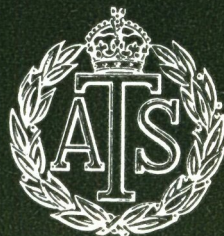
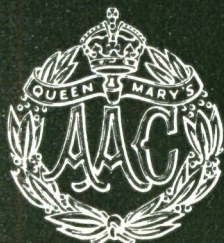


THE LIONESS

VOL XLIII

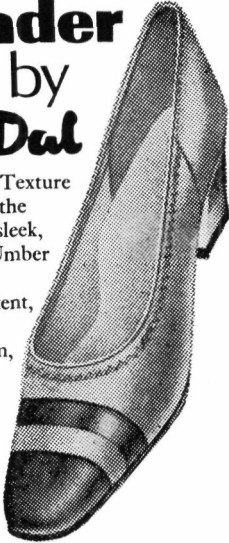
AUGUST 1970

No. 3



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WHO'S WHO

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Major General F. C. C. Graham Hon. Col. WRAC T & AVR with officers cadet E. M. Lindsay of 32nd (Scottish) Signal Regiment (V). In the background Major General A. M. W. Whistler, the Regiments' Hon. Colonel.

Photo By Alex O. Cowper



THE LIONESS

Vol. XLIII

AUGUST, 1970

No. 3

Editorial

THE August issue last year was full of plans for our Golden Jubilee celebrations. This time, with the excitement of the General Election and the World Cup safely behind and the holiday season in full swing, life is quiet, we are reluctant to think of coming activities in the autumn, and prefer to relax in the sunshine.

November seems a long way off but the next issue would be too late to remind our readers that the 1970 Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey will be opened at noon on Thursday 5th November. We are sorry to say that members have been conspicuous by their absence at this Service of Dedication. The Associations of all other Regiments and Corps seem to be well represented but, apart from the staff of Corps Headquarters, none of our ex-service members took the trouble to turn up last year. This lack of support was very noticeable when Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

walked round the Field of Remembrance after the ceremony and stopped at our plot.

Even a long hot summer does not bring a break in the work of the Benevolent Funds. Lieutenant Colonel Hingston has recently given up the appointment of Joint Secretary of the A.T.S./W.R.A.C. Benevolent Funds which she had held since the amalgamation in 1964. She took a keen interest in all aspects of the case work, which was her main concern, and many ex-servicewomen have reason to be grateful to Colonel Hingston for her help and service. We wish her well on her retirement.

The Funds are fortunate in having found a successor to Lieutenant Colonel Hingston in Mrs. J. W. Aggleton (formerly Major Mary Byers) who resigned on her marriage in 1955 after 16 years service in the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C. We extend a welcome to Mrs. Aggleton on behalf of all our members.

T. & A.V.R. News

32nd (Scottish) Signal Regt. (Vol.)

ROYAL Signals also are celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year, so it would seem an appropriate opportunity for W.R.A.C. serving with Royal Signals in 32nd (Scottish) Signal Regiment (V) to send greetings to the editorial staff of THE LIONESS and members of the W.R.A.C. everywhere.

For the benefit of readers who may not know much about Scotland and in particular about W.R.A.C. T. & A.V.R. serving with Royal Signals North of the Border we give a short account of the Regiment since it formed in April 1967 (we hope to give details prior to this date in a subsequent issue).

32nd (Scottish) Signal Regiment (V) was formed from:

51st (Highland) Divisional Signal Regiment T.A.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signal Regiment T.A.

61st (City of Edinburgh) Signal Regiment T.A.

all of which had W.R.A.C. serving in them. The new Regiment now had W.R.A.C. deployed as follows:-

R.H.Q. at Glasgow

Senior W.R.A.C. Officer—Major Nina HAVERGAL

W.R.A.C. P.S.I. —W.O. II BOON

51 (Highland) Signal Squadron (V) at Aberdeen

Lieutenant Sylvia MAIN

Sergeant BARTLET

52 (Lowland) Signal Squadron (V) at Glasgow

Officer Cadets BUNTAIN and LINDSAY

Staff Sergeant WADDELL and Sergeants BUNTAIN and YOUNG

61 (City of Edinburgh) Signal Squadron (V) at Edinburgh

Captain Maisie THOMSON, Second Lieutenants

Jenny CASTELL and Joanna MCCARRY Sergeant McLAUGHLAN

The girls are all trained as communication centre operators, which involves operating teleprinters and switchboards. Training will shortly be extended to include the operation of associated radio receivers.

Being "part-time" professionals, training cannot be completed as quickly as in the Regular Army but the time taken to learn how to operate a teleprinter has been greatly reduced by using the civilian Sight and Sound method.

Training this year has been very interesting—in February the girls deployed in operational locations and

had a taste of what it is like to operate in "holes in the ground". Then at Annual Camp they took part in the 13th Signal Group Exercise RED SHOES II from 1st to 7th June. This involved arduous shift work, and for some of the girls their first experience of staying up all night. The exercise was a test from which all emerged with flying colours.

During the second week of Camp, girls who had obtained their B.II trade qualifications had an opportunity to learn to drive whilst others went out adventure training. Whilst this was going on, they were visited by Major General F. C. C. GRAHAM, Hon. Col. W.R.A.C. T. & A.V.R.

For the future, recruiting is going well, with a high standard of girls joining the Regiment and it is not unknown for some to leave us for the Regular Army!

If any reader has served with Royal Signals, she is invited to attend the Royal Signals (Scotland) Jubilee Celebrations at PERTH on 25th October, contact the Reunion Secretary, 21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W. for details.

Unit News

VISIT OF H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF KENT TO HONG KONG

H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent visited Hong Kong from 14-18 Feb. 70. On arrival at Kai Tak Airport on Sat 14 Feb 70 H.R.H. was met by His Excellency The Governor Sir David Trench G.C.M.G., M.C. and Lady Trench. The Royal party were then escorted to Government House where they were accommodated during the visit.

On Monday 16 Feb H.R.H. spent the day at Victoria Barracks and met all the W.R.A.C. in Hong Kong at their places of employment. H.R.H. was met on her arrival at H.Q.L.F. by Brig. M. E. M. MacWilliam, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Deputy Commander and the W.R.A.C. Officers in Hong Kong. H.R.H. then toured the Barracks visiting the Communications Centre, the Camp Headquarters and Colvin House where the W.R.A.C. live. After luncheon which was given by the Deputy Commander and attended by the W.R.A.C. and A.C.C. Officers, H.R.H. continued her inspection of the Camp. The afternoon was spent visiting the W.R.A.C. Provost, watching a W.R.A.C. Netball Match and finally having afternoon tea with the W.R.A.C. Senior Ranks in the W.Os and Sgts. Mess.

In the evening H.R.H. attended a Cocktail Party given in her honour by the W.R.A.C. Officers in the Victoria Officers Mess. Later H.R.H. attended a dinner party given by Lt.-Gen. Sir Basil Eugster, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Commander British Forces Hong Kong and Lady Eugster at which the W.R.A.C. Junior Officers were present.

W.R.A.C. College

(Period ending 31st March, 1970)

DURING the past three months the College has had its fair share of influenza and snow. However all the cadets managed to stay well enough to be commissioned in December and the short course left after an official luncheon attended by the D.W.R.A.C.

Everyone returned refreshed after the Christmas break though some were unfortunate enough to spend Christmas in bed with flu!

In January H.Q. Company gave a belated Christmas party for local children. This the children thoroughly enjoyed but it left the organisers somewhat exhausted!

At the beginning of the year ten new officer cadets arrived to start their training. They are now busily preparing for their play to be presented in April as are their seniors for the commissioning on 15th April.

An extra short course started in February and we are very flattered that one member has come all the way from Australia to join the W.R.A.C.

The College has been active in the field of sport. Our team reached the semi-finals of the Army Inter Unit Hockey Tournament and Officer Cadet Warne was selected to play for the Army in the Inter Services hockey match. Pte. Olliviere was chosen to play in the Army netball team in the Inter service match and Captain Harlow is taking part in the individual Army table tennis championships in Aldershot.

As well as representing the Army the unit as a whole takes an active interest in all sport including skiing on the Aldershot slopes.

Editors Note: Unfortunately this contribution arrived too late to include in the May issue.

History in the Making

W.O. I (R.S.M.) D. HODGON, W.R.A.C.

ON Sunday, 12th April 1970 Colonel L. M. Davies, C.B.E., our Deputy Controller Commandant, and I represented the Women's Royal Army Corps at the service of Dedication of the new stained glass windows in the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, to replace those damaged by bomb blast in 1944.

The three new stained glass windows in the Chapel of Remembrance, depicting The Living Christ flanked by the Archangels Michael and Gabriel have been designed and executed by Mr. Lawrence Lee, A.R.C.A., who is well known for his work in Coventry Cathedral. The windows have been dedicated to the memory of all Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers who have served on the Staff at Sandhurst, including of course, their predecessors who served at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich and the Royal

Military College, Sandhurst.

The cost has been met from subscriptions to the Royal Memorial Chapel Appeal Fund from Corps and Regiments throughout the British Army.

Unfortunately, the Academy Church Parade which was to be inspected by Field Marshal The Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, K.G., G.C.B., D.S.O., D.L., had to be cancelled because of heavy rain, but the Service of Dedication, conducted by the Chaplain General and the Address given by the Lord Bishop of Guildford, was both solemn and impressive and an occasion long to be remembered.

RETIREMENT

**Brigadier the Hon. Dame Mary Anderson, D.B.E.,
Hon. A.D.C.**

IT seems almost impossible to believe that the calendar is right when it tells us that three years have passed since we welcomed Brigadier Dame Mary Anderson

as our Director and that the time has almost come for us to say "Goodbye" and wish her a very happy retirement.

Dame Mary, who relinquishes her appointment early next month, joined the A.T.S. in 1941 and was commissioned the following year. After qualifying at the W.R.A.C. Staff College, Frimley she held a number of interesting staff appointments and was also closely associated with the training of the Corps. First as O.C. Officer Cadet Wing and later as Commandant of the Depot and Training Centre at Guildford.

Dame Mary's most unusual posting was with Signals at H.Q. Allied Forces Northern Europe. We understand that she still has a great affection for Oslo and hope that its attractions will not prove too strong an inducement and keep her away from her many friends at home.

We look forward to having Brigadier Dame Mary Anderson remaining with us as a member of the Council for the next three years and are sure that we can place the same reliance on her future interest in the affairs of the Association as we have in the past. She takes our thanks and best wishes with her on her retirement.



PTE MILLIE TENT

4,700 miles in a Minibus

HOW many people would choose to go to the Sahara Desert in a minibus for a holiday? Not many I'm sure, but to me it was a challenge and something exciting to do. Like any expedition, this entailed a comprehensive amount of organisation and preparation. Luggage was strictly limited so there was little room for feminine accessories. Sleeping bags cooking utensils and clothes were all squashed into a kit bag without any room to spare. Passports, travel documents and money were tucked away in the safest possible places with our mosquito lotion and sun oil!!

Twelve of us with full kit squashed ourselves into the minibus in London. This vehicle was to be our home for the next three and a half weeks!! We left Victoria on 22 May at 1630. We drove to Dover and crossed the channel to Boulogne. The drive through France was hot and already we were beginning to feel the effects of severe cramp in the bus (we soon got used to it!). The scenery of the Loire Valley was enchanting. We eventually stopped at Angoulême where we spent our first night under canvas. My job on the trip was i/c cooking. The first Cordon Bleu meal was comprised of packet soup and a vast assortment of dried food stirred together!

The next morning triggered off another marathon start before dawn! Our aim was to reach Madrid the same day. Camp was set up as soon as possible. Unfortunately disaster occurred during the night—my lilo burst—the damage was irreparable! After that sad incident I had to sleep on the hard terrain. The whole of the next day was spent in Madrid visiting the Art Galleries and places of interest. In the evening we went to a bullfight and gluttonized ourselves on a delicious Spanish meal in the main square of Madrid (which saved the party from dried food!) We then drove on to Algeciras via Seville and caught the mid-day ferry to Ceuta and travelled on to Tangier. We camped on the cliffs above the sea (with our friends the mosquitos who were in full abundance.).

The next day was spent bargaining and haggling in the stores for Moroccan leather goods. In the early evening we toured the Casbah and the market. The throbbing market had a lot of charm and attraction but three hours of persistent haggling was about as much as any of us could stand. We terminated the day with a typical Moroccan meal of kebabs and cous cous. A hardened stomach would have been delighted with the meal!!

We travelled along the coast road to Rabat and then went on to Casablanca to camp on the beach. After a struggle with the sand and stag beetles our tents were eventually made vertical. A busy night was spent shaking the sand out of our possessions and flicking the stag beetles back into the sand.

The next day we headed towards the desert. Vegetation was changing rapidly; grass was in small scattered clusters and palm trees were becoming apparent. As one of the members of the group had a birthday it had been decided we should have a fancy dress party. The neighbouring nomads thought we were absolutely mad wandering around in our various creations. The first prize was awarded to a member of the group who dressed up as a poached egg in the inner sheet of her sleeping bag with a yellow hat perched on top of her head.

We then went on to Marrakech where we reclined for three nights in a hotel. The market was fascinating with a vast variety of goods in all the stalls. Snake charmers and dancers performed in the early evening in the market place. We visited the camel market and spent hours trying to persuade the Arabs that we had not got room in the minibus for a camel as well as ourselves!!

After we left Marrakesh we journeyed into the heart of the Atlas Mountains on the road to Oukaimeden. The road was just wide enough for one vehicle. We ascended with alarming rapidity through all sorts of strange tribal villages. When we reached the highest point we had the most magnificent view of the surrounding mountains and desert country. Eventually we retraced our steps back into the valley and took another road into a different part of the mountains to visit a Berber village. This involved depositing the bus at the end of the track, trudging for half a mile and then crossing a very deep swift flowing river. By forming a chain of hands we managed to pull each other across safely but our trousers and clothes were soaked. All the houses were built into the rock with chickens, goats and dogs ruling the homestead. The journey back to the bus was a little more eventful as one of the group got swept off her feet by the strong current.

On our return journey we camped in abandoned country. Sand and mosquitos again played an important part in the nights rest. The next morning the start was so early that when I staggered out of my tent at 5 a.m. I tripped over the guy rope and sprained my ankle. My journey to Fez was spent lying outstretched on the suitcases at the back of the bus trying to recover the vital use of my ankle. Fortunately one of the members of the group was a nurse.

We arrived at Fez in time for lunch and a swim. In the afternoon I managed to hobble round the old town supported by my fellow travellers, it was very dirty but at the same time very quaint. The back streets were cluttered with fruit stalls and lethal smelling sweetmeats. Bargaining was the passport to all purchases, coupled with the "yakking" of incomprehensible Arabic.

On leaving Fez we drove through the Rif Mountains. The expanse of really majestic beauty of these mountains was breathtaking. The vast areas of indiginous vegetation melted into the mountainside giving a "fairy story" effect. As we drove up the mountains we became surrounded by thick mist and rain. Sadly this was where

we were compelled to camp. It was too wet to cook so we squelched to bed with a crust of bread and cheese. When we emerged from our tents the next morning we were greeted by more rain. We drove to the nearest cafe (25 miles) to have breakfast and "drip-dry".

We travelled back to Ceuta to catch the ferry to Algeciras and spent the night in a pension as the tents were still soaking wet. Unfortunately the pension was not much of an improvement and only provided the most primitive accommodation. On arrival at Algeciras I stumbled into the bus and slept the whole day from sheer exhaustion. I recovered consciousness when we arrived at Alecante at 0100 hrs. The next two days were spent basking in the sun on the beach and we were glad of the rest because the journey from the Atlas mountains had been very fatiguing.

Our next stop was Tarragona from there we had no set plan of travel except "to hit" Paris in a day and a half. We drove concentratedly, camping for the night in France and arrived at 1800 hrs. The rest of the evening was spent visiting the Sacre Coeur, Montmartre and trying to absorb the Parisien atmosphere over a bottle of French wine. We left Paris at 2 a.m. for a night drive to Boulogne to catch the 7'o'clock ferry. We arrived in London at 11.30 exhausted but alive. I was relieved to get back to the comfort of the army but at the same time thoroughly enjoyed the experience of a "different" holiday. Three vital things for a holiday of this style are required—YOUTH, A SENSE OF HUMOUR AND A STRONG SENSE OF SURVIVAL!!

A.M.H.B.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

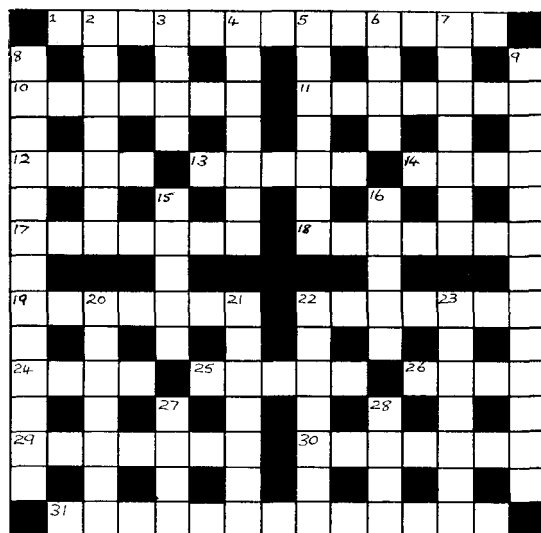
1. Required by our Editor (13)
10. The King's assistants? Not likely (7)
11. Little Edward riots in confusion (7)
12. This can be hit on the head (4)
13. Eve has fifty each way on the flat (5)
14. Add a try to worship this (4)
17. The gallant six? (7)
18. What a fool am I? (5, 2)
19. Sounds like retired coppers (7)
22. Stately lady (7)
24. Possess a shilling (4)
25. Games played backwards are up to a point too much for the French (5)
26. A reserved sort of mollusc (4)
29. Caused by 7 sun? (7)
30. A fitting title (7)
31. Disordered squad? No—just home from home (9, 4)

Down

2. See 15.
3. Stage family (4)
4. Might be stained (7)
5. Hardly the advertisers slogan! (7)
6. Flower girl (4)
7. Siesta time (4, 3)
8. Shots on the sideline make good reading (6, 7)
9. Cocktail accompaniment (1, 6, 6)
- 15 & 2 Home truth? (5, 7)
16. Holy pasture? (5)
20. A writer of a crooked stick make amends (7)
21. Foreign, foreign country (7)
22. Fruit provides a bed-for twins perhaps (7)
23. Reunions? (7)
27. Ring for half the game (4)
28. Plans about wartime food (4)

Puzzle submitted by Brigadier Dame Mary Railton and Lt. Colonel L. E. Holt.

The solution will be found on page. 50.



Re-Unions

Western Areas

WE had a successful party at Wolverhampton last October and many members said what a pity it could not be done more often, but as you all know this involves a lot of hard work done by members in their "spare" time.

However, the W.R.A.C. members at Saighton Camp, Chester, offered us the use of "The Lioness Tavern" (mentioned in "The Lioness" Editorial of February, 1969). Saturday the 25th April was chosen, and all members of the Association in Western Command were notified and told 2/6d. would be charged for refreshments on the day. No more was done by the Association Members except to present themselves at Saighton Camp.

Seventy of us arrived at "The Lioness Tavern" from Birmingham, Chester, Congleton, Liverpool, Manchester and Wolverhampton to find two rooms beautifully arranged, a bar in one, the most inviting refreshments in the other and a cinema show in a further room. It was marvellous. Not only was everything planned and prepared, but all the members of the W.R.A.C. made us smilingly welcome.

Yarns were swapped and the girls took the members round their quarters—what an improvement from the old days!

I know that the "old girls" will remember the kind reception and wonderful food for many a long day, and we hope that the "new girls" enjoyed our company as much as we did theirs. Thank you "Lioness Tavern".

No. 2 Sub Area

SUB Area No. 2 Reunion was held on Sunday 31st May, 1970 at Portsmouth with the Portsmouth Branch acting as hosts. Our special guests were Brig: Dame Mary Railton, Col: J. L. Rankin, Mrs. A. J. Stevenson, Major E. B. Dixon and Lt.-Col. L. E. Holt, members came from Bath, Bournemouth, Brighton, Salisbury, and Southampton.

The programme started with a visit to H.M.S. Dryad situated in the grounds of Southwick House in the old world village of Southwick outside Portsmouth. Here we were met by a Lt./Cmdr. and a Lt. who escorted us around the grounds explaining the work of the establishment and then gave us a talk on the D Day Wall Map which was used to plan the D Day Operations when Southwick House was the H.Q. for General Eisenhower and General Montgomery. These officers made the tour very interesting and did not seem at all alarmed at being invaded by 120 members on a quiet Sunday afternoon. From H.M.S. Dryad we proceeded to Ports-

mouth Cathedral in Old Portsmouth which is the original old part of the city and full of history. A Canon and guides from the Cathedral welcomed us and gave an interesting tour of the small but charming building which is planning an extension which will be a D Day memorial. The afternoon was brought to a close by a most welcome tea on the sea front at Clarence Pier, where the added attraction of several hover craft which rushed up the beach outside the windows of the restaurant. At 6 p.m. everyone went on their homeward journeys after a happy reunion.

Northern Area

NORTHERN Area Re-Union will be held at "The Crescent Room". Royal Baths Assembly Rooms, Harrogate on Saturday 26th September from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Guest Speaker will be Brigadier S. A. E. Heaney, M.B.E., T.D., B.A., who will have assumed the appointment of Director W.R.A.C. before the date of the Re-union. Tickets 9/- including Buffet Tea may be obtained from A.D.W.R.A.C. H.Q. Northern Command, York. Please send stamped address envelope with remittance by 12th September, 1970.

Q.M.A.A.C. Old Comrades Dinner Club

THURSDAY 14th May, 1970 was an important date for the members of the Q.M.A.A.C. Old Comrades Dinner Club.

With our President, Mrs. Barbara Mayhew and Chairman Miss A. M. Martin, 151 members met for luncheon at Derry and Toms Kensington, to celebrate the 21st Reunion. The Reception was at 12.15 p.m. and well before that time members were arriving. Other folk using the Cloak rooms must have been intrigued by the excited talk amongst our people.

An excellent luncheon was served, following by the usual Toasts. The business meeting came next, the election of Mrs. Flora Ritchie as Secretary being an important item.

To celebrate the 21st Reunion, members unable to attend the luncheon had been sent a News Letter, and a piece of excellent cake (made by Members), and a number wrote to express their thanks. Messages from Australia and Canada were also received, as well as many from members nearer home.

At 4 p.m. a welcome cup of tea and cakes were served, and we were able to toast "The Q.M.A.A.C. Old Comrade Dinner Club". Many present recalled the first Dinner in 1949. We were pleased to see our old friend Miss Douche from Eastbourne, and also our member from New Zealand.

By 5 p.m. most of our members had departed, and so came to an end yet another successful Reunion.

O.M.L.

Donnington Group A.T.S.

I must apologise to all members for the delay in letting them know the situation regarding the Donnington Group A.T.S. I have been to see Col. Bearne twice and have finally got the financial situation sorted out. There is a sum of £4 4 6d. in hand and I would be grateful for suggestions as to what should be done with it.

Unfortunately I am not now in the position to be able to write to members individually, hence this notice.

My address is:— Miss L. Parker,
Ashville College,
Harrogate, Yorkshire.

Branch News**Correction**

The last two paragraphs of Wimbledon Branch News, as published in the May Lioness, in fact referred to London Branch activities. We apologise to all concerned.

BRADFORD. Members and friends enjoyed an excellent Christmas Dinner arranged by Kathleen Harrison, this was followed by a party on January 12th but unfortunately there were many absentees of our Q.M. members on account of sickness.

In February we had a Bring and Buy Sale, the proceeds of this £6 6-. was sent to the Benevolent Fund. We were pleased to welcome Elaine Hepworth and she renewed her acquaintance with Kay Bottomley who served together in 1939.

In March we had a most interesting talk on the work of a Health Visitor by Mrs. King who was a Nursing Sister in the Q.A.R.A.N.C. during the war.

In April we heard of the life of a Nun from Sister Mary Collett who is a Headmistress of a school at Keighley, which proved to be most entertaining. In May we entertained 10 members of Leeds Branch. Mrs. Whitcher a very dedicated worker for Leprosy Relief talked on this subject and showed us a film narrated by Derek Hart. Mr. Mitchell the husband of one of our members kindly loaned and operated a projector. Members provided an excellent supper which was enjoyed by all.

In June we were fortunate to have lovely weather for an evening trip round the Bronte Country and Worth Valley, where filming is taking place. Arrangements for this was made by Mrs. Wilson to whom we are indebted for finding a very nice Hotel who provided an excellent Buffet Supper.

Our best wishes for better health go to Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Lumb and Mrs. Slack all Q.M.A.A.C. members who are not well.

HARROGATE. Since our report last year the Branch has continued to thrive and we have had quite a varied

programme of events.

In June we had a Lingerie Party which resulted in a very satisfying commission for funds and July was a general get-together since a number of members were on holiday that month. We had a "Mystery Trip" in the Yorkshire Dales on a beautiful evening in August and although several members had to back out at the last moment everyone who did go thoroughly enjoyed it. Our route was a scenic one, literally "up hill and down dale", and we stopped to admire the view and gather heather on top of the moors before descending to the valley for refreshment.

At our September meeting Mrs. Collier showed her colour slides of Paris and at the end of September members attended the Northern Area Reunion in Harrogate. In October our blind member, Mrs. E. Williams, gave us a most interesting talk on St. Dunstan's assisted by son Terry and guide dog Foga and we were all intrigued by the photographs and aids for the blind which they had bought for inspection.

Our A.G.M. was held in November and early in December we had an informal Christmas party at our meeting room at which full justice was done to the large variety of food which materialised.

Eight members attended the Jubilee celebrations in St. James's Palace (one, sadly, being unable to go through illness and what a memorable occasion it was. We also got some very good publicity in the press as a result of the Jubilee which aroused great interest amongst the local population even if it did not result in a surge of new members!

In January we had a tour of Switzerland and Italy by Miss Bradley and some colour slides of the Prince of Wales' Investiture brought by Mrs. Collier, and in February a large crowd enjoyed a make-up demonstration by a representative from Beauty Counsellor.

Plans for the March and April meetings went awry through illness of speakers and bad weather etc., so in March we had some more slides of a miscellaneous nature and in April took the opportunity of having a general discussion and future planning session. In May Mrs. Gibson gave us inside information on "How to Win Competitions" from which everyone emerged burning with enthusiasm to "have a go" and win every prize in sight, and in June Miss Atkinson gave us a most interesting talk on Birds and Wild Flowers of Scotland.

We now have a number of members from the former York Branch and several have managed to make the 22-mile journey to attend meetings.

ULSTER. The three main events of 1970 began with the Annual Dinner in March, held now almost traditionally at the Midland Hotel. Perhaps the fact that March was a kinder month than the Februarys of previous years contributed to an encouraging crop of "new" faces in the cheerful pre-dinner melee. Lady Freeland, wife of Ulster's G.O.C., was the guest of honour. Her pre-

liminary warning that she wasn't a speechmaker was belied by her delightfully crisp, lively talk. Knowing how busy and burdened she and her husband are at present, we were deeply appreciative that she had given us her evening. We were equally appreciative that Col. Marjorie Jameson had made the trip to Belfast, and by her obvious pleasure in meeting old friends and colleagues, she also felt it had been a worthwhile visit.

A less glamorous but necessary occasion, May's Annual General Meeting, resulted in the re-election of the previous year's Committee, with the addition of Mrs. Warnock, whom we welcome to the "Admin. Staff".

The long-hot-summer which the prophets of doom predicted for Northern Ireland hadn't got under way on Monday, 1st June, but despite intermittent showers there was plenty of enthusiasm for the "bring and buy" and social evening at Malone Golf Club. The relaxed atmosphere of a lounge overlooking the beautiful grounds on one side and a handy, well served bar on the other, made an ideal setting for good company and merry chat.

Since these are virtually inexhaustable commodities amongst ex-servicewomen, we look forward to an equally bright social calendar in 1971.

WOLVERHAMPTON. Our New Years dinner in January was very enjoyable, more so because those members who cannot come to all our monthly meetings, make the effort to attend the yearly dinner, there were 30 members and friends and of course our friends from Birmingham Branch who we are always pleased to welcome. At the meeting this month we had a new member join us after reading in the local paper about our meetings.

The night was cold and dark outside, but all that was forgotten when Miss Betty Tudor brought along her colour slides and whisked us away to the sunshine and beauty of Norway at our February meeting.

In March we had a demonstration by Avon, this time Miss Mary Breakwell had the beauty treatment with a few friendly comments from the onlookers.

All those members who went to Saughton Camp, Chester in April enjoyed the day very much; although the weather was wet, the warm welcome we received from the Younger Generation was well worth the journey. We were able to have a look at a "BARRACK ROOM!!" (the Sgt./Major would never believe it) after seeing the films, more than one member was heard to say 'they would go back if they were younger', Oh how sentimental we are. But thank you Chester for the splendid Buffet, the very enjoyable afternoon and the peep into your life. At our meeting an interesting talk was given by Police-woman McClurg of the Wolverhampton Constabulary, and members were invited to ask questions.

In May we had a lovely evening for a stroll around the gardens of Miss Shelah Lambahs, and thats what we did

when Shelah invited members to her home, and provided cakes and trifles, also prizes for a raffle.

SHEFFIELD. Meetings were well attended during the near Arctic period which is very good considering the long journeys several of our out of towners have to make.

We have been privileged to celebrate our first Golden Wedding in our Branch when we congratulated Mrs. Elsie Marshall and her husband on their great day. Unfortunately Mrs. Marshall is unable to be with us very much these days, but she is always with us in spirit and is a very keen supporter in everything we do. Mr. Marshall always turns up and thoroughly enjoys himself whenever our MENS' SECTION is included.

We had a very pleasant Sherry Party one evening at the home of Mrs. Sheila Davies and her husband, and had great fun with all the guessing games etc.

It is good to report the return to better health of Mrs. Betty Kenderdine after her serious illness. Betty is once again able to enjoy a full time appointment.

Our Annual General Meeting, in its usual dignified manner, re-elected all officers en bloc. There is evidently no cause for complaint.

Everyone is delighted to welcome home our President Mrs. Helen Tannett and her husband after their holiday in South Africa with their two daughters Melody and Mary. The forthcoming marriage of their eldest son William will surely help to overcome the sadness of farewells downunder.

SOUTHAMPTON. Thirty three members and friends attended the annual dinner at the Royal Hotel with Colonel C. E. Hammond C.B.E. as the Guest of Honour. Mrs. Pickett, the Chairman said the branch was honoured by Col. Hammond's presence, as she was kept extremely busy in her position as chairman of the association's council which she had held for nearly four years. In 1969, Col. Hammond was responsible for organising the association's golden jubilee celebrations, held last December in the State Rooms of St. James' Palace.

Two years earlier, she had been very actively involved with the arrangements for the Royal garden party commemorating the 50th anniversary of the formation of the three women's services.

Everyone appreciated the considerable contribution Col. Hammond had made to the success of these celebrations.

Replying Col. Hammond said it was a great pity that more ex-Q.M.A.A.C., A.T.S. and W.R.A.C. did not take advantage of joining the association and continuing the comradeship they had enjoyed in earlier years. She spoke of the ever-growing importance of the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C. benevolent funds, which were meeting increased demands as time progressed and she thanked the branch for donations they had made to the funds.

Mrs. B. Keating expressed members' thanks to Col. Hammond for being with them and Mrs. B. Rush wished her a happy retirement when her term of office ended in October.



Southampton Branch Dinner

Colonel C. E. Hammond CBE in Centre with Mrs. A. Pickett (Branch Chairman), and Mrs B. Rush (Branch Secretary).

Photo by courtesy of the Southern Evening Echo

Here and There

MISS D. WILLIAMS writes to say that she has just returned from a working holiday in Australia where she had an interesting 6 months in a childrens hospital. The 5 weeks sea journey was fascinating, as she called at many exotic ports in America and Canada and also visited the Bahamas and West Indies. Before returning to England she spent a few weeks in Queensland, Australia and saw the fabulous Barrier Reef, and sugar cane plantations and acres of pineapples. She stayed with a friend, who lived in an old wooden house, which had been built by her father, who had emigrated to Australia from Sweden many years beforehand. Although Queensland has a tropical climate and is mainly sunny, there is also a great deal of flooding and she was marooned in one town for 5 days.

She had quite an interesting flight to Tokyo, where she spent 9 days and thoroughly enjoyed herself, touring around, although Tokyo itself has very bad air pollution and many of the taxi-drivers wear gauze masks, due to the fumes from the thousands of cars, which seem to pass by in a never ending stream. She saw during a visit to Kyoto, the largest sitting Buddha in the world, with eyes 3 feet in length and the total weight 500 tons.

She had a 10 hour flight to Moscow, where she spent 2 days and although she saw many beautiful buildings, the atmosphere was rather unsettling and she wasn't sorry to board a plane for England and home.

Sport

Army ski-ing isn't confined to the winter resorts of Northern Europe. Those who are lucky enough to be stationed in Cyprus can ski in the mountains of Troodos and swim in the blue waters of the Mediterranean, all in the same day. The season is a short one but it is long enough for service men and women to learn to ski at one of the courses held on the slopes of Mount Olympus.

Cleaning

The makers of K2R offer all readers of The Lioness a free copy of their booklet "ABC of Stain Removing" anyone interested should apply to:—

Dept. 9
Brocapharm Ltd.,
Trend House,
Pyrford Road,
West Byfleet,
Surrey.

ANOTHER FIRST

WE congratulate Miss Harvie Anderson (ex. C. Comd. A.T.S.), who again won the seat for Renfrew East in the General Election, on being appointed Deputy Chairman of Committees in the House of Commons. She is the first woman to hold this important post and will, on occasions, deputize for Dr. Horace King in the Speaker's Chair.

Miss Harvie Anderson has been an MP since 1959 and has had considerable experience in presiding over Standing Committees. In spite of her busy parliamentary life Miss Harvie Anderson has always spared time for the affairs of the Association and served on Council for many years. Council members will long remember the enjoyable tea party she arranged for them on the Terrace at the House of Commons as part of the 50th Anniversary celebrations in 1967.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

One member of the Canterbury Branch lives in far away Swansea, Glamorgan and this is how it came about.

About ten years ago, my Mother gave me a copy of 'Tit Bits' and pointed out the 'Story to touch your hearts' which was about an ex A.T.S. lady who had been bed-ridden for several years with a heart disease and the local bus company employees heard about her and sent her presents and as they passed her window they gave her a cheery wave. Well, I have always liked writing letters, so I wrote to her, suggesting that we became pen friends, and she accepted so I have been writing regularly every week ever since and as I am a Recruiting Sgt. in the W.R.A.C. I lead a very full, interesting life and have plenty to write about. I made Dulcie (Thomas) a member of our branch so that she takes an interest in our meetings and outings and she receives the local newspaper every week, which often covers branch meetings, outings or events which we attend.

I have been down to Swansea several times to visit Dulcie and we find we have plenty to talk about.

Dulcie would love to hear from anyone she served with during the war but as she has been very ill all winter, they must not expect a long letter in return.

Jenny J. Wells.

(Nee Flint)

Dear Editor,

May I as a mere male commend to your Notice an occasion which I feel worthy of a mention in your pages.

A Regimental Dinner night was held on 18 April 1970 at the Sergeants Mess, Army School of Education, Beaconsfield to mark the occasion of the retirement of CSM. A. W. Wadey (nee Telford) CSM. of the W.R.A.C. Detachment at the School.

The Dinner presented and planned by the P.M.C. and her Vice President for the evening, both members of your Corps, was a great success and if we do not blush in mentioning the high standard achieved it is because it in itself added lustre to the tribute paid to Mrs. Wadey by the members in wishing to ensure she had a memorable evening.

The occasion was further marked by the attendance of W.O. II M. Grant from Mill Hill, a personal friend of Alison's and a representative of her Corps, whom we thank for attending, there is no doubt her presence was sincerely appreciated by Alison and myself.

In presenting Alison with a silver cigarette box and table lighter on behalf of the Mess I said of Alison that her tolerance and understanding of younger people and her willingness to spend hours listening to them was her mark of success as a CSM in a very small but very exacting Unit and believe this sincerely to be true. We wished her well in civilian life and do hope that by reading this, some of you who might have wished to have shared her evening, will glean a little of the pleasure we had in showing our appreciation for her service to your Corps and to the Army in general.

T. H. T. Hughes, R.S.M.

Coldstream Guards.

Climbing in Cornwall

LT. A. C. E. WALTERS, W.R.A.C. (R.A.E.C.)

AT the W.R.A.C. Centre we enjoy the splendid liaison with the Guildford Youth Organisation particularly in the field of Outdoor Pursuits.

The Youth Organiser, Mr. Ted Tait, is a figure well-known to all ranks on the Unit—he instructs canoeing classes on the River Wey, advises us on Adventure Training Matters and is always delighted to welcome us on his frequent "Tait's Tours"—to Snowdonia for mountaineering, to Swanage for sailing and canoeing, and once a year to Land's End for rock climbing.

During the Spring holiday four members of the permanent staff decided to risk life and limb by joining a group of Young Guildfordians on the rock Climbing course—Capt. Margaret Lloyd (who had nothing to do with the catering during the weekend apart from the casting of a critical eye over the menus—'Cold rice pudding?'), Ptes. Isobel Smith and Jacqueline Cox braving the cliffs of Cornwall for the first time; (*now* they want to try the Alps!) and myself, well and truly at the bottom of the class.

Our first introduction to the mystique of climbing was the strange calls of "Taking in Slack"—"That's me"—"Climb when you're ready" and "Aye-Aye" (were the first climbers land-bound sailors substituting cliff faces for masts, who just *had* to use naval jargon to make them

feel at home?) A little seamanship would have been useful—we had to learn to tie bowlines, half-hitches, and a hundred and one other knots.

It is an un-nerving experience to be suspended by finger tips and toes against the seemingly polished surface of a rock face—thankfully a very comforting rope with a colossal breaking strain clasps firmly around one's waist. The breakers crash against the rocks far below, the experienced climbers shout abuse to each other in their unbelievably callous and death-defying manner and the occasional seagull dive-bombs when the safety of his nest is in jeopardy.

My trophies for the weekend are slowly fading—glorious technicolour bruises, but my greatest prize is rather more permanent—having enjoyed once more the humbling and yet uplifting experience of contact with the strength and dangers of the elements and the knowledge that they can be overcome by absolute trust and confidence in one's comrades.

War Graves Commission

DURING the last fifty three years the Commonwealth (formerly Imperial) War Graves Commission has been caring for the graves of members of the Forces who died in the two World Wars. Throughout the world the task has gone on unceasingly, though the 1939-1945 War placed some cemeteries temporarily beyond reach. Graves have been identified and marked, cemeteries and memorials constructed and all maintained at the highest possible standard. The dead number almost one and three quarter million.

The Commission's work, now so vast and widespread, had its origin in a small Mobile Unit of the Red Cross, formed in 1914 to search for the wounded and missing during the retreat to Marne. From this Unit, which registered and marked British graves, the Army established the Graves Registration Commission, later to become the Directorate of Graves Registration and Enquiries.

Early in the war, soldiers from many parts of the Empire came to fight in France and Flanders and soon the wooden markers in the cemeteries bore names of men from many countries. Everywhere relatives of the dead were anxious to learn that the graves were cared for and that some provision would be made for their upkeep in the future. In 1917, by Royal Charter dated 21st May, an organisation representative of all parts of the Empire was set up to take over the care of the graves.

The work was built upon two important principles. The first was that the dead should be honoured by name in a manner that reflected their equal sacrifice yet distinguished the individual in the multitude. Each man should have his own memorial, whether in the form of a

headstone to mark his grave or the name engraved in the stone or cast in bronze on one of the memorials to the missing. There should be no distinction on account of rank, religion or race. The second principle was that the dead should be commemorated in perpetuity. It was planned to construct cemeteries and memorials of the most durable materials, to have workmanship of the finest quality and to protect the sites themselves in every possible way. These principles have formed a sure foundation for the Commission's work and stand unaltered in 1970.

The Governments of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India and Pakistan are represented on the Commission and share the cost of its work in proportion to the numbers of graves of their dead. Other more newly independent members of the Commonwealth assist the Commission by caring for war graves within their own territories. The Commission's Head Office is in London and its work is directed overseas from regional and agency offices.

The beautiful and dignified war cemeteries and memorials which have been constructed and maintained throughout the world have brought comfort to generations of bereaved relatives. No effort has been spared to make them worthy of those who laid down their lives and together they form a permanent tribute to the dead of two World Wars from the Governments and peoples of the countries which participate in the Commission's work.

Editors Note: Younger readers may be interested to know that members of Q.M.A.A.C. were employed as gardeners to tend the War Graves in France during the First World War.

London Gazette

HONOURS AND AWARDS

M.B.E. W.O. II L. A. E. Hopkin.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS REGULAR ARMY

Major Captain Lieuts. Capt. N. R. Burgin.
Lieuts. J. Lowe, J. M. Bunyan
2/Lieuts. P. R. Pearse, D. L. Bull, S. F. Bowden,
R. Wheelock, J. Hole, R. M. Johnson.
2/Lieuts. R. J. Scoffhan, M. A. Spencer, W. M. Rosser, S. R. Green, M. J. Palmer, B. M. Rowbottom, R. G. Warne, K. D. Kinchin.

SPECIAL REGULAR COMMISSIONS

Captain Lieuts. S. L. Williams (from S.S.C.) S. D. Macey
2/Lieuts. C. M. Lewis, W. A. Barrett, P. K. Jarman.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Lieuts. 2/Lieuts. A. C. Spencer, S. D. McWade, A. D. Peal,
J. Lavers, M. J. Abbott.
2/Lieut. J. Mason, M. J. Abbott, P. H. Dukes, S. Itzcowitz,
J. Lavers, on probation are confirmed in their appointments, R. E. R. Henderson, S. F. Stewart.
2/Lieuts. (on probation) A. D. Lawler, J. Martin.

RETIREMENTS ETC. REGULAR ARMY

Major	F. A. Vosper
Captain	C. L. Swire
Lieuts.	P. J. Longley, J. Campbell Ellen, C. D. Lea, P. L. Cook, P. G. Longman
2/Lieut.	F. M. Kemp.

Officers Postings

1st March, 70 to 31st May, 70

Maj. V. C. Jones, O.C. D. Coy W.R.A.C., Bicester.
Maj. E. A. Hine, D.A.D.W.R.A.C. 1A, M.O.D.
Maj. A. M. Clissitt, O.C. W.O. & N.C.O. Wing, W.R.A.C. College.
Maj. D. A. Crofton, D.A.D.W.R.A.C./D.A.Q.M.G., (Qtg.), H.Q. NEARELF.
Maj. A. Bray, D.A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. Southern Command.
A/Maj. B. M. Laverack, W.S.L.O., H.Q. Northern Command.
A/Maj. P. Ineson, O.C. W.R.A.C., 16th Sig. Reg. BAOR.
A/Maj. P. J. Huggett, O.C. H. & D. Coy, W.R.A.C. Centre.
Capt. S. Halsey, O.C. W.R.A.C. A.S.E., Beaconsfield.
Capt. E. A. Saxon, Instr. Offr. 14 A.E.C., Aldershot.
Capt. E. A. Robinson, W.R.A.C. Centre-H.S., Attending Junior Command and Staff Course.
Capt. S. L. Williams, S.C.A., H.Q. Northern Ireland (Temporarily attached).
Capt. J. Ford, S.O. III Edn., H.Q. Western Command.
Capt. S. C. E. Orr, O.C. H.Q. Coy, W.R.A.C. College.
A/Capt. S. P. Binns, O.C. W.R.A.C. R.A.C. Centre, Bovington.
A/Capt. S. C. S. Bonavia, O.C. Trg. Coy, W.R.A.C. Centre.
A/Capt. R. E. Smith, O.C. W.R.A.C. R.A.V.C., T.C., Melton Mowbray.
A/Capt. E. W. Jones, 10 Coy W.R.A.C., Aldershot.
Lt. A. T. Meiklejohn, W.R.A.C. Centre-H.S., Attending A.D.P. Course.
Lt. A. M. Page, P.I. Offr. R.A. Depot, Woolwich.
Lt. P. A. Bryant, 29 Coy W.R.A.C., BAOR.
Lt. S. J. B. Day, 24th Sig. Regt., Catterick.
Lt. J. A. Baker, 16th Sig. Regt., BAOR.
Lt. D. Morgan, 8th Sig. Regt., Catterick.
Lt. J. M. Harrison, W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford.
2/Lt. P. H. Dukes, 15 A.E.C., Bicester.
2/Lt. M. J. Abbott, A.S.E. C.C.T.V. Wing, Beaconsfield.
2/Lt. S. J. B. Griggs, 4 Comms. Unit, Cheltenham.
2/Lt. C. E. Lockwood, W.R.A.C. Centre-H.S., Attending A.D.P. Course Blandford.
2/Lt. P. K. Jarman, W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford.
2/Lt. R. J. Scoffman, W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford.
2/Lt. B. M. Rowbottom, W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford.
2/Lt. K. D. Kinchin, W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford.
2/Lt. M. J. Palmer, 12 Coy W.R.A.C., Mill Hill.
2/Lt. R. G. Warne, 12 Coy W.R.A.C., Mill Hill.
2/Lt. M. W. Rosser, 10 Coy W.R.A.C., Aldershot.
1/Lt. S. F. Stewart, 12 Trg. Regt., Aldershot.
2/Lt. R. E. R. Henderson, S.E.M.E., Bordon.
2/Lt. S. R. Green, School of Artillery, Larkhill.
2/Lt. C. M. Lewis, R.A.C. Centre, Bovington.
2/Lt. W. A. Barrett, 10th Sig. Regt., Salisbury.
2/Lt. M. A. Spencer, 24th Sig. Regt., Catterick.

Warrant Officers Postings

(1st April—30th June, 1970)

W/372105 W.O. II D. E. Rattley, Ministry of Defence (A.D.)
W/362390 W.O. II L. P. Rose, H.Q. Western Command.
W/69979 W.O. II D. Hotham, H.Q. London District.
W/324403 W.O. II A. M. Doig, Holding and Drafting Coy, W.R.A.C. (Att. 29 Coy W.R.A.C.).
W/40665 W.O. II J. P. Mason, Royal Army Education Corps Centre.
W/327305 W.O. II J. Beard, B.E.M., Camp Admin. Staff Worthy Down.
W/354316 W.O. II P. A. N. Wildgust, H.Q. Northern Ireland.
W/380963 A/W.O. II E. V. Young, Ministry of Defence (A.D.)
W/371405 A/W.O. II H. K. Barnard, W.R.A.C. College.
W/401200 A/W.O. II E. L. Peterson, Royal Army Education Corps Centre.

Obituary

Mrs. A. B. Dand

IT is with very deep regret that Wolverhampton Branch announce the death of their beloved Chairman Mrs. Dand. Mrs. Dand served in the A.T.S. from September, 1939 to September 1941, during which time she was with the Pay Corp at Lancaster. Recruiting at Manchester and Preston, also at Wightwick Hall, Eccleshall Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent. She was a very keen supporter of the Association and always ready to give advice and help when asked. A Founder member of the A.T.S. Dinner Club, she had the honour of being presented to the late H.R.H. The Princess Royal at one of the Dinners. Deepest sympathy to her husband from all members.

Mrs. H. Gardner

BRIGHTON Branch regret to announce the death of Mrs. H. Gardner (nee Longley) ex-W.A.A.C. who lived at Lancing. She served at the D of Y School at Dover in 1917 and later at Epsom and Shoreham. She always took a great interest in the Association and our sympathies are extended to her family and to her sister Mrs. A. Cameron who also served in the W.A.A.C.

Miss M. G. Kennedy

EDINBURGH Branch are very sad to announce the passing of one of their most popular members Miss Marion Kennedy, former forewoman Unit 1 Wimereux, died suddenly after a short illness on 21st June, 1970.

Miss Kennedy was one of the founder members of the W.U.S.C. 12 Drumsheugh Gardens and throughout the 50 years of its existence has given it wonderful service and was always ready to help. She will be greatly missed by all and particularly by the few members remaining of the 1914/18 war.

Mrs. H. J. Nettleton

D.M.S. writes: Mrs. Hannah June Nettleton (nee Smith) one of the Q.M.A.A.C. who died on 8th Jan, 1970 in Leeds. She was, at one time, Chairman of Leeds Branch and an active worker in the Womens Section of the British Legion and a member of the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade. She hadn't been able to come to London for several years owing to failing health but was always full of life and we have happy memories. Five ex-Q.M.A.A.C. attended the cremation, I thought that quite good after 52 years."

Miss E. Owen

S.P. writes "I attended the funeral service for Miss Enid Owen who died in hospital on April 7th. She was my W.A.A.C. officer at Kinmel Park in 1917, and our friendship had continued ever since. Miss Owen had belonged to the Association for many years. She was the daughter of the late Bishop of St. Davids and a wonderful person. We shall miss her gentle gaiety at our Re-unions".

Mrs. Sutton Vane

THOSE Readers who knew her will be sorry to hear of the recent death of Phyllis Sutton-Vane who enrolled into the A.T.S. in January, 1939 and became a Life Member of the Association in 1946. Her service included a period overseas from March-June, 1940, with the B.E.F. and anyone who was with 5 A.A. Group will remember her as A.T.S. Inspector under the Command of General Pile.

After leaving the service Mrs. Sutton-Vane joined the staff of Asprey's as Head of their Interior Decorating Department, to this appointment she brought all her abilities and was highly successful, so much so that even after retirement she continued as a Consultant, in spite of indifferent health.

A TRIBUTE

to

Miss P. E. Cleeter

by Lady Fitzpatrick, T.D.

PHILLIS CLEETER was born in the Army; her father was a Warrant Officer in the Royal Scots Greys. To say that the Service was in her blood is certainly no exaggeration. Early in the 1st World War she volunteered for the W.A.A.C. and saw service in France. Between the wars she unstintingly gave valuable service with various youth organisations, and it was with the Sea Rangers that I first met her.

When the A.T.S. was formed in 1938 she was one of the first to volunteer and here again we worked together. She was my Platoon Sergeant with the Isle of Wight Rifles (Princess Beatrice's). As you can imagine she was a tower of strength and as a young subaltern I always knew that I could rely on her experience and support. When war was declared our platoon was deployed to the isolated coast defence forts on the west coast of the Island. In 1940 our ways separated but we always maintained touch.

She was never particularly strong and it was only because of her high sense of duty that she was able to serve as long as she did. She was discharged on medical grounds in 1943.

Sergeant Cleeter's outstanding characteristic was her loyalty. She was devoted to the Army and to the Corps in which she had served. She loved to see her "old comrades" (the words really meant something to her) and she hardly ever missed selling poppies outside Victoria Station in London on Armistice Day. Lately, when her health had further deteriorated, she found the journey on these occasions a real trial.

The Association has lost one of its most loyal and enthusiastic members and there are many who mourn a really true friend.

Unit Branch Secretaries

W.R.A.C. Centre R.S.M. D. Hodgson, W.R.A.C. Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Guildford, Surrey.

W.R.A.C. College: W.O. I S. Wolstenholme, W.R.A.C., Portsmouth Road, Camberley, Surrey.

4 Coy W.R.A.C.: W.O. I M. Slaven, W.R.A.C., H.Q. FARELF, c/o G.P.O. Singapore.

10 Coy W.R.A.C.: W.O. II K. Prior, W.R.A.C., Duchess of Kent Barracks, Aldershot, Hants.

12 Coy W.R.A.C.: W.O. I G. Williams, W.R.A.C. W.R.A.C., Inglis Barracks, Bittacy Hill, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

W.R.A.C. Det. Kineton.: W.O. II S. P. Gray, W.R.A.C., Marlborough Farm Camp, C. A. D. Kineton, Leamington Spa, Warks.

29 Coy W.R.A.C.: W.O. I D. Jones, W.R.A.C., H.Q. BAOR, B.F.P.O. 40.

W.R.A.C. Det. Joint Services Staff College: Sgt. W. A. Carnegie, W.R.A.C., Latimer, Chesham, Bucks.

Depot R.A. Coy. W.R.A.C.: W.O. II G. Williams, W.R.A.C., R.A. Barracks, Woolwich, London, S.E.18.

D. Coy. W.R.A.C.: 16 Bn. R.A.O.C., W.O. II L. Jobling, W.R.A.C., St. George's Barracks, Bicester, Oxon.

W.R.A.C. Bty School of Artillery: W.O. II R.A. Franklin, W.R.A.C., Stirling Barracks, Larkhill, Wilts.

R.A.P.C. H.Q. & Trg. Centre: (Admin. Wing W.R.A.C. Det.) Sgt. J. M. Page, W.R.A.C., Worthy Down, Winchester, Hants.

W.R.A.C. Troop, 12 Trg. Regt. R.C.T.: Sgt. I. C. Dollar, W.R.A.C., Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Aldershot, Hants.

W.R.A.C. Wing A.S.P.T.: W.O. II S. A. Collinson, W.R.A.C., Queen's Avenue, Aldershot, Hants.

W.R.A.C. Det. A.S.E.: W.O. II A. Wadey, W.R.A.C., Wilton Park, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

W.R.A.C. Det. R.P.O. Brighton.: W.O. II J. Beard, B.E.M. W.R.A.C., Preston Barracks, Lewis Road, Brighton, Sussex BN2 4AR.

W.R.A.C. Det. P. & E.E. (Military Wing), W.O. II B. L. R. Hammond, W.R.A.C., Horseshoe Barracks, Shoeburyness, Essex.

W.R.A.C. Det. 12 R.S.M.E. Regt. R.E. Sgt. M. P. Owen, W.R.A.C., Chattenden Barracks, Hoo, Rochester, Kent.

24 Signal Regt.: W.O. II S. M. Weatherhill, W.R.A.C.,
3 Sqd. 24 Signal Regt. Catterick Camp, Yorks.

W.R.A.C. Element, H.Q. N.I.: W.O. II A. P. Morgan,
W.R.A.C., Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn, Co. Antrim,
Northern Ireland.

W.R.A.C. Regt. Wing R.A.O.C.: W.O. II B. Herterich,
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W.R.A.C. Cyprus, Admin., Unit Dhekelia: W.O. II S.
Cartnell, W.R.A.C., B.F.P.O. 53.

R.A.C. Centre: (Admin. Wing) S/Sgt. Greensit G.,
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W.R.A.C. Element School of Artillery: S/Sgt. Templeman,
W.R.A.C., Manorbier, Nr. Tenby, Wales.

W.R.A.C., H.Q. Western Command: W.O. II E. Needham,
W.R.A.C., Saughton Camp, Chester.

10 Signal Regt. (4 Sqd.): W.O. II B. Thorpe, W.R.A.C.,
Erskine Barracks, Wilton, Salisbury, Wilts.

H.Q. 3 Sqd. 10th Signal Regt.: W.O. II S. Cartnell,
W.R.A.C., Camp Farm Road, Aldershot, Hants.

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Across

1. Contributions
10. Raiders
11. Editors
12. Nail
13. Level
14. Idol
17. Hundred
18. Silly me
19. Expense
22. Alberta
24. Owns
25. Sport
26. Clam
29. Tanning
30. Caption
31. Sergeants Mess

Down

2. Opinion
3. Tree
4. Instead
5. Useless
6. Iris
7. Noon-day
8. Branch Reports
9. A salted Almond
15. Frank
16. Glebe
20. Penance
21. Espagna
22. Apricot
23. Rallies
27. Ping
28. Spam

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