

St Dunstan's

July 2009

Review



Photo: Robin Jones, courtesy of Southampton Solent University

Happy Birthday, Dr Henry, 113

St Dunstan's Review

an independent future for blind ex-Service Men and Women

July 2009

No 992

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New readers start here:

Large print

St Dunstan's Review is available in a variety of accessible formats. The text in this large print copy is published using 16pt Myriad Pro on 20pt lead.

Braille

Also available in tactile form with the text rendered in British Braille.

MP3 Compact Disc

An audio version of the Review comes on an MP3CD. It is produced with Talking Book machines in mind but

can be used on players that are MP3 enabled. The ROVI on Duty can advise on RNIB Talking Book machines such as the Plectalk or Victor Classic devices. Telephone 01273 391447 or e-mail rovianduty@st-dunstans.org.uk. The Sony D-NE240 is a useful domestic alternative from high street stores. Your readers this month are David Castleton and Valerie Tomalin.

E-mail and floppy-disc

The Review can also be sent as a Word document by e-mail. This is also available on floppy-disc for computer users.

If you wish to change Review format, or combinations thereof, contact Simon Rogers on 020 7616 7934 or e-mail simon.rogers@st-dunstans.org.uk.

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Cover Story



Photograph: Robin Jones, courtesy of Southampton Solent University

St Dunstaner Henry Allingham, Europe's oldest man was presented with an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering from Southampton Solent University at Warsash Maritime Academy on 22 May. Henry, who was approaching his 113th birthday received the doctorate from the University's Chancellor, Admiral the Lord West of Spithead, GCB, former First Sea Lord, for his contribution to Britain and its allies during two world wars, and his continuing charity work, especially connected with veteran Service men and women. Also at the ceremony were Professor Glyn Tonge, Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor Van Gore. "We are delighted to be honouring Henry. As well as his service to Britain during two world wars and beyond the engineering field, Henry is the public face of war veterans and much-loved by all who meet him," said Professor Van Gore. A report on Henry's birthday is on page 25.

St Dunstan's Calendar

JULY

Writers Forum Weekend	2-5
History Week	12-18
Royal Marines Concert	15
Golf (III)	18-19
HMS Sultan	31-8 Aug

AUGUST

HMS Sultan	Until 8
Writers Forum	1
London Triathlon	1-2
Race Week	2-8
VJ Day	15
Golf (IV) (Captain's Day)	15-16
Sports & Activities Week	23-29
Archery Club (III)	29-Sept 6

SEPTEMBER

Writers Forum	5
Golf (V)	12-13
RMA Lympstone	26-27
Physiotherapist Weekend	25-28
Computer Club (II)	30-Oct 1

OCTOBER

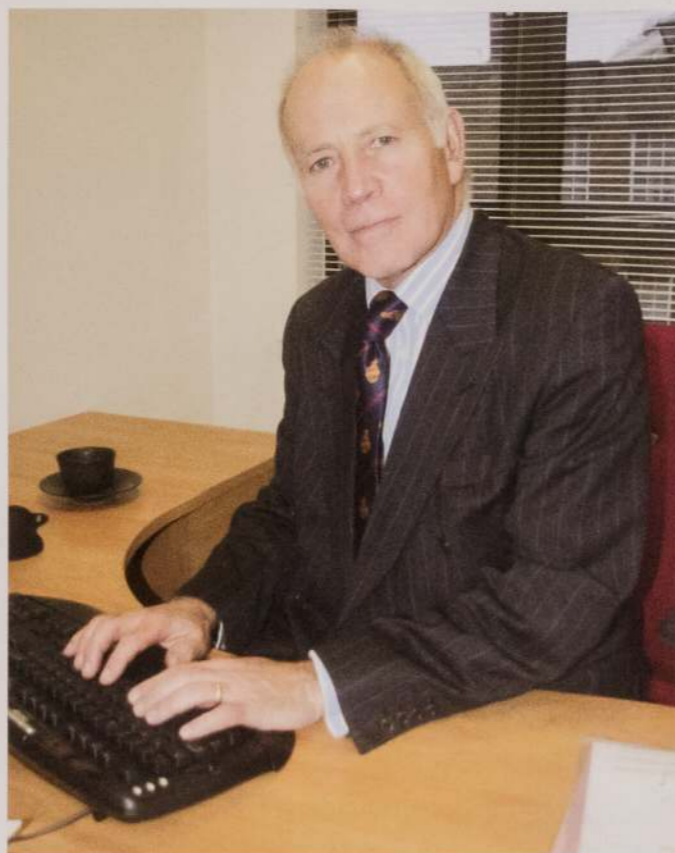
Amateur Radio (II)	2-9
Writers Forum	3
Great North Run	4
World Sight Day	8
RM Commando Challenge	10-11
Widows' Week (II)	11-17
Golf (VI)	17-18
Trafalgar Day	21
Bowling Club (II)	25- 7 November
Great South Run	25

Your message from St Dunstan's Chairman, Andrew Keeling

From the Chairman

This is definitely my favourite time of the year, particularly during such a spell of lovely weather. Let's hope that all this sun is just the start of a memorable summer, and that we have many warm days and balmy evenings ahead of us. As a confirmed optimist that's what I have planned anyway.

I was in North Wales for a week with some of my family over the recent school half-term. We did a couple of walks up Snowdon ("Why not take the train?" I hear you say) which was fabulous. I've never been up there on a clear day before but this time the sky was totally cloud-free, the sun was hot and you could see for miles. There were literally hundreds of people sitting on the grass around the summit munching their sandwiches and soaking up the experience. It looked more like a crowded beach than the top of UK's second highest mountain. While we certainly didn't get a feeling of solitude, it was good to see so many people enjoying the sense of achievement of being there and being able to revel in the moment.



Photograph: Simon Rogers

Meanwhile the world still seems to be a little on the topsy-turvy side. I suppose it always has been, and probably always will be, but it does all appear to be a little close to home at present. So I have been particularly grateful for the warm sun and the clear air to remind me of the really important things in life, and they make me feel good. I hope you feel the same.

Noticeboard



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

ST DUNSTAN'S REACCREDITED AS AN INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

DEDICATED TO GIVING YOU THE BEST: St Dunstan's has been accredited as an Investor in People for the third time. The UK's leading people management standard, Investors in People provides a simple and flexible framework helping thousands organisations of all sizes and sectors to improve their business performance. It aims to encourage a motivated, informed and competent staff, developed to their full potential, which in the case of the charity has the underlying objective of producing a better service for St Dunstaners, widows and widowers. St Dunstan's Chief Executive Robert Leader expressed his delight at the news and congratulations followed from St Dunstan's Trustee Lord Low of Dalston. The charity originally achieved the standard in March 2002.

NOTIFY WELFARE AND GRANTS DEPT OF ADDRESS CHANGES

PLEASE KEEP US UP TO DATE: We would like to remind St Dunstaners to let us know of any relevant changes in their circumstances, such as change of address or telephone number. Any changes should be notified to the Welfare and Grants department at St Dunstan's HQ on 020 7723 5021 or by e-mail sending details of any change to DataChanges@st-dunstans.org.uk.

FOUNDER'S DAY AWARDS

CELEBRATE ST DUNSTAN'S BEST: Your nominations for the best achievements of St Dunstaners, other members of St Dunstan's Family, and volunteers are wanted for the 2010 Founder's Day Awards.

Full rules were published in the May issue of St Dunstan's Review and nomination forms can be obtained from the President's Office, by telephone on 020 7723 5021, or by writing to Ray Hazan, President, St Dunstan's, 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD.

DERBY WIN FOR ANDY

REVIEW SWEEPSTAKE RESULTS: Sea The Stars became the first horse since 1989 to follow a win in the 2,000 Guineas with victory at the Epsom Derby. It was also the third Derby win for jockey Mick Kinane. The stunning run on 6 June was good news for St Dunstaner Andy Allott of Hadlow, Kent who had drawn that horse in the St Dunstan's Review Derby Sweepstake. Andy won the first prize of £249.20.

St Dunstaner David Stevenson of Wimborne, Dorset drew the favourite Fame and Glory which came second, winning him £99.68. Next over the line was Masterofthehorse which won the £49.84 third prize for St Dunstaner Robert Cotton of Brighton.

The Starters' Prize, £99.68, was shared amongst St Dunstaners and widows who had drawn one of the other nine horses that ran in the race. It was divided between Catherine Androlia of Great Barr, Birmingham, West Midlands, Arthur Beard of Hartlepool, Cleveland, Robert Beswick, MBE of Southgate, London, Bill Kennedy of Walton, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, Doris Matthews of Trowell, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, Mary Quinn of West Tanfield, Ripon, North Yorkshire, Fred Simpson of Chorley, Lancashire, Gerald Wheeler of Frome, Somerset, and Olive Workman of Tewksbury, Gloucestershire.

CRYSTAL GOLF ANNIVERSARY

A HOLE FOR EVERY YEAR: In October, it will be 15 years since the foundation of St Dunstan's Golf Club. It has blossomed since the founder members, Iain Millard, Des Chandler, Craig Neller, Arthur Carter, and Steve Sparkes worked tirelessly to get the club up and running. It would be a pity to see all their hard work go unrecognised. Has anyone got suggestions on how we should celebrate the occasion?

The Captain's Day is on 16 August and will be played at Rusper Golf Club. Please support your Captain, John Powell. The St Dunstan's Golf Club AGM will be at Sim Lounge, formerly known as Golf Addiction at Brighton Marina on 18 October, and will follow the same format as last year with the October Festival. Main items on the agenda will be to elect a new Secretary and Organiser. Donald Oliver will be 75 years old by the time of the next Invitation Day, and although he is willing to stay on as Treasurer and Handicap Secretary, he will no longer have the energy to continue with organising the events.

I am also finding it difficult to continue as Secretary. So, is there anybody out there who will be willing to take on the role of Secretary?

Please send all other items for the agenda to the Secretary.

We have been invited to play a golf match at Northwood Golf Club in Middlesex. Those wishing to play please contact the Treasurer on 02392 582698. This year we have had other invites, but as yet no-one has volunteered to attend on behalf of the Golf Club. Does anyone want to play at Northwood? If not, we shall have to decline.

Les Trout,
Secretary

MORE HELP FOR UNSUNG ARMY OF CARERS

HELPLINE FOR THE HELPERS: A one-stop information and advice service for the unsung army of carers who look after ill, frail or disabled friends and relatives was officially launched last month by Care Services Minister Phil Hope. The Carers Direct hotline hopes to make life easier for five million carers.

Carers Direct comprises a website, www.nhs.uk/carersdirect, and helpline, freephone 0808 802 0202 which is open 08:00-21:00, Mon-Fri, 11-16:00, Sat-Sun and Bank Holidays.

Carers Direct is complemented by Caring with Confidence (www.caringwithconfidence.net) which is a training course available to carers face-to-face, online and by distance learning. Caring with Confidence informs carers of their rights, the services available to them and networks which might support them.

MOBILE SIGHT LOSS UNIT

ON THE ROAD: Action for Blind People's Mobile Sight Loss Information Service will be in Lancashire and Kent during the week commencing 6 July. Then from 27 July, they will be in the Northumberland and Bedfordshire areas. Each location can be confirmed online at www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk or by calling their helpline on 0800 915 4666 nearer the time.

DRAG BELINDA OUT TO HEAR PRISCILLA ON LONDON STAGE

AUDIO DESCRIPTION ON STAGE: *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* at London's Palace Theatre has an AD performance on 10 September at 14:30. This show won four-star reviews and brings 25 dance floor classic songs and 500 costumes into a high feel good story with a serious side. Based on the Oscar winning film it stars Jason Donovan. The performance has occasional coarse language and adult themes. Tickets are £30 reduced from £59, the booking line is 0844 412 4648 or e-mail customer.relations@seetickets.com.

Willy Russell's tale of twins, *Blood Brothers* will be performed with AD at the Churchill Theatre, Bromley on 27 August, 19:45-22:35. The box office line is 0871 297 5477.

TAKING THE HASSLE OUT OF PRESCRIPTIONS

FREE NHS REPEAT PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY SERVICE: A new service offers patients the opportunity to get their medicines without leaving home. Pharmacy2U will work by e-mail or telephone to request repeat prescriptions from your doctor then deliver them to your home or work. Pharmacy2U is an NHS pharmacy specialising in the home delivery of medicine, using the Royal Mail Recorded Delivery and Special Delivery services. When registered with Pharmacy2U, they contact you when the prescription is due, request the prescription electronically and obtain your doctor's approval, then dispense and deliver the medicine to an address of your choice. More details can be obtained online at www.pharmacy2u.co.uk or by telephoning 0845 803 9033. If you claim exemption from payment of NHS prescriptions, you may be required to provide proof when applying. No proof is required for over-60s.

STAFF CHANGES

Louise Glossop, Centre Administrator at St Dunstan's Sheffield left the charity last month to work at the local University. She was a member of the initial team at the training centre when it opened in 2005 and we wish her all the best for the future.

MORE CONTROL OF SERVICES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

CONSULTATION: The Office for Disability Issues has launched a national consultation that could dramatically change the way every disabled person lives their life. *Right to Control* is heralded as a shake up of the way disabled people can use state funding. The policy forms part of the Government's welfare reforms and aims to enshrine in legislation the principle that disabled people are the experts in their own lives and have the right to choice and control over their support.

Under the new scheme, disabled people will be able to choose who delivers their services and how they receive them. They can have as much or as little control as they wish and could choose to spend the money on a wide range of support to help them to live their lives with greater independence.

For example, public bodies may currently only be able to offer a limited choice of services, such as access to a day centre and a specific employment programme. In the future, a disabled person could decide to employ someone directly to help them with work, home and leisure activities. They could decide to keep things the way they are, or have a mixture of both.

Disabled people and their organisations are being asked to help shape this initiative by taking part in the

consultation. The scheme will be tested in "trailblazer" areas in England from 2010 for an initial period of 2-3 years.

Individuals and organisations can take part in the consultation by visiting www.odi.gov.uk/right-to-control or calling 020 7449 5093.

NEW DIRECTOR AT ODI

CAMPAIGNING FOR EQUALITY: Tim Cooper has been appointed new Director at the Office for Disability Issues. Profoundly deaf since birth, he has 25 years experience of the disability sector. The Office for Disability Issues was set up in December 2007 to work towards equality for disabled people. It works with all government departments to help them understand and meet the needs and aspirations of disabled people.

DIGITAL RADIO SCHEME MAY LEAVE BLIND BEHIND

RNIB CONCERN AT CARTER REPORT: A move from analogue to DAB radio may leave people with sight problems left out of Britain's digital revolution if steps are not taken to assist in the switchover, say The Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB). They were responding to proposals laid out last month in the Digital Britain report from Communications Minister Lord Carter.

Radio is repeatedly cited as one of the most important pastimes by blind people and continued access to it is vital, says the RNIB. While Lord Carter's report leaves room for further discussion around a help scheme similar to that used for the switchover to digital television, they believe such a scheme is absolutely essential.

The report suggests that all technical criteria for migration to digital radio should be complete by 2015. RNIB is calling on the government to provide a scheme to help people with sight problems in making the transition.

The Digital Britain report also states that DAB is the medium of consumer choice, but the RNIB feel steps will be required to ensure DAB equipment meets the needs of people with sight and dexterity problems. They are calling for a help scheme to provide equipment to this effect, and for a usability standard mark to be provided on all products.

Research recently commissioned by the RNIB showed that nearly 70 per cent of people with sight problems need ongoing help to use digital radios without voice output. The results also showed that many people felt significant improvements could be made with simple design changes. Features such as larger buttons of a different, contrasting colour to the casing and larger display screens also prove popular with sighted customers.

WESTMINSTER SHAKE-UP

NEW FACES IN DEFENCE, HEALTH AND WORK: The Rt Hon Bob Ainsworth, MP was appointed Secretary of State for Defence in last month's Cabinet re-shuffle. He takes over from the Rt Hon John Hutton who is leaving Parliament at the next election.

Harlow MP Bill Rammell succeeds Mr Ainsworth as Minister of State for the Armed Forces. The Rt Hon Lord Drayson becomes Minister of State for Strategic Defence Acquisition Reform.

Kevan Jones, MP remains Minister for Veterans, Quentin Davies, MP remains Minister for Defence Equipment and Support and The Rt Hon Baroness Taylor remains Minister for International Defence and Security.

The Rt Hon Yvette Cooper, MP for Pontefract and Castleford became Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. Jonathan Shaw, MP remains Minister for Disabled People and Lord McKenzie of Luton remains Parliamentary Under Secretary (Lords).

South Dorset MP Jim Knight became Minister of State for Employment and Welfare Reform. Angela Eagle, MP for Wallasey, was named Minister of State for Pensions and Ageing Society, while Helen Goodman, MP for Bishop Auckland, became Parliamentary Under Secretary (Commons).

At the Department of Health The Rt Hon Andy Burnham, MP for Leigh, became Secretary of State for Health. He has previously worked with David Blunkett. North Warwickshire MP Mike O'Brien was named Minister of State for Health. Lincoln MP Gillian Merron became Minister of State for Public Health.

Phil Hope, MP remains Minister of State for Care Services, Professor the Lord Darzi of Denham, KBE remains Parliamentary Secretary of State and Ann Keen, MP remains Under Secretary for Health Services.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT FOR NUCLEAR TEST VETERANS

RESEARCH PLANNED: An assessment of the health needs of nuclear test veterans and their descendants will be conducted by the MOD, Veterans Minister Kevan Jones has announced. Representatives of the British Nuclear Test Veterans Association will join MOD experts and MPs to form a working group designed to finalise details of the study. It is hoped that the project will be underway by the end of the year. Between 1952 and 1958, the UK conducted 21 atmospheric nuclear tests in Australia, and at Malden Island and Christmas Island in the Pacific Ocean. Some 28,000 UK Service personnel were involved in the test programme.

A selection of your comments drawn from The Editor's postbag

Letters to the Editor

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

Clinical Care rating is well deserved

In February this year, in considerable pain, I was referred to the Royal United Hospital for tests. They sent me back to my GP recommending a course of antibiotics, which produced no improvement.

After this happened a second time, my family insisted and badgered the RUH for a scan which was duly carried out, resulting in emergency surgery that same day.

I was very unhappy with the level of care following my operation. All the more so as I found that the staff were not at all sympathetic towards a totally blind person.

St Dunstan's took me down to Ovingdean for intensive nursing. I thank

Jackie Greer and all her staff for their work and care. With my daughters, I battled with my surgery and the RUH to ensure a similar incident was not repeated and to receive an apology. These were forthcoming eventually.

So it was with great joy that I listened to the June issue of the Review and heard that St Dunstan's had got top marks and a grading of excellent for Clinical Care in the Quality Care Review conducted by Brighton and Hove City Primary Care Trust.

This completely bears out my feelings about St Dunstan's professional expertise and their touch of tender loving care. They deserve all the praise they get and I thank them all very much.

**Clifford Gower,
Westbury, Wiltshire**

In Memory of Alex

It is with great sadness that we heard that Alex Scott, husband of archer Marjorie Scott passed away during Archery Week. Our condolences and thoughts go to Marjorie and her family.

**St Dunstan's
Archery Club**

Keep looking forward in life

I much appreciated the article in the June St Dunstan's Review on memories of Gallipoli. It was a dreadful incident in the First World War but somehow not often referred to when such atrocities are mentioned. My father served in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was posted there. He was wounded and said that they had to withdraw when only seven miles

inshore but had no military back-up. They had to march back to the coast. Poles were erected all along the area with a balloon on top.

As each pole was cleared of troops the balloon was burst. He said that as there were no roads they filled the shell holes up with dead bodies first. When I asked him if he felt guilty walking over dead bodies, as we had always been taught never to even put a foot on a grave, he explained that he was a stretcher case and his pals carried him.

When they reached the coast he said the sea ran red with blood. Eventually, he was then taken to St Thomas's Hospital, London and spent six weeks there. King George V and Queen Mary visited the hospital. The King sat at the side of the bed and said to my grandfather, "You must be very proud of your son." His reply was "Would you be pleased if it was your son lying there in that state?"

Several weeks later, The Duke of Connaught, uncle to the King, visited the hospital. My father had been passing time by embroidering The Royal Warwickshire emblem of the stag in blue and gold colour thread on to linen. He asked the Duke if he would sign it at the bottom so that it could be embroidered over. The Duke then asked to give the history of the regiment first, after which he signed it on the left hand side at the bottom. He said he would send in the silk to be used. Next day there was quite a disturbance as the thread was delivered and handled first from a Principal, then in turn to the Matron and the rest of the staff in order of seniority until it reached the nurse who gave it to my father.

She asked if she could have three or four inches as a souvenir but he told her if she waited until he had finished using it she could have what was left. There was just over

a yard remaining and he discovered it was cut up into small pieces so that all those who had handled its delivery had their souvenir. When he was finally discharged, he attended a medical board along with another patient. They were both deemed fit for return to further service. His companion explained he had no sight in one eye but was very curtly told "You have another one haven't you?" My father was then posted to France where he was eventually gassed.

He never enjoyed good health after that and was almost a physical wreck. Every winter he had to have a bed downstairs in our front room, with a fire burning, keeping a kettle boiling at all times to ease his breathing. In the summer months he did a bit of window cleaning but life was not easy as there was no help at that time like there is today.

When we were bombed out in 1942, we piled what we could salvage

from our house on to a small borrowed handcart and two small suitcases. As the four of us walked away my father flung his war medals into the gutter. I stopped and picked them up and he shook me like a rat and said "That's all finished," then pointed ahead and said "That's the way we are going, never look back. And remember we have a lot to be thankful for, we are all alive -they are still digging out the poor blighters over there." Today, I never look back, but those medals are my most treasured possession -yet my own mean nothing to me! I do think the sentiments expressed by David Morris are very enlightening.

**Mabel Haynes,
Nuneaton,
Warwickshire**

Great day at Chichester

We enjoyed our first Reunion lunch so much and thank St Dunstan's for their wonderful hospitality and for the transport. The

menu was excellent and all the care and dedication to make the occasion such a happy one was very much appreciated. I even managed to win the lovely flowers from our table.

**John and Shirley Roberts,
Felpham, West Sussex**

A wonderful day

I am writing on behalf of my wife, Rita, who is partially-sighted, to express her great appreciation of the wonderful day we at the Millstream Hotel. Please convey her appreciation to all who participated in the organisation.

**George Copeman,
Pulborough, West Sussex**

Tranquil venue

Thank you once again for a really enjoyable lunch at the Millstream Hotel. It was a lovely tranquil venue, the weather was perfect and St Dunstan's staff arranged everything beautifully. Thank you also for arranging our transport.

**Frances and Arthur
Blackwood,
Midhurst, West Sussex**

• These are just three of the comments received following the West Sussex Reunion. We have more details on that and other gatherings this year in Reunion 09 on page 37.

Penny for the blind?

I am so proud of being a St Dunstaner, and I have had the privilege of representing our unique and amazing organisation to the general public, demonstrating and showing what our organisation strives to achieve in order to help us blinded servicemen and women live normal and fulfilling lives.

This is done with dignity and pride, and giving something back to society in general. Many various groups, clubs, organisations, schools and the public that meet us St Dunstaners give donations freely as a result of us showing skills we have learnt, hearing about our lives, and seeing presentations, or taking part in events,

such as public shows and the Cadet Challenges. I am a proud man, and feel like I have earned the merit of public donations by giving them something in return for their hard earned money. This makes me feel better in many ways.

Why am I ranting on like this? Well it is this. Listening to the June Review, I hear that Fundraising want volunteers and St Dunstaners to stand on street corners rattling donation tins. To add to my horror, if this is not bad enough, but actually doing this on our own doorstep on the streets of Brighton.

What sets our charity apart from the rest is our dignity and discrete way of fundraising, as I have already mentioned above. Our founder Sir Arthur, would be appalled in hearing what we are doing, going against what he tried to avoid, in ridding blinded servicemen begging in the streets.

We have an army of staff in our Fundraising department, and it seems we are going backwards and trying to reinvent the wheel, and making it square. What next, do we get issued a tray of Lucifer matches or flowers and go the whole hog?

"OK Mr Baxter, give us a solution," I hear you cry. So here is an idea. Our national training centre at Ovingdean is an amazing building, and the work the staff and St Dunstaners do there is truly fantastic. So why not show ourselves off - an open day, inviting the general public in to see our work, and have a fete in the grounds! Stalls selling cakes and food prepared and made in our training kitchens, by St Dunstaners and staff, craft demonstrations, games again made by St Dunstaners, using our resources, showing the public what we do, all our sports and activities, people meeting us in our centre, and learning about what happens in that lovely building

on the hill. How do we obtain funds? Gate fee and donation tins discreetly placed around the fete on various stands and stalls, and of course what we can raise by selling cakes and gifts, etc. Just an idea, and I for one am willing to help out with this idea. So come on guys lets get our thinking caps on, and think how we all can muck in, and retain our dignity.

**Billy Baxter,
Ely, Cambridge**

• I read Billy's letter with interest and was particularly struck by his statement "What sets our charity apart from the rest is our dignity and discrete way of fundraising" **writes St Dunstan's Chief Executive Robert Leader.**

He is right that in 2004 we deliberately adopted a much lower profile for our fundraising in order to respond to Charity Commission guidance and the concerns of other ex-Service organisations, but St Dunstan's has continued to help more

and more people and with interest rates at their current levels and many of our donors facing an uncertain future we need to change.

The worldwide economic crisis has changed the way in which many organisations have to do business in order to survive. Charities like St Dunstan's are not immune from what has happened in the rest of the world.

The 15 staff (hardly an army Billy!) in the Fundraising department currently raise £55,000 per day, which is a fantastic amount, but we need to raise at least £100,000 per day to run St Dunstan's in its current form. We have to increase our efforts to generate income and publicise our need for public support and funds. This is essential if we are to continue to accept more blind ex-Service men and women to become St Dunstaners and to provide them with the promised life long support.

There is no pressure on anybody to become involved in Community Fundraising but there is a lot of enthusiasm for it and we are receiving tremendous support from many St Dunstaners and members of the public who have volunteered to help. If we can achieve a fraction of the support that the Poppy Appeal generates each November, it would be truly wonderful.

With regard to the idea of an Open Day at St Dunstan's Ovingdean I am happy to report that there is already a staff initiative underway to organise a fete, or something similar, in September as part

of the Community Fundraising initiative. We shall however need to be careful to maintain the privacy of those for whom St Dunstan's Ovingdean is their home.

I can assure Billy and all St Dunstaners that we will continue in our endeavour to raise sufficient funds to support both current and future generations of St Dunstaners. Our founder, Sir Arthur Pearson, was a very successful businessman and I am confident that he would be applauding the steps we are taking to secure the future of this great organisation that he founded almost ninety-five years ago.

Congratulations, Scott

A TEENAGE CADET who excelled at fundraising for St Dunstan's was honoured in May at a ceremony at Hillsborough Castle. Cadet Sergeant Scott Robinson, aged 17, became Lord Lieutenant's Cadet for the City of Londonderry. The ceremonial role will see him attend Lord Lieutenants on major civic occasions. He raised the largest amount of money in Lisneal Detachment when they completed St Dunstan's Cadet Challenge.

Balancing the Books

Ted Bunting on the sordid fall of a silent screen star

The Day The Laughter Stopped

Author: David Yallop

Reader: Jon Cartwright

Duration: 12 hours, six minutes

Catalogue no. 9495

Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle was a plump but remarkably agile comedian star of the silent screen who began his cinema career with Mack Sennett's Keystone Cops. A little later he founded the production company that launched Buster Keaton, but just as his talents were beginning to bring fame and fortune he was accused of the rape and murder of an actress. Abruptly, the laughter stopped. If, somehow, you are familiar with the case you will know that after three trials, he was eventually acquitted, exonerated indeed, but by that time the damage had been done. It has taken a generation and more, but here in this extremely informative book which I heartily recommend, David Yallop has uncovered the facts and proved Arbuckle's complete innocence. How and why the charges were ever pressed is something of a mystery. The damning statements made by a second actress were

completely fictitious but they were accepted by the state prosecutor and the media. From that moment on Arbuckle's career was ruined. Without waiting for a "guilty" verdict, his films were banned and needless to say, his talent had no chance of further development, which must represent a loss to us all. Why do the public delight so in the downfall of the great? Here is not only an example of mud sticking when it is thrown; it is also a sad story born of spite.

This book contains some passages of a sexual nature which may be considered offensive by some readers.

Softcover Henry

THE BIOGRAPHY of St Dunstaner Henry Allingham is now available from all good bookshops in paperback, priced £7.99. *Kitchener's Last Volunteer: The Life of Henry Allingham, the Oldest Surviving Veteran of the Great War* by Henry Allingham and Dennis Goodwin proved a surprise hit in hardback for Mainstream Publishing. However, an audio version has yet to be scheduled. A report on Henry's 113th birthday follows on page 25.

Ten questions on...

The subject of Insects

Can you tell your creepies from your crawlies in **Harry Beevers'** latest quiz

- 1) Meganeura was a giant insect of the Carboniferous Period with a wing-span up to 2.5 feet. Believed to have been the largest insect ever, what did it resemble?
- 2) Which insect inspired a composition by the Russian composer Rimsky-Korsakov?
- 3) Name the larvae of a butterfly?
- 4) The Two-spot and Seven-spot are species of which type of beetle?
- 5) Some members of which insect family raid colonies of similar species in order to acquire slaves?
- 6) Which London Rugby Union club, named after an insect, won the 2004 European RU Cup?
- 7) Which European city's professional soccer team is known as the Grasshoppers?
- 8) Which butterfly having deep maroon wings with a row of blue spots and an edging of cream takes its name from the district of London where it was first recorded in 1748?
- 9) Rhea, Ben, Russell and Adam were characters in which 70's and 80's sitcom?
- 10) Which common decorative name is used for the orange and black butterfly generally recognized as being the most widespread butterfly in the world?

Answers can be found on page 41.



Photograph copyright NMA

Prince at NMA

HRH PRINCE William paid his respects to two friends killed on active service when he visited the National Memorial Arboretum on 24 April. He spent a private moment remembering fallen comrades, Second Lieutenant Jo Dyer and Captain Lex Roberts, who are among recent names to be engraved at the memorial.

Prince William also met St Dunstaner Corporal Simon Brown, who was hit by a sniper's bullet in Basra in December 2006.

He also launched an £8 million appeal to expand the NMA's infrastructure and enable it to become a world-renowned centre for remembrance. A new education facility, pavilion and central space for major memorial services are amongst plans for the Arboretum.

Penny receives Birthday honour after local acclaim

A ST DUNSTANER has been feted in The Queen's Birthday Honours for her work championing the rights of disabled people, particularly in the workplace. Penny Melville-Brown of Fareham, Hampshire was made an OBE (Order of the British Empire) for services to disabled and disadvantaged people. The honour was announced on 13 June, Her Majesty The Queen's official birthday.

"It's delightful to have the work of the last ten years recognised," Penny told the Review. "What's more delightful is that it has been instigated by my local community who felt that my work merited recognition. They did all the research for the citation. It wasn't just some anonymous committee and that galvanises me to do more."



Photograph copyright Disability Dynamics

The first female Naval Barrister, Penny was one of only ten female Commanders in the Royal Navy in 1996. Since losing her sight, she has been Chairman of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Learning & Skills Centre, has worked with the Cabinet Office on disability projects, and has been an equality adviser to the Ministry of Defence, HM Revenue & Customs, Department for Work and Pensions, and University for Industry. She has also represented St Dunstan's and the UK at the World Blind

Union. More recently, the organisers of the 2012 Olympics have benefited from her advice.

"My work is wide ranging and much of it is in the strategic and policy areas, but it does make a difference to individual people in their daily lives and that is important to me," said Penny.

Since 2000, she has run Disability Dynamics, a consultancy providing businesses with specialist knowledge of disability and diversity in the workplace.



Photograph: Johnny Green/PA

By George, that's grand

Howard Minors, the Chairman of the St George's Day Club presented a cheque for £30,000 to Chief Executive Robert Leader on 18 May. Mr Minors and other members of the club visited St Dunstan's Ovingdean to learn more about the work of the charity at close hand. The club members had raised the donation on 23 April after Robert spoke at their annual meeting when 1,700 dined in the Great Room in Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London. The group has its origins some 30 years ago when four friends met for a meal on St George's Day.

OBE for former Chairman



CAPTAIN MICHAEL GORDON-LENNOX, RN of Midhurst, West Sussex was made an OBE by Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace on 2 June. He received the honour in recognition of services to blind Service men and women.

Captain Gordon-Lennox was Chairman of St Dunstan's from 1998 to 2008 through a period of change and expansion. Changes to the constitution allowed the Charity to offer support to many more visually impaired people from within the Armed Forces community.

Recently he and his wife Jenny returned to St Dunstan's Ovingdean



Photograph copyright Bill Lyth

where he was presented with a carved sculpture depicting boats at sea. It was made by St Dunstaners Morris Dixon, Dave Thomas, John Watt, Frank Tinsley, Patricia Thompson, George Tompsett and the late Harry Bell.

St Dunstaners explore noise of art

by Sarah Jarron

TWELVE ST DUNSTANERS visited the University of Brighton School of Art's annual Undergraduate Degree Show on 9 June. They were able to view, touch and listen to exhibits from all of the arts courses studied there. St Dunstaners also met some of the students responsible and were able to discuss their work, motives and techniques. The show embraced work from fashion, textiles, 3D design, 3D materials practice, painting, photography, sculpture, digital music and sound art, as well as performance and visual art. Joyce Charlton of Hangleton, East Sussex listened to an interactive sound piece from digital music and sound arts. The installation involved a series of glass bowls that were attached electronically to some headphones. Noises made by tapping or touching the bowls with various tools and were transmitted and distorted to the headphones. The trip



We have harmonies that you have not! Joyce Charlton experiments with sound

proved very inspiring for St Dunstaners and staff from the Craft Workshop with various ideas for sculptures and furniture design being planned and discussed on the way home.

May tee for St Dunstaners at Rusper

ST DUNSTAN'S GOLF Club returned to their spiritual home of Rusper Golf Club on 16-17 May for their monthly medal competition. Support was slight for the occasion, but those

present entered into the fray with gusto.

The Winner of the May Medal was Graham Johnson of Maybush, Southampton, Hampshire, with John

Nunney of Peacehaven, East Sussex coming second. Club Captain John Powell of Woodingdean, East Sussex came third and Andy Allot of Hadlow, Kent took fourth place.

Mike is the Greater Glaswegian

ST DUNSTANER Mike Mayo, 46, of Lesmahagow, Lanark won the Scottish Blind Golf Society's Greater Glasgow Classic at Wishar Golf Club on 14 May.

"Things were looking up!" said Mike. "This is my local event and Wishar was in first class condition. We had a great day and once again Bill Routledge was superb. We went out in 40, back in 40, had three birdies, I nearly canned a seven-iron and even had a treble bogie 7 at 16. We finished strong with two pars to finish two under par 67. We won the event by five shots."

There were 18 visually impaired golfers taking part in the Greater Glasgow Classic including St Dunstaner Ally Reid of Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire who came ninth, with a score of 78.

However, tables were reversed ten days later



Bill Routledge and St Dunstaner Mike Mayo.

when Ally and Anne Reid won the Tayside Classic at Downfield Golf Club on 24 May. They had a score of 34 points. There were 19 visually impaired golfers playing and Mike came tenth with a score of 25.

The 2009 British Blind Open was held at Hamilton Golf Club, Ferniegair, Hamilton, Lanarkshire on 7-11 June.

Forty-two players from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Eire, Canada, Holland, Israel

and France took part and there were observers from Australia. The overall winner was Scotland's Cameron McDiarmid, while Italy's Chiara Pozzi Giacosa won the B1 category. Ally Reid came 11th while Mike Mayo came 15th.

With the Masters coming up in August and the World Championship coming to the UK in 2010, there are many competitive opportunities for visually impaired golfers.

War Blind in Roman forum

Direct from Italy, **Ray Hazan** reports on the 14th International Conference of War Blind Organisations

THE INTERNATIONAL Conference of War Blind Organisations (IKK) was founded in 1965 as a forum for War Blind organisations to exchange knowledge and experiences, compare pension rights and levels, arrange reciprocal visits, and provide assistance and or training to each other. Among the founding bodies were Germany, France and the United Kingdom.

The IKK meet every three years and the fourteenth conference took place in Rome from 18-22 May. Nine countries were represented, including Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Romania, United States, South Africa, Philippines and United Kingdom. Russia, Canada and Sri Lanka were unable to attend.

Rome sweltered in 32 degrees centigrade of heat, with the noise, bustle and fumes of a capital city adding to the mix. Into this, dressed in suit, collar and tie, we attended a brief wreath laying

ceremony at the Italian National War Memorial; this is always a moving act as former enemies, linked by the common bond of blindness, now stand side-by-side in silent tribute to fallen comrades. The conference itself took place in a pleasant and modern parliamentary conference hall with its air conditioning, interpreting booths and PA system.

The reports we heard were not always encouraging. Only the United States and the United Kingdom are taking in non war blind

ex-military personnel, so extending their services and the life of the organisation. France doubted whether their organisation would exist in three years time. Germany were re-structuring, which meant closing down their permanent office and trying to sell off their cure/holiday homes. Poland was no longer being funded by their government.

On the second day, the conference joined in the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Italian War Blind organisation (AICG). Many of their members had turned up to hear politicians address words of congratulation followed by a roll call of founder members of the AICG.

We were given the

afternoon off to explore Rome and also to try and work off some of the multi-course meals served up to us with typical Italian hospitality. This was also a good time to catch up with the other delegates in a shaded café with a much needed cold drink.

The final morning saw a brief comparison and discussion on pensions. This is a difficult exercise for one must take cost of living, exchange rates, etc into consideration. Unfortunately, insufficient time was left to discuss the future of the IKK apart from re-assessing in two year's time whether to hold the 15th conference in 2012.

More importantly, Neville Clarence of St Dunstan's South Africa was elected President, Ray Hazan (UK) as First Vice-President, Dieter Renelt (Germany) and Pierre Tricot (France) as Vice Presidents. Neville's youth and enthusiasm will hopefully bring fresh new impetus to the organisation.

Faithfull Service for 22yrs



St Dunstan's Maintenance Manager Jim Faithfull retired on 16 June after nearly 22 years with the charity. He told well-wishers that nothing would have been possible without the best team in the world, namely, Geoff Bateman, Ray Brooker, Terry Greenough and Ray Castle.

Midnight walk for Maria



Preston St Dunstaner Maria Pikulski (far left) was one of 15,000 bikini-clad beauties who stretched their legs in Hyde Park on the night of 16 May. She joined four friends, dubbed Tracey's Angels, to power walk 26-miles in the Playtex MoonWalk London in support of Breast Cancer. They started at 23:15 and finished at 07:20 on Sunday morning.

D-Day fallen remembered

Photograph copyright Barry Turner



THE SACRIFICE made by soldiers on the beaches of Normandy 65 years ago was marked by a service of Remembrance at the National Memorial Arboretum on 6 June. St Dunstaner Arthur Carter of Bolton, Lancashire carried the Charity's Standard with pride during the event which was bedevilled by intense rain. He was accompanied by Major Adrian Golland and they laid a wreath at the memorial dedicated to Normandy Veterans. Services were also held around the UK and Prince Charles joined veterans at commemorations held in France.

Kenilworth School do it again

Pupils at Kenilworth School and Sports College raised £500 to support St Dunstan's through a non-uniform day. It is the second time they have done this and former pupil St Dunstaner Eric Sayce was delighted to thank them on behalf of the Charity. Last year, some of their pupils attended a presentation at the NMA when St Dunstan's path was rededicated.



Photograph copyright Stan Bowers

Henry is world's oldest man!

Photographs: Simon Rogers



St Dunstaner Henry Allingham joined family and friends at RNVR base HMS President near Tower Bridge in London for a birthday celebration. A special cake was delivered by Lt Andy Pugsley and a speedboat team from Royal Marine Reserve Bermondsey. Henry cut the cake with ceremonial sword with help from Rear Admiral Charlier and HMS Sultan's youngest recruit AET Claire Parker.

GREAT WAR Veteran Henry Allingham is now believed to be the world's oldest man. He celebrated his 113th birthday on 6 June with his family at HMS *President*. Rear Admiral Simon Charlier, Head of the Fleet Air Arm, the modern successor to the Royal Naval Air Service was the senior officer present. Henry was piped aboard and his cake was

delivered by speedboat. A helicopter performed a flypast trailing a white ensign. Henry has five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, 14 great-great grandchildren and one great-great-great grandchild. There were further celebrations at Ovingdean on 8 June when he was visited by the Mayor of Brighton Cllr Ann Norman.



15 Troop give us a lift!

Colin Williamson reports on the Brighton-based ACF that went the distance to do their bit for St Dunstan's



Steve puts his feet up for a few miles.

Photographs: Simon Rogers



Did his feet ever touch the ground? Cadet Marley Wallace gets a gurney-style lift from Richard Kennard, much to the amusement of their comrades Leroy Weir and Ollie Daly. Left: St Dunstaner Matt Rhodes sets the pace through Shoreham.



RAF St Dunstaner Mansel Lewis congratulated 15 Troop as they arrived at St Dunstan's Ovingdean.



Well done 15 Troop! The cadets catch their breath before heading to the house.

BRIGHTON-BASED No 15 Troop, Sussex Army Cadet Force struck out on St Dunstan's Cadet Challenge on Saturday 30 May. The cadets had come up with the idea of pulling a gurney (a stretcher on wheels) with a dummy casualty, the 13.1 miles from Shoreham Fort to St Dunstan's National Centre at Ovingdean, taking in Brighton and Rottingdean en route.

They joined forces with St Dunstaners Steve Pendleton, Matt Rhodes, and Colin Williamson, his wife Brenda and St Dunstan's staff members Stan Bowers and Geraldine Plaw to participate in the 2009 Cadet Challenge competition. The walk

started at 09:20 with Steve and Matt setting a brisk pace with the gurney tucked in behind them.

The weather was superb, perhaps a little too hot for a half marathon walk, but it didn't deter the cadets who, under the watchful eye of adult

instructors Sergeant Dave Watson and Sergeant Phil Spooner, did themselves, the Army Cadet Force and the City of Brighton proud! Kitted out in red St Dunstan's t-shirts with their unit's name emblazoned on the back, the teenagers carried collecting buckets and tins throughout the walk. Along the seafront, through Hove, Brighton and Rottingdean, public generosity was on their side and they cheerfully collected £450.

The proud cadets entered the grounds of St Dunstan's Ovingdean, where they received a warm welcome and cheers of congratulation from a cadre of St Dunstaners and staff who had gathered at the main entrance. Relaxing in the Inner Garden, the cadets took the opportunity to chat with St Dunstaners such

as Mansel Lewis, Jessie McNulty, Bill Burrows and Morris Dixon.

There was a further round of applause as cadets, friends and families were joined by the Sussex County Commandant, Colonel John Baber, MBE who congratulated the cadets on a splendid performance.

John jumps!

PARA St Dunstaner John MacDonald of Canterbury, Kent jumped 12,000ft with his son and friends on 10 June. They made tandem parachute jumps in support of St Dunstan's. A full report will appear in the Review next issue.

Something for the Ladies



St Dunstaners Julia Walters, Eve Lucas, Kate Hands, Eileen Hose, Kathleen Hart, Ruby Stubbs, Jean Hiscock, Sally Diamond, and Sybil Unsworth toast good health.

ST DUNSTAN'S LADIES Group enjoyed a week of Pimms, pleasure and pampering at Ovingdean from 15-19 June. Events started with a Pimms Party at the beach hut at the bottom of the

Ovingdean cliffs. It was blessed with sunshine while the rest of the country endured rain and hail. Other activities included an introduction to reflexology with the aid of St Dunstaner Iain Millard, a shopping

trip to Eastbourne, a strawberry tea with live music in the Inner Garden, and a day trip to Hastings with Fish and Chip Supper. The week concluded with a gala dinner in the Winter Garden and evening bingo.

Personal best at Burnham

by Doug Rogers

TWO ST DUNSTAN'S Archers shot at Burnham on 17 May. Doug Rogers and Marjorie Scott and their spotters Ron Price and Wendy Jefferson were invited by The Worshipful Company of Fletchers to the shoot organised by The Royal Toxophilite Society.



Archers and Spotters: Doug Rogers, Wendy Jefferson, Marjorie Scott and Ron Price at the RTS shoot.

We could not shoot for the first hour as the weather was very bad, but when the sun came out it was all go," said Doug. "For the morning, that is!" After lunch, it

turned bad again, but Doug and Marjorie carried on with the help of Ron and Wendy. Both scored a personal best and received certificates.

The other archers had all kinds of disabilities and all coped tremendously well considering the weather. A good time was had by all.

Western return for Peter

ST DUNSTANERS Peter Hammond and Patrick Sidnell attended the Annual Western Tournament held in Newhaven on 10 May. The weather was sunny but a little windy throughout the day.

This was the first outdoor competition that Peter had shot in since his shoulder operation but it did not

show with his shooting. He was only beaten by Patrick on handicap adjusted score. Peter and Patrick both thanked their spotters, Colin, Sue, Wendy and Malcolm, for all their time and support. Two Greenway archers, Chris and Ron Price, also shot in the tournament with Chris winning her class which was a great surprise to her. Well done Chris and Ron.

Patrick Sidnell reports on May Archery competitions

It might be wet, but arrows still reign at St Dunstan's



Adrian Neat won the Curly Wagstaffe Trophy.

THE OUTDOOR ARCHERY Week held 23-31 May started with an equipment check and practise. On Sunday, St Dunstan's Archery Club hosted a British Blind Sports Open competition. We were pleased to welcome a number of BBS archers from other clubs. The match shoot was a Burntwood York and scores for the day emerged as follows.

B1

Gold Peter Hammond
Silver Lewis Marsh
Bronze Clive Jones

B2/3 Tactile

Gold Patrick Sidnell
Silver David Poyner

Bowsight

Gold Keith Lanchester-Harding
Silver Les Culf
Bronze Adrian Neat

Barebow

Gold Dennis Cook

Ladies

Gold Melissa Carter
Silver Marjorie Scott
Bronze Eileen Thompson

Monday, the weather was so bad we were not able to shoot outside and the practise session moved inside St Dunstan's Ovingdean to the McKinley Sports Hall. With the weather making a slight improvement the more experienced archers shot a Junior National round.

Handicap adjusted scores

1st Patrick Sidnell
2nd Marjorie Scott
3rd Keith Lanchester-Harding

We welcomed the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force teams to the Tri-Service match on Tuesday. With the weather clear we shot a Junior National round.

Teams took their four highest handicap adjusted scores. Congratulations must go to the Royal Navy who came first with a score of 6026. The St Dunstan's team coming second with a score of 5807. The RAF were third with a score of 5661. The Army who only had two members scored 2836.

Sue Habgood acted as Lady Paramount and presented the medals.

Wednesday was a rest day, which was just as well as it did not stop raining all day. Coaching took place indoors during the afternoon.



The Royal Navy team won the 2009 Tri-Service competition held at St Dunstan's on 26 May.

The sun was back on Thursday. In the morning we shot for The RUC Pairs Trophy and the winners were St Dunstaners Keith Lanchester-Harding and Marjorie Scott.

In the afternoon, the Derek Hagger Knockout Trophy was shot for and the winner was Patrick Sidnell.

With the sun getting hotter on Friday, we shot for the Curly Wagstaffe Trophy, the match was a Bristol IV. This time the winner was Adrian Neat.

Miss Rosalind Hampson was our Lady Paramount for the day and presented the trophies.

Saturday, the weather again was hot and we were pleased to welcome Ditchling Archery Club, the match shoot was Junior Western. St Dunstan's team won with a score of 5804, Ditchling scoring 5747.

A number of St Dunstan's archers had to travel home on Sunday and it was left to



St Dunstaner John Bower lets an arrow fly during the Tri-Service Competition.

the rest to welcome Taverham Archery Club from Norwich and Southampton University Archery Club for a three way match. St Dunstan's Team won by 4 points.

We all were a little sorry for Graham Harris from Taverham who had made ever effort to ensure a win for his club. We look forward to our return match in Norwich this coming November.

It is wonderful to see that clubs like Taverham Archery Club and Southampton University Archery Club teams are willing to travel

so far to shoot with St Dunstan's. Some of the Southampton team had left at 6am, travelled by train to London and then to Brighton, because of rail engineering works and had the same on the return leg.

The week was a great success with new club records set by Peter, Keith and Patrick.

Once again we have our coaches, spotters, range captain, helpers, PPK and St Dunstan's staff to thank for all their efforts in ensuring the week ran well. We wish they could stop the rain.

Chairman Dave stays on target

St Dunstaner David Poyner was re-elected for a second consecutive term as Chairman of the British Blind Sports Archery section at their AGM on 7 April. He was congratulated by fellow members of St Dunstan's Archery Club.

Laker's progress

Ges Laker has covered around 2,500 miles so far. He has watched dolphins off the Scottish coast. After bees buzzed around his tent, he made for RAF Lossiemouth where he was invited to use the facilities. Later, camping near Burghead he had a close call. "I was relaxing when I heard a shot whizz past the tent," said Ges. "Some men then apologised that they had not seen the tent hidden in the grass. That's another life gone."

It's all doubleplusgood says **Wendy Kane** as "young St Dunstaners" explore motivations for the workplace

Big Brother eyes up Young St Dunstaners at Sheffield

A GROUP OF working age St Dunstaners took the chance to get together at St Dunstan's Sheffield on 24-28 May and relate to how they feel and motivate themselves to get back into a working environment with visually impairment and without the entrapment of being at St Dunstan's Ovingdean with all the "oldies".

It was a bit like Big Brother, but without Davina or the rats. All the housemates gather on the terrace to greet one another and make themselves known. First in is Billy Baxter, 45, next is Simon Moore, 37 and myself, Wendy Kane, 56. In comes Kerry Reed, 47, without her guide dog Spirit. We shall miss



Photograph copyright Wendy Kane

Breaking out of Room 101! St Dunstaners Chris Lee, Simon Moore, Simon Brown, and Wendy Kane, with Neil and staff members Alison Bradley, and Dan Green.

him but will make up for it with his namesake. Simon Brown, 30, with his cutting wit and warped sense of humour is next on parade, followed by Graham Kiff, 41, and Chris Lee, 44.

It's 5 pm and the Big Brother staff introduce themselves. St Dunstan's Employment Officer

Dan Green, Welfare Officers Alison Molloy and Jennie Hammond, Senior Welfare Group Manager Alison Bradley and our Julie Shales, ROVI Supervisor who we couldn't have done without, not to mention James Grundy, our really clever and good looking chef, and his assistant Cassie Green.



Which way now? Graham, Simon and Chris turn to Dan Green for some blackwhite guidance.

Simon and Julie gives us a demonstration of all the new visual impairment aids on the market, such as the Milestone, dictaphones, MP3 players, iPods and vibrating equipment (the mind works overtime). It's all we need to help us get around our treasure hunt in York on day three.

A Chinese takeaway feeds a good get-to-know-you night. We have a quiz in the Palmer Room with our host Harry Beavers and wife Joan. One of the questions was, "What was buried with Humphrey Bogart?" Answer: "A whistle" because he whistled to Lauren Bacall in *To Have and Have Not*.

Next morning, Billy tells us all how he came to lose his sight and what happened from then on, his story was so poignant. It gave us all hope that if one day we should end up totally blind as Billy is, then we can overcome blindness as he has done.

Everyone made a contribution to the group session, on how St Dunstan's had helped them with carrying on being as independent as possible, how things could be adapted for the younger men and women who would be joining St Dunstan's with the war in Afghanistan and Iraq and through vision loss, through



Does Wendy have the answer wonders Chris?

health issues. It felt good to know we are all in the same boat and we all have the same concerns and worries of what will become of our lives now it has totally changed, and being so young into the bargain.

It was great to know we are not alone and we are the lucky ones to have such a caring and generous protector as St Dunstan's and most importantly we have each other.

Billy wanted to go shopping for some lingerie for Belinda (don't ask!), so Kerry and myself took him down the road which was like Brands Hatch. Kerry was on



Simon Moore finds the tour bus is no protection from hobbits.

crutches, and Billy and I had our long canes. We got lost and had to ask for assistance to get us across the road!

Only Billy was asking a young lass who was on her mobile talking to her Mum and he thought she was answering him. Talk about "three blind mice"!

The football was on and all the lads wanted to watch it in the pub, as for us ladies, we would sooner eat our own liver, which I think we did. At the local curry house it certainly tasted like it!

On the third day, the housemates left the Big Brother house for a day in York, a treasure hunt. We were given all our equipment, to tell us the clues en route. We heard "I shell till you ziz only vunce" on the tape. We had to find our agent in York, and then negotiate our way around collecting clues, which were put in different places, like, on the third finger of Richard III! There were two teams and the one to finish first were the conquering heroes. We were also given a fury hobbit, which we had to take photographs of in unusual places!

But the local police, bus drivers, road workers, ticket inspectors, even the local monk all did it for us and all thought we were totally nuts. Well, you would have to be wouldn't you? All these blind groups, taking photos of who knows what, who knows where!

Dan (the man) Green was our map-reader and surveillance officer for the day. As the Milestone battery went flat he had to read our clues from the written sheet, but it ended up in the river, so in effect we were "clueless" on all counts. We all gathered in the



Has anyone told Billy that the hobbits have placed the viking helmet on Simon Brown's head?



Graham and Billy on the York trail with Kerry.

Slug and Lettuce (love that name for a salad pub!) for lunch and get together with the other teams. Luckily none of us had been with arrested.

Billy had a Viking helmet on all day and kept asking if people were looking at him. Back

at the house, we had a barbeque with Pimms, beers, and a concoction of red wine, lemonade, and gin. Kerry requested The Naked Chef but we got Dan Green instead!

Whoever selected the group must have been an excellent chef. The

perfect ingredients (us) were mixed together to create a perfect dish. We all got on extremely well and there was "no them and us" between the St Dunstaners and staff. All housemates were summoned into the Big Brother room for a interview on what we all thought about the week. We all said it was a breath of fresh air to be with a group of young people all striving for the same thing "Independence", all with the help of St Dunstan's and the spirit of Big Brother. Anyone wishing to take part in a future weekend should contact their Welfare Officer.

Sue takes Sheffield Bronze

BRISTOL St Dunstaner Sue Eyles, aged 48, won the bronze medal in the AWAD category at the Corus British Triathlon Disabled Championships at Rother Valley Country Park, Sheffield on 6 June. Guided by Matthew Edwards, a fellow member of the Bristol

and District Triathlon group (BADTri), she swam 750m in open water, cycled 20k, then ran 5k.

Although she only set out to go the distance, Sue was delighted when she heard that she had won a medal. Her next challenge was the London to



Photograph: Revolution Images

Brighton Bike Ride - more on that next issue.

REUNION 09

The first of the Eastbourne Reunions was held at the Hydro Hotel, Eastbourne on 20 May. It was a lovely sunny day and Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter, KCVO, OBE was the Member of St Dunstan's Council presiding. St Dunstaner William Fuller of Hove stepped in at short notice to make a response on behalf of those present. There were 31 St Dunstaners and five Widows at the gathering. Guests included Maggie Grinyer from the East Sussex Association for the Blind.

The Cardiff Reunion on 21 May united 30 St Dunstaners and four widows at the St Mellons Hotel and Country Club. Timothy Bacon was the member of St Dunstan's Council presiding and he also had the pleasure of presenting the Pingat Jasa Malaysia Medal to Barry St Dunstaner Roger Williams. St Dunstaner Terry

Ottewell responded for those present.

Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter, KCVO, OBE presided at the Burley Reunion (I) on 27 May. There were 22 St Dunstaners and three widows gathered at the Burley Manor Hotel, Burley, nr Ringwood, Hampshire. St Dunstaner Bob Dixon responded for those present.

A further 26 St Dunstaners were united for the Burley Reunion (II) on 28 May, again at the Burley Manor Hotel. St Dunstan's President Raymond Hazan represented St Dunstan's Council and St Dunstaner Derek Peyton responded for those attending.

There were 37 St Dunstaners and five widows attending the West Sussex Reunion on 3 June. Air Vice Marshal Richard Kyle, CBE presided at the Millstream Hotel, Bosham, Chichester, West Sussex and St Dunstaner Bob Quayle gave the response.

St Dunstan's President Raymond Hazan was back in the chair for the Exeter Reunion on 10 June. There were 34 St Dunstaners and six widows at the Exeter Golf and Country Club, Countess Wear, Exeter, Devon. St Dunstaner Reg Perrin swung into action to reply on behalf of those present.

There were 36 St Dunstaners and five widows at the Surrey Reunion on 16 June. David Knowles, CBE presided at the Effingham Golf Club, Effingham, Surrey. St Dunstaner Sid Elliott responded on behalf of those present.

It was back to the Hydro Hotel on 17 June for the Eastbourne Reunion (II) for 25 St Dunstaners and nine widows. Air Vice Marshal Richard Kyle, CBE was the member of St Dunstan's Council presiding. Alderman Ron Parsons replied for those present.

ASK ROD

Your queries answered
by the ROVI on Duty

ROVI on Duty Tel: 01273 391447 E-mail: rovianduty@st-dunstans.org.uk

Labelling ideas from St Dunstaner Roger Elgood

St Dunstaner Roger Elgood of Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Cleveland wrote into us with a long list of suggestions for labelling items around the home. This month we look at some of his suggestions for labelling clothing:

"For clothing I recommend the colour indicating buttons sold by RNIB. The range of these has recently been extended, they are fairly indestructible and the system also has a degree of logic built into it."

These buttons have been designed to help identify different coloured items of clothing. They come in 16 different shapes and colours and each button has two holes in the centre to allow you



to sew into your clothes. They can be washed and dry cleaned.

"Some clothes are much more appropriate for the use of the buttons than others," adds Roger. "The simpler answer in my experience is to have shirts of different colours in separate piles in the wardrobe. Socks do not lend themselves to colour buttons, but can be stored in different shoe boxes labelled on the outside."

To keep pairs of socks together, RNIB sell packs of "Sokloks" – plastic discs with slots in them that you push a pair of socks through to keep them together whilst washing and drying.



"When it comes to jackets and suits, I find that one or two indicating buttons sewn onto the back of the right lapel is usually sufficient (when taken in conjunction with texture) for me to identify the item required.

"A Braille label or luggage label on the coat hanger can also work well. I have found that the plastic identification labels for plants quite satisfactory for this purpose and can be brailled in a

Perkins machine (ensuring that the metal ring is placed to the right or for luggage labels taking care that the string doesn't become tangled)."

Another option for identifying items would be a talking colour detector. These are available from Cobolt Systems for £49.95 (01493 700172) and a more expensive version, but with a greater range of colour descriptions, from IC for £115 (01226 762528).

"For shoes, one has to identify brown shoes from black. Two systems come to mind, either place a drawing pin in the front surface of the heel of, say, the black shoe. Alternatively, use cylindrical laces for black shoes and flat ones for brown."

Do you have any suggestions for labelling items that you think other St Dunstaners would benefit from hearing about? Write to Ask ROD with your suggestions.

UNUSED EQUIPMENT

Do you have any equipment that was issued to you by St Dunstan's ROVIs that you no longer use? Whether you need some assistance, instruction or simply no longer have a need for any items that we issued to you, contact ROD on 01273 391447 and we'll see if we can help. Many items can be reissued to another St Dunstaner if you no longer use them, but we'd like to make sure your needs are still being met as well

On show in Swanage



Photograph copyright Jax Whiteley

Nigel and Jax Whiteley manned St Dunstan's stand at the Swanage and Armed Forces Veterans Weekend on 30-31 May. Visitors included a Winston Churchill look-alike and St Dunstaner David Stevenson, who was escorted by Colin (Taff) Phillips, a former Fleet Air Arm Field Gunner, who was on the 846 Squadron at the same time as Nigel. Some St Dunstaners may know Taff, as he is a regular "dog" at summer camp. For the Veteran's parade on Sunday, Nigel carried St Dunstan's Standard, escorted by Tony Smith, a former RAF Fireman.

BEER OF THE MONTH

by Colin Williamson

Morrisons Summer Fruits Beer

If we ever have a summer, this is one beer I'd like to sit and sup on a sunny afternoon. Finest British malt and hops blended with natural summer berry flavours make this a truly delightful soft beer. Only 4.5 per cent ABV, it's easily drinkable and a great thirst quencher. Available in most Morrison's stores.

Welcome to St Dunstan's

James Baker of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from 1946 to 1972.

Derek Bannister of West Horsley, Leatherhead, Surrey served in the Royal Air Force from 1950 to 1952.

Wilfred Buckroyd of Blackpool, Lancashire served in the Royal Air Force from 1939 to 1946.

Jean Burnet-Smith of Brighton served in the Women's Royal Naval Service from 1942 to 1943. Her husband Wallace is a longstanding St Dunstaner.

John Cooper of Worksop, Nottinghamshire served in the Royal Navy from 1943 to 1946.

Stanley Davidson of Sleaford, Lincolnshire served in Royal Marines from 1943 to 1946 and then in the Royal Fleet Reserve from 1948 to 1957.

Ronald Goode of Cambridge, Cambridgeshire served in the Royal Air Force from 1941 to 1946.

Raymond Hall of Warsop, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from 1965 to 1974.

Robert Hatfield of Tinsill, Leeds, West Yorkshire served in the Fleet Air Arm from 1943 to 1946.

Phyllis Hayes of Preston, Lancashire served in the Women's Royal Army Corps from 1950 to 1951.

Frank Hill of Liverpool, Merseyside served in the Royal Artillery from 1938 to 1946.

James Howard of Quinton, Birmingham, West Midlands served in the Fleet Air Arm from 1943 to 1946.

Jean Howes of Whitby, North Yorkshire served in the Women's Royal Naval Service from 1948 to 1959.

John Hurcombe of Hayes, Middlesex served in the Royal Air Force from 1941 to 1946.

Thomas Jones of Seaford, East Sussex served in the Royal Artillery from 1939 to 1946.

William Jones of Brighton served in the Royal Navy from 1942 to 1946.

Thomas Keeling of Brierley Hill, West Midlands served in the General Service Corps and Royal Engineers between 1946 and 1948.

Thomas King of Hastings, East Sussex served in the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers between 1941 and 1946.

Warren Mcdivitt of Willersey, Broadway, Worcestershire served in the Royal Navy from 1941 to 1946.

William Millington of Carlton, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire served in the Royal Air Force from 1959 to 1971.

Peter Mulvie of Barnet, London served in the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) from 1941 to 1947.

Joan Percy of Lewes, East Sussex served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force from 1941 to 1946.

Albert Roberts of Brighton served in the General Service Corps and Royal Artillery between 1943 and 1946.

Ida Robinson of Southport, Merseyside served in the Women's Royal Naval Service from 1942 to 1946.

John Sanders of Exeter, Devon served in the Royal Marines from 1947 to 1959.

Helen Seal of Blantyre, Glasgow served in the Women's Royal Air Force from 1956 to 1960.

Joseph Simmonds of Burgess Hill, West Sussex served in the Royal Artillery from 1940 to 1946.

Harry Streater of Ulverston, Cumbria served in Tunisia and North Africa in the Royal Signals from 1941 to 1946.

Maurice Titman of Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk served in the Royal Air Force from 1940 to 1946.

Leslie Westley of Birmingham, West Midlands served in Egypt in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from 1952 to 1964.

Ten Answers

Answers to quiz on page 17.

- 1) Dragon Fly;
- 2) Bumble Bee;
- 3) Caterpillar;
- 4) Ladybirds;
- 5) Ants;
- 6) Wasps;
- 7) Zurich in Switzerland;
- 8) Camberwell Beauty;
- 9) "Butterflies";
- 10) Painted Lady.

Family News

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Henry and Jean Walden of Loughor, Swansea on 24 May.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Michael and Anne Hunter of Honiton, Devon on 30 May.

Roy and Pamela White of Yeovil, Somerset on 30 May.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Dorothy and William Thompson of Thornton-Cleveleys, Lancashire on 28 May.

Keith and Brenda Arblaster of Stroud, Gloucestershire on 4 June.

George and Maureen Miller of Horsham, West Sussex on 4 June.

Len and Pearl Kaye of Mill Hill, London on 5 June.

Raymond and Marjorie Davies on Rednal, Birmingham, West Midlands on 6 June.

Douglas and Peg Day of Highbridge, Somerset on 6 June.

Terry and Winnie Andrews of Wigan, Lancashire on 8 June.

Arthur and Joan Head of Orpington, Kent on 11 June.

William and Doreen Miller of Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire on 11 June.

Douglas and Daisy Perkins of Crawley, West Sussex on 11 June.

Roy and Joan Delderfield of Bourton-on-the-Water, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire on 18 June.

BLUE SAPPHIRE ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Hugh and Jane Rance of Rottingdean, East Sussex on 17 June.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Edna Walker, Bed Manager at The Walton Centre for Neurology and Neurosurgery NHS Trust who has been made an MBE for services to healthcare in Liverpool, Merseyside. Edna has worked in neurosurgery for over 40 years. She is the daughter of late St Dunstaner Stanley Barton of Bootle, Lancashire who served on bomb disposal in the Royal Naval Reserve.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of: Violet Lewis of Clevedon, Bristol, Avon on 24 February. She was the widow of Stanley Lewis.

Margaret Ross on 10 May. She was the wife of St Dunstaner Alistair Ross of Balintore, Tain, Ross-Shire.

Elizabeth Mann on 19 May. She was the wife of The Rt Rev Michael Mann of Eastington, Northleach, Gloucestershire.

Dorothy Plumpton of Merton, London on 24 May. She was the wife of St Dunstaner Phillip Plumpton.

Hannah Taylor of Loose, Maidstone, Kent on 25 May. She was the widow of St Dunstaner George Taylor.

Gladys Cock of Ilkley, West Yorkshire on 27 May. She was the widow of St Dunstaner Geoffrey Cock.

Alex Scott on 29 May. He was the husband of Marjorie Scott of Peacehaven, East Sussex. He served in the Royal Air Force and then in the Merchant Navy. He was a member of St Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society, callsign M3TZW.

Alison Bickley on 15 May. She was the daughter of Nancy Bickley of Peacehaven, East Sussex and the late St Dunstaner George Bickley.

Violet Scoble of Newtown, Powys on 20 May. She was the wife of Kenneth Scoble who died on 22 May.

Frances Colley on 12 June. She was the wife of Raymond Colley of Stafford.

In Memory

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

Winifred Sterritt

Women's Auxiliary Air Force

Winifred Sterritt nee Cochrane of Lisburn, County Antrim died on 6 April, aged 93. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1941 and served as a driver around the UK. Discharged in 1945, she worked as a shop assistant before raising a family. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Frank Lodge

Royal Army Service Corps

Frank Lodge of Chester-le-Street, County Durham died on 29 April, aged 86. He joined the Royal Army Service Corps in 1941 and dealt with ammunition storage in Scotland. Later, he served in the Western Desert, Italy and Greece. Demobbed in 1946, he worked as a slaughterman and butcher. Our sympathy goes to his widow Winnifred and all the family.

Jack Lauder

Queen's Own

Royal West Kent Regiment

John Edward Frederick Lauder of Llanfair, Harlech, Gwynedd died on 11 May, aged 86. He joined the Royal Fusiliers in 1942 and was commissioned into the Dorset Regiment the following year. He served in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, then returned to the UK to prepare

for the Normandy invasion. Landing on Gold Beach, he was wounded in the leg and ankle. Rejoining the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, he was posted to Germany. Discharged in 1946, he completed a degree in education and taught in Guildford. Our sympathy goes to his widow Mary and all the family.

Joseph King

Royal Signals

Joseph King of Barmouth, Gwynedd died on 12 May, aged 80. He joined the General Service Corps in 1947, then transferred to the Royal Signals. After serving in Palestine, Germany and France, he was demobbed as Corporal in 1952. Soon after, he joined the Merchant Navy. Later, he taught engineering in Northampton.

Jack Cracknel

Royal Artillery

Jack Cracknell of Northwood, Middlesex died on 15 May, aged 95. He joined the Royal Artillery in 1940 and served around the UK in ack-ack units. Discharged in 1946, he worked for Whitbread. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Robert Richardson

Royal Army Service Corps

Robert Richardson of Norwich, Norfolk died on 16 May, aged 90. He joined the

East Yorkshire Regiment in 1939 and later transferred to the Royal Army Service Corps. Having served in the UK, India, Egypt, and Iraq, he was demobbed in 1946. In civilian life, he worked for a power station and in insurance. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Leslie Seddon
Royal Navy

Leslie Seddon of Stoneycroft, Merseyside died on 16 May, aged 86. He joined the Army in 1942 and trained at Chatham. In 1944, he transferred to the Royal Navy serving on HMS *Malaya* in the Atlantic. Later, he was posted to destroyers on Arctic Convoys. Demobbed in 1946, he worked as a coach driver. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Peter Baily
Army Education Corps

Peter Baily of Cardiff, South Glamorgan died on 19 May, aged 86. He joined the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in 1942 and shortly transferred to the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. He deployed to Europe providing radar support. Transferring to the Army Education Corps in 1946, he was demobbed and eventually became a college lecturer. Our sympathy goes to his widow Jill and all the family.

Ray Taylor
East Yorkshire Regiment

Joseph Raymond Taylor of Selsey, Chichester, West Sussex died on 21 May, aged 92. He joined the Royal Artillery in 1942, serving in the UK and Northern Europe. After transferring to the East Yorkshire Regiment, he

was discharged in 1945. He then served 30 years as a Police Officer with Derbyshire Constabulary before working as a civilian in the police office in Chesterfield. Our sympathy goes to his widow Betty and all the family.

Squadron Leader Colin Denton
Royal Air Force

Squadron Leader Colin Arthur Frank Denton of Andover, Hampshire died on 22 May, aged 87. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1938 and served as Corporal in the Middle East. Commissioned in 1946, he completed tours of duty in the Mediterranean, Middle and Far East. Promoted to Squadron Leader in 1952, he served in the Technical Branch and retired in 1977. He was a member of St Dunstan's Amateur Radio Society, callsign G3DSX. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Frank Jones
Royal Army Service Corps
Frank Grainger Jones of Narberth, Pembrokeshire died on 22 May, aged 102. He joined the Royal Army Service Corps in 1941. After serving in North Africa, he was discharged in 1946. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Kenneth Scoble
Royal Artillery
Kenneth Charles Scoble of Newtown, Powys died on 22 May, aged 89. He joined the Royal Artillery in 1940 and served in Newtown, Yorkshire, and Somerset. He suffered a deafening injury. Discharged in 1946, he became a teacher and was also a Freemason. His wife Violet passed away two days earlier.

John Taylor
Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
John Charles Taylor of Guildford, Surrey died on 23 May, aged 82. He joined the Royal Navy as a 14-year-old, serving on training ship HMS *Mercury*. Discharged due to colour blindness, he enlisted in the General Service Corps in 1942. After transferring to the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in 1944, he served in Singapore and Malaya. Demobbed in 1956, he became a design engineer in the aircraft industry, later joining the MOD to design bridging equipment. He was a member of the Royal Maritime Auxiliary Service. In recent years, he studied Braille and had begun teaching novice brailists. Our sympathy goes to his widow Rebecca and all the family.

Ken Hutchinson
West Yorkshire Regiment
John Kenneth Hutchinson of Richmond, North Yorkshire died on 1 June, aged 94. He joined the Green Howards in 1940 and was promoted to Sergeant within 18 months. Commissioned in 1942, he transferred to the West Yorkshire Regiment and served in the UK and Europe. Discharged in 1946, he worked in insurance and later as manager of a builders merchant. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Bill Rae
Fleet Air Arm
William Rae of Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria died on 1 June, aged 65. He joined the Royal Navy in 1960 as an apprentice Aircraft Engineer. Serving in the UK and Far East on HMS *Victorious*, *Hermes*, and *Condor*, he left as Petty

Officer in 1970. In civilian life, he worked for Vicker's shipbuilding. Our sympathy goes to his widow Joyce and all members of the family.

Jack Latham
Green Howards
Jack Latham of Swinton, Mexborough, South Yorkshire died on 2 June, aged 81. He joined the General Service Corps in 1947 but soon transferred to the York and Lancaster Regiment. He served in Malaya, Singapore, Egypt and the UK. He transferred further to the Yorkshire and Northumberland Regiment and then to The Green Howards. Discharged in 1953, he worked in coal mining and then became a crane driver. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Victor Cole
Royal Air Force
Victor Ernest Cole of Worcester Park, Surrey died on 3 June, aged 85. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1943 and served at Worksop and Scarborough. Discharged in 1944, he became a watchmaker and clock repairer. Our sympathy goes to his son Eric and all the family.

Brin Jordan
South Wales Borderers
Brinley Jordan of Newport, Gwent died on 4 June, aged 92. He joined the South Wales Borderers in 1940 and served in Northern Ireland before landing on Gold Beach on D-Day. He then moved through France, Belgium and Holland into Germany. Demobbed in 1946, he worked in Swansea steelworks, for a clothing factory, and disk brake manufacturers. Our sympathy goes to his widow Violet and all of the family.

Colin Lowerson**Army Catering Corps**

Colin Lowerson of Chester-le-Street, County Durham died on 4 June, aged 47. He joined the Army Catering Corps as a 16-year-old in 1978. After training at Aldershot, he served in Litchfield and then 8 Field workshops in Colchester. Discharged in 1981, he worked as a chef in pubs and restaurants in the north and at New College, Durham. A guide dog owner, he acted as a speaker for the GDBA. Our sympathy goes to his widow Christine and all the family.

Ray Whitmore**Royal Engineers**

Leslie Raymond Whitmore of Hall Green, Birmingham died on 4 June, aged 83. He joined the Royal Army Service Corps in 1944 and served in Egypt and Palestine. Transferring to the Royal Engineers, he was posted to Greece. Discharged in 1948, he worked as a tin smith and for a radiator manufacturer. Our sympathy goes to his widow Betty and all the family.

Cyril Hore**Royal Air Force**

Cyril Denis Hore of Ascot, Berkshire died on 5 June, aged 87. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1941 and served in the UK, Canada, and the USA. After a tour of duty with Coastal Command, he was demobbed in 1946. In civilian life, he worked for the NHS and then as a school accountant. Our sympathy goes to his widow Jane and all the family.

Kenneth Mitchell**Royal Signals**

Kenneth James Mitchell of Boston, Lancashire died on 9 June, aged 81. He

joined the Royal Signals in 1946 and served in Wales, Catterick and Brighton. Discharged in 1948, he worked in the motor industry. Our sympathy goes to his widow Noreen and all the family.

Elsie Scullion, MBE**Auxiliary Territorial Service**

Elsie May Scullion, MBE, of Hove, East Sussex died on 9 June, aged 90. She served in the Land Army during the early years of the war, working on a farm near Horsham. She then joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service in 1942 and conducted aptitude test on applicants to the Army and Royal Air Force. Serving around the UK, she was discharged as Sergeant in 1945. Active in the WRVS, she also became a Civil Defence instructor. From 1980 to 1989, she served on the town council in Horsham and also set up a group supporting people with Macular Degeneration. She was feted for her services to the community and made an MBE in 2001. She was a member of the local drama group and continued this interest performing Joyce Grenfell monologues in the St Dunstan's Christmas Concert. Her interests included music, computers and handicrafts. Our sympathy goes to her son Richard and all members of the family.

Eric Masters**Royal Army Medical Corps**

Eric Masters of Larkholme, Fleetwood, Lancashire died on 10 June, aged 89. He joined the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1939 and served in the UK and Overseas. Discharged in 1946, he worked in dry cleaning, fashion and the production of electronic equipment. Our sympathy goes to his widow Dorothy and all the family.

Kenneth Saltmer**Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve**

Kenneth Norman Saltmer of Anlaby, Hull died on 10 June, aged 77. He joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1950 and served at Chatham. Demobbed in 1951, he worked on a fishing trawler and also as a plumber, electrician, and gas engineer.

Clifford Hanson, DFM**Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve**

Clifford Hanson, DFM of Selsey, Chichester, West Sussex died on 12 June, aged 89. Yorkshire born, he was an apprentice on the railways, but signed on with Bradford Park Avenue FC. Although only 5'6", he was an impressive goalkeeper and for almost two years maintained the position of BPA's second team playing in the Midland League. The outbreak of hostilities closed such competitions and he joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve in 1940. Flying Hudsons with 608 Squadron, he served in the UK, North Africa and India. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal in 1943, he was discharged as Flight Lieutenant in 1946. In civilian life, he worked as General Secretary of the Hoover Group Sports and Social Club at Perivale. Our sympathy goes to all the members of the family.

Mervyn Goddard**Royal Air Force**

Mervyn Sidney Herbert Goddard of Salisbury, Wiltshire died on 12 June, aged 83. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1943 and trained as a Radio Operator. Having served in India, Malaya, Singapore and Egypt, he was discharged in 1948. After working as a

clerk he ran a newsagents for 18 years and then for a hydraulics firm. Our sympathy goes to his widow Elizabeth and all members of the family.

Geoff Kitson**Royal Navy**

Geoffrey Spence Kitson of Llangorse, Brecon, Powys died on 13 June, aged 78. He joined the Royal Navy in 1949 and served in Malta, Korea, and Singapore. Specialising in radar, wireless repair and maintenance, he was discharged in 1956. In civilian life, he worked in aviation electronics in the UK and overseas. Our sympathy goes to his widow Simone and all the family.

Terence Coulson**Royal Signals**

Terence William Coulson of Mellieha, Malta died on 17 June, aged 72. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1978. He joined the Royal Signals in 1955 and served in the UK and Singapore before discharge in 1977. Our sympathy goes to his widow Ann and all other members of the family.

St Dunstaner Legacy Gifts

We are very grateful to the following St Dunstaner and Widow, who left bequests to the charity in their Wills:

Frederick Dennis Lane

3 May 2009

Catherine Elisabeth Leslie

5 February 2009

Back to Bisley with a bang

Photographs copyright Louise Timms



St Dunstaner Arthur Walton listens for the tell-tale sound of the clay with a little help from Brian.

THE ANNUAL BISLEY Clay Pigeon Shoot went with a bang on 3 June. Four St Dunstaners were among the 11 teams shooting clay pigeons at the fundraising event. It was a good day for The DMA's who emerged as the top team for the second year running.

Ex-Para and actor Bernard Cribbins, best known as Donna's granddad in Doctor Who, returned as Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer par excellence. Top Gun was Mark Vessey.

St Dunstaner Bill Goddon, who served in the Royal Army Medical

Corps, emerged as Top Blind Gun though he concedes it was a close call. "I was very satisfied, he said, "I got 20, someone got 19, and the others each got 18."

He praised the team's instructor, Brian. "He's very patient, very dedicated, in a class of his own," said Bill. "He helps line you up as to where the clay will be, so when he cries 'pull' it's up to your response time. There are six stations, some clays come from the left, some from the right, some move along the ground like a rabbit."



St Dunstaners Bill Johnson, Arthur Walton, Bill Goddon and Cliff Ford with their instructor Brian.