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VOL XXXVII

AUGUST 1964

No. 3



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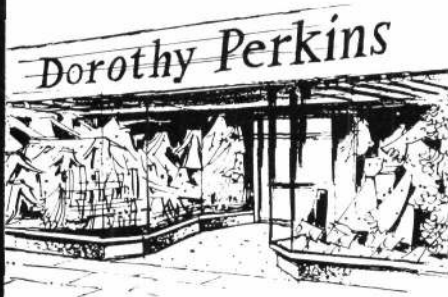
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Photo by courtesy of "Melton Mowbray Times"

H.R.H. The Princess Royal at the War Dog Training School, Melton Mowbray



THE LIONESS

Vol. XXXVIII

August, 1964

No. 3

Editorial

RIOTS between Mods and Rockers have been highlighting the teenage problem recently, but few seem to have given any consideration to the part played by the Territorial Army in combating this unrest and providing ideals of service and a worthwhile spare-time occupation. Those who serve with the T.A. are constantly aware of, and sometimes discouraged by, the high wastage and the number of partly trained women who claim their discharge on marriage. They should comfort themselves by the thought that the training they give is of lasting value to the individual, helps the country now, and would certainly pay dividends in a national emergency.

The following extract from a letter written by a young woman, who regretted that she was unable to complete her training owing to her marriage, sums up the situation and may encourage other unit commanders. She said: "I feel that during my service in the W.R.A.C. (T.A.) I have acquired a great deal of useful knowledge and skill that will never desert me, and for which I shall always be grateful to yourself, my other officers and N.C.O.s."

A tribute like this shows what a worthwhile job our T.A. is doing and how it quietly carries on the spirit of service of its predecessors, Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S.

The Association suffered a great loss recently with the death of one who set us all an example of unassuming service and devotion to duty. Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston, whose obituary appears on another page, was General Secretary for almost 16 years, a former Editor of the *Gazette* and Q.M.A.A.C. representative on the W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund Committee of Management from its inception until compelled to resign owing to ill health in 1952. Those who attended the A.T.S. Officers' Courses at the Duke of York's Headquarters in 1938-39 will recall Mrs. Johnston's lectures on Government Stores and the story she told of how 2 glass salad bowls in one place and 3 in another became Bowls, salad, glass 23 in the final inventory, and how imaginary bowls had to be broken each month to adjust the stock. Few have done more for the Association than Mrs. Johnston, and we are the poorer for her passing.

H.R.H. The Princess Royal at Melton Mowbray

ON Friday, 8th May, 1964, the Royal Standard flew for the first time at the Royal Army Veterinary Corps Training Centre and Depot at Melton Mowbray. H.R.H. The Princess Royal, attended by Dame Mary Colvin as her Lady-in-Waiting, had come to visit the W.R.A.C. kennelmaid/grooms and rider/grooms.

Arriving at 12 noon, Her Royal Highness was met by the Commandant of the Depot, Colonel G. D. Young, and a number of people were presented to her, including Major-General C. M. M. Man, G.O.C. 49 (W.R. & N.M.) Div./Dist., and Brigadier Seton, Director, Army Veterinary and Remount Services.

After lunch in the temporary Officers' Mess (the original having been burned down on 5th March, 1964) Her Royal Highness toured the camp.

In the War Dog Training School, the W.R.A.C. kennelmaids gave a demonstration of obedience with their Labradors. This was followed by tracking and then security, where Mrs. Mop (Sgt. Naylor, W.R.A.C.) was caught prowling in the camp area early one morning by the guard on patrol with his Alsatian.

In the Equitation School, Her Royal Highness wit-

nessed a ride by the W.R.A.C. under their instructor—Major Richey, R.A.V.C.—the ride being led by Capt. Howard-Carter, W.R.A.C., and Sgt. Crawford, R.A.V.C., and this was followed by a jumping display.

After visiting the Veterinary Hospital and Army School of Farriery, Her Royal Highness returned to the Officers' Mess for tea before her departure.

This was a most enjoyable day for the W.R.A.C., which was marred only by the rather dull and windy weather.

Cenotaph Service of Remembrance

EVERY year, the British Legion give the W.R.A.C. Association tickets for the Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph, Whitehall. Members wishing to attend should apply to the General Secretary, W.R.A.C. Association, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme for Girls

L/CPL. BERYL FEAR

THE Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is applicable to all girls from 14 to 20 years of age. It is divided into three levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold, each level being a higher standard than the previous one. Usually the Bronze is taken first, but at 17 or over the Award may be started at Gold level. There is no official standard, but each test is taken with the consideration of the individual's ability. Wherefore the Award becomes a "Challenge" and not a "Competition"! Each level is divided into four sections:

1. Design for Living.
2. Interest.
3. Adventure.
4. Service.

Under each heading are several divisions. The "Design for Living" is to help develop Home and Personal Culture—e.g., Hairstyle and Make-up, Acquiring Your Home, Courtesy and Custom, and Personal Hygiene are covered by a period of eight weekly lectures.

This can be done at the same time as one is taking an "Interest," which are varied and many in number. From these one chooses one and carries it out for a period of six months. The whole idea of taking an "Interest" is to widen one's horizon; therefore it is expected that a new "Interest" will be selected and, by the time six months are at an end, an improvement shown. Two "Interests" are required for the Gold, or one lasting over a period of a year.

The "Adventure" involves a six-mile expedition for the Bronze, 16 miles for the Silver and 50 miles for the Gold, but this, of course, is only for those covering the distance on foot; those cycling, canoeing or pony-trekking cover the amount of miles suitable to their conveyance. Besides this, the knowledge of campcraft and map-reading is needed.

First Aid, Home Nursing, Care of Animals, Helping Old Folk and Youth are a few of the requirements for the "Service." The choice is left to the candidate. For the Gold, however, three extras are needed to prove one's ability to serve and help others; they are Everyday Nursing, Practical Service to the Community and a Residential Course.

I was introduced to the Award whilst at school, and to those of you who are perhaps participating in the Scheme, and to those who are considering taking part, here are a few difficulties which I overcame.

At school, everything was provided for me—testers, facilities, etc.—and I obtained the Bronze. However, while I was half-way through the Silver I was transferred to a school where they did not take part in the Scheme. Because I wished to continue, I contacted the Youth Area Officer for the district through the Education Office and informed him of the situation. He gladly gave me assistance and advice and, together, we found willing helpers and assessors.

When I left school I joined the W.R.A.C. and this



Photo by C1 (Reproduction)

L/Cpl. Beryl Fear, W.R.A.C. Provost

presented another problem. I was half-way towards my Gold Award and the future seemed somewhat hazy; but by making rough plans I discovered that everything would reveal itself in time. I decided to continue my birdwatching as an "Interest," but to abandon everything else until the future became clearer.

Later I found myself in London, where the Scheme is still very isolated. However, when I had completed my Military Police Training I contacted the Award Office, who advised me to get in touch with my local Award Liaison Officer. This I did, and once again the ball started to roll. She gave me all the help I needed and advised me to contact the Girl Guides Association. I was helping with a Guide company for the "Service" section and found someone to help me with dressmaking. Before I could start these activities I had to secure the co-operation of my superior officers. Although they could not help where instructors or assessors were concerned, they were able to help me fit my activities in with my work. In the Military Police, hours of work are very irregular, but I was given permission to have a particular night off each week to go to the Guides, and I continued my dressmaking in my spare time.

When I was on leave last year I took my "Adventure" section. To get fit for this, my friend and I ran daily in the Park at 6.30 a.m. We found it difficult to secure a third member, who had the necessary equipment, to accompany us across Dartmoor. Although a party of three is required, permission was eventually given by the

Award Office for the two of us to go. This was another difficulty overcome.

Since the time I left my first school I have been doing the Award Scheme by myself, but have found some willing and helpful contacts. One must be prepared to go on alone, but if one shows the qualities of determination, initiative and co-operation, advice and help are always available and waiting to be given. I have just recently obtained my Gold Award.

If you are interested, ask your Company Commander for further information on how to set about it.

That Was The Trip That Was

IN February, at our monthly junior N.C.O.s' meeting, it was suggested that some of us might like to take a trip abroad; six of us finally decided to make further inquiries. After some deliberation, we chose to go to Paris; the party consisted of Cpls. Andrews, Bell, Reid, McLoughlin, Johnson and Lindop. The R.S.M. kindly did our necessary bookings and our holiday was from Sunday, 17th May, to Sunday, 24th May.

The day before our departure, calamity nearly overtook us. Cpl. Reid was staying with her sister for the weekend and found, on checking her ticket, that the time of departure was 8.45 a.m. from Victoria Coach Station, instead of 2 p.m., which we had all thought. She rang the unit at 11.30 p.m. that night and fortunately got the C.S.M., who raised the alarm with the other five members of the party, giving them revised train times.

On Sunday, the day of departure, the C.S.M. took us to Liphook to catch the 6.15 a.m. train for London. After making two trips, she was going through the final details and asked if we had our tickets. To our dismay, they had been left in a dressing-table drawer at camp! The C.S.M. had to go back with Cpl. Andrews to fetch the tickets, while the rest of us tried to be cheerful, hoping we wouldn't miss our train. However, all was well and we finally got off. By the time the train reached Waterloo it was 25 minutes late, and we had exactly 15 minutes to reach the coach station. Luckily we got a taxi immediately, and the driver, after listening to our plight, drove like mad to Victoria. Thank heavens we arrived safely, but rather shaken, with two minutes to spare.

We left Victoria by coach at 8.45 a.m. and drove through Kent, the Garden of England, to Lympne, then travelled by air to Beauvais, and then continued by coach to Paris. After a considerable time explaining to taxi drivers in inadequate French where we wanted to go, we finally arrived at our hotel. It was a tiring but enjoyable trip, and on arrival at the hotel we were courteously met by the courier, who paid the taxi charges and welcomed us.

We found the hotel accommodation comfortable (imagine our surprise and amazement when we were shown to our rooms and saw the bidet, which we thought was a lavatory!). The staff were pleasant and helpful, and we had little difficulty in conveying to them our wants (and, rarely, our dislikes!). The food was expensive, but



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the wines, like the food, were immensely varied to suit all palates.

Each morning we started out eagerly sightseeing, walking in twos or threes or travelling by coach or Metro. At times there were scattered showers, but that did not dampen our spirits; on the whole the weather was fine. We visited the Louvre and saw all the wonderful paintings and sculpture, the Panthéon, where we visited Napoleon's tomb, the great churches of Notre Dame and Sacré-Cœur, both so different in age and architecture (the view from Sacré-Cœur at night is enchanting), and the Unknown Warrior's grave with the ever-burning flame under the Arc de Triomphe. Unfortunately we could not get seats for the Opera, but we admired the building from the outside. We did a trip down the Seine on a river-bus and walked in the picturesque streets of Montmartre. We walked along the Left Bank and studied the book and print stalls, and saw artists at work. One of our greatest thrills was being at the very top of the Eiffel Tower. When we tired of sightseeing, we went into the fine shops on the boulevards and the Champs-Élysées, or just sat in a pavement café with a glass of wine, absorbing the atmosphere and watching the world go by! Visits to night-spots provided another highlight of our holiday. The men we found well mannered and charming, with a special aptitude for whispering sweet nothings in our ears! At breakfast we would tell each other of our exploits of the previous evening, only to find out that more or less the same things were whispered to each of us!

Even though our stay was so short, we found Paris a city of carefree, cosmopolitan charm, offering a bewildering selection of entertainment. It is impossible not to enjoy a stay there, because there is so much to see and do, whatever one's tastes. The French really understand the art of living.

By the end of our holiday we were all agreed that the memory of our first stay in Paris would remain with us always. (In any case, if we remember nothing else, we know the French Metro system inside out!)

SIX MEMBERS OF THE CORPORALS' CLUB,
W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.

The White Elephant

MRS. M. V. LEES

I HAD long decided that if ever I came across a tiny, clean little lock-up shop, with a maximum rent of £1 per week, I would seek tenancy of it, to show, with the aid of my Good Neighbours team, the work of blind and disabled people.

I had not done a lot of weaving for some time, as I had hurt my back and had been concentrating on exhibitions and shows, in order to use up the surplus of mental energy that haunts me. The usual annual exhibition at Hesketh Hall, Port Sunlight, was followed a week later by a two-day sale at the Blossoms Hotel, Chester. Our very good friends, Colonel Hayes-Newington, Colonel and Mrs. Saxon, Mrs. Robert Frost, T.D., J.P., and many others, supported our venture. The G.O.C. and his wife

came along and were most gracious indeed, but of the general public—well, never a soul popped in to see, let alone buy, any goods. We were all saddened by this most unusual happening; and I suppose anyone but myself might have packed it all in with a sigh of relief.

However, no such thing happened. On the Wednesday, my workshop landlord's wife called to tell me she had adopted a stray dog and wanted a bed for it. I said I could get this from St. Dunstan's. Then she asked me how we got on at Chester.

My reply was, I suppose, somewhat Army style, brief and to the point, that it had been a complete flop. What did I intend to do now? Well, that was easy—I told her my plan for the shop. Half an hour later her husband rang me up, and we were offered a little lock-up shop, off the beaten track, quite near to Hesketh Hall, for £1 per week inclusive of rates—on a gentleman's agreement, so that if we didn't like it or didn't think it would be a success, then all we had to do was to say so, lock the door and depart.

Well, it was fitted for us with oodles of shelves and a huge counter, decorated throughout and the rubbish moved. I supplied the paint for the exterior, as I wanted it ivory and not a dull green, and on 20th January we started to arrange our display.

My team were told by all and sundry: "Oh, it's a White Elephant of a shop," so they were despondent. But not yours truly. I like white elephants and I have one as a mascot; well, I did have a white elephant until the chairman of the Good Neighbours team took it to put on the window-ledge. That is what we call it—the Good Neighbours Rendezvous, with a White Elephant design on our notice-board.

Outside the little corner shop we hopefully leave a bob tub for silver paper and tinfoil. I wrote to Cadburys, I wrote to someone at Lever Brothers, and they are helping us no end. I may not mention her name, but one former A.T.S./W.R.A.C. officer sent us a cheque which paid our rent for a month and our first electricity account.

We show a wide range of the work of St. Dunstaners, leatherwork of British Legion D.M.I., hand-woven ties, scarves and car rugs, knitted socks made by British Legion disabled and—believe it or not—we act as bankers for would-be customers of British Legion furniture, and we have sent one order for a three-piece suite and have other orders lined up when the customers have deposited the full cost with us. We started a club and on Saturday mornings we have small boys and girls zooming in, clutching their pennies, to see if they can join the club to buy something for mum or for dad. If they yearn to buy something at more than 10s., then I quietly suggest something in the five-bob range and then the child puts his or her name on a "sold" ticket and puts the item safely "under the table."

Then two nice things happened, out of the blue and on the same day. The Prenton Townswomen's Guild, of which I am a member, had offered to dress dolls for us, to help with the shop and Hesketh Hall exhibition expenses. In walked three of the committee. They collected 50

dolls, mostly large "Mamma" type, and then saw some hand-knitted dishcloths made by a blind Ewloe lady; so they bought two of those, which means we can ask the maker to bring in some more to sell. Later a Port Sunlight lady came in; she gave me a large envelope and asked for a receipt. She works at Stork in the Spry department and had been collecting tinfoil and pennies, and would we please use the £5 10s. for whatever we needed most. So I suggested we paid five weeks' more rent in advance and kept the ten bob to pay our window-cleaner.

Our sales of the goods made by the blind and disabled are still very slow indeed, but we are coming in contact with a lot of kindly folk, and all the team help by making little items, dressing dolls, etc.

Am I optimistic about the White Elephant? I sure am. I think it will help keep the work of the blind and disabled before the public eye, and what we do here today the rest of the country will do tomorrow.

If anyone who reads this description of a new venture is interested, the address is: 46 Beaconfield Road, New Ferry, Cheshire. Any bus passing along the main New Chester Road stops near the top of the street, and we are open daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., excepting Thursday, when we have to close at 1 p.m. I admit we cannot have more than four customers in at any one time, but we never do at the moment. Anyone who does come to see us will not be pressed to buy, but just to look, admire and go away with the impression that blind and disabled work is worth while buying for presents and one's own personal use.

Sport

TABLE TENNIS

OLD "ping-pong" players would be surprised nowadays to witness the dexterity and speed of first-class table tennis. The Army is evidently keeping up with this trend, as seen in the steady improvement of play each year. The Army (Women's) Table Tennis Association, formed in 1960, is now affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association. Officials of the Surrey Table Tennis Association have expressed the hope that some of our players will enter their own tournaments in the coming season.

The Army Inter-Unit and Individual Table Tennis Championships were held on 30th April and 1st May, 1964, at 12 Bn., W.R.A.C., by kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel R. M. Green. The results were:

Inter-Unit

1st: 6 Trg. Bn., R.A.S.C., W.R.A.C. Wing, Yeovil—15 matches.

2nd: Depot and Trg. Estab., W.R.A.C.—13 matches.

Tied 3rd	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>20 Indep. Coy., W.R.A.C.,</td> <td rowspan="3">} each 9 matches</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Catterick</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"A" Coy., 14 Bn., W.R.A.C.,</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>B.A.O.R.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	20 Indep. Coy., W.R.A.C.,	} each 9 matches	Catterick	"A" Coy., 14 Bn., W.R.A.C.,		B.A.O.R.	
20 Indep. Coy., W.R.A.C.,	} each 9 matches							
Catterick								
"A" Coy., 14 Bn., W.R.A.C.,								
	B.A.O.R.							

Individual Championships

Winner: L/Cpl. P. J. Swailes, W.R.A.C., 10 Indep. Coy., W.R.A.C.

Runner-up: Sgt. B. P. Day, W.R.A.C., W.R.A.C. School of Instruction.

Plate Competition

Winner: Cpl. B. Wild, W.R.A.C., "C" Coy., 12 Bn., W.R.A.C.

Runner-up: Cpl. L. E. Mountford, W.R.A.C., 20 Indep. Coy., W.R.A.C.

NETBALL

THE Army (Women's) Netball Association had a successful season. The Inter-Unit Tournament, held at Aldershot in February, was won by the W.R.A.C. Wing, 6 Training Battalion, R.A.S.C.

The Inter-Command Tournament took place in March and was honoured by the presence of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, who graciously presented the Cup and crested spoons to the winning team. Eastern Command captured the trophy from Southern Command in a very exciting and close finish, the final score being 16—15.

Later in the same month the Army (Women's) Netball Team took part in the All-England Inter-Counties Netball Tournament at Butlins, Clacton. In spite of bad weather, the team were in good heart and played extremely well. They lost to Surrey and Staffordshire but won against Suffolk and Yorkshire (East Riding).

The season ended with the Inter-Service Championships at Portsmouth, where, to their great satisfaction, the Army team defeated both the Navy and the Air Force and won back the Cup after a lapse of six years.

HOCKEY IN THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

WOULD the Army team like to play the Jersey W.H.C. in Jersey? This was the gist of a letter received by the Secretary of the A.(W.)H.A. three seasons ago. The idea was gladly taken up and money-raising was put in hand to pay for the whole team, both fares and hotel expenses, and, mainly due to the efforts of W.O.I Thompson, £68 was raised. Unfortunately, that season dates could not be arranged and the matter was left over.

Next season the idea was continued, dates confirmed and all arrangements made. By this time more money had been collected, but the weather put paid to the whole idea and to hockey for January, February and March 1963; even the Inter-Service matches weren't played until May!

When last season started, the question of the trip was again proposed. Dates were confirmed and all arrangements made to go to both Guernsey and Jersey and play a match in each island.

At 8 o'clock on 28th February, 1964, a party of 16 players and officials set off from Aldershot to Southampton Airport. The weather seemed to get more and more foggy as we got to Southampton, but we were in plenty of time for our flight. The journey takes only an hour and we decided that the plane was ours by monopoly.

We arrived in Guernsey and were met at the airport by their Secretary and one or two others. We were then taken to our hotel to get settled in. After lunch a bus arrived ready to take us on a trip round the island. We

went to Jerbourg Point, Icart Point and so west round the island. The roads were very narrow and the driver had to make one or two interesting manœuvres. He was a good driver and one who knew the island's history and so was well worth listening to. We had tea near Vazon Bay and then came round the north of the island, to arrive back at the hotel just after 6 o'clock.

The next morning we all went shopping and took advantage of the tax-free concessions and, of course, had a look round St. Peter Port. After an early lunch we got ready for our match. It was a beautiful day and we had a very nice pitch, from which one could see the sea. The match was fast and exciting and the eventual score was 5—2 to us. We went back to the hotel for tea for all of us and then the teams departed, one to go home and the others to go on to Jersey. It was not possible for all of us to go over on the Saturday night, so the officials stayed behind to travel early the next morning. We saw the team off to Jersey and came back to spend a quiet evening. I'm still wondering what the team did that night in Jersey.

On Sunday morning we left early and caught a Viscount airliner to Jersey, where we were met at the airport and taken to the guest-house for breakfast.

Later that morning we were taken in private cars on a trip round this island. There wasn't quite so much time, but we went east first to Gorey and Anne Port, Bonne Nuit Bay, St. Ouen's Bay to Corbiere Bay and then to St. Brelade's Bay, coming back round St. Aubin's Bay. After lunch we were taken to the pitch in St. Peter, where we had to wait until the men had finished playing. The match was fast and furious, but our forwards couldn't find the net and they weren't on shooting form. We finally lost 1—4. Back to the guest-house, and eventually supper. Then we were taken off again to meet the other team for a drink at an hotel.

On Monday morning we went shopping and looked round St. Helier. So to lunch and then a coach trip to the airport for our flight back to England. We landed at 5 o'clock, and in the coach to Aldershot we were a very happy but tired party. We had also enjoyed ourselves and had a very pleasant time, and in some cases we were broke! Did I hear sounds of when can we go again?

Unit News

12 BATTALION

THE Annual Administrative Inspection of "A" and "B" Companies took place on 21st April, 1964. In spite of torrential rain throughout the previous night, the weather was fine for the Parade and March Past. During the Parade the Inspecting Officer, Major-General E. J. B. Nelson, D.S.O., M.V.O., O.B.E., M.C., General Officer Commanding London District, presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to W.O.II M. C. Malcolm, S/Sgt. V. W. Lidstone, Sgt. J. Firmin, Sgt. S. H. Shearman, B.E.M., and Cpl. M. E. Cashman,

Our thoughts are now centred on the move to Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill. This has been spoken of so often and so often postponed, but it now seems certain that it will

take place during the last two weeks in August. We have grown rather fond of our wooden huts, but the new barracks have a lot to offer in the way of modern comforts.

We have said farewell to a number of the senior members of the unit recently. Both W.O.I Margaret Williams and W.O.II Audrey Brain left in April. We wish them well in their new careers in the Civil Service. Our good wishes go, too, to W.O.I. Kay Holmes, who has just become a civilian after nearly 25 years' Army Service. We hope to meet all of them at future Reunions.

14 INDEPENDENT COMPANY

MAY 22nd was a sad and happy day in 14 Independent Company, as this was the day on which Lieut.-General Sir Edward Howard-Vyse, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., came to Saughton Camp to say farewell to the unit. It was made a momentous occasion by the presentation of the British Empire Medal to S/Sgt. E. Embrey. Our other B.E.M. in the unit, S/Sgt. S. Williams, was on parade with the Company, led by the Parade Commander, Lieut. S. M. Elderkin. Although C.S.M. S. Wolstenholme shows no grey hairs for her coaching, such excellent results would have been worth it, as the Company marched with Guards precision past the General.

W.R.A.C. WING, 6 TRAINING BATTALION, R.A.S.C.

PRINCESS Royal's Day was celebrated on Monday, 11th May. There was a Parade and a very inspiring Drumhead Service, followed by a March Past, the music being played by the Staff Band of the Women's Royal Army Corps. A quick change by everyone from No. 1 Dress to P.T. kit and then we were all on the sports field for "family" sports, some not-too-serious athletics, in which the senior ranks beat the officers in the obstacle relay, H.Q. Platoon beat both trainee platoons in the inter-platoon competition and one member of the Band won a toy trumpet in the Band race.

In the early evening the W.R.A.C. officers and senior ranks entertained all the members of the unit (military and civilian) who have been of particular help to us in the past year, and then the Band gave a Grand Concert for a very large audience, both military and civilian, plus visitors from the Royal Navy, and the final item was a selection of Scottish songs, conducted by the Commanding Officer, Colonel W. C. Grierson—ending, to his great surprise, with "Happy Birthday," a secret he mistakenly imagined he could keep in a mixed unit!

At the end of May we had a visit from Dame Mary Railton. She attended a Regimental Guest Night and, by a happy coincidence, it was also her birthday. The Band of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment gave her musical greetings after the Regimental marches. It is becoming a tradition in 6 Battalion that the series of marches for all present always ends with one specially for our Padre, "When the Saints Come Marching In"—a very rousing finale for both the Band and the diners. Dame Mary returned next day to visit the departments of the unit and was particularly interested in the degree of integration



Private for a day: Joy Duffen, aged seven

Photo by courtesy of "Soldier"

achieved in administration and training, as she had been concerned in the original planning.

There have been a number of other visitors, including Lord Fisher, the previous Archbishop of Canterbury, and Lady Fisher, General Sir Gerald Lathbury, the Quartermaster-General, representatives of the American and Swedish armies and 33 male R.S.M.s (R.A.S.C.), most of whom had never seen W.R.A.C. barrack rooms before and were duly impressed with the contrast, especially with the trainees.

Lieut. Christie has left us for Shorncliffe and 2/Lieut. Macleod has gone to Bielefeld. 2/Lieut. Lowe has arrived from Liphook and Lieut. Buchanan is taking over from Capt. Nixon, who will be in Bristol doing recruiting. In October our R.S.M., W.O.I G. P. Green, leaves us to be R.S.M. at the School of Instruction.

23 INDEPENDENT COMPANY

THE coldest possible April day did not chill the enthusiasm of Joy Duffen, aged seven, when she joined the Company for a day. The visit, as a result of filling in the coupon of an advertisement, was given publicity by the national Press and TV.

Sporting activities are in full swing—athletics and rounders particularly. L/Cpl. McKie, an A.I.P.T., has recently joined us from A.P.T.C., so we are looking forward to winning all Command events!

Other postings-in include Sgt. J. P. Gray from Bicester, as well as of post-basic trainees as replacements for those who have answered the calls of Cupid. We have lost Cpl. Laverick and L/Cpl. Hirst (Driver) to Antwerp and Germany, both on promotion.

*Photo by C1 (Reproduction)***Army Beat Group "The Travellers"**

W.R.A.C. Are With It

NO doubt some of you shudder at the name "The Beatles"—but at least you all know who the "Beatles" are, and it just shows that the business of rhythm music is with us. How could we therefore stay behind! From now on we have our own "beat group." "The Travellers" is their name, and I am sure that in a short time our young members will be dancing to their tunes.

Sgt. Bradberry of the Q.A.R.A.N.C., Sgt. Heron and Sgt. Plant, both of the W.R.A.C., are the members, all Recruiters in the London area. They gave their first audition in April to some very senior officers, and the rhythm became even better when they realised that the audience was clapping hands in time with the music. Of course, it is a young group yet, and if any of you can write a tune that will go well to guitar, bass and drums—and we mean go!—what about sending it on?

THE MANAGER.

A.T.S. Dinner Club

THE Annual Dinner will take place at Derry & Toms Restaurant, High Street, Kensington, London, W.8, on Saturday, 10th October, 1964.

Application for tickets (£1 1s.) should be made to the Hon. Secretary, A.T.S. Dinner Club, 10 College Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham 20, not later than 10th September, 1964. The dinner will be followed by a General Meeting.

The Club is open to all those who served in the A.T.S. and the Hon. Secretary will be glad to send particulars of membership on request.

Home and Leisure

ALTERNATIVES TO BEEF

THE present price of beef puts it in the luxury class and is forcing the housewife to think again about the Sunday joint. This month we are publishing a few alternatives to the usual roast beef or grilled steak.

Pork and Apple Pie

- 2-3 lb. pork
- 1 lb. cooking apples
- $\frac{1}{2}$ pint cider
- A little sugar
- Salt, pepper, grated nutmeg
- Short crust pastry

Cut the pork in pieces and season with pepper, salt and a little grated nutmeg. Peel and slice the apples. Fill a pie dish with alternate layers of pork and apple, pressing well down and adding a little sugar to sweeten. Pour in the cider, cover with pastry and bake in a hot oven for 30 minutes. *Reduce heat and continue cooking for at least one hour longer.*

Devilled Chicken

Broiler and frozen chickens are most reasonable in price, but lack flavour and are very suitable for the following recipe.

- Cold cooked chicken
- Pinch of Cayenne pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon tomato ketchup
- 2 teaspoons made mustard
- 1 teaspoon vinegar
- 2 tablespoons oil

Cut the chicken into neat pieces. Blend all the other ingredients together and brush over the chicken. Grill on both sides until nicely browned and hot through. Serve with boiled rice and sweet chutney.

Veal and Sausage Casserole

- 4 chipolata sausages
- 1 slice of veal (about $\frac{3}{4}$ lb.)
- Seasoned flour
- 1 chopped onion
- 4 oz. rice
- 1 tin tomatoes
- A little fat

Cut the veal into four pieces and beat them out as thinly as possible. Wrap each slice round a sausage, fasten with a cocktail stick or skewer and roll in seasoned flour. Brown the rolls in a little fat and place in a casserole with the chopped onion and tinned tomatoes. Cook in a moderate oven for half an hour, add the rice and continue cooking for a further 30 minutes. Add some stock if it becomes too dry. Sprinkle with chopped parsley before serving.

Stuffed Marrow

- 1 small marrow
- 6 oz. minced cooked meat or ham

- 3 oz. cooked rice
- 3 oz. margarine
- 3-4 skinned and sliced tomatoes
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon chopped parsley
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon dried sage
- Salt and pepper
- 1 beaten egg

Cut the marrow in half lengthways, skin and remove the seed. Mix the meat, rice, fat, tomatoes, onion, parsley, sage and seasoning together and bind with the beaten egg. Fill the marrow with this stuffing and press the two halves together. Wrap in well-greased foil and bake in a moderate oven for one hour. Serve with tomato or cheese sauce.

Plough Pudding

With colder days and the return to school not far off, this old-fashioned recipe will be found to be as good a filler of hungry children as of ploughboys.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. shredded suet
- 6 rashers of streaky bacon
- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. pork sausage meat
- 2 chopped onions
- 2 tablespoons chopped sage (fresh)
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- Pepper and salt

Make a paste with the flour, salt, pepper and suet mixed with water. Roll out on a floured board to about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick. Spread with the sausage meat, then the chopped onion, sage, parsley and bacon rashers cut in pieces. Season and sprinkle the sugar over. Roll up and boil in a floured cloth or a pudding basin for at least two hours. Serve with onion sauce.

HISTORY OF HERBS

Sage

THE common sage is a Mediterranean plant and, like many other herbs, was probably brought to this country by the Romans; at any rate, it is mentioned as being an essential plant for the garden as early as 1213. It was believed to have marvellous virtues and to be able to prolong a man's life. An old country saying runs: "He that would live for aye, must eat sage in May."

Sage had a great reputation for whitening the teeth and strengthening the gums. At one time, sage leaves were given to visitors to Tunbridge Wells, to rub on their teeth to remove the stains of iron left after drinking the medicinal waters. Sage ale and sage tea were both highly valued as health-giving drinks and the seed of the plant was recommended to cleanse the eyes and improve the sight up to the beginning of the 19th century.

In modern times, sage is generally used with onions to flavour stuffing for pork, duck or goose. It is very strong and should be used sparingly, particularly when dried.

Readers Remember

NORMANDY—JULY 1944

S/SGT. M. DOHERTY

THIS year is the 20th Anniversary of the landing of the first party of A.T.S. on the Normandy beaches after the Invasion of Europe.

I was a private serving in the Postal Directorate, Kneller Hall, where General Montgomery had three Staff Branches, when I was told I would be "going over." I had just 24 hours to pack and get myself down to W.W., which turned out to be Wentworth Golf Course. It seemed very strange to me to be going off to France, leaving the rest of the male clerks safe in the U.K.

On arrival at Wentworth I discovered we were to be a party of 17, consisting of clerks, drivers, provost, cooks and orderlies, and, I think, a hairdresser. If my memory serves me right, we were interviewed on arrival by R.S.M. Boxall, who gave us a long lecture on the do's and don'ts on the journey and on arrival in France. We were paid 10s. per head in French currency and issued with 24-hour packs, water-sterilising tablets, 20 cigarettes, a block of chocolate for emergency only, compo biscuits and a rubber life-jacket known as a "Shirley Temple."

Three trucks had been allotted to our party and, after being loaded up with kit, bedding, etc., we were driven off and distributed to selected houses in the Virginia Water area, where we were to be billeted for the night. I was in a house called "Tall Chimneys."

Reveille next morning was at 4 o'clock, and after we were all collected from the various houses we were taken back to Wentworth for a very large breakfast—two eggs each, with a reminder from the cook that they were the last we would see for some time!

After a quick check to see that we had everything necessary for the journey, our trucks joined a long convoy and headed for the coast. Late that evening we arrived at a Canadian Marshalling Centre, known as A4, completely under canvas. We were met by newspaper reporters and interviewed. One old lady, representing *Home Notes*, I think, asked us about our choice of make-up, and whether we thought we would get it over the "other side." Quite amusing, really, for at that time we weren't even using soap! One of the truck drivers was telling a reporter how excited he was to be driving the first party of girls across. We did not have the heart to tell him that his truck was partly loaded with "articles peculiar to women," although he did find out when we got to Normandy, as one bale burst open on the beach.

We were billeted four per tent, but did not get much sleep that night, as we were aroused by loud-speakers announcing that our party was due to head for Gosport that very day. Again we joined another long convoy, but sat most of the day in a side-street near the docks. Meals were provided from a field kitchen set up in someone's back garden, and for toilet purposes we were instructed to report to the "third house from the end with green curtains." We were visited in the afternoon by local charitable ladies, giving out comforts. They got slightly

mixed, as I got shaving soap and a box of matches, whereas a tough-looking tank sergeant in front of me got a powder-puff and a box of liquorice allsorts, which we promptly swapped.

Towards evening we were driven non-stop to the docks and, without getting out of the trucks, were wheeled straight on to the landing-craft, L.S.T. 64. The crew gave up their sleeping quarters to us, and then we were summoned on to the deck for survival drill. The men got seasick tablets, but the girls got "bags vomit 3." We did not sail until some hours later, and set foot on French soil about 9 o'clock the following evening. The journey had been uneventful apart from the fact that I disgraced the party by having the first "bags vomit" over the side.

I shall always remember the first sight of the beaches, packed with landing-craft of every shape and size, and also the debris, a grim reminder of the very first landings. We were billeted in an orchard, near a small village called Vaucelles, outside Bayeux. The journey took us almost three hours, made very frightening by the noise of gunfire and the sky alight with tracers. We saw many pathetic groups of refugees going nowhere, ruins upon ruins, and rows of hastily dug graves.

We were very thankful to reach Vaucelles, where we were given cocoa and bread and cheese, all in complete darkness, before being bedded down for the night in a large marquee on our ground-sheets.

From Wentworth to Vaucelles had taken us three days, altogether a very tiring journey, but none of us would have missed it for the world.

I have long since forgotten the names of all the party, but some I do recall: S/Sgt. Hester McClymont, who I believe had been in France before with the B.E.F., Pte. Ella McNab, Pte. M. Johnson, the D.A.G.'s driver, L/Cpl. Joan Farrell, and the baby of the party, L/Cpl. Primrose Offeringa. One of our party got a Mention in Despatches later on, and one was later commissioned. I wonder how many of them remember me!

Branch News

BOURNEMOUTH. At our meeting in January, Miss Lunniss kindly showed us slides of her holiday in South Africa last year and also some of Mrs. Palmer's holiday in Russia. These were most interesting and were greatly enjoyed by us all. Our Annual Dinner took place at the Westbrook Hotel on 19th February and was attended by 22 members and friends. To round off a happy evening, Miss Bull and Miss Miles arranged a few competitions, some of which proved rather too brainy for a few of us after the dinner and wine! During our February meeting we had a few games of bingo and in March W.P.S. de Pledge gave a most instructive talk on the work of the Police, with special emphasis on the women's side of the Force.

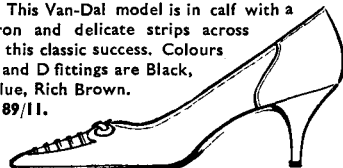
BRADFORD. Miss Nellie Julian, O.B.E., one of our founder members, who joined the Q.M.A.A.C. and had the number 5, has been the subject of a most interesting story in our local paper. Such is the modesty of this charming lady that not many of us knew of her framed certificate that says she was mentioned in a despatch by Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig "for gallant and distinguished service in the field." Our congratulations to her and may she have many happy years with her devoted friend, Mabel Fieldhouse. "Julie," as she is known to us, is loved by all, and has been one of our most loyal supporters. Until her eyesight started to fail, she made a point of attending the Q.M.A.A.C. Reunions in London each year. Miss Gunnersall, at 88, has just seen an ophthalmic specialist and hopes that he will perform an operation on her eyes. These are two of the most courageous of our members. Miss Hemms and Mrs. Armitage start on their world tour in September, so we wish them *bon voyage* and look forward to welcoming them back and hearing of their experiences in 1965. The Branch will reopen in September.

HARTLEPOOLS. We have had a number of gala social occasions since our last news bulletin. Members attended a house-warming party at the Chairman's new home and a lovely time was had by all. The "bangers and mash" supper was really delicious! We welcomed old friends to our Annual Party and had a most enjoyable evening and an excellent buffet. Recently some ex-Service friends from Sunderland dropped in at our monthly meeting and immediately there were cries of "Haven't I seen you somewhere before?" Unfortunately, there have been one or two faces missing at recent meetings owing to the illness of parents and relatives. We wish a speedy recovery to all of them and hope to see our friends again soon.

LEICESTER. Our first meeting for a long time was almost like a reunion of the former 308 (N.C.) Bn., W.R.A.C. (T.A.). Major the Hon. V. V. Kitson, M.B.E., W.R.A.C. (T.A.), kindly allowed us the use of the W.R.A.C. T.A. Centre, Ashford Road, but was unfortunately prevented from attending owing to illness. Members present included Mrs. Newman (Capt. Price, Adjutant), Miss Fowler (Coy. Commander), Miss Irons (Orderly Room Sergeant) and Mrs. Cox (R.S.M.). Serving members were also represented—Capt. Quarrie (P.S.O.), Capt. Snowden, T.A. Sigs. Detachment, R.S.M. Tindall, W.R.A.C., and L/Cpl. Wale, W.R.A.C. (T.A.). We were very pleased to welcome back our Chairman,



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Miss Whitbread, Q.M.A.A.C., who is continuing in office, also a former Secretary, Mrs. J. Southard, who, we regret to say, is leaving the area to take up residence in Lincoln. The best wishes of the Branch go with her and her family to their new home. The surprise of the evening was the attendance of ex-W.O.II Crimmins, formerly of the Depot and School of Instruction, and now settled in Leicester as a Moral Welfare worker for the Church of England, so we are in good hands. Congratulations were extended to Capt. Joan Quarrie on her award of the M.B.E. in the recent Birthday Honours. Future programmes were arranged and meetings will be held on the third Wednesday each month (August excepted). We shall be pleased to welcome any members who find themselves in Leicester.

LIVERPOOL. We did not meet in January, as attendance is usually very poor then, but started our year's activities with our Annual General Meeting in February. We were, as usual, disappointed by the small number who came to the meeting, as we would prefer members to attend and let us have their views about the Branch and its activities. In March we started a series of three very interesting meetings with a talk on drugs by Dr. P. T. Nowell of the Liverpool University. Dr. Nowell kept his talk at a level we could all understand, and all who attended agreed that what he had to say was very interesting and enlightening. At our April meeting, one of our own members, Miss A. G. Learmouth, M.B.E., T.D., gave a talk and demonstration on hat-making, and brought along some very attractive samples for us to see.

Our May meeting was a film show consisting of a film on Emergency Resuscitation, which dealt very fully with the "kiss of life" method, and a second film which had been produced for the City of Liverpool Charter Centenary celebrations in 1957 and covered the period from 1907 to 1957. It was compiled from newsreel shots and

was very interesting as it recalled times and places some of us could remember from our schooldays, such as the opening of the Mersey Tunnel to more vividly remembered incidents such as scenes of the "blitz" and, finally, the clearance of slums and rebuilding since the war. Once again at Easter we gave chocolate eggs to the children at a small local children's home. On 9th May, 11 members travelled by minibus to Birmingham to attend the Western Area Reunion. Despite our late arrival, we enjoyed the Reunion and the opportunity of meeting the Guest of Honour, Miss Sheila Van Damm, and also our old friends from other Branches in the area.

WIMBLEDON. We started the New Year with a Theatre Party when, on 17th January, about 20 of us went to the Wimbledon Pantomime, which we all enjoyed immensely. In February, Miss Harrison kindly entertained us with her films of life in Siam, which we all found very enthralling. It was so good of her to go to so much trouble. Our Bring and Buy Sale in March made a record profit of £6 10s. In April we had the ever-popular Beetle Drive, which was as noisy as usual, but a good time was had by all. In May, Brigadier Dame Mary Railton very kindly gave us a show of a variety of her colour transparencies, making us work at the same time with a competition she organised, wherein we had to guess the names of the places as she showed them. This proved very interesting.

Reunions

SCOTTISH AREA

THE Scottish Reunion was held in the Chapel Royal at Stirling Castle on Saturday, 2nd May, 1964, and was honoured by the presence of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal. It was attended by some 300 serving and ex-Service members. The Reunion started with the Beating of Retreat by the Pipes and Drums and Military Band of the 7th Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. This splendid ceremony was somewhat marred by heavy rain and most of the spectators themselves retreated under large umbrellas.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Dame Mary Colvin, was received at the Banqueting Hall by the Earl of Mar and Kellie, Hereditary Keeper of Stirling Castle, Major-General F. C. C. Graham, C.B., D.S.O., Honorary Colonel of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and of the W.R.A.C. in 51 (Highland) Division, and the Chairman of the Reunion Committee, Miss A. E. Archibald, J.P. The invited guests, who included Lieut.-General Sir William Turner, K.C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Scottish Command, and Lady Turner, were then presented, as were the members of the Committee.

Preceded by Pipe-Major John Smith, M.M., Her Royal Highness entered the Chapel Royal at 7.30 p.m. The

Earl of Mar and Kellie opened the proceedings by welcoming Her Royal Highness, the guests and all those present.

Her Royal Highness, in the presidential address which followed, said it was four years since she had attended a Reunion in Scotland and that she was sure she spoke for all in saying how much such gatherings were welcomed. Speaking of the close association between the A.T.S., the W.R.A.C. and The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Her Royal Highness said that this began with the formation in 1938 of the 40th Stirling Platoon of the A.T.S., later the 40th Stirling Company, and had continued unbroken until the present day. It was appropriate that General Graham, who was the Honorary Colonel of the W.R.A.C. in the Highland Division, should be present that evening. Her Royal Highness said she was proud to remember that her association with them went back to the time in 1938 when she became an officer in the Auxiliary Territorial Service and added that the Women's Royal Army Corps Association was a link which united members in a spirit of comradeship and tradition.

In her address, Brigadier Dame Jean Rivett-Drake, D.B.E., A.D.C., Director, Women's Royal Army Corps, said how delighted she was to have the opportunity of meeting so many serving and ex-Service members. She also referred to the link between The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C. The Director stressed the importance of recruiting for both the Regular and the Territorial Army. She went on to say that the W.R.A.C. is in great demand at home and overseas and at the present time is doing particularly good work at overseas stations in Malta, Cyprus and Singapore. In conclusion, the Director referred to the presence of the Chief Signals Officers from Headquarters Scottish Command and East Lowland District and drew attention to the fact that the Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals is our Controller Commandant, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

Among the messages read by the Secretary was one from Her Majesty The Queen and one from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Commandant-in-Chief, Women's Royal Army Corps.

W.O.I B. V. Clarke, W.R.A.C., proposed a vote of thanks and the closing address was given by Miss A. E. Archibald, J.P., Chairman of the Reunion Committee.

As well as guests already mentioned, the Platform Party included Mrs. Russell Simpson, T.D., Brigadier Dame Mary Railton, D.B.E., Deputy Controller Commandant, W.R.A.C., Provost Wm. Macfarlane Gray, O.B.E., O. ST. J., J.P., Miss M. M. Thomson, T.D., Lieut.-Colonel J. Hay Young, D.S.O., M.C., Miss V. H. C. Stirling, C.B.E., T.D., Lady Maud Baillie, C.B.E., J.P., Miss Helen Nimmo, O.B.E., T.D., Mrs. A. J. Stevenson, Capt. Brenda Kearney, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), Lieut.-Colonel G. E. M. Saunders-Davies, T.D., A.D.W.R.A.C., Scottish Command, Lieut.-Colonel S. C. McKay, M.C., and Colonel E. S. Macfie, T.D.

Veterans of the First World War who were present at the Reunion and were presented to Her Royal Highness

were No. 584 Miss Davida Maxwell, who now lives at the Royal Masonic Home, Ault Wharrie, Dunblane, and No. 585 Mrs. Elizabeth Stirling Clark, 47 Commercial Road, Barrhead, both of whom served at St. Omer in France from 1917 to 1919.

After the speeches, refreshments were served and everyone began to look around for their friends and, judging by the noise, it is thought that all enjoyed themselves. It is noteworthy that the 40th Stirling Company were able to be photographed with only three members absent after 24 years. Our thanks are due to the Committee and everyone who contributed towards making the Reunion the success it undoubtedly was.

SOUTHERN AREA

THE Southern Area Reunion was held at the Wild Fowl Trust at Slimbridge on Sunday, 31st May, 1964. It was a great success and very much enjoyed by the 100 members present.

We were all delighted to have with us the Vice-President of the Association, Dame Mary Railton, the Chairman of Council, Mrs. Stevenson, and her family, and, from Corps H.Q., Lieut.-Colonel Millington.

All the arrangements were made by Cheltenham Branch, who were most efficient and gracious hostesses—Southern Area is greatly indebted to them; they even managed to hold off the rain until nearly everyone had retired for a delicious tea in the very pleasant restaurant in the grounds, where we could watch the elegant and colourful flamingos wading in their rocky pools.

Slimbridge is a fascinating place, particularly in May, because there are so many baby ducks and swans, and one never ceases to wonder how a small, pale-grey powder puff can eventually turn into a regal swan.

WESTERN AREA

THE Imperial Hotel, Birmingham, at 3 p.m. on Saturday, 9th May, 1964, was the rendezvous for this year's Reunion, and by that time everyone had arrived except the 12 members from Liverpool, who were travelling in a minibus. Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent, Chester, London, Manchester, Newcastle (Staffs.), Sale (Cheshire), Tamworth, Wolverhampton, serving Regular and T.A. members of the W.R.A.C., with a number of Q.M.A.A.C. present, made the circle complete.

The guest of honour was Colonel Sheila Van Damm, the honorary Colonel of H.Q. W.R.A.C., 48 Div. (T.A.)/West Midland District. The other guest was Colonel The Hon. M. M. Anderson, M.B.E., Deputy Director of the Women's Royal Army Corps and a former A.D.W.R.A.C. Western Command, who was also representing the Director.

The Chairman, Lieut.-Colonel B. A. D. Tansley Witt, A.D.W.R.A.C. Western Command, welcomed the guests and everyone present. She conveyed the good wishes of the Director, Brigadier Dame Jean Rivett-Drake, D.B.E., A.D.C., who was sorry not to be present.

Colonel Sheila Van Damm then gave a very interesting and amusing talk, which included some reference to her own experiences with the Services, in which she had first learned to drive. She ended by saying how much she appreciated being asked to the Reunion and that she hoped to go around the room and speak to everyone during the afternoon. Mrs. Whittle-Wills, Vice-Chairman of the Birmingham Branch, expressed our thanks to Colonel Van Damm and presented her with a lovely corsage of orchids.

Tea was then served and the chatter started. Some had not met for many years; some not since the last Reunion in Chester and others not since the Reunion in Southport. Photograph albums were brought out and many memories revived. Liverpool Branch were very sorry to have missed Colonel Van Damm's speech, so, when she visited their table, she promised to attend one of the Branch Meetings if the Secretary would suggest a date, which more than compensated them for their late arrival.

The bar opened, the raffle was drawn, and gradually people dispersed after a very happy afternoon.

NORTHERN AREA

AS published in the May edition of THE LIONESS, the Reunion will be held at the Lounge Hall, Harrogate, on Saturday, 12th September, 1964, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. As a special attraction, the finals of the "Charm and Personality" Competition organised by the Northern Command W.R.A.C. (T.A.) are to be held.

This is a good opportunity to bring the young and the old together and we look forward to welcoming both old comrades and serving members.

EX-DONNINGTONIANS

HOW many readers of THE LIONESS have seen service at Donnington, and how many of those fortunate people know that every year a Donnington Reunion is held in London? In March a handful of the many thousands who have passed through Donnington meet for tea in Kensington, on the same day as the Grand Reunion, in the years when that function is held.

Although our numbers are regrettably few, our indefatigable Secretary comes laden with mail and news from absent friends, now scattered all over the world. We mull over news from them, reminisce a little, but mainly just enjoy being together again.

Anyone interested in joining us and/or hearing news of ex-Donningtonians should get in touch with:

Mrs. Bearnes (ex-S. Cdr. Muriel),

The Pink Cottage,

Little Walsingham,

Sudbury, Suffolk,

enclosing 1s. for postage and the printing of the news-sheet.

T.A. and A.E.R. News

5th AND 12th (COUNTY OF LONDON) PLATOONS 76 (LONDON AND KENT) COMPANY, W.R.A.C. (T.A.)

THESE platoons, who are part of a composite Company with headquarters at Sevenoaks, train at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, and Yeomanry House, Bromley Road, Catford. They help the Berkshire and Westminster Dragoons (T.A.) at Westminster and Catford with administrative duties and with the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and Troopers' Club.

During the first weekend in April, members of 5th Platoon took part in the County of London Territorial Army Association "Courage Endurance Trophy" by being responsible for serving tea to the men taking part on their return to the Duke of York's Headquarters and later, after the presentation of awards, serving a hot meal of roast turkey, peas, roast and mashed potatoes, followed by apple pie and ice cream.

Members of 12th Platoon assisted the Berkshire and Westminster Dragoons (T.A.) at Crystal Palace and, at the latter stages of the competition, by manning a display and recruiting stand and helping at checkpoints.

On Saturday, 9th May, members of both platoons attended the annual service of the Berkshire and Westminster Dragoons at Westminster Abbey, forming part of No. 4 Guard with Headquarters Squadron. After the service, the salute at the March Past was taken by the Mayors of Westminster and Lewisham.

Sgt. S. Barber, a member of 5th Platoon, was presented with a Meritorious Service Certificate by Field-Marshal The Earl Alexander of Tunis on Wednesday, 14th May. Sgt. Barber is the third member of 76 (London and Kent) Company to be so honoured by the County of London T.A. Association, the previous recipients being W.O.II J. Wellsted and Sgt. M. Slane.

77 (SURREY) COMPANY, W.R.A.C. (T.A.)

OUR annual camp for 1964 was at Penhale, near Newquay in Cornwall, with 44 (H.C.) Div./Dist. Column, R.A.S.C. (T.A.). The trained drivers set off in convoy from their platoons at Richmond and Croydon and joined up as a Company at a preselected spot for the remainder of the journey, while the rest of the Company were assembling at Paddington to make the journey by train. The road party stayed overnight at Yeovil, where they were well cared for by the W.R.A.C. at Houndstone Camp. On the Sunday they continued on their way and, after an uneventful, although pleasant, trip, duly arrived at Penhale to be greeted by the train party, who had by then been in camp for 24 hours.

As so many of our women were experiencing their first taste of annual camp, the emphasis, from the training point of view, was on driving instruction and the lectures on documentation, mechanics and map-reading appro-

priate to the BIII trade test. In addition to this, the trained drivers took part in a troop-lifting exercise with 514 Coy., R.A.S.C. (this, however, was cancelled half-way through the day, as the weather clerk had decided that he did not like the look of us!), several map-reading exercises—both in vehicles and on foot—and a night exercise. During the course of these we were able to see such places as St. Ives, the Lizard, St. Mawgan and Bodmin Moor.

In the middle of camp we had the pleasure of a visit from Major-General E. H. N. Grimshaw, C.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C. 44 (H.C.) Div./Dist., the D.D.W.R.A.C. Eastern Command, Colonel M. D. M. Humphery, and Lieut.-Colonel M. M. Salt, T.D., Commander W.R.A.C., 44 (H.C.) Div./Dist., who also attended the Officers' Mess Guest Night.

Penhale Camp is approximately six miles from Newquay and, as we were at camp so early in the season, entertainment outside the camp was hard to come by. However, an extremely successful dance was held in the NAAFI during the first week and 514 Coy., R.A.S.C., invited us to a social evening at a local hotel on the first Friday and to a dance and buffet supper at an hotel in Perranporth on the following Thursday. A coach trip, visiting all the well-known resorts, was organised for the Sunday, when, fortunately, the weather was a little more kind to us, and the fortnight was completed with the usual rags and raids, details of which I will not pursue.

The two platoons returned to their respective drill halls in the same way as they had made the outgoing journey—rather weather-beaten and very, very tired. Now the burning question is—where are we going next year?

42 (LANCS.) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

ONE particular highlight among the social activities of the Regiment during the past few months was the wedding of Capt. Patrick Jolliffe, Royal Signals (T.A.), and Lieut. Oonagh Mary Wallwork, W.R.A.C. (T.A.). Both officers have served in the unit since the reorganisation in 1961, Pat at Prescott and Oonagh at Liverpool. The wedding took place at the Sacred Heart Church, Ainsdale, followed by the reception at the bride's home, St. Thomas More's School, Ainsdale. Male officers from the Regiment formed a Guard of Honour and were joined by W.R.A.C. officers at the reception. Both officers are now serving with the Manchester Squadron. We look forward to another Regimental wedding in July between Lieut. Charles Ollerenshaw, Royal Signals (T.A.), and Lieut. Margaret Haimes, W.R.A.C. (T.A.). Margaret and Charles also met in the Regiment.

We were sorry to lose Capt. Jessie Fletcher, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), to T.A.R.O. Increasing domestic and business pressure has made it necessary for Jessie to give up active duty after a total of 22 years' service in the A.T.S./W.R.A.C. (T.A.), and after such a long and valued service

we were naturally sorry to say "Farewell." She was dined out at our Regimental Dinner in May and presented with an inscribed silver compact by members of the Mess. She takes with her the best wishes and affection of all members of the Regiment.

We welcome to the unit W.O.II Duckworth, W.R.A.C., who has joined the Permanent Staff. Although W.O.II Duckworth has served with the R.A.P.C. throughout most of her Army career, she has settled down very well to her new duties.

82 SIGNAL REGIMENT, A.E.R.

THROUGHOUT the year the Regiment has been trying hard to recruit W.R.A.C. members and now has 25 women, which is a most encouraging increase over last year's total of 15.

This year's camp was at Blandford Forum, Dorset, for the first two weeks of April, during which a three-day scheme named Exercise "Cascade" was held. The W.R.A.C. members of the Regiment took an active part and competently manned the Communication Centres. Half of the women stayed at H.Q. while the other half were taken out by vehicles to man the "outstations" for nine hours.

As well as doing Communication Centre duties in camp, the women took part in two Regimental Parades, one of which was inspected by Colonel W. H. Oliver, M.B.E., E.R.D., the Hon. Colonel, accompanied by Lieut.-Colonel Saunders-Davies, A.D.W.R.A.C. Scottish Command, and the other by Colonel G. W. Blackburne, Commander H.Q. A.E.R. Cpls. McQuire, Pinkerton and Fincham were promoted to Sergeants and were initiated into the Sergeants' Mess as the first W.R.A.C. members.

The Trade Test results were very encouraging, all the women being upgraded, 16 to Communication Centre Operators BIII and nine to BII. L/Cpl. Jack and Pte. Deane shared the prize for the best .22 shot; both scored 19 out of a possible 20 points. Pte. Glen won the Recruits' Teleprinter Prize and Pte. Clyde the Drill Prize. An All Ranks' Dance was held and much enjoyed by all. Some of the women played for the Regimental Hockey Team in a match against H.Q. A.E.R. Some also joined in a challenge football match against a combined team from the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes. This match was declared a "draw."

This is one of the first A.E.R. Regiments to have W.R.A.C. members and it is keen to increase its numbers. Membership of the A.E.R. involves a liability of call-up in case of emergency and the attendance at 15 days' annual camp. There are, therefore, no training commitments between camps. Although most of the W.R.A.C. members come from Scotland, recruitment is not confined to those living north of the Border, and anyone who is interested in joining the Regiment should contact Lieut. D. E. Sinclair, W.R.A.C., Barrichbeyan, Ardfarn, Lochgilphead, Argyll, who is O.C. W.R.A.C. in the Regiment, and who will be pleased to supply full information and answer any queries.



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Attention Women Drivers

HAVE you heard of the Women Drivers' Association? I certainly hadn't until recently, when I saw an advertisement in a well-known weekly newspaper (*The Lady*). I was impressed by what it said—"formed by women drivers for women drivers." I sent for particulars and continued to be impressed and have, as a result, become a member and, I might add, a rather proud member.

Let me tell you a little about the W.D.A. Its aims, briefly, are to protect the interests of women drivers, improve the general standard of driving and provide at least a little technical knowledge. To organise competitive activities and provide social amenities. To obtain all possible financial benefits available to an organisation and to inspire a feeling of fellowship.

The payment of subscription fees by members between the ages of 16 and 70 includes a Personal Accident (Vehicular) Insurance cover. On joining, a member receives a very attractively designed car badge. This is issued free but remains the property of the Association.

I was fortunate enough to meet the Founder Chairman of the Women Drivers' Association and enjoyed quite a long chat with her about the Association. As yet it is young, but I am convinced that, with plenty of support, it will grow and become not only nationally but internationally known. Already there are several overseas members. I would like to quote here a part of what is written in the application form pamphlet: "PURPOSE. The main purpose of the Association is to serve its members by reducing their overheads whilst at the same time adding to their interests and enjoyment and to be to each 'a very ready help in time of trouble,' but if all women drivers respond, it is obvious that much more can be done for their greater security and future welfare."

It strikes me as being a very worthwhile organisation to belong to and one which, I thought, might well appeal to serving and ex-Service members of the Corps. If anyone should require further details—and there are more—I suggest they write to Miss V. Barber, Organising Secretary, The Women Drivers' Association, 23 Ganton Street, London, W.1. Incidentally, the Association is also open to women motor-cyclists and scooterists. Why not read all about it?

M. E. B.

BRANCH DIRECTORY

List of Branch Secretaries—Amendments

Manchester: Mrs. K. M. Brierley, 25 Cherry Lane, Sale, Cheshire.

W.R.A.C. Detachment, Army School of Education: W.O.II F. I. Seward, W.R.A.C., Wilton Park, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

Retirement

Brigadier Dame Jean Rivett-Drake, D.B.E., A.D.C.

IT is with very real regret that we say goodbye to Brigadier Dame Jean Rivett-Drake, who relinquishes her appointment as Director, W.R.A.C., later this month, after 24 years' service.

Dame Jean joined the A.T.S. in 1940, was commissioned in April 1942 and served with various M.T. units at home and with the B.L.A. At the end of the war she was posted as 2 i/c No. 1 Continental Group, A.T.S., and later to 3 Port Staging Camp, B.A.O.R. For her work in this theatre she was awarded the M.B.E. in June 1947. Next came a period at the A.T.S. W.O.s and N.C.O.s' School, followed by W.R.A.C. Staff appointments as A.D.W.R.A.C. at Home Counties and London Districts and G.H.Q. FARELF. On promotion to full Colonel, she served at the War Office and as D.D.W.R.A.C. Eastern Command, returning to the War Office as Director in August 1961.

Dame Jean will be remembered best by many officers of the Corps as a member of their Regular Commissions Board, for her understanding and encouragement and for the kindly interest she took in their future careers. In fact, the general well-being of the women under her command has always been of the utmost importance to her, and she has followed this up by being an active supporter of the Association and Benevolent Funds, both A.T.S. and W.R.A.C. We wish her a happy retirement and look forward to her continued link with the Association for many years to come.

Christmas Shopping List

W.R.A.C. Car Badges	£1 13s. 0d.
W.R.A.C. Diaries:	
Leather wallet, complete with diary	19s. 0d.
Leather bound, with pencil	7s. 0d.
Plexide, without pencil	6s. 0d.
Diary refill for wallet	4s. 0d.
W.R.A.C. Glass Ashtrays	6s. 0d.
W.R.A.C. Car Key Rings	7s. 6d.
W.R.A.C. Corps Prints	6s. 0d.
<i>Service with the Army</i> , by Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan	3s. 6d.

All prices include postage at U.K. rates.

Please send cash with order.

Write today to:

The W.R.A.C. Association,
Block "E,"

Duke of York's Headquarters,
King's Road,
London, S.W.3.

Please note that the Association will not be selling Christmas cards this year.



Photo by C1 (Reproduction)

The Director, W.R.A.C., signing the MILVA Charter

Presentation Party

THE Ministry of Defence provided the setting for a happy and historic occasion on Monday, 20th April, 1964, when a representative gathering of serving and ex-Service officers met to receive a deputation of four members of the Netherlands Women's Army, Militaire Vrouwen Afdeling (MILVA).

MILVA celebrate their 20th Anniversary this year and presented the Director, W.R.A.C., with a Charter to commemorate the help given them by the wartime A.T.S. in forming their service. Among those present was Colonel E. S. Macfie (Retd.), who had commanded the A.T.S. Training Centre where a number of the founder members of MILVA received their basic training.

In return, Brigadier Dame Jean Rivett-Drake presented Capt. C. F. A. Adank with two silver sauce boats from the officers of the Corps, and signed the MILVA Charter that is part of their Anniversary celebration.

Convalescent Hospital for Officers

MEMBERS may be interested to know that the Order of St. John and British Red Cross Society run a Convalescent Home at Brighton, where 20 beds are reserved for ex-officers requiring convalescent treatment. Medical and nursing attention are provided.

Officers whose fees are not paid by the Ministry of Pensions are invited to contribute towards their keep in accordance with their means, usually about eight guineas a week.

Application for admission should be submitted to The Administrator, Hospitals and Medical Services Dept., Joint Committee, Order of St. John and British Red Cross Society, 12 Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1.



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The Horlock family in 1943

Photo by Illustrated

Is This a Record?

CAN any of our readers beat this family record of father, eight brothers and two sisters all serving in the Army at the same time?

Unfortunately, the exigencies of the Service prevented one brother from being present when the photograph was taken, but the rest of the family can be seen with their proud mother and a grandson who had recently joined the Home Guard.

Early Summer In Germany

S/SGT. D. HOTHAM

DURING the second half of May I had a few days' leave and, having very recently become the owner of a new car, I decided to go out and see some of the countryside of Germany. I packed a couple of suitcases and set off from the Headquarters in Moench Gladbach.

First I went to Monchau, south of H.Q. B.A.O.R. and almost on the border of Luxembourg. It is a pretty little place in the Eiffel Mountains and, at first sight, from high up, looks like a toy village from a child's playbox. Everything is neatly laid out and looks so clean and tidy. The town is very old, mediæval in parts, and built mostly of a lovely grey local stone.

From Monchau I cut across country to the River Rhine and travelled south along the river bank to Koblenz and on to Mainz, just idling along and enjoying the sun and scenery. The Rhine is a beautiful river with truly magnificent scenery, and as busy as the M1. The barges go up and down it in an endless stream. I took a day and a half to get to Mainz, spending one night in a private house in a village somewhere along the river.

From Mainz I went to Heidelberg, another beautiful place, on the River Neckar. I stayed the night just outside the town and went back again in the morning to have another look at it. The main part is just like all other large towns: full of traffic, people and shops, but the older part, near the river, is really lovely. The overall impression is of sandstone-red buildings against a background of vivid greens, the whole reflected in the wide, peaceful river.

From Heidelberg, again across country, to the Black Forest—it isn't really black, just a wonderful mixture of dark greens—then onto Bernkastel on the Mosel. The main industries of Bernkastel are wine production and tourists. Parts of the town are very old, dating back to the Middle Ages. One of its most interesting features, however, is a modern church, complete with a clock and steeple, which is built into the side of a hill about 250 feet above the level of the town. (It would be a very energetic worshipper who went to church more than once each Sunday.) Bernkastel is so delightfully situated and the countryside around it is so lovely that I stayed there two nights. During the full day that I was there, I went down the Mosel to Trier, a large town situated where the Saar, Southern Germany and Luxembourg meet.

My hotel was in a little village just outside the town. The first evening I decided to take a walk around the village and asked if I could take the dog with me. He was a large, very friendly Alsatian, and off we went. As I am only five feet tall and not much heavier than the animal in question, the only true resemblance to "taking a dog for a walk" was that there was a lead between us. Most of the time was spent with him towing me along; not very comfortable in high-heeled shoes on a rough road. Everything went fine until we had almost got back

to the hotel, two more corners and we would have made it, but we met another Alsatian who was not on a lead. After yelling insults at each other from a distance, it suddenly developed into a fight. Luckily, the lead was long, I let it out full length and tried to haul my dog away, yelling like mad for "somebody to DO something." The whole street was out in about 30 seconds. A third Alsatian was adding to the din from across the road. It was not very long before the owner of the dog who had started the fight came out and separated them and we all went home, unbowed and, luckily, unbloodied. Exciting but exhausting.

That night the travelling cinema arrived. The village came in force and settled down with their drinks in the hotel lounge to watch the show, which started at 9 p.m. The main feature was very old, the women wore their skirts almost to their ankles, terribly corny, too. The story of boy meets girl, boy saves family fortunes and, presumably, boy marries girl. I don't really know because I didn't stay to see the end.

After my stay on the Mosel, I headed back north, making for Koblenz, travelling once again along the Rhine and spending one more night on the road at a small riverside village north of Koblenz. The last stop was really lovely. I had a room with a balcony which practically hung over the river. Dinner was served on another balcony overlooking the river, and afterwards I sat on my own balcony, with the radio playing very quiet music, watching the barges going up and down the stream and the moon getting brighter as the daylight faded. All very romantic, very peaceful and rather expensive, but well worth it.

I got back to the Headquarters the next afternoon, tired, dirty and completely happy. The weather had been perfect and I was beautifully tanned. It was pleasant to get back, too, to speak to English people again—I had had to rely upon my very limited German for six days. It is true that one of the delights of travelling is to return home (if only to boast about your adventures).

News of Old Comrades

Mrs. E. F. Armstrong, whose own kindness and generosity are well known, writes to tell us of the wonderful work done by another of our members, Mrs. Olive Austin, for the Canadian Red Cross in Weston, Ontario. Among its activities, this Branch includes a Sick Room Loan Service to lend sick room equipment to those who are unable to afford it for themselves. After the equipment has been returned, it is cleaned and made ready for the next patient.

We congratulate Pte. Audrey Lake, W.R.A.C. (T.A.), of 3 Squadron, 50 (N.) Signal Regiment (T.A.), on win-

ning a silver cup and powder compact in a "Charm and Personality" competition and on being nominated "Miss W.R.A.C., 50 Division."

The many friends of **Mrs. J. J. Wells**, the enterprising Secretary of Canterbury Branch, will be interested to know that she has returned to uniform as Recruiting Sergeant for South-East Kent, and will hope that she will find interest and happiness in her new appointment.

Miss Dulcie Thomas (ex-A.T.S.) of 55 Midland Terrace, St. Thomas, Swansea, who is unable to get out and about owing to a long spell of illness, would love to hear from any of her old friends.

Mrs. M. Richards (*née* Jones) writes to tell us that she holds the W.V.S. Long Service Medal for Civil Defence and would like to hear from any ex-Q.M.A.A.C. who were stationed with her at Park Hall Camp, Oswestry. She worked in the Company Stores of "X" Company, 7th Battalion King's (Liverpool) Regiment, and was known as Joney.

We congratulate **L/Cpl. Beryl Fear** of the W.R.A.C. Provost on winning a Gold Medal in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. L/Cpl. Fear plays centre half for the Army hockey team and is shortly to go on a course at the Outward Bound School in North Wales as an instructor on campcraft, map-reading and hill-walking.



Acknowledgment

Thanks to a very generous response to the appeal for old copies of **THE GAZETTE** and **THE LIONESS**, the National Army Museum book department has been presented with an almost complete set of journals from 1925 to 1962 inclusive.

We would be delighted to receive numbers prior to January 1925 to enable the set to be completed.



**Clock presented to the Staff College, Camberley,
by the W.R.A.C. Staff College Club**



W.R.A.C. Staff College Club

THE W.R.A.C. Staff College Club was formed at Frimley Park in August 1953. Now, almost 11 years later, the Club has been closed, as W.R.A.C. officers attend the Staff College, Camberley, and it was obvious that new members would not be forthcoming.

At the last Annual General Meeting, members of the Club decided to make a presentation to the Staff College, Camberley. A clock was chosen and has been installed in the Hall, over the Library door. The balance of the Club funds has been credited to the W.R.A.C. Headquarters Mess, to be held in reserve as a special fund and used for the benefit of the Corps, at the discretion of the Committee of Management.

The Minute Book and a sample of the Club badge brooch have been deposited in the Corps Museum for safe keeping.

Obituary

Miss B. E. Nixon

WE regret to report the death of Miss B. E. Nixon, an ex-F.A.N.Y., who served both at home and in Austria as an A.T.S. lance-corporal driver and M.T. sergeant. After finishing her full-time service at the Drivers and Clerks Training Centre, Gresford, she joined the W.R.A.C. (T.A.) for some years and later drove for University Motors and the P.D.S.A. before going abroad in 1961. Miss Nixon returned to this country six months ago; she always worked too hard and, after a brief illness, collapsed and died on 20th June. Sgt. Nixon loved the Service, she was full of kindly and sympathetic understanding and endeared herself to all who knew her.

Miss D. N. Cox

IT was with great regret that I learned of the death on 12th May last of Miss Dorothy N. Cox, late of Q.M.A.A.C. Miss Cox had until a few years ago been an active member of London Branch, and Old Comrades will remember her gaiety and friendliness at Shanghai Camp and "Oversea." Her active service began at Hastings and later she went to Le Havre as a forewoman attached to the R.E. While in France she contracted trench fever very badly, and after some time in No. 2 General Hospital she was invalided out of the Service, with a silver badge. Always interested in medical work, Cox served during the last war as a Commandant of the British Red Cross with an Ealing Division. W. B.

Miss G. Ellis, B.E.M.

CHESHIRE Branch announce with regret the death of Miss Gladys Ellis, ex-Q.M.A.A.C., who served with the Signals in France from 1917 to 1919. On demobilisation she returned to the Post Office service and was awarded the B.E.M. on her retirement in 1953. Miss Ellis was a keen member of the Association and regularly attended all the Reunions. She will be greatly missed by her old comrades.

W.O.I E. G. Horlock, W.R.A.C.

TO those of us who knew and had worked with Miss Horlock, her death on 17th May, 1964, at the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, came as a great shock and has brought grief and sadness to her many friends and colleagues. Miss Horlock was one of our most distinguished warrant officers, particularly in her sphere of cookery.

She enrolled in the A.T.S. in March 1941 as a cook; by September 1941 she was a lance-corporal and served as an N.C.O. cook in U.K. throughout the war. In 1947 she was awarded a Certificate of Good Service by the G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command while with "K" Coy., South Aldershot Group. She continued to serve and was enlisted in the W.R.A.C. in 1949 as a Sergeant BI Cook. By 1951 she had passed the A.C.C. Instructors' Course and served in Northern Ireland, Northern Command and

at No. 8 C.I.C. She was promoted W.O.II in 1957 and in 1958 qualified as an AI Cook. In January 1960 she brought honour to the Corps by winning the Women's Services Cookery Competition and the Madame Prunier Cup and Gold Medal at Hotel Olympia. She was promoted W.O.I in March 1960 and served in Southern Command as a Supervisory Travelling Instructor until she was taken ill.

Miss Horlock came from a family with a unique military record. During the last war her father, a master gunner, and seven brothers served in the Royal Artillery, the eighth brother in the Royal Engineers, and her sister in the A.T.S. On 8th January, 1943, to mark this splendid record of service, the whole family, except the Sapper brother, who was *en route* to North Africa, were entertained by the Army Council. They were received by Sir James Grigg, the Secretary of State for War, and Lady Grigg in the Army Council Room in the morning, in the afternoon they were shown some of the sights of London, and in the evening they were taken to the Strand Theatre to see Ivor Novello's *The Dancing Years*.

Her brothers and sister were present at the very moving military funeral at Aldershot on 21st May, 1964, as were many of those with whom she had served. She will be missed not only for her skill and ability as a Cookery Instructor, but as a loyal and much respected member of our Corps. D. H. I. W.

Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston, M.B.E.

THE death of Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston will be felt as a personal loss by many members of the W.R.A.C. Association, especially by those of the older generation, who remember her as a wise and kindly officer in the very early days. She was born in India on 4th March, 1878, when her father was serving in the Afghan War. In 1901 she married an Army chaplain, the Rev. Archibald Johnston. It was a busy and happy time, but he died; they had no children. In the opening years of the First World War, Mrs. Johnston served as Home Sister in a military hospital; this experience of Army procedure and Army stores served her well as a U.A. in France. She was a first-class officer, capable in all her duties, devoted to the Corps, to the well-being of her women and to their discipline and good service. In 1918 she was awarded the M.B.E. (Military Division).

Mrs. Johnston became Secretary of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps Old Comrades' Association in 1930 and held office till 1946. Many will recall with thankfulness her kindly interest, her wise advice and the fact that their problems mattered to her. During the last part of her time she edited *THE GAZETTE* and also held office under the United Services Fund. In Emergency Service, during the 1930s, she was a most popular Camp Commandant; she gave instruction to the cadets and later to A.T.S. officers on Army stores.

Capable, kindly and willing in all her duties, devoted to the Service and to the Corps, she was one of those who led the way to the right development of women in H.M. Forces. H. C. I. G.-V.

Mrs. D. Santaney
Dr. Kathleen Horton Williams

WE regret to announce the deaths of Mrs. D. Santaney (ex-Q.M.A.A.C.) and Dr. Kathleen Horton Williams, who had been an Honorary Life Member of the Association since July 1946.

Postscript

Mrs. Johnston's sister, Mrs. English, with whom she shared accommodation at Nynehead Court, Wellington, Somerset, writes that, after her last stroke on Tuesday, 2nd June, Mrs. Johnston did not recover consciousness, but lay "very peacefully remote from everything" till very early on the morning of Sunday, 7th June, she "slept peacefully away."

The funeral service was in the lovely little church she had attended in the Nynehead grounds; her body was cremated and buried in her husband's grave in the presence of her whole family, to members of which she was a beloved and devoted aunt.

H. C. I. G.-V.

Personal Column

For Sale. Greatcoat, Crombie cloth, lined scarlet, excellent condition. Bust 34-36 in., hips 38 in., back length 45 in. £10 or near offer.—Box No. 4/64.

Wanted. Four Officers' No. 1 Dress, by H.Q. W.R.A.C. (T.A.), 51 (H.) Div./Dist., Perth.

Height	 5 ft. 6 in.	5 ft. 2 in.	5 ft. 6½ in.	5 ft. 7¾ in.
Bust	 35 in.	34 in.	38 in.	40 in.
Waist	 24 in.	24 in.	26 in.	32 in.
Hips	 36 in.	36 in.	40 in.	44 in.
Hat	 7½	6½	7	7½

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London Gazette

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS REGULAR ARMY

Major: Capt. A. B. Cain, B.D.
Captain (Q.M.): Lieut. (Q.M.) A. Elston, Lieut. (Q.M.) J. Wiffen.
Lieutenant: 2/Lieuts. M. J. Cook, B.D., B.A., A. Castledene, A. K. G. Toby, M. H. Paterson, E. A. Robinson, P. J. Tyler, W. S. Gough, D. E. Henry, M. Masson, E. C. Dodkins, J. K. Warren, B.Sc.
2/Lieutenant (on probation): N. L. Heath, M. J. Cook, B.D., B.A., J. K. Warren, B.Sc., are confirmed in their appointments.
2/Lieutenant: M. Venmore, S. J. Poat, J. Lowe, T. M. Forrest, J. M. Bunyan, R. M. Scott, L. D. Merrin, S. E. Messom, S. E. Tarry, P. A. Carnell, F. E. Bolam.
2/Lieutenant (on probation): J. A. Cameron, B.Sc.

RETIREMENTS, ETC. REGULAR ARMY

Majors: M. Wilkinson (*nee* Crossfield), J. Cornelius.
Captains: R. D. Cochrane Dyer, J. M. Newcombe, D. A. Cardy (*nee* Beckett).
Lieutenants: A. Harries, C. Mulcahy (*nee* Diggins), Z. A. Gordon-Kirby.
2/Lieutenants: C. M. Whistler, M. E. McCabe.

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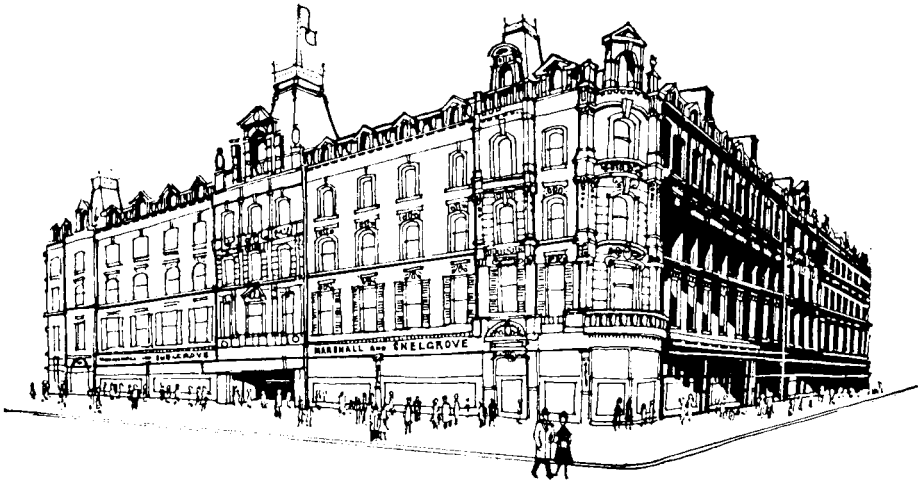
M.B.E.: Major (T/Lieut.-Colonel) B. M. Metcalfe, Capt. J. E. Quarrie, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

OFFICERS' POSTINGS (up to 30th June, 1964)

Major D. J. Adams, G.S.O. 3, A.S.D. 4, Ministry of Defence (A.U.).
Major I. Anderson, H.Q. Technical Group, R.E.M.E., Woolwich.
Major N. G. Dallas, O.C. 20 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
Major E. G. Pritchard-Davies, D.A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. Western Command.
Major E. V. Watts, M.B.E., S/Captain "Q," H.Q. Land Forces, Hong Kong.
T/Major A. Bray, O.C. W.R.A.C., H.Q. Hounslow Garrison.
Capt. B. M. Laverack, M.B.E., W.R.A.C. 1(a), Ministry of Defence (A.D.).
Capt. G. E. Simmonds, M.B.E., O.C. 6 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
Capt. P. A. van der Beeck, S/Captain "Q," H.Q. Berlin Inf. Bde. Gp.
T/Capt. A. P. Christie, S/Captain "A" (W.R.A.C.), H.Q. 44 (H.C.) Division/District.
T/Capt. H. G. Meechie, S/Captain P.S.I, H.Q. Cyprus District.
T/Capt. B. Neville, O.C. W.R.A.C., 16 Signal Regiment, B.A.O.R.
T/Capt. (Q.M.) A. I. Purton, O.C. 145 Provost Company, W.R.A.C., B.A.O.R.
T/Capt. A. V. Richards, Army Recruiting Office (W.S.), Birmingham.
Lieut. (Q.M.) T. Buchanan, W.R.A.C. Administrative Officer, 6 Trg. Bn., R.A.S.C.
Lieut. G. M. Butler, 70 A.E.C., H.Q. FARELF.
Lieut. D. E. Henry, O.C. York Platoon, H.Q. Northern Command.
Lieut. J. H. Upton, 27 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. F. E. Bolam, 3 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. J. A. Cameron, "A" Company, 14 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. P. A. Carnell, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. M. J. Cook, Preliminary Training School, Q.A.R.A.N.C.
2/Lieut. T. M. Forrest, 12 Battalion, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. G. P. Furney, O.C. 5 Communications Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. P. M. Jackson, 2 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. L. G. Kingham, 1 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. P. M. Macleod, W.R.A.C. Administrative Officer, H.Q. 1 (Br.) Corps.
2/Lieut. L. D. Merrin, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. S. E. Messom, Army School of Physical Training.
2/Lieut. J. M. Perry, 16 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. S. J. Poat, 8 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. R. M. Scott, 14 Signal Regiment.
2/Lieut. A. T. E. Sealey, School of Signals.
2/Lieut. E. H. Seivewright, H.Q. Hounslow Garrison.
2/Lieut. S. L. Stephens, 251 (W.R.A.C.) Signal Squadron.
2/Lieut. S. E. Tarry, Depot and Training Centre, W.R.A.C.
2/Lieut. M. Venmore, 9 Independent Company, W.R.A.C.

Alexandra House

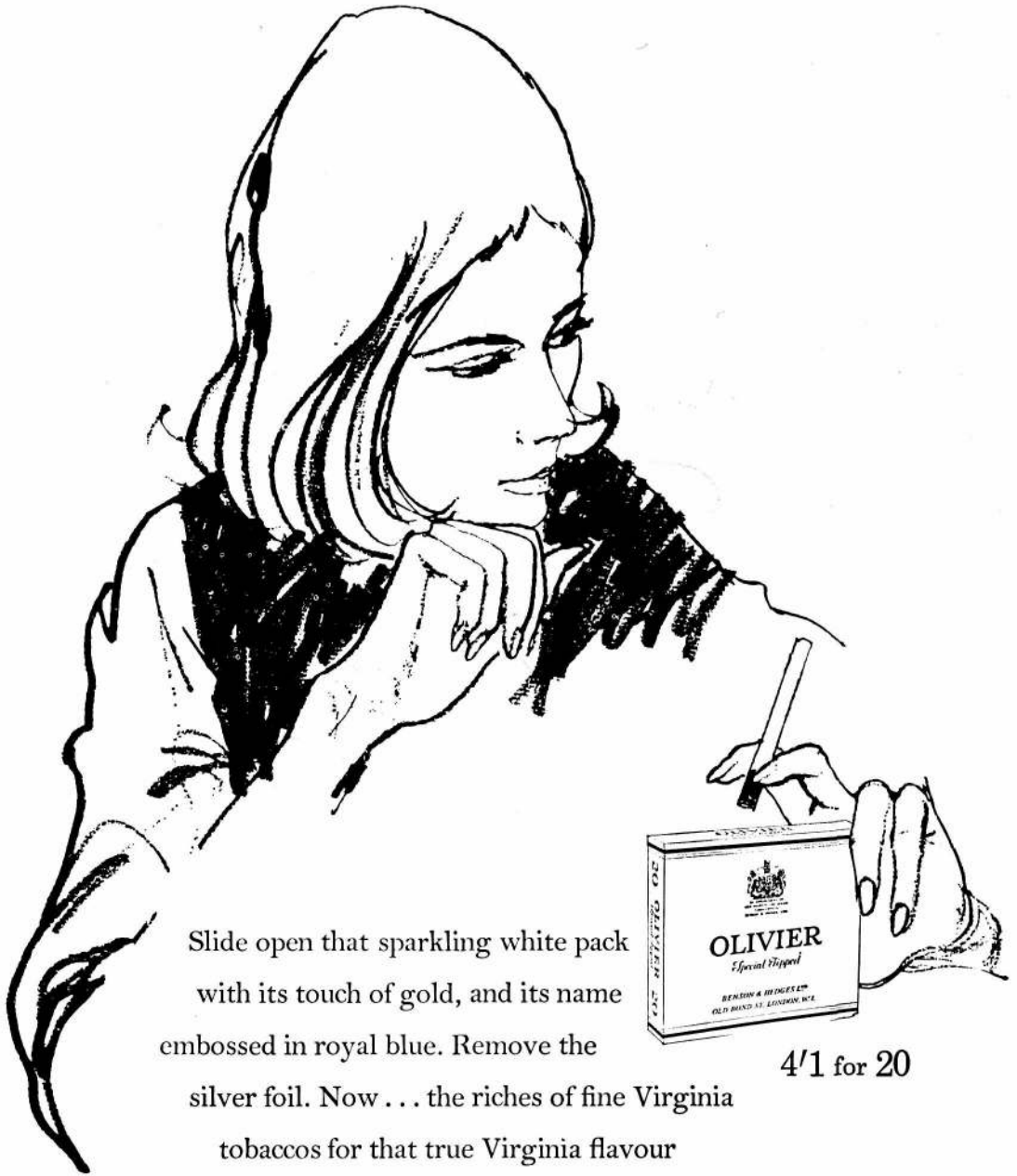
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