

PPS notes

PRIME MINISTER

You may remember a conversation when we wondered what had happened to David Brown, who used to own Aston Martin.

Well, here he is in the gossip column of last Friday's "Daily Express" at some party, aged 83 with a wife some 47 years younger than himself.

AH.

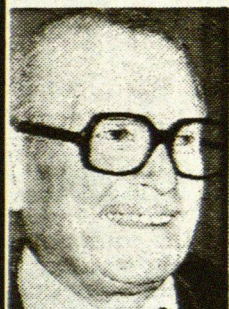
ARCHIE HAMILTON

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THE DIARY ROSS BENSON

No 1 IN FLEET STREET

er in the riend's den



Larry...curious

lightened, shy and curious." And, the Hollywood legend says he told Olivier: "I will if you will. The decision was made. This gross Egyptian led us to the gents and offered us a sniff. 'We laughed self-consciously and took turns. All I felt was a lead too clear and light to be natural. Larry, poor soul, never very robust, got sick to his stomach and asked to leave quickly so he could throw up. "That was the first and last time we ever tried Happy Dust." It's wonderful to muse on the great thespian Lord Larry, now 80,

conducting this hideous experiment. However, it was a long time ago and yesterday his secretary told me: "He doesn't know anything about this book. And he can't remember the incident."

PERENNIAL
Wimbledon champion Martina Navratilova has a soft spot for old ladies as well as young ones.

Lunching alone in a Manhattan restaurant the other day, she surprised an elderly woman at the next table by insisting on paying her bill.

Martina explained: "You remind me of my grandmother."



Picture: RICHARD YOUNG

Odd couple . . . Paula and Sir David

And another wedding . . .



The lovely bride

WE'RE all off today to the Wedding of the Year. And we, the tireless colleagues of Ross Benson, invite you to join us in wishing him well at his heroic and, he insists, his ultimate excursion into matrimony.

This afternoon we'll descend on Chelsea to raise several glasses of champagne to toast his marriage to Majesty magazine editor Ingrid Seward.

And of course to bring you all the gossip from the great occasion.

Animals at the Hunt ball

QUITE the most breathtaking sight at ex-world motor racing champion James Hunt's 40th birthday was mega-rich industrialist Sir David Brown, 83, and his "child bride."

Sir David who built up Aston Martin, appeared to be the bird-watcher, keeping a beady eye on his wife Paula, 47 years his junior, when she turned out as a peacock at Hunt's fancy-dress bash.

Hunt and wife Sarah asked the 150 guests to come to his Wimbledon home dressed as animals; and the animals came in two by two.

Among them Viscount Cowdray's heir Michael Pearson, 43, with his own young and pregnant wife Marina, 28, and the Marquis of Blandford, under the watchful eye of girlfriend Becky Few-Brown, 25.

Even Soraya Khashoggi, made it on the right night with a change of costume. She confessed: "I turned up, dressed as a peacock, a week early!"

● Edited by JOHN ROBERTS with the William Hickey team: Neil Mackwood, Mary Corbett, Fiona Mooney,

YOU'LL WARM TO
COAL



BARBARA
DICKSON

After Dark

