

Vinemount W.I. celebrates 75th anniversary

By **TINEKE BRUINSMA**

News staff

The Vinemount Women's Institute celebrated its 75th anniversary on March 21.

To commemorate the event the Women's Institute held one of its infamous teas. This tea was special with several added touches including a wedding dress fashion show and a sing along.

Peg Andrew, president of the Vinemount Women's Institute, said there have been many changes over the last 75 years.

She said when the Institute was first established the ladies met in an old creamery building on the Eighth Road.

"It was owned by E.D. Smith and we bought for \$1,000."

The institute is one of the oldest in the area but Mrs. Andrew is quick to point out that the Mother Institute is in Stoney Creek and is the oldest being over 100 years old.

When the Vinemount Women's Institute was first established it was an organization that helped young women in rural areas learn how to do domestic work.

"Today we hold an annual quilt raffle and donate the funds to local charities," said Mrs. Andrew, adding that the charities they donate to are the West Lincoln Memorial

Hospital, Chedoke Hospital, the Stoney Creek Food Bank and local 4-H groups.

Since the 1960s the ladies have met in each other's homes and have been challenging each other to make a difference in their home and in their country.

"After 75 years we are still helping, sharing and caring for our community," she said. "We are one entity made of many parts working together and we do this all for Home and Country."

She said women have made large strides over the past 75 years and Canada has even had a female Prime Minister.

"What the future holds is anyone's guess but we will continue do this all for home and country," said Mrs. Andrew.

We do this all for home and country, is the Women's Institute motto.



■ Alice Haddon stands near the quilt she made. The quilt was raffled off as a fundraiser for the Vinemount Women's Institute who recently celebrated their 75th Anniversary. The Rock Chapel United Church was filled to the brim during the Vinemount Women's Institute tea held on March 21 to commemorate the WI's 75th anniversary.

