

St Dunstan's Review

February 2001



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Cover pictures:

Arthur Harvey braved cold winds when he took part in the Great South Run. He was guided by Sports & Recreation Supervisor Grant Cooper. Full report on page 8.

From the Chairman



Snow, rain, floods, gales and a disintegrating railway system! But let us look forward optimistically to a new year which will no doubt contain its usual host of surprises and achievements. Life within our family of St Dunstan's is never dull!

One group who would be upset if there were no snow are the St Dunstaner skiers. It is a brave and unique challenge to both guide and visually handicapped participant. This epitomises what St Dunstan's is all about – the determination and courage of the individual backed by a helping hand or guide.

Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox, RN

Last issue we stated that Dr Neil Mc Donald had served as a Member of St Dunstan's Council for 13 years. He was in fact appointed in 1977, and thus actually served for a distinctive 23 years.



NOTICE BOARD



CONFIRMED EVENTS DATES

Further to last issue's What's On guide, the following activities have been confirmed. For some Club events participants should note that arrival and departure dates are one day before and after those published. All holiday and Club activity bookings should be made to Jackie Castle, Bookings Supervisor (Tel: 01273 307811). Those booking in for Club activities are reminded that reserved rooms are only held up to one month prior to commencement of the activity.

National Bowling Club (1)	March 20th-April 3rd
Widows' Week (1)	April 5th-12th
Widows' Week (2)	June 28th-July 5th
Ladies' Reunion	July 17th-22nd
Activities Week	September 16th-23rd
Widows' Week (3)	October 11th-18th
National Bowling Club (2)	Oct 26th-Nov 9th

DERBY REUNION CONFIRMED

Further to the Reunion details published in the last Review, the Birmingham/Nottingham Reunion will be held in Derby on June 6th.

BRIGHTON INDOOR BOWLING

Anyone who would like to play while on training or on holiday, please contact Iain Millard on 01273 307113. Dress is white shirt, grey trousers, tie and flat shoes. All matches unless stated will be held at St Dunstan's Ovingdean. The dates are:

February 12th	
February 21st	Worthing
March 9th	
March 12th	
March 16th	
April 2nd	
April 6th	
April 9th	
April 11th	Seaford

CUP FINAL TICKET DRAW

The FA Cup Final will take place at Cardiff on Saturday, May 12th. It is possible that St Dunstan's will be allocated tickets. Any St Dunstaner wishing to go should send their name and address to Carole Woodgate, Welfare Department, St Dunstan's, 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD by April 10th.

GOLF DATES 2001

If there is anyone who would like to have a go or join St Dunstan's Golf Club please contact the secretary Iain Millard on 01273 307113 for an application form.

April 14th-15th	Rusper Golf Club
May 17th-19th	RAF Chivenor
May 26th-27th	Rusper Golf Club
June 22nd-23rd	Rusper Golf Club (June 23rd Invitation Day)
July 14th-15th	Rusper Golf Club
August 18th-19th	Rusper Golf Club
August 31st-Sept 2nd	RAF Coltishall
Sept 15th-16th	Rusper Golf Club (AGM)

SEA FISHING EXPEDITION

Fred Bentley is organising a sea fishing expedition from July 3rd-5th inclusive. Accommodation will be at Ovingdean and a boat is being hired from Newhaven. Costs will be shared amongst participants. Would any Fishing Club member, or would-be member, who is interested, please contact Fred, c/o St Dunstan's Ovingdean, Greenways, Ovingdean, Brighton BN2 7BS.

FREEMASONS MEETING

The St Dunstan's Masonic Group are holding their Annual Meeting at Ovingdean during the weekend of April 28th-29th. Any St Dunstaner who is a Freemason, who would like to attend, please write to Ron Freer at 37 Wicklands Avenue, Saltdean, Brighton BN2 8LN. Further details will then be sent regarding the programme for the weekend.

ACTIVITIES WEEK

The date for the Activities Week has been re-arranged as it clashed with the camp at HMS Sultan. The Activities Week will now take place from Sunday 16th to Sunday September 23rd.

Anyone wishing to take part in this years fun-filled activities should contact Grant Cooper at Ovingdean on 01273 307811 ext 3100 as soon as possible as places will be limited.

KEYBOARD AND HARMONICA FOR BEGINNERS WEEKEND

Budding musicians take heed! The RNIB Beginners Keyboard and Harmonica Weekend will be held May 18th to May 20th at the Century Hotel, Blackpool. Both keyboard and harmonica breaks will cost £110 for participants and £65 for non-participants (half board). For a booking form please contact Simon Labbett, RNIB Tate House, 28 Wetherby Road, Harrogate HG2 7SA. Tel: 01423 880866.

FREDERICK CHARLICK

We apologise to Mrs Eileen Charlick for incorrectly publishing her late Fred's age as 72 in the December *Review*. Although he looked that young, he was in fact 80.

OBITUARIES

MICHAEL VARNEY – August 6th 1938-November 30th 2000

by David Vinall
Head of Transport, Ovingdean

I'm sure that everyone in St Dunstan's will be saddened to learn of the sudden death of our friend and colleague Mike Varney. Who can forget his trademark shock of grey hair and the raucous laugh that set Mike apart from his contemporaries?

Mike had been with St Dunstan's since 1989, having spent the previous twenty-five years in the road transport industry. He soon became a valued member of the Ovingdean Transport Staff and his extensive knowledge and willingness to help made him a favourite with St Dunstaners and staff alike.

Mike was a breath of fresh air- he was nothing if not honest and if one had upset him or if he thought that you were wrong - he would soon let you know. BUT he was one of the most thoughtful and generous people I have ever known.

The dozens of calls and messages I have received from St Dunstaners the length and breadth of the country, all expressing their profound shock, stand testament to the high regard in which Mike was held by the "St Dunstan's family". On behalf of Mike and his family I would like to express my thanks to all of Mike's friends and colleagues for their support at this sad time.

THANK YOU FOR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Members of staff throughout the country, both serving and retired, wish to thank all St Dunstaners, beneficiaries of the Diana Gubbay Trust, 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 2001.

REVIEW FORMAT AND DEADLINE

The *Review* is available on request in braille, large print, on tape and on computer disk. Contact the Public Relations department for the format of your choice. The final date for submitting items for publication in the March *Review* is February 8th 2001.

JOHN NEWMAN

St Dunstaners will be sad to learn of the death on July 11th of John Newman. He was 78. As Hobbies Supervisor, John ran successful and much appreciated woodwork and toy making courses at HQ. His enthusiasm, his desire to help, his observations on the world and its deportment made him a 'character'.

John started at St Dunstan's in August 1977 and was regrettably made redundant in February 1995. There will be many homes throughout the land, which will still bear items of his legacy to St Dunstan's - some delightful wooden toys!

GEORGE ADAMSON

St Dunstaners will be saddened to hear that George Adamson died on November 21st. He joined St Dunstan's as a 14-year-old in 1936 through his uncle, Joe Pugh, a First War St Dunstaner. Initially George worked as a router on a nursery furniture project but later moved to the Joinery department. During the war he served as a Royal Marine in Ceylon, on harbour control after the D-Day landings and then in Norway. He returned to St Dunstan's in 1946 where he met his future wife Rene. George provided individual coaching for St Dunstaners on the joinery course. The calm and competent way in which he taught will be remembered by those who knew him. When he and Rene retired in 1984, they had served St Dunstan's for 91 years between them. Our sympathy goes to Rene and all of the family.

GLAMOUR AND GLORY



Above: Madeleine and Billy with best man Desmond Orr and flower girl Chloë Press.

Below: Ovingdean staff provided an impromptu guard of honour for Ted and Elsie Yeaman.



A place in Ovingdean's living history



St Dunstan's took its place in an exhibition dedicated to the history of Ovingdean village. It included photographs of the village old and new and a display about St Dunstan's and supported a book called *In Living Memory*, an oral history of how the village has developed. The title proved so popular that it sold out immediately. St Dunstaner Anthony Drury (centre) is pictured at the event with Paul Kenney, Chairman of the Ovingdean Village Club and long-time resident Bill Hollis.

Brighton experienced downpours and gales but not in the conventional way. They were gales of laughter and downpours of rice or confetti - well, you will have to imagine these last two.

In November, the Chapel at Ovingdean witnessed the very happy occasion of the blessing of Ted and Elsie Yeaman's marriage (see December 2000 *Review*).

On December 3rd, Billy Orr and Madeleine Mono were married. Billy was a resident in Ovingdean and Madeleine was a volunteer visitor. The wedding ceremony was held in Tottington Court Manor, Sussex. The bride, who was known in America as the 'Glitter Queen', for she owned her own cosmetics firm over there, can only be described as glamorous. Billy served with the 'Glorious Glosters', thus it really was a case of glamour and glory.

Events generally occur in threes and a little birdie has warned us to expect a third similar event in Brighton in the not too distant future!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are always welcome.
Send a letter, tape or disk to 12-14 Harcourt Street,
London W1H 4HD. Fax: 020 7224 9616.
E-mail: ray.hazan@st-dunstans.co.uk

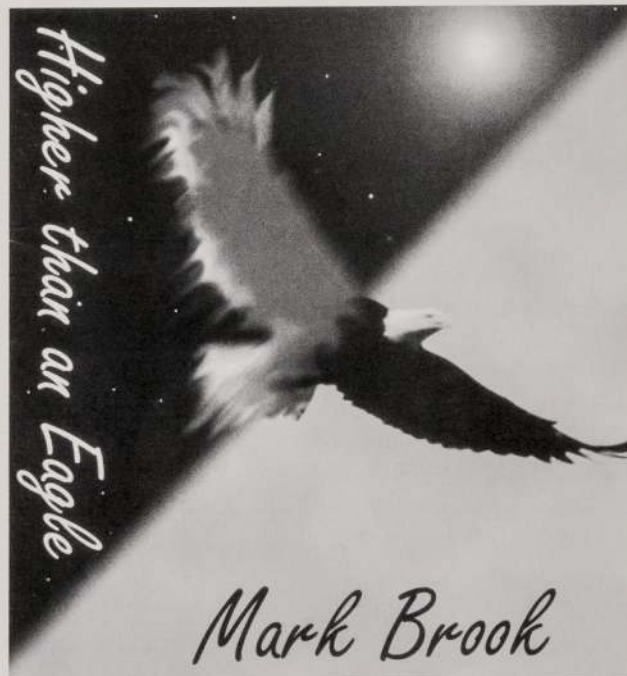
From: Bill Shea, Great Totham, Essex
St Dunstaners who were interested in holding a reunion at Church Stretton were disappointed when it failed because of lack of support.

The management at Ovingdean have offered to hold a reunion in Brighton for those who were at Church Stretton during the Second World War. The reunion will take place during the weekend May 19th-20th. Those St Dunstaners who are interested, please make your booking in the usual manner, giving at least one months notice and stating you will be attending the Church Stretton reunion. Accommodation will be charged at the usual rates. A reunion dinner will be held on the Saturday evening.

I would welcome suggestions for activities during the weekend, possibly an informal meeting in the Winter Gardens on the Saturday morning, and what about Sunday? Please contact me direct or through the PR Department at Headquarters.

HIGHER THAN AN EAGLE

St Dunstaner defies Multiple Sclerosis in song



Unbound from the earth! The high flying eagle of Mark's new CD.

St Dunstaner Mark Brook has spent a year producing an audio CD of songs, many of which he has written or arranged. He plays keyboard on most of the 13 tracks.

The tracks are a mixture of folk and country and western. The first song is a moving stand against Multiple Sclerosis (MS) from which Mark suffers.

Mark has generously offered half the proceeds of sales to St Dunstan's. To obtain a copy, please send a cheque or postal order, payable to 'St Dunstan's', for £9.99 to the Public Relations department at HQ.

The list of track titles and times are printed below, as well as the words of the first song – Mark's contest with MS:

1. *Phoenix (Higher than an eagle)* 3:03

In my mind I have come to look upon the eagle
As being the creature that I most admire
For its elegance, its strength, its freedom
And its ability to soar high in the heavens

Throughout my adult life
I have tried to be like the eagle
To be stronger
To reach higher
To be free

Now you may break my wings
Chain me down
And burn me out
But you will not defeat me!
Because like the mythical phoenix
From my own ashes I will rise again
Then let the winds of time
Blow my ashes to the four corners of the universe
I'll spread my wings and fly again
Higher, much higher than an eagle
And then I'll be free
Free from these chains for eternity

Like the phoenix from the ashes I will rise again
Spread my wings and fly higher than an eagle
Then I'll be free
From these chains for eternity

Lyrics, music, vocals and keyboard: Mark Brook
These are my words of defiance to the disease (MS) that daily for the last eleven years has tried to make me bow my head and break.

YOU WILL NOT DEFEAT ME!

Other track details:

2. *Hush* 3:56
3. *The Frame* 3:41
4. *The wind beneath my wings* 5:14
5. *Smile (You have a friend in me)* 4:41
6. *Be good to me* 1:34
7. *Long time leaving* 5:05
8. *Where have all the average people gone* 2:54
9. *Alone again today* 3:29
10. *Me and Bobby McGee* 3:59
11. *Swing low sweet chariot* 3:34
12. *Kjells song (The accordion man)* 3:54
13. *Lullaby* 1:42

Total playing time 47:16

FIRST SOLO BLIND SPEED RECORD ACCEPTED BY GUINNESS BOOK

The Guinness Book of Records has acknowledged Ken Moss as the fastest blind man on land. Previously they have documented attempts made in the company of a sighted navigator, a record Ken himself broke on the same day that he made his pioneering solo drive.

Ken, a class A police driver, was blinded in November 1992 while following a stolen car. The driver, a young joy rider, caused a lorry to swerve, which in turn crashed head on into Ken's vehicle, crushing both his skull and the car. As a beneficiary of the Diana Gubbay Trust for the Blind in January 1993 he underwent rehabilitation training at Ovingdean.

One year after his accident Ken made an unsuccessful attempt to break the world record for an accompanied blind driver despite reaching speeds over 120mph.



On October 16th 1999 Ken fared better, setting a double record. Accompanied by racing driver Tony Pond he drove a BMW at 157mph. More significantly he drove a MGF at 131mph without any assistance from a sighted companion. The car was equipped with a special guidance system developed by the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) allowing Ken judgements trajectory and acceleration.

Now Guinness will list the record as a solo venture making Ken, well and truly, a record breaker.

SABOTAGED BY A NORFOLK LUNCH

by Barbara Degenhardt

Nine members of St Dunstan's Archery Club with spotters, helpers and coaches, spent a most enjoyable weekend at Ashwellthorpe Hall Hotel near Wymondham in Norfolk to meet the challenge of Taverham Archers.

Arriving mid-afternoon on Friday we were greeted like friends by the hotel staff. With memories of last year's menus we looked forward to our dinner and were not disappointed. Both quantity and service matched the high quality of the catering.

Saturday morning, Brian manoeuvred the coach through the narrow gateway and on to the match venue in Norwich where two Portsmouth rounds were to be shot. St Dunstan's having won the two morning trophies were sabotaged by the excellent lunch laid on by Taverham, who took the afternoon honours. Some members of the opposition joined us at the hotel for dinner followed by a Habgood Special Quiz, in which David makes up the rules as we go along!

Some of the more sedate members stayed in on Sunday while the more unruly members went tenpin bowling, returning for a superb roast dinner after

which we left for St D's. Brian felt concerned about the extra weight in the coach after 48 hours of almost non-stop consumption of food, but he managed to get us all belted up. We are looking forward to welcoming Taverham in June and returning to Norfolk next November. Thanks to David, and his helpers for running another successful weekend.

FUN-SHOOT

The club takes our sport very seriously - usually. Occasionally, the less follicly- challenged let their hair down as they did before Christmas. Gathering in the McKinley Sports Hall and abandoning their score pads, they shot 30 arrows under Habgood Rules (see above). Jubilation at hitting the gold soon turned to fury when the rule decreed that "golds don't count". Under an equally bizarre system of determining the winner everyone received a prize, Cliff Ford being declared Champion of Chumps. In an attempt to nobble the opposition Norman Perry provided a bottle of wine and then threw down a challenge - two rounds of Archery Darts. However owing to his incredible rate of scoring and a little creative maths, Bert Wood led his team to triumph. Easter will see a rematch - outdoors if it ever stops raining!

FASTER THAN THE WIND

Lynda Stringer reports on a freezing fun run

After being called off in September due to heavy flooding the day before in Southsea, the Great South Run eventually took place on November 26th. The race organisers had done us proud and been extremely helpful in letting us park our coach in the VIP car park right next to the start line. It was a cold but sunny morning as the St Dunstan's coach weaved its way through the Southsea traffic and several thousand runners limbering up for the start of the Great South Run 2000. We almost hit heavyweight boxer Frank Bruno as he waved, in recognition at our coach, to some of the runners that had overtaken him earlier in the year during the Flora London Marathon.

St Dunstan's was being represented by a team of 12 runners, many of whom had yet to tackle a distance of 10 miles and we were privileged to start the race 10 minutes before the main field of 6,000 runners.

Don Planner and partner Martin Burton were quickly away, followed by Mark Threadgold and Ian Hebborn, with the rest of the team running at a more leisurely pace.

Shortly after entering the Naval Dockyard we were passed by the elite runners. As we passed the *Mary Rose* we were amazed to see Captain Gordon-Lennox's kit bag and kit proudly displayed! (Naval joke referring to length of service!)



Mark Threadgold and Ian Hebborn make their final approach towards the finishing line.



Maria Bullingham sets the pace, followed closely by Lynda Stringer and Iain Millard.

It was a great motivational boost to have so much support from fellow runners and spectators and it became common place to hear the shout of "Well done St Dunstan's."

At the halfway mark Arthur Harvey, the old boy of the team, was beginning to make his presence felt, dragging Grant Cooper along with him.

We passed Iain Millard, who would insist on taking the wrong turn at every opportunity, much to the dismay of the race officials and traffic police, who would point in one direction and call out "This way!" Iain would run in the opposite direction, hotly pursued by Lynda Stringer pulling him back in line. Gary Ogden and Mike Godden were the next to feel the rush of wind as Arthur sprinted past them.

At eight miles we passed Mark Threadgold who was having drastic problems with his knees. I suppose carrying a Rehabilitation Officer for the Visually Impaired (ROVI) on his back didn't help, but Ian Hebborn was offering words of encouragement like "If you put me down you're on your own!"

The wind was gusting up to gale force as we struggled along the last one and a half miles of Southsea seafront to the finish.

The first over the line representing St Dunstan's was Don Planner and guide Martin Burton, in a very respectable time of 1 hour, 47 minutes, followed closely by Arthur Harvey and partner Grant Cooper in 1 hour, 48 minutes. The double act of Iain Millard and Lynda Stringer with St Dunstan's wife, Maria Bullingham, were next in 1 hour, 57 minutes followed by Mark Threadgold and Ian Hebborn in a time of 2 hours, 7 minutes. Gary Ogden and Mike Godden followed, covering the 10 miles in 2 hours, 13 minutes.

A huge well done to all the team who, in the true spirit, represented St Dunstan's admirably. Also a big thank you to our back-up team, St Dunstan's Billy Baxter and ROVI Jenny Evison, who greeted us with warm clothing. The next big race in our build-up to the London Marathon is the Reading Half Marathon on March 11th.



Don Planner and guide Martin Burton pound the pavements on the Southsea front.

Message from the Head of Fund Raising

by Neil Swan

In 1995 I joined St Dunstan's as your Head of Fund Raising and Legacies. At that time there were less than 1,000 known supporters. By the end of this financial year (March 31st 2001) St Dunstan's will have approximately half-a-million supporters and will have received 650,000 donations, legacies and pledges worth in the region of £40 million. This work means that the foreseeable future of St Dunstan's is secure.

Nearly six years after joining the Charity, I feel that it is the appropriate time for me to seek pastures new for my own professional development which sadly is not possible within St Dunstan's. Recently I have been asked if I would take on the role of Chief Executive of another Charity, and I have accepted. Therefore, I have given Robert Leader my resignation and I propose to make February 28th 2001 my last working day at St Dunstan's.

Hardly a day has gone by without one St Dunstan or another doing something truly remarkable, starting with 'just living from day to day' to quote one St Dunstan. Without doubt, participating with individual

St Dunstaners and groups of St Dunstaners and watching each of you strive to climb your own mountains have been the highlights of my time at St Dunstan's.

I should like to thank Pat Moore-Searson with whom the major part of the funds has been raised. I should also like to give a special thank-you to the rest of the fund raising team; Carole, Greville, Jo, Linda, Maureen and Merle who have battled away each day dealing with the many enquiries we have received and keeping the administration of the department running smoothly.

I am grateful to all those who have assisted the fund raising team during the last five years and most especially to all the St Dunstaners for their courage and determination that have always driven me on to try harder. Working for St Dunstaners has been an inspiring experience and one I shall always treasure. St Dunstan's should now continue to enjoy strong growth in both donation and legacy income for many years to come and I look forward to returning from time to time to meet up once again with all the friends I have made.

Life and Times of Ovingdean

by Lyn Neville



The winners of the Christmas Decoration competition from 3rd Floor Nursing.

Well, Christmas is over for another year and 2001 has arrived. Here at Ovingdean we have had a busy, fun time. The house was full and luckily we had additional accommodation at Nevill Road. Our maintenance staff had worked very hard to complete it including a disabled bathroom on the ground floor. This meant the house was ready and warm for guests.

Things really started to get into the festive mood on December 14th as all the Christmas decorations were finally up after lots of effort from the various departments. Robert Leader, Chief Executive was given the unenviable job of judging the Christmas decorations (a bit unkind considering it was his first Christmas with us).

After much deliberation he announced the winner was the 3rd Floor nursing wing with their medieval Christmas which used residents as the props at the medieval banqueting table!

On December 15th we had our Christmas dance with Rick Bonner where St Dunstaners and staff alike danced away until the early hours. There were quite a few aching legs the day afterwards. A great success, definitely to be repeated next year I think.

The whole of the following week was full with various festive activities including a carol recital by the children from Southover school in Lewes, a bell ringing concert

and whisky tasting evening to mention but a few. I think that the highlight of the last week before Christmas was the Christmas Show put on by the staff. Everybody worked very hard to produce a star-studded bill which was thoroughly enjoyed by all, both players and audience. If you were not there ask to see the video next time you are at Ovingdean! It all ended with a good old sing-song and everybody well and truly in the mood for Christmas.

PBK excelled themselves over the holiday period with all their festive fare and gave everybody a wonderful Christmas luncheon and I think most people snoozed their way through the afternoon.

On Boxing Day there was an afternoon visit to a traditional pantomime, *Snow White*. In the evening we were entertained by pianist Martyn Dyke who had by now recovered from accompanying the staff at the Christmas Show.

The millennium year ended with a Fancy Dress party where the music was provided by the ever-popular Andrew Varley. The fancy dress competition was won by Frank Parsons as "Old Father Time" – Frank himself is 104! – and Rose Quigley won for the Ladies as a wonderful Snowman.

All at Ovingdean would like to wish everybody a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and we hope to see you during 2001.



Did this group of Care Assistants go to the ball? Of course they did, but we are not so certain that they returned home before midnight.

Welcome to St Dunstan's

Reneè Mercer of Hailsham, East Sussex became a St Dunstaner on November 7th. She served in the Royal Air Force from 1942 to 1946. Initially a driver, she was sent to Cranwell to train as a Radar Operator. She was then posted to Devon & Cornwall. After leaving the service she joined the Women's Auxiliary Police Force until it disbanded. She then worked as a telephonist within the force at Tonbridge. Her past interests included cycling, swimming and tennis. Mrs Mercer has two daughters and two grandchildren.

Leslie Frayling of Batheaston, Bath, Somerset became a St Dunstaner on November 22nd. He served in the Somerset and then Oxford and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry from 1940 to 1946. In 1946 he joined the Army Catering Corps until his discharge. He took part in the D-Day landings on D+5 and fought in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. After the war he worked as a Master Butcher until his retirement in 1990. Mr Frayling used to enjoy market gardening, rearing cattle and shooting. He has one daughter, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Evelyn Lucas of London served in the ATS from 1942 to 1946. After training she was posted to Signals and moved with HQ Anti-Aircraft Brigade to Coventry, Plymouth, Exeter and arriving in London on VE Day. After the war she emigrated to Canada, working in Toronto and the Rocky Mountains. Returning to the UK, she worked for the BBC as a production assistant on comedy programmes, including *Dad's Army*. More recently she was a researcher on *Parkinson*.

Reginald Monks of Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire joined the General Service Corps in 1942 and then served in the Royal Armoured Corps until 1946. He trained drivers to operate Crusader tanks. After leaving the Service he returned to London Transport as a bus inspector. He then ran a Shell garage in Slough until his retirement. Very keen on boxing, he represented a youth team and boxed in the Army. He remains a keen golfer. Mr Monks has one son.

Mary Taylor of Bishops Lydeard, Taunton, Somerset served in the Women's Royal Naval Service from 1942 to 1943. After leaving the Service

she worked in a local hospital. Mrs Taylor is an active member of the women's section of her local Royal British Legion Organisation.

David Blagg of Stafford, Staffordshire became a St Dunstaner on November 24th. He served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and subsequently the Adjutant Generals Corps from 1970 to 1995. He served in Cyprus, Italy, Holland and Germany and was involved in the evacuation of civilians in Cyprus during the Turkish invasion. He was at HQ Berlin when the wall came down. He used to enjoy running and motor sport and has an interest in military history. Mr Blagg and his wife Jane have a son and daughter and one granddaughter.

Arnold Wigley of Belper, Derbyshire served in the Royal Navy. He sailed to South Africa where he joined HMS *Dragon* as a Stoker. He spent three years with them including convoy duty in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and Pacific. He later sailed on the *Queen Elizabeth* to the USA where he joined the crew of a landing ship tank (LST). Returning to England he took part in the D-Day landings with the LST deploying tanks and ferrying wounded. After the war he spent 30 years working in limestone quarries in Derbyshire before falling 80ft and injuring his spine. He later worked as a driver and a hospital cook. Mr Wigley has a son, two daughters and five grandchildren.

Lt Col Charles Booth-Jones of Templecombe, Somerset joined St Dunstan's on December 1st. He served in the Royal Signals from 1939 to 1961. Now aged 80 he served in Iraq, Persia, Italy and the Dodecanese. After the war he was sent by the Army to read engineering at Cambridge. He volunteered for Korea where he served for one year followed by two in Singapore. He retired in 1961 after tours at Larkhill and France. In civilian life he worked as a schoolmaster teaching mathematics. He and his wife Anne have a son and daughter and two grandsons.

Private Joseph Cousineau of Liverpool, Merseyside is a 20-year-old single man serving with 1 King's Regiment. He suffered a head injury in August and has been training at St Dunstan's Ovingdean.

Harold Wren of Sheldon, Birmingham served in the Wiltshire Regiment from 1930 to 1938. He originally joined as a drummer, serving in Palestine from 1936 to 1937. Called up in 1939, he initially rejoined the Wiltshire Regiment but after Dunkirk transferred to the Royal Engineers Postal Unit. He took part in the D-Day landings on D+7. After the war he joined Royal Mail, retiring in 1977. His interests include gardening and he played as a drummer in his own band. Mr Wren and his wife have three children, four foster children, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

David Greenhough of Blakebrook, Kidderminster joined St Dunstan's on December 4th. He served in the South Staffordshire Regiment from 1953 to 1957. In Egypt he transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps but later rejoined his regiment as their pay sergeant. In civilian life, he worked for the Walsall housing department, then Duporp Engineering. Mr Greenhough is a qualified cabinetmaker. He is a member of the Worcestershire Committee for the Blind and the Kidderminster Diabetic Society. He and his wife Jessie have a daughter and two grandchildren.

David Henry of Gosport, Hampshire served in the Royal Engineers from 1942 to 1947. He deployed to the Western Desert with 51st Highland Field Company. He fought with the 8th Army through North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Austria and was blown up twice by mines. He took part in numerous close actions such as Cassino. After the war he became a works engineer refurbishing collieries before switching to Portsmouth Power Station. He later worked on ship-to-ship missiles. After retiring he was night duty emergency services officer for his local council. Mr Henry and his wife Twynera have four children.

Charles Hagger of Brighton became a St Dunstaner on December 13th. Now aged 71, he served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from 1947 to 1952 and four months in 1956 during the Suez Crisis. In civilian life he became a freelance construction engineer working on contracts in Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Iran and West Africa. A keen fisherman, Mr Hagger enjoyed woodcarving but now enjoys talking books and music. He and his wife Betty have three daughters and six grandchildren.

Henry Smythe of St Buryan, Penzance served in the Rifle Brigade Territorial Army from 1937 to 1938, the Royal Armoured Corps from 1940 to 1942 and

2/10 Gurkha Rifles in the Indian Army from 1942 to 1945. As he had been a rubber planter in Malaya the army posted him to India. He subsequently served in Burma, Syria, Egypt and Italy. After the war he worked for Chubb Security in fire protection and investigation. Now aged 94, he was a keen gardener. He and his wife Kathleen have a daughter and three grandchildren.

Robert Taylor of Stechford, Birmingham served in the Staffordshire Regiment from 1967 to 1969. Now aged 53, he volunteered for the army and was posted to Berlin where he performed guard duties at Spandau Prison. In civilian life he worked as a crane driver, coal worker and ran a hardware market for ten years. Before losing his sight, he enjoyed maintaining racing pigeons. Mr Taylor and his wife Caroline have two sons and four daughters.

Arthur Weston of Erdington, Birmingham did National Service with the King's Royal Rifle Corps from 1946 to 1948. After basic training he was posted to Palestine and spent his tour on a combination of mountain, desert and police patrols in the Gaza strip. After leaving the service he returned to his old job as an electrical engineer with GEC. He later moved to Rover and then worked for a security company before retiring in 1988. He is married to Doris.

Colin Best of Northern Ireland joined St Dunstan's on December 15th. He served in the Royal Irish Rangers in Northern Ireland from 1985 to 1998. Aged 45, he worked as a probation officer after leaving the service. He has two children.

Bernard Manser of Pevensey, East Sussex served in the Royal Artillery from 1943 to 1946. He served as a vehicle mechanic in the UK and Kenya. After leaving the service he took over his father's road haulage business. Expanding the business he created a builders merchant supply company. Mr Manser is a lifetime honorary member of his local Rotary Club.

Robert Mayberry of Hove, East Sussex served in the Royal Artillery from 1937 to 1946. Now aged 81, he deployed to France in 1940 and was evacuated from Dunkirk. He later served in the Middle East and Italy. He was discharged as Captain in 1946. After the war he worked as a solicitor. Mr and Mrs Mayberry have a daughter and a son.

Grace Rodman of Dore, Sheffield served in the Women's Royal Navy Service from 1944 to 1947. As an air mechanic armourer ordnance she was posted to HMS *Jackdaw* in Fife where she was responsible for maintaining guns, cannons, rockets and torpedoes for Barracuda and Seafire aircraft. In 1946 she was posted to HMS *Daedalus*. After leaving the service she was a secretary in a local steel works before working in education. An active member of the Townswomen's Guild, having been Committee Secretary, Chairman of the Choir and a member of their drama group. Her interests also include rambling, Scrabble and gardening. Mrs Rodman has two daughters and a son.

Sylvester Russell-Thomas of Brighton served in the Royal Navy from 1940 to 1946. Now aged 88, he was a member of the special forces and served extensively in South East Asia including China, Malay, Burma, Indonesia, Ceylon and India. A linguist, at that time he spoke Urdu, Cantonese, Malay and Hindustani. He is still called upon by the police to act as an interpreter. After the war he returned to the family general trading business in SE Asia until he lost his sight. Mr Russell-Thomas used to enjoy carpentry and the restoration of furniture. He is married to Pauline.

Marjorie Scott of Lancing, West Sussex served in the Royal Army Pay Corps from 1945 to 1948. She served in Doncaster, Chester, Stratford upon Avon and Knightsbridge. After leaving the service she worked as a hotel receptionist before joining Cunard Shipping Line as a stewardess. In later years she worked in the finance department of a grammar school. Mrs Scott and her husband Alex have one son.

Herbert Wisdom of Dartford, Kent served in the Royal Air Force from 1942 to 1944 and then transferred to The Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers until 1946. A qualified electrician he was posted to Greece and attached to 17/21 Lancers. After leaving the service he manufactured domestic refrigerators, later switching to electrical contract work. His interests include stamp collecting and bowls. He is a prolific writer and has published two books entitled *People and Places* and *In Spite of it All*.

Thomas Collins of Garforth, Leeds joined St Dunstan's on December 18th. Now aged 87, he served in the Pioneer Corps from 1940 to 1944 and the Army Catering Corps from 1944 to 1946. As a cook, he supported units in France and Germany. He was injured in a crash near Coventry during a

bombing raid. After leaving the service he worked as a cook in Leeds hospitals such as St James and St Mary's. His interests include gardening and he helped construct a roof top garden at one hospital. Mr Collins has a stepson and stepdaughter.

Lester Howard of Knutsford, Cheshire served in the Royal Air Force from 1943 to 1946. After training as a wireless operator he took part in two bombing operations over Germany in a Wellington. The squadron was then switched to North Atlantic duty and he was posted to Canada where he qualified as a navigator. After leaving the service he returned to his job as a steel founder and later set up his own business as a driving instructor. Now aged 85, his interests include gardening. Mr Howard has three sons.

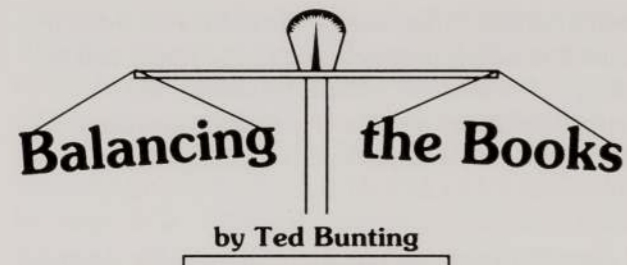
Geoffrey Rudge of Morpeth, Northumberland served in the Royal Artillery from 1946 to 1948. Having joined 1st Field Regiment in Rhyl, North Wales, he was posted to Palestine and deployed via France and Egypt. The regiment also acted as infantry conducting patrols and internal security operations during the troubles. After leaving the service he returned to work as a motor mechanic before joining ICI Chemicals. His interests include gardening, car maintenance and theatre. He and his wife Patricia have two daughters and a grandson.

James Smith of Mere Green, Sutton Coldfield became a St Dunstaner on January 3rd. Now aged 85, he served in the Dorset Regiment from 1933 to 1938 and from 1939 to 1946. He served in India and Malta and has both Africa and Burma Stars.

Christmas Quiz answers

The winner of our seasonal teaser was Colin Oakes of Wells, Somerset. A £10 voucher is on its way.

- 1) X (chi); 2) St Nicholas; 3) December was the Roman tenth month; 4) Good King Wenceslas; 5) The Three Wise Men; 6) Daily news broadcasts; 7) Evergreens; 8) Laurens van der Post; 9) Scotland; 10) William the Conqueror; 11) El Nino; 12) A big red indian-rubber ball; 13) JS Bach; 14) A creamed mixture of butter, sugar and rum or brandy; 15) Charlemagne; 16) Robert Browning; 17) Boxing Day; 18) The Booby; 19) Irving Berlin; 20) Bertram Mills; 21) Twelfth Night (also called the evening of the Twelfth Day), a celebration held on the 11th day; 22) The window tax was introduced; 23) A partridge in a pear tree; 24) St George; 25) Robert Burns.



Balancing the Books

by Ted Bunting

Stinie

Author: Andrew Rose
Reader: Christopher Saul
Catalogue number: 6484
Duration: 8.75 Hours

When the "Dartmoor Four" and the "Pentonville Five" were released on the grounds that "the convictions were not safe", did it make you feel uneasy? Did it, perhaps, sow a seed of doubt where hitherto there had always been a conviction of another kind; the confidence that British justice is the best in the world? Well be of good cheer and send for *Stinie* if you have answered in the affirmative, because at least you'll know when you've heard it that modern British justice is a sight better than it used to be!

Stinie is the remarkable story of a murder trial in 1911. It will make you laugh to hear the underhand tricks of the prosecuting counsel and make you utter "That's disgraceful" as the judge allows him to get away with them. You are most unlikely to have encountered such a judge outside Gilbert and Sullivan. At times, with the foreman of the jury jumping up to ask, "Is there any chance of finishing before tea-time?" it is difficult to remember that a man is on trial for his life, but he is!

If you ever imagined it would be impossible to be proved guilty if you did not commit the crime, *Stinie* will make you think again. The verdict and the sentence in this sad charade are predictable, but there's the appeal after that. What the British public and Winston Churchill, the Home Secretary thought of it all I'll leave you the pleasure of discovering for yourself. If "pleasure" is the appropriate word, that is, for if fair play and integrity are your natural game you are likely to finish the book feeling rather uncomfortable.

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTHS

Congratulations on the birth of:

Aisha Lee on November 29th. She is the great-granddaughter of *Bob and Joan Osborne* of Saltdean, Brighton.

Thomas Gard on January 6th. He is the tenth grandchild of *Leslie and Jenny Davy* of Romford, Essex.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Zoe and Frances Ward, the identical twin granddaughters of *Mavis and the late Bert Ward* of Leeds, West Yorkshire. Zoe married Michael White at New College Oxford on April 16th and her sister Frances wed Dr George Theodoulou on October 15th in Birmingham.

Audrey and Noel Lamb on November 25th. Audrey is the daughter of *Frank Parsons* of Ovingdean, Brighton.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to:

Dennis and Jean Crouch of Mildenhall, Suffolk on December 25th.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to:

Gwenllian and Ernest Obern of Aberdare, Mid Glamorgan who celebrated 61 years of marriage on December 23rd.

ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to:

Louisa Perfect, whose name appeared in the *New York Times*. Louisa flew to America to run in the New York marathon on November 8th. She completed the event in four-and-a-half hours, raising £1,000 for the charity Progressive Supra-Nuclear Palsy to which attention has been drawn by Dudley Moore's illness. Sponsors included her employers Goldman-Sachs. Louisa is the granddaughter of *John and Audrey Perfect* of Plymouth, Devon.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of:

Audrey Tobin on December 7th. She was the wife of *John Tobin* of Kirkholt, Rochdale, Lancashire.

Cynthia Bishop on December 18th. She was the wife of *Richard Bishop* of Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

Margery Fensome on December 27th. She was the wife of *Leslie Fensome* of Oldbury, West Midlands.

Kathleen Lloyd of Exmouth, Devon on June 6th. She was the widow of *Robert Lloyd* of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Marion Cartwright of Penarth, South Glamorgan on November 23rd. She was the widow of *Albert Cartwright*.

Alma Fletcher of Lindfield, West Sussex on December 18th. She was the widow of *Alfred Fletcher*.

Betty Marlow of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey on December 19th. She was the widow of *Jack Marlow*.

Gladys Slade of Horam, Heathfield, East Sussex on December 19th. She was the widow of *Arthur Slade*.

Catherine Parmenter of Saltdean, Brighton on December 30th. She was the widow of *Douglas Parmenter*.

Alice Beddis of Lydney, Gloucestershire on December 31st. She was the widow of *Harold Beddis*.

Lillian Watts of Norwich, Norfolk on January 4th. She was the widow of *Gordon Watts*.

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.

Robert Owen

Royal Scots Regiment

Robert Owen of Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa died on July 12th, aged 84. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1946. He served with the Royal Scots Regiment from 1940 to 1946. During this time he was held prisoner for three years in a Japanese POW camp. After training at St Dunstan's he qualified as a physiotherapist. He then emigrated to South Africa where he worked at Grey's Hospital, Pietermaritzburg before starting his own practice. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Philip Bevington

Royal Air Force

Philip Bevington of Loughborough, Leicestershire died on November 14th, aged 76. He served as a Leading Aircraftman in the Royal Air Force from

1942 to 1946. In civilian life he worked in the printing trade. Our sympathy goes to his widow Sue and all other members of the family.

Frederick Davies, BEM

The Welch Regiment

Frederick Desmond Davies of Maesteg, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan died on November 21st, aged 81. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1993. Having worked in the mines after leaving school, he joined The Welch Regiment in 1940. Serving as a Corporal he was posted as an Instructor to the Infantry Training Section at Brecon. He was injured by the premature explosion of an anti-tank grenade. After his discharge in 1942, he worked as a spray painter. His main interests were boxing and rugby. His work in boxing, for many years he was an official for the Amateur Boxing Association, led to the award of the British Empire Medal in 1970. Our sympathy goes to his widow Rachel, daughter Janice, son John and all other members of the family.

Frank Cross

Royal Corps of Signals

Frank Neville Cross of Shrewsbury, Shropshire died on November 23rd, aged 78. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1967. He joined the Royal Corps of Signals in 1941 and served with them as Acting Sergeant in India and the Far East. He was discharged in 1946. In civilian life he worked as a capstan lathe operator but later retrained as a teacher, specialising in English. His hobbies included poetry and tape recording. Our sympathy goes to his widow Margaret, daughter Alexandra and all members of the family.

Wilfred Mead

Royal Artillery

Wilfred Sydney John Mead of East Ham, London on December 5th, aged 82. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1967. He joined the Royal Artillery in 1939, serving as a driver. In 1940 he suffered gunshot wounds to the face at Dunkirk and was taken prisoner. He was discharged in 1945. In civilian life he worked as a storekeeper for a shipping firm. Our sympathy goes to his brother-in-law Derek and all of the family.

William Moore

Royal Artillery

William Raymond Moore of Bristol, Avon died on December 6th, aged 80. He had been a St Dunstaner

since 1991. Originally a butcher he joined the Royal Artillery in 1937. While serving in Hong Kong he trained as a Radar Operator and was Acting Sergeant when captured by the Japanese on Christmas Day 1941. After his discharge in 1946 he worked as a Civil Servant. In his youth he played rugby in Pontypridd and maintained a keen interest in the sport throughout his life. Our sympathy goes to his stepson Martin, stepdaughter Maralyn and all other members of the family.

Roland Harvey
Dorset Regiment

Roland Harvey of Burntwood, Walsall, Staffordshire on December 10th, aged 81. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1997. Having started his working life as a labourer, he was called up in 1940 and posted to the Dorset Regiment. During a night-time battle training exercise in 1942 he lost his right eye as a result of gunshot wounds. Mr Harvey could have taken a medical discharge at this time, but chose to stay with his regiment. He subsequently served with them in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Gibraltar. After his discharge in 1946 he returned to his old job and in later years worked for Walsall Council. Our sympathy goes to his widow Marion and all other members of the family.

Joshua Callum
2nd Gordon Highlanders

Joshua Hall Callum of Ovingdean died on December 14th, aged 84. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1986. He joined the 2nd Gordon Highlanders in 1940, serving as a Lance Corporal. Having been posted to the Far East he was taken prisoner of war in Singapore in February 1942. During his captivity he was forced to work on the Burma Railway and later in Thailand. He suffered from malnutrition and beri-beri. He was discharged in 1946. In civilian life he worked as a Syphon Attendant for Northern Gas Board. His interests included bowls and handicrafts. Our sympathy goes to his son Adrian, daughter Susan and all other members of the family.

John Conner
Royal Engineers

John Conner of London on December 19th, aged 75. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1998. He served as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers from 1943 to 1948 in France, Holland and Germany. On

leaving the Army he worked as a carpenter in the construction industry. Our sympathy goes to his widow Peggy and all other members of the family.

James Conroy
Royal Army Service Corps

James Conroy of Middlesbrough, Cleveland died on December 30th, aged 79. He originally trained at St Dunstan's from 1947 to 1949 but his sight recovered. However, further deterioration meant that by 1973 he became a St Dunstaner once more. He worked as a lorry driver before joining the Royal Army Service Corps in 1941, serving as a driver until his discharge in 1946. In civilian life he worked for British Road Services. Our sympathy goes to his widow Gloria, sons James, Edward and Gerarde, daughters Adele and Bernadette and all members of the family.

Arthur Morgan
Gordon Highlanders

Arthur Morgan of York, North Yorkshire died on January 2nd, aged 87. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1944. Having worked as a stoker for Rowntree's he joined the 9th Commandos, Gordon Highlanders in 1940. He was injured in action, suffering gunshot wounds, in Italy. Mr Morgan was a recipient of the Royal Humane Society's Certificate for Life Saving, which is issued to those who resuscitate a person using CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). An all-round sportsman, he won prizes in numerous walking contests and was a keen tandem rider. In later years his interests included woodwork, horse racing and listening to the radio and talking books. Our sympathy goes to his widow Alice, daughter Eileen and all other members of the family.

"Jack" Chappell
Royal Artillery

"Jack" Alfred Thomas Chappell of Saltdean, Brighton on January 7th, aged 80. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1945. Originally a diamond moulder, he joined the Royal Artillery as a Territorial in 1936. In 1945, he was injured by a mine explosion in Italy. After training at Church Stretton he kept poultry, later turning to pig and dog breeding. Over the years his dogs won numerous prizes at shows throughout the country. A keen swimmer, his other interests included handicrafts, gardening, amateur radio and music. Our sympathy to his wife Betty, daughter Tessa, son Crispin and all members of the family.