



St Dunstans Review June 1977

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

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10p MONTHLY

Message from the Chairman

A. D. Lloyds, C.B.E., F.C.A., Former Secretary of St. Dunstan's

It was a sad shock to all his friends to learn that Douglas Lloyds had passed away on the 30th April, 1977.

His long years of devoted service to St. Dunstan's were of the greatest value and many St. Dunstaners and staff have precious personal memories of this fine man. His knowledge and influence were also extended to help the civilian blind in this country and the blind in the Commonwealth and elsewhere abroad.

There are other references to Mr. Lloyds in this *Review*, but here I write on behalf of all St. Dunstaners and their families at home and abroad, our Council, staff, my wife and myself and send our deepest sympathy to his widow, Nora, and sons, Timothy and Robin.

Professor K. H. C. McIntyre, M.A.

St. Dunstan's friends in this country were deeply grieved to hear of the death of Ken McIntyre in South Africa. Ever since he trained and studied here after the Second World War, we have followed his career with great interest and pride as he was appointed to increasingly important posts at the University of Natal.

My wife and I have happy memories of meeting Ken and his wife when we were fortunate enough to visit South Africa. On behalf of all at St. Dunstan's, I send Billie and her family our deepest sympathy at this sad time.

New Members of St. Dunstan's Council

At its meeting on the 28th April, our Council appointed two new members: Mr. R. Dufton, C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E., who retired from his post as our Director of Research earlier this year, and Dr. A. N. McDonald, M.A., D.Ph., a House Master at Bryanston School, Blandford Forum.

Both names are, of course, familiar to readers of the *Review*, as Richard Dufton is himself a St. Dunstaner and is our expert on scientific matters and Neil McDonald is the second grandson of Lord and Lady Fraser. We are delighted to welcome them, both personally and for the valuable contribution which their knowledge and understanding of St. Dunstan's work will enable them to make to our Council's discussions.

Canadian Reunion and Australian Conference

Here in England we are always delighted to welcome Commonwealth St. Dunstaners at our London Headquarters or at our Brighton Homes.

This summer the Reunion of the Sir Arthur Pearson Association in Winnipeg would have given my wife and myself a wonderful opportunity of

meeting a great many Canadian St. Dunstaners, but unfortunately, as I have already explained to the organisers, it is impossible for me to attend. However, St. Dunstan's will be very happily represented by Mr. C. D. Wills, our Secretary.

At about the same time, the 23rd Biennial Conference of St. Dunstan's, Australia, is taking place in Brisbane. Their President very kindly asked me to record a message for them, which I have had great pleasure in doing.

The greetings and good wishes of all St. Dunstaners and their families, our Council and the staff go out to Canada and Australia. Lady Fraser, in particular, sends her affectionate best wishes to her friends.

May good fortune attend upon you all in the Sir Arthur Pearson Association and St. Dunstan's, Australia!

John Earnest-Dune

CHAIRMAN

DR. JOHN RETIRES

Dr. John O'Hara started in medical practice in Brighton in 1948 having moved South from County Durham. He joined the staff of St. Dunstan's in February 1950. He had thus been Medical Officer for nearly five years when I first met him and he was already becoming a legend at St. Dunstan's. He was a G.P. in the best possible old-fashioned sense of the word. Not only was he Medical Officer but he was and still is friend and confidant of St. Dunstaners, their wives and families and a great many of the staff.

To do a round with Dr. John is a revelation. You can feel the St. Dunstaner relax at the sound of his voice. Call it psychology, "kidology" or pure charisma—it works far better than their pills and medicine. He is always the first to acknowledge that a second opinion is a good idea and he never spares himself for the care of a patient.

During the past twenty-seven years he has suffered a lot of ill health and many operations but always put the well being of St. Dunstaners first. He bounces back long before he should or would allow his patients to.

The second big love of his life—or is it the first?—is football as all St. Dunstaners know. Thanks to his position as President of the Sussex F.A. many of you have been able to share the thrill of a cup final at Wembley.

Having worked closely with him for twenty-three years I find it is very hard to put into mere words how grateful I am to have had the privilege of working for him and with him and for his friendship and support. He may be small in stature but his heart is four times bigger than any normal man's. We wish him a long life and a very happy retirement.

OLIVE HALLETT

Robin Buckley

As we go to press we are sorry to learn of the death on May 23rd, of Lieutenant-Commander Robin Buckley, G.M., who retired as St. Dunstan's Public Relations Officer at the end of 1976. A full tribute will appear in next month's issue.

Silver Jubilee Bowl

Further to the Chairman's announcement in the April issue of the *Review*, that a copper bowl commemorating Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee would be sent to each St. Dunstaner, it is regretted that the manufacturing programme is running about one month late.

Chairman's Tribute to Douglas Lloyds

MR. GARNETT-ORME'S FUNERAL ADDRESS

"A life of service" is often used to describe the activities of outstanding members of a community. It is a simple phrase and I think it is entirely right to use it for Douglas Lloyds and his long years of distinguished work for the blind.

Having qualified as an accountant, he came to St. Dunstan's in 1938, but the war came and he soon joined up and was commissioned in the Royal Artillery. He fell into the hands of the Japanese and was a prisoner of war for some four years, serving his country in perhaps one of the grimmest ways in wartime. Happily he returned to England and St. Dunstan's for many years of responsibility, culminating in 18 years as secretary, a post which in our organisation is the senior executive officer. Throughout that time he worked closely with the late Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, our Chairman, who wrote of the good advice he gave him, his modesty, administrative ability, patience and judgment, and his kindness to St. Dunstaners, their families and the staff. I remember, with deep gratitude, his wise guidance and help to me on many occasions. His last public act for St. Dunstan's, and more personally for Lady Fraser, after he had retired, was his superb organisation of the memorial service to Lord Fraser, held in Westminster Abbey.

Whilst chiefly concerned with the needs of blinded ex-servicemen and women in this country, Douglas Lloyds also had many contacts with the civilian blind in the United Kingdom and with blind organisations abroad. He was active with the Royal National Institute for the Blind, the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, the International Congress of European War Blinded and the National Advisory Council of the Employment of Disabled Persons. He visited Nigeria at the express request of the government to advise on the rehabilitation of their war blinded, and travelled to other countries by invitation, including India, the Continent, the United States and Canada. St.

Dunstaners in Toronto made him an honorary member of the Sir Arthur Pearson Association as their special mark of appreciation.

During his time at St. Dunstan's the organisation was much involved in international research into the handicap of blindness. In 1972, his outstanding work was recognised when he was made a Companion of the Order of the British Empire and this award delighted his many friends, blind and sighted.

I have spoken of Douglas Lloyds in his official and public life, but he was also very much a family man. His home life in the country was very dear to him, and he was blessed with the constant and unselfish support of his wife throughout his exacting and strenuous life. To Nora, Timothy and Robin we offer our deepest sympathy at this time.

We all mourn the passing of our friend, Douglas Lloyds. At the same time we rejoice in the memory of the Christian life of service which he led as a man of courage and faithfulness, of integrity and dedication, of humour and compassion.

Funeral

The Chapel of Worthing Crematorium, was crowded for the funeral of Mr. Douglas Lloyds, on May 6th. Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, gave the Address, which is reproduced in full on this page. As well as members of his family there were representatives of the organisations for the blind to which Mr. Lloyds made so great a contribution:

Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind and St. Dunstan's Council; Mr. John Colligan, World Council for the Welfare of the Blind; Mr. Eric Boulter, Royal National Institute for the Blind and for St. Dunstan's, in addition to Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme, our Secretary Mr. C. D. Wills and other members of the staff.

St. Dunstaners attending were: Messrs. E. Carpenter, C. Cooper, R. Dufton, P. Matthews, P. Nuyens, R. Osborne, W. T. Scott and S. Spence.



IT STRIKES ME

by Magog

Doctorate

We send hearty congratulations to **Maurice Aldridge** of Rhodes University, South Africa, on obtaining his Doctorate. Morris joined St. Dunstan's in 1954 and after studying at Brighton Technical College went up to Queen's College, Oxford in 1960.

Morris is an expert on Chaucerian English and has spent a year writing a thesis on "Quantification" for his Doctorate. Dr. Aldridge has a wife and one son, Oliver, whom, we hear, is turning out to be a strong cricketer.

Another Jubilee

W. T. "Ginger" Scott has been telling me about another anniversary in this Jubilee year. This one is a golden jubilee, for it is fifty years since the formation of the Deaf/Blind Helpers League. Scotty became involved through the Norwood Toc H branch when a blind piano tuner, Mervin Milstead asked him to help a deaf and blind man in West Norwood named Jamieson, from Newcastle.

Scotty was at the first meeting held in 1927 in the crypt of St. Martin's in the Fields under the Chairmanship of the Reverend Austin Williams. Between 20 and 30 deaf/blind people travelled from all over London to the meeting. Ginger Scott came to know them all personally but he remembers best his friend Jamieson. "I took him to 10 Downing Street once. I told the policeman he could not see or hear and asked him if he could touch the door. The policeman agreed and Jamieson was able to feel the number '10'."

Scotty corresponded in Braille for many years with the late Arthur Sculthorpe, their pen-names—tonic and chronic. "Never in the field of the Deaf/Blind Helpers League was so much owed by so many to Arthur Sculthorpe, who we used to know as Steve", says Scotty.

Welcome to Winnipeg

The Mayor of Winnipeg, Canada has recently issued a proclamation to his citizens urging them to welcome to their city members of the Sir Arthur Pearson Association for the War Blind, who are holding their 5th reunion since World War II. He stated that the members were assembling to rededicate themselves to the principles of the Association, the well being and improvement of conditions of their members within the community. The week of the reunion, June 19-24th has been dedicated by the city to the Association.

It has filtered through

Frank Simonds of Southampton recently retired after 19 years as a capstan lathe operator at AC Delco Ltd. The company, a subsidiary of General Motors, make air and oil filters for the home and export markets. In presenting his retirement certificate, the plant manager, Mr. David Finch praised the fortitude and resilience that Frank had shown. Mr. Finch also paid tribute to the training, co-ordination and liaison which St. Dunstan's provided. He affirmed that Delco would continue to support the services of St. Dunstan's. Thanks Frank for being such a good emissary.

Gold watch for Bert

Readers will recall the article in the "As I Remember" series recently on Bert Cattermole. Bert retired on April 7th, having completed over 50 years service with St. Dunstan's. At a farewell party at Headquarters Bert was presented with an inscribed gold watch from St. Dunstan's Council by Mr. Wills. He also received presentations from his colleagues.

OVINGDEAN NOTES

On Monday 4th April Miss Margaret Johnson arrived at Ian Fraser House to work in double harness with Matron Jean Blackford preparatory to taking over as Matron on 1st May.

Miss Johnson's first introduction to the family was the second half of the dance on her first evening and it was a touching welcome that so many, who do not usually attend, made the effort to be there to greet her.

Before moving on to the rest of the happenings during April at Ian Fraser House, we all wish Miss Johnson a long and happy reign.

The Festival of Easter quite rightly dominated the early part of the month. The majority of the holiday makers arrived on the Wednesday and Thursday prior to Easter and it was lovely to see them and to hear them greeting each other.

Good Friday found a fair number of St. Dunstaners and a lot of staff who, under the guidance of the Reverend D. L. Francis, sang appropriate Good Friday hymns in between suitable readings and prayers. The Reverend Francis is standing in for Padre "Pop" (Reverend W. Popham-Hosford O.B.E., M.A., Knight of Orange Nassau) who has been off sick but who is anyway leaving his parish of St. Georges, Kemp Town and also St. Dunstan's Chapel to return to his work among seamen—this time in Eire. Our good wishes go with him and his wife and his jovial presence and friendship will be missed. It is fortunate that Reverend Francis is prepared to continue to fill the gap for the time being.

Good Friday evening was a delight to the ears. Mrs. Marguerite Keogh brought six of her young pupils who played and sang and recited. There was Jane Spooner on the Clarinet and for her it was a second visit and certainly not the last, we hope. She played some classical music as well as some popular music from the shows. Diana Fitz-Aucher on the fiddle gave us some Beethoven among other works; Lisa Taylor played the piano including some Mozart, and there was a talented family of Aspens—Elizabeth who

recited the tragic end of Jim who was eaten up by the lion, her young sister Rachael, who turned over the pages of music but next visit we hope will perform, and brother Giles who rendered three pieces on the piano. Thank you youngsters and come again please. After the interval that evening there were a lot more entertainers waiting in the wings. The Kittiwake Folk Group, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart and three friends who took the stage. So different from the young people but equally entertaining with their melodious songs and ballads and their friendly, smiling personalities. They had their audience's full attention and many a St. Dunstaner's foot was a tapping or his hand was conducting. It was not the Kittiwakes first visit and we hope we shall hear more of them in the future.

Easter Saturday—with the north wind blowing and snow flurries falling—some enthusiastic race-goers set off to Plumpton and they survived we are glad to report and returned to warm their chilled blood at their favourite "local" that evening and the others to do battle with each other at the Domino Drive in the Lounge. The winners were: first prize Charlie Pilgrim, second Micky Robinson, third Blodwyn Simon.

Alleluia—Alleluia—Alleluia—rang out from the Chapel on Easter Sunday morning and there was a great gathering of congregation from Ian Fraser House and Pearson House. Since the re-opening of Ian Fraser House just two years ago, Matron Hallett and her Pearson House "boys" and staff have joined us in the Chapel each Sunday so we worship together as a family should and it's lovely that way.

Have any of you celebrated your silver wedding yet? Well, we just hope your celebrations were not as traumatic as "Silver Wedding" by Michael Clayton Hutton which was read on Easter Sunday Evening in the Lounge. The principal parts were taken by Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Lilley as the "happy" couple, ably supported by escort Mrs. Robinson and Steve Lee, who has often worked on the Orderly Staff during his University vaca-

tion, as their adult children. Escort Miss Landy as one of Father's latest indiscretions and the Grandmother, an ex-Gaiety Girl married into the aristocracy, with a dramatic tendency to live in the past, played by Matron Blackford, who thoroughly enjoyed throwing herself into the part and who has never quite been the same since!! She maintains it was her swan-song!

Nothing daunted—the racing types were at Plumpton again Easter Monday much to the joy and advantage of the bookies. They say its worth it or do the bookies pay them to go?

Easter Bonnets

Easter Bonnets—well—after all these years of Easter Bonnet Parades one would think that there is nothing new to do but once again the Dance on Easter Monday looked like a garden of flowers bobbing on the heads of the paraders. How lucky we were in having the actress and TV Star Miss Jean Anderson, or Mrs. Hammond of Hammond Transport as many called her, to come and judge the Bonnets. She did not find it an easy task and wanted everyone to win prizes. However, after much deliberation she awarded prizes to the following—no firsts, seconds or third, just prizes and the list is in alphabetical order:

Elsie Aldred: "Sheer elegance" with decoration of flowers, cherries and tulips.

Miss J. Briant (staff): "The Birds and the 'B'" clever stuff!

Carl Burt: "Donkey Serenade" only his ears were not long enough!

Cyril Eighteen: "Helmet of Peace" cleverly made from silver foil and polystyrene.

Tim Gaiger: "Flower Pot Sombrero" he looked like Fred Streeter!

Thelma Meredith: "Patriotic Hat" 25th Jubilee in silver, red, white and blue all designed by herself.

Mrs. Reg Page: "Edwardian Hat" an elegance of tulle and soft colours that suited her so well.

Mrs. G. Stanley: "Jubilee Baby" a decorated hat with red, white and blue and a baby doll on the front. Very topical!

George Stanley: "Spring Feeling" we

hope the wire spring coming out of the top was not part of his brains!

After the judging Miss Anderson stayed on and chatted to many. It was a compliment to her that St. Dunstaners knew her voice and several told her that the programme "The Brothers" is one of the few serials on TV that they can easily follow. Maybe it's because the different characters are so well drawn and with such distinctive voices and characteristics. Come back again "Hammond" please to our screens and to our ears.

We would like to say thank you to all the local St. Dunstaners and their wives who supported the Bank Holiday Dance. It's grand to have you with us and come again. A special thank you to Reg Page and his wife who came and brought two prizes which he had made. One was a Frog which Elsie Aldred won and the other was a Pouter Pigeon which Cyril Eighteen won—hope they travelled home safely.

On Tuesday Miss Briant, somehow, in spite of the coughs, colds and low post Easter depression, led Mrs. Frith, Miss Scally, Mrs. Marshall and Miss Low in an impromptu entertainment. Cyril Eighteen lent what remained of his voice. A brave effort by one and all.

April Entertainment

April entertainment in the House got off to a good start on 3rd April with a concert given by the Optimists and Young Optimists—16 children and 4 adults. The youngsters ages varied from about 8 to 16 and their programme was varied as well—songs — tap-dancing — monologues — piano playing. It was so much enjoyed by St. Dunstaners and staff and it is good that the rising generation bother to give up their spare time and entertain us "old codgers".

Sunday 17th April Mr. Eric Goswell brought a concert party. The whole show was extremely high standard and the five artistes were most versatile with songs, some solos some duets and always so tuneful. It was a first visit but hopefully not the last.

And keeping up the standard Mr. John Mann played to us on a Hammond Organ on 24th April. This was arranged by the Adur Organ Society and its Chairman Mr. Parsons and his wife and the secretary Mr. Firth were with us and also

Mr. and Mrs. Cronk who so kindly loaned and transported the Hammond Organ (some undertaking that was). It proved a tuneful evening and also an amusing one as Mr. Mann turned out to be a comedian as well as a first class organist. As so many St. Dunstaners would never have seen a modern electronic organ, Mr. Mann told his audience all about his and demonstrated its range—from imitating a piano; a harpsichord; a cello; trumpet, drums—in fact it sounded as if there was a full orchestra playing at times. John Mann's hands were dancing over the keys of the three different keyboards and his feet were jumping from pedal to pedal—no wonder he keeps slim! The Adur Organ Society have already offered to fix another organ recital so hope it will be when there is a full house—perhaps a Bank Holiday Sunday or round about Christmas time.

One has only to mention the word "Fishing" here and immediately the winds blow non-stop—and that is exactly what happened when 24 Fishermen of St. Dunstan's gathered here, supposedly, for 5 days sport. Well—they had sport but it had to be an indoor variety and the Bowling Rink certainly came into its own because not once could the boats be launched. Better luck next time—me old salts.

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Some time ago I had a letter from George Fallowfield enthusing about a book he had read in Braille. He practically instructed me to have it made into a talking book forthwith! About this time, a correspondent to *In Touch* was suggesting that readers ought to have a say in what books should be put on tape. This is not the first time I have heard this viewpoint expressed.

Perhaps this would not be a bad time to set the record straight, as it were. In the first place the Library does not really *need* suggestions for titles. In fact, their perpetual problem is an embarrassment of riches. As the Librarian, Mrs. A. M.

Lets hope that Mrs. Williams will not be reading these notes—it might send up her temperature and we would not want that. She is now on convalescence and every one sends her their good wishes and—oh—we are missing her. Come back soon please.

KEMP TOWN NOTES

Here at Pearson House our programme for the Easter, although modest, was enjoyed by all. The Dominoes Tournament on Saturday evening was very competitive for the prizes awarded. There was a special musical evening on Sunday, and on Easter Monday evening a play reading of the Victorian drama "Gaslight" was presented. We had a star cast, from very able members of our staff. Miss Feaver, Mrs. Dantine, Miss Jeffreys and Bob Doyle, kindly assisted by our guest reader Mr. Harris with Matron Hallett providing the most convincing sound effects. Refreshments provided during the intervals were appreciated by all. The vote of thanks was ably given by our St. Dunstaner George Hewett.

ENTERTAINMENT OFFICER

Benstead, told me in a recent letter, "... our problem is not so much what to include, as what to leave out ... from the many thousands printed each year and the many classics we still hope to record ...".

If however a reader feels that a certain book would be suitable for inclusion in the list, the suggestion will be passed on to the Selection Committee.

My own view is to leave it to the committee to get on with the job—which they do absolutely marvellously. They can't hope to please everybody but it would be a very odd individual indeed who is not actually spoilt for choice when making up a list from the 2000 titles available.

Cat. No. 122

An Infinity of Mirrors

by Richard Condon

Read by David Bauer

Reading Time 11 hours

Paula Bernheim and Colonel Wilhelm von Roder meet in her native Paris. They fall in love, marry and leave for Germany.

It is the 1930's and the German High Command are amused by the "little upstart" Hitler. One day they may be able to use him. By the time they realise it is they who are being used it is too late.

Persecution of the Jews begins and during Willi's absence a psychopathic S.S. officer tries to force his way into Paula's flat. She empties a revolver through the door and with the help of friends escapes with her small son to the sanity and safety of Paris.

With the German occupation of Paris, she is once again in great danger. The S.S. man discovers her whereabouts. She has rich and powerful friends. She is also the mother of an eight-year-old "Jew". The German arranges for the child to be despatched to an extermination camp...

This is a brilliant, though chilling, story of repression and persecution set against the marvellously authentic background of war-torn France.

Cat. No. 174

The Interrogators

by Allan Prior

Read by David Geary

Reading Time 11¼ hours

This is an absorbing account of a murder hunt by local detectives in a small drab Northern mill town. It is stark, realistic and authentic. It concerns the search for a child-killer by two detectives working round the clock for seven days, without sleep or food, sustained only by dedication to the job and the age-old hunting instinct.

Leading the investigation is Det.-Insp. "Syd" Savage, a tough boorish whiskey-swilling veteran nearing retirement. He is heartily disliked by his colleagues for his acid comments on their timid and con-

ventional approach to police work. He is a notorious rule-bender and firmly believes that the end justifies any means, however questionable, he chooses to employ.

His young assistant, Det.-Sgt. Jack Eaves, is of the new school and believes in playing it according to the book—an attitude which often infuriates his ruthless boss.

It is Eaves, however, who finally provides Savage with the vital lead and incidentally saves him from humiliation and disgrace. The story ends with the arrest of the killer and the triumphant vindication of the old war-horse.

This is one of those all too rare books that you "just can't put down".

Cat. No. 677

Surgeon at Arms

by Richard Gordon

Read by Michael de Morgan

Reading Time 8 hours

Graham Treves's brilliant and very lucrative career as a "fashionable" plastic surgeon comes to an abrupt end with the outbreak of war. At a makeshift hospital in the wilds of nowhere he builds up a national reputation patching up the war-ravaged faces of badly-burned and wounded servicemen.

With the end of the war, and by now Sir Graham, he prepares for the return to the old glittering life of Women, parties and big money reshaping the less-than-perfect noses of the female of the Smart Set species.

It doesn't work out. Eventually he becomes totally involved in a much more worthwhile branch of his profession. He finally settles down and marries one of the girls with whom he has enjoyed what they used to call "an irregular union" and lives more or less happily ever after.

Written with Gordon's usual verve and sly humour, this book has a good deal more substance than the more frothy "Doctor" epics. The jolly fun and games between the sexes leaves absolutely nothing to the imagination.

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.

John Foster of Redhill, who joined St. Dunstan's on 28th April. Mr. Foster is an ex-Regular N.C.O. He was a Sergeant in the Durham Light Infantry and then with the Northumberland Fusiliers and enlisted in 1922 and was discharged in 1945. In civilian life, Mr. Foster was an Engineering Inspector until his failing sight made it impossible for him to continue working. He is married and has one adult son.

Albert Hynam of Long Ashton, Near Bristol, who joined St. Dunstan's on 27th April. Mr. Hynam enlisted as a Private in the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1919 but was discharged following an accident when he lost the sight of one eye. He re-joined in 1942 as a Private in the Ordnance Corps and on his discharge he joined the South Western Electricity Board in 1947 and was employed by them for sixteen years. Prior to enlistment during the First World War, he worked in the Royal Research Station at Long Ashton for 15 years, and for the Dunsford Quarry until he joined up in 1942. He is a married man with nine adult children.

Herbert John Richard Martyn of Winchmore Hill, London, who joined St. Dunstan's on 14th April. He served as an Acting Sergeant in the Royal Army Medical Corps and saw service in the First World War. He is married and Mr. and Mrs. Martyn have one adult daughter.

Leonard Mildon of Birkenhead, who joined St. Dunstan's in April. Mr. Mildon served as a Private in the Leinster Regiment before and during the First World War. He is a single man and living with members of his family.

Albert Roebuck of Manchester, who joined St. Dunstan's in April. Mr. Roebuck served in the 65th Anti Tank Regiment, Royal Artillery, during the Second

World War and was wounded in Italy. He is married with a grown up family.

William Edward Thomas of Pen-y-Craig, Rhondda Valley, who joined St. Dunstan's in April. Mr. Thomas served in the Royal Engineers in the Second World War and is married with two grown up children.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From: Mrs. Alice Richardson, Rode Heath, Stoke-on-Trent

I have read with great interest the various reports in the *Review* on the New Long Cane, chiefly because my husband, the late G. A. Richardson, "invented" a long cane of his own several years before he died in 1971.

He purchased a pitch fork shaft from an iron monger, then cut it to a length of 4 ft. 3 ins. He then tapered it very evenly from 1½ ins. diameter at the top to ½ in. at the tip, on to which he fixed a metal ferrule and stud to give him an idea of the surface ahead of him. He left a smooth knot at the top.

After I had painted it white for him he used it regularly when he was well enough to go out on his own, and found it very efficient.

BRIDGE NOTES

The weekly Saturday afternoon friendly matches have not been so successful this year having to cancel a few because of the lack of members available. Nevertheless a reasonable turn out manages to continue with the Individual Competition, and the last two results are as follows:

The Match played on 2nd April:	
V. Kemmish and B. Allen	76
M. Tybinski and R. Stanners	63
R. Armstrong and P. Nuyens	61
J. Huk and J. Majchrowicz	61
F. Dickerson and B. Miller	60
B. Evans and J. Carney	57
The Match played on 7th May	
J. Carney and F. Dickerson	72
B. Allen and L. Douglass	65
A. Caldwell and M. Tybinski	64
R. Stanners and J. Majchrowicz	62
V. Kemmish and H. Meleson	54

AN EYE TO THE FUTURE

by Sydney Scroggie

It is a wonderful thing, and it happened to a friend of mine, to see something glint in a ploughed field, bend down, and pick up a flint arrowhead from the soil. I had a feel at it, convex on one face and concave on the other, slightly serrated on the two cutting edges between barbs and point, smooth, hard, light and delicate, and no bigger than the top joint of your middle finger. It was a beautiful work of art, and I would rather possess such a thing, having found it myself, than all the gems in the Scottish regalia. It carries with it for ever, this black, inscrutable Neolithic artifact, the mystery of who made it and how and what were the circumstances of its being where it was, of its not being, that is to say, somewhere else. It argues, in some way, a society better than our own, one incapable of expressing itself, even in its most commonplace objects, in any forms other than simple and beautiful ones.

What buried car or TV set, camera or telephone, has it in it to give such joy to its discoverer countless millenia hence as did this little arrowhead to its discoverer and to me. These things are as ugly as the era which made them, ugly in proportion to their superfluousness with regard to right human development, and more than that, to the actual deviation of that development from its proper course. When it made that arrowhead Mankind was still on the right lines, capable in consequence of nothing but what is beautiful in its artifacts. That arrowhead is a kind of text, and sermons could be preached on it which if people followed them would change them for the better, change the whole course of a history which is heading for disaster in our time.

Future Treasure

It was as though I had bequeathed a contemporary artifact to be unearthed perhaps as casually in its distant day as ever that arrowhead in the red soil of Fife. I was digging the garden when I dropped my plastic eye, and no amount of searching brought it to light amongst the turned earth. Here was a treasure indeed for future archaeology greedy for

information about our lunatic and dislocated age. Gin and whisky bottles they would find in plenty, there would be an embarras de richesse of dentures, but it would not be every day someone turned up a methylmethacrylate eye with his spade, espied it glinting at him in some unimaginable distant ploughed field. Papers would be written on it for learned journals; it would be displayed from museum to museum; poems would be written about it in languages yet unknown; and the entire mystery of our forgotten times would come to centre on this one inscrutable eye, dropped as it had from my shirt pocket all those millenia before. Such considerations as these reconciled me to the loss of an eye which had become so much part of me since I acquired it at Shortlands at the outset of my blind career. I went to the eye clinic and got another one, slipping it into place and facing the future with the same equanimity as with its predecessor. I would be more careful with this one, since to bequeath it too to future archaeology would be to devalue the otherwise unique importance of the one already lost. More than this, I felt like Polycrates with his ring, hurling it into the sea in the conviction that only this way could he avert the wrath of the gods. My eye had been at least as precious to me, and more useful, than any turquoise ring, and so I too might look for clemency from what gods still ruled a tottering and disintegrating world. These things happened two years ago. This morning my wife Barbara came into the room. She had been gloating over her peas in the garden and rebuking the sparrows who fly down and gobble them up. "Hold out your hand," she said. At one stroke my hopes of Polycratean salvation were shattered, my serene conviction that I had for ever placed future archaeology in my debt. "I thought it was a stone," she said, laying my hand a smooth, dense object, convex on one side, concave on the other; "but it turned out to be your eye." She stood back proudly, unaware of the chagrin and frustration in her husband's breast. "Now isn't that nice," she said.



Above and Below. *The Queen at Ovingden, July 1962.*

THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE

1952 - 1977

The Chairman writes:

As readers of the *Review* in the United Kingdom receive their copies for June, we shall all be starting our celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen's Silver Jubilee. We at St. Dunstan's sent her our own message of congratulations on the anniversary of her accession and now I hope you will all be enjoying your local festivities. The following special article describes some of the occasions when St. Dunstan's has been honoured by the presence of the Queen, our Patron, or other members of the Royal Family and includes some delightful anecdotes and memories from individual St. Dunstaners.



The Royal Family and St. Dunstans

by Raymond Hazan

In this special year that we render homage to our Queen, we take the opportunity to look back over St. Dunstan's encounters with Royal personages. In the very first Annual Report of 1916, Queen Alexandra graciously signified her desire to become Patron. She became the most beloved, generous and faithful of supporters. Charles Temperton M.M., who joined St. Dunstan's in August 1915, recalls perhaps the very first visit by Her Majesty. "I was working at my bench in the carpentry shop, making a knife and fork box in oak. A lady said to me, "That is very nice; may I have one? I will have your name and regiment put on a brass plate and fastened onto the box. You would like that, wouldn't you?" On being told who the lady was, Charles jokingly told her that the box would cost half a crown. He was amply rewarded a fortnight later when the Queen revisited bearing a 4 lb. box of chocolates and 500 cigarettes.

Grand Bazaar, 1917

It was as Patron that Queen Alexandra attended the Grand Bazaar in June 1917. The Queen was escorted by Princess Victoria and seven other Royal Princesses and accompanied by Sir Arthur and Lady Pearson. After the official opening, Sir Arthur said on the Queen's behalf, "I am commanded by Queen Alexandra the greatest Patron of St. Dunstan's to express Her Majesty's sincere hope that this bazaar held for the benefit of men who have given their sight for the cause of the Allies, have attained a degree of success worthy of their object. The sum realised will be devoted to the fund being built up with the object of securing after welfare of the gallant soldiers and sailors trained at St. Dunstan's." After the speeches and cheering, the Queen and Sir Arthur toured all the stalls, with Her Majesty making many purchases including a pipe for the Founder.



Our first Patron, Her Majesty Queen Alexandra.

Only a very few subjects are privileged enough to sit down to tea with a Queen. In 1917, Charles Taplin was walking in the grounds of Marlborough House with a member of the staff when he felt a pinch on his arm and his escort hissed in his ear, "The Queen's coming." During the ensuing conversation, Queen Alexandra noticed the lapel badge and invited Charles and a friend to tea the next day. All that Charles and Leonard Howell remember are blurred impressions of boiled eggs, footmen in silk stockings and being presented with a walking stick with the Queen's initial on a silver band.

Silver Jubilee 1935

On Monday 3rd June 1935 over 500 St. Dunstaners gathered in the Royal Albert Hall in London for the largest of that years' Silver Jubilee Reunions in honour of King George V. H.R.H. The Prince of Wales arrived after lunch to be met by Sir Neville Pearson, Colonel Eric Ball, Sir Arnold Lawson, Mr. W. G. Howarth, and Mr. W. D. Askew. Inside the Hall, Lady Pearson and Captain Ian



The Prince of Wales speaking at St. Dunstan's Silver Jubilee Reunion in 1935.

In 1948, Queen Elizabeth, now Queen Mother talks to the late John Palmer at Ovingdean.



Fraser were waiting. In his reply to a message of loyalty from all St. Dunstaners, the Prince said how he had met blinded servicemen all over the world and through these meetings and conversations, it brought home to one the imperial spirit which brought men from the Dominions and Colonies to stand together. "The other thing is the way you men have settled down to a very different life. I know St. Dunstan's has done a lot for you, and that your families and friends help whenever they can, but I know that you like to help yourselves which is what you have done."

The speeches were followed by community singing led by Harry Costigan. Dancing, tea and a band preceded Auld Lang Syne and farewells. For those interested in comparing menus, the palate was tempted by Scotch Salmon in cucumber, veal and ham pie, chicken, cold roast beef, green salad, new potatoes, macedoine of fruit with ice cream, cheese and biscuits.

The King had paid several visits to Regents Park, some which were quite impromptu. Indeed so unannounced was one visit writes Mrs. C. Wilson, daughter of our first treasurer, that the King arrived in the hall to be confronted by mounds of furniture—all the trainees being on holiday while spring cleaning was in progress.

On another occasion a St. Dunstaner was trying to identify a hen, and had to admit to his Royal visitor that the problem had been complicated by the "hen" turning out to be a cock. The death of George V was the end of an era of St. Dunstan's connection with Royalty.

St. Dunstan's Golden Jubilee

Many readers will have been present on March 26th 1965 when Her Majesty, The Queen graciously participated in the 50th anniversary celebrations at St. James Palace. "You have been a fine example to

the blind world, and as your Patron, I wish each one of you long life and success." The Queen accompanied by Sir Neville Pearson then spoke to many St. Dunstaners representing all fields of achievement. This was the second meeting within four years, the previous occasion having been at Ovingdean in July 1962. The Queen arrived at 11.45 accompanied by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. The Queen inspected a model of the building and then toured the centre where there were men showing the various skills they had learnt and displays of aids and appliances. Over 300 St. Dunstaners, escorts and staff had assembled in the lounge to hear an address from Her Majesty, Prince Philip and our President.

Two other stories date back to 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Dymond were in Kenya at the time Princess Elizabeth had to suddenly return to England on the death of her father. The radio announced the flight path of the plane and so the

A much earlier photograph of the Prince of Wales greeting a St. Dunstaner—our records do not show the occasion. The Prince took a great interest in St. Dunstan's and sponsored appeals in for our work.



REUNIONS

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT WESTON and LONDON

WEST COUNTRY

The Grand Atlantic Hotel, Weston-super-Mare, on Saturday 23rd April saw the largest West Country reunion for many years. 146 St. Dunstaners, their wives or escorts and members of Staff were present. There were 12 men from the 1st World War, 48 from the 2nd, and 4 from subsequent actions.

The wind was doing its best to push the reunion back inland. Our Vice Chairman, Colonel Sir Michael Ansell received everyone on what he called his "home territory". The main theme of his speech was the independence which St. Dunstan's taught to its trainees. "All one wants, is to be independent, to be allowed to be independent, and that was the great philosophy of Lord Fraser, which has made St. Dunstan's what it is today. I have met many people from abroad, and I can promise you that our philosophy is the best, and that we are, or should be, if we take advantage of it, the best trained blind in the world." Sir Michael encouraged all St. Dunstaners to participate

Royal Family - *continued*

Diamonds were able to stand in the garden and wish the future Queen well as she sped overhead. Later on that year Mr. R. J. Vowles was asked to make some boiler pipes which later, he was proud to discover, were fitted into H.M.S. *Welcome*, the very ship which carried the Queen in her coronation review at Spithead.

Royal patronage means public support, and without public support a charity cannot function. St. Dunstan's owes, therefore, particular allegiance to the Royal Family, both past and present. Dare we contemplate the next 25 years in view of what has happened in the past quarter century? It has been a period of so called peace in Europe; we have gone from food rationing to nuclear fall-out, from money problems to the moon. In spite of today's technological advances it will still take twenty-five years however, to turn this silver celebration into gold.

in as many activities as their age and fitness permitted. They could be an example to other blind. Sir Michael ended by thanking Mr. Wills and his Staff and promised on behalf of all present, to send a telegram of thanks to Lady Fraser, for all she has inspired in us and does for us.

Mr. Wills then brought the gathering up to date with facts and figures about our organisation having first welcomed Mr. Belton of Teignmouth, Mr. Kearns of Bristol, Mr. Murrell of Minehead, Mr. Parr of Weston-super-Mare, and Mr. Lofthouse of Plymouth. Special mention was made to the changing face of Headquarters. Sadly missed would be Miss Rogers, Pat Owens, Robin Buckley, George Stevenson, Richard Dufton, Dr. O'Hara and Matron Blackford. "New people will bring new ideas, life must go on. 'A changing pattern of life will mean charges being made for any stay of over 12 weeks at Ovingdean, and the first rent increase next January since 1939. We have been giving a great deal of thought as to how St. Dunstaners can meet a great change in their lives, that of retirement.' 'We are looking at the viability of a hobby scheme with courses and service.' Bearing in mind that within the next 5 years 90% of St. Dunstaners will have retired, this scheme is an important one.

Ray Sherriff of Gloucester responded on behalf of St. Dunstaners and thanked Sir Michael for his elegant speech. All the Staff and especially Welfare were gratefully thanked. A final vote of thanks to the hotel staff raised a round of applause.

LONDON

The London reunion, Kent and Surrey was held at the Waldorf Hotel on Saturday 7th May. Dr. D. G. Hopewell, Member of Council, presided over the gathering of 10 First World War St. Dunstaners and 41 Second War. The afternoon was most successful, general satisfaction was expressed with the hotel. Dr. Hopewell was



Ray Sherriff speaking at the West Country Reunion.

the first to speak and reaffirmed that however remote they seemed, Members of Council were interested in every single St. Dunstaner and any problems they might have. The work of St. Dunstan's is not yet over; it will continue so long as there is a man or woman alive blinded in the service of his or her country. "But, we are told, you are growing so small in numbers. Let's look and see just how big or small our family is. There are 312 First World War St. Dunstaners living in England, and 835 Second World War. This makes a total of 1147. In addition to that there are 571 St. Dunstaners living in other parts of the world and that makes a total of 1718. Now I don't think anybody can call that a small family. And not only is that family not small, it is always growing. Though some of us may be growing older, there are still others to take our places. We welcome today, for instance, Mr. Riches of Frimley Green. He is veteran of the First World War. I know you will give him a hearty welcome. "As the rate of inflation increases, so that the value of the St. Dunstan's and the help it can give its members grows every day and every week is more important."

Dr. Hopewell continued by saying there was one pleasant task which he had to perform, and that was to thank people. Commander Buckley, Mr. Townsend and Mr. Ferguson were thanked personally, as well as members of Staff some of whom work unheard and unseen. Dr. Hopewell concluded by reciting a little rhyme; "I like my new bi-focals, my dentures are refined, my hearing aid is perfect, but how I miss my mind." "One thing St. Dunstan's can give you above all else, is security.

Mr. Burnett on behalf of St. Dunstaners asked Dr. Hopewell to convey to the Council many thanks for such a splendid reunion. Thanks were given to Headquarter Staff, the Hotel and above all, to wives for the love, affection and devotion.

Bob Young concluded the speeches by paying tribute to Ben Mills for his service to St. Dunstan's and to Bill Harris who, during his 54 year's association, had inspired walking and other sports. The gathering was then encouraged to besport themselves on the dance-floor until the afternoon was rounded off with the raffle and then tea.

CLUB NEWS

BRIGHTON

Tip-Toe Through The Tulips

It seemed as though the coach was sailing through a sea of tulips, colours of all hues, as far as the eye could see—but hadn't we better start at the beginning?

In great haste and rapid organisation, Brighton Club were on the move to a fantastic holiday in Belgium and Holland. From Brighton to Dover anxious eyes were watching the sea and on arrival at Dover we boarded the ship with great assistance from the staff and in no time at all were on the high seas bound for Ostend. Qwells were taken very unnecessarily as the crossing was perfect, helped with liberal slurps of the duty free Brandy. We were met by coach and sped away to our small hotel in Blankenburge. This was indeed the cream of our holiday—good food, good accommodation and pleasant company, was all that we desired. The next day, early morning and on the coach for a 400 klm. drive, which in itself was remarkable as we were literally travelling on the sea, this was the new Delta land reclamation that Holland is famous for, then past Windmills and Canals to Delft for a visit to the Royal Delft Pottery Factory, then on to the Hague for lunch and now the tulips start in earnest. Field after field of glorious colour as far as the eyes could see, even the cars and coaches were decorated with garlands of blooms. The main purpose of the trip was to visit the Royal Keukenhof Gardens, where the tulips are shown in such profusion and size to the amazement of the viewers. These gardens are so large that wheel-chairs are provided for the disabled and to see our St. Dunstaners being pushed by their pals was even more beautiful than the tulips. They do tell me that it was only by good fortune that Bob Osborne and Sammy Wilkins did not finish up in the lake. Sammy had to be restrained from purloining his comfortable pram. From there the coach visited another huge bulb farm with a view to seeing how much they could *not* afford and on to Antwerp for Dinner in the evening. This wasn't too bad, but as we queued to go into the restaurant, a

very wrong opinion was formed as a "blue film" was showing at the cinema next door. However, after another pleasant meal and a long drive home we all went to bed very very happy.

The following day, the morning was left to the ladies for shopping and the afternoon was a visit to the lace making centre of Brugge. This was so fascinating but too costly and whilst we were walking around the old town, when to our amazement we observed a landau with distinguished occupants, guess who? Jow and Margaret Langley and Sam and Margaret Wilkins. We saved our pennies for the visit in the evening to the night club in Ostend. As you can guess, certain members of the party were invited on the stage but kept the good name of St. Dunstan's by not going. We wended our way home through the sleazy part of Ostend and the male members of the party had to be restrained from jumping off the coach. Back in the Hotel bar our experiences raised many a hilarious laugh and so to bed.

All good things come to an end. We parted company with our new found friends, the hotel proprietor and his wife, to a journey even more pleasant than the one coming.

It is rumoured that the wine festival is being considered later this year, if this is so, we can't wait, so what about it Joan?

HAROLD SMITH

BRIDGE SECTION

The Easter Bridge Drive was finally held on Saturday 16th April. Matron Blackford kindly presented the prizes. Thanking her, on behalf of the Bridge Section, Blodwin presented Matron Blackford with a bouquet and wished her much happiness in her retirement. The winners were:

- C. Walters and W. Lethbridge
- M. Tybinski and Mrs. V. Barker
- M. Clemments and Mr. H. Palmer
- B. Simon and Miss C. Sturdy

On Sunday 17th April we made our annual visit to Horsham Bridge Club. As usual a welcome full of friendly hospitality awaited us. It was a close match. After twelve boards had been played Horsham were in the lead. Resuming play, after partaking of a delicious home made tea, St. Dunstaners forged ahead to win by 510 points.

Mrs. Mac called in and spent the afternoon with us, it was great meeting her again. She sends her regards and wishes to be remembered to all her friends in St. Dunstan's.

Our fourth Pairs Competition was held on the 24th April. The winners were:

<i>North-South</i>	
B. Ingreby and Mrs. Gover	61.5
<i>East-West</i>	
W. Phillips and Mr. Goodlad	57.0
The fifth Individual was held on the 30th April. Results as follows:	
A. Dodgson and W. Burnett	76
J. Padley and W. Lethbridge	73
F. Griffe and Partner	58
C. Walters and P. McCormack	52
R. Fullard and M. Clements	48

WALTER LETHBRIDGE

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

I think everyone will agree that the Easter Dance was a great success—all 96 Members and friends. During the evening we held an Easter Bonnet and Humorous Hat Parade with F./Lt. and Mrs. Nixon acting as Judges, their job made more difficult by the wonderful turn-out. The Entertainment Section were very pleased to have present the 3 Hon. Members who give their time and help so willingly. Madam President Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre gave Mrs. Phyl. Fields, Joe Kennedy and Alf Garstang our M.C., a small token of our appreciation. We were delighted to welcome Matron Blackford and our new Matron Miss Johnson to the Dance where she was able to meet a large number of St. Dunstaners and their wives in this light-hearted atmosphere. Our Chairman Ted Frearson presented both ladies with a small gift. The Committee would like to thank Anne and Peter McCormack for once again making the refreshments.

Our Dance on the 11th June will be a special occasion to mark the Queen's

Silver Jubilee. This will be a fancy-dress affair and anyone on holiday will be made most welcome if they wish to attend.

WHIST AGGREGATE

30th March		
<i>Ladies</i>		
1st	Mrs. H. Wester	93
2nd	Mrs. A. McCormack	88
3rd	Mrs. P. Padley	87
<i>Gentlemen</i>		
1st	W. Phillips	86
2nd	T. Giles	85
3rd	H. Preedy	81
	J. Kennedy	81

27th April		
<i>Ladies</i>		
1st	Wilhelmena Phillips	88
	We were short of a lady!!	
2nd	Mrs. H. Webster	81
3rd	Mrs. N. Phillips	78
<i>Gentlemen</i>		
1st	T. Giles	88
2nd	E. Carpenter	84
3rd	W. Lethbridge	83

DOMINOE AGGREGATE

16th March		
1st	H. Smith	7
2nd	J. Griffiths	}
	J. Langley	
	Mrs. B. Griffiths	
		6
13th April		
1st	R. Osborne	7
2nd	T. Frearson	}
	Mrs. W. Smith	
		6

BOB OSBORNE

BOWLING SECTION

Once again the curtain falls on another Indoor Bowling Season, and most of the credit for another successful season must go to our ladies, who worked so hard both on and off the Green's providing refreshments to our guests at matches played at Ian Fraser House, and assisting in many ways during our competition period. (Thanks to you all Ladies). Our congratulations to Bob Osborne on winning the "Ansell Cup" thus becoming the first holder of this magnificent trophy. (Well done Bob). We also congratulate both Dickie Brett and Bill Burnett on providing us with a nail-biting final to decide the "runner up", this position was decided after a play off which Dickie won. (Well played both of you).

Another full fixture list has been arranged for the out-door season, and we are looking forward to meeting many old friends, and making many new ones, invitations have been received from Clubs in Hampshire, Surrey, and Sussex and I am sure that the new members who have not visited these Clubs will enjoy every one of them.

It is good to have our Captain, Ted Frearson with us again, helping with the administration of the section, and we hope he will be fit enough to participate in one or two of the matches later in the season. (Good luck Ted).

HARRY PREEDY

MIDLAND

Sunday, 8th May was the date for this month's meeting, it was quite a good one, I am happy to say, quite a number of games of dominoes were played off once again.

Final details for our outing on Sunday, 19th June were announced. We shall be taking lunch at Tewkesbury and tea at Stratford on Avon. We have now been invited to take part in a Drumhead Service at Quinton, a small village just outside Stratford. This will take place after tea

TAPE-RECORDING SERVICE

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

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

and we shall go by coach with our friends from the Stratford Royal British Legion to the service.

Unfortunately this outing has clashed with another Drumhead Service in Victoria Square, Birmingham, this service will take place at 3 p.m. on the Sunday afternoon, but, as our outing had already been arranged, we have had to turn down the invitation to attend the Birmingham parade.

We were all extremely sorry to hear of the death of Mr. A. D. Lloyds. We all remember him coming to the Birmingham club when we moved to the Royal British Legion H.Q. and St. Dunstaners commenced to run the club themselves. Mr. Lloyds kindly came and opened this new venture for us. He also gave quite a lot of help and advice in the running of the club in our early days.

All members of the Midland club send their deepest sympathy to his widow and her two sons. A floral tribute was sent from the club to the funeral.

We would also like to offer our deepest sympathy to our clubmate, Guy Bilcliff who has lost his brother and sister-in-law, they have both passed away within a month of each other.

DOUG CASHMORE

H.R.H. PRINCESS ALEXANDRA OPENS NEW TRAINING CENTRE AT WOKINGHAM

A new training centre for The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association was opened on 12th May by Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra. The Earl of Lanesborough, President of GDBA welcomed the Princess and later in the afternoon the Royal Party toured the new centre.

Set in its own grounds, this large centre provides attractive and modern facilities for both man and dog. It is hoped that the centre will produce 100 fully-trained dogs a year.

Dance at Titchfield

Mrs. Buchanan's dance at the Community in Titchfield, held on the 19th March, did very well. It raised the splendid sum of £306 for the funds of the annual camp at H.M.S. Daedalus.

FAMILY NEWS

Marriages

Mr. and Mrs. William Arnold of East Morton, Keighley, are pleased to announce that their daughter Pauline was married to Philip John Clarke, at St. Luke's Church, Morton, on 2nd April.

Mr. Bert Green of Portslade is pleased to announce that his daughter Diana married Mr. Denis James Whitly on May 14th.

Mrs. Eileen Williams of Harrogate is pleased to announce that her son Terry married Sandra Colbeck, at St. Mark's Church, Harrogate, on 9th April.

Silver Wedding

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rundle* of Marldon Cross, Paignton, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 14th April.

Ruby Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. James Hills* of Tenterden who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 27th March.

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. George Shed* of Burgess Hill who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 18th April.

Births

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Cashmore of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, on the birth of a grandson, Stuart Robert, born on 11th April to their daughter-in-law and her husband Robert.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Finch of Shirley, Solihull, on the birth of another great grandchild, a boy, Michael, born on 15th April to their grandson Michael and wife Pauline.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Peart of Gloucester, on the birth of their daughter, Kirsten Elizabeth Jane, born on 7th February.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Rowe of Minehead, on the birth of their grand-daughter,

Rachel Jane; born on 11th April to their daughter Felicity Jane and her husband, John Stenner.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Smith of Heathfield, Sussex, on the birth of their first grandchild, Kathryn Emma, born on 27th March to their only son, Philip, and his wife, Janet.

Examinations and Career Successes

We warmly congratulate:

Mr. Geoffrey Andrew of New Southgate who was awarded a First Class Certificate for his Arabian Basket in the National War Pension Handicraft and Art Exhibition.

Janet Baker, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Paul Baker*, of Sidmouth, Devon, who recently did her training fortnight with the Royal Navy. She was the youngest W.R.N. Reserve there and did above average for the eventual exam and got a good report.

Wendy Groves, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Donald Groves*, of Thorpe Bay, who recently attained a Silver and Gold Medal for Tap Dancing in the Imperial Society of Teachers Dancing Examination.

Christopher Mortimer, B.Sc. (Econ.), son of *George and Pamela Mortimer*, of Hove, who has passed his final examinations for the Administrative Grade of the Civil Service.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Mr. Harold Stephen Holden of Hindley whose eldest Brother died on 14th April.

Mr. Bruce Ingrey of Rottingdean whose wife, Beatrice "Betty", died on 11th May in a Hove Nursing Home, aged 82.

Mr. Edward Jinks of Hebdon Bridge whose Mother died on 2nd April.

Mr. Isaac Ostle of Cockermouth, Cumbria, whose younger brother William died on the 15th April, aged 60. He had been retired for only one year.

Mr. Joseph Walton of Sunderland whose wife, Victoria died on 15th April.

Mr. Ernest Wasser of Rainham on the death of his brother.

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.

Ernest Acomb *Royal Engineers (Signals)*

Ernest Acomb of Yorkshire died on 4th April, aged 80.

Mr. Acomb served as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers (Signals) during the first World War, and suffered Mustard Gas Poisoning which caused his loss of sight, and a severe chest trouble which necessitated his permanent care in hospital for the last years of his life. He became a St. Dunstaner in September, 1976.

He leaves his son Eric.

Robert Dewhurst *Royal Field Artillery*

Robert Dewhurst of Bolton died on 27th March, aged 80.

Mr. Dewhurst enlisted in March, 1914, and served as a Gunner in the Royal Field Artillery. He was gassed at Passchendaele Ridge in 1917 and discharged from the Army in 1919. After his War service Mr. Dewhurst followed employment as a mill worker and train driver but by the time his sight failed and he became at St. Dunstaner in May, 1975, he was retired and a widower, his wife having died three years earlier.

It gave Mr. Dewhurst great pleasure to be able to come to Ian Fraser House for frequent holidays where he so much enjoyed the company of his fellow St. Dunstaners. He had been staying with us for the Winter months when sadly his health began to deteriorate and he passed away after a short illness.

He leaves his daughters Mrs. Elsie Longworth and Mrs. Constance Craven and their families.

Dr. Thomas Gray, D.F.C., Ph.D. *Rifle Brigade, Royal Flying Corps and Royal Air Force.*

Tom Gray, of Hythe, Kent, died on the 9th May, 1977, at the age of 80.

He was commissioned from Sandhurst in 1914 and served throughout the First World War, being seconded to the Royal Flying Corps in 1917. He also served with the Royal Air Force at the beginning of the Second World War. He was a biologist and lived in North America for many years. He had lost his right eye in 1915 and, when the sight in his left eye deteriorated, came to St. Dunstan's in 1974. He had recently had a serious operation and had appeared to convalesce satisfactorily at Pearson House, but his health deteriorated again.

He died at home, where he had been cared for devotedly by Mrs. P. Halse-Hearne.

Stanley Henry Cobbledick Hoblyn *Royal Navy*

Stanley Henry Cobbledick Hoblyn of Plymouth died on 15th April, aged 81. Mr. Hoblyn was admitted to St. Dunstan's in October 1974 after service as an Able Seaman in the Royal Navy, firstly, in the Boy's Service from 1911 and subsequently in the Adult Service from the onset of World War I. Following an eye injury, our St. Dunstaner was discharged in November 1918.

In his youth, Mr. Hoblyn was trained as a gas fitter and plumber and worked for a local Gas Company before and after it was taken over by the Plymouth Corporation.

In July 1976 Mr. and Mrs. Hoblyn celebrated their Golden Wedding but unfortunately his wife, Edith, passed away in February of this year.

He leaves two Sisters, Mrs. Whitfield and Mrs. Kelly, and other members of the family.

Arthur Joseph Reginald Hopkin *Suffolk Regiment*

Arthur Joseph Reginald Hopkin of Ely, Cambridgeshire, died on 7th April in Pearson House, aged 80.

Mr. Hopkin served as a Private in the Suffolk Regiment from 1914 to 1919, and it was during his service in France in 1917 that he suffered the Mustard Gas Poisoning which was later to cause his loss of sight. He became a St. Dunstaner in March 1973.

He leaves his son, Arthur, and family.

Horace Venning Kerr *1/22 London Regiment The Queen's*

Horace Venning Kerr of Harrow died on 18th April in Pearson House, aged 80.

Mr. Kerr had been a member of St. Dunstan's since 1917 when he was admitted following injuries received at Ypres in that year. He served as a private with the 1/22 London Regiment, The Queens and enlisted in June 1913, prior to the outbreak of the First World War.

Before the war Mr. Kerr had been a Shipping Clerk but on admission he undertook a period of training as a Telephonist, one of his first posts being with the Royal National Institute for the Blind, where he served the Founder of St. Dunstan's, the late Sir Arthur Pearson. In 1923 he began a long record of service for St. Dunstan's, taking over the switchboard at their Headquarters, then at Inner Circle, Regents Park.

In Memory *continued*

He found many opportunities to prove his resourcefulness and versatility. In 1935 he was appointed to deal with information, demonstrations and supplies of the Talking Book to war-blinded men. He also took charge of a scheme to provide Braille refresher course for St. Dunstaners.

During the Second World War, he became an Appeals Representative travelling extensively in the Southern Counties despite the air-raids. After the war, Mr. Kerr took charge of a new department to supply the many aids which St. Dunstan's supplies for their members. Then came three years as a shop-keeper but in 1951 he returned to St. Dunstan's to become one of its most experienced and successful lecturers. At the time of his retirement in 1962, glowing tributes were paid to him by the late Lord Fraser of Lonsdale and many of his associates, and certainly no higher tribute could be given than that of Lord Fraser who referred to the late Horace Kerr as "a truly representative St. Dunstan's man".

Mr. Kerr will be greatly missed by Matron Hallett and members of the staff at Pearson House.

He leaves his only son, Mr. Lawrence A. Kerr, and members of the family.

Henry McCartney *Pioneer Corps*

Henry McCartney of Belfast died on 25th March, aged 57.

Mr. McCartney served as a Private with the Pioneer Corps from April 1940, and it was while serving in Holland in December 1944 that he lost his sight. He came to St. Dunstan's in January 1945, and his official discharge from the Army followed four months later.

After training at Church Stretton Mr. McCartney followed a career in Industry and at the time of his death he had worked for 28 years with Short & Harlands Ltd. in Belfast, which was a fine record, especially in view of his rather indifferent health in recent years. He was held in very high regard by his fellow workers.

He leaves his 11 sons and daughters.

Kenneth H. C. McIntyre, M.A. *Royal Natal Carbineers*

Ken McIntyre, of Durban, South Africa died on the 20th April, 1977, at the age of 59 years.

Professor McIntyre was born and educated in South Africa, obtaining the B.A. Hons. degree and the U.E.D. from Rhodes University. He was wounded and blinded when serving in Italy and came to St. Dunstan's for training. He went on to

Cambridge and obtained his M.A. degree. He married in this country and returned to South Africa to follow a wonderfully successful career in the Department of History and Political Science at the University of Natal, finally becoming Dean of the Faculty of Arts. After apparently making an excellent recovery from a very serious illness, he collapsed and died quite suddenly.

He leaves a widow and two daughters, each happily married with a young baby.

Alfred Harry Osmond *8th Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment*

Alfred Harry Osmond of Walthamstow, London, died on 15th April, aged 84.

Mr. Osmond was a long-standing member of St. Dunstan's, having been admitted in 1916 after service in the 8th Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment. In 1915 he had been wounded and totally blinded at Loos, and on admission he undertook a period of training in boot repairing and mat-making, ultimately opening his own business which he ran very successfully with the able assistance of his wife, until retirement. Mr. Osmond then continued to make string bags for our Stores until comparatively recently when failing health made it impossible for him to continue.

Prior to enlistment, our St. Dunstaner had been employed as a Gardener. Gardening became his main hobby the others being a great love of music and tape recording.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Edith Rose Osmond.

Thomas James Slater *Royal Artillery*

Thomas James Slater of Romford died on 19th April in Pearson House, aged 71.

Mr. Slater served with the Royal Artillery as a Gunner during the Second World War. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in September 1974. Since his discharge from the Army in 1945, Mr. Slater worked for a time in Spitalfields Market and also as a City messenger until his sight failed since when he was unable to follow any employment.

Mr. Slater enjoyed his talking book and listening to music and although his health gave cause for concern, tremendously enjoyed his visits to Ian Fraser House and latterly Pearson House, where he made many new friends amongst fellow St. Dunstaners.

Our St. Dunstaner will be greatly missed by Matron Hallett and the staff at Pearson House.

He leaves his son, Mr. Slater, his daughter, Mrs. Burnham, grandchildren and all members of the family.



ANOTHER JUBILEE PICTURE

In the Queen's Silver Jubilee year we reproduce this photograph from 1965, when Her Majesty attended St. Dunstan's Golden Jubilee reception in St. James's Palace. Meeting the Queen are Tommy Milligan and his escort, the late Miss Lilian Woolrych.