

1978

St Dunstons
REVIEW
JULY 1978



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

No. 698

JULY 1978

10p MONTHLY

Message from the Chairman

Eric T. Boulter, C.B.E.

Many congratulations to St. Dunstaner Eric Boulter, Director-General of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, on being made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

After many years of highly responsible work for the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, finally as Associate Director, he returned to England in 1970 and joined the R.N.I.B. a few months later. We are all delighted that his achievements in blind welfare, both in the international field and at home, have been recognised and we wish him and his wife, Mary, the best of good fortune and success in their activities.

Ion Garnett-Orme

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

On the Queen's official birthday, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme sent a telegram of greeting. The text of his telegram and Her Majesty's reply appear below:

BLINDED EX-SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH SEND YOUR MAJESTY THEIR LOYAL GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY.

ION GARNETT-ORME
CHAIRMAN, ST. DUNSTAN'S

I SEND YOU AND THE BLINDED EX-SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN OF THE COMMONWEALTH MY SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR KIND MESSAGE ON THE CELEBRATION OF MY BIRTHDAY.

ELIZABETH R.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

We offer our congratulations, together with those of the Chairman, to **Mr. Eric Boulter** on being made a C.B.E. We would also like to congratulate **Mrs. Helen Bradley**, wife of St. Dunstaner, Mr. Thomas Bradley, of Wilmslow, Cheshire, on being made a M.B.E. Mrs. Bradley, an artist, took up painting in her late 50's so that her grandchildren would be able to see what Edwardian life was like. Her books and paintings have achieved great popularity. **Mr. Denis Church**, who in spite of blindness, was appointed Assistant Secretary, Department of Industry in 1973, on being made a C.B.E. Mr. Church is an old friend of many of our readers. He married Susan Canti, who will be remembered as a V.A.D. at Church Stretton and in Toronto for many years; **Lord Rupert Nevill, J.P., D.L.**, Patron of the Brighton Social and Sports Club, on being made a C.V.O.; and **Sir Douglas Ranger, F.R.C.S.**, a consultant surgeon to St. Dunstan's, on being made a Knight Bachelor.

COVER PICTURE: Tom Lukes looks pleased with life as he talks to climb master, Barry Ellis, at the top of an 800 feet rope climb on Cader Idris.

ST. DUNSTAN'S SOUTH AFRICA

Our St. Dunstaner, the Reverend Michael Norman, M.A., Rector of St. Stephens, Pinelands, Capetown has been appointed Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's (South Africa). He succeeds Mr. Colin Eglin, who has resigned this position due to the added responsibilities of his appointment as Leader of the Opposition in the South African Parliament. Mr. Eglin remains a Director of the Board and a Member of the Finance Committee.

TO ALL ST. DUNSTANERS

May I say thank you very much for the money you have subscribed to my retirement fund. I have ordered a greenhouse with this money and look forward to raising unusual items under glass and getting others for an early show with heat.

I have enjoyed my years with St. Dunstan's and will miss all of you, my friends. I hope I've been of some help and I've certainly learned many things from you and your wives, whom I would like to bring into the 'thank you' as well.

'Robby' Robinson.

FROM MRS. PAULINE BUCKLEY

My family and I would like to express our grateful thanks to all those who so generously contributed to the Memorial Fund in memory of my late husband, Robin Buckley. I hope the seats will give pleasure and relaxation to both guide dog owners and staff at the Wokingham centre. Out thanks also go to those who organised the Memorial Fund.

SPORTS—STOKE MANDEVILLE

The annual Multi-Disabled Games at Stoke Mandeville will be held this year during the weekend of 16th-17th September. St. Dunstan's are now affiliated to B.S.A.D., Sussex, with whom we competed last year and will again this year. We hope to have a larger team this year. Two of the events are bowling and archery so, apart from the usual athletics events, I'm sure we could take quite a good bowls team. Would all St. Dunstaners wishing to enter these games please contact me for entry forms.

JOCK CARNOCHAN

Welcome to St. Dunstan's



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

Frank Surridge of Erith, Kent, who joined St. Dunstan's on 17th May. Mr. Surridge served in the Royal Air Force from 1952-55 with the rank of Aircraftsman, 1st class. He rejoined as a cook in 1958 and was posted to Singapore. He left the Service in 1966. Mr. Surridge is married with five children.

SPORTS FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED IN SCOTLAND

The Scottish equivalent of B.A.S.R.A.B. is organising a sports weekend for teams from all over Britain and St. Dunstan's has received an invitation to take part. This will be held on Saturday, 2nd September. Would all St. Dunstaners wishing to take part, please write to me for an entry form.

JOCK CARNOCHAN

DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

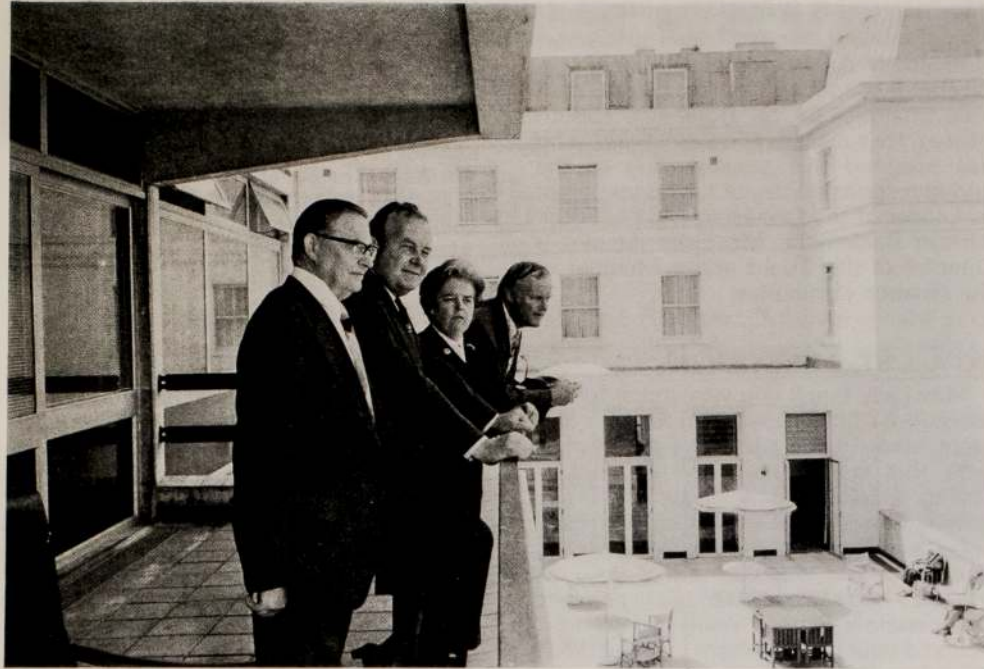
The Derby Sweepstake again proved very popular this year. There were twenty-five runners and the pay-out was as follows:

1st Prize	H. Ward, Leeds
	Shirley Heights Ticket No. 1971 £300
2nd Prize	H. Baker, Billericay
	Hawaiian Sound Ticket No. 1903 £120
3rd Prize	C. Radford, Surrey
	Remainder Man Ticket No. 2032 £60

All those holding a ticket for the remaining twenty-two horses received the sum of £5.38.

ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

The principal speaker at the next Amateur Radio weekend (September 9-10th) will be the President of the Radio Society of Great Britain, Dr. Dain S. Evans, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.M., G3RPE.



Mr. Herbert and Mr. Martin with Mr. Wills and Matron Hallett on one of the balconies at Pearson House.

In the Braille Room at Ian Fraser House, Peter Watson greets the Minister. With them are Commandant Fawcett, Mr. Richard Dufton and Mr. Wills.



The Minister and his secretary take leave of Mr. Wills, Mr. Dufton and Mr. Fawcett.

Queensland's Welfare Minister at St. Dunstan's

The Hon. John Herbert, M.L.A., Minister for Welfare in the State of Queensland, Australia, visited St. Dunstan's Homes in Brighton on Friday, 2nd June. Mr. Herbert, who was on a short visit to the United Kingdom to gather information on welfare matters, had particularly asked to visit St. Dunstan's.

"As a member of the Returned Serviceman's League in Australia, I specially wanted to come to St. Dunstan's", he said, "and when I get home, the press will ask if I've been to St. Dunstan's, which is still regarded as the world leader in blind welfare".

Mr. Herbert was accompanied by his Private Secretary, Mr. C. Martin. They began their visit at Pearson House, where they were greeted by Mr. C. D. Wills, Secretary of St. Dunstan's, Mr. L. Fawcett, M.B.E., Commandant, and Miss O. Hallett, Matron.

The tour of the building included the hospital wing, the rooms for St. Dunstaners in permanent residence at Pearson House, where the Minister exchanged a

few words with Joe Britton, the hobbies room, dining room and lounges.

Luncheon was taken at Ian Fraser House, where our visitors were welcomed by Mr. Richard Dufton, Member of our Council and, in the absence of Mrs. A. Pass, by Miss J. Allison, Assistant Matron.

Later, our Australian visitors looked over the House, particularly the training areas. The Minister chatted with Phil Duffee in the Braille room and with Phil's pupil, Peter Watson. In the training workshops, Mr. John Brown, instructor, explained the machines and tools in use. Mr. Herbert also saw the swimming pool and the bowling rink in the annexe. There is great interest in green bowls in Australia and the visitors were very impressed with our indoor green.

As usual on these occasions the clock won the race and Mr. Herbert and Mr. Martin left to catch their train to London with cordial thanks and considerable appreciation of the services and facilities of St. Dunstan's two Houses in Brighton.



New Zealand St. Dunstaners at their Reunion; with them is Mr. Richard Dufton, (3rd from right back row), and next to him, Mr. Jim May.

27,000 Miles in 26 Days

At the Southampton Reunion, Mr. Richard Dufton gave a brief account of his visit to New Zealand earlier this year. Mr. and Mrs. Dufton were attending the St. Dunstan's New Zealand Triennial Reunion. Here is a fuller report of the points of geographical interest and other highlights of the trip, as described by Mr. Dufton.

"St. Dunstaners from all over New Zealand gathered at Nelson, South Island, which is the geographical centre of the country. Nelson is named after the great Sea Lord himself and many of the streets bear the names of his battles and captains. With temperatures in the 80's, dress was informal for most of the reunion events, which went on for three days. Because roads and especially trains are few and far between, long distances are travelled by light plane. It was as if the Reunion was being held in Carlisle, then the northernmost people would come from the Shetlands and the southernmost from

Plymouth or Torquay. With 90 St. Dunstaners out of a population of three million, dispensed over a land mass ten per cent larger than Great Britain, one can understand some of the transport problems.

"The Reunion consisted of a luncheon, a display of reading and mobility aids, a wreath laying ceremony, an Annual General Meeting and a sight-seeing tour down the north west coast. This is a fertile area where tobacco, hops and fruit grow. February there is the equivalent of our August, so the harvest was in full swing. After the Annual General Meeting, at which Mr. Bob Sadler was elected President, succeeding Mr. George Schofield, we flew back south to Christchurch, where I had various appointments, mainly at Wormald International in Christchurch, which is perhaps the world's largest single agency for both reading and mobility aids.

"We had eight or nine days to spare

27,000 MILES . . .—continued

before our next engagement and so went on a coach tour of South Island. We saw Mount Cook, 12,000 feet high and snow covered. We visited Milford Sound and experienced some of the 300 inches of rain they annually receive. Most spectacular was Mitre Peak, which rises a sheer 5,000 feet from the 1,000 feet deep waters of the Sound. This is claimed to be the highest sea cliff in the world. There are many high level lakes in this area, harnessed to a comprehensive hydro-electric scheme which powers foundries for aluminium and bauxite ore, as well as sending energy to North Island via power lines under Cook Strait. There is an enormous National Park on the West Coast, some three million acres containing many beech tree forests. These are short-lived, 20 to 25 years, due to the trees being smothered by a red coloured lichen which also clings to telegraph poles and whole rock faces of mountains. Lush undergrowth prevents penetration of these forests, so deer are lifted out by helicopter and used for breeding in the ever expanding field of deer farming.

"Our route up the West Coast took us

past the Fox and Franz Joseph glaciers to Greymouth, scene of the Gold Rush which took place during the last century. There are still signs of the mine and its workings.

"Finally our tour ended back in Nelson, from whence we flew North to Auckland. This is a city of 700,000 people and contains the Headquarters of the New Zealand Association for the Blind and Homi College. This latter enjoys an international reputation for the quality and standard of its training. I spoke at the Blind Servicemen's Trust Board about current trends in training and development over here. They were particularly interested in what we had done for our double amputees.

"I brought back many messages of goodwill to friends and members of staff. I think visits of this sort are manifestations of comradeship and friendship between the parent organisation and St. Dunstan's throughout the Commonwealth. I was met everywhere with warm hospitality. At a farewell dinner, prior to our return to the U.K., I thanked them for the opportunity to see another facet of St. Dunstan's on the other side of the world".

LUXEMBOURG HOLIDAY CENTRE

The 'Association des Aveugles du Luxembourg' (the Association for the Blind of Luxembourg) can offer rooms in their very modern and comfortable holiday home for blind people at Berschbach/Mersch. Mersch is 18 kilometres from the capital and is the crossroads of tourist routes at the centre of the country, at the entrance of the Valley of the Seven Castles. The cost is 550 Belgian francs, (£9.50) per day, full board.

The building has been specially adapted for the needs of the blind, both boarders and holiday guests. Each room has a private bathroom attached. The bedrooms are furnished with a comfortable bed, armchair and sofa to give the rooms a cosy atmosphere. Each room also has a partitioned off balcony. The bedside table has a radio and telephone incorporated.

The home has a heated indoor swimming pool, included in the full board price, as well as a solarium. In the basement, are an automatic bowling alley and

a bar, where dances are held. A 'fitness room' completes the indoor facilities. The home also has its own park with specially marked paths. Mersch has many walks through beautiful scenery with places of interest such as the waterfalls at Hunnebourg and the prehistoric caves of the Mamer and Dreibouren.

There are still rooms available from September to December this year. Applications should be sent to: *Home National de l'Association des Aveugles du Luxembourg, 47 Rue de Luxembourg, Berschbach/Mersch, Grand Duché de Luxembourg* or phone 32 87 91.

Notice

Reg Page of Cross-in-Hand, would like to announce that, as the East Sussex Cassette has been such a success throughout the U.K., they have now commenced another C90 with church services. If anyone is interested, please contact Reg Page at, The Lilacs, Back Lane, Cross-in-Hand, East Sussex.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: Bernard Gouy, Paris

Dear English friends, having been back home after a stay of a fortnight in your house at Ovingdean, I want to thank you for the marvellous time I spent among English blind people. I have been able to appreciate the perfect organisation of this house, where everything is done for the rest, the relaxation and the enjoyment of the boarders. Thanks also to the devoted escorts, I was able to have a lot of long walks in the country and imagine the sea, the whiteness of the cliffs and the green sweetness of the Downs. I felt the charm of your tiny villages and old chapels. Thanks to you, I begin to know and love this country, where I have been received as a friend.

Once more, dear friends, I thank you for your hospitality and the good friendship I found at St. Dunstan's.

From: Fred Barratt, Haverfordwest

Imagine a tree about 3/4" thick and cut off to stand at about five ft. high. There are no branches; just a good number of stems growing from the main trunk about the size of ordinary privet. These stems point upwards, resembling an umbrella that had blown inside out minus the fabric. The two ft. stems bear no flowers, just leaves.

Recently, walking in my garden, I was mystified at the strange aromatic smell that met me every time I walked past a certain spot. The aromatic smell was very much like that of a carnation.

After much searching my nose led me to a rather insignificant stump of a tree that I believed to have been an old inactive pear tree. The pleasant smell was noticeable several feet away.

On consulting the garden book, my wife informed me that the tree was an Ontario Poplar or Balsam Poplar. The book went on to say that the tree could grow to 50 ft., but as my own tree showed, it could be controlled to take up no more room than a small line post.

Has any St. Dunstaner any knowledge about taking cuttings from the tree so as to establish several trees about as the smell

would enhance any garden. Furthermore, does any St. Dunstaner know of any other aromatic shrubs or such like, excepting lavender, that I could introduce into my garden?

GOOD NEWS

It was Wally Thomas's request in the 'Review' of last October, when he advertised for a Braille Bible for a friend in Rhodesia, which prompted the telling of this story.

Although at times it seems that way, the news that comes from the continent of Africa is not ALL bad, and it is good to be able to write a story about compassion and self-help from a People's Republic in Africa.

In Beira, Mozambique, lives Innocent Boroma, a blind African, who through correspondence with a St. Dunstaner in England, has been able to set up his own school to teach Braille to a group which now numbers 24.

"I took up letter writing to this friend in Beira about 14 years ago" said Alf Bradley, of Northwood, Middlesex. "I read in a Braille magazine called Torch, that Innocent Boroma wanted someone to write to him. His little note simply said that he was, 'in deep temptation and distress'. So there it all began.

"I got the impression that Innocent was quite poor, and his English is certainly very quaint", Alf went on, "The letters were often encased in cardboard and stapled with small pieces of wire. One such was simply Brailled on three pieces of poster paper. If you join the three pieces together it makes up a brightly coloured Portuguese poster which I suspect Innocent got from a waste bin".

It seems that Mr. Boroma's letters are never explicit, often infrequent, sometimes with an interval of five months, and, Alf says, "they often take a bit of reading and understanding".

GOOD NEWS—continued

"As far as I can make out, Innocent was the son of a local Regadore, or chief, and was blinded very tragically by enemies of the family. Reading between the lines, I believe that he went to a Lutheran mission school in Rhodesia, learned his Braille, some English, and became a Christian. His letters are often quite amusing, but sometimes he produces deep spiritual expressions".

"You are now my brother"

Alf read extracts from some of the letters: "In one letter he must have misunderstood something I had written previously, and he says, 'You will think I am a broken sensed man'; another, 'never be too tired to pray for me'. He often commences, 'Before much is mentioned' and concludes, 'yours because of Calvary'. From his folder Alf produced another letter, "In this one I really wondered what had gone wrong", he said. "It reads, 'I no longer call you my friend' I was quite concerned. 'You are now my brother' Innocent wrote, and I knew all was well".

Although it seemed to be very clear that the man was very poor, Alf said that it was about seven years before he thought to attempt to send him any money by way of general support. The first try, through Alf's own International bank took nine months to reach Mr. Boroma, but since then, he has found the Commercial Bank of Angola to be much more effective.

Looking back, Alf said, "It must be getting on for five years ago when one of Innocent's letters said that the best idea the Lord had given him was to gather some of his blind friends together and teach them to read Braille. Through the Royal National Institute for the Blind, I sent out three Braille slates, and six kilos of paper. Imagine my joy when a few months later Innocent's letter said that he was now teaching, Henriques, Jose and Kiprianu. It filled the imagination with possibilities".

Since then Alf has sent out several parcels of equipment, most of which seem to have arrived safely.

"I'm never sure just what standards are being reached" Alf said. "Innocent writes

'seven of the pupils have now reached Primary'. Or, 'I have been very busy with examines'. But just what is being achieved I don't really know. At the moment I am trying to get something done in the way of producing primary Braille text books in Portuguese. I have a friend whose parents live in Lisbon, and we are going through the slow process of enquiries by letter asking just what is required in Beira, and seeing if anything can be done between London and Lisbon."

Quite obviously Alf finds the letters and the development of the 'school' most rewarding. "I confess that my heart leaps when I'm told there's a letter for me from Beira", he said, "It's something like doing a jigsaw puzzle without knowing the shape of the pieces, or just which piece to place next . . . and that at about five thousand miles distance. But when you consider the odds, which are so heavily weighed against this 'school' ever being formed at all, I feel sure that the finished picture will be in the deeper dimension, as the whole thing has the touch of the supernatural about it".

MAGIC TOUCH

72 year old Jim Bowen may not be a champion himself, but he has certainly helped others to achieve this title. According to the Brisbane *Sunday Mail*, Jim is an accomplished bowler, but it is as a masseur and manipulator that Jim is renowned throughout the Australian sporting world. He has helped bridge players to relax before a tournament, swimmers and even a bullfighter. Steve Holland, who won a bronze medal in a 1500 metre swimming event at Montreal, is one such patient. Jim, who was born in Wolverhampton, emigrated to Australia when he was 18. He lost his sight at Tobruk. Jim's wife, Eileen, is also a bowler. They have a daughter and two grandsons.

Notice

Mrs. Lefrere of Men's Supplies would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has a gold Braille pocket or wristlet watch they would like to sell, for those St. Dunstaners who were disappointed the last time a gold watch was offered for sale.



Jim Laffey receives his presentation clock from Mr. Leonard Lumb. With them is Mr. M. Garnett, Chairman and Managing Director.
photo: Telegraph and Argus, Bradford.

LAST CALL

At the end of May, Mr. Jim Laffey made the last call from the switchboard of Garnett and Son Ltd. It would be purely speculative to guess the number of calls Jim made in the 32 years of service at the woollen mill. One last call on the firm at Appley Bridge was to receive a fitting memento of his time there, a quartz carriage clock, suitably inscribed. This was presented by Mr. Leonard Lumb, the Chief Cashier. Mr. Michael Garnett, the present Director, made a speech to the 120 staff, past and present, gathered for the occasion. Jim also received a letter of congratulation from a firm in Canada, with whom he dealt over the wires. In his reply, Jim paid tribute to the training he had received during his Church Stretton days. We wish him a long and fruitful retirement.

ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Tape Library List—June, 1978

Tape no. Title

1. New Radio Amateur's Examination—the format for the R.A.E. which comes into operation in May, 1979.
2. Interference—how many kinds of interference are there?
3. Repeaters and 70 cms.—locations of 2m. repeaters, their uses, and 70 cms. band.
4. New licence regulations—in precis form, read by a charming young lady.
5. Morse alphabet—in slow time.
6. Morse 'speed'—a little faster.
7. Satellites—their function and operation, by Ron Ham.
8. The 5 RV Aerial—fully explained by the inventor, Louis Varney, G5RV.
9. Experiences in commercial and amateur radio—most entertaining and descriptive by the late Frank Hennig, G3GSW.
10. RTTY (Radio Teletype) explained by Eric Lotts, G3RXJ.
11. 'Worked All Britain' Awards by Alf Lee, G4DQS.

Unless otherwise stated, all titles are contained on one cassette. To obtain a copy of any of the titles shown, send a blank C90 cassette in a plastic wallet with a self-addressed reversible label to Mr. David Castleton, Public Relations Officer, at Headquarters, with a note indicating the catalogue number of the item required.

N.B.—The Radio Amateur's Examination Manual is available on tape from Mr. Charles Cadwell, M.B.E., The Tape Recording Service for the Blind, Fairfax Road, Farnborough, Hants. The manual is contained on six C90 cassettes and total cost is £4.80. Alternatively, six blank C90 cassettes may be sent, together with a self-addressed label and the recording will be made free of charge. Cheques etc., should be made payable to: The Tape Recording Service for the Blind.

J. INNESS, G4AJP,
Librarian

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 1273

The Trial of Charles 1st.

By C. V. Wedgwood

Read by Andrew Gemmell

Reading Time 8½ hours

On a bitter January day in 1649, King Charles, calm and composed, mounted the steps of the scaffold to die for an ideal and a principle. But was the execution the fitting end for a repressive tyrant, 'England's Public Enemy', or was it 'A fearful blasphemy against a Divine Personage, the Lord's anointed?'

This book does not set out to answer this, or any other, question. What it does, most admirably, is to clearly and authoritatively record the events leading up to that fateful day.

The trial was a travesty, what we would now call 'a show trial', carefully stage-managed, and with the result a foregone conclusion.

The author has drawn heavily on the mass of contemporary documentary evidence and the result is an authentic and fascinating account of one chapter in our colourful and violent past.

Cat. No. 721

Boldness Be My Friend

By Richard Pape

Read by Clive Champney

Reading Time 11½ hours

Richard Pape's Lancaster crash-landed near the Dutch-German border early in the war. He evaded capture and worked for some months with the Dutch Resistance before being arrested by the Gestapo. After a long interrogation he managed to convince them that he was not a spy and was sent to a P.O.W. camp.

He was later transferred to a hell-camp in Ober Silesia where the conditions were atrocious. The food was poor and the guards were hand-picked, trigger-happy bully-boys.

With a Polish companion, he made a daring escape and thus began the long trek in the depth of winter across the vast Polish plain. They were helped by the patriots who handed them over from one

'safe house' to the next. At times they were half-dead from cold and hunger. They could hear packs of wolves howling in the distance.

The two men separated and Pape, weak and exhausted, suffered a kind of mental break-down. Walking into a club for German soldiers, he mounted the platform and in fluent German told the company exactly what he thought of them and their beloved Leader. Once again he found himself back in the hands of the Gestapo.

He was systematically tortured for long periods but never disclosed the names and whereabouts of the brave people who had assisted him. Finally, he was left in peace.

So many escape stories have been written since the end of the war that there must be some danger of the reader becoming blasé. But it would be most unfair merely to dismiss this as just one of the many. It is a remarkable book and Pape is a remarkable man. His story also happens to be very well written—a tribute, I suppose, to his training as a journalist.

Cat. No. 2496

The Locked Room

By Sjowall & Wahloo

Read by Andrew Timothy

Reading Time 10¼ hours

The decomposed body of Karl Edwin Sjward is found in a room which is securely locked and barred from the inside. He has been shot and there is no weapon.

Some time later, a blonde girl holds up a bank and kills a customer who attempts to intervene. Can there be any connection between these two crimes?

What is more to the point, the reader asks himself, is will the two crimes ever be solved? For the Stockholm police are a collection of idiots who couldn't detect tin-tacks with their bare feet. They are inept, ineffectual and incompetent. Some of them are afraid to go out after dark for fear of being mugged. They mislay documents, miss obvious clues and generally run around in very small circles.

READING TIME—continued

At least, that's how the Swedish authors of this book present their native Police Force. They take great pains to poke malicious fun at the bumbling bureaucracy which is supposed to be responsible for law and order.

There is one marvellous episode when a large force of police arrive at a flat to arrest a couple of dangerous criminals. A burly officer launches himself at the door, not noticing that it's not even closed properly. He hurtles across the room and knocks himself out on the opposite wall. Then follows a glorious mêlée in which the detectives shoot each other and the police dog.

There is much more in the same vein and the luckless police, especially the top brass, are mercilessly lampooned.

And then Detective Chief Inspector Martin Beck arrives on the scene and with great efficiency and competence, solves the two crimes. There is a very slick "twist ending" to the story.

The book is a curious mixture of sharp satire and serious police investigation. The translation is American and if you can stand for a Swedish detective saying things like, "those two goddam guys are there on the sidewalk" without flinching, you should enjoy this book.

Cat. No. 1021

Royal Mysteries & Pretenders

By B. R. Stanley Poole.

Read by Stanley Pritchard

Reading Time 8 hours

There are fifteen stories in this book, beginning, not surprisingly, with the Little Princes in the Tower. Did Richard, cast (on rather shaky evidence) as the archtypical *wicked uncle*, really do them in? Or was the murder (if indeed there was a murder) ordered by Bolingbroke, who would most certainly have seen the lads as a threat to his usurped throne? We shall never know.

And then there are those two graceless rascals, Perkin Warbeck and Lambert Simnel. In the end, one fared considerably better than the other, of course, but surely the mystery here is why on earth they risked their necks in a venture doomed to failure from the start?

But history has never been short of pretenders, and it would appear that what they lacked in quality they certainly made up for in quantity. No fewer than forty turned up, all claiming to be Louis 17th of France—and some of them couldn't even speak French!

I found this book a bit like the curate's egg. There are the old favourites like the Casket Letters and the Don Carlos affair, but the lengthy accounts of Russian royal skulduggery left me rather more confused than when I started, but I do remember that Ivan the Terrible was in there somewhere . . .

. . . but he would be, wouldn't he?

Cat. No. 1676

The Zoo Gang

By Paul Gallico

Read by David Broomfield

Reading Time 8½ hours

Six elderly men are living quiet, respectable lives in the South of France. Twenty-five years earlier, however, they had been known as the Zoo Gang, saboteurs and executioners in the Resistance in occupied France.

Just occasionally there occurs something which they feel might warrant their close attention. They are firmly on the side of Right, although their methods would certainly be frowned upon by Captain of Detectives, Scoubide. They manage to return some stolen paintings and are involved in a most curious kidnapping.

But their most ambitious project is when they decide to eliminate a powerful drug syndicate which has been indirectly responsible for the death of the leader's niece. They accomplish the mission—and provide their victims with a most curious and spectacular 'headstone'!

All riveting stuff and a very good read.

Weighty Problem

You have 12 billiard balls of identical size and colour. One is either lighter or heavier than the rest. Using a pair of balancing scales, you have 3 weighs to determine the odd one out and to say whether it is heavier or lighter than the rest.

Answers to the Editor please. Similar posers welcome.

St. Dunstan's Sports Team in Berlin

by Jock Carnochan

The visit of a St. Dunstan's team to take part in a sports weekend organised by the Berlin Sports Club for the Blind to celebrate their Jubilee, was made during the weekend of 12th-15th May. The team, selected from last year's results, comprised, Gerry Jones, Walford Davies, Ted Jinks, Norman Perry, Ray Peart and Alan Wortley, very ably escorted by our old friend from the Lee-on-Solent Camp fame, Jock Scott.

The sports were very well-organised and the following events were competed: 100 metres sprint, long jump, high jump, shot putt, sling ball and swimming, all events being 100 metres. No prizes were won in the field events, but all the St. Dunstan's competitors competed very favourably with the much younger competitors of the other visiting countries. In all, there were 196 competitors from various clubs in Germany, Holland, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, France and Great Britain. The best results for us came from the swimmers, with Gerry Jones and Ray Peart gaining 2nd place certificates in the front crawl. Sunday saw a full forenoon of roll ball competitions, with 14 teams competing. Again, we didn't win anything, but our experience in this rather new game for us was very much added to. I think we would have done much better had we not been entertained to a social evening in the Corporal's mess of the Royal Military Police in West Berlin. It was a contact which came as a result of friends of the late Fred Lee, who was one of our St. Dunstaners injured in Northern Ireland.

This was a good friendly visit with sports that were not too high powered. Here, good sportsmanship overshadowed the usual medal and trophy hunting.

THROUGH THE EYES OF ST. DUNSTANER, GERRY JONES

"This is the final call for the party of eight travelling to Berlin". The London Airport Tannoy rudely interrupted our selection of duty free spirits and we started our mad scamper towards gate 3. We made it with seconds to spare, the ticket holder

bringing up the rear convinced that the whole of London Airport would wait for him to appear. He was thrown into his seat by a five foot hostess who towered above him and we were off; next stop Berlin.

This party of six would-be athletes and two guides was off to an Athletics Meeting to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of The Berlin Sports Club for the Blind. Six of us had spent the Thursday evening at Broadhurst Gardens; J. C.—(no relation to that other chap), Walford Davies, Ted Jinks, Ray Peart, Alan Wortley, Norman Perry and self and we were splendidly looked after by Mary and Charles. We started the trip in traditional style by drinking the night away at a nearby Ex-Serviceman's Club. Jock Scott, our other guide, and Alan Wortley joined us on the Friday morning before leaving for the airport.

We were met at the Berlin Terminal by young ladies, one of whom was the daughter of the organiser of the sports. A most charming lady the latter, but she issued orders for the next three days that left us in no doubt that there awaited a terrible fate for anyone who dared disobey her. We travelled by bus to the hotel which turned out to be in the French Sector. "You will get on a No. 8 bus and not a No. 9" Like lambs we obeyed.

Brown Bread

"Get up, eat your brown bread, get on the bus or you will miss the sports". We did as we were told and so to the sports stadium. There were over 100 competitors from teams all over Germany, plus entrants from Italy, Austria, France and Denmark. We were split as a party into separate teams. The weather was bitterly cold. The sports themselves were very well organised and had the weather been kind, the timing would have been superb. As it was, most of us were wrapped up in tracksuits and overcoats as well.

Although none of our party actually won any event, we all did our best. Several new rules were introduced and these were most welcome. Ray Peart did well in his long jump and 100 metres and Alan Wortley galloped along in the mile—so

BERLIN SPORTS—continued

fast did he go that he was seen to discard tracksuit top and then vest!

The sling ball was most entertaining with many competitors doing several turns before releasing the missile, much the same as in the hammer. But, alas, some of them were none too accurate and on several occasions bodies were seen ducking for cover. However, when done properly, the ball will travel almost twice as far as the conventional method but with little effort.

More Brown Bread

We found a cup of soup and some more brown bread and then we were off to the swimming baths for our afternoon session. After a fairly long wait, the event got under way. Alan, Ray and Norman all swam in the same 100m. breast stroke heat which was won by Ray. Gerry, Ray and Alan then took part in the 100m. freestyle. Unfortunately, we were not allowed to compete in the 5×100m. crawl event because we could not find four swimmers to swim crawl and although we wanted to enter just for the fun of it with Norman and Alan swimming breast-stroke and Ray and Gerry swimming crawl, this we were not allowed to do, even though we obviously had no chance of winning. So for us, an early bath and back to the hotel.

That evening, Corporal Graham Shaw of the R.M.P. arrived and took us back to the Mess at H.Q. We had a splendid evening in his Mess. We were not allowed to spend any money and so it was very late when we were poured out of the bar and into the bus. It was a happy evening and brought back memories for all of us. It was especially nice talking to regular serving soldiers once again.

Ted and Walford woke us up nice and early at 0500 hours, followed later by our favourite lady with shouts of—well, by now you know. Eventually we arrived at the gym, feeling very sorry for ourselves, nursing hangovers and trying to remain erect. Roller Ball was the name of the game. We staggered onto the court looking smart in our new tracksuits and feeling quite confident. Then the opposition appeared, dressed like a cross between ice hockey players and American

footballers. After playing five games of this masochistic sport we were ready to drop. The defence men had bruises all over their arms, legs and hips and if we are to play this sport again we, too, must be well padded. The ball itself has ball bearings inside which make a bell-like sound when it is rolled. Being struck by this missile is certainly dangerous. Alan was heard to remark after the third game, "Oh, the bell is inside the ball is it Jock?" No wonder we lost every game.

The prize giving was on Sunday evening. The trophies for all the winners were magnificent, but, unfortunately, none were to come our way.

We left the prize giving for a quick look at the City centre. A pleasant meal, a few beers and then to bed. Up early on Monday morning and off to the airport and we were back in U.K. for lunch.

A first class weekend with new friends made and lots of new ideas for some of the events. Thank you St. D's for making it all possible.

CASSETTE TAPES FOR SALE

The following tapes are available for purchase through the Foundation for Audio Research. They are well recommended and are offered at special prices to the disabled and handicapped. Prices include V.A.T. and library box. The figures in brackets are the recommended retail prices.

Domestic Deluxe	DD60	51p	(85p)
	DD90	68p	(£1.12)
Top Professional	TP60	60p	(99p)
	TP90	77p	(£1.27)

Orders, quoting blind registration number, should be sent to: Foundation for Audio Research and Services for Blind People, Studio Tape, Radix House, Central Trading Estate, Staines, Middlesex.

CHESS INSTRUCTION WEEKEND

I have always been impressed by how smoothly our chess weekends at Ian Fraser House have gone and the last one, held between May 12th and 14th, was no exception. Mrs. Pugh, who organised it, did a splendid job and everything and

Chess Instruction Weekend—cont.

everybody was in the right place at the right time. Our genial experts, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Horrocks and Mr. Wally Rayner, were with us once more. I'm sure that the chess enthusiasts all learned a great deal and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Those present were: Vera Kemmish, Blodwyn Simon, Vi Delaney, Mike Tybinski, Peter McCormack, Alan Duffy, George Hudson, Wally Thomas, Tom Bradley, Tom Bice and Dave Thomas. We were particularly pleased to welcome Alan Duffy and Tom Bice, who are trainees, and we hope that they will continue to come to our weekends.

Whilst the majority of us had several sessions of being shown opening and end games, Mrs. Horrocks gave some individual tuition to our deaf-blind St. Dunstaner, Wally Thomas. She was ably assisted in this by Mrs. Blackford, who had volunteered to help during the weekend and did the speaking on Wally's hand. Another valuable helper was Tyrone McCormack, the teenage son of Peter, who gave up his weekend and did some sterling work.

It was a most enjoyable weekend and it ended with Blodwyn presenting the helpers with small gifts on our behalf and a short speech of thanks by Ron Freer.

DAVE THOMAS

BRIDGE CONGRESS 1978

FULL RESULTS

Sir Arthur Pearson Cup

(Foursomes)

- 1st J. Lynch, J. Simonds, B. Ward, J. Carney
2nd R. Fullard, M. Tybinski, F. Dickerson, R. Pacitti
3rd G. Hudson, Miss V. Kemmish, E. Carpenter, W. Lethbridge
4th B. Griffee, B. Giffard, Mrs. V. Delaney, R. Armstrong

Sir Arthur Pearson Cup

(Pairs)

- 1st Mrs. V. Delaney and R. Armstrong
2nd M. Tybinski and B. Fullard
3rd J. Lynch and J. Simonds
4th B. Allen and R. Freer

Alf Field Memorial Cup

- 1st Mrs. V. Delaney and R. Armstrong
2nd J. Carney and B. Ward
3rd A. Dodgson and C. Walters
4th B. Griffee and B. Giffard

Lord Fraser Cup

- 1st Mrs. V. Delaney
2nd R. Armstrong
3rd J. Lynch
4th B. Allen

Drummer Downs Cup

- 1st P. Nuyens and W. Burnett
2nd Mrs. V. Delaney and B. Griffee
3rd R. Evans and R. Goding
4th P. McCormack and J. Carney

Bridge Drive

St. Dunstaners and Helpers

- 1st B. Simon and Mrs. Sturdy
2nd B. Griffee and Mr. Douse
3rd G. Hudson and Mr. Barker
4th J. Padley and Mrs. Padley
5th A. Dodgson and Mrs. Dodgson

Bridge Drive for Beginners

- 1st T. Bradley
2nd T. Bice

SAINTS AND SINNERS

Our President, Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, recently visited Sir Robert Hitcham's School, Debenham, Stow Market, after learning that they had renamed their three houses, Bader, Cheshire and Ansell.

When he arrived, he was made to feel a graph of how the three houses stood in their term championship. He was very pleased to see that Bader and Cheshire were about level . . . a long way behind Ansell!

When he asked what the houses had been called before, the headmaster quietly informed him, "They used to be called after saints, but now we have changed to sinners".



On top among the clouds, but mist and rain cannot spoil Jim Blake's moment as he completes his first climb on Cader Idris.

Dick Hall begins the last rope scramble to the top.



THE RED 'SHE-DEVIL' OVERCOME

by David Castleton

For the third time since the annual expeditions began in 1974, a group of St. Dunstaners stood on the summit of Cader Idris, Pen y Gadair, 2,927 feet above sea level. The ascent was made over the Pony Track route on Saturday, 10th June and for these St. Dunstaners and their escorts, this was the highlight of their week-end in Wales. However, at about the same time, the real story of St. Dunstan's fifth climbing week-end was being made by a smaller group which undertook a much tougher climb up to Y Cyfrwy, the Saddle, another part of Cader Idris. They used a route known as Cythraul Goch, or the Red She-Devil.

The overall leader of the two parties, Bob Thomas, said, "We are pushing the frontiers back each year and this time we can say we have completed a real climb." Tom Lukes, who lives in Colwyn Bay, Ray Sheriff, from Gloucester and Arthur Rowlands, a policeman blinded in a shooting incident who takes part as a guest climber, formed this group. The climb master on Cythraul Goch was Barry Ellis, a Snowdonia National Park Warden and leader of the Rhinog Mountain Rescue Team, and the escorts to the blind climbers were, respectively, Wally Cook, Meirion Jones and Mel Williams. Bob Thomas and Jock Carnochan accompanied this group on the climb up to the Saddle, which culminated in an 800 foot ascent up a gully using ropes fixed by the Rhinog Mountain Rescue Team.

Both groups were in contact by radio and, after reaching the summit with the Pony Track group, I was able to move along the ridge to the point the 'hard climbers' were making for. Looking down from above, the face they were climbing seemed nearly vertical and, in fact, this stretch of the climb presented gradients up to 77°. It was an exciting moment when the first group of the mountain rescue team came into sight fixing the last but one stretch of rope, to be followed by



Above: Ray Sheriff completes the last lap of the rope ascent of Cythraul Goch.

Below: Ray, on the way up, tackles a rough part of the gully.

Ray Sheriff, Tom Lukes and Arthur Rowlands. All the climbers on this ascent wore helmets to protect them from loose rock dislodged by those above them on the steep ascent. The last lap brought them over the skyline and on to the narrow ridge of the Saddle, beaming with triumph and breathing hard from their exertions.

After their taxing climb the group rested on the top before commencing their descent by way of the Pony Track and, as they set off, Tom Lukes commented, "That was the best yet!"

Pen y Gadair, Cader's highest point, was in cloud and the last part of the Pony Track party's climb was completed in cold wind laced with mist and fine rain. This was in contrast to our previous visits when the sun shone brightly upon the celebration picnic lunch. Islwyn Jones and Cliff Evans, Snowdonia National Park Wardens, allowed only a short time at the top, deciding that the party should move down the mountain in case conditions worsened. As it turned out the cloud lifted later, just as the Cythraul Goch group reached the end of their ascent.

The success of these weekends is due to the organisation of Bob Thomas and his wife, Rowena, and to the ready help



he receives from his colleagues of the Forestry Commission and his friends employed by the Snowdonia National Park. To all who welcome so warmly their war-blinded visitors to the Welsh Hills and who work so hard, giving up their week-end leisure time, we extend St. Dunstan's grateful thanks.

TREVOR TATCHELL WRITES:

I am a keen gardener and, being a Welshman, also a Rugby fanatic, so you can imagine my feeling when with trepidation I approached Cader Idris. My guide was Andrew Thompson (Andy) of the Forestry Commission; we were introduced in the car park and Andy's first words to me were: "We will be together for the next 2,927 ft."

Cader Idris attracts many thousands of mountaineers every year and for the past five years St. Dunstan's have organised a party of blind climbers to scale and capture this peak. This year the following St. Dunstaners (with one exception)

Having been on top of a mountain, the group now goes inside, exploring the depths of the gold mine. The kneeling figure on the right is Bob Thomas.

succeeded in taming the legendary Welsh Giant. Eric Bradshaw of Northampton, and his son Andrew, Eric Rowe of Somerset, and his son Martin, together with Jim Blake of Ross on Wye, Dick Hall of Sussex, Tom Lukes of Colwyn Bay, Ray Sheriff of Gloucester, and myself, accompanied by our wives, with Jock Carnochan and David Castleton. Arthur Rowlands was a special guest. The Red Lion Hotel (Llew Goch) at Dinas Mawddwy was our centre for the week-end and it was an inspired choice. The proprietors, Chris and Efrys Rowlands, and their staff really excelled themselves; the food and hospitality provided for weary novice mountaineers was magnificent and our waistlines will demonstrate this fact.

We arrived at The Red Lion on Friday evening and on Saturday morning came the test. As beginners, most of us, including myself, took the easier route up Cader Idris but unfortunately Eric Rowe had tummy trouble and had to abandon the trip. The experienced climbers were given a far more difficult scaling job to do



Trevor Tatchell tries the Timberjack for size.

and all came through unscathed. Our guides were supplied by the Forestry Commission, Snowdonia National Park and the Mountain Rescue Team and what a stout-hearted bunch of lads they were, half carrying and half dragging us over rough parts and scree. Andy did not really know what he was in for humping a fourteen stone Welshman up and over rocks, avoiding sheep holes and peat bogs. I had borrowed my climbing kit as my gardening boots were not suitable for the task ahead of us.

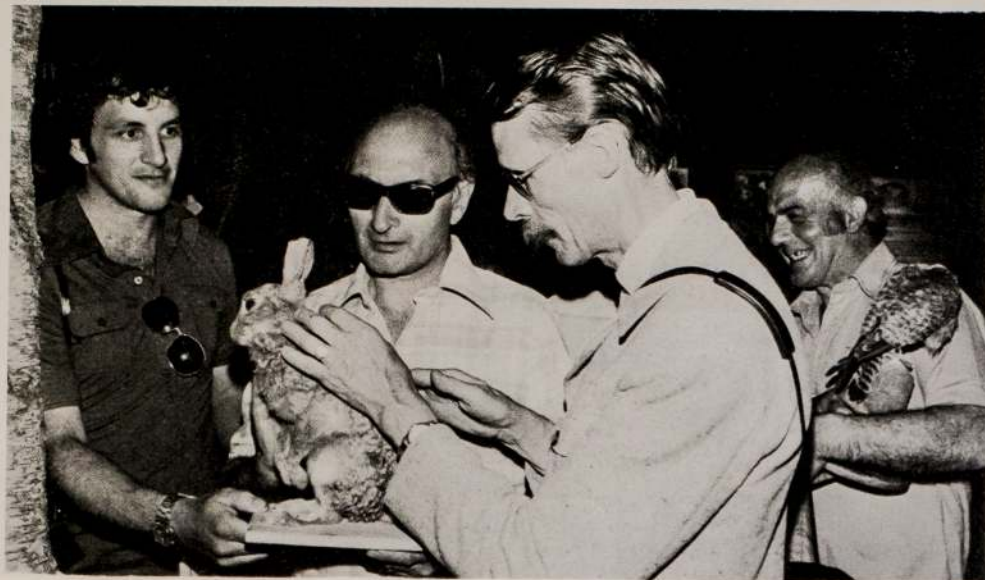
We approached the first bridge and I was told to stick close to Andy or I would be down amongst the rocks. I did not need a second warning and an earthquake would not have parted us at that moment. My guide was young and strong and fit; it was just as well because he had a load to drag. At the first rope clamber we were allowed a little rest; out came my tobacco and pipe but the wind was too strong. It was thrilling to clamber up the rope and when we got to the first incline after scrambling up countless slopes, I felt muscles in my calves and thighs that I didn't know existed. It is quite easy to be fooled when you are told the next rest and rope climb is some ten minutes away; it must be as the crow flies because some

sections seem endless as one difficult foothold follows another. It is not easy when you are splay footed and disturb more loose rock than anyone else travelling the mountain. I thought, if only I could meet a Welsh sheep. Welsh sheep have long tails and a tow would have been very helpful and a damned good idea.

Half way up Cader Idris we were told the legend of the area. It seems Idris was a local giant who terrorised the locality and King Arthur decided to rid them of this menace. There was a battle and King Arthur drove his sword through Idris' chest without any effect until he discovered Idris' heart was in his big right toe. With this vital information King Arthur disposed of the giant and the place where Idris fell is now known as Cader Idris (Idris' Chair). Idris had a lot to contend with on the Saturday a party of St. Dunstaners were sitting in a bothy at the summit of the mountain eating fruit and sandwiches. At 2,927 ft this was food for the gods.

I must express my gratitude to Bob Thomas of the Forestry Commission ex-RN, (a great feller) whose diligent work over many months ensured the success of this wonderful climb despite one awkward customer!





Andrew and Eric Bradshaw, with Jim Blake in the Visitor's Centre of Coed y Brenin.

TREVOR TATCHELL—continued

Our leader, Islwyn Pritchard Jones, Snowdonia National Park Warden, ex-RN, explained that the mists were creeping in and we must cut our meal break and hurl ourselves back down the mountain. The downward journey was surprisingly difficult; it seemed harder to gain footholds going down than climbing up. The first descent was a bit hair-raising because of wet surfaces, not only my feet came into contact with the ground, and I realise now why animals have four feet and the commonsense of this arrangement.

Again at the half way stage, I stopped to puff at my pipe and things got easier. I could hear the birds singing and the sheep bleating and all the familiar sounds were very welcome. I suddenly became very aware of the silence and the wind that I had left at the peak and the journey back to civilisation became a joyous experience.

We had set out from the Red Lion at 9.30 am and it was now 4 pm. I was tired, happy and content and very grateful to my patient guide, Andrew Thompson, and the organisers.

Saturday evening we had a good meal and singsong in the Concert Room of the Red Lion accompanied by an organ, with rousing Welsh hymns which was a good preparation for the following day.

At 9.30 am on Sunday morning we were off once again, this time to Coed y Brenin Forest (King's Forest) so named in commemoration of King George V's Silver Jubilee. We were met by Reg Wheeler, Recreation Forester, who exuded tremendous dedication and enthusiasm. We were told of the different types of trees in the forest and the aims and achievements of the Forestry Commission, a fascinating subject, and the antics nature will get up to in cross fertilisation. The peace and beauty of the forest was overwhelming enlivened by the tree identification test with many of us barking up the wrong tree. Every party has its comedian and Ray Sheriff got covered in oil clambering over wood-dragging machinery and yours truly was not content until he got into the cab of the huge vehicle and demonstrated how the job should be done. We ate our packed lunches in a sunny glade beside a stream and Jock Carnochan offered to teach us how to tickle trout.

The next planned stop was a disused gold mine. Three of the guides had torches but the interior of the mine was pitch dark and in some ways a frightening experience. In fact Joan Blake hung on so tight to Betty Hall that she broke the elastic in you know what. Meanwhile

TREVOR TATCHELL—continued

David Castleton enjoyed flashing his camera everywhere.

Ray Sheriff did not come with us into the mine as he had been there before, so I promised him enough gold to fill his teeth.

Jim Hamilton, Chief Forester and his wife Margaret, together with Rowena Thomas, wife of Bob Thomas, prepared a first class tea for us at the Coed y Brenin Forestry Museum and Information Centre. The eats were fantastic and if I were a Mormon I would marry all these great cooks.

The exhibition at the Museum is really instructive and my wife, Beryl, will now insist on ermine and fox furs, as will all the ladies in our party.

After tea, Mr. Jim Hamilton presented a handsome Coed y Brenin name plate, cast in metal, to Ray Sheriff, representing St. Dunstaners. This trophy was borne back to Ian Fraser House by Jock Carnochan.

An excited and weary party returned to the Red Lion and were joined at dinner by Bob and Rowena Thomas, when David Castleton got in everyone's way with his blasted camera.

A memorable trip and Cader Idris has not seen the last of Trevor Tatchell. For the adventurous it presents a golden opportunity.



Mr. C. D. Wills, Secretary, presents a gold watch to Mr. George Ball, who, until his retirement in April, worked as an orderly at Pearson House for more than 32 years.

The Leeds Cassette opened its new copying centre on 20th May, which means this recorded magazine is now available nationally. In the picture with Councillor P. Crotty, Deputy Lord Mayor of Leeds, are (l. to r.) David Thornton, Editor, Peter Barden, Technical Officer, and our St. Dunstaner, Bert Ward, Chairman.



Gardening Column

It was the first time for a few years that I did not get to the Chelsea Flower Show, but from what I have read in the gardening press, there weren't a lot of new items and what there was, the prices very steep. As usual, there were some new roses but these will soon come to an end unless they can get a striped variety or something of that nature.

As I write these notes the weather is after the fashion of 1976, with the sun blazing down as it has been doing so for a couple of weeks, so that the watering can and hose have been used regularly. The greenhouse, to which you all contributed so generously, arrived towards the end of May and I hope to have really got cracking as you read these notes. There are plenty of items in boxes and pots ready to go inside and some seeds ready for sowing for the winter and spring show, both outside and indoors.

Many perennials were grown from seed and settled into their permanent positions. Vegetables are coming along very well and I hope to have large enough crops to fill up our freezer and so save some money at the greengrocer.

Vegetables

Clear away all the dead growth from crops which are over and give the place a good rake to keep the weeds down. Where you have had an attack from insects, it would be better to confine the debris to the incinerator or give an extra dose of insecticide when putting on the compost heap.

Make sure that all the vegetables are kept moist at the roots and give really good soakings rather than a sprinkling and don't do the watering in bright sunlight or you may have burning of the leaves.

Ensure that you have the runner bean stakes or strings in place and if some plants are a bit leggy and not taking to the strings, wind them on or tie in position. This is more necessary when you have canes. Give plenty of water and never let them dry out.

Give a final earthing up to those potatoes and where you have outdoor tomatoes, stop the main shoot and some

of the side growths in order to give a bushy plant and a little earlier maturing. Remember that the marrows will need plenty of water and I should add a bit of fertiliser to the water at the same time, since they are gross feeders.

A number of items can be sown now such as cabbages, lettuce, raddish, onions and prickly spinach for winter use.

Watch out for the pests and use the insecticide at once; one of the systemic types gives easier use since it goes in through the pores of the leaves and saves the chore of getting under the leaves, though I still find that Derris and Pyrethrum are still the best for use against all kinds of pest.

Keep the hoe going regularly and it might even be a good idea to use a small fork to open up the ground a little to accept the watering given and any rain that falls.

Lawns

Carry on mowing regularly but cut it down a bit in long dry spells, unless you are allowed to use a sprinkler. In many districts one has to pay extra for these sprinklers.

Try and clear the grass of those broad leaf weeds such as dandelion, plantain, etc., by using a special touch weeder which can be applied with a broom type handle and saves all that stooping.

Fruit

Pick all the soft fruit such as raspberries, loganberries and strawberries regularly and it is often a good idea to pick just before fully ripe so that they are in a good state when used out of the fridge. Where the strawberries are giving plenty of layers, peg down a few to make new plants, but don't take too many from each plant.

Train in those espalier and dwarf fruit trees and as with the normal standards, thin out the fruit if there is a heavy set. Keep the soil round the trees and bushes moist by watering regularly and some compost or grass mowings added on top after the watering will help to keep the moisture in.

Gardening Column—continued

Flowers

There should be plenty of colour about now and also plenty of weeds, so keep the hoe going as this will aerate the soil and take any moisture in the form of rain or tap watering down to the roots. See that the tall plants are given stakes, especially the dahlias and chrysanthemums, plus any other perennial which tends to grow a bit lanky.

Carnations can be layered and cuttings taken off most perennial plants so as to have replacements if the ones you have go down the drain.

Stop all the chrysanthemums in order to get some good breaks unless you wish to have show blooms of good size by restricting to one flower. Even then I would suggest a second flower head in case things go wrong.

Give the plants a feed either in the shape of pellets or liquid. Use pesticides regularly to try and keep them at bay and also a fungicide as a protection. Cut away all spent flower heads, especially on the roses, in order to get a prolonged show of colour and size. Where you have black spot, cut away and consign to the bonfire, plus giving a good dose of benelate which is a good protection, being a systemic.

Water regularly in dry weather and give extra doses to the dahlias and chrysanthemums. Once again, I must stress that when watering, give a really good soaking, not a little drop, to the top of the soil since this can cause quite a lot of trouble.

Seeds of perennials and biennials for next season can be sown now on a reserve bed or in boxes in frames and I have often found that one gets good geranium plants by taking cuttings from those bushy specimens and may get some good colour in the house during the winter.

The lists of bulbs will be out soon, so if you are interested in getting new stock send away for some and get your orders in early, in case there happens to be a shortage of some varieties.

Greenhouse

Everything here will be growing well, so make sure that you give all items plenty of water and feeds every other watering. When there is rather poor leaf colour give

a dose of one of the sequestrenes or as I do, a pinch of epsom salts to the smaller plants and about a teaspoonful for items such as the tomatoes. Put it on the soil and water in.

Pick tomatoes regularly and as the trusses are taken, some of the lower leaves can be pinched out. Remember to take out any side shoots on the main stem and tie in regularly.

Some plants such as primulas, calceolaria and cineraria can be sown, but they will be a bit later flowering in the New Year. Schizanthus is a good item to sow in order to give flower under glass and in the house in autumn. Don't sow all the seeds but save a few for later sowing to give a show in the winter. It is an attractive plant and very accommodating in that one can sow at any time of the year to get a show in a very short time without much heat.

Keep the windows open most of the day and in very hot conditions you can even leave the door open but put up a barrier of netting in case some pets or birds get in and destroy all one's hard work.

Damp down the floor regularly and give regular sprays of insecticide and fungicide or use a smoke pellet.

Re-pot any plant which has outgrown its present abode and this can be ascertained by knocking it out of the pot to see if the roots are trying to push their way out. Put into a pot one or two sizes larger and give a good soaking when in the new pot.

BATTLE OF NARVIK, APRIL, 1940

Mr. Harry Cope of Salford, is writing a book about the naval action at Narvik on April 10th and 12th, 1940. He is interested in contacting the survivors who served on the following ships: H.M.S. Warspite, Hardy, Hotspur, Havoc, Hunter, Hostile, Bedouin, Cossack, Eskimo, Punjabi, Hero, Icarus, Kimberley, Forester, Foxhound, Renown, Glow-worm, Ivanhoe and Ghurka. Anyone who served in this impressive list of ships and who is interested in helping, should write to the Public Relations Department, who will forward letters to the newspapers through which this request was made.



The newly-elected Chairman of the Royal British Legion, Captain H. B. Whitehead, O.B.E., poses with Bill Griffiths after Bill spoke to the National Conference in Blackpool, on May 29th.

Charity Concert

Bill and Alice Griffiths recently took part in the R.A.F. Diamond Jubilee Charity Concert organised by the British Red Cross Society and the R.A.F. Ex-Prisoner of War Association.

As well as the Griffiths, the show featured other artists including, Anne Shelton, the Nigel Brooks Singers, Bernard Miles, David Berglas, Ken Bowden and Robert Docker. The Fanfare Trumpeters of the R.A.F. College, Cranwell, the National Concert Orchestra and the Zigeuner Duo also took part. The show was compered by George Martin and received good wishes from a number of well-known stars, among them, Harry Secombe, Mike Yarwood, Max Bygraves and Vince Hill.

Bill and Alice sang a selection from 'Showboat' and, for an encore, 'Will you Remember' from 'Maytime'. Altogether it was a very enjoyable evening, both from the entertainment point of view and for the fact that two very worthy causes had been helped to carry on their valuable work because of that evening.

The Use of Tools Course, or "So that's what it's for"

by Ray Hazan

How many of us have taken a hammer to knock a stubborn screw in? How many times have we cut planks of wood of equal length, but found them to be anything but equal? How do you find the centre of a piece of wood in a matter of seconds? How do you cut out a perfectly round disc of plywood with a tenon saw? These and many more mysteries are divulged in the 'Use of Tools' course run at headquarters by Mr. 'Pat' Patterson.

"We started this course as a sideline when Ovingdean was closed for renovation, and people just keep on coming". The course lasts a week, with husband and wife being accommodated at Broadhurst Gardens. Does this explain why so many wives attend the course? Pat welcomes the wives to sit in on his talks or even to have a go, if they so desire. Should they be content in letting sleeping screwdrivers lie, then there are the cavernous consumer consortiums of Oxford Street or if these are too pricey, there are some comfortable chairs at headquarters where you can sit and stare it out with some goldfish.

As the name implies, the course is aimed at familiarising you with the many tools and gadgets that are on the market. It is not a week of practical woodwork. What stands out about the week is the fact that numerous gadgets are unnecessary, and measuring, always a tricky problem for the blind, is made much easier, all thanks to a few pieces of scrap timber. For those smaller measurements, why use a ruler when you have wood of a known thickness, or a chisel you know is generally 2 inches wide? Drilling holes or knocking nails in at regular intervals is achieved by the use of scrap materials. "We give you the principles, which you then take home and can apply", says Pat.

The course provides a fertile plot for the exchange of ideas, advice and experiences. The cheerfulness and help administered by all members of the joinery department render the week both useful and enjoyable.



All smiles at the Birmingham Reunion: r. to l. Mr. and Mrs. Eric Ashby, Mr. James Brown and escort.

REUNIONS

BIRMINGHAM

13th May, 1978—Albany Hotel

"When the angels looked down from paradise, they were so horrified at the sight of the concrete jungle that they threw a curse on the place. We will make it difficult to get into, and even harder to get out of". This was how Dr. Hopewell described Birmingham in his opening remarks to the 49 St. Dunstaners gathered in the Albany Hotel. Dr. Hopewell went on to say that St. Dunstan's must necessarily diminish in size. "We are all getting older, and we must not be frightened by old age, but make the best of it, as in younger years". The figures of St. Dunstaners in employment, pursuing hobbies or 'enjoying a well earned rest', represents a true cross-section of the community as a whole.

"When St. Dunstan's was founded by Sir Arthur Pearson with the inspiration of Lady Fraser, it was to create a family in which young men could come to terms with the blindness which had so unexpectedly come to them". No expense was spared to train these men, so that all over the world St. Dunstaners could and are doing everything that sighted people are

doing. The Reunions provide an occasion for meeting old friends and an opportunity to meet the staff. Dr. Hopewell especially mentioned Miss Newbold and Miss Street who had organised the day's gathering.

St. Dunstan's has recorded many sad losses in recent years, "But we must pull together and carry on. There are still new members coming into our family. Today, there are three new St. Dunstaners amongst us for the first time: Mr. Robert Ashmore of Birmingham, Mr. Ronald Marsh of Bloxwich and Mr. James Smith of Coalville. While there is still fighting going on in the world, wherever British soldiers are engaged, there will still be a need for St. Dunstan's".

"I want to thank you all for your loyalty to St. Dunstan's. I want to thank your wives for their munificent service, which year in, year out, they have given and will give".

Mr. Frank Cross, a school teacher from Birmingham, rose to propose the vote of thanks. After thanking the staff, Mr. Cross went on to talk about two people he had never heard mentioned at the reunion



A happy group of St. Dunstaners and wives in the grounds of the Copdock International Hotel, Ipswich: l. to r. Mr. and Mrs. Bertie Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. William Rathmell, Captain Ray Hazan, Mr. Robert Atkins and his escort, Mrs. Phillips, and Captain and Mrs. Hugh Ellis.

before—Enoch and Eli, two black-country characters renowned for their wit. It appeared that they might have the answer to keep St. Dunstan's funds coming in. Enoch bought a whippet, which subsequently passed away. Later, Enoch met Eli who inquired after the dog's health. Enoch told him what had happened and that he had raffled it. "Didn't you get no trouble?" asked Eli. "Only from the bloke what's won it", replied Enoch "and I've given him his money back." "Let's hope St. Dunstan's never has to resort to that sort of thing" said Mr. Cross. "I ask you to rise and the toast is St. Dunstan's".

Dancing, debate and tea ended an extremely happy and cheerful Birmingham reunion.

IPSWICH

The Copdock International Hotel has been the venue for many pleasant and successful reunions. The hotel is situated about three miles south of Ipswich on the A12. It is surrounded by the flat, but attractive Suffolk countryside that Colonel Sir Mike Ansell, presiding at the reunion, once knew so well when he soldiered in that area.

The 24 St. Dunstaners present first stood in silence before the meal, as a tribute to Lady Fraser. Then, after a luncheon of crab, lamb and calorie-packed cake, the assembly sat back to listen to the speeches. "I am always very proud", said Sir Mike, "of being with St. Dunstaners. I am always inspired to try and do more. We are a happy and highly trained Regiment with people like Mr. Wills, Miss Mosley and Mrs. Adkins as our Staff Officers, who are always prepared to help and guide us".

Sir Mike stressed the importance of being fully occupied and how Lord Fraser had said that you never retire, you just go on. On the theme of independence, Sir Mike related how he often flew abroad on his own. On one trip to Belgium, an air hostess helped him off the plane and through the Customs, then volunteered to take him into Brussels, then to his hotel, but Sir Mike had to call a halt when she offered to show him to his room! "From here on I think I'd like to be independent", he told her.

Once you have retired you need exercise and fresh air. "The scope becomes unlimited. You can garden, and that is becoming more and more easy,



Paul Nuyens and Robert Pringle share a joke at the London Reunion.

because everything is being simplified. You can fish. Even that needs practice, learning to spin or cast a fly. You can climb mountains, ski, sail—the great thing is to be occupied. I know that whatever you want to do, however young or old you are, St. Dunstan's will be ready to help. Some of the achievements have been fantastic. The one I did not appreciate was when one woman asked me if I was the chap who taught blind horses to jump!" Sir Mike thanked Mrs. Adkins for organising the day, the members of staff for their help, and ended with the words, "I only hope we do them credit".

Mr. Wills then brought the gathering up to date with figures and hobby training schemes as written up in previous reunion reports. He called on Mr. Frederick Clay of Colchester to propose a vote of thanks.

After thanking all those responsible for the day, Mr. Clay said "I have not been a St. Dunstaner for very long, just over three years. I managed to stay in the Army by hook and by crook for 32 years. I used to memorise the wall charts before a medical. Coming into St. Dunstan's I feel I have come into the Army again. Nothing is too much trouble for St. Dunstan's and I am sure we are all grateful to belong to this body".

Ipswich is a quiet reunion both in numbers and volume of sound, but the atmosphere of comradeship and fellowship is deep and warm.

LONDON

One might be reluctant to attend a Reunion in central London on a warm sunny day, when there is grass to be cut and a home international football match on television, but the atmosphere at the Hotel Russell was so convivial, that there was no feeling of having missed out. 75 St. Dunstaners were present as well as 20 members of staff, both retired and serving. It was all these friends and guests to whom Mr. Garnett-Orme, presiding, referred in his opening remarks. "Lady Fraser would not have wanted this to be a sad occasion. Let us stand, and in our own private words in silence, give thanks for her life and work".

Our Chairman welcomed Lady Ellerman and said how grateful our organisation was to her and the late Sir John for all their support. Another pleasant duty was to welcome Jimmy and Laura Ellis from South Africa. Jimmy's 'holiday' had so far consisted of a course at Headquarters and

LONDON REUNION—continued

a Conference at the National Mobility Centre in Birmingham. Mr. Garnett-Orme wished them a pleasant holiday from now on. "Avis Spurway wrote to me that she had been having some trouble with her legs, and thank goodness she only had two to contend with—'Heaven knows what would have happened had I been a centipede!'"

There were rounds of applause as he mentioned Mr. and Mrs. Peter Matthews, Mrs. Ruth Thompson, our Welfare Visitor in Northern Ireland who had accompanied several St. Dunstaners from across the Irish Sea, Miss Margot Midgley and several members of the Headquarters staff who were present.

The Chairman went on, "Inflation continues to affect us all. I heard recently of an order at an RAF Station announcing a 2½p increase in the price of a haircut. However, this was in conjunction with a

productivity deal with the barber. From now on he would cut off more hair!

"I want to say thank you to you all, for through your efforts, St. Dunstan's continues to be held in high esteem throughout the world".

In reply to the toast of St. Dunstan's, Miss Beryl Sleigh of Hampstead, thanked the staff of St. Dunstan's and the hotel—"It has been a wonderful day"—and continued to be so until the last guest left with either his raffle prize or at least a happy memory of friendships renewed, and a full stomach.

MISS PRINT?

There is one field in which the *Review* is not trying to outdo *The Times* newspaper. In their copy of 12th May, page 4, there were no fewer than 37 misprints.

OVINGDEAN NOTES

We have now shivered into Spring and celebrated our new Bank Holiday with a May Day Dance. It proved to be a May Day in more ways than one in as much as the bar failed to appear, much to the chagrin of our thirsty dancers and an air of gloom and despondency descended on the scene. However, the day was saved when after hurried consultations, several St. Dunstaners disappeared to buy large cans of beer locally and the bar sprang into action with Matron at the helm, ably assisted by V.A.D., Mrs. Saul. Peace was restored and the evening ended on a happy note.

We have been well and truly entertained this month and have had many pleasant musical evenings, among which were Les Harris with his wide and varied choice of records, and Klaus Wunderleich, the international organist, whose playing filled the lounge and delighted all present.

Our own Ray Benson gave us a most enjoyable evening with "Cassette Time Again", full of surprises—all pleasant—a truly melodious evening.

V.A.D.'s Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Morrison also entertained us to two musical

evenings, keeping us from drifting off to the strains of dreamy waltzes by being aroused to "Seventy-Six Trombones" and just to keep us on the alert, massed brass bands aroused many old soldiers and those not so old.

Once again, Tom Eales gave us a beautiful evening of film music that proved so effective that even the mad dash for the 8 o'clock bus was forgotten—praise indeed!

That talented group 'The Brunswick Readers' once more gave us a varied evening of comedy and drama. As always, a highly polished performance and one could have heard a pin drop.

Our old friends Doug and Rosemary, loyal as ever, turned up despite heavy colds and entertained us in their own special way. A warm welcome always awaits this popular pair.

To end our entertainment we had the inimitable John Henson and Eddy Barton who took us round the world in sixty breathtaking minutes and we certainly were taken on a trip in more ways than one. Starting with two inevitable American ladies seeking amorous adventures in

OVINGDEAN NOTES—continued

sunny Italy, we journeyed from the Continent on to the Middle East, pedalling furiously across the desert with "Doris and Les" on their honeymoon on a tandem in search of the ever elusive Oasis. The mystique of Tibet was brought to us with poetry and music beautifully read by these talented artists. Cyril Eighteen spoke for all of us when in his vote of thanks he asked if they would please come again.

Our drives were to Gibby's, Polegate, Tylden House, Warnham, Boship Farm,

Hailsham and Wyndham Farm House, Wineham, undeterred by the weather, more than compensated by the teas, and our trusty drivers, as always, brought us home safely.

The racing proved to be a cold and damp affair and we trust the bets were more rewarding than the weather.

The Bridge Congress and the Chess Instruction weekends were much appreciated and will be reported elsewhere.

Let us hope by the time the next issue appears we shall be enjoying long awaited sunshine.

CLUB NEWS

BRIGHTON

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

I wonder if Paignton will ever recover from an influx of a party of 20 members of the Brighton Club, when we descended upon the Devon resort. Mr. and Mrs. Ian Morris of the Commodore Hotel made us most welcome and we all had put on several pounds in weight by the end of the week due to excellent home-cooking. The weather was very kind to us and we were able to go out on trips every day, including a sail up the River Dart—the scenery and bird-life well described by the Captain of our boat.

On other outings we went to Buckfast Abbey, where we tasted the wine (by kind permission of Mrs. Pat Padley), the Model Village at Babbacombe and pottery and leathercraft factories. Also a drive over Dartmoor and on to Princetown, where we tried to drop-off Bill Phillips and Bernard Blacker but they were refused admission at the request of the prisoners—I wonder why? Sorry lads, we still love you. I don't think we stopped laughing from the time we left Brighton until our return home. Already it has been suggested we make a return visit next year.

At our weekly meeting the following Wednesday, Joan and I were overwhelmed when we were presented with a gift token for organising the holiday—it was enough thanks that the holiday was a success. We are now the proud owners

of a new camera, ready for our next venture.

At our dance on the 10th June, we were pleased to welcome some of the Ham Radio enthusiasts and during the evening, our Vice-President, Dr. John O'Hara, presented the trophies to the winner and runners-up of the Ansell Cup for the Indoor Bowling Competition 1977-78. Our next dance will be held on 8th July and we will also hold one on 12th August.

BOB OSBORNE

BOWLS SECTION

Our first outdoor match was held on 18th May at the Guinness brewery, Park Royal, London, and what a grand welcome we received. Our ladies were shown around the brewery and all declared it was very interesting. The game itself was *fluid* as the Guinness flowed freely during play. I don't suppose they lose many home matches!

After the game, we were taken to the bar of the Toucan Inn, where refreshments were provided and souvenir gifts presented to all. We then sat down to an excellent dinner and, after a few more refreshments, homeward bound.

It was a glorious day for which we must give credit to our treasurer, Frank Harding, who made the initial contact for us. Our next match was played at Guildford on 28th May. We were lucky with the weather as it was a warm, sunny day.

CLUB NEWS—continued

Everyone enjoyed the game and the hospitality of the Castle Green Club.

We are sorry to lose our coach, 'Bert' Davenport, who has had to retire for health reasons. He has been with us for the past 12 years, helping us in our games and tournaments. Thank you, Bert, from all the lads.

T. MUGAN,
Vice-Captain

BRIDGE NOTES

Fourteen pairs took part in our fifth Pairs Competition held on 14th May. The winners were as follows:

North-South

1st W. Phillips and Dr. J. Goodlad

2nd B. Ingrey and Mrs. I. Gover

East-West

1st { V. Delaney and R. Freer

W. Allen and Mrs. Buller-King

On Saturday, 20th May, our fifth Individual was held. The results were as follows:

R. Fullard and partner	70
F. Griffee and M. Tybinski	67
V. Delaney and J. Whitcombe	64
A. Dodgson and G. Hudson	61
M. Clements and W. Lethbridge	60
C. Walters and J. Majchrowicz	56

W. LETHBRIDGE

MIDLAND CLUB NOTES

Our June meeting was held on Sunday, 14th of the month, the day following the Birmingham reunion, and it was therefore rather an anti-climax. All the talk was mostly about the reunion and just how much everyone enjoyed it. Our Chairman, Joe Kibbler, said he thought it was a very good one and he thoroughly enjoyed the meal. We all agreed with him and thank Miss Newbold for all the arrangements that she made to make this reunion such a success.

This meeting was predominated once again by dominoes, and we are now coming toward the end of our Sir Arthur Pearson Competition. We can then start our other knock-out competition, which brings the ladies into the game.

On that particular week-end, the Black Watch had been putting on a performance at the Birmingham Hippodrome and they were using the Royal British Legion for their changing rooms as, with the full

Military Band, they needed the space.

My wife and I attended their show on the Saturday evening after the reunion and we thought it was very good. Several members said they would have come if they had known about it, so I intend to listen out for other Military shows in the future so that we may attend.

The tea for the meeting was provided once again by our ladies and we thanked them in our usual manner for a beautiful tea.

To those St. Dunstaners who do not come along to meetings, please remember that the Midland Club still needs new members and it is good to get together now and again.

I am still looking for new premises and now have the County Chairman of the Royal British Legion helping.

DOUG CASHMORE,
Secretary.

LONDON CLUB

BRIDGE NOTES

The Individual match was played at Headquarters on 3rd June, and the results were as follows:

1st V. Kemmish and J. Carney	73
2nd P. Nuyens and R. Armstrong	72
3rd J. Majchrowicz and partner	62
4th M. Tybinski and H. Meleson	56
5th J. Huk and B. Miller	55

FAMILY NEWS

Marriages

Mr. and Mrs. Percival Blackmore of Grangetown, South Wales, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Nesta, to Raymond Lionel Ward on 28th November, 1977. Their daughter, Ruth, married Philip Jackson on 4th February.

Mr. Alfred Bradley of Northwood Hills, is pleased to announce the marriage of his son, David, to Elizabeth Buckley on 27th May.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Marshall of Wingate, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Glenys, to Michael Yuill at St. Michael's Church, Bishop Middleham, on Saturday, 29th April.

FAMILY NEWS—continued

Silver Wedding

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Cattell of Northampton, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 1st June.

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Harris of Reading, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on 30th May.

Ruby Wedding

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Clay of Colchester, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 4th June.

Diamond Wedding

Many congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. William Wainman of Hull, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 25th May. Unfortunately, due to Mrs. Wainman's illness, they could not be together for this special occasion. We send her best wishes for a quick recovery.

Grandchildren

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Daborn of Parracombe, on the birth of their grand-daughter born on 2nd June, to their son, John, and his wife. This is now their third grandchild.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Ellis of Capetown, South Africa, on the birth of their grandson on 5th June, to their daughter, Linda, and son-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Franklin of Edmonton, London, on the birth of their first grandchild, Gemma, on 27th April to their son, Colin, and daughter-in-law, Christine.

Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Gadd of Nottingham, on the birth of their first grandchild, James Paul, on 6th May, to their daughter, Carol, and son-in-law, Rod.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Greenaway of Dibden Purlieu, on the birth of their first grandchild, Robert John Porter, on 18th February, to their daughter, Margaret, and son-in-law, Graham.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hoyle of Chadder-ton, Lancashire, on the birth of their grand-daughter, Rebecca, on 27th April, to their daughter, Jean Mary, and son-in-law.

Careers Success

We warmly congratulate:

Kingsley Austin, nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Austin of Elland, Yorkshire, who is a military policeman serving in West Germany, and who has recently won the table tennis championship. This now makes him champion of the Combined Services.

Mr. Robert Croyman of Birmingham, who has just received promotion at work. Mr. Croyman is now a Higher Executive Officer and he will be shortly taking up the post of Senior Disablement Resettlement Officer for Coventry and Warwickshire and will be in charge of the Blind Persons Resettlement Service for the West Midlands area, which covers Staffordshire, West Midlands and Warwickshire. In addition to this, he will have the responsibility for special aids to employment, together with part of the training programme of all newly appointed Blind Persons Resettlement Officers in Great Britain. We wish Mr. Croyman every success in his new appointment.

Mr. Charles McConaghy of Belfast, on coming second in an archery tournament held recently at an archery club which he attends regularly. The only concession he was allowed, was to stand at 15 yards instead of 20 yards.

Steve Ward of Liverpool, son of Mrs. Molly Cresswell, daughter of the late Alec Cook, Steve recently obtained his B.A. Degree in Systems, Sociology and Economics through the Open University. Steve works at the Liverpool Headquarters of the Royal Insurance Group.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Mr. Arthur Miles of Clacton-on-Sea, on the death of his only son on 10th May.

Mr. David Taylor of Swindon, on the death of his wife, Winifred Helen, on 16th May, aged 68.

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.

Stanley Duncan *Royal Engineers*

Stanley Duncan, formerly of Carshalton, died on 3rd June at Pearson House, at the age of 84.

Mr. Duncan enlisted as a pioneer in the Royal Engineers at the outbreak of the First World War and was discharged in April, 1918, following head injuries received whilst on active service in France. He joined St. Dunstan's that same year and after a period of training, became very proficient at basket and seagrass work. Prior to the war, he had been a chauffeur. In 1940, Mr. Duncan was re-trained for industrial work and was employed by Imperial Chemical Industries for thirteen years until his retirement in 1958. After the death of his wife in 1967, he became a permanent resident at Pearson House, although he spent frequent holidays with his son and daughter.

He leaves a daughter, Mrs. Jean Oldham, son, Derrick, and grandchildren.

Lawrence Firman *9th Suffolks*

Lawrence Firman of Lowestoft, died on 12th May, aged 86.

Mr. Firman enlisted in September, 1914, and served as a Private with the 9th Suffolks. Although wounded at Ypres in 1916, when he lost the sight in one eye, he continued to serve in the Army until his discharge in 1919. Mr. Firman did not become a St. Dunstaner until 1974, by which time he had retired and was in rather frail health. However, prior to his retirement, he had pursued a variety of occupations; namely, a deepsea fisherman, a labourer on an airfield and also a kitchen porter in a holiday camp for seven seasons.

He leaves two sons and two daughters.

Robert Hollingworth *Green Howards*

Robert Hollingworth of Ealing, died on 6th June, aged 25.

Mr. Hollingworth enlisted as a boy bandsman in the Green Howards in 1969, and was discharged as a result of a bombing incident at Strensall Barracks, York, in 1975. He became a St. Dunstaner, but due to his ill health, was unable to undertake a normal training course, being also a sufferer from multiple sclerosis.

He was a permanent resident at Pearson House until his transfer to Servite House in London, where he was happy in the company of others of his own age. He was a trumpeter and a French Horn player and retained a lively interest in music, hoping to be able to teach other members of the community in which he lived.

He leaves his parents and also his fiancée, Miss Rosemary Dawson-Shepherd.

Wilfred Knight *Royal Air Force*

Wilfred Knight of Badger Hill, York, died suddenly on 14th May, whilst attending a weekend outing in Scarborough with his employers, Barclays Bank Ltd. He was 55 years old and had been employed as a telephonist by Barclays Bank since 1965, for which he was trained by St. Dunstan's following his admission in 1961.

Mr. Knight was a leading aircraftsman in the Royal Air Force, having enlisted in 1942. He served in France and was discharged in September, 1945. He was trained and became highly proficient in telephony and was a greatly respected and valued employee. He mastered Braille and typewriting and much enjoyed listening to his talking book, the radio and his fine collection of records. He also played cricket as a member of a blind team, as well as darts. Being particularly interested in young people, he was involved in youth club work, raising money for their projects by sponsored walks. Mr. Knight was also a keen gardener. He and his wife, Sylvia, celebrated their Silver Wedding just two years ago.

He leaves a widow, Sylvia, and son, Nicholas.

Cyril Smith *Royal Artillery*

Cyril Smith of Folkestone, died on 1st June, aged 65.

Mr. Smith enlisted on the day war broke out in 1939 and saw service in the 310 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment of the Royal Artillery. He was involved in the evacuation of Dunkirk and was invalided out of the Army in 1943, after being dive-bombed when on an open gun site in North Africa.

After the war, Mr. Smith returned to his employers, a well-known mattress manufacturer, where he worked in the despatch and transport department for a total of 28 years. He subsequently was employed by an automobile company as a fitter, but deteriorating vision forced him to give up work in 1974, after 8 years service. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1973.

In retirement, Mr. Smith enjoyed a daily walk with his wife, Joan, to whom he was married in 1938 and he also made string bags as a hobby. He had been a frequent and welcome visitor to our Brighton Homes since 1974, and the courage with which he faced a serious operation earlier this year will long be remembered by Matron Hallett and all the staff at Pearson House.

He leaves a widow, Joan, and son, Raymond.