

St Dunstons Review

June 1985

12-14





From the Chairman

I am glad to tell you that two new Members have been elected to our Council.

Lieutenant General Sir Maurice Johnston, K.C.B., O.B.E., is a distinguished soldier who has served in the Royal Artillery, The Queen's Bays, commanded 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards and 20th Armoured Brigade and was on the Directing Staff of the Army Staff College and the Royal College of Defence Studies. He retired last year from being Deputy Chief of Defence Staff and is currently Managing Director of Freshglen and a Director of Multilift. He is married with one son and one daughter and lives near Devizes, in Wiltshire.

Francois Edwards is a talented Chartered Accountant, Merchant Banker and Stockbroker who served in Greece and Cyprus with the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He is well known in the city and is currently with the stockbroking firm of Williams de Broe Hill Chaplin. He is married with one son and one daughter and lives near Winchester, in Hampshire.

I am sure you will wish to join me in bidding them a warm welcome and in looking forward to having them with us in St. Dunstan's for many years.

Henry Leach



Col. Sir Mike Ansell receives his 80th birthday gift from Sir Henry Leach, on behalf of St. Dunstan's Council — a leather-bound photograph album which contains selected biographical pictures.

HONOUR FOR LORD NORMANBY

Lord Normanby, one of our Vice-Presidents, a former Member of Council and remembered warmly for all he did for St. Dunstaners who were prisoners of war in Germany, has been appointed a Knight of the Garter. On behalf of all St. Dunstaners we extend our warm congratulations.

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

Miss Pam Barnard, who has been working on a part-time basis as Secretary to the Chairman retired completely, at the end of May. Her successor is Mrs. Elizabeth Money-Kyrle.

OBITUARY

The Brighton Bowls Club deeply mourns the recent deaths of two of our loved sighted helpers. Fred Bacon passed away after a long illness and his funeral took place on May 8th. Peggy and Dickie Brett and I were able to be present. I was invited to speak on behalf of St. Dunstaners. He gave over 20 years of his retired life to coaching St. Dunstan's bowlers and was a warm friend to many. We also regret the sudden and unexpected death of Len Bridge who followed in Fred's footsteps, and we send our deepest sympathy to their family and friends.

Mrs. E. Dacre

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Cover picture — St. Dunstan's representatives set off to attend the service commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the end of the 2nd World War, on VE Day, May 8th. (l-r) Charles Stafford, Bill Griffiths, Winnie Edwards, Bob Young, Arthur Morris and Bob Fullard.

TRIBUTE TO FRED BARRATT

The sad and unexpected death of Fred Barratt is a great loss to St. Dunstan's Gardening Club and Reg Newton who has temporarily taken over from him, sends this tribute.

The nucleus of the Gardening Club was formed at the suggestion of Mr. Wills and, under the leadership of Miss Guilbert, some dozen St. Dunstaners assembled at Ian Fraser House to take part in discussions, lectures and to visit local gardens of interest. On Miss Guilbert's retirement a handful of us gardeners felt it would be a shame for this enjoyable practice to cease.

Freddie Barratt was elected Chairman and through his dynamic personality our membership greatly increased. For the first year we continued in the same pattern but added new and more interesting venues. Freddie could see no reason why the Gardening Club could not go further afield. Two years ago his first great achievement was to organise a visit for nearly 100 St. Dunstaners and escorts to go for a week's

visit to Edinburgh. This was a great success and he, with his committee, immediately arranged to follow this up with a visit to South Wales, the land of his birth.

We members of the Gardening section have lost a great friend and leader with the passing of Freddie Barratt, just when his life-long ambition was about to be fulfilled. Freddie 'knew his onions', or should I say leeks, though in both cases the secret was in the piles of seaweed he gathered from the beach and covered them with.

I have competed against Freddie in walking races at Ewell and at Lee-on-Solent, and at dominoes when we were at the Sutton Club. Our visit to Wales will be held by us as a memorial to him. We send our condolences to Mary, his wife, who acted as our secretary. From all members of the Gardening Club we send our sincere thanks to his memory.

Freddie Barratt's ashes were dispersed at sea, off the Brighton coast, at 11.00 a.m. on May 3rd.



Welcome to St. Dunstan's

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

Brian William Chandler, of Coventry, joined St. Dunstan's on April 30th.

Mr. Chandler served as an Engine Room Artificer 4 in the Royal Navy from 1950 to 1955. He is married with a grown-up son.

George Wreyford Causey, of Paignton, joined St. Dunstan's on April 16th.

Mr. Causey lost his sight in 1942 during an attack by enemy aircraft whilst working on motor torpedo boats in a Dartmouth shipyard. He is 58 years of age, and practises privately as a physiotherapist. Mr. Causey and his wife, Iris, have been married for 37 years.

Charles Edward Daly, of Harlow, previously trained for telephony by St. Dunstan's under the Gubbay Trust, has now been admitted to full membership.

Mr. Daly served as a Private in the Parachute Regiment from 1954-56. In 1956 he was injured

by a grenade whilst attending a Territorial Army annual training camp and subsequently lost his sight. He is 50 years of age, and has been married to his wife, Shirley, for 26 years. They have five daughters.

William John Hefferman, of Chigwell, joined St. Dunstan's on April 30th.

Mr. Hefferman, who is 65, enlisted in the Royal Marines in 1938 and served as an L/A Sergeant. He took part in the Dieppe raid in 1942, was wounded and became a prisoner of war with Lord Normanby. He and his wife, Margaret, have been married for 41 years and they have three adult sons.

Joseph Simpson, of Herne Bay, joined St. Dunstan's on April 3rd.

Mr. Simpson served in the Second World War as an LAC in the Royal Air Force. He is married and his wife's name is Flora Emily. They have no children.



Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Stanley, of Peacehaven, relax in their elegant double room in the newly decorated south wing.

'IT'S ABSOLUTELY SUPER' FIRST REACTION TO THE NEW SOUTH WING AT IAN FRASER HOUSE

At the end of April, on schedule, the first St. Dunstaners with their wives arrived to stay in the new South Wing. 'It's absolutely super', said the Carney's. Joe was taking the opportunity for a rest and convalescent change of air, and was full of praise for the comfort and standard of furnishing in the double room he and his wife were occupying.

There were still some minor tasks for Longleys, the contractors, but as far as essentials are concerned, the redevelopment of the South Wing is complete. On the main floor the Lounge is untouched, as is the Blue Lounge, but the 'Stables' next door to the Blue Lounge has been converted into a TV lounge, although racing men will still gather there in the morning to have the runners read to them from the daily papers. The dining room has been refurnished and re-equipped. Folding partition doors have been installed to provide a separate dining area for holiday makers.

On the first floor are the first of the new double rooms and here they are specially adapted for occupancy by blind and handless St. Dunstaners, with lever taps and door handles, and

The shower, with door and hand-rail.



New South Wing at Ian Fraser House *continued*



Betty Stanley tries out the bathroom mirror. You can see the special lever taps over the basin.

Clos-o-mat toilets. When not occupied by handless St. Dunstaners these rooms can be available to all as the simple adaptations mentioned will be no inconvenience to others.

The second and third floors have more double rooms, while the fourth floor becomes the new Ladies' Wing. There are four bedrooms, a large lounge opening on to a small, walled sun-roof. 'It's like a palace', said Blodwyn Simon, one of the permanent residents there.

Top of the house on the fifth floor is the refurbished Wintergarden, carpeted throughout up to a small dance floor at the end of the room. A new ceiling houses concealed lighting and there are two banks of spot-lights all controlled from dimmer switches. To cope with the increased demands on the catering service, the kitchen in the 'fuselage' has been totally renewed to the

highest modern standards and, to the rear of the building, is the new Radio Amateurs' shack.

Carpeting throughout corridors and in rooms is a mixture of green and beige which is continued in the bedrooms with beige counterpanes against green velvet bed-heads, and green bedside lamps with beige shades. Every room has its own private shower and toilet, with a 'Teas-made' alarm clock for morning tea. The windows are double-glazed and 'piped' radio gives a choice of the radio and three TV sound channels. Public telephones have been installed on each landing for the use of guests.

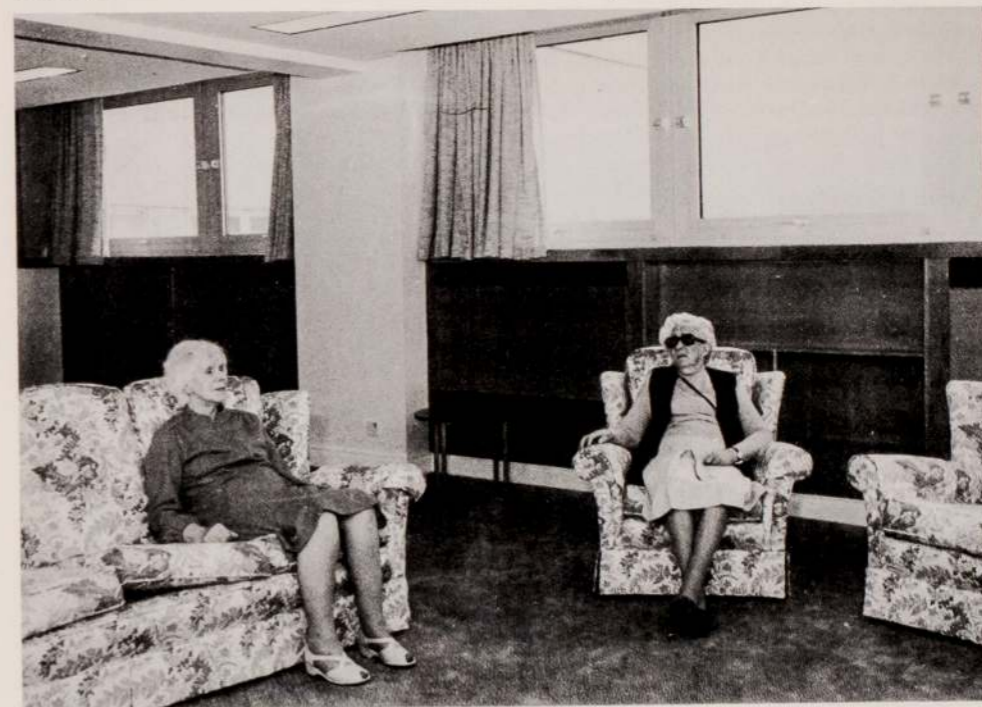
Major Arthur Neve says bookings are already building up and by mid-May 22 couples are expected to be in residence. Among the reservations already made, he says, are many names of people who have not previously stayed at Ian Fraser House. They can be sure of a very warm welcome. There are still summer vacancies which can be booked through Mrs. Tina Coyne at Headquarters.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Goding in one of the landing sun lounges.



The Ladies' Lounge, before. . .

. . .and after renovations. Thelma Meredith and Blodwyn Simon sample the comfortable-looking lounge suite.



SKI-ING IN SWITZERLAND

THE 'STATION' TEST

by A. C. Pointon

Undoubtedly we have just recently experienced an unusual and interesting winter in Europe, with the heaviest snowfall in East Sussex for about 22 years and a depth of snow in the Alpine ski resorts, and somewhat low thermometer readings common to the whole area.

I think that we have had our last snow, at least we hope so, on March 21st, the first having fallen early in January, reminding me that a booking should have been made for a ski holiday in Switzerland. There was of course plenty of snow on which to ski from Woodingdean to Ovingdean for morning coffee, but two slight problems: no competent ski instructor to enable one to get down, and no lift to get one back up the hill. A letter to *Ski Travelaway* with whom I had always gone, produced a reply that it was too late to book, but a phone call to my very good friend and adviser, Micael Mertholet, initiated a chain reaction through *Global*, which resulted in my wife taking me to Brighton station in time to catch the 10.43 train to Gatwick on March 9th. I have always found the B.R. staff do all that is possible to help – a porter met me with my skis and suitcase at Gatwick and escorted me to the check-in desk. I had not been sitting down many minutes when I was informed that there was bad news – the DC10 would be four hours late due to morning fog. By the way, has anyone ever known a plane leave Gatwick on time? Ever that is?? Many conversations and five hours later, we took off for Geneva, and one wonders why we get the itchy bitsy plastic tray of 'food' on an hour's flight, which in any case goes all too quickly without wasting time eating, especially when one is sitting next to and listening to a 25-year-old lad who has spent 18 months in Antarctica studying penguins for his Ph.D.

The staff at Geneva are just as helpful as B.R. and I was met by Shirley, the *Global* rep. She was rather unhappy, not only because our plane was late, but also because some of our luggage had been put on a *Dan-Air* plane leaving Gatwick for Geneva half an hour after ours, so we sat in the minibus and had a drop more waiting. At last all were aboard and an hour and a half later, which of course was well after midnight, we arrived at Chateau D'Oex and I have no doubt that Shirley, who was not feeling too well anyway, was not sorry to hit the sack that night. Come to

think of it, I found the duvet rather welcome, but not as pronounced as the welcome I received at the Hotel D'Lours. Olivier and Jacqueline Nichol had a special fillet steak which they wanted to cook for me at that time of night. Sylvan, who is their chief factotum, as well as Michel and his wife, Lucy, who teaches at Rougement where Princess Diana once attended, were all there and made me feel really welcome for the whole of the much too short week.

Up the Goat Mountain

Next day after a long lie in, Michel collected me from the hotel, and took me to our old stamping ground at Mont Chevrill (Goat Mountain) on dry roads in blazing sunshine, and 60 metres from the dry roads was lovely snow. Quite unbelievable that it could be so good for skiing and yet so warm that one could have done without an anorak.

In the Alpine region there are bronze, silver and gold tests available, the first of which I got last year. In Switzerland there is one called Station, between bronze and silver, which I obtained this year. It relates to skiing on one ski part of the time and stepping over an object on the ground in both directions. On such trips one meets some very interesting people, who are very interested to hear what St. Dunstan's is all about. For instance, I met a company lawyer from Chislehurst and a Geordie milkman, and their wives, a jeweller from Wirral, and a computer man from the London area who agrees that a computer is a fast-thinking moron.

The hotel was super in every way, with a comfortable lounge bar – even an improvement on last year, with interesting menus. Every day I was collected by Michel and taken after skiing, to his flat for tea with him and his wife. One evening they also gave me a lovely meal, which, considering the hours they work, was extremely kind indeed. Michel takes his wife to work at 8 a.m. and she returns home at noon with homework to check, and then works from 5 p.m. to 10.00. Every evening after he had finished, Michel came in for a chat and a noggin – 11.30 one evening – but that is the way the Swiss go to

work and see to it that one gets the best value, or at least that has always been my experience. One of the many pleasant surprises was that on the Wednesday, quite unknown to me, Michel had arranged for a young lady to take a video of my ski lessons and I was presented with that video at the end of the week.

On Saturday 16th it was snowing and rather icy when the minibus collected me around noon, but the driver negotiated the diabolical conditions in which other cars and even lorries were shunting all over the place, even the Swiss can get caught out.

It took two hours to do the return journey, but we would have had plenty of time even if the plane had not been . . . yes, you have guessed it, two hours late. Still one more plastic meal and a conversation with a young accountant and we were back in Gatwick. The electric buggy whistled up and Les, the driver, told me that last year he had helped another blind skier but he was an older man, over 60. Then he recognised me! And then back to Brighton. Skis waxed and put away ready for next year, ski boots also in the storage space. The postcards Lucy had written for me on Wednesday, arrived at their destination on the Monday after my arrival home on Saturday. I am looking forward to next January and working out how to get in the training this time, to get that silver, and at the same time to avoid the hip stiffness one gets from no training, and in the

meantime cherishing the memories of a wonderful week at the Hotel D'Lours in Chateau D'Oex, which, as it is the place where David Niven lived, died and is buried, must have much in its favour, apart from my considerable liking for all it means to me.

'NEW' ST. DUNSTANER WINS A MEDAL

Congratulations to Mr. Eric Church, of Bathford, who recently was awarded an Imperial Service Medal for 40 years service to the Ministry of Defence in Bath.

Mr. Church, who became a member of St. Dunstan's on February 25th this year, fought in the 2nd World War and lost the sight of one eye from a gunshot wound during action on the Rhine. After the war he joined the MoD in Bath as a messenger, working until December 1984, when he retired due to medical problems and the deterioration of sight in his other eye.

His retirement has not stopped him from leading an active life in any way: he enjoys gardening and still helps voluntarily at a local mentally handicapped club. 'It is amazing', he says, 'I don't know how I found time to come to work.' We wish him many more active and happy years as a St. Dunstaner!

Mrs. Church looks on proudly as Eric Church displays his Imperial Service Medal.



RECENT CHANGES FOR BRAILLE READERS

By Phil Duffee

Down through the years those of us who are braille readers have seen many changes in the code; some easy to remember, some not so easy to remember. The latest changes, as a result of the 1982 Washington Conference on Grade II braille, will not tax your memory very much.

We all learned that the 'EA' sign was the exception to the general rule, that an upper sign is to be preferred to a lower sign. Those of you reading this in the braille edition will have noticed that in the word 'learned' the 'AR' sign has been used instead of the 'EA' sign. This is because, as from April 1st, 1985, the 'AR' sign takes precedence over the 'EA' sign in the sequence 'ear'. Britain has adopted the American standard in the matter and it should make for easier reading and writing. This is the main change but there are others which will bring braille books more in line with print books.

These are:

1. All dust-jacket material from the print edition should normally be reproduced in the braille edition.
2. Every braille volume should have the title, author and braille volume in both print and braille, on the outer cover.
3. A complete contents list should appear in the first braille volume, giving print and braille page references.

And more obtrusive from the reader's point of view:

4. There will be a page-information line on every page giving braille and print page numbers, number of chapter, section etc., and abbreviated title of section.
5. The sign, dot 5 colon, will be used to indicate the point where the *print* page has turned over. The symbol followed by the print page number, will appear centred on a line alone.

Further changes which only really affect the more scholarly books have also been made. I am not going to give them here. If you want to know what these are, I shall be happy to tell you if you write to me c/o Ian Fraser House, but I do not imagine the changes reported here will give braille readers much trouble.

WHAT A FEET?!

3rd London Marathon for Gerry Jones

Many congratulations to Gerry Jones for completing his 3rd London Marathon. Once again, Gerry was running to raise money for the Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead. In addition, this year, Gerry was making an attempt on the world blind marathon record – unofficially 3 hours 1 minute.

Gerry's partner was PC Maurice Saddington, also from Cornwall. They succeeded in crossing the start line only 45 seconds after the starting gun; it can take up to 10 minutes. The first 2 miles were completed in 18 minutes – well below the intended 7 minutes per mile. But by 10 miles, they were 3 minutes under target time.

Maurice is an accomplished runner and really put Gerry through his paces. Gerry's temperature at the end was 112 degrees. Packs of ice and bathing brought this back to normal in 20 minutes, he says! Gerry's time after all this? Just over 3 hours and 2 minutes. This is, however, 21 minutes faster than his time for last year. We congratulate Gerry on his courage, stamina and determination. Donations may be sent to Gerry via HQ.

The marathon is to be included in the next World Disabled Games (Korea 1988). Competitors will be allowed to have two escorts, this latter rule applying to all long-distance races for the Visually Handicapped.

Sydney Scroggie reports on the 3rd Dundee Health Marathon, April 28th

Sydney Scroggie's interest in the above turns on the fact that his daughter, Mary, was among the 2215 participants, as also was his niece, Margaret Robertson. Mary's time was 5 hrs. 55 mins., ten minutes better than her time for last year's London event, whereas her cousin, always a fiercer competitor than Mary, got to the crowded city square in 3 hrs. 25 mins. The event took place on a day of grey skies with heavy snow coming down, and this accounts for a remark of one of the participants near my brother's kirk, as he loped past my wife, Margaret and me. 'You must be daft', he said, 'standing around there on a day like this.' It was Mary's sixth marathon.

A Moment to Spare with Syd Scroggie

All together now, Fellaheen

Whether in hieroglyphic or demotic script, the ancient Egyptians never divulged how they built the pyramids. They can't have lifted those big stones, yet they did; and it is to the credit of my elder son, Jamie, not much more than a school-boy at the time, that he solved the problem of how it was done.

Modern engineers had been looking at the thing the wrong way. Neither block-and-tackle nor ramp, it had to be admitted, could account for these monuments; wooden rollers nor crow-bars nor the physical strength of hundreds of thousands of toiling Fellaheen. The pyramids didn't drop down from heaven, they didn't rise up out of the earth, they were made; and if not with human hands, then what other property might be looked for in Man, Jamie asked himself, capable of such an enterprise? Jesus said faith could move a mountain, this would imply some force at Man's disposal as yet unknown to science; and perhaps it was here, thought Jamie, the problem raised by Cheops' pyramid might yield the secret of its construction. If they're able to move a mountain, the Matterhorn for example, surely the psychic resources of faith would hardly be strained by lifting blocks of granite such as were called for in this pyramid project of long ago.

Now a friend of our family's evinced in his boyhood a remarkable power. There was a big marble mantelpiece where he went to school, a big marble clock on this mantelpiece, and whenever Alan appeared in the room this clock would slide to and fro on its mantelpiece. What force thus moved this clock, and whether some external agency was involved or just something



in Alan, it was certainly our friend who triggered the thing off. There are forces inside us untapped in the ordinary business of living, religion seeks to harness them as does magic, and there are cases of people who have jumped 12 feet in the air to avoid a pouncing jaguar, the height being subsequently checked as between ground-level and the branch where the fugitive clung. Frail old ladies, in the heat of the moment, have bodily lifted motor cars out of ditches, a feat far too much in the ordinary way, even for a Russian weight-lifter.

But the force in Alan's case was differently applied, there was no physical connection between him and the clock; and it was when he thundered out the word 'psychokinesis' that Jamie alerted us to the connection between a marble timepiece in an English school and vast blocks of granite under the sunshine of the Nile long ago. Things can be made to move by non-physical means, the priestly bureaucracy of ancient Egypt knew how this worked, and if one Fellaheen in this way could be induced to move a pebble, who is to say a hundred thousand, acting in concert, could not at the appropriate invocation lift a huge block of granite from the sand, settle it exactly where it was wanted on rising tiers of masonry, each put in place by an airy and effortless psychokinesis? Cheops watched from his podium, Jamie tells us, kite-hawks circling above; then with an 'All together now, Fellaheen', the big capstone rose from the sand, floated an instant, settled, and to a roar of applause, the strains of sackbut and harp, trumpet and drum, the Great Pyramid of Cheops stood before the world gleaming and perfect.

REUNIONS CELEBRATE 70 YEARS

SOUTHAMPTON, 13th APRIL

It is not often that all St. Dunstaners who have accepted invitations to a reunion are able to attend when the day comes. At Southampton all 25 St. Dunstaners invited were at the Polygon Hotel for their 70th anniversary reunion. With their wives, escorts and guests and members of the staff they numbered 35.

Sir Edwin Arrowsmith, accompanied by Lady Arrowsmith, took the Chair and he brought the greetings of the Chairman and Council. Sir Edwin always has an interesting tale to tell in his speeches and Southampton was no exception; 'We were last in Southampton in 1954 and I was on my way to Basutoland by the *Britannic* and I watched with great horror the first Mark 7 Model M Jaguar that had ever been exported to South Africa being hauled up the side of the ship. That's not quite so irrelevant to St. Dunstan's because that is how I really got to know Ian Fraser as he was then. I recall very well how pleased he was to be taken for a ride in the new Jaguar of which I was very proud'.

Sir Edwin said everyone had told him English cars were no good on South African dirt roads, 'But this Jaguar could out-perform any of the Americans and I was delighted to be able to fly my flag on an English car rather than a Pontiac'.

Later, he rather lost touch with Lord Fraser Sir Edwin explained, because he became Governor of the Falkland Islands. 'Stanley was like an English village of the last century. Everybody knew everybody else and you were also kept closely in touch by the local radio station. Every morning, everybody in the Falklands, including the Governor, tuned in because the doctor used to treat his patients over the radio, so if Mrs. Jones had something wrong you knew all about it.'

Sir Edwin explained the advantages of this communication in that there was always someone ready to offer help or transport, 'But one also heard very amusing things over the radio. I can remember once, Sid was having trouble with his reception. He said, "Sorry Mrs. Jones, I can't hear a word. Mr. Ellis is oscillating right on top of you, making a hell of a row".'

Saying how things had changed in the Falklands, Sir Edwin went on, 'I really can't imagine

what it would be like to go back there these days but we owe what happened in the last year or two a great deal to our present Chairman, Sir Henry Leach, who was really responsible for getting the Fleet out there so quickly.

'Well now, apart from this being our 70th anniversary, I know you were delighted to read in the last *Review* about Mike Ansell's 80th birthday and also to make the discovery that our Chairman is not only an Admiral of the Fleet but a poet as well in his introduction to Mike's birthday. This is a very good year for us. We are going, as you know to have this great occasion of the Queen's visit to Ian Fraser House on July 19th and the new accommodation for men and their wives. Talking about wives, I know all St. Dunstaners feel how much they owe to their wives and I hope they will all follow the good advice I saw in an advertisement lately, "Don't kill your wife with housework - use an electric washing machine".'

More seriously, Sir Edwin concluded with some reassuring words 'Some people are fearful

Dominic Donnarumma at the piano, with encouragement from Mrs. Angela Donnarumma.



Sir Edwin Arrowsmith addresses the reunion guests.

about the future but, I can assure you that the work of St. Dunstan's will continue as long as there are people alive, blinded in the service of their country'.

It fell to Reg Goding to reply on behalf of St. Dunstaners present and he welcomed Sir Edwin and Lady Arrowsmith, 'We all know that it is the custom to have the reunions for two special reasons. Firstly so that we St. Dunstaners can get to know and to meet Sir Edwin and other Council Members and members of the staff. Secondly it is for the boys to get together. We can reminisce, we can look back and look forward to many more happy reunions.'

'These reunions have been going on for quite a while and particularly in this district, where we met, sadly, those not here today, the First War men, but there's still many around. The majority are Second War men and thirdly a very, very limited number, Thank God, from Northern Ireland and the Falklands.'

Turning to Sir Edwin, Reg said, 'The Falklands mean a lot to you, you've reminisced a bit. I am just wondering what would have been said on the island if your wife had called up one day

and said, "My husband has got a hangover and what can we do about it".'

Reg sent good wishes to Sir Henry and Lady Leach and expressed thanks to St. Dunstan's staff. 'I really must pay a tribute to one member in particular of the staff, our Mrs. Jackson. She has been a very great and busy Visitor and we look forward to her annual visits. I am sure she must have had many a headache in arranging these reunions.'

After thanking the Management and staff of the hotel, Reg said, 'Finally, and this is from the heart, I would like to thank our wives - or a better word - our better halves, for all the years. If it hadn't been for our wives, I think, not only we ourselves, but St. Dunstan's would have had a much harder job'.

After the speeches Mrs. Major presented a bouquet to Lady Arrowsmith and there followed a traditional reunion afternoon. It was brightened by the piano playing of St. Dunstaner, Dominic Donnarumma, who played tune after tune from memory throughout the afternoon until tea, and the usual prize draw brought the reunion to a close.



Mrs. Rhona Campbell, soprano, treats guests to a song recital.

LIVERPOOL, 25th APRIL

'It is a year for anniversaries', said the Chairman to the 26 St. Dunstaners and their escorts at the St. George's hotel. 'First, it is the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II. I need hardly remind this audience of the critical part played by Liverpool in the battle of the Atlantic. We came near to losing, but, as ever, the British rallied round and we won through. Every one of you here in Liverpool today must feel rightly proud in the knowledge of what you contributed.'

The second anniversary was, of course, St. Dunstan's 70th birthday. This month would see the reopening of the redeveloped south wing at Ian Fraser House. H.M., The Queen will unveil a plaque at the official opening. We shall receive two new, coloured, signed portraits of The Queen, and, in turn, we shall present a complete set of wooden toys, made by a St. Dunstaner, to

Her Majesty. She is also being presented with a special, double-sided jig-saw puzzle made by our President, Sir Michael Ansell. "If any of you happen to be invited to Sandringham next Christmas, you can have a run for your money on the jig-saw!"

The Chairman concluded by giving the latest figures of St. Dunstaners, and wishing the assembled guests well.

Ted John rose on behalf of the guests. "In this year of anniversaries", he began, "one thing that sticks in my mind is the word progress. Since what Sir Arthur Pearson achieved with his wisdom and foresight, we have trained the blind for a whole range of professions. All this is progress. Another progressive step in the right direction as far as I am concerned, is the reopening of the new south wing." Ted felt that the installing of a bar at IFH was also a progressive step.

Ted went on to talk about the care of St. Dunstan's. "I thought they only cared for the blind. I recently broke my ankle, but my stay at IFH was made an easy and pleasant one. I was even given the use of an electric wheel-chair, much to the consternation of the care assistants, I might add!"

Ted concluded by thanking the pianist, David Vaughan Williams, the hotel staff, Mrs. Carol Henderson and her assistants for organising the day, and Sir Henry for his speech and presence in Liverpool.

After a presentation to May and Charlie Hague on the occasion of their 42nd wedding anniversary, Vi Delaney then presented a bouquet of flowers to Lady Leach.

The guests were then treated to a much appreciated novelty - a recital by Mrs. Rhona Campbell, a soprano with the Venezuelan Opera Company. Mrs. Campbell sang 4 songs, the latter half being a joint venture with the guests, when they joined her in "Rule Britannia" and "Land of Hope and Glory". The reunion concluded in the usual way.



Ted John replies to Sir Henry's speech on behalf of the guests.

Mrs. Carol Henderson and Len Wiggins celebrated their birthdays at the Manchester reunion.



MANCHESTER

27th APRIL

In previous years, the gathering has coincided with the local carnival. But the earlier date this year just meant that instead of battling with barriers, steel bands and floats, it was the cool wind and the Saturday morning shoppers instead. There were 25 St. Dunstaners present.

Sir Henry Leach, presiding, spoke again on a theme of anniversaries, and the part played by St. Dunstaners. He told the story of Sir Winston Churchill needing to get to the BBC to make a broadcast, but whose car failed to turn up. In the taxi, he asked the cabbie to wait and take him back to the House of Commons. "I can't wait", said the driver, "I want to get back home and listen to Churchill's broadcast". Pleased and flattered, Churchill tipped the driver a £2 tip, an enormous sum in those days. "Cor", said the cabbie, overwhelmed by this generosity, "of course I'll wait - blow old Winston Churchill!"

'St. Dunstan's is well', the Chairman continued. 'We have over a hundred First War men and women worldwide, and some 750 Second and post war St. Dunstaners in this country and

REUNIONS CELEBRATE 70 YEARS – MANCHESTER

continued

rather more than half that abroad. We are still responsible for over 700 widows and their increasing needs.'

The vote of thanks was proposed by Tony Parkinson. 'I think these reunions give us a great opportunity to renew old friendships, and to make new ones. It is also an opportunity for us to thank the staff for all the hard work they do for us.' He went on to thank Miss Broughton for organising the day, and to wish many happy returns to Carol Henderson and Len Wiggins on their birthdays. He drew applause when thanking all St. Dunstaners' wives, husbands or friends for all the support they give. Tony went on to relate a story against himself, when wanting to extend his television aerial lead from one room to another, without drilling holes in walls.

He disappeared into the maze of beams and joists and supporting walls beneath the floor boards. He only just managed to stop his wife calling out the fire brigade when he thought he was stuck. He is now totally banned from going beneath the floor! After thanking Sir Henry and Lady Leach, Members of Council, staff, wives, husbands or escorts and the chef, Tony asked his fellow St. Dunstaners to rise and drink a toast to St. Dunstan's.

The Chairman then offered to answer any questions that people may have had. There were, and all related to the new accommodation at Brighton. An interesting discussion ensued.

Margaret Bingham presented a bouquet of flowers to Lady Leach, and a very pleasant reunion concluded after the usual raffle and tea.

Sir Henry Leach and Mr. and Mrs. D. Thomas share a lively chat.



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Margaret Bingham chats with Lady Leach, after presenting the flowers to her.

Ray Hazan shaking hands with H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester at a Gala Concert in aid of 'Help a Child to See'. Beside Ray is his wife, Jennie. Photo: Peter Noble



17

READING TIME

by Phillip Wood

Cat. No. 3340

The Paris Trap

By Joseph Hone

Read by Robert Gladwell

Reading Time 10½ hours

Harry Tyson is a writer turned British agent. His friend, Jim Hackett, is a well known film actor. The marriages of both men have broken down. They are living in London where each is having an affair with the other's ex-wife. Tyson takes his young daughter and his mistress for a holiday in Paris. They are kidnapped by a pro-Arab terrorist group and taken to a secret location in the French countryside.

At this point the plot gets very thin indeed. Tyson is writing the script for a film on the Arab-Israeli conflict, in which Hackett is starring. The terrorists hold the woman and child hostage and send Tyson back to Paris to re-write the script in such a way that the Arabs will get 'a fair deal' or else . . . But the people holding the hostages are a 'moderate' faction who have broken away from the more ruthless main group, who are now searching for the hideaway to wreak vengeance on the 'traitors'. If they get to the secret location before Tyson and the French police, the hostages will be in grave danger.

Fairly run-of-the-mill stuff. The characters are well drawn but far too prone to hold up the action while they have deep philosophical discussions on life and marriage.

Cat. No. 4076

Pas de Deux

by Olivier Beer

Read by Peter Billingsley

Reading Time 3¾ hours

Francois, 19 and Isobel 18, both unemployed, meet at the Civil Service examinations in Paris. Neither is successful. Later in a café they see Mme. Morel, one of the examiners. After an expensive meal she pays the bill from a well-filled wallet. Isobel persuades Francois to follow the woman and steal her bag.

When the money runs out it seems natural and inevitable that they should rob again but this time the pickings are poor and they make plans for a third attempt. They gain entrance to an apparently empty flat. But there is a man standing at the darkened window with a pair of binoculars, obviously a peeping tom. At a slight sound he turns, startled, overbalances and falls through the window to his death.

The police treat the case as murder, the girl has been recognised and the hunt is on. The young couple flee Paris in an old car, now they have a gun. They drive into the country. They are desperate and frightened. There is nowhere to hide, no escape . . . except in death.

A brilliant well-crafted little story. By the clever use of short taut sentences the tension is kept up right to the last page.

Cat. No. 4022

Rites of Passage

By William Golding

Read by George Hagan

Reading Time 9 hours

When, in the 18th century, Edmund Talbot sails to Australia to take up a government post, he promises to write in his journal every day for the edification of the noble lord, his godfather. He does, and fills the thing with trivia, the reading of which is about as exciting as watching paint dry.

Mr. Talbot is a gentleman, as he never tires of telling us. Personally I think he is a pompous ass and a bit of a 'Hooray Henry'. His pseudo-eighteenth century prose is excruciatingly tedious with such gems as 'Are you Sir so disobliging as to find my remark itself a subject for your hilarity?' and one of the ship's officers announces 'Believe me Mr. Talbot I am honoured and privileged to find myself in the company of your noble godfather's illustrious godson'. But he has risen from the ranks and is not quite a gentleman of course.

As a bedtime soporific the book could have its uses. As food for the mind it's starvation diet.

Cat. No. 4250

Off Duty

By Andrew Coburn

Read by Marvin Kane

Reading Time 7½ hours

Rupert Getz and Frank Chase, friends of long standing, are police officers in Boston Massachusetts, where Getz is Chief of Detectives. Each owns a large and opulent house in the most expensive part of the town. They are both corrupt and owe their princely lifestyles to the gang-bosses from whom they have accepted very large sums of money.

And now the crooks want their money back. Chase decides on the healthier course and complies with the 'request'. Getz refuses. . .

All the men in the book talk like characters in a 1930's gangster movie and the book is grossly overloaded with explicit sex. The language of both men and women is of the type which used to be associated with Billingsgate porters and 'the rude and licentious soldiery'. Crude, distasteful and grossly offensive.

Cat. No. 4495

The Judas Goat

By Robert B. Parker

Read by Ian Craig

Reading Time 5¼ hours

Stirling, a not-too-successful private eye, is called to the mansion of Hugh Dixon, a Boston millionaire. Dixon is paralysed as a result of a terrorist bomb-blast at a London hotel. His wife and two daughters were killed outright.

Dixon commissions Stirling to go to London and track down the terrorists. There he makes contact by the simple expedient of advertising in *The Times* - (so simple indeed that one wonders why the police never thought of it!). Now the gang knows his identity and makes quite strenuous efforts to kill him off. Stirling calls in reinforcements in the larger-than-life shape of 'Hawk' who is very tough, very black, amoral and with a fine taste in women, cigars and champagne. His favourite piece of equipment is a sawn-off shotgun.

Together, our two heroes track down the villains and deal with them. There is much blood-letting and a splendid climax at the Olympic Games with a gun battle and a running fist-fight of Herculean proportions.

Told in the first person in that slick 'easy style' the Americans do so well, and with more than a touch of the Philip Marlowes.

D. F. Robinson's

GARDENING NOTES

The winter appears to be back again as these notes are being written, after a good show of sun and temperatures more like summer. We have had to put all the heating on again and only hope that the plants put out of doors to harden off, will be alright. However, I believe there are plenty of forecasts that we are to have another fine summer.

At least there ought to be some show of colour from the perennials, shrubs and roses. Insects will be on the rampage so get the syringe out and don't forget to put spray on the under sides of leaves, where bugs find it best to get away from the birds.

Lawns

Cut grass regularly, but not so often in dry conditions. If there are dry spells for a couple of weeks or more give the whole lawn a good dose of water with the sprinkler, moving it about to give good coverage. Keep all edges neat and tidy with shears, before the grass gets too long. Some deep-rooted weeds such as dandelion may be showing up, so get them out with the hand fork, or use one of those long-handled items which have weed killer at the bottom, or even a pressure sprayer of weed killer. Lawn fertiliser may help grass at this time of the year, when it is growing rapidly - but only after you have had some rain. Keep the mower in good trim by cleaning after every use and put some oil on the moving parts.

Vegetables

Keep the hoe going regularly to open up soil and also get rid of weeds. After a dry spell get out the hose and give everything a thorough watering. Early cauliflowers may be showing signs of their curds, so bend a leaf over them to keep them nice and clean. It often helps to keep butterflies from laying their eggs, which become caterpillars in the end.

Pick early peas and broad beans. Where there are signs of black fly, pick off top shoots - this will also make for new growth and more beans. Earth up potatoes as they grow and keep them free of weeds. You will get better results if you water in dry spells. Remember to clear away

Gardening Notes *continued*

remnants of earlier crops to make things tidy, make room for celery or late turnip. Lettuce must be watered regularly, or seeding will result if they dry out.

Ensure that runner beans have their supports in place and steady, plus a dose of manure to get a better crop. One can get some late crops of beet, carrots and onions if sown now, plus broad beans, french beans and peas (even in northern areas), but do have them in sunny positions. Remember to get outdoor tomatoes set in their places, out of the wind and where there is plenty of sun. Don't let them grow too tall, but pinch out the main point so you get bushier plants. Water regularly and tie in their canes.

Fruit

Most trees will do better with a good mulching of manure or compost around the roots. Thin out some of the thin vigorous growths and cut back others well down the stem. Some trees which are heavily laden, need to have support on branches which are dropping down to the ground. It might also be a good thing to thin out some of the fruit. Pinch out some side shoots on currants plus any weak or surplus canes on raspberries, to ensure a bumper crop. Water strawberries regularly to get a good sized berry and crop. Runners wanted for new plants can be layered now. Greenfly will be on the rampage now, so spray regularly.

Flowers

Try and get all annuals raised from seed set in their places, and if you haven't tried any from seed buy them locally as soon as possible or they may be in short supply. Do remember to plant them firmly, with taller types towards the back. Water thoroughly at once. Cut down the early flowers of perennials which have gone off a bit, which will make for more growth and further flowers later in the season. Dahlias which were set out earlier should be showing some colour as the buds start to open, but there is still plenty of time to get some more going. Tie in taller types, as the wind can play havoc with them.

Cut the flowers from sweet peas regularly in order to get further colour throughout the year and do remember to tie as they grow taller. Some of the main stems can be stopped to make plants bushier. All begonias, both tuberous and fibrous rooted types, can be set in their places and choose warm spots. Where you were short of half hardy annuals, seed can be sown in empty spots. Water thoroughly and you should get

some good plants with plenty of colour later in the season, lasting till early autumn provided the weather is good.

Cut heads away regularly from border carnations to ensure a good follow-up, and set some stakes to those which are growing a bit tall. Don't let roses get out of hand and look untidy. Cut tatty flowers some distance down the shoot, so that new growth emerges with more flowers. Water everything thoroughly with the hose in dry weather and a sprinkling of general fertiliser will do good. Check for aphids of all kinds and spray at once with a systemic spray, as this is more effective, going right through the system without having to spray under the leaves.

Greenhouse

During hot and sunny weather make sure that there is plenty of air about in the house by having windows open all day and half-open at night. It is also advisable to have some shading on windows in the shape of some special emulsion, either sprayed on, or use a paint brush. The rain won't have any effect after it has set. One can remove it at the end of a season by using a dry cloth on dry days. There is also a plastic roll for use inside, but it is more difficult to set in place.

Insects and various diseases will be very prevalent so put down some smoke cones. Light them in early evening with all windows closed tightly. Open all these in the morning and even the door for an hour or two before venturing in to start work. Sprays can also be used but some plants don't like them or the moisture.

Pot plants of all kinds will want plenty of water and feed regularly. Cut off dead flower heads and leaves which are tending to lose colour. This cutting of dead flowers will promote colour. Calceolaria, cineraria, cyclamen, and all kinds of primula can be started from seed for next year's flowering plants.

Some plants may be outgrowing their present pots, i.e. pushing up the soil and roots coming out at the bottom of pots. Put them in a larger size one or if this is not big enough use one two sizes larger. Use some fresh compost and water in place at once.

Tomatoes should be coming along quickly now and the very early ones showing a bit of colour in their fruits. Feed with every other watering using a special tomato fertiliser. Nip out side shoots so that all the strength of growth goes into the main stem and the tomatoes. Tie in regularly or the whole plant will capsize onto the floor because of the weight of the fruits coming along, and all your good work will have gone down the drain.

CLUB NEWS – BRIGHTON

Bridge

Pairs – April 14th

A. Dodgson & Mrs. Buller-King	66.3
Miss Stenning & Mr. Douse	56.2
W. Phillips & Dr. J. Goodlad	54.3
W. Lethbridge & Mr. Goodlad	53.1
J. Padley & Mrs. R. Murch	53.1
P. McCormack & Mrs. M. Tebbitt	45.6
R. Pacitti & Mrs. K. Pacitti	45.6
J. Huk & Mrs. V. McPherson	43.2
R. Evans & Mrs. Barker	43.2
J. Majchrowicz & Miss Sturdy	39.4

The three way competition was held week ending May 4–5th. Before we started play, the captain, Bill Phillips, called us to order to salute three bridge players who had departed lately.

Maurice Douse and Bob Goodlad supervised the proceedings, ably supported by local scorers. The London team were successful in winning for the first time. Brighton were runners up, and the Provinces trailed last. All in all a most enjoyable weekend.

Sheila Morris p.p. W. Allen

March Bowls Handicap

Katie Stubbs would like to thank all the bowlers who took part in the above competition for their most generous gift. 'With the money collected, I intend to buy a single rose vase which will always remind me of the many happy hours spent with you all "on the carpet!" – Thanking you all – Katie.'

Bowling

On Friday, April 12th we completed our indoor bowling fixtures by inviting our friends from the Old Woking Bowling Club. This is a match that we always look forward to and this match was no exception as we had a rousing and exciting afternoon's bowling. We commenced play at 1.45 p.m. as our opponents were very anxious for play to start. There were three groups of players and St. Dunstan's won the first two groups easily. In the third group Ted Brown and Jimmy Morrish for once concentrated on their bowling and not on the ladies and they just about managed to win – with a great deal of help from Audrey! Well done St. Dunstan's for a clean sweep! Commiserations to our friends from Old Woking!

Although short-staffed, our ladies provided a good tea! Thank you ladies once again. After retiring to the bar our visitors left Ian Fraser House at about 9.30 p.m. in the best of spirits. Thank you Old Woking for an excellent afternoon and we look forward to visiting you in September.

If any bowlers are interested, matches have been arranged on the following dates:

Hurstpierpoint	Friday, June 7th
Burgess Hill	Thursday, June 13th
Marine Gardens,	Monday, June 17th
Worthing	
Guildford	Sunday, August 18th
Woooston,	Saturday, August 24th
Southampton	
Old Woking	Saturday, September 21st

All these are away matches and transport will be provided.

A. Miller

FAMILY NEWS

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Terry, son of *Mr. and Mrs. A.A. Howell*, of Colindale, on his marriage to Wendy Anne Wakefield on March 23rd.

Janet, daughter of *Mr. and Mrs. P. Baker*, of Sidmouth, on her marriage to Michael Stonestreet on April 27th, at Salcombe Regis.

RUBY WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. David Bell, of Haywards Heath, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on April 28th.

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Burnett, of Maidstone, on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on May 19th.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Corrigan, of Leysdown, Isle of Sheppey, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on May 17th.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Higgs, of Binfield, near Bracknell, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on May 12th.

Family News continued

GOLDEN WEDDING Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. H.J. Haskey, of Pinner, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on April 20th.

GRANDCHILDREN Congratulations to:

Mrs. J. Cotterill, widow of the late Mr. A. K. Cotterill, of Darlaston, on the birth of her grand-daughter, Amanda, born on April 1st to her daughter, Amanda, and son-in-law, Frank.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Holland, of Kingsteignton, who are happy to announce the birth of their third grandson, Jan Luke, born on November 22nd, 1984, to their only son, Jeremy, and his wife, Frances.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Lilley, of Canterbury, on the birth of their grandson, Alexander Neale, born on April 14th to their daughter, Kate, and her husband, Neale Joy.

Mr. P. Sheehan, of Redbridge, on the birth of his grandchild, Stacey, born on February 28th to his son, Colin, and daughter-in-law, Barbara.

Mrs. E. Shorter, widow of the late Mr. J. Shorter, of Southwick, on the birth of her grand-daughter, Lindsey, born on April 3rd to her daughter and son-in-law, Penny and Gordon Peters.

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN Congratulations to:

Mrs. M. Harrington, widow of the late Mr. A. Harrington, of Thundersley, on the birth of two great grand-daughters, Sophie Charlotte and Lauren Diane, born on March 5th and 6th. Mrs. Harrington now has seven great grandchildren.

Mrs. A. Miles, widow of the late Mr. J. Miles, of Faversham, on the birth of her third great grandchild, Grant Christopher, born on December 7th.

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS Congratulations to:

David Attfield, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Attfield, of Paignton, Devon, on passing the Selection Course for the Territorial Army. He was 21 in May.

DEATHS

We offer sympathy to:

Mr. John Ashcroft, of Doncaster, whose younger brother passed away in March.

Mr. H. Bowen, of Shrewsbury, who mourns the death of his daughter, Margaret Mary ('Girlie'), on January 3rd, aged 53.

Mr. Anthony Dodd, son of the late Mr. T.C. Dodd, of Lee on Solent, whose mother, Mrs. Frederica Dodd, passed away in hospital on April 29th.

The family of Mr. C. Fennell, of Tooting. Mr. Fennell, son of the late Mr. V.J. Fennell, passed away on March 22nd.

Mr. E. Hordyniec, of Birmingham, whose sister passed away on April 9th, after a long illness, in the Russian zone of Poland.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Jones, of Leighton Buzzard, and to their son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Penny, and family, who mourn the sudden death of Peter, Mr. and Mrs. Jones' younger son, on April 17th.

Mr. J. Mash, of St. Helier, Jersey, whose brother died on March 27th.

Mrs. E. Ollington, widow of the late Mr. H. Ollington, of Church Cookham, whose only son, Henry Francis, passed away on April 2nd.

The family of Mrs. H.M. Robinson, of Worthing. Mrs. Robinson, widow of the late Mr. L.G. Robinson, passed away on March 29th.

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.

D.J. Atack, Royal Army Service Corps

Douglas Jones Atack, of Blackpool, passed away on April 21st in Pearson House where he had been admitted five weeks earlier following a serious decline in his health. He was in his 66th year and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1960, following service as a Driver in the R.A.S.C. during the 2nd World War.

Despite severe health problems and frequent periods of hospitalisation, in earlier years Mr. Jones was keenly interested in gardening and for a while was able to take up joinery as a hobby. Throughout, his wife, Celia, was a tower of strength and cared for him with great devotion. They celebrated their Ruby

Wedding Anniversary in 1981.

He leaves his widow, daughter, two sons, grandchildren and members of the family.

F. Barratt, Merchant Navy & Royal Navy

The numerous friends within St. Dunstan's of Mr. Frederick Barratt, affectionately known as Fred, of Haverfordwest, will have been deeply saddened by the news of his premature and sudden death in hospital on April 19th, following a minor operation. He was 60 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1949.

Fred joined the Merchant Navy as a boy seaman and he was only 16 years of age when his ship was torpedoed and sunk, he and the rest of the crew being picked up by an escort ship. He transferred to the Royal Navy in June 1942 and was wounded shortly afterwards during the Algerian landings - he was buried beneath debris and suffered head injuries which resulted in his loss of sight.

After coming to St. Dunstan's, Fred undertook training in joinery, braille, typing, basket and rug-making, but on moving from Pontypridd to London in 1952, he went into business as proprietor of a cafe and grocery shop in West Ham which he ran successfully until 1970. It was during this period that Fred became very interested and active in local politics.

After giving up his business, Fred undertook work for our Stores Dept., supplying bookcases and plant troughs of a very high standard and when, in 1980, he returned to Wales and set up home in Haverfordwest, he continued with his numerous interests and hobbies, including sailing and participation in local affairs. However, his keenest hobby was gardening and in 1981 he was elected Chairman of our Gardening Club to which he devoted a tremendous amount of time and energy, making it one of our most successful activities. At the time of his death, plans were well in hand for the club's visit to Porthcawl and there is no doubt that he will be greatly missed, not only for his organising abilities but also for his enthusiasm and wonderful sense of humour.

He leaves his widow, Mary, the son and four daughters of his first marriage, and members of the family. In accordance with his wishes, Fred's ashes were scattered at sea.

A. Burrows, Royal Army Service Corps

Arthur Burrows, formerly of Pontefract, passed away on April 3rd, aged 93, in the Milnthorpe residential home where he had lived since September 1983. He had been a St. Dunstaner since 1975.

Mr. Burrows enlisted at the onset of the 1st World War in the R.A.S.C., attaining the rank of Sergeant, and was discharged in December 1919. For many years he lived with his wife, Jessie, in Colwyn Bay where he had a flourishing tailoring business. Sadly, Mrs. Burrows passed away in February 1983, after 68 years of happy marriage. In earlier years Mr. Burrows was a keen gardener, and as a St. Dunstaner, enjoyed attending our reunions.

He leaves a daughter, three sons, and their families.

J.N. Collins, South Wales Borderers

John Ninian Collins, of Cardiff, passed away at his home on April 19th, aged 75. He had been a St. Dunstaner since 1972.

Mr. Collins served as a Private in the South Wales Borderers during the 2nd World War, and in 1944 suffered multiple injuries in combat which seriously affected his eyesight as well as his hearing. Despite his grave disabilities, Mr. Collins faced life with a great deal of courage and remained in employment until 1971 when he had to retire on health grounds. He and his wife, Hilda, celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary in 1982 when a surprise party was organised by their family.

He leaves his widow who cared for him devotedly, their three sons, three daughters, grandchildren and members of his close-knit family.

T.S. Cooper, 1st Battalion 4th East Yorkshire Regiment

Thomas Stanley Cooper, of Hull, passed away at the home of one of his daughters on April 17th, aged 93. He had been a St. Dunstaner from the first days of the formation of our organisation in 1915.

Mr. Cooper was seriously injured and totally blinded at Kemel, whilst on active service during the 1st World War as a Lance Corporal with the 1st Battalion 4th East Yorkshire Regiment.

He was trained for telephony and became a valued employee of the Hull and Barnsley Railway for whom he had worked as a clerk before joining the Army. He retired in 1952 and in earlier years was a keen gardener and enjoyed attending our reunions. Sadly, his wife, Mildred, passed away at the end of 1975 after 58 years of happy marriage. They had celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1967 with a large reception attended by all their family and friends.

He leaves his close-knit family who were devoted to his care - his son, three daughters and members of their families.

R. Dow, Royal Artillery

Robert Dow, of Chessington, passed away in Kingston Hospital on Easter Day, April 7th, aged 67.

He enlisted in the 80th Scottish Horse, Royal Artillery, before the outbreak of World War II and was injured 18 months later whilst undergoing field training. A Scotsman by birth and a shepherd before his enlistment, Bob decided to settle in the south after joining St. Dunstan's in 1941. He trained initially as a boot repairer and worked for the St. Dunstan's Repair Depot from 1943 until its closure in 1958. He then retrained as a capstan lathe operator and was employed for 23 years by Mollart Engineering at Surbiton. He took early retirement in 1983. Sadly his health was already deteriorating and he underwent several operations from 1981. In earlier days Mr. Dow took his holidays regularly at Ovingdean and he will be greatly missed by his many friends in St. Dunstan's.

He leaves a widow, Pearl, to whom he was married for almost 35 years and who looked after him devotedly throughout his illness.

In Memory *continued*

C.W. Hanson, Durham Light Infantry & South Staffordshire Regiment

Charles Wilcock Hanson, of Barnsley, passed away in hospital on April 26th, aged 87. His health had given cause for concern for some time and he had been a St. Dunstaner for only 16 months.

At the age of 18, Mr. Hanson enlisted in the Yorkshire Regiment of the Durham Light Infantry and then served with the South Staffordshire Regiment. Soon after the Battle of the Somme, he was severely injured by gunshot wounds in his arms and legs and also lost the sight of one eye. He was discharged from the Army in 1919.

In earlier years, he was an accountant and when first married, he and his wife, Elsie, ran a village Post Office near Barnsley. At one time, he was employed by the late Lord Ferisham on his North Yorkshire estate. Despite her own failing sight Mrs. Hanson, to whom he was married for almost 56 years, cared for her husband devotedly, with the readily forthcoming assistance of several nieces and nephews and other members of their large close-knit family.

He leaves his widow, Elsie, and members of the family.

W.J. Hare, 7th Northants Regiment

William John Hare, of Cheltenham, passed away in hospital on April 10th, one day before his 87th birthday. He became a St. Dunstaner in 1918 after being injured whilst on active service in France during the 1st World War as a Private in the 7th Northants Regiment.

After admission to St. Dunstan's, Mr. Hare undertook a period of training in boot repairing, mat-making, typing and braille. He was particularly skilled at mat-making and, working from his own workshop, obtained many local orders as well as providing them for our stores. Until his health deteriorated a few years ago, Mr. Hare was a very keen gardener, having a particular interest in roses of which he grew many varieties as well as acting as a judge at local flower shows.

Sadly, Mr. Hare's wife, Eva, passed away in 1969 after 39 years together. They had no children. In 1971 he remarried and enjoyed 14 happy years with his wife, Betty, whose sons, Tony, Robert and their families were devoted to him.

He leaves his widow, two stepsons and all members of the family.

B. Hughes, Worcestershire Regiment

Bertram Hughes, of Birmingham, passed away in hospital on April 12th, aged 85, after having been a semi-invalid for nearly 30 years.

Mr. Hughes served as a Private with the Worcesters from November 1917 until he lost his sight as a result of mustard gas poisoning which he received a year later. He was discharged from the Army in March 1921, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1953 at which time he was working in a factory in Birmingham,

operating a small hand fly press. However, his health was deteriorating due to chronic chest trouble, and he had to retire from employment in 1956. Mr. Hughes shared a home with his devoted sister, Mrs. F. Butler, and her family. He was very deaf for the last 20 years of his life, but he was a very keen and expert braille reader.

He leaves his sister and her family, and we thank her for her devotion and care towards him.

C.M. Phillips, The Buffs

Charles Morris Phillips, formerly of Brighton but resident of Pearson House since 1977, passed away suddenly in our Home on May 7th. He was in his 69th year and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1950.

Mr. Phillips served during the 2nd World War as a Private in the Buffs, and suffered multiple gunshot wounds in 1943, when he lost the sight of one eye. A few years later whilst in civilian employment, a piece of wire mesh penetrated his other eye and he was later admitted to St. Dunstan's. In leisure hours his hobby was joinery. 'Charlie' as he was affectionately known, will be greatly missed by Matron Goodwin, her staff and many fellow St. Dunstaners.

He leaves a sister, niece, nephews and other members of the family.

R. Ralphson, Loyal Regiment

Richard Ralphson of Bolton, passed away on April 24th, 10 days before his 87th birthday.

He served during the 1st World War as a Lance-Corporal in the Loyal Regiment, having enlisted at the age of 17. In November 1917, Mr. Ralphson was wounded at Passchendaele and lost the sight of one eye. He was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1977.

On his discharge from the Army in 1919, he was employed in the coal trade where he remained until his retirement at the age of 65. In 1945, Mr. Ralphson was Mayor of Farnworth. He retained a keen interest in local activities and in sport - at one time he was Chairman of the local Cricket Club. He also enjoyed long walks in earlier years, but latterly his main form of relaxation was listening to the radio and his talking books.

He leaves his widow, Frances, to whom he was married for 49 years, and members of his devoted and large family.

A.S. Waters, Wiltshire Regiment

Arthur Stephen Waters passed away at Pearson House on April 17th, aged 74.

Mr. Waters served in the Wiltshire Regiment in World War II. He was wounded in action at Anzio in June 1944 and was admitted to St. Dunstan's the same year. He trained at Church Stretton and for many years made rugs and string bags for our stores. He was also a keen gardener, supplying his friends and neighbours with bedding plants and vegetables in season. He and his wife lived in Sevenoaks but on her death in 1978, he became a resident first at Ian Fraser House and then at Pearson House. He will be sadly missed by the staff and his many friends at Brighton.