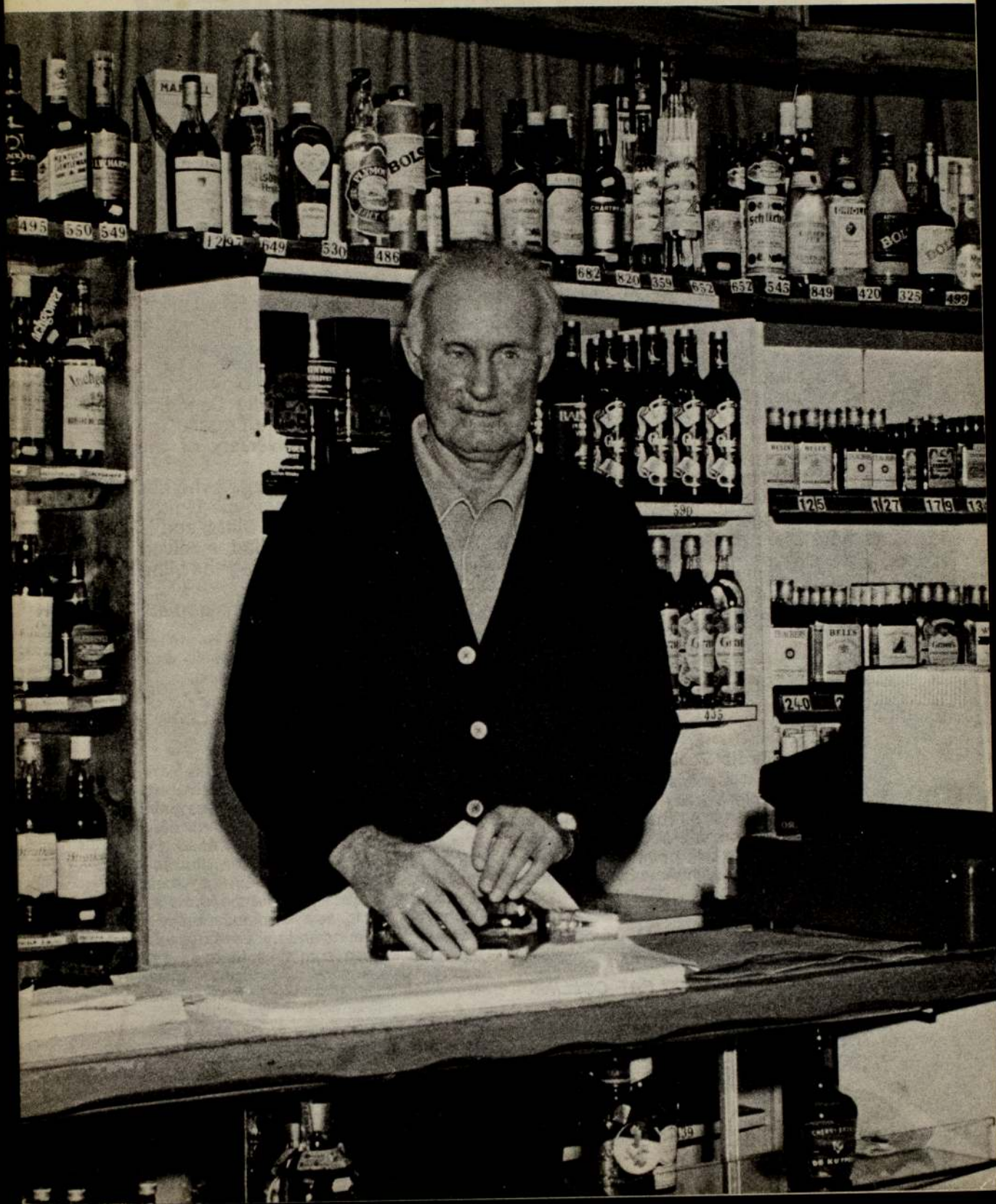


# St Dunstons Review December



# St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

No. 702

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10p MONTHLY

## Message from the Chairman

### Christmas Greetings

*My wife and I send all our best wishes for a happy Christmas and good luck in the New Year to St. Dunstaners and their families wherever they are.*

### The Helen Keller International Award

Once again the outstanding work of a St. Dunstaner in the field of blind welfare has been recognised by the presentation of the Helen Keller International Award to Eric Boulter, C.B.E.

This award has been made only seven times since its initiation in 1959 and three St. Dunstaners have now received it. The first recipient was Lt.-Colonel E. A. Baker of Canada, one of the founders of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. Then Lord Fraser of Lonsdale crossed the Atlantic in 1971 to receive the award on the 50th Anniversary of the American Foundation for the Blind.

This November, Eric Boulter, Second World War St. Dunstaner, who has worked with the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, various United Nations agencies and the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, and is now Director-General of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, received the award for his "humanitarian leadership and initiative in helping the blind for 35 years".

We all offer Eric and his wife, Mary, our sincere congratulations and are very proud of his achievement.

*Jon Garnett-Orme*

### Amateur Radio Society

The Annual General Meeting of the Amateur Radio Society will be held on 24th February, 1979. The guest speaker on this occasion will be Louis Varney, G5RV, who will talk of his experiences and travels in South America last year.

With warmest thoughts and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

PAT COLLINS

### Harrogate Bridge Week, 1979

Would those St. Dunstaners wishing to take part in next year's visit, please note that, due to hotel bookings, we will stay one night at Leeds and six nights at the Dirlton. Members of the Bridge Club intending to take part in the Bridge Week are urgently requested to let me know as soon as possible, as accommodation will be restricted. Terms and railway fares will be made known sometime in the New Year.

P. NUYENS

**COVER PICTURES:** *Someone who dispenses the Christmas 'spirit'—Les Thompson, subject of 'Ways of Life' on centre pages.*



Mr. Garnett-Orme, with Nicholas Henman and Bill Shea, leads the St. Dunstan's contingent in the Cenotaph Parade. Other St. Dunstaners in the picture are: Henry Haskey, Wilfred Mead, Robert Dow and Tommy Gaygan.

—Photo: The Times

## ST. DUNSTAN'S REMEMBERS

*The Chairman writes:*

Here in London a strong contingent of St. Dunstaners and escorts joined the Remembrance Day Parade at the Cenotaph and many readers will have played an active part in services and parades all over the British Isles. We remembered those who gave so much for the world and for each of us.

This year December 10th is our annual "St. Dunstan's Day". Let us make it a time when we are all united at home and abroad in quiet thought and thankful memory of our two great leaders, Sir Arthur Pearson and Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, and all those St. Dunstaners and their wives who have passed on.

### The Cenotaph Parade

November 12th was a beautiful warm autumn day and St. Dunstaners came from far and wide to take part in the Cenotaph Parade. We were welcomed at Headquarters by Mr. Stevens and given cups of tea by Ian and Nancy, before setting off for Horse Guards Parade by coach. There, we formed up behind Mr. Garnett-Orme and marched to the Cenotaph. After the two minutes silence and the short service conducted by the Bishop of London, we marched past the Cenotaph and were applauded heartily by the crowd for a considerable length of the route.

In his Address after lunch in the Great

Western Royal Hotel, Mr. Garnett-Orme started by welcoming all the St. Dunstaners and their wives, the latter receiving hearty applause from everybody. He then told us that this year there were 56 St. Dunstaners on parade, a higher number than in previous years.

He continued, "Yesterday, when the Royal British Legion held its wonderful Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall, one remembered that it was just over 60 years to the day since the end of the First World War. Some of those who were there and some of you here today were among the millions who suffered and worked and prayed and laughed and

### Cenotaph Parade—continued

endured until it was over. While even more of us experienced the same sort of thing in a very personal way in the Second World War both at home and abroad. And some of you here today have served your country since both the wars.

"Now, I believe that all these experiences form a common link between us spreading over three generations. An indescribable price in human suffering has been paid in both world wars and is still being paid today for the world to be kept even partly free because we believe that certain freedoms are worth any contribution we can make. Let us never compromise on our principles or weaken in our determination to defend those principles.

"Out of the horrors and trials of war came courage, selflessness, endurance, true leadership and lasting comradeship. Great advances, too, were made in medicine and surgery and all sorts of new developments appeared which are very valuable today, like antibiotics. May we remember and take pride in the good things which arise from the link that binds us all. And may we pass on the best in these things to future generations. You St. Dunstaners have always set an inspiring example and the clapping and applause which you received today on the march shows that the public still retains the very high opinion in which it holds you. I thank you all for representing St. Dunstan's so ably at the Cenotaph today.

### Toast to St. Dunstan's

"Now, I know you would like to join me in thanking Miss Bridger for making all the arrangements, and Mr. Stevens and all our escorts for marching with us. And now ladies and gentlemen, I hope you will drink with me the toast of St. Dunstan's."

This was duly drunk and we gave three cheers for St. Dunstan's. The Chairman then rose to say that Bill Shea was going to say a few words in response to the toast.

"Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, fellow St. Dunstaners, as our Chairman has already said, today is a day of

remembrance and today we remember relatives, friends, comrades whom we knew and who died in the service of this country. This in itself is a spirit of reunion because in remembering them, we are re-united with them and it is the same thing that brings us together here today."

Bill went on to mention just one individual loss; the absence of Kathleen Riley. He further thanked St. Dunstan's and the staff of the hotel for a splendid lunch.

Amongst further impromptu speeches, George Cole added a Welsh flavour to the occasion when he rose to say. "Ddiolch-yn-Fawr", which means 'thank you' in Welsh and which may perhaps sum up the feelings of some of the people present for the debt they owe to those who have given their lives for their country.

Robert and Joyce Pringle

### Blind Telephone Subscribers To Get Special Warning

We recently had a case of a St. Dunstaner living alone who, due to the fact that he only has someone to read his mail to him occasionally, was unaware that he had received a final demand telephone account. The consequence was that his telephone was cut off.

As a result of this, we wrote strongly to the Post Office Users National Council explaining the circumstances and we received a phone call from a Mr. Emmett of Post Office Telecommunications.

Mr. Emmett was very apologetic and said that steps have been taken to ensure that such a thing could not happen again with any blind person, *provided* the person concerned notifies his local Telephone Manager that he is blind and lives alone. In such cases, a special note will be made to telephone the subscriber concerned to warn him that his phone is to be cut off in a specified number of days, which Mr. Emmett promised, would give more than sufficient time for the bill to be met.

If you live alone, please take the necessary steps to ensure that this does not happen to you.

## A LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE

by ARTHUR WAINE, M.B.E., T.D.

Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, M.B.E., T.D., J.P., has been President of the Sussex County Women's Section of the Royal British Legion since 1948. She retired at the end of November after thirty years. She first became associated with the British Legion in 1923; her connection with the Legion, therefore, stretches over more than fifty years.

This is a remarkable record but Mrs. Dacre is a remarkable woman. It is not possible to do justice to her public service in a short note but the following will give some indication of a lifetime spent in the service of her country and fellow men.

In 1937 she joined the Emergency Service—a small women's corps set up by the War Office to train women as officers in case of war. 1938 saw her called-up for service as a cook with the A.T.S. and subsequently appointed Commandant of Buckinghamshire A.T.S. (She raised three companies of A.T.S. in Bucks.). In 1939 she was transferred to the W.A.A.F. and mobilised for full-time service as Squadron Officer. She was demobilised in 1946 with the rank of Group Officer.

Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre outside Forge House, Rottingdean

—Photo: Arthur Waine



Her service with the Forces was recognised by the Award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration, "T.D."—a rare distinction for a woman which she shares with only one other W.A.A.F. Officer, Dame Mary Welch, who was war-time Director of the W.A.A.F.

Elizabeth Dacre was awarded the M.B.E. in 1973 for her long public service.

She has an even longer association with the Guide movement which she joined in Eastbourne in 1912. She has formed many Cub and Brownie packs both here and abroad when accompanying her husband, the late Air-Commodore George Bentley Dacre, wherever he was posted. Greece and Italy are two countries where she was active in this respect. She is currently President of the East Brighton Guides.

### Unlimited Energies

Her energies are unlimited; a Justice of the Peace on the Brighton Bench from 1948-1971; involved with the Poppy Day Appeal since 1922 to date and currently organiser of the Remembrance Day Service and Poppy Day Appeal in Rottingdean; she helped to raise two Auxiliary Air Force Radar Units in Sussex and is President of 2981 Squadron, A.T.C. (Newhaven) and 176 Squadron A.T.C. (Hove). She is a Governor of St. Dunstan's and also President of the St. Dunstan's Brighton Social & Sports Club.

She is active in many other spheres but her tireless efforts for ex-Servicemen and women are marked for posterity in Rottingdean's "Forge House"—a block of six flats for ex-members of the services. Opened in 1972, it is run by a Housing Association that bears Elizabeth Dacre's name.

## PUZZLE CORNER

ELUSIVE PINTS by David Bell

You have two water containers. One holds 5 pints, the other 3 pints. Using these two containers only, how can you obtain exactly four pints? You can throw water away, but are not allowed to store it in a third receptacle. Answer in next month's *Review*.



Members of the party outside Cholmondeley Castle.

## Women St. Dunstaners Weekend

by Elsie Aldred

*Who can it be? Barbara Bell and Ann Hodges study by touch a picture in high relief at the hotel*

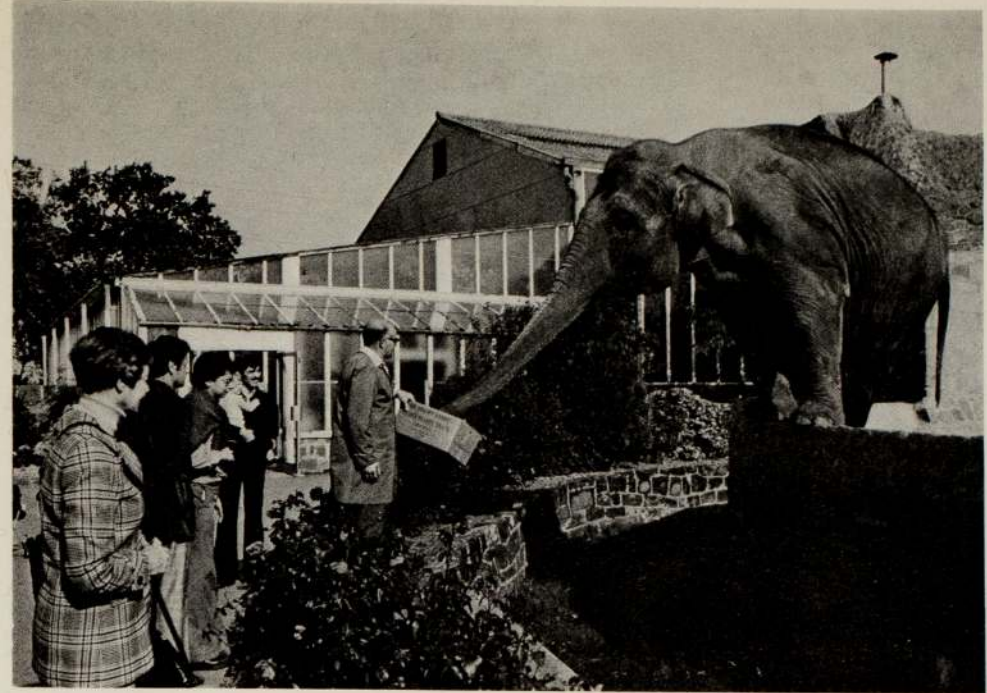


After many weeks of anticipation by our lady St. Dunstaners, the reunion weekend, commencing on October 6th, actually arrived. All over the country bags were packed and arrived with their owners at the Abbots Well Hotel, Chester, where we found Mrs. Ballantyne ready and waiting to greet us.

We settled into our various rooms with alacrity and soon felt very much at home. By 4 o'clock, the majority of people had arrived and we assembled for tea with the Welfare Staff and a great buzz of conversation ensued. After dinner in the evening, the exchange of news and the greeting of fresh arrivals continued. Eventually, tiredness overcame us and we thought that bed would be a pleasant place.

The following morning, with energy restored, we set off to explore the delights of Chester, which were many and varied. Chester has much to offer with its very compact shopping centre which includes a new shopping precinct. This is all under cover with seats for the foot-wearer.

Personally, I had a yen to walk round the city walls, but this time did not permit. I made a mental note that it is a



At Chester Zoo, Barbara Bell was around when the elephants had their mid-morning snack.

*An exotic background of pink flamingos for Brenda Bates and Elsie Aldred.*



'must' for another occasion. Those who wished to walk by or sail on the river were advised to stay on the coach in the gentle care of Mervyn.

Our return to the hotel for lunch was marred by the fact that two members of our party were missing. Hastening down the steps of the Rows, the better to hear the town crier, Barbara Bell's escort slipped and fractured her arm. Nevertheless, our programme proceeded according to plan, picking Barbara up en route for Cholmondeley Castle. The grounds were much enjoyed by all. The peace and quiet and the lovely autumnal sunshine which stayed with us throughout our weekend, made the beauty of the setting complete. After refreshments of tea and cakes, provided by the Marquis of Cholmondeley, we returned to the hotel to relax over dinner.

Our excursion to the Zoo on Sunday morning was also most enjoyable. The animals, like us, were basking in the sunshine and most definitely showing off before their visitors. Much hilarity was



*Muriel Bryant, Sadie Stokes and Beryl Sleigh by the lake at Cholmondeley Castle.*

**Women's Weekend—continued**

caused when David Castleton was taking photographs near the Orang-Utang's enclosure. One of them ceased playing and came and placed himself fairly and squarely in front of the camera, waiting to be photographed. It was pleasant to wander round watching, for instance, two baby apes having a wrestling match and see the bigger of the two try to run away. The colourful, elegant flamingos and all the other types of birds, the kangaroos and camels all had their due share of attention.

**Ruthin Castle**

Another highlight of our weekend was a visit to Ruthin Castle on the Sunday evening. It commenced with a reception at the Abbots Well Hotel with Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme. It was at this occasion that the biter was bitten. By this I mean that our ubiquitous Mr. Castleton was caught and photographed. We were then carried away into the mountains of

*Mr. Garnett-Orme meets Emily McClarnan and her sister, Marjorie Pratt.*



*Above: St. Dunstaners in the picture at Ruthin Castle are: Marjorie Ball, Sadie Stokes and Margaret Paterson.*

*Right: In another charming corner of the grounds of Cholmondeley Castle, Elsie Aldred and Emily McClarnan can be seen among the group of St. Dunstaners examining a small statue.*

Wales to Ruthin Castle to partake of a mediaeval banquet, eaten in the old style with Welsh overtones. During and after the meal, we were entertained with some beautiful Welsh singing, with a flavour of it's own. So we spent our evening, returning to Abbots Well tired but happy.

The finale of the journey occurred when our Gwennie got four men of the party lined up outside the coach. One got the impression that they were lined up with their backs to the wall, facing a firing party, but they seemed to survive and all's well that ends well.

Our most grateful thanks go to the Welfare Staff for all the work they put in and especially to Mrs. Ballantyne.

*Editor's Note:*

We deny the gossip after the incident with the Orang-Utang that the animal recognised the *Review* photographer!



## PHYSIOTHERAPY CONFERENCE

by MIKE TETLEY

Friday, October 13th marked a change in the weather from an Indian summer to almost the whole of England being covered by fog. Despite the weather, 43 St. Dunstan's physiotherapists congregated at Ian Fraser House. Five men from the First World War were present, of whom three, now in their eighties, are still practising.

It is a tribute to them that, despite their age, they make the journey and loyally support St. Dunstan's, who set up the annual conference not only to enable us to keep abreast of current trends in physiotherapy, but to give us all the opportunity for the older men to pass on their experience and knowledge to the newcomers to the profession.

At the A.G.M. on Saturday, all those who met felt that the conference should continue and hoped that those physiotherapists who did not manage to attend, can be enticed to come to the next one, not only for what they can get from the conference, but also to share their experiences.

### Mr. Priestley's Retirement

Alan Wortley, our Chairman, welcomed not only the St. Dunstaners, but Mr. Garnett-Orme, our President, and Mr. Ron Priestley, who is retiring in March next year, after serving St. Dunstan's for 30 years. Mr. Norman French was attending his first conference in order to study the format as he is taking over the routine maintenance and technical enquiries, whilst Mr. Priestley will continue to advise on physiotherapy matters on a part-time basis as long as his health will permit. Mr French has been connected with the research and development side of St. Dunstan's for many years and will be a most suitable successor to Mr. Priestley.

During the conference, we stood in silence as a mark of respect for four men who had died since we last met. They were Percy Pescott-Jones, Keith Branson from South Africa, Jock Steel and, on the eve of the conference, Charles Cooper.

Many tributes were paid to Mr. Priestley as he had been our friend and adviser for so long. It fell to Leonard Howell, the

oldest practising physiotherapist present, to present to Mr. Priestley a cheque as a small token of the esteem in which we hold him.

Amongst much mirth, a resolution was passed inviting the Health Education Council to make the public aware of the potential dangers of wearing jeans, corsets and girdles which are too tight, as well as the fashion deformities that are produced by high and narrow heels. Mr. D. Chapman gave a lecture on Sports Medicine and Mr. Bryant, Secretary of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, spoke on current trends and thought on education, training and union activities within the Society.

### Esprit de Corps

The atmosphere at the conference was exceptionally friendly which may have been generated partly by the esprit de corps prevailing amongst those who had attended the International Physical Therapy Conference in Tel Aviv, Israel, earlier this year. A friendly atmosphere was also due in part to the efforts of the new Matron to make guests and St. Dunstaners feel at ease. She flowed over with enthusiasm and friendliness.

The dinner and dance which followed was enjoyed by all. Guests included Lord and Lady Norrie, Air Vice-Marshal Colahan, who has recently joined the Council of St. Dunstan's, and his wife.

### Intelligible Sound

Two inventions which were of particular interest were also brought to our notice. Mr. Garnett-Orme told us of an American invention which could convert printed matter into intelligible sound. As always, St. Dunstan's was looking after our interests because, on the one hand, a research project was being investigated and on the other, trials were being carried out to make sure that the machine actually did what it was claimed to be able to do.

Paddy Humphreys demonstrated a hand-held device to help in mobility, the

### Conference—continued

Mowat, which senses obstacles at either one meter or four meters, depending on the setting, and produces a vibration in the user's hand which increases in intensity the closer the object. The chief advantage of this gadget was that it did not interfere with the user's hearing nor was it big and cumbersome. Once again St. Dunstan's is participating in trials before recommending them to us.

Commandant pointed out that one

invention that had been sold commercially in Australia costing over £200 had been an absolute flop and did not do for the purchaser what the commercial enterprise who manufactured it claimed.

It was gratifying to come away from the conference with the knowledge that the spirit of St. Dunstan's under some new leaders and the continuity of experience gained from all the old staff was still as high as it had ever been. Our grateful thanks to all members must be expressed.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### MISS KATHLEEN RILEY

*Below, we publish extracts from letters we received from Kathleen Riley's relatives, following the tributes to her in the October Review.*

#### From: Beryl Osborne, Kathleen's sister.

I think the tributes paid to Kathleen have been absolutely wonderful and we are all so proud. Her very sudden death completely shattered the family and we all know the world is a very much poorer place without her.

I feel I knew quite a number of her St. Dunstan's friends, as she spoke of you all so often. She so enjoyed the Camp at St. Dunstan's and she let nothing stop her going.

#### From: Dennis Riley, Kathleen's brother.

I appreciate very much the kindness of all those who have written so beautifully about Kathleen. She obviously was held in very high regard and affection by all those with whom she came in contact.

We spent the day with her in Brighton in April and she took us up to St. Dunstan's. We were very touched by the welcome she was given by all those present. We were also most impressed with all we met, making so light of their handicap and showing so much interest in all that was going on around them.

She will be sadly missed both by St. Dunstan's and the people with whom she worked for Cancer Research.

#### From: Phil Duffee, Seaford

I wish to take up weaving as a hobby as my wife, Sybil, is now spinning wool with her own spinning wheel. It is possible that some St. Dunstaners may have a table loom that they are no longer using and would be glad to pass on. What I am looking for is a large table or floor loom capable of making cloth from 24" upwards. I am not interested in the small looms that can only cope with scarves.

I would be grateful if you could put this request in the *Review* for me so that we can see if there are any looms lying idle before I start to make arrangements to buy one as they are rather expensive.

#### From: Alfred Turner, Shepperton

It's me again—'OI' Big 'ead'. Congratulations to Jim Padley and Paul Walker for giving the correct solution to the apples' problem. I have waited 38 years for someone to get it right and now I get two for the price of one.

Now for a stab at solving the mystery of the specific gravity of the thief with the two gold balls. I suggest that as he reached the bridge, he threw one ball upwards and forwards, and running onto the bridge, he threw the second ball upwards and forwards and then caught the first ball. Still running, he threw the first ball upwards and forwards and caught the second and so on until he reached the other side of the bridge. Thus, when on the bridge, at no time is he carrying more than one gold ball.



Les and Doreen Thompson.

Life for Les began in a house about 200 yards from the oak-panelled drawing room of his Gateshead home, where I first met him. He speaks with a quiet but confident voice, which gives little idea of his years of hard work and the success he has achieved. It does betray a relaxed personality and a mind that is always at work, which is the key-note to his achievements. Add a cheerfully devoted wife, three dedicated sons and a daughter and it may help to understand his story.

Perhaps it was from his father, who was in the building trade, that Les inherited his aptitude for figures and design. He did well in these subjects at school. "I never did sit my school matriculation, as I left two months early due to an accident. It happened the night before Guy Fawkes, when I went into the garden to start my father's car. It was a brute to start. I swung the crank handle, but the car was in gear

and it jumped forward, pinning me against some shelves. But I was young and fit and soon recovered."

In 1934, at the age of 16, Les started in his father's business as an apprentice joiner, attending evening school for building construction, concrete design and quantities, all of which were to prove useful, though not, perhaps, as he had exactly envisaged. Similarly, his helping to do the wages from the age of 12 and his 5 days a month in the office from the age of 18, were to be valuable assets in the future.

"We worked and played hard during those years, working outside whatever the weather. During the summer, we would go down to the river every evening. Rowing was very popular on the Tyneside. We got to a high standard, having to give the National Northern Champions a 5 second start."

## WAYS OF LIFE 36

### FAMILY BUSINESS MAN—

Les Thompson

Talking to Ray Hazan

Pictures by Noelle Walsh

In 1939, Les, already a member of the Territorial Army, was called up to join the 4th Durham Survey Regiment. The regiment was shipped out to the Middle East in 1940 to carry out its task of surveying gun positions, spotting for the artillery and map-making. It was in 1942, while carrying out an early morning observation patrol on the front line at El Alamein, that Les found himself in a minefield. Just on the edge of the field, the back wheel of the truck set off a mine and Les lost both eyes. "Apart from a wound to my hand, they were the only injuries I received. I was never ill. They wouldn't tell me at first about my lost sight, but I knew. I don't think that at any time have I ever felt depressed about it."

Les arrived back in the United Kingdom in March, 1943, after short stays in Cairo and Tembani, South Africa. He was married to Doreen within 9 days of

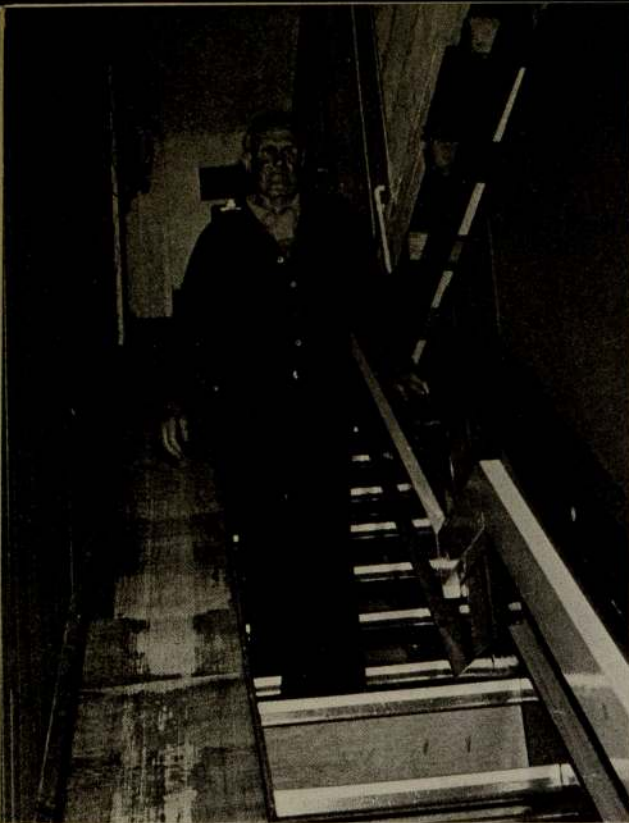


Les and Phil at 'La Bodega'.

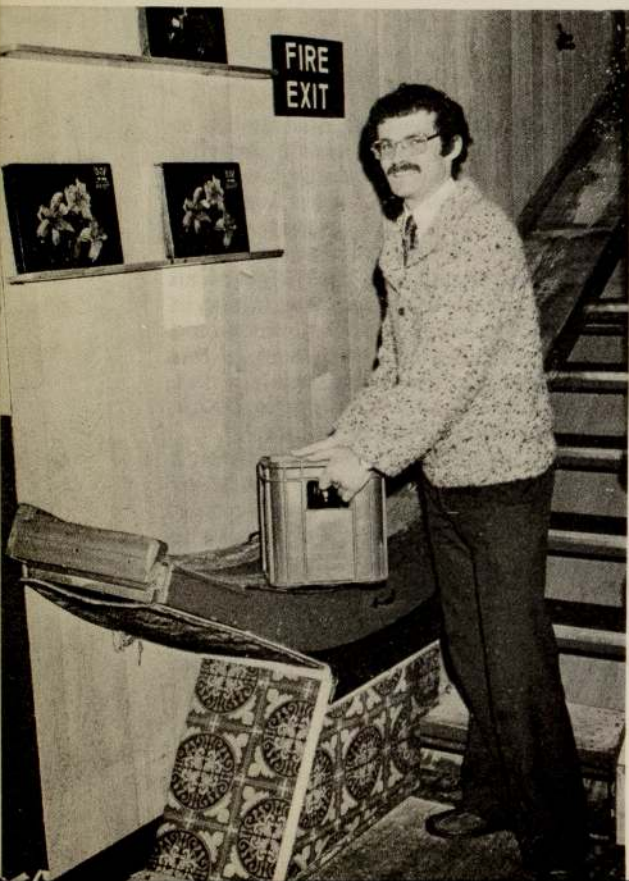
landing. At first, the idea was for Les to run his father's office. A special drawing board, designed and made by his father was so successful that it was copied by the Ministry of Labour. It was on this board that Les designed his present house with drawings accurate to 1/96th of an inch. But just after the war, everything in the building trade required forms and licensed numbers and office work of this nature was not deemed practical for him. So Les became interested in the design and construction of light furniture.

"I was interested in constructing on a mass production basis. I would enjoy making 100 trays at one go, rather than make 10 per month. If I was making four mahogany work boxes, I would make four oak ones at the same time. Those were lucrative days if you worked hard."

In 1950, seven years after going into the light furniture business, Les saw limited



*This goods chute which folds away when not in use, was designed and built by Les.*



prospects ahead as mass mechanised production came in and restrictions on timber went out. He still had all ten fingers; he couldn't push his luck too far! So, in that year, Les went into his first shop at Lobley Hill. Tobacco and confectionery were considered to be practical for St. Dunstaners and a licence for wines and spirits soon followed. The shop soon became a success, taking about £500 per week within 6 months, a good sum in those days.

### Desperate Start

Why the success? "During my first year I had no time off, neither weekends nor evenings. I also had a greater variety of spirits on sale than any other shop in Gateshead". Meanwhile, Doreen stayed at home running the office and looking after Bill, Helen and the twins, Philip and Bob. "I learnt about ordering stock and how to run the business as I went along. We had a desperate start with three break-ins in the first week. But that was all for a good long while, thank goodness," said Doreen.

The second shop at Beacon Lough was acquired more by accident than design. Originally intending to manage the shop for another St. Dunstaner, but with eldest son, Bill, helping with the books in the evenings, ownership seemed feasible. "I never obliged the children to serve in the shops. It was too narrow a world for them. They have only come in of their own volition." They decided to take on a third shop when Bill, who had been a Chartered Accountant for 5 years, joined them. "Look before you leap" may not, at first glance, seem a particularly apt proverb when applied to blind people, but because blindness often stimulates thought before action and Les is a very thoughtful man, this may account for his success.

"I am told by various representatives that I have the finest stock control system of any shop in Gateshead. The key is to have a small number of everything, but a wide selection. The stock control system ensures that only the amount sold is re-ordered, so that I am never overstocked, because stock sitting on shelves costs money. All the managers or manageresses have learnt the system within a fortnight and they know I am on the end of a tele-

phone. You must have a system which causes you no worry. And never let anyone upset you. For, once upset, you will start making the wrong decisions. I also believe in putting money into the shops so I refit them regularly. It has always paid off."

Together with his son, Phil, who is the manager, Les showed us examples of fitting out in 'La Bodega', Spanish for a wine shop, which is in the concrete shopping precinct of central Gateshead. The surroundings are not aesthetic but inside the shop, the customer can forget this for a while.

Les designs all the interiors of his shops at home, using a scaled piece of plywood as a scaled-down model. Upon this he tries different combinations, using pieces of cardboard to represent the display units. Then, together with his son, he makes all the counters and fittings in his garage. In 'La Bodega', the display units are given the Spanish touch by scalloping the edges. The result is a spacious, 90 ft. long airy shop with a 30 ft. tobacco counter, (just listen to those rasping coughs of envy), an off-licence department, confectionery counters and a section for greeting cards and gift wrappings.

### Touch and Go

The inside, Les can control, but the outside environment is a different matter. Recently, a motorway was built between the Lobley Hill shop and the nearby trading estate which it served. "People are frightened to use the pedestrian subway because of vandals and hooligans." To combat the subsequent fall-off in trade, Les combined off-license sales with groceries. Les hopes to maintain business, but it may be touch and go. Reducing profit to a minimum on some lines increases turnover, which in turn enables bulk buying and, therefore, lower wholesale prices. The retail trade is a constant searching for imaginative ideas, for which Les seems ideally suited.

Les still maintains overall control of wines, tobacco and confectionery. He personally buys all fruit and vegetables. He records on tape the figures sent in by telephone on stock sold. "An assistant might just order some fruit, whereas over the telephone, I can discuss with the



*Counters and fittings are built by Les to his own design.*

wholesaler the quality of the various items and decide at which price to buy."

Almost every St. Dunstaner will affirm the support he has received from his wife, and Les is no exception. For Doreen, those early years of shop-keeping meant raising four children and literally falling asleep over the books at one or two in the morning. "But we had strong constitutions. We were fit and healthy." When Bill came into the business, he relieved his mother of the financial side. But Doreen continued to work at the office on wages and the payment of accounts. "Even the payment of bills has become a complex exercise requiring expert analysis which will stand up to the close scrutiny of the V.A.T. inspector." They were, in fact, congratulated by him.

Last, but not least, there are the staff operating the shops to be looked after. A contented staff will mean contented





Les in his workshop.

customers. Holiday rosters, sick pay, etc., have become enormously complicated. But, a very happy relationship exists. Were you to stop Doreen in her car at Christmas time, you would find the boot packed with a hot, steaming lunch which is being taken round to some of her employees.

Believe it or not, there is time for leisure. Weekends are spent at a bungalow 50 miles away, by the sea. Sailing, fishing and woodwork fill the time quite adequately. Les is also consultant-in-chief to all the family, especially where any construction or design work is involved. "He sees through walls", said his daughter, which is a useful asset when planning rooms. Les has also been a member of the Gateshead Fell Rugby Club for 50 years. His Thursday evening visit there is sacrosanct.

But Les is not the only member of the family with ideas.

It was during a drive to their bungalow with two of their grandchildren that Doreen got the idea from an American story cassette of producing her own. These were very popular with the grandchildren and were eventually broadcast on Radio Newcastle. Doreen is now looking for a publisher.

The interview finished in the oak-panelled drawing room where it had started. On the one side, quiet, confident, ever-thinking Les; on the other, vivacious, energetic, happy Doreen. What a formidable couple. Surely anything they put their hands to would turn out successfully? They have put a lot into life and are justly reaping the rewards.

#### Editor's Note

Since writing this article, Bob, Phil's twin, has joined Bill in the office and Doreen is now semi-retired.

## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 1075

### The Paradise Man

By John Hale

Read by Marvin Kane

Reading Time 6¾ hours

This is an hilarious send-up of the popular sci-fi-cum-'political thriller'.

When a World Peace Treaty is signed by China, the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A., the American generals are appalled at the grisly prospect of the horrors of peace—no more violence and sadism in the sacred name of patriotism, no more of those jolly killings.

They are even more disturbed when a formerly tough, militarily-brutalised marine arrives back from a mission complete with a startling character change. He is now full of sweetness and light, a bosom pal to all men. Obviously, this menace must be nipped in the bud before it spreads.

The generals decide to send a man back to the place where the marine received his catastrophic brain-wash. He will investigate and report back.

Their choice falls upon one Lt. Hook Van Chappen. Hook is an idiot, but he'll have to do, since he is the spitting image of the victim.

With bands playing and flags fluttering, Hook flies into the wide blue yonder. He reaches the appointed place, which is just bursting with surprises...

A very funny, very readable book.

Cat. No. 1487

### The Great Gatsby

By F. Scott Fitzgerald

Read by John Dunn

Reading Time 5¾ hours

J. Gatsby is something of an enigma. His great mansion on Long Island is nightly filled with people, dancing, drinking, eating, gossiping and enjoying his lavish hospitality. Yet few, if any, of his guests really know him. He remains aloof, temperate—and waiting for Daisy.

One of his few friends is his next-door neighbour, Nick Carroway, and it is Nick who chronicles the life and tragedy of The Great Gatsby.

Faithful to a memory, the millionaire waits night after night for Daisy to drop in on one of his parties—the sole reason for his giving them. Five years earlier they had met and fallen desperately in love and Gatsby, then a penniless young officer, had had to leave for Europe. During his absence Daisy had married.

Then one night Daisy and her husband arrive at Gatsby's party, thus setting up a train of events which finally leads to disaster and death.

Although the book was written more than half a century ago, it has in no way 'dated' and this story of passion, obsession and tragedy is as fresh as the day it was written.

Full marks, too, to John Dunn, who reads Scott Fitzgerald's splendid prose with just the right touch of authentic American accent.

Cat. No. 130

### Choice of Straws

By E. R. Braithwaite

Read by Dwight Whyllie

Reading Time 6¾ hours

Dave and Jack Bennett are eighteen and identical twins. Dave is the stronger character, a natural leader and his mother's favourite.

The story opens with the boys hiding in a derelict house in the East End. They are lying in wait for a man to come out of the pub. He is a stranger to them, but he is black and they are going to "rough him up a bit, just for a giggle".

But the man puts up a tremendous fight and in the struggle Dave draws a knife and kills him.

At Dave's insistence the boys split up to make their separate ways home. But Dave never arrives. He has been given a lift by a passing motorist and they have both been killed in a crash. Ironically the motorist, a hospital doctor, is himself black.

Later Jack meets the dead man's sister and gradually his unreasoning hatred of the blacks undergoes a dramatic change as he begins to recognise and appreciate

### Reading Time—continued

her own problems of race and colour. The relationship brings him into sharp conflict with his embittered mother, who blames the blacks for her son's death. . .

This is a powerful and disturbing book which deals frankly and honestly with the tensions and prejudices which lie smouldering just beneath the surface in our multi-racial society.

It is written with style and sensitivity by an author who has himself experienced at first hand many of these problems.

### GET THE PICTURE

Jimmy Wright's latest film, 'Get The Picture', is to be shown by Thames Television (I.T.V. London area) on January 2nd, 1979, at 3.30 p.m. The programme will be 'networked', which means it will appear at this time on other commercial stations all over the country. The film deals with the training and employment of disabled people, particularly school leavers. "By showing what they can achieve, given the opportunity", said Jimmy, "I hope the film will create interest among prospective employers". H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh introduces the film and the photograph below shows him with Jimmy Wright on location.

—Photo: David Steen



### Grateful Customer

One of the customers at the Bristol branch of Barclay's Bank, where Frank Dickerson has been telephonist for the past 28 years, is Sir Frederick Pontin of the famous holiday firm. Sir Frederick asked especially to meet Frank and to personally thank him for the years of cheerful and efficient service given via the switch-board.

It must be very satisfying when two people, normally separated by miles of telephone cable, can actually meet person to person.

### D. F. Robinson's

## Gardening Column

As a start to these notes may I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a really prosperous time in the garden, both under glass and outdoors, in the year 1979.

Catalogues will be coming along now and where you ordered last year, they should automatically come along without you having to spend on stamps. There may be a few new varieties in vegetables and flowers. They can be tried, but it is always a good plan to stick to those items which gave a good account of themselves this year and in the years before.

See that all the empty beds are dug over and cleared of weeds and leave them rough for the frosts to break down. Sprinkle a little lime on top so that the rain can wash it down into the soil at root level for next season.

Get all the repairs to garden equipment of all kinds done, but leave the greenhouse and frames for the frost-free occasions. Ensure that all those pots, boxes, pans etc., are clean and ready for use. Get your composts, peat, sand and fertilisers in early before the rush sets in.

### Vegetables

Keep the ground between growing crops hoed over and take off those yellowing leaves to put on the compost heap.

Where you have some lettuce under cloches or frames, give some extra protection in severe weather. Newspapers are good, but do tie them in place or the wind will take them away.

Some of the earlier beans and peas can be sown, but wait for a good day when the frost is out of the ground.

It won't be long before one thinks of sprouting the potatoes, so have the trays clean and ready. A little wash over with a disinfectant would be a good thing.

Really early tomatoes in the greenhouse can be sown now, plus lettuce, French beans, radish and early peas. You must have heat to do this thing, and plenty of room under glass, so keep them down to a minimum if you are more interested in raising pot and bedding plants.

### Fruit

Carry on with the pruning, but do this only when there is no frost about. Don't be afraid to thin out the branches of those established apples and pears in order to let light into the tree, and enable one to get the spray at the heart of things. Buds will get more air and so you may get a better crop. After you have sawn out a thick branch, do remember to coat the cut with a fungicide or weak disinfectant.

Currants and gooseberries not already pruned can be seen to at once, plus the removal of suckers from the raspberries, but don't prune till spring.

Prepare the ground for those new fruit trees on order or which you are thinking of getting, but do not plant now.

Consign all these hard wood prunings to the bonfire, not the compost heap.

### Lawns

Nothing is needed here except to keep the grass clear of leaves and worm casts. A spiking over with a fork where your drainage is poor may help to keep the lawn from getting too wet. There are some special hand lawn spikers on the market in which the spikes are on a spindle and the whole thing is pushed like a mower, but these are a bit on the dear side for the purpose intended, as they would not be used that often. They might be useful where you have a really extensive lawn.

### Flowers

The beds are very bare at this time of the year, but where you have some bulbs in place there may be signs of life in the showing of the first leaves above soil level and towards the end of the month the early flowering items will be well on their way. Give a little protection in the form of peat or compost in the very cold and exposed areas.

It is not a month to do any planting, especially in the north when the frosts are on the rampage. Keep the beds clear of dead shoots and the branches of trees and shrubs. After heavy gales ensure that the roses and other shrubs are anchored well into the ground and use your heels where any have shifted.

**Gardening Column—continued**

Rose trees may still be planted, but I would fight shy of this unless you live in the south-west. Any bushes delivered are better heeled in on a warm protected border.

Dig over and manure those vacant beds ready for the spring planting and leave rough so that the frost can break down the soil for easy use especially in clayed areas.

Get all your plans ready for the colour in 1979, either by ordering ready grown plants or raising them from seed. Remember that where you have no greenhouse and only a small planting area, seeds can be raised in boxes on a sunny window sill or on shelves in the porch.

**Greenhouse**

Try and keep the minimum temperature between 40°-45°F. This will be quite enough to keep most of those pot plants going. Don't give very much water, just a minimum so that the plants don't die off. They are less likely to perish if dry than with a lot of water. As they are not growing much, if at all, no feed should be given.

Plenty of air must be allowed to circulate as moisture tends to hang about and brings on moulds of all kinds. Try and open the windows in the early morning after the frost has gone, and shut again in the early afternoon.

Pick off all the old leaves and cut away rotten shoots or stems on plants, and check over the tubers you have stored

under the bench or shed, such as Begonias, Gloxinias, Achimemes, Dahlias, etc. One going rotten can affect the whole lot.

Freesias, Roman Hyacinths, Lily of the Valley and Narcissi in pots can be brought on a bit early by giving a little gentle bottom heat.

Geraniums can be a bit tricky at this time of the year, and should be kept very much on the dry side. Any yellowing leaves and those with large black areas should be taken off.

Young annuals which were sown late for a spring show in pots, can be moved to their flowering sized pots, and where you have some in flower, take them into the house as there is so little colour indoors now, though you will have those Christmas bulbs later on. These can be brought into the light and warmth to bring them forward, but don't do this to Hyacinths until the flower head is really out of the bulb.

Use smokes against moulds regularly, more so than the anti-pest types, though a combined one every so often will be a good thing. As I said before, ensure that the place is airtight before using and get out as soon as you have lit it. Next day, open all ventilators and doors for a while before venturing inside for real work.

Remember to wash your hands thoroughly after use. It would be a good thing to keep a special coat for this work with insecticides and fungicides, both outside and under glass. Keep your pets and children away from dosed areas.

**CONVERSATION PIECE**



*On holiday in the West Country, Audrey Gaygan took this picture of Tommy chatting to Alexander Nesbitt in Teignmouth. Alex lives there and they met, quite accidentally, whilst walking on the front.*

**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.*

**Arthur Collins** of Enfield, who joined St. Dunstan's on 6th October. Mr. Collins, who is 80 years old, served as a Private in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps during the First World War. He enlisted in 1914, and was discharged in 1918, following mustard gas injuries to his eyes whilst serving in Italy. He is married with two adult daughters.

**Edward Glazebrook** of Burnham-on-Sea, who joined St. Dunstan's on 13th October. Mr. Glazebrook, who is 87 years old, served as a Private in the Hampshire Regiment during the First World War, and received eye injuries whilst on active service in Serbia in 1916. He is a single man.

**Ronald Hazelgrove** of Blean, near Canterbury, who joined St. Dunstan's on 8th November. Mr. Hazelgrove was called up for service in the Pioneer Corps in July 1940, and in the following year was transferred to the Corps of Military Police. He was discharged in 1943. He is a married man with one adult son.

**Cecil Jarvis** of Southampton, who joined St. Dunstan's on 2nd November. He is 82 years old. Mr. Jarvis served as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers and was discharged in 1919, following eye injuries due to mustard gas poisoning. He is a widower with one adult son.

**Major Cecil Raymond Land**, of Lee-on-Solent, who joined St. Dunstan's on the 2nd November. Major Land served with the R.A.S.C. and then the R.A.O.C. from 1939 to 1952. He is married with a grown up family.

**Robert Pope** of Sutton, who joined St. Dunstan's on 13th October. Mr. Pope, who had initially joined St. Dunstan's in 1940, but subsequently recovered his vision, served as an Able Seaman in the Royal Navy during the Second World War and was a Far Eastern prisoner-of-war for a time. He is a widower.

**CLUB NEWS**

**BRIGHTON**

**ENTERTAINMENT SECTION**

As promised in last month's *Review*, here are the winners of the Sir Arthur Pearson Tournaments:

|                           |                                                                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Gentlemen Cribbage</b> |                                                                                |
| Winner                    | A. Dodgson                                                                     |
| Runner-up                 | J. Padley                                                                      |
| Beaten Semi-Finalists     | W. Phillips.<br>H. Preedy                                                      |
| <b>Ladies</b>             | Mrs. E. Dodgson.<br>Mrs. H. Webster.<br>Mrs. M. Crabtree.<br>Mrs. N. Phillips. |

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Darts</b>          |                          |
| Winner                | R. Osborne.              |
| Runner-up             | T. Mugan.                |
| Beaten Semi-Finalists | B. Blacker.<br>H. Smith. |

|                          |                                                                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ladies</b>            | Mrs. H. Webster.<br>Mrs. M. Wilkins.<br>Mrs. M. Blacker.<br>Mrs. P. Padley |
| <b>Dominoe Aggregate</b> |                                                                            |
| 1st.                     | R. Osborne. 36                                                             |
| 2nd.                     | S. Wilkins. 35                                                             |
| 3rd.                     | J. Padley. 34                                                              |
| 4th.                     | H. Preedy. 33                                                              |
| <b>Ladies</b>            | Mrs. F. Pike. 47                                                           |
|                          | Mrs. M. Langley. 33                                                        |
|                          | Mrs. M. Blacker. 29                                                        |
|                          | Mrs. J. Osborne. 29                                                        |

|                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>5's &amp; 3's.</b> |                            |
| Winner                | H. Preedy.                 |
| Runner-up             | A. Dodgson.                |
| Beaten Semi-Finalists | S. Pike.<br>W. Lethbridge. |

|               |                         |  |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Ladies</b> | <b>Mrs. H. Webster.</b> |  |
|               | Mrs. E. Dodgson.        |  |
|               | Mrs. F. Pike.           |  |
|               | Mrs. E. Walch.          |  |

#### Whist Aggregate

|             |                   |            |
|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| <b>1st.</b> | <b>J. Padley.</b> | <b>671</b> |
| 2nd.        | H. Preedy.        | 665        |
| 3rd.        | W. Lethbridge.    | 662        |
| 4th.        | W. Phillips.      | 648        |

|               |                            |            |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>Ladies</b> | <b>Mrs. P. Lethbridge.</b> | <b>662</b> |
|               | Mrs. J. Osborne.           | 650        |
|               | Mrs. E. Dodgson.           | 642        |
|               | Mrs. H. Webster.           | 640        |

The trophies for the winners will be presented by our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, and his wife, at our Christmas Dance on December 9th. This has to be an all-ticket affair, firstly because of the large number who wish to attend and secondly, to assist the Committee in organising the buffet. The price of a ticket is 75p. (including buffet). Any enquiries to me on Brighton 32115.

R. OSBORNE,  
Chairman

#### BRIDGE NOTES

Our Pairs and Individuals Competitions for 1978 have now been completed. The winners of the final Pairs match played on Sunday, 15th October, were:

##### North-South

|             |                                      |             |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>1st.</b> | <b>V. Delaney and Mr. Douse</b>      |             |
|             | <b>W. Lethbridge and Miss Sturdy</b> | <b>53.5</b> |

##### East-West

|             |                                   |             |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>1st.</b> | <b>W. Phillips and Mr. Barker</b> | <b>63.0</b> |
| 2nd.        | R. Evans and Mrs. Douse           | 55.5        |

Our final Individual match, played on Saturday, 21st October, resulted as follows:

|                   |                      |           |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| <b>V. Delaney</b> | <b>and R. Goding</b> | <b>69</b> |
| G. Hudson         | and R. Fullard       | 68        |
| H. Preedy         | and Partner          | 66        |
| P. McCormack      | and F. Griffiee      | 66        |
| C. Walters        | and W. Lethbridge    | 58        |
| W. Burnett        | and W. Phillips      | 51        |

#### The Dacre Trophy (Pairs Competition)

The best five percentage scores played with any partner throughout the year resulted as above:

|             |                    |              |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>1st.</b> | <b>W. Phillips</b> | <b>300.4</b> |
| 2nd.        | F. Griffiee        | 279.1        |
| 3rd.        | B. Simon           | 274.9        |
| 4th.        | W. Lethbridge      | 274.0        |
| 5th.        | B. Ingrey          | 257.7        |
| 6th.        | A. Dodgson         | 251.3        |
| 7th.        | H. Preedy          | 248.9        |
| 8th.        | J. Padley          | 246.7        |
| 9th.        | P. McCormack       | 230.3        |
| 10th        | R. Fullard         | 225.5        |

#### The Gover Cup (Individual Competition)

The results from the best five matches played throughout the year are:

|             |                               |            |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| <b>1st.</b> | <b>W. Lethbridge</b>          | <b>342</b> |
| 2nd.        | R. Fullard                    | 338        |
| 3rd.        | { F. Griffiee<br>P. McCormack | 330        |
| 5th.        | { G. Hudson<br>W. Phillips    | 328        |
| 7th.        | C. Walters                    | 324        |
| 8th.        | J. Padley                     | 314        |
| 9th.        | W. Burnett                    | 297        |
| 10th.       | A. Dodgson                    | 96         |

W. LETHBRIDGE

#### BOWLS SECTION

Our winter season has now commenced with Worthing Bowling Club as our guests on 10th November. All our bowlers are in good form and it should be a good match. The Winter Aggregate is well under way and the interest is very keen.

Our sincerest thanks go to Bernard Pickforth for his valued help to our Bowling Club. He has now been made an Honorary Member. Thanks also to all our helpers during the past season.

Any of our bowlers outside the Brighton area needing information, please contact any member of the Bowls Committee and we will be very pleased to assist in any way.

A. ROBINSON,  
Chairman and Captain

#### MIDLAND CLUB NOTES

Due to a cavalcade of cars in the city the day that we should have held our October club meeting, we decided to alter the date and hold it on the 15th, the third Sunday of the month.

#### MIDLAND CLUB NOTES—continued

The meeting was well-attended and we were pleased to have Tom O'Connor and Bill Green with us once again, both feeling much better after their recent illnesses.

Several items were discussed, including travelling arrangements for the Christmas dinner. Also, suggestions for our Christmas party.

On the evening of Friday, 13th October, we attended a performance of 'The Belle of New York' at the Birmingham Hippodrome and everyone said how much they had enjoyed the show. This was a new venture for the club, as we have not been to theatre shows before and I hope that this will be the start of a new idea and we will go to many more.

As I have said before in previous editions of the *Review*, it would be nice to see more St. Dunstaners joining our club. I can assure you that the new premises in Broad Street are very nice and we would make you very welcome.

Once again, the tea for the club meeting had been arranged for us by our ladies and we thanked them in our usual manner. Special thanks to Marjorie for the beautiful cakes.

As is our usual practice, we moved our November meeting forward one week to avoid the Armistice Day Services. Therefore, our meeting was held on the 5th of the month.

We incorporated a 'Bring and Buy' Sale in with the meeting and a fine sum of money was raised to help club expenses.

We were very sorry to hear that Tom O'Connor had been taken ill once again and was back in hospital. Everyone sends best wishes to you, Tom, and we hope that you have a speedy recovery. I understand that whilst I am writing these notes, you should be on your way to Brighton. Have a good convalescence and take care.

One or two items were discussed after tea, the main talking point being the Christmas dinner. We have invited Mr. Wills to join us for this function and I am pleased to say that he has accepted and will be accompanied by Miss Mosley. We look forward to having them both with us on that evening.

Any St. Dunstaner who is not a member of the Midland Club, but who would like to come along and join us for the dinner can get details from me by ringing Broms-

grove 73856. I must have my numbers completed by Saturday, 2nd December, so if you wish to join us, I must have your definite booking by that date. The dinner is to be held at the Royal British Legion, Austin Branch, on Saturday, 16th December at 5.00 p.m.

The tea for this meeting was once again prepared for us by the ladies. Our thanks go to Joan and Marjorie for the lovely cakes with special thanks to the ladies who helped us out with bread. Unfortunately, due to the panic buying of bread, thanks to the media, our usual supply was unavailable, so four of our ladies, Connie, Mabel, Marjorie and Joan raided their own freezers and each brought along a loaf.

Our next meeting is on Sunday, 3rd December. This has been brought forward one week and is our usual Christmas party. It will be held, of course, at our new premises, the Birmingham United Services Club, Broad Street.

DOUG CASHMORE,  
Secretary.

#### LONDON CLUB

##### BRIDGE NOTES

The final match for the Gover Cup was completed on Saturday, 4th November with the following results:

|                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>R. Armstrong and R. Evans</b> | <b>86 pts.</b> |
| M. Tybinski and F. Dickerson     | 66 pts.        |
| B. Allen and J. Carney           | 62 pts.        |
| H. Meleson and V. Kemmish        | 58 pts.        |
| P. Nuyens and R. Stanners        | 58 pts.        |
| J. Huk and J. Majchrowicz        | 48 pts.        |

From the final results (best five games to count), it appears that our Bridge Captain has scooped the pool. Many congratulations to Roy Armstrong.

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>R. Armstrong</b> | <b>362 pts.</b> |
| R. Evans            | 348 pts.        |
| M. Tybinski         | 343 pts.        |
| B. Allen            | 338 pts.        |
| J. Huk              | 332 pts.        |
| P. Nuyens           | 329 pts.        |
| J. Majchrowicz      | 329 pts.        |
| V. Kemmish          | 326 pts.        |
| J. Carney           | 324 pts.        |
| R. Stanners         | 323 pts.        |
| F. Dickerson        | 314 pts.        |
| H. Meleson          | 305 pts.        |

## KEMP TOWN NOTES

We have had a couple of months of real nostalgia at Pearson House. Mr. and Mrs. Weltman have twice entertained us with their magnificent collection of Tony Hancock records. How they brought back the 'old days' to us. They finished their second recital with 'The Reunion', which we found just as funny on this occasion as we did the first time we heard it live.

To our great delight, St. Dunstaner, Bill Jack, agreed to put on a show for us last month. We're never quite sure how Bill does it, but he manages to find something for everyone; something old, something new, something romantic, something comic—you name it, he has it in his programme and presents it with a flair that is all his own. Mind you, after listening to his recorded account by 'Jeff' of how to keep sheep, we haven't really been enjoying our mutton chops of late!

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## FAMILY NEWS

### Marriages

*Mr. and Mrs. John Collins* of Gabalfa, Cardiff, are pleased to announce the marriage of their youngest son, Stephen, to Teresa Bennett of Tonypanydy, on 5th August, at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Cardiff.

*Mr. and Mrs. James Mash* of Jersey, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Janet, to René Connan, on 21st October, at St. Thomas's Church, Val Plaisant.

*Mr. and Mrs. Bert Phillips* of Bristol, are pleased to announce the marriage of their son, Robin, to Mrs. Simpson on September 28th.

### Ruby Weddings

Many congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Harold King* of Dunstable, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on 15th October.

### Diamond Wedding

Many congratulations to *'Gabe' Aarons and his wife, Violet*, of Victoria, Australia, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 12th July.

### Grandchildren

#### Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. Fred Galway* of Sandbach, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Lee-Ann, on 2nd October, to their son, Andrew, and his wife, Lynn.

*Mr. and Mrs. Ron Homewood* of Crowborough, on the birth of their grandson, David, to their daughter, Susan, and her husband, Michael, on 29th September.

*Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McCarthy* of Northampton, on the birth of their first grand-daughter, Claire Elizabeth, on 14th May, to their son, Richard, and daughter-in-law, Margaret.

*Mr. and Mrs. Donald Slee* of Edenhall, near Penrith, on the birth of their first grand-daughter, Kirsty Ann, on 29th August, to their son, Morris, and his wife, Anne.

*Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wilson* of Cleadon on the birth of two grandchildren; Mark James, born on 20th March, to their son, Raymond, and daughter-in-law, Jacqueline; and Rebecca Joanne, born to their daughter, Ruth, and son-in-law, Nicholas, on 29th September.

### Personal Achievements

#### We warmly congratulate:

*Jack Boorman* of Faversham, on being awarded a Certificate by the Mayor of Faversham in appreciation of all the services he rendered in Jubilee Year for the civilian blind and community activities.

Alan, son of *Mrs. Evelyn Leigh and the late Mr. Maynard Leigh* of Warrington, on his appointment as curator of the Warrington Museum and Art Gallery.

### Deaths

#### We offer our sincere sympathy to:

*Mr. James Brown* of Houghton-le-Spring, whose brother, Robert, died recently after a road accident.

*Mr. Allen Caldwell* of East Croydon, whose wife, Sarah, died on 29th October, aged 85. They had been married for over 55 years.

*Miss Marion Elias* of Aberdare, whose sister, Lilian, died suddenly at their home on 29th October.

*Mr. Norman Hopkins* of Cardiff, on the death of his father, at the beginning of October, aged 87.

*Mr. Sidney Jones* of Manchester, whose wife, Phyllis, died on 15th October.

*Mr. Jaroslaw Majchrowicz* of Shepherds Bush, whose mother died last April, in Poland.

*Mr. Bertie Williamson* of Colchester, whose brother, Ron, died suddenly in June, aged 59.

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## 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.

### Geoffrey Bowen 53rd Battalion, Australian Imperial Forces

Geoffrey Bowen, formerly of Manila and Chalfont St. Giles, died at Pearson House on 6th November, aged 93.

Mr. Bowen enlisted with the 53rd Battalion, the Australian Imperial Forces in April 1916, and had attained the rank of Lance Corporal when he was wounded with the loss of one eye in 1917. In the Second World War, he was interned by the Japanese in the Santo Tomas Camp in Manila. He suffered from malnutrition and subsequently lost the sight of his remaining eye. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1951.

Mr. Bowen started his own import business in Manila in 1919, and it was very successful until the Second World War when, with the occupation of the Phillipines, he lost everything. After the war, the business resumed and Mr. Bowen retained an interest in it, acting in an advisory capacity. He came frequently to England on the advice of his specialists in an attempt to save his sight, staying with different members of his family. In 1962, he finally settled with two of his sisters in Chalfont St. Giles. On their death, he became a permanent resident at Pearson House, where he celebrated his ninetieth birthday in 1975.

He leaves a sister, Mrs. Iago and a niece, Mrs. Kenchington.

### Vincent Maurice Evans

#### Royal Army Ordnance Corps

Vincent Evans, of Mawnan, near Falmouth, died on the 17th October, aged 70.

Mr. Evans was commissioned and served in the Second World War; he was injured in an accident in 1943 and lost one eye. He had been a journalist previously and continued most successfully in that profession for many years, with an international circle of friends. He had had trouble with his remaining eye ever since the war and eventually his sight failed and he had to give up journalism, but he then ran an hotel and led a very full life in a beautiful part of Cornwall. He became a St. Dunstaner in 1975. He had had considerable ill health in recent years and died in hospital following a severe stroke. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool is an old family friend and, on his way to Rome, he flew down to Cornwall for the Requiem Mass.

Vincent Evans leaves a widow, Elaine, and two sons.

### Clarence Hainsworth 21st West Yorkshire Regiment

Clarence Hainsworth, formerly of Harrogate, died at Pearson House on 14th October, only three weeks after the death of his sister, Lilian, who had cared for him since the death of his wife, Edith, in 1962. He was 87 years old and had been a resident at Pearson House since July of this year.

Mr. Hainsworth enlisted in the 21st West Yorkshire Regiment in 1916, and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant in April 1918, following severe injuries to his jaw and eye whilst on active service in Belgium. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1918.

Mr. Hainsworth had been an Assistant Manager in a store in civilian life, but competently mastered a course of training in picture-framing, tray making, Braille and typewriting. He received many private orders for picture frames, which he

## In Memory *continued*

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made in his workshop and he also made trays for our Stores Department. He also took a course in joinery which provided him with an enjoyable hobby for many years. Due to deteriorating health, Mr. Hainsworth was unable to follow any hobby occupation in the latter part of his life but, nevertheless, he derived much pleasure from listening to his radio.

### **Commander Wallace Dempsey Moseley, D.S.O. *Royal Navy***

Commander Wallace Moseley, of Brantham, Suffolk, died on the 13th October, aged 58.

He was commissioned from Dartmouth in 1935, and served in the Royal Navy until he was invalided out in 1950. His sight ultimately deteriorated and he became a St. Dunstanian in 1966. His very poor health forced him to lead a completely quiet life at home, where he enjoyed studying naval history and was devotedly cared for by his wife. Only last year they had moved house and were very happily settled, but he collapsed and died quite suddenly.

He leaves a widow, Elizabeth.

### **Bert Priest *South Staffordshire Regiment***

Bert Priest of Meriden, died on 26th October, in hospital at the age of 63.

Having enlisted in the Territorial Army in February, 1939, Mr. Priest was called up at the outset of the Second World War and served as a Private in the South Staffordshire Regiment until his discharge in July, 1942, following eye injuries received when a bakelite hand-bomb exploded. He joined St. Dunstan's that same year.

Mr. Priest had been a foreman wood machinist in civilian life and after going to Church Stretton, he readily responded to a period of industrial training. He commenced employment in 1943 in a Tipton factory, primarily on inspection work and ultimately as a storeman. He remained with his employers for 31 years until retiring on health grounds in 1974. He was a highly valued and respected employee and following 25 years service with the company, was presented with a gold watch.

Following retirement, Mr. Priest and his wife moved from Tipton to Meriden, near Coventry, where he was able to enjoy to the full his love of gardening and his greenhouse. With the assistance of Mrs. Priest, he grew many varieties of flowers and splendid crops of vegetables. He was always willing to help neighbours and friends with their gardens and the benefit of his advice. Mr. Priest also made rugs and string bags for our Stores Department.

He leaves a widow, Phoebe, and a son and daughter from his first marriage.

### **Percy Edmund Robins**

#### *Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment*

Percy Robins, of Salisbury, Wilts., died on the 28th September, aged 86.

Mr. Robins was commissioned and served in the First World War; he was severely wounded in the face and lost one eye. For many years he was a steelworks representative and also an enthusiastic amateur conjurer, performing with concert parties. In 1976 the sight in his remaining eye failed and he became a St. Dunstanian, living quietly at home but able to enjoy two Southampton Reunions and a holiday visit to Pearson House.

He leaves a widow, Charlotte, a married daughter and grandchildren.

### **Albert Saunders *Royal Garrison Artillery***

Albert Saunders of Brockham, died on 23rd October, aged 88, following a prolonged period of ill-health during which he was devotedly nursed by his wife.

Mr. Saunders served as a Gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery from his enlistment in 1908 until his discharge in 1917. Whilst on active service during the First World War, he was wounded by gunshot in an eye and shoulder and joined St. Dunstan's in April 1974, following severe deterioration in his sight.

Over the past few years, Mr. Saunders' health was such that he was prevented from undertaking any hobbies. Nevertheless, he was able to pay two visits to Pearson House and retained a great interest in his garden, which was tended by his wife.

He leaves a widow, Evelyn.

### **Charles William Woodman Cooper**

#### *Royal Air Force*

Charles Cooper, of Worthing, died on the 13th October, aged 73.

Mr. Cooper was commissioned in the R.A.F. and served in the Second World War until he was blinded in 1941. He trained in physiotherapy and practised in Worthing from 1947. He married in 1951 and from about the same time became very active in local politics, being a member of Worthing Town Council and working with numerous committees. He and his wife were also much involved in nursing his elderly parents in the last years of their lives. He himself had had very poor health for a long time and was extremely ill for some two or three years, but he was always wonderfully courageous and cheerful and took an interest in other people.

He leaves a widow, Mary, who cared for him devotedly, nursing him at home with the help of friends for as long as it was possible.