



St Dunstans
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St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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Message from the Chairman

Lawrence Fawcett, M.B.E.

"Many congratulations, Commandant!" These words will have been said or written a great many times since the announcement in the New Year's Honours List of the award of the M.B.E. to Mr. L. Fawcett, the Commandant of our Brighton Homes, but I should like to say them again now on behalf of everyone in St. Dunstan's.

Mr. Fawcett himself says he feels it is an award to all the staff who work so well at Ian Fraser House and Pearson House, and I know there is splendid teamwork, but I also know that it is the Commandant who by his example leads and inspires the team. St. Dunstan's is deeply grateful for his work in the general administration of the Homes and in particular for the immense task of supervising their reorganisation, which he undertook and completed so successfully. We are all delighted at the public recognition he has now received.

Two Farewells

Because of St. Dunstan's wide interests and all the ways in which we try to help St. Dunstaners and to play an active part in the blind world generally, there are many varying kinds of service given by our staff.

I am particularly reminded of this by the retirement of Mr. Richard Dufton and Mr. George Stevenson, whose work has been outstanding in two completely different spheres. Richard Dufton, a Second World War St. Dunstaner, has been our Director of Research for some fifteen years and through his expert knowledge he has guided St. Dunstan's and individuals in many matters and has become a well-known figure in the international field. George Stevenson, almost the longest-serving member of our Headquarters staff, has made his special contribution on the "home front", carrying heavy responsibilities in the Estate Department and always ready with his personal knowledge and experience to help a St. Dunstaner or a colleague.

Detailed appreciations of Richard and George appear on other pages of this *Review*. Their pleasant daily company will be much missed at Headquarters and, on behalf of the Council, St. Dunstaners and their families and the staff, I should like to wish them well. We all hope that they and their wives – both of whom are former members of St. Dunstan's staff – will enjoy much happiness and good fortune in the future.

COVER PICTURE: *George Stevenson, whose retirement is referred to by the Chairman, is seen addressing his colleagues of the Estate Department when they entertained him to a farewell Dinner party.*

The Robert Redfern Memorial Trophy

A new trophy has been presented to St. Dunstan's by Mrs. Elizabeth Redfern, in memory of her husband, the late Captain Robert Redfern, D.F.C. Details of this are given on another page, but I should like to say here how very much we all appreciate Mrs. Redfern's thought and generosity in providing St. Dunstan's with these beautiful tankards for the special award.

Jon Earnest-Dune

CHAIRMAN

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.

Harold Beddis of Yorkley Slade, near Lydney, who joined St. Dunstan's in December. Mr. Beddis served as a Private with the 9th Gloucestershires during the First World War. He is married with a grown up family.

Frederick Charlick of Orpington, Kent, who joined St. Dunstan's in December. He was a Sapper in the Royal Engineers and served in the Second World War. On Christmas Day 1941 he became a prisoner of war in Hong Kong and was held in Camps there and in Tokyo. Until fairly recently he worked as a Clerical Officer with the G.P.O. He is married with a son and a daughter.

Waldred Evans of Newport, who joined St. Dunstan's in December. Mr. Evans served in the 9th Welsh Regiment. He is married.

John Edward Gallagher of Romford, who joined St. Dunstan's in December. He served in the Second World War as a Marine in the 43 R.M. Commandos. He is married with a young son and daughter, and has two adult sons from a previous marriage.

Thomas Jackson of Lancaster, who joined St. Dunstan's in December. He served in the First World War, and is now a widower.

Staff Appointments

Mr. David Castleton succeeded Lieut.-Commander R. C. B. Buckley as Public Relations Officer at Headquarters on the 1st January 1977.

Mr. Castleton joined the staff in 1960 as Assistant Public Relations Officer, in which capacity he has attended many Reunions and become well known to a large number of St. Dunstaners. We wish him much success in his important post.

The position of Assistant Public Relations Officer has been filled by Captain Raymond Hazan who joined the staff on the 5th January, 1977. He became a St. Dunstaner in November 1973, and we also wish him every success in his new career.

C. D. WILLS

Mark Kingsnorth

After 13 years service as a Braille Instructor at the Brighton Training Centre Mark Kingsnorth retired at the end of November. Prior to his appointment to the Staff he had been one of our successful Shopkeepers for over 17 years, from the time of his training days at Church Stretton.

A number of staff and St. Dunstaners have contributed towards a retirement gift and it has been suggested that other St. Dunstaners may wish to be included. Any contributions may be sent direct to Commandant at Ian Fraser House.



Lady Buckmaster with Bill Shea and tandem.

Joan, Viscountess Buckmaster

We are very sorry to have to report the death of Joan, Viscountess Buckmaster on December 22nd. She was 78. St. Dunstaners who trained at Church Stretton, where she was a Braille instructor, will remember her with affection and a tribute from one of her pupils, Esmond Knight, appears below.

Before the Second World War, Lady Buckmaster had followed her mother's example as a prolific Braille-writer, transcribing more than 50 books. From 1940 onwards, she was a Member of the Council of the National Library for the Blind, taking a keen interest in all the

Library's activities. She acted as a judge at the Library's annual Braille Reading Competition and one of the trophies, for a section for those losing their sight after 1939 and who have learned Braille since the age of 16, bears her name.

Her other charitable work included the Royal United Kingdom Beneficent Association, and the Sheppard Trust—homes for elderly gentlewomen of limited means. A lover of the Arts, she served on the Council of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

'Lady B'

Any words spoken or written "In Memoriam" can only be in this case a glowing tribute to an outstanding character and an exemplary life.

The good that people do, the true acts of love and help extended to others during their lifetime are what we remember when they are gone.

Lady B. left us so much to remember her by that we are overwhelmed by deep sorrow at her passing and most sincere gratitude. In the later years of her life, she devoted herself to the aims and work of St. Dunstan's and to the National Library for the Blind. Her name was synonymous with St. Dunstan's: she was a veritable flying buttress of the place! A generous personality to welcome one up in the Long Mynd after the hard pull up from Church Stretton.

Design for Living

What would we have done without her? It is hard to believe we shall never see her again, just as it was hard for a newly blinded young man to believe he was never going to see anything again. It was in helping us to believe in and accept our new design for living that Lady B. excelled.

With true vision and sensitive imagination, she gently but firmly initiated us into the mysteries of Braille and our new life in a way which miraculously took the sting out of entry into the, as yet, totally unacceptable world of the Blind. It was utterly abhorrent to us at first and the staff had a tough job, listening to our particular problems, our moans and groans against an unjust fate and the tirades of self-pity in which the newly blind love to indulge!

GEORGE STEVENSON

A great many St. Dunstaners are going to miss the familiar voice of George Stevenson answering the telephone when they ring up about urgent repairs, rents, rates or other problems, and they will be very sorry to learn that he will no longer be around to get some positive action taken to put matters right.

Before he came to St. Dunstan's long ago in March 1935, Mr. Stevenson had spent some years with a well known West End firm of Estate Agents and Surveyors. When he arrived at St. Dunstan's he started as assistant to the former Estate Manager, the late Mr. P. R. Lale. When war broke out in 1939, having given up a good deal of his spare time training with the A.A.F., he then joined the war-time R.A.F. After a short spell with the barrage balloons he was commissioned and spent most of his time overseas, mainly in East, West and South Africa and in the Middle East.

On his return to St. Dunstan's in the Autumn of 1945 he found himself faced with the formidable task of touring the Country to buy houses as fast as possible in order to provide homes for the St. Dunstaners who were coming out of training.

George Stevenson has acted as my assistant in the general running of the

'LADY B'—continued

But they coped, and she coped wonderfully, and now one looks back, almost with nostalgia, to that weird, transitional period as part of the good old days! We remember it all with gratitude and, in particular, to Lady B. She walked with us, talked with us and read to us. She even biked with us—on a tandem—occupying the front seat so we could sit behind and do nothing—though to reverse positions could scarcely have been wise road sense!

So, with all these memories, and the countless transcriptions into Braille which she painstakingly hammered out, she has created her own memorial, which will last for ever.

And so, a long farewell. We will not forget you, Joanie, dear Lady B.

ESMOND KNIGHT



Peter Matthews congratulates George Stevenson.

Estate Department for many years and since 1951 he has had overall charge of all matters connected with the maintenance of St. Dunstan's soldier properties and he has dealt also with the rent and rate problems. At times his duties have been very heavy but he has carried them out with exemplary conscientiousness and an ever-ready cheerfulness. Not only staff in the Estate Department but many other members of staff in other Departments have come to rely on George Stevenson for guidance and advice on St. Dunstan's policies and procedures. He will certainly be missed by all of us.

St. Dunstaners will be glad to know that George Stevenson will not be disappearing from view altogether as he plans to move to the Brighton area in the Spring of 1977. Therefore, if a St. Dunstaner walking around Brighton should chance to hear a well known voice enquiring whether his taps are still running properly, it will be George Stevenson, not a figment of the imagination.

I know that everyone will want to wish George Stevenson happiness and relaxation in his retirement which, undoubtedly, is well earned.

PETER MATTHEWS



IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

Freeman of the City

On January 19th Jimmy Wright was guest speaker at the Livery Lunch Party at the City Livery Club. His subject, "Sport for the Disabled", was illustrated by excerpts from the film he produced recently for the British Sports Association for the Disabled. Being a St. Dunstaner Jimmy made a point of telling his audience of St. Dunstan's pioneering work in sport for the blind, dating back to the First World War.

For Jimmy there was an additional element in the occasion. It was his first official visit to the city as a Freeman. He was made a "Freeman by redemption", to use the technical term, by decision of the Common Council.

Frank Harding accompanied Jimmy to the Guildhall for the ceremony of admission to the Freedom of the City of London on December 14th.

Togetherness

27 years ago, on exactly the same day, Thomas Rosewarne and his wife Ida, of Denton, Manchester, signed on at the same firm. On the same day, 6th December 1976 they both received gold watches from their firm, Flavels Limited, at a joint ceremony. After this, they were entertained right regally by the Directors. Tom and Ida were married on 16th July 1941 and have a son, Malcolm. Now there will always be a spare watch to tell the time—that's togetherness.

Jimmy Wright.



Roy Mendham receives his album from Branch Manager, Don Lightowler.

Roy Rings Off

Roy Mendham is probably best known at St. Dunstan's for his athletic achievements at our own Sports Days, in the walking Club or as a member of the Ilford Athletic Club where he competed in the throwing events on level terms with sighted athletes.

December 30th brought an end to another equally successful field of activity after 24 years as telephonist in the Ilford Office of the Commercial Union Assurance Company. It was an emotional evening for Roy at a party to which, not only his present colleagues came but

many others retired or now working in other branches of the Company.

Roy heard tributes from his present Branch Manager, Don Lightowler, from Leslie Rogers, retired Branch Manager who knew him when he began at Ilford, and John Wilkin, now Sales Manager of the North London Branch, and formerly in Ilford. Ivy, his wife and Brian and Jean, son and daughter were there to lend moral support. Roy received a gold Braille watch and an autograph album with the names of all his friends at Commercial Union.



Richard Dufton talking to Raymond Baxter on *Tomorrow's World*, B.B.C. 1.

Trying out an early model of the 'sonic torch'.



RESEARCH DIRECTOR RETIRES

On January 31st Richard Dufton, C.Eng., M.I. Mech.E., retired. When he was appointed as St. Dunstan's first Director of Research in March, 1961, his brief was to advise the Council of St. Dunstan's on research matters and on broad technical affairs as well as acting as Executive Officer for the Scientific Committee and the Workshops Development Committee.

In the fifteen years or so which followed, St. Dunstan's participation in the development of guiding and reading devices for blind people has made a very significant contribution in these important areas.

Mr. Dufton came to his post at St. Dunstan's from a distinguished career in engineering with the Miles Aircraft Company. He entered the Royal Navy in 1934 and lost his sight when he was injured in an air raid in Plymouth in 1941. After training at St. Dunstan's he began work in the Experimental Department of Miles Aircraft in Reading.

Later he became Chief Designer on the Company's ball-point pen project and his work had a great influence on the development of what has become a universal writing instrument.

Richard Dufton has represented St. Dunstan's at international scientific conferences. In 1966 he was secretary of the International Conference on Sensory Devices for the Blind, organised by St. Dunstan's, and subsequently edited the proceedings of the conference, published as a hard-backed book.

Mr. Dufton has brought to his work a technological mind and a grasp of scientific data of all kinds. He believes that a multi-disciplinary approach is the best way to tackle the problems of blindness and he himself is well equipped to co-ordinate the efforts of scientists and technologists in varying fields.

His enthusiasm and kindness have made him an excellent spokesman for St. Dunstan's on scientific and technological matters and he has appeared on television and radio many times as well as contributing to scientific journals and magazines.

Fortunately for St. Dunstan's Richard Dufton will be able to continue to represent our organisation on several important committees and his advice will continue to be available to the Council.

C. D. WILLS

A. H. Simcocks, M.B.E.

Many congratulations to Howard Simcocks, who has recently been elected to be County President by the Isle of Man County of the Royal British Legion! He writes: "This means that with Norton Christal one of the Senior Vice-Presidents, St. Dunstan's is well represented in the very active ex-Service life of our Island".

NOTE FROM PENSIONS OFFICER

All St. Dunstaners and widows with children for whom they receive an allowance with their pension, are advised to apply for the new **Child Benefit** if they have not already done so. It is of particular interest to the St. Dunstaner in receipt of the Unemployability Supplement as he will lose £1 from the Child's Allowance and, therefore, needs to apply otherwise he will be out of pocket.

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 1074

The Shakespeare Curse

by John Boland

Read by Michael de Morgan

Reading Time 8 hours

Two men are digging a grave in a village churchyard in Warwickshire. Suddenly there are cries and the men flee in terror. There in the grave is a girl, naked and emaciated, but still alive.

When she recovers she tells a fantastic story. She has lain buried in a state of suspended animation for almost four centuries. The daughter of the local inn-keeper, she knew William Shakespeare, Michael Drayton and Ben Jonson among her father's "regulars".

The story fires public imagination and the girl soon commands the same unreasoning hysteria as a pop star. An opportunist impresario puts on a show with the girl as "star". There are strange deaths and "The Shakespeare Curse" is born.

The Scotland Yard officers investigating the deaths are by no means convinced that the incredible story is true. They smell fraud of some kind. But what kind? And how is it being perpetrated?

On the other hand the girl could be telling nothing but the simple truth. For was it not William Shakespeare himself who wrote "There are more things in Heav'n and earth"?

A cunningly contrived and brilliantly executed tale. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Cat. No. 1119

Three Crowns

by Jean Plaidy

Read by Arthur Bush

Reading Time 13 hours

When William of Orange was born the nurse "saw" three golden rings around the child's head. These, she declared, were three crowns. One day he would rule over three kingdoms. The story persisted and the young Prince grew up determined that one day the "prophecy" would come true.

READING TIME—continued

The plot shifts to Restoration England with its wild extravagances, its lechery, plot and counter-plot. The King, charming, good-natured and urbane on the surface, is also a very shrewd and devious man and a crypto-Catholic. His brother James is a very different type. He seems to have a real genius for courting unpopularity. His ostentatious adherence to the Catholic faith angers the powerful "No Popery" faction and finally leads to his downfall.

The book ends with William of Orange and his wife Mary, daughter of James I, setting off from Holland to claim the three crowns of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Purists may scoff at this kind of "fictionalised history" but nevertheless it makes fascinating reading.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From: George Fallowfield, Worthing, Sussex

A Christmas card I received this year with a picture of horses and old-time vehicles on it reminded me of an incident early in October, 1914. About 5 p.m. I had walked over Vauxhall Bridge from the Westminster side of the river on the east side pavement, and had got to the end when a large, very wide, flat trolley cart stopped when the policeman held up his arm, and a taxi came and stopped just under the trolley, and the horse got fidgety and started to pull and push this trolley cart backwards and forwards so that each time it went back it poked the offside lamp of the taxi at the end of the windscreen, and one could hear the lamp being broken and also hear the taxidriver's language! The trolley driver was high up on his seat with his chin on his left shoulder looking down at the taxi driver!

Well, just as the copper let his arm drop, the lamp decided to part company with the taxi and just dropped an inch or two on to the trolley and the horse set off at a brisk pace for the railway bridge and the old South Lambeth Road, with the taxi in hot pursuit with the driver bawling his head off and two schoolboys near me doubled up with laughter as the taxi lamp,

Cat. No. 342

Occupied with Crime

by Sir Richard Jackson

Read by David Broomfield

Reading Time 10½ hours

This is the well-written and most entertaining autobiography of the former head of New Scotland Yard.

The reader is taken behind the scenes, learns something of the administration and is left very much the wiser for having many of the more popular misconceptions corrected.

Sir Richard talks at length of interesting cases and of the unsavoury characters he has helped to put behind bars—or upon the scaffold.

An absorbing and informative book.

still alight, was perched on the extreme back edge of the trolley cart—and I have often wondered how far they went in that order, and if the taxi driver got his lamp back!

The Robert Redfern Memorial Trophy

St. Dunstaners will be interested to hear of a new trophy, which has been presented by Mrs. Elizabeth Redfern, of Hornsea, North Humberside, in memory of her husband. Captain Robert Redfern, D.F.C., served in the First World War, being commissioned in the R.A.F. in its early days, and was already seriously ill at home when he became a St. Dunstaner in 1975; he died only a few months later.

It has been agreed that the trophy should be in the form of a fine pottery tankard, bearing St. Dunstan's badge in relief, to be awarded outright each year to a St. Dunstaner for personal achievement within his or her first year as a St. Dunstaner. The award will be made for any kind of achievement, bearing in mind all the circumstances of age, health, previous activities, etc., of the new St. Dunstaners and it will be authorised by the Chairman upon recommendations from staff. The first tankard will be awarded later this year.

BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Jock Carnochan

The St. Dunstan's 1976 Indoor Championships had that something about it that made the five days of competition shine a bit more brightly than lots of previous events. The entry was a good one with 14 Totally Blind and 12 Partially Sighted, taking part, some of whom were experienced and quite a few who were just beginners. Bill Burnett and Jim Padley were responsible for the draw which produced very well matched contests.

Four competitions were run, T.B. and P.S. Singles and Pairs resulting in 35 one hour matches. Bowling lasted until 7.30 p.m. each evening enabling us to get in seven matches a day. I am sure some of the contestants still hear in their dreams such remarks as "too much green", "not enough weight", "bias on the wrong side" etc. The standard of bowling was excellent, particularly amongst those who have recently taken up the sport, surpassing their own expectations. The wives who were ardent supporters went home each night completely exhausted with the excitement and thrills of some of the matches. Their exhortations were sometimes reminiscent of cup finals. There were two very close matches requiring a further play-off; the singles match between Ted Frearson and Tony Mugan, and the P.S. pairs final between Bob Forshaw and Dave Hodgson against Arthur Carter and Monty Golding. Monty qualified as a British Railways Shunter—each time Dave and Bob had shot wood, along would come Monty and shunt it out. This may not be the best bowling etiquette but it worked, and it took them to first place.

Special congratulations must go to Dicky Brett and Percy Stubbs, the Bionic Pair, who between them had 3 legs and 2 arms and were only beaten by one point in their pairs match. In fact, all the doubly disabled competitors played well. Bob Osborne, who only started bowling this year, went on to win the T.B. Singles final beating veteran Ted Frearson. Dave



Ted Frearson bowling during the Class 'A' Singles Final against Bob Osborne, seen on left.

Hodgson who only bowled about 6 woods prior to entering the competition partnered Bob Forshaw through to the P.S. pairs final. Another doubly disabled competitor, Eddy Quinn, partnered by Tony Parkinson, was just pipped at the post in the final of the T.B. pairs by Jim Morrish and Tommy Mugan.

A special mention must be made of Jack Boorman whose expertise in strategy and finesse greatly assisted some of the newcomers. He was ever-watchful and forthcoming with advice. We would like to try and start up some instruction weekends and hope that Jack Boorman can come and tutor.

A special thank you to our patient umpires, Bert Davenport, Bill Williams and Fred Bacon, who have been helping St. Dunstan's bowlers for many years.

The week terminated in the Royal Crescent where we put into practice the quote in the December *Review*, "the social side of sport is just as rewarding".



"Tich" Cattermole - 1926

AS I REMEMBER

Bert Cattermole talks to David Castleton

St. Dunstaners and V.A.D.'s on a see-saw in Regent's Park.



This is the first interview with a sighted person involved in the history of St. Dunstan's. It is with someone who was less than 5 feet tall when he began his fifty years service with our organisation. Small wonder that First War St. Dunstaners christened him "Tich", the smallest Boy Scout working at Regent's Park.

"I first came up to St. Dunstan's as a little lad about eight years old to bring my uncle. My aunt married Eric Varley, a St. Dunstaner now dead, about 1920. She used to invite my brother and myself and my two sisters for a fortnight's holiday in London and we used to come from a little village in Kent called Cliffe, near Rochester.

"During the time I stayed with them in Tottenham my uncle, who was a basket maker, used to say to me, 'would you take me up to St. Dunstan's, Herbert, to collect my money?'—his money for making the baskets. My uncle took me round to see the men making baskets. This was only about two years after the war and there was any amount of men all making baskets in the big workshop."

In 1926 Bert left school. There was only agricultural work around his village and demand for a five foot agricultural worker was slight. So Bert accepted his aunt's invitation to spend a month with her to see if he could find a job in London. "I went to live with my aunt and got a job as a newspaper boy earning about 4 shillings a week, 20p nowadays."

St. Dunstan's Scouts

Then Eric Varley heard St. Dunstan's was looking for lads to act as guides and messengers and together he and Herbert went to see Mr. W. A. Askew. "Mr. Askew said, 'Hallo, Varley—because they didn't call them Mr. Varley—'Hallo, Varley, what do you want?'"

"So he said, 'I've got my young nephew here, he would like to be a Boy Scout at St. Dunstan's, would you give him a job?' Mr. Askew asked my name and said, 'Well, young Herbert, 'we'll take you on for a month and see how you get on.'"

There were half a dozen Boy Scouts employed at Regent's Park—their weekly wage was ten shillings or 50p in present currency. They all wore uniform.



Bert Cattermole - 1976

"We went down to the Boy Scouts Association and they fitted us all out in complete Scout's uniform. I took an order from St. Dunstan's—and I went along and they fitted me out—lock, stock and barrel—brogue shoes, blue socks with a little ribbon in them, corduroy trousers, a blue jersey, with a blue tie and a woggle, and a hat—one of those big bush hats. I remember I had a picture taken because I was so proud of it.

"We were general messenger boys, we used to meet the men at the stations, take them to Victoria and put them on a train to Brighton. Old Tom Watson used to give us all the different jobs to do." Official hours for the Scouts were 9-6. Bert used to bring in to Regent's Park, St. Dunstaners in training who lived out—and at the end of the working day see them home or on to buses or trains for their journeys.

One of the people Bert Cattermole most remembers from his first months as a



Matron Power (centre, in dark dress) with some of her staff.

Scout is Matron Power. "In those days the hospital matron was a real martinet, wasn't she? In many ways Matron Power was like this. She was boss of the V.A.D.'s, the Sisters. Boss over us boys—indirectly—and although she was very, very generous and a very nice warm-hearted woman, she was boss. And all those single fellows she had there, she kept a motherly eye on them. As they weren't with their mothers she more or less took the role of mother of her children.

Sports Days

"During the two years I was a Boy Scout we used to have Sports Days. We used to go down with Bill Tovell to Putney. I used to escort the men down to the boats and make myself generally useful and then we used to have a first class tea all laid out afterwards in one of the boating sheds.

"Then there was General Sports Day in Regent's Park. I remember one day Tom Watson sent me to Paddington to meet two men coming to the sports. When I got

there I found 22 of them! I thought, 'What the hell am I going to do with this lot?' We couldn't get taxis in those days—St. Dunstan's wasn't rich. It was tuppence on the bus and I hadn't got enough money for 22 so I sorted all the men out. Those with guiding sight I gave them a totally blind man each and we walked all up Praed Street, all the way along Marylebone Road to the Green Man in Clarence Gate where we were to have lunch. When I told Tom Watson he said, 'You must be joking' and didn't believe me until he phoned to check up.

"We Scouts used to go and help in the sports. It was a family affair because there used to be mothers and children. They were all youngsters then, little kiddies. They used to come to London from all over the place. There would be a couple of hundred there on a Saturday afternoon. Then when the sports were all over we used to go to the grounds of St. John's Lodge and have another slap-up tea. I remember all these things because of the slap-up teas!"

"Tich" Cattermole went to the Chelsea Flower Show, where St. Dunstaners

demonstrated making hammocks, he escorted groups to the theatre, to concerts and to operas. "I used to be at St. Dunstan's as late as 10 p.m. some nights. My aunt and uncle knew where I was and knew I could look after myself. The first two years as a Boy Scout were really tip top, so many things that you remember."

At the age of 16 the Boy Scouts usually left St. Dunstan's, "Unless they absorbed you into the firm—Mr. Zipfel was one Boy Scout who joined the staff." Bert Cattermole was offered work in the Stationery Department.

"I used to buy and issue all the stationery, going round all the departments. Then I became general factotum to the Massage Department under Mr. Mace and I got to know the masseurs. I used to go out to put batteries in their machines—I used to go to Reading to Mr. A. H. Brown and there was Mr. Jackson of New Malden.

"Another job I had was to go to Guy's Hospital and collect skeletons. They gave

me a long box and inside was a skeleton. The underground in those days didn't have automatic doors and one day on the Inner Circle I caught the box against the door and a skull rolled down the inside of the carriage. The women passengers started to scream, I think they thought I was Dr. Crippen."

Another skeleton was the cause of trouble for Bert, "Mr. Mace sent me out to the yard and there was a full skeleton—all wired up—everything. I thought, I'll have a laugh here so I put a piece of rope around the old skeleton's neck and dragged it through the office where all the girls were, saying, 'Look what I found out in the shed—dunno who it is!' There was such a commotion going on there that Mr. Mace came along, 'All right, Cattermole,' he said, 'Once is enough.'"

Bert Cattermole was an interested observer of the beginnings of the Talking Book in the famous shed, visiting the scene of operations during his lunch hour. "I saw quite a lot of Lord Fraser. Actually he started me on my radio career. I went

Sports Day in Regent's Park.





Lord Fraser, then Ian Fraser, in his workshop.

up there once and he was experimenting and tinkering with radio and he said, 'This is a very interesting hobby, you should take it up later on'—and later on I did."

Bert was hopeful of transferring to the Talking Book Department, but this did not happen and he had to be satisfied by watching the experiments. "There used to be great big slabs of concrete hanging down on wires and these wires ran down to get the speed exactly at 24 revolutions a minute. This was because they couldn't drive the record at 24 revolutions in those days—it was all 78. It used to be a real hotch potch of experiments—everything was Heath Robinson.

"Funnily enough after the war I did go and work for the Talking Book Department for six months. When the war was finished and I came out of the Air Force the Royal National Institute for the Blind wanted a radio engineer and they couldn't get one. Mr. Askew lent me to the Institute for six months."

There Bert made use of his R.A.F. experience and the studies he had undertaken in his spare time in the years before the war in electronics, converting talking book machines from D.C. current to the new A.C. supplies which were then

becoming widespread. When the R.N.I.B. found their own man he returned to St. Dunstan's where he joined Peter Nye's new Research Department. "I was ten years at Hinde Street and in that time the Talking Book switched from records to tape. They went through a tremendous amount of work to make the first cassette machine."

A Damn Good Time

Bert Cattermole was involved in other interesting projects including work on the amplifiers of the original sound system for aiming the rifle in the range at Ian Fraser House. His present work is with the Joinery Department at Headquarters, but he looks back on earlier days with nostalgia, "St. Dunstan's was very friendly in those days, everybody was on one floor. There was no upstairs, no downstairs. Everybody knew everybody on the staff and it was really a happy-go-lucky place. There was a host of good lads among St. Dunstaners: there was Drummer Downs, Archie Brown, a lot of sportsmen, Paul Nuyens—he's still on the go. It was really a damn good time we had—all day long we used to be laughing."

ROVEDEAN NOTES

At the beginning of the month, the House was fairly quiet as Christmas preparation's gathered momentum, but our usual Drives and visits to the Dome Variety and the Theatre Royal took place. By December 21st there was a lively atmosphere, and by the time the Christmas tree, complete with twinkling lights, exciting-looking parcels, and silver star, stood regally on the Main floor, and silver and gold decorations had transformed the Lounge and Dining Room, the Christmas spirit really came alive. A large party went to Tylden House, near Horsham, for an invitation festive tea, and our kind hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Lyndhurst, were thanked on our behalf by George Hewett, and presented with a stool. The following evening, Commandant ran the special Prize Bingo, which was a great success; on the next evening the Arena Choir from Hove entertained us. They sang many well-known songs and excerpts from musical shows, and included some of their Jewish songs, which were full of warmth and feeling.

Christmas Eve

On the afternoon of Christmas Eve, our old friends the Arena Players brought us a light-hearted entertainment called *Merrily On High*, written by themselves. Several of the sketches took the form of interviews with imaginary applicants for the post of "temporary acting Matron of St. Dunstan's"—and an awesome collection they were! The final applicant was ex-Roedeian and frightfully "Governor's lady from Poona". She had "this marvellous idea dahling, of filling that *super* swimming-pool with gin and tonic". We thought the idea had possibilities—well, it beats chlorine.

That evening, by 7.30 p.m., the stage was set with desk, gavel and candelabra, and a large audience was splendidly entertained by Mr. Sid Emons and the South Coast Entertainers, who sang the songs of Florrie Forde, Vesta Tilley, Harry Champion, Lily Morris and George Robey

with great verve and polish. Hot dogs, sherry and mince pies were served in the interval and the second half of the show was if anything, enjoyed even more than the first. It was so nice to see our older St. Dunstaners enjoying the show so much—they knew every word of every song and joined in with a will.

Christmas Day

Christmas Day dawned and it was lovely in every way. The sun shone, the grass sparkled in the cold, still air, as we made our way to Chapel. It was warmly welcoming and once more we listened to the familiar Christmas Readings and sang the old, well-loved carols, of which we never tire. The Dining Room looked warm and inviting with its snowy tablecloths, crimson table-napkins and tables laden with fruit, nuts, chocolates and crackers. The Christmas dinner was much enjoyed, judging by the well-scraped plates, and after the coffee and peppermint creams, Commandant and Matron read the messages of affection and goodwill from many old friends. By 2.30 p.m. the House was miraculously quiet—everyone was busy conserving energy for the evening. It was a great pleasure to welcome our Chairman and his delightful wife at supper-time and they spent the evening with us, listening to the comedy, *Crystal Clear*. We were most grateful to our two kind guest-readers, Mr. Richard Grierson and Mr. David Tait; to give up Christmas Night with one's family to come and play-read is friendship indeed and we thank them and their families most sincerely. Matron played "Jane-Ann", a terrifying battleaxe, and Commandant was "Willie", her very reluctant intended. In the play, he was supposed to partake of a good deal of Dutch courage and become more and more incoherent, ad-libbing in masterly fashion. The cast had its work cut out not to fall about laughing with the audience.

The following day was Sunday, and in the evening, St. Dunstaners and staff were

OVINGDEAN NOTES—
continued

to give an informal and impromptu entertainment. Miss Barbara Allen, a most gifted young pianist, who was also a brilliant accompanist (an art in itself), came from Hove to help us, but whether from shyness, apathy or a surfeit of Christmas pud, we had few volunteers. The VAD's opened the programme with a couple of carols, followed by Bill Burnett singing "South of the Border". We much enjoyed a naughty little ditty performed by Elsie Aldred, Thelma Meredith and Miss Roffey as chambermaids, assisted by a little potty. This was followed by a mandoline solo, played by one of our kindest and most conscientious orderlies, John Bond. We were somewhat puzzled to see a Viennese waltz played by a Mexican bandit in full regalia, but it certainly was different! Barbara played us two delightful piano solos, got us all singing lustily and was the hit of the evening.

Boxing Day

Boxing Day was again clear and sunny and requests for walks came thick and fast. That evening we had our usual Dance, but broke with tradition. We arranged the Fancy Dress to be on New Year's Eve, and instead, had a Tombola. It was a traumatic experience. Unlike the man who was too mean to spend Christmas, everyone wanted to buy quantities of tickets. We ran out of tickets. Help!! Miss Briant came to the rescue. She had a brother who had a friend who knew a man who had a shop—and he just might be open on Boxing Day. He was. (Praise be to Allah!). With all those tickets being bought, we felt we must provide more prizes, so the afternoon was spent in madly ticketing and listing prizes and folding hundreds of counter-foils. *What* a gay day! In the event, it was a great success—Commandant was in charge of the proceedings, which he enlivened with some new and hilarious stories from his vast repertoire.

Christmas was now virtually over—we had eaten too much and spent too much, but consoled ourselves with the thought

that we had enough money to last our lifetime—provided we passed on by 3 o'clock that afternoon.

Between Boxing Day and New Year's Eve, we visited Gibby's, near Polegate, for tea; went to the Dome to see *Cinderella*, and to the Theatre Royal to see *Pinocchio*. The latter seems to have been a happy fusion of melody, humour, colour and that indefinable quality that spells "magic". On New Year's Eve we held the traditional Dance, but this year had Fancy Dress. We were very fortunate to have two delightful judges—the Member of Parliament for Kemp Town, Mr. Andrew Bowden and his attractive wife. They added a great deal to our enjoyment. After much thought, they selected the following winners:

Ladies

Elsie Aldred	—	Departed Spirit
Winnie Edwards	—	St. Trinian's
Vera Kemmish	—	Take-over Bid (Arab Sheikh)

Gentlemen

Les Copeland	—	On the Dole
Bob Dewhurst	—	Derby Day (dressed as a typical Derby lady)
Sam Worthington	—	Footballer on transfer list

Group Prize

Fred Bullough	}	Gert and Daisy
Ted Hirst		

and we congratulate them, together with their "dressers", who do most of the hard work and most of the worrying! Another innovation was the entrance, just before midnight of a girl piper, and a ten-year old drummer boy who circled the Lounge; when Big Ben had struck midnight, Barry (the young drummer), presented Commandant, as Master of the House, with a tray. It held food, drink, money and coal, and Jackie Pryor gave Commandant the time-honoured wish for a Happy New Year, adding "May your home never be without food, never be without drink, never be without money, and may your hearth never be without a warming fire". We wish the same to each and every one of you.

Harrogate Bridge Week

The Harrogate Bridge week will take place this year from Saturday 24th September to Saturday 1st October. The Dirlton Hotel charges will be £7.30 per head per day excluding V.A.T. The Hotel are anxious to receive early confirmation from those who wish to partake in this Bridge week as the accomodation cannot be held for very long. Please let the Secretary know your name and that of your partner as soon as possible.

PAUL NUYENS
Secretary

CLUB NEWS

BRIGHTON SOCIAL AND SPORTS CLUB

Whist Aggregate

November

LADIES

1st	Mrs. H. Smith
2nd	Mrs. N. Phillips
3rd	Mrs. H. Webster

GENTLEMEN

1st	A. Dodgson
2nd	W. Holmes W. Lethbridge

December

LADIES

1st	Mrs. J. Osborne
2nd	Mrs. P. Lethbridge
3rd	Mrs. E. Dodgson Mrs. B. Griffiths

GENTLEMEN

1st	J. Kennedy
2nd	A. Dodgson
3rd	J. Padley W. Burnett H. Preedy A. Smith

Domino Aggregate

November

1st	Mrs. E. Dodgson
2nd	Mrs. P. Padley Mrs. H. Webster Mrs. F. Pike Mrs. C. Preedy A. Dodgson

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

All members of the staff at Headquarters, Estate, Industrial and Welfare Visitors, and staff at Ian Fraser House and Pearson House, thank St. Dunstaners for their greetings over the festive season. Their good wishes are heartily reciprocated.

Dr. John O'Hara thanks St. Dunstaners and their families for their very welcome Christmas Cards and Greetings. He would like to have acknowledged each personally, but owing to the great number, he is unable to do this.

December

1st	Mrs. B. Griffiths J. Griffiths
2nd	N. Phillips W. Aldridge T. Giles

ENTERTAINMENTS SECTION

On the 15th December, we held our last Meeting before Christmas, which was a Domino Tournament, after which Members enjoyed a glass of Sherry kindly presented by a friend of Bill Scott, together with mince pies supplied by the Entertainments Section. Afterwards we were entertained informally by several of our Members and we ended the Party with Carol singing.

We would like to wish all our Members in various parts of the Country, health and happiness in the New Year.

The Club Dances will be held on the 2nd Saturday in each month.

BOWLING CLUB REPORT

The Bowling Club has decided that the Ansell Cup shall be awarded annually for the indoor aggregate competition, and that the Quadling Cup shall be awarded annually for the outdoor aggregate competition.

Each winner will receive a replica of the cup he has won, which will be his permanently.

TED FREARSON
Chairman and Captain

THE ST. DUNSTAN'S LONDON SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CLUB

The Thursday evening Dominoes matches held in the London Club Rooms during December resulted as follows:

- 2nd December 1st R. Armstrong
W. Miller
J. Majchrowicz
- 9th December 1st C. Hancock
2nd J. Majchrowicz
- 16th December 1st J. Majchrowicz
2nd W. Miller

Nowadays the Dominoes games on Thursday evenings are usually no more than four tables, nevertheless our small gathering enjoy these few hours together. As you see Charlie Hancock continues to collect the lolly.

Most number of games won during 1976.

1st	C. Hancock	236	£5
2nd	W. Miller	223	£3
3rd	J. Majchrowicz	216	£2

Mystery Outing, Thursday, 7th April, 1977

Further to the notice in last January's Review, I am giving as follows the details regarding this outing. Those taking part must be at St. Dunstan's Headquarters, 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1, by 9.15 a.m. so that the bus can leave at 9.30 a.m. the latest.

The Mystery Tour will comprise a Stately Home visit, a light luncheon, another visit to a well known establishment, ending up with drinks and light refreshments, leaving in time to arrive back at Headquarters at 6 p.m. People wishing to go to Brighton will be dropped at Victoria Station if they would please let us know that they wish to do so.

The cost for each St. Dunstan and his guide will be £2.50 per head. The number is limited to 20 St. Dunstaners and their escorts (40 in all) and an early reply is essential.

PAUL NUYENS

MIDLAND

Father Christmas was one of the visitors at our December meeting, which was held on Sunday, 12th, and what a very good meeting it was. All the ladies had been very busy once again making sure that the tables were laden with lovely Christmas fare. There were turkey and ham sandwiches, mince pies, trifles, Christmas cake and plenty of other very fine goodies. It all looked wonderful and I can assure you it tasted fine. Father Christmas came just after tea and presents were given to all the children. After this event, we came to prizegiving time, when everyone who had won a prize at Dominoes during the year received their gifts.

The winners of these prizes were as follows:

Sir Arthur Pearson Competition

- 1st T. O'Connor
2nd E. Hordyniec
3rd B. Tomporowski
G. Bilcliff

The Doubles Competition

- 1st J. Bailey and
Mrs. Joan Cashmore
2nd T. O'Connor and
Mrs. Marjorie Hordyniec
3rd G. Bilcliff and
Mrs. Sallie Bilcliff

There were some very nice prizes given out and I am sure that everyone was quite pleased with what they received.

Besides Father Christmas we had the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. W. Richards and Mr. and Mrs. A. Scrivens being with us as our guests, they are all members of the Austin branch, Royal British Legion.

Since around August my wife, Joan, has been busy taking orders for Christmas cards, Christmas decorations and other types of Christmas items and from these sales she has raised nearly £60 to help club funds. This was announced at the meeting and everyone thanked her very warmly for her efforts. This money will help considerably towards the cost of our dinner.

Before breaking up the meeting we all had a "Tot" together and finished the party on a very enjoyable note.

The following Saturday was yet another get together this time the occasion was the Christmas dinner. It was held once again at the Austin branch of the Royal British Legion. The weather on this day was terrible, with snow or sleet pouring down, I had quite expected to get some cancellations but I am pleased to say everyone turned up. We were pleased to have as our special guest, Miss Newbold.

We all assembled at 5 p.m. and sat down to the Christmas dinner at 5.40. It was a beautiful meal, piping hot and served very quickly. It had been prepared and cooked for us by Mrs. Ann Swinerton, the branch stewardess. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it and said what a grand spread it was.

After a short speech of welcome from the branch chairman, Mr. W. Drew, and a vote of thanks from St. Dunstan's club to the Austin branch for allowing us the facilities to hold our Christmas dinner on the premises, we all adjourned to the lounge whilst the room was prepared for the nights dancing. A number of club members joined in this entertainment, others were just satisfied in enjoying the comfort of the British Legion.

December has been a busy month but nevertheless a very enjoyable one, start the New Year by joining us if you do not already come along. My telephone number is Bromsgrove 73856 and I am home most evenings if you would like details of club activities.

DOUG CASHMORE

FAMILY NEWS

Marriages

Many congratulations to our St. Dunstaner, Emmanuel Claude Corbettis, of Dulwich, who was married on 18th December, to Miss Iris Barbara Jacovy. We wish them every happiness.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Benson of Horsham, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Sharron, was married to Douglas Ian Bowen of Warganui, New Zealand, on 11th December.

Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Sedman of Bury, are pleased to announce that their daughter,

Mr. W. Ruggles

St. Dunstaners who were mat makers will be very sorry to learn of the death of Mr. Ruggles on the 22nd December, at the age of 85 years. Mr. Ruggles retired in January 1956 after 34 years service in the Stores and Sales Department as a skilled mat maker and inspector of finished mats. We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Ruggles.

Michal Hunka

Since the publication of Michal Hunka's obituary in the December Review, Mrs. Winifred Hunka has kindly supplied us with more detailed particulars of her late husband's military career. She writes to us as follows:

In 1918, at the age of 12, Michal joined a very famous boys' regiment raised by General Pilsudski to fight the Russians, with whom Poland was at war at the time. He saw active service. When the regiment was disbanded, he went to an army training school at Torun and then served as a Pluta Nova (a rank equivalent to that of Sergeant) in a crack Polish cavalry squadron. He was taken prisoner when Poland fell and was in P.O.W. camps in Russia and Siberia—being released in 1941, he then went to the Middle East for training in modern warfare.

He was in the 1st squadron of the 2nd Polish Corps and fought at Monte Cassino, where he was wounded by shrapnel and lost the sight of one eye.

Irene, was married to Colin Frost on 16th October.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Weeks of St. Leonards, are pleased to announce that their son, Marcus, was married to Miss Victoria Josephine Wood on 13th November at St. Leonards Church, Seaford.

Ruby Wedding

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hill-Brown of Swanage, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 24th December.

Grandchildren

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. William Arnold of Keighley, Yorkshire, on the birth of their grand-daughter, Samantha Louise Woodhouse, born on 24th April and grandson, Justin Paul Dine, born on 2nd August.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickie Brett of Lancing, Sussex, on the birth of a first grandchild, a boy, Daniel Stuart, born on 4th November to his son, David, and his wife, Susan.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Kelly of Polegate, on the birth of their grandson, Andrew, born on 12th December to Colin and Margaret Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Major of Bournemouth, on the birth of their second grandchild, Gemma, born on 30th November.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Sturgess of High Wycombe, on the birth of their first grandchild, a daughter, Joanne, born on 7th September to Edwina and John Staton.

Mr. Stan Warner of Yeovil, on the birth of his first grandson, Paul, born on 10th October to his daughter in Bermuda.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Westby of Morecambe, on the birth of their grand-

daughter, born on 5th December to their son Trevor and his wife Pat.

Mr. Harry Windley of Walkden, on the birth of two more grand-daughters making a grand total of seven grandchildren. Michelle was born to his daughter, Pauline, in July and Liza was born to his daughter Linda in August.

Examination and Career Successes We warmly congratulate:

Tom Taylor of Leyland, Lancashire, who has been awarded a B.A. Honours Degree second class, by the Open University. He hopes to read for a Masters Degree starting in the Autumn and is hoping to go to Lancaster University.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Mr. Thomas Ap Rhys of Bangor whose wife, Evelyn, died on 9th August.

Mr. Charles Stephen Shepherd of Bosham whose wife, Marjorie Joyce died on 30th December.

Mr. Patrick Timiney of Sheffield whose wife, Olive Mary, died on 20th December.

Mr. Stan Warner of Yeovil whose wife, Emily Hilda, died on 15th December.

He leaves a widow Mrs. Patricia May Baldwin, two daughters and two sons and grandchildren.

William Arthur Bradley *The Border Regiment*
Lieut.-Colonel W. A. Bradley of St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, died on the 5th January, 1977, at the age of 80.

He joined the Army soon after the outbreak of the First World War and was wounded in 1916, but continued to serve and was commissioned in 1918. Between the wars he worked as a manager on plantations in Sumatra. He rejoined his Regiment in England in 1939 and served throughout the Second World War; he was admitted to St. Dunstan's only a few months ago.

He lived quietly in retirement and had just enjoyed a very happy eightieth birthday when he was taken ill and died a few days later.

He was a single man and had no family, but was cared for devotedly for many years by Mrs. Yvonne Brewer, M.I.S.W.

George Lee *13th East Lancs.*

George Lee of Hingham, Norfolk, died on 4th January at Pearson House, aged 92.

Mr. Lee enlisted in March 1916 and served as a private with the 13th East Lancs. He was wounded in 1916 but remained a serving soldier until January 1919. It was not until November 1962 that Mr. Lee became a St. Dunstaner but even then, at 78 and in spite of his blindness and the deafness he had also suffered when wounded, he was a remarkable man for his years. He enjoyed working in his garden and was an active member of his local Blind Club. It was only during the last year that Mr. Lee's health began to gradually decline and he went to Pearson House just before Christmas for nursing care.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ella Lee and their daughter Mrs. Rita Watson and her family.

George Lyttle *Royal Garrison Artillery*

George Lyttle of Lurgan, Northern Ireland, died on 6th December, aged 91.

Mr. Lyttle joined the Royal Garrison Artillery in 1915 and served as a gunner until, in 1916, he was wounded on the Somme and lost his sight. By the time he came to St. Dunstan's in April 1924 Mr. Lyttle was already well adjusted to his blindness and he preferred not to take training with us—being a single man he was living happily and contentedly with his sister and her family. Mr. Lyttle firmly believed that walking was the finest form of exercise and in his younger days he would walk alone for up to 10 miles, whatever the weather, in the neighbourhood he knew so well and even as the years advanced, he continued to enjoy this outdoor recreation as much as possible. At the beginning of 1972, because his sister and niece were not in good health, Mr. Lyttle moved from Keady to Ballymacateer to live with his brother and sister-in-law. He had himself spent a time in hospital and whilst at first his health gave some cause for concern, he made a remarkable recovery and his 90th birthday in March 1975 saw him enjoying his usual daily walk.

He leaves his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bertie Lyttle. At the time of our St. Dunstaner's death, Mr. Bertie Lyttle was himself in hospital after being injured in a car accident and we wish him a complete recovery.

James McGuire *Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders*

James McGuire of Newcastle on Tyne, died on 26th December at Ian Fraser House, aged 81.

He enlisted in September 1914 and served as a private with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, seeing service in Salonika, Egypt and

France before being discharged from the army in January 1919. When Mr. McGuire came to St. Dunstan's in September 1957 he was a widower but upon remarrying in June 1958, he and his wife went to live at Hurst near Reading where they remained until 1964 when they were happy to be able to make their home in Scotland near relatives and friends. They suffered a sad blow when Mrs. McGuire's health began to deteriorate and she became an invalid and when his wife passed away in January 1970, our St. Dunstaner went for a time to Ovingdean. He married again in April 1971 and settled in Hove but two years later had to endure more distress when Mrs. McGuire died. Our St. Dunstaner eventually left the South Coast to make his home in Newcastle. He leaves his daughters and their families.

Charles Mills *King's Royal Rifle Corps.*

Charles Mills of Sittingbourne, Kent, died on 10th December, aged 80.

Mr. Mills enlisted as a Rifleman in the King's Royal Rifle Corps. at the beginning of World War I and was injured by Mustard Gas in 1918 and discharged the following year. Up to 1937 he was able to continue with his occupation as a brick-maker but he was forced to give up his work due to deteriorating health and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1961.

Our St. Dunstaner's greatest hobby was his garden and greenhouse where he successfully cultivated fine crops of fruit, vegetables and flowers.

He leaves two daughters Mrs. E. Freeman and Mrs. S. Loveridge. Sadly Mrs. Eveline Victoria May Mills died soon after her husband.

Archie Puttnam *Royal Army Service Corps*

Archie Puttnam of Beverley, Yorkshire, died on 6th December aged 60.

Mr. Puttnam enlisted in September 1940 and served as a Lance Corporal in the R.A.S.C. The onset of his blindness came while he was a prisoner of war in the Far East and after being discharged from the army in July 1946, he became a St. Dunstaner in October of that year. Mr. Puttnam trained as a physiotherapist and obtained his first appointment with the City Hospital, York in February 1951 where he settled very happily. In 1954 he moved to a new appointment at the Kingston General Hospital in Hull where he became head of his department.

Even in his free time, Mr. Puttnam enjoyed working with his hands—he derived much interest from carpentry and spent many happy hours in his workshop.

Mr. Puttnam was dedicated to his profession, regularly attending the St. Dunstan's Physiotherapy Conferences and also participating in International Conferences. He was working right up to the day he was admitted to the Annexe of the hospital for treatment for his sudden illness.

He leaves his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Puttnam.

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 William Baldwin *Royal Army Service Corps*

George William Baldwin of East Molesey, Surrey, died on 9th December, aged 55.

Mr. Baldwin served as a Driver in the R.A.S.C. during the Second World War from 1941 to 1946 and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1970. He undertook a period of Industrial Training and became a valued employee in Industry, being very much involved in the assembly of switching gear for an Electrical Company in which capacity he was employed until his death.

Our St. Dunstaner was instrumental recently in starting a Club for the Blind in the area of his home.

In Memory *continued*

Arthur Rowe *2nd Essex Regiment*

Arthur Rowe of Newcastle, Staffordshire, died on 10th December, aged 81.

Mr. Rowe enlisted in December 1914 and served as a private with the 2nd Essex Regiment. He was wounded and lost the sight of both eyes, coming to St. Dunstan's in April 1916. He trained in boot repairing and mat making and having chosen the latter as his occupation, turned out excellent work for our Stores Department right up until 1969. It was in February of that year that Mrs. Rowe passed away and although a married daughter and her husband went to live with our St. Dunstaner, the family suffered the shock of another bereavement when this son-in-law died just a few months later. Our St. Dunstaner then went to live with his youngest son, Ian, and his family and with their help and support he settled down very contentedly and enjoyed doing more hobby work for us in the form of string bag making.

He leaves two sons and two daughters and their families.

Ernest Sunderland *Rifle Brigade*

Ernest Sunderland of Rochdale, died on 24th November, aged 82.

After enlisting in November 1914 Mr. Sunderland served as a Pioneer with the Rifle Brigade and then transferred to the Royal Engineers. He suffered damage to his sight when wounded in 1916 but after receiving treatment in St. Marks Hospital in London, Mr. Sunderland regained some sight and remained a serving soldier until 1918. Mr. Sunderland came to St. Dunstan's in July 1967 by which time he was retired but he enjoyed keeping active by pottering in his garden. It was a proud moment for him and his wife when they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in December 1969, which was the occasion for a party attended by many members of their family and friends.

He leaves a widow Mrs. Hilda Sunderland. Mrs. Sunderland has recently been in hospital and we wish her well again soon.

James Taylor *King's Liverpool Regiment*

James Taylor of Preston, Lancashire, died on 22nd December, at Pearson House, aged 80.

Mr. Taylor served as a private with the King's Liverpool Regiment from 1914 to 1918. He was wounded and gassed at Armentieres in 1917 but did not come to St. Dunstan's until August last year. Because of Mrs. Taylor's illness and

subsequent admission to hospital, our St. Dunstaner came to us at Pearson House early in September. Sadly Mrs. Taylor passed away on the 13th November and at this time Mr. Taylor's own health was already beginning to give cause for concern.

He leaves two daughters Mrs. Muriel Bitcon and Mrs. Dorothy Whitehead and their families.

Charles Frank Vener *Royal Fusiliers*

Charles Frank Vener of London, died on 6th January at Pearson House, aged 85.

Mr. Vener served with the Royal Fusiliers from 1909 when he enlisted, and his regiment was embodied in common with other Territorial Army units, into the Regular Army at the outbreak of World War I. Our St. Dunstaner was discharged in 1918 having been gassed whilst on service in France.

He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in November 1973 but due to poor health as a result of his war injuries, became a permanent resident at Pearson House in May 1975. He will be long remembered by Matron Hallett and the staff at Pearson House for the courageous way in which he coped with his disabilities.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Julia Hannah Vener, three sons and a daughter.

Robert Griffin Wilson *Royal Navy*

Robert Griffin "Tug" Wilson of Littleton, Somerset, died on 31st December, aged 56.

Mr. Wilson served as a Stoker in the Devonport Division of the Royal Navy from 1938 until his discharge in 1948. He was wounded in Hong Kong by a hand grenade during the Second World War, and was subsequently a Far East prisoner of war for four years, suffering extreme deprivation and the consequent effects on his health. Prior to enlistment, Mr. Wilson had worked in a factory.

After a period of training, our St. Dunstaner was approved for Country Life Settlement in 1949 when he took over a small-holding in Somerset, specialising in poultry farming, and ran this most efficiently with the able assistance of his wife. Although busily engaged in raising pullets and with the attendant work concerned in egg production, Mr. Wilson found time to grow vegetables and tend his orchard as well as a greenhouse.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Jacqueline Annie Wilson, two daughters, Ann and Mary, his son Robert, and six-year old Thomas Alexander.