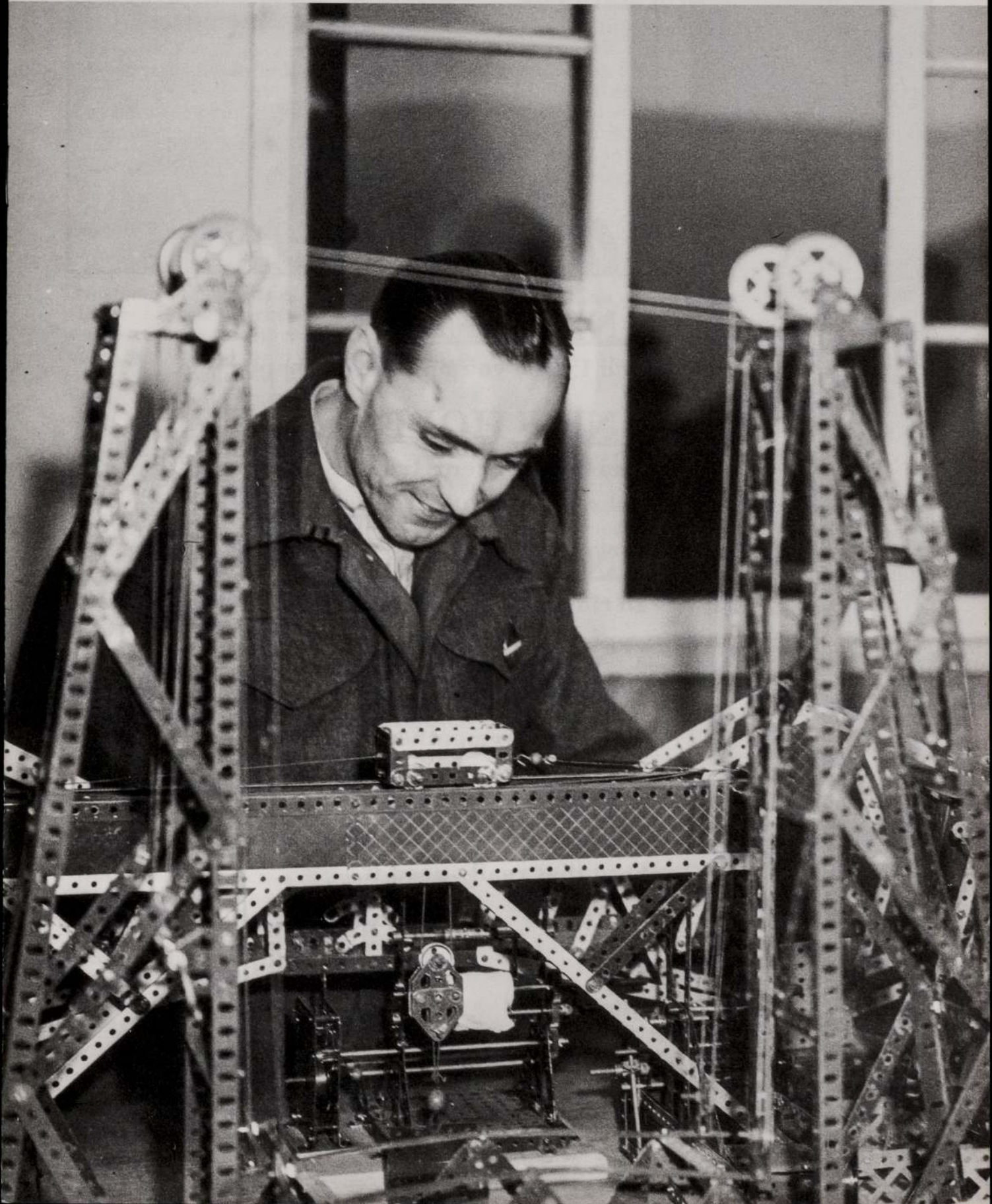


# St Dunstan's Review

February 1996

No. 862



12-14 Harcourt Street,  
London W1A 4XB

BI-MONTHLY  
Free to St Dunstaners

FEBRUARY 1996

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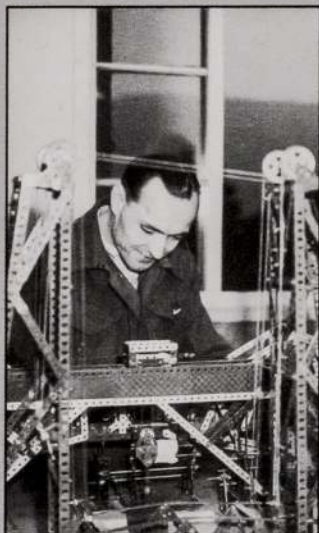
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Cover picture: The late Bob Smith was just one St Dunstaner who practised engineering skills with Meccano during the Church Stretton days. To learn how a modern St Dunstaner makes use of the modelling system, turn to page six.

## From the Chairman



### A NEW YEAR

- and I hope you have a very happy one.

### A NEW HOPE

- that our recent troubles are steadily being pushed behind us.

### A NEW DETERMINATION

- to ride out the storm and sail in calmer waters.

### A NEW AIM

- to project the image of St Dunstan's to a potentially sympathetic public.

### A NEW SPIRIT

- of strength and unity and giving more help to those that really need it.

# 1996

*Henry Leach*



## NOTICE BOARD



### THANK YOU FOR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Members of staff throughout the country, both serving and retired, wish to thank all St Dunstaners, their widows and families for their cards and kind wishes received over the Christmas period. They reiterate their wishes for a healthy and happy 1996.

### CRAFT WORK REQUIRED

The Royal Tournament commences this year on July 9th. We hope to repeat our success of last year with the sale of items made by St Dunstaners, their widows, wives and families.

If you have any items such as wooden or woolly toys, trays, mirrors, knitwear, etc, which you would like to donate or would be prepared to make over the coming months, please contact Ray Hazan at HQ.

### EX-PRISONERS OF WAR REUNION

A letter has been sent out to those who have attended previous Ex-Prisoners of War Reunions notifying them that the next one will be on April 12-14th. Those who have not received a letter, but wish to attend, please contact Tom Hart, 28 St Aubyns Mead, Rottingdean, Brighton BN2 7HY. Telephone: 01273 302627.

### FROM THE EDITOR

Please would contributors note that items for the *Review* are required by the following dates:

APRIL	February 27th
JUNE	April 26th
AUGUST	June 28th
OCTOBER	August 30th
DECEMBER	October 25th

We invite all members of St Dunstan's family to send us articles on any subject for consideration by the Editor. The aim of the *Review* is to inform, help and encourage one another. Your feelings and experiences, sad, happy or amusing may be of help to others.

### SUMMER GOLF

St Dunstan's Golf Club will be organising several weekends during the summer months. Any interested parties should contact Des Chandler on 01273 472193.

### WALKING HOLIDAY 1996

The walking week will take place from April 11th-16th. It will consist of four or five 10 mile daily excursions.

The details of venue and costs were not finalised at the time of going to print. If you have not already received a letter and are interested in participating, would you please contact Ray Hazan at HQ as soon as possible.

### TICKETS FOR THE CUP

The big match of the year will take place at Wembley on May 11th. It is possible that St Dunstan's will be allocated tickets for the FA Cup Final. Any St Dunstaner wishing to go should send their name and address to the Welfare Department at HQ. A draw will be held if we receive tickets.

### THE GUNNER MAGAZINE ON TAPE

The possibility of recording the monthly journal of the Royal Regiment of Artillery has been proposed. Would anyone interested in being put on the mailing list please contact the Public Relations Department as soon as possible.

### CAMP AT HMS SULTAN

As mentioned last issue, *Daedalus* campers are moving to HMS *Sultan* for the 1996 camp. Will all those wishing to book please contact Elspeth Grant at High Acre, Catmere End, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4XG or by telephone on 01799 522874. The dates of the camp are earlier than usual, to fit in with the Field Gun Crew's leave period, and will be Friday July 26th until the morning of Saturday August 3rd 1996. Applications should be made by May 10th.

### LEGION PILGRIMAGE PLANS

For details of pilgrimages to prominent war cemeteries and memorials organised by The Royal British Legion for 1996 (destinations include Burma, Cyprus, Egypt, France, and Germany) write to The Royal British Legion Pilgrimage Department, Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7NX. Tel: 01622 716729.

## DATES FOR 1996

A list of activities for the forthcoming year.

(p) = provisional

### February

Archery AGM 18th-25th

### March

Brighton Reunion(1) 5th  
Liverpool Reunion 12th  
Sherborne Reunion 19th  
Exeter Reunion 26th  
Radio AGM 29th-31st

### April

Cardiff Reunion 2nd  
Ex-Prisoners of War Reunion 12th-14th  
Walking Holiday 11th-16th  
Norwich Reunion 16th  
Brighton Reunion(2) 23rd  
Southampton Reunion 30th

### May

Service of the Order of the British Empire 8th  
Birmingham Reunion 14th  
London Reunion(1) 18th  
Cambridge Reunion 21st

### June

Archery to be announced  
Leeds Reunion 4th  
Newcastle Reunion 5th  
Nottingham Reunion 18th  
London Reunion (2) 22nd

### July

Royal Tournament 9th-20th  
Warminster Camp (p) 11th-15th  
HMS Sultan 26th-August 3rd

### September

Gardening to be announced  
Chatham Camp to be announced  
Belfast Reunion 3rd  
Edinburgh Reunion 24th  
Physiotherapy Conference 27th-29th

### October

Handless Reunion 2nd-7th  
Computer Club 10th-11th

### November

Remembrance Day 10th

### December

St Dunstan's Day 9th

(Anniversary of Sir Arthur Pearson's death)

## CALLING ALL VIP SWIMMERS

Blind swimmers are being challenged to take part in the *BT Swimathon '96* - the tenth anniversary of the event - which will be taking place at over 500 pools around the country.

Organiser British Blind Sport invites strong swimmers to tackle a 5,000m marathon but the distance can also be covered as a team effort. Beneficiaries of the sponsored activity will be Childline and BBS. For full details call the Swimathon Hotline - 0345 881199 - which will provide information in print, braille or on tape as required. The event takes place between March 18th-24th and final applications should be in by March 5th.

## CHATHAM CAMP

Any St Dunstaner who served with the Royal Engineers interested in attending the Chatham Camp during the second week of September, should contact Des Chandler on 01273 472193.

## BEWARE TV CON MEN

There have been several reports lately of con men gaining access to homes by claiming that they have to re-tune television sets for the forthcoming Channel Five. No endeavour of this kind is in progress.

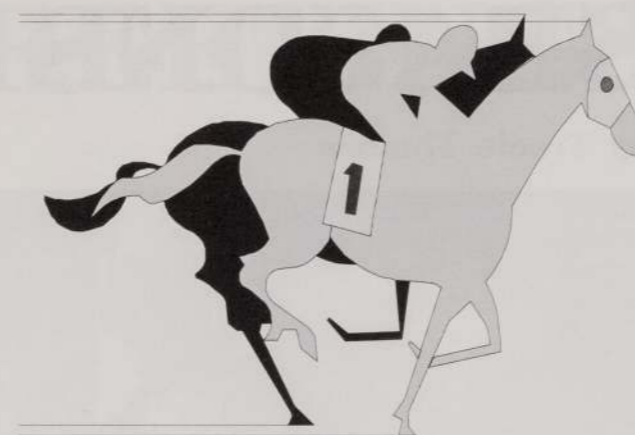
As usual, we strongly recommend that you do not admit strangers to your home unless you are totally satisfied as to their identity (by password, by telephoning their office or obtaining sighted help to verify their identity card). Ideally a verbal phone number or ID card should be passed to you without the need to open the door.

## REGISTER YOUR ORGANS NOW

The NHS is entirely dependent on the generosity of individuals who agree to donate their organs. Since 1972 over 30,000 organs have been donated - over 3,000 last year alone - but there are still currently over 6,000 people on the national waiting list.

A recent MORI poll showed that families will almost always agree to an organ being donated if they are sure it is what their relative wanted. But when wishes are not clear, opportunities are lost. The NHS Organ Donor Register should virtually eliminate this problem. Over two million people have registered but more are needed.

To join the register, fill out the leaflet *LIFE - don't keep it to yourself*, available free of charge on Freephone 0800 555 7777. It is also available from your GP, library, pharmacist, post office or Citizens Advice Bureau.



## DERBY SWEEPSTAKE 1996

St Dunstaners and widows can now apply for tickets in this year's *Review* Derby Sweepstake.

This year, the race is being run on June 8th. Tickets are 30p each and issued consecutively to a maximum of 25 (costing £7.50). Applications should be made as soon as possible. Closing date is Friday, May 31st.

Each applicant should send their name and address, the number of tickets required, together with a stamped addressed envelope, to The Editor, DSS Department, *St Dunstan's Review*, PO Box 4XB, 12/14 Harcourt Street, London W1A 4XB.

Cheques should be made payable to St Dunstan's and crossed. Loose money should not be sent unless it is registered.

Of the total money received distribution will be as follows:

50 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.

20 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.

10 per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.

20 per cent to be divided equally among those drawing a horse which actually starts the race.

No prize won in the sweepstake will be paid to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket was sold. The draw will take place in London on June 3rd.

## BIG PRINT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Visually impaired people have paid tribute to *Big Print*, a weekly tabloid newspaper which features national news and other features in a large, easy to read, format. *Big Print* is available by subscription only and costs £12.80 per quarter or £48.00 per year. It is mailed direct to subscribers, reaching their homes on Fridays/Saturdays. For further details call the free information line - 0800 124 007.

## STORY CONTEST REMINDER

For this year's story contest, the challenge is to craft a mysterious whodunnit. As usual, stories will be judged by an independent panel. They will assess the entries and prizes will be awarded accordingly. First prize is £60, second prize is £25 and there are three runners-up prizes of £5 each. The first and second prize winners will have their tales published in the *Review*.

The competition is open to St Dunstaners, their wives or husbands, and to widows. Only one entry per person is permitted. The story should be between 500-1000 words, must be original and not previously published. Please type manuscripts with double line spacing.

Entries are to be submitted under an assumed name. Write your nom de plume, the title of your story, your real identity and full address on a sheet of paper. Seal this sheet in an envelope and write your nom de plume on the front.

Entries should reach the Editor, by the closing date, April 28th 1996, at Story Writing Competition 1996, *St Dunstan's Review*, 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1A 4XB.

This is the information you need for your tale. The year is 1928. It is claimed that Lord Dunstan has been murdered at Ovingdean Hall and the famous Raymond chandelier has been stolen. The police have found a smoking gun, dagger, garrotte, syringe, pepper pot and a tea strainer.

In a room, they have gathered their suspects: administrator Anna Coluthon; the well-known debutante and opium addict, Margo Janson; the butler, Smithers; war-hero Major Carrington and his Lordship's twin children, Christine and Christopher. Any one of them may be responsible, but then again, maybe not. Use these elements to craft your tale of mystery and suspense for this year's story contest.

## BRIDGE AT BRIGHTON

St Dunstaners interested in continuing the regular bridge drives at Ovingdean should contact Reg Goding on 01273 308467.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC PRICES

Due to circumstances beyond our control, 6x4 black and white photographs will now cost 80p each. Colour prints in that size cost 50p.

Prices for larger sizes remain as follows:

	B&W	Colour
7x5	£2.50	£2.50
8x6	£3.25	£4.00
10x8	£4.05	£6.00

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

**From: Jack Fulling, Harrogate, North Yorkshire**

May I draw the attention of our Orange badge users to the fact that the ink written details on these badges, displayed on the car windscreen, is subject to fading and eventual elimination due to the effect of sunlight.

Having fallen foul of the 'fixed penalty clerk', I would advise our badge-users to periodically check the writing and return the badge to social services for rewriting indelibly if found faulty. I understand that other St Dunstaners have experienced similar difficulty.

**From: Mrs Priscilla Nobbs, Redhill, Surrey**

When Miss Phyllis Rogers heard that Robert had bought me a piano soon after we were married, she jokingly said 'Let me know when you play in the Festival Hall.' Well, the amazing thing is that I have performed in the Purcell Room and I don't think I'll get any closer than that!

In recent years I have attended the summer course for Advanced Pianists, arranged by Kent Music School. The course is held in Maidstone - and the Master Classes in London. I was really surprised to be selected for the Master Classes this year. They were held in the Purcell Room, and were taken by Artur Pizarro (who won the Leeds Piano Competition in 1990 and regularly performs at the Proms).

I was very nervous, but was pleased with the way I played *Solo Forenoons* by John Ireland. Artur had not heard it before and thanked me for introducing him to new repertoire. It had taken me two years to learn it. Artur just sat down at the Steinway and sight read it! He took the Master Classes brilliantly and later performed in the final concert.

The icing on the cake came, however, when I suddenly heard my name being announced as being 'Highly Commended.' I had to go up on to the platform and shake hands with all the tutors and Artur.

The top concerto prize was an engagement with the Orchestra of St John's Smith Square (and there was a magic moment in the Master Classes when Artur started to accompany the winner as she played Liszt's *Piano Concerto No 1*). The top recital prize was an hour's recital on Classic FM.

# SEASONS GREETINGS

by Tracie Thomas



What would a train ride be without the wait?

Christmas festivities here at Ovingdean were a mixed bag of outings and activities for all residents and those St Dunstaners visiting from around the country. All arranged by our very able Jenny Low in Entertainments.

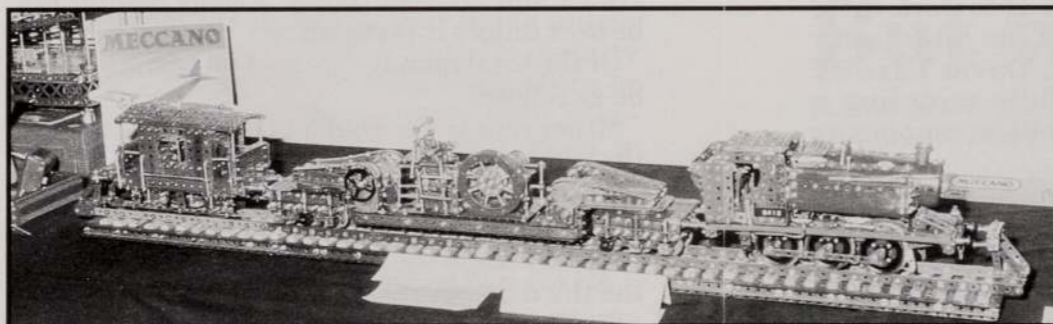
Two coachloads of St Dunstaners began the holiday season by trundling off to Tunbridge Wells to do a spot of Christmas shopping.

Steam train buffs were treated to a trip on Santa's Bluebell Line, running through Sheffield Park, luckily resident Sid Doy kept mum about our driver Dave Vinall who had jumped



Winnie Edwards meets Father Christmas.

## Say it in Meccano



In 1908, Frank Hornby of model railway fame, introduced a system for home engineer enthusiasts - Meccano. There can be few St Dunstaners who are unaware of the name, at least, even if Father Christmas was ungenerous in times gone by! Certainly during the Second War years in Church Stretton, Meccano was taught as a hobby and for therapeutic purposes. Today, Blind organisations still use the system to teach or assess engineering skills.

Terry Bullingham, an ex-Artificer in the Fleet Air Arm, who lost his sight during the Falklands Campaign, had always been interested in the system. Even during his recovery in hospital, he had made his mind up that Meccano was an ideal hobby for a blind person.

Terry is a member of both the Society of Advanced Meccano Constructors and the Midland

Meccano Guild. 'Being blind means that we cannot copy a photograph or plan. The Guild were most helpful in putting me in touch with a railway enthusiast who was willing to lend me his model locomotive'.

Though the prototype was in O gauge, Terry constructed his Class 94

Pannier Tank Locomotive, well-wagon and brake van in 1 gauge (10mm to the foot). The original loco was one of ninety-nine built for the Great Western Railway in 1947.

Next on the drawing board is a Super Lion Road Loco as seen at show grounds. Terry is an avid collector of Meccano parts and would be interested to hear from anybody who may have some hidden away.

Meccano is a part-time hobby as Terry accompanied by his wife Maria, is a full-time speaker for St Dunstan's. Last year, they gave 190 talks and this year, some 220 organisations, clubs and gatherings will hear his address. Not only does this spread the word about the work of St Dunstan's, but he also helps break down the barriers between the able-bodied and handicapped members of society.

on the ride without a ticket!

The Larks provided music and song to accompany the traditional Christmas concert. Les Copeland gave his all with an excellent rendition of *Wunderbar*. Both Jim O'Donnell and Margaret Bingham brought the lounge alive, Jim with *Moonriver* and Margaret with a rendition of *The Egg*.

Christmas Eve, Dr Pavillard threw a party to wish all his fellow residents a Merry Christmas and we were joined by his family from around the globe. Carols by candlelight were accompanied by an abundance of sherry and mince pies. Resident Alf Waters currently holds the record for the most amount of sherry imbibed in one evening.

Santa arrived just in time on Xmas Day and distributed presents to all St Dunstaners and once again an excellent lunch was produced by PBK and their hardworking catering staff.

Mary Frith held her traditional Christmas Night party where Archie Luxton and Jim Croucher were fitting winners in pass the parcel.

The local theatrical pantomimes were well received especially by our lady St Dunstaners, Elsie Aldred and Cynthia Rouse.

After the excellent New Year's lunch and a few days rest, visiting St Dunstaners began their journeys home, but not before Winnie Edwards had made her mad dash for the January sales and others resolutely agreeing to lose all the weight they had gained on their visit.

## CHANGES IN ESTATE DEPARTMENT

Mr Len Hatch, the Deputy Estates Manager, retired on January 26th. We wish to extend our gratitude to him for the valuable service which he has provided in his work both as Area Surveyor and on the Accounting side of the Department. Mr Hatch has been succeeded as Deputy Estates Manager by Mr Michael Reinhold FRICS. The new Area Surveyor replacing Mr Hatch is Mr Jon Gardner ASVA, both of whom are already known to a number of beneficiaries.

## MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF FUND RAISING

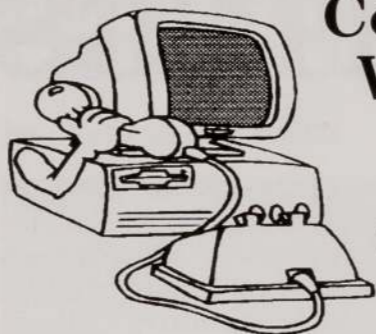
During December my Department took over from the PR Department all fund raising activities. This includes all administration as well as undertaking our first fund raising projects. The Assistant Head of Fund Raising, Pat Moore-Searson, was responsible for approaching 272 Trust Funds on behalf of St Dunstan's. All of these letters were signed by Sir Henry and early indications are that the project appears to have been successful. Just prior to the Christmas break we sent a further mailing to just over 7,000 members of the general public, asking for their support. Each person was sent our new fund raising leaflet, together with a personally signed covering letter and freepost envelope - it is too early to judge the response but costs have already been covered. We have a supply of these leaflets which we can send you, should you wish to help by promoting St Dunstan's in your local area.

Neil Swan

## THANK YOU, EILEEN

The Tasmanian Department of Veterans' Affairs has applauded the work of Mrs Eileen Cox on behalf of St Dunstaners in Australia.

A certificate of appreciation was presented to Mrs Cox, who served as Hon. Secretary/Treasurer of the Tasmanian Blinded Soldiers of St Dunstan's Association from 1959 until last year. Her husband, Harold, is a St Dunstaner and President of the Association.



## Computer Weekend

November  
18/19th

by Ray Hazan

The first get-together of computer enthusiasts for eighteen months was very well supported. My grateful thanks go to those who made long journeys from Northern Ireland, Wales, the North and West country. The group included three Members of our Council.

Mike Gomm of Dolphin Systems for People with Disabilities gave a useful and interesting talk and demonstration of their latest products. Most impressive was the Lexis reading unit for those who already own a computer. £650 will purchase the scanner and software. This is a far-off cry from the Kurzweil days at £10,000 or even the Reading Edge at £4,500. Mike did say 'you get what you pay for', but Lexis read very competently material other than some brought along for demonstration purposes. Those interested should note that it must have Apollo II to work with.

We were unable to feature the afternoon's talk on Internet. However, David Laycock has a contact who is hopefully recording a demonstration tape, which will be sent out as soon as it is received.

An essential part of the gatherings is the opportunity to exchange ideas and experience. The dining-room at the White Horse proved one such venue with staff having to clear away and re-lay tables around the enthusiasts for several hours after dinner!

Here are some new products on the market; please contact the PR Department for further information:

### Voxcom

The Voxcom is an inexpensive and convenient way to record messages on cards or tape, which can be used as temporary reminders or as permanent records. The recorder measures 5"x5" and weighs just 15 ounces. It can be used with magnetically pre-stripped cards, which pass through the recorder and then serve as messages, reminders, notes for appointments, etc. A recorded card can be taped to a food can to identify its contents for later use. The magnetic stripping can be erased so that the cards can be used again and again. A more permanent record can be obtained by

using the Voxcom with adhesive talk/tape pasted on the backs of cheques, insurance policies or any other important papers or items, in order to have a permanent spoken record. The kit contains a recorder with four AA batteries, plus a pack of 50 talk/cards and a 180" roll of talk/tape.

Voxcom can be ordered from RNIB Customer Services at the subsidised price of £31.52. For further details call 0345 023153 (calls charged at local rate).

### Voice Organiser

This is a telephone number, address, diary and note taker, which is activated by your voice. The pocket size unit must be 'trained' to your voice, which would have to be done with sighted help. Output is normally via a screen and because it can also be recorded output, the storage space is therefore much reduced, as speech uses up more memory than digital display. There are three models at £99, £149 and £189. Memory capacity goes up with the price. They are available at the larger department stores, but do be absolutely sure it will do what you want. The

*Review* would be very pleased to publish a report by someone who has experience of the device.

### Talking Organisers

There are several makes and models on the market, mostly based on a palmtop computer. These measure some ten by four by one inch, are generally 386 computers with 'qwerty' keyboard.

Their functions - telephone numbers, addresses, diary, word processor, communications, ability to act as an external speech unit when linked to a PC are all on function keys, so no knowledge of computing is required. They have spoken help and key identification systems. Other devices can be plugged in via PCMCIA cards. The most expensive has the Dectalk speech chip. They range in price from £980 to £1640. A more comprehensive review of these devices will be published in a future edition.

If you think you have an aid, electronic or otherwise, which you consider will be of interest and benefit to others, please let me know.

## A moment to spare... with Sydney Scroggie But what about Martin?

It was in the then crumbling Roman province of Britannia that St George slew his dragon, or is said to have, unaware that at much the same time a corresponding feat was being accomplished, or so the legend goes, in the Caledonia of that day. This is in fact just along the road from my wife, Margaret, and me in Strathmartine, Angus.

A carving on an old Pictish standing-stone represents the hero Martin, on horseback, transfixing with his lance the coils of what has more the look of a serpent than a dragon, but then since dragons never existed as a classifiable species, only as figments of man's imagination, it little matters how their actual appearance was conceived. What do these two myths signify, for myths they are, what does the dragon in each case stand

for, its slayer whether in the person of St George or Martin? Think of the dragon as symbolising the then Keltic inhabitants both of Britannia and Caledonia. To this day in Wales it symbolises that race. Then remember this that the horse, St George mounted on the one, Martin on the other in these cases, was held to be a sacred animal by the Saxons. These predatory bands, arriving by sea, fell upon these Kelts. They killed or subjugated them when Rome's sovereignty over Britannia, its ambitions as regards Caledonia, fell from its now nerveless hands.

The two myths sum up dimly remembered historical events, catastrophic in their day, whereby one world in these islands gave way to another.

Not much, if anything is

known about St George, but a very pretty story has been cooked up regarding Martin, explanatory of his image carved upon that stone which yet stands in the middle of a field on the Baludderon lands, the stony Sidlaws rising nearby. A farmer sent one of his daughters to the well to fetch water, she never returned, another was sent, then another, then another, and it was only when his ninth daughter failed to return that the farmer got suspicious, went to have a look, and saw a dragon disposing of the last of his nine daughters. They have not been entirely forgotten, for there's a pub in Dundee named after them, the Nine Maidens.

Martin appeared on the scene, a local warrior, gave chase to the dragon, and at least the farmer had the sat-

isfaction of seeing it done to death in the manner recorded on the Baludderon standing-stone.

Now George is certainly not a Keltic name, Martin definitely a Saxon one, and I see the latter, if he ever existed, as the leader of a band of Teutonic marauders who settled in Strathmartine of old, slaughtering or driving out its indigenous Keltic inhabitants, and Martin bequeathing his name to what is nowadays, in its ethnic background, anything but Keltic.

Things get mixed up in these matters, and there's word of nine nuns once associated with this locality, and certainly the name Baldragon, a local farm, has false associations with the story due to the fact that Saxons didn't understand the Keltic language and therefore wrongly interpreted the name Baldragon. Far from the belief that that's where the nine maidens perished it actually means the place where the blackthorn grows. Certainly the Kelt went down to the Saxon in this area, slaughter, fire, rapine, as he did in Britannia of old, and if Martin and his dragon mean anything, St George and his, this alludes to what happened in days we should be damned glad there were none of us around, at least if we didn't happen to be on the Saxon side.

## Welcome to St Dunstan's

We welcome the following new St Dunstaners and hope they will settle down happily as members of our family.

**Mr Richard Hooper** of Heamoor, Penzance joined St Dunstan's on December 21st. Having enlisted with the Royal Artillery as a 16 year old in 1937, he was posted to a battery serving in Hong Kong. He was captured and, as a Prisoner of War, shipped to Japan where he spent the rest of the war in

the coal mines of Osaka.

Returning to the UK, he was discharged in 1946, having failed a medical examination to return to his old battery in the Royal Artillery. Following various occupations, he was forced into early retirement at the age of 60 due to ill-health. He and his wife, Lillian have one married daughter and two grandchildren.

**Mr Thomas Roddy** of Darlington, Co. Durham became a St Dunstaner on January 8th. He was called up for National Service in the Royal Air Force in 1958. When he was released from National Service in 1961, he retrained as a Regular. As an Air Traffic Controller, he served in Libya, Germany and Borneo, developing a keen interest in languages, swimming and the modern pentathlon. In both sports, he represented his Service at Command level and developed a professional interest in training. He holds the Civilian Professional Diploma in Training and Development.

After leaving the RAF, Mr Roddy became a professional swimming instructor but had to retire due to the deterioration of his sight.

## CLUB NEWS

### BOWLING

On October 27th, only nine bowlers were able to travel to Brighton to join four local members and with our wives, we stayed at Butlin's Hotel in Saltdean where we were made most welcome.

It was lovely meeting old friends and hearing news of those who were not able to be with us - the comradeship is wonderful.

We travelled to Ovingdean daily for our tournament where we had some excellent games, although it was not as convenient as staying there.

The winners were as follows:

#### Totally Blind Singles

Winner	J. Pryor
Joint	R. Osborne
runners-up	J. Perfect

#### Partially-sighted Singles

Winner	J. Hopkins
Runner-up	P. Surrige

#### Pairs

Winners	J. Perfect & J. Hopkins
Runners-up	J. Price & J. Hills

#### Triples

Winners	R. Osborne, E. Church & J. Hopkins
Runners-up	J. Pryor, W. Vickery & P. Surrige

Rita and Joan have been asked to arrange another tournament, so we are looking at the last week in March, but will notify members as soon as a date has been confirmed. If any member of the Bowling Club who did not attend in October would like to participate in the proposed March tournament, please contact Rita or Joan.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Edna Cope, Reg and Vi Bradford, John Muga and our wives for all the help they gave us.

And finally, a big thank you to Rita and Joan without whom there would not have been such a wonderful week.

**Bob Osborne,  
Chairman**

### BRIDGE CONGRESS 1995

Our annual bridge congress was held at St Dunstan's Ovingdean over a three day period from November 24th to 26th. Four cups were competed for over the weekend. After welcoming the players to the table, seven tables in all, on the 24th, we sat down to play for the Lord Fraser Memorial Cup (Pairs), the winners being Alf Dodgson & Vi McPherson.

Saturday morning, the 25th, we played a pairs competition for the Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Cup, the winners were Bert Ward - Nora Tebbit. In the afternoon, another pairs took place for the Alf Field Memorial Cup, the winners were again Bert Ward and Nora Tebbit.

On the Sunday morning we competed for the Drummer Downs Memorial Cup, again this was a pairs competition. The joint winners on this occasion were John Whitcombe & Shirley Holborow and Bill Miller & Gwen Hannant.

Sunday afternoon concluded with a bridge drive also provided were some lovely prizes, obtained and purchased out of club funds by our secretary. Prizes were awarded to the top four pairs which were:

1st	Bert Ward & Carol Berry
2nd	John Whitcombe & Shirley Holborow
3rd	Mary Stenning & Eileen Cotton
4th	Wally & Pamela Lethbridge

Two other cups were presented at the congress, the first being the Ike Pellington Memorial Cup. This is an annual trophy for the two players with the best winning scores throughout the year. The winners were Bill and Annie Phillips.

The second cup was the Gover Memorial Cup, a one session competition held on October 22nd. This was an individual competition and the winner was Alf Dodgson. All winners were congratulated on their achievements

by the Chairman.

Our committee wish to thank our three tournament directors for their expertise during the weekend. They were Fay Andrews, Peter McMillan and Maurice Douse. We were very fortunate in having Karen Morane with us on the final afternoon to present the cups to the winners. Karen is a bridge player herself, so naturally she was most interested in how the game was played, especially by the more severely disabled amongst our members. Thank you, Karen.

Another person who must be mentioned is our hard working and most efficient secretary, Mrs Vi McPherson. Thank you, Vi, for your dedication to the club and also for looking after us all at the White Horse Hotel, Rottingdean.

The Chairman stated how nice it was to meet up once again with old friends as in previous years. I thank them all for making the effort to come down to Ovingdean and take part in the congress.

### Christmas Drive

Our Christmas bridge drive took place in the Winter Garden on December 10th. A most social gathering of members enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon. A lovely tea was supplied as usual before the presentation of prizes. Winners were as follows:

1st	P. Reynolds & T. Robotom
2nd	Wally & Pamela Lethbridge
3rd	Maurice Douse & partner
equal	Julian Stevens, Bert Ward
4th	& Shirley Holborow.

The afternoon was concluded with our AGM. Before members dispersed, the Chairman wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 1996.

**A. Dodgson,  
Chairman**

## FAMILY NEWS

### BIRTHS

**Congratulations on the birth of:** Rebecca Baker on November 22nd. She is the granddaughter of Mrs Cynthia Baker of Sidmouth, widow of Paul Baker.

Ruth Mayes on January 2nd. She is the granddaughter of Sydney and Margaret Scroggie of Kirkton of Strathmartine.

### WEDDINGS

**Congratulations to:** Christine and John Pollard on September 2nd. Christine is the daughter of Mrs Kathleen Day and the late Fred Day of Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Steve and Tomomi Parr on October 20th. Steve is the son of Gordon and Ann Parr of Mark, Somerset.

### DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

**Congratulations to:** Jack and Mabel Aylott of Yarm, Cleveland on December 25th.

### HONOUR

**Congratulations to:** John Lasowski of Crepy-en-Valois, France on receiving a medal and diploma recognising his part in the Battle of Narvik in May 1940. The presentation was made by representatives of King Harald at the Norwegian Embassy in Paris in November.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

**Congratulations to:** Sarah Rudd, aged 12, for coming first in the diathlon for running and swimming by 24 points during the All-England National Athletics Championships at Cheltenham in November. She is the granddaughter of Bernard and Marjorie Boyle of Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

### DEATHS

**We regret to announce the death of:** Kenneth and Leonard Osborne last Autumn. They were the brothers of Bob Osborne of Saltdean.

Mrs Thelma Francia of Southsea, Hampshire on October 16th. She was the widow of Paul Francia.

Mrs Phillipa Sumner of Tunbridge Wells, Kent on November 9th. She was the widow of Peter Sumner.

Frank Atack on November 17th. He was the son of Mrs Celia Atack and the late Douglas Atack of Blackpool.

Mrs Phoebe Styles of Somerton on November 18th. She was the widow of John Styles.

Mrs Anne 'Kitty' Young of Telscombe Cliffs on November 23rd. She was the widow of Geoffrey Young.

Mrs Edie Freeman on December 1st. She was the wife of Bill Freeman of Finchampstead.

Mrs Elizabeth Jones of Telford, Shropshire on December 6th. She was the widow of Thomas Jones.

Mrs Jane Rickaby of Battersea, London on December 19th. She was the widow of William Rickaby, who died in 1956, and was due to celebrate her 103rd birthday on February 17th.

Mrs Annie Holden of Hindley, Wigan on December 29th. She was the widow of Harold S. Holden.

Mrs Jane Blight on January 5th. She was the sister of Archie Luxton of Black Torrington, Devon.

**Our sympathy goes to their families and friends.**

### CORRECTIONS

We would like to point out that the late Philip Day of Stonnall, West Midlands was a Staff Sergeant in the Royal Artillery, not a Bombardier as stated in the last issue of the Review.

The 6th great-grandchild of Bill and Nancy Phillips of Saltdean has been named Troy Brown, not Toby.

## IN MEMORY

**It is with deep regret that we have to record the deaths of the following St Dunstaners.**

**Arthur Edmunds,  
Royal Air Force**

Arthur John Edmunds died at Ovingdean on November 17th, aged 79. He served in the Royal Air Force from June 1940 and became a St Dunstaner in 1944 after being wounded in an explosion. He not only lost his sight but also suffered damage to his hearing. After training and with the help of his wife, he began a career in shopkeeping in 1945 but eventually gave the business up in 1960 when the long hours and increased competition proved too demanding. He then took a training course to become a Home Teacher for the Blind and, in March 1965, took a post in this capacity with Nottinghamshire County Council and worked very happily until taking retirement on health grounds in 1977. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Aileen, their children, Andrea and Malcolm, and all members of the family.

**George 'Peter' Piper,  
East Surrey Regiment**

George William Piper of Ovingdean died on November 21st. Aged 79 he had been a St Dunstaner since 1943. Known as 'Peter', he laid lawns for bowling greens and tennis courts before enlisting in 1940 with the East Surrey Regiment, serving as Private until he was wounded and lost an eye when a blank cartridge exploded. After training, he worked as a capstan lathe operator for E.J. Halliday & Co, London until he retired in 1950 on health grounds. In 1976, he became a permanent resident at Pearson House, distinguished by his cheerful disposition and ever-present hat.

Our sympathy goes to his sister, Mrs Gilmartin, and all the family.

**John Ince,**

*Royal Air Force*

John Ince of Peacehaven died on December 12th, aged 71. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1943. 'Johnny', as he was known, enlisted with the Royal Air Force in August 1942 and served for a year until an accident caused the loss of his right eye. Before the war he had been a steel worker and his subsequent career saw him working for companies such as De Havilland Propellers and Hawker Siddeley Dynamics. He retired in 1968. In his leisure time, he learnt to play the electric organ and enjoyed woodwork.

Our sympathy goes to his wife, Elsie, and other members of the family.

**Albert Henderson,**

*Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry*

Albert Kitchener Henderson of St Dennis, St Austell, Cornwall died on December 17th, aged 79. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1983. As a young man, he travelled the world with the Merchant Navy, settling briefly in Canada. He also worked as a tin miner, but in 1939, enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry and was wounded in 1940 at Pevensey Bay. His sight began to fail after his discharge in 1941. Mr Henderson and his late wife, Emily, had 14 children, of whom, six sons and six daughters survived. On his admission to St Dunstan's, they had 35 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

**Albert Phillips,**

*Royal Regiment of Artillery*

Albert Edward Dugdale Phillips of Southampton died on December 17th, aged 94. Having joined the Army in 1924, he served as a regular soldier in the Royal Regiment of Artillery. A keen footballer, he played in goal for his regiment. After basic training, he was posted to Gunner Brigade and by 1928 had been promoted to Artificer Sergeant, a rank which has since been phased out. Posted to the Far East, he was in Hong Kong when the Japanese invaded. He spent the rest of the war in captivity. Mr Phillips was discharged in 1946 and worked as a groundsman for Southampton Council. He and his wife were keen ballroom dancers. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Anne, their son, and all members of the family.

**Joseph Wake,**

*Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers*

Joseph Colin Wake of Ovingdean died on December 23rd, aged 77. He enlisted in June 1938 and saw service with the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers. He was taken prisoner

at the fall of Singapore in 1942 and it was the privation suffered during captivity which eventually led to his complete loss of vision. Upon discharge from the army in July 1946, he still had a certain amount of sight and therefore became a borderline St Dunstaner in March 1949. After training as a capstan lathe operator, he commenced work with Vickers Armstrong in Barrow-in-Furness in September 1949. He was happy in his job and gave good service, working on both day and night shifts in spite of beginning to suffer with chest problems in 1971. Then followed the further deterioration in his vision and he became a full St Dunstaner in 1974. With the worsening of his chest condition, he was forced to terminate his employment with Vickers in February 1978. In retirement, Mr Wake and his wife, Flo, moved into a bungalow where, in spite of his health problems, he enjoyed occupying himself in the garden and greenhouse. In 1980, he went to Ovingdean for training in wrought-iron work as a hobby. All went well until very sadly Flo died in February 1994, but with the help of her nephew, Stephen Gregg and his wife, Donna, Mr Wake was able to remain in his own home until February 1995 when he came to live permanently with us in Brighton. Our sympathy goes to all members of his family, including his nephew, Joe in Blackburn, and, of course, Stephen and Donna Gregg.

**Robert Davis,**

*Royal Army Ordnance Corps*

Robert George Davis of Epsom Downs died on December 24th, aged 72. He enlisted in 1942 and served as Sergeant with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps until his discharge in 1947 when his sight began to fail. Returning to civilian life, he worked at the Census Distribution Office of the Board of Trade in Osterley before moving to their HQ in Millbank a few days before he became a St Dunstaner in 1952. During the next few years, he ran his own printing firm and then worked on small part assembly for a local firm. Mr Davis then took up telephony until he retired. As an MS sufferer, he was a great example in the way he coped with that and other health problems. He very much enjoyed the company of friends and had an interest in cooking but his overriding passion was amateur radio. He obtained the call sign G3 2IK. He was a stalwart member of St Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society and in April 1985 was awarded the G3 MOW Trophy for his excellence and worthwhile work. Technology was always one of his interests. Our sympathy goes to

his daughters, Patricia and Jacqueline, and son, Jim, and all other members of the family.

**Robert Reid,**

*Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers*

Robert James Reid of Ovingdean died on December 24th, aged 85. Upon leaving school, he trained as an air driller and was in continuous employment until being called up for military service in September 1940. After basic training, he was posted into the newly formed Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers and sent out to Singapore in 1942, just in time to be captured by the Japanese. The privation he suffered during captivity and his enforced labour on the building of the Burma Railway affected both his sight and hearing and he was discharged as being no longer medically fit for service in July 1946. He returned to his job as an air driller with his old firm in Manchester until reaching retirement age in 1975. It was when his sight failed altogether that Mr Reid became a St Dunstaner in November 1994. By that time, he was divorced and living in residential accommodation in Cheltenham, near his only son, Philip, but in December 1994 he came to live permanently with St Dunstan's in Brighton. Our sympathy goes to Philip who remained very supportive to his father to the end.

**Colonel John Gough,**

*1st Royal Tank Regiment*

Colonel John Terence Gough of Kemptown, Brighton died on December 30th, aged 90. The nephew of General Gough (who commanded the 5th Army from 1915 to 1918), he completed the full course at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and was commissioned into the then Royal Tank Corps in 1926, joining his regiment in India. As a young officer, he was interested in rugby football, shooting and game shooting. At the outbreak of World War II, he was posted with his regiment to the Middle East and received penetrating injuries to both eyes at the Battle of Tobruk in 1941, but recovered sufficiently to return to his regiment. In 1945, he was given command of the 1st Royal Tank Regiment, which he commanded for three years in BAOR, when one of his subalterns was Field Marshal Montgomery's son. On relinquishing his command in 1948, Colonel Gough was appointed Commandant, School of Armour Bovington, from which post he retired as a full Colonel, and from the Army in 1953. Our sympathy goes to his daughter, Annette, and other members of the family.