

Land Army News in Warwickshire

SEPTEMBER, 1944.

DEAR LAND GIRLS,

"Benevolent Fund Week" are now the words in all Land Army minds in Warwickshire and October 28th to November 4th is certainly going to be a very full week.

News keeps coming in of more dances and other functions being held between now and November 4th and we have already received £900 towards the target of £5000 for the week.

The Week will open on October 28th with a W.L.A. Parade and Bazaar in Leamington Spa, and on November 4th there will be a grand finale in Birmingham, when there will also be a W.L.A. Parade followed by an entertainment by the Alcester W.L.A. Club.

Permission has been given to have W.L.A. Benevolent Stalls on the market day during our week in the markets at Alcester, Atherstone, Birmingham, Coleshill, Coventry, Knowle, Nuneaton, Rugby, Stratford-on-Avon, and Warwick.

Events arranged by the dates of which have already been received are :—

- October 12th. Solihull. Dance.
- October 16th. Leamington. American Concert.
- October 18th. Coventry. American Concert.
- October 22nd. Leamington. Bring and Buy Sale.
- October 24th. Leamington. Brains Trust.
- October 25th. Shenstone. Dance.
- October 26th. Kenilworth. Dance.
- October 27th. Baxterley. Dance.
Kingsbury. Whist Drive.
- October 28th. Northfield. Bring and Buy Sale.
Marston Green. Dance.
Leamington. Parade and Bazaar.
- October 29th. Stratford. W.L.A. Church Service.
- October 30th. Marston Green. Rummage Sale.
- October 31st. Marston Green. Social.
Shipston. Whist Drive.
Stratford. Dance.
- November 1st. Ladbroke. Whist Drive.
Marston Green. Whist Drive.
Birmingham. Whist Drive.
Budbrooke. Whist Drive.
- November 2nd. Kineton. Concert.
Shipston-on-Stour. Dance.
Leamington. Dance.
- November 3rd. Marston Green. Harvest Home.
Harbury. Dance.
Coventry. Dance.
Budbrooke. Dance.
- November 4th. Birmingham. Parade and Concert.
Kingsbury. Dance.
Birmingham. Dance.

Dances are also being held at Cherrington, Little Compton, Kineton, Nuneaton, Dorridge, Northend, Barford, Balsall Common, Bronson Hill, Welford, Alcester, Temple Grafton, Salford Priors, Coleshill, Tysoe, Hampton Lucy, Rugby, Snitterfield, Ilmington, Sutton Coldfield and Wellesbourne.

Other Whist Drives are being held at Monks Kirby, Hampton-in-Arden, Blackwell, Wasperton, Willoughby, Quinton, Priors Marston and Leamington.

Other Activities include fetes at Welford-on-Avon and Temple Grafton; cinema shows at Dorridge and Hardwick; a Harvest Home at Walmley; a sale at Hampton-in-Arden.

Many of the W.L.A. hostels are now making arrangements for dances and other money raising efforts, and as we are daily receiving news of fresh

activities, this list will most probably be very out of date by the time it arrives back from the printers!

We only hope that the seeing a little of what other people are doing will encourage still more members of the W.L.A. to organise money-raising efforts of their own.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES.

We have now received another list from headquarters of Warwickshire volunteers who have successfully completed their correspondence courses and we send our congratulations to the following members who have been awarded certificates :—

B. C. Whitehouse.

B. Jones.

B. E. Steele.

B. Jones.

V. Sims.

B. Rose.

B. L. Tarleton.

J. H. Hamilton.

E. L. Cleaver.

K. Hosker.

P. Clarke.

C. M. Lillwall.

This now brings the total of Warwickshire volunteers who completed the last correspondence courses to 43.

Particulars of the new Correspondence Courses to be started this autumn were given on the office news-letter you received recently and we do hope that as many of you as possible will take the courses. Please note that the closing date for entries is *September 30th*, and that application forms and particulars should be applied for to the W.L.A. County Office as soon as possible.

PERSONAL.

We are all very sorry to hear that Warwickshire is losing Miss Roberts, County Organiser for the north of the county. We shall miss her very much but we send her every good wish in her new W.L.A. post of County Secretary in Pembrokeshire.

Congratulations and every good wish to the following volunteers who have been married recently :—

M. A. Overton

L. G. Woodall

A. E. Mayes

M. E. Godson

P. M. Hamer

who is now Mrs. Hadley.

„ „ „ Mrs. Johnson.

„ „ „ Mrs. Cox.

„ „ „ Mrs. Hall.

„ „ „ Mrs. Goodwin.

OFFICE NOTE.

Uniform. Replacements. Volunteers may find that second-hand items are included in their replacements. This arrangement has been made to avoid waste, and volunteers are asked to remember that whatever is issued must be accepted. A second-hand item which wears out within twelve months can be replaced on the recommendation of the local W.L.A. Representative.

Repair of Gumboots. Volunteers need not arrange privately for the repair of their gumboots unless they wish to do so. When a pair is worn out it should be sent in to the Uniform Department, or, alternatively, the Representative should be asked to recommend replacement. The worn pair is then sent away for salvage or, if possible, repair and general re-issue, and a fresh pair is sent at once to take its place.

Exchanges. If an exchange of size is needed it is essential to state the necessary measurements. These are, in general, height, bust, waist and hips. It is most important that the permission of the Uniform Officer should be obtained if two volunteers wish to exchange uniform with each other, so that any alterations which may be necessary may be made in the records. A great deal of difficulty is caused by neglect of these two matters.

HOSTEL, CLUB AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES.

Birmingham. Twenty W.L.A. members, mostly proud wearers of four-year armlets, formed a guard of honour for Mr. Hudson, Minister of Agriculture, when he visited Birmingham on September 2nd, to open the Farm Week Exhibition. Mr. Hudson showed great interest in all the Land Girls, shaking hands with them, and talking to them individually. Afterwards, the whole party was entertained to lunch.

Birmingham Farm Week ended with a parade of W.L.A. members through the city, followed by a tea and Harvest Home Ceremony. Unfortunately this news-sheet goes to print too soon to include an account of this event on September 10th.

Bronson Hill. This hostel held a most entertaining garden fete and dog show in the hostel grounds in July, and raised a good sum towards its Benevolent Fund Week target. The comic dog show caused great amusement to the onlookers, and was followed by games, competitions and refreshments.

The evening ended with dancing on the lawn and we congratulate Miss Howell and all her helpers on their most successful party.

Coventry. The members of the Coventry W.L.A. Club have arranged a camping week-end commencing on September 30th. The equipment and site near Leamington have been kindly loaned to them by the Y.W.C.A. and everyone is looking forward to an amusing time. It is still hoped to make the party up to twenty Land Girls and as there are still some vacancies the club would be pleased to hear of any other Land Girls who would like to join them for the week-end. Will anyone who is interested please write as soon as possible to Miss A. Stone, 87 Rollason Road, Radford, Coventry.

The Gymkhana which was to have been held this month in aid of the Benevolent Fund has had to be postponed until next spring.

Leamington. This club is spending busy club evenings making things to sell on the stall they are having at the Leamington Bazaar on October 28th. They would welcome help and suggestions from other volunteers!

W. S. WALPOLE-BROWN,
COOMBE ABBEY,
COVENTRY.

September, 15th, 1944.