

WVS/WRVS Bulletin/Magazine

This copy of the WVS/WRVS Bulletin/Magazine has been downloaded from the Royal Voluntary Service Archive & Heritage Collection online catalogue.

This copy is distributed under a [CC Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs \(CC BY-NC-ND\)](#) Creative Commons licence.

This work is copyright © Royal Voluntary Service 1939-2015 or third party contributors (where credited on individual articles).

You can find more information on the WVS/WRVS Bulletin/Magazine and the digitisation project on our webpage www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/bulletin

Any enquiries regarding use of the material contained in this copy, not covered by the Creative Commons licence, or the principals of fair dealing should be directed in the first instance to: archive@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

Public sector information in the WVS/WRVS Bulletin/Magazine is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Registered office:

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE, Beck Court, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8RP.

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

WOMEN'S

ROYAL

VOLUNTARY

SERVICE

MAGAZINE



30p Annually
50p Overseas

No 375
APRIL 1971

CONTENTS

Advisory Council Meeting ...	4	Headquarters Homework ...	16
H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent Opens New Housing Unit ...	5 & 6	H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent at Opening Ceremony ...	17
Long Service Medals ...	6	The New House ...	17-20
Fashion by Paper Pattern ...	7-9	A WRVS Tie for the Mayor ...	21
Ernestine ...	9	Wanted—More Men ...	21
Clothing sent Overseas during 1970 ...	10	Outings for Elderly Patients ...	23
Spring Clothing Drive ...	10	Looking Back ...	24
Regional Clothing Van ...	11	Press & Publicity ...	25 & 26
New Clothes for Old ...	11	Books on Wheels ...	27 & 28
Aid WRVS Aiders ...	12	New Children's Holiday Caravan ...	28
Village Sewing Group ...	13	Mrs. Watchpenny's Budget ...	29
Adapting Clothing for Disabled ...	14	Do You Know? ...	30
Clothing Clippings ...	15	Be Suspicious ...	31
Help for WRVS from Wheelchair ...	16	Men Help at Leeds ...	31
		Did You Know? ...	32
		Book Review ...	33

**STOP PRESS—National Container Competition now closing
24th April 1971 - see Page 24**

WRVS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING - PRISONS

SPEAKING at this meeting Mr. Cox, Director General of the Prison Service, stressed the enormous variety and depth of prison work. There are 110 establishments of different kinds of prisons which are required to provide the inmates with work, food, education, care and medical attention in as humane and decent a manner as possible. The Prison Department has no say in numbers and cannot call a halt by saying 'house full'. It does, however, try to look forward and to plan ahead in terms of resources and manpower. There were 24,000 in prison in 1958, which had risen to 42,000 in 1970, with a sudden spurt until late summer, this has now dropped to 39,000. This drop brings no comfort, however, because the long-term indication is that numbers are likely to go up steadily and quite extensively. There may be a possible relief through the introduction of methods of non-custodial care, but this will take time and the numbers will not measure up to the scale of growth. Plans are, therefore, being made for expansion.

Men and women in prison present totally different problems. There is one woman in prison to every 40 men and the present number is about 1,000. Holloway prison is to be pulled down and rebuilt as an advanced women's penal hospital. The Judiciary lean over backwards not to take a woman away from her family, so among those who do go to prison there are a high proportion with medical or psychological problems, and it is possible to give them more care because there is not the same pressure.

Men prisoners are distributed partly by age group—a boy can progress from Approved School to Detention Centre—to Borstal—to be a young prisoner—to be an adult prisoner. A prisoner in one of four security categories ranging from Category A, a small percentage housed in special prisons, who, if they escaped, would be a danger to the public, the police, or the State, through Category B, criminals with long records needing careful watching; Category C (the largest group), petty criminals who cannot be trusted but lack either the character or the outside resources for a determined

escape attempt, to Category D, those who can be trusted in an Open Prison.

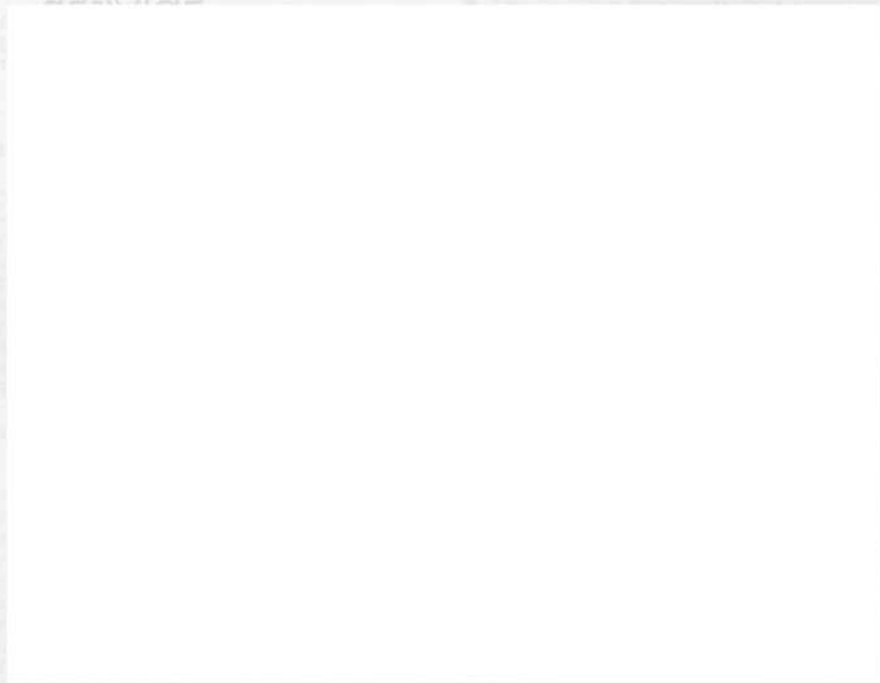
Buildings present many problems, apart from the fact that there are not enough to cope. Most of them are more than 100 years old, and many would have been pulled down through public indignation if the public were aware of the conditions. Cells which the Victorians had considered reasonable for one man are now occupied by 3—14,000 men are living 2 or 3 to a cell. Sites are difficult to get owing to local opposition, but money and resources must go on new establishments to provide more places. Refurbishing can improve floors, sanitation and so on, but it cannot destroy the pattern of building. Other problems are shortages of staff—the job is hard and often unrewarding—and lack of room for education and industry.

Mr. Cox said how conscious he is of the value of voluntary work for the prisoners, their families and the staff. He mentioned that WRVS had provided messing for 80 officers in Bristol when their Mess was burned down.

Voluntary work should move with new concepts of treatment—prisoners are no longer simply 'men locked up'. They are kept in touch with the outside world through newspapers and television and are more in communication with each other. There are now 280 Probation Officers serving as Welfare Officers in prison and more are needed. They are doing some of the work previously done by voluntary bodies because the role is now more sophisticated, but there is ample scope for more voluntary work, particularly for the families—at the time of sentence, helping with visits, and giving general support.

Voluntary bodies also run after-care hostels which act as a base from which a man may be helped to take off into a new and more stable life. They serve as a focus for public opinion and are able to give leadership locally when the question of building a new prison in their area comes up and should be aware of where they can apply for further guidance. A new prison creates employment in an area, but local opposition and the subsequent enquiries greatly delay the provision of a new prison, sometimes by as much as seven years.

H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent Opens New Housing Unit



Photograph by John Laing & Son Ltd.

Her Royal Highness said:

THERE can be very few people indeed in this country who have not heard of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service—though possibly WVS is still a more familiar title to many. But I do think there are great numbers of people who are not fully aware of the size of the Service—of what the members do and of how well they do it.

'I, personally, never cease to be amazed by the extraordinary number of ways in which WRVS give of their services for the benefit of others. It is also all too easy to forget that the "V" stands for "Voluntary" and that all this great contribution to our society is given by people of their own volition, and in their own free time, because they know that there is such a need and they wish to help.

'We hear so much nowadays of strife and trouble, but the work of the WRVS serves as a constant reminder—a shining example—of the sincerity, the generosity and the kindness which can be found in such abundance in this country.'

(over)

She went on to speak of her pleasure in being associated with this latest WRVS housing venture, of the growing awareness in all age groups of the needs of the older generation; and for the acceptance of their rightful place in society. Those unable to keep their own home going need, if possible, their own front door and personal possessions about them, while enjoying the companionship of a semi-community life, secure in the knowledge that extra care is at hand if needed.

The support and friendship of people living locally are needed. Visitors are always welcome at the house, and opportunities will then arise for residents to go out—to church, to visit friends or go shopping, with their assistance where necessary.

'I am sure', said Her Royal Highness, 'that if this need is known and appreciated, people will willingly come forward to help'.

(Pictures and description of ceremony and house pages 17 - 20)

WVS Long Service Medals

London Region

Campbell-Little, Mrs R. M.
Morgan, Miss G.
Murray, Mrs M.
Rann, Mrs E. L.

Region 1

Hoy, Mrs E.

Region 2

Bell, Mrs E.

Region 3

Blow, Mrs A. M. C.
Dearing, Mrs E. M.
Ellis, Mrs P. R.
Guy, Mrs F.
Harvey, Mrs M. A.
Smallhorn, Mrs P. M. B.

Region 5

De Hoop, Mrs I. C. E.
McQuaker, Mrs B. R.
Orbell, Mrs V. I.

Seddon, Mrs M.
Sinclair, Mrs F. D.
Willis, Mrs G. E.

Region 6

Brolly, Mrs E. B.
Core, Mrs V. E.
Hinzman, Mrs C. M.
Powell, Mrs W.

Region 7

Anstice, Mrs G. S.
Bailey, Mrs J.
Blandford, Mrs L.
Cross, Mrs M. M.
Truckie, Mrs E. L. P.
Whitemore, Miss O. J.

Wales

Davies, Mrs M. E.

Region 9

Cliff, Mrs C. M.
Davies, Mrs F. M.

Drake, Mrs W. E.
Goodwin, Mrs D. E.
Harris, Mrs E.
Kendall, Mrs M.
Petherbridge, Mrs V. F.
Price, Mrs K.
Roberts, Mrs O. M.
Rowe, Mrs P. O.
Stretton, Mrs V. J.
Thompson, Mrs J. L.
Thrush, Mrs M. M. C.
Webster, Mrs A.
Wellington, Mrs D. M.

Scotland

Arnot, Mrs W. M.
Chapman, Mrs J. W.
Collins, Mrs A. M.
Davidson, Mrs M.
Hogg, Mrs V. M.
McKellar, Mrs J.
McLeod, Mrs I. M.
Rutherford, Mrs E. B.
Stewart, Mrs A.

Awarded during February 1971

FASHION

BY

PAPER

PATTERN

EVERY woman, regardless of age, size or income, is to some extent interested in fashion and today, thanks to the instant fashion aids provided in the form of paper patterns, there is no reason why anyone who sews should not be right in the swing. Many people looking at the tempting illustrated envelopes filled with carefully marked and folded tissue paper wonder how it all happens; what makes it possible for, say, a dress just seen in Paris to be ready now to be cut out at a WRVS work party.

Twice a year, in January and July, the great Paris dress designers present their new collections. The excitement is intense and for ten hectic days fashion experts from all over the world rush from one Couture house to another, sitting for hours on small gold chairs as mannequin wafts past. At these first shows or Openings the invited audience is strictly professional journalists, magazine editors, store buyers, makers of ready-to-wear clothes and representatives from the big paper pattern firms. They are not there just to enjoy looking at beautiful clothes—and, believe me, by the second hour of the fourth show in a day those small gold chairs have become much too hard for enjoyment—but to recognise amongst all the glamour, new lines and ideas which will influence future fashions.

Possibly of all these experts the ones with the hardest job are the buyers from the paper pattern firms. Journalists and editors report with their readers in mind, stores and makers-up know their potential customers and what is likely to interest them: but the paper pattern market has no bounds, and the buyers must cater for fashion-conscious women of every shape, age and colour quite literally all over the world. Their first move is to see the full collection at

Paris Original by Givenchy: loose-fitting though slightly shaped—becoming to all age groups—eight pattern pieces—make your own version in any soft fabric. Vogue 2474, 75p

each house from which they intend to buy. They take notes and make short lists of the models they think are indicative. They then return by appointment to see their short list again at their leisure and make their final purchase. Now the wheels really get turning. The Pattern Company photographs and sketches the original model and the dress-house prepares a 'toile' which is the model made in calico. This, together with full details, is sent as quickly as possible to the headquarters of the pattern company in New York.

To convert an original model from a great designer into a paper pattern is an extremely complicated procedure. Patterns are produced in a range of sizes agreed upon by all the leading companies and it is most unlikely that the

(over)

original, made to the measurements of the mannequin who shows it in Paris, will exactly conform to any of them. So it has to be adapted, not just by adding or subtracting from the overall measurements, but from each individual piece so that the proportions remain exactly as the designer intended, and this same thing has to be done for every size in which the pattern is to be produced.

A well-known pattern company often gets complaints from large ladies that a particular couture pattern on which they have set their heart is not produced in their size. The most usual reason is that somewhere in that model is a piece which takes the full width of the fabric at, say, size sixteen so it just is not possible to cut an exact copy in size twenty. All that can be done is to guide them on to other patterns with similar lines.

Once all the calculations have been done, master patterns are prepared and checked by cutting and making up garments from them. From then on the machines take over and what goes in at one end as sheets of paper comes out at the other as paper patterns folded and packed complete with cutting and sewing instructions. Whilst the whole of the preparation up to the master pattern stage is done at headquarters, the actual mechanical production is done from duplicate master patterns at factories all over the world—thus the paper pattern you buy is being produced here in England.

Everything described so far applies to the famous Paris Original patterns and also to the other Couturier patterns which carry the name of dress designers in Rome, London and Barcelona. Line for line reproductions of the actual models as made in the great houses, these patterns are a joy to the experienced dress-maker but they are expensive and often rather too complicated and time absorbing for the less expert amongst us. But, exhilarating as it is to know that the dress one is wearing is exactly as designed by a world-famous name, one does not need to be in a Paris Original to be in the swing of fashion. Every pattern company has its own team of designers, skilled in interpreting the newest fashion lines in the form of patterns which everyone can tackle. So if you want to follow Paris but do not feel that a Paris Original is for you, turn the

pages of the pattern catalogues and you will surely find the new line you want watered down to its simplest form but none the less fashion for all that.

The London look by Mary Quant: this pattern makes a tunic and trouser suit and a short or midi-length A-line dress. Butterick 6068, 35p

Paris is still a great centre of fashion. The Openings are still crowded, the papers still report them in detail; but the present generation no longer looks to the Couture Houses as the only source of fashion.

Fewer and fewer people today want to bother to have their clothes made for them. They resent the time spent at fittings and they like to make their choice by trying the dress on themselves rather than seeing it worn by a sylph-like model and trying to visualise how they will look in it. With the ever growing fashion importance of ready-to-wear clothes it is hardly surprising that many of the most talented and best known of the younger designers are working in this market. Our own Mary Quant and Jean Muir are perfect examples, and the list can be added to from every country where beautiful clothes are made. Some designers are fashion leaders in their own right and the Pattern Companies, acknowledging them as such, see their collections, buy models and season by season, add their ideas into the paper pattern ranges.

Thus, whichever lead you wish to follow, Couture House or Left Bank boutique, Fifth Avenue or London, you will find a paper pattern to meet your needs. If you are starting from scratch with new material your choice is easy but if—and why not—you plan to give a new fashion finish to an out-of-date dress, do be sure before you buy the pattern that you have enough width of material to cut the widest piece and, if the original is cut on the cross, so too is what you plan to make.

There is a great scope also for adapting grown-up garments into children's clothes. There is more material to spare, making it possible to cut clothes of a type quite different to that of the original garment.

The Young Idea—a variety of gay mix-and-match garments from one pattern. Butterick 5855, 30p

Photograph on page 7 by courtesy of Vogue Pattern Company. Permission to reproduce fashion sketches from pattern envelopes on pages 8 and 9 by courtesy of Butterick Publishing Company.

DO NOT THROW AWAY THE ENVELOPE OF YOUR MAGAZINE WITHOUT CHECKING WITH

ERNESTINE

If **FEB. WRVS 415** appears on your Magazine envelope you can expect to receive a Premium Bond Token.

CLOTHING BALED FOR OVERSEAS DURING 1970

DESTINATION	REQUESTED BY	NO. OF BALES
SUDAN	United Nations High Commission for Refugees	50
SOUTH YEMEN	The British Red Cross Society	6
INDIA	Wings of Friendship	10
HONG KONG	Wings of Friendship	4
SWAZILAND	The British Red Cross Society	8
MOROCCO	The British Red Cross Society	12
BRITISH HONDURAS	The British Red Cross Society	6
MAURITIUS	The British Red Cross Society	9
BELFAST	The British Red Cross Society	5
SINGAPORE	Singapore Red Cross	1
NEPAL	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	100
INDIA	Wings of Friendship	20
LISBON	WRVS	6
		<hr/>
		237
Sent to the TURKISH RED CRESCENT FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF		106
Sent to HONG KONG FOR GURKHA FAMILY WELFARE		25
Sent to SINGAPORE FOR GURKHA FAMILY WELFARE		31
Sent to BEIRUT — LAYETTES		69
		<hr/>
		TOTAL 468 BALES

SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE - 18th MAY 1971

BE RUTHLESS IT IS FRUITLESS TO HOARD OUTGROWN CLOTHING

AS THE WRVS national wardrobe seems to be rather empty, H.Q. Clothing Department is again recommending local appeals on a national scale for men's and children's clothing.

Clothing is badly needed for the WRVS children's holiday scheme; last year alone WRVS arranged holidays for some 6,000 children, and in most cases WRVS clothing stores provided suitable clothing, hence the urgent need for children's garments to re-stock the shelves.

In addition to the usual press notices, other contacts could be useful.

Headmasters and headmistresses are sometimes willing to have a special collection at their schools, appealing for one

good garment from each child, and in previous years in many parts of the country, clergy of all denominations have been sympathetic to WRVS appeals and have arranged special Children's Services. Perhaps this year WRVS could ask for such a Service either on Sunday 25th April or Sunday 2nd May, asking children and parents to bring a child's clean and mended garment. A short article might also be included in the Parish magazine if the editor is approached in time.

Young people are also very helpful with appeals: they not only collect clothing but often have good ideas for publicising appeals and drawing attractive posters.

by courtesy of Jan Wooldridge, Tavistock

THE ROVING REGIONAL CLOTHING VAN

TAVISTOCK Centre is one of the largest of the six WRVS Clothing Centres in Devon. It has a large Rural District attached to it with twenty-three Village Representatives looking after thirty-three villages. All these villages collect clothing and the van makes regular rounds, taking the load back to Tavistock where it is processed.

Tavistock Centre then takes garments on tour, serving not only its own area but — implementing Headquarters' suggestion that where local geographical conditions make it helpful Centres should jump over the border—it also serves five outside areas with clothing.

TEENAGE ALADDINS - NEW CLOTHES FOR OLD

CLOSELY following on the note in the January magazine of Lichfield fifth-form girls remaking partly worn garments supplied by WRVS into clothes for underprivileged children, there is an interesting account from Swansea of a talk to an outside organisation leading to a similar project.

A Swansea WRVS member was giving a talk to the Women's Gas Federation on the work of the Service, and to illustrate showed some garments made by their Work Party. A member of the Gas Federation, who was the handicraft teacher at Llyn-y-Bryn High School, took the idea of re-made clothing to her sixth form pupils, who became very keen. In their spare time they designed and made children's clothes, which they presented

to the WRVS office. They were beautifully made, and included:—

- One full length child's dressing-gown made from a llama wool coat.

- One dark green pleated tunic edged with pink.

- One trouser suit made from the assistant headmistress's very full pleated skirt.

- One two-piece child's suit in turquoise wool.

- One very 'with it' two piece—a blue spotted dress with white tunic coat.

- One lemon seersucker baby's frock.

The local press were interested, and pointed out in an article that this was the first Swansea school to initiate this rewarding work.

AID WRVS AIDERS

There's an easy way to be a helper

THE children who are given clothing by the WRVS are not just short of something to wear. They are deprived and under-privileged in many other and far more serious ways. They are, for example, children of deserted wives, of pitifully poor parents, of fathers in prison or long-term patients in hospital.

They are already under stress. And WRVS demonstrate their great understanding and compassion by never giving them something to wear which is nothing more than a cast off. They do not add to the burdens already on these young, frail shoulders by making them wear a shabby coat, two sizes too big and fastened by odd buttons. Some of us have memories of having had to wear a hand-me-down, something which was obviously not new, something which was in some way inappropriate: the memories are longlasting and bitter. So the women in green rightly insist—not only that all clothes should have at least six months wear in them, but that they should be smart and pleasing to the children.

Now, the problem WRVS has faced for a long time is how to have sufficient clothes for the many children who are sent to them, without lowering the standards they have set. They never seem to have enough.

At their clothing depots, however, they do get more women's coats than they need, and about a year ago in Leeds during their working parties these coats were surveyed with a rather despairing 'What shall we do with them' look. Then suddenly someone had the brilliant idea of turning them into capes for children.

Such a simple notion—but quite inspired. The idea spread like wildfire through the whole of the WRVS, and the garments turned out to be so smart and attractive that inevitably there had to be a competition. Capes came from all the regions to be judged. There were

gay, scarlet capes, demure oatmeal capes, checked capes trimmed with plain fabric and vice versa. Grey capes with brightly coloured edgings. The variety was endless and somehow never for one moment gave the idea that here was something cut down from something else. First prize winner was a dark green tartan cape with a red lining, the second grey and brown mohair, and third grey with a blue trim. All quite different, but all basically the 'Miss Leeds' cape as it has been christened as a tribute to the area where the idea originated. The individual variations give the extra touches of chic and style, but, say the WRVS, they do like the style to conform to some extent to the original idea. With the swing now from minis to midis and maxis there are, surely, going to be thousands upon thousands of unwanted coats, many in good enough condition to turn into super capes.

In most cases where there is a WRVS clothing depot they also hold working parties, so when you view your no longer fashionable coat just think of what they could do with it there. In good condition such coats will be very welcome.

But there must also be many home dressmakers who would like to turn their hands to making capes so that they could send along finished garments; coat owners who are not members of WRVS and who might not have the time to join a working party anyway.

A leaflet giving simple diagrams which would be useful to a really experienced needlewoman may be obtained by writing to WRVS, 17 Old Park Lane, London, W1Y 4AJ, but for those who would feel safer with a proper pattern and sewing instructions they suggest Simplicity Pattern No. 7520.

Extracts by kind permission of Bucks Free Press and Westminster Press.

A Village Sewing Group

FOLLOWING a meeting organised by the County Organiser and the County Staff, to which the public were invited, Mrs. Shuttlewood returned to her house inspired with enthusiasm to use her home as a hive of WRVS activity. After inserting a small 'Ad' in the village post office at Stallingborough, population fewer than one thousand, a Sewing Party was formed. Twenty-four women responded to the call. This was in 1967 and they are looking forward to the fourth birthday party in 1971.

Mrs. Shuttlewood opens her home one evening each month when the workers come, bringing their own electric machines. In the kitchen some cut out garments and press others already completed; in the dining room others machine and unpick second-hand clothes and make layettes. In the drawing room others wind wool, knit squares and jerseys and put afghans together. Garments to be made are taken home and returned at the next meeting.

Bridge parties, held once a year, raise money to purchase soap, wool and towels to supplement supplies of these items, some of which are given, and are needed to complete layettes.

This is really a very happy group who enjoy a social evening once a month, and at the same time help children at home and abroad who are in need of

clothes. As a result many garments find their way each month to the County Clothing Depot at Cleethorpes. In fact, the Clothing Depot have only to say that six pairs of trousers for boys of given ages are needed, and the next week they receive them completed. The ladies are most enthusiastic and their leader is herself a very accomplished needlewoman.

There are several other groups in Lindsey run on similar lines. One group, in the tiny village of Dunholme, meets weekly in one house using one room to process clothes and cut out garments. This group has made 92 layettes during 1970. Similar groups are widely scattered in the rural county of Lincs-Lindsey.

'Woolgatherings' at which displays of garments, afghans, shawls and jerseys are exhibited, are a very good way of arousing interest. The public are invited to come for tea or coffee, and to see the exhibition; the admission 'price' is a ball or two of wool. By this means much wool is collected and new Sewing Groups are formed.

Velcro-adapted garments have been displayed, and this method of adapting garments for the handicapped has been introduced to organisations and individuals. A group of WRVS members visited the Cheshire Homes to adapt clothing for the handicapped residents.

ROYAL
VOLUNTARY
SERVICE

RY

ROYAL
VOLUNTARY
SERVICE

by courtesy of the East Kilbride News

An excellent model of a clothing store was featured in an exhibition at the Civic Centre, East Kilbride, Glasgow, covering all aspects of WRVS work in the district.

ADAPTING CLOTHING FOR THE DISABLED

DEMONSTRATIONS of how Velcro can be used to adapt the clothing of disabled persons have been given to eight Groups in Cheshire and Lancashire by the Clothing Organiser accompanied by the Organiser for Welfare of the Disabled.

The samples used were a skirt, dress, pair of trousers, a man's tie with Velcro on one side of the knot, and a poncho made of WRVS squares with Velcro on one shoulder seam. They were modelled by a WRVS member, a Welfare Officer and a school-girl helper. The failure of the garments to fit the models caused hilarity, of which the WRVS demonstrator made the most—it is always the laughs that make things memorable.

Questions were then called for. These were lively and practical:—

- Where can you buy it?
- How much is it?
- Would it hold an overcoat closed?
- Would it hold a corset firmly?

Special needs for which adaptations with Velcro could be made were discovered:—

- A man whose trouser leg was frayed from being pulled over calipers
- A woman who had to wait for the District Nurse to fasten her bra
- A young spastic unable to buckle his sandal straps
- A woman dressed only in a coat—she could not get a dress on.

From the disabled themselves came some ideas for the further uses of Velcro:—

- Bras can be fastened, with opening at front if possible;
- Buckles on sandals and watch straps can be substituted by Velcro using the adhesive recommended;
- Shirt buttons can be sewn over buttonholes and Velcro stitched in small patches;
- Stump socks (when worn to keep the stump warm) can be fastened to underpants;
- Overcoats and corsets can be fastened with the wide width Velcro.

Poole Centre have a two-wheel driver in their Clothing team. The bicycle basket is filled with garments to be laundered or mended.

CLOTHING CLIPPINGS

IN Durham County, clothing is the main link with prison welfare, and in this connection the girls of H.M. prison, Low Newton, near Durham have had much pleasure from the pretty, and 'with-it' clothing WRVS have been able to send them. In return they have knitted squares and made them up into blankets: they have also knitted jerseys, many of which are used to help outfit children sent away under the Children's Holiday Scheme, as a means of saying 'Thank you'.

Four young offenders in the County were very surprised to receive most 'Mod' Carnaby Street clothing from Gateshead, which was found amongst the gift received from Surrey; it is hoped that this helped their morale a little.

Egham, Surrey, were given a feather mattress, which their team measured into six with rows of pins, tacked and then cut into beautiful feather pillows; as the centre is always short of pillows these did not stay in the store very long.

A Pudsey, Yorkshire, member has just completed her thousandth vest, knitted over a period of ten years, providing the wool herself, and has added a further hundred, produced by her younger daughter—a fitting score to record in decimalisation year.

The Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, area store has a unique distinction—one thousand one hundred and twenty-five nappies have been made by hand by ONE pair of hands, all from salvaged material, an exercise in 'make and mend' worthy of note.

Glasgow City has solved the problem of noisy children in the waiting room of the clothing store. One member of the WRVS team makes scrap books from Christmas, birthday and postcards or any suitable cut-out.

A few such books in the waiting room will keep any youngster quiet; if they are 'borrowed' it matters little, as a new set is put out every day, and occasionally a scrap book is given away as a reward to a good child.

ROYAL
VOLUN
SERVICE

ROYAL
VOLUN
SERVICE

MISS Molly Warrender, aged sixty, of 19 The Cloisters, Cheadle, had offered to do her bit for the WRVS, who always do what they can for her. So when a WRVS member drew a design on a cushion destined for the refugee family supported by Cheadle WRVS, Miss Warrender was only too happy to embroider it at her request.

Miss Warrender, who is confined to a wheel chair, lives on her own, and embroidery is her hobby. She has now completed the cushion, which depicts the work of WRVS, and will be sent to a Polish refugee family living in Inglistadt, Germany.

Photograph and extracts by courtesy of the Stockport Advertiser.

HEADQUARTERS HOMEWORK

The WRVS members who serve at Headquarters and their friends have used a considerable amount of wool during the past nine months—between April 15th, 1970 and January 15th, 1971 they have evolved the following garments for distribution by welfare departments:—

- 132 jerseys and cardigans
- 10 afghans

- 39 caps
- 14 baby jackets
- 6 pairs of socks
- 15 scarves
- 4 vests

One hundred and twenty garments in all—a goodly output in a good cause.

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF KENT OPENS NEW STYLE WRVS COMMUNITY HOUSING

H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent was received by the Mayor supported by the Mayoress, Councillors and the Chairman of WRVS. The Mayor welcomed Her Royal Highness and a bouquet was presented by the granddaughter of a WRVS member. The Duchess, who was wearing a dark chocolate-brown midi-length coat, a wide-brimmed matching hat and brown shoes and stockings, received the pink flowers from a tiny girl who, though hidden behind the flowers, walked up firmly saying clearly, 'These are for you'.

The Chairman of WRVS welcomed the assembled guests and explained briefly the object of the plan for community living epitomised in this new housing unit. The grouping of individual rooms around pantries to be shared by four people would, it was hoped, provide the opportunity for the residents to form friendships and help one another; retaining the basic need for members of a civilised community—the self-respect of an accepted place in society and the opportunity to be of service to others. It was felt that welfare work would be supplied by one resident to the other and the knowledge that help was at hand if needed. There will be a house manager and cook in the house and an extra care WRVS unit nearby.

After Her Royal Highness had declared the house open, the Bishop of Rochester pronounced a blessing.

While tea was being served to the guests by members of Bromley WRVS, the Duchess viewed the new building, meeting future residents.

After tea the Duchess left, having given great pleasure and encouragement to all concerned in the enterprise.

(The Duchess of Kent's speech is on page 5)

THE NEW HOUSE

ROBERT Whyte House consists of 33 unfurnished bed-sitting rooms, each with its own wash basin and lavatory unit and fitted wardrobe cupboard. Each room is decorated in a neutral colour so that it will fit in with the tenant's furnishings. Bedside lights with cord pull switches, plugs for television and wireless sets and emergency bells, which ring either in the room of the house manager or cook, one of whom is always available, and can only be switched off from inside the room in which they were pressed, are among the fittings.

To each group of four or five bed-sitting rooms there is a pantry where residents can make their own breakfast and tea and fill their hot water bottles; sharing should present no difficulties as each tenant has a drawer, a small shelved cupboard and space in a refrigerator. There is an electric kettle and an electric griller, also a tea trolley which means that there is no need to carry trays.

(over to page 20)

New WRVS Housing Scheme

The front entrance

The community room

for Community Living

The entrance hall

Built and photographed by
John Laing Construction
Company Limited.

The laundry room has a fully automatic washing machine, a tumble drier and facilities for drip drying. The ironing and drying room which adjoins has hot cupboards, electric irons and ironing boards.

The entrance hall, shown on the centre page, has black and white chequer-board tiles and a small shop where day-to-day purchases can be made. The open staircase leads to the second floor—there is also a lift—here, in front of the picture windows, a sitting area has been made with comfortable chairs and occasional tables, with a view of the trees and front garden and overlooking the entrance drive, so that those unable to go out in poor weather can keep in touch with daily comings and goings.

Also illustrated is the large circular community room which is the main feature of this new ideal for community living. Rounded, ceiling-high windows take up half the circular wall area, offering delightful views of the gardens; the wood-lined ceiling, shaped like that in an oast-house, tapers to a high centre point from which hangs, at about ceiling height, a circular gilded chandelier with matching wall fittings. The portal frames and ceiling are of European Whitewood treated to resemble pine, and the walls are papered with a Vymura of architectural design. The Servery for the two main meals, lunch and supper, is seen in the corner of the picture: it contains cupboards for china and cutlery and two Princess heat-retaining containers in which a hot meal can be carried to a tenant who is ill by one of the residents in their group.

In case of temporary sickness WRVS also run a special care unit situated a short distance away to which the residents can be transferred.

The passage which connects the double storey units containing the bed-sitting rooms and entrance hall and the single storey community room has windows on both sides—one pair of french windows open giving access to the garden—this makes a sunny corner for sitting and benches with backs and padded seats are provided.

The importance WRVS attach to careful planning of all kitchens—there is an article on planning Meals on Wheels kitchens on page 21 of the October issue—shows in the layout of the kitchen. Double steel sinks on opposite sides of the room give one area for dish washing (a sterilising unit fits under this sink) and one area for vegetable preparation and so on, this being adjacent to doors leading to store cupboards and delivery area. All formica-covered surfaces are standard working height and there is a large domestic refrigerator and a deep-freeze. There is a staff washroom and a rest-room for staff meals.

The imaginative use of a site with established trees, shrubs and lawns has produced a new style unit for community living, built by Women's Royal Voluntary Service Housing Association with financial help from the London Borough of Bromley, a gift from the City Parochial Foundation and a contribution from the Robert Whyte Memorial Fellowship.

Everything has been meticulously planned and arranged by the WRVS Estates Department, who have been responsible for the furnishings as well as the decor, providing a comfortable home for 33 people.

A WRVS tie for the Mayor

THE Mayor of Eastbourne, Alderman Cecil Baker, was presented with a WRVS man's tie when he attended the Women's Royal Voluntary Service's annual Christmas lunch held for members of the All-Day Club at WRVS Headquarters.

Alderman Baker, who is president of

the Club, is the first man in Eastbourne to be presented with one of the maroon and silver ties by the County Borough Organiser.

Extracts by kind permission of the Eastbourne Gazette

Wanted—more men

WANTED more men by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service. To encourage them to join, WRVS has now produced a special tie, with its emblem woven into the design.

Pictured with one of the first of the ties to be issued is one of the four male members of the Hounslow Branch, with the Borough Organiser, who said 'We have always accepted men as WRVS members but not many people realise this. Now we are very anxious to encourage many more men to join—

particularly those with driving experience. We find that many retired men enjoy the work—and are absolutely reliable.

There are three WRVS Centres in Hounslow—with about 500 members—who tackle all aspects of welfare work.

The Borough Organiser said, 'We need many more members and we would be only too delighted to welcome men. We have four at the moment—but we could use 40 or even 400!

Photograph and extracts by courtesy of the Brentford and Chiswick Times

by courtesy of L. F. Brownlow, Nottingham

Young guitarists entertained members of the Darby and Joan Club run by the WRVS at Ruddington, Nottinghamshire, at their New Year party.

WRVS ARRANGE OUTINGS FOR ELDERLY PATIENTS

ELDERLY patients in Bingley Hospital, some of whom have been confined to their beds for six or seven years, are being given a fresh interest in the outside world through the efforts of the local WRVS.

Once a week, about half-a-dozen of them, ages ranging from 61 to 80, are collected in a hospital mini-bus and taken to the Little House, Bingley—the WRVS centre—where they enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat.

The idea came from the WRVS organiser, who also runs the library service at the hospital. She heard that the head of the geriatric department believed the old folk should be 'brought to life' and not allowed to 'vegetate'.

The suggestion of an outing was made

the weekly outing to the Little House became a regular occurrence. 'This scheme is still very new, but I think it will help them live a normal life,' said the WRVS organiser, who now hopes to attract some of the elderly in Bingley to come in and talk to the patients. She may also try and include patients from other local hospitals.

The assistant matron of Bingley Hospital, Sister Joyce Hartley, commented: 'I think the patients seem a lot better when they come back, and a lot more cheerful. It gets them out and they can see the changes that are going on around them. When you get stuck in hospital for years you don't know what is happening.'

Extracts by kind permission of Telegraph & Argus, Bradford.

LOOKING BACK

APRIL 1961

FROM AN ANONYMOUS MOTHER

Clothing Department, Headquarters, had a delightful letter from a mother saying that she was expecting a baby and had knitted a pair of babies' booties which she was sending us as her baby would not miss them. She also enclosed a postal order for 3s. 6d. towards another article for a layette. The money has been spent on material for a frock which is being made up and which will be included in a layette. The letter was anonymous and we hope that the mother may perhaps read this.

APRIL 1951

COMFORTS-FOR-KOREA

Our Comforts-for-Korea drive has given great pleasure to a wartime member of WRVS, who has returned to help in the fray. This member is elderly and lives alone. When she read our appeal in the Press, she was one of the first to ring up and offer to knit, and from that moment she has been very busy. She herself bought wool and knitted and then, when we had wool to give out, we sent her some and her friends knitted too. Recently she appeared at Headquarters with £5 banknotes proudly displayed. She had raised this money by making home-made marmalade and selling it, raffling a dozen eggs and finally, with the assistance of some of her neighbours, by moving all the furniture out of her small flat, hiring tables and chairs and organising a whist drive. She is still enthusiastic and we are all waiting to see what happens next. Incidentally, we have now despatched approximately 2,000 knitted garments, and have received donations in cash of £313.

APRIL 1941

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

The unpleasant possibility of being suddenly made homeless in the night threatens all of us with varying degrees of imminence. The Emergency Shelters, which in many places are staffed and organised by WRVS volunteers, have done much to relieve the sufferings of bombed-out victims of air raids, but any schemes which lessen the pressure upon these shelters would obviously be wel-

comed both by their staff and those who are forced to seek refuge in them. In one city, workers in the Emergency Shelters have canvassed the householders, suggesting that each household should pair off with friends living not less than half a mile away, so that, if one house is struck, the other affords shelter to both families. The exchange of a small reserve of clothing also spread the risk of losing the entire family wardrobe. The WRVS Housewives Service has helped to organise a short-term emergency hospital in several places, and they have been so successful that, in some cases, it has not been necessary to open the Emergency Shelters even after serious incidents.

IMPORTANT

Owing to the postal strike the closing date of entries for the

NATIONAL CONTAINER COMPETITION

—to be judged by a panel headed by Barry Bucknell— will now be:

24th APRIL, 1971

Entry Forms from:

**WRVS MAGAZINE DEPARTMENT,
17 Old Park Lane,
LONDON W1Y 4AJ.**

PRESS AND PUBLICITY

IN addition to giving good coverage to special news items concerning WRVS activities, some Centres have built up an excellent relationship with their local newspaper, and the newspapers publish WRVS material several times during the year—keeping the public informed of what WRVS is doing and hoping to do in the district. It is, of course, essential for one member to be responsible for making and maintaining contact: perhaps more Centres might consider appointing Publicity Officers. This report is an example of a yearly report one newspaper publishes for the local WRVS Centre.

HOW WRVS KEPT GOING AFTER DISASTROUS FIRE

by WRVS Publicity Officer

In reviewing 1970 the first thing that comes to mind is the destruction by fire, during the early morning of August 11th last, of the WRVS Offices situated on the upper floors of Ruth Winston House.

The main offices were a shambles and the Clothing Section lost their entire stock, apart from a very few items which the Clothing Team, ankle deep in ash, endeavoured to salvage a few days later.

Most records were lost, but incredibly the much-prized framed photograph of Lady Reading, taken on an occasion when she visited Southgate Women's Royal Voluntary Service, was saved, as also was the book of newspaper cuttings recording WRVS activities from 1956.

By agreement with Southgate Old People's Welfare Committee, until further accommodation can be arranged, the District Organiser and her staff are using one room for administrative purposes, which means both organisations are

working under difficulties. The Meals Service is run in conjunction with the Southgate Old People's Welfare Department and delivered 38,353 meals during 1970 (three thousand more than in 1969). The record of numbers of meals served in the restaurant up to the time of the fire was destroyed. Approximately 12 meals are served in the new club room to the Home Care, who meet each Thursday, when they are entertained.

Once again the Floral Art Section of the Southgate Horticultural Society gave 170 beautiful Christmas table decorations for distribution. On Christmas Day and Boxing Day 70 persons, known to be on their own, were supplied with a meal by members of local churches.

On the day of the fire, the food stored in the deep freeze was found to be undamaged and it was arranged through the Education Officer that this should be taken to, and cooked in, the kitchens of the Education Offices at Edmonton where the staff were most helpful and co-operative. All meals on wheels personnel arrived for duty as usual and although no records were available drivers and their helpers were able to remember on whom they called and the meals went out on time: by the following day the kitchen had been cleaned and put into working order and the usual procedure was able to be carried out.

The stores for the meals are adequately looked after by a WRVS member. To deal with all this on five days each week with seven rounds each day entails an enormous amount of work for many helpers in the kitchen, drivers, helpers and administrative staff.

During October, as a gesture of thanks, Southgate Old People's Welfare Committee gave a reception at the Southgate Town Hall for all meals on wheels personnel and a very pleasant afternoon was spent.

At the North Middlesex Hospital help has been given for many years in the ante-natal clinic. Admissions, trolley shop and canteen are also manned by Southgate WRVS.

(over)

Greentrees hospital looks after very aged and infirm patients, and they look forward to the trolley shop from which they can purchase items for themselves and also little presents for relatives.

The Christmas carol service was again held in each ward and a Christmas tree laden with gifts and sweets for all gave great happiness to those who can never go out.

WRVS, who used to help run the dancing class for encephalitis patients at Highlands until it was disbanded, still keep in touch with those who attended the class, and at Christmas gifts were taken to each of them. An additional present was sent to them from Mrs. Brown—a relative of the late member who was in charge of this class. National Savings are still collected at this hospital, mostly from the staff. Help is given in the library at Friern. A very welcome trolley shop service is given at South Lodge. Interviewing and distribution of clothing are dealt with each week by a rota of WRVS members working in Prison Welfare. Several children were escorted to and from holiday addresses under the Children's Holidays Scheme, all enjoyed their visits very much and did not want to come home. Periodic calls are still made on 1914 war widows to see if they require any help.

Salvage—a small team meet in the limited space at their disposal to sort and sack tinfoil. Fifty-three sacks have been despatched in spite of the fact that for a period they could not meet owing to the fire. A large stock of tinfoil was lost.

Services Welfare—every week parcels of magazines are sent overseas. Six Army regiments are supplied and many cards of thanks have been received.

Transport—it is not an easy task to supply enough drivers and helpers for all the meals delivered during the week. Members are often unable to fulfil their commitments and sometimes a replacement has to be found at a moment's notice. Somehow or other this is always done.

The Clothing Section cannot function fully until other premises have been found. It has been possible to supply bedding and the odd garment or so, as

the stock of bedding, curtains and such was not kept on the premises owing to lack of space. Records of clothing and numbers of families supplied up to the fire were lost. In an endeavour to keep the Needlework Section together, pillow-slips have been made, repairs to sheets and so on have been done at home, and blankets knitted.

Harvest Festival gifts received from local schools have been distributed and much appreciated by recipients. A friend of a member kindly supplied a ton of coal which was 'bagged' by him and taken to the addresses supplied from the WRVS Centre.

WRVS attended the Remembrance Day service held in Broomfield Park, and a team served refreshments to the assembly afterwards.

In the very confined space the office staff endeavour to carry out their many administrative duties. Some office equipment has been supplied from Headquarters to tide them over the period until further accommodation can be acquired.

Southgate WRVS Social Club had another very successful year with interesting talks, demonstrations and outings. The club is now in its 25th year and to celebrate a luncheon was held at Firs Hall for all club members and former members.

The District Organiser wishes to thank all members for their co-operation during 1970 and wishes them all a very happy new year.

*Extracts by kind permission of the
Palmer's Green and Southgate Gazette.*

by courtesy of the Worksoop Guardian

A 14th Worksoop St. Anne's Scout helps his mother with her WRVS Books on Wheels round as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award training—they visited Mrs. Beard.

by courtesy of the Warrington Guardian

A new Books on Wheels service by Warrington WRVS brings library books to ninety-two-year-old Mrs. C. E. Hill.

BOOKS PROVIDE WELFARE LINK IN STOCKPORT

'I shall soon be 80 years of age . . . I have lived at this address for six years, but no one has ever visited me. I think it is a case of not what you know, but who you know in this world . . . '—the letter a lonely woman wrote to the Stockport Express. The letter, representative of many others, was from an elderly person who feels lonely, forgotten, and perhaps too proud to claim help from the charitable organisations; from someone who does not go to any church clubs or Over Sixties meetings.

This letter and others arrived after a colleague complained the other day that many of our aged people are remembered at Christmas but forgotten for the rest of the year.

At the same time these people were writing to us, we received a call from the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, who do such excellent work for the underprivileged, the aged, the housebound and the poor.

Their Borough Organiser emphasised that much is being done, day in and day out, often hidden from the glare of publicity. Food parcels, meals-on-wheels, even a chat break the loneliness.

WRVS are well aware that they have never been able to do all that was needed in the town. The same goes for the other voluntary organisations like the Rotary Club, the Inner Wheel, the Round Table and the Ladies' Circle. The reason is the reluctance of people to come forward.

But there is one aspect of WRVS work which will help to ferret out housebound people who are lonely but do not need, or want, 'charity'. This is the book service for housebound people which is now being operated in conjunction with the town's library.

The WRVS, with the assistant borough librarian, will carry books to the homes of people who, because of age or illness, cannot reach a public library. And they will act as scouts, on the lookout for cases which need the other social services.

WRVS have been able to find many old people, whom they have visited on their bookrounds, in need of other aid. And they will do so in the future.

The book service thus becomes the basis for a far wider scheme to help the aged.

(over)

* More volunteers are needed, especially for Books on Wheels. Recently retired teachers or other professional people who would like to help those less fortunate than themselves would be welcome. And although we are regarded as a women's voluntary service, there is no reason why men should not help WRVS,' said the Borough Organiser. This might make it possible to help the aged and infirm all the year round in Stockport.

Extracts by kind permission of the Stockport Express

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CARAVAN PROVIDED THROUGH SPONSORED WALK

One hundred and fifty employees of a sewing factory at Fforestfach, Swansea, took part in a sponsored walk from the factory to Mumbles to raise £500 for the Swansea WRVS.

The walk began after they had completed their day's work. Heavy rain threatened to cancel the venture at the last moment, and although it rained all the evening, the staff insisted on completing the distance.

They wore luminous safety armbands provided by a local firm and, on reaching their destination, were grateful to find that some Swansea coach proprietors had provided transport home free of charge.

Thanks to the determined efforts of the walkers, children in need and their families in the city will be able to enjoy seaside holidays which would not otherwise have been possible. The WRVS are spending the money on a holiday caravan for these children and their families in Swansea. It will be sited at one of the Gower beaches and used throughout the summer months.

Extracts by courtesy of South Wales Evening Post

The 80-year-old woman who complained that she was one of the forgotten ones wrote again after we had given her address to WRVS. Her letter was short but eloquent: 'Thank you very much for taking an interest. I am very pleased to say that two WRVS members called to see me. We had a nice chat and they have arranged for the book service to visit me. Thanks again.'

POSIES WITH MEALS ON WHEELS

POULTON-LE-FYLDE Meals on Wheels teams were given small bunches of flowers by one of the recipients, to distribute to anyone on the meals list who it was thought would appreciate them. The elderly giver collected the flowers and bunched them quite early in the morning, so as to have them ready when her meal was delivered.

The first time the posies were distributed they were received with expressions of delight, and since the autumn of last year this has been a weekly event which has given enormous pleasure.

Mrs. Watchpenny's Budget

WEEKLY

Income		Expenditure	
	£ £ s. d.		£ £ s. d.
Husband's earnings	24.00 24. 0. 0	Insurance stamp (self-employed man)	1.24 1. 4. 10
Spare-time pay	1.67½ 1.13. 6	Income Tax (estimated) and amount to cover periods when husband is not working (Bank holidays and sickness)	4.50 4.10. 0
Wife's pay (part-time)	3.00 3. 0. 0	Rent and Rates	4.75 4.15. 0
Family allowance	0.90 18. 0	Insurance:	
		Accident policy	0.81
		Medical	0.12
		Electric cooker	0.03
			0.96½ 19. 3
		T.V. (own set) licence and repairs	0.25 5. 0
		Food:	
		Meat, fish, groceries, vegetables and including cleaning materials	6.00
		Milk and 2 doz. eggs	1.37½
			7.37½ 7. 7. 6
		Chemist:	
		Prescriptions, first aid, ordinary medicines, soap, toothpaste, etc.	0.37½ 7. 6
		Electricity:	
		Lighting, heating by fan heater for bedrooms	0.90 18. 0
		Fuel:	
		Coke for Rayburn cooker (which heats water) and oil for paraffin stove	1.25 1. 5. 0
		Telephone (for business)	
		Allowance for rental and private calls	0.50 10. 0
		Materials for house decorating and renewals	0.25 5. 0
		Clothes including cleaning and shoe repairs	2.00 2. 0. 0
		Dancing lessons for daughter, shooting club sub. for son, school bus, school dinners, cost of handcraft materials, pocket money	1.00 1. 0. 0
		Pocket money for husband and wife including cigarettes and outings	1.50 1.10. 0
		Holidays (1 week) including spending money	2.00 2. 0. 0
		Balance	0.72 14. 5
			£29.57½ £29.11.6

Perhaps someone else would like to let WRVS Magazine reprint their budget. Please supply details if you think it would be of interest — strict anonymity is guaranteed.

Do You Know ?

Answers on page 32

What a metronome does?

When is Candlemas Day?

How to obtain O.A.P. concessions (such as reduced price at cinema) if your pension is paid by warrant?

Who was nicknamed Mr. Five per Cent?

Who first introduced the Daylight Saving Act?

Which early conference suggests unsavoury nourishment?

Who was the first Englishwoman to fly solo round the world? Whom did she marry?

The official body which deals with the care of persons suffering from senile decay or in any way unable to manage their own affairs?

Who is the patron saint of music?

Who founded the National Health Scheme?

BE SUSPICIOUS !

AN interesting talk was given at Headquarters by P.C. Hunt, a crime prevention officer, who stressed that theft, in particular, was encouraged by the attitude of the general public, who were too trusting in relation to their fellow travellers.

He pointed out that the open handbag, the purse on top of the shopping basket, the open window, the accumulation of milk bottles on a doorstep, all invited the dishonest person to steal.

His slogan was 'Be suspicious'—do not assume that you are surrounded by people of your own standards but take every precaution against the man standing behind you in the bus queue, or the one who rings your doorbell and says he is from the Gas Board, the C.I.D. or any other public organisation; in every case

ask for his card of identity, official warrant or some evidence of authority before admitting him to the house. If you live alone, or are frequently alone in the house, it is advisable to have a chain fitted to your door.

One of the worst offenders in inviting crime is the female office worker, who jumps up from her desk and rushes to her boss's room, leaving her handbag on her desk; she returns to find that her pay packet has disappeared—the thief who specialises in this field knows full well which day the pay comes round.

During the war a well-known poster said 'Zip your lip'; would you adapt this admonition to modern times and say 'Zip your grip', and reverse the phrase 'It pays to advertise' to 'It pays *NOT* to advertise an empty house, or the possession of a well-filled note case'.

LEEDS GET HELP FROM MEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

THERE is news from Leeds who report that six retired men drive regularly for Meals on Wheels and Clubs, one retired man does the accounts for the hospital, two young men drive during their holidays, two male police cadets act as mates on the meals service, boys from Eastmoor Approved School come each day and help with meals, and boys from the Abbey Grange School come each week.

Three students from the Leeds Polytechnic (Dietetic Dept) come each week, and twelve students from the Ilkley College of Education come each May.

Girls from Osmondthorpe School come twice a week to give a female touch, but it still seems that male help is in the ascendancy in this very go-ahead centre.

Leeds County Borough very much appreciate all this assistance, and students have the opportunity of learning about the service WRVS give to the community—many choose the Women's Royal Voluntary Service as the subject for the Thesis on Community Service they are required to write.

WRVS PIGEON POST HELPS DISABLED

Mrs. Brander, the Chairman of the Winged Fellowship Trust Holidays, has asked the WRVS Magazine to pass on to all WRVS members throughout Great Britain their grateful thanks to all those who helped contact volunteers to look after people at the Trust Holiday Centres during the postal strike. Without their help many helpless, disabled people

would not have been able to go to the Holiday Centres, and thereby lost their chance of a holiday.

The Winged Fellowship Trust Holidays are now at 79/80 Petty France, London, S.W.1. Telephones: 01-222 3589 and 01-222 3761. All holiday bookings are made centrally through Local Authorities as are arrangements for the volunteers.

Beats time for musical practice

February 2nd

Apply for an official card stating that you are an O.A.P. (address for application obtainable from G.P.O.)

Calouste Gulbenkian (donor of Gulbenkian Foundation)

William Willett

The Diet of Worms

Amy Johnson
Jimmy Mollison

The Court of Protection, Stores Street,
W.C.1.

St. Cecilia

David Lloyd-George

Did You Know ?

Answers from
page 30

BOOK REVIEW

HOW WE LIVED THEN

A history of everyday life during
the Second World War

by

Norman Longmate

Published by Hutchinson,
568 pages. £4.50p

(with many illustrations)

It is a coincidence that Mr. Longmate was 13 years old at the outbreak of the second world war, and the reviewer was exactly the same age at the outbreak of the first world war.

Mr. Longmate's book is a fascinatingly well written compilation of the recollections of about a thousand people—mostly women, who answered his appeal for material in the Press. He has garnered and sifted his material from all sectors of the population and presented it in a very human way. Readers in the late forties who lived and worked in Britain during the second world war will find much to bring back memories, nostalgic, tragic and humorous, of their daily lives during those long years of conflict. Those who were born after those terrible years will find much on which to ponder and reflect in the light of their problems, real or imaginary. I

recall a post first war cartoon where a small boy was depicted asking his father 'What did you do in the Great War, Daddy?' Mr. Longmate's book will certainly tell the young what their mothers and grandmothers did in the last one.

Members of WRVS will be especially interested in chapter 30 entitled 'Ask the WVS' and headed by the message from Lady Reading in the Bulletin of June 1945—'It is no good talking about things, we must do them . . . we have done work we never thought to approach and we have carried burdens heavier than we knew existed.'

In these inspiring words, the Chairman of WVS was not only paying a well-merited tribute to the organisation she had created, but also to all the women in Britain who 'soldiered' in their many ways towards the achievement of ultimate victory. And it may well be, in the grim situations now building up in the world, that the women of Britain will once more play a vital part.

Different as they were in their impact on the civilian population, both wars unleashed in women of all ages and classes, courage, devotion, sacrifice and humility not often fully recognised. Mr. Longmate goes a long way towards recording the part British women played during 'our finest hour'.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN'S ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

REGION V.

GOLFING SOCIETY

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

AT

CROWBOROUGH BEACON GOLF CLUB on TUESDAY, 25th MAY 1971

MORNING : 18 HOLES MEDAL

AFTERNOON : 14 HOLES STABLEFORD FOURSOMES

ENTRANCE FEE £2.50 per person (including Morning Coffee,
Lunch and Tea)

Please bring Handicap Certificate

Entrance Fee transferable but *not* returnable

Annual subscription: 25p per person

ENTRY FORMS FROM and ENTRIES TO BE SENT TO:—

Lady Hutchinson, WRVS Regional Office,
6, Calverley Park Gardens,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Rates £1.20 minimum of 3 lines, thereafter 40p per line.

For the Wanted and the Unwanted

why not try

WRVS EXCHANGE & MART

for WRVS members who are *REGULAR*
SUBSCRIBERS to the Magazine.

First 30 words, including name and
address cost 15p

Any additional words will cost a
further 15p

Advertisements for the sale or letting of
houses, flats and caravans cannot be
accepted.

Please mention
WRVS MAGAZINE
when replying to
advertisers

**HAVE YOU RECEIVED A
REMINDER THAT YOUR
SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE?**

If so, please return it to:

**Subscription Department,
WRVS Headquarters,
17 Old Park Lane,
London, W1Y 4AJ.**

30p annually

50p annually overseas

