

## LADY CRAVENSHIRE

60s – 70s, Lady Cravenshire really doesn't mean to be so patronizing, but the WI girls seem from another world, the world of her estate workers. Dress: when she makes an entrance, she must make an entrance. She wears largely white or cream to outplay the others, with a bigger hat than Marie. She is not a tweed wearer. She must glide in like a galleon.

*The slightly supercilious figure of Lady Cravenshire enters, followed by Marie, as predicted in posh-voice mode. Chris and Cora follow on*

**Lady Cravenshire** Oh now this is *certainly* Victorian.

**Marie** ... absolutely it is, I think you're absolutely right, Lady Cravenshire.

**Lady Cravenshire** I mean the main church building certainly has the *feel* of Victoria.

**Marie** Well Cora will know. Her father used to be vicar here. Cora what is the church?

**Cora** *(For the benefit of the girls)* In my experience? Intransigent and hypocritical.

**Marie** *(moving swiftly on)* Thank you so much. And this is Celia, who's only recently joined us!

**Celia** Yes! Actually at this fete last year, in fact!

**Cora** She defected from the old bags of the Royal Yorkshire Golf Club.

**Marie** Of which Lady Cravenshire is Chairman. So anyway, that's wonderful. Lady Cravenshire please... *(gesturing "do go on")* ...Do...er...

**Lady Cravenshire** Ladies. Thank you so much for inviting me to be part of your Spring Fete. I do LOVE coming down this part of the dale.

**Jessie** *(mock-doffing a cap)* And we loves 'aven you ma'am.

**Lady Cravenshire** As ever it's inspiring to see the amount of enthusiasm on display in all disciplines, especially by those in the "fancy dress" competition, which of course this year is on a theme of "Cowboys and Indians".

*Everyone looks at Ruth. She surreptitiously slides her headgear off. Some girls pat her on the back by way of condolence*

Some of the baking categories have been judged and I'm pleased to announce that the winner of this year's May Wilkinson trophy for Victoria sponge maximum twelve inch diameter is Knapeley entry two-one-three.