

St Dunstons
Review
October 1988

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Cover picture: Ray Sheriff and Jim Wild walking on the South Downs. See Long Distance Walking, page four. The St. Dunstan's T-shirts they are wearing can be purchased from Supplies Department at Headquarters priced £4, sweatshirts £7.

From the Chairman

Amid the bustle of improvements to our Homes, full Sporting programmes, Hobbies, Reunions and all the other varied activities that fill our year — in all of which people can see for themselves that things are really happening — it is easy to lose sight of one of our first responsibilities, which is the provision of *medical care* for St. Dunstaners and their dependants. I want, therefore, in this issue to pay a brief (and I am afraid wholly inadequate) tribute to our Doctors.

At Headquarters, Dr. John Janvrin, who has been with us for close on 40 years, holds regular 'surgeries' each week. St. Dunstaners from all over the country visit him for general medical advice or as an essential link in obtaining specialist treatment.

At Moorfields (and regularly at Headquarters too), Mr. Rolf Blach and Mr. Robert Cooling act as our Ophthalmological Consultants. They are top men in their field in the whole of the United Kingdom (Mr. Blach is currently Dean of the Institute of Ophthalmology) and they act as the final 'umpires' over whether a Service person's lack of sight qualifies him or her for St. Dunstan's. They also carry out a number of extremely skilled operations aimed at improving vision or arresting its deterioration.

At our Brighton Homes we have Dr. Martin Knott and Dr. Patricia Williams, both G.P.'s and both in regular attendance at Pearson House and Ian Fraser House, and Mrs. Clair Crossman holds regular weekly dental surgeries at Pearson House. We also benefit from the expertise of Mr. David Ingram, Ophthalmological Surgeon at the Sussex Eye Hospital.

Last, but by no means least, we have a comprehensive list of distinguished Consultants covering virtually every discipline in the field of Medicine, to whom our people are referred by Dr. Janvrin as appropriate.

All our Medical Advisers have full-time practices and consultancies in their own right and take on work for St. Dunstan's as an extra. It is a considerable additional burden and we owe them a debt of deep gratitude.

I am sure you would wish to join me in saying a very warm "THANK YOU — WELL DONE — PLEASE KEEP IT UP!"

Henry Leach

12th National Metro Sports Competitions for the Blind

The venue for the 1988 event was the Queen Elizabeth Stadium at Enfield, Middlesex as The New River Stadium, Haringey, the customary home for these annual sports competitions, had a prior booking for 9th July.

A team of five St. Dunstaners participated, the largest number to take part in these annual competitions since they began. Indeed, if it hadn't been for the St. Dunstan's presence, there simply wouldn't have been a 3 kilometre Walking Race for the Bill Harris Trophy, as there was only one other entry, Mike Brace, who incidentally, won the race in the time of 19 mins. 38.3 secs. Last year Mike was unable to take part owing to an injury whilst skiing earlier in the year.

The rest of the walking race results are as follows:—

2nd J. Gilbert	21 mins. 58.6 secs.
3rd R. Hazan	22 mins. 34.6 secs.
4th T. Tatchell	22 mins. 51.8 secs.
5th S. Tutton	22 mins. 55.0 secs.
6th T. Bullingham	24 mins. 26.8 secs.

Stan Tutton also competed in two field events, coming in 8th in the javelin with a throw of 8.90m. Also 4th in the discus with a throw of 7.38m.

Ray Hazan and John Gilbert, who were taking part in the National Metro Sports for the first time, both agreed that when next year's event is over, we should all meet in the evening to round off the day. Usually, some 80 competitors come from all over the U.K. to take part in this particular fixture in the sports calendar for visually handicapped persons, and the organisers arrange a dinner and disco at the Tottenham Hotspur Football Club for those who are staying overnight in London.

The date and venue of the 1989 National Metro Sports will be announced in *The Review* as soon as it has been fixed, and anyone who has not previously taken part in these sports competitions should contact Jimmy Wright by phone on 0932 225950, or in writing at: 209 Manygate Lane, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 9ER.

NEW AUSTRALIAN ST. DUNSTAN'S APPOINTMENTS

Following the death earlier this year of Mr. Laurie Greenham, President of the Blinded Soldiers of St. Dunstan's, Australia two new appointments have been made. The new President is Mr. H.M. Leggo, A.M., the former Vice-President, and the new Vice-President is Mr. B.J. Edmonds, who is new to the Committee.

These positions will be held for the remainder of the term which concludes at the Federal Conference in May 1989.

SCULPTURE CLASSES FOR VISUALLY HANDICAPPED

A series of sculpture classes are to be held at the Hulton Sculpture Studio for the Visually Handicapped in London beginning in September. Subjects covered include clay modelling, life form, portraits, carving, and work in polystyrene and plastics, and there is a kiln on the premises so that students' work in clay can be fired. The classes are informal and friendly, and students are able to work at their own pace. Beginners are particularly welcomed.

Classes are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.30 until 8.30, and there is a nominal charge for materials of 50p a class. Applications should be made to: The Hon. Secretary, Hulton Sculpture Studio for the Visually Handicapped, 108 Old Brompton Road, South Kensington, London SW7 3RA, or tel: 01-373 5554.

STAFF RETIREMENT

Douglas Holt, Surveyor in the North of England for 14 years retired from the Estate Department on August 31st.

A presentation fund has been suggested, and contributions may be sent to Mr. W.C. Weisblatt at Headquarters.

Annual Report on tape

For the first time, British Gas has produced an audio cassette of this year's annual report.

The cassette runs for about 13 minutes, and can be obtained, free of charge, from the British Gas Shareholder Enquiry Office, or telephone 01-834 2000.



Ray and Jim in the beautiful Sussex countryside.

Long Distance Walking

by David Castleton

Ray Sheriff in recent years has been developing a new sporting interest in long distance walking. We have reported some of his marathon walking achievements in the *Review* and recently I joined him and his regular walking escort, Jim Wild, to find out more about the demands these walks make on blind walker and escort.

We took some photographs high in the Sussex Downs along some of their favourite paths for their weekly training spins and then chatted over a pub lunch in a village called Rodmell. There Ray told me how it all began.

'Someone said one day, "Would you like to do a marathon?" I said, "How far is a marathon?" 26 miles and whatever yards sounded very easy. I went off with this particular chap on the Rottingdean Windmill Marathon. After I got to the first hill at Itford I already began to feel tired and not very happy because the chap who was taking me along had wanted to keep up front with a lot of experienced long-distance

walkers who had organised the marathon. By the time I got home I was sort of, what's the word? Knackered.'

For the first time in his life, Ray said, he wasn't hungry! Betty said, "Do you want anything to eat?" and I said, "Not at the moment". She'd never heard that ever before! It took me an hour to come round. I think I'd become slightly dehydrated because my ears were hurting and I felt a bit giddy. I didn't feel too well and I wasn't happy. I thought if I'm going to do this again, I want to get a bit of practice, and I will do it again because it was a bad show, the first one. I wasn't fit and that was it.'

Ray got in touch with one of the organisers of the event asking if a sighted walker would be prepared to escort him in training walks and in events. Jim Wild, a well-known local sportsman, swimmer and long-distance walker, was willing.

Their first marathon walk together was the Windmill said Ray: 'That was in 1985. We did that and I did it comfortably and I

was so pleased. That was because Jim knew what he was doing.'

He explained: 'First of all he is conscious of the pace. I think when he first started to walk with me he was extremely careful. He would move a rock away from my foot at one time because he didn't know my ability.' Jim agreed, 'I was very worried the first time but I don't have any worries now. We went out of the first trip and he seemed to knock it off all right. It was remembering at steps to say whether it was up or down. It's worked out very well, I think. I will say Ray is prepared to accept any path that I want to take him on, good or bad. At times we have had to slide down the hills on our backs because it was too slippery to walk down. We work it out between us.'

'Our pace seems the same' said Ray, 'We always try to do hills without stopping. We don't dash up them but we... lots of other people stop but I find if you stop it takes you a long time to get back again. We've got all the hills well organised and stiles well organised.'

Jim will say, "Stile coming up" and I generally know that it is going to be in about five or six paces before I get there and he'll say "Low left and high right", those being the steps. Jim always goes first. This is the best way because if a blind person gets on the other side of the stile or any other obstacle he can put his foot down on the right when it should have gone left. Unknowingly I would do it wrong and end up with something I shouldn't do.

'He also gives me a clue. I find it very terrible when you are going up a hill and you think how long is this going to go on? You don't quite know how to adjust yourself. Jim will say, "This is quite a long one, not too steep." Then he'll say, "You've done a half; you've done three-quarters; and it's the last two hundred yards." He tells me when there are gullies and obstacles. When we get to anywhere narrow where it's very precarious then he'll just say, "Single file" and I'll go behind using the folding cane to link us.'

I asked Ray if, in events, the time taken was important, 'We try to do it in reasonable time. We try to work on a three mile an hour basis. This doesn't sound very fast

when you say eight hours and a bit for a marathon. It's terrible really but when you think you've got the hills to cope with, you've got to walk over three to make an average haven't you?' On August 7th Ray and Jim made their best time so far as a team. They were taking part in the Royal Military Police 25 mile 'March' at Chichester. On the hottest day of the summer in 80°, they completed the distance in six hours and 10 minutes, an average of more than four miles an hour for the first time. Ray lost six pounds!

So far, though, the highlight for Ray has been the Seven Sisters Marathon, 'Because there is more about the Seven Sisters. Going over seven hills after you'd already done sixteen miles, with another ten miles to do and then coming up to Beachy Head. I thought, "When I get over the Seven Sisters I shall be O.K." and when I got over the Seven Sisters I found the

Long distance walking — with stile!



BRISTOL REUNION

Warm sunshine greeted the 46 St. Dunstaners and 15 widows arriving at the Crest Hotel. Among the guests was Mrs. J. Lyons of the War Pensions Office.

In his speech, our Chairman started by welcoming the President, Colin Beaumont-Edmonds accompanied by his wife Joyce. A warm round of applause was given to Mr. Alfred White, the only World War One St. Dunstaner present, and who was attending his first reunion. There were four World War One widows present. The Chairman regretted that Muriel Meyer was unable to be at the reunion, but welcomed Liz Pearce, our new welfare

Walking *continued*

harder part was from then on up over Beachy Head. That seemed to be worse than the actual Seven Sisters. We did it in snow and slush.

'People think walking is nothing really, and I used to think the same. Walking, oh, a route march which I was always quite good at. But that was always on the flat as you might say. It's the variety of walking that beats you, I think, going through different things like stiles, up hills, down hills. That makes it harder.'

As a blind person, what does Ray really get from these long-distance walks across all kinds of country? 'What do you get out of life if you don't see? You just like to think that you are doing what sighted people are doing and also there is the physical exercise which you are getting, that I like. The challenge is the great thing.'

Now the opportunity occurs for other St. Dunstaners to take up the challenge. It will be not quite at the marathon distances Ray and Jim cover so frequently. They are planning a trial walk on the South Downs Way, details of which appear on another page in this issue. Who knows? This may be the beginning of a new recreational interest for St. Dunstaners and, perhaps, their wives.

visitor attending her first occasion. Sir Henry went on to give the latest St. Dunstaner figures.

'This year', said Sir Henry, 'was the St. Dunstan's millennium. Amongst other things, St. Dunstan is the patron saint of farriers. It is recounted that anyone placing a horseshoe over their door following a visit by St. Dunstan would never have the devil in their house!' The Chairman had met those on the 'long walk' as described in the June *Review*.

Sir Henry described the reopening of Pearson House. 'We had a happy and informal day. I would commend that if you are down in Brighton with time to spare, that you call in and have a look round. All that remains to be done is the erection of a conservatory in the garden so that residents may enjoy the sun whilst not feeling chilly.'

The Chairman concluded by trying to explain the game of cricket to a Frenchman; how a team is 'in'; until it is 'out', how you can be 'in' but 'not out', etc., etc.

Norman Follis responded on behalf of the guests. He wanted to thank St. Dunstan's on behalf of both those present, and those who were unable to attend for whatever reason. Norman had been in receipt of services for the blind during the past 40 years. 'I can say without fear or favour that St. Dunstan's is probably the organisation where I have felt the happiest. I do so because of the quality and sensitivity with which help is rendered.' Norman was particularly grateful to Liz Pearce and Irene Newbold, who had organised the event.

Norman and his wife had much enjoyed a stay at Ian Fraser House and were looking forward to going again. He was most impressed with the facilities, and again thanked St. Dunstan's for their thoughtful planning which goes into the development of these homes.

After lunch, the film 'Partnership for Life' was shown and a most pleasant reunion concluded with tea, a raffle and much enjoyable interchange.

D. F. Robinson's GARDENING NOTES

We are now in the autumn, and growth is on the wane with everything looking a little past its best. There will also be plenty of leaves and weeds about, so get the hoe and rake going at regular intervals. Perennials will be looking straggly now, so cut them down for next year. If there are any semi-hardy items which you wish to save for next year, transfer them to a warmer spot or into pots in the greenhouse, or even frames which will prevent frosts getting at them so easily. Hard fruit should be gathered on fine days, taking care as ripe fruit is easily spoilt.

Vegetables

Use the hoe regularly between growing crops, and fork lightly where the beds are completely used. Heavy soil should be forked fairly deeply, so that frost is able to break it up. Lift all carrots and beetroot, storing them in sand for the winter, making sure you store only the good ones. Onion and turnip seedlings sown earlier should now be thinned out to give you good items for next year's crop. Any remaining potatoes should be forked up and stored for the winter. Raddish and spinach can still be sown, and rhubarb planted, and lettuce seeds sown outside in warm spots or frames, or in greenhouse containers.

Fruit

Get the places where you are to plant new trees into a good condition by forking over the soil and laying some compost. Grease banding should be done as soon as possible, and gather any ripe apples or pears. Prune all soft fruit bushes, and remember to leave only three or four young shoots on the raspberries. Cut away any further runners which are starting to grow on the strawberries.

Lawns

The early part of this month should be the last for cutting the lawn, and this should be done with fairly high blades. The mower should then be cleaned up ready to be put away for the winter, and perhaps booked in for a check in the early part of the New Year.

Flowers

Tidy all beds, and pull out the annuals. Where you have some spare winter quarters which are warm, transfer all the polyanthus and primroses, etc., for the winter. Dahlias must be lifted, and the tubers dried off to be stored through the winter months in peat. The same thing can be said for any good gladioli you may wish to keep for next season. All kinds of herbaceous perennials can be lifted and divided, planting the outer portions in new quarters with a good dose of compost to help them survive frosts. Cut back the roses to a reasonable height as a precaution against strong winds. Give all the beds a good hoeing and raking to prepare for next season. Put all spring flowering bulbs in their places, with the smaller growing types in the edges of the beds, and ensure that you have any tulips planted.

Greenhouse

Keep all the windows closed from early afternoon until the following morning, and only open them after the frosts have gone. Thoroughly clean all the plants that you brought in from outside, and give all pot plants a light watering. Annuals such as schizanthus being prepared for a Christmas or New Year show should have their main tips pinched out to make very bushy plants giving nearly all flowers. Set good smokes against pests or diseases early in the month.

On this day . . .

by Sean Kelly

Hmmmm. September? October? Perhaps Autumn would be more apt. Whichever way you chose. On this day brings yet more notable events and occurrences which have anniversaries around this time. Unfortunately, 'Sods Law of writing' has reared its head this issue, this law maintaining that where there are twice as many months to examine, there will be half as much material to use. So my apologies for the brevity of this article, and I hope I shall be back to my usual length next month, for which you also have my apologies.

September 26th a century ago saw the birth of T.S. Eliot, British poet and Nobel Prize winner. Winning a Nobel Prize might not be the indication of greatness one would expect, really, especially when you consider some of the other famous (?) literature prize winners: Carducci, Sully Prudhomme, Seferis and Eucken. Amongst the losers, meanwhile, we can count Tolstoy, Chekov, Hardy, H.G. Wells, Somerset Maugham and Bertolt Brecht.

In September of 1983 a gang of robbers decided to rob a Post Office in Australia. Twice, actually. The first time they attempted to blow up the safe, they discovered that they hadn't got enough explosives to open the safe, and consequently escaped with the paltry sum of just \$53. If at first you don't succeed . . . They returned with more explosives. Lots more explosives, in fact. So much more that when detonated, the whole building suffered damage, all the windows were broken, and the roof became detached. The safe? The explosion buckled and jammed the safe door shut, and the robbers left without even \$53.

Perhaps one of the largest mistakes made by the largest number of Americans was made fifty years ago on October 30th 1938. For, tuning into the CBS radio network, they were to hear the chilling news that America had been invaded by

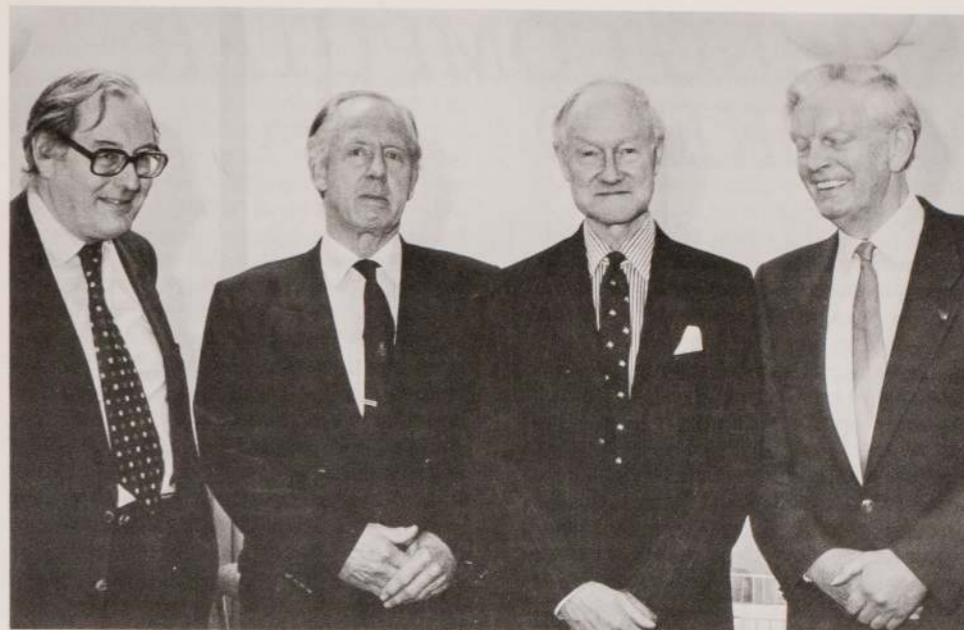
extra terrestrials, who were moving across the United States, easily defeating all resistance before them. As the evening progressed more increasingly alarming news flashes brought reports of the invaders from Mars' progress, and the increasing panic of the civilians. This panic was mirrored in the listeners, who began to 'phone relatives to warn them, and the roads became blocked as cars left the towns for the relative protection of the countryside. In New York harbour sailors were recalled from shore leave in order to be best prepared for the invasion.

What they did not realise, however, was that they were listening to a radio play of (the not worthy of a Nobel Prize) 'War of the Worlds' by H.G. Wells, produced by one Orson Welles, a young actor making a name for himself. The first he knew about the furore the play had caused was when he saw the headlines in the 'papers the next day: 'Attack from Mars in Radio Play Puts Thousands in Fear' read the *New York Herald Tribune*, whilst the *New York Times* announced ' . . . Many Flee Homes to Escape Gas Raid From Mars'. Orson Wells had made his name, and went on to produce such cinema classics as 'Citizen Kane' and 'The Magnificent Ambersons'.

NEW SAFETY RULES FOR GAS INSTALLERS

A Government backed code of practice for gas installers, aimed at improving standards and safety, and weeding out amateurs and 'cowboys', came into force recently.

Installation companies failing to observe the code set up under the provision of health and safety legislation, may face criminal prosecution. The code sets out improvements in training, installation practices, maintenance, removal and repair.



Staff Retirements

Following the retirements of long serving members of staff, presentations were made by the Chairman. Mr. Pat Lennard Payne and Mr. Stan Booth, surveyors for the Estate Department, are seen above with Mr. Trevor Lloyd, (far left), Manager of the Estates Department and Sir Henry Leach. The picture below is of Sir Henry and Mr. Ernie Rous, who served for over ten years on the 'front desk' at Headquarters.



SPRING COMPUTER WEEKEND

by Phil Duffee

For those who were not present at the Spring Computer Weekend, we missed you! Do come to the next one as we shall have some goodies for you to see.

The weekend was most successful. We were able to see the new Amstrad PPC640 portable computer demonstrated. There was a demonstration of the Teletext machine which enabled the BEEB user to get CEEFAX and ORACLE from the airwaves and read them on screen, save pages to disc and retrieve them at will. This was demonstrated by Peter Jones using programs which he had produced. The word processor program called WORDPERFECT was shown here for the first time, and it seemed to do all but make tea! TURBO LIGHTNING too was driven through its paces by David Calderwood, and many showed interest in this spell-checker. The Terrible Twins, Roger Goodchild and Mike Cassidy, gave a very convincing demonstration of the way the PPC640, which has a built-in modem, could be used to grab programs and messages from bulletin boards through the telephone. What we need for next time is an outside telephone line and then we can do it for real. The Eureka was demonstrated at various times during the weekend to all those who had not seen it before. And last, but not least, Paul Dilley, David Laycock's engineer, held a clinic for ailing computers and programs which was taken advantage of by some of those present.

Taking these things one at a time: The new Amstrad portable was tried out by several and found to be a very good machine for its price. The double disc drive version retails for about £800, has a built in modem for communicating with other computers via a telephone line, a very good keyboard (full size) and a small screen which would be woefully inadequate for the semi-sighted but does have the

port to link with a full sized screen if needed. It worked well with the voice box and supported a printer as well as any computer. The whole thing weighs about ten pounds and so is a real portable. We tested it against a Bondwell portable I borrowed for the purpose and it came out streets ahead on the keyboard side and the modem side as the Bondwell does not have a built-in modem, all for about the same price. It is a computer which I can recommend to anyone who is looking for a portable. Although it is larger than the Toshiba portable which was shown last time it is £400 cheaper.

WORDPERFECT is a very comprehensive word processor which has more functions available than most of us would use in the ordinary course of events. It has the power to hold several documents in memory at the same time and the user could switch from one to the other or have two documents on screen at the same time. It has an excellent spell checker as standard, and will allow mail merging and file input from other programs, such as a spreadsheet or a database, for inclusion in the file you are currently creating. It is not a program for the faint-hearted as it is really a programming language in its own right. Beginners can use it at a basic level to do all the things you would want but at a price of around £400, the new user would be best advised to choose a simpler program to begin with, some of which are available for around seventy pounds, going on to the larger program when necessary.

TURBO-LIGHTNING is a stand-alone spell checker and thesaurus program which is loaded into the computer and sits there ready to check your spelling no matter what program you are running. It is an extremely powerful checker and very easy to use. The spelling can be checked as you type in, the program beeps at you if the

word is wrong giving you the opportunity to correct it immediately, or you can check your document when you have finished. If you find that you have used a word too often you can ask for alternatives to the word and the program will replace the offending word with the one of your choice taken from the list offered. This is a program I can recommend for PC users and it only costs around seventy pounds. It is a pity we do not have an equivalent program for the BEEB.

The TELETXT adaptor is a unit that sits between the BEEB and a TV aerial which enables the user to tune in to one of the CEEFAX or ORACLE channels and either read pages or select and save pages for later reading, the saving being made on disc. Currently the program will only work on the BEEB but I am told that there will soon be one available for the PCs using the same technique. Peter Jones showed how easy it was to get the functions but as the signal we got from our portable aerial was a bit weak he had to simulate it. However, I am having a TV socket fitted in my room where the adaptor will be demonstrated in November, so if you want to see that come along.

One of the most useful things we had this time was the clinic set up by Paul Dilley. As an example of its usefulness, Bill Shea was having difficulty with his computer and had brought it along on the off-chance that we could sort it out. Paul was able to put his machine right in the time it would have taken me to locate the fault. Paul has offered to come down in November and set up a Hardware clinic so that if your having problems with a peripheral or your machine he will do his best to repair it. He does make one stipulation however, if possible, let him know what the problem is in advance so that he can bring the right testing equipment. The easiest way to do this is to let me know at IFH in October and then I can pass it on to Paul before he makes his preparations to come down.

David Laycock was most helpful as many will testify. He became a one-man advice bureau to any who wanted to talk about suitable programs or equipment and was instrumental in getting some equipment that I needed to modify one of

my computers, others were also helped on the same lines with addresses they could write to. All in all, a very useful contribution to the success of our weekend.

Do come in November, bring your problems and solutions, your broken bits and you faulty programs as, between the experts we shall have available, we should be able to sort them out. Some of the things we saw this time will be available again for you to see and try, so book in and enjoy yourselves.

TENNIS DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS OFFER

World Championship Tennis, the organisers of the Nabisco Masters Doubles at the Royal Albert Hall from 7th to 11th December, 1988, are planning a special offer for blind people.

At each of the nine sessions of the Championships, including the final on Sunday, 11th December, they hope to provide 100 seats equipped with stethoscope headphones through which a professional commentary will be provided. A blind person and his or her escort will receive two tickets for the price of one.

The organisers are looking for a sponsor to cover the costs of this project and this would depend on the response from blind people. They are hoping that the majority of the 100 designated seats will be taken up at each session. There are day and evening sessions on each day except for the final. Prices vary from £5 for day sessions in the early rounds to £14.50 for the final. Any St. Dunstaner who would be interested is asked to write to The Editor, *St. Dunstan's Review* at Headquarters.

Marjorie Barton holds Council seat

Mrs. Marjorie Barton, widow of St. Dunstaner, Mr. Edmund Barton, who gained a seat on the Lakeland District Council in 1987, held the seat with an increased majority in the recent District Council Elections.

WILD WALES

Two reports of the recent climbing trip to the Welsh Hills, the first by David Castleton

Over the years St. Dunstan's climbers have enjoyed success and failure in the Welsh Hills. They have been sunburned, drenched with rain, shrouded in mist and blasted by gales. Yet, whatever the outcome, each group has come back having thoroughly enjoyed their week-end with our good friends of the Rhinog Mountain Rescue Team, led by Barry Ellis.

This year was no exception even though we found Wales in a wild mood once more — windy, wet and misty. We were to attempt the ascent of Snowdon by the rather perilous sounding Crib Goch route. The group consisted of three veterans of earlier climbs, Bill Shea, Ray Sheriff and Trevor Tatchell, and two newcomers, Peter Strauch and Terry Walker.

It was still raining on Saturday, July 23rd, after a stormy night, when Gwyneth and Barry Ellis, Colin Jones and other members of the team called for us at the Saracen's Head, Beddgelert. Barry explained that there was not much chance of the weather improving sufficiently to allow us to tackle Crib Goch. We would make a start on the climb and go up as far as the Saddle where we would finally decide whether to go on up or take another route down.

It was a steady climb up to the Saddle, steep at the last, but most of all it was wet, and the rain and mist were driven by a strong wind. We had been sheltered by the slope until we emerged on the Saddle where there was no doubt that the rest of the time would be spent going down!

First objective was to find a sheltered spot for lunch. So we tramped on to find some respite from the wind on the site of an old quarry. Then, packed lunches consumed, we began our retreat. It was good to be on the move again to remove the chill that had begun to take hold while we ate. Back at the Saracen's Head there was a good deal of drying out to be done and hot



Trevor Tatchell is buckled up...

baths were very welcome. Plans were already made for Sunday: meet at Cwmblychan, where we could abseil on a convenient rock slab some 80 feet high and canoe on a small lake.

Could that be sunshine through the curtains? It was, though it was reflected from a very wet slate roof opposite my window. We took our usual very full English breakfast in optimistic mood. After a quick visit to the local climbing shop for socks for Jock Carnochan, whose other pair had resisted all efforts to dry them, we set off in the mini-bus for Cwmblychan.

It was dry there but the wind was raising quite respectable waves on the lake — no canoeing. Abseiling was on and a short climb brought us to the scene of operations at the top of a steeply sloping rock face. For Peter and Terry it was a new experience, and it was clearly enjoyed by them as well as by the old hands. They

rock-climbed their way back up to demand another run down. Barry and his crew obliged.

It has become the tradition that, on Sunday evening, St. Dunstan's entertains some of our climbing friends who give up their week-end to see our group safely up and down hills or dangle us on strong ropes. We owe them so much for without them these slightly adventurous expeditions could not take place. So Gwyneth and Barry Ellis, Anita and Colin Jones and Julia and Brian Porter dined with us at the Saracen's Head. Peter Strauch thanked them formally and Colin and Barry both had a word to say in reply. A convivial evening was enlivened by a spirited rendering in dialect of *Albert and the Lion* by Terry Walker. Great friendships have been made in the Welsh Mountains and we look forward to renewing them in future years.



Thumbs up...

Welsh Hills Climb

by Terry Walker

'No, reach up a little further and feel over to your left. Yes, that's right. Now, take your right foot and slide it across to the large stone: Higher: Higher: good now you are all right'.

We were half way up Snowdon, it was thick mist, the drizzle was soaking us from the outside, and sweat was doing the same

thing from the inside. We were in thick cloud — or so they told us. And conditions were not improving. I was out of breath, wishing perhaps that I had done a little more training and was able to keep up the pace without seeming to be the first one to cry 'Enough'.

As we came to the top of the particular climb our guides, the Mountain Rescue Team, decided that due to the weather conditions deteriorating they would call it a halt for the day. I tell you, I was at that time very relieved. Panting and gasping, I stood on level ground and breathed a sigh of relief. There was this pregnant silence as the announcement was made and we made our way back down to a place where it was possible to eat our packed lunches.

Within half an hour I was feeling much better, and wishing that the weather had been better. The conversation was flowing freely and laced with its usual humour. We all knew that Trevor was well and both Bill and Ray were being liberally lashed by that eloquent Welsh tongue.

Sunday. The bad weather continued so we decided, or rather the rescue team decided, that we should perhaps try out a little spell on the lake. When we arrived at the lakeside the wind was so strong blowing on to the shore, that this too was called off and so we retired to a rock face where we participated in the gentle art of abseiling.

Peter was strapped up like a dog's dinner

And down the cliff!



and disappeared slowly over the edge. One by one we all followed suit. For me it was a 'first' and once over the initial shock, it was a most enjoyable experience. My only comment was that the descent was not far enough. Those of us who wanted to were allowed the experience of climbing back up the rock face. We were roped up and under instruction all the way. Whilst it must be said that this was a very easy climb, I felt very good when my feet were back on the top. Though a certain Welsh voice, who will remain nameless, was quick to applaud my achievement in its usual manner.

All too soon the time passed and though by the standards of previous years this was not one of the best, I know that both Peter and I had a most enjoyable time. On Monday, those of us that stayed were taken to a local copper mine and then on to visit a very good museum. Everywhere we went over the weekend we were greeted like long lost friends. This goes a long way to illustrate to me the amount of hard work and good will that has been put in by Jock and his team. I am sure I speak for us all when I say 'Thanks' to all those who worked so hard to make this a most enjoyable weekend.

Braille Reform

by Terry Bullingham

I am pleased to inform St. Dunstaners that the Braille Authority of the United Kingdom, at its Annual General Meeting on June 13th, passed the following resolution:

'The Braille Authority of the United Kingdom recognises that the campaign to try to persuade Braille users in this country to accept 'New Contracted Braille' as a replacement for Grade 2 has failed, and that public opinion is overwhelmingly opposed to the introduction of 'NCB' as the standard literary code. Accordingly, in the belief that further expenditure of time, energy and money on the promotion of 'NCB' and associated activities would not be justified, the Braille Authority of the United Kingdom withdraws this code immediately and unreservedly, regarding the holding of a national ballot on the issue as no longer necessary.'

The Authority intends to shift the focus of its future effort towards improvement of teaching techniques and the promotion of Grade 1 as a 'tool' to improve the functional abilities of the elderly visually-impaired population. Development work is to continue towards the establishment of an advanced code for individuals who will benefit from such a code, for example, students, profession-

als, etc. It is stressed that when this code is eventually developed, it is in no way intended to supplant Grade 2 as the standard literary code for the United Kingdom.

Mark Kingsnorth has retired from the Authority as the second St. Dunstan's representative and Fred Ripley, of Wimbledon, has taken up his duties. I would like to thank Mark for his support during the campaign against 'NCB' and for his organisation of the recent Study Conference at Ian Fraser House. I would also like to thank our President, Colin Beaumont-Edmonds, and other St. Dunstaners who, by their behind-the-scenes efforts contributed to the demise of 'NCB'.

1989 SKIING TRIP

A skiing trip is being organised for March 1989. It is hoped that the resort will be in Les Deux Alpes in France, about an hour's coach ride from Grenoble. The trip will be open to anyone connected with St. Dunstan's, and those interested should contact Ray Hazan at HQ for further details.

TIGHT LINES

by A.C. 'Tiny' Pointon

July 18th saw the start of the second week of fishing from I.F.H., and we were fortunately blessed with much calmer weather than the windy first week.

First of all we went ten miles out, where we fished for those Scottish fish, MacKerels, with feathers. The uninitiated may be surprised to know that one can fish with feathers as a bait, but if the fish are hungry, they will take them. Perks and redgills may also be used, although the usual bait is either lugworm or strips of mackerel. In the first few days the mackerel were around in profusion, and my bucket was filled with fish even though they had been topped, tailed and gutted.

On the Tuesday Bob Forshaw decided to try bottom fishing and caught a very good plaice, and on the same day Jack Fulling caught a ten pound conger. On Wednesday we only caught enough mackerel to cut up and use as bait, but later, for the first time in my life, I caught a four pound bass. On the Thursday lucky Bob caught a very fine plaice. Talk again ranged over many subjects, but mostly we were looking forward to Arbroath later in the month. On Friday the weather had the last word, and a combination of strong wind and poor visibility caused cancellation. Still, soon be in Scotland. . . .

And soon we were, everything going like clockwork. Following an early start in the morning, we arrived in Arbroath at 4.30, where we were met by Bill Hancock, conveyed to the Condor, and allocated rooms. Being unreasonably cold, we retired to the bar for some 'anti-freeze' — we weren't doing any fishing on the Sunday.

On the Sunday morning we had a walk round the camp, and had a tour of the assault course with Jock and Peter, which brought back many memories, and the thought that had I been 45 years younger it would have been the ideal way of warming up. We later visited a local hostelry called 'The Lobster Pot', and most of us

were surprised to find that they do not close as they do (or did until very recently) south of the border, but they stay open all day with very convivial company.

Monday dawned bright and early — we breakfasted at 6.30 and left at 7.15, and were fortunate that it did not start raining until later in the day. Of course, we all waited until our chairman Fred Bentley had caught the first fish, and if you believe that excuse you will believe anything. We mostly caught codling, the biggest being taken by Sam Keeting, and weighing in at about 10½ pounds, but some coley, wrasse and even sea scorpions were brought in later. Dennis, the skipper and owner of the boat, and his assistant Alec, were delightful company, and the kettle seemed always to be on the ready for the next cup of tea, needed to wash down the excellent packed lunches provided.

The week progressed well, and Thursday was the best day, as far as both weather and fishing were concerned. We went out about ten miles in the strong sunshine, to the Bell Rock weather station, where with the flat and calm sea we had the best day's catch. The following day, when Vi's sister Irene decided to come along, it was overcast and a little bumpy. Most of our packing was done in the evening, leaving time for a relaxed breakfast the following morning before we all made our way home. This was my first time on such a trip, and I am looking forward to the next one already.

LONG CANE SCREECH ALARM

A long cane is available with a screech alarm fitted into the handle to act against attack. They can be obtained from the Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind at a cost of £15. The screech alarm can also be fitted to any length of long cane on request. The address for the Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind is: 47 Court Oak, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 9TG. Telephone 021 427 2248

A Moment to Spare with Syd Scroggie

I SAW YOU ON T.V.

St. Dunstaners who go in for foreign travel may know the Gem Box, a rather superior jewellers in Oban, Argyll, Scotland, and my wife Margaret and I had hardly got inside the door of this recently when one of the assistants, a nice looking girl as I like to think, hailed me as someone she recognised from a programme on television. 'Weir's Way' had not long before featured myself in the course of a trudge along the shores of a Highland loch, a programme in which, by the way, I got in a good plug for St. Dunstan's. Subsequently in Tobermory on the Isle of Mull my arm was touched by a chap in a kilt who was coming out of the Western Isles Hotel. I had my hand on Margaret's shoulder. 'Ah', he said; 'I see you haven't got Tom Weir with you this time.'

The sun shone over Mull, the skies were blue, ptarmigan croaked, and Margaret and I were high up on Ben More, at 3,169 feet the biggest hill on the island, when we were accosted by a chap who was also making for the summit. 'You're Syd Scroggie, aren't you,' he said; 'I saw you on T.V. with Tom Weir.' Photographs were taken, and Margaret and myself will forever feature in the family album of one who was then, and always will be, a total stranger. Bird watchers, as we learned later, spotted us through binoculars as we made our way up the hill, and it puzzled them partly that we should be going so slowly and partly that we should be so close together. Until the true nature of our relationship was revealed to them the bird watchers concluded that Margaret and I must be a couple of geriatric honeymooners.

It took us six and three-quarter hours to get up Ben More and down again, some two hours slower than the average, but a lad in Tobermory, one of the drinking fraternity, was so impressed by our performance that he said we deserved a medal. 'Wait a minute,' he said, 'I'll get you one:' and Margaret and I were left standing in Tobermory's main street, gulls crying, tourists elbowing past, 'til our friend returned. Presently I was wearing a 'medal', nothing to do with Ben More, but one struck this year to commemorate the bicentennial of Tobermory. Margaret and I have climbed some eighty 3,000 footers in Scotland and England. The question nags at us, will Ben More be our last?

Conference on Common Market and Disabled

A one-day conference on the European Common Market's policy towards disabled people takes place at the Imperial Hotel in Blackpool on October 20th. It has been organised by St. Dunstaner Eric Ward-Rowe with help from the Lancashire County Council in circulating potential delegates from Councils and Welfare Departments in the North and Midlands.

Two important officials from Brussels are attending. They are Mr. Edwin Fitzgibbon, chief of the European Social Fund and Mr. Bernard Wehrens, head of the Bureau for Action in Favour of Disabled People.

Eric Ward-Rowe is organising the conference for the Lancashire European Society for the Disabled, of which he is Chairman and founder, the Euro-Parliament all-party disability group and the charity Radar. His aim is to provide an opportunity for officials and voluntary groups to question the visiting speakers on the financial help their organisations give to training and employment schemes for the handicapped and for young people.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Syd Scroggie, of Strathmartine
1588 and all that

It was very nice of our chairman to describe the Spanish Armada as having been put to flight by the British navy, knowing as he does that it was the English navy and the English navy alone which took on the Spaniards on this occasion and won as decisive a battle as England ever did in her history. Sir Henry perhaps had his Scottish St. Dunstaners in mind, and knowing how prickly Scots are with regard to the English/Scottish business, bent over backwards in this instance so as not to offend Scottish susceptibilities. Actually we Scots are happy to acknowledge that the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 was an exclusively English achievement, this for the reason that Scotland was not united with England at this period, either as regards crowns or parliaments, so that there was not such a thing as a British navy, nor such a thing as anything British, this term only coming into existence with the union of the parliaments in 1707. Scotland had nothing to do with the defeat of the Spanish Armada, yet we admire England for what she accomplished on this occasion, and though it may be a bit on the late side we hereby congratulate her on a by no means inconsiderable victory. Bad weather, it must be conceded, was a prime factor in Philip II's ignominious defeat, and only last month, gazing over Tobermory Bay in the island of Mull, my wife Margaret and I were looking at the grave on one of his storm-battered galleons.

Dear Sydney
You are, as usual, quite in order
To make your point about 'The Border'
Relating to that great defeat
Of the Armada (Spanish Fleet).
That was 400 years ago
But still sets English hearts aglow.
True Scotsmen did not give a damn
(So busy knocking back their dram?)

So thank you for your generous thought
On history as it should be taught.

Henry Leach

From Alf Bradley, of Northwood,
Middlesex.

It was with a considerable sense of relief that I read in a note from the R.N.I.B. that the proposed reform of the braille code had been discontinued.

Thankfully, it appears that the strength of feeling against such a renewal, had persuaded the Braille Authority that this was not in accordance with the majority of readers.

May I take this opportunity while the subject is still open, to say that I have a deep sense of gratitude to that great company of braille teachers, transcribers, and proof readers, who by their dedication and patience, have given to us such a wealth of material which has proved so helpful for work and pleasure over so many years. Your work has kept open for us a whole world of literature, and a field of communication, the true and lasting value of which you may never know. Thank you.

Welcome to St. Dunstan's

On behalf of St. Dunstan's, we welcome a St. Dunstaner recently admitted to membership and the Review hopes he will settle down happily as a member of our family.

R.A.F. Lamb, of Waltham Abbey

We welcome Mr. Ronald Arthur Frederick Lamb, of Waltham Abbey, who joined on August 17th.

During the Second World War, Mr. Lamb served as an Aircraftman 1st Class in the Royal Air Force, from January 1941 until his discharge at the end of 1946. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese in Singapore, and his captivity included periods in Java and Sumatra. In civilian life, Mr. Lamb was employed by the Ministry of Defence as a storeman, until he reached retirement age.

Our St. Dunstaner is 68 years of age, and is married with two married daughters.



Scotty Wilson at Bob Young's funeral.

THE SCOTTISH SOLDIER

The sound of 'The Scottish Soldier' played on the pipes resounded through the Chapel of the Woodvale Crematorium in Brighton on July 7th. It was the funeral of a much respected St. Dunstan of the First World War, Bob Young. The piper was Scotty Wilson; the tune, one of three of Bob's favourites Scotty played. The others were 'The Dark Island' and 'Happy We've Been A' the Gither'. The last was played as Scotty left the Chapel and marched away through the trees that line the path in the Crematorium grounds.

It was a poignant moment for the congregation who had gathered for the service conducted by St. Dunstan's Chaplain, The Reverend Michael Bootes. David Bell made a warm and simple tribute to Bob and another old friend, Harry Wheeler, recited Binyon's famous lines: 'They shall not grow old ...'

Among St. Dunstaners, family, friends and staff were: Mrs. May Harrower, Bob's niece and her son, a serving soldier, Mrs. Sally Moran, and Mr. Bill Reed.

HUNDRED KILOMETRE WALK

Following several requests, and the experience gained during the Pilgrimage earlier this year, I am organising a 100 kilometre (60 mile) walk over 4 days in May of next year. Accommodation will be based at IFH, with walkers being bussed daily to the start of the average 15 mile walk along the South Downs Way. My thanks to Ray Sheriff and his walking escort, Jim Wild, who have planned the following route.

- Day One: Cocking to Amberley, Amberley to Washington.
- Day Two: Washington to Upper Beeding, Upper Beeding to Pyecombe.
- Day Three: Pyecombe to Lewes, Lewes to South Ease.
- Day Four: South Ease to Alfriston, Alfriston to Eastbourne.

The way is clearly marked. There are no stiles, and though the going is generally good along a bridle way, there will be a steep climb every day. It is essential, therefore, that walkers and their escorts are fit. For this reason, I shall ask for a medical certificate nearer the time. Walkers will be expected to participate on all four days, and to provide their own escorts.

The walk will take place from Tuesday May 23rd until Friday May 26th. Because of prior commitments, married accommodation will not be available until May 22nd. Would anyone who is seriously interested please contact me by November 30th, as numbers may have to be limited. I shall then confirm places and send out an accommodation booking form.

R.L. Hazan

Bowling

The English Nationals at Plymouth

by Ted Brown

After being at home for about six days, just long enough to clean the windows, cut the grass and do the garden, it's time to do the packing again. It's nearly as bad as being in the army again. People used to say as soon as you got home, 'when are you going back?' Now, it's 'When are you going away again?' Or 'How long are you home for this time?' It makes you feel like a criminal.

Ian Fraser House is the most convenient place to meet when we are going on a tournament, and so it was here that we all met again for the annual English National Tournament, which was held at Plymouth, Devon.

We had a marvellous journey, and arrived in good time with very little discomfort. On arrival it was so nice to see a happy smiling face after a long journey. This was Audrey Perfect's welcome at the hotel. During the bowling week she provided other titbits such as strawberries and cream and ice cream. On behalf of all the bowlers and their wives I would like to thank Audrey for all the work she did, and her husband, John, for putting up with it.

Our hotel at Plymouth was just one street away from the Hoe itself, and after dinner we went and explored along the Hoe, looking at the preparations for the 400th anniversary of Drake and the Armada. On the Sunday morning we all went to the War Memorial where Bob Osborne assisted by myself laid a wreath on behalf of the English Association of Visually Handicapped Bowlers.

The National Tournament was opened by the Mayor of Plymouth on the Sunday afternoon. Unfortunately there were not too many spectators, probably because we were so far away from the town. We were, in fact, in the 350 acre park right next to the Plymouth Argyle Football Ground.

Most of the competitors had already played at Weston-Super-Mare, with the

exception of Leicester, and one or two from Suffolk. Nevertheless, the tournament was keenly contested, and the standard was as high as usual, and St. Dunstan's came away with three trophies. I'm sure if Johnny Cope hadn't been taken ill, it would have been more. Hurry up and get well, Johnny. Congratulations to all the bowlers, though, everybody did well in both tournaments.

Before leaving, we went for a stroll along the Hoe, where my wife took some more photographs of Drake and other interesting places and scenery. We then joined the others for a farewell drink. It was a quiet and pleasant journey back, and we arrived in the mid afternoon, which gave everyone a chance to settle down for the last night before returning home.

The people I would like to thank are too numerous to do individually, but I would like to begin by thanking all at Headquarters for all the help they have given us this year, and all the domestic staff at Ian Fraser House. Thanks also to all the wives, who must almost go off their heads on occasion, but who manage to take everything in their stride. Thanks a million, girls. Thanks to Sue Reynolds and her staff for their help in so many ways. I would also like to thank Commander Conway and his staff on behalf of all the bowlers, wives and helpers, for all the help you have given us this year. Also thanks to Major Neve for all his help when he is left at the helm. Last but not least, thanks to the drivers that took us to Weston-Super-Mare and Plymouth, and to David, for making the long journeys tolerable with your whistling and impersonations, and all the help you gave — always in the right place at the right time.

I would like to end by wishing everyone success in the future, and may the trophies keep rolling in.

Tape Magazine for Computer users

A new magazine is available on cassette which will be of interest to all visually handicapped computer users. The magazine will be called *The Whistler* — the voice of Dolphin Systems. Although the main thrust of the journal will be on the use of PC's accessed by Dolphin speech and large display systems, there will also be articles based on other computers. The magazine intends to critically review hardware and software, as well as some of the more popular shareware packages. News and views from readers will be included, and this should provide a forum for both beginner and expert alike.

The Whistler will be produced quarterly in September, December, March and June of each year, and will be supplied free of charge. For your copy please send a good quality C60 cassette to the address below. The cassette should be sent in a postal wallet, with your own address on the reverse side of the card (postal wallets may be purchased from the RNIB; Catalogue number PO 19475 — concession price 70p). Please note that inferior cassettes or other packaging methods cannot be accepted.

The Whistler
15 Park Close
Cossington
Bridgewater
Somerset TA7 8LG

The Whistler's editor is David Calderwood, who is well experienced in this field — five years ago he started the VDU group with its popular tape magazine *Computer Talk*. He now intends to bring the same light to bear on the PC in the new magazine as he did on the BBC with *Computer Talk*. Any enquiries to David should be addressed to Dolphin's office at PO Box 83, Worcester, WR1 2RN.

CHAPLAIN'S TRAVELS

The Chaplain of St. Dunstan's, the Reverend Michael Bootes, left Brighton in September to become Vicar of a parish in Barnsley, Yorkshire. He would, of course, be glad to see any local St. Dunstaner in the area.

ST. DUNSTAN'S AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY WEEKEND

23rd/24th July, 1988

by Trevor Phillips, GIBH

The most recent meeting of the Society was held at Ian Fraser House on Saturday morning, July 23rd 1988. In the absence of our Chairman, Bill Shea, G4 AUJ, the chair was taken by Alan Reynolds, G3 VRI. A total of 18 members attended, amongst whom were Glyn Shoesmith, GW0 JGN, and Mrs. Shoesmith, who were at Ian Fraser House for the first time, and also David Bell.

Our Secretary, Ted John, G3 SEJ, reported on the new antennas to replace those damaged during last October's hurricane and said that owing to the building work now being carried out, it was not yet possible to erect them. As to the proposed trip to the Isle of Wight, only four names had been submitted prior to this meeting and so the trip had to be cancelled. In view of the many arrangements that had to be made, both by the Secretary and others on these special occasions, it was made clear to the meeting that the next proposed trip, to Dieppe next July, should not be firmly arranged until sufficient numbers are interested. Anyone who is interested should contact Ted John as soon as possible.

The lecture in the afternoon was given by one who is well known in the world of amateur radio, no less than Louis Varney, G5 RVS, who gave a thoroughly enjoyable talk on the Early History of Wireless. As he had been associated with Marconi in the 1930's, it was very interesting. Louis also mentioned such pioneers as Faraday, Lodge, Hertz and Morse.

Preceding this lecture, a lunch was held in the Winter Garden, at which John Brandhuber, G4 PDY, was made an Honorary Life Member of the Society in recognition of his support and practical assistance to the Society and its members. A bouquet of flowers was presented to Tiny Pointon and his wife, Jean on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

Our thanks to Mr. Conway and all the staff for making this such a very pleasant

weekend. The next meeting of the Society is at Ian Fraser House on Saturday October 15th, 1988, and it is hoped that we have a good attendance. The speaker in the afternoon will be Mr. Tom Douglas, M.B.E., on 'Clandestine Radio on the Burma-Siam Railroad'.

6th B. Evans and V. Barker	49%
7th K. Pacitti and R. Pacitti	47.4%
8th W. Allen and L. Evans	47%
9th R. Godwin and C. Sturdy	39.5%
10th M. McMillan and A. Clements	34%

July 2nd Individuals

1st Bill Allen and Bob Evans	61.4%
3rd Jim Padley	59.1%
4th Bill Phillips	56.8%
5th Mrs. Pacitti	54.5%
6th Reg Goding	51.1%
7th Miss Stenning	50%
8th Bob Fullard	45.5%
9th Ralph Pacitti	43.2%
10th Miss Sturdy	42%
11th Wally Lethbridge	39.8%
12th George Hudson	35.2%

CLUB NEWS

BRIGHTON CLUB — BRIDGE

1st R. Fullard and B. McPherson	67%
2nd J. Padley and P. McMiller	58%
3rd A. Dodgson and M. Heyling	55.5%
4th W. Phillips and Mrs. Goodlad	55%
5th W. Lethbridge and R. Goodlad	50%

FAMILY NEWS

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Miss Denise Bates, daughter of Mrs. Brenda Rea, of Rottingdean, on obtaining her M.A. in Politics and Administration from the University of London.

Mr. Terry Bullingham, of Aberdeen, who has now gained his Certificate of Qualification in Social Work, and has returned to his post with the Grampian Society for the Blind.

Mr. Arthur Carter, of Bolton, who was invited to take part in the Royal Commonwealth Bowls Tournament for the Blind, and who won all seven of his matches in the Singles All Comers competition.

Mr. John Hamilton, son of Mrs. J. Hamilton, and the late Mr. F. Hamilton, on achieving his H.N.D. in Hotel, Catering and Industrial Management.

Mr. Iain Ratchford, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bumby, of Manchester, on obtaining his B.Sc Honours Degree in Biotechnology at Leicester University.

Miss Sally Ward Best, grand-daughter of Mrs. D.I. Ward-Best, of Totnes, who has obtained a B.Sc. Honours degree in Pharmacy from the University of London.

Mrs. Judy Womack, daughter-in-law of Mrs. Muriel Womack, widow of the late Mr. Cyril Womack, who has recently qualified as a pilot.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to:

Mr. Edward Watson, grandson of Mrs. Irene Watson, widow of the late Mr. Edward Watson, of Barrow-in-Furness, on his marriage to Sharon Hing on May 27th.

Mr. Lee Wilkinson, grandson of Mrs. H. Wilkinson, widow of the late Mr. Christopher Charles Wilkinson, of Hull, who was married to Miss Janet Storr on June 15th 1987.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Henman, of Hove, who celebrated their 68th Wedding Anniversary on August 21st, with a luncheon party at Ian Fraser House.

SILVER WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. G. Durrant, of Drifffield, North Humberside, on the occasion of their Silver Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated on July 25th.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. G. Cock, of Rawdon, West Yorkshire, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated on September 3rd.

Mr. and Mrs. S.K. Fletcher, of Tooting, on their Golden Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated on September 4th.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Messenger, of Warley, on their Golden Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated on August 6th.

RUBY WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. E. Farrant, of Torquay, on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated on July 3rd.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Patterson, of Birkenhead, on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated on August 21st.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Shaw, of Gosforth, on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, which they celebrated on August 7th.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Tingay, of Peacehaven, on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, on September 4th.

GRANDCHILDREN

Congratulations to:

Mrs. V. Calcutt, widow of the late *Mr. H.A. Calcutt*, of London, on the birth of a granddaughter, Sarah Jane, on September 24th 1987.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cox, of Bristol, on the birth of a sixth grandchild, Hayley Louise, born on July 30th to their son, David, and daughter-in-law Jackie.

Mr. George Durant, of Goring-by-Sea, on the birth of a third grandchild, Rachel Ann, to his daughter, Jill, and her husband Colin Hemington, on August 22nd.

Mr. Sidney Jones, of Saltdean, on the birth of a third grandchild, Sarah Louise, born on June 20th to Brian and Elizabeth Jones.

Mrs. Dorothy Hoare, of Gillingham, widow of the late *Mr. Henry Charles Hoare*, on the birth of a great-grandson, Benjamin James, on July 26th, to grand-daughter Tracy and her husband Steve Hannam.

Mr. George Roake, of London, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Katy Georgette, born on July 30th to his son Brian and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Shallcross, of Farndon, near Chester, on the birth of a grandchild, Alastair James, on August 12th, to their son John and his wife Jane.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Wheeler, of Wembley, on the birth of their first great-grandson, Arron Paul, born to Joanna and Paul Shannon, on March 5th.

DEATHS

We offer sympathy to:

The family of Mrs. Minnie Martin, widow of the late *Mr. John Martin*, of Alverton, Penzance, who died in Poltair Hospital on June 27th.

The family of Mrs. M.E. Bendel, widow of the late *Mr. A.F. Bendel*, of London, who passed away on July 2nd.

The family of Mrs. Olive Bowcott, widow of the late St. Dunstan *Mr. Ernest Bowcott*, of Kingthorpe, Northampton, who passed away on August 5th.

The family of Mrs. Caroline M. Brooke, widow of the late *Mr. George Brooke*, of Holmfirth, Yorkshire, who passed away on July 9th.

The family of Mrs. M. McCairn, widow of the late *Mr. Lauchlan McCairn*, of Birkenhead, who passed away on August 15th.

The family and friends of Mrs. Olive Evans, widow of the late *Mr. Albert Evans*, of Newport, Gwent, who passed away on July 1st.

The family of Mrs. Mildred Daly, widow of the late *Mr. Owen Daly*, who died in June.

Mr. A. Dugdale, who mourns the death of his wife, Margaret, who passed away on July 1st.

Mrs. J.E. Gifford, of Gillingham, widow of the late *Mr. A.A. Gifford*, whose brother passed away on May 29th.

The family and friends of Mrs. Gladys Greaves, widow of the late *Mr. Colin Greaves*, of Leicestershire, who passed away on June 23rd.

The family and friends of Mrs. E. Lidbetter, widow of the late *Mr. G. Lidbetter*, of Brighton, who passed away on March 10th.

Mr. A. Luxton, of Black Torrington, on the

death of his last surviving brother, Samuel John, who passed away on August 16th.

The family of Mrs. Rose Peacey, widow of the late *Mr. Percival S. Peacey*, of Saffron Walden, who passed away on August 8th.

Mr. Albert Pollitt, of Eccles, near Manchester, on the death of his brother, Stanley, who passed away on July 29th.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Price, of Loughborough, on the death of their eldest daughter, Peggy, who died suddenly on August 9th.

The family of Mrs. Florence Steel, widow of the late *Mr. Norman McLeod Steel*, of Chichester, who died on July 25th.

The family of Mrs. Rose Woods, widow of the late *Mr. Walter Woods*, of Walthamstow, who passed away on July 13th.

The family of Mrs. Winifred Tappin, widow of the late *Mr. Reginald Tappin*, of Ruislip, Middlesex who died on August 2nd.

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.

G. Baker, Royal Artillery.

Mr. George Baker, of Birkenhead, died on July 4th. He was 68, and had been a St. Dunstaner for just a few months.

Mr. Baker joined the Royal Artillery as a gunner in 1939, and served until he was taken prisoner in Malaya in 1941. After being released at the end of the war, he worked as a labourer despite being afflicted by some tropical diseases. These illnesses took their toll later in life, and Mr. Baker retired early. His eyesight began to fail after this, and at the beginning of this year he joined St. Dunstan's.

A widower, Mr. Baker leaves a large family, to whom we send our condolences.

A. Lincoln, Cheshire Regiment.

Mr. Alfred Lincoln, of Neston, Wirral, passed away on July 3rd after a short illness, aged 89.

He had joined the Army in 1915 just before his 17th birthday, and served with the Cheshire Regiment until his discharge in 1919, having been injured by mustard gas the previous year.

His sight began to deteriorate much later in life, and he joined St. Dunstan's some 30 years later.

After his discharge from the Army, Mr. Lincoln worked until retirement age in the Engineering Department of the G.P.O., although when he joined St. Dunstan's he spent a short time at Ian Fraser House where he quickly picked up braille, typing and some hobby crafts. Following retirement from his job, Mr. Lincoln spent much of his time looking after his garden and greenhouse, and was also very fond of music.

Mr. Lincoln leaves his widow, Doris, to whom he was married for 66 years. They have three sons. We send our sympathy to all the family.

J. Miller, Straits Settlement Volunteer Force.

Mr. Joseph Miller, of Lochmaben, Dumfriesshire, passed away on July 17th, aged 86. He had been a St. Dunstaner for just over a year.

Mr. Miller practised as an architect until the outbreak of the Second World War, when he

In Memory *continued*

served with the Straits Settlement Volunteer Force, in Malaysia. Unfortunately, like many other people in the same area, Mr. Miller was taken prisoner almost immediately, and by the end of the war he was not in very good health. In spite of this he was able to resume his profession as an architect, and was also a gifted painter. When he retired, and his eyesight deteriorated, Mr. Miller spent much of his time at the piano, which he played by ear, and he also did a little gardening.

Mr. Miller leaves a widow, Helen, to whom he had been married for 47 years, and a son and daughter. We extend our sympathy to all of the family.

W.K. Taylor, Royal Engineers.

Mr. Ken Taylor, of Liverpool, passed away at Pearson House on July 4th, aged 68. Mr. Taylor joined St. Dunstan's in 1987.

Soon after the beginning of World War Two, he joined the Royal Engineers, and served in the Middle East until his discharge in 1946. Following his discharge from the Army, he worked for as long as possible as a radial arm driller, but took early retirement owing to health problems.

Although not well, Mr. Taylor did visit Ian Fraser House recently, where he increased his mobility skills, and learned some cookery.

Mr. Taylor had no family, but our sympathy and thanks go to Mrs. Patricia Wilkinson who was such a good friend to him.

H.J. Turley, Royal Artillery, Pioneer Corps.

Mr. Henry James Turley, of Peacehaven, passed away in hospital on August 7th, aged 65. He had been a St. Dunstanian since 1982.

Mr. Turley enlisted at the age of 19 with the Royal Artillery, and later changed to the Pioneer Corps. He was wounded at Luneburg in Germany in 1945. Prior to losing his sight he was a keen billiards player, and on joining St. Dunstan's, took up various hobbies with enthusiasm, such as picture framing and toy making. He participated in the 1987 War Pensioners' Homecrafts and Art Exhibition where he won a Merit Award.

Mr. Turley recently celebrated his birthday with a party held locally which was greatly enjoyed, and he will be sadly missed by his friends, and staff at Pearson House. He leaves a sister, brother-in-law and nephew, to whom we send our condolences.

W.H. Williams, Royal Army Medical Corps.

Mr. William Hugh Williams, of Bromley, passed away in hospital on August 9th following several years of ill health. He was 84 years of

age and had been a St. Dunstanian for only five months.

During World War Two our St. Dunstanian served as a Staff Sergeant in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Although wounded in 1942 during the invasion of Madagascar, he was not discharged until 1945 and in civilian life was able to work as a telephone engineer and subsequently as Manager of a shoe-shop. During this time, he designed a surgical boot which was used by the Army. However, the sight in his remaining good eye was deteriorating, and with additional health problems he had to retire when he was 62 years of age.

Mr. Williams suffered a severe stroke four years ago and was consequently confined to a wheelchair. He was devotedly cared for by his wife, Mary, to whom he was happily married for almost 37 years.

He leaves a widow and a son, David, to whom our condolences are extended.

R. Young, 1st Black Watch.

Mr. Robert Young, of Dorking, passed away at Pearson House on July 3rd, aged 89. He had been a St. Dunstanian since 1919.

Mr. Young enlisted in the 1st Black Watch at the age of 16. He was wounded in Givenchy in 1918, losing an arm as well as an eye, and became a P.O.W. for the remainder of the war. At St. Dunstan's he trained as a poultry farmer, and went to Canada for a short time in the early 'twenties. In February of 1924 he joined the Appeals Department of St. Dunstan's, and during his 41 years on the staff he lectured extensively at home and abroad. He wrote a vivid account for the *Review* of his tour of the West Indies in the winter of 1940, a round trip of 12,000 miles. On his retirement in 1964, Lord Fraser thanked him for presenting the story of St. Dunstan's to so many people in his very attractive way.

Although he had to give up the more energetic sports in his retirement, if ever an event was to be commemorated he would be there, or a comment to be made he was ready to supply it. He continued to enjoy travelling, and after his trip to Mauritius in 1971 he lectured to the Commonwealth Society and wrote another interesting article for the *Review*. Under the pseudonym of 'A veteran camper' he also recalled memories of Camp Lee, the original Lee-on-Solent Camp.

His wife, Catherine, accompanied him on his travels, and in 1984 they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Sadly, she died in November last year and he became a permanent resident in Pearson House. He will be greatly missed by all in St. Dunstan's.