

WVS/WRVS Narrative Reports

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WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE **MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT**

COUNTY.....**SOMERSET**..... CENTRE.....**BATH**..... MONTH.....**JANUARY**.....

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.

1. Evacuation A. A far greater number have returned to their homes this month. The following figures determine the position.

Movement of Evacuees in January

<u>Mothers & Children</u>	Arrivals	9
	Departures	52
Billeting Vouchers Withdrawn		7

<u>Unaccompanied Children</u>	Arrivals	6
	Departures	53
	Rehoused	14
	B.V.W.	10
	Transfers	17
	{(Left temporarily	21)}
	{(Returned to Bath	19)}

2. Clothing Work continuing, more secondhand clothing this month.

3. A.R.P. A Housewives Service. The re-organisation of the Bath Housewives' is making good progress, 9 out of the 12 Groups are now working, and the personnel is growing to full strength. The leaders are showing enthusiasm and a keen sense of the responsibilities, and our co-operation in the recent Salvage Drive was most successful. A Dramatic Demonstration of the treatment given in an anti-gas house was held, and the audience was most appreciative. We hope to give this demonstration in each group as we feel that a better idea of the treatment is conveyed in this way than by lectures.

Respirator Fitting & Repair Depot.

Number of School children fitted at Headquarters	...	58
" " Baby Helmets issued		66
Signed..... <i>Margaret Williams</i>		
(Centre Organiser)		

TO BE COMPLETED IN QUADRUPPLICATE (IN TRIPPLICATE 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.

If further space is required, please use back of form.

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3. Number of small child's Respirators issued	...	29
5. Facepieces changed beyond local repairs	...	127
Containers	...	24
Bands	...	5
Valves	...	6
Contex	...	13
New Cartons issued	...	612
Respirators patched	...	63
" changed	...	50

6. Number of respirators washed disinfected, examined etc. from Children, deceased persons etc. 332.

7. Civil Duty Respirators disinfected & examined ... 43

Haversacks washed and repaired ... 48

8. Adults.

Facepieces	...	55
Containers	...	37
Bands	...	36
Valves	...	36
Contex	...	41
Cartons	...	121

4. Homeless Nothing further to report.

5. Canteens Work continuing.

6. Community and Emergency Feeding A. Two more schools have been added and the meals served daily now average 600 per day. Directly the Local Education Authority can procure more vehicles for transport this work will increase there is also a shortage of containers.

7. Welfare Work for H.M. Forces A. Increasing rapidly. Where the services are unable to accomodate visitors at weekends, a rota of hostesses has been prepared to deal with the overflow.

B. No mending has been received yet but arrangements here to cope with the work are complete.

8. Hospital Services C. Voluntary Workers are still being supplied daily to the Bath Emergency Hospital, average number per day 26.

9. Hospital Supply Depot Work continuing, average attendance of workers 90 - 100 per day.

10. Transport Over 695 miles completed this month for the Ministry of Works and Buildings. A request for an increase in mileage rates has been sent in.

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SOMERSETBATHJANUARY13. Information Bureaux

During the visit of a lecturer for the Ministry of Food we have put in helpers at various centres where the lecturer has been demonstrating, to give out pamphlets, answer questions etc.,

14. National Savings

Several fresh collectors have been recruited for the Housewives Service.

15. See Housewives report.18. Other Activities

- A. 92 Camouflage nets completed this month.
 - B. 600lbs Sea boot Wool issued 605 prs stockings knitted,
 - C. 219 Knitting Vouchers issued.
 - D. We are assisting in every way with the issuing of Cod liver Oil and B.C. juice. Voluntary workers are allotted to each week distributing centre.
- At the Food Office 3 workers are working regularly on stocks and forms etc. The figures for Bath are 2,000 are eligible for this free issue and 1,396 have been issued.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY SOMERSET CENTRE BATH MONTH FEBRUARY

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1. Evacuation A. The numbers returning to their homes is not quite as heavy as last month.
The following figures determine the position.

Movement of Evacuees in February

Mothers & Children

Arrivals 8.

Departures 46

B.V.W. 9

Deaths 2

Unaccompanied Children

Arrivals 20

Departures 36

Rehoused 15

B.V.W. 3

Transfers 13

(Returned to

Bath) 6

2. Clothing Work continuing.

3. A.R.P. (a) Housewives' Service. 11 Groups now working. Personnel steadily growing. Co-operation in new Salvage Scheme by Leaders acting as Salvage Stewards.

(d) Increasing for Gas Lectures and Dramatic Demonstration of Gas Treatment is being given in each group as required.

See Newspaper cutting.

Respirator Fitting and Repair Depot.

Number of School Children fitted at H.Q. 284

" " Schools visited 4

Signed *Marjorie W. Holmes*
(Centre Organiser)

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(P.150)—Wt. 23852/102—40,000—8/41—C. & Co. 745 (9).

Number of Baby Helmets issued ... 74
 " " Small Child's Respirators issued ... 41
 Facepieces changed beyond local repair ... 229
 Containers ... 53
 Bands ... 12
 Valves ... 13
 Contex ... 22

New Cartons issued free ... 936
 Respirators patched ... 100
 " changed ... 201

6. Number of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc.
 from Children, deceased persons etc. ... 380
 7. Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected, examined ... 336
 Haversacks washed, repaired ... 36

8. Adults
 Facepieces ... 51
 Containers ... 26
 Bands ... 25
 Valves ... 25
 Contex ... 26
 Cartons (paid) 174

Two lessons of Instruction on examining and fitting of respirators given to parents of School Children. (Secondary School).

4. Homeless Nothing further to report.

5. Canteens Work continuing. See cutting.

6. Community and Emergency Feeding 7 Schools are being provided with cooked meals. See cutting.

7. Welfare Work for H.M. Forces. Still progressing.

8. Hospital Services Voluntary Workers are still being supplied to the Bath Emergency Hospital.

9. Hospital Supply Depot Work continuing.

10. Transport 763 miles were completed this month for the Ministry of Works and Buildings.

14. National Savings Work continuing.

18. Other Activities

- A. only 50 Camouflage nets, owing to lack of supply from Army.
 B. 540lbs See Boot Wool issued. 560 pairs stockings knitted.
 C. 198 Knitting Vouchers issued.

Reports 7.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY SOMERSET CENTRE BATH MONTH MARCH 1942

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.

1. Evacuation

Movement of Evacuees in March

Mothers and Children

Arrivals 10.

Departures 34

B.V.W. 7

All districts visited are satisfactory. No Visitors for two Districts.

Unaccompanied children

Departures 34

New Arrivals 9

Transferred 8

2. Clothing Work continuing.

3. A.R.P. (a) Housewives Service No. enrolments March 78.

The Bath Housewives' Service has made good progress this month in the number of personnel, and interest and enthusiasm on the part of the general public is increasing.

Two Dramatic Demonstrations of Anti-gas treatment have been held in different groups, as well as Anti-gas lectures and courses of First Aid lectures.

Leaders were invited to attend two public talks concerning Invasion and a summary of the talks has been given at meetings of Leaders in each Group. It is also hoped to give this summary to meetings of Housewives' in Street Groups. A Whist Drive & Social have been held in different Groups in order that Wardens, and Leaders in Housewives Service can meet one another.

Signed.....

Margaret Blumster

(Centre Organiser)

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Wt. 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)
E. 37497 138 40,000 11/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)

4. Homeless Nothing to report.
5. Canteens Work continuing.
6. Community and Emergency Feeding. 19,121 meals served in March.
7. Welfare Work for H.M.Forces Still progressing.
8. Hospital Services Voluntary Workers are still being supplied to the Bath Emergency Hospital.
9. Hospital Supply Depot Have made quantities of moss dressings, which, we have been told have been sent to Russia. :-
 450 moss dressings, 5 Stretcher mattresses with cover & pillow.
 25 splint pads, 9 Stretcher pillows,
 15 Maternity nightdresses have all been sent to Lady Boynton.
10. 26 sets woollies were made for the A.T.S. (1 scarf, 1 helmet, 2prs ankle socks, 2prs mittens)

We made 1005 Brassards for the W.V.S.
 52 Mattress covers were made for A.R.P.
 Work for the M.O.R. is still being done, & American Red Cross Work.
 Quantities of linen has been marked for the Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, including caps for nurses and rubber garments material provided.

10. Transport 717 miles were completed this month for the Ministry of Works and Buildings.

14. National Savings Work continuing.

18. Other Activities
 - A. 108 Camouflage Nets have been completed this month.
 - B. 420lbs Sea boot Wool issued. 715 prs stockings returned.
 - C. 151 New Free wool vouchers issued.

Number of Camouflage nets included 22 for Bath Home Guard.

3. Continued Respirator Fitting and Repair Depot.

No. of School Children fitted at H.Q.	...	...	250
" " " Visited	...	...	1
" " Baby helmets issued	...	...	95
" " Small Childs Respirators issued	...	...	76
Facepieces changed beyond local repair	300
Containers	91		
Bands	5		
Valves	10		
Contex	22		

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3. Continued.

New Cartons issued (free)	1,212
Respirators patched	159
" changed	200

No. of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc. from
Children, deceased persons etc. ... 650.

Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected etc.	...	10
" " " re-harnessed	...	3
Haversacks washed etc.	...	10

<u>Adults</u>	Facepieces	...	79
	Containers		36
	Bands		31
	Valves		31
	Contex		35
	Cartons		190.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE
MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY.....SOMERSET..... CENTRE.....BATH..... MONTH.....April and May.....

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.

This report is not the usual work of our Centre as owing to the major Blitz Bath had on the nights of 28th April and 29th April, most departments adapted themselves to the work which was of the most importance at the time.

1. Evacuation Owing to the severe raids many unaccompanied children were taken away by their parents and some families removed themselves, in some cases owing to the fact their houses were totally destroyed, in other cases the parents felt it safer to leave Bath.

A fortnight after the blitz the M.O.H. organised the removal of the remaining unaccompanied children to Dulverton, stating in a letter to the foster parents (copy of the letter attached) that the responsibility rested on them, as to whether they were removed or not, the result of a survey which we did with the L.C.C. and Barking Teachers resulted in 14 only leaving. One evacuee child was a casualty, our visitors made a survey of their districts at once after the blitz to ascertain if there was any distress among the evacuees and the result was very satisfactory.

The following figures determine our position with the evacuees:-

April until blitz

Returned 27
New Arrivals 15
Transfers 10
Returned Temporarily 27
Returned to Bath 4

After blitz until end of May (approx)

Returned Home
4 mothers and 7 children
60 unaccompanied L.C.C. children
25 " Barking "
8 " Westham "
10 Oddments.

14 Children re-evacuated to Dulverton.

Signed.....

Margaret H. Hinch

(Centre Organiser)

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Wt. 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C & Co. 745 (9).
Wt. 37497/138 40,000 11/41 C. & Co. 745 (9).

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These people are mixed but no children of school age.

Before Blitz - 8 Arrivals
32 departures.

Since the Blitz - 92 departures
no arrivals.

Details will be sent in the next report as full enquiries have not yet been completed.

2. Clothing The work of the Clothing Depot was naturally very heavy. We were fortunate in not losing our Clothing Store and only one bale of our decentralised clothing was destroyed by fire. A tremendous amount of clothing was sent into Bath by Societies and private persons, we therefore have more than enough to supply the needs. Mrs Watkins has worked in close co-operation with the Assistance Board and we have I am glad to say gained their unstinted praise of the work done by the W.V.S. Clothing department.

7,442 Coupons handed to the Board of Trade on
1,077 Families helped.

This work is of course continuing. The distribution of clothing at Rest Centres was satisfactory and we found except at two centres that the supplies were adequate. We were able to Salvage the clothes in the four centres that were damaged and unuseable.

3. A.R.P. The Housewives Section grew steadily in April, and the organisation was thoroughly tested during the severe raids in April, when every group was called to action. Reports from Group Leaders have shown that the Sector and Street Leaders have done splendid work, both with the Wardens and as Street "Mothers", realising to the fullest extent their responsibilities, and organising cooking and washing facilities etc. A few Street Leaders wavered but in the main the spirit behind the Housewives Service was not lost and the morale of the Leaders was unshaken. The Group Leaders deserve special mention as although one or two were bombed out, they put their own concerns on one side and responded at once to all demands made on them and their Housewives. In every case the first line Rest Centres called on the Housewives Service for assistance, several Street Leaders built outdoor Cooking Stoves in their Streets, of which they had seen a demonstration only a week previously. After

*Bath
Report on
Air Raid*

discussion with the Leaders it has been found that only a few minor adjustments in the organisation will be required and in every Group post raid work is being done, which includes re-canvassing Housewives. In April there were 129 enrolments and since the raid 10 more, making 139 for the two months.

Gas masks Fitting and Repair Depot

1. No. of school children fitted at H.Q.	80
2. Baby helmets issued	250
" " returned	364
3. Small child's respirators issued	363
" " " returned	136
4. Facepieces changed beyond local repair	160
Containers	47
Bands	22
Valves	29
Contex	28
New Cartons issued free	190
Respirators	57
5. No. of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc. from children, deceased persons, salvaged etc.	1,190
6. Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected etc...	30
" " " reharnessed	3
Haversacks washed repaired	30
7. Adults	
Facepieces ...	281
Containers ...	151
Bands ...	150
Valves ...	248
Contex ...	172
Cartons paid for	466

Three Dramatic Demonstrations and Respirator Instructions in co-operation with Housewives Anti-gas treatment.

Two hour class of instruction given by A.R.P. Staff Officer on repairing and clearing of Service and Civilian Duty Respirators.

No. of Respirators issued to persons losing theirs owing to bombing - 1,147.

4. Homeless b. The housing of some 9,000 homeless has been and still is a gigantic task in a town that was already full.

At the request of the Billeting Officer we have assisted both with temporary billeting officers and transport. Some 60 cars have been used for this work and it is still continuing.

a. Rest Centre work was our first call when the first "All clear" sounded, as we heard that three unofficial halls had been opened to take the people off the streets. W.V.S. Volunteers went in immediately and took care of the homeless, feeding and clothing them, unfortunately the raiders returned in about an hour's time and the work during the next raid in these centres was no easy matter. Work was continued in the official centres during the week volunteers going whenever they were needed to relieve the organised rota.

c. & d. The Local Authority asked us where we thought wise to make arrangements for young children, old men and women and mothers with a large family of young children to be sent out of Bath temporarily to suitable places. i.e. Childrens Homes at Dryham Park, Syston Court and Quern, English Speaking Union Home at Monmouth, Institutes at Keynsham and Bridgwater. The transport arrangements were left to us to arrange.

5. Canteen The A.R.P. mess where we are responsible for feeding demolition workers was destroyed almost at once, temporary arrangements had to be made immediately, a shed was erected on the outskirts of the City and our Volunteers had to improvise everything, cooking out of doors etc. This is still continuing. At the request of the National Fire Service, we sent in workers who fed the firemen night and day at the various feeding stations already arranged.

6. Community and Emergency Feeding Voluntary helpers were provided at all Emergency feeding stations and mobile canteens. At the request of the Controller the Ford Vans were used for carrying food to demolition and rescue squads and householders. At our office we improvised a canteen, feeding some 300 a day, also 18 Walcot Street our Hospital Supply Depot closed down their sewing etc. and started an emergency feeding Station.

" On Monday April 27th the morning after the second raid on the City we opened up an Emergency Feeding Centre at the C.H.S.S. Depot for the A.R.P. Messenger Service etc.

We obtained 4 American Cooking Stoves from Stores and got ample supplies of food from the Food Controller and we set to work and cut sandwiches for the first meals. Later we were able to give stews, soups and puddings also supplying sandwiches and cocoa in large jugs for the Night Messenger Service. Breakfast began at 8a.m. and finished with suppers at 8.30p.m. For 11 days we worked as a canteen. All workers of the C.H.S.S. gladly offered their services.

We served approximately 3,350 meals to the following:-

A.R.P. Messengers, local and from Bristol.
Information Centre Messenger.
Troops (R.A.C. Pioneers).
Workers in Food Office.
Social Welfare Workers.
Civil Defence Workers.

W.V.S.
Two Bomb Disposal Squads. R.A.F.
Fire Guard Department.

On May 8th we spring cleaned the Depot and resumed our usual work on Monday May 11th.

Clothing issued to St. Martins Hospital during emergency.

April 27th to May 4th

22 Dressing Gowns	61 Nightdresses
47 Pyjamas	13 Nightshirts
26 Shirts	15 Vests
24 Bed Jackets	7 Knickers
24 Face Washing Squares	7 Petticoats
	24 Slippers

10. Transport 160 Voluntary Cars were used for Transport of all kinds. If the emergency had occurred in July none of these cars would have been available and the work would have suffered seriously.

11. Queen's Messengers We were asked and were able to supply Voluntary Workers for the Mobile Squads that were quickly rushed into Bath.

18. Other Activities Camouflage Nets.
Output - April 1st - 25th 77 Nets.
May 11th - 30th 62 "

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Between 1st May and the 12th, 51 Nets went to the St John's Ambulances for night protection on the hillsides. The Army Ordnance at Axbridge gave me permission to do this.

Wool for the Forces. Free Vouchers issued April - 93
" " " May - 48

RECEIVED
4 JUN 1942
The Guildhall,
BATH.

15th May, 1942.

To the foster parents of unaccompanied evacuee school children.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Arrangements are being made for the transfer from Bath to another part of Somerset of unaccompanied evacuee children. This step is being taken to assist Bath in its present difficulties and to relieve pressure on accommodation.

If you wish the child or children in your care to be transferred will you please ensure that they attend for medical examination at the School Clinic, Bluecoat House, Sawclose, Bath at 11 o'clock on Monday, 18th May, 1942.

It is expected that the transfer will take place on Tuesday 19th May, 1942 and written details will be supplied to the children who attend at the School Clinic on Monday 18th May, 1942 and who are then enrolled for transfer.

The children who travel on Tuesday 19th May, 1942 should bring with them their gas mask, Identity Card and Ration Books and cards together with all their clothes and belongings parcelled ready for travelling and labelled with one of the labels given to the child on Monday 18th May, 1942. The other label should be attached to the child's clothing or tied loosely round the neck.

Will you please see that each child is provided with sandwiches sufficient for the journey.

The billeting allowance which you have received for the week may be retained but the Billeting voucher should be returned immediately to the Billeting Office, Sawclose, Bath.

I am sure the Authorities from whose areas the children were evacuated will wish me to thank the foster parents for the kindness they have shown to the children during the stay in Bath and to express their regret at the circumstances which make it desirable for the children to leave the city.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE
MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY.....SOMERSET..... CENTRE.....BATH..... MONTH.....June 1942.....

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1. Evacuation.

(a) Movement of Evacuees in June.
Mothers and children under school age.

Arrivals.	None.
Departures.	8.
B.V.W.	None.

All families have been visited frequently since the Blitz.
Reports are very satisfactory.

Unaccompanied children.

Arrivals.	None.
Departures.	14 mothers and 21 children (school age). 12 unaccompanied.
Transfers.	None.

2. Clothing. The work at the depot is heavy, Assistance Board cases are still being dealt with owing to the Blitz. The working party in connexion with the depot has increased its numbers, to cope with the work of re-making, altering etc., of gifts of second-hand clothes which were sent after the raids.

3. A.R.P. (a) Mrs Jervoise's report, (Housewives organiser).

"The Housewives' Section in Bath has now settled down again after the raids, and is preparing to take the Basic Training. Interest in this training is being shown, and leaders realise that, in the event

(cont. over page)

Signed.....

Mary Jervoise
(Centre Organiser)

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156) Wt. 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C & Co. 745 (9).
1396) Wt. 371 97/138 40,000 11/41 C & Co. 745 (9).

of any further emergency, it is going to increase their usefulness to the Warden's and to the General Public. Housewives are being selected as Clothing Stewards at each Rest Centre, and we have been asked to select Women Shelter Wardens for each shelter in Bath. This service appeals to some of our Housewives, who see in it a way of helping their neighbours, and of having a definite job to do during the raids. The Groups are becoming "gas-minded" and, in some of them, plans are well under way for meetings in sectors or streets, for all women (not only Housewives' Service), to learn simple treatment for contamination, care of gas-masks, and care of baby-helmets, etc.,

It is hoped to produce a monthly bulletin for Housewives' Section in July, as it is felt that this will help to produce a feeling of unity as a Service, and not just as individual Groups.

Increased co-operation with the Warden's Service is being pressed forward, and in some Groups, meetings of Wardens and Housewives Leaders have taken place with a view to discussing ways of making this co-operation an active and integral part of each Service.

There have been 57 new enrolments in June."

(d) Basic Training.

Basic Training lectures have commenced, suitable halls, First-aid points etc., and lecturers have been booked for July, when we hope to have lectures every week during this period. Major Pickard, Deputy Controller for Bath, has kindly consented to give an afternoon and evening talk on A/R/P/ and the City has lent the Pump Room for the lectures.

(e) Mrs Scott Reid's report. Gas mask repair and fitting.

1. No. of school children fitted at Headquarters.	168.
2. " of Baby helmets issued - 94. Returned 101.	
3. " Small child's respirators issued - 101, returned 63.	
4. Facepieces changed beyond local repair.	278.
Containers	84.
Bands.	19.
Valves	23.
Contex.	59.
New cartons issued (free)	824.
Respirators patched.	155.
" changed.	92.
5. No. of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc; from children, deceased persons and salvaged	719.
6. Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected etc.	5.
" " Haversacks washed.	5.
" " Respirator re-harnessed.	1.
7. Adults.	
Facepieces issued.	240.
Containers.	89.

7. (contd)

Bands.	80.
Valves.	80.
Contex.	121.
Cartons, paid.	245.

8. No. of respirators issued to bombed persons. 150.

9. One talk on all types of respirators to W/V/S/ Housewives. (Basic Training). "

4. Homeless.

(c) Welfare. Many cases have come to our notice of families who were injured during the Blitz, and who are now in need of holidays and convalescence. We are making arrangements for them to go away, finding accommodation and generally fixing up everything for them as they are not in a fit ~~straight~~ state to help themselves. The Mayor's Distress Fund is assisting us financially.

5. Canteens. No change.

6. Community and Emergency Feeding.

(a) Schools are being served with cooked meals.
~~The number of meals served in June was~~

7. Welfare work for H/M% Forces.

(c) Mending of socks, gloves, vests etc., is being done by members of the C.H.S.S.

8. Hospital Services.

(c) Kitchen helpers, clerical workers supplied to Bath Emergency hospital.

9. Hospital Supply Depot. Miss Howard Morgan's (Superintendent of C.H.S.S.) report on "Next of Kin" scheme.

"At the request of Lady Wraxall a Next-of-Kin Prisoners of War parcel packing Centre has been formed at the Depot. 26 villages have been allotted to us as well as to Bath City. At the moment there are 168 prisoners. "Friends" have been found for nearly all the Dristricts and they are busy getting into contact with the N/K and giving them all information about the Packing Centre.

Some difficulty has been experienced with contacting N/K in some of the blitzed parts of the City and we hope soon to have all the new addresses. Two of my C.H.S.S. workers have undertaken to supervise the Department which has been opened in two rooms at No.20. Walcot Street, Bath."

10. 262 miles have been completed this month for the Ministry of Works and Buildings.

15. Salvage. The work of salvage dumps organised throughout Bath through the Housewives Service.

16. C-operation with the Ministry of Labour.

(b) Wartime nurseries. An average of 7 voluntary helpers a day is sent to the Day Nursery.

18. Other activities.

(a) 82 camouflage nets were completed in June.

(b) 360 lbs of seaboot wool has been issued, and 510 pairs of stockings completed.

(c) 79 free wool vouchers issued. Total for centre 2098.

(d) Clerical work supplied to the Food Office for issue of Ration Books.

W.V.S. members attend



CITY OF BATH

United Nations Day

A SALUTE
BY THE
BRITISH COMMONWEALTH
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

Sunday, 14th June, 1942

At 3 p.m.

CHURCH PARADE
IN THE
ABBEY CHURCHYARD

The Mendip Press, Ltd., Bath.

Order of Service

HYMN.

O GOD, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home;

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Beneath the shadow of Thy Throne
Thy Saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine Arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the Same.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles
last,
And our eternal home. Amen.

Prayers

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lesson

ISAIAH, Chapter 49.

The Rev. W. J. COGGAN, M.A.

HYMN.

I vow to thee, my country, all
earthly things above
Entire and whole and perfect, the
service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the
love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest
and the best;
The love that never falters, the love
that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the
final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've
heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her,
most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we
may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her
pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her
shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness
and all her paths are peace.

Prayers

HYMN.

ONWARD, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ the Royal Master
Leads against the foe ;
Forward into battle,
See, His banners go !
Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before.

At the sign of triumph
Satan's host doth flee ;
On then, Christian soldiers,
On to victory.
Hell's foundations quiver
At the shout of praise ;
Brothers, lift your voices,
Loud your anthems raise.
Onward, &c.

Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain ;
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail ;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail.
Onward, &c.

Onward, then, ye people,
Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song ;
Glory, laud, and honour
Unto Christ the King
This through countless ages
Men and Angels sing.

Onward, &c. Amen.

Message from the Prime Minister

TO BE READ BY

The Venerable the Archdeacon of Bath,

The Rev. W. MARSHALL SELWYN, M.A.

SILENCE

HYMN

MINE eyes hath seen the glory of the coming of the Lord :
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored ;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword :
His Truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps ;
They have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damp ;
I have read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps ;
His Day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel :
' As ye deal with my contemnners, so with you my grace shall deal ;
Let the Hero born of woman crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on.'

He hath sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat ;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat ;
O, be swift, my soul, to answer him ; be jubilant, my feet !
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me ;
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
While God is marching on.

He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave ;
He is wisdom to the mighty, he is succour to the brave ;
So the world shall be his footstool, and the soul of time his slave ;
Our God is marching on !

The Benediction

GOD, SAVE THE KING

AT THE ABBEY ORGAN, MR. R. JONES.

THE PEOPLES' MISSION SILVER BAND,

Bandmaster, MR. F. S. LAMBERT.

THE ABBEY CHOIR.



Women's Voluntary Services
for Civil Defence

Our Reference WV/TB

Your Reference

8, Quiet Street,
Bath.

2nd. July, 1942.

The Secretary,
The W.V.S.,
41, Tothill Street,
London, S.W.1.

Dear Madam,

I enclose herewith the Monthly Narrative Report
for June 1942.

Yours truly,
Centre Organiser.



Marjorie Rhinister

H.V.S. HOUSEWIVES' SECTION

BULLETIN for JULY 1942.

PLEASE NOTE that the HOUSEWIVES' SERVICE OFFICE IS NOW AT:-

8, Quiet Street, Bath.
Tel. No: Bath 5552.

To all H.V.S. Leaders.

This is the first number of the Housewives' Service Bulletin which we hope to produce every month. It will depend to a great extent on you whether it is a success or not. You will find in it reports from the Groups on the work they are doing, and notes on Salvage and everything else of interest and importance that comes into the office. It is hoped that Sector Leaders will meet their Street Leaders, and Group Leaders meet their Sector Leaders before the end of each month, so that reports of activities etc., can be sent in to the office in Quiet Street, the last week in the month.

A Leaflet on the importance of salvaging of bones is attached; the City Engineer has asked the Housewives' Service to make a special effort in this direction, and also with regard to rubber. Only about one quarter of the bones distributed by butchers is returned as salvage. Also attached is a copy of an article on the importance of removing paper from tins. It is not easy, I know, to make householders realise that it is of vital importance to save every scrap of salvage, but we must do what we can to make them feel their responsibility in this matter of supplies for munitions.

Some of you will be attending the special course of lectures this month and I am sure you will find them interesting as well as useful, and I shall look forward to seeing many of you, as I shall probably be at the first lecture in each Group.

Attached is a leaflet containing notes on the various new instructions which I have given to you at your Group meetings recently. All Street Leaders will be passing on their copies of the Bulletin. I hope they will make notes of everything they find of importance.

I shall be glad to hear how you like the Bulletin, and if you have any ideas for its improvement. Please come and tell me!

Organiser.

Extract from Daily Mail.

Scraps of paper off tins make 500 tons.

"If every housewife in Britain would remove the labels from all tinned goods and give them for salvage the total amount of paper salvaged in one year would amount to 500 tons. This is one example of how the nation's war effort can be assisted by the recovery of scraps of paper. Labels can easily be removed from tins if they are damped. They should then be dried before being put out for salvage."

Notes for Group, Sector and Street Leaders following instructions given at recent Group meetings.

1. It is most important that every Leader shall find a Deputy who will be enrolled and have an armlet as soon as possible, this Deputy must understand the work she may be required to do, and in every case where the Leader is unable to carry out her duties, she must send a message to the Deputy asking her to carry on.

2. Every Leader must contact her Head as soon as possible after a raid. e.g.

Street Leaders will contact their Sector Leaders.

Sector Leaders " " " Group Leaders.

Group Leaders " " the Organiser at 8, Quiet Street.

In cases where the Sector Leaders intend to contact their Street Leaders, will they tell the Street Leaders of the arrangements. A short report of the damage done would be useful, and a report as to whether H.W.S. is able to function satisfactorily. If Leaders have to move to another address within Bath, or out of Bath, they must let their Head Leader (Sector or Group) know where they are.

3. After the All Clear: Street Leaders (or their Deputies) will go and get in touch with the Warden. If he has nothing that he wants her to do, or if she is unable to find him - she will at once go round every house in her street and contact each householder. This applies especially to houses where there are old people, expectant mothers, or women with very young children. The Street Leader is asked to make this house to house call before she clears up glass etc., in her own house. After the last raids a Street Leader was the means of saving the lives of some people who were trapped, by going round her houses at once.

4. Members of the Housewives Service will now be responsible for Clothing at every Rest Centre. Group leaders are asked to put at least 4 volunteers to do this work at all Centres.

5. Lists of volunteers to work at Rest Centres if called upon will be most useful and names should be obtained as soon as possible and given to the Sector Leaders.

6. Lists of Billets should be kept up to date and any new arrangements for Sector Leaders as Billeting Officers will be given to them.

7. All Group, Sector and Street Leaders are asked to take 5 lectures as a form of training to increase their usefulness. The lectures will be on Gas, First Aid, Fire Fighting, Elementary A.R.P. and the part of the W.V.S. in Civil Defence. It will be understood that when Leaders have this knowledge they will be able to be of great assistance to the Warden Service - especially in those sectors where that Service is understaffed. All Leaders are expected to make special efforts to attend their lectures when they are notified of them (they will be held in Groups) and to encourage the ordinary housewife to attend also.

8. The Organiser hopes that Group and Sector Leaders will try to fill up the gaps in the organisation of their Groups, and that all Leaders will realise that they have definite work to do, and responsibility towards the organisation as a whole. If they are unable, for any reason, to do the special work they have undertaken, (such as Clothing Stewards etc.,) they must let their Leader (Sector or Group) know, and never have a gap, which means that some important work is left undone. Experience during and after the recent raids has shown the importance of every Leader being at her post and ready to do her job. It is for that reason their Deputies must be arranged and each Sector and group must be so organised that if, in an emergency, anyone falls out, another takes her place, and the Organisation remains knitted together.

Reports from Groups

Group A.

Mrs Chasey is now Group Leader for Sector 3, 7, 8, and 9 and Mrs Fraser for the rest of the Group. Miss Chance (Sector Leader for Sector 7) has had to resign from active work owing to illness, and Miss Cook has taken her place. Salvage is improving after the raid disorganisation. Plans to operate between Housewives Leaders and Wardens are under way.

Sector A.7.

Recently we have been concentrating on getting the salvage properly sorted out and stowed tidily in containers - also the condition of the salvage offered has considerably improved. Efforts are being made to keep the bones dry and clean so that they need not be tethered to their bins pending collection.

Last week all the salvage dumps in our sector were cleared, but the sigh of relief that went up was quickly changed to a positive hurricane of annoyance as we realised that no empty sacks had been left to replace the deposited ones which had become quite old friends from long association. However, a complaint in the right quarter produced bundles of empty sacks at certain houses from which distribution was organised.

All newly engaged Street Leaders are doing good work - a Savings Group is being started with hopes of more to follow, and useful lists of available beds and help for Rest Centres are coming in.

K. Coote.

Group B.

Sector 1.A. This has been enlarged to include all Prior Park Rd, and good progress has been made in finding Street Leaders and Salvage dumps.

Sector B.1. Part of this Sector has now been fully organised and is working well. An Anti-Gas Lecture was held and 22 Housewives attended. Nine Gas-houses have now been equipped. Three more housewives who were unable to attend the Lecture have yet to be trained. After the Lecture a General Discussion took place, and many interesting points were discussed. Six Salvage Stewards were appointed and they are doing much good work. Three other housewives offered their services - two to act as Deputies and the other as typist or in any other capacity. It is proposed to put notices over each dump listing the various kinds of salvage, and pointing out that cinders, dead flowers and such like refuse is not required. A First Aid Post has been established and five housewives who have taken a First Aid Course will be in attendance.

Sector B.3. Sector leader has been enrolled and one Street Leader is on the job.

Sector B.5. The collection of Salvage had been organised, but owing to repairs being carried out at present, and many houses being uninhabitable, very little more can be done just at present. However, a Street Leader has been obtained, and others have promised to enrol when their houses have been repaired.

It is hoped that Sectors 2, 3a and 4 and 5 will soon be organised. All Wardens in the Group have been contacted, and have been most helpful in supplying the names of possible Sector and Street Leaders.

Mary M. Lewis.
Group Leader.

Sector 10. The Sector Leader was asked to attend a meeting of Wardens and as a result, the Sector has undertaken to provide six Housewives in each street to take First Aid lessons, and man individual Sub-Warden's posts immediately after a raid.

Sectors 8 & 9. These are now being organised by Mrs Fresland.
Hilton Ave.

Group C.

Some re-Organisation has been necessary since the raids. Salvage etc., is going again. A Gas Lecture was held on June 29th which was attended by about 70 people. This formed the first of the Training Lectures, and it was very encouraging to see so many of the Housewives there. A Shelter Warden has been found for the Bear Flat by this Group.

Group D.

First Aid Lectures are being held in our Group and are well attended.

The knitting party is very busy and as the result of voluntary contributions from members, a new stock of wool is being bought. Anti-Gas houses are being checked to see that everyone who has offered her house has care and equipment and had a lecture.

Group E.

Sector 10. The last Sector in the Group has been successfully started and we are fortunate in finding an enthusiastic Sector Leader in Mrs Coombs, with the added asset that she is the wife of one of the Wardens. The new Salvage Dump, organised by Mrs Moore, one of the Street Leaders, had a good start off with three motor tyres and an iron bedstead amongst quantities of other salvage. Children wearing armlets help to collect it. The Sector is also starting new Savings Groups.

Sector 11. This Sector has successfully started a new Savings Group. The other Sectors are being organised as many of the Street Leaders are having to live away from their streets through damage to their houses.

Sector 12. This Sector has arranged talks on gas given by Mrs Horsell followed by a short talk by Mrs Scott-Reid on respirators and the care of them. These are being held at Street Leaders houses, and there are three an evening in different streets. It is aimed at getting somebody from every house in the street to attend these talks. (It is hoped to do this throughout the Group).

Colonel Maule invited the Group and Sector Leaders to a meeting of his Senior Wardens on June 26th. Every Sector Leader and 15 Deputy attended, and the Group Leader gave an account of the work the Housewives were doing and asked for fuller co-operation with the Wardens. It was agreed that the Senior Wardens and Sector Leaders should have meetings in their own Sectors to enable Wardens and Housewives to know each other and co-operate in their work.

Group G.

Sector 3. This Sector is in good working order. Clothing Stewards have been found for St. Stephen's Post Centre and Shelter Stewards for St. Stephen's Church.

Sector 9 and 10. A great deal of damage was done. Street Leaders had to leave their houses while their streets are almost completely destroyed. Re-Organisation is being done, and the remains of one or two streets are being combined under one leader.

Sector 11. This has been newly re-organised and is getting on well.

Group H.

Sector 7. This district was badly damaged and several Street Leaders have had to leave their homes. New ones are being found, however, and it is hoped that the Sector will soon be complete again.

Group J.

Sector 1. This is being organised and Street Leaders are covering it slowly.

Sectors 7, 8, 9, 10, 11. Parts of these Sectors have had to be re-organised owing to raid damage. Salvage is going ahead again.

Group K.

The Group as a whole, is going along steadily, with some improvements, but a good many setbacks. We still feel we do not get enough recognition and backing from the Wardens. I have suggested to our Head Warden, Mr Wooster, that I think it would be a good thing to have a general meeting of Wardens and Housewives, as was, I believe, done in Group M, but so far nothing has come of it.

Several Sector Leaders are falling out, which is a blow, Miss Scott has had to resign owing to ill health, and so far I have not been able to replace her. (Sector 3).

Mrs Filmer, (Sector 7) is leaving Bath in the near future, but I am hoping her Sector will be taken over by one of her Street Leaders. This is a difficult Sector.

Mrs Sheppard (Sector 4), has also told me she will not be able to carry on, as she is also leaving Bath, but I am trying to get one of her Street Leaders to take on her Sector.

The question of Salvage is worrying most Sector Leaders, it has fallen off badly and a great many housewives feel that it is not quite fair to ask them to keep on trying to beg people to do what is, after all, their plain duty, and that it would be better if the Council would take a strong line about it. As long as the dustmen will take salvage in their carts, as I see them doing every week, people in Bath at any rate will not be bothered to save it and put it on the dump. Also there is the question of sorting the salvage. In this street I have the dump in my garden and it was the dump for several streets. I have had many times to sort the salvage myself, and am constantly disgusted to find old shoes, broken glass and china and all kinds of similar rubbish included, in other words, people do not seem to realise the difference between rubbish and salvage and just dump it altogether. As against this rather gloomy picture, certain brighter spots present themselves. One or two streets which seemed the most difficult, have quite suddenly taken a turn, in particular I would like to mention Eldon Place, in Sector 2, which seemed to hang fire for a long time, but the Sector Leader was lucky enough to find the right person as Street Leader and she has had good results there. The knitting in this Sector and in Sector 4 (Mrs Woodman), is increasing.

We have had quite a number of new people interested in First Aid, who are attending a course of lectures, being given by Miss Ozzard at the Snow Hill Post, under the A.R.P. auspices. Most of them are willing to help at a point, if needed.

So far we have not had much luck over the Women Shelter Wardens, it is going to be very difficult to find women who have no responsibilities and are free to undertake it. The volunteers to help with the clothing at the Rest Centres is more promising and I hope to be able to give you a report on this within a few days.

Mrs Haddrell (Sector 8) has had enthusiastic support in one of her streets. (Bedford St, I think) and found people very interested. Mrs Fathers (Sector 16) seems to be doing as well as anybody, but even she finds a slackening off and feels more encouragement is needed. We still feel that, in the majority of cases, the sole idea of co-operation entertained by the Wardens, is to try to persuade Sector Leaders to take over some jobs they have not had time to do themselves, but go no further than that.

Group L.

With regard to Sector and Street Leaders not much headway has been made at present. I have 4 Street Leaders. Mrs Randell a Sector Leader has left the district. I must confess I have concentrated on the salvage and have personally canvassed every street that is working. This had also been the case in Anti-gas houses and it does mean a lot for one to do. It seems there are not many willing to help.

Group M.

Sectors 1 to 5. At the beginning of June we had another anti-gas lecture, later in the month the first aid course of 6 lectures was finished. Several sectors have started first aid practices each week in their own houses.

Towards the end of the month we had our first meeting of Wardens, Firewatchers and Housewives, which was well attended; many suggestions of how to co-operate were put forward, the chief one was to get to know each other so that we can work together. A few days after this meeting we had an outdoor cooking stove demonstration, which was most useful and greatly appreciated. The Stove was built in a Housewife's yard, her husband a warden were present and both made themselves useful.

The Salvage is being collected again regularly, the salvage men helped to clean up the dump. The children - Salvage Stewards, had a meeting in the air-raid shelter and their motto is to be "Perfect Work". Medicine bottles are being sent to St. Martin's Hospital, a Street Leader whose idea it was. has had grateful thanks.

Sector 6 and 7. Since this Group started in November of last year it has had many activities. A Whist drive was held and was a great success, ninety people being present, the profit made was kept in hand to meet any expenses incurred, such as printing etc. This has been done free of charge, but a contribution is being made to the printers Red Cross box in return, a £1 was also sent to the Mayor's Air Raid Distress Fund. Six new Savings Groups have been started one raising as much as £55 in 6 weeks.

The Salvage Scheme is working fairly smoothly, Salvage Stewards are thorough and the public improving. An amazing quantity of miscellaneous is collected - also bones - weekly by the Official Salvage Collectors (all under 16 and numbering about 26). The former is taken to a sorting room and C.S.C. volunteers do most of the sorting, they are all very keen on this voluntary service and are busy making armlets and doing posters and have many bright ideas. A collection was made and a gift of £2 given accompanied by a signed letter, to one C.S.C. who lost almost everything and was injured in the blitz.

Almost every house in this Group is contributing to the 1d a week Red Cross Fund, the C.S.C. canvassed every house taking a typed letter with them and then delivered Red Crosses, made by one of them and stuck them on the boxes the householders had provided. The C.S.C.'s visit each Tuesday to act as a reminder to put in the contributions. A Street Leader will act as Sector and other Street Leaders as Official Collectors every quarter. It is hoped to raise a minimum sum of £62.10.0. per annum.

Elementary Notes for Schools on
BONES

There are few things which have more important uses than the bones we often burn or throw into the dustbin, or give to the dog.

The bones left from your joint or chop still contain much fat, protein and minerals. Even after they have been boiled for soup, or the dog has finished with them, much of their value still remains.

The weight of a bone after cooking is made up of about one-eighth fat, from which candles, soap, glycerine for high explosives, etc. are produced; about one-eighth glue, used in making aeroplanes, ships, camouflage paints, gummed strip for A.R.P., and many other products; and the remainder of the bone can be converted into valuable feeding meals for cattle and poultry, and fertiliser for growing food crops.

Here is the chance you have been looking for to help the war. Carefully save the bones after your mother has finished with them; keep them in an old tin and put them out for the dustman to collect, or wrap them in a small piece of paper and take them to school so that they may be collected and utilised. (This will depend on there being a receptacle at school) *

This is what happens to the Bones when they get to the factory. First of all they are crushed into small pieces and placed in a large steel vessel; benzine vapour is passed through the vessel and this extracts all the grease out of the bones; that is called Benzine Bone Grease. The Degreased Bones left are put into a revolving drum called a polisher, which leave the bones nice and clean. We call this Polished Bone. This polishing is done before extracting the Glue in order that the Glue shall be as nice and clean looking as possible instead of

/being

* This will depend on the Local Authority's scheme.

29590-1

being of a rather dirty muddy colour. These Polished Bones are put into a cast-iron vessel, and steam is passed through the vessel; this dissolves out the Glue in the form of a treacly liquid, which is concentrated and dried. Some of it is ground into powder; some is cut into slabs and dried, and some, by the latest method, is converted into what we call Glue Pearls. The bone remaining is called Deglued Bone. This is ground up into a variety of Fertilisers which are used by Farmers, gardeners, market gardeners and allotment holders, so you see that every bit of the bone has now been converted into a useful product.

Because of the waste of Bones from households there are never enough in this country to make these products, and large quantities have to be imported from abroad. They come from Africa, Egypt, India, South America and many other places, thus taking up valuable shipping space and risking our ships and the lives of our sailors.

If every boy and girl will save every bone in their house the Country will have nearly half a million hundred-weights of Bones which are at present wasted, and which would produce enough nitro-glycerine to propel hundreds of thousands of shells. Then, when you hear the guns protecting your home, or see the aero-planes in the sky or the ships sailing the seas, you will be able to say: "I am doing my bit; I am helping to win the war".

1) Mrs Hutter, W.B. 7.42

I thought you might like
to see this report which
still deals with the
aftermath of the raids.

2) Mrs Cessely Atkins
more a

3) Miss Pollock

4) Mrs Cot.

NOTE.

Housewives' Service Members acting
as Clothing Stewards at Rest Centres, w
will be given a special training by
the Head of the W.V.S. Clothing
Depot.

(Signed) S. Jervoise.

W.V.S.

Housewives' Service.

The Organiser

Yours the credit, high indeed,
Showing us the City's need.
So I write for all to read,
"Thank you for a splendid lead".

The Group Leader

Visiting till Leaders found,
Planning lectures, running round.
Seven league bootees, I'll be bound,
Should be yours to cover ground.

The Sector Leader

You're the one that holds the strings,
Smoothing out the knots and things,
Criticizing without stings,
Grumbles that a helper brings.

The Street Leader

As the "Mother" of the Street,
Every Housewife you must meet,
Gain her help and save your feet,
Talk to her, but be discreet.

The Housewife

You're the one that needs the grit.
Jars, tins, salvage - every bit.
Finished? Not a bit of it!
Shop, cook, wash, housework, sew, knit....

The Salvage Stewards

Bones and paper, rubber, tin,
Are the things to help us win,
See they're safely in the bin.
Do your duty, get them in.

Anonymous.

Group M. 1 - 5.

Reports
7

**WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE
MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT**

COUNTY Somerset CENTRE Bath MONTH July

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.

1. Evacuation

a. Movement of Evacuees in July.

Mothers and Children under School age

Arrivals ... 6

Departures ... 67

B.V.W. ... 30.

Accompanied and unaccompanied children

Arrivals ... none

Departures ... 4 Mothers and 8 children schoolage.

3 Unaccompanied children

Returned temporarily, 1 Mother: 2 Children Schoolage.

6 Unaccompanied children.

All evacuees are visited regularly by W.V.S. visitors.

2. Clothing

Workers allocated to Rest Centres in time of emergency are having training in distribution of clothing in centres, Mrs Watkins, Head of Bath Clothing Centre is giving the talks. The workers chosen for this work are members of the Housewives service and are all allocated to the centres nearest their houses.

3. A.R.P.

a. Number of Leaders ... 413

Designations ... 9

Numbers approx. 3000 (2950)

The members of the Housewives Section have had a busy month. Basic training has begun, and on the whole response by Housewives has been very good indeed. Several members have been in

Signed Margie Whimster
(Centre Organiser)

TO BE COMPLETED IN QUADRUPLICATE (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.

If further space is required, please use back of form.

(156) Wt. 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C. & Co. 745(9)
(396) Wt. 37497 138 40,000 11/41 C. & Co. 745(9)

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

NOV 2.

interested enough to take each lecture twice, and in one Group. "Street Meetings" were held in the Street Leaders house for the Gas Lecture, practically every housewife turned up, and we have now 9 Streets with almost every woman in the street trained, not only in anti-gas treatment but in the knowledge of recognising and handling the different types of respirators.

Shelter Warden's have been enrolled and have been on duty at their respective shelters in recent "Alerts".

Co-operation with the Warden's Service has been pushed forward. The initiative has had to come almost entirely from our Service, but difficulties have been overcome, and where combined sector meetings of Senior Warden, Sector Leader and Street Leader and Fireguard Officer have been held, the results have been very successful. We plan to follow up the meetings by making opportunities of continued co-operation such as stirrup pump parties, small "incidents" to be staged by the Wardens with a view to exercising the housewife in immediate aid etc. We hope in this way to stimulate the interest of both Wardens and Housewives in the Housewife's Service.

The Bulletin was received with interest and it has been decided to produce it every other month in order to economise paper.

Two groups which were rather slow to get organised have taken a new lease of life and we hope for continued progress.

There have been 62 new enrolments this month.

Signed: S. Perovise, U.S. organizer

d. Basic Training

Lectures on the whole are being well attended the two talks by our Deputy Controller were much appreciated, some 300 being in attendance at each lecture. There are some members who feel that they do not wish to receive their basic training, but we are hoping by persuasion and example of others, that they will fall into line.

660 Members have nearly completed their 5 talks.

E. W.V.S. Work at the Respirator Fitting and Repair Depot. Civil Defence Headquarters.

1. No. of school children fitted at headquarters ... 44
2. " " Baby helmets issued ... 67 returned ... 51
3. " " Small childrens respirators issued 51 returned ...
4. Receipts changed beyond local repair 207.

Monthly Report con: 3 E.W.V.S. Bath. Somerset. July.

New Cartons issued (free) 761
Respirators patched 117
" changed 44

5. No. of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc.,
from children, deceased persons, salvage etc. 434

6. Civilian Duty respirators disinfected etc. 5
" " haversacks washed 26
" " respirators reharnessed 3

Tin helmets washed, disinfected for Warden's Service 12
Service haversacks repaired 2.

7. Adults

Facepieces issued 55
Containers " 32
Bands " 29
Valves " 29
Contex " 34
Cartons (paid) 170

8. No. of respirators issued to bombed persons 50

9. Two visits to the Orthopaedic Hospital, instructions to Staff
and fitting of patients.

10. Twelve Basic Training talks.

4. Homeless

Nothing further to report this month.

5. Canteens

No Change.

6. Community and Emergency Feeding

a. Schools are being served with meals during school holidays.

7. Welfare Work for H.M. Forces

a. On receipt of Lady Readings letter, we have contacted the
existing Hospitality Committee telling them of our readiness
to help in every way.

c. (Copy form enclosed). Mending returns.

9. Hospital Supply Depot.

The depot has been very busy with the organising of the N/K
packing centre, to date 8 parcels have been packed and many
and varied enquiries received. A scheme for collecting mat-
erials suitable for providing occupation for P.O.W. is to be
formed. We have been asked for our Cooperation with the

4.

Invalids Comforts Section of the War Organisation Scheme, a small part of our packing rooms ~~xxx~~ is to be used as a depository.

A great deal of mending for local troops and Convalescent Homes has been carried out, also many jobs for the A.R.P. such as stringing safety-pins, marking uniforms.

The moss department has been very busy and weekly trunks of moss dressings are sent to London.

Garments are being made and knitted in the workrooms for the P.O.W. and the usual work carried out in departments not engaged on special jobs.

Our workers are returning to Bath, and the daily numbers are going up again very satisfactorily.

10. Transport

V.C.P. working very satisfactory.

18. Other Activities

a. Copy of Narrative Report Form enclosed. *Camouflage nets.*

b. Although our Nets are officially closed as far as the Army Ordnance is concerned we are now doing a number of Nets for the Admiralty and Bath Home Guards.

Our output for July is 103 Nets completed.

Although the Army Ordnance have been notified that there are 150 completed nets waiting to be collected (which are the last of the Army Nets) as from July 13th, they are still on the premises. We expect to finish all the Admiralty Nets within the next three weeks.

b. Seaboot wool issued 360 balls.

Stockings returned 400 pairs.

c. 103 Free Wool Vouchers issued.

Total for centre to date:-
2,201.

Reports 7.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY SOMERSET CENTRE BATH MONTH AUGUST. 1942.

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.

1. EVACUATION.

(a) Movement of evacuees in August.

Mothers and children under School age. Departures 17.

Arrivals. 2.

Accompanied and unaccompanied evacuees of school age.

Returned. 5.

Returned (temporary) 5.

Returned to Bath. 2.

New arrivals. 3.

(e) The visiting of children. We have supplied 3 voluntary Welfare visitors at the request of the Ministry of Labour, Bath to visit Juveniles.

2. CLOTHING. The Department is losing Mrs Watkins as she has had to leave Bath. Under her direction the Depot has worked exceptionally well, the Assistance Board Officials bearing me out in this statement. Mrs Watkins will be very hard to replace, her departure is a great loss to the Bath W.V.S.

(b) The number of cases helped during the month. 144.

3. A.R.P.

(a) Housewives' Service. Mrs Jervoise's Report.

"Our chief activities this month have been the Basic Training Talks, and the arranging of the Sector Meetings of the three combined Civil Defence Services, Wardens, Fireguards and Housewives. In every case the initiative has had to come from the Housewives' Service, but the results have more than justified our 'prodding'. I think that the idea of these meetings has been a novel one to the Wardens, and they have not known quite how to set about them, so we have evolved a scheme of organisation which is put

(Centre Organiser) *Mary Jane Jervoise*

TO BE COMPLETED IN QUADRUPLICATE (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.

If further space is required, please use back of form.

(150) W.L. 28852/102 40,000 8/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)
(300) W.L. 37497 138 40,000 11/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)

C.B. Organiser

- 2 -

**WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE
MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT**

COUNTY SOMERSET CENTRE BATH MONTH AUGUST 1942

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.

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to

up/the Wardens and they are then quite willing to go ahead. One Group having had a meeting in every Sector, held a final meeting of the combined services at the Pump Room with over 200 representatives. Salvage statistics this month show that since the Housewives took over the organisation of salvage throughout the City, the amount of Salvage collected has risen, in the case of bones, rags, tins, bottles over 100%. Paper salvage was always good, but that has risen 50%. Salvage Stewards have many difficulties with which to contend, but are most conscientious.

Interest in Basic Training is still maintained and nearly 700 members are now trained. Teams of Housewives in one Group have given demonstrations of fire-fighting to the public - and the women in several more are more than ready to take their part in Fire Prevention.

New enrolments this month total 91."
office

(b) Some..six... of our members have completed their fire-fighting training.

(d) Basic Training. Miss Wade, Regional Administrator, came to Bath on August 20th and gave a talk on the "W.V.S. and its position in Civil Defence" to an audience of about 350 members. There are over 1000 members under training and have completed their course.

(e) W.V.S. work at Respirator-fitting and Repair Depot. Mrs Scott-Reid's report.

1. No: of school children fitted at Headquarters 20.
2. " " Baby Helmets issued..56. Returned. 65.
3. " " Small child's respirators issued..25. Returned..31.
4. School work practically nil. Schools on holiday.

Signed.....
(Centre Organiser)

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(150) Wt. 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)
(386) Wt. 37497 138 40,000 11/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY SOMERSET CENTRE BATH MONTH MARCH 1942

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.

5. No: of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc., from children, deceased persons, salvage, Home Guard etc. 148.

6. Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected etc. 18.

" " Haversacks. 13.

" " Respirators re-harnessed. 2.

Tin helmets washed, disinfected for wardens Service. 15.

Repairs to Wardens' mackintoshes. 3.

7. Adults.

Facepieces issued. 33.

Containers " 29.

Bands. 28.

Valves. 28.

Contex. 28.

Cartons (pd) 99.

8. No: of respirators issued to bombed persons. 15.

9. Ten Basic Training Talks. (Care of respirators.)

10. Two Firefighting demonstrations.

~~xxxx~~ Homeless. 4. Homeless.

(a) Rest Centre. A mobile unit of 30 helpers has been formed. These members have had talks on Rest Centre work and have promised to go to any centre to relieve the original staff if and when required.

5. Canteens.

(b) A.R.P. Canteen for Demolition workers. Mrs Morris, organising Superintendent is leaving Bath and has had to resign from the A.R.P. canteen where she has been working regularly for 2 years. The City Engineer regrets Mrs Morris' resignation as her influence over the demolition workers has been outstanding, and the management of the Canteen most efficient.

6. Community and Communal Feeding.

(a) 670 meals are being served to 12 schools daily, the food being delivered in 2 Ford Vans. *Margaret Whimster*

Signed (Centre Organiser)

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If further space is required, please use back of form.

(150) Wt. 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)

(300) Wt. 37497/128 40,000 11/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)

7. Welfare work for H.M. Forces.

(a) W.V.S. representatives on Mayor's Committee to serve and help in every way with the arrangements the City is making for the American troops in Bath.

(c) Mending done for 30th Wiltshire Regt.

3 shirts.

1 pair of drawers (cellular.)

9 pairs of socks.

8. Hospital Services.

(c) Hospital workers sent regularly to Emergency Hospital.

9. Hospital Supply Depot and work parties.

Miss Howard Morgan's report.

"Bathavon affiliated villages keep up a regular supply of work to our store. Their activities are rather more devoted to the Harvest, jam making etc., during the summer months, but they have sent in 27 pullovers, 69 helmets, 48 pairs of gloves, 34 pairs of mittens, 77 pairs of socks, 9 pairs of stockings, 7 vests and we have had some splendid gifts of Bed Jackets and Pyjamas, Dressing gowns and slippers since June."

The Depot.

"The usual work was continued during the month, but a few special jobs were undertaken as follows: - Eye shades for the Eye Infirmary. Overalls and Dungarees for Day Nurseries. Marking towels. 10 uniform dresses and aprons for Cadet Nursing Service. (Red Cross). 48,000 safety-pins attached to labels for de-contamination centres. 500 jewellery bags made for de-contamination centres to replace those lost in the 'blitz'. 25 parcels sent to prisoners of war. 6 cot covers given to Brackley Cottage Hospital. To help pay running expenses of the Depot, eg, lighting, heating etc., cushions have been made from pieces of cretonne, and sold, also gifts of lavender and toys. Mending for the troops and Convalescent Homes has continued as usual.

10. Transport. Volunteer Car Pool working well.
Number of journeys. 63.
Amount of petrol issued. 76 gallons.

10. Cont.

W.V.S van working everyday for all Civil Defence Services the use of it is greatly appreciated by all authorities.

15. Salvage. See Mrs Jervoise's report. Salvage is organised by the Housewives Service.

18. Other activities.

(a) Sea boot wool issued amounts to 360 lbs.

" " stockings returned 370 pairs.

(b) Knitting for the A.T.S. Wool from the Duchess of Northumberland's Comfort Fund. 42 lbs. Pairs knitted Knitting for the Merchant Navy.) 87.
10 pullovers.)

(c) 175 free wool vouchers issued. Total for centre. 2376.

(d) Formation and activities of a Unit for service at "action stations" for Admiralty Bath Home Guard. A description of this work has been sent to Region on August 29th. This Unit has undertaken to serve in any capacity for which it is trained in the event of any Emergency.

Report on this received & read by Mrs Huxley.

Bath 5552.

8, Quiet Street,
Bath.

W.V.S. HOUSEWIVES SECTION

BULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 1942.

To all Housewife Leaders

Members of the Housewives Section have been busy in many ways during July and August, but their chief activity has been attending the Training Talks. I should like to congratulate all Leaders and Housewives on the way in which they have responded to the appeal to attend these talks. Over 600 members are now trained, or are finishing their training, and I do urge those who have not yet taken this training to do so at the earliest opportunity. There are still a number of Leaders who have not attended any talks and it is important that they should realise that it is a duty which all must undertake if we are able to give full assistance to the Civil Defence Service. I have attended nearly every lecture, wherever it has been held, and I know those who have not yet been able to come. I shall hope to see them at future talks, and if the dates are not convenient, please come and let us know and we will fit in others as far as possible. You must have the will, and we will find a way.

I offer hearty congratulations to the following groups:-

- A. For achieving the first combined group, consisting of Wardens Fire organisers and Housewives. Each Sector in the Group had its own combined meeting first, and nearly 200 members of all three services attended the final meeting.
- D. For training such splendid teams of housewives' Fire-fighters who gave a demonstration on Sunday morning.
- F. For obtaining such a splendid response from Housewives with Gas lectures held in different streets. 110 women are now trained in gas treatment. Street Leaders are to be congratulated on such good leadership. Also for such a jolly party to the Salvage Stewards.

M.1. to 5. For their Salvage Stewards party. I wonder if the children are hungry again yet!

Shelter Wardens 25 Women Shelter Wardens have been enrolled through the Housewives Service, and go on duty at Alerts.

Clothing Stewards 50 women have volunteered as Clothing Stewards more are wanted for Kennington Road (Methodist Church) Rest Centre. Also for Walcot Methodist and Church Army Hall, Sydney Wharf.

Leaders please note:- Your Housewives Armlets are recognised by the authorities and will, in case of emergency, take you through Home Guard or Police Barriers. Please make a point of wearing them to lectures etc., so that you are used to them and do not forget them when the emergency arises.

All Leaders are asked to make a point of attending the following demonstrations.

A demonstration on Fuel Economy will be given at 9, Quiet St, on Wednesday, September 30th, at 3p.m. A talk on how to road motors will be included.

Cooking Demonstration.

A demonstration of emergency cooking will be given at 9, Quiet Street, on Wednesday, September 16th, at 3p.m.

H.W.S. Cards.

It has been found necessary to give Leaders some distinguishing sign on their blue cards. Headquarters have agreed to our suggestion as to the following colours:-

Each Leader will paint a band about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide round the "shield" in the centre of the card in the following colour -

Group Leader	A bright green band.
Sector "	Bright red band.
Street "	Strong yellow band.

These colours have been tested and will show up at night by the light of a torch from a short distance away.

Specimen cards can be seen at 8, Quiet Street.

Queries to Leaders.

Have you all got the phone number of your Warden's Post?

Have you got some old linen ready in case it is required?

Have you got simple First Aid Kit handy (Bi-carb. for burns, lint, note-book and pencil, cotton wool, antiseptic, scissors)?

Salvage

Mr. Baker has given to us the following statistics:-

Congratulations to all Salvage Stewards - but we must try for an increase again and not be too pleased with ourselves!

"More than 6,900 tons of Salvage has been collected at Bath in 30 months.

The following figures show weight collected before and since the formation of Street Salvage dumps and the very useful extra tonnage in the last two months.

	July 1941	July 1942	Aug. 1941	Aug. 1942 (to 26th)	Total to date
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Paper	79	119	58	83	2,732
Metal	14	41	16	48	814
Tins	9	-	10	97	620
Rags & carpet)	2	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	148 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bones	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	73
Bottles)	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	5	2	6	95
Jars	-	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	2	28
Rubber	-	-	-	-	-
Misc. (flock)	-	-	-	-	-
hair, rabbit	-	-	-	-	-
skins, cotton	-	-	-	-	-
reels etc.	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$
Waste food	112	121	82	87	2,342
	219	300	172	330	6,940
	===	===	===	===	=====

There is no doubt whatever that the Housewives Service Salvage Scheme has brought increased raw materials for war purposes and the City Engineer thanks every worker for the effort they are putting into the scheme.

Salvage is wanted more urgently than ever.

Please remember the rules; tidy dumps; the day of collection and placing dry waste food frequently into the waste food bins.

There are a number of waste food bins available and the City Engineer would place these wherever Stewards think they are necessary.

"Your co-operation is asked for and appreciated."

Red Cross Penny a Week Fund.

The following is the copy of a letter from Lord Southwood, Chairman of the Red Cross Penny a Week Fund to the H.W.S. Organiser.

"Lord Southwood has asked me to tell you how very grateful he is to you for this timely assistance. The Red Cross and St. John stands in more urgent need of support than ever, especially since our temporary reverses in Libya, and I am most appreciative of the help and support which you have given to us which, I hope, we may continue to rely upon in the future.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgnd) Martin Etherington-Smith.
Secretary".

Poet's Corner

W.V.S.
Housewives Service.

The Organiser

Yours the credit, high indeed,
Showing us the City's need.
So I write for all to read
"thank you for a splendid lead".

The Group Leader

Visiting till Leaders found.
Planning lectures, running round,
Seven league bootees, I'll be bound,
Should be yours to cover ground.

The Sector Leader

You're the one that holds the strings,
Smoothing out the knots and things,
Critisizing without stings,
Grumbles that a helper brings.

The Street Leader

As the "Mother" of the street,
Every housewife you must meet,
Gain her help and save your feet,
Talk to her, but be discreet.

The Housewife

You're the one that needs the grit,
Jars, tins, salvage - every bit.
Finished? Not a bit of it!
Shop, cook, wash, housework, sew, knit...

The Salvage Stewards

Bones and paper, rubber, tin,
Are the things to help us win,
See they're safely in the bin.
Do your duty, get them in.

Anonymous.

4.
The Fire Fighters.

To be sung to the tune of "Come Lassies and Lads"
(with apologies)

Come Housewives and then
Take leave of your men.
Come away to the Fire Hut now.
Conscription's here
And so I fear
You'll all have to learn just how
To handle that stirrup pump.
So come, to your duty jump,
And spray it, spray it, spray it, spray it
Spray it up and down.
And use the jet then once more spray it,
Spray it up and down"

A Housewife.

We have gone forward a good deal in the last two months, but there is still a great deal in front of us and it is up to you Leaders in the H.W.S. to show the other Civil Defence Services what a strength to the community an organised body of women can be.

Organiser.

Reports from Groups

Group A.

Sectors 1,2,4,5,6,10,11,12,13,14.

All sectors in this group are now in operation and there is great and growing enthusiasm for Housewives Service.

On June 22nd at our first post-blitz Group meeting the number of Sector and Street Leaders had fallen to 14. Miss Gosling had done a tremendous amount of work against that awful pre-blitz apathy, but it was evident that with one thing and another such as people leaving Bath, or having billetees or struggling to live in partially uninhabitable houses a number of Sector and Street Leaders found they could not continue and it really meant re-organising all over the Group. It was very difficult to start, but the one essential thing was to get co-operation from the Wardens.

The Head Warden was approached right away and was found to be very favourably disposed towards the Housewives Service because he had read the reports of what Housewives had done to help Wardens during and after the raids, and realised that properly and fully organised Housewives Service had tremendous potentialities. The next step was to fix on some practical method of demonstrating the possible results to be obtained from active co-operation and it was suggested that Civil Defence meetings should be held in every Sector to which all residents concerned would be invited and would be addressed by a Warden, a Housewife and a Fireguard in turn. Looking back now, it is clear that more than was ever imagined hung on the results of our first meeting. It was not easy to put through and without the staunch and determined support given by Mrs Jervoise it would never have gone through. On July 9th the first Civil Defence meeting was held for residents of Sector 11. The Senior Warden, Mr Tobin had always supported the Housewives in his own Sector and sincere thanks are tendered to him for standing by at this critical stage. In fact all the Senior Wardens and representatives of Fireguard who attended are also deserving of thanks for they came, they saw and they approved and after that things moved ahead.

The platform party consisted of Mr Tobin, Senior Warden, as Chairman, Mr Johnston, Deputy Head Fireguard, Mr Wright, Fireguard Training Officer and Senior Warden of another Sector, Mrs Hoare, Warden in All, and Mrs Fraser, Group A. Leader. All spoke on their respective subjects and

all spoke on each other's behalf and there was a really grand response to the call for volunteers. From then on similar meetings have been held in all Sectors of the Group and the results from the Housewives point of view is that we now have 66 Sector and Street Leaders and for every one of those, there are at least four or five more doing something in the way of First Aid, Anti Gas, Emergency Billets etc. All Sector and Street Leaders are helping to check up on the next of kin leaflets and urging housewives to take Fireguard training. Further local meetings are being held in streets so as to bring people together as much as possible and we are also organising Whist Drives in aid of local First Aid funds to help supply equipment.

The grand finale to this particular effort in the Sectors was a Joint Group meeting of Wardens, Housewives and Fireguard organisers on Monday, 17th August. The first half-hour was spent getting to know each other over coffee and biscuits, very generously provided by our Head Warden. After that we assembled to hear an address by Major Lock, followed by Mrs Jervoise. Both stressed the great need for real co-operation between all three Services and the Housewives very much appreciated Mrs Jervoise's remark that practical suggestions and constructive ideas should come equally from all and not from one branch only.

Since then, Mrs Fraser has been very busy helping the new Sector and Street Leaders to learn the ropes and she is most heartened by the way they have got down to things. The great thing about Housewives Service is that it helps people to gain the faith in themselves which Miss Wade said was one of the important attributes towards winning the war. It isn't easy for shy, reserved people to find themselves suddenly having to interview a whole street of almost total strangers, but our people are all doing wonderfully well and after the first "plunge" are beginning to feel happier about it. Mrs Fraser wishes to thank them all most sincerely for the way they have come forward and feels that special mention should be made of the "original stalwarts" who have stuck to it through everything.

A course of Basic Training lectures started on Wednesday, 19th August, at Argyle School Rooms, Grove Street, at 7.45p.m. with an attendance of 76 (it is hoped this will be kept up). At the end of the lecture a show of hands was called for on whether we should have the lectures once a week or twice a week (to shorten the time) and there was a large majority of the opinion for twice a week. We shall thus be able to complete our course by the beginning of September.

We continue to struggle with Salvage - it will never be anything else but a struggle as long as we have to cope with the bin shortage, dogs, cats, pests and untidy citizens! It has been suggested that mint keeps flies off. Our dumps are already plastered with many unread notices, but if room can be found for a bunch of mint, we propose to try it - it will almost certainly arouse curiosity and it is just possible that some of the information on adjacent notices might, at the same time be assimilated.

Sectors 3, 7, 8 & 9.

Sector Meetings of Wardens, Fireguards and Housewives have been held last week, with good results, and a full report will be made next time.

Group B.

Sector B.3.

A number of Housewives attended the Basic Training Lectures and found them most interesting, and instructive.

Three Street Leaders have been enrolled, four New Salvage Dumps have been started and are well patronised.

The talk by Miss Wade was also attended.

A meeting of Wardens, Fireguards and Street and Sector Leaders is being arranged.

Sgnd. M.M. Lewis.
Group Leader.

Group B.4.

Sectors 7 and 11.

The whole of the Group has now been organised, two new Sector Leaders have enrolled, Mrs Coldicott and Mrs Thomas and we are sure of getting their full support.

The collection of Salvage is going along quite well and I must say that at last we have been given some new receptacles for the bones, tins etc. and the dumps are looking much tidier, but I do wish everyone would make a special effort with the bones, rags and rubber. I feel more of these should be collected.

The Basic Training Talks have been given which have been most helpful to us all, but the attendance was not as good as we hoped for. The Housewives were very interested in the Immediate Aid Talks and it has been arranged for Mrs Horsell to give a course of six talks on First Aid at the Mission Hall, Southsboke Lane commencing September 10th at 7.45p.m.

Mrs Wilson who is Sector Leader for Sector 11 has a meeting of her Street Leaders every month, this is a very good idea as it keeps the Housewives together and interested, and any new ideas or suggestions can be put forward; I hope the other Sector Leaders will do the same. Clothing Stewards have been found for the Rest Centre at St. Lukes School, Rush Hill.

Signed W.E. Hammond.
Group Leader.

Sector B.10

Salvage. This is running extremely well at each Dump, and the latest urge for the saving of more rags has met with a good response from most of the Housewives.

Street Savings. Everything is going very satisfactorily in this respect.

First Aid An average of three ladies in each Street have volunteered to take First Aid Lectures. Although this is not as many as we should like we are still persevering to get more people interested with a view to starting a Sub-post in each street. Greenway Lane have their Sub-post going strong, it will consist of Fireguards and trained First Aiders. The Post is manned each night by Fire Guard and the ladies doing first aid have instructions to report immediately after a raid. The post is being equipped by the people in the street from voluntary contributions. It is the aim in the whole of the Group to get one of these Sub-posts for each street, but the difficulty at the moment is getting sites for the Sub-posts.

Mrs Phillips of Kipling Avenue has taken on the Street Leadership for the Avenue and is already arranging for Salvage Dumps, two have been started and it is hoped that others will follow in the very near future.

We have all found the lectures most interesting and the First Aid especially should prove very useful, not only in Housewives Service but in the home.

Group C.

There is not much to report from this group which suffered rather badly in the raids in April. We have been busy repairing our homes and this has not left a lot of time for other activities. The Salvage is growing well - in several Sectors the War Savings and Red Cross Penny a week collections are doing well, and we hope to get more started.

We have arranged for Clothing Stewards at the Methodist Church Schoolroom, West Avenue, also for one Shelter Warden and hope to get some more.

7.
Group D.

Knitting for the Forces is still going on in this Group and I periodically take in the finished garments to the Mayor's Comforts Fund. We have 17/4 in hand with which to get more wool and I expect this work to go ahead still more now the longer evenings are here.

War Savings Two new Savings Groups have recently been started one in Mount Road and the other in Haycombe Drive. Mrs Shepherd, daughter of Mrs Meating (Sector Leader D.2.) collects in Mount Road. She is a very busy person working in an office each day and does the War Savings in the evenings. Mrs Rowe of 173 Haycombe Drive is also a very busy person. Her sister goes out to work and Mrs Rowe keeps house and looks after her sister's 4 children and two of her own.

Fire Fighting The lecture by Captain Titchmarsh was well attended. We have been trying to get as many people as possible to go through the smoke room and also do the actual fire fighting in the fire hut which is going round the district. Mr Swartz (full time Warden) arranged with me to have some afternoons set aside for women's practice and at Whiteway we had Wednesday and Friday afternoons and at Roundhill Grove, Tuesday afternoon. There were some good women's teams at the Oval, but there have been complaints of so many children blocking the grown-ups view of the demonstration and of the noise they made. Also on the first night at the Oval, the full equipment necessary was not there, but evidently things improved later on in the week. We are hoping to keep people up to practising.

Anti gas lecture This was not well attended but those who did go found it very interesting specially the demonstration of the different gas masks by Mrs Scott Reid.

D.9. Mrs Jones is leaving for good in a day or two, but I think Mrs Wheeler one of her Street Leaders is taking on the job as Sector Leader.

D.12. Some children of a Street Leader in Mrs Woodham's Sector have made some money by having small competitions in darts and other games and this is to be given to some good object. Their mothers gave the prizes by making sweets and biscuits.

D.11. The children in Mrs Rochester's Sector have been busy going round collecting all kinds of Salvage.

Sgnd. M.Little.
D. Group.

Group E.

A successful meeting of Wardens and prospective Housewives was held in July and Sectors E.1. and E.5. now have Leaders and some Street Leaders Training talks have been held at St. Peters Post and some Housewives have attended them. It is hoped that more women will interest themselves in the H.W.S. and offer their valuable help for future emergency.

Group F.

Sector 3. This Sector has got as its Sector Leader Mrs Dangerfield with Mrs Hooper as her Deputy. The whole Sector suffered severe damage in the raids but it is hoped that Salvage and Basic Training lectures will soon be in full swing again.

Sector 4. This Sector is under Mrs G.Brien and has not yet got its full complement of Street Leaders and it is hoped to get a public meeting to enrol more members. Mrs Smith has become Street Leader of Osborne Road in place of Mrs Stamp, whose house was destroyed in the raid. Salvage is being collected enthusiastically.

Sector 8. This Sector under Mrs Mills has all its Street Leaders and Basic Training lectures are being well attended. Salvage is going well. At the request of the Senior Warden the Street Leaders have been making new lists of residents, their next of kin and other information.

Sector 9. This Sector under Mrs Cator is making a special effort to increase its Salvage. Street Leaders have printed and delivered leaflets on Salvage and children have started to collect again. One Street is still without a Leader but it is hoped that this will soon be remedied. Warden, Fireguards and Housewives are having a meeting on August 24th.

Sector 10. Sector 10 held its first meeting of Group, Sector and Street Leaders. 20 attended. Leaders and deputies have been enrolled for every street in the Sector. The second Salvage dump has been started and more will be started as soon as containers have been obtained. Old Newbridge Hill shared with Newbridge Hill (Sector 11) in a Basic Training Gas talk. Out of 15 houses 13 people attended at very short notice.

Sector 11. This sector under Mrs Cornish has all its Leaders. Salvage and Street Savings are doing excellently. A Basic Training Talk was held in Newbridge Hill and about 40 people attended. The Sector was asked by the Senior Warden to make new lists of all the residents, stirrup pumps, shelters, invalids etc., and this has been completed.

Sector 12. This Sector under Mrs Poole has been working very hard and enthusiastically. 110 people in the Sector attended the gas talks held in Street Leaders houses. First Aid talks are being arranged. Several Street Leaders have completed their Basic Training. 33 attended the Fire Training talk and several have attended the Fire guard training at the Evelyn Post. Salvage is doing well and the children who collect are most enthusiastic.

All the children Salvage collectors in this Group were invited to visit the Military Tattoo and were given a picnic tea afterwards in the Sydney Gardens where they were addressed by the City Engineer Mr Owens, and an official from the Ministry of Health, Mr Baker and Mrs Jervoise also joined the party which was enjoyed by everybody. The Basic Training talks are being well attended throughout the Group and quite a number of Leaders have completed the training. The Head Warden, Colonel Maule, called a meeting of Warden, Fireguards and Housewives to speak on the Invasion Exercise. The Hall was packed to overflowing. All Sectors are trying to get meetings of their Warden, Fireguards and Housewives before this exercise takes place, and it is felt that more co-operation with the Warden Service is becoming evident.

Group G.

Training Talks have been held at St. Stephen's Hall and have been fairly well attended. Combined Civil Defence Service Meetings are being planned.

Sector 6. This Sector has been taken over by Miss Gibson, she is also a Senior Warden. Her good work in Sectors 9 and 10 will, we know, be carried on in her new district. Combined Warden, Fireguard, Housewives meetings are being arranged.

Sector 9 and 10. Miss Matchett is taking over as Sector Leader. The Street Leaders are enrolling deputies. The 4 Street Leaders in Lampard Buildings are deputising for each other. Salvage is going smoothly. Miss Goldsworthy is going to carry on with the distribution of clothing at Harley Street Rest Centre with Miss Hill as her deputy.

Sector 12 This Sector has been started by Miss Hearn and we are fortunate to have the co-operation of the Senior Warden.

Group H.

Sector 9. This Sector has started quite successfully. A meeting of Warden, Housewives was held in the Sector at which the Senior Warden was Chairman and Mr Wright spoke on the work of the Fireguard. The meeting of Housewives and Warden has made a big impression on both Services. The Salvage Dump is working quite well, the children have taken a great interest and are very helpful. One housewife from a First Aid point has

offered to give lectures and training to Housewives. We have started a National Savings Group and the first week collected a total of £20. Housewives are collecting for the Red Cross Penny a Week Fund from practically every house in the Sector. So far we have been unable to establish any Anti Gas Houses.

Sgnd. E.M. Payne.
Sector Leader.

Group H.

Sectors 2 and 4.

This Group having lost a part through enemy action, has now been considerably enlarged and includes, Belmont, The Vineyards, Paragon etc. We have acquired some very good new members who are working hard for recruits for the Housewives Service in this new area. Several members have obtained their armlets for Firefighting, others their Anti gas certificate and a large number have now completed their Basic Training. Salvage. Although far from being satisfactory, is decidedly improving in quantity and tidiness of dumps. But we badly need more interest by everyone.

War Savings. After a serious check in May, Street Groups are now on the up-grade and I have every hope that before long every Street in this Sector of Group H will have a flourishing War Savings Street Group. Our Monthly Meetings of members where plans and suggestions are welcomed or discussed has already proved valuable.

Sgnd. M.E. Griffiths.

Group K.

I have little to report as the meeting on which I had hoped to report in this issue, has not been arranged yet, as our Warden (Head) is away, and we have to wait until he returns.

We have two new Sector Leaders, both very kindly taking over Sectors whose Sector Leaders have had to retire.

Miss Corbett-Lowe is taking over Sector 4, and I do appreciate this very much as I know how busy she is already. She had not yet had time to do anything about it. Mrs Hall is taking over Sector 12 and I believe has already secured quite a number of Street Leaders. In both Sector 1 (Mrs Woodman) and 2 (Miss Gillan) quite a considerable amount of knitting has been done. In both these Sectors the Leaders are worried about the Anti-gas measures as there are not very many houses having the facilities for giving the treatment. However they are making out a fresh list of members who are willing to help, and the position will have to be considered.

The Salvage in these Sectors has fallen off, as the Salvage men seem to be collecting straight from the houses, instead from the Central dump.

Mrs Fathers (Sector 16) reports that Salvage is doing very well. Nine collectors for the Red Cross Penny a week fund have been found in the Sector some outside the Sector, Mrs Fathers banks for the whole lot. A knitting circle has been formed and National Savings are doing well. The Red Cross Penny a Week Fund are as follows:- Eastville, Eastbourne, Eastbourne Avenue, Belgrave Road, Tynning Lane, Beaufort Villas and Beaufort Gardens, Lambridge Place, Dowding Road, Hollan Road, Wallace Road and Claremont Road.

The whole of Sectors 1 and 2 and a large part of Sectors 3 are covered in National Savings and doing very well, as regards Sector 4 I am not sure what the position is as Mrs Sheppard was the collector there, but I gather that the National Savings Committee make their own arrangements about finding a successor if anyone drops out.

I feel that, if we can get the combined meeting which we have been agitating for, for some months now, we shall be able to enlist more enthusiasm, but the plan has been held largely by the difficulty of getting the Fireguard scheme going. We are hoping that the course of extra Basic Training lectures can be arranged soon, as a number of members were unable to attend the afternoon series, and are anxious to take them. I do hope, though, that there will be some clear announcement made as to the times and places where the lectures are to be held, as some members missed some of the last course,

owing to misunderstanding as to the dates. As regards First Aid, 8 people have attended the course of lectures given by Miss Czzard of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade and are now attached to the point at Lambridge Lodge. A revised list of Anti-gas Houses will be sent in as soon as possible.

Sgnd. E.R. Trier.
Group Leader.

Group L.

A successful meeting of Women was held at the Baptist Church on August 27th. Several Wardens were present and volunteers for work in the Housewives Service were forthcoming. We hope that from this meeting good results will follow and there should be news of progress next time.

Group M.1 - 5.

A great deal has been done these last 6 weeks. Basic Training was taken, but the attendance at these meetings was disappointing. Miss Reynolds from the Gas Company gave a cooking demonstration on the stove that had been built a few weeks before, this was most interesting and helpful. A party was given to all children Salvage Stewards and the guest of honour was the Salvage Steward Mr. Wakeman. This was arranged by the Housewives in the Service, many residents helping in the provision of food, and money to buy prizes for the sports. The party was arranged in a week, which spoke well of the time and thought that went with it, as it was a great success and every one enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

Several more Savings Groups have been started. The Shelter Wardens have had several experiences since June.

The Clothing Stewards for the Rest Centre attended a meeting at 2, Broad Street, which they found most helpful and a few days later Mrs Doigh met these Stewards at St. Luke's Rest Centre, Odd Down and gave valuable advice. The list for volunteers to help at the Rest Centre is completed. Other meetings at the Pump Room have been attended.

Group M.6 and 7.

Nothing spectacular has happened since the last bulletin was issued, but steady work has gone on. Most Street Leaders Forms have been completed and handed in with information regarding offers of temporary emergency billets. Those to be called to help in case of an emergency, if they are able to do so. More offers for Anti-gas treatment and those willing to take in and aid any people suffering from shock etc. On the whole the results are very satisfactory and the necessary cards to distribute to those entitled to them, are now being awaited.

The subject of the Rest Centre is being gone into very thoroughly by the gentleman authorised to undertake this special task. The whole scheme being put on a sound footing and a skeleton plan being drawn up. Four Clothing Stewards have been found from our Housewives in this Group from a number of the original helpers still come, who worked so splendidly last time, overcoming countless difficulties most of which it is hoped will be lessened if a further emergency should arise.

The Sector and Street Leaders have continued to do their voluntary work conscientiously despite the many calls on their time and a few encounters with people unwilling to co-operate in any way, but these are a very small minority and otherwise the whole atmosphere between Sector Leaders, Street Leaders, residents, O.S.Cs and the Corporation employees, is extremely good, and it is felt that as a whole everybody is doing their best to help towards victory. Several Deputies (Street Leaders) have been found and before long it is hoped that the Leaders in the H.S. will be at full strength.

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VOLUNTARY
SERVICE

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE
MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY SOMERSET CENTRE BATH MONTH SEPTEMBER 1942

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.

1. EVACUATION.

(a) Movement of evacuees in September.

Mothers and children under school age.	Arrivals.	6.
	Departures.	2.
	Billeting vouchers withdrawn.	2.

2. Accompanied and unaccompanied children.

Returns.	7.
New arrivals.	4.
Transfers.	5.
Returned from holiday.	2.
Billeting vouchers withdrawn,	1.
Evacuees still in Bath.	
Unaccompanied children (School age)	81.
Accompanied children.	55.
Mothers.	26.
Fathers.	2.

TOTAL. 164.

3. A.R.P.

(a) Housewives' Service. Mrs Jervoise's Report.

The Housewives' Section has concentrated this month to a great extent on getting the Civil Defence Unit going in the different Sectors. The aim is to make the "Committee" of three (Wardens, Fireguards and Housewives' Leader) a planning Unit, meeting once a month and organising practical work for all women in the streets.

Signed Mary Jervoise
(Centre Organiser)

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If further space is required, please use back of form.

160 Wt. 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C & Co. 745 (9).
1396 Wt. 371 97/138 40,000 11/41 C & Co. 745 (9).

- 2 -

This practical work will include Street Stirrup pump practices (which will be organised by the Fireguard); practice with the emergency cooking stoves, Immediate Aid practice, anti-gas treatment practice etc. I must praise very highly the Sector Leaders who are tackling this problem of the Unit with determination, since we are told by the Chief Warden that they must be formed. They have met many difficulties and some indifference but not one Leader has said she would rather not attempt to do the initial "prodding". Many unit meetings have now been held and we are watching with interest for the future developments. *W. J. J. J.*

One of our "black spots" is now less dingy and we have hopes of a brighter future for it!

The Medical Officer has asked the Housewives to find a suitable First-Aid Houses, and we are hoping to arrange two special First-Aid Houses in each street. A supervisor will be appointed in each Group who will periodically inspect the houses to see that the equipment, instructions etc., are intact. These houses will be clearly marked.

3. Emergency Cooking Stoves are being built in every sector, and there is much enthusiasm among the would-be-cooks! Training is going ahead well and members are interested and keen. Lectures have been given on Dietition and nutritional values, Emergency Cooking, and Fuel Economy and these have all been well attended. Sector and Street Leaders have been instructed to attend the latter lecture particularly, and through them the ordinary housewife is encouraged to come and learn the necessity for saving fuel and how to do it. We also feel that the hints given by the instructor at these talks as to methods of cooking a meal on one burner or ring (not only by using a steamer but in other ingenious ways) could be of great assistance in cooking food in an emergency on the outdoor stoves.

The number of new enrolments this month is 59."

(Signed) Organiser. S Jervoise

Mrs Jervoise, our organiser had a most interesting visit to Cambridge, where she gave a talk on what the Housewives are

doing in Bath. She is going to Oxford this month to lecture.

(d) Basic Training continuing. Volunteers most anxious to take Immediate aid, Fireguard and Gas, but most difficult to persuade them to attend W.V.S and its place in Civil Defence and A.R.P. Organisation.

(3) Mrs Scott-Reid's Report.

W.V.S work at the Respirator and Fitting and Repair Depot.
Civil Defence Headquarters.

1. No: of School children fitted at Headquarters. 255.
2. No: of Baby Helmets issued - 62. Returned - 27.
3. No: of small child's respirators - 25. Returned 68.
4. Facepieces changed beyond local repair. - 431.
Containers.....144.
Bands. 14.
Valves..... 21.
Context. 106.
New cartons issued (free) 1216.
Respirators patched..... 297.
Respirators changed..... 255.
5. No: of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc., from children, deceased persons, salvaged, and Home Guard. 843.
6. Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected..... 20.
" " Haversacks washed. 20.
" " Respirators re-harnessed.... 4.
Tin helmets washed, disinfected..... 10.
7. Adults.
Facepieces issued..... 53.
Containers..... 35.
Bands..... 22.
Valves..... 22.
Context..... 23.
Cartons. (paid)..... 81.
8. No: of respirators issued to bombed persons. 10.

9. One Dramatic Demonstration and Respirator Instructions in co-operation with Housewives Anti-Gas treatment.
10. Eight Basic Training talks on respirators.
11. Two Firefighting demonstrations.
4. Homeless. Nothing to report this month.
5. Canteens. Nothing fresh to report, all work continuing satisfactorily.
6. Community and Emergency Feeding.
 - (a) 16,175 meals served to schoolchildren by the Ford Vans.
7. Welfare work for H.M. Forces.
 - (c) Miss Howard Morgan's report from Hospital Supply Depot. Mending for the 30th Wiltshire Regiment.
 - 49 bundles of clothing. (Each bundle composed of under-clothing and a pullover.)
 - 2 pairs of officer's trousers.
 - 1 short.
 - socks and vests.
 - (a) W.V.S members entertaining American troops in their houses every week.
 - (e) Workers have been sent to the Recreation Hut to help entertain American troops.
8. Hospital Services. Nothing further to report.
9. Hospital Supply Depot. Miss Howard Morgan's second report.

"The usual work was continued during this month, with additional sewing undertaken in the workrooms for the garments for the Prisoners of War parcels. Friends have been very kind in knitting up wool for these Prisoners-of-War parcels. We received a visit from Mrs White, County Organiser for Next-of-Kin parcels, who congratulated the Prisoners-of-War packing centre on its very excellent organisation. We are busy making up wool for the Merchant Navy Comforts Service and have been able to send off several sacks of finished garments."
10. Transport. Volunteer Car Pool, Bath. 74 members.
 - No. of journeys..... 89.
 - No. of gallons of petrol used. 116 gallons.

18. Other activities.

- (a) Seaboot stocking wool issued.....320 lbs.
Number of pairs of stocking
completed.....370 pairs.
- (b) Merchant Navy Pullovers.
104 lbs of wool received from Hospital Supply.
42 pullovers completed.
- (c) Received from the Duchess of Northumberland's
Comforts Fund for the A.T.S - 24 lbs khaki wool.
130 pairs of mittens knitted and sent to Fund.

Reports 4.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY.....SOMERSET..... CENTRE.....BATH..... * MONTH.....OCTOBER 1942.....

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.

1. Evacuation.

(a) Movements of evacuees in October.

Mothers and children under school age. Arrivals. 3.
Departures. 12.

Accompanied and unaccompanied children.

Returns.	9.
New arrivals.	3.
Transfers.	2.
Billeting vouchers withdrawn.	4.
<u>Evacuees still in Bath.</u>	
<u>Unaccompanied children</u>	
(School age.)	76.
Accompanied.	52.
Mothers.	26.
Fathers.	2.

2. Clothing. See Mrs Tillard's report on page 5.

3. A.R.P.

(a) Housewives' Service. Mrs Jervoise's report.

Further progress can be reported in the Housewives' Section this month. Several emergency cooking stoves have been built and one sector proposes to use theirs twice weekly, once to heat water for laundry and once for children's baths!

First-Aid houses are coming along well, and each Group will have a First-Aid House Supervisor to check over equipment etc., at regular intervals.

Signed.....

Margaret Whimster
(Centre Organiser)

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If further space is required, please use back of form.

(156) WL 23852/102 40,000 8/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)
(156) WL 37407/128 40,000 11/41 C. & Co. 745 (9)

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(a) continued.

We have been asked to help in the distribution of blitzed wood (free) and 115 sites for a load were found in four days. Reports to hand state that, in many cases, the load has vanished before the Street Leader has seen it arrive.

Basic Training still continues and classes are well attended. A previous 'black spot' has collected 45 members to attend the course which is very encouraging. Fuel Economy Talks have been well attended and interest is maintained.

A new series of talks on "Household Jobbing" and "Make-and-men" are planned to begin in November and continue until well on into the New Year. These talks will include demonstrations on how to cope with such household repairs as mending sash cords and cooking utensils, re-washing taps, cutting glass and fitting the new pane (very useful in blitzed houses!). Care of hot water pipes etc., and of gas and electric appliances; household repairs to upholstered chairs etc; renovation and repair to clothing, and various other talks. We are anticipating a great response to these talks.

An interesting development in one Group is the arrangement for After-Raid Nurseries; four members with fairly large houses have undertaken to look after the children of Street and Sector leaders and those with "after-raid" commitments (such as clothing stewards at the Rest Centres), so that they are free to do more work than would be the case if the children had to be looked after. The mothers will provide the food, but the scheme will be a voluntary one.

Salvage has reached a new high level and we have had a record month for rags and bones. Rubber collected this month has been 4 tons as against a quarter of a ton for last October.

The Civil Defence Unit scheme is making progress, and in several sectors the Committee formed from the heads of the three Civil Defence Services is meeting regularly and practical work in the streets has been carried out.

There were 48 new enrolments this month and 14 resignations (mainly members leaving Bath.)

(Signed) Organiser..

Sylvia Leath

(d) Basic Training continuing. At the request of 150 members who have taken their 5 talks, 3^{additional} First-Aid classes have been arranged. Great interest is being taken in this subject.

(e) Mrs Scott-Reid's Report.

W.V.S work at the Respirator fitting and repair depot.

- | | | |
|----|--|------|
| 1. | Number of School children fitted at Headquarters. | 153. |
| 2. | " of Baby Helmets issued.) | 44. |
| | " " " " returned.) | 21. |
| 3. | " of small child's respirators issued.) | 20. |
| | " " " " " returned.) | 27. |
| 4. | Facepieces changed beyond local repair. | 172. |
| | Containers. | 46. |
| | Bands. | 4. |
| | Valves. | 14. |
| | Contex. | 24. |
| | New cartons issued. | 425. |
| | Respirators patched. | 94. |
| | Respirators changed. | 133. |
| 5. | Number of respirators washed, disinfected, examined etc., from children, deceased persons, salvaged, Home Guard etc. | 731. |
| 6. | Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected, examined. | 15. |
| | " " Haversacks washed. | 15. |
| | " " Respirators re-harnessed. | 2. |
| | Tin helmets washed, disinfected. | 6. |
| 7. | Adults, | |
| | Facepieces issued. | 19. |
| | Containers. | 15. |
| | Bands. | 13. |
| | Valves. | 13. |
| | Contex. | 13. |
| | Cartons. (paid) | 26. |
| | Respirators inspected. | 21. |
| 8. | One Basic Training talk on Respirators. | |

- 4 -

4. Homeless. Nothing to report this month.

5. Canteens. Nothing fresh to report, all work continuing satisfactorily.

6. Community and Emergency Feeding.

(a) 16,165 meals served to school children by the two Ford Vans.

7. Welfare work for H.M. Forces.

(c) Miss Howard Morgan's report from Hospital Supply Depot
"After repeated pressure brought to bear on the D.A.D.O.S. we succeeded in getting 12 shorts and 24 pairs of pants which had been returned to store as worn out; these we are using for patching the clothing brought in to us to mend. One or two beautiful pieces of mending have been done on officers' trousers which had been caught on barb wire. These were so well mended that they looked like the work of a tailor! We mended for the Army Mending scheme, 7 pullovers, 150 pairs of socks, 10 pairs of gloves, 12 shirts, 3 pairs of pants, 1 pair of running shorts and one pair of trousers were repaired."

8. Hospital Services. Nothing further to report.

9. Hospital Supply Depot. Miss Howard Morgan's second report.

"The following work has been done in the Depot this month. An S.O.S. was received from the Matron of the Bath Eye Infirmary for eye shades and 594 were made immediately.

The Spaghnum Moss Department made and despatched 25 stretcher pillows, 545 mess dressings, 210 sanitary pads, and they were asked to make specially, 6 sets of pattern dressings to be sent to new depots.

For the Day Nurseries. 14 overalls were made, 100 handkerchiefs, and 76 blankets were cut in half and button-holed round to make cot covers.

Mending for the Red Cross Convalescent Homes was done as usual and consisted of 25 shirts, 12 pairs of trousers, 3 jackets, 23 pairs of socks, 4 pyjama coats, 1 vest, 29 bath towels, 4 pairs of pants, 1 sheet and 1 hospital overall. The Matron of the 4th Southern Hospital asked for our help and we made 14 Surgeon's coats and 14 children's operation gowns.

During the month we knitted for the Merchant Navy and 2 or 3 new knitting parties were formed. 52 heavy sweaters, 8 scarves, 1 pair of gloves, 2 helmets and 21 pairs of socks were sent to the Cardiff Docks.

17 pillows were stitched for the A.R.P. Rest Centres.

Prisoners-of-War Department. Work was done in the Depot for this Department and 12 shirts, 16 vests and 24 pairs of short pants were made. In connexion with this Department, a "Bring-and-Buy" Sale was held for 3 days and brought in over £80. Many enquiries are made about prisoners and 15 parcels have been packed for the next-of-kin during the month. Many of the garments have been knitted by friends from wool supplied.
(Signed) G. Howard Morgan.

10. Transport. Volunteer Car Pool.....71 members.
No: of journeys.....104.
No: of gallons of petrol
used.....114 gallons.

2. Clothing. Mrs Tillard's report from the Clothing Depot.

"Applications for clothing have now much decreased after five month's rush due to the Raids. There are still a few families who have applied for the first time for gift clothing. A number of applicants who were fitted out with summer clothing have now come back for warmer underclothing, coats etc. There is still a great scarcity of men's and boys underclothing, trousers and shoes.

The workrooms have been busy making girls' and boys' overcoats out of women's secondhand ones, and the workers are

- 6 -

getting very experienced in making the most of otherwise useless garments. A very high standard of workmanship has been achieved.

A light and dry store has been allocated at No.20 Walcot Street, where there is room for secondhand as well as new goods. Great help has been given in heavy work by a coal merchant who has helped with clothing after the Raids and now volunteers for any heavy and dirty jobs with which we have to cope.

Number of families helped.....	91.
New garments given.....	210.
Secondhand garments given.....	424.
Garments made.....	50.

(Signed) Clara C. Tillard.
Depot Organiser.

18. Other activities.

- (a) Seaboot stocking wool issued.....360 lbs.
Number of pairs of stockings completed.....430 pairs.
- (b) Merchant Navy Wool received..... 72 lbs.
Number of pullovers completed..... 63.
- (c) Received from the Duchess of Northumberland's
Comfort Fund for the A.T.S. Scarf wool..18 lbs.
Number knitted up-to-date.....2.
- (d) A.T.S. Mitten wool. None received this
month.
Number of mittens returned from last Month's
wool.....144 pairs.



Reports 7
3/17

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE
MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY Somerset CENTRE Bath MONTH November, 1942.

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.

1. Evacuation.

- (a) Movement of evacuees in November.
Mothers and children under school age.

Arrivals.	3.
Departures.	0.

Accompanied and unaccompanied children.

Returns.	3.
New arrivals.	4.
Transfers. (Local)	8.
Billeting vouchers withdrawn.	2.
Accompanied.	52.
Unaccompanied.	76.
Mothers.	26.
Fathers.	2.

Evacuees still in Bath.

2. Clothing. See Mrs Tillard's report over page.

Signed *Margaret Whimster*
(Centre Organiser)

TO BE COMPLETED IN QUADRUPPLICATE (IN TRIPPLICATE 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 CENTRE.

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2. Clothing.

Report for Month of November by Mrs. Tillard.

"The Depot has had a quiet month, and it now only opens 2 whole days a week. Mondays and Wednesday till 5 p.m., and Saturdays till 1 p.m.

By arrangement with the Assistance Board it will be shut in Christmas week after Monday, December 21st.

The workroom is still working three whole days, chiefly converting women's coats into boys and girls overcoats, and they have now started on new material for boys' overcoats.

We are trying to get a supply of felt slippers made. The following numbers of garments were issued during the month:-

Secondhand.....36h.

New Garments.....122.

Number of garments made:- 57.

Number of families supplied. 69.

(Signed) Clara Tillard.
Organiser.

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3. A.R.P.

(a) Housewives' Service. Mrs Jervoise report.

Thursley 23
Mrs Jervoise

"The interest of members has been focussed this month on a Liaison exercise between the Home Guard, Wardens and Housewives. This exercise took place on November 22nd and was both interesting and instructive. The Sector Leaders in the Housewives' Section were chiefly concerned and were invited to their respective Wardens' Posts to meet their Platoon Commanders, and to discuss the requirements of the Home Guard in case of invasion. We find that they will welcome our help in cooking, and also in the use of our First-Aid Houses in the event of their Casualty Clearing Posts being overfull or out of action. As all Street Leaders have volunteer cooks attached to our Emergency Cooking Stoves, and also have made a census of all large utensils available in an emergency, we are ready to give whatever service the Home Guard asks of us.

In connexion with this exercise, a Practical Exercise was carried out in one Group in which Home Guard, Wardens, and Housewives took part. Cooking was done by the Housewives on one of our cookers, and 60 men were fed. First-Aid was rendered to civilian casualties, and shelter given to Home Guard casualties when their Casualty Post was 'bombed'. Anti-gas houses were in action and Fifth Columnists played an energetic part.

The distribution of free blitzed wood all over the City in which we were asked to help, has resulted in about 150 sites being found and a good number of these dumps have already had their quota.

Lady Hellingham

The series of talks on "Household jobbing and make-and-mend" have been well attended and most interesting. They are being followed by three classes on mending of pots and pans, sewing machines etc., to be attended by one member from each Group, who can then pass on instructions to others. The extremely good lecture on how to look after our own gas appliances sent us all home to take our gas fires to pieces to clean them thoroughly!

Our Salvage efforts have resulted in Bath coming first out of 82 Boroughs for the first time since the Housewives undertook the Salvage scheme.

First-Aid classes are becoming so popular that the training Officer is kept busy; it is very encouraging, in view of our responsibilities as First-Aid Houses, to see this interest and sense of responsibility.

All Group and Sector Leaders, and a select number of Street Leaders took part in the Civil Defence Parade on November 15th. They felt very proud of the honour, and it helped them to realise that the Housewives are really part of the Civil Defence Services.

Enrolments this month have numbered 44, and there have been 5 resignations."

(Signed) S. Jervoise.
Organiser.

(e) Mrs Scott Reid's Report.

H.V.S. work at the Respirator Fitting and Repair Depot.

1.	No: of school children fitted at Headquarters.....	86.
2.	No: of baby helmets issued.....	58.
	" " " returned.....	49.
3.	No: of small child's respirators issued.....	49.
	" " " returned.....	18.
4.	Facepieces changed beyond local repair.....	125.
	Containers.....	42.
	Bands.....	14.
	Valves.....	17.
	Context.....	20.
	New cartons issued (free).....	147.
	Respirators patched.....	61.
	Respirators changed.....	56.
5.	No: of respirators washed, disinfected, examined..	
	from children, deceased persons, salvaged and	
	Home Guard.....	415.
6.	Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected.....	20.
	" " Haversacks washed.....	120.
	Tin helmets washed, disinfected.....	16.

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7. Adults.

Facepieces issued.....	26
Containers.....	22
Bands.....	21
Valves.....	21
Context.....	22
Cartons.....	30

8. No: of respirators issued to bombed persons..10.

9. No: of respirators inspected.....57.

4. Homeless.

(d) Hostels. After the blitz, the Social Welfare opened a Hostel at 21, Royal Crescent, for old ladies who had been bombed out. This home was run until November 20th: by the Red Cross, but after that date the Red Cross notified the Social Welfare authorities that they were unable to supply helpers any longer. The W.V.S was asked to supply helpers daily in three shifts which we are now doing.

5. Canteens. Nothing fresh to report, all work continuing satisfactorily.

6. Community and Emergency feeding.

(a) The two Ford vans were assisted 3 days a week by the W.V.S Austin van owing to the great number of meals served to school children.

7. Welfare work for H.M. Forces. Miss Howard Morgan's report.

"Very little Army mending has been done this month as the Battery which contacted us was immediately moved to another station and their socks, 64 pairs, had to be sent after them."

8. Hospital Services. Nothing further to report.

9. Hospital Supply Depot. Miss Howard Morgan's second report.

"The work at the Depot has been going on very satisfactorily

and our usual numbers have been maintained. Several workers have returned and a few new ones have joined. For Lady Boynton we have made and despatched 818 Moss Dressings and 111 sets of pattern dressings, (4 in each set), also 19 stretcher pillows.

Our C.H.S. S. work for Lady Wraxall consisted in sending off 98 woollies, (all orders), 22 of them being bedjackets.

The Red Cross Convalescent Homes have regularly sent us their repairs to 45 and 119 garments and household cloths etc., have been mended.

Denewood Grange Home for Bombed Babies have received 32 garments made by us.

58 pairs of slippers were sent to Mrs Tillard for Rest Centres. 140 overalls to Day Nurseries. (Headquarters Branch.)

Knitting for the Merchant Navy still continues to be very popular and 179 woollies were sent to Cardiff; most of these were heavy sweaters and were much appreciated.

Next-of-Kin, Prisoners of War. 29 parcels were packed."

(Signed) Elen Howard Morgan.

10. Transport. Volunteer Car Pool.....70.
No: of journeys.....98.
No: of gallons of petrol
used.....96.

18. Other activities.

(a) Seaboot stocking wool issued.....240 obls.
Number of pairs of stockings completed.540.

(b) Merchant Navy Wool received..... 66 obls.
Number of pullovers made..... 71.

(c) A.T.S. Scarf wool issued..... 18 lbs.
Scarves made.....38.

(d) Mitten wool issued..... 18 lbs.
Pairs of mittens knitted.....120 pairs.

18. Other activities contd:

(e) Civil Defence Day Parade. November 15th. 1942.
2 members went to London to represent Bath W.V.S., and they brought back a most interesting description of the parade and service, we felt proud that Bath W.V.S was represented.

(f) Toy making Department. A department is being opened for the making of soft toys, we are collecting a number of enthusiastic workers. These toys will be given to Day Nurseries, Evachees, in fact any children needing toys.

(g) American Troops. A list of W.V.S members has been given to the Hospitality Committee, stating times when they are willing to entertain. At the moment however, there seem to be more hostesses than guests in Bath!

Such a good report
then. Who has he, by the way?

Mrs. May

Report 7

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

SOMERSET

BATH

DECEMBER 1942.

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.

1. Evacuation.

- (a) Movement of evacuees in December.
Mothers and children under school age.

Arrivals.	4.
Departures.	9.
Billeting vouchers with- drawn.	3.

Accompanied and unaccompanied children.

Returns.	6.
B.V.W.	2.

Evacuees still in Bath.

Accompanied.	50.
Unaccompanied.	76.
Mothers.	23.
Fathers.	2.

2. Clothing. Mrs Tillard's report from the Clothing Depot.

The Depot has opened $2\frac{1}{2}$ days a week during this month; and a fair number of cases dealt with. Christmas closing was for $1\frac{1}{2}$ days and the Depot re-opened on December 28th. An alternative distributing centre has been lent at St. Christopher's School, North Road and a small amount of new clothing is ready packed for storage there. One registered worker has taken a full time appointment.

Signed.....
(Centre Organiser)

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(832) Wt. 14644 40,000 5/42 C. & Co. 745(8).

If further space is required, please use back of form

A large quantity of mending was sent from the Bombed Babies Home - Beatheaston; some of which we hope to send to work parties.

The following are the figures for the month:-

Garments made.....	27.
New garments issued.....	178.
Secondhand garments issued.....	148.
Families supplied.....	29.

3. A.R.P.

(a) Housewives' Service. Mrs Jervoise report.

"There is not much to report this month. Christmas seems to spread its spirit abroad early, and Housewives are busy thinking about it, even if, nowadays, no great preparations can be made.

We have been able to make good progress in the building of the outdoor cooking stoves, and those which may be used for cooking for the Home Guard in an emergency are being put up. These stoves create great interest, and appear to be a proof to the inhabitants of the street that the Housewives' Section has produced really tangible evidence of its usefulness! Through our Service we have been able to help and make an A.T.S. Hut cheerful for Christmas. Several Groups contributed decorations, and some small presents for the Christmas Tree for the girls who are spending their first Christmas away from home.

The result of the liaison exercise between the Home Guard, Wardens, and Housewives has been stimulating interest between the three services. The Home Guard have continued their contacts in several districts, and the Housewives have greatly appreciated the responsibility which is being given to them.

It was felt very strongly that anti-gas houses should be inspected in order to see that they are up to standard

requirements. This was discussed with the Deputy Controller, with the result that we hope shortly to have an Inspector whose work it will be to visit every anti-gas house in our lists, and see that each one is suitable.

and 7 Hutton
Classes in Home Economy have been held in November and December, and have been very well attended. There was a great demand for them, and the trouble taken by the Director of the Bath Technical Institute in arranging them for us has been much appreciated. The lectures on plumbing and window repairs were attended by over 60 members at a time, and lectures and demonstrations on dealing with gas and electric appliances had large and appreciative audiences; a course of demonstrations on the repair of saucepans, kettles and other household utensils is now in progress. In the New Year there will be a series of classes on "Make-and-mend", attended each time by the same members, who will take their own renovations and repairs, and will then be able to give demonstrations in their own Groups.

One Group runs its own "Make-and-mend" class, meeting once a week, and enjoying the social, as well as the working side of the afternoon. Quite a lot of work has been done by those attending the class.

Practices for those Housewives who have undertaken to lend their houses for gas decontamination are being held in several of the Groups, and similar practices for First-Aid helpers are also being organised. Some Groups have exercises planned for the New Year, which will combine Wardens, Fireguards and Housewives. The use of First-Aid Houses will be a feature of each exercise.

Enrolments this month have numbered 63 with 9 resignations.

(Signed) S. Jervoise.
Organiser.

(e) Mrs Scott Reid's Report.

W.V.S work at the Respirator Fitting and Repair Depot.

1.	No: of school children fitted at Headquarters.....	48.
2.	No: of Baby Helmets issued.....	41.
	" " " " returned.....	24.
3.	No: of small child's Respirators issued.....	24.
	" " " " returned.....	10.
4.	Facepieces changed beyond local repair.....	72.
	Containers.....	36.
	Bands.....	4.
	Valves.....	5.
	Context.....	17.
	New cartons issued (free).....	50.
	Respirators patched.....	50.
	Respirators changed.....	25.
5.	No: of respirators washed, disinfected examined etc., from children, deceased persons, salvage...	250.
6.	Civilian Duty Respirators disinfected.....	18.
	" " Haversacks washed and disinfected.....	18.
	Tin helmets washed and disinfected.....	30.
7.	<u>Adults.</u>	
	Facepieces issued.....	9.
	Containers.....	7.
	Valves.....	7.
	Bands.....	7.
	Context.....	7.
	Cartons.....	14.
8.	No: of Respirators issued to bombed persons.....	8.
9.	No: of Respirators inspected.....	23.
10.	Two and a half weeks making and checking card index for the Bath District Dairymens Association.	

4. Homeless.

(a) Hostels. The Hostel opened at 21 Royal Crescent for old ladies who had been bombed out, is still going on. The W.V.S supplies helpers daily in three shifts.

5. Canteens. Nothing fresh to report, all work continuing satisfactorily. Helped at two Christmas parties given for the Demolition Canteen workers.

6. Community and Emergency feeding.
(a) The two Ford Vans were assisted 3 days a week by the W.V.S Austin Van owing to the great number of meals served to school children.

7. Welfare work for H.M. Forces. Miss Howard Morgan's report.

"Very little army mending at the moment, only 42 pairs of socks sent to be mended."

8. Hospital Services. Nothing further to report.

9. Hospital Supply Depot. Miss Howard Morgan's second report.

"The work at the Depot has been going on as usual, very satisfactorily, and our usual numbers have been maintained.

For Lady Wrexall, we made to order, 120 khaki skull caps, 7 pairs of gloves, 9 pullovers and 6 scarves.

For Shockerwick and Pen Convalescent Homes and for St Martin's Emergency Hospital, we have repaired 168 garments.

From Materials provided by Miss Harper for the Denewood Grange Bombed Babies Home, we made 93 pairs of knickers, 4 skirts, 3 nightdresses, 6 smocks, 18 coats.

For the Merchant Navy - 197 garments have been knitted.

1790 moss pads were made and sent to London for overseas.

30 pillows were stitched up for Rest Centres.

For Junior Red Cross, 19 frocks and 22 aprons made.

291 surgeons caps for overseas.

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Next-of-Kin, Prisoners of War. 22 parcels were packed.

(Signed) G. Howard Morgan.

10. Transport. Bath Volunteer Car Pool.....71.
 Number of journeys.....61.
 Number of gallons of petrol used.....55.

18. Other activities.

- (a) Seaboot stocking wool issued.....439 lbs.
 Number of pairs completed.....340 pairs.
 (b) Merchant Navy Wool received.....(74 lbs pullovers.
 (24 lbs socks.
 Pullovers returned.....84.
 (c) A.T.S. Khaki.....18 lbs.
 Returned mittens.....112 pairs.
 Returned scarves.....48.
 (d) For Prisoners of War.

A doll was raffled in the office for the
 Prisoners of War parcels fund. The doll made
 £15 for the fund.