

A Song was Born

By Helen Burns



Who would have thought that a song would be written as the result of the generosity of a community-minded lady?

If you hear the "Navan Women's Institute Waltz," it is because the Navan WI members decided to donate a portion of a legacy they received from a local woman's estate. Navan resident Henrietta Lancaster indicated in her will that she wanted the community to benefit from the assets that she and her husband had accumulated in their life. Although she was not a Women's Institute member herself, the Navan WI was one of six local groups and churches to receive nearly \$44,000 each.

So, when the Cumberland Township Fire Department needed rescue equipment for their new fire truck, the Navan WI donated \$12,800; the local Lions Club, also beneficiaries of the Lancaster's estate, donated a similar amount.

Hilda Edwards presented the cheque to Fire Chief Gordon Mills at their annual Christmas dinner. Deputy Chief, Randy Foster, was so impressed with the Women's Institute organization, its motto

and all it stands for, that he decided to write a song in honour of the WI group.

The members of the Navan Women's Institute are proud of the new fire truck, which bears the Lions Club logo on one door and the WI crest on the other. The "Navan Women's Institute Waltz" will be a lasting memorial to a woman who indeed cared "For Home and Country."

Submitted by Helen Burns, Public Relations Officer, Navan WI, Russell District.

BITS AND BYTES

A Royal Thankyou

Mounting and staffing a display at a fair is always an exhilarating event. Coordinating one at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is that much more challenging and exciting. I hope that everyone who took the time to get involved enjoyed the opportunity of meeting new people and having new experiences.

Thank you to the 49 volunteers who staffed the Women's Institute Booth at the Royal from November 2 to 16, 1996. A very special thank you to David Doyle from Visual Communications Services at OMAFRA for his advice and assistance in setting up. To the FWIO office staff - thank you for making sure all the supplies were ordered and packaged, ready to move to Toronto.

Without the enthusiastic support and work of Committee members Carol Cressman and Margaret McInroy, the event would not have succeeded. Many thanks to both of you.

Mary Janes, Chair
Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Booth
Committee, 1996

Heartfelt Thanks

Many thanks to all Branches for all your help in the last four years. I have retired with fond memories.

Marcie Johnston
Past Prov. Tweedsmuir History Curator

Mint Condition



Once a year the British Royal Mint selects one outstanding event or organization as the subject of its official Centenary Medal. The Women's Institute centenary medal will feature a design by British numismatic artist, Mary Milner Dickens, depicting five women representing different aspects of the WI - a symbolic portrayal of the WI through the ages.

Strictly limited issues of the medal will be struck in silver, gold and toned bronze. The Royal Mint has also agreed to strike a fourth, lower-priced version in bright bronze. It will measure 38.5 mm across and be mounted in an illustrated folder tracing the history of Women's Institutes from their early days in Stoney Creek to the well-established international organization we know today. It will cost \$24, and for every sale the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada will benefit by a \$2 donation.

Your response to this coin will help anticipate the volume of orders required. The British Royal Mint invites your inquiries by calling their toll free number at 1-800-563-5943 as soon as possible. Let the Royal Mint know how many \$24 coins you anticipate ordering, or write the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada at the following address, FWIC National Office, Suite 606, 251 Bank St., Ottawa ON K2P 1X3.

Congratulations

Anniversaries:

Westmount WI, Simcoe East	40
Grandview WI, Lennox & Addington	45
Pleasant View WI, Renfrew North	45
Navan WI, Russell	65
Kemptville WI, Grenville	80
Louth WI, Lincoln	80
Big Lake WI, Manitoulin East	90
Duntroon WI, Simcoe West	95
York Road WI, Northumberland East	95

Life Memberships:

Listowel West WI, Perth North
- Dorine Bender

Certificates of Merit:

Hart's Riggs WI, Hastings North
- Daisy Bateman
- Reta Pitts
Listowel West, Perth North
- Ethel Wood