



WVS/WRVS ASSOCIATION



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Area Representatives are ex-officio members of the
Committee.

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* The next *

* ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING *

* will be held *

* in CHESTER *

* on Wednesday, 14th June, 1989 *

REMINDER

Members are reminded that their Subscriptions, £1.50p please, are due as soon as possible.

Royal Volunteer Rose

The price entry in the WRVS Newspaper (Summer 1988) is incorrect. Prices are: £2.50 for each rose tree, plus postage: up to three trees, £1.95, over three, £2.20. Spring orders are now being accepted.

VOLUNTARY
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YOUR CHAIRMAN WRITES. ...

What a wonderful year this has been for us all! Golden Jubilee celebrations have been held throughout the country which I hope many of you have been able to attend; either at one of the Cathedral or Church Services or locally at the many Garden Parties, Jubilee Lunches or Tea Parties to some of which I was lucky enough to be invited.

Since I last wrote to you in May, we have heard of several more "twinning" mini-holidays and inter-Area, or County, meetings which contribute greatly to the friendship and interests of Association members. These plans have been most generously supported by WRVS Organisers and members in those Areas where there are as yet few Association members. This help is very much appreciated.

May I remind you all that nominations for Chairman and three Committee members will be necessary for election at the 1989 AGM, to be held in Chester. These nominations should be made through your Area Representative, with the agreement of the nominee, and proposed and seconded by Association members. These MUST reach us at WRVS Headquarters not later than 1st APRIL 1989; therefore should be with your Area Representative NOT later than Monday 20th March (as Easter weekend is on 24th - 27th March).

It has been such a pleasure to meet so many more of you during this very "special" year and I hope that I may be able to see a greater number in the Spring ... until then I send my very best wishes to you all for Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year

Ava Christophersen

Chairman: WVS/WRVS Association

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EDITORIAL

As the Golden Jubilee Year draws to a close, it will be remembered in many ways; the reports from the Representatives will remind you of some of them, but it was recognised in other ways, such as special Gifts to some of the Hospitals, and to the Cancer Relief Macmillan Nurses Fund. In most Areas, Association members joined in with WRVS in their celebrations, and in the Reports I have tried to concentrate on those gatherings which were organised by the WVS/WRVS Association itself.

At the Annual General Meeting members were enthralled by the memories of four members who had been part of Lady Reading's original team in the early days, and included with the AGM Minutes is a special extra supplement of these Golden Jubilee Archives from a Headquarters point of view.

The November Archives are the Clothing ones held over from last November, most of which are fortunately rather funny. But the Golden Jubilee edition, thanks to so many of you early members, is a hard act to follow, and those who were lucky enough to be at the AGM agreed that next May we should have a break from Archives.

It is some years since WRVS published "Rescue a Recipe": the majority of Association members live in households of one or two people: so what I am asking you all to do this time is to let me have your favourite recipes, preferably designed for one or two people. It isn't always easy to provide a varied menu for small quantities! Please let me have your suggestions at an early date: we will try and publish as many as we can. And then we can go back to Archives after that.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas, and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Doris Gross

VOLUNTARY
BIRTHDAY HONOURS 1988

We send our sincere congratulations to the following:

OBE

Mrs. R.J. Waite Area Organiser, MID 2.

MBE

Mrs. R.S.C. Matthews Emergency Services, HC/A 1

BEM

Mrs. B. Beards Truro SW 2

Miss W.O. Carse Transport Organiser, NE1

Mrs. A. S. Howell Suffolk HC/A 3

Mrs. M. Lloyd Transport Organiser, SW 1

Mrs. J. Stucke Hospital Organiser, London SE

Mrs. P. Timms Dep. County Organiser, MID 3

The following names also appear in the Birthday Honours list

MBE

Mrs. G.J. Keane Winchester

Mrs. J. H. Scott Scotland

BEM

Mrs. A. Hogg Scotland

Since the last edition of the Newsletter, we have heard that Mrs. K. M. Jacobs of Portsmouth received the OBE in the New Year Honours List.

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OBITUARY

We are sorry to hear of the deaths of the following members since the last Newsletter.

Mrs. Natalie Tingey MBE Mrs. Tingey joined WVS HQ in October 1940. In 1950 she joined the Food Department where she developed the whole concept of organised MOW. In conjunction with the manufacturer, she designed a type of Hotlock suitable for the back of a car.

Miss Elizabeth Pitkethly MBE joined OPW Department in 1948, and devoted her life to furthering the welfare of old people, particularly Darby and Joan Clubs.

Miss Margaret Hamilton MBE has died in her 92nd. year. She gave full-time voluntary service to the Country through her efficient and conscientious work in the Regional Department until her retirement.

Miss I.S. Edwards	London	Mrs. D. Rands	SE2
Mrs. A. O'Neill	NE2	Mrs. M. Kent	HC3
Mrs. E. Free	SW1	Mrs. M.C. Finan	NE4
Mrs. M. Wilkinson	NE4	Mrs. M. D. Anderson	HC1
Mrs. E. Lynes BEM	SE2	Mrs. D. Russell	SE1
Mrs. I. Grocock	MD2	Mrs. A. Seager	HC3
Mrs. D. Bird	MD2	Mrs. B Wright-Anderson	Lon.
Mrs. G. Hickling	MD2	Mrs. H. Millmore	Lon.
Mrs. D. L. Harding	SE1	Mrs. K. Barrington	NW4
Mrs. V.D. Themans	NW4	Mrs. A. Sutch	NW4
Mrs. N. Foden	SW2	Mrs. M. Harrison	NW1
Mrs. L.M. Leslie	SE1	Mrs. E.M. Rush	SE1
Mrs. O.L. Gilbert	Lon	Mrs. I.L. Pool	Lon
Mrs. B. Moule	MD1	Miss H.M. Pollard MBE	MD1
Mrs. W.K. Marshall	NW2	Mrs. E.M. McArthur	HC2
Mrs. M. Keane	NW1	Mrs. A. Holden	NE1
Mrs. A. Henderson	NE1	Mrs. E.G. Fenner	SE2
Mrs. I.W. Lynn	SW1	Miss J. Parry	SE1
Mrs. V. Browning	SE1	Mrs. K.N. Holmes	SW1
Mrs. J.P. Johnson	SW1	Mrs. P. Barker	SW1
Mrs. J.R. Palmer	NE2	Mrs. E.J. Welch	SE2
Mrs. K.M. Jacobs OBE	SE2	Mrs. S. Thomas	SE1
Mrs. A. Softley	NW4	Mrs. E.J. Sutcliffe	NW4
Mrs. M. Vick	HC1	Mrs. M. Heron	NE1
Mrs. M. Bell	NE1	Mrs. E. Yates BEM	SE1
Mr. C. Yarrington	NE1	Mrs. R Gregory	MD2
Mrs. J.E.D. Hally	SE2	Mrs. M.V. Read BEM	Lon
Mrs. G. Wellesley-Evans		Wales	

VOLUNTARY
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CLOTHING

Mrs. K.G Waldram of Grimsby writes "I do not know if this is a suitable story for the News, but it caused a lot of hilarity in the office when it happened.

"A young woman came and asked for clothing as her house had been bombed and she had nothing but what she stood up in. We found sufficient suitable clothing until we came to nightdresses. They certainly were of the useful type which did not appeal to her. We apologized for not having anything more exotic. Her response was "well, I couldn't receive my gentlemen in anything like that, could I?" We had no-one available to give advice on the subject.

A more respectable story was that of an old lady whose house had to be evacuated after a raid. She was going for a period to a Council house "in a nice part, and she must have something decent to hang on the line".

Mrs. Betty Caudwell of Canterbury writes: I joined the W.V.S on its first day when we lived in Oundle, which was a safety area, so it was deemed a suitable place for quite a large clothing store, of which I seemed to be in charge. My job was eventually to be continually moving the clothes from one place to another. In the mid-war years we had a wonderful consignment of clothes from Canada, all tied up in bundles of five with the (still, I believe) very special knot. There was everything, including blankets embroidered with the names of our Canadian well-wishers and layettes. Then, from somewhere and somehow, a most charming Dutch lady appeared with transport and took away loads of these Canadian gifts for the sorely stricken people of Holland. I will always remember her amazement and gratitude.

Mrs. Margaret Pepper of Porthcurnow, Penzance, recalls that when she was in charge of the Barnstaple District office one of the regulars came in, who "tried it on" about every two months. The mother looked at the stock, turned to her daughter with a typically hard done expression on her face, and said in a loud voice

"Cum orn, Marge, nuffin fer us ere, they aint got their spring stock in yet, we'll cum back when they 'ave". To me she simply said "Tarah mate, we'll manage til you change yer fasshun rail".

Mrs.T. Dunton of Poole One old and regular offender appeared in the local court. The Judge said to him "You look well dressed this time". The man replied "I was rigged out by one of them WVS ladies and I feel a gent". On one occasion a schoolgirl cried because she had been given school uniform and wanted "'igh 'ills and a bra" like her older sister. Of course the latter was produced, all of twenty-six inches. But not the 'igh 'ills! "Working in Clothing is interesting, varied and worth while, because our clients are young and old and of different temperaments".

Mrs W. Peacock of North Shields remembers the hard work entailed in clothing the Vietnamese refugees. Communication was the biggest problem. " They all managed to get in together, from grandparents to babies. It was chaos, but we muddled through as best we could. The following Monday we returned to find all the black sacks emptied, and the 'sorted' clothing all mixed and piled on the floor. The warden calmly announced that it had been raining all week-end, and she thought it would give them something to do! We found out later that they preferred to scavenge.....It was very rewarding to meet one family in Newcastle three years later and to be greeted as an old friend."

Gentlemen of the Road These seemed to figure in a number of Clothing stories. Indeed one certain Mr.R.S. has followed me from one office to another during my own WRVS career, swearing faithfully each time that he really will go to Alcholics Anonymous. However here are some happier tales. Ed.

Mrs. Lorna Brotherton reports on two in Wales. One resulted in a nice article in the Wrexham Express entitled "Clothes probably saved the Life of Man". It went on, "It might not be as up to date as Marks and Spencer but when you are over 80 years of age and have been sleeping rough in icy weather for a week somewhere offering a warm change of clothing no matter what style

or colour is very welcome....There is no doubt about it - those clothes played a part in his survival of last year's bad winter"

Some gentlemen pop in every year, like Paddy the itinerant, who walked in looking the worse for wear but stepped out in dandy style wearing checked trousers, climbing boots, brilliant white overcoat, tartan scarf, cap and a broad Dublin smile

Mrs. Margaret Pepper of the Exeter office took pity on one gentleman "The smell of him was iniquitous - I remember it well. He was muffled up in scarf and raincoat etc. I put him in a corner and said 'take your things off and I'll measure you' I went on doing what I had to do, getting items off the shelves. In due course I turned round with my tapemeasure in hand, only to discover that he had taken me literally - he had taken everything off, all except the filthiest of brief T shirts." Eventually he was provided with the necessary items.

Mrs. M. Hawkins of Barnstaple had one very dirty client who arrived with a BEJAM shopping trolley. He was of no fixed abode, wanted sheets, blankets, dressing gown and pyjamas. "We could not refuse him, but did say how was he going to use them? He said he believed in being clean and comfortable. As we had to get the air freshener out when he left the store, we thought that the understatement of the year!"

When Borough Organiser for Haringey, I was in the Tottenham District Office one afternoon when a young man and woman came in. The District Organiser asked them if we could help, and, rather hesitantly, the young man said: "Well, not really. Its just that two years ago Probation sent me to this office for clothing when I was released from prison. Its the first time I've been back in this area, and I wanted to let you know that I've gone straight ever since, and I wanted you to meet my wife". Exactly how the conversation continued I do not remember. We were, I suppose, covered with confusion. But it is, I think, a rather satisfying note on which to end this section of our Archives. Editor.

Round the Country

MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO JERSEY

which this year celebrates its own WRVS 21st Birthday along with the WVS/WRVS Golden Jubilee.

Congratulations also to Mrs. Dorothy Smith BEM who was recently made an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Broxtowe. Mrs. Smith, now 83 years of age, was for many years a MOW Organiser, and was Local Organiser for Beeston between 1975 and 1980. She has continued to help WRVS and local charities.

Mrs. Claydon, (HC Anglia 3) was asked whether it would be possible for a WVS member in her nineties to move to Ipswich to be near her son. The Ipswich Home said "Most unlikely, we do not take new residents over the age of 80, but let her get in touch". The Happy Ending is that this remarkable lady is now installed in the Ipswich Home, well settled in, and writing grateful, and enormously legible, letters to us all!

Mrs. Grebby (Dorset) tells us that her sister, Delia Johnson, who was living in Bath, was asked to organise a WVS Toy Factory as her war work. She was given the use of a shop to make and display toys needed by the War Nurseries and Hospitals. Staff were inexperienced, and materials were scarce, but they managed to produce really attractive toys. There are no members left in Bath who remember this toyshop. Is there anyone anywhere who does, please?

Mrs. Stamp (Hartlepool) reports that WVS experience can sometimes come to the aid of WRVS. While she was at an Association meeting, the District Organiser for Hartlepool had a phone call from a local chocolate manufacturer who wished to offer some of his products to the town. One of the Association members present suggested the Local Authority school holiday play scheme, who were delighted - the chocolates make lovely prizes for children.

WVS/WRVS Association, York Branch, Holiday in N.Wales
Mrs. Venables has sent us a report of the York Holiday for 1988, which took them to the Snowdonia National Park Study Centre at Plas Tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog on Monday, 13th. June. The SUN shone almost all the time!

"One of the features of these holidays is the friendliness of everyone in the group. We travelled first to Ness Gardens in the Wirral for lunch beside the Dee Estuary. Continuing our journey, we had a gorgeous tea at the Esplanade Hotel in Llandudno and a walk on the promenade in hot sunshine. At our destination we admired the superb situation, and had a very good dinner followed by a talk from the Principal on the history of the house and the area.

"After a full cooked breakfast, we left for Portmerion, the Italianate village built by the sea. Our coach took us to Portmadoc and the Ffestiniog railway. We had picnic lunch on the train. From Blaenau Ffestiniog we went to the Llechwedd Slate Mines. We toured the mine, (wearing hard hats) and listened to the guide's description of the hard life of the workers and their families at the turn of the century. At the Miner's Arms we were served a real Welsh Tea. After dinner we had a lively lecture and slides on the Castles of Gwynedd.

"The next day we travelled to Penrhyn Castle, once owned by the 'slate millionaire' Lord Penrhyn in Victorian times. It is in lavish bad taste, and a cruel contrast to the homes and lives of the slate workers. We crossed the Menai Straits by Telford's beautiful suspension Bridge to Plas Newydd, the lovely home of the Marquesses of Anglesey, for picnic lunch. We crossed back to Bangor, and to a WRVS tea provided by local members. It was good to swap WRVS talk with them, and we left an invitation to York where we would warmly welcome them. After dinner, we were entertained by a 40 strong male voice choir.

"Next morning we left. We travelled to Chirk Castle for lunch and sightseeing, then set off for York via Tatton Hall, Cheshire. It will not be possible to repeat the success of this holiday. The place, the weather, the food and the company were all perfect."

REPORT FROM SCOTLAND.

Mrs. S MAITLAND-MAKGILL-CRITCHON, Chairman.
At their A.G.M., Scotland welcomed a new Chairman.
She hopes to visit as many Regions as possible and to
meet old friends and make new ones.

The Bridge Clubs continue to flourish, and the Jarron
Quaich was won by Mrs. M. Little.

HQ & Lothian Membership has increased to 12, and the
Christmas party was a great success. Three members of
staff of the Princess Margaret Rose Hospital, who had
benefitted from the scholarship sponsored by WRVS
profits from the Hospital Shop, gave a talk.

Central Region Three-monthly meetings are held, and
speakers included Miss Cheyne, Chief Occupational
Therapist at Bellsdyke Hospital, Mr. J. McAteer, Deputy
Chairman of Children's Panels in the Falkirk Area, and
Mrs. Ferguson and Mrs. Reid on the work of Community
Care.

Grampian Region now has 105 members. Moray Group is
a year old, and meetings are held every second month.
Aberdeen had a Christmas lunch, with guest speaker
Mrs. Crocket, whose firm created and gifted the "Royal
Volunteer Rose" to WRVS. Later speakers were Mr. J.
MacLaren on the Granite Trade, and Mrs. B. Ballantyne
on "Tombs and Epitaphs". All Groups attended a Buffet
Lunch at the Regional Office in June.

Highland North In November, nine members met at Bonar
Bridge for coffee: five of the ladies travelled a
round journey of over 40 miles! Mrs. Weir, Regional
Organiser, was present and reported on the newest
project in Scotland, the opening of a shop in the
Church of Scotland Home in Dornoch.

Strathclyde A new Group has started in Ayrshire. In
November, Mrs. E. Mann gave an interesting talk on the
Knights of Malta: and in January they went to a local
pantomime. At a meeting in Dumbarton a cheque for
£100 for the Heatherdale Village Estate was handed over
by Mrs. Galloway to the Local Organiser towards the
50th Anniversary Project, equipment for the Clinic in
the Vale of Leven Hospital.

Hamilton heard a talk by two nurses, another by the
Curator of the Hamilton Museum on "Old Hamilton", and
had a Christmas lunch.

REPORT FROM WALES Mrs. L BROTHERTON

Association Members in Wales joined in many Golden Jubilee Services in our lovely Cathedrals, and the Garden Party in Builth Wells.

Newport, Gwent, Mrs. B. Travis BEM. They are as busy as ever. On one occasion they met in a member's house, and saw a display of Staffordshire figurines and had an interesting talk on them. Another meeting produced a similar display of old pewter. "I am still rather intrigued by the thought of a baby's pewter feeding bottle." Members also had a lunch followed by a piano recital, a ramble along the old canal, and saw a preview of an exhibition by a local artist. They were delighted to recognise some of the places which they knew. On July 20th the Mayor presented a certificate to Mrs. H. Horrigan in recognition of 50 years service in WRVS, which is still continuing. At the suggestion of one of the members who belongs to a rambling club, they have formed their own rambling section, so that those who enjoy walking can do so in pleasant and safe company!

Clwyd Mrs. E Edwards BEM. They have also been busy, with a Spring visit to Port Madoc, another in August to Llangollen, where they had lunch on a barge whilst sailing down the canal. Everyone went to the special service at St. Asaph Cathedral, and the kneelers presented by Association members were much appreciated.

South Glamorgan celebrated the 90th birthday of Mrs. E Hughes-Evans BEM in March.

The Annual General Meeting for the whole of Wales was held in Newtown, Powys, on 22nd, September. Mrs. Brotherton welcomed members, and the speakers were Mrs. A. Christophersen, Association Chairman, Mrs. Jean Forbes, Vice-Chairman, Wales, Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Travis.

REPORTS FROM THE AREAS

A welcome to the New Groups:
AYRSHIRE, GATESHEAD, OXFORD, REDDITCH, ROSS-ON-WYE.

NW1. Mrs. B.F. WILSON, MBE

Things have been fairly quiet, though Association members were able to take part in the Golden Jubilee Services in Carlisle and Blackburn Cathedrals.

NW2. Mrs. O CHURCHILL.

Bolton now has a group led by Mrs. Rawlinson who has arranged lunches and outings. Members have knitted jumpers for the SCF, vests for Ethiopia, and made teddy bears for children. By raffles among members, the group is contributing to the funds of a hospice.

Bury welcomed Chairman Mrs. Christophersen on a brilliantly sunny day in June to a splendid tea-party in the garden of leader Mrs. Graham.

Trafford Altrincham group invited Sale group to a super tea-party to greet Mrs. Christophersen on her most welcome visit to the North West when she met a host of members. Co-operation continued, with Altrincham joining Sale in a most interesting visit to Tesco for a cookery demonstration. Altrincham has enjoyed member Miss Loynes reminiscing on her youth in a Welsh village without shops, gas or electricity. On 8th. June, Sale, for all Trafford, held a Golden Jubilee Celebration in the Civic Theatre. 200 members attended. Mrs. Grimshaw devised and presented a Jubilee Review called "Oh what a Lovely Show".

NW4 Mrs. M J PRESTON.

Our "Golden Oldie", Mrs. Elsie Newsom, began WVS work in a Hospital at Knowsley, and they gave her a really marvellous party for Golden Jubilee Year.

Macclesfield held a successful summer party, and members were invited to the Jubilee services.

Wirral Members had two lunches and monthly meetings, and a minimum of 20 members attend, in spite of the bad weather and illness. A cheque for £52 was sent to Cancer Research in memory of Mrs. J. Ingle.

NE1 Mrs. C SMURTHWAITE MBE

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Smurthwaite on their Golden Wedding.

A Golden Jubilee Lunch was held on 6th. September. One hundred members attended, and Mrs. C. Smurthwaite was presented with a clasp to her Long Service Medal. Mrs A. Christophersen, Association Chairman, and Mrs. S McCormack, Area Organiser, were present.

Ashington Mrs. Pratt. They attended a delightful performance of Carousel by the Blyth Operatic Society in March, and their annual Birthday Dinner was held as usual in the Forester's Arms. Support continues for the Tigray Appeal.

Ponteland & District Mrs. J Hughes. Tributes are made to Mrs. Frise, who has kept the group together over the past few years. No longer able to drive, she continues to visit members in walking distance. It is difficult to have get-togethers because of distances. Membership increased by three!

North Tyneside

North Shields, Tynemouth, Shiremoor Mrs. E Frew and Mrs J Weallens. The April get-together coincided with Good Friday, and everyone received a small Easter Egg

Whitley Bay Mrs. Dawson. On a visit to the local "Gang Show", one of the members had to leave rather quickly as she suddenly remembered she had left her Christmas pudding cooking. Mrs. Slater is thanked for the cake she bakes for the raffles, and Mrs. James for the vests and jumpers she knits.

Sunderland Mrs. M Ainsley. Speakers have included Dot Butler, a journalist, WPC Bell from the Northumbria Police Force, and the organising secretary of the Sunderland Community Health Council. Garments are knitted for the SCF.,

Newcastle Mrs. Yarrington. There are regular meetings. There was a lunch in March at the Polytechnic. Members attended a Jubilee Service when a kneeler was presented to the Minister.

Gateshead Mrs. Potts. A new group. We wish them well.

ROYAL
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NE2. Mrs. B. BURKITT

At the Annual Lunch in Golden Jubilee Year, held in the Spa Promenade Lounge in Scarborough, Mrs. Ava Christophersen, the Association Chairman, was the guest speaker. The function finished with the cutting of the Jubilee cake.

Selby Mrs. J Altass. At their Golden Jubilee Lunch, the Polytechnic made it a marvellous surprise occasion. A red rose was presented to Mrs. Altass, and behind the top table was an elaborate card, all in gold, which represented: "THE CHERUBS: WVS Angels of Mercy, THE RED ROSE: The love they have for others. THE BELL: The joy they have in giving. Many congratulations."

NE3. Mrs. P JAMES, MBE

Members enjoyed their full share of the Jubilee Services. 25 went to York Minster, 70 to Lincoln Cathedral, and 4 to Westminster Abbey.

"The fourth Annual Area Meeting was held in Cleethorpes Council Chamber, courtesy of the Mayor and Mayoress, who spent the day with us. We also welcomed Miss K. Halpin CBE, Vice-President, and Mrs. A. Christophersen, Association Chairman. The Mayor proposed the toast to WRVS and its future prosperity. The Jubilee cake was cut by Miss K. Waldram MBE of Grimsby - the oldest and longest serving member. The talk was given by Commander George Anderson LVD, RN (ret.) who had spent much of his career serving on the Royal Yacht Britannia. He had received permission to tell of life on the Royal Yacht, and read a message from H.M. The Queen Mother wishing us an enjoyable day." Commander Anderson recalled the welcome he had always received during the war at the WVS canteen on Doncaster station. Mrs. P. Allison, in "old" uniform, appeared with mug and spoon with yet another cup of tea as in the Doncaster station days - and presented the Commander with a Jubilee mug and spoon. Everyone had a most enjoyable day.

Association members gave WRVS help at the County Stand of the "Museum of Army Transport" exhibition in Beverley. WRVS was able to put on a Golden Jubilee Exhibition of its own.

S. Humberside Mrs. D. Stokes MBE was hostess to 32 members for a "Strawberry Tea", where they were happy to meet some new younger members. A raffle produced £30 for the Benevolent Fund.

Lincolnshire Mrs. D. Cook BEM The Golden Jubilee Service in Lincoln Cathedral was graced by the presence of Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, President of WRVS in the East Midlands.

N. Humberside Mrs. P. Allison. At their Christmas Lunch, they were happy to welcome Miss Collison, now 90 years of age. Two members with long experience helped at two stalls "war time fashion" - with tea in jam jars - as the 50 year old engine "Mallard" passed through Beverley station on its way to the coast

NE4 Mrs. L ZIEGLER MBE

Members attended Golden Jubilee Services in London, York and Wakefield. In Wakefield a collection was made, and £25 was donated to the Benevolent Fund. A dinner was held in the new Town Hall, and Mrs. H. Foster OBE spoke about Lady Reading.

MID AREA 1. Mrs. W. PENGILLEY

Our Association now has over 100 members. In the summer we held a teaparty when Miss Phyllis Castle told us of her visit to St. James' Palace for the presentation of a silver Kothimara Kukri to H.M. the Queen Mother by the Brigade of Gurkhas. At the end of 1987 a new group was formed in Redditch by Miss E. Smith, and now has 20 members. Mrs. R. Powell of Peterstow has started a group around the Ross on Wye area, helped by Miss Packman.

MID AREA 2. Mrs. H SMITH.

Mrs. Christophersen, Association Chairman, joined the Golden Jubilee Lunch in Nottingham in July. 135 members were present, representing three Counties and Cities. A Jubilee Spoon was presented to Members with over 48 years service, and districts were asked to give Jubilee mugs to members who were unable to be there because of ill-health.

Nottingham City had a Celebration outing to Yorkshire in July, visiting Holmfirth and other spots where the series "The Last of the Summer Wine" is filmed, Howarth, the home of the Brontes, the village of Emmerdale, and finally to a meal of fish and chips in Harry Ramsden's "biggest chip shop in the World".
Leicestershire In May 25 members went to Rutland Water, including a boat trip on the lake, which has a large variety of bird life, and tea at a lake-side hotel. Mrs. H. Smith invited members to tea in July, which was a lovely afternoon, and in September members went to Caithness Glass in Norfolk for the day.

MID AREA 3 Mrs. M F OSWALD.

Solihull meets three or four times a year for coffee, and about 25 of the 40 members attend. This is always a very pleasant and friendly morning.

ANGLIA, AREA 1. Mrs. E C CHARNLEY.

News of the Association is spreading, and we keep in touch with members who are ill and housebound.

Bedfordshire has few members, but Organisers are publicising the Association and we hope to appoint a County Representative soon.

Cambridgeshire Mrs. E. Connor, MBE We now have more than 100 members, most of them based in Huntingdon or Cambridge, though Peterborough is growing rapidly. The nation's oldest member (102) lives in Wisbech, and she was delighted to receive a Golden Jubilee letter from our President, Dame Barbara Shenfield. Transport is a problem, though we did muster a convoy of 8 cars for a tour of Kimbolton Castle in July. Earlier in the year members entered the County Jubilee Handcrafts Competition.

Hertfordshire Mrs. E. Sewell MBE. Fourteen members enjoyed their annual lunch in July at Betty Sewell's riverside home. Many members attended the County's Golden Jubilee Service at St. Albans Cathedral.

Northamptonshire Mrs. A. Perkins MBE We hold three lunches a year, and at present we have 53 members, mostly in Rushden. All Association members were invited to the WRVS Golden Jubilee Garden Party at the Grendon Hall, Rushden on 13th. September.

ANGLIA AREA 2. Mrs. M GORDON.

Berkshire carry on with regular meetings.

Oxford are planning an inaugural meeting in October.

We welcome them and wish them well.

Buckinghamshire is still rather low key!

ANGLIA, AREA 3. Mrs. E D CLAYDON.

Meetings and luncheons throughout the Counties have been well attended. An update on Round the Country: Mrs. Morrison Jack (now 97) was a happy and gracious hostess for an Association meeting held recently in her Residential Home, Thorburn.

Several small groups have held "exploratory" lunches. Mrs Malden, also aged 97, was so pleased to be able to attend the Golden Jubilee Service at Westminster Abbey. Great Yarmouth members joined with WRVS in providing refreshments for a Rotary Club Retirement Exhibition. Southend was unable to find a tea venue for 35 members for an outing to Burnham-on-Crouch. Imagine how grateful they were when the WRVS District Organiser offered the use of the Old People's Home, and provided tea for them.

SE AREA 1 Miss M T COOKE MBE.

Surrey All members of the Association were invited to the Golden Jubilee tea party held at the Royal Horticultural Gardens at Wisley on 24th May. 85 members attended, together with Miss Cooke and Mrs. B. Evans, County Organiser, who announced that Mrs. W. Robinson had been nominated Woking's Eminent Citizen of the Year.

E. Sussex. Hove 38 members visited Loseley Farms at Guildford in June. They toured the farm on a tractor-drawn truck, and then the 400 year-old house. In May members were invited to join in the County Golden Jubilee Service at Eastbourne and the Celebration tea in the Town Hall. Hastings and Rother had a celebration tea at Mrs. D. Edward's house. Brighton had regular meetings. Mrs. K. Willey who has been Branch rep. for many years has now retired. She is thanked very much for her services

West Kent On 10th. October they held the Association Celebration Lunch in Tunbridge Wells, with Mrs. A. Christophersen, Chairman of the Association, as guest speaker.

SE AREA 2. Mrs. D J SIMPKINS BEM. .
Members in all parts joined in the WRVS Golden Jubilee Services.

Hampshire Mrs. C. Webb. The summer meeting was held once again at Mrs. Webb's lovely home on the Beaulieu River on 18th, May. Mrs. A. Christophersen, Association Chairman, was the principal speaker. Mrs. M. Albrow, Secretary, did a wonderful job organising the food and cooking the Birthday Cake.

West Sussex. The Golden Jubilee lunch was held on 30th June at East Preston at the home of Mrs. M. Allen. Luncheon was prepared by three members, and there was a talk on Services Welfare by Mrs. A. Wilkes.

Dorset All members of the Association were kindly invited to the Luncheon following the Golden Jubilee Service

Isle of Wight Mrs. V. Horsey. They celebrated their first anniversary, attended the Golden Jubilee service and lunch, and have since held a garden party at the organiser's house.

SW 1 Mrs. K RICHARDS.

Mrs. Richards writes that " SW1 has a membership of 324 and 30 new members have joined since June 1987.

It was with great regret we said good-bye to Mrs. K. Barker as Area Representative. She had worked tirelessly and helped to build the membership, and leaves SW1 in a healthy state, for which we thank her"

Gloucestershire Mrs. J Connop. A very successful Golden Jubilee lunch was held in July. 74 members attended, and welcomed Mrs. J Walden-Jones, Vice-Chairman of WRVS, Mr. Charles Irving, M.P. for Cheltenham, Mr. F. Littlewood, Town Clerk, Mrs. M. Garland, OBE, Area Organiser, and Mrs. K Richards, Association Area Rep.. The birthday cake was cut by two ladies who have been members for 50 years.

Wiltshire Mrs. K Low. 32 members attended a Jubilee Lunch at Trowbridge cooked by Mrs. Glendenning assisted by a couple of helpers. One member travelled from Swanage to join the celebration.

Avon, Bristol City and Area. Mrs. R Matthews.

Members were invited to attend the various WRVS Jubilee Celebrations

SW AREA 2 Miss M SCOTT.

WRVS District Organisers were all splendidly co-operative in inviting Association members to the various Golden Jubilee functions.

East Devon All members were included in the Garden Party which took place in the grounds of Cedar Shade, the WRVS Old People's home in Sidmouth. Mrs. Alex Stanley MBE of the Association cut the Birthday cake.

Devon At the Golden Jubilee Service in Exeter Cathedral, The Chairman, Dame Barbara Shenfield, DBE, presented a kneeler to the Dean of Exeter. It was made by Mrs. B. Atherton of the Association.

Somerset Mrs. B. Flinn. The usual lunch was held on the 8th November. Mrs. Courage of the Association cut the Golden Jubilee cake jointly with the youngest WRVS recruit, an 18 year old.

LONDON NW Mrs. D M STEVENS.

Harrow Members meet for monthly coffee mornings, each time on a different day of the week to accommodate members' other commitments. Mrs. Stevens held a cheese and wine lunch in her home, and £40 was raised for the Benevolent Fund.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

LONDON:-

N Area Mrs. M. Downing, BEM,

NE Area

SE Area Mrs. E.G. Block MBE,

NW Area Mrs. M. Forsdick MBE,

SW Area Mrs. D. M. Stevens,

NORTH WEST:-

Area 1. Mrs. B.F. Wilson MBE,

Area 2 Mrs O Churchill,

Area 4 Mrs. M. J. Preston,

NORTH EAST:-

Area 1 Mrs. C.V. Smurthwaite MBE,

Area 2 Mrs. B. Burkitt,

Area 3 Mrs. P. James MBE,

Area 4 Mrs. L. Ziegler MBE,

SCOTLAND:-
Mrs. S. Mitchell-McKell - Crickton
Chairman, 211 York Road, Edinburgh

ROYAL
VOLUNTARY
SERVICE

ROYAL
VOLUNTARY
SERVICE

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

AREA REPRESENTATIVES (continued)

MIDLANDS:-

Area 1 Mrs. W. Pengilley,

Area 2 Mrs. H. Smith,

Area 3 Mrs. M. F. Oswald,

HOME COUNTIES, ANGLIA:-

Area 1 Mrs. E. Charnley,

Area 2 Mrs. M. Gordon,

Area 3 Mrs. E.D. Claydon,

SOUTH EAST:-

Area 1 Miss M.T. Cooke MBE,

Area 2 Mrs. D.J. Simpkins BEM,

SOUTH WEST:-

Area 1 Mrs. K. Richards,

Area 2 Miss M. Scott,

WALES:- Mrs. L. Brotherton,

SCOTLAND:- Mrs. S. Maitland-Makgill-Crichton,
Chairman,