

St Dunstan's Review

February 1999



Simply having a wonderful Christmas time

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Cover pictures: This issue's cover features a montage of festive activities at Ovingdean.

Left: Frank Tinsley recites a poem. **Middle top:** Ted (Al Jolson) Yeaman shows we ain't seen nothin' yet.

Middle: Sid Doy rings in the changes. **Middle bottom:** Gladiator Gilbert Stanley collects his fancy dress prize from Mrs Gordon-Lennox.

Right top: Les (Lord Kitchener) Copeland informs Alan Andrews that his country needs him. **Right middle:** PBK's Sue Reed dresses up for the seasonal Caribbean lunch. **Right bottom:** Lynda Stringer putting on the style.

From the Chairman



Firstly, may I wish a very happy, satisfying and fulfilling New Year to all in the St Dunstan's family.

At the outset I want to calm those of you who fear constant change. Some may have noticed in the December issue a remark quoted from my speech on Remembrance Sunday, which indicated that, I intended 'total changes of course' for the charity. The word should have read 'gentle changes...' and I trust I did not add to your Christmas indigestion. Dare I say, a murmur has reached me that perhaps 'total' would have been popular in some quarters, but I sincerely hope that is a minority voice. In my view we have a high calibre and hard working staff, good management and some wonderfully appreciative St Dunstaners and dependants. We cannot stand still and some changes are inevitable. They will be tailored to St Dunstaners needs as closely as possible.

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Irven, who has been Head of the Pensions and Admissions Department for the last year, was selected from ten applicants for the position of Head of Welfare. He took up this post at the beginning of the year and will, for the time being, also retain the post of Head of Pensions and Admissions until a successor can be chosen. As those of you who have already met him will know, he is a most approachable person and will be delighted to help anyone with a question or anxiety, in any way he can. On your behalf I would like to wish him well in his new appointment, at the centre of St Dunstan's activities.

In 1999 this last year of the millennium, I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

Michael Gordon-Lennox

Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox, RN



NOTICE BOARD



THANK YOU FOR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Members of staff throughout the country, both serving and retired, wish to thank all St Dunstaners, widows, widowers and their families for their cards and kind wishes received over the Christmas period. They reiterate their wishes for a healthy and happy 1999.

ACCOMMODATION ENQUIRIES AT ST DUNSTAN'S OIVINGDEAN

Bookings should continue to be made through your Welfare Officer. Enquiries only, relating to accommodation in respect of Holidays, Clubs and Activities, Nursing or Residential care should be made through Josephine Lockrane on 01273 307811 ext 3517.

WALKING HOLIDAY APRIL 22ND-28TH

Do you fancy good company, fresh air, exercise, and a pause away from the hurly-burly of everyday life? If so, then please join in the St Dunstan's Walking Holiday.

The Oxford Ramblers have kindly organised five daily walks of around eight miles, with a lunchtime break at a pub. Participants need not complete a whole day's walk and can finish at lunchtime.

The party will be based at the *Oxford Moat House Hotel*, which has leisure club facilities. The hotel is situated on the ring road on the west side of Oxford some two miles from the centre.

The cost is £33 per person, per day sharing a double room and £45 per day for a single. All prices include breakfast and dinner. Participants are responsible for their own transport to and from the event

The walk is open to all who are reasonably fit and guide dogs are welcome. Please contact Ray Hazan at HQ as soon as possible.

AREA REUNIONS UPDATED

The Cardiff Reunion will now be held on July 14th (not the 7th). Further to last issue's bulletin these reunion dates have now been confirmed:

London Reunion	May 20th
Brighton Reunion (II)	June 23rd

WIDOWS' WEEKS

St Dunstan's Ovingdean will be hosting three Widows' Weeks this year on the following dates:

Widows' Week I	April 16th-23rd
Widows' Week II	July 16th-23rd
Widows' Week III	October 29th-November 5th

ACTION WEEKEND

An Action Weekend for Post World War II men and women will be held at Ovingdean on July 2nd- 4th.

GOLFERS WANTED

by Iain Millard
The committee would welcome any members of the Diana Gubbay Trust who would like to join St Dunstan's Golf Club. Those wishing to join should contact me either at the address below or by phone.

ST DUNSTAN'S GOLF CLUB, 14 Arundel Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex BN10 8SD.
Mobile: 07801 448296. Fax: 01273 589446. Home Phone: 01273 589446. Email: iainmillard@lineone.net

All training and matches, unless indicated, will take place at Rusper Golf Club on the following dates:

April 10th-11th
May 21st-22nd
June 19th-20th
July 17th-18th
August 21st-22nd
September 4th-5th
(Possible match against RAF Coltishall to be arranged)
September 18th-19th

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

The final date for submitting items for publication in the April Review is February 26th.

COMPUTING FOR THE CURIOUS April 20th-21st at Ovingdean by Janis Sharp

If you have always wondered if the mouse squeaks, RAM has legs and if bytes hurt, then wonder no longer.

On April 20th-21st I will (hopefully) answer all the questions you have been afraid to ask (about computing). There will be no pressure, no exam and no homework - just an opportunity for you to try your hand at using a computer, sending an e-mail message and 'surfing the net'. I am hoping for a group of 8-12 computer illiterate people - any reason, any age, male or female, St Dunstaners, Gubbay, wife, husband, widow or widower.

Accommodation cost: £18.50 per night. There is no fee for training.

For further information and/or to book your place contact Lynda Stringer or Janis Sharp in the Rehabilitation and Training Department at Ovingdean. Tel: 01273 307811 ext 3235 or 3297.

BOWLING CLUB

The next bowling tournament will take place at St Dunstan's Ovingdean on March 5th-12th.

UPDATE ON REDECORATIONS AT OIVINGDEAN

The refurbishment of the dining room is now complete with redecorated walls and new curtains. The handrail, which was on the immediate left inside the entrance has been removed. Instead, a strip of carpet indicates the way in, then turns left to lead between the tables. After turning left, the carpeting alternates with the wood floor. A block of carpet indicates you have a table on either side at that point. A handrail runs the length of the dining room along the wall opposite the windows, back to the entrance.

The lounge is also finished with redecorated walls, freshly varnished parquet floor, new curtains and cushions on the window seats. The bar itself is complete but awaits installation of the brewery equipment, due in mid February. Until that time, the bar will remain in the annexe.

It should also be noted that the double doors on the first floor leading to the cashier's office are now being held open by magnetic clips to allow easier access by everyone, especially those in wheelchairs.

DERBY SWEEPSTAKE 1999

St Dunstaners, members of the Diana Gubbay Trust, widows and widowers can now apply for tickets in this year's *Review* Derby Sweepstake.

This year, the race is being run on June 5th. Tickets are 30p each and issued consecutively to a maximum of 25 (costing £7.50). Applications should be made as soon as possible. Cheques should be made payable to St Dunstan's and crossed. Loose money should not be sent unless it is registered. Closing date is Friday, May 28th.

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

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 1st.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR TOURNAMENT STAND 1999

St Dunstan's is aiming to make its stand at The Royal Tournament an extra-special one. This year's event (July 20th-August 2nd) will be the last in its traditional form at Earls Court. We urgently require items for sale, such as wooden or knitted toys, baby and children's clothes, or any other handicraft item made by St Dunstaners, widows, widowers, wives, husbands and your families. Any home-made goods such as preserves and honey or unused and unwanted new goods are also greatly appreciated.

Please contact Robbie Hazan at Headquarters on 0171 723 5021.

Braille Capital Letter Sign - A Reprieve?

By Terry Walker

The Braille Authority of the United Kingdom (BAUK) is to reopen a consultative document and I seek your opinions yet again in order that St Dunstan's braille readers will be fairly represented. My intention is to find out how many people use braille. Do we want to support the universal adoption of dot six for capital letter? An alternative would be a dual system.

The consultation will be in by the end of March, so there is time before the next British Braille document comes out at the end of 1999. The July meeting of BAUK will be the time for settling the matter.

Briefly, the reasons for the introduction of the new symbol are:

The BANA (Braille Authority North Americas) and BAUK together with other English speaking

countries of the world, are endeavouring to produce a unified braille code in order that its use in IT equipment will enable a single system to be used worldwide. The present argument is not simply a matter of keeping things as they are. None of us like change. It is more a small part of the development of a tactile system, which will eventually blend sympathetically into future technology, affording blind people equality with their sighted partners.

So there you have it! Will you, the braille users of St Dunstan's, please let me know your views on this subject by the end of February. Don't delay - time is short. Please contact me by telephone on: 01705 594380.

NB A document on capitalisation is available to anyone wishing to see it.

Nature and Destiny

by Ron Freer

When a child is born, it is assumed that it will inherit certain notable characteristics of its parents, which will feature in the destiny of fundamental issues within its life. However, it is well known that not one person has the same character, there being some small differences in each of us. Such is the way nature has patterned we humans in its concept to ensure that we remain as individuals. The power of nature can only be explained in terms of a complete power composed of innumerable contributory processes of forces and agencies which govern the character of all phenomena and their production of the cause, both mentally and physically. We can also term nature as the divine process in which God created the world, and all that within, whether it be good or evil, for each is balanced accordingly.

Destiny is a factor which again cannot be explained, but seemingly governs our whole ways of life. When we approach the age of being able to act and think for ourselves, we endeavour to plan out our future, in accordance with our ability which is necessary in the project towards a suitable career. It is at this early stage in life that we hope to achieve our ambition, but

in the process of time and circumstance, how many of us are able to pursue along the course in which we have chosen. Fate, or destiny guides us along the path as defined by this supernatural power in which we have no control.

Nature controls all within our galaxy, the essential elements being the sun, which gives light and heat, the clouds which gather moisture in the air, thus forming rain, without these nothing can grow in the soil, from which we are dependent on many produce. Nature also provides fruit etc; we cannot live entirely on these, we have to supplement our diet by killing cattle, fowl, fish.

Let us pause for a moment to consider these implications, did God, who created all things great and small, desire us to kill other living creatures for human consumption, also why is it that animals, birds, even fish, kill in order to survive. Nature has indeed defined a crude and cruel way in its introduction of such a system, how are we to compare this with the religion of the Christian faith? Whatever conclusion we make, we have to accept the laws of nature.

Life and Times of Ovingdean

By Lynne Thomas



Are we feeling Happy? The Laundry staff win the decorations prize for the second year.

The building is quiet again, the visitors are on their way home and the decorations have been taken down. Christmas already seems like a long time ago, but everyone had a good time.

The festivities began in early December, with Christmas card making in the craft workshop. A plentiful supply of mulled wine helped fuel artistic inspiration as residents made original cards for family and friends.

The first Families Day on December 12th was a great success. Many people came to Ovingdean to visit their family and exchange gifts. As usual PBK provided an excellent tea. This popular event will definitely be repeated in future.

December 17th was Tropical Christmas Day at Ovingdean with pina colodas and a Caribbean lunch. It was also the day of the hard-fought Christmas decorations competition. All the floors really excelled and it must have been very difficult for the Chairman's wife, Mrs Jenny Gordon-Lennox, on her first official engagement at Ovingdean to make up her mind. There was an arctic scene on Nursing Care 3, a Caribbean Island on Nursing Care 2, and a life-sized (and life-like!) Nativity scene in the Lounge. However, for the second year running, the Laundry walked away with the big prize for their Snow White

and the Seven Dwarfs, complete with costumes. In the afternoon there was a fancy dress competition and the following St Dunstaners won prizes:

1st	Ted Yeaman	Al Jolson
2nd	Gilbert Stanley	Gladiator
3rd	Margaret Bingham	Flower girl

The 17th was a busy day in the house, because it was also the date of the Service of the Lessons & Carols, conducted by Father Duncan in the Lounge. This year we were lucky enough to have musical accompaniment from the Salvation Army Band.

The Brighton area is home to a lot of top-quality musicians and performers, and there was a varied programme of music over the holidays. The highlight was the Christmas Concert in the beautiful St Dunstan's Chapel on December 20th. It is the first time that a concert has been held in the Chapel, and the atmosphere and wonderful acoustics make it the ideal venue for live music. There were three acts, all of which have proved popular at St Dunstan's - singer Robin Thomas, female vocal group Bellavoce and the Brighton Welsh Male Voice Choir. The concert was well attended by St Dunstaners, staff and guests, and hopefully this will become a regular event in the future.

On December 22nd, St Dunstaners and staff were the entertainers in the Ovingdean Christmas Show.



Dear Doctor! Ernie Bowditch and Grant Cooper discuss a hole that wasn't in a bucket.

Songs, stories, skits, bell-ringing and poems were all on the bill. The stars of the show had to be the Half Monty, Jackie Greer and her intrepid troupe of exotic dancers! Grant Cooper, as always, did a brilliant job as master of ceremonies.

Of course, Christmas is the pantomime season and there were two excellent shows this year. The pantomime at the Theatre Royal was *Mother Goose* starring Christopher Biggins. It was one of the most popular pantos for a long time, and even people who don't normally like them were raving about it. The Peacehaven Players, a local drama group, did *Cinderella*, and this was of particular interest since nursing care assistant Iain Kerr had a role in it. Iain was also Father Christmas on Christmas Day so his dramatic career is obviously taking off!

Two groups of children entertained us over Christmas. Before Christmas, the Southover Primary School Choir came over to sing carols and chat to residents. Their music teacher says it's one of their favourite shows of the year, and they never want to leave.

We saw the New Year in with some old friends of St Dunstan's, Ernie Took and his band. The place was packed and everyone enjoyed themselves. "Just like old times" was the general verdict. We hope that Ernie and the boys will be able to join us next New Year for the big millennium celebration.

Things are almost back to normal now, but there's still a lot to look forward to in the next few months. We all need a bit of a rest now, so that we are ready for the first Widows' Week in April which is always a hectic time!



A case of Half Monty modellin'.



Riverside Drive

Author: Laura Van Wormer
Reader: Helen Horton
Catalogue Number: 8393
Duration: 27.5 hours

"Not the sort of book one would wish one's servants to read," as someone once observed during a famous trial, for like *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, this one also contains some very 'naughty bits'. Which is a pity because as far as I am concerned they spoil what could otherwise have been a very good listen; not wildly exciting perhaps, but certainly interesting in the way the various characters are given life and problems and defects and abilities just like the rest of us. For the most part these people are some well-to-do occupants of a New York apartment block overlooking the Hudson River, who happen to share the same cleaning lady or 'maid' as the Americans euphemistically say. Whether the group is typical of fairly wealthy Americans, I can make no empirical judgement, but I found myself believing in them, which always helps my enjoyment of any book. I could believe, for example, that several of them would wish to help the maid when her husband died and she and her son became homeless, although altruism is in world-wide short supply. So, being extremely broad-minded myself, and not easily shocked, I suppose I found *Riverside Drive* well worth the time it takes to hear it. Anyone of like disposition should enjoy it too. But for the rest I accept no responsibility!!

Happy Birthday Doris

Our very best wishes go to Mrs Doris Burden of Saltdean, Brighton on her 102nd birthday, which she celebrated on December 26th. Doris is the widow of William Woodgate Burden.

QUIZ ANSWERS

The answers to last issue's short quiz are Mrs Wallace Simpson, author Wilkie Collins and Benedict Arnold who defected to Great Britain during the American War of Independence.

Delhi Belly and the Indian Rope Trick

by Mike Tetley



Whilst in Agra near the Taj Mahal an Indian magician fell and injured his wrist. A New Zealander had shown us physios a simple technique to treat wrists. "Honestly," he said, "this is so simple even an Australian can do it." So it proved when I treated the magician after he had performed many clever tricks. One involved four short pieces of wood bolted together at one end with a £5 note in a hollow in the middle - it was yours if you could move the wood to get at it. We huffed and puffed but could not move the planks and he could in a twinkling. The secret was a metal pin which locked all the planks together until you turned it upside down and the pin fell into a place unlocking the planks. I asked him about the Indian rope trick and he said only one magician had done it in 1830 and the rest was talk.

I was one of a party of 30 from the Guide Dog Holiday Group touring India in November. We visited Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Kajoraho, where the *Kama Sutra* was written, and Benares. It was a wonderful trip as our tour guide was a former officer in the 6th Gurkhas, a European who had backpacked round India and had a very loud voice that could be heard even above the hubbub of the bazaars. He imparted knowledge with great enthusiasm.

In the East any name which has a suffix pur, bad, or bul means city. Hence Istanbul and Jaipur, the latter being the home of the Maharaja of Rajasthan. We were having a feel of the outside of a palace when the Maharaja saw us from one of his windows and invited us to meet him. He had been to school at Harrow. Most Indians were surprised we worked for our living and hopefully from little acorns big oaks

will spring and our example may help the blind of India to be trained to do a job.

Around AD1600 a General Akbar got the leaders of the Hindus, Moslems, Zoroastrians, Buddhists and Christians and tried to find what they had in common to stop inter-religion feuding. He started his own religion from the amalgamation of the others which was far thinking for those days. As he was a Moslem the other Moslems in his court stamped out the new religion on his death. Langur monkeys now jump all over his tomb. India is the only place I have ever seen men and monkeys living together. One cheeky monkey sidled up and held the hand of one of our party and walked along hand in hand. Probably hoping for a peanut.

The Upanishads are the earliest religious writings in Sanskrit and are very deep. One sentence I like is "As a man can drink from any side of a four sided tank so a man well versed in the scriptures can wrench from them something to prove anything he wants." That sounds like a modern lawyer or politician.

Whilst in Benares, the sacred section of the Ganges where all the bodies are burned by the river to ensure that they go to heaven, we got up at 5.30am to walk down to the river and row up stream. The streets were very narrow with pilgrims sleeping directly on the road with lorry wheels missing their heads by 18 inches and monkeys clattering over corrugated iron roofs. The blare of music was deafening and I think our guides were marvellous guiding us between the sleepers and cow-pats without treading on anything. Not everyone can afford a funeral pyre so the poor tie a big stone to the body and chuck it into the Ganges. One such body suddenly parted company with its stone and bobbed up alongside our boat. A crow landed on it. It must have thought it was in heaven with a good supply of food and a free ride down the Ganges. The locals were washing themselves in the river and drinking from it.

Only those who did not eat a peck of dirt on a regular basis to keep their immune system working got Delhi belly. A useful tip for going abroad where there are many insects is to take two vitamin B tablets daily two weeks before going to the bad area. This leaves a slight yeastlike smell in the skin which puts most insects off biting you. It is very effective. A very good trip thanks to the Guide Dog Holiday Group.



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF FUND RAISING

Campaign gifts make draw grand

As you know, over Christmas, St Dunstan's ran a raffle and as promised I have included a list of all the prize winners below. During the Autumn we ran an enormous fund raising campaign and during this exercise we were sent a number of items or gifts "to be used in a raffle". However, this year because of the number and value of the prizes, we felt that the raffle should be expanded to more people. As a result, a decision was made to send tickets to all those who receive *St Dunstan's Review*. Obviously, some recipients would not wish to, or be unable to, take part, however, we did not wish to discriminate against anyone. I am pleased to report that over £19,000 net was received as a result of running the St Dunstan's Christmas Raffle and we are most grateful to all those who participated.

I hope that you enjoyed Christmas and all the staff of the Fund Raising Department join me in wishing you a Happy New Year.

St Dunstan's 1998 Christmas Draw Prizewinners

First

A Weekend Break for two (B&B) at any Hilton National Hotel in the UK
Miss A. Price, Middlesex

Second

Lunch for two at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel Grissini-London Restaurant
Mrs M. Keeling, Bedford

Third

Day return on Condor Ferries for two adults to Guernsey, Jersey or St Malo
Mrs Brittain, Powys

Fourth

Ticket for four to The Portsmouth Sea Life Centre
Mr R.A. Theobald, Ipswich

Fifth

Meal for two at the Hard Rock Café in Park Lane, London
Mrs Wearn, Portsmouth

Other Prizes

Two London West End Tickets of winner's choice
Mrs Norman, Bradford

Lambswool rug from The Scotch House
Mr Simon Robinson, Cleveland

Magnum of Champagne
Mrs D.M. Harper, West Sussex

Fortnum & Mason Champagne and Chocolate Gift Box
Mr T. Adams, Devon

Helena Rubenstein Gift Set
Mr F. J. Shepherd, Hampshire

L'Oreal make-up set
Mrs M. Edwards, Lancashire

Four prizes of books
Mr J. Hindmarch, Sunderland
Mrs P.H. Simcocks, Winchester
Mrs J.E. Groves, Essex
Mrs S. Milne, Oxford

Pack of three CDs
Mrs P. Evans, Norwich

Pack of two CDs
Mr D. Hayes, East Sussex

£25.00 John Lewis Gift Voucher
J. Judge, Kent

£10.00 BHS Gift Voucher
E. Nolan, Cheshire

£10.00 Asda Gift Voucher
Mrs Jean Mason, London

FIFTY YEARS AGO

St Dunstan's joined the nation in paying tribute to Tommy Handley, the comedian who presented *ITMA - It's That Man Again* on BBC radio. His mix of mild satire and music hall japes provided a much needed diversion during the War. The popular entertainer had died suddenly and unexpectedly.

Physiotherapy Weekend

by Mike Tetley

If you do not read any further the date for the next Physio Weekend is Friday, September 24th until Sunday, September 26th 1999. Ten rooms have been booked in anticipation that you will attend. So if you are forgetful book now.

The format is simple. Meet old friends, swap news and let your friends know that you have not fallen off the perch yet. This year just gone, we met in the bar on the Friday evening. Sixteen of us sat down to dinner on the Saturday when Neil Swan from HQ joined us. Apart from the fact that he is our Fund Raiser he is also a qualified osteopath (as is his wife). We discussed mutual problems as seen through the eyes of both professions. It was interesting talking to him as he had been attached to racing and rally stables to keep the drivers driving hard. This had taken him round the world.

Joe "Paddy" Humphrey who had been ill for some time was at Ovingdean for respite care. Sadly he died on the Friday evening. It was good of Marjorie, his wife, to join us at the dinner the next day with her daughter Angela. Keith Martin rang me up to see how we were faring and we hope to see him at the dinner next year. We all had a good laugh and believe it or not there were two clean jokes about beleaguered President Bill Clinton.

EXETER'S FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

Lt Col Tim Courtenay, of The Royal British Legion, has been a friend of St Dunstan's for some years, and four St Dunstaners, were delighted to accept his invitation to take part in The Devon County Festival of Remembrance, which took place in The Great Hall of Exeter University on November 5th.

The St Dunstaners, with their wives or escorts, were Colin Beaumont-Edmonds MC, Eric Church, Reg Perrin, and Lionel Scott. They were welcomed along with other important guests and had the opportunity to meet the newly appointed Lord Lieutenant of Devon, Mr Eric Dancer, and local and national officials of the Legion.

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 Elwyn Rees of Treforest, Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan became a St Dunstaner on December 21st. He joined the Royal Engineers in 1939 and was posted to Hong Kong. During the Japanese attack he lost an eye through a bomb explosion and was then held as a Far East Prisoner of War until 1945. Discharged in 1946 he worked as a painter and decorator for two years before being employed by Glamorgan County Council. He was a foreman when he retired at the age of 59. Mr Rees was a good rugby player, enjoyed swimming and bowls, and was an enthusiastic gardener.

Mr William Reid of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire became a St Dunstaner on December 21st. Having worked as an apprentice painter he joined the Royal Air Force in 1937 and served throughout the war. Subsequently he was stationed in the Middle East, Germany and UK. In civilian life he worked as a baker and labourer before retiring in 1982. Mr Reid and his wife Gladys have a son and three daughters.

CLUB NEWS

BOWLING

by **Bob Osborne, Chairman**

The Bowling Club held their bi-annual tournament at Ovingdean from November 9th to 16th, 1998. There were 18 bowlers participating and we were very pleased to welcome four new bowlers, Iain Millard, Phil Dobson, Peter Walker and Craig Nellor. They all bowled extremely well.

We were sorry that Tom Whitley had to cancel due to ill-health and we wish him well.

The winners of the competitions were:

Totally blind Singles

Winner John Perfect
Runner-up Jackie Pryor

Partially sighted Singles

Winner Peter Surridge
Runner-up Jesse Mills

Pairs

Winners John Perfect and John Hopkins
Runners-up Jackie Prior and Jesse Mills

Triples

Winners John Perfect, Iain Millard and Peter Surridge
Runners-up Alan Mitchell, Peter Walker and John Hopkins

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make the week a success and look forward to the next tournament on March 5th-12th at Ovingdean.

GOLF

by **Iain Millard**

The results for St Dunstan's Golf Club competitions during 1998 are as follows:

Month	Blind Player	Sighted Player
April	Des Chandler	Anthony Burtinshaw
May	Iain Millard	Mark Graves
June	Des Chandler	Chris Falcon
July	Phil Dobson	Mark Graves
August	Don Planner	Derek Battle (RAF)

The overall blind winner for 1998 was Des Chandler and the overall sighted player was Mark Graves. Our congratulations go to these players.

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTHS

Congratulations on the birth of:

Harrison Michael Phillips on August 27th. He is the grandson of Mrs Ruby Franklin of Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire and the late *Alfred Franklin*.

Benjamin Milnes on October 16th. He is the first great grandchild of *Albert and Doris Partington* of Bolton, Lancashire.

Liam Mahoney on November 19th. He is the son of *Andrew and Lorna Mahoney* of Abbeymead, Gloucester.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to:

Percival and Evelyn Blackmore of Cardiff on December 25th.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of:

Mrs Betsy Wessel on November 13th. She was the wife of *Herman Wessel* of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Mrs Sybil Parker of Stamford, Lincolnshire on November 11th. She was the widow of *Bernard Parker*.

Mrs Ivy Southall of Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands on November 17th. She was the widow of *Stanley Southall*.

Mrs Lucy Read of Weybridge, Surrey on December 12th. She was the widow of *John Read*.

Mrs Dorothy Cotham of Lydbury North, nr Craven Arms, Shropshire on December 31st. She was the widow of *Walter Cotham*.

Our sympathy goes to their families and friends.

IN MEMORY

It is with deep regret that we have to record the deaths of the following St Dunstaners and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, family and friends.

Guy Lawrence,

South African Air Force

Guy Raymond Lawrence of Pinelands, South Africa died on October 7th, aged 82. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1966. Mr Lawrence served with the South African Air Force from 1940 and 1945. During this time he received a blow to the head which subsequently caused the loss of his sight. Our sympathy goes to his widow Elaine, their daughters and all members of the family.

James Woods,

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

James Woods of Orpington, Kent died on November 12th, aged 82. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1986. He enlisted with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in August 1935, serving with them in Palestine, Singapore and India. Like many St Dunstaners he was taken prisoner by the Japanese in Burma in May 1942. It was during his time as a FEPOW that his sight began to fail. After his discharge in October 1945 Mr Woods worked as a cleaner in a boys school. Our sympathy goes to his widow Eiddwen and all other members of the family.

John Redstone,

Royal Air Force

John Leonard George Redstone of Kingswood, Bristol died on November 17th, aged 86. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1993. Mr Redstone was working in a reserve occupation at the outbreak of the Second World War but left to join the Royal Air Force in March 1941. He trained as a fitter armourer, reaching the rank of Leading Aircraftsman. While servicing aircraft weapons in 1942 he received an injury to his right eye and was sent to St Dunstan's at Church Stretton. However he was able to return to his duties in the RAF for the remainder of the war. After his discharge he returned to his old job as a colour printer. Before his remaining sight deteriorated he was keen on football, gardening and motoring. Our sympathy goes to his widow Ada, daughter Ann and all of the family.

Captain Robert Hughes,

Royal Corps of Transport

Captain Robert Geoffrey Hughes of Coton, Cambridge died on November 18th, aged 85. He had been a St Dunstaner since July 1997. He joined the Supplementary Reserve of the Royal Engineers in 1937 and was embodied into the regular Army as a Sapper on September 1st 1939. He served in France with the British Expeditionary Force as a despatch rider until 1940. Later he was sent to West Africa. Commissioned in 1945, he served worldwide as a Movements Control Officer before transferring to the Royal Corps of Transport when that regiment was formed in late 1966. Captain Hughes was discharged in 1967. His main interests were rugby, fishing, food and wine. Our sympathy goes to his widow Jean, two sons and daughter.

Albert Wallage,

Royal Artillery

Albert Wallage of Brighton died on December 1st, aged 82. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1968. He enlisted in the Royal Artillery in April 1939 and was discharged in December 1940. He worked as an engineer but had to give this up due to failing sight. After training at St Dunstan's Bert worked in industry but ill health forced his retirement. He regularly attended toy-making courses at St Dunstan's and developed a strong taste for handicrafts, specialising in woodwork and leather work. He was also a keen gardener. Our sympathy goes to his wife Ann and all of the family.

John Brett,

Royal Air Force

John Albert Charles Brett of Dartford, Kent died on December 18th, aged 78. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1991. He enlisted in the Royal Air Force in 1938 and trained as a fitter. Serving as a Corporal he went with his squadron to France in 1940 but was recalled to the UK prior to being posted to the Far East. After the Fall of Singapore he tried to get to Java but was captured by the Japanese. Mr Brett spent some of his captivity with two other St Dunstaners, Bill Griffiths and the late Dame Margot Turner. Returning to the UK he hoped to continue in the RAF but ill health, due to the effects of his captivity, meant that he was invalided out in 1946. In civilian life he worked as hospital porter and was subsequently promoted to NHS store manager. Mr Brett retired in 1984. He was Chairman of his local Royal Air Force Association and was actively involved with the local Royal British Legion. Our sympathy goes to his wife Edna, son Alan, daughters Linda and Carol and all of the family.

Harry Foster,

Queens Royal Regiment

Harry Foster of Farnham, Surrey died on December 27th, aged 79. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1945. A shoemaker by trade, he enlisted in 1940 and served as a Warrant Sergeant in the Queens Royal Regiment. Mr Foster was injured by a ricochet bullet while instructing trainees. He came to St Dunstan's at Church Stretton where he trained as a physiotherapist, eventually going into private practice. He was actively involved with his masonic lodge. Our sympathy goes to his wife Sybil, sons Melvin, Clifford and Barry, daughter Anne and all members of the family.

Samuel Worthington,

Royal Engineers

Samuel Worthington BEM of Preston, Lancashire died on December 29th, aged 87. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1945. Originally an electrical engineer he enlisted in the Royal Engineers and served as a Lance Corporal. In April 1945 he was wounded in Germany by a mine. The explosion blinded him, deafening him in the right ear and inflicting facial lacerations. After being discharged he trained at St Dunstan's and worked in industry before establishing a guest house. Our sympathy goes to his son Alan and all members of the family.