as follows:

3rd May	1	R. Pacitti
	2	W. Phillips
10th May	1	J. Majchrowicz
	2	J. Padley
17th May	1	J. Padley
		J. Majchrowicz
24th May	1	C. Hancock
	2	J. Majchrowicz
		J. Padley
		W. Miller
31st May	1	J. Padley
	2	C. Hancock
		W. MILLER

MIDLAND

The quarter finals of the Sir Arthur Pearson domino knock-out competition was the main event of our meeting held on Sunday May 13th.

These games were completed and the following members are left in the semi finals, Joe Kibbler, Lou Androlia, Eddie Hordyniec and myself, Doug Cashmore.

The meeting was well attended and tea was provided for us by Mrs. Connie Faulkner, we all thanked her for a very lovely spread.

On Sunday, 20th May we had our first half day outing for this year, and paid a visit to Matlock in Derbyshire. We were very lucky with the weather and everyone enjoyed the outing. Matlock is a very pretty place, with plenty of walks or boating, whichever you may like to do.

We stopped on the way home for a "Tot", which everyone enjoyed and arrived back in Birmingham about 9.35 p.m.

We hope to have another half day outing to the Cotswolds in early October.

Owing to a number of members being on holiday it has been decided to cancel the June meeting, our next meeting will be on Sunday, 8th July.

My wife and I paid a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Shakspeare, we also went to see Miss Topsy Shakspeare, during the Spring holiday. They all send kindest regards to all members of the Midland club, past and present. I am pleased to say that all the Shakspeare family are quite well and enjoying their new surroundings down in Somerset.

DOUG CASHMORE
Secretary

STAFF RETIREMENTS

Miss H. Waite, one of our "back room" personnel, but nevertheless an important cog in a well oiled machine, retired at the end of June. She started work at St. Dunstan's in September, 1955, in the Accounts Department where she has served for almost 18 years. In 1960 she took charge of the Estate Accounts Section where she proved herself a keen and efficient manager.

Away from business Miss Waite's main hobby is gardening and her plans for the future include a move of house, perhaps near the sea with a garden. St. Dunstaners and staff will wish her a very happy retirement.

BRIDGE NOTES

L.C.C.B.A. (The Masters) v St. Dunstan's

This most popular Annual Event took place at Headquarters on Saturday afternoon, 9th June. It had attracted five St. Dunstan's teams of four players, coming from all over the country, to confront five visiting teams, amongst whom were several of international repute. It was not a question, so far as we were concerned, of beating our opponents but of which team would have the lowest minus score and which of the opposing teams would score the highest plus.

The final result on twenty hands played were as follows:

L.C.C.B.A.

- Miss V. Daly—D. Spooner
Mrs. R. Jenkins—Dr. R. V. Mallya +7240
- G. Cooke—D. Edwin
Mrs. Camrass—L. Wolfers +6920
- W. Pitch—P. Donovan
J. Atkins—R. Edmonds +5940
- Mr. and Mrs. G. C. H. Fox
Dr. and Mrs. M. A. G. Pietroni +5380
- J. Marx—C. Hille
R. Sharples and J. Sharples -470

St. Dunstan's

- W. Allen—R. Freer
E. Carpenter—Miss V. Kemmish -980
(Lowest minus score ever against the Masters)
- P. Nuyens—A. Caldwell
R. Armstrong—Mrs. V. Delaney -3520
- R. Evans—H. Ward
H. King—J. Padley -5300
- J. Whitcombe—W. Phillips
R. Fullard—H. Meleson -6800
- A. Dodgson—R. Goding
F. Dickerson—J. Chell -8410

The members of the winning L.C.C.B.A. team were each presented with a prize selected from products made by St.

Dunstaners. The eventual choice was two contemporary coffee tables, one fireside stool and one dressing table stool. Miss Vi Daly, secretary of the L.C.C.B.A. presented each member of our winning team with a bottle of Port and also every St. Dunstaner taking part received a bottle of Sherry.

In his speech, Bob Evans on behalf of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club, thanked our visitors for coming along and Miss Vi Daly for arranging this year's event so efficiently, as well as Mr. Percy Charteris for the arrangements regarding the actual match play. Bob also stressed the fact that this match constituted the highlight of our fixture card for the year and how much our members were looking forward to our meeting again next year.

A hearty vote of thanks was also given to our untiring Steward, Norman Smith, as well as his wife, Flora, and her helpers for serving such an excellent spread which certainly provided the finishing touch to a most memorable afternoon of bridge.

The fifth Individual Competition, London Section, was held on Saturday, 2nd June. The results were as follows:

R. Evans and Partner	68
W. Miller and W. Allen	67
P. Nuyens and F. Dickerson	65
W. Lethbridge and A. Caldwell	64
W. Phillips and R. Pacitti	58
J. Padley and J. Lynch	56

The sixth Individual Competition, Brighton Section, was held on Saturday, 2nd June. The results were as follows:

R. Fullard and S. Webster	71
M. Clements and J. Chell	67
R. Goding and F. Griffiee	63
F. Rhodes and W. Scott	61
A. Dodgson and J. Whitcombe	55

P. NUYENS
Secretary

EPSOM FLIER!

It was a happy party of forty-four St. Dunstaners, wives and escorts, who boarded the Epsom "Flier" at half past nine on the morning of 6th June, at our Headquarters in Old Marylebone Road. Fortunately the sun shone overhead and on the outward journey most of us anticipated a glorious, if not too profitable day.

We were each given a packed luncheon, and at this juncture I feel I ought to thank Mrs. Obinwe and the Headquarters Canteen Staff for their arrangements of this varied and sumptuous repast.

On the way to Epsom Downs, Norman Smith organised a Sweepstake for the Derby. This was won by Colin Sheehan, son of our St. Dunstaner, Pat Sheehan.

We arrived shortly before 11 a.m., where we were later joined by the Brighton coaches. Chatting and mingling with our

old friends made an agreeable prelude to a delightful day.

The highlight of the meeting was as always the visit of Her Majesty, the Queen, who (I am told) looked positively radiant in a pale yellow outfit.

In the mid-afternoon we greatly appreciated the tea and ice cream so kindly supplied by our Brighton friends.

With one exception, I do not think any St. Dunstaner returned from our outing very much richer, but at least they were all wearing their shirts!

It was with great reluctance that we once more boarded our coach for the journey home, but we arrived tired but happy at Marylebone Road, at 7.50 p.m., where we were regaled with a welcome cup of tea with biscuits from our Club Canteen.

PAT SHEEHAN

FAMILY NEWS

Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to:

MR. AND MRS. ALLEN CALDWELL of Croydon, Surrey, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 8th June, 1973.

MR. AND MRS. REGINALD EDWARDS of Bognor Regis, Sussex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 2nd June 1973.

MR. AND MRS. GILBERT RUSHTON of Whitley Bay, Northumberland, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 2nd June 1973.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

FREDERICK A. (TONY) MORTON of Peterborough, Northants., is pleased to announce the birth of a grandson, Marcus, who was born on 17th February 1973 to Brian and his wife.

FREDERICK C. GALWAY of Sandbach, Cheshire, who is delighted to announce the arrival of a grand-daughter, Joanne Lea, on 12th February 1973.

JOHN WALTER LAWSON of Warrington, Lancs., who is proud to announce the arrival of another grandson, Nigel, born to his daughter, Sylvia, on 28th March 1973. Mr. Lawson now has ten grandchildren.

JOHN LOACH of Russell Hall, Dudley, Worcs., is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild—Gail, born to Robert and his wife on 21st April 1973.

ALBERT ("BERTIE") PARTINGTON, of Bolton, on the arrival of his first grandchild, Victoria Jane, born on the 24th May, to his son and daughter-in-law, Ian and Adrienne.

Long Life and happiness to:

Frank, son of JOHN DOUGLASS of Barking, Essex, who married Penelope Ann Smith on 24th April 1973.

Anthony, son of THOMAS HIGGINS of Hemel Hempstead, Herts., who married Barbara Bateman on 16th April 1973.

Deaths

We offer our very sincere sympathy to:

TOM DABORN of Parracombe, N. Devon, on the death of his mother who died on 9th June, 1973, at the age of 95.

THOMAS LIONEL SIMMONS GIBBINS, Radway, Warwickshire, who mourns the death of his eldest daughter in May, 1973.

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.

Walter Le Roy Bird. *Royal Army Medical Corps*
Walter Le Roy Bird of St. Leonards, Sussex, died on 8th June, 1973. He was 79 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in 1919 but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1960, when he was near to retirement, and he trained in typewriting and various hobbies. He was married twice, having five sons by his first wife. He married for the second time in 1967 and his second wife died at the beginning of this year. Mr. Bird felt very lonely and looked forward to visits of his son Malcolm.

He leaves his son Malcolm and his four brothers and their respective families, and his late wife's family.

Robert George Cameron. *Royal Navy*

Robert George Cameron of Wembley, Middlesex, died suddenly on 11th May, 1973, at the age of 57 years.

He served in the Royal Navy from 1935 until his discharge in 1941. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1947, and had an interesting career.

It was thought, at first, that he might undertake telephone work but after a period of training, Mr. Cameron decided that he would find the running of a shop would give him more scope. He settled in a shop in Forest Gate, London, but after some time the long hours in shop life proved detrimental to the health of both Mr. and Mrs. Cameron and in 1951 Mr. Cameron gave up business and moved to Sussex. This move enabled him to return to St. Dunstan's for re-training, and during this time Mr. Cameron decided that he would like to undertake social work and went on a course of training to become a Home Teacher for the Blind.

He moved back to London in the summer of 1952 and in 1953 he started work as a Home Teacher in the Wembley area under the Middlesex County Council. Mr. Cameron continued with this work until 1971, when for health reasons he decided to retire. Although officially retired, he carried on

Mrs. Rimmer, wife of ALEC RIMMER of Weston-super-Mare, whose only brother died in Manchester on 24th May 1973.

JOHN WINDSOR of British Columbia, Canada, who mourns the death of his wife on the 2nd May, 1973, after five years of illness during which, however, she was often able courageously to continue with family life and many interests.

with a good deal of voluntary social work in the district.

He was a frequent visitor to St. Dunstan's Homes in Brighton, a keen member of the Fishing Club and a regular member of the St. Dunstan's London Club. He was a talented pianist and was, in fact, playing the piano at the London Club the evening before his untimely death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Flora Cameron, his two married daughters and their families, his young son Ian and his sister Hazel who live at home.

Arthur Horseman. *Royal Garrison Artillery*

Arthur Horseman of Fulford, Yorks, died at his home on 30th May, 1973. He was 75 years of age.

He served in the Royal Garrison Artillery from 1916 until 1919. Mr. Horseman suffered mustard gas poisoning in May 1918, but he later recovered sufficient sight to enable him to carry on business as a greengrocer and fruiterer, with the help of his wife. Mr. Horseman's sight failed later in life and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1959. He eventually retired from business in August 1964. He was able to enjoy regular visits to Ovingdean on holiday, but unfortunately his health deteriorated steadily during the last twelve months.

He leaves a widow, and a daughter who still lives at home and two married sons.

John Lucas. *Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry*

John Lucas of Coleshill, Warwickshire, died in hospital on 10th May, 1973, at the age of 61 years.

He served with the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry from June 1939 to November 1939, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1952. Mr. Lucas had already been trained for industrial employment at the time of his admission to St. Dunstan's and was working in a Birmingham factory. Unfortunately, however, he was required to give up his employment as his health deteriorated but he did undertake some basket work at home. Being a single man, he was living in lodgings with Mr. and Mrs. Jones of Coleshill, when he came to us, and they have cared for him ever since. Mr. Lucas had been keeping in reasonable health but unfortunately collapsed on 6th May and was admitted to hospital where he died four days later.

Edwin Marsden. *Labour Corps*

Edwin Marsden of Ryde, Isle of Wight, died at Pearson House, Brighton, on 12th May, 1973. He was 78 years of age.

He enlisted in the Labour Corps in 1915 and served with them until his discharge in 1919 and

came to St. Dunstan's in 1927. He trained in boot and mat making and set up his workshop for boot repairs in Manchester, where he was helped in his business by his first wife, Mrs. Rosa Marsden, and continued with this work until the Second World War. He retrained and was able to take a job in industry and in this way helped the Second World War effort.

He and his wife suffered a very sad loss when their daughter died in 1944.

Mrs. Marsden died in 1966 and Mr. Marsden went to live temporarily at Pearson House, Brighton. In 1969 he married one of our ex-V.A.D. staff and went to live on the Isle of Wight.

At the beginning of this year Mr. Marsden was admitted to hospital on the island for an operation, and although he made fair progress from this, his health slowly deteriorated and he was admitted to Pearson House.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Joyce Marsden, who nursed him devotedly during the last few years of his life, and two sons by his first marriage.

David McLaren. *4th Yorkshire Regiment*

David McLaren, of Thrope Thewles, Stockton-on-Tees, died on the 24th May, 1973, at the age of 77 years.

He enlisted at the very beginning of the First War, received his Commission, was wounded in 1915, and trained at St. Dunstan's in 1916. He did secretarial work for a short time, but resigned because of ill-health and took up poultry farming, which he continued until quite recently. He married Miss Edith Flint, who had been a Braille teacher and whose sister, Mrs. Chadwick-Bates, became Secretary of St. Dunstan's in this country and later of St. Dunstan's (South Africa). Mrs. McLaren died in 1965, but he continued to live in Thorpe Thewles, where he was very active and well-known, being Churchwarden and Treasurer for 50 years and also holding other offices in the Parish. His health deteriorated and he had been seriously ill for some time but, after a short spell in hospital, he was able to return home. His cousin, Mrs. Hall, had kept house for him since his wife's death and the devoted care he received from her and from his son, who went home whenever possible, enabled him to remain in the house where he had lived for over 50 years.

He leaves one son, Peter.

Samuel Edward Senior. *1st/6th Duke of Wellington Regiment*

Samuel Edward Senior of Hornsea, Yorkshire, died at his home on 5th June, 1973. He was 76 years of age.

He enlisted in the 1st/6th Duke of Wellington Regiment and served with them from 1913 until his discharge in 1916, when he suffered a gunshot wound, but it was not until much later in life that his sight failed and he came to St. Dunstan's. When he became a St. Dunstaner in 1967 he had already retired and was in rather poor health. This prevented him from undertaking any type of hobby occupation. Unfortunately, Mr. Senior's health continued to deteriorate—he suffered a further stroke at the end of May and died in June.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Annie Senior, who had nursed him devotedly during his lifetime, and a married son and daughter.

George William Wardle. *3rd Bedfordshire Regiment*

George William Wardle of Brixworth, Northants, died on 8th June, 1973, in hospital, at the age of 76, just over a fortnight before his 77th birthday.

He enlisted in the 3rd Bedfordshire Regiment in 1912 and served with them until his discharge in 1915, but he did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1936. He trained in poultry-keeping and he also kept a few pigs. He continued with this work for many years and when he did eventually retire he interested himself in his garden.

Mr. Wardle kept reasonably well on the whole, but an illness developed which necessitated his admission to hospital early this month and he passed away peacefully following an operation. His son Colin was summoned home from Beirut and fortunately was able to see his father before he died.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Dorothy Wardle and a grown-up family.

Charles Henry Wheeler. *2nd Lincoln Regiment*

Charles Henry Wheeler of Pearson House, Brighton, and late of St. Albans, Herts, died in hospital on 14th May, 1973.

He enlisted in the 2nd Lincoln Regiment and served with them from 1911 until his discharge in 1915. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1917, and trained in making mats and he also kept poultry. He worked very hard at both these occupations. He and his wife spent most of their married life in St. Alban's and district and had a family of six children.

During the Second World War Mr. Wheeler worked in several factories until his health began to show signs of breaking down and he was advised to retire in April, 1957.

Unfortunately Mrs. Wheeler's health was far from good and when she died in 1966 Mr. Wheeler went to live at Pearson House. He was taken ill very suddenly and died on admission to hospital.

He leaves surviving members of his family.

Thomas Arfon Williams. *Royal Welch Fusiliers*

Thomas Arfon Williams of Pearson House, Brighton, Sussex, and late of Portslade, Sussex, died on 12th May, 1973. He was 77 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Welch Fusiliers in 1914, and served with them until his discharge in 1918. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1925, trained as a telephonist and worked in London for some time. He married and then he and his wife decided they would like to run a shop and he retrained and settled as a shopkeeper and carried on this business until the late 1930's when he changed his occupation to that of basket maker.

Mr. Williams' first wife died in 1956 and after some time Mr. Williams married again. Unfortunately his second wife died in 1968 and he went to live at Ovingdean and Pearson House. He went on frequent visits to stay with his married daughter in Norfolk, which he much enjoyed.

He leaves his married daughter, Mrs. D. Cooper of Norwich, Norfolk, and her family.