

# WVS/WRVS Narrative Reports

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Registered charity no. 1015988 & SC038924, Registered in England 2520413

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Ms D. B. ...  
Ms Rankin ...  
Ms Morden ...  
Ms Cox

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE  
17.2.44  
J.S.  
16 FEB 1944  
MONTH JANUARY 1944

COUNTY. WORCESTERSHIRE.

CENTRE MALVERN

MONTH JANUARY 1944

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

All W.V.S. Services have continued as usual.  
Chief activities of the past month:-

- a) Helping Americans
- b) Preparations for and opening of Piers Plowman Club for War Workers.
- c) New Blood Transfusion Drive and Hospital Sessions in connection. (Miss Rankin)
- d) Transfer of Clothing Exchange to new Address. → (Miss Fry)
- e) Transport.
- f) Camouflage Netting.

General Remarks.

- a) Nearly all Office Staff is away and has been away ill or with general debility after illness.
- b) Work for large concentrations of Americans is very varied.

Examples.

- 1. Settling in the new camps and seeing their officers about all we are able to do for them.
- 2. Putting them in touch with social services.
- 3. Providing 200 dance partners for a fortnightly dance, dressing the hall and supervising the dances.
- 4. Very large quantities of sewing by our Hospital Supply Depot.
- 5. Acting as general information bureau covering all the questions asked by strangers in a strange land.
- 6. Befriending them individually and in groups.
- 7. Making the women a sitting-room and welcoming them as members in our Rose Bank Services Club.
- 8. Finding hospitality.

The officers and men often bring up pictures of their families to show us and we look through apparatus which makes the figures stand out and seem very real. We look right into the eyes of their wives and babies. These pictures are great treasures to the men and we feel honoured that they show them to us.

The Americans are a very generous race. It embarrasses us when they come to a meal and bring so much more than we give.

We are trying to arrange a meeting with their Service Officers over the formation of a British Welcome Club - but in Malvern they are already admitted to several W.V.S. Canteens, so the need is not so great.

United Services Club. Our United Services Club is a year old. Its finances are too flourishing. We are giving a big birthday party so as to spend money on the members.

Piers Plowman Club Our Piers Plowman Club has now been open a fortnight and already has about 700 - 800 members from transferred workers only. We think we may have to close at 1000, but it will depend upon the average attendance.

Transport All drivers busy. Journeys for Hospital, M.O.W.M., M.O.H., W.V.S. W.E.A. etc. The average is 7 journeys a day.

Camouflage Depots. All the Depots are flourishing. The demonstrations at the Winter Gardens are going strong.

Our telephone rings continuously

Signed..... A.M. Day.....  
Centre Organiser.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Extracts from Letters of Thanks to  
Malvern W.V.S.

From,  
Malvern Industrial Hostel, P.O.Box 2.Malvern

"I am writing to thank you on behalf of the residents at  
Malvern Hostel for so kindly lending us the two gramophones  
and records which enabled us to have some dancing....."



From,  
The Standard Motor Co. Pickersleigh Rd. Malvern Link.

"May I express my thanks for the 29 tickets for the American  
Red Cross Dance which I received this morning?....."

From,  
The Hill Top Sanatorium. Bromsgrove, Worcester.

"I am writing to thank you very much for sending my wireless  
along, I appreciate it more than I can express, its already  
brightened the ward up considerably....."

From,  
Malvern Urban District Council.

"On behalf of the Reception and Welfare Committee and myself,  
may I thank you for your co-operation and help in making the  
Evacuees' Party held last Saturday such a success....."

From a Malvern Lady.

" Happy New Year to you and your wonderful W.V.S. ! "

To be fastened on  
to our Report.

Lady Hill  
Mrs. Stiles  
Mrs. Duffin  
Mrs. Mader

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE 11.2.44

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

1944

CENTRE... Malvern... COUNTY... Worcestershire... DATE... FEBRUARY

Our Clothing Exchange continues to be a source of satisfaction to us.... An old woman pensioner was given a worn but still serviceable sealskin muff-purse and a tall, black straw hat with pretty trimming. Says she, "Oh! Mam, they're grand, and the neighbours will think I've been benighted by the King!"

The Schedule to which we have been told to confine our reports does not answer our present work. It has a depressing effect for while remembering all one hasn't done under it, one forgets all the nice things one has done outside it. Our activities come under the heading 'miscellaneous' and it would be difficult to confine them to the paper.

The Americans continue to be our chief activity (see last month) They are very nice people and suit us well.

Blood Transfusion. This is a large activity here, because we are 'letting' Government Missions.

Transport, which arranges about seven journeys a day, and Camouflage Netting are others.

We look after three clubs and four canteens. The latest club has reached a membership ceiling of 1250 after only having been open just over a month. Our Forces Club is a delightful place. The members are so good and kind. We now need a district annexe for our Transferred Workers Club and also a British Welcome Club for a very large concentration of Americans. The American officers are very busy and they can not find time to come and discuss the latter question with us, but they use our canteens well. We have invited all the women members to join our Forces Club. 98 joined one afternoon from one of their units but this special unit is now leaving to be replaced by another.

The Centre Organiser hopes to do a better report next time.

P.T.

DATE... 29... 2... 44..

CENTRE ORGANISER... A. M. Day.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

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ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Extract from a letter from Worcestershire County Joint Committee of the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Prisoners of War Department.

To the Malvern W.V.S.:-

I am writing to congratulate you on the part you took in raising such a large sum during the Christmas Fete Week at Malvern.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

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DATE... 29... 2... 44

ROYAL VOLUNTARY CENTRE ORGANISER... 9.11.44 Day

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

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ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY.. Worcestershire

MONTH.. March. 1944.....

CENTRE. Malvern

APR 1944

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE REGISTRY

1. EVACUATION. No more. Even the Babies' Homes have now been emptied.
2. CLOTHING. We have the following stores:-
  - a) Melton Lodge Depot. for Raid Emergency, new clothes, Lord Mayor's Fund & American Red Cross.
  - b) Davenham Depot. American Red Cross. Reserve Stores Hospital garments & Hospital supplies.
  - c) 3. The Exchange. Clothing EXchange. Also 2nd. hand stock which includes dyed army suits.
  - d) Rest Centres. Four controlled by Great Malvern WVS, (not including Malvern Link.) Three sacks each,- rather rubbish.
  - e) Blanket Depot (Cox & Painter)
  - f) Malvern Link First Aid Post. Stocks supplied by us for decontamination purposes.
  - g) British Legion Considerable stocks of new & old clothes available for free use after a raid.
3. A.R.P
  - a) Housewives. The ladies in charge of this service are always filled with despondency, but it is not too bad.
  - b) Incident Posts. We are now training personnel.
  - c) Messengers. We have them for the Office - the ARP have their own.
  - d) Training. A refresher course now organised to begin April 3rd. An ordinary course organised to begin on the same date.
  - e) We are always at the disposal of the Police and the Council Officials and never refuse anything.

P.T.D.

3. (continued) ARP

- f) Miscellaneous. A big Salvage Drive just finished.  
We helped with Stewards, Cars, Propaganda, Sorters,  
Messengers.

4. Homeless. Rest Centres.

- 4 under Malvern WVS.  
2 under Malvern Link WVS.  
2 under Schoolmasters.

We are doing a check up on these in connection with Form  
CN/A 4 44.

pars: b,c,d, do not apply to a Special Area like Malvern.

5. Canteens.

- a) Seven including two clubs, another we hope to open shortly,  
"British Welcome". One of the above has cut loose from  
WVS (except for personnel) and caters for all sorts  
including Civil Defence.
- b) Mobile. This is ready for anything.

6. Emergency Feeding.

- a) School Children, done by the Education Authorities.  
b) Mother & Children )  
General Public )

We help service at our two British Restarants which  
probably serve over a thousand daily.

- d) We have an emergency Feeding Centre stocked, staffed,  
ready to serve 500 meals every hour.

7. Welfare of the Forces. British.

Clubs for Navy & General Forces.

Social work in connection with these.

Hospitality & Excursions, Library Service, Regular insured  
"Picture Exhibition" of best pictures. We planned a success-  
ful one of their own work, too.

American.

- a) A shopping service for Hospital Patients.  
b) Accommodation for Friends.  
c) Supplied entertainers.  
d) We furnished & earmarked a room in Rose Bank Club for  
their nurses.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE Malvern ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

7. Welfare of the Forces. American. (continued)

- ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE
- e) We are moving heaven & earth to get premises for a British Wel come Club.
  - f) Much hospitality.
  - g) Found Music teachers.
  - h) Glass jam jars.
  - i) We find up to 250 dance partners for them once a fortnight. This is the largest concentration of Americans. They have no Club. That the Americans appreciate our help is shown by their many kindnesses to us. They have just given us about a 1000 splendid books which we have distributed to our Free Library, Clubs & Canteens, Sick Bay, Industrial Club Bedridden people, Children & others.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

8. Hospital Services.

- a) Blood Transfusion. We have over 1500 volunteers from Government Missions stationed here who have lately been organised for big "letting" sessions.
- b) Miscellaneous. Our VCP service to and from the hospitals is an important part of WVS work and is on a large scale.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

9. Hospital Supplies. A large depot always at work and sending out thousands of things.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

10. Transport. The VCP Service in Malvern is one of the largest in Worcestershire - hospitals - WVS - lectures, collections, etc.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

11. Mobile Squad. Five <sup>people</sup> reported willing to be away over 12 hours and three for 12 hours.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

12. Evacuees and Refugees from Abroad. They have either gone away or been absorbed into the labour market of the district where there is a dearth always.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

13. Administration Centres & Information Bureaux. I never quite know what this means. We have arranged for WVS to be represented at our Information Bureau and act as liaison.



14. National Savings. Many of our members help. We do all we are asked and attend meetings. We give special help at all special 'Drives'.

15. Salvage. A big drive just over. (see ARP (e) )

16. Co-operation with Ministry of Labour.

- a) We have interested ourselves in the War Nursery and given several kinds of help when asked to do so.
- b) Piers Plowman Club for Transferred Workers. 1250 members and the largest in Region 9 not excepting the large towns.  
Chairman --- County WVS Organiser.  
Secretary -- Malvern WVS. Organiser.  
The County Canteen Assistant is on the Committee.

17. Meetings and Lectures. There is no week and seldom a day without one of our own or someone else's which we need to attend.

18. Other Activities. All the general business of a very busy WVS office with a telephone always going. Not possible to detail. The following is a letter of appreciation received from an official of the Malvern Urban District Council.

To the Malvern WVS. " I am instructed by the Library Committee to convey to you their sincerest thanks for your help in providing invigilators for the C.E.M.A. Exhibition. The Exhibition was the most successful art exhibition ever held in Malvern, between three and four thousand persons having seen it, and parties of children from eighteen different schools. It was a very great help to have someone in charge all the time, and I must congratulate you on your remarkable achievement in finding someone for each day. The work of the WVS needs no endorsement from me but I cannot help recording my conviction that - good though it may be elsewhere - at Malvern it is quite exceptionally helpful and efficient. I should be most obliged if you would convey my Committee's thanks to the ladies concerned. "

Malvern's' War Populations.

Large mission from the Ministry of Aircraft Production.

" " " " Ministry of Supply.

Ship. H.M.S. "Duke"

Five Military Hospitals (USA)

One Administrative Dept. (USA)

Five Government Factories. (British)

a. m. Day

W.V.S. MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

14th 19/5/44

COUNTY Worcestershire CENTRE Malvern

DATE 4th, May 1944

Though we are busy in them all, there has been no change in any service last month except that two courses of basic training and one refresher course have been completed, also we have completed the training of our Incidental Points volunteers.

On May 9th, we are holding a Food Leaders' Conference in one day. The 1st Session beginning at 3 p.m. and the 2nd Session at 5 pm. with tea served in the interval.

We are doing all we can to start a "certain Club", the need being very great. There are premises in view but the owner wishes to let them as offices. Our hope is that the billeting officer will step in and prevent this and that we will be preferred to billetees!

In spite of the fact that this is a closed area, a few evacuees continue to dribble in and we do our best for them. Four more hotels have been requisitioned, leaving only one (a large, expensive one) and taking still more of our volunteer force.

Our "certain places" are doing well. A special memo has been sent to the County Office on our work for the members of a certain country.

We are very busy preparing for 'Salute a certain person' week. Our County Organiser is organising the final Reception and Dance for the week.

The following extracts are from letters received in this office.

From a certain Source: "We wish to express our deepest gratitude toward you and your colleagues for the excellent cooperation and help you have given us".

From the Ministry of Labour, Birmingham. "I understand that the day nursery filled up very well after you had distributed the posters. Thank you very much.

From the Manager of the County Hotel, Malvern. (after the visit of important officials) "Thank you so much for your help in getting the W.V.S. ladies to help yesterday, I am most grateful to you and to them for their help, and hope that sometime I shall be able to return the compliment".

VOLUNTARY  
SERVICE

ROYAL  
VOLUNTARY  
SERVICE

"From a certain man in a certain district."

"I want to write and express to you the very great thanks that my men and I feel for you and your friends at Malvern for so kindly sending us such a grand parcel of books and games through Driver Oseman. We are very grateful for such gifts and they go a long way towards making life very much easier for men in 'a certain' Service and help to keep them happy when they are so far away from home."

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WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY.....Worcestershire CENTRE.....Malvern..... MONTH.....May..... 1944.....

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated.

A list suggesting the subjects on which information would be most helpful will be issued from Headquarters from time to time.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION. ( Miss Rankin ) The clerical work, following the use of 350 Donors in T.R.E. in addition to the Routine Bleeds, has been heavy, but with the help of an extra typist, the records are now up to date. At the last routine session, on 26th. May, 48 donors were used at Malvern Link F.A.P. On 9th. June we are using 600 at A.D.R.D.E Sick Bay and Lansdowne Mobile Unit is standing ready to use large numbers of Donors at a few hours notice to supply the needs of the present emergency.

Miss Deakin is very pleased that the poster she designed for Malvern Salute the Soldier Week is being printed for use by the Ministry of Health.

TRANSPORT. ( Miss Verini ) A busy month. The usual routine work for Hospitals and Ministry of Food, etc. No outstanding calls.

CAMOUFLAGE NETTING. ( Miss Verini ) This Service is temporarily closed down.

HOUSEWIVES ( Mrs. Robinson ) A number of Housewives attended a Food Leader Meeting in the W.V.S. Office (Malvern), became interested in Food Leader matters and now wear Food Leader badges. Several Housewives attended a Basic Training One Day School on May 30th. There were also a number of volunteers for Emergency Help in Hospitals in the vicinity.

BASIC TRAINING. ( Mrs. Murray Graham ) A One Day School was held in a Malvern Lecture Hall. Visual Training was a predominant feature of the Basic Training programme, amusing playlets illustrated the talks on ARP and First Aid. 140 took this course, and, in the interval, much appreciated the Tea which was provided for them by a W.V.S. Mobile Van.

PTO.

Signed.....  
(Centre Organiser)

TO BE COMPLETED IN QUADRUPPLICATE (IN TRIPLICATE BY COUNTY BOROUGH) AT THE END OF EACH MONTH. ONE COPY TO HEADQUARTERS, 41 Tothill St., London, S.W.1, ONE TO REGIONAL ORGANISER, ONE TO COUNTY OFFICE, AND ONE TO BE RETAINED AT CENTRE.

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SHOPPING SERVICE. (Mrs. Harrison) caters for the needs of the bed-ridden Hospital patients. From May 1st. to June 1st. we were able to purchase about 25 separate articles in response to individual requests from patients. Many of these requests are accompanied by detailed description of the required article and every attempt is made on the part of the "Shopper" to suit the personal taste of the invalid. Old English Silver, Pewter, China, particularly the well-known 'Worcester, Staffordshire, Chelsea' as well as views and post-cards of English country scenes are in constant demand. A special order for London etchings we fulfilled by the kindness of a W.V.S. member who obtained them on a visit to London.

Other Welfare work includes the sending of gifts to Hospitals, finding accommodation for representatives of the British Council, and Polish Art and Propaganda Exhibitions and helping with the organisation of the latter.

CANTEENS & CLUBS (Mrs. Morshead) All as busy as usual.

MOBILE CANTEENS (Mrs. Whatley) In addition to our ordinary rounds, the Mobile Canteen did three interesting jobs in May. We went to Worcester on the occasion of Lady Reading's visit to the city and provided teas for the delegates at the Meeting. To Upton with tea and cakes for the Home Guard at a big display which they gave during the local Salute the Soldier Week. We also took the Mobile to the One Day School (Basic Training) in the Public Library Malvern and served tea to those in attendance, during the interval.

REST CENTRES. (Mrs. Hallam) A successful practise was held at the Technical School and was well attended.

SOCK MENDING. Miss Arthur. With increased membership of our Services Club the mending Service is becoming more and more widely known and greater advantage taken of it. Organisation for this service has now been transferred to Rose Bank United Services Club.

A. M. Day

Centre Organiser

The following are extracts from letters of thanks and appreciation received in our W.V.S. office.

From the Mess of a Naval Training Establishment.

'Will you please accept the thanks of this Mess for your kind efforts in regard to the bread cutter..... May I add that the ratings of this Mess appreciate greatly the splendid efforts of the Malvern W.V.S. to add to their comfort.'

From one of the organisers in the local 'Salute the Soldier'

I wish to express sincere thanks and appreciation for the work you so admirably gave during our Week.

From the Librarian of the Public Library. 'My Committee wishes to thank you most heartily for arranging the supervision of the last Art Exhibition.... These Exhibitions would be impossible but for the great and continuous help which your organisation is rendering. The supervision is one of the main difficulties, and thanks to your very generous help, it has been surmounted.'

From the British Council. "I feel I cannot thank you sufficiently for the service you have done in finding accommodation for the Polish Army Officer who is bringing his exhibition to Malvern.'

From the Military Organiser of the 'Salute the Soldier Week'

'Whatever we do in these days in connection with the war and ceremonies connected therewith, there is never an occasion on which we do not owe our gratitude to the WVS.'

From another 'Salute the Soldier' Organiser. 'I would like to express our very sincere thanks to you and the WVS. for arranging this for us. Also for so kindly staffing the focal point ..... as usual the W.V.S. have never failed to give me a helping hand.'

P. T.O.

From a Land Army Girl, who was drafted to another district.

I'm afraid I have to say Good-Bye, with very deep regret,  
To Malvern, and to Rose Bank Club, I feel I owe a debt;  
I do, a debt of gratitude, for all the joys and pleasure,  
That I received inside that club, and of the highest measure  
I can but say two little words, but I mean them to convey  
A meaning that is very deep, to you, and all, Miss Day;  
Thank you, yes, a thousand times, for all that you have done  
to make each member happy, may I speak for everyone?  
This a place I never shall forget, wherever I may roam,  
For I'll always look on Rose Bank as the place that's most  
like home;

I have made so many friendships there, some that will always  
last,  
Even when the days of war - and service clubs - are past.  
Now I must leave you - - with a sigh,  
So, once agin, THANK YOU, - Good Bye.

With best wishes to all of you, and especially the Club.

From a Hospital Secretary. ' I wish to thank you for  
the gift of Chess Set and Board. - This is very much  
appreciated.'

From an Overseas Airman. by Airgraph. .... I wish to express  
the gratitude of my friend and myself for the purchase of the  
flowers. I shall always remember this favour that you have  
done for me, and wish you all in the W.V.S. the very best  
of good fortune.

From the American Red Cross. 'I want to thank you for  
securing the flowers for the Anniversary of this Unit.'

MONTHLYNARRATIVECOUNTY Worcestershire CENTRE... Malvern..... DATE.. June. 1944.(Dash) WELFARE FOR (Dash) ALLIES.

1. We have a club at last and hope to open shortly. Gifts, offers of transport, offers to clean and colour wash are coming in nicely. There are two large rooms and four very nice smaller ones, also a kitchen, a bathroom, separate toilet and wash-basin. A box telephone is already installed.
2. A large number of Malvern women go down to the (dash) daily to help in a voluntary capacity - they perform every kind of service.
3. We send quantities of flowers for the (dash) and we have received delightful letters of thanks.
4. We are planning excursions to take the (dash) to see the beauties of the district. Parties arranged for the next two weeks include Ledbury and Forest of Dean. Itineraries are drawn up in advance and these are made the subject of advance talks by the (dash-dash), so that the (dash) shall gain the most from their trips.
5. We have found a mansion in the vicinity where nurses are received in parties of four to spend their 48 hrs. rest periods. Their hosts give them a wonderful time.
6. Two special excursions for 30 (dash and dash) have been planned to a country estate near Cradley for July 25th. and August 3th.
7. We have provided several thousand cigarettes for (dash in dash) Hospitals.
8. We continue to do all our previous services for them - shopping, providing dance partners, information, hospitality, accommodation etc.

13 JUL 1944

over/  
V. S. REGISTRY



GENERAL SOCIAL SERVICES. We have planted out self-evacuated evacuees who had come away from flying bombs, or been blitzed by them. Seen to the provision of Wellingtons for children. Provided a panel of over 20 workers ready to go on demand to a (dash) Hospital. Provided bridesmaids' dresses for a W.A.A.F. wedding. Sent a group down south who were prepared to work with refugees. Found a temporary Mathematics teacher for a Private School.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION (Miss Rankin) All volunteers are coming in steadily to enrol and we are getting a good waiting list. After 'D' Day there were emergency calls for donors for casualties. A large group of w.r workers valiantly rose to the occasion and produced twice as many donors as were needed. Another government organisation was called upon a week later for donors for casualties. On Friday last, a pathologist from Worcester Infirmary went to three factories in Malvern to test over 100 volunteers with a view to adding their names to the list in readiness for any other emergency.

TRANSPORT (Miss Verini) On the whole the demand for transport this month has been slightly less than usual. All drivers fully prepared for emergencies and keyed up ready to go on journeys at a moment's notice.

BASIC TRAINING (Mrs. Murray Graham) A Basic Training One Day School in the form of a Public Meeting was held in the local Winter Gardens on June 26th. This Meeting was presided over by the Chairman of the Urban District Council. Members of the Civil Defence and Fire Guards as well as W.V.S. were present. The usual Basic Training programme was given, talks on A.R.P., Elementary Aid, Firefighting, etc., varied by Playlets and Sketches. The Audience numbered 150, of which 50 were W.V.S. who are now entitled to their Badges.

HOUSEWIVES (Mrs. Hugh Robinson) A number of Housewives attended the large Basic Training Meeting on the 26th. as an opportunity to take a 'Refresher Course' in A.R.P. and Firefighting.

CANTEENS (STATIC) Mrs. Morshead. Our static canteens have been as busy as usual.

CANTEENS (MOBILE) Mrs. Whatley. An average month, the ordinary routine, journeys being made. One large Civil Defence exercise was attended and refreshments served to those taking part in it.

ROSE BANK CLUB (Mrs. Morice) As well as providing an excellent Canteen and other amenities, this Club caters for the social needs of its members who now number over 700. Concerts are arranged frequently for their entertainment and recently an Exhibition of Needlework attracted much admiration. All the Exhibits were well insured as each one was the work of an expert.

PIERS PLOWMAN INDUSTRIAL CLUB. This Club is going through teething troubles, but these will soon be at an end, now.

INCIDENT POINTS, SQUADS, MESSENGER SERVICE. The helpers in connection with these are in order and ready for work.

EMERGENCY FEEDING (Mrs. Murray Graham) A large exercise was held recently in which the new arrangements for cooking and serving were successfully tried out, and proved to be satisfactory.

FOOD LEADER & INFANT WELFARE (Miss Keble) We are endeavouring to foster a Child Welfare campaign. The local Food Office was interviewed with a view to various schemes being carried into effect. Food Flashes can not be shown here owing to lack of correct apparatus in the cinema.

HOSPITAL HELP SCHEME (Miss Keble) A scheme has been organised and we are ready to supply 300 helpers to a Hospital, if needed, in an Emergency.

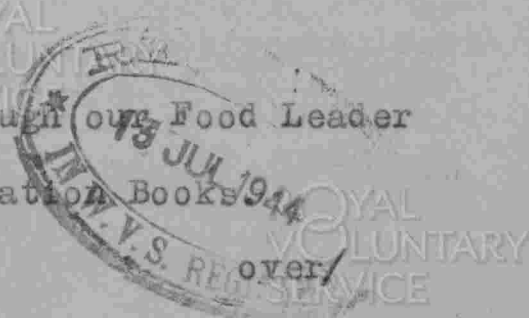
MENDING SERVICE & KNITTING FOR WESTERN COMMAND. (Miss Arthur)

Several baby garments have been made up from wool supplied by the Western Command Work Guild. The Mending and repair service for socks and clothing is still much appreciated and many take advantage of it.

MEETINGS Two large and successful one-day schools in Basic Training. Several inter-service meetings and an incident point training meeting. The Centre Organiser has attended Public Meetings and Committees of all sorts. Troops Welfare, Piers Plowman Club, etc.

WORK FOR THE COUNCIL

1. Co-operation with the Food Office through our Food Leader Scheme, Infant Feeding, etc.
2. Transport in connection with the new Ration Books 1944



WORK FOR THE COUNCIL continued.

3. Welfare for the Police:- provision of books, magazines etc.
4. Salvage - giving general help.
5. Co-operation in Incident Point Exercises.

The following letters of thanks and appreciation have been received:-

From the American Red Cross "I want to take this chance to tell you that our dance on Tuesday was a tremendous success. An entertainment of this sort was badly needed. The women guests who came here were responsible for the main part for making the evening the success it was. They were a lovely group of girls. We realise how much time and effort you spent in securing these guests for us and want to tell you how very much we appreciate your co-operation"

From the same source. \* A brief note to thank you for the lovely flowers..... You have been more than kind and also in the many other ways in which you have helped us, and we we do want to express our thanks.

From the local Police Constabulary. .. . . . . It is nice to know such cordial relations exist between the Malvern W.V.S. and the Police and I can assure you of our co-operation at all times.

From a 'Trainee' "As a Trainee of the (dash) I felt I could not leave here without expressing our sincere thanks for the grand service you render. The W.V.S. is one of those organisations which has no show, no uniform, no praise and its members are apt to get a little disappointed at times; but believe me I know I am speaking not only on behalf of myself and my mates but I am sur on behalf of the whole (dash) when I say the W.V.S. service at Malvern is beyond praise. Many of us are only 18 or 19 and miles off from our relatives and friends but we could always be sur of a great welcome ( plus a cup of tea and bun! ) at your canteens. And so on leaving Malvern I shall always at least remember the splendid service of your organisation.

LETTERS OF THANKS continued.

From a (dash) Sports Officer. "..... We often find difficulty in getting so many small but very important items done for us, and the prompt and willing attention and co-operation that you have afforded us, in this and many other ways and aspects of our life here in Malvern is doubly welcome.

From a (dash - dash) "Please accept my very grateful thanks for the gift of books and games..... These gifts have benefited not only the Club but the whole of my Establishment. With renewed thanks....."

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

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ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

*Miss Galtney*

*Mr & Mrs D.C.B.*

FOR THE BULLETIN.

9  
5/17-41  
2 JUL 1944

MALVERN CENTRE. "Ladies in Green"

Among our various services for the American Hospitals, we have one called 'Ladies in Green'. Every day a number ~~of these ladies~~ goes down to the Hospitals to help in a non-nursing capacity.

They take and arrange flowers and fruit, talk to the men, change books, write letters, play games, feed those whose limbs are in plaster and do a thousand and one other small services which are much appreciated by the patients and staff.

"Showing England to our Allies."

A <sup>series</sup> service of trips has been arranged to show our Convalescent Visitors the beauties of the neighbourhood.

An itinerary, giving points of interest is prepared in advance of each trip and handed to the special service officer, who has a map-talk with the men chosen to go.

In this way a more intelligent interest is created and an added enjoyment given to the excursion.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICES  
FOR CIVIL DEFENCE  
JUL 1944  
MALVERN DISTRICT OFFICE,  
3, THE EXCHANGE, MALVERN.



VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

16-8-44  
hlm 9

### MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

CENTRE Malvern.

COUNTY Worcestershire.

MONTH July. 1944.

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated. Subjects should be dealt with in the same order as on the new statistics return. Training, and Registration questions should be included under Organisation. Any new activities should be entered at the end.

#### (Dash) Welfare for (Dash) Allies.

All Welfare activities as last month.

The British Welcome Club is now open. Malvern people have given their furniture with real generosity.

#### Other Welfare.

1. The Piers Plowman Club for Transferred War Workers has a new Warden and is doing well. It looks bright and clean, the membership is increasing and the canteen is more popular. It has a good programme of social activities.

We enjoyed the visit of the King and Queen to this Club. The Queen looked like a lovely Madonna, maternal and brooding.

2. We have now four Clubs and four Canteens. The three established clubs have very big memberships.

3. We have planted out some babies for Harrow W.V.S. One lady who has made babies her war work wishes to take them only through us.

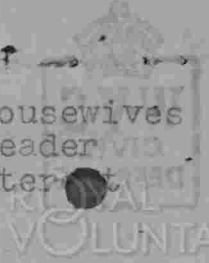
4. Many independent evacuees are here from the South, and we do our best to help, but the finding of rooms is almost hopeless.

5. The strangest piece of Welfare Work this month was conducting two women who had no pennies to a 'toilet'. One said, "we always heard you W.V.S. would do anything, and now we know it!"

15 AUG 1944

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Centre Organiser)

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3 Housewives. Mrs. Hugh Robinson. Those members of the Housewives who take part in Food Leader activities attended a Food Leader One Day School in Worcester, where they learnt much of interest to them.

4 Rest Centre. Mrs. Hallam. There has been no particular activity. Some of the blankets have been removed from one or two of our Centres, we imagine for the use of Refugees elsewhere.

5 Canteens. Mrs. Morshead. The month began quietly, but in the last two weeks all canteens have filled up again.

6 Mobile Canteens. Mrs. Whatley. Routine journeys have been made as usual.

7 Food Leader Scheme. Miss Keble. A Food Leader Meeting was held in Malvern on July 8th. to discuss the furthering of more active propaganda for Welfare Foods. Owing to lack of support this plan could not be continued. Many members attended a Worcester meeting July 21st.

10 Transport. Miss Verini. Drivers this month have been chiefly occupied with regular Hospital journeys.

8 Blood Transfusion. Miss Rankin. thinks it is sufficient if the Blood Transfusion report is sent in quarterley.

The following are extracts from letters of thanks received in this office.

From the American Red Cross. " Thank you very much for your lovely gift of flowers. We filled every vase and jar we had, and still had flowers galore. The patients expressed their appreciation for those given on the wards and commented on the attractiveness of the bouquets in our day room. "

From another Red Cross Unit. ..... I cannot let more time go by without letting you know how much we all appreciate every thing you did for us, particularly how much I enjoyed knowing you. You are certainly an inspiration for the Allied Cause.

2 Clothing Exchange Miss Fey. Open two days a week. Quite busy.  
7 Mending for Services. Miss Arthur. Continued as usual.

8 Hospital Helps. Miss Keble. At request of local hospital five W.V.S. members went to give their services on July 21st. A regular service functions daily for other hospitals.

3 Basic Training. Mrs. Murray Graham. Comprehensive statistics sent in separately. No course arranged for this month. One in view for the autumn.

Camouflage Netting. Miss Verini. Temporarily closed down.

Emergency Feeding. Mrs. Graham. Everything in readiness & fully prepared.

*a. m Day center leader*



VOLUNTARY SERVICE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

CENTRE Malvern.

COUNTY Worcestershire

MONTH August 1944.

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated. Subjects should be dealt with in the same order as on the new statistics return. Training, and Registration questions should be included under Organisation. Any new activities should be entered at the end.

1. EVACUATION General Position. Malvern is not now a Reception Area, but there has been an immense amount of unofficial billeting in addition to the thousands of Government Servants.
2. CLOTHING. Clothing Depots have good stocks in hand ready for any emergencies. A physical count of County stocks held in Malvern is now in progress.
3. A.R.P. a) Housewives. There has been no particular activity this month.  
b) Training Courses. There have been no Basic Training Courses this month.
4. HOMELESS Rest Centres. Six Rest Centres are now fully prepared should they be needed for evacuees.
5. CANTEENS a) For H.M. Forces. Forces' Canteens have not had the usual rush but are busy enough to keep on their full staff of helpers.  
c) Mobile (Region 9) As well as routine journeys to out-lying Troop Units, the van with four helpers was taken to meet and serve refreshments to a trainload of Evacuees arriving from Southern England at a station about 10 miles away.

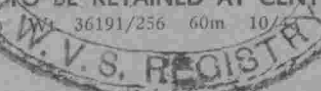
CLUBS Services' Club (Rosebank) British Wounded from local Hospital are admitted to free membership with full Club facilities. For Transferred War Workers. (Piers Plowman Club) The Chairman of the Club Committee (W.V.S. County Organiser) attended a Play-Reading Group one evening.

Welcome Club, for Americans. This Club offers free membership to U.S.A. Troops, 1/- a month to British & Canadians & 2/6 for civilian members. Every week there is a social debate with a guest speaker - last week Lady Harwick telling of her experiences in the H.S.A

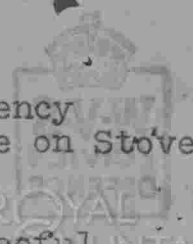
Signed a.m. Day  
(Centre Organiser)

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(300) W.V.S. 36191/256 60m 10/45 O.S. Co. 745(8)







- 6. EMERGENCY FEEDING (General Public) Helpers at the Emergency kitchen which is equipped to feed 400 attended a practice on Stove management.
- 7. WELFARE WORK FOR SERVICES.
  - a) Hospitality. Many successful afternoon outings for convalescents from the U.S.A. Hospitals in the neighbourhood took place this month. Parties of 30 men are taken two or three times a week to visit country houses in the vicinity. Refreshments are provided and both the men and the U.S.A. Welfare Dept: are greatly appreciative.
  - b) Mending Services. Mending Service for British Troops is now conducted from a W.V.S. Services Club. A similar service for U.S.A. Service personnel has now opened.
  - c) Miscellaneous Help Much miscellaneous help has been given this month to U.S.A. Hospitals. Organised parties of helpers go regularly to the Hospitals to undertake non-nursing duties under the 'Ladies In Green' scheme. Work parties also go to the Hospitals so that bandages, swabs etc., may be made on the premises. At a Hospital for British soldiers, W.V.S. members have visited patients with gifts and arranged for hospitality visits to local residents.
  - d) Shopping Service. This service, by which patients in U.S.A. Hospitals may make purchases through the agency of a W.V.S. member is much appreciated and this month numerous orders have been transacted, requests varying from Library editions to china & silver.
  - e) American 'Donut Dugout' Help has been given ~~in~~ to the Americans over the opening of their own canteen, sending helpers to work there, providing flowers & furnishings.
- 8. HOSPITAL SERVICES. Blood Transfusion Three Blood Transfusion Sessions took place this month and were well attended by donors. Between 29th July, and 30 August 55 new donors were enrolled.
- 9. HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS. See C.H.SS. monthly report from local Hospital Supply Depot. Davenham Malvern.
- 10. TRANSPORT A little slacker than usual owing to Hospital/Clinic closing down. Camouflage netting has also ceased, so journeys for this service are likewise discontinued. We are driving
- 11. QUEEN'S MESSENGERS, MOBILE SQUADS & TEAMS. One member went to London on a Region 9 'Mutual Aid' Team for work in the Onslow Square canteens, from Aug:9th. to 24th.
- 12. NATIONAL SAVINGS. Up to the period ending 29th August. Malvern was first in County Savings Competition and won the Silver Trophy by investing £1.18.3d. per head of population. Large proportion of collectors are W.V.S. including the Chairman of Street's Group Executive.

SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

OTHER ACTIVITIES.

We tried to get a small baby to send to an American home but the Government would not allow this in war-time.

..... One of your V.C.P drivers was told by an M.A.P. official that the W.V.S. was the most comforting of organisations.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

*a. m. Day*

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

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ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Miss Inigo V.M.T.  
Mrs. del. Hopkin  
Mrs. D. Caplin

CENTRE... Malvern.....

9

COUNTY..Worcestershire.

MONTH..September..1944

no mother etc.

With reference to Evacuation, Clothing, A.R.P., Homeless, Canteens, Clubs, Emergency Feeding, Hospital Services, Mobile Squads, National Savings, Transport, as also sections 11,12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.

All this is as it was.

General Remarks.

Most of our work is now taken up with American Hospitals; British Wounded; Meetings; general social activities; - such as organising a Children's Stall and Children's Corner at a Christmas Fair in aid of the Red Cross under the Chairmanship of our County Organiser.

U.S.A. In this neighbourhood we have the largest concentration of American Hospitals but no American Red Cross Centre, so the W.V.S. has undertaken all the Welfare work in connection with the Hospitals and the amount of work is immense.

A 'Donut Dugout' has been opened but that also needs much help.

Our Central Hospital Supply Depot is fully occupied working for the above Hospitals.

British. We have now a small Hospital for British Wounded; some of the patients having recently been flown straight from Holland. *We have given varied help.*

We thank Lady Reading very much for her splendid letter which we have all read, and we long for the quieter time it fortells!

Letter. From the American Red Cross. "Thank you so very much for your many acts of kindness. It is exceedingly good of you to take such an interest in our 'Donut Dugout' Club.

With your splendid co-operation I feel certain it will

become of real service to our Army personnel.

It is a real pleasure to work with you and your people.

\* The following report for September is a copy of that now enclosed for M.O.I.

1) All the work for Americans has continued. They have had wonderful hospitality.

2) The Welcome Club is popular and flourishing financially.

This week we are forming a Junior Social Committee to plan some 'getting together'. The R.A.F. members do not help a great deal in this respect, neither are the formal Thursday evening lectures very helpful though they are most interesting and well attended.

3) In addition to all the trips now going under the W.V.S. and M.O.I. we have started a series of long distance ones up to a 100 miles, taking a full half day each.

Last Sunday about 30 visited Hampton Court (Herefordshire) Leominster, and Ludlow where the party was met by Ludlow W.V.S. and entertained to a grand tea. The visitors were shown all the interesting sights of the old town.

There are two trips this Sunday, October 1st. (a) covering:- Evesham; Chipping Campden; Stow-on-the-Wold; Bourton-on-the-Water; Ford Snowhill; Broadway; Stanway; Winchcombe; Cheltenham; Deerhurst; Tewkesbury. Tea was taken at Cheltenham.

(b) Ledbury, Ross, Monmouth, Tintern Abbey, Chepstow Castle, Gloucester - Cathedral and New Inn including Tea at a large catering establishment.

Nest Tuesday a party of 40 is planned for a tour round the Royal Enfield Works, Redditch. Tea is to be taken at the Works Canteen.

SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

9

Report for M.O.I. continued.

If you know of any interesting industrial tours in the Birmingham district, please let us know of them?

Our Hospital Supply Depot is also doing a great deal of work for the American Hospitals.

We are also planning and carrying out much hospitality and some drives for our own wounded who are now in a small hospital in Malvern. etc

We are looking after the interests too, of some French boys who are among the wounded in one of the American Hospitals, providing them with French books, magazines, and papers and also getting a list of names of French speaking people to converse with them in their ward.

*A. M. Day*  
CENTRE ORGANISER.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE  
10 OCT 1944  
METRY



W.V.S. VOLUNTARY SERVICE  
M.T.  
Mrs Atkinson  
Mr Abraham  
Mr Bennett  
Mr de la Haye  
Mr Duff

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT 14 NOV 1944

CENTRE MALVERN

COUNTY WORCESTERSHIRE MONTH OCTOBER 1944



9

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated. Subjects should be dealt with in the same order as on the new statistics return. Training, and Registration questions should be included under Organisation. Any new activities should be entered at the end.

All Malvern A.R.P. Services have been either disbanded or reduced by half, with a view to gradual further reduction.

Disbanded. First Aid Posts. Warden's Centres. Messengers.

Reduced. All the Rest.

Query. What is the position in W.V.S. Services allied to the A.R.P. Services?

EXAMPLES. First Aid Post Personnel, Incident Point Control, Report Centre Staffs, Messengers, Guides, Evacuation, Clothing Depots, Camouflage, Rest Centres, Enrolled A.R.P. Workers, Mutual Aid, Emergency Squads, Emergency Feeding, National Service, Canteens.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE STILL ACTIVE. Canteens & Clubs for the Forces, War Time Social Work, Clothing Exchanges, Transport, Salvage, Blood Transfusion, Hospital Supplies, Hospitality.

EMERGENCY FEEDING. At the request of the County Education Authority there has been a full stock-taking of food and equipment and we have now handed over all keys, invoices etc. to Malvern Urban District Council. However a telephone message has come from the Council asking us to take back the care of the food stocks.

HOSPITAL SERVICES. BLOOD TRANSFUSION. A very quiet month. There has been no 'letting' during this period.

TRANSPORT. Very busy on work connected with local hospital.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ over/  
(Centre Organiser)

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Transport continued.

We also do a considerable amount of transport between the Hugh Sumner Emergency Hospital and Ronkswood Hospital.

National Savings. We have had a very successful special drive during this month - 'Arnhem'. Some of the Street Groups doubled their usual takings for that week. At one house where the collection is generally about £3. - £6 was the total for that week.

SOCIAL SERVICES. This has been a busy month, as well as our work for the five American Hospitals and their 12th Hospital Centre, we have now settled in a small emergency hospital for the British Wounded.

- a) The men are given free entrance to both our Clubs for the Forces and free food in one, also no charge is made to them for games apparatus, cards etc.
- b) We have provided regular V.C.P. Transport from our Emergency Hospital to the parent hospital in Worcester; have procured the loan of two wheeled-chairs; given a spring cushion to one legless (a personal gift) taken the men a few trips; arranged hospitality to various large houses near; sent books, magazines, games, and put the hospital in touch with the donor of a billiard table. We have also sent bundles of dressings, given cigarettes and other small services and arranged for a mending service. We have supplied twenty walking sticks with rubber ends to fit. We have offered our 'Ladies in Green' visiting service and are in constant touch with the Matron who understands she may apply to us for anything and everything.

THE AMERICANS. Have been taken many lovely trips and received generous hospitality; they have also been taken a series of industrial trips but as special reports have been submitted for most of the above, no details are now given.

For one U.S.A. Hospital we have supplied a French Teacher for Nurses, French books, papers and French speaking visitors for French patients. At another we have supplied a Russian Ballet Dancer, a Conjuror and a Pianist. Most of the Hospitals now get their own dance partners, but for a special party and dance for wounded men, held monthly at the 93rd Hospital we continue to supply hand-picked partners. We get many sudden calls for help - one Saturday afternoon ten girls had to be produced at once (not dancers) for a 'wounded' party, and a police uniform for a Lieutenant who wanted to be funny.

Flowers are sent regularly to all the Hospitals and our Hospital Supply Depot does an immense amount of work for them.

We answer a large number of questions and in the process of finding the answers we learn quite a lot too!



One special invitation has been obtained for a U.S.A. Colonel to view an estate not open to the public.

We have given 24 walking sticks but not rubbers.

Hospital Personnel are now receiving 5 days leave and due to the help and interest of our County Organiser there has been a splendid response in Region 9 to a request for hospitality and accommodation.

The Americans have opened a Donut Dugout in Malvern and we have supplied a fair number of helpers, also a Leader and staff suggestions for their Information Bureau. The opening of this Donut Dugout has not affected the attendance of Americans at our Welcome Club, which continues to flourish exceedingly.

The Reception and Dance for Officers and Nurses organised by our County Organiser was a wonderful success. Only the lack of a Hall prevents her from organising a similar dance monthly.

We must recount that the Americans have been very generous to us. They send constant invitations which also we are too busy to accept and they have given us fruit, sweets, and presents for our Stall at the Christmas Fair in aid of the Red Cross. At this Fair they are to have a stall of their own too. It is difficult to remember the myriad small services we perform for the Americans. We get great pleasure in the doing of them, and when our friends go away we shall be very sad indeed.

We have failed them in two requests. They want coloured absorbent papers for making Christmas Cards, and jackets for the members of their Jazz band to wear. Neither could we obtain.

AMERICAN SHOPPING SERVICE. (from a W.V.S. member.)

"The past two months have been very busy ones and the shopping envelopes now come in a large brown paper bag to the W.V.S. Office for collection. In September I did 35 commissions and this month I have already done 65. A large proportion of the of the requests are for ribbons, stars and military insignia



but there have been many requests for gifts for sending home. Brass, silver, pewter, as well as jewellery. Sometimes I get instructions, such as 'gift for Mother - a pin or a bracelet my mother is young and would like something colourful; or again 'three gifts for young girls, all unmarried, will spend 10/- on each'. Or again, 'souvenir for wife's birthday - choice left to you. After doing commissions of this kind, I feel very relieved when the Red Cross Girls say 'every boy was really pleased'

GENERAL SOCIAL. We have found a home for a London baby and offered to visit it regularly and send reports to its mother.

We have sent a couch, a picture and a piano to H.M.S. Duke. We do a regular washing service for one of the officers there.

Our County Office has provided outfits for a Czech refugee and a Polish boy who were in one of the U.S.A. Hospitals in Malvern.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION.

From the Captain of H.M.S. 'Duke'. "I write to thank most sincerely the members of the W.V.S. Malvern branch for the Chappell piano loaned to H.M.S. 'Duke'. The piano has given great pleasure and last evening there was a crowd of men gathered round it and all seemed to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. The members of the W.V.S. give so much time and effort for our men that words are inadequate to express the appreciation which we feel. But I know that the men show their gratitude in some measure whilst enjoying the hospitality and comfort at your canteens."

Sgd. H. Spencer-Cooper.

From an American Hospital. "The men of G. 3. sincerely thank you for making their dance a success. . With love and sincere appreciation of your many acts of kindness."

From a Naval Rating stationed here. Extract from a letter home to his aunt. "There are five W.V.S. Canteens here and the lads speak most highly of them, the atmosphere is so homely and the food almost makes one homesick. You ladies are doing great work. I was in a W.V.S. Canteen last night and I happened

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION. (continued).

to ask a Tommy where we could get a 'wash and brush up' in a minute a W.V.S. lady had taken us into her own bathroom and gave us all the gear for a delightful wash. They just cannot do enough for us.

From a former W.V.S. Helper. " I should be glad to take on any part time work again now. I have so missed going to the canteen - you made it so very pleasant for us. I think Malvern is very lucky to have you. When I think of all you do it seems amazing that you can 'keep it up' I look forward to your receiving the B.E.M. I feel you deserve the Victoria Cross. I have very pleasant memories of the time I was privileged to work with you."





MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

CENTRE Malvern.

COUNTY Worcestershire. MONTH November. 1944

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A.R.P. Incident Points, ~~Emergency~~, Emergency Feeding, Mobile Squads etc. now disbanded.

Housewives. Housewives are showing an increasing interest in 'Make Do & Mend' and in Food Leader matters.

Blood Transfusion. A very successful bleeding session for Factory workers was held on the 24th. and was very well attended.

Canteens. Forces canteens are again very busy and our Clubs very active. The British Welcome Club for Americans always presents an attractive programme for its members. Musical evenings and Debating Societies to which well-known speakers are invited are most popular.

The Piers Plowman Club for Transferred War Workers has also many societies to suit the taste of its wide membership.

Transport. A very busy month partly due to temporary shortage of drivers and innumerable Hospital journeys.

National Savings. Our W.V.S. representative (Chairman of the local Streets Groups Executive) attended the Midland Regional Conference of National Savings at Birmingham on the 25th. A vote for the fuller representation of women on all Committees was unanimously passed.

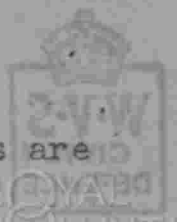
General Welfare. Americans. Please read last Month's notes. All that work continues. In addition we are over-whelmed with requests for help in Christmas preparations.

Hospitality & Excursions. Several excursions to places of historical interest and modern industry have been organised for personnel from the American Hospitals in the vicinity. /These

Signed.....

(Centre Organiser)

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/These are extremely popular and the Hospital authorities are most anxious for the trips to be continued.

American Shopping. The shopping service continues to flourish and orders are as varied as ever. This month's commissions include British Flags, jewellery, a trumpet, and a request for a baby's party frock for a G.I.'s daughter.

Letters of appreciation and thanks. From the Malvern Council.  
" I thank you for your letter of the 30th. ultimo and your efforts to make the Children's Christmas Party a success."

From the Malvern Chamber of Commerce.  
" This is just a note to tell you how very much the Council of this Chamber appreciated the help and co-operation which you extended on the occasion of the small dinner party at the County Hotel at which the W.V.S. assisted with the waiting."

*A. M. Day*



*Miss [unclear]  
Mrs [unclear]  
Mrs [unclear]  
Mrs [unclear]*

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

*Jan 27/45*

CENTRE MALVERN

COUNTY WORCESTERSHIRE

MONTH DECEMBER 1944

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated. Subjects should be dealt with in the same order as on the new statistics return. Training, and Registration questions should be included under Organisation. Any new activities should be entered at the end.

A.R.P. Services. Incident Point, Mobile Squads, Rest Centre services now mostly disbanded.

Housewives. Housewives were organised to take their part in the campaign 'Worcestershire adopts West Ham' and helped considerably in collecting furniture.

Blood Transfusion A successful 'bleed' is being held on the 30th. for which large numbers of factory workers volunteered to give their blood.

Canteens. Service canteens were exceptionally busy towards the end of the month, and several opened for a time on Christmas Day. Both the British Welcome Club and the United Services Club gave Christmas parties for their members who greatly appreciated all that was done for their entertainment on these occasions.

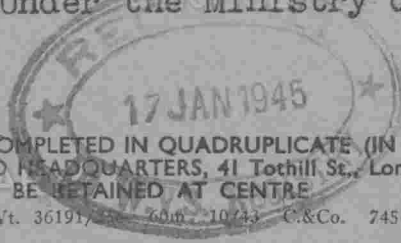
Welfare. Malvern worked exceptionally hard for the Christmas Fair in Aid of the Red Cross in the early part of the month. Malvern W.V.S. Stall made £372., this was organised chiefly from the Office as many helpers ran or helped to run the district stalls.

West Ham Furniture Collection. As usual Malvern has been more than generous and overwhelmed us with gifts. Everything sent up has been listed and the triplicate lists sent to our County Organiser at her request.

American Welfare. All our work for the Americans here continues as before with particular stress on the Christmas preparations. The Americans are always kind to us and very generous too.

Under the Ministry of Information scheme, parties of Americans

Signed..... have been/  
(Centre Organiser)



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VOLUNTARY SERVICE

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE



American Welfare. continued

have been taken to the following places:- Holdfast Manor, The New House, Upton-on-Severn; St. Cloud, Worcestershire; and also to see places of interest in modern industry - to Mitchell & Butlers, Breweries; and to Batteries Ltd. Redditch, where a tea-dance was arranged for the visitors in the staff canteen which was greatly enjoyed by both the factory workers and their guests.

For some trips the guests were scattered among several houses for hospitality and in one instance the Assistant Field Director thought the boys might be shy; on the contrary they chattered so much their hosts found it hard to get a word in edgeways!

Letters of Appreciation & Thanks. From the American Red X in France.

" We miss our good friends in Malvern and somehow Christmas is not quite the same. Malvern is probably one of the few places in England where there are still Americans. We often think of your wish to go to Germany after the war. It is certainly going to need a lot of rebuilding and we can think of no one better able to do it than you."

From another Department of the American Red Cross.

" Do remember me to the Countess Beauchamp and all your lovely ladies" .

From the Matron of a Fever Hospital.

For V.C.P.m " Thank you so much for helping to arrange transport for Olive Farrington. It is a relief to know that such a long and tedious journey will be made in such 'speedy comfort'.

We also received a long appreciation in verse which we do not enclose!!

*A. M. Day*

(Conte D'admiral)

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

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