

THE LIONESS

VOL XLV

JUNE 1972

No. 2



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Contents

Page

Editorial	19
Annual General Meeting	19
Presentation	22
Reunions	22
Report of Council	24
Visit to Norwegian Women's Services	24
Iceland	26
Unit News	27
The End of an Era	33
Away to the Snow	33
Branch News... ..	34
Crossword	36
Retirements	36
Officers' Postings	37
Warrant Officers' Postings	38
Obituary	38
Branch Meetings	39
Branch Directory	39
Personal	40

WHO'S WHO

W.R.A.C. Association

W.R.A.C. Centre, Queen Elizabeth Park
Guildford, Surrey.

GENERAL SECRETARY

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(All correspondence re membership and distribution
of The Lioness)

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(Contributions and personal column advertisements)

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Catterick Camp, Yorkshire

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31st AUGUST

London Gazette

Promotions and Appointments
Regular Army

Major (Q.M.) Capt. (Q.M.) G. Baylis, M.B.E.
Captain Lieuts. E. W. Pattinson, S. C. S. Bonavia, S. Taylor, M.
R. Lloyd, A. C. Smith.
Lieutenant 2/Lieuts. M. W. Rosser, R. G. Warne, R. M. Burns,
R. E. R. Henderson, S. F. Stewart, H. D. Fenn, M. B. S.
Amberton
2/Lieut. A. M. Stratford-Tuke, J. E. Segar
2/Lieut. on probation R. M. Burns, is confirmed in her appoint-
ment
2/Lieuts. on probation C. V. M. Montanaro, J. Pilkington
S. M. Osborne, S. I. F. Johncey, S. A. Strong, K. M.
Howie

Special Regular Commissions

2/Lieut. J. Macrae

Short Service Commissions

Lieutenant 2/Lieut M. A. S. Linklater
Lieut (Q.M.) W.O. I.E. A. Henderson
2/Lieuts. J. W. Neale, M. A. Jones, T. A. Howie
2/Lieuts. on probation C. M. Collins, A. E. Lovatt, P. S. Mawer,
B. M. Ferriday, W. E. Coupe, C. A. Grigg, P. M. Lewis

Retirements

Regular Army

Major S. W. Foley
Major (Q.M.) M. Sharp, M.B.E.
Captains P. A. Broad, P. R. Bryans
Lieutenants Z. E. Bowness-Smith, S. F. Bowden, D. L. Rees, G. P.
Platt, V. W. Bennett

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Further particulars from:-

THE SECRETARY



Liaison with the Civil Power Young Officers from the W.R.A.C. Centre visit the Headquarters of the Surrey Police.



THE LIONESS

Vol. XLV

JUNE, 1972

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Editorial

AFTER blowing the dust of more than 50 years off the Association files, we said a sad Goodbye to Mrs. Begley and our friends at the Duke of York's Headquarters and started trying to settle down in Guildford, where we could not have had a more friendly and helpful welcome from all departments.

Any member who has moved house recently will sympathise with our problems. As this Editorial is being written things are beginning to take shape and Mrs. Griffiths who lives nearby, has been posted in to the Clerical Officer's vacancy in replacement of Mrs. Begley. We hope she will enjoy working for the Corps Headquarters. Miss Briant, for many years P.A. to the Director W.R.A.C., was lent to us to help with the move. She is now leaving the Army and we are glad to welcome her to the staff. Her up-to-date knowledge of the Army and the Corps will be invaluable.

We are sorry that rising costs, particularly in postage, have led to the decision to reduce the number of issues to three per year and hope that the extra four pages in each edition will be some compensation for the news not being quite so up-to-date. The February Lioness will come out as usual but the minutes of the Annual General Meeting will have to be held over till June. The list of Branch Secretaries will also appear in the June issue.

As announced at the Annual General Meeting in March the new Assistant Corps Secretary, Major F. Odell (nee Saffery) will have taken over as Editor on 1st June. We are sure she will find the job an interesting and rewarding one and we wish her and the Lioness a happy and successful future.

Annual General Meeting 1972

THE Annual General Meeting was held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, 18th March 1972 at the Duke of York's Headquarters by kind permission of Brigadier H. E. C. Weldon, C.B.E., D.L.

Colonel L. M. Davies, C.B.E., Vice President of the W.R.A.C. Association presiding.

Colonel Davies opened the meeting by welcoming the members present and asked those with voting rights, if they had their voting cards. The General Secretary said apologies had been received from 31 members and 8 Branch Representatives.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 24th April 1971, having been circulated in the August issue of the Lioness, were taken as read and signed as correct.

2. BUSINESS ARISING

(a) *Re-organisation of Headquarters Area.*

The Vice President said Headquarter Area had been re-organised into a branch and that many members previously in Headquarter Area joined their nearest Branches.

REPORTS

3. REPORT OF COUNCIL

The Report of Council was given by Lt. Colonel R. J. King, O.B.E., J.P. Chairman of Council, (printed elsewhere) who afterwards took the chair.

4. HONORARY TREASURER

Lieutenant Colonel A. R. Robertson, Honorary Treasurer of the Association said that the Audited Accounts had been published in full in the February issue of the Lioness. She continued by saying that, in presenting the Account for 1970/71, she was glad to say that income had exceeded expenditure by £153.27, while this was very satisfactory it was partly due to the increased rates of subscriptions which come into force last year; this margin of profit was bound to decrease as costs rose, and the policy should be to increase investments whenever possible, and so increase the regular income. The General Fund stood at £2.740 an increase of £82, this would have been more but for the sale of £800 of 3% Savings Bonds due for redemption in 1975 at a loss of £70, the proceeds being invested in 8½% Treasury Loan Stock 1997, the increased income over the period of four years would more than recoup the loss of £70 capital. The Life Membership Fund (which included the Lioness) stood at £1,778. During the year both showed a slight increase over the previous year.

A further £200 from income was invested in the same Treasury Stock, £175 of this was from new Life Membership subscriptions. Lieutenant Colonel Robertson said that the market price of Stocks was £5,143, an increase of approximately £600 on the year, not including the last £200 invested. There had been no withdrawals from the deposit account.

Total subscription had increased by £50, interest from investments by £36 and donations, mainly from Mem-

bers who had been Life Members over 20 years by £13. The Association Account benefited by £58 from the Sale of Work.

The main item of expenditure had again been the Lioness, which, despite the increased subscription rates showed a loss of £366, a decrease of £16 on the 1970 issue. Printing and stationery costs were down on last year, but increased postal rates had caused a big increase in postage costs.

The Treasurer concluded by proposing the adoption of the Audited Account, that was Seconded by Mrs. A. T. Chitty, and carried unanimously.

5. THE LIONESS

The Editor, Lieutenant Colonel M. S. F. Millington, said that again the major problem during the year had been the usual financial one. Costs had continued to rise, and in spite of Major Coven's best efforts, revenue from advertisements had dropped by about £50. Economies were made in every possible way, including cutting down on photographs. Corps Headquarters paid for the four frontispiece blocks, from the profit on sales, and units, in many cases, paid for their photographs to be printed. The Editor said they were most grateful for this help.

Lieutenant Colonel Millington said that many members still forgot to notify change of address, and that each returned Lioness meant double postage, an unnecessary waste of money.

The Assistant Editor, Captain J. Brady, had left on being posted to Cyprus; Lieutenant Colonel Millington thanked her for her help in encouraging the Serving Corps to write interesting articles, and welcomed her successor, Lieutenant H. Cary.

The Editor said that this was her last report and that she would particularly like to thank Major Coven for her unfailing interest and help over a difficult period, and the loyal contributors over the past 11 years. Lieutenant Colonel Millington said Major F. Odell would be the new Editor, and in concluding she wishes the new Editor and the Lioness a happy and successful future, and said she looked forward with enjoyment to reading the Lioness in the future.

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(a) *A.T.S./W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund*

Brigadier Dame Mary Railton, Chairman of the Trustees, said that Trustees of the Benevolent Fund met three times during the year, and had been honoured by the presence of Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Kent, at their Meeting on 3rd February, 1971. Dame Mary said the Annual Report had been published and copies sent to all Subscribers.

The Trustees were very pleased to report that Field Marshall Sir Geoffrey Baker, The Master Gunner,

General P. E. M. Bradley, Master of Signals, and Dame Leslie Whateley had all agreed to become Vice Patrons of the Funds.

During the year the Grants Committee had dealt with 501 applications. This was a decrease of 62 on the previous year, this was not thought to be significant as very few cases had been received during the postal strike. A total of £6,183 was spent on loans and grants. Of the total of 501 cases considered no action was taken in 112 cases. There were various reasons for this, the main one was that the earning members of the family were not contributing enough to the Family budget—often amounts insufficient to cover even the cost of their food. The Grants Committee considered that help must come from within the home before a Charity should help. The background of the cases, where a grant was made, remained much the same. The majority of cases came from the 44-52 age group.

Dame Mary said that there were now 15 Princess Royal's Fund annuitants. This had been achieved by re-investment of some capital in high yield shares. All the annuitants were very deserving cases, and their circumstances were reviewed annually. In addition the Army Benevolent Fund was paying a supplementary allowance of £1 per week to 4 ex-members of the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

Several mothers and children went on one week holidays to Pontin's holiday camps. These were paid for by Mr. Pontin, and the Army Benevolent Fund, preference is given to deserving widows when nominations were made.

The Trustees wished to thank all those who supported the Funds, especially the W.R.A.C. Regular and T.A.V.R. whose subscriptions almost doubled last year's total. They would also like to thank those who knitted for the Fund's the garments made were such appreciated by the recipients.

Dame Mary concluded by thanking Miss Gowers, Mrs. Oliver, Miss Maynard and Miss Orr for their great help for many years on the Grants Committee, and Lady Margaret Sandeman-Allen for her tremendous help to the Funds during her Chairmanship of the Trustees.

(b) *W.R.A.C. Regimental Museum*

The Chairman of the Trustees, Brigadier Dame Mary Railton, D.B.E. said she was glad to report that the financial position had continued to improve and that £100 had been transferred to the deposit account. This was largely due to the great efforts made by Mrs. Bell, both with the "Museum Box" and the sale of goods which she makes, raising a splendid total of over £93.

The number of visitors to the museum showed an increase over the previous year, and reached the highest annual figure yet: 6184. This was helped by the great interest shown by the 1462 visitors to the museum on Corps Day.

The Trustees have been pleased to accept several

World War I exhibits, from Mrs. Johnson her medals, from Miss Innes, a member of the Association since 1929, her beautiful W.A.A.C. badge on a gold pin, and her W.A.A.C. uniform, a gilded Q.M.A.A.C. badge, and from the niece of the late Miss Bury, photographs and cuttings of the 1914-18 war.

Other acquisitions of interest were the photographs of the visit of Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Kent, to Larkhill in July 1971. The Director of the W.R.A.C. had presented a crest given to her by the Royal Norwegian Army Service and members of the Home Guard, to the museum.

The silver model of the 3.7 A.A. Gun had been out on loan twice during the year, once to the Army Silver Exhibition in York in August. This display was part of York's 1,900th anniversary celebration, about 5,000 people saw the display. The other occasion was to Harlech ITV studios for an exhibition of the work of Mr. Brooks, the silversmith who made the gun. The gun was being cleaned by a new silicone process which would keep it permanently clean and allow it to be removed from its glass case on special occasions.

Dame Mary said that though there had been interesting additions during the year, the Trustees would welcome more items of any period covered by our History.

7. RESOLUTIONS

(a) "That in order to reduce the loss now being incurred, due to continuing rising cost, the *Lioness* be published three times in the year and that rule 5 be amended accordingly," (Council Resolution).

The resolution was proposed by Colonel J. Fisher, O.B.E., (Ret'd.) and seconded by Colonel V. K. Stead, O.B.E., D.L., J.P. Before a vote was taken Mrs. A. J. Stevenson, as Chairman H.Q. Branch, spoke against it. The resolution was carried by a large majority vote.

(b) "That in order to make the voting more equitable between members of the Association, each member attending the Annual General Meeting of the Association be allowed to recall an individual vote" (London Branch Resolution.)

This resolution (which did not have the approval of Council) was proposed by Mrs. A. Greenwood and seconded by Miss A. M. Martin. Major K. Cooper (Ret'd) (Council), Mrs. M. J. Barton (Liverpool Branch), Mrs. V. Rumbold (Portsmouth Branch), and Miss E. Howie (Ayshire Branch) all spoke against it. The resolution was defeated by a large majority.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

(a) *Vice-Presidents of Council.* The Chairman said there were three vacancies for Vice Presidents of Council, Vice Colonel J. Fisher and Miss E. G. Marshall, who had completed their four years in Office, and Colonel P. M. Lipscomb (Ret'd) who had resigned on taking up the appointment of General Secretary.

Council nominations were Mrs. H. E. C. Weldon, Mrs.

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W. Whitelaw, and Colonel D. H. I. Wilson, O.B.E., (Ret'd), as there were no further nominations, the Chairman declared them elected.

Colonel M. K. Crewe-Read, C.B.E., T.D., (Ret'd), was eligible for re-election. As there were no further nominations the Chairman declared her elected.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman of Council said that at the Secretaries' Meeting that morning a suggestion was made that a message be sent to all Branches, and Members in Northern Ireland from those assembled at the Annual General Meeting, saying that the Members' thoughts and good wishes were with them all. This was unanimously agreed.

Lieutenant Colonel King said that she had been asked to give a preliminary notice of the Northern Area Reunion to be held in Harrogate on 30th September, 1972.

The Chairman outlined the arrangements for the Grand Reunion, and Church Service at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, on Sunday, 18th March 1972.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman announced that the Annual General Meeting would be held on Saturday 17th March, 1973.

Lieutenant Colonel R. J. King proposed a vote of thanks to Colonel L. M. Davies for presiding.

PRESENTATION TO MAJOR E. B. DIXON (RETD.)

AT the close of the Annual General Meeting, the Vice-President, Colonel L. M. Davies, C.B.E., (Retd.), on behalf of the members of the Association, presented Major Dixon with a Teasmade, an early morning tea service with a decorative tray, and a cheque, in appreciation of her work as our General Secretary.

Major Dixon expressed her thanks and has since written to the Chairman of Council asking her to let everyone know how touched and grateful she is.

With the cheque she has purchased a reproduction Georgian Bureau, a drum table and a small chest. Major Dixon says she will enjoy their company for the rest of her life and the Teasmade, tea service and tray will be daily reminders of her happy years with the Association.

Re-Unions

GRAND REUNION

A very happy and successful Grand Reunion was held on Saturday 18th March, at the Carisbrooke Hall—Victory Club.

Nearly 400, including Q.M.A.A.C., A.T.S., W.R.A.C. and their friends attended. This Reunion was made rather special by the presence of Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent, our President, who was received on arrival by the Lord and Lady Mayoress of Westminster and Colonel L. M. Davies, Vice-President of the Association. Her Royal Highness was taken into the Ante-Room where Lieutenant Colonel R. J. King (Chairman of Council) and Colonel M. D. M. Humphery, Chairman of the Executive Committee were presented, followed by the Director and members of the Executive Committee. An unusual and happy thought was the gathering together and presentation of Area Representatives. When these proceedings were over Her Royal Highness was escorted down the stairs to the platform, during which the Corps Staff Band played a 'Fanfare'. It was a perfect moment for all those present to see our President, looking most attractive in an apple green chiffon dress with gold accessories. When the Party was assembled the Chairman introduced the Lord Mayor, who in a witty speech welcomed Her Royal Highness to his Parish and our Reunion.

Her Royal Highness addressed the gathering and, in her speech, said how delighted she was for the first time to be present at a Reunion, and how pleased she was to see such a large gathering. Her Royal Highness was thanked by W.O. I J. F. M. Whitehead. When the Greeting Telegrams had been read, Brigadier S. A. E. Heaney, Director W.R.A.C. in the form of playlets showed highlights of W.R.A.C. trades and activities—an account of this is given elsewhere.

After refreshments had been served Her Royal Highness moved around the hall talking to Members, these included two serving Members, and most interesting, a Q.M.A.A.C. Grandmother, Mrs. A. H. Knock, her daughter, Mrs. J. H. Farr who served in the A.T.S., and her daughter a recently Commissioned officer in the W.R.A.C. No one can say that Army life has no appeal to young women of today!

Much too soon time came for Her Royal Highness to depart amidst cheers and clappings.

During the wait for Her Royal Highness' arrival friends had gathered together at tables and after speeches, very good refreshments were served and drinks collected. Everyone then got down to the Reunion's main reason, meeting old friends, catching up with their doings and reminiscing about old times and excitements; during this the Corps String Band played sweet music. Sadly we heard Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem played, so many friends ungreeted and so much left unsaid. But in the hectic last moments as we dispersed, it was agreed that it had been a wonderful evening and we looked forward to the next Reunion in two years time.

M.K.C.-R

D.W.R.A.C.'s PRESENTATIONS AT THE GRAND REUNION ON SATURDAY 18 MARCH 1972

AT the W.R.A.C. Grand Reunion this year an interesting and unusual event was the presentation arranged by D.W.R.A.C., who in her introduction, said that instead of telling us about the Corps today she would let the W.R.A.C. speak for themselves.

With the aid of the Services Cinema Corporation and their new equipment of synchronised pre-recorded sound and slides, we saw the varying shots of the present-day jobs, and at the same time, the girls concerned, appeared in their various working dress on stage.

First came, Pte. Helen MacDonald a Postal and Courier Operator from 12 Coy W.R.A.C. whose mother had been in the A.T.S. Then Pte. Ann Alexander, a cook from Mill Hill, armed with a rolling pin—to tell us about her training where she met her husband, in the A.C.C. at Aldershot.

Pte. Anne Whelan, a Communications Centre operator from 10 Signal Regiment Hounslow, told us of the advance of communications and work with the Royal Corps of Signals both Regular and T.A.V.R. today.

Cpl. A. E. Canham, a driver from 3 Sqn. 10 Sig. Regt. who last year won the cup for the fastest mini run in the Inter Service Vehicle handling competition at the Royal Tournament.

Sgt Eileen Kelly looking very spritely with her squash racquet, told us all about the sports and games in the Army today, including pursuits such as orienteering and adventure training.

Then came Cpl. L. Marklew an experimental assistant Gunner from the Proof and Experimental Establishment

Kitchen Manoeuvres

not quite the place to take a tank and you should know! All day long you've been driving tanks, tackling machine gun emplacements, and crawling through mine fields—mind you, you did have a break at midday when you made the Colonel a cup of tea in his bunker.

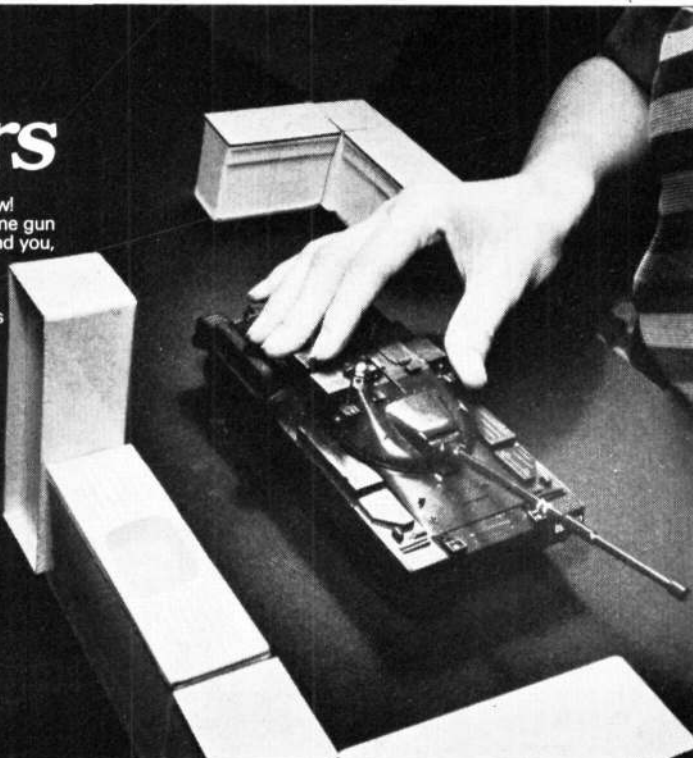
But now evening has come and you can become a woman again, out of that combat suit and heavy boots and back into nylons and lace, it's a wonderful feeling. It's nice to enter a woman's kitchen as well, instead of that smelly army field canteen with its primus stoves and tea chest cupboards.

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at Shoeburyness, who described her job in working with the Royal Artillery, followed by L/Cpl Ann Filimonow, with her orange marshalling batons, who is an aircraft handler from the Army Aviation Centre at Middle Wallop. Her work involves refuelling, marshalling and cleaning of aircraft. Her fiancé is in the Royal Air Force.

Lastly Cpl. Jackie Smith, the free-fall expert now with the Red Devils Parachute team, appeared in her smart red dropping gear and helmet. She told us about how she became interested in free-falling, attended courses and finally won the 1971 Army Novice Championships.

In conclusion D.W.R.A.C. introduced 2 Lt. Christine Farr, who is with the W.R.A.C. detachment in Chester. Everyone was delighted when 2 Lt. Farr brought her mother, who had served in the A.T.S. in the Second World War, on to the stage. An even greater burst of applause accompanied the unexpected appearance of her grandmother, Mrs. Knock, who served with the Q.M.A.A.C.

The spirit of reunion was certainly captured that evening in the link of past and present.

MESSAGE TO NORTHERN IRELAND

At the Annual General Meeting of the Association held in the Duke of York's Headquarters, London, on Saturday 18th March 1972, the Meeting unanimously

agreed that a message be sent to all our Members, both serving and Ex-Service in Northern Ireland, assuring them that they are very much in our thoughts during these difficult and anxious times.

On being informed of this during the Reunion, our President Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent particularly wished to be associated with the message.

A message has since been received from the Area Chairman Northern Ireland to say how delighted they all were to receive the message. It gave them great pleasure to know that our President and Members of the Association were thinking of them at this difficult time.

Northern Area

The Northern Area Reunion will be held in the Crescent Room, Royal Bath Assembly Rooms, Harrogate, on Saturday 30th September 1972, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Guest Speaker will be the Director, Brigadier S. A. E. Heaney. Tickets, 50p. including refreshments, may be obtained from A.D.W.R.A.C., H.Q. Northern Command York.

Please send stamped addressed envelope with remittance by Thursday 21st September 1972.

Report of Council

1971 was an active year in the Association. The reorganisation of Headquarter Area, authorised at the last Annual General Meeting, has proved successful, and Council are grateful for the co-operation of members and, in particular, of Branch Secretaries.

Council is very pleased to report the reopening of York Branch and the formation of Newcastle-on-Tyne and Greater London Branches. Approval has also been given for the Devon and Exeter Branch to be formed.

The Sale of Work held after the Annual General Meeting last year was most successful, and we were able to hand over the sum of £115.53 to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund and £52.26 for the Association. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all members for this splendid effort.

Council met four times during the year, and a wide range of subjects were considered. The Executive Committee also met when necessary, to arrange among other business, the Grand Reunion to be held this evening.

A most enjoyable and successful reunion was held by Scottish Area in Ayr last April, when members from all over Scotland and also from South of the Border, travelled to be with them. Successful reunions were also held by No. 2 Sub Area Southern Area, and by Western and Northern Areas.

The Association has been represented on the Co-ordinating Committee, The World Veterans Federation and on the Women's Royal Voluntary Services Council.

Members attended the Service of Dedication at the Field of Remembrance at Westminster in Abbey November, when a cross was planted on our behalf by Lieutenant Colonel Forbes Adam, A.D.W.R.A.C., London District.

Our wreath was laid at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday by Mrs. L. Leslie of Brighton Branch, who was supported by other members of the Association. Some members attended the Service of Remembrance in Westminster Abbey.

During the year, Mrs. Scraggs continued to collect and sell used British postage stamps in aid of the Benevolent Fund. Council thank her sincerely for her unflinching work on behalf of the Fund.

We are most grateful to the branches who have continued to support the Benevolent Fund and The Princess Royal's Memorial Fund, and, once again, we appeal to all branches to try and send some donation however small. Help is always needed by our less fortunate old comrades, these are difficult times and the increasing need for help is apparent, as you will hear when the Chairman of the Trustees gives her report later on.

Council extends thanks too, to members who are kind enough to send us their trading stamps. This is a great help in providing prizes for our Fund raising efforts and the stamps are most welcome.

Area and Branch officers have, as always, given loyal and untiring support throughout the year. I deeply appreciate the time that is given so willingly by everyone to keep the Association a really live concern.

As members are aware, Major E. B. Dixon, who has been our General Secretary for the past ten years, retired at the end of January. Council wish to record on behalf of the Association, their very sincere appreciation and gratitude for all she has done. Major Dixon has worked unceasingly, always cheerfully and willingly. She has been a loyal friend to us all.

As we would expect, she is continuing to help others and is working for the Royal British Legion near Haslemere. We wish her every possible success and happiness in her new job.

We are very pleased to welcome Colonel Lipscomb as our new General Secretary. Colonel Lipscomb, is of course, already well known to many members and we hope she will enjoy the work and be very happy with us.

Although this next item is not strictly to do with my report on the work during 1971, I feel I cannot end without referring to the forthcoming move of our Headquarters to the W.R.A.C. Centre at Guildford.

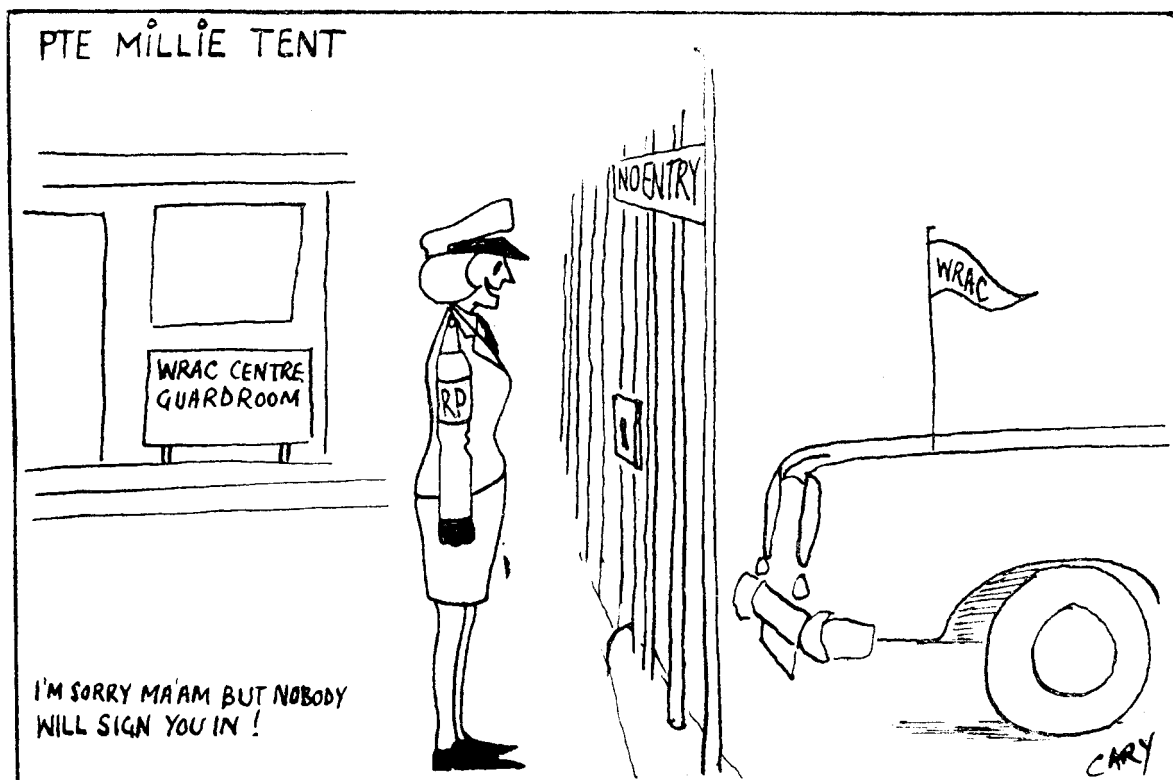
It is sad to be leaving the Duke of York's Headquarters after so long, but Council is most grateful to Brigadier Weldon for allowing us to continue to hold Council Meetings here, also meetings such as this one today.

We are moving at the end of this month, to brand new offices specially built for Corps Headquarters. Being accommodated in the W.R.A.C. Centre will mean that our ties with the Corps will be even greater than they are now, and this will be very helpful for the Association.

The move to Guildford means that we shall lose Lieutenant Colonel Millington our Editor of the *Lioness*, but not until the end of May. Council wish to thank her for the tremendous amount of work she has done so well, we are going to miss her very much and extend our very best wishes for the future. Mrs. Aggleton, secretary of the Benevolent Fund is also unable to work at Guildford and we thank her too for her excellent work. We have had very loyal and friendly service from all our staff here and it is sad that Mrs. Begley will not be coming with the office to Guildford. We ask for the co-operation of all members while our new staff are settling in and getting the new office started, and we look forward to another full and busy year.

Visit to the Norwegian Women's Services by Director, Women's Royal Army Corps

AT the invitation of the Chief of Defence Norway, D.W.R.N.S., D.W.R.A.F., and I went to Norway on Easter Monday.



We were met by the Inspector of the Norwegian Army, Navy and Air Force Women's Services and the Inspector of the Home Guard Women's Service. The Home Guard approximates to our T.A.V.R. but is being completely separated from the Army. The four Inspectors visited us in 1976.

In Oslo after being briefed at the new Ministry of Defence building—and entertained by the Chief of Staff to a magnificent lunch—we went to the N.A.T.O. South Norway Command for further briefing.

The next day we set off on a trooping flight for North Norway where most of the Norwegian forces are stationed. We alighted at Kirkenes which is a few kilometres from the Russian border. There we met the Border Commissioner and learnt that despite the "frontierwire" on the Russian side of the border there were certain joint Russian/Norwegian hydro electric projects.

The country we flew over was magnificently beautiful. There was still deep snow lying but the sun was bright and when the wind was not blowing it was not really as cold as we had expected. We were too early to see the midnight sun which does not appear until May. We then flew gradually southwards to Bodö and H.Q. North Norway. We were still north of the Arctic circle. At all the places we stopped, whether just for a couple of hours or overnight, we were shown various Army, Navy

and Air Force installations.

We were wined, dined and entertained most hospitably wherever we went.

Until one has actually covered the terrain it is difficult to realise that the distance from the South to the North of Norway is as far as from London to Naples. It is difficult too to realise that North Norway lies east of Istanbul.

The Norwegian Women's Services are not at present organised as we are. In peace the members of the Army Women's Service are civilians working in Army units and formation H.Q. They only assume military status when exercising in the field with their units/formations. They do however receive equal pay and though they do not carry arms they are trained in winter warfare and survival techniques because of their role. Their range of trades is very like ours.

Their Home Guard, like our T.A.V.R., do annual training and are eligible for callout in an emergency.

We thoroughly enjoyed our visit. To move seven Women Service Directors, together with their enormous pile of luggage, on such an itinerary was we realised a major operation. We were most grateful to all those who made it possible—not least Major Elizabeth Sveri, Inspector of Norwegian Women's Services who is the present Chairman of the Women's Council of the Norwegian Armed Forces.

Iceland

ICELAND has been described as a land of fire and ice and in a sense this is true, the active volcanoes, particularly Hekla and Askja have erupted within the last few years, then there are huge areas inland that are permanent ice-caps, and thermal activity in many districts.

The very name Iceland is enough to put off tourists, this inhospitable name was given by one of the first settlers when, according to an old Saga, he saw fjords full of ice, but I have visited the island in 1969 and again in 1971 and I can vouch for it being a fascinating place to visit.

About half the population live in the capital Reykjavik which is now a pleasant and bustling city of about 90,000. Here are to be found shops selling everything one wants, a splendid National Museum, a theatre and many more places of interest. Their Parliament, called the Althing, was founded in the year 930. The religion is mainly Lutheran.

The busy port is near the shopping centre and is well worth a visit. There are several open spaces with nice lawns and flower beds, I was told the senior school children plant the flowers when they break up for the long summer holidays. In the residential suburbs the gardens have lawns and many had a clump of rhubarb which is almost the only edible plant they can grow.

Reykjavik is a clean city, most of the houses and hotels are heated by boiling water from natural hot springs, at its source the water is at boiling point. No dogs are allowed except on a lead.

The Icelanders, who are Europeans, are friendly to visitors, I found them ready to help, almost all spoke English (a favourite reply to my query whether they understood English was "a leetle") if they felt their directions were not adequate they would walk with me to point out a street or shop I had asked for.

The name Reykjavik was given by an early Norse chieftain about the year 874 and it means "Smokey Bay". It is so named because of the hot steam rising from thermal springs in the neighbourhood. It did not begin to emerge as a town until the end of the 18th century.

The main airport for Iceland is at Keflavik about 25 miles from the capital served by a good concrete road mostly through lava fields, it is used by the United Nations. There is a smaller airport at Reykjavik, it is big enough to take Boeings as I landed there in a 727 in 1969 but this was unusual. Icelanders, no doubt due to the poor roads, are very air-minded, there are wayside landing strips in a number of regions.

I wondered whether I should find it cold on my first visit, but the air merely seemed fresh after four hours in a plane, this was in June. In July and part of August the temperature is usually in the upper fifties. Iceland being an island the weather is variable as in England.

I stayed in the large modern Hotel Saga about a mile from the centre of the city, my room on the seventh floor gave a panoramic view of the coast with the sea and small

islands beyond, the sunsets are very lovely, the sun hardly went out of sight when I was there.

Sight-seeing excursions and day tours enable the visitors to get a very good idea of what the island is like. They are not cheap but meals are included, food I found was one of the most expensive items, so much has to be imported.

A half-day tour to Krysuvik Hot Springs area gave me my first sight of steam jets coming out of the ground with tremendous force, with nearly boiling sulphur pool some large and some merely bubbling puddles. Near this phenomenon, where slight earthquakes are not unknown, there are no houses, on one side a range of volcanic mountains with steam issuing from them at various heights. Farther away there is some rough herbage amongst the lava fields, giving food for a few ponies and sheep. Some miles away we saw the residence of the President of Iceland and the chapel, and here the fields were of lush grass.

At Akureyri we joined a bus for a long and interesting drive to Lake Myvatn. We stopped to see Godafoss (waterfall), not Iceland's biggest, but in my opinion the most beautiful in a setting of green grass. Rivers have to be crossed by bridges which are very high and narrow because when the winter snows melt any low bridges would be carried away by the weight of water. Lake Myvatn has an area of 14 square miles, it is the home of some 150,000 ducks of many species, these are strictly preserved.

The whole area is highly volcanic and contains more steam jets, and boiling mud pools. After lunch, and enjoying the excellent local trout, we went to a cave where the younger people were able to swim in the warm water after creeping through boulders almost blocking the entrance. Going back towards the lake we saw the "Black Castles" so called because it is walled in and mounded with fantastic formations of black lava rock, just as they cooled after some giant eruption centuries ago.

By contrast, another tour takes one to the village of Hveragerdi with its many greenhouses that are heated by hot water from innumerable hot springs in the area. There were many species of pot plants, and I was able to buy some tomatoes, they were bigger than those grown in this country and the plants are bigger too, but the quality was excellent. Grapes and even bananas were grown, but the latter are still in the experimental stage.

Leaving here, we went through fertile countryside that provides pasture for ponies and sheep. We visited a geyser that 'performed' every few minutes.

After some miles we were able to see the famous (or infamous) volcano Hekla, a big lump of a mountain with snow on its slopes. Over the centuries the eruptions have caused untold damage, as recently as 1970 there was a 'small' eruption. It is near the Thjorsa valley, which takes its name from Iceland's greatest river and was a fertile and flourishing valley of farms. Now only two remain, the

others were overrun by eruptions of Hekla as long ago as 1104. Some of the farms that were buried in lava and volcanic ash have been excavated and some of the buildings with their turf walls have been roofed over, so one gets a little idea of how these people lived before tragedy struck. On the way back it was interesting to see the two remaining farms with their herds of dairy cows. Hekla was in sight only a few miles away and one hoped they too would not be destroyed by an eruption at some later date.

Another tour of a different nature was to the Westman Islands that lie some miles off the south coast. The plane left Reykjavik at 0830 reaching Heimaey at 0900 hours; this is the only inhabited island of the group with a population of about 5,000. There are a number of rocky islets with a summer population of one or two sheep to eat the grass.

Here in Heimaey is Iceland's biggest fishing fleet, trawling for cod in the winter and herring in the summer, and a few other species of fish. There is a good natural harbour surrounded by high cliffs. No water is found on the island, so that, and electric power, come from Iceland in subterranean pipes.

We were taken round the island by car, our Western Islander driver gave us all sorts of interesting details about the island. I was struck by the good pastures, and we saw patches of potatoes growing, (this is not possible on the mainland), the climate being rather milder though with a greater rainfall. We were told it was a windy island, however on that day it was calm, but the weather is unpredictable. Anywhere round the shores of Iceland very little sailing is done, though my husband sailed to Reykjavik from England in a 9 tonner forty years ago.

Fishing is evidently a profitable industry, and Iceland's main one, but it is a rough and sometimes dangerous one. They are particularly busy during the winter months in the Westman Islands; most of the fish is exported on ice by sea, but they manufacture fish meal in quite a big way.

In Heimaey harbour we saw Arctic Tern swimming over the water, being particularly interested in the effluent from the fish meal factories! On the cliffs every cranny was full of Puffins, these are caught for food but there seemed no risk of extermination from the numbers we saw.

From the cliffs we were able to see the new island of Surtsey that suddenly rose from the sea in 1963, much to the consternation of some men who were fishing nearby and who saw black and white columns of ash and vapour jumping a 100 foot out of the sea, twisting their boat around, it is now the second largest in the Westman group of islands.

For those who have no urge to sunbathe on holiday Iceland gives one the unique opportunity for a holiday that is different.

D.A.P.

Unit News

W.R.A.C. COLLEGE

SINCE our last report, life has been very busy at the W.R.A.C. College.

At the beginning of January we welcomed Colonel A. Field to the College in her new appointment as Commandant, and on 14th January 1972 we bade "farewell" to Colonel R. M. Green after her three years as Commandant. Colonel Green was dined out in traditional style by the Sergeants' Mess and Officers' Mess. As a surprise for her, the W.R.A.C. Staff Band Orchestra appeared in the Officers' Mess, and the dinner was a very moving and memorable occasion. As a parting gift Colonel Green gave us a framed manuscript copy of the Corps Collect, for the Chapel of St. Peter and a beautifully illustrated framed History of the W.R.A.C. College which hangs in the Assembly Hall.

W.O. & N.C.O. Wing has seen changes in the New Year. Captain Joyce Edwards left us after three years, to go to her new appointment at the R.M.P. Training Centre at Chichester. In her place we welcome Captain Audrey Purton, who has reluctantly discarded her red forage cap. W.O. II Helen Hayes left us in January to take her new position as Training Sergeant Major to the Kenyan Women Forces. We welcome W.O. II Marie Templeman in her place. W.O. & N.C.O. Wing has been training its first Kenyan Students, and Officer Cadet Wing has been doing the same. At the moment there are three Kenyan Officer Cadets on the Short Commissioning Course, and two on the long Commissioning Course, and they will be the first Kenyan Women Army Officers.

The new term in Officer Cadet Wing has brought many new faces. Capt. Diana Erskine left us at Christmas to go to Cyprus, and we welcome Capt. Penny Hollingbury in her place. There are now eleven junior Officer Cadets, as well as the six seniors, and the Short Commissioning Course comprises of fourteen Student Officers and Officer Cadets, who are due to take up their new appointments at the end of March. These include three non-nursing Q.A.R.A.N.C. Candidates.

On Monday, 10th January 1972, The Camberley Council attended a presentation and Buffet Supper at the W.R.A.C. College. Fifty-two Council Members and their wives or husbands attended this function with the Chairman of the Council, Mr. E. Goodchild. The presentation on the Training carried out at the W.R.A.C. College was given in the Assembly Hall, and all Council Members seemed favourably impressed. After the presentation the Members of the Council were entertained to a Buffet Supper in the Officers' Mess before they left. Mr. Goodchild, on behalf of the Council, thanked the Commandant and her staff for a most enjoyable and enlightening evening. The Council expressed its appreciation the next day by sending a lovely sheaf of flowers to the Commandant.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Christmas

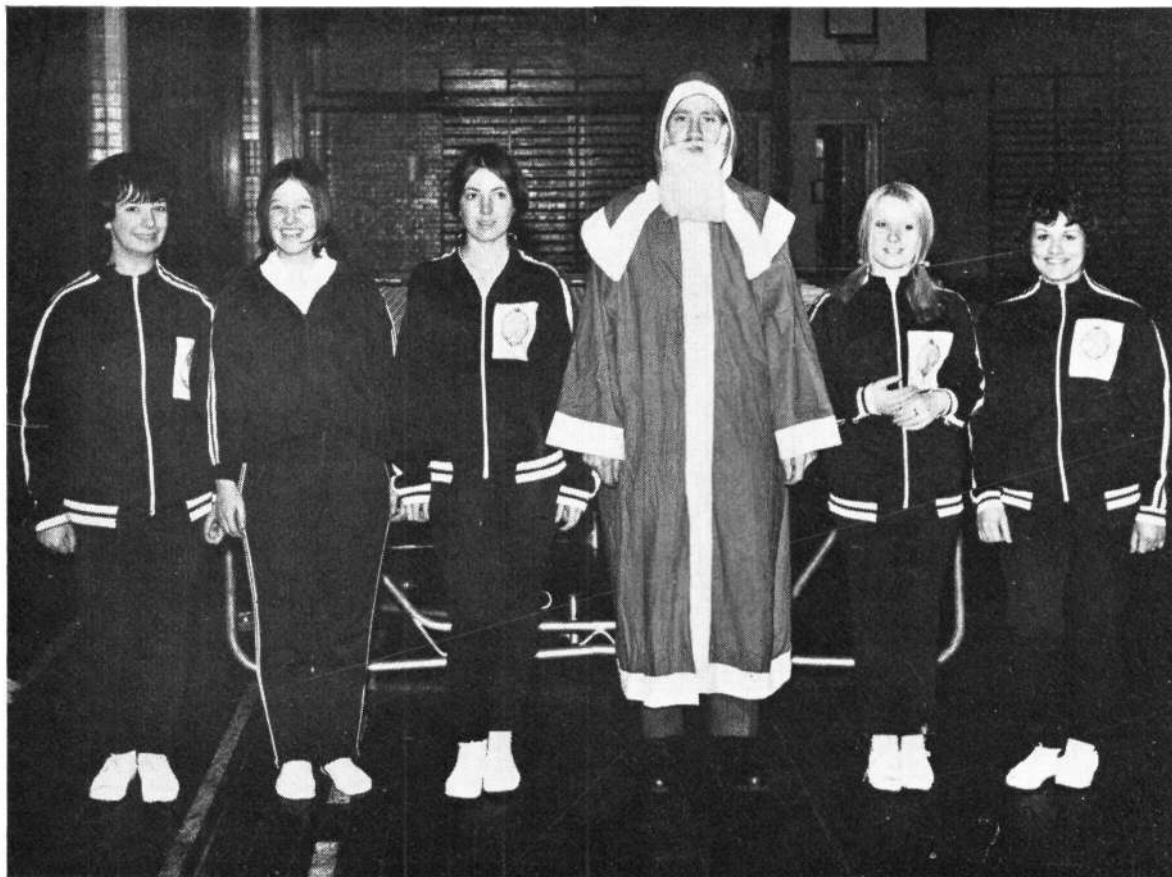
CHRISTMAS is always a time for goodwill and this is particularly relevant in Northern Ireland at the moment. So many people in Ulster were kind enough to invite troops home to provide them with a little Christmas cheer, that the girls of the W.R.A.C Element decided they would like to return some of the kindness.

Two events were organised, the first of which was a P.T. and trampoline display at Thompson House, which is a home for permanently disabled people, situated next door to Thiepval Barracks. On Thursday 23rd December, a party of the girls assisted by Lcpl. Fuller, our trainee male P.T.I., arrived at Thompson House and set up a carpet of judo mats outside the front glassed-in veranda. The first part of the display, which was watched by nearly all the residents, was a display P.T. Lesson given by Lcpl. Joy Bradley, our P.T.I. The members of the team were Pte. Gerry Hopcroft, Pte. Alison Campbell, Pte. Lyn Kelly and Pte. Chris Fradgley. This was a very professional display, and the girls seemed to be enjoying themselves despite the nippy air. The second

sequence was a trampoline display by all members of the team finishing up with the expertise of Lcpl. Bradley, who is a trampoline instructor. Her display was interrupted by Lcpl. Fuller who gave a very good performance in a joint clowning act which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Afterwards all the residents and the team joined in a sing-song led by Mr. Max McCulloch who works on the camp, and who had volunteered to come along with his guitar and sing some songs. The team finished a very enjoyable afternoon with a sumptuous tea laid on by the Matron, Miss Russell.

The second event took a certain amount of organising and we began to notice strange objects around the place in the shape of large jars with the words "Give Generously" written on them. This was an effort to raise money to buy Christmas presents for the children who were in Musgrave Park Hospital on Christmas Day. The jars were supplemented by a disco organised by Lcpl. Marian Amos, and our thanks go to the Cpls. Club for providing the rooms and to 233 Sig. Sqn. who lent their disco free of charge.



Christmas in Northern Ireland L/Cpls. Joy Bradley, Terry Fuller, Marion Amos, Ptes. Chris Fradgley and Lyn Kelly.

The response was so overwhelming that we were able to buy a large present for each child, also for the oldest man in the hospital.

On Christmas morning Lcpl. Bradley, Lcpl. Amos and Lcpl. Fuller descended on Musgrave Park Hospital armed with their gifts. They were immediately swept into a round of festivities which included dressing Lcpl. Fuller as Father Christmas and pulling him and the girls around the hospital on a sledge. They ended up in Military Wing talking to the soldiers in the wards and joining in the Military Wing Christmas Party.

Both these ventures were a great success and our congratulations go to all the girls for their generous aid and organisation. In particular we must thank Lcpl. Bradley who was the originator of the ideas and who worked so very hard to make them a success.

Miss Telephone Voice Northern Ireland 1972

Northern Ireland Telephone Exchange is a vital link in the present busy times, and the W.R.A.C. Switchboard Operators who run the Exchange have earned a reputation for efficiency, courtesy and charm. In recognition of this, it was decided to run an annual competition for "Miss Telephone Voice Northern Ireland".

We were looking for a voice that had personality, clarity, politeness, helpfulness and alertness, and in a few weeks we had ten names out of twenty for the finals. The voices

were tape recorded in an interview and given numbers and the four judges, Major Ironmonger, O.C. W.R.A.C., C.S.M. Brook, W.R.A.C., Major Leonard, O.C. 223 Signal Sqn, and Yeoman French, 233 Signal Sqn., awarded them points.

They were quite unanimous in their decision. The winner was Lcpl. Jane Purdie who joined us in September 1971 after two and a half year in Singapore.

On Monday 28th February a blushing Lcpl. Jane Purdie was presented by Major Leonard with a kiss and the Miss Telephone Voice Cup which now has pride of place in the Exchange, and a small cup for her to keep as a reminder of her victory.

OPENING OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS TRADE TRAINING SCHOOL

DURING 1971 the new Royal Signal Trade Training School in Vimy Lines, Catterick was completed, and taken into use. This magnificent three-storey building, set in landscaped grounds, must be in startling contrast to many people's image of Catterick as a collection of primitive, semi-derelict wooden huts on a bleak storm-swept moor.

For the first time, about ninety per cent of Royal Signals training can take place under one roof. More than a thousand students attend the school each day, on about ninety different courses. About sixty-five different types of courses are run, varying from A.C.F. and C.C.F. one week courses to technicians courses lasting over a year. There are usually about ninety W.R.A.C. students on basic communications centre operator and switchboard operator courses, several W.R.A.C. corporals or sergeants attending data telegraphist courses and often also a course of W.R.A.C. (T.A.V.R.) trainees.

On 24th September 1971, the Prime Minister came to Catterick to open the new school. He was received by a guard of junior signalmen, and spoke to many of them and their parents. It was impossible for him to visit every part of the school, but he was taken on a quick tour of representative areas, one which has the switchboard operating rooms, where a W.R.A.C. course was under instruction, and where he spoke to Sgt. C. W. Emery W.R.A.C., one of the instructors. Returning to the Main Hall the Prime Minister made a short speech, in which he recalled the occasion during the last war, when with his battery, in transit to Northumberland, he had to spend Christmas Day in Catterick—"without doubt the most unhappy Christmas of my life!" He said, however, that he was enjoying his second visit very much more and that he was most impressed by the alert and confident manner of the soldiers and the way they answered his questions quickly and correctly, something to which he was quite unaccustomed in his dealings with politicians!

The Prime Minister then unveiled a commemorative plaque, and was shown a steel box, designed to be sealed into the floor and to be left unopened for a hundred years, containing decimal and pre-decimal modern coins, a



"L/Cpl. Jane Purdie Miss Telephone Voice Northern Ireland"

coin from the Roman Garrison of Cataractonium which occupied the same site as the present camp, local and national newspapers, a bottle of N.A.A.F.I. brandy, one tin of Compo rations and other papers and objects chosen to represent to posterity the way of life of the present-day inhabitants of Catterick.

After luncheon the Prime Minister met a representative party of service women in the informal atmosphere of Harewood Junior Ranks Club. A Q.A.R.A.N.C. party from the military hospital were introduced first on account of their seniority. "Seniority in age?" he said, looking in surprise at the young student nurses, but was assured that their seniority related to their military history.

Mr. Heath was then introduced to a group of W.R.A.C., all trades serving in Catterick being represented. He shook hands with everyone and spoke to them all, asking about their work, and their homes, and whether they enjoyed Army life. Hearing that Lcpl. J. M. Horton, clerk at District Headquarters, went sailing at West Hartlepool on sports afternoons, he asked her what class of boat she sailed in and whether she had done any racing. W.O.I. Stead, Deputy Programming Officer of the school, with S/sgt. B. Henderson and Sgt. B. A. Jackson both employed as instructors, were standing together, and with these three in particular, Mr. Heath had a most serious conversation about the organisation of the work of the school. Obviously it was not possible to present all the W.R.A.C. trainees, and therefore only the leaders of the courses were introduced, and the Prime Minister asked them where they hoped to be posted and wished them luck with the rest of their training. Lastly he met Sgt. K. C. Robertson, W.R.A.C. Provost, and spoke with her of the Prime Minister's conference in Singapore, where she had been on duty.

The Prime Minister spent about twenty minutes at this informal gathering and said afterwards how delighted he had been and how keen and cheerful they were. They themselves were most impressed by his interest in everyone he spoke to and by his concentration, consideration and attention to detail.



Mr. Heath with some of the course leaders at Catterick.

68 SQN. R.C.T.

International Bodensee Wandering

"Three days—three countries" was the attractive slogan of this 100 kms. wander around the beautiful Lake Constance (Bodensee). Each year in September, many hundreds of people gather in Romanshorn in Switzerland before walking together through the magnificent scenery of Austria, Switzerland and Germany.

68 Sqn R.C.T.'s "Oofin" team decided this was a challenge worthy of their Nijmegen-hardened feet, so on 22 September 71 saw the advance party of 5 R.C.T. and one cook left for Romanshorn to set up 'base camp', followed the next day by the remaining 2 R.C.T. and 7 W.R.A.C. team members.

The next leg of the journey, a ferry trip from Friederichshafen (Germany) to Romanshorn (Switzerland) was made more interesting by the fact that we had to unload and carry our gear 200 yds. from where the vehicles were secured to the boat. The rear party only just made it—skidding to a halt beside people and seats festooned with sleeping bags, rucksacks and suitcases.

We ate a very welcome hot meal on our arrival before disentangling the mysteries of how to put our camp beds together. Despite warnings, one or two of us still contrived to end up on the ground, feet in the air, after sitting or lying with our weight in the wrong place. On trying to get an early night, we discovered to our horror that we were camped almost directly beneath a clock tower which chimed every quarter of an hour. At midnight, the mumbles heard coming from the depths of sleeping bags were particularly uncomplimentary.

By 0645 hrs. on Friday 24 September, we were again on our way to Friederichshafen where the day's walk in Germany was to begin. From there, we walked along the lake-side with hundreds of others from all over Europe. There was husband and wife teams, Master/mistress and dog teams, hearty singing teams and even severely handicapped entrants who showed tremendous courage and endurance throughout.

The scenery was superb. Small villages were splashed with glorious window boxes of colour. The slopes were covered with orchards laden with apples and pears, protected from birds by strange screeching noises cut short by a recorded rifle shot and followed by a sad and rather surprised 'dying duck' sound. After being ferried from Meersburg to Mainau, we tramped through the town of Konstanz and Kreuzlinger to complete the round trip of 40 Kms. to Romanshorn.

Saturday's walk turned out to be a real 'killer'. Even the men struggled to keep going. We set out from Lindau before crossing into Austria to climb a 1064. metres (over 3,000 ft) hill, which was so steep and muddy at one point that only the combined strength of the men and our will power pulled us out and up to the top. The reward

for our perseverance was wonderful. Austria of "The Sound of Music" lay before us. Green hills and valleys were studded with sturdy wooden chalets and the still air was moved only by the contented 'clunking' of cow bells and the triumphant bursts of yodelling as hikers reached the top, before dropping down through cool pine woods to Bregenz and the ferry back to Romanshorn.

That night, despite aching muscles, we joined the other walkers in a huge hall in the Hotel Bodin for a concert of Tyrolean Folk Music. The highlight of the programme was the performance of a bespectacled nine-year old who held the vast audience spell-bound with beautifully controlled yodelling.

The concert ended with a Ceremony of Flags, a representative of each country taking part carrying the appropriate flag on stage and remaining until all were there and all National Anthems had been sung. Lcpl. Gaskin R.C.T. carried the flag of Great Britain.

Sunday found a somewhat depleted number of wanderers travelling by train to Roschurch for the starting point of the final 30 Kms. The long gentle slope to Kurhaus Landegg (734 metres—over 2000ft.) was almost easy compared with the rigours of the day before. Although the final run-in was disappointing because the path led alongside a railway line for several miles, it was soon forgotten in the pleasure of finding out that Pte. Duncombe had had a tremendous welcome as the first woman 'home'. 2/Lt. King and W.O. II Pickard made up the rear party arriving an hour later. They said they had to ensure no stragglers of 68 Sqn. were left behind!

Although we did not win the prize for the largest team entry (an R.C.T. team from Dusseldorf had 15 to our 13), we all received medals. We wondered as we watched a 69 year old woman and a 74 year old man go up for special prizes for the oldest walkers to complete the course, how we would fare in a 100 Kms 'Wander' at that age.

An exhausted but satisfied and cheerful team returned to Rheindahlen on Mon. 27 Sep. 71, with more confidence in themselves and their ability to endure hardship and persevere in the face of seemingly impossible conditions.

34th (N) SIGNAL REGIMENT (V)

The Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lt. Col. R. M. Stewart, fired everyone's enthusiasm so much by his talk on ski-ing that there was nothing else for it but to organise a weekend at the Army Ski Lodge at Aviemore. This was duly arranged and a "trial run" party of 18 went up to Aviemore from 7 to 9 January this year. The party included six women members of the Regiment, five W.R.A.C. and the Regiment's Medical Officer, Capt. Mary Skillen—just in case of accidents! Here is Pte. Wright's account of the weekend at Aviemore.

"We arrived at Rothiemurchus about 1845 after a good journey up by rail. S/Sgt. Higgins who had travelled up the previous day had cups of very welcomed hot

soup ready for us. On Saturday morning the weather was more like that of the Antarctic, high winds, snow and very cold. The road to the ski slopes was closed because of high snow drifts and even had we got there, the chair lift was not running due to the wind. Five of our party, including the C.O. went out walking, the rest went into Aviemore where facilities included a dry ski-slope, curling, ice skating, go-karting and a cinema. After lunch we were still unable to ski, so once again we all went into Aviemore. On Sunday we awoke to find that most of the snow had disappeared around the lodge, however, the road was now open, the chair lift working and we were at last going ski-ing. We were very lucky in having two very good Army Instructors, who under great strain showed a tremendous amount of patience—which was fortunate for the beginners. Almost everyone spent the better part of the morning sitting down in the snow, we found this the easiest way to stop!!! The C.O. and Paymaster 2 Lt. R. G. Chevis—the experts?—made frequent runs past us, just to show us how it should be done!!! After lunch, we tried again and found that most people had mastered the basic idea and were just starting really to enjoy it when it was time to leave. The only accidents were Capt. Skillen, our M.O., who fell out of the Landrover before we left Darlington, and R.Q.M.S. A. Sim, who suddenly ran out of snow whilst ski-ing and sprained his thumb.

Pte. Anita Smith may not be expert, yet in ski-ing, she is an expert in quite another field of sport—cricket. She is a playing member of Yorkshire Ladies Cricket Team and also plays for Civil Service Ladies and recently had the honour of being selected for trials for England Ladies "under 25s" but unfortunately was bowled out as she was just over the age limit.

10 COMPANY

WITHIN the space of three weeks, 10 Company has said 'farewell' to its two longest serving members—W.O. I E. Laister, B.E.M., and W.O. I D. J. Sturgess—who between them have completed a total of 54 years in Army catering. Both have been senior ranks for many years and have trained literally hundreds of cooks, many of whom must now be producing meals for their families throughout the whole of the country.

In their last appointments, Miss Sturges was the senior W.R.A.C. Instructor at the Army School of Catering, and Miss Laister was in charge of the Junior Ranks kitchen at The Duchess of Kent Barracks, Aldershot, producing meals for the W.R.A.C. of five units. Miss Laister was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal in 1971.

We thank them for their long and valuable service to the Corps, and in particular to 10 Company, and wish them both a very well earned, happy retirement.

W.R.A.C. COMPANY WOOLWICH

AT regular intervals a small group from the W.R.A.C. Company at Woolwich accompany one of the troops of 17 Trg. Regt. R.A. on a routine training exercise to Pippingford Park in Sussex.

On 3/4 February a group of stewardesses, drivers and

clerks accompanied Le Cateau Troop to Sussex staying overnight at Crowborough W.E.T.C. and travelling to Pippingford to take part in Absailing, rafting and Confidence Training. Lt. D. R. I. Berry, Lt. M. G. Howard-Ford and Lt. A. P. Johnson led the exercise with 2/Lt. Mary Palmer W.R.A.C.



Adventure Training at Pippingford

REGIMENTAL DINNER

ON Saturday, 11th March 1972, all the W.R.A.C. Officers presently serving in Scotland, both Regular and T. & A.V.R. held a Regimental Dinner to say farewell to Major General F. C. C. Graham, C.B., D.S.O., D.L., who was to retire on 1st April 1972 from his appointment as Honorary Colonel of W.R.A.C., T. & A.V.R., Scotland.

General Freddy, as he is known, was born at Arden-castle Castle, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire, he is the son of the late Sir Frederick Graham, Bart, 2nd Baronet of Larbert and Dunipace. Educated at Eton and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, he was gazetted to the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders in 1929 and later joined the 1st Btn of Shorncliffe.

A distinguished military career included command of

the 1st Btn. The Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders in the 8th Indian Division in Italy from 1944 to the end of the war. In October 1958 he was appointed colonel of The Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders—and still retains that honour—and six months later in the rank of Major General he became G.O.C. of the renowned 51st Highland Division.

On 1st May 1961, he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the 51st (Highland) Division /District, Women's Royal Army Corps, Territorial Army. He held this position until the Army Board of the Defence Council decided to terminate all Honorary Colonel appointments on 31st March 1967 as a result of the re-organisation of the Reserve Army. A new appointment of Honorary Colonel Women's Royal Army Corps T. & A.V.R., Scotland was created and General Freddy was selected for this appointment and has continued in this appointment to the present time.

The dinner was held in the H.Q. Scotland Officer's Mess at Craigiehall South Queensferry. The Mess is in a magnificent 17th Century house standing at the end of a long drive, a most impressive sight on arrival, an ideal setting for such an occasion. The guests included the Army Commander, Lt. Gen. Sir Henry Leask, Brig. S. A. E. Heaney, W.R.A.C., Col. L. M. Davies, Deputy Controller Commandant, W.R.A.C., and Col. The Lady Martha Bruce. The dinner was served by Communication Centre Operators and Switch-board operators of 242 Signal Sqn., wearing their Hunting Stewart Tartan skirts and by Communication Centre Operators of 32 (Scottish) Signal Regt (V) wearing their Red Grant Tartan skirts.

After dinner and the toasts, Major F. M. Cook, W.R.A.C., D.A.D.W.R.A.C., Scotland presented General Freddy with a silver paper knife with the W.R.A.C. Crest and proposed the toast of 'Our Honorary Colonel'. The General replied with a typically witty speech and reminisced about his experiences with the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C. and his time as Honorary Col. W.R.A.C., and was obviously touched at the warmth of the response to the toast.

After the speeches pipers from the 1st Btn. the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's) played a programme of pipe music which included 'The W.R.A.C. of the 51st', 'Queen Elizabeth' (The A.T.S. Pipe March) and 'General F.C.C. Graham'. They concluded with the March 'Happy we've been A'the'gither' which summed up the feelings of the whole evening, a very relaxed and happy occasion.

The End of an Era

ON the 31 December 1971 the name of the camp at Manorbier will change for perhaps the last time. From School to Royal School (albeit only an Element) and now to just a Range, the camp has seen many changes of name though the job carried out here has remained the same. That has been teaching soldiers the art of Air Defence.

To many the name of Manorbier can mean little. I doubt if many people when told of their posting knew exactly where they were going. But take a large map of Wales and on the south coast, almost as far west as you can go, you will find in small letters the name Manorbier, and that is us.

To those who have served here the name must bring back many memories; of winter gales and biting winds on the firing point, of summer evenings spent on either of the School's two secluded beaches, of the rugged coastline with its sandy coves so right for swimming and sunbathing. For the naturalist the country offered an unrivalled opportunity to watch wildlife, particularly seals, the rarer sea birds and wild flowers.

In 1939 the camp came into being when the School of Anti Aircraft Defence moved to Manorbier from Biggin

Hill. To start with it was an All Male preserve but it wasn't long before the A.T.S. arrived. They came to start with as cooks and stewardesses but soon they were being trained on radar and searchlights. During the war years something like 1400 A.T.S. learnt their trade here at Manorbier before they were posted out to join the mixed H.A.A. regiments who did such valuable work throughout the war. Today their W.R.A.C. successors are still serving as cooks, stewardesses and radar operators.

The Freedom of the town of Tenby was presented to the men and women of the School in July 1960, and the illuminated Freedom Scroll, together with its casket, stands in the hallway of the Officers' Mess. On 16 December 1970 the School of Artillery, Manorbier, for the last time exercised its right as Freemen of Tenby to march through the town with "Drums beating and bayonets fixed". On parade with the men were the W.R.A.C. who, as members of the School, shared this privilege.

The initial W.R.A.C. unit stationed here was 3 Indep Coy W.R.A.C. and it was to this unit that on 1 November 1961 H.R.H. The Princess Royal paid an official visit. In a busy day, Her Royal Highness toured the camp, seeing all the Company's members at work and meeting many of them. In the afternoon she watched a very successful shoot from the firing point. Her obvious interest in each individual Corps member meant a great deal to all those present at the time. The visit now forms part of the official history of the School.

On 1 November 1964 3 Indep Coy was disbanded, and the personnel became the School's own W.R.A.C. detachment, carried on the School's establishment as an integral part of the permanent staff.

And now the School is closing. On 1 January 1972 the camp once more finds a new sign outside the gates. All too soon for those who serve here the packing cases will be filled and moved to new places. Whatever you have felt while you have been stationed at Manorbier there is a pang at the thought that never again will you hear the name Manorbier on your posting order and that the W.R.A.C. are finally leaving this corner of Wales.

Away to the Snow

by

Ptes, Rose Holland, Ann Sim and Sylvia Gill

THIS article is written by three non pen-pushing drivers, of 68 Sqn. R.C.T., and we will do our best to tell you about our ski-ing courses in Germany and Austria. "Courses" officially, but to us it was an expenses free Winter Holiday.

Our first ski-ing expedition was in Harz mountains in North Germany. Here we really were on a course—25 of us from BAOR (and three visitors from U.K.) descended

upon the Army's Special Training Centre at Silberhutte to learn to ski. The first few days were fine (well except when we were falling over) and then disaster—the snow melted! We carried on bravely for a couple more days, our main tricks now, being to dodge the rocks and half tree trunks that lay uncovered.....ouch! Officially known as "rock hopping" I'm told.

After an introduction to the world of ski-ing at Silberhutte in December, ten of us were rounded up by Capt. Pearse to go and try our hand (well, feet) at ski-ing in Austria in January. Here in Lermoos at 4 Division Ski Meeting the snow was much better and the sun actually shone. We stayed in the Hotel Bellevue right in the centre of the village—our rooms looking out over the snow covered mountains and beautiful valleys.

With the help of a handsome Austrian Ski Instructor we were soon zooming up and down the lifts and thoroughly enjoying out antics on skis. After a week at Ski School we were ready to enter our first race (at least, Capt. Pearse thought we might manage to get from the top to the bottom of the course through a few poles without too many broken limbs). With the race due to start at 1300 hrs, we were all well installed in the mountain restaurant drinking Austrian gluvine from 12 o'clock onwards—Dutch courage! By 1 o'clock we hardly noticed the race—gluvine has that devastating effect! All went off well and we slid, skidded or skied our way to the finish. Pte. Nancy Pollock (from 16 Signal Regt.) did superbly and won the novices trophy, while Capt. Allison Rowe from Berlin Infantry Bde. won the Crosse Cup.

After a great 10 days in Lermoos we moved on (with the help of a landrover from 22 Signal Regt.) to the high ski resort of Ischgl where the BAOR Championships were being held. Here the ski-ing was even better—long, wide runs and not a rock or tree in sight! This time we stayed in the Hotel Fluchthorn—another typically Austrian "haus" which was very comfortable. We again went to Ski School, this time with a not quite so good looking an instructor, but nevertheless, we learnt a lot. After a week of good ski-ing it was time for another race—this time to ascertain the winner of the Macfie Cup and the Michell Cup.

The start of this race was set half way up the mountain, so having taken the lift to the top we had to ski down to the start. After many incidents (such as lost skis and one of our members nearly buried in the snow) we all made it to the start. It had begun to snow by this time, (just for our benefit!) and visibility was bad. However, we set off and although most of the novices fell at every other gate we eventually made it to the finish—that is except poor Alex Paciukanis who chose a big snowy bump to go over and twisted her knee. Sylvia succeeded in landing fiat on her back at the last stage—spectators and photographer cheering wildly and one ski disappearing over the edge of the hill! Not to be defeated she finished most gracefully on one ski! Pte. Judy Crossman from 4 Sqn.

16th Signal Regt., managed to fall less than the rest of us and finished up as winner of the Michell Cup for the best novice, while 2/Lt. Georgina Travers won the Macfie Cup with Capt. Ruth Pearse as runner-up.

After 2½ weeks in glorious Austria we were all sorry to leave but as we boarded the train and chugged out of Austria many of us vowed to come back next year.

Branch News

BIRMINGHAM. Distance, increasing transport costs, and age seem to be the major problems of the Birmingham Branch, making it difficult for members to attend Association functions—even Branch Meetings. However we do have a small group of members who turn up regularly to enjoy a chat and a cup of coffee. Twice during the year we have deserted the British Legion and met at the home of one of the members—an enjoyable and welcome change.

Three of us were able to visit Guildford on Corps Day last year and spent a very happy afternoon there. The Wolverhampton Branch Christmas/New Year Dinner was also attended by three members and, as usual, we enjoyed an excellent evening.

It is with much regret that we report the death of one of our members during the year—Miss E. Rigg. "Riggy" served with Q.M.A.A.C. during the 1914/18 War, at Bulford Camp and Abbeville. She had been a member of the Association for well over 40 years, having joined about 1923. "Riggy" had not been able to attend meetings for about two years prior to her death, due to failing health, but several members visited her regularly at the Nursing Home in Walsall where she spent her last years.

We hope that members of the Association living in the Midlands will spare time to visit Armex 72—a big Army Display which is being held at Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich, on 1st and 2nd July.

BOURNEMOUTH. Since our last report we have had a variety of doings at our monthly meeting. One particular evening we enjoyed immensely, several members met at Tuckton Bridge near Christchurch for an evening trip on the river to Mudeford and back. Then we were entertained by our Treasurer Miss Weightman at her flat to a Fish and Chip supper.

The A.G.M. was held in November and Mrs. Rumbold who had been President for many years resigned. In December we held the usual Christmas Party and finished with a film show given by two friends of one of our members.

We have gained four new members. Mrs. Scott has now come to live in Bournemouth, Lt. Col. Allerton, M.B.E., Mrs. Vaughan and Lt. Col. Tansley-Witt transferred from H.Q. Branch.

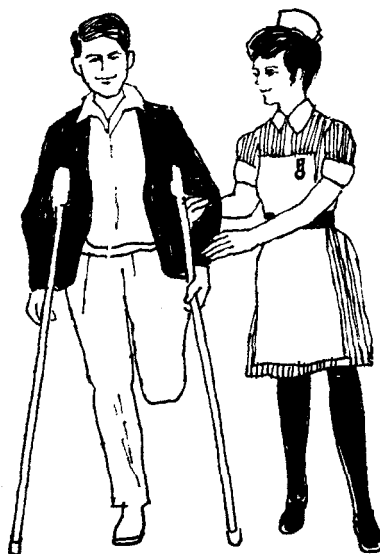
18,000 Limbless Ex-Servicemen need your help

We urgently need money to help these men to conquer their handicap. And to equip and maintain homes in which they convalesce and are given care and comfort in their old age.

We are not aided by the State. So we depend on you. These veterans gave much when they lost arms or legs or eyes fighting for their country. Now won't you give something? Please, please help.

Please remember them in your will and send a donation to Major the Earl of Ancaster, KCVO, TD, Midland Bank Limited, 60, West Smithfield, London EC1A 9DX.

BRITISH LIMBLESS EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION



The Annual Dinner was held in February and 20 members and their guests attended, and for the coming months we have a very interesting programme.

BRIGHTON. We continue to meet once a month and now have approximately 62 members, 29 of whom were transferred from H.Q. Area. We wrote to all of these H.Q. Area members, but only about nine were interested in joining in our Branch activities, owing to difficulties of distance, elderly relatives, ill health, etc.

Raffles were held at each meeting, and last November we had a Bring and Buy Sale which raised £10.29 and from this we sent £2.10 to the Benevolent Fund.

Six members attended the Open Day at Guildford, and in August we went to the garden of a private house in Hove which had been opened to the public under the National Gardens Scheme. In September we visited Preston Manor, which is a most interesting museum in Brighton near Preston Park and went on from there to a delicious tea at the home of our Chairman Miss Keene. In October we went by bus to Henfield and after a country walk enjoyed a cream tea in the village.

Three members marched on the London Remembrance Parade on 14th November, and one of these, Mrs. Leslie, laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. Two other members joined in the Civic Service at Brighton War

Memorial.

A party of seven went to the Theatre Royal in January to see Dickens' "Christmas Carol", and on the 7th February, 27 members and friends attended the Annual Dinner at the Duck and Decanter, East Street, Brighton and this was a great success.

DUMFRIESHIRE. Another successful year has passed and a few new members have been added to our numbers. 30 members attended the Scottish Reunion at Ayr on April 3rd 1971, and voted it the best yet; for which all credit is due to the ladies of Ayr Branch for making it so. Then in May, on an evening outing to Hireave Gardens, a National Trust property, we were lucky to see the spring flowers at their best on a lovely sunny evening. The weather favoured us too, on our Annual Summer Outing on a Sunday afternoon in July, when we visited Abbotsford House, as this was the special year for Sir Walter Scott fans. The usual warm welcome was given to us by Mrs. Patricia Maxwell-Scott, as she was in the A.T.S. at No. 10 T.C., at the same time as our Secretary. The yearly visit to Edinburgh Tattoo was well supported, as were the Beetle Drive in November, and Christmas Party in December. £10 was sent to the Benevolent Fund as proceeds from the Beetle Drive. But the highlight of our year was the 25th Anniversary Dinner, held

in the Cairndale Hotel, on March 9th of this year. All members and friends attended, and special cake had been baked and presented by Mrs. Marion Amos, one of the 15 original members present. This was cut by Lady MacFarlane, ex. Q.M.A.A.C., and the toast of the Association, and the Branch was proposed by the President, Captain E. M. Brown, T.D. Three congratulatory telegrams were read from Army friends who had been invited but were unable to attend.

GREATER LONDON. This Branch was formed last Autumn and the first meeting was held on November 10th 1971. Major E. B. Dixon welcomed the members and introduced Colonel L. M. Davies, C.B.E., who was elected Chairman. Lieutenant Colonel Millington, O.B.E., was made Treasurer, Mrs. V. P. Barrington Secretary, Mrs. H. M. McIntosh and Miss F. I. Head, Committee Members. At this meeting future meetings were discussed and it was followed by a short film show.

Our second meeting was held at the Officers' Mess, Duke of York's H.Q. on the 15th February, and in spite of the power cuts was well attended. Colonel L. M. Davies, C.B.E., was in the Chair, though illness prevented our Treasurer, Lieutenant Colonel Millington, O.B.E., being present. A river trip to Hampton Court on Saturday was arranged. Two illustrated talks were given, the first by two officers of the G.L.C. Fire Brigade, and the second by a Crime Prevention Officer of the Metropolitan Police. These were followed by an entertainment, and refreshments were served and very much appreciated.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 3rd October, 1972, at 7 p.m., also at the Duke of York's H.Q., where I hope all of our 92 members will be present.

Crossword Puzzle

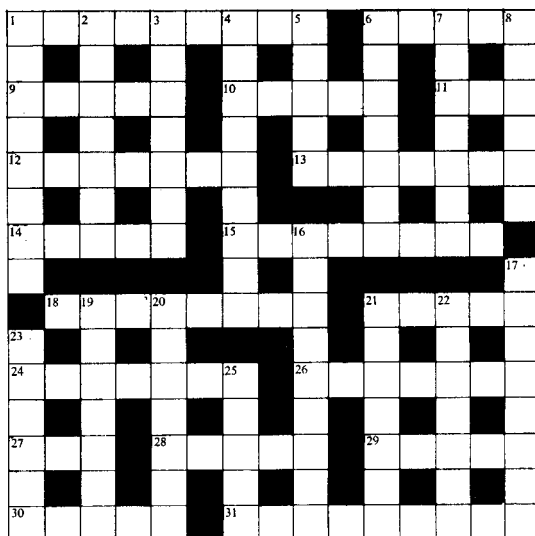
ACROSS

1. Usually disappears at the dentist's.
6. Tender
9. 'Aids and
10. Ends the day.
11. Deprive of.
12. Responsible for the horseman's seat.
13. What's left over.
14. Unsullied.
15. Permits.
18. Bring face to face.
21. He who plays the tune the payer calls for.
24. The unsinkable—which sank!
26. 'He that hath ears to hear'—does this.
27. Needed for a row.
28. Prepare for the journey?
29. Rub out.
30. Reasoning.
31. An unpopular income assessment.

DOWN

1. Perform the deed.
2. Should have been paid before now.
3. A pushing fellow.
4. A woman of low voice.
5. Keen.
6. A Turk or a seat.
7. Very hot spot.
8. Discount.
16. A district in Spain.
17. To search with gold in view?
19. To boast more than the other fellow.
20. Too much the enthusiast.
21. Those who pop the letters in make placards.
22. An introduction.
23. A leisurely walk.
25. Cast a spell.

Puzzle submitted by Miss I. Greaves of Leeds Branch.
The solution will be found on the last page.



Retirements

ON 23rd September 1972 Colonel R. (Billie) Hill retires after over 31 years Army service. She enlisted on 3rd July 1941 into the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (FANY) as a driver. After service with A.T.S. units including A.A. Command she was commissioned on 22nd October 1943. After attending the ATS Staff College in late 1944/early 1945, where she was awarded the symbol J.S.C. Colonel Hill was posted to the War Office in March 1945. There began her long association with the R.A.O.C. which terminates only because of her retirement.

Colonel Hill is the last serving member of a band of some 20 W.R.A.C. officers who after the War were offered careers with the R.A.O.C., with theoretical pro

motion prospects of one Lieutenant Colonel's post. Not only did she achieve this rank, but in direct competition with R.A.O.C. officers went on to full Colonel in an R.A.O.C. appointment. She is the only W.R.A.C. officer ever to hold such high rank outside her own Corps. If she had been a male officer there is not much doubt that she would have gone on to even higher rank (Women's Lib please note).

Most of her service has been spent in London in the exacting environment of Ministry of Defence, where decisions are all important, usually have to be made quickly and always have wide reaching effects. Her branch has been deeply involved amongst other things in logistic support of all the post World War II operations conducted by the British Army, ranging from the Korean War to Confrontation and from the Malayan Emergency to the present troubles in Northern Ireland. Many a unit whose vitally needed equipment arrived when required owes it to her.

She was made an M.B.E. in 1950 and an O.B.E. in 1963.

Colonel Hill has earned not only the respect of all her R.A.O.C. colleagues for her professional efficiency, but their admiration for remaining essentially feminine in a very demanding "man's world" (Women's Lib to note again).

The W.R.A.C. will, I hope, understand if, at the time of her retirement, we in the R.A.O.C. continue to think of her with affection as one of our Corps, a fellow officer with whom we are all proud to have served. She has made a unique contribution to the reputation and efficiency of the Corps of her adoption which we gratefully acknowledge. We wish her a happy retirement.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

This is the last edition of The Lioness to be published by our Editor Lieutenant Colonel Millington, who is retiring at the end of May this year.

I feel sure that all members of the Association would wish me to pay tribute to her.

In 1961 the first appointment on the staff of the newly formed Corps Headquarters was that of Lt. Colonel Millington.

I have looked up the May issue of the Lioness of that year, and find that, not surprisingly, the news of her appointment was received throughout the Association with unqualified pleasure, and also that "she found the lion cub roaring in her in tray as soon as she reported for duty".

Lt. Colonel Millington was well known to many members when she took up her appointment, now she will have made many many more friends.

During the eleven years she has been the Editor her lion cub has matured! There have been many difficulties to overcome, yet the Lioness has continued, unflinching, to drop through our letter boxes all over the world, and

has kept us all in touch with each other, preserving the friendly link between past and present. This means so much to so many of us.

We thank Colonel Millie most sincerely for her untiring work and good humoured forbearance in coping so successfully with a very big task.

We wish her every possible happiness in her retirement.

Officers' Postings

(up to 29 Feb. '72)

Colonel	R. M. Green, Col. G.S. M.O.D. (W.R.A.C. 1)
Colonel	A. Field, Commandant, W.R.A.C. College.
Lt.-Col.	M. U. Walker, A.D.W.R.A.C. H.Q. BAOR
Lt.-Col.	P. Norman, M.B.E., A.D.W.R.A.C. H.Q. Western Command
Lt.-Col.	H. Powell, A.D.W.R.A.C. H.Q. S.E. District
Lt.-Col.	J. Hands, Inspector, Institute of Army Education
Major	N. R. Burgin, D.A.D.W.R.A.C. H.Q. Southern Command
Major	D. A. Crofton, W.R.A.C. Centre—H.S.
Major	E. R. Denne, M.B.E., D.A.Q.M.G. H.Q. NEARELF
Major	P. M. Farwell, C.O.D. Bicester
Major	M. J. Hall, 4 Communications Unit.
Major	H. M. Hopkin, 15 A.E.C. Bicester
Major	V. C. Jones, 29 Company W.R.A.C.
Major	E. I. Millington, 10 Company W.R.A.C.
Major	A. J. Smith, R.M.C.S. (attending Army Staff Course)
Major	J. Wilson, W.R.A.C. Centre—H.S. (attached (M.O.D. M.2.))
A/Major	G. Dexter, R.P.O. Brighton
A/Major	P. Ineson, W.R.A.C. Training Team, Kenya
A/Major	S. Halsey, 16th Signal Regiment
A/Major	E. A. Robinson, W.R.A.C. Centre
Captain	J. L. M. Brady, H.Q. Dhekelia Area
Captain	J. M. Bunyan, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill
Captain	M. Y. Charlwood, M.O.D. (P.R. 9)
Captain	E. Tye, H.Q. BAOR (S.C. W.R.A.C. Provost)
Capt. (Q.M.)	E. K. Anton, W.R.A.C. Training Team, Kenya
Capt. (Q.M.)	E. J. Edwards, R.M.P. Training Centre
Capt. (Q.M.)	A. I. Purton, W.R.A.C. College
A/Capt.	S. P. Binns, 68 Squadron R.C.T.
A/Capt.	S. D. Campbell, H.Q. S.E. District
A/Capt.	A. L. C. Cunningham, W.S.L.O. London District
A/Capt.	D. J. Erskine, 262 Signal Squadron
A/Capt.	E. R. C. Flanders, H.Q. British Troops, Malta
A/Capt.	L. M. Ganter, R.A.C. Centre, Bovington
A/Capt.	P. A. Gray, Army Personnel Selection Group
A/Capt.	S. R. Green, H.Q. 1(B.R.) Corps
A/Capt.	H. R. Grimshaw, R.M.C.S. (attending degree course)
A/Capt.	P. S. E. Hollingbury, W.R.A.C. College
A/Capt.	E. A. Irvine, 13th Signal Regiment
A/Capt.	P. A. Laing-Norton, H.Q. Int. & Sy Group Germany
A/Capt.	A. M. Page, London District Provost Company
A/Capt.	A. M. Rowe, H.Q. Berlin Inf. Bde.
A/Capt.	G. B. Travers, H.Q. West London Admin. Staff
A/Capt.	R. G. Warne, H.Q. Western Command
A/Capt.	S. C. A. Wilson, W.R.A.C. College
Lieutenant	P. Brennan, W.R.A.C. Centre
Lieutenant	H. M. Cary, 8th Signal Regiment
Lieutenant	C. M. Crawford, J.A.R.I.C. (U.K.)
Lieutenant	P. M. Dukes, Q.A.R.A.N.C. Training Centre
Lieutenant	S. F. Healy, 242 Signal Squadron
Lieutenant	A. C. Spencer, 34 A.E.C. Rheindahlen
Lieutenant	R. Wheelock, 30th Signal Regiment
Lt. (Q.M.)	E. A. Henderson, W.R.A.C. College
2/Lt.	S. M. Arnold, W.R.A.C. College
2/Lt.	J. M. Ball, 16th Signal Regiment
2/Lt.	W. A. Barrett, W.S.L.O. Catterick
2/Lt.	R. M. Burns, 10th Signal Regiment
2/Lt.	L. D. Cowley, 29 Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lt.	P. J. Darnell, 12 Company W.R.A.C.
2/Lt.	B. A. Fraser, H.Q. Int. & Sy Group Germany
2/Lt.	K. M. Howie, 12 Training Regiment, R.C.T.
2/Lt.	T. A. Howie, W.R.A.C. Centre—H.S. (Attached 8th Signal Regiment)
2/Lt.	C. A. Howell, W.R.A.C. Centre—H.S. (Attached Tpt. Tp H.Q. Army S. strategic Command)
2/Lt.	S. I. F. Johncey, W.R.A.C. Centre—H.S. (Attached 10th Signal Regiment)
2/Lt.	M. A. Jones, 12 Company, W.R.A.C.
2/Lt.	S. P. L. Kavanagh, W.S.L.O. Plymouth
2/Lt.	D. Kinchin, 8th Signal Regiment
2/Lt.	A. E. Lovatt, W.R.A.C. Centre
2/Lt.	J. MacKay, W.R.A.C. Centre
2/Lt.	C. V. M. Monanaro, C.O.D. Bicester
2/Lt.	J. E. Neale, C.O.D. Donnington

2/Lt.	S. Osborne, J.L.R. R.A.	
2/Lt.	J. Pilkington, W.R.A.C. Centre	
2/Lt.	P. J. Parker W.S.L.O. Nottingham	
2/Lt.	S.D. Roberts, 29 Company, W.R.A.C.	
2/Lt.	P. J. Rigby, 68 Squadron, R.C.T.	
2/Lt.	R. G. Scoffham, W.R.A.C. Centre—H.S. (Attending Russian Course)	
2/Lt.	J. E. Segar, W.R.A.C. Centre	
2/Lt.	S. R. Stebbing, 12 Company W.R.A.C.	
2/Lt.	M. A. Stratford-Tuke, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill	
2/Lt.	S. A. Strong, W.R.A.C. Centre	
2/Lt.	S. F. Terry, 16th Signal Regiment	
2/Lt.	L. D. R. Watkin, Regimental Depot R.A.O.C.	
2/Lt.	E. J. Womack, Catering Officer, Military Hospital Catterick	
2/Lt.	C. A. Collins	} R.A.E.C. Centre—Course
2/Lt.	W. E. Coupe	
2/Lt.	B. M. Ferriday	
2/Lt.	C. A. Grigg	
2/Lt.	P. S. Mawer	

Warrant Officers' Postings

(1 Jan.—31 Mar. '72)

W/211528 W.O. II B. T. Lewis, H.Q. London District
 W/405187 W.O. II H. R. Haynes, W.R.A.C. Trg. Team Kenya
 W/342079 W.O. II C. H. Wales, H.Q. South West District
 W/416084 W.O. II J. L. Beresford, W.R.A.C. Det H.Q. U.K.L.F.
 W/350612 A/W.O. II B. Green, H.Q. Southern Command
 W/388819 A/W.O. II S. J. Mitchell, Ministry of Defence
 W/403744 A/W.O. II M. M. N. Lewis, Office of the Defence Attache, British Embassy, Bangkok
 W/408564 A/W.O. II M. I. Woolford, H.Q. Southern Command

Obituary

Miss J. Binns

BRADFORD Branch regret to announce the death of herself to all by her charming quiet manner. She was so proud of her service from 1941 to 1948 where she served as Post Corporal with No. 11 A.T.S. T.C. at the Royal Scots Depot, and at Honiton, Devon, until it was disbanded and she was then posted to Chilwell Group.

She rejoined Bradford Branch a year ago and endeared herself to all by her charming quiet manner. She was so proud of her service from 1941 to 1948 where she served as Post Corporal with No. 11 A.T.S. T.C. at the Royal Scots Depot, and at Honiton, Devon, until it was disbanded and she was then posted to Chilwell Group.

She was awarded a G.O.C.'s Certificate which along with other mementoes she treasured will be sent to the Museum at Guildford.

She was a very talented pianist for which she was awarded the A.L.C.M. and many certificates—and for the past few years she created a model of a snowy village on the sideboard of her home which had the children in the district spellbound. Her one regret was that her nostalgic letter in a previous issue of the Lioness did not have any results.

Miss H. Brown

M.C. writes

"May I notify you of the passing of Hilda Brown (nee Hartley) W.A.A.C. Rouen 1917-1919. We served to-

gether during that period and have kept in touch for over 50 years. I am very grieved at her passing.

She was in the first 500 members and had been in the Women's Legion which helped her when she joined the W.A.A.C. She was a good pal and very popular.

Within a few days of the Armistice being signed they were taken "Up the Line" and had a riotous reception from the troops who could not believe their eyes to see real British girls again.

Our memories are certainly sweet."

Miss E. M. Cadogan

Mrs. D. M. Keen

Miss C. M. Purves

Miss I. A. Turner, M.B.E.

Miss E. M. Willows

WE regret to announce the deaths of Miss E. M. Cadogan of North Staffordshire Branch, ex C.S.M. A.T.S. 1939-45.

Miss D. M. Keen of Canterbury Branch, ex.

Q.M.A.A.C.

Miss C. M. Purves of Edinburgh Branch, ex. Cpl. A.T.S. 1942-46 and a Life Member of the Association since 1948.

Miss I. A. Turner a Life Member of H.Q. Branch and former Unit Administrator Q.M.A.A.C. in France.

Miss E. M. Willows of Edinburgh Branch ex-L/Cpl. Cook A.T.S. 1942-44.

Mrs. D. Foscholo

HULL Branch announce with regret the death of Mrs. Daisy (Fossy) Foscholo on April 8th, aged 80. Mrs. Foscholo served in the A.T.S. from 1939-44, as an Admin. Sgt. and will be remembered with respect by her comrades from 173 and 266 (M) H.A.A. Btys, D Site, Paul, Yorkshire.

Miss J. Gallagher

WE regret to announce the death after a long illness of Miss Joan Gallagher. Many will remember her from her days at the W.R.A.C. Depot when she served on the C.U.D.R. Staff, and then as C.S.M. No. 2 Trg. Coy. In 1965 she left Guildford on promotion to R.S.M. to serve with the T.A. in York.

She left the W.R.A.C. on redundancy in 1967 and settled in York. Illness compelled her to leave York and return to her parents in Durham. She died in hospital on 9th January 1972, aged 77.

Sgt. M. Marshall W.R.A.C.

IT is with deep regret that we announce the death on 1st January of Sergeant Maureen Marshall W.R.A.C. in Limassol, Cyprus.

She came to Cyprus in December 1969 as Corporal McNair; she was promoted to Sergeant in March 1971 and worked as a Senior Clerk in 'Q' Branch H.Q. NEARELF. She was married in September 1971 to Sapper Paul Marshall R.E.

Her funeral, which was a military one, took place on Friday 7th January at Dhekelia and was followed by Interment at the Military Cemetery. Present at the funeral were Senior Officers, members of the Royal Engineer's, Women's Royal Army Corps and many personal friends.

The loss of her happy, friendly and kind personality is felt by all who knew her, and our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her young husband in his tragic loss.

Ex-Sgt. Doris Tomblin

E.M.S. writes

"Comrades who served with 'Dee' in 5 A.A. Group Signal Regiment will be saddened to hear of her death after a short illness at her home in Kettering.

She was a charming person and a very efficient Signals Sgt. at Kimberly, Hucknall and Gorleston G.O.R.

She was employed as a G.P.O. telephonist after her discharge."

Branch Meetings

(Visiting members welcome)

Aldershot	Fourth Tuesday of month at 7.30 p.m. in the Hollinghurst Club, Rhine Barracks, Aldershot (no meetings August and December 1972).
Bournemouth	First Wednesday of month at 7.30 p.m. in the One Up Restaurant, Holdenhurst Road.
Bradford	Third Monday of month in Binsey House, R.B.L. Headquarters, Bradford.
Brighton	Third Monday of month at 7.30 p.m. in the Y.M.C.A., Old Steine, Brighton.
Hull	First Friday of Month at 7.30 p.m. in the Drill Hall, Londesborough Street Barracks.
Liverpool	Third Wednesday of month in the R.B.L., 34 Rodney Street, Liverpool (no meetings January, July and August).
Stafford	Fourth Wednesday of month at 7.30 in Kitchener House, Lammascote Road, Stafford.
Wimbledon	Second Friday of month in the Wimbledon Community Centre, St. George's Road, S.W.19 (no meetings July and August).
Wolverhampton	Fourth Monday of month at 7.30 p.m. in The Study, Public Library, Snow Hill.

Branch Directory

List of Branch Secretaries

Aberdeen: Miss H. T. Donaldson, 30, Burnie Boozle Crescent, Aberdeen, AB1 8NP.

Aldershot: Miss K. N. Edwards, M.B.E., T.D., J.P., 16 Stovolds Way, Aldershot, Hants.

Ayrshire: Miss M. F. Basnett, 28, Kyle Street, Ayr. and Miss C. McQuaker, 134, Prestwick Road, Ayr.

Bath: Mrs. J. Ferguson, 161, Lime Grove Gardens, Pulteney Road, Bath.

Belfast: Mrs. P. Neilly, 382, Merville Garden Village, Newtonabbey, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland.

Birmingham: Mrs. M. Bolton, 26, Boden Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28.

Bournemouth: Mrs. A. Scott, 45A Ophir Road, Bournemouth, Hants.

Bradford: Mrs. E. M. Suttle, 9, St. Anne's Terrace, Baildon, Shipley, York

Brighton: Miss I. A. Durndall, 38, Toronto Terrace, Brighton Sussex. BN2 2UX.

Canterbury: Mrs. J. J. Wells, 29, Zealand Road, Canterbury, Kent.

Carlisle: Mrs. G. Romanis, 77, Carlisle Drive, Harraby, Carlisle, Cumberland.

Cheltenham: Miss M. Penford, 18 Keynsham Road, Cheltenham Glos.

Cheshire: Mrs. F. Hope, 31, Churton Road, Chester.

Dumfriesshire: Miss A. Gibson, "Tweedville", Eastfield Road, Dumfries.

Edinburgh: Miss P. E. Yeates, 20, Comely Bank Grove, Edinburgh EH4 1BU.

Glasgow: Miss D. A. Newton, 101, Mitre Road, Glasgow W4.

Guernsey: Miss L. Le. Q. Sarre, Les Puits, Havelet, St. Peter Port, Guernsey.

Greater London: Mrs. V. Barrington, 4, Barnstaple Mansions, 27, Rosebery Avenue, London, EC1R 4SN.

Harrogate: Miss M. Bradley, 60, West End Avenue, Harrogate, Yorks.

Headquarter Branch: Mrs. A. J. Stevenson, Tudor Cottage, Stanford Dingley, Reading RG7 6LX, Berks.

Hull: Mrs. L. M. Evison, 457, Beverley High Road, Hull, Yorks.

Ilford: Miss E. Holmes, 40, Shepherds Hill, Harold Wood, Essex.

Leeds: Mrs. M. Watson, 7 St. Chad's Rise, Leeds 6.

Leicester: Miss D. Doswell, 16, Brabazon Road, Cadby, Leicester.

Liverpool: Mrs. M. J. Barton, 3, Fairfield Avenue, Roby, Nr. Liverpool, Lancs.

London: Miss M. Slocombe, 48, Gorefield House, Alpha Place, Kilburn, N.W.6.

Lonsdale: Mrs. D. M. Grant, Brunton House, Scotforth, Lancaster.

Maidstone: Miss N. Court, Flat 6, 107, Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, Kent.

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

Newbury: Mrs. C. Jones, 53, Carling Way, Newbury, Berks.

Newcastle: Sgt. A. Wilkinson, 17, Cowpen Road, Blyth, Northumberland.

Omagh: Mrs. M. Roulston, 16, Rodgers Villas, Omagh, Co., Tyrone, N. Ireland.

Oxford: Mrs. M. A. Paton, M.B.E., 6, Napier Road, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 3JA.

Portsmouth: Miss I. Bray, 153, Clive Road, Fratton, Portsmouth, Hants.

Preston: Mrs. A. E. Bucklee, 346, St. George's Road, Preston, Lancs, PR1 6SJ.

Salisbury: Mrs. A. I. Bloom, 125 Church Road, Laverstock, Salisbury, Wilts.

Sheffield: Miss F. Bell, 60 Fairburn Drive, Stannington, Sheffield, Yorks, S6 5QL.

Southampton: Mrs. B. Keating, 2, Kendal Close, Chandlersford, Eastleigh, Hants.

Staffordshire North: Mrs. L. Rhodes, 27, Dartmouth Avenue, Newcastle, Staffs.

Stafford: Miss M. E. Norcott, "Greensleeves", 77, Salisbury Road, Stafford.

Ulster: Mrs. M. Wallace, 'Hillcrest', Greenbank Avenue, Donaghee, Co. Down, N. Ireland.

Weymouth: Mrs. J. Wratten, 29, Queensland Road, Westham, Weymouth, Dorset.

Wimbledon: Miss D. E. Lee, 9, Beaconsfield Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT5 9AW.

Wolverhampton: Mrs. M. Beeston, 60 Campion House, Heath Town, Wolverhampton, Staffs.

York: Mrs. J. Cockram, 136, Albemarle Road, York YO2 1HB.

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For Sale. Green greatcoat, bust 36", Height 5' 8". £10 o.n.o. Officer's beret, hardly worn £1.50 o.n.o. Major S. W. Foley (Retd.), Foxholes House, Crockerton, Warminster, Wilts.

For Sale. Green greatcoat size 40-30-42 Length 48" scarlet lining £18. Regimental frock £10. Beret size 7 £1. Box No. 1/72

For Sale. Officers No 3 Dress, size 12, unworn. Officer's Greatcoat size 12, little worn, excellent condition. Offers to Box No. 2/72.

For Sale. Mess Dress (made by Worth), size 36-26-38, height 5' 8", seldom worn. £20. No. 2 Dress £10. No. 1 Dress £5. Box No. 3/72.

Ex-Officers. Do you live in Sheffield, Manchester, Blackburn, Nottingham, Derby or Leicester? Did you enjoy your service in the Corps? If so, why not join the T.A.V.R. 28th Signal Regt. (V) would be pleased to hear from you if you can spare Tuesday evenings, an average of one weekend per month and 15 days Annual Camp. Regular Army rates of pay for days training, travelling expenses paid and an Annual Bounty on completion of commitment. If you are interested, please apply, giving brief details of yourself and your service to C.O. 38th Signal Regt. (V) Manor T.A.V.R., Mansfield Road, Sheffield S12 2AN. Specific Royal Signals experience is not essential.

Urgently Required by THE WOMEN DRIVERS ASSOCIATION in their recently opened Headquarters & Residential Club (catering for members and their husbands or other guests) at Ewhurst Place, Surrey, RESIDENT STAFF able to handle the domestic affairs of the Club. Ideal for 2, 3 or 4 friends as Cook-Housekeeper, Catering Cook, Waitress-Chambermaid, Cleaner, who would like to share excellent living accommodation in charming house situated in lovely countryside. Very friendly atmosphere. Drivers preferred but not essential—greatest importance is personal integrity, willingness and ability to accept responsibility. Write, call or 'phone (Ewhurst 351) to the Secretary, Miss Barber.

Vacancy for a Recruiting Sergeant (Army Women's Services) after 21st JULY 1972 at Army Careers Information Office, LEEDS. Applications are invited from Cpls & above, Q.A.R.A.N.C. or W.R.A.C. either due to leave the service or ex-service. Full details can be obtained from Major E. SCOTT, W.R.A.C., A.C.O. (W.S.), 36 Wellington Street, LEEDS LS1 2DL, Yorkshire.

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