



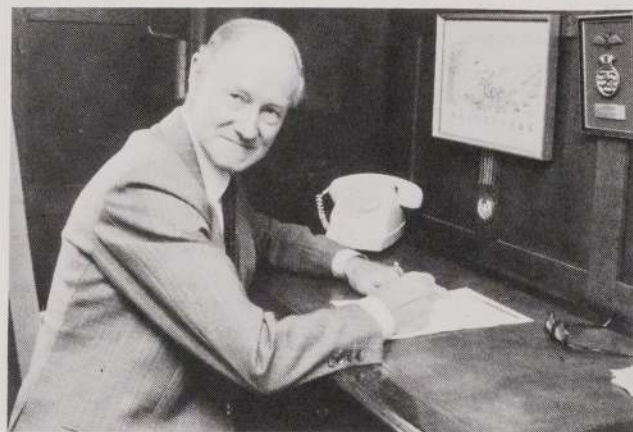
St Dunstons Review
June 1993

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Cover Picture:
*The Duchess of Kent chats
with Ernie Ford about a
flower holding wheelbarrow
he had constructed.*



From the Chairman

I should like to pay personal tribute to two members of our Senior Staff who are retiring after long years of devoted and highly effective service to St Dunstan's: David Castleton (Public Relations since 1960) and Trevor Lloyd (Estates since 1973).

David has had the knack of getting to know virtually all St Dunstaners and their widows and is widely respected by them. He has extracted fascinating stories from those reluctant to speak about themselves and edited them in a way which pleased even the most reserved. His coverage has been immense – from grand royal occasions to some tiny incident in the back of beyond – and always with a delightful touch of humour: to my knowledge he has not hurt anyone.

By the nature of his work Trevor has been more tied to headquarters and less visible publicly. He has led his team of Surveyors through thick and thin (and recent times have been very thin indeed) and always achieved the best possible deal for his customers.

With firmness and tact he has grasped the intricacies of housing regulations and rent restrictions and there can be few St Dunstaners or widows who do not owe him gratitude for some aspect of their way of life.

I think I speak for us all when I say to them both a very warm-hearted 'thank you, well done, and good luck in retirement'.

Henry Leach



NOTICE BOARD



TRAVELLING EXPENSES ON THE MOVE

Claims for travelling expenses to and from Brighton should be sent to Ian Fraser House, rather than Headquarters, as of June 1st.

St Dunstaners, widows and Gubbays should send their claims, with receipts where possible, to the Cashier at IFH. Expenses to and from Headquarters will continue to be dealt with automatically.

SHORT COMPUTER COURSES

We have not received any response to the Short Course scheduled for August, therefore I have cancelled this course.

However, a request has been made for another short course on HAL. Dates for this will be July 22nd/23rd. If anyone is interested please contact either myself, Christine Dickens or April Hadert at Ian Fraser House.

May I please remind everyone that if enough requests are made for a course that is not currently in the programme, it can be added. Please ask for what you need.

**Christine Dickens,
Training Officer**

NAME OUR MARCH

In the April *Review*, we reported that the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, had kindly dedicated a march to St Dunstan's.

The composer, Mr. Islam, is happy for us to rename the title from its original of *Cyclone*.

Suggestions are invited, in writing only, and should be sent to the Editor by June 30th. The winner will receive a complimentary recording of the march once it has been produced.

MARATHON MAN

Congratulations to Gerry Jones of St Agnes, Cornwall on completing this year's London Marathon in three hours and 55 minutes.

STAFF CHANGE AT HEADQUARTERS

Mrs. Elizabeth Money-Kyrle, Secretary since 1985 to the Chairman of St Dunstan's, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, left at the end of April to move to the country. She has been succeeded by Mrs. Margaret Orr Deas.

SOUNDINGS

Many St Dunstaners receive *Soundings*, a monthly tape magazine on compact cassette. St Dunstan's has been asked to provide an address list for distribution of the cassettes. In case of any error we would ask any St Dunstaner who fails to receive his copy to let us know. Similarly if an unwanted copy is sent, your advice of this will be most helpful. For those who have not heard it, we would recommend it as a radio-style, professionally produced stereo recording of general interest.

DENNIS RETIRES

Mr Dennis Lloyd has retired as a director of St Dunstan's, South Africa after 27 years of service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, VERA

St Dunstan's sends many happy returns to Mrs. Vera Willis of Hurstpierpoint on her 90th birthday.

Many St Dunstaners will remember her from the time that her late husband, Bob, was manager of the London Club.

TV LISTINGS ON LINE

Carlton Television, the ITV service for London and the South-East, has launched an information line for blind viewers.

Programme details, updated at 10 a.m. each day, can be obtained on 0426 927958. Calls are charged at local rates.

Viewers in the Midlands can use a similar line for Central TV. The number is 0426 952900.

STYLE AND ELEGANCE AT IFH



Move over Iman! Look out Christie Brinkley! Cindy Crawford, forget it! The new generation of super-models can be found at Ian Fraser House, strutting their stuff on the catwalk.

Fashion houses from Brighton department store Hammingtons provided the haute couture for an impromptu fashion show, but it was Carol Aggett, Jean Andrews, Edna Cope, Liz Ford, April Haddert, Jean Miller, Joan Osborne (shown above) and Clare Woods who filled the frocks with grace and charm. Sue Reynolds compered the event while John Pamplin provided the music.

Carol Aggett thanked Marie Hall and the people from House of Alexon, Kangol and Clarins for donating their time and energy to the evening.

HANDS-ON HI-TECH

Dolphin Systems are hitting the road to demonstrate the latest advances in computer technology for blind people.

The Dolphin Roadshow will offer hands-on experience of speech synthesisers, talking encyclopedias, and braille production programs.

The show will be in Exeter on July 22nd, followed by Southampton, August 27th/28th, Swansea, September 30th, Newcastle, October 28th, and finally Nottingham on December 2nd.

For full details, phone Dolphin on 0905 754577.

ATTACKING ANXIETY

The Council for Involuntary Tranquilliser Addiction claims that a new tape can ease stress for people who worry, taking their mind off problems and aiding sleep.

The tape, *Coping with Anxiety*, teaches relaxation and breathing exercises. Priced £6.75, it is available from Anxiety Tape, PO Box 1, Wirral L47 7DD.

CENTENARY SALUTE TO CANADIAN HERO

A braille watch presented by our Founder Sir Arthur Pearson was the first step back to independent life for a young soldier and his experience at Regent's Park provided the inspiration to establish a similar organisation in Canada, his home country.

Lt. Col. Edwin A. Baker, CC, OBE, MC, Croix de Guerre, BSc, LLD, came to St Dunstan's after being blinded in the First World War. In 1918, he founded The Canadian National Institute for the Blind which is now celebrating 75 years of service to blind people.

The CNIB's anniversary coincides with the centenary of Lt. Col. Baker's birth (he died in 1968) and they have taken the opportunity to salute his achievements.

Coincidentally, the watch that galvanised Lt. Col. Baker's determination was still running 50 years after Sir Arthur presented it.

FINAL REFLECTION



It is with sadness that we bid farewell to Cuthbert Le M. Scott, our Chaplain for the last five years. How fortunate it was for St Dunstan's that he had that chance encounter with Simon Conway whilst hospital visiting.

Cuthbert, pictured above with Tom Hart during the Ex-PoW reunion, will be sorely missed by his many friends at IFH and Pearson House, both St Dunstaners and staff. We extend to him, and to his wife, Peggy, our heartfelt good wishes as they sail into the calmer waters of retirement.

There will always be a welcome for them at St Dunstan's and we hope they will find time to pop in and see us.

Rev. Scott is succeeded by Rev. Brian Tyler who joins us this month. Brian has previously served in the Royal Air Force and Police Force.

Lt. Col. D. Bray



HONOUR FOR SPORTING MORTON

Gubbay man Morton Williams has been honoured for the encouragement he has given to other blind sportsmen.

Morton, of Llwynwhitlog, Llanelli, was recently declared Sports Personality of the Year by the Welsh Sports and Recreation Association for the Visually Impaired.

A keen bowler and sea angler, Morton also discovered the joys of sailing, along with St Dunstaner Gordon Pennington, on a five-day cruising course.

Morton is pictured above at the helm of the STS Lord Nelson, steering with the aid of an audio compass.

RECORD PRIZE FOR SWEEPSTAKE

This year's Derby Sweepstake closed on May 14th with the highest ticket sale for at least three years. The St Dunstaners and widows who were lucky enough to draw a horse will have been notified by now and we wish them all the best for the race.

AN OPERA TO HANG UP ON

Two pseudo-Italian operas spotlighting modern appliances are to be performed at the RNIB on June 15th.

The Telephone and *The Answerphone* will be sung by the Infinitely Adaptable Opera Company. Full details can be gained from Simon Labbatt on 071-388 1266 ext. 2300.

EASTER BONNETS ON PARADE

The brightness of Easter Monday carried into the evening with eight colourful Easter Bonnets parading round the dance floor to the strains of *Easter Parade*.

As usual all the entries were excellent and judging gave Sue Reynolds and Carol Aggett a hard time.

Elsie Ince's 'Eggs-traordinary' creation defied description and its floating draperies benefited from the speed she picked up in her wheelchair. Margaret Richardson brought to mind the old song *Little Lambs Eat Ivy*.

We resorted to the nursery rhyme book to ask Mary Gann: 'Mary, Mary, How does your garden grow?' Spring was definitely in the air with Margaret Logan's *Nesting Time* and Gwen Wood's *Gwen's Garden* blooming with real spring flowers. Vi Delaney showed a definite touch of Parisienne chic with *Easter in Paris* and Rene Bushell carried on the French theme with the funniest creation of *Duck à la Rene*.

Brenda Thomas sashayed in with *Swinging Chicks* and took First Prize. Second Prize was awarded to *Gwen's Garden* and Third to Vi with *Easter in Paris*. Rene got the Special Prize for the Funniest Bonnet.

OUCH! WHO'S PULLING GERARD'S LEG?

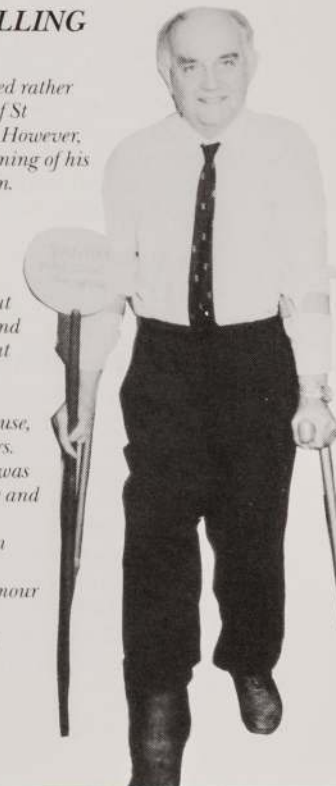
In the circumstances, it seemed rather callous to be pulling the leg of St Dunstan's Chief Accountant. However, Gerard Frost took the lampooning of his limb with a characteristic grin.

After a nasty fall, Gerard (pictured right) was hospitalised for surgery on torn ligaments. Rest and recuperation were in order, but the annual audit was afoot and going absent was anathema at such a crucial time.

So, leg in plaster, Gerard arranged to stay at Ansell House, a short hop from Headquarters.

Returning to his office, he was confronted by a zimmer frame and lollipop-lady-style stick proclaiming 'DANGER! Man going to work.'

There is no truth in the rumour that those responsible found something missing from their wage packets this month.



THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

This Royal edition of the *Review* is my last as Editor and I am pleased I can leave it on a high note with an issue featuring an important and happy occasion in the life of St Dunstan's. I retired as Public Relations Officer and Editor on May 28th and would like to bid farewell through the *Review* to all the many good friends I have made among St Dunstaners and Staff.

Working for St Dunstan's is not so much a job, more a way of life. I have enjoyed the time I have spent at Headquarters, at Ian Fraser House, at Pearson House and at all the places I have visited, reporting and photographing the adventures and activities of St Dunstaners. I have been welcomed and have enjoyed hospitality in the home of so many St Dunstaners and their wives. Certainly I have received much more in pleasure from my work than I have given in service to St Dunstan's.

Now I am further in debt towards all those who have contributed to leaving gifts and sent their good wishes. Audrey and I have been overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of our friends among St Dunstaners and staff. I have managed to thank many personally but I hope that anyone I may have missed will accept my gratitude in print.

I take away with me many warm memories of times past. For the future, although we have some present difficulties, the Spirit of St Dunstan's is very real among the great majority of St Dunstaners and Staff. Holding fast to that, you will make all come right once more. I wish everyone at St Dunstan's good health and good fortune.

David Castleton

THE BARD BY BERGERAC

Actor John Nettles, best known as Jersey's TV copper Bergerac, brushes up his Shakespeare as the RSC continues the new season of audio-described plays at The Barbican, London.

He retains an authoritative role in *Antony and Cleopatra* on August 5th, 13th and 14th when he portrays Octavius Caesar, but plays it for laughs as Leontes in *The Winter's Tale* on August 26th.

Erstwhile Dr Who, Trevor Martin joins

the battle of the sexes in *The Taming of the Shrew* on August 27th and 28th. Details can be obtained on 071-638 8891.

The mystery of Mandalay is audio described in Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* at Perth Theatre on June 24th and 26th. (Phone 041-429 0022 for details).

• A list of theatres offering audio description, oral introductions and other facilities is available from RNIB Leisure Service, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA. Tel: 071-388 1266.

OBITUARIES:

Dr. DONALD BROADBENT

The distinguished psychologist, Dr. Donald Broadbent, CBE, FRS, died on April 10th. During the 1960s and 70s, when he was Director of the Applied Psychology Research Unit of the Medical Research Council, he served on St Dunstan's Scientific Committee.

His advice was an important contribution to the evaluation of guidance devices and reading machines.

ANN PASS

Ann Pass, who was the last Matron at Ian Fraser House, died suddenly on April 15th. She joined St Dunstan's in December 1977 and was Matron at the time of the first visit by Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Kent in 1978. Ill health brought about her early retirement in October 1981 and she lived a quiet life in Yorkshire after that. St Dunstaners who remember her will wish our sympathy to be expressed to her daughter, grandchildren and other members of her family.

MRS. NORA HALLIDAY

Old friends will be sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Nora Halliday, aged 88, of London, on Easter Sunday.

A War Widow, she came to St Dunstan's in 1950 and was Lord Fraser's secretary for some 15 years, being specially involved with his work for The Royal British Legion. Nora always retained her lively interest in St Dunstan's, in spite of many years' serious ill health and pain, which she bore with cheerful fortitude, and the *Review* mourns the loss of one of its most enthusiastic readers. P.B.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Drop us a line or tape at 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1A 4XB

From: Miss K. M. Timmis, Pembroke-shire, Dyfed

I have just read a very interesting book, *An Experience Shared 1939-1945* by Vernon Scott, on the last war effort round the Pembroke Dock/Milford Haven area.

There is a chapter on the wreck of the destroyer HMS *Puckeridge*, December 13th, 1941. A survivor, Able Seaman Ernie Hansell, often wondered if two of his friends who were blinded on the *Puckeridge* had regained their sight.

If they didn't they probably went to St Dunstan's Training Centre. Did you have those two for training? I am sure Vernon Scott would be interested as he has had a lot of enquiries from people.

• Anyone who can reveal the fate of the blinded *Puckeridge* crewmen can contact Miss Timmis, care of the *Review*.

From: Jan Wright, Shepperton

May I, through the *Review*, send my grateful thanks to all those friends who have sent kind messages and tributes to Jimmy. There are so many that it will take time to answer individually and I would like everyone to know that their thoughts have been a comfort and deeply appreciated by Christopher, Nicholas and me.

From: A.C. 'Tiny' Pointon, Telscombe Cliffs, E. Sussex

Readers of *St Dunstan's Review* may recall that, thanks to Chris Martin of the *Nikaria*, I was lucky enough to catch a 55lb conger eel followed by one of 62lb. The first qualified me for membership of the British Conger Club, the second for a bronze medal.

On March 15th, I hooked another one which stripped line off my reel to begin with, but after about half-an-hour, Chris and his crewman, Trevor, got the gaffs in and brought it in. When weighed up it turned out to be 67lb 1oz. So that is my silver medal fish for this year.

I am now hoping that as I have at least one medal fish this year, I can go one better and find that gold fish.

From: Mrs. H. Mash, Jersey, Channel Islands

The Mash family thank all friends at St Dunstan's for the letters and cards of sympathy sent to me on the loss of my dear husband, Jim, who passed away on February 14th.

I would like to thank Matron King and staff at Pearson House and the Doctor for the kindness shown to Jim, and to myself and the family while we were with him.

Also, I would like to thank St Dunstan's Headquarters for all their help.

From: Mrs. B. Bentley, Saltdean, Brighton

Fred and I would like to thank all the Care Assistants and Transport at Ian Fraser House and Mrs. Marie Blacker for their help when Fred had his accident. Also many thanks for phone calls and offers of help. My family wish to thank everyone.

From: Peter Westbrook

As you may know, not all Pelican Crossings have the familiar 'beeping' when it is safe to cross, particularly on dual carriageways.

In the majority of cases the silence is a deliberate safety policy. Moves are afoot to slowly modify all Pelican Crossings nationally to enable the visually impaired to use 'silent' crossings.

Underneath the Pelican Crossing control box, you will find (if it has been modified) a metal cone protruding approximately one inch.

When it is safe to cross, the cone will rotate and will continue to rotate while pedestrians have the right of way.

A note of caution though. The posts containing the control boxes are in general on the edge of the crossing area. It would be easy to stray from the delineated area. The best approach (as soon as the cone rotates) is to take one or two paces in the direction of the traffic flow before turning to cross the road.

• Former *Daedalus* Dog, Peter, who has acted as a guide for Stan Tutton and other St Dunstaners over the years, is currently studying on a *Rehabilitation Workers Course*.

Jack, Jill and the Grand Old Duke of York

by Ray Hazan

Lance Freeborn elucidates on the Neolithic geology of the South Downs. Below: Grant Cooper gives roving Ray Hazan a run for his money.



WINDMILLS, rings and burial mounds were just some of the features of this year's South Downs walking holiday. Participants gathered at Ian Fraser House over the Easter weekend, which meant quieter roads and a busy Chapel. It was good to see familiar faces and carry on where one had left off 11 months previously.

As we boarded the coach for our first day's destination, a finely muscled body called the roll in a voice familiar on parade grounds or in gymnasiums. Grant Cooper retired from the Royal Navy Physical Training Branch recently and has joined the staff at IFH as Sports Supervisor. Grant had the onerous task of devising and vetting the routes beforehand, including the pubs! The walkers vary enormously in age, weight and fitness. He chose walks with some challenge, easy going under foot and with many sites of interest along the way, thus catering for all tastes.

During the first day, we visited two windmills, Jack and Jill rebuilt near Ditchling Beacon from the original location near Preston Park. The guide

had specially opened up Jill for us and narrow steps led the party up to the top for a thorough examination of this fully restored and working mill. Apart from a few metal cog wheels, everything is made of wood.

It was the latest design of its day in 1821. A small wheel at the back and top of the mill rotates the 30 ton structure, keeping it face to the wind, via a geared mechanism. A bell warns the miller when the corn box feeding the grinding stones is empty to save him the constant climbing up the stairs to check. It took a good hour to have everything explained, meanwhile, despite the sunshine, a keen breeze made those waiting outside anxious to move on.

During the second afternoon, we experienced a real 'sound circus'. A light rain turned into a more determined downpour. Above, thunder and lightning flashed and crashed, rain pattered on our anorak hoods and feet slogged and sucked through the mud. It was fun – for a short while, anyway! The author, attempting a Walter Raleigh by giving his wife a lift across a large puddle was thwarted when she forgot to guide him, and both ended up in a ditch!

Three thousand years ago, the dead in Egypt were honoured by having pyramids built above their tombs. Our forefathers simply threw up large

mounds of earth. Perhaps local councils were struggling even then! It was atop one such mound that Grant ran into an RN officer under whom he had served. In the car park at Alfriston, I met a school friend of 40 years ago, proving how life, as well as walks go round in circles!

Circles of a different nature were Cissbury and Chanctonbury Rings. The former was the Iron Age site of an ancient fort with protective encircling ditch and mound. Bearing in mind that the fortifications defended some 65 acres of land, and were built using antler horns for picks and shoulder blades or wood for shovels, indicates the size of the task. Chanctonbury Ring was the site of a Roman temple superimposed on a Saxon sanctuary – one way of subjugating the population! It was in a sorry state, as most of the ring of beech trees had been downed in the storm of 1987 and are only just being replaced. Is this nature's way of reminding us just who is really in charge?

The final day saw us marching up and down the Seven Sisters, as in the old nursery rhyme. This time we approached from the east, a longer more gradual climb up with a steeper descent. Below, to our left, the Channel sparkled in the sun, which had featured on most days. It was a satisfied group which ended the week's hiking at the Cuckmere Haven car park. Glowing sun browned faces reflected the outdoors, stomachs bore witness to the excellent packed lunches supplied by PBK. Ears still rang with the sounds of accompanying Welsh male voice choir (Trevor

Charlie Daly and Jonathan Ridge make a new friend.





Walking is easier going downhill.

Tatchell! Bodies fizzed with fitness much appreciating the swims in the pool following our return each evening, and sighed in deep sleep at night after such a satisfying day.

Our modestly fine figures, however, were challenged by Friday evening's dinner, when PBK excelled themselves once more. Afterwards tokens of

gratitude were presented to Mike Varney, our coach driver and dog-keeper, to Grant and our lady transport back-up drivers. An ancient manuscript, translated from the original Latin, and somehow containing the names of most of the escorts and walkers was read out. This resulted in a contest between moans and chuckles! Trevor Tatchell, in his own inimitable and entertaining way, thanked the escorts. George Male responded on their behalf and started by leading a rousing chorus of *Happy Birthday* to Stan Tutton, our oldest St Dunstan, who had completed the whole walk. George continued with a ditty about our image of the 'Olde Worlde' pub with its log fire, real ale and home cooked food. Today's reality was the microwave oven, imitation gas logs and containerised beer! Blisters were soothed away to the strains of the John Nicholls trio in the annex afterwards, while yet more rings were made around the dance floor!

Both walkers and escorts wish to express their thanks to all members of staff at IFH who were involved in the success of the week.

SKIING IN SORENBERG

Gerry Jones on the slopes in Switzerland

Between January 24th and 31st the St Dunstan skiers were back on the slopes above the beautiful village of Sorenberg, Switzerland.

Numbers were very much down, since a couple of our more senior clan reckoned that they were out of ski wax, while others were on courses or suffering from ill health.

With St Dunstan's unable to help financially, the initial problem was how to pay for the guides. The airlines were not impressed with our begging letters, but the Royal Artillery and RASC/RCT Associations came up trumps. We are truly grateful for their generosity, covering the basic costs for two guides.

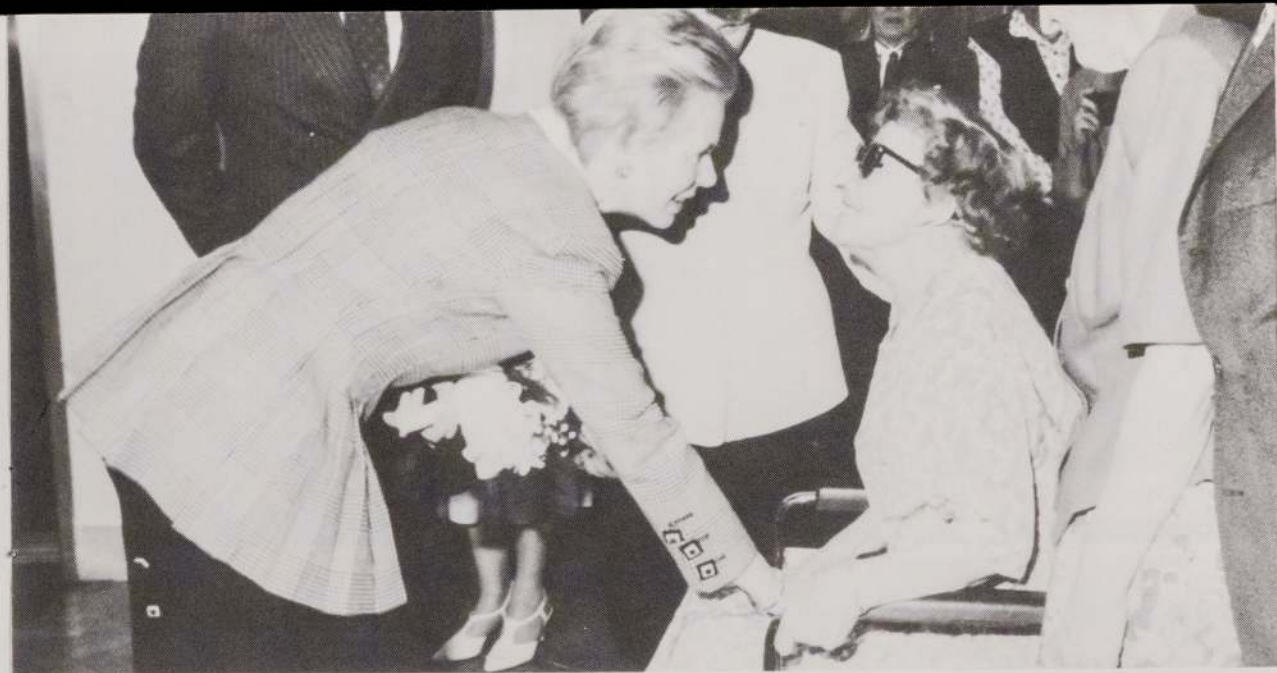
Charlie Daly and I, met Martin Blank and Mick Thorpe, our trusted guides from many years back and we had a grand time on the slopes.

We could not ski on the first day due to

very high winds, but thereafter, we skied every day with ample snow. We had two days with the white stuff falling on us as we roamed the mountains. We decided that the powder snow tasted much fresher on the left of the piste.

On the last day we had an important date to keep. Catherine Arnet was playing in a band in a local festival. Dressed in amazing costumes and carrying a wide assortment of instruments nine bands followed each other through this tiny village making as much noise as they could muster. The whole atmosphere was hilarious.

Our sincere gratitude goes out to Peter and Mia Zamudio for organising the Swiss end, to Catherine for transport and to Martin Zihlmann for being such a good sport. Our special thanks go to Mick and Martin for giving us the opportunity to test our mettle once again on the slopes.



Vi Delaney was the first St Dunstaner to be introduced at IFH.

A DAY WITH THE DUCHESS

David Castleton records A Royal Visit to Brighton

'I think Dunstan would be a very good name, don't you?'

Sid Doy's toy dog was christened 'Dunstan' when presented to the Duchess.

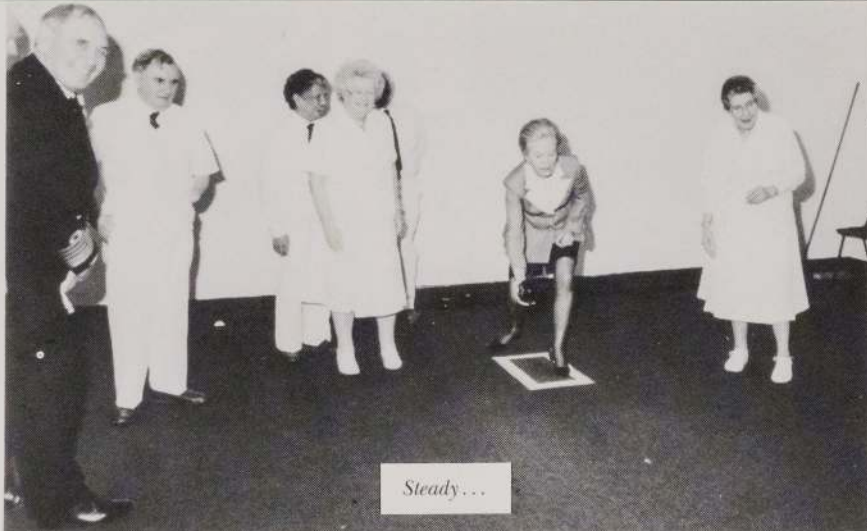


Stephen Pendleton recounted the experience that brought him to St Dunstan's.

The Duchess of Kent met St Dunstaners of all generations



Ready...



Steady...



Go! It's a good green...



... but it lands in the ditch.

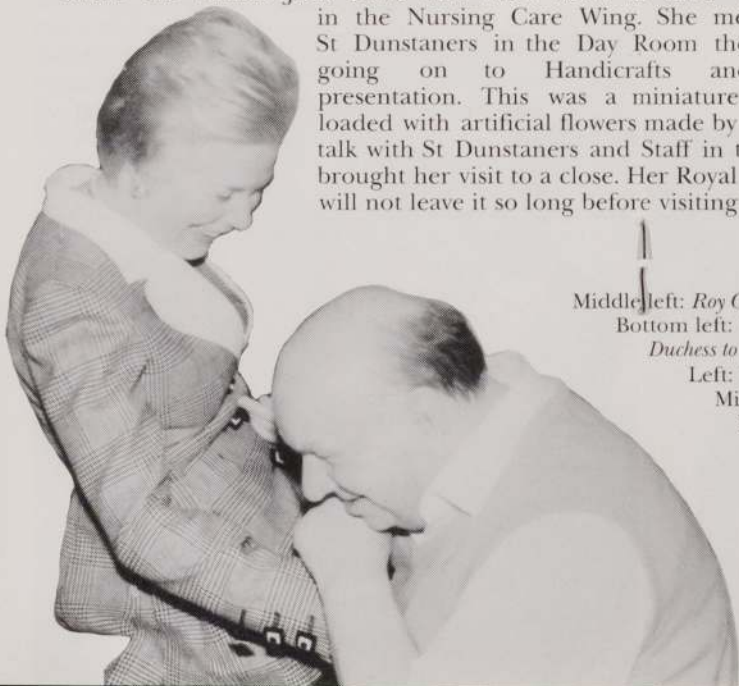
HAPPY SMILES FOR ALL SEASONS

A ROYAL lady in every sense of the word, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent, visited St Dunstan's Home in Brighton on April 2nd.

In a concentrated three-and-a-half hour visit she talked with many St Dunstaners and Staff without ever seeming hurried and was always keenly interested in everyone she met.

The Duchess toured the training areas at Ian Fraser House, including the workshops. She visited the indoor bowling green, where she accepted an invitation to send down a wood. In handicrafts she received a soft toy from Sid Doy, whom she remembered meeting at the "Not Forgotten" Christmas Party last year. At an informal buffet lunch she met more St Dunstaners before leaving for Pearson House.

There she visited Jack Lowe and Alex Scott in their rooms in the Nursing Care Wing. She met more St Dunstaners in the Day Room there before going on to Handicrafts and another presentation. This was a miniature wheelbarrow loaded with artificial flowers made by Ernie Ford. More talk with St Dunstaners and Staff in the Winter Garden brought her visit to a close. Her Royal Highness last visited St Dunstan's in 1978. We hope she will not leave it so long before visiting us again.



Middle left: Roy Gunn reveals secrets of microwave cookery.

Bottom left: 'I gather we come from the same neck of the woods said the Duchess to Yorkshire policeman Ken Moss

Left: The Duchess shares a joke with Tommy Raybone.

Middle right: Bert Wallage demonstrates his handicraft skills.

Bottom right: Alex Scott discusses his family photograph collection.

**Pictures by
Simon Rogers and Peter Yates**

'There are some marvellous characters here ...'

— Matron King

'I know, I've met them ...'

— The Duchess



The Duchess chats with Bert Green.



In the Winter Garden with Don Stott.



Meeting Fred Hobbs and Diana Lawrence.

On the steps of Pearson House, Sir Henry Leach thanks the Duchess for her interest in St Dunstan's.



Friends in freedom TED BROWN ON THE Ex-PoW REUNION

This year's reunion started with a social night and buffet in the Annexe. Dance music was efficiently provided by maestro Ernie Took and his merry men.

All during the evening, Mrs. Dacre and Mary Stenning were either dancing or chatting with every group, large or small. Where do they get their energy from? Well done ladies.

The next day, Mrs. Dacre, who is President of St Dunstan's Ex-PoWs, opened the Annual General Meeting. Everyone stood for a roll call of those who had passed away since the last reunion.

The minutes of the last AGM were accepted, as were the accounts and Ray Sheriff and his wife were thanked for stepping into the breach at such short notice. Well done to you both.

Mr. K. A. Gledhill, DL, High Sheriff of Lancashire and Mrs. Gledhill were introduced. They were a very charming couple and he told us how impressed he was by the St Dunstaners he had met.

Dinner that evening was just great. Well done the serving staff, congratulations to the chef!

Guest of honour that night was the Right Hon. Lord Barber. He thanked our chairman, Bill Griffiths, for inviting him and Lady Barber to our reunion. He told us of his career in the Cabinet, recounting many whimsical anecdotes.

Presentations were made to Public Relations Officer, David Castleton and Estates Manager Trevor Lloyd who will both be retiring shortly. Good luck to you both from us all.

I am unable to tell you much about the Sunday morning service as I went to my own church in Rottingdean. But I'm sure the Right Rev. Bishop Derby gave a great sermon.

On Sunday, we were entertained by a large singing group from Sussex. They gave us a wonderful concert.

The next meeting will be April 8th/10th. Put it on the calendar now.

Any St Dunstan's Ex-PoW who wishes to send a subscription or donation can do so by all means. Cheques should be made out to St Dunstan's Ex-PoW and sent to R. G. Sheriff, 73 Elvin Crescent, Rottingdean, East Sussex BN2 7FE.



Lord Barber receives a St Dunstan's shield from Tom Hart.

RADIO REUNION ACROSS THE WORLD

When Bill Slade told the story of his execution by the Germans (*April Review*) he said he would like to find out if the Army Doctors who saved his life were still living. They were Captain Max Mayrhofer from Australia and Lieutenant Colonel Bull from New Zealand. The story was taken up in both countries and Bill consented to a live telephone interview with 2GB Newstalk, a Sydney radio station.

Halfway through, the interviewer Russell Powell, said, 'Now, Bill, we have a surprise for you. We have Captain Max Mayrhofer on the line from Perth for you to have a chat with him.' So, over the air and halfway round the world, Bill spoke for the first time with one of the men who had cared for him, unconscious after his ordeal.

From New Zealand, Bill has learned that Lieutenant Colonel Bull is dead but members of his family have been in touch. Now Bill and his wife, Sally, may have the opportunity to fly to Australia to meet Max Mayrhofer, who at 82 is not fit enough to travel to England. The *Review* will keep readers up to date with this story.

The competition received a very disappointing response this year, with only one entry. The Editor judged *Russian Roulette - Afghan Style* by Alan Grant, alias Don Westaway of Labrador, Australia to be well worthy of receiving the first prize of £50. Congratulations and thanks to Don.

RUSSIAN ROULETTE —

EARLY in my career as a young soldier, I had visions of maybe serving on the North West Frontier of India, inspired no doubt by Kipling's *Kim*. Although we transhipped through Bombay and Deolali nearly 50 years were to elapse before I actually stood in the Khyber Pass.

In the early 1980s I went there with my son Simon and although the Gordon Highlanders and other British Regiments had long since gone, I doubt the rocky terrain had changed much. Russians now blocked the Pass preventing us from reaching Kandahar and Kabul, and the local tribesmen still carried rifles slung over their shoulders much as they had done for a century or more. The place is as hot as hell, the picket posts on the hilltops are still there and the men of the Khyber Rifles continue to mount guard. Conflict and smuggling abound, keeping the law enforcement officers always on the alert.

In the days when the British were in India, thousands of young soldiers learnt their trade in the hills around the Pass, many of them losing their lives from unseen snipers' bullets. It was an eerie feeling knowing that even today we could be shot at as we stood among the rocky hillsides trying to imagine what it must have been like 50, 60 or 70 years ago.

When Russia invaded Afghanistan in 1979 the whole area was thrown into conflict again as it has done so many times before. Many Afghans resented the Russians and formed a rebel army of guerrillas to oppose the Russians with force. In an attempt to escape the horrors of modern war, thousands of Afghans crossed the mountains into Pakistan where they could find a measure of support in camps set up by the Government.

Horror stories of their experiences were circulating widely and it was easy to understand how many a young foreign visitor had been moved to do something positive to support the cause of freedom.

Peshawar is only a few kilometres from

Afghan Style



Story contest winner Don Westaway in India during the mid-Eighties.

the Khyber Pass and it was there that my son Simon and I witnessed a drama involving a young English woman, shattering any feelings of apathy I may have had about the seriousness of what was happening around us.

From where we stood at our hotel window three floors up it was not possible to tell whether she was alive or dead. Her body lay slumped in the gutter, her sari being ruffled by the breeze. 'Quick', called my son Simon as he rushed past on his way to the stairs, 'a car has deliberately tried to kill Loise.'

At six in the evening the main street of Peshawar is very crowded, even so it only took a few minutes to reach the spot where we had seen Loise lying in the gutter but now she had gone. Not a sign, no blood, no disturbed dust, nothing to indicate what had happened. The pan seller outside the Shalimar Restaurant must have seen it all happen, but he certainly was not willing to say so, not even for the hundred rupee note I held in my

hand. The policeman on duty at the entrance to Horse Traders Bazaar would have been in a position to see what happened but he too just looked past us into space when we questioned him.

My mind went back to the early morning of that day when I had first seen Loise in the dining room of Green's Hotel. In the large almost empty room Loise sat right in the corner with her back to the wall, surveying the whole room with her gaze, and later I was to learn why. Simon, who caught the eye of Loise, drew her into conversation. A freelance journalist, she had come to Pakistan to write stories about the millions of refugees fleeing Afghanistan after the Russian invasion.

Moved by the plight of these people Loise made up her mind to throw away her typewriter and camera to take up

arms with the Mujaheddin, and if necessary die for 'The Cause'. Loise, we were to find out, was on her way to join the freedom fighters in Afghanistan that night, knowing that she was on a 'hit' list of names put out by the Afghan government.

There was our dilemma, had we witnessed the attempted murder of a European woman, or had Loise and her friends made a successful attempt to escape through the Khyber Pass to join the rebel camp in the mountains.

Departing for Lahore the next day on the famous *Khyber Mail*, Simon and I pondered Loise's possible fate.

The letters I wrote to her Geneva address were all returned. Reluctantly I have reconciled myself to what is probably the truth; that Loise gambled her life in support of freedom and lost.

IN A MAINFRAME OF MIND

Ray Hazan recalls the latest Computer Weekend

The meeting was well supported. David Laycock was missing, but as he had married only ten days previously, he was forgiven and sent every best wish for both his and Eileen's happiness.

During the first general session it was announced that the RNIB were in the process of launching a light probe which was sensitive enough to detect type face on paper. The user should then be able to find a blank space for his or her signature.

Paul Dilley spoke briefly about MSDOS version 6, recently released. Amongst its features are a disk compression program, Norton back-up and a feature permitting line by line progression through the Config.sys file, though this would be without the aid of speech and therefore of limited use to a blind user. On balance, the upgrade was not considered vital!

Shamus Reddin of Dolphin Systems for the Disabled then demonstrated the Apollo II speech synthesizer with the 4.8 software upgrade. It received a mixed reception. One good point is the ability to edit a file whilst in the document reader. The part exchange to an Apollo II would cost £250.

Shamus went on to demonstrate Open Book, a print reading device which can stand alone or be linked to a computer. Most impressive was a CD ROM disk for

£30 containing English, French and German dictionaries and an encyclopaedia. A CD ROM drive will cost around £300.

After lunch, Ian Bradburn of Sight and Sound, exhibited the Reading Edge, a stand alone print reader. This is the grandson of the original Kurzweil Reading Machine evaluated by St Dunstan's in 1979. The 'reading' surface is angled to allow the camera to get right into the spine of a book. It has a sophisticated voice and many facilities including linking to a computer or braille embosser.

Although the price of £4,500 may seem high, it is far less than the KRM at £10,000 all those years ago!

The standard of excellence was maintained by PBK that evening at the annual dinner. Diners tried to keep off the subject of computers in front of their wives! Phil Duffee thanked our guests for their contribution at our weekend gatherings. This was acknowledged and responded to by Mike Cassidy.

Suggestions were made for the next meeting, when it is hoped Paul Dilley will give an illustrated talk on the inside workings of a computer, and other speech boards will be demonstrated. Please book early for November 20th/21st.

ON THE AIR AGAIN

Arthur Taylor on the Amateur Radio Week

THE first get-together of members and their wives/escorts in 1993 took place at Ian Fraser House on March 5th, and, for reasons that will become clear later, everyone was looking forward with more than the usual anticipation to the dinner on Saturday evening.

Chairman, Bill Shea, G4AUJ, opened the Annual General Meeting on a sad note when he paid tribute to George Shed, GØNUY, and Alf Lee, G4DQS, who had both gone 'silent key' since the last meeting. As Bill pointed out, the Society has lost two very good friends and members. All stood in silent tribute to their memory.

In his report, the Secretary, Ted John,

Balancing the Books by Ted Bunting

The Desperadoes

Author: Stan Barstow

Reader: Christopher Scott

Duration: 7 hours

Catalogue number: 7243

'You have to kiss a lot of frogs before you find a prince,' I once heard a young lady say, and it's much the same when you are looking for books you can honestly recommend; especially when it comes to collections of short stories.

But I've found you an aristocrat with *The Desperadoes*, and no mistake, though the tales it contains are as down to earth as those humble amphibians the girl was talking about, and, being mostly concerned with the lives of ordinary people, they are not too beautiful either. But the author, Stan Barstow, is a master of his craft; he combines literary skill with a remarkable talent for observing his fellow mortals, and he produced here, fifteen stories on the shared theme of 'life'.

You'll both laugh and feel sorrow, as you hear these stories, but chiefly, because you'll recognise elements of all our lives as you listen, it's a foregone conclusion that you'll enjoy them.

G3SEJ, referred to the late Alf Lee's function as the QSL Manager for the Society's station (G3STD and G8STD). Brian Freeman, G3ITF, from Rottingdean, who was attending the meeting for the first time, had willingly volunteered to carry out these duties. A warm welcome was extended to Brian, who said that he was pleased to be with us, and that Eddie Wilson, GØECW, from Saltdean, had offered to assist him if the need arose. Ted was able to add that Brian was something of an expert on aerials and ATUs and that both he and Eddie, together with Derick Browne, G4XKF, had agreed to accompany John Houlihan, G4BLJ, and Dave Mitchell to IFH to check over the aerials. Also Gary Glowa and John Walker, from the Workshops, had removed the rotator from the roof in appalling weather, stripped it down, serviced it and remounted it, as a result of which we now have a rotator which is in good working order. A vote of thanks was passed to all those who had devoted so much of their free time to the Society.

Other relevant items were discussed, and the Statement of Accounts for 1992 was approved. Bill Shea submitted his report and paid a very handsome tribute to all the hard work that Ted and Beryl John had continued to do on behalf of the Society. Those sentiments were endorsed unanimously.

Tony Cook, GØLGM, an Affiliated Member, took the chair for the Election of Officers, and the existing Committee was re-elected en bloc.

In the evening everyone gathered in the convivial atmosphere of the Winter Garden where they all settled down to a really first-class meal. In his after-dinner speech, Bill Shea extended a hearty welcome to all guests on behalf of the Society, and said that he had one more very pleasant duty to perform — the award of the G3MOW Memorial Trophy for 1992 to Tony Cook, GØLGM. The resulting applause and cheers showed that Tony's success was indeed a popular one. Tony said that it was a very great

honour to receive the award, but added that he would also like to thank Arthur Holmes, GØINE, who had proposed his name in the first place, and, in doing so, he was ultimately responsible for him being able to collect a trophy, which was something that the Captain of Southampton Football Club had not been able to do! (For the uninitiated, Arthur is a fanatical Southampton supporter.) Tony recalled that his first contact with St Dunstan's had been many years ago when Ray Peart had used him as his 'dog', and he is pleased that he has been able to get on so well with everybody in the organisation.

Bill then handed over the proceedings to Ted for yet another presentation. He said that, as we all knew, David Castleton, our very good friend and Honorary Life Member, was retiring from his post as St Dunstan's Public Relations Officer in May. As far as both he and Bill were concerned, David was the hub of the Society at HQ, and he could always be relied upon to resolve any problems which might arise from time to time. On behalf of the Society, Ted then presented a plaque to David, which bore the St Dunstan's crest and the Society's badge, and inscribed, 'Presented to David Castleton on his retirement with the Society's gratitude for his continuous interest, help and encouragement over the years'.

He was also given an extremely well-wrapped parcel with instructions not to drop it. David then had the delicate task of unwrapping the parcel before his expectant audience until finally the contents were revealed. Ted's warning was well advised, because there were six Stuart Crystal wine glasses inside. This gift, together with a cheque for David to buy himself something else — perhaps a rucksack or a pair of hiking boots? — came to him with the best wishes of all the members of the Society.

In expressing his appreciation, David said that obviously there had been a lot of very good research into our choice of gifts, and that he would continue to keep in touch with the many good friends he had made in the Society during his 33 years of service with St Dunstan's.

Beryl John then read a letter that had



Tony Cook accepts the G3MOW Memorial Trophy from St Dunstan's Bill Shea.

been received from Rose Shed in which she thanked all the radio hams for their messages of sympathy and floral tributes that had been received in memory of George. Ted said that he and Beryl had called on Rose on their way down to Brighton, and had found her to be fairly well and about to go to America for a short holiday with her family.

There was also an unscheduled presentation to be made when Tony Cook, as a bit of fun, presented Arthur Holmes with a rugby ball and his advice to tell his team what shape of ball they should be using! This was enjoyed by everyone.

The evening ended with a dance in the Annexe, where everyone quickly got into the swing of things. Unfortunately all good things have to come to an end and the curtains came down on what can only be described as a very memorable day.

During the following days, the Special Event Station, GB4STD, went on the air and many more first-time contacts were made with various parts of the world — most rewarding and worthwhile and, on occasions, exciting. A very successful and enjoyable week.

Finally, our gratitude for the assistance of the staff at IFH, and to the Catering Staff for all the good meals and, in particular, the superb dinner on the Saturday evening.

A reminder — the dates of the next meetings — July 16th/23rd and October 8th/15th.

Wedding in Zimbabwe *by Carol Gasston*

John and Carol Gasston recently flew out to Zimbabwe to witness the marriage of their daughter. They also took the opportunity to visit old friends and view the local natural splendour. We join them as they arrive in Harare . . .

Weary as we were, we were taken out to dinner by the children and were joined on this special occasion by Lara's future in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. Kruger. A wonderful time was had by all and we got on very well with Linda and Kriek Kruger, they in turn invited us out to their farm for the weekend.

It was Craig's 21st birthday and he was delighted with the tool sets and the radio/cassette we had taken from here. Items like these are not readily available in Zimbabwe and when they are, they cost the earth.

We went to Oxyco to say hello to the folk John worked with during his 30 years with the company. The Managing Director very kindly offered us the use of a company car for the duration of our stay. This was an absolute godsend, as we clocked up over 5,500 km during our visit!

The Kruger's farm is actually two farms on opposite sides of the road, covering some 5,000 acres. The gardens around the main farmhouse were an absolute treat, ranging from a water garden set in sweeping green lawns, to a rather dry aloe garden. Kriek Kruger and his two sons were busy in the lands and were up at five every morning to supervise the reaping of tobacco and to attend to their seed maize, both being labour intensive crops.

Touring the farm, we went to a dam which had not yet filled. I got out of the Land Rover and did a little 'rain dance'. Later that evening as we were sitting in the main lounge of the farmhouse, the rain started to come down in torrents and John turned to me and said 'the great white witch has done it again'. Within a week the dam was spilling, as were five other dams on other farms further down stream. I have now been offered a free flight to Zim next time there is a drought!!

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dam where they are auctioned and distributed throughout Europe. She also supervises the smooth running of the home plus the pigs, sheep, chickens and turkeys. They have already allocated certain jobs for Lara, when she and Roy return from their honeymoon.

We took ourselves off on a trip of remembrance and journeyed up to the Vumba Mountains of the Eastern Highlands, where I had spent many a delightful short holiday as a small child. From the Vumba we went on to the Chimanimani Mountains and got stuck on a gravel road which had turned to mud after almost ten days of continuous rain!

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Our journey took us on to Bulawayo via Birchenough Bridge and I was delighted to see how well the country had recovered after the dreadful drought of last year. We visited the Matopos Hills and National Park and stayed with an old friend, Doris Marriott. Doris coached Des Chandler in blind bowls before he came to live in England. We also visited the house we had once owned, our first, and I managed to find the house I had lived in as a child.

Shortly after our return, my sister, who is paraplegic, and her daughter arrived from Durban, South Africa, to spend a week with us before the wedding. A grand time was had by all, John very nobly pushed the wheelchair, with my sister giving him directions, the two of them did seem to enjoy themselves and there was always a great deal of laughter.

The day of the wedding dawned with beautiful blue skies. Lara was able to take advantage of every moment to pamper herself, but not so poor Roy. He and his brother Mark, the best-man, were up at five as usual and in the lands until one o'clock. Agriculture waits for no man.

Eventually all came together and John very proudly escorted his daughter, who looked radiant and very beautiful, down

the aisle of the Anglican Cathedral. Every one commented on how proud and handsome he looked. The service was lovely.

On Monday morning, 11 of us headed up to the Oxyco house in Nyanga for a four day break. Away from the hustle and bustle of Harare, in the peace and tranquillity of the mountains, we were all able to relax after the tension of the wedding.

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Last year's minutes were read and from then on things got ugly. There being no other candidate for Chairman, Tom 'Soft' Hart, was prepared to stand again. Boos and cheers came from opposing factions, a chair was thrown Tom caught it and was re-elected. His two committee henchmen, Norman 'Champagne' Perry and Eric 'the Thesbian' Bradshaw, rode back into power on the same ticket. Chairs were overturned, carve up! Winter Gardengate scandal! Vice President 'Liz Dacre' eyes wide and pale of face, grabbed her chattels (gear) and fled the heaving, gouging, kicking heap of humanity, the other side of the door she fell into the arms of Mary, her faithful companion. At that moment a piercing scream came from within.

Phantom figure

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BOWLS

Peter Surridge rolls his way to victory, despite a valiant challenge from Ernie Hannant.

SPRING RESULTS

Totally blind singles

- 1st John Perfect
2nd Bill Allen

Partially sighted singles

- 1st Peter Surridge
2nd Ernie Hannant

Triples

- 1st John Hopkins, Alan Mitchell & Bob Osborne
2nd Ernie Hannant, John Perfect & Ray Prendergast

BRIDGE

Individual match played at IFH March 14th

- | | |
|-------------------|------|
| 1st Reg Goding | 59.1 |
| 2nd Mary Stenning | 58.0 |
| 3rd D. Orlando | 55.7 |

Easter Drive played at IFH

April 3rd

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1st Bill Phillips & Mr. White | 2030 |
| 2nd Mrs. Evans & Mrs. Douse | 540 |
| 3rd Reg Goding & Mrs. S. Holborough | 340 |

April 4th

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1st Alf Dodgson & Mrs. McPherson | 58.3 |
| 2nd Reg Goding & Mrs. S. Holborough | 56.9 |
| 3rd Vi Delaney & Mr. Douse | 55.6 |

Individual match played at IFH on April 17th

- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| 1st Vi McPherson | 66.7 |
| 2nd Wally Lethbridge | 61.9 |

Horsham Match

On April 18th, we journeyed to Horsham for our annual match. A very enjoyable afternoon ensued between two teams of eight, with Horsham leading by a small margin at half time. The final result was 13 points in

their favour. Altogether a very good afternoon meeting of old friends.

Our team was: Bill Phillips, Reg Goding, Wally Lethbridge, Bert Ward, Jo Huk, Alf Dodgson, Mrs. Clements and Mrs. Vi McPherson.

Beginners

April 19th-23rd saw Bert Ward with the help of Vi McPherson giving tuition each morning to a small group of beginners. It proved most successful. Future dates are being planned for beginners, improvers and those who simply wish to revise, so please watch the *Review* for dates.

Two-way competition held at IFH on April 24th-25th.

Three matches were played. The first match was drawn five points all. In the second match, Brighton won eight points to two. The last match was claimed by Provinces who beat Brighton ten points to 0. Final victory went to Provinces, 17 points to 13.

Mrs. Dacre kindly presented the Cup to Vi Delaney as Captain of the Provinces team and prizes to the first four pairs in the drive. The winners were:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1st Mrs. Hannant & Mr. Norrish | 1400 |
| 2nd Wally Lethbridge & Mrs. Tebbitt | 1280 |
| 3rd Billy Miller & Mrs. Padley | 1100 |
| 4th Bill Allen & Mr. Douse | 310 |

Mr. Douse was presented with a parking light, in gratitude for his services. Thanks go to Bert Wallage for all his hard work and to Lt. Col. Bray and his staff for their help.

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTHS

We offer our congratulations on the birth of:

Amber Hayward in September 1992. She is the great grand-daughter of Mrs. Ivy Carr of High Wycombe, Bucks., widow of *William Carr*.

Elly McGlynn. She is the great grand-daughter of Mrs. Hilda Wilkinson of Hull, Humberside, widow of *Christopher Wilkinson*.

Christopher House on March 1st. He is the grandson of *Brian and Ruth Chandler* of Coventry, West Midlands.

Christopher Booth on March 4th. He is the grandson of Peggy Booth of Wimborne, Dorset, widow of *Peter Booth*.

Lauren Marks on April 6th. She is the grand-daughter of *John and Rosalyn Hopkins* of Saltdean.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Lara and Roy Kruger on their marriage in Harare, Zimbabwe on March 6th. Lara is the daughter of *John and Carol Gasston* of Findon, West Sussex.

Maxine and Steven Amphlett on their marriage on April 3rd. Maxine is the daughter of *David and Alma Young* of Birmingham.

Michaela and Christopher McCaffrey on their marriage on April 3rd. She is the daughter of Mrs. Peggy Halse-Hearne of Hythe, Kent.

Julie and Anthony Gurren on their marriage on May 1st. Julie is the grand-daughter of *Stan Tutton* of Pearson House.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Trevor and Joan Phillips of Paignton, Devon on their Golden Anniversary on March 20th.

John and Irene McDermott of Urmston, Manchester on their Golden Anniversary on April 3rd.

Les and Marjorie Fensome of Meriden, Coventry on their Golden Wedding Anniversary on April 24th.

Charles and May Hague of Bootle, Merseyside on their golden day on April 24th.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Don Wessels of South Africa on obtaining his BA degree at Stellenbosch University.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of:

Mrs. Ellen Evans of Dudley, West Midlands on January 13th. Aged 99, she was the widow of *Charles Evans*.

Stephen Woodhall on March 5th. He was the grandson of Mrs. Doreen Woodhall of Birmingham, widow of *William Woodhall*.

Mrs. Irene Barker on March 11th. She was the wife of *Willie Barker* of Scarborough, North Yorkshire.

William Nesbitt on March 26th. He was the brother of *Alex Nesbitt* of Teignmouth, Devon.

Mrs. Jane Maher of London on April 6th, aged 95. She was the widow of *Harry Maher*.

Mrs. Elsie Lydon of Rottingdean on April 7th. She was the widow of *Terence Lydon*.

Mrs. Lilian Montgomery of Gosport on April 7th, aged 88. She was the widow of *Captain Cyril Montgomery*.

Mrs. Patricia Nunn of Ilkeston on April 14th. She was the widow of *Frank Nunn*.

Mrs. Adelaide Lightfoot of Wokingham, Berks. on April 16th, aged 86. She was the widow of *Claude Lightfoot*.

Mrs. Matilda Moss of Christchurch, Dorset on April 20th, aged 92. She was the widow of *David Moss*.

Mrs. Lorna Chatfield on April 30th. She was the wife of *John Chatfield* of Worthing, Sussex.

Our sympathy goes to their families and friends.

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, family and friends.

John Newton, Corps of Military Police

John Newton of Southport, Merseyside, known as Jack, died on March 5th, aged 80. Mr. Newton lost his sight while serving in the Corps of Military Police in France.

After training, he became a capstan lathe operator but had to leave his job in 1957 due to a chest complaint. In his enforced retirement, Mr. Newton concentrated on gardening.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Dolly, daughter, Margaret, and all members of the family.

James Power, York and Lancaster Regiment

James Edward Power of Willenhall, West Midlands died on March 12th, aged 71.

He served in the York and Lancaster Regiment from 1943 to 1946. Joining them in North Africa, he was involved in the invasion of Sicily and was wounded during the Italian campaign.

Mr. Power went with his battalion to Palestine where he was wounded by a grenade and suffered eye injury. Returning to civilian life, he worked in an iron foundry until he was 61.

Our sympathy goes to his sister, Kathleen, brother, Leslie, niece, Susan and all members of the family.

Peter McCormack, Royal Air Force

Peter John James Joseph McCormack of Sidmouth, Devon died on March 18th, aged 56.

Serving as a Leading Aircraftman in the Royal Air Force from 1956, he went on to become a drilling operator for Barrowside Pressure Castings. His main hobby was playing bridge and he took part in many tournaments.

Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Jack Dunn, Royal Air Force

Jack Ernest Dunn of Plymouth, Devon died on March 24th, aged 72. A noted gardener, he joined the RAF in 1940 and served in a Barrage Balloon Squadron, guarding the approaches to Plymouth, before being posted to Singapore.

Escaping the fall, he made his way to Java before being captured by the Japanese. With 1,000 other prisoners, he was used as forced labour on the Island of Ambon. Mr. Dunn was one of the few to survive.

In civilian life, he worked for British Gas at Launceston, Cornwall for 49 years.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Janet, and all members of the family.

Lieutenant Commander Douglas Williams, Royal Navy

Lieutenant Commander Douglas Sapte Williams of Southbourne, Hants died on March 28th. Aged 103, he was the oldest St Dunstaner.

Lt. Comdr. Williams joined the Royal Navy as a boy seaman in 1905 and was one of the last to be trained in sail. He was on HMS *Warrior* as a mess boy, but was Chief Petty Officer when posted to HMS *Hyacinth* at the outbreak of the First World War.

In 1915, his ship was part of the squadron that chased SM *Konigsberg* across the Indian Ocean and he later fought in the Battle of Jutland.

He was wounded during target practice on HMS *Cardiff* in 1927 but he continued to serve, notably on the staff of HMS *Excellent* and HMS *Victory* until retiring in 1948. Lt. Comdr. Williams and his wife opened a grocery store in the Isle of Man.

Our sympathy goes to his sister, Miss Mary Williams.

Joseph Slee, Royal Armoured Corps

Joseph Donald Slee, of High Carleton, Penrith, Cumbria died on April 12th, aged 80. He joined the Royal Armoured Corps in 1940 and was injured by an exploding mine while driving a tank.

Originally, Mr. Slee had been a chauffeur/

gardener and he continued to work as a gardener, for several years with the Ministry of Works in Penrith, until retiring in 1973.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Mary, their sons, Raymond and Maurice, and all members of the family.

Norman Drew, 1st Parachute Regiment

Norman Drew of Brixham, Devon died on April 17th, aged 72. Enlisting in 1942, he was a Corporal with 1st Parachute Regiment until his discharge in 1948.

He served in North Africa, Italy and Arnhem and Captain Richard Bingley was his Platoon Commander for about three years. It was during this time that he suffered gunshot wounds and lost his left eye. Mr. Drew was a PoW in Germany from 1944 to 1945.

Returning to civilian life, he worked as a bricklayer until retiring in 1973. His main interest was woodwork, making toys and building doll's houses to his own design. The latter he sold in aid of charity.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Bertha, their children and all members of the family.

George Wiles, Royal Navy

George Henry Wiles of Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Cornwall died on April 24th, aged 71. Enlisting in 1941, he served as a stoker in the Royal Navy until he was discharged on health grounds.

After the War he was employed as a dairy farm herdsman and was later trained by the RNIB in basketwork, tray-making and chair-caning. Once an active member of the Kent RNIB, he helped to produce a local talking newspaper.

Mr. Wiles and his wife, Kathleen, recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Our sympathy goes to her, their sons, Alan, Martin and Stephen, and all members of the family.

Albert Statham, Royal Engineers

Albert Edward Statham of Barking, Essex died on May 2nd, aged 73. He enlisted in 1939, serving as a Private, first in the Sherwood Foresters and then in the Suffolk Regiment. Wounded at Dunkirk, he transferred to the Royal Engineers and took part in the D-Day landings.

Returning to civilian life, Mr. Statham worked as a power station engineer until retiring.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Doris, and their three sons and all members of the family.