

Newspaper clippings referring to **Nesta Madeleine (née Burley) Startup**
published in *The Surrey Advertiser & County Times*, 1944-45

PARTY FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS

The 38 Social Club gave a party to a number of wounded soldiers in the Co-operative Hall, Great Bookham, on Saturday. The organiser was Mr. A. J. Whitney, assisted by Mr. C. Martin as M.C. Mrs. Gau and Mrs. Startup were hostesses, and catering was carried out by Mr. and Mrs. F. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Thomson, Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Par-rus. A party of 60 sat down to tea and the guests were waited upon by Miss Peggy Smith and other helpers. Tea was followed by dancing and an entertainment, in which Mrs. P. W. Lawes, Mr. Eales and Mrs. Trout took part. The visitors also contributed.

Published 9 December 1944

Nesta serves as hostess to wounded soldiers in Bookham.

EFFINGHAM

"COMRADES" ENTERTAIN

Two years ago Mrs. Startup formed a class at Effingham for 12 little girls. The Comrades Class now numbers about 130 boys and girls, from three to 17 years old, and, to celebrate the completion of its second year, a social was held at the Women's Institute last week.

Mothers and relatives enjoyed a programme which included concerted items by the younger and older children, and individual songs and recitations. Ann Hodgkinson, aged seven, gaining special applause for her singing. One little three-years-old told the tale of the Three Bears, and other outstanding items were piano solos by Doreen Covey and Trixie Irons, recitations by Dorothy Chitty, Mary Austin, Janet Clark, Joyce Edgington and Dolly Harmer, songs by Barbara Browning and Margaret Burroughs, and a sketch, "The Spider and the Fly" (produced by Mrs. Listo), in which the parts were taken by Dorothy Chitty, Mary Austin, Colin Whiteman, Margaret Burroughs, Doreen Covey and four smaller children. Mrs. Austin was accompanist. There were refreshments, games, and an amusing competition for mothers.

Mr. C. V. Brayne, Youth Council secretary, congratulated the organisers and said that after the war it was hoped to start a community centre in the village which would provide wider scope for such organisations as the Comrades.—Thanks were accorded Mrs. Startup for the work she is doing for the young people of the village.

Published 10 March 1945

Nesta's "Comrades' Class" gives a concert to the Women's Institute.

EFFINGHAM

YOUTH ON THE STAGE

COUNTY DRAMA COMPETITION

Two teams competed in the preliminary round of the county drama competition for youth organisations at the Howard of Effingham Central School on Friday last week.

The Comrades' class, of Effingham, chose the play "The Spider and the Fly" (Mrs. Listo), produced by Mrs. Startup, and the Bookham and Effingham Youth Club's choice was "Sunday costs Five Pesos (Josephina Niggli), with Miss Best as producer. An audience of over 200 thoroughly enjoyed the spirited performance of both plays.

Miss Marie Sanbrook, the adjudicator, said she was struck by the higher standard now attained in young people's dramatic performances as compared with that of a few years ago, and consequently larger audiences were attracted. Both performances that evening reached a high level. She explained the system on which competitions were marked, and gave some useful advice to the young people present. No decision could be made until she had seen the Epsom teams on April 7th, and one team had to be selected from Epsom, Bookham and Effingham to take part in the semi-final on April 14th.

Miss Sanbrook was thanked by Miss Barbara Neal.

Published 31 March 1945

Nesta's "Comrades' Class" performs a play produced by her.

COMRADES' CLASS

A victory tea, followed by a concert, was given by the Comrades' Class on Wednesday week. Mothers also gave a show, including a humorous turn by Mrs. Listo. On V-E Day children of the class were provided with fancy dress by their leader, Mrs. Startup, and paraded the village. The class was started three years ago, and besides having her shop and house to manage, Mrs. Startup conducts the class three times a week. Mothers are giving support. At last week's concert a collection, amounting to £4 10s., was taken, and is to be devoted to taking the children to the seaside for a day. Some of the children have never seen the sea. At the next concert it is hoped to have a collection towards providing a hall.

Published 2 June 1945

Nesta's "Comrades' Class" puts on a VE-Day tea and concert.

EFFINGHAM

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS

A successful whist drive, to raise funds for the Village Improvements Committee, was held at the Effingham Women's Institute Hall on Wednesday last week. The refreshments, supervised by Mrs. Mackenna, were given by Mrs. Startup, who also gave some useful presents. Prizes were won by Mr. Cuckoo, Mrs. Ford, Mr. Murrell, Mrs. Betts and Mrs. Knight.

Published 15 September 1945

Nesta gives out refreshments at W.I. whist drive.

EFFINGHAM

VILLAGE AMENITIES

Representatives of various organisations in the village met at the Women's Institute Hall, Effingham, on Wednesday last week to discuss the improvement of amenities. Among those present were Mr. J. Joy (representative on the Rural District Council), Mr. J. Johnson and members of the Parish Council, members of the Women's Institute and Village Improvements Committee, and a representative of the Playing Fields Association.

The proposal that a committee should be formed of public bodies to consider the acquirement of a playing field, the building of a village hall, to cost £6,000, and the ground to be laid out for recreational purposes was discussed, but it was held that, under present circumstances, such a scheme could not be envisaged in the near future. Mrs. Startup was authorised to make inquiries in the village with a view to finding premises that could be used for the general activities of the village. It was felt that a club for the young people was chiefly needed.

The sanitation at the Junior Council School was also discussed.

Published 22 September 1945

Nesta is authorised to make enquiries about potential premises for general village activities.

EFFINGHAM

VILLAGE AMENITIES

To the Editor

Sir.—As I was chairman at the public meeting which you reported on September 22nd, concerning which you published, on September 29th, a letter from Mr. G. Johnson stating there had been inaccuracies and omissions in the report, may I be allowed to answer Mr. Johnson's five corrections?

(1) Mr. J. Joy represents the Effingham Parish Council on the Rating Committee of the Guildford Rural District Council. (2) Members of the Parish Council at the meeting, as reported by you, were Messrs. Bull, Henson, Johnson, and Joy. Also present were Mr. Betts, of the Village Improvements Committee, Mrs. Startup, a very valuable social worker in the village, and last, but not least, Mr. Geoffrey Johnson, trustee of the playing fields. (3) The Parish Council has no information from the Rural District Council, trustees of the playing fields, or any other body, that a committee has or will be formed to control a playing field in Effingham. (4) Seven or eight years ago I recollect the chairman of the Effingham Playing Fields Committee (in a letter published by your paper) stating that plans were in hand for the laying out of the playing fields. (5) I was not aware that any club that has been or is being run in the village was criticised at the meeting, or in your report.

In conclusion, may I be allowed to make the following remarks? A number of boys and girls in the village have been sent away for misbehaviour. Unfortunately some girls still in their teens have met worse fate. Parents think if there was a club that could attract these children from the lanes and fields of an evening, it may ease an unpleasant situation.

Some years ago funds were asked for from the public to provide a recreation ground for the village. It was rumoured that local rates may have been used when the land was purchased. Since then we have heard of plans for a beautiful entrance gate, swimming pool, tennis courts, etc., which, I am sure, the village think are connected in this scheme. All that has happened since then is more children being sent away.

Now we are told of a plan to build a village hall on the ground which will cost £5,000 or £6,000 to build. We realize this hall must be furnished, also lighted and heated, and a caretaker provided. We assume it will have to be self-supporting. Therefore, we believe the charge for the hire of this hall would not warrant it to be used as a club-room for the youth in the evenings.

Parents and youths attended that public meeting to try and find a way to improve a social problem. Therefore, before anyone belittles such a meeting, they should associate with and try to understand those whom some of us profess to represent.—Yours, etc.,

J. JOY.

"Views," Effingham, Surrey.

Published 6 October 1945

Nesta is acclaimed as "a very valuable social worker in the village".

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The monthly meeting was held on October 17th. Mrs. Kingham presided, and thanked Mrs. Startup and helpers for a very good collection of rose hips. Visitors from West Clendon and three new members from Ranmore were welcomed. Letters of thanks were read from Miss Sutherland for sympathy in her recent illness, and from Miss Yates for welcome to her new post as county secretary. Members wanting garden seeds should give their names in at once. Mrs. Kingham stressed the point that there was still some unknitted wool and garments to come in, and these should be returned immediately. Mrs. Bridger read a comprehensive report of the Surrey county half-yearly meeting. Mrs. Farrar gave an account of the Epsom Group meeting. An interesting talk on "Ourselves and our Colonies" was given by Mrs. Begg, and an open evening meeting is planned for some time in January, when it is hoped the Institute may have Mrs. Begg as guest. After tea nominations were taken for president and committee. On October 18th a successful bring and buy sale was held, organised by Mrs. Kingham, Mrs. Farrar and helpers, and realised £32 10s. towards the fund for the upkeep of the Institute. Competition winners were: Port, Mrs. Kingham; cake, Mrs. Minto; eggs, Mrs. W. Deighton; evening bag, Mrs. Kingham; doll, Mrs. Stephens; weight judging, Mrs. Edwards. Books for the Forces were collected at the Institute Hall on October 19th.

Published 27 October 1945

Nesta is thanked for rose hip collection by W.I.