

VON receives new car

# Girls in blue and white serve North Halton area

By Janet Braida  
Navy blue and white may not be your favorite colors, but for the young and old residents of North Halton these two most popular hues are symbolic of friendship, trust, understanding and help. And it's the girls that make the clothes as the Victorian Order of Nurses work for the country and the individual and administer bedside nursing care in over 60 homes in the North Halton area.

Two full time nurses and six relief or part time nurses work from the Oakville Branch of the VON and one of these nurses serves full time in the northern area of the county. Mrs. Gail Beddome (head of the Oakville VON), Miss Barbara Kirkby and Mrs. Eva Wands devote their time, and in many cases their energy to working with young and old alike and helping with injections, dressings, rehabilitation, bathing and several other medical services provided by the association.

**Action on reference**  
"We will care for anybody," said Mrs. Gail Beddome, spokesman for the group. "Whether they're rich or poor it is of little concern to us, but care is only given if a patient has been recommended by a doctor to us," she noted. "Anyone can refer a patient to us, but we must have orders from the family doctor before we visit a home."

The VON association depends largely on funds from the Oakville extension, a grant from VON Ontario and a county grant from Halton to operate. Last year the Oakville branch also received a \$500 grant from the town of Acton as extra monies were needed, and support also comes directly from the United Appeal, Canadian Cancer Society, Blue Cross, insurance companies and the Nurses' Services Act.

"It may seem like quite a considerable amount in one lump sum," said Mrs. Beddome, "but we increased from 300 patients in 1963 to 1,400 in 1970 and operated with a \$5,000 deficit last year."

**Club donates car**  
The case load increase in the number of patients needing treatment and care resulted in the hiring of another full time nurse who needed a car to serve her area. From VON funds the group purchased two cars for the two nurses, but Mrs. Beddome, who works part time, also was in need of an automobile. Following countless talks to service groups and clubs in the area, Milton Lions Club generously donated a brand new 1971 Hornet to the VON.

A striking royal blue and fully equipped with extras, the new car has already been put to use serving the North Halton area. Miss Barb Kirkby, who largely serves the area surrounding Milton, travels more than 100 miles a day in the new auto visiting and helping patients.

"I average approximately eight calls a day," said Miss Kirkby, a student working for the Oakville branch on a VON bursary from the University of Alberta. Miss Kirkby applied for a VON bursary and agreed upon application to work anywhere in Canada where her services were needed for one year.

"And it seems I am needed right here in Halton," she continued. "I look forward to my visits with patients and enjoy the personal contact between patient and nurse."

**Serve South America**  
Miss Kirkby has been accepted by CUSO and will be leaving the Oakville branch of the VON in August for a two year nursing term in South America.

Almost 65 per cent of all of our patients are over 60 years of age," noted Mrs. Beddome. "Fees are paid according to what

the patient can afford. The majority of patients pay a portion of the standard \$5 fee, very few pay full fee and some pay no fee at all," she continued. "What patients pay for service is confidential and each situation is assessed before a standard fee is set."

**Some don't pay**  
Patients who receive the VON service free are usually pensioners or welfare recipients, she explained. All monies coming directly to the VON office are put into one "small" pot and nurses' wages and operation of the VON cars is taken directly from the lumped sum.

All nurses serving with the VON are graduates of recognized nursing schools and several have had university preparation before joining the staff.

Last year the Oakville branch received a \$1,000 grant from the County of Halton but as yet have

received no word from county council as to whether the grant will be continued this year. "We're certainly counting on another grant from the county," noted Mrs. Beddome. "We have a legitimate use for the money before it is even received."

**Through sleet or snow**  
Looking back on this year's "bad" winter, Miss Kirkby laughed as she recalled several amusing situations of heavy snow and slippery highways. "We certainly had our share of getting stuck," she noted. "Several times the cars had to be left on the road and we had to walk down an unplowed laneway to reach the house. But I suppose knee high snow is nothing compared to what VON's up north had to contend with. Riding on snowmobiles to reach patients," she added.

"If we could get the space and a full time nurse from the area, we

would certainly consider having an office in the northern sector of the county," Mrs. Beddome noted. "The case load increase in that area certainly warrants a new office."

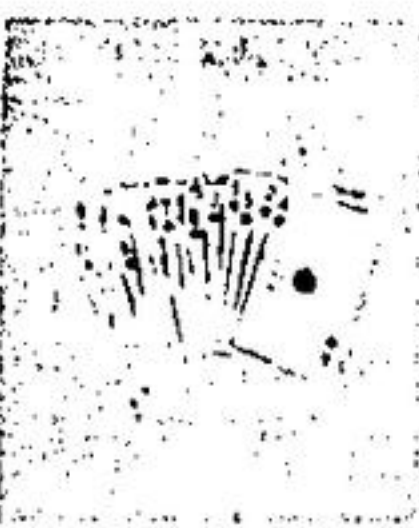
**Speaks to groups**  
In her spare time Mrs. Beddome visits clubs and service groups, and speaks to interested persons on the work of the VON. Last week she directed her conversation to the Georgetown Rotary Club, the previous week an Acton service group and next week... who knows?

The VON nurses work a seven and a half hour day but cover calls 24 hours of the day, 365 days a year. Since the Victorian Order of Nurses was first established in 1897, the association has been working with you and for you for your health, success, progress and prosperity.



A SET OF KEYS AND A FLASHY NEW CAR are presented to two members of the Oakville branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses by Milton Lions club members. Lions donated the car to the VON who serve the North Halton area. Left to right presenting the car are past

president George Clements, Lions president Murray Hood, VON Oakville head nurse Mrs. Gail Beddome and Miss Barbara Kirkby. The car is a fully equipped 1971 Hornet. —(Staff Photo).



## Let's Play Bridge

by Bill Coats

I am always curious when a pair goes down at a slam contract and yet other pairs who did not bid the slam make 12 tricks. Granted, when you are only in game, you can take chances on overtricks that you might not want to take if you are in a slam contract. However, if you are in a slam you must try to make 12 tricks and if others can make twelve then so can you.

Here is a hand from the Acton Bridge club where the only pair to reach slam went down. The pairs who bid game, however made 12 tricks.

**North dealt with North-South vulnerable.**

**NORTH**  
S-76  
H-A 10 9  
D-Q J 7  
C-A Q J 8 5

**WEST**  
S-9 8 2  
H-Q 4  
D-7 6 4  
C-10 9 8 7 2

**EAST**  
S-K 10 4 3  
H-J 8 6 5 2  
D-10 5  
C-K 4

**SOUTH**  
S-A Q J 5  
H-K 7 3  
D-A K 9 8 4  
C-3

**Suggested bidding:**  
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST  
1 C PASS 1 D PASS  
2 C PASS 2 S PASS  
3 D PASS 4 N T PASS  
5 H PASS 6 N T ALL PASS

Opening lead—ten of clubs.

The bidding could proceed quite differently. South is strong enough to jump shift after North opens and many players would do so. Also North might well bid no trump after South shows a spade suit. The slam is a good slam depending only on one of two finesses for success.

**Count on tricks**  
Declarer can count on nine top tricks and two more tricks can be established in the black suits even if both finesses fail. Therefore one finesse must work. The opening club lead should be covered and East will win. East cannot afford to duck with only two clubs. East might as well return a club as no other lead is attractive.

**Inevitable finesse**  
Since the spade finesse is inevitable it might as well be tried now so declarer leads a

**PULL OVER**  
This week's word of advice from your local OPP safety officer concerns procedure to be followed when you see an emergency vehicle. If you hear a fire, ambulance or public utility emergency siren, or if one of these vehicles approaches you with the red light on the roof flashing, the law requires that you bring your vehicle to a stop as near to the right hand curb as possible.

spade from dummy and play the jack. When this holds declarer is home free for surely West could take the setting trick. Declarer enters dummy again with a diamond and takes a second finesse in spades and claims the balance.

If you like to practice squeeze plays, declarer can make six no trump even without the heart king so long as the opponents do not lead hearts. You might like to try it and see how it works.

**Last week's winners**  
Last week's winners at the Acton Bridge Club were first Betty Ashley and Joyce Alditt, second Bart Fisher and Bill Coats, third Bev Pattullo and Gloria Coats.

## Free Press News Briefs

AREA highways were very busy Friday and Monday.

NEW white lines were painted on town streets last week.

HOLIDAYERS complained, but farmers welcomed Monday's downpour.

THE excellent film Helicopter Canada was shown at the public schools last week.

GUELPH General Hospital is planning to have a 12-bed coronary care unit by the end of this year.

BURLINGTON teen band performed at Ontario Place on the opening weekend.

LET the Free Press know about graduations, please. We are happy to publish pictures. No charge, of course.

THERE are six convocation ceremonies at the University of Guelph this spring to accommodate the large number of graduates.

FOR the first time the O.P.P. will be patrolling highway 401 in Wellington county by air checking for speeders. Over half the accidents on the highway are blamed on excessive speed.

DONATIONS are still sought for the Flowers of Hope campaign. If you were missed, send them to the Bank of Montreal.

THE annual international games for the deaf will be held at the Ontario School for the Deaf June 5. Athletes are entered from four schools in Ontario and northern U.S.A.



STUDENT ASSISTANTS from the high school who worked with teachers in the Robert Little school were guests of honor at a luncheon recently in the school. Four boys were in the group. In the front row are organizer Keith Black, O. Gilmore, superintendent of instruction for Halton county; h. s. principal Dave Katz, R. L. principal G. W. McKenzie, second row left to right Debbie McGilloway, Lorene Rennick,

Norma Quice, Jane Watson, Bob McCallum, Pete Morrison, Garth Taylor, Don Cunningham, Bonnie McKenzie, Janet van Dam, Nancy Frost, Anne Whatmough; back row Mary Ann Freuler, Paula Prueyk, Helen Woodhouse, Dolores Jordan, Mary Fran Marcoux, Cathy Papillon, Mary Fuchs, Cathy Hinton and Susan Kidd. —(Staff Photo).



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