



The Ambulance Train made at Wolverton Railway Works

A newspaper report from the Wolverton Express and Bucks Weekly for 24th March 1916:

A NEW AMBULANCE TRAIN for use in France will be on view to the public in the Carriage Works at Wolverton from 2 pm to 5.30 pm on Saturday 25th March at a charge of 6d [old pence] per person. The money collected from this source will be added to the Works Relief Fund.

Visitors will have the opportunity of seeing the interior of the whole of the coaches and exactly how they are fitted up. The detailed description of this, which we append, scarcely does justice to the admirable manner in which these trains are fitted up and the opportunity of viewing it is really one which Wolverton and the neighbourhood should not miss.

The train consists of 16 vehicles and the total length is well over 900 feet [300 metres]. It has accommodation for 362 patients, together with the medical and other staff. These 16 vehicles comprise:

- 8 ward cars for lying-down cases
- 1 ward car for lying-down infection cases
- 1 ward car for sitting-up infection cases
- 1 kitchen and mess room car
- 1 kitchen and stores car
- Pharmacy car
- Personnel car
- Staff car
- Brake and stores car

The whole train is painted khaki colour outside and this has given rise to the popular name in the Works of the "Khaki Train". A large red cross on the outside of each vehicle indicates beyond any possibility of mistaking the purpose of the train when it is in use.

The interiors of the open coaches, corridors, cooking and store compartments, mess rooms etc. are all painted with white enamel and designed so that there are no corners where dirt may accumulate on the floor. The train throughout is steam-heated and electrically-lighted. Special candle brackets are also fitted, in the event of the electric light not being available from any cause. Electric fans are provided for the comfort not only of the patients, but also of the doctors, nurses and staff.