

St Dunstons **REVIEW** **AUGUST**



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 644

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5p MONTHLY

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

I Enjoyed the Reunions

St. Dunstan's Reunions in different parts of the country are a very important part of our organisation; I thank Mr. Wills, Miss Rogers and Miss Mosley, the Area Superintendents; all the Welfare and Technical Visitors and Headquarters staff concerned. The purpose of these Reunions is twofold—namely, to enable St. Dunstaners to meet each other and to enable them to meet some of those who deal with their affairs.

For example, there is generally a member of St. Dunstan's Council at each Reunion and it is good for our men to meet him and vice versa, so that he may bring a firsthand impression of St. Dunstaners and their families and activities to the Council.

Mr. Wills continues to go to a number of Reunions in spite of his administrative responsibilities as Secretary and head of staff. I have urged him not to overdo this and thus overwork, but it is a very good thing that he should continue to meet St. Dunstaners in this way.

Reunions are organised partly by Headquarters staff and partly by the Welfare Visitors, who deal with local arrangements and attend their own gatherings. The Area Superintendents also attend each of the Reunions in their areas and this is most important, because they are the ladies who deal with welfare problems which arise and it is a great help to them—and indeed a pleasure for them—to meet their St. Dunstaners once a year and get to know them.

Also represented at the Reunions are the Technical Departments. There is a Surveyor from the Estate Department who is responsible for advice and guidance in connection with our own St. Dunstan's tenants and indeed to any St. Dunstaners who have problems and expenses in connection with their dwellings. Our services in this respect extend to all, not only to those who live in our houses.

The Country Life Superintendent attends all Reunions and he concerns himself with gardening, greenhouses and farming, and can be of help to both amateurs and professionals.

The Industrial Department is represented by a Technical Visitor, who calls at the factories and places of work of St. Dunstaners to see how they are getting on, and in particular to help them with any difficulties which arise in connection with their jobs, or if they become redundant.

A fourth representative may be the Home Crafts Visitor, whose job is to help some scores of St. Dunstaners making goods in their own homes, for sale by St. Dunstan's. Occasionally the Physiotherapy Superintendent may be present. At all Reunions there is a representative of the Public Relations Department, who not only advertises St. Dunstan's generally, but can be of help to an individual who takes part in public and community affairs or has a business of his own where publicity might be valuable.

At first sight it may be thought that there are too many staff but, in my opinion, this is emphatically not the case, because each of those who goes has the opportunity of a personal discussion with a husband and his wife, which is of great value in directing St. Dunstan's assistance aright.

Last year we had three special Reunions for a special celebration, but this year we reverted to our normal pattern and have had eleven Reunions. We choose the towns which seem best for travel facilities, but inevitably some will have to go long distances. This cannot be helped and is bound to be somewhat aggravated as the years go on and the number of our men is reduced.

FRONT COVER: *The St. Dunstan's team at the Austrian Games for the Blind (l. to r.) Jock Carnochan, coach, Jimmy Wright, Peter Spencer, John Simpson and Bill Harris, escort. In the background is the 800ft. tower in Wig Park, a Viennese landmark.*

I have noted that quite a number of St. Dunstaners do not come to Reunions and I want to discuss with you why this may be the case. It may be you and your wife feel you are getting a bit old to travel and it is rather an effort to turn out for a long day. I agree this will be so for some, but I urge you most strongly to come if possible and, where the journey is exceptionally long, you will be St. Dunstan's guests for the night apart from the Reunion itself. I know of many cases where I personally have met a St. Dunstaner and, as a result of a little talk, have been able to suggest something quite definitely to his advantage, which would not have come up otherwise. Then there will be those who really are too ill to come. This is well understood and the Welfare Visitors do their best to pay extra visits to the home. Finally, there may be some who really do not like company. There is no accounting for individual tastes and choice in this matter. Each must decide for himself, but I do urge those who are reserved to think again, because life is all the better for an extension of interests and it is my experience that our Reunions are extremely friendly affairs, at which even a "new boy" or a stranger soon feels at home and enjoys a talk with a comrade, old or new.

A visit to Headquarters, a visit to one of our Brighton Homes in normal circumstances, the visits of the Welfare and Technical people and these Reunions are our method of keeping in touch with St. Dunstaners' needs, St. Dunstaners' sentiments and St. Dunstaners' thoughts. I went to three Reunions this year and the season is over, but I was so much impressed with their value that I felt I must write this note. If you missed your Reunion this year, do please think seriously about coming next year.

Fraser of Lonsdale

Sir John Ellerman, Bt.

After a short illness Sir John Ellerman, Bt., died on the morning of Tuesday, 17th July. He was a real friend of St. Dunstan's and Lord Fraser writes the following tribute.

"Sir John Ellerman was a close and dear friend of my wife and me; he was one of the nicest men we have known. His shyness hid a warm compassion, especially for those in trouble.

"During the last war, he was deeply moved by the news that young men and women, especially one or two young stage personalities whom he had admired before the outbreak of war were blinded by enemy action. He came to see me at St. Dunstan's to enquire if he could help.

"He and Lady Ellerman were frequent visitors to our war-time training establishment at Church Stretton in Shropshire and, ever since, he has been an extremely generous contributor to St. Dunstan's.

"For many years Sir John has been a leading member of the St. Dunstan's Committee in South Africa, in which country he and his wife have spent half each year.

"Even more notable than his interest in these organisations is the fact that he made friends with many individuals, would take them for long walks and read to them; he

helped them in many ways but always unobtrusively.

"In South Africa, Sir John founded a Society to help disabled people and endowed it. Here again, the individuals were his personal friends and, when building his house in Cape Town, with typical thoughtfulness he arranged access to it and a special lift to take a wheeled chair.

"On a number of occasions, Sir John asked me to pass on substantial donations to organisations of various kinds, always provided that his name was not mentioned, even to the heads of the Societies he was benefiting.

"This aspect of his character deserves remembrance because it is so unusual for great generosity to be anonymous.

"Sir John's death from an unexpected heart attack will leave many mourners, especially among the handicapped and less exalted people who enjoyed his friendship."

In South Africa, our St. Dunstaner, the Rev. Michael Norman, Vicar of St. Stephen's, Pinelands, conducted a Memorial Service, which drew a multiracial congregation of 200, to coincide with the Cremation Service in England, held on 19th July.

From the Chairman's Postbag

Mrs. Ethel Doyle, Ryde, Isle of Wight

Even after so many years, I am always interested in the *Review*, more so in this July edition as there are quite a number of names of St. Dunstaners that I knew in the past; most of all the account of a Royal British Legion Gold Badge. This honour was recently awarded to me for 50 years service as a Poppy Day collector. Pat and I (Sailor Doyle) collected from when it was first formed in 1921 and we lived in Southampton.

Although I am in my 80's I still collect every Poppy Day and people are very generous, especially those who remember "Sailor", who was always so cheerful with everyone.

Coming Events

"FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE"

It is hoped that we will again be granted an allocation of tickets for the Afternoon and Evening Presentations of the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, 10th November. Any St. Dunstaner who has not previously had the opportunity of attending is invited to apply to Miss Bridger at Headquarters, not later than Friday, 28th September if possible, for inclusion in the ballot for tickets, indicating which Presentation he would prefer to attend.

Those St. Dunstaners allocated tickets who do not live within daily travelling distance of London will be assisted with fares and accommodation for one or two nights at St. Dunstan's expense and will be invited to join the St. Dunstan's contingent attending the Cenotaph Parade in Whitehall on Sunday, 11th November.

C. D. WILLS

NO SEPTEMBER REVIEW

As in previous years, we shall be following the usual practice of NOT printing a September issue of the *Review*. The next *Review* will be the October one and St. Dunstaners should receive copies of this at the beginning of the month.

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.

Frederick William Brookes of Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucs., who came to St. Dunstan's in July 1973. Mr. Brookes served in the 8th Devons. Regiment during the First World War and was wounded in Italy in October 1918. He is married with a grown-up son and daughter.

William Bertram Hargreaves of Whitchurch, Shropshire, came to us in July 1973. He served and was commissioned in the Machine Gun Corps in the First World War and was wounded at Arras in 1918. He was a schoolmaster until his retirement, is married and has two daughters.

Samuel Leggett of Belfast, Northern Ireland, who came to us in July 1973. Mr. Leggett served in the 2nd Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment during the Second World War. He is married with three grown-up children.

John Samuel Maddocks of Wirksworth, Nr. Derby, joined St. Dunstan's in June 1973. Mr. Maddocks served in the 9th Lincolnshire Regiment during the First World War. He is married with a grown-up son.

Alfred Olerenshaw of Altrincham, Cheshire, came to us in June 1973. He served and was commissioned in the Machine Gun Corps in the First World War and was wounded at the Dardanelles. He managed a business until he retired. He is married with one son.

David Alexander Walker of Rothley, Leicester, joined St. Dunstan's in July 1973. Mr. Walker served in the London Scottish Regiment during the First World War and was wounded on the Western Front at the end of 1915. He is a widower with a grown-up daughter.

Frank Reviews

Cat. No. 1630

The Day of the Jackal
by Frederick Forsyth

Read by David Broomfield

One of the most gripping thrillers I've read in many a day, set against the background of General de Gaulle's conflict with the rebellious branch of the Army known as the O.A.S. who have denounced him as a traitor for granting independence to Algeria. It is obvious to the O.A.S. high command that their whole organisation is infested with de Gaulle's intelligence agents and that they cannot succeed with further plans to assassinate the General without their plot being betrayed. There is only one course of action left open to them. To hire a top class professional assassin. The man they choose is an Englishman, code name "The Jackal", but when French security get information of the plot it is all they can do with the help of Scotland Yard Special Branch to keep just two steps behind the killer. Meanwhile the reader is kept informed of the elaborate intricacies of the Jackal's plans and activities.

Certainly this is an author worth watching. Any novel as good as this can only have been based on concrete research plus a lot of personal ingenuity.

Cat. No. 1741

Takeover Bid
by Sarah Gainham

Read by John Richmond

Sydney, a young Australian hippy applies and gets the appointment of junior girl filing clerk in the Brussels office of an American company that is trying to get a foot-hold in the Common Market. She proves to be very inefficient in her filing procedures, though highly efficient as a seducer of the male staff of the office. When Mr. Lesley, the chief, comes over from America it is at once obvious to Donovan, the office and business manager, that he is in a state of nervous collapse and that Sydney, who immediately goes into the attack might well be the answer to the chief's need for relaxation without

BRIDGE NOTES

Saltdean Bridge Congress

Members are informed that owing to unforeseen circumstances the Congress will be held from **23rd to 26th November**, and not, as arranged, on the previous weekend.

P. NUYENS

MAGAZINE LISTENING

If any St. Dunstaner is interested in hearing gramophone records from the U.S.A. entitled "Choice Magazine Listening", consisting of recent extracts from American publications, "The Listener" and "Reader's Digest", would he please contact Men Supplies Department? The records are suitable for playing on turntables marked as 16 or 16 2/3 speed.

Frank Reviews (continued)

drugs. In the event he proves to be right but Creech the New York chief has other ideas which lead to tragedy.

All in all a rather tedious little story with a weak plot dully read by John Richmond.

Cat. No. 1670

We Speak No Treason
by Rosemary Hawley Jarman

Read by Peter Barker

This is the story in four parts of the life of Richard the Third from his youth as Richard of Gloucester to his death at Bosworth.

Firstly, seen through the eyes of "the maiden" Richards' first mistress. Secondly, Pax a court jester, "fool but no fool" and thirdly a knight who is due to hang for treason for following Richard into battle.

These three see Richard not as a vicious murderer who had his two young nephews slaughtered in the Tower, but as a man loyal to his brother and the English people. A sound soldier, a just and intelligent statesman, and a man of great kindness.

The fourth story-teller "the Nun" is in fact "the Maiden" who parted from Richard and went into the cloisters.

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

SUPPLEMENT AUGUST 1973

IMPROVEMENTS IN WAR DISABLEMENT PENSIONS AND NATIONAL INSURANCE BENEFITS

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Social Services has presented to Parliament proposals to give effect to the increases in Retirement Pensions and other National Insurance Benefits recently announced in Parliament. Details of the proposed increases and of the improvements to be made in War Pensions and in some of the Supplementary Allowances are given in this leaflet. The White Paper has not yet been published and whilst there is little doubt but that the following particulars will be confirmed they must be treated as provisional at the time of going to print.

WAR PENSIONS

Basic Pension

The Pension for 100% disablement is to be increased by £1.60 a week, and proportionately for lower assessments, so that a private soldier with a 100% disablement pension will receive £12.80 a week instead of £11.20 a week as at present.

Constant Attendance Allowance

A St. Dunstaner with guiding vision at present receiving £2.25 will receive £2.60 a week and a St. Dunstaner with guiding vision and with additional disabilities which have been accepted by the Government as due to War Service and who now has £3.40 a week will receive the same rate as for total blindness following abolition of the old "3/4 day" allowance. The rate for total blindness which is at present £4.50 will be increased to £5.15. A St. Dunstaner with disabilities additional to blindness who now has £6.75 a week will be entitled to £7.75 a week, and a St. Dunstaner with exceptionally severe disabilities, such as the loss of both hands, additional to blindness who at present receives £9.00 will receive £10.30 a week.

Comforts Allowance

There is to be an increase in this Allowance from £1.70 to £2.20 a week for the totally blind and for the Unemployability Supplement pensioner and from 85p to £1.10 a week for the pensioner with guiding vision.

Unemployability Supplement

This Supplement which is payable to those War Pensioners who by reason of their pensionable disability are unemployable, is to be increased from £7.35 to £8.40 a week, and any family allowances which might be payable with this Supplement will also be increased as follows:

Wife or other adult dependant:
from £4.15 to £4.75 a week

First Child
£3.30 to £3.80

Second Child
£2.40 to £2.90

Other Children
£2.30 to £2.80

The level of earnings permitted before title to Unemployability Supplement is affected remains at £4.50 per week.

Invalidity Allowance

This allowance, payable to those War Pensioners who are awarded the Unemployability Supplement prior to attaining the age of 60 (55 for women), has also been increased. Where the incapacity for work begins before the age of 35 the allowance is increased from £1.15 per week to £1.60, where the onset of the incapacity falls between the ages of 35 to 45 the allowance is increased to £1.00 per week instead of 70p per week and where the onset occurs between 45 and 60 (55 for women) the new rate is 50p per week instead of 35p.

Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance and Severely Disabled Occupational Allowance

Both these Allowances are to be increased this year to £5.15 and £2.60 a week respectively.

Clothing Allowance

There is to be a small increase in this Allowance (payable where there is exceptional wear and tear on clothing because of an amputation or for some other special reason) to a maximum of £22 a year.

Allowance for Lowered Standard of Occupation

This allowance which is paid in exceptional cases only to a very small number of St. Dunstaners who receive less than 100% pensions is to be increased from up to £4.48 a week to up to £5.12 per week.

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

NATIONAL INSURANCE

The standard flat rate of Unemployment and Sickness Benefits will go up from £6.75 to £7.35 a week for single people and from £10.90 to £11.90 for married couples—increases of 60p and £1 respectively.

Retirement Pensions are to be increased for the single person to £7.75 a week and for the married couples to £12.50.

The Widow's Pension will also be increased from £6.75 to £7.55 a week. The Widow's Allowance for the first 26 weeks of widowhood will go up from £9.45 to £10.85.

All pensioners over 80 receive an additional 25p per week—no change.

Other proposed National Insurance Benefits improvements include Invalidity Benefit, Dependancy Allowances for

War Widows

The standard rate of pension for a War Widow aged 40 or over or under that age with children is increased from £8.80 per week to £10.10 per week. The Rent Allowance for War Widows with children is increased from up to £3.40 per week to £3.90 per week.

The increased rates of pension and allowances will operate as from the first pay day in the week commencing 30th September 1973 which means that the effective date of payment in the majority of cases will be Wednesday the 3rd October 1973.

Industrial Injuries Act

The 100% Disablement Pension payable under this Act to employees disabled in the course of their employment is to be increased from £11.20 a week to £12.80 a week with proportionate increases for lower assessments and some of the allowances payable with the Disablement Pension, which are very much in line with those payable to War Pensioners are also to be increased.

The Industrial Pension for widows which is at present £7.30 a week is to be raised to £8.30.

Children, Widowed Mother's Allowance, Guardian's Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Maternity Allowance, and the abolition of the reduction in Dependancy Benefits to take account of allowances for wife and children paid with Disablement Pensions.

The total amount needed to pay for all the proposed increased benefits — no separate figures available at present as to cost of increased War Pensions and Allowances — is of the order of £570,000,000.

The Government has decided that the way to meet the cost of the improvements in the National Insurance Benefits payable out of the National Insurance Fund is to increase the graduated contributions paid

on earnings of more than £20 a week and the flat rate contributions paid by employers.

Flat rate contributions paid by employees will be reduced by 4p.

An increase will be required in the flat rate contributions of self-employed persons

who do not pay graduated contributions in order to ensure that they pay their fair share of the cost of improved benefits.

The full rate of graduated contributions paid by employees and employers has been increased to 5% and the earnings limit has been raised from £48 to £54.

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

	Present £	New £
Not Contracted Out of the Graduated Scheme		
Earnings £15	1.18	1.15
£20	1.43	1.41
£30	1.90	1.91
£40	2.38	2.41
£48	2.73	—
£50	—	2.91
£54	—	3.09
Contracted Out of the Graduated Scheme		
Earnings £15	1.04	1.02
£20	1.16	1.15
£30	1.64	1.65
£40	2.11	2.15
£48	2.47	—
£50	—	2.65
£54	—	2.83

The contribution of the self-employed man is to be £1.93 instead of £1.68 a week and for the non-employed man the contribution is to be £1.52 as against the £1.33 he is now called upon to pay.

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

the whole of the increased non-employed contribution and will pay 60p of the weekly contribution of the self-employed St. Dunstaners and of the employed St. Dunstaners, whether he is contracted in or out of the Graduated Scheme.

Subject to Parliamentary approval the increases in National Insurance Benefits and in contributions are due to come into effect during the week commencing 30th September 1973.

EXAMPLES OF PENSIONS

Employable

	<i>Present</i>	<i>New</i>
	£	£
Totally Blind		
Basic Pension	11.20	12.80
Attendance Allowance	4.50	5.15
Comforts Allowance	1.70	2.20
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	£18.28	£21.03
Guiding Vision	£	£
Basic Pension	11.20	12.80
Attendance Allowance	2.25	2.60
Comforts Allowance	0.85	1.10
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	£15.18	£17.38
Totally Blind with exceptional maximum rate of Attendance Allowance	£	£
Basic Pension	11.20	12.80
Attendance Allowance	9.00	10.30
Comforts Allowance	1.70	2.20
Special Occupational Allowance	2.00	2.60
Exceptionally severely disabled Allowance	4.50	5.15
Wife's Allowance	0.50	0.50
Child's Allowance	0.38	0.38
	£29.28	£33.93

Unemployable

	£	£
Totally Blind		
Basic Pension	11.20	12.80
Attendance Allowance	4.50	5.15
Unemployability Supplement	7.35	8.40
Comforts Allowance	1.70	2.20
Wife's Allowance	4.15	4.75
Allowance for First Child	3.30	3.80
*Invalidity Allowance	0.70	1.00
	£32.90	£38.10
Guiding Vision	£	£
Basic Pension	11.20	12.80
Attendance Allowance	2.25	2.60
Unemployability Supplement	7.35	8.40
Comforts Allowance	1.70	2.20
Wife's Allowance	4.15	4.75
Allowance for First Child	3.30	3.80
*Invalidity Allowance	0.70	1.00
	£30.65	£35.55

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

If a St. Dunstaner is 65 years of age or over, he will be receiving in addition to the above an Age Allowance of £1.80 a week.



The Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton at St. Dunstan's Reunion (l. to r.) Mrs. H. Greatrex, Mr. H. Greatrex, Mrs. G. R. Lucraft, Alderman G. R. Lucraft, Lady Morris, Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris and Miss B. R. Blebta.

REUNIONS

BRIGHTON

A glorious sunny day for the Brighton Reunion on Saturday, 16th June, held in the spacious Metropole Hotel on the sea-front. Miss Blebta was the Welfare Visitor responsible for the arrangements, assisted by Mrs. Lyall. Among the guests we were happy to see Mr. Ken Phillips, Chairman, and Mrs. Margaret Lillie, Secretary of the Sussex Grocers' Association Entertainment Committee and, amongst retired staff, Miss Frances Ramshaw, and Mr. Donald Ferguson.

Air Marshal Sir Douglas Morris, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C., was the member of St. Dunstan's Council presiding at the lunch and he was accompanied by Lady Morris. Sir Douglas gave a warm welcome to our principal guests—Alderman G. R. Lucraft, Mayor of Brighton, and the Mayoress. He also welcomed

Mr. C. D. Wills, St. Dunstan's Secretary, whom he described as a "confirmed reunioner", all St. Dunstaners with their wives or escorts and the other guests. Sir Douglas said that altogether 280 people were present at this large gathering, including 48 St. Dunstaners from the First World War and 73 from the Second World War or later entrants.

Introducing the Mayor to the assembled company, Sir Douglas said, "I know how glad he is to be here seeing you all enjoying yourselves". The Mayor said he naturally had many functions to attend; some of them were a bit of a chore, but this gathering was certainly no chore. Alderman Lucraft referred to the opening of Pearson House just two weeks earlier and he told us that, living under the shadow of Ovingdean, he saw what was going on

there. He had watched the building of Ovingdean between the wars and now he saw it being gutted. However, he understood that the work of modernisation was going well and Ovingdean would be a wonderful place when re-opened, perhaps even surpassing Pearson House.

Moving with the Times

The Mayor said that Brighton was proud of St. Dunstan's and with these two new buildings, Pearson House and Ian Fraser House, he was glad to see us moving with the times. St. Dunstan's, said the Mayor, was not merely buildings. To him the real importance lay in the St. Dunstaners, who were to be seen walking around, going in and out of the pubs and chatting with their escorts. That was the real St. Dunstan's, not the buildings.

Mr. Phillips, representing the Sussex Grocers' Association, with Mrs. Lillie, added his thanks for the invitation to those expressed by the Mayor. Although a keen cricketer, Mr. Phillips said he was quite happy to miss an afternoon's cricket watching to be present. In business he often had cause to complain, but at St. Dunstan's functions he always felt "spurred on". The attitude of St. Dunstaners was marvellous, said Mr. Phillips, and he added a warm tribute to the Matrons and to the wives and escorts.

"After the Lord Mayor's Show comes the dustcart", said John Greenwood, proposing the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. He expressed gratitude to Sir Douglas and Lady Morris, to St. Dunstan's staff—and a great cheer went up at the mention of Dr. O'Hara—and to the hotel management and staff for a splendid meal. He remembered Lord Fraser and all that the Council did and made special mention of Miss Blebta and Mrs. Lyall. John Greenwood said that he had missed a regimental garden party at Windsor in order to be present, but this was where he wanted to be on that day. He knew many St. Dunstaners, and they were jolly good men, but he added "the ladies who escort them are a darned sight better than the men".

After lunch everybody got together with their friends to chat, and there was dancing to Ken Lyon and his trio. This continued after tea and the raffle and the party broke up well after 5 p.m.

NEWCASTLE

The Royal Station Hotel is well accustomed to reunions of St. Dunstaners from the North and Scotland, but on Thursday, 21st June, the room provided was on the ground floor and not on the first floor as in earlier years. Altogether 64 people were present, including 27 St. Dunstaners from the two wars and subsequent entries. Mrs. Plaxton was the Welfare Visitor responsible and Mrs. King assisted her.

Lord Fraser presided at the lunch and he was accompanied by Lady Fraser. In his speech Lord Fraser first welcomed James Higginbottom, of Gateshead, who was attending his first reunion. Lord Fraser went on to say that we could forget how old we were because in St. Dunstan's we all belonged to one family, the men, the wives and the staff. He referred to the members of staff present and added that we could expect our resources to see us through, bearing in mind that St. Dunstan's would continue its work well into the next century. We were entitled to be proud of our name. St. Dunstan's stood for the conquest of blindness and with the inventions we had made or to which we had contributed, such as the Talking Book, a great boon had been provided for all the blind, particularly the older members. We had blazed new trails in occupations and employment and had always been well supported by the public at large.

Vote of Thanks

Then Leslie Thompson, of Gateshead, moved the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. He said it was a wonderful experience to have the Frasers at this reunion. He had first met them thirty years ago. Lady Fraser remained as glamorous as on the day he first met her and this was how St. Dunstan's had kept so young at heart. He said that he hoped the Frasers would take back to London good wishes and gratitude for all that they had done for St. Dunstaners. He thanked the staff and specially mentioned Mrs. Plaxton, whom he described as a tremendous success, and Mrs. King; also the Welfare staff at headquarters for the tender way in which they always attended to everybody's needs. Finally he thanked the hotel management and staff for a very good meal.

Mr. C. D. Wills, St. Dunstan's Secretary, said that it was a great pleasure to be in



At Newcastle Lord Fraser is photographed with (l. to r.) James Miller, George Willey and Mrs. I. Plaxton.

Newcastle after an absence of two years. "You are all fit and well", said Mr. Wills, "keep it up until next time". Introducing Miss Mosley, who had assumed the position of Area Superintendent, Mr. Wills said it was a good opportunity for her to meet and get to know the St. Dunstaners, and they could tell her of any personal problems. The hotel band was there, he concluded, "So get on the floor and have a jolly good dance round".

A number of those present followed the advice given to them by Mr. Wills and several went even further, contributing songs at the microphone. A jolly good time was had by all.

SHEFFIELD

On Saturday, 23rd June, the Hallam Tower Hotel was the venue for another very successful reunion, with 124 people present. This time Miss Broughton was Welfare Visitor responsible, assisted by Mrs. Plaxton and Mrs. King, and everyone was delighted to see Miss Midgley there as a guest. The St. Dunstaners came from Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Derbyshire. They numbered 54, including 2 girl St. Dunstaners, Eileen Williams, of Harrogate, and

Marjorie Ball, of Leeds. As Member of the Council presiding, Mr. Donald Hopewell opened the batting for the speakers. On this special occasion, he said, Mr. Wills was there for the first time as Secretary, and Miss Mosley as Area Superintendent. For over thirty years Mr. Lloyds had acted as Secretary and he welcomed Miss Midgley, who had done much excellent work at headquarters. "Do we always realise", asked Mr. Hopewell, "that for almost sixty years St. Dunstaners have worked week in, week out, in offices and factories, to make a good living for themselves and their families?" St. Dunstan's had provided scientific devices, of which the most wonderful was the Talking Book. Lord Fraser had seen Lord Nuffield more than once, and Lord Nuffield had dug deep into his pocket, contributing a total of more than half a million pounds to help the Talking Book project. This was now shared with the R.N.I.B. and civilian hospitals. St. Dunstan's could take credit for bringing happiness to all handicapped people. We had the Ian Fraser Talking Book Library at Bolton in the North.

Sheffield, said Mr. Hopewell, was central to all from the surrounding counties and thus a convenient city to hold the reunions. He then gave his audience one of those

humorous Yorkshire mottoes, of which he seems to have a plentiful store:

"Hear all, see all, say nowt.
Eat all, sup all, pay nowt.
And if ever tha does owt for nowt,
Do it for thisen".

Concluding, Mr. Hopewell expressed his thanks to the staff, to St. Dunstaners for their noble example, and to the wives and escorts for all their assistance.

Welcome from Mr. Wills

Mr. Wills then welcomed everyone present including two newcomers, George Bettridge, of Hucknall, and Philip D'Hooghe, of Nottingham. Saying that our numbers were slowly diminishing, Mr. Wills gave the actual figures at the present time. He said that we were fortunate in having important people on the Council. Mr. Garnett-Orme, the Vice-Chairman, had specialist knowledge in the City and much help came from his influence. The Duke of Norfolk, a Vice-President of St. Dunstan's, had recently opened Pearson House. Work at Ian Fraser House was progressing well and it was even possible that it would be ready to re-open in July, 1974. "Let your Welfare officer know when you want a reservation for a holiday at the Home", said Mr. Wills.

The vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners was moved by Ernest Russell, of Leeds, who welcomed Mr. Hopewell. He believed Mr. Hopewell had never attended a concert, but he hoped that he would do so one day. Turning to Mr. Wills he said that he took this first opportunity of welcoming him as Secretary. "He will do for us", said Ernie Russell. Miss Mosley had listened for some years to Miss Midgley and had thus received a good schooling. In a little while, said Ernie, she will be thinking like us. If Ovingdean were to be a blueprint of Pearson House then there was a pleasure in store. The sacrifice in time whilst Ian Fraser House was closed was worthwhile and meanwhile St. Dunstaners were grateful for the increased holiday grant. He thanked the hotel staff for the meals and service, but he added, expressing his own partiality, Sheffield would never lead whilst Leeds was there. "What Yorkshire thinks today", concluded Ernie Russell, "the rest of the country thinks tomorrow".

After lunch the hotel band played for dancing and we again had the pleasure of listening to some songs at the microphone from St. Dunstaners or their wives.

IPSWICH

As readers will note, the reunions were now coming thick and fast. On Thursday, 5th July, it was the turn of St. Dunstaners living in East Anglia to come to Copdock House, just out of Ipswich, on a warm sunny day, which finished with rain and thunder after the guests had departed. Mrs. Adkins was the Welfare Visitor responsible, assisted by Miss Davis. A total of 82 people attended the reunion, among them 34 St. Dunstaners, including one girl St. Dunstaner, Brenda Bates, of Clacton.

Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme

Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's, presided, and he was accompanied by Mrs. Garnett-Orme. He brought the best wishes of Lord and Lady Fraser and Sir Neville Pearson to the assembled company, and he welcomed Arthur Hopkin, of Ely, and Arthur Morris, of Ongar, who were attending their first reunion. A lot had happened during the past two years when an Ipswich reunion had last been held, said Mr. Garnett-Orme, including the retirement, as Secretary of Mr. Lloyds, much moved by the tributes and splendid gifts presented to him. He congratulated Mr. Wills on his appointment to a position of great responsibility. Pearson House was functioning well and the work at Ian Fraser House was progressing on time. Mr. Garnett-Orme had undertaken some research in an effort to discover a link between Ipswich and St. Dunstan's. He mentioned the Roman occupation between 240 and 400 A.D., but gave up the research as a bad job when he discovered that the Town Clerk had absconded with local records and cash in 1271. He thanked the staff for their work and particularly Mrs. Adkins and Miss Davis for the arrangements that day.

George Bulbrook, of March, then expressed the thanks of St. Dunstaners. He thanked Mr. Garnett-Orme and congratulated Mr. Wills on his promotion. Adding that we were sorry to lose Miss Midgley. On the other hand he was glad

that Miss Mosley was present with the company. He thanked Mr. Lloyds and Miss Midgley for their many years of service to St. Dunstan's.

Concluding, George Bulbrook thanked the hotel management and staff for the good food and service which they gave.

During the afternoon there was a sing-song accompanied on the piano. Songs at the microphone were provided by Mrs. Carpenter, wife of Alfred Carpenter, of Ipswich, and the married daughter of Albert Briggs, of Norwich, just recently returned from America.

BIRMINGHAM

It was a return to old surroundings for the Birmingham Reunion, the eighth in the 1973 series, held on July 7th in the recently re-opened Grand Hotel. Lord and Lady Fraser presided over luncheon in the room in which one of the great Golden Jubilee Reunions was held in 1965.

It was a smaller company that gathered in the Ballroom on this occasion, 48 St. Dunstaners with their wives and escorts with their guests, Mrs. Avis Spurway, M.B.E., Miss M. K. Wilson, M.B.E., and Mr. D. W. Ferguson, making up a party of 114 people. As always at this reunion of Midland St. Dunstaners the atmosphere was friendly and lively and there was a ready response to the music of Steve Evans and his band.

Speaking after luncheon Lord Fraser mentioned the names of members of Headquarters staff at the Reunion, particularly Miss Cynthia Mosley, Northern Area Welfare Superintendent and the Welfare visitor responsible for the reunion, Miss I. Newbold and Miss K. M. Broughton, who assisted.

He referred to the official opening of Pearson House and the alterations taking place at Ian Fraser House, with the consequent shortage of holiday space.

Lord Fraser welcomed William Green of Birmingham to his first reunion and "Three very old friends of St. Dunstan's", Mrs. Spurway, Miss Wilson and Mr. Ferguson.

"Last night I was in Birmingham and I met two or three people, and the reason for my meeting them may interest you", said Lord Fraser. "One was Dr. I. C.

Whitfield. He is a scientist and the head of a department at Birmingham University, his department being what is called Neuro-communications. This sounds very formidable but it means he studies sensory activities, activities of the mind, ears, sense of touch and the rest of it. He is a most valuable member of St. Dunstan's scientific Committee".

Pointing out that Birmingham had become a centre of research for the blind, Lord Fraser also mentioned Dr. Michael Tobin, Director of the Research Unit for the Education of the Visually Handicapped and St. Dunstaner Walter Thornton, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the National Mobility Centre in Birmingham.

Scientific Study

"There are two sectors of scientific study in which these persons are engaged. One is to try and place at the disposal of the ordinary blind person the sighted text of any book or newspaper, either by having the letters sounding rather like a language or feeling some representation of the printed page with the finger", said Lord Fraser.

"The other is a version of the old radar which those of you of the second war will certainly remember, whereby objects or aircraft could be seen on a screen long before they came into the field of fire. There are, in fact, machines already in existence which enable a few extremely competent blind persons, mostly younger ones, to find their way about just a little bit better than they can with their stick or ears. But they are not available to all because they are not safe, they are not sure and they are very much in the experimental stage".

Share with the Blind World

Saying that St. Dunstan's must confine its activities to men and women blinded on war service, Lord Fraser pointed out that we share with the whole blind world any discoveries or knowledge coming from our research programme.

He concluded by stressing the importance of the first group of a thousand St. Dunstaners in the First World War, in contributing towards the better recognition of the blind.

"Now, ladies and gentlemen, let me say



One of our girl St. Dunstaners, Mrs. Nellie Robinson, presents a bouquet to Lady Fraser at the Birmingham Reunion. Assisting her is Miss I. Newbold.

that you are responsible to a very, very great extent for the good name of St. Dunstan's and the high regard in which it is held because it is your courage, your adaptability, your good bearing and your example which have made our name famous".

Vote of Thanks

The proposal of the vote of thanks and toast to St. Dunstan's was made by Dennis Freeman, of Coventry. Commenting that he was one of the few naval St. Dunstaners, he said, "It was interesting to hear Lord Fraser talk about radar because I was a radar man myself. It brings back some happy memories". He appreciated it as an honour to be asked to propose the toast to St. Dunstan's and said, "I often wonder what it is that makes St. Dunstan's tick. Friendliness, I think, and a certain style about things. Whenever St. Dunstan's does a job it is done properly".

Dennis Freeman congratulated the organisers of the reunion, "I come back to the style—splendid". He concluded by expressing St. Dunstaners' indebtedness not only to the organisation but also to their wives.

CLUB NEWS

LONDON

The June prize winners of dominoes at our Thursday club nights were as follows:

14th June	1	G. Stanley
		W. Phillips
21st June	1	C. Hancock
	2	R. Armstrong
		J. Majchrowicz
28th June	1	C. Hancock
	2	W. Harding

May I remind you that the London Club will close down from 5th August until 6th September to enable our Club Steward, Norman Smith, to have his well earned holiday.

I would like to thank all members for their continued support, and hope to see you all again in September.

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a happy holiday and my wish is that the sun will shine brightly all through the month of August.

W. MILLER

MARK AND THE MAGNIFICENT SIX

Following our publication of Bert Wood's poem in the April Review we now print Part 2, which was written when he had completed his training and returned home, and also Mark Kingsnorth's reply.

PART 2. THE BATTLE

The battle began as well it must,
And Mark started off by scratching his crust,
Avon the Jungle replied, as best he was able,
By tapping his Braille finger on the table,
This caused Mark to quietly rejoice,
For he's sensed apprehension in the trainee's
voice,

Now is the time to blast this occasion,
With all of the six in abbreviation.

The attack was sudden, man what a gas,
Avon knew not whether he were on elbow or ass,
Dot for dot, cut and thrust.
The battle raged till nigh on dusk.
With trainee feeling fit to drop.
Mark said, "This is a good place to stop."

Muttering unprintable comments galore,
Avon staggered to the door,
He gave Mark a V-sign before he left,
At least, I think it were a V-sign, or maybe a
little jest.

The end of this tale is now at hand,
So drink up lads, three cheers. (plus a couple of
raspberries)

For Mark and his Dotty Band.

Only joking Mark, good luck,
BERT WOOD

THE BATTLEFIELD

A "Battlefield"? Bert! I'm cut to the quick!
I have a suspicion you're taking the mick!
Methinks 'was because you're standing afar
That you struck at the keys and the . . . space bar.
How come you didn't seek out a few nice spots
Where you could have let loose with a salvo of
dots?

'Tis shocked that I am that a pupil of mine
Should stand and fire from behind a safe line!
And using too, a lass of renown
To pass on your bullets, has caused me to frown.
For I thought you a lad of gentlemanly ways,
Begad Sir! I hope you'll soon mend your ways.
Dragging in Avon? In his absence forsooth!
To aid you in battle, despite his bad tooth.

Having started the battle, I'll expect you to fight
With salvos of dots by day and by night.
Till you've won right through to the end of your
rag,
For I'm sure no Bert Wood ever showed a white
flag.

'Tis good to engage in a battle for light,
Like the one in the Hymn "Fight the good fight".

With greetings from the mark in the loft,
DOTTY LAND

CLUB NEWS (continued)

MIDLAND

Although our meeting which was held on Sunday, 8th July, was sparsely attended, it was still a good one and quite enjoyable.

The first of our semi-finals in the Sir Arthur Pearson domino competition was played off. In this game Lou Androlia, fresh from his trip to Canada, beat Eddie Hordyniec, who was only fresh from a trip to Scotland. Never mind Eddie, better luck next time.

Our tea was provided for us at this meeting by Mrs. Marjorie Hordyniec and we all thanked her for laying a lovely table.

After tea several items were discussed including an outing to the Cotswolds and Stratford in October and the possibility of another outing in September.

The date has now been fixed for our

Christmas dinner, rather early I agree, but these things have to be planned well ahead, and this year we are to be the guests of the Royal British Legion, Austin Branch.

We do our best to keep this club as active as possible so why not come along and give it a try on the second Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. at the Royal British Legion Headquarters, Thorp Street, Birmingham.

DOUG CASHMORE
Secretary

Radio Leeds

ROBERT FORSTER of Leeds who is employed as a telephonist with Barclays Bank Ltd., in Leeds, has recently taken part in a couple of radio shows on the local radio programme called "Contact". This programme is about blind and disabled people, and Robert's voice came over the air very well.



The people behind the Sussex Grocers' events for St. Dunstaners, Mrs. Margaret Lillie and Mr. K. S. C. Phillips, Secretary and Chairman of the St. Dunstan's Entertainments Committee.

GROCERS' OUTING— 20th JUNE

by Mrs. Margaret Lillie

For sixteen consecutive days in June the sun shone, but during the evening of the 19th the heavens opened with lightning, thunder and torrential rain, continuing into the dawn of the 20th, the day of the Grocers' Outing from Brighton to Tunbridge Wells. Despite the poor weather there were few non-attenders among St. Dunstaners and after a blockage of traffic outside Pearson House for some minutes we eventually got on our way, travelling in three large coaches and a minibus through the Sussex countryside, shrouded in misty rain to the Spa Hotel, Tonbridge Wells.

Awaiting us in the ballroom was an excellent repast of cold turkey salad, hot buttered new potatoes, rolls and butter, finishing off with fresh strawberries and cream. Attentive waitresses with teapots at the ready were in evidence doing their utmost to be of help.

By now the rain had ceased and many people availed themselves of a walk in the spacious grounds of this beautifully situated hotel, just inside the county of Kent; all assembling back in the ballroom at 6 p.m. to listen to and take part in a

concert given by the Silver Band of Wadhurst Secondary School. These boys and girls ranged from the ages of 11-17 years, and how they blew—with one eye on their conductor (Mr. Hoare) and the other eye on the music. Everyone clapped their hands, stamped their feet in time to the music, whistled and sang to their hearts content, and many hotel residents stood at the back of the room joining in the general gaiety.

Whilst the concert was in progress, stewards of the Sussex Grocers' Association constantly provided glasses of refreshment and when leaving the hotel at 8 p.m., everyone was presented with a supper bag of pie, crisps etc., the munching of which did not deter many St. Dunstaners from still raising their voices in song during the homeward journey back to Brighton.

The Edwin Dickinsen Literary Competition

The Queensland Society of Blind Citizens, 247 Vulture Street, South Brisbane, 4101, Queensland, Australia, for the Blind and Partially Blind, invite entries for their annual world wide competition.

Category	1st Prize	2nd Prize
Short Story (max. 1,000 words)	\$25	\$10
Essay (max. 1,500 words)	\$25	\$10
Original Poem:		
Humorous	\$25	\$10
Serious	\$25	\$10

All competitors must be of amateur status and they must use a nom-de-plume and give full name and address, also title of entry, in sealed accompanying envelope.

Section and category must be clearly marked on each entry. All entries become the property of the Society, and will not be returned unless specially requested.

Closing date is 31st October 1973.

There is no entry fee.

HONOURS DEGREE

JOHN COWAN of Boreham Wood, Herts, is pleased to announce that his son, Stuart, aged 24 years, has received his Hons. Degree in applied Biology. He is a Senior Technician of the Lister Institute, in Radlett, Herts.



Peter Spencer, above, in the 50 metre sprint, uses starting blocks for the first time.

The Austrians throw the medicine ball one-handed. Here Jimmy Wright tries this unfamiliar method.



True Sportsmanship in Vienna

by David Castleton

At a time when top professional tennis players refuse to play at Wimbledon and soccer stars and their supporters seem to prefer violence to sport, it was refreshing to travel to Vienna with a St. Dunstan's team to compete in Austria's first International Games for the Blind: John Simpson, Peter Spencer, Jimmy Wright with coach, Jock Carnochan and escort, Bill Harris.

Here was an opportunity to relearn what sport is all about among some 80 blind competitors from Austria, Belgium, England, France, Switzerland and Germany. I left Germany until last because, in fact, they had five teams representing the cities of Berlin, Dortmund, Munich, Soest, and Stuttgart.

The organising genius behind the occasion was our old friend from the St. Dunstan's International Sports of 1968, Willi Hohm with, of course, his wife, Elfi. With him was his sighted skiing partner Günther Stärker—a man who asserts he is never tired and I believe him!



At the Rathaus Keller in Vienna Jock Carnochan presents a silver tankard and a pennant to Willi Hohm. With them is Willi's wife, Elfriede.

In the sylvan surroundings of the Austrian Railways' Sports Centre, John Simpson puts a lot of effort behind the shot.

The games were opened by Bundesminister Dr. Fred Sinowatz, the Austrian minister responsible for Sport, in an arena belonging to the employees of the Austrian State Railways. The visiting teams lived in well furnished hostels in the sports ground which was like a country estate and which offered every facility from football to swimming, including tennis and athletics. Buildings included a well-appointed restaurant and a sauna bath. It is situated on the left bank of the Danube in an area of Vienna devoted to sport and recreation.

Opening Ceremony

After the opening ceremony the games continued throughout Saturday, June 16th. Competitors were divided into age groups and one group of women. Peter Spencer and Jimmy Wright were in the oldest group while John Simpson found himself competing alone among a younger group.

There were five events: 50 metre sprint, shot put, long jump, medicine ball and sling ball, an event new to St. Dunstan's,





Etienne Chapas, a French war-blinded competitor who has also lost a leg, takes part in the sprint—an effort which drew warm applause from the spectators.

One of the blind girl competitors in the long jump is Marliese Zerrecs from Munich.



using a heavy leather ball slightly smaller than a football with a built-in leather sling, thrown with a swinging under arm action. 1,000 points were awarded for an optimum performance in each event and competitors lost points according to how far their efforts were short of the target. Bonus points were added for degree of blindness or additional disabilities.

Peter Spencer scored 3,883 points to finish fourth in his group while Jimmy Wright came sixth with 3,755 points. Among the younger group John Simpson finished eleventh with 3,766 points.

At the prize giving after dinner in the Rathaus Keller banqueting room in Vienna's equivalent of the Mansion House in London, Peter Spencer received a tall silver cup from Frau Freda Karl, who is an Under Secretary of State in the Government. In the splendid chandeliered and panelled room with historic prints and a mural of old Vienna, some 200 competitors, officials and escorts were here the guests of the Austrian Government, indicating the great official interest taken in the games.

Austrian hospitality

Austrian hospitality was overwhelming. On Sunday the visiting teams were taken on a tour of the historic buildings of Vienna and entertained to luncheon in a restaurant specialising in Slovakian food as the guests of the Municipality of Vienna. As one of our party commented, he had never dreamed he would eat in a restaurant only a short distance from the Danube, listening to a typical orchestra playing famous and well-loved Viennese music.

In the afternoon coaches transported the visitors towards the Hungarian border and Lake Neusiedler where they sampled wine in the town of Morbisch. A place where storks, which thrive around the shallow waters of the lake, build their nests on the chimney tops of the houses. More civic hospitality this time from the provincial government of Burgenland, Hungarian style, to the sound of zither music.

The English team were the special protégés of Günther Stärker and his wife Elizabeth and of Franz and Elfriede Kollar, all of whom spoke excellent English. Günther because he spends half of every year teaching skiing in America. He is a famous mountaineer who has climbed to 26,000 feet in the Himalayas without oxygen, lectured to the Alpine Club in



Freda Karl presents a silver cup to Peter Spencer.

London and numbers Lord Hunt and the late Wilfred Noyes, of Everest fame, among his friends. Franz Kollar is a teacher at the Vienna High School and a former association footballer.

Presentation Dinner

At the presentation dinner, Jock Carnochan had the opportunity to express the appreciation of his team when he presented an inscribed silver tankard and a pennant to Willi Hohm and a bottle of whisky to Günther Stärker. He said, "Since 1968 we have fostered a very warm friendship with Willi Hohm and his wife, Elfriede, when we organised an international sports meeting at Brighton, England, and Willi was the overall victor". Jock congratulated the winners of their respective groups, the organisers, judges, and escorts on "an excellently organised sports".

Speaking in English for Willi Hohm, Günther Stärker, said, "It is a wonderful event for us to have you from England, Germany, France, Belgium, Luxembourg

and Switzerland for the first Austrian International Games for the Blind. We hope you enjoyed your competitions—and your social life to-night. We hope you will leave Vienna—capital of Austria—having found new friends and that you will wish to come back to us again as competitors—but mostly as friends."

Peter Spencer writes:

It will indeed be a weekend that I shall always remember for good fellowship between sportsmen of many countries and the wonderful hospitality given to us by Austrians wherever we went. Perhaps the highlight of this hospitality was the official Government Banquet on the Saturday night followed by speeches from each delegation and the presentation of gifts to our hosts, and Cups and prizes to individual sportsmen and women. What a wonderful evening . . .

On the Sports field competition was "Hot" and although we didn't cover ourselves in complete glory, we had the

consolation of putting up our best individual performances so far in each event.

Our party of six was a happy one and this was the keystone to our truly enjoyable and successful week-end in Vienna.

Jimmy Wright says:

I hadn't appreciated, at the outset, that the First Austrian International Sports Meeting for blind people was not confined to ex-Servicemen, and consequently competitors of all ages participated, however, we were divided into age groups, which was a great relief, to me at any rate!

The weather for the sports was perfect, not too hot, unlike my head, which felt terrible after the night before, having been introduced to one of those delightful 'heurigers' to be found in the old wine growing belt around Vienna, and where the wine arrives in a half-pint glass!! I think it was a tactical move on the part of

KEMP TOWN NOTES

Our sometimes elusive friend the sun has now condescended to come forth and shed his health giving rays on to our grateful bodies.

St. Dunstaners, in shades ranging from pink to deepest puce, lie draped about the lawn, their colouring only outdone by the roses. In the evenings we sit in the Winter Garden with the French windows open to the evensong of birds and the scent of those oft mentioned and much admired roses. Such was the setting for "Music for a Summer Evening", a programme of records chosen and presented by Mr. Michael Hayes. We have come to expect something very special from our friend Michael and, of course, he did not disappoint us. His choice of music and interesting chat were, as usual, a joy to listen to.

Another evening of light and tuneful entertainment came to us by courtesy of the Brighton Theatre Group. Making their first visit to Pearson House, members of the group performed a number of musical items, including some excellent solos. The concert was very much enjoyed by all present.

We had our annual trip to the Bentley

Franz Kollar, Willi Hohm's excellent friend, to sabotage the British contingent's efforts! Franz also took us to do a spot of shopping and sightseeing in the afternoon.

I had heard a lot about Willi Hohm's exploits on skis and it was, indeed, a very great pleasure to meet his skiing instructor friend, Günther Stärker, at the sports. Günther and his wife, Elizabeth, met us again the following day and accompanied us on a sightseeing trip around the Capital, adding great interest by their graphic description and historical background of the places that we visited.

It was a very great pleasure to see Willi and his wife, Elfi, once again, and I think we all owe them and their friends a tremendous debt of gratitude for everything that they did to make our visit to Vienna such an extremely happy and memorable occasion.

Wildfowl Collection during June. Mrs. Askew and her helpers gave us a very warm welcome. The peacocks displayed their colours and the whooper and trumpeter swans provided the musical accompaniment. Such a large variety of wildfowl, swimming, feeding, nesting and living their lives in natural looking surroundings in the heart of the country. Is it any wonder we return from "Bentley" refreshed and ready to face the hurly-burly of life in town?

Speaking of hurly-burly, we had a wonderful day at the Derby. Granted there were not so many of us this year, but the atmosphere was there. Meeting with St. Dunstaners and their escorts from the Brighton and London Clubs was a great pleasure. The food, of course, was as mouth-watering as ever. Winners? Well, no-one expects to win a fortune at the Derby, do they? Like our friends from London, we kept our shirts on and had a good time anyway.

Talking of meeting old friends, brings us to the Brighton Reunion at the Hotel Metropole and the Grocers Association to Tunbridge Wells. Two very happy occasions, which are no doubt fully reported elsewhere in this issue.

So, as the sun sinks slowly over the rose gardens of old Kemp Town, we leave you until next month, when we hope to be able to report that our pink and peeling complexions have turned to bronze.

From Down Under

by David Bell

En route for New Zealand we touched down for a few hours in Manila in the Philippines and for a few days in Port Moresby, Papua, New Guinea. While waiting in Manila for our connection we took a bus tour visiting the American War Cemetery at Makatt; St. Augustine's Cathedral with cracked walls and stairs signs of the recent earthquake. Inside was the tomb of Miquel de Legazpi the first Spanish Governor 1571. We were very interested in the old walled city, Intramuros, where the British were repelled in the 18th century and the ancient Fort Santiago containing the Memorial Museum of Dr. Rizal, hero of the revolution against the Spanish in the 19th century. Rizal was a man of many interests in advance of his time but was executed by the Spaniards. The river Pasig runs beside the fort and here during the war the Japanese used the original Spanish torture method of opening the flood gates to allow the high tides in to drown the prisoners in the dungeons. The traces of Spanish culture are more Mexican that Castilian because of the trade links with South America.

The Filipinos

The Filipinos naturally are proud of their country and their new President, Marcos, who declared martial law last year to cope with the crime wave and terrorism. There is a curfew from midnight until 4 a.m. and everyone, including tourists, is grateful for these measures as it is now possible to walk safely in the streets and sleep easy in the hotels. The police keep strict checks on taxis and occupants, and one of the punishments for breaking curfew is cleaning the streets—though there are many shanty houses there is not a cigarette end on the streets or in the parks, incidentally the parks have reservations for disabled people.

A popular move of the President's is to break up large estates giving land to peasants, with 15 years to pay and everyone is encouraged to grow vegetables even along the edge of pavements and canals—this they say is the "green revolution".

Part of the Philippine scene is the gaily

decorated "jeepney" converted U.S. jeeps which hold 10 passengers, something between a bus and a taxi.

In the evening we boarded a Qantas flight for Port Moresby, arriving early in the morning—temperature 90° and so humid, like stepping into a sauna bath, now we have experienced extremes of temperature—Moscow and Port Moresby.

New Guinea

New Guinea is reckoned to be the largest island in the world and one of the last to be explored, it lies between the equator and Australia. Because of the difficult terrain, 1,500 mile mountain chain covered in dense jungle, swamps in low lying ground, one can understand the problems experienced by famous explorers in Bougainville and Owen Stanley. Still, to-day there are few roads, the best mode of travel is by land-rover or plane. The jungle contains the well known bird of paradise and many orchids.

The indigenous people are made up of many totemic clans whose symbols are birds, fish, plants or snakes, they are colourful and delight in many forms of decoration, wearing turtle shell earrings, the septum is pierced for clam shell nose-sticks though nowadays biro pens are preferred (very handy!). Girls are sometimes tattooed from forehead to thigh with attractive designs—quite intriguing to see flowers peeping below mini-skirts on the office girls! At the weekend young men might wear skirts and flowers in their hair.

Port Moresby is in a lovely setting with a large harbour encircled by hills reaching down to white sandy beaches. Conditions are good for yachting, swimming and all water sports—but beware of coral snakes. One of our worries was the mosquitoes, there had been a delay in the spraying programme. Our friends showed us around the sealed roads within a radius of 14 miles.

The Waigani University opened in 1966 now has 600 students studying in an unusual but well designed campus with distinctive buildings. St. Mary's Cathedral



At the Homai Centre, David and Sybil Bell (right) chat with (l. to r.) Mrs. Nancy May, Mrs. Mitchell and Bob Stott.

is a most impressive native style building, open sides for coolness, a 3 ft. clam shell for the font, a large drum and many wooden carvings. We visited the House of Assembly where the 94 members meet. The main local language is Moto or Pidgin. It was amusing to hear the news on the radio—"No. 1. fella bilong Canberra come talk talk at Mike Somairs's arse place" (Mike Somair is the Chief Minister). "Nippon big sail on reef, all bugger up". They were concerned about the French nuclear test and this is the description—"Big paloos over Pacific make man sick in head and piccanin sick in bed."

In the museum is a fine collection of their famous richly painted wood sculpture and the new Cultural Centre had traditional buildings, dug-out canoes etc., also an amphitheatre for tribal dancing and displays. Here they also showed us a cassowary bird (ostrich-like but smaller) caught as a fledgling but now fully grown with tremendous claws and strong legs—for kicking and ripping, he makes a peculiar noise like a drum.

We drove out to the War Memorial at

Bomana then up the dirt road into the hills to the Kokoda Trail where the Japanese were finally turned back, just 30 miles from Port Moresby. At another point on the famous trail is a plaque to the "Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels", carriers who maintained supplies and served as stretcher bearers.

A fascinating morning was spent at Koki market, an ancient anchorage, traditional no man's land where enemies could meet in safety and trade. In the last 20 years it has grown with the rapid development of the town of Moresby and now trucks come from mountains with produce that used to come by canoe, while many canoes are now turned into houseboats. All fruits and vegetables — yams, cucumbers, (brown) pineapple, water melon, bananas etc., were laid out on leaves on the ground and on the stalls were snakes, opossums, shell fish, pumpkins, betel nuts and lime, but some skinned black smelly animals we didn't recognise, were magani—small tree kangaroos as big as a fox terrier. Pigs are reared carefully, even suckled by the women if necessary but they are prized for celebrations and never sold.

Next year most Australians in Government service, including our friends, will be leaving New Guinea as this mandated territory will be given its independence and it is to be hoped that the trained native officials will be able to keep their heads and control in their new found freedom.

All too soon it was time to pack and say farewell. At the airport there were extra formalities, inspecting baggage for articles that might be contaminated—fruit, leather or skins or wooden carvings etc. New Zealand and Australian controls are very strict, even the planes have to be sprayed inside and out.

Our route took us over the Torres Strait, the mountains of Queensland south to Sydney then across the Tasman Sea to Auckland (12,000 miles from home). To be met by Jimmy May, President of the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind, and his charming wife, Nancy. Many St. Dunstaners met them both at the London Reunion last year. Nancy deposited us with our friends arranging to take us for a tour of the city the next day.

Extinct Volcano

From Mount Eden, an extinct volcano, where Nancy was able to drive to the top, we got an excellent view of Auckland spreading for miles and with water everywhere—the Pacific on the east with Hauraki Gulf and Waitemata harbour bringing ships right up to the foot of Queen Street, six miles to the west is the Tasman Sea and Manukau Harbour. To meet cousins on the north shore we crossed the reconstructed new bridge, affectionately known as the "Nippon Clippon". Because the original bridge was too narrow for the traffic prefabricated sections were sailed down from Japan and in the twinkling of an eye the double highway was clipped on.

Wytangi Day

On Wytangi Day, 6th February, celebrations are held for the signing of the Peace Treaty between the Maoris and the Pakis (Whites) 133 years ago. To celebrate this historical occasion and our arrival in New Zealand, I had a hair cut and a few beers with my friend at the Returned Servicemen's Club, where we were entertained by Pipers and Dancers from the Black Watch contingent over from Hong Kong. At 9 p.m. every Friday this club

has two minutes silence and a bugler sounds the Last Post.

Our thanks again to Jimmy and Nancy who made it possible for us to visit the Homai College, training and mobility centre for the blind, all in extensive and pleasant grounds and buildings. We called in at St. Dunstan's and several welfare and rehabilitation centres and were fortunate to meet Dr. Lopdell who is in charge of an Extramural Hospital Service, which seems an excellent way of catering for the needs of old and disabled people in their own homes.

Sydney

This brief stay in Auckland was most enjoyable and we were sorry time and distance did not allow us to see more of such a delightful country.

Starting our journey westwards we flew the 13,000 miles back to Sydney where we spent some hours between planes. We learnt that each State has a nickname and the one for the people of New South Wales is Cornstalkers.

Leaving the bus tour at Menzies Ferries we caught a boat for a trip around this famous bay with beautiful scenes of coves, creeks and surfing beaches and on the return from Manly Island we had a wonderful view of the "Coat Hanger Bridge" spanning the harbour and the controversial Opera House squatting at the entrance to Sydney Cove (Betjeman described it as "Oysters in Flight"). Travelling by subway to King's Cross we were surprised to find all doors remained open—air conditioning!

Canberra

It was a short hop to Canberra where we were re-united with friends lecturing at the University—the last time we saw them they were on contract to Kenya University and we happened to be passing through Nairobi!

Canberra, the Federal Capital was interesting as a prize winning planned City but we thought it impersonal and a car is an absolute necessity.

Next stop was Melbourne, "Gutty Perchas", to stay with a cousin not seen since before the war. Here we had to deliver many greetings from the "Old Country". To friends and friends of friends, with a particular message from Mrs. Lawrence of Broadhurst Gardens hostel, to her brother.

We did the usual sightseeing and were impressed with the design of the war memorial where the sun strikes through the dome at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month directly on to an inscribed tablet of black marble and exactly on the line—"Greater love hath no man . . .".

The Yarra River

Crossing the Yarra river our friend told us of the local saying that "it is too thick to navigate and too thin to cultivate". Driving north into some beautiful tree covered hills we came to a typical "wild west town" called Upper Fern Tree Gully. They really did have fern trees in the woods, 10 ft. tall, then listening carefully we heard the tinkle of the bell bird.

Back to the Airport and on to Adelaide, "Croweaters", to be met by friends who emigrated twenty years ago. To welcome us they had a forest fire on Mount Lofty, which curves around the plain where the town was laid out in the form of a square of rectangular blocks, and around this a mile broad belt of park land was reserved for sports, playgrounds and entertainment.

Forest fires are part of Australian life, indeed there are trees that need firing for the seed to sprout—grass trees or Black boys. Fires are a hazard but at times are necessary, controlled "burn off" is allowed for the strangling undergrowth and the phoenix like vegetation. Schools wisely lecture on the dangers and safety precautions.

Leslie Constable

On a trip to Barossa Valley, the wine country cultivated mainly by German settlers, we called on Leslie Constable, St. Dunstan, who appeared to be happily settled now, his very pleasant home is just a few minutes from his place of work.

Between social calls and cooling swims in the sea we visited the Bedford workshops and training centres for the blind.

Two airlines have the monopoly of interstate flights, one private and one Government owned, Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee! In a brand new plane the latter carried us off to Perth, "Sand-groppers". Western Australia takes up a third of this vast continent and is so empty, cattle farming and mining.

Perth has been transformed by rebuilding some of the old narrow streets,

reclaiming land from the flooded flats of the Swan river and recouring it to improve highways and traffic flow. Fortunate in its site and river, Perth has many parks including the fine Queen's Park giving a wonderful view over the bay, river and city to the Darling mountain range in the distance. This is where our friends lived on the fringe of the town, near the out-back and here we saw our first kangaroo, kookaburra, snake and poisonous red-back spider, the banksia flowers and jarrah wood (trees that grow straight in the stem to 40-50 ft., exceptionally hard, heavy wood). All indigenous.

The war-blinded held their bi-annual Conference in Perth while we were there and invited us to join them during the five days. Delegates came from every state, Sir Charles Coult was principal speaker at the opening ceremony and under the presidency of Bill Luck the Conference went with a swing.

One of the sights of the district is the O'Connor Reservoir, built 80 years ago to supply water overland to the gold mining area at Kalgoorlie 380 miles to the east. 1,500 miles of pipes, one of the greatest water supplies in existence. Another link with those days is Mahogany Inn, one of the oldest coaching houses, half way to York. As to be expected most names were English, we found every city seemed to have a suburb on the coast called Brighton.

We Meet John Adams

Living in the same district, with the attractive name of Mundaring Creek, is John Adam, known to many St. Dunstaners as he was Director of the British Talking Book Service, he is now organising a non-profit making service for physically handicapped in Australia.

The Australians have a casual approach to life but they have the same problems as other countries in population, politics and strikes, balancing the economy of the country. Now they are slipping the ties with the old country and the West and looking to the East for new defence and trading partners.

We were glad of the opportunity to see Australia—travel helps to make us more aware of the world about us, especially when we hear on radio and TV names of places we visited we more readily appreciate the people and their problems.



St. Dunstan's stand at the Naidex Exhibition.

St. Dunstans on Show

St. Dunstans provided two speakers and a demonstration of carpet bowls for the National Aids for the Disabled Conference sponsored by the Central Council for the Disabled in Brighton early in July. Lieut. Commander Robin Buckley spoke on mobility and Bill Griffiths on sport by the blind. The demonstration was organised by Jock Carnochan, Sports Officer.

Visitors to St. Dunstan's stand at the Exhibition associated with the Conference were able to see the latest products of international research into the two basic problems of the blind—mobility and reading.

The Optacon reading machine was on the stand together with two generations of sonic mobility aids, the sonic torch and the binaural sensor or ultrasonic spectacles.

Visitors could try and aim St. Dunstan's electronic rifle by sound, or see a new

flying helmet containing a signal system to enable a deaf/blind glider pilot to receive orders from his sighted instructor.

The St. Dunstan's stand was manned during the five days run of the exhibition by Mr. Norman French and Mr. David Castleton and two St. Dunstaners, Bill Griffiths and Robert Pringle, were available to discuss and demonstrate the two other main themes of St. Dunstan's stand—aids for the doubly handicapped and for the war-blinded in industry.

QUEEN'S GUIDE AWARD

ROY NEWTON of Oldham, Lancs., is pleased to announce that his eldest daughter Elaine has gained her Queen's Guide Award and this will be presented to her in about a month's time by the Guide Commissioner at her Sunday School.



IT STRIKES ME



Leslie Webber as Mayor of Tewkesbury.

To Serve a Larger Community

One of the boroughs disappearing under the changes in local government administration now taking place is that of Tewkesbury, where our St. Dunstaner **Leslie Webber** served for two years as Mayor. There is now to be a Tewkesbury District Council made up of the old Borough and two adjoining Rural District Councils which will serve a population of about 75,000 people.

I hear from Leslie that he has been elected to serve on the new District Council. He will remain on the Borough Council until it disbands next March. Another honour for Leslie Webber was his election in June as Vice-Chairman of Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind.

A Lovely Voice for Radio

Mr. Jimmy Savile, well known for his philanthropic work, accompanied the annual taxi outing for the disabled to Worthing on 26th June. As a result he included an interview with St. Dunstaner **Margaret Paterson**, of Chessington, in his programme "Savile's Travels" broadcast on Radio One on Sunday, 8th July. Margaret told me that she had met Jimmy Savile on several occasions previously and that he is a genuinely lovely person to meet. In the broadcast they indulged in a certain amount of quick-fire back chat and afterwards he told Margaret that she had a lovely voice for radio.



Thelma and Paul Francia with visitors to their 'gallery'.

Double Success

Double congratulations to **R. D. ("Bertie") McConnell**, of Bangor, Co. Down, who, standing for the Alliance Party, has just been successful in both the District Council and Stormont elections in Northern Ireland! He and his wife, Olive, had seven weeks' most strenuous campaigning for first the local and then the Parliamentary elections in order to achieve this outstanding victory. At this crucially important time in the history of Northern Ireland, we are all proud to have a St. Dunstaner playing such an active part in public affairs.

Keeping Useful

I am told **Mrs. Emily Trendell**, widow of our late St. Dunstaner, Frederick Trendell, of High Wycombe, determined to continue a useful life, has been working hard for the Royal British Legion. She serves on the Legion Committee for Hazlemere and Penn and won first place in the Royal British Legion Knitting Competition. She also gained first prize at the Bucks. Old People's Handicraft Exhibition. Old people? Emily seems to have the energy of a youngster.

Garden Art Gallery

When I had the pleasure of visiting **Paul Francia's** home in Pembroke Park, Portsmouth, some time ago I was impressed with the triangular covered patio he designed for his garden. He mentioned then that he and his wife Thelma had also in mind the use of the patio for art exhibitions. Mrs. Francia, herself an excellent artist and teacher, is founder of a group called Pembroke Artists. On 14th June, they held an exhibition of painting and pottery, the work of students who come to Mrs. Francia's studio.

Well over 100 people attended, including the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, members of the lecturing staff of Portsmouth Polytechnic where Paul lectures, teachers from local schools, members of the medical profession and some of the Canons from Portsmouth Cathedral. Wine was sold at the party as well as the exhibits and the total raised for the Portsmouth Voluntary Association for the Blind was £70.

Magog

Obituary

Mr. Leslie Banks

Readers of the *Review* will be sorry to learn of the death of MR. LESLIE BANKS, M.B.E., on 26th June, 1973. He retired from St. Dunstan's after forty years of service, the last twenty-five working as Pension Officer, and he was awarded the M.B.E. in 1948. He was an Old Contemptible, severely disabled in the First World War.

A cremation service was held at the Downs Crematorium, Brighton, on 29th June, which was attended by Mrs. Banks, Commandant Fawcett, Matron Hallett, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyds and Mr. Slade.

FAMILY NEWS

Silver Weddings

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. EDWIN FARRANT of Weston Coyney, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 3rd July, 1973.

Congratulations to MR. AND MRS. CHARLES TIBBIT of Wimbledon, S.W.19, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 12th June, 1973.

Congratulations to MR. AND MRS. JOHN MOONEY, of Chadderton, Oldham, Lancashire, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 19th June, 1973.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

GEORGE ETHERINGTON of West Byfleet, Surrey, who is pleased to announce the arrival of his fourth grandchild, Steven Hallam, born to his youngest daughter, Vanessa and her husband, on 22nd April, 1973.

LES DENNIS of Hastings, Sussex, who is pleased to announce the safe arrival of another grandson, Luke, born to his son Patrick and his wife.

HERBERT JAMES HABBERFIELD of Neath, Glam., is pleased to announce that he has become a grandfather again on the birth of Adam, born to his son Gerald and his wife on 1st May, 1973.

EDWARD SAYER of Deal, Kent, who has become a grandfather for the first time, when a son was born to his daughter. The boy's name is Samuel Michael.

Great Grandfathers

Many congratulations to:

FREDERICK MATTHEWS of Soberton, Hants, is pleased to announce the safe arrival of two new great grandchildren, bringing the total up to five! Amy Caroline was born on 20th March, 1973, and Michael Lane was born on 17th May, 1973.

Long Life and happiness to:

FREDERICK CLAUDE GALWAY of Sandbach, Cheshire, is pleased to announce the marriage of his daughter, Jane, to Neill Chapman on 21st July, 1973, at St. Mary's Church, Sandbach. We wish the young couple every happiness.

Margaret, daughter of RONALD G. HOMEWOOD of Roughton, Norwich, married Bernard Boyce on 21st July, 1973.

Deaths

We offer our very sincere sympathy to:

GEORGE F. GRAINGER of Berridale, Glenorchy, Tasmania, on the death of his son, Laurence Eric, on 16th February, 1973. His own poem entitled "The Last Summer" dedicated to his son, was read by Rev. Hugh Hadrill at St. James' Church, Newtown, at the Memorial Service.

JAMES MORRISH of Peacehaven, Sussex, on the death of his mother, aged 82, at the end of 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.

John Horton. *2nd King's Own Scottish Borderers*

John Horton of Northgate House, Brighton, and formerly of Barnsley, Yorkshire, died on 23rd June, 1973, in hospital, eight days after his 67th birthday.

He enlisted in the 2nd King's Own Scottish Borderers in June, 1939, and served with them until his discharge in 1945. Mr. Horton was wounded in Burma by a mortar bomb and came to St. Dunstan's in 1944, where he trained and settled in industrial employment. In spite of rather poor health he continued in his employment until February, 1953, when he gave up work and made string bags at home as a homecraft occupation.

Unfortunately Mrs. Horton's health began to fail and she died in 1962 and Mr. Horton made his home with his mother, spending the winter months at St. Dunstan's in order to avoid the cold weather in the North, which badly affected his health. He developed an illness which necessitated his admission to hospital on 5th June for an operation from which sadly he did not recover and he died at Northgate House.

He leaves two sisters and a brother.

George Matthews. *Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders*

George Matthews of Bilston, Staffordshire, died on 14th June, 1973, at the age of 82.

He enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders during the First World War and served with them until his discharge in 1919. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1922. He trained in basket work and also kept poultry. He took up industrial employment in August 1942, which he very much enjoyed, and continued with this work until his retirement in 1965.

On his retirement he became a keen gardener and poultry keeper and he also bred foreign birds. His health became rather poor during the last few years but he remained cheerful in spite of this until his death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ida Matthews, and six children.

John Kenny. *3rd Connaught Rangers*

John Kenny of West Worthing, Sussex, died on 9th July, 1973, at the age of 78 years.

He enlisted in the 3rd Connaught Rangers in April 1915 and served with them until his discharge in November 1916. He had already retired when due to the gradual failure of his sight he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in October 1970.

When he joined St. Dunstan's he lived in Croydon, but it was considered that Mr. Kenny's general health might improve if he moved to the coast, and in October 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Kenny moved to West Worthing. Unfortunately Mr. Kenny's ill health necessitated a period in hospital, and after two month's treatment he was discharged to Northgate House, as he required constant nursing. Mr. Kenny's condition showed a temporary improvement but he died at Northgate House on 9th July, 1973.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary Kenny, and their six sons, three daughters and other members of their family.

George Nuttall. *Royal Field Artillery*

George Nuttall of Bonehull, Nr. Tamworth, Staffordshire, died in hospital on 11th July, at the age of 76.

He enlisted in the Royal Field Artillery in 1915, and served with them until his discharge in 1918. Although Mr. Nuttall suffered mustard gas poisoning during his service in the First World War, it was not until much later in life that his sight failed and he came to St. Dunstan's.

Mr. Nuttall was a skilled tailor, running a small business from his home and in 1951 he transferred this to shop premises. Mrs. Nuttall gave her husband every help and support with the business, which our St. Dunstaner operated successfully until 1961 in spite of the fact that he did not enjoy very good health.

After retirement Mr. Nuttall occupied himself in his garden and greenhouse, until in 1971, as neither he nor his wife were then very fit, they decided to give up their own home and go to live with their married daughter, Mrs. Parkinson and her family.

Unfortunately Mrs. Nuttall died in March 1971 and Mr. Nuttall's health began to deteriorate at the beginning of this year and he was later confined to bed for most of the time. His condition worsened and he was admitted to Tamworth General Hospital on 7th July and he died there four days later.

He leaves his married daughter Mrs. Parkinson and a son.

Harold Pollitt. *Royal North Lancashires*

Harold Pollitt of Pearson House, Brighton, and formerly of Bolton, Lancs., died on 6th July, 1973, at the age of 78 years.

He enlisted in the Royal North Lancashires in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in March 1919. Mr. Pollitt was wounded in 1916 at Armentieres, but it was not until 1945 that his sight failed completely and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's. He was trained and settled as a basket maker and worked happily at this occupation until 1957. Mrs. Pollitt died in 1966 but he continued to manage on his own at home, paying frequent visits to his son and daughter. However, in 1971 he went to live at Pearson House, Brighton, and it was there he passed away quietly in his sleep.

He leaves a son, Harry and daughter, Hilda.

Geoffrey Egan Smith. *Royal Irish Rifles*

Geoffrey Egan Smith of Lincoln, died in hospital on 18th June, 1973, two days after his 79th birthday.

He enlisted in the Royal Irish Rifles in 1916 and served with them until his discharge in September 1917, when he came to St. Dunstan's. Prior to his enlistment he was employed as an outfitter, but following his discharge from the Army he did not enjoy very good health, although he kept busy working around the house and in the garden. He was admitted to hospital at the beginning of May, but unfortunately his health did not improve and he died on 18th June.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Doris Miriam Egan Smith.



AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL GAMES FOR THE BLIND

Renewing old friendships: Hans Ziebart, who competed for Austria in St. Dunstan's 1968 Sports, welcomes Peter Spencer and Jock Carnochan. (above)

John Simpson finishing in the sprint. (below)

