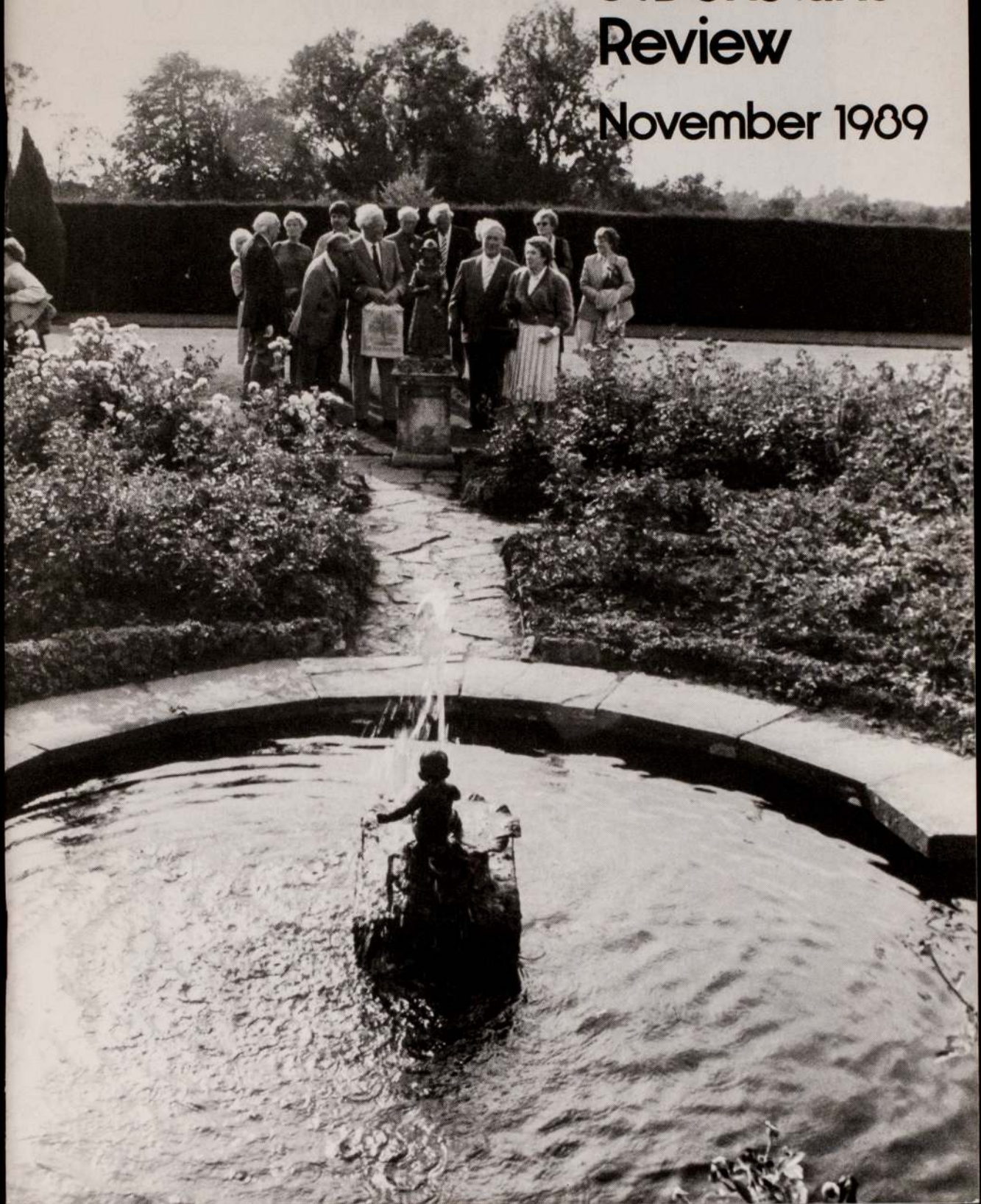


St Dunstons Review

November 1989



12-14 Harcourt Street,
London W1A 4XB

10p MONTHLY

Free to St. Dunstaners

NOVEMBER 1989

CONTENTS

Physiotherapy Conference	4
Welcome to St. Dunstan's	7
H.M.S. Daedalus	8
Black Madonna	12
Letter	13
Handless Reunion	14
Balancing the Books	19
Bowls Championships	20
Archery Week	22
Gardening	23
Club News	24
Family News	25



Cover Picture: Some of the members of the Handless Reunion in the garden at Bateman's.

From the Chairman

Following so soon after the 50th anniversary, in September, of the outbreak of the Second World War, Remembrance Sunday this year has an added significance. In addition the Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall falls on 11th November, Armistice Day at the end of the First War. So it is appropriate that The Royal British Legion, organisers of the Festival, have decided to invite representatives of ex-service organisations to bear their standards in the opening muster.

St. Dunstan's standard will be borne by St. Dunstaner, Ray Sheriff, a paratrooper blinded at Arnhem, and his sighted escort will be Chief Petty Officer Peter Westbrook of the Fleet Air Arm, an old friend of St. Dunstaners through some twenty years at Daedalus Camps and escorting St. Dunstaners in walks and sports. Meanwhile in Cardiff three St. Dunstaners, Norman Hopkins, George Pennington and Trevor Tatchell, will be filling the same role at the Wales Festival of Remembrance in Cardiff.

It is appropriate and a great honour that our standard should be paraded at these events and we are proud of our representatives.

* * *

I am very sorry to report that, for family reasons, Sir David Muirhead has retired from St. Dunstan's Council. He joined in July 1981, not long after his retirement following a distinguished career in H.M. Diplomatic Service. Sir David served with the Beds. and Herts. Regiment in the Second World War and afterwards joined the Foreign Office. In the later years of his career he was Her Majesty's Ambassador to Peru, Portugal and Belgium. We have profited from his contributions to the work of the Council and he will be remembered by the many St. Dunstaners he met at Reunions.



NOTICE BOARD



CORRECTION

In the October *Review* the names of Roy and Pauline French, of Port Shepstone, South Africa, appeared in the Ruby Wedding Anniversary section of Family News, when they should have been in the Golden Anniversary section. We also printed Ray, instead of, Roy, as Mr. French's name. We send our profound apologies to Mr. and Mrs. French for both mistakes.

75th ANNIVERSARY WALK

We are hoping to repeat a project similar to the South Downs Way walk in honour of St. Dunstan's Anniversary next year. The walk will be a 2 tier, 5 day walk commencing Monday 23rd April, 1990.

Those who wish, can cover 75 miles, 15 miles daily, others can do 75 kilometres, or 10 miles daily. Accommodation will be at Ian Fraser House, and the walks will take place locally, though they are still in the planning stage.

Will those interested please write to Ray Hazan at HQ. There is no commitment required at this stage, but it would help to have some idea of numbers.

REPAIRS TO LOUNGE AND DINING ROOM AT I.F.H.

Repairs to the lounge and dining room are scheduled to commence at Ian Fraser House from January 8th, 1990. The work which will last four weeks will cause some disruption to the daily routine. To minimise the time taken to complete the job, work will proceed every day over the four weeks. However, like the Windmill, we will not close, but intending visitors should be aware of the problems they will face.

BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION LIFE MEMBER

Congratulations to Bill Griffiths who has been appointed a Life Member of the National Burma Star Association.

SPONSORED WALK, 1989

As a result of the South Downs Walk in May this year, a total of £8,767 was presented to HASICOM. This is truly a magnificent effort and HASICOM users thank all those who took part and who gave so generously.

JOTTA DEMONSTRATION

Mr. Woolfson of Pathfinder will be demonstrating the 'Jotta' at Ian Fraser House at 4.30 pm on Saturday, 18th November, as part of the computer weekend. Anyone in the Brighton area is cordially invited to attend. They do not have to have 'signed on' for the weekend itself.

The Jotta is an electronic notebook with braille keyboard input and speech/printer output. Come along and learn more about it.

TOILETS FOR DISABLED

The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation has proposed a national key scheme for public toilets for disabled people. These toilets would be kept locked and available only to key holders. Brighton is one of the towns participating in the scheme so that their disabled toilets are now locked. Keys cost £2.50 and are available from the Community Liaison Officer CCU, Department of Technical Services, Bartholomew House, Bartholomew Square, Brighton, BN1 1JP.

The keys will fit toilets in any other town in the U.K. which is in the scheme. A list of these can be obtained from RADAR, 25 Mortimer Street, London, W1N 8AB.

ADDITIONS TO CASSETTE LIBRARY

The following has been added to the library:
G45. 4 x C90's. The Upstart Gardener.

PHYSIOTHERAPY CONFERENCE

The 1989 Physiotherapy Conference opened officially on Saturday 30th, September at Ian Fraser House but informal proceedings began earlier than that in the Annexe on Friday evening. There physios and their wives or escorts met for an evening of chat, a buffet and music provided by Desco Recordings, whose chief executive is well-known in the physiotherapy world.

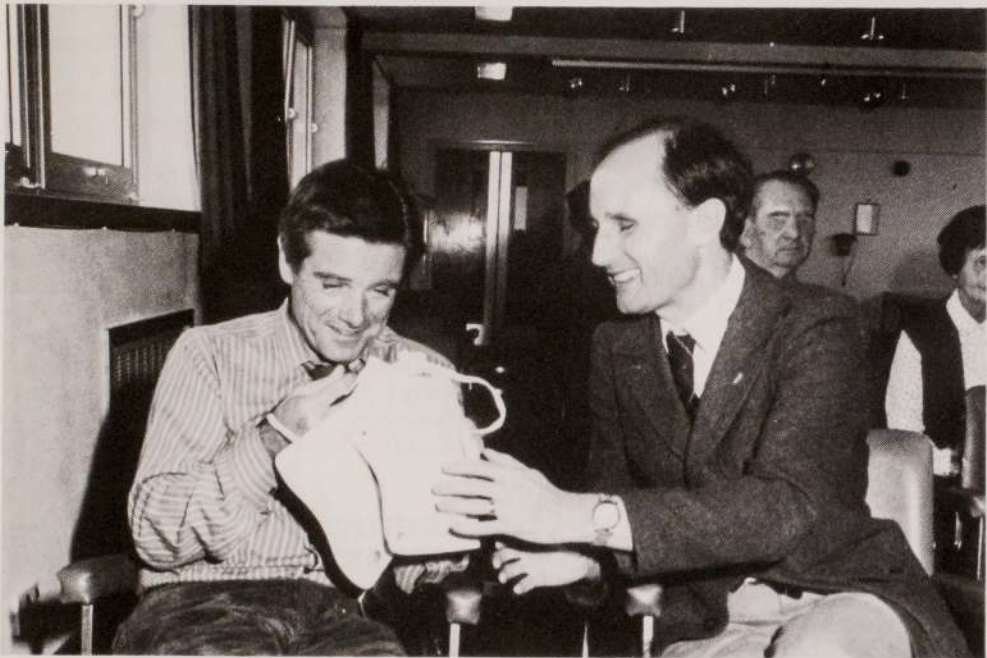
Serious business began at 9.15 on Saturday morning when the Chairman of the Physiotherapy Advisory Committee, Des Coupe, opened proceedings welcoming all members and with a special word for Barbara Bell, the only lady physiotherapist present. The Meeting stood in silent tribute to the memories of the late Jock Inness and Bernard Purcell, whose deaths occurred during the year, the memories of past colleagues and Sir Arthur Pearson and Lord Fraser of Lonsdale.

The Report of the P.A.C. was unanimously adopted and the Chairman paid tribute to the work of his colleagues on

that Committee. Three members of the Committee had reached the end of their terms and were due to retire. The Meeting re-elected them all: Messrs. Coupe, Foster and Tetley. Later Des Coupe and Mike Tetley had a further vote of confidence from the P.A.C. when they were re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively. Before the end of the meeting Miss Celia Flach, Librarian of the North London School of Physiotherapy, came in to answer questions on the future plans for the library with particular reference to the needs of post-graduate students and practitioners. There were many questions and Miss Flach's answers gave great encouragement for the future.

This was the beginning of a most successful conference from the professional point of view as each of the speakers made interesting and informative presentations. The first was Mr. D. Stevens, who spoke on 'Combined Movements'; Mr. M. Cassidy's subject was 'Tricks of the Trade: technology lends a hand' and in the after-

Alan Wortley and Mike Cassidy examine a Swedo Ankle Brace brought by Miss Lesley King.



Cliff Morgan speaking at the Conference dinner. Enjoying the joke are Des Coupe and Mike Tetley.

noon Miss Lesley King, from the Crystal Palace Sports Centre, spoke on 'Sporting Injuries'.

Mike Cassidy is Chairman of the Association of Blind Chartered Physiotherapists with which the St. Dunstan's committee is working in increasingly close co-operation. In his opening words he had warned that blind physiotherapists must aim at the highest standards: 'We have to meet the changing professional needs and to allow for optimum care for the patient. In an increasingly competitive world a lower set of standards would not be compatible with survival of the visually impaired individual in the profession. Is modern technology supporting our clinical needs? I would say on the whole that it is.'

In the course of his address he explained some of the uses to which computers and other technological equipment could be put and he urged those blind physiotherapists who had experience of them to share their knowl-

edge with others: 'Some people can't handle one piece of equipment, they might find another one much more easy. It is up to those who do have an interest in it, who do know about it, to be able to advise others and to help them to choose the piece of equipment most suitable for them.'

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, Chairman of St. Dunstan's and President of St. Dunstan's physiotherapists, accompanied by Lady Leach, attended the final dinner. The guest of honour was the broadcaster and former international rugby player, Cliff Morgan, who spoke amusingly and sincerely as he covered a number of subjects from his miner father and his friends among the miners in the Welsh valleys to some of the incidents and stories of the international rugby field. He concluded with a tribute to St. Dunstaners and to St. Dunstan's itself. Afterwards there was dancing and a crowded floor paid its tribute to the fitness of physiotherapists and their wives.

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.

Mr. Joseph Collins, of Welling, who joined on September 7th, 1989.

Mr. Collins served as a Private in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry from May 1922, until December 1926. While in India, he lost the sight of one eye and since then the vision in his other eye has deteriorated. Mr. Collins who is 86 years of age worked for the Gas Board until retirement age.

He has been married to his wife, Mabel, for 61 years and they have one son and two daughters.

Mr. Vincent Charles Garner, of Wallington, who joined on September 7th.

Mr. Garner served as a Rifleman in the Kings Royal Rifle Corps, from April 1939, until his discharge in August 1945. He took part in the landings in Europe and was wounded in September 1944, losing his left eye as a result of gunshot wounds. Over the past few years, however, the sight in his remaining eye has gradually failed.

In civilian life, Mr. Garner owned his own garage and service station for many years. He has been married to his wife, Ruby May, for 41 years.

Lt. Col. Walter George Hingston, O.B.E., of Ramsbury, Wilts., who joined on September 25th.

Lt. Col. Hingston served in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and 1st Punjab Regiment from January 25th, 1925 until he was invalided out in 1945. His overseas service included periods in Nigeria, India, Egypt, Eritrea and Ceylon. After leaving the army he worked in the department of Scientific and Industrial Research and was awarded the O.B.E. He later edited the English Geographical Magazine.

He and his wife, Elizabeth, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary this year.

Clarence Thomas Rogers, of Helston, Cornwall, who joined on September 7th.

Mr. Rogers, who is 82 years of age, served as a Sergeant in the Royal Air Force from 1939 until his discharge in 1945. While working at a U.K. radar unit in 1943, he was injured and lost the sight in his right eye. The vision in his remaining eye deteriorated over the years.

After the war, Mr. Rogers worked in the Public Relations Department of British Rail, rising to become Chief Public Relations Officer for British Rail's Western Region, until his retirement due to ill-health.

Mr. Rogers has been married to his wife, May, for 51 years and they have two married daughters.

A WORD OF THANKS

from **John Brown**

I wish to say thanks to all St. Dunstaners, their wives and staff for your gifts and good wishes. I shall miss all the lads, especially, Geoff Bunting, Ted Brown, Ted John, Tom Taylor, Arthur Holmes, Percy Stubbs and Uncle Tom Cogley.

CORRECTION

In the obituary of the late J. Roberts, of Leeds, which appeared in the August *Review*, we stated that Mr. Robert's age was 79, when in fact it was 69. We apologise for our mistake, and again send our sympathy to his widow and family.

AN EYE-OPENER

Ken Revis writes!

One Friday in June, I was lunching with a lady at Ian Fraser House when Dot came up to the table and said, mischievously, 'Ken you have had a pretty lady to lunch every day this week!'

I replied, 'You're wrong there, Dot, I didn't lunch with a pretty lady on Tuesday or Thursday.'

The 'Wednesday lady', after a tour of the building, lunch and a cool drink under a sunshade on the undercliff at the bottom of 'St. Dunstan's Steps', returned home and told her husband, 'I've had a wonderful day — and St. Dunstan's is an absolute eye-opener.'



The successful Pearson House Team line up with their chariot.

THE GREAT KEMP TOWN PRAM RACE

by Sisters Maureen Looney and Maryella Geary

As the bells of St. Georges Church, Kemp Town, Brighton, chimed midday, the judging of the Great Kemp Town Pram race commenced. The judges, two Consultants from Sussex Eye Hospital, walked up and down the serried rows of assortedly decorated prams and iron beds drawn up in the car park of the Sussex Eye Hospital.

The team from Pearson House held their breaths and eyed the entrant next to them — a likely winner? A bath fitted with a running shower on a wheeled base complete with occupant! The day was warm and sunny as we waited nervously for the judges' decision, finally it was announced — we'd done it! Success to Pearson House their wheelchair, brilliantly decorated to resemble a Roman chariot — Ben Hur style by master craftsmen, Derek (Bomber) Bangs and Jim Faithful.

The chariot was crewed by leading charioteer Sister Maureen Looney, and two out-runner Roman Guards, Nursing Orderlies, Paul Stewart and John Ward, all brandishing wicked looking swords and whips. The humble slaves pulling the chariot were House Orderly, John Howel, Sister Maryella Geary and Nursing Orderly, Ian Bruce Merrie and his fiancée, Mandy Graham. Two bottles of cham-

pagne were awarded to an elated team delighted at their success, especially as it was their first attempt at the Pram Race which was held to aid local charities.

Then the 'off' was sounded and dozens of prams, beds and variously bedecked and assorted wheeled vehicles started to race around the course calling at fourteen local pubs en route for liquid refreshments, quite a quantity of which seemed to be thrown over us, not to mention flour, water and eggs — a rather sticky mixture. Our collection bucket began to fill, for the object after all was to collect money for charity, the Sussex Eye Hospital and Montague House, a local Day Hospital for disabled people.

Pearson House's total to date is over £200, the team all being generously sponsored by their work-mates, family and friends and of course St. Dunstaners. A good day was enjoyed by all, a friendly though competitive spirit prevailing. Our thanks to everyone who helped out before and during the event, including of course St. Dunstaners, Bob Fearnley and Ernie Brown who bravely stood at the official stop outside Pearson House to give out half pints of beer to the competitors. A precedence having been set, we look forward to taking part again next year.



Harry Wheeler presenting Diana Hoare with a glass bowl on her retirement. Also in the photograph is Harry's faithful 'dog', Alan Price.

H.M.S. DAEDALUS — St. Dunstan's Camp, 1989

By Fred Sunderland

What a year of memories and commemorations 1989 has been. It is 50 years since the outbreak of the Second World War, 50 years since *H.M.S. Daedalus* was commissioned and 45 years since our first camp. Friday August 11th, saw the start of this year's annual camp at *H.M.S. Daedalus*, Lee on Solent. Jos Callum was the only newcomer amongst the 29 St. Dunstaners attending. We arrived on a hot sunny day around 4 p.m. and were met by our 'dogs' with a welcome cuppa. Cabins were allocated and after our first meal of the week, we all assembled in the P.O.'s Mess to hear the programme for the week, roll call and any other information from Elspeth.

Our first task would be to start training our 'dogs' to walk obediently to heel. Because of a further anniversary — 20 years since British troops first went to

Northern Ireland in an effort to keep the peace, security was very strict and we were all issued with passes and checked in and out when we went ashore. However, this did not inhibit our enjoyment, although it did seem that not so many local folk were able to come and join us in the evenings. We spent our first evening in a get-together in the W.O.'s and P.O.'s Mess where the new President, W.O. Dennis Day, welcomed us warmly. We greeted old friends and met new ones over a friendly beer or two. And so to bed.

Saturday morning dawned bright and sunny but with a stiff little breeze. August 12th, but this is no time for grouching, now who is going to ride that big tandem I see leaning against the wall? It is the day of the traditional walking race around the airfield perimeter. There are a motley

collection of entrants, knee length socks, track suit bottoms — what a sight it is. Stan Tutton with his 'dog', Andy Westbrook, both dressed in identical brilliant green Bermuda shorts. Just before the off, however, that tandem reappears ridden by the First Trainer, Joe Gough, his wife riding pillion. They do a lap of honour, the whistle blows and the race is on.

Many rides on the tandem

Were taken at random.

But during the week,

Now was it a stunt?

I saw a blind man riding up front.

In the afternoon the bowlers took off for Southampton where a pleasant time was spent in the company of the Mayfield Park Bowling Club, who presented us with a club shield for IFH. In the evening a most pleasant social was held in the W.O.'s and C.P.O.'s Mess where we had the opportunity of meeting Captain Chris Esplin Jones and his wife. The Captain was leaving next day for France, where he was to pick up a Dartmouth yacht full of mid-shipmen and sail them home to Dartmouth, so it was the only opportunity we had of meeting him and we were delighted he was able to join us.

As usual on Sunday morning we had a rousing ecumenical church service in the chapel, taken by the Chaplain, the Rev. Bernard Clark, assisted by Chaplain Mark Farris, of the U.S. Navy. Prayers were said for the eight campers who died in June, and for Fred Livermore, who had died only a few days earlier. Following the service we all adjourned to the wardroom lawn where we posed for the camp photograph. Commander Squiers and his officers then entertained us in the Wardroom to coffee and drinks and we spent a most enjoyable hour or so chatting with our host. For the fearless the afternoon was spent gliding in the skies above the Solent and for the skilful (and not so skilful) it was archery. As usual the archers were given a right royal welcome by the Gosport Bowmen, who as always were wonderful hosts, hospitable, encouraging and infinitely patient.

Sunday evening was spent in the P.O.'s Mess. This is always a delightful evening, Eric Vassie, the President and his Committee did not disappoint us. Their gener-

osity and hospitality was unbounded, each St. Dunstaner being presented with a splendid raffle prize. The music was extremely pleasant, the dancing energetic, the food delicious and the atmosphere convivial. On this same day around lunch time at a certain 'watering hole' in Gosport there was to be a jazz session featuring would you believe it, 'The Solent City Stompers' and a certain B.F. was invited on to the stage to join them, borrowing one of their instruments he began to play. The customers were agreeably surprised. All royalties go to the B.F., who is of course our own, Bob Forshaw. Good luck, Bob.

Titbits from the dining hall:

Setting down the plate the 'dog' tells his charge, meat 12 o'clock, peas 3 o'clock, cabbage 6 o'clock, potatoes 9 o'clock. Then seeing the look on the face of the St. Dunstaner asks. What's the problem? Back comes the reply. 'But I can't tell the time.' The woman at the end of his table is making a bit of a clatter with the cutlery. 'Are you laying the table', asks the blind man. 'No sir, just counting the spoons', comes the reply.

On Monday the fishing is cancelled owing to heavy seas and the budding anglers join us aboard the coach bound for Gosport where we take the ferry, Solent Enterprise, for our cruise to the Isle of Wight. Half way across we 'splice the mainbrace' and if the Navy gets the gravy, well their 'grog' gets you groggy. As we disembark from the ferry at Cowes, I hear the following remark from a lady with a strong Lancashire accent. 'Ee there's a lot them about', and from the small child accompanying her, 'Mammy, are all the men in the Isle of Wight blind?' Armed with packed lunch bags we set off for the Cowes Royal British Legion where we are warmly welcomed by the Chairman, Jimmy Higgins, and his wife, Bonnie. After lunch and several drinks to lubricate our vocal chords we are accompanied on the organ to a rip-roaring sing song. Returning to the ferry we make our way back to Gosport safely without losing anyone and we have had a very good day. After supper we relax in the W.O.'s and C.P.O.'s Mess for a musical evening.

Tuesday is sports day, and the fun

begins at 9 a.m. There is discus throwing, javelin, shot put, medicine ball and goal kicking. We have four teams; the Raging Bulls, captained by Terry Bullingham, Hague's Horrors, captained by Charlie Hague, the Athletic Architects, captained by Don Planner and the winners, the Happy Heiffers, captained by Bill Hefferman. A cautionary note. One of our ladies crossing the sports field happened to glance behind her and was horrified to see that she was being pursued by a fast moving javelin. She took to her heels and on reaching the other side gasped. 'I've never run so fast in my life.' The moral to this story is, beware of blind men carrying javelins! The bowlers spent their afternoon playing bowls at Fort Rowner, and if you were not a bowler, there was swimming in the sumptuous pool at *H.M.S. Collingwood*. After the swimmers returned they had a cuppa in the foyer, they were joined there by the new Mess Manager, who said, 'When I heard that St. Dunstan's were coming and that they would all have dogs, I thought, where on earth am I going to get all that dog food from!'

In the evening we are invited to a dance and social in the W.O.'s and C.P.O.'s Mess, at *H.M.S. Dolphin*, the submarine base at Gosport, we all had a wonderful time. Peter Moon presented a vast number of prizes for the raffle and then encouraged the Mess members to take tickets. Some £130.00 was raised, which was most generous. A wonderful spread was offered to us and we enjoyed a really good evening. Some energetic souls took themselves to the beach for an early morning swim on Wednesday, the bowlers spent the greater part of the day on the greens, while others went swimming. Golf and skittles at *H.M.S. Dryad*, had to be cancelled, but this was more than made up for with the mystery car drive. The team I was with did not win, but I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Also on Wednesday afternoon, Elspeth took a small party off to Brighton to go to Fred Livermore's funeral which took place in the chapel at I.F.H. Fred's eldest son, Jim, gave a touching tribute to his father and Harry Wheeler gave the exhortation. The burial took place in the St. Dunstan's plot at the top of the Downs and ended with the sounding of the Last Post.

They then had an opportunity of meeting many of Fred's family at Pearson House. That evening we had a date at *H.M.S. Sultan*, a new environ. The wives and families of the W.O.'s and C.P.O.'s mixed and chatted with us and made us very welcome. Then more dancing, a few drinks and lots to eat, now where did I hear those words before?

On Thursday the sea is calmer and the fishing is on. Unfortunately, the fish were having a day off and the only catch was a half pound mackerel caught by Bob Forshaw, but they all returned happy. However, those left behind had been invited to lunch in the Senior Ratings Mess, at R.N.H. Haslar, which was another new experience and proved extremely pleasant and friendly. At 7.30 p.m. came another big event of the week, the prize giving ceremony, presided over by Commander Squiers with Mrs. Squiers giving out the cups, trophies and medals to the lucky winners. The results are as follows:

Saturday morning walking race

Stan Tutton's name appears once again on the cup. Well done Boyo!

Denny Deacon Veteran's Cup Stan Tutton
Charles Stafford Cup for fastest loser

Don Planner
Bridget Talbot Novice Cup Ray Hazan

Handicap

Gold Medal Stan Tutton
Silver Medal John Gilbert
Bronze Medal Don Planner

Times

	Handicap	Actual
Stan Tutton	19.40	24.40
John Gilbert	20.01	22.01
Don Planner	20.35	21.35

Archery Shields presented by Gosport

Bowmen

Semi-sighted Bob Forshaw
Totally blind Tom Whitley
Novice Arthur Carter

Fishing

Bob Forshaw

Bowls

Singles Mansell Lewis
Bob Mills Pairs Cup Alan Duffy and Tom Whitley

Daedalus continued

Mystery Car Drive

Kath Riley Trophy
Braille Reader Bill Shea
Driver Ian Sheriff
Writer/navigator Jan Sheriff

Tuesday Sports Day Results

Goal Kicking

Semi-sighted Charlie Hague
5 goals in 4.56 seconds.
Totally blind Terry Bullingham
5 goals in 5.30 seconds.
Sheila McLeod Cup for best beginner
Jos Callum

Victor Ludorum Cup

Semi-sighted Don Planner
Totally blind John Gilbert
Team event Happy Heiffers
Team leader Yvonne Rixon
Team captain Bill Hefferman
Team members: Arthur Carter, Norman Walter, Jesse Mills, Bob Forshaw.

When the wonderful array had been dispersed, we were all sorry to hear the sad news from Elspeth, that Maisie Streets, our Treasurer, had decided that she was no longer fit enough to join us, the first time for some 40 years. We will miss you Maisie, and wish you a very happy retirement and we do hope that the rose bowl we have for you will serve as a reminder of your happy days amongst us. We were further told that Diana Hoare had also decided to retire. Diana has been a regular camper since 1932, and she will be sadly missed by us all.

Harry Wheeler, our oldest camper then presented a lovely glass bowl to Diana as a token of our love for her. We shall miss them very much, and wish them both a very happy retirement. A vote of thanks to the Captain, Commander and the Ship's Company was then gracefully proposed by our newest camper, Jos Callum. Ray Hazan proposed a toast to the Mess Presidents, Trainers, Field Gunners and 'dogs'. His was a very witty speech and included a couple of funny anecdotes. The Commander then made a short speech wishing us

all well in our future camps at *H.M.S. Daedalus*, but said that next year he would be retiring to Hobart, Tasmania, and would remember us with affection. Ted Jones now sprang from his chair and amidst lots of laughter announced himself as 'uninvited Guest Speaker', thanked the Commander, all *H.M.S. Daedalus* personnel, Field Gun Crew, 'dogs' and all other staff for a wonderful week, and said how much we in St. Dunstan's appreciated what had been done for us.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to a social in the W.O.'s and C.P.O.'s Mess. A conversation overheard in the Mess between two St. Dunstaners went like this. First St. Dunstaner: 'This St. Dunstan's is a wonderful organisation.' Second St. Dunstaner: 'Yes, I know, but what do you mean?' First St. Dunstaner: 'Well I said to them, I know I can't see, but there is nothing wrong with my feet. I can walk, all I need is an arm to hang on to, so they gave me one — the Fleet Air Arm!'

As for the rest of the week, Friday dawned bright and sunny and since I had not been for an early walk or swim I decided not to break my rule, so I stayed in bed a bit longer. Around 10.30 a.m. we boarded the now familiar coach and headed for the Kings Head, at Wickham. We ordered our lunch the day before and were booked to play a game of bar skittles. Now a game of skittles can never be the same when the opposing team is the 'dolly bird' staff of M.S. Bell & Partners, Insurance Brokers, at Wickham. The gifts of wine and white rum were generously donated by the landlord towards the Friday night raffle almost gave them victory. However we were not corrupted by this gesture. Hard luck girls, but we won fair and square, although I must admit that you were a very 'fair cop!'

In the evening the grand farewell dance was the last function of the week. Everyone had a late night, or should I say early morning. On Saturday morning we had an early breakfast before boarding our coaches and heading for home. I must say once again that we had a super week. Thank you once again *H.M.S. Daedalus*. I will just say goodbye to all my friends, and if you are wondering who I am, well I'm the little fat one.

THE BLACK MADONNA OF JASNA GORA

in Czestochowa, Poland
(pronounced Yasna Gora — Chestohova)

by Dr. Stan Sosabowski

I was fortunate enough to receive from Poland, a copy of an ancient religious painting which was executed by a young artist who is rapidly rising to fame. My wife, Anna, and I have decided to present this to St. Dunstan's Chapel in Ian Fraser House. In the following article I will try to sketch a brief history of the original painting and its significance for Poland and all Poles.

The documented history of this painting begins in July 1384. The Governor of the Polish South Eastern Province, bordering on the Principality of Russ with its capital of Kiev (this principality was then under the political and religious influence of the Byzantine Empire) brought this painting to the town of Czestochowa and presented it to the newly founded monastery. The presentation coincided with the arrival of the relics of St. Paul the Hermit, brought from Venice, via Hungary, to Jasna Gora and left in the charge of the monks.

The painting itself was a copy of the original sixth century icon of the Madonna which was hanging in one of the churches in Constantinople. Besides the original black Madonna, it is known that there were a few more copies painted between the sixth and tenth centuries. One of them is still in existence — the lesser known White Madonna of Snobs. The original icon perished in the fire in 1453, when the Ottoman Turks took Constantinople and sacked the city.

In the year 1430, the monastery was invaded by a band of marauding outlaws who stole all the church vessels, stripped the painting of its precious stones and severely damaged it. The St. Paul monks took the profaned painting to Krakow, then the capital of Poland, and asked the King, Wadyslaw II for his help. The Cypress wood on which the canvas was stretched was smashed in many places and

the painting itself was badly hacked. The King asked for the help of the Byzantine artists. After many attempts they only partly succeeded in its restoration. The Polish monarch then asked for assistance from his friend the Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. The artists were sent, probably from Italy, and completed the full restoration of the icon, leaving the two scars on the right cheek of the Madonna to commemorate the sacrilege which had been committed. The result was the happy reunion between medieval Byzantine art and the early Western Renaissance style.

Legend is very often mixed with history. It was believed by some that the scars on the painting secrete droplets of blood when the country of Poland is in mortal danger. Some people believe that the cypress wood of the painting is either the top of the table on which the last Supper was served, or from the table in Nazareth belonging to the Holy Family. According to legend, the painter was supposed to be St. Luke the Apostle.

Charter

King Wadyslaw II asked the Pope to grant a special charter to the monastery of Czestochowa, according to which Jasna Gora was to be a place of pilgrimage with special dispensation of sins. This request was granted. Before returning to its place in Jasna Gora, the painting was crowned for the first time with the crown of gold. From then onwards, the painting hung in the church and was periodically renovated, notably in 1702. The painting was crowned for the second time in 1910; this was a gift from Pope Pius IX. In 1921, after the resurrection of Poland, the painting was renovated once again. The Madonna has seven different mantles made of gold and silver and decorated with numerous precious stones. These mantles are not only the gifts of devoted pilgrims but they also serve to protect the paint against the elements.

The Black Madonna is also known in Poland as the 'Mother of God, the Queen of the Polish Crown'. For the last six hun-

dred years this picture has symbolised the great reverence of the whole Polish nation towards the Virgin Mary. For centuries the Kingdom of Poland was part of the Western Christian Church, with its head the Bishop of Rome — the Pope. Throughout these centuries Poland stood as a first line of defence against invading hordes from the East: Mongolians, Tartars and Ottoman Turks. The image of the Black Madonna was embroidered on the banners of the fighting knights, as well as engraved on the breast-plates of their armour.

In the year 1655, the fortified monastery was besieged by the invading Swedish Army under King Carolus Gustavus. The monks and soldiers resolutely defended the holy place; it was said then that the Madonna took special care of her shrine. The Swedish King gave up the siege, resulting in a spontaneous uprising in Poland. The Swedish Army was defeated and the rightful King, John Casimir, returned to his throne. In the year 1683, the Polish knights under King John III (Sobieski, maternal grandfather of Bonnie Prince Charlie — Charles Edward

Stuart) defeated the Ottoman Turks at the Battle of Vienna. The Emperor Leopold had begged the Polish King to come to the relief of the city of Vienna which was under siege by Mohammed IV. The Turkish Army was completely destroyed and some people believed that the Black Madonna took special care, helping in the victory.

Again in 1920, the Bolshevik hordes were defeated at the Battle of Warsaw and had to return to where they came from. It is believed that the Black Madonna helped the defending army to victory. People even called the Battle of Warsaw 'the miracle by the River Vistula'. It has been said by some that the image of the Black Madonna had been seen hovering above the advancing line of Polish infantry.

Even at this moment, when there are efforts to establish Poland as a Christian Independent Democratic State, the eyes of the whole Polish nation are turned to 'Jasna Gora' and many people believe that by her influence the Madonna may fulfil the wish of the whole nation.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From D. H. Patterson, Tulse Hill, London

I was surprised and delighted to receive Mr. Weisblatt's letter and the cheque. What pleased me most was that I had been remembered by the St. Dunstaners and their wives who I had visited or had been in contact with for so many years ago. It gave me a very warm feeling and I hope to meet many of them before I 'fade away'.

As I eventually will want to move into smaller premises, I have given most of my possessions away, either to my family or various charities, and although the home has a spartan appearance, it is still very comfortable and easy to look after.

Retirement has been easy for in that I was able to immediately become more involved in the hobbies that I was already interested in and enjoyed so much. Holidays present no problems, as one can go at

the 'drop of a hat' at bargain prices. I have been on quite a few this year with one more next week, mostly Sequence Dancing Holidays and fishing. My lifestyle follows the same pattern as before, swimming every morning, snooker before lunch, Modern Sequence Dancing afternoons and evenings. This may seem a very 'hum drum' existence, but I get a great deal of pleasure from it.

The *Review* is an excellent magazine for us 'oldies' as it keeps us in touch with what is happening in the organisation, and I make a point of reading it at my leisure on my return from swimming with a nice tot of Strathisla 30 year old single malt to keep me company. Highly recommended.

Once again thank you to all my friends among St. Dunstaners and their wives.

HANDLESS REUNION 1989

by Ted Miller

On the evening of Thursday 21st September, once again the Handless Reunion Members and their escorts met, this time, in the Winter Garden for a lovely supper party, before our Chairman, David Bell and our President, Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre gave us more details of the programme of events that had been planned for us. We were sorry that John and May Proctor were not with us. John has not been at all well lately, but hoped to attend our final dinner on Monday. Our usual friends were present. Our Vice-President, Air Vice-Marshal Colahan, (Ted to us) and his charming wife, Ann, and Miss Mary Stenning who is always a great help to us all.

We all had our orders to be on the coach the following morning by 10.00 o'clock for our visit to Bateman's, Rudyard Kipling's home at Burwash. Bateman's lies south of the village of Burwash in the valley of the River Dudwell, which is a tributary of the River Rother, and runs between the villages of Etchingam and Heathfield. The house is built of local sandstone and the date over the porch, 1634, is almost certainly the year in which it was completed. Jacobean houses of this date are wholly English and are representative of our finest form of domestic architecture.

Little is known of the earliest history of Bateman's, but in 1902, Kipling, then living at Rottingdean, purchased the house and a year later, Rye Green. In 1905 he bought Mill Park Farm and Dudwell Mill thus increasing the estate to 300 acres. Kipling lived at Bateman's until his death in 1936. He was survived by his wife for three years, and it was she who left the house, its contents and the estate to the National Trust as a memorial to her husband.



Ted and Iris Miller at Bateman's.

We were met at the house by Colonel Hislop, an administrator of the National Trust Properties, whom we had met last year at Chartwell, and Major McGivering of the Kipling Society, Mrs. Hislop, Mrs. Symonds, our three guides and Mr. King, the chief guide. After coffee and a little talk by Major McGivering we were divided into three parties and our tour of the house began.

There is much of great interest to see, and much to learn, and the enthusiasm of Mr. King and his guides has made my wife and I very keen to read more of Rudyard Kipling, he must have been a very exceptional man. One little story of this great man was of a young lad who wrote to him, asking him to write an article for his school magazine. Kipling admiring his check agreed, but said it would cost him 6d as he never did anything for nothing, and in the Exhibition Room today is the 6d cheque that the young man sent him.

We had a lovely lunch, served by a delightful staff. They had all volunteered to work that day, as had all the staff, and after lunch was finished, Tommy Gaygan gave the vote of thanks from us all for a really lovely tour and meal.

Before we left the restaurant, Mr. King was asked if he would read a few lines of Kipling's famous poem "If" for us. He willingly obliged and read the whole of it and it was very moving.

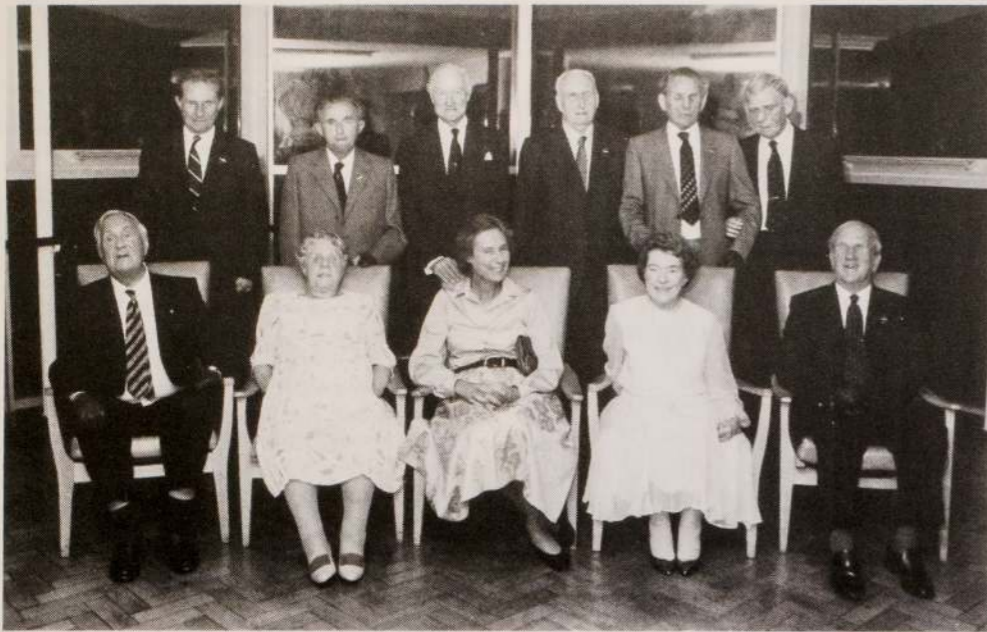
Our visit did not end there, as after our meal we were invited to see the gardens, and Mr. Allen Chapman the gardener showed us the lake, rose gardens and the herb garden. It was all so friendly, and thank you all for making our visit such a delightful one.

On Saturday morning, after breakfast, we departed for Brighton Marina Village. I for one was wondering what on earth we were going to do there, but once again I was most pleasantly surprised. We were met by Paul Simpson, the Harbour Manager, and in the Marina office we were told of the development of the Brent Walker Marina Village.

The Marina is Britain's largest. The two breakwaters made up of 110 caissons, each equivalent in height to a four storey house, enclose a total area of 126 acres, providing easy accessible berthing for up to 2,000 boats.

St. Dunstaners and escorts listen intently to the Guides description of a bedroom.





St. Dunstaners with the Chairman and Lady Leach at Ian Fraser House: (Front row l. to r.) David Bell, Winnie Edwards, Gwen Oborn, Bill Griffiths, (back row) Wally Lethbridge, Joseph Loska, Ted Miller, Tommy Gaygan and John Proctor.

After much thought she said it reminded her of stories of the Arabian Nights, with its Eastern design, which is as far as we got, but with good food and very congenial company, we were a very happy party that arrived back at Ian Fraser House in time for a little get-together and a drink in the Annexe.

On Sunday morning, after attending Morning Service in the chapel, we boarded the coach for Wadhurst for lunch with Mr. and Mrs Michael Reid (past High Sheriff of East Sussex) a good friend of us handless St. Dunstaners.

We were met by Mr. Reid and his friend Mr. I. Usler when we arrived at Wadhurst, but did not leave the coach as we were then escorted to Bewlbridge Reservoir where we were going to have a trip around the 'Lake' before returning back to Wadhurst for lunch.

Bewlbridge Reservoir is the largest inland lake in South East England with a total water area at top level of 770 acres. Built between 1972-1976 it is part of the Southern Water Authority's River Medway scheme, by which parts of Mid and North Kent are supplied with water.

Our boat arrived late as the skipper told us he had had trouble starting the engine, but we were soon all aboard for a very leisurely trip at 6 knots. We were given a very good description of the activities and recreation opportunities for young and old alike and told of the wild life and fishing, which includes a good stock of rainbow and brown trout. The biggest pike caught there up to date weighed 42 lbs. There were one or two groans when we were told that our boat was built in 1908 and had spent much of its working life on Loch Lomond, but it did us proud and got us safely back to the bank where there was plenty of mud due to the fact that the water level was 21 ft. below normal owing to our exceptionally dry summer.

Back at Wadhurst, with many apologies from us all for arriving late. Our hostess and her helpers immediately made us most welcome and started to serve us a delicious lunch which we were all ready for. It included a lovely apple pie and a chocolate roll dessert which was much appreciated. Billy Griffiths gave the vote of thanks and presented our hosts with a

St. Dunstan's plaque and Winnie gave a small gift to Mrs. Reid. Our thanks to all of those who made our trip such a memorable one.

On leaving this lovely old farm house Mr. Reid told us about his fine 'Sussex Cattle', a breed rarely seen outside of Sussex, but very similar to the Devon breed.

Later on in the evening, back at Ian Fraser House we had some light refreshments and drinks up in the Annexe before going to No. 10, (not Downing Street) David Bell's abode to end a very pleasant day with little quiet community singing!

On Monday morning, as is the usual practise we all met up in the Club Room at 10.30 for a discussion among ourselves before our meeting in the afternoon with Headquarters staff. This gave our wives and escorts an opportunity to do any little jobs they might want to do. As Audrey and Sybil were going to Peacehaven to do some special shopping Sybil kindly offered to drop my wife and Joseph's wife, Clare, off at the nursing home where they were able to spend an hour with Peggie

Brett. She was very pleased to see them and told them she had seen Alice, Gwenie and some of the other wives the day before. But it is sad to remember how much fun she was when she was able to be with us all with Dickie.

At about 7 o'clock we were due to arrive in the Winter Garden for the closing dinner at 7.30. We were all pleased to see that John and Mrs. Proctor had managed to make it and pleased that John sounded more like his old self.

David Castleton arrived as usual with his camera, called all the 'Handy Andies' together for a group picture with the Chairman of St. Dunstan's, Sir Henry Leach, before we sat down to the final dinner.

Our principle guest was Lady Mountbatten and we felt very honoured to have her with us. Our other guests for the evening included Sir Henry and Lady Leach, Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs. L. R. Ramsey Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Reid and his friend Mr. I. Usler, our good friend Dr. Fletcher, Col. and Mrs. Hislop, Mr. and Mrs. Ingram, Mr.

Lady Mountbatten, speaking at the dinner, amuses Bill Weisblatt, Sybil Bell and Bill Griffiths.





Winnie Edwards makes a presentation to Mrs. Ann Colahan.

Weisblatt, Mr. and Mrs. Castleton, Miss Mosley, Mrs. Armstrong and Miss Stenning, Major Neve and his assistant, Sue, also joined us. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone.

After our Chairman, David, had said Grace dinner was served and here I must congratulate all the catering staff on another excellent meal. I was called by our President, Mrs. Elizabeth Dacre, to give the Loyal Toast after the meal was finished and she then called upon Sir Henry Leach to welcome our special guest, The Rt. Hon. The Countess Mountbatten of Burma, who, in her reply told us of her visit to the Royal Marine Band School the day before and of the tragedy of it all. She of course knows only too well, the horrors of these bomb outrages, she and her family having been the victims of one. The vote of thanks was then given by Air Vice-Marshal Colahan, our Vice-President.

David Bell then called on Gwennie and Winnie to present a little gift to Lady Mountbatten, and our special friends, Mrs. Dacre and Ann Colahan. There was also a little thank you gift to Sybil and Miss Stenning who do so much work for us. The evening ended with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' at around 10.00 o'clock.

The weather was very kind to us throughout the long weekend and everyone was most helpful.

I should like to thank Major Neve and all his staff, including our driver, Mike, and of course all the staff at Headquarters for all the help they always give us.

I am sure we all agree it was a most enjoyable Reunion.

AN INVITATION IN VERSE from Mr. Ronald King

*Come down to Bateman's in the Sussex Spring;
A thousand Daffodils on Dudwell's verge
Turn to the sun, while Alders whip and fling
Fresh budded branches to the breeze's urge
Meeting the season's call.*

*Come down to Bateman's under Summer sun
When drowsy cattle seek the grateful shade,
And pebbled shallows break the Dudwell's run
While lilting birdsong — free and unafraid
Echoes from bush and wall.*

*Come down to Bateman's when the Autumn gold
Is splashed with spendthrift hand on every tree;
When freshening airs foretell the winter cold
And woodland floors that sparkle frostily
Welcome the leaves' soft fall.*

*Come down to Bateman's when December cold
Creaks in the trees by Dudwell's swollen flood;
When leaded snowclouds send their flakes to fold
A softening blanket O'er the gaunted wood
Binding the Winter's thrall.*

Balancing the Books

by Ted Bunting

Anna Karenina

Author: Leo Tolstoy

Reader: Judy Franklin

Duration: 36 hours

Catalogue number: 5458

It is said that a man once claimed to have read this very long book in less than ten minutes. "It's about Russia", he declared.

And indeed it is. There is scarcely any aspect of 19th century Russia which is not included in it, whether it be the land and the climate, the agriculture and the wild animals, or practically everything concerning the population.

But above all else, "Anna Karenina" is about human nature: the fact that the events described are chiefly set in Russia, is almost coincidental. Every emotion which humans are capable of is explored in great detail, and transmitted to the reader with near-perfect accuracy. There is jealousy and greed, bravery and cowardice, there is hatred, malice and spite, and most important of all, there is love. There is the love of a mother for her child, the love of a son for his father, the love of a saintly girl for all mankind, and the all-consuming passion of a love affair that must ultimately end in destruction.

It seems to me, that Tolstoy wrote this great novel in an attempt to discover the essential meaning of human existence. Certainly he places his characters in every conceivable condition, from poverty to luxury, and from robust health to terminal illness.

"Anna Karenina", has been called "the greatest of all novels". It wasn't me who so described it, I hasten to say, and I wouldn't

expect anybody to take my word for it even if I had. I do recommend that everybody should find time to read it though, because once read, it is not likely to be forgotten again. In any case, a bit of "culture" will do you a power of good.

* * * * *

Lord of the Flies

Author: William Golding

Reader: Trevor Lucas

Duration: 8.5 hours

Catalogue number: 4721

The chances are that you've already heard of "The Lord of the Flies", even though you may not yet have read it. Perhaps like me, you've heard it described as "a latter-day classic", and thought that that was reason enough for asking for it.

Well, I'll not go so far as calling it a "classic", but this story of a group of boys forced to fend for themselves on a deserted island, is certainly as full of mystery intrigue and tension, as any tale you ever read in the good old "Boy's Own".

However, I wouldn't recommend anyone to try to read more into the yarn than it actually contains; I wouldn't, for example, try to find philosophical or religious truths between the lines. Read the book by all means, its simple language and continuous action makes it quite entertaining and enjoyable, but the novel's central theme, that human beings are primitive savages under the surface, is no "big deal" really, because, let's face it, you've only to travel London's tube trains at rush hour to be quite aware of that!

Visually Handicapped Bowls English National Championships

by Ted Brown

By the time this article appears in the *Review*, all outside bowling will have finished, but what a season it has been. It never ceases to amaze me, the weather that is. At the start of the year we had most unusual weather, we brought all our heavy clothing to Weston-super-Mare only to discover it wasn't needed, the first time in years. That seemed to set the pattern for the rest of the outside bowling season, and the English Nationals were no exception.

The tournament at Skegness is usually accompanied by strong winds, earning it the title 'Windy Skeggy'. But the bowlers who went there nine years ago must have been pleasantly surprised. Not only did the sun shine most of the time, but it was carnival week as well, not that we had much time to join in during the day. Through the generosity of the East Lindsey District Council we were able to have the tournament played on three adjoining greens, which meant that play could go on continuously from the Sunday afternoon.

On Saturday, August 12th, the competitors started to arrive, some by bus, some by rail and others by private transport. Unfortunately, we were all split up this year, as accommodation was hard to get due to the carnival. But the usual clubs were available at night for anyone wanting to go and have a get-together and a sing-song. I'm sorry I didn't have much time to meet people before the opening ceremony, as I was engaged in a meeting with the groundsmen and staff from East Lindsey District Council to make sure everything was in order. On Sunday morning at an executive meeting I met some of the local bowlers who were giving their time during the tournament.

As Chairman of the English National Association of Visually Handicapped Bowlers I made a short speech welcoming everyone to the tournament, especially those who were participating for the first

time. I then introduced the Mayor of Skegness, Councillor Ken Hollond, he welcomed everyone to Skegness and assured everyone that he and his staff would see that the tournament was a great success — he was right. He then went onto the green, threw the jack down and delivered two bowls, declaring the tournament open, and wishing everyone a good and sporting contest.

Early Start

The competitions started at about 1.00 p.m. The reason for starting that early was twofold. Firstly the Mayor had other engagements, and the other reason was we had to get two periods on Sunday afternoon to keep the programme up to schedule. Most of the singles matches started on the Monday, and all of the 18 greens were occupied all the time until the finals which were all played on the centre green. Although the greens were a little inconsistent in the running the standard of play was very high. No bowler got used to playing one way as the strings were changed around every day, and as the days went by the greens got faster which meant a lot more concentration was needed.

The tournament came to a close late on Friday afternoon, and I would like to congratulate all those bowlers who were successful. Believe it or not, this is the first tournament that St. Dunstan's have not won some sort of trophy, but I assure you it was not through bad play as some matches went to the last bowl to decide the winner. We shall come back fighting next time!

All competitors, wives and friends had the facilities of all the clubs made available to them every night, but two nights were really special. The first, held in the Embassy Leisure Centre Theatre, was on Wednesday night, when we were guests of the Mayor of Skegness, and the East Lindsey Tourist Board, what a night it turned out to be, quite a change from the usual

shows that we have been to. We were all seated at tables which were arranged on floor-space right in front of the stage. There was waiter service for everyone who required a drink during the performance as well as during the interval. This was the best show for a visually handicapped audience I've ever seen, I'm sure everyone enjoyed it.

There was a surprise to come at the end of the show. We all went into the large dining room where wine and snacks were served, and to end the evening off the whole staff and the stars who took part in the performance came and introduced themselves to us before they packed up and made their journey to Blackpool, where they were performing on the Saturday night. I don't know who felt worse the next morning, them or us. I say us because we were playing three periods a day, and believe me that makes you more than tired.

On the Friday evening came the presentation of trophies and mementos. This was held in the Pavilion Ballroom, this again was a bonus for us because it was the night the Skegness Beauty Queen received her cheque. Several other people

who worked on the carnival were introduced to us. This was another duty the Mayor performed in his very packed week. The Mayor and all connected with the tournament expressed astonishment at the standard of bowling and sportsmanship. Votes of thanks were voiced by several members of the Executive Committee, especially for those on duty in the tournament office. Special thanks were extended to Mrs. Margaret Jepson, who is President of Lincolnshire Ladies Bowling Association, who did so much hard work during the tournament. She also volunteered to be the official umpire throughout the week.

Unfortunately, some of the St. Dunstan's team had to leave early, I didn't mention it at the presentations, but I did inform the newsletter which you should have received by now. I thought you might like to know that the prizes were: for the ladies, cut crystal champagne glasses, while the men received pint glasses with the category in which they played engraved on them, also engraved was the Skegness Jolly Fisherman. So until the next tournament, good bowling everyone.

Return to Graye Sur Mare

Alex Pecket recalls his experience of 'D Day'

On the Monday, four of us decided to go over the route we took 45 years ago, although this only related to two of us, my former officer, Peter Reeve, and myself. My son, David was driving, so Peter Reeve had the unique experience of being driven over the same route as 45 years ago by a second generation Pecket.

Everything was much the same as it was in 1945, except that the road between Caen and Bayeux is much wider now. When we reached Jerusalem Cross-roads where the Americans dropped their six 1,000lb. bombs on us, we met one of the original villagers. In our conversation with him, it turned out that it was he, who had given my gunner and myself a glass of wine all that time ago. So David suggested that I give him one of the bottles of wine

we had been given, and so return his drink some 45 years later.

We took some photographs, but sadly owing to a spent battery the film came out blank. That same day we visited four war cemeteries and found the graves of 15 of our chaps, who were no more than boys then. After the evening ceremony on the 6th, I laid the squadron wreath while the local villagers held a reception for us in a marquee. The following day they took us (85 in all) to Caen for a superb meal, and afterwards paid our admission into the Caen Museum. That evening, we in return, gave the villagers a similar meal in the local chateau and nearly 400 people attended. Of the 85 in our party, only 12 of us belong to the I.O.C. The rest being R.E.'s who were attached to us.



George Hudson on target.

SEPTEMBER ARCHERY WEEK '89

What a season it has been for George Allen. Now known as 'Archery's Triple Champion,' George added another item of silverware to his sideboard when he lifted the Spurway Trophy, during the Archery Club's September Week, held at Ian Fraser House. Although George described himself as 'off form' he still managed some impressive shooting.

This is the first time competitions have been held in September, they normally take place in June. The fine weather that had been with us all summer deserted the competitors towards the end of the week, and on Friday, the last day of the competition one could be forgiven for thinking it was mid-January. Oil-skins and umbrellas were the order of the day, and a strong wind from the sea added to the archers' difficulties. Nevertheless, the archers managed to get in a full day's shooting and notched up some good scoring.

Although Sid Jones didn't manage to win any of the major competitions he didn't leave Ian Fraser House empty handed. Earlier in the week Sid had visited a shop, City Camera Exchange, in

Western Road, Brighton, enquiring about equipment, tripods in particular. He expressed an interest in one tripod but as it was rather expensive he went away to think about it. Next day, to his great surprise, *Observer* photographer, Roger Bamber arrived with the tripod. Apparently Roger Bamber was on his way to take some photographs at St. Dunstan's and called into City Camera Exchange to get supplies. When the owner heard where he was going he instructed Roger to take the tripod to Sid. Sid couldn't believe the generosity of the owner, and expressed his profound thanks to him.

At the prize-giving ceremony all the competitors expressed their thanks to Ted Bradford, Laurie Austin and Roger McMullen, for the work they had done. The Lady Paramount, Joyce Brooks, presented the prizes. Jerry Lynch won the Royal Insurance Trophy. George Allen won the Spurway Trophy. In the handicap reduction competition George Allen was again the winner. Norman Perry won the Beer Mat Competition, while Bert Wood took the Gold Sweep.

D. F. Robinson's GARDENING NOTES

There will be less work in the garden this month apart from clearing away everything that has died off. Take all the leaves off the beds and lawn and put them on the compost heap so they will have broken down by spring. If you find the digging and replanting is getting too heavy for you now is the time to turn the flower garden or vegetable patch over to more lawn. Get the paths tidied up, and complete any repairs by replacing old paving slabs. There is still time to plant out bulbs if you can get them, particularly tulips.

Vegetables

Dig over all the empty areas and make them ready to take seed in the spring. However, if you have some broad bean and pea seeds left over from this year's planting, get them in for an early crop. Beetroot and carrots which are still growing should be lifted, cleaned and dried and put in a frost free area until you require them for the kitchen. Tie the leaves of the cauliflowers over the heads to protect them from frost. The potatoes which you have saved for seed planting in the spring should be checked over in case some have gone bad, or, are shooting too early. These can be thrown out.

Fruit

Try and get all the new fruit trees planted this month. Ensure that you have the areas for planting dug over with some loose soil or manure at the bottom. Remember to set out the roots properly and cut away all those spreading too far. Put the soil over the roots, compressing the soil with your feet as you go along. Ensure that you have a stake in place to protect the young tree for the first six months or so. The currants and gooseberries can also be planted in the same way as the trees. Pruning of old bushes can be done in good frost free weather. Don't forget to put some manure between the rows of strawberries.

Lawn

Make sure the grass is in good condition. If

there are brown areas this indicates that the grass is dying and should be replaced with some new turves. Seed the other parts of the garden which you want to turn over to lawn. Make certain that you have got the soil level and rolled. Rake over lightly just before sowing the seed. It is useful to put some black cotton linked to small stakes in order to keep birds away. Water whenever the soil is dry, as long as there is no frost about.

Flowers

Dig over all the borders and put some compost or manure down. Clear away all the remnants of annuals which were flowering late and also the stems of the perennials which have completed their flowering year. It is also a good plan to thin out the perennials and take some of the younger outer parts with the roots and place them in other locations in the garden that lack flowering plants. Cut away all the dead shoots on the bushes and cut down some of the taller shoots to stop strong winds moving the shrubs at root level. In any case cutting off these long shoots may give you bushier plants. Dig out all the dahlias which have finished flowering and dry off the bulbous roots, store in dry peat or sand for the winter. Tidy up the roses by pruning the long shoots and others that have been broken. Don't do the main pruning till late spring. Fork over the soil around the plants and put some compost or manure down at root level. Make sure you have all the bulbs you need planted during periods free of frost. Remember to put the taller items at the back and dwarf plants at the front.

Greenhouse

You will have to ensure that the temperature doesn't go below 45F. During very frosty weather keep it higher. Keep the windows closed at night but open them during the day when there is plenty of sun about. Give water regularly in small amounts to those items which are in full

growth and give a feed every so often. Take off any dried leaves, especially auricula, calceolaria, cineraria, polyanthus and primula. Set these plants as near the light as possible. Get the geranium cuttings going well, and if some are very big they can be repotted into larger containers. The same can be said of regal pelargoniums, which should be coming into flower very soon. Give fertiliser regularly to the cyclamen which have flowers on, and make sure that the plants don't dry off, but be careful not to over water. Later flowering bulbs can still be planted for a good show of colour in the house later in the spring. Keep the greenhouse nice and clean. The floor and staging should always be kept dry to prevent the spread of mildew. Diseases and insects will still be showing so use a combined spray or put smokes in position in early evening, keeping the door and windows shut. Don't forget to open the door and windows in the morning before doing any work inside. Check all those pots of early flowering bulbs, give moisture if they are dry. If you find signs of growth in the flowering bulbs bring them out into the light.

CLUB NEWS

LOWESTOFT BOWLS TOURNAMENT 1989

by Tom Renshaw

Due to illness and holiday commitments only four bowlers attended this match: H. Preedy, A. Duffy, T. Whitley and T. Renshaw. This superbly organised tournament commenced on the Monday morning in brilliant sunshine and was the beginning of an enjoyable and very competitive week. Our hosts entertained us well in the evenings with the usual visit to the Football Club for drinks and dancing. The rest of the week was based at the Victoria Hotel, where we were entertained by various artists, we also met many friends.

Friday evening completed the week with the presentations and supper dance in the ballroom. Unfortunately there was no trophy to adorn the St. Dunstan's table this year, better luck next time.

As the outdoor season draws to a close may I on behalf of the Bowling Club offer our grateful thanks to all members of St. Dunstan's staff, both at IFH, and HQ, for their kindness and support enabling us to enjoy this sporting activity.

BRIGHTON SOCIAL CLUB ENTERTAINMENT

The 1988/89 year of tournaments has been completed and we are now starting the 1989/90 games. We will be pleased to meet any members when they visit I.F.H.

We are sorry to report the loss of Jim Padley and Fred King, and send our sympathy to their widows and families.

The date for the Christmas Dance will be December 16th, and we hope that as many as possible will join us for a very happy evening when prizes for tournaments are presented.

DARTS (gents)

1st T. Giles
2nd T. Mugan
beaten semi-finalists J. Pryor, W. Davies.

DARTS (ladies)

1st L. King
2nd R. Pryor
beaten semi-finalists M. Blacker, J. Walters.

CRIBBAGE (gents)

1st T. Giles
2nd F. Bentley
beaten semi-finalists R. Pacitti, T. Mugan

CRIBBAGE (ladies)

1st J. Osborne
2nd P. O'Kelly

FIVES AND THREES (gents)

1st R. Evans
2nd B. Blacker
beaten semi-finalists T. Giles, F. King

CRIBBAGE (ladies)

1st J. Walters
2nd K. Pacitti
beaten semi-finalists J. Osborne, J. Killingbeck

WHIST (gents)

T. Giles	670
R. Evans	663
F. Bentley	626
R. Pacitti	608

WHIST (ladies)

M. Blacker	660
J. Osborne	657
P. O'Kelly	633
J. Walters	627

DOMINO AGGREGATE (gents)

T. Giles	49
F. Bentley	38
T. Mugan	38
B. Osborne	33

DOMINO AGGREGATE (ladies)

J. Walters	35
J. Osborne	33
P. O'Kelly	25
N. Bickley	24

BRIGHTON CLUB BRIDGE

Sunday September 10th 1989

Pairs results:

1st Reg Goding and Miss Sturdy	53.1
2nd Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Holborow	52.8
3rd Bill Phillips and Dr. J. Goodlad	52.1
4th Wally Lethbridge and Mr. Goodlad	51.4
5th Bob Evans and Mrs. Barnes	48.6
6th Mrs. B. King and Mr. P. McMillan	47.2
7th Mrs. McCauley and Mrs. A. Clements	44.8

FAMILY NEWS

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Stuart Hodgson, grandson of *Mr. and Mrs. James Mash*, of St. Peter, Jersey, who was successful in his G.C.S.E. examinations and obtained an A grade in economics, geography, French and maths and a B grade in English, religious instruction and history.

Neil Howick, grandson of *Joe and Margaret Hamilton*, of Shrewsbury, who passed his B. Tec. National Diploma with distinction and has secured a place in the Harper Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Shropshire.

Andrew Taylor, grandson of *Mr. and Mrs. T. Taylor*, of Preston, who won two silver medals for gymnastics in the recent Leicester Special Olympics. He also appeared on Grandstand, on Sunday, September 3rd.

Charlotte, grand-daughter of *Mr. H. Ward*, of Leeds, on attaining high grades in 8 subjects of G.C.S.E. including one 'A' and five 'B's.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Simmon, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, wish to thank all their friends for the cards and messages of good wishes on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. They also thank Miss C. Mosley and all the staff at H.Q. for the lovely bouquet of flowers, and the Council for their gift.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Preedy, of Saltdean, Brighton, would like to thank all their friends for the wonderful presents, flowers, cards and messages on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They also thank Major Neve, Billy and the Catering Staff for helping to make September 23rd, a memorable day.

GREAT GREAT GRANDCHILD

Congratulations to

Mrs. C. Stevens, of Derby, widow of the late *Frank Stevens*, who recently became a great great grandmother.

GREAT GRANDCHILDREN

Congratulations to:

Mrs. Sybil Parker, widow the late *Bernard Parker*, of Stamford, Lincolnshire, on the birth of a great grand-daughter, Jade Sophie, to her grandson, Kim, and his wife.

Mrs Queenie Waller, widow of the late *William Waller*, of Ashford, Kent, on the birth of great grand-daughter, Nicola Amy Christine, on August 14th, to her grand-daughter, Mrs. Linda Grey, and her husband, Robert.

GRANDCHILDREN

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bagwell, of Salisbury, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Vanessa May, on August 5th, to their son, David, and his wife, Jayne.

Eric and Peggy Foster, of Barnsley, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Kate Alice, on April 11th, to their son, Andrew, and his wife, Sheila.

Mrs. Pat Padley, widow of the late Jim Padley, of Brighton, on the birth of her fifth grand-daughter, Lucy Katheryn, on August 17th, to her son, Derek, and his wife, Ann.

Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Tatchell, of Cardiff, on the birth of a grand-daughter, Sarah Louise, on June 6th, in the Isle of Man, to their daughter, Helen, and her husband, David Drewett.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to:

Brian, son of Mrs. A. Savory, widow of the late *Mr. S. Savory*, of Dorking, on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Patricia Bull, at Coulsdon, on October 21st.

RUBY WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Simpson, of Rottingdean, on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary which they celebrated on September 17th.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Tom and Olive Barton, of Scalby, Scarborough, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on September 20th.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Curnow, of Quethiock, Cornwall, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on September 23rd.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Preedy, of Saltdean, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary which they celebrated on September 23rd.

Tom and Olive Simmon, of Harrogate, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on September 11th.

DEATHS

We offer condolences to:

Mrs. Elizabeth Chandler, wife of *Desmond Chandler*, of Lewes, whose father, William Harcombe, passed away on August 10th.

Mr. Leslie Halliday, formerly of Saltdean, now resident at Pearson House, whose sister, Elsa, passed away on September 20th.

The family of Mrs. Henrietta Croft, of Southend-on-Sea, widow the late *H. J. Croft*, who died on September 2nd, aged 87.

The family of Mrs. Amy Jessie Hughes, widow of the late *Mr. Noel Rhys Hughes*, of Bristol, who passed away on August 29th, one day before her 88th birthday.

The family of Mrs. Doris Lincoln, widow the late *Alfred Lincoln*, of Neston, Wirral, who died on August 31st.

Mrs. R. D. Mantle, of Selsdon, widow of the late *Charlie Mantle*, whose mother passed away recently.

Mr. Trevor Tatchell, of Cardiff, on the death of his brother, Arthur, who passed away on June 20th.

Family News continued

The family of Mrs. Hetty Seymour, widow of the late *William Seymour*, of Southwick, who passed away on September 11th, aged 92 years.

Mr. A. J. Wallage, of Rottingdean, whose eldest brother, George, passed away on September 17th.

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. Andrew, Royal Welch Fusiliers

We are very sorry to report the death of Mr. Geoffrey Andrew, of Corringham, Nr. Gainsborough, on September 25th, aged 74 years. He had been a St. Dunstaner for 35 years.

Mr. Andrew served with the Royal Welch Fusiliers as a Corporal, although some of the time he was acting Sergeant. He developed an illness during his military service which affected his sight, and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in the borderline category in 1953. He was admitted to full benefits in 1959. He studied braille and typing at LFH, as well as various handicrafts. He also did carpentry and D.I.Y. in his own home. In his spare time Mr. Andrew was a very keen bridge player and fisherman. He and Mrs. Andrew spent many of their holidays sailing and fishing.

In 1983, he won two first-class certificates when he exhibited cane work and chair seating at the National Exhibition showing work made by War Pensioners.

We extend our sympathy to his widow, Ruby, and all the family.

A. D. Collins, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

Mr. Arthur David Collins, of Enfield, passed away at Pearson House on September 1st, aged 91. He had been a St. Dunstaner for ten years.

Mr. Collins served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps throughout World War I. He was gassed in Italy in 1917 and many years later his eyesight deteriorated, forcing him to take early retirement. His health remained very good, and he and his wife were keen gardeners well into their eighties. They celebrated their Diamond Wedding this year. On his wife's death in May of this year Mr. Collins moved to Pearson

House where he became a permanent resident.

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

A. E. Earwaker, Royal Army Service Corps

Mr. Alfred Reginald Earwaker, of Bishops Waltham, near Southampton, passed away on September 7th. He was 77 years of age, and had been a St. Dunstaner since 1971.

In 1936, Alfred Earwaker enlisted in the R.A.S.C., and achieved the rank of Sergeant. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese in Java, in 1942, and was subsequently in a Sarawak P.O.W. camp. As a result of the deprivation he suffered as a prisoner, his sight and general health were seriously affected and he was discharged from the Army in 1946.

Soon after admission to St. Dunstan's, Mr. Earwaker undertook a joinery course at which he became very proficient and it gave him much pleasure to make stools and other small items of furniture for family and friends.

We extend our sympathy to his wife, Winifred, to whom he was married for 50 years, his two sons, and all members of his family.

J. Inness, Gordon Highlanders

It is with regret that we record the death of John Inness, of Batley, West Yorkshire, on September 5th. He was 72 years of age, and had been a St. Dunstaner for 45 years.

Mr. Inness served as a Sergeant with the 1st Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders during the Second World War and was wounded by a shellburst and lost the sight of both eyes at the Battle of El Alamein. He then joined St. Dunstan's and spent two years at Tembani, where one of his main interests was writing. He wrote

a poem commemorating the battle which was published in a local newspaper, *The Cape Argus* and also contributed to the *Tembani Times* which was a newsletter the St. Dunstaners produced each month.

In 1944, Mr. Inness went to St. Dunstan's at Church Stretton, where he trained as a physiotherapist and he took up a post at the North Devon Infirmary in 1946. In 1950, he moved to the Staincliffe General Hospital, in Dewsbury, where he worked until 1946, when he had to retire a few years early for health reasons.

After his retirement, Mr. Inness learned Esperanto, and as he was also a keen amateur radio enthusiast he went down to I.F.H. from time to time for the Amateur Radio events.

We send our sympathy to his widow, Alice, and all the family.

F. J. King, Royal Army Service Corps

Frederick John King, of Peacehaven, passed away at Pearson House on September 14th. He had been a St. Dunstaner since 1984.

Mr. King enlisted in the R.A.S.C., in 1941, and was posted to the Far East. He was taken prisoner at Singapore in 1942, and spent the remainder of the war as a prisoner, first in Malaya and then in Japan, having been torpedoed on the journey. Following his discharge from the Army in 1946, he worked as a butcher's assistant, a job he held until his retirement. He lived at Colindale, London, until two years ago, when the family moved down to East Sussex. He was a regular visitor at Ian Fraser House and enjoyed participating in the bowling and social events.

We extend our sympathy to his widow, Louisa, to whom he was happily married for 43 years, and to their son, Dennis.

J. Purcell, 41st Royal Tank Regiment

We are sad to record the death of Joseph Purcell, of Manchester, who died on September 24th, aged 73 years. He had been a St. Dunstaner since 1943.

Mr. Purcell served with the 41st Tank Regiment during the Second World War, and lost his sight after being injured at El Alamein, in 1942. He then went to St. Dunstan's at Tembani and later to Church Stretton, where he trained in Braille and Physiotherapy. In 1946, he started a practice in Urmston, Manchester, which quickly became very successful.

Mr. Purcell's first wife died in 1952, leaving him with two small children. He did however manage to keep his practice and household going, with some help from his parents. Five years later he met and married Mrs. Jean Birtles, a trainee teacher, and adopted her little girl, Jennifer. Soon after this he took on a part-time post in the Physiotherapy department of a local hospital, in addition to treating his private patients.

Mr. Purcell's main leisure interest was the Rotary club. He put in a great deal of work for them, speaking at many of their meetings, and in 1962, was elected President of the local branch.

Mr. Purcell's daughter, Susan, died tragically in 1984, and although this was a dreadful shock, he again kept his work going, and indeed continued with his physiotherapy practice right up until his death.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow, Jean, and all the family.

H. Windley, Royal Engineers

We are sad to record the death of Harry Windley, of Manchester, who died on September 27th, after a long illness. He was 64 years of age and had been a St. Dunstaner for 44 years.

Mr. Windley served with the Royal Engineers as a Sapper during the Second World War, and lost his sight when he was injured by a booby trap explosion in France. He joined St. Dunstan's in 1945, and went to Ian Fraser House where he studied braille and typing. He then went to work for the firm of Blackburn aircraft. His hobby was fishing, and also followed horse racing.

In 1959 he spent a few months at Ian Fraser House and was trained in the use of the capstan lathe and inspection and assembly work. He then worked mainly in the field of industrial engineering until his retirement in 1978.

Following his retirement Mr. Windley worked in his garden and greenhouse and also took some toymaking courses at Headquarters, producing toys for his grand-children and local charities.

During the last two years of his life Mr. Windley was in poor health, but he managed to continue with his toymaking and made occasional visits to I.F.H. to pursue other interests and meet old friends.

We offer our deep sympathy to his widow, Mary, and all members of his family.