

1982

No 1

Lioness



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Engagements

February 28	Horse Rangers Association Parade & Service, London Morning
March 4 - 5	Concert, Civic Hall, Guildford (With Guildford Operatic Company) Evening
April 16 - 18	WRAC Reunion, Plymouth
29 - 3 May	London Homes & Gardens Exhibiton, Roundshaw Park, Croydon
May 8	Concert Tunbridge Wells with Royal Tunbridge Wells Orpheus Male Voice Choir Evening
30 - 4 June	Concerts Bandstand Eastbourne
June 6	Burma Star Association Parade & Service Aldershot
24 - 27	Aldershot Army Display
July 11	Preview Parade for Royal Tournament Afternoon
12 - 31	Royal Tournament - no performances on Sundays
August 8	Concert - Hyde Park 3 - 4.30pm & 6 - 7.30pm
22 - 29	Concerts - Regents Park Sundays 3 - 4.30pm & 6 - 7.30pm Mon - Sat 12.30 - 2.00pm & 5.30 - 7.00pm
30	Concert - Greenwich Park 3 - 4.30pm & 6 - 7.30pm

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Lioness

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EDITORIAL

Did you complete the provisional booking form on page 63 of the last 'Lioness', signifying your intention to attend the 1982 Reunion in Plymouth? If not, please send it off as soon as possible and you will receive a brochure listing the events. Plymouth branch can arrange accommodation at reasonable prices for everyone.

Our newest item on the SHOPPING LIST is a screen printed gold on green table mat which we have been persuaded to order. Already two messes have bought them, but they would be very acceptable as presents, and can be bought singly or in boxes of six.

Congratulations to the Chester branch who already have more than thirty members less than six months after re-forming.

PRESENTATION BEM & LSGC

On 9 October 1981 Major General Ian Baker, GOC North East District, presented Sgt Marjorie Booker with the BEM and LSGC Medal at HQ North East District, York.

Sgt Booker, originally from Redcar, Cleveland served six years in the TAVR before joining the WRAC as a Military Policewoman in 1960.

Her service took her to London, Cyprus, North Africa, Aldershot and Berlin until she was posted as Sergeant Major to the RMP Training Company at the WRAC Centre, Guildford.

Sgt Booker became a Recruiter at St Albans in 1974 and then transferred to Hull two years later. She also covers the Army Careers Offices at Grimsby and Scunthorpe, so she appreciated the opening of the Humber Bridge!

During the years 1979/80 and 1980/81 Sgt Booker had more Women's Services enlistments than any other office in the country. She was awarded the BEM in recognition of her service at ACIO Hull.

Cover Photograph

HRH The Duchess of Kent, accompanied by Major General Richard Vickers, Commandant of the RMA Sandhurst, inspecting student officers taking part in the parade to mark the incorporation of the WRAC College as the fourth college of Sandhurst.



Sgt Booker with her family and Major General Ian Baker after the presentations.

INCORPORATION PARADE AND SERVICE OF DEDICATION WRAC COLLEGE

Capt S Burwell

The parade and service of dedication to mark the incorporation of the WRAC College as the fourth college of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst took place on Sunday 18th October 1981.

Our Controller Commandant, HRH The Duchess of Kent, took the salute as 41 WRAC student officers and 31 students from each of the other three RMA Sandhurst Colleges paraded on the Old College Square at Sandhurst. The parade was commanded by the Adjutant, Major R J S Wardle, Coldstream Guards, mounted on Alexander. The Duchess inspected the front rank of those on parade to the tune of "Thank Heaven for Little Girls".

Her Royal Highness then addressed the Parade:- "This is a symbolic occasion which marks the incorporation of the WRAC College as the fourth functional college of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. As Controller Commandant of the Women's Royal Army Corps I am delighted to be present at this joint parade on the Old College square which is traditionally the heart of Sandhurst and later at the Dedication Service in the Royal Memorial Chapel which is the spiritual home of generations of British Army officers.

This important step of incorporation has been taken as part of a deep and careful study to improve Army officer training and to fit WRAC officers for their newly defined role as an integral part of the Army.

It recognises the invaluable service of

thousands of women who, in war and peace, have willingly accepted the concept of loyalty, service and duty for so long an essential part of the Sandhurst tradition. It acknowledges that the future of the WRAC is inseparable from the rest of the Army, which places the same demands on both male and female officers and expects the same professional knowledge and adaptability. All cadets feel the same pride and sense of achievement when they receive their Commission from The Queen. Thus it makes good military and human sense that all basic army training should be under the professional guidance of one Academy and both the College and the Academy will be the stronger from the union.

So, officer cadets and student officers of Old, New and Victory Colleges, I ask you to welcome the WRAC College and include them in your military, extra mural and social activities so that they become full members of the Sandhurst family.

And, members of the WRAC College I would wish you to participate fully in the life of the Academy bearing in mind that observing our Corps motto "Gentle in Manner, Resolute in Deed" will help you to live up to the Sandhurst motto of "Serve to Lead".

All of us are involved in a unique and historic event which was hardly considered possible in 1949 when our Corps was founded but which is now an accepted fact, commemorated here today. I am sure that it will achieve the success it undoubtedly deserves".

After the parade, Her Royal Highness was escorted by the Commandant of the RMA Sandhurst, Major General R M H Vickers and his wife, and by our Deputy Controller Commandant, Brigadier E J Nolan CB, and the DWRAC, Brigadier A Field CB Hon ADC, to the Grand Entrance for the signing of the Visitor's Book.

The Duchess then attended Morning Service in the Royal Memorial Chapel, during which a WRAC Commemorative Panel was dedicated by the Chaplain General to the Forces, the Venerable Archdeacon W F Johnston. The WRAC Band played during the Service. Afterwards, Her Royal Highness met members of the Corps as well as WOs and SNCOs on the Sandhurst permanent staff, before lunching in the Old College dining room.

Many serving and retired members of the Corps were present on this important occasion which formalised the close liaison and joint training already taking place between the WRAC College and the RMA Sandhurst.



HRH The Duchess of Kent, Controller Commandant WRAC accompanied by: L-R: Brigadier A Field, DWRAC; Major General R M Vickers, Commandant RMA Sandhurst; Brigadier E J Nolan, Deputy Controller Commandant WRAC.

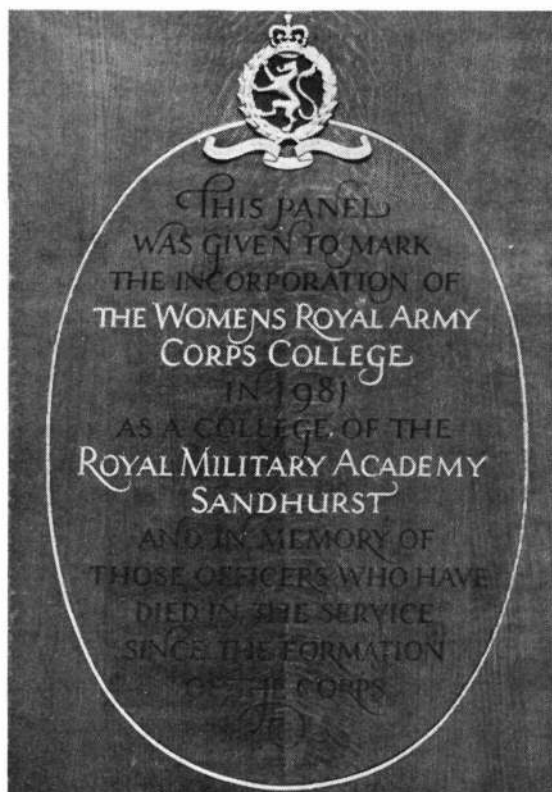
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The WRAC Panel in the Royal Military Academy Chapel which was dedicated by the Chaplain General.



The Duchess of Kent, with Brigadier Anne Field, DWRAC, talking to a group of officers before luncheon. L-R: Lt Col A I Purton, Major S M Bishop, Captain P M Hollingsworth, Captain E Carter, TA.

RETIREMENT

BRIGADIER A FIELD, CB HON ADC

After almost five years as Director, Brigadier Anne Field retires in early April this year.

She joined the ATS in 1947 and was commissioned the following year. Her wide and varied career included service abroad in Singapore, Aden and BAOR, and at home, in several Staff appointments, recruit training and with the Territorial Army. Before becoming Director her last two appointments were as Commandant of the WRAC College and DDWRAC, United Kingdom Land Forces.

Brigadier Field's term of office has been during a very challenging and changing period in the history of women in the Services, and under her leadership and wise guidance the Corps has gone from strength to strength. She has travelled all over the world and has worked indefatigably on behalf of the WRAC.

The Corps has every reason to thank Brigadier Field for all that she has done during her long service, and especially as Director. All ranks, past and present, wish her a very happy and most successful retirement.

EJN



EXERCISE YAK BACKSTOP

LCpl Lorraine Sweeney

On a Saturday last October sixteen excited people flew from Frankfurt to Kathmandu to participate in what was to be the adventure of a lifetime.

Exercise Yak Backstop was a trekking expedition organised by HQ Rhine Area. The

expedition leader, Lt Col Mike Johnstone RAPC, invited volunteers from units in Rhine Area and this was an opportunity I could not miss. The aim of the expedition was to take us trekking around the Annapurna Himal, crossing over the Thorong La Pass (17,700 ft) to Pokhara, via the Annapurna Sanctuary: a distance of some 300 miles.

Major Joan Johnstone, Cpl Marie Holliday and I were the only WRAC members of the party and we were all eager to discover the mysteries that the "Land of the Smiling People" had to offer.

When we stepped off the plane at Kathmandu it was like walking into an oven. The heat was tremendous, and the airport was seething with people. It seemed an age before we were on our way to our hotel complete with our luggage and entry permits.

We were to spend 36 hours in Kathmandu while the final arrangements for our trek were made. The hotel was basic and quite pleasant, although the beds were a little hard and the electricity was switched off at unpredictable times. After a good night's sleep we had the day to explore. Marie and I hired a rickshaw which took us around the sights of Kathmandu. We were lucky, as that day marked the start of Das Hara, one of the fifteen major festivals that take place in Nepal. Das Hara means ten days, in which there is a lot of eating and dancing. During the first nine days, the Goddess Durga Bhavani is worshipped and offered a lot of blood sacrifice. Thousands of buffaloes, goats and chickens are killed at the temples, and every house sets up a shrine to worship the Goddess at this time. As we walked around the bazaars, we saw many displays of dancing and people dressed up in strange, colourful costumes. We were fortunate to catch a glimpse of the King at a parade. Shopping in the bazaars is quite an experience. The fun of it, as everybody knows, lies in the haggling, and you feel very pleased with yourself until you find that you could have got the same thing cheaper at the next stall!

Early the next morning a rather elderly bus arrived at the hotel, almost full of porters and stacked with tentage, baskets and equipment. At first it seemed that there would be no room for us and our kit, but space was soon found and in no time at all we were on the road. It was then that we met Phurtemba Sherpa the Sardar for the trek. It was his job, as head man, to organise and recruit porters and sherpas. The road journey to Bhimal Nagar was hot and uncomfortable

but the porters were in fine spirits, singing and playing drums along the way. The journey did not pass without event as we ran out of fuel and had a flat tyre which was quickly replaced.

We started the trek from Bhimal Nagar. We were stiff from sitting for seven hours on the bus and although it was only about two hours to the first camp site, it gave us an insight to walking in heat with packs on our backs. Throughout our 26 day trek we were up at about 5.30 am, packed and on the trail at 7.00 am and we soon got used to this routine. Pansallama, one of the kitchen boys, came round every morning with 'bed-tea' and a bowl of hot water. Breakfast consisted of porridge, which seemed to get lumpier every day! Around 10.30 am we would stop for lunch, which would be a fry-up of pancakes or chapattis, potatoes, eggs, etc. This fortified us for the afternoon's walking. Most of the food was a mixture of compo and fresh and we would have had more compo to eat if one of the porters hadn't run off with two boxes of it! The evening meal was usually a curry or chow mein, rice and dal (a sauce made from lentils). We had to sterilise all our drinking water.

For much of the time it was extremely hot, with temperatures varying from 80 - 90 F, but as we climbed it got cooler - particularly at night. The evenings were spent round the campfires, talking and watching the moon come up over the mountains. By about 8 pm everyone was falling asleep.

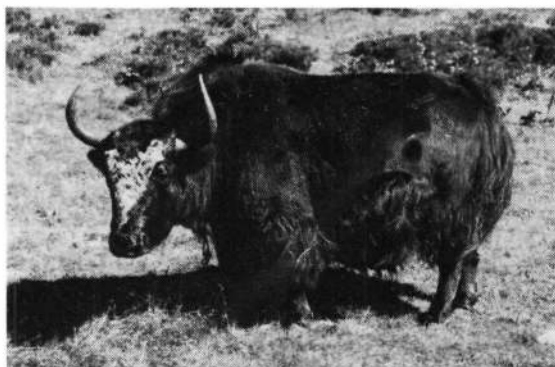
For the first eleven days we followed the Marsyandi river. I think this was one of the prettiest parts of the trek. Walking through the valley forests, we encountered strange and different species of trees, birds and butterflies. The butterflies were the biggest I have ever seen with most unusual colours. Our first rest day was spent at a Tibetan village called Braga so that we could acclimatise. We walked into the village to visit the local monastery, and this was a strange experience. As we walked into the building we were thrown into darkness until we reached the main temple, where the only light came from a single burning candle and a shaft of light from one window in the roof. All around the walls, were miniature images of Buddha, each one representing a monk who had worked at the temple.

We then said goodbye to the Marsyandi valley and prepared ourselves for crossing the Thorong La Pass the next day. We spent a very cold night at 14,000 ft, fully clothed in our sleeping bags

and still cold! As we were to encounter snow, spare socks and shoes were given to the porters who usually walked in bare feet or flip flops. The next morning, we were up very early to start the trail to the pass at 5.30am. Each step became laboured as we climbed and we had to control our breathing carefully so progress was slow. The first three hours were the worst as it was a continued steep ascent, but then the trail levelled off up to the top of the pass. I reached the top at 11.30am and threw my stick into the air with relief! The view from the top was breathtaking and we could see most of the Annapurna range. We stopped for lunch on the pass and then made the steep descent to Muktinath, an important Buddhist village at 12,500 ft. Needless to say we were all glad to reach the campsite where Pansallama met us with much needed mugs of tea!

From Muktinath we followed the Kali Gandaki River and were surrounded as ever by majestic mountain peaks. At Tatopani we had our first hot bath of the trek - in a natural hot spring! We all felt really good and wallowed merrily. For the next few days we continued walking through the most beautiful countryside seeing people from different tribes and cultures and what they wore and how they lived. The views of the Annapurna range and of Machapuchare - the "Fish Tail" mountain - were particularly spectacular.

We arrived in Pokhara the next day from where a mini-bus took us and the sherpas back to Kathmandu where we had three days of sight-seeing and souvenir buying before returning to Germany.



A yak!

EMIGRATION TO THE ISLAND OF ETERNAL SPRING

P M Matty

Yes, that is what Tenerife is called - the island of eternal spring and it certainly lives up to that description.

It took nearly a year of preliminary work and planning before actually embarking on such a project as emigration to the Canary Islands. Firstly it was essential to obtain as much official information as possible, and we found the Spanish consulates in the UK and the British Consulate in the Canary Islands to be extremely helpful sources of information. There are, of course, many official steps that must be taken and many forms to be completed. At least a smattering of the Spanish language is essential, and it is easy to learn.

Buying property in Spanish territory is rather different from the UK although in some respects it is easier. A good Spanish solicitor is essential and he will prepare the necessary contract. At a later date the "Escritura" (which is equivalent to the deeds of a property) is prepared by a "Notario" in the district where the property is situated. When this is signed, sealed and delivered the purchase is complete. There are English speaking Spanish solicitors, a list of whom is provided by the British Consulate in their brochure. Houses and apartments here are cheaper than in the UK. An apartment in town would cost around £10,000 and a house of moderate size in the country, with a garden, around £18,000 - £20,000. There are of course, many properties to rent, both furnished and unfurnished.

There are English communities scattered around the island but I have chosen to live among the Canarian population. Jardina is at the foot of the Mercedes mountains about three or four miles from La Laguna which was originally the capital of Tenerife, but is now a university town.

My friend and I embarked at Avonmouth on 30 September, complete with four large dogs, on RMS St Helena. She is a small cargo ship, carrying a maximum of 70 passengers and is about the size of a cross channel ferry. With a voyage 1500 miles ahead we slipped from the shores of the UK in calm and serene conditions. By the second day we had reached the notorious Bay of Biscay and were in rougher waters but worse was yet to come! We were hit by the tail end of

hurricane "Irene" and the St Helena literally "corkscrewed" for 24 hours. Needless to say there were very few passengers visible at meal times! The canine passengers were in kennels on the open deck and were lashed down with strong ropes. We did not expect to see them the next morning, neither did the Officer of the Watch! However, wet and bedraggled but still reasonably happy, they survived the storms. The officers and crew were all most helpful and friendly.

Early on 5 October we berthed at Santa Cruz the present capital of Tenerife, a very busy and duty free port. It was a beautiful morning of brilliant sunshine and the air had that warm summer smell that promised a hot day ahead. On Spanish territory at last we haggled on the quayside, in Spanish, to find transport for two humans and four dogs to Jardina. At last a lorry was hired and we set off on the final leg of a long journey. "Good", I thought, tomorrow the furniture will arrive and we can begin to settle to a new life, but unfortunately the container ship had been delayed by the hurricane and did not arrive until a week later! So, there we were with just a travelling case and nothing in the house! Our troubles were not over yet. After the arrival of the container ship it took another two weeks of bureaucratic nonsense before our belongings eventually arrived at the house.

Eventually we began to settle a new life. Tenerife, the largest of the Canary Islands, is dominated by "El Teide", the volcano. The climate is magnificent, the flora exotic and the towns have excellent shops. The cost of living is lower than in the UK providing one does not shop in the tourist areas. Goods imported from the UK are expensive as are clothing and footwear. English chocolate is very expensive but cigarettes and spirits are duty free and so much cheaper. Courteous service is evident everywhere when they realise that one is English and even "officialdom" puts on a different attitude. Even so Spaniards always say *manana* (tomorrow) and one has to accept interminable delays.

Canarian food is different from English food and on the whole is rather bland. There are many unusual vegetables both fresh and dried, and of course, fruit is abundant, particularly the small sweet local bananas.

The shops open for the morning until 1 pm. They close for the siesta and re-open at 5 pm for a couple of hours. There are no English pubs but there are many bars where one can have coffee or alcoholic drinks and sandwiches of all types.

Compared with the UK life here is at a much slower pace and one feels transported back in time. Here in the country the soil is still tilled

by bullocks. Lemon and orange trees work all the year round bearing flowers and fruit at the same time as do the banana palms. Vines are cultivated and the local wines, both red and white, are very palatable and cheap. The air is a mixture of sea and mountain air and the sunsets behind "El Teide" are beyond description.

The local papers are similar to those in the UK but perhaps not quite so "party" orientated, and there is TV with one channel. Central heating and coal fires are of course non-existent so one has no heating bills! All cooking and water heating is done by calor gas which is very efficient and cheap.

The Spanish country people are very kind and hospitable and as we are the first English people in our village we are a constant source of interest! One family with whom we have become friendly proudly introduce us to their many relatives as "our English friends" with emphasis on the "English!"

My first impressions are of a friendly race of people in a climate which would be hard to beat, a less frustrating life and a much lower cost of living. In spite of the problems which have arisen, and probably still will arise, I would recommend this life to anybody contemplating emigration to the Island of Eternal Spring.

stand for election as their Alderman. So she became the first woman to contest and win an Aldermanic seat in the City of London. Sadly, the all-male Court of Aldermen refused to ratify her appointment; through a centuries old custom they retain this privilege. The ensuing publicity in the media brought the Aldermen into disrepute for their chauvenism and two years later they made amends by taking their first woman, Lady Donaldson, into their Court. Major Coven was quite philosophical over this, understanding that the first woman to appear in new fields of activity often finds insurmountable prejudice.

Now Edwina Coven is the Deputy of her Ward (nearest equivalent is Managing Director) Deputy Chairman of the City of London Bench, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the City of London School for Girls and, in 1981, was the first woman to chair the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs' Committee, the committee responsible for the Lord Mayor's Show and the Lord Mayor's Banquet. The irony is that had she been admitted to the Court of Aldermen originally, it would have been her turn to be the Lord Mayor of London instead of Chairman of his committee.

MAJOR EDWINA COVEN JP

Major Edwina Coven JP has recently been appointed by the Queen to be one of Her Majesty's Lieutenants for the City of London - the first woman to be so honoured.

Major Coven started her career in the City when she won an election as a Councilman in the Ward of Dowgate in 1972 - the first contested election in the Ward for over 100 years.

In 1973 electors in Dowgate asked her to



Major Coven just before stepping into her carriage to take part in last November's Lord Mayor's Show.

CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our congratulations to:

Private Ann Baker WRAC, a driver in 56 Squadron RCT based in Woolwich, who has won an award from the London Borough of Greenwich for "constantly displaying a very courteous manner whilst driving in very busy traffic situations."



Pte Anne Baker receiving her award from Inspector C Lamb of Eltham Metropolitan Police and Mr C Baker, Road Safety Officer for Woolwich.

2 Lt Debbie Porter, formerly with the Bristol University OTC Gunner Troop and now a regular officer, who made history on 31st October when she became the first ever WRAC Officer to receive the University Challenge Trophy in the Annual National Artillery Association prize giving. The presentations were made by the Lord Mayor, Colonel Sir Richard Gardner-Thorpe at the Mansion House.



2 Lt Debbie Porter receiving her trophy from the Lord Mayor of London at the Mansion House.

2 Lt Sharon Dearle and 2 Lt Alison Boileau who successfully completed the REME Young Officers Course last August, following in the footsteps of 2 Lt Gillian Gibson who completed the course in December 1980.



2 Lt Sharon Dearle (left) and 2 Lt Alison Boileau (right) after the course.

Cpl K Wilson of D Coy, 16 Battalion RAOC who took part in the Starlight Marathon and achieved 107 miles in 24 hours to raise £200 for Action Research for the Crippled Child.



Cpl Wilson after her achievement.

Cpl Sally Wynd who married LCpl Clinton Thomas last October. She has been personal driver to the Commander-in-Chief UKLF and has served in the WRAC for five years.



LCpl and Mrs Thomas with the General's Ford and their 4.2 litre Jaguar XJ6.

Mrs Adkins, an ex ATS member of the Association who took part in a sponsored 'walk' in her wheelchair, helping to raise more than £1000 for the blind and multiple sclerosis sufferers. She also collected £34 in her own

tin during a local flag day for MS. Mrs Adkins is 85 and has been confined to a wheelchair for 12 years. She is blind and suffers from diabetes in addition to MS.

Cpl Kay Laycock (nee Simpson) and her husband who were recently married at St. George's Church, Dhekelia in Cyprus. They are both serving with 9 Signal Regiment.



Cpl and Mrs Laycock after their marriage at St. George's Church, Dhekelia.

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BUFFET LUNCHEON HONOURING THE WRAC STAFF BAND

D E Madill

The Staff Band of the WRAC had the honour of being invited to Canada to participate in the 'WORLD FESTIVAL TATTOO' which took place from 20 August to 23 August 1981 at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. Also included was a parade of all Tattoo participants through the downtown of the city of Toronto on 19 August and participation in the 'Warriors Day' Parade on 22 August through the Exhibition Grounds with saluting base in the Grandstand area. The weather co-operated throughout, and the band most certainly drew the most favourable comments for their first visit to Canada where so many former UK ex-servicewomen now live.

A Buffet Luncheon was organised in the band's honour by the Canadian Women's Army Corps Unit # 47 of the Canadian Corps Association, which includes also some ex ATS, on 23 August. Distinguished guests included Dame Vera Lynn, who was also headlining at the Tattoo and accompanied by her husband.

The band was met upon arrival and escorted into the Canadian Corps Association HQ Building at 201 Niagara Street Toronto. A guard of honour waited inside the building and band members were directed to tables and dispersed among waiting CWAC members and guests. With only a small head table nothing was too formal. All past Presidents of the CWAC Unit # 47 then performed the following tasks excepting the two minutes silence which was performed by the present President, Mrs Margaret Bishop. Mrs Jean Edgerton welcomed everyone. After singing "O Canada", Mrs Ida Crawford proposed a toast to the Queen, Mrs Elizabeth Staff a toast to the Armed Forces, and Mrs Elizabeth Budway said an appropriate Grace. Everyone was then free to file past the buffet table which was staffed by members of the CWAC Unit and where a specially decorated cake in the band's honour was prominently displayed. All the guests were introduced by the CWAC Unit Founder and Past President, Mrs Heesaker, followed by a very entertaining 30 minutes of musical fun by Queen Anne the

Pearly Queen accompanied by Ken Stanley on piano and others.

Mr Tom Clifford, representing Toronto City Hall handed each band member a Toronto City souvenir and there were three other souvenirs distributed to the musicians also from the CWAC Unit and others. Captain L A E Hopkin, Director of Music and Dame Vera Lynn were honoured with the presentation of special silver souvenir charms of the Canadian Corps Association. Captain Hopkin was then interviewed by Mr Henry Shannon, the interview being recorded for a radio programme in November.

To conclude a very entertaining day, the Staff Band of the WRAC then performed a very diversified one hour programme under Captain Hopkin's guidance which was enormously appreciated and wholeheartedly enjoyed by all.

WILTON ARMY GIRLS AID CANCER RESEARCH

After forty miles of sponsored forced march along the Ridgeway Walk and hours of sponsored no smoking in the communications centre at the Headquarters in Wilton, ten girls of 1 Squadron 10 Signal Regiment have raised £83 for the Wilton branch for cancer research.



LCpl Dee Franklin presenting the cheque to Lt Col Dorothy Gray
L - R Pte Cheryl McGovern, Pte Olive Foreman, Lt Col (retd) D S Gray, LCpl Dee Franklin, Pte Bev Sykes, Pte Liz Duff.

GUILDFORD REVISITED

THE COMMANDANT'S REUNION – 19th JULY 1981

P A Bradley

What was this brown envelope with a Guildford postmark which arrived one day in April? Surely not another bill? An invitation to a reunion at the WRAC Centre in July! Then came five minutes of conflicting emotions. Of course I wanted to go, but what about Frank, the two girls and the dog? How did one get there? Could I drive that far, and above all, who could I go with?

Frank said "Great idea" and to make it possible I got on the phone to Fiona White (nee MacFarlane) an old ally of Depot days. I was at her wedding and we were godmothers to each other's children. What better companion?

Preparations rolled on. Another companion of those far-gone days was roped in, Annette Ding (nee Douglas). Tickets were bought, husbands briefed, freezers filled and at last on July 16th we were off.

Now I must admit (with humble apologies to my WRAC College instructors) that I am the world's worst map reader. Frank had allowed for this and had provided pages of the most beautifully drawn diagrams to cover every inch of autobahn and motorway. However when three old friends are catching up on years of news, autobahn junctions are missed. 50 Kms after leaving Osnabruck we made our first mistake, and more were to follow. We made the boat with only ten minutes to spare, and collapsed

into a cabin at 1.00a.m.

We woke to a view of the White Cliffs on a perfect English summer morning. We were sorry we woke up all the caravaners in the lay-by, when putting in (illegally) my last jerry-can of cheap petrol and having coffee and sandwiches. We had forgotten to put our clocks back an hour!

We had a wonderful day shopping in Guildford as the sales were on and we all had credit cards! I was so tired by tea-time that I wasn't really surprised later to find that I had bought odd sized shoes!

Where was our dreamed-of elegant entry to the Mess? We really had set off clean and tidy but here we were, tired, very dirty and clutching our Marks and Spencer's carrier bags. But what lovelier welcome than to arrive at the same time as 'Mo' Garnett who had been Senior Education Officer when we were wreaking havoc as very junior subalterns. We were "promoted" to captains' rooms, relaxed, bathed and well fed. We fell into bed, really feeling we had lost seventeen years.

Morning was a rush to present ourselves in the best possible light (I did have to dash down into town to change those shoes)! By midday we were ready, and the reunion began.

Never were there so many cries of recognition or "You haven't changed at all" - except of course we all had! One only had to look at the trees which were saplings when we first saw the camp and were now making a take-over bid, to realise how much time had passed. There we were with our one, two, three or even four children apiece (I felt a bit of a failure only having two). If not that, then a bright new career, or for those still serving the giddy height of Major. Did we envy them a bit? We have to admit that we did! Breakfast was a joy - quiet and calm. No yells for dinner money or about last night's homework. This we felt was a civilised life. It was marvellous to talk and eat without the cooking and washing up. We carried on the reunion well into Saturday evening by having a lovely dinner in the Mess and coffee in the Commandant's quarters afterwards. We never aspired to such dizzy heights in 1964.

It was marvellous to feel twenty again, and we really did. But we enjoyed talking about our families to each other and buying presents for them. We had briefly linked our present lives with our past, and it was an unforgettable weekend.

From uniform to uniform

Beryl P. Butcher — Ex S/Sgt

Being the daughter of a regular soldier born at Tidworth Military Hospital, one could say I was born into uniform. My childhood was spent in India and Pakistan. The first uniform I can remember wearing was that of the "Bluebirds", the equivalent of the Brownies in this country. Then it was school uniform.

On my father's retirement from the army we returned to England, a strange unknown land to me. I was also faced with the prospect of having to earn my living and I really had no idea what I wanted to do. I was offered, and accepted, a job with a timber firm, working in the wages office. Deep inside me though the wanderlust bug was at work. I managed to keep it at bay for about four years then the urge to be on the move really got me. What better to do than follow in my father's footsteps? So it was into uniform again. My uniforms during my service were many and varied. Khaki battle dress and skirt, khaki tunic, complete with brass buttons and belt buckle and skirt, No. 1. dress and tropical dresses. Then out went battle dress and in came the lovat green.

My service years took me all over the country and to Cyprus and Germany. Finally, I went to Edinburgh from where I returned to civvy street. But it was straight back into uniform, this time the Surrey Ambulance Service. This was a rewarding, if at times harrowing job, and I would probably still be doing it had I not suffered a spinal injury. When I was fit to work again I spent two years as chauffeur/gardener to a Baron of the Realm. By this time I was beginning to feel that it was time to put down some roots so I returned to my home city of Lincoln.

The local police force were advertising for Traffic Wardens so I applied and was accepted. Once again I was back in uniform. That was more than ten years ago and I am still wearing a uniform.

But that is not quite the end of the story. On quite a number of weekends in the year I

put on another uniform, that of the Standard Bearer of the local branch of the Royal British Legion. I am the only ex-servicewoman in the county who is a Branch Standard Bearer, and one of the few in the country. On the jacket of this uniform worn with great pride, is my Corps badge.

HELPING TO KEEP THE ARMY ON THE MOVE

A girl with the important job of helping to keep Britain's NATO Army on the move is 19 year old LCpl Tracey Edwards WRAC.

LCpl Tracey Edwards who comes from Newton Aycliffe in County Durham, is the first woman Movements Controller to be posted to 500 Mobile Movement Troop, RCT at Moenchengladbach, West Germany. It is part of her job to make sure that when British units go to Italy and Norway, all the correct customs and immigration formalities necessary to get them across international borders are properly carried out. In her short time with the unit she has already worked in Denmark, France, Berlin and Southern Germany.



LCpl Tracey Edwards working with a member of the Dutch Koninklijke Marechaussee on immigration duty.

UNIT NEWS

YORK GARRISON WRAC

York Garrison WRAC team were the best regular unit in the women's section of the North East District "march and shoot" competition. With 775 points out of a possible 1150 the team gained an overall 3rd position among the 16 Regular and TA WRAC teams taking part in Exercise "Maiden Scurry" on the Catterick Training Area.

Major General Ian Baker, GOC North East District presented the team trophy and individual cups to the members.



Pictured (left to right front row): LCpl Jackie Walker, HQ York Garrison, Captain Alison Trehern, Adjutant HQ York Garrison, Private Sheila Fotheringham Regimental Pay Office, York.

Back row: Private Lucy Batty, 46 Squadron RCT, Private Sarah Roughley, Regimental Pay Office York, Private Jane Stevens, 240 Signal Squadron, Private Carole Hazelgrove, HQ York Garrison and Sergeant Sue Jackson NQ North East District.

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"Weatherpoint", Marine Parade, Seaford, Sussex.**

4 SQUADRON, 16 SIGNAL REGIMENT Exercise Gorgeous Locksmith

Whether the main form of adventure in 4 Squadron's Adventure Training exercise was storm survival or crawling through very narrow, muddy, rocky cave passageways remains a debatable point.

Exercise Gorgeous Locksmith was a sponsored adventurous training exercise (hence the allocated code name!) based on a civilian lakeside camping site in the Harz mountains. It took the form of two one week exercises in July, each for up to 20 members of the Squadron. Apart from the storm survival and caving, most also participated in rock climbing, trekking, canoeing, sailing, windsurfing and various other sports.

The original plan after a recce of the camping location was to set up the camp on an island right at the end of the campsite overlooking the Oderstrausee Lake. However when the advance party arrived the island was almost totally submerged, so a new area was selected which, although not so secluded, was at least dry. The water level of the lake was already so high, it was difficult to imagine it could rise further.

The advance party erected the accommodation and admin tents in glorious sunshine although the very stony ground and the absence of the two main guy ropes for the marquee posed a few problems. (Instructions on how to erect a marquee to withstand a severe storm without the main guys are available from 4 Squadron and include a requirement for two stalwart guys of the male variety, capable of holding the whole marquee up with their bare hands for at least forty minutes).

The first happy campers arrived at midday on a Sunday and as we sat outside enjoying a barbecue on the balmy summer evening, everything looked set for a good camp. Twenty four hours later, with two accommodation tents totally flooded and occupants evacuated and the level of water between the accommodation tents and the admin tents coming over the tops of our wellies (those of us lucky enough to have wellies!) prospects were not so good. The Yeoman kept spirits up (and down) by playing

his guitar and leading a sing song, and still it rained and rained.

By Tuesday morning, although both sailing dinghies had broken their moorings and had to be retrieved, the canoes were widely dispersed and everything and everybody was soaked, nobody had actually drowned! PT and the planned Inner German Border visit were cancelled and a shopping trip to purchase wellies was substituted. The RQ set up a Chinese laundry and spent all day drying kit in the cookhouse tent while the cook tried desperately to produce meals under dripping clothing and a field oven full of plimsolls and shoes!

Things could get no worse so the rock climbing and caving on Wednesday and Thursday proved very popular. The caving was literally 3½ hours spent crawling through muddy, rocky, narrow underground holes and not walking into beautiful stalactite filled caverns as most of us expected, but I think we all found it a worthwhile experience.



The happy smiling faces of 4 Squadron!

247 (BERLIN) PRO COY RMP

1981 has been an eventful year for the girls of 247 (Berlin) Pro Coy RMP for although we are few in number (twelve to be precise), we have not allowed our male counterparts to dominate

the successful achievements of the Company.

In March of 1981, three girls joined the WRAC element to make up a hockey team and entered in the BAOR hockey tournament. This resulted in LCpl Cockerell being selected to play for WRAC BAOR and subsequently attain her hockey colours.

In May, a team of five girls was entered in the WRAC BAOR Athletics Meeting. The competition was stiff and although we didn't come away with any gleaming trophies, a good attempt was made by all concerned.

Within the unit, a bi-annual Inter Platoon Competition is held which includes a 12½ Km run from Checkpoint Charlie to the Olympic Stadium. A girl from each Platoon is required to complete the run and a great deal of training is needed, especially for those whose running achievements have never exceeded the 1½ mile WRAC BFT run. A prize in the Inter Platoon Competition is given to the best Lance Corporal for police work, conduct, bearing and overall ability. For the period January - June 1981, and against strong male opposition, the prize was won by LCpl Cockerell.

The regular unit jogging training gave great incentive to Sgt Bould who entered the Berlin 25 Km Road Race on 3 May 1981. She was the only girl to enter with thirteen male members of the Company. She completed the course successfully under 3 hours and now holds a medal and certificate to prove it.

In order to raise money for the Across Trust Fund, a variety of fund raising activities were organised by the Berlin Black Bear Folk Club and the WRAC Provost were asked to take part. The first activity was a general knowledge quiz of over 300 questions. On the day of the event, the heads of our female boffins were brought together to plough through endless text books, manuals and encyclopedias in an effort to seek out the correct answers within the allocated two hours. The next activity was a treasure trail (by car) around Berlin, and Sgt Bould managed to obtain the more obscurely located clues by taking a quick jog into the woods. The third and final activity was a pram race at the end of which the girls were practically unrecognisable having been showered with flour and eggs. Altogether we raised £100 for the charity.

Apart from the social activities, we have taken part in many special duties including the Allied Forces Parade, the Queen's Birthday Parade and a week on the Berlin British Military Tattoo, so at least our No 1 Dress was worn fully in 1981.



LCpl Cockerell receives her award from the assistant Provost Marshal in Berlin, Lt Col G A Taylor RMP.

WORLD WAR TWO POEMS, WRITINGS, DIARIES AND SKETCHES

The Salamander Oasis Trust was set up by those who served in the Middle East in World War Two to collect and publish the poems, writings, diary extracts and sketches of those who served in the Middle East and Mediterranean theatres of war, 1940-1946.

Field Marshal Lord Carver and General Sir John Hackett launched an appeal for this material which appeared in The Times earlier this year. The book we are currently producing is entitled "From Oasis into Italy" and will comprise material from The Middle East, North Africa, Sicily and Italy. The criteria for consideration are of the place, at the time and by those serving in these areas.

All manuscripts submitted should be accompanied by a brief biography and details of service. All manuscripts, with the senders' assent, will be handed over to The Imperial War Museum for their archives.

All communications should please be sent to: The Editors, The Salamander Oasis Trust, 1 Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London EC4 3EP.

29 TRANSPORT AND MOVEMENTS REGIMENT RCT

Lt S E A Knapp WRAC

The first WRAC girls arrived at South Cerney in July 1980 having been posted as drivers, clerks and potential movement controllers. Accommodation was no problem because it was decided that the girls could live three to a house in some of the empty married quarters on camp. Under the guidance of Captain Sally Dobinson they quickly settled in and were well and truly established by November of that year, when WO2 Jenny Payne arrived as TCWO. Her arrival hailed the end of MT as South Cerney had known it, and almost overnight the once all male MT became a female domain!

In the movements organisation the world is your oyster because when any British Army unit is exercising anywhere in the world our movements personnel are invariably called upon to supervise their movement. Hence Captain Dobinson and I on two occasions went to Edmonton, Canada to supervise the changeover of two battalions from a training area in Canada. Pte Mills also managed this trip while Pte Clark, Keattch and Wilson have been to Kenya. Pte Keattch has also been to Cyprus on a one month detachment to 30 Regiment RCT to gain experience as a movement controller.

The five WRAC potential movement controllers eventually went off on their A3 Movement Controller Course last summer - just in time for the large Autumn Exercise in Denmark, Exercise Amber Express. It was 29 Regiment's task during the exercise to supervise the movement of some 6000 soldiers through the Air Mounting Centre who were travelling from the UK to Denmark and also to provide movements expertise in Denmark itself. Thus three of the girls Ptes Crow, Mills and Trunks went to Denmark to work in Ringsted and Odense while the other two, Ptes Keattch and White stayed behind at South Cerney to work shifts in the Air Mounting Centre during the initial movement from the UK. With a large proportion of the Regiment deployed in Denmark there was obviously a need for transport on the other side, and during the Exercise some six weeks in all, the WRAC drivers - Ptes Pepper, Powell (now Fisher), Sanderson, Townsend and LCpl Davidson each managed a short spell in Denmark.

Driving on the right side of the road was a novel experience for some of them.

Meanwhile, back in U.K., proving how popular the movements job is, two of the WRAC clerks had re-allocated to movement controller and had successfully completed their A3 Course at Buller Barracks. The movements trade is one in which girls can prosper and although the old cliché "Join the Army and see the World" may not be quite so true as it was some years ago, as a Mover - you certainly get the chance to see more of the world than most.

262 SIGNAL SQUADRON

There will be many readers of 'Lioness' who have never heard of 262 Signal Squadron, so to put all concerned in the picture we are situated at Dhekelia in the Eastern Sovereign Base of sunny Cyprus. The COMMCCEN, manned by WRAC, is part of Communications Troop commanded by Lt Sally Holt. There are eighteen hard working data-telegraphists employed here, watched over by the eagle eyes of Sgt Eileen Hobson.

Although our numbers are few we are far from inactive. At present the COMMCCEN is trying hard to claim a record for housing the highest number of airborne data-telegraphists! This all began when Cpl Faith Neville completed a ten jump parachute course at the Cyprus Joint Service Parachuting Centre. The course consists of six static line descents and, for those good enough to continue, the last four jumps are free fall.

When Cpl Neville returned to work safe and sound LCpl Kathy Clegg and Ptes Desiree Martin and Tanya Frampton decided to embark on a similar course.

The COMMCCEN also houses a merry crew

of sailors who have just returned from sailing the Royal Signals yacht "Brigand of Changi" the length of the island. Cpl Sue Catterall, Cpl Jeanette Allen, Pte Glynnis Ball and Pte Tina Acklaw recently returned looking suitably tanned from their five days at sea.

September saw us all heading into the mountains, armed with cam cream and combats, to take part in last year's Battle Camp.

Major General A.C. Birtwistle CBE, Signal Officer-in-Chief recently visited the Squadron. His visit was enjoyed and appreciated by all concerned.



Major General Birtwistle talking to Cpl Sue Catterall and Pte Glynnis Ball.



Cpl Faith Neville gathering up her parachute after a safe descent from 2,500 ft.

D COMPANY WRAC 16 BATTALION RAOC BICESTER

THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW

There are a few proud moments in our lives when we achieve a sense of belonging, patriotism and pride. The blood in our veins seems to tingle and emotion wells up inside. For Ptes Eddie Normington and Wendy Warren, the Lord Mayor's Show turned out to be just such an occasion.

Seated on top of the RAOC float, posed alongside an RAOC bomb disposal team and three soldiers dressed in combat kit and NBC suits, they represented the "Professionals." As the procession wound its way through the streets of London, children and adults cheered their progress. The throng was immense and the enthusiasm of the crowd electric.

It was a very cosmopolitan London that

turned out that day and the waving and yelling seemed unending. Dressed in lightweights, the two girls sat in front of video display units pretending to operate them but inevitably distracted by the sheer warmth of the crowd. The Lord Mayor invited the RAOC to organise a float because of his links with the Corps. Shortly after the second world war he completed his National Service with the RAOC at Bicester.



RAOC Float at the Lord Mayor's Show. Pte Eddie Normington and Pte Wendy Warren at the VDU controls. (Courtesy of Soldier Magazine).

D COMPANY WRAC BICESTER

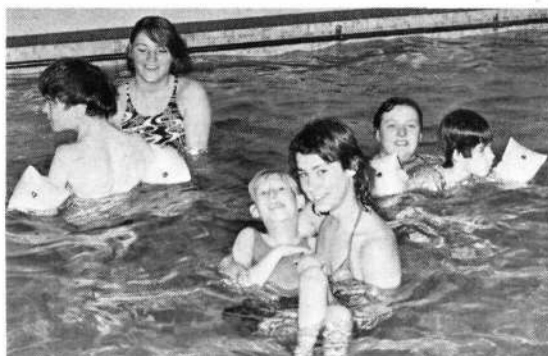
BARDWELL SCHOOL

Over the last few months members of D Coy WRAC at Bicester have been helping at Bardwell School, an institute for the mentally handicapped children with their lessons and to take them into the hydrotherapy pool. Hydrotherapy is an excellent medium in which to help the handicapped. The water is heated to body temperature and the children find it very relaxing and therapeutic. Where they may have problems of co-ordination on land they find the warm water facilitates their movements. Most of the children are incapable of swimming, and rely on being carried into the water and held there whilst they splash about. The sheer pleasure they derive from the experience makes it worthwhile.

The education of the mentally handicapped obviously depends a great deal on the intelligence of the individual and the extent of his or her disability. In a school of 43 children, individual tuition is essential. In many cases they cannot cope with academic subjects, so volunteers help to keep them as happy as possible by playing with them and talking to them. So far the scheme has been successful and will continue to be so as long as volunteers come forward.



Pte Sue Latus helping in the classroom.



L-R Pte Sandra Stewart, 2 Lt Gill Haddon and Pte Cath Morgan helping in the Hydrotherapy pool.

HM THE QUEEN AT THE INTELLIGENCE CENTRE, ASHFORD

Last March, Her Majesty visited the Intelligence Centre at Ashford. Members of the WRAC who were presented included Lt H M Davies, SSgt Preston, Sgt Warwick, Cpl Esson TA, LCpl Cooper and LCpl Raybould.



LCpl Cooper (then Pte) being presented to the Queen and briefing her on the Class 3 Security Phase of Operational Intelligence and Security Training.

8 SIGNAL REGIMENT CATTERICK



LCpl Alison Green and Pte Esther Moth in training for the Army sprint and Long Distance Canoeing Championships.

28 (BR) SIGNAL REGIMENT (NORTHAG)

To those who have never heard of us 28 (BR) Signal Regiment (NORTHAG) is one of five units within the NORTHAG Signal Support Group and it is the only major British Army Unit which is assigned to and funded by NATO in peace and war. This means we work closely with members of the German, Dutch and Belgian Forces.

We have a total of 64 WRAC who are fully integrated into the Regiment. The majority of the girls are employed in the NORTHAG/TWO ATAF Communications Centre in Rheindahlen as Data Telegraphists and Switchboard

Operators. In addition we have the clerical administration team and a Lance Corporal Medical Assistant. The Regiment itself is based at St. Tonis, near Krefeld and here we currently have 16 WRAC employed as Data Telegraphists, Switchboard Operators, Clerks and Terminal Equipment Technicians.

Exercises give us a chance to show our flexibility. The girls prove a dab hand at erecting tents, pan bashing and carrying out their various trades in the field. Despite much teasing and ribald comments femininity is maintained - ammo pouches make excellent makeup carriers!

On the sporting field our presence has proved valuable as we combine forces with the girls from 1 Sqn 16 Signal Regiment, also based in Rheindahlen. Ten members from the Troop demonstrated their power of stamina and determination in a most creditable manner when they participated in the annual Rheindahlen Allied March covering a distance of 30 km. Pte Clifton and Pte Artis have recently shown their expertise in drill as members of the Regimental Drill Team.

The military training camp took place during the first three weeks of July by the Biggersee. The period was divided into two training sessions, the aim being to develop leadership and fitness and to practice those military skills which are not normally directly associated with a Signal Regiment. Needless to say all returned feeling fitter and more enlightened despite a few blistered feet.

October 17th marked the occasion of the Freedom of St Tonis and Vorst, when the Regiment exercised its right to march through the streets of St Tonis and Vorst with swords drawn, bayonets fixed and the Royal Signals Band playing to Parade the Freedom Scroll. 27 WRAC were on parade. The review of the regiment and salute were taken in both locations by the Burgermeister Herr Beckers.



Visit by ADWRAC BAOR to Switch Alpha on exercise, L-R Capt M Piers, Lt Col A Smith, SSM Skeen, Lt Col P Webb, Maj N Illman, FoS Brown.



SPORT

WRAC AND MODERN PENTATHLON

The WRAC has had success in the Southern Region Biathlon, the National Biathlon Championships and National Triathlon Championships.

The outstanding member of the WRAC is Cpl Jeanne Challinor who set her sights high and as early as July 1979 entered the British Ladies Modern Pentathlon Championships. To attempt the full, five event competition after such a comparatively short period of training showed remarkable courage and determination. 34 competitors took part and Cpl Challinor came 22nd with 3112 points. This was a most encouraging start in view of the fact that the controlling official considered she was insufficiently experienced to attempt the riding event which meant she could score in only four of the five events. Since that time she had made steady progress to be promoted to the Ladies National Squad for training and selection for competition. The national body for the sport, the Modern Pentathlon Association of Great Britain selected her for her first international at Crystal Palace in 1980, and in 1981 she again represented Great Britain, this time in Sweden where the British Ladies team came 1st and Cpl Challinor took 6th individual place with 4704 points. This was a most creditable performance for her first European competition and the aim of the Army MPA and indeed the WRAC is to see her selected for the World Championships in 1982.

Six girls who took part in the two WRAC teams that entered the Southern Region Biathlon Competition were Cpl Challinor, Cpl Flanders,

Cpl Eyre, LCpl Harmsworth, LCpl Relf and Pte Rees. The WRAC A Team won and qualified for the national competition in Bath.

There is little doubt that there is talent in the WRAC, and it is hoped that in the next year or two a team can be formed to take part in the full modern pentathlon.



The winning three who competed in the WRAC Biathlon Competition at Arborfield.

1st Cpl Challinor (Centre), 2nd Cpl Flanders (Right), 3rd LCpl Relf (Left).



L-R Standing: LCpl Relf, Pte Rees, Cpl Challinor, Cpl Flanders.

In front: LCpl Harmsworth, Cpl Eyre.

WRAC TRUCKERS

LCpl J Flaherty WRAC

When you consider that it costs the Army £140 per day to hire one rail carriage to convey ammunition around the UK to all the various Navy, Army and RAF units, and bearing in mind how many rail carriages are required for one unit's ammunition alone it involves a great deal of money.

It promised to be beneficial to both the

"truckers" and the Forces when it was decided that CAD Kineton would try a "milk-run" system of ammunition deliveries by road, delivering an average six units' ammunition, all within a radius of each other, for example, Wilton, Larkhill, Tidworth, Bulford, Middle Wallop. All this could be done by one driver and accompanying escort, and one Bedford TK truck. At first it meant a lot of hard work to get things off the ground but problems were overcome with time and plenty of enthusiasm from the drivers, and everything fell into place.

The ammunition movements section consists of one Details NCO, LCpl Rayner WRAC and five drivers, four of whom are WRAC. The two main WRAC drivers concerned directly with the "milk-run" system are Pte Morrison and Pte Ridge. It is the NCO IC Cargo Section, LCpl Rayner who has to make sure that everything runs smoothly and efficiently. She has to decide how many jobs can be covered that week and driver availability. There may be many drivers with HGV 3 licences but not the experience behind them to carry this dangerous cargo for long distances in a limited time. This is why when the week's runs are allocated by the



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Details NCO, she has to use her own driving experience and knowledge of the load to group the units into areas for delivery, bearing in mind there is only one week to clear the ammunition as it is all target dated to be at its destination.

From the driver's side it all starts with the first Parade and loading of the wagon which is the drivers responsibility. Before leaving MT lines the driver is given a loading programme of what and how much ammunition she will be carrying, and for which units. On reporting to the loading area inside the Depot she checks the ammunition as it is loaded against the paperwork and once the loading and all the paperwork is checked and signed, the wagon is parked in a secure area until the following morning. The driver then prepares for an early start the following day, which could be anything between 0100 - 0500 hours, depending on the distance she will be travelling. Again, depending on distance, she could return to unit lines either early afternoon or late evening, loading again the next day to drive out once more. With five drivers and nine wagons this routine works well, all five drivers out every day as long as another truck can be loaded for them while they are away. This depends on other commitments which may arise during the course of the week because in addition to the "milk-run" system, other ammunition deliveries have to be made to docks and airfields for units and exercises abroad. This is usually HGV 1 work. Although Kinton is not equipped with larger wagons, in cases where a lot of ammunition needs to be delivered, 40' trucks are borrowed from other units giving our servicewomen even more experience in the driving field. During the mail strike late last year we had on loan two cabs and three 40' trailers for two months permanently manned by LCpl Rayner and LCpl Goldsborough with one trailer spare all the time. Loads were out night and day, continuously loading and offloading; these servicewomen agreed that much experience and job satisfaction was gained from this exercise, in spite of it being two months of very hard work.

And so it goes on week by week. The Details NCO is also responsible for writing out the drivers' travel claims and booking overnight accommodation when required. She has to ensure that the wagons are well maintained and keep a daily record of drivers' hours and mileage and the fuel consumed per truck.

All in all it is a very tight knit section, working hard and enjoying every minute.



LCpl Campbell (standing) and LCpl Rayner with their hired Foden.

TA

40th Ulster Signal Regiment (V) A Lesson from Crusader 80

With the Regiment deployed and communicating, Lt Col Ian Graham, CO 40th (Ulster) Signal Regiment (V), inspected a well-concealed and camouflaged Communications Centre on the edge of a wood in Belgium. A group of WRAC dressed in full combats, emerged into open ground and it was with some dissatisfaction that the Commanding Officer regarded the black and highly polished shoulder bags that each WRAC carried, reflecting the sun and visible for miles.

Some months later when the last file on the last CRUSADER 80 debrief was closed, the Colonel remembered and reflected on the WRAC shoulder bags. He considered the problem and to ask the girls to give up their shoulder bags' was unthinkable. How could they survive without them?

A design team was formed and a design approved by the Colonel after which a limited number of prototypes were produced by the Regimental Tailor. Annual Camp 1981 at Scarborough saw the Mark 1 IP Cover, WRAC shoulder bag tested on Regimental Exercises to the satisfaction of the Colonel and the WRAC.



OCdt J Erskine in normal working dress with shoulder bag;



OCdt J Erskine in full combat dress with shoulder bag cover Mark I fitted.

UOTC

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS SUMMER CAMP JULY 1981 NAPIER BARRACKS FOLKESTONE

Southampton University Officers Training Corps held its 1981 Summer Camp during July at Folkestone. Accommodated in Napier Barracks, fed by contract caterers and supported by the staff at Folkestone and SE District, the camp was a real success.

We were visited by just about everyone who has anything to do with the unit and it was our pleasure to demonstrate our skills for them and in a small way to thank them for their excellent support and interest. All were able to see for themselves the very high standard of training that has been achieved over the past year.

With some forty cadets away on attachments to regular units, attending courses of instruction in many subjects, the training has not finished by a long way.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1982

The AGM will be held on Saturday 17th April 1982 in The Guildhall, Plymouth at 2.30 pm.

AGENDA

1. To confirm the Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 16 May 1981.
2. Business arising from the Minutes.
3. To receive the Report of Council.
4. To receive the Report of the Honorary Treasurer.
5. To receive the Report of the Editor of Lioness.
6. To receive the Reports of Committees.
7. Resolutions:
 - a. Election of Chairman of Council
 - b. Election of Council Vice Presidents.
8. Any other Business.
9. Date and place of next Meeting.

REUNIONS

NORTHERN AREA REUNION 1981

A very happy afternoon was spent at the Royal Baths Assembly Rooms in Harrogate on 17 October where a large crowd gathered for the Northern Area Reunion. Members were present from nearly all Northern Area branches, and a number of visitors from further afield.

The Chairman, Lt Col A Bray, welcomed everyone and said how gratifying it was to see so many members. We were particularly pleased to welcome members from the re-formed Newcastle Branch and from Liverpool and Manchester branches which have joined Northern Area following the recent re-organisation.

DWRAC had been invited to attend the Reunion but was unable to attend because of prior commitments. Lt Col Bray read out a message of good wishes from Brigadier Field and the serving members.

Lt Bridget Collin, currently stationed at Topcliffe, gave a very interesting and informative talk on her work, accompanied by some amusing and original illustrations.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs I Little, Secretary of Newcastle Branch, following which a delectable tea was served and the Crescent Room erupted into something resembling the Tower of Babel!

Everyone enjoyed themselves and the proceeds of the Bring and Buy Stall, collecting box and raffle will ensure a healthy donation to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund from Northern Area.

The Annual Luncheon of the ATS Dinner Club was held on Saturday 3rd October at the Bloomsbury Centre Hotel, London, and was attended by 244 members and 42 guests. Regrettably our Patron, Dame Leslie Whateley, was unable to attend, but flowers were sent to her on behalf of all members of the Club.

Among the many new members who joined in 1981 was Mrs I Hogan who lives in Wagga Wagga, Australia. She came to England in September for a holiday and we were delighted to see her at the Luncheon.

We were very pleased that so many were able to come, but the Secretary was disappointed not to have heard from so many long standing members. She hopes you are all well.

For various reasons we have, unfortunately, lost a few members and the numbers have dropped to 526. It would be nice if in 1982, the 21st Birthday of the Club, we could reach 550. It seems there are still a number who have never heard of the Club, which is a pity, although it must be said that members are working very hard indeed in spreading the word.

The date of the next Luncheon is Saturday 2 October 1982 at the Bloomsbury Centre Hotel, London. It is appreciated that many of you live a long way from London so perhaps this early warning will give you a chance to save up your pennies!

All ex-ATS who are interested in joining the Club are invited to write to: Miss C I Lawrence 23 Trinity Close, London SW4 0JD.

REUNION NOTICES

WRAC ASSOCIATION REUNION 1982 PLYMOUTH

To date, over 400 replies have been received for accommodation for the Reunion. By the time you read this we will have sent out a brochure to everyone who has sent in their provisional booking forms and this has given all details in full of the arrangements we have made. The brochure also contains a CONFIRMATORY BOOKING FORM which should be returned as soon as possible. If you intend to come to the Reunion but have not yet made a provisional booking please do let us know immediately, otherwise we cannot send you a brochure. You should contact: The Chairman, Miss Mary Aplin, 11 De La Hay Avenue, Plymouth. We are looking forward to seeing you all in Plymouth. (See Lioness Vol LIV 1981 No 2 for provisional Booking-Form).

HULL BRANCH

Meetings are held on the first Friday in each month on the premises of the Royal British Legion, Beverley Road, Hull at 7.30pm.

LONDON BRANCH

From January 1982 onwards London Branch meetings will be held in the afternoons from 2.30 - 5.30 pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, Waterloo.

WIMBLEDON BRANCH

Meetings are held at the Community Centre, St. George's Road, Wimbledon SW19 starting at 8 pm on the second Friday in the month. No meetings are held during July and August.

WOLVERHAMPTON BRANCH Meetings 1982

Meetings at the Maltings Day Centre, Stafford Street, Wolverhampton 7.30 - 9.30 pm on Mondays 22 March, 26 April, 24 May, 28 June, 23 August, 27 September, 25 October, 22 November.

NORTHERN AREA REUNION - 1982

The Northern Area Reunion will be held on Saturday 23 October 1982 from 2.30 - 6.00 pm.

Full details will be published in the next issue of the Lioness. Prior information obtainable from Miss M Bradley, 60 West End Avenue, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 9BY. Tel: 0423 57023.

BRANCH NEWS

AYRSHIRE We are still an active branch and have a successful annual Scottish Country Dance. With musical evenings, talks and demonstrations we have a full programme, and get great support from our President Mrs Neilson. Our annual dinner gives us an opportunity to meet members of the Association of WRNS. We support local charities, and for many years have given a party for handicapped children.

CHESTER Since re-forming our branch in August last year we have been delighted with the response. We now have 31 members and hope to expand in the near future.

We have formed an entertainment committee and our first dance was a great success. Five young WRAC TA girls helped with the raffles and the cloakroom.

Everybody has been very helpful and we have had no difficulty in finding accommodation for our monthly meetings.

GLASGOW Our branch continues to flourish and we have had a number of new members in 1981. Our meetings have been well attended during the year. They included a coffee evening a whist drive, a visit from the Glasgow Mens Speaker Club, which was one of the highlights

of our session, and also a visit from the WRNS Association.

We were sad to lose Miss Margaret Sprott who died on the 19 July 1981.

HARROGATE We have had a very enjoyable and successful year with a varied programme of activities which have been well supported by all the local members. A number of new members have joined us but unfortunately many of them live in far-flung corners of the Yorkshire Dales and other areas of the north too far away to make travelling to Harrogate practicable, so we do not see them very often.

We have continued our policy of alternating meetings in the Club Room with outside social events which has proved popular with our members. We had two very interesting talks by officials of the Samaritans and the Red Cross, "Reminiscences" evening produced photographs, anecdotes and much mirth! A party visited the Royal Hall in Harrogate to see the Operatic Society's production of "Kiss Me Kate" which everyone thoroughly enjoyed, and in July we went on a Mystery Tour which took us on a circuitous route to Upper Nidderdale, and included supper at Summerbridge on the return journey.

Food has featured prominently in our get-togethers and a Wine and Cheese Party and, later, a Faith Supper in the Club Room were both very enjoyable social occasions.

Further afield, we gathered at the "Open Arms" restaurant for supper and drinks, and the Branch Annual Dinner was held at the Langham Hotel. A very enjoyable Buffet Supper took place at the Chairman's home and we are indebted to Mrs Watkinson for her generous hospitality.

At the end of June we participated in the Harrogate Rotary Gala (organised by the Rotary Club as a fun afternoon for the population and to enable local charities and organisations to raise money for their funds). Our contribution was a "home-made" Tombola for which so many beautifully made and original prizes emerged that some of us at least marvelled at the talent within our ranks! This, and an "Aim at the Tiger" competition for children enabled us to send a donation of £65 to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund in addition to enjoying a somewhat action-packed afternoon.

Our members attended the Northern Area Reunion where we were able to meet some of our distant members who had managed to travel to Harrogate for the occasion.

KINGSTON UPON HULL Despite the fact that this branch has been in existence since 1946 we number only 40 members but we continue with our Bring and Buy Sales, Raffles, clothing parties etc.

Hull found itself on the map in 1981 when the Queen visited Humberside to open our long awaited Humber Bridge. This has opened new territories to both banks of the Humber which we are still finding very much a novelty.

In August an ex member of the ATS - RSM Hildyard, who now lives in Withernsea, invited us to join her for luncheon at the Northfield Country Club. Five of us were able to accept and were given a very good day out. Miss Hildyard is a warden at an Old and Handicapped Persons housing complex in Withernsea and does much valuable work for the community. For the uninitiated, Withernsea is an end of the line seaside town in what is now North Humberside but in reality is on the Yorkshire coast. It is the area Winifred Holtby wrote about in her novel 'South Riding.'

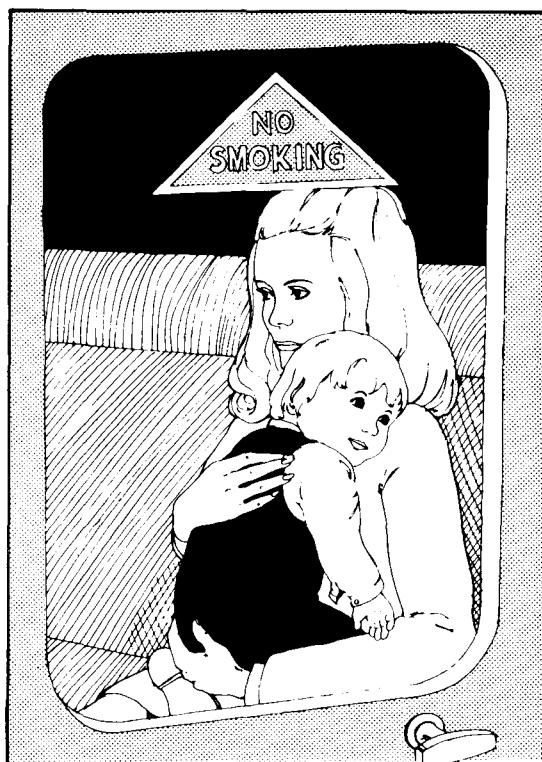
MANCHESTER Our monthly meetings are well attended and we have several new members. A sub-branch has been started at Bolton and already 17 new members have come forward.

1981 was a good year for fund-raising. We have sent £25 to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund, £25 to the Benevolent Fund and £30 to BLESMA towards a bed at their home in St. Anne's on Sea.

In October ten members attended the Northern Area reunion in Harrogate. November saw many members on parade at the Cenotaph where Betty Dean laid our branch wreath.

In December we had a successful Bring & Buy sale and buffet supper. Our thanks go to members who were unable to attend and sent donations.

PLYMOUTH Although most of our thoughts are currently centred on the Reunion, we have managed to have our usual Jumble Sales and our Annual Christmas Fair. We had a successful Christmas Party when we had six disabled people as our guests. We went carol singing on three nights and collected for local disabled children.



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.

STAFFORD Our meetings last year included talks with slides on heraldry, the wild birds in our gardens and the city of New York.

Our birthday dinner was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed, and we all had a very good time at our Christmas party.

Our outings have included a very pleasant evening at the home of our President Mrs Dickson, who gave us an amusing talk on her trip to Hong Kong; and a tour of a Sainsbury's super-market, where we went behind the scenes and sampled a variety of products!

Christmas donations, made possible by our jumble sales, went to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund, the Royal British Legion, the Mayor of Stafford's appeal to provide a garden for the blind and a local newspaper's appeal on behalf of the disabled.

ULSTER Our membership is increasing we are pleased to report.

Our Annual luncheon was held in "The George", Crawfordsburn Road, Co Down on Saturday 14 March 1981. The food was excellent, the atmosphere most enjoyable with a marvellous turnout of over fifty members. They came from all over the province and many memories were recalled.

Our Annual Wine & Cheese party was held in Government House, Hillsborough, Co Down on 21 May. We had our full quota of visitors who greatly praised the superb surroundings.

Our Annual General Meeting was held in The Royal British Legion Hall, Bangor, Co Down on 14 November. There was a good attendance. Mrs May Milne was elected President, Mrs Elizabeth Buckley, Chairman, Miss Gwen Angus Secretary and Miss Letitia Arthurs, Treasurer.

We are sorry that Major Helen Homewood has left Northern Ireland. She has been a great supporter of our organisation and loved by all the members. We wish her and her husband much happiness for the future.

WIMBLEDON We now have 73 members. We much enjoyed our visit to Dame Mary Railton and Colonel Holt last summer when we played croquet and enjoyed a delicious tea in the garden.

Several members were on parade at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. Our own branch wreath was laid at the Wimbledon War Memorial by Betty Poulson.

WOLVERHAMPTON Our membership has risen to 37. In April we were joined by several ex WAAF to hear a talk on crime prevention by a member of the local police force. In May we were at the Civic Hall to enjoy the excellent concert given by the WRAC Staff Band (the secretary was delighted to have a request played). In June members were again invited by Miss Shelah Lambah and we spent an enjoyable afternoon. The Bring and Buy Sale which she organised fetched £40 which was donated to the local blind.

The Area Reunion at Shrewsbury in October was a splendid afternoon and very well organised. We had our Festival of Remembrance at the Civic Hall when our Chairman, Mary Davies once again carried the Standard and the Secretary Mary Beeston represented the Lord Roberts Workshops. This occasion always brings a grand response from the public. The final occasion of the year is our Christmas dinner when members bring their friends.

During the year we have donated £10 to the Howard Court RBL Flatlets Welfare Fund, £20 to the Maltings Day Centre where our meetings are held and £50 to the Princess Royal's Memorial Fund. We have also been saving Persil tops to buy toys for a local school for backward children whose headmistress, Ailsa Heathcote, is one of our members.

All ex ATS or WRAC who are visiting this area are invited to come to our meetings where they will be very welcome.

Correspondence

Miss Doreen Preston (formerly Cpl Preston of 455 and 682 Mixed Heavy AA Battery RA) who lives at 32 Archway Gardens, Paganhill, Strand, Glos, had the following letter published in her local newspaper under the heading "Wartime Memory."

"Sometime in 1943, I, along with hundreds of my fellow ATS who were of the right height, build and with the requisite number of 'tapes', went on a March Past before the Queen Mother (then, of course, the Queen) to commemorate the fifth birthday of the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

I shall never forget obeying the "eyes right" order (and I was fortunately placed to the extreme right in my rank) and suddenly seeing this fairy-like being, fragile as Dresden china, dressed in a pale blue chiffon crinoline - a veritable creature from another world to us - still our own Queen, taking the salute from the dais, epitomising then, as she does now, all that is best of womanhood. We still salute you, our much beloved Queen Mother!"

I remember that parade and the service we attended in Westminster Abbey, but not what the Queen Mother was wearing! Do other readers remember that day? (Ed)

Mrs Jane McIntyre of 164 Kiripaka Road, Whangarei, New Zealand is visiting Britain in October this year with a friend. They intend to visit all parts of the country and are hoping to get to Talmine Lairg in Sutherland to deliver a message from their home town in New Zealand.

They would so much prefer to stay with families rather than in hotels and are accustomed to home hostessing for visitors to their own country. Mrs McIntyre describes her friend and herself as "honest healthy 60 year olds from a farming background and interested in all people."

If anyone has two spare beds and can offer a night or two's hospitality next autumn, please get in touch direct with Mrs McIntyre.

Mrs M O E Eddolls (ex Sgt Blandford) of 37 Amity Grove, West Wimbledon, London SW20 0LQ has sent us this photograph of 6th Surrey ATS (Wimbledon) Company being inspected by Mrs Chamberlain, wife of the Prime Minister Mr Neville Chamberlain. The date is October 1939. Mrs Eddolls writes: "This was a very proud day for us. We were a Company of 52 of whom six are members of the Wimbledon branch of the Association. When we meet at the Community Centre we are right opposite the site of the old Drill Hall where we reported for drill until sent to our war station."



Mrs Neville Chamberlain accompanied by Company Commander Mrs MacGregor Whyte inspecting the 6th Surrey ATS at the Field Stores, Aldershot, in October 1939.

Mrs Kay Cubitt (nee Sutherland) of 10 Worlds End Lane, Winchmore Hill, London N21 1PJ writes that she responded to a previous letter in 'Lioness' but had no luck in tracing any of her old friends. She joined the ATS in December 1940 and trained in her home town Edinburgh. After basic training she was a telephonist in the Pay Office in Edinburgh where she stayed until early 1942 when she went to the RE Records Office in Brighton. Then came a Signals course in London followed by a posting to No. 2 War Office Signals in Dover, from where she married and left the service.

During all her service she was involved in entertainment, mostly as a singer, and with her friends formed a concert party in Dover.

They produced a pantomime in Christmas 1943, followed later by a Review, and they gave shows to gun sites and children's homes in the area, even travelling to Portsmouth to entertain the Navy. She hopes that one of her fellow performers will see this and will write to her.

Mrs C K Streeting (nee Telfer) would like to hear from anyone who served with her in 564 HAA Battery. They were in Belgium in 1945/46.

Mrs J P Teague (nee Pte Jo Watts) of 72 Willow Hey, New Church Farm, Skelmersdale, Lancs, WN8 8NJ would like to contact any member who served with her or lives in her area.

She served from 1966-1969 as a Comcen Operator in Aldershot and Krefeld.

Mrs Pollie Ward of 374 James Reckitt Ave, Hull HU8 0JA, Secretary of the Kingston-on-Hull Branch of the Association, would like to hear from anyone who was stationed at the Northern Command Training School, Symington in December 1942 or 69 AA Brigade Signals, Weymouth in June 1944.

Mrs M A Mayhew of 4 Hill Road, Chelmsford, Essex would like to contact anybody who knew her mother Mrs Mary Ellen Varty, known to her friends in the First World War as Nelly Chapman. She served at Rugeley Camp, Cannock Chase in 1918 and 1919 and worked in the Officers Mess, Headquarters Brigade.

Mrs M Storie of 6 Pheppie Road, Muchalls, Stonehaven, Kincards AB3 2RP (ex Sgt Major Micky Hutton, 495 Battery, 93 S/L Regt RA) would love to hear from old friends, especially Pip Shaw.

MARRIAGE

On 17th January 1981 in Sussex, Dorothy F Swan to Commander J W R Thompson RN (Retd.).

TRIBUTES

COLONEL E M SYKES OBE

Many of our members will be sad to learn of the death of Colonel Eve Sykes on 30th November last year. She joined the ATS in August 1939 and was commissioned in January 1942. After attending the ATS Staff College she held several staff appointments abroad and was mentioned in despatches. On promotion to Lt Colonel she became ADWRAC London District, where she was awarded the OBE. Her last appointment was AAG AG16 from which she retired in 1962.

Eve Sykes was an extremely kind and sympathetic officer who had the interests of all ranks of the Corps in the forefront of her mind. She was always humorous and vivacious and it was a joy to work with someone so enthusiastic. To those of us who worked with her, and to many others, she was a good and loyal friend.

BMR

LT COLONEL CATHERINE H M MILNER OBE

Many of our members will be sorry to learn of the death of Lt Colonel Catherine Milner in Windsor on 15th September 1981. She joined the ATS in 1939 and as Catherine Jackson rose through every rank to Senior Commander in HQ Western Command. In 1945 she was posted to Brussels where she took command of all ATS Signals in Western Europe and was promoted to Chief Commander with her main responsibility to command ATS Signals Germany. This role she continued to carry out until early 1949 when she retired to marry Colonel Eric Milner.

In 1958 she returned to active TA Service to command the WRAC squadron attached to her husband's regiment 65 Signal Regt TA. In 1963 she was promoted to Lt Colonel and appointed CWRAC 54th East Anglian Division TA.

In 1968 she retired on the re-organisation of the TA, and from then until her death she lectured three or four times a year to the officer cadets at the WRAC College.

E W M

LT COLONEL JEAN BERRY TD

A great number of members will have served with Jean Berry during her service at home and abroad, and will be sorry to know that she died on the 5th September 1981.

She was commissioned before the war in the 1st City of London Clerical Company ATS and gave twenty-five years unbroken service before retiring in 1964. She was a clever, amusing and often fiery character who will be much missed.

W G

OBITUARY

Berry. Lt Colonel Jean Berry of Pulborough, Sussex on 5 September 1981. ATS and WRAC.

Brown. Miss Annie Carnegie Brown of Cambridge on 21 September 1981. WAAC and QMAAC.

Butcher. Miss Barbara Butcher of Pocklington, Yorkshire on 22 April 1981. ATS and WRAC.

Clark. Mrs E M M Clark (nee Lloyd) of Bristol, on 11 August 1981. QMAAC.

Dewar. Mrs M Dewar (nee Spence) of Grangemouth, Scotland on 16 September 1981. ATS and WRAC.

Forbes. Miss J H Forbes of Lerwick, Shetland on 6 October 1981. WOII ATS and WRAC.

Francis. Miss Mary Francis of Newbury, Berkshire. ATS and WRAC.

Godwin. Miss Kathleen M Godwin of Cheltenham of 7 June 1981. ATS.

Hale. Mrs Betty Hale (nee Reynolds) of Portsmouth on 6 September 1981. ATS.

Harris. Lady Harris (nee Crookes) of Faversham Kent in September 1981. Chief Commander ATS.

Harrison. Miss E S W Harrison of Wimbledon on 7 July 1981. QMAAC.

Hasluck. Miss J St C Hasluck of Oxford in September 1981. Senior Commander ATS.

Lund Linton. Miss W M Lund Linton of Storrington, Sussex on 22 July 1981. WRAC.

Johnston. Mrs Mae Johnston in Belfast in October 1981. She was the only woman member of the Corps of Commissionaires in the British Isles and had many times carried the British Legion Standard in the Royal Albert Hall. Vice Chairman of the Ulster Branch. ATS.

Martin. Miss Annie Martin of Acton, London on 26 October 1981. QMAAC.

Milner. Mrs C H M Milner OBE of Datchet, Berkshire on 15 September 1981. Chief Commander ATS and Lt Colonel WRAC TA.

Mordaunt. Miss J H Mordaunt of Hayling Island on 7 April 1981. Chief Commander ATS.
Schofield. Miss V Schofield BEM of Gildersome, near Leeds on 15 August 1981. ATS.
Sprott. Miss Margaret Sprott of Glasgow on 19 July 1981. ATS.
Sykes. Colonel E M Sykes OBE of Bosham, Sussex on 30 November 1981; ATS and WRAC.
Wainman. Miss Ida Wainman of Nottingham on 27 July 1981. WAAC and QMAAC Boulogne.
Wilson. Mrs K W Wilson (nee Cawthorne) of Farnham, Surrey on 3 January 1982. Junior Commander ATS. Member of the Grants Committee of the ATS & WRAC Benevolent Funds.
Wright. Miss Alice Wright of Brighton on 31 December 1981. ATS (FANY).

LONDON GAZETTE

NEW YEAR HONOURS

OBE

Lieutenant Colonel (QM) A I Purton

MBE

Captain J A Chiswell WRAC TA, Captain R Ruston WRAC TA

BEM

Corporal E Milne

SERVICE AWARDS IN ULSTER

MBE

Major R G Warne

BEM

Sergeant M K Whiteside UDR

MENTION IN DESPATCHES

Captain A M E V McCurdy UDR

PROMOTIONS

Regular Army

Colonel: S P Richards
 Lieutenant Colonel (QM): E J Edwards
 Majors: V Batchelor, R A Chilton, E D Elliott, G R Harvey, C M Kimber, C V M Weaver, J M Ball
 Major (QM): C H Wales
 Captains: F E Canham, S J Chilver, C J Jenkins, P M Longlands, L W I McGregor, R A P Stiven, C Stuart
 Lieutenant: G M Gibson

Short Service Commissions

Captains: P J M Kerr, G E Sharpe, L E Finch, L M Kerley, A J Moore, S J Atterbury, V H Jones, L Clargo, K A Harpur, E A H Dunn, M C Paterson, M M Howes, V R Jenkins, A Lintern-Mole
 Lieutenants: A C Rankine, S J Quinlan, T Simpson, S E A Knapp, L P May, J L Bartlett, L J Bownass, J E Grafton, F Gray, S E Holt, C J M Kett, E A Rice, E M Storey, S L Vincent, A H Jordan, S A Blythe, S A J Fausset, A J Langham, C R V Bailey, D E Couch, F A S M Moore, P M Smith, E V Jordan, S A N Ogilvie, N A Thomas, J A Hutton, D B Robertson, A M Jenkinson, R Salter, A Maskens-McIntyre, A R Beisly, S P Rouse, S C J Gait, S J Mundill, A M Boileau, H M East, J A Parker, E H Thompson, G Harrison, V R Hammick, J E Harrison, S M Joyner, J B Riley, M R L Stewart
 2 Lieutenants: Y Pritchard, F E Corbett, H A Davis, V A Grimmett, L M Hartley, A Hawkesworth, M Hutber, R O'Meara, L J Scott-Fox, F M Gitsham, R Archer, R J Gollidge, J Oakley

RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Regular Army

Colonel: H Powell

Majors: C E Birtwistle, E A Saxon

Captains: A M Parfitt, J C Petty, J J Haydock

Captain (QM) V I Brown

Short Service Commissions

Captains: K L Carruthers, J Ball, A W C Heath

Lieutenants: M A Lawton, M L Heath, J Barry,

M A E Tarpley

LT COL ANNE BRAY regrets that due to the loss of her address book she was unable to send Christmas cards to several people with whom she usually keeps in touch. Anyone wishing to renew contact should write to Box 1/82, Lioness Corps HQ, Queen Elizabeth Park, Guildford GU2 6QH.

BENIDORM SPAIN Flat to let, sleep 4. Near beach and shops. July/August £80, September £70 p.w. Mrs Nias, 2 Dorrick Court, Archers Rd, Southampton SO1 2LT.

WANTED No 2 dress. Size 10/12, height 5'3". Lt C M Campbell, 21 Station Road, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6QR. Tel: 0772-321119 or 53191

WANTED Greatcoat and Mess Dress. Size 12/14, height 5'6". Lt S T Dearle, 7 Armd Wksp REME, BFPO 38 or Tel: Fallingbostal Mil ext 465.

FOR SALE No 2 Dress, 2 skirts, size 12, height 5'4". Tel: Hastings 431253.

FOR SALE No 2 Dress unworn £65, No 2 Dress little worn £45. Mess Dress very good condition £45. Greatcoat £20. Summer shirts £2. All size 12/14. Tel: 0793-486569.

FOR SALE Mess Dress worn twice £55. Brand new No 2 dress £30, size 14. Contact Mrs Chris, 375 Cannon Hill Lane, London SW20. Tel: 01-542-9377.

PERSONAL COLUMN

PERSONAL COLUMN CHARGES - 3 lines £1.25, additional lines 40p each. Non-members 50% extra. Write to the Editor at Corps HQ.

LONDON Clean, quiet, heated, self-catering accommodation, good tube. Miss J H S Alexander, 31 Tremadoc Road, Clapham SW4. Tel: 01-622-6018. If out please ring again.

**THE WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS ASSOCIATION
(INCORPORATING QUEEN MARY'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS AND
AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE COMRADES ASSOCIATION)**

BALANCE SHEET – 31st OCTOBER 1981

	1981 £	1980 £
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
GENERAL FUND		
Balance at 1st November 1980	31,350	23,861
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure ...	8,018	7,185
Profit on Sale of Investment	—	13
Transfer from Special Fund	—	291
	<u>39,368</u>	<u>31,350</u>
LIFE SUBSCRIPTION FUND		
Membership Life Subscription	2,550	2,361
Lioness Life Subscription	3,560	3,219
	<u>6,110</u>	<u>5,580</u>
	<u>£45,478</u>	<u>£36,930</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
FIXED ASSETS		
Office Furniture and Equipment		
At cost less depreciation	470	—
INVESTMENTS		
At cost per schedule (Market Value £32,848) ...	35,782	29,175
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stock of Badges	167	68
Sundry Debtors	108	230
Cash at Bank — Current Account	2,856	2,136
— Deposit Account	3,319	2,988
— Investment Account	2,941	2,557
Cash in Hand	60	32
	<u>9,451</u>	<u>8,011</u>
Less: Sundry Creditors	225	256
	<u>9,226</u>	<u>7,755</u>
	<u>£45,478</u>	<u>£36,930</u>

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AT 31st OCTOBER 1981

1980 Cost		Cost	Market Value 31st October 1981
2,303	M. & G. Charifund — 2,067 Units	2,303	3,155
2,912	London County Stock 5½% 1985/87 — £4,359.53	2,912	2,834
50	Royal British Legion Housing Assn. — £50 Bond	50	50
5,311	8½% Treasury Loan - 1997 — £6,718.09	5,311	4,249
2,433	8% Treasury Loan - 2002/06 — £3,336.04	2,433	1,918
3,679	7½% Treasury Stock - 2012/15 — £6,548.12	3,679	3,716
3,046	8½% Treasury Loan - 1987/90 — £3,490.98	3,046	2,548
1,490	9½% Treasury Stock - 1983 — £1,545.68	1,490	1,459
5,168	11½% Treasury Stock - 1989 — £9,927.62	8,793	8,066
2,783	12½% Treasury Loan - 1995 — £5,991.31	5,765	4,853
<u>£29,175</u>		<u>£35,782</u>	<u>£32,848</u>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st OCTOBER 1981

		1981 £	1980 £
INCOME			
SUBSCRIPTIONS			
Annual	3,585	3,500	
Proportion of Life Subscriptions	206	203	
			3,703
		3,791	
THE LIONESS PUBLICATION –			
Subscriptions	5,503	4,526	
Proportion of Life Subscriptions	254	228	
Advertisement Revenue	255	250	
	6,012	5,004	
Less: Cost of Publication	4,862	3,712	
			1,292
		1,150	
OTHER INCOME			
Income from Investments	3,874	2,755	
Deposit Account Interest	815	822	
Sale of Badges	39	40	
Branch Funds received on closure	–	35	
Q.M.A.A.C. Reunion	(23)	(17)	
			3,635
		4,705	
TOTAL INCOME CARRIED FORWARD		<u>£9,646</u>	<u>£8,630</u>

EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st OCTOBER 1981

		1981 £	1980 £
INCOME BROUGHT FORWARD		<u>9,646</u>	<u>8,630</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Branch Expenses:			
Capitation Fees	363	344	
Grants	16	69	
			413
		379	
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES			
A.G.M. Expenses	457	–	
Printing and Stationery	146	561	
Postages	170	143	
Subscriptions and Donations	35	15	
Share Purchase Expenses	37	50	
Sundry Expenses	24	25	
Audit and Accountancy Fee	238	200	
Depreciation	142	38	
			1,032
		1,249	
		<u>£1,628</u>	<u>£1,445</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE ...		<u>£8,018</u>	<u>£7,185</u>

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