

St Dunstons
REVIEW
OCTOBER



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

By now even those of you who prefer a late summer holiday will probably have been away or had a spell of relaxation at home and I hope you have all enjoyed a good break in your usual routine. Lady Fraser and I stayed at our cottage in the Lake District, partly with two grandsons and their wives and our very new great grand-daughter and partly seeing old friends and being quietly on our own. It was not a good year for fishing, but I did catch a few salmon.

Soldier on

On another page there is a review of a notable book by a notable St. Dunstaner. This is an autobiography by Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L.

"Colonel Mike", as his friends call him, is better known than any other St. Dunstaner, largely because he is so frequently seen on television master-minding the great British horse shows. His is a typical case of a man who has been blinded applying himself to one of the activities in which he was most interested before he lost his sight, for he was one of the best horsemen in the British Army between the Wars. The horse practically disappeared during the Second War, amongst the Armed Forces and to a large extent in civilian life at home, and it was Colonel Ansell who put the horse back on its feet, not only in show jumping but also by his encouragement of pony clubs and horse-riding generally as a sport or an exercise and even a "spectator sport".

We are proud to have this most distinguished soldier as a Vice-President of St. Dunstan's and all of us benefit much from the example of his courage and determination. The book and the writer are honoured by the fact that His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, has written the foreword. My advice is that you should get the book from your local library—or, perhaps, better still, buy a copy to keep—and you will agree with Prince Philip who says that "Sir Michael tells his story with characteristic simplicity and directness and it is a story well worth reading".

Canadian St. Dunstaner's Success

Another St. Dunstaner has distinguished himself by being appointed to a very responsible position. Ross C. Purse served in the Canadian Army during the Second War and lost most of his sight as a result of imprisonment in Hong Kong. He trained in Canada, held a number of appointments with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind in different parts of the country, and has now started work as the C.N.I.B.'s Managing Director.

We congratulate Ross Purse on his important appointment and wish him luck as head of one of the strongest blind welfare organisations in the world.

Bank Notes

I am sometimes asked whether I have any difficulty in discriminating between £1 and £5 Treasury notes. It would be an expensive luxury to give someone a fiver when you meant to give him a pound!

COVER PICTURE: *Wally Thomas, with his daughter, Marilyn, at her wedding.*

We are sometimes consulted by the Treasury when they are producing new notes and we give them some advice.

My own method is to carry only coins and £1 notes. I never carry a fiver and therefore I am never likely to muddle them up.

Do any of my readers feel that there is a problem here?

Gardening

I urge you to read on another page what I said about gardening in a brief broadcast the other day. I encourage every St. Dunstaner who can to make gardening or the care of a greenhouse his hobby and to seek friends amongst neighbouring gardeners.

Fraser of Lonsdale

Mini Reunion

by Ron Ellis

Wally and I think we can claim a record this year by being the first fellows to have a Mini Reunion, Mini by name, but still the same swing along happy reunion which we have always enjoyed, and will always remember.

Matron Hallett gave the Reunion a wonderful start off by welcoming us with a splendid dinner, it was a pleasure to see our old friend the Commandant there with us and to listen to his cheerful banter. Our guest should have been Dr. O'Hara, but he was unable to attend owing to pressure of work. But not to worry, for sure enough, while we were having after dinner coffee in the committee room, our great friend and Doc. found time to pop in and have a chat and a night cap with us all.

Friday, 17th August, we were off on our first expedition—destination—Rye in Sussex. A very ancient and beautiful town, our first call was to Lamb House, where the author, Henry James used to live. This is a beautiful old house, so simply furnished yet loaded with charm and yet behind it, so full of historical times, we were given a wonderful guided tour of the house by Mrs. Haynes-Dixon, while our wives, who were our escorts this year, gave us all the information we wanted to know and what our guide was saying. The tour of the house over, we all went out for a quiet stroll round the beautiful garden which was all aglow with colour. It was cameras out with the ladies and a number of photographs were taken. Then back to the house where Mr. and Mrs. Haynes-Dixon entertained

us with aperitifs, before proceeding on our way to the Mermaid Inn for lunch. Our sincere thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Haynes-Dixon for their kindness.

The Mermaid Inn was a beautiful old place, so tranquil and quiet, as soon as you entered, it was as if you felt some-one pushing you back through the times gone by. It would not have surprised me, if a smuggler's spirit had come into the room singing "Yo! Ho! Ho! and a bottle of rum," and dropping one or two bottles of the stuff on the table. Miss Dagnall, our Sergeant at Arms, ordered a super lunch that put us all in the right mood to explore a little of the town itself; at about 4.30 p.m. tea was taken, and then we all returned to Pearson House feeling very happy and very much wiser.

Saturday afternoon saw us off to Northgate House to have tea with Matron Blackford and staff, there was plenty of talk and banter here. While tea was being served it was nice to talk to Matron Blackford and our old friends on the staff. Our sincere thanks to them for giving us such a pleasant and very happy afternoon.

Sunday morning we spent a quiet time sitting around to get our breath back for we were off again shortly on another exploration trip. At 12 noon, we were off, this time to the Open Air Museum at Singleton, Nr. Chichester. Arriving there about 1.30 p.m. and having found a place to rest awhile, a marvellous picnic lunch was served by our good old friend, Bill Webster and Matron Hallett.



Ron and Wally with Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Thomas and Miss Dagnall, admire a floral arrangement at Preston Manor.

On our way through Chichester we stopped to pick up our dear friend Miss Ramshaw, and it was a pleasure to see her again and to have her with us on this lovely day out. There was so much to talk about while lunch was being taken.

After lunch, we were off on our exploration, climbing up the steep slopes through the trees to find out all the ancient buildings and to explore their interior, coming to the saw pit, where they used to saw up the tree trunks. Wally and I thought we would try our hand at using the huge saw, but after about five seconds, Wally said to me, "No good, Ron. We can't afford the beef these days to work one of these things. I should think they must have eaten whole cows in those days."

The exploring over, and after the slipping and sliding down the slopes into the open again, we settled down to have a much earned cuppa and a bite to eat, then aboard the transport for our journey back to Pearson House, with happy memories of another perfect day behind us. Our dear

wives, who did a wonderful job explaining all the things to us, must have felt a little cramped in their hands but as always no complaints.

Monday, 20th August, and the last day of our great Mini Reunion, this was another busy day for us all. At 10.15 a.m. after we had had a cuppa in the Winter Garden, we were off to visit Preston Manor, Brighton, where a guided tour of the Manor had been arranged. A very pleasant two hours was spent wandering from room to room, while our guide did a splendid job explaining the history of the Manor and the many beautiful things on exhibit, our sincere thanks to him, for giving us the privilege to touch and feel some of the items which gave us some idea of how they were formed and made. After the tour of the Manor we were taken for a stroll through the scented garden in Preston Park, then back to Pearson House just in time for lunch.

At half-past-three we made our way to the Committee Room to have tea with

Mr. Wills, the Commandant, Matron Hallett and the Welfare staff. A very pleasant and happy afternoon was had by all, with lots to talk about and laughter. It was very nice to see our old friend George Rees again, who had popped in to have a cuppa with us and a chat. With tea over everyone dispersed to get themselves all spruced up for the farewell dinner.

The farewell dinner was held, once again, at the Eaton Restaurant, where the dinners and service are excellent. Our sincere thanks to the Management and their staff for their kindness and attention.

A superb dinner was served and thoroughly enjoyed by all, we then sat back to listen to an excellent speech of thanks given by Wally Thomas. This was followed by drinks in the lounge and a lot more chatter and banter. Feeling all merry and extremely happy we boarded the transport for our return to Pearson House with happy memories of yet another superb Reunion behind us.

Once again, from Wally and myself, and our wives, our heartfelt thanks to Commandant, Matron Hallett, Miss Dagnall, and the Welfare Committee and to those responsible for making it such a happy occasion.

REUNIONS

LIVERPOOL

The Adelphi Hotel, situated in the centre of Liverpool, was a familiar setting for our ninth reunion of 1973, held on Thursday, July 19th, and a familiar figure presided over the top table, that of Mr. D. G. Hopewell, M.A., LL.B., Hon. LL.D., an old friend from the St. Dunstan's Council.

Guests at the reunion were Dr. and Mrs. D. L. Charters, Mr. J. Owens and Mrs. J. Harris, and there was one St. Dunstaner attending his first reunion, George Coote, of Cleveleys. To them and to the St. Dunstaners and their wives or escorts, Mr. Hopewell said:

"I want to welcome you all to another reunion in Liverpool; a very much smaller reunion than the one we had last year when we had special celebrations but none the less a happy and perhaps more intimate reunion than that big one was.

"There are today only 37 St. Dunstaners here, 14 First War and 23 of the Second



Mr. Wills greets John Woodhead, of Blackpool, at the Liverpool Reunion.

War. Now that does not seem a very large number but, of course, it is holiday time," Mr. Hopewell continued, "Still, we are part of a very much larger family and in Britain today there are 1,217 St. Dunstaners and overseas there are 590 making 1,807 living St. Dunstaners.

"Now that is quite a large family but it is not such a large family as to be impersonal. The secret of St. Dunstan's has always been, and I hope it always will be, that every man or woman who is a member of it will be in direct, close, personal touch with the organisation itself."

Mr. Hopewell mentioned the guests and members of the staff attending saying, "I hope you all have a happy time and you look back to this reunion with feelings of delight and pleasure."

Mr. Wills

Speaking for the first time at Liverpool as Secretary of St. Dunstan's, Mr. Wills said: "I don't feel any different from how I felt last year when I was Welfare Superintendent. The pleasure is in meeting and seeing you all looking fit and well and

hearing anything you want to talk to us about."

Explaining how St. Dunstan's invites important people to become Vice-Presidents and others, such as ophthalmologists, specialists, escorts and people who have helped over the years, to become Governors and Members, Mr. Wills said:

Shareholders

"They are all like the shareholders of a company. They consider it an honour to become a Member of St. Dunstan's. It is a famous name, known all over the world. It owes that name mainly to the examples you, yourselves, with the help of your wives, have set the world of handicapped people by your victory over blindness. I congratulate you all and I wish you the best of luck until we meet again next year."

Harold Hitchen, of Nelson, Lancs., said he took great pleasure in moving the vote of thanks for two reasons. One was that he was very proud to be a St. Dunstaner and the second was to be able to voice their sincere thanks to all heads of department and their staffs.

"We are in the fortunate position that if we have any problems at all, we know we can get expert advice. This is something the ordinary person would have to pay for but we get the best."

North Country Welcome

Harold Hitchen paid tribute to Mr. Hopewell and congratulated Mr. Wills on his appointment. He asked for, "A real North Country welcome to Miss Mosley", and went on, "Then we have Mrs. Ballantyne who has been and gone and done it as the saying goes. I think she has been to that many homes of St. Dunstaners and seeing how your wives are happy she thought she'd try it herself."

He said St. Dunstaners were pleased Mrs. Ballantyne would be continuing her work as welfare visitor on a part-time basis and thanked her for organising the reunion. Finally, he called upon St. Dunstaners to express their appreciation and thanks, "To all those who have helped to make this reunion such a success."

The afternoon continued with dancing to the music of the Spencer King Set and, later, the prize draw and tea until St. Dunstaners parted company at the end of another enjoyable social occasion.

MANCHESTER

On Saturday, 21st July, the reunion 'tour' reached Manchester for the tenth in the series held at the Midland Hotel. Head of affairs here was Major M. E. M. Sandys, J.P., member of St. Dunstan's Council, accompanied by Mrs. Sandys. Mrs. A. Ballantyne, assisted by Miss K. M. Broughton, was responsible for the arrangements for the occasion.

135 people sat down to lunch, including 49 St. Dunstaners, 11 from the First War and 38 from the Second. Welcoming them, Major Sandys said that for himself and his wife the annual St. Dunstan's Reunion was a great day for it gave them the opportunity to meet St. Dunstaners and their wives.

He mentioned four guests, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Brady, Miss P. Coop and Mrs. C. Eaton and welcomed Mr. A. D. Lloyds, C.B.E. and Miss M. A. Midgley, retired members of staff.

"Mr. Lloyds gave many years of devoted service to St. Dunstan's", said Major Sandys, "My wife and I attended a very enjoyable luncheon in London to wish him health and happiness in his retirement and I am glad to see the parting was in no way permanent. I have never seen him look better. Obviously retirement seems to suit him and I may say the same for Miss Midgley too."

Major Sandys said Mr. Lloyds' responsibilities had fallen into the capable hands of Mr. Wills, "I am sure you will all join me in wishing him all success in his extremely important and responsible job."

Welcoming five new St. Dunstaners attending their first reunion, Derek Cribben, Joseph Lewis, John Nolan, Raymond Sandiford and Roland Walton, Major Sandys said, "I hope that they will be able to attend many more of the annual reunions and find much help and much friendship from their fellow members."

Major Sandys told his audience it was some years since he had last visited Manchester when he was High Sheriff and it was his duty to entertain Judges and other members of the Bar. He concluded: "It only remains for me to thank you all once more for coming here today and I hope you will all enjoy yourselves and have an extremely successful afternoon."



Major Sandys at the Manchester Reunion with five new St. Dunstaners: (l. to r.) Roland Walton, Joseph Lewis, Derek Cribben, Major Sandys, Raymond Sandiford and John Nolan.

Harold Earnshaw, of Tarleton, Lancs., proposed the vote of thanks in a brief, but sincere, speech: "I feel it is a great honour today for me to represent St. Dunstaners and express how grateful we are for everything. In representing St. Dunstaners I am also adding a little personal thanks as well."

The luncheon proceedings were concluded by a charming presentation of flowers to Mrs. Sandys by St. Dunstaner, Elsie Aldred. During the afternoon the company followed their chairman's advice and the dance floor was busy as St. Dunstaners and their wives responded to the music of the Joe Orlando Orchestra. As Major Sandys had hoped, it was an extremely successful afternoon.

LONDON

The first of the 1973 regional Reunions was held in London on 31st March and the eleventh and last was also held in London, this time at the Hotel Russell, on Saturday, 28th July. Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, K.C.M.G., the Member of the Council presiding, was accompanied by Lady

Arrowsmith and altogether 183 people sat down to lunch, including 19 St. Dunstaners from the First and 60 from the Second World War or subsequent operations. Amongst old friends or former members of the staff we were delighted to see Miss Woolrych, Miss Hoare, Miss Stevens and Mr. Roberts.

Sir Edwin Arrowsmith

Sir Edwin Arrowsmith began his speech after lunch by assuring his listeners that the room was not bugged and that nothing was being recorded (had he forgotten our *Review*?). He brought the good wishes of Lord and Lady Fraser and the Members of the Council for a happy time and welcomed the members of staff present by name with a specially warm word for Mr. Wills, the new Secretary. He also made particular reference to St. Dunstaners from Northern Ireland, including Alan Milne, Professor in Social Philosophy at Queen's University, Belfast, five St. Dunstaners attending their first reunion, William Carthy, Hugh Hamilton, Leslie May, Samuel Sutherland, and William

Waller and two overseas St. Dunstaners, Cecil Bennetts, New South Wales, and George Grainger, Tasmania.

Mr. Lloyds, said Sir Edwin, had been appointed a Governor of St. Dunstan's and a Member of the Council of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind. The opening of Pearson House had been a notable event of 1973 and it was a well designed happy place. St. Dunstan's, said Sir Edwin, was a famous name the world over and it owed this to the example of St. Dunstaners with the help of wonderful wives. It was, he said, a very great privilege for him and Lady Arrowsmith to be regarded as friends.

"I find myself in a strange situation" said John Caswell, proposing the vote of thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners, but he warmed up to his subject at once. He thanked Sir Edwin and Lady Arrowsmith for their pleasant companionship, also St.

Dunstan's staff for all they had done over the years, with particular mention of Mrs. Lyall and Miss Blebta. He thanked the hotel management and staff and said that he looked forward to meeting old friends at the Reunion.

St. Dunstan's, said John Caswell, had steered him and others through some dark days in the past, but now they were just ordinary members of the community and it did not matter that they could not see. He said he could not have gone far without the help from members of the staff and headquarters. Without St. Dunstan's he did not know where he would now have been and this applied also to the ladies. He concluded with good wishes to one and all.

After lunch there was much moving around, chatting with friends old and new and dancing to the music of the Talbot Orchestra. So ended the regional Reunions for 1973.

KEMP TOWN NOTES

The long hot lazy days of summer! And to Pearson House in July comes the Strawberry Man. Trundling his little handcart up Portland Place, round the corner to Abbey Road, he comes to a stop at the entrance to Pearson House. And well he might! Out across the pavement into the sunshine we come, one by one, lured by the sight of those rosy, tempting berries, not least because they are a few pence cheaper than those in the shops. Some for Matron, some for the Desk Staff, Miss Roffey, Mrs. Williams, the Hall Porter and all interested persons! Who could resist the temptation? And what about Dickie—Dickie Richardson who usually sets the bush wireless humming? We must have some for him! "Strawberries! Here comes the Strawberry Man!" Such a brief season for this annual delight, but the strawberries are closely followed by rounded downy-skinned peaches. Take a bite and don't let the juice run down your chin! Alas, the Strawberry Man comes no longer now for this year. Oh, the long, hot, lazy days of Summer, with their lovely, luscious, juicy summer fruits!

Came another day in July when a loud roaring sound made us leap to the windows. We were fortunate, those of us on the top floor at the time, to have ring-side seats! There they go, nine of them, sleek, shining, scarlet shapes in tight formation, zooming over the house-tops—the Red Arrows. Down the sea front, then up, higher, higher—turning in a wide arch, and streaking down the sky again, weaving patterns, trailing plumes of red, white and blue smoke. Now they split up and the arrow formation breaks, two solitary leaders going solo, round the town and back again, skimming low over the surface of the sea, then up, up and down again, twisting, turning like falling leaves. They come together again, all nine, for a final fling and go soaring up so high that it hurts the eyes to watch against the brightness, and as they turn at the summit of their flight, they all separate and flying downwards in ever-widening pathways, finally disappear from view. It has all taken 15 minutes exactly! They come every year, these Red Arrows, during Brighton Lions' Carnival Week, catching our breath with

their exploits, stirring our hearts and minds with their wonderful flying. And those of us who remember the men of the R.A.F. who flew out daily, some never to return, and without whom we might not be here today, are inevitably reminded of those times and we think that surely the men who fly the Red Arrows today are the direct spiritual descendants of those pilots of 30 years ago.

St. Dunstan's Players

Down on terra firma again, towards the end of July we had another of those favourite evenings organised by Bill Jack with the St. Dunstan's Players giving of their best. Mrs. Wright accompanied the singing, which was led by Betty Brown, Harry Boorman and Stuart Croysdale, and several popular numbers brought in the audience as well. As guest singers we had Joyce Briant and Dinah Lamb, and between them they gave us some very amusing numbers. Congratulations all, and to you Bill! Hard work, we know, but we do appreciate it.

In August one of the happiest weekends of our year always takes place in the form of the Deaf Reunion and this year we were delighted to have with us Wally Thomas and Ron Ellis. Ron has written about it elsewhere in these pages, so we merely touch upon it here. Numbers have dwindled over the years, but however few, we hope our remaining deaf-blind St. Dunstaners will continue to give us the pleasure of making them welcome for their annual 'do'.

Bank Holiday Week-end

This event was closely followed by the Bank Holiday Week-end, which brought its own pleasures. Our play-reading friends, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lilley, came from Seaford with their young friends to present us with a reading of "Private Lives" by Noel Coward. This evergreen comedy continues to please and it was gratifying to have a completely full winter Garden on this particular occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Lilley are to be congratulated on their polished presentation. The weekend was rounded off by a Bank Holiday Dance in the Winter Garden, complete with Bar and Buffet. We had a goodly crowd and great fun, with the band in good form and lots of prizes.

As we write, those summer days over which we were gloating are already grow-

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.

Mr. Cyril Aldridge of Lancing, Sussex, joined St. Dunstan's in July, 1973. He served in the 12th London Regiment during the 1st World War and then with a London Borough Council in the Lighting Dept. but had to resign when his sight failed following injuries received in the 1st World War. He is married.

William Henry Bailey of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, came to St. Dunstan's in August 1973. He served in the 4th Lincolnshire Regiment during the 1st World War and he is a widower.

Thomas Bradley of Grange-over-Sands, Lancashire, joined St. Dunstan's in August 1973. He served in the 4th Lancashire Fusiliers during the 1st World War and is married with a grown-up son and daughter.

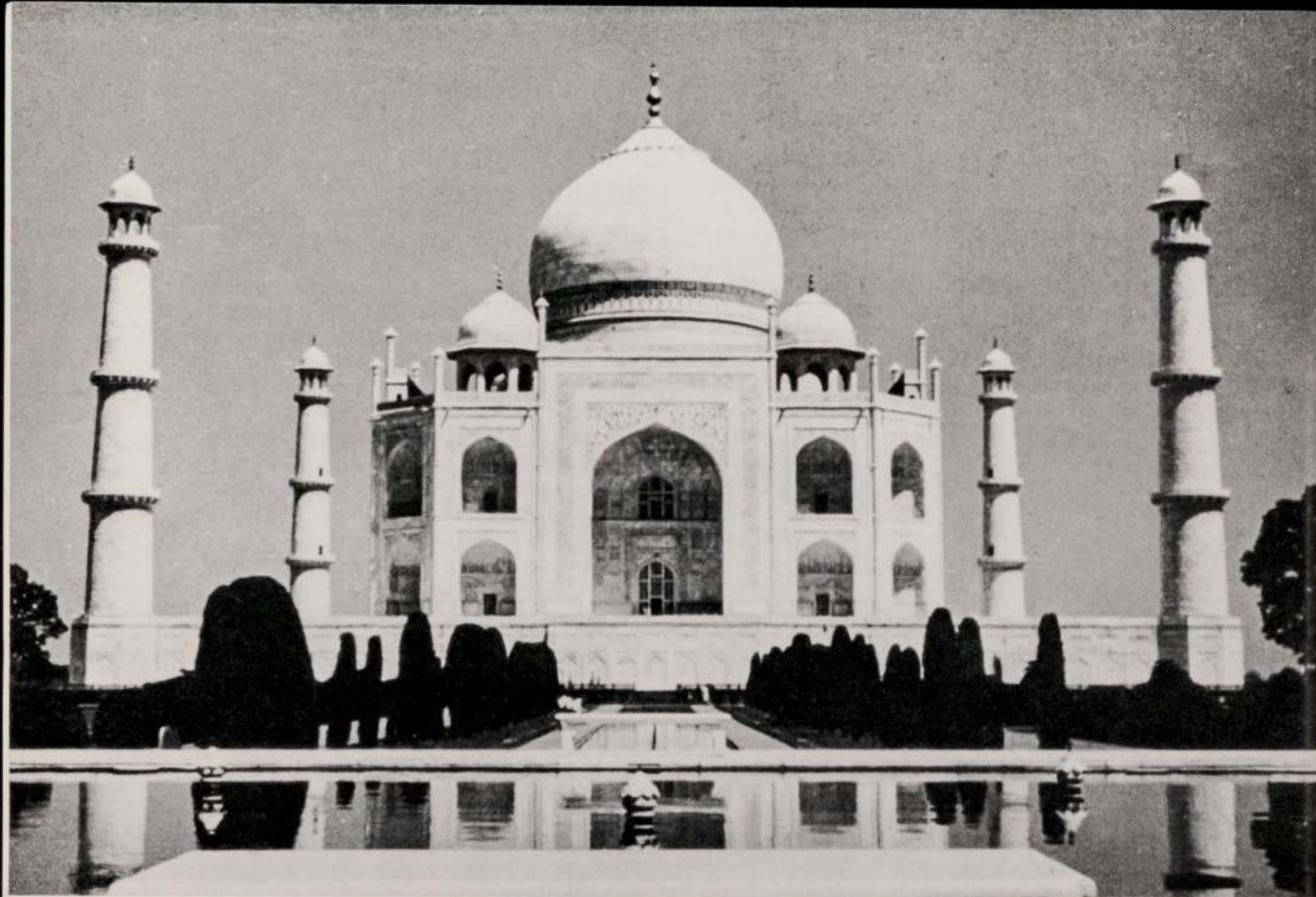
Charles Herbert Butler of Southampton, Hants., joined St. Dunstan's in July 1973. He served in the 14th Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery during the 2nd World War. On his discharge from the Army in 1945 he worked for the Post Office and is now retired. He is married with a grown-up son.

William Frederick Charles White of Fordingbridge, Hants., came to St. Dunstan's in July, 1973. He served with the Royal Marines during the 2nd World War and was in a Commando Unit. He is married with a grown-up son.

Stanley Allen Wilkins of Littlehampton, Sussex, joined St. Dunstan's in July, 1973. He served in the R.A.F. in the 2nd World War. He worked in industry until 1971 when his failing sight made it necessary for him to retire. He has a grown-up family.

Kemp Town Notes—continued

ing shorter, though the sun still blazes at the end of this wonderful season. Sad it will be to see the sunny days pass, but soon we will have the trainees back and the Autumn Term will be with us again.



The Taj Mahal, Agra in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

From East to West

Homeward bound from Australia via Singapore on their new Air Line and back to a hot and humid tropical climate, blessed and cursed air conditioning.

This island is very green and clean—like Hong Kong it has severe litter penalties—the port has thrived ever since Sir Stamford Raffles had the foresight to acquire the land on behalf of the East India Company, and now deals with 35,000 ships per year. Tourists are well catered for, there are many modern hotels, contrasting with the old colonial Raffles Hotel, sightseeing tours for all tastes, Jade museums, Temples, Malay and Chinese dancing, botanical gardens with orchids in a wonderful collection and, of course, a crocodile and snake farm.

75% of the population is Chinese, mostly in business, education again is

important using the three shift system. The Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew, is very popular and they are all very proud of his efforts on behalf of the 2½ million on this island the size of the Isle of Wight. His foreign and economic policy of fostering good relations and a better standard of living for all, with low cost housing, has made for contentment in the four races.

Incidentally, while here we heard on the radio that Shanghai is now the largest city in the world with 13½ million population.

As Malaya was just across the causeway we took advantage of this to pop over for the day to Johore Bahru and the Sultan's Palace.

We spent a pleasant evening strolling around the eating stalls, tasting baby oyster omelettes, satays, which are small tasty pieces of meat grilled on sticks, or

eating and drinking the delicious fresh fruit. There were plenty of taxis and trishaws to take us to the shopping districts, one not to be missed was "Change Alley" well known for bargain hunting and haggling. All types of imported goods are available free of tax.

From Singapore (Lion City) Cathay Pacific Airline delivered us to Bangkok (The Fruit Village).

This is a large dispersed city, population approximately 3 million, and as the guide book says, "has no downtown centre", a very busy place, it was here we saw the first scooter-taxis—three-wheel, half covered, 3-4 seater arrangement, behind a scooter driver. Colourful, exquisite temples and pagodas are everywhere, interlaced with canals and the Chao Phya River. The canals are dirty but this does not worry the people who live along the banks in stilt houses and use the water for cooking, washing, swimming, etc.

We managed to see the famous Grand Palace complex where the magnificent Chakri Palace was the setting for the film—"The King and I". Designed by a British

architect in the Italian Renaissance style with a Thai roof, also in the grounds are the Dusit Palace built 100 years earlier by King Rama I and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, a most elaborate hall enshrining the translucent green jasper (not emerald) Buddha whose origin is unknown. About 1435 lightning cracked open a pagoda in Northern Thailand and inside was found a stucco Buddha covered in gold leaf which flaked off revealing the jasper. Nearby is a reclining Buddha 180ft. long, a Golden Pagoda and Galleries, richly painted with murals depicting episodes from the Ramakien epic, we watched artists renovating these ancient works.

An enjoyable tour on the canals enabled us to see some of the countryside, rice fields, with buffalo working and being bathed, we passed lotuses growing abundantly, (and very good they taste) fish farms which rank next to agriculture in the basic industries and spent an interesting time at the floating market, quite small children and very old people used boats with ease and skill.

Bangkok's famous floating market.



A very interesting visit to a cultural centre in the form of a village provided a view of many aspects of Thai life. Thai dancing, boxing, sword fighting and the making of silk, elephants were at work moving timber, then we were treated to several displays of fighting sports—fish fighting, mongoose and cobra, also cock fighting, all rather blood thirsty for a gentle people but they did not allow fights to the death!

We were sorry we had not time to visit the Bridge over the River Kwai or the ruins of the ancient capital, Ayudhya, which was destroyed by the Burmese, for which they have never been forgiven.

In spite of the troubles of their neighbours, the Thais are a poor but happy people and very proud of their Royal Family whose photographs are displayed in shops and houses.

Delhi "Stop-Over"

Soon our Thai Air Liner was transporting us across the Bay of Bengal to India. We chose Delhi for our "stop-over". It was named after a Moghul Emperor and combines the old and new cities. The latter was built under the orders of King George V at his Durbar in 1911. Designed by the Architects Baker and Lutyens it covers 5 square miles and may owe something to Wren's plan for London after the fire. Half of Delhi's population own bicycles and together with scooter-taxis, an assortment of vehicles and a variety of animals add to the chaos on the roads. Still the tourists arrive to see the National Shrine of Mahatma Gandhi and the nearby memorial to Prime Minister Nehru on the bank of the river Yamuna. Well worth a visit is Humayun's Tomb—16th century, a Persian style structure of black, white and yellow marble, then to the south west amongst the ruins of Qila Rai Pethora Palace is believed to be the tallest tower in the world, built in 1199 of red and orange sandstone, which stands out against the blue Indian sky, named Qutab Minar after the victories of the Mohammedan General Qutab, and as fresh and richly ornamented as the day it was finished. In the courtyard stands the Iron pillar, which dates from before 400 A.D., shows no sign of rust, defying scientific explanation though Erich Von Daniken (Chariots of the Gods) thinks he

has the answer. There is a multitude of historical relics but we must mention the Red Fort which dominates Delhi and the Jamma Masjid Great Mosque, both erected by Shah Jahan, builder of the fabulous Taj Mahal. In the Red Fort, previously a Palace, is a splendid hall where the famous Peacock Throne stood before being carried off by a Persian invader.

Taj Mahal

One reason for breaking our journey at Delhi was to include the drive to Agra to see the Taj Mahal, the impressive and most beautiful mausoleum in the world. Built of pure white marble with important architectural details inlaid with precious stones—cornelian, turquoise, jaspers, blood-stones and the like in floral scrolls and wreaths. To buy a tiny ash-tray of the same material one paid £4, and watched the craftsmen at work. There are many other magnificent buildings in the district connected with the Emperor Akbar who succeeded in uniting the Moghul Empire.

All these Palaces, Mosques and modern hotels sit amidst appalling poverty, the country is ready to embrace Communism and perhaps discipline and ruthlessness would solve many problems, who knows?

A dust storm caused a two hour delay on our flight to Iran so we arrived in Teheran in the dark. What a lovely and surprising sight in the morning to look out of the window and find the sun shining on the snow covered peaks of the Elburz Mountains rising behind the city. The temperature was now down to our spring weather and we realised we were not too far from home.

Rather a modern impersonal city, though the taxi driver gave us sweets and cigarettes on the way to the Golestan Palace, the beautiful Opera house and theatre. We could have spent hours in the vaults of the bank browsing amongst the most dazzling collection of Crown Jewels, this includes the Darya-ye-Nur, companion to the celebrated Kohinoor diamond (now part of the British Crown Jewels) the Peacock Throne, (they told us the original Indian Throne was broken up) and the Globe of Jewels (comprising 51,000 precious stones) and many cases of quite staggering items. The almost unimaginable value of the collection can be

gauged by the fact that they were pledged as security by the Shah for government loans before the advent of oil.

Like several other countries Iran has the sensible system of shared taxis and mini-buses, but we did not stay long enough to become familiar with the appropriate charges, meters were hardly ever used! As the next day was Friday, their day of rest, we boarded an Iranian plane for Turkey.

Istanbul, the Pearl of the World, found us back in Europe. The city is situated in Asia and Europe, divided by the Bosphorus which connects the Black Sea and the Marmara Sea. At 5 a.m. daily we were wakened by the Holy men calling the faithful to prayer, this used to be done from the top of a minaret but now they stay at the bottom and use electronic amplifiers!

Ferry Boat Trip

Naturally we had to take a ferry boat along the Bosphorus calling at ports on either side and giving us a panoramic view, we passed the 15th century castle, built in three months, also Florence Nightingale's hospital. These trips will diminish soon as the new bridge built by an Anglo-German consortium, linking the two Continents, will soon be opened.

We did our sightseeing in the old city on foot spending at least two hours at the Topkapi Museum which contains relics of Mohammed and funnily enough, the finger of John the Baptist—which obviously, he didn't get out in time!

On a terrace, by the harem swimming pool, we rested our tired feet and watched the busy harbour of the Golden Horn. Then on with the job—so much to see—one fascinating section full of clocks in all shapes and sizes and all stopped at the time of Ataturk's death—9.5. A quick look round the Blue and Sophia Mosques and a peep into the Roman Cisterna, an underground water supply, a great hall of pillars in this reservoir, the water brought from miles away.

A wonderful Bazaar of 4,400 shops tempts one to linger admiring the jewelry, copperware, suede goods and carpets, we stopped to drink little glasses of tea and coffee while haggling over prices. Just walking in the streets is quite an experience, the Turks seem proud of their disorganisation, traffic jams overflowing on to pavements, just missing pedestrians and con-



Carved figure: Papua and New Guinea Museum.

stantly hooting, which is forbidden by law. Through all this cacophony, stall holders call, selling their wares.

We joined the locals eating at stalls or as we walked. Grilled fish, meat or vegetable rolls were cheap and easily eaten and there were delicious sweet pastries, a variety of the best Turkish delight we ever tasted. Unusual drinks were served—carrot juice and sahlepe (hot sweet sago and milk). Some cafes specialised in tripe soup, the Turkish cure for a hangover!

Saying farewell and promising to return, we entrusted ourselves to B.E.A. to make our London connection with Edinburgh, which they did with half a minute to spare, returning us safely home after a most adventurous journey of three months.

Looking back it seems like a dream interspersed with reality as we found it thrilling to actually stand and absorb the atmosphere of places we had only read or heard about. Being with friends and relations in their own homes and countries

Frank Reviews

Cat. No. 1729

The Ted Carp Tradition

by Rony Robinson

Read by Anthony Parker

This novel, constructed around a modern fully equipped comprehensive school, begins and ends with tragedy. Here is a kaleidoscope of character studies. The oppressed and the oppressors, the rebels and the schemers. Above all the obnoxious assistant head mistress who sees her way clear to the headship. Also the friendly would be rebellious young sixth former Chandler, a character so well draughted that you feel you have met him time and time again. He is the clever likeable young chap who is always liable to come unstuck but will always have the guts and intelligence to pick himself up, pull himself together and make a fresh start. Some of the junior masters don't come through as true to life characters but the children do. The language is a little strong at times for group listening but the book is fascinating.

It is rather as though the author had taken the roof off of an ants nest and we are watching the intriguing behaviour pattern of its inhabitants.

Cat. No. 1669

Devil Water

by Anya Seton

Read by David Bloomfield

A very well written but elongated story of Historical Romance, set in the time of the Jacobite Rebellions and starting in Northumberland and finishing in Virginia. Charles Radcliffe, younger brother of James, Earl of Derwentwater, is whiling

FROM EAST TO WEST (continued)

we now feel much closer to them. At home in dear old Britain our personal knowledge and opinions can augment the news and documentary items supplied by the media, this brings the world closer and better known to us. These travels were the experience of a life time and no doubt tales will be retold with our many friends—old and new—and relations who will soon be making their pilgrimage to the U.K.

away his time awaiting his brother's return from exile and meets Meg a country girl living with her sister on Tyneside. It's a case of she was poor but she was honest, and when she returns to her father pregnant, steps are taken to force Charles into marriage. Rob Wilson the pit boy who sets up the ambush for Charles, and the daughter of the forced marriage, become principle characters in the story which brings death to the two brothers but happiness to Rob and Jane in Virginia.

It would take far too much space to write a full synopsis but of special interest is the description of the scenery. The work becomes rather fanciful in places but I would think a cup should be given to the author for a modern day marathon in words.

Cat. No. 1822

I Will Fear No Evil

by Robert Heinlein

Read by Marvin Kane

When this author started writing science fiction in 1939 he had only to look at the moon and dream of man setting foot upon it, to give himself the inspiration for a good story. Now, alas, with fiction replaced by fact he is obviously hard put to it to come up with a good story line.

In this book his main character is a pathetically old millionaire with a shrewd active brain but a hopelessly broken body. He is in the hands of the doctors who with their advanced techniques can keep him alive indefinitely although in serious pain. He decides that his only way out is to have his brain transplanted into a younger body. Against all odds the transplant is successful but to his consternation he finds that his brain has been put into the head of his beautiful young secretary, who as he had never suspected but is soon to find out, was a nymphomaniac.

After this point of inventivity the book then takes on the form that the author has become reduced to, shallow pornography, which becomes more tedious and boring with each sentence, paragraph and chapter.

Maybe his bank balance has grown as a result of writing this book but it can have added very little to his reputation as an imaginative writer of science fiction.



Twenty-One Times

Tommy McKay has just finished his twenty-first Grandmother Clock. Appropriately it was for a fellow St. Dunstaner, John Fawcett, who ordered it as a wedding present for his grand-daughter, Delia.

IT STRIKES ME

by
Magog

The clock case, made of Sussex oak is four feet high and made in three sections before final assembly. Like its twenty predecessors, it is a handsome piece of furniture.

Tommy made his first grandmother clock in 1955. It went to his sister-in-law in New Zealand. Since then his clocks have been sent as far as New York and South Africa as well as many places in England and Scotland. They are made to his own design he tells me. "When I started my first clock I had a vague idea and developed it as I went along. When I finished, I like the design so much I've more or less stuck to it ever since".

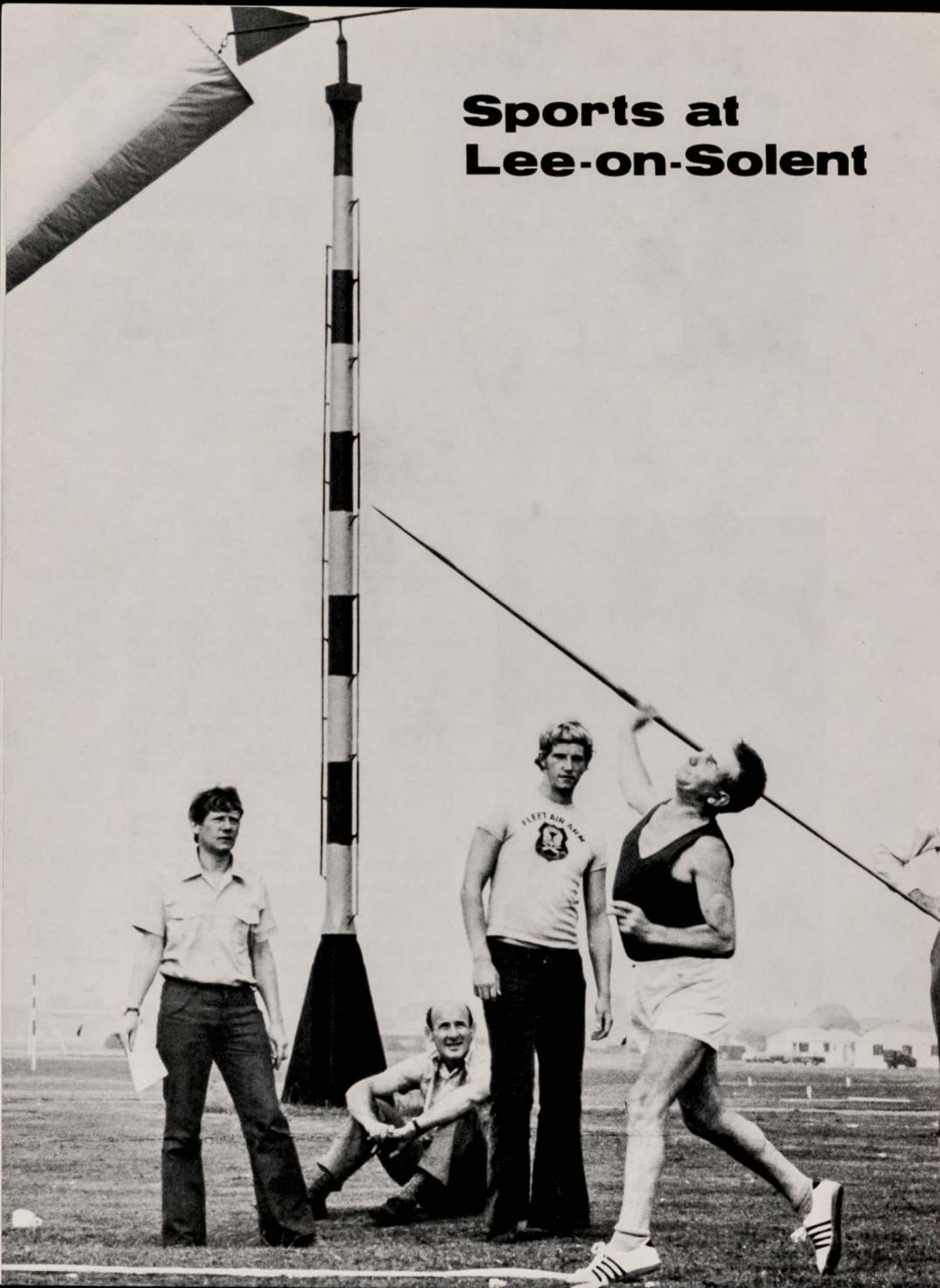
Rescued From Drowning

Phillip Thompson, aged 23, son of Leslie and Doreen Thompson of Gateshead, recently rescued a man from the sea in the Harbour of Port Patrick, Wigtownshire.

After graduating at Salford University, Phillip worked on a site at Stranraer, eight miles from Port Patrick, and there he met fiancée, Miss Catriona Halliday.

Incidentally, the Thompson family have a fine record of rescues. In his youth Leslie rescued two people from a river and Phil's twin brother, Bob, has rescued a man from the sea, for which he received an award from the Royal Humane Society.

Sports at Lee-on-Solent



With Ian Fraser House firmly in the hands of the builders, the annual sports week-end moved about 50 miles westward along the South Coast to become the opening part of the week's camp at H.M.S. *Daedalus*. Lee-on-Solent, on Saturday and Sunday, August 18th and 19th. The weather was excellent—sunny but with a breeze to keep the temperature bearable for the 28 competitors.

The sports were combined with the traditional camp sports and PETER SPENCER won the Victor Ludorum Prize usually awarded at *Daedalus*. This was the reward for a fine all-round performance by Peter, who, in July brought back a trophy from the Austrian International Games. His fellow members of the St. Dunstan's team in Austria were also in good form at Lee. JOHN SIMPSON, PETER SPENCER and JIMMY WRIGHT, competing as individuals, finished in that order First, second and third in Group A, Totally Blind. Between them John and Peter won every event in that group.

Competitors were divided into groups of similar degree of disability and standard of past performances. The other TB group, B, was won by NORMAN PERRY with 35 points, a performance which gained him the Best Overall Beginner prize. He was only one point ahead of Charles Stafford, one of St. Dunstan's longest serving sportsmen, who has also represented us abroad.

FRED BARRATT won the PS group convincingly with 39 points against Bill Miller's 27 in second place. After taking full points in the sprint, shot, discus and javelin, Fred had trouble with the technique in the new sling ball event brought back from Austria by sports organiser Jock Carnochan. He finished well down the list with a throw of 48 feet 3 inches. King of this event was Peter Spencer, who threw 81 feet 6 inches but then he had some practice in Austria!

Among the Doubly Disabled group BILL GRIFFITHS, had to concede first place to a less well-known sporting name STAN SOUTHALL, who scored 35 points mainly in the throwing events. Bill ran him close with 32 points, while BOB YOUNG won the Veterans group from Harry Wheeler.

(Opposite) Joe Humphrey throwing the javelin.



"Homing" on to Jock Carnochan's voice, Jimmy Wright finishes the sprint.

Bob Young receives his trophy from Captain D. G. Titford, R.N. commanding H.M.S. *Daedalus*. Photo: H.M.S. *Daedalus*





The going gets tough for David Purches in the shot.

Peter Spencer coaches Bill Smith in the art of throwing the sling-ball.



The first event on Saturday morning was the 2½ mile walk around the perimeter track of the airfield. Once again BILL MILLER, starting from scratch, produced the fastest time: 23 mins. 28 secs. The handicap winner was NORMAN PERRY who went off a 6 minute handicap and held off everybody although Johnnie Cope, also on a 6 minute handicap, came near to catching him at the finish.

After the field events on Saturday afternoon the sports continued with swimming on Sunday morning in H.M.S. *St. Vincent* baths. PETER SPENCER won group A TB with 18 points followed by another good swimmer, Charles Stafford. BOB FULLARD, 8 points, took group B TB from Reg. Goding.

The fastest man in the water was JOHNNIE COPE, who clocked an impressive 18.06 secs. in the free style, but this was not enough to win him the PS group where DAVID PURCHES' consistent performances in all three events earned him 12 points against Johnnie's 9.

An event traditional at the *Daedalus* camp sports is the kick at goal won by JIMMY WRIGHT. We are asked to deny that he is considering an offer from Arsenal!

A few competitors went home after the week-end but the majority were staying on for the rest of the week to enjoy the Navy's hospitality—a report on the camp week appears elsewhere. There is no doubt that the sports sturdily survived the transplant to Lee-on-Solent. Most of the familiar faces were there among the competitors, together with some among the spectators and helpers: Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Lloyds, Commandant Fawcett, Bill Harris and Ben Mills to name a few.

PRIZE AWARDS

Winners and runners-up in each group Camp Victor Ludorum—Peter Spencer Veterans Winner: R. Young. Runner-up: H. Wheeler.

Best Overall Beginner: N. Perry.

Walk—First: N. Perry. Second: J. Cope. Third: J. Simpson.

First Novice: W. Smith (Bridgett Talbot Trophy).

First Veteran: R. Young (Denis Deacon Trophy).

Swimming: Camp Victor Ludorum—Peter Spencer.

Kick at Goal—Winner: J. Wright. Runner-up: T. Tatchell.



A big effort by Norman Perry just holds off Johnnie Cope at the finish of the walk.

GROUP EVENT WINNERS AND PERFORMANCES

	Group A(TB)	Group B(TB)	PS	DD
2½ MILE WALK	J. Simpson	N. Perry	W. Miller	R. Young
Actual Time (mins./secs.)	23.45	26.25	23.28	25.32
Handicap Time (mins./secs.)	22.45	20.25	23.28	23.42
SPRINT	J. Simpson	C. Stafford	F. Barratt	W. Griffiths
Time (secs.)	11.01	12.00	9.07	11.08
SHOT	P. Spencer	C. Stafford	F. Barratt	P. Sheehan
Distance (feet/inches)	27' 11"	23' 10"	24' 9"	22' 10"
DISCUS	J. Simpson	C. Redford	F. Barratt	S. Southall
Distance (feet/inches)	63' 4"	51' 3"	58' 7"	35' 8"
JAVELIN	J. Simpson	N. Perry	F. Barratt	S. Southall
Distance (feet/inches)	65' 1"	63' 7"	65' 5"	42' 2"
SLING BALL	P. Spencer	N. Perry	J. Cope	W. Griffiths
Distance (feet/inches)	81' 6"	77' 1"	65' 4"	52'
BROAD JUMP	J. Simpson	R. Goding	T. Tatchell	W. Griffiths
Distance (feet/inches)	7' 1"	6' 8"	7' 3"	6' 6"
SWIMMING				
FREE STYLE	P. Spencer	R. Fullard	J. Cope	W. Griffiths
Time (secs.)	21.00	22.01	18.06	26.03
BREAST	P. Spencer	R. Goding	D. Purches	W. Griffiths
Time (secs.)	21.08	23.05	20.02	31.04
PLUNGE	P. Spencer	R. Fullard	T. Tatchell	W. Griffiths
Distance (feet/inches)	42' 6"	37' 6"	36' 5"	31' 8"
Points were awarded thus:	First —	Number of Competitors in each event	+1	
	Second —	Number of Competitors in each event	-1	
	Third —	Number of Competitors in each event	-2	
	and so on			

Summer Camp at HMS Daedalus

This year there assembled at Lee-on-Solent rather more than usual St. Dunstaners, the majority of whom were allotted cabins in H.M.S. *Daedalus*, whilst the remainder who were merely down for the week-end, were stationed in H.M.S. *Dolphin*. This was because the Royal Navy graciously allowed us to hold our annual St. Dunstan's sports at H.M.S. *Daedalus*. The names of winners of the various events will be found elsewhere in this issue. Just a word in passing to compliment Jock Carnochan on the smoothness with which everything connected with these sports went off, not forgetting, of course, the many friends and helpers, including Field Gun Crew, who manfully saw to it that everybody who wanted to have a go at any particular sport was able to do so. Captain Titford, in a witty speech, presented the prizes to individual sports winners on Saturday, 18th August and Cmdr. Shives presented trophies to the winners of the various swimming events on Sunday, 19th August.

Pot Hunters

However, not all St. Dunstaners were "pot hunters" and some preferred to renew old acquaintances in the C.P.O. or P.O. messes. As for myself, not having previously been to Lee-on-Solent, I found myself in congenial company, playing bridge in between dancing and trips to and from the bar, meeting St. Dunstaners whom I had never before met. However, the most difficult thing for me is to pick out the most pleasurable activity of the whole week—there were so many and so many people, both uniformed and civilians who were ever ready to give a helping hand in order to make our week in camp really enjoyable. Here I must mention Lieut. Parrack who acted as Liaison Officer during the week and who had carefully organised the programme for us prior to our arrival. It might even be suspected that the Navy had laid on specially warm weather for our week so that all the many alternative activities were able to be indulged in without upsetting the planned programme. Being an amateur fisherman, I naturally went out with Bill Reed on two occasions and succeeded in catching a total weight of some 22 ozs. of fish on the Friday, but this was not enough

to beat John Whitcombe's record catch of ??? lbs.—a large silver eel that got away because no-one in the boat would risk handling this awkward customer, always dangerous to take off the hook. Our trip by tender to the Isle of Wight was most enjoyable with a smooth passage—with me at the helm for a small part of the trip—and again, many thanks to our hosts at the British Legion, Cowes, where we all managed to slake our thirst in between playing bridge or strolling round the town, sending off cards to relatives or looking for some small memento to take back for the family.

Back now ashore, without our "dogs", their wives and girl friends, and Wrens, also our friends of many years' standing, it would not have been possible, for example, to have such fun at Titchfield where we went on Wednesday to a dance arranged by Mrs. Sheila Macleod and Col. Clare, to whom I should like to express our thanks on behalf of St. Dunstaners. It was at this dance that we had the pleasure of meeting Lieut. and Mrs. Jones—Lieut. Jones being the officer i/c the Field Gun Crew.

Ben Mills

This year was rather special for St. Dunstaners in that Ben Mills "came of age", having completed his 21st camp, whilst the Rev. Frank Spurway was awarded a long service trophy with a suitable bottle with which to commemorate that award. The actual presentation was made by Sir Alec Rose and at the same time, another of our devoted helpers, Bill Harris, M.B.E. was thanked for his 50 years' association with St. Dunstan's sports. However, I shall remember Bill as the man who knows every verse of "The body in the bag" . . . Bob Young, on our behalf, in a few well chosen words, spoke for us all when thanking Sir Alec and all those connected with the success of the week.

I feel somewhat at a disadvantage in that as a new boy I was unaware to some extent of what Trojan work was going on all unbeknown to me. For example, Dr. and Mrs. Parkes, both old friends to St. Dunstan's sportsmen, Miss Diana Hoare,

Miss Helen Cowdell, Miss Kathleen Riley and Miss Street all contrived in their usual inconspicuous manner to do their bit towards making this a memorable week for us all.

Thanks

I must also convey our thanks to C.P.O. Jas Severs, President of the C.P.O.'s mess and also to the President of the P.O. mess and also to First Trainer C.P.O. "Buster" Brown and 2nd trainer C.P.O. George Gilholm and all the Field Gun Crew for giving up one week's leave to look after us.

Although I pride myself that in company with a few St. Dunstaner friends, our impromptu group singing at the Ratings mess, was quite a success, we could not hope to rival the entertainment laid on for us by Ben Mills in a concert organised by Mrs. Kit Deacon out of the proceeds of the Denis Deacon Memorial Fund. High class singing and up-to-the-minute jokes, with accomplished instrumentalists all contributed to a very enjoyable concert on Monday evening.

What else can I mention? The hectic scramble of the car rally, the dance at the Eagle Club on the Tuesday for which we thank the President—the C.P.O. behind the bar on our last evening, whose dismay was obvious when he had to announce that they had sold out all brandy, and his joy when he was able to continue serving with whisky until further supplies of brandy were obtained from the P.O. mess.—Our thanks go to Lieut. Parrack for making it possible for some of us to enjoy a trip on the Hovercraft—to Mrs. Lorna Shives and her daughter, Susan, who were kind enough to join with us in singing what we were sure was one of the latest "Top of the Pops" tunes—lastly, how could I close without referring to Mrs. Avis Spurway, the brains behind the whole enterprise? Need I say more?

BOB FULLARD

CANCER RESEARCH

Whilst at the Lee-on-Solent Camp in August, FREDERICK A. (TONY) MORTON of Peterborough, organised a collection for Cancer Research. St. Dunstaners attending the camp who donated money towards this cause will be pleased to know that the total amount collected came to £20.46.



St. Dunstan's Fishing Club

Fishing 1974

Would all St. Dunstaners who wish to attend the St. Dunstan's fishing trips of 1974, please apply to Mr. J. Carnochan, Pearson House, for details and entry form, not later than October 31st 1973.

A full report of the activities of the Club will appear in the November *Review*.

J. CARNOCHAN *Sports Officer*

Scouts in Germany

We have always had a great admiration for the Scout movement and our good opinion has been confirmed by their vision in appointing St. Dunstaner, **Dennis Freeman** as a Venture Scout Leader. They have recognised Dennis's ability to inspire young people towards good work and he now has the largest and most successful unit in his district.

This summer he took a group of Venture Scouts and Ranger Guides to Germany. They camped at Cologne on the way to Würzburg, where they pitched camp in a thunderstorm. There the German Scouts had organised a packed week of events; coach tours, wine tasting, the local Annual Festival and Fair, football (a win and a draw for the English scouts) and visits to the Bishop and the Mayor. At many of these occasions it fell to Dennis to make the official speeches. His verdict on the trip? "Exhausting, very worth while though, I certainly learnt a lot".

F.E.P.O.W. Pilgrimage

Jim Thwaites, of Burnley, who is very much involved with the Royal British Legion and the F.E.P.O.W. Club, has asked us to mention a pilgrimage to Singapore and Thailand in the Autumn of 1974.

It is being organised by 560 Field Company Royal Engineers but any Far East P.O.W. is eligible, the basic cost will be around £250. For further information on this trip the man to get in touch with is **Mr. G. C. Wright, 76/77 High Street, Gorleston-on-Sea, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.**

PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS

Before the House of Lords rose for the Summer Recess Lord Fraser asked two important questions. The Hansard Parliamentary Reports of the questions and subsequent discussions became available too late for inclusion in the August *Review* and we reproduce them below.

WAR PENSIONS

In the House of Lords on 19th July, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale asked Her Majesty's Government, "whether, when reviewing pensions and allowances this autumn, they will have regard to the new benefits available to ex-servicemen since April 1, 1973, under the Ministry of Defence Attributable Pension Scheme and the Criminal Injuries to Persons (Compensation) Act (Northern Ireland); and adjust the payments for the veterans and widows of the 1914-18 and 1939-45 Wars, so that all get treated alike".

The Minister of State, Department of Health and Social Security (Lord Aberdare)

No, my Lords. The war pensions and allowances paid by my Department to or in respect of former members of the Armed Forces for disablement or death due to service are reviewed annually and will be substantially increased from October 3. These pensions are quite separate from those paid under the Armed Forces occupational pension scheme, the improved terms of which will apply to those who give service on or after March 31, 1973. The Criminal Injuries to Persons (Compensation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 enables any person, civilian or Serviceman, to make a claim in the county courts for damages for criminal injuries due to terrorist activity, and the assessment of compensation is entirely a matter for those courts. The level of war pensions could not be related to such compensation.

Lord Fraser of Lonsdale

My Lords, while thanking my noble friend, who is himself an ex-Serviceman, and a sympathetic one, as I know, may I ask him to put himself in the position of, for example, the blinded soldier? Here is one blinded in the First World War—there are very few left now. Here is one blinded in the Second World War. And here is one blinded in Northern Ireland now. They get different rates of compensation. It does not interest them where it comes from or what scheme it comes under; it all comes from the taxpayer and from Parliament. May I ask whether Parliament have not been generous over 50 years (as I think they have been), and whether my noble friend, in spite of the logic of his Answer, will refer this matter to the relevant Ministers in the other place for further consideration?

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, there are two quite separate schemes. There is the war pensions scheme run by my Department, which provides State compensation for death or disablement on a flat rate basis, and which does not distinguish between any of the war pensioners or their widows wherever the injury or death may have occurred. Then there is the earnings related payment pension made by the Ministry of Defence, which varies, as any other occupational scheme varies, according to when the man was serving and his terms of service.

Lord Shinwell

My Lords, recalling the Question that I ventured to put to the noble Lord yesterday, which was followed up by several of my noble friends, and noble Lords opposite, and particularly in view of the submission now made by the noble Lord, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, who has great knowledge of those involved in war pensions and the like, may I ask whether the noble Lord would not reconsider the position and seek to co-ordinate the two forms of pension so that war widows, in particular—although I agree that others are affected—who were bereaved in the First World War and in the Second World War are not placed at a disadvantage as compared with those bereaved in subsequent conflicts?

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, I readily acknowledge the expert knowledge of my noble friend Lord Fraser and of the noble Lord who has asked this supplementary question, but this is difficult. Our own scheme, the war pensions scheme of the Department of Health and Social Security, is adjusted every year, and big improvements are being made this October, which will apply to all Servicemen and their widows. But it is a very different thing to ask us to change an occupational pension scheme, which has been very much improved since March, and to make payment retrospectively to those who were not serving when the new conditions of service were introduced.

Lord Hale

My Lords, is not the noble Lord aware that there really is no greater claim upon the gratitude of the nation or the sentiment of the country than that of those who were disabled in the course of the 1914-18 war? Those of them who still survive—and I have a letter in my pocket from one who was disabled in 1924 in slave trading operations—surely have a right to look to an

immediate recognition of parity of treatment. While I appreciate what the noble Lord said about the October review, has it not been constantly demonstrated that the existence of these separate compartments provides an enormous amount of expensive work for the Government's legal advisers and legal departments, who will fight over a few shillings and call it an issue of principle, and that if parity in general were recognised as the first principle and gradually applied a great deal of grievance would be removed?

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, there is complete parity in the war pensions scheme operated by my Department, but I do not see how you can have parity in an occupational pension scheme when new conditions and better conditions are introduced progressively. It would be extraordinarily expensive retrospectively to give those same conditions to Servicemen who had already retired from the Forces.

Lord Shinwell

My Lords, while I recognise the noble Lords difficulty in this matter, could he not look at this again to see whether it is not possible, without changing any of the schemes—if there is technical difficulty in the way—to bring up the pensions of war widows bereaved in the wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45 to the level of those who are involved in subsequent conflicts.

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, I will certainly see that my noble friend the Secretary of State for Defence knows what has taken place in this house, both today and yesterday.

Lord Fraser of Lonsdale

My Lords, may I ask my noble friend one further question about this word "retrospection"? Nobody is asking him to pay for 50 years back to the First World War or even seventy years back to the Boer War. These men are still alive: they are disabled in the same way and they have the same cost of living. It is not retrospection; it is something for today and tomorrow.

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, what I meant was that when they were serving there were certain conditions of service (including perhaps the occupational scheme run by the Ministry of Defence), and now there is a new and improved scheme which does give better treatment to those who are serving today than to those who served previously.

Baroness Wootton of Abinger

My Lords, would the Minister not agree that there is a very strong case for equalising the conditions for all persons who have suffered from military action, whether they be widows or disabled persons? Would he not also agree that there are occasions when the Government are not wholly opposed to legislation with retrospective effect when it works to the disadvantage of people in this country? Would he not further agree that the number of persons who go back to the 1914-18 War who are involved in this differentiation is

bound to be small? Hardly any of them can be younger than I am myself, having been a war widow from the 1914-18 War, though not any longer taking, or having wished for many years to take a pension. None of them is younger than myself and, in the ordinary course of nature, their number is likely very quickly to decline.

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, the fact of the matter is that if the new widows' pensions provisions which came into operation on March 31 last were applied to all war widows, the cost might well approach £100 million a year. However that may be, the principle of all occupational schemes is that you only receive the pension for which you qualify after you have joined that particular scheme.

Lord Shepherd

My Lords, perhaps the noble Lord would be good enough to refresh the memory of your Lordships' House about the case of those who are over 80 and who have made no contribution towards a pension scheme, but in spite of that the present Government felt it right and justifiable to pay them? To that extent the noble Lord has a precedent for the matter of these war widows.

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, that was a particular priority case, in which we did make an exception—and it was done after the noble Lord's Government had refused to do so.

Lord Shepherd

My Lords, the noble Lord may say there was a special priority, but I would hope he might realise that the feeling in this House is that there is a special priority in regard to these war widows.

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, this case concerned a national scheme. These people over 80 were receiving nothing—I repeat nothing—and when noble Lords opposite formed part of the Government they refused to give them anything. This is very different from an occupational pension scheme. These Servicemen and their widows are receiving a pension under the war pensions scheme. What we are talking about is an occupational pension scheme.

Lord Shepherd

My Lords, just one thing more and then I hope we might leave this: would the noble Lord recognise that we accept his criticism in respect of the over 80's, but we also recognise that though they themselves may have made no financial contribution, the war widows in fact made a major contribution to the war effort?

Baroness Summerskill

My Lords, could the noble Lord, say how much it would cost to pay all the blinded ex-Service men the same amount?

Lord Aberdare

My Lords, I have not got that figure.

WIRELESS FOR THE BLIND AND VAT

In the House of Lords on 25th July, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale asked Her Majesty's Government, "whether they will consider in the next Budget freeing wireless sets for the blind from V.A.T., bearing in mind that these sets, provided free on permanent loan to the blind by the British Wireless for the Blind Fund, have been free of purchase tax since the Finance Act 1945".

The Earl of Gowrie

"My Lords, the Government have considered the matter most carefully but have come to the conclusion that introducing legislation on the lines suggested would inevitably lead to pressure for similar reliefs for many other groups".

Lord Fraser of Lonsdale

"My Lords, is my noble friend aware that 8,000 people, mostly old, go blind each year and that

this new tax will rob 1,000 of them of a wireless set next Christmas? Is he further aware that it would be very surprising if this ancient Parliament, having done something for 28 years should now cease to do it for the convenience of the Treasury?".

The Earl of Gowrie

"My Lords, my own awareness of the number of people who go blind every year is very largely as a result of work over very many years of the noble Lord who asked the Question—and of course the Government acknowledge it. I cannot accept, however, that not exempting wirelesses from V.A.T. is in fact a discriminatory tax against the blind".

Lord Fraser's request received warm support from a number of peers and peeresses and the Earl of Gowrie promised to bring the feeling of the House on this matter to his Right Honourable friend, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but he added that he had no intention of misleading the House as to what could or could not be done.

Maintaining St. Dunstan's Tradition

We have been pleased to welcome several interesting personalities among St. Dunstaners from overseas during these past two or three months. Among them have been CHARLES HORNSBY, blinded in the First World War, who was a trainee in the early days at Regent's Park. He comes from Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, and visits England every other year to see relatives in Hertfordshire and Lincolnshire, the county of his youth and early manhood. Also Second World War St. Dunstaners, CECIL BENNETTS from Lismore, New South Wales, and George Grainger from Hobart, Tasmania, with their wives. The Bennetts and the Graingers stayed for part of their time in England at our Broadhurst Gardens Hostel.

GEORGE GRAINGER, an Edinburgh born Scot, emigrated to Australia in 1948. He first worked in Welfare and for the past 20 years he has been senior telephonist with the Hydro Electric Commission. George is also a talented musician and a writer in both poetry and prose and he was the first ever Guide Dog owner in Tasmania.

In a reminiscent mood, George told us about his sentiments in relation to his

small son during his early days of blindness.

"My elder son was in the Royal Australian Navy for National Service. He was rather a special boy to me in that he was 2½ or nearly 3 when I came home from the Army, invalided out. And I think the confidence he had in me gave me confidence in myself when I did not have much of my own, and in the little things he did, when his Mother offered to tie his shoe-laces he would say 'No, Daddy will'.

I would mend little wooden trucks for him and put the rails together of his little railway set and do other little jobs. He always came to me with them and it gave me a great deal of confidence. Also the sure knowledge that this child needed me and for this reason I felt that I had to be something quite special for him; that I had to go out and work and earn my living like other men so that when the children with whom he played—one of whose father was a special branch detective in the Edinburgh C.I.D. and the other was on the footplate of the Flying Scotsman service—boasted of what their fathers did, my small son would not be obliged to say, 'My Daddy sits at home and does nothing. He's on a pension'".

BRIDGE NOTES

LONDON

The Sixth Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 7th July. The results were as follows:—

W. Allen and F. Dickerson	67
W. Lethbridge and R. Pacitti	65
A. Caldwell and W. Miller	60
W. Phillips and J. Lynch	58
R. Evans and H. Meleson	56

The Seventh Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 4th August. The results were as follows:—

W. Allen and Miss Vera Kemmish	66
R. Evans and F. Dickerson	64
W. Miller and H. Meleson	64
W. Phillips and P. Nuyens	63
R. Pacitti and J. Padley	53

Cumulative positions with two sessions to play. The best six results out of seven up to date are:—

R. Evans	407
W. Lethbridge	405
W. Miller	402
W. Allen	392
J. Padley	388
W. Phillips	387
F. Dickerson	378
P. Nuyens	375
A. Caldwell	363
R. Pacitti	353
H. Meleson	336
J. Lynch, after five matches	302
H. King, after three matches	196
Miss V. Kemmish after two matches	116
R. Stanners, after two matches	113

BRIGHTON

The Seventh Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 7th July. The results were as follows:—

S. Webster and W. Burnett	72
M. Clements and Partner	69
W. Claydon and A. Dodgson	67
R. Fullard and R. Bickley	64
J. Whitcombe and R. Goding	61
A. Smith and F. Rhodes	60
F. Griffiee and W. Scott	48

Cumulative positions with two sessions to play. The best five results out of seven up to date are:—

R. Goding	356
S. Webster	356
R. Fullard	355
M. Clements	336
A. Dodgson	331
F. Griffiee	331
W. Scott	323
F. Rhodes	321
W. Claydon	316
C. Walters	309
J. Whitcombe	303
J. Chell	292
W. Burnett, after four matches	251
A. Smith, after four matches	204
R. Bickley, after three matches	173

P. NUYENS
Secretary

Middlesex Bridge Congress

Last July the Middlesex Congress was held at the Berners Hotel in London, this was attended by a team of four from St. Dunstan's, Roy Armstrong, Bill Allen, Pat Lynch and myself. The Congress went on for three days and you certainly got plenty of good bridge. On the Friday evening we all took part in the qualifying round for the pairs cup, Pat and I were fortunate to win this round playing North, South. At the end of the evening session we were introduced to Mr. J. Joy, President of the Middlesex Bridge Union, who made us very welcome at the Congress, and as this was being directed by Mr. G. Connell we all felt very much at home. Incidentally Mr. and Mrs. Joy won the same section as we did playing East, West so we were in very good company.

When announcing our win Geoff Connell said that he thought this was the first time that a pair from St. D's. had come first in a competition of this calibre. That was as far as we got in the pairs cup, in the fours cup we did not qualify in the top section, but we did manage to qualify for what they call the consolation fours, once again however that was as far as we got.

When giving his closing speech at the end of the Congress, Mr. Joy on behalf of the St. Dunstan's team said a word of thanks to all competitors for being so kind and considerate at the table. Summing up, this was a very enjoyable Congress, we still have a great deal to learn about Bridge, but with the help of Geoff Connell and Alf Field I hope that with all their hard work this eventually will bear fruit.

J. LYNCH

LONDON BUSINESS HOUSES LEAGUE

Official results of the season ended last March were received too late for the August *Review*. They show that St. Dunstan's A team in Division 4B West finished second of seven teams. St. Dunstan's B team finished fourth of six teams in Division 4D West.

Players in the teams were: 'A' P. Nuyens (Capt.), A. Caldwell, R. Evans, W. Lethbridge, W. Miller, W. Phillips; 'B' R. Armstrong (Capt.), W. Allen, E. Carpenter, J. Lynch.

Bridge Drive

Fortunately the weather was fine and sunny for the St. Dunstaners, wives and friends, who came to the Club Rooms in Old Marylebone Road, for a pleasant afternoon's game at our Bridge Drive on 21st July. There were eleven tables for Bridge.

We were happy to see so many of our friends with an especially warm welcome for those who had travelled a distance to be with us for the afternoon.

We were also delighted to see quite a number of pupils from Roy Armstrong's Saturday afternoon Bridge Class taking part. A most encouraging sign for the future. Keep up the good work Roy, you are certainly doing a grand job.

Mr. G. C. Connell, who I am sure needs no introduction, was in charge of the actual running of the Drive.

Mrs. Horstead graciously presented the prizes to the winners, who were as follows:

1. A. Caldwell and Mr. G. C. Connell.
 2. R. Fullard and Mr. S. Medcroft
 3. W. Miller and Mr. C. Evans
- Booby Prize, Mr. and Mrs. R. Pringle.

CLUB NEWS

MIDLANDS

Our August meeting was held on the second Sunday of the month as usual and it was quite well attended. The big event was the semi-final round of the Sir Arthur Pearson domino competition between Joe Kibbler and myself, Doug Cashmore. After a very tight game Joe pulled it off by two games to one. Good luck to him in the final which is between Lou Androlia and Joe Kibbler. This game will be played off at our October Meeting. During this semi-final quite a lot of interest was kept going by Lou Androlia who ran a book on each game and some big money changed hands from time to time, but as usual the bookie won in the end.

Mrs. Barbara Kibbler arranged the catering for this meeting and everyone joined in to thank her for an excellent spread.

September

Our September meeting was altered from an ordinary club meeting and we had an outing on that day instead. The date was Sunday, 9th September and we went to see our old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Shakspeare and their family, not forgetting by any means Miss Topsy Shakspeare, Bill's sister. They live at Brent Knoll in Somerset and we had a beautiful day, not only weather-wise but with great enjoyment as well. It had all been arranged for us to have a picnic in Mr. Shakspeare's orchard but what a picnic, we had never seen such a spread. Mrs. Shakspeare had certainly been busy, everything was home made by her own delicate hands, cornish pasties, sausage rolls, patties, flans with different fillings and many other wonderful fancies. Bill kept all our thirsts quenched with local brew and cider, he even brought out his own home brew. He had managed to borrow a skittle alley from the local Royal British Legion and fitted it up in his orchard so after we had all filled up with

BRIDGE NOTES—continued

Our Bridge Drive ended on a happy note with those who wished staying behind to play friendly games for the rest of the evening.

JIM PADLEY

good food and drink we tried to work some of it off by playing skittles. A competition was run for the men and one for the Ladies, Eddie Hordyniec won the men's award, a very fine bottle of vintage cider and Mrs. Kath Androlia won the Ladies' prize, a box of chocolates, not vintage. About four o'clock tea was brought out and more eats for those who were still hungry, or greedy, and then at 4.45 p.m. we left Brent Knoll and made our way through Bristol and over the Severn Bridge to Symonds Yat where another meal had been laid on for seven o'clock. We left there at roughly eight o'clock and headed for home after one of the finest outings this club has ever had I am sure.

Everything went off marvellously, the weather was absolutely glorious and the welcome and the spread that we had had at Brent Knoll was marvellous. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and I did not hear one complaint except for Mrs. Connie Faulkner saying that she had eaten too much!

Our sincere thanks go to the Shakspeare family for this magnificent day and in particular to Mrs. Margaret Shakspeare for all her delicacies. I believe many photographs were taken and if they all come out all right they will be a splendid record of a wonderful outing.

October

We have another outing to Stratford on Avon on **Sunday, 7th October** and our Annual General Meeting on **Sunday, 14th October**. At this meeting we are also holding a "Bring and Buy" sale to help toward an outing for next year.

Come along and join us and just see what you are missing.

DOUG CASHMORE,
Secretary.

Voluntary Work

Denise, daughter of MRS. BRENDA BATES, of Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, has been doing voluntary aid work at her school when they helped Northern Ireland children enjoy a holiday by the sea. Denise has been helping with the meals for the week of the children's holiday.

PICK OF THE BUNCH

Listeners to B.B.C. Radio 4 on August 19th heard Lord Fraser urge sighted gardeners to encourage and help blind gardeners.

The programme was "Pick of the Bunch", a re-run of some of the more interesting questions on Gardeners' Question Time. Lord Fraser was asked to comment on a question from Mr. Frank Cotton, a blind gardener about fragrant or aromatic shrubs and plants.

Among the panel's suggestions were geraniums, thyme and sage, clove pinks, siberian wallflowers, stocks and hyacinths.

Asked how many blind gardeners there are, Lord Fraser said he knew 500 among St. Dunstaners.

"There must be thousands in the country as whole and it's up to you, listener, to find out the blind gardener in your village. Next time, lean over the fence, watch him for a few minutes and say, 'Good morning', 'Good afternoon' and then undoubtedly you will start talking about gardens. He'll tell you about his, you'll tell him about yours, perhaps you ask him to go round and see yours, he'd like that. You'll probably make a friend of that chap and you'll certainly do him some good. I'm not going to suggest any particular way you can help him but make friends with him. That's the whole purpose of this message. I've nothing else to ask you, but please do that the next time you go by".

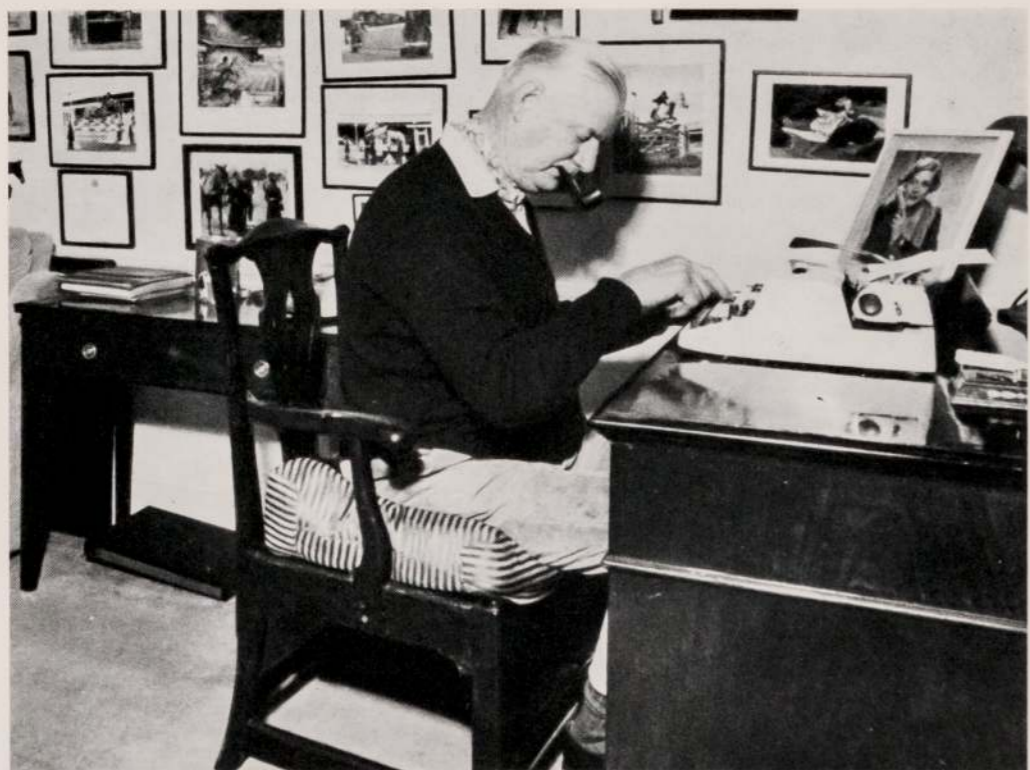
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From Granville Waterworth of Coventry

Many organisations such as the Marines, the Royal Air Force, the Guards and the Royal British Legion and nearly all regiments have their own neck tie, but yet St. Dunstan's have not.

Surely it would not be very difficult to design a tie say of navy blue, carrying a small St. Dunstan's crest in gold. This I am sure would be worn more than the badges as the pins can spoil the material of a new suit.

We apologise to JOHN JAMES HAMSON for incorrectly printing his name in the March *Review*.



Col. Sir Mike Ansell at work in his study.

SOLDIER ON

An Autobiography by Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L.

With a Foreword by
H.R.H. Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh
Peter Davies—180 pp. with index, £2.75

Picking up *Soldier On*, Col. Sir Michael Ansell's autobiography, one's first impression is the slimness of this volume covering a full and eventful life. The first chapters soon show why this is so. Sir Mike wrote this book himself, without the aid of literary "ghosts". Typing it in his own study at Pillhead, his flower farm near Bideford, in Devon, he has not wasted a word.

His modest, laconic style takes us briskly through his childhood as we learn, surprisingly—or perhaps not, that, as a boy, he preferred a bicycle to a pony. Born into an Army family, his education followed a traditional pattern: Wellington and Sandhurst. He had lost his early love of bicycles and already the horse was

taking pride of place. He passed out of Sandhurst winning the Saddle of Honour for his term.

Military Career

In 1923 he joined the Inniskillings, by then amalgamated with the 5th Dragoon Guards, the regiment commanded by his father at his death in action in 1914. Then began an outstanding career, militarily and as a horseman. Col. Sir Mike tells it all without embroidery and without false modesty: international honours as a polo player and a show jumper; producing spectacular displays of Army horsemanship at the Royal Tournament and the International Horse Show, which pleased the young Princess Elizabeth, and then the war: promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel as the youngest Commanding Officer in the British Army at 34; wounding and capture at St. Valéry.

From this point his Spartan writing comes into its own. Through it the reader can form his own picture of the pain and frustration of near-blindness as a prisoner-of-war. Understatement emphasises the raising and extinguishing of hopes as treatments were tried by French, German and captured British doctors.

In descriptions of the building up of show jumping after the war the book sustains the same vivid level. Sir Mike is a committed supporter of British teams he has helped to select. Blindness certainly does not impede his descriptions of the tension as he "willed" British riders to win gold at the 1952 Olympics—he can recall the exact lay-out of the Helsinki showjump course that year—and go on to find further success in international events of every kind.

Although, through his organising ability, enthusiasm and flair, he has achieved enormous popularity for horse riding and fame for himself, Sir Mike owns that, through two family tragedies, "twice a widower", as he puts it, complete happiness has been denied him. Of the death of his first wife, Victoria, he writes simply, "I think for the first time I felt truly blind".

Acceptance

In fact blindness does not dominate this book despite the deprivation it must have meant to a man who was an all-round sportsman. Because the writer has accepted it so completely, so does the reader. Sir Mike says, "You have accepted your fate when you can say without embarrassment to people, 'I'm blind, would you please help me'".

Of our own organisation he writes, "St. Dunstan's is a very great regiment and I always feel proud to belong to it". Praise indeed, for although the idea of St. Dunstan's as a regiment is not new, this is the judgement of a professional soldier to whom a regiment means more than a cliché.

The book ends on a reflective note at the conclusion of the Twenty-fourth Horse of the Year Show at Wembley last year—judged by the horse world and the paying public alike as the most successful yet. In his study at Pillhead, Sir Mike recalls the successes and the sadnesses of his life and pictures the scene from his

window, "A friend tells me I can't see them, but he is wrong, for in my mind I see things well. They blaze sometimes".

Soldier On is a moving book, deceptive in its simplicity and candour. It is well illustrated with photographs and drawings. One of these, a caricature, shows 'Captain M. P. Ansell, American's Dream of what a British Cavalry Officer should look like!' Through the pages of this most readable book, Sir Mike Ansell emerges as the British ideal of a winner against all odds—and it is no dream.

FAMILY NEWS

Marriage

LETHBRIDGE-DAVISON. On 3rd August 1973, WALTER LETHBRIDGE of Stoneleigh, Oldham, Lancashire married MISS PAMELA DAVISON. We wish them every happiness in their married life together.

Silver Weddings

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. RONALD TINGAY of Dartford, Kent, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 4th September, 1973.

Warm congratulations to MR. AND MRS. TONY HARALAMBOUS of Winchmore Hill, London, N.21, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 4th September, 1973.

Sincere congratulations to MR. AND MRS. GEORGE ROAKE of London, S.E.6., who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 28th March, 1973. They joined a friend and his wife and the two couples hired a hall and had a joint party to celebrate the event.

Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. WALTER JAMES WEST of Littleover, Derby, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 18th August, 1973.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:—

LOUIS M. ANDROLIA of Birmingham, who is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild—Tracey Lou, born on 13th July, 1973, to his son, Christopher and daughter-in-law, Pam.

WILLIAM WALLACE DUNCAN of South Shields, has become a grandfather for the fifth time following the birth of a boy to his youngest son, Keith and his wife Norma—the baby is to be called Keith Andrew.

GEORGE FONE of Enfield, Middlesex, who is proud to announce the safe arrival of his second grand-daughter, Tracey Louise, born to his daughter, Veronica, and her husband, on 18th August, 1973.

FREDERICK P. HARLEY of Elstow, Bedford, is pleased to announce the birth of three grandsons born to his family this year. A son, Graham, was born on 7th February to Malcolm and his wife; Michael and his wife also had a son, Mark, born in March, and Maureen gave birth to a daughter, Anne Marie on 21st April.

JOE HUMPHREY of Belfast is pleased to announce the birth of a grandson, Colin Edward, who arrived on 2nd July, 1973, born to his daughter Angela and her husband.

JOHN MCDERMOTT of Manchester, has pleasure in announcing the birth of a grand-daughter, born to Michael and his wife on 12th March. The baby is to be called Nina and she is the first girl in the family of 4 sons and 4 grandsons.

HUGH NABNEY of Belfast, is pleased to announce the birth of his third grandchild—a son having been born to his daughter Jean on 28th July, 1973, and he is to be called Ross Thomas.

ALFRED OUTTRIM of Hertford, who became a grandfather for the third time on the safe arrival of Simon Matthew Outtrim, born on 29th August, 1973.

MORRISH JAMES THOMAS of Peacehaven, Sussex, became a grandfather for the first time when his daughter, Margaret Ann Bruce, gave birth to a girl on 21st August, 1973, in Melbourne, Australia. The baby is to be called Michelle Jacqueline.

KENNETH WARD of Exeter, has pleasure in announcing the arrival of a grand-daughter, born to his daughter Mrs. Richard Smith, on 24th June, 1973. The baby is to be called Nicola Louise.

HERBERT WARD of Leeds, is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild—Charlotte Louise, born on 15th July to their son Christopher and his wife, Janie.

WILLIAM VICTOR VENESS of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, announces the birth of a grand-daughter, born to his son Christopher and his wife, Susan, on 15th June, 1973. The baby is to be called Ellen Rose.

Great Grandfather

Many congratulations to:—

CHARLES KIRK of Lancing, Sussex, is pleased to announce the safe arrival of his 8th great-grandchild. Sean Lockyer was born in Calgary, Alberta, on 16th July, 1973.

Long Life and Happiness to:—

Andrew, son of ERIC BRADSHAW of Northampton, married Jane Webb at Kingsley Park Methodist Church on 18th August, 1973.

Robert, son of GUY BILCLIFF of Sutton Coldfield, who married Miss Gail Morris at St. Michael's Parish Church, Boldmere, Warwickshire, on 25th August, 1973.

Susan Anne, daughter of STANLEY GIMBER of Whitton, Middlesex, who married Paul Goddard at St. Augustin's Church, Whitton, on 18th August, 1973.

Margaret Ann, eldest daughter of Frederick Greenaway of Hythe, Hants., who married Graham John Porter at St. John's Church, Hythe, on 8th September, 1973.

Arthur, son of ARTHUR HOLMES of Southampton, who married Miss Georgina Stephenson at St. Paul's Church, Hainault, Nr. Ilford, Essex, on 14th July, 1973. The young couple are honey-mooning in Greece.

Trudy, daughter of HERBERT HOWARD of Portslade, Sussex, who married Myles Keith Byrne at St. Andrew's Church, Portslade, on 30th June, 1973.

Robert, son of ROLLAND PILON, of Upper Warlingham, Surrey, who married Miss Venessa Taylor on 21st July, 1973. The wedding took place in Yorkshire.

Billy, son of ELMER RICHARDS of Tregaron, Cardiganshire, married Elaine Matthews in April 1973.

Kay, daughter of TREVOR TATCHELL of Cyncoed, Cardiff, who married Leslie Samson on 11th August, 1973. Leslie is now in his final year of his London University Honours Degree Course in Geology.

Trevor informs us that Kay has just obtained a Joint Honours Degree at London University in both Zoology and Botany and she has secured a post in the Research Department at a Manchester Teaching Hospital. Kay and her husband are now living in the Manchester area.

Marilyn, daughter of WALLY THOMAS of Southampton, who married Clayton Brendish on 11th August, 1973.

JOHN BLACK of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, is pleased to announce that his daughter, Christine has passed her latest exams gaining 2 'A' levels and 10 'O' levels. This enabled her to be accepted and start her Teacher Training at Middleton St. George College of Education in Darlington in September.

Christine's brother, John, who is an apprentice with a local Engineering firm has also gained Part Two of his City and Guilds examination in Mechanical Engineering with a credit, missing a distinction by only one mark.

Deaths

We offer our very sincere sympathy to:—

LESLIE CADMAN mourns the death of his wife, Mrs. Kathleen Louise Cadman, who passed away suddenly on 5th July, 1973.

RONALD MURRALL BEALES of Hereford, who mourns the recent death of his mother.

RICHARD TAYLOR of Wolverhampton, on the death of his grandson, Antony Richard, who was born on 18th July and died on 26th July, 1973.

CHARLES ALFRED TONGE of Salford, Lancs, who mourns the death of his mother. She passed away recently whilst Mr. Tonge was on holiday.

In Memory

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

William Ernest Brown. 13th London Regiment.

William Ernest Brown of Ilford, Essex, died on 14th August, 1973. He was 88 years of age.

He enlisted in the 13th London Regiment on 4th August 1914 and served with his regiment until his discharge in 1919. He came to St. Dunstan's in June 1971. Mr. Brown had already retired from his civilian occupation as an upholsterer when his sight finally deteriorated and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's. He was a widower and since the death of his wife had been cared for by his daughter, Miss M. A. Brown, who lived at home. Mr. Brown had enjoyed very good health until recent weeks and visited Ovingdean last year. He leaves a daughter.

George Jessup. Pioneer Corps.

George Jessup, late of Enfield, Middlesex, and latterly residing at Northgate House, Rottingdean, Sussex, died on 30th July, 1973. He was 74 years of age.

He enlisted in the Pioneer Corps in October 1939 and served with them until his discharge in April 1940. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1952. After preliminary training, Mr. Jessup worked for a short time in a factory but unfortunately, due to ill health, he had to give up employment. He and his wife settled in Enfield, Middlesex, where he lived in semi-retirement until the death of his wife in 1970, when he went to live at Northgate House. Mr. and Mrs. Jessup had few relatives but he leaves a brother-in-law, Mr. A. E. Mansfield, and other members of his family.

John T. Illingworth. *Somerset Light Infantry.*

John T. Illingworth of Rochdale, Lancs., died on 6th August, 1973, at the age of 77 years of age.

He enlisted in the Somerset Light Infantry in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1928.

After training he set up as a Boot Repairer and mat maker. However he was eventually forced to give up his business because of his ill health. He then occupied himself by making wool rugs and keeping poultry. In 1942 he commenced work in industry and he continued with this for a few years before his health again forced him to retire. On retirement Mr. Illingworth interested himself in his garden and string bag and wool rug making.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Deborah Illingworth, and his daughter, Edna.

Charlie Roach. *5th Durham Light Infantry.*

Charlie Roach of Darlington, Co. Durham, died in hospital on 4th August, 1973. He was 74 years old.

He enlisted in the 5th Durham Light Infantry in 1915 and served with them until January 1917 coming to St. Dunstan's in April of that year.

After training he took up poultry farming and he continued with this work for many years, he also bred pigs and kept a few sheep. During and after the Second World War he occupied himself by making wool rugs and string bags and he had many hobbies including gardening, woodwork and reading Braille. He never lost his interest in poultry farming and found time to lead a very active social life in the community and social work as Vice-Chairman of the local Blind Club. He suffered the loss of his wife in 1966.

He leaves a niece, Mrs. Appleton, and relations and friends.

Albert Edward Kett, D.C.M., M.M. *Norfolk Regt.*

Albert Edward Kett, of Norwich, Norfolk, died at his home on 18th August, 1973. He was 81 years of age.

He enlisted in the Norfolk Regiment in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. Mr. Kett suffered mustard gas poisoning during his service in the 1st World War but it was not until 1955 that his vision failed altogether and he came to St. Dunstan's. His health at that time was not good and this prevented him from undertaking any type of hobby occupation.

Mr. Kett was already a widower and was cared for by his niece, Mrs. Hawes. In later years he unfortunately became housebound but he derived much pleasure from the company of his young great-nephew, Colin Hawes. Mr. Kett became more seriously ill in July but, as always, was cared for devotedly by Mrs. Hawes until the time of his death.

He leaves his niece, Mrs. Hawes and her son, Colin.

Henry (Harry) Nelson. *Machine Gun Corps.*

Henry (Harry) Nelson, of Bakewell, Derbyshire, died on 28th August, 1973 whilst staying at Northgate House, Rottingdean, Sussex. He was 90 years of age.

He enlisted in the Machine Gun Corps in 1916 and served with them until he was wounded at Arras in July 1917 and was finally discharged in December of that year. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 and trained in poultry farming. He started off with an acre of land and did very well in this occupation, gradually building up his stock of poultry. However, in 1926 Mr. Nelson disposed of most of his stock and concentrated on gardening and greenhouse work. He found this a most absorbing occupation and continued with it for many years. Later in life Mr. Nelson busied himself mainly in his greenhouse, in which he took great pleasure.

He always enjoyed very good health but unfortunately suffered an illness in April last and went to Northgate House for nursing care. He did have a very brief spell back at home in August but it was at Northgate House that he passed away peacefully on 28th August.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Alice Nelson, a daughter, Eileen and a married son, Randolph.

Albert Taylor. *4th Worcester Regiment*

Albert Taylor of Stourbridge, Worcs. died at his home on 7th September, 1973. He was 77 years of age.

He enlisted in the 4th Worcester Regiment in 1916 and served with them until his discharge in 1919 coming to St. Dunstan's in the same year. He was wounded at Menin Road in September 1918. On joining St. Dunstan's he trained and settled in boot repairing and clog-making. He concentrated mainly on the latter and built up a very good trade. This continued right up until 1939 when there was a decline in the demand for clogs and Mr. Taylor turned to mat-making as an additional occupation until the clog trade picked up again. He disposed of his business and retired in 1946, taking up greenhouse work which, with his garden, he found a rewarding hobby. In addition he undertook some string-bag making.

His wife passed away in 1966 and his daughter, Noreen, and her husband, gave up their home to look after her father and have cared for him ever since.

Mr. Taylor kept fairly well for his age but unfortunately became ill in July and had to spend a period in hospital. Sadly his health continued to deteriorate and he died at his home.

He leaves three grown-up children.

Arthur Leslie Young. *Royal Engineers.*

Arthur Leslie Young of Harrow, Middlesex, died at Northgate House, on 3rd August, 1973, three weeks before his 70th birthday.

He enlisted in the Royal Engineers in 1940 and served with them until his discharge in 1941. He did not come to St. Dunstan's until March 1973. Following his discharge from the Army he worked for some years before his health deteriorated and he came to St. Dunstan's. He has been in very poor health and since June of this year has been nursed at Northgate House where he passed away.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Florence Mary Young, his three daughters and son Colin and their respective families.