

THE LIONESS

VOL XLIII

FEBRUARY 1970

No. 1



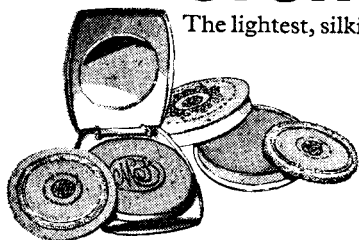


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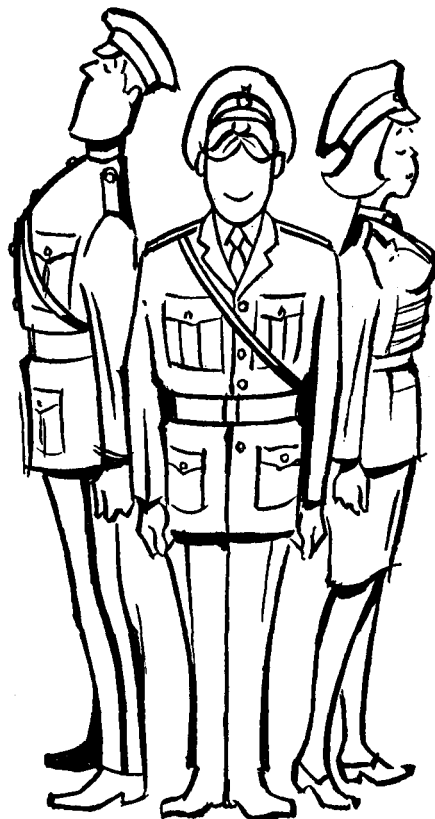
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WHO'S WHO

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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NEXT ISSUE BY
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REMINDER

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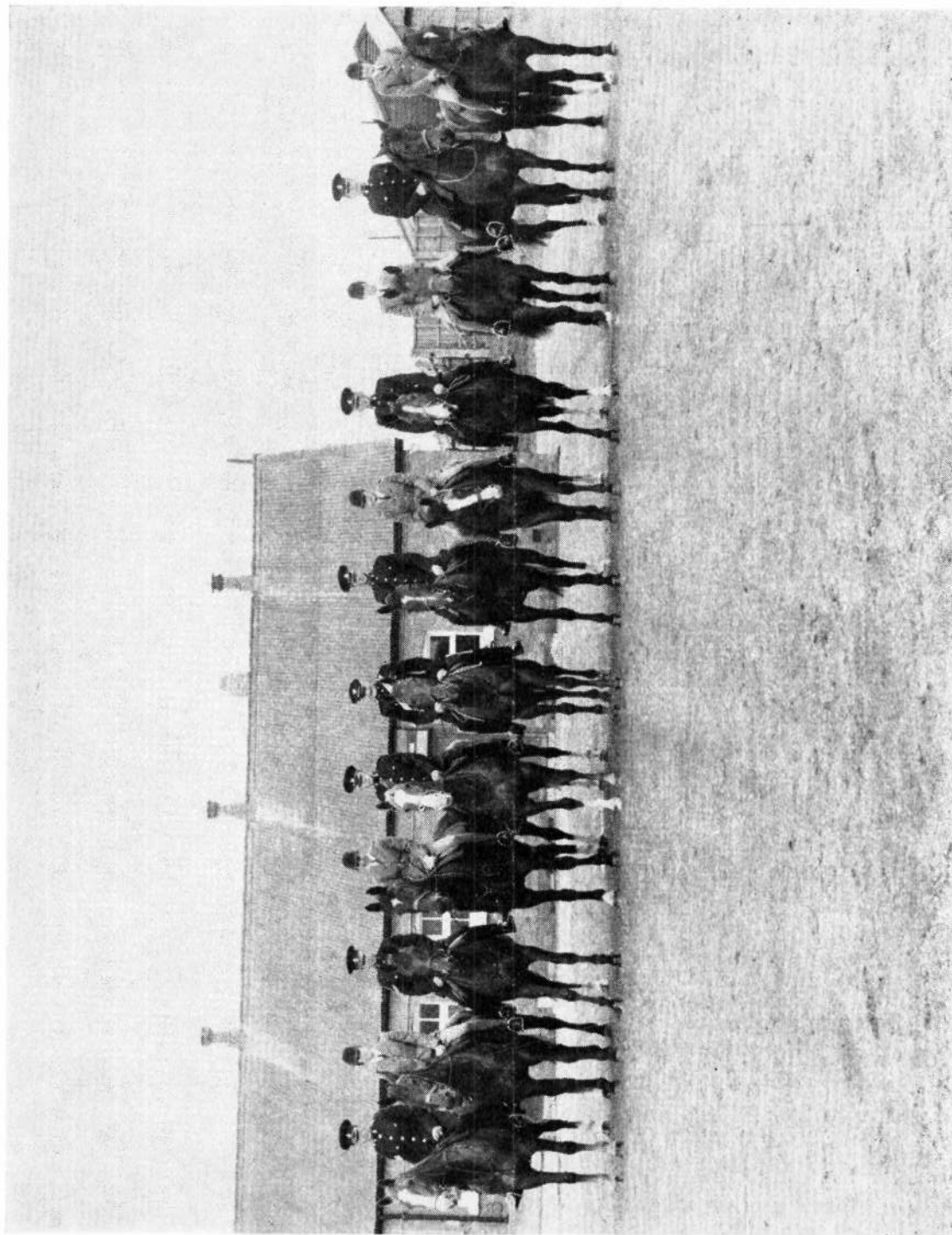
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Further particulars from:—

Miss M. F. LINDSAY,
Secretary.



Members of the Activity Ride from the RAVC Training Centre.

Photo by Duncan, Melton Mowbray



THE LIONESS

Vol. XLIII

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Editorial

IT was indeed an honour for the Association to be able to celebrate its Golden Jubilee in the magnificent setting of the State Rooms at St. James's Palace. We were very disappointed that Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was unable to honour us with her presence owing to a sudden indisposition. We were however delighted to welcome our new President, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent, who won all hearts as she toured the rooms and even managed to find time to talk to a number of the members who had originally been on Her Majesty's presentation list. We are most grateful to Her Royal Highness for so graciously accepting the office of President in addition to many other official duties and the claims of a young family.

The first meeting of the Association, on 15th December 1919, was held in the Connaught Club, now part of the Victory Club premises. It is very appropriate that the

Grand Re-Union should be held there in March. It will give us a further opportunity to remember with gratitude the members of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps who had the foresight to form the Association we are so proud to belong to today.

Capt. Rowena Scott, the Assistant Editor, resigned from the WRAC shortly after the last issue was published. We thank her for her help and wish her every happiness in her marriage. We welcome her successor Capt. Jennifer Brady who has kindly agreed to take over. Capt. Brady is at present working for Public Relations, at the Ministry of Defence, so should be in a good position to act as our own particular "Press Relations Officer" and keep us in touch with anything that is going on. Units are invited to send her news, views, and suggestions. Advertisements have fallen off recently and this leaves more space for contributions from members of all age groups.

Golden Jubilee Messages

From Clarence House

"Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother bids me write and say how very sad she was that it was not possible for her to be with you at your Golden Jubilee Reception.

Queen Elizabeth had been looking forward to attending this historic and special occasion and the Commandant-in-Chief was bitterly disappointed that due to a heavy cold she has been confined to her rooms.

Queen Elizabeth has asked me to send the WRAC Association her warmest good wishes for Christmas and the years ahead."

FROM KENSINGTON PALACE

"The Duchess of Kent has asked me to write and tell you how much she enjoyed the Reception at St. James's Palace on the 15th December and to thank you and all those concerned for making such excellent arrangements. Her Royal Highness was very pleased to have the opportunity of meeting so many members of the Association and thought the evening went exceptionally well."

The following telegram was sent to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother on 15th December 1969.

"The Chairman and members of the Women's Royal Army Corps Association send your Majesty loyal greetings and best wishes for a speedy recovery."

From New Zealand

"Congratulations and warmest regards from New Zealand Association on occasion of your Golden Jubilee."

From FARELF

"On the occasion of the Jubilee celebrations on 15th December all members of the WRAC Association in the Far East send greetings and good wishes."

Golden Jubilee Reception

15 DECEMBER 1969

AS our Chairman of Council wished in her message in the November issue, surely the Reception held in St. James's Palace on 15th December will serve admirably as a renewal of the spirit of comradeship and carry us forward into the future.

There was of course deep disappointment when the news travelled around that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother was not well enough to attend and there must have been some hasty rearranging of the presentation lists, so carefully prepared. It was particularly sad as this was the date the Queen Mother chose herself and it was on the 15th December 1919 that our Association was formed.

In spite of the initial damping of spirits the party was in full swing within a few minutes of the first arrivals being greeted by members of Council in the Tapestry Room. This was not surprising as in true army tradition it seemed that all the 830 members had arrived at least five minutes early. Many came in parties or with friends met during the day. They converged upon St. James's Palace by coach, car, taxi, on foot from bus stops and underground stations, from all directions and parts of the country with the determination not to be late, not to miss anybody or anything. They poured through into the Queen Anne Room, the Entree Room, the Throne Room, and the Picture Gallery looking for other friends and acquaintances, for the refreshments, but mostly looking for a good position to see the arrival of our new President, Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Kent.

So keen were they that some members of Council found it very difficult to make their own way through to be in the appointed place to be presented when the Duchess arrived via The Sovereign's Entrance. Her Royal Highness as Controller Commandant of the WRAC has already become quite well known to the serving members of the Association as regular readers of The Lioness will realise. Now it was the turn of the ex-service members as well to meet their young President and about one hundred of them did actually meet and talk to her. They were charmed by her obvious interest in them and their branch activities and by the natural way she talked about her own family and what they thought about her in uniform. She of course could not talk to everyone but surely everyone had a chance to see her as she moved from group to group. She looked delightful with her pale golden hair drawn severely back to the nape of her neck and wearing a honey coloured chiffon velvet dress with soft rolled collar and full sleeves gathered gracefully at the wrists. Perhaps everyone could not see her sparkling silver and gold shoes. She cannot have had much time for refreshments

herself, trying as she did to make up for the absence of the Queen Mother.

What a successful party it was; another to add to the list in our comparatively short history and how lucky we were to have it in such an inspiring setting. It was the setting which seemed to set the tone for the evening and add glamour to the happy greetings as many friends met for the first time for years, some since their service days as this had been a special occasion, worthy of a special effort to attend. There was such a cross section too, from founder members right through the 50 years to the young ones who can still be around to celebrate our Centenary.

The end of the party can always be an anti-climax but no such feeling was apparent on this occasion. Many went on to dinner with friends and many more went away determined to maintain contacts they had renewed. There will be lively personal accounts given at future branch meetings but surely the main reason for the party spirit continuing was that so many went away determined to prove in a practical way that we do not meet just to talk about old times. J.F.

Unit News

RAVC TRAINING CENTRE ACTIVITY RIDE

THIS ride was made up of five WRAC and five RAVC personnel. During the six week practice, fortunately nothing more was suffered other than a few sore posteriors.

The first public engagement was at the New Envoy Show in Aldershot. The crowd received the ride quite well, applauding with great zest. This was very good as the comparatively small ride followed a battle with helicopters, a battalion of troops and much blood and thunder.

After a week of so called recuperation the ride travelled to Armex 69 at Manchester. Once again it was a great success and had the honour of performing in front of H.R.H. Prince Philip.

The ride completed the season by performing at a local show at Eaton and the RAVC Corps Weekend, at both it was again received with enthusiasm.

All personnel and horses are to be congratulated on their performances, their success could not have been without the guidance and training of the Equitation Officer, Capt. R. A. Hill, BEM, RCT.

The Team

Cpl Phillips	— Babycham	Ssgt Pickup	— Vanity
Pte Cantrell	— Treasurer	Sgt Whaley	— Sherpa
Pte Hamer	— Saladin	Farr.	
		Anderson	— Goldie
Pte Brown	— Eastwell	Pte Leath-	
		borough	— Wistful
Pte Smith	— Masquerade	Farr. Pickard—	Meridies

WRAC RIDER GROOMS AT THE ROYAL TOURNAMENT 1969

AN active summer was had by some of the rider grooms from Melton. Between performances of the Activity Ride three were selected to train their horses for the jumping competitions at the Royal Tournament.

Cpl Phillips — Babycham
Pte Cantrell — Snip
Pte Hamer — Saladin

They spent three weeks in London and took part in "The Prince of Wales Cup" "The Kings Cup" and the Team Jumping. They put up a creditable performance and gained much experience.

In the team jumping the WRAC caused a surprise when in the 'A' Section Pte M. Cantrell riding Snip scored the best individual and the women won second place for the first time in the special dismounted units team jumping competition.

4 COMPANY

LIFE is as busy as ever in 4 Company. The decorators have been in again this time to paint the outside of the blocks. Block 71 is a pretty Torquoise, 72 Jonquil and 73 Lime Green.

This Unit provided the Army Women's Swimming team for the Inter-Services and all their hard work training paid off in a victory for the Army. Lt. Tyler, Sgt. Wainhouse, Pte Rowland and Pte Davey won the day. The table Tennis trophy was played for during November and this year the Army were runners up. Sgt. Thomson was just beaten in the Singles. Ssgt. Hart and Sgt. Nye were the stalwarts.

Adventure Training continues in small doses. The Royal Marines kindly sponsored a party of WRAC for most of a week in the Cameron Highlands. All came back looking fit after long jungle walks and visits to Tea Estates etc. Other recent schemes have been one night in the jungle called "Jungle Familiarisation" and a night on an island. Several camped for one night on the island and had instruction in water ski-ing the next day.

There have been many changes of personnel and a few are mentioned below.

We welcome:

Capt. L. Hancock vice Capt. E. M. Mathers, who went home to marry.

Lt. A. L. C. Cunningham vice Lt. C. J. Collier, who is not far away in 18 Signal Regiment.

WO II Brook vice WO II Humphries.

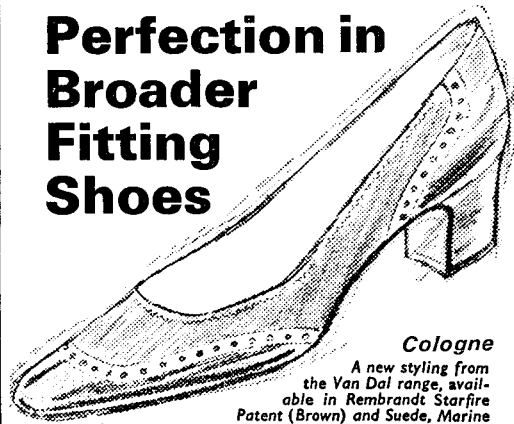
WO II Curran WRAAC vice WO II Bulmer, who has gone back to Australia.

WO II Wales vice WO II Rattley.

Cpl Edwards vice Sgt Rickman who is on her way to BAOR.

and hope all our ex Unit members will be happy in the future.

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SR 7625

Congratulations to Sgt Zorab (nee Davies) our Chief Clerk who married on 15th November 1969. She somehow managed to cope with the Annual Administrative Inspection which took place two days prior to her wedding.

SPONSORED WALK

L/CPL B. LOW

242 Signal Squadron

WALK 40 miles? I couldn't see any of us even attempting to, but nevertheless, we did. Led by 2/Lt. Meiklejohn we set out for Kinghorn in Fife. 15 WRAC and Tanya, a springer spaniel owned by WO II Foulds. We got a great send off from the press and Capt. Budden, our CDSO.

The night before, seven of us had decided to stick together, six of us marching in squad and Sgt Ryder leading with songs. The first five miles went very quickly, interrupted only by Pte Weir's voice, "anyone want a spangle".

Going across the Forth Road Bridge was hilarious as the wind was high and we were a bit blown about by the time we met "Checkpoint Charlie", Sgt Ferry, at the other end of the bridge. As soon as the others caught us, out came the first-aid kit. Blisters after the first few miles! What were we going to be like at the other end?



Tanya ready to set off with members of 242 Signal Squadron.

Photo by courtesy of Scotsman Publications Ltd.

The next part of the walk was done mainly in single file as we followed a narrow path round the coast. This finally led us to the spot where we were to have lunch. As usual, everyone was ravenous. Out came the haversack rations—Chicken, tomato, hard-boiled eggs and a choice of fruit juice or milk.

Sgt Ryder's little squad set off before the rest again to the tune of "Donald where's yer troosers?" from Pte Weir. Going through the Donibristle Estate, the rain came down. That dampened our spirit for a while, but not for long. As we were marching through Aberdour, a man in a little red car asked if we were the WRAC and enquired how we were getting on. This made us feel good again. We later found out that he was the Camp Duty Officer for that day.

How we got up the steep hill the other side of Aberdour, I'm still not sure. We must have been thinking about a rest and a smoke at the top. If there's one thing I hate, it's mud. For the next mile or so, we were up to our knees in it. At last we came to Burntisland. Not far now, but, let me tell you, that last mile was a terribly long one.

Kinghorn at last! And the caravan site where we were to spend the night. But we weren't finished yet! 160lb tents had to be pitched and dinner cooked. There's a lot said about army food but the meal Sgt Ryder cooked for us was excellent, even if it was compo rations.

While we were eating, a couple pitched their tent next to ours. You should have seen their faces when we all trooped out of the squadron's little caravan—could've knocked them down with a feather!

Most of us went to bed early and spent a most uncomfortable and cold night in our tents but we were reluctant to get up in the morning. After breakfast we packed up and set off, back. Another 20 miles! Then the rain came on. It never halted till we were on the last stage of our walk.

This time, we went so quickly that we were at the checkpoint for lunch before we realised. Even when we started again (after our feet were patched up) the time just flew till we arrived at the bridge. That's where our little group broke up. The gale was just as bad as on the previous day, but we got over safely. I've never been so grateful to see our camp before. The first place

I made for was the cookhouse where there was a meal waiting.

Most of us completed the forty miles. Only four had to be picked up after walking 37 miles, but I think they would have made it if the wind hadn't been so strong. Although feet were sore and blistered, and legs stiff, it was worth it just to prove to the people who sponsored us that they weren't getting away scot free.

NOTE from 2/Lt Meiklejohn: When we have been able to round up all our sponsors, we should have netted £94 for the WRAC Benevolent Fund.

We owe special thanks to WO II Brooker R Signals and Sgt Ferry RCT who were kind enough to come along and drive the vehicles, man the checkpoints and generally encourage flagging spirits.

EXERCISE EVERGREEN

PICTURE a small, sunny, tropical island in the middle of the China Sea. Imagine a hot July day with the sun's rays, broken by the waving coconut palms, coming to rest on a large Army encampment. The peace of the scene is shattered by soldiers, in battle order with rifles slung over their shoulders, who are being trained in jungle warfare procedure.

Anyone who has served in the Far East will realise that this is not an unusual scene. However, something that was rather more unusual was the canvas, walled enclosure in the middle of the camp. This was the home of those members of 4 Company WRAC who were taking part in Exercise Evergreen. This is an annual Exercise held by 18th Signal Regiment and is designed to give those stationed in Singapore a week's break away from routine, as well as being invaluable training exercise.

All signals members of the company were expected to attend the exercise and the remainder were invited to join in.

We were issued with Jungle Greens and felt very warlike as we set off in coaches for Mersing, a small town on the east coast of Malaya. At Mersing we boarded RCT launches for the next leg of the trip, which was an hour by sea to Palau Babi Besar—our Island in the Sun.

Our camp was very sophisticated with Field Showers (which consist of buckets with holes in the bottom), proper stands (locally made) for the aluminium wash basins, a canvas "cookhouse" with proper tables and chairs and even camp beds! We quickly settled in and accepted the routine of our daily "Pill Parades", when we had to take an anti-malarial pill, our special "Ladies Only" thunderbox, sleeping under canvas with a mosquito net and no need of blankets. We quickly appreciated the lovely beaches and clear blue sea, although we found it odd to keep our shoes on whilst swimming and hated the smell and taste of the very necessary insect repellent.

During the week we learnt of the dangers of the Jungle, how to make our pack buoyant and water-tight,

and how to build a basha from Jungle, a ground sheet and string. We also travelled in assault boats, helicopters and hovercraft and learnt the advantages (and disadvantages) of these forms of transport. The climax of our training was a night spent on another island where we had to make our own camp and fend completely for ourselves. This proved to be great fun but we were very glad to have a lovely wash when we returned to the main camp.

The camp was just on the edge of a beautiful white beach and there was always the soothing sounds of the turquoise blue sea lapping against the shore. The view from our Island in the Sun was breathtaking and included the volcanic island which was called Bali Hai in the film *South Pacific*. Our island was inhabited but it was only in the evenings for our outdoor film shows that we really saw the Islanders who watched an American thriller and a documentary film on the Hovercraft with equal interest! The only other time we saw so many islanders was when the Hovercraft came into shore and many round, wondering eyes followed the path of this "monster" as it "walked" across the water.

On our final night we had a Camp Bonfire and barbeque and re-discovered the joys of singing round the fire and laughing across the light of the blaze at our fellow campers. And finally as the stars twinkled in the sky above we searched the beaches, without result, for signs of turtles and to say, each in our own way, Farewell Palau Babi Besar, our Island in the Sun.

R.A.P.C. TRAINING CENTRE

DECEMBER was a busy month for all members of the W.R.A.C. Detachment. The most important day was December 18th when the Director Brigadier, The Hon. M. M. Anderson M.B.E., Hon A.D.C., accompanied by the D.D.W.R.A.C. Southern Command Colonel J. L. Rankin and the A.D.W.R.A.C. South East District Lt. Colonel P. Norman M.B.E. visited Worthy Down. In addition to seeing the W.R.A.C. accommodation and the Worthies Club, the visitors also saw the women at work in the Regimental Pay Office and in the class room of Courses Company. During her tour the Director spoke to every one of the women. Her interest in them, and their surroundings, made all the preparation for the visit very worthwhile.

As many were going on leave the next day, comments about the visit and plans for Christmas were exchanged after the Directors departure over a seasonal glass of sherry in the newly decorated sitting room of B Block.

In spite of the busy time everyone had in connection with the various Christmas social functions on the Station, they were all much enjoyed and everyone went off on leave full of Christmas cheer.

L/Cpl. Pauline McKie returned to the Unit in December after her tour in America and Canada with "The Parachute Regiment North American Tattoo".

We were all most interested to hear of her travels and see her photograph album and mementos of the tour which was a very memorable one.

We are very pleased to have got as far as the semi finals of the Southern Command Knockout Badminton Competition and are keeping our fingers crossed for a favourable result.

SANTA CLAUS IN GREEN

SANTA Claus comes to the old folk of Lulworth, Dorset, every year in a green uniform. It is the uniform of the Women's Royal Army Corps, and Santa Claus is personified by the 19 girls in the WRAC detachment of the Royal Armoured Corps Gunnery School.

For the fourth year running the girls distributed

parcels of Christmas fare, bought from money they have voluntarily saved since September. Their £20 10s. 0d. total was supplemented by £12 raised in a raffle for a bottle of Scotch given by the Gunnery School Commandant, Col. Dan Reade.

In a minibus round the girls organised, 28 old people six married couples and 16 lone souls—received parcels. The contents included a Christmas pudding and a variety of other foodstuffs, as well as crackers and a greeting card.

One old lady who has been on the visiting list in past years, Miss Sturmev of East Lulworth, is now in an old folks' home at Dorchester, and the girls sent her a box of chocolates.



Carry on Cooks'. Colonel R. M. Green gives a good luck stir to the Christmas pudding at the WRAC College.

Photo by courtesy of the Camberley News.

CONTROLLER COMMANDANT AT CATTERICK

THE Duchess of Kent visited the WRAC in Catterick on October 22nd, a visit that had been long awaited. She arrived at RAF Leeming, where she was met by AD WRAC, Northern Command, Lt. Col. E. E. Michell WRAC, and several RAF officers. From there she drove to chilly Catterick where for the first time we could see the other side of the square after a week of fog, rain, and for a change, fog again.

H.R.H. visited the GOC Northumbrian District at his residence and from there drove to meet the first party of WRAC; the hospital drivers. The Duchess was shown the WRAC Driving Cup which two of the drivers, L/Cpls Smith and Shillinglaw had won the previous weekend on "Exercise Southern Way". She then proceeded to RHA, 24th Signal Regiment, where she met the Brigade Commander, C.O., and other dignitaries. She also spoke to six girls who worked for 11th and 24th Signal Regiment.

Crossing to the officers mess, she saw some very red faces as frantic yankings by a signals corporal failed to break the Royal Standard on the mess flag pole, (the newspaper were quick to notice this one!).

Following an excellent lunch, when she had the opportunity to talk to the nine WRAC Officers in Catterick, she left on a tour of the Comcen/switch-board training areas before having a final cup of tea in the WRAC Squadron Office. Every girl, that H.H.R. spoke to was impressed, by her real interest in their work, and in her extremely pleasant and relaxing manner. Living in her home county, we feel we have a right to see her more often, and a message sent by tape to H.R.H. and presented to her on leaving typifies the spirit which we felt prevailed on this day.

"From all ranks to Her Royal Highness of Kent, Controller Commandant WRAC, on this your first visit to the Women's Royal Army Corps in Catterick, we extend a very warm welcome and sincere wishes for a most pleasant stay."

"Please come again soon, your Royal Highness—you're most welcome."

Stop Press

HER Royal Highness, The Duchess of Kent has graciously indicated that she will honour the Association by presiding at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 7th March, 1970.

Association News Annual General Meeting

THE Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, 7th March, 1970 at the Duke of York's Headquarters, London, S.W.3. at 3 p.m.

AGENDA

1. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 8th March 1969. (Circulated in the May issue of The Lioness).
2. Business arising from the Minutes.
3. To receive the Report of the Council.
4. To receive the Report of the Hon. Treasurer.
5. To receive the Report of the Editor of The Lioness.
6. To receive the Reports of the Committees.
7. Resolutions.
 - (i) Council Resolutions.
 - (a) "That the rates of subscriptions be raised to meet the rising costs, and to bring them up to a round sum before decimalisation."
 - (b) "That the Chairman of the ATS/WRAC Benevolent Fund Grants Committee be an ex-officio member of Council, and that the Rules be amended accordingly..."
 - (c) "That Co-opted members of Council should normally serve for a period of three years, and that the Rules be amended accordingly."
 - (ii) Area and Branch Resolutions.
 - (a) "That in order to make voting at the Annual General Meeting more even, between Branches, each Branch should be given one vote only, to be cast by their appointed representative. In the absence of a representative the vote should be submitted by post." (No. 2 Sub area).
8. Election of officers.
9. Any other business.
10. Date of Next Meeting.

Grand Re-union

THE Grand Reunion will be held in the Carisbrooke Hall, The Victory Ex-Service Club, Seymour Street, London, W.1. on Saturday, 7th March, 1970, from 7-10 p.m. Tickets (Members 15/-d, non-Members 17/6d. including refreshments) may be obtained from the General Secretary WRAC Association, Block 'E', Duke of York's Headquarters.

Closing date for application for tickets is 21st February 1970. They will be dealt with in strict rotation and NO tickets will be available at the door. Please enclose stamped, addressed envelope with applications.

L. M. HARRIS & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

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731						BROUGHT FORWARD				218	17	7	721	17	4
						LESS: EXPENDITURE									
						BRANCHES									
	182					Capitation Fees	138	6	0						
	11					Grants	10	0	0						
198	5					Headquarters Area Expenses				148	6	0			
						LIONESS									
	305					Annual Subscriptions	332	5	9						
	164					Proportion of Four Yearly and Life Subscriptions. ...	182	5	1						
	4					Donations	5	0	0						
	243					Advertisements	209	2	6						
	716						728	13	4						
190	906					Less: Printing, Postage etc.	976	0	7	247	7	3			
731	388									395	13	3	721	17	4
						ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES									
	49					Printing & Stationery	31	12	1						
	45					Postage	41	2	8						
	8					Bank Charges	9	0	0						
	31					Subscriptions and donations	25	0	0						
	44					Sundry Expenses	58	10	10						
	58					Accountancy and Audit Fee	68	5	0						
	14					Depreciation of Furniture	12	0	0						
	71					Printing of Rule Book Loss on Sale of "Short History of									
322	2					Q.M.A.A.C."				245	15	7			
	214					Q.M.A.A.C. REUNION Catering, Printing and Sundry									
						Expenses.	29	7	4						
	11					Less: Sale of Tickets	19	10	0	9	17	4			
						STOCK OF "SHORT HISTORY OF Q.M.A.A.C.",									
						written off.				65	16	0	717	2	2
781	60														
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Branch Secretaries Meeting

THE Secretaries Meeting will be held at 11.30 a.m. in the Canteen of 'E' Block, Duke of York's Headquarters, by kind permission of Brigadier H. E. C. Weldon, C.B.E., D.L. Members of Council look forward to meeting Branch Secretaries for lunch, as their guests.

Q.M.A.A.C. Reunion

THE QMAAC Reunion will be held in the OCA Room, The Victory Club, Seymour Street, London W.1. on Friday 6th March 1970 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets, to include afternoon tea, 10/-d. each. Closing date for application for tickets is 21st February 1970. NO tickets will be available for sale at the door. Please apply to the General Secretary, WRAC Association, enclosing a stamped addressed, envelope.

Church Service

BY kind permission of Major General The Hon. Michael Fitzalan Howard C.B., C.B.E., M.V.O., M.C., M.A., members of the Association may attend morning service at 11 a.m. in the Military Chapel, Chelsea Barracks, Chelsea Bridge Road.

LIONESS

When notifying change of address to Headquarters, members are requested to return the complete Lioness cover, to enable the Secretary to ensure the new address is recorded on the correct card, when there are several members with the same name.

Branch News

BRADFORD. Since our last report we have lost our Beloved President Miss A. C. L. Gummersall who was in her 94th year. She bequeathed £5 0s. 0d. to our Branch, and our members donated £10 0s. 0d. to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund to her memory.

At our AGM in November Mrs G. Armitage was elected as our President, with Mrs E. M. Slack and Mrs E. Lumb as Vice Presidents, all Ex QMAAC members. Our Chairman is Miss M. D. Bradley, Vice Chairman Miss I. Weston BEM, Hon. Secretary Mrs E. M. Suttle and Mrs N. Houldsworth Hon. Treasurer. Social Secretary Mrs Edna Wilson.

The Secretary reported a successful year. Membership now 50 which includes 3 Honorary members and 3 Life members. Attendances since the early part of the year when we had bad weather have increased and members have shown much more enthusiasm.

We have had a good deal of sickness amongst members, but we are pleased to know many of them are back to normal and attending meetings. Apart from Mrs Kay Bottomley who is recovering from a major operation, and Mrs Slack who was taken ill whilst in New Zealand and who is still convalescing.

We had an evening outing in August on what had been the hottest day of the year, but ended up with a violent thunderstorm, but in spite of that members had a very good time.

20 members visited Harrogate for the Northern Area Re-Union, and 32 attended a very enjoyable Christmas Dinner. The highlight of the year and most talked about for some months was the Golden Jubilee, 14 members attended and we were greatly honoured that our Chairman, Secretary, and Mary Evans from Wales, who is one of our members and twin sister of our treasurer were selected to be presented to H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent, in the absence of H.M. The Queen Mother who was indisposed. This was a most memorable occasion when many many friendships were renewed. Our grateful thanks go to the Committee who were responsible for organising the Jubilee which must have been a mammoth task. We look forward to a successful 1970 and have an interesting programme planned.

Amongst our new members are Mrs Enid Cox, and Mrs E. Hughes from Sunderland, transferred from HQ Company, Mrs E. Crowther from Hebden Bridge, Miss V. Holdsworth, Mrs K. O'Connor, Mrs B. Stockdale whose sister is a member of Guernsey Branch, to these and all members who are unable to attend meeting because of living out of the district we send our very best wishes.

LEICESTER/NOTTINGHAM. The activities of the branch since our last report seem to have resolved themselves into four main events with meetings in between to discuss the arrangements.

In August we took a party of Old People out for a drive and for a picnic tea, which was greatly enjoyed.

We then met in September to make arrangements for our annual dinner, and this was held early in November. It was a very successful evening with about thirty five members present. Dame Mary Colvin was our guest, and she gave a lively response to the Toast which had been proposed by Miss Tindall. Lady Barnett, our President, also had some of her interesting and amusing anecdotes to recount. There is no doubt that the dinner is one of the evening meetings which is enjoyed most and attracts the members.

At the beginning of December we packed parcels for people whose names had been supplied by the local Welfare Department, and later in the week some of the more public-spirited members delivered them, and as always this effort was greatly appreciated by the recipients. I feel I must mention here that one member who brought things for those parcels was a 1914/18 war

veteran. Our year's activities terminated with the thrilling and enjoyable visit to St. James's Palace for the Golden Jubilee celebrations, and even the snail's gallop in a coach endured by about twenty members to and from London (owing to a faulty pump which meant the maximum speed was 35 m.p.h.!) cannot dim our pleasurable memories.

MAIDSTONE. A short time ago, we kept the 21st Anniversary of our Branch, by having a get-together tea in a member's house, Miss Thorp, ably assisted by Miss Neal, put on a most splendid meal. Mrs Theobald our Chairman, brought along the cake, which she cut.

It was so nice to see members, who cannot get to our meetings, owing to infirmity. A taxi was arranged to pick one up and take her back. Of course the talk was centred round the Golden Jubilee.

We meet once a month at the home of Miss Thorp, 16 Well Road, in case anyone that sees this address, would always have a warm welcome, or get in touch with the Secretary.

PRESTON. Branch members have had a varied year three have had very serious illnesses during 1969. We trust that 1970 will see them restored to good health, although some of our members have home commitments they never fail to do their share in helping the Branch to achieve the donation to the Benevolent Fund yearly.

We had our Annual Dinner on the 9th of November at the Masonic Hall. More than 200 representatives of the 24 Regimental and other ex-service bodies which comprise of Ex-Servicewomen's and Women's Organisations. *The Preston members are the only ex-service women's branch of the services to be members.*

We shall miss the noble figure of Dame Regina Evans at the AGM but those who saw her last year could well see we wouldn't have her with us long but happily her memory will remain. We welcome our new President and hope she may be with us for many years.

We wish all Officers and members of the Association, the very best of health and happiness during the coming year.

SALISBURY

We have again enjoyed a happy year in our branch with our membership about the same. Our meetings are held mostly at the College of Sarum St. Michael, thanks to the Principal Miss Ashley and Miss Walker and Miss Potter. In May we were pleased to welcome Col. Millington and were very interested to hear about the work of the A.T.S. Benevolent Fund. Our members supported the Sale of Work at the A.G.M. in London in March, but unfortunately very few were about to attend.

This year only a small number could go to the Southern Area Re-union at Bournemouth in May and we were not able to gather enough people to fill a coach this time.

In July we paid our annual visit to Col. MacFie at

Middle Wallop and were welcomed with our own special flag—made of two of our tea cloths! We were fortunate to have a lovely warm evening this year. In September (on a Saturday afternoon for a change) we visited Col. Gibson at Woodgreen and were again blessed with beautiful weather.

A small contingent attended the local Remembrance Day Parade when our wreath was laid by our vice-chairman Mrs. Mitchell and Miss Bowker was the standard bearer.

At our well-attended Annual General Meeting in November our treasurer was able to report a healthy balance. All the officers remain the same for another year.

We were very sorry that our Guest of Honour, Col. Rankin, could not attend our Annual Dinner after all and we look forward to welcoming her at a later date. We missed Col. Gibson very much and look forward to seeing her in the New Year fully recovered from her operation. Those who attended the dinner enjoyed an excellent meal once again and the usual raffle was well supported. This year we decided to give half the proceeds of the raffle to the Princess Royal Memorial Fund.

The year finished off very happily for us with the Sherry Party at St. James's Palace on December 15th when eighteen of our members were able to attend. We all had a lovely evening and would like to thank everyone at H.Q. who worked so hard to make all the excellent arrangements for this event. We will all remember it for a long time.

SHEFFIELD. After a most enjoyable 22nd Annual Dinner which marked the end of the season, we went our various ways on holidays to many places. Most of us enjoyed the wonderful summer weather but alas our Treasurer as usual managed to be in the right place at the right time for her usual damp spell. Never mind Betty, keep trying.

Another "Fall" saw us all once more "safely gathered in" and full of hope for the year ahead. We visited the new Police Headquarters where we learned quite a lot and were very interested in a "talk" by one policeman and his dog, a beautiful alsatian "Zoro". We were also privileged to have a little "sit" in the Black Maria." Let's hope that will be our only "sit".

November was a busy month. During our "Good Cause" evening we were transported to Greece where we climbed around the marble of the Acropolis and the Parthenon—on slides of course. This year we are helping the Rheumatism and Arthritis Council. The annual Jumble Sale went off with its usual swing and laughs!

A few members and faithful always help the Spastics at their Fayre by serving the refreshments and this year was a social all day effort involving endless "cupsies" and refreshments. The poor waitresses on their knees by evening time.

The Golden Jubilee was the Highlight of the season, fourteen members attended and thoroughly enjoyed the day. Engine failure on the way down delayed us 45 minutes, but we were soon back in form after a delightful tea party with our President and her husband at their London home. After a wonderful evening at the Palace we got as far as Derby by rail, when the little B.R. Jinx caused further trouble and we did the rest of the journey by bus, over an hour late.

ULSTER. With the possible exception of the denizens of Mars or Venus (who may, indeed, be alarmingly better informed than we imagine), everyone must be well aware that Northern Ireland has been no Tranquility Bay lately. Though the Army vehicles grinding about Belfast raise a nostalgic pang, especially among ex-MT members, life in Ulster has been more skittles than beer for many of the troops sent across to peg down the riots. Quite a few young soldiers are in hospital with wounds or shock, and the Branch Committee felt it fitting that we should make a contribution to their comfort. Enquiries from the Chaplains' Department established that money was needed to enable individual Padres to distribute such items as cigarettes, stationery, stamps, toilet articles etc. Fifty pounds was therefore donated from our "emergency fund". and the charming letters which came in reply from the Chaplain General and Lady Freeland left no doubt that it was greatly appreciated and would be put to good use.

For the benefit of our English friends, who might be forgiven for imagining us doing a John Wayne from doorway to doorway, we would add that things aren't as lethal as they sound—not a single shopper has yet reported her nylons laddered by a bullet!

Three lucky members—May Johnston, Muriel Wallace and Lavine Upham—found the Golden Jubilee an exciting chance to "get away from it all". After an initial fog delay of half an hour they flew to London on the Saturday morning before the Jubilee, installed themselves comfortably in the Victory Ex-Services Club, and set out in crisp sunshine to explore the London shops, which Lavine was seeing for the first time. In the evening, they viewed the Trafalgar Square Christmas tree, and listened to the carols, and on Sunday innocently managed to "gate-crash" a St. John's Ambulance Brigade service attended by Prince Charles.

Their disappointment that the Queen Mother's cold kept her from the Jubilee Reception was soon dispelled when they were presented to the Duchess of Kent, who was intrigued to hear that they hailed from Northern Ireland, and chatted to them for some time. She said theirs was a lovely country and that she had very much enjoyed her trip there in 1968 to open the New University at Coleraine. Three memorable hours in the magnificent State Rooms of St. James's Palace were happily rounded off when Lt. Colonel Marjorie Jamieson, to whom the Ulster Branch owes so much, whirled her fellow country-women away for supper at her flat.

For the remainder of their stay they packed in the Val Doonican Show (on complimentary tickets which the BBC had generously provided) and a session in the Strangers' Gallery at the House of Commons where the controversial hanging debate raged.

The Jubilee trio are liable to find themselves a star attraction at the Annual Dinner in March when the stay-at-homes flock to lap up their travellers' tales!

Though 1970 will have lost its pristine newness by the time this goes to press, it still can't be too late for good wishes, so from the Ulster Branch to all members of the Association wherever they may be, a very happy, prosperous and—most important of all—*peaceful* New Year.

WOLVERHAMPTON. Our first meeting of the year was brightened in January, when one of our members, Bett Tudor brought along some colour slides. April, and a perfect day for a visit to Cadburys Factory, we saw all the delicious chocolates being made, and were invited to "taste" a few. June, and members were able to take their friends around the Star Aluminium Factory, we find these visits very interesting.

August, and this was a gay evening when Mary Breakwell provided wine, and Mary Davies provided cheese biscuits, the wine was made and sent to us by Miss Breakwell's brother, and was quite a change from the usual cuppa. Our thanks to Mary Breakwell for collecting the tea money at the meeting, and being able to donate 10/-d. of this to the funds. September, and the committee were very pleased to see so many of our members come to offer their services at the reunion on October 11th. The Editor of Women's page in the Express and Star (our local paper) came along to give us a write up, and on Friday 3rd October part of our story appeared in the paper.

October. After the success of the Western Area reunion, we were pleased to welcome some new members to our meeting. November. With the support of members and their friends we had a successful Bring & Buy Sale.

December. This was the month we had waited for, 15th, the day for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, Wolverhampton had a double honour, Mrs Roberts and Mrs Beeston were to be presented to H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, in all fifteen members went to St. James's Palace "and we could only stand and stare" at the splendour inside the Palace. Disappointment, H.M. The Queen Mother was unwell and unable to come. Our disappointment turned to delight when H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent came among us and with her charm captivated us all. To the organisers we in Wolverhampton say thank you for giving us this splendid occasion and send greetings to all old and new friends.

British Legion Women's Section Flatlets Scheme

IT is five years since we opened Regina House, after it had been converted into twelve unfurnished flatlets for ex-service women and widows of ex-service men. This was a venture into a completely new field of work and is a typical example of the flexibility of the Women's Section in meeting the changing needs of our time.

Last year, on the 30th November, our second house containing eleven flatlets was opened—Bronwen House in Southport, Lancashire.

Our tenants fall into two categories—the widow who has had her own home, and the single woman who has not had a home of her own. A widow has a special problem when she is accepted for a flatlet—she nearly always has her own furniture and has the difficult and often heart-breaking task of deciding what she wants to keep, bearing in mind that she has only one room to furnish in the future. It is interesting to note that not one of our widows regrets having made the decision to move. As one of them recently said, "Immediately I arrived in Regina House, I felt as though a load had gone from me and I have never regretted what I did."

The single woman, on the other hand, has to start from scratch and has probably never had her own house, having been in the Services, after which she has had residential work, such as nursing, housekeeping or a domestic post. The Legion is very helpful in giving a grant to an ex-service woman who is faced with financial difficulties in furnishing her flatlet, and the Women's Section is also able to help from the Welfare Fund. It is a real joy to hand over the keys to a single woman who has not before had a home of her own. An ex-nurse in Bronwen House, when she was visited a week after she had moved in, said "Oh, I am so happy; I am almost too happy to be happy".

There is no doubt that this Scheme is a tremendous success. Why is this? First of all, a tenant is secure, and although she has her independence which is essential, she is not alone. If she is ill, the others do her shopping and keep an eye on her; when she wants company, there is usually someone who is feeling the same way. And, perhaps, most important of all, they have a common interest by having a close connection with the Services.

What rents do they pay and what does this include? The rents in both houses are from 35/-d. to 45/-d. a week, according to size and location of the flatlet. This sum includes rates, central heating and hot water, the tenant being responsible for paying the electricity actually used in her flat for lighting and cooking. The

Women's Section meet the cost of the heating, lighting and cleaning of the communal parts of the house, the upkeep of the garden, and all re-decorating and other maintenance expenses. It is interesting to note that the subsidy on Regina House, which is met by donations to the Flatlets Fund was £568 in the first year and last year amounted to £607. This is really excellent as it was thought the cost to the Organisation would be in the region of £1,000. We are fortunate in that our tenants are careful with lighting and the use of hot water and they look after their own flatlets extremely well.

In our two houses we are providing homes for seventeen widows of ex-service men and six ex-service women and they come from all over the country.

I am sure you are interested in the tenants as people and here is something about them:—

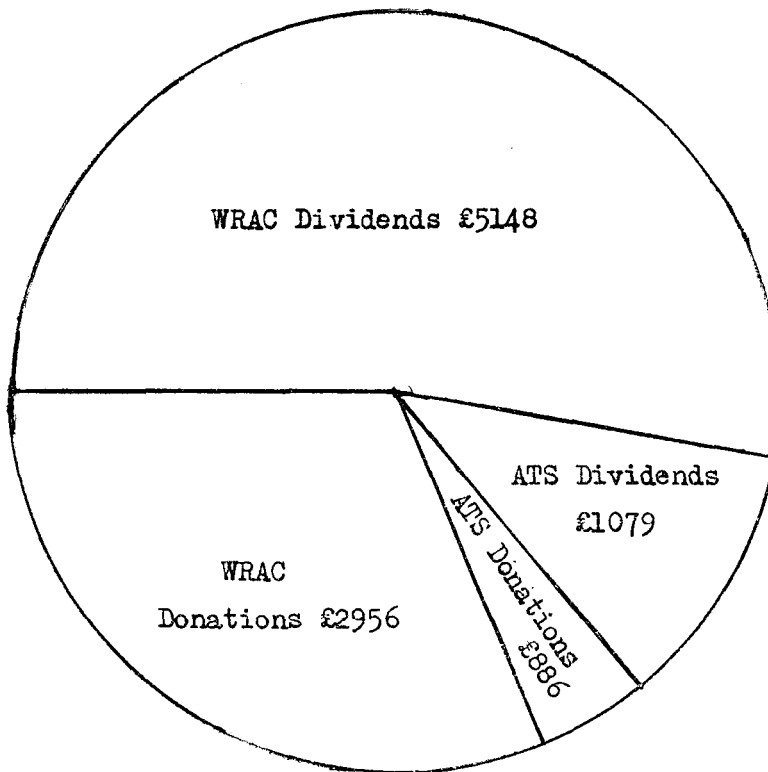
An ex-service woman who served in the ATS in the 1939-45 War and who has Parkinson's Disease, occupies a flatlet on the first floor. She had been a housekeeper and because of her health had to retire earlier than she wished. With her low income it was not possible to find a suitable place to live and she was almost in despair when she heard of Regina House and now she is comfortably settled in her own little home and has made friends with another ex-service woman, an ex WRAC who has a flatlet on the same floor.

In Bronwen House, Southport, there is a widow whose husband served in the Navy in both Wars and he was in receipt of a 100% disability pension. She herself, has been awarded a 100% Civil Disability Pension through injuries caused in a raid on the North West Coast of England while on duty with the WVS. Both her daughters are ex-service women. This widow has very bad health and suffers from rheumatism, which has been much better since she has lived in a centrally heated flatlet. The other tenants give her a helping hand with shopping etc., whenever she cannot cope.

As we go forward with our plan to build a block of 24 flatlets, with warden service and the provision of a mid-day meal, we are confident that this bold step will be as successful as our first ventures in this field of work.

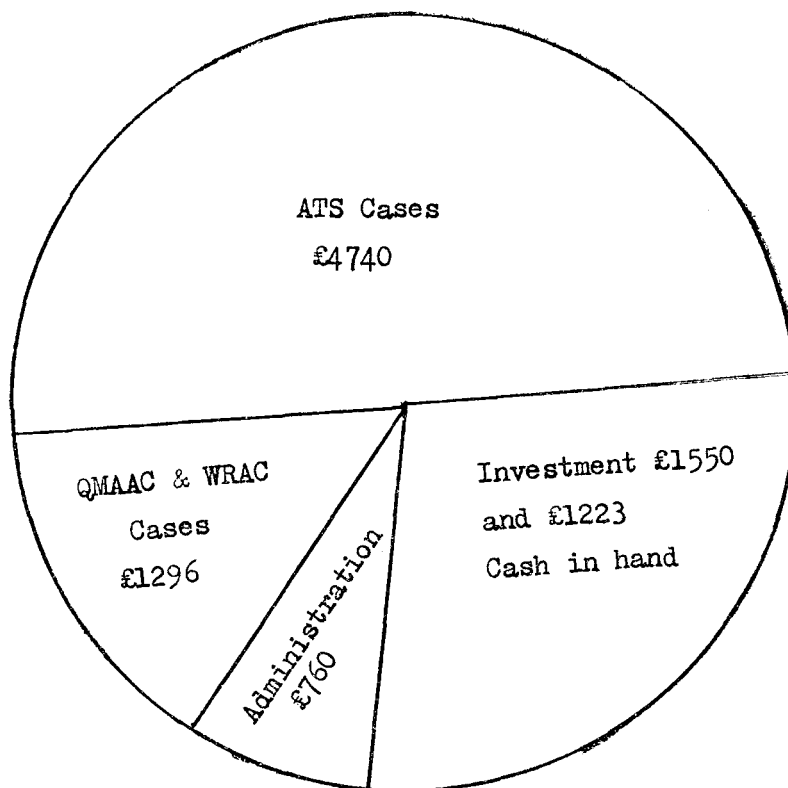
Engagement

The engagement is announced between Bernard, only son of Mr. & Mrs. Harold Ellen of Bath, Somerset, and Jane Ellen, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. Seaman-Reed of Sendall Cottage, 31, New Street, Horsham.

ATS/WRAC BENEVOLENT FUNDSWHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM1 NOV 68 - 30 Oct 69ATS/WRAC BENEVOLENT FUNDS

BALANCE sheets are never very easy to understand so this year we have tried to show, in the form of a diagram, where the money for the ATS and WRAC Benevolent Funds comes from and how it is spent.

At first glance the funds seem to be in quite a satisfactory state. They are certainly better than a few years ago and the Trustees are most grateful for the generous support that has brought them so far. Unfortunately the position is not quite as rosy as it looks and your continued help is needed for the following reasons.

ATS/WRAC BENEVOLENT FUNDSHOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT1 NOV 68 - 30 OCT 69

Although the amount of the average grant has risen with the years it has never quite kept up with the increase in the cost of living. The Grants Committee would like to be in a position to be more generous to some of the really deserving cases.

The capital of the WRAC Fund must continue to be built up as it is not sufficient to meet the demands that are likely to arise in the future. The folly of spending too much too soon has been amply demonstrated by both the Service Women's Benevolent Fund and the ATS Benevolent Fund, neither of which can now meet its commitments. This must NOT be allowed to occur again and your help to prevent it, and safeguard the future, is urgently needed.

Earthquake

Anna M. H. Barcroft

WHEN I went on leave to South Africa in September, the last thing, I imagined I would ever experience was an earthquake. I left U.K. on a Friday at the end of September and flew direct to Cape Town, arriving on the Saturday evening. I was staying with friends who lived at the Cape near the coast.

On the evening of the following Monday, I was lying in bed, dozing off to sleep, when suddenly my ears were captivated by a distant rumbling sound, which appeared to be approaching in our direction with extreme rapidity; I couldn't imagine what it was, then, all of a sudden the earth's surface seemed to be having convulsions. Pictures rattled on the walls like castanets, punctuated by the sound of expensive china tumbling to the ground. Having never experienced an earthquake before in my life, I was at a total loss to think what had happened. After a minute (which seemed like eternity) the convulsions subsided. I leapt out of bed, trampling on all the various scattered articles on the floor, (including broken glass) and groped for the door.

From that moment the whole house was one babble of chatter discussing what had happened. Whilst we were chatting, again the distant roar began shuddering its way towards us, bringing the frightening vibrations with it. Even with the "British stiff upper lip" nobody felt very happy about the proceedings. The vibrations shook for half a minute bringing more china and loose articles to the ground, and then again subsided into the distance. No more tremors or earthquakes were felt that night; only the panorama of debris and scattered articles was left as proof of the proceedings.

The next morning, the newspapers were full of the disaster. The actual earthquake area was about a hundred miles from Cape Town, in Tulbagh. Devastation in this area was serious. Several people were killed and a great many were injured. Houses had fallen to the ground and were represented by indefinable scattered rubble. Hundreds were homeless.

The next earthquake I felt was a mild one at 5.30 a.m. two days later. At this hour I was not so alert, but the characteristic rumble jolted me out of my sleep. No articles fell to the ground and this appeared to be the last "whimper" of the earthquake, as no more incidents occurred.

Earthquakes in South Africa are almost unheard of. The last earthquake took place in the very early part of the century. The 1969 earthquake was registered as Grade VIII on the seismograph (there are twelve grades, the most serious being Grade XII). The earthquake spread across the whole of the Cape and was felt as far away as Durban. Johannesburg was unaffected.

As swiftly as the earthquake occurred, it is now fast subsiding into South Africa's history books. Varying accounts will be written by different people, some dull and some vivid. Personally, I reckon there is nothing like personal experience for the realism of an earthquake to make it live. or shake as the case may be!

Military Musical Pageant

THE Army will stage a Military Musical Pageant, in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund, at the Empire Stadium Wembley, on Saturday 27th June 1970, at 7.30 p.m.

This colourful entertainment will include massed bands, corps of drums and pipers of the Army, with horses and guns and over 1000 musicians.

Tickets are obtainable from the Box office, Wembley Stadium, Wembley, Telephone 01-902 1234 and all agencies. The cost of tickets vary from 6/-d. to 30/-d. with special reduced rates for parties of 20 or over.

Book early for a good seat.

RE-UNIONS

Northern Area

Preliminary Notice

A Re-union will be held at the Crescent Room of The Lounge Hall, Harrogate on Saturday, 26th, September 1970, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., when all members will be welcome. Further particulars will be announced later.

From the 1969 Re-union we were able to donate £47 2s. 6d. to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund and the WRAC Benevolent Fund.

ATS Dinner Club 1969

THE Deputy Controller Commandant, Colonel L. M. Davies C.B.E. and the Director WRAC, Brigadier The Hon. M. M. Anderson MBE, Hon. ADC were the principal guests at this year's dinner at Derry & Toms. In the absence of the Chairman Dame Jean Rivett-Drake DBE, JP, in America, Miss Hilary Webb, MBE, TD, presided. The dinner was good and it was the usual happy party we have come to expect. From the perpetual buzz of conversation anyone could be forgiven for thinking there were more than usual present. However the number was slightly down to 160. The 1970 dinner has already been arranged for 3rd October.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

Having left the ATS in 1949, my main interest in reading *The Lioness* is news of people serving during my time. Would it not be possible for those reporting in Branch News to refer to members by their previous names, ranks and units, as so often they are referred to as Mrs so and so, which means nothing to me. For instance, none of my old acquaintances will know who Mrs Currie is, but the addition of J/Comd M. Sterling-Hill (RAOC) might strike a chord.

I realise these additions will take up valuable space, but without them *The Lioness* is becoming almost meaningless to me, and probably many others of my generation.

Myra Currie.

Obituary

Miss A. F. Banks

THE many service friends of Miss Annie Banks (ex QMAAC and ATS) will be sad to learn of her death in Plymouth Hospital in October 1969, after having her second leg amputated. Her unfailing cheerfulness and courage in the face of her great disabilities will long be remembered by those who knew her and who will miss a gallant comrade.

Miss J. M. Double

Miss M. E. Hamilton Smith

Mrs H. E. Murrell

WE regret to announce the death of three Life Members of the Association. Miss J. M. Double, a former S. Sgt Clerk ATS who died in New Zealand, Miss M. E. Hamilton Smith, ex-Chief Commander ATS who was also a VAD ambulance driver in France from 1916-19, and Mrs H. E. Murrall (nee Trenchard) who served in the ATS from 1940-45 with the rank of Cpl.

Miss E. M. Wilkins

SOUTHAMPTON Branch regret to report the death in November 1969 of ex-Sgt Edith Mary Wilkins, as the result of injuries sustained in a road accident.

Sgt Wilkins served in the ATS from March 1939 until August 1945, and in January 1943 was awarded the Certificate of Merit. At her funeral the coffin was draped with the Union Jack.

She had been a member of Southampton Branch since 1948.

AN APPRECIATION

Miss S. G. Rorie

CHELTENHAM Branch deeply regret the death of Miss Silvia Rorie after a long illness, borne with great fortitude and courage.

Silvia Rorie was in Canada when the 1939 war broke out and she returned to England and joined up in the 21st London M.T. Coy (FANY). After her OCTU Course in 1943 she served at HQ AA Command and later became a Junior Commander on the Education side, and finally served in Italy in the Canal Zone.

Among her friends in this Branch were several with whom she had served during the war, and she will be very greatly missed by us all. Silvia Rorie had the interests of the Branch and the WRAC Association very much at heart and we have lost a good friend and a good member.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Dame Regina Evans

A SERVICE of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Dame Regina Evans was held at the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea S.W.3, on Monday, 10th November, 1969 at 2 p.m.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was represented by Brigadier Dame Mary Railton and Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent by Colonel L. M. Davies, Deputy Controller Commandant WRAC. The Rev. R. A. N. Hambly officiated, the address was given by Canon P. W. Gilliat MA, Colonel C. E. Hammond Chairman of Council WRAC Association read the lesson. The National Standard of the British Legion Women's Section and the Metropolitan Area Standard of the British Legion were ceremonially laid up in the Chancel during the service and music was provided by the WRAC Staff Band.

The congregation included relations and representatives of the British Legion Women's Section, National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, the London Hostels Association, the Women's Royal Army Corps Association, the Association of WRENS and the Women's Royal Air Force. A note of colour was provided by the Directors of all three Services who attended in ceremonial dress.

Six serving WRAC officers acted as Ushers, one of them came from Chilwell where Dame Regina had served with such distinction during the war.

Lt. Colonel C. A. Cecil

A MEMORIAL Service for Lt. Colonel Angela Cecil was held in Hatfield Parish Church on Friday November 7th, 1969, at 2.30 p.m. The lesson was read by the Marquess of Salisbury KG and the address was given by Brigadier Dame Mary Railton.

Music was provided by the WRAC Staff Band and the Ashes were interred privately after the service.

Officers' Postings

1 September—30 November 1969

Col. M. N. Jamieson, G.S.O. 1 W.R.A.C. 1 M.O.D., London.
Lt. Col. V. I. Fisher, Dep. Oic M.S. & W.R.A.C. Records, Winchester.
Maj. H. Meechie, W.R.A.C. Centre (H.S.) attending course R.M.C.S., Shrivvenham.
Maj. D. P. Chandler, O.C. 12 Coy W.R.A.C., Mill Hill.
Maj. J. M. F. S. Tait, O.C. Officer Cadet Wing, W.R.A.C. College, Camberley.
A/Maj. S. P. Richards, A.I.P.T./O.C. A.S.P.T., Aldershot.
A/Maj. J. M. Clements, W.S.L.O. Western Command, Chester.
Capt. M. Y. Charlwood, S. C. Q(Maint), H.Q. British Troops, Malta.
Capt. M. Mackenzie, 2 ic & Asst. Controller Garrison Transport, Hounslow.
Capt. F. A. F. Chandler, O.C. W.R.A.C. Detachment, Chester.
Capt. V. C. Bennett, S.C. A.G. 16 o M.O.D., Stanmore.
Capt. J. R. Barker, S.C. Q(Maint) H.Q. Nearfield, Cyprus.
Capt. J. M. Hill, S.C. A H.Q. L.F., Hong Kong.
Capt. J. E. Blakeley, R.A.P.C. Computer Centre, Worthy Down.
Capt. G. Dexter, Admin. Offr. H.Q. 1(B.R.) Corps, Bielefeld.
Capt. S. Halsey, W.R.A.C. Centre (H.S.), Guildford.
Capt. (Q.M.) G. W. Thompson, S.O.P.T., Western Command, Chester.
Capt. (Q.M.) K. N. Dicker, Admin. Offr., 12 Trg. Regt. R.C.T., Crookham.
Capt. (Q.M.) E. Anton, W.R.A.C. Centre, O.C. H.Q. Coy, Guildford.
A/Capt. E. Tye, 10th Sig. Regt., Ailershot.
A/Capt. M. A. Patrick, W.R.A.C. College, Camberley.
A/Capt. S. Taylor, W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford.
A/Capt. P. A. Marvin, S.C. A H.Q. S.E. Dist., Aldershot.
A/Capt. P. M. Dixon, W.R.A.C. Centre (H.S.), Course at J.S.P.I., Huntingdon.
A/Capt. M. R. Lloyd, W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford.
A/Capt. H. R. Grimshaw, W.S.L.O., Southern Command, Hounslow.
A/Capt. J. E. Hole, R.A.C. Centre, Bovington.
Lt. E. A. Irvine, A.S.E. (Language course), Beaconsfield.
Lt. D. R. S. Luckyn-Malone, A.C.O. (W.S.), Aberdeen.
Lt. D. E. Shee, S/Capt. W.R.A.C. H.Q. BAOR, BAOR.
Lt. J. G. R. Lodge, R.A. Depot, Woolwich.
Lt. A. C. Cunningham, 4 Coy W.R.A.C., Singapore.
Lt. C. J. Collier, 18th Sig. Regt., Hong Kong.
2/Lt. S. C. Charlton Dewar, W.R.A.C. Detachment, Chester.
2/Lt. S. A. Buchanan, A.A.C. (P.S.), Middle Wallop.
2/Lt. E. M. Roualle, W.S.L.O. Northern Command, York.
2/Lt. M. L. Earnshaw, S.E.M.E., Bordon.

WARRANT OFFICERS POSTINGS

1 OCTOBER 1969—31 DECEMBER 1969

W/416084, W.O. II, J. L. Beresford, H.Q. Hounslow Garrison.
W/374755, W.O. II, E. M. Bird, H.Q. Land Forces, Hong Kong.
W/430054, W.O. II, D. A. Brook, H.Q. Cameron Highlands Grn.
W/352511, W.O. II, L. D. L. Dawson, Trade Training School, RAOC.
W/342079, W.O. II, C. H. Wales, H.Q. FARELF.
W/385756, W.O. II, E. Stevenson, 4 Sqn, 10 Signal Regt.
W/98106, A/W.O. II, A. Humphries, Holding & Drafting Coy W.R.A.C. Holding Element.
W/394925, A/W.O. II, B. Thorpe, Holding & Drafting Coy, W.R.A.C.

London Gazette

HONOURS AND AWARDS (NEW YEARS HONOURS)

D.B.E. Brigadier The Hon. M. M. Anderson, Director W.R.A.C.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS REGULAR ARMY

Major (Q.M.) Capt. (Q.M.) M. Sharp, M.B.E.
Capt. Lt. V. C. Bennett.
Lieut. 2/Lt. G. Howard Higgins, Lieut. I. A. Purton (re-instated on active list).
2/Lieuts. J. M. Cowan, R. A. Ridley, J. Thwaites, J. D. Wilson.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Lieuts. 2/Lieuts. A. T. Meiklejohn, A. F. Brown, M. R. Gardner.
2/Lieuts. S. D. Campbell, C. E. Lockwood, M. I. Rankine, C. A. Reynier, M. R. Gardner.
2/Lieuts. (on probation) M. J. Abbott, P. H. Dukes, S. Itz-Covitz, J. Lavers, R. D. Patrick, S. A. Miller.

RETIREMENTS, ETC.,

REGULAR ARMY

Colonel P. M. Lipscomb.
Lieuts. R. M. Scott, L. Windmill, M. H. Stannard, E. A. McLelland, G. M. Minogue.

Personal Column

CHARGES

Personal Column. 3 lines 4s. 6d. each additional line 1s. 6d. non-members 50 per cent more. Box No. 6d. Reunion notices: Notices of forthcoming reunions where admission is charged may be inserted at a cost of 1s. 6d. a line.

Edinburgh. All serving and ex-WRAC welcome to stay at the Women's United Services Club, 12 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, until 31st July when, we regret, the Club is to close. Greetings to all Readers who have made use of our facilities. Terms from the Secretary. Tel. 031-225 4952.

Wanted. General Secretary required for the Mothers Union—a Church society working for Christian family life in this country and overseas. Applicants must be communicants, and should be married women or widows aged 35-50. Organising and executive experience essential. Responsible post for practising Churchwoman interested in current trends as they affect the family. Apply the Central Secretary, 24, Tufton Street, S.W.1.

For Sale. Officers Greatcoat, No. 1 Dress and Tropical Dress. Height 5' 6" 38-40. Hardly worn. Box. No. 1/70.

For Sale. No. 1 Dress £5, Green Greatcoat £5. Mess Dress £10 Height 5' 7" bust 36" waist 26" hips 38" Box No. 2/70.

For Sale. No. 2 Dress—Good condition £10. Height 5' 4" 38" - 28" - 38" also Hat size 7½" £2 Box No. 3/70.

Vacancy Army Careers Officer. Vacancy for an Army Careers Officer (Women's Services) based at Army Careers Information Office, Devonshire House, Great Charles Street, BIRMINGHAM 3, and currently equating in Grade to RO3(WRAC). Salary £1,235 per annum. This officer, together with her staff of Women's Services WO and NCO Recruiters, recruit in the West Midlands. Further particulars may be obtained from Lt. Col. R. M. Engel, WRAC, Room 444, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. X 6AA.

Holidays. Holidays at Glan-Rhyd-Wen Guest House, Elan Valley, Rhydydd, Radnor.

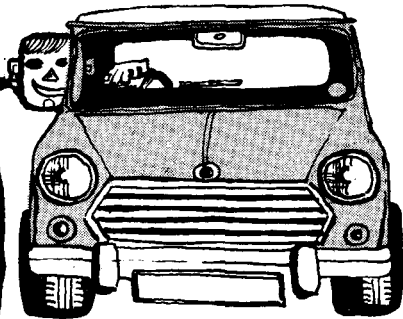
Jessie Meredith welcomes any members of the WRAC to a country holiday, pony trekking, fishing and delightful walks. Accommodation in modern bungalow centrally heated, and views in all directions. Terms on application.

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