

THE LIONESS

VOL XLV

OCTOBER 1972

No. 3



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WHO'S WHO

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31st December, 1972.

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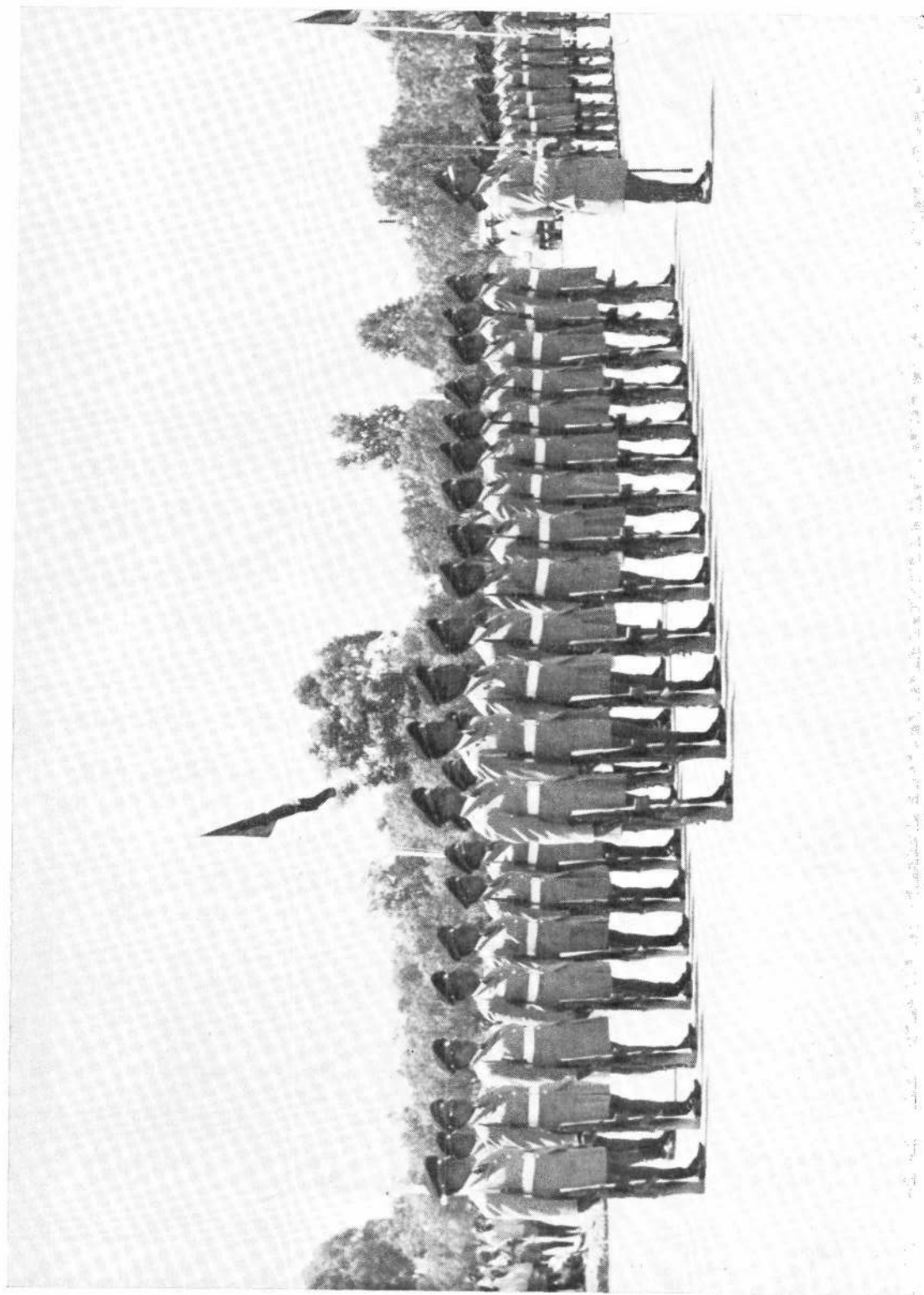
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Further particulars from:-

THE SECRETARY





Kenya Women's Service Corps Passing Out Parade



THE LIONESS

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Editorial

THE new editor is very pleased, not to say relieved, to have reached the point of launching her first edition of the *Lioness*, and hopes to retain the support of all former readers.

Corps H.Q. is now well settled in its new, comfortable offices at Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, and the only change now looming on the horizon is the posting to Hong Kong of the assistant editor. Whilst rejoicing with Captain Cary in her good fortune, the Editor cannot but express regret that their partnership, which seemed so promising, was so short lived. Nevertheless we are grateful to her for her enthusiastic assistance, and particularly for her excellent cartoons.

Whilst on the subject of cartoons, readers will find a prize competition in this issue, which takes the form of suggesting an apt caption to one of Captain Cary's cartoons.

Readers' attention is drawn to the Christmas shopping list appearing in this issue. Orders should be placed early (particularly for the diaries) and would readers please make their cheques or postal orders payable to the correct account, i.e., Corps H.Q. W.R.A.C.

In conclusion, please remember that your contributions (literary not financial necessarily) are essential to the future of the magazine. All contributions are welcomed except, that is, too many photographs without the attendant extra printing costs (£5.50 for a half page, £3 for a quarter page photograph)!

Dare we, with 75 shopping days still to go, wish you all a happy Christmas and good fortune in 1973!

Retirements

Lt. Col. M. S. F. Millington O.B.E., T.D.
by

Director Women's Royal Army Corps

IT is typical of Colonel Millington that in her last editorial when expressing her thanks to the former staff of Corps H.Q. and welcoming the new ones she omitted to make any mention of her own retirement after such long and valuable service to the Corps.

Colonel Millington is well known to a large number of serving and retired members both of the A.T.S. and W.R.A.C., having spent half her 22 years' service in the A.T.S. and half in the W.R.A.C. Shortly after her retire-

ment as a serving officer in 1960, she became in 1961 the first Retired Officer appointed to our newly established Corps H.Q., where she has devoted all her interest and time to Corps activities.

Under her efficient and kindly guidance the many activities based on Corps H.Q. have run smoothly over the years. It would be invidious to single out any particular aspect of Colonel Millington's work during the 11 years in which she sat weekly as Joint Secretary of the Benevolent Fund Grants Committee, organised H.Q. Mess parties, was a member of Council and was the mainspring of the *Lioness*, but each of the different organisations with which she was connected will have their own particular reasons for being grateful to her.

We are delighted that we shall continue to have the benefit of Colonel Millington's advice and experience as she has agreed to serve on the Grants Committee of the Benevolent Fund and she continues as a Museum Trustee—one of the founder members. She will, therefore, we hope be a frequent, and certainly a most welcome, visitor to the Centre, which when it was the Depot, she commanded, to which she moved Corps H.Q. so recently and from which she retired to enjoy a well earned rest.

We wish her every good fortune in her retirement.

W.R.A.C. Training Team Kenya

THE W.R.A.C. Training Team flew out from London on a damp and chilly evening on the 17th January. After a comfortable flight in a V.C. 10 we landed at Nairobi Airport in lovely warm sunshine. The team comprises Major P. Ineson, Captain (Q.M.) E. K. Anton, W.O.2 H. R. Haynes and S/Sgt. N. M. Miller.

We were met at the airport on the morning of the 18th by the Senior Military Adviser Colonel M. J. Harbage, O.B.E., the Defence Advisor Colonel B. C. L. Tayleur, O.B.E., and Lieutenant Colonel Mabwa the S.O. 1 Personnel of the Defence Headquarters.

For the first few weeks we all lived in an hotel. But in March we were glad to move out. The two S.N.C.Os are in a very comfortable flat, and the two officers in a bungalow.

One hundred and fifty recruits were enlisted into the Kenya Women's Service Corps in November 1971. They were given basic training at the Armed Forces Training College at Lanet. During this period they were taught basic drill, weapon training and field craft.

On the 20th March the W.R.A.C. Team went out to camp on the shores of Lake Baringo with all the recruits for three days. It was very hot and dusty and although the lake looked inviting we knew it to be full of crocodiles and although we were told that they only ate the lake fish, we decided not to put it to the test. The camp was administered by male officers and O.R. of the A.F.T.C. On the morning of the 21st we were rudely awakened from our slumbers at 0445 hrs. by the hundred and fifty women being shepherded down to the lake for their early morning wash regardless of the crocodiles.

The male demonstration platoon showed the use of bazookas, light machine guns and smoke flares. Some of the recruits were shown how to use the machine guns. After a lunch time break the recruits went swimming in the lake and boating.

The team settled down to enjoy a supper of compo stewed steak. During the preparation one member of the team succeeded in knocking the saucepan over. A lava flow of stew and carrots issued across the table cloth (sheet) towards two other members who after a moment's surprised pause scooped the mess into the pan. Subsequently the protein content was heightened due to the addition of numerous ants. The look on our own faces could only be captured in an illustration of Millie Tent. The camping gaz had gone over, and the table cloth caught fire. With great presence of mind the fourth member, who happened to be standing on two boxes of compo at the time put her delicate size 6 safari boot on the small flame and quenched the fire.

The same evening the male staff staged a battle attack, and blanks and thunder flashes crumped around the camp. The W.R.A.C. Team was, ostensibly neutral, but numerous thunder flashes landed between our two one hundred and sixty pounders.

On the 22nd camp was struck bright and early and the recruits set off back to Lanet.

We called in on a nearby snake farm. The owner kindly showed us round and we saw snakes being milked for their venom, and we were introduced to his two year old pet Cheetah which was very tame and a beautiful specimen. Not only is it a snake farm, but recently through lake water irrigation there is now a thriving melon growing industry. Over half a ton are harvested daily and air freighted to Europe.

Together with the male Army and Kenya Air Force recruits, the Women passed out at a parade on Thursday the 30th March. The inspection was carried out by His Excellency Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, C.G.H., M.P.

Five women cadets, three of whom attended the recent Short Course at Camberley were commissioned by the Mzee. The women marched off to the strains of the W.R.A.C. Corps March which sounded absolutely superb played by the Kenya Armed Forces Band. After the P.O.P. all the women went on leave and reported back on the 24th and 25th April to the W.S.C. camp, which is in the K.A.F. Eastleigh perimeter. A new self contained

barrack area is being built, but is not due for completion until August. Meanwhile they are accommodated in three old huts.

Having completed their basic training the women are about to start trade training courses at various training establishments in Nairobi. They will train as Clerks G.D., Clerks Pay, Cooks, Drivers, Communicators, Storewomen and Clerks Technical initially.

News from Abroad

News from members of the Association who have settled abroad is always welcome and we print below some news from Canada and New Zealand.

CANADA. Mrs. Doris Evans (nee Pilcher-Clayton formerly of Camps 3 and 10 Rouen) now of 350 East Second Street, North Vancouver B.C., wrote on 30th May and sent a contribution for the Association saying:—

"Yesterday I felt sad when I heard that the Duke of Windsor had died. When I was living in Alberta I met the Duke (then Prince of Wales) also spoke to the late Duke of Kent. In France I met Princess Mary. In 1938 I was with the veterans in Chilliwack, B.C., when the late King George VI visited there. Queen Elizabeth (now Queen Mother) spoke to me and the King talked to me for several minutes. Four years ago I was a patient in the Veterans' Hospital when Princess Alexandra visited us. I told her that I had spoken to her father when he and the Prince of Wales were staying at the latter's Ranch near High River. These are happy memories.

With all good wishes for the Association."

NEW ZEALAND. Miss Elizabeth Pike of 178 Valley Road, Henderson, Auckland 9, writes:—

"Being an English ex-W.R.A.C. and thus a subscriber to The Lioness I thought you might be interested to know that the New Zealand girls over here still have their reunions—although their Association was only formed in 1942. The Auckland Branch have been kind enough to accept me as a member, and I attend their get-togethers (usually a wine and cheese evening) and their reunions. We also parade on A.N.Z.A.C. Day (25th April) to the Cenotaph.

They have just celebrated their 30th anniversary, when over one hundred ex-W.A.A.Cs attended. I have never heard such a lot of women all talking and laughing at once, but the President had no trouble at all in silencing them, for as soon as she called order everyone was immediately quiet to hear her announcements.

We all met first in an upstairs room at the hotel for Punch Bowl and cocktails, and then went down to a wonderful dinner—(diet was forgotten that night by those who had to watch their weight!)

One of the members made a huge iced cake, with the following words written in silver:—

30th Re-union
Ex-W.A.A.C. Association
1942—1972

and I and another English lady were given the great honour of being asked to represent the U.K. and to cut the cake, the other lady having served with Q.M.A.A.C. in the first World War, and I as an ex-A.T.S. and ex-W.R.A.C. in the second World War. A reporter and a photographer were there, and as the photo of us cutting the cake is not too bad I thought you might care to reproduce it in The Lioness, so I am enclosing a copy. Some of our colleagues at Home might recognise us! I am the one at the back and Mrs. Daniels (nee Ball) is in front.

I receive The Lioness regularly and look forward to its arrival, as it is so nice to keep in touch with the folks at Home.

With sincere good wishes to you ALL."



Miss Elizabeth Pike and Mrs. Nellie Daniels representing the U.K. on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Ex-W.A.A.C. Association in Auckland, New Zealand.

Unit News

REGIMENTAL DEPOT R.A.O.C., BLACKDOWN

Official Opening of Blackdown Barracks by Her Majesty The Queen

After weeks of preparation and optimistic reliance on the probability of good weather attending Her Majesty's visit on 9th June, 1972, that day dawned more wetly than the greatest pessimist could possibly have foreseen. This weather continued until 1500 hrs. and then abruptly ceased and by 1530 hrs. or thereabouts, when Her Majesty The Queen was actually entering the W.R.A.C. accommodation, the sky was blue and virtually cloudless.

Her Majesty's inspection of the permanent staff, trainees and W.R.A.C. accommodation was very brief, being only a small part of her visit to Blackdown Barracks, but a great excitement for the entire Company. Everyone was privileged and delighted to see Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh at such close quarters.

ROYAL SCHOOL OF ARTILLERY

Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award

In November 1971, Cpl. E. R. J. Combe, now serving with the W.R.A.C. Battery, The Royal School of Artillery, was awarded the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award.

Cpl. Combe enlisted in October 1968 as a Stewardess and started work for her award at the National Defence College, Latimer in August 1970.

In order to obtain the award, she had to fulfil the requirements of the scheme:

Community Service, a 3 day Expedition, Design for Living and an Interest Subject over a period of two years.

Cpl. Combe instructed the 1st Latimer Pack of Brownies in Home Safety over one year and acted as a Mother's Help to Officer's wives as part of a Child Care Course. She also took a Beautician's course in Chesham and did six months practical work amongst the W.R.A.C. Detachment at Latimer.

Cpl. Combe chose riding as an Interest Subject and after spending a fortnight pony trekking in Edinburgh, achieved Pony Club B Standard, in both riding and stable management.

Cpl. Combe reached a satisfactory standard of training in map reading, the use of a compass, and understanding of the Country Code, taking part in a 36 mile expedition organised by the W.R.A.C. Company at Woolwich. The expedition was on Marlborough Downs and covered 2 days and 3 nights away from base.

Cpl. Combe's mother travelled from Scotland to be present at Buckingham Palace on 2 May 1972. The award was presented by His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, who spent some time talking to Cpl. Combe.



Corporal E. R. J. Combe with "James" from the Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill.

22 SQUADRON R.C.T.

Canoeing. In May of this year at the Army Canoe Championships 2/Lt. Carys Howell won the Ladies event in the rough water slalom held on the River Teifi at Llandysull.

2/Lt. Howell, whose birthplace is Aberdare, started canoeing seriously only last year after attending a basic course at the Army Outward Bound School at Towyn. Since then she has spent a great deal of her spare time canoeing, competing in several civilian events and training for the Army championships. The weekend previous to the Army Slalom, 2/Lt. Howell had attended the Army Surf Championships at Towyn and together with Ssgt. J. Cornforth, R. Signals, of the Army Outward Bound School, came second in the Surf Rescue Race—a team event involving the rescue of a "drowning patient" (2/Lt. Howell) by a canoeist.

Diving. Pte. Johnson, a driver recently posted to 22 Squadron R.C.T. at H.Q. U.K.L.F., is also working hard

in the field of water sports as a diver. Having spent a great deal of her spare time training, she was selected as a diver to represent the Army in their match against a civilian club on 15th/16th July. Also in July Pte. Johnson took part in the Army Championships, in which she came second and later went on to represent the Army in the Inter-Services Competition in August.

CENTRAL ORDNANCE, DEPOT, DONNINGTON

Pte. Helen McKenzie and Lcpl. Susan Donkin took part in their first International Rifle Shooting Competition this year, during the Bisley week.

This was their first taste of outdoor shooting and although neither was placed in matches, Pte. McKenzie competed exceptionally well in a very high standard competition, and her average score took her into the top half of her section.

Lcpl. Donkin was almost a non-starter. When she arrived at Bisley, she discovered that she had left the bolt of her rifle at C.O.D. Donnington—165 miles away. Thanks to the generosity of the A.C.C. School, Aldershot, she was able to borrow a bolt and did in fact take part.

Captain Peter Martin, Captain of the Army Small Bore Team, presented both women with brooches, fashioned in the shape of rifles, to mark the occasion.

Pte. MacKenzie also shot in the Shropshire Team for the Queen Alexandra Cup, and as one of the leading six scorers, received a medal from the National Small Bore Rifle Association.

It is proposed that both women will represent the W.R.A.C. in the R.A.O.C. Centenary Corps Week in September. This competition will also be held at Bisley.

W.R.A.C. Detachment, R.A.C. Centre

'In Passing'

IT would be easy to start with 'since last writing' but as there hasn't been a contribution from Bovington recently this is impossible. I would be prepared to bet that more than half the Corps does not even realize that the R.A.C. Centre in Dorset exists; far less, that there are two W.R.A.C. Detachments (albeit small ones). One at the Centre itself and the other at the Gunnery School near Lulworth Cove, an old smugglers' haunt. They certainly aren't places you pass on your way to somewhere else.

At Bovington, approximately 16 miles from 'civilisation' it is necessary to make one's own amusement, not the least of which is found in sport. Practically everything exists and the W.R.A.C. are welcome to join most activities including such things as sub-aqua, diving, sailing and beagling. Bovington and Lulworth combine for tournaments and the results (varied) of some of their attempts follow.

In January we entered the District Badminton and Cpl. Shirley Upshall came second in the Ladies Singles. Not to be daunted, on finding we were acceptable, the players went on to take part in the Command and Army Championships, finding as they progressed, partners for the Mixed Doubles!

At two practices we fielded a team of 'eight' to compete in the Army Bowling Championship at Wokingham. Lcpl. Jaynes Jones was then selected to bowl for the Army Team at the Inter-Services at Southampton two weeks later. Not long ago we tried our various hands at District Tennis which, to our complete amazement, we won—probably the first District level sport we have ever won! It must be admitted that it was a desperately close thing and even the last game was vital. Star of the Unit is Cpl. 'Budgie' Rosewall who recently deserted us to take part in the Gymnastic Display at Exercise NEW ENVOY and ARMEX. Shortly afterwards she came third in the Western Counties Diving Championship and is at present diving for the Army at the Inter-Service.

Most recent of our achievements has been that our Relay Swimming Team was placed second in the Southern Command Swimming Championships, a feat which has opened the way to participation in the Army Swimming Championships.

Hardly within the class of 'sport' but unusual nevertheless was the Lorry Driver of the Year Competition held at nearby Weymouth. Cpl. 'Collie' Collins entered at Regional level and though not outstandingly brilliant certainly did not come last, nor did she have an accident as one poor competitor did! She was even presented with a small prize for her efforts and strongly urged to compete next year.

Lcpl. Beverley Saunders (nee Marsh) and Pte. Liz MacDonald assisted the local Army Youth Team one weekend at Lyndhurst School and it is hoped that as a result there will shortly be a flood of Officers and Servicewomen recruits from that school. They certainly enjoyed themselves.

On the driving front Cpl. Collin and Lcpl. Jackie Barker (nee Battersby) were recently awarded R.O.S.P.A. certificates for an accident free year.

It was decided that sponge we would, no longer; and the Bovington Detachment has started to run a weekly Bingo. The proceeds go to Army Benevolent Funds and to buying extras for ourselves (other than our basic sports equipment). This has been such a success due to everyone's hard work that it has been necessary to open an official account to cope with it all.

The highlight of June (apart from the Tennis) was a Training Weekend, a variation of the established 'Regimental Weekend' which has previously happened three times a year here. The object was to work, to improve individual self-confidence and develop a greater sense of team spirit, in what was to be a relatively entertaining manner. Activities included the inevitable parade and drill (with N.C.Os doing Drill Mutual under instruction

for light relief). There were films, a lecture on current affairs, swimming, prepared (or unprepared) lectures, S.M.G. firing, a basic introduction to map reading and general knowledge quizzes. The climax on Sunday was a map reading exercise, a version of orienteering by car! The winning team of the weekend, i.e., the one which best avoided getting shot, drowned or lost, was given a small memento of its efforts while the runners-up received special commendation for their team effort which was, indeed worthy of praise. The standard of performance was high.

During the last six months we have had a 'caterer' and an 'educator' attached to us for approximately one week. Recently left for Germany is Lt. Janet Starbuck who on a rather longer attachment was working at 16 A.E.C. for 10 weeks. It is anticipated that only the strongest will survive the departure of the present Centre Regt, 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, in August and to those who plan to leave with them, as well as those who are sure to decide to go at the last minute, we wish every happiness. We have maintained a strength of six 'pads' for some time now and long may it continue. W.O. II Vi Brown also left us recently after less than a year here. Having previously done a long spell with T.A.V.R., it is hoped that this has not been too rude a re-introduction to Regular Service for her and we wish her all the best while congratulating her on her promotion.

R.A.V.C. TRAINING CENTRE W.R.A.C. Show Jumping Triumphs at The Royal Tournament 1972

by
Captain G. P. M. Brown

Each year at the Royal Tournament there are a number of equine competitions, namely Sword, Lance and Revolver, Tent Pegging and in Show jumping the King's Cup, Prince of Wales Cup, Team Jumping Cup and special Team Jumping Cup. All members of the armed forces are eligible to enter these competitions, provided they ride government owned horses, or animals which actually belong to them.

There are always vast numbers wanting to enter, including a contingent of W.R.A.C. Kennelmaid grooms from Melton Mowbray. This year we took seven girls and horses, and training began in earnest about two months before the event. We are very lucky here at Melton, since we have splendid facilities, and even more important very co-operative employers and staff!

The Commandant, Colonel H. W. Bishop agreed that the girls should be allowed to enter and Major R. A. Hill R.C.T. our equitation officer, afforded us maximum support and encouragement.

Ssgt Jones R.H.A. was responsible for the training and devoted much of his time and energy to this task. I rather think that at times he despaired of us, but his patience overcame most difficulties!



Lcpl. Whitfield, Pte. Potts and Pte. Wilson receiving their prize at the Royal Tournament 1972.

Consequently by 12th July, 1972, everyone was ready to migrate to London with their horses, and very much looking forward to living in the caravans at Earl's Court which were to be their homes. The daily work routine at Earl's Court begins at 0545 hrs., and seldom ends before 2100 hrs., making accommodation anywhere outside the immediate vicinity a tiresome flog. The caravans were a new venture, (viewed I think with much fear and trepidation at the offset by our overseers!) and we were most grateful to Col. and Mrs. F. H. F. Orr for the loan of one of them.

So now to the competitions. We were entered in all of the jumping competitions, for which there is a system of pools and sections providing successful competitors to go forward to the public performances, semi-finals and then finals.

Our competitors were Lcpl. Angela Whitfield, and Ptes Sue Potts, Carol Wilson, Linda Murray, Hilary McKenzie, Helen Beer and myself. In the individual competitions, most competitors reached the quarter finals, which in the face of very high competition is no mean achievement.

Out of the seven, three were chosen for the W.R.A.C. team, Lcpl. Whitfield and Ptes. Potts and Wilson, with Pte. Louise Jenkins as Chief Cheer Leader. The team trophies are very much sought after and there is a good

deal of friendly rivalry between Regiments and Corps. The special team jumping is basically for Corps and units who do not in their normal course of duty have government horses issued to them for service commitments, and the W.R.A.C. detachment falls within this category. This competition is run concurrently with the main team jumping, and other teams include R.M.A. Sandhurst, Royal Navy and Royal Marines. Faults are carried through from round to round in all competitions, up to the semi-finals, so it is essential that riders are consistent.

As the competition progressed it became apparent that not only were we the outright winners of the Special Team Cup, but also well on the way to reaching the semi-finals of the main team jumping. We were all delighted, and even more so when we were in fact one of the three teams selected. The others were the Household Cavalry 'B' team with no faults, and The King's Troop 'B' team with 3 faults. We were tying with the Household Cavalry with clear rounds. In the semi-finals all faults are wiped out, and everyone starts again. Our horses and riders went beautifully, but unfortunately we collected four faults as did the King's Troop, to carry through to the finals, on Saturday 29th July. Two horses from each team were to jump, the W.R.A.C. going first. Lcpl. Whitfield was most unlucky, and had a fence down, but Pte. Wilson went clear giving us a total

of 8 faults. This put us into third place, with the other two teams to jump off for first and second, with the Household Cavalry eventually coming top.

Overall added to our unit's other successes the R.A.V.C. Training Centre won the following places:—

Tent Pegging	— 1st	— Maj. Hill R.C.T.
King's Cup	— 1st	— Gnr. Dee R.H.A.
Special Team	— 1st	— W.R.A.C.
S.L.R.	— 2nd	— Maj. Hill R.C.T.
Prince of Wales Cup	— 3rd	— Maj. Hill R.C.T.
Team Jumping	— 3rd	— W.R.A.C.

Thus ended the Royal Tournament 1972—a very triumphant W.R.A.C. team, at last into the ribbons in competitions always won before by the experienced and talented male horsemen. Certainly a great achievement for all those involved, and also for those who helped, to whom we offer our heartfelt appreciation.

10th SIGNAL REGIMENT

Adventure at Applecross
by

Lcpl. S. Prescott and Lcpl. T. Hall.

APPLECROSS is a tiny village situated in a glen on the North West coast of Scotland in the county of Ross and Cromarty. To the west are the Islands of Rona and Rothsay and beyond is the Isle of Skye. It lies on the west of a peninsula and can only be reached by ferry boat or through the Pass of Cattle which rises to over 2,000 ft, so the small community is isolated and cut off in winter for long periods.

One of the significant aspects of Applecross, certainly the most important economically, is the West Highland School of Adventure. It forms part of the Dockland Settlements Organisation with Royal patronage in which Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret takes a personal interest. This School runs courses for teenage youths from all walks of life and twice a year runs a course for girls. As the School is organised principally for males, there is a golden opportunity for the W.R.A.C. to provide assistance on these two courses, and for the last three years members of the W.R.A.C. have been lucky enough to be able to help at the School.

In the spring of this year Lcpls. Sheala Prescott and Tina Hall were selected to go and eventually found themselves at Euston, confronted by the problem of how to move the mound of kit that they had. Fortunately, a lonely soldier came to the rescue. Having enlisted his help, a further problem presented itself as to what to do with him on the long journey to Inverness. This was solved by the two taking turns talking to him whilst the other slept.

The train thundered on through the night and eventually they could make out the hard, snow-covered hills of Scotland. Fantasy conjured up dreams—a desire to

run up the cold, icy hillside in the deep snow or, perhaps, to clean one's teeth, but this soon gave way to an eager search for Loch Ness and the monster, whilst in truth the railway goes nowhere near the Loch.

Inverness was reached at last, and breakfast, before joining the train for the Kyle of Lochalsh. With full daylight the scenery changed and numerous small villages came and went before they reached the end of the line and looked for the ferry. It looked so small but it took them to Toscaig where they were met by Tony Cardwell and driven to Applecross.

As the students did not arrive until the following day the empty lonely buildings caused the two a little apprehension. They were in separate rooms, so a few shouts to each other and the exhaustion of 24 hours travelling soon produced sleep.

A cold wet morning such as can only be found on the west coast of Scotland greeted them and both put on slacks and warm jumpers. They had little to do until the arrival of the girls in the late afternoon. Then came the sorting out as the girls were divided into watches, the two N.C.Os. vying with each other to have the best selection. When it was all over, the school came to life and they started to enjoy their stay, although five of the girls tried to run away soon afterwards.

The food generally was good and both complained about putting on too much weight. There was plenty of larking about—boots being filled with water, and Sheala found herself dumped in a bath of cold water!

Once the course started, everyone was shown how to set about camping, preparing the food, lighting stoves and cooking. There was also instruction in sailing and canoeing.

One camp was spent on the Island of Rona, where they could sunbathe until 9 o'clock at night. There was also a visit to the lighthouse where the keeper fed jam sandwiches to them all.

Of all the activities, Sheala preferred the climbing, although she was scared of heights. Rumour has it there was something about the instructor!

On the last evening the girls put on a concert. Sheala and Tina were given chocolates and in turn presented Mr. Watkins, the Warden with a 10th Signal Regiment shield. That night and the following morning saw many tears shed.

The two N.C.Os' last memory was the sight of the girls sitting on the floor of the bus which was taking everyone home, as it did not seem safe on the heights of the Pass of Cattle.

Lcpl. Prescott and Lcpl. Hall both enjoyed the responsibility of being in charge of a group of girls in the 13-14 years age bracket. They had to face problems which were similar to those they meet as N.C.Os, creating a team out of a group of people, and helping each girl as an individual, whilst trying to cope with unusual situations. They both enjoyed it very much and have returned enriched in experience and interests.



Pte. Teresa Fielding receiving her trophy from Brigadier T. K. N. Savage.

44 SQUADRON R.C.T.

The Savage Trophy

Tuesday, 21 March 1972, is a date that Pte. Teresa Fielding W.R.A.C. will remember for some time to come. On this day, she was voted "Best Driver in 44 Squadron R.C.T.", a title which she holds until October 1972.

Pte. Fielding, who joined 44 Squadron R.C.T. on 7 March, 1970, proved her worth by driving all classes of vehicles from Minis to Bedfords (4 tons) over thousands of miles, in heavy traffic, totally accident free. Her vehicles were always well maintained, setting a very high standard to the other drivers.

To congratulate her on this occasion and to present her with the "Savage Trophy" Brigadier T. I. N. Savage, C.T.M.O. of Southern Command visited the squadron accompanied by A.D.W.R.A.C. London District, O.C. W.R.A.C. Company and O.C. 44 Squadron R.C.T., (now redesignated 419 Troop R.C.T.).

W.R.A.C. COMPANY WOOLWICH

"XELAHU"—1972

The work up to 17th Training Regiment and Depot R.A.'s XELAHU cruise this year started with getting "Bombard", our G.P. 14 dinghy, ready for sailing. This on shore winter work was completed by Whitsun and we then started training under sail at Upnor, on the river Medway in Bosun dinghies, kindly made available to us by the Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham.

XELAHU's crew were selected for some knowledge of seamanship, a little experience and lots of enthusiasm. The crew—Lance Corporal C. A. Harper, Lcpl. B. R. Jackson, and two members of the Junior Musicians Troop, P. W. Ellingworth and P. H. Bennett, assembled at the Camper and Nicholson's yacht marina at Gosport, Hampshire on Thursday 1st June, 1972. We took over XELAHU. She is a Nicholson 32 10-ton off-shore yacht owned by the Royal Artillery Yacht Club.

The early part of the afternoon was spent in stowing the quantities of food, drink and a small amount of kit, and exploring the secrets of starting the engine and pumping the "heads". Both these items of equipment proved temperamental at times. After tea we practised sail drills and generally got to know how to work the boat under way.

The actual sailing programme was not as ambitious as we had hoped, due to the mainly wet and windy weather. However, Cowes, Yarmouth, Newtown, Bucklers Hard in the Beaulieu River, Hamble and Lymington were all visited, and in particular an unscheduled stop on the mud off "Jack in a Basket" coming into Lymington on Sunday 4th June.

Our week aboard XELAHU was voted a success. We learnt to handle an off-shore yacht, at times in difficult weather conditions. We learnt to live on shipboard and the male members occasionally tried their hand at cooking, under the critical eye of the girls but got their own back with some musical renderings on the oboe and bassoon. Some members of the crew never quite mastered the technique of rowing XELAHU's somewhat quaint rubber dinghy on a course other than a circular one.

L.D.B.-O.

68 SQUADRON R.C.T.

There are many sides to a driver's job here in Rheinland. On the one hand, some of the work is boring and repetitive with short trips and long waits. On the other hand, during the annual exercise at the Allied H.Q. in Brussels, eight of our W.R.A.C. Staff car drivers were on show before the world, driving some of the highest commanders of all the N.A.T.O. forces. On a more personal plane, but just as interesting was Pte. Fisher's minibus drive to the Austrian border with the Marching or 'Oofing' Team, whilst to Pte. Blackburn fell the 'plum' of driving her employing officer to Berlin and back.

It is a matter of some pride to the W.R.A.C. drivers in the Squadron that 8 out of the 10 who sat the Institute of Advanced Motorists' test passed. It resulted in an 'overkill' of publicity which will be almost impossible to equal the next time round!

Driving apart, we have taken part in an enormous range of social and sporting activities in the past year.

In September last year, a bus of W.R.A.C. descended on St. Goar to watch the "Rhine in Flames". After considerable wine tasting, we thought the fireworks were excellent, but are going again this year just to make sure.

The winter months saw 6 women attending the R.C.T. Winter Training Centre at Hinterstein in Bavaria, where they learned the basics of ski-ing. Ptes. Gill and Gilkes even tried the arduous cross country training. I believe

they were looking for the snow which was in very short supply this winter! Indeed, many lorry loads of snow had to be brought in to build up the course for the Army Championships, in which Lt. Sim and Ptes. Holland and Gill took part. They were selected from courses they attended in the Harz Mountains.

Other winter activities included hockey, netball, shooting, badminton, squash and table tennis, the last of which provided the most successful team. This consisted of 2/Lt. King, Ssgt. (now W.O. 2) Laycock, Ssgt. MacDougall and Pte. Ronald. They completed something of a 'Grand Slam' by winning the BAOR Inter Unit Championships, the U.K. Inter Zone Championships, virtually clearing the boards at the BAOR Individual Championships and forming the major part of the team which beat R.A.F.(G) in the Inter Services. The O.C. wanted more trophies for his display so what could we do?

With the arrival of our new P.T.I., Gpl. Thomson, we quickly followed up this success in the summer sports, running second only to 16 Signal Regiment in the Inter Unit Athletics, sharing the Inter Unit Tennis Trophy with 29 Coy W.R.A.C. and winning the Inter Unit Swimming Relay outright, and as we go to press the Rounders Team is preparing to go to U.K. for the Inter Zone Championships having just won the BAOR Cup.

Marching is as popular as ever, both as a sport and as a means of seeing Europe cheaply and in good company. Three women took part in the 2 day Swiss March, 5 in the 4 day Marche du Souvenir in the Ardennes and 2 in a combined 16 Signal Regiment/68 Squadron team which completed the gruelling 4 day March in Nijmegen (Holland). Congratulations to them on their determination, resilience and cheerfulness in the face of fatigue, heat, sore feet and aching joints.

With an ex-sailing soldier at the helm of the Squadron, we could hardly fail to take up this hobby too. Thus, after several courses of one week in (!) and on the Dummer See, 7 women have qualified as 'C' Class Helmsmen (Women) while at the end of September, 4 of our more intrepid types will go on to 'deeper' things at Kiel, where they will learn the art of offshore sailing in the Baltic.

Nine others are to attempt 'higher' things in September/October when they go on a Free Fall Parachuting course at Bad Lippspringe—so back to the winter cycle.

On a more mundane level, we have just returned from an N.B.C. training weekend at Haltern, near Munster, where we caused considerable interest among the local inhabitants and holidaymakers. Well, who wouldn't look twice at shapeless creatures mumbling dark mumblings beneath frog like masks?! The ordinary cross country driving was a great success and although we could not say we actually enjoyed the N.B.C. training itself, it was no mean achievement to have completed even part of it and by doing so, overcome instinctive panic and fear of the unknown, when eating and drinking in a gas atmosphere. It was called Exercise Gasbag, would you believe!

The social side of life is catered for by the 44(SIX) Club for junior ranks. Thanks to an energetic committee, the P.R.I. and an excellent carpenter/painter/driver, the premises have taken on a real club atmosphere, as opposed to the extended canteen appearance it had before. A function is held once a month, two of the more hilarious being a Pyjama Party, and a Tramps Ball. This does not include frequent and large celebrations by winning sports teams!

Meanwhile back at the Squadron, preparations are starting for the big annual inspection of vehicles in October, names for the next attempts at I.A.M. are being called for and the routine work goes on as normal.

One could say, if hit by a sudden burst of poetic genius, that "Life is great with 68" (Groan, Groan!)

W.R.A.C. Association News

Names of Members of Council

The President of the Association

Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent.

Vice President of the Association

(Deputy Controller Commandant of the W.R.A.C.)

Colonel L. M. Davies, C.B.E.

Life Vice Presidents of Council

Colonel C. E. Hammond, C.B.E., (Retd.).

Brigadier Dame Mary Railton, D.B.E.

Mrs. D. Russell Simpson.

Vice Presidents of Council

Colonel M. I. Crewe-Read, C.B.E., T.D., (Retd.).

Mrs. H. E. C. Weldon

Mrs. W. S. I. Whitelaw.

Colonel D. H. I. Wilson, O.B.E., (Retd.).

The Chairman of Council

Lieutenant Colonel R. J. King, O.B.E., J.P. (Retd.).

Vice Chairman of Council

Colonel M. D. M. Humphery, C.B.E. (Retd.).

Hon. Treasurer

Lieutenant Colonel A. R. Robertson, (Retd.).

The Director W.R.A.C.

Brigadier S. A. E. Heaney, M.B.E., T.D., Hon. A.D.C.

Commandant W.R.A.C. Centre

Colonel J. L. Rankin.

Commandant W.R.A.C. College.

Colonel A. Field.

Deputy O.I.C. Medical & Women's Services Manning and Record Office

Lieutenant Colonel V. I. Fisher.

Representative ex-Q.M.A.A.C.

Mrs. N. Giles.

2 Warrant Officers Nominated by the Director

W.O. I A. M. Kitchen.

W.O. I J. F. M. Whitehead.

Co-opted Members

Major K. Cooper (Retd.).

Colonel B. M. Metcalfe, M.B.E.

Area Representatives

Southern Lieutenant Colonel L. E. Holt, (Retd.).

Northern Lieutenant Colonel R. M. Engel

Colonel V. K. Stead, O.B.E., T.D., J.P. (Retd.).

Northern Major E. I. Ironmonger.

Ireland Mrs. S. Kerr.

Scottish Major F. M. Cook

Miss M. M. Thomson, T.D.

Western Lieutenant Colonel P. Norman, M.B.E.

Major K. Moorcroft, T.D. (Retd.).

Chairman A.T.S./W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund Managing Trustees.

Brigadier Dame Mary Railton, D.B.E.

Chairman Grants Committee A.T.S./W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund

Mrs. H. E. C. Weldon

Chairman Headquarter Branch

Mrs. A. J. Stevenson.

Ex. Director W.R.A.C.

(for 3 years wef September 1970)

Brigadier The Hon. Dame Mary Anderson, D.B.E.

General Secretary

Colonel P. M. Lipscomb, (Retd.).

W.R.A.C. Association Rules

To keep administrative costs down new rule books will not be printed at present. Members are asked to keep their books up-to-date by including the amendments approved at each Annual General Meeting.

ANNUAL BRANCH MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Duke of York's Headquarters, by kind permission of Brigadier H. E. C. Weldon, C.B.E., D.L., on Saturday the 17th March, 1973, at 3 p.m.

BRANCH SECRETARIES' MEETING

The Secretaries' Meeting will be held at 1130 at the Duke of York's Headquarters (the actual location will be published in the February Lioness) on Saturday the 17th March, 1973.

Members of Council look forward to meeting all Branch Secretaries for lunch as their guests.

Will Branch Secretaries please notify the General Secretary if they are able to attend.

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.

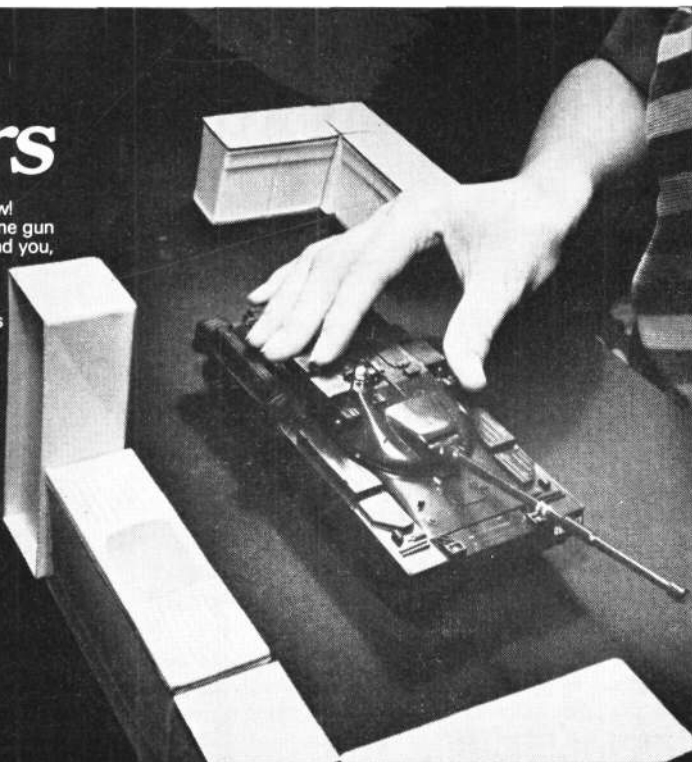
It's nice to enter a woman's kitchen as well, instead of that smelly army field canteen with its primus stoves and tea chest cupboards.

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SALE OF WORK

A Sale of Work will be held after the Annual General Meeting, proceeds to be given to The Princess Royal's Memorial Fund and the Association Funds.

Tea will be provided and tickets sold at the door. Full details of stalls and other attractions will be published in the February Lioness.

CHURCH SERVICE

A Church Service will be held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital Chelsea at 11 a.m. on Sunday the 18th March, 1973.

Q.M.A.A.C. REUNION

The Q.M.A.A.C. Reunion will be held in the Old Comrades Association Room at the Victory Club, Seymour Street, London, on Friday the 16th March, 1973, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets to include afternoon tea at 65p each. Tickets should be obtained from the General Secretary, W.R.A.C. Association before the 28th February, 1973; they will not be available for sale at the door. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with the application.

GRAND DRAW

A super Grand Draw is being sponsored by the Association in aid of the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund. The winning tickets will be drawn at the Annual General Meeting.

There are, at time of going to Press, some very exciting prizes, mostly donated. For instance, a six day holiday for two in the Austrian Tyrol in July; A Wallace Arnold tour of up to £50; two finals day Wimbledon tickets; voucher for two for the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket; two tickets for the Ebor Day York; a year's subscription to "Homes and Gardens"; and one for "Woman's Journal"; two seats for Trooping the Colour; two seats for a theatre; two tickets for a BBC Show with £5 towards expenses; an electric overblanket; an electric kettle; rose bushes; a £10 voucher for Marks and Spencers; a £5 voucher for Boots; and other attractive prizes.

Tickets are being sent to Areas and Branches. The Chairman hopes that everyone will make a great effort to sell all the tickets (at 5p each). Tickets will be available from the Association and members who feel they could help by selling are asked to apply to the General Secretary, sending a stamped addressed envelope.

HELPING HANDS

Below are two accounts of the way in which some members of the Corps spend their free time:—

WINGED FELLOWSHIP—HOLIDAYS FOR THE DISABLED

Pte. R. A. Matthews
Pte. M. R. Killey

Grange Farm in Essex, is a vast sports centre, and caters for all nationalities. It has a huge golf course, a lovely outdoor swimming pool, and various amenities for children, also riding stables, in fact it is one of the nicest parks, and sports centres in Great Britain.

Behind the Swimming Pool, is a long building, with open windows, and as you look in these windows, all that one can see is Wheel Chairs, and busy young people, catering for the needs of the disabled people, who occupy the chairs. This is a centre which gives a short holiday to the people who so badly need it. They were all disabled in one way or another, some worse than others, and it is a very humane service.

This was a working holiday for Pte. Matthews and myself, we were up at 0730 hrs, and started work at 0745 hrs. The mornings were very busy, these consisted of getting the guests ready for breakfast, and while we were getting them dressed, there were constant pleas for help from every direction.

The guests took breakfast at 0900 hrs. every morning, and one may say, well that it one hour and fifteen minutes to get them ready, that is plenty of time. Each helper had a room of four to look after, in some rooms it was easy, but in other rooms, you had maybe two or three guests who were completely disabled, and had to be lifted off their beds in the morning, and placed very gently in their wheel chairs, taken to the bathroom, and washed and dressed, and then taken into breakfast. This work is demanding, and used up most of our energy, but after setting the guests at their tables, if we did not have to feed them, we would have a few minutes rest, while eating our own breakfast.

It seemed that we were constantly tidying up after the guests, and we heard never ending tales of woe, but one could not help feeling sorry for the guests, they were so grateful for every little job that was done for them, even if it was only folding up a headscarf, or tying a bib round a neck just before he or she was having a meal. We were given two hours off every afternoon, and mostly we spent our time in the swimming pool, or shopping for some of the guests. We had one afternoon off a week, and this we used to take some of the guests into Chigwell Village, to look at some of the shops. We had got very fond of them by this time and were dreading leaving them when the time came.

Entertainment was arranged for the guests most even-

ings, but on one occasion, we had to put on a few old clothes, and do some sketches for them, that was the most enjoyable evening we had there, watching the old faces laugh and brighten up at our antics, made all the work worthwhile.

Usually at about 2100 hrs., the guests were given a bed time drink, and we ended our day the same way as we had started it, only this time in reverse, lifting them out of wheel chairs, then on to beds, where they had a quick wash, and finally tucked in for the night. Tidying the kitchen and setting the tables for morning, took about half an hour, then a quick drink of tea or coffee, we all went back to the caravan, leaving Paddy, the night nurse to take care of any emergencies.

These days were very long, and extremely tiring, but we loved every minute of it, and were sad when the time came for our departure. We had been dreading it, and when the time came and all the guests had said goodbye to us, amongst tears and smiles, and promises of letters to everyone, we left.

It was hard work, but it was a terrific holiday.

HELP THE AGED

Pte. Collymore
Pte. Rayworth
Pte. Turner

THREE members of the W.R.A.C. Troop, 12 Driver Training Regiment R.C.T. at Aldershot, helped to man a Tombola Stall at the R.C.T. "At Home" on Saturday 15th July, 1972, the proceeds of which were given to "Help the Aged". It is particularly pleasing that on this occasion the girls were co-operating with a member of the Association, Miss Underwood.



Ptes. Turner, Rayworth and Collymore at the Tombola Stall.

"Banned Notes"

IT seems that this is the first article from the Minstrels' department so we submit a few notes which we hope will be on the right lines, (or spaces).

The winter period contained the usual run of parades and guest nights; our Orchestra is in very popular demand for the latter. One innovation is the series of winter concerts held in the Centre, which are proving to be very popular and a similar series will be run this year commencing in October. During our last session, our Drum Major, Miss Carol Holland earned the title of the 'Dancing Drummy' for her splendid performance of a jig during The Irish Washerwoman.

The Season got under way in May. Known to Bands as "suitcase and sandwich time", this is when we really earn our keep. We know more about travelling than Cook's Tours and compared to our baggage parties, Pickfords are mere amateurs. After a visit to Butlins and one or two London Parks, we bade au revoir to Guildford and set sail for France. Most of us are fairly good sailors, judging by the amount of rum consumed. One illustrious member prefers Terra Firma, as she reckons the more Firma the less terror. However the Band Sgt. Major survived the voyage and we all came safely ashore at Dieppe. Our destination was Le Mans, where we arrived in good heart and were shown to our accommodation in two very nice hotels. The weekend was most enjoyable although it was hard work, but the social side of life compensated very well. The Band was very popular and, as always, played extremely well. Everyone seemed to master the essential phrases in the local tongue and at the party on the last evening we were very well wined and dined by our hosts. We just hope that we shall be invited back next year.

Once back to Guildford we were very sorry to have to bid farewell to our Band President Major Margaret Campbell, M.B.E. We did so in good style with a farewell party. We wish Major Campbell every happiness in her new job and thank her for all her help and encouragement during her tour at Guildford. On the subject of Band Presidents, we welcome Major Barbara Laverack, M.B.E., to the Music Box and hope she will enjoy her tour as our Band President.

On now to Massed Bands at Aldershot's "New Envoy". The Girls always enjoy these engagements, hardly surprisingly, surrounded as they are by masses of male musicians. We noticed an abundance of padres, eagerly awaiting their chance of Massed Wedding fees. After a brief respite it was off to West Bromwich for more Massed Bands at "Armex"; it has been suggested that an amalgamation of the W.R.A.C. Band and the Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards is imminent, but it is doubtful if it will ever get official approval. Perhaps the Green Jackets? At least the colour scheme fits. We are also considering changing the Corps March to "Nothing Like a Dame", in view of our popularity at Massed Bands!

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At the time of writing, we are just recovering from the third dose of Massed Bands where we massed with the Royal Artillery Bands at Larkhill. Our ears are still ringing from the bangs in 1812 and several nervous twitches have developed amongst the musicians.

By the time this edition is published we shall have been to France again, this time to Pol Sur Mer near Dunkirk. It is rumoured that we may even get some leave early in September. In October we are due to do a tour of schools in Welsh Wales; all the music will of course be played 'by yer'.

W.R.A.C. CORPS DAY 1973

Corps Day will be held at the W.R.A.C. Centre, Guildford, on Sunday 20th May, 1973.

This date is a little later than in the past in the hope of getting better weather than we had on the last Corps Day, when it was bitterly cold.

A letter giving details will be sent out to Districts and Association Branches from the W.R.A.C. Centre early in 1973.

Branch News

ALDRESHOT. Our membership this year has doubled owing to Headquarters distributing its members out to the branches. But even so this has made little difference to the attendance at monthly meetings as yet although it is hoped to see some of the new branch members when the weather gets settled.

The year has been full of varied events.

In April, we started with the ever popular Beetle drive. In May, Mrs. Dacre set us her Hampshire Competition which taxed members' brains somewhat because they found that their knowledge of the towns and villages at the other end of the county was rather lacking. We visited Mrs. Dacre's home in June. It was a lovely day and members thoroughly enjoyed the various competitions and the delightful tea she gave them. Also in June, a Tupperware party was held whilst in July, Mrs. Harris showed us her slides of the Bulb fields and the floats in the Annual Parade there. August saw the yearly scavenger hunt—in the rain as usual. A decision was made to try and hold outdoor events earlier in the year in future.

The Branch was hostess branch for the Sub Area 3 Reunion in September at which about 70 people attended. A visit was paid first to the Parachute Regiment Museum and then members had tea afterwards at Government House. This was particularly enjoyed because of the garden and delightful setting. This visit was made possible through the kindness of our Branch president Colonel Norman who arranged it for us. We were also very grateful to Miss McIntosh and various members of the W.R.A.C. College who helped with the arrangements. The September meeting was a new departure—a Dress party arranged by one of the Branch's first members Mrs. Dewar.

The Annual Dinner was held in October at the White Lyon at Hartley Wintney again this year. The rather unconventional setting seems to bring out a rather happy atmosphere. The Xmas Social was held in November, but no meeting in December because the date of the meeting falls so close to Xmas.

The New Year started off with a talk from the Organising Secretary from 'Homes for the Aged'. We also had visitors from the Army Wives' Group at this meeting. The speaker for our February meeting had to be cancelled because of the Bomb outrage at the nearby officers' mess that day. The Chairman and Secretary came in in case any members not knowing what had happened turned up. Several did so but even this small meeting had to be curtailed because the R.M.P.s came in to say there was a package on the corner that they did not like the look of and would members please leave the building. Members did so but were very glad to hear afterwards that this was a false alarm.

AYR. Our last report on Branch activities ended with our A.G.M. in March, 1971. On Saturday 3rd April, the Scottish Reunion was held in the Eglinton Rooms,

Ayr, an event which will be remembered with pleasure by all those who were present, and our thanks are especially due to Mrs. E. MacAndrew, Miss Etta Howie and Mrs. Marion Hay for all their hard work and ingenuity when faced with the difficulties of the postal strike. We enjoyed meeting so many friends, both new and old, some of whom had travelled long distances to be present.

On 21st April we had our Annual Country Dance and to wind up the Session we visited the gardens at Auchincruive, by Ayr, though unfortunately this was marred by torrential rain.

In September some of the Glasgow Members came through to Ayr and joined us for tea high at the Country Club and then on to the first house of the Gaiety Theatre.

The first meeting of our winter session was in October when Mrs. MacAndrew, Etta Howie and Marion Hay entertained us with "Echoes from the Reunion" and orders were taken for Christmas cards in aid of the Mentally Handicapped Association.

In November Mr. William Baillie gave us an interesting talk and demonstration of the method of polishing and setting jewellery of some of the semi-precious stones to be found in Ayrshire, and in December we had a lively evening of "Any Questions".

Our Annual Dinner was held in the Station Hotel, Ayr, in January, and was greatly enjoyed by all those present, and we were pleased to have the company of some of the Glasgow Members.

Our February meeting took the form of a demonstration of Boots No. 7 cosmetics, and our A.G.M. was held in March and was followed by a most interesting and informative talk on Iceland (illustrated with slides) by one of our members Miss I. F. Anderson.

CANTERBURY. Since our last report we have had meetings at least once a month, in March we had a Canterbury Theatre outing, in April we went to Guildford for 'Open Day'. May was another Theatre outing to Charing and in June we had a garden party at our President's home, she is Miss Machin and she lives at Charing. The July meeting was at a seaside beach hut at Whitstable and in August we met at the A.C.I.O. at Dover. In September we had a garden fete in Canterbury which enabled us to send £20 to the Benevolent Fund. Also in September, we met at a member's home at Bridge near Canterbury. Our annual Service was held at Willesborough near Ashford this year and our Standard was on parade as usual with escorts. Also in October some of us went to the Festival of Remembrance where our Standard took part in the parade of Standards and in November we held our Annual Dinner and A.G.M. in Canterbury. Members collected £65 for the British Legion Poppy Fund. The Standard attended all Canterbury City Parades including the Battle of Britain and the Remembrance Day parade.

We keep up a flow of knitted garments for children for the Benevolent Fund and collect Green Shield Stamps. Subscriptions are paid and Christmas presents given to

elderly or infirm members. We have a sick visitor who visits and takes small gifts.

We are lucky to have a member—Mrs. Croucher who makes things all year for our annual sale and a new member has also helped greatly this year.

CHELTHENHAM. In October the Branch held its October Meeting at Dowty House, Cheltenham. Regretfully we have heard that this room will not be available much longer and there will be difficulty in obtaining alternative accommodation which is so spacious and practical. The usual Branch Meeting was held, and then, a larger than usual Bring & Buy, with Raffle and Coffee and refreshments which realised a total of £22.89. Our thanks are due to all those who helped to make it such a success.

On December 8th we had our annual Christmas Party. About 35 members took part, and the usual cold Buffet supper was very much enjoyed. We were delighted to welcome Brigadier Dame Mary Railton, D.B.E., as our Guest of Honour and Lieutenant Colonel L. E. Holt, W.R.A.C. (Retd.) came over with her. The room and tables were decorated by Miss Ayshford-Sandford, Mrs. Blofield our Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary. There was a big Raffle with many and various prizes in aid of the Benevolent Fund which realised £6.00 for the Fund.

March 2nd saw our Annual General Meeting in Dowty House for the last time. For the second year running, in fear of power cuts, all came provided with candles and torches. The Annual Reports were adopted and the Branch has a nice Balance in hand for the coming year. Miss Ayshford-Sandford has been elected Chairman, Miss C. Lowsley-Williams having completed her term of office. Miss B. Stanley-Clarke retires after nine years as Hon. Secretary and Miss M. A. Penfold takes her place. Unfortunately Mrs. Blofield has unexpectedly to leave Cheltenham for several years and relinquishes the post of Hon. Treasurer with much regret. Her place is taken by Miss Still. This created a vacancy on the Committee which has been filled by Miss J. Thom. The very grateful thanks of the Branch were expressed to those who have retired after varying years in office and we wish the best of good wishes to the new Branch Officers and last but not least to Miss E. G. Marshall our Branch President who does so much to keep us all on an even keel. The Meeting concluded with the arrangements of its Summer's programme, after which Miss Ayshford-Sandford showed us some lovely slides of her trip to India.

LONDON. We have continued our meetings during the winter and spring and we have had some very enjoyable evenings. In January we were entertained by the Acton Male Voice Choir. In February the Crime Prevention Officer from Chelsea Police Station spoke to us on the various aspects of burglary and theft, and showed us two excellent films. In March Miss Holland from the Citi-

zen's Advice Bureau in Chelsea came to tell us of the work of the staff of the Bureau and of the many problems with which they have to deal. Later in the month we were given a talk by Miss B. Richards on Uganda where she had been teaching in a girls' school for twenty-one years; her talk was illustrated by some very interesting colour slides. In April Sister Miles told us of the work of the Church Army and showed us some colour slides of the various places where this work is going on.

STAFFORD. During the activities of the past six months we have been happy to welcome Mrs. Faulkner, a new member and Mrs. Hawes ex-W.R.A.F. new associate member and also two from H.Q. Branch Miss Hodge and Mrs. Matty who we hope will be able to overcome the distance and join us at some of our meetings.

Our September meeting was a visit to the West Midlands Gas Board Showrooms where we were most interested in the Cooking Demonstration cooked on up-to-date models of gas cookers. All items cooked were drawn for at the end of the evening. I was delighted to take home a beautifully cooked gammon with all the trimmings, others were equally pleased with their "take homes". Having been busy all the year members brought beautiful contributions of all sorts, gifts, toys, useful articles, etc., for the Autumn Fayre held in October. It was a great success enabling us to send a donation of £25 to the W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund and £10 to Link, the local charity to help the elderly.

Our October meeting was a most enjoyable Cheese and Coffee evening for 40 members and friends. After a talk by Mrs. Hollins from Fordhall Farm telling us all about the cheeses and yogurts we were able to tuck in to a wonderful spread.

We were very lucky to get a local silver specialist to talk to us about antique silver at our November meeting. The display of silver was most impressive and having been passed around for our 'close look' we were delighted at the end of the evening to know that all was safely gathered in. We were pleased to have members from Stafford North Branch among our friends for our evenings of interest and pleasure.

Our coach trip to the Cedar Tree Hotel Rugeley for our Christmas dinner early December was excellent and a very good evening enjoyed by all.

This year was started well by a visit to the home of our President Mrs. J. Bostock on 4th January, an extremely enjoyable evening was spent. Several very disappointed members were unable to attend owing to the 'flu bug going around. The Chairman, Major D. Jervis took carnations to the President to express the appreciation of all for a wonderful evening. January was an Open Evening with a good old chatter over eats and 'nips' the members had supplied between them for a very good spread enjoyed by all. The West Midlands Gas Board

invited us to an evening of 'Elegant Living' with demonstration of cooking a full meal and the wine recommended to be served with each course and the pottery ware to serve the meal on, interesting and instructional.

February's Clothing Party made us wish money was unlimited, with splendid array of garments and household goods we had a grand time sorting through it all. The March meeting was the A.G.M. and after much discussion and for the first time a ballot, (having four nominees for three committee vacancies) we have a committee to see us through this year. Future programme was discussed and followed by our usual get-together which was appreciated after all the talking.

WIMBLEDON AND DISTRICT. We have held very successful meetings through the winter opening in September with a 'Get-together' and a second visit to Dame Mary Railton's and Colonel Holt's charming homes at Great Bedwyn. Seventeen of us went in five cars. The weather was kind and it was the most perfect day, blue skies from morning till evening. We were introduced to the game of croquet which we all found fascinating. A delightful day much enjoyed by all and many thanks to Dame Mary and Colonel Holt for their kindness in inviting us.

In October we had our Annual Dinner at Berni's Steak Bar in Wimbledon, a new venue and a great success, 30 members and guests attended. We had our Annual General Meeting in November as usual, at which we received with much regret the resignation of Miss I. J. Moorshead as Hon. Secretary. We thank Mick Moorshead for all her hard work on our behalf over the past three years. Miss Doris Lee has very kindly taken on the job of Hon. Secretary.

In December we had our Xmas Party, January a talk on 'Behind the Iron Curtain', February the usual hilarious Beetle Drive and in March an evening of films by members. A party of us went to the Grand Reunion in March and in April we had the most successful ever Bring and Buy when we made a profit of £24. We regret very much the resignation of our Social Secretary, Mrs. Rose Greenshields, who has gone to live in the Isle of Wight (but is still a member of the Branch). Rose Greenshields has been our very efficient Social Secretary for many years and we shall miss her a lot. The Misses P. Whitfield and E. White have very kindly agreed to become Joint Social Secretaries. We have been very pleased to welcome members who have joined us from H.Q. Branch.

ULSTER. As an account of Branch activities this would qualify as a "nil return". Because of the conditions here it has been deemed unwise to call our members together for any social activities, and that includes holding the A.G.M., so the office bearers remain as before. We did not think, when we decided against holding our Reunion Dinner for 1971, that we would be doing the same in

1972. Our last meeting was in the Spring of 1971 at Malone Golf Club and it is sad to report that that most pleasant and peaceful place has been bombed.

We have heard that some of our members have had to move away to safer areas. We do not know who they are, or how many, but if any member has knowledge of these people and their new addresses, would she let Mrs. Wallace, our Secretary know. The address is Hillcrest, Greenbank Avenue, Donaghadee. We are most anxious not to lose touch and to give any help we can. Mrs. Wallace would be glad, too, to receive any subscriptions which are overdue.

At Christmas the Lord Mayor of Belfast launched an appeal for funds for comforts for the troops, and we were very happy to send £35 towards it. The final amount collected was over £60,000, and you may be interested to know that a large amount of the money was spent on washing machines!

To give a picture of life in Ulster today is difficult, because it has to be compared with life as normally lived in the rest of the U.K., and we have been living in such strange times for so long it is hard to recall just what normal is. No one shops in Belfast for pleasure. Apart from the depressing sight of boarded up buildings, or great gaping holes where shops once stood, there is the searching of handbags on entering, the chance of a bomb scare once inside, and who wants to be caught in the changing cubicle struggling out of a size 14, when you knew it should have been a 16, when everyone else is dashing for the exit? Mostly we shop in the suburbs or the outlying country towns, but they too have had their bombs. Those of you who were stationed in Lisburn will be saddened to know that many shops in the centre suffered heavy bomb damage and have had to be pulled down.

Those of you who live in army towns will be accustomed to the sight of soldiers, but not as we see them. Here they are dressed for battle, flak jackets and guns. Every army vehicle has soldiers mounted in the rear, guns at the ready. We accept them as normal today. That is not to say we take them for granted. We are filled with great admiration for these young men who have displayed amazing discipline and courage. How much more damage and loss of life would have been caused without the work of the Bomb Disposal teams. There are not words to express our gratitude to these men.

Practically every edition of our daily local papers contains dozens of stories which in other times would qualify for front page double type, but today in Ulster these stories jostle for position on every page. Bombs, bullets, burnings, hold-ups, hi-jackings, murder, tarring and feathering, kidnapping. It is all a terrible madness.

But life goes on. People attend their daily work, children go to school and study for exams. We garden and golf, swim and walk, drive into the country which looks so beautiful in its Spring colours, and now we look forward to our Summer holidays—away from here.

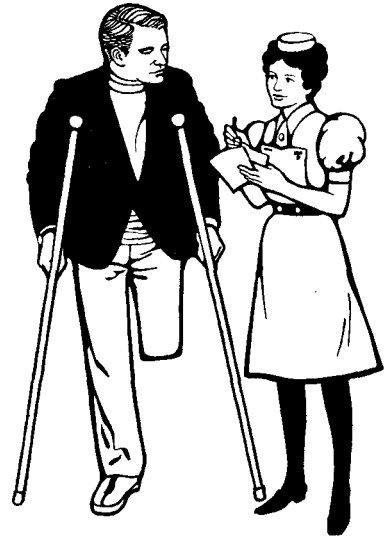
18,000 Limbless Ex-Servicemen need your help

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



Correspondence

"Dear Editor,

I was interested to read in "End of an Era" in the June Lioness an account of A.T.S./W.R.A.C. serving at Manorbier.

For the record may I draw your attention to the fact that the FIRST A.T.S. were attached for training as Kinetheodolite Operators from November 1939. As far as I can remember there were about 50 members there which total included a nucleus of Cooks, orderlies and clerks for the "maintenance" of the K.T. detachment. There were *not* at this time any A.T.S. employed in "Men's Messes or with S.A.A.D. H.Q. Staff.

Allow me to know! I was the first A.T.S. officer seen "alive in captivity" in our officers' Mess which must have been upwards of 200 male officers nearly all of them on Gunnery courses.

Yours sincerely
Diana Stevenson
Served as SEROCOLD"

Editor's Note:—If any readers have views on who was first into Manorbier please write and tell us.

On the 23rd May, 1972, the President of Headquarter Mess, Colonel L. M. Davies, C.B.E., on behalf of both serving and retired officers of the Mess, presented Colonel Millington with a cheque in appreciation of her many years of hard work as its secretary.

Colonel Millington wishes to express her thanks to all concerned and her letter is printed below:—

"Dear Editor

As I am unable to write to the individuals concerned, I would be most grateful if you would be good enough to let me use the columns of the Lioness to thank everyone who contributed to the marvellous present I was given on my retirement.

I was absolutely dumbfounded when Colonel Davies gave me such a generous and unexpected cheque, and have hardly recovered yet.

I have had a lot of pleasure in spending it on some of the donors' suggestions. I have bought myself a delightful Victorian star shaped brooch in gold set with pearls and diamonds, much prettier than it sounds from this description. I have also got a sofa so that I can put my feet up literally as well as figuratively. Both these gifts will remind me of the many happy years I was privileged to spend at Corps Headquarters and the kindness of so many friends.

My most grateful and sincere thanks to you all"

Obituary

Mrs. E. Bathurst

Mrs. Cheesman of London Branch writes:—

"It is with sadness I report the passing of Mrs. Elizabeth Bathurst, on June 30th, aged 76 years, after a short stay at St. Catherine's Hospital, East Chicago.

"Known to us all as Fluff she worked as a W.A.A.C. at No. 3 Rest Camp Folkestone, during the 1914-1918 war. She treasured the news, and memories, of her W.A.A.C. comrades all her life. We treasure the memory of a happy personality."

Miss M. R. Everall

Miss M. Davies, Chairman of Wolverhampton Branch writes:—

"Miss Maude Everall of Dudley, Worcestershire passed away in July. She had been a faithful member of Wolverhampton Branch since it was formed in 1946, and had served with the Q.M.A.A.C. in France. Until a few years ago she attended Q.M.A.A.C. functions in London."

Miss J. C. Magee

M.R. writes:—

"It is with great regret that I heard of the recent death of Miss J. C. Magee. Joan Magee, known affectionately as "Maggie" to generations of members of the A.T.S. and the W.R.A.C., will be remembered above all for the warmth of her personality and the generosity of her nature.

Whether as a war-time sergeant or later as a chaplains' assistant, attached first of all to Drivers and Clerks and subsequently stationed in Germany and Kidderminster, she was known and loved for her selfless devotion to her work, her unfailing kindness to all with whom she came in contact and for her unflagging energy. Nothing was too much trouble.

Any chaplains' assistant lucky enough to be initiated into the work by Maggie, had cause to be profoundly grateful both for the practical help given and for the inspiration received."

Miss D. M. Mathews, B.E.M.

Mr. J. G. Mathews writes:—

"I am writing to inform you of the death of my sister who died suddenly at her home at Sandown on July 16th. She was Sgt. D. M. Mathews, B.E.M. (Matty). She joined the 11th Hants A.T.S. in 1939, was called up for War Service and served at Portsmouth, Leicester, Leeds and the W.R.A.C. School of Instruction at Liphook where for many years she was Sgts Mess Caterer until her retirement. Will you please, if possible, put this in your obituary column of your magazine so that her many service friends will see it."

H.M.S. writes:—

"Sgt. Dorothy Mary Mathews, known to her friends as "Matty", joined the A.T.S. in Bournemouth soon after the beginning of the war. She served in Leicester and was posted to the W.O. & N.C.Os School at Newark as Officers' Mess Caterer on the amalgamation of the Junior Officers' School and the Windsor O.C.T.U. She and her dog "Freddy Fraser" will be remembered by all who served at Newark and Liphook during that time, as well as by many who attended courses there. She was one of the few injured during enemy activity and who wore a wound stripe. Our sympathies go out to her family. May they be comforted in the knowledge that her many friends will remember her with affection always.

Mrs. E. M. Suttle

C.M.B. writes:—

"Her many friends were shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Mrs. Edith Mary Suttle on 29th July and a large number of mourners attended the funeral service at Baildon Parish Church which was followed by family cremation. Our sympathy goes out to her son and his family and her sisters in their great loss.

Mrs. Suttle was born on 14th November, 1899, at Burnley and enlisted into the A.T.S. on 15th March, 1940. She continued to serve in the A.T.S. until her discharge on the 25th March 1950. She served in many capacities—as clerk, telephonist, in signals and administrative duties—and as her stirring qualities were easily recognisable, she quickly gained promotion, becoming a Warrant Officer Class 2 in September 1942 and Warrant Officer Class 1 in January 1947, completing her service as R.S.M. All records of her service indicate that she was a first class organiser and a good disciplinarian and always had the welfare of her staff in mind; that she was well respected by all and at one time put in charge of pay and records at a Regimental Headquarters, a job normally done by an officer.

The Association has suffered a grievous blow in the loss of a loyal and enthusiastic member and Mrs. Suttle will be greatly missed by all who knew her, and particularly by all her friends in the North. She had held the offices of Northern Area Secretary and Bradford Branch Secretary for some twenty years, bringing to both her tremendous enthusiasm, efficiency and organising ability, and working extremely hard behind the scenes to make everything run smoothly and successfully.

Always bustling and cheerful and with a warm-hearted approach to life, she had a happy knack of meeting new ex-service friends in the most unlikely places and at the same time keeping in constant touch with those whom she had known throughout the years.

Mrs. Suttle's love and concern for people may well have influenced her choice of civilian work at the Ministry of Social Security where she served the community for a

number of years, and certainly the welfare of ex-service women and our own Benevolent Fund were causes very dear to her heart. This interest was reflected by a request for family flowers only at her funeral and donations in lieu to be sent to the W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund in her memory. She worked tirelessly to help anyone in need or affliction and many people have reason to be grateful for her tactful and unobtrusive efforts on their behalf in time of trouble. No task was ever too much trouble for her to undertake, and her own personal qualities always managed to extract maximum co-operation and loyalty from everyone with whom she came in contact.

Hers was a full and rewarding life, rich in friendship and dedicated to service, and we mourn her passing with a deep sense of personal loss and gratitude that we were privileged to know her."

Mrs. E. Wilson

Dumfriesshire Branch write:—

"We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Betty Wilson who had been a member of this Branch for many years, and was still in the prime of life. She had a charming personality, was a very active member, and will be missed in every way. A native of Dundee, she was Sgt. E. Fyffe in the A.T.S., and served in Inverness and Dreghorn, Edinburgh. Our condolences have been sent to her husband and teenage daughter, and the Secretary attended the Funeral Church Service."

We regret to announce the deaths of

Mrs. D. Menzies (nee Palmer)

on 10th June, 1972, in New Zealand, Mrs. Menzies served overseas with the Q.M.A.A.C. at Calais and Rouen as a worker.

Miss G. Rae

of Newport-on-Tay, Fife (formerly of Aberdeen), who died on 6th March, 1972.

Miss E. P. Walter-Ellis

who died suddenly on 8th February, 1972. She was a life member of the Association and will be greatly missed by all her friends, particularly those in the Brighton Branch.

Prize Competition

CARTOON CAPTION

A prize of £2 will be awarded for the best caption to the Millie Tent Cartoon published here. Entries

should be made on the form below, addressed to the Editor and must arrive by first post on Wednesday 1st November, 1972.



Name

Address

Suggested Caption

.....

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Branches throughout Southern England
including Bennetts of Guildford

Officers' Postings

(Up to 31 Aug. 72)

Lt. Col. I. Anderson, Man. C. M.O.D. (Central Staffs)
 Lt. Col. P. Norman, A.D.W.R.A.C. West Midland/Wales/South West Districts.
 Maj. E. J. Bowles, W.R.A.C. College.
 Maj. A. Bray, 12 Company W.R.A.C.
 Maj. M. G. Campbell, C.O.D. Donnington.
 Maj. J. M. Cato-Symonds, M.O.D. (W.R.A.C. 1)
 Maj. D. P. Clark, M.O.D. (A.G.16).
 Maj. D. A. Crofton, R.A.V.C. Training Centre.
 Maj. P. M. Farwell W.R.A.C. Centre—H.S.
 Maj. B. M. Godin, W.S.L.O. Scotland.
 Maj. E. A. Hine, M.O.D. (V.Ta.).
 Maj. R. A. Holloway, O.C. W.R.A.C. Det., R.H.Q. U.K.L.F.
 Maj. B. M. Laverack, 21 C. W.R.A.C. Centre.
 Maj. E. M. Miseroy, O.C. H. & D. Coy, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 Maj. J. A. Munday, W.R.A.A.C., C.O.D. Bicester.
 Maj. D. E. Nightingale, Command Physical Training Pool.
 Maj. M. M. Power, Attached H.Q. Northern Ireland.
 Maj. H. M. Shenton, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 Maj. P. R. Wyndham-Tate, W.S.L.O. Colchester.
 Capt. F. Ablett, W.S.L.O. York (Temporary Posting)
 Capt. J. A. Baker, 262 Signal Squadron (Cyprus).
 Capt. J. R. Barker, M.O.D. (M.A. to A.C.P.L.).
 Capt. S. C. S. Bonavia, H.Q. NEARELF (P.S.).
 Capt. J. L. M. Brady, H.Q. DHEKELIA Area.
 Capt. E. D. Cameron, W.S.L.O. Catterick.
 Capt. M. J. Craggs, H.Q. BAOR.
 Capt. P. H. Dixon, Int. & Security Gp. H.Q. BAOR.
 Capt. J. A. Flake, 13 Signal Regiment.
 Capt. E. R. C. Flanders, H.Q. West Midland District.
 Capt. A. C. Godwin, Asst. Adj. 26 Field Regiment R.A.
 Capt. G. K. Hammond, C.A.D. Kineton.
 Capt. R. E. R. Henderson, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 Capt. A. F. Hoggins, R.A.C. Centre Lulworth.
 Capt. M. Mackenzie, M.V.E.E.
 Capt. C. A. Marriott, 12 Company W.R.A.C.
 Capt. D. M. Morgan, W.R.A.C. Det. H.Q. U.K.L.F.
 Capt. C. A. Nettleship, C.O.D. Bicester.
 Capt. J. M. B. Phillips, Command P.T. Pool (att. H.Q. S.E. District).
 Capt. M. W. Thomas, 10 Company, W.R.A.C.
 Capt. R. G. Warne, O.C. W.R.A.C. National Defence College.
 Capt. M. S. Wing, H.Q. U.K.L.F.
 Lt. C. M. Collins, 15 A.E.C. Bicester.
 Lt. B. M. Ferriday, 30 A.E.C. London.
 Lt. J. L. Lawson, 1 Regiment R.M.P.
 Lt. M. A. S. Linklater, 29 Company W.R.A.C.
 Lt. P. S. Mawer, 12 A.E.C. Larkhill.
 Lt. K. H. E. Meachem, 10 Signal Regiment.
 Lt. S. I. F. Johncey, 16 Signal Regiment.
 Lt. S. E. Rice, Army Aviation Centre.
 Lt. S. D. Roberts, J.O.C.P.T. (Project Haig).
 Lt. P. A. Williams, 16 Signal Regiment.
 2/Lt. D. L. Allen, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill.
 2/Lt. H. Bellingham-Smith, 12 Company W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. M. G. Byrne, 16 Battalion, R.A.O.C.
 2/Lt. F. Y. Cook, 17 Training Regiment and Depot R.A.
 2/Lt. W. E. Coupe, Depot Regiment R.C.T.
 2/Lt. I. J. Croft, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 2/Lt. M. E. Davies, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 2/Lt. J. M. Denholm, J.O.C.P.T. (Project Trenchard).
 2/Lt. C. E. Farr, Regimental Depot R.A.O.C.
 2/Lt. P. Fisher, W.R.A.C. College.
 2/Lt. M. R. Gibb, 8 Signal Regiment.
 2/Lt. J. J. Goldsmith, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 2/Lt. C. A. Grigg, 3 A.E.C. Catterick.
 2/Lt. A. F. Hall, 16 A.E.C. Bovington.
 2/Lt. W. K. Hall, 8 Signal Regiment.
 2/Lt. P. M. Hollingsworth, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 2/Lt. C. A. Howell, 22 Squadron, R.C.T.
 2/Lt. T. A. Howie, Att. 233 Signal Squadron (N.I.).
 2/Lt. S. D. Jones, Att. 10 Signal Regiment.
 2/Lt. A. M. Kinniburgh, 3 A.E.C. Catterick.
 2/Lt. M. A. Lawes, 10 Company W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. A. C. Leach, Att. 242 Signal Squadron.
 2/Lt. C. L. Lee, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 2/Lt. P. M. Lewis, R.A.M.C. Training Centre.
 2/Lt. S. Machin, 11 A.E.C. Bulford.
 2/Lt. J. C. Petty, Junior Leaders Regiment R.A.
 2/Lt. Y. Pierce, Att. Army Aviation Centre.
 2/Lt. E. A. Ruffe, Att. 10 Signal Regiment.
 2/Lt. E. A. Smith, 12 A.E.C. Larkhill.
 2/Lt. S. M. Thurston, 12 Company W.R.A.C.
 2/Lt. B. B. Towe, 14 A.E.C. Aldershot.
 2/Lt. A. R. Westlake, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 2/Lt. S. J. Westlake, W.R.A.C. Centre.
 2/Lt. J. M. Whenmouth, C.A.D. Kineton.
 2/Lt. E. J. Womack, Military Hospital, Catterick & H.Q. 7 Company R.A.M.C.

WARRANT OFFICERS' POSTINGS

(1 Apr.—30 Jun 72)

W.O. I.S. Hartley, H.Q. BAOR.
 A/W.O. I.C. H. Wales, Mec. Docs. Unit R.A.O.C.
 W.O. II B. Green, H.Q. U.K.L.F.
 W.O. II A. Maskens McIntyre, 33 Sig. Regt. (V).
 A/W.O. II M. I. Woolford, H.Q. U.K.L.F.
 A/W.O. II C. Hill, H.Q. S.W. District.

LONDON GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Regular Army

Major (Q.M.) Capt. (Q.M.), A. I. Purton, H. M. Shenton.
 Captains Lts. C. R. Bolland, D. J. Erskine, P. A. Gray, L. Hancock, A. F. Hoggins, E. A. Irvine.
 D. Morgan.
 Captain (Q.M.) Lt. (Q.M.) E. A. Henderson.
 Lieutenants 2/Lts. B. M. Crabbe, M. A. Cross, S. R. Green, S. I. F. Johncey, S. P. L. Kavanagh, D. J. Killbery, K. D. Kinchin, W. A. Le Gassick, C. V. Montanaro, S. M. Osborne, M. J. Palmer, J. Pilkington, R. J. Scoff Lam, S. R. Stebbing.
 2/Lieuts. J. J. Goldsmith, E. A. Ruffe, S. J. Westlake.

SPECIAL REGULAR COMMISSION

Lieutenants 2/Lts. W. A. Barrett, J. M. Ball, P. K. Jarman, P. A. Laing-Morton, C. M. Lewis.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

Lieutenants 2/Lts. C. M. Collins, B. M. Ferriday, P. A. Hanna, P. S. Mawer, S. D. Roberts, A. E. Walton.
 W.O. II C. A. Marriott.
 2/Lieut. M. E. Davies, W. K. Hall, M. A. Lawes.
 2/Lt. on probation: W. E. Coupe, C. A. Grigg, K. M. Howie, A. E. Lovatt, S. A. Strong, are confirmed in their appointments
 2/Lt. on probation: D. L. Allen, F. Y. Cook, A. F. Hall, A. M. Kinniburgh, S. Machin, E. A. Smith, B. B. Towe.

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Regular Army

Colonel M. N. Jameson.
 Major P. A. Sunnucks.
 Captains P. A. Ames, P. J. Huggett, A. H. S. Matthews, D. M. Morgan.
 Lieutenants H. D. Fenn, H. R. Grimshaw, J. G. R. Laurie, E. A. Poole, E. M. Roualle.

SPECIAL REGULAR COMMISSION

Majors M. A. Mack, A. M. Metcher, M.B.E.

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION

Captain G. E. Simmonds, M.B.E.
 Lieutenants L. J. Cruikshank, H. A. Owen.

Branch Meetings

(Visiting members welcome)

Leeds First Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. at Harewood Barracks, Regent Street, Leeds.

A.T.S. Dinner Club

This year a luncheon will be held at Derry & Toms, Kensington, on Saturday 14th October, 1972, at 1 o'clock.

Museum Notes

PRESENTATIONS

On learning that the New Zealand W.R.A.C. were starting a Regimental Museum the Trustees of our Museum decided to present them with a commemorative plaque. A suitable plaque with a silver engraved scroll was purchased and the following letter has been received from the Director N.Z.W.R.A.C.:—

"Please convey the thanks of the N.Z.W.R.A.C. and my personal best wishes to the Trustees of the W.R.A.C. Museum for their very generous gesture in presenting your most lovely plaque to our newly formed Museum' I can assure you that this plaque will be given a place of honour amongst our treasured possessions."

EXHIBITS

Readers may or may not be aware that during the 1914-18 war four significant awards were won by members of the Q.M.A.A.C.; they were three Military Medals and one Belgian Order. At present the Museum possesses only one of these important medals—the Military Medal awarded to Forewoman E. G. Cartlege. The Curator is very anxious to acquire any one of the other three medals which are:—

Military Medals

Mrs. M. A. C. Gibson — Unit Administrator

Miss E. S. Cross — Unit Administrator

Belgian Order

Miss R. E. Comyns-Lewer—Unit Administrator

Those readers who enjoy browsing in antique and secondhand shops are therefore urged to sift through any medals boxes in an effort to locate our medals, which it is felt, are more properly housed in our Museum than in some private collection.

Personal Column

Personal Column Charges. 3 lines 30p, each additional line 10p (box numbers included). Non members 50% more. Notices of forthcoming reunions where admission is charged may be inserted at a cost of 10p per line.

For Sale. Officer's No. 2 Dress unworn with epaulettes unholed, size 35-25-36, height 5'5½". Offers to Box No. 4/72.

For Sale. Officer's No. 2 Dress, size 16 approx, £5. No. 1 Dress £5. Box No. 5/72.

For Sale. Minox B "Spy" camera with accessories, as new £40. Box No. 6/72.

For Sale. Officer's green greatcoat, size 40-30-42, length 48", scarlet lining, little worn, £18. Officer's beret £1. Mess dress without sash £10. Box No. 7/72.

The Army Music Group Singer Competition

Our congratulations go to Sgt. Betsy Clewlow from A.C.I.O. Blackheath who won the Army Solo Singer Competition 1972, having seen a winner also in 1970.

Sgt. Clewlow first competed earlier in the year with 14 other solo singers from all commands held at Kneller Hall. The Finals were held on Wednesday 24th May at the BBC Camden Theatre, London and the six finalists were judged by Steve Race (Chairman), Geoff Love, Tony Blackburn, Mitch Murray and Tommy Sanderson. Sgt. Clewlow's choice of song was "Autumn Leaves" and she was accompanied by the John Porter Trio.

On the Thursday Evening, 25th May, the three leading groups and singers selected, gave a live performance to an invited audience at the Camden Theatre and a recording was made for broadcast by B.F.B.S. worldwide. The show was compered by comedian Leslie Crowther.

Sgt. Clewlow was awarded the Francis, Day & Hunter Cup which was presented to her by actor and comedian Frankie Howerd.

ARMY BIRD WATCHING SOCIETY (A.B.W.S.)

THE Army Bird Watching Society was officially formed in 1961. Prior to this date serving soldiers and Civil Servants throughout the world have been responsible for the formation and subsequent functioning of many of the societies which exist today. Ornithological data has been collected by members from virtually every part of the world and has been passed to Local Societies and interested ornithological bodies in England.

The Society now maintains a list of representatives world wide and within the Counties of Britain. These representatives report on activities in their localities and assist members on arrival to make the necessary contacts with Local Societies. We own, in the training areas, some of the best sanctuaries for birds, flora and fauna in the country; we as a Society are working very closely with the Conservationists to maintain these areas as sanctuaries. We hope, over the next two years, to complete a census of all the birds on the major Army Training Areas.

To join the Army Bird Watching Society it costs 50p per annum. You receive a Bulletin each quarter and a Journal annually. Please apply for joining forms to:

Lt. Col. E. D. Wardleworth, M.C.

R.H.Q. The Light Infantry,

Sir John Moore Barracks,

Cophorne, Salop.

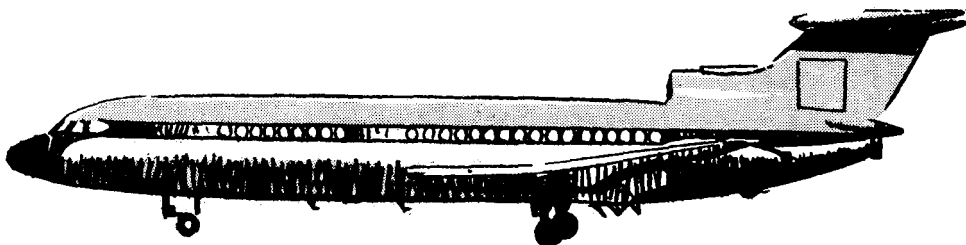
or

Lt. Col. C. N. Clayden

Candlewick Cottage,

Avenue Road,

Fleet, Hants.



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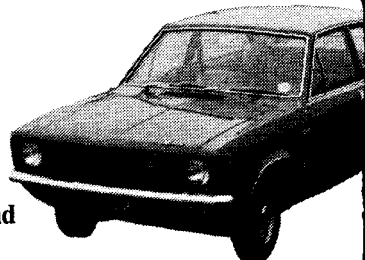
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A