



St Dunstans Review February

St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

No. 693

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10p MONTHLY

Message from the Chairman

Thank you for writing

I would like you all to know what very great pleasure my wife and I found in your Christmas cards and letters. Some of you posted them to Headquarters and I received them there and many of you wrote to our home, so that we had a wonderful international post awaiting us in Hampshire. Our warmest thanks for all your kind greetings and good wishes!

We both look forward to meeting or being in touch with as many of you as possible during 1978.

Mr. Duncan Watson

Many congratulations to Mr. Duncan Watson, Chairman of the Royal National Institute for the Blind and a member of our Council, upon his New Year promotion as an Under Secretary (Legal) in the Civil Service – he will head the Treasury's common law division with some 50 legal staff.

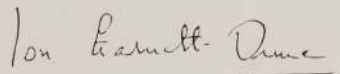
Mr. Watson lost his sight in childhood; he took a law degree at Oxford and qualified as a solicitor in London. We all wish him every success in his new post.

Mr. H. W. Greatrex

Readers of the *Review* will be very sorry to learn of the death of Mr. H. W. Greatrex; a detailed obituary appears on another page.

"Bunny" Greatrex was a St. Dunstaner who devoted his ability, energy and time to his fellow men. Through Local Government and other voluntary work he served the community and many individuals and he will long be remembered for his contribution to public life.

It is sad that he did not live to receive the M.B.E. which was awarded to him in the New Year. However, this honour will be a matter of great pride to his widow, Josephine, and their family and we offer them our congratulations, just as we share their sorrow in the loss of a fine man.



COVER PICTURE: *Soldering blind is just one of Peter Jones' do-it-yourself accomplishments: see Ways of Life on centre pages.*

"THANK YOU" FROM LADY FRASER

Very many thanks to all my old friends at home and abroad who sent me beautiful cards and personal letters at Christmas – it was a great joy to hear from so many of you. As always, you were much in my thoughts.

THIS IS YOUR LIFE

Our President, Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, who has been the subject of the T.V. programme 'This is your Life', was able, this time, to embarrass someone else in the programme, which was shown on 11th January, 1978. The very successful horseman, David Broome, was the star, but no reference can be made to show jumping without comment from the principal instigator of it all. Sir Mike made a televised speech in which he praised the horsemanship and sportsmanship of David Broome, who, he said, was probably the most successful show-jumper England had ever produced.

THANK YOU FROM THE STAFF

Mr. Wills, Miss Mosley, Miss Lord and other members of staff at Headquarters; Commandant, Matrons and staff at Ian Fraser House and Pearson House thank the many St. Dunstaners both at home and overseas who have sent Christmas greetings, and regret they are unable to respond individually. To all of you, however, we send the warmest greetings and good wishes for your happiness and health in 1978.

THANK YOU FROM PETER MATTHEWS

It is with a full and grateful heart I thank St. Dunstaners for their overwhelming generosity in subscribing to a gift for me upon my retirement from the Estate Department.

The last thirty years have been very happy ones and have been made so by your abiding friendship and help.

I am currently and excitedly involved in the acquisition of a piece of equipment called a Music Centre, which will be an ever present reminder of your goodness to me.

PETER MATTHEWS

From the Chairman's Postbag

Extract from a letter from C. R. Masters of Palmerston North, New Zealand

When the Queen was out here earlier this year, she was in Palmerston North for a short time and while walking among the crowd, she saw my St. Dunstan's badge and stopped and had a few words with me. A little later, the Duke came along. He also saw my badge and stopped and had a few words. I felt very honoured that my St. Dunstan's badge had been recognised so quickly.

LEE-ON-SOLENT CAMP

H.M.S. DAEDALUS

The Royal Navy are continuing their generous custom of inviting a party of St. Dunstaners to spend a week at HMS Daedalus at Lee-on-Solent. This year the camp will be from Friday, 18th August until the morning of Saturday, 26th August.

Will all those wishing to be considered for a place at the camp please contact: Elspeth Grant (Flat 1), 7, Craven Hill, London, W2. Telephone (after 6.30 p.m.) 01-262-2723.

To avoid disappointment caused by last minute applications will you all please apply as soon as possible and *not later* than Saturday, 13th May, 1978.

This year the camp fee will be £9.

MERV CARLTON RETIRES

Merv Carlton, President of the Sir Arthur Pearson Association of War-Blinded in Canada, retired on January 1st from the post of supervising the Adjustment to Blindness Training Programme for the National Office of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. He has served with the C.N.I.B. for 22 years. He will continue as President of S.A.P.A.

B.E.M. AWARD

Many congratulations to Peter Jones of Sheffield on being awarded the B.E.M. in the New Year's Honours List.



STAFF PRESENTATION

On Mr. Matthews retirement day, Mr. Wills made a presentation on behalf of the staff. In his speech, Mr. Wills paid this tribute, "Peter Matthews has coped with our housing problems for 32 years. He has handled them with kindness, consideration and scrupulous impartiality. His firmly applied christian principles have enabled him to maintain the right balance between the conflicting interests involved, so preserving the loyalty of his staff and the respect of the St. Dunstaners he has served".

BRITISH LEGION AWARD

Congratulations to Mr. J. W. Thwaites of Blackpool, who was recently awarded a Certificate of Life Membership for Meritorious Service by the National Executive Committee of the British Legion.

Mr. Thwaites has been working for the services since he was 7 years old. Then it was a house to house appeal for walking sticks for the wounded servicemen returning from the front. In 1948, he joined the British Legion and subsequently worked as a welfare officer for the Far East POW organisation. Due to his moving from Burnley to Blackpool, Mr. Thwaites missed a presentation ceremony to mark his retirement.

A WARNING ON INTRUDERS

Yet another case of an unwanted intruder at the front door has been experienced by one of our widows in Brighton. A man called asking if there was any silver or glass for sale. He was given a negative reply, but persisted, and eventually gained entry into the house, totally uninvited, under the guise of asking for a glass of water. He then proceeded, despite all protestations, to search through cupboards and drawers. He finally left, taking back the business card he had first presented. A very helpful and accurate description was later given to the police.

It must be emphasised that once you accept money, though it may be far below the real value of the article, it is a legal transaction and the police may not be able to take any action.

Please remember to put the security chain on the door if you have one and do not open the door unless you are 100% certain the caller is genuine. An idea might be to close the door and telephone your neighbour to come round. This would probably frighten him off.

MOAN, MOAN, MOAN

"Are men really as bad as women make out?" asks Mrs. Alex Nesbitt of Teignmouth, Devon.

I stand in butcher's queues, fishmonger's queues, the line at the supermarket till — and I hear so many *moans*.

"I hope they hurry up, my husband never believes me when I say I've had to queue. I'll have something to listen to when I get back!"

"Jim's at home with a cold. What a fuss men make — if they had to put up with what we women have to suffer, they might have reason to complain."

It's very seldom that I hear a woman actually praise her husband. Can it really be that most men are so unreasonable and inconsiderate? My own husband certainly isn't. He served in the R.A.F. during the war, was wounded and, as a result, lost his sight. He had a nose-graft and a lot of plastic surgery. A cold must be misery for him, but you'd never know it. He's had 33 operations and was once in hospital for three years, but he never moans or even becomes impatient.

He helps me in every way he can. His only concern is that I worry about him, so I have to sound as happy-go-lucky as possible. It's very difficult for me to pretend at times, but this is really the only complaint I have!

Reprinted by kind permission of Woman's Realm.

Hard Work But So Much Fun

Centenarian Miss Edith Flowers of Manor Way, Worcester Park, has many wonderful Christmases to look back on, particularly when she was young in the West Central Area of London and celebrated it with her parents and her four sisters and three brothers.

It was the Christmas festivities she spent away from her own people during five successive years that for her were specially unforgettable.

From 1918 until 1922, she was an assistant nurse in the St. Dunstan's Convalescent Home for the war-blinded in Brighton, Sussex.

Each year, about 100 blind men came to the home for a short stay and many local people visited the home on Christmas Day to entertain them.



Miss Edith Flowers

"But it was the other way round", Miss Flowers said. "The blind residents always entertained them. They were full of fun and we all had a marvellously happy time together. It was hard work, but nobody minded that a bit."

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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.

Robert Dixon of St. Helen's, who joined St. Dunstan's on 9th November, 1977. Mr. Dixon served with the Border Regiment as a Private during the Second World War. He is married with seven children.

James Forbes-Stewart of Norwich, who joined St. Dunstan's on 21st December. Mr. Forbes-Stewart served as a Marine with the Royal Marines during the Second World War. He has recently retired from the Eastern Electricity Board for whom he worked for twenty-three years as Deputy Foreman at the Meter Test

Station. He is married with four married sons and an eight year old daughter.

Reginald Gadd of Colwick Woods, Nottingham, who joined St. Dunstan's on 21st December. Mr. Gadd served as a Lance Corporal with the Royal Engineers during the Second World War. He is married with one adult daughter.

Walter Thomas Jermy of Old Costessey, near Norwich, who joined St. Dunstan's on 27th October. Mr. Jermy served as a Private with the R.A.M.C. during the Second World War. He is a single man.

DIARY DATES FOR 1978

REUNIONS

Date	Reunion	Hotel
Saturday, 18th March	Southampton Mrs. Lyall	Polygon
Saturday, 1st April	Brighton Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Metropole
Thursday, 13th April	Liverpool Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Adelphi
Saturday, 15th April	Manchester Mrs. Ballantyne Miss Broughton	Midland
Thursday, 11th May	Ipswich Mrs. Adkins	Copdock
Saturday, 13th May	Birmingham Miss Newbold Miss Broughton	Albany
Saturday, 20th May	London (Central) Miss Davis Miss Newbold	Russell
Thursday, 8th June	Newcastle Miss Skinner	Royal Station
Saturday, 10th June	Sheffield Miss Broughton Miss Newbold	Grosvenor House
Saturday, 17th June	Bristol Miss Meyer Miss Newbold	Esso
Saturday, 1st July	London (Kent & Surrey) Miss Stewart Miss Blebta	Russell

EVENTS AT IAN FRASER HOUSE

February 3rd/5th	Ham Radio Weekend and Annual General Meeting
March 20th/24th 24th/27th inc.	Fishing (1) Easter Bank Holiday Weekend
April 10th/14th	Bowls Tournament
May 5th/7th	Bridge Congress and Annual General Meeting Chess Instruction Weekend Spring Bank Holiday Weekend
June 9th/11th 17th/18th 19th/23rd 24th/25th	Ham Radio Weekend (2) *Sports Weekend *Fishing (2) *Archery Championship *Sports Week
July 25th	"Sussex Fortnight" Racing
August 26th/28th	Summer Bank Holiday Weekend
September 4th/8th 7th/11th 9th/10th 14th/18th	Fishing (3) Deaf Reunion Ham Radio Weekend (3) Handless Reunion
October 13th/15th 27th/29th	Physiotherapy Conference Chess Congress
November 20th/24th	Bowling Championship
December 9th/10th 18th/22nd	Bridge Instruction Weekend Fishing (4)

BRIDGE NOTES

Christmas Bridge Drive

The Christmas bridge drive, held on Saturday, 17th December, 1977, proved to be a very enjoyable afternoon. After the matches were played and the winners known, everyone settled down to a delicious tea. After tea, Mrs. Jenny Hazan kindly presented the prizes to the winners.

1st	M. Tybinski and Mrs. Straiton
2nd	R. Armstrong and Mr. Armstrong
3rd	L. Douglass and Mr. Medcraft
4th	J. Whitcombe and Miss Geraghty

London Bridge Club Notes 1977

The final match in 1977, on 19th November, was for the Gover Cup and the results (best five from nine matches played) were as follows:

Vera Kemmish and J. Majchrowicz	77
B. Allen and F. Dickerson	72
M. Tybinski and B. Miller	64
P. Nuyens and R. Evans	63
R. Armstrong and R. Stanners	55
L. Douglass and J. Huk	55
J. Carney and H. Meleson	54

London Bridge Notes—continued

On completion of the 1977 competition, we find that Mike Tybinski has won the trophy and the first six scores were:

1st	Mike Tybinski	375 pts.
2nd	Paul Nuyens	354 pts.
	Bill Allen	
4th	Joe Majchrowicz	351
5th	Vera Kemmish	342
6th	Roy Armstrong	338

London Bridge Club Notes 1978

The first Individuals match of 1978 got underway on Saturday, January 7th, and the results were as follows:

B. Allen and P. Nuyens	76 pts.
M. Tybinski and J. Majchrowicz	75 pts.
V. Kemmish and R. Armstrong	60 pts.
J. Huk and H. Meleson	60 pts.
B. Miller and J. Carney	58 pts.
R. Evans and F. Dickerson	49 pts.

HARROGATE BRIDGE WEEK

The Harrogate Bridge Week will take place this year from Saturday, the 23rd September to Saturday, the 30th September. The Dirlton Hotel charges will be £7.50 per person per day, plus VAT. We have provisionally booked the same accommodation we occupied last year. As the Hotel wants to receive a firm confirmation, those members wishing to partake should let me know their decision at an early date. The railway fare will be the same as last year, i.e. £7.50 and this amount should be sent in to me together with your confirmation. We are very grateful to the North Eastern Division of British Rail for again giving us these very favourable terms. It would be very helpful if those attending would let me have the name of their partner.

P. NUYENS

MRS. MARGARET GREEN

Members of the National St. Dunstan's Bridge Club who have visited Harrogate since the last war will be deeply sorry to learn of the sudden and unexpected passing away of their dear friend, Mrs. Margaret Green.

In her young days Margaret had been a great golfer (handicap 4) playing for

Kemp Town Notes

Saturday 7th January, was an exceptionally happy evening at Pearson House. We had invited fellow St. Dunstaners from Ian Fraser House to an Inter-Dominoes Tournament. Fifteen came to join us, making twenty-eight players in all and it was especially nice to welcome the ladies — Blodwyn Simon, Eileen Maynard and Brenda Bates, who were all looking so very smart.

We got off to a good start promptly at 7 p.m. and the excitement mounted with each game played, especially the twelfth and last.

During the evening, the Mayor of Brighton, Mrs. Hilary Somerville and her husband, came to visit us. Matron escorted them on a tour of the House to meet residents and staff, then brought them to the Winter Garden where the Mayor presented the prizes to the winners of the Tournament — Ted Myles, Alf Smith, Elmer Richards, Brenda Bates and Eileen Maynard. Afterwards the Mayor went from table to table to speak to all the players and markers. Special refreshments were served and much appreciated, during which time old friends were able to meet and exchange news and views, making such a convivial ending to a most enjoyable evening.

M. DANTINNE

Continued from col. 1

Yorkshire in County matches. After a long break she took it up again (handicap 7) when the war was over. Unfortunately due to rheumatoid arthritis, she had to give it up in 1952, so she devoted the remainder of her leisure time to Bridge, winning with her team the St. Dunstan's Challenge Cup.

It was in this way we had the privilege of meeting her, and she, with her husband Norman, for many years made the necessary arrangements for our Bridge Programme during our annual visits.

Your secretary has sent a letter of sympathy on behalf of our Club Members to Norman and the family in their sad loss.

P. NUYENS,
Hon. Secretary, St. Dunstan's
Bridge Club.

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 2117

Inspector Ghote Trusts the Heart

By H. R. F. Keating

Read by Garard Green

Reading Time 7½ hours

The Inspector goes to investigate the kidnapping of the son of Mr. Dessai a wealthy Bombay business man. Arriving at the house he finds that the gang have taken by mistake the five-year-old son of a poor tailor—a natural error since the two boys had exchanged clothes during play.

A spokesman for the kidnapers telephones. They now know they have the wrong victim, but the ransom remains the same—two lakhs of rupees or the boy dies. Ghote is appalled. Could Mr. Dessai reasonably be expected to pay such a huge sum for the return of this child, since his own son is safe at home? Ghote's superior, a tough hard-line Superintendent, strongly advises the business man not to part with a single rupee and the selfish and beautiful Mrs. Dessai considers it preposterous that her husband should even contemplate paying two million rupees to save the life of the urchin son of a mere tailor.

The Inspector persuades Dessai to put up a very much smaller sum, but this is rejected by the gang. In the meantime the Bombay police are scouring the city, but there are no leads. Time is getting desperately short.

Finally Ghote rescues the child with only minutes to spare . . .

A typical Keating 'exotic whodunit' and a *must* for Ghote fans.

Cat. No. 1335

Nine Coaches Waiting

By Mary Stewart

Read by Phyllis Boothroyd

Reading Time 13½ hours

Linda Martin is appointed to be governess to the eight-years-old Comte de Valmy, orphaned by an air crash. The boy's uncle and aunt are looking after the great estates until he should come of age.

Heloise de Valmy is a beautiful, cold and distant woman, whilst her husband, Leon, though a man of great charm, has a sardonic and bitter side to his nature. He is confined to a wheelchair as a result of a riding accident.

The young Philippe de Valmy is a nervous, withdrawn and intensely lonely child and Linda sets out to win his trust and affection.

One day while walking together in the woods, the boy narrowly escapes death when a bullet thuds into a tree inches from his head. At Leon's order the woods are scoured for the careless hunter, but without result. When, however, Philippe almost falls from his balcony at a point where the stonework is loose, Linda is frightened and troubled. Small incidents, perhaps unimportant in themselves, begin to reinforce her suspicions that somebody is trying to murder her charge.

She cannot go to the police since she has no concrete facts to offer. She decides to take him during the night and deliver him to the safety of his other uncle, due back that evening from a trip abroad. But it means a long and exhausting journey on foot and their enemies are numerous—and armed . . .

A stunning book in which the excitement and tensions are skillfully kept up right until the last moment.

Cat. No. 2638

Foreign Body in the Eye

By Charles Mott-Radcliffe

Read by Eric Gillett

Reading Time 13 hours

Sir Charles was on the Embassy staff in Athens, Rome and many other European capitals for some forty years. In his book he gives a penetrating account of what went on behind the scenes in our Embassies—including the stupidities and the blunders as well as the successes, the follies and the foibles of the great and the unending power-politics games played between friends and adversaries alike.

I found this book a bit overlong, but there is plenty to interest.

READING TIME—continued

Cat. No. 676

Life with Ionides

By Margaret Lane

Read by Roy Williamson

Reading Time 6½ hours

This is a study of an extraordinary man with whom the writer stayed in a kind of 'elegant squalor' in his dusty unkempt old house in Tanganyika.

After prep school, Rugby and Sandhurst, Ionides was commissioned into the Army, found life not at all to his liking and went off to poach ivory in East Africa for a time.

Then, like many men before him, he changed from killer to preserver of wild life and spent many years as Game Warden. Leaving the Service he developed a passion for venomous snakes, preferring them to humans, he often declared, and became one of the leading authorities on these creatures. He collected mambas, boomslangs and cobras by the thousand for zoos, hospitals, research centres and other establishments all over the world.

A cultured and widely read man, he would sit talking with his guests far into the night, the only other sound the rustle of the snakes in their boxes, awaiting 'packing day'. He had no interest in food or bodily comforts or his now-failing health. He wanted to be left in peace to die in Africa, his body to be left in the open for the animals he had lived among for so many years.

A splendidly written book which makes very interesting reading.

Cat. No. 2443

In and Out of the Box

By Robert Dougall

Read by the Author

Reading Time 12½ hours

The life and times of one of the best-known and surely the best-loved of all broadcasters. As a very young man he became involved in radio almost by accident, and for the next forty years played his not inconsiderable part in the development of all forms of broadcasting.

His only break from the microphone came during the war when he served in the Royal Navy as interpreter on a station in the dreary wastes of Arctic Russia. In the book he speaks feelingly of the truculent suspicion of these most difficult of all our Allies.

After the war he came back to the BBC, narrowly escaped being sacked, and went on to become nationally and internationally famous as broadcaster, linguist and more recently as President of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Written with verve and some nice touches of sly humour, this is a gem of a book!

Cat. No. 2016

The Healing Knife

By George Sava

Read by John Webster

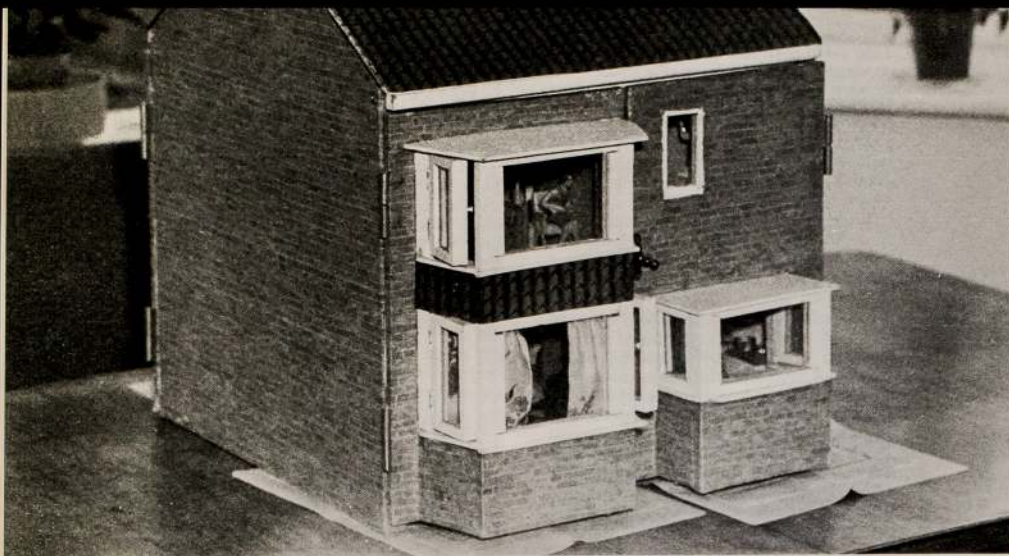
Reading Time 10½ hours

As a young Russian Aristocrat, the author served as an officer with the White Russian forces. His friend was badly wounded, with a bullet very close to his heart. There was no one to perform the delicate and dangerous operation to remove the bullet. Sava took it out using his clasp-knife and saved his friend's life.

This was the turning-point in his life. Surgery was his vocation and nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of his achieving this objective.

As a stoker in a Sofia hospital he worked in secret in the night, dissecting corpses with 'borrowed' instruments. Later he moved on to Paris, renounced his many titles, and became plain George Sava. Often he starved. He found work as a waiter and paid his way through medical school. Once he almost died from overwork and lack of food. Finally his reward came when he won a place (the only foreigner to do so) at a famous Italian teaching hospital.

The extraordinary story of a remarkable man, fiercely determined to get to the top in his chosen profession against the most daunting, often seemingly impossible, odds.



The house that Peter built is an 18" high scale model of his home.

WAYS OF LIFE—32

DO IT YOURSELF PIONEER—Peter Jones

Talking to Ray Hazan

There are many people in all walks of life who could be called pioneers in one way or another. They may not make the headlines, but their contribution helps others to raise the standard of their own lives. "I would never make a subject for 'This is Your Life'", said Peter Jones of Sheffield, and yet his activities have opened up new opportunities to several sections of the blind community and in the New Year's Honours List he was awarded the B.E.M. for his work as a telephonist with the Department of Employment.

"I'm in a job where I don't have to bring my work home", says Peter, and it is in his leisure time that Peter's life is fulfilled through an active mind, experience and sheer application. "I know my limitations and don't take on more than I can handle"

The Second World War closed down Peter's school, where he was working for the Higher School Certificate with a view to going on to university and research work. Instead, he found himself in the research department of a Ministry of Defence establishment, working on aero-

now in those days.

An accident with molten aluminium in 1940 cost Peter his sight and put an end to any further work in this field. During his period of rehabilitation Peter visited the Hounslow Government Training Centre and found himself rubbing shoulders with Eric Boulter, the present Director General of the R.N.I.B. They both acted as guinea pigs to see if blind people could be trained to use centre lathes, capstan lathes and other machine tools, although Peter was the only totally blind member of the group. In its way, this was pioneer work for the R.N.I.B., under whose auspices the course was run.

Sheffield Switchboard

After a telephony course at Bridgnorth in Shropshire, Peter went to work for a short while at the R.A.F. station at Cardington and, after the war, when his father returned to his pre-war job in Sheffield, Peter moved back there with his family. In September 1947, he became a switchboard operator at the then Ministry of Labour, where he still works. "Working a switchboard is a mental strain. You're always waiting for the stimulus of a call. You can't pick your own speed." There is certainly no strain when Peter sets out for work every morning with his third guide dog, Robin, who is more than just a working animal. "Ours is not a master-slave relationship, but a partnership. He is intelligent, has a mind of his own and, when I am walking with him, I have complete confidence and sometimes my mind wanders off to deal with all sorts of other problems." And Peter has many things to think about.

Before attempting anything practical, there is a lot of planning to be done. "My father was an electrical engineer, and, in his spare time, repaired radio sets, etc., so from the age of ten, I was surrounded by radio equipment." In 1948, Peter obtained the first part of his amateur radio licence. "I was building my first crystal and portable radio sets in 1932 and 1933. My grandfather was the founder member of the Sheffield Radio Station".

After the war, the Radio Amateur Examination was introduced. This in-



Peter demonstrates his 'cross-bow' jig for cutting large pieces of wood.

cluded a test of morse code and theory. "I studied a Braille copy of the radio handbook and then managed to persuade the authorities to allow me to take the exam orally. I was the very first blind person to do so and I obtained my licence, G3DRE, on 21st May, 1948." Once again, Peter had pioneered another field of attainment.

In the early 50's the Sheffield Amateur Radio Club had 100 members and, over the years, Peter has been Chairman, Secretary, Speaker Finder and general dogsbody. Twice he won the award for the best home-made equipment. "My first radio set, I built from scratch. It had a 150 watt input, was mounted in a 6 ft. high metal rack and cost me £15 in 1949.

In 1974, Peter wrote to the R.N.I.B., pointing out the lack of collated information for the blind do-it-yourselfer. He had always loved using his hands and collecting tools. This resulted in him being asked to write a specimen article.

At the same time as Peter was given the go ahead to write further articles, he was also asked to carry out an assessment of tools already on the market to see whether they were suitable for use by the blind. "I really enjoyed myself and, since most of the firms were in Sheffield, I met with nothing but kindness and co-operation.

"At one stage, I was building furniture which I wrote up in my *New Beacon* articles, while recording programmes for 'In Touch' and local radio." The articles have all been collated into a Braille volume entitled, 'Woodwork for the Visually Handicapped'. It starts with the very basics of the craft, describes tools and aids costing from a few pence to £25 and gives a step by step description of various projects.

Cross-bow Jig

"When the weather's fine, I take my workmate bench into the garden and work there." Indeed, it was on his back patio, under a warm, wintry sun, that Peter showed me a jig he has designed for cutting large pieces of wood. It looks rather like a cross-bow. The cross holds the wood in position, while the shaft is a guide for a jig-saw. This achieves a safe, accurate and independent means of cutting long planks. Peter has made the kitchen units, bookcases, cupboards, shelves and extended the central heating system. "If my wife, Eileen, wants a job done around the house, she puts it on the list. If she forgets, then the job isn't done." Peter has also reproduced his own house in miniature. The model is about 18 inches high, with windows, doors, walls and a roof that opens to reveal the furnished contents of the rooms. A complete lighting system creates the finishing touch.

Seek and Ye Shall Find

At present, Peter is studying electronic logic systems so as to get up-to-date with integrated circuits. This he does via the Student Tape Library. Lack of this particular knowledge, however, did not prevent him from conceiving and building BROMA, a device enabling the blind to read electric meters via a series of audible dots and dashes. "My motto is 'seek and ye shall find'. If I don't know the



Using a miniature bench drill to make holes in a printed circuit board.

answer myself, there is always someone to ask. In the case of BROMA, there was an electronics student and systems designer." Peter's daughter, Rosalind, read out the circuit plan which he then Brailled out before embarking on construction. Peter now waits to see if anyone will take on the venture commercially.

At the end of the interview, Peter said, "I limit my interests to those I want to get involved in. I don't embark upon a project unless I know I can do it by myself. I think it is more frustrating for a blind person to start something and not be able to complete it, than never to start it at all." One gets the impression that Peter's limitations are few.

Editor's Note: The January issue of *Wireless World* carries an article by Peter entitled 'Wiring by Touch'. It outlines the way in which he has overcome the problems of circuit wiring by a totally blind experimenter.

CLUB NEWS

MIDLAND

The air was filled with the spirit of Christmas during our meeting which was held on Sunday, 11th December.

The tables were laden with every kind of Christmas goody that you could think. The ladies of the club had worked very hard to put on a beautiful spread. It seemed such a shame to spoil it, but this was soon done when we sat down. As we now have no members' children to enjoy Christmas parties with us, we invite members to bring along their grandchildren, and they thoroughly enjoyed the jellies and trifles that were put before them.

Tom O'Connor brought along a bottle of Scotch and we all had a tot in our tea to drink each others health.

When all had had their fill, Joe Kibbler, our Chairman, gave a vote of thanks to all the ladies who had worked so hard to make the spread so wonderful. He also called for a vote of thanks for Joan, who had worked so hard during the year raising money from the sale of birthday cards, Christmas cards, etc., to help the club funds. She was presented with a small gift by the club, *Charlie* perfume, in appreciation of her efforts. Mrs. Marjorie Hordyniec had this honour.

Jingle Bells

When all this was over and the raffle had been drawn, a bottle of sherry, which was won by Guy Bilcliff, we all adjourned to the lounge, the children settled down and awaited the arrival of Father Christmas. When he eventually arrived he was heralded with the kiddies singing "Jingle Bells", and then each of the children were called up to receive a present from him. It was then the turn of the ladies to receive a present. The presents had been given by Tom O'Connor. After this came the prize giving to all members who had won something in the dominoes competition run during the year. The winners were as follows, 1st. Bruno Tomporowski, 2nd. Guy Bilcliff, 3rd. Doug Cashmore and 4th. Joe Kibbler. Each member who had not won a prize was given an envelope containing something to buy a drink with for Christmas.

That brought us to the end of the formalities and we were able to settle down and have some refreshments, drink each others health and chat before breaking up and going home. Everyone had really had an enjoyable afternoon and evening.

On the following Saturday we had our annual Christmas dinner, held once again at the Austin Branch of the Royal British Legion. We were very pleased to welcome Miss Newbold once again who joined us for this function. She brought a raffle prize along with her, a bottle of sherry, and each St. Dunstaner was given a raffle ticket. A number of the branch officers had also been invited to the dinner, including the branch padre, The Rev. David Collier.

We sat down for the meal at 5.30, and after brief introductions the padre said grace and we then were served with a beautiful meal. It was a full Christmas dinner with soup, followed by turkey and all the trimmings, and with fruit salad and cream, afterwards cheese and biscuits and coffee.

The Branch President, Mr. George Queen, gave the Loyal Toast and then said how he and his wife thoroughly enjoyed being with us at our dinners and hoped that he would be able to come along for many more years. I then proposed a vote of thanks to the Austin Branch for giving us the facilities to hold our Christmas dinners on the premises and we also thanked Mrs. Ann Swinnerton and her helpers for a beautiful meal and excellent service. Ann is the Catering Manageress.

Miss Newbold's raffle was then drawn and the lucky winner was Guy. Two bottles in one week, not bad.

On the same evening a dance was held in aid of the "Elder Members" section of the Austin Branch. These functions are run to raise money to help the elder members of the branch to have a dinner and an outing during the year. Some of our members had tickets for this event and they stayed in the Ballroom, those of us who did not wish to join in the dance went out into the lounges to enjoy a drink and some friendly chit chat and leg pulling with the members of the Legion.

CLUB NEWS—continued

During the after dinner speeches the Branch Chairman had given a short speech in which he said how much the members of the Austin Branch looked forward to St. Dunstaners attending the branch and they were always welcome. It was during this time in the dance and in the lounges that everyone saw how true his words were.

This was the final event in our club diary for the year, we have had a very good 1977, let us hope that 1978 will be as good if not better. It is at these functions that the club really comes into its own and everyone gets the benefit of the years work at club meetings.

Why not come along and try joining in with us, there are many St. Dunstaners in the Birmingham area and this club should be much stronger than it is at present. It would be such a great pity to see the Birmingham club fade away after the really hard work put in by such wonderful ladies as Mrs. Spurway many years ago to get this club started. I can assure everyone of a very warm welcome.

Club meetings are held at the British Legion Headquarters, Thorpe Street, Birmingham, on the second Sunday of each month, if you want further information please ring me on Bromsgrove 73856. The telephone code from Birmingham is 26, should you be outside Birmingham, it is 0527.

*DOUG CASHMORE,
Secretary.*

January Meeting

We commenced our activities for the New Year on rather a quiet note, for our meeting held on Sunday, 8th January, was rather poorly attended.

Apologies showed that some members were sick and others had other commitments, but nevertheless we had a good meeting. The rules were changed slightly for this year's dominoes competition so that we could speed the whole competition up and maybe get our ladies involved in it this year.

Everyone agreed that the Christmas dinner was a great success once again, but that transport costs would have to be looked into in future years.

Our Chairman, Joe Kibbler, has got his

finger on the button so I am sure that these things will be watched this year.

The ladies put on the tea for us as usual and we thanked them once again for a lovely spread, some beautiful home made cakes were brought along by Marjorie Hordyniec, with Eddie's help, of course.

Our next meeting is on Sunday, 12th February, why not come along and join us.

DOUG CASHMORE, Secretary.

BRIGHTON

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

The last get-together of 1977 was held at Ian Fraser House on December 14th when, after the Domino Aggregate Tournament, we sat down to tea followed by a couple of drinks and a sing-song to get the festive season under way. Arrangements are now being made for a day trip to Calais on the 8th March. We will travel by coach to Dover and then cross the Channel by Hovercraft. The cost will be £6.75-£4.75 for members. Also, if enough people are interested, one week's holiday in Paignton can be arranged at a cost of £48.50 from the 20-27th May, 1978. For further details please contact me as soon as possible at Brighton 32115.

Our next Dance will be held on Feb. 11th when everyone will be made most welcome.

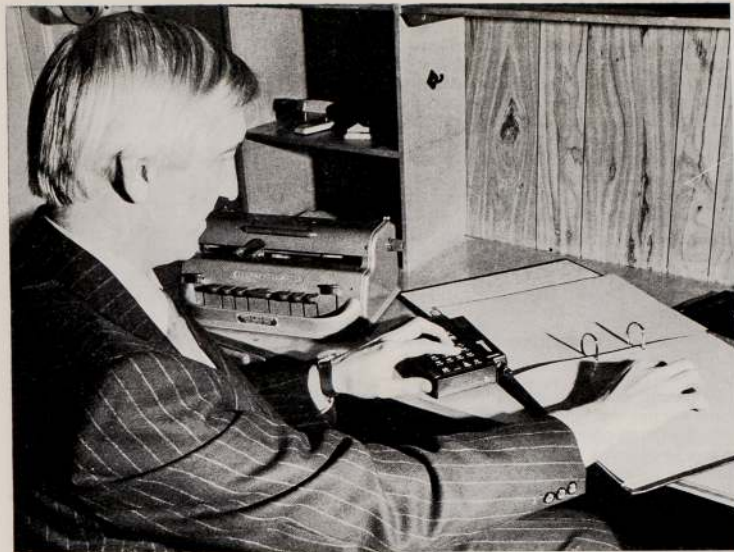
R. OSBORNE, Chairman.

GARDENERS PLEASE NOTE

St. Dunstaners who are garden and greenhouse enthusiasts should note that Mr. Robinson's new address is **14 Newton Drive, West Kirby, Wirral, Merseyside** and not Newton Way, as we published last month. Mr. Robinson would like to thank everyone for the cards and gifts sent to him.

Home Wanted

A good home is wanted for a nine year old miniature Yorkshire Terrier, named Susie. She is active and affectionate and a small eater; essentially a lady's dog. Not suitable for a home with young children under 10 years. If anyone is interested, please contact Southern Area Welfare Department at H.Q.



Braille and the talking calculator help David Clark in his profession.

A New Adventure

by Ray Hazan

Some people may complain about the millions spent on space research, others object to the advance of computer technology, but one section of the community wins out every time—the handicapped. New careers, the extending of present jobs, can be attributed to technology. An example of this is David Clark of Sevenoaks, who is setting up as an Insurance Broker. Thanks to his talking calculator, percentages, compound interests and straight forward sums become simple tasks. It is almost uncanny how this little box of tricks, no bigger than the average cassette recorder, talks back at you with Dalek-like tones and an American accent, of course.

"I qualified as a Chartered Accountant before gradually losing my sight during and after National Service in 1966. Lord Fraser then introduced me to another

accountant who confirmed my fears—accountancy was out. I taught at a school for blind children in Sevenoaks from 1968 to 1977. It was during this time that I got to thinking about what the children would do when they left school. I was meeting more and more blind adults who were in jobs that were either boring or not using their full potential. Since it was likely that I would not remain in teaching for the rest of my life, I got to thinking about what I could do.

Talking Calculator

"It occurred to me that insurance involved talking to people. I can put the rates into Braille, which demands accurate, rather than fast reading. After a while, I obtained the talking calculator, which is a great help to me. I also get a lot of help

from the local Area Inspector which each Insurance Company employs to assist agencies and brokers all over the country". Although David is not catering especially for the blind, he offers to correspond in Braille for those who so wish. Slowly, through advertising and through encounters with people, be it over the dinner table or elsewhere, word is getting round about his business.

David is an active member of the local community. He is on the Committee of the Sevenoaks Volunteer Bureau, the local Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, and the blind community have him to thank for the setting up of the Sevenoaks Talking Newspaper.

There are in existence machines which can record Braille on compact cassette and which can throw up specific pages of information on to the Braille display panel on the machine. There lies ahead, therefore, even greater potential for those with a knowledge of Braille and money. David's concern that blind people are not able to obtain more fulfilling and useful jobs is being changed by the technology which is helping David himself.



One of David's spare-time occupations is carpentry.

OVINGDEAN NOTES

December and 1977, departed in a confusion of bursting balloons, peeling bells, clinking glasses and the off key singing of Auld Lang Syne in the lounge, all with the greatest humour. The Fancy Dress Parade earlier in the evening had been the cause of much laughter and admiration and no one envied our judges, Mr. and Mrs. David Tait, of the Brunswick Readers, their difficult task in deciding the winners. Finally, after much thought, the following winners were selected:

Fly-by-Night Mrs. Vi Delaney

Cinderella and Ugly Sister

V.A.D. Miss Jennifer Low
and "Ginger" Scott

Prince Charming and Ugly Sister

V.A.D. Mrs. Mary Frith and Harry Dakin

And All Because the Lady Loves Milk Tray

Sam and Mrs. Worthington

Merrie England Dickie and Mrs. Brett

Chest of Drawers Ted Hill

Dick Whittington and His Cat

V.A.D. Miss Joyce Briant
and Freddie Harriss

Fairies and Christmas Crackers

Alf and Mrs. Waters and
Percy and Mrs. Stubbs

Vi Delaney wore a graceful sky-blue evening dress, the background for cut-outs of planes illustrating "Fly-by-Night". Mrs. Worthington, dressed in nurse's uniform, pushed Sam in a wheelchair — the hero who dared all to deliver Milk Tray to his lady-love was covered from head to foot in bandages. Dickie and Mrs. Brett were dressed as sheiks and bore a placard reading "Merrie England 1977-8 — Midnight and Oil's Well". Ted Hill had frilly panties dangling from his manly chest of drawers (all clever stuff!). The Fairies and Crackers were hilarious — Mrs. Stubbs

Ovingdean Notes—continued

and Mrs. Waters were the Crackers and Alf and Percy looked quite awful in white dresses, (balloons in strategic places), heavy make-up and dazzling smiles. Dick Whittington and His Cat evoked much admiration, we are not sure whether this was due to Freddie Harriss's marvellous cat-like tread, or Miss Briant's shapely legs. All entries were outstandingly good this year and we congratulate not only the winners, but everyone who took part. The ones who came up with the witty ideas and the ones with fingers clever enough to make the costumes.

Back in Time

Having begun at the end of the month we'll now confuse the issue by returning to December 2nd. On that day there was a concert at the Dome, which included Janet Brown, Peter Butterworth and Elsie and Doris Waters. A large party of St. Dunstaners from both Houses enjoyed the evening as they enjoyed the annual Carol Service at Roedean and the Carol Concert at the Dome. This was recorded by the B.B.C. and broadcast on Christmas Eve. The Chess Congress, reported in the January *Review*, was a great success as was the Bridge Instructional Weekend. Tom Eales gave us one of his beautifully arranged stereo mixtures and followed it during Christmas week with a hi-fi mystery mixture which also reached a very high standard. As Bill Chamberlain said in his sincere vote of thanks, "Tom proves that variety really is the spice of life".

On December 20th, the gold and silver decorations were hung. In the midst of a very busy morning in the Escort Office a male member of the staff entered bearing a tangled golden mobile and a winning smile. He pushed his luck by saying the delicate female touch was needed to untangle the nasty mess, but as usual flattery paid off.

There were enormous piles of post coming in every day. What happened to all those folk who vowed to cut down on sending cards this year? But it was lovely to receive them; the Desk and many of the offices looked most colourful.

On Christmas Eve, after an introduction by Commandant and a short speech by the Chairman, the concert given by the

Merrymakers of Crawley opened in traditional fashion. The V.A.D.'s and male members of the staff walked in procession from the far end of the dining room to the stage at the rear of the lounge. Only the lights on the Christmas tree twinkled as we walked carrying lanterns to light our way as we short-sightedly peered at our carol sheets. We sang unaccompanied and even achieved harmonizing effects, which surprised our audience as much as it surprised us. Who are these King Singers anyway? (You will gather that we were a bit smug). The Merrymakers presented a programme consisting mainly of excerpts from musical shows. Cyril Eighteen gave a graceful vote of thanks and it was a joy to have our Chairman and his delightful wife present. They chatted for some time after the show with St. Dunstaners and artistes.

On Christmas Day the Chapel was well filled and the flowers, arranged by V.A.D. Miss Low, looked really beautiful. We sang the old familiar carols with great enjoyment and the five traditional Christmas readings were given by Mrs. Williams, Matron Pass, Matron Hallett, Commandant and finally by the Chairman. There was a real family feeling about the service. The Christmas dinner of turkey with all the trimmings, followed by the pudding drowning happily in rum, was much appreciated and we thank the catering staff for the excellent job they did throughout the long festive season. It could not have been easy.

Relatively Speaking

On Christmas Night we performed Alan Ayckbourn's sparkling comedy "Relatively Speaking" with guest reader Steve Lee and staff members Mrs. Catt, Mrs. Frith, Mrs. Williams and, of course, 'roll 'em in the aisles' Commandant. He was marvellous as the philandering husband. Needless to say his nefarious plans were thwarted by feminine guile and by the end of the play we felt quite sorry for the unspeakable cad!

Walking was a popular pastime on Boxing Day and in the evening we worked off more energy and excess weight at the dance. The tombola was a great success and it was nice to have Matron Pass with

OVINGDEAN NOTES—continued

us for Christmas. We hope that she enjoyed it all. Fancy hats were given out at the dance. We had some picturesque Eastern type head-dresses in black and gold — one of these adorned Elmer Richards and we quite expected him to leap on a camel and brandish a scimitar like Ghengis Khan. Somehow the head-gear didn't look quite the same on our Miss Smith. She was the first to admit that she looked a bit grotty in it!

There were two drives during the holiday. One being an invitation to tea at Tylden House, which after several years of Mr. and Mrs. Lyndhurst's kind generosity, is becoming a tradition. The local shows, unfortunately for us, were very visual, but we visited two pantomimes — "Dick Whittington" and "Aladdin". Both of these were very popular.

We held a Grand Dominoes Tournament for both Houses, which was well attended and the winners were as follows:

1st J. Majchrowicz (6 Games)
2nd F. Bullough (6 Games)
Draw for Winner
3rd E. Richards (5 Games)

M. Tybinski and E. Humphries also won 5 games, but Elmer won on the draw. Following this Commandant presided at the Grand Bingo Night and kept the excitement bubbling just under boiling point, varying the value of the prizes in every game — which greatly added to the interest.

And so to New Year's Eve. Which is where we came in. As we straggled out of the lounge at 12.30 a.m., ankle deep in streamers and balloons, feeling somewhat faded after ten days of too much food and a great deal of jollity, we perhaps reflected that 1977 had brought changes and that no doubt 1978 would bring more. But change signifies life and there's plenty left in us yet! Who's for a stiff brandy? Medicinal, of course.

ton, on the birth of their grand-daughter, Andrea, to their son, Ronald, and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Osborne of Saltdean, on the birth of a second grand-daughter, Carolyne Nicola, born on 13th November 1977, to their son, Keith, and his wife, Linda.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Redford of East Molesey, on the birth of two grand-daughters, Andrea, born on 22nd October 1977, to their daughter, Maureen, and her husband, and Victoria, born on 25th October, 1977, to their son, Richard, and his wife.

Mr. William Tickle of Liverpool, on the birth of his eleventh great grandchild Gregory, born on 12th December, 1977.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Mr. Edward Pepper of Chelmsford, whose father died on 9th December, 1977

Mr. Frederick Sunderland of Ruislip, whose brother died on 23rd December, 1977.

FAMILY NEWS continued

Mr. Emrys Tucker of Dulwich, whose wife, Olive Cicely, died on 30th December 1977.

Mr. Rowland Walton of Blackpool, whose sister, Nora, died at the beginning of November, 1977.

Mr. Michael Woodcock of Bourne-mouth, whose father died recently.

Examination and Career Successes

We warmly congratulate:

Trevor, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Parker* of Padiham, who, having left college and taken a job as Chef at St. Katherine's Lodge in Hove, was promoted to Assistant Head Waiter in the course of only six months and has now been made Head Waiter.

Mary, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gaygan* of Harrow, who has raised £156 for cancer research. With four other girls, Mary organised a bazaar at North Harrow Methodist Church Hall. She approached local shops and firms to obtain items for sale at the bazaar and met with a good response.

In Memory

It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

William Noel Baxter *Royal Air Force*

William Noel Baxter of Belfast, died on 8th November, 1977, aged 44.

Mr. Baxter served as a Corporal in the Royal Air Force from his enlistment in April, 1951 to his discharge in April, 1961. During his military service, Mr. Baxter suffered an accident which later resulted in his loss of sight and other disabilities, but he bore his poor health with great courage and, for as long as he was able, took part in the management of the family business.

He leaves a widow, Mildred.

Ernest Joseph Blundell *11th Welsh Regiment*

Ernest Joseph Blundell of Windsor, died on 7th December, 1977 at Pearson House, where he had been a resident since 1968. He was 86 years old.

Mr. Blundell joined the 11th Welsh Regiment in November, 1914 and became a Lance Corporal.

He was wounded at Salonika, losing one eye, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in April, 1917. He trained as a Joiner and gained a first class certificate in picture framing. After the war, he and his wife opened a shop in Eton and were very successful there, working together as a team. They were patronised by the school and the castle. Queen Mary expressed delight in his workmanship and his shop and workshop were beautifully kept and well arranged. In 1925, they moved to Cardiff to be near relatives, but trade was poor and in 1929 they moved back to Eton, where they regained their old customers and continued in business until ill health forced them to retire in 1954.

During the Second World War, Ernie became a fire watcher and his wife and son were fire fighters. He took a close interest in local St. Dunstan activities and in 1933, he spoke on St. Dunstan's at the Remembrance Day Service at Slough Baptist Church.

After the death of his wife in 1967, Ernie moved to his son's home, but due to his daughter-in-law's ill health, he decided to become a permanent resident at Pearson House, where he quickly became popular and spent his last years happily.

He leaves a son, Derek, and a grand-daughter.

Harold William Greatrex, M.B.E., M.M.

Royal Engineers

Harold William "Bunny" Greatrex, M.B.E., M.M., died in hospital on 21st December, 1977, aged 57.

Mr. Greatrex joined St. Dunstan's in 1944, following distinguished service in the Royal Engineers during the Second World War. He had enlisted in May, 1940, at which time he was a student of Engineering and was discharged in December, 1946, following a mine explosion when he was blinded and lost a foot. He was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry when he volunteered to take his truck through an uncharted mine-field in order to place indicator marks and so enable the tanks to follow in those marks and thus attack the enemy.

In 1947, Mr. Greatrex married Josephine Kerans, a former handicrafts teacher at Ovingdean. He had already done some agricultural training but his greatest interest was in local government and from then on, Mr. Greatrex devoted his life tirelessly to public service despite increasing poor health and his disabilities. In 1952, he was elected to Chailey Rural District Council and became Chairman of the Parish Council and a member of the Civil Defence. In 1958, he gained a seat on East Sussex County Council and was appointed Vice-Chairman of Chailey R.D.C. and ultimately became Chairman. The following year, he was appointed representative to the County of Sussex Executive Committee of the Parish Councils Association on the National Council of England and Wales and was

In Memory *continued*

selected as official Conservative candidate for the County Council elections in 1967. Up until the time of his recent admission to hospital, Mr. Greatrex served on numerous committees and travelled extensively throughout the U.K. in connection with his voluntary work. There is no doubt that he will long be remembered by the many colleagues and friends with whom he served and for his unflinching devotion and great contribution to public service.

In his youth, Mr. Greatrex was an amateur swimming champion. He subsequently took up weaving as a hobby, retained a great interest in gardening and enjoyed his talking books.

He leaves a widow, Josephine, and son, Roger.

Anthony John Harmer *Army Catering Corps*
Anthony John Harmer died in King's College Hospital on 30th December, 1977, aged 45.

Mr. Harmer joined the Army Catering Corps in 1951, but his sight failed whilst serving in Hong Kong in 1952. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1957 and trained for industry, joining Austin Motors of Birmingham in 1958. In 1964, he returned to live in Hastings, moving finally to Rye in 1975.

He was always a keen and industrious worker from the days of his training at Ian Fraser House where he was described as "absolutely first class". He worked on capstans and valves for the engineering industry and, when in good health, his productivity exceeded that of his sighted companions. He was taken ill in December, 1976 and his health deteriorated rapidly.

He leaves a widow, Ann, three sons and one daughter.

William Megson *11th East Yorkshire Regiment*

William Megson of Brighton, died at his home on 18th December, 1977, aged 82.

Mr. Megson was a Private in the 11th East Yorkshire Regiment, having enlisted in 1915. He was injured in September, 1916 whilst on active service in Richebourg, when he suffered the loss of both eyes and joined St. Dunstan's in 1916.

Following a period of training, Mr. Megson went into poultry farming in Oxfordshire and ran a successful business until 1960 when he retired and went to live in Brighton. After the death of his second wife, he was devotedly cared for by his housekeeper, Miss Noreen Bryan, who shared his great interest in gardening.

Despite advancing years, Mr. Megson enjoyed frequent holidays and had only recently returned from a visit to Canada to see his brother and family.

Mr. W. T. Scott, a resident at Ian Fraser House, says of him: "He was one of the first of the few, including Horace Kerr, Bill Chamberlain, Harry Northgreaves and Billy Christian, I joined

them at the College Annexe in Regent's Park at the end of 1918. Matron Power looked after us, with Miss Thelluson and Mr. Huskinson (Mr. "H") was the Adjutant."

He leaves a daughter, Mrs. H. Hayes, and a son, Ronald, who lives in Rhodesia, and his housekeeper, Miss Noreen Bryan.

Harry Royston Morris *Queen Victoria Rifles*

Harry Royston Morris of Bedford, died on 18th December, 1977, aged 84.

Mr. Morris served as a Rifleman in the Queen Victoria Rifles from September, 1914 to 1916 and he lost the sight of one eye when wounded at Hill 60 in April, 1915. He joined St. Dunstan's in December, 1974 following the failure of his remaining sight. He had by then been retired for some years from his work as an Inspector with the Navy, Army and Air Force Institute. In retirement, Mr. Morris enjoyed looking after his garden and greenhouse.

He leaves a widow, Elsie, and a married son and daughter.

Henry Adam Palmer *18th Durham Light Infantry*

Henry Adam Palmer, a permanent resident at Pearson House, died there on 25th November, 1977, aged 88.

Mr. Palmer enlisted in September, 1914 and served as a Private with the 18th Durham Light Infantry. He was wounded in France in July, 1916 and discharged in September of that year, when he became a St. Dunstanian. After training, Mr. Palmer returned home to West Hartlepool, where he lived with his brother and sister and kept himself occupied in mat making, combining this at times with string bag and wool rug making. He gave up mat making in 1954, after 35 years of excellent workmanship.

Mr. Palmer lived alone until 1967, when he became a permanent resident at Pearson House. He leaves a niece, Miss Jean Palmer.

Arthur John Payne *Royal Engineers*

Arthur John Payne of Northampton, died on 21st November, 1977 aged 80.

Mr. Payne served as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers from August, 1915 until March, 1919. He had suffered mustard gas poisoning in May, 1918, which led to his loss of sight and he became a St. Dunstanian in December, 1969. Prior to retirement, Mr. Payne had worked as a shoe machinist. In spite of rather poor health, he liked to keep as active as possible and enjoyed attending the club meetings and social functions organised in his area for blind and retired folk.

He leaves a widow, Ethel, and two sons, Keith and Brian.