

1950 — 1956.

# **Women's Institute Record Book**

# RECORDS OF MONTHLY MEETINGS

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PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

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*INK PEN*

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The address of the NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES is :—

39, ECCLESTON STREET, VICTORIA, LONDON, S.W.1.

The address of the Secretary of the .....

County Federation is.....

A full list of N.F.W.I. stationery and leaflets can be obtained free from the  
General Secretary, 39, Eccleston Street, Victoria, London, S.W.1.

## HINTS TO SECRETARIES ON KEEPING RECORDS AND DOING THE WORK CONNECTED WITH INSTITUTE MEETINGS.

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This book should be used for the records of W.I. Monthly, Annual and any Special Meetings. Minutes of committee meetings should be kept in a separate book.

One of the duties of a W.I. Secretary is to keep records of all Institute meetings. A specimen record of a meeting will be found in "Procedure at Meetings," which gives full instructions to a Secretary on her work.

Records should be clear and concise. The date, time and place of the meeting, the name of the chairman, and the number of members and visitors present, must be recorded. Concerning the business part of the Monthly and Annual Meetings, the records should be similar to the minutes of a committee meeting, stating the subjects discussed, any decisions which have been reached and resolutions which have been carried, as well as the names of any new members admitted. No detailed account need be given of discussions or talks, demonstrations, etc., but such particulars as the title of the talk and the name of the speaker should be recorded, as well as the items in the social part of the meeting.

The Secretary will find it easier to write good records if she takes clear, short notes arranged under the headings of the agenda which has been drawn up by the Secretary and President. It may be helpful to time this agenda.

The Secretary is responsible for making business-like arrangements for every meeting. In planning the Annual Meeting, she should consult the following N.F.W.I. publications: "Handbook," "Procedure at Meetings" and "Annual Meetings in Women's Institutes."

The Secretary and President should co-operate in preparing the report from the committee to the Monthly Meeting. The Secretary should be careful to bring with her to the meeting all letters, etc., which will be needed and to have these arranged in order to avoid waste of time. She should remember that **information contained in letters from the National and County Federations**, and any other important matters concerning W.I. work, must be brought before the whole Institute. Questions upon which the opinion of the Institute is asked should be put to the meeting and voted on, together with any recommendations which the Institute committee may have made.

Speakers and demonstrators should be told beforehand how much time they are allowed and should be given not only the hour and place of the meeting but the best method of arriving and leaving, e.g., time of train or bus both ways. In writing to invite speakers it is courteous to enclose a stamped addressed envelope or post card for reply.

The Secretary should remind the committee to appoint members to move any necessary votes of thanks at the Monthly and Annual Meetings, and she is responsible for seeing that the appointed members have been asked to do this.

At each meeting before any business is discussed, the record of the previous meeting should be read, corrected if necessary, formally approved by members present and then signed and dated, in ink, by the chairman. Records when signed cannot be altered. After they have been signed any business arising from them should be discussed.

Every Secretary should possess an **up-to-date** copy of the **NATIONAL FEDERATION HANDBOOK**, price 1/- and "PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS," price 1/-, which contain fuller information about the duties of a Secretary, the arrangement of meetings, etc., published by the N.F.W.I., 39. Eccleston St. Victoria, London S. W. 1.

## TO THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEMBER

You as a member of your local Women's Institute are an important part of the great organization of countrywomen known as the National Federation of Women's Institutes. By enjoying your membership to the full you help to make and carry out the decisions of your Institute members in your villages, your county, and nationally. Your membership card will tell you the aims of the Institute movement and give you the rules which have been drawn up to help to bring those aims to pass.

The W.I. Rules have been agreed to by members through their delegates sent to represent them at the great Annual General Meetings in London. The rules are your charter of independence as a member. They secure to you the right to take your share in governing not only your own Institute but the whole movement. The rules are worth your study so that you may play your part in helping to keep them. Your first opportunity to take your share in the government of your Institute will be at the Monthly Meeting.

**At the Monthly Meeting.** Every Monthly Meeting begins with some business. Listen to this closely so that you may be up to date in Institute doings. Be ready to make suggestions or to offer criticisms when plans are being discussed. The business is your business, and when you take an active part in it you will find it exciting. The business will be followed by some item of an educational kind. Remember that you will only get the best from a lecturer or demonstrator if her audience is co-operative; that is alert and interested. Just to sit and listen is not enough. If questions occur to you, ask them when the time comes. These may start discussions which will bring out useful points. When refreshment time comes make up your mind not to stay beside those members whom you know already. Learn to be a good mixer and make new contacts. These may bring you new interests. When making conversation be careful to avoid party politics and sectarian subjects. These are forbidden in the Institute so that those of all opinions may join freely. The Social Half-Hour with which every Monthly Meeting should end is a very important part of the programme and every member should stay for it. It is designed for your amusement and relaxation and you should take a full share in it, remembering that if every one said that she 'would rather watch' there would be nothing to watch and no fun for anyone.

Sometimes the programme includes Round Table Discussions, Group Debates, or Team Talks, and you will be expected to do your bit in these. Well, determine to do your best. Practice will make everything easier.

**The Institute Committee** is elected annually by the members to manage the affairs of the Institute as directed. At the Annual Meeting you will have the privilege of voting by secret ballot for those of your fellow members who have already agreed to be nominated (or named) as possible Committee members. You will need to think carefully who will be likely to serve the Institute reliably.

It is a fact to be faced that your greatest friend may not make the best Committee member. Later it will be your right to nominate from those elected to the Committee one member to be balloted for to hold the office of President for a year. Here your choice should fall on someone who will conduct the meetings punctually and on the true self-governing lines. One day you yourself may be nominated to serve on the Committee. Be willing to stand, because every member should be ready to undertake a share of responsibility if her fellow members wish her to do so. But perhaps although you agree to stand you may not be elected. If this happens do not be resentful or hurt, but if asked try again another year. The Institute is a training ground for cheerful acquiescence in the decisions of the majority.

**Your County Federation.** All the Institutes in your County are linked together in a Federation. The activities of this Federation are decided by the Institutes in the County at an Annual Meeting, and a County Committee is elected to carry them out. You, through the delegate elected by your Institute, will take your share in the Annual Meeting and will also help elect the County Committee.

In order that you may help to select the most useful people you should get to know as many prominent members in the County as possible. Some will come to speak at your Monthly Meetings. Others you will see at events arranged by the County—such as Produce Shows, Festivals, Conferences on matters of public interest, &c. As well as a delegate your Institute will probably send visitors to County events. You should try to go to these sometimes. It is thrilling to meet and compare notes with members from other Institutes.

**Your National Federation.** As well as being linked in County Federations all the thousands of Institutes in England and Wales are linked nationally, and delegates from every Institute meet in London annually to agree upon national activities. You will have the chance to think about these activities at a Monthly Meeting before your delegate goes to London to vote upon them. The work of the National Federation is managed by a Committee and a very highly trained staff of office workers and Organizers—your Committee and your staff. Your Institute has the right to vote every year for those whom it would like to have on the National Committee. If it so wishes it can vote for 17 names from about 40 which will come before it. Naturally you will not know all these people but you can get to know about some by reading about them in *Home and Country*—the Institutes' own paper with a circulation of 90,000—and others you may hear at County events. It is wise to advise your Institute to vote only for those whose usefulness is known, as it is obviously better to use two or three votes with knowledge than to use seventeen in a haphazard way.

**Your Institute and the Village.** You can help to make your Institute an important part of village life by talking about any public meetings which it proposes to hold to non-members, both men and women, and asking them to come. The Institute can do a great deal to spread knowledge on local government and on non-party public questions by arranging public meetings. The picture which you give of Institute work and ideals matters a great deal. If outside the Institute you speak well of other members and are loyal to the decisions come to by the majority of the members, you will be helping to make your Institute an influence for good neighbourliness and a fine example of democracy in action. Remember that the varied opportunities offered by Institutes are open to all women and girls in the village. Therefore look round your village from time to time and give non-members a chance to sample Institute benefits by inviting them to one or more meetings (according to your local Institute by-law) as your guest and afterwards asking them if they would like to be proposed as members.

**Progress.** The flow of new members and new ideas to Institutes is very necessary if our movement which now stands so high in public esteem is to remain representative of countrywomen and be their voice in the country-side. Your help towards this goal of continual progress will give you a personal reward in widened interests and in increased value as a citizen, a citizen who understands how to take her place in public affairs with knowledge and with method.

*Published by the National Federation of Women's Institutes  
39 Eccleston Street, London, S.W.1.*

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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

19

DEAR .....

We are very pleased indeed to welcome you as a member, and we should like to tell you a few interesting things about this great body of country women to which we, as Institute members, belong.

The first Women's Institute was started in Canada in 1897 by some Canadian farmers' wives who arranged to hold meetings in each others' houses. Their plan was to help themselves and their children by talking together about matters of general interest, learning from their neighbours and helping one another. It was in this small way that the W.I. movement was started, and it is now the biggest organisation of country women in the world.

The first Women's Institute was started in England in 1915, and now there are over 7,000, with a total membership of nearly half a million. If you read the W.I. monthly magazine, "Home and Country," which we hope you will take, you will find news of the Institutes all over England and Wales, and you will also find in the Berkshire supplement, which is part of the magazine, special news about the W.I.'s in this County. The Berkshire County Letter which gives notice of forthcoming events and other matters of interest to Berkshire W.I. members, is now available to everyone.

We feel that you would like to know how this large movement is worked. It is like this:—The members of each W.I. elect a Committee to manage its affairs. Then all the Institutes in Berkshire elect a County Committee (called the County Executive) which cares for the welfare of all the W.I.'s in the County, finds speakers and demonstrators, arranges exhibitions, dramatic competitions, and so on. Then all the Institutes in the Country elect a National Federation Committee, which meets in London and is responsible for the Welfare of every W.I. in England and Wales. So you see all the Committees are made by the Institutes themselves and therefore every member has a share in the running of this great organisation.

The Institute is non-sectarian and non-party political, which means that its members may belong to any religious denomination and any political party. At Institute meetings differences of opinion on religious and party political questions are left outside, and members meet on a common ground of friendliness and goodwill.

The Institute spirit means giving as well as getting, helping as well as being helped, and we ask every Institute member to take her share in bringing this happy spirit into every Institute meeting, and also to throw herself wholeheartedly in to the work of her own Institute.

Yours sincerely,

W.I. President.

*Ernestine S. Ladd*  
County Federation President.

Monthly Meeting Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 1950.

The monthly meeting was held at Jackson Village Hall on Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 p.m. There being members present. Mr. Bruce was in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read & signed.  
Arising out of these Mrs. Bruce said £25 had been sent to Watlington House for a Shrine to Commemorate the Festival of Britain.

The County Letter was read & our President said that all was ready to start the Chai for the Christmas Party, as soon as the music arrived. Members were asked to write to one friends overseas. Miss Lovelock gave a very fine report on the Autumn Council meeting.

Mrs. Max gave a grand demonstration on Candelwick & got everyone doing a piece, she also gave us a talk on her visit to Copenhagen & showed us Photographs which were most interesting.

As there were only 2 entries for a home made handkerchief no prize was given for the competition.

It was decided by the meeting to invite Ned Woodley Instistute to our December meeting.

It was also decided to ask all old members to our 21st Birthday meeting in December.

The Hostesses for November are Mrs. Hobbs & Mrs. Bill. Miss Buckridge & Miss Maths did tea today.

A Round Table Conference for next years programme ended

the meeting with nominations for the ensuing  
year, & God save the King

Monthly Meeting Dec. 1950

The monthly meeting was held in the village hall  
on Tues. Dec 12<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm. 24 members were  
present & 9 members from West Woodhay W.I.

The Pres President Mrs Goodhart gave out the list  
of officers for 1951.

The classes for the exhibition of Handicrafts at  
Reedley in 1951 were discussed & the suggestion of  
Mr Palmer Tomkinson, who was elected as Handicraft  
Secretary, that we should make cooperatively  
the outfit for a Country Christening was adopted.  
Mrs Edwards, Mr. Miss Lawrence, Mrs Goodhart; Mr Pa-  
trick Burn offered help with the work.

The County letter was read & five members  
agreed to attend the Officers School in Newbury  
on Mon. Jan 29<sup>th</sup>.

The question of entering a team for the Public  
Spectator Competition at Reedley in March 1951 was  
also broached.

Mrs Burn reported on a Group Committee meeting  
held in Newbury on the subject of the Newbury & District  
Agri-motor Show of 1950 & 1951. The report

on the former indicated that while the W.I. exhibit had been very popular the ready support given by members to the gift stall had resulted in a deficit of £2.7.5 of which our share was 6/- The <sup>6th</sup> <sup>our</sup> Treasurer was asked to send this sum to the Merbury Committee.

Re the 1951 Show it was agreed that in view of the Reading & Hilf's in Thynne's energies would be fully employed & that we should not therefore take part in any W.I. activities at the show.

Three new members were welcomed by the President, Mrs Hills, Mrs Page, Mrs Stow.

Our inadequate finances were deplored & the President proposed a change in our monthly Prize Scheme viz. a special pencil should be given monthly on a token page, that all points earned should be totalled at the end of the year & spoons given to the members with the three highest scores.

Again with our finances in mind, it was decided to hold a Whist Drive & Dramatic Entertainment on Sat. Jan 13<sup>th</sup>. The Social Committee were asked to be responsible & an appeal was made for Prizes & Refreshments.

The 1951 programme was discussed & it was agreed have a combined competition with U. Worthington for Queen Victoria Sandal.

A Bring & Buy Sale & pay for the programs was announced for Jan. Mr. Hull will kiss speak at the meeting on Chinese ways & customs. Tea hostess for Jan. are Mrs. Lovelocke & Mrs. May. There were 6 entries for the competition for mince pies. Mrs. May was the winner.

After the business had been concluded the members enjoyed first a lively demonstration of Country Dancing by Mr. Soames & a team of Kirtbry dancers, then took part themselves in the dancing.

After tea, cards were sung by the choir & the members & the meeting concluded with God save the King.

Honor Goodhart

16-1-57

Monthly Meeting, Jan. 1951.

The monthly meeting was held by invitation of the President at New Mill on Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. 26 members were present & Mr. Goodhart being in the chair.

The minutes of the Dec. meeting were read & signed. Arising out of these, it was decided not to enter for the Public Speaking Competition, (1) & furnish Mr. P. Tomkinson with a list of members willing

to help with the Christening outfit for exhibition of Handicrafts  
The County letter was read & five members expressed  
their wish to attend the Drama School in Hastings in  
Feb. & March.

The President asked members to consider giving hospitality  
to the teacher from Hopetoun, Australia who is  
visiting England for several months, & also of  
offering hospitality to overseas visitors to the Festival  
of Britain.

In connection with the suggested County Whist  
Drive, the Secretary stated that the Village Hall  
had been booked provisionally for Sat. March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

For the Feb. meeting it was stated that three films  
had been booked, <sup>raped</sup> that Miss Fordham & Mrs Hercomb  
should be tea hostesses & Mrs Cork responsible for  
short Social Half Hours that Mrs Martin should  
be approached with a view to inviting the older  
children to be present at the film.

Business <sup>being</sup> concluded, the members enjoyed  
a delightful talk on Chinese Ways & Customs  
given by Mrs Hull, illustrated with beautiful  
silks & cloths, which were examined in more  
detail after tea.

The candle with cushion competition was won  
by Mrs Potts & the home made calendar by Miss  
Fordham.

R. Hooleck

Monthly Meeting, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>

The Monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on Feb 20<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm, 15 members being present - Mrs. Lavelock in the chair.

The minutes of the Jan. meeting were read & signed. A report from these it was stated that Mrs. Goodhew Mrs. Lavelock had attended the Drama School & found it a very exhilarating experience. (1) The President had sent a telegram & postcard to Miss Davis, the teacher for Australia & a letter had been received from her in reply.

The receipt of a calendar from the Butlers, Farnham C.W.A. was acknowledged, & the County letter was read.

An appeal was made for prompt payment of all subscriptions & suggestions were asked for for the competition at the next group meeting. - a co-operative effort e.g. a super <sup>abundance</sup> was the recommendation made by the group representatives.

Mrs. Parrott & Mrs. Smith offered to be tea hostesses at the March meeting & members were reminded of the competition for which we have invited the W. Woodhey WI. to enter.

\* Four films were then shown by the kindness of the C.S.I. - Birds of the Village, Outdoor Tomato Growing & Water Garden, & a Family affair. The audience which

included about 20 children from the Inkpen School. was very appreciative & a vote of thanks was given to the operator by M<sup>r</sup> Hunt & seconded by Miss Lovelock.

Two officials from the Children's Care Deptt of the Home Office were present & talked with the members about the film which illustrated the work being done for homeless children.

The competition for 'My prettiest plate' produced 12 entries & was judged by M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>s</sup> Stott & Miss Walks were chosen as the prettiest & <sup>members</sup> ~~together~~ awarded pencils.

During the distribution of gifts from abroad was made to the members present.

Meeting \*

It was suggested that instead of the usual w.i. party, a visit to the Theatre to see 'Rodney Hock' should be arranged & the Secretary undertaken to find out particulars.

Hon or Goodhart  
20. III . 51

### Monthly meeting March 1951

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 2.30. 22 members were present & 10 of W. Woodhay members who had been invited. M<sup>r</sup> Goodhart was in the chair.

The minutes of the Feb meeting were read & approved out of them:

- (1) Four members enjoyed the Drama School in Harborough
  - (2) The Group Representatives reported on the Committee meeting at Wellingford
  - (3) Twelve members attended 'Rocky North' at Melton Mowbray
- The County letter was read. Miss Eva Lovelock  
Mrs Brown offered to attend the Spring Council  
Meeting at Reading & Mrs Conley as our delegate  
to attend the A.G.M. in June.

The Handicrafts exhibition was brought forward  
again & members were asked to make individual  
entries.

It was announced that the April & May  
meetings had been reversed & that Miss Tonks would  
give a demonstration of Dressmaking hints on  
April 17<sup>th</sup>. The competitors were also reversed  
& members were told that the May meeting would  
be held at Mrs Wakefield's  
Mrs Jackson & Miss Greenwood offered to be the hosts.  
Miss Fordham's resignation from the Committee  
was accepted with regret - she leaving the district  
& Mrs Conley was co-opted by the Committee to  
fill her place.

A suggestion that we should arrange an  
outing & the Local Homes exhibition was  
welcomed & the Secretary undertook to arrange

the details.

Mrs Boring then gave us an interesting demonstration of potato cooking & afterward judged the competition of 25 Victoria sandwiches for prizes presented by Messrs Green. Mr Ross & Mr Bullock both of West Worthing were placed 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Tea hostesses were Mrs Parrot & Mr Smith & after tea Mr Condie with the assistance of Miss Storr entertained the members with a musical story.

### Hornbeam Hall

17.4.57

Monthly meeting April 1951

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on April 17<sup>th</sup>, with Mrs Fordham in the chair. She began by welcoming five new members Miss Proctor, Mrs McFadden, Mrs Moore, Mr Battable & Miss Page. Members were present.

The minutes of the March meeting were read & signed. Omitting the minutes it was stated that 22 members & friends had enjoyed the ~~Entertainment~~ only arranged at Olympia but that there was a deficit in the accounts & it was suggested that at the May meeting raffles should be held & made good.

the Sun.

Mrs Lovelock gave an interesting account of the Spring Council meeting she had attended at Ready.

An arrangement for a programme of the Group Meeting was announced & during her the President approached members to help with the competition - an Imitated Tea Tray.

A Summer Party was discussed but no decision as to date or place the visiting was arrived at. It was suggested that the matter should be raised again at the May monthly meeting.

Mr Ford told Mr Edwards' announced their intention of attending the Clean on Slave Decoration Day held in Ready on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs Vowles then gave a most interesting & helpful talk on making a summer dress & several members found some difficulties cleared up.

Mrs Vowles judged the competition for an antique style hat spring for which there were four entries.

Mr Edwards was placed First, after her for which Mr Tackman, Painter Smith were tea hostess, Mr Carte judged the competition "Sup. say a pay although the members taking part were few in number, they ~~had~~ spent an enjoyable evening down here."

Hans Godden

Monthly Meeting, Tues. 15<sup>th</sup> May 1951.

The meeting was held at New Mill with Mr Godber in the chair; 22 members were present.

The minutes of the April meeting were read & signed. Aiding out of the minutes

(a) Summer Outing. After discussion, members wished to go on a Port of London Docks River Cruise - it was provisionally suggested that it might be possible to share a bus with W. Woodhay W.I. who were hoping to go to the Festival of Britain on 4<sup>th</sup> May. July.

b. Dressmaking classes. Eight members gave in their names for dressmaking classes - as there have to be at least 10 more it was decided to bring the matter up again at the next meeting.

c. Deficit on Outing. Three raffles consisting of a grocery parcel, a cake & eggs were raffled to make good the deficit on the Ideal Home exhibition outing. The sum of 17/2 was raised.

The monthly letter was read. Five members wished to do some canning & would like further instruction. Orders were taken for the new edition of the Berkshire Book. Miss Lovelock & Mrs Carter wished to attend Mr Moleys Travelling Theatre Unit on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Miss Lovelock suggested that a resolution might be formed for the Autumn Council meeting on the subject of the deplorable conditions in which cattle

are slaughtered - it was decided to work out a resolution at these lines at the next committee meeting.

Mrs Watts & other members gave a short report of the Hungerford group meeting which had been much enjoyed.

The President announced that the June meeting would be held at Totterdown & that Major Harvey, Comptable of Hungerford would speak about Hungerford & bring with him the original hunting horn. Mrs May was asked to help with the tea.

Mr Gowing V.C.O. gave a most helpful & interesting talk on the resolutions to be put before A.G.M. in London on the 6<sup>th</sup> June six members expressed their views on the 6 resolutions.

The competition for a local luncheon produced 7 excellent entries. Full marks were awarded to Mr Goodall's entry.

Mr Walter & Mr Hunt served the tea.

The Social Half Hour consisted of anagrams of things found in the kitchen - Mrs Watts' Mr Stow won for the prize.

Hans Bookholt

19. VI. 51.

Monthly Meeting Tues 19<sup>th</sup> June 1951.

The meeting was held at Totterdown on Tues 19<sup>th</sup> June with Mr Gordhart in the chair. 30 members were present. Three new members were welcomed & then the minutes were read & signed.

(1) Arising out of the minutes it was stated that West Woodhay W.I. had given up the idea of moving to London but as several members added their names to the 9 who had already expressed a wish to join the party (~~& today~~) it was decided to carry on with the scheme independently.

(2) Dressmaking class. One more member gave her name, making a total of 9 & it was decided to mention the matter again at the July meeting.

(3) Group Committee meeting. It was arranged that Mr Gordhart should bring the date that we are to enter cooperatively for the competition at the October group meeting.

Mr Cowling then gave an interesting account of his impressions of the Annual General Meeting.

The President ~~asked~~ asked the members whether they wished to take part in the Newbury Festival Procession but as there was no support the matter was allowed to lapse.

~~The County letter was read.~~ The resolutions for M&S to appoint to take charge of the arrangements for Members' Day.

council?

The County letter was read. The resolutions for the Autumn Council meeting were discussed. The members were in agreement with all but the first & last. They felt that hatted camps however desirable were better than no houses; & that <sup>in</sup> taller for hotels for the Annual General Meeting space lacking space would preclude the suggested arrangement & it would also tend to lessen the interesting contacts which single members from varying institutions have with one another.

The President then expressed her pleasure in introducing the constable of Hungerford, Major Harvey, & the members enjoyed a most interesting account of the manor of Hungerford with its ancient traditions.

After tea, the social half hour was spent on visiting the gardens, in a putting competition & in enjoying the beautiful needlework displayed in the hall.

② The competition for a prize in an essay produced entries & the prize was awarded by Mrs Palmer Tomkinson M.B. Hush, to Mrs W. Edwards. Mrs Palmer Tomkinson very kindly gave the tea.

Mrs. R. Buckridge  
17/7/57

monthly meeting - Tues 17th July, 57.

This was members Day, organised by Mrs Stor, with Miss H. Buckridge in the Chair. Thirty members were present.

The minutes were read and approved. Arising out of the minutes, Miss Bush asked for a meeting of those going, to fix details of time & place.

Mrs Goodhart fetched the doll & show to members, it was decided to keep it.

In reference to the Holiday month the Chairman asked for helpers for September, Mrs Stor & Miss Proctor volunteered.

The Chairman then introduced Miss Proctor to the meeting, she gave a very interesting talk on her journeying through British Somaliland & Abyssinia.

After tea which was <sup>provided</sup> served by the committee for this occasion, the members had an amusing time trying to cope with little bits of string, under difficult conditions.

Mrs G. Hercomb dealt with the Tea,

behind the scenes.

members were interested to hear from Miss Bush that the exchange teacher from Albury, Australia spent the weekend in Thrapston.

K Lovelock

Monthly Meeting, Tues Sep. 18.

The meeting was held at the Village Hall at 2.30 pm on Tues. Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> with Miss Lovelock in the chair. 16 members were present.

The minutes were read & signed. A County Letter was read. Miss Brown offered to attend the Autumn Council meeting at Abingdon on Sat Oct 6<sup>th</sup>

The Dressmaking class were brought to the notice of the members.

Details of the Group meeting were given, & Mrs Smith & Mrs Fairer were asked to take charge of the competition.

Arrangements were made for the October meeting & Mrs Hunt & Mrs Cole offered to be the hosts.

Mrs Victor Rhodes M.B.E then gave a most interesting talk on Old Berkshire History. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks which was carried unanimously.

After tea served by Mrs Stow & Mrs Poxon the members attempted a competition on mixed Berkshire songs & this was won by Miss H. Blakesley.

Three members sent in entries for the competition. The result will be announced at the Oct. meeting.

Honor Goodhart  
16. X 57

Monthly Meeting, Tues Oct 16<sup>th</sup>

The monthly meeting was held at the Village Hall at 2.30 on Tues. Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. Mrs Goodhart was in the chair 19 members were present.

The minutes were read & signed. After ~~out of~~<sup>out of</sup> the minutes the chairwoman announced (1) that the Sept. competitor for a short story or a P.C. had been won by Miss Lawrence, (2) that a choice of time must be made for starting the Dramatizing classes. After some discussion it was decided that they should take place at the beginning of the New Year.

The County letter was read: (1) It was decided to ask for an American speaker, (2) & also to ask for a talk on the Standards of Finish of Preserves.

3. 8 Tickets had already been applied for, for the lecture on Dramatizing the Christmas Story.

4. The pushing our Valley part in the Conf. West Drive seemed to be ruled out because of difficulty of transport to Reading.

5. The Doll for which we were placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Group competition, was shown to the members & it was decided

to raffle & the ticket to be 1/-.

We arranged to ask for a talk on "What happens to the Resolutions" by the V.C.O. in our next year's programme.

The members were asked to nominate members for the 1952 committee.

Miss Brown ~~then gave~~ as reported on the Autumn Council meeting at Abingdon.

Mrs Cumming then gave an engaging demonstration of simple sweet making - coconut rice, Fudge & Date Balls. She was warmly thanked by the President.

Tea was ~~the~~ served by Mr Hunt & his wife.

Hanover Hall  
11. XII. 57

Monthly Meeting Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>

The monthly meeting was held at the Village Hall on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at 2.30. Mr Godber was in the chair.

18 members were present.

The minutes were read & signed. Aising on the minutes the President reported that an American speaker could come to our Nov. meeting & that Mr Scott would give a talk on "What happens to the Resolutions" in May.

The County letter was read - four members helped attend the County Party, one the Spring Conservative Council & 5 the Drama School in Town. Several members also helped

ents for the Tea Cosy Competition + also for the essay on a Rural Home.

The President announced the receipt of Jewells from our Australian link & of a parcel of tinned goods which was later distributed among the members.

Suggestions were asked for, for the 1952 Programme & the members were asked to volunteer as Tea Hostess for one month during the year.

The Whist Drive which we hope arrange after Christmas was discussed & the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday January suggested as a suitable date.

Cards were then sung & 'The Annunciation' & the Cris ministred. Tea was served by Mrs Stow & . . . after tea Mr Charles & Mr Conley ~~host~~ conducted games which were enjoyed by those taking part.

Honor Goodhart  
15.1.52

Monthly Meeting, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30pm on Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Goodhart was in the chair. 20 members were present.

The usual order of procedure was reversed to enable the Kinbury W.I. members who had been invited, to be present & a talk on Fleury Culture by a representative from Messrs

Gardley of Bond SF. Tea followed with Mr Stott, Mr Hunt as hostesses & then a competition in which the members produced in pairs of newspaper - craft & useful. These were judged by Mrs Marshall & the prize awarded to Mr Gurnett.

Business was then dealt with. The details of the Music Drive were discussed & settled, the probable programme of the Leboratory meeting announced as a demonstration of Lampshade making.

Entry forms for Tea Cosy & Essay Competitions were distributed & details of the forthcoming Dressmaking Class were given.

A suggestion that we should try to arrange a part for the Ice Pantomime at Salt Court was made. Mr Godhart offered to find out particulars of price etc.

The members asked Mr Godhart to express to Mrs Palmer Tomkinson their sympathy with her in the loss of her son.

Hans Godhart  
19.11.52

### monthly meeting Feb.

The monthly meeting was held in the village Hall on Feb at 2.30. Mr Godhart was in the chair; 17 members were present. The members stood in silence for two minutes in memory of the King. The Minutes were read & signed. Coming on these, the President reported that the arrangements for a part to the Ice

Pantominium were not proceeded with as little support was forthcoming.

The County letter was read. Miss Lockitch offered to attend the Spring Council meeting as delegate & M<sup>r</sup> Scase to accompany her.

Three members attended the Produce Guild meeting. M<sup>r</sup> Hunt described what she had seen & learnt in Bacon curing.

M<sup>r</sup> Walmley then gave a useful & interesting demonstration on lampshade making, illustrated by lampshades of different design & at different stages of completion; several members agreed to meet & carry out suggestions for themselves. M<sup>r</sup> Tubb proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer. The members then enjoyed tea including a cake sent from the Australian link.

The members also received half a pound of sugar sent by the Tasmanian link & M<sup>r</sup> Stow offered to send the thanks of the members.

Several members brought gifts to be forwarded to the Australian link at Hobart.

The competition for child's seeds produced four entries. M<sup>r</sup> Owen & Miss B. Carter were placed first.

The social half hour was cancelled.

Hans Goldhawk

18. III 52

## Monthly Meeting

March 18<sup>th</sup> 1952

The March Meeting was held at New Mill by the kind invitation of Mrs Goodhart at 2.30 p.m. There were 24 members present.

The minutes were read & signed.

The gifts from members for the Australian Link were placed on a table.

The County Letter was read. The resolutions for the Spring Council Meeting were gone through & the delegate instructed how to vote. Members were also reminded of the Tea Cosy Competition & the essay closing dates.

The Sewing Machine Demonstration which followed was given by Messrs Singer. Mr. Sheare first gave a talk on the care of machines & then Mrs North & Miss Goater demonstrated on two of their latest treadle sewing machines & answered many queries by members. \*

Tea followed served by Miss Lovelock & Mrs Scrase.

The Competition for a Tea Cosy produced only 3 entries Miss B Carter gaining full marks.

The Social ½ hour arranged by Mrs Carter consisted of guessing various advertisements, Mrs Stott proving the winner.

\*

Mrs Goodhart thanked all three for a very enjoyable & instructive demonstration.

H. E. Buckridge  
Hon. S. Goodhart  
29. IV 52

## Monthly Meeting

The April meeting was held in the Village Hall on Tues April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2.30. Mrs Fordham was in the chair.

There were 19 members & several visitors present.

The minutes were read & signed.

The County Letter was read. An appeal by the W.V.S. for magazines etc. for the forces was read bring written notice of the members.

Mrs Trotter, the delegate to the Spring Council meeting gave an interesting account of its proceedings.

The members were also reminded of the proposal to hold further dressmaking classes in the autumn cashed up in their names.

Mrs Hunt reported on the Group Committee meeting & an appeal was made for help towards the tea, a grocery parcel & the Bring & Buy Stall as group funds are low. Several members volunteered to help with the tea. Mrs Owen was asked to be in charge of the competition.

Mrs Scott on V.C.D. then gave us more details of the purpose of the resolutions for the A.F.M. these were discussed & voted upon so that the Hengford Delegate could be acquainted with our views.

After tea the Dramatic group staged the play they were present at the Drama Festival.

This was enjoyed by the members & the meeting then broke up.

C. M. Hunt,  
monthly meeting,

The May meeting was held in the Village Hall on Tues. May 21<sup>st</sup> at 2.30. Mrs Hunt was in the chair & there were 21 members present.

The minutes were read & signed, & the County letter read. Mrs Storr & Mrs Hunt hoped to attend the New Members' Tea Party at Wantage on the 13<sup>th</sup> June & Miss Lovelock this May. The Folk Dancing Party at Reading on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

The schedule for the Silver Show was explained to the members & it was decided that it would be gone into more fully at the next meeting. The members were also informed that there <sup>would</sup> be an exhibition of Handicrafts & also a stall at which the work of members <sup>would</sup> be offered for sale.

The programme for the June meeting was then discussed. Mrs Moore offered to act as Secretary, Miss May to take charge of the competition & Mrs B. Walks the Social Half Hour, Mrs Scrase the Tea.

The Annual Owing was suggested. A coach trip to the sea was the most welcome suggestion. The matter was left in abeyance till the next meeting.

Dr. Kennedy then gave us an interesting & enlightening talk on 'Rheumatism'. He was warmly thanked by Miss Proctor.

Tea Hostess were Mrs Jackson & Mrs Smith.

After tea the entries for the Best Household Hint were read out & the members voted upon them. Miss Lovelock won the competition with the hint "Don't put it down, put it away."

The meeting then broke up.

Ethel Bruce.

Monthly meeting. June 1952.

The members' day meeting was held at "Windrush" on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 p.m. - by kind invitation of Mrs Owen - with Mrs Bruce in the chair. Members were present. The minutes of the May meeting were read & signed. Apropos of these, the summer outing was under consideration. After some discussion, it was decided to visit Hampton Court on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mrs Goodhart gave details of the group meeting. The recipe for cake for competition at Bleat show was on sale.

a very interesting demonstration of pastry-making was given by Mrs Aulen.

The competition - "Flowers in a saucer" - produced nine attractively arranged entries. Mrs Goodhart was awarded highest marks.

A competition "Found in the Kitchen" - arranged by Miss Watts, caused much amusement Mrs Goodhart & Miss Buckridge each receiving a prize

Mrs Aulen kindly provided the tea.

Mrs Scrase & Miss B. Carter were the Tea Hostess

Honor Goodhart

15. VII. 52.

Monthly meeting July 15<sup>th</sup>.

The July meeting was held in the Village Hall on Tues. July 15<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 with Mrs Goodhart in the chair. 17 members present.

The minutes were read & signed.

Arising on these it was decided that unless more funds were received from Outgate Hampton Cow by Sat. 19<sup>th</sup> the R. would have to be abandoned.

The County Letter was read. Mrs Proctor announced her intention of attending the meeting at Reading on Fruit Preservation.

The Schedule for the 5<sup>th</sup> Oct Show was then discussed & it was suggested that members should bring possible

exhibits at the Sept. meeting for the choice to be made. The Secretary was instructed to send in the Entry Form to Watlington House.

Members were also asked to bring in specimens of their handicrafts so that they might be judged & then chosen by the Marketing Committee. They were also told that other work might be submitted for sale & that the Committee were asking for gift - household articles worth £100 for a branteb & help to pay the expenses.

A letter re - cross stitch competition was read & it was suggested that Mrs Martin, Mrs P. Tomkinson might be interested.

It was decided by members that the Dressmaking class should begin in the middle of September.

The competition for the group meeting was discussed & volunteers asked for for the Rummel outfit. Mr Powell, Miss Carter, Mr Pordham offered help.

An interesting report on the A.S.M. was then given by Mr Kiddell of Wengford WI. He was warmly thanked by the President.

The Sept. meeting was discussed & Mrs Storoff offered to help some of the members privately if they were unable to attend the afternoon meeting.

An interesting & very helpful talk on Poultry Keeping was then given by Miss Bennett illustrated by two live birds, after which tea was served

by Mr. Miss Burbridge, & a team spelling game  
arranged by Mr. Tubb & Mrs. Stow concluded the  
proceedings. The competition produced entries  
of the following names & numbers ~~and hand~~

16 - TX 52

### Monthly Meeting Sep 16<sup>th</sup>

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on  
Sept 16<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm. with Mr. Gardiner in the chair.  
24 members were present.

The minutes were read & signed. Awaiting on these, the  
Secretary stated that the Drumsaking classes were  
taking place with an attendance of 9 members.

The County letter was read. A volunteer to go  
Dalyat the Autumn Council meeting was asked for but  
owing to the difficulty of transport, there was no response.  
An invitation from Kintbury <sup>w/</sup> ~~w/~~ was then read  
& 5 members intimated that they would accept it.

The President then announced details of the Spring  
Meeting to be held at Stockcross on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, the  
programme was a musical one given by the Berkshire  
String Players, followed by a play <sup>the</sup> ~~arranged~~ produced  
by Kintbury. To help the responsible for entrance  
arrangements for the w/ exhibition at the Elstree  
show were announced & volunteers were asked for

Mrs Godber

To relieve the stewards; Mr Smith & Mrs Moore offered  
to do this.

A suggestion made by Mrs Stow, that we should keep the  
Lyndhurst fund was then discussed & it was finally decided  
that as there had already been several appeals in Whitchurch  
for this purpose we should arrange to do something at Cheltenham  
for the children of the Village. Miss Lovelock, Mrs Cault &  
Mrs Hunt were offered to form a committee to consider the  
matter further.

The President read a very charming letter from the  
Institute from our Australian link for the parcel of  
handicrafts which we sent before Christmas & it was  
decided that we should send another parcel to our three  
links in Australia, New Zealand & Tasmania.

The President also welcomed to our meeting Mrs Collins  
a member of our Australian link who is at present staying  
with Mrs Edwards during her visit to England.

Mrs Stow then gave a fascinating talk demonstration  
of soft toy making, illustrated by diagrams & beautiful  
examples of her work. She was warmly thanked by  
Miss Godber. Tea was then served by Mrs Smith &  
Mrs Pantt.

The chrysanthemum competition produced 4 entries - Mrs  
Godber being the winner, the Michaelmas Daisy in a basket  
2 entries, Mrs Godber being the winner.

The choice was then made of preserves, bottled fruit

for the Indian exhibit at SLCR & the members then dispersed.

Mrs Hunt.

Monthly Meeting, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on Oct 21<sup>st</sup> at 2.30 pm with Mrs Hunt in the chair. 20 members were present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read & signed.

The Children's Party was then discussed. The suggestion that a Jumble Sale be held was passed, & Mrs Panotti, Mrs Smith, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Scrase & Miss May offered to help.

Raffles were proposed - one to be held at the Jumble Sale & others at the Nov. meeting. A Fun & Leather Craft Drive was also suggested - to take place near Christmas.

Arrangements were made for the Nov. meeting. Miss Proctor & Mrs Hunt offered to help with tea. The rules for the Nov. competition were clarified - the cost of the toy to be not more than 5/- & expenses to be stated & taken into account in judging the toys.

Mrs Gurnett offered to make the birthday cake.

The County Lettuce was need. 5 members expressed the wish to have the C. Lettuce during 1953. 6 members asked for tickets for the Christmas Decorations Demonstrations.

The members were asked for nominations for next year's Committee & for Suggestion to be given over at the Nov. meeting.

for next year's programme. A reminder was also given about the Handicraft Forces ~~for~~ our sinks.

Mrs Botting then gave an interesting demonstration of supper dishes, an attractive arrangement of fish & a gay mould adorned with tomatoes, green peas, & small savoury pastries of various sorts now very popular.

Tea was served by Mrs & Miss Carter. Members then voted on the best prettier jug & Miss Wall was awarded the first place.

A quiz competition arranged by Mrs Owen was won by Mrs Edwards.

Handicraft

G. XII '12

Monthly Meeting Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30 on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> with Mrs Goddard in chair. The minutes of the Oct. meeting were read & signed. Arising on these the Chairman announced the Whist Drive arranged for Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. & also the Children's Party, for Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that the invitation should be sent to all children of school age; Mrs Carter undertook to do this. The Secretary stated that Prof. Fruce had agreed to come & give an demonstration of conjuring.

The President reminded members <sup>(1)</sup> often need for economy in using electricity during peak hours so that we helped

for p/p's of handicrafts to be sent to our three links abroad. She announced the arrival of parcels from Australia & New Zealand - the postage for which also had amounted to £2, & said that a sum of meal would be given to each member.

Suggestions were then asked for for the programme for 1953 & the County letter was read.

The Secretary then read a letter from the Berkshire Local History Committee asking for our help in collecting items of village history which might otherwise never be recorded, & some of the members undertook to gather old inhabitants of the village.

Some of the junior members of the Infirmary School then gave a programme of songs, cards under the guidance of Mr Martin, & were warmly thanked.

Tea was then served by Mrs Jackson & Mr Hunt. The Social Half Hour was spent happily by the children in games.

The competition for 6 decorated small cakes produced entries & was judged by Mrs P. Tonkinson & Miss Proctor. Miss Walls was awarded first place

Honor Goodhart

20/1/53

Monthly Meeting Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Jan. meeting was held in the Village Hall on Tues. the 20<sup>th</sup> at 2.30, with Mrs. Fordham in the chair. 16 members were present.

The minutes of the December meeting were read & signed.  
Arising on this the President <sup>said</sup> that any outstanding gifts from Litter should be given as soon as possible.  
She also commented on the success of the Children's Party.  
Asked for suggestions as to how we should use the balance.  
It was proposed & carried that we should give a donation of £10 to the Village Hall re-decoration fund <sup>& £2 to the U.P.P.P. Party</sup> & keep the small remaining balance in hand for present. She also complimented the two members who had helped with the re-decoration.

The Social was next discussed & it was decided that a double ticket should be 2/6 & that the programme should consist of a competition, games & a miniature <sup>short</sup> drive. Supper to precede the last named.

The County Litter was read & several members <sup>said</sup> proposed to attend the Brights Business Conference in Walsall on Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>.

Re. the Denison College Finance the Treasurer reminded us that so far our contribution to their Fund had been £5. It was suggested that we should hold a Jumble Sale after the April meeting to try & increase our donation by another

25.

The competition for the next group meeting was announced to be a dolls house & members were reminded that furniture must be made to scale.

The President also reminded them of the last Feb. competition - something new from Smalley Rd. She then welcomed Miss Cully who had come to help us carry out a members suggestion. That we should all adopt dates for the use of refugees etc. The members grouped themselves round a large table & proceeded to sew. Tea was served during this time by Miss Lovelock & Mr Stow.

There were 6 entries for the competition for Four Minute Pds. It was won by Mrs Owen.

Honor Goodhart

17/1/53

Monthly Meeting Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.

The February meeting was held by the kind invitation of Mrs Owen at Whidbush on Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> with Mrs Goodhart in the chair. The minutes were read & signed. 20 members were present.

It was decided that the garments produced by the members should be sent to help Dutch victims of the floods a job that has been done for a public emergency. ~~Others was no~~ a report from Bryg. means that the WI should organize the collection in the village for Flood Relief was discussed. Mrs Stow, Hercombe, Cruise, Tachman

Hunt, Miss Carte & Miss Burn offered to divide the village between them.

<sup>Mrs Carte</sup> ~~Wright members~~ shows a member of the Village Coronation Committee asked that we should help ~~to put up~~ by <sup>is</sup> offering loan of the China <sup>free</sup> for the Club Dances that are being run to produce funds. This was agreed to by the members.

The members were also asked if they could arrange an entertainment for the same purpose but as talent seemed lacking, the President suggested that perhaps Dorset House Choir might be willing to help? She offered to get in touch with them.

Arrangements were then made for the March meeting, which it was decided to hold in the evening at 6.30pm. The competition - Dolls Furniture was discussed & several members offered to make pieces suitable for the DHs House proposed girls' Group Competition in May.

The members then enjoyed a delightful piano recital by Miss Ruth Spoorer. <sup>who was visiting from America</sup> Played by her friend Mrs Scran & Mrs Parrott. The meeting concluded with a guessing competition arranged by Mr Fordham. The competition - something new from Dorothy had produced entries & Mr Slim & Mr Weston were awarded full marks.

Honor Goode

10. III E 3

## Monthly Meeting March 24<sup>th</sup>

The March meeting was held in the Village Hall on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm, with Mrs Godber in the chair. 15 members were present, & three visitors. The minutes of the Feb. meeting were read & signed. Acting on these the President stated that Bishop had contributed £18 to the Flood Relief Fund & that a parcel of clothing had been despatched to the Dutch Relief Fund. She also said that Dame Horn was unable to help in the halls of entertainment eventually after some discussion Miss Lovell promised the responsibility for producing a play to form part of an entertainment in the V. Hall.

In undertaking to ~~give~~ a further donation to Denman College was discussed & in view of the present lack of funds, Mrs Godber proposed that she should pay the amount for the present & that we should raise the necessary amount later in the year. Meanwhile it was decided that we should have an appeal on April 16<sup>th</sup> pay for the programmes. This was to be either a Bring & Buy Stall or an auction, & it was hoped that Mrs Drury might act as auctioneer.

Any job for a delegate to the St. Ives Council meeting was offered but as no volunteer came forward the matter was dropped. Mrs Stow suggested that she might be able to attend the A.G.M. as delegate if no one else wished to do so.

The County Lolls was read & members were asked

consider an outing to Dullington the Fifth Sam late in  
the year.

Mr H.L. Goddard then gave an interesting demonstration  
on making broom brushes from rope cabs which he  
directed the efforts of several members in making similar  
brushes. Coffee & cakes were ~~baked~~ served by Mr Hunt  
& Miss Catts. The competition for Dolls' Furniture was  
judged by Mr H.L. Goddard & full marks awarded to  
Mr Stow & Mr Hunt. Mr Stow then proposed  
voting thanks to the demonstrator. This was carried  
unanimously.

### W.W. Stow -

#### Monthly Meeting.

The meeting was held in the Village Hall on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 2.30pm

Mr Stow was in the chair 16 members were present.  
The members stood in silence as a minute to ~~2nd~~ the late Regt Queen's Own

The minutes of the March meeting were read & signed. Many

Arising on these (1) the Secretary reported the receipt of a letter  
of thanks from the Dutch Embassy for the gift of a chest.

(2) Miss Lovelah reported that the Dramatic group  
were preparing a play to be performed as part of an  
entertainment in the Village Hall on May 16<sup>th</sup>. It was  
decided that the royalty on the play should be paid  
from Institute Funds.

3 The proposed Handicrafts class was discussed  
& Mrs Palmer Tomkinson kindly offered to help with  
Basket making.

4 A suggestion that the Outing should take the form of a visit by coach to London before Coronation Day was brought forward by the Secretary under both C and G and out details.

The members were then reminded about the Spring meeting on May 6 at Hungerford. They were also asked to remember the exhibition of Coronation Souvenirs to be held at the May meeting.

The business concluded, Mrs Rhodes M.B.E gave an interesting talk on the ceremony of the Coronation other means & history, illustrated by beautiful coloured photographs of the regalia. She was warmly thanked by Mrs Owen. Mr Palmer & unknown.

Mrs Rhodes also judged the competition for a miniature garden - Mrs Stans being placed first. Tea was served by Miss May & Mrs Ditcham.

Honor Goodhart  
12. V. 53.

Monthly Meeting. May 12<sup>th</sup>  
The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm. Mrs Goodhart was in the chair & 21 members were present.

The minutes of the April meeting were read & signed. arising on these (1) the entertainment on May 16<sup>th</sup> was brought to the notice of the members - tickets being available from Miss Carter, (2) the Secretary reported that

seats had been booked for a trip to London to see the decorations on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

The President reported on the Group meeting that we had been placed first for our Dolls House. It was suggested that it should be raffled nearer Christmas. The competition for the Autumn Group Meeting was announced - a Stone Cupboard & members were asked to bear this in mind when bottling & jamming etc.

The form that the W.I. exhibit is to take at the Eisteddfod Show was also announced - a series of ship windows - the Hungerford Group being responsible for arranging the needlework shop.

The County Letter was read - a Round Robin <sup>of 1<sup>st</sup> place entries</sup> for planting flowers at Watlington House was made on Mrs Owen's suggestion & the result handed to Miss Body.

Miss Proctor agreed to act as President at the June meeting at New Mill - Members' Day, Mrs Dickson as Secretary, Mrs Joelock & Mrs May as <sup>1/2 more</sup> Tea Hostess, the competition to be a flower arrangement in a small jug.

The Secretary was asked to convey the good wishes & congratulations of the members to Mrs Couling on the birth of a son.

Miss Body V.C.O. then explained the resolutions to be discussed at the A.G.M. & reminded us realise that however small an Institute may be, collectively we are part of a body of thousands of women whose

Voice carries much weight with public bodies.  
She was warmly thanked for the way in which  
she had made the resolutions come alive.

Tea was served by Mr <sup>Jackson</sup> Dickson & Miss May -  
the social Half Hour was spent in looking at  
the collection of Past Coronation Souvenirs - a  
very representative & interesting collection going back  
as far as William IV & Adelaide.

A.C. Proctor

16.6.55.

Monthly Meeting, June 16<sup>th</sup>  
The Members' Day meeting was held at  
"New Mill" on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm, by kind  
~~permission~~ invitation of Mrs Goodhart.

Miss Proctor was in the chair and 18  
members were present.

The minutes of the May meeting were read  
and signed.

Miss Lovelock was congratulated on the success  
of the concert; and it was stated that a letter of  
thanks had been sent to Mr Martin for the help  
he had given to its production.

The County Letter was read.

Arrangements were made for members to visit the  
exhibition of miniature furniture being held at

Ashampstead on 30<sup>th</sup> July, further arrangements to be made at the July meeting.

It was stated that members could send exhibits to the W.I. "Shop Window" at Eelot Show.

A very interesting demonstration of arrangements of flowers was given by Mrs Goodhart and Mrs Owen.

The competition "Flowers in a small jug", produced 13 entries, these being judged by Mrs Dymott Mrs Edwards & Mrs Dixon. The highest marks being awarded to Mrs Goodhart,

Tea was served by Miss Lovelock, Miss Moore and Miss May.

### W.W. Stow.

Monthly Meeting July 21<sup>st</sup>

The meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30 p.m. Mrs Stow was in the chair. She welcomed two new members, Mrs Dymott & Mr Snow. The minutes of the June meeting were then read & signed. A visit on those the visit to the exhibition of miniature furniture was discussed & four members expressed a wish to visit if transport were available.

Mrs Stow gave an interesting account of the A.G.M. & then reminded members that the September meeting would be in the evening at 7.30 & the competition

to be calendar for sending abroad to our links.

We then welcomed Mr Neville Broke who spoke to us on Kenya & gave us sidelights on the natives & their way of life. The speaker was thanked by Mr Owen. Tea was then served by Mrs Cumming & Miss Carter. Mr N. Broke & Mr Stow judged the competition for the best crop from one potato. This produced eleven entries & was won by Mr Snares & Miss Brown.

A.C. President

25.9.53.

Monthly Meeting - Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>

The meeting was held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Mr Proctor was in the chair & 17 members <sup>& 2 visitors</sup> were present. The minutes of the July meeting were read & signed. Aisy or ~~and~~ the President read a letter of thanks from the Hopkinton Link thanking us for last parcel of gifts. The County Letter was read. No volunteer was forthcoming to attend the Autumn Council Meeting as delegate. Final arrangements were made for the E.A.C. Show & several members promised goods or produce for exhibition or sale, & articles for the Bon Tubs.

The October meeting was discussed & tea hostesses were arranged, Mrs. White agreed to give a demonstration of Bread Making & members were asked to give in their

names for the competition arranged by Messrs Green.

Mrs Hunt explained details of the Group meeting in October & asked everyone to provide something for the competition stone cupboards.

The Chairman reminded members that nominations for the new Committee were to be given in at the next meeting. She then welcomed Mrs Monish who gave a most ~~interesting~~ <sup>enlightening</sup> entertaining talk on the Interest & Importance of Old Documents. She was warmly thanked by Mrs Stow.

Refreshments were then served by Mr Edwards & Miss H. Buckridge. Miss Hayson & Mrs Monish judged the Calendar competition giving first place to Mrs Edwards. Miss Watts sent 7 entries.

W. W. Stern.

### Monthly Meeting Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30 pm. on Oct 20<sup>th</sup>. Mrs Stow was in the chair & 20 members were present & three visitors.

The minutes of the September meeting were read & signed. Coming on the subject the Secretary reported that the financial results of the W.I. exhibits was very satisfactory. Our £90 had been taken & a profit made £39. Members were asked to give in nominations for the committee for 1954 during tea.

The County Letter was read. The W.I. Christmas was shown. The numbers who ordered about five dozen.

It was arranged that the D.A.B. House should be exhibited in Miss Edwards' window & that the draw would be made at the Nov. meeting.

The arrangements made for the Craft Meeting were then discussed. Members were asked to give in their preserves etc. to Mr. Hunt during the weekend preceding the meeting. Those using the special bus were reminded of the time of departure.

Mr. Cumming promised to make the Birthday Cake for the Annual meeting & Mr. Parkinson Mr. Hunt to visit. It was suggested that the programme should be a Beetle Drive.

The chairman announced that Mr. Fordham had kindly offered six spoons which were to be given as a prize for the final result of the year's competition. The Secretary was asked to convey the thanks of the meeting to her.

The Handicraft class was discussed. It was arranged that the classes would begin on Nov. 16th. The course would be of three or four lessons - with a maximum of eight members.

Members were asked to discuss the 1954 programme during tea & make suggestions.

Mr. Hunt then gave a most clear

interest & demonstration of bread making \* several members bought the finished products after a tea at which they also some of the home made bread. She was warmly thanked by Mr Martin.

The competition for Table Sweet produced 28 entries. It was judged by Mr Hult who awarded full marks to three members, Mr Goodhart, Mr Hunt's Misses. They shared between them the prizes presented by Messrs Green.

R. C. Proctor

15.12.53.

Monthly Meeting. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>.

The monthly meeting was held by kind invitation of Mr Owen at Windrush on Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. Mrs Proctor was in the chair & 20 members were present.

The minutes of the Oct. meeting were read & confirmed. The suggestions for the 1954 programme were submitted to the meeting & accepted with one or two exceptions.

The question of entry fees was discussed & it was agreed that 40/- should be charged for the evening.

The competition for Trumpery was to be a small thing to give a P.

Mr Hunt reported from the V. Hall committee that they would be very glad if we could arrange an entertainment to help village funds. Mr Martin suggested

to help with a chori again & Mrs Lovell  
was asked if she would undertake a play. The  
matter was left open.

Another report that we should hold a Whist Drive  
for Dr Barnado was discussed. It was felt that  
perhaps some other form of effort might produce more  
money & the matter was left to be discussed later.

Mrs Owen then ~~readily~~ gave an interesting  
entertaining demonstration of Cake Mixing & Puff  
Pastry. She was warmly thanked: Tea was  
served by Mrs Martin & Mrs Dilton ~~not~~ included  
a very good Christmas cake from our Australian links.  
Each member also received a packet of dried fruit  
or jelly etc. from the N Zealand links.

Mrs Goodhart offered to write & get press our thanks  
to H. Fletcher & Mrs Hercomb & N Zealand.

There were 7 entries for the competition for a  
HR walk both over & Mrs Hall & Mrs Burn  
were placed first.

Mrs Martin had arranged for the S. Half Hour  
carol singing but in view of the fog this was  
omitted.

A. E. Scourby

Monthly Meeting Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>

The January meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30 on Tues. Jan 19<sup>th</sup>. The President was in the chair & no members were present.

The minutes were read & confirmed. The President explained that the remaining gift from Australia would be sold later on in the meeting to begin a Bursary Fund & send a member to Denman College. She described her stay there & told us how worth while & enjoyable it had been. It was suggested also that we should offer to visit Denman College.

The County Letter was read.

The February meeting was arranged. Mrs Proctor offered to hold the meeting at the Old Inge, details & receipts were given out about the competition for a fruit cake & the President stated that she had asked Mr. Rife to judge the cakes.

The question of tea was discussed. Mrs Proctor explained that for the last two years the potter tea had been provided by the committee & they felt that perhaps a charge might be good. Two suggestions were put forward of that each member should bring tea for one & all should be pooled b) that the members should volunteer to provide the tea - the expense to be borne by the funds.

An amusig talk was then given by Miss Thompson on her experiences in Morocco & Mr P. Clark expressed the thanks of the members. Tea was served by Mr. Shaw, Mrs. Dixon & a competition arranged for the S. Half Hour by Mr

Mention was made by Mr Carter.

The competition for a long coffee produced three entries & was won by Mr Owen.

R.C.Soc Act

16.2.54

monthly Meeting, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>

The monthly meeting was held at the Old Forge by kind invitation of the President Mrs King on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>. The President was in the chair & fifteen members & 2 visitors were present.

The minutes of the January meeting were read & signed. Arising on this, the question of tea was discussed & after some discussion it was decided to borrow poor tea till July & after that, two volunteers to provide the tea for each of the remaining meetings - the cost to be defrayed from the funds.

An appeal was then made for jam jars to help to help the funds. Mr Martin & Miss Carter offered to be responsible for collecting these.

A letter was read from the WVS, thanking us for our helping collecting magazines for the Forces & asking for continued support.

The members were also asked to help if possible with a jumble sale for the Hopwells on Sat. Feb 26<sup>th</sup>.

The President then welcomed a new member, Miss Hagan proposed by Mrs. Martin seconded by Miss Carter.

She then announced arrangements for the group meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Kirbyville. The competition 2 day, assorted cakes, the Raffle - a basket of groceries, the B.B. stall w. Woodley - the entertainment Whips.

The County Letter was then read. Voting was done for nominating ~~Bethel~~ Executive Committee. Mrs. Stow, Miss Proctor, and Martin decided to attend Home Day in Readip.

Miss Green then gave us an interesting, amusing & at times horrifying account of old remedies.

After tea in charge of Mrs. Diford & Miss Walter Musick, the members enjoyed a game which was won by Mrs. Stow.

The competition for fruit cake was judged by Mr. Rolfe. There were 17 entries & the three prize winners were (1) Mr. Hunt, (2) Mrs. Martin, (3) Miss Proctor.

A. E. Proctor

Editor

## Monthly Meeting March 16<sup>th</sup>.

The monthly meeting was held at the Village Hall on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm, 25 members were present & several visitors. Miss Proctor presided & the

minutes were taken as read. Two new members were welcomed  
Mr & Mrs Ambrose & two more Mr & Mrs. - Junior also who transferred from another branch.  
The County Letter was read. The Secretary undertook  
to ask for a copy of the Poultry Stock improvement plan  
on behalf.

Various suggestions were made re the summer outing  
(1) Visits to the exhibition of miniature Furniture, (2)  
to stay at Abingdon arranged by Dr Barnard's hotels  
There (3) visit to the Royal Show by coach.

The President gave out the arrangements for the  
Spring meeting at Wantage on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

The business concluded, the President welcomed  
Miss Letts ship & the meeting spent a happy &  
enjoyable hour singing rounds & well known songs  
under her conductorship. Mr Stow thanked her  
warmly. Refreshments were served by Mr  
Martin & Mr Cummins.

The competition for something made from an old felt  
hat brought five entries & Mr Martin was awarded  
full marks.

A. W. Proctor

Monthly meeting April 20<sup>th</sup>

The monthly meeting was held at the Village Hall on  
Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm. 18 members were present  
& 2 special visitors.

Mrs Proctor was in the chair.

The minutes were read & confirmed.

Mrs Proctor reported that she & Mrs Edwards had attended  
the Spring Council Meeting at Reading & enjoyed it very much.

The Group meeting arrangements were discussed.

Mrs Proctor asked that cabs should be sent back on the  
Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>, & reported the times at which the bus  
would leave the various parts of Thame.

She reminded the members of the promise to do  
something for the Dr Barnado's Home & said that  
Mrs Carter had undertaken to arrange a sale for  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, one stall of her goods being second hand.

Tam Tams were also mentioned again, & the notion  
of members drawing knitting competition in aid of the  
RSPCC.

The summer outing was discussed & the members  
decided on the visit to the Royal Show at Windsor on  
Thurs. July 8<sup>th</sup>.

The County Letter was read & allerton drawn especially  
the Autumn Council Meeting in Newbury, the Musical  
Tea Party on May 21<sup>st</sup>

The President then introduced Mr Siverton

who gave a most helpful & inspiring talk for all who were interested in children, & Miss Proctor expressed the members warm appreciation.

The "competition for a child's apron was won by Mrs Siron. There were three entries.

Refreshments were served by Mr Hunt, Mrs Carter & Mrs Martin.

Responsible for a present to Dr. Llewelyn Jones is

Miss Bell and responsible gift R.C. Pearce

and was at the monthly meeting. May 18<sup>th</sup>

The May meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30 on May 18<sup>th</sup> Mrs Proctor was in the chair & 14 members were present.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and confirmed.

Discussing the minutes (1) The President thanked all the members who had sent cards for the Girls Competition & enabled the Institute to win the first place. She also thanked Mrs Lovelock & her dramatic group for the enjoyable play they had performed at the Spring Meeting.

(2) She announced too that the Sale for Dr Barnado's had been very successful. £13.14 had been raised & she complimented those responsible, Mrs Carter & Mrs Martin on the result of their efforts.

3. She informed the Members that £3 had been obtained

from the Sale of Tam Tans. Over 1000 were collected & Members Day was then discussed & Mrs Lovelock was asked to take the chair, Mr Dixon agreed to be Secretary Miss Frost to organise competition, Tea Hostess the Miss Cards & Miss May.

The County Letter was then read, & Miss Proctor announced that she had been successful in the draw for visitors tickets on the Wednesday at the A.G.M.

~~Business~~ members were asked to present in their names if they wished to attend the Coach for the Royal Show in July.

The business concluded our C.O. Miss Hamerton guided us through the A.G.M. resolutions so that instructions could be given to our delegate from Hungerford, & Mrs Lovelock thanked her for the way in which she had aroused our interest.

Tea was served by Mr Edwards & Mr Moore & Mr Martin entertained our wife's musical ability with a story in song.

The competition for the best use of logwood was won by Mr Edwards.

K. Lovelock.

## Members' Day June 15<sup>th</sup>

Members' Day was held on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 at Totbdon by kind invitation of Mrs P. Tomkinson.<sup>23 members were present</sup> Mrs Lovelock presided & Mrs Moore acted as Secretary in the absence of Mr Dixon. The minutes were read & confirmed.

Arising out of these, (if a little) of thanks was read from the Secretary of the Dr Barnard's League for the cheque of £14.19.  
of members were reminded of the W.L. entry to the Royal Show.

The Chairman then read a letter from Messrs Fowler & Lee drawing attention to some 'skip closures' for jam jars not available in Woburn Shops.

She also suggested that we might collect Tops of Heddys soap products & take part in the scheme suggested by Jane Fitch.

The County Letter was read & members reminded that the Autumn Council meeting is to be held in Woburn.

Mrs Pratt gave a short account of the A.M. on Wednesday. Arrangements for the Show were <sup>given out</sup> & it was decided to joint details at the July meeting.

Mrs Lovelock then introduced Mr Catt who gave us an interesting talk on his daughter's career in her travels with Sir Benson's band & Mrs Curse who gave us sidelights on the work of charity news for the local newspaper & the way in which the paper was made up. They were both warmly thanked. Men may & Mrs Catt were

tea hostess.

A competition for the best buttonhole produced 12 entries & was won by Miss Edwards & Mr Dynott. Miss Lovelock then entertained us with a guessy competition which was won by Mr Carter & Mrs Martin. The meeting concluded with a very thanks to Mr P. Tomkinson for his kind hospitality.

A. C. Proctor

Monthly Meeting, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

The July meeting was held on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30. at Knight's Ace by kind invitation of Mr Dynott, 23 members were present. Miss Proctor was in the chair.

The minutes were read & confirmed.

Ansip on the minutes, the President asked the Secretary to explain details of the arrangements for the Elect Show. The Secretary gave details of the competition <sup>for a perfect bunch</sup>, it was decided to ask Mr Hunt, Mr Jackson, Mr Singell, & Mr Clarke to take charge.

For exhibition at Elect various suggestions were made - Mr Edwards gloves, Mr Martin handbag, Mr Uren apron, Miss King dress & jacket, & other members were asked to try & produce something.

Miss Proctor gave details of the Spring Meeting to be held at Weybridge on Sept 28, ~~when~~ <sup>at</sup> we shall be responsible for tea

The competition is to be three aprons from each Institute -  
The knitted; the most useful & a plain apron. It was  
suggested that we should change the Sept. competition to an  
apron & that possibly some of the entries would be  
available for show at Scot.

The President reminded members that J. G. suggested that  
we should send some gifts to our Australian & New Zealand  
friends, & asked all to help & be ready with contributions  
by October.

She also reported on the Party to the Royal Show & said  
that it had been a very happy occasion for everyone.  
Expenses had been covered with a slight balance. She  
also said that she was sure we should like to  
congratulate Mr. Goddard on his exhibiting Horse  
Decoration in the W.I. Tent at Windsor.

The Comfy Little was read & anyone wishing to help in  
Flood Relief for Australia was asked to let the Committee  
have contributions by the end of the month.

Mrs Robinson, our delegate to the A.G.M. then gave us  
her impressions of the meeting & everyone found them very  
interesting. The President thanked her & announced that  
Mrs R. had been placed 2nd in Bebholm in the competition  
for Knitted bedjacket & that she had brought this jacket  
with her so that the members might see it.

Mrs Stagg then gave us a most interesting &  
informative demonstration of glove making.

Refreshments were served by Miss Edwards & Mr Orr & the competition for a bouquet of wild flowers, judged by Mr Owen was won by Mr Orr.

Mr Dymock was warmly thanked by the members for the kind hospitality.

A. C. Proctor

### Monthly Meeting September.

The monthly meeting was held on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> in the village Hall at 2.30 pm. 16 members were present & Miss Proctor was in the chair.

The minutes of the July meeting were read & confirmed.  
Arising on the minutes the President reported that articles had been sent to the Elstree Show for exhibition or sale by  
Mrs P. Tomkinson, weaving & embroidery, Mr Gordhart weaving,  
Mrs Martin a patchwork quilt, Mrs Edwards gloves, Mrs King  
bedjacket & socks, Miss Burn smocks from Mr Owen  
bulbs & jam. An entry was sent in for the competition for  
a Paired lunch for a man by Mr Wink, Tuckman Clarke  
& Ingell.

The President again reminded the members of the  
Sugesteria & said gifts to our Australian & N. Zealand ladies.

The gloving class four members expressed their wish  
to join a class if enough numbers were forthcoming.  
Mr Gordhart, Mr Owen, Mrs Proctor, Mrs Edwards.

The County Letters was read & the attention of members

drawn the Autumn Council Meeting & be held in November.  
Mr Fordhart & Miss Burn offered to act as delegates.

\* Miss Proctor then introduced Mrs Vowles who gave  
an excellent's enlightening demonstration on surveying  
a garden. Miss Proctor thanked her on behalf of the  
members.

Tea was then served by Miss Lovelock & Mrs Dynott.  
The competition for an apron brought 4 entries  
it was judged by Mrs. Vowles who placed Mr Snow  
& Mr Fordhart first.

\* Miss Proctor gave the members details of the Party  
to be held at Inkpen & asked the members to help by  
providing cakes etc. She explained to them that Mr Hawey had  
asked for a volunteer to take part in a programme Two  
questions for winter Social Half Hour at the group meeting  
& Miss Lovelock agreed to act in that capacity.

#### 15.10. Stage -

##### Monthly Meeting 3 Oct.

The monthly meeting was held on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm  
in the Village Hall. Mr Snow was in the chair. 19  
members were present, & several visitors from W. Woodhay  
& Kintbury, & seven of the Inkpen Soil Guards.

The minutes of the Sept. meeting were read & confirmed.  
Mrs J. on the behalf of the Secretary reported that some gifts had  
been received from our overseas links & she would file  
them off this as soon as possible.

(2) The chairman thanked all who had helped to make  
Group meeting at Newbury so successful.

3 The Secretary now gave a report of the Autumn Council  
meeting which she attended in Newbury.

4 The Jersey class was again discussed. Eight members  
expressed their wish to join & it was decided that  
the matter should be left in abeyance until after Christmas.

The County letter was read & discussed. Re the litter  
campaign it was suggested that we might get in touch  
with the Newbury Town Council & suggest that litter bins  
be provided.

Mrs Martin appealed for members to join the choir to  
enter the Music Festival in May next.

A copy of the Christmas Card was sent round the meeting.  
Members asked to give in their orders. They were also  
reminded to give in nominations for next year's committee  
during the refreshment interval.

The President then <sup>thanked Mr Dymott for all his enthusiastic work since</sup> <sup>the previous year. gave us our first taste of</sup> thanked Mrs Dymott for arranging  
a play by the school children for the annual meeting  
& announced the competition - Six Savage Rolls.

The business concluded. The chairman then  
introduced Mrs Savant who explained a little  
of the task which students of Dramatic Art here  
undertake & illustrated enthralled the gathering with  
illustrations of these tasks. She was warmly  
thanked by Mr Dymott for the enjoyment she had given

Tea refreshments were served by Mrs Cummins (Brookbank).  
The competition for a hand wooden spoon produced  
5 entries & that Mrs Stow's was placed just by  
Mrs Henderson's Mrs C.R.

Mrs Henderson proposed a vote of thanks to the W.H.P.A.  
W.I. for having invited them to their meeting & said how  
much they had enjoyed it.

### Monthly Meeting December 1954

The Dec Monthly Meeting was held in the Village Hall on Tues. Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. Mrs Stow  
was in the Chair, ~~some~~ 15 members were present.

The minutes of the Oct. meeting were confirmed.  
The President then read a list of the Committee with their  
duties. She drew attention to the Trading Stall &  
the new efforts that were being made to run it  
usefully & hoped that all the members would  
support it.

The question of tea was then discussed - after  
several suggestions had been made it was decided to  
have a '6' tea for the first half of the year during  
which two different members would be responsible  
each month for providing the tea - the cost to be  
defrayed from the takings; any member wishing for tea  
only to pay 3d.

The question of the time of meetings was then put to the vote & it was carried that the 1954 scheme should be continued. It was also decided that the meeting should end about 4.30 pm.

The President then said that two large boxes of books had been sent to the Mental Hospital & 8 had been sent to the school for Spastic children.

She also reminded members that the school children were conducting a series of lessons & carols at 2.30 on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> to which members were invited.

Suggestions for the programme were then read out & others for competitions; & the members asked for their opinions on the proposals.

The business concluded. The Chairman then introduced Mrs Woods, who gave an interesting & enlightening account of soft slipper making, for which she was thanked by Miss Watts.

Tea was served by Mr Owen & Miss Edwards. The competition for Christmas stockings was judged by Mr Truman, Mr Pyatt & Mr Blake. Miss Burn was placed 1<sup>st</sup> Mrs Martin 2<sup>nd</sup> & Mrs Cart 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Carols were then sung together by Mr Martin at the piano & the meeting ended with God Save the Queen.

R. Burn  
18.1.55

Monthly Meeting, January 1955.

The monthly meeting was held <sup>in the Village Hall</sup> on Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> at 2.30. Miss Bam presided, and there were 15 members present.

The minutes of the December meeting were read and signed.

The President appealed for support with Competitions, and made two suggestions - (1) that pencils should be provided as token prizes, & b) that members should <sup>each</sup> be given a competition number, which they should keep through the year. These suggestions were approved.

Mrs. Stoor gave an encouraging report on the Trading Stall.

The Suggestion Box was introduced to the meeting.

Arrangements for the February meeting were discussed, and Mrs. Goodhart kindly invited the members to New Mill for the occasion.

The County Letter was read & discussed, especial note being taken of Lady Temples' coming visit to the Spring Council meeting in March.

The President stated that the March & April speakers have had to be reversed, as Mrs Kennedy cannot attend in March.

Miss Newbery gave an extremely interesting talk on Old London, illustrated with a profusion of lantern slides. She was thanked by Mrs. Martin.

An exhibition of "my Prettiest Christmas cards" proved popular, and drew very varied entries.

Tea was served by Mrs. Carter and Miss Lovelock.

Members patronised the Fading Stall in place of a Social Half-hour. Gifts from the Australian Link were offered at very small prices, to obtain funds for the birthday cake.

L.B.W.  
15.2.55

Monthly meeting, February 15<sup>th</sup> 1955.

The monthly meeting was held on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 2.30, and was at New Mill, by kind invitation of Mrs. Goodhart. There were over 30 present.

The January minutes were read and signed. The President read items from the County letter. Seven members wish to attend the Domestic Day, on March, at Newbury on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

The President asked for support for the proposed collection of used stamps, milk bottle tops

and tinfoil. Miss Haggan volunteered to be responsible for stamps, Miss Carter for bottle tops and Mrs. W. Edwards for tinfoil.

The Demonstration on Loose Covers could not be given owing to the illness of the demonstrator. Mrs. Owen and Mrs. Goodhart conducted instead a Cookery Forum, and members learnt many useful tips in connection with many branches of cookery.

The Competition for 6 Sponge Buns made from Spillers' Flour proved very popular, and there were 21 entries. Miss Watts judged these, and awarded the first three places to - 1. Mrs. C. Rolfe, 2. Mrs. W. Edwards, and 3. Miss Edwards.

A postcard game was played in the Social Half Hour. Tea hostesses were Mrs. Jackman and Mrs. Clarke.

G Burn  
15.3.55.

Monthly meeting, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1955.

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30. Miss Burn presided, and 19 members were present.

The minutes of the February meeting were read and signed.

The President reminded members of the collection of salvage. She then gave details of the forthcoming Group meeting at Stockcross.

Miss Edwards consented to be delegate to the A.C.W.I.

The Resolution and discussions for the Spin Council meeting at Reading were discussed, and Miss Burn was given instructions for voting.

The County Letter was read.

The local appeal for Clothing for Refugees was brought to the notice of members, and Mrs. Stow & Miss Burn offered to provide transport for any going.

Mr. Merceer then gave a very interesting talk on Gardening without Tears, giving many very valuable hints on saving time, trouble, & money.

The Competition for an Easter basket for a child was won by Miss Burn.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. Dixon and <sup>Mrs. Withers</sup> Miss Haggis.

S. Burn 19.4.5

Monthly Meeting, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1955.

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.30. Mrs. Burn presided. There were 18 members present, and we also welcomed 4 visitors from West Woodhay.

Miss Kennedy asked if she might give her part of the programme first, so that her return journey could commence in daylight. Members agreed to this suggestion, and greatly enjoyed Miss Kennedy's original character sketches, portraying five well-contrasted types of women. She was thanked for her programme by Miss Edwards.

The business part of the meeting followed. The minutes were read and signed.

Miss Burn reminded members of the salvage collections, and then gave more details of the Group meetings at Stockcross on ~~Tuesday~~<sup>Wednesday</sup> next. Arrangements for the bus route through the village were confirmed. It was agreed that members who were making sweets for the Group competition should have them ready for collection on Monday, Miss Burn undertaking to collect them. Miss Burn gave a report on the Spring Council meeting.

It was proposed that a Jamble Sale should be held during the summer, and the funds raised between the Lady Denman Memorial Fund, the Cripple Girls' Homes at Yateley, and possibly one other appeal.

The Competition for the largest number of useful objects in a matchbox was won by Mrs. Stow, whose box held 102 objects.

Tea hostesses were Miss Carter & Mrs. Jackson.  
S.P.B.W.M. 17.5.55

Monthly meeting, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1955.

The May meeting was held at the Village Hall on May 17<sup>th</sup>, seventeen members being present. Miss Bam presided.

Business included arrangements for the Jumble Sale which Miss Carter had agreed to organise. The date fixed was Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Sale to commence at 6 o'clock.

Miss Bam gave details of the plans for the W.I. Tent at Eelot Show, and of the competition for a Baby's Layette. She also reminded members of the Salvage collections being made.

Members were asked to consider whether they would like a Summer Outing, and to bring suggestions to the next meeting. As the June meeting is Members' Day, volunteers were asked for the various offices. The arrangements made were as follows:- President, Mrs. Withers.

Secretary, Miss Watts.

Competition - Mrs. Moore.

Tea - Mrs. Bent and one other member.

Trading Stall - Miss May & Mrs. Groves.

Following the business, Mrs. Giles, V.C.C., gave an interesting talk on the Resolutions to be brought before the Annual General meeting,

presenting the case for both sides clearly and concisely. Her talk was much appreciated.

An Exhibition of Candlesticks was held instead of the usual competition, and this produced exhibits from many periods, many countries, and in many materials.

Tea was prepared and served by Mrs. Groves and Miss Lovelock.

In Withers.  
21/6/55.

### Monthly meeting, June 21<sup>st</sup> 1955.

The June meeting was held at the Village Hall at 2.30 on June 21<sup>st</sup>, and was "members' Day". Mrs. Withers presided, and Miss Watts acted as secretary. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mrs. Withers reported that the recent Jumble Sale had realised £12. She suggested that this should be shared among 4 objects - the Lady Denman Memorial Fund, the Cripple Children's Home at Yateley, the N.S.P.C.C., and one of the Berkshire C.C. Children's Homes. Members agreed to this.

The question of a Summer outing was

then discussed, and the President asked for suggestions. It was stated that Huntley and Palmers' Publicity Dept. would arrange a tour of the factory, and it was decided to ask if this could be planned for the morning of Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup>; members could then visit the newly-opened museum of Rural Life in the afternoon, or spend the afternoon as they wished.

Items from the County Letter were read, and 7 orders for 1956 Dances taken.

Mrs. Martin gave a brief report on the Choir's share in the Music Festival at Reading.

Mrs. Owen kindly invited us to go to Windrush for the July meeting, when Mrs. Middleton is to talk on her travels. The meeting was fixed for 6.30. Mrs. Clarke volunteered to help Mrs. Owen with tea on that occasion.

Miss Bam reported on plans for Eisteddfod.

Members were then entertained by 25 scholars from Inkpen School, who gave a programme of songs, dances, and a play, all of which were much enjoyed. Miss Hagger was thanked for her work in preparing the programme.

The competition was in charge of Mrs. Moore. There were three entries for a Country Bunch, and Mrs. Harvey gave <sup>two of them</sup> equal marks.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. Bent and Mrs. Martin. The Trading Stall was run by Mrs May & Mrs. Coates. £.8.0s. 19.7.55

Monthly Meeting, July 19<sup>th</sup> 1955.

The July meeting, at 6.30 on July 19<sup>th</sup>, was held at Windrush, by kind invitation of Mrs. Owen. Miss Burn presided, and there was a good attendance of members. Miss Burn also welcomed the President and Secretary of Shalbourne W.I., and six other Shalbourne members, who attended as visitors.

The minutes of the June Meeting were read and signed.

The Secretary read letters of thanks from the local N.S.P.C.C. Representative, and from the Matron of the B.C.C. Children's Home at Beecham Park, who had received cheques from the Jamble Sale proceeds.

The President asked for offers of cakes, sweet jam, etc., to be sold at Bazaar, and received good support.

Mrs. Goodhart, our previous President, invited members to a reception at her home, on the eve of her daughter's wedding. Members were glad to have an opportunity of expressing their good wishes to Mrs. Goodhart, who had also belonged to the Institute and had served as Secretary.

Miss Burn then introduced Mrs. Middleton, who described several of her holidays abroad, and in addition showed a large number of her own paintings to illustrate her favourite scenes. The

talk was most interesting, and Mrs. Middleton was warmly thanked by Miss Haggan.

Tea was served by Mrs. Owen, Mrs. Blake & Mrs. Harvey.

Members were then invited to take pencil and paper and go round the garden identifying flowers. Mrs. W. Edwards produced the longest list.

The competition for a £-6. pot of Lemon Curd was won by Mrs. Owen.

R. Burn

20.9.55

Monthly meeting, September 20<sup>th</sup> 1955.

The September meeting was held on the 20<sup>th</sup>, when Mrs. Dymott had kindly invited us to Knights Acre. Mrs. Burn presided, and there were 20 members present.

The minutes of the July meeting were read and signed.

Mrs Burn first referred to the number of members who had contributed to the Institute's entries sent to Elect Show, which she considered to be very creditable.

Arrangements for the October meeting were then discussed, and Mrs Burn asked members to come prepared with committee nominations and ideas for the 1956 programme.

The Group meeting fixed for Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> was then reviewed. It was decided that no bus should be hired, as sufficient private transport was available. Mrs. Carter undertook to choose the Raffle prize, and Mrs. Storr & Mrs. Clarke offered to take charge of the Bring and Buy Stall. Ideas for the competition were invited.

Mrs Lovelock was asked to be delegate for the Autumn Council meeting, and the Resolutions for this were read and voted upon. Orders for Christmas Cards were taken.

A letter from Miss Ambrose was read, inviting the Institute to visit her & Miss White at Brockenhurst next Summer.

Miss Froom, from C. Borwick's, gave a very interesting talk on cake-making, and also ~~asked~~ answered questions from members. The talk was practical and helpful, and Miss Froom was thanked by Mrs. Jackman. Miss Froom judged the competition for a fruit cake, placing Miss Edwards first, Mrs. Rolfe second, & Miss Barn third.

Tea hostesses were ~~Mrs. Dignott~~, Mrs Lovelock & Mrs. Groves.

2 P.M. 18.10.35

Monthly meeting, October 18<sup>th</sup> 1955.

The October meeting was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month, in the Village Hall. It was an evening meeting, and there were 22 members present. Owing to transport difficulties, visitors from Kintbury and West Woodhay were unable to come.

Minutes of the September meeting were read and signed.

Our President, Miss Burn, reminded members that the layette made for the Eelot Show was on display, and Drapes ordered at a previous meeting were on sale. Calendars for the Link Institutes had been chosen by Miss King.

Orders for 1956 Home & Country and County News-Letters were taken.

West Woodhay W.I. asked for Tellers for their Annual Meeting on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>; and Shalbourne W.I. asked for Tellers for Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> — also for an item for the Social Half-hour. The Drama Group undertook to arrange this.

Members were told that Mrs. Blanke had promised to arrange a small Whist Drive for W.I. Funds.

Mrs Lovelock gave a report on the Autumn Council Meeting, which was listened to with great interest.

Arrangements for the November meeting were discussed. Mrs. Owen has offered to make a birthday cake, with members contributing ingredients or a small sum of money towards it. The Nation Question Paper on "Your Village" will take the place of a talk ; and a Beetle Drive is planned for the Social Half-hour. Tea hostesses will be Mrs. Dynott and Mrs. Owen.

The views of members on the Bus Service from Inkpen to Hungerford were asked for, as Hungerford Chamber of Commerce wished to know them.

Mrs. Coase asked members to consider the rule which requires that Berkshire Executive <sup>Committee</sup> members shall resign after seven years' service. The meeting decided to send to the Spring Council the following discussion subject:-

"That the Regulation enforcing the retirement of Executive Committee Members after a period of service should be abolished".

Mrs. Swanton gave us a very interesting and enlightening talk on "The Inferiority Complex" and answered several questions put by members.

The Competition for "Something from the Hedgehog" attracted seven entries, all entirely different. Results were - 1. Mrs. Martin. 2. Miss Carter. 3. Miss Bum.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. de la Rue, Mrs. Sto

and Mrs. Dixon. 5 p.m. 12-2

Monthly meeting December 13<sup>th</sup> 1955.

The minutes were taken as read being a little out of date and as there was very little business to discuss we were able to go on to the more enjoyable part of our meeting - after a short discussion of our programme for 1956 (many ideas being happily received) we were each given a number - a corresponding number being on each gift sent from New Zealand & Miss Burn distributed them amongst us present : Absentees were not forgotten -

As so few W.I. members are really keen Whist Players it was decided to send a donation of £1 to County Funds instead of running a Drive at a possible loss - Upon being asked Mrs Edwards said she would like to correspond with New Zealand & Mr Carter with Australia -

Then to Cards led by Mr Wilson from Shalbone which we all thoroughly enjoyed - members even taking solo parts although some of our own favorite cards -

E. Burn 17-1-56

Monthly meeting - January 17<sup>th</sup> 1956.

The meeting was held in the Village Hall. Twenty members were present. Miss Bunn presided. The minutes were read & signed. A list of our names was passed around against which we were asked to sign when able to do so. We discussed the coming Group meetings at which the competition is Clothing for a school child - comprising Knitted Vest, socks, cardigans & hand made dress, knickers & stockings. <sup>for the show</sup> We voted to <sup>in the</sup> have a competition for cakes. The new Floral Association Inauguration meeting is to be held tomorrow 18<sup>th</sup> at 2-30 at Ellesmere Canteen entrance fee 2-6. A yearly ticket is 10-6- & can be used communally by W.I. members.

We have received a lovely silk scarf as a present from New Zealand which we have decided to raffle (as much the fairest).

Mrs Clarke is organizing a Whist Drive at the end February or beginning of March at her own home.

We received 15-11 for our collection of milk tops. Mrs Stor & Mr Dymott are our tea hostesses for February.

Monthly Meeting, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1956.

The February meeting was held at Mayne House, by kind invitation of Mrs. Carter. Miss Burn presided, and there were members present.

Minutes of January meeting were read & signed.

The competition for the Craft meeting was discussed, and Mrs. Stoor was asked to enquire about the rule(s) for hand-sewn cotton garments, as members felt that machine-stitching would be stronger for school clothes.

Miss Burn announced the date fixed for Mrs. Clarke's Whist Drive, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 2.30.

It was decided to continue Salvage collections.

Business for the Spring Council was discussed, and the County Executive Voting Paper completed.

Mrs. Farmer then gave us a very interesting talk on Embroidery, illustrating her points with many beautiful examples of her own work. She gave many practical hints, and in addition much useful advice on designs, colour, materials & stitches. Members felt that they had learnt a great deal from her talk.

Mrs. Farmer also judged the marmalade competition, for which there were 10 entries, and Mrs. Dynott gained first place.

Tea Hostesses were Mrs. Stoor and Mrs. Dynott.

2 B.M. 13.3.56.

Monthly Meeting, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1956.

The March meeting was held on the 13<sup>th</sup>, an earlier than our normal "third Tuesday", as the 20<sup>th</sup> had been fixed for the Spring Council at Reading. Miss Burn presided, and there were 19 members present.

The minutes of the February Meeting were read and signed. Miss Burn then proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Clarke Junior, for the very enjoyable Whist Drive they had arranged at their home. W.I. Funds benefited by £2, 12. 6 from this effort.

Miss Burn appealed for salvage collections to continue, as arrangements had been made to dispose of tinfoil locally, to avoid cost of carriage.

The entry for the <sup>Spring</sup> Coop Competition was then discussed, and work was stated to be well in hand.

Miss Burn was asked to be our representative at the Spring Council Meeting. A discussion on the Resolution regarding the Length of Service of County Executive members followed. The meeting decided to leave the vote to the delegate.

As the April Meeting is Members' Day, the President asked for volunteers to conduct the meet. Mrs. Bent kindly promised to act as President, and Mrs. Croves as Secretary. Another member, Mrs. Goodhart, is to speak on Flower Arrangement.

and in order that Mrs. Goodhart may also judge the Competition, the meeting agreed to have the Flower Competition in April & leave the Embroidery till June.

Members were asked if they would like to order packs of Playing Cards offered at a low rate by a firm of manufacturers.

Miss Burn then introduced Mrs. Majumdar, who gave us a most interesting description of the life of an Indian woman. She brought a beautiful sari, and with Mrs. Bent as model, showed how this should be worn. Members felt they had a much greater understanding of Indian women after the speaker had finished, as she was able to give first-hand knowledge. Mrs. Martin gave her the thanks of the meeting.

The Exhibition of Objects from Abroad proved very popular, and included items from every continent.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. Croves and Mrs. Carter.

Viola Bent:

Monthly Meeting, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1956.

"Members' Day" was held at the Village Hall on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, with Mrs. Bent in the chair. The minutes of the March meeting were read and signed.

Mrs. Bent asked members to continue their Salvage collections. She reported that the Playing Cards ordered by members could not be supplied, as stocks were exhausted. Mrs. Bent then went through items in County Letter, and three members (Mrs. Withers, Mrs. Dixon & Miss Barn) said they would like to attend the "Singing for Pleasure" Day in Reading.

Miss Barn gave an interesting report on the Spring Council, ~~which~~ which she had attended as delegate. Members were interested to learn that the Resolution on "Length of Service" had been carried.

Arrangements for the Coop meeting at Kintbury were discussed. Miss Edwards offered to buy Inkpen Raffle Prize; and Mrs. Clarke, Jun., Miss Barn and Mrs. Jackman volunteered to sell Raffle Tickets at the meeting.

Members were reminded of the Exhibition of articles, "These I Have Made", for the May meeting; also of the forthcoming outing to Denman College on May 25<sup>th</sup>. An appeal was made for clothing for Displaced Persons.

The hall had looked very gay with the nine entries for a flower arrangement, and these were criticised and assessed by Mrs. Goodhart. Equal first place was given to Miss Barn & Mrs. Martin. Mrs. Goodhart's demonstration on Flower Arrangement

was watched with great interest, and members gained many useful hints. The final arrangements were greatly admired.

Tea hostesses were Miss Carter and Miss Haggan.

G.B.W.M. 15-5-56

Monthly meeting, May 15<sup>th</sup> 1956.

The May meeting was held in the Village Hall, and was the first of the evening meetings for the year. Miss Burn presided, and 16 members were present. The minutes of the April meeting were read and signed.

Five members asked for tickets for the Demonstration on Fruit Preserving in Newbury on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Members voted for Mrs. Hards as our Consultative Council Representative.

It was decided to hold over the entry made for the Groups Meeting (school girls outfit) until those who had made it were able to give their views. The President also reminded us of the Autumn Groups Meeting, when Inkpen W.I. is to provide the Entertainment; the competition at that meeting is for six examples of members' hobbies.

Another reminder was that orders for 1957 Drives must be given at the next meeting.

The Newbury Agricultural Show at Elst was also mentioned, and members were asked to decide what support they could promise for the W.I. Tent.

A discussion on the outing to Denman College followed, and it was decided that transport by private cars was possible.

The President spoke of an appeal by a worker from Dr. Barnardo's Homes, asking for W.I. members to knit garments for the children (wool being provided). Seven members offered to help.

Following this, an appeal was made by a member that the W.I. should also show its concern for old members living in the village. After a long discussion, members agreed that a Bring & Buy Stall at the June Meeting should provide a small fund for gifts when these <sup>old</sup> members were visited.

The Speaker, Mrs. Turnbull, V.C.O., expressed her interest in <sup>this</sup> scheme, as it was on the lines of a recommendation shortly to be made by the National Federation.

Mrs. Turnbull then went through the A.C.M. Resolutions, and our Delegate, Mrs. Carter, recorded the meeting's opinion on each.

The Exhibition, "These I Have Made", was well-supported, and entries were very varied.

Tea hostesses were Mrs. Carter and Miss Edwards.

## Monthly Meeting June 1945

The June meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30. After singing 'Jerusalem' the members stood in silence in memory of Miss Buckridge - one of the founder members of the Institute.

The minutes of the May meeting were taken as read. Mrs Cartes then gave us an interesting account of the A.S. meeting, which she had much enjoyed.

The Gift Fund was commended to the members. Mr. Grimes & Miss Burne are visitors for June.

The Party to the New Forest was discussed & Aug. the 15<sup>th</sup> suggested as a suitable date. The President offered to find out details of time, place of transport, programme.

Names of those requiring diaries for 1947 were listed so. Several members offered to make cakes, sweets &c. for the Folk Show, it was proposed that the representatives should offer much the same help this year as last.

Eight members said they would like to accept the Chippenham invitation for July 10<sup>th</sup>, nine to take part in the outing to the Cherry Orchard on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

The July meeting was discussed & Mr Owen kindly invited the members to Windrush. Mr Dixon & Mr Wiltshire offered to help with the tea.

Mrs Woods then gave an enlightening demonstration showing all the pitfalls to be avoided when cutting out

making up an upholstered chair cover. This was enjoyed during the demonstration. The hostesses were Mrs Edwards & Mr Bent. Mrs. Bent was judge and Mr. Bent was also judge for competition for an embroidered article, & placed Mr. Bent 1st, Miss King second and Mrs Burn third.

### Monthly Meeting, July 17th, 1956.

The July meeting was held at Windrush by kind invitation of Mrs. Owen. Members were sorry that Mrs. Owen will be leaving the district, and expressed their thanks for her hospitality, and for the work she has done for the Institute.

This meeting was held in the evening, & was presided over by Miss Burn. 17 members were present.

After the minutes had been read, the proposition to Southampton and the New Forest was discussed. The date now suggested is August 2nd. Final arrangements were also made for transport to the Cherry Orchards at Harwell on July 18th.

Members reported how much they had enjoyed the meeting at Enborne on July 10th.

A letter from Miss Mount was read, on the subject of Anglo-American friendship, and member

were asked to take note of any new American families who might come to the village.

Preliminary arrangements were made for the September meeting, for the October Groups meeting, & for the Co-operative exhibit for the Elect Show. The following members offered to be responsible for the different items :- Miss Burn, fruit cake ; Miss Edwards, iced sandwich ; Mrs. Jackman, rock buns ; Miss Edwards, Mrs. Owen & Mrs Martin, a selection of biscuits. It was hoped that Mrs. Goodhart would do the flower arrangement, and advise on the display of the exhibit.

Our speaker was Mrs. Womersley, and she proved to be a very entertaining and persuasive lady, getting many members to take part in "exhibitions" of mining, etc., which they enjoyed as much as the audience. Mrs. Womersley put in a strong plea for the Social Half-hour, and concluded her programme with an effective monologue. She was thanked by

The competition for a dish of home-grown fruit, was won by Miss Edwards. Tea hostesses were Mrs. Owen, Mrs. Dixon, and Mrs. Withers.

S.Burn

18.9.58

work.

Thanks were also expressed to Mrs Cummins for the beautiful iced Birthday Cake.

An appeal for funds for Spastic Children was then made & all the stamps supplied were sold.

Arrangements for the Christmas meeting were then given out, - the demonstration to be on Slipper making, & the charge of competition & A child's Christmas stocking costing not more than five shillings.

The children from the Infirmary School then performed a delightful little play 'The Toy Shop', which was enjoyed by everyone. Mrs Dwyer expressed her thanks of the ~~stage~~ members to Miss Haggas & the actors.

Tea was served by Mrs Stow & Mrs Owen.  
The competition for sausage rolls was won by Mrs Owen.

The members were asked to make suggestions for next year's programme.

E. B. Wm

15. 11. 55.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30 pm on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Secretary gave her Annual Report & the Treasurer read a financial statement for the years. The President proposed that we should try to increase the membership during the coming year & suggested that we should probably have to have some effort to raise funds. This was then proposed & Mrs Dymott seconded the adoption of the two reports & this was carried unanimously.

The County Letter was then read. In response to the appeal for books for the Berkshire Mental Hospital it was arranged to have five centres to which books could be sent - Lower Green - Miss Lovelock, Upper Green Miss Carter & Miss Works, Inkpen Common, Miss Burn, Robins Hill, Mrs Martin.

The President then ~~suggested~~ <sup>proposed</sup> that the 12 members nominated for the Committee should be elected en bloc as the Committee & this was formally proposed by Mr Moore & seconded by Miss Lovelock & carried.

Mrs Proctor expressed her regret at leaving Inkpen & thanked the Committee for all the time & energy they had given to the Institute during the year. She then proposed that Miss Burn should be President & this was seconded & carried. Miss Burn expressed the thanks of the members to Mrs Proctor for all her enthusiastic

President.

The Secretary then read the Annual Report & the Treasurer gave ~~the~~ statement of the financial statement of the year. Mr Godber was thanked for the gift of £5 to the Fund.

The President asked the meeting to accept the two reports & commented that the Institute had taken an active part in village affairs & in outside activities. She was sorry that the membership was small & as a result too much work fell on too few members.

The Draw for place for the Dolls House & Mrs Davis of Kirby was the fortunate winner.

The winner of the competition for the year was Weston who was awarded the Spoons presented by Mrs Godber.

The WI Christmas Card was shown to the members & they were asked to tell Mrs Edwards how many they required.

The 1954 programme was discussed & it was decided to hold a special Committee to arrange the details.

The business completed, the visitors settled down at Beech Drive & on the Kirby Hill Mrs Lovell was the ~~fortunate~~ winner of an egg rack & some coal bags.

Tea was served by Mrs Hunt & Mrs Stow & everyone enjoyed the cake made by Mrs Cummins, rice by Mrs Hunt & Mrs Jackman.

The competition for a doz. biscuits attended three entries from Mrs Hall & Miss Bunn shared the first place & Miss B. Watts was placed first.

H.C. Worlor

judged the five entries for the competition for a toy costing not more than 5/- & awarded the 1<sup>st</sup> place to Mrs Hunt.

Mrs Smith then raffled a grocery parcel provided by the members. It was won by one of the four visitors from Kirtbey W.I.

It was decided that the gift of Handicrafts from this should be sent after Christmas.

Hannah Goodhart

17. XI 5/3

24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Village Hall at 2.30 pm. Mr Goodhart presided & there were 20 members present.

The minutes of the last General meeting were read & signed.   
Twelve members were nominated for the Committee. Voting took place - tellers were from Kirtbey & ten members were elected. Mrs Cummins, Edwards, Hunt, Jackson, Martin, Stow, Owen, P. Tomkinson, Mrs Proctor, King.

\* The County letter was read. Four members decided to go to the County Party at Reading, & Miss Proctor & Miss King to the G.O.Banners Day in Reading.

Nominations were then asked for, for the office of President. Mrs Proctor was elected unopposed. Mr Goodhart was thanked very warmly for all she had done for the Institute during her many years on the Committee as

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General meeting was held in the at New Mill on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm. M<sup>rs</sup> Goodhart presided 27 members were present.

The minutes of the last general meeting were read & signed. Twelve nominations had been submitted for the Committee & it was decided to include them all.

Nominations were then asked for for the office of President & M<sup>rs</sup> Goodhart was elected unopposed.

The Secretary <sup>Treasurer</sup> then gave their Annual Report & the Treasurer followed. Both reports were adopted by the members.

The County Letter was read. Four members were to attend the demonstration on King & Seven that on Christmas Decorations.

The President announced the efforts being arranged to increase funds for the children's party - a Whist Drive on Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>. She also explained that we had undertaken to help to provide new curtains for the village Hall; that therefore some effort would be necessary after Christmas.

She asked for suggestions for the 1953 Programme & for many entries for the Bee competition in order to provide cakes for the children attending the meeting. A proposal that 3 meetings should be held in the evening to enable some members to attend the meetings was passed. A lively & interesting talk was then given by an American lady from the Embassy. She answered numerous questions put to her by the members. After tea which we enjoyed the beautiful birthday cake made by M<sup>rs</sup> Owen she

meeting explaining that it had been decided that one member from each Institute should serve annually to preserve continuity in the representation. The ~~matter~~. It was decided therefore by vote that Mrs Carter should retire leaving Mr Bent & Mr Corlett & Mr Godfray as the Interpro representatives. However she also stated that it was Interpro's turn to provide the offices for the Groups this year.

Votes of thanks were then given to the letters from West Woodhay.  
At the close of the business Miss Stewart gave us interesting sidelights onto origin of cards & led us in singing some of them.

Tea, including a birthday cake beautifully made by Mrs Owen, was served by the Misses Buckridge & Mrs Moore.

The all deserved first Group competition was raffled & won by Mr Batsford & a knitted hot water bottle cover sent from our New Zealand friends was won by Miss Ward.

Honor Godfray  
18. XI. 54

## The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual & Birthday Meeting

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual meeting was held in the village Hall on Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1951 at 2.30 pm. Mr. Fordham presided 27 members were present.

The minutes of the last Annual meeting were read & signed. The ballot then took place for the 1952 Committee. The following were elected: Miss Burn, Mr. Conling, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Fordham, Mr. Hunt, Miss Lovelock, Mr. Owen, Mr. P. Tomkinson, Miss Proctor & Mr. Stow.

Nominations were asked for Spring President & Mr. Fordham was elected unopposed.

The Secretary then read the Annual Report & the Treasurer gave her report which showed ~~that we have~~ there was a small balance in hand. Both reports were adopted by the members.

There were 4 entries for the November competition for a present for a child costing not more than 2/6. It was won by Mr. Stow with a delightful Mr. Rabbit.

The results of the competitions for the year were announced. Miss Waits had the highest total - 65 points, & was awarded a spoon.

The County Letter was read & 54 members expressed their desire to attend the Christmas Carol Party at Reading.

7 members asked to have the New County Letter monthly & - 16 the Home County.

Mr. Conling gave a report on the Group Committee

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual: Birthday meeting.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual meeting was held in the Village Hall on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, 1950 at 2.30pm. M<sup>rs</sup> Bruce presided.

In spite of the weather there was a very good attendance of former & present members.

After singing Terusalem, the members stood in silence for two minutes in memory of Mr. Marrett one of the foundation members of the W.I.

The ballot then took place for the 1951 Committee & the following were elected Miss Burn, M<sup>rs</sup> Bruce, M<sup>rs</sup> Edwards, M<sup>rs</sup> Fordham, Miss Fordham, M<sup>rs</sup> Couling, M<sup>rs</sup> Hunt, Miss Lovelock, M<sup>rs</sup> P. Tomkinson & M<sup>rs</sup> Tubb. It was proposed that M<sup>rs</sup> P. Tomkinson be on the sub committee for the 1951 Handicrafts.

C. letter

Two members asked that the C. letter be supplied them. Tea Hostess were M<sup>rs</sup> Hobbs & M<sup>rs</sup> Hills.

The Secretary's Report was read & that of the Treasurer. M<sup>rs</sup> Bruce then thanked all the members who had helped to carry on the work of the Institute, & gave the good wishes of the members to Secretary M<sup>rs</sup> Lawrence as she was leaving the district.

M<sup>rs</sup> Fordham was then unanimously selected President for 1951.

Tea was then served - it included a beautiful red birthday cake made by M<sup>rs</sup> Fordham.

A free tip telegram was received from Lord Albermarle

\* a telegram of good wishes from Miss Beyle Carter.  
The competition for 6 scores was won by Mr Lawrence.  
The Dramatic group then entertained the members  
with a play "Summer Vacation."

Honor Goodhead  
20. XI. 51