

September 2004

www.st-dunstans.org.uk

ST DUNSTAN'S Review



FOR BLIND EX-SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

September 2004

Cover story:

Syncopation in the sun!

The Corps of Drums beat a percussive path onto the lawn at St Dunstan's Ovingdean. They were supplying stylish and synchronised support to The Band of the Royal Marines, Portsmouth during their annual concert at our National Centre.

Overtures and crescendo on page 12.

Northern mobility

St Dunstan's will soon provide mobility and independent living skills training in Sheffield. **Details on page 11.**

Diamond 'Dogs' sparkle at HMS Sultan!

The 60th Camp in Lee-on-Solent proved a grand vintage for the St Dunstaners who were billited at HMS Sultan with attentive care from some familiar 'Dogs'. **Submarines, crows, tap dancing and green pimples on page 14.**

Return of the BatCane ! St Dunstaner Jamie goes balloony in Bristol!

Ray Hazan found little to shout about at access technology show.

Details on page 20.

He used to support Navy aviators, but now Jamie Weller sees his own future in the sky as he pilots St Dunstan's hot air balloon over Clifton Bridge.

Take off on the back page for details.

Plus Noticeboard, Balancing the Books, Ten Questions, Letters to the Editor, Poet's Corner, Pendleton's Pantry and more!!!

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The Review is also available in braille, on MP3CD,
on audio cassette, floppy disk and via e-mail.

From the Chairman

The Trustees of St Dunstan's are pleased to welcome two new members. Jamie Weller, though still waiting for final approval from his employers, is a St Dunstaner working as a tax advisor for Deloitte & Touche. He is 34 years old and his youth will ensure continuity well into the future.

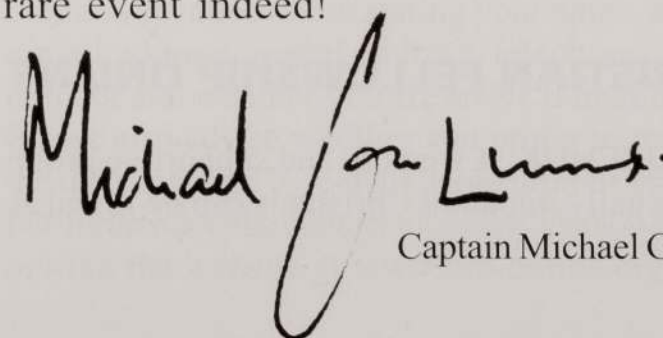
Major General David Jolliffe retired from the Army last July. We look forward to the benefit of his experience and knowledge in both the military and medical fields.

Their pen pictures will appear in later pages (22-23) of this issue of the **Review**.

You will be aware of the way in which St Dunstan's is extending its services to a wider number of visually impaired ex-Service people. In line with the plan to cope with increasing numbers, the Guide Dog for the Blind Association (GDBA) has accepted an offer by St Dunstan's to purchase one of their former training centres, which is to be called 'St Dunstan's Training Centre, Sheffield'. We have agreed that GDBA may use the centre on an occasional basis.

The Centre will alleviate some of the overload on the services provided at Ovingdean and will offer a more convenient and accessible location for those from the Midlands and the north of England. It will be a residential centre but will not replicate any of the other facilities currently available at Ovingdean apart from Rehabilitation and Training. It is planned to start the first training course in mid January 2005.

I am very pleased we have taken this step. This will raise the profile of St Dunstan's in the north of the country, and will send out a message of two Charity's working together without competing – a rare event indeed!



Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox, RN

ST DUNSTAN'S
Calendar

Archery Week	Aug 28th-Sept 4th
Writers' Forum	Sept 4th
Kent Reunion	Sept 15th
Cornwall Reunion	Sept 22nd
Outdoor Bowling	Sept 23rd
Physio Weekend	Sept 24th-26th
Aylesbury Reunion	Sept 29th
Writers' Forum	Oct 2nd
Computer Club (II)	Oct 6th-7th
Amateur Radio	Oct 8th-15th
World Sight Day	Oct 14th
Widows' Week (III)	Oct 18th-25th
Bowling Club(II)	Oct 28th-Nov 11th
Writers' Forum	Nov 7th(tbc)
Remembrance Sunday	Nov 14th
Christmas Week	Dec 19th-30th
Writers' Forum	Dec 4th
New Year Week	Dec 30th- Jan 8th
2005	
Amateur Radio (I)	Jan 16th-22nd
Archery Club (I)	Jan 28th-Feb 6th
Writers' Forum	Feb 5th
Music 'Week'	Feb 20th-25th
Bowling (I)	Feb 25th-Mar 12th
Writers' Forum	Mar 5th
Computer Club(I)	Mar 22nd-23rd
Amateur Radio(II)	Mar 24th-31st
Gardening 'Week'	Apr 1st-7th
Brighton Reunion (I)	Apr 6th
Ex-POW Reunion	Apr 8th-11th
Historical 'Week'	Apr 17th-22nd
Masons	Apr 22nd-24th

Noticeboard

Dates for your diary and useful information

ST DUNSTAN'S REVIEW COMES IN SIX FLAVOURS

PRINT, BRAILLE, MP3CD, AUDIO TAPE, COMPUTER DISK AND E-MAIL: With nearly 90 years of continuous publication behind it, **ST DUNSTAN'S Review** is available in six different formats to provide St Dunstaners with an accessible and convenient choice.

Braille readers can receive it in tactile format, while the computer disk and e-mail versions provide a text file that can be used with a computer's screen reader.

The audio tape cassette **Review** provides readers with the opportunity to record their own messages when returning the tapes for recycling. (If you do this, please place an elastic band around the tape to indicate that there is a new message on there.)

A recent addition to this line up is the CD version, which is best played on the Victor Classic Talking Book Machine, and provides greater opportunities to navigate between items and bookmark points of interest.

It is acceptable to receive the magazine in more than one format. Requests for alternative or additional formats should be directed to Ray Hazan, St Dunstaner Services Manager at St Dunstan's Headquarters, 12-14 Harcourt St, London W1H 4HD. He can be contacted by telephone on 020 7723 5021 or by e-mail at ray.hazan@st-dunstans.org.uk.

MARATHON RUNNERS WANTED

READY TO RUN: The next Flora London Marathon will be held on Sunday April 17th 2005 - the 25th consecutive run since 1981. Any St Dunstaners, Members of the Diana Gubbay Trust, or family member who wishes to enter please contact Andy Alliston in the Sports & Recreation department as soon as possible.

While April leaves eight months for training, the closing date for all entries is October 22nd 2004. As participants from previous years will confirm, it is a day to remember. If you require information on training programmes please get in touch with Andy at St Dunstan's Ovingdean on 01273 307811 and he will be happy to assist.

DO YOU WANT GLOBE & LAUREL ON TAPE?

We are currently examining the potential for a tape cassette version of the Royal Marines magazine *Globe & Laurel*. Any St Dunstaner who would be interested in receiving *Globe & Laurel* in this format should contact St Dunstaner Services Manager Ray Hazan at Headquarters on 020 7723 5021.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ONLINE

ECHURCHUK: A friendly and supportive group for visually impaired Christians can be found at www.echurch-uk.org.

NLB SEEKS DAISY TESTERS

EXPLORING POTENTIAL FOR ELECTRONIC BOOKS: Would you be interested in taking part in an exciting project to test DAISY books for NLB? To explore ways of offering electronic books with more convenient access, the National Library for the Blind (NLB), will be working with Dolphin Computer Access to run a DAISY pilot project in Autumn 2004.

DAISY (Digital Accessible Information System) is a form of electronic book, which brings together a number of different formats (text, audio and pictures) into an accessible, navigable, digital book. DAISY books can be played on reading software on PCs, in hardware players and stereo equipment that supports MP3 output.

To help identify the most cost-effective electronic library material, NLB would like testers to try out a selection of synthetically-voiced DAISY books and provide feedback on this new form of reading. This feedback will help test the viability of DAISY books, improve their quality and assist Dolphin in further developing the EaseReader software.

Testers will be provided with a free copy of Dolphin's EaseReader (the DAISY reading software), a selection of DAISY books on CD, as well as supporting information to help you install the software and access the books. In return, testers will be required to load the EaseReader software onto a PC, read the DAISY books and complete and return a questionnaire.

If you would like to take part, please e-mail nlbdaisy@yahoo.co.uk stating your name, age, e-mail address, postal address, telephone number and whether you are an NLB member. Please also advise whether you prefer to receive the questionnaire by e-mail, large print or braille. For further details, contact nlbdaisy@yahoo.co.uk, or visit the website at www.nlb-online.org.

TIPS AND GRATUITIES AT ST DUNSTAN'S OIVINGDEAN

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS SHOULD BE AVOIDED: Under our contract as staff we are specifically banned from receiving individual gifts or gratuities, however small. To accept such a gift renders the staff member liable to disciplinary action. To avoid misunderstanding it is requested that nothing, particularly cash, is given to individual staff members even for passing on to the appropriate authority. It is our pleasure to be of service and we really don't need thanks but it is understood that visitors may wish to express their gratitude for their stay or their transport to and from Ovingdean. If donating to St Dunstan's itself is not acceptable, gifts may be made to the "Staff Fund", or, for PBK, the "PBK Staff Fund". These funds are divided amongst all staff on an annual basis. Cheques are preferable to cash though the latter may be given directly to the Ovingdean cashier during cashier office open times (09:00-13:00). In some cases, small collective gifts, like a box of chocolates, are acceptable provided they are acknowledging a team and not given to individuals.

Dick Lake,
Ovingdean Manager

METRO VIP POOL IN LONDON

POT BLACK EVENT: Metro are holding their 4th Annual Pool Tournament on October 16th 2004 at Kentish Town Pool Club, 301-305 Kentish Town Road, London NW5 2TJ. Entrance Fee - Juniors: Free, Seniors: £3.00 (payable on the day). To guarantee a place on the day it is necessary to pre-book before October 8th. Telephone Dawn Anderson for details on 020 8803 9728 or e-mail dawney_a@yahoo.co.uk. Competitors must register on the day no later than 11:30am. Prizes and trophies will be awarded based on the number of entries received.

ACCOMMODATION AT OIVINGDEAN OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

BOOK THROUGH YOUR WELFARE OFFICER: As in previous years, there is likely to be insufficient accommodation at Ovingdean to meet everybody's requirements. Usually holiday bookings can be booked provisionally six months in advance directly with Bookings Coordinator Jackie Castle (01273 391422) and confirmed at three months. However, for the Christmas/New Year period bookings can only be accepted via Welfare Officers (in the same way as Respite Care bookings) and need to be with Welfare Officers for processing by September 30th. Because of the degree of uncertainty associated with the period, particularly issues about appropriate care packages available in local communities, accommodation will not be confirmed until the end of November though provisional bookings will be announced by October 22nd.

Because of the likely demand, it is necessary to split the period into Christmas (December 18th/19th-29th) and New Year (December 30th-January 8th), and to limit bookings to one or other. It will be possible to be placed on a waiting list for the other period but there can be no guarantee that space will become available. As last year, a surcharge will be applied to those who come into Ovingdean over the Christmas and New Year period which reflects the significant cost of the extra food, drink and activities which are put on. The surcharge per head will be in the region of: Christmas period £30, New Year £20.

In order to make the most of the accommodation available, some principles and priorities need to be applied. Firstly, we need to make full use of our off-site premises at Nevill Road. It is accepted that there are limitations associated with this property including transport schedules but it must be utilised especially by those who are fit and able to do so. Care need is the principle

which determines who must be in Ovingdean itself as opposed to being offered accommodation off-site. There will be a presumption that people taking care of themselves in the community can, in most circumstances, use the off-site option though some may need to be downstairs if their own home is configured that way. The final arbiter for a care need will be Jackie Greer as Head of Care in discussion with the relevant Welfare Officer, backed, if necessary, by a doctor's written opinion. In addition, there will be occasions when sharing a room would create extra space and this will be considered as an option, with those sharing in these circumstances receiving a reduction in the room charge.

In determining the overall priority for those staying at Ovingdean over the Christmas/New Year period, the first call goes to those with a genuine care need, particularly as a result of insufficient care in the community over the holiday period. This includes Respite Care requirements. Second priority will be the spouses of those living permanently at Ovingdean and who do not live locally. Thereafter, the priority is other holiday makers as determined by their declared and authenticated care needs and their requests, with those living independently in the Ovingdean area only being considered after those who cannot participate on daily visitor basis. When accommodation has been allocated on the above basis, a waiting list will be established. Ideally, applications for accommodation should be made on the basis of the above principles, particularly by offering to accept Nevill Road or agreeing to share. We will do our best to give people what they desire but, in the final analysis, the offer of accommodation may have to be based on an assessment of need and upon balancing the requirements of all concerned. Due to the size of the main dining room we will almost certainly also have to restrict the numbers who come in for the day over the Christmas/New Year peaks as well and for whom a surcharge will also apply.

Dick Lake,
Ovingdean Manager

GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO PREPARE US FOR EMERGENCIES

BOOKLET AVAILABLE IN TAPE, LARGE PRINT AND BRAILLE: HM Government has been circulating a booklet - *Preparing for Emergencies - What You Need To Know*. It offers general advice about what to do in an emergency and is being sent to every home in the UK. "It gives practical common sense advice on what to do in an emergency - for example, a fire, terrorist attack or natural disaster," says Douglas Alexander, MP, Minister for the Cabinet Office. The maildrop has been reinforced by an advertising campaign.

"This campaign is not in response to a particular threat," added Mr Alexander. "Research shows that people want more information about what to do in an emergency and want to know what the Government and the emergency services are doing to prepare for an emergency.

"The booklet includes the sort of practical advice people said they would find useful. Most of it is common sense, but it can save lives. Basic first aid advice, who to contact in the event of an emergency, reducing hazards in your home and how to ensure you do not put others in danger are just some examples.

"Public safety is the Government's number one priority - and people need to remain alert and aware. We must be prepared to deal with any emergency, whatever it is."

It was developed by the Government working with a range of experts including the emergency services, MI5, the Chief Medical Officer, the Red Cross and the Emergency Planning Society.

The booklet is available on audio tape, in braille and large print from *Preparing for Emergencies*, Freepost CN2223, Croydon CR9 4WZ or by telephoning 0800 88 77 77. There is also a website - www.preparingforemergencies.gov.uk.

KEEP CHECK OF YOUR PROSTATE

MOST MEN DON'T KNOW GLAND EXISTS UNTIL THERE IS A PROBLEM: Men over the age of 45 are advised to keep check on the health of their prostate. Many are unaware of its existence until something goes wrong. Inflammation of the gland, which is part of the reproductive system, can make urinating more difficult, affecting quality of life and health.

Symptoms of prostate problems include a frequent need to urinate, especially at night, a need to rush to the toilet, difficulty starting to go, straining or taking a long time to finish, a feeling that your bladder has not emptied, and pain in the genitals. If you are concerned about your symptoms you should make an appointment to see your GP.

The Prostate Cancer Charity offers advice on the most serious condition. They have a confidential helpline on 0845 300 8383 which is staffed by experienced nurses. They also have a network of support groups across the nation and are able to offer face-to-face support in some hospitals. Their website - www.prostate-cancer.org.uk - also includes a range of information on steps that can be taken to reduce risks.

BLIND PILOT COMPLETES FLIGHT AROUND UK

TAKE OFF FROM BATTLE OF BRITAIN AIRFIELD: Steve Cunningham, 41, flew a light aircraft round the United Kingdom over five-days between July 11th and 16th. He had a co-pilot, but talking computer software put him in full control of a Piper Warrior light aircraft. The journey began at Biggin Hill Airfield in Kent and carried him to Newcastle, Glasgow, Belfast, Cardiff and finally Maidenhead, Berkshire. The challenge aims to raise cash for the Royal National Institute of the Blind and the British Deaf Association.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS: St Dunstan's Chairman, Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox, recently wrote to our Patron, Her Majesty The Queen to extend our best wishes on her Official Birthday.

He wrote: "On behalf of St Dunstan's Council and our blinded ex-Servicemen and women, I would be most grateful if you would convey to Her Majesty The Queen our most loyal greetings on the celebration of her Official Birthday.

"We send Her Majesty all our good wishes."

Mrs Gill Middleburgh, Chief Clerk replied "Sir Robin Janvirn would like me to thank you, the Council and the blind ex-Servicemen and Women of St Dunstan's for your loyal greetings sent to The Queen on the occasion of Her Majesty's Official Birthday on 12th June.

"The Queen as your Patron, was grateful for your kind words and, in return, sends her best wishes to all concerned."

CARING FOR THE CARERS

MAKING IT EASIER TO COPE: The Princess Royal Trust for Carers is a national charity that aims to make it easier for carers to cope by providing information, support and practical help to carers. Their national network of Carers Centres across the UK reaches well over 150,000 carers a year.

The trust also has a range of grant schemes for carers, including an Educational Bursary Scheme, a Carers' Relief Fund for carers in particular financial difficulties and a Young Carers Fund. To find out more, or check for your local centre, call their head office on 020 7480 7788 or log onto their website at www.carers.org.

ADMIRAL TAKES HELM OF LIFEBOATS

LIFEBOAT CHAIRMAN: St Dunstan's Vice-Patron Sir Jock Slater was appointed Chairman of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution on July 7th. He has been a member of the RNLI's Council since 1999, serving on various committees. His first duty was to show Her Majesty The Queen around their Lifeboat College in Poole, Dorset.

DON'T BE HOOKED BY E-MAIL PHISHING

REQUESTS FOR PERSONAL DETAILS ARE PRELUDE TO THEFT: There are several e-mails currently in circulation which claim to be from well known banks such as NatWest, Barclays and LloydsTSB. These e-mails ask the recipient to confirm their banking details because of a technical fault or software upgrade. Please do not reply to these emails or submit any personal data. The e-mails are a scam known as 'Phishing' - short for 'Password Harvesting Fishing' - which tricks people into submitting data which can then be used to gain access to bank accounts.

Please note Banks will never send out this type of e-mail to their customers. If you receive an e-mail like this simply ignore it.

Common e-mail scams include requests for assistance in getting African currency transferred from one country to another and supposed wins on the Canadian lottery.

PARTIALLY SIGHTED SOCIETY

LONDON MOVE: The Partially Sighted Society, which aims to help people make the best use of their remaining sight, is moving out of its London office. Their head office remains at PO Box 322, Doncaster DN1 2XA. Tel: 01302 323132.

STORY WRITING COMPETITION

YOUR CHOICE OF ANNIVERSARY: St Dunstaners, their wives, husbands, widows or widowers or members of the Diana Gubbay Trust are all invited to take up the challenge of the new **ST DUNSTAN'S Review** story writing competition. Submissions may be fiction or non-fiction and should not have been previously published. However, each story entered must involve an anniversary of some kind - the who, why, what and where is entirely up to you!

Entries should be typewritten, should not exceed 1,500 words and should be submitted under a nom-de-plume. Please write your nom-de-plume and your real name and seal them in an envelope, which should accompany your entry. Envelopes will not be opened until the judge has made his or her decision. Only one submission per person. Multiple entries will be disqualified. Entries must be received by the Editor, **ST DUNSTAN'S Review**, 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD by Wednesday, December 1st, 2004.

The winner will receive £50, runner-up £30 and third story selected £20. The winning stories will be published in the **Review**.

STAFF DEPARTURES

NINA MALPASS

Nina Malpass recently left St Dunstan's to join the Hampshire Police Authority as an Occupational Health Nurse. Nina had worked at Ovingdean since February 2001. Initially, she was a Staff Nurse before being promoted to Primary Nurse. Nina later became the first Practice Development Nurse at Ovingdean. This role involved setting up training and induction programmes for all care staff and assisting in facilitating the NVQ training that is now a legislative requirement. Although this new post is a great opportunity for Nina to further develop her skills, another reason for her departure is her very recent marriage to Chris, a member of the Royal Navy who is based at Portsmouth. We wish Nina every success in her new post and offer our warmest congratulations on her marriage.

Jackie Greer,
Head of Care

CHRISTABEL CLIFFORD

Head of Pensions Christabel Clifford left St Dunstan's on August 27th. She will be taking a PGCE course with a view to teaching.

D-DAY REMEMBERED IN CANADA



St Dunstan's Widow Catherine Androlia of Great Barr, Birmingham and her son Karl, a sergeant in the West Midlands Police Force joined D-Day commemorations in Harrison, Ontario, Canada on June 6th. They marched with Canadian Veterans to the Cenotaph and laid a wreath.

"They are great people over there. They make you very welcome," said Mrs Androlia.

"The Veterans were down to nine this year, but they still enjoy it." Her late husband St Dunstaner Louis Androlia served in the Canadian Tank Regiment until blinded in 1945.



It strikes me...

with Gog and Magog

Gog is impressed by Valerie Tomalin's reading of the final winning entry to the last **Review** story competition. So too is prize-winning author Harry Beevers! But, eeyoop lad, his Yorkshire pride was somewhat stung when she adopted a Lancastrian accent for some passages!

Magog salutes Jamie Weller's bold attempt to pilot a balloon across London, (turn to back page for more details) but wonders if, with IKEA sponsoring the International Balloon Fiesta, the usual wicker basket will be replaced by a stylish Swedish flat-pack?

Gog hears that a blind Canadian student has been banned from his English class because his guide dog will only respond to commands given in French. The University of New Brunswick insists students only speak English during the course.

Magog catches an old episode of the *Highlander* television series about an immortal Scotsman (unfortunately not audio described though that may change for future repeats). Written by the unlikely sounding J.P. Coture it featured a peroxide blond mock vampire with a line in marrying unsuspecting ladies for their money. This camp vamp goes by the name of Nicholas Ward, though our Director of Fundraising and Communications assures us this is entirely coincidental.

Julia seeks the right word at Ovingdean

Donna Vaughan reports

AWARD WINNING POET, Julia Copus joined St Dunstaners for a weekend of conversation and good company when she became Writer-in-Residence for the ArchiTEXTS project last month. She joined the St Dunstan's Writers' Forum on August 7th for a morning of story telling and reminiscing. As always, the group began with a story circle, which started with a sunny day in Ovingdean and ended with the SAS demanding custard creams from PBK!

The architecture of St Dunstan's Ovingdean was the focus of Julia's work over the four days that she was in house. "But with St Dunstan's you cannot separate the building from its use and especially from its people," she said.



Amongst others, she interviewed Wallace Burnet-Smith, an ex-RAF pilot who also saw St Dunstan's being built. He said that initially he had no idea that it was built in the shape of an aircraft. It was only years later that he really sensed its shape, the fuselage, wings and cockpit.

Julia's aim now is to write a poem inspired by her experiences at St Dunstan's. Her work and that of other writers will appear on the ArchiTEXTS web site in 2005.

RAF riders go the distance

EXERCISE 'ST DUNSTAN'S JAUNT' saw Flight Officer Barry Lloyd and Flight Sergeant Jim Blackwood complete a 92-mile sponsored cycle ride from starting JARIC, RAF Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire finishing at Danesfield House, Medmenham, Marlow-on-Thames, Buckinghamshire.

"With a charity dedicated to those of our ranks who have lost the use of their sight and

the strong reliance that a large portion of the RAF Intelligence community places on theirs, the decision to ride in support of St Dunstan's needed little consideration," said Flt Lt Jason Hoult who provided support with Simon Winter.

The pair battled it out against the elements to complete their challenge in just under 10 hours, and raised a fantastic £777.48 for St Dunstan's.

St Dunstan's to offer training in Sheffield



The former Guide Dogs for the Blind mobility centre which will soon be operating under St Dunstan's banner.

ST DUNSTAN'S VISION of independence for blind ex-servicemen and women will have a northern foothold from the start of 2005. A new rehabilitation and training facility will be established in Sheffield, located in premises previously used by the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. The new base will ease the growing demands on St Dunstan's Ovingdean and provide a more accessible training venue for St Dunstaners in all regions of Northern England and the Midlands.

The site, in Tapton Cliffe, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, is already fitted with many facilities needed to provide a comfortable environment for blind and visually impaired users. However, some additional refurbishment will take place before it opens its doors to St Dunstaners.

When open, the Sheffield centre will run residential and day training courses in all aspects of rehabilitation and training, including a familiar mix of cooking, information technology and mobility skills. The new facility will be staffed 24 hours a day and a permanent group of ROVIs and IT instructors will be employed to run the courses.

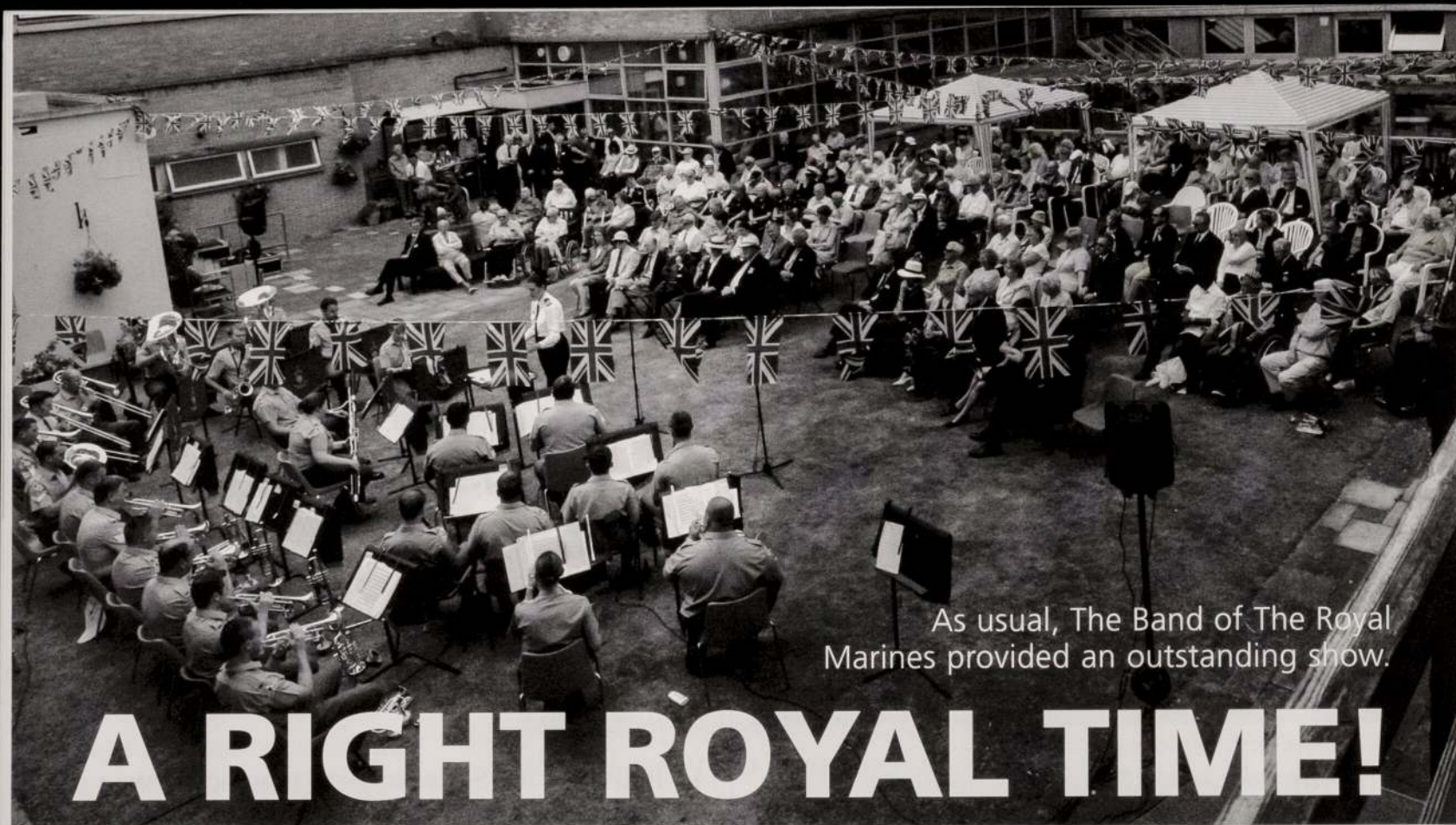
Ten questions on...

The subject of Occupations and Professions

Quizmaster Harry Beevers lives up to his vocation with September's job lot of questions!

- 1) At the beginning of Shaw's play *Pygmalion* and the film *My Fair Lady*, what is the occupation of Eliza Dolittle?
- 2) Who was the German fighter pilot of WWI and head of the Luftwaffe in WWII who had previously worked as a BMW car salesman?
- 3) According to the title of a novel by James Caine and two films in 1946 and 1981, what was the occupation of the person who always rings twice?
- 4) In the United States in 1930 in which new profession were women only admitted if they were unmarried, had a medical training and were under 115lbs in weight?
- 5) In the children's nursery rhyme *Rub-a-dub-dub, three men in a tub*, what are the occupations of the three men? (And have a bonus if you can say what the three of them jumped over.)
- 6) Members of which trade performed medical operations after a 12th century decree from the Pope forbidding clergy to shed blood?
- 7) What occupation or profession was followed by Jack Point in the G. and S. opera *Yeomen of the Guard*, Rigoletto in a Verdi opera, Yorick in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and Will Summers in the court of King Henry VIII?
- 8) Who in American slang is a man with a headache stick?
- 9) In a 1971 No.1 hit in the UK singles charts, Benny Hill claimed that Ernie was "The fastest what in the West"?
- 10) According to American writer Mark Twain, what is the profession of the fellow who lends you his umbrella when the sun is shining and wants it back the minute it begins to rain?

Answers can be found on page 19.



As usual, The Band of The Royal Marines provided an outstanding show.

A RIGHT ROYAL TIME!

THE BAND OF The Royal Marines, Portsmouth made a welcome return to the Inner Garden at St Dunstan's Ovingdean on July 21st. With brass, wind and wood sections set up on the lawn they played to an audience of over 150 people, helping to pass an afternoon in lascivious mode. Led by Bandmaster WO Dougie Graham, they set the pace with the Corps of Drums beating out the opening of a Souza march then opened up with interpretations of *Swing, Swing, Swing*, the theme from *A Bridge Too Far* and the theme to *Band of Brothers*.



WO Dougie Graham conducted the Band.



Martin Shail chatting with one of the Band members.



A rousing performance.



William Lockert and Bill Elliott share a joke or two.

Lt Michelle Coleman keeps the Band in tune.

George and Barbara Durrant enjoy the ambience.

For several numbers which crossed into Celtic and Jazz themes with lively rhythm, WO Graham ceded the conductor's baton to Lt Michelle Coleman who was on four-month exchange from the Royal Australian Navy.

There was a round of applause for St Dunstan's B.P. Rees who was celebrating his 86th birthday that day. Also in the audience was St Dunstan's Vice-Patron Admiral Sir Jock Slater – who had once played clarinet with the Band at a concert in New York's Carnegie Hall – Chairman Captain Michael Gordon-Lennox and other Members of St Dunstan's Council.

For a handful of St Dunstaners there was never any doubt that the afternoon would be a success. "After all," said one, discretely stroking his Royal Marines tie. "It's my band!"



Many happy returns for St Dunstan's B.P. Rees.



Stuart Maynard talks with Captain Peter Carr, RM.



Amongst the audience, St Dunstan's Chairman Michael and Mrs Gordon-Lennox, with Trustees David and Mrs Knowles, Mrs Bacon and William van Straubensee.



Cheers from Peter SurrIDGE.



St Dunstan's Vice-Patron Sir Jock Slater (sans clarinet) with Member of Council Tim Bacon and Chief Executive Robert Leader who was accompanied by his wife Susan.

DIAMOND DAYS AT SULTAN ARE SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT!



Robert Nelson on the 60th camp in Lee-on-Solent

Sports Day finished with the traditional walking race.

Weapon of choice: Norman Walton tap dances

ON THE SECOND night of Summer Camp at HMS *Sultan* in Gosport, Hampshire it seemed that everyone broke out in green pimples. However, there was no need to call a quarantine as the only thing contagious about the event was the laughter that followed the appearance of each green spot on hand, forehead or nose. A game of bingo in the WO's Mess prompted the spontaneous formation of the "Green Pimple Society", membership of which was denoted by the green spot from a bingo marker.

"That's what I like about this," chuckled one St Dunstaner. "It allows us a chance to be silly again. It's a good time to have a joke and a laugh and it's things like this that bring it to life."

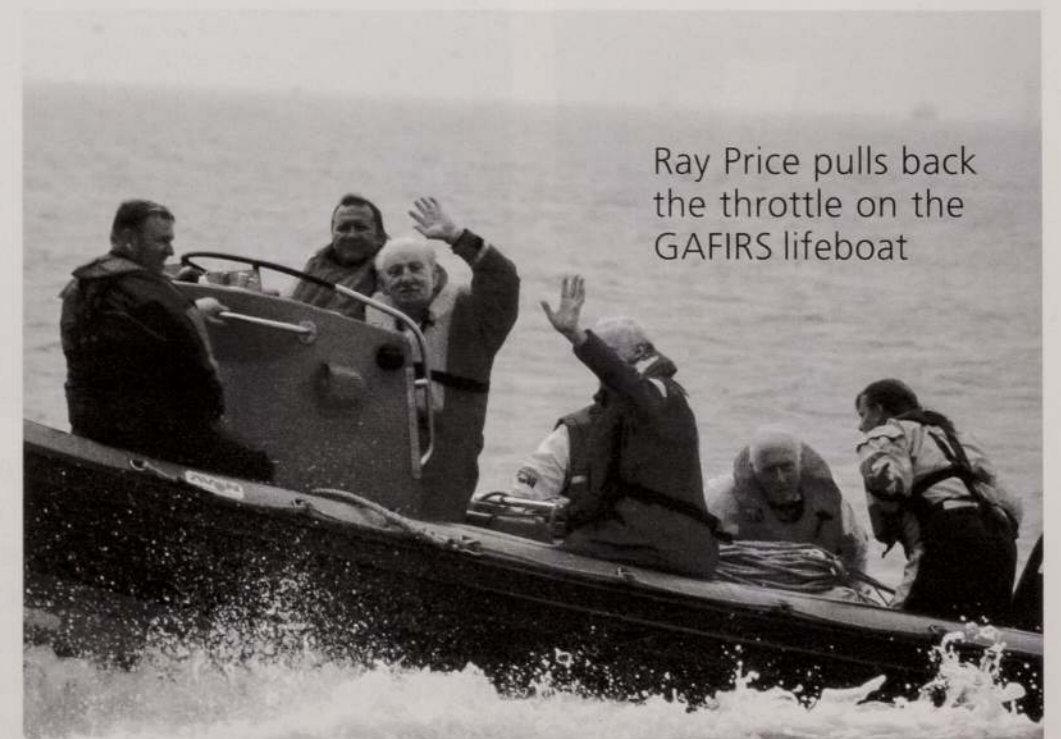
This year marked the 60th successive camp in a tradition

that HMS *Sultan* has maintained with gusto. During the Anniversary Dinner, guest of honour, Captain David Newberry, RN explained how Avis Spurway had sought to resurrect a pre-War activity with a summer camp in Lee-on-Solent and how it had

developed over the years. It was a history that many of those present had lived.

This year's camp ran from July 30th to August 7th and 24 St Dunstaners met up with their 'Dogs' some of whom have been helping at camp for over 40 years. Initial activities embraced the sea and the sky. First a visit to the Submarine Museum and then an afternoon of flying in gliders.

Aerodynamics played their part in an afternoon of archery with the dedicated archers competing



Ray Price pulls back the throttle on the GAFIRS lifeboat



Brian Lang draws back his bow.



Arthur Mason and Liz Walker.



Elspeth Grant with a token of the campers' appreciation.



Peter Hammond hopes his hoop is on target.

against Havant and Hayling Archers and the more casual toxophilists competing against themselves in an earnest endeavour to deplete the camp's supply of party balloons.

The competitive spirit continued with the Sports Day - with Chris Ottewell declaring "I am going to win the Walking Race." And he did!

Six St Dunstaners joined the RN & RM Motorcycle Club for a speedy spin round Gosport while Ray Price, Maurice Bowley and Norman Walton took over the Gosport and Fareham Inshore Rescue Lifeboat to zoom round the Solent (Expect to be recruited by Vice-Patron Sir Jock Slater soon).

The outing to the British Legion on the Isle of Wight had a surprise for St Dunstaner Steve Nixon. He and his helpers bumped into two ladies who had been enthusiastic about his book during last year's visit.

The Anniversary Dinner provided an opportunity to run through the history of the camp and voice some heartfelt thanks. Organiser David Burrows started with his predecessor Elspeth Grant. "Elspeth, dearest Elspeth. You've been my mentor for a while, and you are always on my shoulder. Every decision I make, there's someone on my shoulder saying 'That's ok', 'No don't do that.'

He moved on to Alan Robert Menzies. "He is a very important person though perhaps some of you won't

know the name. What we have done here is quite an extraordinary feat. Alan represents Flagship plc and they have done quite a significant amount to help us arrange this event here tonight.

"There are a lot of organisations that help us throughout the year and they are well represented tonight. From GAFIRS, we have Mr and Mrs Lee, we have enjoyed many a happy hour there. Conservative Club at Lee-on-Solent. My word, don't we like going there! Mr and Mrs Howe very nice to see you."

He added thanks to the people behind the archery sessions and the IoW British Legion. Thanks were also voiced in favour of the Mess President and the staff who had been helping during the camp. This triggered a round of riotous applause.

"I have a very special vote of thanks to give next," said Dave. "I don't want to embarrass him, but I'm going to - Warrant Officer Kirby Taylor! I know what it's like to be the Camp Sponsor - and I don't mean that way - it can be hard work, it can be a fruitless task at times, but when you all go home on Saturday, you can think job well done, I liked that. Kirby, I take my hat off to you. Well done!"

Dave Burrows also spoke of the impact that St Dunstaners have had on the local community. "They always ask me when are the St Dunstaners coming back, are they coming back and

where do the St Dunstaners live now? The local community in Lee know you, they know you for what you are, what you've done and what you have brought to the community itself. The representation we've got from these organisations that have allowed this link to take place is quite dear to our hearts."

There were a few words from Elspeth Grant. "I never expected to come to the 50th anniversary let alone the 60th," she said. "There is only one St Dunstan's camper who has been coming longer than I have and that's John Whitcombe. There's another St Dunstaner who first came the same day, at the same time as I did, Billy Miller.

"I specifically said St Dunstan's campers, but there are others who have been

coming a lot longer than I have, such as our faithful 'Dogs'. Two of them are here tonight, Jimmy Andrews and Frank Price, our helpers Bill and Brigit Reed, Kevin and Yvonne Rixon and Jean Firth, who I think has been coming since her father was the captain of HMS *Daedalus*."

Captain Newberry presented Elspeth with a token of the Campers' appreciation, a necklace with a cross, while Campers and Dogs united in a sustained round of applause.

The camp continued with golf, fishing, lunch at the Conservative Club and British Legion, helicopter flights and a concert from the Band of the Royal Marines in Portsmouth.

A diamond anniversary indeed!



Expect the unexpected! Several St Dunstaners were confused by strange noises on the first day of camp. What could it be? It turned out to be a fledgling crow with a chipped upper beak. Very quickly the feathered friend made himself at home, accepting biscuits, water and other snacks. Regular appearances from the bird earned Don Oliver the nickname of "Birdman of Fisher Block".

PRIZE GIVING 2004

Prizes were presented by Commodore Neil Latham, RN.

ARCHERY

Totally blind

- 1st Brian Lang
- 2nd Bill Burrows

Partially Sighted

- 1st Chris Ottewell
- 2nd Ernie Firth
- 3rd Brian Beniston

Novice archer

- 1st Gerry Jackson
- 2nd Maurice Bowley
- 3rd Ray Price

St Dunstan's v Havant & Hayling Island Archers.

Havant & Hayling won for the third consecutive year.

St Dunstan's Archers 7060
Hayling Island Archers 7065

WALKING RACE

- 1st Chris Ottewell 2:35
- 2nd Don Planner 2:28
- 3rd Bryan Alexander 3:21

The Danny Deacon

Veterans Cup

Norman Perry

The Charles Stafford Cup for best beginner

Maurice Bowley

GOLF

Nine-hole competition at Stokes Bay.

- 1st Chris Ottewell 39
- 2nd John Stevens 40

INDOOR SPORTS

Penalty Goals

Totally blind

Bill Burrows 4:5

Partially Sighted

John Lappin 5:5

The Sheila Mcleod Cup for best beginner

Gerry Jackson

Victor Ludorum - Totally blind

Brian Lang

Victor Ludorum - Partially sighted

Gerry Jackson

Team result

4th The Royals

3rd The Rebels

2nd The Scousers

1st The Otters

Team winners:

Chris Ottewell, Steve Nixon, Bryan Alexander, Ray Price & Don Planner.

Best Team Effort

This new award is in memory of St Dunstaner Michael Perrett. This year it is awarded to the team that tried the hardest.

The Scousers

Team winners:

Brian Lang, Norman Perry, John Stevens, Maurice Bowley, Steve Pendleton & Derek Harvey.

The Don Minter Memorial Trophy

Awarded to the St Dunstaner who has without question, entered fully into the spirit of the camp and contributed to its success, both on and off the sports field.

Norman Perry

POET'S CORNER

THE FINAL BATTLE

No longer left behind the spirit of days endured
In forced imprisonment,
nor the twist of time wrung out
to banish suffering on the fence of wars defeat.
Is it too late to burden your mind
with contemplation of barbed memories entwined,
of comrades long gone
in the fevered caldron of youth's fighting force?
Fortune favoured you with life
and burdened you with fear.
Will you now favour fortune with your last request,
To do and die and in that find your peace, and rest?

How will my death be as I look on yours,
As I contemplate my pain in your anguish?
Are we not the same you and I
in turmoil over this advancing line.
No more than the pause between breathing sighs,
Once in living - once in dying.
Gone as the sand ripple in the pulsing tide,
or the cloud shape never to return the same,
forming the edge of space into eternity's claim.

Or is it that God's wager does not let us down
as we overtake our bodies weight
and, un-handicapped, race to life's eternal post
for fulfilment not reward?
Where cheered on by the crowd,
welcomed into the winners' enclosure,
we stand satisfied that we have completed the course,
distinguished by the medal of our own particular burdens.
And there are lifted up to the heavens.

Philip Marsh

In tribute to William Marsh
19/01/1919 to 09/07/2004
Dunkirk Veteran,
Far East Prisoner of War,
St Dunstaner.

William Marsh during a
St Dunstan's Ex-Prisoner
of War Reunion.



PENDLETON'S PANTRY

Blind chef **Stephen Pendleton** puts a little spice into life!

Spice Cake

This recipe will serve six.

Ingredients:

10oz (250g) self raising flour.

3 eggs.

6oz (150g) of sugar.

4oz (100g) of low fat natural
yoghurt.

Zest of 1 lemon.

Zest of 1 orange.

2 tablespoons of vanilla
extract.

1 tablespoon of ground
cinnamon.

1/4 tablespoon of ground
nutmeg.

100ml of semi-skimmed milk.

Method:

Firstly, make sure your working area is clean and tidy, also check all your ingredients and equipment are to hand. You will need at least three small to medium sized mixing bowls for this recipe.

Pre-heat your oven to 170C or Gas Mark 3. Sieve the flour into a medium sized mixing bowl and set aside.

Break the eggs into another mixing bowl, making sure to check the eggs for any pieces of shell that may have fallen into the bowl, then whisk in the sugar and set aside.

In another bowl, combine the yoghurt, grated lemon and orange zest, vanilla, cinnamon, milk and nutmeg. Mix all these



Model Nell McAndrew could have used our chef Steve's cooking skills when stuck in the jungle for the television show I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!

ingredients together. It makes life a lot easier if you use a grater for zesting the orange and lemon.

Fold in the eggs and sugar to the above mixture.

When the above ingredients have been combined, fold in the sieved flour to the mixture.

Mix all the ingredients well. If you can get on with a food processor, it will take no time at all to mix them all together, but use of a blender is not essential. It is just as easy with

a handheld electric whisk or a normal balloon whisk.

In a greased sponge tin, pour in the cake mixture and place in the pre-heated oven.

Cooking time for this recipe is 40 minutes. To check the cake, put a knife into the centre of it. If the knife comes out clean, then it is done. If the cake is not quite cooked, return it to the oven for another 5 minutes. When the cake has cooled, turn it out onto a wire cooling rack and serve with a nice cup of tea.

Next Month: Sausages in Sauce

Ten answers

Quiz solutions from page 11.

- 1) Flower seller.
- 2) Hermann Goering.
- 3) Postman.
- 4) Flight attendants or Air Stewardesses. (Incidentally, if you are a touch typist, the word "Stewardesses" is the longest word which is typed by the left hand only).
- 5) A butcher, a baker and a candlestick-maker, and they all jumped over a potato!
- 6) Barbers.
- 7) Jester.
- 8) Policeman.
- 9) Milkman, and his horse was called Trigger!
- 10) Banker.

LITTLE TO SEE AT SIGHT VILLAGE

Ray Hazan finds little innovation at access technology show!

SIGHT VILLAGE IS an annual exhibition that gathers under one roof many providers of access technology and daily living aids for the visually handicapped. The original venue at the Queen Alexandra College, Birmingham, proved to be too small for the exhibitors. Personally, I found it very noisy because of the confined space, which made many of the audio demonstrations difficult to hear.

The new venue was the Clarendon Suite in Haggley Road, Birmingham. The three floors offered a much larger and open space. It was still, however, quite crowded, especially on the first of the three days that the exhibition lasted.

The organisers have made Sight Village as accessible as they can with several web sites giving descriptions, route plans and lists of items and exhibitors. Guides are available at the exhibition to escort those who require assistance or who are unaccompanied.

Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) systems were in abundance as well as representatives of the major screen reading programmes, Braille embossers, daily living aids and gadgets and educational aids, to name but some.

There were some new digital CCTV's, but they come at a price.

The UltraCane is a new development of an old idea. It was originally nicknamed the Batcane because it was inspired by the way bats get around in the dark. Since then, researchers at Leeds University have refined the cane to provide information in a form that humans can use with no great effort.

Essentially, the device is a sonic detector incorporated into a long cane. Ultrasonic waves, directed at head and feet level, cause two points to vibrate under the thumb. The

closer an object, the quicker the vibration, so there is no auditory distraction. The cane is light and can have any type of tip fitted – roller, pencil or teardrop. The handle, which incorporates all the workings, is obviously thicker than the average large cane handle, but not distractingly so.

The Ultra Cane will be available for purchase later this year for £399 plus delivery.

There were two new aids on offer from Cobolt Systems. One was a combined talking ear thermometer and clock, (£19.95) but please don't ask me to explain the connection! The other item coming on the market in a few week's time is a bank note identifier (£17.50). A plastic strip some three inches by 1.5 wide, it has a slot down it's length. You slide the bank note into the slot and one vibration under your thumb denotes a fiver, two a tenner and three for £20. There is also a version that deals with Euros.

Overall, there was not a great deal of new ideas on show, but that is hardly the fault of the exhibition organisers! The venue is an improvement, but in my view, Site Village is only worth visiting every other year, unless there really is something new.

Cobolt Systems can be contacted by post at Cobolt Systems Ltd, The Old Mill House, Mill Road, Reedham, Norwich, Norfolk NR13 3TL or by telephoning 01493 700172 or e-mail at cobolt@compuserve.com. Their website can be found at www.cobolt.co.uk.

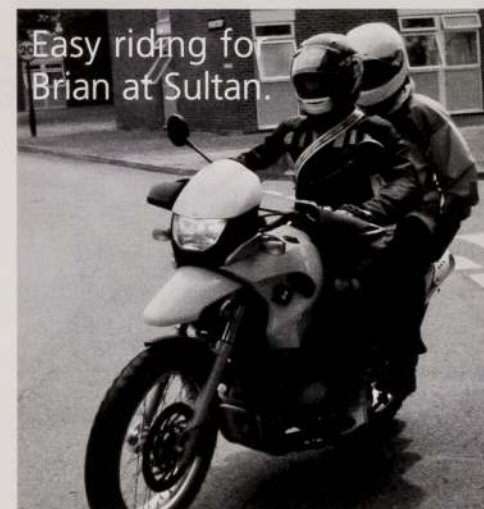
For details about the UltraCane, please contact Sound Foresight Ltd, Taurus Park, Europa Boulevard, Warrington WA5 7YT. Their telephone number is 01925 446151 and they can also be contacted by e-mail at info@soundforesight.co.uk. Their website is at www.soundforesight.co.uk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to The Editor are always welcome. Write to the Editor, St Dunstan's Review, 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD. E-mail ray.hazan@st-dunstans.org.uk.

Sultan gets better every time! **Misdirected!**

I have just returned from HMS *Sultan*. What a week it was, only my second time at camp but it gets better every time I go. It was nice to meet old friends and make new ones. My highlight was with RN & RM Motorcycle Club. Six St Dunstaners were taken for a spin, it was great doing 60mph down the Hampshire lanes, stopping for lunch at a lovely country pub and then back to HMS *Sultan*. The second favourite was the coastguard helicopter. When I told the tale to my nurse at my local hospital she said I must be mad, I replied all



ex-Marines are. I must thank all the 'Dogs' and everyone at HMS *Sultan* for making this possible every year.

**Brian Beniston (Royal),
Billington, Lancashire**

In the May **Review**, we had the wrong e-mail address for Anne Watkins of New Zealand, widow of Danny Watkins. Anyone who wished to write to her can contact her by e-mailing anne.danny@xtra.co.nz.

Also ...

We have also heard from Sally Diamond of Selsey, West Sussex, Willie and Jean Warren of Truro, Cornwall, Ruby Andrew of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, Les and Doreen Thompson of Tenerife, Canarias and thank them for their comments.

WASP STING WAS QUITE ARROWING

ST DUNSTANERS Tom Roddy and David Poyner shot in the Cheshire County Archery Championships at Warrington on August 7th-8th.

Arriving at the Sports Ground at about 08:00am on Saturday, the weather was already hot. The ground was full of archers. Tom and David were shooting the Burntwood Visually Impaired International Round, which lasted all day in intense heat. They finished about 19:00pm having been in the direct sun all the time – and it

was over 28 degrees in the shade! Sunday started a little later and they shot the Burntwood York, again another 12 dozen arrows finishing about 18:30pm. This time it was hotter but fortunately a little wind was blowing.

"We both shot well but as usual reflected on the fact that we should have done better," said David. "A normal comment for two competitive archers."

On the Sunday, David boosted his food intake by eating a

wasp which managed to sting his mouth in three places before being dispatched.

At the presentation in the evening it was announced this was the first time that Cheshire had held the Burntwood round for visually impaired archers.

Tom and David thanked Lindsay Poyner who braved the heat all weekend to spot for them. "If I had been at home in that heat I would have been inside or in the shade and not in direct sunshine," she added.



ST DUNSTAN'S Council

An occasional series of profiles of the personalities currently serving as Trustees of St Dunstan's



Major General David Jolliffe, CB, FRCP

DAVID JOLLIFFE was born in 1946 in Blackburn, Lancashire. Educated at Ratcliffe College, Leicester and King's College Hospital Medical School, London, he joined the Army as an RAMC medical cadet in 1967. After serving as Regimental Medical Officer to units of the Parachute Brigade in Bermuda, Turkey, Denmark and Northern Ireland, he moved to the Cambridge Military Hospital in Aldershot as a trainee in Dermatology.

Having secured a Regular Commission in 1976, he was seconded to the Royal Free Hospital as Honorary Senior Registrar in Dermatology. From there he was posted to BMH Hong Kong as dermatologist. Returning to the UK in late 1980 as Consultant, he worked at military hospitals in Aldershot, Woolwich and Catterick. In June 1982, he served in the Falklands campaign with 2 Field Hospital and returned to Aldershot in September 1982 to take up the appointment of Consultant Adviser in Dermatology to the Army. He was elected Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP) in 1987.

Having returned to the Far East in 1986 as dermatologist and Commanding Officer BMH Hong Kong, he was subsequently promoted Acting Colonel and appointed Commander Medical Far East in addition to his responsibilities at the hospital.

In September 1989, he returned to the UK as Head of the Army Medical Services Personnel Branch before being promoted substantive Colonel in October 1992 and appointed Commanding Officer Cambridge Military Hospital. After a short tour as Commander Medical HQ 2nd Division in York, he was posted as Chief of Staff within the Army Medical Directorate in Aldershot. In March 1999, he was appointed Commander Medical HQ Land Command on promotion to Brigadier and 11 months later he moved again, on promotion to Major General, to his final appointment as Director General Army Medical Services in Camberley.

His 35 years of military service were recognised in the 2003 New Years Honours List with the award of Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the

Bath and, having served three years as Director General Army Medical Services, he retired to Pickering in North Yorkshire in May 2003.

With recreational interests that include carpentry and computer technology, he is married to Hilary, a former District and Practice Nurse. They have two daughters, both of whom live in York. Louise is the mother of his two-year-old grandson and is a Specialist Registrar in anaesthetics and Emma is a Marketing Accounts Director. Tenzing, a Pyrenean Mountain Dog, completes the family.

In addition to being a Trustee of St Dunstan's, David Jolliffe is also Chairman of the Audit Committee of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Medical Adviser to the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League, Chairman of the Hong Kong Locally Enlisted Personnel Trust, Honorary Colonel 207 (Manchester) Field Hospital (V), Chairman of the York Branch of the RAMC Association, Governor Ratcliffe College, Leicester and a North Yorkshire Moors National Park Voluntary Ranger.

Jamie Weller

Jamie Weller was a Sea Harrier Aircraft Engineer in the Royal Navy, and had served with the 899 Naval Air Squadron for three years when he started to lose his sight. He was left with a complete loss of central vision.

In March 1990, Jamie came to St Dunstan's for rehabilitation, computer training and independent living skills to help him rebuild his life.

Jamie went on to study at the Royal National College for the Blind achieving his Levels. Following this, he obtained a degree in Mathematics, Statistics, Economics and Operational Research after studying for three years at Warwick University.

After University, Jamie embarked on a challenging career in the taxation profession and has become the first registered blind qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation. Jamie has been working full time for the past nine years as a tax consultant for Deloitte & Touche - one of the UK's



Jamie and Katrina Weller on a residential terrace at Macchu Picchu.

leading firms of tax advisors and chartered accountants.

Keen on outdoor pursuits, 2002 saw Jamie and his wife complete the harsh four-day trek along the Inca Trail to the lost city of Macchu Picchu in Peru. Other less demanding sports he undertakes include scuba diving, horse riding, sailing and walking.

Jamie's love of the outdoors and his time spent as an aircraft engineer have led him to his ultimate challenge - to attain his Private Pilots Licence. Currently, Jamie is in training to become the first blind pilot to cross London in a hot air balloon.

May cuts across the century



As reported last issue, St Dunstan's Widow May Flynn celebrated her 100th birthday with her family in Horley on July 4th. May has three children, nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

BALANCING THE BOOKS

by Ted Bunting



St Dunstan's Dame Margo Turner dancing at Pearson House in Kemp Town.

The Will to Live

Author: Sir John Smyth.
Reader: Jon Cartwright.
Catalogue Number: TB11896
Duration: 5 hours 46 minutes.

This is a biography of Margo Turner (later Dame Margo) who survived two shipwrecks and the horrors of Japanese captivity to become Matron-in-Chief of the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps. Intelligent, resourceful and of indomitable courage, she has earned a place amongst the heroic jewels that enrich the fabric of British history. Yet despite having such a gem of a character as subject, the story almost fails to be compelling and interesting.

The impression it gave me was of a book cobbled together by a committee whose guiding principle was "no detail is too trivial so long as it flatters Margo". What we have here are the outpourings of an admiration society, not true biography that paints its subject "warts and all". I do not suggest for a moment that the book contains anything that is not a hundred per cent true, but let's face it you could make the likes of Adolph Hitler sound virtuous if no word of criticism is allowed.

Welcome to ST DUNSTAN'S

John Askew of East Horley, Surrey served in 36 Heavy Ack-Ack Regiment, Royal Artillery from 1955 to 1957.

John Beeson of Cam, Gloucestershire served as Corporal in the Royal Air Force from 1954 to 1966.

John Blayney of Seaford, East Sussex served in the General Service Corps and Royal Artillery between 1947 and 1951, leaving as Sergeant.

Denis Chacksfield of Littlehampton, West Sussex served in the Scots Guards from 1950 to 1952.

Joseph Cohen of Leigh on Sea, Essex served in the Royal Air Force from 1943 to 1945.

Leonard Clark of Polegate, East Sussex served in the Royal Artillery from 1940 to 1946.

John Creaton of Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, West Sussex joined the TA in 1939 and then served in the Queen Victoria's Rifles, King's Royal Rifle Corps, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment), and the Herefordshire Regiment before being discharged in 1946.

Frederick Crimp of St Austell, Cornwall served in the Hampshire Regiment and 94th Tank Regiment between 1940 and 1946.

Arthur Danks of Redditch, Worcestershire served as a Royal Marine from 1945 to 1947.

Fredrick Dunsdon of Ashford, Kent served in the National Fire Service from 1941 to 1945, supporting British and US Forces overseas. He also served in the London Fire Brigade until 1968.

Ernest Evans of Warton, Carnforth, Lancashire served in the Royal Air Force from 1941 to 1945.

Morris Evans of Hove, East Sussex served in the General Service Corps during 1943.

William Evans of Alverstoke, Gosport, Hampshire served in the Irish Guards from 1943 to 1945.

Thomas Fleming of Sacriston, Durham served in the Royal Air Force in the UK and Europe from 1942 to 1947.

Trevor Foulkes of Guilsfield, Welshpool, Powys served in the Royal Tank Regiment from 1939 to 1946.

Leonard Franzen of Luton, Bedfordshire served in the Royal Navy from 1946 to 1947.

Alan Gibbons of New Mills, High Peak served in the Royal Navy from 1942 to 1946.

William Goodwin of Sanderstead, South Croydon, Surrey joined the Artists Rifles (TA) in 1938 but transferred to the Royal Army Service Corps. He was discharged in 1945, but rejoined the RASC until 1952.

Leonard Hobbs of Waterlooville served in the Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve from 1942 to 1946.

Keith Hyde of Twigworth, Gloucester joined the Parachute Regiment in 1960, transferred to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in 1969 and was discharged in 1977.

George Johnston of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire served in the Royal Signals from 1939 to 1946.

Kenneth Johnstone of Blackpool, Lancashire served in the Army Catering Corps from 1958 to 1960.

Michael Kanek of Doncaster, South Yorkshire served in the Royal Pioneer Corps from 1975 to 1982.

David Keane of Uxbridge, Middlesex served in the Royal Engineers from 1942 to 1947.

John Lane of South Shields, Tyne & Wear served in the Royal Artillery from 1939 to 1967.

Daniel LaPlain of Downham Market, Norfolk served in the Royal Air Force in the UK and Africa from 1938 to 1946.

James Ledgerwood of Luton, Bedfordshire served in the Royal Air Force in the UK from 1954 to 1956.

Frank Lodge of Chester-le-Street, County Durham served in the Royal Army Service Corps from 1941 to 1946.

Stanley Ludkin of Sherburn, County Durham served in the Royal Army Medical Corps from 1942 to 1946.

Francis McQuaid of Allestree, Derby served in the Royal Air Force as an instrument mechanic from 1946 to 1948.

Horace Male of Netherton, Dudley, West Midlands served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps from 1949 to 1951.

Eric Marsh of Chorley, Lancashire served in the Royal Air Force from 1943 to 1947.

Philip May of Nailsworth, Stroud, Gloucestershire served in the Royal Armoured Corps from 1941 to 1945.

Terrence Milburn of Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne served in the Royal Air Force from 1952 to 1955.

Geoffrey Misseldine of Southsea, Hampshire served with the Royal Artillery from 1939 to 1946.

John Morrison of Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria served in the Royal Air Force in the UK and Far East from 1942 to 1947.

Arthur Morton of Welton, East Yorkshire served in the Royal Army Service Corps from 1940 to 1946.

Alexander Murray of Harrow, Middlesex served in the Black Watch from 1939 to 1941 and then the Royal Air Force until 1946.

James O'Hara of Huyton, Merseyside served in the Royal Artillery from 1940 to 1946.

Robert Orrell of Bury, Lancashire served in the Royal Navy from 1941 to 1946.

Leslie Parker of Morecambe, Lancashire joined the Loyal Regiment in 1939 and then served in 2nd Reconnaissance Regiment from 1941 to 1946.

George Price of Kirketham, Redcar, Cleveland served in the Royal Signals from 1955 to 1956.

Joan Recknell of Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire served in the Women's Royal Air Force from 1941 to 1946.

Douglas Rutter of Poole, Dorset served in the Royal Navy from 1937 to 1963.

Charles Smith of West Kirby, Wirral, Cheshire served in the Royal Army Medical Corps from 1942 to 1952.

Frank Snowden of Great Sutton, Cheshire served in the Royal Air Force in the UK and Malta from 1940 to 1946.

Jack Stead of Torcross, Kingsbridge, Devon served in the Royal Navy from 1942 to 1972, retiring as Lt Cmdr.

Raymond Taylor of Kings Heath, Birmingham served in the Royal Army Medical Corps from 1950 to 1956.

Samuel Tombe of Lazenby, Middlesborough served in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve from 1941 to 1947.

Peter Walder of Hailsham, East Sussex served in the Royal Air Force from 1941 to 1946.

Alan Warrington of Stockport, Cheshire joined the Royal Navy in 1943 serving until 1947.

Donald Williams of Boverton, Llantwit Major, South Glamorgan served in the South Wales Borderers and Royal Pioneer Corps between 1943 and 1947.

Joyce Winter of Knaresborough, North Yorkshire served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force from 1940 to 1946.

COUNTDOWN TO DARKNESS

Part four of our series on events that led up to the foundation of St Dunstan's.

By September 3rd, 1914 around 500,000 French civilians had left Paris and the Government relocated to Bordeaux. On September the 6th, the French, supported by the British Expeditionary Force attacked the German army along the Marne. Reinforcements were brought into play by taxi and although initially a wedge was driven between German battalions, the slow advance allowed them to re-group. The Germans deployed along the River Asine and for two weeks, battle raged across the river. A bridgehead established by the British Army was soon surrendered. The month closed with the French Army being beaten back beyond the town of Albert.

FAMILY NEWS

BIRTHS

Congratulations on the birth of:

Joshua Wilton on March 15th. He is the great-grandson of Lilian Bradley of Swadlincote, Derbyshire and the late *Alf Bradley*.

Emma Mary Margaret Anne on May 4th. She is the 20th grandchild of Jo Hamilton of Leeds, West Yorkshire and the late *Frank Hamilton*.

SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Willie and Jean Warren of Near Truro, Cornwall on July 19th.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

John and Ann Wadman of Alresford, Hampshire on August 7th.

Brian and Maureen Beniston of Clitheroe, Lancashire on August 15th.

Noel and Sheila Tilling of Cheltenham Spa, Gloucestershire on August 15th.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Henry and Gwendolin Hall of Sevenoaks, Kent on August 14th.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

William and Lillian Miles of Leyland, Lancashire on August 12th.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Harry and Phyll Ellaway of Worthing, Sussex who celebrated 64 years of marriage on July 20th.

Harold and Joan Sparrey of Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire who celebrated 65 years of marriage on July 21st.

Stewart and Mary Harris of Andover, Hampshire who celebrated 62 years of marriage on July 26th.

Donald and Betty Lorenz of Norwich, Norfolk who celebrated 63 years of marriage on July 27th.

Leonard and Marge Bragg of Basingstoke, Hampshire who celebrated 61 years of marriage on August 2nd.

Arthur and Mary Redwood of Porthcawl, Mid Glamorgan who celebrated 63 years of marriage on August 2nd.

Peter and Edith Barton of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey who celebrated 62 years of marriage on August 15th.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Stephen Griffiths on being ordained as a priest at Derby Cathedral on July 4th. He is the grandson of Lilian Bradley of Swadlincote, Derbyshire and the late *Alf Bradley*.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of:

Sylvia Julier on August 7th. She was the wife of *Marcel Julier* of Hove, East Sussex.

IN MEMORY

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

Denis Carey
Royal Artillery

Denis A E Carey of Fishponds, Bristol died on July 7th, aged 85. He joined the Royal Artillery in 1939 and served in Norway, Egypt, Greece and Crete. He was demobilised as a Corporal in 1946. In civilian life he was a painter and decorator and also worked in a car accessory business. His interests included repairing clock cases and coarse river fishing. Our sympathy goes to his son and daughter and all other members of the family.

Hubert Pratt

Royal Tank Regiment

Hubert Pratt of Pattingham, Wolverhampton, West Midlands died on July 13th, aged 93. He had been a St Dunstaner since 2001. He worked in farming before joining the Royal Tank Regiment in 1941. Posted to North Africa, he spent three years in Matilda tanks. He returned to the UK in time for the Normandy Invasion, landing on D+12. Equipped with Buffalo tanks, they fought through Europe via Arramanche and the Rhine. Discharged in 1946, he returned to farming, becoming a farm manager in Shropshire for 20 years. A keen tennis player, he enjoyed rough shooting and owned a narrow boat. Our sympathy goes to all of the family.

Joseph Weeks

Royal Sussex Regiment

Joseph Weeks of St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex died on July 27th, aged 84. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1942. He had not long finished an apprenticeship as a carpenter and joiner when he signed up with the Royal Sussex Regiment in January 1942. He was blinded in action at El Alamein in October that year and taken to St Dunstan's Unit in Cairo. Evacuated to South Africa, his initial rehabilitation was at Tembani where he did well with braille, typewriting and carpentry. In 1944, he returned to the UK, travelling to St Dunstan's at Church Stretton and settling on a two-year massage course. He established a private physiotherapy practice in 1947, supplemented by an appointment at Hastings Municipal Hospital. The private practice ran over 50 years and he was still treating patients in the month he passed away. His interests included fishing, bridge, carpentry, gardening, Rotary and radio. Our sympathy goes to his widow Louise, their sons Marcus and Julius, daughter Marie Louise and all other members of the family.

Herbert Brantingham

Royal Air Force

Herbert 'Bert' Brantingham of Ovingdean died on August 4th, aged 95. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1940 and as a Corporal Foreman of

Trades, assisted in building runways in Iceland and North Africa. After VE Day, he built hospital foundations at El Adam near Tobruk. After his discharge in 1946, he became Stage manager at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Cardiff. Later, he moved to London and ran a theatrical store while also building stage sets for seven London theatres and ATV. His interests included bowls and golf. He was winner of St Dunstan's Bowls tournament for several consecutive years. Our sympathy goes to his daughters Carol and Jean and all other members of the family.

Kenneth Freeman

King's Shropshire Light Infantry

Kenneth Alan Freeman of Rumney, Cardiff died on August 4th, aged 79. Leaving school at 14, he worked as an errand boy, lift boy, farm labourer and quarryman. He enlisted with the General Service Corps in 1943 and then transferred to the King's Shropshire Light Infantry before being discharged in 1944. Returning to civilian life, he initially worked as a driver but later became a postman. He then worked for the Co-operative Society before moving into Local Government as a Trading Standards Officer. His interests included sports and dancing. Our sympathy goes to his widow Hazel and all other members of the family.

Craig Neller

Royal Air Force

Craig William Neller of Peacehaven, East Sussex died on August 5th, aged 43. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1996. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1984 and trained as a clerical assistant. During his service, he played football at station and command level and demonstrated great ability in most sports. In 1991, it was discovered that he was suffering from Lebers Optic Atrophy and he was sent to St Dunstan's for training. He was discharged in 1994. Music and football remained interests and he also took up bowls, winning several St Dunstan's Bowls Tournament categories. He won the Alan Logan Trophy for Best Blind Golf Player in 1999. Our sympathy goes to his parents and all members of the family.

FLYDAY THE 13TH!

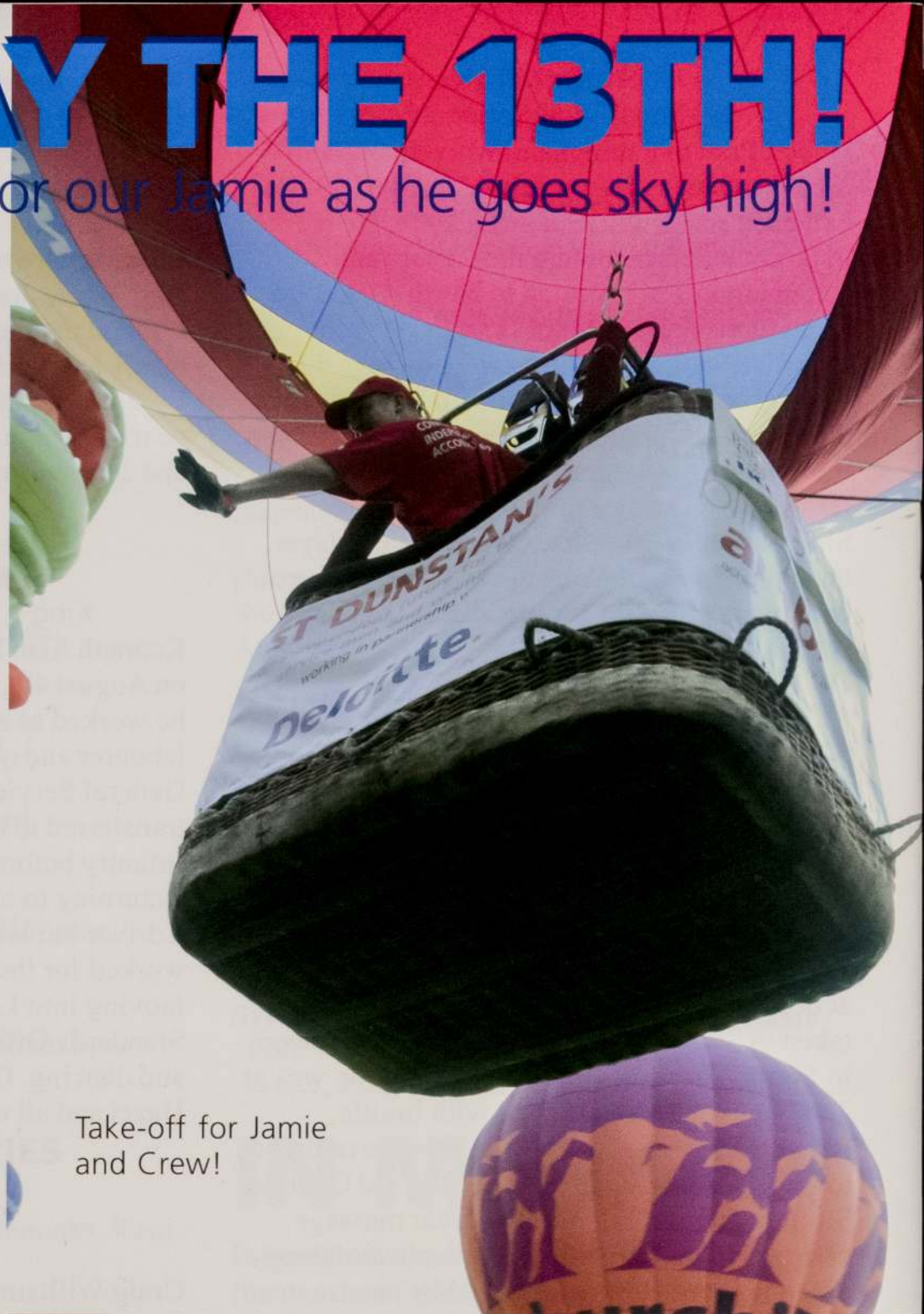
No fear of flying for our Jamie as he goes sky high!

by Simon Rogers

WHEN HE WAS in the Navy, Jamie Weller always had an eye on the sky. "I just love flying, I always have," he said. "Working with Sea Harriers, I just really liked aviation." Jamie rekindled that interest at IKEA's International Balloon Festival in Bristol on Friday August 13th when St Dunstan's balloon was one of 120 hot air flying craft to take to the skies. There were square, round, bulldog-shaped, jumbo jet-shaped balloons – even a giant piper with kilt and dagger!

Jamie had an active role in inflating the balloon. He started up the wind machine that drove air into the unfolded cloth on the grass and then followed that with a judicious series of flame bursts from the gas canister mounted in the basket.

"I went ballooning while on holiday in Tunisia, I've got about ten hours flying time – I need 16 to get my Pilot's Licence," said Jamie just before adding another hour to that total. Aided by pilot Sue Cardon, he guided the balloon 8km across Bristol, averaging heights of 500 to 1,000ft. "We flew parallel to the Clifton suspension bridge and then landed by an MoD site. We came in quite low. I guided it in and we came in fast and hard. It was quite bumpy and the basket tipped up. We came in going 'Weeee'! It was a wicked flight."



Take-off for Jamie and Crew!



Fire her up!