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WHIST DRIVE AT HORSHAM.

In aid of Miss J. A. Peake's Parcel Fund for Horsham Soldiers and Sailors an enjoyable whist drive was held at the Albion Hall on Thursday evening. Over 140 tickets had been sold, and there was a large company to compete for excellent prizes. An appeal for materials for the refreshments met with a liberal response, thus greatly reducing the expenses. The hall was tastefully prepared for the occasion, and the following ladies had taken a keen practical interest in the event:—Mrs. F. Brown, Mrs. Coomber (Hon. Treasurer), Mrs. R. Harvey, Mrs. J. Theobald, Mrs. C. H. Willmot and Mrs. Vinall (Hon. Secretary). In the absence of Mr James Rice (who was unable to attend the gathering till late in the evening) the duties of M.C. were ably discharged by Mr W. H. Corbett. Incidental music on the pianoforte by Miss Slater, of Brighton, who also gave charming vocal solos, pleasantly whiled away the inevitable "waits." The order of the programme was six rounds of hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades respectively, finishing with "no trumps."

At the close of the "drive" Mr Corbett thanked the many ladies who were playing as "gentlemen," and appropriately pointed out that they would not have met there but for the absence of those whom they held dear either as relatives or as fellow-citizens. There was no nobler work than that which Miss Peake had undertaken and they all wished her "God-speed" (hear, hear). No one could carry out the work more efficiently, more thoroughly or more energetically than she did. The only thing he was afraid of was that they would see her before the Bench one day for exceeding the speed limit (laughter). She was ubiquitous, and he believed hardly a dustbin in the town in which there was a chance of tin foil being found was safe. He heartily congratulated the band of ladies who had worked with such success for that evening's pleasure; and on behalf of those present extended a hearty welcome to Lieut. Rossell, who was the personification of the link between Horsham and the war and between Horsham and the Royal Fusiliers. The prizes were then distributed by Mrs J. Theobald as follow: Ladies: 1st (wrought copper enamelled bowl, the gift of Mrs Alwyne Scrase Dickins), Miss Amy Potter, 178; 2nd (night-dress case, the gift of Mrs J. Rice), Mrs Owen, 177 (after cutting with Miss Rising, also 177); hidden number (grey leather purse, the gift of Miss Aldridge, East-street), Mrs G. Evershed, 136; booby (brass inkstand, given by Mrs C. H. Willmot) Mrs Vinall, 122. Gentlemen: 1st (Thermos flask, given by Mr H. R. Camplin) Private E. Piggott, 181 (after cutting with Mrs G. W. Thompson); 2nd (electric pocket lamp, given by Mrs F. Brown), Mrs G. W. Thompson, 181; hidden number (silver photo frame, the gift of Mrs E. T. Lane), Mrs F. Brown, 135; booby (china golliwog pin tray, given by Mrs C. H. Willmot), Miss G. Stedman. Dances followed, with Miss Slater at the pianoforte.