# WRVS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ASSOCIATION

#### No 57 Autumn 2002

#### Letter from the Chairman

### 82 Bootham, YORK YO30 7DS

Dear Member,

By the time you read this the summer will have passed and the dark nights will be with us.

We had an enjoyable residential Reunion and AGM in July where the curator of the Museum of Costume spoke to us at length and showed slides. Later we had an open topped bus tour of Bath with commentary which was very informative, even the sun shone for us.

Next year will be the Associations 30th Anniversary. It has been decided that universities are now getting too expensive, many of them have steps these days as they continue to expand, and this is not suitable for us as we inevitably get older. Therefore it has been decided that we hold a Special Reunion to celebrate this occasion in either an hotel or at Milton Hill WRVS Headquarters in Oxfordshire at the end of September or beginning of October 2003. 1 do hope you will be able to join us for this special celebration.

As the next newsletter will not be with you until Spring, I would like to wish you a very early Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Healthy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

# The following item is important and we ask all members to read it.

#### Financial report from Annual General Meeting 5 July 2002

At the Annual General Meeting in Bath on 5th July 2002 it was suggested that a brief financial report be put in the newsletter for the benefit of those members who were unable to attend.

Firstly some interesting statistics on membership details at 31 March 2002

Total membership	3,300
Annual members	958
Payment by standing order	/ 224
Life members	2,118

This means that <u>all</u> our current income is received from only <u>one third</u> of the membership. Of those members who elect to renew their subscriptions annually approximately 300 had not paid anything in the last 12 months. It is the Association policy to remove members who have not paid for more than two years.

The last financial year resulted in a deficit of  $\pounds 1,300$  largely due to nonpayment of subscriptions. Following the meeting some life members made donations and several have since decided to make an annual payment by standing order. Should anyone wish to make a regular payment by standing order for any amount the necessary forms can be obtained from your Group Treasurer, Divisional Representative or from Head Office, 82 Bootham York. Subscriptions can also be sent to them or directly to the office at York .

We are most anxious not to lose touch with any member who appreciates receiving the Newsletter, Action magazine or attending group meetings, but when subscriptions are not renewed we wonder if the members are still able to appreciate these contacts. If you know of anyone in this situation <u>please let us know</u>.

# Please Note

#### "Action" Magazine

Some Association members are feeling that they have to return their "Action" magazines because they are no longer working members of WRVS. They should not do this. They get this magazine <u>precisely because they are members of the Association</u>, which is, of course, a part of WRVS.

# News from the Divisions

# NORTH EAST DIVISION - Headquarters Darlington

# Northumberland, Tyne & Wear - Div. Rep. Mrs S. McCormack BEM

Mrs McCormack writes that the sudden death of Mrs Enid Hurst in April was a great shock to all her friends. A member of WRVS for 42 years, Mrs Hurst had worked at both Region and Area and latterly was Treasurer for the Division. She will be sadly missed.

Mrs Hardy sends a long report from the Sunderland group. Their year began with a well-supported AGM. Over the ensuing months they had several interesting speakers. One spoke about the work done by "The Samaritan's Purse" who collect filled shoe boxes from well-wishers, for children's gifts. These bring great joy to the children who receive them in the various countries. Another talk was by the fund-raiser for St Benedict's Hospice who came to receive their cheque for £250. This group have supported the Hospice for the past 10 years. Another speaker showed slides of the works of Faberge, while another entertained them with stories of his work with the Customs and Excise Service. In May they held a Jubilee Party, the room decorated in red, white and blue flags and balloons and most members dressed in the same colours. A group called "Together in Harmony" entertained them with songs and they held a 50's quiz and had the mandatory gateau, scones and biscuits. It was a great success. In July, members and friends visited Alnwick Castle Gardens and they had a super day in mixed weather. They welcomed 4 new members. Several members attended the annual get-together in Newcastle when they enjoyed a superb lunch. It was good to hear members say to each other when they left the coach, "See you in September " obviously enjoying the Newcastle monthly meeting.

Sadly this group have lost Mrs Larsson, Mrs Turner, and Mrs Ridley who will all be sadly missed.

<u>Newcastle's</u> April outing, writes Mrs Doyle, was as usual this year at the Theatre Royal where Carousel was staged by the West End Operatic Society. It was beautifully presented with excellent costumes and lovely voices(some perhaps not so beautiful came from the audience !) as it was impossible not to sing the well known songs from the show. The last time Mrs Doyle saw it was in 1948, a student in London sitting on a hard bench near the roof.. Happy Days! July's trip started on Newcastle's own spectacular Millennium Bridge as some of the club members had not walked on it. The visit had a bonus in the appearance of 4 immaculate police horses and riders. Puzzled at first as there **was** no crime to be seen as they lined up on the bridge a police launch appeared with a photographer and it turned into a photoshoot, for them too of course !. When they left the bridge the horses had left mementoes behind and back came two policemen with shovels and sacks to much laughter and comments

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about rhubarb and roses! They then went to lunch in Northumberland and on to Alnwick Gardens, recently opened. It was full of roses and an abundance of other flowers. A cascade of stepped water rushes down every half hour. This is accompanied by fountains rising from the middle and sides of the cascade, the effect was stunning. It was a lovely sunny day and sitting with their ice creams they said that they had enjoyed a great day out. Now, Mrs Doyle adds, she has to think about planning next year's trip! (A hard act to follow !. Ed.)

The <u>Whitley Bay/North Shields</u> branch met to discuss their future plans and it was decided, writes Mrs Dawson, to meet every quarter in each others homes. On a lovely morning in July they met for coffee at Mrs Jackman's home, where 9 members enjoyed her beautiful garden. Mrs Charles volunteered her home for the next meeting in October. They also had lunch at the Old Assembly rooms where 14 members enjoyed the meal.

Messages of sympathy were sent to Mrs Frew and Mrs Peacock on the death of their husbands. Mr Frew had given valuable help to WRVS, organising outings etc.

One member, Mrs Newham is convalescing after a spell in hospital . She was 94 in August.

At a presentation at the hospital in August, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Dawson were awarded their 27 year service clasps.

Mrs Sealey's group continue to hold monthly coffee mornings in <u>Ponteland</u> as most members live in that corner of the county. The 14 members who attended the lunch enjoyed the occasion. Mrs Fenwick entertained us with her amusing talk and we enjoyed meeting old friends from other districts.

We are sad to report the death in June of Lillian Barrons. Lillian had been a member of the WRVS and the Association for over 30 years. A former member of the ATS Lillian was a great contributor to the WRVS, and was involved with Meals on Wheels, running the office, clothing stores, and emergency services. We will all miss her and extend our sympathy to her loving family.

Durham, Cleveland, N. Yorks, E. Yorks and Hull - Div Rep. Mrs R. Thompson OBE

Although <u>Harrogate</u> numbers are dwindling they still manage to meet on the first Friday in the month for coffee and a chat, sometimes with a talk, sometimes slides, but their meeting room is expensive and they can only afford an hour which passes very quickly. They do, however, enjoy trips to the Royal Hall for concerts where the matinee suits them fine. or to the newly refurbished Sun Pavilion in the Valley Gardens, (opened by the Queen), or sometimes to the theatre. Mrs Pantin adds that they went again to Harlow Carr gardens and took tea afterwards. This, she says, is becoming an annual event. Sadly this group have lost one of their most loyal members, Mrs Dorothy Greetham, who in spite of ill health came to meetings whenever she could and was always smiling and uncomplaining. She will be greatly missed. Selby's low membership has caused problems with catering for luncheons. Mrs Altass says the caterer they have is not willing to continue to provide for less than fifteen. So once again they are homeless. However through the good offices of their treasurer, Mr Donald Kay, they have been welcomed to Selby Bowling Club. However in spite of this marvellous help it has not been plain sailing. In April, they had to go to the local fish and chip café. All appears to be well now thank goodness, Mrs Altass adds that she is, as ever, grateful to her helpers, Mr Kay and Mrs Lock.

<u>Scarborough's</u> year has followed much the same pattern as previously with coffee mornings at committee members' houses which are always well attended. Sunday tea kindly organised by Shelagh Chamberlain at her tea rooms was a great success. To mark the Jubilee, 'afternoontea' was booked at the Stained Glass Showrooms where tables were set in the beautiful gardens and the weather was kind. Lady Whittaker attended and the special iced cake was cut by a past chairman, Mrs Barbara Mackenzie. The annual outing was to Sutton Park, home of Sir Reginald and Lady Sheffield another occasion of happy hours spent together. They are fortunate to have six new members whom they are delighted to welcome.

Sadly, this branch has suffered the loss of several friends amongst whom was Mrs Betty Hedley from Whitby. Betty joined WRVS in 1970 and became Assistant Organiser to Cherry Cummin, later Organiser when Cherry moved to York. This position she held until 1991. Meals on wheels, hospital shop, trolley service and children's holidays came under her charge as did the clothing store until its closure. Her membership of the Association dated from 1986. She will be missed and we salute her caring and service.

Darlington branch started the year with their New Year lunch. They decided, as their room at Squire's Court was no longer available on Tuesday mornings, to meet on Thursdays but this turned out to be a day on which most members had other appointments, so they now meet on Wednesday afternoons, - afternoon tea instead of morning coffee! So far this seems a good solution. In April they visited the Garden Centre where Mrs Evans had ordered afternoon tea after a pleasant walk round and some bought plants. In June they celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with cakes and wine and a loyal toast. They discussed future venues and decided that the Technical College gave excellent food and service at reasonable prices

The July trip was to Hawes and for the whole of the 11/2 hour trip it rained, but they had a nice tea at the cheese factory and enjoyed looking round the souvenir shop. They walked round the delightful town and then returned to Darlington "over the tops" when the sun shone for the lovely ride back. Mrs Evans says "it did their hearts good" to see lots of cows and sheep in the fields

Mrs Thompson says, of the <u>Middlesborough</u> branch that she had asked branch leaders to send their reports directly to the editor for the last issue, but after getting home she found there had been no news from the branch. She then found that their Chairman, Pat Gostick was not well and waiting to go into hospital, but that the group had continued to

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enjoy their monthly meetings. Mrs Thompson then found that Pat had, indeed gone into hospital and had had her operation. Sadly, in a very short time she died. Then driving to the funeral, Mrs Thompson had a tyre blow-out and missed being there. Members told her that it was well attended, reflecting Pat's popularity. They will miss her greatly. Pat's death has left the group without a leader and they have to find another. (We wish them well and hope they do. Ed)

The <u>Hartlepool</u> branch started the year with their annual luncheon, the 15th consecutive one since 1986. In January one of their members died and her daughter asked that the money collected, at the funeral, be given to the Association. So a celebration tea was held with entertainment and they remembered Lily, whose husband had driven for Books on Wheels for many years. In February they enjoyed an Art and Photography slide show by a member of the Hartlepool Society. Next month the vicar's wife, who had adopted two children gave a very interesting talk about it. They also had a talk about the local Hospice and made a collection for it. In May they visited Alnwick castle with lunch at the Oaks Hotel. It was a highlight in June when they welcomed the editor of the Hartlepool Mail as their speaker and Mrs Stamp (Sorry for the typing error in the last issue, Mrs Stamp. Ed), enclosed a cutting from the paper's editorial, where he writes that he got a lovely reception from the ladies and that they listened avidly to everything he said. He concludes, "I walked out feeling quite pleased with myself that another group of Mail readers seem happy enough with the newspaper."

In her report from <u>E.Yorks</u>, Mrs Priestley says that members have had regular meetings. They have had several members in hospital but happily all are now home, and they wish them a speedy recovery. Two members attended the national AGM but it was too far for most to travel.

Mrs James writes to record the death, aged 104 of Mrs Mary Collinson, who worked in the WRVS County Office 5days a week until she was 82. Friends who knew her described her as willing, cheerful and fun. (Is 104 a record in the WRVS? Ed,)

A member of County Office secretarial staff, Mrs Dorothy Clowe, has died. She will be remembered by Beverley members and will be sadly missed by all who enjoyed working with her. A very gentle, kindly person with a smile for all who visited the office.

Two members from Wilberfoss, Peggy and Harry Parsons reached their Diamond Wedding and they send them congratulations and best wishes. Several members were able to join Winn Taylor, her family and friends in August when she returned from Edinburgh for a few days to celebrate her 90th birthday. A happy day for all.

The editor has had a letter from a member's daughter from Darlington telling us of her mother, Mrs Dorothy Embleton's 100th birthday. Dorothy lost her sight and had to give up her duties but many members will remember her. Sadly the photographs sent are too dark to reproduce. Although late, we send Mrs Embleton greetings and hope she is keeping well. She now lives in Darlington, near her daughter and for anyone wishing to ring her to have a chat, her number is

Three members of York branch attended the Bath conference , an interesting meeting, says Mrs Brown, their chairman, and an opportunity to exchange views and ideas with members from other branches. York have welcomed 2 new members, but sadly three members had to resign though health and family problems. The annual outing was to Duncombe Park, at Helmsley where they had a guided tour and a lovely tea. in the restaurant.

#### South and West Yorks. - Div. Rep. Mrs June Pitts BEM

Mrs Pitts writes that the Calderdale group have enjoyed their usual meetings at Halifax Town Hall during the summer. On one occasion they were entertained to a talk by the Rev Canon Frank Carless on the wives of Henry VIII. She says that they all agreed that they were not to be envied and that she learns more history from their speakers than she ever did in school! They celebrated the Queen's Jubilee by giving a TeaParty for over 90 people from three over60s clubs in Halifax. The Association group, dressed in red, white and blue garments and trimmings, and provided sandwiches, cakes and trifle, under the watchful eye of Mrs Highley. Excellent decorations on the walls and tables was organised by Mrs Bunce and Miss Robinson. Entertainment was provided by "Dickie and Dennis" who accompanied their songs on banjo and ukulele. They finished by raising the roof with "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the Queen". Donations resulted in a surplus, so they presented each departing guest with a fiftypence coin and a "Queen Elizabeth" rose. It was such a happy occasion, and they were all pleased to see that they we had not lost their touch! Mrs Highley was a member of the WRVS party invited to the Jubilee event at Harewood House, a very special event, in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen.At a meeting in July, they welcomed Miss Tennant, recalling her experiences as a Saga tour guide and her job caring for a group of Americans who came to visit universities. She had some very amusing incidents to relate . Mrs Pitts and four members attended the AGM at Bath. It was a great success, thanks to the Association Chairman, Mrs Pat Copping and the York Head Office staff.

The <u>Wakefield</u> group celebrated the Golden Jubilee with a "Faith Tea" at the home of Mrs Lil Ziegler which was well attended, with Mrs Ziegler resplendent in a red, white and blue beaded wig! Last February, Mrs Williams celebrated her diamond wedding, and was delighted to be presented with a medal by the NHS in recognition of 40 years voluntary service. Congratulations to Marie!

#### Leics, Lincs and Notts. - Div. Rep. Mrs J. Newman

Another busy half year in the three counties. Many Districts arranged a special celebration of

their own for Jubilee year.

Sadly they have lost a number of members through resignations and death, however most Districts have recruited new members, so numbers are fairly balanced.

Mrs Newman reports that three members from <u>Rushcliffe</u> joined her at Bath for the National A.G.M. which they found interesting if rather tiring.

The <u>Leicester</u> programme has followed the usual lines, with coffee mornings and meetings to compensate for fewer day trips.In February they enjoyed Luncheon at which 64 were able to attend. This is arranged twiceyearly and is most popular. The first day trip was to Worcester in April. They celebrated the Queen's Jubilee by visiting Sandringham House in June which was a glorious day weatherwise and a most successful occasion. The House was especially interesting this year with exhibitions arranged for Jubilee year. They are happy to say that membership continues to increase.

Lincoln are unfortunate in not being able to recruit any new members and have lost several through deaths. The periodic luncheons have been maintained however and enjoyed. A break was taken for summer, to be restarted in the Autumn.

<u>N. E. Lincolnshire</u>. meetings are held infrequently, a lunch in May and in July a summer tea were held both were well attended and enjoyed by members who had a chance to catch up on the news some of whom have quite a distance to travel to attend meet ups. A display of photographs of WRVS activities over the years proved to be of great interest. The District has done very well in attracting quite a number of new members, to compensate for losing a few.

<u>Ashfield</u>, is struggling to keep its members together; never a large District, again having the problem of distance between central points of the area. They have acquired a few new members but lost a number through resignations and deaths.

They were saddened by the death in August of Mrs Kenney who was District Organiser until this position was ended, she then took on the post of Chairman for the <u>Ashfield</u> Association until she had to retire through ill health. She was also a Magistrate sitting in Nottingham for a number of years. She was a much liked lady and left a large vacuum in the local Association.

A luncheon was held in January attended by Mrs Newman and Mrs Tarpey the Area Volunteering Communications Officer. Plans were made for an outing later but this did not take place due to lack of support.

Bassettlaw. group on the other hand has gained a number of new members during the last six months. They have lost a few of course, but the group seems to be thriving. In March the A.G.M. was well attended when a 'FAITH' lunch was enjoyed. The new program for 2002/2003 was confirmed. In May, fourteen met for a carvery lunch in a pub in Firbeck village and in June a Strawberry Tea was held at the home of Mr & Mrs M. Smith. Fortunately the weather was kind and members were able to make full use of the garden. A bring and buy

was also held. In June a WRVS Jubilee Garden Party was held at the home of Mr & Mrs Moore in Blyth. Invitations were extended to Association members who were pleased to hear the Queen's greetings from the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, Sir Andrew Buchanan. A most pleasant occasion.

The <u>Broxtowe</u> meetings are held monthly. being mostly coffee mornings. The A.G.M. was held in May and well attended, and in July an outing was enjoyed by 22 members. This took the form of a lunch at WestononTrent followed by a visit to Denby Pottery; the weather was warm and sunny. The coach driver entertained his passengers with a mine of interesting information.

Ena Dunn, aged 88, is shown on the photograph carrying the Queen's Baton.. She carried it for 500 yards at Wrangle, Lincs. on the lst July 2002, part of the NottinghamLincoln leg of the Baton's journey. Ena, who has no idea who nominated her, raised £214 for Beeston Age Concern, to be used for a special tea for the handicapped and housebound. For 8 years Ena served on Broxtowe Borough Council, and when granted the Freedom of Broxtowe Borough in 1994, the citation quoted the wide range of her work for the community. As the first secretary of Age Concern, she was given £5 towards starting up what became a large and flourishing concern. Her other activities were



running a WRVS luncheon club, serving as a School Governor for 30 years, a voluntary weekly cleaner of the Parish Church and now Chairman of Age Concern, organizing two holidays per year for members.

Sadly they report that Edie Rushton died shortly after her 92nd birthday in February. She ran a Derby and Joan Club and Luncheon Club from the early 70's until, with great regret. she had to resign, aged 90. She also helped at a Baby Clinic, and was the enthusiastic raconteur for a local choir.

<u>Gedling's</u> spring Beetle Drive was an hilarious occasion. It was surprising how many did not know how to play! The compere had a hard task to make her instructions heard above the laughter. Two serious meetings were talks and slide shows from the BRC Fire Victim Support, and Dogs for the Deaf (with Jaffa the Dog!) The Speakers were excellent and although generally aware of these organisations, little did we realize how much they do for the community.

Thirty members attended the AGM on a lovely sunny day in May. The business part of the agenda was dealt with quickly and the Committee served a delectable lunch. Problems were forgotten amidst the chatter. Their June meeting prompted the Committee to make it a JUBILEE Party arranging tablecloths, serviettes and hats in Red White and Blue. The centrepiece of the main table was a Jubilee Cake and a magnificent red. white & blue flower arrangement done by a committee member. The Secretary had made r/w/b aprons for VOLUNTARY

committee members who acted as waitresses. A Grace to HM Queen Elizabeth (composed by the Secretary and sent to us, - sorry no room in this edition Ed.) and sung to the tune of Eidleweiss was sung in place of the usual Grace. A Royal quiz followed. They also enjoyed a summer Cream Tea by the River, and later had a cruise on the River. This group have some very happy meetings but the Social Secretary has been quite busy this year sending out Get Well Cards. They do sincerely think of those who are not well enough to attend meetings.

In <u>Mansfield</u>, in January, 20 members enjoyed a 'Christmas Lunch' at the Hostess Restaurant which Mrs Newman attended. The Chairman and Secretary organised another luncheon for members and working WRVS members at Sharatt Court delicious home made soup followed by apple pie, ice cream and coffee. Mrs Mamby (Emergency Services) Mrs Tarpey, Volunteering Officer and Mrs Phillips were present but due to another engagement Mrs Newman could not attend. Mrs Ball was presented with a Clasp to her long service medal, and Mrs. Hubble and Mrs. Brown with their long service medals. Mrs Newman's report sends "many congratulations to those ladies". <u>Mansfield</u> is fortunate in retaining members but would like a few more.

In <u>Newark</u>, another widespread District, membership is decreasing though there have been some new members. Mrs Tarpey joined Mrs Newman in attending the quarterly lunch held in March and the Jubilee was specially toasted at the June lunch. This group's new luncheon venue seems to be a success.

February's meeting was another chance for <u>Rushcliffe's</u> members to eat a lunch at the pub they use for some gatherings. March and May meetings were coffee and chat mornings. The Annual General Meeting took place in April, with no changes in the makeup of the Committee, all quite happy to carry on doing the job, (but sometimes may think that new faces could bring in new ideas). The June meeting was very interesting, Mr. Bryan Harvey gave a talk, with slides, about the work of Guide Dogs for the Disabled. The slides showed that the dogs opened doors, got washing from the machine, and fetched and carried all manner of things. The charity started with the help of Guide Dogs for the Blind, some of whose dogs were more suited for the needs of sighted disabled people. Mr. Harvey had had polio as a child, is wheelchair bound and having his dog has made life much easier for him and his disabled wife. Three committee members attended the AGM in Bath and thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone, seeing lots of faces recognised from past events. It was a pity about the hills for some but it was a very enjoyable get together.

A month later than most people they celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with a coach tour and tea at Willersley Castle. once the home of the Arkwright family, now a hotel. The setting, in hills overlooking the rolling countryside of Derbyshire is wonderful. This group closes in August so this outing finished their year on a high note.

Unfortunately there have been the deaths of four members and one exmember so some of the committee have had a few funerals to attend, always with a little token of the WRVS in the shape of a posy of Rosemary and Ivy.

#### **NORTH WEST DIVISION** - Headquarters Manchester

Cumbria and Lancashire - Div. Rep. Mrs M. McCambridge Lancashire County Rep Mrs D.Hunt

Mrs Marjorie Stevenson attended an Area WRVS meeting to hear Gerry Burton speak and saw their Newsletter giving names of four WRVS members who are retiring from active service. They all live in this area. Perhaps it could be followed up.

Merseyside and Cheshire - (Div. Rep. Appointment Pending). Merseyside County Rep. Mrs D. Whittingham

#### North and South Manchester - Div. Rep. Mrs Jean Matthews BEM

Bury members held their AGM in March starting with the usual meat and potato pie lunch followed by a discussion. during which Mrs Matthews gave a detailed explanation of the Association. Mrs Pollitt then entertained everyone by reciting amusing Lancashire monologues giving a lighthearted finish to the day. Fifty members and friends had an excellent outing in June calling at the Highfield in Great Eccleston for morning coffee en route to the Prince of Wales Hotel in Southport for lunch. The shopaholics amongst them had plenty of time to browse during the afternoon while the less energetic enjoyed sitting in the gardens on Lord Street in beautiful sunshine.

The highlight of the year for <u>Romiley</u> members was the Jubilee Celebration. They were joined by the ladies who still deliver meals on wheels and who cook for the Luncheon Club. A wonderful gathering. They had a lovely meal, a toast to the Queen, and an excellent illustrated talk by Mrs Hammond, who is very knowledgeable about the Royal Family. At the AGM in February there were no changes to the committee with Mrs West as Chairman, and Mrs Davies Treasurer. In March, Mr Roy Frost, a local historian gave a talk and in April, Mrs Potts spoke on "Birds and other creatures of the wild". They had an outing into Cheshire to the Country Café for a good lunch in May. Finally the usual Strawberry Cream Tea with Bring and Buy Stall in July made us solvent again! In Sale in January, Mr Collins spoke on an unusual subject, tombs. He had slides showing all sorts of tombs and graves, pointing out statues with different wording and shapes that one might not always notice. Not a gruesome subject at all, amusing at times, and it will make them open their eyes when they visit stately homes or graveyards in future. They welcomed the warden from Sale Water Park to the February meeting and he had lots to tell about his work with plants, animals, and of course the water. At this time they had flood warnings in the Mersey Valley and he was on alert to

open the flood gates if the river flowed any higher. His talk with slides told of rare plants, frogs, and trees, and dealing with the public in his job as warden.

In March they joined the WRVS AGM and met many old <u>Sale</u> friends. April found them thinking about the outdoors and Mrs Eastwood came to talk about gardening, and her garden in particular. She showed slides of different corners of her garden and the wonderful display of trees and flowers she had grown. She brought a few cuttings with her and also books with hints. Still in garden mode, in May they had an outing to the Vicarage Gardens Nursery where they had a good wander round, a cup of tea and bought a few plants. In June Mrs Dyson came to tell a story about "£3, 2/6d and 6d" and they enjoyed a very good afternoon with her. A vegetarian cooking demonstration in July with Alex Connell from the Vegetarian Society showed how to make soups, casseroles and stews with interesting ingredients including wine. The tasting was excellent! They had had a good, varied season.

# Staffs.Shropshire, Derbyshire - (Appointment Pending)

Derbyshire County Rep. Mrs D Martin

South Staffs. County Rep. Mrs D. M. Tweedie

<u>Derbyshire</u> members met for lunch in April at Dronfield, on a lovely spring day. It was the first time for several years that many members had met together and everyone enjoyed the event. As a result three new members joined. Betty Hills, who has nobly kept the Association "alive" in the area for many years was unfortunately too ill to attend but Joan Muscroft stepped in and all went very well. Mrs Martin says they are grateful to both of them and pleased that Betty made a quick recovery. They are hoping for an even better attendance at their get-together in October.

# SOUTH EAST DIVISION - Headquarters 99 White Lion St. N1 9GF

#### Cambs and Northants - Div. Rep. Mrs Titcomb

Mrs Charnley reports that her members in the <u>Cambridge</u> group enjoyed their outing to Hunstanton but little interest was shown in the proposed visit to Willington Garden Centre in Bedford though a luncheon put on in place was well attended.

Mrs Titcomb is sad to report the death of two members from the <u>Peterborough</u> group., Molly White, who with the late Joy Binch ran the Gloucester Centre kiosk for many years on most days of the week though they now only "man" it on two afternoons per week. The second member, Eric Sutton, was responsible for the Books on Wheels Service for a number of years. With the loss of the Meals on Wheels contract in Peterborough at the end of

June, Mrs Titcomb hoped they might recruit a few members but noone came forward. Two who help at the Magistrates' Court in the city are waiting to know their fate, due to the WRVS policy of continuing only with Hospital work and the elderly. In March, members heard a most interesting talk about the Magistracy and were even asked what should be done in certain cases. They say "they do not think they would have been put on the list of potential magistrates so it was just as well they are too elderly". In May they reminisced about what they were doing when they heard that the Queen has ascended the throne following the death of her father, George VI. In July they enjoyed a luncheon together.

#### Oxon. Beds and Bucks - Div. Rep. Mrs J. Callaway

From <u>Oxfordshire</u> we get a very happy report of how they got real pleasure from a very successful rallying of WRVS Oxfordshire, at a Garden Party given by Mrs Boot, Chairman of theWRVS Benevolent Trust and newly joined member of the Association. (A warm welcome to Mrs Boot ! Ed. ) Mrs Goulding and Mrs Janice Venables had worked hard to bring together their WRVS colleagues; the garden was beautiful and so was the weather. Mrs Boot said she would 'plug' the aid that the Benevolent Trust can offer and invited Mrs Callaway to speak for the Association. They hope that there will be more meetings in Oxfordshire and more help for Mrs Goulding in keeping together a delightful group of ladies

The <u>Bedfordshire</u> group sometimes wonder if it is a masochistic streak in the English character that leads to the attempts to organise Garden Parties in an English summer. Bedfordshire's Golden Jubilee party hosted by Do and Godfrey Vesey on June 6, was a great success: Mrs Copping attended and gave the Loyal Toast and 70 Bedfordshire members ate strawberries and cream and enjoyed the music of earlier years provided by a duo Mrs Vesey had hired. Mrs Callaway acknowledges anxious planning in the days beforehand as Do worked out just how she would get 70/80 people into the house , if as seemed likely, the rain continued to pour down. Other activities also gave rise to some sticky moments. The projected arrival of their members for lunch at a country restaurant appeared to precipitate a change of manager, a breakin and (just an hour before) a powercut. On the other hand, the AGM, when the meal was cooked entirely by the committee, was a popular event. The committee has also tried two less formal outings to the EastAnglian Garden Show and to the FlowerFestival at the historic church of Chalgrove.

#### Norfolk and Suffolk - Div. Rep. Mrs Mary Taylor

Mrs Scholey has written from her new home in Portishead to say how much she misses her friends in this Division and in a letter to the editor says "It was great being their Div, Rep. for the past 10 years". (See Avon/Somerset report.)

Just as she was retiring, in February, Mrs Scholey sent us a last report from her former Division. She says they held a very successful Christmas lunch at Cromer which was

well attended. Also in February Gt Yarmouth held another of their popular lunches at the Pier Hotel, Gorleston. Both these active branches have outings planned. Mrs Scholey knows all members will continue to support their new Representative, when she is appointed. She thanks everyone for their support, friendship and the many "welcomes" she has received from their gatherings.

#### Essex, Herts. - Div. Rep. Mrs P Copping

Although the <u>Southend on Sea</u> branch is small, Mrs Tytherleigh continues to attract very good speakers each month. Mrs. Amiss spoke on her role as their MP's wife, bringing up five children at the same time. It was a very interesting talk. They have also had the following speakers; an antique dealer held them spellbound with tales of priceless goods, a councillor spoke of his work of promoting leisure facilities in Southend, a lip reading tutor spoke about the important connection between lip reading, hearing and hearing aids. Finally a speaker came from the local Museums. All very interesting programmes.

The annual meeting and garden party in <u>Hertfordshire</u> was held in Mrs Sewell's lovely garden in July, and as usual it was a beautiful day, enjoyed by all. As this event followed the Reunion and AGM in Bath the Chairman, Mrs. Copping, was able to bring members up to date with what was happening in WRVS and the Association, which was much appreciated. This branch visited a large garden centre where members had an enjoyable time choosing plants. This was followed by tea before returning home.

Berks. - (Div. Rep. Appointment Pending.) County Rep. Mrs Morag Gordon.

#### Surrey, E. & W. Kent, E. & W. Sussex - Div. Rep. Mrs J Rosling

At the time of our last issue, Mrs Rosling had just taken over from Mrs Bright and was catching up with her new duties. So to bring her reports up to date she has sent reports which cover their news from August 2001. She writes that <u>W.Kent</u> members visited Yalding Organic Gardens where they enjoyed a cream tea. Mrs Bright was there too and was presented with gift vouchers from her <u>W.Kent</u> friends to mark her retirement and they were all delighted to learn that Mrs Bright and her husband had just celebrated their Diamond wedding.

Epsom group have met regularly for lunch.

<u>Surrey</u> are very sad to report that their former County Rep. Mrs Betty Evans, MBE died suddenly following a massive stroke after having apparently been making a good recovery. She had worked hard for the branch since her retirement from the job of WRVS County Organiser in 1991.

Mrs Rosling tells us that Mrs Lambert, (the very same Mrs Lambert who has volunteered to

be our next editor -- see Editor's letter) has volunteered to take over <u>Surrey</u> as their new County Rep. Mrs Lambert is going to be a busy member. We wish her well and we are sure she will cope. (WRVS leaders will remember what we used to say in earlier times, "if you want a job done, always ask the busiest person"!.)

In October, Surrey celebrated a lunch at their local golf club which was well attended.

<u>Woking</u>, <u>Farnham</u> and <u>Epsom</u> members are finding transport difficult and this is a problem for them for future functions. <u>Farnham's</u> delightful annual lunch was not so well attended as in the past which was a pity. Their speaker at this lunch was a lady who had spent fifty years as reporter on the Farnham Herald and held them spellbound with tales of old Farnham characters.

<u>Guildford</u> branch have held two functions. They had tea on a visit to Nott Cutts Garden Centre in Cranleigh last September where several purchases were made and a good time was had by all. In November they had a wonderful pre-Christmas three course lunch at Guildford College, cooked and served by students. Several <u>Woking</u> members joined them for this very popular lunch They held their AGM in the new Merrow Church Hall and in June went to Clandon park for tea, where <u>Woking</u> members again joined them.

<u>Woking</u> branch held their annual autumn lunch at the end of November, well attended and most successful. Their committee did all the work for this and members were not even allowed to clear one glass from the tables. ! Last Christmas they held a post-Christmas lunch at the Red Lion, Herswell instead of at golf clubs, which they had done for several years. This was well attended and popular and Mrs Rosling would not be surprised if they choose this venue again.

They are sad to report that the Hove branch has closed. Their members found it increasingly difficult to get to events. (We are sorry they have had to close and we hope they will find the Newsletter brings them news from their division and helps to keep them in touch.) Mrs Rosling finishes her report with a plea to other groups in Surrey and Kent. As she is new to the job, she asks them to get in touch and tell her about their activities. (I do hope they will. Ed )

London S.W. - Div. Rep Mrs A Christophersen

London N.E. - Div. Rep Mrs W Taylor OBE DL

London N.W. - Div. Rep Mrs D Stevens

London S.E. - Div. Rep Mrs G Cleverly

Mrs Christophersen sadly regrets that London Jubilee get-togethers failed to take place due to illness and bereavement. If any groups do meet do let us know for the next issue.

#### Hampshire, Isle of Wight - Div. Rep. Mrs Beryl Adams

Sixty members of the <u>Hampshire</u> group once again enjoyed their annual dinner at their favourite pub near Petersfield in February. These members prefer February, as their Christmas season is so busy with other events. In July they had a jubilee reunion with a cream tea in the pretty village of Buriton.

Mrs Adams is sad to record the deaths of two members. Mrs Albrow had been their treasurer for many years and Mrs Simpkins, formerly joint County Organiser, who was Div. Rep. for <u>Hampshire</u> until she had to give up due to ill health.

#### **SOUTH WEST DIVISION** - Headquarters Exeter

#### Hereford, Worcester, Gloucester - Div. Rep. Mrs J. Connop

The Speaker at the <u>Gloucester</u> meeting held in Shire Hall in April was Mr.David McTeer from the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, one of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives which aims to cut opportunities for crime, reassure people and encouraging neighbourliness. Insurance companies are keen on it and it is the pet hate of burglars. Other schemes work in partnership; eg., Victim Support and Help The Aged. Householders can help by keeping doors and windows locked, putting stickers on windows, etc. Members enjoyed light refreshments during the meeting.

Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) was the subject of Dr. Gwen Owen's talk at the May meeting of the <u>Cheltenham</u> group. VSO has sent people abroad for over 40 years, enabling skilled people to share their knowledge with local communities in the developing world. About 1,000 are sent every year, but they are still short of volunteers. No two placements are the same; they go to 74 countries.. Each volunteer raises £500 towards their placement and must undertake a global education project. VSO provide medical insurance, training, travel costs, a living allowance, rent and various grants. VSO aims not to change the world but to make a difference. Members enjoyed tea and cakes at the end of the meeting.

Miss B.Drake gave a talk on a three week trip she made with her father to the Canadian Rockies, at the Luncheon held in the <u>Tewksbury</u> Masonic Hall in June. They flew to Calgary, exploring the National Park in Banff, visiting Lake Louise, Jasper, Vancouver and the Butchart Gardens and by a wonderful railway trip back through the Rockies to Calgary, seeing the same flowers and plants as in England and lots of wild life. On the flight back they saw the wheat growing area of Saskatchewan.

This group regret to report the death of the founder of the Association in <u>Gloucestershire</u>, Mrs.Littlewood MBE, Centre Organiser for Charlton Kings, later County Organiser for Gloucestershire. She started that Association group, and gave wonderful lunches at her home. Marion was a much loved member who was held in high esteem. Once again they enjoyed a lovely lunch prepared by members in <u>Tewkesbury</u>.

#### Avon and Somerset - Div. Rep. Mrs S Scholey

Mrs Scholey writes to say how much she misses her friends in Norfolk and Suffolk but is happy that she left North Norfolk, Gt. Yarmouth and all the Sudbury branches thriving well with continuing new membership. She is happy to take up the reins of the Avon and Somerset Area with the help of local members and asks all members in that Division to contact her with ideas for "get-togethers, lunch venues, etc., as she is very much "the new girl on the block". Her new address is

Mrs Scholey very much enjoyed the Bath Conference especially the talk on fashions in the Jane Austin era. As next year is the 30th Anniversary of the Association she is looking forward to attending the national 2003 residential meeting which will celebrate this occasion. She says to her members "watch this space",!

West Midlands - Div. Rep. Mrs J.M. Smith BEM

Wilts - (Appointment Pending) No report

Dorset - (Appointment Pending) No report

#### WALES - Headquarters Cardiff - Div. Rep. Mrs Mary Gibbons OBE

The <u>Newport</u> Group has decreased in numbers but a few members continue to meet for coffee regularly. They had a special celebration for the Queen's Jubilee. Mrs. Travis, who at one time was Coordinator for the Association in South Wales., still organises these events.

<u>Abergavenny</u> members continue to have quarterly lunches but this year also a celebration to mark the 10th Anniversary of the group's formation.

The <u>Dyfed</u> group's chairman, Mrs Rowland-James, has spent some time in hospital and convalescing. We wish her well and hope she will be able to return soon.

Mrs Edwards reports that the <u>Rhyl</u> group have met twice and enjoyed a coach trip. Miss Bowden is delighted that in <u>Colwyn Bay</u> eight of the more mobile members have got together for coffee every six weeks and Mrs Gibbons says that Christmas lunches are being arranged for most of the groups.

We were sorry to hear, in March, of the death of Mrs Freda Wells OBE, from <u>Llandudno</u>. She had been a member of WRVS for many years although of late had not been active owing to ill health. During the time of Mrs. Stampa Chairman for Wales who retired in 1984, Freda was her eyes and ears in North Wales. A lovely lady awarded the OBE for WVS/WRVS work, Her funeral was attended by many former WRVS colleagues but sadly no one from the present Service.

Mrs Gibbons asks that if any Welsh members wish to be put in touch with a group

would they phone her on

or write to

# CHANNEL ISLANDS

#### Guernsey - Assoc. Rep. Miss Margaret Brockway

We are sad to learn from Miss Robilliard, that she has given up the running of the <u>Guernsey</u> group and has handed over to Mrs Brockway who, Miss Robilliard is sure, will keep things running smoothly. We welcome Mrs Brockway and wish her well. Miss Robilliard says she will continue to help at the Jubilee Day Centre which functions Monday to Friday for 30 elderly people who enjoy meeting their friends there.

In her final report Miss Robilliard says that their little group continue to enjoy their twice yearly get-together for a bar meal and a chat. Guernsey distances are small so that they can meet relatively easily. Several members are still active in WRVS, helping at the WRVS tent, which helps foot-weary elderly visitors to the annual Show who are grateful for a sit down and a cup of tea. They offer baby-changing facilities and come prepared for any emergency, like lost children. But they are not so keen on small boys who "get themselves lost" so that they can hear their names read out on the public address system !!.

Several members were invited to a reception at Government House when His Exellency the Lt. Governor presented Long Service Medals to four members, Mrs Brockway, the island's longest serving member, Mrs Gilbey, Mrs Patterson and Mrs Le Blancq

#### Jersey - Assoc. Rep. Mrs D. Jennings

The editor apologises to Mrs Jennings for a mistake made in the last issue, which recorded their celebration wrongly.. Mrs Fisher set up the Association in Jersey in 1981, (not 1967 !) on her retirement from WRVS. She started in the WVS/WRVS in Jersey in 1967 and had served WRVS as Bailiwick Organiser for Jersey since its inception on the island.

It has been a busy summer for members, entertaining friends and relations visiting the island. Mrs Jill O'Byrne retired last year as Bailiwick Organiser and has joined the Association. She hosted a "stay indoors" day at her home in May and they always enjoy these informal get-togethers. A good year, this year, on the whole for weather but it did rain for the centenary "Battle of Flowers" in August. The "Battle of Flowers was started in 1902 to celebrate the coronation of King Edward and Queen Alexandria. In the evening a big evening pop concert was held in the rain. The "Moonlight" parade with illuminated floats was impressive and people turned out despite the weather. This was all part of Carnival Week with a fun fair and other attractions.

# SCOTLAND - Chairman, Mrs Audrey Wilkinson

Once more we have news from our friends in the Scottish Association.

Mrs Wilkinson says "Greetings from Scotland ! She says it is difficult to believe that another session will soon be upon them, but looking back over the past year, they realise that all fourteen branches have enjoyed a very diverse programme of events, with talks on all sorts of interesting topics, a floral art demonstration, summer outings, and visits to the theatre, but the one thing in common is that every branch whether large or small enjoyed a meal and fellowship together over the festive season.

The Annual General Meeting in April 2001 was held in Dundee and the Scottish Committee was pleased to have a very good attendance at that meeting. Following the business meeting and before lunch, Mrs Alison Findlay, a WRVS Trustee, told members of the Association what is entailed in being a Trustee. After lunch, they welcomed the second speaker of the day, Mary, Countess of Strathmore, who told them a little about her life at Glamis Castle with her family, before the death of her husband, the late Earl of Strathmore. She spoke fondly of her family connection with the Queen Mother, having very recently returned home from that memorable funeral.

Next April, the AGM will be held in Stirling. They are all looking forward to the start of another year and meeting up with our friends in the Association. We send best wishes to all branches for a very successful year ahead.

# NEWS FROM THE BENEVOLENT FUND

Since our last Newsletter the W.R.V.S. Benevolent Trust has been able to help numerous members with such diverse needs as cooker, boiler, stairlift, shower, roofing, and help after a burglary where the thieves were bogus policemen!

At our A.G.M. we said goodbye to Mrs Jean Firminger, our Hon. Secretary. Her wisdom, support and sheer hard work will be very sadly missed, and our gratitude is immense. Mrs Sylvia Hatchell has agreed to take on her duties as Hon. Secretary, and we welcome her.

We have a new address, **The Hon. Secretary, W.R.V.S. Benevolent Trust, PO Box 148, Wallasey, CH45 8YR**, and any requests or

donations should be sent to her. However anyone wanting, to talk about the Trust or with queries, are most welcome to call me in Oxford, 01993 702165

I would like to emphasise that all requests are dealt with in total confidentiality, so noone should feel embarrassed at approaching us.

Evelyn Boot Chairman W.R.V.S. Benevolent Trust.



Letter from the Editor

Dear Members.

This edition of the Newsletter is a very sad one for me as I am having to retire, through ill-health, and have been looking anxiously for a volunteer to succeed me. The job requires computer skills and these among our generation are not so readily available as they are with young people today. I certainly can only use my computer as a word processor. The alternative is to have a willing husband, (as I have !), or younger friend, who is willing to cope with that part of the job. The whole of the Newsletter, the printed pages, and all the graphics such as the badges on the cover, the "clip art" pictures, the photographs etc., have to go to the printers these days not as printed matter or pictures on paper but on a disc and they all have to be put there by someone who understands about ".tif" files, and the like.

So, the committee, the office staff and I, searching for a willing volunteer, felt we were searching in vain when, "Lo and Behold" we found we had a willing person with the necessary skills in our midst, who, when she heard our appeal at the Bath Conference, very nobly came forward and offered to try the job. We couldn't have been more delighted.

So, **starting with the next Newsletter**, the Spring 2003 issue, the new editor will be Mrs Paulene Lambert of the Guildford group. (See her address on page 23). Do please write to Paulene if you can, welcoming her to her new job and supporting her with lots of contributions, as you have supported me. We will, of course give her any help we can and she knows she can ask us at any time. I know I found it a confusing job at first and still make mistakes ! She will, I am sure, bring lots of new ideas and changes to the Newsletter, just as I did when I took over from Mrs Gross. In those days the Newsletter was simply 2 sheets of A4 paper clipped together, which Mrs Gross typed and then duplicated on an ancient Roneo machine in the London Office. I am sure you will be in for a treat with your new editor, and I know she will welcome any suggestions you may have.

I have so much enjoyed the 11 years I have been editor and will miss the job enormously, but I am delighted that we have found my successor, for I know how much many housebound members look forward to their copy of the Newsletter, which is, for many, their only link with the Association and their only source of news.

Next year is the 30th anniversary of the Association's founding so, I, for one, look forward to celebrating at another national get-together where we can meet WRVS friends.

So my thanks to you all for your support and contributions over the years and my very best wishes to Paulene,

Ness Venalla

Yours sincerely

I think this is an appropriate place in this Newsletter for this contribution! Sender unknown.

Sometime when you're feeling important, Sometime when you're ego's in bloom, Sometime when you take it for granted You're the best qualified man in the room, Sometime when you feel that your going would leave an unfillable hole, Just follow this simple instruction And see how it humbles your soul: Take a bucket and fill it with water. Put your hands in it up to your wrists. Take them out - and the hole that's remaining Is the measure of how you'll be missed. You may splash as you please as you enter, You may stir up the water galore, But stop - and you'll find in a minute, That it looks just the same as before. The moral of this is quite simple Just do the best that you can, Be proud of vourself - but remember There's NO INDISPENSABLE MAN

#### And a farewell note from Peter.

May I add to Ness's farewell to the Editorship of the Newsletter by my own goodbye. It has been fun over the past eleven years to be part of the team. I will need some other form of exercise to keep me fit when I no longer have to run up to Ness's study from my own in response to her bangs on the floor to extricate her from some word processing tangle. I have lots more things to keep me busy however and will bear in mind some lines from my favourite poem; Tennyson's "Ulysses".

How dull it is to pause to make an end To rust unburnished, not to shine in use!..... Tho' much is taken, much abides; and tho' We are not now that strength which in old days Moved heaven and earth, that which we are we are-One equal temper of heroic hearts, Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will To strive, to seek to find, and not to yield.

Best wishes to you all

Peter Venables

## A FEW EXTRAS TO MAKE YOU THINK, LAUGH (OR CRY)..

Fewer than usual as you have been so good sending in lots of news!

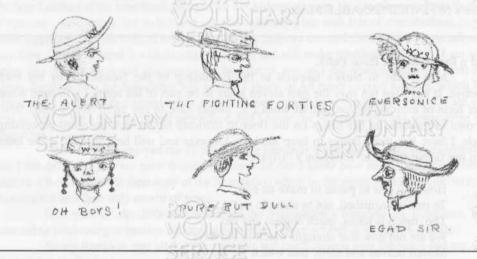
# a

It may almost be a question whether such wisdom as we may have in our mature years has not come from the dying out of the power of temptation, rather than the results of thought and resolution.

Anthony Trollope

#### WVS hats in 1940

These charming drawings of hats appeared in a small booklet, sent in by Mrs Stevens, London. It was compiled by "Frank and Bell" of Pippbrook, apparently near Southampton in 1940 and by its contents, gives a very early view of the WVS in early days. Perhaps someone in Southampton area will know who "Frank and Bell" were and let us know. The caption says, "There is only one hat for members of WVS, but the Authorities allow ample scope for the expression of individualism among the wearers". Some members will remember that this was true.



## A few journalist's headline howlers

Sex education delayed. Teachers request training. Kids make nutritious snacks. Red tape holds up new bridge.

# **ANOTHER COMPETITION - Which city?**

Each of the following is a clue to a word ending in "city". Eg Light City - Electricity

1. A Notorious City	8 A Genuine City	15 A Cosmopolitan City
2 A Cheeky City	9 A Full City	16 An Obscure City
3 A Gangsters City	10 A Stretchy City	17 An Artless City
4 A Savage City	11 A Happy City	18 A Sticky City
5 A Lecherous City	12 An Unfit City	19 A Greedy City
6 A Truthful City	13 A Humorous City	20 An Inflated City
7 A Small City	14 A Slippery City	

A prize will be sent for the first correct answer received by the Editor. Why not enter as a Branch ?

Thanks to Mrs Priestley, E. Yorks. for this competition.

LANSI

#### How to give a cat a pill

1. Pick up cat, cradle it in left arm as if holding a baby. Position right forefinger and thumb on side of cat's mouth. Gently apply pressure. As cat's mouth opens, pop pill in mouth, close mouth and allow cat to swallow. Feel pleased.

2. Retrieve pill from floor .Retrieve cat from bedroom. Take new pill, cradle cat again, this time holding rear paws tightly with left hand. Repeat insertion of pill, pushing pill to back of throat with right forefinger. Retrieve finger from cats teeth. Hold mouth shut, stroke cat's throat for a long count of 20. Pick up the pill from the floor again and visit hospital to have finger stitched. Call spouse from garden

3. Wrap cat in large towel and get spouse to stretch out flat on top of cat with head just visible from below armpit. Put pill on end of drinking straw. Force moth open with pencil and blow down drinking straw. Check label to make sure pill is not harmful to humans, drink glass of water to take the taste away. Apply band-aid to spouse's forearm and remove blood from carpet with cold water and soap.

4. Retrieve cat from tree. Tie cat's front paws to rear paws with garden twine and tightly bind to leg of table. Find heavy duty pruning gloves in shed, Hold cat's mouth open, place pill into mouth followed by large chunk of fillet steak. Holding cat vertically, pour a pint of water into cat's mouth to wash pill down. Wipe up mess from floor including squashed pill. Wait for cat to breathe again. Take cat to vets.

Please Note. All contributions for the next Newsletter, ie. Spring 2003, must be sent to the new editor, Paulene Lambert, by January 31st 2003 Paulene's address is

DERVILE

# NEW YEAR HONOURS

CBE For services to WRVS

MBE For services to WRVS in Exeter Sevices to WRVS in Maldon Services to WRVS in Partington Services to the Women's Guild and to Lanarkshire

Mrs Alice Cleland. Mrs Joyce Copp Mrs Ivy George Mrs Doris Grimes Mrs Mary Gemmel

# NEW YEAR HONOURS

MBE Services to WRVS London Services to WRVS Harrogate Services to the Community, Devon Services to the Community Cornwall Services to the Community Somerset Miss Patricia Forrest Mr John Greenwood Mrs Olive Clapp Mrs Susan Skelton Mr Raymond Young

# WRVS ASSOCIATION

82 Bootham , York, YO30 7DS Tel 01904 634500 President Mrs Tina Tietjen Chairman, WRVS VicePresidents Mrs A Christophersen Mrs E.D. Claydon The Hon. Dame Mary Corsar DBE. Mrs P James MBE Mrs Sheila McCormack BEM Baroness Pike of Melton DBE Mrs Diane Price Dame Barbara Shenfield DBE Lady Toulson CBE Chairman Mrs Pat Copping Hon. Secretary Mrs Jean Pickard Hon.Treasurer Mrs Maureen Hudson Hon. Editor

Mrs Paulene Lambert