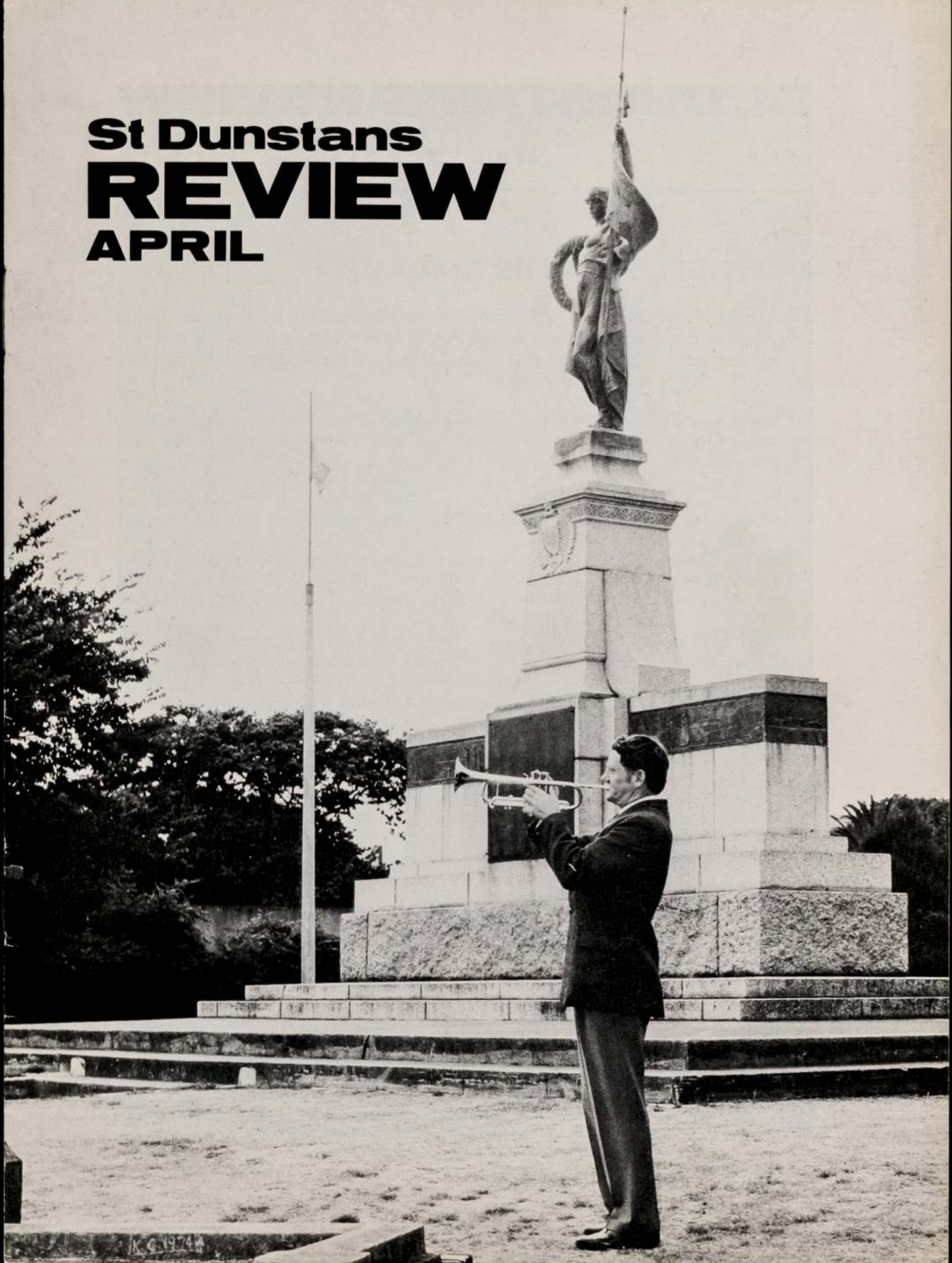


St Dunstons
REVIEW
APRIL



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 662

APRIL 1975

5p MONTHLY

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

After leaving Cambridge University, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme obtained employment in the City where he has worked for many years, a period broken only by service in the Welsh Guards during the Second World War. He is Chairman of Brown, Shipley & Company, Ltd., and a Director of other Companies.

Your Council has appointed me to be your new Chairman and I am most conscious, not only of the honour which this appointment has conferred, but also of the great responsibility which has been entrusted to me.

The whole-hearted support and assistance which I am receiving from members of the Council and from all those who work for St. Dunstan's, together with the many messages and letters of good wishes which St. Dunstaners have sent me, have been most encouraging and I am very grateful.

With the help of you all I shall do my best to serve St. Dunstan's and to carry on the great tradition of unique individual and personal assistance to St. Dunstaners which was initiated by our Founder and extended and altered to meet changing needs by Lord and Lady Fraser.

The very happy association which I have had with you all for the last seventeen years, most of that time in the capacity of your Honorary Treasurer, has brought me in close touch with Lord Fraser. I shall never cease to be grateful for this and for his wise advice.

The loss of his dedicated and outstanding leadership and the warmth of his personality and friendship must leave a gap in our lives which can never be filled: but happily Lady Fraser, with her great experience and wisdom, continues to devote herself unstintingly to the ideals of St. Dunstan's and to you all.

Each generation has new problems to face, and perhaps the greatest challenge of our times is the increasing rate of inflation. I know you will all share with me the concern which this is causing to each of us individually, and of course to St. Dunstan's also.

Some seven years ago I was appointed your Vice Chairman, and my wife and I have enjoyed meeting many of you at Reunions and at Pearson House and Ian Fraser House.

This year we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee and although it will not be possible for my wife and me to be at all the Reunions, we hope to see many of you again soon and I send my best wishes to you all and also to your wives and families.

Ion Garnett-Orme

COVER PICTURE: *Stuart Craig sounds the Last Post at the Cenotaph in Palmerston North during the St. Dunstan's, New Zealand, Blinded Servicemen's Association Reunion. (See centre pages).*

Opposite: *Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme*





MAYORESS ON REVIEW STAFF

For the past ten years Mrs. Caiger, formerly Miss Margaret Leslie, has been on the staff of our *Review*. Since April, 1974, she has been Mayoress of Spelthorne—a new borough formed through the combination of Staines and Sunbury-on-Thames—and in our photograph she is seen with her husband, the Mayor, Captain James Caiger.

AVIEMORE AND ME

by Joe Humphrey

Having had a very limited experience of ski-ing and snow, namely the deep soft Alpine variety at Courcheval, where Bill Phillips, Bill Claydon, Mike Tetley and I had acquitted ourselves reasonably well in March, 1972, where I learned that all snow was not only white but soft; I was slung in at the deep end at Aviemore in the Cairngorms for a week's training. At the end of the first lesson I knew that no longer did one's skis respond to one's instructions—in the Highlands it is every ski for itself—the ice was solid, the weather relentless.

On the intended departure date the telephone rang and Sport's Instructor, Jock Carnochan announced "The Trip is off, no snow in Austria". Wanting to honour my wife's arranged holiday after having seen me off, I bade her carry on and surveyed the Wintry scene from St. Dunstan's 152, Broadhurst Gardens, until four days later when the Austria party headed for Inverness. On the taxi ride from the Airport to the Hotel there was a

blizzard and we sucked our teeth with the joy of anticipation, but when the bus in front of us stopped, one descending passenger broke his ankle and the doorman who helped him broke his leg, so the enthusiasm started to wear a bit thin.

We spent our first day on the artificial slope whilst the sun and rain wreaked its own havoc with the real stuff. The next day we made for the heights, to be told that the Chair-lift was not working. So in spite of the fact that we were wearing our ski boots we decided to carry our skis and ski-sticks and climb—and climb—and climb—hours later we arrived.

And so we got to the summit—all Pack-ice, where the sun had melted the surface by day and the frost had frozen it solid by night. This meant instead of parallel ski-ing down the slopes, to which I had been accustomed, one had to traverse the slopes diagonally, since gravity would have made the descent too rapid going straight down, by travelling across the run the speed was reduced. A further difficulty

CLUB NEWS

LONDON

The Football Pontoon which ended on 15th February, 1975, was won by Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Padley whose teams were Stoke and Manchester City respectively. Our "booby" prize went to Miss Vera Kemmish with Notts County and Mrs. Meleson with Arsenal.

Now that April's here—and the weather more kind, St. Dunstaners who live in and around London and have not yet visited the London Club may be interested in our Domino and Cribbage Section. We also have a very active Bridge Club.

Our winners of the Domino Games in February were as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 6th February | 1. W. Miller
G. Stanley |
| 13th February | 1. J. Majchrowicz
2. W. Miller |
| 20th February | 1. L. Douglass
2. W. Phillips |
| 27th February | 1. R. Armstrong
P. Sheehan
J. Majchrowicz |

W. MILLER

AVIEMORE AND ME—continued

in these conditions was the stopping technique when one had to turn up the hill on the move, very difficult for the totally blind.

As the days progressed I began to feel more and more like a ball on a pintable, which instead of hitting pins—hit boulders, snow-fences, heather patches, and bare patches! Anyway we were not downhearted—if we were not ski-ing we were climbing either up or down, and every day we walked and had a swim.

I have been asked whether or not it is an enjoyable pastime for the totally blind to ski. I will admit that in the Alpine snow it was much more enjoyable. My thoughts in retrospect are that this was a tough and difficult course to handle, with all thanks due to two perfect escorts, Jock Carnochan and Paul James.

Bridge Drive

An especially warm welcome was given to those who had travelled a distance to be with us on the afternoon of Saturday, 8th March. Twenty St. Dunstaners with their friends and wives met in the Club Rooms for their Bridge Drive, making a total of ten tables.

On completion of the afternoon's play, Bob Evans welcomed Miss Mosley of the Headquarter's staff on behalf of the Club. Miss Mosley then graciously presented the prizes to the winners and stayed for some time after tea mingling and chatting with St. Dunstaners, their guests and their families.

We are again indebted to Mrs. R. Armstrong for her help in the selection and buying of the St. Dunstaners' prizes.

Winners of the bridge drive were as follows:

1. J. Lynch and Mrs. Lynch
2. R. Armstrong and Mr. Jack Armstrong
3. J. Carney and Mr. E. Webster
4. H. King and Mrs. King

P. NUYENS,
Secretary.

MIDLAND

Our March meeting was rather poorly attended due to one member or another having other commitments, and, as the weather conditions were appalling, this may have kept others away.

We therefore were unable to play off any of our competitions and we could not even make the draw for the second round of the Sir Arthur Pearson knock out competition as a game was still outstanding from the last round.

Nevertheless it was an enjoyable meeting and we were able to discuss and make a decision on our summer outing. It was decided that we should pay a return visit to Southport as everyone had enjoyed it so much last year. The date arranged for it is Sunday 15th June and it was decided that all members should get their own meals during the day, thus reducing the cost to the club.

KEMP TOWN NOTES

In common with the rest of us, the world of the theatre seems to be feeling the bite of inflation, for during February two one-man shows visited the Theatre Royal. The first was given by Emyln Williams reading from the works of Charles Dickens. The second was "A Funny Kind of Evening with David Kossof". Whilst appreciating the talents of both actors, it must be said that it demands an extraordinary personality to hold an audience for two hours, and such actors are rare indeed.

On the home front, Sunday evening entertainments took place in the Winter Garden. Wally Muspratt brought his warm personality, pleasant voice and his company of "Four in Harmony", and the audience much enjoyed joining in the choruses of the old songs. Our old and valued friend Miss Eve King joined the cast of V.A.D.'s who performed three one-act comedies, which caused much hilarity—some of it unpremeditated!

To say that our postman was weighed down with Valentine cards on February 14th would be an exaggeration. In fact it would be a downright lie. But there were certainly a few pleased smiles in evidence around Pearson House on that day. Vive l'amour!

Toward the end of the month, BBC T.V. ran a documentary film of great interest to all who have an affection for Brighton. It concerned the efforts of various people

MIDLAND CLUB NOTES—continued

Mrs. Olwyn Rea should have prepared the tea for this meeting but owing to one of her children going sick at the last moment she had to stand down, although she had already bought all the necessaries for the meal, and so Mrs. Joan Cashmore stepped in and picked everything up from Mrs. Rea's home and laid the tea on for us, so our thanks go to both of these ladies for arranging a very fine spread.

DOUG CASHMORE,
Secretary.

to ensure the preservation of the West Pier, which suffered extensive damage more than a year ago. The cost of restoration would be very large, but seen against the background of the cost of building the Marina, and taking into account the great affection for the pier felt by so many, perhaps the money would be well spent. A strong case was put by St. Dunstaner Ken Revis, who lost his sight whilst dismantling a mine on the pier. He described most vividly the last place he saw, and one hopes that such an eloquent and sincere plea will not pass unheeded.

Our regular Dances, Bingo and Domino sessions took place, and record concerts were given by V.A.D.s Mrs. Exley and Mrs. McMaster, which were much enjoyed. The month ended with a real feast for music-lovers at the Dome—a recital by Arthur Rubinstein, followed two days later by a concert given by John Lill and the London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Eugeny Svetlanov. Any feelings that one might have had about the concert—or anything else for that matter!—being an anticlimax after Rubinstein, were completely dispelled. In their totally contrasting ways, both were superb. A wonderful end to the month!

STAFF OBITUARY

Mr. Frederick John Grover

Those St. Dunstaners who were trained as Boot Repairers will be sorry to learn of the death of *Mr. Grover* on 3rd March at the age of 71 years. Mr. Grover was one of three Boy Scouts who acted as escorts during the early years of St. Dunstan's in Regents Park and later joined St. Dunstan's staff. He was an Instructor in the Boot Department from 1919 to 1925. He re-joined St. Dunstan's in 1940 but was called up soon after. On his demobilisation he became a Technical Visitor in the Boot Department until his retirement in 1968. We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Grover.

THE LATE DUKE OF NORFOLK

Following the death of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., on 31st January, our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme expressed condolences to the Duchess in a letter which we print below together with her reply. The Duke had been a Vice-President of St. Dunstan's since April 1970.

31st January, 1975

My dear Duchess,

On behalf of all St. Dunstaners I write to bring you and your family our deepest sympathy in your great sadness.

In addition to being one of our Vice-Presidents for many years the Duke always had a close personal interest in the welfare of St. Dunstaners at Pearson House and Fraser House, whilst the visit to Arundel Castle when you entertained the handless is remembered by them with the greatest pleasure.

He will be sorely missed by us all,

Yours sincerely,
Ion Garnett-Orme.

18th February, 1975

Dear Mr. Garnett-Orme,

Thank you for your very kind letter with its condolences from St. Dunstan's on the death of my husband.

He was very honoured, I know, to become a Vice-President, and had always taken the keenest interest in the affairs of the Company. We were glad to have Pearson and Fraser House so near us and enjoyed the visits St. Dunstaners made to the Castle.

Please thank everyone for me.

Yours sincerely,
Lavinia Norfolk.

LONDON CLUB Derby Day 1975

As our costs regarding coach and other necessary expenditures have almost doubled in the past year, and also taking into consideration the poor response from St. Dunstaners in the past two years to participate in our Annual Derby Day, we have reluctantly decided that to arrange a similar outing this year would prove economically impossible.

TAPE-RECORDING SERVICE

This service aims to help visually handicapped persons to follow their occupations, studies and hobbies, by giving them access to letterpress material via the tape-recorder. Volunteer readers will record on tape or cassette anything from knitting patterns to University courses, refusing only political papers and books already available from the R.N.I.B. The service also provides library facilities, offering a selection for children and a non-fiction section.

For further details, send a stamped addressed envelope to **Mr. Charles Cadwell, Secretary, Tape Recording Service for the Blind, 48 Fairfax Road, Grange Estate, Farnborough, Hants,** or telephone evenings and weekends, Farnborough 47943.

DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

The Closing Date of the Derby Sweepstake is Wednesday, 21st May.

Tickets are 20p each, and are limited solely to St. Dunstaners or St. Dunstan's trainees.

Each application must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

The name and full address of the sender, together with the number of tickets required, should be sent, with the stamped addressed envelope, to the Editor, D.S.S. Dept., *St. Dunstan's Review*, P.O. Box 58, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QN.

The Draw will take place at the London Club on the evening of Thursday 29th May. All those drawing a horse will be notified.

FAMILY SUCCESS

John, son of *Paul Baker* of Sidmouth, Devon, has now secured a place at Magdalen College Oxford, and will be reading Chemistry. He passed all the necessary examinations and interviews before he was seventeen and a half.

Janet, *Paul Baker's* daughter has now embarked on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, and has obtained her Bronze and Part I of her Silver has been accepted.



Mount Ruapehu, seen from the Desert Road, North Island, New Zealand.

VISIT DOWN UNDER

Between 14th January and 8th February Mr. Michael Delmar-Morgan, our Hon. Treasurer, accompanied by his wife, visited blinded ex-servicemen's organisations in Australia and attended the Triennial Reunion of St. Dunstaners in New Zealand. We give below some salient points from Mr. Delmar-Morgan's report to the Council of St. Dunstan's.

AUSTRALIA

We visited three cities in Australia, Perth (Western Australia), Melbourne (Victoria), and Sydney (New South Wales). In these cities there are active Associations, all of whom have now included St. Dunstan's in their title. Indeed at two of our meetings we were

presented with the new St. Dunstan's Australia badge. One badge was passed on to the New Zealanders, and one badge was brought home.

In each state we found excellent organisations, and happy members. Throughout, the Officials of the Associations were in direct contact with the relevant sections of their respective state governments. In general the Australian Welfare Trust Board provided financial support, particularly directed to the improvement of members homes. Generally speaking there seems to be a very adequate state pension for retired ex-servicemen, and those incapacitated receive a number of exceptional privileges viz. domestic rates at 50% (and wholly

free in a number of cases), free electricity and travel, plus free medical attention. Altogether some very considerable benefits in these days of escalating costs.

Perth—We were entertained to tea by the West Australian Association at the Kings Park Tea Rooms on Thursday, 16th January (we arrived in Perth at 3 a.m. that morning on a direct "Jumbo" flight from London. It had been a fifteen hour flight with a nine hour time change). The Tea Rooms were located high on a hill in the main city park and botanical gardens, and looked down over the expanse of the Swan River as it curled its way through the city—a remarkable view. There were present about twenty blinded ex-servicemen, together with their wives and their President, Mr. Jim Ward, and their sighted Secretary, Mr. Frank Wooller (personnel manager of a city departmental store). Also present was Alan Dean (trained in U.K.) and his

wife, whom we had met on our previous visit three years ago in Melbourne. There was an article about him in the February issue of the St. Dunstan's *Review*.

Melbourne — We were delightfully dined by the Officials of the Melbourne Association at the new Naval and Military Club on the evening of Monday, 20th January. Present were the President and his wife, Colin and Elizabeth Johnston, the Secretary and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Longden, and two Vice Presidents, Mr. and Mrs. Len Johnstone and Mr. Don Westaway. Don works for the Australian Guide Dogs Training Centre in Melbourne, which had been the location of the reception they had given us on our previous visit.

Sydney—We flew north to Sydney over lunch time on the following day, Tuesday, 21st January, and arrived at the Returned Servicemen's League Club in Ashfield—a western city suburb—at 6.30 p.m. We

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Delmar Morgan with members of the St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association and visitors at the Reunion.



spent the evening with the members, a number of whom we had again met on our previous visit. It was pleasant, however, to be able to talk to one new member whose sight had only recently completely failed. The majority of those members present, numbering about twenty together with their wives, were pensioners and they included the Federal President, the Federal Secretary and the State President. We had the pleasure of meeting one of the Directors of the Welfare Trust Board who provides financial assistance throughout Australia to all incapacitated ex-servicemen, in particular the blind. Mr. W. H. Luck, the Federal President, and his wife represented Australia at Lord Fraser's Memorial Service. They were responsible for designing the new St. Dunstan's Australia badge, and they are currently

NEW ZEALAND

We flew the 1,400 miles from Australia to New Zealand on Friday, 24th January, landing at Wellington in the evening after yet another time change and a loss of two hours. We travelled to Palmerston North in the North Island for the St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association Reunion and arrived at the Fitzherbert Motor Inn, Palmerston North, on the Saturday morning. This was to be our base for the three days of the Conference. The Motel is very modern and comfortable and owned by Dominion Breweries, the main New Zealand brewing group; its setting was ideal and its layout perfect for the thirty St. Dunstaners and their wives and/or families who were present.

Triennial Reunion

The New Zealand Reunion is held triennially and in the past it has been very much a family affair with members bringing their wives, children, guides etc. This Reunion was no exception, except that the children of those serving in the last war had in the main spread their wings and were busy raising families of their own.

It was a hectic few days, beginning with a formal lunch at the Motel, followed by an evening of entertainment

organising the forthcoming Blinded Ex-Servicemen's Triennial Conference in Sydney.

Australia is such a vast continent that the State Associations play an exceptionally important role in the administration and welfare of their members. I have to say that thanks to a number of very dedicated blinded members and sighted administrators, they seem to succeed very well.

The majority of the members do not identify themselves very closely with St. Dunstan's in England since so many of them have been trained in Australia. It is, therefore, only a few who take a close personal interest in the affairs of St. Dunstan's U.K. because of their military service connections, and training at Brighton.

at the local Returned Servicemen's Association Club. A wreath laying ceremony was held at the town cenotaph the following morning, when I laid a wreath on behalf of St. Dunstan's U.K. The ceremony was noted for an excellent rendering of the Last Post, played by St. Dunstan's, Stuart Craig, on a trumpet. This was followed by Sunday Lunch at the Commercial Travellers' Club, and a bus trip into the country to visit the beautiful park-like garden of a farming property, owned originally by an early settler, and now by the New Zealand equivalent of the National Trust. We visited Massey College, the famous Agriculture University of New Zealand, and we also saw in the distance the Volcano, Mount Ruapehu, very snow-capped, even in mid-summer, and rising ten thousand feet into the sky from a flat plateau—it was a most impressive sight.

Conference Morning

Monday morning was Conference morning, and the Reunion terminated at lunch time that day. The weather had been very kind, with sunny days, temperatures in the low eighties, not too hot for the more elderly, first world war St. Dunstaners.

It was a delightful Reunion, thoroughly

well organised by the President and Secretary (both partially sighted) and yet disarmingly informal. There must have been at least eighty people in all, including wives, children, helpers, and representatives from the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board, the Commercial Travellers' Association and the Returned Servicemen's Association. The most striking feature of the members was their deep loyalty to Britain. A small number of them had been trained in England and one of them had been at the original St. Dunstan's in Regents Park, but they all seemed to have connections with members or staff in the organisation in England and many of them had met Lord and Lady Fraser during visits to England. Personal messages have been relayed by us to a number of persons in the organisation.

St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) are a fortunate Association. As an ex-servicemen's organisation they receive a generous grant from the Government and this is very ably administered by the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board. The President of the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board, The Hon. A. E. Allen, and their Director, Mr. A. N. Boag, were both present and at their invitation we subsequently visited their Headquarters in Auckland.

St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) also benefit from the financial help provided by the Commercial Travellers' & Warehousemen's Association, and the Returned Servicemen's Association (R.S.A.). The former Association underwrote a part of the Reunion costs and they also provide club rooms for meetings.

Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation and training of blinded ex-servicemen in New Zealand is now carried out at Homai College, the Headquarters of the Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind, where I understand that the training facilities rank amongst the best in the world. Indeed, the Council will recall that a substantial amount of experimental work is undertaken at medical colleges in New Zealand.

We were asked to convey to St. Dunstan's U.K. the appreciation of both St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association, and the Blinded Servicemen's Trust Board, for sending a member of the

BRIDGE NOTES

BRIGHTON

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

R. Fullard and J. Simmons	79
W. Lethbridge and C. Walters	70
J. Whitcombe and R. Goding	66
E. Bedford and Partner	65
W. Claydon and F. Griffiee	61
W. Burnett and W. Scott	58
M. Clements and A. Dodgson	56
A. Smith and S. Webster	49

LONDON

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

W. Phillips and J. Padley	71
P. Nuyens and J. Huk	70
A. Caldwell and F. Dickerson	65
Miss Vera Kemmish and H. Meleson	61
J. Lynch and W. Miller	58
W. Allen and J. Majchrowicz	53

*P. NUYENS,
Secretary.*

VISIT DOWN UNDER

—continued

Council to this Reunion—the previous visit had been by Lord Fraser in 1934.

In turn, our thanks have been conveyed to the Officials and members of St. Dunstan's (N.Z.) Blinded Servicemen's Association; to their President — Mr. Schofield, their Secretary — Mr. Sadler and to St. Dunstan's representative in New Zealand—Mr. May, and their respective wives. They made us feel very welcome and gave us a particularly interesting time.

My wife and I were very honoured to be the Council's representatives at the Reunion. It was a fascinating and, I believe, worthwhile visit.

St. Dunstan's Fishing Club

The concluding event for the 1974/75 season of the St. Dunstan's Angling Club was a week-end's sea fishing from Newhaven, organised by St. Dunstan's. On Saturday 22nd February, on what was a very cold morning with overnight frost and a keen south-easterly blowing, 25 members of our Angling Club, with helpers, assembled outside the tackle shop of our old friend, Denis O'Kennedy, Old Port Road, Newhaven, where we picked up our bait and provisions. In 5 boats the party were not able to get out very far because of the rough conditions and nothing very interesting was caught.

However, on Sunday, 23rd February, with a hazy fog that cleared up shortly to give us a truly, glorious day's outing, our members except for a few casualties from *mal de mer* of the previous day, embarked just after 9 a.m. David Bell won the club prize for the heaviest fish of the week-end with a 3 lbs. Channel whiting caught from the "Jazazee" skippered by Bert Donno.

On Sunday too, Bernard Blacker caught a total bag of 14 lbs.—how does he do it?—whilst fishing from the "Penhall", skippered by Guy Rushbrook, and he wins the Topper Brown Cup for this year. The Red Ball Company trophy goes to Bob Fullard for the 12 lbs. turbot he caught earlier last year fishing from the "Ellen K", skipper Jim Kettle.

Mention must also be made of the catches of some members of the crew of the "Bridgehaze" skippered by Roy Archer. One angler pulled up a nice whiting along with a wonderful spread of sea weed, whilst another on board was dismayed to find that he had hooked on to some sea anemone which in its turn, was firmly attached to a big rock. The "Bridgehaze" crew were particularly pleased to find that Hazel, the skipper's 11-year old daughter, had come along to help us and what with baiting hooks, serving hot coffee, cans of beer, un-tangling snags in our lines, she proved herself invaluable. Meantime, here's looking forward to fair winds for our next outings scheduled for 26th and 27th April.

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.

Arthur Batcheller Coveney of Dover, Kent, joined St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He was working on Coastal Defence installations during the Second World War. He is a widower and has a son who lives near him.

John Alfred Goddard, of Great Amwell, Nr. Ware, Herts, joined St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He served in the First World War in the Bedfordshire Regiment. In more recent years he worked as a caretaker and continued in this occupation until the age of 73, when he retired. He is married but has no family.

David Moss of Christchurch, Dorset, came to St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He served in the Royal Fusiliers and later in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps during the First World War and was wounded in 1917 whilst training troops but he continued in the Army until his discharge in 1928. After leaving the army he worked as an Inspector in the R.S.P.C.A. and later as a Civil Servant, retaining his last job until his retirement in 1959. He is married with a grown-up family of seven children.

Thomas Page of Rochdale came to St. Dunstan's in February, 1975. He served in the Parachute Regiment during the Second World War and is married.

Alfred Smith of Clayton, Newcastle, joined St. Dunstan's in February 1975. He served in the first World War in the East and West Yorkshire Regiment and the Northumberland Fusiliers. He is married.

READING TIME by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 301

You English Words

by John Moore

Read by Alvar Lidell

Reading Time 11¼ hours

This is a rich and splendid book about our native tongue, written with loving care by a man whose business is words. He collects them with the eager enthusiasm of a schoolboy collecting bright butterflies.

He traces the origins and development of English. He speaks with real affection of its oddities and absurdities, its beauty, subtlety and dynamism. He tells us we have plundered the languages of the world to enrich our own—we get "husband" from the Norse raiders, "mammoth" from Russia and (ironically) "alcohol" from the Arabs, to whom its joys are prohibited by the Koran.

There is something here for everyone to enjoy, from the homespun language of the countryside to the high-falutin clap-trap of "Official English".

The book is illustrated with carefully chosen quotations from the great masters of English usage, Chaucer and Churchill, Shelley and Shakespeare, Bunyan and the Bible.

I particularly enjoyed the gentle debunking of many of our cherished myths about the origin of certain words. No English King ever did "knight" that joint of beef, thus elevating it to "Sir-loin", and "marmalade" has nothing whatever to do with Mary Queen of Scots—although I must confess I find "Marie-malade", absurd as it is, to the true, more prosaic, explanation!

This book is an absolute "must" for those who have real love of, and a lively interest in, our mother-tongue. And that *ought* to mean *everyone*?

For me, sadly, reading this splendid book highlights one of the limitations of our marvellous Talking Book Service. For this is a work to be kept and cherished, to be dipped into for instruction, for entertainment, even for solace.

But unfortunately, it has to go back!

Cat. No. 494

The Business of Murder

by Edgar Lustgarten

Read by Arthur Bush

Reading Time 7½ hours

This is a study of six mass-murderers, all of whom paid the full penalty for their crimes (five hanged, one guillotined). In each case the evil that they did certainly lived after them, for each crime was the *cause celebre* of its day, but there seems little evidence of any good having been interred with their bones.

As one might expect from an expert in jurisprudence, the facts of each case are laid before the reader clearly and succinctly, with no detail, however ghastly, left out, and with Mr. Lustgarten's own words reinforced by extracts from trial records. It all makes very chilling reading!

The writer also takes the opportunity (surprisingly perhaps) of stating categorically his own strongly-held views upon capital punishment. He deplores its abolition and believes that the death penalty is right and proper "in appropriate circumstances". He obviously has no time at all for "the apologists" and those who seek to find deep-hidden psychological excuses for the conduct of the lawbreaker. In his view criminals are just criminals and ought to be treated as such.

The last case dealt with is that of Christie. Much of the detail here is revolting in the extreme and the now defunct BBC warning—"Not for children or those of a nervous disposition" would, I feel, be appropriate.

Still it's a very fascinating book. But then, as Mr. Lustgarten says, "Murder has a terrible fascination".

Cat. No. 182

The Manchurian Candidate

by Richard Condon

Read by Marvin Kane

Reading Time 11¼ hours

In Korea a twelve-man American patrol is ambushed and taken to a secret hideaway, where they are brainwashed.

Optacon Training Success

We were very pleased at headquarters to have a visit in January from Maurice Aldridge, our St. Dunstaner who is a lecturer at Grahamstown University, South Africa.

Some months earlier Lord Fraser had invited him to come to London to take the intensive training course that is involved in learning to read with the Optacon but pointing out that the degree of success likely to be achieved could never be predicted.

Lord Fraser had felt, however, that Maurice, some 20 years younger than second-war St. Dunstaners, had always

demonstrated a sufficiently high level of motivation as to make him a promising candidate.

We are glad to report that the venture was entirely successful and congratulate Maurice and also St. Dunstan's, South Africa, for the close interest the organisation has taken in the experiment.

Mrs. Aldridge and their schoolboy son, Oliver, also came and Mr. John Walker, a linguistic colleague at Grahamstown, accompanied them. The plan was that he should simultaneously be trained as an Optacon teacher, to supervise and to monitor progress for several months after Maurice's return to South Africa.

We would like to thank Mrs. Lucke, the joint R.N.I.B. and St. Dunstan's Optacon teacher, for tackling the dual task of training a pupil and a teacher simultaneously for several hours a day throughout the fortnight's intensive course at headquarters.

South Africa has thus the capability both to demonstrate an Optacon in use and to impart learning skills to other teachers or pupils.

Our Director of Research, Richard Dufton, who supervised the arrangements for the official Optacon trials from 1972-74, made the training arrangements for the special course.

Mrs. Opperman, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, South Africa, in writing to St. Dunstan's says:

"I know that my co-directors would like to be associated with my thanks and appreciation for your Council's generosity in making a gift of the Optacon and the 'Visual Display Unit' to our organisation, together with, as you say 'a competent teacher who could impart his knowledge of the system to others', and a qualified reader in Maurice."

Congratulations

We offer our sincere congratulations to Robert Crabbe, son of the late *William Crabbe*, High Wycombe, Bucks, who has completed a four year apprenticeship in Engineering. He has passed his City and Guilds examinations but is still continuing day release study at college.

FAMILY NEWS

Marriages

Mr. and Mrs. G. Cattell of Althcrpe, Northampton, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Lesley married Philip Purser of Guilsborough, at East Haddon Church, East Haddon, Northampton on 22nd February, 1975.

Mr. and Mrs. Seth Bennett of Bradford are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Janice to John Haley on 8th March, 1975.

Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. James Percy Brown* of Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 5th February, 1975. As James is convalescing after a recent illness, they spent the day quietly at home with their daughter and son-in-law from Glasgow.

Warm congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Albert Grimshaw* of Beccles, Suffolk, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 25th December, 1974.

Grandfathers

Congratulations to:

Douglas Cashmore of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, who is happy to announce the birth of another grandchild—Ann Louise, born to his son Robert and daughter-in-law, Denise, on 25th February, 1975.

Tom Hart of Folkestone, Kent, is delighted to announce the safe arrival of a grandson, Guy Fitzpatrick, born to his son Christopher and daughter-in-law, Lyn, on 1st January, 1975—a brother for Lisa.

John Lewis of Ewell, Surrey, who is delighted to announce the birth of another grandchild. A son, Alistair Brinley, was born on 20th January 1975, to his daughter Jacqueline Batten and her husband.

Edward Miller of Leamington Spa, is pleased to announce the birth of his first grandchild—Matthew Stewart John, born on 7th February, 1975 to his daughter, Susan and her husband.

Henry Preedy of Lancing, Sussex, is pleased to announce the safe arrival of his third grandchild, born to his daughter Sandra and his son-in-law, Tony.

Albert ("Bertie") Partington of Bolton, Lancs., is delighted to announce the birth of his second grand-daughter, Katie Alexandra, born to his son and daughter-in-law, Ian and Adrienne, on the 10th February, 1975.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Jim Delaney of Bridgewater, Somerset, mourns the death of his half-brother, Tom Watson, on 9th February, 1975. He lived in Manchester.

Lincoln Robinson of Luton, Nr. Chatham, Kent, who mourns the death of his wife, Mildrid Robinson, on 28th January, 1975. We extend our sympathy to his two married sons and their families.

Reginald Gordon Sheriff of Gloucester, who mourns the death of his father in December 1974 at the age of 92 years.

George White of Leeds who mourns the death of his wife, Isabella Margaret, on 17th January, 1975.

Reading Time—continued

A special treatment is reserved for Sergeant Raymond Shaw. He is "programmed" for special duties, which he will perform, at a given signal, and without any subsequent knowledge that he has done so.

After the war Raymond returns home to a hero's welcome, having won the Medal of Honour for outstanding bravery.

But has he? Did he, not caring anything for a living soul, really risk his life to save his comrades? And what is the mission those nasty Communists have set him up for?

The plot is wildly impossible. The idea that anyone can remain for eight years under post-hypnotic control, just awaiting the key-words which will instantly transform them into an unthinking automaton, is plainly preposterous.

But it is still first-class entertainment. The writing has a fine urgency and is peppered with brightly - coloured American metaphors and similes which makes it a joy to read.

All the characters are superbly drawn, Raymond himself, suspicious, withdrawn, unloving and unloved, his wealthy mother power-hungry megalomaniac, and his Senator step-father, a shifty-eyed sot, puppet - manipulated by his scheming wife.

And the sting is in the tail, a completely unexpected "twist" ending which left me full of admiration for the author's craftsmanship.

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 H. Bailey. *4th Lincolnshire Regiment.*

William H. Bailey of Heckington, Sleaford, Lincs., died at St. Andrew's Nursing Home, Ewerby, on 13th February, 1975. He was 76 years of age.

He enlisted in 1915 in the 4th Lincolnshire Regiment and was wounded in France in November 1917 when, in addition to his loss of sight, he also suffered the loss of a leg. It was not until much later in life that his sight failed completely and he came to St. Dunstan's. He joined St. Dunstan's in August 1973 and by that time, of course, he had retired. Unfortunately his health was causing concern and three months after joining St. Dunstan's William was admitted to a nursing home and sadly his health never improved.

He leaves a nephew, Mr. Arthur Walters, of Balderton, Newark.

Godfrey Ronald Belcher. *Royal Highland Light Infantry.*

Godfrey Ronald Belcher of Erdington, Birmingham, died at his home on 14th February, 1975. He was 64 years of age.

Godfrey went to Canada as a child and it was with a Canadian regiment that he enlisted soon after the outbreak of the Second World War. He was wounded and came to St. Dunstan's in 1945. He trained for industrial work and settled in this but in 1946 he and his wife went to Canada where they remained until 1954. After returning to Great Britain Godfrey continued in industrial employment until 1970 when he retired, due to rather poor health. Towards the end of last year he became seriously ill but in November was well enough for a spell of convalescence at Pearson House. Unfortunately his health did not improve and it was at home that he passed away.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Joyce Belcher, who has suffered a double bereavement as the death of her husband was preceded by the death of her father a few hours earlier. Godfrey also leaves two daughters and a step-son.

Alfred Outtrim. *The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.*

Alfred Outtrim of Hertford, Herts, died in hospital on 6th March, 1975. He was 78 years of age.

He enlisted in the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in January 1913 and served with them until his discharge in 1919. After his discharge Alfred was able to follow full employment and for many years he worked for a well-known Electricity Board. His sight gradually failed and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in the latter part of his life but fortunately, his general health enabled him to share many hobbies with his wife, including keeping birds, cultivating his garden and belonging to several local social Clubs.

Alfred always made light of his war injuries but in recent years his health deteriorated slowly. He was admitted to hospital on 5th March and unfortunately died the following day.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Catherine Outtrim, and his married son David and his family.

Albert Tear. *Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment.*

Albert Tear of Normanton, West Yorkshire, died in Pinderfield Hospital, Wakefield, on 24th February, 1975. He was 76 years old.

He enlisted in the Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment in the First World War and lost the sight of one eye in 1916 but on leaving the army he was able to work as a boot repairer for 40 years and then as a hospital worker until he retired. He joined St. Dunstan's at the beginning of this year when he lost his remaining sight. He was already in poor health and was actually in hospital when he became a St. Dunstaner. Unfortunately his health did not improve.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Mary Tear, and his son, William.

George Weldrick. *Royal Naval Reserve.*

George Weldrick of North Hull, North Humberside, died at his home after a short illness, on 25th February, 1975. He was 80 years old.

He was a trawler fisherman and in 1940 he joined the Royal Naval Reserve and served in a mine sweeper. He was wounded in the same year and came to St. Dunstan's in 1945. After training he settled in industry and continued in this work until 1957 when he retired due to poor health. He enjoyed holidays at our Brighton home. Sadly his wife died in 1970 and George lived alone being cared for by members of his family who lived locally.

He leaves six sons and a daughter.