



**St Dunstans
Review
December 1983**

From the Chairman

I have now been your Chairman for just six weeks. What are my first impressions?

First and foremost the spirit of St. Dunstan's. If this sounds emotional I don't care because no other words can adequately describe it. This spirit is a mixture of courage, determination in adversity, forbearance in handicap, cheerfulness, loyalty and unity in this great organisation of ours called St. Dunstan's. It is a spirit of pride and achievement and integrity; and it is beyond price.

Second the devotion – dedication is not too strong a word – of the staff. The endless pains to which they go to get it (whatever it may be) right, or at least as nearly right as circumstances permit; their whole effort concentrated exclusively on what is best for the St. Dunstaner. In a word: service.

And third, communication. The very high level of personal contact between "members of the family"; and the intricate grasp of local affairs by the Visitors.

I am very proud to lead St. Dunstan's.

Another Christmas is approaching, itself a time of additional communication with cards and presents and the drawing together of family ties still more closely. I have been blessed with a very happy family life: privately, at home; and for the past 46 years in another great organisation – the Royal Navy. Now I am with you in St. Dunstan's. It is a different family (and none the worse for that). Today the average age of a Frigate's Ship's Company is 22; of World War II St. Dunstaners 67; of World War I St. Dunstaners 86. And there are, of course, other bigger differences. But the essential thing lies in its being a *family*.

My wife and I send you our warm greetings and very best wishes for Christmas and throughout the New Year ahead. Good luck to you all throughout the world.

Henry Leach

CHRISTMAS CARDS WITH BRAILLE GREETINGS

30 different brailled Christmas cards are now available from RNIB. The attractive cards are brailled with simple Christmas messages and RNIB will add a short personal message free of charge. There are religious cards at 11p and secular cards at 12p and 15p.

Orders should be sent with postal orders or cheques (stamps for one-off orders) to Sales Department, RNIB, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA. Indicate any additional messages and whether the cards should be returned to the giver or sent direct to the recipient. (Christmas cards with braille greetings are sent post free.)

REVIEW DEADLINES

To ensure punctual publication of the *Review*, we have prepared production schedules with our printer for the next few months. Because of variations as to where the weekends and public holidays fall in different months, our copy deadlines also vary.

A list of final dates for copy for each month appears below. We would be grateful if you could send your copy as early as possible and no later than by a post to reach us on the date mentioned.

January 4th for January/February

February 9th for March

March 8th for April

April 5th for May

May 10th for June

June 7th for July

July 5th for August

September 6th for October

October 11th for November

November 8th for December

"RED AND WHITE MEANS DEAF AND BLIND" – MESSAGE TO MOTORISTS

Brightly coloured car stickers to draw the public's attention to the fact that people who are deaf as well as blind carry red and white canes are now available free from RNIB. The message "Red and white means deaf and blind – take extra care" should make motorists look out for that distinctive white cane with horizontal red bands and help prevent accidents.

Supplies can be obtained free from Purchasing and Sales Department, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA.

TRAINING COURSES

In the programme for the coming year, there are a few vacancies in the Training Department at Ian Fraser House for Cookery, Typing, Braille and Moon. If any St. Dunstaners are interested in these subjects, either as a Beginner or for a refresher course, will they please contact Mrs Barbara Wood at IFH. The instructors will do their utmost to make the course as painless as possible!

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

Mary and Russ Crombie would like to wish all their friends who were with them on the Israel trip a very Happy Christmas and a good New Year with lots of happy memories.

Christmas greetings and every good wish for the coming year.

Pat Collins

St Dunstons Review

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DECEMBER 1983

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Returning from the Cenotaph, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, with Mike Tetley and Bob Young, leads the St. Dunstan's Column past the Guards' Memorial in St. James's Park.



A smart 'eyes right' by St. Dunstaners as they pass the Royal British Legion saluting base.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AT THE CENOTAPH

On a bright November morning, as Big Ben sounded the first stroke of eleven o'clock once again the guns signalled the two minutes silence and the ceremony of Remembrance at the Cenotaph began. All the traditional ingredients were there including a contingent of St. Dunstaners – this year 73 in all – who marched, with their escorts, past the Cenotaph at the end of the service.

The new ingredient was the presence of Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, our new Chairman, at the head of the column, marching with Bob Young, veteran of the First War and Mike Tetley, blinded in Kenya during the Mau Mau disturbances in the 1950's, on either side of him.

Larger crowds than ever lined Whitehall and along the route of the procession. Their applause for the St. Dunstan's group was warm and spontaneous as our St. Dunstaners with their escorts marched smartly by. That applause was echoed by their comrades of the British Legion and other ex-service associations as they returned to the Horse Guards Parade.

An important part of the day for the St. Dunstaners participating in the parade, their escorts and their wives, is the luncheon at the Hotel Russell, which takes on the aspect of a reunion, where old friends meet up again, both sighted and blind.

Among those attending for the first time were John Mc Dermott from Macclesfield, an Argyll and Sutherland Highlander and a veteran of Dunkirk; John Walburgh from Chichester who served South African Artillery and Daniel McGoohan from Worthing, Inniskilling Fusiliers, who was among the select few who paraded in wheelchairs. There were three veterans of the First War marching, Bob Young, Nicholas Henman and escort, Bill Harris.

It was a large gathering who listened, after lunch to Sir Henry Leach welcome them to this occasion, 'This is my first as Chairman', he said, 'and I felt very pleased and proud to be leading St. Dunstan's contingent down Whitehall with Bob Young and Mike Tetley this morning'.

Sir Henry expressed thanks to Mr. E.V. Stevens, who had made all the arrange-

ments, to Mr. Smith, who had organised the parade, to the escorts and to those from H.M.S. Daedalus.

'Remembrance Day, what does it mean now towards the end of 1983? To everyone, of course, it means World War One and World War Two. To us in the services and in St. Dunstan's it means a great deal more. It means Korea, Kenya and the Mau Mau, Malaysia and the communist terrorists, Suez, Aden, Borneo, Oman, Cyprus, Northern Ireland and the Falkland Islands. Perhaps I may be forgiven for feeling a little uncomfortable at not being able to include Grenada.

'And then, what are we remembering? There are many things, predominant among which, I think, are three: First, we remember those who gave their lives for their country and their people. This we do with deep gratitude and admiration tinged with sadness. Second, we are reminded that war is not a game nor just another exercise, it is a beastly, ruthless, bloody business. It is limbs torn off, guts ripped out, blindness, stench, mess, screams, agony . . . and we remember again, with great thankfulness and respect, those who suffered wounds for our sake and are still with us, I hope for a good many years yet. Our job in St. Dunstan's is very relevant here.

'Thirdly, we remind ourselves of the past and the price we paid for it so as to sharpen our thoughts and actions for the future to

stop another war happening. To be effective this stopping, or deterrence as the jargon goes, is unexciting and expensive. Politically it attracts few votes but as Edmund Burke once remarked, 'the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing' or, he might have added, not enough.

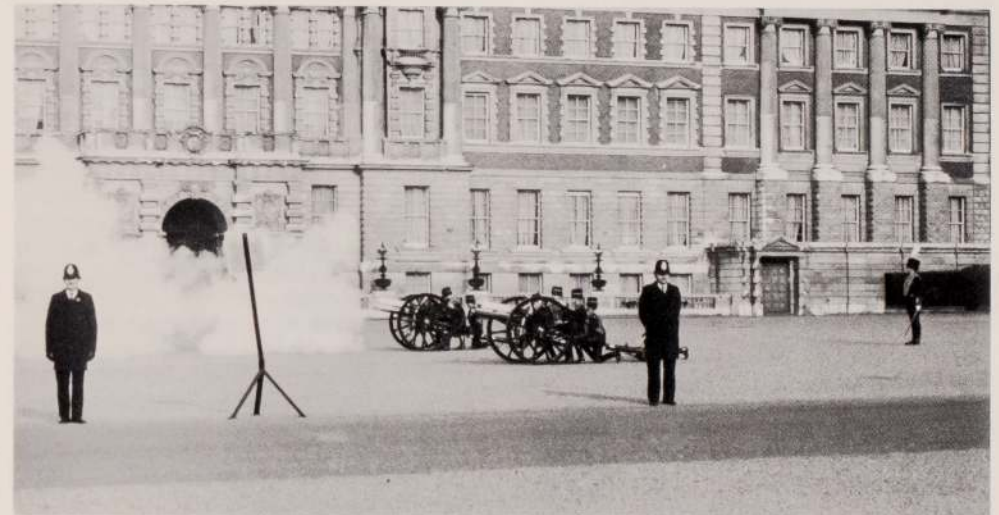
'As we sit here today, warm and comfortable, and with our bellies full of good fare, in the easy light of hindsight we are inclined to be over critical of tradition and history and of the people who made it but as Captain Ronald Hopwood once wrote: 'If we never dare to argue that we are just as good as they; We should seek the God of Battles on our knees and humbly pray, That the work we leave behind us when our earthly race is run; May be half as well completed as our fathers' work was done'.'

Sir Henry concluded by wishing everyone a safe journey home, 'I greatly look forward to our next meeting'.

Proposing the toast of St. Dunstan's, Mike Tetley began by saying: 'May I congratulate Mr. Garnett-Orme on finding such a good Chairman to succeed him. May I hope Sir Henry Leach will find job satisfaction here and may his wife continue to attend these meetings. First of all I hope it is a joy, I hope it will not become a bore, then a chore because all the preceding Chairman's wives have played a vital role and I do hope that she, too, has job satisfaction.

'The concept of St. Dunstan's is wide,'

Eleven o'clock and the Royal Horse Artillery's gun signals the two minutes silence.





Five St. Dunstaners paraded in wheelchairs: Tony Dodd, Danny McGoohan, Robert Nobbs, Sidney Savory and George Shed. They formed the rearguard and four can be seen in this picture.

Mike Tetley continued, 'It is really made up of three facts. First of all you've got to have the St. Dunstaner, then you have got to have those who are compassionate towards us; finally you've got to have the support of the British public because without them we would not have got anywhere'.

Saying that although this was a solemn occasion, he was sure that most of their friends who had paid the price would not like them to go on being morose for the rest of their days, Mike introduced some amusing stories of his early days with Kenya Regiment.

Returning to his theme of St. Dunstan's Mike said that St. Dunstaners themselves had contributed so much but some were, 'Always carping, if you satisfied one thing they'd find the next thing to carp about and they were never satisfied'. An old St. Dunstaner, Bill Shakespeare had reminded him of the poet, Milton, who said, "The mind is its own place and in it self can make a heaven of hell or a hell of heaven", I think we should cultivate that side of things.

'Now the compassionate people. Fortunately we have our Chairman or else he wouldn't have joined the staff and I'd like to thank all the staff of St. Dunstan's whether they be at Headquarters or at the Training Centres.

'Finally, I think it is due to the efforts of St. Dunstan's in the broadest sense that, first of all, St. Dunstaners lifted themselves out of the mire of blindness. They taught the civilian blind to do so in this country and together they have set the way to lifting all blind people out of the Slough of Despond throughout the world. I can only say thanks to all St. Dunstaners, the British public and to our staff and all those who sail in her. Now that we are going to sail under a new skipper I hope we will all give him our loyal support and I hope he will stay here a long time'.

Finally Bill Harris spoke briefly for the escorts: 'We thank you for the privilege and pleasure of marching with you, we are proud to be associated with such a grand body of men'.

SIR HENRY LEACH WRITES:

Once again the time of Remembrance is upon us. For those who wish to do so I suggest that we keep Sunday, 11th December as our "St. Dunstan's Day". Then we can remember with pride and gratitude those St. Dunstaners and their families and friends who have finished their life's work.

A Fantastically Lucky Chance

by Captain J. Blagrave-Ellis

Sixty eight years is a long time and I had begun to think that it had never actually happened. In fact it is so incredible that it sounds just like one of those stories of the "tell it to the horse marines" type. However, a few weeks ago an x-ray photograph taken in connection with something else happened to reveal that the thing was still there and like 'Winnie the window cleaner' and the story of the Major's war wounds, in the song my contemporaries will all remember, I now know it is true and that it did actually happen. The story of how it happened is well worth recording. So here goes.

Whizz Bangs

On the 23rd April, 1915, the 4th Battalion of the K.R.R.C. were in a breastwork trench in front of Ypres in Belgium and were the target for desultory shelling by "whizz bangs" (high velocity shells). I was bending down looking at a map with my Company Commander. I had one foot on the wide step at the back of the trench, where a sandbag containing two or three of those jam-tin grenades of that period, which were filled with small round bullets (probably originally intended for use as ball bearings), was lying on the ground ready for firing from a drainpipe mortar which had recently been delivered. I had no, or very little knowledge of what happened, but it seems that a fragment from a bursting 'whizz-bang' struck the back of the grenades causing one or more to explode and another fragment struck the Company Commander alongside me. All I knew was that I suddenly found myself flat on the ground, both my face and hands covered in blood and a large gash in my leg. I was unable to see through one eye, and two or three of my bottom teeth on the left hand side seemed to be missing. I found I was able to walk to the Regimental dressing station with the help of an orderly, but my Company Commander, who was carried on a stretcher, was hit again on the way and killed. During my days at the Base Hospital I had no pain but extreme discomfort from a very sore mouth, which I thought was due to the loss of teeth.

After reaching hospital in London,

attention, apart from dressing my leg, was concentrated on my eyes, both of which had fragments of metal in them (necessitating the removal of one of them) and the sore mouth was forgotten. It was not until some two or three weeks later that by chance an x-ray photo revealed that one of those small round bullets was in the left side of my neck. No exterior hole or mark indicating a point of entry was ever found nor apparently was there any indication inside my mouth where it had gone in and no damage to my tongue, lips or anything else beyond recording loss of the missing teeth. The only explanation possible was that it had gone in through my open mouth whilst I had been talking.

The recent x-ray revealed that the bullet was still there but as often happens with foreign objects in one's body, it had moved to the other side of my neck. I must have been under a lucky star for the bullet to have entered my mouth in this way without doing any real damage - it certainly was a chance of more than a million to one.

NEW DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

We welcome Major Arthur Neve who has joined Ian Fraser House as the Deputy Administrator. Major Neve left the army earlier this year, having served in the R.A.S.C., and laterly with the R.A.O.C., since 1945. Major Neve brings with him a great deal of experience of service life, and we wish him every success in his new appointment.

Holiday '84

A proposed holiday trip to Cyprus next year has been shelved. A 14 day holiday somewhere in the sun costing around £400 is planned for the first two weeks in June. Anyone interested in further details, please contact Ray Hazan at HQ.

SAXOPHONE FOR SALE

Mrs. Acton, widow of Percy William Acton, of Halifax, Yorkshire, wishes to sell her late husband's saxophone which is 3 years old and has never been used. It cost £200 and she would be willing to accept £180 o.n.o. Please write, c/o the P.R. Department at H..Q. if you are interested.



Club Members arrive at Melrose Abbey.

St Dunstan's Gardening Club Edinburgh Diary

Compiled by Fred Barratt, Chairman, Johnny Cope
and Margaret Bingham

By air, by road and by train, 49 St. Dunstaners with their escorts descended on Edinburgh, on Sunday, 11th September, for the start of the highly successful 'Gardening Week'. It was pleasing to find excellent accommodation and food in such abundance. The desire to assist us in the office and particularly the catering girls did much to brush away any tiredness from our long journey. Thank you Mr. Bruce and all your staff. We stayed in the Halls of Residence at Edinburgh University and on Monday morning we met in the lounge for a briefing by our Chairman, Fred Barratt, on the activities arranged for us by the Scottish Royal British Legion and to get a general picture of the week ahead. Through the good offices of Mr. Jim McKay we spent the afternoon among the beautiful flower beds of Saughton Park. Here they specialise in

herbs, roses and formal beds. Most of us were fascinated by the number of herbs grown there.

Tuesday proved to be one of the highlights of the week. We visited Linburn at the invitation of Squadron Leader Andrew Mackenzie to see the workshops and gardens and meet the Scottish war blinded ex-servicemen – there is one lady it seems. Linburn is run on a self-supporting basis and produces a wide variety of goods. The handicrafts were similar to those made at Ian Fraser House, but there were one or two which were new to us and some ideas were created for future work down south. We stayed for a super lunch and spent a good half hour before eating meeting some of the men who work at Linburn, drinking and singing to the accompaniment of Dick Hall on the piano. Eddie Hordyniec and

another Pole from Linburn giving a very good vocal rendering of a Polish song to everyone's delight. To Andrew and his men and staff of Linburn, everything you did for us was just perfect. Thank you all.

We were due to visit a research garden run by the National Trust in the afternoon, but we hit a snag; news of our coming had not reached the duty staff. Nevertheless a crash course was arranged for us by a very kind garden staff; sincere thanks to them. The hiccup had given us a bit of spare time and here the Scots really showed their dependability. A drive through Edinburgh with a running commentary for all to follow. Old tales of Edinburgh with Royal murders and macabre happenings and ghosts was better than any show. Tuesday evening was a visit to the Portabello Branch of the Royal British Legion where we were treated to an evening of music and dancing, plus a little liquid refreshment. There we met the man who primed the whole Edinburgh visit, Wing Commander John Polling. It was a very pleasant evening.

Royal Botanic Gardens

Our programme for Wednesday was a day spent at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh. We had a guided tour round the hot-houses and the staff were very explicit in their details of tropical plants and the conditions in which they were grown. The gardens were magnificent, rockeries, wooded areas, heathers to name just a few, and grey squirrels running wild on the lovely green turf. Our guide was most helpful pointing out interesting trees with unusual roots, which St. Dunstaners were able to feel to get some idea of the amazing scope of the plants. After lunch we were free to explore the gardens at will. The evening was free to gather strength for what was to come.

Thursday morning was free for shopping until we boarded the coach for Hopetoun House, the ancestral home of the Marquess of Linlithgow, completed in 1703. Today it is still the residence of descendants of the original owners. The weather broke that afternoon so the visit to the gardens and lawns had to be cancelled, but Mrs. Zoe Gamble and her ladies were waiting for us with an alternative, a conducted tour over the house with its ancient furniture and trappings. We felt the carving on a wonderful old chiming pear shaped Dutch



Bette and Dick Hall and Alan Mitchell with Mrs. Nora Moore in her garden, Saughton Park.

clock, which gave, as well as the day, month and year, all the phases of the moon, and Dick Hall was invited to play a Bluthner grand piano, a rare privilege. After the usual plentiful evening meal we were off to the Leith Ex-serviceman's Club. Our hosts were a marvellous group of people who entertained us royally. A concert was put on for us – quick to get into the swing of things St. Dunstan's added their budding star entertainers to the show. Arthur Carter, Charlie McConaghy and Harold Smith, with Bett, the wife of Dick Hall, getting them going. They all won the admiration of everyone. Very well done. A five star medal for Mr. A. Robertson and the committee and members of the Leith ex-serviceman's club. In the words of General MacArthur, 'We will return'.

With the throttle now wide open the club entered into Friday, the last organised day of the week. Onto the coach for a long drive to Melrose Abbey for a conducted tour through the old ruins with its tales of bygone kings and wizards who cut a mountain in three. Then a short stop at Priorwood Gardens with its dried flower industry, and on to lunch at Kailsie Gardens, Peebles. Our amazing driver fitted in a short visit to the Edinburgh Crystal glass works during our return journey to Edinburgh. Apart from his entertaining commentary of the countryside, this particular coachdriver



St. Dunstaner Eddie Hordyniec with Marian Dlugolecki of the Scottish National Institution for the War-Blinded.

also gave us pleasure with his rendering of some of the old Scottish songs. Then it was back to base to prepare for our visit to the Royal Waggoners Club R.A.S.C. as guests of the Dunkirk Veterans. For this venture we were led by senior Dunkirk veteran Reg Newton. Well done Reg and thank you.

Through the good offices of chairman George Romanis and Harry MacDermott, Reg took us to another terrific evening. We

were wined and dined, which appeared to be the accepted practice, with songs from their stars and our own, who as usual stole the show. Then John the Piper filled our hearts with his music. What a very small world when Fred Barratt met two Dunkirk veterans who must have been yards away from him during those epic days of Dunkirk and the evacuation of France. Dunkirk veteran John McDermott chatted happily with the club's president and other veterans and the evening was lifted to even higher levels when Wing Commander John Pollington joined us. John, such goodwill is really appreciated, and the club, thanks for everything. The evening ended with John the Piper playing 'Old Lang Syne'. Saturday was a free day for those who could manage any shopping, etc.

On behalf of the whole club, Fred Barratt would like to thank Mr. Weisblatt and HQ staff in the support and co-operation they gave throughout the whole venture; also Mr. Simon Conway and his staff, particularly the IFH cashier who handled the money of the club throughout. Thanks also to the wives and escorts and all who helped make the trip such a success.

As Johnny Cope says, 'Does anyone know who it was that stated that Scottish people are mean? The kindness and generosity of the Edinburgh people will remain with us for a long time. Our grateful thanks are due to Mary and Fred Barratt, Reg Newton and of course St. Dunstan's, among others, for making it all possible'.

100TH BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to Mrs. L. Walsh, of Manchester, who celebrated her 100th birthday on the 22nd September. Her husband, *Ralph Walsh*, died in 1976 having been a St. Dunstaner for two years. Mrs. Walsh received a telegram from the Queen, also Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme wrote to send his congratulations. She says that one of her secrets of long life is a sherry in the morning and a 'snowball' in the evening.

ARMY AWARD

Staff Sergeant Ronald Graham Hazelgrove R.E., son of Mr. R.W. Hazlegrove of Canterbury, receiving a cup on 1st July at Brompton Barracks, Chatham, for the best student on the Senior N.C.O.'s Cadre. Mr. and Mrs. Hazelgrove were invited to the Barracks to see the presentation.



WAR PENSIONERS VEHICLE SCHEME AND WAR PENSIONERS MOBILITY SUPPLEMENT

The War Pensioners Vehicle Scheme (W.P.V.S.) was first introduced in 1949 for the benefit of War Pensioners in the following categories of disablement:

1. Amputation of both legs, one being above or through the knee
2. A defect of the locomotor system or severe heart or lung condition so that to all intents and purposes walking is impossible
3. A slightly less severe disability which limits walking to the extent that personal transport is essential to get to work.

However, as a result of the efforts of Lord Fraser on behalf of St. Dunstaners, the Minister of Pensions at that time agreed to allocate 50 cars for the use of St. Dunstaners at the discretion of St. Dunstan's. These cars were issued to men and women with a special need, based on the official categories mentioned above, and a waiting list of applicants was opened and maintained from which future allocations could be made.

During the succeeding 34 years many cars have been reallocated several times so that many more than the original 50 St. Dunstaners have benefitted from their use. When the Mobility Allowance was introduced and a number of our car users qualified to opt for it in lieu of their cars, the D.H.S.S. generously permitted the surrendered vehicles to remain in the allocation for use by even more St. Dunstaners.

Alas, all good things come to an end, for after 21st November, no further cars will be issued under the W.P.V.S. and instead a new War Pensioners Mobility Supplement of £21.50 per week will be paid to those who qualify in the following categories only:

1. Double-leg amputees with one leg amputated above or through the knee
2. Those who are unable to walk or for all practical purposes are unable to walk.

Again, however, St. Dunstaners are to receive generous treatment, for those fortunate enough to be using cars from our allocations are to be permitted to participate in the new scheme. They may either opt to keep the vehicle under present arrangements until it is no longer usable and then receive the supplement, or to take the supplement in lieu of the car right away.

Of course it is recognised that some other St. Dunstaners will have a similar or even greater need for mobility aid than those with cars from our allocation, but that is the luck of the draw and I am sure no one will envy their good fortune. During the 30 years I have administered the allocation of cars we have tried to be scrupulously fair and I tender our thanks and appreciation to those members of the staff at Norcross who have always been helpful and considerate when dealing with our recommendations.

Any St. Dunstaner with a query arising from the above should write to me at Headquarters.

C.D. Wills

NOTICE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S GARDENERS

It is hoped that the BBC's programme, Gardeners Question Time, will be included in one of our gardening weeks of 1984. To avoid duplication of some questions I am asking anyone wishing a question to be put, to send their questions to me as soon as possible. I will then send them all to Ken Ford of the BBC and leave the selection of questions entirely to him and his team. This will be fair to everyone concerned.

It is as well to remember that only a small number of questions are taken in the half hour programme, so that everyone sending in a question may not be among the group selected by the BBC staff.

*Fred Barratt
Chairman*

CRUISER SAILING COURSES FOR THE BLIND

The RYA Seamanship Foundation announce that their annual cruiser sailing courses next year will be held from the 8th-14th July, centred on the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club, Falmouth. Cost will be approximately £60 per head. The courses will be open to those who have attended previous courses as well as beginners and, following its successful innovation in 1983, another "French cruise" is being planned for advanced students.

Application forms are available from the Sports and Recreation Officer, RNIB, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA. These forms should be returned completed by 14th January, 1984.

IMC3

by Walter Thornton

By itself, "IMC 3" has no meaning, except to a few hundred people, even though these are scattered worldwide. It would seem to have little connection with St. Dunstan's, but the significance begins to take shape when the succeeding lines are quoted from the programme from which it was extracted.

Third International Mobility Conference.
Vienna International Centre, 1st to 4th
November, 1983.

Guest of Honour – the President of the
Austrian Republic – Dr. Rudolf
Kirchschläger.

The conference was attended by 160 representatives from 26 countries. All were either acknowledged experts in their own fields, or involved in the propagation of blind mobility training, either as practitioners or as principals of agencies of blind welfare. It was organised by an independent committee of mobility experts, with the sponsorship of the Association of Austrian Teachers of the Blind and Visually Handicapped, in association with the European Regional Committee of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind.

Stan Suterko at Brighton coaching Bill Claydon, during the demonstration long cane course.



Sitting in the superb Conference Room 2 of the United Nations building in Vienna, it seemed a long way back to August 1965, when Stan Suterko, who had been my long cane instructor a few months previously at the University of Western Michigan, Kalamazoo, conducted a long cane demonstration course at Ovingdean. On the eve of Stan Suterko's retirement from his university post, it was good to reflect on the worldwide progress which mobility training has made since that Ovingdean course, and the international occasions, including the founding of the National Mobility Centre in Birmingham, in which we had been involved together. One felt that our late Chairman, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, would have given the occasional approving nod as references continued to be made during the conference which reflected the influence which St. Dunstan's has had on the course of events in the spread of mobility training.

Extended Options

The subjects of some of the lectures indicated the remarkable extension of options for the visually impaired which has accompanied this spread of mobility training. In 1965, responsible people in blind welfare found it difficult to accept that totally blind people could cross busy roads safely on their own. The Vienna conference heard accounts of mobility training for the deaf blind, for amputees, for the blind in wheel chairs, and for the blind in the Third World. Time and again, one was reminded of the old truism, "The difficult requires a little time. The impossible takes rather longer".

The first two of these International Mobility Conferences, in Frankfurt in '79 and Paris in '81, were very much concerned with mobility based on the use of the long cane, with recognition of the possible uses of electronic aids. The development of multi-purpose mobility centres, which some of us have been urging for a long time, was featured at the Vienna conference as the subject of a paper presented by Keith Holdsworth, formerly of

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 1854

Flashman

By George MacDonald

Read by Peter Reynolds

Reading Time 10½ hours

This is the continuing story of Harry Flashman, the notorious bully of Rugby, told in his own words. At seventeen he is expelled from the school for drunkenness and returns home. His father buys him a commission in a crack cavalry regiment, largely to keep him away from Flashman senior's newly acquired mistress (in the event, he was a bit late!).

The regiment is commanded by the Earl of Cardigan, whom Flashman describes as 'God's own original fool'. When he fights a duel with the regiment's best marksman, Flashman emerges unscathed, having taken the simple precaution of ensuring that his opponent's weapon has no ball in it.

Sent to Scotland on a mission he marries Elspeth after being given a clear choice –

either the altar or pistols at dawn, which is no choice at all for our Harry.

Cardigan disapproves of the marriage since none of the girl's relations appears in Debrett, and sends Flashman off to India, minus wife. In India he has a splendid time drinking, womanising and flogging the servants.

The Afghan war breaks out. This is not at all to Flashman's taste, dedicated as he is to the holy task of keeping his precious skin intact. He manages this by running away from danger and leaving others to get themselves killed 'and more fools they' says he. His C.O. he describes as 'the greatest military idiot of all time'.

Needless to say our Harry receives nary a scratch and by a series of most extraordinary flukes, emerges from his many derelictions of duty as a national hero and is decorated by Queen Victoria herself. . .

A roystering rollicking gem of a book – but it's not for Auntie Mabel or the kids as there are quite a lot of naughty bits in it.

IMC 3 – continued

Leamington Spa, and now Director of the Royal Guide Dogs for the Blind Associations of Australia. The British representation included Derek Carver, and it is to be expected that guide dogs will continue to feature in subsequent conferences.

"What's New in Mobility" could well be taken as the theme of these conferences. It was also the subject of one of the sessions in which the British representation was very much involved, the British topics including textured pavements; deaf blind canes; a new flashing cane; deaf blind car stickers to publicise the white cane with two red rings as a warning symbol; the "cone of sound" pelican crossings for dual carriageways; tactile signals at pedestrian crossings; "Elsie" – the talking bus stop; and the first mobility aid with built-in artificial intelligence.

It was a stimulating conference, which will encourage the spread and extension of mobility training. It widened awareness of

progress which is being made and the challenges which are being made, as in the research into the causes of retinitis pigmentosa, which John Marshall, Simbel Professor at the University of London, outlined at the Conference.

There were many personal bonuses from the conference. It was good to meet graduates from the National Mobility Centre in Birmingham, and to learn of the work which they are doing worldwide. There was a last minute visit with Austrian friends to Grinzing. There was a family party at the Federal School for the Blind in Vienna. There was the salutary experience of a clean city, with smooth pavements and good roads. Perhaps most satisfying, to one to whom self-dependent mobility is a compulsive activity, there was the proof that, with the minimum of familiarisation, independent travel was possible, when necessitated, on the six years old automated underground of Vienna, with automatic announcements to reassure one that the vital stop has not been missed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Mr. F. Hamilton, Manchester

Your Bridge Correspondent is to be congratulated for choosing a most interesting problem for the October Review. Not only does it provide problems in bidding and in play but it gives an opportunity, also, of highlighting some points about distribution and some standard plays in difficult conditions.

Dealer W (4)		Game all
	N	
	S Q.J.10.7.	
	H Q.	
	D K.J.7.4.	
	C 9.5.4.2.	
		E
W		S A.6.4.2.
S K.9.5.3.		H 8.6.5.4.3.
H J.10.9.2.		D 2.
D Q.9.8.3.		C 8.7.6.
C 3.		
	S	
	S 8.	
	H A.K.7.	
	D A.10.6.5.	
	C A.K.Q.J.10.	

May I ask, first, that the hand should be presented as a problem. Something along the lines of:-

October Bridge Problem:

1. With both hands vulnerable and with West as the dealer, how should the following hands be bid?
2. What particular difficulties are there in the South hand for an Acoll player?
3. Which small slam can be made by South against any defence?

SOLUTIONS:

1.

W	N	E	S
NB	NB	NB	1C
NB	1D	NB	2H
NB	2S	NB	4C
NB	5C	NB	6C

The interesting features of this auction are:-

- (a) the choice of opening bid (see Solution 2 below)

- (b) the jump bid of 2H over 1D – by implication, this must show a diamond fit or a hand which has been considerably improved by partner's bid;
- (c) 2S – a natural bid, showing a biddable Spade suit but, also, a forcing bid because Spades is the fourth suit and, in Acoll, a bid in the fourth suit is always forcing;
- (d) 4C – a jump bid, in a forcing situation, shows a suit without losers – a minimum AKQJ10;
- (e) 5C – frightened of two Spade losers; confirms Club support;
- (f) 6C – looks the best slam but there is nothing wrong with a bid of 5D to confirm to partner that the Diamond fit was a natural one. 6C is marginally better because partner had a chance to bid 5D – rather than 5C – and ignored it. He is unlikely, therefore, to have a good Diamond suit.

2. For Acoll players, the hand is a pig! You have the points for 2 No Trumps but the wrong shape; you have insufficient points for 2 Clubs (23+ in the Acoll system) and an unpleasant rebid problem if you open 2 Clubs on this hand and partner bids 2 Diamonds; the hand looks perfect for the Acoll Strong Two Opener, which shows 8 playing tricks in the suit bid – but the Acoll Strong Two does not apply to the Club suit! The conclusion is perfectly simple: there are 36 possible opening bids and 13 million possible hands: clearly, no system can cover every hand. The best solution, therefore, is to open One Club and to try to get your partner to believe you when you try to catch up! After all, if partner cannot reply to One Club, there may be no game on.

3. The 6 Club slam can be made against any defence: declarer makes 3 Club tricks, three ruffing tricks, three diamonds and three hearts. The hand does, in fact, raise a number of interesting points and other Bridge enthusiasts may care to consider them:-
A. *SYMMETRY* Eli Culbertson suggested once that the 'flair' that some Bridge players appear to have is really

an innate ability to recognise the symmetry that often exists in a particular deal. He mentioned specifically how often a singleton occurs in each of the four hands. Declarer, therefore, should be aware of such things as he plays the hand.

In this particular hand, when declarer begins to draw trumps, West shows out at the second trump trick. Declarer now knows that there were singletons in Spades, Hearts and Clubs: he should be on the lookout for a Diamond singleton. B. The Diamond combination in the N/S hands is interesting. If you had to find the best way to make three tricks out of this combination, without losing a trick, one could either take the finesse either way – apparently a 50/50 chance – or play 3 rounds of trumps, AKQ of Hearts, discarding two Diamonds from Dummy, then AK of Diamonds and ruff a Diamond, hoping that the Queen would drop. This gives a slightly better than even chance. It seems better than the finesse – or does it? What happens to the comparison when the singleton Club is identified in the East hand? Then the odds swing in favour of the finesse through West, provided that the Ace of Diamonds is played first so as to avoid losing to a singleton Queen in the East hand.

As I said, a fascinating problem: may we have many more of a similar high quality.

From: Gerry Jones, St. Agnes, Cornwall

I have just listened to the account of Ray Peart's magnificent effort in the Triathlon.

This is a most marvellous achievement. Not many humans can swim one and a half miles or indeed ride a bike 56 or even run 13 miles; but to do all three one after the other shows tremendous strength of character. This type of event offers enough pitfalls for sighted athletes, but for a blind person to complete the course deserves all our admiration. I am sure that Ray must be the first St. Dunstaner to do this if indeed he is not the first blind person in the country to make his mark.

I offer my congratulations and I am sure all St. Dunstaners will do the same. Bloody well done Ray and a big thank you to your wife and other helpers.

From: Mr. S. Scroggie, Kirkton of Strathmartine, by Dundee
Husbands, Beware

Miss Kay Timmis was showing my wife Margaret and me round St. David's Cathedral in Pembrokeshire. This is the same Kay, a Shropshire lass, second-war St. Dunstaners will remember both from the Church Stretton and Ovingdean days when amongst other things Kay taught typing to the boys and girls. Now living near this hallowed Welsh ground, Kay conducts pilgrim tours based on St. David's Cathedral, so as we examined stiff, recumbent effigies, pawky Medieval misericords, and the very bones of St. David, or at least some of them, Margaret and I had the benefit of expert guidance. A certain row of stone faces, Kay told us, are representative of the seven deadly sins. I pricked up my ears on hearing this, being something of a connoisseur in this respect, asking Margaret there and then to describe the faces. She studied them for a while. "Funnily enough, Sydney", she said, "they all have a look of you". Mortally offending as often as not, in the theological sense, I at least took Margaret's witty rejoinder in such good part as not to be mortally offended.

St. Dunstan's Electronic Organ Weekend
by Alan Mitchell

One weekend in October a group of 14 electronic organ enthusiasts met at I.F.H. for the Annual Organ Weekend, which after its great success this year, we hope to extend by a couple of days next year – watch the *Review* for details.

The entertainment and demonstration were given by Douglas Reeve, who plays at the Dome, Brighton, Graham Watkins, who also lent us three organs, two of which he built himself; Toni Back, who is an excellent player and entertainer and last but not least Mick Leary, who is also a first class player and entertainer.

Most of the time we were entertained in the winter gardens. We also visited the Dome, the Roebuck and Pipe and the White Horse.

It all went very well, as we felt sure it would. We hope it will grow from strength to strength. Our thanks go to Mr. Conway and all who helped make the weekend so enjoyable.



Dawn swimmers at Lee beach: the intrepid St. Dunstaners, accompanied by assorted 'dogs' are: Terry Bullingham, David Bell, Jimmy Wright, Shirley Blackmore, Mansel Lewis and Bill Shea.

A Dog's Eye View

Camp at H.M.S. Daedalus

by C.P.O. Ian Sheriff

Photos: H.M.S. Daedalus and Mrs. Katherine Garnett-Orme.

For a Fleet Air Arm Field Gunner his season starts way back on those dark damp October nights pounding the various back roads around this island. His one aim is to attain a peak of physical fitness unsurpassed by the rest of the human race to enable him to beat 36 other people, drag, lift and throw tons of metal and wood around the Mecca of all – the coveted arena of Earl's Court! But this is just part of No. 1's sales talk, we of this aged Dog Society know only too well that the whole exercise is to get him through the St. Dunstan's summer camp week! After weeks of training it is up to London to try him out in all that noise then back to work.

Tension mounts dramatically in the Kennels as the day draws near; young dogs listen attentively to the old dogs relating their tales of past camps and finally the names of their prospective masters are given to them. No. 1 gives a detailed run down at this point which follows a similar

format to this – "Yours Smith – he swims like a fish and drinks like one, never sleeps and by the way runs 10 miles before breakfast every day". St. D's Day dawns – yes it is 89° in the shade. Excitement grows as in the distance an omnibus rolls up outside the P.O.'s Mess. A shout goes up "They're here" and once again for the dogs a week of unsurpassed pleasure of sharing and caring begins. Having found the correct cabin, which I might add the master is able to find more easily than the dog, it is down to supper followed by a welcome from Elspeth in the P.O.'s lounge. A list of fellow campers is read out and then a run through of the week's programme. One piece of sad news was the very sudden death of George McKay during the week before camp and another that Peter Spencer was not at all well and would not be with us this year. The saying that if you cannot get Mohammed to come to you, you should go to him was very apt on this

occasion as on Sunday a car load of Peter's friends drove to Weston-super-Mare and had a thoroughly enjoyable day with Peter and Ruth.

Friday night was spent in the F/CPO Mess reliving old times and making new friends. Saturday morning saw the stout of heart on the starting line for the annual 2 mile airfield walk. It was suggested that "Phyllosan" might like to sponsor this event next year! From a dog's point of view it was nice to see Al Price way at the back and still smiling!

After the walk most people dashed off to their various pursuits; the gliding veterans to the bright blue yonder and the bowlers to their greens. As for the rest of us the sun had burst forth so swimming and sun bathing were the order of the day. Till the sun went down when in the evening a cheerful dance was held in F/CPO Mess.

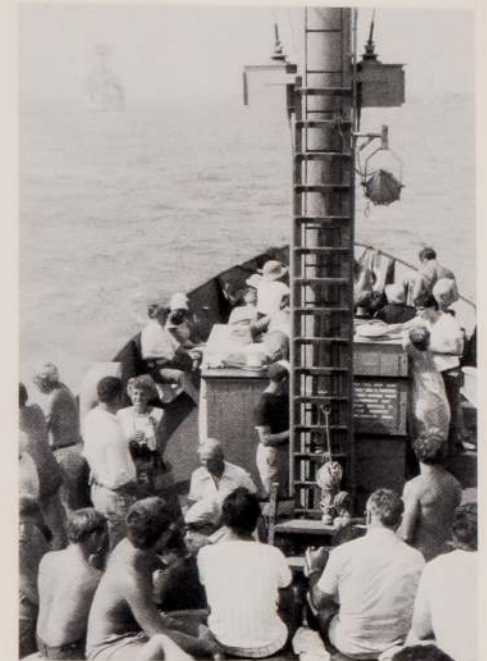
Sunday Service

Sunday morning church service was conducted by Padre Lynne and Padre Huie. The energy which was generated by the excellent singing in church would have done justice to any Welsh choir. Prayers were said for our friends who had passed away, Ben Mills, Ted Jinks, Doug Howard, George McKay and the young grand-daughter of Bob Forshaw, Amy-Louise, who had sadly died at the age of 16 recently. Prayers were also said for Peter Spencer who was very ill.

Following the church service we were entertained by the Captain and his Officers to drinks on the Ward Room lawn.

In the afternoon a party set off to Gosport to compete in the archery competition against the Gosport Bowmen with Charlie McConaghy winning the Shield for the Totally Blind archers and George Hudson that for the partially sighted, this was a new trophy presented most generously by the Gosport Bowmen. Other parties went off to continue their bowling competitions or to swim and laze in the sun. In the evening the PO's Mess gave us an enjoyable social evening when the Ward Family played and sang to make a cheerful evening's entertainment.

Amazingly for the third successive year the weather was hot, dry and calm for the Isle of Wight trip. The usual happy band set off complete with refreshments – liquid and



A happy ship's company sailing to the Isle of Wight.

otherwise – and a musical accompaniment thanks to Joe Humphrey. A pleasant trip over was followed by our usual warm welcome at the Cowes British Legion where most of the party stayed for the duration of the shorter than usual stay on the island. Some, however, did brave the stones and tar on the beach and went in for a quick dip. The return trip started at the early hour of 2 p.m. and once on board sunbathing started on the outward trip was resumed, a testament to this being the many rather sunburnt faces, arms and legs to be seen mounting the buses for the short journey back to Daedalus. The general consensus of opinion being that once again the trip had proved to be one of the high spots of the week very much enjoyed by all. For the trip we also had the pleasure of the company of the Chairman of St. Dunstan's and Mrs. Garnett-Orme. Later there was a 'musical evening' in the F/CPO Mess which brought a hail of outstanding comments from the audience! Thanks must go to Budgie Rodgers and Colin Jones for making what could have been a low point in entertainment into an evening to remember.



Diana Hoare receiving her brooch from Charles Stafford.

Tuesday dawned another fine bright day but blessed by the usual blustery Daedalus wind. A slightly smaller than usual group of enthusiastic sportsmen set off on the familiar round of events – javelin, shot, discus, swing ball and goal kicking. Despite the high winds the usual high standard was maintained. After the exertions of the morning a generally quiet afternoon was had by all with most sunbathing or swimming and a small party continued with their bowling. The evening was spent at the now regular Tuesday night venue of the CPO Mess at HMS Collingwood, where once again we were warmly welcomed and treated to an excellent disco. The members of Cabin 12 – Johnny Cope, Trevor Tatchell and Arthur Carter organised a raffle and raised the magnificent sum of £139.

Miraculously the weather held out again on Wednesday and the fishing group and Solent cruise party both set out with high hopes of another fine day. Another party proceeded – more or less steadily – on the 14 mile pub crawl accompanied by the Captain of HMS Daedalus and they made a valiant effort to drink the pubs in the Fareham and Gosport area dry! Another prolonged expedition took place in the evening in the guise of the mystery car tour and in fact we are still waiting for the tail ends to return from the trip! However, most managed to struggle back to the

Chief's Mess for an excellent musical evening a new innovation this year – a singalong with the three 'Sailmakers' which proved to be very popular indeed and it is hoped that the evening can be repeated next year.

Incidentally, strange objects had been sighted on the Lee beach at an extremely uncivilised hour each morning and I am reliably informed that they were in fact St. Dunstan's campers plus assorted dogs going for an early morning swim. My informant does not make it clear whether they swam before or after going to bed following the night's revelries!

Thursday was a day of diverse visits. Following the hovercraft ride early that morning parties departed for lunch time visits to HMS Antrim, HMS Collingwood, HMS Hermes, HMS Fearless and HMS Invincible. Judging by the very 'cheerful' demeanour of the campers and dogs on their return it was gathered that a thoroughly good time had been had by all. In the evening we reached one of the highlights of the week – 'Prize Giving' with the prizes presented by Captain Megson.

Winning Sports Team

The Winning Sports Team "C" was captained by Micky Sheehan with 411 points. Other members of the team being Ted Brown, Charlie Hague, Bill Shea, Joe Humphrey, Bob Forshaw, Ernie Cookson and Terry Bullingham. Team A was 2nd captained by David Hodgson. Team B was 3rd captained by Percy Stubbs. The sports winners were announced by Cpt. Martyn Webb, the archery and car drive by Tomo Thompson and the Bowls by Cpt. Budgie Rodgers. A special presentation was made to Diana Hoare and Maisie Streets for the many years they had both given to helping St. Dunstan's both at camp and elsewhere. Charles Stafford made the presentation of silver St. Dunstan's brooches surrounded by garnets and diamonds together with a cheque each with love from all the campers.

Terry Bullingham then made a very well received speech and vote of thanks on behalf of the campers to the Captain, Officers and Ships Company of HMS Daedalus followed by David Hodgson who made an equally well received vote of thanks to the Mess Presidents, Trainers,



The winning sports team celebrate their success in song.

Field Gun Crew and particularly the Dogs. Later the room was cleared and dancing took place to a very good disco.

The last day and still the sun shone down on us. Most of the day was spent in various groups, swimming, bowling, strolling, I might add that the world is put to rights on many an occasion during a stroll down Lee front. One group of campers made their way over to Portsmouth to visit HMS Victory – one rumour has it that one camper was old enough to have sailed on her! One person in the guise of Tomo Thompson spent the afternoon getting the by now famous last night raffle together which raised over £325. It never ceases to amaze me – the range and amount of prizes for this event all so generously donated. The evening finds all the camp in the F/CPO mess for our final night together, the atmosphere is one of excitement tinged with sadness as yet another successful camp draws to an end. The night itself is danced and talked away until the wee small hours, some say it is not customary to leave until the sun rises over 'The Glen'.

Saturday at dawn sees the hustle and bustle of dogs loaded with suitcases, music boxes, bowls and bags trying to look 'wide eyed and bushy tailed' in an attempt to find the correct bus on which to load their masters' belongings. Then comes that final handshake, the promise of a letter and of course the best accolade a dog can receive, "You'll do for me next camp". The buses drive off amidst shouts and much banging on the windows.

For every Fleet Air Arm Field Gunner St. Dunstan's Camp is the cream on the top of a very exciting year and one I am sure he will treasure the memory for many years to come.

Sadly since this was written, we have had news of the death of one of our longest 'serving' campers, Charles Campkin. He had been coming to camp for nigh on 30 years and his dry humour and quiet good nature will be greatly missed by us all.

The final placings for the 2 mile airfield walk were:

The Handicap – 1st Sidney Dodd
2nd Ted Brown 3rd Mansel Lewis
The Dennis Deacon Veteran's Cup – Stan Tutton
Bridget Talbot Novice Cup – Sidney Dodd
The Fastest Loser's Cup – Stan Tutton

Sports Prizes

The Double Handicap Prize – Percy Stubbs
The Best Beginner's Prize – Johnny Gale
The Victor Ludorum TB – Joe Humphrey
The Victor Ludorum SS – Arthur Carter
Fishing – Bob Forshaw
Kath Riley Trophy for Mystery Car Drive
Charles Campkin with Anne Jefferies and Stuart Lynes as his crew
The Ben Mills Cup for Bowls: Pairs – Bob Forshaw and Sidney Dodd
Archery Shield for TB – Charles McConaghy
Archery Shield for SS – George Hudson
Goal Kicking for TB – Charles McConaghy
Goal Kicking for SS – Charlie Hague



Jimmy Wright, Peter Walker and Stan Tutton, with their escorts at the start of the City of London walk. The event, organised by the Lloyds of London branch of the Royal British Legion, raises money for the Ulster and Active Service Fund.

ONE HOOK, FOUR FINGERS AND MANY CHIPS by Ray Hazan

This is not a tale about the one that got away. Though, to be pedantic, I would have to confess that many got away. You will have read an account of the electronic organist's weekend, by this year's Chairman, Alan Mitchell. There follows the impressions of a one handed player, hence the reference to the many 'notes' that got away.

Of course, anyone can play a keyboard instrument with one hand, if they are just going to pick out single notes. But the electronic organ with its printed circuits, silicon chips and integrated circuits enable a one handed person, together with prosthetic hook to play chord accompaniment and melody at the same time. To one for whom the making of music was an important part of life, the organ has been the key to a familiar and welcoming door.

But not even three pairs of hands could have matched the playing of Douglas Reeve in the Dome. He started his talk and demonstration by explaining how the organ was designed in 1935. It consisted of 9000 pipes, plus real drums, castanets, cymbals, triangles and xylophone. The pipes are contained in 4 'rooms' on the walls of the theatre. The volume of sound is controlled by venetian blind-like shutters

on the outside of the 'rooms'. Thus the volume of sound through the pipes is constant but it is the opening and closing of the shutters which does the work. But the pipes and percussion simply enhanced the magic fingers of Douglas Reeve. One moment, he had you soaring like a bird high above the Dome, the next minute you were being tossed and battered by a storm at sea, and finally, he layed you down to drowse amongst the soothing tunes of an English summer afternoon. Add to this his interesting and amusing anecdotes gleaned from a rich and busy life, and you have an afternoon's entertainment fit for a king.

It was a fascinating change from the pre-war pipe organ, to the post-war electronic organ as demonstrated by Toni Back at the Roebuck on his Italian Elke. It was a conducive atmosphere; delightfully antique surroundings, a pint of the best, pleasant company, dancing and singing. But these could still not detract from the skill and musical ability of Toni. He has a very pleasant singing voice, and with his synthesiser, can produce his own choral accompaniment. A personal impression is that while Toni creates many 'electronic sounds', the bulk of his playing sounds remarkably like conventional

orchestration. This gives it a much wider appeal.

It was a great pleasure to welcome back another friend, Graham Watkins of Swankit (you noticed the anagram) instruments. Graham has been a great help to St. Dunstan's. Not only does he ferry instruments backwards and forwards for us to use, but repairs and generally keeps an eye on our interests. He provided two bonuses this year. We were the first group in the country to hear Dr. Boehm's 'Digital Drums'. As the name implies, the sound of all the percussion instruments are recreated digitally by a computer, as opposed to a synthesiser. The result therefore, is indistinguishable from the real thing. The unit looks just like a typewriter, the keys being used to select the instrument. Other buttons provide for over 180 different rhythm combinations. Graham sells these units in kit form, which at £500 is half the factory built price. Jerry Lynch, who is drummer with the Music Makers was not totally convinced!

Happily, Jerry provided real, live drums to join Graham in our second bonus - Graham's playing at our social in the winter gardens. If Alan's vote of thanks was anything to go by, then it can be said to have been a most successful evening.

Perhaps to some people, all electronic players sound the same. But with a little knowledge and experience, one can soon begin to differentiate between styles. Mick Leary is a demonstrator for Wersi, a German-made instrument. Mick tends to go more for the big, bubbly electronic organ sounds, using no extra synthesisers. In both his afternoon talk and evening concert, he took great pains to explain and demonstrate how sounds, rhythms and changes of texture and tempo are created.

This was also the feature of Toni Back's musical gig on our final morning. Toni has held the position of Musical Director of the Italian Elke firm. He was uniquely qualified to tell us about the Elke organ St. Dunstan's had purchased, and made music on it such as has never been heard before in the Winter Gardens.

One departed after the weekend with a feeling of elation. Tunes, ambitions and dreams fluttered around in the mind in a colourful cacophony. It was convenient to forget the musical abilities and the years of sweat and hard practice that our concert players have behind them. They all devoted

their services freely and with a contagious enthusiasm. They have become the good friends of one of the most privileged organ clubs in the country. We give them our heartfelt thanks.

Here are some useful addresses to write to if you would like to obtain lessons on cassette:

The Popular Organist Studio, Freepost, Leeds LS8 5YY.

Instruction by cassette. £28 for 10 lessons. Fee includes instruction cassettes (specially adapted for blind students if requested) and blank return cassettes to record your playing for tutor's assessment.

Home Organist Tape Club, Ty'n-y-coed, Commercial Road, Cwmfelinfach, Gwent NP1 7HN.

Circulation of tapes among members - 'tape-sponding'. Quarterly Newsletter or Newstape. Tape Library. Most members are relative beginners taking up organ music as a hobby. Membership fee £4 per annum. Send letters of enquiry to the Membership Secretary at above address.

Further details about lessons on cassette can be obtained from Sid Jones, c/o the P.R. Department.

HARROGATE DIARY

by John Whitcombe

A party of fifteen bridge players visited Harrogate this year, from the 10th to the 17th September. There were ten St. Dunstaners and five helpers, Vi Delaney's sister Rene Bushell, Bob's wife Lynn, Ian Dickson, Stan Medcroft and Norman Smith. The majority travelled together from London joining the others at Leeds and continuing to Harrogate by coach.

On Saturday evening we visited Harrogate Bridge Club to play for the St. Dunstan's Cup which was won by a team made up of two St. Dunstaners, Bill Phillips and Bob Evans and two Harrogate Bridge Club members Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pearce. We played a match against Ripon Bridge Club on Sunday, which St. Dunstan's won easily and an extremely good evening of bridge was enjoyed. However on Monday we were well beaten at the Civil Service Club but well entertained too, so all in all it was a very successful evening.

The match took the form of a pairs competition against the Electricity Board on Tuesday and we had another enjoyable

and successful evening. The first prize went to Vi Delaney and Wally Lethbridge, in fact the only prize, but Renee and Lynn came second in this competition and that was prize enough. Well done Ladies!

On Wednesday afternoon a match was played against Bradford Bridge Club in their luxurious club rooms. Cedric Cockcroft, a member of Harrogate Bridge Club and organiser of the week, was in charge. Unfortunately one of the Bradford players was involved in a car accident and Cedric played for Bradford, consequently Bradford won?! In the evening we played the 'Boffins' at I.C.I. They must have had a tactical talk before this match because every time we doubled we got one! Though we lost we had another excellent evening.

We went to Oakdale Bridge Club on Tuesday. It started off as a very happy evening until we heard that Cedric was running the competition! However he had had a long week, was over confident and became complacent. He underestimated that St. Dunstaners were made of sterner stuff than him and we won! We ended the evening as happy as we started.

Our annual visit to The Drovers took place on Friday. Ian collected all the invited guests together for lunch at 1.30 p.m. The lunch was superb and the chef and waitresses are to be congratulated. Bill Phillips gave a speech on behalf of St. Dunstan's welcoming the guests and Cedric, the principal guest, replied. That evening was our St. Dunstan's 'at home' Bridge Drive which was held at the Civil Service Club because the hotel at which we stay cannot accommodate the numbers that attend this function.

This competition is always keenly fought. The prizes given by St. Dunstan's are extremely good ones and can only be won by the visitors. We found out who the class players were at Harrogate! First prize was won by Mr. & Mrs. Tom Pearce. After the bridge drive an excellent buffet was served. The evening continued with dancing and drinking as the bar remained open until the dancing finished.

Saturday and time to go home, tired but happy after another good week at Harrogate. We must offer our thanks to the staff and management of the Dirlton Hotel. Many thanks to everyone at Harrogate for their help once again and to our very own gallant band of helpers.

INSURANCE OF HOMES AND CONTENTS

With winter on the horizon with its attendant frosts and storms, it seems an opportune moment to publish a reminder about insurance of homes and contents. In many cases you may have a comprehensive policy covering the building and contents. Where you are in rented accommodation, or in part of a building, like a block of flats, the insurance cover will not include cover for your home contents and you yourself should arrange such insurance.

In Britain a theft from a private house occurs about every 3 minutes and anyone who has experienced a break-in or who has suffered from burst pipe damage during the recent severe winters will have had cause to be thankful that they were prudent enough to insure the contents of their home and therefore avoided potential financial hardship.

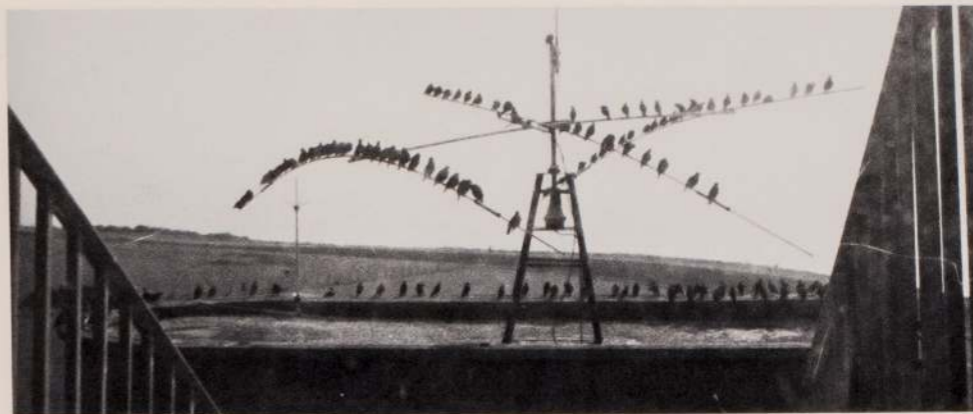
Modern policies cover a wide range of perils from accidental damage to television sets and hi-fi equipment, to the loss of freezer contents due to breakdown. You may not be aware that the occupier of a property is primarily responsible if someone is injured on his property. He can be liable at law if, for instance, a slate falls from his roof or someone trips over an uneven pathway. Most contents policies include the legal liability of the occupier.

The Sun Alliance Group, for whom St. Dunstan's are agents, have a policy called Home Insurance designed to simplify the whole procedure and it is produced in modern plain language so that it is easy to understand.

There is one Proposal Form, one Premium and one Policy which covers all of your home contents with a number of optional extensions and the premiums can be paid monthly through a bank. Claims are paid on replacement cost as new on most items provided the total sum insured is up to date. Full details of this policy and proposal forms can be obtained from Mr. Louis Cheong at Headquarters or direct from the Sun Alliance at 88 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1PP, Telephone No. 01-930 8181.

Remember 'Contents Insurance' with the Sun Alliance through the St. Dunstan's Agency are subject to preferential terms.

*Trevor Lloyd
Estate Manager*



Our amateur radio antennae subjected to a different 'load' by a flock of starlings.

AMATEUR RADIO WEEK-END

Friday 14th October saw the beginning of the Amateur Radio Week-end it was amazing how the aerials stood up under such a beating but they did. The stalwarts of our Society, namely, Len, David and Bob had once again done a magnificent job of repair to the aerials prior to the meeting under severe storm conditions and our thanks go to them yet once again.

Over the week-end many contacts were made including Australia, New Zealand, South America and on Saturday evening during the height of the storm several Canadian stations.

Saturday morning at the formal meeting amongst the various topics discussed it was suggested that we should try to encourage more St. Dunstaners to take up the interest of Amateur Radio. It was pointed out that any St. Dunstaners interested would be welcome to join the Society members at any of the week-ends being held at Ian Fraser House. We were all pleased to be able to congratulate Bob Davis on his attainment of a licence. There were several members that because of ill-health were not able to make this meeting, let us hope they are all fit.

We were privileged to have the first demonstration of the talking BBC Micro computer given by our Chairman Peter Jones on Saturday afternoon. For the previous 6 months, with the help of a Professor at Sheffield University and other computer programmers, Peter showed how a blind person could operate this

computer to achieve many functions. Instant recall of data from its memory could be used as diary, a directory, bearings for a beam and with the addition of a printer, a letter writer. He also demonstrated it being used as a random sender of morse, you selected the choice of speed, spacing either letters or numbers, or mixed. A most fascinating demonstration and this apparently is only the beginning.

A demonstration was given of the Versabril machine by Ray Hazan, on Sunday morning. This machine, specially designed for use by the blind, does everything that is necessary for a blind person working in an office or at a switchboard, keeping information which can be recalled from the set of Perkins-like keys. The information is either spoken or displayed in Braille. Writing letters or articles with this machine is a pleasure, checking what has been written and correcting any mistakes is no problem at all.

Our thanks go to both Peter and Ray for making this week-ends so interesting and giving us all a peek at Tomorrows World, thanks also go to Commander Conway and his staff for their help in making the week-end such a success.

Jim Padley

The BBC Micro and the Versabril machine will be demonstrated and exhibited during a weekend to be held at the beginning of next year. Will those interested in attending, please contact Norman French at HQ as soon as possible.



Royal presentation to Jimmy Wright

Jimmy Wright received plaques recording his parascending feats from Her Royal Highness Princess Michael of Kent at a Charity Dinner Concert, which was arranged by the Metropolitan Police Flying Club and Shepherds Bush Division at the Cunard Hotel, Hammersmith, on Tuesday, 1st November. The event raised over £4,000 for the Royal School for the Blind Development Appeal. Princess Michael of Kent was the Guest of Honour, and among Chief Superintendent Fred Luff's distinguished guests were: The Chief Commissioner, Sir Kenneth Newman, Q.P.M., and Lady Newman; Assistant Commissioner, W.H. Gibson, C.B.E., Q.P.M., President and Mrs. Gibson; Assistant Commissioner, J.A. Dellow, O.B.E.; Deputy Assistant Commissioner, J.H. Cracknell, M.V.O., and Mrs. Cracknell; and the Mayor and Mayoress of Hammersmith and Fulham, Cllr. S. Leishman and Cllr. Mrs. E. Belsham.

Miss Moira Stuart, the BBC newscaster, compered the entertainment which was provided by the Metropolitan Police Band, the Metropolitan Police and Royal School choirs, as well as the senior and junior choirs of Hammersmith School, and there was also an ethnic group which performed a Chinese Dragon Act.

Jimmy's film "Building their Future" produced to assist the fund raising for the Royal School for the Blind, was shown on a large television screen at the commencement of the evening whilst the 550 guests were taking their places at the tables.

The first prize in the Grand Raffle was a cruise for two on the QE2 in April, and Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, CBE, DSO, DL, presented one of his unique jigsaw puzzles.

The Landbeach and Harley Parakite Teams were present and provided two plaques, one for Jimmy's parakiting altitude record for a disabled person and the other for the first parakite solo by a blind person, presented to Jimmy by Her Royal Highness.

First Day Covers

First day covers celebrating the parakite altitude record are available at £5 each with card describing the event, which was in aid of the Royal School for the Blind rebuilding Appeal. These are collectors items, as only a limited edition of 200 were franked for the occasion. If interested, write to - Brian Tripp, Landbeach Parakite Display Team, 2 Marie Curie, Sceaux Gardens, Southampton Way, London S.E.5.

D. F. Robinson's GARDENING NOTES

May I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and a very prosperous one in the garden.

It was a very poor period in the autumn and as I set these notes out there have been nothing but gales and heavy rain so one has not been able to get out, especially to get the vegetable garden dug over for the winter. I must say that I got quite good crops of most items, but potato size rather on the small side. Apples and pears have been very poor so practically nothing to put into store. Hope you get the pots of indoor bulbs in a good forward state and have some colour in the house for Christmas.

We shall try and get the vegetable seeds out to you as soon as possible in the spring, but those of you who have decided to pack up the vegetable plot please let us know at HQ so that your names can be taken off the list. Where you have sent for seed catalogues get the orders in early since some special items are always in short supply and it is first come first served. Also get in rose orders quickly so that they arrive in early spring.

All kinds of paths in the garden and all those for entry into the house and garage from main street may get very slippery after frosts, so give a sprinkling of ashes, gravel or coarse sand to make access easier for yourself and the car.

Vegetables

Get all the beds ready for the new season but do keep off the soil if it is very wet or frosty. Hoe and rake over the soil between growing crops such as early beans, peas and spring greens. Get some trays ready for the reception of seed potatoes so that they can sprout in a light and frost free place.

Check over all stored items such as onions and potatoes and throw out any which are showing signs of rot in any shape or form. Lettuces can be sown and grown in greenhouses or a frame in warm sunny pots, but do remember to put some cover over the frame when hard weather is about.

Don't forget to plan out the beds for the coming season and if a bit doubtful as to the last time where the brassica family were planted, give it a good dose of lime and also sprinkle calomel dust at the time of

sowing seed or planting larger plants. In fact it might be a good idea to dip the roots in a paste of made up calomel dust to give protection against 'club root'.

Fruit

General pruning can still be carried out provided there are not hard frosts around. Spray the trunks of trees some distance from ground level with an insecticide as a protection against the female types from laying their eggs further up and getting into the flowers and then into the core of the fruit. Don't plant any young trees now, just get the positions well dug over and some compost or manure added ready for the new trees later in the spring.

Where you have not pruned the currants and gooseberries, carry out the job at once, outdoor vines can also be attended to with the pruner. Raspberries need all the suckers removed from the main root or stool but no main pruning till spring. Ensure that you get all those orders in for new fruit trees and bushes so that you have early delivery in the spring.

Flowers

After some hard frosts the roots of some perennials may be lifted to the surface, so tread them in again and add some compost or manure to give the roots some protection against further severe conditions. Some surface rooters, such as carnations, pinks, pansies, etc. will often be affected during the winter even without very severe weather. Roses can still be planted but better left till spring. Most of the good growers will not send till spring but if they do arrive early, heel them in on a warm sheltered spot for the time being. Early flowering bulbs such as crocuses and anemones could do with a bit of protection so either earth them up or add some compost. Normally most bulbs are secure unless there are really very severe frosts.

Holly trees or bushes are often a target for your knives or secateurs at this time of the year in order to give indoor Christmas decoration, so keep cuttings to a minimum or you will lose the shape of the bushes and even have a poor year next time as regards berries. Many of the Christmas trees which you buy in pots for indoor decoration don't really settle down if kept inside, away from light and too near sources of heat. They certainly take a long time to settle outdoors and may die off. It is better to throw them away and get another next Christmas.

GOOD HEALTH AND RELAXATION

There is news of two new ideas on tape this month, both concerned with the subject of health.

Mr. Narendra Mehta started the cassette magazine 'Good Health' to fill a gap in the availability of information on the 'natural approach to health' for blind people. Mr. Mehta, who is blind himself, is the editor of the cassette/magazine which has been running for seven months and he claims it 'gives the most up to the minute information on various topics concerning a healthier approach to eating and healthy living as well as aspects of alternative medicine'. The cassette is free and further information may be obtained from: Mr. N. Mehta, 14 Stranraer Way, Freeling St., London N1.

The series of relaxation tapes has been devised by Peter Cauldwell, of 'Lake Isle Relaxation', in order to help those who suffer from all kinds of potentially stressful situations. There is a tape specifically for visually handicapped people among a list of thirty ranging from 'control of smoking' to 'agoraphobia', at a cost of £4 each. Further information may be obtained from: Lake Isle Relaxation, 'Windward', Slitting Mill, Rugeley, Staffs.

An example tape from both the 'Good Health' and 'Relaxation' series is available from the cassette library (see additions to cassette library G13 and G17).

TALKING NEWSPAPER NEWS

90 minute cassettes are now available for each of the following papers and magazines to visually handicapped people: Sunday Times, Sunday Telegraph, Sunday Express, Sunday Mirror, Observer, Mail on Sunday, Radio Times, Woman's Own and Woman's Realm. The cassettes are standard compact cassettes playable on normal household cassette players, not on Talking Book machines. Cassettes must be returned within 48 hours of receipt to ensure a regular weekly supply. The exception to this rule is the Radio Times, which can be retained for a full week for reference.

There is a charge of £2 for each paper or magazine. This will provide a year's supply. If you would like to receive any of the above please write enclosing a cheque or P.O. to: TNAUK, 68a High Street, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 8JB.

ADDITIONS TO CASSETTE LIBRARY

These may be obtained by sending the appropriate number of blank cassettes to the PR Department, stating clearly, the reference number of the cassette required:

- 01 8. C60 Monarch Telephone Switch-board. Description and brief instructions.
- R 62. C90 Ragchew for Oct. '83.
- SD 28. C90 Gardener Magazine, Oct '83
- SD 29. 2 C90s Electronic Organ - G. Watins, talk and concert.
- SD 30. 2 C90s Electronic Organ - M. Leary, talk and concert.
- SD 31. C90 Electronic Organ - T. Back in concert.
- G 11. C90 Track 1. Guide to Windsor Castle.
Track 2. Introduction to RAF Uxbridge wartime operations HQ.
- G 12. C90 BBC Micro computer with speech. Demo, keyboard description, introduction to programming.
- G 13. C60 Lake Isle relaxation tape.
- G 14. C60s Bird's Eye View of N. Zealand. 4 recorded programmes from NZ TV.
- G 15. 3 C90s Phillips Guide to Business Computers and the Electronic Office (abridged).
- G 16. 4 C90s Basic Basic. An introduction to programming (abridged).
- G 17. C90 Good Health Magazine. 10th edition 1983.

24 HOUR ANSWER SERVICE FOR BRAILLE AND TAPE REQUESTS

The RNIB's Customer Liaison Unit can now be contacted 24 hours a day. A new telephone answering service allows you to take advantage of cheap off peak telephone rates to ask for braille or tape material or borrow books and cassettes from the students' libraries. Questions, requests or complaints about braille books, magazines or documents can be recorded on the out of hours number: 01-278 9615. During normal office hours phone 01-837 9921 or 01-278 9611 and ask for Customer Liaison.

Sports News

TRIUMPH INVITATION BOWLS TOURNAMENT

Although there have been competitions in the past for the visually handicapped, the first ever bowls tournament exclusively for totally blind bowlers, took place at Stanley Park, Blackpool, during the first week of August. It was the result of many discussions amongst blind bowlers themselves, who planned and organised the competition, in order to demonstrate to the public at large and the blind in particular, that flat green bowling is a game that can be successfully played and enjoyed by the visually handicapped.

The 8 participants were selected on their ability and achievements at visually handicapped tournaments, in all parts of the country, during the past few years. Among them were two St. Dunstaners, Johnnie Cope, of Brighton and Percy Stubbs, of Norwich. Jock Carnochan St. Dunstan's Sports Officer gave his

assistance throughout the tournament.

Television personality John McComer, of BBC TV's Last of the Summer Wine, opened the tournament and delivered the first wood. There followed a full weeks bowling to determine the winners of the two competitions: a singles competition, based on a round robin each bowler playing seven matches of 21 shots or period of 3 hours, and a pairs competition, each pair playing 3 games of 12 ends.

St. Dunstaners won first prize in both events. Percy Stubbs won the 'Leigh Trophy' in the singles while Johnny Cope, together with Jim Smith of Preston, won the pairs competition and the St. Dunstan's Trophy.

The chief organiser of the tournament, Mr. Sydney Baker of London, considered the event a resounding success and says; 'Our aim to establish this as an annual event and ultimately to invite sixteen competitors to take part is well on the way to being a reality.'

PETER WATSON'S BLACK BELT

Peter Watson has been awarded his Black Belt in Kyushindo Judo, after a three hour practical test on the mat and writing four examination papers. His tests took place on November 6th and for the examination a sighted person read the questions and wrote down Peter's answers. They covered general knowledge of judo, interest in martial arts, a medical paper and one on organising judo contests.

"Once you are a Black Belt you are automatically a teacher in your own club", Peter explained. To teach in other clubs it is necessary to have an instructor's certificate and Peter is now preparing for this. He is already instructing at his own club in Telscombe. "I check their work by getting them to work with me. I like to get involved as much as I can."

In a year Peter will be trying for his First Dan and he must be one of the few if not the only totally blind person to attain this level.

Peter Watson demonstrates an exercise using the flail, a weapon used in Kyushindo Judo.



ARCHERY REPORT

We had a very enjoyable week at Worthing at the beginning of October. 15 archers ranging from a rank beginner to the stalwarts were coached and cajoled to improve their shooting during the week.

The party was split into two groups so that the coaches and instructors could take time to look after each individual. This was done by having the groups at Worthing on alternate days.

Thursday and Friday were taken up with shooting a Portsmouth round (5 doz. arrows at 20 yards on a 60cm face) as a Postal Shoot against an American Club who Laurie Austin contacted when he was in America earlier in the summer. The total club score was 3.565. This figure was sent off to the American Club who will in turn shoot the round and send their total scores to us to see who will be the winner. So we look forward to hearing from them in the future.

Blazer Badges

At long last we are having the lapel and blazer badges made and these should be with us in the near future. It has taken a long time to find a source for these items at the right price but hopefully the delay will be worth it.

Our week finished with the by now traditional shoot against Cuckfield Bowmen. Each club put up a team of 7 and this time we were kind to Cuckfield who won by 80 points – well we don't want to discourage them by winning every time do we?

We look forward to seeing you all in January – book early so that we can make arrangements with the Worthing Sports Centre for another enjoyable week.

Our thanks go to all the helpers, instructors and coaches who came in to look after us so well.

Next Years Fixtures

Winter Championships: Jan. 30–Feb. 4
AGM: Wednesday 1st February.
Summer Shoot: June 11–17.
Long Weekend: August 30–Sept. 1
Winter Coaching: Oct. 1–6.

P.R. Duffee

CLUB NEWS

BRIGHTON

BOWLING SECTION

December 1983

Once again this year we concluded the summer season by visiting our friends in Old Woking. It was a beautiful day weatherwise, and the welcome we received was as warm as ever. As usual we had many close encounters on the green and we look forward to entertaining our hosts in the spring. Following our visit in September, we are very sorry indeed to hear of the death of the President, Mr. Ted 'Tickled' Pink who was such a good friend to St. Dunstan's for so many years.

Our Tuesday meetings at Saltdean Bowling Club finished at the end of September, and indoor bowls at Ian Fraser House commenced with a match against East Preston Bowling Club. They were made welcome by our Vice-President, Dr. John O'Hara with a very witty speech and an enjoyable time was had by all. Thank you ladies for the excellent tea provided.

As the winter Indoor Bowling Season has now commenced we look forward to meeting any new members on a Tuesday afternoon at Ian Fraser House.

A. Miller

America's Cup Winners

The following letter was received by Mr. Garnett-Orme from the men of St. Dunstan's, Australia.

Your telegram of congratulations to Australian St. Dunstaners relating to our Australian America's Cup win was very much appreciated by us all.

Such a message not only demonstrates to us all the very strong St. Dunstan's relationship we enjoy, but also fortifies the very strong ties we have with our Mother Country, England.

On behalf of all Australian St. Dunstaners, thank you.

P.S. Being a sporting country, we certainly hope that England are the successful runners-up to Australia in 1985 at Perth!

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

Another year of competitions has been completed and we would like to congratulate the following Members on winning the tournaments:

CRIBBAGE

	Gentlemen	Ladies
Winner	R. Cunningham	Mrs. M. Crabtree
Runner-up	W. Phillips	Mrs. H. Webster
Beaten		
semi-finalists	The late Collis Walters	Mrs. J. Osborne Mrs. E. Simpson
	Theo Giles	

DARTS

Winner	T. Giles	Mrs. P. Cunningham
Runner-up	R. Osborne	Mrs. C. Preedy
Beaten		
Semi-finalists	B. Blacker	Mrs. E. Simpson
	W. Phillips	The late Mrs. E. Dodgson

DOMINO AGGREGATE

1st	J. Walton 38	1st	Mrs. P.O.'Kelly 33
2nd	T. Giles 30		Mrs. E. Simpson 33
3rd	H. Preedy 30		Mrs. J. Killingbeck 29
4th	R. Evans 26	4th	Mrs. J. Osborne 28

5's and 3's

Joe Walch Memorial Trophy			
Winner	W. Burnett	Mrs. J. Osborne	
Runner-up	B. Blacker	Mrs. H. Webster	
Beaten			
Semi-finalists	A. Dodgson	The late Mrs. E. Dodgson	
	R. Evans	Mrs. M. Crabtree	

WHIST AGGREGATE

1st	A. Dodgson	Mrs. H. Webster
2nd	T. Giles	Mrs. J. Osborne
3rd	R. Evans	Mrs. P. O'Kelly
4th	R. Pacetti	Mrs. L. Evans

The Christmas Dance will be held in the Annexe on Saturday, 10th December, when we look forward to seeing many friends that evening.

P. O'Kelly

BRIDGE

Individual Results – 15th October, 1983

J. Majchrowicz & W. Phillips	64.3
R. Fullard	59.5
R. Evans	50.0
W. Lethbridge	45.4
P. McCormack & J. Padley	40.5
J. Whitcombe	35.7

Individuals – Final Placings 1983

W. Phillips	290.5
J. Padley	283.0
J. Majchrowicz	280.5
W. Lethbridge	279.6
R. Fullard	278.7
R. Pacitti	276.1
J. Whitcombe	265.8
R. Evans	263.1
W. Allen	261.4
P. McCormack	223.5

No other competitors played the five matches necessary to be included in the yearly results.

Bill Phillips

Pairs Results – 9th October, 1983

W. Lethbridge	Mr. Goodlad	66.7
W. Phillips	Dr. Goodlad	58.3
G. Hudson	Miss Sturdy	51.2
J. Padley	Mrs. Padley	47.6
R. Evans	Mrs. Barker	46.4

Pairs N/S

W. Lethbridge	Mr. Goodlad	59.3
Mrs. V. Delaney	Mrs. Gover	51.3
Mr. & Mrs. Turner		51.3
J. Majchrowicz	Mr. Douse	46.2
B. Evans	Mrs. Baker	41.9

Pairs E/W

B. Phillips	Mrs. Goodlad	64.3
R. Pacitti	Mrs. Pacitti	56.9
B. Allen	Miss Stenning	53.1
J. Padley	Mrs. Padley	38.5
A. Dodgson	Mrs. Buller-King	36.9

Final Placing-pairs 1983

W. Lethbridge	297.4
R. Pacitti	295.2
B. Phillips	284.0
J. Majchrowicz	283.9
B. Evans	277.1
A. Dodgson	234.3
J. Padley	224.5

9 others played fewer than 5 matches

B. Phillips

MIDLAND

October

Our October meeting was held on 3rd October, and was well attended. We all welcomed Eileen Maynard back among us and hope to see her more often in the future.

The ladies of the Club ran a very successful Bring & Buy Sale for us in aid of our funds; they also put on an excellent tea for us which was enjoyed by all and were thanked in our usual way.

We played off some more of our Domino Competitions and hope to finish them off next month in time for the Prize Giving Party on 11th December.

We also discussed and settled on the menu for our Christmas Dinner, which we are holding in the North Birmingham Royal British Legion Club Room on 3rd December.

The meeting closed at 6.30 p.m. with all members looking forward to next month.

November

The November meeting was held on 6th November owing to the second Sunday being Remembrance Sunday.

The meeting was well attended, and we held our A.G.M. with the same officers being re-elected to the same posts.

Most of our Domino Competitions were played off with Bruno having to play 4 games in a row to catch up with all the others, but I think he enjoyed it as he won most of them.

The ladies put on an excellent tea again for us, and were thanked in our usual way. We also made a list of those members going to attend the Christmas Dinner on the 3rd December.

All members of The Midlands Club take this opportunity to wish all staff and St. Dunstaners A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

E. Hordyniec

FAMILY NEWS

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Gemma, the 7 year old grand-daughter of Jeanne and *Ray Major*, of Bournemouth, has been selected to represent the county at gymnastics.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mr. Joseph Laverty, of Downpatrick, N. Ireland and *Mrs. Diana Scott*, who were married on the 21st October. *Mr. and Mrs. Laverty* are residing in Brighton.

John West, grandson of *Mr. and Mrs. Alec Morton*, of London, and *Linda Polinger*, who were married at Great Parndon, Essex, on the 24th September.

Christopher Ross-King, son of Joan, wife of *Mr. Wally Thomas*, of Rottingdean, on his marriage to *Maria Buss*. The wedding took place on the 24th September at St. Andrew's Church, Brighton.

GRANDCHILDREN

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. John Reed, of New Haw, who are happy to announce the arrival of their second grandson, *Justin John*, born on September 22nd to their daughter *Sheila* and her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Slater of Preston, Lancashire, who are delighted to announce the arrival of a new grand-daughter, *Nicola Dawn*, born on the 31st May. *Nicola* is the thirteenth grandchild for *Mr. and Mrs. Slater*.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Upcott, of Carshalton Beeches, who are pleased to announce the arrival of a second grandchild, a boy, born on the 15th June, to their daughter *Valerie* and her husband *Stephen Lister Giffen*.

Correction:

The name of *Mr. and Mrs. Forsters* grand-daughter, born on the 25th May, is *Andrea Karen Hoskins*, not *Andrea Karen Jewett* as published in the October *Review*.

GREAT GRANDCHILDREN

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mash of Jersey, who are happy to announce the birth of two great grand-daughters, *Kelly Louise*, born January 1982 and *Gemma Ann*, born in July 1983.

PEARL WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. Victor Reeves, M.C.S.P. and his wife *Evelyn*, of Tunbridge Wells, who celebrated their Pearl Wedding Anniversary on the 17th October.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Roberts, of Stockport, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 14th October. They held a large party for which their son came over from America.

In Memory

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

C.W. Campkin, Royal Artillery

Charles William Campkin M.C.S.P., of Hove, passed away suddenly on the 26th October at the age of 60. He was single.

Mr. Campkin served as a Gunner in the Royal Artillery during the Second World War and, following gunshot wounds to his face whilst on active service in Germany, was discharged in 1946. On becoming a St. Dunstaner later that year, *Mr. Campkin* successfully mastered braille and typewriting and qualified as a physiotherapist in 1950. The following year he took a hospital appointment in Yeovil and in 1958 accepted an offer to be Physiotherapist at our Pearson House home. As a result, *Mr. Campkin* moved to Brighton and subsequently to Hove in 1963 where he also established a successful part-time private practice. Over recent years, he continued to be a popular figure at Pearson House, having given up his private practice in 1975.

In July 1979 our St. Dunstaner became a qualified amateur radio operator and following a course in Telecommunications at Crawley Polytechnic obtained a double distinction in the City & Guilds examinations.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to:

Mr. Victor Dale and his wife *Dorothy*, of High Salvington, near Worthing, who celebrated 65 years of happy marriage on the 9th November.

DEATHS

We offer sympathy to:

Jacqueline and *Michael*, the children of *Mrs. Vera Caswell*, of Earley, Reading, who passed away suddenly on the 20th October, aged 59. *Mrs. Caswell* was the widow of St. Dunstaner *John Caswell*.

George Durant, of Goring-by-Sea, whose father passed away on 30th October, aged 92 years.

Rebecca Hall, of Hassocks, wife of St. Dunstaner *Dick Hall*, whose mother passed away in June, aged 94.

secretary/receptionist *Miss Joan Wood*, who was his invaluable assistant at home and in his profession for over twenty years, and to his sister *Mrs. R. Dellar*. Many St. Dunstaners and physiotherapist colleagues will have been deeply saddened by his passing.

J. Cruse, Royal Air Force

John Cruse of Newcastle-upon-Tyne passed away on the 26th October, at the age of 63.

Mr. Cruse served in the rank of L.A.C. in the R.A.F. and his loss of sight was due to wounds received whilst on active duty in Bari. He became a St. Dunstaner in 1945. Prior to enlisting in 1942 *Mr. Cruse* had been employed as a joiner.

After training at St. Dunstan's *Mr. Cruse* commenced a career as a telephonist and joined the Civil Service in Newcastle with whom he worked for 36 years. Our St. Dunstaner had many hobbies and interests including music, gardening, chess, coin-collecting and bridge. He enjoyed many holidays at *Ian Fraser House*, particularly for the chess tournaments.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow *Janet*, who nursed him devotedly through his last illness, their daughter *Rosalyn* and son-in-law *Ken*.

In Memory — continued

J.A. Elliman, Northamptonshire Regiment

John Acworth Elliman passed away peacefully on the 23rd October, aged 89. He had been a St. Dunstan since 1978.

Captain Elliman served in the Northamptonshire Regiment in World War One. He was twice wounded, in 1915 when he lost an eye, and again in 1918. Following the war he worked in industry as a textile engineer until his retirement at the age of 65. He and his wife lived for many years at Maidenhead where he was a keen gardener, having trained in agriculture prior to the war. Sadly his own and his wife's failing health necessitated a move to a nursing home earlier this year.

We extend our condolences to his widow, Florence, and all members of their devoted family.

A.A. Hold, Royal Army Pay Corps

Ambrose Alvey Hold, of Yeovil, died suddenly on the 7th October at the age of 68. He had been a St. Dunstan for 37 years.

Mr. Hold served with the Royal Army Pay Corps and was wounded at Hong Kong in 1941, becoming a FEPOW for the remainder of the Second World War. He was employed in industry for many years on costing and works study and retired in 1979. A keen musician and carpenter, he was generous in using his talents to help the Salvation Army and his friends. On his retirement he cared devotedly for his wife who passed away in 1981.

We extend our condolences to his son and daughter, and all members of the family.

I. Pellington, Sherwood Foresters

Isaac 'Ike' Pellington, of Prestatyn, North Wales, passed away on 21st October at the age of 63. He had been a St. Dunstan for nine years.

Mr. Pellington served as a Private with the Sherwood Foresters, having enlisted in 1940. He was discharged in 1944 following serious injuries, including the loss of his left eye, received whilst serving in Italy. After leaving the Army Mr. Pellington owned a mobile grocery shop, which he ran with his wife, until poor health forced him to retire in 1972.

He had many hobbies, including bridge, toy-making and wrought-iron work and enjoyed frequent visits to Brighton. Although seriously ill for the last two years, he remained cheerful and courageous.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow Joyce and all members of the family.

H.A. Pugh, Royal Engineers, East Surrey 70th Battalion

Harry Alfred Pugh of Tunbridge Wells passed away at his home on the 5th November. He was 85 years of age and had been a St. Dunstan since 1942.

He served with the Royal Engineers for over three years during the First World War, having enlisted whilst in his teens. Following his service in the Great War Mr. Pugh lost the sight of one eye. In civilian life, he was the manager of a retail shop but when the Second World War broke out, he enlisted again and held the rank of C.Q.M.S. in the East Surrey 70th Battalion, being discharged in 1941. His remaining sight failed over the years and, on becoming a St. Dunstan, he undertook a period of training in telephony, braille, typewriting and joinery. From 1950 until 1963, Mr. Pugh was employed by the South East Gas Board where he was a highly efficient and popular operator.

Mr. Pugh leaves a widow, Edith, their son, Derek, and his family to whom we extend our condolences.

E. Sayers, Royal Army Service Corps.

Ernest Sayers, originally from Kent, passed away at Pearson House on the 22nd October. He was 91 years of age.

Before enlisting in 1916 Mr. Sayers was employed as a groom. It was whilst working with horses in the R.A.S.C. that he was blinded in an accident, following which he became a St. Dunstan in 1921.

For many years Mr. Sayers was employed as a basket maker, both for St. Dunstan's Stores Department and the R.N.I.B. workshops. He retired in 1955.

Mr. and Mrs. Sayers celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in December 1974 but sadly his wife died the following year. Our St. Dunstan then made his home with his daughter, Barbara Hammond, and her family, in Grimsby until 1980 when he became a permanent resident at Pearson House.

Mr. Sayers leaves five sons and five daughters to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

A.H. Vickery, Royal Fusiliers

Arthur Harry Vickery passed away on October 22nd after a short illness, he was 67 years old. Mr. Vickery served as a Lance Corporal with the Royal Fusiliers from March 1940 to April 1944. He was wounded in December 1943, losing most of his sight but nevertheless he was able to follow employment as a Housing Officer in Wandsworth until 1954, when he was obliged to give up this work because of a deterioration in his remaining vision. It was at this time that Mr. Vickery became a St. Dunstan and two years later he took a position as a fund raiser for the Greater London Fund for the Blind. In 1958 Mr. Vickery had a further change of career when he became a shopkeeper in Weston-Super-Mare and he ran his business very successfully until the end of 1967 when he had to retire on health grounds. In retirement Mr. Vickery lived mostly in Porthcawl.

Our sympathy goes to his widow, Theresa, and their daughter Gay and her family.