

Links etc

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZOaMbTRxWY>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySaswgWFy0c>
-
- Network name - BTHub6-N7JN
 - Password - AedhGNw6MkwM

Reepham Caring for the Wounded in WW1

Do you know the role
Reepham played?



The Bircham Centre





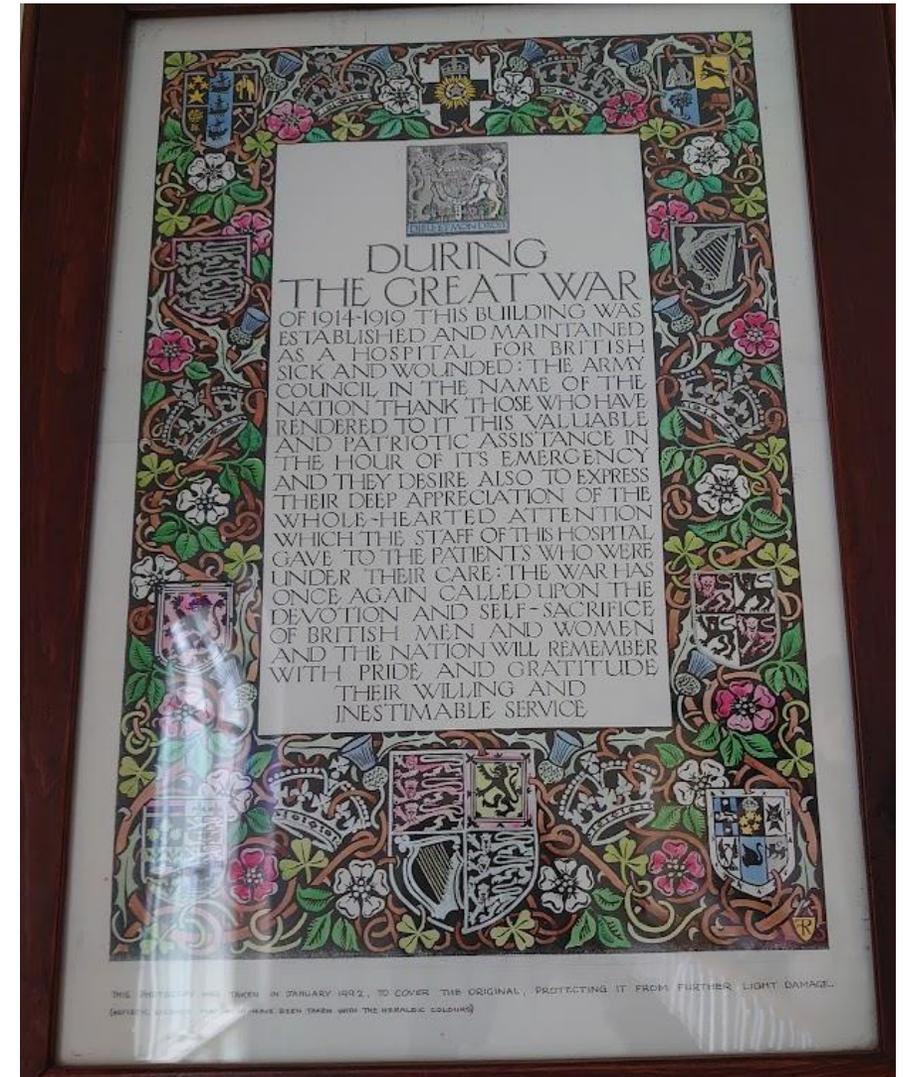
The Bircham Centre – known as Hackford House

DURING THE GREAT WAR

Of 1914-19 this building was established and maintained as a hospital for British sick and wounded.

The Army Council, in the name of the Nation thank those who have rendered to it this valuable and patriotic assistance in the hour of its emergency and they desire also to express their deep appreciation of the whole-hearted attention which the staff of this hospital gave to the patients who were under their care.

The war has once again called upon the devotion and self-sacrifice of British men and women and the Nation will remember with pride and gratitude their willing and inestimable service.



A large, leafy tree with a red-tiled roof visible through its branches. The foreground is a green lawn. The right side of the image is faded to accommodate text.

The Bircham Centre's role

- Storeroom
- Kitchen (could have been in outhouse buildings (now Chinese Takeaway)...
- Recreation
- Garden area for outdoor time
- Veranda was built alongside the garden wall









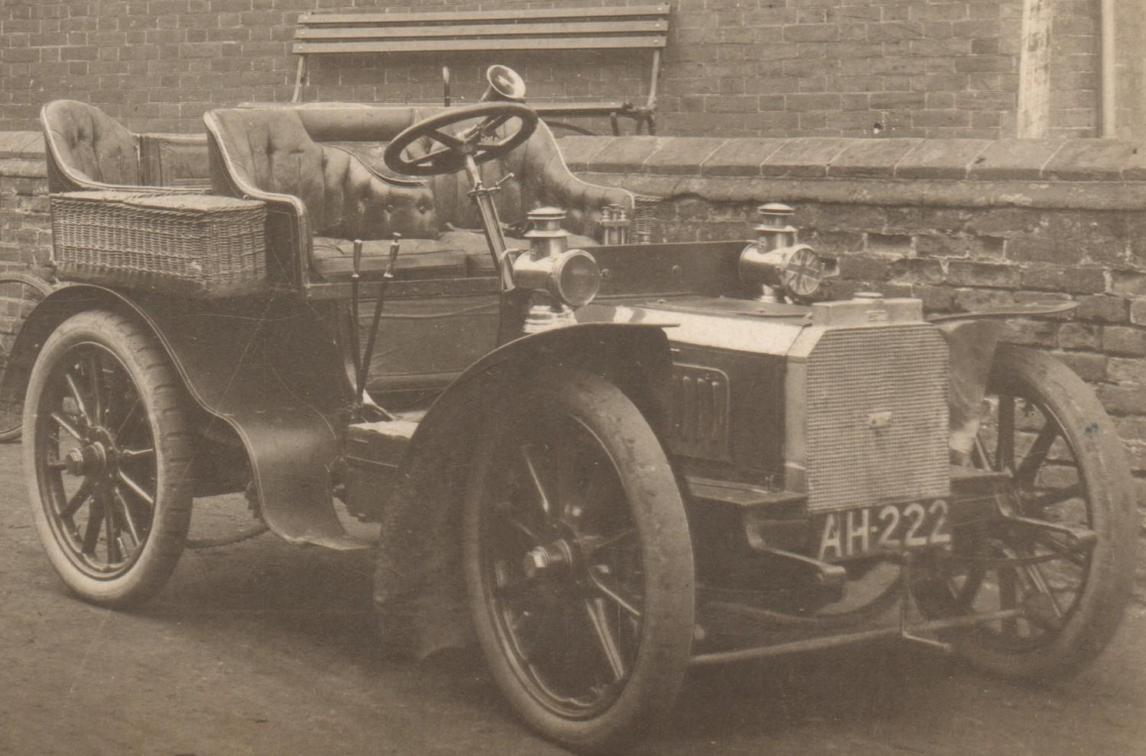


The Town Hall



HACKFORD PARIS

REEPHAM RED CROSS HOSPITAL



Just an aside about that car...

- The Archive have traced it
- 1905 Peugeot
- Completed the London to Brighton run over 50 times
- Still in running order





REEPHAM RED CROSS HOSPITAL—INTERIOR.

Reepham Red Cross Hospital.

This Hospital is affiliated to the Norfolk War Hospital, Thorpe, Norwich. The Hospital occupies the building which was known as the Hackford and Whitwell Parochial School. Lady Grace Barry is the Commandant, N. Temple Owen the Secretary, and E. V. Perry the Medical Officer. An excellent kitchen and storeroom, with room for the men's meals, has been provided by the kindness of Mr. S. Bircham. The first patients arrived on November 26th, 1914. The Nursing staff consists of a Sister-in-charge, a nurse for massage treatment, 18 Red Cross nurses, and 14 members of the men's detachment of the Eynsford Division of the Red Cross Society. Up to the 31st December, 1915, 127 patients had been received. The average number of patients resident daily throughout the year were 13, number of patients at the beginning of the year 6, at end of year 18. There are 20 beds and at present all are occupied. A verandah is being erected which will enable patients to sleep outside during the summer months. Patients have been received from the Norfolk and Norwich, Lakenham Military, Norfolk War, & Colchester Hospitals.

The staff...

- Commandant
- Medical Officer
- Nursing staff:
 - Sister in Charge
 - 18 Red Cross Nurses
 - Nurse for Massage Treatment
 - 14 Members of the Men's Detachment of the Eynsford Division of the Red Cross Society



The WW1 Nurse

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZOaMbTRxWY>



The patients...

- First patients arrived 26 November 1914
- By December 2015, 127 patients had been received
- 20 beds
- Sent to Reepham from Norfolk & Norwich, Lakenham Military, Norfolk War and Colchester Hospitals
- Could originally have come from anywhere in the UK.



The Wounded Serviceman

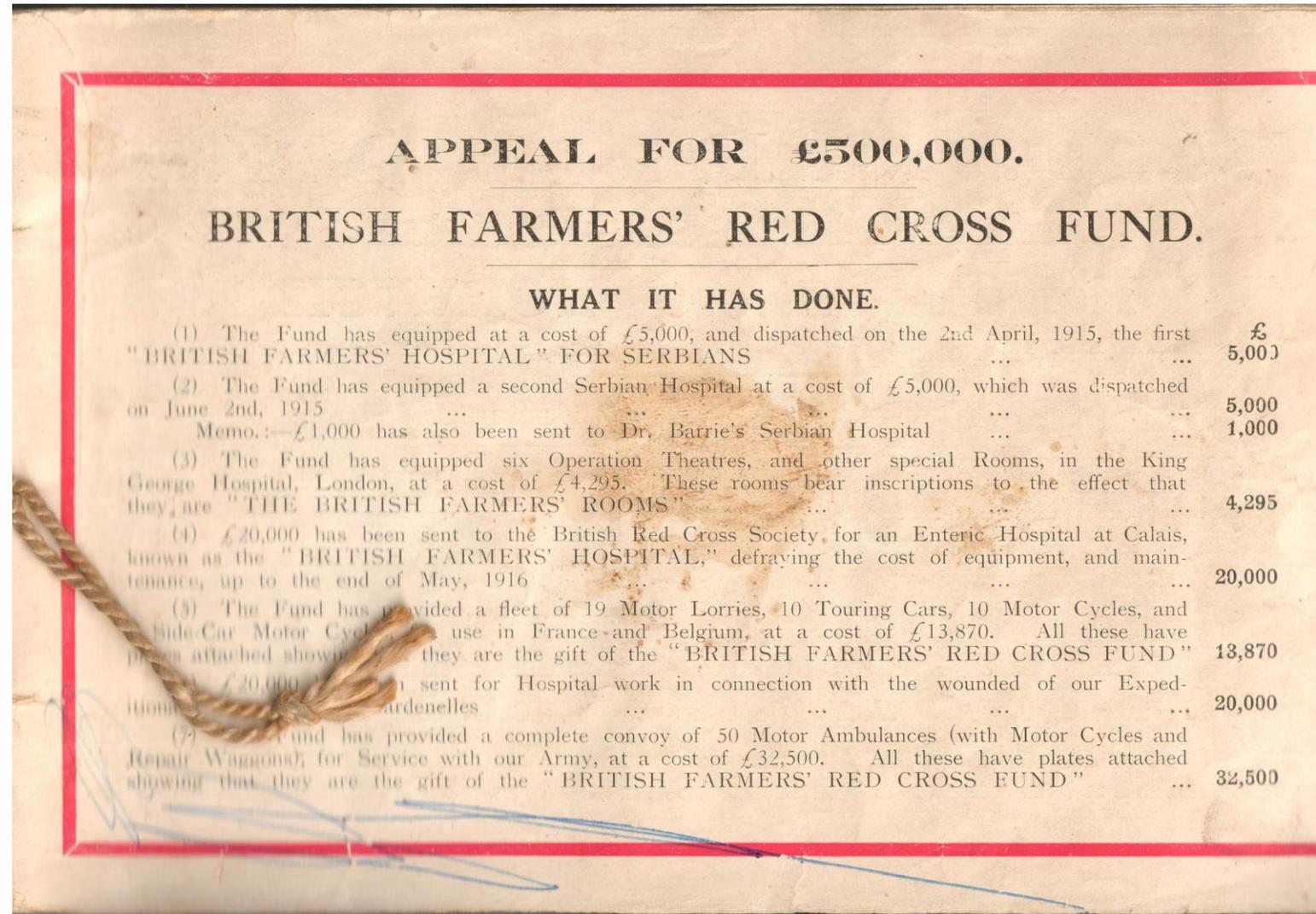
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySaswgWFy0c>

How the Hospital was funded

- Money raised largely by donations to the Red Cross
- Public Appeal by Queen Victoria at the outbreak of war:
 - “As president of the British Red Cross Society I appeal for your help... Much money will be needed and many gifts if we are to faithfully discharge our trust and be able to say when all is over that we have done all we could do for the comfort and relief of our sick and wounded. The heart of the great British nation will surely and generously go out to those who are so gallantly upholding the cause of their country.”
- By the end of the war, £21,885,035 had been raised
- £20,058,355 spent on hospitals, medicine, clothing, grants and care for the sick and wounded.

The British Farmers Red Cross Fund

- Aimed to raise £500,000
- Funds for many aspects of the War Effort
- Agricultural Sales
- Raised a total of £1,024,808 19s 2d.



Red Cross Pearl Appeal

- Ladies were asked to donate pearls to raise funds
- Donors from all over the world sent contributions
- Queen Mary, Queen Alexandra, Princess Mary and Princess Victoria all gave pearls
- Single pearls were donated in memory of lost family members
- 3,597 pearls were donated
- Raised over £84,000 at the sale in 1918

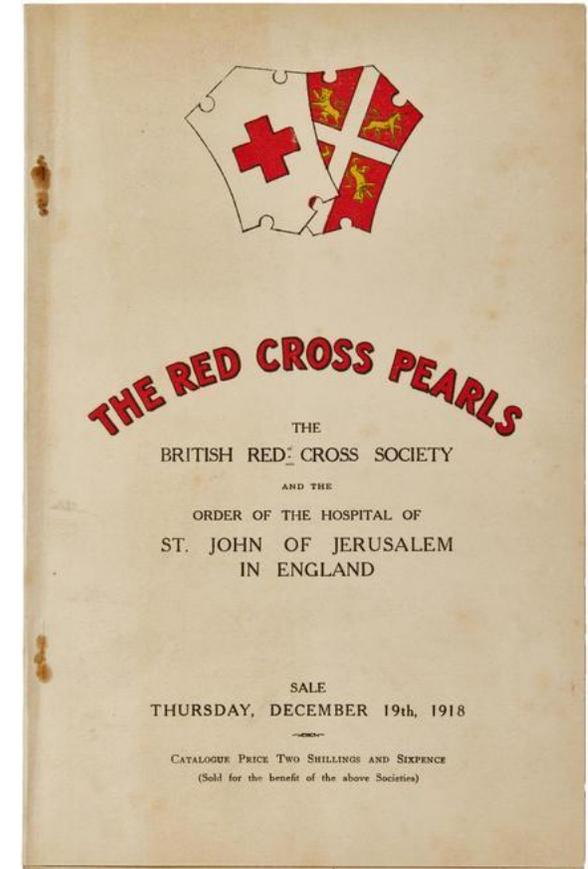
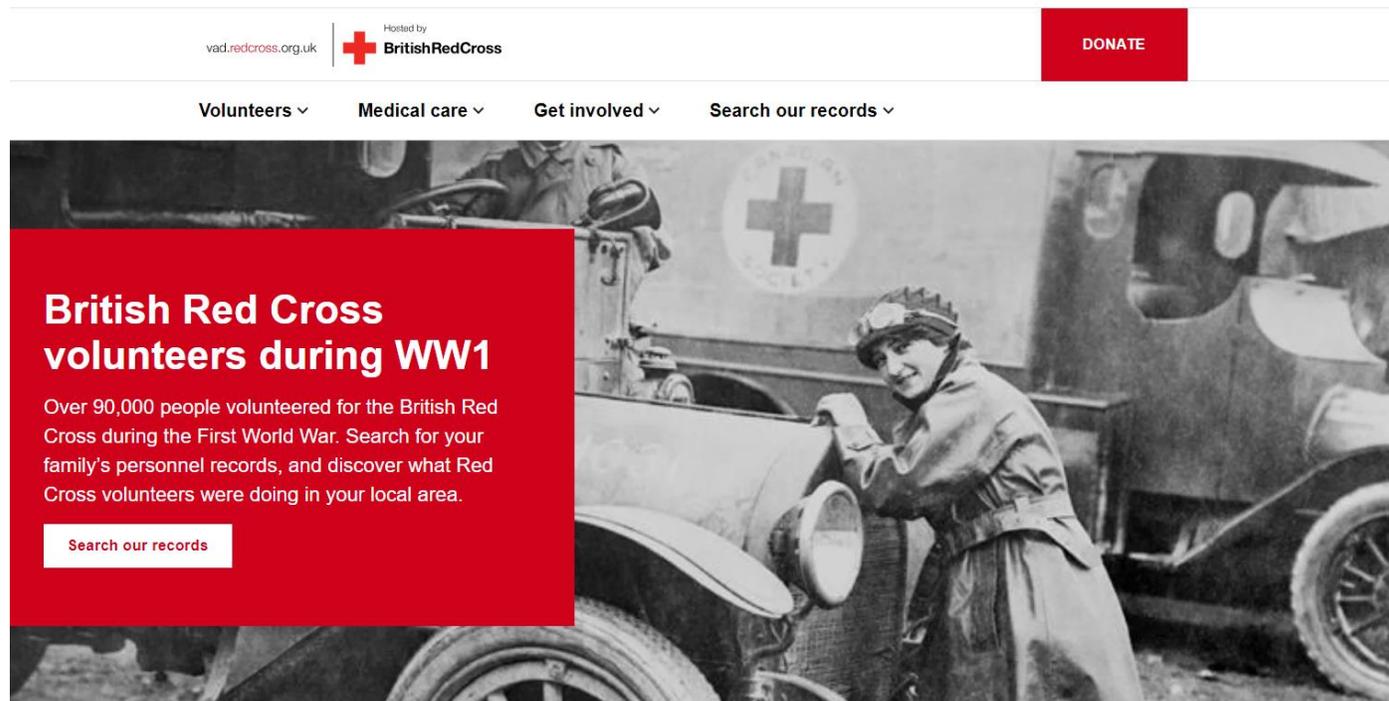


Image: British Red Cross Museum and Archives

Running a hospital in WW1

- Lots of different roles...
- Listed in <https://vad.redcross.org.uk/>



The screenshot shows the website vad.redcross.org.uk, which is hosted by the British Red Cross. The page features a navigation menu with links for "Volunteers", "Medical care", "Get involved", and "Search our records". A prominent red button labeled "DONATE" is located in the top right corner. The main content area is a large red banner with the heading "British Red Cross volunteers during WW1". Below the heading, the text reads: "Over 90,000 people volunteered for the British Red Cross during the First World War. Search for your family's personnel records, and discover what Red Cross volunteers were doing in your local area." A white button labeled "Search our records" is positioned at the bottom left of the red banner. The background of the banner is a black and white photograph of a woman in a long coat and hat standing next to a vintage car with a Red Cross emblem on its side.

VAD = Voluntary Aid Detachment

- Organised by the Red Cross
- Mostly Voluntary Roles
- Covered both medical and domestic roles
- Duty of those not serving on the front line...



Let's look again... Who do we have here...?



Commandant: Lady Grace Barry



Surname Barry M.B.E. **NORFOLK 52**

Christian Names Grace **Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919** The Lady (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)

Permanent Address: Witchingham Hall
Norwich

Date of Engagement Nov 26, 1914 Rank Commandant Pay

Date of Termination April 5, 1919 Rank Pay

Particulars of Duties

Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served Whole time

Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where

Honours awarded M. B. E. Twice mentioned

Medical Officer in Charge: Dr Edward Perry



Surname Perry J.P., O.B.E. Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919
Christian Names Edward Verdon. Dr.
(Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
Permanent Address: Reepham
Date of Engagement Nov 26 1914 Rank _____ Pay _____
Date of Termination April 5. 1917 Rank _____ Pay _____
Particulars of Duties M.O. in charge
Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served Daily
Previous Engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where _____
Honours awarded O.B.E.

Nurse: Evelyn Gibbs



NORFOLK 52
REGD 1 MAY 1919

Surname Gibbs
Christian Names Evelyn Mary (~~Mr. Mrs. or Miss~~)
Permanent Address: 1 Teepham, Norfolk

Date of Engagement Nov 1914 Rank Nurse Pay _____
Date of Termination ~~Still working~~ Rank _____ Pay April 12th 1919
Particulars of Duties Nursing - Red Cross -

Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served Permanent
Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where _____
Honours awarded _____

The Gibbs Family

- Gibbs Ironmongers
- Traded for over 200 years
- Finally closed in 1967



Edward Gibbs Senior



Surname Gibbs Edward NORFOLK 52
Christian Names Edward Rec'd 3, 1 MAY 1919 (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
Permanent Address : Reepham
Norwich
Date of Engagement Oct 1915 Rank Orderly Voluntary
Date of Termination Nov 1916 Rank " Pay -
Particulars of Duties Night-duty
~~Whether whole or part time, and if latter~~ No. of hours served One night
Weekly
Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where
Honours awarded

Edward Gibbs Jnr



Surname *Gibbs Jnr* **NORFOLK 52**
Christian Names *Edward* **Recd 3 1 MAY 1919** (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
Permanent Address: *Recpham Nr Norwich*
Date of Engagement *Oct 1915* Rank *Orderly* Pay *Voluntary*
Date of Termination *March 1916* Rank *"* Pay *"*
Particulars of Duties *Night duty*
Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served *One night weekly*
Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where
Honours awarded

Edward Gibb Jnr



- The cap and shoulder badges suggest he went on to join the Army Ordnance Corps
- He was awarded the British and Victory Medals, indicating that he served overseas after 1916
- His Service Record didn't survive the blitz



Nurse: Mabel (or Blanche?) Dewing



Rec'd 1 MAY 1919
NORFOLK 52

Surname Dewing

Christian Names Mabel Mabel (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)

Permanent Address: The Nest - Hackford
Mr Nowick.

Date of Engagement Jan 1915 Rank Nurse Pay

Date of Termination ~~Oct 1918~~ Rank " Pay April 12th 1919

Particulars of Duties Nursing

Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served permanent

Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where

Honours awarded Mentioned.

Nurse: Ethel Leiper



Surname *Leiper* Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
Christian Names *Ethel* (Mrs. or Miss)
Permanent Address: *15 Difford St-
Tinley Sheffield*
Date of Engagement *Oct 1916* Rank *Nt Sister* (Pay *Joint War*)
Date of Termination *June 1918* Rank *Committee*
Particulars of Duties *Night Sister*
Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served
Previous Engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where
? ? ?
Honours awarded

Did she follow her wounded sweetheart to Reepham?

Sara Kendrew



Surname *Kendrew (KENTREW)* **WILTSHIRE 52**
Christian Names *Sara* **REC'D 3 1 MAY 1919** (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
Permanent Address: *The Ollands*
Preepham
Date of Engagement *Nov 1914* Rank *Quartermaster Voluntary*
Date of Termination *July 1915* Rank _____ Pay _____
Particulars of Duties _____
Whether ~~whole~~ or part time, and if latter No. of hours served *Daily*
P.T.O.
Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where _____
Honours awarded _____

Nan Bircham

Surname Bircham NORFOLK 52
Christian Names Nan Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 (Mrs. Mrs. or Miss)
Permanent Address: Oed Brewery House
1 Peep Lane Norfolk
Date of Engagement April 1918 Rank Nurse Day Voluntary
Date of Termination Site work Rank " Day April 12
1919
Particulars of Duties Red X Nursing
Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served 158 up to
March 1919.
Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where
Honours awarded



Nurses: Sisters-in-Charge, Sisters, Night Sisters, Masseuses

Surname Stelling Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
 Christian Names Mare (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
 Permanent Address: 42 Beteria Road,
 Leytonstone - Essex.
 Date of Engagement June 1915 Rank Sister i/c. Joint War Committee
 Date of Termination ~~Sept 1915~~ Rank " Pay April 12th 1919
 Particulars of Duties Sister in charge
 Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served Permanent.
 Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where _____
 Honours awarded A.P.P.C.

Surname Aldous Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
 Christian Names Mary (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
 Permanent Address: 32 Surrey St -
 Norwich
 Date of Engagement Nov 1914 Rank Night Sister
 Date of Termination March 1915 Rank " Pay _____
 Particulars of Duties night duty
 Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served _____
 Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where _____
 Honours awarded _____

Surname Page Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
 Christian Names Frances Mary (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
 Permanent Address: Whitwell Norwich
 Date of Engagement Spring 1915 Rank Sister
 Date of Termination for Holiday Rank " Pay Voluntary
 Particulars of Duties Odd nights & days
 Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served About 520 Hrs
 Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where _____
 Honours awarded _____

Surname Langston Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
 Christian Names Florence (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
 Permanent Address: 32 Surrey St -
 Norwich
 Date of Engagement June 1916 Rank Masseuse Pay Daily
 Date of Termination Sept 1917 Rank " Pay _____
 Particulars of Duties massage
 Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served Daily
 Previous Engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where _____
 Honours awarded _____

Orderlies, Cooks, Washing Up...



Surname Hurn Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
 Christian Names Leslie Frederick (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
 Permanent Address: Peepham Granaries
Peepham - Norfolk
 Date of Engagement Oct 1915 Rank Orderly Pay Voluntary
 Date of Termination July 1916 Rank " Pay "
 Particulars of Duties Night duty
 Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served One night weekly
 Previous Engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where weekly
 Honours awarded

Surname Flatman Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
 Christian Names Bessie Lilian (Miss, Mrs. or Miss)
 Permanent Address: Peepham - Norwich
 Date of Engagement Nov 1916 Rank Cook Pay
 Date of Termination Still working Rank " Pay April 12th 1919
 Particulars of Duties Cooking for staff
 Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served permanent
 Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where
 Honours awarded

Surname Austen Rec'd 3 1 MAY 1919 NORFOLK 52
 Christian Names Frances (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)
 Permanent Address: Peepham - Norwich
 Date of Engagement August 1918 Rank Helper Pay Voluntary
 Date of Termination April 1919 Rank " Pay April 12th 1919
 Particulars of Duties Washing up
 Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served 12 hours weekly
 Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where weekly
 Honours awarded

And some interesting descriptions...

Surname Bishop NORFOLK 52

Christian Names Rosanna ^{March 1} 1 MAY 1919 (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)

Permanent Address: The Hill
Reepham.

Date of Engagement March 1915 Rank Scrubber Pay

Date of Termination March 1916 Rank Pay

Particulars of Duties Cleaning

Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served Daily

Previous Engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where 104. Hours

Honours awarded

Surname Gurney NORFOLK 52

Christian Names Edward ^{March 1} 1 MAY 1919 (Mr., Mrs. or Miss)

Permanent Address: Malthouse Yard -
Reepham Norwich.

Date of Engagement Sept 1916 Rank Odd man Pay

Date of Termination Still working Rank Pay April 12th
1919

Particulars of Duties Odd man

Whether whole or part time, and if latter No. of hours served Daily
Permanent.

Previous engagements under Joint War Committee, if any, and where

Honours awarded

Reepham VAD Hospital: Red Cross Staff and Volunteers during WW1

Commandant	2	Cook	4
Quartermaster	3	Odd Man	2
Medical Officer in Charge	1	Secretary and Orderly	1
Sister in Charge	2	Scrubbing	3
Sister	4	Charwoman - scrubbing	1
Night Sister	3	Daily Help	1
Nurse	37	Kitchen Help	4
Masseuse	3	Other	4
Orderly (one night a week)	15		95
Helper - Washing Up	4		
General Help - Kitchen Work	1		

Some familiar local surnames...

Collison

Mee

Gurney

Peck

Eglington

Secker

Hawes

Eke

Frankland

Stimpson

Blyth

Perowne

– and many more

Could someone in your family be in our photos?



Reepham Archive



- Valuable source of local records and images
- Can you add to the story of Reepham in WW1?

