

# LADY EXETER

Lady Exeter was heavily committed to the war effort, supporting Red Cross fund raising events and attending endless meetings. From letters, sent by grateful soldiers, it is clear she spent a lot of time with the men as they were recuperating; she took them to concerts and for rides in her car, a great luxury for many. The letters refer to the wonderful time spent at Burghley, asking after her children and mentioning the kindness shown by the Marchioness.

'Well do I recollect the pleasant motor rides, games, croquet, bowls, clock golf and Matron obliging us one day by playing on the table piano.'

'I also remember the Red Cross Sale in your grounds when you handed roses from your bouquet.'

Dear old Stamford and the people of it will always be a lasting effect to erase dark days from my memories by the happy times we spent there, through your sacrifice. I also think of your son, who so manly, showed a great spirit by assisting us Tommies.'

**Letter from Private Stephen Hanson 3rd July 1917**

'I hope you will allow me to thank you very much indeed for your great kindness. I was indeed most lucky to be sent to Burghley; I enjoyed the month I spent there immensely and I know that it has done me a great deal of good.'

'I know very well from all that I have heard the other men say many times over that my gratitude to you is shared by each one of them.'

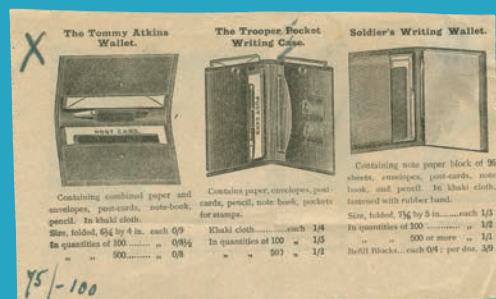
**Letter from Private Charles Goody 24th March 1916**

On 11th October 1916 Lady Exeter started the '4th East Anglian Brigade Charity', organising fund raising events in order to send goods to the Marquess' regiment to help make their life more tolerable.

"March 19th, 1917 'B' Battery has requested the following things: Writing Pads, Shaving Soap, Tooth Paste, Soap, OXO Cubes, Fruit Salts, Pencils, Socks, Fly Switches, Handkerchiefs, Small Shaving Glasses and Muslin for Mosquito Nets."

Other orders included: Footballs, Tommie Wallets, Cakes, Tins of Sardines, Mince Pies, Tommie Cakes, Briar Pipes, Tobacco, Cigarettes and Mouth Organs.

Amazingly they all seem to have been delivered. Christmas gifts sent by the Marchioness to Prisoners of War were acknowledged using their prison 'post cards'.



Lady Exeter with Nurse Mildred Cathcart



## A SPECIAL MEETING

Will be held at  
BROWNE'S HOSPITAL, STAMFORD.

On MONDAY, October 29th, at 3.0 p.m.,  
With a view of starting a Club for the Munition and Working Girls in Stamford and the neighbourhood.

THE CHAIR WILL BE TAKEN BY  
THE MARCHIONESS OF EXETER.

Speaker:— MISS RACHEL FAUDEL PHILLIPS.

\* YOUR ATTENDANCE IS EARNESTLY INVITED.

She worked tirelessly for the 'Stamford Needlework Guild & Hospital Supply Depot' where volunteers made items to be sent to the troops. She gave Boy Scouts afternoon tea as a reward for collecting eggs and funds in support of the war effort.

In 1917 the Marchioness was instrumental in forming a 'Girls Club' in Stamford. The aim was to provide young working girls after their "somewhat monotonous daily toil" with a place where they could participate in activities such as needlework, dancing, singing, games and reading.

After the war the Marchioness received the Grand Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England in acknowledgement her work during the Great War.



Red Cross workers, Lady Exeter, (ringed) on Stamford Town Hall steps with produce for the troops.

