

West Sussex Gazette 29th June 1916 page 2

**RED CROSS SOCIETY.**  
**INTERESTING RECORD OF WAR WORK**  
**IN SUSSEX.**

Of compelling interest is the report of the Sussex Branch of the British Red Cross Society, which covers the period since the commencement of the war. Attractively illustrated with groups of wounded soldiers with their nurses, and pictures of the exterior and interior of the various hospitals in the county where the excellent work of the "Red Cross" is so devotedly carried on, the record is one which is sure to be eagerly sought and treasured by supporters of the noble cause, while its assured extensive circulation should prove an effective means of augmenting their number. The report covers the period from August 4, 1914, to December 31, 1915, and the Executive Committee of the branch, of which the Duchess of Norfolk is president, and Miss Eva Goulding, of Arundel Castle, hon. sec., in their introduction to the admirably composed publication, sincerely thank all those who have enabled them to issue it, and remark:—

"The kind co-operation of so many, the energy and tact with which our Commandants have worked their hospitals, the zeal that so many have shown for the collection of garments for the sick and wounded, the upkeep of the Netley Huts, the organising of entertainments, the splendid results of "Our Day" collections, are all so many proofs of the goodwill of Sussex people to make the Red Cross Society a success in the county. To the Mayors and Mayoresses of many boroughs we also owe our thanks for their zeal in promoting and encouraging anything for the cause of the Red Cross that they may have been asked to do. Especially, too, do we thank the doctors who have ungrudgingly and willingly given their time and services freely to our many V.A.D. Hospitals. And to all those who have helped to make this Society a success we tender our hearty thanks and congratulations, and we trust that as long as the war lasts the same good work may continue and prosper throughout the county."

A complete list of commandants and officials of the eight county divisions—Brighton, Chichester, Eastbourne, East Grinstead, Hastings and St. Leonard's, Horsham, Mid-Sussex, and Rye—is given, as well as a description of their valued achievements. The Duchess of Norfolk, as commandant of Sussex, 123, Chichester Division, takes a very active part in the organisation and the work itself. "A Working Party," it is mentioned, was formed at Arundel on the outbreak of war, and with the co-operation of the surrounding villages a total of 1,541 garments, etc., were got together and sent out to the Brighton 2nd Eastern Hospital, French Red Cross, Red Cross, Southampton, Worthing Hospital, Littlehampton Hospital, London Hospital, and the front. An hospital ward for twelve beds was provided and fitted up by the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk in St. Wilfred's Convent, Arundel, in November, 1914, and the necessary beds and furniture were kindly lent by residents in the town. It was opened in March, 1915, and has been served by the detachment ever since. 105 patients have been treated there.

Many interesting details of the work of the various Auxiliary Red Cross Hospitals in the county are given. To give a few facts, by way of example, concerning that of Brighton, Hove, and Preston, for which a large building, in the Third-avenue, Hove, was kindly lent by Sir Cavendish and Lady Boyle, Mr. Willoughby Furner, M.D., F.R.C.S., kindly consented to undertake the post of senior medical officer, and Miss Dennant was appointed matron, with a staff of trained nurses and members of the V.A.D.'s Sussex 40 and Sussex 56. Dr. Stephens undertook to organise the Women's Detachments, and supervise the equipment of the hospital. The whole of the furniture was either given or lent, so that the funds of the division were not encroached upon. The necessary house linen and most of the clothing was provided by the Hove Town Hall Working Party. The hospital contains 42 beds. From the day it was opened, September 25, 1914, to December 31, 1915, 412 patients had been admitted. Surgical cases, 316; medical, 96; anæsthetics given, 54; deaths, 1. The theatre is fully equipped, and ten operations have been successfully performed for the removal of bullets and portions of shells, and for the relief or cure of deformities. Massage has been successful in helping to restore the use of badly wounded limbs. The gratitude of discharged patients is a proof of the efficiency of the treatment received.

Delightful illustrations include Littlehampton Hospital, staff and medical officers; St. Wilfred's Hospital, Arundel, the ward, staff and patients, men's detachment; The Cottage Hospital, Crawley, a group of wounded soldiers in the garden, and numerous groups of nurses, and the brave fellows under their care, at several other institutions in various parts of Sussex.

The Executive Committee are certainly to be congratulated, not only upon the completeness and lucidity of their record, but its very attractive form.