

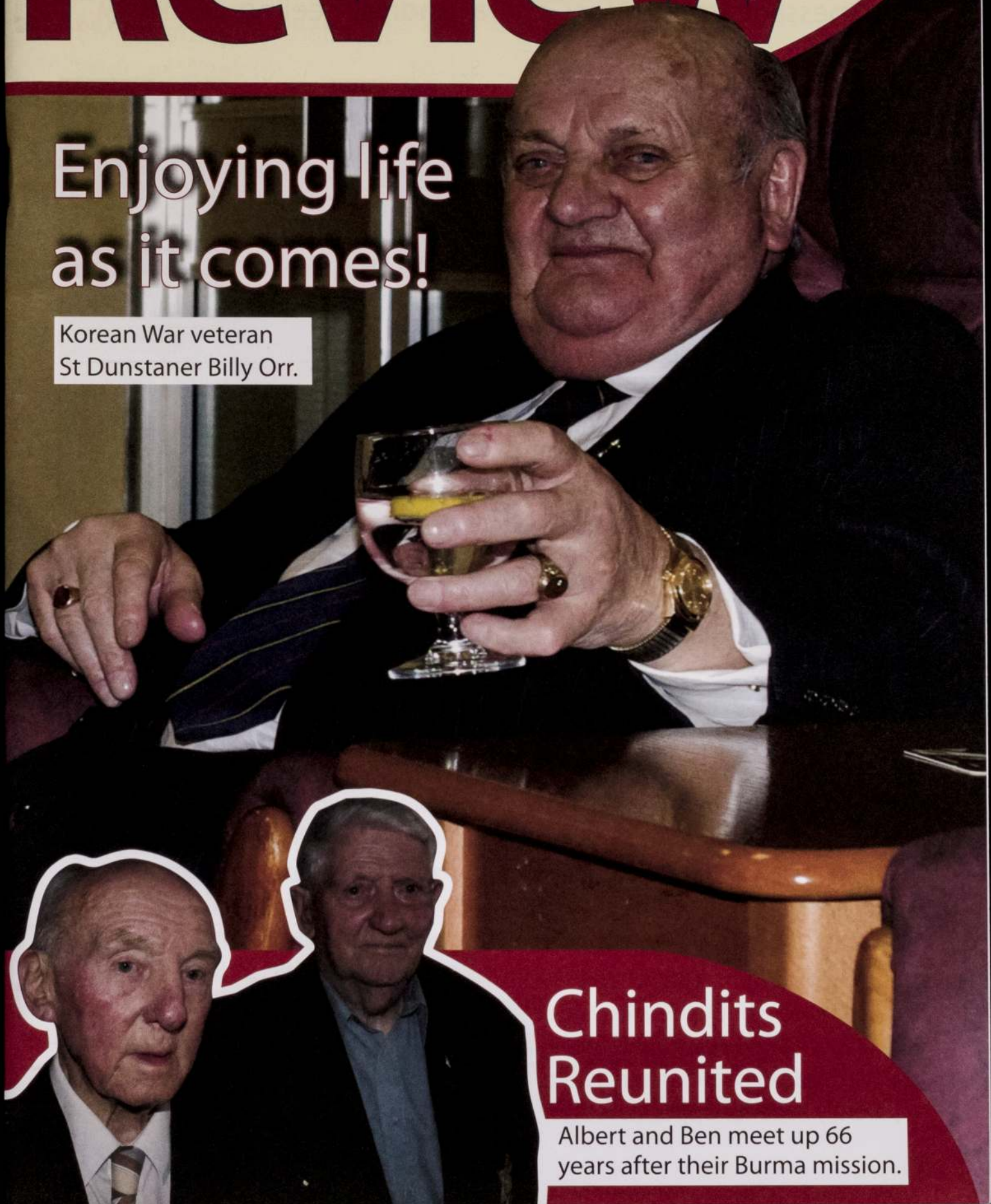
St Dunstan's

October 2010

Review

Enjoying life
as it comes!

Korean War veteran
St Dunstaner Billy Orr.



Chindits Reunited

Albert and Ben meet up 66
years after their Burma mission.

From The Chairman

Your message from Major General Andrew Keeling, CB, CBE, RM

Evenings are beginning to draw in, leaves are turning and floating gently down to earth, the kids have gone back to school, the temperature is definitely dropping, football rather than cricket dominates the sports news – autumn must be just around the corner. Meanwhile there seems to be a feeling of 'storm clouds gathering' in more ways than one, with the new Government flexing its new-found muscles over the need for the country to learn to live within its means, and certain groups within the community threatening to resist the introduction of any seriously unwelcome measures concerning additional financial stringency. We live in interesting times where, if the media had their way, we could all become certified pessimists overnight.

All the more important, I believe, to make a point of seeing the glass as half full rather than half empty. In my experience few things turn out to be quite as bad as they might initially have been thought to be, whether it's the weather, a visit by the in-laws, or your favourite team's showing in the local derby against the dreaded and apparently superior opposition.



One of the many joys of being Chairman is receiving an apparently endless supply of hugely positive letters and messages from you St Dunstaners and your families about what this organisation achieves on your behalf, and about what it all means to you. Thank you for those messages, and thank you all for setting such lofty and exemplary standards as members of the unofficial 'Glass Half Full Society'.

St Dunstan's Calendar

OCTOBER

RM Commando Challenge	9-10
Widows Week (II)	10-16
In Touch with Art	13-14
World Sight Day	14
Golf Club (VII)	16-17
Writers Forum (VIII)	19
Computer Club (II)	20-21
Trafalgar Day	21
Amateur Radio (II)	22-30
BUPA Great South Run	24
Clocks go back	31
Bowling Club (II)	31-13 Nov

NOVEMBER

Bowling Club (II)	Until 13
Armistice Day	11
Founder's Memorial Service	13
Remembrance Sunday	14
Writers Forum (IX)	16
Golf Club (VIII)	20-21
Dance Club (II)	21-27
Music Week	28-4 Dec

DECEMBER

Music Week	Until 4
Writers Forum (X)	4

St Dunstan's Review

October 2010

No 1,006

Editor: Ray Hazan
Tel: 020 7723 5021
E-mail: ray.hazan@st-dunstans.org.uk

Cover story: Billy Orr receives praise from Korean Government. Details on page 15. Two Chindit St Dunstaners are reunited. Full story on page 23.



Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

St Dunstan's Review is published monthly by **St Dunstan's** an independent future for blind ex-Service men and women, 12-14 Harcourt Street, London W1H 4HD. Website: www.st-dunstans.org.uk. A company limited by guarantee No. 189648, registered in England. Registered Charity No. 216227 (England & Wales) and SCO39411 (Scotland). **ISSN 0036-2808**. Unless otherwise stated all photographs are copyright of St Dunstan's. Printed by Newnorth.

Noticeboard

Dates for your diary and useful information

MASONS MEET FOR 2011

The St Dunstan's Masonic Group invite all St Dunstaners who are Freemasons to join us at our Annual Weekend at St Dunstan's Ovingdean on 29 April to 1 May 2011, most especially those who are active in Masonic working, as we perform many ceremonies at the Masonic Centre in Brighton. Further information can be obtained from St Dunstaner Ron Freer. Telephone him on 01843 601421.

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 assistance or simply no longer have a need for any items, contact the ROVI on Duty by telephoning 01273 391447 or e-mailing rovionduty@st-dunstans.org.uk and we'll see if we can help. Many items can be reissued to another St Dunstaner if you no longer use them.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

A concert raising funds for Help for Heroes and St Dunstan's will be held at an auspicious venue at 18:30 on Armistice Day this year. *A Night To Remember, Words and Music for 11 November 2010* will be held at St Dunstan-in-the-West, Fleet Street. Tickets are priced £12.50.

The historic church of St Dunstan-in-the-West hosts an evening of music and readings on Armistice Day to remember those who have served and to recognise the contribution of those who serve us in the Armed Forces.

The clock of St Dunstan's gave its name to the property in Regents Park, which housed returning blinded soldiers in the First World War. Service and ex-Service personnel, the Rector of Wootton Bassett, musicians and poets will be taking part in what will be a moving evening including music by Faure and Novello and poetry penned by a serving soldier stationed in Afghanistan. For more details please contact remember11november@gmail.com.

THE DESPATCH IS HATCHED

Nationwide charity Infosound, in association with British Wireless for the Blind Fund, now produces a free, monthly audio compilation of information that could be of particular interest to blind and partially-sighted people. Called the *Infosound Despatch* and usually lasting for about an hour, the monthly selection of audio articles aims to cover a wide variety of different topics about living with sight loss — useful products, leisure, holidays, mobility, housing, employment, money, consumer issues and support services.

It's totally free and delivered on standard audio CD to listeners' homes every month - and it does not have to be returned. All the charity's other services are only available on their website (www.infosound.org.uk), so the new monthly *Despatch* is specifically for vision-impaired people who do not have access to the Internet.

If you would like to receive your own CD copy, just phone the lo-call number 084 55 55 55 28 and leave your name, address and telephone number. Alternatively, you can email audio@infosound.org.uk or write to Infosound, PO Box 20, Brighton BN2 7XX.

2011 VIP LARGE PRINT DIARIES AVAILABLE

Large print diaries and calendars for 2011 and can be ordered via Nathan Clements in Procurement at St Dunstan's Ovingdean. The A6 pocket diaries cost £3.70 while an A4 desk diary costs £6.50. Also in stock are A3 VIP wall calendars at £3.25 each, an A4 VIP address book at £6.25, and an A4 VIP telephone book for £6.25. The items are all produced by SLSB.

Call Nathan on 01273 391441 to place an order or write to him at St Dunstan's Ovingdean, Greenways, Ovingdean, Brighton BN2 7BS, including a cheque for your order. Cheques should be made payable to St Dunstan's.

TALKING BUSES

Thamesdown Transport in Swindon now has eight Optare Versa "talking buses" on its routes 20 and 24 to the Great Western Hospital. The "talking buses" were first introduced to the area earlier this year and the audio system tells passengers which stop is coming up and when the bus has arrived there - meaning the drivers no longer have to call out stops to passengers. The buses already had screens inside which displayed visual information about the next stop.

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM...

In addition to training in the use of a computer, St Dunstan's IT Training Department offers its trainees help and support by e-mail or over the telephone. We have achieved a high success rate in solving computer problems and, if we can't help you, we usually know someone who can!

Did you know, however, that there are no dedicated Helpline staff at either training centre? Calls and e-mails to the Helpline are answered by the IT Instructors when they are not teaching. All calls to the Helpline go straight to a message system where Matt Holland, IT Training Assistant, will create a log of them. Instructors from either Sheffield or Ovingdean will then work through the list, usually in order of receipt. Occasionally, we have to rank calls in order of severity: someone whose computer will not turn off, for example, may need a call sooner, rather than later!

Before answering a support query, an Instructor must look up details of the training history, equipment, and any previous contact in order to give the best advice. We would ask that callers be patient with us, and not try to call a particular Instructor directly.

In busy periods it can take several days to answer some queries, but be assured — we will get back to everyone who contacts us!

The Helpline is designed as a follow-up to the training received. If a trainee has forgotten a key combination or technique, we can remind them, or talk them through the appropriate process. We regret that we cannot offer telephone training in new skills and techniques but we might have a help-sheet that we could send out. Often, we are asked technical questions about problems with computer equipment. If it is a computer with which we are familiar, we may be able to help but this is not our main area of support.

Unfortunately, some problems prove so intractable that we cannot solve them and need someone "on the ground" who can. We don't have a roving technician who can come out to fix computer problems but we are extremely fortunate to be able to call on the RNIB's network of technical volunteers. They cover much of the country and can usually visit someone's home within a week to assess what needs to be done.

There are technical areas in which we are increasingly being asked for help, where we really cannot give support. Typically these might involve

recommendations for purchasing new computer equipment or setting up and problem-solving broadband connections. Similarly, we cannot offer assistance to people who are not St Dunstan's beneficiaries, nor can we repair individuals' own computers. Our advice in these cases, is always to think local: seek out help from a friend, a trusted local computer store or a local repair service.

How to use St Dunstan's IT Training Support

Telephone us and leave a message in which you state your name, telephone number and home town. If you can, leave a brief description of the nature of the problem, it will help us tremendously. The telephone number is 01273 391432 or send an e-mail to rehabit@st-dunstans.org.uk.

If you are at St Dunstan's Ovingdean you may also leave a message with staff at the desk in the Main Lounge, who will pass it on to us.

There are alternative sources of help that you might try.

If the problem is with Guide, ring Dolphin Guide for help on 0845 225 5005. If you have a Guide Bronze computer package, all queries about the equipment should also be directed to this number.

If the problem is with Supernova, Hal, Lunar or Cicero, ring Dolphin on 0845 130 5454.

As noted previously, the RNIB's network of technical volunteers can help with a number of different computer problems. They can be called on 0845 604 2341.

David Dent,
IT Instructor

AUDIO DESCRIBED DVD

Audio description, filling in details of action, costume or scenery can be found on a range of recently released DVDs such as *Morecambe and Wise Series 7 & 8*, *The Lovely Bones*, *Fawlty Towers - Remastered Box Set* (episodes only, not commentary disc), and *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*. A list of around 500 audio described DVD releases can be found at www.yourlocalcinema.com/ad.dvd.html.

FORMAT CHANGES

St Dunstan's Review is available in large print, braille, MP3CD, cassette tape, USB memory stick, via e-mail and on floppy-disc (a:drive). If you wish to change Review format, or combinations thereof, contact Catherine Goodier on 020 7616 8367 or e-mail catherine.goodier@st-dunstans.org.uk.

DRAMA AND COMEDY

We have some spoken word CDs and cassette tapes available, courtesy of supporters of St Dunstan's.

Dame Vera Lynn's autobiography, *Some Sunny Day*, is on a three-CD set and we have a complete version of *People of the Book* by Pulitzer Prize winner Geraldine Brooks.

The Baron makes his mark on tape in *Dark Side of the Street*, read by Edward Woodward, and *Freefall* by Kyle Mills is described as "taut adventure". Other titles available are *The Angry Island* by James Patterson, *Deadheads* by Reginald Hill, *Last Orders* by Graham Swift, *The End of the Affair* by Graham Greene, and *Daughters of Britannia* by Katie Hickman. There are two mysteries by Peter Robinson, *Past Reason Hated* and *Gallows View*, Sidney Sheldon's *If Tomorrow Comes*, and Francis Durbridge's *Paul Temple and The Harkdale Robbery*, read by Francis Matthews.

Those with a taste for creepy thrills might enjoy *Two Past Midnight: Secret Window, Secret Garden* by Stephen King, *The Body Politic* by Clive Barker, *Nobody True* by James Herbert, all on tape, while *The Magic Cottage* by James Herbert is on CD. We also have a version of *The Canterville Ghost* by Oscar Wilde on tape.

In addition, we have some tapes based on books by Ruth Rendell: *A Dark Blue Perfume*, *Kissing the Gunner's Daughter*, *Murder Being Once Done*, and *From Doon with Death*.

If you are interested in any of these titles then please contact Simon Rogers at St Dunstan's Review on 020 7616 7934. As ever, first come, first served, but only one title will be issued per household.

A CHANGE OF NAME

Romance is in the air for two of St Dunstan's Welfare Officers. In London, Sue Heaney married on 16 August and is now Sue Cloke.

Over in Kent, Lucy Clark was wed on 18 September and is now Lucy White.

Our best wishes go to both couples.

NEW ARMY CHIEF

General Sir Peter Wall, KCB, CBE, ADC, GEN, took up post as Chief of the General Staff (CGS) last month. General Wall replaces General Sir David Richards as the professional head of the British Army. General Richards will become Chief of the Defence Staff after Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup retires later this year.



WORLD SIGHT DAY

The annual World Sight Day (WSD) which will be held across the globe on 14 October hopes to focus attention on the global issue of avoidable blindness and visual impairment. WSD is championed by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) as part of Vision 2020: The Right to Sight.

Vision 2020 is the global initiative for the elimination of avoidable blindness, coordinated jointly by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the IAPB, with an international membership of non-governmental organisations, professional associations, eye care institutions and corporations.

Vision 2020 member organisations are working together to eliminate avoidable blindness by 2020, in order to give everyone in the world the right to sight. They hope this can be achieved by facilitating the planning, development and implementation of sustainable national eye care programmes based on disease

control, human resource development, infrastructure and technology, incorporating the principles of primary health care. It is an ambition supported by two World Health Assembly resolutions, in 2003 and 2007 respectively, each requesting the World Health Organisation to provide support to the efforts of all member states to develop and implement national eye care plans, and encouraging governments to step up their efforts.

WSD highlights the fact that 80 per cent of blindness is avoidable, that is to say, preventable or treatable. An estimated 45 million people worldwide are blind, and 269 million are vision impaired. Further, 90 per cent of blind people live in low-income countries. The world's leading cause of blindness is cataract, something that is curable by a simple, cost-effective operation.

With the future of worldwide eye-care in mind, the theme for 2010 is "Countdown to 2020". Previous years have seen drives to encourage people to have regular eye tests or accept life changing inoculations.

A selection of your comments from the 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.

A special thank you to St Dunstan's staff

"No stone unturned", never a truer saying that, when applied to St Dunstan's staff. Despite being a St Dunstaner since 2002, I had never met up with a fellow Chindit at Ovingdean, so I asked for help in searching for any old comrades who are now also St Dunstaners. Within weeks, I was given the name of Albert Simpson who lives in Middlesbrough. Following a telephone conversation, we re-mustered at Ovingdean, 66 years after the Chindit Operation. All thanks to St Dunstan's. No stone left unturned indeed!

Bernard Gascoigne, Newark, Nottinghamshire

More on this Chindit reunion on page 23.

Great day in Norwich

Chris and I have just returned from a most enjoyable lunch at Barnham Broom Golf Club. It was the venue for St Dunstan's Norwich Reunion. Jennie Hammond and her team worked very hard making sure everyone was taken care of. The meal was excellent,

leek and potato soup followed by roast lamb and veg. Then, what a dessert! Sticky toffee pudding and ice cream. There were lots of compliments about the meal. So thanks Jennie.

At our table, we had Stacey, a trainee Social Worker, this was her first placement with visually impaired people. She

was telling us how nervous she was, but she fitted in and added to the discussions along with Barry Porter, Director of Welfare Services. The poor girl must have felt she had been thrown in at the deep end with the "Boss" opposite.

Ray Hazan gave a speech with several amusing anecdotes, and to top off the lunch I won the flowers on our table. So thank you to all the staff there for giving us a really good few hours. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

**Hazel and Chris
Humphrey,
Thorpe End, Norfolk**

This and other St Dunstan's Reunions are covered on page 30.

Eat up them miles!

When I was in the Paras we used to do what they called a T.A.B., which stood for Tactical Advance to Battle.

I understand that the Royal Marines do a Y.O.M.P. but no-one I know can tell me what it stands for. So I was wondering if any of the readers of the Review could tell me.

**Roger Williams,
Barry, South
Glamorgan**

Wikipedia quotes an unattributed suggestion that Yomp stands for Your Own Marching Pace, which doesn't seem quite right given the Royals fondness for forced marches. The Oxford English Dictionary doesn't pick up on this but describes it as an informal verb from the 1980s, but of unknown origin.

St Dunstan's Chairman, Andy Keeling, turned to Charlie Hobson, Chief Executive of the Royal

Marines Association, who got in touch with former Globe & Laurel Editor Derek Oakley.

"When I was editor of the Globe & Laurel, I asked the same question," replied Derek. "There are references in the G&L 1983 on pages 47, 125 & 268. Mr Tom Probert of Sheffield, writing in the Daily Mail pointed out that "Yomp is a word long established in Naval and Marine slang. Its accepted definition with the service is to eat, and is considered to represent the sound of a hearty eater. To yomp up the miles, therefore, simply means to eat up the miles."

"Two correspondents suggested it came from a Norwegian term, but this was refuted. I carried out more research and, when helping Rick Jolly with his book *Jackspeak* I came up with what is published there, which is: "Yomp - a word that

has always had, as its principal meaning, the rapid consumption of food; yomping your meal in big mouthfuls then became adapted to Royal (Marine) yomping across the ground with huge strides. It was this latter sense which caught the British public's imagination during the Falklands campaign, rather than the Paras equivalent activity of tabbing, and the former became part of the vernacular."

Derek added "Personally, I can remember the term being used in the Corps for eating (c 1950/60)."

Get into the yomping spirit on page 48.

I enjoyed going to the "dogs"

Life is always full of surprises when you become a St Dunstaner. I have just returned from summer camp at HMS *Sultan*. This being

my first camp, I was not sure as to what to expect, but my fears were soon turned into joy as I was introduced to my "puppy" as my "dog" was late in arriving due to a traffic hold up on route.

At Summer Camp, each St Dunstaner is allocated a "dog" for the week, but in my case I had a "dog" and a "puppy" by the name of Corrine. She was there to do part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The week's programme was full of activities. Among others, I was able to sail on a 29-foot yacht, canoe, go up in a glider, go out on an in-shore rescue boat from Gosport Life Boat Station, spend an afternoon at archery, and indulge in the overall camaraderie that went on all week from morning till night.

All this would not take place without the very hard work of Dave

Burrows and his team of helpers, the dogs who look after us and the Commodore of HMS *Sultan* for allowing use the facilities.

So thanks to everyone involved in making Summer Camp a reality and inviting me to a super week.

**John Taylor,
Findon, West Sussex**

Sound spelling tip for telephone users

I often have a problem spelling out names over the phone and think it would be an idea to print the Phonetic Alphabet as a one-off pullout in the Review.

**John Freeman,
Doncaster,
South Yorkshire**

This is the International Radiotelephony Spelling Alphabet developed by NATO to avoid confusion when radio reception was poor. It dates back nearly 60 years, though other variations can be traced back to WWI.

A Alpha
B Bravo
C Charlie
D Delta
E Echo
F Foxtrot
G Golf
H Hotel
I India
J Juliet
K Kilo
L Lima
M Mike
N November
O Oscar
P Papa
Q Quebec
R Romeo
S Sierra
T Tango
U Uniform
V Victor
W Whisky
X X-ray
Y Yankee
Z Zulu

And finally ...

We have also heard from Stefan Ciesla of Chessington, Surrey, and Frank Hookham of Clayton-le-Dale, Blackburn, Lancashire and thank them for their comments.

Balancing the Books

Ted Bunting catches up with a perennial classic

Three Men In A Boat

Author: Jerome K. Jerome

Reader: Martin Jarvis

Category: Adult Fiction:

Humorous Fiction

Duration: 6 hours, 33 minutes

Catalogue number: 13969

Give or take a month or two it has taken me seventy years to become acquainted with *Three Men in a Boat*. Oh I'd known of them for decades of course, even knew the name of the dog, but until now we were not properly introduced. In a sense this is a great pity for the epithet "classic" is truly deserved here, it is a delightful work, packed tight with humour, wit, comic philosophy and wonderful old world charm. It also provides several fascinating glimpses of life in Victorian London where middle class families usually employed a servant or two and every retailer on the high street had a squad of errand boys ready and willing to act the porter for one's purchases. But this is not merely an account of a boating holiday up the Thames

nor yet a collection of amusing yarns, for from time to time the author "waxes lyrical" as it were and exhibits poetry worthy of Robert Browning. His dreamy vision of the "signing" of Magna Carta is one such example of this and although I consider it quite magical now, I fear that as a callow youth I would not have enjoyed the book nearly so well. So all's well that ends well for me, like in the book itself, but if you have not met *Three Men In A Boat* yet I would urge you not to delay as long as I did.

Members of the RNIB BookStream Club can opt for a version read by Michael Aspel. Apart from the talking book CD, this popular title is also available in Braille (grade 2) and Moon (grade 1) from the RNIB National Library Service. Call RNIB Customer Services on 0303 123 9999 or e-mail helpline@rnib.org.uk for details. This title is also available on five cassettes at Calibre Audio Library, 01296 432 339. This version is read by Richard Simpson.

Ten questions on... "The subject of Gold"

Can you go for gold? St Dunstaner **Harry Beevers** sets the standard with this month's glistening quiz

- 1) Which American bandleader in 1942 was the first recording artist to receive a gold disc?
- 2) In Greek legend, which king was given the power to turn everything he touched into gold?
- 3) In the USA, the first Congressional Gold Medal awarded in the year 1776 went to which President?
- 4) Ladies' Day when the Gold Cup is run is a name given to the third day of which annual race meeting?
- 5) The only man to win both the Victoria Cross and an Olympic gold medal was Lieutenant-General Sir Philip Neame. In which event did he win his Olympic gold?
- 6) The Crime Writers Association selects the best crime novel published every year, the top award being a gold what?
- 7) Service, expeditions and exploration, physical recreation, skills, and residential projects are five sections of which gold award?
- 8) "The Welcome Stranger", measuring 24 by 12 inches was the world's largest gold nugget and was discovered in 1869 in which country?
- 9) The gold of a European goldfinch is found on which part of its body?
- 10) Which coveted award introduced in 1963 now comes in six colours, gold, silver, blue, green, orange and purple?

Answers can be found on page 35.

Korean tribute for Billy

THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA has paid tribute to British Veterans who served in the Korean War. Their comments were greatly appreciated by St Dunstaner Billy Orr who was taken prisoner during the four year conflict.

Billy was delighted to receive a letter from Lee Myung-bak, President of Korea. "This year as we commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, we honor your selfless sacrifice in fighting tyranny and aggression. We salute your courage in enduring the unimaginable horrors of war. We pay tribute to your commitment in protecting liberty and freedom," he wrote.

It's 72 years since Billy joined the Army Reserve. The Second World War saw him embodied in the Royal Ulster Rifles and he later transferred to the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. In 1950, he was recalled and posted to Korea with the Gloucestershire

by Simon Rogers

Regiment who made a valiant stand against advancing Chinese forces. The battle earned the regiment the nickname of the "Glorious Glosters". For Billy, the price was three years in a POW camp.

"They had me locked up in a bamboo cage like a little monkey," recalled Billy, who later had to endure the effects of other troubles; a late night anonymous telephone call telling him "You are no longer welcome here" saw him leave his home in Northern Ireland.

"I would do it all again," says Billy, of Army life.

"Even my time in the cage! If you can't take your medicine, you should stay out."

Regardless, the letter from Korea's President means a lot to Billy, who welcomes the sentiment.

It says that the democracy and robust economy they enjoy are in no small part a consequence of the actions of veterans who served there in the Fifties. "We are proud of what we managed to accomplish and we wish to dedicate these achievements to you," writes the President.

"Please accept, once again, our warmest gratitude and deepest respect. You will always remain our true Heroes and we assure you that we will continue to do our best to make you proud. On behalf of the Korean people, I would like to say "Thank you." "

Let the August arrows fly

Peter Hammond reports on a record-breaking week

HERE WE GO AGAIN! Our last Archery Week for this year ran 28 August to 5 September. We all met down on the archery field where it was warm but overcast. It was nice meeting up again. We welcomed back Doug Rogers, who has not been able to join us for a year (some said it was nice and quiet without him!). Unfortunately David Poyner could not join us. Best wishes to Dave and Jane.

In the morning it was equipment checks and practise. In the afternoon we shot a short metric five. Dennis Cook and Peter Hammond (both on the same boss) had three bouncers in two ends. Peter shot the first six Gold End of the week, only his second in seven years. Third place was Doug Rogers, second Dennis Cook and first was Clive Jones. New club records were shot by Dennis Cook, Peter Hammond and Keith Lanchester-Harding.

Monday was warm and windy, and the round shot today was a Junior

Western. Final results were third Dennis Cook, second Carole Sharpe, and Norman Perry finished first.

Tuesday was hot with wall-to-wall sunshine. Our Club Championships were shot with a Bristol Four. Before we started the shoot we had a minute's silence for Tom Hart, our former Vice President who unfortunately passed away recently.

Some misfortune caused Keith to retire early in the morning. A wasp flew into his ear, distracting him as he was about to

release his arrow. His release aid flew out of his hand and hit him on the thumb, which was cut and swollen. It was confirmed later that Keith had fractured his thumb.

Wednesday was spent on practise and coaching. Thursday was hot in the morning but cloudy with the wind picking up. We shot a Junior National against Greenways. It was a good shoot with a lot of banter and a lot of barracking. St Dunstan's won the match. The Greenways team was Irene Oliver, Lindsay, Ron and Chris Price. St Dunstan's team were Marjorie Scott, Pat Sidnell, Clive Jones and Norman Perry.

Friday was hot with constant sunshine. We shot a Burntwood round, Marjorie, Carole, Norman, Leslie, Clive and

Doug shot the Hereford, whilst Dennis, John, Peter, Keith and Patrick shot the York, which was tried for the first time at our club. Keith shot a new club record, while Peter Hammond not only did that but also broke his own national record. Peter finished third, Clive second, and Carole was first.

That evening, we all gathered in the Winter Garden for our Awards Night. We were delighted to have Ovingdean Manager Helen Emmerson as our Lady Paramount. We were also joined by our coaches, spotters and helpers and were very pleased some members from Ditchling Archery Club were able to attend.

Phil Varden, our Club Records Officer, gave the results and Helen presented the medals and trophies. First up was the Club Championships shot for on Tuesday. B1 in third place was Norman Perry, second was John Bower,

and in first place was Peter Hammond. B2 was won by Pat Sidnell. Bare Bow was won by Dennis Cook and the Ladies was won by Carole Sharpe. Next were the awards for the archers who accumulated the most points over the year for attending club competitions, reducing their handicaps and shooting at or above their handicaps. Third, Keith Lanchester-Harding, second was John Bower, and in first place was Patrick Sidnell.

The next award was the Toro Trophy, this was donated by Tom Roddy and was awarded for the best Red Shot on Friday. This went to Leslie George. The Coaches Award, which goes to the most improved archer over the year, was presented to John Bower.

The Silly Ass Award was presented by Pat (as last year's winner it was his job to work out who was to get it this year). There was a tie between Keith and Colin! Keith was heard to say "There are no stars out today."

It was 7am and he had meant to say, "There are no clouds in the sky." Colin had told all the Greenways Archers to raise their sights and when he came to do his own, he lowered his sight instead of raising it.

Saturday was warm and sunny for a three-way match between Ditchling, Newhaven and St Dunstan's. The whole day was a great laugh; most of us have been shooting together for donkey's years. Newhaven finished third, St Dunstan's second and Ditchling first. The St Dunstan's team was Marjorie, John, Dennis, and Doug. Keith had to pull out during the competition as his injured hand started playing up.

A great week was had by one and all. Special thanks to all our coaches, spotters and volunteers, without whose help we could not have these weeks. Some take their annual leave to help and others give up time with their families, so a special thanks to you all.

Convention in Washington

St Dunstan's President **Ray Hazan** addresses the Blind Veterans Association (BVA) of the United States

THE BLIND VETERANS ASSOCIATION held its 65th National Convention in Washington DC from 23-30 August. In attendance were UK trio, Ray Hazan and Simon Brown, with Ben Shaw of the Scottish War Blind Institute. The latter two are honorary members of the BVA and were taking part in Operation Peer Support, a scheme to assist, inspire and encourage the young, new recruits injured predominantly in Afghanistan.

Unlike the UK, the BVA is an organisation "of" the blind ex-Service rather than "for". They do not have their own training or rehabilitation centres and their "recruits" go through the civilian network. They number 11,239 members of whom 70 per cent are non-war blind. Together, the UK and USA are the only two countries taking on a wider number of ex-Service people, rather than just fading away into non-existence.

A grand opening ceremony included

the national anthem sung by a local Country and Western performer, a military brass ensemble, and a Marine General from the nearby Pentagon gave a humorous and rousing speech. There were presentations on eye research, audio description, in which the US lags behind the UK, and the inevitable committee work. The dedication, enthusiasm and hard work, covering distances which far outweigh anything we have to tackle in the UK, were most impressive.

On our day off, we were invited to the British Embassy, where we were received briefly by the Deputy Ambassador, Dominick Chilcott and Defence Attaché Air Vice-Marshal Michael Harwood, CBE, ADC, RAF with some of his staff. They were interested to hear our stories and asked how they might help in the future.

Evenings were busy with visits to America's National Library for the Blind, a Marine Beating the Retreat, a BVA President's reception and a farewell banquet.

Ray Hazan was asked to deliver the Father Carroll Memorial Luncheon speech. Father Thomas J Carroll was the Chaplain to the BVA and these speeches are in tribute to him. Ray concentrated

on St Dunstan's approach to training and rehabilitation in which they were very interested.

As one might expect, our hosts were very hospitable, interested and interesting. We hope to arrange exchange visits in the future.

Operation Peer Support by Simon Brown

This August, I was lucky enough to be invited back to the USA to be a part of the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA) Operation Peer Support (OPS). The event was held in Washington DC from the 22-29 August. The OPS works similar to our Younger St Dunstaners Group. It gets together younger members of the US armed forces who have served in recent conflicts and lost some form of sight, and uses their own experiences and knowledge to help each other. Then to

aid with their recovery and knowledge, there are classes put on advising them on what is available to them in areas such as benefits, employment, technology, research, training and sports opportunities.

In Washington DC this year, we were joined by an American charity called Team River Runner. This is a group of US ex-Servicemen that got together to make water sports available to injured veterans. So this year they decided to take a bunch of blind guys canoeing on the Potomac. On the Monday, we spent the day paddling around in kayaks and canoes doing the usual thing of throwing each other in and causing problems for the safety staff.

On Tuesday and Wednesday there were lectures and information briefs throughout the day,

with an opportunity to go and look at the Exhibition Hall to see what new technologies are available to assist visually impaired and blind people and find out what is in the development stage. There is some interesting stuff on the horizon.

Thursday, our host and friend Tom Zampieri managed to blag a visit to the British Embassy, therefore my partner and I joined Ray and Robbie Hazan as we discussed St Dunstan's, the importance of the support from the Armed Forces and any support they may give in a partnership between St Dunstan's and the BVA. Our efforts were rewarded by the Admin WOII informing me that their charity fundraising event this year would be for St Dunstan's.

Saturday was a second day on the river, only this time it was a competition. There was a sprint race and a

blindfolded slalom race, so we all had to use our ears for the gates to make it even. You will all be pleased to hear that we got a double British gold. I proved too much for the Americans to cope with. This was followed by the closing dinner, which led to a farewell party in a local bar where numbers and e-mails were exchanged and hopefully lifetime friendships were sealed. In all, I think their OPS is a fantastic opportunity programme that we could learn from, however I do believe the American system could also learn from us. The one main thing I did learn is that regardless of nationality being blinded ex-Military still gives you a bond.

Well done!

Burnham-on-Sea Housing Association raised several hundred pounds for St Dunstan's with their annual fete on 11 September. Well done everyone!

In memory of Geoff



St Dunstan's carpenter extraordinaire Geoff Bateman passed away on 6 July. He joined the Maintenance team at St Dunstan's Ovingdean in 1995 and, apart from general duties, constructed the bar in the corner of the lounge. The bar has now been named in his memory.



Mike Edwards, President of Tonbridge Lions Club, presented St Dunstan's Nigel Whiteley with a cheque for £500 on 6 September. Nigel thanked the club members for supporting blind ex-Service men and women.

Railtrack memorial at NMA

St Dunstan's Sidney Tavender joined fellow Ex-Far East Prisoners of War at the National Memorial Arboretum for a Service of Remembrance on the 65th anniversary of VJ Day on 15 August. The NMA is home to the Kwai Railway Memorial, a section of rail and sleepers mounted in the gardens as a reminder of those who worked and sacrificed their lives on the construction of the Burma-Siam Railway.



St Dunstan's Sidney Tavender recalls the torturous days of being a Far East Prisoner of War.

Grand ride for Jack, 12

A 12-year-old boy from Witney, Oxfordshire cycled 50K from Bognor Regis to St Dunstan's Ovingdean on 11 September. Jack Haynes and his dad, Robin, completed the ride in 5 hours 40 minutes and



raised over £1,000 for blind ex-Service men and women. "I wanted to do something to help in a small way," said Jack. "Although it was windy cycling it was fun. It was great to meet everyone at St Dunstan's afterwards."

Correction



Last month, we said that Alf Lockhart was escorted by his son on VJ Day. It was in fact, his son-in-law, Army veteran Peter Neal.

POET'S CORNER

My Spring Garden

by Ron Ballard

I like my garden in the Spring,
With lawns that look so neat and trim,
I like the blossoms on the trees,
The borders that are meant to please,
To see the snowdrops peeping through,
And daffodils that shed their hue,
The tulips open to the sky,
Are very pleasing to the eye,
Now Spring has gone and Summer's here,
I feel it's time to shed a tear

Ron submitted this poem for publication shortly before he passed away in May.

Tommy's Story

by Norman Keable

Talking scales and watch he's got
And not the only thing in his lot,
Blood testing machine he has as well
That's giving me lots of hell.
Oh I wish I could see this woman
Who talks away to he,
We always used to be three
But now it's him and me.
For 56 years they were a pair,
But alas she is not there,
Alas I wish I could meow,
But I just don't know how.
When he walks our street,
I am there at his feet,
When on the sofa, we watch TV,
He always cuddles close to me.
And now his eyes grow dim,
It's my job to look after him.

Well done, Arthur



St Dunstaner Arthur Head of Orpington, Kent has been spreading the word. He set up a stand in the Walnuts Shopping Centre to encourage interest in blind ex-Service men and women.

Now that's branding



Marked man! Peter Williams.

Having served in the Royal Signals, St Dunstaner Peter Williams knows how to send a message. He's quite proud of his new tattoo - St Dunstan's crest! "It's something dear to my heart," said Peter.

66 years on, Chindits reunite!

LAST TIME St Dunstaners Ben Gascoigne and Albert Simpson met up, they were roughly 200 miles behind enemy lines in the jungles of North Burma. This time, 66 years later, the venue is more comfortable, the Blue Room at St Dunstan's Ovingdean.

As young men in the Leicestershire Regiment, Ben and Albert were part of the Special Force created in 1943 by Major General Orde Wingate, DSO to penetrate behind Japanese lines and disrupt enemy activities, encouraging the local population to resist where possible.

"He was a soldier's soldier," said Ben. "A very practical man," agrees Albert. "No paperwork, very hands-on."

Both men were air dropped with mules,



Chindits Albert Simpson and Ben Gascoigne.

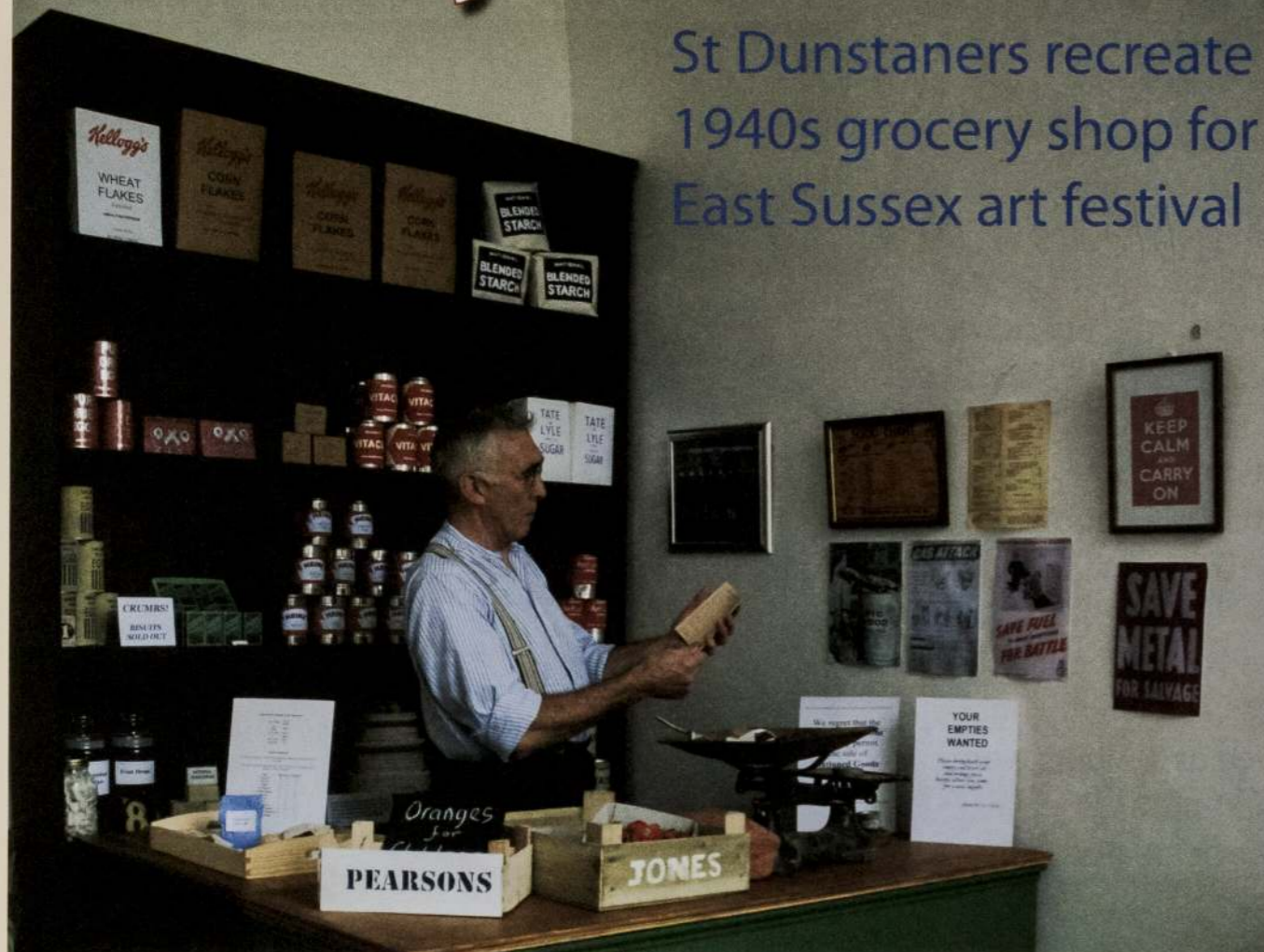
donkeys, and bullocks, used for transport and, if necessary, as food. They and others then spread out in columns, never staying long in one location, striking at the enemy and moving on.

"He was a sergeant and I was a bloody corporal," said Albert. "They were useful chaps to know," responded Ben.

Ben, 94, of Newark made contact with Albert, 88, of Middlesbrough through St Dunstan's Review. They realised that they had been part of the same column during the expedition. Acknowledging the peril of the mission, both take pride in having been a thorn in the enemy's side.

Where is your ration book?

St Dunstaners recreate 1940s grocery shop for East Sussex art festival



Main: Craft Instructor Leigh Gibbins checks a price. Left: John Gasston, Wallace and Jean Burnet-Smith, Joyce Charlton and Matt Rhodes at Newhaven Fort. Right: Arthur Walton examines a sculpture.

ST DUNSTANERS created a replica Second World War grocer's shop as part of an East Sussex art festival last month. The shop was created as part of Artwave 2010 and featured papier-mâché fruit and vegetables and hand-made replicas of wartime posters, including some that encouraged eating carrots as a way of improving eyesight.

Cereal packets and tins of soup were carefully constructed in the Craft Workshop at St Dunstan's Ovingdean.

Named Pearson's, after St Dunstan's Founder, the display was staged at Newhaven Fort and aimed to recreate an impression of life during the Second World War.

Advice on the design of the shop came from St Dunstaner Arthur Walton whose family owned a chain of fruiterers in London.

St Dunstaners raise the drawbridge on history

NEARLY 600 years of history was covered by a group of St Dunstaners on 13-17 September. They met at St Dunstan's Ovingdean for the annual History Week, visiting significant locations and discussing subjects as diverse as golden age radio broadcasts and the fate of deserters during the Great War.

The week included a visit to Hever Castle, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, which also enjoys extensive and luxurious gardens.

An undoubted highlight came when Professor Simon Wessely, son of St Dunstaner Rudy



Brian and Margaret Holmes at Hever Castle.

Wessely, joined the History Group to explain the environment that surrounded Private Harry Farr when he was executed for desertion during the Great War. Professor Wessely was part of the tribunal that examined the pardon given to Farr.



Professor Simon Wessely talks about the fate of Private Harry Farr, executed during the Great War.

A top hat for a top week

Wendy Kane steals a cue from the Skiing Group for the St Dunstaners on this year's Activity Week



Our St Dunstaners get ready for a sport of canoeing in Appledore, Devon.

THE 2010 ACTIVITIES WEEK started off surprisingly well and yet again eventful. All aboard and on our way, until Win Jordan just happened to mention that she had left a carrier bag in reception back at St Dunstan's Ovingdean, but not to worry there wasn't anything important in it. Whoops!! There might not have been in her bag, but guess who left all her week's kit in her room? Me!

Brian Muggridge, our forever patient driver, to whom I'm always saying "Brian! I want a wee wee!" and to which he always replies, "Do some more colouring in we'll soon be there." Well this time it was myself who was colouring with

embarrassment, when we had to turn the bus back and collect said kit.

This is when all decided that we needed some sort of hat to wear as a punishment for wrong doings. All St Dunstan's

Skiing Group know of the "Stavely Hat" where whoever made a cock-up, or did something wildly daft has to wear the hat for the rest of the day, no matter where they are, until it is passed on to the next nominated poor soul. In that spirit, the hat was named The Week's Activities Trophy Hat! Ahem!

On Sunday, we arrived in Appledore in North Devon just in time to get into our rooms and

That HAT in rhyme by Wendy

Monday's Hat forgot her kit,
The driver had to go back for it!!

Tuesday's Hat was in a muddle,
Up the creek without a puddle.

Wednesday's Hat got the quiz wrong
Now is singing the "Buffalo Song"

Thursday's Hat was hard to follow
He got lost down in the hollow

Friday's Hat just couldn't hack it
Said a potato was a jacket.



Chris Lee was lumbered on Friday.

down the pub. Monday, we were getting to know our way around the centre and meeting all the instructors. The team went onto the assault course. The wall was very high and a few couldn't quite make it, but the majority did the abseil in splendid form.

The rest of the day was spent doing outdoor activities, such as crate building, which was so funny. They had 20 or so crates and we had to stack them onto one another and stand on the top as we went.

Both competitors were attached to a line but couldn't use this for support. It was a very, very, windy day and the crates were swaying like mad. The record for this was 25 crates, so we had to beat it, didn't we? However, there was too much laughing going on that many just couldn't balance. We did 17 crates which for a visually impaired team was magnificent, and so said the instructor.

Tuesday was kayaking on the river. The guys all did well getting their

kayaks into the water, well for the exception of our Sports and Rec Instructor, Andrew who was in front of St Dunstaner Gary Ogden. They were trying to shuffle the boat into the water whilst sat on the bank, which was funny in itself, but when Andrew thought he had hit the water and started paddling, the look on Gary's face was a picture. They were still on the bank.

Steve Shepherd had James Poole as co-pilot. James in his infinite

wisdom decided to lay down in the back, staring up to the gods. Steve turned around to see why they weren't going anywhere, as he was paddling like mad. He made James change places. James got in front and guess what? Yep! He did his dying act all over again. But the Hat went to our Andrew, it had to.

The evening was spent on a rigid inflatable boat (RIB) around the Devon coastline. At the rear was attached a doughnut to which Charlie did a dying swan and hurt his ribs on the fallout, so we tried not

to laugh and not do the same. It only hurts when I laugh!! Or breathe!

Wednesday, we all made our way to Westward Ho! for a bit of body surfing. Looks quite simple, not!! I was most proficient with the board on top of me; maybe that's why it's called body surfing. But all the lads had a good time. Sparky even managed to get on his knees, mind you he's used to being there!

Two of the lads decided to decline the activity and instead had a leisurely walk back to base, which was about

an hour or so away. Brian was sighted guiding Chris Lee, who isn't. Guess who got lost and was asking Chris which way to go? Duh! So the Hat was his for the next 24 hours.

Thursday was a day at Hartland doing an abseil of 250 feet on a sheer cliff face, Steve Shepherd wanting to scramble back up once over the edge, hanging like a skinned rabbit, but he made it to the bottom with the help of Win Jordan guiding three others back over the large and very slippery boulders to safety, but she decided then to trip herself over the smallest pebble on the beach.

Quiz Night and Family Fortunes - more like misfortunes - the Hat came back to me for answering which animal commits suicide on migration. I said it was buffalo, because there is a place in Canada called Head-Smashed-In



Gary Ogden has the ball in a high speed game at St Dunstan's Ovingdean, organised by James Foley and Jason Hayward of British Military Fitness.



St Dunstaner Billy Black abseils down a stone cliff face. Inset: Safely down!

Buffalo Jump (honest, look it up. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site). So it stands to reason that I had it wrong! "Lemming" was the answer, so Brian got his own back.

Friday, another frantic day, etc, all laughing our heads off each other's antics. These activities are packed into a full agenda, so we are never bored. Back in Brighton, we spent a morning bowling in town. Steve Nixon and Steve Finlay joined us.

Charlie Eastwood was on his knees praying for a strike and still trying not to laugh. In the afternoon we were put through our paces by the lads from British Military Fitness.

Fancy Dress and Barbie awards given for bravery (not really) but to Gary Ogden for excelling at the week's activities.

Steve Nixon was fed up being in his wheelchair on the dance floor, so to make him feel at home we all commandeered

one, and it was "Wheels on Fire!!!"

There is so much more, and tales to tell but to be part of it you must join our band of brothers and sisters on the next Activities Week.

In Memory

This is for our dearly departed friend and team player John Patterson. Wherever we are and whatever we do, we shall never forget that you are with us in our hearts and minds. Sadly missed.

Reunion Round-Up

There were nine St Dunstaners and one widow united at the Northern Ireland Reunion on 1 September. Held at La Mon Hotel and Country Club, Castlereagh, Belfast, St Dunstan's Vice Chairman Timothy Bacon presided.

St Dunstaner Hugh Megarry responded and Michael Mann also spoke in appreciation.

On 7 September at the Blackpool Reunion, there were 31 St Dunstaners and one widow at the The Imperial Hotel, Blackpool, Lancashire. Tim Davis was the member of Council presiding and St Dunstaner Ernest Lee responded for those present.

Major General David Jolliffe, CB, FRCP was the member of St Dunstan's Council presiding at the Chorley Reunion

on 8 September. Held at the The Pines Hotel, Clayton-le-Woods, Chorley, Lancashire, there were 46 St Dunstaners and three widows present. St Dunstaner Frank Hookham gave an eloquent response.

There were 35 St Dunstaners and eight widows gathered at the Kent Reunion on 14 September. It was held at the Chart Hills Golf Club, Biddenden, Kent and Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter,

KCVO, OBE, DL was the member of St Dunstan's Council presiding. St Dunstaner Harry Luckhurst responded for those attending.

There were 37 St Dunstaners and six widows at the Norwich Reunion on 15 September. They met at the Barnham Broom Hotel, Norwich, Norfolk where St Dunstan's President Ray Hazan presided. RAOC St Dunstaner Gordon Coldrick gave the response for everyone.

BEER OF THE MONTH

by Colin Williamson

Barnsley Beer Company have produced a belter of a beer called "Shut Thi Gob", a delicious strong brown ale. This beer is quite complex, brewed using three different types of grain. It also contains German hops which give it quite a "Teutonic" kick! This is a lovely "toasty" beer, almost like an old fashioned Porter. With a great combination of dark malts and aromatic hops, it will appeal to most tastes. Available at B&M Bargain stores or direct from the Barnsley Beer Company.

Fast game before the rain comes

by Pam Crossan

ONCE AGAIN our band of merry men got the clubs out and took to the golf course at Rusper Golf Club for the weekend of 21-22 August. We have always been very fortunate with the weather, so when we saw dark skies hovering above I was a little apprehensive but that did not deter our members. Out came the wet weather clothes, all colours, shapes and sizes and away we went. On Saturday, Club Captain Graham Johnson decided we would play a Texas Scramble, which is a fast running game so we were hoping to dodge the rain clouds. The spotters drove off at a safe hasty speed with golfers on board.

Graham headed the pairings and took an immediate lead on the first hole. However, a wayward drive and a lost ball on the second

brought the match back to all square. Our oldest member, St Dunstaner Ernie Allott started his round in very decent form but faltered mid-way. He was offered some very sound advice from his 60-year-old golf-playing spotter Keith, to which he replied that he had been playing golf long before Keith had been born. So firmly, but politely, he declined his advice and somehow managed to turn his game around. He soon got back into the swing of things and had a par on the 6th and 7th holes. We then all made a hasty retreat back to the club house before the deluge arrived.

Next day, we played our Captain's Medal game. The weather was much kinder to us and we enjoyed a more leisurely

pace. St Dunstaner John Nunney came out overall winner after he parred the 2nd and 3rd, then birdied the 4th. Our captain, who was paired up with John, fought back well with a par on the 7th and 8th, but John's straight putting made sure he came out on top.

We would like to welcome St Dunstaner Tony Haskey who made his first appearance for the August Weekend at Rusper Golf Club. I am sure he will enjoy his golf with us.

World Champs

The 2010 IBGA World Championships held in Northamptonshire in August were won by Jeremy Poincenot from the USA. Several days later, the British Blind Open was won by Australian Graham Coulton. Several St Dunstaners took part in each competition.

A very colourful Reed

St Dunstaner **Eve Lucas** recalls the notorious day she was asked to chaperone actor Oliver Reed on TV

IN A KIND of daze I walked slowly out of the main gates of the BBC Television Centre. I had just retired from my wonderful job there. Still in a daze I sat at home for two days mulling over how remarkable my years in television light entertainment had been.

In this department we had a motto - "A day without laughter is a day wasted!" To this day I believe that, even though all these years later the laughter is consistently harder to come by!

I worked on a variety of programmes such as *This is Your Life* with always lovable Eamonn Andrews; Benny Hill shows when Benny adopted me as his new Auntie; Dick Emery shows with "Ooh, you are awful". Dick in a blonde wig was an unforgettable experience; and not forgetting the whole platoon of *Dad's Army*.

I had gone on to be a Researcher on *The Parkinson Show* - a never-ending search of famous names; glittering names; scintillating names and people you considered it to be a privilege to meet.

For two days after I sadly said goodbye to all this, having been given a star-studded farewell party, I sat at home mulling over how fortunate I had been. But what of the future?

Then on the third day, to my huge delight, I was invited back on contract. There followed several more years of

Parkinson until Michael went to Australia and the programme disappeared from the schedules. Many young trainees had by then come and gone from the scene, among them a charming young man who had, by then, formed his own commercial TV company. He was producing a very serious late night discussion programme for Channel Four.



Former ATS PTI
St Dunstaner Eve Lucas.

I was flattered (not to mention amazed) when he asked me to work for him as a Senior Researcher. Having always worked for the BBC and mainly on programmes devoted to entertainment I accepted, considering it a challenge. I did ask my young producer friend why he wanted me, when all his staff were young, very bright and full of enthusiasm. "Because," he said, "You will be a steady influence on them!" The first programme was entitled *After Dark*, chaired by Helena Kennedy (now Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws). Several clever and knowledgeable people sat around on deep sofas discussing such worthy subjects as "Save the Whale", "Incest", and "Organic Farming". The light was subdued and there was a drinks trolley at their disposal on the set. It was all very civilised. I was accustomed to working on pre-recorded

programmes where any unforeseen "happening" could be edited out. However, *After Dark* was a live programme. But I was not thrown by this as to date there had been civilised discussions by educated contributors.

One week the subject under discussion was to be "Feminism". An American author named Kate Millett, who had written a bestselling book called *Sexual Politics*, was invited on to the programme. As I had always thought feminist women were deadly dull, I longed for Dick Emery to barge onto the set and biff the self-satisfied Kate Millett.

Nevertheless, I did feel slightly nervous when my young boss said he had booked the outrageous Oliver Reed, and he wanted me to "look after him!"

"Is that wise?" I ventured, remembering my one and only encounter with Oliver, when he

had been invited to be a guest on *Parkinson* and had invaded the set with six of his mates, all dressed as country yokels with straw sticking out of their hair, and all had been absolutely plastered.

Fortunately on that occasion, being a pre-recorded programme, we were able to edit out the incident and only the studio audience saw it. I also had a fleeting picture come into my mind of the film *Women in Love* in which Oliver Reed and Alan Bates had wrestled naked on the floor.

My young boss just laughed when I questioned his decision.

"It will be a grand discussion," he said. "Just keep him away from the booze."

I had a "quick one" myself to steady my nerves!

It was usual for the guests to assemble prior



Oliver Reed makes his apologies and leaves the studio. The broadcast can be found on YouTube as originally transmitted and also set to music.

to the programme to have a little discussion together, but it was decided to delay Oliver's arrival until a few minutes before transmission began in order to be sure he was sober.

I met him at the studio entrance and my heart sank. He was clutching a half pint beer mug full of white wine. The moment he sat down he made it apparent he disliked Kate Millett on sight. Right from the start he peppered his comments with the c-word, the s-word, the f-word and the

b-s word. He rolled his eyes wickedly, he gestured flinging his arms about, and when the conversation veered towards the fact that some men were violent towards women, he shouted "No, bullshit! It's all down to the man, not the woman who wants to get shafted!"

By then Oliver had spotted a bottle of wine on the drinks trolley in the studio. He staggered over, brought the bottle back to his seat, stumbling over the legs of the other five guests, and proceeded

to fill his half-pint mug and drink noisily.

Unknown to us in the studio, at this point the viewers' screens had gone blank. We found out later but oblivious at the time, a hoaxer, probably also inebriated, had picked up the phone in reception, and blagged his way through to the studio control room, pretending to be Lord Rees-Mogg of the BBC. He had said that Michael Grade, at that time in charge of Channel Four, was furious "and wanted this bloody shambles taken off air now!" My young producer friend, knowing it was a bloody shambles, said "Yes, Sir" - and took it off air.

After ten minutes, in the studio, Oliver had quietened down somewhat, more intent in emptying the whole bottle of wine.

Unknown to us, we went back on air and at

this point, Oliver stood up and announced, "I'm going to have a slash." He stumbled off, I followed him. He promised me that he would behave. "It's just that big-tits got on my nerves," he apologised.

Returning, he passed behind the sofa where Kate Millett was seated, plonked his bottom on the back of the sofa and deliberately fell backwards onto her, knocking her specs sideways. He had her face in a vice-like grip between his two hands and planted a smacking great kiss on her tight lips. "I'm sorry big-tits," he said with false charm and worked his way back to his seat.

He announced to the still-recovering Kate, "Listen, I'll put my plonker on the table if I don't get my mushy peas!" By this time, it was obvious that he was bent on trouble and all the other guests were outraged. Kate Millett appealed to the

host, Helena Kennedy. "It's appalling," she said, "that anyone should be made to put up with this. I think he should leave." "Yes, Oliver," Helena said, "I think you should leave us!" Everyone agreed!

Oliver stood up, bowed politely to all the guests, and left the studio.

I propelled him into the waiting transport. The credits rolled, and the programme came to an end. Hundreds of angry viewers were telephoning by this time, and hundreds of letters of complaint

followed. There could have been even more had not an unknown hoaxer caused a 15 minute blackout. Oliver phoned me the next day full of polite apologies.

You might remember that I'd already told you that the motto in my early BBC days was "A day without laughter is a day wasted." I'm told extracts from this bizarre episode are occasionally replayed. If you've ever seen it, did it make you laugh? If so, good. That means, in my terms your day has not been wasted. I hope readers this has made you laugh.

Ten Answers for the quiz on page 14.

1) Glen Miller, for his recording of the *Chattanooga Chu Chu*; 2) King Midas; 3) George Washington. Subsequent recipients of the award include John Wayne, Bob Hope, Thomas Edison, George and Ira Gershwin, Frank Sinatra, Norman Schwarzkopf and in 2009 golfer Arnold Palmer; 4) Royal Ascot; 5) Rifle shooting. He won the Victoria Cross in France in 1914 and his Olympic medal in Paris in 1924, at the Olympiad featured in the film "Chariots of Fire"; 6) Dagger; 7) The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award; 8) Australia; 9) Wings; and finally, 10) The Blue Peter badge.

Welcome to **St Dunstan's**

Arthur Bown of Bristol, Avon served in the Royal Tank Regiment, RAC from 1939 to 1946.

Ronald Burn of Newick, Lewes, East Sussex served as Corporal in the General Service Corps, Durham Light Infantry, and Royal Military Police between 1947 and 1953.

Charles Clarke of Llanrwst, Gwynedd served in the Royal Air Force from 1947 to 1955.

Colin Cooke of Ryarsh, West Malling, Kent served in the Royal Air Force from 1943 to 1945.

George Corker of Royston, Barnsley, South Yorkshire served in the Royal Artillery from 1951 to 1957.

Leslie Curtis of Dartmouth, Devon served as Able Seaman in the Royal Navy from 1940 to 1946.

Peter Dabell of Sheffield, South Yorkshire served in the Royal Navy from 1947 to 1954.

Alec Diaper of Ipswich, Suffolk served in the Royal Armoured Corps from 1940 to 1946.

Danny Doherty of Twyford, Barrow-on-Trent, Derby served in the Irish Guards from 1952 to 1955.

Frank Doran of Standish, Wigan, Lancashire served in the General Service Corps and King's Regiment (Liverpool) between 1944 and 1948.

Kenneth Fildew of Tiverton, Devon served as Leading Aircraftman in the Royal Air Force from 1953 to 1957.

Mary Foote of Weybridge, Surrey served in the Auxiliary Territorial Service from 1941 to 1946.

Terence Foster of Long Eaton, Nottingham served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from 1950 to 1972.

George Gates of Washington, Tyne and Wear served in the Royal Signals from 1955 to 1962.

Ronald Grant of Ockley, Dorking, Surrey served in the General Service Corps, Hampshire Regiment, Manchester Regiment, South Staffordshire Regiment, and East Surrey Regiment between 1944 and 1947.

David Hauley of Yeovil, Somerset served as an Engineer Mechanic in the Fleet Air Arm from 1950 to 1957.

Thomas Hallworth of Stockport, Cheshire served in the Royal Engineers from 1940 to 1946.

Winifred Hollins of Stafford, Staffordshire served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force from 1947 to 1948.

John Iliff of King's Lynn, Norfolk served in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers from 1955 to 1961.

Witold Kocielowicz of Maidstone, Kent served in the Polish Army and then the Polish Navy from 1942 to 1948.

Joseph Lord of Fleetwood, Lancashire served in the Royal Marines from 1941 to 1946.

Joseph Mooney of St Helens, Merseyside served in the Royal Navy from 1943 to 1946.

Frank Norris of Hayes, Middlesex served in the General Service Corps, Dorset Regiment, and Royal Army Ordnance Corps between 1943 and 1947. He was stationed in the Far East.

Ken Oyston of Halifax, West Yorkshire served in the Royal Air Force from 1955 to 1969.

James Podmore of Shurdington, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire served in the General Service Corps and Royal Army Service Corps between 1944 and 1948.

Peter Price of Eye, Peterborough served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps from 1964 to 1972.

Violet Roberts of Tutshill, Chepstow, Gwent served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force from 1942 to 1949, and then in the Women's Royal Air Force until 1950.

William Sibley of Rochford, Essex served in the Merchant Navy from 1944 to 1947 and then joined the Metropolitan Police Force for 35 years.

Donald Simpson of Burnley, Lancashire served in the Royal Artillery and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers between 1939 and 1946.

Margaret Stayt of Aldershot, Hampshire served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force from 1943 to 1946.

Walter Stead of Acaster Malbis, York, North Yorkshire served in the Royal Army Service Corps from 1939 to 1946.

Fusilier Shaun Stocker of Rhostyllen, Wrexham, Clwyd is currently serving in 1 Battalion, The Royal Welsh.

Kenneth Sims of Northwood, Middlesex served in the Royal Navy from 1937 to 1952.

Ernest Stone of King's Lynn, Norfolk served as Warrant Officer in the Royal Air Force from 1939 to 1971.

Harry Studholme of Burnley, Lancashire served in the Royal Signals from 1948 to 1953.

William Watson of Colne, Lancashire served in the General Service Corps, East Lancashire Regiment, and King's Regiment (Liverpool) between 1942 and 1948.

Major George Wilkinson, MBE of Hindhead, Surrey served in the Royal Engineers from 1935 to 1958.

Family News



Photo courtesy and copyright SWNS

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to:

Harry Corton, 88, and Edna Holford, 95, (above) who married on 14 August at Camborne Registration Office in Cornwall. The two St Dunstaners have a combined age of 183 and met at St Dunstan's Ovingdean. "We did all our courting at the Dance Club meetings," said Harry.

SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Andrew and Nicola Bull of Rassau, Gwent on 14 September.

Alf and Joyce Dodgson of Peacehaven, East Sussex on 21 September.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Eric and Una Hand of Bushey, Watford, Hertfordshire on 11 September.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Stanley and Pat Smith of Shirley, Croydon, Surrey on 3 September.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

Daniel and Joyce Rees of Swansea, West Glamorgan on 30 August.

Thomas and Margaret Crompton of Dolgellau, Gwynedd on 6 September.

Noel and Pat McCarthy of Moulton, Spalding, Lincolnshire on 9 September.

Bert and Jan Barclay of Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire on 12 September.

Tony and Dorothy Eldridge of Watford, Hertfordshire on 12 September.

PLATINUM ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

George and Peggy Attwood of Chatham, Kent on 31 August.

Frank and Joan Martin of Epsom, Surrey on 11 September.

Joseph and May Gregory of Coventry, West Midlands on 18 September.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the passing of:

Mary Streather on 6 February. She was the wife of St Dunstaner Harry Streather of Ulverston, Cumbria.

Jane McEwan on 20 March. She was the wife of St Dunstaner John McEwan of Shettleston, Glasgow City.

Vivian Best on 13 June. She was the wife of Royal Air Force St Dunstaner David Best of Chatham, Kent.

Ann Brown of Worcester, Worcestershire on 15 July. She was the widow of David Brown.

Margaret Greenham of Western Australia on 19 July. She was the widow of Laurence Greenham.

Joan Atkinson of Lea, Preston, Lancashire on 24 July. She was the wife of the late Roy Atkinson (See also In Memory, page 41).

Joan Beesley on 25 July. She was the wife of St Dunstaner Joseph Beesley of Prescot, Merseyside.

Rosemary Cummins of Great Bedwyn, nr Marlborough, Wiltshire on

11 August. She was the widow of St Dunstaner Kenneth Cummins who served in the Royal Navy and Merchant Navy during the First and Second World Wars.

Pauline Smith of Cherrybrook, New South Wales, Australia on 12 August. She was the widow of Keith Smith.

Molly McMullan on 4 September. She was the wife of Harry McMullan of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

Hannah Waterer on 4 September. She was the wife of St Dunstaner Alfred Waterer of Hackney, London.

Gwilyn Evans on 9 September. He was the husband of St Dunstaner Barbara Evans of Ipswich, Suffolk.

Becky Taylor of Chobham, Woking, Surrey on 15 September. She was the widow of REME St Dunstaner John Taylor. As a teenager during the Second World War, her family had to flee Egypt when persecution of the Jewish community escalated.

Katherine Graham of Whiteley Village, Hersham, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey on 17 September. She was the widow of Marcus Graham who survived the sinking of HMS *Prince of Wales*.

Our sympathy goes to their family and friends.

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.

Robert Wildman

Royal Air Force

Robert Wildman of Cambridge, Cambridgeshire died on 29 March, aged 88. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1938 and served in North Africa, Malta, and Italy. Discharged in 1946, he worked on Southern Railways as a driver and guard. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Thomas Salmon

Royal Artillery

Thomas Henry Salmon of Helston, Cornwall died on 14 April, aged 86. He joined the Army in 1942, quickly transferring to the Royal Artillery. He served in France and Germany before being demobbed in 1947. In civilian life, he was foreman at a haulage firm. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Douglas French

Royal Hampshire Regiment

Douglas French of Fovant, Salisbury, Wiltshire died on 13 May, aged 94. He served in the Royal Hampshire Regiment from 1933 to 1947. Later, he worked for the MOD. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Betty Nairn

Women's Auxiliary Air Force

Violet Elizabeth Nairn nee Cutler of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire died on 15 June, aged 90. She was widowed early in World War II when her first husband, a wireless operator and air gunner was lost in a bombing raid over Germany. She then joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1941 and was posted to RAF Mildenhall, maintaining spark plugs. During this time, she met her second husband and they married before he deployed to France. Discharged in 1944, she raised a family, later working for Image Arts. She enjoyed making wedding cakes and other baking. Our sympathy goes to her husband Bill and all the family.

Dorothy Walford

Women's Auxiliary Air Force

Dorothy Ann Walford nee Bouchier of Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, County Durham died on 19 June, aged 92. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1941 and trained as a plotter. She served as Section Officer in Glasgow, Ternhill, and Cranwell. Discharged in

1945, she married and raised a family, later working in market research. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Roy Atkinson

Royal Engineers

Roy Atkinson of Lea, Preston, Lancashire died on 28 July, aged 80. He joined the Loyal Regiment in 1952 then transferred to the Royal Engineers in 1954. Demobbed as Lance Corporal in 1958, he worked for English Electric and later British Aerospace. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Edward Jones

Cavalry of the Line

Edward Jones of Codsall, Wolverhampton died on 6 August, aged 92. He joined the Cavalry of the Line in 1936 and served on ceremonial duties with 16/5 Lancers. He was later deployed to India. During the Second World War, he served in Egypt, the Western Desert, Sicily and Monte Casino. Demobbed in 1945, he worked as a welder and a bus conductor before joining the steel industry. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Alan Jones

The King's Regiment (Liverpool)

Alan Jones of Pemwortham, Preston, Lancashire died on 7 August, aged 88. He joined The King's Regiment (Liverpool) in 1940 and was posted to

Leeds. Discharged as Lance Corporal in 1942, he became a salesman in the cattle trade, working the Fat Stock Markets in London. Later, he set up business selling sausage skins to sausage makers, though unfortunately the business went bust. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Arthur Mason

Royal Army Service Corps

Arthur Joseph Mason of Gosport, Hampshire died on 11 August, aged 83. He joined the Hampshire Regiment in 1944 and served in India during the last 18 months of the Second World War. Transferring to the Royal Army Service Corps, he went on to complete tours of duty in Germany, Trieste, Korea, Malaya, Singapore, and Jamaica. Discharged as Acting Staff Sergeant in 1963, he worked as an HGV driver and then electrical fitter. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Andrew Forrest

Royal Air Force

Andrew Neville Forrest of Kendal, Cumbria died on 14 August, aged 90. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1940 and served in Egypt, North Africa, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, the Western Desert and Italy. Demobbed in 1946, he worked in radio repairs and later became a technician at Solihull Sixth Form College. Our sympathy goes to his widow Jean and all the family.

Doreen Frost**Women's Auxiliary Air Force**

Doreen Frost nee Arber of Attleborough, Norfolk died on 14 August, aged 87. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1942 and served in Huntingdon and later at Bomber Command. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Ricky Steele**Royal Navy**

Richard Dalton Steele of Bognor Regis, West Sussex died on 14 August, aged 86. He joined the Royal Navy in 1942 and trained as a gunner. He served on merchant ships in the North and South Atlantic, Mediterranean, Indian Ocean, Burma and home waters. Discharged as Able Seaman in 1946, he worked in the building trade, retiring at 72. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Ronnie Briggs**Royal Air Force**

Ronald Briggs of Wilmslow, Cheshire died on 15 August, aged 85. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1943 and flew on Lancaster Bombers. Having survived being shot down in 1944, he was demobbed in 1947. In civilian life, he was a salesman for engineering firms and was Managing Director of Triplex when he retired in 1972.

George Glynn**Royal Pioneer Corps**

George Frederick James Glynn of South Harrow, Middlesex died on

15 August, aged 74. He joined the Royal Pioneer Corps in 1954 and served as a driver in Blandford and Hounslow. Discharged in 1956, he worked as driver for the Evening Standard, then moved to delivery firm Carte Patterson. Later, he worked for Harrow Council. Our sympathy goes to his widow Ann and all the family.

Dorothy Heath**Women's Royal Naval Service**

Dorothy Joan Heath nee Hitchins of Eastbourne, East Sussex died on 15 August, aged 87. She joined the Women's Royal Naval Service in 1943 and served as a Steward in Bath and Skegness. Demobbed in 1950, she joined the Merchant Navy, sailing the Australian run on SS Orcades, where she met her late husband. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Eric de Rose**Royal Army Service Corps**

Eric Albert Edward de Rose of Exeter, Devon died on 17 August, aged 93. He joined the Royal Army Service Corps in 1939 and served in France, Palestine, and North Africa. As Sergeant, he was Mentioned in Despatches for gallant and distinguished service in the Middle East. Commissioned in 1942, he joined a tank transporter unit and was wounded after landing in Normandy. Discharged in 1946, he became a teacher in the Approved School Service. He also

worked as secretary of Bournemouth Conservative Party and later ran his own property business. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Jim Hamer, OBE**Royal Navy**

James Hamer, OBE of Hull, North Humberside died on 19 August, aged 81. He joined the Royal Navy in 1946 and trained as an Air Engineering Mechanic. Having served on the aircraft carrier HMS *Unicorn* during the Korean War, he was demobbed as Petty Officer in 1959. In civilian life, he worked for firms such as Hawker Aircraft, Lufthansa, and BAC. He was seconded to the Saudi Air Force for 19 years. In 1983, he was awarded the OBE for services to the British aviation industry in Saudi Arabia. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

George Workman**Leicestershire Regiment**

George William Workman of Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands died on 19 August, aged 92. He joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1940. On D-Day, he and his battalion landed on Queen Beach, the section of Sword Beach between Lion-sur-Mer and La Brèche d'Hermanville. After heavy battles around Caen, they advanced through to Germany. Transferring briefly to the Leicestershire Regiment, he was demobbed in 1946. In civilian life,

George and his late wife, Mary, worked for the Foreign Office, travelling to Istanbul, the Hague, Israel, Zambia, Buenos Aires, and Yugoslavia.

William Shields**Royal Navy**

William Shields of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear died on 20 August, aged 88. He joined the Royal Navy in 1939 and served on North Atlantic Convoys and northern patrols. Having been involved with the hunt for the *Admiral Graf Spee*, he was discharged in 1947. In civilian life, he became a linesman, later becoming a foreman and then a taxi driver. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Victor Wright**Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve**

Victor Stanley Wright of Warfield, Bracknell, Berkshire died on 21 August, aged 91. He joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve in 1940 and qualified as an instrument maker. Having served in India and the UK, he was discharged in 1946. In civilian life, he worked as an engineer. Our sympathy goes to his widow Peggy and all members of the family.

Alexander Whitelock**Royal Army Medical Corps**

Alexander Whitelock of Wymondham, Norfolk died on 22 August, aged 85. He joined the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1943

and initially served at the Royal Victoria Military Hospital, Netley. His duties included escorting six blinded soldiers to St Dunstan's Church Stretton. Posted to Normandy in 1944, he served as an ambulance train orderly, but returned to the UK to train as a medical commando in anticipation of an invasion of Japan. The invasion never happened, but after VJ Day, he deployed to the Far East on a hospital ship to aid with the return of prisoners of war. Demobbed in 1947, he continued in civilian medical practice and became a nursing administrator in Tooting. Our sympathy goes to his widow Kathleen and all members of the family.

Gerry Mitchell
Army Air Corps

Lawton Gerrard Mitchell of Liverpool, Merseyside died on 26 August, aged 86. He had been a St Dunstaner since 2001. He joined the King's Regiment (Liverpool) in 1942 and transferred to the South Lancashire Regiment in 1943. Eight months later, he volunteered for the Parachute Regiment and transferred to the Army Air Corps. Having parachuted into Normandy on D-Day, he was wounded by an exploding mine and lost his right eye. Taken prisoner by the Germans, he was briefly held in Paris until liberated by American soldiers. Discharged in 1944, he held various labouring jobs.

Francis Short
Royal Engineers

Francis James Short of Ilchester, nr Yeovil, Somerset died on 26 August, aged 92. He joined the Royal Engineers in 1939 and was posted to France with the British Expeditionary Force. Captured south of Dunkirk, he was initially held in Belgium but later transferred to camps in Poland and Prussia. Demobbed in 1945, he worked in farming but later joined Westland Helicopters. Our sympathy goes to his partner Eileen and all the family.

Jessie McNulty
Auxiliary Territorial Service

Jessie McNulty nee Turnbull of Ovingdean, Brighton died on 28 August, aged 88. She joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service in 1942 and trained as a shorthand typist. Deployed to Europe, she was amongst the first ATS party to reach Berlin. Stationed at HQ Allied Commission, she met several wartime leaders including General Eisenhower, Field Marshal Montgomery, and Marshal Zhukov. Demobbed in 1946, she ran a typing pool for ICI until she married. A keen walker, she enjoyed hiking and cycling. Our sympathy goes to her sons Martin, Brian, Peter, and John, and all the family.

Allan Walton
Royal Air Force

Allan Walton of Lancaster, Lancashire died on 28 August, aged 86. Having

joined the Royal Air Force in 1942, he served as a Flight Mechanic. Discharged in 1947, he worked in a laboratory. Our sympathy goes to his widow Nora and all the family.

Hilda Hauck
Women's Auxiliary Air Force

Hilda Josephine Hauck nee Bradley of Worthing, West Sussex died on 29 August, aged 90. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1941 and served at Larkhill. Discharged in 1946, she married and raised a family. Our sympathy goes to her husband Valentine and all the family.

Eric Kendall
Royal Navy

Eric Kendall of Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria died on 29 August, aged 86. He joined the Royal Navy in 1946 and trained as a shipwright. Invalided out of the service later that year, he then worked on building submarines at the Vickers yard in Barrow-in-Furness. Our sympathy goes to his widow Margaret and all the family.

Sir Colville Barclay
Royal Navy

Sir Colville Herbert Stanford Barclay, 14th Bt of Winchester, Hampshire died on 1 September, aged 97. He joined the Royal Navy in 1941 and served in UK coastal waters. Demobbed as Lieutenant Commander in 1946, he went on to work for MI6. He was highly

regarded as a painter and his work remains highly collectable. He was also noted as an academic and naturalist with interests in history and jazz. Our sympathy goes to his widow Lady Rosamund and all the family.

Harry Chester
Royal Navy

Henry Alan Chester of Twyford, Banbury, Oxfordshire died on 1 September, aged 88. He joined the Royal Navy in 1940 and served in India, the Mediterranean, and Middle East. Discharged as Petty Officer in 1946, he joined his family baking and confectionary business, but later worked as an insurance agent and salesman for a motor spares company. Our sympathy goes to his widow Jean and all the family.

Anthony Cotterell
Royal Air Force

Anthony Paul Cotterell of Willersey, Broadway, Worcestershire died on 2 September, aged 83. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1945 and served in the Orkney Islands and Japan. Demobbed in 1948, he resumed his trade as a Joiner, working until he was 76. Our sympathy goes to his widow Shirley and all the family.

Edward Greenleaf, DSO, DFC
Royal Air Force

Squadron Leader Edward John Greenleaf, DSO, DFC died on

4 September, aged 95. Having joined the Royal Air Force as a 15-year-old in 1930, he completed his apprenticeship at RAF Halton and went on to serve on Blenheim and Wellington Bombers. He joined 571 Squadron which specialised in low level flying, launching attacks on highly prized targets such as canals. Mentioned in Despatches on three occasions, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order in October 1944 after one sortie against a strongly defended target in adverse weather. Soon after this event, he was also awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. During an attack on the Kiel Canal, he was injured when the aircraft was hit by flak, killing the navigator. He remained in the RAF, but was unable to rejoin aircrews. Retiring in 1958, he then worked for Weybridge Paperworks. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Peter Wood

Royal Gloucestershire Hussars

Peter Wood of Wingate, County Durham died on 4 September, aged 89. He joined the Light Training Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps in 1941, then transferred to the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars. Posted to Egypt, he was taken prisoner but released as German forces retreated from North Africa. He then served further in Italy and France. Discharged in 1946, he worked

in drapery and men's clothing. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Norman Turner

Corps of Military Police

Ernest Norman Turner of Salisbury, Wiltshire died on 5 September, aged 91. He joined the Corps of Military Police in 1939 and served in North Africa, Italy, Austria, and Germany. Discharged as Company Quartermaster Sergeant in 1946, he worked as a carpenter and later for local government. Our sympathy goes to his widow Judith and all members of the family.

Leonard Wheeler

Royal Signals

Leonard John Wheeler of Ovingdean, Brighton died on 5 September, aged 91. He joined the Royal Signals in 1940 and served in the UK. Discharged in 1943, he worked as an engineer for the General Post Office and later joined the Central Medical Establishment in the audio section, testing the hearing of RAF pilots. His interests included electrical engineering, model railways and walking in the Lake District. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Hugh Hartley

Middlesex Regiment

Hugh William Hartley of Swanmore, Southampton, Hampshire died on 8 September, aged 90. He joined the

Territorial Army in 1939 and became a regular in the Middlesex Regiment in 1942. Commissioned in 1944, he served in Iraq, Palestine, Syria, and Italy. Demobbed in 1946, he rejoined the TA serving further as Lieutenant. In civilian life, he worked for Debenhams and later for Shand Kydd. Our sympathy goes to his widow Mary and all members of the family.

Thomas Wignall

Royal Engineers

Thomas Wignall of Denton, Manchester died on 15 September, aged 84. He joined the General Service Corps in 1943 and transferred to the Lancashire Fusiliers the following year. Having deployed to Normandy, he later transferred to the Royal Welch Fusiliers as they advanced to Germany. He transferred to the Royal Engineers in 1948 and was demobbed as Lance Corporal in 1951. He became a welder and later worked as a security officer. Our sympathy goes to his widow Emma and all the family.

Len Hassam

Royal Army Service Corps

Leonard Henry Hassam of Ovingdean, Brighton died on 16 September, aged 91. He had been a St Dunstaner since 1982. Having joined the Territorial Army, he was embodied in the Royal Army Service Corps in 1939 and deployed to France as part of the

British Expeditionary Force. After Dunkirk, he was posted to Belfast where he was diagnosed with diabetes. Discharged in 1942, he worked in the construction industry, for the family firm established by his father, which was eventually bought out by Tarmac, and also for roofing company Briggs Amasco. He retired in 1978. His interests included wrought iron work and picture framing. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Lyn Coles

Intelligence Corps

Cecil Llewelyn Coles of Chippenham, Wiltshire died on 17 September, aged 93. He worked at Bristol Aircraft Factory before joining the Royal Army Service Corps in 1942. Serving in the UK, France and Germany, he transferred to the Intelligence Corps a few months before discharge in 1946. In civilian life, he worked for the Inland Revenue and later as an Immigration Officer. Our sympathy goes to all the family.

Bea Hudson

Women's Auxiliary Air Force

Beatrice Esther Hudson nee Bartley of Burgess Hill, West Sussex died on 19 September, aged 97. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1942 and served around the UK. Demobbed in 1946, she worked in an accounts department and raised a family. Our sympathy goes to all members of the family.

Yomping on the moor



The pub is calling! Our Yompers at South Hessary Tor towards the end of the walk. Tony Haskey, Stan Bowers, Kosy Haskey, Gabby Wright, Gerry Jones, friend Helen, Simon Wright, Geraldine Plaw, Billy Black, Colin Williamson, Steve Sparkes, Brenda Williamson, Simon Rogers, and Jim Johnson.

AROUND 200 people walked a rugged 12 miles in support of Service charities on 11 September. A group of St Dunstaners were amongst those taking part in the Dartmoor Yomp 2010, trekking from 42 Commandos base at Bickleigh Barracks to historic coaching house The Plume of Feathers in

by Simon Rogers

Princetown. Some hardy members of the group had even pitched their tents for the weekend. Last year's yomp raised over £6,000 for St Dunstan's.

The 2010 route was slightly shorter since Steven Spielberg had film crews up on the

moors for his version of acclaimed West End play *War Horse*. However, that didn't deter one Yomper who insisted that everyone should head up a hill covered in sodden tufts of grass.

The weekend also saw St Dunstaner Steve Sparkes reunited with his old judo instructor, also a former Royal Marine. It's a small world!