1975

No. 2

Lioness



Your next posting...

The City of London

If you're heading for Civvy Street but don't want to lose the Comradeship of Service Life, think about the City Police. Our job depends on working closely as a team – it has to, because the City of London depends on us.

And what the WRAC doesn't know about teamwork, isn't worth knowing.

That's why we need people like you. Someone who can think independently and take responsibility. Your training is ideal for police work – a WRAC background in initiative and adaptability will enable you to cope with the wide variety of situations you'll encounter. One day it could be dealing with tourists and children at a major event like the Lord Mayor's Show – the next, you could be facing the seamier side of City life.

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Pay is over £3000 p.a. to start and promotion is steady. The hours are good, and you won't be shunted all over the countryside. Accommodation is first class, and there's a very active sports and social life.

Think about it. If you're above average height, with a character to match, get in touch – and we'll arrange to meet for an informal chat.

Sergeant Terry Manning, City of London Police, 26 Old Jewry, London EC2. Tel: 01-606 8866 Ext 365.



THE CITY OF LONDON POLICE
The Elite Force

WRAC Staff Band

THE following engagements may be of interest to readers:

September		
20	Evening	Massed Bands British Legion Luton Town Football Ground
24	12-2 pm	Concert Finsbury Circus Gardens, London
26	12-2 pm	Concert Tower Place, London
October		
25	Evening	Carnival Liphook, Hants
November		
8	11 am-2 pm	Lord Mayor's Show, Royal Exchange, London
16	Evening	Festival of Remembrance, Royal British Legion Sports Centre, Basingstoke, Hants

For Your Diary

September	
4-7	The Wills British Jumping Championships, Hickstead, nr Bolney, Sussex
6	Royal Highland Gathering Braemar, Aberdeenshire
13	Horse Racing: St Leger, Doncaster, Yorks
11-14	Burghley Horse Trials, Burghley House, Stamford, Lincs
12-13	Royal National Rose Society Autumn Show Royal Horticultural Halls, London
23-25	Royal Horticultural Society Great Autumn Show Royal Horticultural Halls, London.
October	
6-11	Horse of the Year Show Wembley, London.
14-16	Royal Ulster Agricultural Society Show Showgrounds, Balmoral, Belfast.
15-25	International Motor Exhibition Earls Court, London.
November	
2	RAC Veteran Car Run London/Brighton.
8	Lord Mayor's Procession and Show Guildhall to Royal Courts of Justice, London.
December	
15-Feb 7	D'Oyly Carte Opera Company Sadler's Wells Theatre, London.
17-20	Dunhill International Show Jumping Championships Olympia, London
26-Jan 2	Holiday '76 Show Olympia, London.
January	
1-11	Camping, Outdoor Life, Travel & Motor Caravan Exhibition Olympia London.
1-11	International Boat Show Earls Court, London.
14-21	International Hotel & Catering Exhibition Olympia, London.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

The first mounted WRAC Provost on patrol. LCpls Judith Reeves and Honor Jaeger of 160 Pro Coy RMP are attached to the Mounted Troop and stationed in Aldershot.

Shopping List

		P & P
Coasters Vinyl	.30	7p
Key Rings:		
Acrylic	·30	9p (up to 6)
Leather green	on order	9p (up to 6)
White Ivorine	·12	9p (up to 6)
Brown calf	·16	9p (up to 6)
Memo Pads 4½ ″ × 6″	·45	17p
Refills	·50	15p
Clipboards	£1·25	30p
Briefcase, plastic	·75	9p
Bookmarks leather	·25	7p (up to 6)
ID Card/season ticket/ bank card holder	·15	7p (up to 6)
Glass ash/pin tray	·45	10p
WRAC biro pens	·15	9p (up to 6)
Corps shields light oak	£3·10	25p
Leather sew-on badges	·15	7p (up to 6)
Handbag Mirrors	·40	11p
Combs in leather case	·40	9p
Car Badges square	£1·70	15p
Pencils triangular	·7	7p (up to 6)

Most items are in green with the Corps Crest in gold. Cheques/postal orders should be made payable to CORPS HQ a/c.

WRAC Christmas Card

A Corps christmas card with a reproduction of the portrait of HRH The Duchess of Kent in colour charcoal and pastel by Alejo Vidal-Quadras 1975 will be on sale in October. The card will bear the Corps crest above the greeting on the inside. Members are advised to place their orders early as follows:

a. Regular and TAVR Units direct to Assistant Adjutant, WRAC Centre, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6QH. Price per card including VAT 12 pence.

b. Association Branches and Retired Members of WRAC Headquarter Mess to the Secretary, Corps HQ WRAC, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6QH. Price per card including VAT 12 pence plus postage at the following rates:

11p per 10 cards
25p ″ 50 ″
50p ″ 100 ″

Cheques/Postal orders are to be made payable to "Corps HQ WRAC". **CASH WITH ORDERS PLEASE. ORDER EARLY.**

WOMENS ROYAL ARMY CORPS ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1919

Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6QH

PRESIDENT
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT
Controller Commandant

Vice-President
COLONEL L M DAVIES, CBE
Deputy Controller Commandant

Chairman: Colonel D H I Wilson, OBE (Retd)
Vice-Chairman: Lieutenant Colonel G E M Saunders-Davies, TD (Retd)
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ATS/WRAC Benevolent Fund: Mrs J Laurence-Smith
(*Case Secretary*)
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Contributions for next issue by 14th December 1975

CONTENTS

	Page
Editorial	31
Mrs Russell Simpson	31
Miss Stella Schmolle	32
Captain Iris Roderick	32
Presentations	33
Fell Rescue	34
Hall of Winds	35
Saigon	36
The Military Party	37
Unit News	38
Sport	45
TAVR	48
Prize Competition	49
Correspondence	49
Book Reviews	50
Association News	52
Reunions	54
Were you at Ypres in 1917?	55
Weddings	56
Obituary	56
Branch News	57
Notices	57
London Gazette	59

Lioness

Vol. XLVIII 1975 No. 2

Editorial

THE innovation of holding the Annual General Meeting in York was a great success and particularly well attended by delegates from all parts of the country. It did, of course, give the opportunity to many members from the North of England and Scotland to attend who would not otherwise have been able to do so.

We should like to remind readers that the new subscription rates come into force on 1st January 1976. The four year subscription is to be discontinued and future rates will be Life, £15 and Annual, £1.

We congratulate Colonel V K Stead OBE TD DL JP (Retd) on her election as a new Life Vice-President of the WRAC Association in the knowledge that, with her wide experience in public and social work for many years, the Association will greatly benefit.

We have been fortunate, while compiling this issue, to have received several very interesting and unusual articles including a poetic report, on the AGM, in yorkshire dialect! Sgt McNeil sent us what will almost certainly be the last WRAC eye witness account of Saigon before it became Ho Chi Minh and Capt Barrington-Ward took us into the fascinating world of creating model soldiers with all the meticulous calculations and sustained concentration that this entails. The contrast between grim reality and the ability to create a miniature, ideal world, makes absorbing reading. Two other interesting articles show different aspects of the same type of sport, namely, Capt Patrick's vivid account of the rigours of potholing and Major Salmon's revealing description of the Fell Rescue Service. We sincerely hope the latter member does not have to turn out to recover the former!

We hope that some QMAAC readers will be able to help Lyn Macdonald, the BBC writer, with information for her documentary programmes on the 60th anniversary of the battle of Ypres. We should like to think that some of our members were able to contribute to this important, historical record of one of the main turning points of the first world war.

We must also mention three awards which, in each case, involved "a first". It was very pleasing and most gratifying to the Corps that when WO1 Lewis, the RSM of Depot Regiment RA, was granted the LSGC, he elected to have it presented by DWRAC. In addition, for the first time, the Comstar for speedy and accurate transmission of messages went to a WRAC team and the Tie of Merit or, in this case, an engraved compact, was awarded to a WRAC Private for an outstanding service in the field of Army Aviation. It is in such apparently unrelated incidents as these that make us realise the value placed upon our Corps by the Army as a whole.

MRS DOROTHY RUSSELL SIMPSON

Born 1891—Died 1974

TO many of those who had served with Mrs Dorothy Simpson in World War II or later shared her work for ex-servicewomen's organisations, her death brought the chilling realisation that with the loss of her vivid and challenging personality, their own personal worlds appeared strangely diminished. She was one of the first dozen women to join the Auxiliary Territorial Service at its inception in 1938. Widowed ten years earlier and with two sons territorials and two younger children at school in England, she elected for local service and was appointed Chief Commander of the Edinburgh Group ATS. Within four months of the outbreak of war she was also appointed to command the first ATS recruit training centre in Scottish Command and had the daunting task of converting and equipping student hostels at Craigmillar for Army use. One of her early concerns was the impact of service life on women recruits, particularly those younger recruits coming from sheltered homes—sheltered to a degree unknown to contemporary youth. By judicious selection and elimination she built up a cadre of junior officers and NCOs, who shared her attitude of vigilance and a compassion, which was never permitted to degenerate into molly-coddling. She relinquished command of the training centre in mid-1940 when its increasing

size warranted its administrative separation from the Edinburgh Group. She continued to command the latter until her retirement on reaching the age limit at the end of 1943. She was immediately offered the post of senior woman officer in the Women's Timber Corps in Scotland, which she retained until the end of the war. With the advent of peace, she renewed army friendships in her work for ex-Servicewomen's organisations. She was on the committees of management of the ATS Benevolent Fund and of the QMAAC ATS and WRAC Association. She helped to establish the Women's United Services Club in Edinburgh, worked for SSAFA and was a member of the tribunal assessing service-women's compensations claims.

Combining energy, resolution and absolute candour with an ability to perceive the qualities of individuals of diverse talents, training and background, Dorothy Simpson was an inspiring leader and the groups constantly surrounding her at post-war ATS/WRAC Reunions testified to the affection in which she was held by all ranks. Her wartime colleagues tended to become life-long friends and her beautiful Edinburgh house was always open to them. Her never-failing hospitality to her friends and her generosity to the causes she espoused contrasted with her rigorously limited expenditure on her own person; her preference in dress was for a spartan simplicity and, in other personal matters, for a prudent economy. One of her few indulgences was travel and her wholehearted enjoyment of her expeditions abroad, her happy knack of extracting information from the most unlikely sources and her knowledge of contemporary and ancient civilisations, made those occasions an exhilarating experience for her travelling companions. To which was added the exhilaration of speed, for like Jehu, she drove furiously albeit with an alert eye for possible dangers. Possessed of exceptional physical vigour, she had been a lacrosse internationalist in youth, played tennis until well on into her seventies, and was a competent skier who, until her eightieth year, regularly shepherded parties of her grandchildren to Switzerland for the winter sports. Her closing years were clouded by suffering from a heart condition and a slowly progressive failure of sight. With full knowledge of the final outcome, she bore these disabilities with her habitual dignity and fortitude.

Dorothy Simpson was one of those rare human beings whose strength is reflected in their discipline, moderation and unerring judgment, independent of the opinions of the crowd. As such she neither sought public recognition nor coveted the emblems of fame. She has, perhaps, the greater memorial for "her story lives on without visible symbol", woven into the lives of the many who are privileged to have known her.

MISS STELLA SCHMOLLE

STELLA Schmolle of 56 Lyncroft Gardens, London who died on 5th March 1975 served in the ATS and was an Accredited War Artist.

Besides painting the ATS at duty in Britain, cooking, making bread, welding, MT driving and maintenance and so on, Miss Schmolle flew to Normandy in the autumn of 1944 and made artistic records of a wider range of war subjects, including unloading of the wounded from ambulance planes and German prisoners of war. She accompanied the advance into Brussels seated next to the driver of an Army lorry and made sketches and drawings of troops and tanks advancing through the devastation and squalor of the aftermath of war. In these fascinating, unusual and important activities she made friends whom she retained for the rest of her life.



Painting of the ATS Training Centre Guildford by Miss Stella Schmolle.

Many of these wartime paintings, drawings and sketches can be seen in the Imperial War Museum together with her portrait of Dame Helen Gwynne Vaughan after an original by Sir William Orpen. Her painting of the Guildford Training Centre hangs in our own Museum and a portrait of HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, painted in 1966 after an original by Douglas Anderson, hangs in the WRAC Centre Officers' Mess.

CAPTAIN IRIS RODERICK

IRIS Roderick, singer, dancer, comedienne, sketch writer, producer and designer, died in Sydney, Australia on 14th April 1971.

She was born in Melbourne in 1907 and, at the age of 12, had gathered a group of children known as the Canterbury Juvenile Players. Trained as a Ballerina she was the only child to be chosen by Espenosa for coaching and made

her stage debut at the age of seven in Alladin. She continued teaching, acting producing and writing until stardom came in 1937 on Sydney Radio. Urged to appear on the London Stage she arrived here the day before the war started—and promptly enlisted into the ATS. She was commissioned in 1942 and, after general service in Warwick, Donnington and Longtown Groups, became the only woman producer of shows in the Central Pool of Artists. In spite of running into the Stern Gang in the Middle East, she never failed in her work of providing entertainment for the troops and even got the POWs on stage in the desert camps of North Africa.

But Capt Roderick's health suffered and, after resigning from the WRAC in 1951, she returned to Australia and worked with Doctor Barnado's homes as an After Care Officer and later producing the first religious drama on TV. She became a deaconess at Sydney Methodist Mission in 1956 and continued in presenting the christian message until failing health prevented it.

The State Archives of Victoria, Australia recently honoured this talented and courageous woman by accepting the documentary relics of her public life. Anyone who would like more details of Miss Roderick's career should write to Miss M Thomson, 3/155 Blue's Point Road, North Sydney, 2060, NSW, Australia.

Presentations

Meritorious Service Medal

WO1 J Beard BEM

WO1 Beard enlisted in the Auxiliary Territorial Service in July 1945. Except for the period from March 1954 to May 1955 when she returned to civilian life, she has been in the Royal Army Pay Corps—a total of twenty-eight years.

During her service with the RAPC she has had a wide experience of Army Pay Services including nineteen years in Regimental Pay Offices, eight years in Command Pay Offices and about one year as a Unit Pay Clerk. She has efficiently filled many varied posts, such as Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant, Chief Clerk, Administrative Officer and Assistant Cashier.

WO1 Beard has given selfless service to the Royal Army Pay Corps and to the Army. Keeping no account of time she has always been to the fore when volunteers were required for duties in unsocial hours and given much of her own time to train other WRAC personnel. She is a very good competitive small bore shot and has represented the Corps in inter-service competitions. Her reliability, enthusiasm and loyalty to the WRAC and the Army generally, set an example to all with whom she serves.

On 17th February 1975 at RAPC Worthy Down WO1 Beard's exemplary service was rewarded by the presentation of the Meritorious Service Medal by Maj Gen J C Gould CB, Paymaster in Chief.

LSGC

WO1 P Lewis RA



Is This a First?

UPON learning that the Director Women's Royal Army Corps, Brig E J Nolan Hon ADC planned to visit WRAC Battery, The Depot Regiment Royal Artillery, on 27 January 1975, WO1 P Lewis RA, the Regiment's RSM, announced that he would like his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal presented by Brig Nolan.

We were already aware that WO1 Lewis is pro-WRAC, as upon arrival he lost no time in arranging to attend a Commissioning Ceremony at the WRAC College and a Passing Out Parade at the WRAC Centre, so we were very pleased to learn that Brig Nolan's reply to his request was that she would be "honoured and delighted".

WO Pat Lewis joined the Army in 1956 and has served in Germany, Kenya and Aden, in addition to five tours in Northern Ireland. He and his wife Brenda have been married fifteen years and have two sons aged twelve and seven. An active man, WO1 Lewis is a member of the UK Gunner Hockey XI.

We claim this is the first time a serving WRAC Brigadier has presented a medal to a male Warrant Officer but are ready to stand corrected by our readers!

WO1 S M Weatherill



WO1 S M Weatherill receiving the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from Col G S Harris, Commander Rheindahlen Garrison 13th Mar 75.

Fell Rescue

Major (Retd) M M Salmon (nee Bishop)

THE Services have traditionally opened to their members a door to many forms of adventure. I always read with interest and envy the accounts in "Lioness" of adventure training and exploits undertaken by members of the WRAC and some readers might be interested in the activities of one small part of that organisation for which they may one day be thankful—the Mountain and Fell Rescue service.

I have been actively involved in hill walking and climbing since I climbed my first "real" mountain (Kilimanjaro) whilst serving in Nairobi thirty years ago. In fact I met my husband on an Army Mountaineering Association meet. When some years later we came to live in the Yorkshire Dales and explored this lovely country, it was inevitable that we should get involved when, in 1967, the police asked a few local people to form a rescue team.

The team is called the Swaledale Fell Rescue Organisation and is one of over forty civilian teams operating in England and Wales under the direction of the police. Its members come from the dales and from Richmond, Catterick and the nearby villages, and from time to time servicemen from Catterick Garrison and RAF Leeming have been members. The membership is usually about 50. Applicants are required to be strong walkers, preferably with climbing or potholing experience, to have the necessary clothing and equipment and to be proficient with map and compass. Usually two periods a month are devoted to training, which covers map and compass exercises, stretcher and rope work, first aid, radio exercises, "search and rescue" procedure, joint exercises with the police and other teams and "familiarization walks"—hard hill walks over the wilder areas of the territory almost always in fiendish weather. The team also sends one or more members each year on the Mountain Rescue courses at Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore.

The immediate requirement when the team was formed was to provide basic equipment and the first stretcher was bought with an interest-free loan put up by two founder members. Since then equipment worth £1,000 has been collected, the main items being four stretchers. two Pye Bantam radios, ropes, electron ladders, helmets, rockets, lighting equipment, a field kitchen and medical equipment. A 1967 Landrover has just been presented by the National Park Planning Committee and is now being overhauled and modified to carry a stretcher.

When SFRO became established application was made to the Mountain Rescue Committee for affiliation. This was granted and a Mountain Rescue Post and Sub-Post were allocated to the team's area, each with an issue of basic equipment provided by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Much more equipment is needed, particularly radios, but its provision is limited by funds. Three grants have been received from the local authority but most of the organisation's income is raised through collecting and money-making activities such as coffee parties, demonstrations and Open Days. For individual members a helpful innovation has been the recent undertaking by the Police Authority to refund expenses, such as cost of petrol or loss of wages, incurred on rescues. In addition the police have now insured all rescuers against injury or death while engaged on rescues or training.

The team has been called to twenty-two incidents since July 1968, ten of them in the past year. They have included the rescue of lambs from mineshafts and crags, two night searches for lost walkers, several potholing incidents, the recovery of six injured walkers or potholers, several major two-day searches with other teams and three fatalities.

A "callout" may involve turning out for a few hours with little action and much waiting, or it may mean several days on a "sweep search", plodding across bleak and boggy moorland for six or eight hours at a time, usually in wind, rain, sleet or snow. Sometimes the team is called un-

necessarily or to search for an individual who is in fact sitting cosily at home. These occasions are, of course, annoying but most rescuers accept that abortive calls are inevitable and all agree that one successful rescue makes the hard work and long hours of training worthwhile.

To those of us whose service stretched back to the dim past the modern servicewoman seems to have endless opportunities for adventure. But adventure presupposes some element of risk and, while we all subscribe to the view that "It can't happen to me", accidents involving injury did in fact happen to 220 people during 1974. In addition many more were stranded, benighted or lost on the hills. So it may be encouraging to people who are just learning their hillcraft to know that throughout the country there are many teams like SFRO training and practising regularly in the hope of making disasters less likely and the hills safer for the adventurous.

The Hall of the Winds

Capt R D Patrick

"It's raining, but the water doesn't fill the main chamber more then twenty feet deep if there is a flood."

"Do you really want to go? There is an awful lot of very strenuous activity you know."

AFTER a journey of an hour and a half through the deserted but flooded Yorkshire Dales, we arrived at Ingleton a village under Ingleborough. This mountain looms above the valley and is honeycombed by some of the largest and most extensive cave systems in Britain. After a bone shattering two mile drive up a small track, we finally stopped and donned our kit. We still had half a mile to walk over the moor before reaching our objective—a small hole in the ground known as Bar Pot about 600 feet below the summit of Ingleborough.

Our leader Staff Sergeant Tom Parker turned on his lamp and squeezed into this hole armed with ladder, tackle and ropes. For several moments the silence was broken with clanking, grunts and scraping sounds. He appeared again moments later and explained that, at first, it was a bit of a tight squeeze.

One by one we joined him in this small hole which developed into a 70 feet drop in the floor to a small chamber below us. The first movement on to the ladder required you to wedge yourself in the crack and ease down the ladder inch by inch for fifteen feet before being able to climb freely into the chamber. As we became accustomed to the gloom it was apparent that there were two exits at our feet through equally small holes in the ground. We moved off descending by a narrow winding passage to another small chamber and on again until we reached an awkward drop. Here a thoughtful caver had left a piece of blue rope tied onto the rock. All that was required was to sit on your bottom and slide through the hole hanging onto the rope. With plenty of friction from the mud, this was an enjoyable moment which caused a great deal of merriment. We were in fact entering the Gaping Gill system in Yorkshire and were climbing down Bar Pot. This Pot is one of the "easier" ways down into the bottom of the system.

Tom had stopped and was putting ladders together. These are made from light-weight aluminium and cable, lighter and easier to carry than rope ladders, and far more reliable. Our descent was one hundred and twenty feet down walls which had been smoothed by tons of water eroding the limestone. The phreatic tube we were descending was at least fifty feet in diameter. I stopped just once on the way down on a tiny ledge seventy feet from the top as going down ladders is every bit as exhausting as going up! To a chorus of cheers I reached the shingle floor. To the right a large passage led off into darkness, but was high enough to walk upright for a while—through a big muddy chamber with vast sink holes in the floor and on again until we reached passages going off in different directions. They looked similar to the London Underground and were as uncomfortable!

The party now moved for 400 yards in a crawl. This was acutely uncomfortable in wet suits with equipment, as the passage was not high enough to walk upright in, nor was it low enough to crawl in. I suddenly cannoned into Tom who had stopped in front of me. "Sssh," he said, dramatically, so the assorted bangs, crashes sighs and moans stopped and in the ensuing silence we heard the roar of the river that we had come so far to see. Onward faster now, weary limbs and aching muscles forgotten, until Tom stopped, told us to wait before going forward. He disappeared and then yelled: "OK come on", so we scrambled over debris and stood, in awed silence, in a vast chamber so big that we could not see the sides or the roof with our lights. Two hundred yards away daylight filtered through the roof casting a weird and ghostly light. Through this 'hole' poured a waterfall three hundred and sixty feet long thundering into the bottom of the cavern. We were standing underground in Gaping Gill, one of the largest caverns in Britain.

Because of the flood water the river pouring into Gaping Gill was in spate. We just stood in complete silence and watched the water thundering down to sink through the floor to hidden depths and come out farther down the valley.

Because of the hole above, strange winds moaned and scurried around us and much of the water was dissipated in spray around the cavern before even reaching the floor.

Our party stayed an hour in the cavern walking around it, sitting on sandbanks and watching the daylight slowly fading above us. Our journey back was enlivened by Tom pretending to be injured to enable us to discuss cave rescue techniques and we reached the bottom of the one hundred and twenty foot ladder pitch to find another party coming down using our tackle. We discovered that they were an Army Youth Team, although we did not reveal who we were. They were stunned to find three women sitting at the bottom watching, and muttered "Amazons, Amazons" (although I was the tallest at 5′ 3″) as they disappeared into the passages heading for "GG".

Going up the 120′ pitch was agonising—restricted in the arms by a tight wet suit, DMS boots two sizes too large and a helmet which had a habit of falling over my eyes. I made it even though I had to stop three times!

At the top, Tom was appalled as he saw the other party's belay point. It was a large boulder wedged between some rocks. Taking the ladder and life line off, he picked up their belay, yelled 'below' and threw the boulder over the edge where it crashed to the bottom a few seconds later. This was a salutory lesson in safety as he reset their ladder and life line on a safe belay point demonstrating the safety aspects as he did so.

No more problems were encountered until that little bit of blue rope near the top, so easy and such fun to slide down when we were fresh and enthusiastic but when exhausted it was no longer a laughing matter as I "graunched" my way up. At last the 70′ ladder pitch and a glimmer of daylight. However Bar Pot had just one little joke up its sleeve, the tight squeeze this time at the top of the 70′ ladder pitch. Out at last to that glorious earthy humid smell of the world outside, a walk across the moor and the landrover trip home, leaving the sun to sink slowly over Ingleborough and the Hall of the Winds.

Author's note: "Graunching" is a climbing/potholing term meaning moving upwards using every part of the body when exhausted and under stress. It is not a pretty sight!

Saigon

Sgt P A McNeil

(The following was received from Sgt P A McNeil before the fall of South Vietnam. Editor).

THE traffic in Saigon is an experience as there is no recognised code for driving. It is not uncommon to see as many as five people travelling on one Honda or four people on one pedal cycle. Another precarious practice is for cyclists to hang on to passengers on a motor cycle. This way as many as three cyclists (with passengers) are all propelled along on the one engine. Taxis are all "vintage" Renaults (1940), 4 horsepower.

The wet season extends from May to October, while the dry season covers November to April. The lowest temperature ever recorded in Saigon was 57F. The mean maximum temperature is approximately 95F in April and mean mimimum approximately 78F in January.

Religions practised here are many and varied. Catholicism brought to Vietnam by missionaries in the 16th century, is now practised by an estimated 10% of the population. Protestant religions include Baptist, Mennonite, Episcopal, 7th Day Adventists. Hinduism, Islam and the Bahai faith also have followers here. Taoism, Confucianism and Buddhism are widely practised, as are the "new" religions Hoa Hoa and Cao Dai, both of which are reformed Buddhist sects.



Roadside fruit stall South Vietnam

There is absolutely nothing that cannot be bought either from the shops or from a myriad of stalls (or blankets spread across the pavements) in and around the market. The Vietnamese are excellent copyists and will produce, from the roughest of drawings, shoes, clothes, jewellery, furniture, lampshades—anything.

Saigon is the capital city of the Republic of South Vietnam and the seat of administration and economy. The city is located on the West bank of the Saigon river 43 miles from the South China Sea. An attractive city with trees bordering many of the streets, it is intersected by several parks, architectural features of both East and West are prominent and there are broad streets and narrow boulevards, villas and blocks of flats, churches, mosques, temples and pagodas. At the West end in Thon Nhut stands Doc Dap (Independance Palace) the residence of President and Madam Thieu. At the East stands the Saigon

Zoo and the National Museum. The latter was constructed in 1928 and is one of the most beautiful monuments within the city boundary. In addition to paintings, bronzework, pottery, vases and items from the bronze age, the Museum has a wealth of statuary and a small collection of Chinese and Vietnamese porcelain. The zoo is populated by 40 species of mammals and birds and 6 species of reptiles. The botanical garden, started in 1861, specialises in tropical plants and there are nearly 2,000 varieties of ornamental and medicinal plants, over 100 varieties of orchids and the half moon shaped pond displays 40 varieties of water lotus.

(Later Sgt McNeil added a postscript to her article. Editor).

Since writing South Vietnam has fallen to the Communists. The intensity of military activity increased and the fall of Da Nang at the end of March brought the long drawn out chess game between North and South towards its final moves. In Saigon a stricter curfew was imposed from 2100 to 0600 and the silent city took on the air of a ghost town. During the day was unbelievably calm—the calm before the storm. Then foreign embassies began to implement their evacuation plans and the panic had started.

The British Embassy evacuation flight to Hong Kong was full having taken on many spare Britons and mixed Nationals. Nobody wanted to leave. As one passenger remarked we all felt like rats deserting a sinking ship. Whatever our nationality we were all, in different ways, affected by the war.

Saigon has now been renamed Ho Chi Minh after the original Vietnamese Communist leader.

The Military Party

Captain A M H Barrington-Ward

IT is difficult to ascertain when I first became interested in Model Soldiers but I think it was when I was ill with influenza. My father had a model railway and thinking I would be bored, gave me some figures to paint. I painted all the figures and converted them into Army uniforms, including several WRAC. The figures were subsequently catalogued as "the Military Party" and were placed on Platform Three of the Model Railway.

I completely forgot about the Military Party, until a year later when a letter was sent to all Units asking for any bright ideas in connection with the Museum. I suddenly thought of the Military Party which might be of interest to someone—and so it all started.

The first hiccup was that my parents were away and somehow I had to kidnap the Military Party. I knew who had the key to the house so, as a result of a convincing telephone call, the Military Party were swept away and sent to me through the post. On the return of my parents, it was instantaneously noticed that only the Paddington Express was at Platform Three and no one to board it!

The Military Party were despatched to the Museum Trustees who showed a keen interest in the minute figures. After a time, it was suggested that perhaps a model of a camp could be constructed, incorporating several more of these figures. With careful planning and a certain amount of time, it would be possible. However, the final decision of the theme was to be a WRAC Corps Day, which was a wonderful project with never ending limits for the model soldier enthusiast.

There began a delightful eighteen month task. The aim of the model was to depict as many trades in the WRAC as possible. Once all the trades had been listed and decided the camp had to be constructed to exhibit each trade to its best value. I had never done architecture before but I found myself wrestling with horrid little sums incorporating buildings, roads and tennis courts and "scaling" them according to the size of the people. The Regimental Headquarters were busy with administrative staff and clerks; the MT section had WRAC cleaning their vehicles, which included mini buses and staff cars and the Medical Centre was buzzing with medical orderlies administering to the sick. Being Corps Day a special parade was assembled on the parade ground, with the Inspecting Officer just about to carry out the inspection.

There are so many activities going on, with well over a hundred people, that it is impossible to relate each "little story" the figures have to tell. One can peep inside the buildings which have large windows and are illuminated by small lights (Christmas tree lights). The WRAC Block is comfortably equipped with a Sitting/Television Room. The NCO's bunks and other rooms look over the well kept lawns and eventually down to the swimming pool, where girls are swimming in a race. The modern NAAFI and cookhouse are in the same building and the small Church is peacefully surrounded by blossoming trees; the stained glass windows are very realistic when illuminated by the lights inside. This model is in the WRAC Museum at Guildford and includes the original Military Party which never did return to Platform Three!

Having completed the Museum Model, I decided to start casting my own soldiers. This proved tricky and required knowledge about the behaviour of molten lead in varying conditions and lessons in making moulds.

However, quite soon I was bending over a

stove stirring my cauldron of molten lead then tipping the lead into my own moulds. (For anyone who deals with molten lead I firmly stress that they must wear protective clothing on hands and any exposed skin, including the face). To make one's own soldiers is exciting though I have had more failures than successes. I display most of my figures on blocks of stained wood with Regimental badges on them.

Model soldiers are becoming increasingly popular—it is a wonderful and enlightening hobby and a very constructive way of increasing one's knowledge of Military History as well as the history of various Regiments and Corps. I have had many happy hours as a result of this hobby which all started with influenza and the Military Party!

Unit News

Northern Ireland

181 PROVOST COMPANY WRAC

AFTER the Christmas activities 181 Provost Company WRAC settled down to a fairly quiet start to 1975. The Christmas ceasefire was only broken for a few days before the present 'peace' commenced. However, the girls have been busy as ever as the thankless task of searching females and juveniles is a continuing commitment. But the present lull in terrorist activities has allowed more time for sport and other leisure time activities.

Several of our WRAC Provost NCOs were able to get away for a well deserved break when they took part in exercise Snow Queen, a skiing trip to Germany, run by 114 Pro Coy RMP based at Detmold. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the casualties were kept to a minimum. In March our Aldergrove contingent took part in an Inter-Platoon Orienteering competition at Tardree Forest in preparation for the RMP Orienteering meet the following month. The ladies event was won by 2Lt Davies. In the Northern Ireland Table Tennis Championships held at Lisburn on 9 Apr our two competitors excelled themselves. Lcpl Wareing won the ladies singles event and together with Lcpl McIntosh came second in the ladies doubles. On a much less grand scale we can claim minor victories over the WRAC Element from Lisburn and our country cousins at Portadown in several friendly Volleyball matches. Now the bad news. WRAC Element still remain unbeaten at Shinty and we have to admit defeat by one penalty flick in the Northern Ireland Six-a-Side Hockey contest.

We certainly get our fair share of visitors in 181 Pro Coy. During April and May alone we were visited by the Commander Land Forces (NI), the Chief of Staff (NI), the Provost Marshal (Army) and our own AAG MOD Col H Powell.

Now a word about our country cousins in Londonderry and Portadown. They have gone Para-Sailing mad in Londonderry. Every Sunday morning sees 24 Platoon down at Ballykelly with the Worcester and Sherwood Foresters. This relatively new sport involves being strapped into a parachute harness which is attached by a cable to a landrover. The cable is then drawn taut and the parachute is opened by two assistants as the landrover slowly gathers speed. The faster the vehicle moves forward the higher you go. When more experienced, the aim of the sport is to ascend on a cable 1200 ft long. Once you have reached this great height you then release yourself from the cable and descend to land on, or as near as possible to, a pre-selected spot. 24 Platoon's attempt to do just this did not go without a few slight mishaps. One NCO bellyflopped to the ground in fine style and another landed the other way up—on her rear end; and they even managed to get their reluctant Platoon Commander to take to the air after much protesting.



Keeping ourselves in the public eye in the International Women's Year L to R: a member of the Civilian Search Unit, LCpl L Bowler WRAC (Searcher), LCpl N Burns WRAC (Provost), Cpl P Morrow UDR and a Policewoman from the Royal Ulster Constabulary who are all involved in the security of the general public here in N Ireland.

They seem to lead just as an exciting life down with 23 Platoon in Portadown. They are responsible for female searching duties in 3 Inf Bde area which covers approximately 4,000 sq miles. Because they are required to cover such a large expanse of the country-side they travel to and from work by various exotic

means, in fact from the sublime to the ridiculous; by helicopter one day, in the relative luxury of an 1800 another day and, if they are unlucky, in their very temperamental mini bus. Their work is varied from bomb watches to mobile patrols and vehicle check points on the border with the Republic.

In their leisure time they make the best of their limited facilities playing Six-a-Side Hockey and 20-a-Side Football, all on a pitch no bigger than a badminton court. They, too, are keen on Orienteering and have played their Aldergrove counterparts at Volleyball on many occasions.

LCpl Anna Green

The Accrington Observer recently published a feature article on LCpl Green of Oswaldwistle and we are indebted to the Editor for allowing us to use his material. The foregoing report from 181 Provost Company modestly makes light of the onerous duties its personnel undertake and is in the best traditions of military custom. But it is a newspaper reporter's duty to bring us the facts and these emerge in strong contrast to the 'low key' report from the Unit.

LCpl Green joined the WRAC in 1973 as a stewardess and, after 6 months at RAECC, Beaconsfield, was recommended for re-allocation to Provost and immediately volunteered for service in Northern Ireland. Now 19 and with 181 (WRAC) Provost Company in Aldergrove, her experiences are typical of the distasteful, provoking, dangerous and dirty jobs which our women do, with courage and dignity, in the strife-torn Province.

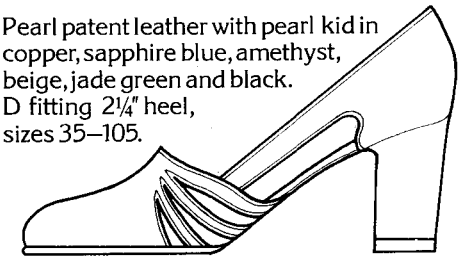
Lcpl Green spends three days a week on duty in a Lower Falls prison and three on searches which calls for steel helmet, bullet-proof vest and truncheon. Spat upon, jeered at, physically assaulted and beaten up by people she is there to protect, her duties have included helping to pick up the pieces when two bombers blew themselves up and searching the rubble after innumerable explosions. Her mother, Mrs Noreen Bates, who keeps in close touch with her daughter by telephone and letter, remarked in an interview: "Nobody here has any idea what it's like out there." This is indeed true.

It does not surprise the older ex-servicewoman that her successors show that sudden flash of heroism which carries them through moments of great danger. The wonder is that, living a life of tension, oppression and insult, with nerves stretched to the limit, these young women can still carry out their odious duties with civility, self-control and restraint and even find room in their hearts to pity an unhappy people, while managing to keep in proportion the cost to themselves.

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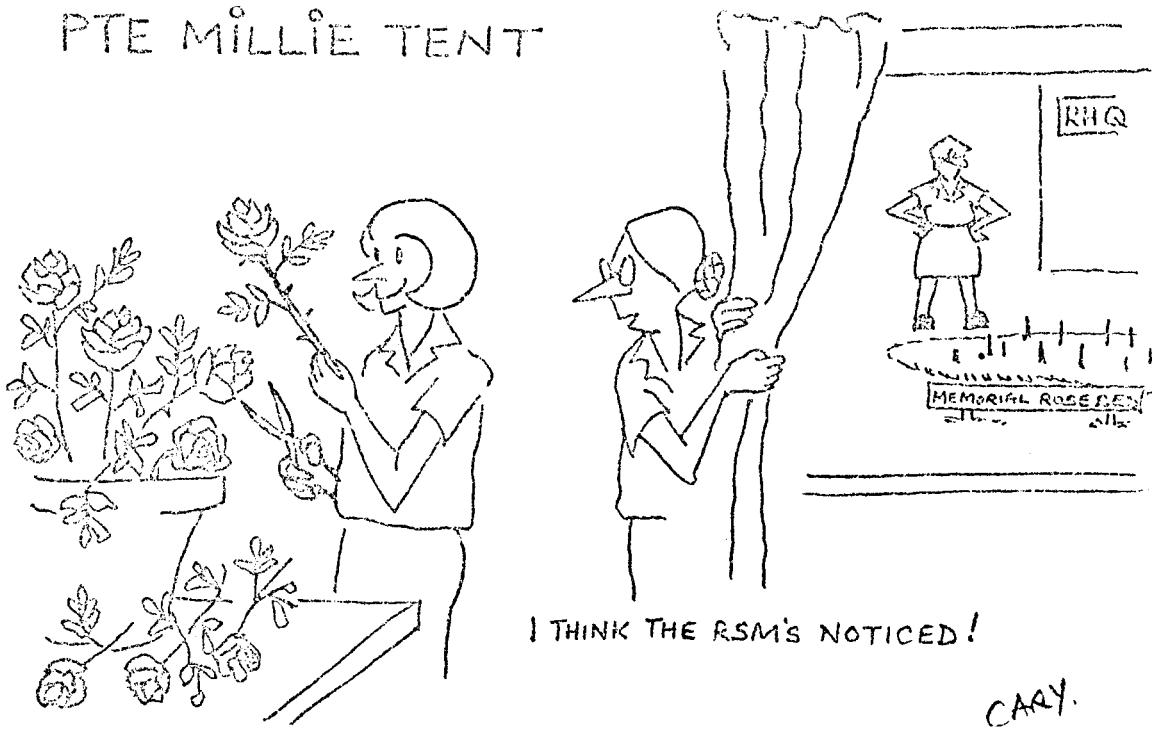
RAPC TRAINING CENTRE

Lcpl Boakes

29 Army Youth Team recently ran a weekend expedition to Dartmoor as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and, as there were seven schoolgirls on the trip, Pte Shirley Regan and myself volunteered to act as chaperones.

We set off laden like two pack horses and a member of the AYT drove us to Okehampton. Being the first to arrive at the Camp, we went to buy food and other essential items for the weekend and when the remainder of the group arrived, we all set about the arduous task of erecting four tents in near gale force winds. We had hardly settled into our tents when rain started—but we didn't let this dampen our spirits and went to explore Okehampton and its local hostelries for some light refreshment! Alas, on return, we found that one of the tents was leaking badly and we all had to cram into three tents so you can imagine there was not much room or sleep that night!

We were up very early the next morning as we had to move into hutted accommodation. We spent most of the morning trying to dry out our wet sleeping bags and clothes and our attempts to cook breakfast were similarly fated.



The afternoon was devoted to a map reading exercise which left us all completely exhausted so it was lights out fairly early!

Next day we were up at the crack of dawn preparing for a 10 mile hike across country. Two of us stayed behind to prepare lunch and the rest started the trek equipped with maps and compasses. We took lunch out to the trekkers in a landrover and then returned to prepare tea leaving the rest of the party to complete their orienteering.

We had a farewell party that evening which should have rounded off a very pleasant and enjoyable weekend. However on my way back to my room I decided to take a short cut across the grass and fell down a foot drop on to the road. While the rest made the journey to Exeter Station next morning, I was en route for Plymouth Hospital for X-Rays. Luckily nothing was broken. Apart from the inclement weather conditions and my slight mishap, we thoroughly enjoyed our experience and we all look forward to similar expeditions in the future.

12 DRIVER TRAINING REGIMENT RCT

Exercise Cormorant's Creek

ON Wednesday 29 May five lucky members of the WRAC Troop, 12 Driver Training Regiment RCT, left Aldershot with 6 Troop C Sqn, The Depot Regiment RCT who had kindly invited us to accompany them on an exercise on the Isle of Wight.

After a journey by landrover and ferry, we arrived at the camp. We found to our delight that our tent had been erected and a welcome meal of chicken and chips was waiting for us. We were expected to do the same tasks as the men, so the next morning was an early reveille with a quick trip around the assault course to wake us up. This caused quite a few laughs, especially when we tried crossing a stream by ropes—Tarzans we are not! As well as the assault course we tried our hands at abseiling, map reading, escape and evasion, canoeing and helicopter handling. The escape and evasion exercise was good fun. Heaven knows what passers by thought when we dived into ditches whenever a car came near—we must have looked suspiciously like prisoners escaped from Parkhurst which was only 5 miles down the road! Much to the surprise of the 'enemy' we weren't spotted at all, so we felt very pleased with ourselves.

The highlight of the exercise for us was the trip in a helicopter. First we were briefed on how to marshall a helicopter and then one of us was 'volunteered' to guide it in when it arrived. We

also acted as stick leaders and took our band of men safely to the helicopter without losing any heads! We were then flown to see the Needles, a famous land mark on the north-eastern coast. We even managed to fit in time for some sight-seeing and shopping in Cowes and Newport.

We arrived back in Aldershot early Sunday morning tired, sun-tanned and happy and looking forward to the opportunity of another exercise.

London District

WRAC BATTERY DEPOT REGIMENT RA

ON 11th March 1975 WRAC Battery, The Depot Regiment Royal Artillery, was honoured by a visit from Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent our Controller Commandant.

Members of WRAC Bty are employed all round Woolwich Garrison as Cooks, Ambulance Drivers, Stewardesses, Clerks and Bty Administrative Staff and the three QARANC/WRAC Recruiters at Blackheath are clothed and documented by the Bty. To attempt to take HRH to all units where WRAC are employed would have been a lengthy and involved operation and so our Commanding Officer, Lt Col E J Mayo RA, wisely decided we would remain in the RA Barracks and, with the co-operation of their Employing Officers bring all servicewomen in for the day. As we were not able to show our servicewomen at work, it was decided to run six competitions; Rifle Shooting, Canoeing, Skiing, Cake Decoration, Driving and Table Tennis. This gave everyone a chance to "have a go", and, indeed, our Table Tennis Ladder started off with every member of the Bty.

HRH arrived at The Front Parade, The Depot Regt RA to be greeted by Col A Field. DD-WRAC UKLF, who presented Brig J G Parham MBE, Commander 21 Artillery Brigade and Woolwich Garrison and Lt Col E J Mayo, Commanding The Depot Regiment Royal Artilllery. After inspecting a RA Quarter Guard HRH met WRAC Officers, Trainee Stewardesses and visited the Regimental Restaurant where the Cake Decorating Competition was in progress. The next stop was the WRAC accommodation, where HRH met BSM M Templeman, a number of servicewomen and watched the final of the Table Tennis Competition. Outside again WRAC Drivers were engaged in manoeuvring ambulances round an obstacle course after which HRH was greeted at the Sgts' Mess by the Garrison Sergeant Major, WO1 T M John RA and met Senior Ranks WRAC and RA.

Then followed a splendid luncheon in the Officers' Mess, attended by Officers of the Depot Regiment and their ladies. After which our senior driver Cpl Reay drove HRH in an open Land Rover across the road to the Dell Training Area. HRH watched the Canoeing Competition and then moved to the Dry Ski Slope which she obviously found very interesting.



HRH The Duchess of Kent talking to cooks of WRAC Battery, Depot Regt RA during the Cake Decorating Competition.

The visit ended back in the RA Barracks where all members WRAC Battery had assembled in the Junior Ranks Club and HRH presented shields to our Competition winners as follows: Rifle Shooting Lcpl Follows, Canoeing Pte Archibald, Skiing Pte Lawson, Cake Decoration Lcpl Broadbent, Driving Pte Pierce and Table Tennis Pte Abrahams. HRH spoke to every member of WRAC Bty and many members of The Depot Regiment all of whom agreed the day had been a memorable one.

12 COMPANY WRAC

Exercise "Mountain Trail"

ON 10 May 75, a small contingent of servicewomen from 12 Coy WRAC, Mill Hill set off for Capel Curig Training Camp for a week of Adventurous Training, climbing in the Snowdonia Range. The aim of the exercise was to promote initiative, leadership and the spirit of adventure. The organisers were 2Lt S M A Beament and Sgt J M Lister both of 12 Coy WRAC. They were assisted by Capt O S E Meadows APTC, Adventure Training Wing, Oswestry.

One of the hardy mountaineers describes the exercise. Having established ourselves in the Capel Curig Training Camp situated in the shadow of the Snowdon Range, our first three days were spent on practice runs, climbing the easier slopes and building up our energy and confidence for the assault on Snowdon. "Mountain of all Mountains in England and Wales". We were greatly assisted in our endeavours by

Capt Meadows and generally aided and abetted by two male contingents from No 1 (Gds) Indep Coy Para and 2nd Gurkha Rifles. The usual sprains, bruises and blisters took their toll and our contingent was split into two teams. The superbly fit progressed well, daily accomplishing more difficult and demanding climbs. The "lame" team completed a series of short walks and climbs. Despite the incidence of aches and pains and the gloomy cold weather during our stay, spirits were high throughout. We are indebted to our male colleagues for their encouragement and companionship.

The 14th May saw our anticipated assault on Snowdon. Five members of our party, led by 2 Lt S M A Beament, set off at 0930 hours. Our route started at Pen-y-Pass, proceeded along the PyG Track to the base of Crib Goch and then the steep climb to the famous Knife Edge began. The traversing of the Knife Edge passed with only one incident. Conscious of the watchful male eyes, one of our party, balancing precariously on the ridge in extremely squally conditions, produced a comb to set her hair in order before proceeding onwards and upwards to Crib-y-Ddysgh! From there the party reached the summit of Snowdon, a height of 1,085 metres,only 3½ hours after we set out. Our triumphant return to camp took three hours. Our last two days were spent in short walks and preparation for departure.

We all found the exercise a most worthwhile experience and were made fully aware of the need for complete group co-operation and understanding. Danger, which is part and parcel of this type of exercise was experienced, appreciated and overcome by the encouragement of the group as a whole. Our thanks must go to Capt Meadows for his professional guidance and friendly assistance.

West Midland District

COD DONNINGTON

THE WRAC at Donnington have been busy during the last six months in a variety of activities. The most recent was the Garrison Fete at which the WRAC assisted with side-shows and stalls and also took part in the 'It's a knockout' competition which went on throughout the afternoon. Neither of the two teams in which the WRAC took part won the competition but the cuts and bruises were in evidence the week after the fete showed that a good time was had by all! Several hundreds of pounds were raised at the fete and there is no doubt that the WRAC made a great contribution to this success. The money is to be distributed to various Service Charities.

At the Garrison Sports Day the WRAC again played an active part and, in several events, Garrison records were broken namely Javelin—Pte Parkin 25.52m; Discus—Pte Lessiter 23.78m; 200m—Pte Godkin 28.8 Sec. In the Cromwell Trophy Triangular Athletics Match between ourselves, COD Bicester and CAD Kineton, hosted by CAD Kineton at RAF Gaydon, we unfortunately handed over the trophy, won last year, to COD Bicester. The Match was very close-run and we congratulate Bicester on their win but three of our athletes (Lcpl Steinbergin, Pte Godkin and Pte Parkin) qualified for the Army (Womens) Individual Athletics Championships held at Aldershot in June. The Small Bore Rifle Shooting team, Lcpl Tait, Ptes Allan, Williams and Wright, has had many firsts to its credit including Army, RAOC, WRAC and Shropshire Championships as well as many other trophies. Congratulations to Pte Allan WRAC, at present serving in Northern Ireland, who became the Inter-Service Ladies Top Shot and our thanks to Major E Jennings RAOC who, as OIC Rifle Shooting, takes a great interest in the team and coaches the girls to such a high standard. COD Donnington are also the winners of the West Area Inter-Unit Netball League for 1974/75. Congratulations to all who played in the matches throughout the season.

A recent Unit Course in Dinghy Sailing at the Royal Victoria Hospital Netley, was a great success. Capsize drill was particularly well practised but a race with the QE2 on Southampton Water proved too much for our crew and we retired gracefully, admitting defeat! A recent trip to Denmark on the Danish Ship SS DANA REGINA was highly enjoyable. The Party spent two days on board the ship and a further one and a half days ashore in Esjberg. A trip across Esjberg harbour to the Island of Fano showed us the old style Denmark with its tiny cottages and neat gardens. On our return journey to Donnington, undeterred by a rather rough crossing from Esjberg to Harwich, we began planning a similar visit in the Autumn to Amsterdam.

WO2 Merton, known as 'Q', received the British Empire Medal in the 1975 New Year Honours List and the presentation is to be made by Major General R B Darkin CBE, Representative Colonel Commandant of the RAOC. There is to be a parade and March Past in which RAOC and WRAC Platoons will take part—Congratulations 'Q'. Whilst on the subject of medals it seems appropriate to mention that Pte Dudley has gained a Gold Award under the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. She has worked very hard and we are delighted that she has succeeded.

In short life at Donnington has been busy and will continue to be so throughout the summer. The latest plan is a combined RAOC/WRAC weekend in Cornwall to do some Shark Fishing!

We hope the fisherman will catch the sharks and not vice versa!

CAD KINETON

THE WRAC Element at CAD Kineton has had an eventful past 6 months. On a grey, bleak day in late January DWRAC, Brigadier E J Nolan, accompanied by ADWRAC, Lt Col D J Temple visited the WRAC Element. The programme included a tour of the WRAC Block and most of the new buildings in the Admin area, the Edn Centre, Gymnasium and the JRC. Lunch was quite an occasion, as the new Officers' Mess had been open only two weeks before and the little green huts of previous years were already being flattened. The afternoon was spent visiting the WRAC who work in the Ammunition Processing Area. A brief display of expertise by MHE operators was given by Cpl Kathleen Kay and LCpl Jennie Rimell (nee Smith), winner of the Best Lady Operator and Best Military Operator awards.

Everyone was saddened by the sudden death, in April, of the Commandant, Col K D Bangham who had not been well for some time. A military funeral was held at the Garrison Church, CAD Kineton and members of the WRAC helped to line the route for the gun carriage. Col K A Berresford has now been appointed as Commandant.

On a more cheerful note the WRAC Element has had a highly successful sporting season. It won both the Hockey and Table Tennis Leagues for West Midland District and was second in the Netball League. Sgt Maureen Mullany and Cpl Barbara Mangan both went forward to the Inter Zone Table Tennis Championships and became runners-up in the Doubles. Sgt Mullany emerged as the winner of the Individual Championship. In addition, for the second year running, she became both the Banbury Ladies Table Tennis Champion and, partnered by WO1 Bibby RAOC, the Banbury Mixed Doubles Champion! After only one season of Fencing Pte Doreen Billingham represented the Army and gained her colours in the Inter-Service Championships in June thus automatically qualifying to fence in the Women's Services Individual Championships at the Royal Tournament 1975.

In the West Midland District Cross Country Championships Pte Linda Wilson came a very muddy and exhausted first and her twin sister, Pte Carole Wilson, was third. A grand effort! In the Athletics field Pte Alison Grant won the Javelin event not only at the Triangular Tournament, COD Donnington v COD Bicester v CAD Kineton held at Kineton, but also at the West Area Inter-Unit Athletics Meeting at Tidworth thus qualifying to take part in the Javelin event at the Army Indivdual Athletics Championships at Aldershot in June. In the ever bouncing world of the trampoline 2Lt Linda Heath and Pte Lesley Thurston have entertained happy crowds at several local fetes and shows.

South West District

ARMY AIR CORPS CENTRE

Presentation of Tie of Merit Private E E Hawkins

THE Tie of Merit was instituted in 1968 by the Colonel Commandant AAC when Director Land/Air Warfare. It is awarded by the Director of Army Aviation in recognition of outstanding acts or service in the field of army aviation.



On 13 February 1975 Private Hawkins was carrying out her post-starting up inspection on Scout helicopter XP 899 of Rotary Conversion Squadron. As she approached the port side of the engine she noticed minute bubbles appearing near a weld on the combustion chamber casing. With commendable common sense Pte Hawkins managed to pick up a little of the fluid on her fingers and identifed it as Aviation fuel by its smell. She immediately signalled to the pilot to "cut" the engine and, subsequently, a hair-line crack was found on the suspect weld.

In view of the difficulty in seeing the leaking fuel and the fact that she had less than six months experience with aircraft, Pte Hawkins is to be commended on her vigilance. Her

prompt action averted a potential engine failure and/or fire in flight.

Pte Hawkins was presented with an inscribed AAC powder compact in place of a tie by Major General D G House CBE MC, Director of Infantry on Army Pilots Course No 238 Wings Parade on 2 May 1975.

BAOR

16 SIGNAL REGIMENT

WRAC Awarded a Gold Comstar

COMSTAR stands for Commendation for Signals Transmitted Accurately and Rapidly and is the highest accolade in the Signals world, as it means that for six months from June to December 1974 not one error was made by any member of the team.



Back Row L to R: LCpl Pellen R Signals, Ptes D Smith, J Burton, L Willimont, SSgt (YofS) Lister R Signals, Ptes C Howitt, C Stone, Sig Douglas R Signals. Front Row L to R: Pte E Spence, LCpl C Meadows, CDSO Maj P F Byers R Signals, Cpl J Wells R Signals, OC Sqn Maj J Golding R Signals, Ptes H Lincoln, B Groom.

On 21st February 1975 Maj Gen H E Roper, Chief Signal Officer BAOR, presented a gold Comstar award to the WRAC staffed Army Comcen of 16 Signal Regt at Krefeld. This is the first gold Comstar awarded to a service manned Comcen in BAOR and the first ever for one staffed by WRAC.

29 COMPANY WRAC

EEC Referendum

ON 4 June 1975 BAOR voted in the EEC Referendum. At the Polling Station in Rheindahlen WRAC officers were appointed as Deputy Unit Presiding Officers whilst SNCOs and Servicewomen from 29 Company WRAC acted as Unit Polling Clerks and babyminders.



Pte Enid Senior and Pte Kathleen Quinn were photographed looking after two children while their mothers were voting.

Hong Kong

Taunton Army Girl now serving in Hong Kong



CORPORAL Ann Starr, aged 21, Women's Royal Army Corps, attached to the Royal Hong Kong Army Pay Corps, is seen here discussing the rate of exchange for 100 Hong Kong dollars with a Chinese soldier. The daughter of Mr and Mrs A L Starr, Stephen Street, Taunton she was educated at the Castle Secondary Modern School and joined the WRAC

in September 1971. Her first overseas posting was to Hong Kong in June of last year and she says "I find plenty of opportunities to play my favourite sports, netball and volleyball and to take part in .22 rifle shooting."

Sport

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE first ever Army (W) Inter-Zone and Individual Cross Country Championships were held at the Guards Depot, Pirbright on 14th March over a 2½ mile course of heath and woodland in cold, muddy conditions. The Winners were North East District/Scotland followed by South East (West) and South East (East) Districts.



L toR: Cpl Watson QARANC, Capt J Dyer QARANC, Lt A Wood QARANC, Pte M Watson WRAC, Cpl Downes WRAC.

The Winners of the Individual Championship were: 1st Lt A Wood QARANC of Catterick Military Hospital in 17 min 05 sec, 2nd Pte M Watson WRAC of RA Range, Benbecula in 17 min 27 sec and 3rd Pte H Atherton WRAC of RAOC Centre, Blackdown.

ARMY (WOMENS) RIFLE ASSOCIATION

THE Inter-Service Women's Rifle Championships were held on 10 Feb 75 at RAF Halton. A team of ten represented the Army, each firing two ten-bull targets. The team was selected during a training week held early in February at the WRAC Centre by kind permission of the Commandant. Our coaches were Major Eddy Jennings and Sgt Bill Boxall from COD Donnington and some high scores were achieved, largely as a result of their efforts.

During the training week we went to SEME Bordon and fired in the UKLF Individual WRAC Competition, in which three firers averaged 96.5 over the two cards. Male teams representing each District were taking part in the UKLF Inter-Unit small bore rifle competition and, to give the WRAC more match experience, they were divided into three teams of four. Although the teams were not eligible for the Inter-Unit competition the WRAC 'A' team's score equalled that of the RAPC Training Centre who were placed third—a very encouraging result!

Each year the three service teams fire against the Civil Service Ladies Shooting Club just before the Inter-Service match and are always soundly beaten. The number of shooting jackets with 'England' across the back amongst the Civil Service Ladies tends to be unnerving! Nevertheless, the Army team made history by scoring over 1900 out of a possible score of 2000 for the first time since the present scoring system was introduced.



The Inter-Service Women's Rifle Championships, Pte C Williams, the winner of the Highest Indivudal Score award, is on the right in the front row.

At the Inter-Service Match the Army team got off to an excellent start with a card of a hundred from Pte Caroline Williams from Donnington, her first ever 'ton'! Her second card was a 97 and, as this score remained unbeaten, she won the Highest Individual Score award. This is the first time a member of the Army team has won the award since 1957. By lunchtime the Army was in the lead which, unfortunately, seemed to spur the other two teams on to greater efforts!

The final score was WRNS 1912, WRAF 1909 and WRAC 1893. It was interesting to note that all three teams improved on last year's scores—the Navy by 10, the Air Force by 6 and the Army by 19. In recent years the WRAC team has made steady progress and the match is, once again, a 'three horse race'.

SKIING

Army Skiing 1975

THE BAOR Ski meeting at Alpbach, Austria was well attended in January this year by WRAC, the primary object being to take part in or at least watch, the Women's Services Race for the MacFie Cup. It was won by Capt Linda Cowley with WO2 Lesley Scott and Sgt Map Mapley close runners-up. In the novice class Cpl Parry (UKLF) and Cpl Rosewell (BOAR) received prizes as the most improved skiers.

The snow was good, the food excellent and spirits were high so that the WRAC enjoyed the après ski social programme to the full.



In February 15 members of the QARANC and WRAC took part in exercise White Lady leading up to the Army Ski Association Scottish Meeting. The Anderson Quaiche, an Inter-District race, was won by West Midland District with London District runners-up. Capt Cowley won the individual closely followed by Cpl Parry and Lt Day while 2Lt Christine Cardwell received the novices prize. Cpl Parry won the Army Women's Services Open Race.

Skiing 1976

Garmisch, Germany 17-25 Jan 76. It is planned to take a party of QARANC and WRAC to the BAOR Ski meeting; both beginners and experienced skiers are welcome. The cost will be an individual responsibility but assistance may be available from adventurous training funds.

Aviemore, Scotland 6-20 Mar 76. Exercise White Lady II is mainly for QARANC and WRAC with at least one week's skiing experience but beginners may also apply. All those attending will be expected to take part in the Scottish ski meeting (17-20 Mar). Individual cost will be about £15. An HGV driver and a cook will also be required for administrative duties.

Any servicewoman interested in either exercise should contact Capt L D Cowley WRAC at Melton Mowbray 3281 Ext 26.

BADMINTON

Inter-Service Championships

The result of the Inter-Services Championships held at HMS Sultan, Gosport 24-25 Mar was 1st RAF, 2nd Army and 3rd RN.



Back Row L to R: Sgt H Ikert, Ptes H Abbott, P Laws, WO2 J Beard. Front Row L to R: LCpl N Rochelle, Capt J Whitehead, LCpl B Cheetham.

NETBALL

Inter-Service Championships

THE result of the Inter-Service Championships held at RMA Sandhurst 17-19 Mar was 1st Army, 2nd RN and 3rd RAF.



Back Row L to R: Pte R Cowie, LCpls P Coady, J Rabiaga, Cpls J Hinton, D Winters. Front Row L to R: WO2 J Beard, Cpl B Jones, LCpl K Rolfe, WO2 D Lodge.



Midsummer Lad being greeted by his owner Col L M Davies CBE, Deputy Controller Commandant, after winning the Thrush Handicap at Kempton (He has paid for this picture out of his winnings!)

IN Nov 71, when lunching at Lloyds, I foolishly said I would love to own a racehorse. By Oct 72 I owned Lot 6 at the Newmarket Sales, a beautiful silvery grey yearling by Midsummer Night out of Margareta II for the same price one would have got a very good Rolls Royce.

Then to select my colours. Obviously "Green Sleeves" and the rest of the silk was green with a yellow stripe and a red cap.

I named him Midsummer Lad and hoped he would win races as a 2 year old. In fact the horse spent its 2 year old existence growing and eating his head off! As a 3 year old his first effort was to get stuck in the starting stalls when his section failed to open. He dived under the stall and left Ernie Johnson hanging in the super structure. He eventually turned up at the training stables via Newmarket Heath and a ploughed field. The second race at Newmarket he came in last but was found to have the virus. The next race he won at 20—1 to the surprise of the trainer and the owner. He won again nine days later and was placed several times that season. This year he has won twice, had two seconds and a third.

He is now a beautiful animal much like the Derby winner, Mahmoud, from whom he is descended. He is nearly always loaded into the stalls last as no starter wants to have his stalls broken again! He and Lester Piggott have formed a happy partnership winning three races together and more to come, I hope. LMD

ROYAL NAVY WOMEN'S FESTIVAL OF SPORT

THE RN invited teams of 20 members from the Army and RAF to compete in a series of events at a Festival of Sport held in the Portsmouth area 9-13 June, to mark the occasion of the International Women's Year, the aim being to show the Women's Services to the public.

The Festival proved a great success and congratulations must go to the Navy for their excellent organisation. Everyone enjoyed the Naval hospitality and will remember the Festival for its good, competitive spirit between the three services.

The Army team just managed to hold off a

very strong challenge from the Royal Navy and won the Rose Bowl and several individual medals.

The RAF won the Fencing, the Navy won the Hockey ,Squash, Table Tennis and Volley Ball but the Army won Athletics, Badminton, Tennis, Netball, Rounders and shared honours with the Navy in Water Sports. The final result was Army 24½, RN 23½ and RAF 18.

Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve

2nd BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

PAMELA Selway who made military history on 13th June when she became the first woman to join the 2nd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers at York and because of her 12 years Regular WRAC Service which took her to Cyprus, Germany and Singapore, she joined as a Sergeant.



The 29-year-old former Staff Sergeant WRAC who lives at The Mount, York, is pictured being welcomed at the Battalion's HQ in Grange Garth, Fulford Road, by the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Michael Weeks.

Sgt Selway joined the Battalion under the recently announced Government scheme to allow Territorial Infantry Battalions to have up to 18 WRAC members in such jobs as clerical assistants and cooks. Her part-time service will be carried out only a few hundred yards from HQ North East District in York where Pamela last served before leaving the WRAC a month ago. The Battalion she has joined has companies in Hull, Castleford, Scarborough and Wakefield.

39th (CITY OF LONDON) SIGNAL REGIMENT (V)

ON 1 April we were honoured to receive a visit from the Director WRAC accompanied by ADWRAC London District, Lt Col P Norman. The visitors were met by Lt Col K G White R Signals and the Senior WRAC Officer, Major G M Drane TD WRAC. Brig E J Nolan toured the TA Centre, saw many of the WRAC and R Signals volunteers training and visited the Messes.

Although this is a Signal Regiment we also train Clerks, Cooks, Drivers and Stewardesses here in London and at our Squadrons in Dundee, Banbury and Tunbridge Wells. Many Volunteers are ex-Regular servicewomen one of them being SSgt Lawrence, the Chief Clerk TAVR, whom readers will remember as Diane Gordon-Wimberley. Lt Col Norman and 'DGW", as she was known, served at the WRAC School of Instruction, Liphook, during 1964 and they remember cooking and serving Christmas Dinner for the 'skeleton' staff who had remained in Camp.

We should like to take this opportunity of wishing Lt Col Norman a very happy retirement when she leaves the service this Autumn and to thank her for her help and interest she has shown in this Regiment during her tour in London.

35th (SOUTH MIDLAND) SIGNAL REGIMENT (V)

A busy year, January started with a New Years Eve Dance, then back to work; trade training was the theme. February was spent preparing for our annual Regimental Orienteering Competition at Cannock Chase with Pte Pat Kelsall coming third and one of our teams winning a flask each. Then the West Midland District Orienteering Competition with Pte Jayne Wilson taking 5th place.

In March, 27 members of our Troop joined 28 Signal Regiment for Ex WINTEX 75 in BAOR, spent 10 days working 2 way shifts often 12 hours at a time; tiring but enjoying every minute of it. On their return several girls took part in an adventure training weekend which proved to be very adventurous! In April we all prepared for our first Squadron Exercise of the year followed by a Regimental Exercise. Meanwhile we enjoyed a weekend away from it all, Pony Trekking at Talgarth, North Wales. Several girls went along to enjoy the thrills and spills of climbing hills in beautiful weather and enjoying wonderful snowy scenery. It was such a pleasant weekend that we are going again in June. Another social occasion was saying Bon Voyage to our favourite PSI, WO2 Jan Ellis, who has now returned to 16 Signal Regiment. We hope to meet again on our next annual BAOR camp 1976.

Three of our cooks Sgt Chris Allen, Lcpl Liz Smith and Pte Chris Pitt worked hard for 48 hours to win the No 2 District Catering Competition, beating several male contestants and wiping the smile from many faces (Women's Lib!) Then the UKLF Orienteering Championship. Several girls took part with Lcpl Pat Jones winning third place and the rest of our teams completing the course.

After recovering from running, back to marching, preparing for the Lord Mayor of Birmingham's Procession. There is no stopping 35 Sig Regt (V)!

Prize Competition

Limerick

A prize of £2 will be given to the reader who completes either of the two Limericks with a single line which is judged to be the most original and amusing. Readers may complete either or both Limericks but each line will be considered as a separate entry.

The honey bee said to the spider:
"I've developed a taste for rough cider",
The spider said: "Funny!
I thought you drank honey.....

The elephant leaned on an oak,
A wren looked down crossly and spoke:
"You are a great pest,
You're rocking my nest.....

Entries by 28th November. Please mark your envelopes "Competition".

PRIZE WINNER

The solution to the Anagrams of Famous Women was as follows:
1. Beatrix Potter 2. Edith Cavell 3. Mary Peters 4. April Cantelo 5. Grace Darling 6. Cleopatra 7. Elizabeth Fry 8. Sheila Scott 10. Cilla Black 11. Enid Blyton 12. Pat Smythe 13. Florence Nightingale 14. Margot Fonteyn 15. Edith Sitwell 16. Emily Bronte 17. Moura Lympany 18. Marie Antoinette 19. Flora Robson 20. Virginia Wade 12. Sheila Hancock 22. Patience Strong

Due to the fact that the Editor cannot spell, No 9 had to be discounted. With a tin opener in one hand and a packet of frozen peas in the other the Editor apologises to readers and assures them that she can now spell MRS BEETON correctly.

The winner of the competition was Miss J F M Ahrens of Greater London Branch.



It's your time we're after.

For wives whose husbands have been killed or are still serving in Northern Ireland, widows with nothing left but memories. For the families of men who have served their country well and are now sick or out of work, time can stand still.

These are the people who depend on SSAFA's team of voluntary workers to help them in times of trouble.

We need resourceful men and women of mature personality, and a genuine interest in people, willing to learn the job. We provide the training and necessary equipment. The work is unpaid but expenses will be met. *It is sometimes difficult, always rewarding.*

Please write or telephone Lt. Cdr. R. G. Brown, SSAFA, 27 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9BZ.

01-839 4131
SSAFA needs volunteers

Correspondence

Dear Ladies

I'm always interested to peruse your magazine.

The Services here, to my thinking are very lax—both sexes. But then again I am comparing with my experiences in MY Army days 1917 to 1919. Why, I remember being hauled over the coals for having tucked in the top button of my uniform, baring at least half an inch of neck!

Next year is the Bicentennial and of course Philadelphia will be the heart of the happenings as the Declaration of Independence was signed there, just across the river from here.

Best wishes to you all.

Most sincerely,
Ethel Speed
138 Ashley Court, Cherry Hill
New Jersey, 08003 USA

Enclosed with this letter were cuttings from several American newspapers which seem to indicate that the Women's Army Corps is still not taken very seriously and is suffering from the same sensational press reporting as the ATS did in its early days. Ethel Speed is a member of the WRAC Association and receives Lioness regularly. She was a member of the QMAAC and was known as Paddy Allen in Camp 4, Quevilly, Rouen, France. Editor.

Book Reviews

Gallipoli

by Eric Bush

George Allen & Unwin Ltd. £7.25

THE name Gallipoli has been the emotive catalyst of argument, dispute and counter-claim for sixty years and probably more words have been spilled out over this inadequately planned campaign than any other in the last century. But the two factors which make Eric Bush's eminently readable book unique are the awesome detail of research and thought behind it and the fact that, in all probability, it is the last major work to be written by a man who was there and physically took part in the ill-fated landings.

The author was a fifteen year old Midshipman on HMS Bacchante, proud of the honour, envied by his contemporaries, when chosen to command the ship's picket boat which towed landing craft to the beaches at Cape Helles and Anzio Cove on 28th April and Suvla Bay on 6/7th August 1915. It was his duty, also, to get the soldiers ashore and this he did sometimes standing waist deep in water for hours on end. There are many moving stories of individual heroism, of bad luck, of sheer dogged endurance but no mention of his own courage when little more than a child. That it was deemed a man's is shown by his being the youngest, ever, recipient of the DSC. He alleges that he was 'favoured' for these harrowing duties as, being the smallest Midshipman, he was least likely to stop a bullet! But the fact that he went on to win a DSO and Two Bars in World War II suggests that there might have been other reasons for his selection. One of the most unconsciously poignant sentences in the book is when, summoned to lunch in General Birdwood's dugout, Eric Bush mentions trying to spruce up his shirt by rinsing it in seawater and adds, blithely: "I was too young to need a shave."

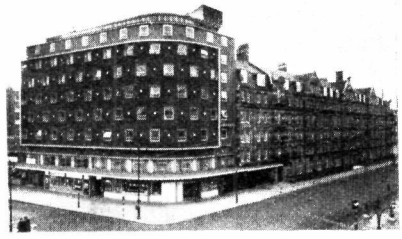
The author makes no excuse for adopting the wisdom of hindsight nor for having visited the sites many times since. Refreshingly free of pontification, his judgements are reasoned, logical and fair with benefit of doubt always given to men now beyond questioning about their conduct. Many of our pre-empted opinions on the campaign, which so nearly succeeded, require re-examination and, most of all, the unfair blame laid on Winston Churchill. Had his plan been followed there seems little doubt that it would have succeeded. The other scapegoat, of all military commanders the least to blame, was Sir Ian Hamilton whose sole failure emerges as a reluctance to prod into action his less vigorous and determined subordinates. The Russians, at whose request an assault on the Turks was launched in the first place, gave half-hearted support when, they could so easily, have turned the tide.

An interesting sidelight is thrown on Lord Kitchener. In his despatches from the War Office, freely quoted, he is unrecognisable as that giant among men who emerged the moment he set foot on the peninsula at Anzac and Suvla and was spontaneously cheered and trusted by the men whom he understood and who understood him. He generously admitted that the chance of success was largely lost by his own refusal to send re-inforcements in August 1915. Nevertheless the Gallipoli failure was not a disaster. It creamed the Turkish Army, delayed the German Spring offensive, brought Italy to the Allies and kept Greece neutral. Moreover Luck follows Pluck and the brilliance of the final withdrawal can only be matched by Dunkirk in military annals.

But Eric Bush's book is not only for military students and historians. It is stuffed full of anecdotes which the least scholarly can enjoy and which give vivid proof of the depth of research which went into the work, right down to the twice-torpedoed PO Morgan's postcards to his wife, how Midshipman Bush was enabled by the fatherly Boatswain's 'foot signals' to earn words of praise for his handling of the pinnace and how one horse of a pair was led away by a tough Australian who could not bear the animal's grief for its mortally wounded mate. The reader expects to meet such men as Kitchener, Keyes, Birdwood, Churchill in a book of this kind but to encounter John Masefield, Compton Mackenzie and Rupert Brooke is pure delight for the non-military minded. The death of the young poet is movingly described and is the more poignant for the knowledge that modern drugs would have saved him and many others.

Throughout the book shines that enduring admiration, first burned into the boy's mind on the beaches, for the men whose courage, spirit and sense of duty drove them beyond the limits of endurance. This together with the compassion for men and beast lifts human endeavour above shame, failure and the pervading stench of death. 34,000 British and 10,000 French died in the campaign. The tragedy is, not that men of such calibre are gone, but, in the present climate of greedy and petty opportunism, we may never see their like again.

THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB



Have you heard of the Victory Services Club and what excellent value it gives? The club, which is situated in the heart of the West End of London - only two minutes from Marble Arch - offers extremely good facilities to All Ranks, both Serving and Ex-Service, including the Women's Services, their wives and their husbands for an Annual Membership Fee of only £3 plus V.A.T.

THIS IS LESS THAN 1p PER DAY

The club has 300 centrally heated bedrooms, most of which have hot and cold running water. 60 of these rooms are for the use of married couples at a cost varying between £2.05 to £2.80 per person per night. Single rooms range between £1.10 and £2.80 per night.

We also also have fully licenced Bars, Dining Rooms and Cafeteria, comfortable lounges and Television Room etc.

The Club is an ideal centre for holding Reunion Dinners, Dinner/Dances, Buffets and the like. We also have suitable rooms for Conferences and Meetings.

Full details can be obtained by writing to:—

The Secretary,
The Victory Services Club,
63/79 Seymour Street,
LONDON W2 2HF

Association News

AGM 1975

THE AGM was held at York on 15th March 1975 with the Vice-President in the Chair. It was well attended by over 200 members.

The Association Chairman gave the Report of Council in which she thanked members who had supported the Benevolent Fund and Princess Royal's Memorial Fund. She reported that full membership of the Association had risen by 195 and Service members by 360 during the year. New branches had been formed at Kendal and Somerset.

The Council thanked members of Committees and Branch office holders for the time and support they gave to the Association.

The Honorary Treasurer explained the published accounts and pointed out that the excess of income over expenditure was only £190.54. The net loss on Lioness in 1974 was over £700 due largely to the cost of printing and postage which had risen from £1,183 to £2,164.

The Editor of Lioness reported on the actions being taken to make it more attractive and therefore easier to sell at the new price of 25p per copy. It will however only be published in February and August. She asked that Branch reports should be concise, interesting and not exceed 150 words and she would endeavour to print as much as possible.

The Chairman of the Trustees reported that the Benevolent Fund had spent over £7,000 in grants to those in need and had arranged holidays for six mothers with their children. The Princess Royal's Memorial Fund now had 31 annuitants.

Certain resolutions regarding subscription rates were tabled and carried unanimously. These resolutions are reflected in changes to the Rules which are set out separately.

Copies of the Minutes of the AGM are held by Branch Secretaries but any member requiring a personal copy can obtain it from the General Secretary.

FUND RAISING AT YORK AFTER AGM

THE money raised by branches was as follows:

Northern and Scottish Area Stall	£86·08
Western Area Stall	64·00
Northern Area Raffles	46·12
Council Tombola Stall	46·20
Donations by Branches and individuals	11·95
	£254·35

APPRECIATION

THE Council express their appreciation of the hard work put in by all those who made the AGM and fund raising activities at York such a success.

GRAND DRAW 1975

A total of 14,818 tickets were sold which after deduction of prize money, etc., resulted in a profit of £628·51. This was distributed £300 to PRMF and the remainder to Association Fund.

The very great support given to the Grand Draw by all those who bought tickets and not least those who harrassed their friends to buy them, is very much appreciated.

The winning tickets were drawn by the Vice-President in full view of the assembled company at the conclusion of the AGM.

The winners were: £50 Major J L M Brady WRAC; £20 Pte Hutching WRAC; £2 H G Craney, Miss Lloyd Jones, James Altenberg, Mrs L M Shortle, Miss J M Lindsay, Miss N Harwood, Sig T Crouch, L Fergusson, Captain R Ridley, L Fergusson, Pte Matthews WRAC, Cpl Westmore, Pte Oakley WRAC, LCpl Middlemiss WRAC, COH McKenna, W Fox, Miss D E Lee, Mrs D Clark-Thomas, J Nolan, Lt Col J Hands WRAC, Cpl E O Eva WRAC, Kneale, Miss Linda Dixon, Miss R Shaw and Major M J Craggs WRAC.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND THE LIONESS

EACH year there is a substantial number of members who for one reason or another let their subscriptions lapse. Now that the printing and distribution of Lioness is getting ever costlier it is not possible to send Lioness to those members whose subscriptions have not been paid. Branch Secretaries have therefore been requested to collect annual subscriptions due on first January 1976 during November and December and to send them to reach Association Headquarters by 1 January 1976.

Members whose subscriptions have not been received at Association Headquarters by 1 January will not receive the February Lioness direct from the printers but will have to accept the risk that there is a spare copy left at Association HQ when their subscriptions are eventually received.

So if you want to be sure of your February Lioness pay your subscription to your Treasurer in November or December this year. This will also help to reduce the amount of Branch funds spent on postage and make life easier for your Secretary and Treasurer.

AMENDMENTS TO ASSOCIATION RULES

(approved at AGM on 15th March 1975)

Page 3 5-Corps Journal
line two delete 'three times' insert 'twice'

Page 4 6-Subscriptions
sub para (a) delete '£10' insert '£15'
sub para (b) line three delete 'ten' insert 'twenty'
sub para (c)
line two delete 'fifty pence' insert 'one pound.'
line three delete 'two pounds may be paid for four year membership'

Page 7 8-Council
sub para (d) line one delete 'four' insert 'three'

Page 10 11-Branches
sub para (g) line three delete 'forty' insert 'eighty'
sub para (h) line five delete ', and' insert ';'
line seven after '1st January 1967' insert 'and before 31 December 1975 and twenty pence for each Life member whose subscription was paid after 1st January 1976'

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Life	£15
Annual	£1
Servicewomen	20p

AGM 1976

THE Annual General Meeting 1976 will be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF on Saturday 20 March 1976 at 2.30 pm.

BRANCH SECRETARIES' MEETING 1976

THE Secretaries' Meeting will also be held at the Victory Services Club at 11.30 am on Saturday 20 March 1976.

GRAND REUNION 1976

A Grand Reunion will be held at the Victory Services Club during the evening of Saturday 20 March 1976.

CHURCH SERVICE 1976

THE Governor of the Royal Hospital Chelsea has kindly agreed to members of the Association attending the 11 o'clock Service in the Chapel on Sunday 21 March 1976.

AGM 1975

"Let's 'av t'AGM in t' North"
Said t'Council, "i' '73",
"Nay, naybady'd coom si far"
Said t'others, "i' '73".

So thi talked it ower between theirsens,
By gum, thi didn't 'alf talk,
An' so thi reckoned between theirsens
Thi'd 'odd it oop i' York.

North Area Chairman, Colonel Cook
Wo' put i' charge o' t'lot,
'Er organisin' wo' joost fine
An' t'day dawned soonny an' 'ot.

"Fetch all t'stoof on t'day"
She said, "i' '75",
"Wi'll 'ave all t'stalls doon then"
She said, "i' '75".

So wi' fetched ooer stooff an' doomped it all,
Tha' wo' a fair owld lot,
Wi' t'tables groanin' all down t'all
Fro' cakes, ta jam in't pot.

T'onny chap i'sight yon day,
Ah bet 'e felt a fool,
Wo' Norman King, Brigadier, Gen Sec,
By gum, 'e played it cool.

"Fost meetin's staartin' soon" thi' said,
"So get thisen i' line",
An' t'Secretaries crammed in t'room,
It staarted, reet o' time.

So t'chatterin' staarted, an' woon bi woon
Thi gev their bits o' news,
Then sorted oot wot should be doon,
Wi' all their Branches dues.

All t'elpers wukt 'ard oot in t'all
Wi' all their settin oot,
An' then in t'Cook'ouse 'ad a meal—
Well, it wo'better than nowt.

Secretaries, an' t' Council too
'Ad their loonch i' style,
A three course meal, an' shurry too,
It took 'em quite a wile.

"Gerrup them stairs an' gerra seat"
Thi said, at coomin' oop two,
T'AGM's aboot to staart,
I'fact, it's ower due."

Three Directors we 'ad there,
Woon coorrent an' two ex,
An' Colonel Lucy inta t'chair,
Wi' questions set ta vex.

Fower ex ADs o' Northern,
Ex Officers by the score,
Ex Sergeant Majors, Sergeants,
Ex Corporals, an' many more.



L to R: WO2 L Scott, Cpl S Bond, Mrs E Hartwell, Miss A Starkey.

Yorkshire Telly fowk wo' there
Thi took soom pitchers too,
For Calendar, o' Moonday neet,
Though 'twa' onny a second a two.

After all t'gabbin' wo' doon,
Wi got ta t'noob o' t'matter,
Sellin' all t'stoof wot fowk 'ad browt
An' lisnin t'all t'patter.

An' wen all t'stoof 'ad bin sowld oot,
Thi staarted on t'raffles then,
An' soon all t'prizes disappeared
Afore ya could coont ta ten.

Wi staarted ta coont all t'moonny,
By 'eck, t'atmosphere wo' tense,
An t'total wen wi wo' finished—
Two-thirty-seven pund, fot'ty pence!

Thi'd fixed oop a mini reunion
For fowk wot wo' goin' ta stay,
In t'Merchant Adventurers 'All,
Joost ta finish off their day.

Thi 'ad a bar an' a roarin' fire,
Tables an' chairs laid oot,
It wo' cosy, warm, an' 'istoric
Wi' t'pitchers roond aboot.

Later on, wi 'ad soom snacks,
Then fowk staarted goin' away,
An' t'smiles o' their faces showed us
It wo' t'end o' a perfect day!

FMC/PMH

Reunions

QMAAC LUNCHEON 1975

THE annual meeting of the QMAAC Old Comrades' Dinner Club took place on May 15th in the form of luncheon at the Royal Overseas League, Park Place, London. Sixty nine members were present on this occasion to meet old comrades and chat over the old days.

Some of us are not as nimble as we would like to be but the spirit of comradeship is as strong as ever—long may it continue. After the luncheon, the President of the club, Mrs B Mayhew was presented with a bouquet from all the members of the Club as a mark of their esteem.

SCOTTISH REUNION 1975

ON Saturday 26th April, 280 ex-service members of the QMAAC, ATS and WRAC and serving members of WRAC from many parts of the United Kingdom, gathered in the Banqueting Hall of Glasgow City Chambers for the biennial Scottish Reunion.

Miss Muriel M Thomson, Chairman of the Reunion Committee, in welcoming the guests, thanked the Lord Provost of Glagsow, Sir William Gray B L for granting us the use of the elegant City Chambers and, in reply, Sir William said it was always a pleasure to welcome serving and ex-service members of Her Majesty's Forces to the City. Messages of greetings from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent, were read. The Vice-President Colonel L M Davies brought a further greeting from Her Royal Highness who regretted that she was unable to be with us but expressed the hope that she may be able to attend a Scottish Reunion at some future date.

Brig E J Nolan Hon ADC, DWRAC, brought us up to date on her visits to WRAC overseas and made special mention of the WRAC serving in Northern Ireland. She said the last WRAC serving in Vietnam had left only a short time before. There was an especially warm welcome for our recently appointed General Secretary, Brig Norman King, MBE (Retd), who said he was still finding his way in his new post but he would be happy to assist us in any way. In her vote of thanks Sgt Brown WRAC congratulated Brig King and our other male guest, Lt Col D Robertson, for braving "The Lioness in her Den" by attending the reunion.

After a delicious supper we were entertained by the Royal Scottish Country Dancers who set our feet a-tapping with their spirited dancing and Scottish Songs.

It was very heartening to see people at the reunion who had not attended any of the pre-

vious reunions. The Glasgow Branch enrolled 14 new members during the evening and there were many enquiries for other branches in Scotland. As we moved among the groups, chattering nineteen to the dozen, the most frequent comments heard were "Do you remember?" and "How many grand children do you have now?" Looking at the happy, ever-youthful "Old Girls" it seemed hardly possible that they could be Grannies. But all too soon it was time to say good-bye and, after singing Auld Lang Syne, we left to the echoes of "So Long" and "Don't forget to write". We hope you enjoyed the reunion; we loved having you and—haste ye back.

£25 was sent to the Benevolent Fund and £25 to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund.

NO 2 SUB-AREA SOUTH WESTERN AREA REUNION 1975

ON 8th June, a beautiful summer day, Bath Branch acted as host to the South Western Area Reunion when almost 200 members and friends of the QMAAC, ATS and WRAC from Bournemouth, Cheltenham, Larkhill, Portsmouth, Salisbury, Southampton, Swindon, Taunton, Weymouth and Bath Branches gathered at the Assembly Rooms, Bath.

Starting with a conducted tour of the Museum of Costume, we then went on a coach tour of the city, each coach having the services of one of the Corps of Honorary Mayor's Guides and ended with tea at the Civil Service Sports Centre, Claverton Down.



Back Row L to R: Miss P Allies, Mrs J Ferguson, Mrs M Cunninhame, Miss M Hood, Mrs K Barrauld, Mrs J Cantello, Miss P Beuzeval BEM, Front Row L to R: Miss J Cleaver, Miss O M Rutter MVO MBE, Mrs S Musgrave, Miss I Smith, Miss D Sayers.

Among the many guests we were pleased to welcome were Brig Dame Mary Tyrwhitt DBE TD, Col L M Davies CBE, Col D H I Wilson OBE, and Brig N C King MBE.

After tea the draw for the Raffle took place, the proceeds from which resulted in a cheque for £37·00 being sent to the WRAC Benevolent Fund.

NORTHERN AREA REUNION 1975

THE Northern Area Reunion will be held in the Crescent Room, Royal Baths Assembly Rooms, Harrogate, on Saturday 25th October 1975 from 3 pm to 6 pm. The Director hopes to be present. Tickets 60p including refreshments may be obtained from ADWRAC HQ North East District, Fishergate, York YO1 4AU. Please send stamped addressed envelope with remittance by Thursday 16th October.

Were you at Ypres in 1917?

A letter has been received from Lyn Macdonald the BBC Radio Documentary Broadcaster, who is anxious to get in touch with any readers who served in the Ypres Sector in 1917.

She writes: "As you must be well aware, 1977 is the 60th anniversary of the Third Battle of Ypres and we are hoping to broadcast a series of four documentary programmes (each covering one phase of the campaign) to coincide with the anniversary. It seems early days to discuss such a project, but this is an undertaking which requires an enormous amount of advance planning. To show this through the eyes of the men and women—or, rather, through the recorded stories of those who were involved—necessitates our starting as soon as possible."

"At the same time (and this is the second part of my personal interest) I am engaged in writing a book on the same subject and in the same form; that is the personal documented experiences of the men and women in the field. This will be published by Messrs Hutchinson in July 1977."

"It would be of immense value to us if you would be kind enough to publish this letter in your Regimental Journal so that any of your readers who served in the Ypres Sector between June and November 1917 could contact me so that I might arrange to meet them. The whole point of the book and of the broadcasts is that it should be shown to be their story—whether they were cooks or clerks, rankers or officers, footsloggers or nurses. In other words, we are interested in all stories and reminiscences no matter how slight or how trivial they might appear to be."

"Naturally we should like to hear from these ladies as soon as possible."

If any reader can help will they please write to Lyn Macdonald at Room 830, Broadcasting House, Portland Place, London W1A 1AA.

Weddings

GUNNER units at Larkhill were united by a wedding at the Garrison Church of St Alban on 11 January. Captain Nigel Street of 19 Field Regiment was married to Lieutenant Judy Guthkelch WRAC, Adjutant 22 (Gibraltar 1779-1783) Locating Battery. Since the wedding both have been posted to BAOR.



Officers who formed a guard of honour included the brothers of the bride and groom, Lt Christopher Guthkelch RE and Maj Richard Street RCT. Best man was Capt David Berry, Adjutant 16 Light Air Defence Regiment RA to which Capt Street is now posted and the bridesmaids were the twin daughters Carol and Susan, of Maj Alan Wilmshurst, OC 22 Locating Battery. The Rev Iain Baillie, the Garrison Chaplain, conducted the ceremony and music was played by the orchestral section of the RA Mounted Band.

Capt Street is the son of Lt Col and Mrs D E Lumb-Street of Bournemouth. His father is a retired officer of the Royal Engineers. Lt Guthkelch, a University entrant commissioned in the WRAC in October 1973, is the daughter of Mr and Mrs A N Guthkelch of Hull.

ON Saturday 5 April at Holy Cross Parish Church Uckfield, Sussex Major Graham Allt, King's Own Scottish Borderers married Captain Jennifer Barker, Women's Royal Army Corps.



Capt Barker, who is at present serving with the School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Bordon, is the daughter of Brig and Mrs J N Barker. The Guard of Honour was formed by the Scottish Division Warrant Officers and Senior Ranks of the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion Shorncliffe where, until recently, Maj Allt was serving.

The couple first met in Cyprus where Capt Barker was the Staff Captain 'Q' of Dhekelia Area.

Obituary

Dawson. On 26th January 1975, Miss Mabel Dawson, 177 Queenswood Drive, Leeds. ATS 1939-1945.

Dobson. On 2nd April 1975, Miss G H Dobson, Bournemouth Branch. Aged 87. QMAAC 1917-1919.

Foster. On 28th February 1975, Miss Nora Foster, 2 Castle Court, Weydale, Scarborough, Yorks. ATS.

Harrison. On 17th March 1975, Mrs Joyce Harrison, 47 Trinity Drive, Holme, Carnforth, Lancs. Cumbria Branch. ATS 1939-1946.

Laister. On 21st February 1975, Miss E Laister BEM. Meritorious Service Medal 1971. ATS/WRAC 1943-1972.
Rose. On 7th February 1975, Miss Elizabeth Holly Rose, A7 San Remo Towers, Sea Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth. QMAAC 1918-1919 and ATS 1938-1942.
Sanderson. Mrs A J Sanderson, 17 Lancaster Gardens, Wimbledon SW19. ATS 1939-1946.
Scott. In September 1974, Miss Kathleen Stewart Scott, Carrick, The Drive, Chichester, Sussex. ATS 1938-1945.
Smith. On 1st April 1975, Miss Eva M Smith BEM (Smithy), 95 Barony Road, Nantwich, Cheshire. Aged 86. Women's Legion 1917, served in France WAAC/QMAAC and subsequently in ATS.
Stride. On 6th February 1975, Lt Col (R) R (Ginger) Stride, Holly Wood Cottage, North Gorley, Fordingbridge, Hants. ATS 1939-1949, WRAC 1949-1968.
Tannett. On 28th January 1975, Mrs Helen M Tannett, The White House, Shotton Lane, Bamford, Derbyshire. Junior Commander ATS.
Townsend. On 3rd February 1975, Mrs Alice Maud Townsend (nee Willcox), 2 St James Street, St James Square, Bath. QMAAC 1917-1919.
Woodhouse. On 20th December 1974, Mrs Rosa Woodhouse (nee Blatter). Served as a cook with the Royal Artillery Larkhill for a number of years.
Woodthorpe. On 10th January 1975, Miss Maud Woodthorpe, Ilkeston, Derbyshire. ATS 1939-1941.

Branch News

BELFAST. With the coming of the wonderful sunshine in June members thought it might be a good idea to meet one day for lunch. We have not felt able to come into Belfast at night for our monthly meetings for some time, so it was all the more pleasant for us to see each other again. It was such a successful occasion that we mean to arrange it more often and we are lunching together again in September after our holidays. One of our members is going on a Carribean cruise and, though we are all most envious, we look forward to hearing all about it. We hope some of our out-of-town friends will take a day off and join us this time.

GLASGOW. The Branch met on the second Tuesday of the month from October 1974 to May 1975 in Renfield Church Centre, Bath Street. There was a varied and enjoyable programme, the highlight of the season being the Scottish Reunion held in the Glasgow City Chambers on 26th April 1975, when most of the members attended. We are pleased to report that several new members were enrolled as a result of this reunion. Congratulations to Chris Cook on the occasion of her marriage; we hope she will be very happy. It is with regret that we have to report the death of three of our members who will be sadly missed by the Branch.

WOLVERHAMPTON. We congratulate Ailsa Bleakley on the occasion of her marriage and Mr and Mrs Tolley on their Silver Wedding. We also wish a happy retirement to Nancy Bailey and to our President Mrs Vizard who now lives in Bournemouth. Our thanks go to Pat Lea and her husband (ex RSM) Sid Lea for the very happy evening our members had at their lovely country home. An International Women's Year Committee has been formed in Wolverhampton and is to produce a booklet which will list all women's organisations in Wolverhampton. I am pleased to say our Branch will be included. Some of our members were in the Civic Sunday Parade and the Branch received an invitation to the Mayoress (Mrs E Mitchell) at home. Wolverhampton Council have invited all ex-service organisations to a meeting to discuss the programme for the Festival of Remembrance on 9th November 1975. If any Branches are interested in a Freezer Evening, 'BEJAM' Group Ltd hold such evenings; their shops are in most towns.

BRANCH NOTICES

LONDON. Owing to the increased cost of postage members are asked to enclose a stamped addressed envelope when paying their subscriptions if they are unable to attend a Branch meeting. Members are reminded that subscriptions are due on 1st November.

WOLVERHAMPTON. Branch meetings on 4th Monday of each month (excluding August and December) 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm in The Study, Public Library, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton.

Notices

"WOMEN IN UNIFORM"

EDITED by D Collett Wadge, published by Sampson Low Marston & Co Ltd, London and printed by Purnell & Sons Ltd, Paulton (Somerset) and London.

The Army Museum Ogilby Trust have appealed for a copy of "Women in Uniform" which is now out of print, to replace their library as a record of Women's service with the Armed Forces during the last war. If any reader has a copy which they would be willing to donate to the Trust for the use of historians and researchers in the future, please get in touch with the Editor.

ARMY DEPENDANTS ASSURANCE TRUST

ALL members of the Army Dependants Assurance Trust scheme can now continue membership when they leave the Army. The premium and benefits will not change but there will be a small policy charge which is a normal part of assurance contracts in civilian life to cover the costs of collection of individual premiums. This continuation should not be confused with the option available to members to convert their unexpired ADAT cover into an individual private policy when they leave the Army (as described in the ADAT DCI (Army) S58/73), to which this is an alternative.

SERVICES RESETTLEMENT BULLETIN NEWS

RESETTLEMENT Bulletin No 1/75 deals with advice on a second career in the Civil Service. The reference section indexes a wide variety of jobs already outlined in previous bulletins. Bulletin Nos 2/75 and 3/75 give advice on careers in Office Management, Gardening and Marketing. Details of job opportunities in the Manchester, Merseyside areas and the Midlands are also featured.

REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION

THE Regular Forces Employment Association exists to help Service men and women to find suitable employment, not only when they leave the Services but in the years to come. The Association has 42 branches in the major cities in UK and its Employment Officers (all ex-Servicemen) are in close touch with employers. It provides all services free. During 1974 it found employment for over 7,300 men and women. Of these some 2,700 were from the Army and included 23 WRAC.

Applicants should contact their local offices of the Association. Addresses can be obtained from Resettlement Officers, Post Offices or Employment Offices.

UNION JACK CLUB

AFTER 67 years of splendid service the Union Jack Club's old premises were demolished in 1972 and two Tower Blocks, one of 25 storeys for men and one of 10 storeys for families and the Women's Services are being built on the same site and should be completed towards the end of the year. They will combine those standards of comfort and convenience which were impossible to provide in the old buildings.

The accommodation will comprise 412 bedrooms for men, 55 double rooms for families and 5 for the Women's Services, each with wash basins. Public rooms will include Library, Smoking, Television and Billiards Rooms, Lounge, Bar and Dining Room for men and Television, Writing and Dining Rooms, Bar, Lounge and Children's Rooms for families. It is intended to retain the Annexe with 218 beds as an overspill or for organised parties.

A feature of the new club will be the separate Conference Area (including Laundrette and Sauna) to provide facilities for large meetings and social functions such as Association Dinners.

No firm tariff can be given to date but the principle adopted in 1907, that a room shall never cost more than a day's pay of the lowest paid Serviceman, will still apply.

Staff will be needed in a variety of jobs and anyone leaving the Forces in the near future, who is interested, should apply to the Club Secretary, The Union Jack Club, Exton Street, London SE1 8UJ. Application for membership of the Club should also be sent to the same address.

VICTORY SERVICES CLUB

THE refurbished Victory Services Club in the West End of London, just two minutes away from Marble Arch, offers excellent facilities to all ranks, both serving and ex-service including the Women's Services, their wives and husbands, for an annual membership of £3·24.

The club has 300 centrally heated bedrooms, most of which have hot and cold water. Married couples can be accommodated in 60 of these rooms at a cost varying between £2·05 and £2·80 per person per night. Single rooms range between £1.10 and £2· 80 per night.

There are fully licensed bars, dining rooms and cafeteria, lounges and a television room. The club welcomes bookings for reunion dinners, dinner/dances, buffets and the like. It also offers rooms for conferences and meetings.

The club boasts some 36,000 members worldwide but this is still a fraction of those who qualify for membership and who could benefit from the advantageous terms offered by the club for the use of its facilities.

Full details can be obtained by writing to: The Secretary, The Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF.

NUFFIELD CENTRE

THE Nuffield Centre at Villiers House, John Adam Street, Strand WC2 is managed under the auspices of the Nuffield Trust for the Forces and is open to all serving men and women below commissioned rank. The Centre's facilities include a licensed bar, lounge and cafeteria with hot and cold meals, all at reasonable prices. There is a colour television and dances are held including a special disco on Saturday evenings. There is a daily distribution of free theatre and cinema tickets. The Centre has no sleeping

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accommodation. It is open from 1530 to 2230 on Tuesdays to Fridays and from 1200 to 2330 on Saturdays. It closes on Sundays and Mondays.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Personal Column Charges. 3 lines 75p, each additional line 25p (box numbers included). Non-members 50% extra. Notices of forthcoming reunions where admission is charged may be inserted at a cost of 25p per line.

Vacancy. A vacancy exists in 87 (Nottingham) Signal Sqn for a WRAC officer with TAVR. Applicants should preferably have signals experience but this is not essential. Please apply to Capt M Tindall WRAC (TAVR), 87 (Nottingham) Signal Sqn, TAVR Centre, Triumph Road, Lenton, Nottingham.

For Sale. Two Officer's new pattern No 2 dress suits, greatcoat. Little worn. Approx size 14, height 5' 7". Box 4 /75.

For Sale. Officer's No 2 Dress new pattern, never worn. Size approx 14 (36-26-38) £55. Greatcoat size 14 £20, No 2 dress old pattern size 14 £15. No 1 dress hat 6½" £5. All in good condition. Box 5/75.

London Gazette

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

BEM: Local SSgt M Rosie

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Mention in Despatches: Major A M M Clissitt

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Regular Army

Majors: N L Heath, E A Saxon
Captains: M L Earnshaw, S I F Johncey, R M Lawrence, K H E Meacham
Lieutenants: S E Forbes, G R Harvey, R A Hewlett, C V Hyland, G M S Isaac, Y M T Phipps, C M Reynolds.
2/Lieutenants: F E Colville, R A P Connolly, C J Jenkins, P M Longlands, L W McGregor, J A Middleton, S H Nettleship, C Roberts, C Suart
2/Lieutenants (on probation): G M Isaac, Y M Jinks, M J Osborn

Special Regular Commissions

Lieutenants: P M Barry, S M Bishop, L A Relph, J F M Weston-Davies
2/Lieutenant: D M H Stanley Johns

Short Service Commissions

Captains: S D Campbell, P M Lewis, P S Malcolm
Lieutenants: E A Peatman-Cooke, S R Robertson
2/Lieutenants: T M Burwood is confirmed in her appointment
2/Lieutenants: S M Baker, L C Fergusson, L E Finch, G E Griffiths, S J Hale-Puckle, K A Harpur, M L Heath, E J Mannell, P J M Roberts, S J Rollo, A Z G Sherburn, M J Stamp
2/Lieutenants (on probation): S M A Beament, S M C Cameron, L Clargo, J M Dain, J E Edwards, C J Fleming, A Trehern, S J G Turner, G V Warren

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Regular Army

Colonel: B M Metcalfe MBE
Lt Col: I Anderson
Captain: M R Carter
Majors: M J Hall, B A Rooney
Lieutenants: W E Coupe, B M Crabbe, F E Elliot, S R Stebbing, C L Walters

Special Regular Commissions

Major: A E Hine

Short Service Commissions

Lieutenants: S F Hatton, M A S Richey
2/Lieutenant: A Chaganis

Are You a Member of your Association?

HAVE you made friends while serving in the Army? Why not renew those friendships and make new ones? Unless you join the Association you will never know which old friends live in your area or what opportunities there are to meet again.

The Regimental Association provides family ties between those who served in the QMAAC, ATS and WRAC and those now serving. It exists to bring together those who remember their service days with nostalgia (even if only in retrospect!) and those who are serving today. It also helps members in need of companionship or assistance from the ATS/WRAC and other Service Benevolent Funds.

The Lioness will show you what today's servicewomen are doing in the Army and give you news of Association Branch activities.

If you know somebody who has served in the QMAAC, ATS or WRAC why not give them this application form for Membership?

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the General Secretary,
THE WRAC ASSOCIATION
QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK,
GUILDFORD,
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and Surname .....

Address for
Correspondence .....

Permanent Address (*if different*).....

Married or Single.....Surname when serving (*if different*)...

.....

Corps..... Army Number.....

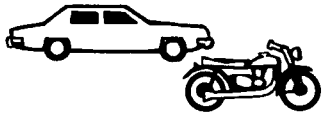
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Date of Enlistment..... Date of Discharge.....

Decorations, Mention in Despatches.....

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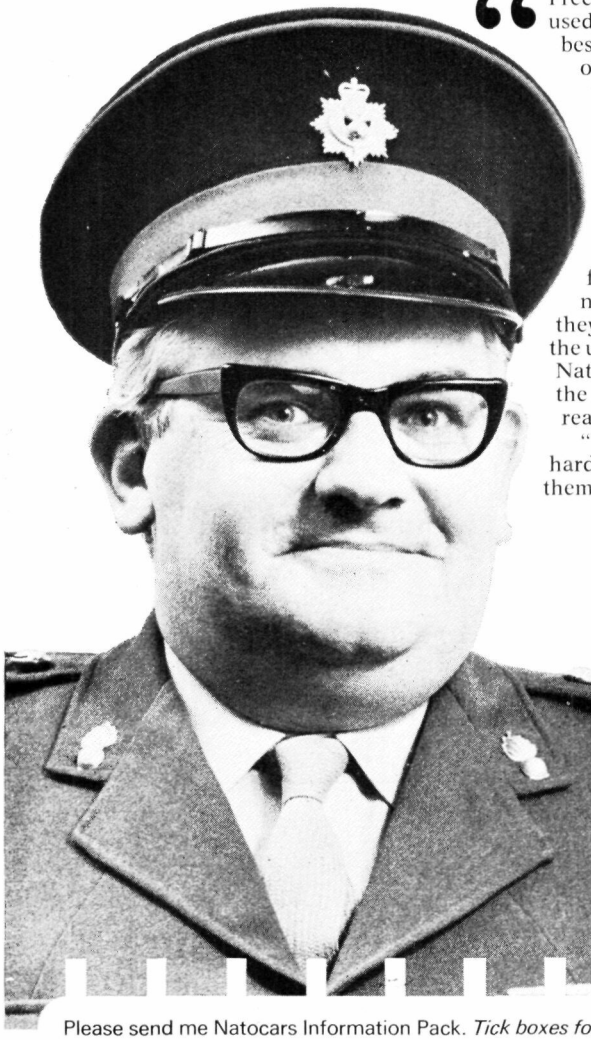
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