


Land Army News in Warwickshire

NOVEMBER, 1944.



DEAR LAND GIRLS,

The crowded streets of Leamington saw our Benevolent Fund Appeal open with a swing on October 21st, when tractors, trailers and other farm machinery carried Land Girls down the Parade to the Saluting Base at the Town Hall. Here the salute was taken by the Mayor. Afterwards with Mr. Hughes and other representatives of the W.A.E.C. and W.L.A., the Mayor joined the three hundred Land Girls at the British Restaurant, where they were entertained to tea by our chairman, Mrs. Fielden.

The following Saturday, Leamington saw the Land Army busy with its biggest money-raising effort, the W.L.A. Bazaar and Fun Fair, at the Regent Hotel. The Bazaar was opened by Lady Willoughby de Broke, who spoke to a thronging crowd of people about the great work done by the members of the W.L.A., and appealed for support for the W.L.A. Benevolent Fund. E. Reading thanked Lady Willoughby de Brooke and presented both her and Mrs. Fielden with flowers.

In less than an hour we heard that the Rummage Stall had sold out and finished with a total of over £20 and other stalls were getting empty too. The crowd in the rooms was always so great that no one was surprised to hear afterwards that there had been a queue at the entrance awaiting admission and that over 900 people had paid entrance money!

The afternoon was voted a tremendous success, and raised a total profit over £200. This was due to all the hard work done by office staff, Committee, Land Girls, and other friends.

We do send our special congratulations to Leamington W.L.A. Club who made more than twice as much as any other stall with a profit of over £56, and also to the Barford and Shuckburgh hostels who were the only hostels to have stalls and who both did splendidly.

The prize offered for the best article made for sale at the Bazaar by a member of the W.L.A. was won by T. Floyd. The competition was judged by Lady Willoughby de Brooke and the winning exhibit was an attractive child's suit made from old W.L.A. uniform.

Saturday, November 4th, was the day of great Land Army activity in Birmingham. At 3 p.m. about a hundred members of the W.L.A. headed by a smart W.W.A.F. Band, paraded through the city to the Council House. Here they were awaited by the Lord Mayor who took the salute, accompanied

by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Fielden, and Mr. Hughes, and the whole party then proceeded to the Y.W.C.A., where a marvellous tea was provided by Mrs. Godfrey.

Tea was followed by an encouraging address given to the members of the W.L.A. by the Lord Mayor, and then Land Girls and their friends assembled for the Concert given by Mrs. Adkins and the members of the Alcester W.L.A. Club. Mrs. Godfrey thanked the concert party for the grand entertainment they had given and Mrs. Fielden concluded by giving a most hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Godfrey for all she had done for the Warwickshire W.L.A.

Most of the Land Girls then stayed on for the evening's dancing which followed at the Y.W.C.A.

That was the story of three very busy Land Army Saturdays, and it is a very small part of all that has been happening in the Benevolent Fund programme. Unfortunately it is not possible to give full descriptions of all the dances, whist-drives, sales and markets stalls which have been arranged in every district by Land Girls, W.L.A. Representatives, Hostels and Clubs. Everyone has worked hard and that the efforts have been successful we can well see by the impressive sums of money which keep coming in to our Chairman.

Land Army Hostels are especially excelling themselves and when the final list of contributions is complete we shall be eager to see which hostel has the best record (dances, collecting-tins, and all included).

Our Benevolent Fund Week seems to have extended itself in the most amazing way, both forwards and backwards, so that seven days have turned into over two months! But all money for the appeal must be sent in *not later than Monday, December 4th.*, when the account is to be finally cleared up.

There are still a few more weeks in which to reach that target!

BENEVOLENT FUND WEEK RECEIPTS.

Money from the Benevolent Fund Week efforts is now coming in fast and on November 8th the total had risen to over £2,100.

Donations. Another £160 has been received in donations from farmers and other friends of the W.L.A. In this is included £22 2s. collected from the personnel at Wellesbourne R.A.F. Station (they had already sent £10); £13 18s. collected by the Leamington Hostel at the Parade in Leamington; and £50 sent by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham from the proceeds of Birmingham Farm Week.

Concerts. The series of concerts given by the American Army Camp raised over £40 for our Fund by making a profit of £22 9s. at their Leamington Concert, £9 18s. 3d. at Coventry, and £9 7s. 3d. at Kenilworth.

The amusing concert given by the Lockheed Concert Party at the Town Hall after the Leamington Parade raised £18 15s. 6d.

Last, but most successful of all, was the concert arranged by Mrs. Fielden and Mrs. Adkins at Kineton and given by the members of the Alcester Land Girls Club. This concert raised the grand sum of £34 16s.

Bazaar and Bring and Buy Sales. The Bazaar and Fun Fair held at the Regent Club in Leamington raised a total profit of £200 15s. Two outstandingly successful "Bring and Buy" Sales have been held; one organised by Miss Parry at the W.L.A. Office raising £31 4s. 1d., and one organised by Mrs. Goode at Northfield, raising £22 14s. 0d.

Markets. Atherstone market is the only market from which the money has yet come in. The stall at this market raised £25, thanks to the efforts

of Lady Dugdale and Mrs. Phillips. We are delighted to hear that the stalls in Birmingham market will have made nearly £100.

Dances, Whist Drives, etc. The following is a list of some of the successful money raising efforts since last month's news-sheet. We know of many other districts, including the Birmingham and Shipston areas, from which large sums will be coming in shortly (probably before this list returns from the printers!) and so we can look forward to seeing another impressive list next month.

	£	s.	d.
Wasperton Land Girls. Dance and Whist Drive	30	0	0
Tanworth Youth Organisation. Dance.	4	0	0
Leamington Whist Drive.	9	8	9
Welford Hostel Harvest Home.	27	18	3
Temple Grafton Hostel Dance.			
(Bringing this hostel to its £50 target)	17	0	0
Abbotts Salford Hostel Dance.	10	0	0
Solihull Land Girls' Dance.	17	0	0
Northend Dance, per Mrs. Outram.	10	0	0
Little Compton Dance, per Countess of Liverpool.	27	8	0
Mrs. Roselli. Blackwell Whist Drive.	25	0	0
Kineton Whist Drive, per Mrs. Fielden.	15	3	0
Welford Hostel Dance.	6	1	0
Eathorpe Hostel Dance.	29	10	0
Wolston Hostel Dance.	31	2	0
Fenny Compton Hostel Dance.	20	0	0
Whichford Dance, per Countess of Liverpool.	10	16	4
Mrs. Hudson, Billesley, Whist Drive.	1	4	6
Hampton Lucy Land Girls, Dance, etc.	23	16	0
Kineton Dance, per Mrs. Fielden.	10	0	0
Miss Davidson, Binley Whist Drive.	6	3	3
Kenilworth Dance, per Mrs. James.	27	19	3
Park Hall Hostel. Part proceeds of Dance.	6	3	4
Studley Hostel Social.	7	0	0
Kineton Stables Land Girls, Dance.	8	10	0
Wellesbourne Dance, per Mrs. Lousada.	32	11	3
Southam Hostel, Dance and Social.	30	1	6
Shuckburgh Hostel Dance.	10	0	0
Hampton on Hill Dances and Whist, per Mrs. Gulliver.	45	10	2
Rugby Hostel Dance, etc.	45	0	0
Cherrington Dance, per Countess of Liverpool.	32	16	11
Ratley Dance, per Mrs. Grosvenor.	20	0	0

PERSONAL.

We should like to send our congratulations to all the W.W.A.E.C. Forewomen in this county who were recently presented with their new Forewomen's Badges. These were presented at a dinner party given recently at Wolverton Court by Mr. Hughes, Chairman of the W.W.A.E.C.

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

K. Cope	who is now	Mrs. Roberts.
J. Dubber	" " "	Mrs. George.
M. Ford	" " "	Mrs. May.
E. Hall	" " "	Mrs. Smith.
G. Ingram	" " "	Mrs. Hopkins.
O. Langford	" " "	Mrs. Rubery.
D. Mills	" " "	Mrs. Barry.
B. Richards	" " "	Mrs. Simpson.
D. Sanders	" " "	Mrs. Timbrell.
A. Stebbings	" " "	Mrs. Laurie.
E. Trollope	" " "	Mrs. Hughes.
M. Thornes	" " "	Mrs. Brocklehurst.
G. Ward	" " "	Mrs. Gee.

OTHER W.L.A. NEWS.

Benevolent Fund events seem to have taken up all news space this month, but we should like to mention the very successful Church Service which was held on October 29th in Stratford-on-Avon, in which members of the Stratford W.L.A. Club took part. I Jenkins read the lesson and announced the hymns, R. Hughes sang a solo and another W.L.A. member sang a special hymn. Mrs. Waldron gave a very fine address.

The next meeting of the Stratford Club will be on December 4th, at 7.30 p.m., at Shakespeare Street.

RAFFLE PRIZES.

Three of the winners of raffle prizes at the Leamington W.L.A. Bazaar on October 28th have not yet claimed their prizes. Would anyone who has not claimed her prize please do so at once?

The winning numbers are as follows :—White ticket No. 94 for eggs. Lavender ticket No. 93 for Cake. Pink ticket No. 211 for Xmas Pudding.

November 15th, 1944.

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