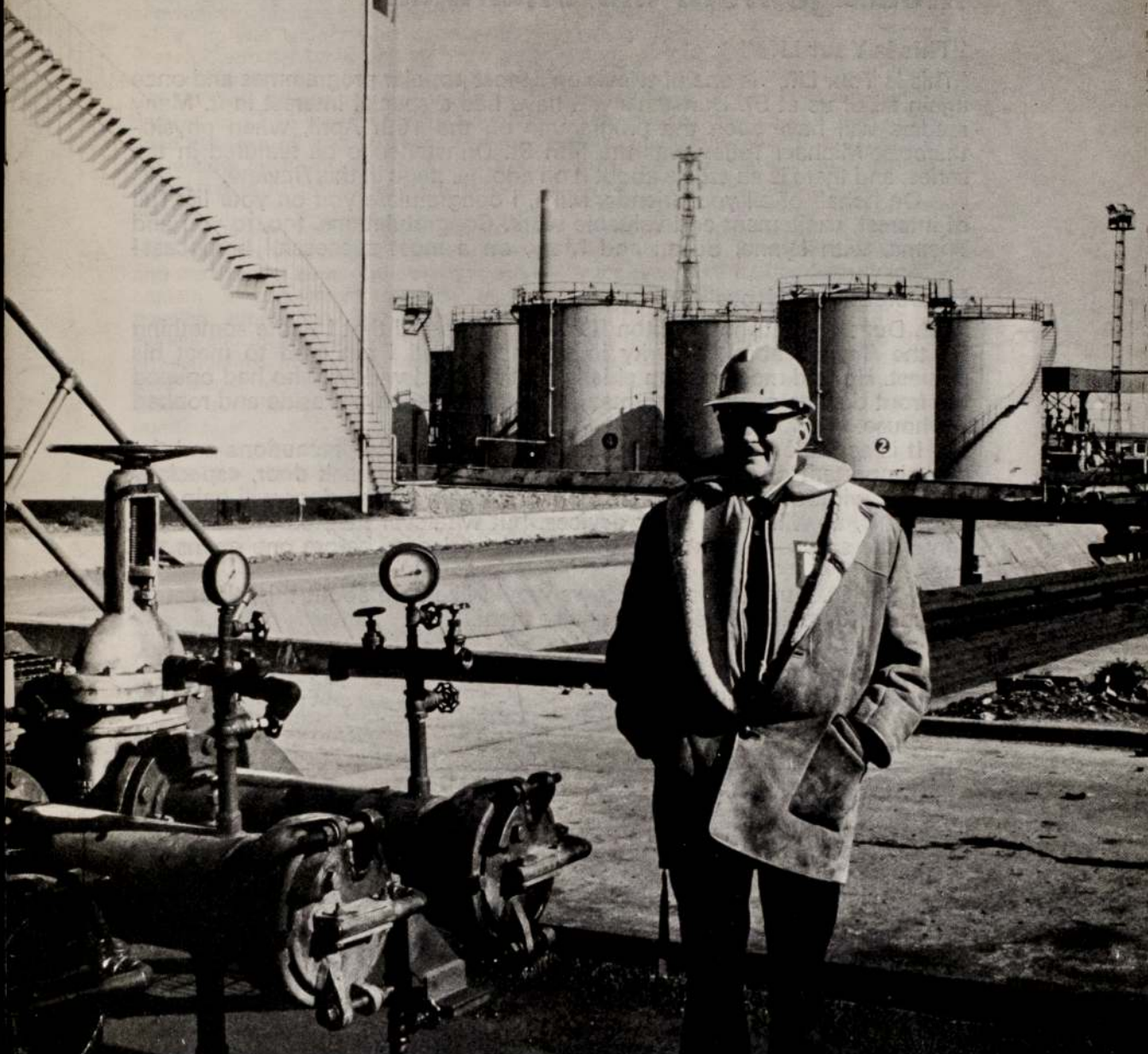


THAMES
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St Dunstons
REVIEW
MAY 1980



St. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

No. 718

MAY 1980

10p MONTHLY

Message from the Chairman

"This Is Your Life"

"This Is Your Life" is one of television's most popular programmes and once again all of us at St. Dunstan's will have had a special interest in it. Many readers will have seen the programme on the 16th April, when physio-therapist Michael Tetley was the fifth St. Dunstaner to be featured in the series, and there is an article about it on another page in this *Review*.

On behalf of all your friends, Mike, I congratulate you on your life full of interest, excitement and valuable work. Congratulations, too, to you and Thelma, with Lynne, Susan and Mary, on a most successful broadcast!

Unwelcome Visitors

A St. Dunstaner at the Brighton Reunion suggested that I wrote something for the *Review* about security in the home and I am glad to meet his request. He told me about an elderly civilian blind widow who had opened her front door to some young men, who then pushed her aside and robbed the house.

It is sensible these days to take reasonable safety precautions and the most important of these is not to open the front or back door, especially at night, without checking who is there. A chain on the door will help one to do this, as will some other devices, but whatever method one uses the aim is the same—to make sure the caller is welcome before one opens the door.

If any St. Dunstaners or widows would like help about this, the Estate Department would be pleased to advise them.

Jon Barnett-Dune

DERBY SWEEPSTAKE

Do remember to apply for Derby Sweepstake tickets. The closing date is Wednesday, 14th May. The tickets are 20p each and all you have to do is to send a stamped addressed envelope with your cheque or postal order to the D.S.S. Department, at Headquarters. St. Dunstaners only, please, apply as soon as possible.

SPORTS WEEKEND

Is there insufficient interest in sports to enable St. Dunstan's to continue to hold an annual sports weekend? So far only seven replies have reached the Sports Officer from St. Dunstaners responding to the questionnaire published in our March issue. Obviously the event planned for 7th/8th June will have to be cancelled unless there is a much greater response.

COVER PICTURE: Stewart Harris revisits Thames Matex oil terminal. Behind him are the six tanks that held his first shipment of oil. See 'Man of Spirit' beginning on centre pages.

PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES

The Secretary of State for Social Services has now given details of the proposed increases in pensions and allowances which are that the basic 100% disability pension, at present at the rate of £38.00, will go up to £44.30 a week and there are to be corresponding increases in those allowances which are to be raised.

For the war widow who is under 65 years of age, her basic pension is to go up to £35.30 from the present rate of £30.20. Age allowances are to be increased to £3.45 a week for the widow aged between 65 and 70 years, and for the widow aged 70 years and over, the allowance is to be increased to £6.90 a week.

The increases are to take effect from the week commencing 23rd November and the October issue of the *Review* will contain a supplement carrying more detailed information. Should St. Dunstaners and St. Dunstaners' widows have any enquiries in the meantime, would they please address them to Mr. L. A. Slade, our Pensions Officer at Headquarters.

Two examples of the proposed revised payments are set out below:—

Examples of Pensions

Employable	Totally Blind	
	Present	New
Basic Pension	£38.00	£44.30
Constant Attendance Allowance	15.20	17.70
Comforts Allowance	6.60	7.70
Wife's Allowance	0.60	0.60
	£60.40	£70.30

Unemployable	Totally Blind	
	Present	New
Basic Pension	£38.00	£44.30
Constant Attendance Allowance	15.20	17.70
Comforts Allowance	6.60	7.70
Unemployability Supplement	24.70	28.80
Wife's Allowance	14.60	16.90
Invalidity Allowance	1.55	1.75
	£100.65	£117.15

NEWS FROM CANADA

1979 was International Year of the Child and Family in British Columbia and many received awards for their efforts on behalf of children. One such was Mr. Harvey Lynes, President of the B.C. Chapter of the Sir Arthur Pearson Association, who accepted recognition on behalf of the Association for their work in providing bursaries for visually impaired students. Annually, the Association offers bursaries to deserving blind students across the country, Mr. Lynes said, "It is gratifying to present the cheques knowing how vital it is for the visually impaired to obtain appropriate education leading to competitive employment".

Mr. Lynes received his special award at a Presentation Night held at the Hotel Vancouver last September. The awards were presented by Lady Soames, Chairman of the United Kingdom Association for the International Year of the Child, who told the audience that the awards stand for a "vision of the world. A world where all children are loved, nourished, educated and clothed." We congratulate Harvey and Eleanor Lynes and the Sir Arthur Pearson Association.

FAR EAST EX-P.O.W. REUNION

All members who wish to attend the FEPOW Reunion, at Ian Fraser House, on 12th-14th September, should contact Miss Bridger, at Headquarters as soon as possible and not later than 30th June. Please tell her if you will have your own escort for one or both of the social evenings, arranged for 12th and 13th September.

CASSETTE LIBRARY ADDITIONS

The following C90 has been added to the Amateur Radio cassette library: R25 Talk by Henry Hatch at 1980 AGM, on his experiences with the BBC.

A set of diagrams and sketches which accompany the Practical Wireless cassettes R24 will shortly be available. Please write to the Public Relations Department at Headquarters if you would like a copy. The diagrams are not in Braille and you will need a sighted person to explain them.



Miss Carlton, on a visit from Australia, was a welcome guest at the Reunion. She is seen here with Peggy and Dick Brett.

BRIGHTON REUNION

The 1980 reunion season opened at the Bedford Hotel, Brighton, on 28th March. March was going out like a lion as the wind swept across the Brighton front and all the company were glad to enter the calm of the Bedford's reception area, greet old friends and find a drink.

They were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Ion Garnett-Orme and found other old friends among their guests in Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, of St. Dunstan's Council, Mr. K. S. C. Phillips, Sussex Grocers' Association and Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre. Heading the representative members of the staff at the reunion was our Secretary, Mr. W. C. Weisblatt.

Altogether 222 guests sat down to lunch including 17 St. Dunstaners from the First War and 73 from the Second or later campaigns.

Speaking after lunch Mr. Garnett-Orme said that the Brighton reunion was always a large and successful gathering which he and Mrs Garnett-Orme enjoyed attending. He began with some good news: "Peter McCormack has had his operation. The kidney transplant has gone well and, while it is early days to say anything definite, all goes well. We wish him all the best of luck."

Mr. Garnett-Orme then spoke of two other absent friends; "Mr. Wills has had his hip operation and is now recuperating. He is in good form and sent me a note saying he was sorry to miss the reunion and asking to be remembered to everyone. Mr. Fawcett is in America, enjoying a well-earned holiday with his family and I have a message from him to say he is sorry to miss the reunion and sends all good wishes. These two both gave a large part of their lives to the service of St. Dunstan's in positions of great responsibility. Our gratitude to them is deep indeed. We wish them both, with members of their family, well in return".

The Chairman then gave the names of the guests, retired members of staff and staff members present at the reunion, he referred particularly to Miss Stewart and Miss Blebta who had organised the occasion. He then introduced one of the guests, Dr. John O'Hara, whose reminiscences of 27 years at St. Dunstan's, neatly interspersed with jokes, brought an ovation from the audience.

Jim Padley proposed the vote of thanks to St. Dunstan's which he also extended to include the Sussex Grocers' Associa-

tion. He thanked Dr. O'Hara for his amusing speech and congratulated St. Dunstan's Ernie Ould on his birthday. "We, especially members of the Brighton Bowling Section, are very pleased to see him here today, up and about again", he said.

Mr. Padley said, "This is 1980 and St. Dunstan's was founded in 1915. The organisation has reached its 65th birthday—the time of retirement—but there is no retirement for St. Dunstan's as it continues its support for us over the years." He had a word of welcome for Dr. Stilwell and promised him the support of St. Dunstaners in his work as Administrator of the Brighton Homes.

Mr. Padley concluded by thanking Miss Stewart and Miss Blebta and the staff of the Bedford Hotel for the excellent reunion. He said it was good to hear the

news of Peter McCormack and reported that the Brighton Club appeal for the Royal Sussex Kidney Unit had reached £980.

Only a little later, Bob Osborne, organiser of the Kidney Unit Appeal, was able to announce that following further donations received at the reunion the fund had passed the £1,000 mark. This was further increased when a toy fox, made and dressed by Mrs. Betty Stanley, was auctioned and sold for £18. The lucky St. Dunstaner who bought the toy was Mr. Elmer Richards.

After luncheon there was a showing of the new St. Dunstan's film, 'To Live Again', which was very well received. The afternoon continued with the more usual reunion activities; yarning with friends, dancing to the orchestra and, at tea, the prize draw.

VISIT TO ISRAEL — by Joe Humphrey

On 22nd February a party of 56 people boarded a jumbo jet bound for a two week holiday in Israel. The party consisted of members of the Commando Association and their wives, including Bill Shea and myself. We were going to Netanyah which is about 30 miles north of Tel Aviv.

The trip was instigated by Zwei Zwet (no. two Commando) an Israeli who served with the British Commandos, in the Second World War. He thought up this idea when he visited London last year. Zwei lost both his legs in action with our forces in Italy, in 1945, and he lost his son, a Colonel in the Israeli Defence Forces, on the Golan Heights. Zwei has other sons, one of whom we met. He is a Major in the I.D.F. and he has lost one eye and has been wounded in the lungs.

A very full programme had been arranged for us, and much of it was as guests of the I.D.F. Our first visit was to the Golan Heights, on the border with Syria to a frontier observation post overlooking No Man's Land, where peace is preserved by the United Nations' Forces. We stood on a high point looking down at the whole countryside, then we went through a bunker and into the tunnels under the hill. This area is very important to Israel

and consists of rough, bleak, rocky terrain. This isolated spot is an unattractive tour of duty to the Israeli Forces, where the soldiers are stationed for about two weeks. The Israeli Army consists of conscripted soldiers, called-up reservists and regular soldiers. We were instructed to follow our leader very carefully as this area is heavily mined, since the Russian-armed Syrian Forces are a constant threat to the Israelis.

After a most delicious chicken lunch, we saw a demonstration of the skill of a 'Chariot' Israeli-built tank. This was most impressive and brought the thrill of action to the nostrils of all the ex-Commandos there. Its 105mm cannon fired stationary, on the move and at prepared targets, some of which were 1½ miles away, and then it machine-gunned an imaginary hostile infantry, completing the display with a hand grenade attack from the Tank Commander.

We also visited Telnorf and the Parachute Training School. It was quite enthralling to watch how the nylon parachutes were hung in an airflow for 24 hours after use to reduce the static. They are repacked by girl soldiers, being repaired if necessary, and then inspected five times. Then they are stored for future use. The parachutes are used 150

VISIT TO ISRAEL—continued

times before being scrapped. We were then shown how the Parachute Division starts its land training. In mock-up dummy aircraft bodies they begin training by learning how to sit, stand and leave the aircraft, followed by a drill of a five second pause, by shouting out "21, 22, 23", in Hebrew, so that if their parachutes fail to open, a reserve 'chute can be released. The spare 'chute is buckled across the front of the abdomen. Some 'chutes, used for dropping supplies and vehicles, can support up to one ton in weight. The various apparatus for simulating 'drops' in some cases resembled the old 'Death Slide', used by Commandos when we soaked our toggle ropes in water to reduce friction and slid from the top of a tall tree on one side of a river, to the base of a tree on the other side.

Later we went on to the Scientific Research Training Establishment. It is named after Chaim Weitzmann, the first President of Israel. We spent some time looking at his personal possessions, which unfortunately were mostly under glass, but I was able to feel his bronze bust in detail and we saw an interesting slide show about the Institute and apart from some members of the party scrumping fruit in an orange plantation, the rest of the afternoon was uneventful.

Missile Ship

Our trip to the Naval Base, at Haifa, included a tour of a Missile Ship which was a most effective craft carrying two guns, 76mm forward and 40mm aft, with four missile-firing weapons. All this is controlled electronically from the Operations Room, below deck, so that during action none of the crew are on the upper deck. The vessel is powered by four 3,600hp engines and can attain a speed of 36 knots. We saw a patrol boat which operates constantly off the coast, to prevent landings from the sea by Lebanese terrorists. While we were there was an attack on a bus full of women and children. On our way back we spent a few hours at Kibbutz Maabarot. We had lunch there and went out into the plantations of avocado pears, persimmons, mangoes and citrus fruit. This Kibbutz also had a large dairy farm. The day was rounded off, back at our hotel, by General

(retired) Haim Laskov, who gave us a very interesting talk about Israel and all it stands for. He held the audience spellbound.

The next day we went to Nazareth, Tiberias and to the Sea of Galilee. We had a wonderful meal in a restaurant overlooking the Sea. We visited the remains of Peter the disciple's house and the place where the miracle of the five loaves and two fishes took place, on the north side of the Sea of Galilee. The day had begun with a visit to the Carmel Winery. Everyone, especially those with hangovers, enjoyed a wine tasting—at 9.30 a.m.

More Revealing

On Sunday morning Bill and I were invited, by a doubly handicapped ex-serviceman, (he was semi-sighted and a double amputee) to go to the home of another disabled veteran who lived on a Kibbutz. This was more revealing than our other visits to Kibbutzim had been as we were in the home of a Kibbutznik, where we had fruit juice, coffee and cakes in the house. The house was very comfortably furnished and very well designed. We enjoyed lots of international conversation when all the other friends and relatives arrived to see us. On this particular weekend the Festival of Purim was celebrated. This is one of the few Israeli holidays not predominated by religion and a festive air was abroad throughout the Kibbutz.

The following day a long tour was arranged, starting with a wreath-laying ceremony at Ramla British War Cemetery, then we continued on to Jerusalem. There had been some speculation as to whether we could get there, as about eight inches of snow had fallen and Bill had been in contact with another local ham radio operator who said he thought the road was closed. However, freezing cold and soaking wet, since the bright sun had melted the top of the snow and the steep streets were running with deep water and slush, we 'did' the Via Dolorosa, the 14 Stations of the Cross, the Western Wall, saw the Dome of the Rock, the Church of All Nations and came home frozen and exhausted—trust the Commandos to go out on a day like that.



At the Carmel Winery.

By now everyone had colds and sore throats, including the Doctor in the party, so we were all delighted when the sun came out the next day and we were able to sunbathe and restore some colour to our pale cheeks. Some of our party spent the day at the Dead Sea and Massada, but as I had been there before, I opted out of that one.

Our final excursion was to Beit Halochem, the Home of the Warriors, a rehabilitation centre run by the Zahal Disabled Veterans' Organisation for the disabled soldiers. It is non-residential, but provides for all the social and sporting needs of a man with any war-disability, who is then entitled to become a member. Members can bring their families to spend the day and all kinds of facilities are available for the men, their wives and children. There is an Olympic-size outdoor swimming pool, as well as an indoor, heated one. They have a fully-equipped gymnasium, with four or five static cycles and about six pieces of multi gym apparatus. There is an enormous hall marked with courts for basket ball, volley ball and goal ball and a very well-equipped shooting range for use with .22 and air guns. Six people can fire at the same time and they have particularly sophisticated equipment for blind people to use. The Israeli Government look after its disabled veterans very well. They provide them with a, virtually, free car—either a 1.8 Peugeot or a Volvo—it depends on the degree of disability, for example a doubly handicapped person will receive a larger car. A house is also provided free,

up to 110 square metres. If the ex-serviceman requires a larger house, he only pays for the area in excess of the 110 square metres.

The highlight of the trip to Beit Halochem was a meeting with the Entebbe Commandos. It was they, in 1976, to the amazement of the whole world, who flew into Uganda to free the hostages taken in Athens by hijackers. They only lost one Israeli soldier.

The leader of the expedition talked to us, telling us how the raid was conceived, planned and carried out—it was quite breathtaking. The only man injured on this raid is very seriously paralysed and has only slight movement in one hand and can move his head. Bill and I met him and talked to him for some time. The Commandos who took part in the raid are not identified by name, or rank, for security reasons.

When the fortnight came to an end, we flew out in bright sunshine with everyone hoping that it would not be too long before the whole exercise could be repeated. Furthermore, we were delighted to be told that the Jewish Ex-Servicemen's Association, in Britain, had paid for a tree to be planted in the Forest of Heroes, at Ramla, for each British Commando killed in action in World War II (1,706 in all) and their names to be inscribed on a goatskin in remembrance and in memory of our visit. All of us had been given an Israeli Army cap badge and the badge of the Israeli Veterans Organisation, which will remind us of the very memorable visit. Shalom!

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.

Herbert William Allen-Smith, of Watford, who joined St. Dunstan's on 19th March. Mr. Allen-Smith served as a Rifleman in the King's Royal Rifle Corps during the First World War. Mr. Allen-Smith is a widower.

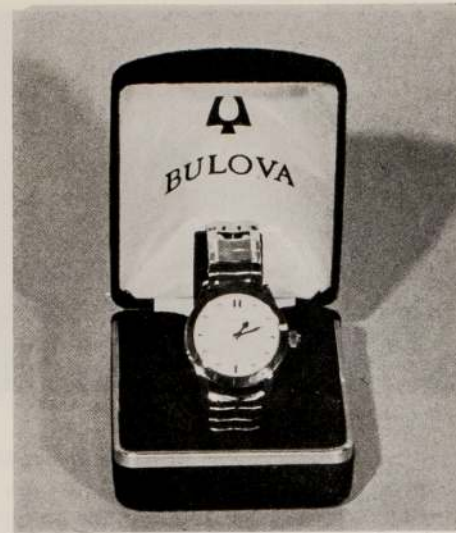
Walter William Attfield, of South Brent, Devon, who joined St. Dunstan's on 2nd April. Mr. Attfield served as a Gunner in the Royal Field Artillery during the Second World War and was wounded at Nijmegen. Mr. Attfield is married with two children.

William Herbert Gregg, of Burnham-on-Sea, who joined St. Dunstan's on 2nd April. Mr. Gregg served as a Private with the King's Shropshire Light Infantry during the First World War. Mr. Gregg is married.

Harry Guest Ivens, of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, who joined St. Dunstan's on 2nd April. Mr. Ivens served first in the Wiltshire Regiment and was then commissioned in the Warwickshire Regiment in the First World War. He is a widower with two sons.

EUROPE FOR THE HANDICAPPED TRAVELLER

A series of booklets called "Europe for the Handicapped Traveller" are available from Mobility International, 2 Colombo Street, London SE1 8DP. The series, of six booklets, alphabetically explore Europe, starting with Albania and finishing with Yugoslavia, answering questions of access, accommodation and many other matters which a handicapped traveller is obliged to consider.



We have a limited number of Bulova gentlemen's Braille wrist watches for sale at the advantageous price of £25 each. They have a chrome case, stainless steel back and a stainless steel expanding bracelet. They have 21 jewels and one year's guarantee and are supplied in a presentation case. The watches can be obtained from Men's Supplies Dept. at Headquarters. First come, first served.

Letter to The Editor

From Mrs. S. Lord, Read, Lancs.

'I feel great sadness that I have to leave the service of St. Dunstan's due to ill health and want you all to know that I have greatly appreciated the warmth with which you welcomed me as your Welfare Visitor and as a friend, and for the trust you placed in me. I am sorry to leave.

'Thank you for your numerous enquiries and good wishes during my illness, I am sorry that I cannot reply personally to all.

'I shall always retain an interest in the unique and wonderful organisation which is St. Dunstan's and will remember with respect and admiration the courage and achievements of St. Dunstaners and their wives and families. A great source of inspiration to me, especially during these past few months.

'You are a marvellous family and I am proud to have been associated with you. May God bless you all.'

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S POSTBAG

From: Phillip Baldwin, Northland, New Zealand.

I see Billy Griffiths features frequently in the *Review* at various functions. I spent over a year in the same hospital as he at St. Vincentius, Batavia, Java. I did not know him before that, which was when the Japs brought me back from Ambon, but I well remember his keen sense of smell. He would be tapping his way along the verandah with an unlighted cigarette in his mouth, but if anyone smoking passed him he caught the whiff and asked for a light to his own. Upstairs in that place we had mattresses on the floor and Billy joined in any rough-and-tumble, both arm stumps weaving in all directions. Various essential articles such as his stick and spoon had

been fitted to improvised sockets, but the thing I found most touching was when he was trying to scratch an itch on his back, not an easy matter for most of us and certainly more difficult for him without hands. I don't think he ever knew my correct name—I was just "Taffy" to him, because of my Welsh accent. Anyway, in view of his double disability, it is gratifying to see that he is managing to get so much out of life.

When East Midland Gas Board workmen dug a trench and parked machinery outside Sheffield's Blind Institution, the director of welfare, Kathleen Page, complained about the danger.

According to the *Sheffield Chronicle* the Gas Board told Miss Page: "Knowing it was the Blind Institution they had put twice as many lights around it."

D. F. Robinson's

Gardening Column

What a time we had in March! Nothing in the garden had a chance to make much headway, some perennials were even damaged by the cold weather, rain and snow. At this time of year you hope to be able to reduce the heating in the greenhouse and put seedlings out in the frame to harden off—but not this spring. I have had more heating on in my greenhouse than ever before, but I suppose it is just one of those things we gardeners have to endure if we want to have a really good show of flowers and vegetables. Prices seem to be rising all the time, so I think it would be advisable to buy garden equipment, tools, compost, fertiliser, insecticide and so on now, to offset the rising costs of next season.

There may be a greater onset of insects and diseases this year, due to all the wet weather we had throughout winter and spring. Get your sprayer into good shape and spray early. I must remind you to take precautions when you use the spray—wear a hat, gloves and even a handkerchief over your mouth and do wash your hands and change your clothes when you have finished the job. If you use smoke pellets, in the greenhouse, do open the windows and door

afterwards and do not go in again for some time. Keep your pets away from any treated areas and read the instructions on insecticide containers very carefully and keep rigidly to them.

Vegetables

All seeds can be sown now—even by you northerners—in open ground. However, do not sow pea, runner bean and French bean seeds all at once, keep some back so you can have a continuous supply of crops throughout the summer and early autumn. Plant the seedlings out in the frame to harden them off. Sprinkle a little complete fertiliser over the soil before you do the planting out and keep the weeds down by hoeing regularly. You can sow lettuce and radish between the rows of other vegetables, as they mature quickly, before other items.

Club Root

Protect the cabbage family from Club Root, by dipping the roots in a Colomel paste, or put some of this powder in the holes where they are to be planted. Plant them all fairly deep, especially sprouts, as they are tall growing and can be easily

GARDENING COLUMN—*continued*

broken in wind, and firm them in well with your heel. Thin out any early sown items, lettuce, radish, carrots and onions to get a better size and quality. Small onion seedlings can be used as spring onions for salads. Remember to earth up any early potatoes that are showing above the soil, although I am not so sure you get a heavier yield by doing this. You will need to put some slug bait down to protect the crops. To ensure that none of your own pets get at it, put the bait inside a small cage of wire netting and anchor it down firmly.

All fruit trees and bushes should be showing their worth by now. However, keep fruit to a minimum on any newly planted trees, to encourage the root systems to develop. Thin out raspberry suckers for next year's crop and with the strawberries cut away any runners which you do not need for new plants.

Flowers

Annuals, raised from seed, can be set out early in May, although those of you in the North should wait a bit longer. Ease them out of the seed box very carefully with a small stick and leave plenty of soil on the roots. Ensure that the planting hole is wide enough to take the roots and a little deeper than the one in the original container. Firm them in and water well, to settle the roots. Always remember to plant taller items at the back of the flower bed.

Thin out seedlings which were sown direct into the open ground and use them to fill up any other gaps. When the bulbs have finished flowering bend the leaves over and tie them down (not too tightly) with string or a rubber band. Stake all tall plants. Any large clumps of polyanthus can be divided and the separated clumps planted elsewhere for next spring. If you have not sown the half hardy annuals yet, put them direct into open ground. Germination should be quite good as the soil will have warmed up by now, but this means they will flower a little late. If the soil is dry do water the seeds in.

Pick off all dead heads from the flowering plants to prolong flowering. A sprinkling of complete fertiliser round the border plants and roses will give them all a good boost. When you cut flowers

for the house do not just cut from the top of the bush, but cut flowers from low down as well, to an outward facing bud and this will make for more blooms and a well balanced bush. As with other parts of the garden, hoe regularly and spray with insecticide often to combat the ravages of the insect world.

Greenhouse

Everything in the greenhouse will need a little more water now. Keep things moist, but do not over water and feed the plants regularly. Pinch out the tops and side shoots on tall spindly plants to make them bushier. As you make more room in the greenhouse, sow some of the more difficult plants, such as Gloxinias, Begonias, Calceolarias, Cinerarias and Primulas, so you will have some flowering plants later on in the year. It is much cheaper to grow many of the outdoor plants from seed, Polyanthus and all the perennials, even if you do not have a greenhouse all you need is a frame or cloches to get them going.

Tomatoes should be going well by now, so feed them and support the lower trusses and pinch out any side growths and tie in your cane supports as the plants grow. Keep the cucumber plants in a fan shape by pinching out side growths a little beyond the fruit and keep the leader to a minimum. Take off all the male flowers, those with no small cucumber behind the flower, unless you are only growing the female kind. Feed and water them well.

Keep the greenhouse tidy and get rid of all the old plants. You will have to use smoke pellets to keep down the insects. It is best to light the pellets in the early evening and to close all windows and to put the smoke cone/pellet on an up-turned clay pot in the middle of the greenhouse. Then make a hasty retreat and open the windows again the next morning. If the weather does become hot and dry, damp down the floors and staging. Put some wash on the outside of the windows to give a little shade, but not to keep out the sun completely. There are several types of washes; either sprays or make one up yourself with water and paint it on with a large brush. The wash will not come off in the rain, but can be removed with a dry cloth.

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 904

The Case Re-Opened

By Julian Prescott

Read by David Broomfield

Reading Time 7½ hours

Jack Paxton-White is a newly-qualified solicitor. He moves into a small town and puts up his plate. He meets an old army colleague, also practising in the town, and it is he who narrates the story.

Paxton-White is a raffish flamboyant figure, a young man in a hurry to make good. Rapidly he builds up a flourishing practice, largely through unorthodox, not to say slightly scandalous, methods. His success does nothing to endear him to his older, more conservative brethren, and there are even murmurings about reporting him to the Law Society.

But, as the reader soon discovers, he isn't really a bad chap at all. He is audacious, cuts the odd corner here and there, but he does get results—and that is what the clients pay for.

Then, he meets the love of his life and the going gets more than a little rough. But, true to form, the redoubtable J.P.W. manages to triumph in the end.

The author has a nice light touch. A lively very readable book.

Cat. No. 2454

Ripley's Game

By Patricia Highsmith

Read by Peter Gray

Reading Time 10¼ hours

Ripley, an American, lives with his French wife in a village near Fontainebleau. He is a kind of entrepreneur of crime. He fixes things, gets jobs done—illegal jobs, that is. Clearly, he is a villain, but the writer gives him an odd sort of respectability by always referring to him by his first name, Tom.

One day he has a visit from an old friend, Rives Minot, who has a problem. His gambling interests in Hamburg are being threatened by the attention of the Mafia. Could Tom suggest anyone who would be prepared, for a fat fee, to eliminate a couple of Mafiosi?

Ripley thinks of Jonathan Trevanny, an Englishman, a picture-framer living with his wife and small son in Fontainebleau. He is suffering from leukemia and Tom figures that the money would come in handy for Simone and the boy after Trevanny's death—which can't be very far away. He sets about, in his own devious manner, to persuade the Englishman to take on the job. . . Riveting, all action stuff, very well constructed. I did rather wonder, though, would a decent law-abiding chap commit cold-blooded murder (twice) in order to make his widow financially secure? I very much doubt it. Still, this doesn't really detract from the enjoyment of the yarn.

Cat. No. 786

Malice Aforethought

By Francis Iles

Read by George Hagan

Reading Time 10½ hours

Doctor Edmund Bickley runs a comfortable practice in the pleasant village of Wyvern's Cross. He is respected and well-liked by his patients. He and his wife, Julia, have been married for ten years, a loveless marriage of convenience. Julia, bitter and frustrated, despises her husband and exerts a humiliating and destructive dominance over the uncomplaining Bickley.

But there are hidden depths in the good-natured little man. He has a secret deep longing for the warmth and security of a real love.

Then Miss Cranmere, young, attractive and wealthy, takes up residence at the Hall. She and the doctor become infatuated.

Julia's fate is sealed. She has to die. Doctor Bickley conceives a brilliant plan for her murder. It is absolutely foolproof, no hint of suspicion could possibly attach to him—or anybody else, for that matter. . .

A marvellous book which holds the reader's spellbound attention from the first page to the last. A real classic of its kind.



On the jetty where his first oil shipment came in Stewart Harris recalls the beginning of Trident.

On the night of 12th June, 1943, a 21-year-old ex-civil servant found himself drifting down through the darkness in a parachute harness, suspended over occupied Belgium. His Lancaster aircraft, attacked during a raid on Düsseldorf, was crashing in flames.

He came down in a field 15 miles north of Liège and made his way, successfully evading capture, into that city. In fact he escaped detection for three months through contact with the network that existed in Belgium to smuggle allied aircrew back to Britain.

Stewart was aware that contact with the underground movement could be made in Brussels. He decided to go by train, but his problem was how to know when he had reached the city, because, as a wartime precaution, all station names had been removed. "I thought, the first big station I come to I'll get out. After about an hour, into a big station steamed our train. I leapt out and I was across the platform and through the barrier when I realised this obviously wasn't Brussels; it was, in fact, Louvain".

Stewart mingled with the students in this university town looking for help. He approached a priest, who ran away, and,

becoming desperately tired, decided to take one more chance. "I spoke to a man standing in the doorway of a small shop. He took me in, asked a few questions and then said, 'Wait here, I'll be back'. Twenty minutes later he was back with somebody else, who had a bicycle". Stewart had to follow the man on the bicycle and was led to a house belonging to the network. "From then on I was passed from house to house, but first, within 2 or 3 days, came the interrogation to find out if I was genuine—"Where is your home?"—My home was a tiny village in Surrey called Tatsfield—"What flowers does your mother grow in the garden?" Then she (it was a lady interrogator) came up with, "What is the next station from Victoria going west on the District line?" I remembered it was Sloane Square, but many people I've told this to can't answer that!".

So Stewart successfully answered the questions and, after radio contact with London, his new friends accepted him, but unfortunately his three-month run of luck ended: he was captured and put in prison in Brussels. "I was in civvy clothing and life didn't seem to have too much future at that time. I spent six

WAYS OF LIFE 40

MAN OF SPIRIT— Stewart Harris

Talking to David Castleton

weeks in solitary confinement being threatened daily that if I didn't tell them everything I would be shot tomorrow. In fact the people who had been helping me had already been given away by someone else, but they wanted confirmation of it from me. Then one day they came into my cell and gave me my watch back. It was a crazy thought, but I told myself they wouldn't give me my watch back to shoot me, and, sure enough, next day I was moved out to Germany as a prisoner-of-war."

However, his troubles were not yet over for he was sent back to Belgium for further questioning by the Gestapo. "I got a lot of moral encouragement at that time from a German interpreter. He said 'Don't worry too much about this trip. You are going to be questioned by the Gestapo, but if I were you—none of us like the Gestapo—keep quiet and don't say anything'".

During the train journey under a three-man escort, the kindly interpreter asked Stewart where he was shot down: "I said we were attacking Düsseldorf. 'Oh, dear,' he said, 'my home was in Düsseldorf. What date was it?'. I said, 'Well, 12th June, 1943'. 'That was the date my house



Mary and Stewart Harris.

and my factory were destroyed'. But when I said I was sorry he replied, 'Well, that's the way it goes'. We got to Düsseldorf station and his mother met us. She had four beautifully packed lunches. She knew one was for a prisoner, but it didn't make any difference. That began to make a young man like me think a bit more than usual".

As part of his interrogation, Stewart was taken on a tour by car of what the Gestapo called the scenes of his crimes. "Some of it was right and some of it was hopelessly wrong. There were five of us in the car, four Germans and me. They didn't want me to have any chance of escaping. We were going along a road with trees on either side and there was an airfield on the left. The Americans were bombing it. The car screamed to a halt and the Germans absolutely peeled off out of the car into the nearest ditch. I was sitting in the back and suddenly there they were—gone! Then somebody must have said 'Where's the prisoner?' and one came back, grabbed me by the scruff of the neck and threw me into the ditch".

Stewart Harris came through the interrogation to spend almost two years as a prisoner-of-war. In February, 1945, he

was repatriated under an exchange scheme and returned to RAF service at the Air Ministry. After the war he found he had not survived unscathed. In 1947 he applied for a permanent commission and was turned down on medical grounds.

"The medical examination showed the beginnings of damage to my eyes, said to be the result of my living on too little for too long. I had a long time when I ate nothing at all and this triggered off deterioration in the retina. They told me I'd got ten years left. Well, I had a lot more than that. In fact I lived on borrowed time until about 2½ years ago when I finally came into St. Dunstan's".

Turned down for his permanent commission, Stewart Harris decided to emigrate. He went to South Africa, where he found a job with Shell. "We were there for a couple of years or so, but my eyes were troubled in the very strong light. I think I was a bit over-sensitive to this at the time but I asked Shell for a transfer".

Selling Pigs' Feet

There was no immediate vacancy with Shell in the U.K., so he took a job with the Danish Bacon Company. "Selling bacon and pigs' feet and pigs' innards, it was a good thing for me". It was good because it gave Stewart experience in sales, the sphere of activity he wanted with Shell. He did the selling job for Danish Bacon until Shell were ready to take him. Although he describes Shell as "one of the best companies to be a member of", Stewart had a wife and three children, so after about two years he joined the Regent Oil Company, now Texaco, for an extra £50 a year.

"I was a representative, selling petroleum or, as the trade calls it, motor spirit. I was five years with Regent. After three years they made me personal assistant to the London Manager where I served for a year and then I went to Head Office as assistant to the General Sales Manager of the company". Stewart was hard working and ambitious—his boss valued his hard work, but wanted to curb his ambition: "He said to me one day, 'You stay with me—if you press me I'll release you, but you'll go right back to the beginning again'. That seemed to me a good signal to begin to look around".

At that time, in a small office in London with one man and a girl, a French company called Total was trying to establish itself in this country. "I walked in there one day, knowing they were just beginning, and said, 'Am I any use to you?'. It was a calculated risk to join a project scarcely out of embryo stage. Stewart Harris was taken on with the task of writing a five-year plan of development for Total but he did not stay to see his plan accomplished. "After about three years with Total I was at a meeting where I met the then Managing Director of the Chrysler Organization in the U.K. and he made me the legendary 'offer I could not refuse'".

Stewart began a four-year association with Chrysler as the Managing Director's personal assistant and finished as U.K. Sales Manager for Dodge Trucks. "I can't ever say that those four years were the happiest ones. The motor industry seems to get on in spite of itself. If you get into difficulty in a motor company the other departments don't come around and say 'How can we get together and help'. This is the sign, usually, for the knives to come out and difficulties to increase".

VIP Petroleum

So he went back to the oil industry and a firm called VIP Petroleum. The job was in Manchester, which was not popular with his family. It became even less popular when, after a take-over, company politics meant a posting to Paris. "They were very good to me, they were letting me commute by air back to Manchester, but this was no life and I thought it was time for us to think about doing something for ourselves. I had been saying for a long time that oil companies coming into the U.K. were spending too much to do it and that if I were starting an oil company I would only need about £15,000. People thought I was crazy and said it couldn't be done".

The Harrises sold their home—their children were grown up—and went to live with Mary's parents. They raised about £15,000 but Stewart found a firm willing to supply him with motor spirit and a joint financing effort was devised. He leased some storage tanks on Thameside and bought his first two road



Stewart, Rosalind, Stephen and Mary in Trident's Croydon offices—photo Daily Telegraph.

tankers on hire purchase. They bore the new company's name and emblem—Trident.

"I remember standing on the quayside watching this ship discharging my first cargo—1,000 tons or about 30,000 gallons—and I remember thinking, 'What the hell have you done now?'".

The task was to build up the number of Trident filling stations. "The first one was the worst. One got in by cutting the price. After about two years we had about 50 stations. I had two experienced representatives. They would go out and when they thought they had a customer near to deciding in our favour, they would wheel me in and I would hopefully be able to persuade him into taking our products".

For 6½ years Trident thrived, with headquarters in Croydon and filling stations in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, London and other home counties. It was a real family business, involving Mary, daughter Rosalind, and son Stephen. Stewart was able to run it as he had always wanted to. "One of the most important

things is the personal touch. You've got to be not only known by your customers, but seen by them too. So as well as visiting them regularly with my representatives, every 6 or 9 months, I would hold a dinner for all my customers and it was a good social gathering. The personal touch had to extend to all the tanker drivers—we had 22 eventually—they had to know me personally. The big companies are absolutely impersonal and you win by being known".

Trident was a success until the oil crisis of 1973. Trapped between the soaring cost of petrol supplies and the Price Control Commission's limitation on how much could be charged to the customer, Stewart found himself in an impossible situation. "Quite suddenly we were faced with a price of \$120 a ton when we could only break even at \$60. So we had to decide—one of the worst decisions ever—to close. It wasn't that the company had failed. It was profitable, but suddenly the supplies at the right price dried up. So I stopped".

So Stewart Harris stopped—but not for long. He was 51, his eyesight was failing seriously by now and, with his reputation for independence, it seemed no-one in an oil world still in crisis would want to take him on.

"So we developed this house as a conference centre". Stewart's home, the Manor House, Bletchingley, dates from 1641, the time of the Civil Wars. A typical English country house in warm brick, it was further developed in the late 1780's by Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, who commanded one of the ships of Wolfe's St. Lawrence River expedition. It was an ideal venue for business conferences. "We had the whole house then—we don't have it all now. The delegates would come out of town by coach. We supplied the facilities and catering through a contractor. It was profitable, but the country was going into recession and these sort of expensive conferences were being chopped out of budgets".

Personnel Work

So Stewart turned to another activity: personnel work. "I had already carried out some interviewing here and there, making an appointment with a company and getting a fee, and I decided to do that full-time. I developed my own mailing list of about 400 companies and I paid for an advertisement in *The Daily Telegraph*. I got a lot of replies.

"I summarised each man's career then I printed them. A local firm in Redhill would print them very quickly for me and then I would mail them off to these companies. It worked, but it was hard work and terribly disappointing at times, because just at the point where you get someone and he likes the customer you've put him in touch with, another job comes up which he takes in preference to yours. You get very frustrated".

But new doors were opening as various companies began to approach Stewart for his expertise and advice in special situations. There was the diving company that needed a scheme to pay their deep-sea divers to their best tax advantage; a German oil company looking for a partnership to drill off-shore of Sicily. Then out of the blue came a summons to Zurich. "Off I flew to Zurich and spent two days telling them about the United



Outside the Manor House.

Kingdom and the independent oil companies there. This was Avia. They said, 'Thank you for coming, we'd like you to go back, write a report, and if you feel it would be worth our while coming in and we agree, will you carry it out for us?' I said, 'Steady on, you've only met me for a couple of days'. The chap, who I now know very well, said, 'One moment, Herr Harris,' and he sent out of the office and in came this file, and he said, 'This is you!'"

At present Stewart is the Chief Executive and Secretary of the Avia Group of Companies in the U.K. His aim is to build up Avia's operation in Britain. "It's a co-operative of independent oil distribution businesses. We now have five companies in this country who sell under the Avia brand and my target for 1980 is to add four more". He is also adviser to another firm and in addition to his work with these companies is just concluding two years in office as Chairman of the London Branch of the Institute of Petroleum—the largest branch in the country. Of his experience in this important post Stewart says, "It has been quite rewarding for me in that I have found out things that I didn't know. Everybody has been most helpful because in the last two or three years I have found it very difficult to get around".

The deterioration in his sight has continued since he was admitted to St. Dunstan's, but he says the training has helped him to cope with his increasing



With Mr. Stanley Brown, proprietor of one of Avia's new filling stations in London.

Will another ship come home for Stewart Harris? If spirit has anything to do with it, it will.

handicap, particularly touch-typing. "I was a one-finger man before that and this has been most useful". Now he just has a narrow strip of vision in one eye. He can read only one word at a time. Ten minutes is as long as he can manage to read a letterpress book. In the newspapers he reads only headlines. "Perhaps that is the best way to read them!".

But Stewart Harris has overcome more than one crisis in his life, through his resourcefulness and adaptability: "You've got to know people", he says. "To know where to look for information. You have to know your industry well". Know your industry and be known by your customers is his philosophy for success in the business of petroleum, particularly the narrower area of the distribution of motor spirit. His customers and his colleagues also know him, in another sense of the word, as a man of spirit.



OVINGDEAN NOTES

We have a full house at the time of writing—filled with the bowling enthusiasts, so there is once again a hive of activity, and with the fishing trips soon to come. For the past few weeks the Athina B which was beached on our shore, has been a huge attraction. Since she has been refloated, our walks in Brighton have been somewhat quieter.

The Marina continues to attract a lot of visitors and at this time of the year it only costs £9 to go to Dieppe by Seajet, and even less if you are a pensioner. The prices rise dramatically later in the year but a day trip, if only for the duty free goods obtainable, can be most enjoyable. Incidentally, if this sounds all rather hectic a quiet stroll round the Marina, where a pot of tea may be had, is a very pleasant way to spend an afternoon.

The Theatre Royal have excelled themselves this past month—the programme varying from nostalgia with 'Cole'—the lovely music of Cole Porter—the serious side of Shaw in his ageless 'Man and

Superman'—the hilarious 'Absurd Person Singular', by Alan Ayckbourn and the rivetting 'Reflections'—this is based on a true story and set in a French Chateau, in 1793, when the revolution was at its blue and bloodiest—Donald Pleasence gave a chilling performance and Dorothy Tutin was superb. Terence Rattigan's 'The Winslow Boy', starring Bernard Hepton, Philip Latham and Angela Richards and full supporting cast, gave a wonderful performance—much enjoyed by the St. Dunstaners and escorts.

The meeting of the ham radio enthusiasts was very well attended and produced considerable interest outside the Houses, with Radio Brighton interviewing various participants.

Our weekly drives are always well patronised—we have visited Gibbys at Polegate, Tylden House, Warnham, The Romans, Coldwaltham and Wyndham Farmhouse, Wineham, where an excellent farmhouse cream tea was enjoyed by all the St. Dunstaners and their escorts.

PRO CANTO SINGERS by Peter Bamber, Conductor

The name "Pro Canto Singers" will be known to many of you. Some of you will have read reports of our concerts in The Braille Music Magazine, some of you may have attended such concerts and some of you may have performed in them. But to many more even the name may not be as familiar as it should be, and for this reason I would like to explain what we do, what we stand for and what are our plans.

The choir was formed 28 years ago by Eric Greene exclusively for blind or partially-sighted adult singers. It was an inspired experiment and it worked. The obvious difficulties and disadvantages, when approached with patience and tenacity, turned out to be advantages. For instance, the necessary ability to read music in Braille, or at least, to be able to follow it as an aid to memory, indicated a generally higher standard of musicianship than in some larger societies. (Brailled music is provided free to members).

We need more singers to maintain and

improve our standards. I am sure there will be some reading this who will feel sufficiently interested to join us, and also some who used to be members who may now feel able to rejoin.

Next Autumn we are giving a concert (probably repeated out of London) of various choral works, including Schubert's "Mass in G". In mid-December we give our Annual concert of Christmas music, and next Spring we will perform Handel's Messiah. We rehearse each Monday evening at 6.30 in the Armitage Hall of the R.N.I.B., in Great Portland Street.

If you wish to join us just come along to a rehearsal at the R.N.I.B. or write to me at 19 Braemar Avenue, London N.22. Even if you are only in London for a year or two, studying perhaps, we would be glad to see you. We are an independent choral society for blind singers with a record of solid musical achievement. Remember, the "Pro Canto Singers" is *your* choir. Nothing like it exists anywhere else.

CLUB NEWS

BOWLING

The winner of the 1980 Handicap Championship and the Wills-Fawcett Trophy was Mr. M. Golding and Mr. R. Forshaw won second prize. The losing semi-finalists were Mr. D. Hodgson and Mr. R. Osborne. The Handicap Championship was a real cracker, a great bowling festival, and the performance of our bowlers would have stirred the hearts of every sighted champion in the country. Their friendship, companionship and spirit were a revelation and indeed a credit to the house of St. Dunstan's. Congratulations and well done to all.

If any St. Dunstaner is feeling a bit low in health and depressed, come and join our bowling force, it is a great tonic and a pick-me-up. After you have been to the dispensary for two pills for your ills, come to us for two woods and you will receive a double cure.

Our next Bowls Handicap (both singles and doubles) takes place on 30th June until 4th July.

A. ROBINSON

BRIGHTON

Thanks to good attendances at our weekly club meetings, we are pleased to announce our first competition winner for 1980. Our congratulations go to Bill Phillips who was successful in winning the Cribbage Competition (well done, Bill).

It is proposed to run an evening trip on Friday, June 6th, to the Torino Winery, at Sheffield Park, Sussex. This is providing we can get enough people interested, as a minimum of 40 is required. The price is, members £1.25, non-members £1.75. This includes admission to the winery and wine and cheese tasting.

Our usual outing to the Congress Theatre, Eastbourne, will be on Wednesday, July 9th, tickets—members £3, non-members £5, this includes high tea—choice between fish and chips or salad—theatre ticket and coach.

Anyone interested in attending either or both of these functions please contact Bob Osborne, 117 Longridge Avenue, Saltdean. Tel: Brighton 32115.

A special dance was held in the annexe

at Ian Fraser House on Saturday, 12th April, in aid of the Royal Sussex County Hospital Kidney Unit and over 130 people attended this function. It was wonderful to see our friend Peter McCormack, who, after being discharged from hospital where he had his kidney transplant, popped along to see us for a short time (keep smiling Peter, we are all routing for you). Among our guests it was a great pleasure to greet Councillor Wakefield and a contingent of bowlers from the Woodingdean Bowling Club and our sincere thanks go to them all for their support. I would like to give a big 'thank you' to Mr. Les Taylor, of the Woodingdean Bowling Club, who became auctioneer for the evening and made a very fine professional job of it. Thanks a million, Les.

May I remind all who are in possession of sponsor forms that these should be returned to Bob Osborne by the end of May.

We would like all St. Dunstaners and friends who have sent donations to the Fund to please accept this report as a token of our thanks—mainly to save the expensive postal charges.

H. PREEDY

LONDON

BRIDGE NOTES

The third match for the Gover Cup (individuals) was decided on Saturday, 1st March and the results were as follows:

R. Armstrong and B. Miller	77 pts
B. Allen and J. Majchrowicz	57 pts
B. Evans and F. Dickerson	49 pts

The bridge drive was held on the Saturday when the Underground was closed, so understandably it was rather poorly attended, but nevertheless those who did manage to attend enjoyed a good afternoon of rubber bridge and the first four pairs were:

1st + 2400 pts	F. Dickerson and S. Lyons
2nd + 1780 pts	R. Armstrong and M. Byrne
3rd + 1270 pts	B. Allen and A. Rogers
4th + 360 pts	V. Delaney and F. Pashley

MIDLANDS

The day was fine and sunny for our meeting on Sunday, 9th March, which was well attended and most enjoyable. We were all pleased to see that Eileen Maynard was well enough to come, but were sorry our Secretary, Joan Cashmore, was not well enough to be with us. A letter from Joan was read out, in which she thanked the Club for the flowers we sent to the hospital and she hopes to be with us for the April meeting and the bring and buy sale. The ladies made a wonderful tea and we thanked them in the usual way. Some doubles and singles games were played off in our Domino Competition. The meeting ended at 6.30 p.m.

M. HORDYNEC

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTHS

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. John Chatfield, of Chichester, on the birth of a granddaughter, Stacey Jennifer, on 17th February, to their daughter Jennifer and her husband Ray.

Mr. Leslie Copeland, of Eastbourne, on the birth of his fourth grandchild, Claire Rachel, on 16th December, to his daughter Aileen and her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Evans, of Newbury, on the birth of their second grandchild, Lucy Elizabeth, on 17th February, to their son David and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Mills, of Wath-upon-Dearne, Rotherham, on the birth of their first grandchild, Christopher Terence, to their daughter Valerie and her husband Terry.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Serdet, of Staines, on the birth of a grandson, Alexander Owen, on 28th January, to their daughter Rosemary and her husband John.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Thompson, of Gateshead, on the birth of their eighth grandchild, Paul, on 7th February, to their son Bob and his wife Kath.

MIND THE STEP

Joe Prendergast, Vi Delaney and Joe Attfield were recently at the "You've done your bit club" when an amusing incident happened—Joe Prendergast, who was wearing dark glasses, asked a sighted person the way to the toilet. He was told that it was, "Over there by the light, mate." To which Joe replied, "What light?". The chap then said, "Can't you see it?" and Joe replied, "No, I'm blind". To this reply the other fellow merely said, "Well, it is over there by the notice which says 'Mind the Step'".

Talking Review

Readers are reminded that the *Review* is recorded each month by Stephen Jack on compact cassette. If you would like to receive the *Talking Review* monthly, in addition to the printed issue and/or Braille edition, write to the Editor at 191 Old Marylebone Road, London NW1 5QN.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rundle, of Paignton, on the birth of their third grandchild, Matthew, to their daughter Geraldine and her husband Peter.

GREAT GRANDCHILDREN Congratulations to:

Mr. William Marley, of Washington, on the birth of his third great grandchild, Kelly Michelle, on 8th March.

Mr. Harry Dakin, of Blackpool, on the birth of his first great grandchild, Gareth Mark, on 17th March.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Beattie, of Mobberley, Cheshire, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Kathleen, was married to Peter Pascoe, on 28th March.

Mrs. Gladys Hill, of Newhaven, is pleased to announce that her granddaughter, Sandra, was married to Stewart Sibbald, on 5th April.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Mills, of Wath-upon-Dearne, Rotherham, are pleased to announce that their daughter, Karen, was married to David Geldard, on 16th February.

Mr. and Mrs. William Morris, of Bournemouth, are pleased to announce that their son, William, was married to Diana, on 8th March.

SILVER WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. George Killingbeck, of Saltdean, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 8th April.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Page, of Morecambe, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 8th April.

PEARL WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Whitley, of Elsenham, who celebrated their Pearl Wedding Anniversary on 8th July.

RUBY WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bugbee, of Harefield, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 4th May.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. William Fitzgerald, of Newcastle-On-Tyne, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 15th March.

DIAMOND WEDDING

Many Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. George Rees, of Cwma-von, Port Talbot, who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 3rd April.

DEATHS

We offer sympathy to:

Mr. Joe Britton, of Brighton, whose brother, Sidney, died on 17th March.

Mr. and Mrs. Blacker, of Peacehaven, on the recent death of Mrs. Blacker's mother.

Mr. William Carpenter, of Worcester, whose wife, Winifred, died on 31st March.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Cooper, of Rhuddlan, Rhyl, whose only daughter, Dorothy, died on 5th March. She was 36 years old and leaves a husband and three children.

Mr. James Spink, of Croxley Green, whose brother, Albert, died on 29 March and whose nephew, Bill, died on 4th February.

In Memory

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

William Wallace Duncan *Royal Northumberland Fusiliers*

William Duncan, of South Shields, died on 13th March, after a short illness. He was 64 years old.

Mr. Duncan served with the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers from 1941 until he was discharged in 1946. Mr. Duncan's sight failed while he was a prisoner-of-war, between 1942 and 1945. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1969 and undertook a period of training and over the years much enjoyed attending the Newcastle Reunion.

He leaves a widow, Jean.

James Henderson *Royal Engineers*

James Henderson, formerly of Heywood, Lancashire, latterly resident in Ian Fraser House, died on 30th March. He was 62 years old.

Mr. Henderson served with the Royal Engineers from 1940 until 1945. He was wounded in Italy, in 1944, when he suffered multiple injuries which caused him to lose his sight. His poor health did not permit him to follow any employment, or any hobby occupation, but after joining St. Dunstan's, in 1974, he was happy to have frequent holidays at Ian Fraser House and enjoyed attending his Local Reunions.

He leaves relatives in Heywood.

In Memory *continued*

John Lewis *Life Guards*

John Lewis, of Ewell, Surrey, died in St. George's Hospital, London, on 6th April. He was 60 years old and had been a St. Dunstaner for 35 years.

Mr. Lewis joined the Life Guards in 1940 and was wounded in Germany, in 1945, when a bazooka hit the armoured car he was driving, leaving him blinded and partially deaf. He joined St. Dunstan's and trained at Church Stretton as a shop-keeper, but ill health forced him to give this up and he retrained as a telephonist. He worked for the Government Chemists' Department and later at the Directorate of Overseas Survey, at Tolworth, near his home. Mr. Lewis was a popular and efficient telephonist and continued to work until he was forced to retire, due to ill health, in 1970.

However, in 1971, he set up a motor car accessories and spare parts business, in Kingston, and later a business for electrical fittings and lighting. His deteriorating health forced him to finally retire in 1975, when he took a wrought-iron course at Ian Fraser House and went on to make many articles for sale by charities to help raise money for deaf children and the Guide Dog Association.

Mr. Lewis was a Freemason and a member of several Lodges. He was a keen participant in Masonic activities, as he was in every other activity he followed. He will be sadly missed by his many friends.

He leaves a widow, Rosalyn, and a son and daughter.

The funeral was held at Cheam and was attended by Mr. Len Wiggins, representing St. Dunstan's, and Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gaygan.

Macdonald Wesley *Royal Artillery*

Macdonald Wesley, of Capel-le-Ferne, near Folkestone, died on 17th March. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Wesley joined the Royal Artillery in 1932 and was discharged at the end of 1946, having been on active service during the 2nd World War. Mr. Wesley was a prisoner-of-war and while in camps and working on the Burma

to Siam railway suffered considerable deprivation. His sight was affected and he joined St. Dunstan's and underwent a period of training in telephony and was employed in the Military Hospital, in Kent, for 11 years. However, his sight and general health deteriorated and he was forced to retire.

Despite ill health, Mr. Wesley remained remarkably cheerful and enjoyed visits to Ian Fraser House and attending Reunions and making rugs as a hobby. He was also a keen gardener and grew fine crops of tomatoes and wonderful gladioli. He leaves a widow, Winifred.

Laban David Williams *Royal Field Artillery*

Laban Williams, of Knowles, near Bristol, died on 21st March. He was 84 years old.

Mr. Williams began his working life as a miner in Merthyr Tydfil, then, at the age of 16, joined the Royal Field Artillery as a Driver, in 1911, although he was in the Mounted Division when he first enlisted. He was a victim of a mustard gas attack whilst on active service. After the war, Mr. Williams returned to Glamorgan to work in the pits, but he was forced to give this up, due to poor health, and he moved to Bristol where he joined a building firm and remained with them for 30 years. Mr. Williams retired in 1955 as his health and sight were deteriorating and he joined St. Dunstan's in 1974.

Mr. Williams' wife, Jenny, died in 1978, but in February, 1977, they celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, even though Mrs. Williams was in hospital at the time. A picture and article about them appeared in the *Bristol Evening Post* to mark the occasion and they received a telegram from the Queen. When his health permitted Mr. Williams was a keen member of the Knowles Blind Club and enjoyed making stools as well as other handicrafts.

His daughter, Phyllis, and her husband, gave up their own home to live with her parents and cared for them devotedly for many years.

In Memory *continued*

John Lewis *Life Guards*

John Lewis, of Ewell, Surrey, died in St. George's Hospital, London, on 6th April. He was 60 years old and had been a St. Dunstaner for 35 years.

Mr. Lewis joined the Life Guards in 1940 and was wounded in Germany, in 1945, when a bazooka hit the armoured car he was driving, leaving him blinded and partially deaf. He joined St. Dunstan's and trained at Church Stretton as a shop-keeper, but ill health forced him to give this up and he retrained as a telephonist. He worked for the Government Chemists' Department and later at the Directorate of Overseas Survey, at Tolworth, near his home. Mr. Lewis was a popular and efficient telephonist and continued to work until he was forced to retire, due to ill health, in 1970.

However, in 1971, he set up a motor car accessories and spare parts business, in Kingston, and later a business for electrical fittings and lighting. His deteriorating health forced him to finally retire in 1975, when he took a wrought-iron course at Ian Fraser House and went on to make many articles for sale by charities to help raise money for deaf children and the Guide Dog Association.

Mr. Lewis was a Freemason and a member of several Lodges. He was a keen participant in Masonic activities, as he was in every other activity he followed. He will be sadly missed by his many friends.

He leaves a widow, Rosalyn, and a son and daughter.

The funeral was held at Cheam and was attended by Mr. Len Wiggins, representing St. Dunstan's, and Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Gaygan.

Macdonald Wesley *Royal Artillery*

Macdonald Wesley, of Capel-le-Ferne, near Folkestone, died on 17th March. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Wesley joined the Royal Artillery in 1932 and was discharged at the end of 1946, having been on active service during the 2nd World War. Mr. Wesley was a prisoner-of-war and while in camps and working on the Burma

to Siam railway suffered considerable deprivation. His sight was affected and he joined St. Dunstan's and underwent a period of training in telephony and was employed in the Military Hospital, in Kent, for 11 years. However, his sight and general health deteriorated and he was forced to retire.

Despite ill health, Mr. Wesley remained remarkably cheerful and enjoyed visits to Ian Fraser House and attending Reunions and making rugs as a hobby. He was also a keen gardener and grew fine crops of tomatoes and wonderful gladioli.

He leaves a widow, Winifred.

Laban David Williams *Royal Field Artillery*

Laban Williams, of Knowles, near Bristol, died on 21st March. He was 84 years old.

Mr. Williams began his working life as a miner in Merthyr Tydfil, then, at the age of 16, joined the Royal Field Artillery as a Driver, in 1911, although he was in the Mounted Division when he first enlisted. He was a victim of a mustard gas attack whilst on active service. After the war, Mr. Williams returned to Glamorgan to work in the pits, but he was forced to give this up, due to poor health, and he moved to Bristol where he joined a building firm and remained with them for 30 years. Mr. Williams retired in 1955 as his health and sight were deteriorating and he joined St. Dunstan's in 1974.

Mr. Williams' wife, Jenny, died in 1978, but in February, 1977, they celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, even though Mrs. Williams was in hospital at the time. A picture and article about them appeared in the *Bristol Evening Post* to mark the occasion and they received a telegram from the Queen. When his health permitted Mr. Williams was a keen member of the Knowles Blind Club and enjoyed making stools as well as other handicrafts.

His daughter, Phyllis, and her husband, gave up their own home to live with her parents and cared for them devotedly for many years.