



St Dunstans
REVIEW
MARCH



Charles Stafford, centre, St. Dunstan's Standard Bearer, with Eddie Robinson, National Standard Bearer, and, right, Rex Williamson, Headquarters Standard Bearer of the Royal British Legion.

On facing page: a facsimile of the cover of the Order of Service.

FRONT COVER: *St. Dunstaners and escorts, members of the staff, friends of Lord Fraser from every walk of life crowd through the Great West Door of Westminster Abbey for the service of Thanksgiving for Lord Fraser's life and work.*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY



SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

for the Life and Work of

IAN FRASER

LORD FRASER OF LONSDALE,
C.H., C.B.E.

1897—1974



Tuesday

4th February 1975

at 12 noon



NOW LET US GIVE THANKS . . .

Above Westminster Abbey the Union Flag flew at half mast. Inside, the vaulted stonework rang with the clear notes of the Last Post sounded by Trumpeters of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. For the congregation of some 2,000 people this morning, towards the end of the Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Fraser of Lonsdale was an emotional one. Yet in many ways this cold, grey morning of 4th February was not a sad one.

There was the feeling that this service was being held in the setting which Lord Fraser would have wished, close to the Houses of Parliament he knew so well. There was the knowledge that among those gathered to do him honour were many whose presence he would have valued most highly.

Lady Fraser, with members of her family around her; Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman, with Mrs. Garnett-Orme and Col. Sir Michael Ansell, Vice-Chairman, with Members of St. Dunstan's Council.

H.M. Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat. The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd attended as did Mr. Edward Heath with eminent Parliamentarians of both Houses who knew Lord Fraser in the Lords and as Sir Ian Fraser, M.P.

Ambassadors were there and High Commissioners with other members of the diplomatic corps; those who knew and worked with him in the blind world in this country and internationally; those who were his colleagues in business and one whose presence was a link over nearly sixty years, Brigadier A. J. Hardy, representing the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, Lord Fraser's old regiment.

The people whose presence he would have valued most after his family, were some 600 St. Dunstaners with their escorts who, not long before, had descended from their motor coaches or other transport to form two long and slowly moving lines of people converg-

St. Dunstaner, Stewart Spence, in formal highland dress, entering the Abbey.

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Our new Chairman, with Mrs. Garnett-Orme, enters the Abbey among his St. Dunstaners.

ing on the Great West Door to take their places in the magnificent setting of the Abbey, decorated that morning with flowers, and appropriately, Flanders poppies.

In a pool of golden light around the altar the main parts of the ceremony were conducted by the Dean of Westminster. Through the lamp-lit choir and out to the grey areas of the nave and transepts voices were raised in Lord Fraser's favourite hymns, To Be A Pilgrim, Lead Kindly Light and Onward Christian Soldiers. Over all watched the marble statues of the Abbey.

Early in the service three Standards, the Union Flag, Royal British Legion H. Q. Standard and St. Dunstan's Standard were carried to the Sacrarium to be received by the Chaplain of Westminster Abbey. St. Dunstan's standard bearer was Charles Stafford, of Kings Langley, Herts.

Mr. Christopher McDonald, a grandson of Lord Fraser, read the Lesson, Revelation XXI 1-7. The Address was given by Lord Redcliffe-Maud, Master of University College, Oxford, High Bailiff of Westminster and, of course, a Member of

St. Dunstan's Council. Robed and speaking from the pulpit, Lord Redcliffe-Maud's perceptive remarks obviously struck many chords with the congregation.

Prayers were led by the Precentor and Sacrist of Westminster Abbey, the time-honoured responses seeming particularly appropriate as were the special prayers: "We give thanks to thee for thy servant Ian, remembering his love of family life and friends, his steadfastness and courage in overcoming handicaps, his long years of public service and his work for St. Dunstan's and the Royal British Legion."

Finally the procession from the Abbey to the music of Franck's *Pièce héroïque* in the massive tones of the organ played by Douglas Guest, Organist and Master of the Choristers of Westminster Abbey and to the Abbey's bells. Truly not a Memorial Service but one of Thanksgiving. For it cannot be said of many men, as Lord Redcliffe-Maud said in his Address, "The world will never be quite the same as if Ian Fraser had not lived and learnt the mystery of the road of suffering."

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Lord Redcliffe-Maud in Dean's Yard, outside the Abbey.

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, right, arriving with his Secretary, Brigadier N. E. Short.



IAN FRASER

An Address by
LORD REDCLIFFE-MAUD

*Nothing is here for tears; nothing to wail
Or knock the breast; no weakness, no
 contempt
Dispraise or blame; nothing but well
 and fair
And what may quiet us in a death so
 noble.*

Milton had been completely blind for twenty years when he wrote those lines, just three centuries ago. They come from a poem, about a blinded soldier, which is the finest testament I know to man's conquest of despair and his capacity for resurrection. They say exactly what I feel about Ian Fraser this morning, and though he might shrug some of them off as going a bit far, he would like the last line—"what may quiet us in a death so noble"—for he always regarded worry and fuss as great enemies, and he would like us to take his death quietly.

Scottish Descent

He was proud of his Scottish descent, and especially of a turbulent ancestor Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, who was hung drawn and quartered for his part in the 1745 Jacobite rebellion; and someone who knew Ian intimately as a boy is probably right in thinking that the Fraser motto 'Je suis prest' (I'm ready) sums up what was one of his great qualities from the start, at Marlborough College and at Sandhurst: his immediate and sometimes fanatic readiness to help anyone in trouble.

In 1916 it was his King and country that needed help. Off he goes, with the King's commission, to lead his men into the Battle of the Somme. And before his nineteenth birthday he knows that he's totally blind for life: the sniper's bullet in the eyes has just failed to kill him but it has finished the career of his first choice—just when the regiment needed help from a fully-trained born leader of men.



Lord and Lady Fraser on a visit to Morecambe in his Parliamentary constituency.

Now, at eighteen, he must start to learn something quite new and appallingly difficult: the art of letting *other* people help *him*. He learnt it. And characteristically he went on at once to the next stage: the art of *helping* other people to help him. When we come to a road-crossing and there happens to be a stranger there, waiting like us for a break in the traffic, and he happens to be blind—don't ask "Can I lead you across?" Wiser, says Ian, to say "Let's cross the road together".

Then he goes on to talk about the crucial relationship between the handicapped person and his guide: "I find it best", he says, "to take hold of his or her arm, rather than have the guide take *my* arm. That means, you see, that you are always a few inches *behind*, and if a step is coming from the pavement down to the street, the guide will take the step a split second before you have to, and you're warned that it's coming".

Well, there we have the chief secret of his success story—and perhaps the first

thing which his friends want to thank God for this morning. He found the perfect guide. He fell in love, at first sound of her (to use his own words), with the girl who wore the smoothest and most beautiful kid gloves that he had ever felt. And she married him. *He* took *her* arm. For all his unquenchable instinct for leadership, he schooled himself to be always just a few inches behind. For all her infinite respect for him, she took each step a split second before he had to. And the consequence was (to quote his words again): they lived happily ever after.

She had been nurse, reader and guide to Sir Arthur Pearson, the Founder-Chairman of St. Dunstan's; so it was Sir Arthur from whom Ian Fraser inherited her. It was Sir Arthur too who gave Captain Fraser his first job on leaving hospital—and who died a few years later, to be succeeded by Captain Fraser, aged 24, as Chairman of St. Dunstan's. So thank God this morning for Sir Arthur Pearson: for the twin blessings that he



Lord and Lady Thorneycroft.

brought to Ian (his wife and his first job), and for the half-century of blessings that have followed for the rest of us.

When a brave thoroughbred steeple-chaser has a brave rider with highly sensitive hands, there's no stopping them. There was certainly no stopping the Frasers. One fence after another, regardless of the occasional stumble. There was the *personal* fence—Ian Fraser learning to do without sight, and instantly starting the life-long St. Dunstan's job of helping others to do without sight (he stayed Chairman till he died). Then, only a year later, the *political* fence—into the London County Council at 25, and into the House of Commons at 27, with 28 years ahead of him as an MP and sixteen more in the House of Lords; fighting for the ex-servicemen whatever Government was in office; with a leading role in establishing an independent British Broadcasting Corporation, and some splendid election fights in St. Pancras ("Don't you suffer from the delusion, my friend", he said to one heckler, "that I can't see right through you"). Then, when he loses an election in 1929 and looks round for another

fence to jump, he goes for the Inner Temple and a year later—over all the law exams and called to the Bar.

But no—instead of practising as a barrister (he would have become a QC and a judge in record time), back to the House of Commons and the B.B.C. And what next? Over the big business fence now, in Britain and South Africa, with directorships ahead of him and chairmanships galore. None of these posts, mark you, *because* he was blind but because he *beat* blindness, by ruthless self-discipline, by exploiting a marvellous memory, and by endless methodical work.

How did he achieve all this? Chiefly, I think, through the near perfect understanding between the two of them, the husband and the wife: that was the common factor in this astonishing series of successes, in private enterprise and so many kinds of public service. But what were the secrets of Ian's personal contribution to the partnership?

Well, he *laboured*, night and day, with a fierce concentration of courage and ambition. "There's no discouragement Shall make him once relent His first avowed intent". And that intent was to *help*.

Giant temptations

"No foes shall stay his might, Though he with giants fight"; the giant temptations of self-pity, impatience, ill-temper, sleeplessness. He never stopped casting away these *works of darkness*, treating the giants in the path as fancies that must be made to flee away—and now they have fled.

But he not only cast away the works of darkness: he never stopped putting on the *armour of light*: the armour of compassion, hopefulness, zest for life. Of course he was deadly serious about any *work* he had to do. But he was also gay, un-pompous, light-hearted. He rejoiced in family life (and was pleased as Punch when his grandson got an Oxford doctorate). Wonderful parties they were when the Frasers entertained their friends—no fuss, but every detail meticulously planned. And he loved smoking room gossip (red, white *and* blue) in both Houses of Parliament, and especially with political opponents. He loved riding



A FEATHER IN HIS GLENGARRY.

"PUNCH," MARCH 7, '34.



Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman, has a word with Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, Vice-Chairman, after the Service.

Mr. Nigel Pearson, Member of St. Dunstan's Council, who also represented his father, Sir Neville, our President.



across the veld in the sunshine of South Africa. He taught himself fly-fishing in his later years, and loved that. He enjoyed a game of bridge (provided no-one tried signalling under the table). And he loved argument.

How right that the man who spoke of him in Cape Town Cathedral the other day was Colin Eglin, not only Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's South Africa (of which Ian was the President), but also leader in the South African Parliament of the Progressive Party (whose only parliamentary representative till recently was Helen Suzman and whose multi-racial policy is a long way left of Ian's). How right that Colin Eglin should describe "this beloved Rooinek" as "one of the greatest men of the century", and should confess that in the last few days, since being asked to speak at the memorial service, he had been "chuckling with Ian Fraser" and imagining him laughing at himself and saying "Well, that damned Progressive has had the last word after all!" And how right that other recent tribute from South Africa: an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Stellenbosch—the one Afrikaner University now distinguished by a growing liberal spirit.

St. Dunstan's Top Priority

Five hundred years ago it was said of another great man, Sir Thomas More, what I say of Ian Fraser today: "As time requireth, a man of marvellous mirth and pastimes, and sometimes of a sad gravity". The gravity—the deadly seriousness—was there whenever it was needed, and that was most of the twenty-four hours. Of course it was St. Dunstan's and servicemen from all over the Commonwealth that got top priority. For Ian they were of a quite different order of importance from his business or political interests (and perhaps that was why he never became a Cabinet Minister).

He was never content with an achievement. "Lead, kindly Light"; yes, but "one step" was not enough for Ian: he *did* ask to see the distant scene. No one knew better than Ian the importance of the next step, but *one* step was never enough for him. His imagination was always peering ahead, and his realism



Lord and Lady Fraser at the christening of their great grand-daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth.

kept him constantly aware that new challenges would come—economic depression, mass unemployment, even another world war—so that money-raising and good husbandry for St. Dunstan's and the Royal British Legion must go on ceaselessly.

Yes, his gravity brings us back to the Samson of Milton's imagination: or, still further back, to the Homeric hero (and Homer, you know, is supposed to have been blind too). The dignity of those formidable good looks that wounds only made unforgettable. The gravity of the hero with responsibility for leadership. Brave, yes, and pretty tough, with no reluctance for a fight. But also forethoughtful, using the wiles of Odysseus—to get out of tight corners and round awkward ones—and his ingenuity too, to find new ways of helping the handicapped. Ian's flair for engineering and design drove him (as long ago as 1919) to drive the gramophone companies for fifteen years until 'talking books' became

available for the blind (and incidentally the first long-play records for all of us). 'Sonic spectacles' came next, and the 'Optacon', a device that turns ordinary print into a form that can be read by touch.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills". So indeed we should, if we have eyes to lift. But the achievement of Ian Fraser's life can be summed up like this: *he* lifted up the *loss* of his eyes, in bounden duty and service, day by day for nearly 60 of his 77 years of life. That living sacrifice was accepted and made creative of great good. It has put new heart into tens of thousands of the sightless (and the sighted) who came within its influence, and nothing will stop the good work now. The world will never be quite the same as if Ian Fraser had not lived and learnt the mystery of the road of suffering.

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things". I dare to say that Ian Fraser's inheritance is "that house where there is no darkness or dazzling but one equal light". Thanks be to God.

TRIBUTES

Among messages of sympathy received from civilian and war-blinded welfare organisations at home and abroad were:

Australia

"Our deepest sympathy from Blind Soldiers of St. Dunstan's, Australia."

Belgium

"The war-blinded remember with gratitude his devotion and innumerable services which he rendered them during the two World Wars."

Canada

"He was our good friend; we are the richer from his inspiration and leadership."

France

I send you the sincere condolences of the French War Blinded, and my deepest sympathy.

West Germany

"In true comradeship—from the German War Blinded."

New Zealand

"... a family of ex-servicemen throughout the Commonwealth who will mourn the loss of their leader."

South Africa

"Lord Fraser by his teaching and example showed us that there is still a full and meaningful life that a blind man can live."

Rhodesia

"St. Dunstan's in itself will provide a living memorial to its greatest member, leader and benefactor."

Representing overseas war-blinded organisations at the service in Westminster Abbey, together with their wives or other relatives were:—

Australia—Mr. W. Luck
Belgium—Baron de Kerchove Borluut
Canada—Mr. M. Carlton
France—Mons. H. Amblard
Germany—Herr Dr. F. Sonntag
New Zealand—Mr. J. May
South Africa—Mrs. F. Opperman

Memorial Service in Scotland

Scottish War Blinded Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen remembered Lord Fraser in a special service held at noon on 4th February at Linburn, the residential centre of the Scottish National Institution for the War Blinded, near Edinburgh. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Farquhar Lyall, Senior Chaplain, Scotland, the lesson was read by the Institution's Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. R. S. Ramsey, and the Tribute was by the Chairman, Mr. J. G. Osborne, O.B.E., who is also a member of the Council of St. Dunstan's

Mr. Edward Heath meets St. Dunstan's Bob Evans and his wife, Lynn.



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 661

MARCH 1975

5p MONTHLY

Message to the Staff of St. Dunstan's from Lady Fraser

I have asked the Editor of the *Review* to print this personal note because I want to thank all St. Dunstan's staff for their help in making the Service of Thanksgiving such a wonderful occasion. I wish I could thank you individually.

I do understand the enormous amount of work involved and I know how proud Lord Fraser would have been to see the efficient and thoughtful way everything was done. I am sure all St. Dunstaners and others present at the Abbey would wish to join me in sending grateful thanks to you all.

From Miss B. Bell, Ben Rhydding, Nr. Ilkley, Yorkshire

I feel sure I shall be speaking for all St. Dunstaners when I say how very much I appreciated the excellent arrangements made for us by Mr. Lloyds and his staff in connection with the Thanksgiving Service for Lord Fraser's life and work. Their preparations for our comfort and convenience must have meant a very great deal of forethought and consideration, hard work and intensive organisation on their part, with every possible contingency appearing to have been foreseen and catered for in advance. I am most grateful to them for their efforts on our behalf.

I thought too, that the service was so right, combining, as it did, a certain amount of ceremonial with sincere simplicity. It left us with a feeling of acceptance of the future and gratitude for the past, in place of the sense of deep sorrow and loss of the last few weeks. This must be as Lord Fraser would have wished, that we should go forward with confidence, not linger with regret.

REUNIONS—1975

All Reunions to be held at 12.15 p.m. for 12.45 p.m.

Date	Reunion	Hotel
Thursday, 17th April	Brighton Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Metropole
Thursday, 24th April	Liverpool Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Adelphi
Saturday, 26th April	Manchester Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Midland
Thursday, 15th May	Newcastle Mrs. Plaxton Miss Skinner	Royal Station
Saturday, 17th May	Sheffield Miss Broughton Miss Newbold	Royal Victoria
Saturday, 31st May	Bristol Miss Meyer Miss Newbold	Esso Motor
Saturday, 14th June	London (Central) Miss Davis Miss Newbold	Russell
Thursday, 26th June	Ipswich Mrs. Adkins Miss Davis	Copdock
Saturday, 28th June	Birmingham Miss Newbold Miss Broughton	Esso Motor Coventry
Thursday, 17th July	Southampton Mrs. Lyall	Polygon
Saturday, 19th July	London (Kent & Surrey) Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Russell

WAR PENSIONS

We reprint below an important letter on war pensions from **Colonel James Hughes, C.B.E., Chairman, Royal British Legion**, published in "The Times" of 5th February.

Pensions for war disabled

Sir,

There appears to be a determined effort by a small group of MPs during the discussion in Standing Committee of the Social Security Benefits Bill to persuade the government to introduce legislation which would result in disablement pensions and invalidity benefits being paid to all disabled on a scale based simply on degree of disablement. As a consequence the pension preferences, which have traditionally been associated with the war disabled, would be abolished. The Royal British Legion takes a very serious view of this.

We agree with the Disablement Income Group that all disabled and chronically invalided people, whatever the original cause of their handicap, should be given a "maintenance award". This maintenance award should be based simply on degree of disablement, and presumably in these days of means tested benefits would have to be related to some assessment of financial circumstances. We believe that war disabled pensioners should also qualify for this award as of right, in the same way as those disabled in industry, by traffic accidents, through illness, congenital defect, and so on. Such an award would, in my view, be seen as fair by the public at large.

However, if the state is to be fair to its war disabled it must not assume that in granting them a maintenance award as indicated above it would have discharged its responsibilities in full. Among the disabled and chronically sick are those who have become so because of the negligence or direct causal responsibility of others. Included in this group may be those disabled in industry and in traffic accidents and who have won compensation awards in courts, and the thalidomide children who have received compensatory grants from those who accept responsibility. It is significant that in these cases the state has not been involved and that

compensation comes from other than government sources, but if the state should be negligent, it can also be sued by its employees disabled as a result of that service—with one notable exception, namely service in the military forces of the Crown.

Unlike other employees servicemen are not protected by the safety standards required by the Factory Acts; they have no rights under common law to sue their superiors for negligence, nor can they claim damages against the Crown.

Servicemen must serve when, where and how they are ordered. They must obey orders regardless of the personal danger involved. This possibility is not restricted to war situations. The only year in this century when British servicemen were not killed in conflict situations was 1968, and tragically the situation still continues today in Northern Ireland. While some occupations like fire fighting, mining, police work and so on have dangerous elements, they do not include the deliberate exposure to danger because of the demands of the situation as is the case in military service. That is why military service is unique.

I would suggest that the government cannot have the best of both worlds. It cannot deny the disabled serviceman the right to sue it, and at the same time take away all war pension preferences. Such a procedure would be grossly unfair, and would single out the serviceman, among all employees, as one to be denied a compensation award against those responsible for his disablement.

In conclusion I would like to stress that nothing I have said detracts from the Legion's firm support for a fair deal for all disabled and chronically invalided persons, possibly through the payment of an adequate maintenance award.

Wendy, daughter of *Donald Groves*, Newbury Park, Essex, is to be congratulated on the result she obtained when taking part in the Redbridge Schools Elementary Piano Examination in July, 1974. Wendy came top of all the schools in the area with 93 out of 100 marks.

COMING EVENTS

Cader Idris Climb

For the second year in succession, Mr. R. O. L. Thomas, a Member of St. Dunstan's and a supporter for many years, has very kindly offered to organise a climb of the mountain Cader Idris (2927 ft.) by a party of five St. Dunstaners. The period will be Friday 6th to Monday 9th June. Overnight accommodation will be arranged at Dinas Mawddwy for St. Dunstaners and their wives.

The aim is to reach the summit of Cader Idris and although not particularly arduous, the climb would take up to two and a half hours and applicants should be fit. Strong boots or shoes fitted with studs or cleats are advisable. Escorts will be provided locally for the climb, some of these are between 20-30 years of age and would like to meet any St. Dunstaner in this age group.

Would interested St. Dunstaners please write to the *Review* fairly soon. Expenses will be covered.

Royal Tournament and Trooping the Colour

It is anticipated that we may be allocated tickets again this year for the Private View of the Royal Tournament at Earls Court on the afternoon of **Wednesday, 16th July**, and also for the Trooping the Colour Ceremony on **Saturday, 14th June**, in the morning.

Any St. Dunstaner who would like to apply for tickets should contact Miss Bridger by Monday, 14th April, please.

C. D. WILLS

H.M.S. Daedalus. Camp Week

St. Dunstan's Camp this year will be from **Friday, August 15th to Saturday, August 23rd**. Camp Fee £7.00. St. Dunstaners are asked to pay up to £3.00 of travelling expenses; any excess will be refunded. Please send your entries as soon as possible to: **Miss Elspeth Grant, 7, Craven Hill, London, W.2**. Telephone-Evenings 01-262 2723.

I have asked Miss Grant, whom you have met in Camp the last two years, to help me by taking entries.

AVIS SPURWAY.

NOT FORGOTTEN ASSOCIATION

Once again, in response to invitations kindly extended by Miss E. J. Seeley Organising Secretary of the "Not Forgotten Association", several St. Dunstaners and their escorts had the pleasure of joining other ex-Servicemen at the annual party held in the Royal Riding School, Buckingham Palace.

The Patron of the Association, H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent attended, accompanied by the Chairman, Major General G. M. Dyer, C.B.E., D.S.O. H.R.H. spoke to many of the guests personally and, this year conversed with almost every St. Dunstaner present.

Mr. George Eustace (who last year presented the Duchess with a bouquet) met H.R.H. again, as did Mr. R. G. Field. Among the newer St. Dunstaners who had the honour to meet the Duchess were Messrs H. J. Haskey of Harrow; W. S. J. Mead of East Ham; T. Slater of Bethnal Green; M. Eastwood of Sidcup; E. Philpot of Romford; A. L. Watson-Grafton of Kingsbury.

Messrs. E. Carpenter of Kings Langley; E. C. Corbettis of London; W. Crombie of Epsom; D. McGoohan of Tolworth were also present. Miss P. J. Rogers, Southern Area Superintendent, accompanied the St. Dunstan's contingent and introduced each St. Dunstaner to the Duchess.

H.R.H. spent extra time with Mr. and Mrs. Crombie and congratulated them on the success in life of their daughter, Dawn, who is also blind and a trained physiotherapist. Mrs. Crombie must have been the proudest mother present as she chatted happily to the Duchess of Kent about Dawn's marriage and the arrival of a new grand-daughter.

The guests were entertained by the orchestra of the Grenadier Guards and a number of well-known artistes, including Patrick Moore, Lulu, and Frankie Howerd amongst others.

Looking around at the smiling faces present, there was no doubt that this was a most happy and memorable occasion which will certainly give cause for reminiscence to all those St. Dunstaners who had been fortunate enough to attend.

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 1680

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich

by Alexander Solzhenitsyn

Trans. by Ralph Barker

Read by Anthony Parker

Reading Time 6½ hours

Ivan Denisovich is in the eighth year of a ten-year sentence for high treason, i.e. being taken prisoner by the Germans. His "One Day" begins just like any other day in January in the Siberian labour camp.

He is awakened with the rest before dawn. Breakfast consists, as ever, of thin soup, porridge and a hunk of black bread. Then the prisoners muster in the sub-zero temperature, to be counted and counted again and marched off to work, building a power station.

On the site the day proceeds quite normally. The guards are in the towers, tommy-guns at the ready, prisoners scrounge bits of wood to make illicit fires, dinner the same as breakfast. Everybody works with a will for rations are calculated strictly on the amount of work done.

"Home" in the fading light, to be checked and searched, a bowl of "skilly" for supper.

And so to bed. Just a normal day...

But not quite the same as other days. This one has been rather special for Ivan Denisovich. For a start there was that extra bowl of soup he had managed to filch on the work-site. His team-leader had successfully fiddled the work-sheet—that meant "good" food for the next four days. Then a fellow-prisoner who had had a food-parcel, had given him his bowl of soup. And to cap it all he had been able to buy tobacco from another prisoner.

He lies on his filthy sawdust mattress, his feet tucked into the sleeves of his jacket to ward off frostbite, a cigarette between his lips. He smiles. It has been a good day, a very good day! . . . "almost a happy day..."

The book is written in that matter-of-fact, low-key style which distinguishes Solzhenitsyn's work. The descriptions of life in a Soviet hard labour camp are graphic and starkly realistic.

Which isn't surprising. The author served eight years in this type of camp for the very serious crime of making derogatory remarks about Stalin.

Cat. No. 1483

The Penthouse Conspiracy

by Chapman Pincher

Read by George Hagan

Reading Time 8½ hours

Everybody's writing books these days, comedians, "TV Personalities", even Members of Parliament. So I was curious to find out what kind of a job a distinguished journalist would do.

The result is classic cloak-and-dagger, a stirring yarn of nuclear diplomacy, the "Balance of Terror" and skullduggery in high places. There is no violence, no hard-faced characters toting silenced automatics, no kidnappings—just plain straightforward gentlemanly double-dealing, better known by its modern title of International Politics.

All the right ingredients are here—Polaris Submarines, defecting Russians, secret messages in diplomatic bags, MI5, KGB, inter-departmental jealousies, lying and spying a-plenty. And it all sounds beautifully authentic. A journalist of the author's standing has many contacts to provide the background details. Indeed there is a long and impressive list of "credits" at the beginning of the book, including—would you believe?—the Pentagon!

And Mr. Pincher doesn't like international politicians very much either, it seems. In his book they appear as a sort of cross between the Mafia and the Third Form at St. Trinians—which is probably just about right.

Derby Sweepstake 1975

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

Tickets are 20p each, and applications for them should be made as soon as possible and will be received up to the first post on **Wednesday, 21st May.** Each application must bear the name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, and **with a stamped addressed envelope enclosed**, must be sent to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QN.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to St. Dunstan's and

READING TIME—continued

It's pure entertainment, a Bank Holiday stroll along the Corridors of Power—complete with distorting mirrors of course.

But, a little uneasily, I wonder just how distorted the image really is—how larger than life the characters?

Cat. No. 1100

Mistress to Kafka

by Margarete Buber-Neumann

Read by Gretel Davies

Reading Time 9 hours

During the war, whilst in Ravensbruck concentration camp, Frau Buber-Neumann met fellow-prisoner Milena, journalist and Czech patriot. A strong bond of friendship was formed and during the years of captivity, Milena's story gradually unfolded. On her release, the author decided to write this biography and sub-titled it "The Life and Death of Milena".

The daughter of a well-known Prague surgeon, her wayward and rebellious spirit often led to bitter quarrels with her father, mainly because of her non-conforming attitudes to social niceties.

She became one of the leaders of a

crossed. Loose money should not be sent unless it is registered.

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

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

50 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.

20 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.

10 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.

20 per cent to be divided equally among those drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

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

The Draw will take place in the London Club on the evening of Thursday, 29th May, the race being run on 4th June.

burgeoning Czech culture and made many lifelong friends among the writers and poets of the day. Her search for truth and fulfilment led her to Communism but the realities of the repressive cult sickened her and she rejected it.

She became a journalist of some eminence and when the Germans invaded Czechoslovakia, her uncompromisingly outspoken articles often got her into trouble with the Nazi authorities.

The wholesale persecution of the Jews soon followed and Milena joined an underground organisation, using her flat as a hideout for Jewish families and helping to plan their escape to freedom. Inevitably her daring and complete disregard for her own safety led to her arrest by the Gestapo. She was sent to Ravensbruck where eventually she died.

This is a sincere and moving story of heroism and great personal courage, set against the grim background of a Nazi death-camp.

However, I do have one small criticism. I felt the title was just a bit of a cheat. I had expected to hear far more about Franz Kafka, (one of the reasons I chose this book) but, alas, the gentle genius gets only a passing mention.

CLUB NEWS

BRIGHTON

The Annual General Meeting was held in December 1974. Among the guests we had the pleasure of receiving were Mr. D. Hopewell, Mrs. E. Dacre and Miss F. Ramshaw.

Officers

Mrs. E. Dacre President
Miss F. Ramshaw Vice President
E. Frearson Captain and Chairman
T. Kirk Vice Chairman

New Committee

T. Kirk
J. Walker
E. Quinn
H. Preedy

We have a full quota of Bowling matches in the coming season.

Those of you who live in the area are welcome to join the Club.

Mrs. Dacre very kindly presented the winners with their Cups and they were as follows:

Cribbage **W. Scott**
Whist **W. Scott**
Dominoes **T. Kirk**

MRS. RUFUS JONES
Hon Secretary.

MIDLAND

There was a very good attendance for our first meeting of 1975 which was held on Sunday, 12th January.

The draw was made for both of our domino knock-out competitions and for the darts competition.

As soon as tea was over we made a good start to the Sir Arthur Pearson knock-out, and quite a number of games were started, not all of them were completed but they will be at our next meeting.

Tea for this meeting was provided for us by Mrs. Connie Faulkner and we all thanked her for an excellent spread.

Our February meeting was held on Sunday, 9th February and once again it was well attended and we had an excellent meeting.

We had as our guests at this meeting

the members, with their wives, of the Building Sub-Committee of the Royal British Legion Headquarters. They contemplate carrying out reconstruction and decorating work throughout the club and came along to see whether there was anything that they could do to make things better and easier for our club when we held our meetings. I am pleased to say that they went away with one or two ideas which should help us eventually.

Our domino competition went along as usual and we were able to finish the first round of the Sir Arthur Pearson knock-out competition and we shall be making the draw for the second round next month.

I am still awaiting suggestions for this year's outing, and hope to get some ideas at our March meeting which will be held on Sunday, 9th March, at 3 p.m. If you are still toying with the idea of joining our Club, why not come along and join in our outings and other activities, you will certainly be made welcome.

The tea for the February meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Marjorie Hordyniec and she did a grand job for which we all thanked her.

We all thanked Miss Maisie Streets for all that she did for us regarding travelling arrangements on Tuesday, 4th February, when, as did so many other's St. Dunstaners we travelled to London for the Thanksgiving Service for Lord Fraser's life and work. Miss Streets arranged a reserved compartment for the Club so that we were able to travel together.

We all thought what a most impressive place Westminster Abbey is and we were all very pleased at being able to join in such a wonderful and moving service for such a great man.

DOUG CASHMORE
Secretary.

LONDON

Annual General Meeting

The 28th Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Club Rooms on Saturday, 1st February, 1975.

The Chairman, Bill Miller, outlined the activities of the Club during the past year and thanked the Committee for its services.

He said 1974 had been a satisfactory year for the London Club, but events away from the Club, notably the Bridge Congress, have not been as carefree. After having been postponed for some five months, due to delays in the work being done at Ovingdean, happily this problem has now been resolved and we are to hold the Congress at the Ocean Hotel, Saltdean, once again. Otherwise, Bill remarked, the Bridge Section enjoyed a very good year with Bob Evans, our Captain, continually trying out new ideas particularly on team selection. The know-how organising genius of Paul Nuyens continues to be invaluable in arranging the Harrogate Week, the Congress and the London Business Houses League events.

The Indoor Section is doing very well, Bill continued, attendances for Dominoes on Thursday evening had been good throughout the year. The Knock-out and Fives and Threes Competitions were held again and Roy Armstrong pulled off a double by winning them both.

Your Wives

Your wives, he said, are an essential part of the Club life and therefore, it is right that Mrs. Gladys Hancock should be able to keep a motherly eye on their interests. Judging from the number of wives that attend the London Club, she must be doing a very good job. Gladys won the 'Ladies' Domino Aggregate Competition, so congratulations and thank you for your help.

Swimming continued during the Summer months for those who wished to participate.

Bill finished his report by recording a large vote of thanks to Mr. Wills, whose generosity made it possible to keep up with inflation and thereby maintain a decent standard of prizes for all sections of the Club, and to Norman Smith for all the trouble he has taken, and given us, throughout the year.

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

In conclusion, he said on behalf of the Committee, we are happy to have served you in the past year and trust you will

BRIDGE NOTES

The second Individual Competition of the Brighton Section was held on Saturday, 1st February. The results were as follows:

J. Simmons and F. Griffee	81
W. Lethbridge and S. Webster	77
A. Dodgson and J. Whitcombe	66
R. Goding and W. Scott	62
R. Fullard and E. Bedford	57
C. Walters and W. Burnett	56
A. Smith and R. Bickley	53

The first Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday, 1st February. The results are as follows:

P. Nuyens and W. Miller	73
F. Dickerson and W. Phillips	73
J. Huk and J. Lynch	64
W. Allen and Partner	64
J. Padley and Miss Vera Kemmish	57
R. Evans and J. Majchrowicz	47

P. NUYENS,
Secretary.

34 Years with the Post Office

William Dunlop of Balcombe, Sussex, retired from the Post Office in November, 1973 after 34 year's service. He was a Senior Technician Class 1 and on the 12th December, 1974 he was presented with the Imperial Service Medal at the Telephone Manager's Office, Brighton.

CLUB NEWS—continued

continue to support the London Club in the future as you have done in the past.

In the absence of Mr. Wills the statement of accounts was read by N. Smith.

The Committee was re-elected in office for a further year.

The Domino Winners during the month of January were as follows:

9th January.	1. R. Armstrong
	2. G. Stanley J. Majchrowicz
16th January.	1. J. Majchrowicz
	2. R. Armstrong
23rd January.	1. C. Hancock
	2. J. Padley P. Sheehan
30th January.	1. W. Miller
	2. R. Armstrong

KEMP TOWN NOTES

January is, in general, an unlovable month. Festivities are but a memory, days are short, and Parkinson's law operates—as the bills pile higher, the bank balance sinks to an all-time low. Here in Brighton, gales howled, rain lashed the streets, and the sea heaved with anger. Numbers of both St. Dunstaners and staff fell by the wayside with 'flu and feverish colds, and social occasions had to be postponed. The only music to be heard was the wheezing of protesting lungs! However, everything passes — eventually — and towards the end of the month, steps lightened and quickened, and laughter grew in both frequency and volume.

During the whole of the month, the Theatre Royal presented "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat", which was much enjoyed. The music was delightful, the lyrics sparkled with it, and the whole company played with enormous zest and enjoyment, which it communicated to its audience.

Late in the month Mr. Tom Eales gave one of his beautifully arranged and produced record programmes. This took place in the Winter Garden, and was, as always, very popular. The weekly drives continued, and the more intrepid souls amongst us braved the wind and rain in order to enjoy tea and buttered scones in various parts of Sussex.

Thanksgiving—Brighton

On the day that the Thanksgiving Service was held in Westminster Abbey, the house was quiet. The thoughts of all were with Lady Fraser and all those privileged to be present, as members of the staff read the Order of Service to those unable to attend.

The last few days of the month were warm and bright—we resolutely put thoughts of Winter behind us, and cheerfully anticipate the Spring, that happiest of seasons.

TALKING NEWSPAPER

The Talking Newspaper for blind people living in Epsom and Ewell, which the Epsom Toc H branch was organising, is now a reality, with the first issue of the magazine being recorded last month.

Local news taken mainly from the Borough newspapers, is presented as a 40 minute recording on compact tape cassettes which are sent individually to listeners in returnable pouches through the post. St. Dunstaners who live in the Borough or who formerly lived there might like to get in touch with Mr. Brian Jones, 69, West Street, Ewell, Surrey, Tel. No. 01-393 2274 who would be pleased to help with any further information they may require.

WALKING CLUB NOTES

Although my notes on the walks at Ewell have been missing from the *Review* of late the races have been taking place as usual. The race on 25th January was rather quiet, but a very friendly affair. The course was over 5 miles 184 yards.

Result

Order of Finish	Handicap Time	Allowance	Actual Time
C. Stafford	49.58	10.30	60.28
R. Young	50.25	10.30	60.55
S. Tutton	50.48	8.30	59.18
J. Simpson	51.06	4.00	55.06
M. Tetley	52.07	5.00	57.07
D. Purches	54.30	.45	55.15
W. Miller	56.56	scr	56.56

The positions in points for the Archie Brown Cup after 3 races are:

C. Stafford	19 points
R. Young	17 ..
M. Tetley	17 ..
S. Tutton	15 ..
D. Purches	14 ..
W. Miller	13 ..
J. Wright	12 ..
J. Simpson	7 ..

W. MILLER



IT STRIKES ME

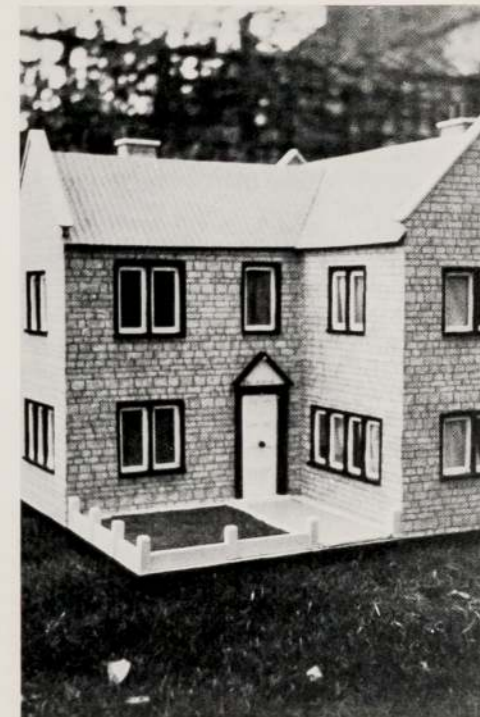
Physiotherapy Pioneer

In 1906, when **Albert Brown** was 21, King Edward VII was on the throne. Just before he was 30, he left his work as a clerk and enlisted in the 16th London Regiment, on New Year's Day 1915. The First World War changed irretrievably the world he grew up in— it also changed Albert's private world. He was wounded at Arras in 1917 and became one of the pioneer St. Dunstaners in the profession of massage—or physiotherapy as we know it to-day.

Albert Brown was 90 on 26th January but he was still practising as a physiotherapist up until last year. Over 55 years in his profession he has known the rough and the smooth. The early days were a struggle as he told me when I met him a few years ago, "Like Mr. Micawber, one waited day after day for something to turn up. I managed to get some patients from the War Pensions Committee at 1/6d a treatment for other ranks and 3/6d for officers." 7½p and 17½p per treatment! Times were hard then.

Happily, through his own initiative, his practice began to improve. To become known in Reading where he had moved from Bath, Albert worked free at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, "Patients were coming and going and they all lived in Reading. If you did any good to anybody, one recommended you to another."

By the late 1940's his practice was flourishing and he gave up a part-time hospital appointment but he was still regularly treating a few patients until August 1974. Certainly an outstanding record of service to others.



Ted Miller's Doll's House.

Mini Survey

Mr. Patrick Leonard Payne, of St. Dunstan's Estate Department was asked to survey a house recently. He wasn't surprised—it is the sort of thing he is asked to do regularly in the course of his work. His surprise came when he was shown the house—it was less than three feet high!

The doll's house was made to the design of St. Dunstaner **Ted Miller**, of Leamington Spa. It is "L" shaped with two bedrooms, bathroom, staircase and landing, kitchen, dining and sitting rooms and has electric lighting.

Mr. Leonard Payne is full of praise for the "architect" Ted, who lost his hands as well as his sight in the Second World War, but even more for the "builder", Ted's wife Iris, who not only made the house to Ted's instructions but also most of the furniture. As he says, "A remarkable family!"

Magog

New £10 Bank of England Note

A new £10 note, bearing a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen, was issued on Thursday, the 20th of February 1975, but it may be a few days before the new notes are available at branch banks throughout the country.

The new note, which measures approximately $3\frac{5}{16}$ " x $5\frac{1}{16}$ " (84.87 x 151 mm.) is shorter in height than the present £10 note, but of the same length.

The main design on the front, which is printed in brown, has the same portrait of Her Majesty the Queen in State Robes as is used on the £20 note. It also includes the text, a medallion of Britannia and areas of machine-engraved work in which appear the denomination.

The cypher and serial numbers of the note are in black near the top left and bottom right hand corners of the front of the note.

The main feature on the back, which is also printed in brown, is a new portrait of Florence Nightingale which has been specially created for the note from photographs taken on her return from the Crimea. In addition, the back includes a vignette printed in predominantly red and yellow tints and based on a lithograph of the time depicting Miss Nightingale at the Barracks Hospital, Scutari.

The watermark, which is on the left hand side seen from the front, is based on the same portrait head of Florence Nightingale. The paper also incorporates a thread to the right of the centre of the note.

The note has been designed by H. N. Eccleston, R.E., A.R.W.S., a member of the Bank's staff.

Life Member

Frank L'Estrange Fawcett got life in January. A certificate of Life Membership of the Royal British Legion in recognition of his services to the Stowmarket Branch. He is a founder member and has been President for the last 26 years.

Frank is also a County Vice-President of the Legion, whose National executive council awarded the certificate "for meritorious service". It is one of the highest awards the Legion can give to its members.

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.

Albert Tear, of Normanton, West Yorks, joined St. Dunstan's in January of this year. He served with the Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment during the 1st World War and is married.

Jack Robson Sinnett of Torquay, Devon, came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1975. He was commissioned and served with the Royal Artillery in the First War. He is a widower, his wife having died just about the time he became a St. Dunstaner, but he is very independent and manages in a flat on his own.

Reginald Springell, of Castleford, West Yorks, came to St. Dunstan's in January of this year. He served with the Royal Corps of Signals in the 2nd World War, and is married with two sons, one of whom is at Leeds University.

The Sunny Side of the Street

How many St. Dunstaners have a street named in their honour? In Gore, Southland, New Zealand there is a Johnston Street named after our St. Dunstaner, *Andrew Johnston*, who lives there at No. 51. The street was opened 18 years ago and has twice won the Town Borough Prize for being the tidiest street in 1972 and 1974.

Andrew, who is in his eightieth year, still runs a large vegetable garden and keeps his lawns cut. "Also I keep some poultry and have profited not a little from information gained in the class I attended at St. Dunstan's so many years ago." In fact it is over 56 years since Andrew began his training at St. Dunstan's and he writes: "As the years roll on I am increasingly thankful for all that I learned there and for the fellowship and friendship of so many comrades like myself, were much encouraged to face up to life with courage and assurance."

FAMILY NEWS

Marriages

The wedding took place on 4th January 1975, at St. Peter's, Bradford, between John Roderick Daborn, only son of *Mr. and Mrs. Tom Daborn* of Martinhoe, Devon, and Miss Maureen Casserly, eldest daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Edward Casserly* of Bradford.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Fensome of Warley, West Midlands, are pleased to announce the marriage of their son, David, to Barbara Smith on 25th January at St. Hilda's Church, Warley.

Mr. and Mrs. John Mulligan of Derrygonnelly, Co. Fermanagh, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Ann to Malcolm Loughlin on 15th December, 1974. The wedding took place at Mandeville, Jamaica, W.I.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rundle of Paignton, Devon, have pleasure in announcing the marriage of their daughter Geraldine Ruth to Peter Robert Shaw on 7th December, 1974.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

Max Ash of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, who is delighted to announce the safe arrival of grandson Leslie Paul, born on 20th December, 1974, to his son Steven and his daughter-in-law. This is his first grandchild.

Douglas Cashmore of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild, John Michael, born on 25th November, 1974, to his son John and daughter-in-law, Rita.

William Carr of High Wycombe, Bucks, has pleasure in announcing the birth of another grandchild, born to his son William (Billy) and his daughter-in-law, on 2nd January, 1975, who is to be called Nathan. He weighed nine pounds at birth.

Robert Forster of Leeds, who is proud to announce the birth of his first grandchild—a son Paul Robert, born on 23rd January to his son Ian and daughter-in-law Katherine.

Stanley Jones of Wembley, Middlesex, on the safe arrival of his first grandchild, Simon, born on 30th November, 1974 to his son and daughter-in-law, *Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jones*.

James Minter of Ruislip, Middlesex, has pleasure in announcing the arrival of his second grandchild, born to his daughter Gillian, on 14th December, 1974, who is to be called Mathew.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Ferdinand Bennett of Forest Gate, E.7, mourns the death of his mother on 11th February, 1975. Although Mrs. Bennett was over eighty she had only recently been admitted to a residential home due to failing health and up to this time they shared the family home.

William Henry Dudley of Horley, Surrey, whose son-in-law died after a long illness on 19th January, 1975, and we extend our sympathy to the widow, *Mrs. Davis*.

John Halsall of Bramhall, Cheshire, who mourns the death of his wife Mary Halsall, on 20th January, 1975.

Robert Stevens of Orpington, Kent, who mourns the death of his mother who died on 29th January, 1975 at the age of 84. Mrs. Stevens lived in Farnborough.

Harold Walden of Warley, West Midlands, who mourns the death of his mother who passed away in October, 1974, at the age of 69.

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.

Thomas Joseph Gearing. *Royal Warwickshire Regiment*

Thomas Joseph Gearing of Lewes, Sussex, died on 20th January, 1975. He was 79 years old.

He enlisted in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment during the 1st World War but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1972 when he had already retired as an Iron Moulder.

A few months later he suffered the sad loss of his wife but his daughter, Margaret, who had looked after both her parents in addition to her work in a hospital, continued to care for her father-assisted by her married brother and his wife who lived near by.

Soon after joining St. Dunstan's, Thomas increased his interest in gardening as a hobby and became a member of our Country Life section.

He leaves his two daughters, and his son-in-law, and his sister-in-law.

Herbert Lea. *177th Labour Corps.*

Herbert Lea of Hollywood, Birmingham, died at Northgate House, Rottingdean, on 4th February, 1975. He was staying there on a convalescent holiday after a spell of illness. He was 80 years old.

He enlisted in the 177th Labour Corps in March 1917 and was wounded in October 1917. On coming to St. Dunstan's he trained in boot repairing and mat making. He continued with both these occupations until 1930—he was, at that time, living in a rural area which did not provide much demand for his boot repairing so he gave this up to concentrate upon his mats until 1937 when he switched to rug making.

Over the years he had not very good health and Mrs. Lea also lost her sight but they shared many mutual interests and enjoyed attending social activities in their locality for as long as they were

able to and Herbert, quite frequently spent his holidays at Brighton. They moved from Derby to Birmingham, four years ago.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Nellie Lea and their family.

Thomas Frederick Lea. *Royal Military Police*

Thomas Frederick Lea of Brighton, Sussex, died suddenly at Pearson House, on 21st January, 1975. He was 32 years of age.

He enlisted in the Royal Military Police in 1961 and served with them in Northern Ireland when he was wounded by a booby trap explosion in May, 1974. Upon leaving hospital he went with very little delay into training at Pearson House, attending there daily from the home into which he and his family had moved at Preston Barracks in Brighton.

He was undoubtedly a man of great courage and was working very hard in his training. And he hoped in due course to take up Social Work and return to live with his family in his home town of Bootle.

He attended the Sports Meeting at Stoke Mandeville last year and he also came to London last November to take part in the Remembrance Parade.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Muriel Lea, a son, Anthony aged eight, and a daughter, Jennifer aged four.

He was given a military funeral in Bootle on 30th January at which Mr. Slade of the Pension Dept. represented St. Dunstan's.

Leslie John Shorter. *Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.*

Leslie John Shorter of Hove, Sussex, died on 8th February, 1975, very suddenly when he and his wife were out for a walk. He was 53 years of age.

He enlisted in the Territorials in August 1939 and served with them until his discharge in 1946. He came to St. Dunstan's six months later and after a period of training and rehabilitation he decided to become a poultry farmer and in 1950 he and his wife started a smallholding. From a small poultry stock he increased his holding to well over a thousand birds and with help and technical advice from our Country Life Department, labour-saving equipment was installed and the small holding flourished and the stock was further increased.

Unfortunately difficulties, which were common to most farmers, made it almost impossible for Mr. Shorter to continue to run his farm and after coping with an outbreak of fowl pest in 1964, he decided to change his occupation. He returned to the Ovingdean Training Centre and retrained as a telephonist. He was successful in finding employment in this capacity and was very happy working for a well-known Brighton Company at the time of his sudden and unexpected death.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Enid Shorter, and his son and daughter.