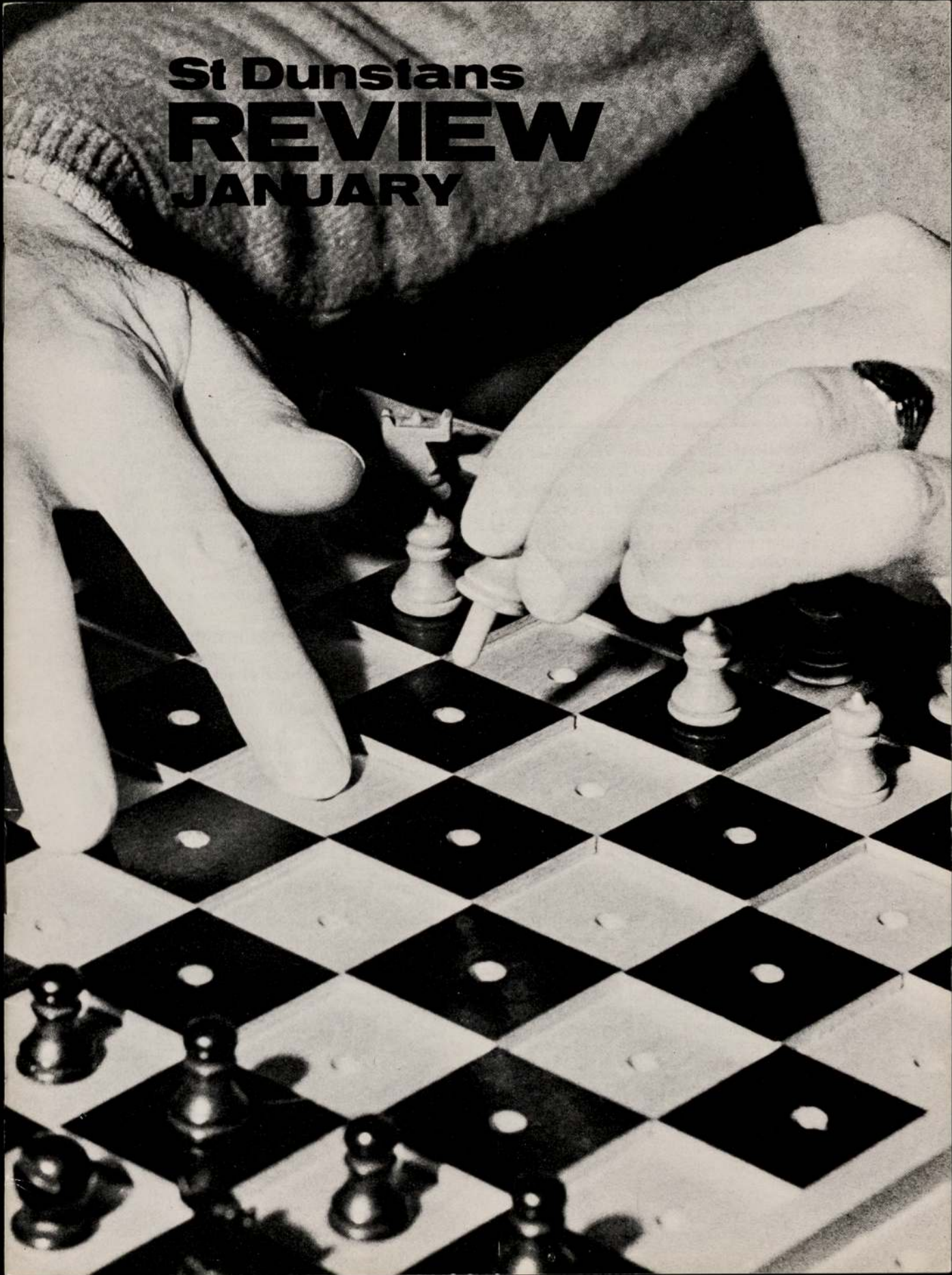


**St Dunstons**  
**REVIEW**  
**JANUARY**



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

NO. 670

JANUARY 1976

10p MONTHLY

## MR. NIGEL PEARSON

As we go to Press we learn with deep regret of the death, on 8th December, of Mr. Nigel Arthur Pearson, son of our President, Sir Neville Pearson, Bart., and a Member of St. Dunstan's Council. Our Chairman's tribute will appear in the February *Review*.

## INSURANCE COVER ON YOUR HOMES AND CONTENTS

It is thought that a timely reminder is due regarding insurance cover on your homes. St. Dunstan's have all their Estate properties insured to cover Fire & Storm damage, but this insurance does *not* cover the *contents* which belong to their tenants. If insurance cover is required for contents, it has to be taken out by the tenant.

Some of our St. Dunstaners have recently had their homes broken into and have had their property stolen. Those who have had insurance cover on the contents of their homes have been successful in obtaining reimbursement for their loss, but other St. Dunstaners who have not taken out insurance cover have had to suffer the loss themselves.

You may not be aware of the fact that insurance cover on your home contents is not limited to Fire and Theft but can be taken out under modern schemes to cover a number of additional risks, for example, accidental damage to TV (including colour sets), Hi-Fi and similar equipment in the home. It is also worth noting in this context that a rented TV set is not normally insured by the Rental Company for accidental damage.

Homeplan proposal forms are now in the possession of our Surveyors and Welfare Visitors. These proposal forms are mainly in respect of Fire and Burglary only, but full information on other types

of insurance can be obtained from Mr. C. H. Lawrence at Headquarters.

It should be noted that all premiums payable through St. Dunstan's Agency are subject to 12½% commission which is passed on to our St. Dunstaners.

St. Dunstaners who are owner occupiers, particularly those who are purchasing their properties by means of a mortgage, should ensure that their premises are covered adequately, especially in the light of the present day inflated building costs which are still rising. In this respect assistance in assessing the cover required may be obtained from our Surveyors.

## FREE GAS CHECK

We have been informed that the British Gas Corporation has offered a free nationwide gas safety check to elderly disabled and blind people in the U.K. (except for Northern Ireland). Checks will be made to ensure the soundness of installations and appliances. Necessary adjustments will be made to appliances without charge, and minor parts costing no more than £1 will be replaced free. Where more expensive repair work is necessary, written estimates will be sent, which may be used to obtain financial assistance. Advice will also be given on servicing of gas central heating and water heating. Pre-payment meters can be relocated on request up to 3 feet away from their present site for £3. Special tap handles, Braille taps and other aids will be fitted at a standard charge of £1.50 each. St. Dunstaners wanting to take advantage of the offer should tell their local Welfare Visitors, who will pass on names to the Service Director of the local Gas Board.

*Reprinted from BBC In Touch Quarterly Bulletin.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**From: Mr. R. O. L. Thomas, a sighted Member of St. Dunstans**

The November *Review* has been received, lent out, and is now back in my possession.

An assortment of house magazines, journals, news sheets and the like come my way but none can measure up in calibre and appeal to St. Dunstan's *Review*, and features like your contribution "Better Than One" account largely for this being so.

Your narrative is excellent and surely readers felt the poignancy of the burial of Amber in your garden and shared your apprehension when Deana was petrified by fright on Hammersmith catwalk. I like your reasoning and the whole essay is a rich mine of useful information, and with each careful re-reading I hit upon a fresh "slant" contained in some phrase or even in a single word. But the essence is a brave story of a man, with a deep affection and attachment to his dog, and backed by his family, taking on the odds

of a complicated, busy world—aye—and winning through. This isn't eulogy, it's fact! As our Australian cousins say, "Good on you!"

**From: Miss Una Greenwood, Manchester**

Re. article "Remembrance Sunday" December *Review* in which is stated, "for the first time we had a girl marching with us".

I would like to point out that I took part in the Cenotaph parade in either 1961 or 1962 and was the only female with the St. Dunstan's contingent. My father acted as my escort thus we represented both world wars, my father having served with the Lancashire Fusiliers and the Royal Garrison Artillery in the 1914-18 conflict and I having served with the ATS/WRAC in the Second World War and later years.

We had both attended the Festival of Remembrance in the Albert Hall on the previous evening.

## STAFF OBITUARY

**Mr. William Game**

Those St. Dunstaners who were trained as Mat Makers, will be very sorry to learn of the death of Mr. Game on the 6th November, at the age of 76 years. Mr. Game came to St. Dunstan's in May 1920 as Assistant Storekeeper and Mat Instructor, and became the Superintendent and Technical Visitor of the Mat Department in 1936. During his 44 years at St. Dunstan's he became the firm friend of the Mat Makers. He retired in July 1964. We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Game.

## LONG SERVICE

At a special Dinner recently, *Max Ash* of Paignton, Devon, was presented with a beautiful gilt battery clock, to commemorate his forty years' service with Unigate Company, Bason Bridge, High-bridge. Its inscription expressed the firm's appreciation of his loyal service. In addition, he has received a Long

Service Badge, and been listed on their Honours Board, which will entitle him to attend their Annual Long-Service Dinner.

## ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The first meeting of the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society will take place on Saturday, 7th January, at 1.0 p.m., in the Committee Room on the first floor of St. Dunstan's Headquarters, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London. The purpose of the meeting will be to draw up the Articles of Association, elect officers for the coming year and generally "launch" the Society.

All St. Dunstaners who are known to be licensed, or short wave listeners, will receive a circular letter informing them that the meeting is to be held, but if any other St. Dunstaners are interested, they are warmly invited to attend the meeting, and are asked to contact the convenor, *E. C. (Ted) John* (G3 SEJ), at his home: 52 Broadway Avenue, Wallasey, Merseyside L45 6TD.

**COVER PICTURE:** *White to move—the hands of a chess player at Chess Weekend: see centre pages.*



*St. Dunstan's John Campkin, physiotherapist at Pearson House, smiles as Alfred Morris greets his patient, John McCuoid. In the background is Matron Hallett.*

## 'OUR' MINISTER VISITS BRIGHTON HOMES

On Friday, 5th December, Mr. Alfred Morris, M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Disabled and the Minister most closely concerned with the welfare of St. Dunstaners, visited our Homes in Brighton.

Arriving at Pearson House at 11 a.m., the Minister was greeted by our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, and Secretary, Mr. C. D. Wills. He was shown over the nursing wing and parts of the main building by Commandant Fawcett and Matron Hallett. Mr. Morris spoke to a number of St. Dunstaners before leaving for Ian Fraser House.

### At Ian Fraser House

In the hour and a half before lunch, the Minister—in the charge of Commandant Fawcett and Matron Blackford—saw the model of Ian Fraser House and the rooms on the main floor. The party then moved on to the South Wing, including the swimming pool. Mr. Morris talked with

trainees and instructors in the industrial and joinery workshops before looking in on the Bowls Championships in the indoor rink. Here he presented prizes to the winners and runners-up in the Men's Pairs competition.

### In the Main Building

The tour continued in the main building through the kitchen and Winter Garden, where a display of equipment and photographs had been arranged. Mr. Morris visited the Handicraft, Braille and Typing Rooms, where he talked to more St. Dunstaners and staff. Finally, he inspected St. Dunstaners' bedrooms, including those for the doubly handicapped, and girls.

The formal part of Mr. Morris' visit concluded with speeches in the Lounge. Introducing Mr. Morris to the assembled St. Dunstaners, Mr. Garnett-Orme said:

"This is the first time we have had the honour of a visit from Mr. Alfred Morris,

but he is no stranger to St. Dunstan's because he has been to see us once or twice in London in recent years. We are very pleased to have him down here and he is an exceptional man, in many ways. Ever since he has been in Parliament he has taken particular interest in the disabled. He also has personal experience because Mr. Morris' father was wounded in the First World War, and partially disabled.

"So we are very, very lucky to have such a sympathetic Minister, also one with personal experience of disablement through his father. I think, if I may say so, Lord Fraser would have said that we would like to call him 'our Minister' and we are all very happy to have him here today."

### Lord Fraser's Help

Mr. Morris said:

"Naturally this is a very happy day for me. As you have heard, I had a close personal relationship with Lord Fraser. He gave me a great deal of help during the Parliamentary proceedings on the 'Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons' Bill', as it then was, in the Parliamentary Session of 1969/1970. He spoke on the Bill in the House of Lords and gave it



*Peter McCormack demonstrates the use of a handbrace in the carpentry workshop.*

*The Minister watches William Waller at work assembling a metal and rubber mat. John Brown, industrial instructor, looks on.*





Alfred Morris tries his hand at the deaf/blind manual and succeeds in "talking" to Wally Thomas. Matron Blackford and Commandant Fawcett are also in the picture.

Mr. Garnett-Orme bids goodbye to the Minister.



every possible support on its way to the Statute Book.

"Of course I hold St. Dunstan's in very high regard. I know that the people who come here and who are helped in other places and in other ways by St. Dunstan's also feel that life would be much worse for severely visually handicapped people without St. Dunstan's.

#### Marvellous Christmas

"Now, Christmas is not very far away. I have seen the programme for Christmas which strikes me as one of the most marvellous that you could possibly have, I know that you want me to thank everyone who will be working to make your Christmas enjoyable as members of the staff, and I say to the Matron and to all her colleagues that I know that you all very deeply appreciate the work that they do in the service of disabled people. My thoughts are very much with you, and I say again that it is both an honour and a very great pleasure to be at St. Dunstan's today."



In the Braille Room with Jack Martin and instructor, Mark Kingsnorth.

Receiving prizes from Alfred Morris are George Stanley and Harry Preedy, runners-up in the Men's Pairs Final in the first St. Dunstan's Annual Indoor Bowls Championships.



## BRIDGE NOTES

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Would those who have not yet submitted their names for the Bridge Congress please do so immediately to enable us to arrange this satisfactorily.

H. MELESON

### BRIGHTON

Results of the **Annual Duplicate Individual Competition** for the Gover Cup are as follows (based on the best 5 scores throughout the year):

1 F. Griffie	375
2 S. Webster	369
3 R. Fullard	365
4 W. Lethbridge	354
5 J. Simmons	350
6 C. Walters	343
7 R. Goding	338
8 M. Clements	336
9 R. Bickley	325
A. Dodgson	325
11 W. Scott	324
12 J. Whitcombe	319
13 W. Claydon	317
14 A. Smith	295

The final round of the **Individual Duplicate Competition** for the Gover Cup took place on Saturday, 1 November at Ian Fraser House. Results were as follows:

R. Goding and R. Fullard	72
P. McCormack and W. Lethbridge	67
A. Smith and J. Padley	67
S. Webster and J. Simmons	59
R. Bickley and C. Walters	57
F. Griffie and W. Scott	56

Taking the **best 5 results over the year**, three out of the first four prize-winners are previous winners of the Gover Cup.

1 F. Griffie	375
2 S. Webster	369
3 R. Fullard	365
4 W. Lethbridge	354

R. FULLARD  
Secretary

## OVINGDEAN NOTES

Although, on the surface, life at Ian Fraser House during November was tranquil — comparatively speaking! — behind the scenes there was much activity. Preparations for Christmas gained momentum, and we hope that the programme will meet with general approval. However, we bear in mind the old adage—"You can't win 'em all!"

Early in the month, we visited the Brighton Society for the Blind at their clubrooms, having been challenged to a General Knowledge Quiz. It began in a somewhat solemn manner, but the good-humoured and light-hearted attitude of our team soon made it into a happy and entertaining afternoon. We thank our good friend Mr. Stokes, who acted as scorekeeper—unfortunately for us, he was scrupulously honest! Awards for gallantry go to Dick Jones, Jack Martin and Joe Langley, who made up the St. Dunstan's team. We have to confess that we were soundly beaten by a very good team—we will draw a discreet veil over the final score. (Well, did *you* know that Beethoven wrote only one opera?) Judged in terms of enjoyment, it was a great success, and we hope to return the compliment at a future date. Any budding Mastermind—please volunteer. PLEASE!

The Chess weekend was greatly enjoyed by all who took part in it. Mr. Bonham is a splendid teacher, and communicates his enjoyment and enthusiasm to his pupils. It gave us all great pleasure to see him again. A detailed account of the event will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Drives to Tylden House and The Brown Owls, both of which are fairly recent innovations, took place. Mr. and Mrs. Lyndhurst, the owners of Tylden House, generously invited a party of St. Dunstaners and escorts to visit them for tea during Christmas week, an invitation we accepted with great pleasure.

You may recall that the Dome Variety now takes place only once each month, and to fill the void on Tuesday evenings, we hold various informal entertainments in the Lounge. The first of these was a concert by "The Sussex Sweet Adelines"—a choir of some twenty ladies,

who sing in the style of the old barber-shop harmony. However, Women's Lib. was kept melodiously in check by the conductor, Mr. Alec Emery. The vote of thanks was given by Bob Forshaw, who couldn't resist referring to Mr. Emery as "Fred Emney". So "Fred" he will undoubtedly remain to St. Dunstaners, despite the fact that he was really rather a dishy young man.

### Stereo Journey

Tom Eales' long-awaited "Stereo Spectacular" lived up to its title. We were treated to a trip around Paris, with all its traffic noises, taxi-drivers yelling the French equivalent of "silly moo" and "stupid git"—we think—and a thunderstorm to add even more atmosphere. We then went inside a nightclub, and the females present were immediately transported into the arms of Charles Aznavour, who sang enticingly into their shell-like ears. Imagination sure is a wonderful thing! The men, no doubt, were busy calculating the cost—unromantic lot! From Paris, we went to Russia. A troika jingled through the snow, and then, miraculously, we were in "The Hall of the Mountain Kings", a wonderfully atmospheric piece of music from Greig's Peer Gynt Suite. The grand finale was the "1812 Overture", with full orchestra, choir, booming cannons, and everything except the Ovingdean dinner bell. (Nobody sleeps during Tom's programmes.) It was all most stirring and exciting, and we thank Tom sincerely for all his hard work on our behalf.

### Concerts and Theatres

At the Theatre Royal, we had an interesting selection of plays, and a personal appearance by Bette Davis, who is still quite a gal. We had two Sunday evening concerts which were well received—one of them given by the Arena Choir under their musical director, Mr. Alec Fisher. They are all of the Jewish faith, and sang some Hebrew songs which were familiar to us, and some which we heard for the first time. They sang a selection from "Fiddler on the Roof", and we all enjoyed the sincerity of their singing, and the warmth of their personalities. Another Sunday entertainment was given by Mr. Peter Larsen, of the BBC and Radio Brighton. He gave

us a first-class entertainment on the electronic organ, and cha-cha-ed, boogie-woogied, and bossa-nova-ed with such dexterity that it looked easy—the mark of a real professional. He asked us for "requests", and they were thrown at him with a will. Nothing "threw" him, and we all had a really happy evening. Eddie Allchin spoke for us all when he said we should be delighted if another visit could be arranged, and we are happy to say that Mr. Larsen is returning on December 28th. That is a treat in store.

By the time you read this, Christmas will be but a memory—we hope that you had a happy time, and that 1976 will bring you good health, prosperity, and a contented heart.

## CLUB NEWS

### SUTTON

On 6th December the Sutton Club held their annual party, but on this occasion a joy and a sadness overshadowed the event, for Miss Diana Hoare joined us for the last time.

For many years Diana has helped to run a centre for the old and disabled in London, and at the end of the year she retires, leaving her London home and retiring to a cottage in Winchester.

We of the Sutton Club will miss her help and friendship, for she has been associated with its activities from its formation.

Meeting by meeting she has travelled through all weathers to be there to assist us, to arrange our social entertainment, and our outings.

Mr. Johnny Taylor, our Chairman, presented Diana with a bouquet of flowers, and a token given by the members and their wives, with which, we hope, she will buy something to remind her of her connection with the Club.

In wishing her a long and happy retirement, we feel sure that all members past and present will join us in saying "Thank You, Diana, for all you have done for the Sutton Club."

REG NEWTON

## CLUB NEWS *continued*

### ST. DUNSTAN'S BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

We are asked to make it clear that the correct title of the Brighton Club is the "St. Dunstan's Brighton Social and Sports Club", and that letters, etc., should be addressed to:

The Honorary Secretary,  
St. Dunstan's Brighton Social and  
Sports Club,  
Ian Fraser House,  
Ovingdean,  
Brighton,  
Sussex BN2 7BS

for collection by Mrs. J. R. Dennis, the  
Honorary Secretary.

### THE NEW BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB NEWS

The new Brighton Club is well under way, and the members now number over one hundred. Club Day is on Wednesday, and we are all enjoying to the full the amenities of the Annexe at Ian Fraser House. We have numerous members from outside the Brighton area, who will be able to enjoy the facilities of the Club when on holidays. The facilities are exceptionally good: Bowls; Swimming; Bridge; Dominoes; Whist; Cribbage; Darts and Bingo. There are plenty of entertainments, and subsidised fishing trips once a month. We also hold a dance and bar in the Annexe Ballroom once a month. A Committee for entertainments will be on hand to suit members' individual requests and wishes.

Two dances have been held at the Club, one each month. The first was on 8th November, and the Christmas Dance with buffet was held on 6th December. At both dances, Mrs. E. Dacre, President of the Club, and guests attended. They were very sociable, enjoying the evening with us. At the Christmas Dance Councillor and Mrs. Wakefield attended. The Councillor presented the cups for the old Brighton Club. Also, two charming young ladies in Mrs. Dacre's party played their guitars and sang. This entertainment was very well received and enjoyed by all. Thank you girls, and thank you Councillor Wakefield!

We were delighted to see so many of our members, more than ninety were there. Everyone enjoyed themselves and gave thanks to the Committee. The Committee wish to thank you all for expressing these sentiments, but they are very conscious that without you, the members, their work would be in vain. We feel we must thank Mr. and Mrs. W. Claydon for their efforts; Bill is head of entertainments, and plays his own organ for our dances, bringing the organ and apparatus from his home. Monica, his wife, helps with the prompting for tunes, and singing, also doing the M.C. work, decorating the hall superbly and, of course, running the raffle. The sub-committee's wives, with the help of the Chairman's and Vice-Chairman's wives, namely Mrs. Dodgson and Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Frearson and Mrs. Preedy, sell raffle tickets. The raffle exceeded our wildest dreams, again thanks to our members' support. W. Claydon, A. Dodgson and W. Phillips, the entertainments committee, thank all members for their loyal support, and all three committee members hope you will continue to give your warm support to the Club, and let them know of any way you think the Club could be made more efficient.

W. PHILLIPS

### Results of the 1975 Sir Arthur Pearson Competition Whist Aggregate

Gentlemen **1st H. Preedy**  
2nd F. Griffiee  
Ladies **1st Mrs. M. Crabtree**  
2nd Mrs. J. Walker

### Aggregate Dominoes

Gentlemen **1st J. Frearson**  
2nd S. Pike  
Ladies **1st Mrs. S. Pike**  
2nd Mrs. E. Quinn

### Knockout Dominoes (5s and 3s)

**1st J. Jones**  
2nd S. Pike

### Cribbage

**1st W. Scott**  
2nd T. Kirk

### First games played for the new Brighton Club Whist Aggregate

#### 5th November

Gentlemen **1st W. Phillips**  
2nd C. Walters  
3rd F. Griffiee  
Ladies **1st Mrs. M. Inman**  
2nd Mrs. J. Aldridge  
3rd Mrs. M. Phillips

#### 3rd December

Gentlemen **1st F. Griffiee and  
W. Lethbridge**  
3rd C. Walters  
Ladies **1st Mrs. B. Griffiths**  
2nd Mrs. M. Inman  
3rd Mrs. M. Crabtree

### Aggregate Dominoes

#### 19th November

**1st Mrs. P. Padley**  
2nd Mrs. H. Preedy and  
Mrs. J. Mudd

### Cribbage

The first round draw has been made, and this competition is in the process of being played.

### Knockout Dominoes (5s and 3s)

First round being played.

**Fishing Section, New Brighton Club**  
Since the formation of this Section, members have enjoyed two trips. On Wednesday, 12th November, six anglers left Newhaven Harbour on the Caroline II. Unfortunately, the weather conditions made it necessary to return to the Harbour earlier than planned, but we were more fortunate on the next trip aboard the Java Zee on Friday, 5th December. Catches on both occasions included Channel Whiting. These trips will be a monthly event, with the exception of April, June and October. Boat bookings have been made for 1976. Any Club members wishing to take part in these activities should contact me for further information.

A. DODGSON  
Fishing Representative

### Swimming Activities

Swimming Certificates from the Amateur Swimming Association are available for the small fee of 5p, for anyone wishing to avail themselves of this opportunity. Anyone interested, please contact Mr. J. Avey, Lifeguard, at the Pool, Ian Fraser House, any distance or any stroke.

## ST DUNSTANS' FISHING TRIPS

The St. Dunstan's organised Autumn fishing session took place from Saturday 25th to Tuesday 28th October, with twenty-eight St. Dunstaners taking part. Eighteen went out on each day, the majority getting in four days' fishing. The weather was good, with Tuesday the only unsettled day. Everyone caught good bags of Channel Whiting, with the odd Spurdog.

The competitions arranged for the Fishing Club members were keenly contested, the winner on each day being the competitor with the heaviest single fish (prize value £2).

Saturday **J. Morrish**  
2 lb. 2 oz. Channel Whiting  
Sunday **A. Dodgson**  
2 lb. 8 oz. Spurdog  
Monday **W. Phillips**  
5 lb. 8 oz. Spurdog

Tuesday **M. Golding**  
**P. Stubbs**  
1 lb. 12½ oz. Channel Whiting

Heaviest bag of fish over the four days—  
**A. Waters**, 20 lbs. 4 oz. (prize value £4.40).

In all a very satisfying and enjoyable four days' fishing. The fishing dates for 1976 are:

**April 3rd to 6th**  
**June 21st to 25th**  
**October 23rd to 26th**

These sessions are open to all St. Dunstaners resident at Ian Fraser House at the time; if you wish to attend any of them, please apply to me at Ian Fraser House for entry forms as soon as possible.

J. CARNOCHAN  
Sports Organiser



## St. Dunstan's Chess Championships

by Roman Donald

*Below: Play in progress in the second section, l.-r. Vi Delaney, Charles Rentowl, Michael Hollway, sighted helper, George Hudson, Reg Barrett.*

*Below right: Things were more light-hearted in the Beginners' Section as Mr. Bonham jokes with Alice Gimbrere. L.-r. Eddie Allchin, Alice Gimbrere, Mike Tybinski, Reginald Bonham and Jim Padley.*

The Chess Championship took place at Ian Fraser House from Friday 14th to Sunday 16th November, and it was very nice to be back there again.

After preliminary discussion on Friday, all the participants in Congress were divided into three sections.

We were very fortunate to have Mr. Bonham once again, who adjudicated the unfinished games and gave tuition to the beginners.

On the following day we commenced the tournament. We had one session in the morning and another in the afternoon.

The Congress culminated on Sunday afternoon with a brief speech from Mr. Bonham, followed by tea and friendly conversation.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. Kelk, widow of the chess-playing St. Dunstan, the late *Charles Kelk*.

Finally, *Roy Hyett* made a speech of thanks to Mr. Bonham, Mrs. Kelk and Matron and the Staff at Ian Fraser House for making the Chess Congress such a great success.

*Results overleaf*

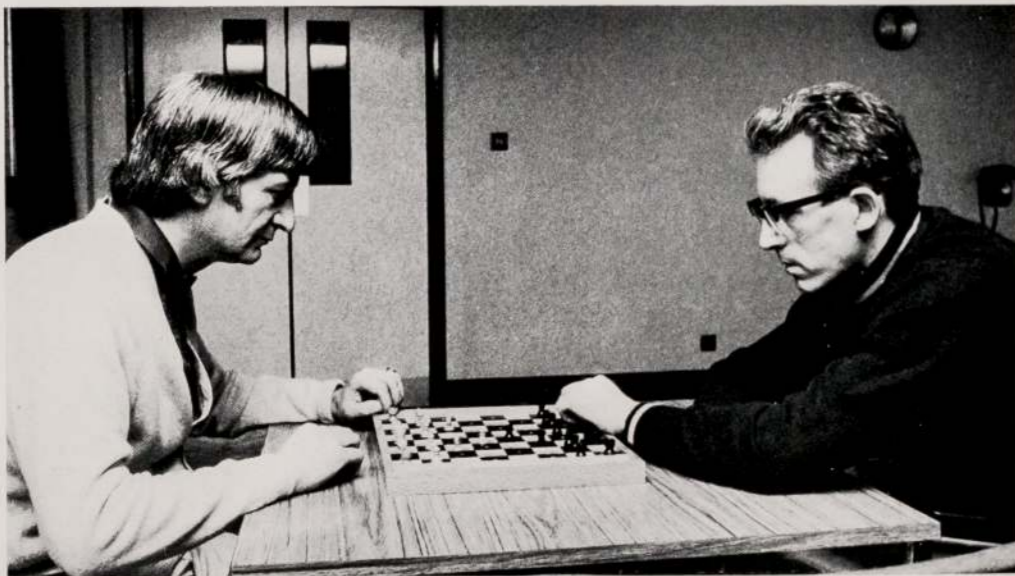
*Great concentration is shown by the joint champions Harold Mallinson, opposite, and Roman Donald, right.*





*Dorothy Williams helps Vi Delaney sort out the pieces for her next game.*

*Below: David Thomas and Roy Hyett in play.*



## Chess Results

### 1st Section

**Harold Mallinson and Roman Donald** tied with 2 points each—thus sharing the trophy.

**Roy Hyett and David Thomas** scored 1 point each.

### 2nd Section

**George Hudson** scored 3 points and received 1st Prize.

**Mrs. Violet Delaney** scored 2 points and received 2nd Prize

**Reg Barrett** scored 1 point.

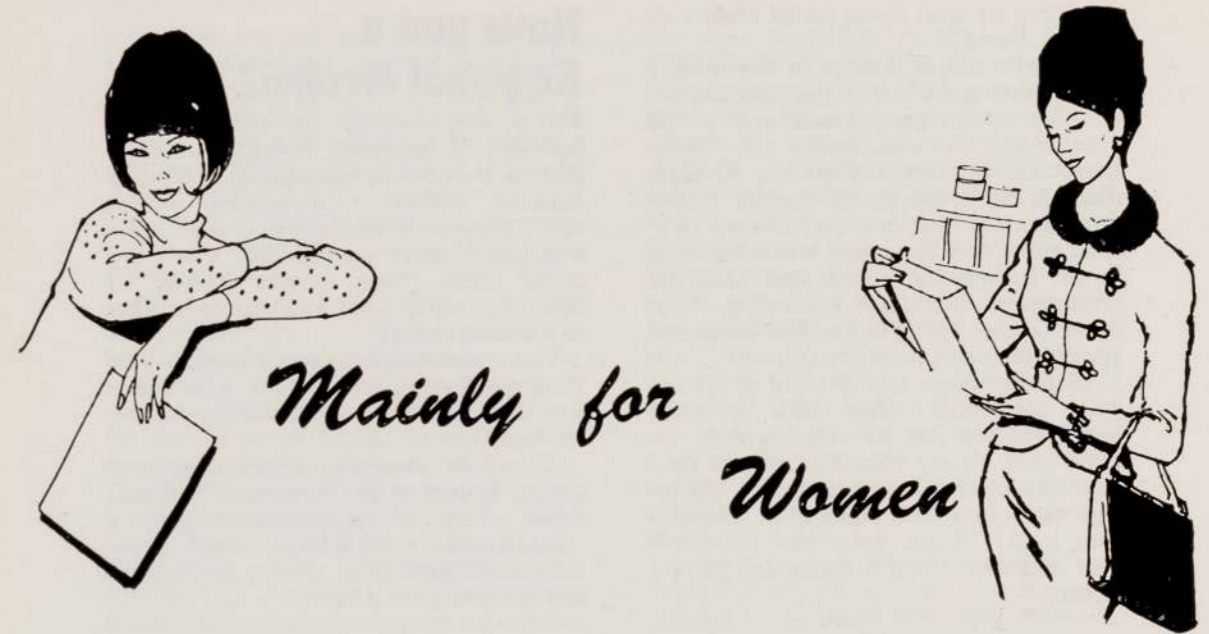
**Charles Rentowl—0.**

Beginners attending were as follows:

James Padley, Mrs. Alice Gimbriere, Michael Tybinski, Eddie Allchin

### CHess INSTRUCTION WEEKEND

A weekend of instruction for chess players has been arranged to take place at Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean, from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th February. Mr. R. W. Bonham is prepared to run separate instructional sessions for complete beginners, improvers and "professors". These will take place on Saturday morning and afternoon and on Sunday morning everyone is welcome, no matter what their standard. Please apply for accommodation to Miss Bridger, Homes Booking Clerk, at Headquarters.



## The Background Listener

What comprises a housewife's day? Of course you know—only too well! But how much "background listening" do you do simultaneously—and how often is the television on, and you half-watching it?

It's part of our daily life, isn't it, and we hardly even notice it. I must say I enjoy the adverts on ITV, but on this occasion I've concentrated on Auntie BBC, and flipped through the week's Radio Times—and been astonished by the rich variety of topics for our pleasure, and of course for our information and education!

An account of ghost investigations gets star billing; one hopes it will be informative but not too ghoulish! Comedy—on radio and television; sport—eight different at least appear. What part do the Royal Family and the pageantry of our country's history play in our lives? An immense amount. December of course includes the Sovereign's annual radio and television Christmas broadcast, and some recent television appearances by Royalty—notably H.R.H. Prince Charles' epic interview, broadcast on his birthday!—may have the effect of bringing them in closer touch with the nation. Science programmes, medical information, politics, a variety of religious

programmes are all evident. "Panorama" on television discusses the "infant bottle-feeding controversy" in the developing countries, and African dance is the subject of "The World About Us". Cookery recipes are interspersed in pop programmes. We can listen to the learned delivering the Reith lectures, and talking about archaeology and architecture—the current "Spirit of the Age" series is illuminating; the gentle and wise trying to assist with the personal problems of those brave enough to write in. Who can fail to be involved with that everyday story of countryfolk—perhaps you even listen to "Farming Today" for the real thing? Music in abundance—the Proms, Radio 3's own concerts, light and popular music at all times; and conversation! There's no end to that, is there, whether it be from Parkinson, Frost, "Any Questions", or "Down Your Way".

Religious programmes have their share too; on television and radio, ranging from the controversial to the cosy. Books are reviewed, new drama and old films are there for our entertainment, the classics of many countries provide serials—colourful on television and imagination-stirring on radio. A Victorian novel by Mrs. Gaskell has just commenced,



providing us with some social history as well as drama!

We learn about finance in the Money Programme, politics from the politicians—whether or not party broadcasts are to your taste, or you prefer the direct transmissions from Parliament. At least there is no shortage of current affairs programmes. And one can always tune in to the World Service, if home listening is not sufficiently varied, and hear the programmes broadcast to Europe, Asia, America and Africa, in English, European and other appropriate languages.

So the choice is wide; but what are your comments? The BBC is ours, insofar as we pay for our licences; so state your views, please! Do you time your day by the news broadcasts? What part do radio and television play in your lives? Please write and tell me—your remarks should make fascinating reading!

## VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

by Wally Thomas and George Rees

*During 1975 our Deaf-Blind St. Dunstaners, Wally Thomas, had hospital treatment and it was suggested that a change of climate would help him considerably. George Rees, known to most of you, agreed to escort Wally on a month's holiday in South Africa. Mrs. Opperman and Jimmy Ellis of the South African branch of St. Dunstan's generously arranged the trip. Below, George and Wally offer us their account of the four weeks:*

A DC 9 lifted us off the Heathrow strip, and 90 minutes later dropped us down at Geneva. We hiked from one part of the Airport to another and eventually climbed all the steps that led us into the welcoming gap of a Jumbo Jet. We flew through the night and made a good landing at Johannesburg. We found our way through the vast Jan Smuts Airport and boarded a Boeing 707. At Cape Town we were greeted by wind and rain, but warmly welcomed by Jimmy Ellis and his wife Laura, who drove us to the hotel where we were to stay for the twelve days.

## Have you a Regional Recipe?

Part of the attraction (for me anyway, I confess) of spending holidays in other parts of the country is sampling traditional regional dishes. "Cumberland mince tart", "Yorkshire apple and cheese pie", and real Cornish pasties. But surely we could share these recipes instead of being forced to pack and go on holiday to discover them?!

Your contributions are invited, ladies (and gentlemen. Incidentally, how many St. Dunstaners are dab hands in the kitchen?).

So: your favourite regional recipes please (a sort of St. Dunstan's "Nation-wide" effort). We might even produce a "St. Dunstan's Cookbook", with contributions from blind chefs; we should welcome hints and tips!

A couple of days later we went to St. Dunstan's Church, Pinelands, where our St. Dunstaner, the Rev. Michael Norman, was host at a gathering of St. Dunstaners. We had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Opperman, members of her Council, old and helpful members of St. Dunstan's and a large number of St. Dunstaners—both black and white. We enjoyed greetings and interesting conversation both before and after a most enjoyable lunch.

The South Africa National Art Gallery is to be found in Cape Town. It boasts a "Touch Gallery", and this department has been designed to offer an appreciation of Art to the sighted and blind. We were welcomed there by Sandra Eastwood, and she ably introduced us to the finer points of Art.

During our stay in Cape Town, we were taken to the top of Table Mountain by Cable Car and enjoyed the wonderful view that it had to offer of the town and Peninsula.

A Boeing 707 ferried us from Cape Town to East London. Transport drove us nine miles out of Town and dropped us off at a place called Hillcombe. Hillcombe

is in semi-country and started life as a small convalescent hospital for British Servicemen wounded in Africa during the Second War. It changed its style of life several times and subsequently became a Holiday Home for the Blind of South Africa. The R.A.F. Association of East London invited us to their Club, and we spent an enjoyable evening there with the members.

We were back on the plane and it dropped us down at Durban just for a brief visit, en route for Johannesburg. We were met at the Airport by Ron Pennicott, the President of the R.A.F. Association for the whole of Africa. As he drove to our hotel he told us some of the outstanding aspects of this wonderful City. It had been arranged for us to meet Lord Fraser's Grandson, Christopher Macdonald, and his attractive wife Athalie. This charming young couple had the ability to make us feel very welcome in their home. We had an excellent meal, interesting conversation, and Chris introduced Wally to the game of "Master Mind". A few days later the Macdonalds took us on a trip to the Johannesburg Lion Park. It was a remarkable experience to just sit there in a car and be surrounded by roaring lions. Our South African St. Dunstaner, Danny Pretorius and his wife, generously invited us to spend a weekend on a 600 acre farm. We are indebted to them for their every kind gesture.

Our last evening in Johannesburg was spent at the R.A.F. Association's Club and we had the pleasure of being introduced to the members and their wives. We were made honorary members and presented with Club ties, and Wally was presented with a small trophy shield as a memento of our visit.

The occasion provided us with an opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the overwhelming hospitality we had enjoyed during our month in South Africa.

And then it was time for us to climb up those steps again and into the Jumbo Jet's welcoming gap.

The evening meal was served and then cleared away, the bustle subsided and most passengers settled in their chairs to a night's sleep. The night had grown old by the time breakfast was served, and after the crumbs had been brushed away,

we were preparing to land at Zurich. Then the P.A. crackled and the voice informed us, "This is your Captain speaking. Dense fog has closed Zurich Airport. We are being re-routed to Basel." At Basel, we were told the situation was beyond the scope of the Airport Staff, and that being so, we would have to make our own way and carry our own baggage to Zurich. The journey involved a bus ride, train ride, another bus ride, plus physical strugglings and mental strainings. We finally reached Zurich Airport and joined the other hundreds of stranded passengers. But, we were fortunate to be favoured with seats on one of the first planes to leave the airfield. We were only five hours behind schedule when we touched down at Heathrow.

It had been a most interesting and enjoyable month and we are sincerely grateful to all those who contributed to our pleasure.

## THE TOUCH GALLERY

Editor's Note

*Wally Thomas has also given us his own personal reflections on his visit to the Touch Gallery.*

As children, we were brought up to understand we mustn't touch things when in shops and other places, and it served to provide us with a complex about touching things in public. This aspect of upbringing was among my initial problems when I lost my sight later in life. When a blind person is examining an object, it is important that he or she should be calm within and allowing concentration to flow smoothly through the hands. It took me a few years to acquire that calm when handling things in public.

There is another problem, and I have no wish to appear unkind when calling your attention to it. It is the fact that most sighted people are rarely asked to describe things in detailed accuracy; but, when they are asked to do so in order to help the blind, they doubt their own abilities and falter over the choice of words. When attempting to describe things to the deaf-blind, they are inclined to question their own spelling ability and will replace an adequate word of des-



Wally Thomas examines an African mask at the Touch Gallery in Cape Town.

cription with something easier to spell, and all the time they are moving away from the truth.

All that being so, you will readily appreciate why I wasn't feeling entirely confident when I arrived at the Touch Gallery, but Sandra Eastwood quickly dispelled any apprehensions I may have been harbouring. Her slender and sensitive hands lightly held the backs of my hands, leaving my finger-tips and palms free to feel the objects. She would firstly guide my hands gently over the general outline of the object, and then she would start detailing. There were those occasions when she would glide my hands over a detail again, again and again, until she was convinced I had recognised the true significance of what she was trying to impart and the artist had wished to express. Yet she did not speak a word to me. She concentrated intensely when guiding my hands, and at the same time she read my hands and face for the first signs of comprehension. Then we would move on to the next detail, and when all the details had been explained in fascinating manner, she would again run my hands over the general outline, and I knew I was

wearing a large smile of enlightenment.

Before being wounded, I rather fancied myself as something of an artist, because I had been keen on quick sketching, but Sandra, without speaking a word to me, introduced me to the finer points of art. She has also inspired me to take an active interest in sculpturing, and to her I am deeply grateful.

WALLY THOMAS

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome a St. Dunstaner recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes he will settle down happily as a member of our family.*

**Reginald Chapman**, of Cambridge, joined St. Dunstan's in November. He served with the 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment during the Second World War, and was a prisoner of war in the Far East for three years. He is married, with one son.

## European Conference on Culture

As part of the R.N.I.B. delegation I attended this conference, organised by the Polish Association for the Blind under the auspices of the European Regional Committee of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind.

The aim of the conference was to exchange accounts of experiences and discuss problems of cultural life, physical exercise and recreation for the Blind, particularly as they relate to rehabilitation and integration into their own society.

Apart from the debates, a tour of the local environment and a display of work and the achievements of the Polish Blind were also arranged.

The Conference was held from 30th September to 3rd October 1975 in the Palace of Culture and Science in the centre of Warsaw; a very impressive building, constructed by the Russians as a monument to Lenin.

The other members of our delegation were the chief delegate, Miss A. White, the R.N.I.B. Sports Officer; Mr. C. Cohn, Mr. J. Benoy and Mr. D. Teager. Sixty-four delegates represented eighteen countries: Belgium; Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Finland; France; West Germany; Greece; Hungary; Holland; Norway; Poland; Spain; Sweden; United Kingdom; Yugoslavia.

It was evident from the many good papers presented that the European organisers of Rehabilitation, Sport and Recreation for the Blind were working very hard towards unity of the blind organisations, with the aim that Sport and Recreation should be conducted by them instead of by the International Sports Organisations for the Disabled (I.S.O.D.).

Draft recommendations on Sporting, Cultural and Leisure Activities were drawn up, among other things emphasising the need for an internationally-integrated approach in the three spheres of the conference: competitions in more of the popular games should be organised on an international basis; publicity should be given to the fact that participation in cultural activities helped in the attainment of a fulfilled life, despite the handicap of blindness, and to this end newly-blind people should be encouraged to learn Braille; and that for all individuals well-arranged leisure pursuits helped bring about an awareness of life, which should be encouraged by the Blind organisations.

The twenty recommendations were adopted by the conference participants, for presentation to the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, with the aim of having them adopted internationally.

## International Olympiad of Sport

A mini-sports day was held at Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium for the Paralysed and other Disabled, on Saturday 25th October, to select a team to represent Great Britain in the 1976 Olympiad for the Physically Disabled in Toronto, Canada, from 3rd to 10th August 1976.

This will comprise Paraplegic, Amputees and Visually Handicapped sections. There were approximately sixty competitors in the Visually Handicapped section competing for a place; of these, a dozen were St. Dunstaners, who attend the annual Multi-disabled Games at Stoke Mandeville, this year winning 22 medals between them in the field, track and swimming events.

The St. Dunstaners were: A. Carter;

J. Cope; E. Jinks; W. Miller; T. Parkinson; R. Peart; N. Perry; P. Spencer; T. Tatchell. Their ages ranged from under 30 to our veteran Charles Stafford, who is over 60. All are to be congratulated on their efforts, bearing in mind that the ages of the other Visually Handicapped competitors averaged just over 20. Our special congratulations to **T. Parkinson** and **R. Peart**, who were selected as part of the fourteen-strong Visually Handicapped section of the British team, T. Parkinson in the Shot, Discus and Javelin events and R. Peart in the Pentathlon.

I know you will all join me in wishing them every success in Toronto next year.

J. CARNOCHAN

## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

*Cat. No. 253*

### The Truce

by Primo Levi

Translated by Stuart Woolf

Read by David Geary

Reading Time 7½ hours

Early in 1945 the author was liberated from Auschwitz by the Russians. But it was to be many weary and frustrating months before he was to see his native Italy.

After a stay in a transit camp, the Italians were loaded onto a cattle-truck train—destination unknown.

Thus began their extraordinary journeyings, covering many hundreds of miles, backwards and forwards across Europe. They crossed the vast Russian Steppes, travelled through Poland and Roumania. Sometimes the train passed through the same town more than once. They were put up at camps along the route, for a few days, a few weeks.

The Russians with the party were in no way hostile and fed their charges when,—and if—they could. They simply did not know what to do with the human freight.

Guards and ex-POWs alike were in a kind of limbo, at the mercy of the crass ineptitude of the Soviet bureaucratic machine.

Then, suddenly, incredibly, it was all over. The train headed for the Brenner Pass and home.

This book is written with tolerance and good humour, full of anecdote and small adventures. I enjoyed it.

*Cat. No. 810*

### An Episode of Sparrows

by Rumer Godden

Read by Stephen Jack

Reading Time 7½ hours

Catford Street is a typical London back-street. Twelve-year-old Lovejoy Mason lives, semi-permanently, with the childless couple who keep the little restaurant. Her mother is on the stage (this would seem to be the less lucrative of her two professions).

One day Lovejoy "finds" a packet of flower seeds and this gives her the idea of making a garden. But there is no soil in

Catford Street. She enlists the unwilling aid of "Tip" Malone and together they raid the sacrosanct gardens of The Square, a nearby area of very plushy, very large houses. They make a secret garden in a corner of a bombed-out churchyard.

Lovejoy acquires (by extremely dubious means) more seeds and plants. Her insatiable demand for still more soil proves their undoing. On yet another night-raid they are caught black-handed.

The children are confronted by the arch-enemy, the natural leader of The Square set, a formidable spinster with the sympathetic understanding of a Hanging Judge. She insists upon sending for the police. This sets off a chain-reaction affecting the lives of many people.

This is an utterly delightful story, sometimes a little sad, often very funny, told with compassion and sensitivity. Not to be missed.

*Cat. No. 132*

### The Mission

by Hans Habe

Read by George Hagan

Reading Time 13 hours

Professor Heinrich von Bender is a distinguished Viennese surgeon with an international reputation. But he is also a Jew and the year is 1938.

A thirty-two nation conference on refugees is to be held at a town on the French-Swiss border. The Germans send the Professor—as "the Jewish representative"—with an "offer". They are prepared to sell Jews (worthless merchandise) to any of the member-nations at 250 dollars a head. At the conference a Gestapo agent informs the Professor that, should the "offer" be rejected, 100,000 Jews will immediately be arrested.

The conference delegates are deeply distressed at the plight of the Jews. They all have very good reasons why they cannot help. In any case, the story of mass arrests is nonsense. The Germans are a civilised and humane people...

The Professor has failed—as, perhaps he was intended to fail. The Jews are to be left to the executioners. And he himself is under sentence of death—from angina.

## THE SPECIAL BRIGADE—60 YEARS ON

On the anniversary of the Battle of Loos, 25th September each year, the "Special Brigade" holds its reunions. Sixty years ago was that battle, and at the Imperial Hotel they talked it over yet again, reminisced and exchanged the last year's news.

Frank O'Kelly told us something of the history of the Special Brigade. "Soon after the German gas attack in April 1915, the British High Command decided to take some form of retaliation, and put their heads together and choose a senior R.E. officer to organise and train a gas corps."

It expanded, "from a small, semi-civilian kind of secret society into a formidable force of 6,000 officers and men (who established for themselves a fine reputation in the British Expeditionary Force), and received no fewer than 557 decorations, the majority of which were 'immediate' awards for gallantry in action.

"We collected at Helfaut in August 1915, where we were welded into the first four special companies of this brigade, which was formed by 50% infantry men and 50% chemists; the whole corps were volunteers.

"Sixty years have passed since those first bleak months", wrote Frank, "yet vivid memories remain of the faces of my comrades. I appreciate the reunions because I enjoy meeting the friends I knew 60 years ago, to be able to talk over the things we did, the mud and filth, the common dangers we shared. We also recall memories of the billets good and bad, and the French peasants with whom we got on so well. The years appear to roll back, and it is as if we are in our youth again.

"The reunions now are held at the Imperial Hotel for luncheon, to give the older men (I being one of the young at 78½) a chance to return to their homes the same day.

"In 1965 at the 50 year jubilee at Eastbourne, 137 members attended; this year the number was approximately 50. The decrease is probably accounted for by the passing on of some, and the fact that others are not fit to make the journey from all corners of the British Isles. I have met Tommy ap Rhys at the last two

reunions, but not Colonel Oriel. Both Tommy and myself volunteered for the trench mortars in March 1916 and left the cylinders. The uniqueness of the Special Brigade will be understood when I say that Tommy came from Bangor University, and I from the Infantry. My own company, "O", is now only five strong, and we are constantly in touch by 'phone or letter'.

Frank reports: "Our last words on saying farewell are 'See you next year'".

### A SOUTH AFRICAN ST. DUNSTANER'S TRIBUTE

A Wykehamist St. Dunstaner who wishes to remain anonymous, having discovered that there was no memorial of any kind to Arthur Pearson at Winchester College where he was educated, has recently presented to the School Library a set of the special limited edition in seven volumes of Milton's Prose Works as well Dugdale's Gazetteer on England and Wales (published 1830) in four hard-bound volumes and a copy of Lord Fraser's "My Story of St. Dunstan's" all containing a specially printed book plate which reads as follows:

This book was presented  
by a Wykehamist St. Dunstaner  
In 1975 (the Diamond Jubilee year of St. Dunstan's)  
to Moberly Library as a tribute to  
Cyril Arthur Pearson, D house 1883-1886,  
(later Sir Arthur Pearson, Bt. died 1921)  
who by his own enterprise in 1915  
when himself totally blinded  
initiated an entirely new approach  
to the handicap of blindness  
when he founded St. Dunstan's training  
centre  
for blinded Service Men of the 1914-18  
War  
which in later years  
under the able direction of his pupil and  
successor  
Ian Fraser, (himself blinded in the  
1914-18 War)  
set a Pattern which circled the globe like a  
torch  
lighting the path to victory over blindness  
for so many blind people  
In so many lands.



## IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

### French Ham in England

The President of the French Blind Radio Amateurs is someone that St. Dunstan Ham **Bill Shea** (G4 AUJ) has spoken to many times over the air, and recently they met when Adrien Aufraise (F6 CGA) travelled from Antibes in the South of France to visit his sister in Witney, Oxfordshire. He returned to Paris on 3rd November for the A.G.M. of the Association, and asked Bill to pass on to all St. Dunstan's Hams his own and his Society's best wishes.

### Swimming Medal

Jumping in the deep end is a fairly popular habit; but when you are blind, and the deep end happens to be at a Blackpool swimming pool, perhaps it takes more than usual courage.

**Vi Delaney** of Liverpool was blinded in an explosion of detonators at the Kirkby Munitions Factory in 1942. Holidaying sometime afterwards with her sister, she took the plunge that led her to make swimming her major hobby. A past President of the Amateur Swimming Association, Mr Austin Rawlinson, met them when he was swimming at Garston with his grand-daughter. He discovered that the two ladies swim 70 lengths of the bath, totalling 1,330 yards, on five days of each week, making them eligible to receive the Association's gold badge, awarded to adults who swim 65,000 yards in under two years as part of their scheme to encourage people to swim regularly for health and fitness.

The picture, from the *Liverpool Daily Post*, shows the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Councillor Owen Doyle, pinning the badge on Vi's lapel, at a presentation

ceremony at the Town Hall. Needless to say the supreme gold award is now Vi's target, for which she has to clock up another 410,000 yards in two years. She says they are going to go out for this as quickly as possible.

"We gradually built up to swimming 70 lengths a day over the last 12 years. The first ten lengths are the hardest, but after that you get into the rhythm of it.

"We have a target never to swim less than 70 lengths a day, and sometimes we go over that to 80 or more. Usually, it takes us about an hour. When you are blind you aren't able to get much exercise, but with swimming you can make up for it.

"It is also so relaxing. All my tension goes as soon as I get in the pool. You are not worrying about traffic or getting bumped all the time."



## FAMILY NEWS

### Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Matthew Dunkley* of Northampton, are pleased to announce that their son Martin was married to Miss Lynette Bosworth on 18th October.

### Ruby Wedding

We congratulate *Mr. and Mrs. James Nash* of Jersey, Channel Islands, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 25th November 1975. Mrs. Nash has now recovered from the broken wrist and other injuries which she sustained recently in a car crash.

### Diamond Wedding

Warmest congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Smith*, of Rottingdean, Sussex, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary on 11th December, 1975.

### Grandparents

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bilcliff* of Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire on the birth of a grand-daughter; Claire Marie, born on 3rd October to their son Robert and his wife Gail.

*Mr. and Mrs. Harry Blundell* of Warrington, Lancs., on the birth of a grandchild on 7th August; a second son, Stephen for their son John and daughter-in-law Irene.

*Mr. and Mrs. George Fallowfield*, on the birth of their eighth and ninth grandchildren; a son, Ben, and a daughter, Naomi, for his grand-daughter, Janet, who is Mrs. D. Wigney of Trentham, Victoria, Australia.

*Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas Morrish* of Peacehaven, Sussex on the birth of their second grandchild, a son for their daughter Margaret and son-in-law Roger Bruce on 12th October, at Warrandyte, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

### Great Grandparents

#### Our congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Ashby Ward Smith*, of Falmouth, Cornwall, whose identical twin grand-daughters, Mrs. Penny Williams and Mrs. Suzanne Monson have both recently had sons; Ross James, born on 30th October to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, and Darren James, born on 11th November to Mr. and Mrs. Monson.

### JUDO CHAMPION

Kevin Mooney, son of *Mr. and Mrs. John Mooney* of Moston, Manchester, recently came third in his weight in the National Judo Championships held at Coventry. He is a Brown Belt, and now has a bronze medal. We send our congratulations! Kevin and his father both work at Hawker Siddley Aviation Ltd., where Kevin is a trainee craftsman.

### Record Poultry

*William Duncan Alexander*, of Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire, has just retired from poultry-keeping. Not unusual — but William has kept hens since 1917, which is surely a record for a St. Dunstan's poultry-keeper! When he gave up his poultry farm at the end of 1975 he had about 100 hens. Until a year ago he personally scythed the grass on his land.

We send him our best wishes for a very happy retirement.

### Deaths

#### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Mark Britton* of Nottingham, whose wife Frances died on 5th November.

*Edward James Dadswell*, of Perivale, London, on the death of his Father, Mr. J. Dadswell, on 22nd November 1975, aged 85.

*Theodore Leonard Giles*, of Saltdean, Sussex, whose Father died on 16th November 1975 in Wakefield, Yorkshire.

*Sidney Jones* of Manchester, on the death of his mother on 9th November.

## 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.

**George Bell.** *36th Bn., A.I.F.*

George Bell, of Augusta, Western Australia, died on the 3rd November, 1975, at the age of 82.

He served with the Australian Forces in the First War and later played an active part in the blinded soldiers' organisations in Australia. He came to England twice in recent years, visiting relatives and getting in touch with St. Dunstan's.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. L. E. Bell.

**William Edward Moeran Blandy, M.A.**

*1/4th Royal Berks.*

W. E. M. Blandy, of Bucklebury, Berkshire, died in a nursing home on the 30th November, 1975, at the age of 88.

He was a solicitor who was commissioned and served in the First War. He came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1917, and then returned to his family firm in Reading, from which he finally retired in 1959. He took a great interest in the work of other ex-Servicemen and was very active with the Royal British Legion. His wife died some years ago and he lived quietly in the country, moving to a nursing home when his health failed.

He leaves a son and daughter and their families and other relatives.

**Harry Anderson Danby.** *Tank Corps.*

Harry Anderson Danby, of Chelston, Devonshire, has died at the age of 88.

He served in the Tank Corps throughout the First World War. For a number of years he was Manager of a grocery shop, then worked in a local Food Office until he retired in 1955 and left Skegness to live in Torquay.

When he was a young man he was a Church organist, and sang in the choir, and in his retirement he continued his musical interests.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Dorothy Mary Danby, and other members of his family.

**John Alfred Goddard.** *Bedfordshire Regiment.*

John Alfred Goddard of Great Amwell, Hertfordshire, died on 25th November 1975, at the age of 79. During the First World War he served in the Bedfordshire Regiment, and was wounded in 1916. He became a St. Dunstaner in February 1975.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Florence Goddard, and other members of his family.

**Mrs. Maureen Violet Lees.** *A.T.S.*

Mrs. Maureen Violet Lees of Birkenhead, Merseyside, died at her home on 4th November at the age of 76.

She joined the Women's Service towards the

end of World War I, and rejoined the A.T.S. in 1939, after marrying between the Wars, and reached the rank of C.Q.M.S. Her sight began to fail during 1944, and the following year she came to St. Dunstan's where she trained in weaving. When she returned home she set up a workshop in Birkenhead. She became involved in work for the war disabled in her home area, organising shows of goods made not only by herself but by other St. Dunstaners and other disabled people generally, for which she will be remembered by many of her contemporaries.

**Samuel Preston Leigh.** *Suffolk Regiment.*

Samuel Preston Leigh, of Maidstone, Kent, died on the 6th December, 1975, at the age of 80.

He served and was commissioned in the First War, and was severely wounded at Gallipoli. He worked with I.C.I. until he retired and his sight and general health failed seriously at a later date. He came to St. Dunstan's just a year ago and his wife died about the same time.

He leaves a nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. T. Every-Brown.

**Samuel Charles Loram.** *Royal Engineers.*

Samuel Charles Loram, of Brixham, South Devon, died on 6th December 1975 at the age of 79. He served as a Sapper with the Royal Engineers in the First World War, and became a St. Dunstaner in 1919. He was known as "Our Sam" to many fellow St. Dunstaners and staff at Headquarters and at our Brighton Homes. Prior to enlistment he had been a seaman, and was justifiably proud of his eldest son, Jack's recent promotion to the rank of Commander in the Royal Navy. For many years he was a member of the British Legion, and to honour his services he was made a life President. A British Legion funeral service was held on 10th December.

He leaves five sons and two daughters, all with families, and his sister, Mrs. E. C. Williams and her husband.

**Robert Redfern, D.F.C.** *Royal Air Force.*

Robert Redfern, of Hornsea, North Humberside, died at home on the 4th December, 1975, aged 82 years.

He served in the First War, being commissioned in the R.A.F. in its early days, and was severely injured. He came to St. Dunstan's only a few months ago, by which time his sight had failed and he was seriously ill.

He leaves a widow, Dr. Elizabeth Redfern, two sons and two daughters.

**Harry Stocks.** *Royal Engineers.*

Harry Stocks of Heage, near Belper, Derbyshire, died on 28th November 1975, aged 87.

During the First World War he served as a Sapper with the Royal Engineers, and suffered mustard gas poisoning. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1971, when he retired from his work as a miner.

He was a widower, and leaves five children and their families.