

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1944

FINAL NIGHT EXTRA

Still the Best! BIRD'S CUSTARD

Evening Standard

THE SPIRIT OF A GREAT RACE JOHN SCOTCH WHISKY

Churchill Announces Successful Massed Air Landings Behind Enemy in France 4000 SHIPS, THOUSANDS OF SMALLER VESSELS

"So Far All Goes to Plan"—11,000 First Line Airplanes

An immense armada of more than 4000 ships, with several thousand smaller craft, has crossed the Channel, said Mr. Churchill to-day, announcing the invasion.

"MASSED AIRBORNE LANDINGS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY EFFECTED BEHIND THE ENEMY'S LINES," HE SAID.

MR. CHURCHILL DESCRIBED THE LANDINGS AS THE "FIRST OF A SERIES IN FORCE ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT."

"The landings on the beaches are proceeding at various points at the present time. The fire of the shore batteries has been largely quelled, said Mr. Churchill.

"The obstacles which were constructed in the sea have not proved so difficult as was apprehended.

"The Anglo-American Allies are sustained by about 11,000 first line aircraft, which can be drawn upon as may be needed for the purposes of the battle.

No. 1

At 9.30 a.m. to-day the following communique was issued from General Eisenhower's Supreme Headquarters:

"Under the command of General Eisenhower, Allied naval forces, supported by strong air forces, began landing Allied armies this morning on the Northern coast of France."

The statement was marked "Communique No. 1." At the same time it was revealed that General Montgomery is in command of the Army Group carrying out the assault. This Army Group includes British, Canadian and U.S. forces.

The King on the Radio To-night

It was officially announced from Buckingham Palace to-day that the King will broadcast at 9 o'clock to-night.

HITLER IN COMMAND

Hitler is taking personal command of all the anti-invasion operations, according to news reaching London from under ground sources.

'LANDINGS ON JERSEY, GUERNSEY'

German Overseas News Agency said this afternoon that landings have been made on the Channel Islands—Jersey and Guernsey—by Allied parachute troops.

Quoting the German High Command spokesman, the agency said early to-day Allied air-borne formations landed on Jersey and Guernsey.

"This vast operation is undoubtedly the most complicated and difficult that has ever occurred."

"There are already hopes that actual tactical surprise has been attained," said the Premier, "and we hope to furnish the enemy with a succession of surprises during the course of the fighting."

"The battle which is now beginning will grow gradually in scale and in intensity for many weeks to come, and I shall not attempt to speculate upon its course."

"Complete unity prevails throughout the Allied Armies," (Cheers.)

"There is a brotherhood in arms between us and our friends in the United States."

"There is complete confidence in the Supreme Commander, General Eisenhower, and in his lieutenants, and also in the Commander of the Expeditionary Force, General Montgomery."

"The ardour and spirit of the troops—as I saw them myself embarking in these last few days—was splendid."

"Nothing that equipment, science and forethought can do has been overlooked, and the whole process of opening this great new front will be carried with the utmost resolution both by the commanders and by the U.S. and British Governments, whom they serve."

WHAT A PLAN! Replying to Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Churchill said he is certain in the early part of the battle he

Thousands Of Fighters Strafe The Nazi Guns

Since the invasion began, Allied fighter-bombers have been dive-bombing, glide-bombing and strafing German defences and communications.

They fly literally into the mouths of guns and dive within feet of the spans which hold bridges together.

A gun is silenced, a truck carrying ammunition for a company of German soldiers is blown up, a bridge is shattered, making German supply convoys detour to at 30 miles, a gun crew is wiped out—multiplied by thousands, the fighter-bomber attacks will help the surface forces in 1944 wars, and will have an enormous effect on the enemy below.

Bomber Command last night made their heaviest attack to date on the German batteries along the French coast.

In all, Bomber Command dispatched more than 1200 aircraft.

SHELLED BY 640 GUNS

The Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force state that over 640 naval guns, from 16in. to 4in., are bombarding the beaches and enemy strong points in support of the armies.

The weight of minesweeping material used amounts to 2800 tons, and the amount of sweep wire in use would reach almost exactly from London to the Isle of Wight.

The Press Association learns that enemy destroyers and E-boats are reported coming into the operational area.

'Tanks Ashore on Normandy Coast'

The Allies have established beach-heads in Northern France and are driving inland, according to pilots who have flown over the battle.

This afternoon the Germans announced that landings were continuing in the Seine Bay—the stretch of the Normandy coast between the two ports of Cherbourg and Le Havre.

They reported parachute landings in Guernsey and Jersey, the two principal Channel Islands, and said Allied troops were ashore at these points on the coast of Normandy.

ST. VAAS LE HUDON (in the Cherbourg Peninsula): "Mass landing" supported by considerable naval force, with strong American airborne forces jumped near Barbeur, a few miles to the north.

OUISSTREHAN (at the mouth of the River Orne): "Landing barges under strong air umbrella are making landings," said the Germans.

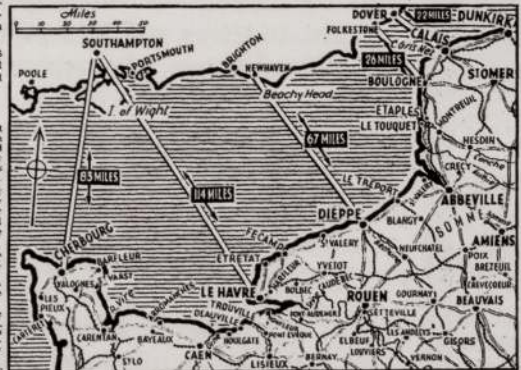
Earlier, the Germans had mentioned that Caen, a few miles inland up the Orne, was the "local point" where sharp fighting was being done. The Germans also reported fighting in Minot.

ARROMANCHES (in the middle of the Seine Bay): Tanks have been landed here, says Berlin.

ST. MARCOIN ISLAND (off the coast south of Cherbourg): "New landings made last night possible in this area."

FIRE ESTUARY Another focal point mentioned by the Germans was the estuary of the Vire, another river running north into the Seine Bay.

The battle reports were reported in several other bays: Barbeur (Continued on Back Page, Col. 7c)



Stories of The Men Who Watched

Here are the stories told by men who watched the landings.

Fighter pilots returning from over the landing areas report that Allied infantry scrambled ashore at 7 a.m. in two areas of the French coast, apparently without heavy opposition, says Robert Richards, British United Press war correspondent at a U.S. Fighter Base.

One of the pilots, an American Colonel, William Curry, told me:

"I saw the first troops wading ashore about 7 a.m. from light landing craft. From the height at which I was flying they did not appear to be meeting heavy opposition and were covered by extensive and heavy naval bombardment from our warships."

"We were never attacked by anything although the sea was terrific."

"Second" Lt. Linn, USN, was fairly calm and the sea was unusually patrolled by warships and many were using barrage balloons.

"When I arrived over the beach I saw a number of tanks and a few to be on the shore."

12-14 Harcourt Street,
London W1A 4XB

BI-MONTHLY
Free to St Dunstaners

JUNE 1994

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Cover Picture: The Evening Standard broke the news of the D-Day landings to an anxious London. Our tribute to the St Dunstaners involved starts on page 13.

Cover courtesy of the Evening Standard.

From the Chairman

D-DAY - 50 long years ago - the greatest military operation in history, transcending Hannibal's crossing the Alps and William the Conqueror's invasion of England, neither of which was confronted by air power. It was on a vast scale involving meticulous planning, massive organisation, ingenuity and a great deal of very hard work. My own ex-Captain of the Battleship *Duke of York*, since promoted to Rear Admiral, was Chief of Staff to Admiral Ramsay; late at night he just managed to pick up the phone and mutter 'send in a doctor' before collapsing at his desk having driven himself beyond the limit.

And as with all major undertakings luck played its part. Initially it was bad luck when unseasonable storms forced a postponement of the operation for 24 hours, probably the most crucial decision ever taken in war. Then good luck in respect of deception and surprise. It is all very well for the Press to dredge up interviews with (then junior) opposition commanders who now claim that if they had been ordered to re-deploy they would have given the invasion forces a hard time. The fact was that no such order was given and the rigidity of their command system stifled initiative. Napoleon, when selecting a war general to command one of his Armies, was wont to put a final question to his advisers: 'Is he lucky in battle?' Unless the answer was an assured affirmation he would seek elsewhere. I was lucky that my Destroyer was not driven by storms onto the rocks of Crete, when I would have retired as a Commander and Ion Garnett-Orme would never have asked me to relieve him as Chairman of St Dunstan's. *You* were lucky that you were not killed.

If *Overlord* had failed, today we would be living in a different country, a different world. Indeed many of us would not be living at all. We owe a great debt of gratitude, tempered by pride, to those who planned and those who fought, those who died and those who survived. (Lest I convey the impression that I was in the forefront of this gallant enterprise, it was not so; I was quietly going about my young Lieutenant's business in the Home Fleet Flagship in the relative security of Scapa Flow.)

And so back to St Dunstan's. As forecast in a previous *Review* we have been interviewing candidates for the post of Chief Accountant to relieve Gerard Frost when he moves up to Secretary on, sadly, the forthcoming retirement of Bill Weisblatt. We have selected Richard Barnes: eminently qualified, a caring person in his forties, happily married and with wide interests. I am sure you would want to join me in wishing *him* luck in his formidable task ahead.

Henry Leach



NOTICE BOARD



NEW ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS AT IAN FRASER HOUSE

Following the Chairman's announcement in the last *Review*, some changes have been made to the free accommodation allowance at Ian Fraser House, while a new rule has come into force for transport arrangements.

Accommodation allowance

The revised accommodation allowances are as follows:

St Dunstaners (increased from 14 days)	28 days
Wives and Widows (no change)	14 days
Escorts to St Dunstaners and Widows charged for each stay (reduced from 14 days)	

The accommodation charges will remain at £12 per day for all those categories above and at £15 per day for extra guests. Those undergoing assessment and initial training will continue to have free accommodation.

Transport

Transport costs form a large part of our expenditure and the need to make them even more cost effective continues. Many of you will be aware that increased sharing and backloading has resulted in some considerable savings over the past year. These measures will continue and may mean that on occasions you will be asked to change your travelling dates. This is not done on a whim and I would ask you to co-operate with the Reservations & Movements staff when they contact you.

New rule

From now on, St Dunstaners will be allowed three free return journeys (from home to IFH) per year. For the fourth and subsequent journeys, a nominal charge will be made.

This charge will be added to your bill at IFH

or deducted from your travel claim. This will apply whether you travel by road, rail or air. Rest assured that we will continue to make travel arrangements for you, although should you wish to make your own arrangements at your own expense, you will be free to do so.

In order to achieve a scale of charges we have divided the country into zones on a mileage basis. The mileages have been calculated using the 'quickest route' on the Autoroute computer system and therefore do not necessarily equal the actual mileage travelled. The table below shows the mileages for each zone and the cost per return journey per person. Your zone will be shown on your booking slips.

ZONE	MILES	COST PER PERSON
A	1 to 12	£2.00
B	Over 12 to 45	£8.00
C	Over 45 to 130	£15.00
D	Over 130 to 200	£20.00
E	Over 200 to 315	£25.00
F	Over 315 and Air Travel	£30.00

This system was effective from April 1st. If you have any difficulty understanding the new system, I or my Reservation & Movements staff will only be too happy to explain.

Sue Reynolds,
Assistant Manager

NEW ST DUNSTAN'S TIE

A new batch of St Dunstan's ties have now been produced. French Navy in colour and with a larger St Dunstan's badge than previously, the ties are made of polyester, making for easy washing. A bargain at £5. They are now available from Supplies Officer Angela Higson at Headquarters, ext 2222.

SAVINGS GUIDE ON TAPE

The ins and outs of National Savings are explained on a new tape. It describes the available options and indicates the type of investor who might find them suitable.

It can be acquired free of charge from the National Savings' Sales and Information Helpline on 0645 645000. Calls are charged at local rates.



LICENSING IN CHAPEL

St Dunstan's gained its first full time chaplain in 70 years when Reverend Brian Tyler was licensed on March 24th. The Bishop of Chichester, The Right Reverend Eric Kemp officiated as Rev. Tyler was presented by Canon Dominic Walker, OGS, the Rural Dean of Brighton.

The last full time Padre, Captain The Rev. J.E. Williams was based at St Dunstan's Headquarters in Regents Park for five years up to March 1924.

TURN AGAIN, TURN AGAIN, CRAFTSMEN OF ST DUNSTAN'S

Any St Dunstaner wishing to try their hand at wood turning can now do so at Ian Fraser House.

Wood turning is an activity for the more adventurous hobbyist and can be enjoyed by blind and partially sighted persons alike. It involves a piece of wood being held between centres or in a chuck at one end of the machine and spun. This enables the operator, with the aid of different chisels and gouges, to machine the wood to a desired shape producing bowls, vases, table lamps, etc. A choice of finishes can then be applied to give the final desired effect.

During the initial sessions basic skills will be taught, allowing the operator to progress to being able to produce items of this nature. For the more enthusiastic, basic design will be encouraged.

Sessions are to run for five days with all safety and protective clothing provided. Applications should be made via the Training Office, IFH, ext 3288. Ted John's experience of the course is revealed on page 18.

**Gary Glowa,
IFH Workshop**

CALLING ALL BOWLERS

Any St Dunstaner who wishes to try their hand at bowling should contact Rita Pryor, care of Ian Fraser House. She is currently planning a weekend for beginners.

STILL TIME TO SIGN ON FOR DAEDALUS

I'd got the impression through the 'jungle telegraph' that Daedalus was a bit of a 'booze-up'. Well, I have discovered that the myth couldn't be further from the reality. The friendship and kind hospitality which you find from the Captain down, runs through the entire week.

There's something for everybody and to suit all tastes, whether you're the active sort or just want to take things at your own pace. For the information of any newcomers the week kicks off with an introduction to your 'dog' (your eyes and ears) and then to your cabin mates. From then on it's just a case of falling in with the week's programme - you won't get bored!

This year's camp (August 5th-13th) is going to be something really special - as already announced - it is the 50th anniversary of the camps held at HMS Daedalus. A little dicky-bird tells me that Captain Newberry has got something up his sleeve for the Thursday evening - I wonder what it could be...?

There's no time to lose if you want to get your name in. The deadline has been especially extended by our Organising Secretary, Elspeth Grant. It is now Friday, June 17th. As time is short you may phone her on 0799 522874.

Dick Hall

NEW DEADLINE FOR CASHING A GIRO

The period available for cashing a DSS payment drops from three months to one month with the introduction of a new style Giro cheque. Full details of the changes should have been mailed to individual beneficiaries.

Any old style green Giro cheques issued after May 1st must be cashed by July 31st.

SMALLER £50 NOTE RELEASED

The latest new style smaller banknote was released on April 20th - a red coloured £50 note with a portrait of Sir John Houblon, the first Governor of the Bank of England.

The portrait of The Queen already familiar from the £5, £10 and £20 notes appears on the front but with the addition of a clearly defined silver foil in the design of a Tudor rose and medallion. The practice of including a colour symbol to aid partially-sighted people is continued with a red triangle. Dimensions of the new note are 85 x 156mm. The old note will continue to be legal tender for some time to come.

RICHARD'S GARDEN WAS A GREAT EXAMPLE

The sensory garden championed by St Dunstaner Richard Bingley has won the local council an environmental award worth £1000. Courteney Park, Newton Abbot was singled out for the top award in the Devon Environment Business Initiative/Nat West competition.

It won because 'it stimulated community action, was good in practice and a great example and was educational.'

Richard ran a series of coffee mornings and made several ten mile sponsored walks to raise funds to get the garden going.

NEW DIRECTOR FOR ST DUNSTAN'S SOUTH AFRICA

On behalf of all St Dunstaners living in the United Kingdom, we would like to send a warm welcome to Mr Kenneth Frater, MA (Cantab), on his appointment as a Director of our sister organisation in South Africa. Kenneth Frater and his wife, Angela, married in 1958. She has ties with St Dunstan's in that she was a bridesmaid to the late Mrs Natalie Opperman's daughter and through her great-aunt, Ethel, who was married to Sir Arthur Pearson. Kenneth and Angela Frater have a grown up family of two sons and two daughters.

We understand that Mr Frater travels widely in Europe pursuing his interest in art and architecture and we look forward to meeting him in London on one of his visits.

REEL CONTESTS

Angling St Dunstaners can test their mettle in three forthcoming contests for disabled anglers.

The first, organised by the National Federation of Anglers, is a knockout competition for four-man teams. A series of regional heats will lead to a grand final in September.

Secondly, the Eastern Region Disabled Championship takes place on August 28th on the Bowlers Bridge section of the Grand Union Canal in Milton Keynes. The first ten anglers qualify for the Final of the NFA Disabled Angling Championship. Closing date for entries is August 1st.

Third is the National Coarse Fishing Festival for the Disabled at South Cerney, Gloucestershire (where Ray Sheriff made his parachute jump with the Red Devils) on August 7th.

Further details can be gained from Douglas Dickson, 68 Nightingale Crescent, Lincoln LN6 0JT. Tel: 0522 694428.

CRISIS IN BOSNIA

We have all seen on television and heard dramatic reports from Bosnia of the shelling of hospitals and the consequential suffering of those isolated from any aid. One of our nurses from Pearson House, Sister Maureen Davies, has just returned from a trip with an aid convoy to Central Bosnia.

The photographs and the verbal descriptions of Sister Maureen's experiences are very moving. As a result of help from the Coldstream Guards serving with the United Nations, she found a small hospital in Bugojno which had no medical supplies and was constantly under bombardment. Sister Maureen and her colleagues, who were medics from Cornwall, stayed at the hospital to see if they could help. They soon experienced shelling and were without light, heat or proper water supply.

I have decided to help Sister Maureen gather supplies and aid for her next visit to the hospital in Bugojno, which will be in early June. Geoff Levett has agreed to obtain medical supplies from his sources. I therefore request either donations of tinned food to be sent to Sister Maureen Davies at Pearson House or cash donations to be sent to myself or Geoff Levett at Ian Fraser House.

**Brian Tyler,
Chaplain to St Dunstan's**

MARGARET STEPS OUT FOR BOSNIA

St Dunstaner Margaret Bingham climbed out of her wheelchair for a sponsored walk to raise money for Bosnian refugees. She managed an impressive 209 sponsored steps at Pearson House, a few days before her 70th birthday.

Margaret decided to make her sponsored walk after hearing Sister Maureen Davies talk about her experience in Bosnia

BEST WISHES TO DIANA

St Dunstaners who have been campers at HMS Daedalus over the years will be saddened to hear that Diana Hoare has recently undergone surgery for the amputation of a leg.

She is, however, making good progress and with her resilience and strength of character it is hoped that she will soon make a good recovery.

All campers and St Dunstan's friends send her every good wish. Letters or cards should be sent to 3 Clausentum Road, Winchester, SO23 9QE. She has been much cheered by messages she has already received.



FREEMEN IN LONDON

Recently Alice and I were surprised when the Chamberlain of the Court of Common Council, City of London notified us that we had been invited by the Lord Mayor and Corporation to be made Freeman of the City of London.

On March 14th, the Chamberlain presented with traditional ceremony a Freedom Parchment to each of us at the Guildhall. Alice formally declared her allegiance to Her Majesty The Queen, The Lord Mayor and Corporation of London. I did the same by repeating each phrase after it was read out by a Council member.

The proceedings were witnessed by Council members, family and friends amongst whom were friends from St Dunstan's: Mrs Elizabeth Dacre, Bill and Betty Weisblatt, Cynthia Mosely and David Bray.

An amusing right for Freeman is that we can take our own sheep over London Bridge, demand a silk noose if sentenced to death by hanging, and we can play marbles on the steps of St Paul's Cathedral. After a delicious lunch, we were given a conducted tour and film show of the Guildhall.

Bill Griffiths

OLD FRAMING EQUIPMENT WANTED

Recently, I have had enquiries regarding picture framing equipment from St Dunstaners new to this course. As the purchase price of this equipment is extremely high, I am appealing to St Dunstaners who no longer use or require their equipment to contact me at the Workshop, Ian Fraser House, ext 3222, to arrange for the equipment to be returned for forward transmission. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

**Gary Glowa,
IFH Workshop**

BLIND SPOT SAVER OFFER

An attractive range of discounts is offered by a new privilege card aimed at visually impaired people. Blind Spot is a national club which has negotiated savings or special services from restaurants, theatres, hotels, taxis, dry cleaners, plumbers and electricians.

Blind Spot have produced a Members' Directory for each county, which is available in braille, large print and on tape.

Membership costs £10 and further details can be gained from Blind Spot (UK) Ltd on 081 559 2102.

ALL THE FRILLS AT IFH

There were a number of fetching millinery masterpieces sported at this year's Easter Bonnet Parade at Ian Fraser House. The men's prize went to David Taylor whose *Spring Greens* just pipped Jim O'Donnell's *Candy Floss Pink*. Among the ladies, first prize went to Elsie Aldred - *A Vision in Pink*, second prize to Marjorie Ball - *A Bird in the Hand*, and third prize to Betty Wheal - *Bird's Nest Soup*.

BIG NEWS IN BIG PRINT

National and international events get large treatment in a new weekly, *Big Print*. As the name suggests, text in the new publication is twice the size of normal newspapers.

A quarterly subscription costs £12.20 and further details can be obtained on 0925 242222.

CORRECTION

We apologise to Lady Twiss for an incorrect reference to her name in our tribute to Admiral Sir Frank Twiss, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., D.S.C. last issue. Her name was Rosemary Chilton, widow of Captain Denis Chilton, RN, when she married Sir Frank in 1978.



Picture: Yorkshire Post

FINAL TRIBUTE TO LORD NORMANBY

Two of the remaining pupils of Lord Normanby's prison camp braille school were among the mourners at a memorial service on March 11th. St Dunstaners Tom Hart and Jimmy Shepherd (above) paid tribute to their mentor along with a congregation of hundreds at York Minster.

Also present from St Dunstan's were our Chairman, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, and Council Member Sir Richard Pease, who was accompanied by Lady Pease. Our President, Colin Beaumont-Edmonds, and Secretary, William Weisblatt, also attended with their wives.

FUNDRAISING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you, all

We are grateful to the following, who have been involved with donations to St Dunstan's:

Our widow, Mrs Lucy Wood.
Arthur Lowe, through the sale of toys.
Gwen Obern, collecting boxes and sale of toys.
The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Association (The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment).
The Royal Marines, several Royal Naval and Royal Air Force establishments.
John and Norma Alton of Australia.

Donations were received in memory of:
Sir Mike Ansell; Iain Bell (brother of Barbara Bell); Norton Christal; Edgar Hunter; Jack Martin; Joe Veale; Len Wiggins; & Frederick Worton.

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO Sir MIKE ANSELL

A memorial service was held for our past President Sir Mike Ansell at St Michael's Church, Chester Square, London on Monday, April 11th. The service was taken by his son, The Rev. Antony Ansell, in the presence of a full congregation accompanied by the band of the Royal Dragoon Guards.

Several Members of St Dunstan's Council were present, including the Chairman, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, the Vice-Chairman, Michael Delmar Morgan, accompanied by his wife, and Lt. General Sir Maurice Johnston.

Also attending, were former council member, Major Mervyn Sandys and his wife, as were Mrs Katharine Garnett-Orme, widow of our past Chairman, and our President Colin Beaumont-Edmonds, who was accompanied by his wife. Members of Staff present included, Bill Weisblatt, accompanied by his wife, Betty, Gerard Frost, Chris King, Liz Pearce, Pam Barnard and St Dunstaners Tom Hart and Ray Hazan.

The Lesson was read by Sir Mike's eldest son, Major General Nick Ansell and extracts were read from Sir Mike's book *Soldier On* by his grandchildren.

Passages were chosen about St Dunstan's, blindness and fishing, Sir Mike's three great interests after horse riding. It was a fitting memorial to a much loved and respected St Dunstaner.



ADD ASTRA

Forces support for St Dunstan's continued when RAF Uxbridge recently donated £500. Our Chairman, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, was pleased to accept.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are always welcome. Drop us a line or tape at 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1A 4XB



How the papers of the day revealed the end of the Hood - and the revenge attack on the Bismarck.

From: Mary Marsden, Church Stretton, Shropshire

It was very strange to listen to Essy's (Esmond Knight) description of the sinking of the *Hood*. It was not the same as the version which I typed soon after the *Hood* was lost, but several of the phrases he used in this tape I remember from the Forties. The strangeness was that I was carried back to sitting in the sunny room at Battlefield, where Essy was living, taking dictation from a young man about what must have been his last clear-sighted recollection before he was blinded. He did regain some sight in the one remaining eye but only to a limited extent.

During that early recollection with the world still a wilderness of war, and my own brother at sea, you can imagine what it was like to hear this brilliant description of an event which had shaken the country to its core - 'The *Hood* is lost'. My brother Ivor was a wonderful sprinter and he had won the 'Hood Cup' outright, so we had a very real interest in the ship.

Essy was a trained actor and had a really lovely speaking voice as a young man - perhaps he was about 33. The tape you sent now was made by an older man by far, but the brilliant description was the same. I entered a kind of time warp between the young woman then and sitting in my own room now, hearing the same story again. It took me quite a long time to come back to the present.

We played the tape to a friend of ours who

was in the Navy during the war. He too was transported and said afterwards that he felt he was on the bridge of the *Prince of Wales* with Essy all those years ago when he too had seen active service at sea.

I wonder how many people there are alive today who actually saw the *Hood* go down - can't be many.

Mary wrote this letter after listening to the late Esmond Knight's Radio 4 broadcast - *Death of the Hood* - which is SD8 (C90) in St Dunstan's Cassette Library. The tape also features the late Jimmy Wright receiving a much coveted BAFTA award.

From: Mrs Christine Newton, Camberley, Surrey

My father became a St Dunstaner in the late Forties when I was nine years old and I remember vividly my mother taking me to see him during his training time at Ovingdean. We used to travel down by coach from Sevenoaks to Brighton every Saturday - a trip looked forward to with much enthusiasm! Those days I recall with special affection as visits to the seaside had been very rare up until then.

On arriving in Brighton we had lunch in a restaurant before going to Ovingdean to say hello to everyone, collect dad and then make our way back to Brighton for a walk along Palace Pier and a paddle if weather permitted.

At first I had been shocked by the sight of so many men who were badly maimed and scarred, but I soon got used to them and looked forward to shaking hands and being teased.

Dad made a lot of friends during that time and I now wonder how many are still around? He died in July 1975 at Pearson House and when we travelled to Woodvale for his funeral (it was the first time back to the area for me since those early days), our car passed all the familiar sights, the heat haze over Palace Pier and the bustle of holiday makers enjoying themselves. Nothing had changed at all except that now I was much older and the occasion was a sad one.

If anyone does remember Claude Lightfoot, I should like to know. He spent many good holidays at Ovingdean between 1950-1970, meeting up with his old friends, and going down for the chess tournaments.

From: Verna 'Johnny' Johnson Ritchie, Ontario, Canada

I was one of the Canadian Red Cross gals that worked at Church Stretton with St D's and can't believe that it will be 50 years next June that Virginia Pearson Pincombe, Diana Pease Streatford and I arrived in the village.

Diana was transferred to Stoke Mandville a few weeks later to help teach braille, while Virginia and I stayed on with Monica Sey Robinson and were later joined by Morna Barclay Petrie, Ann German, Eleanor Shaw Johnson and Margaret Blackmore MacClure.

This past year, Eleanor had a visit with Monica and Bill Robinson when they were here on holiday and it is good to keep in touch with them. We have lost track of Ann German and Morna died several years ago. Margaret is living in Ottawa and Eleanor and I are still here in Toronto.

We read the *Review* with great interest and when a name appears it brings back many memories. In the last *Review*, it mentioned Gerry Durrant's death. I remember him very well. He and Frank Howes were great friends. It seemed that every trainee had a good friend, often one having a little sight.

Remember Lord and Lady Fraser and what special people they were. Remember the VAD's at Longmynd who were so good to me, Moira Murray Sherriff, Hilary and Peta Strachan, Primrose Elliott, Kathleen Bridge Williams, and many others. Oh, almost forgot Rhona Bayer and Betty McGregor. Often think of them and wonder how they are. So if anyone should hear of them please give them my very best.

The sun is pouring in my window, but it is a really cold snowy day here. We have had a really cold winter with snow continually from the middle of December. Lots of cold wind too.

When my husband and I were in England in 1986 we visited St D's in Brighton and I was glad to have a short visit with Gordon Smith and Wally Thomas. I also get lovely letters from Wally Such and Emma Daborn.

I'm sure that all the girls will join me in sending greetings and all good wishes for '94 to St D's people everywhere.

From: Leslie O. Shvemar, Ontario, Canada

As a member of the Sir Arthur Pearson Association I have been receiving the *Review* for several years and, with the help of my computer and my Xerox-Kurzweil Reader, I read your publication with much pleasure from cover to cover.

Of course, I recognise that much of the *Review*'s content is essentially for your readers in the UK but many of your contributors have

written of travel, war-time experiences and the many activities available to us who are visually challenged.

It might interest you to learn that the April issue reached me a week before the delayed February issue arrived. Unable to visually examine the changes you implemented, I was amazed at the much improved recognition quality of my Kurzweil. As it happens, I had just acquired the Reading Advantage software upgrade from Xerox Imaging Systems when the February issue arrived. No doubt, your new print font contributed to the ease with which my Reader scanned its pages, so I thank you and compliment you for your decision to make the change.

The Canadian government, through the Department of Veterans' Affairs, supplied me with the computer and the Reader. Mine is a 486 DX IBM compatible personal computer with a hard drive of 170 megabyte capacity, eight megs of RAM with a speed of 33 megahertz. It can accommodate both 3 1/2 inch floppy and the 5 1/4 inch. I mention these details as your article suggested because it is available on a disk, I would be pleased to receive the *Review* in electronic form. This will certainly compact the space required for storing the publication.

The appearance of the *Review* always brightens my day.

Leslie becomes the first person to receive the *Review* in disk format. Anyone else who wishes to receive the *Review* in this fashion, should contact the Public Relations Department.

From: Sydney Scroggie, Kirkton of Strathmartine, by Dundee, Angus

When I got blown up, which was in Italy in 1945, and they stretcher'd me into a field surgical unit, the QAIMNS who patched me up there had a Highland accent, a nice way with her, and turned out to be the sister of a pal of mine in my Edinburgh schooldays.

She wrote a note to my mother, I have it to this day, to the effect that her son had been badly smashed up, but would be all right in the end. Forty years pass, there's a chance meeting at Caradale in Kintyre, an elder of my brother Jack's kirk and a local woman who said: 'Tell your minister you've been speaking to the nurse who was the first to attend to his brother when he got wounded in Italy.' At this point Isobel Burgess and I exchanged a letter or two, and I might actually have met her at this period had not she been from home when my wife, Margaret, and I knocked on her door.

Seven more years pass, Margaret and I fall

in with a nephew of Isobel's in a remote part of the Highlands, and a result of this is that Ian Burgess, my old school chum turns up with his wife, Barbara, at the door of Roseangle, the first time I'd seen Ian since 1935. His sister, Ian told us, now lived in Comrie, not so far from us here in Strathmartine, and he would make it his business to arrange things so that myself and Isobel should once again meet each other face to face.

Only today, April 22nd, this has been accomplished, and if the meeting had been five days earlier it would have occurred on the 49th anniversary of when Isobel and I, the one a young QAIMNS, the other not a very nice object to look at, briefly encountered each other in the war-torn Romagna of 1945. Isobel's just as Highland-spoken as ever, just as nice, and of all the casualties who passed through her hands in North Africa and Italy, I'm the only one she's ever encountered again.

From: Dr Stanley S. Pavillard, Maidenhead, Berkshire

Having returned from a weekend at your wonderful place in Brighton. I wish to thank you most sincerely for the very nice weekend I spent with some of my fellow FEPoWs who were on the River Kwai with me. It was nice to see how St Dunstan's takes care of blind ex-servicemen and the facilities that you offer.

I found the food excellent and everyone was most attentive and I enjoyed visiting the Chapel for Sunday service.

War pensions minister at Brighton



St Dunstaner George King told of his memories of Nancy Astor when her grandson, Lord Astor, visited the Brighton Homes in May. Lord Astor is the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Social Security and the minister directly responsible for War Pensions. He was introduced to many St Dunstaners including, Doug Field, Ken Revis, Peter SurrIDGE, Alan Perrin, Steve Nixon and Phil Duffee.

Bamboo Doctor - Stanley S. Pavillard's harrowing account of the fight against death and disease in Japanese hell-camps on the River Kwai - is now in St Dunstan's Cassette Library, ref: SD 58. For a copy, just send 6 x C90 to the Public Relations Department, HQ.

From: Mrs Joyce Marsden, Polegate, East Sussex

I would very much like to thank everyone who helped to make such a joyful reunion at Brighton.

It was very nice to be able to meet up with old friends and have a little chin-wag.

The meal was superb and I feel sure it would have won the *Masterchef* meal of the year on TV. I trust there will be many more reunions in the future.

From: Mrs Marnie Simmans, St Albans, Hertfordshire

I have just read 'Spirits of St Malo' by Mike Halliday (April *Review*) and enjoyed it so much. It brought a lump to my throat, tears to my eyes but also gales of laughter. I am quite sure Les would definitely approve and thank Mike for sharing so eloquently.

Yes, memories are individual and my own at IFH of dear Les are of his kind generosity. If we were on a walk he would always ask 'where would you like to go Marnie?' Of course he knew that two Aries were like-minded and it would be the beach or Ovingdean churchyard - unless I would like a coffee? Definitely, Les Halliday was a man to remember with love and gratitude.

TALKING COMPASS

A talking compass is now available. The Robotron Columbus is a hand-held compass with speech output, which speaks the major compass points of North, South, East and West as well as interim points. The user orients the compass in the required direction and queries the device by pressing a button. The device is bilingual and the language is selected by sliding a small switch. Costing £59.95, it is available in the UK from Techno-Vision Systems Ltd, Unit 12, 76 Bunting Road, Bunting Road Industrial Estate, Northampton NN2 6EE. Tel: 0604 792777.

HEARING AIDS

As the cost of replacing hearing aids increases, it becomes vitally important to have insurance cover. St Dunstaners who would like to know more about this type of insurance, should ring Andrew Harris on 071 723 5021 ext. 2235.

Ted John G3SEJ lifts the faders on the Radio Society

Around the world in eight days - the Ragchew way!

Eighteen St Dunstaners travelled the globe in March - from India, where the temperature was 27c, to Lapland, where it was minus 17c with one metre of snow - from the comfort of Ian Fraser House. Their trek of the world took place during St Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society meeting and stations around the sphere were contacted.

At the Annual General Meeting, members recounted the Radio Society's activities and achievements during the past year. There were 18 members attending and the Committee was elected as follows:

Chairman Bill Shea, G4AUJ
Secretary/ Treasurer Ted John, G3SEJ
Committee Ray Peart, GØFHK
 Trevor Phillips, GØIBH
 Arthur Taylor, SWL

Tribute was paid to supporters including, John Houlihan, Dave Mitchell, Eddie Wilson and those stalwarts from the Workshops, Gary Glowa and John Walker, for their practical and willing assistance in maintaining the aerials and equipment. We are indeed fortunate to have their expertise so selflessly given.

Unfortunately, the proposed trip to Jordan (responding to a renewed invitation from His Majesty King Hussein) had to be cancelled, but we are hopeful that we shall have the great pleasure of visiting that country on some future occasion.

Greetings and best wishes were sent to Peter Jones, John Proctor, Eric Rowe, Bob Davis, Dennis Morris and Dennis Freeman who were unable to join us due to ill health. We heard too, that Paula Field and Jane Taylor were ill and we all wished them a steady recovery.

Our gratitude to Kozy Brawn and the catering staff for a superb meal on the Saturday evening, which was attended by the Society's guests from local amateur radio societies. The tables were most tastefully decorated and the staff waited on tables with a most pleasant and helpful manner. Many commended the meal as the best they had ever had!

Brian Freeman, G3ITF, our friend from Rottingdean, was presented with the G3MOW Memorial Trophy for outstanding service to the Society. He has taken over the demanding job of QSL manager (sending out

cards to confirm contacts and sorting out incoming cards).

Thanks are also due to the Care Assistants and Orderlies for their many kindnesses to members during their stay at IFH.

The dates of the other meetings for 1994 are July 15th-22nd and October 7th-14th. We also hope to run a Special Event Station from the Winter Garden for the Open Day at IFH on June 11th, using the call sign GB4STD. We have also been invited to participate in the Southsea Common Show, which is being sponsored by St Dunstan's on September 18th.

Finally, as proof of the all embracing nature of radio, George Cole, G4 AWI received the following letter from Bill and Wendy Chandler of Radley, Oxfordshire:

'Both my wife and I are Short Wave Listeners and are studying for the RAE exam. We love morse. Our speed is about ten to 11 words per minute at the moment and with one final push we should reach the 12 target. My father-in-law teaches morse (G4 LHI, Pete Rosamond) but as he lives quite a distance from us, he can only send tapes, so we do a lot of listening to the RSARS on 3.566 and below.

I felt that I had to write to say how nice it was to hear people sending morse at a nice speed that people like us can learn from, and not the usual computer morse or frantic speed that some go at. I turned on to 3.526-5 this morning and heard this lovely sound that I could almost follow.

You had a lovely 'chat' with GW3 JEZ and it was most enjoyable. I wish there were more on the radio that would give a thought to the 'learners.' There are a lot of licensees that once they have the 'A' licence never use the morse. What a waste!

'The trouble with those that continue using morse, is that they send reasonable speed but gallop through their call signs, much the same as in speech. Very few do the phonetic, they must have at one time been SWL, or were they? It makes you think. Radio is a wonderful hobby to go into old age with, more so if, like some friends that are blind or crippled, it becomes their only link with the outside world. Anyway, thank you for a most enjoyable QSO, I hope that we can catch you again further down our SWL. Log 73 to you.'

One St Dunstaner pays tribute to a unique fighting force

Airwave salute to the Glorious Glosters

Three hundred years of great tradition established by the Glosters came to an end in April. The Gloucestershire Regiment, 'The Glorious Gloucesters', were amalgamated with The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment to form the Royal Gloucestershire Berkshire & Wiltshire Regiment.

Their proud record of many battle honours (more than any other regiment in the British Army) included the wearing of a badge at the rear of the cap, known as the 'Back Badge'. This was granted after their victory against the French at the battle of Alexandria in Egypt when their soldiers, fighting back to back, defeated a much heavier force. It also includes the Presidential Citation given to them by the President of the USA in recognition of their gallant rear guard action in Korea when only 622 Glosters held up the advance of 30,000 Chinese for some days, enabling the threatened American Army to escape and re-group. Only five officers and 34 other ranks survived from that ordeal.

Both these honours are unique to the Glosters, no other regiment has anything like them.

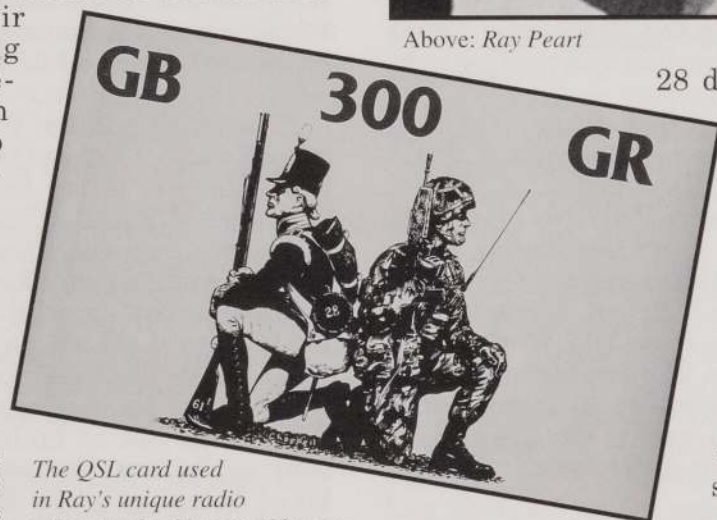
On March 19th, this year, the Glosters had their 300th and last anniversary celebrations with a service in Gloucester Cathedral, followed by a final parade and trooping of their Colours at the Regimental Museum in Gloucester, where their Colours were laid up at the conclusion of the ceremony.

To mark this great but sad event, St Dunstaner Ray Peart, GØFHK, who was blinded whilst serving with the Glosters in Northern Ireland in 1973, decided to run a Special Event Amateur Radio Station from the Glosters Museum over the week of celebration. He asked for the special call sign GB300GR.

Unfortunately, permission to do this was slow in coming from the Regiment and the



Above: Ray Peart



The QSL card used in Ray's unique radio tribute to the Glorious Glosters.

28 days notice required by the Radio Society of Great Britain elapsed. The RSGB themselves were not authorised to issue a special call sign outside the normal format and the 300 (to mark the Regiment's tercentenary) placed it outside this.

It was necessary for the RSGB to obtain sanction from the government's Radio Communications Agency to do so.

To their credit, they rapidly pulled out all the stops and the licence was granted to operate from March 10th-30th.

The station was erected in the Regimental Museum in the Docks Gloucester by members of the Gloucester Amateur Radio Society on March 12th. However, when the transmitter was used it tripped all the fire alarms in the museum and rendered their telephone system unusable, so it was not possible to continue at that site.

The RSGB were contacted on March 14th, and with their help and the co-operation of the RCA, the venue was changed within three days. The change provided the unusual facility of operating from a home with a Special Event Call Sign.

Operation then took place from Ray's home between March 14th-30th and some 687 contacts were made around the world. The special GB300GR QSL card was sent to each contact.

Simon Rogers examines Operation Overlord



SECOND WAVE: The men of 48 (Royal Marine) Commando making their way onto 'Nan Red' Beach, Juno Area at St Aubin sur Mer. Many of the Landing Craft were damaged by rough water and shell fire.

TO WIN OR LOSE IT ALL D-Day according to St Dunstaners

It was the 'Great Crusade' according to Eisenhower, the turning of the tide according to Churchill, while Montgomery told his men that they were 'given the honour to strike a blow for freedom which will live in history.'

No mere hyperbole! June 6th 1944 - D-Day - was all these things, the Allies' great push forward against the tyranny of the Nazi horde which had plundered Europe and caused so much suffering. It was a logistics nightmare which required a year of planning, though the true cost would be met with life and limb.

Allied forces rallied under the command of future President, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and the field leadership of General Bernard Montgomery. They defied all previous military logic by launching their assault under atrocious weather conditions.

Montgomery's message to the troops echoed the urgency of victory, but it was by no means as-

ured, it had to be earned. The man who had defeated Rommel quoted the words of a famous soldier:

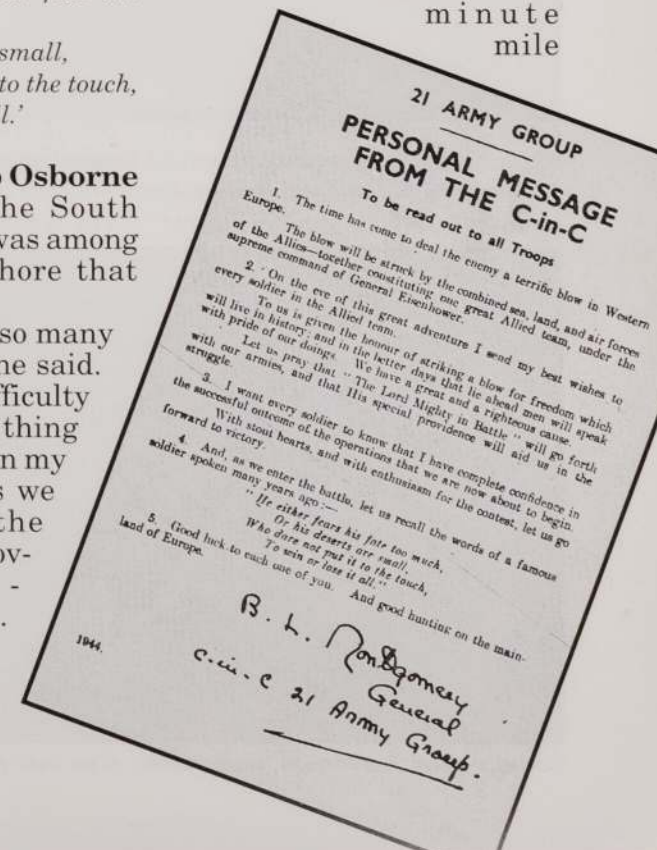
*'He either fears his fate too much,
Or his deserts are small,
Who dare not put it to the touch,
To win or lose it all.'*

St Dunstaner Bob Osborne who served in the South Wales Borderers was among the first men ashore that fateful day.

'I've never seen so many ships in my life,' he said. 'We had some difficulty landing, but the thing that really sticks in my mind was that as we looked inland the countryside was covered in poppies - lots of red poppies.'

Montgomery's message to the troops at the front.

'We lost a lot of people then and I remember thinking it could have been another Dunkirk if we hadn't broken through. I think I broke the four minute mile





OPERATION OVERLORD - JUNE 6th 1944 THE RECLAIMING OF NORMANDY



Left: How the Daily Mirror told the Home Front of the landings.
Right: A panoramic view of the D-Day landings.
Far Right: Firing on the enemy.



Above: The men in command: General Bernard Montgomery with Lt Gen Miles Dempsey and Lt Gen Omar Bradley. Below: Hunting the enemy.



Pictures: Imperial War Museum. Paper courtesy of the Daily Mirror.

before Bannister that day on the beach. It was just a case of self-preservation, really. 'My best pal was killed about a week after the landing, I still keep in touch with his family. I like to remember quietly, in my own way, after all you've got to keep going.'

Fred Bentley, serving in the 6th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, was another St Dunstaner who landed on the first day. 'We were given 24 hour food rations which were dehydrated. There were these little pill like things which you popped in boiling water, mixed it up and you had a stew.

'This thing on tv, about Percy Sugden being a cook is rubbish. We were on K-rations for months. We didn't have any proper grub and you don't need a cook to boil water, besides we were there to take the beach and no one had time for cooking.'

That becomes evident in the light of what was expected of Fred's Battalion. 'We took Bayeux. The Lord Mayor came out in a German side-car and asked us not to shell the town.

'That was never our intention anyway. No French town was shelled, they were all taken by hand, you don't do that sort of thing when you are in a friendly country. The RAF used to drop leaflets just

before we arrived to warn civilians to get out the way. It was a fine line between warning the locals and letting the enemy know we were coming. 'I remember the dirty tricks people. If you came across a Gerry corpse you put a bit of wire round the boot and gave it a tug before going near - they used to place explosives on them. If you came across a gate you didn't open it in case it was booby trapped.

'You looked for explosives everywhere - tins of food! We were always on the scrounge for food and they used to leave tins with explosives in them. If you went into a house, you looked up the chimney with a mirror before lighting a fire.

'There's an expression I hate. That's when they say a man gave his life. You don't give your life, you have it taken from you! There are no heroes in war! Nobody goes into action expecting to be killed. I didn't give my sight, I had it taken from me.'

Captain John Alexander also had to contend with heavy casualties to 1st Brigade Commando on landing at Ouistreham at first light. Having got across the beach, he looked back to find that over half his men and equipment had gone. The survivors had to endeavour to restore communications with their depleted force.

On June 9th, **Frederick Collingwood** intends to set out in a boat from Newhaven for some relaxing fishing. That day, 50 years ago his boat from Newhaven had a more serious intent.

'I arrived on D-Day +4 and was carrying 96lb of equipment. I was with the Black Watch, attached to the Canadians. We were always warned not to say too much to the locals. Normandy had been the German holiday area and they hadn't had it so bad, so you couldn't be too sure that something wouldn't reach the wrong ears.

'Yes, I was aware that it was the great push forward, though it stopped for a while, the day I got wounded. We spent a couple of weeks at a town called Longville. The last thing I saw were three ambulances. I assume I was hit by a 5cm mortar.

'I remember putting my

hand up to my face and feeling my right eye down on my cheek. Right away I thought "they've taken my sight".'

St Dunstaner **Jerry Lynch** was serving with the 9th Cameronians when he set out for Normandy.

'It was D-Day +9 when we landed. It was a pleasure to get off the boat because we'd been down below where there was the stench of diesel oil. I was lucky enough to get on land without getting my feet wet, which was just as well because I couldn't swim. There were some people going in up to their waists and others were climbing on to these American landers and then onto land. The beaches were quiet at that time.

'We were involved in the advance to Cheux and took a bit of a pounding, there were heavy casualties. I remember trying to dig in by a church

Making sure the coast is clear before an advance.





Under enemy fire, British infantrymen prepare to move out from Sword Beach.

and there was a sniper in the bell tower. There were 88mm shells dropping as we were moving forward. I went round a hedge and there were three bodies just piled up. I thought one of them was a fellow from Liverpool, an elderly chap called Tanker, but apparently it was our commanding officer, Lt. Alexander.

'On the main road to Caen and Bayeux, we fell in behind some Medical Orderlies. There was a youngster called Brown who took a shrapnel wound. We were going to walk him to the back, so I took the front of the stretcher and a couple of Guardsmen took the rear saying it was their privilege to be closest to the enemy.

'We were moving along when a couple of Germans ran towards us. I'd put my rifle down - well, I was holding the stretcher, so I couldn't have used it anyway. I needn't have worried because they surrendered. They were only about 15 or 16 - real kids! Of course, I was only 19 myself at the time, but I think I'd come to regard myself as a bit of an old campaigner.

'The last thing I remember is being pinned down in a ditch by a sniper. They gave the order to retreat and put in a mortar barrage and smoke. I can remember getting up and hearing the shot - but I don't remember the hit. I was out for a fortnight. I woke up in hospital and they told me I'd been flown home.'

When all is said, perhaps St Dunstan's **Ferdie Bennett** has the best analysis of D-Day and the Normandy landings: 'It was a job that had to be done. I was fortunate enough to come out of Dunkirk and I consider myself fortunate enough to have survived. We should commemorate those that didn't.'

At Queen White Sector, men of the 1st Battalion South Lancashire Regiment fall wounded at the waters edge. They went on to capture Hermanville-sur-Mer.



Ramblin' Ray Hazan strolls through the South Downs Walk, April 18th-22nd

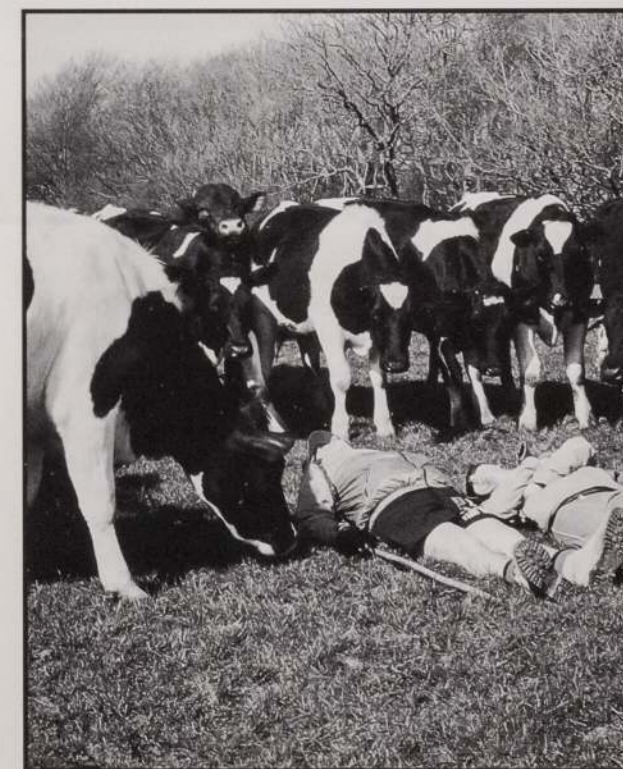
How now, Downs cow?



Above: Our merry troopers take a well deserved break from their arduous slog across the Downs. Below: Charlie Daly and Jonathon Ridge find their doze in the sun interrupted by friends of a bovine persuasion.

A breeze to cool the brow, the smells and feel of the open countryside, companionship, exercise, and a hot bath and warm bed to return to - these are the very stuff of life to some! For the fifth successive time, the sun shone on some of the righteous and the devil took care of the rest! Not a raindrop sallied forth this year. Some of our regulars were unable to be present, which meant the absence of Welsh singing and dubious pipe tobacco (sorry Trevor)! Their place was taken by newcomers John and Diane Bullock and by three trainees, Craig Kneller, Steve Sparks, and Alan 'Reggie' Perrin. Alan covered a remarkable total of 15 miles in view of the additional handicap of his paralysed left leg. It was a pleasure to hear just the sigh of the wind, bird song and the chatter of intent conversations; to lunch in the grounds of a quiet country pub, and the satisfaction of 10 or 12 miles behind you.

The dinner and dance at the end of the week is now a welcome part of proceedings. We salute the fact that at least two octogenarians completed the distance. Any others were not revealing their age! Well done everyone, especially Grant, who organised the routes and safety equipment. Please feel free to join in next year, with or without pipes and a song.



Ted John takes pride in discovering a new skill



Steadying the chisel, Ted experimented with shaping the wood as it rotated at high speed on the lathe. Inset: Ted with a number of items he produced while on the course.

A CLOSE SHAVE AT IFH

If you think that a square peg cannot fit into a round hole - I know a man who can do just that! His name is Maurice Crump - one of the four experts in the Workshop - and he does it all with the help of the latest addition to the Workshop - the Grand Union Lathe.

I am one of those people who has never used a lathe before and the phrases, head and tail stocks, Morse taper drills, live and dead centres, parting tool, etc., etc., were a foreign language to me. Skew chisels, square-ended and round nosed scrapers came within the same category.

Under the patient tuition of Maurice, it became apparent very quickly that you did not go near the spinning wood with a tool

Picture by Joe Prendergast

unless you intend to - just a slight touch on the wood and there you had an unwanted groove. Maurice came to the rescue and pointed out that it could be incorporated into the design! It is not true that what started off to be the stem of a lamp standard ended up as an egg cup. Nor is it true that I hold contracts for shavings for local stables or sawdust for butchers and bars!

First lesson was to become familiar with the tools and their purpose, although I understand that each one can be put to multiple uses depending on a personal choice. Gradu-

ally, I learned that it was not necessary to hold an implement until my knuckles turned white and that a good stance was very important.

Under the gentle persuasion of Maurice, I 'roughed down' a piece of 2x2 and tried to make an even cylinder. Using some of the tools, my first product turned out like something which could be placed on a set of bagpipes.

Encouraged yet again, and confidence increasing, it was decided that I should try my hand at a small table lamp base. This I did, and used a number of different tools to make some sort of design which, when the machine stopped, seemed to be all right - a personal opinion only! Eventually, a base was turned and fitted, and I felt rather proud of my achievement - so far.

Maurice then suggested that I might like to try making a bowl, and this I accepted with enthusiasm, donning the welder's type helmet for protection when the chips start flying - and fly they did! With expert advice, plus a further portion of Maurice's patience, the bowl gradually took shape. Finally, having sandpapered, treated wood with 'sand and seal' and waxed it, I removed the bowl from the O'Donnell chuck and examined the finished article. It felt wonderful!

First and foremost, with my gratitude to Maurice for his kindness, patience and expertise, I obtained a great deal of satisfaction in using the lathe and congratulate him for his teaching abilities - so prevalent with all the gentlemen in the Workshops. I still have a great deal to learn and would welcome another opportunity at some time in the future to widen my knowledge of the wonders of the wood turning lathe. The convivial atmosphere which prevails in the Workshops is very conducive to work.

Prior to starting on the lathe, I was able to make a glass-fronted cabinet to hold a presentation trowel which was used when the foundation stone was laid in the last century for a local Methodist church, which was demolished to make room for a by-pass. The local library has agreed to exhibit this trowel, suitably mounted, in one of its rooms where it can be seen and appreciated by former members of that church and the general public. I am grateful, yet again, for the advice and assistance I received from the gentlemen in this project.

Hearing of a fallen tree or broken branch takes on a wholly different meaning for me now - how many bowls, dishes, table lamps would it make? Every piece of wood has a potential.

Balancing the Books

by Ted Bunting

A Kind of Loving

Author: Stan Barstow

Reader: Stephen Thorne

Duration: 9.5 hours

Catalogue number: 7759

Boy meets girl. Girl gets pregnant. Young husband's life is then made a misery by his spiteful mother-in-law. Put like that, *A Kind of Loving* doesn't sound too promising, even if the idea of 'doing the right thing now she's in the family-way' sounds a little quaint in this age. But a really skilled writer can produce a masterpiece from the simplest of plots; consider Shakespeare's plays for instance; they are universally admired and rightly so, but their plots are extremely simple without exception. Not that I'm proposing Stan Barstow as a latter-day Bard, his word power would scarcely qualify him for that, but he has few equals when it comes to telling a tale in plain 'north of Watford' language, and I'm looking forward to the sequel 'no end'.

Life in a Railway Factory

Author: Alfred Williams

Reader: David Rider

Duration: 11.45 hours

Catalogue number: 7129

Refuse disposal officer I am not, but I do recognise rubbish when I encounter it. Yet the pity of it is that *Life in a Railway Factory* might so easily have been an interesting piece of social and industrial history if the author hadn't been so fond of blowing his own trumpet, contriving references to his supposed literary prowess. Consequently, through his unwarranted boastfulness, Mr Alfred Williams has not left yours truly bursting with affection for him. And I'm not alone either, for by his own admission he was equally unloved by his workmates at the factory. These disliked him he says, because he was their 'intellectual superior'. Well so he may have been, but his assertions do not in themselves constitute proof, nor are they at all pleasant, they certainly do nothing to improve what in my opinion is an extremely boring book.

Alf Lockhart records the latest Ex-PoW meeting

The light of these days around me



Standing, left to right: Ray Sheriff, Brigadier Dauncey, Tom Hart, Bill and Alice Griffiths, Sir Henry Leach and Brigadier Davies-Scourfield. Seated, left to right: Betty Sheriff, Mrs Elizabeth Dacre and Mrs Davies-Scourfield.

On April 8th, St Dunstan's ex-Prisoners of War gathered for their annual reunion. We had arranged a buffet/dance and had quite a night of it. The more energetic exercised their legs to the music of Ernie and his band while the rest exercised their tonsils in a full-throated sing-along. As you can imagine, both of these activities required plenty of lubrication. A marvellous party atmosphere lasted throughout the weekend.

There was a note of sadness at our AGM next day. We had lost 12 of our number during the course of the year. As their names were read out by our President, Mrs Elizabeth Dacre, the lines of a poem came to mind:

*'Thus in the stilly night
Ere slumber's chains have bound me
Sad memory brings the light of
Other days around me.'*

The Committee was re-elected en bloc and the date of next year's reunion was given as April 7th-9th 1995. Our Chairman, Bill Griffiths, then brought the meeting to a close. After coffee, Alice Griffiths distributed some pictures of 'Weary' Sir Edward Dunlop's State Funeral and other items of related interest.

That evening, we met our two guest speakers: Brigadier E.G.B. Davies-Scourfield CBE, MBE, MC, DL, accompanied by Mrs Davies-Scourfield; and Brigadier M.D.K. Dauncey, DSO, DL. We had the added pleasure of being able to welcome St Dunstan's Chairman, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, St Dunstan's Secretary, Bill Weisblatt and his wife, Betty, and several others from Headquarters.

We then went in for dinner. Kozy and her team really excelled themselves in providing such a magnificent meal. All this to the accompanying music of the John Nicholls Duo.

Both of our guest speakers had been taken prisoner of war by the Germans and have a special connection, if not with St Dunstan's itself, certainly with two St Dunstaners.

In the case of Brigadier Davies-Scourfield, the connection is with Tom Hart. As a young officer, the Brigadier served in the same battalion as Tom and they were taken prisoner at the fall of Calais. There was also a third member of that ill-fated battalion present, Mr Dougie Hughes. A mini reunion within a reunion.

Brigadier Dauncey's connection is with Ray

Sheriff and Arnhem. He and Ray were picked up with several other eye casualties by the Germans. They were taken to hospital for treatment, but as we are only too well aware, they were unable to save Ray's sight.

After the well received speeches, both the Brigadiers were presented with a St Dunstan's ex-Prisoners of War wall plaque.

As it is likely to be Bill Weisblatt's last attendance at our reunion as St Dunstan's Secretary, he is due to retire this year, a special presentation was made to him. I do hope that he has an enjoyable and long retirement. He is a very good friend to St Dunstan's ex-PoW's, giving freely of his own time and encouraging others to do the same. I am sure that we will see him in the future. He is and always will be a welcome and valued friend. Betty Weisblatt was presented with a bouquet.

After the Loyal Toast, Jill, a friend of Ron Cattell, joined with the John Nicholls Duo to entertain us with her singing. A pleasure to listen to. The rest of the evening was spent talking about times remembered and we eventually broke up around midnight.

On Sunday, a Memorial Service was held in St Dunstan's Chapel. Father Tyler conducted the service which was entirely ecumenical and spoke, among other things, of the sad loss of Bishop Derby. Richard Bingley read from *St Paul to the Corinthians* and Bill gave us his usual stalwart rendering of a sacred song about 'peace'. What struck me as a nice touch was the playing of the *Last Post* by the organist after Father Tyler quoted the lines from Laurence Binyon's *To the Fallen*.

Later, we watched a video which Jim Fraser had brought with him. It was a type of documentary cum propaganda film that had been made by the Japanese using prisoners of war

as the actors. It was very interesting and enlightening.

That evening, we were entertained by the Brighton Welsh Choir conducted by Beric Williams. They sang to a capacity audience and were warmly applauded. After the official singing, quite a large number of them adjourned to the bar and continued with an impromptu concert. A thoroughly enjoyable evening.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening - that's an understatement! The entire weekend was full of bonhomie and high spirits, aided no doubt by the other spirits which were being released from bottles. We have many people to thank.

David Bray takes a keen interest in our ex-PoW reunions. He is always on hand to advise, suggest or facilitate to make the weekend run smoothly. The care assistants and orderlies are ever helpful and they do quite a lot of shifting furniture about during our stay, always with a smile or cheery word. To all the staff at IFH, we give our sincere thanks.

I must also mention two ladies who are so helpful to the ex-PoW Committee. They are of course, Mary Stenning and Beryl Gardner. These two give an invaluable service to our Committee Members and I thank them sincerely. Lastly, we come to the Committee Members themselves - Mrs Elizabeth Dacre, Bill Griffiths, Ray Sheriff and Tom Hart. These four people do a considerable amount of work arranging for guest speakers, sending out invitations to prominent people to attend our reunion and so forth. They deserve our most sincere thanks for the work they do on our behalf.

To everybody who helped organise this reunion, St Dunstan's ex-Prisoners of War give their heartfelt and grateful thanks.

Ray Hazan hacks into the Computer Weekend, April 16th/17th

The many words of computers

Words, words, words - spoken, synthesised, on disk and on CD ROM - these were the main feature of the computer weekend. The group were pleased to welcome two newcomers, Ron Roberts and Bob Alty. There were a dozen regulars as well as our usual guests.

Most of the weekend was given over to open discussion, and all departed for home with new ideas, information and hopes, which invariably mean reaching for the cheque book!

Again, the discussion centred around dictionaries and encyclopaedias. The amount of information available at your finger tips today is quite remarkable. Unfortunately, the proposal to bulk buy either hard or software

did not appear to be advantageous.

The annual dinner was held on the Saturday evening. Mike Gammon handed over to HAL with the Apollo II to make the after dinner speech. Most were not only impressed with Mike's ingenuity, but the remarkable quality of the speech. Upgrading to Apollo II by trading in your Apollo I and software will cost £265. However, it may be worth waiting until July when HAL5 should be available.

The next weekend takes place on November 19th/20th. Several CD ROM disks will be on show. It is stressed that these meetings are available to everyone; it is not a club with subscription or formality.

Colin Oakes finds the Review distracting in a rather soggy way

My sink runneth over...

Wednesday morning at 0930hrs, I came in from the workshop for a bit of breakfast. I usually get up about 0700hrs before the alarm clock goes off (I can always claim it is before the alarm clock goes off as I can't hear it) and go into the workshop to clean up the mess from the day before, then start making a mess all over again - not much wood turning gets done as I spend most of my time making sawdust and ducking bits of wood that come flying off the lathe.

The wife is a 'lollipop' person (I don't think the council know the difference between men and women) and usually gets back around 0930hrs when we have breakfast together, but today she would not be back until around 1100hrs so I had to get my own - no problem, I can cook a fine bowl of corn flakes!

Anyway, I had just finished eating and put the dishes in the sink to wash up and turned the taps on. I sometimes do things like that as I have been 'house trained'. I had to answer the call of nature, running water sometimes has that affect on me. As I came out of the bathroom, I noticed the post had been delivered. There was only one letter and that was the *St Dunstan's Review*.

Going back into the kitchen, I sat down and opened the envelope because I could not read it inside the envelope, and as it was addressed to me, this seemed like a good idea. I thought I would check whether our marriage was announced, but found that it wasn't - so now I'm not sure if we are married or not.

I sat reading for a while and was distracted by the action of two of our four cats. They were walking around the floor and jumping up on the stool then getting down and jumping back up again. I watched them do this

several times, wondering why they were leaving wet foot prints on the stool and why the cats' dish was sailing majestically from one side of the room to the other - I tend to notice things like that - and continued to read the *Review*.

I must have been thinking subconsciously about the wet foot prints because I suddenly realised that I had left the taps running. Or maybe it was the cold wet feeling creeping up my feet.

I leapt into action instantly and fell over the cat! The cat took great exception to this and went straight out of the cat flap. It was the first time I had ever seen the cat use the flap, usually it sits by the door, waiting for me to do my duty as chief doorman.

The taps were turned off and the plug pulled. A towel placed to form a dam to stop the flood going into the hall and the contents of the linen basket were used to mop up the water. The sight of my socks struggling to dry land brought tears to my eyes. After two buckets full of water had been retrieved and used to water the garden, I dried the floor and finished the washing up.

When her ladyship came in, I had just sat down again and she wanted to know what I had been doing all morning. I said I had washed up the breakfast things and washed the floor. 'That's very good of you. How about making me a cup of tea,' she said.

Editor's note: Colin's tale seems wholly appropriate for someone who lives in Bath Road, Wells, Somerset. Our congratulations on his wedding appear in Family News on page 27, so he can rest assured - he is married.

Running for tea at the Palace

After running in the London Marathon what better way to finish the day than with tea at Buckingham Palace. St Dunstaner Gerry Jones of St Agnes, Cornwall did just that after completing the famous distance in 3hrs 46m. Gerry was running with Lt Cmdr Colin Douglas who recently served on the Royal Yacht *Britannia* as first lieutenant and a friendship struck during this time secured the invitation for tea. Gerry and Colin raised £3,000 for the RNIB with their run.

Lt Cmdr Douglas has just started a new appointment as commanding officer of 820 Squadron on HMS *Ark Royal*.

Also running in the Marathon were Supplies Officer John Allen, leading the way with 3hrs 27m 55seconds (55 seconds over his estimate), and Don Planner of Poole, Dorset who had to slow his pace after tripping over a sleeping policeman but completed the course after 4hrs 25m. Don was raising money for the Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead.

Presentation to a Marine Major General Keeling gives Reggie his *St Dunstan's badge*



Major General Keeling, CBE, Major General Royal Marines returned to Ian Fraser House in May to present a *St Dunstan's* badge and braille watch to Sgt Alan 'Reggie' Perrin.

Reggie, as he has become known to all while training with *St Dunstan's*, was partially blinded and paralysed down his left side as a result of a premature hand grenade explosion in 1992. He was told he would never walk again, but as revealed earlier in the *Review*, he managed to cover 15 miles cross-country during the South Downs Walk.

Reggie enlisted in the Royal Marines in 1980 and served with 42 Commando during the Falklands campaign. He was an Arctic warfare instructor and was training a young officers' cadre when the accident happened.

As he presented the *St Dunstan's* Badge, Major General Keeling told Reggie: 'If you were on parade, I would have to say that you look exceedingly smart - but since you're not, I won't.'

'Yes, but if we were, I'd have to do this,' replied Reggie as he picked a piece of fluff off the Major General's shoulder. 'I thought we had a deal, you said you wouldn't do that,' laughed Major General Keeling.



Proud moment: Sgt Alan 'Reggie' Perrin stands to attention as Major General Keeling pins on his St Dunstan's badge. Above: Mrs Eve Cowan is presented with a medal recognising her service in the Women's Land Army.

The pith helmet worn by Reggie during these proceedings was supplied by Terry Walker, not merely a braille teacher also a hatter to the Marines.

Major General Keeling made another presentation while he was at Ian Fraser House. Mrs Eve Cowan, widow of John Cowan, received a National Service medal for her work in the Women's Land Army.

OBITUARY:

Mrs Shirley Gillberry

Gubbay Mrs Shirley Gillberry of Ambrosden, Bicester, Oxon died on May 7th, aged 57. Mrs Gillberry served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Women's Royal Army Corps. Our sympathy goes to her husband, George, daughters, Susan and Anne, and all other members of the family.

REEL TO REEL WANTED

St Dunstaner George Cole is currently looking for a seven inch, reel to reel tape recorder. Anyone who has such a machine can contact George c/o The *Review*.

Simon Rogers checks out convenience foods

Philistine's palet

Food can be an emotive subject. I once witnessed a real barney at the House of Commons that destroyed careers if not the breakfast habits of a nation. Agriculture Select Committee Member Ann Widdecombe engaged Chief Medical Officer Sir Donald Acheson in a discussion on why he had taken so long to issue a warning about salmonella contamination in a certain item. They locked horns in a fashion that would make the Ouzelum Bird proud and I stopped taking notes, secure in the knowledge that a record of how often they repeated themselves would be sufficient.

An hour or so later, representatives of the producers came to give evidence. 'If the Government continues to say that our product is unfit to use, we shall have to take legal action against it,' was the full breadth of their statement. At the time, I found this terribly blunt and expected a few of their product to be thrown at these shysters.

As it happened, Edwina Currie resigned as Minister for Food within the week and I, as if you couldn't guess, carried on making contaminated omelettes. Swift didn't know the half of it.

All of which is a round about way of getting at a request for a guide to convenience foods, useful if you live alone or are temporarily separated from the prime cooking member of the family. After all, poisonous or not, an egg is convenient, isn't it? OK., so it isn't all it's cracked up to be, what about fruit? Take an orange or banana, remove the wrapping and eat it. Where's the inconvenience?

What I'm really hoping, is to use this as an opportunity to show off my coley curry recipe, but there's at least one St Dunstaner who wants to know about pre-prepared foodstuffs, be it a tin of Smash or half-bake baguettes.

If you want real convenience, cold meals are for you. Just walk through the salad counter and pick out a packet of ham, tub of coleslaw, jar of rollmops, taramasalata and a few cheeses.

Salad everyday isn't really on however, there's a certain comfort in a hot meal. Still, if you're thus inclined, it's fairly easy to live out of a tin, sachet or box. The available selection will vary from shop to shop or area to area but there is something for everyone out there whether your prime cooking utensil is a microwave, hob or kettle.

The microwave oven is certainly a boon to

the convenience cook. Just slap the food in, set the timer and the heat level. Ping! Dinner is ready.

Marks & Spencer rule the roost in this respect (and are most likely to have single portions). They produce a seemingly infinite range of prepared meals that can be microwaved. Some are exceedingly tasty, though others will have you wondering what you've just eaten. I recently had a prawn curry where flavour was conspicuous by its absence. On the other hand their 'Cantonese meal' was surprisingly delicious. These dishes demonstrate a tendency towards the exotic (in a bland sort of way), but Marks also do handy portions of bangers 'n' mash, fish'n'chips or even liver and bacon.

They produce these meals with a variety of methods, some are for prompt consumption, most are, or can be, frozen. Microwavability prevails, but some dishes still depend on conventional cookers - the St Michael Cumberland Pie is a good example (25 minutes on gas mark six).

Most large supermarket chains have similar products with varying degrees of quality. Iceland's own brands can be a pretty hit and miss affair; Sainsbury's are fine providing you only want mock Indian or Italian dishes.

A couple of the meals at M & S are prepared using UHT methods. This has become quite common since the item doesn't need refrigeration. John West, Vesta, and Heinz are among the producers to enter this field. At the top of the range, you get a not insubstantial meal, at the bottom you get a congealed lump of rice and mince. Again curries and stews abound but there are also some desert options.

Vesta still produce freeze dried meals which are mimicked by some supermarket chains. Crosse & Blackwell and Batchelors offer a variety of flavoured rice and have recently introduced lines of pasta with powdered sauces, (add milk, water and butter, simmer for 15 minutes), which cost about the same as a Pot Noodle but have a lot more flavour.

All these items are essentially meals in their own right, but there are convenience items for anyone who wants to choose their ingredients at a more fundamental level.

Colman's, Knorr and others make a wide range of powdered sauces, Homepride and Uncle Sam offer sauces in tins and jars, while Oxo, Bisto and Bovril have all wandered into

the territory of instant gravy granules.

Tinned meats seem to be declining but beans, soup and vegetables continue to hold their own. If you've tired of powdered potato, why not try a tin or jar or hit the freezer for some oven-chips? Sainsbury stock a dried sautéed potato range. For a change, you could pick out some boil-in-the-bag rice or try one of the many varieties of pasta now found on the shelves. There is also a range of easy to prepare noodles which come with a little sachet of soup powder for flavouring.

One final, though perhaps painfully obvious, hint. If you are diabetic - beware! I know at least one person who came a cropper because he assumed a tin of Sainsbury's Chicken Curry would have the same sugar

content as the beef equivalent. It didn't and he paid the price. Convenience foods in general pay little heed to special dietary needs.

A personal, and convenient, favourite of mine is cheese on spaghetti on toast. Grill some toast while heating a tin of spaghetti in a saucepan; butter the toast and place on a Pyrex dish; pour on the spaghetti, cover with cheese slices and melt under the grill.

Easy! Just make sure you are using oven gloves when you handle the Pyrex dish.

If you have a tip you would care to share, send it to *The Review* for inclusion in this column. Next issue I'll reveal what a friend of mine once had to eat in Russia. No it wasn't borscht - that would have been a mercy!

As for the coley curry...

St Dunstan's Area Reunions make their long awaited return

REUNIONS REVIVED

LIVERPOOL

After much anticipation, St Dunstan's Area Reunions resumed for the first time in three years on April 19th. Liverpool was the venue for this inaugural event and nearly 70 St Dunstaners and Widows assembled at The Gladstone Hotel in the heart of Merseyside. Sir Maurice Johnston (*above right*), a Member of St Dunstan's Council, accompanied by his wife, Lady Johnston, told those present that he was happy to preside over this spearhead gathering. He added that, while the reunions had been cancelled to protect the welfare work that forms the core of St Dunstan's operation, he and other Council Members had pushed to find ways of restarting them.

Sir Maurice toasted the golden anniversary of Jim and Edna Bumby before handing over to Ted John, who replied on behalf of St Dunstaners and Widows.

St Dunstaners Sydney

Kirkton and Bob Waller were attending with their wives for the first time, as were St Dunstan's Widows, Mrs Olive Sedgwick and Mrs Edna Ward-Rowe.

BRIGHTON

The first of the Brighton reunions took place at Ian Fraser House in the Winter Garden on April 27th. Thirteen St Dunstaners and 20 widows attended. Members of staff included welfare visitors Helen Stewart and Vivien Jackson.

Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox, RN, a recently appointed Member of Council and his wife, Jennie, attended their first St Dunstan's gathering. Paul Walker responded on behalf of the guests.

EXETER

The first of the south west regional reunions took place at the Forte Crest Hotel, Exeter on May 4th. Ten St Dunstaners and nine widows were present. Our President,



Colin Beaumont-Edmonds, represented Council. May Wood, widow of Robert Wood of Plymouth, gave the response. Both Colin and May thanked Liz Pearce for having organised the reception.

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.

Corporal David Corscadden joined St Dunstan's on March 2nd. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1983 to train as an Engineer Technician but, at the end of 1992, was involved in a road traffic accident whilst on duty at RAF St Athan, for which he is still in hospital receiving treatment after suffering multiple injuries.

Corporal Corscadden's wife, Elizabeth, lives in South Wales.

On March 14th, Patrick Burke of Carlisle, Cumbria became a St Dunstaner. He joined the Army in

1946 and qualified with a Tec. Eng. and Member of the Institute of Road Transport Engineers. After gaining his commission, Major Burke served throughout the world with his corps but was invalided out of the Army in 1975. He and his wife, Moira, have one son and three daughters.

We welcomed **Dr Stanley Septimus Pavillard** of Holyport, nr Maidenhead on March 23rd. He was the seventh son of eight children and, although he was born in Las Palmas where his father worked as an accountant, he received an English education. He qualified as a doctor at Edinburgh University and went on to become a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Dr Pavillard and his six brothers volunteered for service and he was sent to Singapore as Medical Officer to the 1st Battalion (Singapore) of the SSVF. He was later captured by the Japanese and sent to work on the Burma Railway. He wrote a book about his experiences, *Bamboo Doctor*, and was later awarded the MBE (Military Division) for his work amongst prisoners under conditions of extreme hardship.

Following his discharge in 1947, he practised medicine in his native Las Palmas. Dr Pavillard is a widower and has three daughters.

CLUB NEWS

ARCHERY CLUB

February Meeting

With evidence of winter floods, snow drifts, and partly decomposed snowmen still visible, the weather beaten veterans of the Archery Club assembled for transport to the Longhill School Sports Centre for coaching and practice. Our group included Eric Bradshaw, John Lilley, Tom Hart, Norman Perry, Ron Freer, and myself. We were accompanied by no less than seven coaches, led by that volatile, but top class, chief coach Ted Bradford, and assisted by five spotters. What more help could we have wished for.

After loosing some 14 dozen arrows, lunch time arrived and not before time as none of us had been able to get much practice since the September shoot.

The afternoon commenced with the Annual General Meeting in the Brighton Club Room. Present were President John Glazier, Vice-Presi-

dent Mrs Elizabeth Dacre, Chairman Tom Hart, Secretary/Treasurer Ernie Elliott, Committee Member Eric Bradshaw, and five lay members. The present officers were all re-elected and Norman Perry joined the committee.

Next day, our numbers were increased by Tommy Gaygan and Phil Duffee who arrived for four days of intensive shooting (they won the fun shoot and Tommy immediately requested that his cash prize should be sent to the School for Deaf Children at Ovingdean). We had the competition Portsmouth Round for the Austin Rose Trophy. Tom Hart emerged as a worthy winner and Ron Freer, the runner up.

Before leaving Longhill School, we had a visit from the caretaker, Bill Keating, who on behalf of the Headmaster, staff and pupils, said we would always be welcome. They wished us good health and successful archery. Tom Hart presented a token of our appreciation for their hospitality.

Back to IFH for the prize presentation and dance. In her ever graceful manner, our lady paramount, Mrs Elizabeth Dacre, presented the Laurie Austin Trophy to Tom Hart, the silver medal to Ron Freer and the bronze medal to Tommy Gaygan.

Our final session was our home fixture against Cuckfield Archers, Portsmouth Round shooting to a finish. They emerged as winners in a very closely fought match.

Ron Cattell

BOWLING CLUB

Bowlers raise funds for Nepal

A jumble sale organised by Rita Pryor, Joan Osborne and other Bowling Club members raised over £600 for a visually impaired training project which will be run by St Dunstaner Tilakman Tulachan in Nepal. The project is being launched with the help of the Gurkha Association. Tilak is currently attending an Army Sponsored Resettlement Course in Small Business Management and Accounts.

March Handicap Results

Triples:

Winners: Bob Osborne, Joe Harris & Colwyn Lloyd
Runners up: Jackie Pryor, Frank Smith & Jock Forbes-Stewart

Partially Sighted Pairs

Winners: Ernie Hannant & John Hopkins
Runners up: Colwyn Lloyd & Joe Harris

Totally Blind Pairs

Winners: John Perfect & Tom Whitley
Runners up: Bob Osborne & Bill Allen
3rd: Jackie Pryor & Albert Fleet

Partially Sighted Singles

Winner: Jess Mills
Runners up: John Hopkins
3rd: Joe Harris

Totally Blind Singles

Winner: Bill Allen
Runner up: Jackie Pryor

Fun Triples

Bill Allen, Mrs Mary Lloyd & John Hopkins

En Tout Cas Trophy

for most improved bowler
Joe Harris

BRIDGE CLUB

League match against Horsham,

played at IFH on February 27th
Our team, Wally Lethbridge, Bill Phillips, Reg Goding, Shirley Holborough, Alf Dodgson, Johnny Whitcombe, Audrey Clements & Carole Berry, spent a pleasant afternoon resulting in a win for Horsham.

Pairs match played at IFH on March 6th

1st	Bill Phillips	
equal	& Dr Jane Goodlad	
	Reg Goding	
	& Mrs Fay Andrews	59.0
3rd	Mrs Audrey Clements	
	& Mrs Margaret Stevens	56.2

Individual match played at IFH on March 13th

1st	Bill Allen	64.8
2nd	Alf Dodgson	58.0

Pairs match played at IFH on April 17th

1st	Alf Dodgson	
	& Mrs Vi McPherson	67.9
2nd	Bill Phillips	
	& Dr Jane Goodlad	58.3

Two way competition held at IFH on April 23rd-24th

Three matches were played over this weekend, the first of which was won by Brighton - nine victory points to one.

The other two matches were won by Provinces - six points to four in each case.

The overall score ensured that

Brighton won the Ike Pellington Cup with a score of 17 victory points to 13. Bill Phillips thanked Mrs Dacre for presenting the prizes.

The Brighton team, captained by Bill Phillips, comprised Wally Lethbridge, Pat Padley, Reg Goding, Margaret Stevens, Vi McPherson and Bert Ward.

The Provinces were captained by Peter Surridge, leading Alf Dodgson, Johnny Whitcombe, Betty Hare, Bertha King, Ralph and Kay Pacitti and Gwen Hannant.

General drive at IFH on April 24th

1st	Wally Lethbridge	
	& Mrs Shirley Holborough	2560
2nd	Reg Goding	
	& Mrs Audrey Clements	1090

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTHS

We offer our congratulations on the birth of:

Joshua Knowler on January 23rd. He is the great grandson of *Fred and Winnie Scull* of Canterbury, Kent.

Kelly Allen on January 31st. She is the great grand-daughter of Mrs Dorothy Coutts, widow of *Arthur Coutts* of Morden, Surrey.

Hope Fisher on February 5th, in San Francisco. She is the grand-daughter of *Jack and Betty Davies* of Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

Romily Sue Kenward on February 25th and Simon Bane on February 27th. They are both great grandchildren of *Joseph and Ellen Bane* of Morden, Surrey.

Henry Brinkman on February 27th. He is the grandson of Mrs Patricia Lovejoy of Soberton, Southampton, Hampshire, widow of *Ernest Lovejoy*.

Lauren Softer on March 4th. She is the great grand-daughter of *Desmond and Doris Bissenden* of Putney, London.

Kathryn Moore on April 4th. She is the first grandchild of *Norman and Mary Hopkins* of Heath, Cardiff.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Colin and Anna Oakes of Wells, Somerset on their marriage on October 29th, 1993.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Clifford and Phyllis Fisher of Ower, nr Romsey, Hampshire on March 20th.

Charlie and Lottie McConaghy of Belfast on April 2nd.

Lionel and Jean Scott of Plymouth on April 10th.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Alex and Lilian Pecket of Gorton, Manchester on March 14th.

Arthur and Ula Taylor of Freshwater, Isle of Wight on March 25th.

Eric and Iris Church of Exmouth, Devon on April 1st.

Ron and Mabel Ellis of Upton St Leonards, Gloucester on April 1st.

Jim and Edna Bumby of Marland, Rochdale on April 8th.

Don and Eileen Wilson of Stalham, Norwich on April 15th.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

William and Edith Freeman of Winnersh, nr Wokingham, Berkshire on March 12th.

Charles and Olive Cummings of Verwood, Dorset who celebrated 62 years of marriage on March 26th.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Ruth Lugg of Zeals, Warminster, Wiltshire on receiving a medal from the Royal School of Music for 30 years service with her church choir. She is the daughter of the late *Reginald Lugg*.

Mark Roberts on gaining his Ph.D and starting work in government research. He is the grandson of *Jackie and Rita Pryor* of Peacehaven.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of:

Mrs Mary Lynch on March 8th. She was the mother of *Jerry Lynch* of Saltdéan.

Mrs Dorothy Bell of Penrith, Cumbria on March 11th. She was the widow of *Frank Bell* of Porthcawl, Mid Glamorgan.

Mrs Esther O'Donnell on March

19th. She was the mother of *Jim O'Donnell* of Brighton.

Mrs Mary McGoohan on March 29th. She was the wife of *Daniel McGoohan* of Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex.

Mrs Eileen Richardson on March 31st. She was the wife of *Dickie Richardson* of Kempsey, Worcester.

Mrs Beatrice Rouse of Abergavenny, Gwent on April 1st. She was the widow of *Wilfred Rouse*.

Mrs Mary Lawton of Borehamwood, Hertfordshire on April 2nd. She was the widow of *Michael Lawton* of Stanmore, Middlesex.

Mrs Judy Munday on April 27th. She was the wife of *Brian Munday* of Norwich.

Brian Atack in April. He was the son of Mrs Celia Atack, widow of *Doug Atack* of Blackpool.

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.

Edgar Hunter, Royal Corps of Signals

Edgar Ian Hunter of Brighton died on March 9th, aged 92. He enlisted in the Westminster OCTU in 1918 but just missed out on serving in the First World War. Returning to civilian life, Mr Hunter qualified as a Chartered Engineer (Elec.) and spent his working life with the Chloride Company, specialising in the development and research of batteries. During the Second World War he worked on submarines and the development of the X-Craft.

In 1937, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Corps of Signals (TA), was then embodied in August 1939 and was in the first convoy of British troops to set off to France just before the declaration of war. There, his vehicle was involved in a road acci-

dent inflicting chest and facial wounds which included the loss of his right eye. He was a keen sportsman and played rugby for Lancaster until 1939.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Eileen, and son, David, and all members of the family.

Cyril Saunderson, Coldstream Guards

Cyril Roy Saunderson of Withernsea, Humberside died on March 10th, aged 79. He enlisted as a guardsman in the Coldstream Guards in 1931 but returned home in 1934 to take over the running of his family's road haulage business. Upon the outbreak of war he returned to his old regiment and was among the first of the expeditionary force in France.

During a rear-guard action to allow the British Army to escape through Dunkirk, Roy was one of only 26 survivors of his battalion. For two years he was listed 'missing presumed killed' until news came through that he was alive, albeit a prisoner and severely wounded in the head.

Mr Saunderson returned to the family business after being discharged in 1944, retiring in 1975. His many hobbies included playing the accordion and he was a founder member of the Withernsea and District Electronic Organ Society. He was interested in model engineering and wrought iron work and gained a Certificate of Merit in this respect.

There were four children from his first marriage and he gained five step-children when he remarried in 1961.

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

Joseph Veale, Royal Air Force

Joseph John Veale of Newquay, Cornwall died on March 10th, aged 76. He enlisted with the Royal Air Force in October 1936 and served as a Regular, reaching the rank of Flight Sergeant before his discharge in 1966. Mr Veale trained as an air frame fitter and served in India, Africa, North America and Germany. He went on to work at RAF St Mawgan as a Civilian Clerical Assistant.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Phyllis, daughter, Mandy, son, Michael, and all the family.

Joseph Laverty, King's Regiment (Liverpool)

Joseph Dominic Laverty of Patcham, nr Brighton died on March 13th. He was 74 years old

and had been a St Dunstaner since 1968.

Mr Laverty enlisted in 1938 and served as a sergeant with the King's Regiment (Liverpool) until his discharge in 1958. He held various jobs, including working in a bakery and for Austin Motors. He had a strong musical streak and played the piano-accordion and the 'spoons'. Mr Laverty met his second wife at Pearson House where she was acting as an escort.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Diana, and daughters, Kathleen and Maureen, and to all the family.

Harold O'Neill, Queen's Own Royal West Kent/6th Battalion

Harold O'Neill of Orpington, Kent died on March 14th, aged 70. A carpenter by trade, he enlisted in February 1942 and was wounded in Sicily the following year by a grenade explosion which resulted in the loss of his right eye and injuries to his arms and legs. He was discharged in 1946. Returning to civilian life, he worked as a warehouseman and machine operator for various firms, retiring in 1981.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Joyce, and sons, David and John, and all members of the family.

John Martin, The Devonshire Regiment

John Martin of Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire died on March 15th. He was 84 years old and had been a St Dunstaner since 1945. Enlisting in 1932, he served with The Devonshire Regiment as private until 1944 when he was wounded in France by a mortar bomb. His sight lost and left arm paralysed, he was discharged the following year.

Mr Martin worked as a storeman/labourer until he retired, aged 65. His hobbies included amateur radio, tape recording and music.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Lucy, their children and all the family.

William Stickland, Royal Air Force

William Eric Stickland of Rock, Cornwall died on March 22nd. He was 69 years old and had been a St Dunstaner since 1964. Enlisting in 1943, he served in the Royal Air Force as Leading Aircraftman until his discharge in 1947. It was during this period that his sight began to fail. Returning to civilian life, Mr Stickland worked as an innkeeper and then as a farmer. He was working for British Leyland when he retired in 1981. Our sym-

pathy goes to his wife, Jean, their daughters, Gail and Lynn and all the family.

Norton Christal, Royal Air Force
Herbert Thomas Norton Christal of Castletown, Isle of Man died on April 5th, aged 84. After gaining his MA at Cambridge, he worked as a French and geography teacher until 1941 when he enlisted in the Royal Air Force. Mr Christal was a Squadron Leader when he was injured in an accidental explosion of a mine detonator which cost him his sight and caused other serious injuries.

In spite of his severe injuries, he returned to his old school, King William's College, Isle of Man, where he taught scripture. He worked tremendously hard and was amply rewarded by the outstanding examination successes achieved by his pupils. Mr Christal wrote a book on rugby and was presented with the Scouts Order of Merit for his help with their activities.

In 1951, he was elected to the Committee of the local branch of The Royal British Legion and later became their Vice-President. Eight years later he was elected Chairman of the Isle of Man County of The Royal British Legion, a position he held for almost 30 years.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Betty, his sons and all the family.

Norman Hewitson, Royal Air Force

Norman Hewitson of Darlington, County Durham died on April 11th, aged 73. Enlisting in the Royal Air Force in 1940, he served as a Leading Aircraftman in Cawnpore and Karachi, India and was awarded the King's Badge.

His service ended at RAF Innsworth when his right eye was injured in an accident and he was discharged in 1946. On leaving the service, Mr Hewitson worked in engineering.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Maud, and all the family.

Joseph Collins, The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry Regiment

Joseph Collins of Welling, Kent died on April 16th, aged 91. He served as a private with The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry Regiment from 1922. While in India, Mr Collins suffered a loss of vision in his left eye and was subsequently discharged in 1926. He then worked as a Lobbyman for the Gas Board for 27 years.

Our sympathy goes to his daughter, Anne, and all the family.