

July 2004

www.st-dunstans.org.uk

ST DUNSTAN'S Review



Photograph: Courtesy of the Imperial War Museum

FOR BLIND EX-SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Noticeboard
Starting on Page 4:
 A mix of dates, advice, information, staff changes at St Dunstan's, plus challenges and fun suggestions!

Cover story:

Hail the D-Day Liberators!

Having liberated Lion-sur-Mer in France on June 6th 1944, soldiers from the 13/18th Hussars were met with a hearty welcome from the locals. Sixty years on, the actions of those who took part in the Normandy landings were high in the mind of the Nation. Some St Dunstaners made pilgrimages back to the scene of those historic days, others took part in tributes closer to home.

D-Day Anniversary reports are on pages 14, 15, 16, 18 and 19.

Hart of Calais! A gift of life! RIB lives!

St Dunstaner Tom Hart returned to the French Port where he was blinded. **Details on page 8.**

If Chris and Georgina hadn't been there, Stephen might not have had a birthday to celebrate. **Turn to page 9.**

Splashdown for the RIB at Brighton. **More on page 13.**

Firing with no sight in their eyes Army archers win at Sandhurst

St Dunstaners take up arms at Bisley for the 3rd Annual Shooting Challenge. **Target the back page for details.**

The Army rule at the Military Academy while French win international match. **The bows are drawn on page 20.**

Plus Balancing the Books, Ten Questions, Pendleton's Pantry, Letters, Poet's Corner and other favourites!!!

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From the Chairman



AT THE COUNCIL meeting held on May 6th, Michael Delmar-Morgan retired from the position of Vice Chairman of St Dunstan's. Michael joined the Council in May 1968 and has served under four Chairmen - Lord Fraser, Ion Garnett-Orme, Sir Henry Leach and myself. He will continue to be a Trustee. His knowledge of the charity combined with his experience in the field of finance is, and will continue to be, highly valued. On behalf of everyone, I thank him sincerely for the support he has given to me personally, and the wisdom and knowledge he has given and will continue to devote to our charity.

I am pleased to report that Major-General Andrew Keeling, CB, CBE, was unanimously voted to succeed as the Vice-Chairman of St Dunstan's.

Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox, RN

ST DUNSTAN'S Calendar

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Writers' Forum | July 3rd |
| Outdoor Bowling | July 10th |
| Outdoor Bowling | July 16th |
| Ladies' Reunion | July 18th-25th |
| Royal Marines Band | July 21st |
| HMS Sultan | July 30th-Aug 7th |
| Outdoor Bowling | Aug 5th |
| Outdoor Bowling | Aug 16th |
| Activity Week | Aug 16th-20th |
| Archery Week | Aug 28th-Sept 4th |
| Outdoor Bowling | Aug 31st |
| Kent Reunion | Sept 15th |
| Cornwall Reunion | Sept 22nd |
| Outdoor Bowling | Sept 23rd |
| Physio Weekend | Sept 24th-26th |
| Aylesbury Reunion | Sept 29th |
| Computer Club (II) | Oct 6th-7th |
| Amateur Radio | Oct 8th-15th |
| Widows' Week (III) | Oct 18th-25th |
| Bowling Club(II) | Oct 28th-Nov 11th |
| Remembrance Sunday | Nov 14th |

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"If you come here and do not weep there is no place for you here."

WWII veteran on the return to Normandy for the 60th Anniversary of D-Day.

Noticeboard

Dates for your diary and useful information

WWI BATTLEFIELD TOUR

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND PAY TRIBUTE TO GREAT WAR SOLDIERS:
A one-day tour of the Ypres Salient offering St Dunstaners the opportunity to visit major First World War battlefields is being planned for September 2004.

The programme will require a 6:30am start from St Dunstan's Ovingdean, travelling out by coach and ferry to the Firing Posts at Poperinghe. This would be followed by visits to Bedford House Cemetery, In Flanders Fields Museum and the Bayernwald trench system. The day would conclude with a Last Post ceremony during which a wreath would be laid at Menin Gate before departure for the UK.

The day will also include talks on the ethos of the cemeteries WWI casualty treatment and dinner in Den Anker restaurant. The anticipated return to Ovingdean is 23:30pm.

The cost of the tour is still to be determined, but any St Dunstaner attending would require a UK passport and E111 form (available from any Post Office who will also sign and stamp completed forms).

Any St Dunstaner wishing to join the tour party should contact either St Dunstaner Services Manager Ray Hazan or Services Coordinator Graham Footer at St Dunstan's Headquarters, by post at 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD or by telephone on 020 7723 5021.

LIBRARIES HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT

QUIET REVOLUTION NEEDS TO TURN UP THE VOLUME: The National Library for the Blind is encouraging people to "Make a Noise in Libraries" later this month. From July 19th to 25th they are trumpeting the quiet revolution in UK public libraries developing inclusive, accessible services for visually impaired people. These facilities range from reading groups, internet access, accessible catalogues to initiatives to stock talking books or large print material.

"Many libraries point to a lack of demand for services as a reason not to spend money making their library accessible," said NLB Chief Executive Helen Brazier. "That's why we believe it is particularly important for visually impaired people to 'make a noise' in their local library during the week, take part in events and ask about library services. Library services will only be improved if visually impaired people are prepared to make a noise and work with libraries to bring about change."

For information about local events, check the NLB website at www.nlb-online.org/campaigns or contact your local library to find out what they are doing. NLB has developed a range of resources to support libraries in developing accessible services, details of which can also be found on their website. For any queries about the Make a Noise in Libraries Week, contact the National Library for the Blind on 0161 355 2007 or e-mail campaigns@nlbuk.org.

NORTH LIGHT SHINES AT DERBY

SWEEPSTAKE WINNERS: North Light was shining for a St Dunstan's Widow as it won the 2004 Epsom Derby by a head-and-a-half on June 5th. Rachel Cooper of Hastings, East Sussex drew the winning horse in the **ST DUNSTAN'S Review** Derby Sweepstake and claims the top prize of £222.45p.

Rule of Law was close behind marking out an £88.98p win for St Dunstaner Violet Withers of Bristol, Avon, while Let the Lion Roar could be heard all the way to Tenerife where £44.49p winner St Dunstaner Les Thompson resides.

The remaining prize money was shared amongst the following St Dunstaners and Widows who drew a horse that ran in the race: Vivien Jerome of Cookham, Berkshire, Kenneth Goulding of New Moston, Manchester, Daphne Lavery of Minehead, Somerset, Jerry Lynch of Horsham, West Sussex, Bill Kennedy of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, Ada Bugbee of Harefield, Middlesex, Dennis Brown of Linden Village, Buckinghamshire, Tom Lukes of Old Colwyn, Clwyd, Max Ash of Sidmouth, Devon, Jean Hogg of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire and Brenda Tyzack of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

SAILING ADVENTURES

SEAFARING FOR PEOPLE OF ALL PHYSICAL ABILITIES : The Jubilee Sailing Trust creates the opportunity for everyone to experience the excitement and adventure of sailing a tall ship. Their 2004-05 programme of voyages includes Caribbean, Canary Islands and Transatlantic journeys. Their ships Lord Nelson and Tenacious have been designed to enable able-bodied and physically disabled people to sail together. There are no passengers, everyone takes an active part in the crewing of their ships. For more details call 0870 443 5783 or log on to their website at www.jst.org.uk.

A BAND WOULD BE GRAND

MUSICAL ST DUNSTANERS WANTED: Time was, that St Dunstaners with a musical ear were able to combine forces as a full dance band. St Dunstaner John Gale wonders if some of that old spark might still exist and that a tuneful assembly could still set toes tapping and hands clapping. John, who plays a mean trumpet, would like to hear from other St Dunstaners who would be interested in forming a band. Musicians can contact John care of **ST DUNSTAN'S Review** 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD.

John steals the show on page 15.

FEPOW MEMORIAL CHURCH

NORFOLK CHURCH KEEPS MEMORY OF THOSE WHO DIED IN FAR EAST CAMPS: A Norfolk church is compiling a Book of Remembrance for military and civilian internees of Prison Camps in the Far East. The church itself is a memorial to those who died in Japanese POW and Internment Camps during the Second World War. It was founded by Father Malcolm Cowin, a survivor of the camps, who determined that there should be a permanent memorial. An annual service at the church marks the relief of Rangoon. The Church of Our Lady and St Thomas of Canterbury are appealing for help to complete the Book of Remembrance which has been extended to include the names of those who survived but are now deceased. The completed books will be placed in a specially dedicated chapel in the Memorial Church.

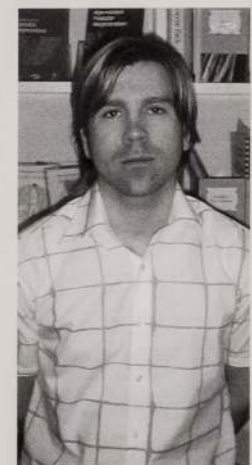
Donations can be sent to Father David Jennings, FEPOW Memorial Fund, Church of Our Lady and St Thomas of Canterbury, 1 Norwich Road, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0QX. For more details phone 01953 603104 or visit their website at www.fepow-memorial.org.uk.

STAFF CHANGES

AMANDA BARLEY
Amanda Barley joined the Rehabilitation and Training department in December 2003. She has been a qualified Rehabilitation Officer for more than three years. Amanda has previously worked for Guide Dogs in London and, before coming to Ovingdean, was running a mobility project for visually impaired people within Brighton and Hove Social Services.



Amanda spent some time previously at St Dunstan's as a Rehabilitation student and has been pleased to return.



GRANT SMITH
Grant joined the Rehabilitation and Training team in April. He recently completed his training as a Rehabilitation Officer at the School of Vision and Rehabilitation Studies in Glasgow. He has relocated to Brighton to work for St Dunstan's and is thoroughly enjoying his move so far.

DEBBIE MacKENZIE
Debbie MacKenzie is St Dunstan's new Welfare Officer for East and West Sussex. She joined us in June after four years working with Sussex Social Services. In her spare time, Debbie enjoys a spot of amateur dramatics.



CAROLINE PAYNE
Caroline Payne succeeds Marion Lurot as Welfare & Grants Administrative Officer at St Dunstan's Headquarters. She previously worked at a clinic for autistic children and has studied theology. She enjoys swimming and amateur dramatics when not at work.

CAROL INNES
Carol Innes joined St Dunstan's in March as Head of Housekeeping. She previously worked for Hilton Hotels in Brighton. Carol, who enjoys yoga, reading and cinema, says she is really enjoying her work at St Dunstan's. "Everyone has been very welcoming."

ROSEMARY COTTRELL
Rosemary left St Dunstan's last month to take up a challenging new job as Head of Fundraising at the Church Army. When asked to produce proposals for the new department, Rosemary delivered a 14 page summary of marketing opportunities, data segmentation analyses and a comprehensive programme of appeals for the next 24 months. All this is typical of her approach to fundraising: - tireless, enthusiastic and exceptionally well organised. Even if she achieves only a fraction of the success she's brought to St Dunstan's, then her colleagues will have every reason to be satisfied. In fact, it was Rosemary's marketing team who raised £1million with last year's President's appeal - our most successful Christmas campaign yet. We all wish Rosemary the very best in her new role.



Nick Ward,
Director of Fundraising and Communications

GUIDE DOG POLICY UPDATE

PLEASE HELP US AVOID TRIPPING HAZARDS:
We have reviewed our policy for guide dogs at Ovingdean in discussion with the GDBA and will issue the revised owner's leaflet to all owners when they are next booked in to visit. Jointly we have also written a leaflet to provide guidance to staff and other people at Ovingdean. The review was conducted in response to recent incidents and their Health and Safety implications and also in recognition that Ovingdean is home for some for whom the fear of the potential hazards presented by guide dogs (and, somewhat similarly, wheelchairs) is a real one. We should remember as visitors to Ovingdean that, for many St Dunstaners, Ovingdean is their permanent home and we should behave the same as when we visit any other private house. The guidance is substantially unaltered except that within the Lounge a member of staff will move a chair adjacent to yours where possible to allow your guide dog to lay in its place, eliminating the tripping hazard the dog would otherwise cause by laying in front of the chairs. We are also strongly recommending that those with dogs use the lift and do not attempt to negotiate the stairs where the tripping hazard (and the fear of the hazard for those passing a dog on a lead) is at its most extreme. The general guidance reminds everybody about their responsibility not to feed a guide dog and to ask permission to pet him or her.

Dick Lake
Ovingdean Manager

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

RECOGNITION FOR BLIND AND SERVICE STALWARTS: Professor Ian Bruce, formerly Director-General of the Royal National Institute of the Blind was awarded the CBE in Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday Honours on June 12th for services to blind and partially sighted people. Ian Cannell, formerly National Chairman of the Royal British Legion was also made a CBE for his work within the Service community.

FLY FISHING LESSONS

FISHING WITH MR CRIBBINS: Bernard Cribbins has offered to hold some lessons in fly fishing. Any St Dunstaner who is interested in taking part should contact Anna Robinson at Headquarters on 020 7616 7927.

QAC SIGHT VILLAGE LAUNCHES NEW TECH

NEW VENUE FOR VIP TECH SHOW: New technology and novel approaches to services for the blind will be on display at QAC Sight Village on July 13th-15th. The event has outgrown its traditional base at Queen Alexandra College in Harborne, Birmingham so it has moved to the Clarendon Suites, a conference centre at Hagley Road, Birmingham.

More details can be found at the event website www.qacsightvillage.org.uk, or by calling 0121 428 5050 or e-mailing ray@qac.ac.uk.

FIND YOUR FEET WITH RNIB

WOMEN'S WORKSHOP FOR UNDERSTANDING SIGHT LOSS: The Royal National Institute of the Blind will be running a five-day workshop for women over the age of 18 who have experienced sight loss within the last three to five years but are finding it difficult to come to terms with the situation. Participants will have the opportunity to meet others in a similar situation.

Morning sessions will look at useful daily living skills, looking good, feeling great, financial support, leisure and hobbies, getting out and about. Dubbed "Finding Your Feet", the programme will be held at the RNIB Palm Court Hotel, Eastbourne, West Sussex. For details contact Simon Labbett on 01423 503957 or e-mail simon.labbett@rnib.org.uk

Tom pays his respects to the defenders of Calais



Tom Hart with Dougie Hughes who had trained with him at Winchester. They are standing in front of the war memorial in Calais Harbour.



Service at Calais Cemetery.

ST DUNSTANER TOM Hart of Sandwich, Kent returned to Calais on May 26th – 64 years and one day after he was blinded during attempts to slow the advancing German Army! He and other Calais veterans attended a dockside memorial that paid tribute to those who died. Also attending were current servicemen and French dignitaries. Back in 1940, Tom was serving in the King's Royal Rifle Corps, one of a cadre of regiments charged with slowing the German advance to aid the retreat from Dunkirk. Tom was blinded on May 25th and Calais capitulated on May 26th. He was held prisoner by the Germans until 1943 when he and other POWs were repatriated. Over six decades later, he joined other members of the Queen Victoria's Rifles Regimental Association for a ceremony of Remembrance on the Calais waterfront. Wreaths were laid at the foot of the memorial and the Last Post sounded. The afternoon provided the QVRR group with an opportunity to visit the graves of British servicemen who died during the defence of Calais. Tom visited the grave of his officer - aged 31 when he was shot - Sgt Dinner - a mere 24-year-old when he was killed - and other young men who had not returned. "I can still see their faces," said Tom.

Mercy dash crew meet up with bomb victim Stephen once more

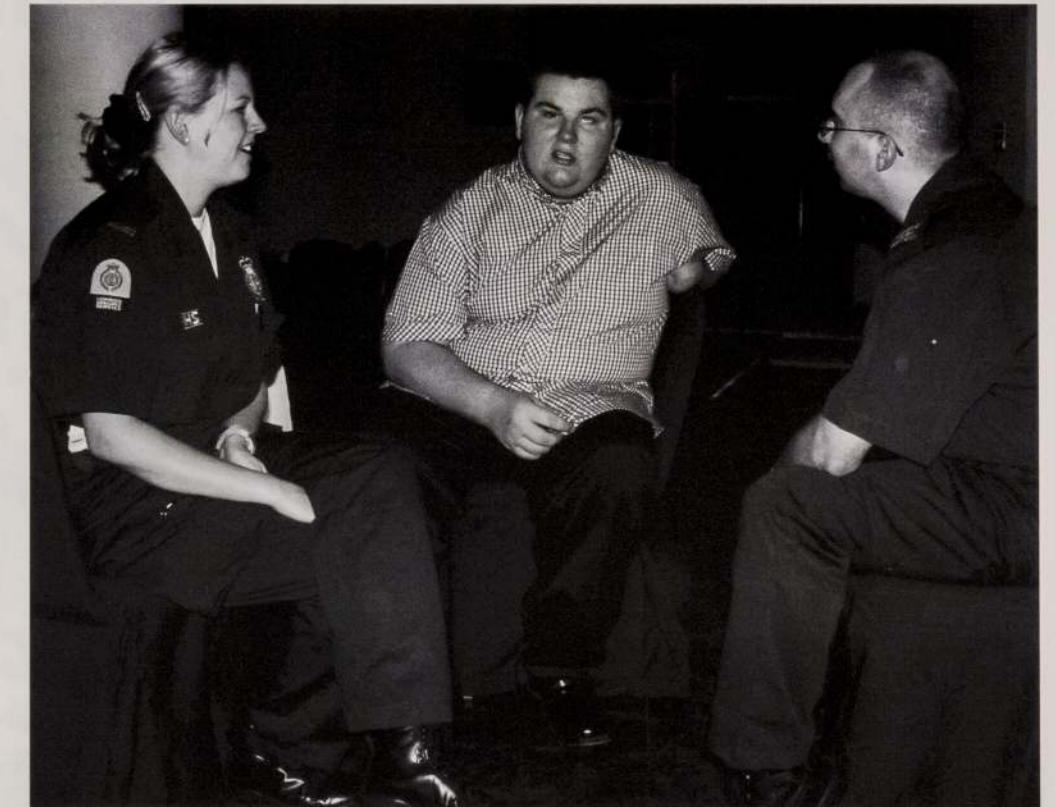
BACK ON FEBRUARY 21st 2001, Chris Eggs and Georgina Springer were just out of training and had a few days experience as an ambulance crew. They were on call at Fulham Ambulance Station when summoned to a terrorist incident at a TA centre in Shepherds Bush, London.

On arrival, the shattered remains of a 14-year-old boy who had been blown up by a terrorist device confronted them. He was suffering wounds to the face, hands, chest and stomach. "We had been on the job two or three days at most," said Chris, "so we were going in at the deep end."

Georgina echoes that feeling of unease. However, they tended to the young victim's wounds and transported him to hospital where the burden of care transferred to doctors and nurses. "There are some cases that stay in your mind," added Georgina. "You wonder how things turned out."

In this case, Chris and Georgina had the chance to find out. Just over three years since that fateful day, they met up with the young blast victim – St Dunstaner Stephen Menary – during celebrations for his 18th birthday.

Cadet Menary was blinded, lost some hearing and his



Ambulance crew Georgina and Chris meet up with Stephen for the first time since he was injured by a bomb in 2001.

injuries also necessitated the amputation of his left hand. Since then, in between further surgery and rehabilitation, he has resumed schooling and is now considering options for further education.

"There are some things that make you want to give up," said Georgina, now a Paramedic. "Seeing Stephen when he was injured was one of them, but I am glad I didn't. Chris agrees, adding: "It is good to see how Stephen is getting on."

Stephen celebrated his coming of age with a visit to 10 Downing Street where he met Cherie Blair, wife of the Prime

Minister, who gave him a tour of the residence. Later on June 3rd he unwound with a party at the Victory Services Club in London. He was joined by family, friends, pals from his cadet unit, Chelsea Pensioners, the Mayor of Fulham & Hammersmith and Stephen's GP impersonating Elvis Presley.

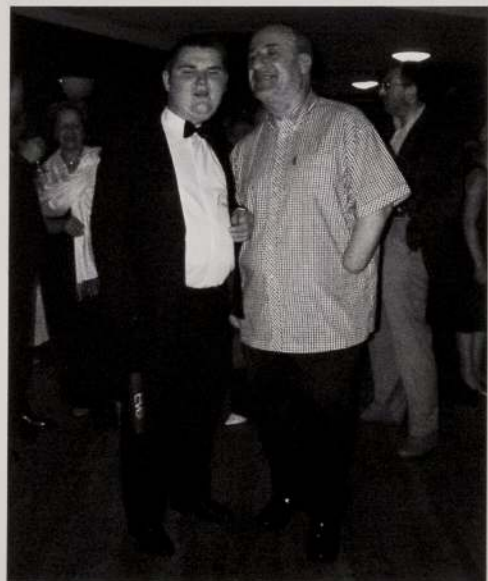
The party was rounded out by a charity auction aimed at raising funds for organisations that have helped Stephen over the last few years.

Black Tie? What mischief did Stephen get up to on his birthday. Details on page ten.

It strikes me...

with Gog and Magog

Gog hears that St Dunstaner Bob Osborne has a unique claim to fame. He shared the experience with fellow St Dunstaners at the recent Brighton reunion. Apparently, some years ago, he packed two spare legs for a holiday cruise. Having disembarked, he realised that his false limbs were not included in the luggage. Attempts to trace them proved futile. "I am the only man," said Bob, "who lost one leg in Normandy and two in Tilbury Docks."



Snappy dressers! Hazan and Menary mix it up.

Magog feels that one of the pre-requisites of an Editor is lack of gullibility. An 18th birthday party is indeed a momentous event in the life of the celebrant. To dress up in black tie does not seem, therefore, inappropriate. But to arrive and find others in open neck shirts rubs in the fact that one has been duped! Caveat Menary!

World Cup Coach puts his name to a piece of Rugby history



Picture: Rugby Advertiser

England Rugby Coach Sir Clive Woodward signs Lionel's ball during a visit to the home of his favourite game.

ST DUNSTANER LIONEL Broughton managed to get a special autograph on a very special heirloom recently. On May 3rd, the people of Rugby flocked to the streets to hail the England Rugby team's win in Australia, presenting the squad with the freedom of the borough.

While out meeting the people in the crowd, Sir Clive Woodward signed a small leather rugby

ball for Lionel. The memento carries more history with it than the victorious squad coach might suppose.

"I first came to Rugby on June 4th 1944 when I was in the Army," said Lionel. "I had the small ruggie ball made for myself. It's 60 years old and they don't make them like that any more. It would be plastic if I had it made today."

Order of the British Empire give thanks at St Paul's

FIVE ST DUNSTANERS whose achievements have been honoured with the awarding of the MBE attended a service of thanksgiving for the Order of the British Empire on May 26th. The service took place at St Paul's Cathedral, London in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen.

St Dunstaner Mr Robert Beswick, MBE joined the congregation, escorted by Mrs Margaret Firth, MBE, as did Mr Arthur Frith, MBE, escorted by Mr D. Jones, Mr William Griffiths, MBE, escorted by Mrs Alice Griffiths, Mr Arthur Redwood, MBE and Mrs Mary Redwood, escorted by Mrs June Wilyeo, while Mrs Elsie Scullion, MBE was escorted by her son Mr Richard Scullion.

Her Majesty The Queen was attending in her capacity as Sovereign of The Order of the British Empire and accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh. All the various members gathered wore badges denoting their category of the Order. They assembled for a stirring service with beautiful music from the choir, organ and a military band. After the service the St Dunstan's party returned to the Union Jack Club where Arthur Frith, MBE expressed a vote of thanks to St Dunstan's staff for arranging transport and accommodation.

Ten questions on...

Military Firsts

Harry Beevers falls in with some Service teasers

- 1) In 1940, the Russian prince, Alexander Obolensky became the first England international of his sport to be killed in World War II when his Hurricane crashed. At which sport did he represent England against New Zealand in 1936?
- 2) In 1857, members of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry became the first British regiment to wear what, doing so in the Punjab during the Indian Mutiny?
- 3) Which subsequent Group Captain and former equerry to King George VI shot down 11 German planes as a Hurricane pilot during the Battle of Britain including the first enemy bomber to crash-land in this country?
- 4) In the 18th century, the Earl of Orkney and John, Duke of Argyll became the first to hold which British army rank?
- 5) October 21st 1940 was the first date on which the RAF dropped what in an occupied country, a similar load having been dropped over Berlin by a flight of Armstrong Whitleys on October 1st 1939?
- 6) Which American singing star appeared in the first "talkie" *The Jazz Singer* and was the first star to entertain troops in three wars?
- 7) How did Officer-Cadet F.A.W. Stewart who was commissioned to the Royal Corps of Signals achieve an historic first at the Royal Military College at Sandhurst in April 1998?
- 8) Who was the very popular war-time entertainer who became the first British artiste to top the US pop charts with her song *Auf Wiedersehen*?
- 9) In 1918, HMS *Hermes* was laid down and completed in 1923 becoming the first purpose-built warship of its type in the Royal Navy. What kind of ship was HMS *Hermes*?
- 10) The first major naval battle won by air power was at Taranto in World War II, which British planes disabled several Italian warships and in 1941 helped to sink the German battleship *Bismark*?

Answers can be found on page 28.



Photograph: Tony Young

Perth honours war veterans

BOLTON ST DUNSTANER Arthur Carter paraded St Dunstan's Standard on May 11th at the North Inch in Perth as the city honoured the troops who fought in the D-Day landings 60 years ago. The Scottish event culminated in Perth and Kinross Provost Bob Scott bestowing the Freedom of the City on the Royal British Legion. This honour was last granted 22 years ago, but the Legion is the first collective body to be recognised since the Black Watch in 1947. The Freedom scroll was accepted by Major The Earl Haig, 86-year-old son of the Royal British Legion founder Field Marshal The Earl Haig.

Korean War Vets show support



REME St Dunstaner Ron Jones of Nuneaton, Warwickshire presented the shield of the British Korean War Veterans Association to Ovingdean Manager Dick Lake last month. He also presented a £100 donation from Association members to help support the work of St Dunstan's.

RIB bounces into action!



THE BOAT THAT St Dunstaner Mark Threadgold used to set a world record is now available for other St Dunstaners to get a taste of the waves at high speed. The Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) *Ad Astra* had its maiden voyage in this respect on May 28th.

St Dunstaner Peter Hammond ventured into choppy seas (with the Sports and Recreation crew) at his side for an exhilarating roller coaster ride around Brighton Marina. His verdict? "I can't wait to go again!" For details, contact Louise Timms at St Dunstan's Ovingdean.

BALANCING THE BOOKS

Ted Bunting on the **best** and **worst** of the Talking Books currently available

London After Midnight
Editor: Peter Raining
Reader: Various narrators
Duration: 11 hours, 52 minutes
Catalogue No: TB12032

LIKE CHOCOLATES in a box, the twenty-two crime stories in this book are an assortment; more or less uniform in quality but varying somewhat in size. They differ, too, according to the individual taste of the consumer, since we don't all share the same preferences.

Blind Golfer has not infringed any rules

THE ENGLISH BLIND Golf Association has defended a golfing St Dunstaner after allegations that he could see more than he claimed. David Morris of Newquay, Cornwall became the first person to win the World Blind Golf Championship for the second time in a tournament in Australia. However, his April victory was soured when it was claimed that he was not eligible to play in the B1 category of blind golf. (B1 is defined as ranging from a total lack of sight to light perception but the inability to recognise shapes.)

After investigating the allegations, the English Blind Golf Association declared that David "has not infringed any rules regarding his classification." They found that his sight had been tested five times since July 2001.

Three of the tests were carried out at London's Moorfields Hospital. The other examinations took place at the Blind Golf World Championships in Canada two years ago and in Australia this year. On each occasion independent medical experts

confirmed that David was in the B1 category, as set out by International Blind Sport. The event was also played in blacked-out sunglasses.

"It is not within our competency to challenge the professional judgement of the specialists carrying out the tests," said the EBGA. "Therefore the conclusions of the directors investigating the matter are that, under the rules of the English Blind Golf Association and the International Blind Golf Association, David Morris has not infringed any rules regarding his classification."

LETTERS Letters to the Editor are always welcome.

Both Dick and myself were delighted with the surprise we received from yourselves, namely the beautiful bouquet of flowers celebrating our 62nd wedding anniversary.

It was so enormous that I said to Dick "We will have to put them in a bucket." But no, Dick said hold on and went off down the garden. He returned with the most enormous pottery jug and they look lovely standing in the hall in it.

Bett Hall,
Hassocks, West Sussex

I thank you and St Dunstan's for helping me to return to the Normandy Beaches for the 60th Anniversary. The one I landed on at 06:30hrs, English time, (07:30hrs continental time) on June 6th 1944 was Gold Beach. I was with the 5th Battalion, East Yorkshire regiment, 50th Northumbrian Division in the first assault group.

Frank Smith,
Egham, Surrey

Write to St Dunstan's Review, 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD.

There is a Lord Peter Wimsey story, for example, which was far too nutty for my liking and a tale of Sweeney Todd I found too soft to take seriously. Others, just like the caramel, were good, though hard to swallow, but generally the whole selection is very pleasant and palatable indeed.

As to the "Turkish Delight", (the one everybody seems to avoid and leave behind) well, I don't think I actually found one... The last item in the selection is certainly not the least appetising, it is, in fact, as ingenious a story as any of its predecessors and well worth waiting for.

Flame of remembrance



ST DUNSTANER Fred Bentley and Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Councillor Pat Drake lit a memorial torch flame in St Dunstan's Chapel on June 2nd. The brazier was burning in memory of those who died during the D-Day landings in 1944. The torch had been blessed by St Dunstan's Chaplain Father Tony Otterwell.

The fire this time!



Two flares burn over Brighton in recognition of those who fought at Normandy.

ON THE NIGHT of June 2nd, 60 flares were launched along the South Coast of England, taking in the major ports and departure points for the Normandy Invasion in 1944. St Dunstaner Les Clarke stood witness to the initial launch in Falmouth. "The chap who launched it, Marcus, was very professional. He set it off and you could hear the woosh as up it went," he said. "There was quite a lot of local interest and some people came out to see it. They all seemed to know about St Dunstan's. One lady, a nurse, said her uncle had been a St Dunstaner." As one flare went up, the next point followed forming a line that quickly led up to St Dunstan's Ovingdean where St Dunstaners had been joined by the Mayor of Brighton and Hove and other guests in the Winter Garden. A final volley from six points concluded the tribute.

SILENT TRIBUTE IN SOUTHSEA

ATTENDING

ST DUNSTAN'S "Rocket Rally", three generations of my family stood by Southsea Castle in what for me was a most moving occasion. In the spirit of a 21-gun salute, a 360-mile stretch of Britain's southern coast was being lit up by a series of rocket flares fired at 60 landmarks between Falmouth and Beacon Hill. When the time came for our rockets to be fired we stood in the middle of an area guarded by five

by Terry Walker

security men in high visibility jackets. A Royal Marine, making radio contact with his friends set up his kit, fired the rocket and left.

His professional approach and execution seemed to stun the onlookers to silence, and perhaps like myself they were deep in thought. Exactly 60 years ago tonight the Invasion fleet slipped moorings and slid quietly out to sea on their way to the

beaches of Normandy. Many on board must have been in contemplative mood, not a time for bands and bugles. Our tribute has been exactly right, silent yet all-inclusive.

The flares did not go unnoticed, coastguards along the coast received many calls regarding the 'distress signals' seen between 21:30 and 22:00 on June 2nd. In my area, the flares were seen from good vantage points on the hills overlooking the sea.

John "Gusty" Gale joins the Ian Price Quartet for a hot set.

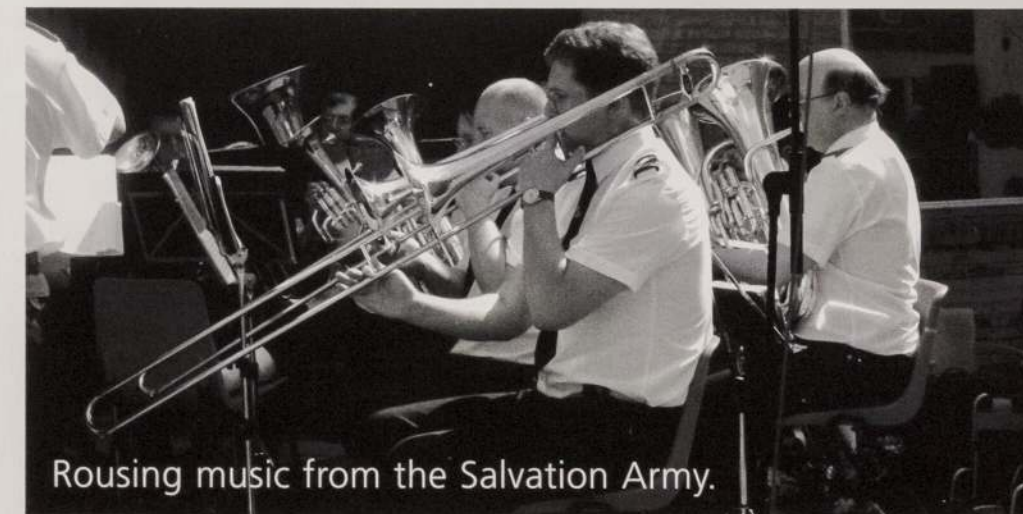


Jazzy Gale blows away the crowd!

A TRUMPET PLAYING St Dunstaner stole the show during a summer jazz concert in the Inner Garden at Ovingdean on June 5th. John "Gusty" Gale let rip with the Ian Price Quartet on a warm Saturday afternoon, working through half a dozen popular melodies such as *Basin Street Blues*. The gig was part of St Dunstan's D-Day Commemorative Musical Festival which spanned the 60th Anniversary weekend. John took to the stage in his wheelchair and earned much applause with each number.

The festival started on June 4th with The Choir of St Paul's Church, Brighton who gave a public concert of church and secular music (including Scott Joplin and Gershwin) in the Chapel, while June 6th saw an operatic quartet take to the stage, followed by an old time music hall group and concluding with the Brighton Band of the Salvation Army.

Light opera on a sunny Sunday.



Rousing music from the Salvation Army.



A cup of tea for the interlude.

Fallen comrades in mind, St Dunstaners return to the beaches of Normandy for the 60th Anniversary of D-Day

RETURN TO THE BLOODY FRONT LINE



ON JUNE 6TH 1944, Fred Bentley made a fateful advance on the beaches of Caen in Normandy. He was serving with the Durham Light Infantry and his battalion made up part of the force that had been committed to turning the tide of the Second World War. Fred's part in the conflict ended when a German handgrenade robbed him of his sight. Sixty years later, he crossed the Channel again. This time with fellow St Dunstaner Jerry Lynch who served in Normandy with the Cameronians and another D-Day Veteran Jock Carnochan. Between June 3rd and June 8th, the trio visited significant sites and Memorials in Normandy such as the Pegasus Bridge. Jerry added that a lump came to his throat when he found the grave of his commanding officer, Lt George Alexander. "It was under a great big horsechestnut tree," said Jerry. "I remember back in 1944, resting in a field in Caen when the bombers came in. They went in U-formation. They knocked the hell out of Caen. It was a wonderful sight to us, but it devastated Caen." Jerry's own moment of faith came when he and a fellow soldier were pinned down by sniper fire. "They asked us to withdraw so that they could lay down smoke screen and put in some 2 inch mortar. Willy (Bogle) got up and got round to the other side. I got up and that was it! "When I woke up it was two weeks later and I was in the Royal Hospital in Bath."

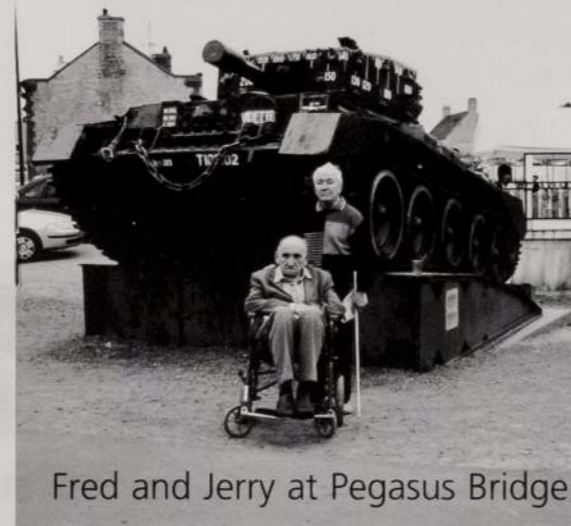
Back in Normandy! Jock Carnochan with Jerry Lynch and Fred Bentley.

So much damage in Tillie

"WHENEVER YOU SEE any pictures of D-Day, whenever they show the beaches, it is always sand," said St Dunstaner Frank Smith. "But it wasn't like that where I landed, which was Gold-King Beach, somewhere left of Arramanches, it was all shingle - lots of little pebbles - just like Brighton Beach."

Frank from Egham, Surrey was serving with the East Yorkshire

Regiment when the Normandy landings occurred. He made the return to Arramanches, accompanied by his grandson Mark Green. They attended services of remembrance at Bayeux cemetery. "Some of my friends were killed on June 11th, that was when we got to Tillie. The Germans sent the Panzers in and there was a lot of fighting round there. There was so much damage, I believe they bulldozed the town."



Fred and Jerry at Pegasus Bridge.

We shall remember them.



Jerry Lynch in silent contemplation beside a Normandy memorial.

"Dead" Commandos make pilgrimage to France

IN ST AUBIN SUR MER, June 1944, two Royal Marine Commandos were told that a comrade had died. One had been hit by mortar fire, the other lost his legs to a landmine, so in both cases it wasn't improbable to hear that a friend had been killed. However, decades later, St Dunstaner Trevor Ireland realised that the news given to him over five decades ago had been incorrect - his friend was still very much alive!

He was reunited with Vince Horton in 2001. They attempted to make the pilgrimage to Normandy but were involved in a car accident. Trevor suffered a broken shoulder, arm, collar bone and ribs.

This year the journey was less eventful and Trevor and Vince travelled to Bayeux where they took part in a Service conducted by members of 48 Royal Marine Commando. "We managed to miss all the razzamataz. There were only seven original D-Day Commandos on the beach, but we were there for the fly past," said Trevor. "They gave us spent bullets dug up from the beach, filled with sand and mounted on plaques. I paid homage to my



Photograph: Daily Post/Echo Newspapers

St Dunstaner Trevor Ireland with Vince Horton.

comrades but it was a little bit too much, it was a long day and very hot.

"It was very emotional when we stormed that ruddy beach in 1944. We knew it was going to be tough, but I don't think we knew how. As the boats came in, we had been vomiting like hell but as soon as the bullets started flying we sharpened up.

"We lost 38 men just then. There were six landing craft abreast as we came in and we lost 221 men in all on landing."

St Dunstaner recalls the mood amongst those assembled for armada

THE LONGEST DAY AT SEA

AFTER THREE YEARS on North Atlantic Convoy duty our fine ship had seen much action, with at least two U-boats to our credit. We were then, in the early summer of 1944, withdrawn from the Western Approaches to coastal patrol East Coast Hell Fire Corner (Dover). During those early weeks of summer we noticed in the coastal ports the build up of ships, men and materials and the huge concrete blocks we were later to recognise as the Mulberry Harbours. We were not to know when the hour to strike would come, but the mood amongst us all was electric. On June 4th-5th, we sailed from Falmouth in very poor weather for June. We were ordered to anchor just outside the harbour. Silence was automatic aboard ship, we knew we were waiting for important orders.

Evening came on June 5th, Lower Deck was cleared for the Captain to address ships company. His words remain with me to this day: "Men you are about to undertake your greatest adventure of a lifetime - tomorrow we shall be at the beaches of France. Some of us may not return, but I know you and our ship will serve our country well."

I was 20 years old - a Leading Stoker, my ship HMS *Vimy* (V & W Class Destroyer, Veteran Warship of the Grand Fleet World War I).

by John Ellson

We sailed in the late evening, I was in the engine room. On leaving the engine room in the early hours of June 6th 1944 I saw to my amazement the largest armada of ships and men ever to be assembled, the likes of which I believe will never be seen again. We, I later learned, were sailing in support of the 1st US Division - destination "Omaha" beachhead to storm ashore at 06:30 hrs. It was almost a disaster as they hit the beach. The sea was very choppy and there was strong opposition. We, away from the shore could see the beach covered with the fallen. Cliffs had to be scaled, the courageous young GI's were pinned down. Heavy guns of the supporting warships belched fire at the enemy positions hour after hour during this long day.

The pounding went on as the men on the beaches fought for every inch of vital ground, but as the day lengthened, the young American heroes, in spite of heavy losses, gained their ground as more troops poured ashore. We were then called to aid a damaged Merchant ship which had fire below decks. Myself, being the Leading Stoker of U-boat Boarding Party, was ordered into a lowered boat with the rest of the Boarding Party. You can imagine my feelings when I learned that the Merchantman was an ammunition

supply ship. We were soon alongside and ready to board when the Skipper voiced out loud "Fire below under control." Relief, I can tell you, but we had to get back aboard our own ship. This was no easy task on a day such as this, bobbing about amid so many ships and craft, but it was achieved. Further action near the coast ensued. The RAF had mastery of the skies but as dusk came enemy planes made a quick sortie near us, we sustained damage and with one of our engines now useless we were out of action. So our orders were a slow steam to the UK but with the satisfaction of knowing that all along the beachheads of Normandy the Allies were ashore and advancing. Our hearts were heavy as we saw the hospital ships heading also to the UK with a cargo of shattered brave men, many who had been just boys when the day started.

It was one day in my life I will never forget. The ships, the fallen, and I, like so many thousands more all have a story to tell of that historic day. We of HMS *Vimy* were to return many more times to France - and later as the war progressed to the relief of Antwerp.

Later in 1944, I left my proud little ship and sailed to the Pacific War on a much larger ship.

Today, I am so proud to have been part of that great armada and to have known "The Longest Day".

MEMORY OF D-DAY WILL NEVER BE EXTINGUISHED

Powerful memories bring tears to Bob Osborne's eyes.



The D-Day Service commences.

ASERVICE OF Remembrance was held at St Dunstan's Ovingdean on June 6th - the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. It took place in the Inner Garden and members of the congregation included St Dunstaners Bob Osborne, Eric Church, and Ted Tibbit who had poignant memories of the Normandy landings.

It paid tribute to those who turned the tide of the War in 1944 and recalled those who did not survive to see the fruits of their struggle.

St Dunstan's Honorary Chaplain Father Tony Otterwell conducted the Service which was led by the Venerable Douglas McKittrick, Archdeacon of Chichester. They were supported by Father John

Eldridge, Rector of St Andrew's, Moulscombe and his choir. Guests included the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Cllr Pat Drake, Cllr Lynda Hyde and five Fire Fighters from Red Watch, Preston

Circus Fire Station in Brighton. The evocation was read by St Dunstaner Tom Hart. The Service concluded with the Archdeacon extinguishing the Memorial Flame that had been lit in the Chapel on June 2nd.



The Archdeacon of Chichester extinguishes the flame that was lit in memory of the D-Day forces five days earlier.

ARMY WIN TRI-SERVICE CUP

St Dunstan's lose to home team at Sandhurst

THE ARMY RECLAIMED their toxophily crown when St Dunstan's Annual Tri-Service Archery Challenge returned to Royal Military Academy Sandhurst on June 8th. The planet Venus was making a rare transit across the face of the sun, but all attention was on the row of targets set out by the cricket pavilion. Over 30 archers shot a special "Sandhurst round" that mixed metric distances with imperial scoring.

St Dunstaners Harry Docherty, Dave Poyner, Norman Perry, Tom Roddy, Steve Moseley, Peter Hammond, Marjorie Scott, and Tony Parkinson took

Tom Roddy and Steve Moseley step up to the line at Sandhurst.

Below: Marjorie Scott.



The Army's winning team.

to the field to defend the trophy that had been won from the Royal Air Force at St Dunstan's Ovingdean last year. The Navy remained at a distinct disadvantage, having a sole representative - Sgt Clive Magson, a Royal Marine Commando. With team scores being drawn from the best four archers, he was outmanned from the start. At end of play, The Army had a clear lead, with the RAF coming second and St Dunstan's third.

Major Wendy le Gassick as Lady Paramount presented the prizes and the top blind archers of the day emerged as Tom, Steve, Peter and Marjorie.

The event returns to Ovingdean for next year's showdown.



Captain Dushyantha Yapa receives a lesson in tactile archery from Malcolm Highman. The blinded officer travelled to the UK to learn about archery with the hope of taking the sport back to fellow blind Service men in Sri Lanka.



St Dunstaners Steve Moseley, Nigel Whiteley, Dave Poyner and Terry Ottewell were part of a team of British blind archers competing at Chevilly-Larue, south of Paris, on June 5th-6th. The Tournoi International pour handicapes visuels pitted teams from the UK, France, Belgium and Italy against each other. Representatives from Holland and Singapore came on a fact-finding visit with a hope towards introducing blind archery in their countries. Steve Moseley shot a personal best, racking up three golds, though the UK team came second to France.

SCHOOL TALE IS RUNNER UP IN CONTEST

Author Peter James, described by the Sunday Express as "Britain's answer to Stephen King and Michael Crichton, awarded second prize in the Review's Story Contest to this story by St Dunstaner Nancy Chadwick of Royton, Lancs. "The most important thing of all in writing, in my opinion, is to create engaging characters," he said. "I think the character here of Dennis is quite brilliant. I was drawn into this story instantly by the quality of writing and totally gripped by Dennis. And like all good stories, it has a very neat end."

THE SCRATCHED RECORD

JUGGLING WITH A pile of text books in her hands, Mrs Roy pushed open the staff room door with her shoulder. She pushed her way to deposit the burden on the littered low table in the middle of the room. The smoky room was already filled with other teachers. Some were relaxing in easy chairs and others were hanging around the kettle ready for a coffee after a morning's work with teenagers in the secondary modern school. Like others before her she turned her attention to the notice board to ascertain whether she had lost a free period in the afternoon as a result of the absence of another teacher. She had. "Oh no! I've got 3B."

Several comments were heard from the crowd behind her. "Congratulations! You got first prize", "It could not happen to a nicer person" and "Dennis the Menace" were samples, the last one being followed by strong words of derision. None of the remarks had any impact on the target as she had every confidence in her ability to handle difficult teenagers and was proud of her record in her expertise, a fact that was not lost

**By Roy
(Nancy Chadwick)**

on her colleagues creating not a little aggravation. Actually the name 'Dennis' did ring a bell. There had been a rumour that the senior mistress had burst into tears after some confrontation with a 'Dennis' and had refused to teach him again.

The end of the first period in the afternoon found her tidying up her classroom prior to the arrival of 3B. Had she looked up she would have caught sight of heads bobbing up and down through the window in the door. Suddenly the door burst open and a boy practically fell into the room. He regained his balance and then swaggered towards the window seats. He was blond, wearing horn rimmed glasses. His face was marked with eczema sores, his eyes were blue. Most outstanding was his grin from ear to ear and the light of delight in his eyes. This must be the famous Dennis. She ordered him out of the room. He reacted to this by swinging one leg round in half a circle, a full 90 degrees, saluted her and

marched to the door. It shut. Miss, as she was always addressed, carried on moving papers and books. She then called out in a clear voice "Come in." To her astonishment she heard quite clearly the order from the corridor. "Make 'er wait. She made us wait." Furious, she stormed into the corridor. The budding shop steward was lolling against the wall. He greeted her with "Hi ya" and a beaming smile. It was going to be war from the beginning.

Within five minutes of starting her exposition in front of the class she was aware that several children were standing in an effort to see something interesting outside. Dennis seated near the window, was jerking his thumb towards the playing fields. It was at this point she noticed that his hands were also marked with sores and scars. She slowly walked to the back of the room to take a look through the big windows. Nothing at all was happening. Not a blade of grass moved. She relocated the troublesome boy to the back row.

Not having an audience from

this position did not deter the wretched boy from putting on another performance. He began to show sheer boredom with her teaching and launched into a series of varied loud yawns. To follow he put his head on the desk and assumed a deep sleep with magnificent snores modulating into different keys with dramatic falling cadences. He now added muscular muscle twitches. His entrance to a lesson the following day was marked with an exhibition of chewing gum as he passed the teacher's desk. Challenged he cheerfully opened his cavernous mouth to show her that the only gum in there was the place where his teeth were rooted. This pantomime was taken on as a regular entrance act. To challenge or not to challenge? That was the question. If the latter he had won a point and continued to chew. If the former it fed his appetite for attention. If she showed more assertiveness he was utterly delighted and regarded her anger with an indulgent smile as a fond parent would do to his small child having a tantrum.

Two days later as she gave him a slight push into the classroom he managed to somehow dislocate his glasses so that they fell to the floor undamaged. From this incident onwards he always wore them with plaster round the bridge and uttered, sotto voce, but in an audible voice that she still had never paid for "mi glasses".

At this juncture there was a relief for the staff when the boy

was taken out of the classroom situation to be a monitor for the Headmaster. There had been a report that the staff were 'picking' on the pupil. Bets were laid in the staff room as to the period the Head would be able to endure the experience. It was three days.

Mrs Roy was dismayed to see Dennis back in the back row in an English lesson. She handed out sheets of paper for an essay. All but Dennis began to write. Dennis sat with folded arms in a sullen mood after being rejected by the upper echelon of the school. She approached him and under a veneer of affability, suggested that he could, if he pleased, write an essay of his own choice. "For instance," she said "what do you do on Saturdays?" "I go in the park." "Well, write about what you see there." After a pause he moved and asked "Can I have a lend of your pen?" She ignored the assassination of the English language and handed over the pen. Returning to her desk she was astonished to see he was writing. He continued to fill pages to her amazement. Even when the bell rang and the rest of the children had disappeared he was still busy. "I'm afraid you will have to pack up now, Dennis." He made an elaborate full stop and, collecting the sheets together, brought them to the front. She stood up and gave them a cursory glance. All the sheets were full of the single word 'skinheads'. "What is the meaning of this?" "Well," he said "that's all you see in our

park" and, throwing back his, head burst into uproarious laughter. Something like a tight spring in her chest burst. Her anger was uncontrollable. At the same moment he offered her on his upturned sore ridden hand her pen, saying "There's your pen." She turned and picking up a piece of blotting paper used it as a shield to pick up the pen. From a height she dropped both in the wastepaper basket. "Let's see if you find that funny" she said to herself. The reaction was electric. He deflated like a pricked balloon. The shoulders fell, the arms dangled, the Cheshire cat grin vanished and the light of perpetual amusement disappeared. At last she had won. The warmth of success coursed through her veins. The noise of the school's activities retreated into the background and in a pool of silence the victor and the vanquished stared at one another.

In no time at all she felt a chill as she realised with clarity the truth of the matter. With one disgusting, indefensible gesture she had probably destroyed the boy's natural exuberance in life. She had certainly destroyed her own self esteem forever. Gone was her record as a good disciplinarian, firm but just. Suddenly she felt old, tired and physically sick. She sat down heavily. With lower lip trembling Dennis turned and slowly made his exit. The teacher prayed for him to hurl over one of his cheerful impudent remarks but none came. As the door closed she covered the left side of her face

and sobbed in abject misery.

At the end of this last week in June Mrs Roy was teaching with the door open when there was a commotion in the school entrance. Peering down the stairs she saw a boy tottering from one wall to another. He was singing a football ditty at the top of his voice. It was Dennis and he was very drunk. "Out of tune too," she said to herself. An infuriated Headmaster emerged to send for two gym teachers to sober him up in the cold showers. An ambulance then arrived to take him to hospital to have (as the Stop Press news that spread

round the school like wildfire reported) to have his stomach pumped out. He was also expelled from the establishment.

This should have been the end of the nightmare for Mrs Roy. A decade later, now retired, she called in a warehouse to enquire about some DIY equipment. The mill shop was empty of customers but behind all the shelves and packing cases she could hear someone singing. "Out of tune," said the music teacher in her. A man appeared. He was tall, blond with blue eyes and wore spectacles. His face a flushed

pink and marked with traces of a skin disease. He leaned on the counter and with a wide grin began to say "And what can I do for you?" but quickly turned it in to "Well, if it isn't Mrs Ray. You won't remember me but you used to teach me at school." She hesitated a moment and then said with some feeling "You must be joking! I am thinking of writing a book about you!" "Eh smashing!" and then added "I hope I can read it."

"Not much damage done there I think!" she said to herself as she left the shop. A burden slipped from her mind.

REUNION ROUND-UP

THE REUNION SEASON provided St Dunstaner Steve Nixon with a new outlet for his autobiography at the Newcastle Reunion on May 18th. Drew Lyburn was the member of Council presiding at The Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle which brought together 37 St Dunstaners and seven widows.

There were nine St Dunstaners and eight widows gathered at the Holiday Inn for the Leeds Reunion on May 19th. Drew Lyburn was the member of Council presiding.

Michael Delmar-Morgan was the Member of Council presiding at the Bournemouth Reunion on May 26th. A group of 24 St Dunstaners and five widows met at the Dormy

Hotel, Ferndown, Dorset. They were joined by St Dunstan's Vice-Patron Sir Roger Palin.

The Edinburgh Reunion on May 26th brought together 11 St Dunstaners and widows. Ray Hazan presided at the Edinburgh Marriott Hotel.

Ray Hazan was also the Member of Council presiding at the Brighton Reunion (II) on June 2nd. Ovingdean hosted the event for 27 St Dunstaners and eight widows.

The Chichester Reunion on June 9th united 37 St Dunstaners, nine widows and one widower. St Dunstan's President Colin Beaumont-Edmonds presided at the Goodwood Park Hotel, Goodwood, Chichester.



Surveyor Mike Robinson and Margaret Wilkins at the Brighton Reunion.

There were nine St Dunstaners and three widows united at the Cardiff Reunion, held at the St Mellons Hotel and Country Club, Castleon, Cardiff on June 15th. Vice-Chairman Major General Andrew Keeling was the member of Council presiding.

PENDLETON'S PANTRY

Blind chef **Stephen Pendleton** enters the dessert Camp!

Cappuccino Mousse

This recipe will fill five wine glasses. "This dessert will certainly impress your friends."

Ingredients

1lb plain chocolate.
4 tablespoons of Camp coffee.
15 eggs.
6oz or 150g caster sugar.
1 1/2 pints double cream.
5 strawberries.

Method

First separate the 15 eggs. This job can be very awkward if you do not organise yourself properly first. Make sure you have an ample supply of medium sized mixing bowls, one for egg whites and another for the yolks and one more for your egg shells. Because you will have a large amount of bowls cluttering up your work surface, make sure they are correctly fixed to the work top. Damp tea towels or Dycem non-slip mats under each one. Doing this will also help to catch any food debris that may escape from the bowls, keeping your work surfaces free from a lot of mess.

Your hands are wonderful tools! Use them for separating eggs. There is an egg separator available from the RNIB. However, I have found it to be very awkward to use and it is very unreliable. I have lost count of the egg yolks that have fallen through the slits in mine "So be aware of this."

To separate an egg, break it on the edge of one of the bowls, turn the egg so it is pointing straight up. Remove the upper part of the shell. Tip the egg into the palm of your hand, allowing the white of the egg to run through your fingers into the bowl below. Place the yolk into another bowl - you will need the yolks later. Do this task another 14 times taking great care. The slightest bit of egg yolk in with the whites will ruin the whole dessert and all your hard work will be in vain.

Add the caster sugar to the egg whites and using your hand-held electric whisk, beat until it fluffs up into a nice meringue. It is now that you will know if you had any yolk in your white - the sugar and white will not make the meringue if there was any yolk in it. You will easily know if you have been successful, the meringue will rise up a fair bit in the bowl. Cover the bowl with cling film and put it in the fridge.

Clean the whisk and whip up the double cream. Be careful not to over whip the cream, as it will curdle and have to be thrown away. Cover with cling film and place in your fridge.

To melt the chocolate boil half a pan of water. Then using a metal bowl, place it in the pan. It is a good idea to place the bowl over the pan before

heating the water, this is to ensure that the water will not spill over the sides of the pan. Break up the chocolate and place in the bowl. Next, measure out the four tablespoons of Camp coffee (never use Macho Coffee, grin!), add to the chocolate, stirring continuously, this is to ensure the coffee is well mixed into the chocolate.

When the chocolate has melted, add three egg yolks, which you have saved when you were separating the eggs, carry on stirring. When all of the ingredients have been thoroughly mixed take them off the heat.

Taking your cream and meringue out of the fridge, fold the cream into the meringue using a wooden spoon or whisk. When this has been folded in, add the chocolate a bit at a time, folding it in gently. When all ingredients have been mixed together, transfer the mousse into a measuring jug (you may need two of these) then pour the mousse into the wine glasses. If you have enough sight to contrast colours, this bit is quite easy. If you are like me and you can't see a damn thing, I suggest you keep checking how much is in the glass from time to time. I fill the glasses until the mousse has reached about 1/2 an inch from the top of the glass. I use my finger to check this. Just to remind you, make sure your hands are clean

when doing this job. When the mousses have been poured, place them in the fridge for 2 to 3 hours, to allow them to set.

Once they have set, decorate

the top with double cream and the strawberries.

This is quite a tricky dessert for the blind or partially sighted to do, but if you remember to take care when separating the

eggs, I am sure you will find it quite an achievement. If I can do it, I am sure you can all do it. I should point out that you do not have to use wine glasses, you can use smaller glasses and have more portions.

What's in a Name? Harry Beevers on ironic names

A LITTLE WHILE ago I heard a BBC radio broadcast featuring people with unusual names. There was a Norman Conquest from the London area, Horatio Nelson from somewhere in the Midlands and even an Albert Einstein who worked in a bank in the North of England. From my own knowledge I remember that Surrey County Cricket Club once had a well-known player named Julius Caesar and one of my friends for many years shares his name with the former Beadle, George Harrison.

Some people do appear to have appropriate names for the jobs they do. For example, the legal appointment of Master of the Rolls was once held by Lord Salmon of Sandwich! And talking of appropriate or inappropriate names, opposite the old Clock Cinema in Leeds was a dentist named I. Pulham and in Coventry an optician named Hugh Seymour!

During my working life as a switchboard operator with the Local Education Authority I had dealings with a Headmistress named Miss I. Kane, a teacher of gardening

named Gardner and two dinner ladies Mrs Plant and Mrs Potts. I once heard of a tobacconist's daughter called Virginia Leaf but that is a name I cannot really verify though I did once have a conversation with a girl named Rhoda Shaw and I was tempted to ask if she was interested in white-water canoeing. Meanwhile, my wife Joan had a college friend Pearl Button and she claims to have a friend who had a friend with the strange name Orson Carte! I have fully accepted Pearl Button but Orson Carte has always left me with a niggling doubt. Could he have been a scrap merchant, a real-life Albert Steptoe? Not that I doubt my wife's word for one minute of course, I hasten to add in case she happens to read this.

As a schoolboy at the beginning of the 1939 war I took it upon myself to fill in all the official forms of application for ration books, identity cards etc. The request for names on these forms always seemed to come in triplicate and I thanked my lucky stars that each of the four members of my family just had one single christian name. I

have heard of rabid football supporters who have christened their offspring with all the names of their local cup-winning team. I also once heard of a couple who gave their son twenty-six forenames, all beginning with a different letter of the alphabet, from Aaron to Zachariah. Imagine addressing an envelope to Mr A.B.C.D...X.Y.Z. Smith.

Personally, I have always been happy with my christian name even though its dictionary meaning is to raid, pillage and torment by constant attack. It used to be very popular, there were three of us in my class at Junior school and though its use has waned over the years it was given a boost in 1984 with the naming of Prince Harry. My father was a Harry and I was determined that my first-born son would carry on the family tradition. His name is Michael by the way, my wife exercised her right of veto and that was that!

I wonder if any of our readers have similar memories of appropriate names, there may even be an Orson Carte somewhere out there.

Welcome to ST DUNSTAN'S

David Allen of Cirencester, Gloucestershire served in the Queen's Royal Lancers from 1940 to 1946.

Terence Brooks of Orpington, Kent served in the Royal Marines from 1935 to 1948. He survived the sinking of HMS *Prince of Wales* but was captured by the Japanese.

Edward Brown of Hove, East Sussex served in the Royal Air Force from 1941 to 1945.

Vernon Carswell of Reading, Berkshire served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from 1937 to 1959.

Ronald Clarke of West Lancing, Sussex served in the Royal Artillery from 1938 to 1946.

Frederick Crossley of Preston, Lancashire served in the Lancashire Loyal Brigade from 1958 to 1960.

Henry Fenton of Markyate, Hertfordshire served in the Essex Regiment from 1936 to 1945. He was a POW.

Leonard Fulker of Borehamwood, Hertfordshire served in the South Lancashire Regiment from 1940 to 1942 then the Royal Army Service Corps until 1946.

Howard Godfrey of Newhaven, East Sussex served in the Royal Navy from 1940 to 1946.

Thomas Gray of Gloucester, Gloucestershire served in the Royal Engineers from 1939 to 1940, then in the Royal Artillery until 1941.

George Gregson of Preston, Lancashire joined the General Service Corps in 1944 then transferred to the Durham Light Infantry. In 1945, he moved to the East Yorks and then the Green Howards until 1947.

Horace Griffiths of Bristol joined the South Wales Borders in 1939, then transferred to the Manchester Regiment until 1946.

George Hardwick of Enfield, Middlesex served in the Royal Air Force from 1943 to 1947. He served in India, Burma, Singapore, and Java.

Joseph Holt of Worsley, Gt Manchester served in the Welch Regiment, the Lancashire Fusiliers and the Loyal Regiment between 1940 to 1946. He was a POW in Germany and Italy.

Peter Howes of St Paul's Cray, Orpington, Kent served in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserves from 1945 to 1947.

John Jones of Burgess Hill, West Sussex served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from 1949 to 1951.

Colin Lowerson of Chester-le-Street, Co Durham served in the Army Catering Corps from 1978 to 1981.

Arnold Metcalfe of Carlisle, Cumbria served in the Royal Navy from 1936 to 1942.

William Miles of Leyland, Lancashire served in the Royal Army Service Corps from 1939 to 1940.

Nicholas Morgan of Devizes, Wiltshire served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps from 1976 to 1994.

William Nelson of Chipstead, Surrey served with the Merchant Navy from 1940 to 1944.

Donald Osborne of Hounslow, Middlesex joined in the Middlesex Regiment in 1940, transferred to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in 1941, and then the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in 1942. He was demobbed in 1946.

Lawrence Richards of Haywards Heath, West Sussex served in the Royal Air Force from 1950 to 1963.

Margaret Roger of Bognor Regis, West Sussex served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force from 1942 to 1946.

Kenneth Seaman of Winton, Eccles, Manchester served in the Royal Navy from 1941 to 1946 and the Reserve from 1951 to 1953.

Harry Stockall of Oldbury, West Midlands served in the

Coldstream Guards from 1935 to 1939 and then with the Corps of Military Police until 1946.

Annie Storey of Consett, Co Durham served in the WAAF from 1941 to 1945.

Gavin Tait of Ramsbury, Wiltshire served in the Royal Horse Guards from 1957 to 1964 leaving as a Lieutenant.

John Tibble from Basildon, Essex served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps from 1941 to 1946.

Noel Tilling of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire served in the Army Catering Corps from 1949 to 1971 leaving as a Sergeant.

Jesse Timperley of Warton, Preston, Lancashire served in the Royal Armoured Service Corps from 1939 to 1946.

Joseph Waterman of Christchurch, Dorset served in the Royal Navy from 1942 to 1946.

Ken Waugh of Morpeth, Northumberland served in the Royal Air Force from 1942 to 1943 as Aircraftman II.

Sydney Wiggins of Kettering, Northamptonshire served in the Royal Air Force from 1941 to 1948.

Henry Wilkinson of Tadworth, Surrey served in the Pioneer Corps from 1941 to 1946 leaving as a Corporal.

James Wilson of Millom, Cumbria served in the Royal Navy from 1943 to 1946.

Part two of our series on the events that led up to the foundation of St Dunstan's. After Archduke Ferdinand was killed tensions rose on the Austro-Hungarian borders.

COUNTDOWN TO DARKNESS

ON JULY 6th 1914, the German government pledged full support for Austro-Hungary if it decided to take reprisals against Serbia. By July 13th, they had confirmed claims that members of the Serbian Army were involved in the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand. Come July 23rd they made 15 demands on the Serbian government including the extradition of three men to face trial in Vienna.

On July 25th 1914, Nikola Pasic, Prime Minister of Serbia, told the Austro-Hungarian government that he was unable to hand over these three men as it "would be a violation of Serbia's Constitution and criminal in law". Three days later Austro-Hungary declared war on Serbia. Meanwhile, Russia had promised to support Serbia and mobilised troops on its borders with Germany and Austro-Hungary by July 31st.

Ten answers

Quiz solutions from page 11.

- 1) Rugby Union, he scored the famous "Obolensky try" in a brilliant move which sealed the All Blacks first defeat in this country.
- 2) Khaki uniforms;
- 3) Group Captain Peter Townsend.
- 4) Field-Marshal.
- 5) Propaganda leaflets, in Holland on this occasion.
- 6) Al Jolson.
- 7) Officer-Cadet Stewart became the first woman to receive the Sword of Honour as best cadet.
- 8) Vera Lynn.
- 9) Aircraftcarrier.
- 10) Swordfish.

POET'S CORNER

DEVON DAYS

From Colifold to Collinton
And up the hill to Shute
To cross the bridge across the line
Where dreamy cows stand mute
In long green grass we stopped to lie
Words we said were few
For all the day was golden
And all the birds were blue
Here busy water fills the stream
For rainbow trout to play
Where scented bliss
Like a lovers kiss
Can steal your heart away

Frank Tinsley

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTHS

Congratulations on the birth of:

Lewis on March 18th and Blake on March 31st. They are both great-grandsons of *Reginald Fletcher* of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Samuel and Grace Keating of Exmouth, Devon who celebrated 68 years of marriage on June 6th.

Leonard and Miriam Simpson of South Shields, Tyne & Wear who celebrated 64 years of marriage on June 7th.

Norman and Joan Wallbridge of Hailsham, East Sussex who celebrated 61 years of marriage on June 5th.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of:

Edna Stratton who was the wife of *Arnold Stratton* of Alvechurch, Worcestershire.

Ruby Bartlett on June 5th. She was the wife of *Edward Bartlett* of Poole, Dorset.

Betty Stanley of Bridgnorth, Shropshire on April 3rd. She was the widow of *William Stanley*.

Ellen Proffitt of Epsom, Surrey on May 14th. She was the widow of *Eugene Proffitt*.

Anne Robinson of Glenrothes, Fife on May 18th. She was the widow of *Leslie Robinson*.

Doris Norris of Uxbridge, Middlesex on May 22nd. She was the widow of *James Norris*.

Rhoda Taylor of Wrexham, Clwyd on May 22nd. She was the widow of *George Taylor*.

Barbara Jenner of Brighton on May 29th. She was the widow of *Jack Jenner*.

Rose Lee of Merton Park, London on May 29th. She was the widow of *Henry Lee*.

Viola Payne of Birmingham, West Midlands on June 2nd. She was the widow of *Clarence Payne*.

Frances Potts of Braunton, Devon on June 7th. She was the widow of *Harold Potts*.

Ivan Catlow of Helmshore, Rossendale, Lancashire on June 15th. He was the son of late St Dunstaner *Samuel Catlow*.

Annie Riddell of Hawick, Roxburghshire on June 15th. She was the daughter of the late St Dunstaner *Robert Riddell*.

Our sympathy goes to their family and friends.

LYNDON MASON

Lyndon Mason of Tottenham, London died on June 12th. He was an Orderly at Ovingdean from 1948 to 1984, often manning the Sick Bay.

IN MEMORY

We regret to announce the passing of the following St Dunstaners and send our condolences to their family and friends.

Peter Knowles

Royal Army Service Corps
Peter Knowles of Worthing, West Sussex died on April 13th, aged 74. He had been a St Dunstaner since 2001. He served in the Royal Army Service Corps from 1948 to 1950. He trained as a driver and completed his service at the Staff College, Camberley. Having originally trained as a mechanic repairing lorries at Dagenham Motors, he returned there after leaving the Service. He subsequently worked as a machine operator at a chewing gum factory and later joined Beechams until retirement. He was a keen fisherman and kept racing pigeons, rabbits, chickens and dogs. Our sympathy goes to his son John and all members of the family.

Ernest Cook

Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
Ernest George Cook of Fishponds, Bristol, Avon died on May 8th, aged 98. He joined the Royal

Army Ordnance Corps in 1939 but transferred to the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in 1942. He served in Europe and the Middle East and was discharged as Sergeant in 1945. Our sympathy goes to his son John and all other members of the family.

Phillip Crofts

Royal Marines

Phillip Gilbert Crofts of Ovingdean, Brighton died on May 15th, aged 78. He served in the Royal Marines from 1943 to 1946 in the Mediterranean and Europe. In civilian life, he held various positions including that of Private Investigator and moved to Spain after retiring. Our sympathy goes to all concerned.

Cyril Barnden

Royal Engineers

Cyril Gordon Barnden of Sittingbourne, Kent died on May 19th, aged 72. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1998. He joined the Royal Engineers in 1950 before transferring to the TA in 1952. He was discharged in 1956 after developing diabetes. After leaving the Army, he worked in Chatham Dockyard until 1983. His interests included bowls. Our sympathy goes to his sons Stephen and Ian and all of the family.

Robert Pringle

Palestine Police Force

Robert JH Pringle of West Ealing, London died on May 20th, aged 76. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1948. He had been a medical student, but joined the Palestine Police as a Detective Constable during National Service in 1946. His tour of duty coincided with the British Government reconsidering its mandate to govern the country and presenting a plan for partition before the United Nations. He was injured by the explosion of a terrorist bomb in Haifa in 1947. After training at St Dunstan's, he became a capstan lathe operator. In 1971, he became a St Dunstan's Speaker taking the message of victory over blindness into schools and meeting halls throughout the country, covering some 160,000 miles in the process. To illustrate the rudiments of braille, he devised "Flash Harry" – a box with lights corresponding to the six dots –

which is still used today by St Dunstan's speakers. He retired in 1993. His interests included music, particularly organ music and he played trombone in a jazz band. Our sympathy goes to his widow Joyce and all of the family.

Richard Bell

Scots Guards

Richard Bell of Tipton, West Midlands died on May 24th, aged 71. Having worked as a farm labourer, wool grader and seedsman, he joined the Scots Guards in 1950. After training at Caterham, Surrey, he was posted to Cyprus and later to Port Said, Egypt. He returned to the UK on Ceremonial Duties but was later sent to the BAOR and stationed in Dusseldorf. He left the Service as a Lance Corporal in 1955. He returned to civilian life as a steel erector and later joined a chemical company. His interests included gardening. Our sympathy goes to his widow Dorothy, their sons and daughters and all other members of the family.

John McDermott

Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders

John McDermott of Urmston, Greater Manchester died on May 27th, aged 84. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1940. Originally a miner, he enlisted with the Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders in 1938. Posted to France, he was blinded by gunshot wounds sustained during action on the Maginot Line in 1940. In civilian life, he worked in industry and for the Local Authority. His interests included woodwork and gardening. Our sympathy goes to his widow Irene, sons Peter, David and Michael and all of the family.

Frederick Greenaway

Royal Air Force

Frederick Robert Greenaway of Southampton, Hampshire died on May 31st, aged 83. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1956. An instrument maker, he joined the Royal Air Force in 1939 and was a Flight Sergeant when discharged in 1945. In civilian life, he worked as a capstan lathe operator but later set up shop as a newsagent. He ran the business for over 20 years, retiring in 1983. His interests included gardening. Our sympathy goes to his widow Daisy, daughters Margaret and Elizabeth and all of the family.

Walter Lankester

Royal Air Force

Walter Herbert Lankester of Staple Hill, Bristol, Avon died on June 3rd, aged 90. Before he joined up, he worked for South West Trains but left to run a general store. He joined the Royal Air Force and served in the UK and Sierra Leone. He left in 1946 as a Corporal. Initially, he ran an off licence but then joined Rolls-Royce as a storeman and draughtsman. His interests included golf and snooker. Our sympathy goes to his daughters Patricia and Annette and all other members of the family.

Arthur Pettifor

Royal Air Force

Arthur Henry Pettifor of Salisbury, Wiltshire died on June 8th, aged 83. He worked in furniture sales and market gardening before signing up with the Royal Air Force for a seven year engagement in 1939. He was posted to 225 Squadron and worked with Lysander aircraft as a Fitter Armourer. He was later deployed to the Shetland Islands and then deployed to Normandy with 441 Squadron (Canadian) following the advancing armies through Europe. He left in 1946 as Corporal. Returning to civilian life, he became a heavy goods truck driver but later became a farmer. His interests included radio and model railways. Our sympathy goes to his son Michael, daughter Suzie and all other members of the family.

Penelope Philips

Women's Royal Naval Service

Penelope Mary Philips of Eastbourne, East Sussex died on June 8th, aged 92. She served in the Women's Royal Naval Service in Scotland and England from 1939 to 1943, leaving as a 2nd Officer. In civilian life, she worked as a secretary for the Mothers Union, the University of Sussex and other organisations.

Henry Smythe

Princess Mary's Own

2/10 Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army
Major Henry William St Aubyn Smythe of Penzance, Cornwall died on June 8th, aged 98. He had been a St Dunstaner since 2000. As a young man, he was a rubber planter in Malaya.

In 1937, he joined the Rifle Brigade Territorial Army and was discharged in 1938. He joined the Royal Armoured Corps in 1940 and was transferred to a Commission in the Indian Army in 1942. He deployed to Burma and was then posted with the 2nd Battalion to Syria and then Italy via Egypt. He was demobbed in 1945. In civilian life, he worked for Chubb Security in the Fire Protection and Investigation field. His interests included politics and gardening. Our sympathy goes to his widow Kathleen, daughter Mary and all other members of the family.

Percy Walker

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment
Percy Oliver Walker of Woodford Green, Essex died on June 13th, aged 82. Apprenticed as a cabinet maker, he enlisted in the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in 1939 and was sent to France. Evacuated from Dunkirk, he was posted to Singapore for garrison duties. When Singapore fell, he was captured and held at Changi Gaol before being forced to work on the Burma Railway. Back in the UK, he was admitted to St Dunstan's at Stoke Mandeville Hospital suffering from malnutrition and retrobulbar neuritis though he had experienced some recovery by the time he left the Army in 1947. However, the privations he experienced as a Prisoner of War would eventually cause a further loss of sight and he became a St Dunstaner in 1997. Our sympathy goes to his widow Joan and all members of the family.

George Routledge

Royal Corps of Signals

George Routledge of Burton-in-Lonsdale, Lancashire died on June 14th, aged 94. He had worked as a miner in Thornley Colliery, County Durham before joining the RAC (15th/19th Hussars) in 1932. He transferred to the Cavalry of the Line in 1939 and then the North Somerset Yeomanry in 1941. In 1942, he transferred to the Royal Signals and was released to the reserve in 1946 as a Corporal. He served in the UK, BEF, India, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Sicily and Italy. In civilian life, he resumed work as a miner until retirement in 1971. His great interest was pigeon fancying and he had several prize-winners over the years. Our sympathy goes to his widow Ada and all of the family.

St Dunstaners live up to the challenge as they pick up their shotguns for the 3rd annual shooting contest at Bisley

BLIND FIRE AT BISLEY!



St Dunstaner Colin Best lets off a round at Bisley.

St Dunstaner George Oliver takes aim.



OPEN SEASON ON Wombles it wasn't! Actor Bernard Cribbins who voiced the popular children's television show was part of the team that won the third annual shooting challenge to be mounted on behalf of St Dunstan's at Bisley Shooting Ground in Woking, Surrey. Two of his team-mates, Dougie Vine and Martin Reynolds tied as Top Gun (the stalemate was settled in Dougie's favour by the flip of a coin from St Dunstan's Chief Executive Robert Leader).

Top Girl was St Dunstan's Clare Furnival who out shot the other ladies present for the second year running.

Nine teams competed in the clay pigeon shooting contest, working through a series of traps in the Surrey countryside. St Dunstaners Colin Best, Cliff Ford, Stephen Menary, George Oliver, Dave Powell and

by Simon Rogers

Mark Threadgold were the visually impaired team. Cliff, George and Stephen tied as the best blind shots.

Bernard Cribbins took centre stage again when the day was rounded out by a charity auction on behalf of St Dunstan's. The actor drummed up some healthy bids on lots that included champagne, shooting lessons, balloon rides and a day at the races.



Paras meet. St Dunstaner Dave Powell compares notes with Bernard Cribbins.