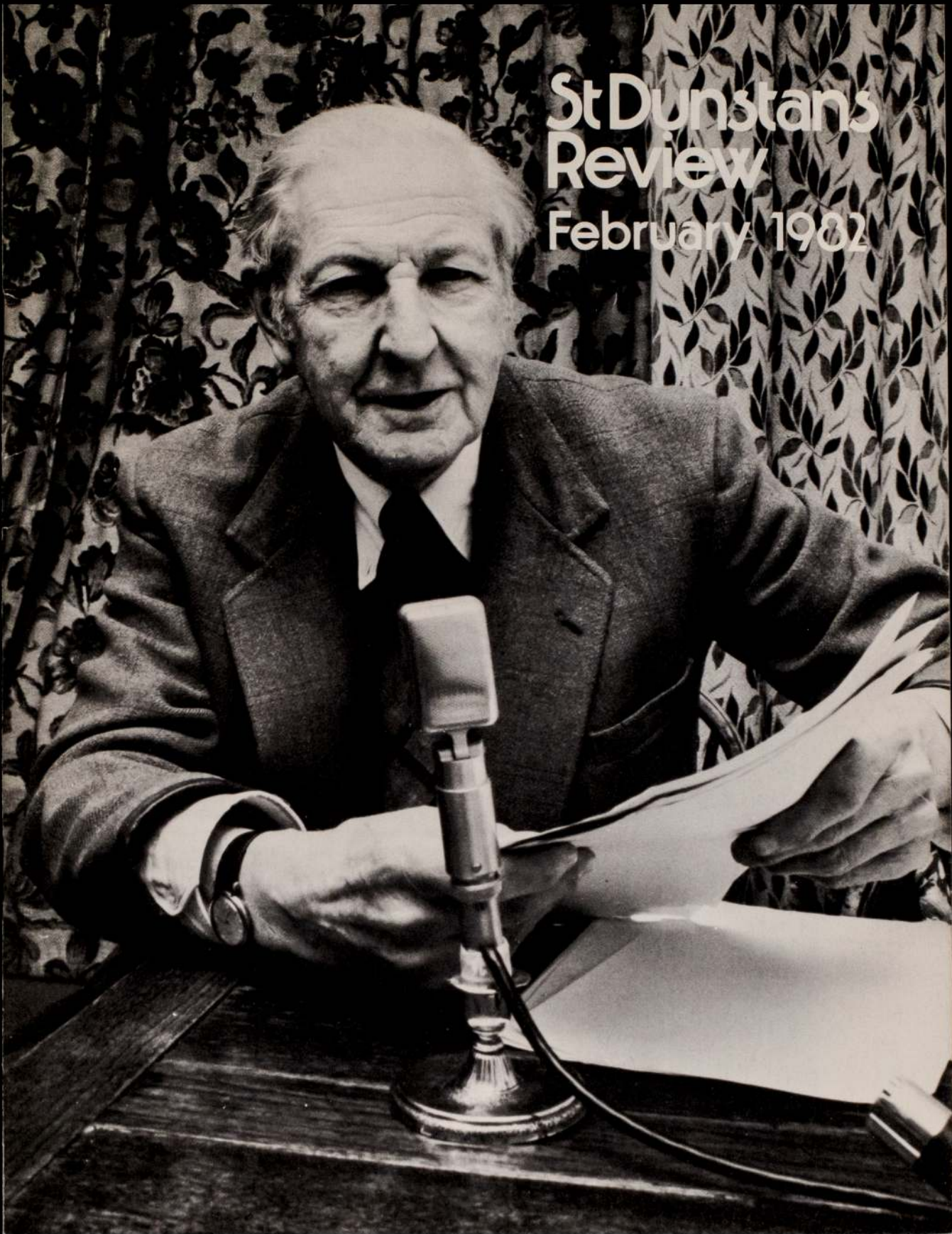


St Dunstons
Review
February 1982





Message from the Chairman

Greetings

Christmas for most of us in these islands was a 'white' one, but the many beautiful and cheerful cards we received have made it a very happy and colourful time at Cheriton Cottage. Thank you all so much for your kind thoughts and greetings. These messages keep us in touch wherever you live and are very valuable since the St. Dunstan's family is so widespread throughout the world.

Katharine joins me in sending you all and your families our warmest thanks and very best wishes for the year ahead.

The Hon. Mrs. Borwick

Just before Christmas we heard the glad news that Lady Ellerman had been married in South Africa to the Hon. George Borwick.

Her many friends who read this *Review* will join with me in wishing them both great happiness in the years ahead.

Sports and Hobbies

Last month's *Review* included a calendar of the year's sporting events, etc., at Ian Fraser House and elsewhere and it certainly offers a wide choice of interest. Dr. Stilwell and his staff in Brighton and the other organisers concerned are always looking for support from new people as well as the regular enthusiasts. I hope many of you are planning to join in and will make early bookings for the various activities.

Jon Earnett-Dune

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

The readers of the cassette edition of the *St. Dunstan's Review*, and members of the Talking Book Library will be familiar with the voice of Stephen Jack, who has been reading our *Talking Review* for 5 years now. The letters and cards sent to Stephen are a small token of the affection and gratitude St. Dunstaners have for him. What they will be less familiar with is the fact that on the 20th January, Stephen celebrated his 80th birthday. The Editorial Staff join all readers in sending our warmest best wishes.

LITERARY APPOINTMENT

Jeremy Treglown, son of the Reverend Geoffrey Treglown and his wife, Beryl, of Cheltenham, has been appointed Editor of the Times Literary Supplement. Many congratulations to Jeremy and his family on this outstanding achievement in his distinguished literary career.

NATIONAL SOUNDS

"National Sounds", the National Newsmagazine for the Blind, is produced on cassette each month. It is available free to all Britain's blind from: "National Sounds", 6 Castletown Road, London W14 9HE.

Sibyl Bell would like to thank all friends for their cards, messages, flowers, etc. during her recent illness. David would like to thank Dr. Stilwell and all his staff at I.F.H. for their kindness and help to him during his anxious time while Sibyl was in hospital. Also to Welfare and friends at H.Q. for all their interest. Sibyl is now home and almost 100% again. A prosperous new year to all.

David Bell

AIDS FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED

The Jewish Blind Society have produced the above named pamphlet as part of their contribution to IYDP. Many aids complement those produced by the RNIB, or modify them, or describe others that can be made at home. There are many household gadgets. Anybody interested in obtaining a copy should send a self-addressed A4 envelope, plus a 20p stamp to: Jewish Blind Society, 1 Craven Hill, London W2.

BOWLS HANDICAP

Don't forget bowlers, the Wills Fawcett Championship takes place on March 22nd. Please let me have all names by Tuesday, 16th March.

Len Scales

CUP FINAL 22nd May 1982.

St. Dunstan's usually receives two cup final tickets from the Football Association and two more from another source, enabling two St. Dunstaners and their escorts to go to Wembley. Applications are invited from any St. Dunstaners interested. It is expected that a ballot will be necessary and preference will be given to those who have not received tickets before.

Please write to Miss Bridger at H.Q.

Additions to Cassette Library

SD13. C90. Gardening Year. A complete year's gardening notes from the *Review*. Track 1. Jan-June. Track 2. July-Dec.

SD14. C60. Instructions for Sharp EL620 Talking Calculator.

St Dunstan's Review

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COVER PICTURE: The man behind the *Talking Review* microphone, Stephen Jack, has just celebrated his 80th birthday.



THE STORY OF THE ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

by Ted John G3SEJ

Fifteen years ago this month the foundation of St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society was laid when a group of amateurs planned to meet at Ian Fraser House. This is Ted John's account of the progress of the Society since then.

Left, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, at the microphone, talks with Iris de Reuck in South Africa at an Amateur Radio week-end.

Right, Bob Field and Dave Mitchell added a festive touch to the antennae when the permanent radio shack was inaugurated at Ian Fraser House.

There is little doubt that the seeds of the Society were sown many years ago by a certain schoolboy at Marlborough College. As far back as 1912 and 1913, Ian Fraser, together with some of his fellow pupils, set up a simple crystal receiver on which news bulletins in morse were received from the Eiffel Tower. Captain Ian Fraser was blinded in the Battle of the Somme in 1916, and, on his return home, he maintained his interest in wireless and was active as G5SU.

In view of the pleasure that wireless had obviously brought him, he enlisted the aid of the Wireless Society of London to help other blind people to build wireless apparatus. He was of the opinion that wireless could have been invented for the blind, so exactly did it fulfill their needs.

Ian Fraser joined the Radio Society of Great Britain, formerly the Wireless Society of London, in December 1922 and became President in 1928. As Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, he still retained his interest in amateur radio. Indeed, he was Guest of Honour at the Sixth Annual Reunion of the Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association in May 1964.

Radio amateurs all over the world owe a debt of gratitude to Lord Fraser and many of his contemporaries for the time and energy they devoted to attending committees and negotiating through the International Amateur Radio Union and other bodies for the allocation of frequencies to the radio amateur. Perhaps it was no coincidence that Ian Fraser, G5SU, was the first practising amateur of the post World War I era to become President of the Radio Society of Great Britain.

So much for our heritage. In February 1967, a suggestion was put forward that all St. Dunstaners who were licensed radio amateurs should meet at Ian Fraser House, for the purpose of discussing problems which had been encountered and overcome by blind operators. The first of these gatherings took place during the weekend 7th to 9th April 1967, and on this, and several successive annual occasions, contact was made with the late Iris de Reuck, ZS2PY, St. Dunstan's only licensed lady amateur, who lived in Port Elizabeth on the Cape of Good Hope. Radio Shack Limited very kindly provided equipment for demonstration and



operation – the call-sign was GB3STD. Lord Fraser took the Chair at these meetings, and, under his inspiration and never-failing enthusiasm, more and more St. Dunstaners showed an interest in amateur radio and this was nurtured by the Radio Amateur, Invalid and Blind Club and individual local Amateur Radio Societies.

Norman French

The endeavours of Mr. Norman French are greatly appreciated, for it was he who organised the meetings in the formative years and gave encouragement and advice to those who became keen on amateur radio as a hobby.

By 1976, interest in amateur radio had grown to such proportions amongst St. Dunstaners that it was decided to consider forming a Society. To that end, Ted John, G3SEJ, was asked to convene a meeting of those interested, and this was held at Headquarters in London on Saturday, 17th January, 1976. This turned out to be the

inaugural meeting of the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society, at which election of officers occurred and Articles of Association were adopted. The objects of the newly-formed Society were 'To create and encourage an interest in, and further the knowledge of, amateur radio amongst St. Dunstaners, their contacts and friends'.

Today, the Society is affiliated to the Radio Society of Great Britain, the three Armed Forces Societies – Royal Navy, Royal Signals and Royal Air Force, and the Radio Amateur Invalid and Blind Club. There is a Tape Library at Headquarters, which holds such items as the Radio Amateurs' Examination Manual and subsequent Revision Notes. These can be obtained by sending the requisite number of blank tapes to Headquarters and are available to any disabled person. A recent addition to the Library is 'A Guide to Amateur Radio' (18th edition) and our thanks are due to Mr. Victor Hazan, who read the book on to tape, and the Radio Society of Great Britain for granting permission for this to be done.

At a meeting of the Society held at Ian



Three leading characters in the story of St. Dunstan's A.R.S.: Bill Shea, Chairman; Ted John, Secretary; and Norman French.

Fraser House on 21st May 1977, it was decided unanimously to accept the offer of a Trophy as a token in remembrance of the late Wally Wardrop, G3MOW, who died on 28th December 1976. Wally was known throughout the world and acted as a net controller of the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, and he was a personal friend of many St. Dunstaners. Mrs. Ann Koloboff, F6CYL, a great friend and admirer of Wally, received contributions from all over the world for what is known as the G3MOW Memorial Trophy, which is inscribed 'Gentleman of the Air Memorial Floating Trophy in Memory of Silent Key Wally Wardrop, G3MOW. Presented by the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society for Outstanding Service'. A secret ballot is held each year amongst the members and, as the inscription suggests, the Trophy can be awarded to anyone who fulfills its conditions, whether a St. Dunstaner or not.

The Society acquired its own transceiver and was eventually allocated a room at lan

Fraser House which could be used as a shack, from which it is possible to use the TA-33 Jr. Mosley beam and co-linear aerials. The members of the Society recognise the debt to those who so willingly and readily gave their time and expertise to the setting up of the station, namely: Len Wooler, G8GEZ; John Houlihan, G4BLJ; Chris Winton, G8RSM; local amateurs, Bob Field and Dave Mitchell, staff at lan Fraser House.

Call-sign

The next step was to attempt to obtain a suitable call-sign and, with the assistance of the R.S.G.B. and other agencies, the call-signs G3STD and G8STD were allocated to the base station at lan Fraser House.

The present membership of the Society totals 42, and quite a number have obtained their licences since joining the Society. This is most encouraging and it is hoped that this trend will continue in the future.

WELL SAID!

60 years ago, on the 11th February, the late Thomas Edison, inventor of the Electric Light and the Phonograph, celebrated his 75th birthday. To mark the occasion, Sir Arthur Pearson was amongst those "foremost leaders of men and thought throughout the English speaking world" who were invited to send Birthday Greetings messages, recorded on the phonograph. Sir Arthur's message ran as follows:

From Sir Arthur Pearson to Thomas Alva Edison on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

I cannot wish you long life for this the Fates have already bestowed upon you. I cannot wish you success, for success has been yours in a greater measure than has been attained by any of your generation. I cannot wish you good health, for this priceless boon has also been given you. I cannot wish you happiness for surely you who have done so much for the betterment of the human race must of all men be happy.

I do wish you a longer life. I do wish an even greater measure of success. I do wish you continued good health, and should these conditions be granted you happiness must inevitably follow.

I greatly admire your genius, your fertility and your industry, and I send you this message with all the cordiality at my command.

BRAILLE READING AND WRITING MATERIALS REQUESTED

A letter was received from the Popular General Book Corp, Bangladesh, starting as follows: "I the undersigned beg to state before your honour that we have been serving for the partial blind and disabled of our country since two years associating with the library of Bangladesh. But helps those we got from the library of Bangladesh were so scanty that we did the little for the partial blinds".

The Corporation urgently request Braille reading and writing materials and large print publications. If anybody has any items they no longer require, would they please send them to the PR Department at HQ, under 'Articles for the Blind' (Post Free).

Thank you in advance.

R.L. Hazan

From the Chairman's Christmas Postbag

From: John McGuone, Wellington, New Zealand

As Christmas is drawing near and I have received Christmas presents from you, as an old St. Dunstaner, I wish to thank you very much. I am now 97 years of age, and I went to St. Dunstan's in 1917, and it brings back very fond memories of St. Dunstan's. So, I wish yourself, Mrs. Garnett-Orme and St. Dunstan's the very best wishes for a New Year.

THANK YOU

Mr. Weisblatt, Miss Mosley, Miss Lord and other members of Staff at H.Q.; Dr. Stilwell, Matrons and staff at lan Fraser House and Pearson House, thank the many St. Dunstaners and other friends, including widows, at home and overseas who have sent Christmas greetings, and regret they are unable to respond individually. To all of you, however, we send the warmest greetings and good wishes for your happiness and health in 1982.

DIRECTORY FOR THE DISABLED

The third edition of the "Directory for the Disabled" has just been published. Compiled by Ann Darnbrough and Derek Kinrade, the Directory is a comprehensive guide to the many services and opportunities for disabled and handicapped people.

The third edition has been completely updated and expanded to include new information. Commencing with a section on State Benefits and Allowances, the directory goes on to cover such topics as specialist equipment, the house and home, employment, education, leisure, motoring, and holidays. In each case, it gives the names and addresses of suppliers and a description of the service or product concerned.

The Directory for the Disabled is published by Woodhead-Faulkner (Publishers) Ltd., 17 Market St., Cambridge, CB2 3PA, at £5.50 plus £1.00 postage and packing, or in hardback at £9.25 plus £1.60 p. & p.

MISS VERA APPLEBY

It is with regret that we announce the death of Miss Vera Appleby, on November 20th. Miss Appleby worked in the Handcrafts Department at Ian Fraser House from 1952 to 1957, and she will be fondly remembered by the many St. Dunstaners who were her pupils in Rug-making, Weaving and making string bags. We all join in sending our deepest sympathy to her sister, Miss Lilian Appleby.

CAMP AT HMS DAEDALUS 1982

The Fleet Air Arms' invitation to the summer camp at HMS Daedalus is this year from Friday, 6th August 1982 until the morning of Saturday, 14th August. I am sure those who have enjoyed the camp in previous years will wish to avail themselves of the Royal Navy's hospitality. If so, will all those wishing to be considered for a place please contact Elspeth Grant, High Acre, Catmere Road, Saffron Waldon, Essex, CB11 4XG (Telephone 0799 22874). To avoid disappointment, please apply as soon as possible and not later than Tuesday, 4th May, 1982.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: Miss K.M. Broughton.

I would like to thank all St. Dunstaners who contributed so generously to the Presentation Fund to mark my semi-retirement. I hope to be able to thank all those whom I have not been able to do so personally at some future date. I have been deeply touched by your kindness and generosity.

From: Yvonne Lyall

May I please beg space in the *Review* to thank my most generous and kind friends for their very handsome farewell present? I have just received this in the form of a cheque to be spent as I wish.

It is very difficult to decide exactly how to spend it, but by the time the Southampton Reunion takes place I will have solved the problem and will be able to show you the result. Thank you, every one of you, so very much.

I shall miss seeing you regularly and hearing all your news, but I am hoping that

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.

Mansel Morris Lewis of Carmarthen, Dyfed, joined St. Dunstan's on 23rd December. Mr. Lewis served in the R.A.F. during the Second World War and then worked in the Ministry of Defence until his retirement. Mr. Lewis is married with two adult daughters.

Arnold Hector Phillips of Dartford, Kent, joined St. Dunstan's on 23rd December. Mr. Phillips served in the Royal Navy and was wounded at sea in 1937. He is a married man.

John Freeman White of Burton-on-Trent, joined St. Dunstan's on 30th November. Mr. White served in the Royal Corps of Signals during the Second World War. He is married with four children, the youngest daughter, Caroline, still lives at home.

the Southampton Reunion will keep me in touch with those who attend it, and that Mrs. Jackson will give me news of those who do not. If ever any of you are passing by, remember our phone number and come and sample the coffee. I owe each one of you enough tea or coffee to float the QEII, and it would be a pleasure to see you again and return the compliment! All good wishes and many thanks again to you all.

From: C.D. Wills

I should be greatly obliged if you would allow me to convey to St. Dunstaners through the *Review*, my appreciation of the many delightful cards I have received this Xmas and to reciprocate the good wishes they contained. I consider myself most fortunate in being able to keep in touch with so many St. Dunstaners through the Reunions, and look forward to meeting them in 1982. Meanwhile, I wish everyone in St. Dunstan's a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year.



Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme and Sir Edwin Arrowsmith with Miss Guilbert after the presentation of her retirement gift on the seventh of January.

Blind Radio Amateurs Auditory Gimmicks Information Service (B.R.A.A.G.I.S.)

BRAAGIS is a new service to assist the blind Radio Amateur and electronics enthusiast by providing information on the various auditory aids which are available and which will help them in the pursuance of their hobby activities.

"Auditory Gimmick" is a convenient description of any device which will convert a visual reading into an auditory signal which a visually handicapped person can use. This auditory read-out can take various forms – for instance – a synthesised voice on a talking frequency counter, a rising or falling tone indicating a voltage change or a coded tone read-out.

BRAAGIS will not in any way pre-empt the magnificent work being done by the many voluntary organisations concerned with helping the visually handicapped and disabled – it will, in fact, publicise still further the assistance they can offer.

With the co-operation of organisations, manufacturers and individual researchers throughout the world it should be possible to bring together information which could be invaluable to a visually handicapped person who has a special need.

Many experimenters design and construct equipment for their own use and BRAAGIS is appealing to them to pose the question – "Could this device in any way help a visually handicapped person in the field of electronics and amateur radio?" and if the answer is "YES", to send details to BRAAGIS for inclusion on a central file.

A cassette library of circuit data of selected auditory gimmicks, the circuits being described in the narrative point to point system, will be established for the use of the amateur constructor. Further details on request.

Visually handicapped persons wishing to make use of BRAAGIS should do so by sending a cassette outlining their particular needs. The service will then provide the necessary information if it is on file or advise the enquirer of an appropriate source willing to help.

No charge will be made for this service which has been established on a voluntary basis as a personal contribution to I.Y.D.P. (The International Year of Disabled People).

Organiser and Researcher:

Peter H.H. Jones, B.E.M. G3DRE.
69 Prospect Road,
Bradway,
Sheffield, S17 4JB,
South Yorkshire.
Telephone: 0742 369199.



WISH YOU WERE HERE

by Doreen Thompson

Doreen and Leslie Thompson.

Leslie and Doreen Thompson's many friends who have missed them since they left Gateshead for Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, may be interested in Doreen's account of their early days there; taken from a tape-recording.

"We have got ourselves installed safely and comfortably in our new house, and loving every minute of it! . . . The pool is a constant source of delight, especially for Les. The temperature varies between 25 and 28 degrees C. Leslie's up at 7 o'clock and has the first morning swim, while I get out of bed, tidy up and start the breakfast. We have breakfast on the patio. . . The garden is growing unbelievably rapidly. The grass was put in only 2 or 3 weeks ago, just as you would plant carnation slips, and it's visibly growing! . . . The gardeners are the most untidy people! They come along with this great big hose, with no nozzle on the end of it, and it's like putting a fire hose on the garden! And my neighbour said, 'You know, if they can see a flower on that bush, you know they're going to take it off—they just direct a jet of water directly at them to knock the blooming things off!'

Occupational hazard

. . . One of the hazards of this wonderful, fantastic, beautifully designed kitchen that I have got is the first class, German electrical equipment. One of the things that happened when we arrived was that the electric fridge wouldn't work. So the engineer came, yanked it out of its wall position, put a new

motor in, and off he went. So that was alright. The next disaster was the dishwasher, because when the young man who owns the firm came to demonstrate it, the engineer who'd connected it hadn't had a valve of the right size to connect the outlet to the main pipes, and so had left it unconnected; consequently, the cupboard was flooded with water . . .

. . . The oven has me completely enthralled. I could just sit and watch the buns and the Yorkshire puddings rising through the glass window all the time! But I could smell rubber burning, so I phoned to say I was unhappy about the cooker. . . Anyway, it turned out that it was the rubber seal of the fridge right next to it, that was slowly melting with the heat, so we decided we were going to have to change the position of the oven fixtures, and put it away from the fridge. . . It was a stroke of bad luck that we discovered that the freezer section of the fridge wasn't working. So the engineer came again. This engineer is a really dour German—my daughter says he's a real Kraut, and we've nicknamed him Sauerkraut, and he's well named! He's a real sour puss, his face is as long as a fiddle and he grumbles the whole time he's doing a job—you know, you'd never think he was getting paid for doing it!

. . . We were very happy to get the printed copy of *Review* because we went down into the town the other day, to the Wednesday Club, which is run by an Englishman, and has now about 80 people going to it. The first person we met was a very charming lady who said 'I have to find someone that I don't know'—this is the ruling—you must find somebody you don't know, and go and sit beside them, so we said that was very easy, because we just didn't know anybody at all, so I guided Leslie over and sat him in a chair and she said 'Oh, excuse me, you wouldn't be the St. Dunstan's friend of Charles Williams from Darlington?'. So we laughed and said 'Well, as a matter of fact, we are; we saw him and his wife last time we were here, going down to the sea front'. So she said, 'Well, I'm June Cook, I used to tutor him, 27 years ago, at St. Dunstan's, in Physiotherapy!' And we had a very interesting lunch together. We had promised Charles that we would look June up because of her association with St. Dunstan's, and here we were, out of the 80 people, this was the person that we met and sat beside! She rather regrets that she has no connection with St. Dunstan's after all this time; she doesn't get the *Review*, and, you know, she thinks so much of it, and what a wonderful place it is, and all the people who work in it. . . So I think, after I have finished with the *St. Dunstan's Review*, I'll take it over to her, because I think she would like to have it.

Heather Trees

. . . Today we got this opportunity to go to Mount Teide, which is twelve and a half thousand feet above sea level—and we had a fantastic day! The fellow who took us is a retired farmer from Cornwall; we went up the luscious Orotava Valley and he was pointing out the heather trees—heather really grows like a tree here! We called at a trout farm, where they had all these tanks with thousands and thousands of trout in them. . . From there, we went up all these bends, up and up and up, and we called at a restaurant for a drink. (It's very thirsty work climbing up these mountains, you know!) Then we went further up and arrived at the crater of Mount Tidy, which is a considerable size. It really is very interesting to see the lava stone, with evidence of the lava running down Mount Tidy. The last time it erupted was in 1902. All the formation of the

lava and the stones as they have crashed down and rolled down and formed these gigantic stone figures. . . in some parts, it looks just like Dakota—you expect to see John Wayne and the cowboys dashing round the corner! . . . There was one part we went through where the rocks were all different shades of green, apparently from sulphur deposits. . . On the way down, we stopped at a restaurant where you can look over the wall into a huge ravine that goes down to the sea; running down either side was the evidence of the lava rock, and then it had gone out into the sea and flattened itself there into a huge, fan-shaped outstretch of rock, and on that they have built a town—it looked really attractive. . . We came down and went to a place where the Drago tree is, which is reputed to be 2,000 years old. It has this tremendous gnarled trunk, twisted and gnarled, and at the top it looks like a huge mushroom; in fact, it just reminded me of the atomic bomb, how it goes up in a centre column, and at the top, fans out into this huge mushroom effort.—A tremendous thing.

Leslie at work

. . . Leslie is fighting fit as usual. He has got his workshop started downstairs—and he had

Leslie Thompson at his bench.



the whole of the workmen of the building site opposite us at a standstill the other day, when he decided to take the front door off and rehang it and pack out the hinges, because the edge of the door was grinding on the thresh every time it opened. He said the hinges were all wrong and would have to be replaced. Of course, he didn't realise until he started to take it to bits that, not only were there 4 hinges, but they were all drop-hinges—and of course, what a pallava we had by the time we got the door off! He packed out the hinges, and then we had to get this door dropped on 4 hinges all at the same time. . . Well, eventually we got it done, and it's perfect, but I laughed, because from the kitchen window here, I could see the men on the top of the roof of the houses facing us, and they were watching Les, and then, everything seemed to stop and I looked outside — they had all stopped their work and had come along. One must have

D.F. Robinson's

Gardening Column

May I thank all of you who have sent Christmas cards with greetings to my wife and myself, and hope that all will go well with you during the coming year in health and happiness.

The weather is appalling as I write these notes, which have to be done a good deal ahead of time. There have been mountains of snow, but perhaps not as much as some other areas, with hard frosts at night. Despite a heater, temperatures in the greenhouse have dropped alarmingly and quite a few plants have perished. Still, as I always say, we gardeners are a hardy and fore-bearing lot, and will try and try again. It is not so bad for people who do gardening as a hobby, but awful for the professionals trying to earn their living. When you are thinking of starting your seeds for either flowers or vegetables, do go by weather conditions, and if as cold as in December, even with a bit of heat in the greenhouse, wait a bit longer. The later sowing won't do much harm and items when germinating will go away much better in more favourable weather. Do remember that saturation of seeds outside in the soil tends to make them rot, so let the soil dry out a little before starting.

I hope that you will either have had the vegetable seeds by now, or they should be along soon. Here again, bad weather may

said to the other 'Hey, come along and look at this bloke out here!' And they were watching him change this door, and of course he goes down into the garage and he has got the saw going and this, that and the other, and of course, they are all so interested! The men on our building think he is fantastic; they will do anything for him. On Sunday, he went down into the garage and he picked up a mitre picture framing tool, and there was a certain thing you have to do with it, depress part of it, and it swung out and dropped down at a 90 degree angle and he couldn't get the thing to work. And there was a car drew up and it was the foreman of the building site with 2 or 3 fellows, and he came in and said 'how are you getting on?' (in Spanish) and he said 'Oh, malo, malo . . .' and so he came in and fiddled and fuffed about with the thing—and he got it to work, anyway! He was thrilled to bits, and so were we!

delay the seedsman sending out the collections and posts may be rather awry, so don't worry too much if they are rather late in arriving.

Lawns

It won't be long before the grass will be growing again, so a dose of lawn fertiliser which has some weed killer in it will be a good thing. Spread out evenly at the rate set out by the makers, in moist conditions, so that it will get down to the roots. Where you have been troubled by sodden lawns, spiking with the fork, fairly deep so that there will be some drainage taking place. Check over the mowing machines and try out on a dry day to make certain they work well and only hope that you had them serviced earlier on or there will be quite a rush on now and a fairly long waiting list to have the work done. Autumn planted turves may have been lifted by the hard winter weather, so tamp down with the back of a spade, roller, or even the mowing machine, provided you lift the blades off the ground.

Fruit

Get all the pruning of the trees completed by the end of the month and give the soil round the trees a good mulch of manure or

compost with the addition of some liquid feed. Where you are wishing to have some Strawberry beds, get them made up now. Some soft fruit bushes may have been lifted by the frosts and gales, especially newer ones, so check them over and heel down the roots hard and add a little more top soil. It may even be necessary to put in canes as a support.

Flowers

Give the borders a top dressing of manure and litter or compost and carry on with the hoeing when the weather is suitable. Manure all the Rose bushes thoroughly and make certain that they are solidly in the soil, stake any that tend to be loose at the roots. When you note any broken shoots, cut well back to an outward facing bud, but leave all the normal pruning for some weeks to come. Plant out Anemones when weather permits, and I find that they like a fairly sunny spot which can have shade in the very hot periods such as at the base of trees or tall shrubs. The corms can be left in position for 2 to 3 years before being lifted and sorted out. Replant in an enriched soil of manure or compost. Where you have very heavy soil, add some sand at the base of the position when planting. Any hardy annuals such as Calendula, Larkspur, night scented Stock, Linaris, Mignonette, etc. can be transplanted from their nursery beds to the flowering positions. Dig up with a good ball of soil round the roots and water in well when setting in their new quarters. As with Roses, check over the shrubs and cut away broken shoots and press down hard in the soil if they tend to be a bit loose.

Vegetables

Carry on with the hoeing of the soil to keep it in good shape and deter the growth of weeds and also the digging of any empty beds which had been delayed by weather conditions. I can say that if the weather we are having in the North as I write these notes goes on, I will be very late in digging mine, but it will have to be done to get my crops in.

Clear beds of Cabbages and Sprouts which are finished and get the spaces dug over. Any Cauliflower (Broccoli) which hasn't been cut, and survived the Arctic weather, should have a leaf bent over the head to protect it and stop bolting. Get the beds well dug and trenched where you are going to grow the main crop of Onions, and

earth up those early sown Peas plus dusting over the soil every so often with Lime. Most vegetables can be started from seed in nursery beds except the tuberous types such as Carrots, Parsnips, Radishes, and Turnips, plus Beans and Peas which will be grown to maturity where they are sown. Early Potatoes can be planted but those in the North ought to wait a bit longer. Carry on sprouting seed Potatoes in containers in sheds or garages, etc. Where you have been raising some vegetables for early use in frames, don't coddle them too much and open the tops as much as possible, only replacing when frosts are forecast. Ensure that all the Pea and Bean sticks are ready and in good order. It might be a good idea to wash them in some soapy water. Put some manure, compost or leaf mould on the empty beds ready for the season of planting later on.

Greenhouse

Try and keep the temperature between 40F and 50F, as plants which were at rest during the winter will be starting to wake up. Give some water to those which are very dry but keep moisture to a minimum for the present. Dahlias can be re-started at the source of heat to produce cuttings. All bedding plants can also be started from seed but here again, if weather is very severe, delay sowing for a while. Geranium plants which were cut down and stored in frost free quarters for the winter months can be put in boxes or pots of compost, well watered, and put over the source of heat so that they can grow and show new shoots, some of which can be used for further plants by the use of cuttings. Tuberous Begonia, Gloxinia, Achimene, etc. can be started now. Shake out of their present pots, and set in peat or compost in trays with the corms just below the top of the compost and water well to encourage growth. It is a good idea to start them off at different periods so that you can have a succession of colour right through till autumn. Tuberous Begonias are the only items which can be used outside in the borders, as well as in pots and other containers. Fuchsia and Carnations will need re-potting in larger pots. It is also a good plan to cut back some of the shoots on the Fuchsia and don't forget to water them in to get the roots into the new quarters. Hydrangeas will need attention and here again it will be a good thing to put them in larger containers with fresh compost and

water in well. The old flowering shoots need to be cut out. Tomatoes and Cucumbers (I would use the female types only, as it saves the time of picking out the males' flowers, which tend to make the cucumbers bitter) can be started from seed but only if you can keep a fairly high temperature at this period of the season. Various vegetables can be started for planting out later on. Give plenty of ventilation on fine days and where you have an oil heater, give a little air even on poor days, to get rid of the oil fumes, which are given off from even the best heaters.

SHARP TALKING CALCULATOR, Model EL620.

Price: £29 from: Dagenham Wholesale Supplies Ltd., Silenas Lane, Dagenham, Essex.

This item was mentioned in the December Review, but had not been evaluated at the time. The calculator comes in a wallet measuring 3" by 6" by 5/8ths", and weighs 120 g. or 0.26 lb. (including 3 x MR-9 batteries).

The principal functions include addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, percentage, and square root, to 8 decimal places. The read-out can be given either as a continuous stream of figures, or by rank, i.e. in millions, hundreds of thousands, etc. There is a high and low volume switch, or the voice can be turned off altogether. Peter Jones of Sheffield writes:

To be quite honest, I cannot fault its performance in any way, the voice is clear and distinct, and pleasant. The key spacing is adequate to avoid pressing the wrong one, and the keys are a reasonable size, about 3/8ths of an inch square, apart from the top row of function keys which are about 3/8ths" by 3/16ths".

If your were to be hyper-critical, I suppose one could say that a read-out of this top row would be helpful, they include memory insertion and recall, but a short time spent using it soon familiarises their respective positions.

There is no spoken read-out of "square root" or "percentage", but here again position is really all that needs to be known. The scope of its activities is more than adequate and there are many features, such as repetitive constant, which could be useful to students.

The recorded instructions are available on a C60 from HQ. Please ask for reference number SD14.

Hearing Aids, Past and Present

Christine Stalham, wife of our St. Dunstaner, Bill Stalham of East Oakley, has been deaf ever since contracting meningitis at the age of 18 months. During her teens, she also developed Tinnitus, which has remained with her constantly, sometimes growing worse in times of stress.

With the encouragement of her parents, she tried many different types of hearing aid, but found she was unable to tolerate any of them, at the relatively primitive aids of those years gave a very distorted tone, which Christine preferred even total silence and Tinnitus. It was almost 30 years since she last tried a hearing aid.

Improvements

It was whilst she was attending a FePow reunion last year with Bill, that she was persuaded by another ex-FePow to 'have another go'. He pointed out that great advances had been made in the quality of the hearing aids, and that she would find an enormous improvement in both tone and effectiveness. So, having promised to try one at least, she set off for the tests, and, being encouraged by the results, and finding the tone surprisingly acceptable, she was duly fitted with a new hearing aid. The difference it has made to her life is wonderful. Now, although not able to hear the full range of human speech, she can hear people coming up behind her, the approach of a vehicle, the doorbell ringing, and the yowls of her very greedy cat!

Music for Pleasure

"I have the pleasure of listening to music, and find I'm already selective, in my choice of performances . . . I can now adjust to certain situations when I must not interrupt, for example, when my husband is on the phone, I don't now walk into the room chattering to him as I usually used to! Above all, it's a wonderful relief to the eternal high pitched whistle of Tinnitus, and of course, the pitch of my voice has dropped, to the benefit of my listeners."

Other readers who have perhaps been similarly disheartened in the past will welcome Christine's experience as providing the encouragement they need to have 'just one more try'.

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 2249

Beasts in my Belfry

By Gerald Durrell.

Read by Anthony Parker

Reading Time 6¼ hours.

Durrell has had a passion for animals, he says, since the age of two, and collected the usual small boy's menagerie of frogs, mice, grass snakes and the like.

His first ambitious project was during the war when he accepted (unseen) "Hortense" described by his owner, a friend of Durrell's whose family were moving from the country to London, as "a young deer". On arrival the animal proved to be mis-named *and* no longer youthful. In fact "Hortense" was a fairly hefty male of capricious whim and uncertain habits. After kicking in the door of the garage where he was housed and full-bloodedly charging the trolley during a garden tea-party, he had to go.

On leaving school the author applied for a job at London Zoo. To everyone's surprise he was accepted as apprentice keeper at Whipsnade. The work was dirty, unglamorous, exhausting and, in winter, downright hell, but he revelled in the life.

He loved all the animals, knew each one personally and writes affectionately and amusingly of their fads and fancies. The stories about his charges are interspersed with funny and penetrating thumbnail sketches of his fellow keepers . . .

A warm, amusing, wholly delightful book and a great joy to read.

Cat. No. 450

A Cab at the Door

By V. S. Pritchett.

Read by David Broomfield

Reading Time 8¾ hours.

The author was born in Ipswich in 1900, but shortly afterwards the family moved to London, the first of many changes of address. Indeed for the Pritchetts, life was a series of cabs at the door waiting to take them, in flight, from yet another of their father's financial disasters.

For the elder Pritchett seems to have been a mixture of Walter Mitty and Mr. Micawber, forever becoming involved in shining bright business ventures which all

failed with relentless monotony. Then, the inevitable cab at the door, a new address, a new golden opportunity which couldn't possibly go wrong—but always did.

Pritchett says of his family, "no one else had our dark adventures. We were a race apart, abnormal but proud of our stripes, longing for the normality we saw about us . . ."

And "abnormal" they certainly were. There was the father, "small in mind, easily trapped in dreams by petty details", his mother, volatile and imaginative, often wilful, his grandfather, the archetypal Yorkshire Congregational minister, and his uncle Arthur, a fierce atheist, forever reading Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy.

This is a splendid story of robust, vigorous family life, set against the vivid, authentic back-drop of Edwardian working-class London.

Cat. No. 1094

The Green Man

By Kingsley Amis.

Read by Robert Gladwell

Reading Time 7½ hours.

The Green Man is an ancient coaching inn some forty miles from London. Its present owner is Maurice Allington, a man in his drunken fifties, with a young wife and a teenage daughter from a previous marriage. He is also having a torrid affair with the wife of his friend, the local doctor.

He begins to "see things"—not too surprising, you might think, in one who can sink a bottle of Scotch a day. But thirteen-year-old Amy also has an odd experience, as does Allington's aged father, who dies of a sudden heart attack after (presumably) seeing something nasty in the parlour.

The trouble seems to emanate from the unquiet spirit of one Thomas Underhill, a 16th century bad lot who seems to have specialised in doing nasty things to, and with, the local under age virgins of the day.

Underhill's "creature" is like something out of Doctor Quatermass, half man, half shrubbery. It scares the living daylight out of Maurice, enjoying a jolly romp with his light-o'-love in a neighbouring field. Activities in the paranormal field begin to hot up quite a bit, too . . . For the most part, a good read, although I did find that Maurice's bouts of long-winded maudlin self-examination just a bit wearing.

CLUB NEWS

BRIDGE NOTES

As discussed at the Bridge A.G.M. during the Congress last year at Ian Fraser House, and now confirmed, the Harrogate Bridge Week is from 23rd Oct. to 30th Oct. The cost for the Dirlton Hotel is £15 per person per day (£105) for Dinner, Bed and Breakfast, inclusive of VAT. The rail fare from London to Harrogate return will not be known until March/April time. Will all those attending this year please let Ian know as soon as possible, this helps Mr. Jack Pearce of Harrogate to arrange the programme for 1982.

Bill Allen
Sec. Nat. Bridge Club

BRIDGE CONGRESS

DECEMBER 1981

The Annual Bridge Congress was held from the 4th December to 7th December inclusive. This was made up of the following – 6 Trophies and 2 Quizzes, the latter were very interesting and argumentative.

Geoff was his usual bullying self, Enid and Nora were both stimulating and helpful, and Roland assisted in his quiet way. Mrs.

Roy Armstrong and Bill Miller in play.



Pugh prepared everything in advance with her usual thoroughness and we must thank all the Markers who made many sacrifices of their time on our behalf, also the Staff who helped to make the event run smoothly.

The Trophy Winners are as follows:

Friday 4th December

SIR ARTHUR PEARSON CUP FOR PAIRS

Winners: 1st Roy Armstrong & Vi Delaney
2nd Bob Evans & Bill Phillips
3rd Jim Padley & Harry Meleson

Saturday 5th December

ALF FIELD MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR PAIRS

Winners: 1st Johnny Whitcombe & Freddie Dickerson
2nd Reg Goding & Wally Lethbridge
3rd George Hudson & Ike Pellington

Saturday 5th December

LORD FRASER CUP INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

Winners: 1st Harold King
2nd Bill Allen
3rd Jack Simmons
4th Mike Tybinski
5th Bob Fullard
6th Ralph Pacitti
7th Wally Lethbridge

Sunday 6th December p.m.

SIR ARTHUR PEARSON CUP FOR TEAMS OF FOUR

Winners: 1st Ron Freer, Bill Allen, Gerry Lynch & Jack Simmons
2nd Bert Ward, Harold King, Mel Clements & Joseph Majchrowicz
3rd Mike Tybinski, Bob Fullard, Ralph Pacitti, Harry Preedy

Monday 7th December a.m.

PAUL NUYENS MEMORIAL SHIELD FOR TEAMS OF FOUR

Winners: 1st Roy Armstrong, Vi Delaney, George Hudson & Joseph Majchrowicz
2nd Reg Goding, Wally Lethbridge, Alf Dodgson & Collis Walters
3rd Ron Freer, Bill Allen, Peter McCormack & Jerry Lynch



Vi Delaney and Ike Pellington, winners of the Drummer Downs Cup.

Monday 7th December p.m.

DRUMMER DOWNS CUP

Winners: 1st Vi Delaney & Ike Pellington
2nd Douglas Upcott & Maurice Douse
3rd J. Whitcombe & B. Miller

The two annual events for Individuals for the GOVER CUP were won by the following:-

BRIGHTON J. WHITCOMBE
LONDON F. DICKERSON

Thanks once again Geoff for everything, and that the Quizzes next year could be made a little HARDER?!!

LEAGUE WINNERS

I should like to take this opportunity of notifying all Bridge Players that over the last three years London have succeeded in winning their section of the Business House League twice, made up of the following players:-

Roy Armstrong, Bill Miller, Vi Delaney, Wally Lethbridge, Bob Evans, Fred Dickerson, Bill Allen.

Many thanks to Molly and Aileen, who have scored for these matches and the London Club Individual Games.

Bill Allen
Secretary

BRIGHTON

Christmas Bridge Drive, Sunday 13th December 1981

The time once more for our Christmas Bridge Drive. The Drive was well attended, everyone in a happy mood. Mr. Goodlad, who ran the drive, really got into the Christmas Spirit by giving 500 pts to the sitting out table, but no conclusions to be jumped at, because he sat N/S, and only E/W moved and claimed the sit out pts.— and that surely was generous to the opposition!

After we had played to what should have been just past half time, we stopped for tea and that's where our friends Paul James and the staff surpassed themselves; to us it seems it cannot be surpassed, but every time it is – but it's not a once off every year thing, they look after us all year round and now is the time to say thank you Paul and all the kitchen staff. When thanks are being given, where does one start and end? There are Messrs. Douse and Goodlad, who work so hard; all our sighted friends who come regularly and play and help; Madame President, Mrs. Dacre, who makes tea and washes up – all working together with our St. Dunstan's members, who support the section so well – like one big happy family. Dr. Stilwell even answered the phone because Mrs. Wood was out of the office, and insisted he could take our order for food! That's what it's all about, and very nice too.

The winners of the Bridge Drive, which had to be terminated after tea due to a snow blizzard, and people anxious to get home, were as follows:

1. M. Tybinski and Mrs. McIntosh
2. W. Lethbridge and Mr. R. Goodlad
3. W. Phillips and Dr. Goodlad
4. G. Hudson and Mrs. McPherson.

Dr. John O'Hara, who is our Vice President, came out in the snowstorm to present the prizes— how lovely to see him looking better, and he added to our enjoyment as usual. Club members presented a bouquet to Mrs. Dacre with thanks, and what should we do without her? I do hope I've not left out thanking you all, do have a very Happy New Year. May you all be able to bid, and what's more important, get all your contracts! See you in the New Year.

W. Phillips, Capt.

FAMILY NEWS

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. A. Steer of Billingham, on the marriage of their son, Raymond, to Karen Hart on the 12th September.

Mrs. Wilson, widow of *Tug Wilson* of Littleton, on the marriage of their second daughter, Mary, to Andrew Freeman on November 24th in Telford, Shropshire.

RUBY WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas J. Atack of Blackpool, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on the 13th December.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jones of Ledbury, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 2nd January. They had a dinner party at a local hotel, with family and friends to mark the occasion.

GRANDCHILDREN

Congratulations to:

Mr. Joseph Laverty of Downpatrick, N. Ireland, who is pleased to announce the arrival of a grand-daughter, Jennifer Elaine, born to his daughter, Maureen and her husband Charles McKeown, on the 19th November.

Mr. William George Morris and his wife, Catherine, of Bournemouth, who are pleased to announce the arrival of another grandson, Gary Andrew, born on the 3rd December to their youngest son, William and his wife, Diana.

Mr. James O'Hara of Wimbledon, who is pleased to announce the arrival of his fourth grandchild, Shelley, the first child born to his daughter Jill and her husband Nigel, on the 9th November.

Mr. & Mrs. Tom O'Reilly of Blackburn, who are pleased to announce the arrival of their second grandchild. A daughter, Julie, was born to their daughter, Kathleen, and her husband on the 31st December.

Mr. and Mrs. R.W. Richards of Northampton, who are pleased to announce the arrival of a grand-daughter, Sophia Jemima, born on the 23rd December to their son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Hannah.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Serdet of Staines, who are pleased to announce the arrival of a grandson, Rawdon Dean, born to their daughter Brenda, and her husband on 13th September.

Mr. Stanley Tutton of Hounslow, who is pleased to announce the arrival of a grand-daughter, Selena Clare, born to his daughter Jeanette and her husband Michael Hackett on the 14th December.

Mrs. Wilson, widow of *Tug Wilson* of Littleton, who is pleased to announce the arrival of a grandson, the fourth child to be born to their eldest daughter Anne and her husband.

GREAT GREAT GRANDCHILD

Congratulations to:

Mr. R. Ralphson of Farnworth, Bolton, who is pleased to announce the arrival of a great great grandson, Mark, born to his great grand-daughter Janette Smith, on the 24th October.

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Mr. S. Jones of Chorltonville, who achieved his aim of a personal contribution towards IYDP by gaining three successive ballroom dancing medals; by September, he had won his bronze medal, in October he gained his silver medal, and in November he achieved the gold, and was highly commended. The presentation of his gold medal was on the 12th December.

Ruth Preston, grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Meleson of Wembley, who is to read Mathematics at Pembroke College, Oxford University.

Derek Robinson, son of Mrs. Anne Robinson of Glenrothes, who, after 8 years' hard work, has obtained his PhD Degree in Chemistry. He is now Dr. Robinson, and is at present working at Strathclyde University doing Research.

DEATHS

We offer sympathy to:

Mr. Eddie Bedford of Peacehaven, whose wife, Edna, passed away on the 15th December, at the age of 57. We also send our sympathy to his step-daughter, Mrs. Stalberg.

Mrs. Myrtle Simonds, wife of Mr. Frank Simonds of Southampton, whose mother passed away early in December.

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.

Mr. A. Allen, Royal Fusiliers.

Mr. Alfred Allen of Stoke-on-Trent passed away on the 12th December in hospital, following a short illness. He was 86 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner for 63 years.

Mr. Allen served as a Private in the Royal Fusiliers from December 1915 to March 1918, and was wounded at Cambrai. Before joining the Army, he had been employed as a copper-worker, and after training with St. Dunstan's, he started up in business as a clog maker and boot repairer, later turning his skills to rug-making. He was a keen gardener, making full use of his orchard and greenhouse, and he was also successful as a poultry keeper.

Mrs. Allen died in 1978, but our St. Dunstaner was able to manage on his own with help from his very good friends and neighbours. Our condolences are sent to all members of the family, but especially to his niece, Mrs. M. Gee, who was such a great help in recent years.

Mr. G. Burnett, 18th Hussars.

Mr. George Burnett of Stevenage passed away on the 12th December, 1981, in a residential nursing home where he had been living for almost four months. He was 86 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner for sixty two years.

He enlisted at the outbreak of the 1st World War and, whilst on active service with the 18th Hussars, was wounded at Agincourt in August 1918 and was totally blinded.

On his discharge from the Army in 1919, Mr. Burnett was admitted to St. Dunstan's, and was trained in boot repairing, typewriting and Braille. On giving up boot repairing, our St. Dunstaner became a mat-maker and was so proficient that he demonstrated his craft at exhibitions. In 1941 he went into industry and worked for I.C.I. until his retirement in 1960.

Unfortunately, his wife, Florence, died in 1976, by which time they had been married for 56 years. However, Mr. Burnett continued to live in his Stevenage home where he was cared for devotedly by his son, Harold. As our St. Dunstaner's health was deteriorating, he was admitted into a residential nursing home in September 1981, where he passed away.

Our condolences are extended to his sons, Harold and George, and all members of the family.

Mr. H. Greenhalgh, 11th R.H.A.

Harold Greenhalgh of Bolton passed away at his home on the 27th December. He was 58 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1943.

Mr. Greenhalgh served as a Gunner in the 11th R.H.A. during the Second World War, and his

blindness was due to injuries received whilst on active service in Tunis, North Africa.

After being discharged from the Army, Mr. Greenhalgh was trained by St. Dunstan's as a telephonist, which was his occupation for almost thirty years, including fifteen years working for Bolton Royal Infirmary. Due to failing health, Mr. Greenhalgh lived with his sister in Burnham for two years from 1978, and stayed for some time in our Brighton Homes before returning, at his own wish, to his native Bolton. Our sympathy goes to his two sisters, Mrs. Edith Gough and Mrs. Ruth Sumner, and to all relatives and friends.

Mr. E.J. Gurney, 12/13th Northumberland Fusiliers.

Mr. Ernest John Gurney of Ormskirk passed away in a nursing home on Friday, 25th December. He was 82 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since December 1979.

Mr. Gurney served in the First World War as a Private in the 12/13th Northumberland Fusiliers. His blindness was due to injuries received whilst on active duty in France. After his discharge from the Army, Mr. Gurney was employed as a grocer's assistant until his retirement. For many years, Mr. Gurney was a keen gardener, until ill health prevented him from following this hobby occupation.

Our condolences are offered to his daughter, Mrs. D. Allen, his son, and to all members of the family.

Mr. S.C. Latham, Royal Navy.

Mr. Sidney Clarence Latham of Worcester passed away on the 29th December at home. He was 84 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1974.

Mr. Latham served in the Royal Navy during the 1st World War and his loss of sight was due to a wound received whilst on active service. After his discharge from the Navy, he worked as the foreman in a leather work factory and he did not retire until the age of 71, after 52 years service with his firm.

Mr. Latham was a very keen pigeon racer and in 1975 he won the challenge cup for the Championship Pigeon Race. He also enjoyed cultivating his garden. Our sympathy goes to his widow, Edith Mary, his son Kenneth, and all members of the family.

Mr. J. McCoid, Notts and Derbyshire Regiment.

Mr. John McCoid passed away at Pearson House on the 13th November, 1981. He was 89 years of age.

Mr. McCoid served as a Corporal in the Notts and Derbyshire Regiment from November, 1914.

In Memory *continued*

His loss of sight in one eye was the result of a bullet wound in 1918, and he was taken a prisoner of war at the same time. His discharge from the Services came in the Spring of 1919. With the failure of his remaining sight in later life, he became a St. Dunstaner in 1974. Being a widower, Mr. McCoid was then living with his sister-in-law in Bootle, and although his health was not very good, he enjoyed gardening as a hobby.

Mr. McCoid took up residence at Pearson House in 1975 and this remained his home, apart from a period spent at Christopher Grange in Liverpool between 1976 and 1979, when he was once again able to enjoy being closer to a few members of his family. He had another holiday in the North West last September.

We send our sympathy to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Chrissie McCoid, his nephew, Gordon, and all members of the family.

Mr. R.E. Naman, Labour Corps.

Mr. Roland Ewert Naman of Polegate passed away on the 13th December, 1981, at the age of 83. During the 1st World War, he enlisted as a Private in the Labour Corps and whilst on active service in Egypt, his eyes were affected by sun glare. He was discharged from the Army in April 1919, and, on becoming totally blind, was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1925.

At that time, Mr. Naman and his wife were living in Braintree, where he was employed as a Telephonist. He was a highly valued employee, and also very proficient in Typewriting and Braille. In 1931, our St. Dunstaner moved to Blackpool, where he was employed by the Ministry of Labour until his retirement in 1954. Just before the outbreak of World War II, H.M. King George VI visited the offices where he was employed and singled out Mr. Naman for a long and interesting chat.

On retiring, Mr. Naman moved back to the South of England where, despite health problems, gardening was his great hobby with the help of his wife, and he had splendid displays of flowering plants. He moved to Polegate in 1970 and in 1975 Mr. and Mrs. Naman celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

We send our condolences to his widow, Edna, and all members of the family.

Mr. H.W. Sampford, Hertfordshire Regiment.

Mr. Henry Walter Sampford of Broxted, Essex, passed away at home on the 21st December. He was 86 and had been a St. Dunstaner for two years.

Mr. Sampford enlisted in the Hertfordshire Regiment in 1915 and was wounded and gassed at Ypres. He was discharged in 1919 and was able to remain in full time employment until normal retirement age. Owing to poor health, Mr. Sampford was never able to visit our Homes and, sadly, his wife died several years ago.

Mr. F. Sanders-Nunn, R.A.S.C.

Mr. Francis (Frank) Sanders-Nunn of Ilkeston passed away in hospital on the 3rd December, after several months of failing health. He was 69 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1950.

Mr. Sanders-Nunn served as a driver in the R.A.S.C. during the Second World War. He lost his sight whilst on active duty in the Middle East.

Mr. Sanders-Nunn worked in industry for over ten years after his discharge from the army, and when poor health forced him to give this up, he was able to take up woodwork which he did at home, and this was then his occupation for many years. Our St. Dunstaner was interested in local politics and at one time stood for the County Council.

Mr. Sanders-Nunn was married with a family. Sadly, he lost a daughter, Patsy, only on the 24th October last year. Our sympathy goes to his widow, Patricia, his two daughters, Kathleen and Margaret, and all members of the family.

Mr. J.J. Smith, Royal Fusiliers.

Mr. John James Smith of Great Yarmouth passed away at home on the 18th December, 1981. He was 85 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1974.

Mr. Smith served in the Royal Fusiliers, Queen's Royal West Surreys and Middlesex Regiment, during the 1st World War. His loss of sight was due to a wound received whilst on active service in France. After his discharge from the Army, Mr. Smith worked as a coal dealer until he retired in 1959. Although suffering from poor health for many years, Mr. Smith enjoyed working in his garden and grew most of his own vegetables. Our condolences are sent to his widow, Ada May, who cared for him so devotedly, their two daughters, Irene and Joyce, and all members of the family.

Mr. L.T. Wiggins, R.A.F.

Mr. Lawrence Trevor Wiggins of Halifax passed away in hospital on the 28th November at the age of 57.

Mr. Wiggins served in the Royal Air Force from April 1943 to April 1944 and his loss of sight followed an illness contracted whilst on active service. He became a St. Dunstaner in 1977, by which time he had had to leave his job as a sheet metal worker. Mr. Wiggins had many hobbies and interests and he had enjoyed going to Brighton for the special activity holidays, including chess, bridge, archery, gardening, fishing and bowls. In June 1980 Mr. Wiggins attended a Woodwork Course at H.Q. and he also enjoyed wrought iron work and made several articles for his garden. At the War Pensioners Exhibition in Leeds last July, Mr. Wiggins had won a prize for his rug making skills. Our sympathy goes to his widow, Jean, and their two children Sandra and Stephen.