



I hope it's History today at school!

Joan Jeeves, aged 85, relates her memories of the Women's Land Army to groups of children in Oxfordshire schools.



At the age of eleven, Joan Jeeves knew how to milk a cow in the small rural village in Oxfordshire where she lived. In 1941, her brothers went to **fight** in the Second World War so Joan decided to **join** the Women's Land Army to make her contribution to

the War. Recently she visited different schools and told the children all about what she did on the farm. She told them how she helped to produce food for local people for a salary of only £2 per week!

She showed them her special uniform which was ideal for work on a farm: a green **wool** jumper, green **corduroy** trousers to the knee called 'breeches',



long brown socks, heavy shoes or boots and a long brown wool coat for cold weather. She also had a special gold **armband** which she received for her hard work after 6 years in the Land Army. She left the service in 1947 when she **got married** to Mr Jeeves, who she met on the farm. Today, Joan lives in a cottage at Baulking Green, near the farm where she worked and can see cows from her living room window.

fight = combattere
join = unirsi
wool = di lana
corduroy = di velluto a coste
armband = fascia da braccio
got married = si è sposata

glossary

1 Read the article and answer the following questions.

- 1 Where did Joan Jeeves live?
- 2 What year did she join the Land Army?
- 3 How much was she paid every week?
- 4 How long was she in the Land Army?
- 5 When did Mrs Jeeves get married?



2 Write a description of the Land Army uniform using the information in the article.

Diary of A Land Girl

This morning I left home at 4.30 am and walked through heavy snow to get to the farm. It took me an hour to arrive.

I helped with the **milking** until 7 am. Daisy, the cow, was difficult again today - she put her foot in the milk three times!

At 10.15, I **loaded** sacks of **oats** and gave the horses their food after we finished **ploughing**.

At 11.30 am, I went home for lunch and collected the farmer's newspaper.

At 2.30 pm, I helped the German **prisoner-of-war** to **fix** the tractor. He is a kind man and is very **polite** to me. The farmer paid me £2 for this week and I finished at 5 pm today.

Tomorrow is Sunday. No work. Hurrah! Mary and I want to cycle to Oxford to see a film ...



milking = mungitura
loaded = ho caricato
oats = avena
ploughing = aratura
prisoner-of-war = prigioniero di guerra
fix = aggiustare
polite = cortese

glossary

English Humour
 Why did Johnny throw his clock out of the window?
 To see time fly!

3 Complete Joan's daily time sheet with times and activities from her diary when she was in the Land Army.

Time	Activities
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.....
.....
.....
.....

4 What other jobs did women do during the Second World War? Find out about the lives of one of these workers: munitions factory workers - air-raid wardens - nurses - telephonists.