

St Dunstan's Review

October 1999



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Cover picture:

St Dunstan's Archer
Julian Stevens lets loose
an arrow at historic
Sandwich.

From the Chairman



I have now been Chairman for one year and I continue to be inspired by the positive attitudes and achievements not only of those who have lost their sight but also those who have additional injuries and disabilities. There have been several accomplishments throughout the year; from successfully competing in the London Marathon, in the fields of bowling and archery to obtaining a Doctorate, to name but a few. I congratulate our widow Mrs Daisy Kenwood on her 105th birthday in August and Sydney and Ethel Whiting on their 68th wedding anniversary in September.

Almost without exception, the St Dunstaners, beneficiaries of the Diana Gubbay Trust, widows, widowers and dependants that I have met are content and unanimously enthusiastic about the service and care provided across the whole range of activities. The staff, be they at Headquarters, at Ovingdean or in the field are as good a team as we could wish for. I am convinced the services and facilities at Ovingdean and in general are probably one of the best in the world.

Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox, RN



NOTICE BOARD



ST DUNSTAN'S SWEATSHIRTS

St Dunstan's sweatshirts, which are blue with a left-hand yellow chest logo, are available to all from the Public Relations department, priced £8.50 (plus £2 for P&P). Available sizes are large and XL.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SALE

St Dunstan's Christmas cards are available to all from the Public Relations department. Sporting the familiar torch-badge in a frame with curved corners, they measure 100x140mm with a foil finish in assorted red, green and blue. Inside it reads "With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year." The cards (with envelope) cost 25p each.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON FAMILY CREDIT AND DISABILITY WORKING ALLOWANCE

As you may know, the Tax Credits Bill has recently received Royal Assent. The Tax Credits Act will replace Family Credit (FamC) with the new Working Families' Tax Credit (WFTC) and Disability Working Allowance (DWA) with the new Disabled Persons' Tax Credit (DPTC) from October 5th this year.

If you require any information on the above please speak to your Welfare Officer.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Mike Tumilson, who served with the Royal Ordnance Corps, became a St Dunstaner in 1994. Mike currently works for two companies; one is planning to build three properties for sale in Spain which can be adapted for disabled people. He also works for one of the communication companies competing with British Telecom. If you are interested in either of the above subjects, please call him on 01203 469369.

Music Man

Anyone interested in listening to music or maintaining their music collection should talk to 'Music Man' on 0117 966 1466.

TALKING AIDS FROM COBOLT

Talking Pedometer £9.95

Enter the average length of your step and then clip to a belt or pocket or carry it. When you walk or run this device will tell you, at the press of a button, how far you have travelled. The pedometer includes a talking alarm clock and is supplied with a battery.

Talking Mini Memo Recorder £24.95

This is a compact, high quality digital recorder with the ability to record up to 99 messages. It has a total recording time of 15 minutes. It has facilities to fast-forward/reverse through all and individual messages, pausing and repeating of messages and adjustable volume. The sliding cover protects the buttons from accidental operation. The recorder comes with three AAA batteries.

Audible Spirit Level £24.95

Designed to enable the user to check that surfaces are either horizontal or vertical. A high tone is produced if the left side is high, a low tone if the right side is high and no tone when the unit is level. A ruler can be pivoted to any angle and locked in place. When set to 90 degrees this enables the device to be used to check vertical surfaces. The bottom of the case has a 'V' shaped channel to locate it on curved edges such as pipes. Supplied with protective pouch. Powered by standard PP3 9v alkaline battery.

Talking Tape Measure £39.95

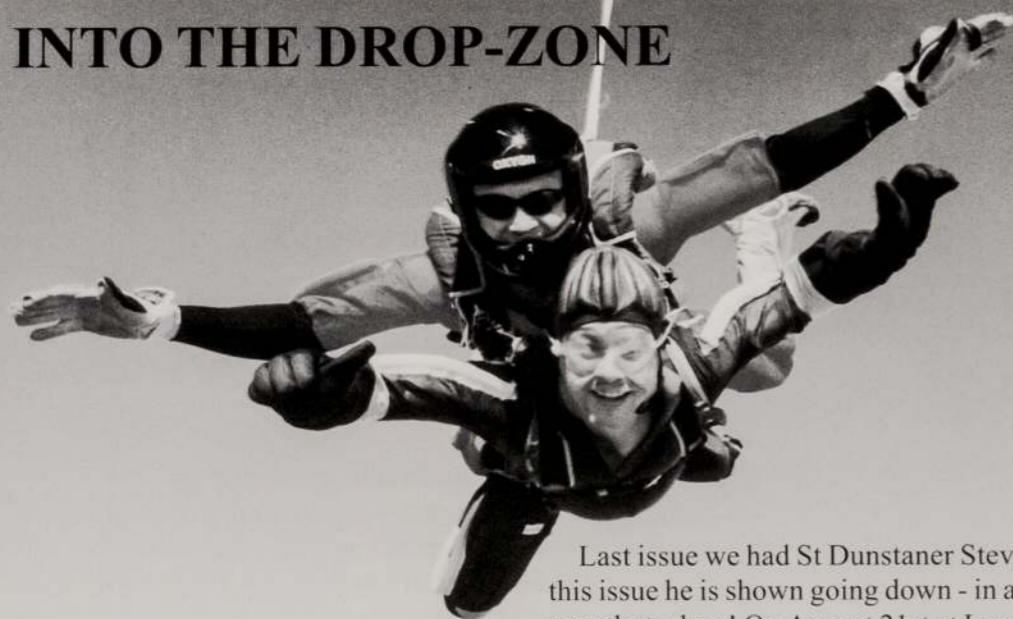
Running 16ft (5m), it has a resolution of 1/16" (1mm) and the measurement is spoken in a clear English voice. Measurements can be added to memory to enable total measurements up to 999.99 metres. The memory is retained when the unit is switched off. The tape can be set to zero at any position. Readings can be taken in feet/ inches, metres, centimetres or millimetres and can be converted at the touch of a button. Powered by a standard PP3 9v alkaline battery.

To order, contact Cobolt Systems Ltd, The Old Mill House, Mill Road, Reedham, Norwich, Norfolk NR13 3TL. Tel: 01493 700172. Fax: 01493 701037.

DEADLINES FOR FUTURE ISSUES

The final date for submitting items for publication in the December *Review* is October 25th.
The final date for submitting items for the February *Review* is January 7th 2000.

INTO THE DROP-ZONE



Last issue we had St Dunstaner Steve Pendleton going up, this issue he is shown going down - in a 13,000ft tandem parachute drop! On August 21st at Langer Airfield, Nottinghamshire Steve leapt out of an aeroplane flying around two-and-a-half miles above the ground. Jumpers hurtle down at speeds approaching 125mph during free-fall before the parachute opens and slows their fall.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO DAISY



Our best wishes go to Mrs Daisy Kenward on her 105th birthday. Born on August 28th 1894, she is the widow of First World War St Dunstaner Edward Kenward.

In the year Daisy was born, Gladstone resigned as Prime Minister, the second Queen Victoria "bun-penny" was minted, Coca-Cola was first bottled in Mississippi and the Tsars still ruled Russia.

BRONZE BOWLER

Bowler Morton Williams of Llanelli, Dyfed won the Bronze medal in the Blind Bowling UK Singles Championships held at Cliftonville near Margate, Kent on August 16th to 18th.

"Assisted by my coach Denzel Thomas, I won three games out of five, narrowly losing one game on the last end," said Morton. "The final game of the Championships was held on Wednesday morning, I was to play Derek Marland, Scotland, who had won all his four games and was certain of Gold if he won this final game against me. I won 20-10 after 21 ends."

Morton, who is a beneficiary of the Diana Gubbay Trust, has won the Welsh Singles Championships five times and in the subsequent UK Singles Championships he won Gold at Swansea in 1993, Bronze in Gloucester 1995 and Bronze again this year.

Veronica Owen

Long-time regulars of the camp at Lee-on-Solent may be sad to learn of the death of Veronica Owen on July 31st, aged 74. After serving in the Wrens, where she was a coder, Miss Owen helped at the St Dunstan's camp for ten years. Between 1968 and 1983 she was Headmistress of Malvern Girls' College.

A ROUND OF ARROWS



One Monday in 1415, the brave men of the Stour, following Good King Henry's command, assembled in a paddock to practice their archery in preparation for battle. Around this time the French Army issued an infamous boast that they would cut the first two fingers off any Englishman who crossed their path. On the fields of Agincourt, that threat rang hollow as 6,000 Frenchmen lost their lives to the English longbow.

Another Monday, almost 600 years later, a modern group of archers could be found testing their mettle on that green. St Dunstan's Archery Club engaged Sibertswold Archers in a friendlier competition than that faced by their historical predecessors. The bank holiday event was part of The Sandwich Festival, a celebration of the town's rich history. In days gone-by, Sandwich was one of England's major points of contact for Continental trade.

Sibertswold Archers narrowly won the contest on this balmy bank holiday. The event was a prelude to an energetic week of bowmanship, blessed by good weather and camaraderie. Other highlights included a visit to Pulborough, the home of Club President Sir John Glazier, and a match against a British Blind Sport English Archery team member, Howard Burges.

RESULTS

George Allan Trophy

1st	Sid Doy	1534
2nd	Tony Parkinson	1525
3rd	John Lilley	1483

Royal Insurance Trophy (Handicap adjusted)

1st	Sid Doy	1482
2nd	Tony Parkinson	1462
3rd	Norman Perry	1455

Friday shoot (Handicap adjusted)

1st	Sid Doy	1515
2nd	Norman Perry	1473
3rd	Tony Parkinson	1417

(Straight score)

1st	John Lilley	532
2nd	Harold Burges	464
3rd	Norman Perry	425

Three-way Metric shoot

St Dunstan's 5754 combined

Team: John Lilley, Norman Perry, Sid Doy & Tony Parkinson

Cuckfield 5707 combined

Team: Alan King, Annette Collett, Phil Varden & Jonathan Grout

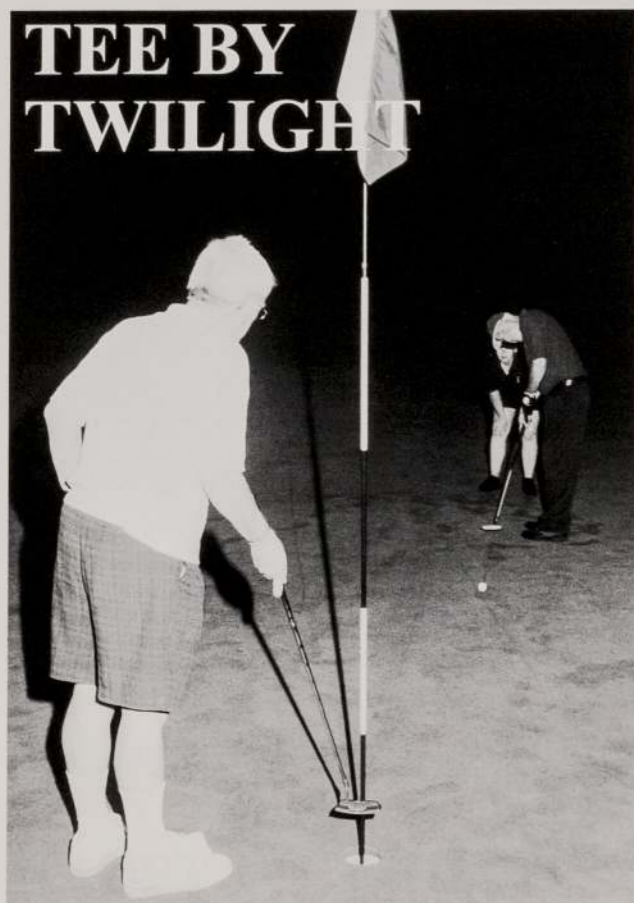
Greenways 5603 combined

Team: Barbara Degenhardt, Enid Andrews, Jennifer Low, & Sue Hapgood

TARGET 2000

St Dunstan's Archery Club have a full calendar set for next year (including the BBS Championship). Anyone interested in taking part should contact Roger McMullen on 01273 309927 before 9pm.

TEE BY TWILIGHT



Three St Dunstaners found that nature evened up the odds at the end of a return golf match against RAF Coltishall on September 4th - they finished the game after the sun set on Sprowston Manor Golf Course in Norwich.

After previous rounds Des Chandler, Chairman of St Dunstan's Golf Club, has threatened the RAF players with a midnight match - this time he got his wish. A late start and green traffic meant that Des (pictured above), Phil Dobson and Craig Neller were still playing after the sun had gone down.

When told he was playing in the dark, a big grin formed on Des's face. "I think that's to my advantage," he said.

RAF Coltishall opened the doors of their Sergeants' Mess to host St Dunstan's Golfers for a weekend of their favoured sport. They were also joined by a team from Rusper Golf Club, some acting as escorts.

When they arrived at the base, the players were treated to a talk on the reconnaissance role played by the Squadron's jaguars during the recent Kosovo crisis. Duties in that conflict had prevented RAF

Coltishall playing for the St Dunstan's Invitation Shield in June. The evening was subject to the usual revelries and Des amazed some RAF members by beating all-comers in a game of bowls.

Actual play commenced at Sprowston Manor the following day. St Dunstaner Iain Millard took one hole in three shots, a feat which allowing for his handicap meant that he had scored a technical hole-in-one. Two of the Rusper players landed a ball in the water - in exactly the same spot.

Paul Humphries, rejoining his RAF colleagues for the day, was particularly impressed by the golfing skills of the St Dunstaner he was playing against - until he realised that Kevin Warren was the coach driver who had transported St Dunstan's team from Ovingdean.

After the match, Des thanked RAF Coltishall for their hospitality and Sprowston Manor for providing tee-time. The spirit of the weekend might be summed up in the words of Rusper's Richard Jenner, "Good game, good company and that is the most important thing."

RESULTS

Rusper Golf Club	205
RAF Coltishall	171
St Dunstan's	111

Individual St Dunstan's scores

Craig Neller	29
Iain Millard	25
Phil Dobson	18
Des Chandler	12
Steve Pendleton	6
Kevin Warren (stand-in)	27



St Dunstan's Golf Club, the Rusper Team and RAF Coltishall staff by Douglas Bader's Hurricane.

WELCOME

We welcome the following who have become beneficiaries of the Diana Gubbay Trust:

Mr Alan Moir of North Common, Bristol, now aged 77, served in the Royal Air Force from 1939 to 1946. During that time he was based in the UK, Canada and Europe. He joined the Gloucester Police Force after the war and served a full career, including six months attached to the Nyasaland Police Force. He retired with the rank of Sergeant. A member of the St John Ambulance Brigade, he was Commander of the Order in Avon. His interests have included bridge, model making and sea fishing.

Mr Edmund O'Brien of Brighton, East Sussex served in the Royal Air Force from 1951 to 1954. Based in the UK and Southern Rhodesia, he was a Leading Aircraftman in a unit responsible for training pilots. After leaving the Service, he worked for the Prudential and later as an independent insurance broker. Now aged 66, he enjoys visits to the gym and is keen on cricket and bowling.

Mr Robert Reece of Blackpool, now aged 81, served in the Royal Pioneer Corps as a Captain from 1940 to 1946. He served with East African soldiers in Kenya, Ceylon and Burma. After the war, he taught French, Italian and German, eventually joining the staff at the Royal Air Force school in Singapore.

Mr John Shouesmith of Barnes, London, now aged 66, served in the Royal Navy as a submariner for 27 years. In 1958 he was serving on the first submarine to snorkel across the Atlantic. Having sailed on a variety of submarines, in particular HMS Resolution, he retired as a Petty Officer in 1973. After leaving the service he worked at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, then as a postman and later as a handyman. His interests include restoring antique furniture.

Mr Henry Bell of Ovingdean, Brighton was in the Royal Air Force from 1942 to 1947. Stationed in Burma, Borneo, Sumatra and Penang he was defending airfields in an infantry role. After the war he served in the Gateshead Police Force for ten years and then worked for Benson & Hedges. Between 1948 and 1954 he played rugby for Durham County. He worked at Pearson House between 1986 and 1987. Now aged 75, he is keen on golf. Mr Bell is married to Mable.

Mr Leslie Hampson of Halton, Leeds, now aged 76, served in the Army from 1942 to 1947. He initially joined the East Yorks but transferred to the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, serving in North Africa, Italy, Malta and with the Central Mediterranean Force. After the war he worked for Pickfords and then as a senior foreman in a printing plate works.

Mr Keith Lanchester-Harding of Ely, Cardiff, aged 30, joined the Army in 1990 and served with the 1st Battalion, Staffordshire Regiment in Northern Ireland, Cyprus and Hong Kong. His interests include computing. He and his wife Julie have three daughters Keron, Tegan and Imogen.

Mr Norman Wagstaff of East Cowes, Isle of Wight, now aged 78, was in the Royal Air Force from 1940 to 1946. He served in the UK and Singapore and was attached to the Royal Netherlands Air Force, assembling Kitty Hawkes, when his unit was overrun. He was held as a Far East Prisoner of War in Java and later forced to work on the railway in Sumatra. After the war he worked as a coach builder and then a car worker at Jaguar.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*Letters to the Editor are always welcome.
Send a letter, tape or disk to
The Public Relations Department
12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1A 4XB.
E-mail: st.dunstans@btinternet.com*

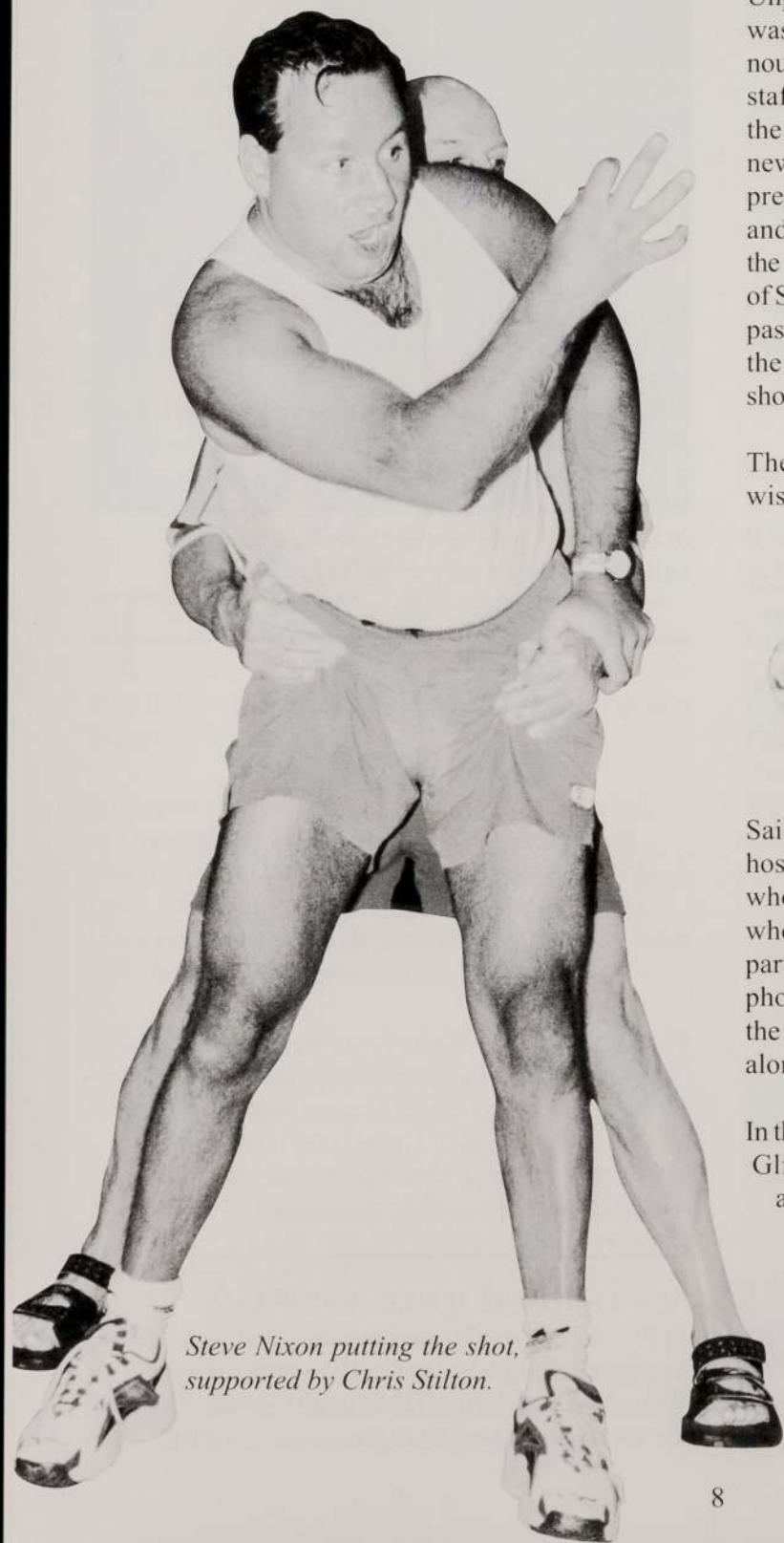
From: Mrs Gwen Heys, Peacehaven, East Sussex
My grateful thanks to the nursing staff at Ovingdean for their constant care and kindness to Stan during his illness. Also to all other staff for their kindness and help at this time. Thank you friends for your messages of sympathy and donations.

SEPTEMBER QUIZ ANSWERS

1) Dylan Thomas; 2) Siam became Thailand; 3) The helicopter; 4) Vita Sackville-West joined The Women's Land Army; 5) Malcolm Campbell broke the water speed record.

SUNNY DAYS WERE HERE AGAIN!

Friday, July 30th, a bright and sunny day and the start of what promised to be a week of good weather for the annual St Dunstan's Summer Camp. St Dunstaners, beneficiaries of The Diana Gubbay Trust 'dogs' and helpers travelled from the North, East and West to attend the camp at HMS *Sultan* and to help make it another memorable week.



Steve Nixon putting the shot, supported by Chris Stilton.

Unpacked and settled in, the route to the dining hall was hastily remembered and appetites were quickly nourished with the helpful assistance of the dining hall staff. With the Fleet Air Arm Field Gun Crew still in the throes of competition at Earls Court and with no new 'dogs' or trainer present, Dave Burrows, the president of the WO & SR Mess, welcomed one and all to HMS *Sultan*. Dave, an ex-trainer, ran over the roll-call of those attending. He made special mention of Stan Tutton, a regular and popular camper who had passed away earlier in the year. Dave then explained the varied programme ahead. This was followed by a short hello and briefing from Elspeth Grant.

The campers, then free to spend the evening as they wished, partook of liquid refreshments, rekindled old friendships, reflected on past camps and generally caught up on the news and gossip of the past year.

Saturday morning dawned with more glorious sunshine, so armed with sunglasses and suncream, several campers took to the sedate waters of the Solent. The Gosport Sailing Club once again did a tremendous job as hosts, providing an array of craft for the avid sailors who wished to spend the day sailing, as well as those who preferred a shorter period on the briny. One particular 'dog', mistaken for a St Dunstaner, had his photo taken clambering aboard a yacht and offered the name of his St Dunstaner which appeared alongside the dog's picture in the local paper.

In the afternoon, as a member of the Portsmouth Naval Gliding Club based on the old HMS *Daedalus* airfield, WO Dave Howell had arranged for campers to enjoy the delights of gliding once again. A first since the camp moved to HMS *Sultan*. Three St Dunstaners gladly accepted his efforts and took to the skies, with Steve Nixon airborne in an open-topped glider. His screams of delight (he says he wasn't frightened) could be heard for miles.

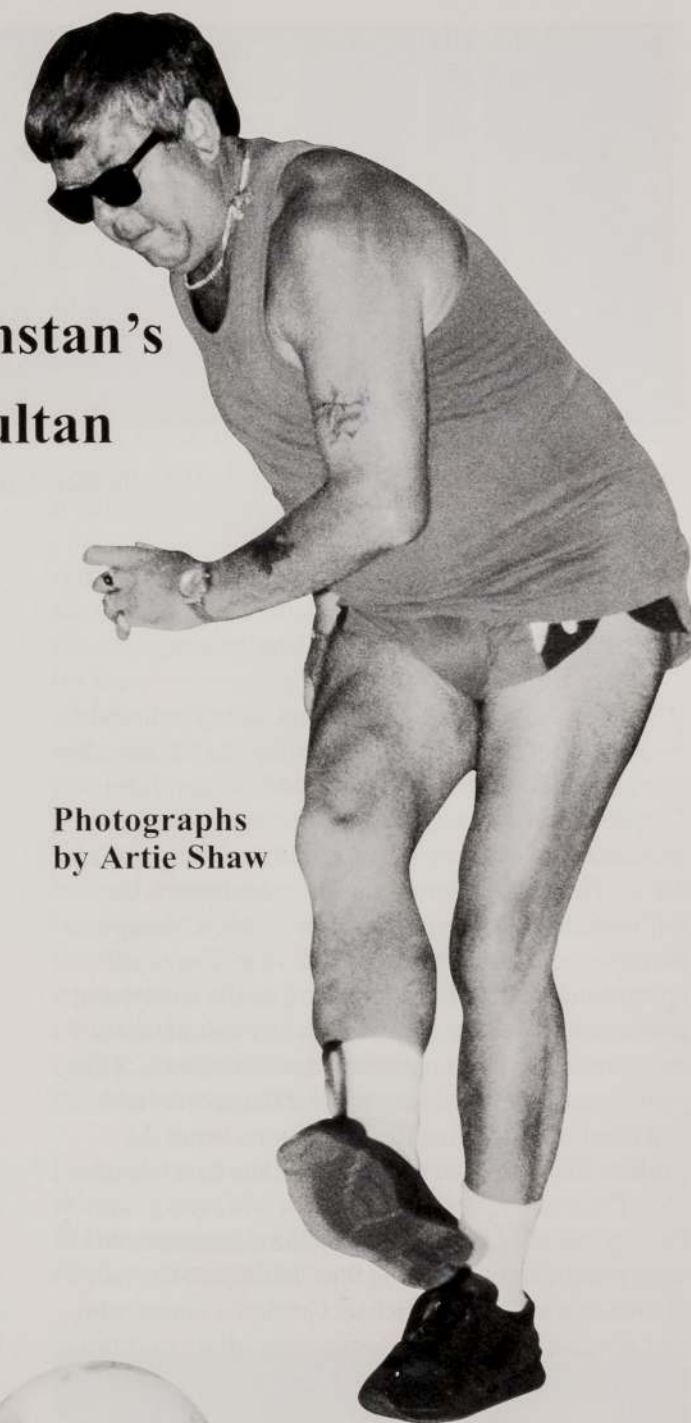
A well trained 'dog' barks out the lowdown on St Dunstan's Summer Camp at HMS Sultan

Meanwhile back at HMS *Sultan*, the William Tells were being put through their paces by the Havant Archers, but instead of apples there were balloons pinned to the targets. Mansel Lewis and Des Chandler managed to burst several of them. The St Dunstaners participated in a friendly competition with some fine scores being recorded and several Golds being shot. During a lull the 'dogs' had a chance to show off their skills with Liz Walker recording a perfect Gold.

During the evening some campers still had the energy to walk to the local hostelry before returning to the small bar in the WO & SR Mess where the majority had decided to spend a quiet evening amongst friends winding down from the day's activities.

The weather was certainly on our side as Sunday morning also started bright and sunny. Best bib and tucker were donned for a service in the Church of St Francis of Assisi. Throughout the hymns the congregation were reduced to backing singers as the voices of the Welsh contingent, so at home with their singing, boomed out for all to hear. The service was carried out by Chaplain Gareth Petzer, MBE, a 6ft 6in South African and Elspeth read one of the lessons.

A change of clothes followed as we had been given an official invite to the families barbecue in the WO & SR Mess. With plenty of choice it was enjoyed by all, but some had to leave before the ice cream for another afternoon's gliding. This time, much to the surprise of the 'dogs' and helpers, the Portsmouth Gliding Club gave everybody the opportunity to get airborne. Don Planner stole the limelight by doing a loop-the-loop in the open-topped glider. (Promises were made not to divulge that Ginge Geere was asked to move to a different glider as he was too heavy for the one he was in!!)



Photographs by Artie Shaw

Is it a goal? Don Planner adds striker to his list of sporting skills.

Sunday evening arrived much to the delight of Norman Walton who at last had the opportunity to live up to his nickname of "Jumping Bean" and don his dancing shoes to practise his Fred Astaire moves with anyone willing to be Ginger for a while. Entertainment was supplied by a duet and those who



Good morning campers! Our quality crowd with their honourable hosts and helpers at HMS Sultan.

had conserved their energy proceeded to burn it off by dancing the evening away while those less energetic relaxed in the friendly atmosphere.

Odin was watching over us and, being so helpful, supplied another dry and sunny start to Monday morning. The Commodore of HMS *Sultan*, John Clayden met us in the station's gymnasium and welcomed us, wishing us well for the coming week's camp. This was followed by the annual sports day with events organised by Martyn Webb. Although there were fewer contestants this year, it was still approached with the enthusiasm, friendly rivalry and participants banter that goes with any competitive occasion. The sports culminated with the walk. This year's course was laid out around the sports field and resulted in the first three positions being the same as last year. Gary Lomas was the first home.

During the display of energy by the contestants we were delighted to welcome the Chairman of St Dunstan's Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox who had dropped in to see what we were all up to. I think he was impressed by the display of skills.

Monday afternoon was a visit to our friends of the Gosport And Fareham Inshore Rescue Service (GAFIRS) who operate with two rigid hulled inflatable boats capable of churning up the sea in excess of 20 knots. As they were not rescuing any unfortunate seafarers we were given the opportunity to experience at first hand their boats' capabilities. Grasping handholds situated the length of the boat, tasting the salt on our lips as the spray hit our faces and the wind taking our breath away is an unforgettable experience and as exhilarating as any other white-knuckle ride.

Elsbeth dressed in yellow oilskins and lifebelt and looking like the Michelin Man, was thrilled to have

such an exciting real scary ride over to Ryde, Isle of White in six minutes with Don Planner driving the inflatable at 30 knots - not bad for an old 'un!

Several St Dunstaners, 'dogs' and helpers armed with black armbands departed HMS *Sultan* to attend the final performance of the Royal Tournament and watch the very last Field Gun Run in history between the Fleet Air Arm and Portsmouth. With Kevin Rixon volunteering to drive, good time was made and we arrived at Earls Court to be met by Roberta Hazan who ushered us inside. We visited the St Dunstan's stand and spoke to Ray before finding our seats to watch the final performance. The final chapter was reaching its conclusion, some said that it was the best show they had seen and at least we were there to see the Fleet Air Arm beat Portsmouth in the final Field Gun Competition Run. When the commentator stated that it was 'The Last Run', the spectators all 'BOOED', which was lengthy and vociferous and demonstrated that the demise of the Field Gun race was not appreciated at all. Since the beginning of Fleet Air Arm Field Gunning in 1947 there have been many lasting friendships forged between the 'Men of Air' and St Dunstaners who attended Summer Camps over the years. It was a quiet and subdued return to HMS *Sultan* as we now realised that all we have are memories, but treasured ones that none of us would wish to change and also friendships that have passed the test of time.

Tuesday and our normal Solent cruise was scheduled for a twist with a different route to Cowes. Once more the sun shone upon us and we travelled by coach to Southampton for the crossing to East Cowes on one of the Red Funnel ferries. Passing the many yachts and pleasure craft at ease, weaving to and fro on the Solent, it demonstrated that Cowes Week was in full swing and we even sighted a catamaran with a rigid

manoeuvrable sail - progress! Our trip across was followed by a short hop on the chain ferry to West Cowes and completed with a pleasurable walk through the packed streets until we reached our watering hole, The Royal British Legion. There we were met by the Chairman Ken Sinnick and treated to their customary hospitality. We had the pleasure of the company of Major-General Andrew Keeling, a St Dunstan's Council Member who was looked after by Steve Nixon throughout our day. After another fine day on the island we returned to Southampton by hydrofoil which only took us 20 minutes and then onward by coach back to HMS *Sultan*.

Our next engagement was a multitude of cheesy grins for the annual group photograph outside the Wardroom which was followed by pre-dinner drinks and friendly conversation with the Wardroom Mess members. Onward into the ornate dining room where, following our intake of fresh air during our trip to the Isle of Wight, many an appetite was fulfilled with a splendid dinner. Alas, the time arrived where the majority of us found out that we were not as knowledgeable as we may have thought and struggled with the quiz organised by Lt Cdr Clive Peggdon. I felt reassured when Gary Lomas told me to stick with him but alas, the fountain of musical knowledge he professed to own had dried up. At the end of a very enjoyable evening we retired, promising to put the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* on our list of Christmas presents.

On Wednesday a day trip to see the splendours of Fort Nelson had been arranged and a majority of the campers attended. Lunch was provided and then Eric Bradshaw was fortunate to win the draw to fire the cannon on the parade ground. The more youthful campers, having visited the Fort previously, decided to visit HMS *Collingwood* and make full use of their swimming pool. We were afforded the pleasure of having a large lane sectioned off for our use. Steve Nixon was soon in his rhythm covering the lengths like Mark Spitz while several others lazed away in the jacuzzi, a new addition to the area around the pool.

Wednesday evening saw the first drops of rain fall on our camp but fortunately we were cordially invited to the Senior Rates Mess at Haslar where we were given a warm welcome by the Mess Presidents (there are three, one for each service) and the nurses who provided plenty of dancing partners and lots of appreciated conversation. Having had more 'Gingers' to practise with, the tireless Norman Walton passed a vote of thanks to Presidents and Mess members for their hospitality.

Thursday, with the weather back to sunshine, we saw the arrival of the steam lorry which was available for rides before transferring passengers to the Conservative Club in Lee-on-Solent. We were warmly welcomed by the Secretary Anne Glass and the President Maurice Kemp. Once again we had the pleasure of dining in their colourful garden. A minibus was laid on for those enthusiastic enough to accept the hospitality of the HM Coastguard helicopter based on the old HMS *Daedalus* airfield. After a tour around the helicopter, 11 campers were treated to a 30 minute flight. It went over the Isle of Wight, along the coast and over Portsmouth Harbour before returning with some very satisfied men.

A varied array of shining trophies and medals adorned the table in preparation for the Commander, Richard Govan to present to their worthy winners. The compère for the awards was again Martyn Webb and it was said that he must be getting old and forgetful as he was using glasses to read his jokes this year. Applause was gracious as each winner received his trophy, with photographs once again taken by Artie Shaw who was doing his last photo session with St Dunstaners before he takes up a seagoing draft. His photos have been greatly appreciated by all. A speech of thanks was made by Kevin Rixon who like 'Chipper' Stilton was adorned with a gold halo for their unremitting efforts, to be worn all night. Votes of thanks were raised by Eric Bradshaw, Gary Lomas and Carl Williams, before a return speech by Commander Govan.

Friday dawned and free time was taken up with walks, shopping trips and the gentle packing of cases. Two St Dunstaners, Des Chandler and Don Planner displayed their talents and played nine holes at



Bill Miller won The Denny Deacon Veteran's Cup.

Stokes Bay Golf Course which had been organised by Dave Burrows. A superb buffet lunch was provided by Lee-on-Solent Royal British Legion where we have been so enthusiastically welcomed over the years.

With another summer camp drawing to its close, the final evening of entertainment and dancing took place in the WO & SR Mess with Dorothy Thompson once again displaying the glamorous prizes to be won in the evening's raffle. Many old friends showed their faces while smiles and laughter displayed the contentment and joy of the St Dunstaners, 'dogs' and helpers from another rewarding camp.

Early Saturday and the shuffle of cases met the coaches arriving to return the campers to their loved ones, with the odd few travelling by train and even plane. Emotional farewells were said as the members of our happy family bid each other a safe journey. I wish you all a pleasant year and look forward to seeing campers regular, old and new next year.

SPORTS RESULTS

Archery

The Shields were won by	
187 points & 4 Golds	Des Chandler
176 points & 3 Golds	Eric Bradshaw
116 points & 1 Gold	Billy Miller

Medals, presented by the Havant Archers, were won by Trevor Tatchell, Norman Walton, Norman Killick and Mansel Lewis.

The Walk

3rd	Bronze Medal	Des Chandler
2nd	Silver Medal	Don Planner
1st	Gold Medal	Gary Lomas

The Denny Deacon Veteran's Cup Billy Miller

Penalty Goals

Totally Blind	Des Chandler
Partially Sighted	Gary Lomas

Victor Ludorum

Totally Blind	Brian Lang
Partially Sighted	Gary Lomas

TEAM RESULT

3rd	Walton's Wombles
2nd	Planner's Planets
1st	Chandler's Challengers - Des Chandler (captain), Brian Lang, Steve Nixon and Gary Lomas

As there were no beginners this year the Sheila McLeod and Charles Stafford Cups were not awarded.

Life & Times of Ovingdean

by Lynne Thomas

The Widows' Week in July was probably the busiest week of the year so far, with 21 ladies here on holiday. Luckily it coincided with a trip to the final Royal Tournament to be held at Earls Court and the annual 'Not Forgotten' Association garden party at Buckingham Palace. Everyone had a good time with a range of showbiz stars. This year some of the party were presented to Princess Alexandra who spent a long time chatting to them. The ladies who didn't go to the Palace took a trip to Tenterden on the Kent & East Sussex Steam Railway.

Father Duncan Lloyd-James was chaplain to St Dunstan's for just over three years, but left in July to be rector of two churches north of Hastings. His leaving party was very well attended. We will all miss him.

August was a great month in Brighton, weather-wise, and we were able to make the most of it on our trips. One of the best was a visit to Amberley Industrial Museum. This is a wonderful place that takes people back to their younger days. You can see traditional crafts still being practised in the boat builders barn, clay pipe maker's shop and broom maker's shed. The printing works features a large collection of printing equipment and the Electricity Hall is a fascinating history of electrical equipment. The most popular areas were probably Southdown Bus Garage and Village Garage and Petrol Filling Station. Both are replicas of buildings from the late 1920s and house many examples of old buses, coaches, cars and bicycles.

Two trips to the Palace Pier, Brighton for fish and chips were very popular with residents and visitors, as was a very unusual tea drive to Winston Post Office. This is a working post office in a tiny Sussex village, which provides tea, coffee and home-made cakes. Unfortunately the weather was not really on our side and we couldn't take advantage of the gardens or visit the collection of animals there.

Shirley Jaffe, who comes in about once a month to run the drama group, provided us with an evening of entertainment and reminiscence. The theme was holidays and the evening included readings from various poems and extracts, objects from the past and a chance for St Dunstaners to share their memories.

Medieval worship in Sussex



Ron Cattell examines the history of St Wulfran's Church, Ovingdean

Nestling among the soft folds of the East Sussex Downs is the small village of Ovingdean comprising of one general store, newly built houses and bungalows, interspersed with older property, the oldest of which is the ancient church of Saint Wulfran's. This was erected in the year 1066 and still very much in existence.

The patron saint, St Wulfran, to whom this church was dedicated before 1512 was born in Normandy in about 650 AD. Unusually only two churches in the United Kingdom have been dedicated to St Wulfran, one at Ovingdean and the other at Grantham in Lincolnshire. Both celebrate the Festival of St Wulfran on October 15th which is said to be the date his remains were moved to Abbeville in the year 729 AD.

In imagining what church services and congregations were like at the time when the church was built and for many centuries after, one has to remember that the windows would have been very small and filled not with glass but with horn, letting in very little light. The only other light would have been perhaps small tapers in the nave and just two on the altar. There would have been no heating at all, nor pews or chairs. The congregation would have had to stand in

the nave, keeping their feet warm in the straw, hay and herbs which would have been strewn over the floor. There would have been no service books and if there were, lack of light would have made them unreadable. The only books in the church would have been on the altar. The priest would have read them by the light of the two candles there. It was not customary for lay people to take communion more than two or three times a year at the most so that the nature of the service, which was in Latin, was such that people took little or no part in it. They merely attended in the nave possibly saying their own prayers and telling their beads until at certain parts in the service the server rang the bell to draw their attention to, for example the Consecration and the Elevation of the Host and Chalice, which is what they had come for.

A little church at Ovingdean is mentioned in the Domesday Book (AD1086) although much that we now see results from alterations and restorations. The fundamental Norman/Saxon origins remain obvious, making St Wulfran's a typical Sussex downland church.

I acknowledge the assistance I received from the Rector of St Wulfran's, the Rev Stephen Tucker and several members of the church council.

The Art Of Handbell Ringing

by Alan Brown

My first attempt at ringing the changes was at Bristol Royal Society for the Blind Resource Centre. Pucklechurch Handbell Ringers were our guests for the evening of Wednesday, June 16th and following their concert their leader asked me if we would care to try a hands-on experience.

On behalf of the group I readily agreed, but doubting if I had done the right thing, the volunteers tackled the challenge.

"Hold the bells as you would a wine glass without touching the bowl of the glass," said our instructor. Standing in a circle, we each held a bell that had a number and as the leader called our particular number, the learners rang the appropriate bell.

Down the tonic sol-fa scale the volunteers went - then back up the scale we went, each time getting faster.

"Time for a change," called our tutor. "The volunteers will now try odd numbers immediately followed by even numbers in quick succession." I really felt the volunteers were onto something exciting.

"Now we are going to try something completely different. As I call out your number, even if it is twice, I want you to ring your bell that number of times," she said.

The volunteers carried out the instructions and when we came to the end of the exercise, we had actually played a tune. OK, it was only *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*, but we could recognise it. To us, with our visual impairment, the volunteers had scaled the north face of the Eiger.

The most important thing the volunteers learned is that great care needs to be taken with each bell. We learnt not to touch the brass bell as this would damage the clarity of sound over a period of time, also to deaden the sound, you place the bell on the upper part of the chest.

My latest attempt at the art was at St Dunstan's when Anne Markwick led a small group of six of us. The bells used were numbered from one to six with

odd numbers facing the even numbers across the soft cloth and foam-covered table.

A simple exercise was arranged with bells 1, 3 and 5 ringing alternately then with one peal. The system worked well especially with the talented even bell numbers. Guess which team the author was on?

Not only does it sound appealing but it is good fun learning where one needs to drop a clanger or run like the clappers.



The Remake

Author: Clive James
Reader: Nigel Graham
Catalogue Number: 7676
Duration: 9 hours.

Working and living with Australians, as I frequently did in my Army days, I developed a fondness and admiration for the whole nation which endures to this day. I even like Rolf Harris! So when I learned that the author of *The Remake* was an Australian and one, moreover, described as 'brilliant' and 'humorous', I had no hesitation whatever in requesting his book. Well it was an education; or at least it was if we really do learn from our mistakes! I don't think I've ever been so disappointed since I discovered there is no Father Christmas. This is a book which is almost painful to listen to. It is a failed attempt to impress the gullible reader by stringing together strings of obscure words which are chosen for the sound they make rather than any sensible meaning they convey. What 'clever' passages it does contain are so isolated in a sea of drivel as to render them quite worthless. The result, I sadly fear, is nothing short of sheer boredom and I would urge anyone tempted to try it to think again. I can recall with great clarity various expressions my Australian friends would have applied to this countryman of theirs; they are highly appropriate but not fit for the printed page.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF FUND RAISING

Ken goes solo for speed record

by Neil Swan

As I write, September is proving to be a very busy month. Not only are we mailing some 20 million people asking them once again to support St Dunstan's, but also we are assisting blind ex-policeman Ken Moss in his attempt for the Land Speed record for blinded people. What makes this attempt particularly interesting is that, unlike any previous attempts, Ken will not be accompanied by a sighted passenger, but will be going solo. I hope to bring the full story to the *Review* in the near future.

In the meantime the following is a transcript of an actual radio conversation, which was sent in to me, and which I include for your amusement, between a US Naval ship with the Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland in October 1995 and released by the Chief of Naval Operations on October 10th 1995:

AMERICANS: Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.

CANADIANS: Recommend you divert your course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

AMERICANS: This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert your course.

CANADIANS: No I say again, you divert your course.

AMERICANS: This the aircraft carrier USS Lincoln, the second largest ship in the United States Atlantic Fleet. We are accompanied by three destroyers, three cruisers and numerous support vessels. I demand that you change your course 15 degrees north, that's one five degrees north, or counter-measures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship.

CANADIANS: This is a lighthouse. Your call ...



Ken Moss behind the wheel during a previous land speed record attempt.

50 YEARS AGO

St Dunstaners dominated the Nation's entertainment on radio and film. Gerry Brereton received a good score on the clapometer when he sang on Hughie Green's original *Opportunity Knocks!* We mean that most sincerely! D.N. MacReady of Birmingham also made a radio broadcast when he was one of the contestants quizzed on Wilfred Pickles' *Have a Go*. Esmond Knight returned to familiar Church Stretton to film scenes for *Gone to Earth* - and he stayed at *The Longmynd*.

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTH

Congratulations on the birth of:

Joshua Robert. He is the grandson of Mrs Betty Forbes-Stewart and the late *Jock Forbes-Stewart* of Norwich, Norfolk.

WEDDING

Congratulations to:

Ann and Man Lok Yeung who married on May 22nd. Ann is the granddaughter of Mrs Agnes Brocklehurst and the late *William Brocklehurst* of Comox, British Columbia.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to:

Leslie and Jean Simpson of Rottingdean, Brighton, East Sussex on September 17th.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to:

Ernest and Eunice Johnson of Cherry Hinton, Cambridge on September 6th.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Geoffrey and Gladys Cock of Rawdon, Leeds, West Yorkshire who celebrated 61 years of marriage on September 3rd.

Joseph and Amy Harris of Tavistock, Devon who celebrated 62 years of marriage on September 4th.

Sydney and Ethel Whiting who celebrated 68 years of marriage on September 12th.

ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to:

Tom Wilson, son of Mrs Jacqueline Wilson and the late *Robert Wilson* of Littleton, nr Somerton, Somerset, who has just passed examinations which qualify him as a Shipmaster.

DEATH

We regret to announce the death of:

Mrs Helen Kershaw on August 22nd. She was the wife of *Norman Kershaw* of Blackburn, Lancashire.

Our sympathy goes to their family and friends.

IN MEMORY

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

Robert Stevens

Royal Corps of Signals

Mr Robert Henry Stevens of Orpington, Kent died on August 18th, aged 75. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1944. Originally a clerk with WH Smith & Son he joined the Royal Corps of Signals in 1941. While serving with them as a Signalman he was severely injured in Italy. After training at St Dunstan's he worked for electrical manufacturer Morphy Richards. Our sympathy goes to his son Raymond and all of the family.

Clifford Hoyle

2nd Battalion King's Liverpool Regiment

Clifford Hoyle of Chadderton, Oldham, Lancashire died on August 21st, aged 88. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1944. Originally a painter and decorator he joined the 2nd Battalion King's Liverpool Regiment in 1940 and was serving with them in Italy as a Private when he was injured in action. After training at St Dunstan's he worked in industry and also set up his own painting and decorating business. He retired in 1976 after 31 years service with Hawker Siddeley Aviation. In his spare time he was a keen gardener. Our sympathy goes to his daughters Jean and Joan, son Brian and all other members of the family.

Reg Page

Dorset Regiment

Lewis Reginald Page of Bournemouth, Devon died on September 6th, aged 82. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1945. Originally a driver, he enlisted in the Dorset Regiment and was serving with them when he was wounded in France. After training at St Dunstan's he opened a shop before turning to horticultural interests. This led Reg to start moulding a variety of garden ornaments from gnomes to cherubs. His hobbies included music, dancing (for which he won several awards) and tape recording. He was actively involved with Heathfield Talking Newspaper, set up a monthly magazine, the *East Sussex Cassette* and recorded the GDBA's *Out and About* magazine. Reg was also an active member of the East Sussex Association of the Blind. Our sympathy goes to his widow Audrey and all of the family.

The Diana Gubbay Trust for the Blind

Cesar Malo

Polish Resettlement Corps

Mr Cesar Malo (formerly Maslowski) of Hythe, Kent died on August 23rd, aged 87. He voluntarily enlisted with the Polish Forces under British Command from 1944 to 1946, serving with 2 Grenadier Battalion, 4 Polish Infantry Division. He was commissioned into the Polish Resettlement Corps in 1946 and discharged in 1948. He subsequently worked in the catering industry and also taught English as a foreign language. Our sympathy goes to his widow Georgette and all members of the family.