

1981

No 2

Lioness



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WRAC STAFF BAND

Engagements

In addition to a very full programme of military events the WRAC Staff Band will be playing for the Lord Mayor's Procession in London on Saturday November 14th.

DID YOU EVER SERVE WITH THE RASC OR RCT?

The Royal Corps of Transport are producing a history of their Corps covering the years 1945 to 1980. Part I will cover the RASC from 1945 to 1965 and Part II the RCT from 1965 to 1980. It will include sections on the various aspects of RASC/RCT activities and they would like to include a section on ATS/WRAC.

Contributions are urgently required from anybody who has served with RASC/RCT as there is very little official information or for that matter personal anecdotes about service with MT.

Contributions will be gratefully received by Corps HQ.

Cover Photograph

Capt Caroline Paxton working with a German civilian policeman near HQ BAOR. Her job involves close co-operation with the German civil police.

SHOPPING LIST

	£	p & p
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WRAC NCO	11.50	50p
WRAC NCO with RMP	11.50	50p
Prints by Ken Howard		
Signed	5.00	50p (up to 3)
Unsigned	3.00	50p (up to 3)

Most items are in green with the Corps crest in gold. Cheques/Postal Orders should be made payable to CORPS HQ A/C and sent to Corps HQ WRAC, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6QH.

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(Photographs in black and white only)

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Lioness

Vol. LIV

1981

No. 2

EDITORIAL

Thanks to an enterprising member of Kent Branch, a national weekly women's magazine published a letter telling ex-servicewomen where they should write for particulars of the Association. As a result we have a number of new members and several letters asking for information. Most of these letters show that women who served during the last war, and were demobilised at the end of it, have no idea that the Association exists. Remembering that there was conscription for women between the ages of 19 and 31, and that more than 250,000 women served in the ATS, there must be many middle-aged and elderly ladies eligible to join.

Welcome to those members who are reading LIONESS for the first time. The SHOPPING LIST on the first page is a list of items on sale in the Museum and available by post. The one new item, described on page 57, is the pair of prints taken from the two paintings by Kenneth Howard which were commissioned by the Corps. This is obviously an unrepeatable item, so act quickly to avoid disappointment.

VISIT OF LADY SOAMES DBE TO THE WRAC MUSEUM

Lady Soames visited the Museum on 1st June and presented to the Trustees a sketch which was done by Bryan de Grinau for the Illustrated

London News and which was presented to Lady Soames' father, Sir Winston Churchill.

The sketch depicts Sir Winston, then Prime Minister, visiting the Command Post at a Mixed Anti-Aircraft Battery in Hyde Park during the last war accompanied by General Sir Frederick Pile, Commander-in-Chief Anti-Aircraft Command. Lady Soames (then Subaltern Mary Churchill) was stationed at this Battery at the time.

After Brigadier Nolan, Chairman of the Trustees, had received the picture on behalf of the Trustees, Lady Soames was conducted around the Museum where she saw among other exhibits her own uniform which she had previously donated to the Museum. Lady Soames then lunched with the Trustees in the WRAC Centre Officers Mess.



Lady Soames and Brigadier Nolan holding the sketch of the Command Post. Standing behind Lady Soames from left to right:- Brigadier Field, DWRAC, Colonel Clissitt, Commandant WRAC Centre, Major (Retd) Parker, Curator WRAC Museum, Colonel Humphery and Mrs Weldon. Colonel Clissitt, Colonel Humphery and Mrs Weldon are Trustees of the Museum.

(Courtesy of the Surrey Advertiser)

PRESENTATIONS

BEM

Lieutenant General Sir David Young KBE CB DFC, GOC Scotland, presented Sgt Jean Raynor with her BEM at Edinburgh Castle on 27th March 1981.

Sgt Raynor has served with the Royal Artillery Range (Hebrides) since September 1970. She was awarded the BEM for her service on Benbecula.



Sgt Jean Raynor receiving the BEM from Lt Gen Sir David Young, GOC Scotland.

Maj Gen Sir John Acland KCB CBE GOC South West District presented Sgt Janet Moates with her BEM at the Tri-Service Careers Office, Exeter on 16th March 1981.

Sgt Moates joined the WRAC in 1960 as a Draughtswoman and later in the same year became a Personnel Selection Staff Tester. In 1969 she took up the post of Recruiting Sergeant for Women's Services based in Devon.

She received her BEM in recognition of her outstanding service between July and December 1979.



Sgt Janet Moates with Maj Gen Sir John Acland, GOC South West District after receiving her BEM.



W02 Templeman shaking hands with Maj Gen T S C Streatfield, Director Royal Artillery after he had presented her with the BEM.

MOUNTBATTEN STATUE APPEAL

An appeal for donations towards a statue of Earl Mountbatten of Burma in naval uniform has been launched by the Prime Minister. The project will cost £100,000 and has the backing of all the main political parties. A Defence Ministry spokesman has said that the names of all contributors would be recorded in a memorial book to be presented to the Mountbatten family.

Members who served during the last war at Combined Operations HQ or in South East Asia Command may wish to contribute, and should send their donations to: Rear Admiral L W Townsend, Defence Services Secretary, Mountbatten Memorial Fund, Old Admiralty Building, London SW1.

LSGC

Sgt Anne Wilkinson received the LSGC medal from Lt Col N R Robertson MBE, ADWRAC London District at AC10 Newcastle upon Tyne, on Tuesday 17th February 1981.

Sgt Wilkinson enlisted in 1962 and after training at Lingfield, served in Aldershot, Yeovil, Kingston, Cyprus and Mill Hill. In 1968 she took up her recruiting appointment at Newcastle where she is still serving.



Sgt Wilkinson receiving her LSGC medal from Lt Col N R Robertson.

THE GILLETTE LONDON MARATHON

2Lt N A Murdoch WRAC

When it was decided that a marathon would be run in London, entries poured into the Race Director's Office, 7,000 in all. Sgt Pam Coulter of the WRAC Battery at Woolwich had phoned in her entry just after Christmas and this was the beginning of a running routine which was to end in the completion of the first London Marathon.

Every day until the Marathon on March 29th, Sgt Coulter was to be seen jogging around the playing fields and Common here at Woolwich. Although the daily running sessions were essential, there was a lot of mental build-up that was necessary to enhance both stamina and confidence.

The training each day would last about two hours and would include not only a run but multi-gym warm-ups which were gradually increased as

the training became more intense. Five days a week there was an eight mile run, followed by a fifteen mile run once a week and one day of rest. This continued through sun, rain, hail and snow up hill and down dale. Food intake was normal throughout the build-up period but Sgt Coulter did confess to eating a pasta meal the night before the great day.

At 0900 hours on Sunday 29 March 1981, a ceremonial 25 pounder gun (fired by members of the Depot Regiment Royal Artillery) signified the start of the Marathon. 7,000 men and women poured from Greenwich Park. The route took the runners past the Barracks of the Depot Regt RA where a hearty contingent of WRAC Battery members tried to spot Sgt Coulter.

After Woolwich came the Cutty Sark at Greenwich, through Rotherhithe and on towards Tower Bridge. All along the route spectators and supporters lined the roads cheering on the competitors, adding extra incentive to the now tiring runners. Big Ben then appeared, followed closely by what Sgt Coulter called "surely the longest road in the world", Birdcage Walk. From Buckingham Palace up Constitution Hill the finishing line became visible.

When Sgt Pam Coulter finally hit the tape her time was 4 hours 42 minutes. She was not the first woman competitor to finish, but she was the first from the borough of Greenwich.

Good luck to Sgt Coulter who plans to run in the New York Marathon.



Sgt Pam Coulter in training for the Gillette Marathon. In the background is the St Barbara Memorial at Woolwich.
(Courtesy Soldier Magazine)

ATS and WRAC BENEVOLENT FUNDS

The Association Benevolent Funds play an exceptionally important part in helping those members and ex members of the Corps in need. In 1980 the help given by the Benevolent Funds amounted to £29,071 which was an increase of 46% over 1979 and reflected the inevitable increase in requests for financial assistance arising from the economic situation.

Our commitment for the future is large because of the great numbers who served in the 1939-45 war and the comparatively large number of ex service women who have left the WRAC on marriage. In view of this it is important not only to provide help now but to maintain the real value of the Funds during inflation so that the money will be there to help ex service women in the future.

The causes of distress are legion, and the Funds cannot possibly provide additional income but they can help to put people back on their feet after a misfortune. Those requiring help normally approach a local organisation such as SSAFA or the Forces Help Society in the first instance, who are able to advise them and when appropriate submit a detailed application for assistance to the Funds. The following are some examples of the help given:

An ex WRAC Private, aged 27 with two years service, was deserted by her husband, leaving a daughter of seven and a son of one. There were huge debts and rent arrears. The family had to be moved to very undesirable temporary accommodation because of the rent arrears. The health visitor from the Social Services Department became increasingly worried about the family and sought our help. The Housing Department were prepared to transfer them to a more suitable home if the arrears could be cleared. The husband had served with REME, so a grant was made by the REME Benevolent Fund and together we were

able to pay the debt. A senior social worker from West Sussex County Council writes: "This case has been brought to a most happy conclusion. We have moved the family to a very nice house with a small garden where the children can play quite safely and they are very happy. Thank you for making possible what seemed at the start a most hopeless task".

An ex ATS Private aged 58 served from 1941-45 and now suffers from chronic arthritis. She was confined to a manual wheelchair but because the disease was affecting her left arm she was unable to manipulate the chair and had become completely housebound. She was widowed in 1961 and her husband had served in the Royal Navy. We co-operated with the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust for the purchase of an electric wheelchair as DHSS was unable to help. The widow writes "I can't tell you what a difference the wheelchair has made to my life. The feeling of independence is marvellous and I can now do my shopping at Sainsbury's without being a nuisance to anyone. I even took my grandson to school the other day and that was quite a thrill. I am so grateful".

Sometimes the extent of the help needed is beyond our resources and then the Army Benevolent Fund comes to our aid with help. The Army Benevolent Fund has been exceptionally kind to us and has never failed to help whenever it has been possible. In addition to straightforward financial assistance the Army Benevolent Fund in conjunction with Pontin's Holiday Camps sent eight mothers and eighteen young children on holiday last year and our Funds provided some holiday money.

Other examples of help given by our Funds includes rental of TV sets for the housebound living on their own on very low incomes, and contributions towards maintenance costs for ex members of the Corps who are patients in the Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables.

In addition, the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund provides that continuous help which the Benevolent Funds are unable to give. This takes the form of a small annuity paid quarterly to ex members of the Corps who are housebound to some degree and live on their own on a minimum income. The majority are very elderly and the youngest is a paraplegic.

The income to the ATS and WRAC Benevolent Funds comes from serving members of the Corps who contribute a day's pay each year, from donations by Association branches and from individuals, some of whom kindly covenant and

thereby enhance their donation without cost to themselves. The Funds also benefit from legacies by ex members of the Corps or those who have had particular association with it. The income to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund comes from donations from units, Association branches and individuals. Individuals and Association branches frequently give donations in memory of QMAAC, ATS or WRAC friends who have died. In these cases the names of the deceased are entered in a Memorial Book maintained at Corps HQ which was started in 1969.

The response to the appeal last year for the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund in honour of our Commandant-in-Chief's 80th Birthday was wonderful and will enable us not only to increase the number of annuitants but also to give each annuitant an additional £20 this summer to mark the occasion. Certain annuitants have black and white television sets provided by the Funds which we shall now convert to colour. The final total raised in the appeal was over £19,000 of which over £15,000 was raised by WRAC Units.

Corps HQ WRAC will be pleased to provide information to anybody interested in the Funds.

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FAREWELL TO SGT ELIZABETH GERMAIN WRAC

On 29th January The Women's Services Recruiting Staff of North East District (Northumbria) together with various friends met at the Army Careers Information Office at South Shields. It was an event that had been planned in great secrecy so that it was a complete surprise to Sgt E A Germain — Gerry to all her friends — to whom we were saying farewell.

On 3rd April Sgt Germain completed 31 years full-time service with the WRAC, the last seven of them as an Army Careers Adviser. She was a GPO telephonist and member of the TA prior to enlisting in Newcastle upon Tyne in 1950, and spent most of her service in the South of England, mainly at training establishments, and two years in Malaya as RQMS.

On behalf of her colleagues and her friends, Major (Retd) H G J Penton ACO, presented Sgt Germain with a teasmaid and with it went our very best wishes for a long and happy retirement.



Sgt Elizabeth Germain with her successor Sgt Kate Davis QARANC and a cake made specially for the occasion.

SRI LANKA ARMY WOMEN'S CORPS

Major J F M Whitehead

In July 1979 a team of three officers from MOD visited Sri Lanka to carry out a study after the Sri Lankan authorities had asked for advice in forming a Women's Corps. As a result of their report the decision was made to model the Sri Lanka Army Women's Corps (SLAWC) on the WRAC, the initial strength of the Corps to be six officers and 150 servicewomen. Arrangements were made for a team of Loan Service Personnel (LSP) to assist in setting up the initial recruit training, all aspects of administration and command, and the establishment of the correct standards for the new Women's Corps. A team of two officers and one senior NCO arrived in Sri Lanka in June 1980; Major Janet Lawson, Staff Sgt Phil Phillips and myself.

In November 1979 three SLAWC officer cadets were selected to attend the 8 month Officer Cadet Course at the WRAC College and were commissioned in August 1980. These were followed by three more who were commissioned in December 1980.

Our first days at the Garrison Headquarters at Diyatalawa were spent "reading in". We ploughed laboriously through Army Orders and other manuals. We worked out estimates for different requirements and grants, compiled clothing, accommodation and barrack tables; designed handbags, sandals and uniforms; measured windows for curtains and scouted shops for suitable material. We planned the training programme and compiled pamphlets and teaching aids. In short, we started from scratch!

The accommodation, situated in the Volunteer Force Camp, needed a tremendous amount of attention and rebuilding to bring it up to an acceptable standard as living accommodation. Two billets had been selected for the accommodation and a shell of a building for the office and lecture room. The billets were to be partitioned into two bedded rooms plus toilet facilities and a separate shower hut. The offices, a lecture room and a dining area also had to be built. Priority was given

for work to start and there were some anxious moments throughout the three months when it appeared that the building programme would never be ready. Repeatedly we were told it would be "no problem" and somehow the work was finished. We inspected the buildings and when the water was turned on it flooded the corridor! That was easily remedied by the workmen who chipped away a channel in the corridor to provide an escape route for the water out of the back door!

The billets are typical of the old British style barrack block, having been built by the British in 1913. They are wooden with corrugated roofing raised a few inches from the walls, thus allowing open house for unwanted visitors such as rats, squirrels, birds and occasionally a snake. Within the first week a house guest had nibbled its way through a chair seat, a typewriter cover a waste paper basket and some file covers. The rooms are double-bunked, have two chairs, two small cupboards, a mirror and a mosquito net. The single curtain at the window is held centrally by half a cigarette carton cover. In the MRS I noticed that plaster containers were utilised in this way. Nothing is wasted!

On 14th October 1980 the potential NCOs arrived. We now had a total of three SLAWC officers and ten servicewomen. The following morning there was an opening ceremony called "Pirith", when the occasion is blessed by Buddhist priests and lamps are lit as an offering to Lord Buddha. Kiribath (milk rice), biscuits and bananas were then served followed by sweet tea. The six week Recruit Course progressed to the four week NCO course. Both courses are based on our military syllabus and outside instructors were used only for specialist subjects like First Aid and Map Reading. The programme starts at 6.20 am with a run, BFT endurance training or PT followed by eight 40-minute periods taking us through to lunch at 1.30 pm. Sport or gardening occupies about two hours of the afternoon. Due to a delay in the intake of the first batch of recruits, additional training was given to the NCOs which covered clerical, administration and quartering duties, and continued with projects, command tasks, debates and discussions, leadership training exercises, practical problems and a weekend on Adventure Training. I have had the pleasure of watching them mature until they are now displaying great confidence when they instruct and lecture. There is no end to their enthusiasm and they are cheerful, courteous, intelligent and a delight to teach.

In March two intakes of recruits totalling 45

girls arrived and the date for their Passing Out Parade was to be 10th April. Three days before the parade the ceremonial dress arrived, but the belts, buckles and buttons were not arriving until the day before the big day. As the parade was due to start at 9.30 am parents started to arrive the day before, as travelling anywhere in Sri Lanka means a start the previous day if you are to be on time. The great day arrived and we were helping to make history. There was an air of great excitement tinged with nerves as the first Passing Out Parade of the SLAWC was about to happen. The girls were in their two platoons ready for inspection and looking very smart in their olive green ceremonial dress. This is similar in design to our No 2 Dress made in a light weight cotton material with short sleeves, a beech brown cravat worn in the open neck, a brown leather belt, ankle socks, black shoes and a green beret.

The Chief Guest was the Minister for Education and Youth Affairs who was accompanied by the Army Commander. Major Lawson and I were honoured to meet him on arrival. All other VIPs and senior officers and their wives were already in their seats and so far the weather was on our side. The Band struck up the familiar notes of Lass of Richmond Hill, and the Parade was in full swing to our Corps March. After the Inspection the Parade marched past in slow and quick time followed by Advance in Review Order. They were tremendous, and we were bursting with pride, especially when the March Past in quick time brought applause from the spectators. The Minister then gave his address and awarded the prizes, during which there was a slight shower which is apparently considered lucky and called Mal Vessa – Flower Rain. It was all over. I knew it was a success when I saw the Army Commander beaming too. It was a happy and momentous occasion for all concerned and the three of us are honoured to have been part of it.

The symbol of the Women's Corps is based on the brave Queen Viharamahadevi. She was the daughter of King Tissa of the north of the island. When the land was being lost to flooding and sea erosion she sacrificed herself to the sea gods in a boat, in the hope of saving the land. However, she too was saved and came ashore near Kataragama in the south of the island. King Kavantissa took her to be his wife and they had a son Dutugemunu who became one of the most famous kings. She was a great influence on her husband and her son and did much for the development and culture of the island. Her followers will undoubtedly mirror the great Queen

who is depicted on the Corps Badge, in a boat of silver on a gilt sea surrounded by a liyawela (laurel wreath).



The ten NCOs outside the entrance to the camp.

SSAFA Extends Welfare Cover to Reservists' Families

The families and dependants of all past and present members of the Territorial and Reserve Forces are now eligible for every kind of SSAFA help, including advice, counselling, general welfare and, where necessary, financial grants. This extension of SSAFA's welfare cover to the families of Reservists as well as of other serving and ex-Service men and women was approved by the Council of SSAFA at its January meeting.

It is an important peacetime extension of help which was hitherto only available when the Reservist was mobilised or called for training. Several SSAFA branches have in the recent past taken part at the invitation of local Reserve Units in their mobilisation exercises.

Now SSAFA's 6000 voluntary representatives all over the UK and Ireland are standing by to help Reservists' families at any time if required. In case of need, families should contact their local SSAFA representative whose address can be found at main Post Offices and Citizen Advice Bureaux, if not in the telephone directory.

CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our congratulations to:

Lieutenant Colonel Barbara Ridler (Retd) who was awarded the OBE for political services in the Birthday Honours.

Major Alma Crofton (Retd) who received the MBE in the Birthday Honours.

W02 Margaret Rosie BEM who has been awarded a bar to her BEM for her work at Chequers. This is the first time that any member of the Corps has received a bar to the BEM.

Captain Caroline Paxton who goes to St Catherine's College, Cambridge in October to read for a degree in History. Captain Paxton is the first member of the WRAC to go before the Army Universities Board and be offered sponsorship. At present she is serving with the RMP at HQ BAOR, and is the subject of our cover photograph.

LCpl Angela Ward, attached to the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, who won a "silver" medal for her efforts with the Yeomanry's team of cooks in the final of the North West District "Cooks of the year" competition held at the Altcar Training Area on 11th and 12th April.



LCpl Angela Ward receiving her medal from Brig WFA Findlay, Deputy Commander North West District.

PRIZES FOR OUR ROSES

Rose lovers will be interested to know that roses from the Princess Royal's Memorial Garden took four first prizes at the Stoke Park Flower Show last month.



SPORT

INTER-SERVICE TABLE TENNIS

Victory again for the Army was the outcome of the Inter Services Championships hosted by the Navy Women and held at Portsmouth. As in previous years the team of Major Margaret King, W02 Pat Swailes, Sgt Denise Townsend and Cpl Jill Armstrong played very well and only lost three of their matches. They were spurred on to this well deserved win by the active support of W02 Sue Taylor, Sgt Jean Tomlin (team Captain), Pte Sooty Andrews (reserve) and Pte Debbi Cappell. W02 Pat Swailes and Cpl Jill Armstrong were selected to represent the Combined Services in a match against the Civil Service.

Four members of the Army Squad competed in the Combined Services Championship where once again the Army were victorious. Cpl Jill Armstrong took the Ladies Singles title while the Ladies Doubles title fell to the invincible combination of Cpl Jill Armstrong and W02 Pat Swailes. The third victory of the Championships came in the Mixed Doubles where Cpl Jill Armstrong and Sgt Harrison retained their title.



From left to right: Back Row: Sgt Tomlin, Pte Andrews, Sgt Townsend, W02 Taylor. Front Row: Maj King, W02 Swailes, Cpl Armstrong, Pte Cappell.

EXERCISE WHITE LADY VII

On 7th March 1981, 23 WRAC personnel travelled to Aviemore hoping to find enough snow to be able to learn to ski or to improve their already acquired skills. During the first week of the exercise there was very little snow and what there was seemed to be disappearing fast. All the snow was on the higher slopes which meant a journey in the chair lifts and if these did not operate, due to strong winds, the descent for beginners was interesting. However, thanks to the excellent instruction by Lt Martin Preece and W02 Pat Rosewell, this problem was easily overcome. Fortunately the snow held out and at the end of the first week the skiers were looking forward to the races due to take place in the second week. It all depended on the weather, so we just had to pray for snow.

Over the weekend our prayers were answered. The question was now whether there was enough to be able to set suitable courses for the races. Our luck held out and the Inter-Zone Race was held. The day was a beautiful one — clear skies and sunshine. The snow was icy in places but otherwise in good condition. We could almost imagine we were on the Continent rather than Scotland! All the girls completed the course stylishly and the eventual winner after two runs was Sgt Bernie Rimmer. The Team Championship was won by Zone D due to the efforts of Lt Jo McElwee, 2Lt Rebecca Bray, 2Lt Bridget O'Hara and Cpl Norma Winchester. Capt Angie Carter won the Ladies Novice Competition.

INTER-SERVICE SKIING

The Inter Service Championships were again hosted by the Army and were run concurrently with the Army in Scotland Ski Meeting. The team was selected from the Army Women's Inter-Zone Race and consisted of W02 Pat Rosewell, W02 Carol O'Nians, Sgt Bernie Rimmer and Cpl Norma Winchester.

The first race, the Special Slalom was held in cold conditions and the visibility was poor. The Army team skied very well but unfortunately three of them were disqualified for missing a gate on the first run. On the second day they produced some very fast times — Sgt Bernie Rimmer was the fastest girl to go down the course. Despite this excellent performance by all four team members, the RAF women won the Championship and we took second place.

AU PAIR IN FRANCE

Captain A A Kirby-Harris

Lest anyone imagine that the WRAC is going into the nanny business, let me explain that the Officer Exchange Au Pair Scheme, according to chapter 12 of AGAI, exists "to develop a sense of mutual respect and understanding, through normal participation in day to day activities at unit level".

Having served for nearly two years at the WRAC Training Centre at Guildford I was interested to see how other armies train and employ their women and so I applied to go to France for two weeks.

France, like most of our NATO allies, runs a system of National Service and it is the conscripts who are the private soldiers. Women in France are not liable for National Service anyway. Men and women who wish to make the Services their career pass out from their basic training in the rank of substantive corporal. Obviously, therefore, their training is of longer duration and has rather different aims from ours.

I visited the Ecole Interarmee des Personnels Militaires Feminins where girls are trained for all three Services. It is situated near the historic city of Caen in a very beautiful part of Normandy. While I was there several very enjoyable excursions were arranged for me in the town, and also to the nearby beaches, the scene of the Normandy landings in June 1944 and to the military museum at Arromanches. I must say that my visit to that museum made me feel extremely proud to be British.

I spent a truly memorable fortnight at the EIPMF where I observed (and sometimes participated in) all aspects of the girls' training and found it most interesting. A new intake had just arrived and the scene at the Q stores reminded me very forcibly of Guildford! French girls are issued with much more kit than ours, including all their underwear, nightwear, a dressing gown and slippers, tracksuit and an incredible assortment of uniforms. Many of the subjects taught are similar to ours — map reading, first aid, NBC, communications and of course the all-important Drill and Ranks and Badges!

While they are at the EIPMF all the girls are taught to drive, and pass their driving test, to swim

(they have a really beautiful pool) and pass their swimming test. As their course is so much longer than ours, the subjects are taught in much greater depth than we have time for, and practical experience plays an important part, with a week's exercise under canvas towards the end of the course. All the girls are taught to shoot on the pistol, rifle and sub-machine gun, and they learn fieldcraft. On the staff of the EIPMF is a pretty young corporal, the only woman shooting instructor in France, and very impressive she is too.

French officers and servicewomen have the same rights as French civilians to take paid maternity leave (unpaid for longer periods if needed). Indeed, the young captain who escorted me has two little boys, both born while she was serving. Every effort is made to post married couples together and I met a W02 (married to the RSM) who had had five children during her nineteen years in the service, and who had always been posted with her husband.

The food was every bit as good as one expects in France and all ranks had the same menu — which was displayed each day with a most thoughtful calorie total! The officers had a separate dining room and one of my enduring memories will be the sound of marching feet (their drill shoes are low-heeled moccasins) and the singing to keep time of hundreds of girls arriving for their meals!

My ability to speak French undoubtedly helped me to join in and make friends and nearly everyone I met expressed great relief at not having to try to speak English! It was certainly very good practice for me and a most enjoyable and valuable experience.



Captain Kirby-Harris with her French hosts.

GETTING IT RIGHT!

A behind the set look at 'Holding the Fort'

Capt Sue Burwell

When you are sitting at home with your feet up on the sofa enjoying a relaxing evening's viewing it is hard to appreciate the enormous amount of planning and effort which goes into the making of even the shortest television programme.

This was brought home to me very convincingly last year when I was nominated as temporary WRAC adviser to London Weekend Television! This because they were embarking on a new comedy programme series with a strong WRAC content. The programme was called "Holding the Fort" and in the subsequent twelve months I was able to see it grow from a promising concept into an immensely popular hit. Needless to say this provided me with a fascinating insight into the

complexities of modern television production.

From day one the key-note of all the WRAC sequences was authenticity. At my very first informal meeting with them the script writers, Lawrence Marks and Maurice Gran, took great pains to establish that they wanted every detail of Army life to be as accurate as possible. A few months later I was officially nominated to give full guidance and assistance to the series. It seemed a daunting prospect at the time as I had little idea of what the job would entail and what would be expected of me; in the event I needn't have worried as the production team couldn't have been more helpful or easy to work with.

My initial sessions with Lawrence and Maurice was spent answering innumerable questions on every aspect of the WRAC. Would a situation they had in mind for a script be feasible? Would a particular scene be an accurate representation of reality? What would the appropriate military jargon be? These were the sort of questions, hundreds of them, to which I had to provide answers.

My next major task was to plough through the draft scripts for the first seven episodes to check them for accuracy. While accepting that certain

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characters such as Captain Hector Quilley were out-and-out caricatures (he was every civilian's idea of what a blimpish Army officer should be), on the whole very little had to be changed. Again the script writers were most co-operative in accepting the minor amendments I did ask for.

The next phase of production was when the hard work began in earnest. The two girl costume and set designers both needed a lot of very detailed advice, and despite their youth I found them both astonishingly competent. Their painstaking attention to detail extended from the colour of the walls in a typical Army communications centre to the right shade of tights to be worn with WRAC uniform!

The work was hard but it had its lighter moments. For instance, it was difficult to keep a straight face when Patricia Hodge – dressed for the occasion in full No 2 uniform – was given the smartest of salutes by a passing recruit who mistook her for the real thing. Then there was the time when I had to initiate five non-military extras in the intricacies of a correct Army salute as well as correcting their misconception that putties should be worn wrapped around their legs like bandages! I should add that I was the adviser on all Army matters – not just the WRAC. For instance, another Army Custom which needed explaining was the rule that beards are simply not allowed. When two bearded extras turned up on the set, it fell to me to explain that they would have to have either a rapid shave or a quick cover up job. In the end they chose the latter, one appearing on camera with a towel round his head while the other hid his hairiness under a strategically placed boxing headguard.

Working as a military adviser to the major television series might sound like a cushy number, but believe me it was a hard slog at times. I never quite knew what was going to happen next – or when – and the hours could be very long, but dull it certainly wasn't! In fact when the time finally came to leave the studios and go back to the real Army I felt quite a tinge of sadness.

WOMEN IN THE RHODESIAN ARMY

Lt A J Miller WRAC

In December 1972 the ambush by terrorists on a white farmer's homestead in Centenary, eighty miles north of Salisbury, heralded an upsurge in terrorist activity that was to continue until the Independence of Zimbabwe on 18th April 1980. As the fighting increased, every available man in the Regular and Territorial section of the Defence Forces was required for the counter insurgency operations.

On 4th August 1975 the Rhodesia Women's Service (RWS) was formed. Its original aim was to employ women for administrative posts in order to release men for operational tasks. The RWS is divided into two sections, RWS (Army) and RWS (Airforce) – Rhodesia does not have a Navy as it is a land-locked country. Initially it was generally thought amongst the hierarchy of the Army that the RWS would be a short term innovation, only required while the war continued. At the beginning there was no rank structure and the women were paid on a scale dependent on school qualifications and work experience.

The response to the advertising campaign in mid-1975 for women to join the RWS was far greater than expected. By the end of 1976 the RWS was 300 strong in an Army totalling 10,000 regulars. The RWS are held against existing Army posts and there has never been an establishment for solely female posts. Because the Army was below established strength throughout the war it was possible to recruit as many females as were available and suitable. The rate of recruiting never exceeded the discharges so the strength of the RWS remained around the 300 mark.

The recruit course consists of drill, weapon training (Uzi SMG and 9mm pistol), voice procedure, basic map reading, office procedure and Army organisation. There is no accommodation provided for RWS in most areas so they are generally posted to their home centres. The RWS are employed as administrative clerks, operations/intelligence clerks, typists, signallers, telephonists and medics. At one stage three girls

were dog handlers in the Corps of Engineers (Labrador dogs were used successfully in the detection of certain types of landmines and booby traps). During the war RWS were non-combatants but because the operations extended almost throughout Rhodesia a few members often worked in sensitive areas. Members of the RWS moving out of the main towns were encouraged to carry weapons. The RWS usually carried a pistol or SMG as the infantry rifle (7.62mm) was found to be rather unwieldy. No member of the RWS was killed on duty although two were involved in vehicle ambushes. One RWS officer was killed when the second Viscount was shot down by terrorists.

The RWS are not a Corps of their own but are badged Staff Corps (part of the Corps of Infantry). Members attached to other Corps retain the Staff Corps stable belt and cap badge but wear the badge of their relevant corps on their left chest.

At first there were no career prospects which caused a great deal of dissatisfaction amongst the RWS. By early 1977 it became clear that the Army could not survive without the women who were fulfilling a vital role in keeping the Army administration going. On 1st July 1977 a rank structure was introduced. Every serving member of the RWS was offered a rank dependent on her previous Army experience and the highest offer was C Sgt. RWS were then paid 80% of their male counterparts. It was only after the introduction of the rank structure that a woman could consider a career in the Army. A three day Officer Selection Board (equivalent to RCB) was held and applicants had to have served in the Army for a minimum of one year and be over 25 years of age. Of the 40 applicants, seventeen were selected to attend the first commissioning course. The aim of the course was to fit officers for junior staff and regimental appointments. On commissioning the nine successful officers were appointed Lieutenants and posted as administrative officers (Assistant Adjutants) in various units and as grade 3 staff officers at brigade and divisional level. The regular Rhodesian Army was only just over one division in size prior to Independence. Two more commissioning courses have been held. One was similar to the original course for serving members and the other course of seven months duration was for school leavers. Those attending the long course were commissioned as Second Lieutenants. By Independence there were 40 officers and 250 other ranks in the RWS.

There is no doubt that the original aim of the RWS was achieved. Now that the terrorist war is over the RWS is involved in the rapid expansion programme taking place. Prime Minister Mugabe and his cabinet realise the important role the women are playing and in July 1980 four months after Independence all women in the Defence Forces were given equal pay to men.



Lt Alison Miller (centre front row) with members of her unit when she served in the Rhodesian Army.

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Women's Company Royal Brunei Malay Regiment

Major R D Patrick

After hectic farewells to families and friends, the five of us forming the Loan Service team to Brunei met at Heathrow on Friday 1st May 1981. We are, to be precise, Major Rowena Patrick, Officer Commanding Women's Company, Captain Sarah Sherring, Second in Command, W02 Sheila Murray, CSM, Chief Wren Jill Newell and Flight Sergeant Vivien Carter, instructors. We climbed aboard our Australia-bound jumbo and took off for Singapore via Muscat and Kuala Lumpur.

After a weekend sightseeing in Singapore we took off over the South China sea to Brunei. The heat hit us as we left the aircraft, so did the warmth of our welcome. Brunei TV was there with Colonel Mahommed the Deputy Commander Royal Brunei Malay Regiment, and at least five assorted British Officers and Warrant Officers from the RBMR on Loan Service. To our horror we were national news and saw ourselves on the 7 o'clock news that night — straight after Kevin Keegan and Southampton FC visit to Malaysia! We were taken exhausted and very hot to our flats which will be our homes for the next two years. We live in adjoining blocks one mile from Bolkiah Camp where re-building is being finished for the new Women's Company.

The first few days saw us buying cars, organising bank accounts, being interviewed, shown around and sorting everything out. Our first major visit was to the flotilla at Muara twelve miles away on the coast. We were invited to join the fast patrol boats and went to sea for an hour. Another visit took us around the air wing and finally a helicopter flight over Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital, with its beautiful golden domed mosque.

The latter half of the second week was concerned with orientation including our first jungle trip. It was very hot, and the short walk wore us all out. The butterflies were beautiful, multi-coloured and huge — so were the ants!

For the last few weeks we have been working

on our Basic Malay course. Malay is a softly spoken language, and many words sound the same but have different meanings. The form of the language is very simple, but we are very confused at times. It is all very exciting and we are beginning to get used to the heat. Everyone is kind, helpful and charming and the country is very beautiful. We look forward to meeting our future officers, three of whom are at Camberley as officer Cadets, the other three appear for some training and orientation in September before joining the September officer Cadet Course. To the three Brunei Officer Cadets good luck, to those of you the other side of the world "Selamat tinggal" dari Brunei.

UNIT NEWS

HONG KONG

All members of the Hong Kong Gurkha Signal Squadron and a few from the Headquarters managed to walk the full length of the Maclehoose Trail which stretches 100 Km from the east to the west of the Colony. The views from the top of the hills were tremendous. The delights of a Gurkha bhay (curry) were sampled, and the week ended with a day spent water-skiing and swimming.

DWRAC visited the Colony in February just before Chinese New Year, and met those serving in the New Territories as well as the main detachment based at HQ British Forces in HMS Tamar.

Six girls from the Hong Kong Gurkha Signal Squadron have completed a six week exercise in New Zealand.

WRAC JOIN GLOSTERS ON ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

The first ten WRAC girls to be posted to a front line infantry battalion arrived just in time for St Valentine's Day. There waiting for them, courtesy of the warm-hearted Glorious Glosters was the largest valentine in the world.

The ten girls have been sent to the 1st Bn The Gloucestershire Regiment, serving in BAOR, as part of a trial to see how much of the clerical and administrative work the WRAC can do, thereby releasing soldiers for combat duties. This trial, scheduled to last for about two years, will see the ten girls serving with the battalion on eighteen month tours. Although not destined for the combat zone, the girls are determined to stay as fit as the soldiers. Within hours of accepting the giant valentine card the girls were running on a two and a half mile cross country course while the soldiers completed a seven mile run.

The posts the girls are taking over include those of drivers, clerks and medical assistants in the MRS.



A giant valentine card to welcome the girls to the 1st Bn The Gloucestershire Regt.

WRAC JOIN 49 FD REGT RA

Lt E J Warwick WRAC

After many months of speculation, official word was received that 49th Field Regiment Royal Artillery would be the proud parent of ten WRAC Servicewomen in early April 1981.

The girls arrived and began work on 7th April. There are five clerks in RHQ, four stewardesses in the Officers Mess and one medical assistant. They live in converted rooms in the Quarter Master's Department.

Before settling down to work the girls attended an orientation course. This consisted of various local visits, films and lectures about the Gunners and the Regiment, and a chance to see the guns in action "in the field".

It did take a little time to adjust to the fact that they are outnumbered by at least 500 to 1 within the Garrison, but they have taken this in their stride.

The girls will stay with the Regiment when it returns to UK in April 1982 and have already been described by the gunners as "good news".



Latest arrivals to 49 Fd Regt RA.

EX BATHING BELLE 1981

2Lt L J Turner WRAC

The WRAC Company from CAD Kineton held their Annual Summer Camp at Penhale, Cornwall from 23rd April to 8th May this year. It was more of a winter than summer camp as the weather took a definite turn for the worse. The two weeks saw groups of first 47 then 42 servicewomen arrive at the camp for their week of Adventure/Continuation Training.

Orienteering was held on two very wet, cold and windy Sundays with the girls triumphing over the weather to arrive exhausted back in camp with beaming smiles. Check points were manned by the permanent staff who all staggered back to camp soaked to the skin.

As the WRAC are now being allowed to fire SMG's, the servicewomen were taught the basics of the weapons in Dry Training before actually firing them on the 30m Range. Our thanks must go to the Depot the Prince of Wales Division for providing us with some very brave Range Officers! However the WRAC showed such talent that we are hoping to enter a team in our Inter Company Shoot to be held early next year.

Abseiling and rock climbing were carried out with help from Sgt Craig RAOC and Sgt Douglas. For some girls the thrill of the climb or abseil has resulted in a large number volunteering for courses. Some afternoons were spent swimming in Newquay's covered pool, riding over Crantock Common and a visit to a Cornish tin mine. Several servicewomen managed to go sea canoeing which was very different from river canoeing but all were glad to have tried this sport. Everyone enjoyed camp even if they did return to Kineton without a suntan.



Orienteering in the wind and the rain! L-R: Pte Benjamin, Pte Luen, LCpl Evans, Pte Kent.

EXERCISE TRIAD

Pte Jan Spencer

Early this year Queen's Gurkha Signals were asked to supply a small detachment of mainly Data Telegraphists to exercise with the New Zealand Army. Six WRAC were chosen with two Royal Signallers and we left Hong Kong on 18th February to begin work. We all had mixed feelings as to what the next six weeks would hold for us.

We arrived in Christchurch, South Island and were promptly whisked away to Waiouru in North Island, the main New Zealand army training area. Once in Waiouru we were shown our tented accommodation in the wilds of Paradise Valley where we remained for the whole of Exercise Triad. Cpl Allan Howard, LCpls Jan Steer and Sandy Peverall, Ptes Linda Fatkin, Jan Ravan and Tracy Grubb were all employed in the Commcen working a long shift system. I worked in the Communication Control Group supplying the staff with tea and coffee and Sgt Steve Davies demonstrated his skills in the Radio Control Group. We spent an enjoyable nine days in Waiouru especially as the exercise had its lighter moments. We began to work very happily with that strange race, the Kiwis.

After the exercise finished we moved to Papakura just outside Auckland, the home of 4 Signal Squadron. Here we spent three days cleaning vehicles and checking stores after which we stood down. We then had time to explore the area around Auckland and see a few of the area's attractions and do plenty of shopping.

On 9th March the party split, all of the WRAC except myself left Papakura to fly to Christchurch. After three attempts to take off, the flight was abandoned. The plane finally took off the following day with some rather nervous passengers.

I joined Sgt Jon Stammers of the NZ Army and the two Royal Signals for the long drive from Papakura to Christchurch. The first leg of the journey to Wellington normally takes eight hours, but it took us twenty-two hours due to the mechanical hiccups of our vehicle!

After being issued with weapons, steel helmets and thermal underwear we were ready for our next

phase, Exercise Southern Safari. This exercise took place north of Christchurch on Molesworth Station, a very bleak but beautiful area. After being warned about freezing temperatures it was nice to find it actually became quite hot during the day.

On the exercise we all worked in the Commcen as the main communications group for the exercise. Pte Grubb and myself were detailed as drivers for the extensive Signal Despatch Service which meant long hours of driving. After ten days we returned to Christchurch leaving Pte Jan Ravan who remained to help with their TA yearly exercise. After cleaning our SDS vehicles we were given a week to see some more of New Zealand. Three of us hired a car and spent four days touring the South Island. We managed to see a lot of the country, covering some 1500 miles and thoroughly enjoying ourselves.

As our time in New Zealand came to an end we were all very sorry to say goodbye to our new friends and to leave behind the fresh, clean air of New Zealand to return to the heat and humidity of Hong Kong.

VISIT OF BRIGADIER A FIELD CB HON ADC TO CYPRUS

Brigadier Field, Director WRAC was in Cyprus from 26th March to 2nd April visiting units in Episkopi, Dhekelia and Ayios Nikolaos. She also visited the UN Contingent in Nicosia.



Brig Field with members of the WRAC stationed in Episkopi.

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LIFE WITH THE GREEN JACKETS IN SOUTH ARMAGH

Lieutenant J S Young BSc

On 12th March 1981 the 1st Battalion The Royal Green Jackets arrived in Northern Ireland to begin a 4½ month tour of South Armagh. At Belfast Docks the Battalion main body climbed into 4-ton trucks to start the trip by road and air to South Armagh. With them were nine women, the first WRAC to serve with a roulement battalion in South Armagh, and also the first WRAC to serve with the Green Jackets. We travelled by road to HMP Maze and finished the journey to Bessbrook by helicopter.

It was difficult to know what to expect since we were the first WRAC in South Armagh, but we were aware that living and working conditions would be cramped. However, all the women were volunteers and accepted the restrictions as part of the job. Our presence in the Battalion came about through their lack of skilled Comcen and Switchboard Operators. Lt Colonel Miller, CO of 10 Signal Regiment offered to supply that expertise in female form, an offer which was quickly taken up by Lt Colonel Taylor, CO of the 1st Battalion RGJ. So the girls were employed in their trade and released eight men to a Rifle Company. The addition of eight men may seem negligible but over 4½ months the availability of those men for patrolling and guard duties lessened the pressures all round.

We worked in Battalion Headquarters based in Bessbrook Mill. Bessbrook is a small linen town near Newry and about eight miles north of the border. The mill was built in 1845 and was originally capable of taking the flax in its raw state and transforming it into woven linen, but now concentrates solely on weaving linen. The Army leases half of the buildings from the owner and the disadvantages of living in such a building are immediately obvious on arrival. On the lower and ground floors, where we lived and worked, there are few windows and with inner construction dividing the previously large halls of the old mill into offices and accommodation, the atmosphere is one of piped air and artificial light. We were fortunate to be in accommodation with windows and good toilet facilities, and protection from mortar blast.

Although we were not able to take an operational role, we all became quickly involved in the excitement and tension of the battalion's

successes and the unfortunate tragedies. I was quickly picked up as a primary Watchkeeper in the Battalion Operations Room and enjoyed using the communications skills I had last used fourteen months ago. The combination of a female Switchboard operator and a female Watchkeeper proved too much for some callers who wondered if they were really connected to Bessbrook Mill!

Living in an operational situation in dangerous countryside in Northern Ireland has left its mark on us all. The mortar attacks on Newtownhamilton SF base and the tragic loss of the five young soldiers from the Battalion in the culvert bomb explosion, both in May, and the other shooting incidents in which fortunately, no one was killed, affected us all deeply and brought home the very real threat we lived with.



Serving with the 1st Bn The Royal Green Jackets. Left to right: Back Row: Pte Winchester, Pte Parkhouse, Pte Lawrenson, Pte Reynolds, Pte Garioch. Front Row: Cpl McCarrick, Lt Young, Pte Donnelly.

PRINTS FOR SALE

Kenneth Howard ARWS ROI NEAC was commissioned to paint two scenes of the WRAC in Belfast. A painting of searchers on duty at the entry gates in the centre of the city has been presented to HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. The second painting showing WRAC with soldiers in an Ops Room has been presented to HRH The Duchess of Kent.

A limited number of prints have been made of each picture of which half are signed and numbered. The size is 8½" x 12½" with 2" all round "mounting", and the price is £5 for the signed prints and £3 for the unsigned prints, plus 50p (up to 3 prints) for postage and packing. The prints are available from Corps HQ. Please state whether the INDOOR or OUTDOOR print is required.

UNIT NEWS

29 COMPANY WRAC

It has been non-stop for 29 Company since Christmas. Exercise 'Snow Queen' provided the chance for some of the servicewomen to show their skiing skills on the slopes of Bavaria. As always the amount of enthusiasm made up for the lack of style – but a lot of fun was had by all. Thankfully everybody returned in one piece!

March was a busy month. We had the visit of Brigadier E J Nolan CB Deputy Controller Commandant, and we also had members of the Company involved on Exercise "Wintex". Brigadier Nolan toured the unit and had the opportunity of meeting some of the servicewomen for an informal chat over a cup of coffee. Later there was a display of NBC drills and First Aid ability, followed by lunch in the WRAC Sgts'

Mess attended by all the WRAC SNCOs and WOs within striking distance of Rheindahlen. Exercise "Wintex" lasted about two weeks and saw some of the girls disappear into the caves at Maastrich in Belgium, from which all reappeared safely.

In September, 29 Company will be attending summer camp at Grobbendonk in Belgium. We hope to get a total of 150 servicewomen on 3 one-week courses. Activities will include orienteering, a night exercise, map reading, sports and various day trips to see nearby places of interest.

Finally, sport, and all in all we did not do badly. The company were runners-up in the Inter Zone Netball Championships in March then went on to win the BAOR league and became BAOR champions. Cpl Betty Samms came second in the Army Cross Country Championships and was selected to represent the Army at the Inter Services event. 29 Company were runners up in the BAOR Hockey Championships and came top in the BAOR Hockey League. Our hairdresser, LCpl Edwina Plater, was selected to represent BAOR in the Inter Services and the Inter Zone Table Tennis Championships. Training is now under way for tennis, rounders, volleyball, athletics and swimming.

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31(GL) SIGNAL REGIMENT (V)

On Saturday, 4 April 1981, Headquarters Squadron joined in a parade through the London Borough of Hammersmith to be ceremoniously adopted with 10 Para and the Green Jackets. The parade formed up in Brook Green and marched along to the Hammersmith Town Hall. Even the Saturday morning mad rush of traffic round Hammersmith Broadway was halted for the occasion. Twenty-one members of the WRAC paraded in combat kit, and this caused almost as much comment from the public as the lack of traffic!

On the following Saturday, April 11th another twelve members of the WRAC from the Regiment, this time immaculate in No 2 Dress, marched to the GLC County Hall where HRH The Duke of Kent took the salute at the TA County Hall Parade.



Forming up in Brook Green for the march to Hammersmith Town Hall.

38 SIGNAL REGIMENT (V)

Retirement of WO2 Hilda Thorne

WO2 Hilda Thorne, who was shown in the last issue of *Lioness* receiving from HRH The Princess Anne a second Efficiency Medal to add to her existing Efficiency Medal and Bar, joined the Territorial Army in 1948. Her service began with 606 Mixed Heavy Anti Aircraft Battery but, in company with others whose association with the TA began at that period, her military career has been not only long but varied as a result of successive reorganisations of the TA which followed.

On the disbandment of AA Command in 1955

she transferred to 320 Bn WRAC/TA, and in 1961 reorganisation took her to 107 Manchester Coy RCT. Following the formation of the TAVR in 1967 she became a member of 38 Signal Regiment (V) with whom she served until her retirement from the Regiment in March this year.

During her years as WO2 with the Regiment her help and support was freely given to all ranks of WRAC. At a regimental weekend in February a small gathering was arranged at which she was presented with a clock to mark her retirement from the Regiment and the good wishes of us all for the future.

80 (CHESHIRE YEOMANRY) SIGNAL SQUADRON

The unofficial team championship for the WRAC girls shooting at the recent North West District Skill at Arms meeting would undoubtedly have gone to the WRAC team from 80 (Cheshire Yeomanry) Signal Squadron, who are based at Gilwern, Abbotts Park, Chester. Led by their team Captain, Corporal Hazel Smith, they won the team prizes for Rifle, Sub Machine Gun and were runners up in the Falling Plate, and took the individual prizes for WRAC pistol (Corporal Hazel Smith), SMG (Private Beverley Darcey) and the individual rifle by Private Lynn Thomas. The fourth team member was Lance Corporal Anne Ebberell, and the picture has Hazel Smith in the centre with the celebratory champagne!



Celebrating after the presentation of prizes by Maj Gen Hicks, GOC North West District.

37 SIGNAL REGIMENT (V)

The girls of 53 (Welsh) Signal Squadron (V) based at Park Street in Cardiff certainly rallied round to support the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund. In less than four months they raised £800.

Second Lieutenant Gill Jones was the driving force behind this formidable woman-power which mobilised to extract the maximum amount of cash from all the members of the Squadron.

A Halloween Dance, Jumble Sale and a Sponsored Walk and Shoot plus many raffles brought the money rolling in until the sight of WRAC bearing down on them, raffle books in hand, was too much for some of their male counterparts.

The final and most lucrative fund raiser was a lunchtime Cheese and Wine party prior to the Wales v England rugby international match at

Cardiff Arms Park. The ground backs on to the TA Centre and people without tickets were invited to attend the party prior to watching the match on two hired television sets. In this way the viewers had the full excitement of the game with the roar of the crowd in their ears.

In the event over 300 people (including the Army Rugby Squad) helped raise £300 in the afternoon.



Girls of 53 (Welsh) Signal Squadron (V) proudly holding the cheque which was the result of their fund-raising.



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YEAR OF THE DISABLED

H M C Jeffries

In 1968 at least two members of the WRAC met with serious accidents which were to change their lives. One of them LCpl Anne Taylor (now Mrs Peskey) was serving at FVRDE as the WRAC PTI when in the midst of rehearsals for the newly formed gymnastics team she broke her back. Anne has been paralysed from the waist down since the accident but has never given up her love of sports, and, in fact, took part in her first National Games whilst still a patient at Stoke Mandeville. The climax of her success to date came this year when in May she went to Italy with the paraplegic table tennis team to represent England at international level. There she gained a gold and a silver medal and now has an established place in the team. She has already won sixteen gold and eighteen silver medals for sports competitions in archery, slalom, pistol shooting, field events, bowls

and table tennis. Now she plans to add fencing to the list, and we wish her every success for the 1984 Olympics.

Pte Claudia Jones, who was serving with 8 Company Bicester at the time of her accident, is more severely handicapped being paralysed from the neck down, but she too has made a remarkable effort to overcome her disabilities. Since leaving Stoke Mandeville she has been living at home with her parents. She has a powered wheelchair to help her get about and in order to help her back into the way of studying again she took a one year "Fresh Horizon" course. After doing very well on this course Claudia went on to take her BA Degree in Sociology at the NE London Polytechnic, spending two terms of her third year teaching on Adult Literacy courses. She is now a voluntary worker at the local Community Centre which runs play groups, teenage and senior citizen groups. At present she is busy fund-raising for special taxis to provide transport for those disabled people who are unable to get out of their wheelchairs.

We wish both Anne and Claudia and all other disabled people continuing courage and a strength of purpose in their lives.

WRAC STAFF BAND RECORDING

The WRAC Staff Band have recently made another recording which is now available for distribution. The cost is £3.75 (including VAT) plus £1.00 for postage and packing.

Orders are now invited and should be submitted on the form below.

WRAC STAFF BAND RECORD (LP 4)

Band President, WRAC Staff Band, WRAC Centre, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, Surrey. GU2 6QH.

1. Please supply copies of the Band Record.
2. Remittance to value of £ is enclosed (*including postage and packing @ £1.00 per record ordered).
3. *Address to which record(s) should be despatched
.....
.....
.....
4. *Arrangements will be made to collect this order from Band President at the WRAC Centre. (If collection is intended, prior arrangements should be made with the Band President, Guildford 71201, Ext 388).

Signature

Name in block capitals

* Delete where not applicable.

REUNIONS

QMAAC OLD COMRADES DINNER CLUB

ASSOCIATION NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1981

The Annual General Meeting was held at The Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF on Saturday 16 May 1981. Brigadier E J Nolan CB Vice President of the Association was in the Chair.

Mrs H E C Weldon Chairman of the Association reported that new branches had been formed at Norfolk and Suffolk based on Norwich, Shropshire based on Telford, Hastings, Cambridge and Newcastle upon Tyne. This greatly improved the geographical coverage by branches with every hope that our membership would increase.

Mrs E Laurence-Smith the Honorary Treasurer reported that the financial state of the Association was sound and that provided the Association invested to increase income to off-set rising costs and to maintain the real value of the funds then the financial outlook was very satisfactory.

Brigadier E J Nolan the Chairman of the Benevolent Funds reported that £29,071 had been made in grants to those in need which was nearly £10,000 more than the previous year. The response to the appeal at the AGM in 1980 for donations to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund had been wonderful and amounted to £19,227.

Brigadier E J Nolan Chairman of the Museum Trustees reported that there had been 3404 visitors to the Museum in 1980, including visitors from Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, France, Italy, Norway and USA. The Museum welcomed gifts of medals, uniforms and mementoes.

It was agreed that the AGM in 1982 should be at Plymouth on 17 April 1982. Plymouth Branch had made arrangements for the AGM in the Guildhall, a reception by the Lord Mayor of Plymouth and a Reunion Dinner in the Guildhall followed on the Sunday morning by a Service in St Andrews Church.

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

May 7th 1981 saw the final reunion of the Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps Old Comrades Dinner Club at the Coburg Hotel Bayswater. 48 Old Comrades — all over 80 — were present with 28 guests. The occasion was a happy and a sad one at the same time, happy because so many had made a great effort to come because it was the last, and sad because it was the last, and because the President, Mrs Barbara Mayhew, who had been an inspiration to the Club from its inception did not live to see this day.

The guests could not help but be moved by this gathering of "Old Girls" who had carried the flag of women's lib in the nicest possible way in the First World War. But the great thing was they didn't look like women's libbers — they were all gracious old ladies with many stories to tell, and so proud of their traditions.

The Dinner Club was formed in 1951 and its members have met every year since then, first for a dinner and then, as they became a little less young, a luncheon. There are still well over a hundred members of the Club, all of whom will continue to keep in touch by means of a newsletter twice a year.

DIDCOT GARRISON GROUP ATS

Didcot Garrison Group held their annual reunion on Saturday 4th April 1981 at the Union Jack Club, Waterloo, London. A very nice tea was provided and enjoyed by the members.

We are very proud that the reunion was our 35th anniversary. 48 members attended, some having attended all the reunions and many coming from all parts of the country each year.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Miss M Hill to Mrs A Wagstaff for her work in keeping the reunion going and making it possible for friends to meet. Miss P Thesiger was asked to present her with a lovely Wedgwood vase given by members in token of their thanks. Mrs Wagstaff responded by thanking all those present for this mark of their esteem.

CALLING ALL QMAAC

A researcher is trying to assemble a photographic record of all members of QMAAC who received any kind of award or decoration and of all Officials who served overseas. If any ex QMAAC has such a photograph and would be prepared to lend it for copying, Mr N G Gooding of 123 Turnpike Link, Croydon CR0 5NU would be delighted to hear from her and would treat all such material with the greatest care, returning it as soon as possible. Any photos no longer required would be subsequently passed on to the WRAC Museum.

UNION JACK CLUB TEMPORARY HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

The Union Jack Club has changed its rules to include as Temporary Honorary members the widows of service and ex-service other ranks.

Applications for accommodation should be made in writing and it will be necessary for applicants to complete a Temporary Honorary membership form showing the service particulars of their late husband. Personal callers must be in possession of evidence of their late husband's previous service.

The address is: Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, Waterloo, London SE1 8UJ. Tel: 01-928-6401.

REUNION NOTICES

WRAC ASSOCIATION REUNION 1982 PLYMOUTH

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 17 APRIL 1982

1130 hrs Secretaries meeting. (Guildhall)
1230 hrs for Council and Secretaries lunch.
1300 hrs (Duke of Cornwall Hotel)
1430 hrs Annual General Meeting. (Guildhall)

1800 hrs to Civic Reception by the Lord Mayor
1900 hrs of Plymouth. (Council House)
1930 hrs for Reunion Dinner. (Guildhall)
2000 hrs The bar will be open for pre-dinner drinks. It is hoped that the WRAC Staff Band will play during the evening.

SUNDAY 18 APRIL 1982

1100 hrs Reunion Service. (St Andrews Church)
It is hoped there will be a March Past after the Service with Standards and members of the Plymouth Federation of Ex-Service Associations.
1230 hrs Light refreshments in the Abbey
approx Hall. These refreshments may be taken away if members wish to start their travels straight after the Service.

Note: Transport, either free or at very low cost, will be provided throughout as far as possible. This will include meeting trains, to and from accommodation, Guildhall and Service, and return to trains.

PROVISIONAL BOOKING FORM

Name

Address

.....

.....

Branch

1. I shall require accommodation to be booked for me. YES/NO
2. I shall attend the Civic Reception. YES/NO
3. I shall attend the Dinner. YES/NO
4. I shall attend the Church Service. YES/NO
5. If there is a March Past I will march. YES/NO

Please return this form either to your Branch Secretary or to Miss Mary Aplin, 11 De La Hay Avenue, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4HS.

QMAAC TEA PARTY 1982

The Annual QMAAC Tea Party will be held at The Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London on Thursday 18th March 1982 from 3 pm to 5.30 pm.

Tickets price £1 from General Secretary, WRAC Association, Corps HQ WRAC, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6QH.

NORTHERN AREA REUNION — 1981

The Northern Area Reunion will be held in the Royal Baths Assembly Rooms, Harrogate on Saturday 17 October from 2.30 to 6 pm.

Tickets £2, including tea, obtainable from Miss M Bradley, 60 West End Avenue, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 9BY (tel: 0423-57023 evenings) not later than Friday 9th October. Please send stamped addressed envelope with remittance payable to "WRAC Association — Northern Area".

There will be a 'Produce' Bring and Buy stall in aid of Princess Royal's Memorial Fund.

WOLVERHAMPTON BRANCH

MEETINGS 1981

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the September meeting will now be held on 14th September 1981 and not 28th September as published in the last Lioness.

WORLD WAR TWO CWAC VETERANS 40th ANNIVERSARY REUNION 1981

This event is sponsored by the Canadian Corps Association, CWAC # 47, the last weekend in September 1981, in Toronto, Canada. This is the CWAC Veterans' 40th Anniversary Reunion.

For complete Reunion Brochure write to: CWAC Veterans' Reunion Chairman, Mrs Shirley Wood Heesaker, 201 Niagara Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5V 1C9. Tel: 781-2872, 781-3821 and 488-4027

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that Association subscriptions run from 1 January to 31 December and should if possible be paid before 31 December. The February issue of Lioness is not sent to members whose subscriptions have not been paid.

BRANCH NEWS

ALDERSHOT. The Branch continued to meet throughout the year. Our programme has included a visit to the Gurkha Museum, talks on antique silver, acupuncture, and a most interesting updating on "The WRAC today" from our President Lt Colonel J M Clements.

The highlight of the year was a Bring and Buy Coffee Evening in April when with the help of members, their friends and serving members of the WRAC we raised £212 for the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund. We all enjoyed the evening, and were very interested to hear the latest news of the Fund from Brigadier E J Nolan CB.

We were very sad to lose Miss Evelyn Best on 24 March 1981. She was an original member of the branch, and a regular attender although badly disabled for many years.

CHELTENHAM. The Branch is a thriving one, and membership has increased considerably during the last few years.

The Branch are hostesses this year for the No. 2 Sub Area (W) Reunion. A conducted tour of Cheltenham Imperial Gardens, the Promenade, the Pump Room (to drink the spa water) and Cheltenham College has been arranged, finishing

with tea at De La Bere Hotel, an old manor house with gardens overlooking the Cotswolds. Tea will be followed by the No. 2 Sub Area meeting, which anyone can attend.

We send a regular contribution to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund, mainly raised by raffles at our meetings, and profits from our Wine and Cheese Party.

This year's programme includes a visit to Windsor Castle at the invitation of one of the Military Knights, and a conducted tour of St George's Chapel, The Royal Apartments and the Queen's Doll House.

HASTINGS. This branch was formed on 23 April, 1980. We held our first Meeting at the local RAF Association who very kindly lent us one of their rooms. On that occasion there were eight of us present. Since then we have progressed and now have twenty-five members.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday in each month at the home of one of the members, whose sitting room is large enough to accommodate us. Raffles, musical evenings (records), and talks on such subjects as "Home Security" by a police sergeant and "The Work and Duties of a Magistrate" by a local magistrate who is a member, have all been part of our programme.

Recruiting has mostly been by introduction and a little advertising. As with other branches, travel is often a drawback but we do try whenever possible to transport members, especially on the homeward journey. If there are any ex service personnel known to be living in our area we shall be very pleased to hear from them. Contact Hastings 424076 or 422512.



Members of the Hastings Branch enjoying one of their monthly meetings.

KENT We have had a recruiting drive with the help of local radio and newspapers with 45 new members to date, bringing our total membership to 167, so we are hoping to split Kent into two or three branches.

Outings, dinners, coffee mornings, bring and buy sales and visits to interesting places have all been held and many members have joined the ATS Luncheon Club.

Our Standard is taken to Cathedral Parades, the Thanet Festival of Remembrance and to funerals of members.

Jane Nancarrow laid the WRAC Association wreath at the Cenotaph and several members attended the Parade.

MANCHESTER. We now have 65 members and the attendance at meetings has increased.

November saw twenty-one members on parade for Armistice. This was the first time for many years that the branch had been able to muster a marching party though we have always been represented at the Cenotaph. Mrs Earith laid the wreath on behalf of the branch.

Our Bring and Buy sale and Buffet supper in December was well attended and a great fund-raising evening. We were able to send donations to the East Lancs Home for Disabled and the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund.

On June 9th we held our Annual Dinner at the Masonic Temple, Manchester at which thirty members were present. We drank a toast to absent friends and hope that more members will be able to join us next year.

SOUTHAMPTON. Our regular monthly meetings continue to be well attended and much enjoyed. We have had many interesting talks and demonstrations in the past few months, and, of course, our regular Cheese and Wine party which is extremely popular, to which members bring guests. Fund raising is assisted by monthly raffles, the occasional Bring and Buy sale and a special Tombola at the Christmas party.



Members of the Ulster Branch after their lunch party at The George in Crawfordsburn.



Members of the Omagh Branch and their guests from the Ulster Branch after a luncheon party.

Correspondence

Mrs K M Brierley, Secretary of the Manchester Branch writes:

"On a recent visit to Colchester I had the good fortune to be directed to Maltings Farm, Lexden, Colchester where I was told I would find excellent accommodation for an overnight stay. The lady of the house, Mrs Mavis Stephenson was an ex-ATS driver who had no knowledge of our Association, but is now thinking of joining.

Her name when serving was Orbersley and she joined in Bolton, later serving at Dalkeith, Camberley and finally in 578 Company in Colchester attached to the FANY. She would be delighted to hear from anyone who remembers her."

Mr M Mason, 16 Swallow Croft, Lichfield, Staffordshire is organising a reunion of those who served in the Kidderminster area during the war, and would like to hear from any ex-ATS concerned.

Mrs Nancarrow of the Kent Branch wrote to tell us that the branch was represented at the Dover Patrol Memorial Service at St Margaret's Bay. Twelve members attended, including 86 year old Miss Barbara Whitton, ex WAAC, who stood throughout the Service. Major General Harrison, Royal Marines, Captain of Deal Castle, was the inspecting officer.



Maj Gen Harrison talking to Miss Whitton and other members of Kent branch.

Mrs M Humphrey (nee Miles) has written to us of her visit to the Forest of Heroes. "On the morning of 19th May, 1981 it was my privilege to attend a ceremony in the Volunteer's Forest in the Ayalon Valley near Jerusalem to help my husband, who was blinded in action with the Royal Marine Commando, to plant one of the last of 1,706 trees donated by the Israel War Veteran's Organisation in memory of every member of the British Commando who died on active service in World War II.

The short service was conducted at the foot of the simple stone memorial, on the bare hillside, having the Star of David in the centre surrounded by brass plaques for each of the Services involved in the Middle East War showing its badge. One was the ATS.

There were only about thirty people present and I was overjoyed to find another ex-ATS veteran in Rachel Shiloh, who joined and served in Palestine from 1942 to 1945 and now lives in Tel Aviv.

Ex Sergeant Joy Miller of 298 Leigh Road, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire SO5 3AU writes:

I was stationed at Hindhead from 1949-1952. The WRAC Staff College 1952-1953, the Glasgow Recruiting Office September 1953, 2nd Coy WRAC Donnington 1954, Fayid Egypt September 1954 - November 1955, Episkopi Cyprus November 1955 - September 1956.

I now work on my own and when work is finished I come home to an empty house. If any ex ATS/WRAC are in a similar position and would like to meet, I would be only too happy to arrange a meeting.

Mrs M Evans, 31 Castletown Grange, Ronaldsway Drive, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 9JF (ex Private Margaret Gunn) would like to hear from ATS who served with REME at Truro from 1943-44, Louise Dunlop (from Glasgow), Yvonne Shenton and Kathy Curnow from St Columb Major, Cornwall, Pat Evans and Gwen Gunter from Wales. Also the girls from RASC Keynsham in 1945, Pat Phillips from Liverpool, Julie Gibson from Dundee, Nora Moorcroft from Buxton; also the girls at Yelverton, Devon and Cosham, Portsmouth in 1945.

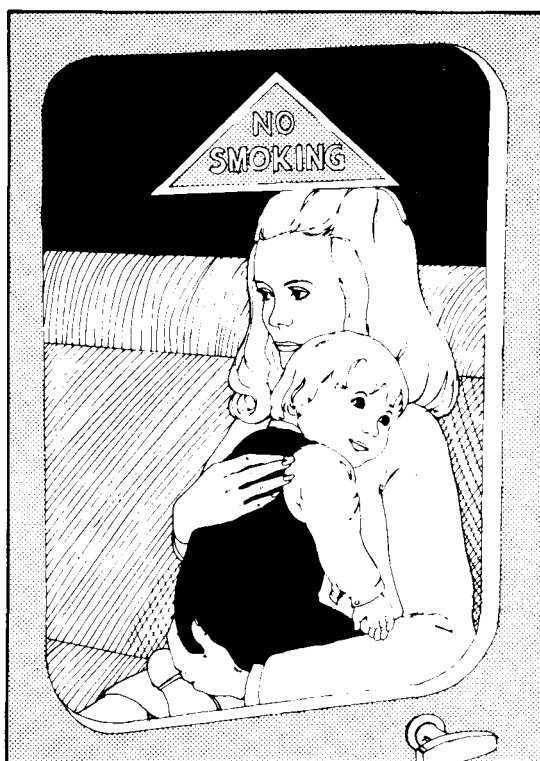
Mrs Kathleen Eastham (nee Firth) of 25 Brackendene, Bricket Wood, St Albans, Herts would like to hear from anyone who served with her in the Education Branch of the 21st Army Group in Brussels, later in Herford, Germany during 1944 to 1946.

She remembers Eileen Goult, Dorothy Liddle, Daphne Smith, Muriel Haines, Lee Cousins, Helen Smith, Anne Mulligan, Anne Hathaway, Dorothy Fisher and Eileen Fenton. She corresponds regularly with Mary Nicholl.

VACANCY FOR CHIEF STEWARDESS

A vacancy will occur in mid-January 1982 for a Chief Stewardess to run the Officers Mess at the WRAC Centre. This is an industrial grade in the Civil Service.

If you are interested and would like more information, please write to the PMC Officers Mess, WRAC Centre, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford GU2 6QH.



Thank God you're not in their situation.

Like a number of young soldiers trying to keep the precarious peace in Ireland, he was killed. His wife and child were still in married quarters in Germany, his former posting.

They were flown back to England. SSAFA organised an escort to accompany them from the airport to a London station where the train took them to Scotland. SSAFA had booked a sleeper and, at the end of this long journey, another SSAFA representative had arranged for their relatives to meet them at the station.

This could be the end of the story. Except that SSAFA will continue to watch over them. For once a man or woman has served in war, or in any of the Regular Armed Forces, their dependants can turn to SSAFA for the rest of their lives. But the demand for our help is increasing as a growing number of ex-Service men and women of two world wars reach retirement age. We need both funds and voluntary helpers, especially in urban areas. You can play your part by giving some of your time as a SSAFA representative, signing a deed of covenant or remembering SSAFA in your will.* Offers of help will be welcomed by the Secretary, SSAFA, on 01-222 9221.

* Legacies up to £200,000 are now exempt from Capital Transfer Tax.

SSAFA

Soldiers', Sailors' & Airmen's
Families Association,
27 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BZ.

TRIBUTES

Lady McFarlane (nee Jean Hart Kerr)

Members of the Dumfriesshire Branch of the Association were very sad to learn of the death on 1st April of their last surviving member of the WAAC and QMAAC, Lady McFarlane.

She joined the WAAC on 15th June 1917 and was discharged with the rank of Forewoman on 23rd October 1919 having served with the British Army at Bourges and with the American Army at Le Havre. After her release she married Sir Charles McFarlane MP and lived mainly in Glasgow where for many years she was Chairman of the Glasgow branch of the Association. She joined the Dumfriesshire branch when she moved to the area and attended nearly all the reunions, keeping in touch with many old friends. She also took a very active part in local social welfare. Lady McFarlane will be sadly missed by us all.

A.G.

Colonel C W Hull OBE TD

Many of our members will be sorry to learn of the death of Colonel Cecil Hull in York on 14th February 1981.

Colonel Hull joined the FANY as a trooper in 1930 and had risen to the rank of Ensign by the time the ATS was formed in 1938. She continued to serve with MT units until the end of 1942, and then spent five years in command of ATS Groups in Northern and Southern Commands. She was ADATS Salisbury Plain District from December 1947 till March 1949, and then successively ADWRAC London District, ADWRAC Northern Command and DDWRAC Southern Command, from which she retired in 1957.

Lieutenant Colonel Monica Bell writes: "Cecil was a very great friend of mine. For many

years she played tennis, lacrosse and hockey for Derbyshire. From 1930 she was a member of the FANY, regularly attending their annual camp. She was a keen and experienced ornithologist and retired to a cottage in Westmorland to enjoy bird watching along the river banks. She was a true friend, cheerful in adversity, and greatly respected by all ranks".

Sgt A L P W Colquhoun WRAC

Members of the Corps and Recruiting organisation were shocked to hear of the sudden death, from a heart attack, of Sgt Nancy Colquhoun on 16 January 1981 at her home in Dumbartonshire.

Nancy Colquhoun joined the WRAC (TA) in August 1952 at Dumbarton. Five years later she enlisted as a driver PSI with HQ WRAC 52 (L) Div and continued with the unit until disbandment. After a short spell in civilian life she rejoined the colours as a Recruiter in Glasgow. She was a sympathetic adviser to potential members of the Services, where her quiet manner and sense of humour will be remembered by those now serving.

More than two hundred friends and relatives attended her funeral at Dumbarton with wreaths being laid on behalf of GOC Scotland, Director WRAC, AD WRAC, all ranks UKLF and past and present members of the Women's Services in Scotland, as well as many personal flowers. AC10 Glasgow provided the Military Bearer Party and Piper to pay tribute to a loved and respected member of the Staff.

P.M.S.

OBITUARY

Barrie. Mrs Gabrielle Barrie (nee Turney) of Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham on 29 May 1981. ATS.

Best. Miss E M Best of Camberley, Surrey on 24 March 1981. QMAAC.

Buckingham. Mrs E H Buckingham (nee Towner) of Alberta, Canada on 30 December 1980. QMAAC Boulogne.

Cockram. Mrs Janet Cockram of Silsden, Yorkshire (formerly of Leeds and York) on 27 June 1981. ATS and WRAC.

Colquhoun. Sergeant A L P W (Nancy) Colquhoun of Glasgow on 16 January 1981. WRAC. Recruiter in Glasgow since July 1970.

Colville-Reeves. Mrs A Colville-Reeves of Johannesburg in August 1980. QMAAC.

Dagnall. Miss E Dagnall MBE of Burscough, Lancs in October 1980. Ex RSM of Chilwell Group ATS.

Dolby. Mrs N L Fielden OBE of Shrewsbury on 15 March 1981. Chief Commander ATS.

Gorst. Mrs A Gorst (nee Wainwright) in Liverpool on 28 May 1981. ATS.

Hannan. Mrs R Hannan (nee Skipper) of Hove, Sussex on 21 December 1980. Subaltern ATS.

Harwood. Mrs G Harwood of New Malden, Surrey in 1980. ATS.

Hull. Colonel C W Hull OBE TD of York on 14 February 1981. ATS and WRAC.

Joanny. Miss J E Joanny of Southsea, Hants on 11 October 1980. ATS and WRAC.

Jones. Mrs Betty Jones of Bristol in June 1981. Didcot Garrison Group ATS.

Kemp. Major R L Kemp of Hythe, Kent on 19 February 1981. ATS and WRAC.

Kendall. Miss A M K Kendall of Newbury, Berks on 2 January 1981. ATS.

Kirrage. Mrs M Kirrage of Hyde, Cheshire on 12 February 1981. QMAAC and ATS.

McCourt. Mrs M McCourt of Belfast on 16 May 1981. ATS. Hon Treasurer Ulster Branch.

McFarlane. Lady McFarlane of Dumfries on 1 April 1981. QMAAC.

Revell. Miss J Revell of Southampton on 16 December 1980. ATS.

Routledge. Miss Letitia Routledge at Riding Mill, Northumberland on 23 June 1981. ATS and WRAC.

St George. Miss I St George of Woolwich on 23 May 1981. ATS.

Stone. Miss D R Stone OBE BEM of Worcester on 6 February 1981. QMAAC.

Telfer. Mrs E Telfer of Edinburgh on 9 February 1981. QMAAC.

Wilson. Miss Betty Wilson of Edinburgh on 26 June 1981. W02 WRAC.

LONDON GAZETTE

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

BEM

Staff Sergeant M Cox, Sergeant M M Booker

BAR TO BEM

W02 M Rosie BEM

SERVICE AWARDS IN ULSTER QUEEN'S GALLANTRY MEDAL

Sergeant J E Freeman, Corporal D E Judge-Harrison

PROMOTIONS

Regular Army

Colonel: H G Meechie

Lieutenant Colonels: J M Clements, F E Hutley

Major: P S Malcolm

Captains: A L Birtwistle, A J Isaacs, J C A Smith,
P S Sherring, S J G Turner

Captain (QM): S Pratt

Special Regular Commission

Captain: D M H Stanley-Johns

Short Service Commissions

Captains: J C J Harper, R A Thompson,
E A Peatman-Cooke, SP Dobinson, D M Willcox,
P A Woods, S M A Beament

Lieutenants: M O Anderson, E E Cunningham,
L R J Garvey, C A McPherson, A C Merry,
S M M Newns, A J Shiel, A C Stratton, C Jones,
M G E Croft, J M Crosse, H L Bartlett,
R A Bray, J A Dando, C B Devon,
D M A Farrant, L C Fox, E J Gorringer,
S Hayes, J A Salmon, E J Warwick,
E K Jackson, L F Carlisle, A M King,
L A Emery, A J Miller, T Simpson

2/Lieutenants: R E A Farrant, G E Haddon,
C D King, J M Lane, J Smith,
C A V Aitchison, F J Blood, B J Collin,
J L Cox, J M Dunn, J A Heap, A Jones,
S E Morris, D E Rice, P F Wright

2/Lieutenants on probation: S J Atterbury,
S A Blythe, J A Hutton, V H Jones,
A H Jordan, M C Paterson, D B Robertson,
A C Foyster, F M Gitsham, L P May,
A M Jenkinson, H M East, S C J Gait,
S J Mundill, J A Parker, P J Denton,
A M Boileau, S T Dearle, M M Howes,
V R Jenkins, E H Thompson, R Archer

RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Regular Army

Colonel: E I Millington

Major: L H Campion

Captain: C E Hodgson

Short Service Commissions

Captains: S C Gorford, J M Simmonds

Lieutenants: S M M Newns, A Smith, P A Hirst

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38964.

FOR SALE WRAC Officers Greatcoat £35 ono.
Mess Dress with silk sash £25 ono. Height 5' 5",
Size 12-14. Mrs Larkins, 6 MAG Vehs Branch
REME, Chobham Lane, Chertsey, Surrey.

FOR SALE Mess Dress £30. No 2 Dress (jacket
never worn) £50. Moss Bros Raincoat £25. Height
5' 8". Size 14. Lt E M Lemonde, 22 Harnwood
Road, Salisbury, Wilts. Tel: 0722-22673

FOR SALE No 2 Dress and Mess Dress. Size 12-14.
Height 5' 6". Miss S A James, 12 Heol Carne,
Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF4 1HD.

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evenings or weekends.

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Mrs Kingston, Brinkworth 601.

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