

## PROFILE:

# Norma Cornish: Giving Ideas, Talents and Time

Through the years, Norma Cornish has contributed ideas, talents and time to the Women's Institute as she moved from farm community to farm community with her husband Milton. She first joined the Blyth WI in 1947. Norma helped organize a new Branch in Uxbridge in 1951. She has belonged to Westwood Branch since the mid-1960s.

Norma has held most Branch positions and was District President in 1970 and 1971. She always has new ideas for projects and resolutions and keeps us aware of issues in the community and in the country. Some of the resolutions she has suggested and events she has helped organize, include:

- a resolution about prosthesis funding from government;
- a resolution to install a SLOW sign at a busy intersection in the community;
- donations of fruit loaves to workers cleaning up after a tornado;
- preparation of tote bags filled with information for breast cancer patients;
- donations of Christmas Cancer Clinic gifts from the Peterborough District;

- lunch-in-the-woods for tour of a local sugar bush; and,
- discussion group for the country-wide questionnaire - Unity of Canada.

Skits and poems are a specialty of hers, which she composes in the early hours of the morning. Her hobbies include knitting, plastic canvas weaving and cake decorating. Being a wife of a Hereford cattle breeder, she prepares many quick meals and coffee breaks for visitors and buyers.

Every fall for several years, Norma judged the Home Craft Division of many Ontario fairs. She has served on the Ladies Division of the Peterborough Fair Board and has helped with the Cancer Society. Now, she belongs to the local Hospital Visitation Group. Her summer months are spent at the cottage.

Norma was honoured by the Westwood Branch and the Peterborough District for her years of dedication to the Women's Institute. They threw a party for her!

*Submitted by Mary Elmhirst, Westwood Branch, Peterborough District.*



## A Short Course

*Jan 10th was the date that we were planning,  
For a Short Course on 3 dimensional picture making.*

*Doris, the leader, came with supplies,  
Soon had us working, then what a surprise.  
Twelve pictures the same, yet each one unique,  
Some ladies, you know, have an artistic streak.  
We all were so happy as we went home that day,*

*For to hear and have fun is the WI way.*

*Written by Norma Cornish, 1989.*



## Memories and More

*Ninety-two year old Alice Edgar, charter member of the Victoria II Women's Institute Branch in Lennox & Addington District, shared her memories, wit and charm with a gathering of ninety friends in April of 1996.*

*Submitted by Valerie Smith, PRO, Lennox & Addington District.*

## HORSING AROUND



**B**owen Road Women's Institute members enjoyed a presentation by Diane Paonessa, Executive Director and founder of I CAN-T.E.R., a therapeutic equestrian riding association. A video was shown depicting the day camp program and the benefits from the specialized opportunities for individuals with special needs. Young and old can experience the farm for rehabilitation, therapy, education or recreation. Bowen Road members, along with another group, sponsored a child in the summer program. Crystal Rawcliffe is pictured enjoying a ride on a horse.

*Submitted by Barbara Wilkie,  
Public Relations Officer, Hamilton Area.*