



**New Year Honour
for Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme:
Commander, The Most Excellent
Order of the British Empire**

St Dunstons Review

January/February 1983

St. Dunstan's President, Sir Michael Ansell, writes:

What happier news could we St. Dunstaners have had at the New Year than that our Chairman, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, has been made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. "British Empire" may now sound rather old fashioned, but it brings home to us here in the United Kingdom that our fellow St. Dunstaners are also living in many other parts of the world just like us, but in their homes or jobs across the oceans.

I know I speak for us all. We are proud that our Chairman should have been so honoured. Whilst serving with his regiment, the Welsh Guards, he was taken prisoner-of-war, as were many of us. Faced with what then felt like the end of the world, he understood what determination meant. Without doubt, while he was in a prison camp, he developed what we all now recognise in him: understanding while we may despair, support when we wonder where we can find it and time for our problems when, perhaps, we feel in the greatest need.

Now, thanks to his and his wife Katharine's tireless work on our behalf, supported by the staff, we St. Dunstaners and our families know how much help of every kind we can rely on.

I am reminded of part of a letter written by a prisoner-of-war friend of mine to another who had received an award. "I felt as if I had had a damned good bottle of claret and three glasses of port when I read it—very satisfied". I, like many fellow St. Dunstaners throughout the world, will be feeling the same.

To Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme from us all, we thank you and are delighted.

MIKE ANSELL.

Message from the Chairman

Katharine and I send our grateful thanks to you all for the multitude of beautiful and interesting Christmas cards and letters which filled our home.

Your kindness and friendship brought a very special warmth and joy into our Christmas season.

Our own Christmas card this year showed the clock on the Church of St. Dunstan-in-the-West in Fleet Street and readers may like to be reminded of its history.

When it was installed in 1671, it was the first public clock in the City of London to show both minutes and hours. Its two giant figures striking the hours and quarters on bells drew crowds of sightseers, much to the delight and profit of pickpockets who plied their trade while attention was distracted. In 1830, however, the church was dismantled for re-building and the clock was to be sold by public auction. It was bought by the Marquis of Hertford for £210, which was six times more than the maker, Thomas Harrys, had been paid for it 160 years earlier—such was inflation even in those days!

Lord Hertford installed the clock in a villa he was building in Regent's Park and called his house after it. At the beginning of the First World War, Otto Kahn, an American banker, who by then owned the villa, lent it to Sir Arthur Pearson and that is how Sir Arthur's new organisation for war-blinded became "St. Dunstan's". In 1920 Otto Kahn requested the return of his house and, some years after St. Dunstan's had moved, the clock was taken down and returned to the church in Fleet Street.

There can be few clocks which have been restored to their original church after being on another site for a century and perhaps this one is unique in that it has given its name to a world-wide organisation.

Lord Redcliffe-Maud

Lord Redcliffe-Maud, G.C.B., C.B.E., died on the 20th November and a Memorial Service is being held in January, which I expect to attend representing St. Dunstan's.

He had an outstanding career at home and abroad, both in academic circles and in the Civil Service. He was a member of St. Dunstan's Council from 1964 to 1977, always giving us wise advice at our meetings, and after Lord Fraser's death he was a great help to me personally. Through his connection with Westminster Abbey, he was able to arrange for us to hold Lord Fraser's Memorial Service there and to get permission to have our plaque erected in the Cloisters. Many readers will remember the wonderful address he gave in memory of Lord Fraser, who was an old friend.

We send our sympathy to Lady Redcliffe-Maud and her family.

Ion Garnett-Orme.

QUEEN'S GIFT

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has sent a Christmas donation to St. Dunstan's.

side of the aid is wider than the other, so that it can be held steady with one hand.

Weight: 3oz.

Full list price: 75p

Concession price to blind people: free

TALKING CLOCK/ CALCULATOR/CALENDAR

The Sharp voice-synthesised Clock, Calculator and Calendar, model EL-640, now costs £35.65 from RNIB, 224 Great Portland St., London W1N 6AA. As this price may fluctuate, readers are advised to check with the RNIB Purchasing Dept. (Tel: 01-388 1266), before sending in an order.

R.N.I.B. Catalogue

Longhand writing aid (catalogue no. 9022)

The Longhand writing aid is to help people with some vision to write in straight lines. It is 11½" wide and 8" long, with two narrow horizontal line guide strips. One

CAMP AT HMS DAEDALUS, 1983

This year our invitation from the Fleet Air Arm to the summer camp at HMS Daedalus is from Friday, 12th August, 1983 until the morning of Saturday, 20th August. Those wishing to avail themselves of the Royal Navy's generous hospitality and to be considered for a place at camp should write to Elspeth Grant, at High Acre, Catmere End, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 4XG or better still telephone 0799 22874. To avoid disappointment please apply as soon as possible and in any case not later than Tuesday, 3rd May 1983.

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Cover picture: Mr. and Mrs. Ion Garnett-Orme in their garden at Cheriton. The award of the C.B.E. to our Chairman in the New Years Honours List will be welcomed by all associated with St. Dunstan's as recognition of many years' caring service to St. Dunstaners and their families, shared by his wife.

Honour for St. Dunstan's Chairman.

Among the awards in the 1983 New Year Honours List was the appointment, as Commander of the Order of the British Empire, of Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman of St. Dunstan's. This honour comes at an appropriate time as, this year, he will complete 25 years' service on our Council.

Mr. Garnett-Orme, who served during the Second World War with the Welsh Guards, joined the Council of St. Dunstan's in 1958. Four years later he became our Honorary Treasurer. In 1967 he was made Vice-Chairman and he succeeded the late Lord Fraser of Lonsdale as Chairman in January, 1975.

In business life Mr. Garnett-Orme was a Merchant Banker and, until his retirement, he was Chairman of Brown, Shipley Holdings Ltd.

As Chairman of St. Dunstan's, Mr. Garnett-Orme has taken a close, personal interest in the welfare of St. Dunstaners and their families, particularly their widows. He and his wife, Katharine, are known personally to many St. Dunstaners through their attendance at reunions and their many visits to the Brighton Homes.

The timing of the publication of the Honours List enabled Dr. Stilwell to announce the award at two minutes to midnight to St. Dunstaners celebrating the New Year at Ian Fraser House.

THANK YOU FOR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Mr. Weisblatt, Mr. Wills, Mr. French, Miss Mosley, Miss Lord and other members of staff at H.Q.; Dr. Stilwell, Mr. Conway, Matron Goodwin and staff at Ian Fraser House and Pearson House thank the many St. Dunstaners and other friends, including widows, at home and overseas who have sent Christmas greetings, and regret they are unable to respond individually. To all of you, however, we send the warmest greetings and good wishes for your happiness and health in 1983.

Mrs. Carol Henderson and family thank all St. Dunstaners for their Christmas greetings and send good wishes for the New Year.

Through the columns of the *REVIEW* may I thank the many St. Dunstaners, widows and families who have kindly sent greetings to me for Christmas. It has renewed happy memories of my years at St.D's H.Q.

Greetings to you all for your health and happiness in 1983.

Phyllis Rogers

CAR MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE and PRIVATE CAR MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

The Car Maintenance Allowance, which is intended as a contribution towards maintaining a Department of Health and Social Security car, in issue to those who have qualified or who qualify for such a car, at present ranges from £60 to £160 a year, depending upon the age of the car. With effect from the 1st January, the new rate will range from £90 to £250 a year.

From the same date, the Private Car Maintenance Allowance, in payment to those persons who have qualified or who qualify as above, but who have opted to run their own car, will be increased from £350 to £550 a year.

PATRON, BRIGHTON CLUB

The Brighton Club deeply regret the sad and sudden death of their distinguished Patron, Lord Rupert Nevill. His brother, The Most Honourable The Marquess of Abergavenny, K.G., O.B.E., J.P., has graciously agreed to accept the Patronage in his place. Lord Abergavenny is Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex. He leads an exceptionally busy life and is trying to give up some of his "too many commitments". We are therefore doubly honoured.

Elizabeth Dacre,
President.

JOYCE REEVE

St. Dunstaners will be sad to learn of the death, shortly before Christmas, of Joyce Reeve. Her husband, Douglas, is organist at the Dome in Brighton. They gave much pleasure to so many people through their recitals together, Joyce with her clear soprano voice, and Douglas with his magnificent playing on the keyboard. In September last year, at Ian Fraser House, Joyce gave a brief recital from her wheelchair to electronic organ enthusiasts. We extend our deepest sympathy to her husband, Douglas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: Verna Ritchie ('Johnny' Johnson) Ontario, Canada

I am a former Canadian Red Cross V.A.D., who worked at Church Stretton with St. Dunstan's and I recently had a visit from Em and Tom Daborn from North Devon. Just thought you would like to know that we had a lovely visit with them here in Toronto and then they drove down through the United States to Florida for a holiday with relatives there. They also had a visit with Eleanor Shaw and Joe Johnson, also a V.A.D. from Church Stretton days. Tom and Em had a very busy time while in Canada and managed to see a lot of Ontario and enjoy the lovely fall colours. Our trees were really a lovely sight this fall.

I must also tell you about Captain John Windsor, who lives in Victoria B.C. John was blinded in Italy and spent some time in Church Stretton before coming home. He has written 4 books and the last one, "Night Drop at Ede", has just come off the press and I was able to get a copy from our library and both my husband and I read it and enjoyed it thoroughly. It is a true story of a young Dutch lad who served in the underground in Holland. One of his other books is called "Mouth of the Wolf," and is about espionage in Italy. I thought you might like to have this bit of news.

This past summer, my husband and I had a lovely trip to British Columbia and spent a few days on Vancouver Island and while in Victoria, I telephoned John and had a visit with him. Naturally, after all these years, he was most surprised to hear from me. He is fine and he and his wife are now working on another book.

I'm sorry I don't have too much more news to report, other than the fact that Marjory and John Chatwell were in France with our Prime Minister's party for the Remembrance Service at Vimy Ridge. John was the Canadian Representative for the Sir Arthur Pearson Association. He is a former Hong Kong P.O.W. Must tell you how much I enjoy getting the *Review* each month. It is great to get news of the men and women we knew at Church Stretton. Do give them all our very best wishes for health and happiness and peace in 1983.

From: Charlie Hague, Liverpool

I have recently completed the course in Wrought Iron work and Picture Frame making at Brighton, and I enjoyed every minute of it.

I entered a Five Tier Candle Holder of my own design in an exhibition of work for the Liverpool Society for the Blind, and I won first prize in the Art Section. I was presented with a silver cup by the Director of Social Services of Liverpool—I keep the cup for a year. I have since received orders to make five more, which I am very pleased about, because all the proceeds of my work go to buying sports equipment for Kirkby Visually Handicapped Sports Club, of which I am Chairman.

This all started by Mrs. Carol Henderson introducing me to Sefton Society for the Blind, who asked me if I could organise some sporting activities for the younger blind members, and I am pleased to say I got the consent of Kirkby Sports Stadium to use the facilities of the stadium every Monday. Of course, we have to supply a lot of our own equipment, but we are doing very well with raffles and donations from factories and the sale of a lot of my own work, toys, etc. I have so far obtained three tandem cycles and we have a lot of fun racing round the track with a sighted person in the front.

From: Mr. Tom Bradley, Grange-Over-Sands

I wonder if other St. Dunstaners might be interested in forming an archaeological society? I have in mind something along the lines of the Gardening Club, but visiting places of historical, rather than horticultural interest, and listening to talks from experts.

From: Joe Humphrey, Belfast

After years of unsuccessful struggle with the pedal-board of an Electric Organ, I should like to pass on this tip to fellow enthusiasts: Split a large rubber eraser into two, lengthwise, and secure to the top of the A and D pedals with a strong rubber band—it makes the difference between day and night!



At Pearson House Sir Henry Leach chats with our longest serving St. Dunstaner, Tommy Milligan, who joined St. Dunstan's in 1915.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBER VISITS OUR HOMES IN BRIGHTON



In the training kitchen at Ian Fraser House Blodwyn Simon awaits Sir Henry's verdict on her newly baked mince pie. She need not have worried, it was 'Excellent'.

Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Henry Leach, G.C.B., whose appointment to St. Dunstan's Council was announced by Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme in our November issue, has lost no time in seeing for himself the work at Ian Fraser House and Pearson House.

On December 9th, with Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme, Sir Henry made an informal tour of both houses, meeting St. Dunstaners and staff.

In the morning, at Ian Fraser House, Dr. Stilwell and Mr. Conway led the group through the training and recreation areas. Sir Henry spoke a few words to St. Dunstaners assembled for lunch in the dining room. After lunch, Sir Henry and Mr. and Mrs. Garnett-Orme went on to Pearson House, where Dr. Stilwell and Matron Goodwin were the guides.

Sir Henry chatted personally with St. Dunstaners in the hospital wing and in the Winter Garden.



Christmas came early for Jimmy Wright in the shape of Rolfe Harris playing Father Christmas, supported by members of the chorus of the West End show, 'Song and Dance'. The occasion was the Variety Club's Christmas lunch at the Hilton Hotel on December 9th. Jimmy and his wife, Jan, were the guests of Colonel Sir Richard Gardner-Thorpe, C.B.E., T.D., a former Lord Mayor of London who is assisting Jimmy to promote a fund-raising concert for the Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead, at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in the Barbican on 26th February. The musicians will be from the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music. — photo: Doug McKenzie.

From the Chairman's Christmas Post Bag

From: Lily and Tim Stabler, Auckland, New Zealand

This has been a big year for us—our daughter's silver wedding, our grandson's 21st birthday and now his success in the Bachelor of Civil Engineering Degree with first class honours, and our own Golden Wedding on Boxing Day. We have two grand-daughters also, one studying for a Social Welfare Degree at Massey University and the other just having completed her final 3 years' nursing.

Tim is nearly 78, and me 79. Tim is a very good gardener and all winter the garden has been very colourful. Our winter was

quite mild this year, and now we are appreciating mid-summer.

Our best wishes to all St. Dunstaners in the U.K.

From: Donald Ross, Whangaparaoa, New Zealand

We attended an afternoon tea and get-together a few weeks ago, of our local St. Dunstan's group. This afternoon is held at the Auckland Commonwealth Travellers' Club, who are very kind to us. It is a happy gathering, held two or three times a year. All St. Dunstaners meet and enjoy the afternoons.



The scene in the Chapel at Ian Fraser House as Mr Ion Garnett-Orme gives the address.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF SIR NEVILLE PEARSON

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the late Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., was held in the Chapel at Ian Fraser House on Thursday, December 16th.

The Service was conducted by the Rev. G. Meek. It included two hymns written by Sir Neville's great grandfather, the Rev. H.F. Lyte: "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" and "Abide With Me".

The lesson, Revelations XXI, v.1-7, was read by Mr. Robert Hardy, C.B.E., son-in-law of Sir Neville, and the Address was delivered by Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, who began by saying, "It is most fitting that we should gather in this beautiful building to remember and give thanks for the life of Sir Neville Pearson, President and friend of St. Dunstan's for many years, for he was always keen that St. Dunstaners should

have a fine Chapel of their own. He and his mother took an active and personal interest in its design, especially the East end, which is so built that, when the sun shines through the glass dome, it strikes first on the dove and then follows the silver threads down to the altar.

"He was closely involved, too, in the designs for the stained glass windows, which were dedicated in 1956 in memory of his father, Sir Arthur Pearson, our founder. The four windows on the South side depict St. Dunstan's badge, and emblems for the three fighting services, an anchor for the Navy, crossed swords for the Army and an eagle for the Air Force, while the four on the North side refer to the four Evangelists, an Angel for St. Matthew, a lion for St. Mark, a bull for St. Luke and an eagle for St. John."

Mr. Garnett-Orme referred to Sir Neville's

service in two World Wars and to his business career in the publishing world. He said that Sir Neville was a perfectionist, a keen and knowledgeable gardener, growing orchids, and a skilled cabinet maker.

"He served on St. Dunstan's Council for nearly fifty years and we owe much to his help and good judgment on many issues. As our President, he led us with skill and natural dignity on all our great occasions, such as the visits by members of the Royal family to Pearson House and Ian Fraser House and our Jubilee reception at St. James's Palace, which was attended by Her Majesty, The Queen."

Mr. Garnett-Orme concluded by saying, "Now, his death brings to an end the happy association which the Pearson name has always had with St. Dunstan's, but it will continue to be commemorated by Pearson House in Brighton.

We offer our very deep sympathy to his

Lady Glenkinglas (right) and The Honourable Mrs Peter Vey with Sir Edwin Arrowsmith before the service.



daughters and their families as we all mourn the passing of a friend"

The large congregation included St. Dunstaners, members and retired members of staff, many of whom had warm, personal memories of Sir Neville. Members of his family who travelled to Brighton for the Service included: Lady Glenkinglas and Mrs. Robert Hardy (daughters), the Hon. Mrs. Peter Vey, Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Peter Egerton-Warburton, the Hon. Mrs. Jonathan Delap, Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Jonathan Boyle, Miss Emma Hardy and Miss Justine Hardy (grandchildren) Christopher and Louisa Egerton-Warburton and James Delap (great grandchildren).

Among others in the congregation were Mrs. Ion Garnett-Orme, Mrs. Rodney Fraser, Lady Amphill, Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, Mr. William Weisblatt and Dr. Ray Stilwell.

Among many St. Dunstaners at the Service were Thelma Meredith, Blodwyn Simon and Elsie Aldred seen leaving the Chapel.





As I Remember

One of the Boys on the Road

George Hewett, interviewed by David Castleton

George with some of the trophies he won during five short years' race walking.

George Hewett is among the relatively few St. Dunstaners who served in both World Wars. His first contact with the services at the outbreak of the First War was as a 15 year old Boy Scout volunteering, with fellow members of his troop, to help Red Cross nurses on night duty to serve tea to troops coming over from Ireland and arriving at his home town of Holyhead. Later, when he was old enough, he volunteered for the Royal Flying Corps.

Born in August 1899, he has a lot to remember in 83 years of an active life which took him through marine and aircraft engineering with the Royal Flying Corps and the R.A.F., to the Far East and Japanese Prisoner-of-War camps and to race-walking as the oldest athlete to take up the sport – he was then a mere 58 years old!

George began engineering as an apprentice in the government dockyard at Holyhead, which, in those war-time years, was taken over by the Royal Navy for the maintenance of minesweepers and destroyers. He was engaged on machining parts, using a pedal lathe: "They employed a labourer to do the pedalling for me later on. Before that I used to pedal it myself, using my left foot on a long, wooden pedal about five feet long and about six inches wide. I used to skim up valve surfaces. It was all marine work there for steam engines".

George's father was Chief Engineer on the cross-channel mail boats plying between Holyhead and Kingstown, now Dun Laoghaire. When his father retired, the family moved to Liverpool where George continued his apprenticeship at an engineering shop in Bootle. "I was halfway through my apprenticeship when I thought I would go into the Royal Flying Corps. I volunteered and went to Woolwich for a trade test. I passed and was sent to an R.F.C. engineering department at Blandford for part of my training. I was rated Second Air Mechanic and went on a course at Halton on rotary engines. I was at Halton when it changed from the R.F.C. to the R.A.F."

George remembers the change of uniform that followed: "If I remember right, it was a khaki uniform to begin with, with red birds on the shoulder. The Royal Flying Corps uniform had puttees, but with the R.A.F. uniform we used to wear shoes and slacks".

Just before the end of the war he was sent to an inspection depot in Albany Street, London – not far from Regent's Park where St. Dunstan's work was going on. As an apprentice with a job to go back to, George was given an early demob in 1919 and went back to Liverpool to complete his apprenticeship.

"When I had finished it I could not find work. It was a bad period of unemploy-

ment, so I accepted all kinds of different jobs in Liverpool: working in cotton warehouses, working at Tate and Lyle, anything at all to be employed".

Although he never wanted to go to sea, George had been brought up by the sea, playing in boats, fishing and swimming. So when, at the Labour Exchange, he saw a post as a swimming bath attendant requiring swimming qualifications, he applied. "What helped me was my background in marine engineering because we had boilers and a filtration plant."

Early Radar

He was promoted to Superintendent and continued in this work until 25th August, 1939, when he received his calling-up papers as a member of the unpaid reserve of the R.A.F. He was then 40 years old. Soon he was at R.A.F. St. Athan, joining a team working on early airborne radar systems under Doctor Watson-Watt. "We had a lot of modifications to do, fitting it to planes for convoy work. When we were experienced our C.O. said, 'I shall want a party of you to go round the different squadrons in England to fit radar'. One place was Pembroke Dock and they were all Sunderland flying boats there. I was working behind the engines when I heard a terrible row and all the boys rushed out of the hangar. A German bomber had dropped bombs on the oil tanks. They all caught fire and they were burning for weeks."

The team travelled the British Isles modifying Beaufighters, Spitfires, Stirling bombers and many other machines to carry radar. "We ended up in Singapore. We were forming a new unit but we didn't have all the equipment." There was not time for the missing equipment to reach them before the Japanese reached Singapore.

"The Japanese were shelling Singapore. I was under canvas at the time under the rubber trees and the shells were hitting the rubber trees all round us. I only had one night of it, thank heaven. We boarded a ship called the *City of Canterbury* and got as far as Batavia in Java, where we were trapped."

Orders had come by signal to make for Surabaya, the only port in the then Dutch East Indies other than Batavia. "We made up a convoy of lorries and we crossed Java. All the local inhabitants were coming the opposite way! We decided to disembark

and we occupied a Dutch aerodrome nearby and that was where we first saw the Japs coming on their lorries. We spent some months on this aerodrome stripping all the machinery and loading it on to railway wagons. The Japs took it all away and shipped it to Japan."

The prisoners did not stay long in one place, "The Japanese moved us all over the island. We moved on roads, but on foot. They were devils. If you were taken by truck you all had to stand up – no sitting down. They were very fond of packing everybody together."

Towards the end of his years as a prisoner, George, among some 2000 P.O.W.'s, was sent by ship to one of the spice islands, Haruku, "1700 P.O.W.'s went down with dysentery right away. We landed from the ship in a landing craft. The intention of the Japs was to attack Australia from these coral islands. We were building a coral runway for their aircraft. They changed their minds. They found they could not get their supplies to these islands so they took us all back to Surabaya. I'll always remember the night we landed there. There were rope ladders on the side of the ship to get down to the quay. I hadn't the energy to hold the rope and just slid down. We were all very weak people then, half our weight – like walking skeletons."

Freedom

There was a change coming for the prisoners. First, they found themselves getting aboard a train and each man was given a basket containing some chicken and some bread, "Just imagine, after three years, being handed a piece of chicken and a loaf of bread!".

From the railway they had to walk to another Dutch Army camp – "The Jap guards allowed us to sit on the side of the road and they told the inhabitants to bring us water to drink". It was early 1945 and the longed-for time of release was coming. They were flown to Kalang Airport, "Of course, we were like the wild men of Borneo when we arrived. I was wearing wooden sandals – just blocks of wood – a pair of shorts and an old, ragged straw hat. All the aircrew were looking at us, but we didn't care what we were wearing. In the NAAFI canteen we were given a cup of tea, one slice of bread and some glucose sweets. They wouldn't give us a lot of food."



In retirement, for George walking now means a stroll in the garden at Pearson House. This time with Fred Berisford, Bob Pope and care assistant, Barbara Coombe.

We spent a week in a general hospital. That hospital! To sleep on clean sheets and to have a shower bath and there were doctors there. It was heaven."

For three and a half years their food had been two helpings of wet rice a day: "We had tea, green tea, no sugar or milk. Our doctors had no medicines, they couldn't help us at all. They used to say your body is living on itself. You see we had no meat and no greenstuff. I was 43 years of age when I was taken prisoner. I don't know how I survived. A lot died - thrown over the ship's side, no service, just dumped over the ship's side".

George's sight had failed after six months as a prisoner. "They gave me a little aluminium disc with a circle and a red bar across the middle and I wore it on my belt. It was to tell the Jap guards that I could not see. Otherwise, if I failed to bow to them, they'd murder me with a bamboo pole. Only on one occasion I nearly got a hammering. They took a dozen of us behind a wall one day. A lot of the boys had failed to see them and bow, but I was the only one with that aluminium disc. The Jap

guard was walking up and down with his bamboo pole. He came to me, saw the disc, and sent me off! The rest of them got a hammering with the bamboo pole. The Japanese were very fond of slapping your face with the palm of the hand and kicking you in the stomach."

Now the days of privation and violence were over, but George's sight was permanently affected. "I've got this mist vision. I've got to be very close to an object to see it. It has not deteriorated during the rest of my life. I am very fortunate. According to the eye specialist I might lose it, but I said to myself 'I'm lucky I've got two hands and two feet'."

At St. Dunstan's, Church Stretton, George began to make good use of his hands, "I went for anything mechanical. Of course we did all sorts of things in the handicraft department - plastic work, upholstery, rug-making, machining".

The one thing George's hands were not fit for was Braille. He had suffered from Beri Beri during his time as a prisoner and this has left his fingers with too poor a sense of touch to feel the dots accurately.

After training, George went back to his former employer, the Baths Department in Liverpool. His vision was not good enough for a Bath Superintendent and he was now operating a cash register at the entrance desk. "I packed up after about six months. I was pleased to see a lot of my old staff but that job, boxed in, it didn't suit me."

George went back to St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, for more hobby training and readers will recall articles which have, in the past, described the wool rugs he makes to special design and the fascinating bird houses he made in the years before he became resident in Pearson House.

But the opportunity George thanks St. Dunstan's most for is his introduction to athletics. At Church Stretton and at Ovingdean, George, although now 46, threw himself into sporting competition. "I was the old man of the team. I've been anchor man of three tug-of-war teams. I went in for everything. I'd never been an athlete, I'd never had the time. It was a challenge to me after being a prisoner of war, bringing my body back to normal."

Race Walking

George began race walking with the St. Dunstan's club, travelling to London for races in Regent's Park and, later, at Ewell, in Surrey. In 1957, he decided he would like to join Brighton and Hove Athletic Club. The Chairman, Mr. Alf Palmer said, "You've left it too late, George, but I'll take you out".

"He was a man of fifty, a P.T. Instructor in the R.A.F. He's a Three A's judge at Crystal Palace now. Well, he said one day, 'You're too good for me George, I'll have to hand you over'." George went on to race with other escorts, including Fred Duff, in all distances raced by Brighton and Hove Athletic Club, taking on sighted opposition, with no allowance for his age. "Two miles, three, five, seven, ten, fifteen, twenty, then on to the London to Brighton Walk and the Hastings Walk. The Hastings to Brighton is the most difficult walk in the country. I've got four Three A's certificates for walking Hastings to Brighton in under eight hours each time and I've done the London to Brighton three times".

Having only taken up serious race-walking at 58, George was not doing too badly when in 1960, along came a challenge he could not refuse. Butlin's were sponsoring a walk from John O'Groats to Land's End. "At that stage I



George has presented specially-designed rugs to a number of organisations and individuals. Here he is seen making a presentation to Edward Heath.

wanted to compete no matter what the distance was. I would never do it at speed at my age, but I wanted to get from A to B."

A to B in this case was 1000 miles! At the Club they told George, "Don't do it". At St. Dunstan's the advice was the same, "But I was doing so well walking, I thought, 'That's nothing, that 1000 miles, I must conquer it' - and I went against St. Dunstan's and the Club".

He got off to a bad start. A difficult car journey North brought him to the start at John O'Groats too late. "I stayed in the hotel overnight. The following morning, at seven o'clock, fourteen hours late, I set off with my escort with only the mountains in front of me. The walk was like a series of stepping stones because I had to sleep at night. I had to make for each guest house, whether I liked it or not." The March weather was tough, "There was mixed weather on the whole route from John O'Groats. I was walking through gale Force Nine winds and there was black ice on the road".

Thirteen days out from the start, George had walked 567 miles and he was covering 54 miles a day. When he stopped at Tarporley, in Cheshire, there were only twenty competitors ahead of him, just four hours away. But the stop at Tarporley was



At the start of a George Hewett Five Mile Walk, George chats with Brighton and Hove Athletic Club members. At the extreme right of the picture is another well-known St. Dunstan's walker, the late John Simpson.

his last as he limped in with a damaged achilles tendon.

"The tendon was tightening up at mid-day. I didn't worry too much. I wanted to finish the journey into Tarporley. I thought it was nothing—just a little pain. At the hotel in Tarporley I had to be helped in by some reporters, from the *Daily Mirror*, I think. The pain in that tendon was as if someone had passed a sword through it." There was a lady doctor in the town and George went to see her. "She said, 'If you go on with that foot, you'll collapse tomorrow'. I said, 'Well, that decides it. No more—I won't do any more'. That was one of the saddest days, people coming into my bedroom, I was lying in bed there with that blinking pain."

George returned to St. Dunstan's and treatment from Gordon Smith, our resident physiotherapist at Ian Fraser House. "He put it right in about a fortnight and then I went back to do the London to Brighton again. I carried on race-walking and I never had trouble with that tendon again."

Then in 1962, Doctor O'Hara examined George and gave him the verdict that brought about his retirement from race-

walking: he had blood pressure. His race-walking career had been a short and exciting one, just five years of his life from the age of 58 to 63. For the record, his times for the seven long distance walks he made during those years are as follows: London to Brighton, 1958, 10 hrs. 47 mins. 34 secs.; 1959, 10 hrs. 18 mins. 16 secs.; 1961, 10 hrs. 36 mins. 14 secs.; Hastings to Brighton, 1957, 7 hrs. 46 mins. 17 secs; 1958, 7 hrs. 26 mins. 8 secs.; 1959, 7 hrs. 43 mins. 10 secs; 1961, 7 hrs. 51 mins. 10 secs.

Happiest Time

The Brighton and Hove Athletic Club, of which he is Vice-President, now organises an annual event, The George Hewett Five Mile Walk, and George goes along to start the race and present a trophy he donated to the Club. "I meet all my friends then but I can't stand a lot of excitement now. After being a P.O.W., I like to be quiet. I go to my room and do my tape recording or listen to music. Those five years were the happiest time of my life. Even now, at 83, I'm feeling as if I'm still with the boys on the road".



Ted Brown receives his trophy from Lenny Woodgate—photo: John Barrow.

BOWLING 1982

Another year of both indoor and outdoor bowling has just ended with our own Indoor Championships.

The year started with the Indoor Handicap Tournament in February. This really is a work-up to the Handicap Championships, and enables the Handicapper to assess the bowling potential, prior to applying each individual's handicap—a very difficult task. However, it was very ably done this year by Len Scales, who organised a very good Championship. Sadly, we lost Len later in the year. Following the Handicap, we had our annual visit to Weston-Super-Mare National Tournament, and once again, St. Dunstan's were well to the fore in nearly every category, but sadly, our Chairman, Percy Stubbs, received the bad news that his grandson had lost his life in the Falklands conflict, and the usual end of week success celebrations were cancelled. The next tournament was the Bognor Regis Nationals, and it is from this one that selection is made for the National team and only six bowlers from each club are permitted to enter. However, as we have members belonging to the Woodingdean Club, we were able to field twelve bowlers, and again we shared in the honours.

The next major tournament was the Hastings Nationals where again, good weather helped tremendously to the success of the bowlers, and as in the previous tournaments, a fair share of honours to St. Dunstan's.

Following immediately after Hastings was the Lowestoft Tournament. It is a pity that these two have to be so close together, as they both offer a very good social aspect. Perhaps one day the organisers will spread the dates a bit more, which would certainly see more St. Dunstaners attending the latter.

Finally, the weekend of the Stoke Mandeville Senior Games saw St. Dunstan's sweeping the board in both T.B. and P.S. categories. We had four bowlers, 2 T.B. and 2 P.S., and they were the winners and the runners-up respectively. In addition to the mentioned annual tournaments we also attended a four-day Bowls Gala at Worthing, which was organised in conjunction with the World Championship Kodak Masters, and a day match at Elmbridge, also Crescent Ladies in Preston Park, Brighton.

Our own Indoor Championships were 14 bowlers less this year for varying reasons, however, because of the fewer entries, we

were able to offer longer playing times for matches, which allowed players more time to redeem themselves if they were losing! The Championships concluded with a very nice social evening in the Annexe, and presentation of prizes. We were privileged to have Lenny Woodgate make the presentations, as he is retiring this year as night orderly after 30 years' loyal service with St. Dunstan's.

A most excellent raffle was organised by Jeannie Hodgson and Katy Stubbs, with the total proceeds amounting to £140, and again the success of the Championships was due to the never-failing efforts of our three umpires, Katy Stubbs, Ettie Simpson and Len Bridge, and finally, thank you to all who help the bowlers on the green.

RESULTS

HANDICAP

R. Forshaw

WESTON-SUPER-MARE

T.B. Singles Runner-up
J. Cope

T.B. Triples Winners
P. Stubbs, R. Osborne, H. Preedy

P.S. Singles Winner
I. Pellington

P.S. Pairs Runners-up
E. Brown, M. Robinson

P.S. Triples Winners
E. Brown, M. Robinson, M. Golding

HASTINGS

T.B. Singles Runner-up
J. Cope

P.S. Pairs Winners
M. Golding, R. Forshaw

P.S. Triples Runners-up
E. Brown, M. Robinson, M. Golding

LOWESTOFT

T.B. Singles Runners-up
P. Stubbs (playing for Norwich)

STOKE MANDEVILLE

T.B. Winner
P. Stubbs

T.B. Runner-up
J. Cope

P.S. Winner
W. Davies

P.S. Runner-up
A. Carter

ST. DUNSTAN'S INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

T.B. Singles Winner
R. Osborne

T.B. Runner-up
J. Cope

P.S. Singles Winner
E. Brown

P.S. Singles Runner-up
R. Forshaw

D.H. Singles Winner
T. Gaygan

D.H. Singles Runner-up
W. Griffiths

T.B. Pairs Winners
P. Stubbs, A. Miller

Runners-up
J. Cope, W. Allen

P.S. Pairs Winners
W. Davies, D. Hodgson

Runners-up
M. Robinson, T. Whitley

T.B. Triples Winners
P. Stubbs, J. Cope, W. Allen

Runners-up
H. Preedy, R. Osborne, A. Miller

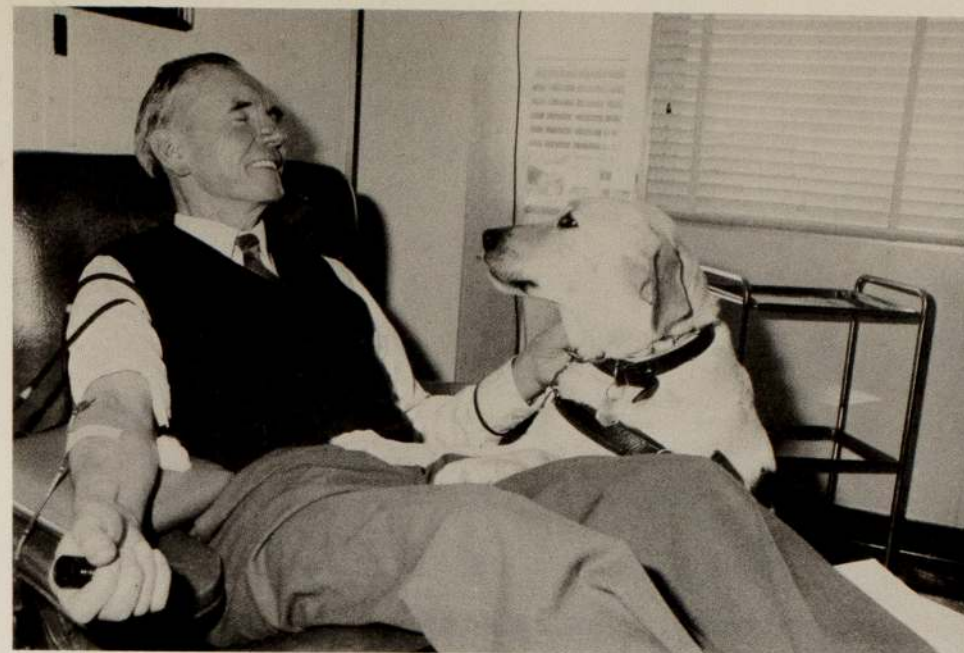
P.S. Triples Winners
M. Robinson, T. Whitley, R. Forshaw

Runners-up
W. Davies, D. Hodgson,
J. Forbes-Stewart

Although we were a considerable number of bowlers less this year, the new bowlers who joined us did remarkably well for their first year, so special congratulations to C. Walters, W. Allen and A. Miller.

1983 will see two additional trophies—The Sir Douglas Morris T.B. Triples Shield, (Sir Douglas is the Bowling Club President), and the S.A.S. T.B. Pairs Cup, donated by the S.A.S. in memory of Percy Stubbs' grandson. To both donors we say thank you. Good bowling to all in 1983.

J. Carnochan



Guide dog Gala keeps an eye on Laurie Greenham at the clinic.

BLOOD DEBT

Laurie Greenham, 61-year old President of Blinded Soldiers of St. Dunstan's, West Australia, has been paying off a debt for the past 37 years—in blood! In 1945, his wife, Margaret, became seriously ill, and her life was saved by a blood transfusion. Laurie felt he owed the blood bank a debt for saving his wife's life and he became a regular blood donor from that day onward. At one time, the clinic used to call him in once a month, as his blood contains a special anti-body which gives immunity to tetanus. Laurie and his guide dog, Gala, soon became firm favourites with the clinic staff. Said Laurie, "I am not handicapped with sight like the rest; I never see the needle going in, so I never get nervous about it hurting".

He lost his sight as a result of an accident whilst training as a pilot during the War. He was 20 years old. He retrained as a telephonist and returned to the Commonwealth Bank, where he had worked as a clerk before the War. He has been with them ever since, and is now the Supervisor controlling the second biggest board in Perth.

STAFF RETIREMENT MISS EILEEN M. BRIDGER

On the 31st December we said farewell to Miss Eileen Bridger, who joined the staff of the Welfare Department on the 1st November, 1965, to assume responsibility for Homes bookings and medical appointments.

During her seventeen years' service, twelve full-time and five part-time, Miss Bridger's many duties, which varied from making travelling arrangements to acting as nurse/receptionist during the medical clinics, brought her in touch with many St. Dunstaners from all over the United Kingdom and some from overseas. They will all remember Miss Bridger for her kindly and considerate attention to their needs, and will join her colleagues at Headquarters in wishing her a long, happy and well deserved retirement.

Miss Bridger has been succeeded as Homes Bookings Clerk by Mrs. Tina Coyne, who has been employed in our Records Section of the Welfare Department for the past three years and is therefore conversant with much of the work.



Carols by the Company in the Wintergarden at Pearson House as the staff, with St. Dunstaner, Bill Jack, on drums, entertain.

In nostalgic mood, Mary Morris and Ken Martin sing Flanagan and Allen.



Christmas Concert at Pearson House by Andy Winter

We might not be budding Carusos, Crosbys or Chaplins, but there was a hint of the Al Bowleys, the Gracie Fields and the Stanley Holloways. I refer of course to the Staff Christmas Show at Pearson House.

There was a change of emphasis from that of last year, from Music Hall to Saturday Night at the London Palladium.

St. Dunstaners were treated to (or possibly subjected to) a wide range of topics, from a rather risqué piece by Matron (Have Some Madeira, m'Dear) and Nancy Muggleton's revelation about her affair with a very virile Grandfather, the moral being that life definitely begins at 50!

Fortunately, confidence in his professional abilities did not wane after Dr. Stilwell's rendering of "The Doctor and the Dormouse" (his daughter, Jennifer, appearing as the poor Dormouse!).



St. Dunstaners enjoyed the jokes as Matron Penny Goodwin recited that superbly comic poem, 'Have some Madeira m'dear'.

Dr Ray Stilwell and his daughter Jennifer entertain with an action poem, 'The Dormouse and the Doctor'.

There were a number of old favourites from Melody Growden, Mary Morris and Ken Martin, and a couple of more modern favourites by the younger members of staff in the guise of O'Hooligans Band, all showing signs of great talent, but more importantly, of great effort, commitment and humour.

A special mention should be made of St. Dunstaner Bill Jack on the drums, who added a touch of class, the M.C. Cyril Luxton, retired Care Assistant, and, of course, to Mary Morris without whose energy and drive the show would never have got off the ground.

Editors' note: Andy Winter does not mention that he was among the young Care Assistants in the concert.





Joe Humphrey (second from left) with four comrades he last met on the Dieppe raid in 1942.

DIEPPE—40 YEARS ON

by Joe Humphrey

In a Force 8 gale, about 50 members of the British Commando Association (most of them survivors of the infamous Raid on the town of Dieppe on 19th August, 1942) left Newhaven on the MV *Valençay* bound for France, to join the enormous band of Canadians who, on this 40th Anniversary, were making a Dieppe Pilgrimage.

None of us succumbed to the gale, however, and we were all invited to the Bridge where the young French Master explained the technological hardware. Then well-fortified by the ship's food and drink, we were pleased to see our hotel was beside the "Mammouth" hypermarket, 3 Kms from Dieppe—since we knew our programme included no shopping time and everyone wanted white wine and Camembert cheese!

Our organisers, Major and Mrs. Holt, who organise Battle tours to anywhere in the world and are well-accustomed to organising Old Soldiers, were superb. They overcame every difficulty and never stopped smiling.

After dinner, served on arrival, we went to the Canadian War Cemetery for a cere-

mony which commenced a night-long Vigil. As the inscriptions on the gravestones were read out one after the other, "Died 19th August, 1942—aged 19—aged 21—aged 35", the sickening nausea of the futility of war and the even more frightening thought that I could have easily been here, made one feel very humble to have been spared.

Honoured Dead

Next day, after an early breakfast—delicious fresh French bread and croissants—off we went to the same Cemetery, in bright sunshine, for a well-conducted service and silence in honour of the dead, so many of whom were Canadian. As usual, the last post brought tears to many, especially those of us who survived this terrible affair.

Then on to what seemed to be the main event of the day; a service at the Square du Canada down on the front, where so many young Canadian soldiers perished unmercifully, and then all survivors were to march through the town—Canadian first, followed by British Commandos (the party comprised

about a dozen each of 40 R.M. Commando, 2 Commando and 4 Commando, together with two from SS Brigade Signals and one from 47 R.M. Commando). I was accompanied by my wife and a fellow Commando who was actually the last person I saw before I was blinded 1½ years later, and strangely enough our photographs were in the local newspaper the next day. Our party marched smartly, most of them in green berets and Commando ties, and were given tremendous acclamation by the people of Dieppe. We were then received by the Mayor of Dieppe at a 'Vin d'Honneur'.

Berneval

Tea time saw us at Berneval, along the coast, where Commandos of 3 Commando and US Rangers were killed. Here, we attended two ceremonies at two memorials in the small seaside village and, afterwards, a reception in the village hall by the whole village and champagne from the Mayor. The British Military and Naval Attachés attended these functions—the latter being the preceding Captain of HMS Sheffield prior to her Falklands disaster, Captain Argles.

Then on to a most fantastic reception for all survivors, given by the Government of Canada—even Commandos could have been lost forever here!

Self control

The next morning was really an exercise in self-control. Our first stop was at the spot beneath the cliffs on the pebble beach of Dieppe where my fellow Commandos from Royal Marine Commando A—later known as 40 R.M. Commando—were mown down as they beached after Colonel Picton Phillips, our CO, had given the order for our landing craft to withdraw after a smoke screen lifted which left us 300 yards short of our target. The leading craft were unable to slew round and withdraw (mine JUST made it) and of those that beached, the occupants were massacred as they landed. Colonel Picton Phillips was killed as he gave the order.

And now we were assembled on the very spot where our comrades had died so valiantly, on a wet, windy morning, huddled together to hear Captain Argles pay his tribute to our comrades and lay a red poppy wreath at the edge of the tide to be gently



Standard bearers surround the memorial to members of 2 Commando at Berneval.

carried off by the lapping waves. We then had ceremonies at Varengeville and Ste. Marguerite, where another 'Vin d'Honneur' was given by its Mayor, and I have never enjoyed a Pernod at 10 o'clock in the morning so much before. When we eventually boarded ship and heard that the Gale Force was only 5, we settled for a calm crossing home.

Medals

This trip will be the most memorable of my life and it must be related that my wife had been trying to explain to me a different way in which some people had their medals mounted. As she was speaking, she said, "This man has some", hauled me over and said, "Excuse me, but I want my husband to feel the way you have your medals mounted, and what a superb display you have there"; and what does she put my hand on?—Colonel Pat Portens' VC won at Dieppe! Although I have tried not to mention names, another notable personality in the party, who could surely make a living as a comic, was 3 Commando's notorious Brigadier Peter Young.

Welcome to St. Dunstan's



John Stephenson Gale of South Moulsecombe, joined St. Dunstan's on the 2nd December. Mr. Gale served as a Leading Electrician, 1st Class, in the Royal Navy from 1948 until his discharge in 1955. In civilian life he did clerical work and was a self-employed electrician until retirement on health grounds.

Mr. Gale is 51 years of age, and married, with one adult son.

Roy Wilfred Henry Lavery of Minehead joined St. Dunstan's on the 29th November. Mr. Lavery served as a Regular Soldier in the General Service Corps with the rank of Private and was discharged in 1946. In civilian life, he was in the acting profession and subsequently the Civil Service, from which he retired in 1979 on health grounds. He is married, with two adult daughters.

FALKLANDS HONOUR

Flight Lieutenant Robert 'Bob' Wright, grandson of our late St. Dunstan, *Les Coulson* and son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Wright, was Mentioned in Despatches for his part in the Falklands campaign.

Robert Wright was navigator/bomb aimer of the first Vulcan to bomb the airfield at Port Stanley on the night of April 30th/May 1st. The flight was the longest in-flight refuelled bombing mission ever flown by the R.A.F.

The returning Vulcan had to rendezvous with a tanker aircraft on the way back to Ascension Island. It arrived just two miles off the rendezvous point.

The full story of the flight is told in the Sunday Times book, "The Falklands War".

St. Dunstaners living in the Brighton area will remember Mr. Dennis Wright, formerly their area Surveyor.

GOLF IN AUSTRALIA

In May last year, Frank Hamilton was member of a team which won the Barratt Mancunian Open Amateur Golf Tourna-

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.

Albert Edward Nicholson of Springwell, Sunderland, joined St. Dunstan's on the 15th December. Mr. Nicholson served as a Gunner with the Royal Artillery during the Second World War. He is a married man.

Daniel O'Leary of Macroom, Co. Cork, joined St. Dunstan's on the 19th November. Mr. O'Leary served with the Royal Munster Fusiliers during the First World War. He is a widower, with a son, Christopher.

Eric Slater of Leyland, Lancashire, joined St. Dunstan's on 20th December. Mr. Slater served as a Lance Corporal in the 18th Infantry and King's Own Regiment. He is married, with seven children.

ment. Luck and good judgment was with the Hamiltons all the way, as their son picked the winning team in a raffle. The prize was two airline tickets to Australia. Frank and his wife, Jo, were given the tickets as a wedding anniversary gift, and fulfilled the prize last September.

Frank was hosted by the New South Wales Federation for the Blind. He was introduced to several pros., so that they could play and exchange ideas. His method of using a sound beacon behind the hole when putting, and laying a club on the ground to give the direction of the hole, were new to them. He also took part in a demonstration given in a Department store of how the blind went about various sports. Frank's 'pièce de résistance' was a drive-in-one, which finished up just two inches from the hole—a pity it was the wrong hole!

NOTICE TO LOST OR STRAYED ST. DUNSTANERS

Checking on Miss Guilbert's old records, I have come across the names of several St. Dunstaners who attended the very first or early gardening weeks, but who have not been seen at any recent weeks arranged by

the St. Dunstan's Gardening Club. I know some of these people have passed on, but I am interested to know about those others. Of course, they have no obligation to attend our meetings, but I would be sad to think that they would have very much liked to enjoy the weeks programmes being arranged for the future, but, for no particular reason, did not come.

The club has a membership of 50 and growing, which shows its course is right. An adventurous programme is planned for 1983, with two sessions, one for the 14th March and a special one for September.

HISTORIC SANDHURST ROLL

Following the recent visit by our handless and deaf-blind St. Dunstaners to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, we reproduce here a historic entry in the academy's records. We are very grateful to Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre for obtaining for us this extract which records the admission to cadetship in 1915 of Ian Fraser, at the age of 18.

It may surprise some readers to note that

Qualifications for membership are that you be a St. Dunstan, and alive, and a fully paid-up member of the St. Dunstan's Gardening Club.

So, don't sit and listen to others telling you about the club and its activities and "wish you had been there"—get cracking! Join us, then you can tell others what an enjoyable time you had with us!

Fred Barratt, Chairman,
2 Guildford Bridge,
Llangwm,
Haverfordwest,
Dyfed. W.Wales.

his first names are given as William Jocelyn. Lord Fraser had never liked the old family name of Jocelyn with which he was christened, and Mrs. Dacre comments, "... When he went to St. Dunstan's and I... went up to London, Regent's Park, to look after him, I found he was known as Ian and this was the only intimation I or any other member of the family had of his change of name".

A reduced facsimile of the entry relating to Lord Fraser's admission to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, reproduced with the permission of the Commandant.

NAMES.	Nature of Cadetship. K.C., K.I.C., H.K.C., H.K.I.C., W.L. Gds. or Cav.	Company.	Date of Admission to R.M. College.	Rate of Contribution.	Date of Birth.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Gazetted.	
							Date of leaving the R.M. College.	Regiment.
<i>Jo Hubert Henriquez</i>		<i>H</i>	<i>14.5.15</i>		<i>2.3.97</i>	<i>Booker</i>	<i>15th Sept. 1915</i>	<i>14th Sept. 1915 5th Royal West Lancs</i>
Total for Course ...								
<i>Fraser William Jocelyn</i>		<i>F</i>	<i>14.5.15</i>		<i>30.8.97</i>	<i>Mining Agent</i>	<i>21 Nov 1915</i>	<i>23 Nov 1915 Argyll and Sutherland High</i>
Total for Course ...								
<i>Fraser Warren Hastings</i>		<i>H</i>	<i>14.5.15</i>		<i>10.8.95</i>	<i>Colonel</i>	<i>20th Oct 1915</i>	<i>4th Oct 1915 4th Buffs</i>
Total for Course ...								

THE MUSIC MAKERS

by W.M.

I apologise to readers for the delay in sending this report to the *Review* but I hope that the delay will act as a tiny reminder of the lessons we learnt and, as the long winter nights are now with us, we will have plenty of time to practise the lessons and thus become better musicians by the time we meet again next summer.

We gathered at Ian Fraser House on Saturday 14th August, and were greeted with the news that we were expected to entertain the house the following evening. Fortunately, we were not left floundering for long, for our old friends, Harry Leader, Ernie Took and Harry Otterway, were soon to appear and give us the benefit of their wisdom and all too soon we had an acceptable programme of "music and song" worked out.

Having overcome the first hurdle we began to enjoy the programme, so efficiently organised by Mrs Pugh.

Monday was spent mostly in practice and in the evening we joined with Ernie Took and his band in the lounge and played throughout the dance. The effect was great, and much appreciated by the dancers.

Tuesday morning, like all mornings, was set aside for practice and in the afternoon we made our way to Eastbourne where we listened to and enjoyed the music of the band of the "Royal Corps of Signals" whose conductor knew of our presence and gave us a salute after each number had been played. We returned to Ian Fraser House in time for supper, and in the evening we all went to the "King and Queen" Public House for a big band session in the Glen Miller style, by Mr Max Dearden and Mr Geoff Simkins.

Wednesday was a beast of a day and readers of the *Review* will remember an item in an earlier *Review* about the chap who went by Wheel Chair from the Star and Garter Home, Richmond, to Ovingdean on a very wet fund-raising journey; he was met at Ovingdean by Dame Vera Lynn. Whilst poor Charlie was having a hot bath and trying to get dry again and recuperate, the Music Makers had the pleasure of entertaining Dame Vera and her husband, Harry,

to tea in the Winter Gardens. In the evening our destination was Shoreham Airport, where we were entertained by Mr Gordon Wren and his truly great Jazz Band, who involved us as much as possible in the entertainment and even offered Bob Forshaw the chance to go and play with them from time to time.

Thursday's programme was altered somewhat as Harry Leader had other ideas, and he arrived with John Henty, complete with a recorder from Radio Brighton and, following interviews and a couple of numbers, a recording was made to be broadcast on the Sunday morning. The afternoon saw practice of a different form. Adrian Kendal and his colleagues from the Brighton Jazz Club brought their instruments to Ian Fraser House and gave us a lecture with practical demonstration on the rudiments of Jazz, following which they answered a thousand and one questions and helped us in actual practice. The evening was unfortunately a flop, for we went to the Public House called "The Fortunes of War", which oddly enough lived up to its name, as the customers made far more noise than the Jazz Group which we had hoped to enjoy!

Grand Finale

Friday was spent in general discussion of the week's activities and some practice, and in the evening was our Grand Finale, in which we gave an impromptu concert and entertainment for all the people who had helped us during the week, which included Peter Spencer on Piano, Joe Humphrey on Piano Accordion, Ernie Cookson on Saxophone, Bob Forshaw on Double-bass, Jerry Lynch and Billy Miller on Drums, Jimmy Fraser on Harmonica with his classical novelty act, songs by Ken Revis and the late John Simpson, alas no longer with us, and Trevor Phillips with his Banjo in George Formby Style. Ernie Took and Harry Leader also joined in the fun to make the evening and the week as a whole a great success.

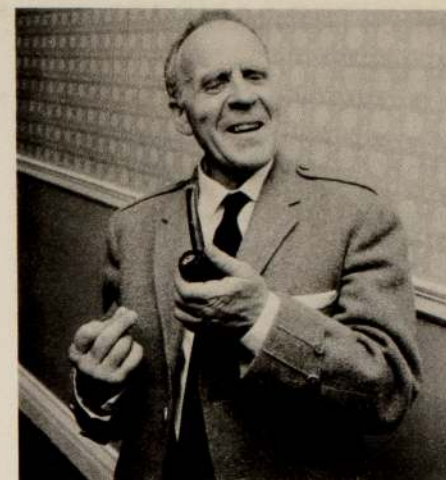
Our thanks were demonstrated to Mrs Pugh with a beautiful bouquet.

A Moment to Spare with Sid Scroggie

HERE LIES Mac LOUDON, CAT AND GENIUS

From Huckleberry Finn to Eck, from Tykie to Panga Ban, from Dr. Malun to Bothy, each of them deep and sagacious in their own way, there was always one problem that baffled the Roseangle cats. They could get up the old gean tree and poke about in the tree-house there, they could catch birds, rats, field-mice, moles, weasels and water-voles, they could hook out the contents of drawers and scatter them around, they could climb up the curtains and look down at you, they could hold their own with the farm-cats over the road, they could tell the difference between Whiskas and Kitti-Kat, they could take over the best seat by the fire, they could purr, mew or squeak in what was tantamount to language, they knew how to ingratiate themselves with Master and Mistress, how to assert their demands by a nip on the ankle, a paw hooked in jumper or shirt, they knew when it was the fish-man at the door or the butcher, but for all this universal understanding, they none of them ever learned how to work the kitchen window. Bothy came closest to it, pondering for hours the relationship of handle and catch, trying them with an investigatory paw, and if she had not got shot in the end by city marauders, who knows but what she might have been the first to unravel this baffling mystery. As it was, what progress she made died with her, to be buried for ever under the rosemary bush.

It was reserved to Mac Loudon to solve the problem, coming to Roseangle as he did when I married his mistress; wee, fat Mac, and nobody could have guessed that



in that engaging blockhead, that lovable poltroon, that bundle of sudden and savage reflexes, lay concealed the genius required for the task. It did not take him long. The handle was up next morning, the catch splayed wide, Tinky and Mac both gone, for it seemed part of Mac's purpose not only to disincarcerate himself but also his new pal, Roseangle's then resident cat.

For all his profound wisdom, meditative capacity and intimate local knowledge, now that Mac was around, a new era opened of stealth and adventure. We never knew, Margaret and I, what they got up to, the two of them, during those whispery nights in Strathmartine. They never told us, only purring inscrutably when we came down in the morning, cold air in the kitchen from a wide-open window.

But now Tinky is alone again, the window is still shut in the morning, for when Mac got killed by a car, the secret of catch and handle died with him. We buried Mac under the rosemary bush, his blanket with him, his old cardboard box, and who should jump up on the dyke, solemn and pensive, as befitted the occasion, but Tinky. Advised by some occult means, he had turned up to attend the obsequies of an old and irreplaceable friend. Tinky's face may have been black with coal-dust, his whiskers awry, but great as was our loss, that of this mourner was greater, too great in its poignancy for any considerations of mere tidiness. Then he slipped away to sit by a now impenetrable window, to resume his old, impotent vigil there.

MEDITERRANEAN BLUES!

by Margaret Bingham

Where to go for a Winter holiday? That was the very pleasant problem which lay before us in the New Year of 1982, when the temperatures here were well below zero and no sign of them improving much.

I fancied Malta, with all its historic associations—prehistoric tombs and temples, and all the relics of ancient civilisations—a subject which interests me greatly. So John called at the Travel Agent and brought back a brochure on Mediterranean resorts. Sliema looked fairly flat and, according to the booklet, there were plenty of good shops, bars and places of entertainment. Also, the weather was generally good, with very little rain. A deposit was paid, a medical form sent giving details of my ability—or lack of it—to get on to the plane, any treatment required during the flight, and other details concerning my particular disability. There were no hitches and at last we were on our way.

Considerate Crew

The crew of the Boeing 735 were very kind and considerate, as were the staff at Ringway Airport. The flight was uneventful. John said the Alps from 3 miles up looked like jagged pieces of black and white marble. The pilot pointed out Mt. Etna, which was smoking merrily away far below us.

Our first impression of Malta and, I am sorry to say, our lasting one, was that it was a drab, colourless island, with no attempt to beautify it at all. There were no attractive gardens or floral displays on the esplanade and grasses and weeds were rampant amongst the broken concrete walk. The main road to our hotel was rough and badly in need of re-surfacing. We were worried as to how my wheelchair would stand up to the strain but fortunately it held together! There was plenty of night-life, or so we were told, but the shops were poor. Our hotel, although in no way adapted for the disabled, was very good and the food excellent. Also, there was entertainment each night, ranging from bingo to disco, but we could not take part as they were held in lounges to which there were steps and no handrail.

Sliema is on a bay and the hotel faces the capital, Valetta, on the other side. When the sun shone, the water was a lovely blue and as clear as crystal, but our planned sea trips round the island were cancelled due to rough seas. We did manage another, though, but as we approached Grand Harbour it began to rain heavily, so that WAS THAT!

The Handicraft Village (ex-R.A.F. Nissen huts) was well worth a visit and the lace goods were beautifully made and would wear for years. (Previously we visited a lace-making factory and watched the girls, who received very little pay, busy at their machines turning out these garments.) The filigree work in another hut was exquisite and, as with the lace, we admired and bought some finished products as a memento of our visit. In the foundry, glass-blowers were busy skilfully turning out beautifully coloured and shaped vases. We were allotted a taxi-driver to take us to all these places and usually he took charge of me in my chair, thus leaving John to wander around on his own. The Churches and Cathedrals were magnificent and all were richly decorated.

Friendly People

The Maltese people are very pro-British and we saw many things similar to what we have in this country—pillar boxes, policeman's uniforms, driving on the left. The people are extremely friendly and the children, with their large brown eyes, adorable. The biggest bug-bear, though, were the electricity cuts, which usually occurred when we were having dinner. As our room was on the 3rd floor, I had to be carried in my chair up three flights of stairs by four waiters on a number of occasions. This was done by candlelight, and I had horrible visions of what could happen if one of those men stumbled!!

Well, all in all, we cannot say it was a good holiday, too much trauma, but it certainly was an unforgettable one. I myself can honestly say I have had an experience which few people in this world will have had and one which I hope will never be repeated.

The above is my opinion of Malta, but more able-bodied people would no doubt differ, as it is a very popular holiday island and it usually has very good weather.

NATIONAL BRIDGE CLUB HARROGATE WEEK

by W. Allen, Secretary

Considering the lateness of the year we had excellent weather. The locals commented on the fact that we always seem to bring good weather.

My thanks to the following:—

To our three pack horses; Ian Dickson of Headquarters, who was in charge: says very little but misses nothing; Norman Smith, for his stamina and tireless energy—he gets younger every year; Stan Medcraft, who handled the horse racing and sweep stake, no easy task. To the two ladies, Lynn Evans and Renée Bushell, who rendered excellent service at the meal table and were always there when help was required. To Cedric Cockcroft who organised the Harrogate end, for his constant attendance and cheerful outlook.

Saturday evening was a fours competition for St. Dunstan's Cup, which was controlled by Cedric. This was won by a team from Harrogate. Many thanks to Mrs. Ayres, the Secretary of the Harrogate Bridge Club, for all the work involved. Bob Evans made the reply.

Sunday evening we played the Ripon Bridge Club, which was controlled by the Secretary, Mrs. M. Alderton. Thank you for all your efforts. Ripon won a very tight game. We wish to thank Mrs. Curry and the Directors of the Ripon Spa Hotel for lending us the beautiful room free for the venue. Reg Goding made the reply.

Monday evening we played St. George's Civil Service Club. Our thanks to Mr. Ernie Chapman (Secretary) who was constant in watching the side table and also to Frank who did the scoring. St. Dunstan's were successful by 1200 points. Bob Fullard made the reply.

Tuesday evening we played the Electricity Board, Harrogate. Our thanks to Mr. Ted Latham (Secretary) who also ran the match. This was a pairs competition with prizes for the best St. Dunstan's pair. Ralph Pacitti and Bill Allen were the lucky winners. Bill Allen made the reply. I thought it was excellent!

On Wednesday we travelled to Bradford for our only afternoon match. We always look forward to this game. It was a no contest game but nevertheless it was enjoyed by all.

Wednesday evening we visited the I.C.I. at Harrogate. This has been one of our longest standing fixtures. Our thanks to Mr. A. Davidson (Secretary) and to the Controller, Dr. Fleet, and thank you once again all members of the Club for your generosity. We were heavily beaten. Ralph Pacitti made the reply.

Thursday evening we visited Oakdale Golf Club. Our thanks to the Secretary, Miss Shaw and to the Controller, Mr. Alan Kempson. We had an excellent evening and an extension had been arranged. We had our second victory. Bob Evans made the reply.

On Friday we travelled to The Drover Hotel for lunch. W. Phillips, the National Bridge Captain, called us to attention for Grace and The Queen. Mr. Wills was in attendance and made the address on behalf of St. Dunstan's. This was replied to by Cedric Cockcroft. This, of course, had to be witty and half-way through his speech he had to rush away to a damsel in distress!

I must thank the Wine Waitress, who never seemed to leave a glass empty for very long, and also my thanks to the Chef, who provided an excellent lunch.

In the evening we made our way to the St. George's Civil Service Club for Rubber Bridge. Prizes were supplied by St. Dunstan's for the guests only. The winners were very appropriate—Bill Phillips and Cedric Cockcroft. Mrs. Vi Delaney made the presentation of all the prizes. Bill Phillips made the final reply on behalf of the National Bridge Club.

This was followed by a buffet and dance, and of course the bar had an extension. A wonderful evening was had by all. Thank you Harrogate, and special thanks to Cedric—his name always seems to keep cropping up.

D. F. Robinson's GARDENING NOTES

I'm sorry to tell you that there will be only one set of notes for January and February in future, starting with these. However, one must say that the work to be done during these two months is very similar in nature, since the weather will be about the same and pretty hard for getting any work done out of doors. Up to the present, as I set these notes out, the weather hasn't been very conducive to outdoor work as we have had tremendous amounts of rain and heavy soils take a long time to dry off to a reasonable state to get a spade down. When things improve, turn over with the addition of compost plus a dose of lime to the areas where you are going to grow the green vegetable family.

A sprinkling of Growmore fertiliser on the whole area will help to give a boost as they start to grow and for the planting out of seedlings. Make sure you have got all the orders for seeds and plants you need. Don't forget that the vegetable seeds will be along soon for those of you still on the list, and if there are others who want a start, send along your name and address to Mrs. O'Reilly at HQ Garden Dept.

I do hope that it will be a good year for you all, both outdoors and under glass, plus house plants. Get all the early flowering bulbs which are in pots close to the source of light. Keep them moist, but don't overdo the water, or you may get poor flowers. Take away from the window sills at night time, since the temperature drops very rapidly. Put a few small stakes round the edges of the pots to keep items from toppling over.

Vegetables

Dig up and trench any of the beds which are free from growing items but keep away when snow is about or after heavy rain, or you may do more harm than good. Try and get all the digging over by the end of February, ready for the seeds to be sown in a good tilth and good soil for the planting

out of any seedlings. The hoe can be kept going to kill off the weeds which seem to grow in any sort of weather conditions. Use the fork to get the soil in a friable state in places where you have pressed it down hard after the digging. It might be a good thing to work out the areas for growing various items by putting stakes in place, but do ensure that you don't use the same places each time for the cabbage family, or Club Root may be the result. Get all the canes and sticks ready for the peas and runner beans. Get replacements in quickly for using later on. Remember to get the runner bean stakes in position before you start the plants from seed, as this will give a good start without any disturbance. Some broad beans can be sown outside during February and other seeds in boxes in frames or sheltered places, for putting in their cropping places later on in the spring. Don't worry too much if the vegetable seeds are a bit late in arriving as there is a tendency to put them in too early when the weather is not too good and the soil in a poor state. I have often found that late sowing gives better results, certainly during 1982, when all that snow and frost was about. Sprout your early potatoes in boxes away from frost during February. Quite a number of salad items such as lettuce, radish, onion etc., can be sown in boxes or large pots under cover in sheltered spots or in the greenhouse, especially if you have some heat, to get some items in the house early and not at the fantastically high shop prices.

Lawns

Not much to be done here, apart from clearing the leaves and worm casts and other debris off the surfaces. Try and keep off it as much as possible in snowy, frosty and very wet weather. Get the mowers down to the maintenance people at once before the rush sets in to get all servicing, blade sharpening etc., done. Give them

some cover when you get them back to ensure they are first class when you use them.

Fruit

Carry on with the pruning of all types of hard fruit trees when weather is dry and not too frosty. As I have said before, where you have fairly old and well-grown trees, cut away the centre and prune those out-growing branches and shoots fairly well. Give them all a good spray with a winter tar oil wash, to keep the parasite eggs down and so stop an outbreak of creepy crawly things in the spring. Damson and plum trees are better pruned in late February. Lime wash all the trunks and large stems of old trees and strip off any old bark. Don't do any planting at this time, but get the soil where new trees are to be planted in a good state by digging over and adding some peat and compost. Ground where all fruit trees and bushes are planted could do with a good covering of manure or peat laced with liquid manure to give them a boost for the coming season.

Flowers

Keep all the borders in good order by hoeing and raking to keep any precocious weeds at bay and weed seeds from germinating. These weeds always seem to have a way of growing even in the worst of conditions. Fork over the areas where you are to plant any new shrubs or perennials in spring, plus the frontal spots which are to house the showy annuals for the coming summer. Check over the taller growing shrubs and cut away any broken branches. Where they are a bit loose at root level, put in a stout stake and tie in, plus the addition of some extra soil; tread down at the same time. Some trees may also have been affected, so get branches cut away and if you are a bit worried that they may come down, get them out of the way, especially if they are near the house, outbuildings or greenhouse. Manure the soil at root level round the roses and get rid of any suckers which appear some distance away from the main roots and stem. New roses can be planted in February, but I think it would be better to leave planting till the weather gets better in March. However, the sites can be got ready for planting. Climbing roses can be trimmed and trained in and see that they are well set to the trellis or the wall woods.

Replace any woodwork which is broken or damaged in any way. Ensure that all the garden paths are in a solid state and replace any cement, stone or brickblocks which may have been moved or damaged by the weather. Cut away the shoots of hedge-rows and shrubs which border on public paths or where you venture down the garden, as it is quite easy for you or the public to be hurt or clothing damaged.

Greenhouse

Keep the whole place tidy and free from dead plant material, soil from pots etc. Don't overdo the watering and stop excess from soaking the floor or staging. Give plenty of ventilation on fine and mild days. Some pot plants may be showing signs of growth, so give them more attention in the shape of more water and move to the warmer section of the staging. During February, a start can be made with the sowing of half-hardy annuals if you have some source of heat. Sow thinly in trays or pots, giving shading in the shape of paper between the top of the seed tray or pot and the glass or plastic cover. Most seeds will germinate better in dark conditions and in most seedling composts. Do remember to take away the paper when seedlings appear. Start off fuchsia and geranium plants which were kept more or less dry, by giving water and placing in moist peat and over your source of heat. Where you have no heat, don't start the germination of seeds until well into March and the same can be said of starting geraniums and fuchsia, begonias and dahlias. Do ensure that all the pots and boxes you are going to use are clean and ready for use, also seedling composts.

NEW CASSETTE LIBRARY CATALOGUE AVAILABLE

Recently, a Mr. Stan Taylor kindly donated his private collection of cassettes to St. Dunstan's. The Taylor Tape Library, as it will be called, contains over 400 cassettes, including light entertainment, quizzes, and a few children's stories. Any St. Dunstaner interested in receiving the library catalogue should send a large, stamped addressed envelope to the PR Dept. at HQ. Copies may subsequently be ordered in the usual way, ie. by sending the requisite number of blank cassettes with your request.



Mr Michael Hardcastle playing during the Brighton Club's Christmas dance.

NATIONAL BRIDGE CONGRESS 1982

IAN FRASER HOUSE

In his closing speech, Bill Phillips (Captain), stressed how much we were indebted to Geoff Connell and Roland Boulton, for running the Congress; they must have worked hard during the intervals to provide the result by the next session.

Many thanks to Mrs. Anne Pugh who organised the whole affair, Mr. S. Conway and staff for all their efforts.

We must thank all the markers; many of them seem ageless and I know for a fact that they find four days very tiring but come each year nevertheless.

Thank you, Dr. Stilwell, for kindly presenting the Cups to each winner of every tournament.

Mrs. Enid Connell was in attendance once again, giving instructions to some of the beginners, and giving support to various tables during the tournament. I could imagine her frowns, I definitely heard her sighs and an occasional low chuckle!

FRIDAY MORNING we commenced by having a Quiz which I am sure proved both interesting and argumentative. This was followed in the **AFTERNOON** by the pairs competition for the Sir Arthur Pearson Cup, the result of which was as follows:

- 1st. R. Pacitti & R. Goding
- 2nd. C. Walters & A. Dodgson
- 3rd. R. Freer & W. Allen

SATURDAY MORNING we took part in the Alf Field Memorial Cup which all pairs seemed desirous of winning, as St. Dunstan's Bridge Club was inspired by Alf. The results were as follows:

- 1st. H. Ward & H. King.
- 2nd. G. Lynch & J. Simmonds.
- 3rd. C. Walters & A. Dodgson.

IN THE AFTERNOON we held the individual competition for the Lord Fraser Cup, the results were as follows:

- 1st. B. Fullard.
- 2nd. A. Dodgson.
- Joint 3rd. F. Dickerson and P. McCormack.

SUNDAY MORNING we held another Quiz which was keenly contested and afterwards debated by Geoff. In the afternoon we held the teams of 4 competition for the Sir Arthur Pearson Cup, the results were as follows:

- 1st. B. Phillips, H. Meleson, R. Evans & J. Padley.
- 2nd. R. Freer, D. Upcott, W. Allen & B. Miller.

ON MONDAY MORNING we held our new competition in memory of Paul Nuyens, which was for teams of four:

- 1st. W. Lethbridge, H. Meleson, Mrs. Vi Delaney & J. Padley.
- 2nd. H. Ward, H. King, R. Palmer & P. Surridge.

IN THE AFTERNOON we held The Drummer Downs Rubber Bridge Competition:

- 1st. W. Allen.
- I regret that we have no further information.

I think I can safely say that all participants were thoroughly contented and, looking back, everyone seemed to have some form of success.

W. Allen.
Secretary.

TOEING THE LINE by Randall Williams

One evening, on my way home to East London, I arrived at the platform of the Underground station, white cane in hand. Deciding to wait by the platform entrance, I leaned against the wall. By my side I felt a sliding metal gate—for closing this entrance, I supposed. On my other side I contacted a rubbery object against the wall. A stopper, something to do with the gate? I thought. I pressed over it with my heel and wondered as to its connection with the gate. Its top felt flimsy—worn out perhaps? Next, I stamped on it twice—if it needed replacement, I felt sure that this treatment would speed the process! Now with a growing determination to find out its purpose, I squatted to feel it with my fingers. Cautiously I touched it, then . . . Laces! . . . A leg!

"Sorry!" I blurted out, both baffled and pained as the realisation of what I had done flooded in. "It's all right", replied a youngish fellow, somewhat lacking in confidence. He mentioned something about having to travel a long way. Who would blame him, I thought!

Then, suddenly, as if to save me from this embarrassing situation, my train arrived. I bade farewell to my victim, turned and boarded. When the train moved off, I thought of what had happened and gave a suppressed chuckle. But why hadn't he spoken or moved his foot? Perhaps he had been apprehensive, especially if I were the first blind person he had encountered? Or maybe he had been trying not to surprise me?

You may be asking how I had mistaken a toe for a stopper. In error, I had supposed that the wall where I had leant continued straight along from that point, without variation. I later discovered, however, that the place where I had leant was just a narrow piece of wall not much more than a foot in width. The wall then dropped back a number of inches, forming a right-angled corner, before continuing along. My victim had been standing in that corner with the toes of his shoes protruding past the base line of the narrow piece against which I had leant!

Thank heaven, my boots were not the steel-heeled variety!

CLUB NEWS

BRIGHTON

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

The latter end of the year kept us all pretty busy socially. On November 6th we had a most enjoyable Dinner and Dance at the Dudley Hotel, Hove, where our guest of honour was the High Sheriff of East Sussex, The Honourable Piers St. Aubyn, M.C.

The Christmas Dance held on the 4th December was very well attended, and during the course of the evening, presentations were made to the prizewinners of the various sections by Mr. G. Hardcastle, who was a guest of honour. Michael, Mr Hardcastle's son, entertained us royally with a varied selection of tunes played on the bagpipes, which all added to the festive programme.

Our year concluded with the Christmas Party on the 15th December, which every-

one enjoyed, and we are indeed grateful to Mr. Don Watson who played the piano so well for us, but I think that we shall have to get some singing practice in before next year!

For your diaries, the next Dance at Ian Fraser House will be held on Saturday, 12th February, 1983, so please support us. We hope to be discussing next year's programme of events next month, and we shall inform you of these as soon as we can.

Jeanne Kick
Hon. Secretary.

BRIDGE

Pairs results for match played Sunday Nov. 14th.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| N/S 1. R. Evans and Mrs. Barker | 59.2 |
| 2. M. Tybinski and Mrs. McPherson | 55.8 |
| 3. W. Lethbridge and J. Padley | 45 |
| 4. R. Palmer and Mrs. Gover | 40 |

E/W 1. W. Allen and Miss Sturdy	57.3
2. A. Dodgson and Mrs. Dodgson	53.1
3. P. McCormack and Mrs. Phillips	51
4. W. Phillips and Mr. Douse	48.9
5. R. Pacitti and Mrs. Pacitti	39.6

Final results for pairs for year 1982

1. M. Tybinski	61.4
2. R. Evans	60.1
3. B. Ingray	57.4
4. W. Lethbridge	56.1
5. W. Phillips	55.8
6. A. Dogson	52.8
7. R. Pacitti	50.9
8. P. McCormack	49.7
9. F. Griffiee	49
10. J. Majchrowicz	47.7

Congratulations to Mike, well done. Thank you, all members, we are delighted with your support and we hope you will continue throughout the year.

Any members who wish for the cassette, "Sports Talk", will you please send £2 to this address: Mrs. V. Southern, 'Sports Talk', Moonsford House, 51 Southgrove Rd., Sheffield S10 2MC S. Yorks

Good luck to all Bridge players for the new year's competitions

*Bill Phillips
Captain.*

CHRISTMAS BRIDGE DRIVE

by **R. W. Evans**

The Brighton Bridge Club held its annual Christmas Drive on Sunday December 12th at the club rooms of Ian Fraser House which had been suitably decorated in festive fashion for the occasion. The thirty-four players who attended were warmly welcomed by the Captain of the Club Mr. W. Phillips and particular appreciation was expressed to Mr. Robert Goodlad and Mr. Maurice Douse for the great help they had given to the club during the past year. Mr. Goodlad who conducted proceedings for the afternoon thanked Bill Phillips on behalf of all the guests and wished everyone an enjoyable game.

During the interval, we all sat down to a splendid Christmas tea which had been admirably prepared by Paul James and his catering staff. We were all very pleased at this moment to welcome Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, President of the Brighton Club, and

also the Chairman of the Club and his wife, Mr. and Mrs Bob Osborne.

The game continued after tea, always in a spirit of friendly rivalry until time made it necessary to bring proceedings to an end.

Prizes gained by the successful players were presented by Mr. Osborne who thanked all our friends who had contributed to the success of the Club throughout the year.

The winners were as follows:

1. **J. Majchrowicz and partner**
2. W. Lethbridge and partner
3. B. Fullard and partner

LONDON

Bridge

The final round of the individuals was held at Headquarters on the 20th November. The result was as follows:

1. J. Carney and W. Allen	73
2. W. Lethbridge and partner	69
3. R. Armstrong and B. Miller	65
4. V. Delaney and partner	62
5. F. Dickerson and B. Evans	61

For the full year results:

Joint 1. W. Lethbridge and W. Allen	349
3. W. Miller	325
4. R. Evans	317
5. F. Dickerson	301

We must thank Ian Dickson for his efforts throughout the year in maintaining this competition and providing refreshments.

I sincerely hope that we shall have sufficient players to continue throughout the coming year.

*W. Allen,
Secretary.*

MIDLAND

Going back to November 1982, a meeting of the club was held when, with all members present, we were able to finalise the domino games and make final arrangements for December, so it was a meeting of decisions. With the help of wives and friends, we all sat down to a very nice tea, and then the talking began, ending the meeting about 6.30.

On December 4th all members and friends met at the Northfield Royal British Legion for our Christmas dinner. We were greeted by the Chairman and Secretary of the Branch. As we were seated for our dinner, a speech of welcome was made by the Chairman, and he wished us a very happy time. The dinner arrangements were excellent, with the caterers excelling themselves: the tables were beautifully laid, and on time, the Christmas dinner was served and very nice it was. If there was any complaint, it was that the Christmas pudding was too hot! All in all, it was a great success. Before leaving the dinner table, our Chairman, Joe Kibbler, thanked all concerned for making the dinner so enjoyable. We were invited to join in with the club's activities for the evening, with a session of Bingo, musical entertainment, and their visiting artiste, who sang and told some lively stories. Special thanks to Eddie and Marjorie for the night out. At this point, the club remembers the past Christmases,

when numbers were greater, and all members wish to send their sincere good wishes to the Royal British Legion at Northfield for the year 1983.

On December 12th, we held our club party, for the children and grandchildren. As always, the tables were laden with food for us all to enjoy a lovely Christmas tea: turkey sandwiches, mince pies, trifles and lots more, provided by the ladies, which were enjoyed by one and all. After tea, Santa appeared to give presents to all the children, also the domino prizes for 1982. First singles prize went to Bruno; Second to Eddie, and Third to Joe. The winners of the doubles were Tom O'Connor and partner, with packets going to the losers. With everyone enjoying themselves, the meeting closed at 7 o'clock. The club members take this opportunity to wish all staff, friends and members of St. Dunstan's health and happiness in the year 1983.

Doug Faulkner.

FAMILY NEWS

100th BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to:

Mrs. Edith Clarke of Hillfield Home for the Elderly, Southwold, who celebrated her 100th birthday on the 29th December. Mrs. Clarke is the widow of our late St. Dunstan's in 1917. The couple met at our Brighton Home, where Mrs. Clarke used to help in her spare time. She has been a widow for 38 years. On her birthday, she received a telegram of congratulations from The Queen.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mrs. Patricia Baldwin, widow of *Thomas Baldwin* of East Molesey, on the marriage of their youngest son, Gary, to Alison Chalk, at St. Peter's Church, West Molesey, on September 11th.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Forster of Sidcup, who are happy to announce the marriage of their grand-daughter, Carole, to Neil Hoskins on the 26th November.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Galway of Sandbach, who are delighted to announce the marriage of their son, Christopher, to Susan Tilley on the 17th December.

Mrs. Gladys Powell, widow of the late *Victor Powell* of Shirley, Solihull, whose son, Stephen John, was married to Cheryl Jayne Folds at Solihull Methodist Church on September 3rd.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pugh of Tunbridge Wells, who are happy to announce the marriage of their grand-daughter, Gillian, to John West on the 17th July. The couple are living in Crowborough.

GRANDCHILDREN Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Baugh of Stafford, who are delighted to announce the safe arrival of a grandson, Adam Charles, born to their daughter, Linda and her husband, Leslie, on the 28th November.

FAMILY NEWS

Continued

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Hawes of Birchington, on the arrival of a grand-daughter, Annelisa Michaeline Marina, born to their daughter, Bryony and her husband, Raymond Caron-Hawes, on the 10th November.

Mr. and Mrs. Vic Reeves of Tunbridge Wells, on the arrival of a grand-daughter, Sharon, born to their daughter, Janet and her husband, John, on the 13th August.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Windley of Scarborough, on the arrival of a grand-daughter, Haley Marie, born to their daughter, Pauline and her husband, John, on the 3rd November.

GREAT GRANDCHILDREN

Congratulations to:

Mrs. Vera McGrath, widow of the late *Mr. Edward McGrath*, of Plymouth who is pleased to announce the arrival of their first great grand-daughter, born to their grand-son John and his wife in Canada on December 4th.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pugh of Tunbridge Wells, on the arrival of a great grand-daughter, Lindsey, born on the 25th June to their grand-daughter, Carol and her husband, Muir Crichton.

Mrs. Emma Salter, widow of *Thomas Salter* of Oxford, on becoming a great-grandmother for the first time. Mrs. Salter's grandson and his wife had a baby boy, Adam James, on the 26th September.

RUBY WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. John Barlow of Sheffield, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on December 26th.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Greasley of Coventry, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on the 29th October.

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Mr. Eric Bradshaw of Northampton, who recently took the leading role as the solicitor, Valentine Sutton, in "White Horse Inn", a production staged by the Northampton Footlights, his local amateur dramatic group. Eric had his work cut out, having to learn four duets, as well as a good deal of dialogue, but the play was a great success, as the group played to a full house every night for a week.

Debbie Haywood, grand-daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. William Carr* of High Wycombe, on passing her S.R.N. final examinations and thus qualifying as a Staff Nurse.

Mr. Ray Sheriff of Brighton, on being invited to become a Patron of the Arnhem Veterans' Club. We congratulate him, too, on gaining his Diamond Swimming Award, which is presented for swimming 150,000 yards (approx. 85 miles) within a five-year time limit. Ray completed his 150,000 yds. in only five months! He is now aiming to reach one million yds., and has already achieved 270,000 (approx. 153 miles). Good luck, Ray!

Mr. Peter Watson, telephonist at Ian Fraser House, who has been awarded his brown belt in Judo.

Mr. John Ryder of Skegness, whose story, "The Skinny White Cat that Liked Cheese" has been selected for Honourable Mention in the fiction section of the 11th International Literary competition organised by The Jewish Braille Institute of America.

Crispin, son of *Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Chappell* of Wigginton, Herts., who has gained a degree in Sociology from the University of Sussex and is now working for the Social Services Department at Milton Keynes.

St. Dunstaner, *Bill Mayne*, from Canada writes that, at a special reception and dinner held in Ottawa last spring, he was awarded the Order of Canada for his work with disabled veterans. During the proceedings, he sat with a Dr. Ross Tilley who worked with the "Guinea Pigs" at East Grinstead and knew *Jimmy Wright* and *Dickie Richardson*.

Mr Granville Waterworth of Coventry, on gaining his Gold award for proficiency in Personal Survival (swimming). He was presented with the medal by the Deputy Lord Mayor at the Phoenix Swimming Club, Coventry.

DEATHS

We offer sympathy to:

Mr. Ernest Bugbee of Harefield, whose father passed away on the 16th December, only six days after celebrating his 90th birthday.

Mr. Bill Burnett of Patcham, on the sudden death of his wife, Phyllis, who passed away on the 28th November during a day's visit to Ian Fraser House. She was 72 years of age.

Mr. Emmanuel Corbettis of Purley, whose mother, Ida, passed away on the 10th December, at the age of 83.

Mrs. Gwendoline Dunkley, wife of *Mr. Bertram Dunkley* of Lancing, on the death of her sister, who passed away last June.

Mr. James Griffiths, formerly of South Woodingdean, now resident at Pearson House, on the death of his wife, Betty, who passed away on the 15th November.

Mr. Robert Nobbs of Redhill, whose father passed away on the 2nd December at the age of 84.

Mr. Gordon Parr of Mark, in Somerset, whose mother, Mrs. Hilda Griffin, passed away suddenly on the 4th December at the age of 83. She, too, had been blind for the last few years of her life.

Mr. George Torrie of Perranuthnoe, near Penzance, whose wife, Phyllis, passed away on the 13th November.

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.

George Etherington Royal Engineers.

Mr. George Etherington, of West Byfleet, passed away at St. Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, on the 22nd December, 1982. He was aged 74 and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1941.

George Etherington joined the Royal Engineers in 1940 and was wounded in a mine explosion. He trained in basket making at Church Stretton and for several years was able to dispose of all his work locally. He was a first class worker and in later years also became a good gardener as well as being a keen cricket fan. He was a regular visitor to Ovingdean and will be missed by the Staff and his fellow St. Dunstaners. He leaves a widow, Lilian, and three daughters.

A. Dilks, Territorial Army and Army Catering Corps.

Arthur Dilks of Bexhill-on-Sea passed away unexpectedly on the 15th November, shortly after admission to hospital. He was 64 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1976.

Mr. Dilks enlisted in the Territorial Army in 1936 and his Regiment was automatically embodied into the Regular Army with the onset of the Second World War, when he served as a Warrant Officer in the Army Catering Corps. At

the end of the War, Mr. Dilks returned to civilian life, but re-enlisted in 1951, and remained in the Catering Corps until 1965. Subsequently, our St. Dunstaner was employed as a Chef at the Alfred Evans Convalescent Home owned by the Trade Union, SOGAT, but his eyesight was seriously deteriorating and he retired in 1978.

Mr. Dilks and his wife celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary in 1980. In retirement, he was a very keen gardener and always had a splendid show of flowers.

He leaves a widow, Justine.

W.F. Luck, Royal East Kent Regiment

William Frank Luck of Queniborough, Leicestershire, passed away on the 29th November at the age of 85.

Mr. Luck served as a Private in the Royal East Kent Regiment from 1915 until 1917. He lost his left eye following a gunshot wound whilst serving in France and it was with a further deterioration of the sight of his right eye that Mr. Luck came to St. Dunstan's in 1973. After his discharge from the Army he was a gardener by profession and he continued to enjoy gardening as a hobby after he retired.

He leaves a widow, Gladys.

In Memory *continued*

H. Firrell, Royal Artillery

Herbert Firrell of Norwich passed away on the 20th November at the age of 94. He had been in poor health when he came to St. Dunstan's, only four months ago. Mr. Firrell enlisted in the Royal Artillery in 1916 and served as a Corporal until his discharge two years later. His loss of sight was due to mustard gas poisoning. Before retirement, Mr. Firrell was a Company Director. He was a widower, and he leaves six children and their families.

E. McGrath, Royal Irish Regiment

Edmond (Edward) McGrath of Plymouth passed away on the 19th November after a long illness borne with great courage and fortitude. He was 87 years of age and had been a St. Dunstanian since 1975.

Mr. McGrath served as a Private in the Royal Irish Regiment throughout the First World War and was discharged in 1918 following a gunshot wound to his head suffered during operations in France.

Until well into his eighties, our St. Dunstanian continued to participate in his greatest hobby, Old Tyme Dancing, accompanied by his wife, Vera. He was also an active member of the Tothill Community Club and Blind Club, until a year ago, when his health began to give cause for concern. Mr. McGrath always looked forward to his visits to Ian Fraser House, but latterly had to go to Pearson House, where he will be long remembered by Matron Goodwin and the staff.

He leaves a widow, two daughters, and grandchildren.

F. Ralph, Regular Army

Frank Ralph passed away at Pearson House on the 14th December at the age of 87. He had been a St. Dunstanian since 1916.

Mr. Ralph joined the Regular Army in 1913, and was wounded by a shell splinter in Egypt in 1916, when he lost both eyes. On coming to St. Dunstan's, he trained in joinery at which he was very skilled, producing work of the finest craftsmanship. For many years there was a strong local demand but in 1940 he went to Church Stretton as an instructor in the use of tools. He and his wife moved to Rottingdean after the war and he remained on the staff until his retirement in 1960. Mrs. Ralph died in 1962 and he then went to live with his son until 1979 when he became a permanent resident at Pearson House. He will be sadly missed by all members of staff and by his fellow St. Dunstanians. Mr. Ralph leaves a son, Frederick, and family.

W.B. Riley, Army Service Corps.

William Butler Riley of Brighton passed away at home on the 19th December at the age of 88. He had been a St. Dunstanian since 1927.

Mr. Riley served in the First World War in the Army Service Corps. He was wounded in France in 1916 and between the two Wars worked as a telephonist at the Admiralty. In 1939, he returned to his native Yorkshire, taking the lease of a farm, where he was very successful with pigs, cattle and poultry. From 1948 to 1957, he lived in Rhodesia with his second wife, where they ran a restaurant and a guest house. However, due to his wife's ill health, they returned to England and again started a poultry farm which was very successful until he retired on health grounds in 1961. His wife died in 1974, and Mr. Riley became a permanent resident at Pearson House, until his marriage in 1976. In the early days, Mr. Riley enjoyed gardening and he was always a keen walker. He will be greatly missed by the staff and his many friends at Brighton. He leaves a widow, Marjorie, and two sons by his first marriage.

W.T. Scott, 9th Machine Gun Corps.

William Thomas 'Ginger' Scott, formerly of Rottingdean, passed away at Pearson House, where he had been resident for the past five years, on the 4th December, just one week prior to his 83rd birthday.

Ginger Scott enlisted as a Private in the 9th Machine Gun Corps during the First World War, and came to St. Dunstan's in 1919, having been wounded on active service in France.

Although a bank clerk prior to the War, Mr. Scott had always been interested in languages and on admission to St. Dunstan's, undertook a Berlitz course in French and French shorthand as well as typewriting. He was then trained for Physiotherapy and in 1926 successfully passed the examinations of the Chartered Society of Massage & Medical Gymnastics, including Swedish Remedial Exercises. He set up practice on his own account in Streatham and was married in that same year.

Until 1966, when our St. Dunstanian retired and moved to Rottingdean, he was a highly successful Physiotherapist and well-respected member of his profession, and continued for a short while acting as a locum in our Brighton Homes. Sadly, his wife, Phyllis, who had been ill for some time, passed away in 1979. Mr. Scott will be sadly missed by Matron Goodwin and the staff at Pearson House, his Physiotherapist colleagues and many fellow St. Dunstanians.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his son and two daughters and all members of the family.