

To the Mayor & Aldermen

**Vaucluse
Red Cross Branch**



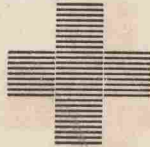
Five Years of Service

1914—1919

With
Compliments of the Branch.

Page 30.

VAUCLUSE *W.W.*
4 FEB 1920
RED CROSS BRANCH



1914—1919

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with
Comptroller of the Treasury

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1914-1919

VAUCLUSE
RED CROSS BRANCH



1914-1919

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MEMBERSHIP ROLL



Vaocluse Red Cross Branch

1914—1919

The same executive was retained by the Branch from inception to finish.

OFFICERS:

MRS. E. D. GRAY, Hon. President.

MRS. McBRY-DE, Hon. Vice-President.

MRS. CHINNERY, Hon. Vice President.

MRS. JAMES, Hon. Treasurer.

MRS. WATSON, Hon. Assistant Treasurer.

MISS HARBUTT, Hon. Secretary.

MRS. THRUM, Hon. Assistant Secretary.

The following were financial members of the Branch during part or all of its term of activity. While recognising the superior claim of those who remained with us during a long and strenuous period of service, we present the names of all alike in the following list:—

Mesdames Allerding

" Arnott
 " Atkinson
 " Ball
 " Beeby
 " Bell
 " Binnie
 " Braby
 " Bros
 " Craw
 " Cross, J. R.
 " Cudmore, J. K.
 " D'Arcy Irvine
 " De Burgh
 " Dewley
 " Duncan
 " Edgeworth
 " Eves
 " Faul
 " Foskett
 " Gallop
 " Gehde
 " Griffiths
 " Guiterman
 " Harris
 " Hawkins
 " Jessup
 " Johnson
 " Kersey
 " Knowles, Herrick
 " Lenneberg
 " Lynch
 " McIntyre
 " McKenzie
 " Manion
 " Milford
 " Moppet
 " Moylan
 " Neitch

Mesdames Nicklin

" Ogilvie
 " Paul
 " Pheffer
 " Ranclaud
 " Reardon
 " Reid
 " Richards
 " Robinson, R.
 " Royle
 " Samuels
 " Samuels, C. A.
 " Scharrer
 " Scott
 " Shipway, S.
 " Singleton
 " Audley Smith
 " Herbert Smith
 " Sweet
 " Taylor
 " Thornton
 " Tiley
 " Tucker
 " Warre
 " Jack Wilson
 " Williamson
 " Wright
 " Young

Misses

Ayre
 " Bell
 " Brothers
 " Brothers, A.
 " Cane
 " Clark
 " Croker
 " Cudmore
 " D'Arcy-Irvine
 " D'Arcy-Irvine
 " Duncan

Misses	Eves	Misses	Stirling, R.
"	Ewing	"	Wilson
"	Gibson	"	Wright
"	Hemming	Messrs.	Christison
"	Marshall	"	Dykes
"	Mayne	"	Flood
"	Meredith	"	Gehde
"	Milne	"	Gillard
"	McBryde	"	Gray
"	McBryde, W.	"	Horler
"	McBryde, A.	"	McBryde, J.
"	McMillan	"	McBryde, K. McC.
"	McPhee	"	McNeilly
"	Peachy	"	Nathan
"	Philips	"	Samuels, C. A.
"	Price	"	Shipway, S.
"	Robinson	"	Stowe
"	Scott	"	Thrum.
"	Selkirk	Ven. Archdeacon D'Arcy Irvine	
"	Stirling		

While remembering with gratitude the many auxiliary helpers and workers, who were not regular members, we refrain from publishing any list of their names, for the reason that they are too numerous to be given in full and it would be unfair to omit any where all worked so well.



Five Years of Service

The true and inner record of five years of Red Cross work is not to be recapitulated in any abridgement of annual reports, nor to be deduced from a nice array of figures and balance sheets. The emotion that made possible this energy of service is a thing to defy mere cold analysis.

To those who gave their hearts and hands to building up a Branch of the Red Cross, the story of their achievement marches before them through sunshine and shade, a pageant winding down the years to the martial music played upon our hearts by the master-musician, War. Raffles, collections, Days, dances, fetes, and tea-parties, all the brilliant minutiae of patriotic organisation, are synchronised in memory with the events, splendid or sombre, of the world's war.

It may seem a little thing to have counted out tickets while Antwerp fell, or to have sat stitching buttons while the fate of two empires was hammered out along the Marne, but so in our days wars are fought. Fragments of sentences come back to memory, things as eloquent of war's meaning, and as potent to wound, as shards of metal from the battlefield. Who will ever forget them?

"There's a raider out. . . ."

"Another list through to-night"

"They've got one of our transports. . . no names as yet. . ."

Across the world the eyes of our men were watching the barrage fires flickering like summer lightning along the dark horizon of a desolated country side. But here at home, in sentences such as these we too felt the scorching breath of battle. By virtue of the true comradeship of our love, we held a Salient of the Spirit, where each hour in each day, we looked upon the Fear of Death.

But to the true soldier comes at length victory. Who is there can forget the turning of that tide? Brief passages current in the press and repeated from lip to lip, are recorded indelibly in our recollection.

"The enemy falling back all along a front of twenty miles."

"Sir Douglas Haig reports at midnight. . . taken fifty towns and a hundred small villages. . . ."

Again we hear the bells ringing for the Passage of the Dardanelles, and our thoughts are with the dead upon Gallipoli.

Again we hear the shrieking syrens crying to the night that firing has ceased along all fronts. And we think of what it will mean to the boys who are up the line to-night.

But even here the Red Cross did not cease. A red tide still trickled through the C.C.S., the white hulls of the hospital ships still flitted to and fro like beautiful sea-birds, on their merciful errands. Before the workers might lay down their tasks, the five years of work were rounded out.

So, in our day, wars are won.

The Vaucluse Branch

Under the great organisation of the British Red Cross Society, of which Australia supplies a Branch, and New South Wales a Division, many local branches have worked out their ideal of service along the lines revealed by their own possibilities. Where the vision was greatest the work most prospered.

The Vaucluse Branch was characterised by a happy unity that made greatly for its strength, and that has left behind grateful memories of good comradeship—memories dear to the workers as the ties of friendship between brothers in arms.

Apart from the formal records kept of all that the Branch has achieved, there is an intimate human story, much more interesting, if less coherent, revealed in the correspondence that collects about an undertaking of this kind. In this correspondence the personal note is emphasised. The Red Cross work throughout has been essentially personal; a matter of details. The history of the great Red Cross Society itself is only an accumulation of millions of these details, fused by the inspiration of a burning love into one splendid whole.

Turning over the papers one finds appeals, tentative suggestions that afterwards developed into successful campaigns, the anxieties, the preparations, the victories. It is like eluding the vigilance of the censor and peeping into a general's despatch box. For official publicity is in itself the most rigid of censors and cuts out the heart of many a good story.

At a time when the world stood appalled at the spectacle of evil let loose, when undreamed-of powers of barbarism had burst the bonds of "chaos and old night," and filled this upper sunshine of ours with loathsome and terrific shapes, we made a great discovery.

We found the good—the amazing good—in ordinary people.

"Not the great nor well-bespoke,

"But the mere uncounted folk."

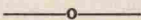
We saw our brothers and sisters walking by our side arrayed in a new splendour of sacrifice and endurance. And we fell into step.

At Headquarters, where the activities of many Branches are all borne in mind, the Vaucluse Committee was accorded a high place. It was known as a strong Branch with a reputation for bringing to a successful issue any task it took in hand. Its gifts to the mother-fund were always generous ones and it bore its part in all public undertakings.

It is permitted to praise a Branch. It is rarely permitted to praise an individual. That would scarcely be in accordance with the spirit of the Red Cross. This spirit of anonymity is illustrated by an allusion made to one of its officers by a French journalist, who was indebted to him for a survey of a depot in France.

"I cannot name to you the person who showed me round," said the journalist, "because he was an officer and the uniform fosters and expresses a wish for loss of identity."

But in service of this sort it is not that identity is lost; it is rather that it is transcended.



Branch History and Summary of Work



A survey of the activities and history of the Branch can necessarily only deal with the more prominent facts. It is impossible to include in an abridgement of reports and minutes of meetings, all that might be said of the aid rendered and received. In some cases donors prefer to remain anonymous and, true to Red Cross tradition, the members themselves prefer to allow their deeds to speak for them, feeling that the cause is greater than the individual.

A certain amount of valued help was rendered by those who were not Branch members, many contributed in work what they were unable to give in money, and in other cases again the spirit and inspiration that helpers brought to the effort was more valuable than their objective activities.

No one can rightly gauge the benefit received by the workers themselves from their efforts to serve our men. In attempting to alleviate the hardships of the struggle for our soldiers and sailors, our minds were lifted above the merely sordid and harrowing aspect of war, and this in itself was more than repayment for the effort expended. Again it would be difficult to judge of the moral benefit to the whole community of work such as this, the unification and expression of patriotic impulses turning the difficult years of war to a golden opportunity for national training.

The outstanding facts of the service rendered by the Vaucluse Branch are all that can be envisaged and these may be briefly summed as under.

Inception

The first meeting towards the formation of the Branch was called by Mrs. Gray, and met at Kainga during the first month of the war. Here the movement actually had its beginning. The soul of the infant Branch was soon clothed with an organised body, and at a public meeting called by the Mayor, at the Watson's Bay Town Hall, some 60 women and a sprinkling of men were present. The geographical limits of the work were defined, plans for subscriptions arranged, and appeals for assistance discussed and formulated.

Arrangements were made for the Sewing Circle to meet weekly and a permanent home for the Branch was found at the Town Hall, where the Municipal officers and their staff have always accorded the workers every courtesy and assistance.

Here it may be said that the record of the Vaucluse Branch is more the story of a happy family, than of an average committee. The same executive officers have endured from the first, and the divisions and disagreements that so often mar public work have most happily been absent.

The women's circle soon brought the work of sewing and knitting to such a state that the output of work demanded heavy financial support, and a campaign of entertainments and money-raising schemes became necessary. It was during this first year of the Branch's life that such successful entertainments as the Christmas Revel at Rose Bay, the Art Union and the Stadium Entertainment, as well as a number of smaller efforts, were undertaken. This provided for the Branch's financial security in the forthcoming year, which was fated to be one of strenuous work for all. An idea of the output of the sewing circle at this period may be gathered from the Second Annual report, where a showing is made of 6526 articles forwarded to depots, besides all those miscellaneous comforts upon which our boys set such store.

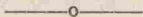
With the multiplication of funds and appeals the Branch found itself more than ever called upon to furnish outside assistance, while in no way diminishing the Red Cross work. Such funds as that of the Old Linen and the Relief for British and Belgian Poor, and the different Day collections all claimed and received support.

Later it was found difficult to keep the work running on the scale originally planned, through shortage of shipping space, a factor which cramped the Red Cross workers not a little.

At the conclusion of the fifth year of work, the number of articles made and sent forward had reached a total of 20,000. Among these were 94 soldiers' bags and nurses' aprons, each counted as one article, but actually containing numerous articles, as haberdashery, face-washers, handkerchiefs, brush and comb bags, toothbrushes and powder, writing pads and envelopes, pens and pencils, and often toffee and chocolate, with a letter or post card message.

Large quantities of tobacco, cigarettes, pipes, soap, haberdashery, stationery, 40 or 50 large parcels of books, magazines and illustrated papers, were also sent to depots, hospitals and put aboard ships.

When time permitted remnants left from cutting and making were put together for the Babies' Kit Society and in this way 107 cot quilts were supplied. About 40 parcels of clothing were also forwarded for the Belgian Poor.



Branch Income

The monthly collections commenced in July, 1916. These were designed to meet the necessity for a regular income, apart from special efforts. Originally taken in hand by Mr. Lindsay Gibson, who put the scheme on a sound footing, they proved most successful. The amount received from first to last, was £1039/12/1, and this came in a steady flow of £30 to £32 a month. This necessitated a considerable amount of work, the subscription envelopes had to be distributed and collected over a mapped out route, with unfailing regularity, for, as all know who have had any hand in such work, any irregularity on the part of the collector results in an immediate slackening of contributions and a falling-off in regular subscribers. When Mr. Gibson was appointed to Bankstown, the Branch lost a valued helper. His place was then taken in the work of the monthly collections by Mr. Thrum.

Donations

A Hospital suite, consisting of a bed, bed-table, chair and locker, costing £20, was presented to Number Four A.G.H. Randwick. Towards the Red Cross Home Graythwaite, £25 was given and to the Nurse Cavell Home at Summer Hill, a gift of £30 was subsequently supplemented with a further grant of £25. The equipment of four operating theatres for Number Three Base Hospital at Lemnos deserves special mention, as one of the most splendid and direct forms in which the Branch was able to aid the cause of our beloved wounded.

For the Days

As will be seen from the separate table of figures given, the Branch worked whole-heartedly for the different Days, and it must be borne in mind that these made an extra demand on the workers, not only for time and energy, but for money to furnish the stalls, Red Cross money being only available on those occasions when a Red Cross object was in view. Otherwise separate funds had to be supplied.

Sewing Circle Goods

Of the made articles that were prepared by the sewing circle and their auxiliary helpers, the following will give an idea, being merely a review of the type of articles made. We find on the work lists the following items:

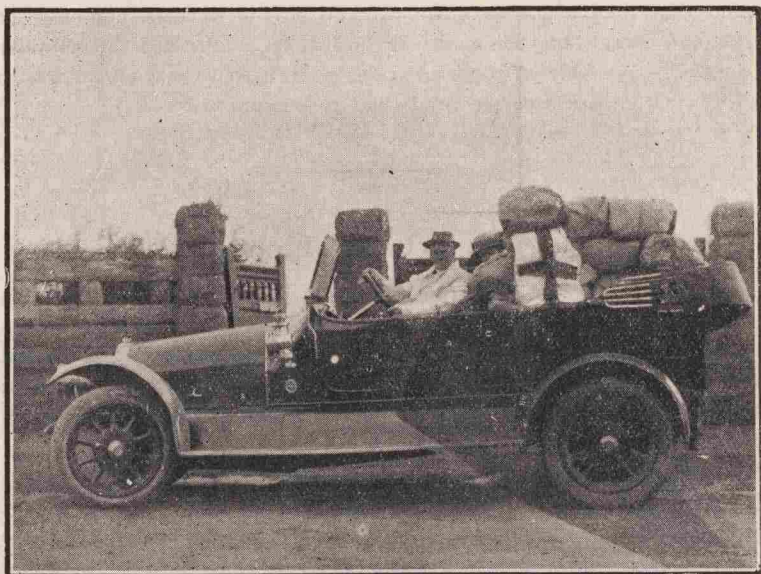
Pyjamas, shirts, socks, Balaclava caps, mufflers, flannel jackets, hospital slippers and boots, operating coats, dressing gowns, bed socks, helmet caps, nurse's overalls, dressing jackets, kimonos, mosquito nets, cholera belts, pillow slips, underpants, knitted gloves, artillery gloves, kit bags, face-washers, eye and other bandages, pads, swabs, slings, etc.

An Energetic Branch

An undertaking fraught with satisfaction to all, and responsible for very serviceable additions to the finances, was that of serving tea at Old Vauluse House. This deserves more than passing notice.

Numerous letters contained in the Secretary's correspondence bear testimony to the variety of the Branch's gifts; letters from the Administration at Rabaul, letters from the Australian Nurses' Gift Fund, acknowledgements of parcels of comforts from near and far, all show what has been done. The Voluntary Workers (strongly represented in this district) express their thanks for a gift made to Sergeant Buckley at the Vauluse Farm, French's Forest Settlement, and the Red Cross Vegetable Depot expresses its appreciation of the substantial grant of one pound per week to its most helpful work on behalf of soldiers' families.

These and many other minor gifts the Branch felt it a privilege to give in the emergencies of the strenuous times through which the whole community was passing. The members rightly feel that whether their part was large or small, it was a useful part and an essential one, and that the work accomplished by them has contributed to the great success of the Red Cross work as a whole.



Consignment of Red Cross goods leaving "Kainga."

In Conclusion

A very pleasant wind-up to the long and harmonious association of the Branch workers, was the picnic tea tendered to them by Mrs. Gray in last October. Launches conveyed the gathering to Shark Island, where pleasant recollections of past work and association were renewed in the happy light of a restored peace. Tea was served in the picnic pavilion and at the conclusion of a very happy afternoon, to which favourable weather lent an added enjoyment, some brief speeches of thanks were delivered. Afterwards Mr. James took several photographs of the grouped guests, which form interesting souvenirs of the occasion.

Entertainments

It would be impossible to mention all the entertainments held for the Branch, either by its own members or by friends. Concerts, tableaux, and social functions of a very successful kind were generously undertaken on behalf of the funds, by many well-wishers, to whom the Branch feels deeply indebted and to whom its sincere thanks are now tendered. Bazaars great and small were held, often by quite little folk, who added no small figure to the year's income by their efforts.

One little boy wrote a play, rehearsed his school-fellows in it, and gave two highly successful performances of it, for the benefit of the Branch.

The local picture show on many occasions gave benefit performances and greatly assisted the success of photographic competitions by screening slides of the competitive photographs.

Knitting competitions, collections of various articles (especially among the school children) and gift gatherings all proved very helpful.

One of the early undertakings of the Branch was an entertainment organised on a large scale at the Continental Gardens, Rose Bay (lent by Mr. H. McIntosh). This was the Children's Christmas Revel. A cen-



The Branch entertained at Shark Island—Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gray.

tral feature was an enormous Christmas Tree, and attractions of many sorts delighted the young folk.

From a spectacular point of view, the success of the scheme was considerable. If by day the beflagged and decorated garden, with music and the stir of crowds, the stalls and sideshows, created a pleasant spectacle, a greater pleasure for the onlookers and youthful participants was in store when darkness fell.

A long and winding procession of prettily attired little people formed itself, each carrying a slender staff from which a coloured lantern was hung. Then, to the accompaniment of singing, a Pageant of Empire was enacted, Britannia, from her central position on the platform, calling to her aid the various dependencies. One by one, the outlying Dominions, represented by children picturesquely robed, arose to the aid of the Mother Country. In all their splendour of fancy dress, and escorted by an army of boy scouts, these formed their several processions from distant parts of the grounds, converging with charming effect upon a central tableaux.

Songs of stirring patriotic appeal were sung and choruses of children, quaintly attired to represent phases of war work, supported them. The plan was strikingly original, and was charmingly carried out by the little folk who entered heartily into the spirit of the revel.

The grounds of Wentworth House proved an ideal setting for another continental, held on Anniversary night, 1915. A large platform was specially raised, the garden illuminated, and a fine programme of music provided. In connection with this, tickets for the forthcoming Art Union were sold.

The Stadium undertaking was in its magnitude a daring one, but this also was carried through with the success to which the Branch was accustomed. The use of the building being kindly granted, the Branch went to work and provided a programme of entertainment that well ensured public support. The services of three bands, including pipers, were secured, and a successful business was conducted in the sale of sweets and refreshments.

These three allied efforts proved a sound financial success, rendering possible a great enlargement of the Branch's work. The joint proceeds under this campaign resulted in a gain of about £1200.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, VAUCLUSE RED CROSS

August 1914, to May 1919

Receipts—	£	s	d	£	s	d
Donations, District Collections, Fetes & Memberships	4004	2	7			
Transfer from Tea Rooms	105	4	7			
				4109	7	2
Special Day Collections				3729	16	10
Receipts from Tea Rooms				743	10	4
Special Donations for Siege Battery Emergency Fund				164	6	2
				£8747	0	6

Jackson, V.C., worked with us two days and put in to the credit of Vaucluse Branch, £500 and £93/1/7. Button Day, £150.

K. E. Harbutt, Hon. Secretary.

Total.—

£8747 0 6
500 0 0
93 1 7
150 0 0

£9490 2 1

Disbursements.—	£	s	d
Purchase of Material for Manufacture into Garments etc	3134	1	2
Donations to Red Cross, Y.M.C.A. Hospital and various Funds	901	1	0
Amount of Special Day Collections distributed to their respective funds	3729	16	10
Donations from Tea Room Receipts—			
	£	s	d
Homes' Day	50	10	0
Vaucluse Repatriation	30	0	0
Red Cross Fruit and Vegetable Fund	40	0	0
Transfer to General Account	105	4	7
Purchase of Plant, Food stuffs and sundry expenses	441	17	10
	667	12	5
Amount distributed to Siege Battery	150	15	9
Balance on hand at Bank—			
	£	s	d
General Account	74	5	0
Tea Rooms' Account	75	17	11
Siege Battery Account	13	10	5
	163	13	4
	£8747	0	6

I have examined the Books and Vouchers of the Vaucluse Branch Red Cross Society and the statements above are correct. The Balance on hand of of £163/13/4 is supported by the Bank Pass Book.

3/6/19.

J. R. CLEBURNE, Auditor.

The Gift to Number Three

In the history of its work there are some outstanding features to which the Branch may look back with special pride. One of these is the gift made to Number Three Base Hospital, then tented at Lemnos. This gift, a sum of £800, represented the cost of equipping four operating theatres, and formed part of the grant made to this hospital by the Red Cross Society (New South Wales Division).

Throughout the war, owing to the special funds made available by the Red Cross, the Australian hospitals were noted for the completeness of their equipment, and in this respect were copied as models by the hospitals and clearing stations later established by America and the Allies.

That the Vaucluse Branch found itself in a financial position sufficiently strong to enable it to make such a gift, was due to the excellently organised and carried out art union drawn at the performance given at the Stadium on April 13, 1915. This effort netted the handsome result of £1025. Of this £589 was obtained by sale of the art union tickets, and £436 was the proceeds of the entertainment.

In the light of the part borne by the Vaucluse Branch in the endowment of the hospital at Lemnos, it is gratifying to read the following extract from a report by Colonel J. H. Fiaschi, O.C. No. 3 Base Hospital, then at Mudros West, Island of Lemnos.

"We have done a great deal of work and I believe that so far the mission of the hospital has been fulfilled.

"We have at the present time 1216 patients, and on the 30th last month, obtained the maximum of 1252 patients. We have been able to do this in spite of several adverse circumstances, chief of them being disease, which has disabled a very large number of us.

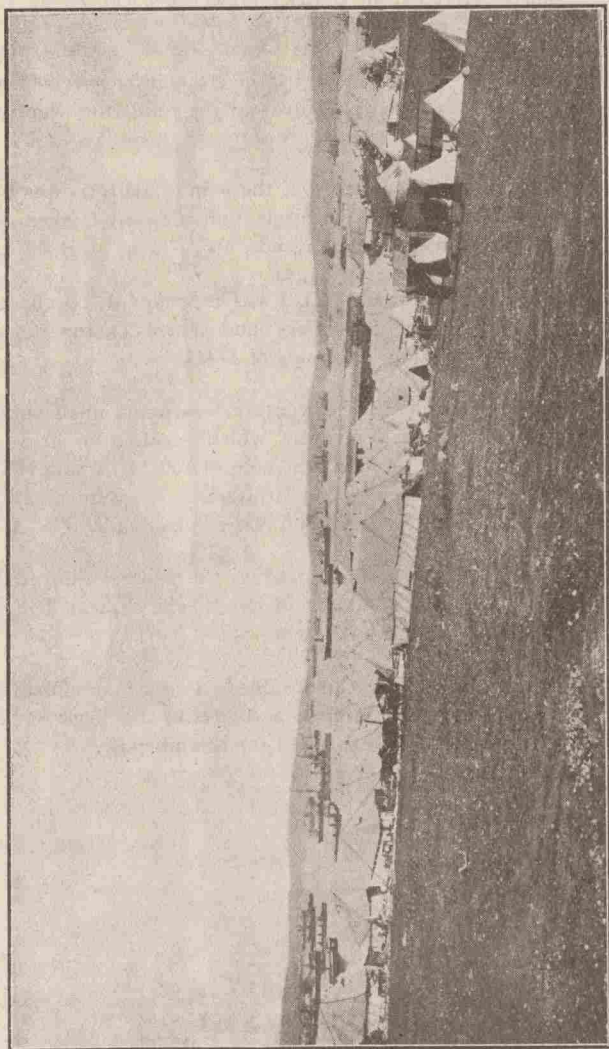
The hospital has now in addition to its medical and surgical wards, operating theatres and X-ray department, ophthalmic, throat, nose and ear departments, a dental depot, regimental workshop, aerated water factory and laundry.

I am glad to inform you that we have been very well supported by the military people, but being war-time, there have been at times deficiencies of certain things which we have had to purchase out of the funds which you so liberally put at our disposal.

We had not long ago a visit from Mr. Adrian Knox (Red Cross Commissioner) and we have since received an ample supply of Red Cross goods, which we not only utilised for our unit, but distributed also to other units of the A.I.F. here and on the Peninsular of Gallipoli."

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Red Cross Society held 29th April, 1915, the following resolution was carried unanimously:

"That a hearty vote of thanks be passed to the Vaocluse Branch for their generosity in giving the equipment of four operating theatres, at a cost of £800."



Birdseye view of No. 3 Australian General Hospital at Lemnos. In the background is seen the Harbor of Mudros.

Financial Summary

A summary of the financial dealing of the Vaulcluse Branch of the Red Cross, for the past five years, is disclosed as follows:

The total receipts derived from District Collections, Donations, Concerts, Fetes, etc., amount to £4,185/6/1.

The sum of £4,472/18/5 was collected by the Branch for special Days, and the various amounts collected paid over to the funds for which the Days were set apart.

From the former amount of £4,185/6/1, the sum of £901/1/- was paid out by the Branch as donations to Hospitals, Convalescent Homes, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., and Belgian Children's Funds, etc.

In addition to this a total of £3,134/1/2 was expended in purchase of materials for the manufacture of Soldiers' and Nurses' garments and comforts, by the Branch, leaving a balance of £74/4/-.

From May, 1918, to March, 1919, a venture was made in opening a tea-room at Wentworth House, Vaulcluse, which resulted in gross receipts of £743/10/4, from which amount the sum of £50/10/- was given to Homes' Day and £30/-/- to Vaulcluse Repatriation. The sum of £40/-/- was also given to the Red Cross Fruit and Vegetable Fund.

The amount of £105/4/7 was transferred to the general fund and a balance (with the exception of £75/18/11 in hand) was expended in the purchase of foodstuffs, plant, fixtures, etc.

Apart from the former receipts mentioned, a separate effort was made for the purpose of donating comforts and gifts to the Siege Battery men, and a total of £161/11/2 was expended for this purpose.



Special Day Appeals

Red Cross workers everywhere placed their energies and organising abilities at the services of these special appeals, for which Days were set apart. On fifteen of these occasions on which the Branch assisted in these collections, the stall at the corner of Farmer's in Pitt street proved a most successful stand. But whether at the accustomed stand, or in Martin Place, the Vaucluse stall was uniformly successful in adding a substantial figure to the day's total.

The following amounts represents the Vaucluse collections on these occasions.

					£	s	d
14th May, 1915	Belgian Day	200	18	1½	
29th May, 1915	Flower Day	86	5	3	
30th June, 1915,	War Chest Day	250	18	6	
30th July, 1915,	Australia Day	191	4	0	
19th Nov., 1915,	Allies' Day	273	18	3	
25th April, 1916,	Anzac Day	85	8	0½	
1st June, 1917,	Red Triangle Day	243	16	3	
14th July, 1917	France's Day	374	15	8	
28th Sept., 1917,	War Chest Day	359	8	6	
30th Nov., 1917,	Our Day	202	17	8	
26th April, 1918,	Australian Red Cross	552	14	7	
		Jackson, V.C., Collection	500	0	0	
28th June, 1918,	Italy's Day	230	16	0	
2nd Aug., 1918,	A.I.F. Memorial Day	160	10	9	
11th Oct., 1918,	Home's Day	50	10	0	
		Jackson, V.C., Collection	93	1	7	
1st Nov., 1918	Jack's Day	214	18	0	
28th Nov., 1918,	War Chest Day	250	17	3	
		Button Day	150	0	0	
Total:				£4,472	18	5	

At Vaucluse House

Ever since the days of the picturesque Sir Henry Hayes, old Vaucluse House has possessed a storied interest. The original Vaucluse, in the lovely Vale of Avignon, is sacred in poetry to Petrarch and his love for Laura. Whether Sir Henry was inspired by any like poetic fancy, in contemplation of his ill-starred wooing of the Quakeress, the attempted abduction of whom he was here fated to expiate in exile, we do not know. But it seems likely.

We know the Irishman to have been impulsive and romantic, as witness the irregular method of his suit, the incidents of which were responsible for the theme of the quaint old ditty, "Sir Henry Kissed the Quaker."

The original stone cottage that Sir Henry erected, on what was prior to his purchase a farming grant, was added to and enlarged by successive tenants, until Charles Wentworth gave it the dimensions of a family mansion. But even in his time the work of building was not completed.

It is not in the house, however historic its associations, with its Pompeian mosaics of a past empire, and its Constitution room, indicative of a new nation, that popular affection is wholly centred.

The people of Sydney love better, I believe, the garden that surrounds the old stone verandah, and embowers with flowers and greenery the weathered walls. In winter, the orange mantle of bignonia venusta wreathes the low mock-battlements of the housefront and flings airy festoons of blossom and leaf about the upper windows. By Whitsunday comes round, those flame-tongued flowers of Pentecost, the poinsettias, are kindled among the green shades.

Azaleas and tree-like camelias bloom early in that sheltered garden and linger late. September brings the tapestry of pale mauve wistaria that beauty lovers come far to see. Then are the green lawns starred with appreciative visitors, and the old garden is murmurous with a vast congress of contented bees.

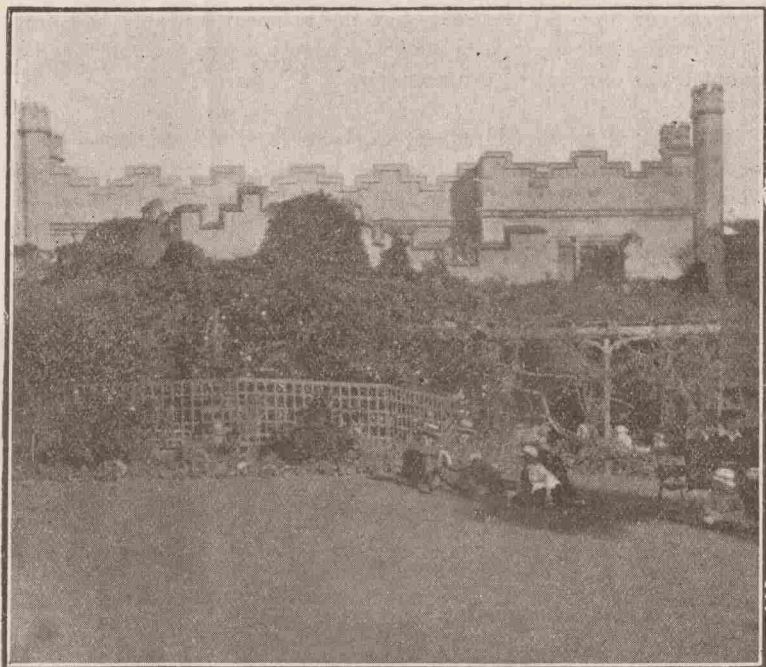
All the summer time the air blows sweet of magnolia blossom, and the paths are strewn with their little mossy calices. Probably the largest magnolia to be seen about Sydney is that which flanks the verandah on the side next to the creek. Sea breezes visit the garden perpetually bringing sometimes the voices of the happy protected gulls, at play along the shore, and there is a soft music in the restless fronds of the bangalows and the cocos palms.

It was a happy thought of the Trustees to place the service of tea at Vaucluse House in the hands of the Red Cross. Up till that time no thoroughly adequate arrangements in this respect had been made for the many visitors attracted to the park. But it is certain that these gentlemen in entertaining the idea of Red Cross intervention here never anticipated the growth of custom that would arise under the new management.

The Branch undertook the tea arrangements in May, 1918, and soon found that increased plant and facilities were necessary.

Arrangements had to be entered into for gas illumination, tables, china, silver, and conveniences for heating and serving. These were provided on an ambitious scale and the public showed their appreciation by filling the accommodation to the full.

In the latticed sunshine and shadow of the angled verandah, looking upon the sloping lawn with its fountain and gay round-bed that has al-



Old Vaucluse House.

ways been a feature of the prospect, tea was a pleasant function, and rendered not less so by the bevy of attendants in white gowns and caps, with the red crosses of voluntary service on their breasts.

A Red Cross flag flew at the verandah entrance and the tea service became a regular attraction of Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The gentlemen of the Committee and interested friends donated tables and other furniture, tablecloths, teapots, chairs and various articles. The flag mentioned was another such gift and a useful contribution made was a regular supply of sugar.

A time schedule was drawn up by which matrons took charge on their respective days, with a staff of assistants, and the aid of a number of auxilliary workers associated with the Branch.

Members also supplied regular quantities of light refreshments.

The figures in connection with this highly successful venture are given in our financial summary, but the tea-room probably had other useful results, helping to keep Branch activities before the public and to stimulate interest in Red Cross matters.

An idea of the magnitude of this work and the soundness of its organisation may be gathered from the fact that on the occasion of the Wentworth Celebration, October 26th, 1918, the Branch catered for one thousand people, including several hundred Official guests and members of the Country Press Party, a large number of school children, and the general public.

The garden of Wentworth House was also the scene of many successful open-air concerts, fetes, and continentals for the Branch funds.



Report of Assistant Hon. Sec. on Monthly Collecting Scheme

The monthly collecting scheme, which was inaugurated in July, 1916, was terminated with the collection in March, 1919—a period of two years and nine months.

In March last the amount collected was £30/15/2, and for the 9 months, July '18, to March, '19, the total subscribed under this scheme was £286/0/6, averaging £31/15/7 monthly. During that period 2669 envelopes were collected, and the amount subscribed averaged 2/1.71 per envelope.

The respective monthly number of envelopes and averages per envelope were:—

1918, July, 311—2/3; August, 324—2/2.09; September, 322—2/2.08; October, 324—2/0.14; November, 303—1/11.36; December, 247—2/1.16. 1919, January, 268—2/3.77; February, 289—2/1.51; March, 281—2/2.26.

From the inception to the termination of this scheme the total amount subscribed under same was £1039/12/1; averaging £32/14/1.66 per month, and the total number of envelopes returned were 10,099 averaging 2/0.70 each.

Following is a comparative statement for the various periods during the time the scheme was in operation:—

	Amount Collected	Monthly Average	Envelopes Collected	Average per Envelope
	£ s d	£ s d		s d
6 months—July to Dec., 1916	195 16 4	32 11 1	1963	1/11.94
12 months—Jan. to Dec., 1917	379 3 9	31 12 0	3694	2/ 0.63
12 months—Jan. to Dec., 1918	372 2 1	31 0 2	3604	2/ 0.44
3 months—Jan. to Mch., 1919	92 9 11	30 16 8	838	2/ 2.47
	£1039 12 1	£32 14 9.66	10,099	2/ 0.70

It will be readily acknowledged that this scheme has been an unqualified success, for which two factors are undoubtedly responsible, viz.:

- (1) The generous and consistent support of our regular subscribers and
- (2) The excellent and self sacrificing work of our canvassers.

The number of regular collectors and subscribers is too large to embody a list in this report, otherwise, it would be a fitting acknowledgment of their support to include a list of all the names.

The branch was particularly fortunate in having so many loyal friends to undertake the arduous work involved in collecting the envelopes every month, which work was of inestimable value and to which the success, which was attained, was so largely attributable.—

(Signed): J. C. THRUM.

Assistant Hon. Secretary.

26th May, 1919.

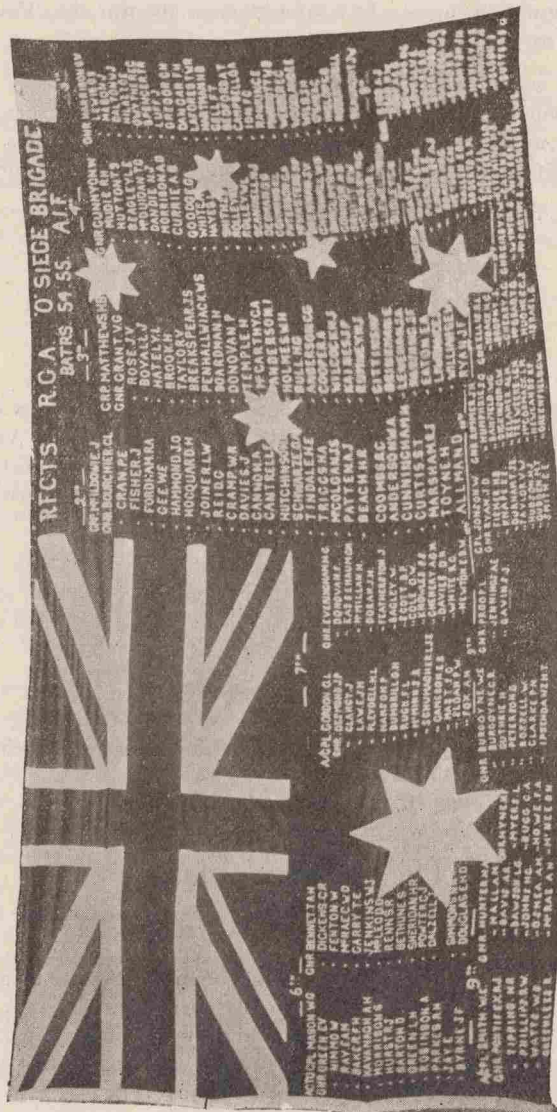
An Active Service Relic

THE FLAG OF THE LAUNCH "VAUCLUSE"

Considerable interest attaches to the flag presented to Mrs. Gray by Lieutenant Milford. Early in the war, Lieut. (then Dr.) Milford volunteered for such services as the authorities might designate, placing at their disposal also his launch "Vaucluse."

Ultimately with his launch he proceeded to Basra and there took command of the launch flotilla engaged on river work, patrols, carrying

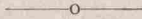




One of the Siege Brigade Flags at present hanging in the Town Hall, Watson's Bay.

Turkish prisoners, exchanges, etc. After some very useful and successful work in this capacity, as a member of General Maude's staff, Lieut. Milford was obliged to return and was succeeded by his colleague, Lieut. Doherty (also of Vaucluse). In a later stage of the war the "Vaucluse" led the way to Bagdad.

Until the war was over censorship forbade a wide knowledge of the events in Mesopotamia and the many thrilling incidents that surrounded the work of our forces there. The flag of the "Vaucluse" forms a link with these that makes it a memorable and highly valued souvenir.



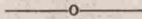
Siege Battery Comforts Fund



A matter lying outside the immediate circle of Red Cross work, yet calling for mention in connection with any record of the Vaucluse Branch, is that of the Siege Battery Comforts Fund. This ministered to the men in training at the South Head Fort, providing them with gifts, entertainments, and other like ameliorations of service life.

Funds for this purpose were strictly separate from Red Cross monies, although the personnel of the Siege Battery Comforts Fund was identical with the Red Cross Branch. Altogether a sum of £161/11/2 was expended on behalf of the men.

Twenty-two reinforcements, comprising 1680 men, passed through the committee's lists, each receiving three or four gift articles, and to each draft was tendered a send-off evening, with supper and dancing.



The Honour Flag



An Honour Flag has been prepared to commemorate the men of this unit, their names being inscribed and embroidered thereon. A second flag, to complete the full toll of names, is in course of preparation, and together these will form a treasured souvenir to the workers, and an honourable memento of the men who served.

The Honour Flag has been presented to the Borough of Vaucluse, and at present hangs in the Town Hall.

Epidemic Work

The Vauluse Branch took its part in assisting with the Influenza Relief work, when the epidemic broke out early in 1919. Every possible aid was lent by the members to the central organisation, it being realised that the conditions of poverty and over-crowding that rendered emergency relief work so urgent elsewhere, would not exist to any extent with the Branch's own district. A patrol was formed to go its daily rounds, and members assisted at the local inoculation depot. Workers also volunteered and did good work in sewing, cooking, nursing and after-care. A parcel of clothing was sent in for poor children and comforts were sent aboard H.M.A.T. Argyllshire in quarantine.

Municipality of Vauluse

Town Hall, Vauluse,
28th November, 1918.

Dear Miss Harbutt,

At the last meeting of the Council the good work done by the Vauluse Branch of the Red Cross Society was a subject of discussion, when I was requested to write a letter in appreciation of the excellent results of the efforts of your Branch.

The writing of such a letter demands something that I feel I am unable to do because no words of mine could convey to the Members of your Branch sufficient thanks for the noble services they have rendered for the past four years, but we do pride ourselves in the knowledge of belonging to a Municipality that has among its numbers such a Body of Lady Workers, who by their untiring efforts, born of a Patriotic Spirit, and a sincere desire to help relieve the sufferings of our sick and wounded Soldiers, have gained such high distinction on the ladder of merit for the number of articles delivered at Headquarters.

The members of the Council as Administrators of the public affairs of this municipality, and as Representatives of its Citizens, do gratefully acknowledge the Voluntary services rendered by your Branch, and I would ask that you would kindly convey to its members this expression of the Council's thankfulness.—Yours faithfully,

EDMUND HORLER.

Town Clerk.

Our Hearty Thanks

The Vauluse Branch of the Red Cross take the opportunity afforded by this record of its work to tender their hearty thanks to the following staunch friends and supporters:—

+ To the Mayor and Aldermen, past and present, and all the Municipal Staff, for their continued interest and support.

To the Eastern Suburbs Band, for its material contribution to the success of so many entertainments.

To the Proprietor of the Watson's Bay Picture Show, for free advertising on the screen, benefit nights, etc.

To the School children, who ably assisted in many collections, their parents and teachers.

To Mr. James and Mr. Vogt for carriage of all Red Cross goods

To the Trustees of Vauluse Park.

To the organisers of many entertainments by which our Branch benefited and which are remembered with gratitude, although space has not permitted here of individual mention for all.

To Mr. Arthur N. White who assisted the committee with all work for special collecting Days.

To Kodak Ltd., for their generous aid with our photographic competitions.

To Messrs. John Sands, Ltd., for collection envelopes kindly printed and supplied gratis for our monthly collections.

To the many workers, who though not financial members of our Branch and as such enrolled on our list of members, yet constantly helped with our work and greatly added to the strength of the committee.

To the local Progress Association.

To the residents in general for their splendid support, and in particular for their response to the monthly collecting calls, which they so continuously and faithfully met for us.

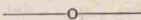
At Rose Hall

Rose Hill, the Red Cross Home that has proved such a happy haven to many of our wounded men, is now especially commended to the interest of our members, since the Vauluse Branch has undertaken to furnish the quiet rest room, providing all furniture, decorations, and accessories suitable to its purposes of rest, comfort, and recreation. Our responsibility will not end with the equipment of the room, however, as it and its occupants will remain under our care, so that our members may regularly visit it and minister to the comfort of the boys with books, smokes, fruit or other like gifts. Let us, for the sake of these whom we love, still. **CARRY ON!**

Names on the Vauluse Honour Roll

Leer, C. E. Capt. (K.)	McArthur, M. Sgt.
Norton, R. P. Cpl. (K.)	Atkinson, C. Pte.
Thomson, L. F. N. 2nd Lieut. (K.)	Clemence, J. E. Sgt.
Flintoff, A. J. Pte. (K.)	Gibson, B. D. Capt. (K.)
Read, C. G. M. Pte. (K.)	Scott, J. Pte.
Norton, R. Dvr.	Davis, A. T. Gnr.
Blakeney, C. Tpr.	Richards, J. G. Spr.
Sheedy, W. P. Dvr.	Gibson, P. J. Pte.
Jordon, E. M. Pte.	Carolan, C. V. Pte.
Hadlow, A. H. Pte.	Lyon, S. C. Pte.
Hadlow, J. H. Pte.	Potier, N. L. Pte.
Picot, F. Bglr.	Green, E. O. K., Lieut.
Potier, S. C. Cpl.	Green, R. Tpr.
Braby, R. Bglr.	Robinson, S. Gnr.
Sautelle, E. H. S. Gnr. (K.)	Millar, C. K. Cpl.
Fell, A. J. Pte.	Gonsalves, S. Pte.
McCormack, A. S. Pte.	Huntsman, F. P. Pte.
Lyon, B. F. Pte.	Scott, G. A. Pte.
Lyon, W. Bglr.	Spillane, C. J. Tpr.
Jeffrey, J. Pte.	Spillane, H. Pte.
McCourt, W. G. Pte.	Spillane, F. T. Pte.
Crabtree, J. Pte.	Dunn, L. J. Sapr.
Ostling, J. H. Pte.	Dunn, R. Pte.
Richards, E. S. Lieut. (K.)	Dunn, H. F. Sapr.
Richards, J. W. Sergt.	Dunn, R. A. Pte. (K.)
Wright, J. L. Lieut. (M.C.)	Dunn, C. M. Pte.
McBryde, J. Lieut. (K.)	Braby, H. Tpr.
McBryde, W. L. Dvr.	Braby, A. Capt.
Picot, A. E. T. 1st. Lieut. (K.)	Clark, W. R. Cpl.
Letton, K. S. Cpl.	Gall, F. Cpl.
Duncan, H. Sgr.	Gall, A. Dvr.
Gordon, S. R. Pte.	Goggins, J. J. Pte.
Gordon, A. W. Pte.	Goggins, D. H. Pte.*
Rowe, R. C. Sgr.	Hemingway, J. M., Pte.
Middleton, R. O. Lieut. (K.)	Hadlow, L. J. Pte.
Carolan, R. G. Cpl.	Lobban, C. R. Gnr.
Forsayth, E. M. C. Pte.	MacQueen, K. R. Dvr.
Everitt, C. H. Pte.	Prowse, J. W. Cpl.
Jackson, J. Spr.	Ratcliff, S. C. Staff Sergeant
Stokes, A. C. Pte.	Ratcliff, S. W. G. Capt.
Dent, W. T. Pte.	Richards, J. G. Sapr.

Stiles, E. A. Sglr. (K.)	Gillard, G. E. Sig.
MacGee, A. S. Pte.	Scott, C. W. Pte.
Gee, A. S. Pte.	Hare, E. Pte.
Silva, J. E. Pte.	Friend, G. Pte.
Silva, C. W. Pte.	Norman, L. H. Pte.
Moss, N. P. Spr.	Norman, H. Pte.
Gaskell, E. J. Lst. P.O.	McKenzie, C. R. Pte.
Jones, W. Pte.	Murray, J. C. Gnr.
Keshan, N. D. Pte.	Kerrison, E. V. Dvr.
Keshan, M. Mc. Lieut. (K.)	MacGee, W. Fireman
Newton, E. B. Gnr.	Stiles, G. M. Pte.
Paul, J. H. Sergt. (Vet.)	Bennett, F. T. Pte.
Ryan, A. J. J. Gnr.	Burnett, R. K. Gnr.
Ryan, A. M. J. Gnr.	Hopcraft, E. M. Dvr.
Read, G. Mjr.	Sandin, O. Pte.
Walker, N. F. L.-Cpl.	Hudson, L. Sgt.
Walker, D. R. Spr.	Duncan, W. L. Pte.
Wilson, R. E. Siglr.	D'Elmaine, J. Pte.
Porter, W. R. Lieut. (K.)	Thomas, H. R. Pte.
Wilson, R. Lieut. (M.C.)	Thomas, A. B. Pte.
Greig, J. W. Q.M. Sergt.	Thomas, W. J. Pte.
Robson, L. R. Bdr. (K.)	Woodbridge, T. Pte.
Cooke, A. A. Lieut.	Woodbridge, G. Pte.
Doherty, J. M. Lieut.	Milford, H. F. Lieut.
Forsyth, N. R. Gnr.	de Burgh, H. 1st Lieut.
Forsyth, K. H. Sergt.	Manley, C. M. Lieut.
Ferrow, B. Pte.	Watt, E. Signaller
Sawyer, C. W. Pte.	Stafford, R. M. Pte.
Roebuck, C. C. Sergt. (K.)	Stafford, A. G. Pte.
McGuire, T. J. Spr.	Atkinson, A. Gunner
Molyneaux, J. A. Gnr. (K.)	Sargent, F. G. Cpl.
Molyneaux, T. M. F. Gnr.	Hassan, E. T. Wnt. Off. (M.M.)
Osborn, B. A. Pte. (K.)	Cotterill, G. F. Gnr.
Roams, J. Pte. K.	Dunn, R. G. Sapr.
Sanders, G. Spr.	Love, S. Str.



In these days we do not carry our colours into action; the men are our flag. To us they have been the motive and ideal of service. With us they will remain in the imperishable pride of remembrance, the dearest possession of our country. And where the names of the fallen are written, there is a shrine dedicated to the service of humanity. In old times, the victors after war were wont to enshrine their banners in the holy places. Here then is our shrine. . . . the men are our flag

