

WVS/WRVS Bulletin/Magazine

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This issue features Prison Welfare and Aftercare

THE SALE OF £1 PREMIUM BONDS WAS DISCONTINUED ON 5TH FEBRUARY 1972 AND AS FROM THAT DATE THE LOWEST DENOMINATION AVAILABLE IS THE £2 PREMIUM BOND.

IT HAS THEREFORE BEEN DECIDED THAT, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE CONTACT WITH ERNIE, ERNESTINE WILL AWARD A £2 PREMIUM BOND EVERY OTHER MONTH UNTIL THE END OF THE PRESENT YEAR, WHEN THE SCHEME WILL BE DISCONTINUED.

A £2 PREMIUM BOND WILL BE AWARDED IN MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER 1972.

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

ERNESTINE

If 1952F appears on your Magazine envelope you can expect to receive a Premium Bond Token.

Members in Wales run a canteen at Barry Magistrates Court.

WORK IN HERTFORDSHIRE CROWN COURTS

FOR MORE than ten years Hertfordshire WRVS have provided members to attend both the Assize Courts and the Quarter Sessions sitting at Hertford and St. Albans. The work has proved to be of immense interest, and with the advent of the Crown Court at St. Albans, the hope was expressed by the Clerk to the Court and the Hertfordshire County Police that WRVS would continue assisting in the Court.

The Court sits daily throughout the year with only the usual Bank Holiday breaks, and a meeting of County Staff and interested members from six Centres was held at St. Albans Court House to discuss the work and establish a Crown Court Rota. Any Member who expresses interest is encouraged to visit the Court and see the type of work involved; it is not work that can be undertaken by everyone as in some cases people find they become too emotionally involved. Throughout the first few weeks of the Court Rota an experienced member is always on duty with a less experienced member.

When the work was first started experimentally it was found that wearing uniform, and not just a badge, was essential, saving many explanations when approaching strangers. In some cases the uniform was happily recognised by those who had met it on other activities—though it was necessary to dispel the image of the Teapot.

To a newcomer Court routine seems chaotic. People come and go for no understandable reason—and if plain-clothes police *and* probation officers all wear plain clothes, how can they be distinguished? Is it, in fact, all rather like Alice's pack of cards? One certain fact emerges however and that is that the Judge makes words mean what he intends they should, and under the discipline of his phrases one's mind gradually clears and the essential business of "look and learn" begins.

over

WRVS are present to try and give, if needed, help and support to relatives and friends of those involved in Court proceedings on that day, and there is no need to describe the frequent distress, both mental and physical. The end of the day is often a crucial time, for if the defendant receives a prison sentence the WRVS members help in arranging a visit in the Court's interview room (a small cubicle, divided by reinforced glass, which must increase the feeling of desolate separation). When the relative is ready to go home, the WRVS assist in packing up the prisoner's belongings which are to be taken away, before escorting the relative to bus or train. Sometimes arrangements can be made through WRVS to help at home—in one instance it was possible to secure the well-being of an old father, who had been dependent on his son to cook his meals and care for him, by getting the local WRVS to call.

Other duties may entail helping to look after distressed women witnesses, and there has been more than one occasion needing a hurried consultation with the Bench over an extremely pregnant witness. One indeed, was whisked off in an ambulance, WRVS in attendance, only to re-appear later that afternoon, having become bored and produced nothing but a false alarm. Other small attentions have included aspirins for barristers, the care of some women jurors who became distressed and unwell and first aid to a prison officer who had a badly injured hand after a defendant's attempted escape from the Dock.

Contact is occasionally maintained with the prisoner's wives, but only with the full approval of the Probation Service. Further contact is not always desirable in that much is said in times of emotional stress that is best forgotten once normal home life has been resumed.

Nevertheless, sometimes the past does catch up. As one member was walking down the street the driver of an ice-cream van jerked to a halt, jumped out and shook her warmly by the hand. He was remembered as one who had collapsed after receiving unexpectedly lenient treatment in the dock and was convinced that WRVS had been lucky for him. Alas, the next time we met we were not so lucky for him, and he sadly passed out of our lives for the next two years. On one happier occasion a mother hurried across the Courthouse foyer and reminded us of our meeting twelve years ago, when her daughter was a baby in arms. It was good to hear that all had gone well with the family after the father's release. "If only I'd known you would be here, I'd have brought my girl along to see you" Norah kept saying, and then introduced us to a rather bewildered friend she was accompanying. Then at a WRVS party for old people and their friends, a very large figure came hurtling across the hall crying "There's my lady!" and once again we were clasped to Norah's expansive bosom.

It is felt the Court work is proving its value as WRVS are now regularly looked to for appropriate help not only by the Police and the Probation Service, but also by barristers, solicitors and Prison Officers, and on a number of occasions the presiding Judge or Recorder has requested WRVS help from the Bench during a trial.

A BRIDGE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

THREE HOSTELS for ex-borstal boys are run by the WRVS. These establishments have proved their value in bridging a boy's re-entry into normal society and employment after discharge from borstal. Without such residences boys who have no homes have difficulty in finding lodgings and are consequently liable to fall into bad company, and have further difficulties in obtaining and keeping employment. Since 1963 Nottingham WRVS have run a hostel for ex-borstal boys. The original premises were not ideal and in 1970, as a result of a generous bequest from a Nottingham resident, it was possible to open negotiations to get a more suitable house. Kapwell House (the name has connections with the benefactor) was opened in 1971 and the WRVS run the hostel, in co-operation with the Probation Service, through a housekeeper who looks after the ten boys and is, of course, specially chosen for interest in and sympathy with the boys' problems.

When negotiations were completed, and before the boys moved in, they undertook the major part of the necessary redecoration of the new premises showing enthusiasm as well as aptitude for the work and take considerable pride in the excellent results.

"WITH IT" CLOTHING

AN IMPORTANT part of the help given by WRVS members to the Probation Service in Durham is the provision of clothing. Young people, for whom jobs have been found by the probation officer, come to be outfitted, and great care is taken to provide up to the minute styles which help to give confidence and enable them to mix with their fellow workers on an equal footing.

Regular supplies of "with-it" clothing are maintained to Low Newton Remand Centre for issue to discharged prisoners, and clothing is also supplied for women in the Remand Centre. The Social Worker there reported to the Home Office:

"As females are allowed to wear their own clothing in prison, this presents difficulties when their clothing is unsuitable, dirty or inadequate. Males and females going to a probation hostel or any other type of hostel, frequently need to be fitted out with clothing, and help and co-operation has been received from the local WRVS clothing centre. In this respect the Social Worker is unable to speak too highly of their efforts and sympathetic interest."

LAUNDERING AND DRY CLEANING is undertaken by members at Yarmouth Centre—the Chief Probation Officer asked if a service could be provided so that when a prisoner is released he has a suitcase full of clean and repaired garments.

A PRISONER'S SUITCASE is maintained by Hertford Borough. This contains complete sets of small, medium and large size men's clothing to be used by the police when clothes are taken for forensic tests or a man's clothes are not in a fit condition to be worn when he is brought before the Court.

The canteen in Strangeways—one of several prison canteens run in the North Western Region.

LOOKING AFTER PRISONERS' POSSESSIONS

IN AUGUST, 1969, at the request of the Inner London Probation and After-Care Service, the WRVS agreed to be responsible for the running of a storage depot for the luggage of prisoners who, on release, expected to return to the London area. In May 1971 the Middlesex area probation services joined the scheme.

For some years there had been doubts as to the advisability, or even the need, for a store of this kind, but now after three years' trial the WRVS are hopeful that it has been proved that this service is of real value not only to the prisoner from the humane angle, but also to his Welfare Officer within the prison and, on his release, to the Probation Officer whose responsibility it is to ease his client back into the community. This is never an easy task, and is made even more difficult if the man has an extra chip on his shoulder because of the loss of his possessions, regardless of their intrinsic value.

It must also be remembered that perhaps one of the first priorities of after-care is for a man to be found suitable work, and the loss of the tools of his trade, whether he be a craftsman or the leader of a Pop Group, means they must be replaced, which in some cases may entail quite a considerable financial outlay.

The store is situated in central London and is open on two days a week. All requests for storage comes from Prison Welfare Officers or from Probation Officers. Although the majority of these requests during 1971 came from London Prisons, approximately sixteen prisons outside London were also involved. During 1971 WRVS were housing approximately 500 items of property.

Members who work in the WRVS canteen at Brockhill Remand Centre, Redditch, serve an informal cup of tea to prison staff—the Governor who was passing by, agreed to join the party.

by courtesy of Linden Studios.

Social activities at a boys' community home are organised by Swansea Evening Centre members.

WORK FOR THE COMMUNITY THROUGH WRVS

BOYS IN THE Castle Huntly Borstal at Longforgan in Perthshire have recently become involved in helping the WRVS with an essential community service—the provision of Meals-on-Wheels.

Three times a week lunches are cooked by the boys, at the same time as their own food is prepared, and the dozen or so people to whom the meals are delivered particularly enjoy the fresh vegetables grown in the Borstal market garden.

The Meals-on-Wheels Organiser for East Scotland approached the Governor of Castle Huntly who readily agreed as the project gives the 47 boys in the open-plan Borstal further links with the community. WRVS members visit Castle Huntly to collect the meals and return the dirty containers, and the boys who have undertaken to do all the washing up, feel they have a link with those for whom they prepare the meals.

The Scottish Prison Service are interested in the development of the scheme to see whether the meals service can be extended to other institutions and in other places.

WORK IN CRECHE

AT RISLEY REMAND CENTRE in Lancashire Colborne U.D. members run a canteen and they were recently asked to start a small crèche for children. In the room where visitors are brought before going to see the prisoner, the WRVS have a small corner area, with a knee high partition, where there are toys and games. Two members are on duty in case the children can be persuaded to stay on for ten minutes or so while the parents talk quietly, and this has been so successful that the Governor has already asked if the service can be extended. There was an item in the local press when the crèche opened and an interview with a WRVS member was featured in World Tonight. The WRVS run creches in prisons where ever suitable premises can be made available.

Notion from North Midlands

to help with constant shortage of children's underwear in WRVS clothing stores.

Girls knickers and vests are cut from women's nylon underwear or thin jerseys.



TO TRANSFER THE PATTERN TO PAPER

the following are required: tape measure, ruler, pair of compasses, stiff brown paper.

No allowances for turnings on pattern pieces.

N.B. Pattern should be placed lengthways on the grain of the material.

KNICKERS

(Cut two pieces)

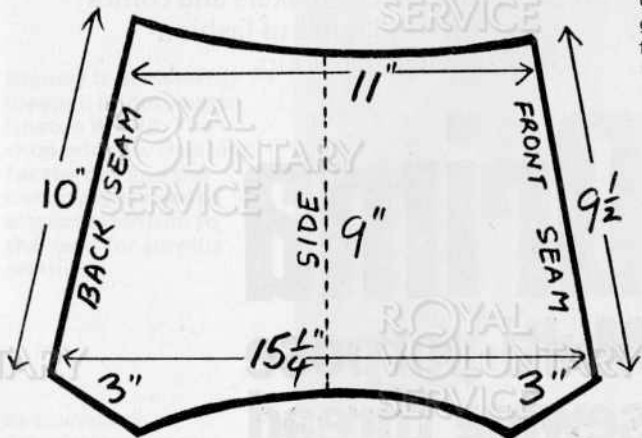
1. Stitch knicker sections together along centre front and centre back seams: press seams open.



FACING



2. Put gusset and gusset facing right sides together and stitch long edges, leaving leg seams open. Turn inside out. Fasten gusset into the underleg and top stitch the gusset seam.



3. Insert the elastic in hem at waist.

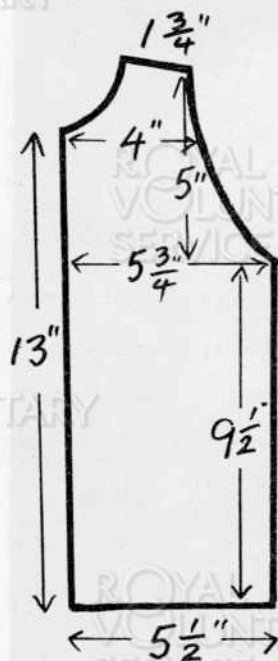
4. Finish leg with narrow rolled hem or bias binding.

VEST—over
to page 13.

VEST

Back and front pieces are identical except that the neckline is lower in front.

1. Stitch the side and shoulder seams together and press seams open.
2. Finish neckline and armholes with narrow rolled hems, bias binding or trim with lace.



Stanley is dressed for his spell of duty with Boston WRVS. The shop window was lent for the day and the dummy was used to attract attention to the need for surplus clothing

by courtesy of
Lincolnshire Standard.

WRVS ADVISORY COUNCIL — PENSIONS AND BENEFITS

MR. PAUL DEAN, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Department of Health and Social Security, expressed the thanks of the Secretary of State for the help given by voluntary bodies up and down the country—written words do not always reach those concerned and it is an important part of the task of voluntary bodies to make known, often by word of mouth, the help which is available.

The most effective welfare organisation is the family—sustaining, supporting, caring for its children, but there are times when outside help is needed whether in the shape of rescue and re-establishment operations after fire or flood, or such activities as running clubs for the elderly to combat isolation. The plain fact is that the State alone cannot cope: it provides material aid but caring is in many respects more important, loneliness and being cut off from life mean spiritual deprivation.

Underlying all is the problem of inflation which greatly concerns the Department of Health and Social Security as its cash policy is not secure when goods in the shops cost more each week. Within the social security sector the Government is doing its best to identify groups with special needs and channel resources to them—for example the over 80's, widows between the ages of 40 and 50, and the civilian disabled who now have the attendance allowance. Claims for the attendance allowance have highlighted the enormous number of severely disabled people living quietly in the community. These changes represent the identification of need in special groups but individual working families struggling on an inadequate income are also catered for through the Family Income Supplements Scheme, which is of special benefit to single parents who are able to go out to work.

There is still the problem of take-up of benefits and a major and continuous effort is needed, which can best be done through personal contact. The "passport" concept whereby any family entitled to the Family Income Supplement is also entitled to free prescriptions, dental treatment and glasses under the National Health Service, free welfare milk and free school meals, will also help with take-up.

Help concentrated on low earning families means high marginal tax rates as they become better off, sometimes called a surtax on the poor. The new tax credit system will start to sort out the jungle between taxation and social security and bring the two closer together, but this is a long-term project. A large-number of those getting means-tested benefit will get automatic tax credit, thus raising their income above Supplementary Benefit level. The tax credit for the child could go to the husband, and as there is already discussion on the assumption that the wife would no longer get the family allowance, this problem will clearly need to be carefully considered.

The increasing number of old age pensioners present a further problem: by the mid 80s there will be one pensioner to every three workers. As the pensioners live longer, their need for help is greater. The pension rate is now protected by the annual review and the problem of pensions and supplementary benefit being increased at different times has been eliminated.

The key to the Government's strategy on pensions is the separation of basic from earnings related pensions. The basic pension is a subsidy between generations; a national contributory scheme creating the right to benefit. As the Government feel that flat rate contributions put a greater burden on the low wage earner, it is proposed to raise the money for the basic pension through fully earnings-related contributions. Employed married women will continue to have an option in deciding what rate of contributions to pay into the State basic scheme. If they wish they can still only pay for Industrial Injuries cover. The same option is open to widows. In addition the Government is anxious to improve cover for the lone woman who is divorced or separated, or who is the only support in a one parent family.

over

The earnings-related pension will provide a second pension for everyone, either through occupational pension schemes or through the State Reserve Scheme. Occupational pension schemes already cover two thirds of the working population. Where such schemes are not yet operating the Government hope that employers and employees will devise jointly schemes suitable to each organisation, and any scheme which fulfills Government conditions will be recognised—that is to say its members will be exempt from the State Reserve Scheme. To obtain recognition occupational schemes must offer guarantees of at least a prescribed minimum level of benefit, cover for widows (at half the level of the personal benefit), and improvements in pension rate to take account of the cost of living. All occupational pension schemes, whether or not they seek recognition, will have to preserve pensions (which are really deferred pay) once they have been earned. The State Reserve Scheme will provide a second pension for all workers not in occupational schemes. It will be administered by an independent Board of Management, including people with top experience in investment and insurance, and the Government will not have any control over its activities.

It is hoped that the new scheme will come into operation during 1975. The aim is to achieve a right balance between what the State should do for people and what they should do for themselves with the help of their employers. The new scheme represents a great advance and it is hoped that it will create a new climate between employers and employees in pensions matters.

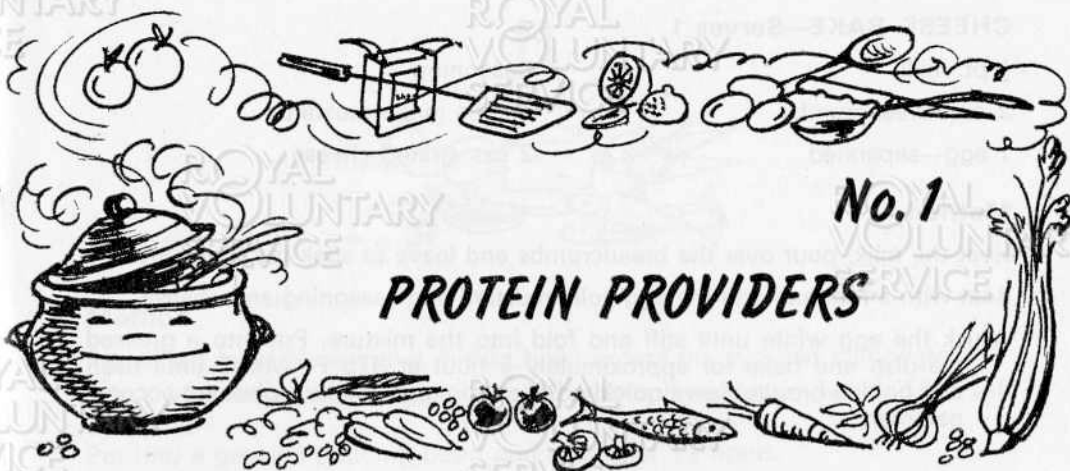
In response to a suggestion that men and women should both retire at the earlier age now operating for women Mr. Dean replied that the cost of letting men retire at 60 was estimated at £700,000,000 per annum—the country had to decide how to rank its priorities. It was also suggested that as women lived longer and reached old age with greater vigour perhaps women should retire later than men. Mr. Dean said it would take a brave man to suggest this—the respective ages of 65 retirement for men and 60 for women were based on the fact that women are on average, five years younger than their husbands.

CAN ANYONE HELP?

THE Assistant Editor of Possum User's Association is editing a book for Heinemann Health Books of London—"Inexpensive Aids for the Disabled".

He hopes to include as much information as possible on any simple aid (under £8.00 to make or buy) which helps the disabled person in any aspect of daily life. No matter how simple the idea he would welcome the chance of considering it for inclusion in the book.

If WRVS members working with the disabled, or any readers of *WRVS Magazine*, have any suggestions or particulars of gadgets, please write to The Editor, *WRVS Magazine*, 17 Old Park Lane, London W1Y 4AJ and all letters will be forwarded.



No. 1

PROTEIN PROVIDERS

SEVEN SIMPLE MAIN MEALS FOR
SENIOR CITIZENS TO COOK FOR THEMSELVES

RECIPES specially compiled to provide much of the daily nutrition needed by older people. Two more groups of recipes will follow in future issues of WRVS Magazine: the next will give some suggestions for puddings. The sheets carrying the recipes can easily be detached from the Magazine—please give them to anyone to whom they might be of use.

TUNA AND EGG PIE—Serves 2

1 small tin tuna-fish
1 oz. margarine
1 oz. flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ pt. milk (bare)
Seasoning

2 eggs
A little grated cheese
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoon vinegar
Mashed potatoes—sufficient to cover the dish

Method

Drain the liquid from the tin of tuna.

Flake the fish and place in a greased ovenproof dish. Sprinkle with the vinegar.

Melt the margarine in a pan, stir in the flour, cook for a few minutes, stirring, then add the milk slowly, stirring all the time. When thickened, add the cheese and seasoning.

Cool slightly, then beat in the eggs. Pour the sauce over the fish, and top with the mashed potato.

Put in the oven, pre-heated to 375°F—Mk. 5 for approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ hour until heated and browned on top.

Serve with a green vegetable.

CHEESE BAKE—Serves 1

$\frac{1}{2}$ pt. milk

2 ozs. breadcrumbs

1 egg—separated

Seasoning

A little made mustard

2 ozs. grated cheese

Method

Heat the milk, pour over the breadcrumbs and leave to soak for 10 minutes.

Beat with a fork and add the egg yolk, mustard and seasoning and cheese.

Whisk the egg white until stiff and fold into the mixture. Put into a greased pie-dish and bake for approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ hour at 375°F—Mk. 5 until risen and golden brown. Serve quickly. Baked tomatoes make a pleasant accompaniment.

CHICKEN CREAM—Serves 2

4 ozs. cooked minced or finely chopped chicken

Seasoning

A squeeze of lemon juice (optional)

1 tablespoon "top of milk"

$\frac{1}{4}$ pt. of white sauce

2 rounds of hot buttered toast

Chopped parsley to garnish

Method

Season the chicken, add the lemon juice if used and milk.

Make the white sauce* as on page 17, using half the quantities. When cooked add the chicken—keep hot whilst making the toast.

Divide the chicken mixture between the two rounds of buttered toast—sprinkle with chopped parsley.

BACON PUDDING—Serves 2

4 ozs. self-raising flour

2 ozs. suet

1 egg—beaten

Seasoning

Herbs—fresh or dried

1 small onion chopped

4 rashers of bacon—chopped

Milk or water to mix





Method

Put all the ingredients into a mixing bowl except the egg and milk/water.

Mix, then add the beaten egg, and milk or water if needed to make a fairly soft dough.

Put into a greased pudding basin and steam for 1½ hours.

Serve with a green vegetable and a thick gravy.

KIDNEY CURRY—Serves 2

4 sheeps' kidneys

1 oz. butter or margarine

1 level dessertspoon cornflour or flour

Seasoning

1 teaspoon curry powder

1 small onion chopped

1 small apple, peeled and chopped

½ pt. stock (bare). A stock cube can be used

A little chutney

Boiled rice to serve

Method

Cut the kidneys in half, skin, remove core and wash, wipe with kitchen paper.

Melt the fat in a saucepan, add the kidneys and cook for a few minutes. Add the onion and apple, cook slightly, then add the cornflour or flour and curry powder. Season well. Mix well, then add the stock.

Stew slowly until the kidneys are tender.

Serve with boiled rice.

BRAISED LAMB OR MUTTON CHOP—Recipe serves any number—allow one chop for each person

These quantities serve 1

1 lamb or mutton chop

1 small onion sliced thinly

1 small turnip—diced

A few peas—fresh, frozen or tinned

Seasoning

A little sugar

Parsley to garnish—chopped

Method

Arrange the sliced onion over the base of an ovenproof lidded dish. Place the cutlet on top. Cover with the diced turnip. Season well. Sprinkle with a little sugar. Add sufficient water to just cover the meat and vegetables. Cover and place in the oven, pre-heated to 350°F—Mk. 4 and cook until the meat is tender and the vegetables cooked. The peas are added 20 mins. before serving (10 mins. if tinned or frozen peas are used).

Serve, sprinkled with chopped parsley.

Boiled potatoes and sliced green beans would be suitable vegetables.

QUICK STEAK AND KIDNEY PIE—Serves 2

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. stewing steak
2 ozs. ox kidney
1 small onion—chopped
A little flour
Seasoning
A little butter or margarine

For the topping
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. self raising flour
4 ozs. margarine
Pinch of salt
Milk to mix

Method

Wash and cut the meat into small pieces.

Skin, wash and cut up the kidney.

Melt the fat in a saucepan.

Roll the meat and kidney in seasoned flour.

Lightly brown the onion in the fat.

Add the meat and kidney and brown lightly.

Add sufficient water to well cover, stir well and allow to simmer until the meat is cooked—stir occasionally.

Put the meat into a pie dish—keep hot.

Make the topping as follows:

Rub the fat into the flour.

Mix to a soft dough with milk.

Roll out on a floured board to approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in thickness. Cut into rounds using a plain cutter.

Arrange the rounds on top of the meat.

Cook in the oven pre-heated to 450°F—Mk. 7 until the topping is cooked and lightly browned.

Sprinkle with chopped parsley before serving.

Mash potatoes and a green vegetable would be suitable accompaniments.



AN OUTLINE OF WORK OF THE WRVS DURING 1971

THE WRVS is a Service of the Crown, and has 1,664 Offices and Centres in Great Britain which serve the community in a variety of ways—209 of these are in Scotland.

CHILDREN & FAMILY WELFARE

Children in the care of the Local Authority

Foster Homes recommended for children at the request of the Children's Officer.

Staff in Residential Homes befriended and given help during emergencies such as illness or sudden shortage; help with mending and knitting, and occupying children.

Children's Health

Help at Ante-Natal Clinics and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics by weighing babies, making tea, doing clerical work, minding toddlers in Clinics or in their own homes whilst mothers visit the doctor or dentist, etc.

Welfare Food Distribution Points—number 501.

Help for mentally and physically handicapped children in Clinics and at home.

Families in difficulties

Families in difficulties befriended and helped. Clothing and furniture provided.

Emergency Holidays arranged for children, to relieve mothers under stress or because of sudden illness or bereavement in the family.

A Holiday Scheme for children in poor or difficult home circumstances. In 1971, 6,547 children were sent away, 4,280 to private hostesses and others to Holiday Centres and for family holidays in caravans and chalets.

Escorts for children to and from hospitals, homes, special schools, etc. and "sitters in" arranged to help mothers, including those with handicapped children.

Sixty-one Mother and Baby Clubs, 150 Play Centres (including some for handicapped children) 211 Tufty Clubs for Local Authority Road Safety Committees; crèches at Agricultural and other Shows.

Holiday Home for mothers in need of a rest is at Felixstowe, in Suffolk; 98 mothers enjoyed a holiday there in 1971.

CLOTHING

The WRVS is known as the keeper of the "National Wardrobe". Garments given by the public are processed for use at home and overseas.

270,995 people recommended by Welfare Authorities were provided with garments.

741 bales of clothing were sent overseas for refugees and victims of disasters through the British Red Cross Society, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Wings of Friendship and other organisations.

Since World Refugee Year 1960, layettes have been despatched regularly for Middle East refugee babies, at the request of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. Sixty-three bales (1,720 layettes) were sent in 1971—43,576 complete layettes have been despatched since the start of the scheme.

DRUG TALKS

During 1971 the WRVS has given 311 talks and spoken to 37 different groups. Five Demonstration Talks were also held for people who might be interested in telling others what WRVS is doing. At the end of November 1971 there were 103 authorised speakers; 10 Schoolings were held during that year and four Refresher Courses. In October and November two members each spent a fortnight with the Ruhr Army in Germany talking to the families and dependents of the officers and men. They gave at least one talk every day they were there. WRVS Headquarters refers back to the Home Office at three monthly intervals so information may be kept up to date.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

1971 has been a year of great change, both in Headquarters Department and in Emergency Training. It has been a busy year with a stream of emergencies and exercises.

Royal Observer Corps

Regular feeding exercises were held. There was a 48 hour shut down exercise in September when a WRVS team "went to ground" with R.O.C. at a Group Headquarters.

Emergencies

The year started with the postal strike and ended with the arrival of evacuees from West Pakistan. In between there was never a month without emergencies, some small and some larger ones. While fires were the most numerous there was a variety of other emergencies. These included feeding rescue workers, police, etc. on October 21st, 22nd and 24th following a gas explosion in Clarkston, Renfrewshire, during the M1 multiple pile-up in November, WRVS teams served 30 gallons of tea; feeding Mountain Rescue Teams and Police; clothing and feeding flood victims; clothing survivors from an oil tanker which sank in the Channel; helping with short time evacuation of householders when an overturned tanker lorry was giving off noxious gases; feeding Divers and Police who were trying to rescue the body of a man trapped in a cave; helping with washing and clothing casualties after a children's excursion train crash and providing refreshments for the rescue services.

Exercises

These seem to be on the increase and were varied. Some were arranged specifically for training purposes, others at the request of Local Authorities, Police, outside organisations and others usually involving from small to large scale feeding.

One-in-Five

One-in-Five has continued, progress varying from slow and patchy in some Regions to steady progress and actual improvement in others. Audiences were varied and included Ministry of Defence, Schools, University Science Section, Church Groups, Hospitals, Women's Organisations and volunteers taking emergency training. Audiences often included as many men as women. During the year ended 30th September 1971, 37,814 heard this talk.

EVENING CENTRES

A new venture has been launched in some large towns in recent months—the opening of Evening Centres for young people who work during the day but who wish to do voluntary work in the evenings and at weekends. Evening members undertake a variety of work very similar to the work done by daytime members e.g. work in hospitals, work with the elderly and disabled and providing help for families in difficulties as well as prison welfare.

The conditions of membership for an evening member are the same as for other WRVS members and the Centre meetings are held at least once a month and often once a week to maintain contact with the members.

FURNITURE

The WRVS in London received gifts of furniture from 3,325 people during 1971. Requests for furniture from 1,706. The number of persons helped during the year was 4,524, an increase of 300 on 1970. Aberdeen, Shrewsbury, Leicester and Southend also have WRVS Furniture Stores on a recognised basis.

GOOD COMPANIONS

There are many handicapped and aged people who are finding it increasingly difficult to run their homes without some assistance and, to help them to remain independent, the WRVS Good Companions Scheme was started in January, 1971. Good Companions undertake to give regular help of a practical nature, according to the needs of the person befriended. Volunteers for the Good Companions Scheme need not enrol as WRVS members.

HEALTH & HOSPITALS

Auxiliary work in 1,519 Hospitals

514 Canteens for out-patients and visitors.

728 Shopping Services and Trolley Shops for patients.

159 Static Shops in hospital premises and 28 purpose-built Shop/Canteen Units mainly for the mentally ill. (The profits from canteens and shops are ploughed back in to the hospital concerned in the form of amenities or can be shared with a less well off hospital in the group).

139 Library Services, Diversional Therapy Handicrafts and Tea Trolleys in more than 100 hospitals and a regular visiting service in many. Other work includes writing letters for handicapped patients, hairdressing and flower arranging in the wards, chapels and waiting rooms, crèches for visitors' children where the children are not allowed in the wards. Play groups in children's wards.

In 151 clinics and out-patients departments WRVS helped with reception, clerical work and records, or by escorting new patients to their wards.

In 199 Mental Hospitals and Hospitals for Mentally Handicapped the WRVS helped in similar ways as at general hospitals, forming a link for the patients with the outside world. Social Clubs for the elderly and long-stay patients.

Blood Transfusion Services

WRVS assisted with publicity, clerical duties, served tea, etc. at sessions.

Training Centres for Mentally Handicapped

Assisted the staff by helping with meals, occupational therapy and escorts.

HOUSING

By the end of 1971 the Women's Royal Voluntary Service Housing Association had provided over 500 flats and flatlets for retired people and through its cost-rent housing scheme had already built 130 new self-contained flats including two flats especially designed for the disabled. The Association also manages approximately 900 flatlets for elderly people in houses owned by Local Authorities.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE

For elderly people who cannot be properly cared for in their own homes and are in need of care and attention

Twenty-four Residential Clubs with 17 to 40 residents as "Family homes with shared communal rooms". Some elderly people like to help in the house or garden. Clubs have resident wardens and WRVS provide local help.

Two extra Care Clubs to which are admitted elderly people who are too frail to lead a normal life in other clubs.

Two WRVS Nursing Homes run under the contractual arrangements with the Regional Hospital Boards and where the link with WRVS is continued.

For the elderly who are fit

2,295 Clubs (with a total membership of 166,761) provided companionship and recreation for old people. The old people play whist, sing, do handicrafts, go on outings, have tea. Many clubs have libraries.

132 WRVS All Day Clubs in permanent premises provided old people with a place where they could spend part of the day in pleasant surroundings and have their main meal. Holidays arranged for many groups and individuals at seaside resorts. Escorts provided for old people unused to travelling distances, e.g. to visit relatives in hospital.

296 Chiropody Services and help provided in 236 others in conjunction with clubs, to prevent old people who have trouble with their feet, from becoming homebound.

692 Trolley Shops in Local Authority Welfare Homes, and **308 Books-on-Wheels Schemes** for the homebound.

ORGANISED MEALS, MEALS-ON-WHEELS, LUNCHEON CLUBS

For the Homebound who find difficulty in cooking and shopping

Meals-on-Wheels schemes are run in co-operation with Local Authorities. An essential part of the scheme is that the old person knows he or she may expect a reliable and sympathetic visitor.

Meals delivered in 1971 numbered 10,855,923.

For the frail who are able to get out, but cannot easily cook or shop for themselves

Luncheon Clubs—total meals served in 1971—2,507,903. These clubs provide a place where old people can have a quiet get-together and enjoy their meals in company.

A number of new Meals-on-Wheels schemes and Luncheon Clubs have been started this year.

TOTAL MEALS SERVED AND DELIVERED IN 1971—13,363,826. (These figures cover England, Wales and Scotland).

PRISON WELFARE & AFTER CARE

Evening interviewing—2,218 women were seen in 1971 at H.M. Prison Holloway.

Visiting families at the request of the Probation and After-care Service.

Residential Club for elderly or prematurely aged ex-offenders who are homeless.

Work in Prisons and Borstal Institutions.

Three Hostels for ex-Borstal Boys.

Escorting girls from Borstal Institutions on Home leave or discharge.

Canteens in Prisons, Remand Centres, Courts—including Crown Courts and Juvenile Courts.

WRVS Storage Depot for prisoners' luggage.
Collection and delivery of prisoners' luggage.
Prisoners' Wives Groups.

REFUGEES & REPATRIATES

The WRVS has helped thousands of Refugees and Repatriates who have come to this country, and this help is still being given to many Poles, Yugoslavs, Czechoslovakians, Hungarians, Anglo-Egyptians, etc. All the WRVS services are available to them. There are a number of elderly Refugees who find it difficult to make ends meet now that they have had to retire. Unfortunately there are about 2,000 who are in mental hospitals, and WRVS works closely with the British Council for Aid to Refugees in their efforts to find, befriend and comfort these people.

The WRVS also runs an "Adoption" scheme for the displaced people who, since the war ended, have been living in Germany, many of whom are now old and living in poverty.

This Scheme includes the sending of money by the adopters for groceries, or to meet fuel bills, in addition to a constant exchange of greeting cards, letters and parcels. Some refugees have spent holidays in England with their adopters. In 1971 there were 599 families in the scheme.

SERVICES WELFARE H. M. FORCES

Overseas

2,930 members had served overseas by the end of 1971. 108 members were serving with the British Forces in Germany, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Gan Island, Cyprus and Gibraltar. (During the course of the year we withdrew from the Persian Gulf and Malta). This figure includes eight members working with the families of Gurkha troops in Brunei, Hong Kong and Nepal.

Welfare and Clubs for Servicemen

The WRVS organise a day to day programme in clubs to help the men to enjoy their leisure and to adjust to the country in which they are living. Record sessions, libraries, games, inter-unit table tennis, darts and snooker tournaments, trips to places of interest and shopping for the men are among the many activities.

If they are in difficulties the WRVS advises them to whom they should go. (Clubrooms may also be used by N.A.T.O. and Allied Servicemen).

Welfare of Servicemen's Families

By agreement with the Ministry of Defence the WRVS is now undertaking more family welfare work overseas, particularly in Germany where WRVS Organisers are appointed to work in Community Centres. In some new types of clubs the WRVS welfare worker arranges activities and amenities for wives and families who are allowed to use the clubs as well as the single Servicemen.

Welfare of Wives and Families of Gurkha Troops

The WRVS continue to help the women and children who arrive in Malaysia and Hong Kong from Nepal to join the regiment, organising welfare centres and clubs, sightseeing, escorting patients to hospital and keeping records of inoculation, etc. A member is now working in Nepal at the Rehabilitation Camp.

In the United Kingdom

Twenty-four full-time members undertake welfare and club organisation at Army Apprentices College, School of Preliminary Education, Junior Soldiers' Units, Service Families' Hostels. Part-time members staff the WRVS Service Clubs and Canteens for Army Cadets

and make up teams to cater at Summer Camps. During 1971 WRVS were asked to start a Central Welfare Agency for British Troops in Northern Ireland; by the end of the year three full time members were working over there.

Magazine Adoption Scheme

1,188 groups collect and send regular parcels of magazines and paper-backed books to all units of the Services overseas. Playing cards and games are collected by the Centres and sent to WRVS Headquarters for despatch to isolated units abroad.

TRANSPORT

WRVS vans and WRVS members driving their own cars covered 1,805,787 miles collecting clothing, carrying equipment and on essential WRVS service. In addition the WRVS drive many miles for Meals-on-Wheels schemes for Local Authorities.

Spare a Mile

A WRVS scheme to introduce motorists to elderly or handicapped people who would enjoy a drive.

Hospital Car Service

The Hospital Car Service in England and Wales is organised jointly by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross Society and the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, working in conjunction with the County and County Borough Ambulance Services.

In Scotland the Hospital Car Service is organised by the WRVS, the Scottish Branch of the British Red Cross Society and the St. Andrew's Ambulance Association—in conjunction with Regional Ambulance Committees and the Regional Hospital Boards.

Patients driven 386,628. Mileage covered 5,007,395.

WELFARE FOR THE DISABLED

Work for physically disabled people, included the blind, deaf and housebound.

In many areas members helped the Local Authorities with the Survey of disabled people, which led to the WRVS becoming more involved in the follow-up action, including visiting, transport and the passing on of information.

As the awareness of the needs of the disabled grows, so does the variety of work, which is increasingly geared to the disabled in the community and in the family.

Work among the younger disabled is increasing, in co-operation with Evening Centre members and Good Companions, while work in Clubs, Work Centres, Residential Homes and Holiday Centres continues.

MISCELLANEOUS WELFARE

Information Desks are set up to help delegates at International Conferences in Great Britain organised by the Foreign Office and other official bodies. Coverage is given at the International Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, the Royal Show and other similar gatherings.

Assistance with campaigns for National Savings, Environmental control, Salvage, etc.

Book Collecting and Repairs for hospitals, clubs, old people and the Services.

THE WRVS MAGAZINE FEATURES DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE WORK OF THE SERVICE EACH MONTH THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

NOW ALL YEAR ROUND HOLIDAYS

THE WRVS HOME FOR TIRED MOTHERS at Holly Lodge, at Felixstowe in Suffolk will remain open during the winter months, November, 1972 to April, 1973 to provide accommodation, with full board, for mothers with babies and small children in need of a holiday (but unable to be separated from their children), or to accommodate mothers with small children in the event of a family emergency.

For the Winter holidays, to be run this year for the first time, four families can be accommodated in separate, pleasantly furnished rooms. There is a kitchen for the preparation of babies' feeds and a washing machine and spin dryer are provided for the mothers' use. A comfortable communal sitting room has plenty of easy chairs, radio, books and television.

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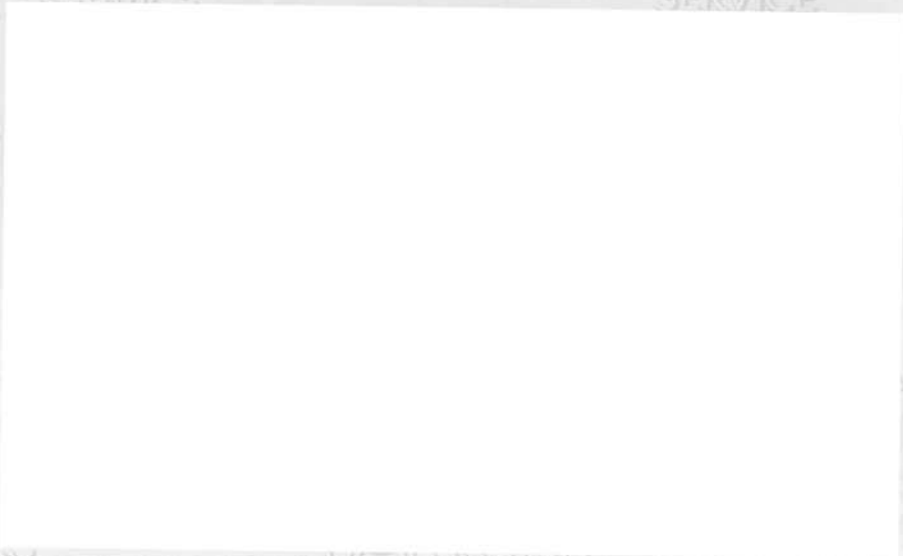
(Full details and application forms for bookings can be obtained from the WRVS East Suffolk County Office, 29b Cumberland Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, together with details of the fees payable by the recommending bodies).

For some years summer holidays for tired mothers only have been provided in this pleasant house with a small garden overlooking the sea—ten mothers can be accommodated at a time. The two young housemothers who run Holly Lodge care for each guest in accordance with her family's particular difficult circumstances.

One mother who was on holiday this year wrote: "Words are hard to express how I feel, all I can say is I feel now I can tackle any problems. I feel much more rested and healthy. Also I would like to say how wonderful are the girls who run Holly Lodge—they are helpful and really interested in us, they cooked lovely meals and was kindness itself. I cannot truly remember any place as cosy and friendly. I am so grateful I was given the chance of the eleven days rest where I made new friends and my health and nerves improved—you'll never know how much you've all done for me and my family."

The Head Social Worker at a hospital psychiatric unit wrote to thank the Children's Organiser in Eastern Region for arranging simultaneous holidays for a mother at Holly Lodge and for her three children with hostesses under the WRVS Children's Holiday Scheme. She was particularly impressed by the wise handling received by different members of the family, all of whom had enjoyed and greatly benefited from the holidays.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING GIFTS 1971



by courtesy of Burnley Express

Pupils of Stoneyholme Junior School brought food and fruit to be distributed by the WRVS to elderly people in Burnley last year.

"WITH OPPORTUNITIES COMES RESPONSIBILITY"

Sir Winston Churchill

THE AIM of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowship is to create these opportunities. To give men and women from all walks of life the chance to increase their knowledge by travel abroad. And to use what they learn for the progress of their country. All U.K. citizens, regardless of age, faith, education or colour are eligible to apply for a Churchill Travelling Fellowship. But in order to control the numbers who apply in any one year, the Trust offers Fellowships to people who are interested, whether professionally or as individuals, in certain specified fields.

Churchill Fellowships are meant for everyone. The lack of educational or professional qualifications is no barrier to a Fellowship. Candidates have to convince the Trust that they will gain valuable knowledge by travelling abroad, and that on their return they will make the knowledge available to others for the benefit of their community and the country. The basic grant is intended to cover all essential Fellowship expenses. These include return air fare, daily living, travel within the countries being visited, any necessary equipment and, in certain cases, residual expenses at home. The Trust insures Fellows against accident, medical expenses and loss of baggage while they are away. Awards normally cover a period of about three months.

The subjects for 1973 are:

PROVISION OF LOW-COST HOUSING. The big question is how to keep the costs down and the quality up. Is the answer really system building? Is research into new materials bearing fruit? If you work in the design, development or construction of low-cost housing, a visit abroad may give you a valuable new insight.

THE ART OF THE THEATRE. You are one of the people without whom the play could not go on: actors, actresses, producers, directors, stage managers, stage-hands, designers, etc. A Churchill Fellowship will give you a chance to catch up with the latest developments abroad.

ADVENTURE. Awards will be made to individuals undertaking exploration or expeditions which will produce results of worthwhile significance.

LANGUAGE TEACHING. Even though more people are learning languages every year, Britain is still far behind countries like Switzerland, Scandinavia and Holland in this field. We learn languages but seem afraid to use them. If you are involved in language teaching you may have much to learn from other countries.

VOLUNTARY AND CHARITABLE WORK. You are one of those people who devote much time and effort to extending the effectiveness of welfare services. Perhaps you run meals-on-wheels, help in a psychiatric hospital or visit prisoners. You bring a lot to this work. But could you bring more—from abroad?

PACKAGING DESIGN AND DISPOSABILITY. Almost all consumer goods are now pre-packaged. But how much consideration should be given in manufacture to what happens to the package when it has served its purpose? A great deal is being done in this field abroad. Could you help?

PHYSIOTHERAPY AND REMEDIAL GYMNASTICS. This is a constantly changing field, and one in which it is essential to keep up to date with the methods of other countries. A Churchill Fellowship will help you explore the latest developments.

FARMING AND THE COMMON MARKET. Farming is our biggest industry and the one on which our joining the Common Market will have great effect. How will your work be influenced by EEC methods? Whether you own, manage or work on a farm, or have a related job, you could find the answers across the Channel.

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AMBULANCE SERVICE. How much do ambulance services differ from country to country? If some are better than ours, should we not apply their techniques, especially when dealing with casualties and accidents? Everybody connected with the ambulance services is invited to take this opportunity to find out.

LEISURE AND THE NATURAL SURROUNDINGS. How can we satisfy the recreational demands of more and more people on a limited amount of land and, at the same time, still preserve the natural environment? Those concerned will welcome this opportunity to learn from experience abroad.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS. This is a fast-developing technology. If you are in any way interested in the improvement of telecommunications, a Churchill Fellowship will help you gain experience of techniques abroad.

PARTICIPATION IN SPORT. If you are concerned in any form of sport, whether as organiser, coach or player, you have the chance to see in what ways other countries provide greater opportunities for participation and training for improved performance.

Application forms may be obtained from The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 10 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W1X 7PD. The completed forms must reach the office of the Trust by 6th November, 1972. Candidates selected from a short list will be interviewed by the Council in London in January, 1973.

WVS Long Service Medals

London Region

Coppard, Mrs. N. D.
Dipple, Miss M. H.
McArthur, Miss C. K.
Stevenson, Mrs. J.
Thorne, Mrs. E. K.

Region 1

Bird, Mrs. B. M.
Hansen, Miss D.
Hansen, Miss M.
Hellaby, Mrs. E.
Richardson, Mrs. R.

Region 2

Foster, Mrs. H. W.
Lees, Mrs. M.
Mackinder, Mrs. I. M.
Melbourne, Mrs. M.
Milner, Mrs. D.
Sutcliffe, Mrs. H.

Region 3

Andrews, Mrs. P.
Bailey, Mrs. J.
Ellis, Mrs. I. M.
Goodey, Mrs. D. E.
Hardwick, Mrs. D. A.

Henshaw, Mrs. F.
Shorrock, Mrs. M.
Winn, Mrs. M. M.

Region 4

Bodger, Mrs. M.
Fynes-Clinton, Mrs. M.
Osborn, Mrs. B. M.
Rantzen, Mrs. R.
Shawl, Mrs. G. M. A.
Vogel, Mrs. M. E. C.

Region 5

Archibald, Mrs. W. M.
Wall, Mrs. D. M.

Region 6

Nutbourne, Mrs. E. M. N.

Region 7

Bennett, Mrs. A. E.
Dannieux, Mrs. J.
Hilder, Mrs. E. M.
James, Mrs. L. K.

Wales

Davies, Mrs. F. J.
Edwards, Mrs. S. A.
Millichamp, Mrs. L. V.
Parry, Mrs. N.

Region 9

Hardy, Mrs. D. E.
Hilditch, Mrs. M.

Region 10

Brooks, Mrs. S. A.
Dewhurst, Miss D.
Green, Mrs. J. P.

Scotland

Allan, Mrs. B. R.
Bohn, Miss J.
Brooks, Mrs. M.
Buchan, Mrs. E.
Francis, Mrs. J. M.
Green, Mrs. J.
Happer, Mrs. E. A.
Kennedy, Mrs. C. M.
McCallum, Miss C.
Paton, Mrs. D. M.
Walker, Mrs. M.
Willows, Mrs. E.

Awarded during July 1972

WVS Long Service Medal Clasps

Region 1

Clarke, Miss M.
Turnbull, Mrs. R. M.

Region 2

Mackinder, Mrs. I. M.
Parker, Mrs. H.
Stanfield, Mrs. E.
Sutcliffe, Mrs. H.

Region 3

Sharpe, Mrs. M. E.
Troop, Mrs. V. R.

Region 4

Fothergill, Mrs. M. E.
Smith, Mrs. E. L. A.
Tibbitt, Mrs. I. D.

Region 5

Nix, Miss M. G.
Pine-Coffin, Mrs. H.

Region 10

Massey, Mrs. H. M.
Ormesher, Mrs. F. M.
Taylor, Miss D.

Scotland

McCallum, Miss C.

Last Chance to Enter

WRVS NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

COMPETITION CLOSES.

30th SEPTEMBER, 1972

Entrants are invited to submit action photographs of WRVS members at work — women to be in uniform, men preferably wearing the tie or helper's badge.

Black and White prints, preferably glossy, should be 4½ x 6 in. minimum and 8 x 10 in. maximum.

The following details should accompany each entry which must be on an Entry Form (1) Sender's name and address, (2) Relevant technical details, exposure, camera, lens, film, etc., (3) Title, location or identifying caption.

Prints will be sent back only if suitable return packing and postage is included with the entry, the return envelope or packet bearing the name of the sender and appropriate stamps — loose stamps and labels cannot be accepted.

Entry forms, which must accompany each entry, are available from :

WRVS MAGAZINE,
17 Old Park Lane,
London, W1Y 4AJ.

Mr. Richard Gee, Editor of *Photography Magazine*, Mr. John Sanders, Feature Editor of *Photography Magazine* and one member from WRVS Headquarters will form the judging panel and their decision is final in all matters.

FIRST PRIZE	£10
SECOND PRIZE	£5
THIRD PRIZE	£3

WRVS were given display space in the Modern Woman Show at Belle Vue in Manchester for ten days in July. Eighty four members helped to staff the display and the names and addresses given by interested people were forwarded through Region to the appropriate local office.

COME AND PHOTOGRAPH WRVS

The girls in green—the Women's Royal Voluntary Service—should be willing game for those who want to make a camera safari to Washington this weekend.

WRVS members will act as hostesses at the National Schools Athletics Championships in Washington tomorrow and Saturday. They will see to it that a constant supply of life-giving tea is available to sustain spectators and officials.

And these social workers doubling as hostesses want the day publicised to glamourise the wearing of the green. To attract photographers to the event the WRVS are holding a National Photographic Competition with a first prize of £10 and winning photos will be used on WRVS recruiting posters. The theme will be "WRVS in Action". Photographs should be in black and white only and entry forms can be obtained from *WRVS Magazine*, 17 Old Park Lane, London W1Y 4AJ.

Extracts by courtesy of Durham Chronicle of 7th July.

LAST CHANCE
*to use the
Photographic
Competition*

**TO GET
PHOTOGRAPHS
FOR RECRUITING**

*Competition closes
30th September*

SCOTTISH CLUBS FOR THE ELDERLY

One of the many exhibits seen by the visitors was the bridal scene—a joint first prize winner.

THE HAND CRAFTS COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION run recently by the WRVS in the Western Division of Scotland now has to be organised on a very large scale as so many members of the Scottish Clubs for the Elderly attend. This year it was held in the Dam Park Hall in Ayr, which has a large arena and plenty of parking space for the large number of buses which brought in club members from all over the area—approximately 1,400 enjoyed a day out at the Exhibition.

One section of the hall was turned into restaurants where Emergency Service teams organised the provision of lunches and teas for all the visitors and staff. The hall was arranged with ample seating for visitors to rest between viewing the many different stalls. The stalls were set up at a slight angle to the wooden lattice panels forming a screen behind them, and large clear notices carrying the names of the clubs exhibiting were fixed to the panels.

The standard of entry was extremely high and the judges found it difficult to choose between the exhibits, in fact the first prize was shared by the wedding scene pictured in the photograph above and a beautifully scaled down model of a room. The singer, Miss Moira Anderson, presented the many cups and offered to sing a song—the popular, indeed almost unanimous request, was for "My Ain Folk". Miss Anderson also met and talked to members of the Darby and Joan Clubs and signed many autographs.

The Exhibition provided a most interesting day out for the many members of the clubs who attended, for in addition to the opportunities to see the work of other clubs, they were able to meet people from other towns and villages and enjoy a chat or have a meal together.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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

Miscellaneous

Accommodation

