



**St Dunstons  
Review  
October 1982**

## Message from the Chairman

### Holidays

Many of you will have been taking holidays at home or abroad and I hope that the weather was good and you had a happy time.

My wife and I have had occasional 'mini breaks' during the year, including a splendid five days in Wales near Cader Idris in the spring. Now I admire even more those stalwarts who have climbed the dizzy heights of such a formidable mountain.

Recently, we returned from a most enjoyable visit to the Highlands of Scotland with stormy weather and interludes of calm and sunshine – in fact, a fisherman's paradise!

### Public Relations

No one can explain what St. Dunstan's is all about better than a St. Dunstaner. For this obvious reason, apart from many others, I am always glad when opportunities occur for St. Dunstan's men and women to demonstrate their skills.

There are some excellent examples of this kind of thing. Ian Fraser House has again held 'Open Days' this summer with streams of visitors watching, listening, trying things out for themselves and departing with, one hoped, a better understanding of blindness. The interest of children was especially aroused – their appreciation of St. Dunstaners and their activities is delightfully illustrated by the quotations published elsewhere in this *Review*.

Through a first casual enquiry by telephone and then the friendly follow-up, parties of student nurses from one of our major teaching hospitals have called at Headquarters and seen something of the hobby training in our Woodwork Department. The girls have met and discussed things with St. Dunstaners and their wives, they have been given leaflets about our Organisation, and word has come back that they were very impressed. Again with nurses' training in mind, it is interesting to learn that our St. Dunstan's film is often shown in teaching hospitals and Ray Hazan, our Assistant Public Relations Officer, visits hospitals periodically to give talks to the nurses. The need for passing on to medical staff information about the problems of blindness was strongly brought home to me when I heard that a St. Dunstaner recently had major surgery and found that his highly skilled, specialist nurses had never had experience in dealing with a blinded man

before. They were wonderfully co-operative in getting all the information they could from his wife about how best to help him and he was full of praise for their care. However, let us hope that the young nurses who have heard a little about St. Dunstaners will have a greater understanding from an early stage in their careers.

A day out for children or hobby woodwork shown to students may happily lead to some benefit for a blind person many years hence.

Jon Barnett-Dave

### RNIB PRICE INCREASES

The price of the RNIB's relief maps, which were advertised in the June *Review*, has now been increased from 88p to £1.43 each. The Braille symbol guide is still only 20p. The game, Othello (cat. 9180) is now £6.54 and the Ringer Timer (cat. 9492) is £4.36

### REPAIRS TO BRAILLE WATCHES

St. Dunstaners are asked to return their Braille watches to the Men's Supplies dept. at HQ whenever they need repair. A record of work done on watches has to be kept and if they are repaired locally, this becomes impossible. Watches can be sent to HQ under the Articles for the Blind label, post free, and our specialist repairers are very reliable. Should a small repair charge be necessary, a bill will be enclosed with the repaired watch.

### FREE TUBE TRAVEL

As from October 1st, travel on the London Underground is free at all times of day to registered blind people. Any enquiries should be addressed to City Hall, Westminster. Tel: 01-828 8070.

### CASSETTE LIBRARY ADDITIONS

**SD 18 C90** Gardener Magazine for April '82.  
**SD 19 C90** Gardener Magazine for July '82.

### RETIREMENT

Douglas Grimes of Eastbourne retired at the end of June after 22½ years as a telephonist at Barclays Bank, and a total of 34 working years. Some 90 friends and colleagues were present at his office retirement party and the *Review* joins with them in wishing him all the best for a happy, healthy retirement.

## St Dunstons Review

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Cover Picture: Dame Vera Lynn in the lounge at Ian Fraser House bids goodbye with a song, "We'll meet again". (See "Tunes of Glory" on page 22)  
Photo: John Barrow

## TRIBUTES TO BEN MILLS

From David Bell:

St. Dunstan's Campers, Sportsmen and Walkers will be saddened to hear of the death of one of our helpers, Ben Mills of Wembley, who died on the 15th August after a serious illness.

Ben, a Member of St. Dunstan's, was a well-known figure at many events involving St. Dunstan's for over 30 years, giving advice and lending a helping hand wherever needed.

He will be greatly missed by his many friends.

From Charles Stafford:

Sadly, on August 15th, Ben Mills passed away at Northwick Park Hospital. Ben will be remembered by many St. Dunstaners for his unfailing help and kindnesses over many years, especially at Lee-on-Solent Camp, given by the Fleet Air Arm, for St. Dunstaners. There his role was endless, arranging our entertainment, including the concert for which he engaged and presented the artistes, the evening always proving to be a great success. Ben's ability to raise funds for charity was remarkable.

On many occasions, and at various venues, he was readily available to escort St. Dunstaners, whether it be road walking at Ewell or Mile End, sports at Ovingdean or Stoke Mandeville, and latterly he also made himself available for getting some of the boys to Brighton for the Masonic Weekend, where his help was very much appreciated. At the Cenotaph Parade he was very proud to march with our boys, he also enjoyed being a Member of St. Dunstan's, one of those whose work for war-blinded men and women has been recognised by honorary membership.

Ben was a full-time serving Metropolitan policeman, and after his retirement from the force, he had his own driving school. He was quite an expert on the bagpipes, and was engaged to play at different functions.

I, personally, have lost a dear and treasured friend, and I miss him very much. I know that all the St. Dunstaners who have met him will feel the loss as I do.

Our most sincere sympathy to his wife Queenie, daughter Janet and family.

From Avis Spurway:

The sudden illness and death of Ben Mills is a great sorrow to his many friends. He has been a most faithful member of the band of helpers at H.M.S. Daedalus and also closely connected with the Walks at Ewell and Sports Weekends at Ian Fraser House and Stoke Mandeville.

He, with his great friend Charles Stafford, raised a lot of money to help build the stadium for the British Sports Association for the Disabled. He found his way to St. Dunstan's through his friendship with Dennis Deacon, who was a life-long helper at St. Dunstan's from his days as a Boy Scout at Regent's Park.

I don't think the Camp would have carried on at Lee all these years without these two great chaps' dedicated service. Perhaps only I know just how much they did for Camp.

Among those attending the funeral on August 20th at Ruislip Crematorium were Mrs. Avis Spurway, Commander Lovell-Smith, Miss Elspeth Grant, Mr. and Mrs. T. Gaygan, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wright and Mrs. Lilie Stafford, unfortunately Charles could not be present due to his commitments to his patients.

Mr. Garnett-Orme writes:

On behalf of the Council and personally, I would like to endorse these tributes which have been paid to Mr. Ben Mills by his old friends. He was a most devoted and splendid helper to St. Dunstaners in many ways over the years and St. Dunstan's honours his memory.

We all send our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

### WHITE CANE DAY.

White Cane Day this year falls on Friday, October 15th. This is an internationally recognised day on which the problems and the achievements of the blind are brought to the attention of the public, by means of exhibitions, Open Days, etc. The theme chosen by the RNIB for this year is Communication—a theme which covers a wide field: Talking Newspapers, handsigns for people who are deaf as well as blind, Moon, Braille, radio, press and television, exhibitions and displays. To mark White Cane Day, the RNIB will be unveiling the new Autobraille, a unique British invention which will help the organisation double its Braille output.

## PALACE GARDEN PARTY

by Joe Humphrey



A fine, warm summer day saw us attired in our finery, sitting in the back of St. Dunstan's car in a queue in the Mall, watching some of the other 800 guests arriving at the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 22nd July. Our knowledgeable chauffeur (Michael) regaled us with reminiscences, while we waited as hundreds of dignitaries and commoners, interspersed with befrosted men of the Church—all with their ladies in a superb assortment of hats—made their way forward.

Eventually, the signal was given and we swept round the Victoria Memorial and into the left-hand gate of the Forecourt and were set down at the centre, underneath the Balcony. We walked through a gate, across the Courtyard and through the entrance made familiar on Television at the Royal wedding, and up the red carpet behind the square-paned glass screen. The lobby beyond is of magnificent proportions, white marble pillars surmounted with gilded ceilings, more acres of red carpet, surrounded by large paintings of various royal forebears—then on into the semi-circular Bow Room, its large windows draped and pelmeted with pink damask tapestry, which also covers the many chairs and settees. Four of the alcoves display a mid-eighteenth-century service of heavily gilded porcelain, presented to Queen Charlotte, and more painted portraits hang on the walls.

We made ourselves known as instructed and sat and watched everyone else arrive until one of the Duke of Edinburgh's secre-

taries came to tell us how we were to be presented and to put us in order—there were seven other couples. Then we went out into the Garden and were placed at various points in the lanes in front of the crowd and there was a hush as the enormous throng turned to look at us.

Eventually, our turn came and Prince Phillip, who was very suntanned, and wearing grey morning dress, came and shook hands with us both and said to me, "I believe we were on the Ramillies together!" From that moment, all tension was gone and we three chatted about the places the Duke and I had visited on HMS Ramillies and about the Crossing the Line Ceremony we had both attended. He asked me how I was blinded and I told him the details of some of the eight raids I had been on before the crossing of the River Garragliano on the Monte Cassino front in 1944, and how I had been bodyguard to Lord Louis Mountbatten in Sicily when he was Chief of Combined Operations. He told how one of the Naval Officers we both knew became a Lieutenant Commander on the Royal Yacht and he asked me what I did now. I told him about my Physiotherapy clinic and he cracked a joke about everyone needing help with their backs and then said, "Well, it's very good of you to come", and reassuringly touched my elbow. I replied that it was very nice to have been invited, and as the Duke turned away, he spotted Tommy Gaygan at the front of the crowd. "Here's another St. Dunstan's badge!" he exclaimed. "Were you in the Marines, too?" Tom replied, "No, I was RECCE, Sir" "We

wouldn't have him in the Marines", I quipped, "He's too thick!" The Duke laughed and gestured towards us and asked Tom's wife, "Do you know these two?" She answered, "Yes, but they're not exactly our best friends!" and there was general laughter all round.

Then we went to see the Queen, Prince Charles, and Princess Anne. Both ladies were wearing the same clothes they wore at Prince Charles' Wedding, the Queen in her turquoise dress and coat, which was pleated finely from the yoke with matching hat, and Princess Anne wore an emerald, heavy silk coat over her yellow and white dress, with just the frill of the dress showing at the hem of the coat and above the low-cut neck-line. Prince and Princess Michael were also at the Party—he looking very much like King George V did in his youth, and the Princess wearing a suit and hat of pale apricot silk.

#### Royal tea

We then went for tea, but were so excited we didn't really want more than a piece of cake, although there were all kinds of things. Later, we each had some iced coffee.

After tea, we walked round the Gardens, which are enormous, and the Lake—it is easy to imagine one is in the country, as only the top of the Hilton Hotel overlooks the gardens.

At 6 o'clock, we all gathered to see the Royal Party leave and the grandeur of the occasion and wonder of the experience, inspired as much by the two Regimental Bands on opposite sides of the Garden as by all the famous and well-known faces around us, made Ted John and Tommy and me and our wives all feel that we had spent a most memorable day, which we should treasure for the rest of our lives. Ted's daughter met us outside the Palace with her camera, so that we could have photographs taken with the Palace in the background, since it is forbidden to take cameras onto the precinct.

For the record—Mrs. Gaygan wore a light navy blue and white printed silk fitted dress, with a navy blue straw hat and accessories; Mrs. John wore a deep navy, finely pleated dress with a tiny white polka-dot through it, navy accessories and a red straw boater. Mrs. Humphrey wore an aubergine dress with a cream straw picture hat, handbag and gloves.

## From the Chairman's Postbag

**From Mrs. A. Embleton, widow of John Embleton of Trimdon Village, Co. Durham.**

We have an only daughter, who has a B.Sc. Nottingham degree. She married an only son, with an Oxford B.A. degree, and 7 years ago, he got a Durham M.Sc. Next Thursday, at Durham, he will get a Ph.D., after years of hard work. We are delighted for him. We are sad that both fathers are dead, but the mothers and our two grandchildren will be at the ceremony.

**From Colin Johnston, Queensland:**

In a letter to you earlier this year about Blind Lawn Bowls I mentioned that Jim Bowen and I were to represent Queensland in the third National Games for the Blind in Perth. As a sequel I wanted you to know that as President of the newly formed Queensland Blind Bowls Association I am able to report that Jim did well in the Games and won for himself a place in the Australian team to compete in the Far East and Pacific Games in Hong Kong in October of this year. I think the team comprises three men and three women and Jim will be going as a novice, not having competed in overseas tournaments before.

We are all very pleased about this and realise that had we not gone to Perth, none of this would have happened. There has never been a Blind Bowls Association in Queensland but now there is, and this is a further result of our private trip to Perth.

Last week our club was opened by a Minister of the Queensland Government who bowled the first bowl. So far we have some eight members, most of us fairly experienced as we are all playing with our own sighted Clubs, such as me with the Warwick Bowls Club. The fourth National Games is to be held in Brisbane next April so we have plenty of work ahead of us in organising the bowls section. I suppose the numbers from all States will be similar to Perth, although, of course, there will be 12 players from Queensland instead of two, as in Perth.

Elizabeth and I keep very well and continue to enjoy retirement in the sunny State. We enjoyed very much having Jane and Charles Williamson with us in January.



## POWER GLIDING FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

On August 26th, the final day of the Inter-Services Regional Gliding Championships at Colerne in Wiltshire, a presentation was made which will provide the opportunity for disabled people to enjoy gliding.

Jimmy Wright, our St. Dunstaner, well-known for his work for disabled people generally, took part in the inaugural flight of the Slingsby powered glider and he sent us this account:

"It was a great privilege and wonderful experience for me to have been invited by the Chairman of Disablement in the City, my fellow Guinea Pig and double amputee, Sam Gallop, to join him at the old RAF Colerne Airfield on August 26th, for the official presentation of the Slingsby Powered Glider. Sam Gallop made the official presentation to Air Marshal Sir Michael Beavis, President of the R.A.F. Gliding and Soaring Association, and read H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh's message of congratulations and wishing success to the project. I was fortunate enough to have been co-pilot with Air Marshal John Brownlow of the RAFGSA on the inaugural flight of the powered glider. It is believed that this is the first time in the world that disabled people have had their own dedicated gliding facility. The immense advantage of the powered glider is that it can easily be flown from one airfield to another throughout the United Kingdom where groups of disabled people can take advantage of the ability to experience gliding and, perhaps, take it up as a regular leisure activity. The powered glider is more

economical to use than the aero-tow by tug aircraft, and of course, can obtain much greater height before the engine is switched off for normal gliding than a glider which is towed up by winch and only attains a height of approximately 1000 feet before being released. This is yet another advance towards the integration of disabled people with the able-bodied, enabling them to enjoy participation in a sport otherwise only previously experienced by the able-bodied. Many of us St. Dunstaners who attend the Lee Camp have already had an opportunity to glide with the Portsmouth Naval Gliding Club on the airfield at HMS Daedalus, and it is good news, to hear from Commander Bunny Hale, the Chief Flying Instructor of the Club, that he arranged a disabled leisure day on 25th September, which was attended by approximately 450 disabled people, including Tony Dodd, and this was the first major engagement for the Slingsby and an opportunity for disabled people to experience gliding for the first time."

We learn from Squadron Leader G.W. Cunningham, of the RAF Gliding and Soaring Association, that sponsors of the project in association with Disablement in the City and Opportunities for the Disabled include the major clearing banks; British Aerospace; Irvin, Great Britain; St. Dunstan's and John Swire and Sons. St. Dunstaners interested can obtain detailed information from: Peter White at Bannerdown Gliding Club, Royal Air Force, Hullavington, Wilts.



### WARMINSTER 1982 by Ralph Pacitti

The dates of the annual visit to Warminster Camp this year were 8th-12th July and it is my pleasure as a first visitor to try and give you a picture of a very pleasant weekend.

The St. Dunstaners from the Brighton area left I.F.H. at 10.15 on a specially hired coach. On arrival at Warminster we were welcomed by members of the Rotarians at the Assembly Rooms, at the same time meeting up with our other St. Dunstan's colleagues who had travelled from other parts of the country. During the afternoon in the Assembly Rooms I was fortunate to meet Miss Oliphant who is now 90 years old but still very active, and once again we say thank you for all you have done for us throughout the years. In the evening we were welcomed by C.S.M. Bob Inns in the Sgts. mess with refreshment of course, when a group photograph was taken by Bob, and later on we were presented with a copy each as a memento of our visit. Later in the evening we were dined out at the Bell with quite a number of the Rotarians in attendance, and as you can imagine a very convivial time was had by all.

Friday morning was confined to a do it yourself time, a bit of shopping, a game of cards or just generally relaxing. In the afternoon we visited Mr. Robin Robertson-Glasgow, where we were treated to a fine afternoon of entertainment including a nice tea of sandwiches and cakes, in fact everyone rallying round, making sure we were going to have a good time. Friday evening saw us being entertained at the British Legion Warminster, where the

Commandant of the Camp, Brigadier Ian McKay, came around to talk to us all individually, the whole atmosphere being one of joy and kindness. At the end of the evening we gathered to remember those who had fallen in the Falklands dispute also the bereaved.

Saturday was Salisbury races, and with the weather forecast being not too promising, pac a macs were the order of the day. During a bright spell prior to the first race, we enjoyed a very nice picnic by the coach, and although we did not finish up as millionaires, the weather after all did stay fine. The evening continued with a dance in the Sgts. mess and, with continuing fine weather, a lovely barbecue was arranged outside.

Sunday morning saw us attending church parade, during which part of the St. Luke's gospel was read by Bill Phillips, and I do believe this is the first time this has been done at camp by a St. Dunstaner. The remainder of the day we were fostered out to be individual guests of our Rotarian host families, and for me I would like to say thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Ford for a very special day.

Sadly Monday morning arrived too soon, not only for our departure but also the weather seemed to be complaining too with heavy thunder and rain lasting for some hours, I did hear one of our hosts say it hasn't been so bad for years. Prior to departure we sat down to a beautiful lunch with the usual speeches of thanks. During our visit Basil Haines, President of the

Rotarian Club, had not been feeling too well, and we all hope you are now feeling much better Basil. Finally thank you all for a most memorable weekend.

George Reed, Reg Godin, Bill Allen, Bob Evans, Fred Dickerson, Bob Fullard, Ron Freer, Harry Harding, Tim Kirk (from Calgary), John Whitcombe, Ralph Pacitti, Wally Lethbridge, Harry Preedy, George McKay, Jim Padley, Bill Phillips, Jimmy Legge and Bernard Blacker were the St. Dunstaners enjoying the hospitality of the Rotarians and the ladies of the Inner Wheel.

### P.O.W. REUNION

St. Dunstaners who are ex-prisoners of war are invited to The Seventh Annual Re-union at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon on Friday, 29th October, 1982 beginning at 7.45 p.m. when the Ex-P.O.W. Chelsea Pensioners march into the hall, led by various Association Standards. The re-created Stalag VIII B Dance Orchestra, led by Jimmy Howe, along with the Nigel Brooks Singers, will play the songs of World War II in the style of Glen Miller and the other leading dance bands of the period. The accent will be on a "Sing-along" evening, and a tribute will be paid to the Guest of Honour, Dame Anne Bryans, D.B.E., who is celebrating her birthday. Dame Anne helped with the packing of our Red Cross parcels during the war.

Members of the R.A.F. Ex-P.O.W. Association will again be on duty as German "postens", and the usual P.O.W. personalities will also entertain. The concert will end around 10 p.m. with the playing of "Land of Hope and Glory", and the National Anthem of Poland, then we move to the Arnhem Gallery where we can reminisce and join in the traditional "Auld Lang Syne" at 00.30 hours.

The Fairfield Halls are five minutes walk from East Croydon Station and the train service to London, Victoria, continues during the night. A list of Croydon hotels can be sent to any patrons desirous of staying the night. Refreshments are available at the Fairfield, and there are five bars, with an extension until midnight.

**Hotel List from: Mr. F. Walter, 48 Essendene Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5PA.**  
**Ticket applications to: Box Office, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, Surrey.**  
**Concert: £3.25, £3.75, £4.25, £4.75.**  
**Arnhem Gallery Reunion: £1.75.**



### HARRY WHEELER HONOURED

Officers of the Wimbledon Branch of the Royal British Legion made a special journey recently to Ian Fraser House. They were honouring our St. Dunstaner, Harry Wheeler, who retired from the Presidency of the Branch in 1980, after a lifetime's service, during which he was awarded the Legion's Gold Badge.

The current President, Mr. Steve Doolin, and Captain C. Willcocks, a Trustee to the Branch, received from Harry a new trophy, the Harry Wheeler Shield. "As a reminder to members of Harry's contribution to the Wimbledon Branch, the shield is to be awarded annually to the Sportsman of the Year. The recipient for 1982 is goalkeeper, John Fisher", said Mr. Doolin.

Our photograph shows Harry Wheeler, centre, handing over the trophy to Captain Willcocks and Mr. Doolin in the lounge of St. Dunstan's, Ian Fraser House.

### WORKING BLIND by Joyce Neill

*Published by Pegasus Press, Christchurch, New Zealand.*

Readers of the *Review* will be familiar with the name of Jim May, M.B.E., in connection with his work for St. Dunstan's New Zealand. "Working Blind" is the story of Jim's life.

This book is not only an account of the way a distinguished Commonwealth St. Dunstaner overcame his blindness after he was wounded by a mine during the advance after the Battle of El Alamein in 1942; it is also a history of the foundation of St. Dunstan's training centre in New Zealand, formally opened in 1945.

Jim May's work towards establishing the

centre at One Tree Hill was rewarded by his appointment as Director and from then on, his life was dedicated to the needs of New Zealand's war-blinded and, later, to the wider needs of blind people in New Zealand, through his appointment as Assistant Director, Welfare, Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind. From 1962 until 1980, he represented St. Dunstan's England on the Blinded Ex-Servicemen's Trust Board.

Jim's enthusiasm for small boats and

fishing are also well described and among a number of excellent illustrations is a photograph of him with a 139lb Mako Shark, victim of his rod and line.

Jim May is now retired after a career that has contributed greatly to the welfare of the blind in New Zealand and fully carried on the great traditions established by earlier St. Dunstaners, in carrying the spirit of St. Dunstan's work throughout the Commonwealth. 'Working Blind' is a well-deserved tribute.

## TAPE RECORDING WEEK

From a tape by Barbara Bell

As sound plays such a large part in the life of a person with impaired vision, one might assume that many would be interested in this week at Ian Fraser House. But it was a small band that gathered in the Winter Garden on the Monday. The object was to play to the other members of the group recordings made during previous months.

Barbara Bell played an original item—a mouse dealing with various items of bait left in a cupboard. Elsie Aldred had recorded a very vocal thrush in her garden, and Roy Davis, the Band of the Royal Engineers, in stereo in the lounge at IFH.

The second day started with a film and talk by a representative of the Coast Guard Sta-

*Tape recordists at the Bluebell Railway.*



tion at Shoreham. The party visited the Station in the afternoon, where, amongst other items, they were able to listen in to ship-to-shore radio conversations.

Animals and birds are the recordists' nightmare: they never speak or perform on request! The mynah birds at Windshaven were no exception on the Wednesday morning. This is a bird sanctuary for injured fowl, both wild and domesticated, hence the large numbers of macaws and mynahs.

### Realms of nostalgia

The afternoon provided a trip by steam to the realms of nostalgia. The Bluebell Railway runs for 5 miles from Sheffield Park. There are some 28 engines, though not all in working order. The party boarded carriages towed by an 0440 type loco, which came into service in 1908 and retired in about 1963. Eagerly, microphones were hung out of the carriage windows as the guard blew his whistle and the loco puffed its way from the station, and the carriages clickety-clicked their way across the joints and points. When the engine went round its loop to rejoin the

*Barbara Bell*



front of the train at its destination, Barbara was lucky enough to get onto the footplate, or hotplate, as she insisted on calling it, to record the driver and engine noises. The sunny day outside, and the fire-box, made it a warm experience!

It was a trip by 'ordinary British Rail' the next day, in order to visit, thanks to Jimmy Wright, the ITN News studios, and a sound-dubbing studio. Elsie and Gordon were lucky enough to visit ITN as a broadcast went out, while the remainder of the party were shown how sound effects, from the slamming of car doors to footsteps, produced by actors who specialise in such antics, are dubbed onto sound tracks. Some special effects contain nothing but 'atmosphere', that is to say, the difference of background noise between indoor sound and outdoor—such as birdsong, aircraft and the rustling of the wind.

Friday enabled the group to recover from the physical stresses of the week, but their mental powers were tested by Tom Eeles, who very kindly organised a sound quiz.

### Highlight

The highlight of the week was the visit on Saturday to the Trooping of the Colour. Only at the event can one record the atmosphere, which is lost on radio or TV. Only there can you record a Scots Guardsman telling you the three ways of recognising the different Guards, from a distance. (Answer on the Talking Review!)

So another recording week came to the end of the spool. Although a small group, they hope to continue with these weeks in the future. New participants will be most welcome, as will any suggestions for future visits. Ideas should be sent to Harold Smith of Peacehaven. The thanks of the participants go to Mr. Conway and all the staff at Ian Fraser House, who made the week possible.

### PUZZLE CORNER

A.J. Turner of Shepperton has sent in this brain teaser:

**QUESTION:** The ages of two ships total 100 years. When the second ship was launched, the first ship was half as old again as the second is at the present time. What are their ages now?

(Answer on page 15)



*"I wonder what it's like to read Braille"; this young visitor closed his eyes to try and find out.*

*An interested group of visitors in the Handicraft Room.*



*Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme join some young people watching Aubrey "Dusty" Miller demonstrating audio-typing.*

## Open Days at Ian Fraser House

On July 6th and 7th, Ian Fraser House opened its doors to the public for a second time, following the successful event in 1981 for the International Year of Disabled People. This time both days were available to those living or holidaying in Brighton to see the many activities that go on.

Hundreds came to be guided around the House by members of staff and to meet St. Dunstaners in the training rooms, the workshops and the recreation areas. They saw lessons going on in Braille and type-writing, activities in the handicraft rooms and workshops and demonstrations of the special devices for blind people.

One of the star attractions was the amateur radio station set up in the Winter Garden and another was Ron Smith's talk on birds, illustrated by his own tape recordings and by slides.

Out on the field, the Archery Club staged a 'shoot' and in the pool other St. Dunstaners "amazed" their sighted visitors by their swimming and diving. The film "To Live Again" was shown many times over

the two days to appreciative audiences.

A popular point on the tour was the training kitchen and the products of St. Dunstaners' cooking could be bought at the sale of craft-work in the Entrance Hall. On sale, too, was a range of the handicrafts visitors had earlier seen in the making.

Visitors of all ages enjoyed their time at St. Dunstan's and from the younger generation, pupils of Rottingdean and Rottingdean Middle Schools, came a host of appreciative letters. We include some quotes:

*"I would like to thank you for such a terrific morning . . . It showed me how important my eyes are to me."*

*Andrew*

*"All I talked about yesterday was your superb home . . . Special thanks to Wally who showed us that, even though he is deaf and blind, he can do some of the things that I'll never be able to do".*

*Wendy*



Harry Meleson demonstrating picture-framing in the workshops.

"The pictures in the bird film were excellent and as I have never heard a Nightingale singing before, I thought it was lovely."

Christina

"At St. Dunstan's I found everyone was very independent in every way".

Sarah

"I think everything they do or make is fabulous. I like to see them get out and go places".

Tara

"Every single blind person I saw had so much confidence in what they were doing and . . . they still manage to keep up their sense of humour".

Lucy

"To all of you who are blind I think you are very courageous and clever".

Philip

"You make brilliant things for your ability and I highly rate them".

Jason

"I thought the clocks were clever because they talked".

David

"By the time I left I was stunned by the abilities of the blind people".

Clare

. . . and last but by no means least:

"Your dinners smelt lovely".

Matthew

George Cole and Norman Maries in the Amateur Radio Shack.



## A Moment to Spare with Sid Scroggie

### BLUE BLOOD OR NOTHING

To have become a grandfather, as I did recently is a great stimulus to consulting the family-tree, and I am disappointed in my case not to have found anybody hung for sheep-stealing. Certain XVIIIth Century sugar planters in Jamaica offer a touch of romance, slave-owners they were, who all died of blackwater fever; but for the rest, my immediate forebears seem to have been by comparison a dull lot. What with his D.S.O., M.C. (2 bars) and Médaille Militaire, my father shot like a meteorite across an otherwise uninteresting sky. Thomas Bewick is very likely responsible for this general inconspicuousness, the Northumberland wood-engraver, from whom I am descended on my mother's side. A man can use up all his family's capacity for generations to come, and it is possible Bewick recklessly squandered what might otherwise have been his descendants' inheritance of genius, leaving nothing but scraps for such as me. Shaw's Dauphin petulantly bemoans the fact that his grandfather Louis XIth exhausted for ever the Bourbon capacity for sainthood.

What Bewick did to my maternal line with regard to Art was done to my paternal line by one James Valentine, this time in the field of business. Learning photography from Daguerre, he built up a worldwide publishing concern, pawning his posterity, it would seem, in the interest of immediate

achievement. For any business capacity whatever, I look to contemporary kinsfolk in vain.

If all flair for Art, then, is vitiated in his line, for commerce as well, what can my grandson hope for in the way of inheritance, he who comes down from James Valentine at the time of Waterloo, Thomas Bewick at that of the Bastille. There used to be Gaelic spoken in the family, Kirstie Stewart of Kinlochranoch had it, Annie Cameron of Dunkeld, but not only have we lost it as a family, the very dialect they spoke no longer exists. His grandfather knew the last speaker of the Atholl Gaelic, old Mary Forbes of Croftmore; Jason William Valentine Scroggie is too late by ten years to hear it, let alone speak it.

Does the name Lady Agnes Callander perhaps suggest something, scion in Regency days of a noble Scottish house? Her daughter eloped with the gardener; the couple fled to Dundee; and there is some admixture of their issue in me, some in my son's son, too. There may be nothing else under that tuft of black hair, neither of Bewick nor Valentine, but in his veins, for what it is worth, there are at least some ebbing drops of ancient aristocracy.

**ANSWER TO THE BRAIN TEASER ON PAGE 11:** When the second ship was launched, the first ship was 42 and six-sevenths years old. Their ages now are: First ship—seventy one and three-sevenths years. Second ship—twenty eight and four-sevenths years.



## Amateur radio weekend

by Charles Campkin G4JDA.

The weekend of July 23rd to the 25th saw the summer session of the St. Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society held in the Winter Garden at Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean. Despite the recent travel difficulties and the seasonal holidays, 16 licensed amateurs and short wave listeners gathered, for what turned out to be a most enjoyable and memorable occasion. We were pleased to welcome a new member, Arthur Holmes, and we wish him success, both in his studies, and the enjoyment of his future hobby.

Bredhurst Electronics following up their exhibition of new equipment on show last March provided, on loan, the new T.S. 130 S. transceiver for our evaluation as a suitable operational transmitter for the blind. It met with general approval by those present, and the approbation of our C.W. critic, George Cole, G4AWI FOC. Our thanks to Richard of Bredhurst.

Our Chairman, Peter Jones G3DRE, drew our attention to the excellent work done by the three members of the Society who operated the special station during the two Open Days earlier in the month, operating on all modes.

After lunch on Saturday we were the guests of the *Western Gazette* on a return visit to the Chalk Pit Museum at Amberley. We were welcomed by Ron and Joan Ham, both Radio enthusiasts, and their welcome was as warm as their enthusiasm. We were given a personal tour and accompanying detailed description of all the exhibits by Ron and his staff, and escorted by Elaine G4LMF, the technical assistant of *Practical Wireless* and members of the Brighton Radio Amateurs Club. We were amazed at the immense progress that had been made in the development of the Museum and facilities since our last visit two years ago.

It was most gratifying to be told of the wall panel embodying the activities of St. Dunstan's, in a place of prominence.

We commenced with a visit to the Radio Museum laid out chronologically to illustrate the advancement in radio technology from the initial crystal sets at the turn of the century to the modern

television and satellite data. Taking in on the way the valve and wet string instruments that were sheer nostalgia to those of us who had at one time or other worked the No. 11, 19 or even the 48 Commando sets during our Service careers. These were now housed in two classrooms that had been dismantled, transported and re-assembled in their new sites and were now a "joint" modern radio amateur station, where Jerry worked both VHF and HF transmitters, the latter with a Quad Aerial, mounted on a 60ft. tower, to the delight of young and old. Adjoining this was a "mock up" of the front end of a wartime Lancaster bomber, showing the pilot's cabin, radar and wireless operator's sections, when equipped with taped attack and flack tapes it should be most realistic.

Behind the radio establishment lies the beginning of the narrow gauge railway, which, though nearing completion, will eventually run the full length of the Chalk Pits. Three engines are even now undergoing cleaning, re-assembling, testing and painting by an army of railway fanatics, eager to see the results of their labours and to "get it running". From the diesel and steam of the tracked vehicles, we turned to the solid tyres of a 1923 open decked bus; complete with outside staircase and wooden seats, that were remade with loving care. This transported us to the engine sheds and thence to the workshop, where a potter moulded his clay, turning it carefully on a push wheel, and explained some of the intricacies of his craft. These premises, formerly a shell, had now been roofed with all sizes of hand made tiles, intricately arranged and fitted by hand. There were many other things that we were unable to see—the blacksmith's, the cobbler's and leather workshops but time had run out, so a quick cup of tea at the restaurant and souvenir shop sent us off to a late evening meal, with the sounds echoing in our ears "Come again soon". A thousand thanks to Ron, Joan, Elaine and the many friends, both in and out of the Chalk Pits. The local hostelries no doubt benefitted from the unaccustomed exercise.

The Sunday morning service made up in the singing for the poor attendance, and following coffee, we were enlightened by Roy Bannister, G4GPX and his wife Joyce, who instructed us, by an excellent demonstration, in the mysteries of the new

Audio Bridge—a device that enables the totally blind to ascertain S.W.R. from minimum to a danger point—a very useful instrument indeed. This brought to a close the official part of the programme, but who knows, perhaps they are still comparing the merits and demerits of A.T.U's and S.W.R's.

## Welcome to St. Dunstan's



*On behalf of St. Dunstan's, we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership and the Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.*

**Samuel Beale** of Blackpool joined St. Dunstan's on the 23rd July. Mr. Beale served as a Private in the Manchester Regiment during the 1st World War and was wounded in 1919. He is a widower, with one son.

**Herbert Firrell** of Norwich joined St. Dunstan's on the 5th August. Mr. Firrell served as a Corporal in the Royal Anglian Regiment, during the 1st World War. He is a widower, with six children.

**Leonard Henry Hassam** of Warminster joined St. Dunstan's on the 19th July. Mr. Hassam served as a Lance Corporal in the R.A.S.C. in the Second World War. He was at Dunkirk and discharged through ill health in 1942. He is 63 years old and married with two adult sons.

**Stephen McGuinness** of Kirkby, Liverpool, joined St. Dunstan's on the 5th August. Mr. McGuinness served as a Private in the Royal Armoured Corps. during the 2nd World War, and was a Far East P.O.W. He is a widower and has two daughters and one son.

*S.O.W. →*  
*R.A.F.*  
**Alfred Arthur Taylor** of New Malden, joined St. Dunstan's on 22nd July. Mr. Taylor enlisted in the R.A.C. in 1945 and was invalided out in June 1947. He retired from the Civil Service on September 30th this year. He is 61 years of age and married with two adult sons.

**Robert Edwin Taylor** of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, joined St. Dunstan's on the 17th August. Mr. Taylor served as a Gunner in the Royal Artillery during the Second World War. He is married, with two adult children.

## THE DACRE TROPHY

by David Bell

On Thursday 2nd September, Sybil and I were privileged to be guests at the presentation of the Dacre Trophy to 111 Squadron R.A.F. Leuchars, Fife. Our invitation came through the kindness of Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre who was presenting the Award, which is in memory of her son, Flying Officer Kenneth Fraser Dacre, D.F.C., killed in action over Germany in 1943.

Following the special parade and fly-past by the Phantoms, we had lunch with the new Air Officer Commanding 11 Group, Air Vice-Marshal K. Hayr, and the Station Commander, Group Captain Graydon, Wing Commander Mike Elsam, his Squadron and their ladies.

Mrs. Dacre, charming as ever, handing over the Trophy stated that this was the 30th Annual award to the most proficient fighter squadron in the UK and went on to describe the Trophy. The marble plinth supports three archers with long-bows, in bronze. The long-bows are similar to those found recently in the Mary Rose. These archers were the champion fighters of those days, so it is appropriate that treble one (111) squadron, known as the Temblers, should receive the award and recognition as the Champion of Champions.

It was a wonderful day and I felt honoured, as a "Pongo", to be a guest on these hallowed grounds.

## COUNTRY MUSIC CASSETTE

A Hove-based Company, "Bright Moon Music", is hoping to produce a monthly magazine of Country Music on cassette. The magazine would include the story of Country Music, songs and some messages from well-known country singers. Before launching the project, Bright Moon Music needs to find out whether the demand for the magazine would be great enough to make it worthwhile. Anyone who enjoys listening to Country Music and who would be interested in receiving the monthly cassette is asked to contact:

Miss C. Goldring,  
Producer,  
Bright Moon Music,  
75 Church Road,  
Hove, Sussex.  
Tel: Brighton 734624.



## DAWN AT HICKLING

by Ron Smith

Broadland is an area of Norfolk which lies East of a line from Mundesley to Norwich and North of one from Norwich to Yarmouth. This unique part of the county caused speculation for years as to its origin, but now it is known that these are mediaeval turf diggings. Through it flow the Yare and Bure, with their tributaries. Now, Barton Broad is exceptional in that the river flows through it, while the other Broads have rivers flowing alongside.

A little bit about the Turf industry – let us call it Peat. That flourished in the 12th, 13th, and 14th Centuries and peat was distributed not only to Norwich and its surrounding districts, and to the great Convents like St. Benedict's, but also for the purpose of making peat fires to boil up salt water in the Braying pans along the East Coast. Much of the salt went to Yarmouth, for they too had an industry – salted herrings, and a good deal of their production went all over Europe.

Joan Smith, my escort, and I visited the area well before the holiday season got under way. It was then we found the peace and beauty of the waters paramount and the

nature lover, whether a specialist or not, can see and hear great varieties of birds and what a great treat for the Botanist too, to come across some of the most unusual and interesting plants, and if you are lucky, as Joan was on two occasions, to see the beautiful Swallow Tail butterfly feeding on the Milk Parsley. For myself, I love sounds, and one that always stands out in my memory, and a very simple one, is the wind blowing through the serried ranks of reeds and rushes.

We visited two particular reserves. The first was Hickling Broad National Nature Reserve, and the second was Ranworth Conservation Centre, owned by the Norfolk Naturalist Trust.

Hickling is the oldest reserve in the country and, coupled with Horsey Reserve, it constitutes one of the most important wetland areas in Europe. We arrived at Hickling early one morning, actually about 3.15. We started to walk along one of the paths, and I could not help but remark at the noise that the birds were making, considering how very early it was. I remember checking my watch and it required 20 minutes before

dawn. Apparently there was a simple explanation for all this; although the moon was on the wane and going down in the West, it was still brilliant, throwing white sheen over the whole of the area. Well, it was almost like daylight and yet, away to the East it was still dark and I suppose what these birds were doing really, as the weather had been so severe now for many, many weeks, was making up for lost time and getting on with the job of making nests and producing young.

I could hear many Black-Headed Gulls. It must be hazardous for all the ducks, because we heard quite a number of Mallards there and Coots and Moorhens, and some of these would have young. Yes, a hazardous time with all these Gulls about.

### Cuckoos

A number of people have mentioned the shortage of Cuckoos in our countryside. That is so, but hundreds and hundreds of miles of hedgerows have been grubbed up and so, of course, if you take away the habitat, you take away the species. At Hickling, there was no shortage whatsoever and for the whole of the time we were there, we could hear Cuckoos calling.

Mr. Stuart Linthall is the Warden at Hickling and he furnished me with quite a bit of information about the Reserve, for example, it is open to visitors from 1st April each year until the end of October. It covers fourteen hundred acres. During the last decade, improved facilities have been made for visitors and today there are no less than five nature trails available to them; two are conducted boat tours and one water trail was granted the Duke of Edinburgh's Countryside Award for 1970 and this has proved very, very popular with many of the holiday visitors.

As the grey light of dawn has now turned to white and covered most of the eastern sky, so more and more of our birds are waking up to greet this new day. The Canada Geese are proclaiming their rise, Oh! and there is much-to-do about nothing. I think one is the Grandfather, trying very hard to shake them into some kind of activity. There is quite a deal of chatting now from the Reed Warblers; we can also hear the Reed-Bunting and, a little distance away, I heard the Wren, and every now and then, the ceaseless flitting across the picture of Red

Polls and the beautiful voice of the Willow Warbler. All these tiny creatures trying desperately hard to be overheard in this greatest choir of melody and nature's gift to harmony.

Of course, not all our birds are really beautiful to look at, but you must admit how striking the male Sheld Duck is, with its beautiful black and white plumage, or the wonderful colouring of the Greater Crested Grebe. That very common Duck, the male Mallard, all those beautiful greens – how fantastic they are. But some of the smaller birds appear quite plain until you get very close to them and then you see all this wonderful blending of browns and greys. One little bird I am thinking of at this moment is the next to the smallest of British Birds, the Wren. He has the highest song of any of the birds, and according to one great naturalist, his frequencies are just about one octave above the highest note on the piano.

We heard many predators that morning, apart from the Black-Headed Gulls. Yes, the Jackdaws were there and we even heard a Tawny Owl, which landed not very far away. It was calling, then after a few seconds it lifted up on very silent wings.

### Red Shanks

Then, a moment later, flying overhead, came the Red Shanks. They really had objected to our company, and they were flying backwards and forwards, calling anxiously. Ah well, it was time for us to move on, anyway. As we began to move away, I checked my watch; it was 5.30 a.m. and already, to the West, heavy clouds were appearing, predicting further rain to come. We proceeded towards the exit in a round-about way. On one occasion, we went through fairly deep water, almost coming over the top of the rubber boots. But you know, considering the vast amount of rain we had had, the paths were in very good condition. We continued for some distance, leaving behind the wild cries of the Water Fowl and the other birds.

We arrived at one spot and were almost surrounded by very tall reeds and, as I felt one or two of these, I began to think of the maintenance required and the words of Mr. Linthall, the Warden, who told me that three maintenance men were employed, and each winter, until the beginning of May, they would take a reed harvest and almost every



Ron Smith and Joan recording from a boat in the early light of dawn.

year they take about 20 thousand bundles. In a way, this is a kind of pruning, because it keeps healthy stock that way. The reeds are then despatched to the West Country, for the purpose of thatching, and then, in July and August, they take another harvest of the plant called the Saw Sedge. This is used for the capping on roofs, because the reeds are far too brittle to bend over. But the reeds serve another wonderful purpose, too, in providing nesting sites for hundreds of Reed Warblers and, in some cases, for Bearded Tits.

Before leaving the Reserve, I had more information given to me by Mr. Stuart Linthall, the Warden at Hickling. "One of the past attractions of Hickling Broad is now sadly missing; about four hundred Mute Swans used to make a beautiful picture upon the waters. Now, only four pairs are here. Aquatic plants provided them with food, but during the past ten to twelve years, pollution, mainly in the form of phosphates and nitrates, also diesel oil from the hordes of hire craft, have killed off the plant-life. In addition, the once luxurious fish population has been decimated. For the polluted waters

contain an algae which starves the water of any oxygen. The algae thrives on these waters, turning them into pea soup and at the end of the season it is almost impossible to see a white disc more than about 4 inches below the surface. Fortunately, Hickling Broad is surrounded by a flood bank; outside this, the dikes and the marshes have clear water and there is plenty of plant-life, insects and fish and it is a joy to see."

You know, what I find very strange about all this is this, that hundreds of years ago, mediaeval man in his ignorance helped to create all of this area of beauty, yet modern superman with all his scientific and technical knowledge is, in *his* ignorance, helping to destroy it. . .

#### DAWN AT RANWORTH NATURE TRAIL

The Broadland Conservation Centre in Ranworth is owned by the Norfolk Naturalist Trust and was opened to visitors by Her Majesty the Queen in 1976. It is a wooden, thatched building and is quite unique as it is built on two floating pontoons. It can be

approached either by boat or along an interesting nature trail from the road. Visitors may pass through Woodland, Fen and Wetland Vegetation.

Early one morning, about 3.30, Joan and I arrived at the woodland end of the nature trail. How quiet it was, compared with the Hickling Reserve. No moon here, to guide the early morning risers. How still it was, except for the occasional crackling of a dead twig. There was slight movement in the undergrowth, quite unexplained. Away in the distance, we could hear the hunting of the Tawny Owls. The deep sound of a Mallard Drake, the sharp, lonely voice of a Moor-hen. There were tiny droplets of water falling down from the trees, one or two going on to broad leaves with a resounding plop. Away in the distance, the Skylark had volunteered to be first up and was boasting about it. Nearby, a Tawny Owl had been calling, waiting for the distant too-wit too-woo; when it came, she gave one call, and was away on silent wings.

We had the most welcome visitor that early morning in the form of the Warden at Ranworth, Mr. Francis Russell, and I remember mentioning to him at the time how loath some of the birds were to take part in the songs, especially the woodland birds, because it really was well past dawn.

But then, it was a very dull morning and already the leaves were being stirred by wind.

Yes, the Robins and the Thrushes were there and it wasn't until afterwards that I realised they were waiting for the striking of the Church clock. We had to move away from the woodland end of the nature trail because the wind was blowing. It was not blowing hard, but it was more of a nuisance whilst recording. So we moved along the path to a more sheltered spot, where the Warden was telling us about some of the interesting trees and plants growing there, and Joan asked him to tell us what the red spots were on the leaves of the currant bush. "They are very distinct against the green leaf, and this in fact is caused by very small insects, called Gauls; you get them on the currant leaves. The Sycamore also has a Gaul, a little red pimple on the surface of the leaf, and the oak tree."

"This is a nice area of open Fen. We have cleared all the trees and shrubs and it stretches to about half an acre. On either side of the path and once a year, we cut the reed back to allow the Milk Parsley and various other flowers to come through. There are some nice Marsh Marigolds just to the left of us here, and some Ladies Smock or Cuckoo Flower, which obviously flowers

The Broadland Conservation Centre, Ranworth, in winter.



when the Cuckoo is around. Purple and Yellow Loosestrife come through, and the Marsh Gentian is quite common."

Francis then took us up in the boat on to the broad, which is not normally accessible to visitors. He told us that a fair number of birds pick up injuries getting tangled up in the fishing lines and obviously, lines are very nasty things to get wound round your feet, and sometimes the birds actually lose a leg or a part of the wing because of this. I mentioned that I believed there was quite a lot of trouble about the Swans swallowing the hooks: "Yes, and leadshot as well; it accumulates in the muscles and in the bone and they suffer paralysis of the muscles and the nerves due to this lead content".

#### Dying trees

Francis went on, "The edge of the Broad we are travelling past now consists of very large Alder trees, and Willow trees which grow right on the very edges of the broad. A lot of these die, and actually fall into the water. Most of the vegetation around the banks has been washed out and eroded away and a lot of the trees just can't get a hold and fall into the water".

I thought hard about what the Warden had said about the possibility that much of the vegetation along the banks had been killed off by pollution, eventually allowing many of the trees to topple over. My hand touched the water and I wondered whether, at the end of the season, this would be as foul as predicted. Would this poison, Salgitprimnesium, finally seal any oxygen from getting into the water; and when the water heated up to a certain temperature, would botulism explode and either paralyse or kill any of the water fowl I was just now listening to? What a terrible thought – and we, the public, are responsible for this and, I suppose partly to ease our consciences, we can thank such organisations as the Norfolk Naturalist Trust for providing such dedicated people as these Wardens to the Reserve. Whether or not this is a losing battle, surely the next decade will tell; and it was while I was thus engaged with my thoughts, that the boat we were in suddenly got jammed onto one of those trees which was partially submerged. Well, after much hard work, Francis eventually pulled us away from the obstacle and we ran alongside one of the rafts provided by the Trust for the purpose of the Tern to

nest on. There were many nests and eggs, and as I had never seen the Tern's eggs before, I asked Francis to tell me a little bit about the colour of them. "Both are a sort of buff greeney colour, with the brown and darkish mottlings more on the larger egg", he told me. "They are smaller than a Hen's egg, about the size of a Bantam's egg. Now we have got 13 clutches of three in the raft and there is an odd clutch of 2. There are a lot of dead fish gathered about – some small Roach and things."

The Warden kindly rowed with us back to the centre. It was still very early in the morning, the time was just about 6 a.m., and as Joan and I strolled along the paths, she noticed the weather was changing. Although the sun was still bright, very heavy clouds were appearing. But it is surprising how quickly the birds will react to a warm, bright morning.

#### Thanks

It was time for me to say my goodbyes to Ranworth and first of all, I must give my thanks to Miss Wallen, the Director of the Norfolk Naturalist Trust, and to the two Wardens, Mr. Stuart Linthall, of Hickling Broad Reserve, for all the wonderful information which he gave me and, secondly, to Mr. Francis Russell, the Warden at Ranworth, for all his wonderful help and, indeed, the marvellous boat ride and, of course, not forgetting Miss Joan Smith, for all her wonderful care and guidance.

### TUNES OF GLORY

by Laurie Slade

Charlie Hankins lost both legs, was wounded in the chest – and now has only one lung – and also blinded in one eye whilst serving in North Africa during the last War. He is a resident of The Royal Star and Garter Home in Richmond, Surrey, and on Wednesday 18th August, drove an old motorised invalid tricycle 55 miles from Richmond Hill to Ian Fraser House, Ovingdean.

Charlie served with the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment), and on the journey down to Ovingdean, at four chosen spots, he played Scottish tunes on his bagpipes, as well as at the start and finish of his trip. The titles of six "Tunes of Glory" were

each put in a sealed envelope and a competition was devised to attract sponsors to guess the order in which Charlie would play these en route. The first three competitors picked out, who guessed the correct order of the tunes, would win prizes of £50, £25 and £10.

The profits from the event, nearly £1,000, will be devoted to The Royal Star and Garter Home, St. Dunstan's, and the Appeal for the Strathmore School, Petersham, for a Hydrotherapy Pool for disabled children.

At 9.10 a.m. on the 18th August, Charlie and his escorting party left the Star and Garter, with the strains of bagpipes still lingering on the damp air. By the time they were through Richmond Park, the rain was falling quite steadily.

At 20 mph Charlie propelled his motorised invalid tricycle through suburbia, out on to the Worthing Road, and by the time he reached his first stop at South Holmwood, he was drenched. However, within minutes, he had blown the rain through his bagpipes and given the second tune, which had been picked by the Chairman of the local committee of the Royal British Legion.

Like a small wagon train the party pushed on south, but in the blinding rain Charlie did not see the lead car's signal and he took a wrong turn and was lost from his escort for about fifteen minutes. He got back on course and was eventually found having a break, smoking a soggy cigarette on the Capel By-Pass.

A sizeable crowd was around the Band Stand in Horsham Town Centre despite the deluge, watching and listening to Charlie as he played his third tune, selected by one of the ladies of the local branch of the Weight-guard Slimming Club who supported Charlie last year when he did a sponsored ride in a hand-propelled wheelchair and raised £5,000 for the disabled.

Leaving Horsham, we were wishing we had canoes as, the further south we got, the worse the weather. We had no idea what the arrangements were for lunch at Henfield, our next stop, and it was with much amusement, and some comfort, that we dined in the town centre bus shelter. Unfortunately, there was not a change of clothing available! Before lunch, however, another tune was duly played by Charlie, with a brave little crowd of uniformed and mufti members of the local Royal British Legion, one of whom selected the next envelope.



Due to the inclement conditions, the entry into the next stop at the south end of Preston Park was overshoot but the Official of Brighton Corporation who was to select the penultimate tune caught us up on the other side of the carriage way outside the Park, directing us to make the circuit and come in again. About half way round, the invalid tricycle 'conked out' in the middle of a 'monsoon'. With the aid of a cigarette lighter, dry rags, which were miraculously produced, and much muscle, the carriage was re-started after about 200 yards of pushing. Half a mile on and Charlie was on station to play the tune, although he was almost unable to do so because he was bubbling over with laughter at the chosen tune, "The Skye Boat Song".

Fortunately there were only a few more miles to go, and with the throttle wide open, the invalid carriage roared up the driveway on to the forecourt of Ian Fraser House, where Dame Vera Lynn opened the envelope naming the final tune.

It all goes without saying that Dame Vera, in her inimitable way, gave Charlie a real royal welcome and she and her husband spent quite a time chatting with our "Music Makers" and joining all St. Dunstaners in the Lounge.

As if Charlie had not had enough water that day, not only did he have a recuperative bath, kindly provided by the staff, he then went on for a swim in our pool. When one considers all Charlie's disabilities, it must be said that this was yet another remarkable feat. Well done, Charlie.



Joe Humphrey and Fred Higgs exchange reminiscences at the Reunion.

## REUNIONS

### LONDON (CENTRAL) JULY 17th

Despite the rail strike, 62 St. Dunstaners, with their wives and escorts, made the journey to the Hotel Russell for the last regional reunion of 1982, the London (Central). With travelling in mind, it is worth observing that the word 'Central' in the title of this reunion is something of a misnomer: The guest list showed, as well as suburbs North of London, such places as Northampton, Southampton, Folkestone, Southend, Belfast, Dunstable, Maidstone and Canvey Island, proving that St. Dunstaners are not to be put off by the absence of trains.

Mr. Eric Boulter, C.B.E., was the Member of Council presiding and he was accompanied by Mrs. Boulter. He welcomed St. Dunstaners and their wives or escorts on behalf of the Chairman and Council and brought greetings from our President, Sir Michael Ansell. He particularly welcomed John and Norma Alton, from Australia, and two St. Dunstaners attending their first reunion, Mr. A. Skuce and Lieutenant-Colonel J.N. Cowley.

Mr. Boulter referred to the end of the hostilities in the Falklands and the return of members of the Task Force: "They have demonstrated once and again that level of skill, self-sacrifice and dedication which has been a hall-mark of all the British services

for so very many years", he said.

Turning to St. Dunstan's, Mr. Boulter explained that his links with the organisation date back to childhood. "As a child, I lived and grew up around Regent's Park. In the early 20's, I used to spend a lot of time in the park itself, getting to know St. Dunstaners, to watch them sprinting, walking races around the Outer Circle, going to the local pubs for a pint, taking part in services at local churches. That was my introduction to blindness and I am sure that it had an influence on my life, because I have spent most of my career working with blind people".

Mr. Boulter said that one of his interests has been the activities of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind and he pointed out that this international organisation, which covers the interests of blind people everywhere in the world, has had five presidents. "Three of them have been war-blinded men and, of those three, two have been St. Dunstaners. The first president was the founder and leader of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Colonel Eddie Baker; I followed him and then, after a civilian person, the next one was Colonel Boris Zimin of the U.S.S.R. I think three out of five isn't a bad average.

"Time and again, you find that, when leadership is required, it is the blinded servicemen and some service women who come forward. I am grateful to St. Dunstan's for all they do. I am very proud to be a St. Dunstaner and I am sure you all are too". Mr. Boulter then proposed the toast, St. Dunstan's, coupled with the names of past Chairmen, Sir Arthur Pearson and Lord Fraser, and of Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme.

Mr. E. Bugbee replied on behalf of St. Dunstaners, welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Boulter and expressing thanks to Miss Barbara Davis, Welfare Visitor responsible for the reunion. He concluded by asking his audience to stand in silence in memory of the late Mr. Pat Owens and the late Mr. Ernie Jensen.

### CORRECTION

We apologise to Sir Edwin Arrowsmith for an error in transcribing his speech at the Bristol Reunion, published in the *August Review*. The first blind man Sir Edwin got to know well was a physiotherapist, the late Sidney Gobourn.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: A. W., Saltdean

I took a neighbour to St. Dunstan's, Ian Fraser House Open Day on Wednesday, 7th July, 1982.

He is one of those fortunate types whom I've always admired who can successfully tackle any repairs in or around the home. He can mend intricate and delicate machinery, and play several musical instruments, including a cinema-type organ. You name it—he can do it!

I was not therefore surprised at the keen interest he took in our conducted tour of the different departments where the St. Dunstaners were demonstrating their various skills. When we parted after a delightful afternoon, I asked him what he thought of the place.

With his hand on his heart, he exclaimed with a deep feeling of sincerity: "I am both astonished and amazed at what I have seen today. It is not the St. Dunstaners, but us visitors with vision who are really the handicapped ones!"

From: Katrina Chapman, Joanne Collins, Richard Nevin, Ivanhoe High School, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Thank you very much for the information on Braille, it was very much appreciated. Our teacher and we have now realized how difficult it must be for blind people to learn Braille, as we ourselves have found difficulties. Without your help I don't think we would have been able to work out the code, even now we have succeeded in working out about half a sentence of the Radio Times we talked about in our first letter.

P.S. Please send our greatest encouragement to any blind people learning Braille.

From: Mansel M. Lewis, St. Clears, Dyfed.

No words of mine can express my gratitude for the kindness shown to me by this organisation. The staff at H.Q. and Brighton have done so much for me that I feel so inadequate to express my repayment even with these few words. I find no real answer for my real emotion of feeling which lies within me. May your good work continue both tutors and staff, we all need the humanity shown by dedicated people like yourselves.

From: Iris and Sydney Appleby, Ontario, Canada.

My husband and I would like to thank St. Dunstan's for their many kindnesses and generosity since he has been a member of your wonderful organisation. He was in the Battle of the Somme with the 8th Royal Fusiliers who were wiped out in the First World War. He lost his left eye and has been legally blind for almost five years, and a member of St. Dunstan's for about three years. During the last few years, he has suffered a number of minor strokes, each one doing a little more damage.

We came to Canada from Wales in 1928 and have recently celebrated our 58th Wedding Anniversary, the service taking place in Barry. Until my husband lost his sight, our combined hobbies were painting and gardening and we had a greenhouse in which we grew Orchids.

In August, we are hoping to go to our Canadian National Institute for the Blind Camp for two weeks and are quite looking forward to the change and rest. The camp is North of here on one of our many lakes. It caters for 200, that is, 100 blind and 100 escorts. We do enjoy receiving your Magazine each month, thank you.

### "SPORTS ECHO"

Many St. Dunstaners have for some years enjoyed the 'Leeds Cassette', a monthly magazine. I wish to announce that we have just recently launched a sports tape which is entitled, "Sports Echo". This is a weekly sports tape, with direct reading from the 'Yorkshire Post' and 'Yorkshire Evening Post'. Also, we hope to include lots of interviews with personalities from all the major sports. Special reports, also, of all blind sporting activities. This tape will of course be especially interesting to any 'Yorkshire Exiles' yearning to hear about Rugby League and Yorkshire Cricket.

As with the Leeds Cassette, we can make it available to any St. Dunstaner. We do not charge a fee, but of course we would not turn away any donation you may like to make, as we are purely voluntary and we therefore can only survive by public support. If you would like to take the "Sports Echo", write to me, Bert Ward, 9, Wynford Terrace, Leeds LS16 6HU, or ring Leeds (0532) 674812.

## READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 3264

### Dear Me

by Peter Ustinov

Read by Gabriel Woolf

Reading Time 8 hours

"KLOPP" von Ustinov came over to the UK in 1921 as foreign correspondent for his paper. He was German. His wife, who was Russian, followed him a short time later. She was already expecting a baby, and Peter Ustinov was born at Swiss Cottage on April 16th, 1921.

Merely to state that he was born of German-Russian parents is to oversimplify his extraordinarily multi-racial background, which includes (apart from Russian and German) ancestors from Central Asia, France, Armenia, Mongolia and Ethiopia – to name but a few!

At prep. school it was generally understood that he possessed no acting talent of any kind and in consequence was awarded only the most menial roles, equivalent to "third spear on the left" in the school's productions.

At Westminster School, which on the whole he enjoyed, his bulk and lack of co-ordination made him an outstandingly lamentable player of games – a fact that his tolerant British schoolfellows put down to his just being a "foreigner".

While he was at Westminster, von Ribbentrop's son attended the school for a short time. He arrived on his first day attired in the formal uniform of Westminster of top hat and tailcoat, correct to the last detail – but with a Nazi Party badge in his lapel.

By this time Klopp had been promoted to Press Attaché at the German Embassy but was soon in trouble "for not sufficiently distorting the news". He decided to apply for British nationality. To conceal this fact from German Intelligence, he made the statutory declaration in a Welsh language newspaper.

Ustinov left drama school at eighteen to begin his acting career and married at nineteen – which proved something of a disaster. In 1942 he was called up for military service – and this gives Ustinov the humourist full scope to indulge in some wry, sly comments on the small lunacies of the British at war. . .

This is just the beginning of a marvellously entertaining book written with the verve, humour and panache characteristic of Ustinov at his funniest and most perceptive.

Cat. No. 2993

### Cricket Rebel

by John Snow

Read by Garard Green

Reading Time 8½ hours

John Snow's father and grandfather were both keen amateur cricketers so it is not surprising perhaps that he announced at the age of three that he would one day play for England – as a batsman.

While still a pupil at Christ's Hospital, he was taken by his coach to the Sussex County Cricket Club and he played for this county throughout a long and distinguished playing career.

But the association was not always sweetness and light. Over the years he was often at loggerheads with what he saw as "the old boy network", the faceless, bumbling autocracy at the top. He rebelled frequently against the universally accepted dictum that professional cricketers should, like small boys, be seen but never heard, should obey every order without question and toe the line laid down for them by their "betters". On more than one occasion he was dropped from the England team for transgressing these golden rules.

In his book he deals comprehensively with all aspects of the game, the politics, the in-fighting, the joys and traumas of touring, the problem of Australian cricket-ground drunks and the blatant partisanship of certain umpires.

He often made the headlines both here and abroad and the cricket writers gleefully seized upon every opportunity to label him with that grossly overworked epithet "controversial".

John Snow was a "character" and a colourful figure on cricket grounds all over the world. He provided drama and excitement for countless thousands of cricket lovers and, lest it be forgotten, it is perhaps worth mentioning that he was also one of the greatest strike bowlers of the age.

A lively, hard-hitting book for the cricket fans.



The new CB station, Sierra Delta, at Ian Fraser House, is equipped with rigs presented by "Thirty Seven Breakers", a group of sighted CB enthusiasts, and SAS CB Accessories, Worthing. Above, Mr and Mrs J. Finch of SAS present their rig to St. Dunstaner, Bob Cunningham, and Below, Dave Mitchell, of IFH Maintenance Staff, receiving the first outfit from Robin Crooks of "Thirty Seven Breakers".





Bob Coupland of Hull, a member of the Yorkshire Senior Citizens' Walkers Association, receives the East Riding Heritage Badge from organiser, Mr. Alf Bushby. Bob completed the "Beverley 20", a 20 mile walk from Beverley Minster to the Humber Bridge. He is the first blind man to achieve this. Photo: Hull Daily Mail.

### SKIING 1983

Downhill—Once again, it looks as though 94 Locating Regt, R.A., will be providing guides and instructors for a skiing party. The intended dates are Saturday 19th to 26th February 1983. The venue will be Wertach in Southern Germany. For further details, please contact Ray Hazan at Headquarters.

**Nordic skiing**—The British Ski Club for the Disabled is organising the following Nordic skiing trips:

#### RUKEN

Dates: 2-9/1/83. Cost: approx, £180. 8 places (some of which will be taken up by team.)

Accommodation will be shared and skiers will form part of a large group of able-bodied holidaymakers. Approximately £10 of the cost will be deducted if you have own equipment.

#### SEEFIELD

Dates: March 7-14 (7 days) cost £195, deduct £10 for own equipment, or Dates:

5-15/3/83 Cost: £260 (10 days), deduct £15 for own equipment.

5 places. Money in full by November 1st. This is part of a large group of holiday skiers.

#### BEITOSTOLLEN

Dates: 13-21/3/83. Cost: approx, £180.

18 places (5 taken up by team) For further details please contact either Mrs. Rosemary Crosbie, Tel: Preston Candover 025687.302, or Mike Brace, Tel: Hornchurch 56832.

#### INJURED HORSE PAINTING

The artist, Terence Cunes, has painted a picture of Sefton, the Household Cavalry Horse injured in the I.R.A. bomb attack in Hyde Park. He has entitled his work "Outrage".

As well as auctioning the painting in aid of the dependents of soldiers who died, the Army Benevolent Fund plans to produce greetings cards from the painting which will be sold at 25p each.

## D. F. Robinson's Gardening Column

We have certainly been having some rather mixed weather, with a good long spell of sun in July, but as I write these notes the weather has gone down the drain, though it has meant that I haven't had to get the hose out for the garden and even the pot plants seem to be lasting longer without water.

Colour will certainly have gone from the borders by now and digging over will have to be done and clearing all those weeds which seem to appear under cover from the good plants.

I have found that the vegetables have done better than expected and hope for as good a season next year.

This is a time for the bonfires to be started to get rid of all the woody items but do try and keep them to an evening and in calm conditions or you may have complaints from those people with their washing outdoors.

It is a good time to repair rock gardens and set out new ones. Roll down the gravel paths and walks and repair all types of paths before the winter sets in.

### VEGETABLES

Clear all the beds which have completed their cropping and it is a good idea to dig fairly deeply. Leave the soil rough for the frosts to break down, so making it easy in the spring when one wants to get a fine tilth for the sowing of seeds and planting seedlings raised under cover.

Harvest Onions which are ripe and hang in the shed or garage. Use when wanted from there.

Dig up all the Potatoes by the end of the month and put in trays if you only have a small quantity or in hessian sacks when there is a good lot to keep. The other method is to store outside in clamps on a raised piece of ground. Get some good quality straw as a base and then a layer of tubers then more straw and so on. To complete add a good layer of straw and finish off with soil as a cover.

Lift the remaining Carrots and Beet when the tops fade.

When you still happen to have some outdoor Tomatoes get them picked over and fruit transferred to shallow trays and place in a sunny position to ripen.

Some of you in the South may still have Runner Beans and Peas and, if this is so, get them in at once and old plants dug up.

Winter Cabbage and Spring Greens should be in their quarters by now.

### FRUIT

Gather all the fruit from the Apple and Pear trees but handle carefully so as not to bruise or they will not store very well. Keep the ones not up to standard in open trays and use quickly either for cooking or eating.

Prune all the soft fruits, cutting away all the shoots which bore a crop. Cut away all extra runners from the Strawberries.

Put new grease bands in place on trees and any root pruning can also be carried out but leave the main pruning for several months.

Get sites ready for the reception of new trees by the end of the month and any transplanting of present trees can also be done.

### LAWNS

No more cutting should be carried out now but a good brushing over and spiking with a special tool or a fork will help to air the soil and also give extra drainage holes where you have heavy soils or are subject to heavy rain.

Repairs can be carried out to those bare patches by putting in turves or sowing seed.

New lawns can also be set with turves or seed. If using the latter put down some deterrent in the shape of black cotton or nylon netting set across small stakes. It is often a good idea to put some small pieces of old rag every so often on the string to make it flutter and so give the birds a scare. It may also help to keep the cats off as well.

See that the mower is really well cleaned and some grease and oil put on axles and spindle joints, so that no rust will break its way in and all ready for use in late spring.

### FLOWERS

Clear all the beds of the summer flowering annuals. Pull out all those weeds which were hiding under the flowers and fork over ready for planting the winter and spring flowering bulbs if not already in place.

Divide all the herbaceous plants, taking some of the outer pieces with good roots to make other beds. In fact it might be a good

thing to replace the present plant with a good outside piece to make a better plant as there is a tendency for the plants to run down over three or four years. Where you wish to make up new beds of perennials that you haven't got, order now and get them in place before the winter really sets in.

Set the taller flowering bulbs at the back of the beds gradually working down to the front with Crocus. It is best to plant most bulbs in groups to give a good show. Sprinkle some general fertiliser over the area and this will give the bulbs a help to make good roots and so a fine show of colour.

Where you have rather large clumps of Polyanthus it is a good thing to divide them up as soon as possible and you will have a better show.

Dig up the Dahlia and Gladioli corms if you wish to keep them for next year, though if you are in the South it may be all right to leave them in the ground with a covering of peat to protect from frosts. Where you are to dig up, clear the corms from soil and store in a frost proof shed in containers of dry peat or sand, adding a dusting of flowers of Sulphur as a deterrent against mildew, and other forms of rot.

#### GREENHOUSE

Those of you with cold greenhouses will have to get all the bulbous items such as Begonias, Gloxinias, Achmines etc., dried off ready for storage for the winter in their dried off containers. It will be a good thing to keep them in a frost proof place or in the greenhouse on the staging towards the middle of the place which will be less prone to frost.

Cut down the watering of the growing items such as Geraniums, Cyclamen, Calceolaria, Cineraria, etc., and keep them some distance from the glass except if you have some form of heat to raise the temperature during frosty spells.

Pot up all those spring flowering bulbs if you want a show in the house. Water them in but keep the moisture down to a minimum. Retain in fairly dark conditions such as just above floor level in the greenhouse on empty trays or pots. They should remain there till there is sign of growth in the shape of leaves appearing and then brought out to normal light etc.

All other leaf or flowering perennials which are resting should have the water cut down but no feed given till good growth

starts again in the spring.

Where you have had some form of shading sprayed on the outside of the glass, it should be wiped off in dry weather as there won't be any scorching now and growing plants will appreciate more light.

Those greenhouses which are more or less out of use should be given a good spring clean with soap and water, spray with an insecticide plus fungicide to have a nice, clean start for the new season.

Where you are still using the place with a bit of heat, give smokes of combined insecticide/fungicide to keep the place clean.

## CLUB NEWS

### BRIGHTON

It is my sad duty to report the death of a bridge player and dear friend, Bruce Ingrey. He was a fervent bridge player and we shall miss him at the bridge tables. A gentle gentleman and friend, he will be sadly missed. Our sorrow was not limited to one occasion this month, as we have also lost two other club members - the very best. It has been a hard time and we shall certainly remember them and miss them.

*Bill Phillips  
Captain*

#### Bridge results for Saturday, 17th July.

1.	<b>J. Padley</b>		<b>58.3</b>
2.	{ W. Phillips	joint	53.5
	{ R. Pacitti		
	{ J. Majchrowitz	joint	51.4
5.	{ W. Lethbridge		
	{ P. McCormack		
7.	R. Goding		50.7
8.	{ V. Delaney	joint	50
	{ F. Griffiee		
	{ R. Evans	joint	46
11.	{ H. Preedy		
	{ R. Fullard		
13.	C. Walters		37

#### Pairs Results, played Sunday, 25th July

N/S	1. <b>R. Evans &amp; V. Barker</b>	<b>62</b>
	2. R. Goding & Mrs. Tibbet	53.3
	3. R. Freer & Miss Stenning	52
	4. W. Phillips & Dr. Goodlad	49

	5. C. Walters & Mrs. McPherson	42.4
	6. J. Majchrowitz & M. Douse	42
E/W	1. <b>W. Lethbridge &amp; Mr. Goodlad</b>	<b>65.5</b>
	2. M. Tybinski & Mrs. Buller-King	62.2
	3. V. Delaney & Miss Sturdy	52.2
	4. F. Griffiee & Mr. Creswell	51.1
	5. P. McCormack & Mrs. Phillips	49
	6. Mr. & Mrs. A. Dodgson	45

The Bridge Drive for Summer was held on Sunday, 1st August, a lovely, warm, sunny day and everyone who attended seemed to thoroughly enjoy the Bridge and very nice tea we had after the play stopped. The winners all received a choice of prizes. The results were as follows:

1. **Mr. and Mrs. J. Padley**
2. M. Tybinski and Mrs. McPherson
3. W. Lethbridge and Mrs. J. Douse
4. Mrs. Tibbet and Mrs. Andrews.

The prizes were presented by Dr. Goodlad.

Thank you all members for your support and I wish you very good luck for the new year's competitions. Thank you all.

*Bill Phillips  
Captain.*

### MIDLAND

A meeting was held in July, and as expected numbers were small, owing to holiday time. The members and friends who attended had an enjoyable afternoon, with quite a few domino games being played and a chat about June's outing to Stratford, where as always, we were made very welcome at the British Legion there. I must thank David Taylor's friends for escorting Tom for that day, which Tom said he had enjoyed very much. This meeting ended at 6.30.

At our August meeting, still due to holidays, friends and members were absent, but we sat down to a very nice tea and talked over plans for our Christmas Outing, we hope to know something definite at our October meeting, and once date and place are fixed, we extend an invitation to all new and ex-members.

It was nice to see Bruno at the meeting, especially as he had been driven to the club by daughter Anna, (under the supervision of George) and we wish her the very best of luck whilst she is learning.

I end these notes with the sad news of the

death of the husband of our St. Dunstaner Mrs. Eileen Maynard. All members and friends of the club send our deepest sympathy on this sad occasion. Flowers were sent on behalf of the club. Our October meeting will be held on the 10th October, when we hope to have full membership present.

*D. Faulkner.*

## FAMILY NEWS

### GRANDCHILDREN Congratulations to:

*Mr. and Mrs. T. Bice* of West Moors, on the arrival of a grand-daughter, born to their son Tony and his wife, Jane, on 29th June.

Mrs. Evelyn Black, widow of the late *Andy Black* of Cramlington, on the arrival of a grand-daughter. The baby, Beverley Annette, was born on 3rd January to her daughter, Christine and her husband.

*Mr. and Mrs. Jim Blackwell* of Chippenham, who are pleased to announce the arrival of a grandchild. A little boy, Benjamin Roman, was born to their daughter, Jean, and son-in-law, Keith, on March 15th.

*Mr. and Mrs. W. Bradshaw* of Redditch, who are pleased to announce the arrival of their third grandchild. A little girl, Stacey Susan, was born on the 21st June to their son, Ian, and daughter-in-law, Heather.

*Mrs. Gladys Carpenter* of Ipswich, on the arrival of her first grandchild. A boy, to be named Christopher David, was born on the 30th June to her daughter, Madeline, and her husband, David. Another occasion for joy in the family was the return of the husband of Louise, another daughter; he arrived on the Canberra from the Falklands on the 11th July.

*Mr and Mrs. George Cooke*, of Crewe, on the birth of their second grandchild, Jonathan, to their son, John and his wife Avril. Jonathan was born on his sister, Rebecca's third birthday, August 24th.

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Cooper* of Southsea, who are pleased to announce the arrival of a grandson, James Brett, born on the 4th August to their son, Brett and his wife, Patricia.



**GRANDCHILDREN:  
Congratulations to:**

*Mr. and Mrs. Llewellyn Davies* of Purley, on the birth of a second grandchild to their daughter, Christine and her husband, Peter Keik. Christopher John was born on 22nd July, a brother for Victoria Anne.

*Colonel and Mrs. David Lewis*, of Craven Arms, on the birth of their first grandchild, James Murray, on 31st August, to their daughter, Patricia, and her husband, Jonathan.

*Mr. and Mrs. A. Lowe* of Fareham, on the arrival of their fifth grandchild. A daughter, Leah Marie, was born to their daughter, Christine, and her husband, Stuart, on June 24th.

*Mr. Daniel McGoohan* and his wife, Mary, of Goring-by-Sea, on the arrival of their first grand-daughter, Alison Frances, born on August 9th to their daughter Sheila, and her husband, Peter.

*Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Mills* of Wrotham, Kent, who are pleased to announce the arrival of a grandson, Daniel James, born to their son, Gary and his wife, Sue, on the 24th July.

*Mr. and Mrs. T. Mugan*, of Hove, on the arrival of a grandson. The baby, James Thomas, was born to their daughter, Shelagh, and her husband, Steve, on March 20th.

*Mr. and Mrs. Jim Padley* of Saltdean, on the safe arrival of their fourth grand-daughter, Miranda Diane, born on 18th July to their son, Derek and his wife Diane.

*Mr. and Mrs. T. Parkinson* of Blackpool, on the arrival of their first grandchild. A little girl was born to their son Tim and his wife, Pauline on the 14th July.

*John and Betty Robinson* of Willingdon, who are pleased to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, Matthew John, born to their daughter, Vicky, and her husband, David, on the 30th July.

*Mr. and Mrs. M. Tybinski* of Ipswich, who are delighted to announce the arrival of their first grandchild. A little girl, Lucy Philippa, was born to their daughter Ursula and her husband Graham on the 13th May.

**GREAT GRANDCHILDREN  
Congratulations to:**

*Mr. and Mrs. George Cole* of Shoreham, who are delighted to announce the arrival of their third great grandson, Mark, born on July 4th to their eldest grand-daughter, Georgina, and her husband.

*Mr. T. Kirk*, formerly of Lancing and now living in Calgary, Canada, who is happy to announce the arrival of his 15th great grandchild. A boy was born on July 7th to his grandson, Robin, and his wife, Teresa. Mr. Kirk now has 12 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

**BAPTISM**

*Rev. Denis Pettit* of Northampton baptised his great grand-daughter, Helen Jane on July 11th at Fawsley Estate Church – the same Church in which he married her parents, Anthony and Jane, just over two years ago.

**BIRTHDAY**

We send warm congratulations to *Mr. James Greenwood*, of Blandford, who celebrated his 90th birthday on August 25th.

**WEDDINGS  
Congratulations to:**

Mrs. P. Baldwin, widow of the late *George Baldwin*, of East Molesey, whose youngest son, Gary, married Alison Chalk at St. Peter's Church, West Molesey on September 11th.

Mrs. Evelyn Black, widow of *Andy Black* of Cramlington, on the marriage of her son, John, to Helen Serginson on the 18th May.

*Mr. and Mrs. W. Bradshaw* of Redditch on the marriage of their eldest daughter, Marilyn, to Mr. Timothy Meeham on the 9th June.

*Mr. Leslie Halliday* of Saltdean, who was married to Denise Berry in St. Dunstan's Chapel, Ovingdean on August 28th.

*Mr. and Mrs. P. Duffee* of Seaford, on the marriage of their son, David Phillip, to Maria De Lurdes Lampreia Ferriera on 24th June, at the Wembley Kingdom Hall. Mr. Duffee performed the ceremony.

*Mr. and Mrs. Ray Major* of Bournemouth, on the marriage of their daughter, Melanie, to Mr. Brian Harris on July 30th.

*Mr. Frederick Sunderland* of Ruislip, who married Mrs. Patricia Holloway on the 30th June.

*Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ward*, of Chandlers Ford, who are happy to announce the marriage of their grandson, Martin Albert Ward to Elaine Carol Bayliss on 4th September.

**PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS  
Congratulations to:**

*Mr. Fred Bentley*, of Birmingham, who has obtained a City and Guilds Certificate in Creative Arts – Basketry. He received passes in three examinations: Written and Design; Written; and Course Work Assessment at the Bourneville School of Art and Crafts. Although allowed extra time in view of his disability he declined this privilege saying, "I either know the answers or I don't".

*Mr. Tom Bice*, of West Moors, Dorset, on achieving second prize for his wooden toys at the Dorset Arts and Crafts for the Handicapped Show. He was also awarded a star for a needlework box.

Amanda, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Alan Cotterill*, of Darlaston, West Midlands, who has obtained her Nursery Nurses Examination Board Diploma. She studied at the Walsall College of Further Education and her training involved working in a nursery school and the baby unit of a hospital.

Alexandra, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cross*, of Birmingham, who has been appointed to a Lectureship at Bournville College of Education. She graduated from Oxford University in 1980 and then under-

**RUBY WEDDING:  
Congratulations to:**

*Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Cooper*, of Rhuddlan, North Wales, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on August 29th.

*Mr. and Mrs. Philip Forster*, of Sidcup, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 16th September.

*Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Harris*, of Farnham, Surrey, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 26th July.

*Mr. and Mrs. G. Salters* of Liverpool, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 3rd August.

took a two year teacher training course at Manchester University.

Jeremy, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Holland* of Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, who has been awarded a B.Ed Degree in Creative Design and Technology, and has subsequently taken up a teaching post at Ilford County High School for boys.

Amanda Preston, grand-daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. Harry Meleson* of Wembley. Amanda is a member of a team from Buxlow Preparatory School which recently won the District Final of the annual Panda Competition, which aims to promote an awareness of Road Safety amongst schoolchildren and an interest in the Police. Amanda's team received a certificate and an award from the Mayor of Brent and were featured in the local paper.

Carol, eldest daughter of *Edward Pepper* and his wife, Barbara, of Chelmsford, who has been accepted for the WRENS, against fierce competition. Carol is going into Communications—the same branch of the Service as her father when he served in the Royal Navy.

## PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS *Contd.*

### Congratulations to:

'Alex', son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Nesbitt of Teignmouth, who has obtained his Bachelor of Arts Degree.

Steven, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. G. Reed of Farnborough: Steven, aged 15, has just become Schools District Champion for High-jump with a jump of 1m 80cm. He is a member of Aldershot Athletic Club and attends Heronwood School, Aldershot.

Peter Watson of Brighton, who has been awarded his blue belt at Judo.

## DEATHS

### We offer sympathy to:

Ruby, wife of Geoffrey Andrew of New Southgate, on the death of her mother, who passed away last February at the age of 92.

## In Memory

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

### S. Fowler, Royal Artillery

Stanley Joseph Fowler of Beeston, Notts., passed away on 26th July at the age of 62. He served as a Gunner in the Royal Artillery from July 1940 and lost his sight when he was wounded in April 1941. After joining St. Dunstan's in October 1944, Mr. Fowler trained at Church Stretton and then took up industrial employment with the Raleigh Cycle Company in Nottingham. He worked there for twenty-two years before being obliged to retire on grounds of health in December 1969. In retirement he enjoyed his garden and greenhouse for as long as his health permitted and he sometimes took holidays at Ian Fraser House.

Although he had to bear the sad loss of his wife in 1976, Mr. Fowler was blessed with a close and devoted family. Three years ago, when his health began to fail further, he was joined at his home by his daughter, Valerie, and her family.

He leaves three daughters, Valerie, Yvonne and Pamela, a son, John and their families.

### T. Scholey, Royal Engineers

Thomas Scholey died peacefully at his home in Rotherham on 14th August at the age of 94.

Mr. Scholey served as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers during the First World War. He was wounded in France and lost his right eye. It was with the deterioration of the sight of his left eye that Mr. Scholey became a St. Dunstaner earlier this year.

Gladys, wife of Robert Bailey of Southampton, whose mother passed away in early June.

Mr. Leslie Constable, D.C.M., of Adelaide, Australia, whose wife, Betty, passed away suddenly, on the 16th July.

Mrs. Eileen Maynard, Birmingham, on the sudden death of her husband, Syd, on August 20th.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Slatter, of Bristol, on the death of Bob's twin sister, Edith Mary Douglas, on 15th June, after a long illness.

Mr. A.J. Turner, of Shepperton, on the death of his wife, Alice, who passed away in Ashford Hospital on July 27th.

Mr. James Willis of Basingstoke, whose wife, Eileen Laura, passed away in hospital on 12th August at the age of 66.

He was a widower and lived with his daughter, Dorothy, who cared for her father devotedly.

As well as his daughter, he leaves other relatives and friends.

### B.E. Ingrey, East Surrey Regiment

Bruce Edmund Ingrey of Rottingdean, who had been residing at Ian Fraser House since the death of his second wife, Beatrice, in 1977, passed away on the 25th July. He was 84 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner for over 60 years.

Mr. Ingrey served as a Private in the East Surrey Regiment during the First World War. He was discharged from the Army in 1919 and, after a period of training in basket-work, commenced trading from his own workshop in Letchworth and subsequently from Beddington, near Croydon, at which time he was working for our Stores. Mr. Ingrey's cane-work was of a consistently high standard over a great number of years, and he was also proficient in Braille and typewriting. Until the age of 70, our St. Dunstaner was a keen bridge player and always enjoyed his visits to our Brighton Homes. He will be greatly missed by Dr. Stilwell, Matron and all the staff at Ian Fraser House and by numerous fellow St. Dunstaners. We extend our condolences to his sister, Mrs. Grace Selton and all members of his close-knit family and to Mrs. Winifred Blundell, his helper and friend for many years.

### J. Holden, Pioneer Corps

John Stansfield Holden passed away at his home in Irlam, Manchester, on 6th September. He was 74.

Mr. Holden served as a Private in the Pioneer Corps. He joined the Army in 1940 but had to leave a year later due to the failure of his sight. After his discharge he worked in a woollen mill until 1955. Further deterioration in his vision brought him to St. Dunstan's in October, 1958.

Mr. Holden learned a number of hobbies at Ian Fraser House, and his main interests included chess, music and gardening.

In 1977 he had to suffer the loss of both legs but he faced up to this with great courage and, in spite of very seriously failing health, he was last able to have a holiday at Ian Fraser House in 1980.

He leaves his widow, Lily, who nursed him with great care, his daughter Eunice and her family.

### H. Colville, 1st Queen's Westminsters.

Horace Colville of Tring passed away on the 13th August at the Gables Nursing Home, Aylesbury, following a short illness. He would have celebrated his 93rd birthday on August 16th. Mr. Colville enlisted in the 1st Queen's Westminsters in September 1914 and was wounded at Ypres the following June, when he lost both eyes. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in October 1915 and was one of our oldest surviving members. He worked in industry until his retirement and, in earlier days, was a keen gardener. Unfortunately, due to severe arthritis, Mr. Colville had not visited our Homes for many years.

Following the death of his wife in 1966, he was cared for devotedly by his daughter, Mrs. Doreen Foulkes. We extend our sympathy to her and to all members of the family.

### A. Litt, Royal Garrison Artillery

Alfred Litt of Lindfield passed away at his home on the 27th July. He was 85 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner for 36 years. He served as a Gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery from 1915 until early 1919 and suffered mustard gas poisoning at the end of the First World War, which affected his eyesight. Until 1936, Mr. Litt was a Schoolmaster, but had to retire from his profession due to deteriorating sight. On admission to St. Dunstan's, in 1946, he undertook a period of Joinery training at Ovingdean and supplied quotas for our Stores for over thirty years, all made in his own workshop and of a consistently very high standard.

In May, 1980, Mr. Litt and his wife, Ann, celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary and received a congratulatory telegram from Her Majesty the Queen.

He leaves a widow, Ann, who has been an invalid for many years, and a daughter, Freda, who cared for Mr. Litt devotedly since he became a St. Dunstaner. We extend our sympathy also to their two sons.

### M. G. Easton, 2nd New Zealand Field Engineers

Matthew George Easton of Wanganui, New Zealand, passed away earlier this year at the age of 94. He had been a St. Dunstaner for 17 years. Mr. Easton served as a Sapper with the 2nd New Zealand Field Engineers in the First World War, and lost the sight of one eye in saving his companions whilst under heavy fire. For his courage and selflessness, he was awarded the Military Medal. A qualified engineer, Mr. Easton was involved in many construction projects in various parts of New Zealand and, despite his official retirement in 1953, and the subsequent failure of sight in his other eye, he maintained an active interest in all engineering matters right into his 90's.

Mr Easton was a widower, but he will be sadly missed by his many friends and colleagues, one of whom paid this tribute to this remarkable St. Dunstaner: "George Easton must rank with New Zealand's great pioneers, a man of indomitable courage".

### R.J. Corner, East Lancashire Regiment

Ralph John Corner, of Rhyl, passed away on the 13th August. He was 93. Mr. Corner served with the East Lancashire Regiment during the First World War. He lost his right eye and his right hand was severely wounded. After leaving the Army he worked as a window dresser but the sight of his remaining eye deteriorated and he became a St. Dunstaner in August 1981.

Mr. Corner was a bachelor. Born in St. Austell, Cornwall, he spent most of his life in North Wales, where he lived with his sister in Prestatyn. After her death he went to live in the Orlinda Nursing Home. In 1971 he visited the United States and Switzerland to see members of his family.

A Memorial Service was held at the Orlinda Nursing Home for Mr. Corner. He will be missed by many friends there and by members of his family, most of whom are living abroad.

### J. Langley, 20th Durham Light Infantry

Joseph William Langley of Hove passed away suddenly at home on the 20th July. He was 57 and had been a St. Dunstaner for 34 years.

Mr. Langley enlisted in the 10th Durham Light Infantry in 1943 and was wounded in the invasion of Normandy when he suffered head wounds and lost his sight. He became a St. Dunstaner in 1948 and trained for industry. Unfortunately, his health was not good and he took early retirement in 1966. He was interested in various hobbies and enjoyed the Use of Tools and Toymaking courses which he undertook with his wife. He was a regular visitor to Ian Fraser House and became a 'Perm' at Pearson House for a time before his second marriage in 1976. He and his wife regularly attended the Social Club and he will be sadly missed by his many friends and the staff at St. Dunstan's.

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

## In Memory *continued*

### **L. Howell, 2nd Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, 91st Machine Gun Corps**

Leonard Howell, M.C.S.P., of Haywards Heath, passed away at his home on 16th September, aged 87. He had been a St. Dunstaner for 66 years. He enlisted at the outset of the First World War at the age of 19 years and served as a Lance-Corporal with the 2nd Queens Royal West Surrey's, 91st Machine Gun Corps. He was totally blinded at Highwood in July 1916.

Although an orchid grower prior to his War Service, he undertook a period of training in Physiotherapy and Braille on admission to St. Dunstan's, commencing his professional career in a Bristol partnership. However, having married a V.A.D. whom he met whilst at Training College in 1920, Mr. and Mrs. Howell moved to Lindfield the following year and he set up in private practice on his own account. Our St. Dunstaner was a highly proficient, respected and valued member of his profession and until his health deteriorated a year ago, continued to treat patients on a part-time basis with the support of his son, Brian, also a qualified practitioner who joined the partnership in 1949. Throughout his professional career, Mr. Howell kept up-to-date with the latest technology, attending Physiotherapy Conferences both at home and overseas, and was at one time Chairman of St. Dunstan's Physiotherapy Advisory Committee.

Sadly, Mrs. Howell died in 1960, but for many years he was devotedly cared for by one of his sisters, Mrs. Belsham. In his leisure hours Mr. Howell enjoyed listening to music and taking long walks, which he continued to do until the age of 86.

Mr. Howell will be greatly missed by his professional colleagues and numerous fellow St. Dunstaners.

He leaves three sons, his sisters and other members of his family.

### **A.E. Hynam, R.A.M.C. and R.A.O.C.**

Albert Edward Hynam of Nailsea, Avon, passed away at Greyfriars Nursing Home in Nailsea on the 8th July. He was 81 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1977.

Mr. Hynam served in both World Wars, joining the R.A.M.C. in 1919 and the R.A.O.C. in 1942. He lost the sight of one eye whilst in the R.A.M.C. After the Second World War, he worked for fifteen years at the Royal Research Station at Long Ashton. Shortly after his admission to St. Dunstan's, Mr. and Mrs. Hynam celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, which was attended by their seven children, twenty-five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Sadly, Mrs. Hynam died the following year and in 1980, Mr. Hynam entered a Nursing Home. We extend our condolences to all members of his family.

### **Mrs. D.M. Edwards, WAAF**

Dorothy Melita Edwards of Northampton passed away on the 9th July. She was 57 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1951.

Mrs. Edwards joined the WAAF in 1943 and held the rank of Leading Aircraftwoman. She was posted to the Far East in 1945, where she contracted meningitis, which ultimately caused her loss of sight. Due to her illness, Mrs. Edwards was a frequent visitor to Brighton, first at Port Hall and later at Ian Fraser House, before being admitted to hospital as a permanent patient. She will be well remembered by the staff and her fellow St. Dunstaners at Brighton.

She leaves a widower, William, a son and a daughter.

### **C. Temperton, 1/4 East Yorkshire Regiment**

Charles Edward Temperton of Hull passed away peacefully at his home on 24th August at the age of 88. He had been in failing health for some time.

Mr. Temperton served in the First World War and was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry. He joined the 1/4 East Yorkshire Regiment in August 1914 and was wounded at Kemmel in June 1915, losing his sight. He became one of our first St. Dunstaners in August that year. After training, Mr. Temperton worked for a while as a telephonist and then took up poultry keeping. Unfortunately this proved to be too demanding for his health and, instead, he chose to do mat making, in which he became most proficient.

He worked steadily at this occupation for many years, fulfilling private orders, and then, in 1963, he took up a little basket work. His hobbies included music and he played the piano and organ.

The Silver Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen prompted Mr. Temperton to place on tape a most descriptive recollection of his memories of St. Dunstan's and the Royal Family.

In December 1977 a happy family party took place when he and his wife, Lily, celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary—his closest St. Dunstaner friends, Tommy S. Cooper and Joe Nicol, also attended.

In the last three years Mr. Temperton became very frail and he was nursed at his home with the utmost devotion by his wife and those of his daughters living close by. He leaves his widow and five children.

### **F.H. Ward, R.A.M.C.**

Francis Hamilton Ward of West Norwood passed away at Pearson House on the 12th July. He was 87 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1975.

Mr. Ward enlisted in the Army in September 1914 and served in the R.A.M.C. He was gassed in France the following year and given his discharge in 1916. Mr. Ward was not in good health and paid his first visit to Ian Fraser House this year. He leaves a widow, Jessie, a son and a daughter.