



**THE WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS ASSOCIATION**  
(Incorporating Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps and Auxiliary Territorial Service Comrades Association)

**Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN**

**President: HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT, GCVO**

**NORFOLK BRANCH**

<b>CHAIRMAN</b> Miss Linda Graver 1 North Street Blofield Norwich NR13 4RH 01603 715521	<b>SECRETARY</b> Mrs Joan Awbery 25 Meadow Rise Road Norwich NR2 3QE  01603 455070	<b>TREASURER</b> Ms Lyn Hatch 11 Morse Road Norwich NR1 4RT  01603 432696
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**NEWSLETTER No. 18 November 2009**

We have just held what we call our "AGM" This is very informal and as usual consists of a summary of our activities and a plea to all members to offer replacements for Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. And as usual everyone present seems to prefer the status quo – so the above people continue in their roles!

This year Lyn had difficulty in collecting subscriptions from some annual members. Many of you of course remember that they are due in September. Others, in spite of a reminder in my last Newsletter and another from HQ which appeared in the September "Lioness" had to receive a phone call or letter to jog their memories. HQ are very insistent that subs are received from us by the end of September, the end of their financial year. Anyhow now all is safely gathered in (until the next time!)

During the summer which we here in E.Anglia were very fortunate to have the best of - after the rainy season in July - we have been to various parties in members' gardens, each of whom has gone out of her way to make the afternoons enjoyable.

One of our Speakers during the year enlightened and interested us in a little-known aspect of womens' lives during the last war – that of running the narrow-boats which plied the canals trading in commodities, particularly coal and flour. And very hard and dirty it must have been, especially in the confined spaces of the boats. The talk was called "Idle Women" which intrigued us until we discovered this was a sardonic twist (no doubt by the men they had replaced) on the initials "Inland Waterways".

We have been pleased to welcome new members, Mrs Quantrill, former ATS, from Cromer, Mrs Tolcher, ex-WRAC and TAVR from Gorleston and Kate Williams from Holt who until recently was serving in the current army and now holds the post of Norfolk County Manager for the R.B.L.

Some of us attended the annual service in remembrance of Nurse Edith Cavell at her grave-side in the Cathedral Close. This year we laid a wreath and joined in the short

procession. We are now planning a visit on November 11th to Gt Yarmouth to lay poppies at the plaque. Very recently an article appeared in the Yarmouth newspaper concerning an 85-year old gentleman who was in the Sherwood Foresters stationed there in 1943. He was detailed to dig among the ruins to recover the bodies. Aged only 18 at the time the memory has remained vivid to him up to this day. Fortunately I have been able to trace this gentleman and send him full details. He and his wife intend to visit the memorial.

Here is advance notice of our usual **CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY** on **SATURDAY DECEMBER 12th** at the R.B.L. Club, Aylsham Road. We would be happy for anyone to join us there from 1 p.m

Our annual luncheon has been arranged for **SATURDAY JANUARY 16th** at the same venue as last year -The Marsh Harrier, (just outside Norwich on the Ipswich Road) at 12 o'clock for 12.30 For those who will be coming, the following menu is available. The cost will be £10 per person, as the Branch will again be subsidising the meal plus wine on the table and coffee afterwards.

1. Beer-battered Fish & Chips
2. Chicken Pie
3. Gammon & Eggs
4. Beef, mushroom & Guinness pie
5. Mushroom & Spinach lasagne
6. Shepherds' Pie

- A. Banoffee Cheesecake
- B. Sticky Toffee and Date pudding
- C. Apple & Blackberry Crumble
- D. Lemon & Blueberry Jelly with ice-cream
- E. Apple sponge pudding
- F Profiteroles
- G. Warmed Brownie with ice cream

Please let one of us have names and choices by **JANUARY 10th**, please.  
Payment to be made at the time.

There is a standing invitation to the **WRENS'** lunch at the Debut Restaurant, City College on January 14th. Please let me know if you would like to join us there and I will send you full details.

We have made no arrangements yet for outings or activities next year but when we do, I will let you know. It would be good to see a larger contingent at the Yarmouth plaque for an informal service at 11 a.m. on May 11th next year.

This is well in advance of its time, but we send you good wishes for Christmas and for a happy and healthy New Year in 2010.

Please keep in touch, even though you may have difficulties and cannot attend meetings, you remain a valued member of the Branch and we are always delighted to receive your letters.

**Joan**