

OUR PLACE MK

Deanshanger: Leisure



Family boating on the Canal, 1890

Activities for women have long centred in and on the home, through arts and crafts and other domestically oriented pursuits.

The Deanshanger Women's Institute, established in 1938, was a vehicle through which women entertained themselves. Alongside jam-making, whist drives and bazaars, the WI organised outings to, for example, The Bournville Chocolate Factory and Windsor Castle; gave instructive talks on topics such as cooking and glove-making; and hosted a variety of film shows including titles about Church Architecture and Travelogues.

July 1952 even saw a demonstration of a washing machine, "a convenience all readily wished they could own".



Deanshanger Women's Institute

The Canal

The Buckingham Arm of the Grand Union Canal ran through the heart of the village. Its main purpose was for transporting industrial products, but time was found to while away the odd hour or two.



Lacemakers, 1890s