



**HARTLEY VALENTINE PALMER
PTE. 6/320
CANTERBURY BATTALION . NZEF
TRANSCRIBED WW1 DIARY**



Hartley

This photo, taken 1915, was used in the Auckland Weekly and local papers when Hartley was mistakenly reported killed in action. (instead of one Hector V Palmer)

This led to Church services being held for, and condolence telegrams received by, the Palmer family

Dedicated to
Bevan Wallace Palmer
[Hartley's Eldest Son]
knowing that his Father's WW1 Diary had been
located in Leeds UK. and copied
He died before the Transcript was completed.

Thanks to

Cheryl Carnahan Librarian NZ. Soc. Of Genealogists , Nelson Branch
who tracked the Diary down in Leeds

Jeanette Ware , who transcribed the Diary

Eric & Lynn Dolman UK penfriend , who went to Leeds Museum
and photographed every page

Introduction

When war was declared in August 1914 , Pte. Hartley Valentine Palmer 6/320 , aged 23 joined the New Zealand Expeditionary Force and sailed to Gallipoli .
He landed in Anzac Cove ,April 25th 1915 and went into battle that same day .Thus becoming a true Gallipoli Veteran .

During his time in the trenches he kept a daily diary from mid. March , till end of August .

After the war he returned to NZ , married and raised a family of six in Westport. In the early 1950's he returned to the Nelson district , where he died in 1987 aged 96.

In June 1974 , Peter Liddle a UK Historian travelled to NZ to interview all remaining Gallipoli Veterans .

Hartley went to Blenheim and was interviewed by Dr Liddle , who asked if he could "take the diary away to read " .Hartley didn't realise at that time he meant back to England .

Family members had written to Dr Liddle asking for the diary to be returned but to no avail
The matter was brought to the attention of the Ministry of Defence 1984 and other Govt Dept. at that time seeking their help of the return of the book but Dr Liddle indicated that it would not be sent back.

In 2016 the local Genealogy group ,in a weekly paper asked for stories of WW1.

I answered Cheryl Carnahan,s request and while sifting through my vast amount of paper clippings etc. she came across the articles written about the missing diary.

Within two hours of returning to her home ,she rang.

"I have found your fathers diary, it is in Leeds University Museum "

Thus began the quest of the diary to be returned to NZ, or at least a copy as we discovered it was in a "fragile condition "

The family settled for a copy ,all 130 pages of it which we received at the end June 2016 ,then entrusted the copy to be transcribed.

If anyone requires more info to contact----M. Kearns ---95/16 Sargesen St. Stoke, Nelson 7011
email ---gmkcats@gmail.com ---- phone 03 - 5445158

Gallipoli Remembered: Nelsonian's Diary

"It was worse than thunder as we neared the shore. Rifles and machine guns were pouring out bullets.

"We landed about 7 p.m. and found hundreds of wounded and dead lying about. We took up a position and dug trenches all night. We had lost our Colonel and Major Grant."

So runs the cryptic entry for Sunday, April 25, 1915, scrawled in a little French notebook by a young Nelsonian farmer of 23.

Next Sunday, the author, Mr Hartley V. Palmer of Richmond, will step ashore with fellow-diggers at the same spot on the bleak coast of the Gallipoli Peninsula as members of the Anzac Pilgrimage of Remembrance to mark the 50th anniversary of that terrible slaughter.

ENTRENCHED

His diary in indelible ink continues:

APRIL 26: Entrenched for the night on a ridge occupied by the Australians. Two German officers captured, dressed in Australian uniforms. Orders being passed along the lines so they joined in and gave the order (in good English) to retire to the beach. The order passed through, but not carried out; they were identified by some of our men.

APRIL 27: Enemy shelled our landing place continually all day. The bombardment was terrific from our warships.

I volunteered to carry ammunition to firing line. Four men wounded in a few minutes while I was there. All day a stream of wounded coming from the front, but not as many as on the day we landed.

General Godley instructed us to have conversation with all suspicious men, as the Turks had stripped clothes from some of our killed men and were among us sniping.

The order was passed along that the French and English were advancing on our right and to cease fire on that flank; afterwards found not correct and spy suspected.

APRIL 28: Eight times the enemy attacked our front but was repulsed, with heavy losses; no casualties among us. Several more spies caught in our

uniforms. One came along using the Egyptian word "Saheda" for "Good day" in his excitement. He was caught and an officer emptied his revolver in him.

APRIL 30: Ordered to take up position on hill away from main body. Left at

This story, by a Nelsonian who joined-up in the city, saw service at Gallipoli and returned to work and eventually retired in the district, is typical of the 70 or 80 Anzac Veterans still living round Nelson.

They all had similar stories of comradeship, close calls, hardship and in many cases, wounds.

But they were the lucky ones. Many of their friends died on the Turkish peninsula.

This week many of the veterans will travel to Rotorua for their national reunion to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landing at Anzac Cove.

Two Nelson men, Messrs Hartley V. Palmer and Charles Duke will be among those who make the return landing on Gallipoli on Sunday morning:

8 p.m. and marched through scrub among the Turkish snipers. Scaled a steep cliff and dug trenches all night. Sgt. Hilston shot in the head and not expected to live.

DEATH WAS CLOSE

So Mr Palmer's daily diary goes on with death always close at hand, water and food often short, sleep frequently impossible.

On May 8, his battalion was ordered to advance in support of a British regi-

His entry continues:

"We reinforced the Tom-



Mr H.V. Palmer. ("Mail" photo)-5739.

mies as thick as possible. Then in platoons, in open order we rushed through. The fire was awful; and our casualty list went up. I left with five men in my sight and was the only one to get into line.

"I dug a small place to put my head in. Within a dozen yards I could see three men killed and four wounded. I could not get to them to give them help. It was terrible to see one poor beggar lying with his head blown open, dying. After three hours I could see he had stopped breathing.

"Further down the line more wounded men were groaning and struggling and asking for help, but no-one could get near them.

"We made another advance at dark and took some of their old trenches. Twice during the night we kept them back with rifle fire."

So young Hartley Palmer kept up his daily diary listing the high-lights — rain, mail from home, a welcome swim, a delouse, the general truce on May 24 to bury the dead, the constant rifle fire, the sinking of the Triumph.

Still there was room to recall humorous incidents. At one point they had no sooner dug themselves in to comfortable base quarters

than a thunderstorm washed them out again.

At the end of May the Nelson Company was posted to the front line, in places only seven yards from the enemy trenches.

"We could speak to the enemy, but to show your head was fatal. They would throw bombs in and we would cover them up with overcoats to break the explosion. Sappers were busy digging, to blow up their trenches."

And so his personal campaign continued with turns of duty at Quinn's Post, one of the hottest points in the line, interspersed with beach fatigues and water carrying, rest periods and more grim fighting.

FIVE REMAINED

By the beginning of July, Hartley Palmer recorded only five of his 12-man section still on active duty, the rest were either, wounded, sick or killed.

Early in August he contracted enteric fever and was invalided home through Britain, but not before he had been reported "killed in action" and a memorial service held back home in Brightwater.

"When I got home," he said recently, "the Brightwater church bellringer was disgusted. He reckoned I had been wasting his valuable time."

on Evening Mail

Established 1866

N, NEW ZEALAND, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1984

FINAL 25 CENTS

Gallipoli veteran digs in for return of his diary

Ninety-three-year-old Gallipoli veteran Hartley Palmer doesn't need his diary to aid his war memories ... but he'd still like it back from the British historian he lent it to 10 years ago.

Former Private Palmer, who lives in Richmond, kept the diary in the trenches at Gallipoli over about four months in 1915. He was one of more than 150 veterans who entrusted researcher Peter Liddle with personal memorabilia during a visit to New Zealand in 1974.

Mr Liddle sought material for his work on the 1915 Gallipoli campaign through the RSA, and Mr Palmer travelled to Blenheim to meet him and lend him the diary.

"As soon as he saw my diary he said 'That's like gold to me,'" Mr Palmer said. At the time Mr Palmer didn't specifically ask that the diary be returned to him, but requests for its return since have brought nothing more than a photocopy, and a poor one at that.

While Mr Palmer was happy to lend his diary, he didn't expect it would be taken to England and requests for its return refused. Mr Palmer's daughter, Mrs Phyllis Adams of Westport, has written to Mr Liddle in England several times.

Mr Palmer is modest about the value of his diary: "There's not a great deal of information in it, mainly dates. It's about the food a good lot, though."

Also included are details about taking prisoners and notations of the red-letter days when he received mail from home.

The diary was kept in a small French notebook, bought in Cairo, which accompanied Private Palmer through the trenches snug in his trouser pocket.

"I had a mate who was writing in diaries, so I bought one and thought I would write something too."

Mr Palmer has crystal-clear recall of his war-time experiences but he'd like the diary so he could be precise about his dates. He believes the diary should be in New Zealand, perhaps eventually in the Army Museum at Wairouru.

At present the documents Mr Liddle took back to England are believed to be in storage at Sunderland Polytechnic where he works as a lecturer.

Mrs Adams has written to the rector of the polytechnic asking him to take action over the diary, and a Wellington university student is campaigning for such Gallipoli documents to be returned to New Zealand.

But Mr Liddle is determined to hold on to the material. He told the NZPA today any New Zealand Government advice on moves to get the material back would not affect his stand.

The items belonged to him, "unequivocally", he said.

"My position has not changed at all. There is no foundation for such a request."

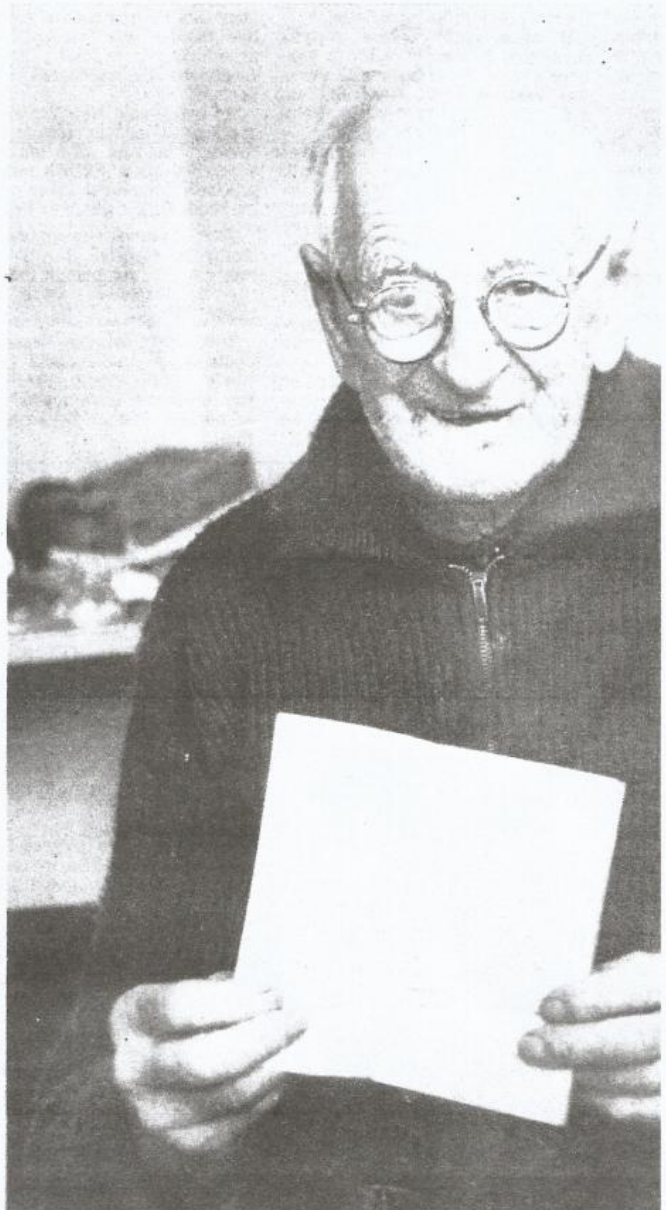
A Wellington report says defence officials convened a meeting of historians and Gallipoli experts in June. They discussed whether action should be taken to retrieve the documents Mr Liddle collected when he was in New Zealand.

Defence historian Robert Eaddy said the meeting compiled a list of documents and diaries which were unique to Mr Liddle's collection and that they should be sent back to New Zealand.

Officials were waiting for an indication from the Government on what, if any, steps to take, Mr Eaddy said.

Mr Liddle denies claims that he pledged to return the material.

● Pictured: Mr Palmer with the diary of his 50th anniversary trip back to Gallipoli in 1965. His war diary was of a similar size, with the binding at the top of the pages.



This is a letter from a Pen friend who went to Leeds Museum and viewed the original Diary

5/11/16
Dear Margaret,

All the time I had Leeds on my mind. As you know, I dreaded it. As usual, road works + detours, I decided to park at the Rail Station + walk. Not a very good idea because of the distance, but at least I knew where the car was. We called at 2 Unwentwaters, before we were directed to the correct one. The staff were most helpful. After much form filling + passwords, we were given the note book. To me, it was in good condition and had been looked after. There was over 120 pages. The writing was very clear + legible. I did think what had he used to write with. No biro. Must have been a fountain pen. Somewhere in the middle the writing was a little faded - as though it had been left open in the sun. Lynn photod all the pages. Some of the pages were on half + stuck/glued but not selftape. She has ordered a memory stick, which is taking ages to arrive. She will then put it on to you. I read little snippets. So exciting.

I asked one of the staff if I could have the notebook. She said I must be joking. It was well worth while, I could imagine the conditions he was under. What a stress, and what a bungling exercise. This really is first hand reporting. Make a story on its own. A tour around the city and back to the motorway. Pleased, and a good day.

Dear Margaret.

In haste, stick enclosed.

I hope everything will be okay with it. after the disappointment of the other. Its real history. I'll write next week.

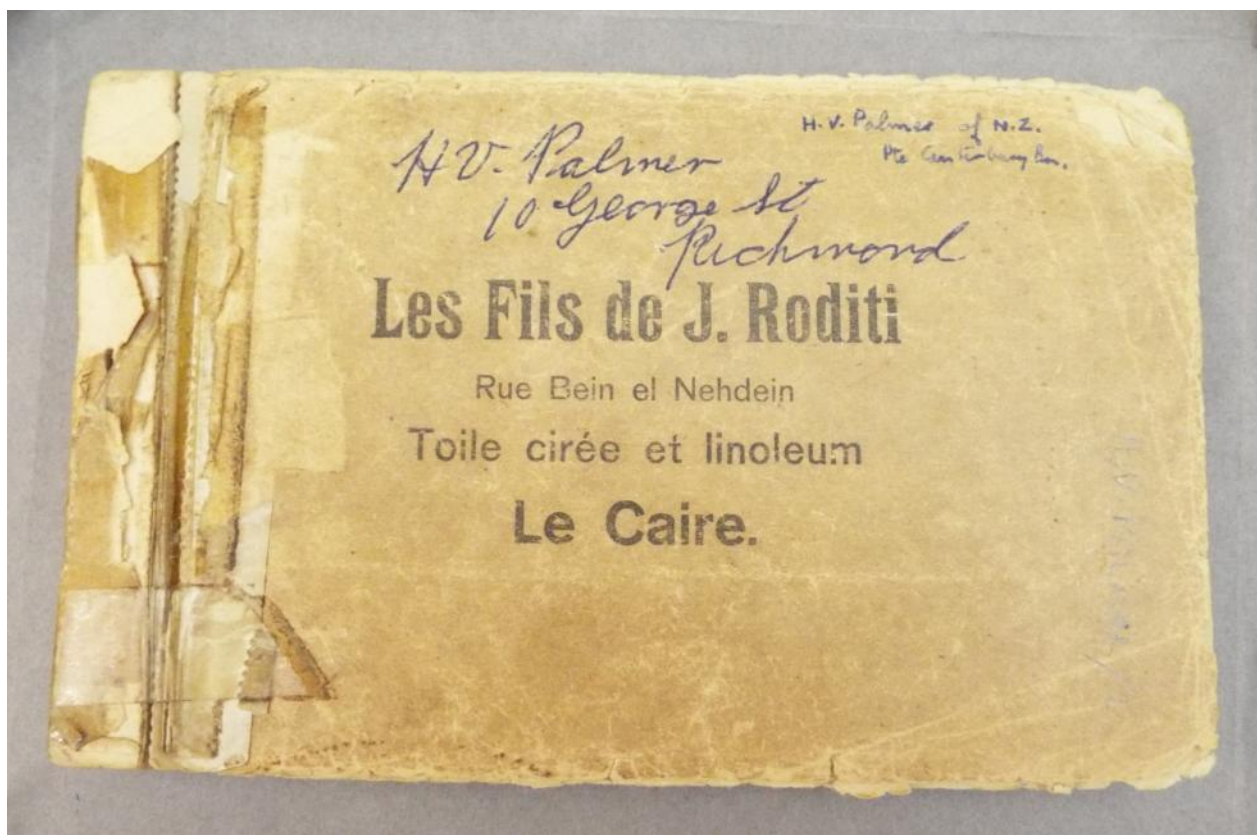
Best wishes to you both.

Eric

Diary transcription H V Palmer



Front cover of Hartley's Diary



Page 2

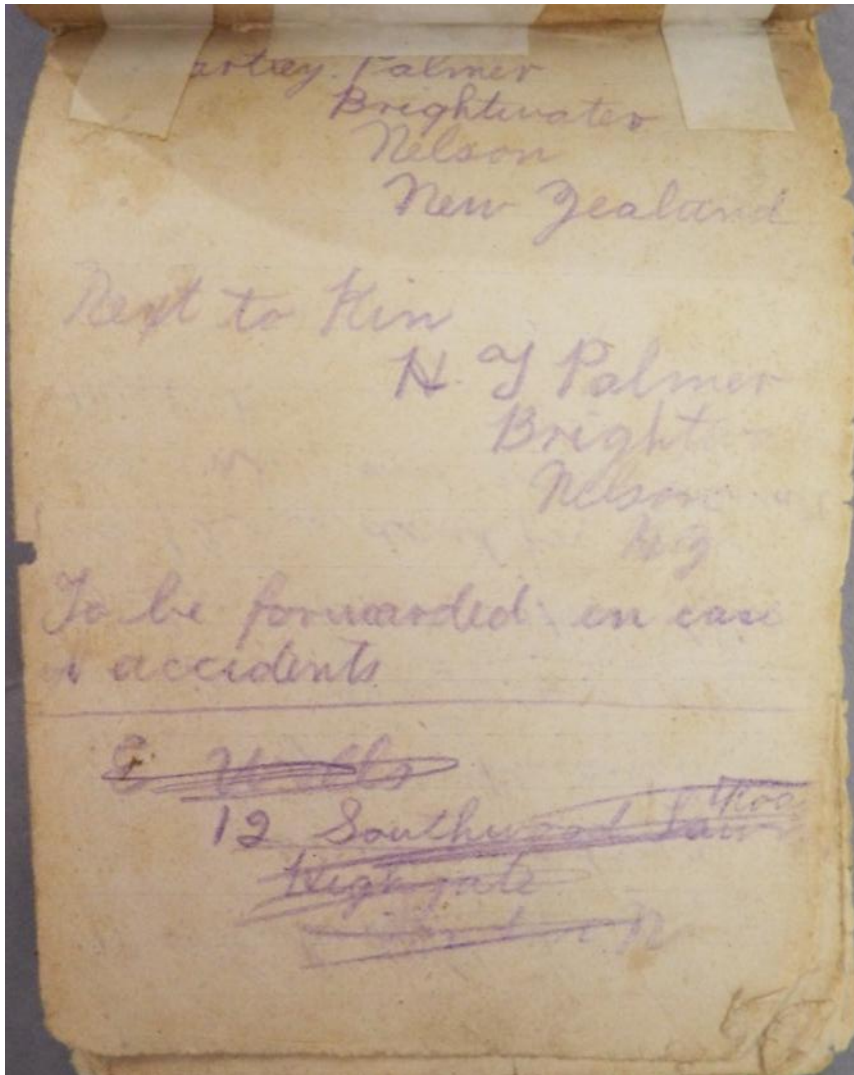
H. V. Palmer of N. Z. Pte Canterbury [Bn]

H V Palmer

10 George Street
Richmond

Les Fils de J. Roditi

Rue Bein el Nehdein
Toile cirée et linoleum
Le Caire.



Page 3

Hartley Palmer
 Brightwater
 Nelson
 New Zealand

Next to Kin
 H. T. Palmer
 Brightwater
 Nelson
 NZ

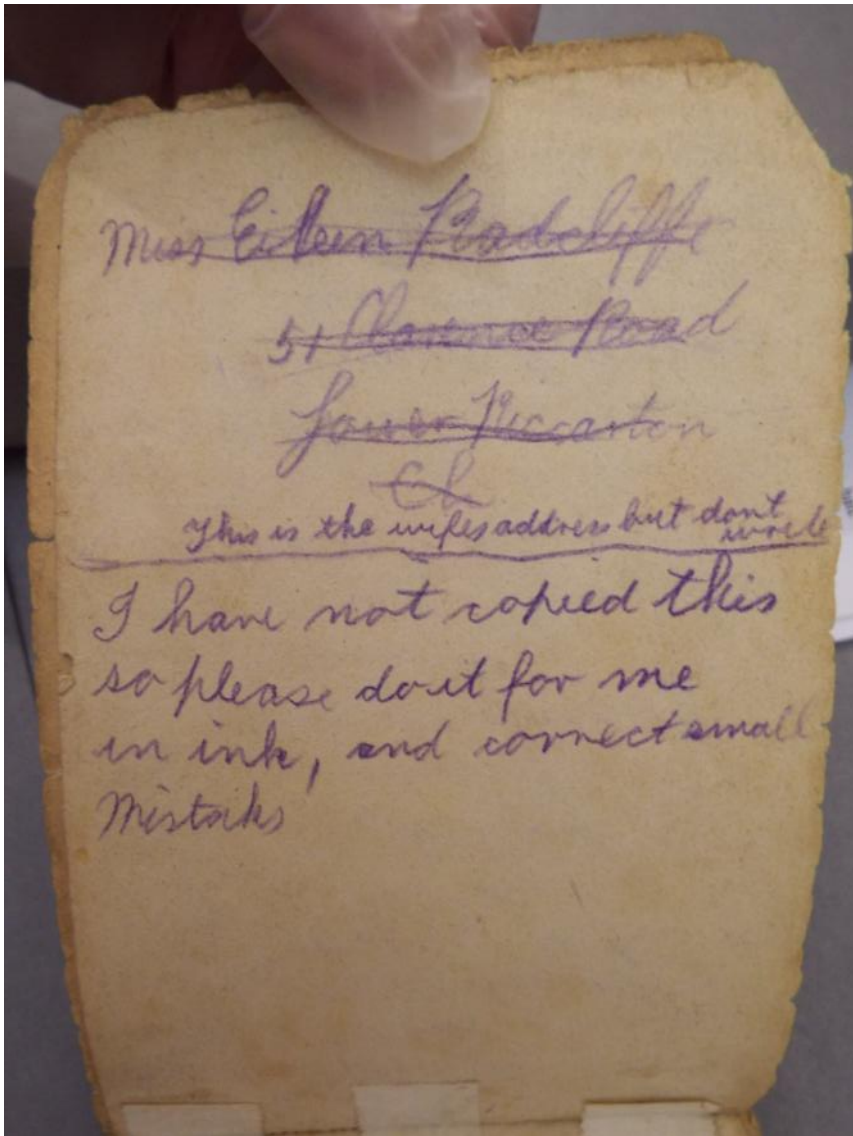
To be forwarded in case of accidents

E. Wells

12 Southwood [---] Road

Highgate

England



Page 4

Miss Eileen Radcliffe

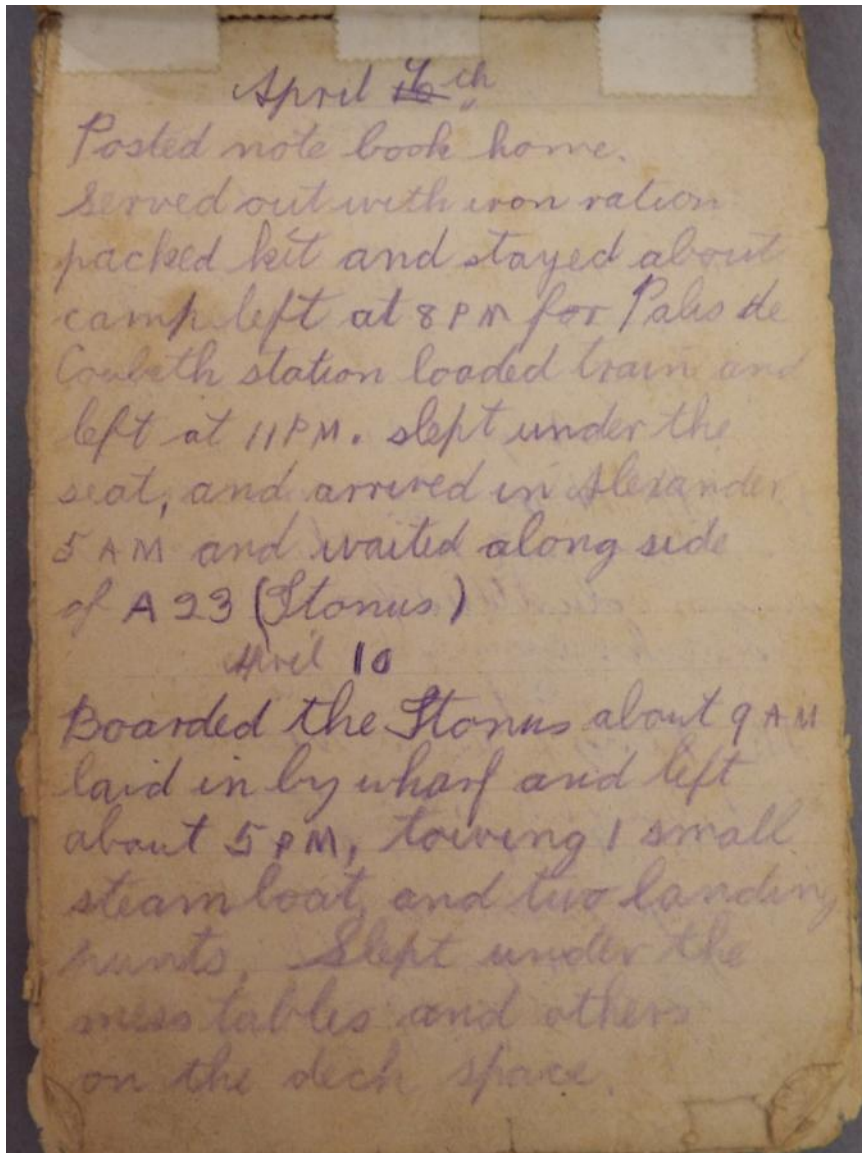
51 Clarence Road

Lower Riccarton

Ch

This is the wife's address but don't write

I have not copied this so please do it for me in ink, and correct small mistakes



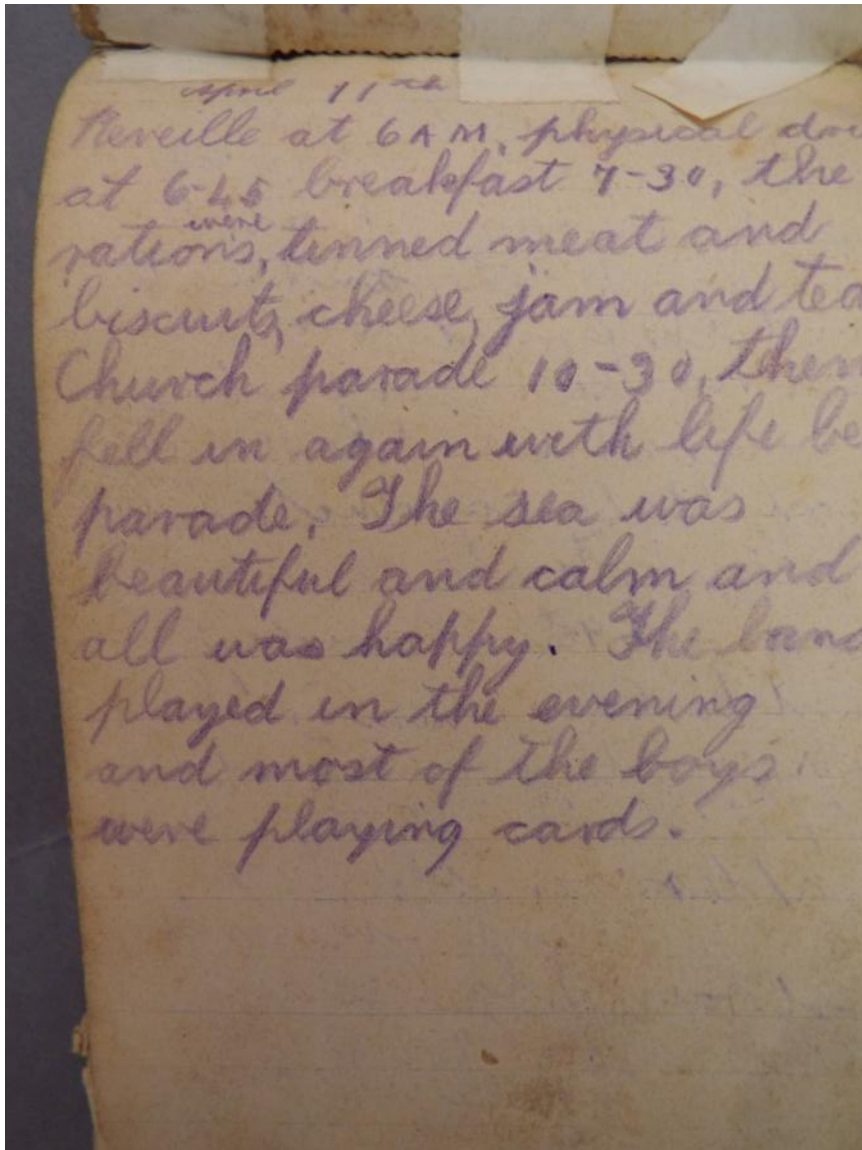
Page 5

April 10 9th

Posted note book home. Served out with iron ration packed kit and stayed about camp left at 8 pm for Palis de [Coubeth] station loaded train and left at 11 pm. Slept under the seat and arrived on Alexander 5 AM and waited along side of A 23 (Itonus)

April 10

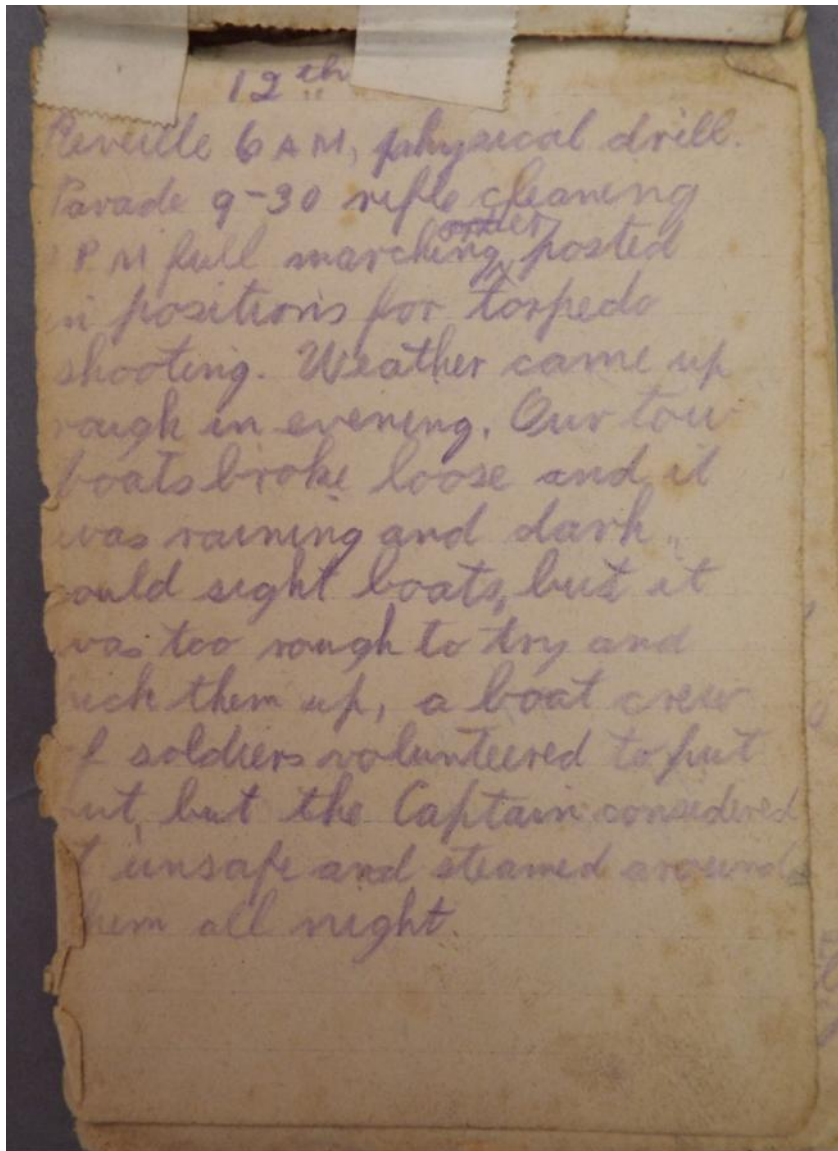
Boarded the Itonus about 9 AM laid in by wharf and left about 5 PM, towing 1 small steamboat and two landing punts. Slept under the mess tables and others on the deck spaces



Page 6

April 11

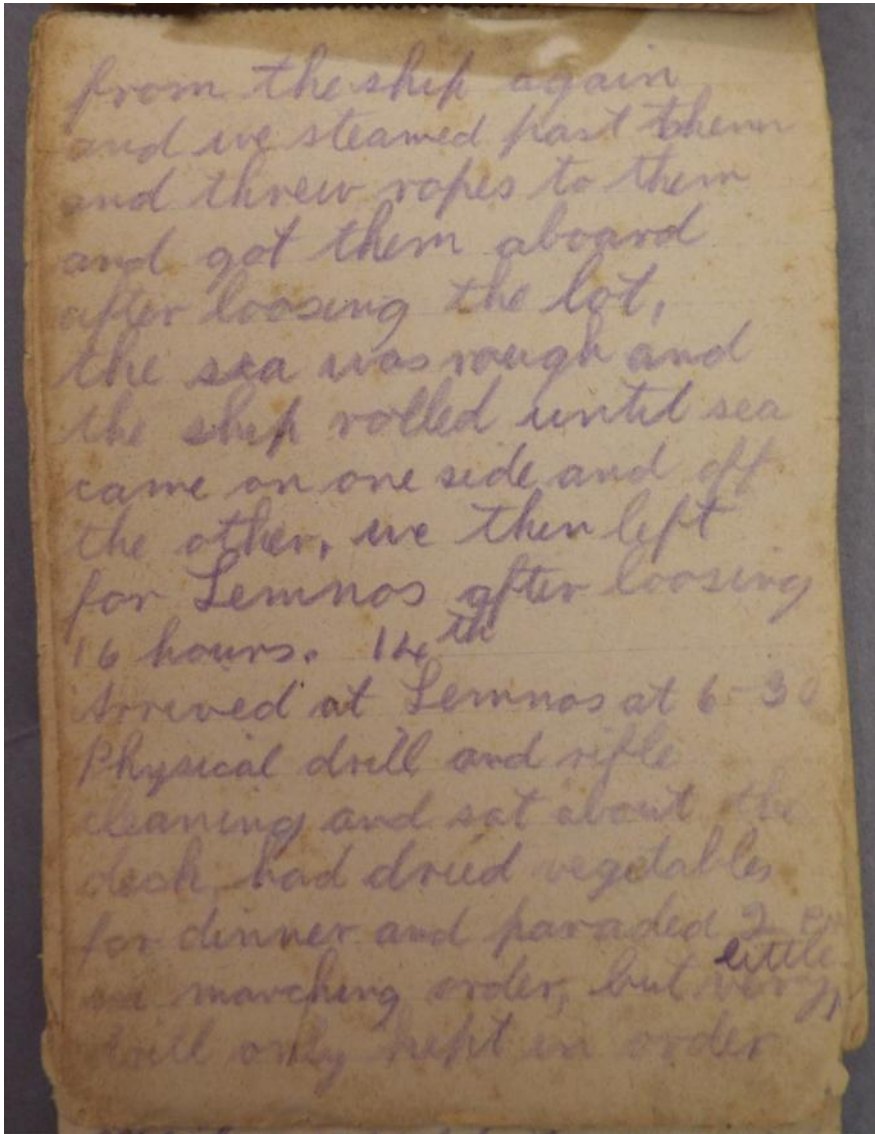
Reveille at 6 AM, physical drill at 6.45 breakfast 7.30, the rations > were < tinned meat
 and biscuits, cheese, jam and tea, Church parade 10-30, then fell in again with life belt
 parade. The sea was beautiful and calm and all was happy. The band played in the
 evening and most of the boys were playing cards



Page 7

12th

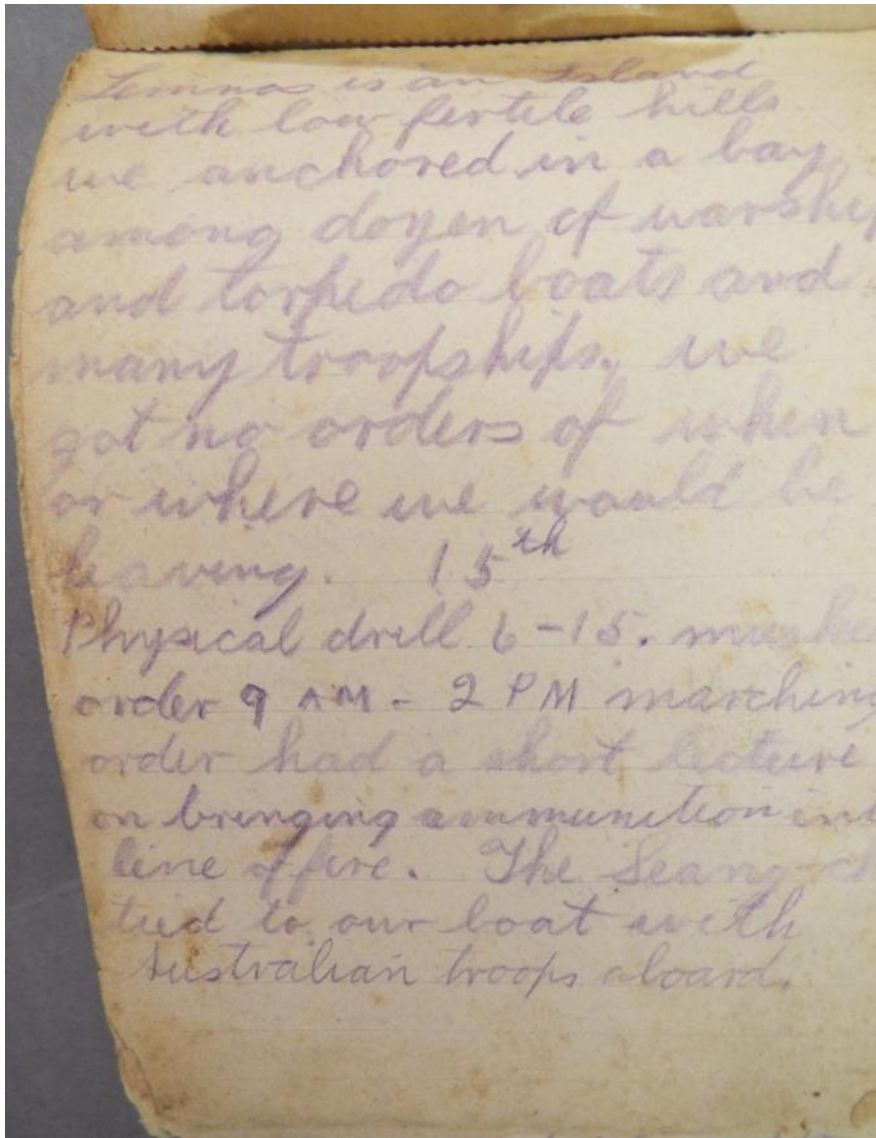
Reveille 6 AM, physical drill Parade 9-30 rifle cleaning P.M. full marching > order < posted in positions for torpedo shooting. Weather came up rough in evening. Our tow boats broke loose and it was raining and dark, could sight boats, but it was too rough to try and pick them up, a boat crew of soldiers volunteered to put out, but the Captain considered it unsafe and steamed [around them] all night.



Page 8

from the ship again and we steamed past them and threw ropes to them and got them aboard after loosing the lot, the sea was rough and the ship rolled until sea came on one side and off the other, we then left for Lemnos after loosing 16 hours. 14th

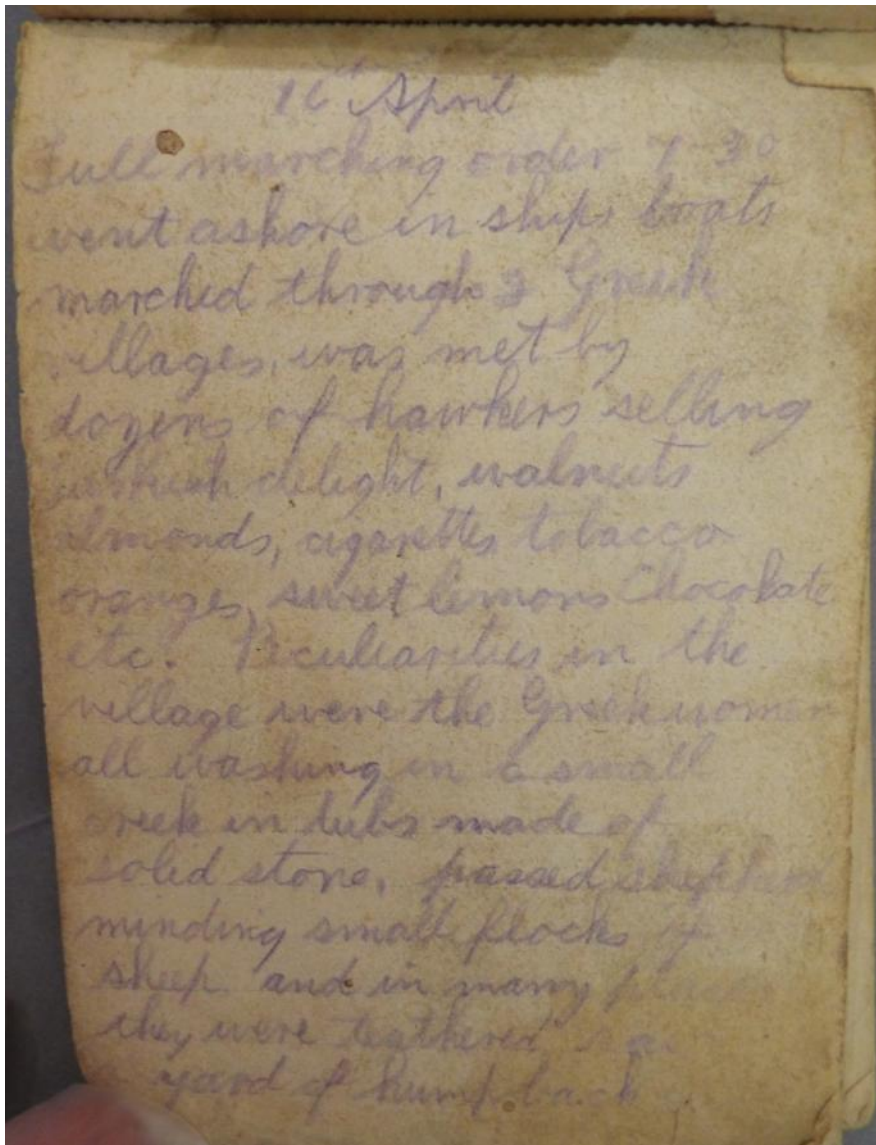
and vegetable for dinner and paraded 2 in marching order but very little drill only kept in order



Page 9

Lemnos is an Island with low fertile hills. We anchored in a bay among dozen of warships and torpedo boats and many troopships. We got no orders of when or where we would be leaving. 15th

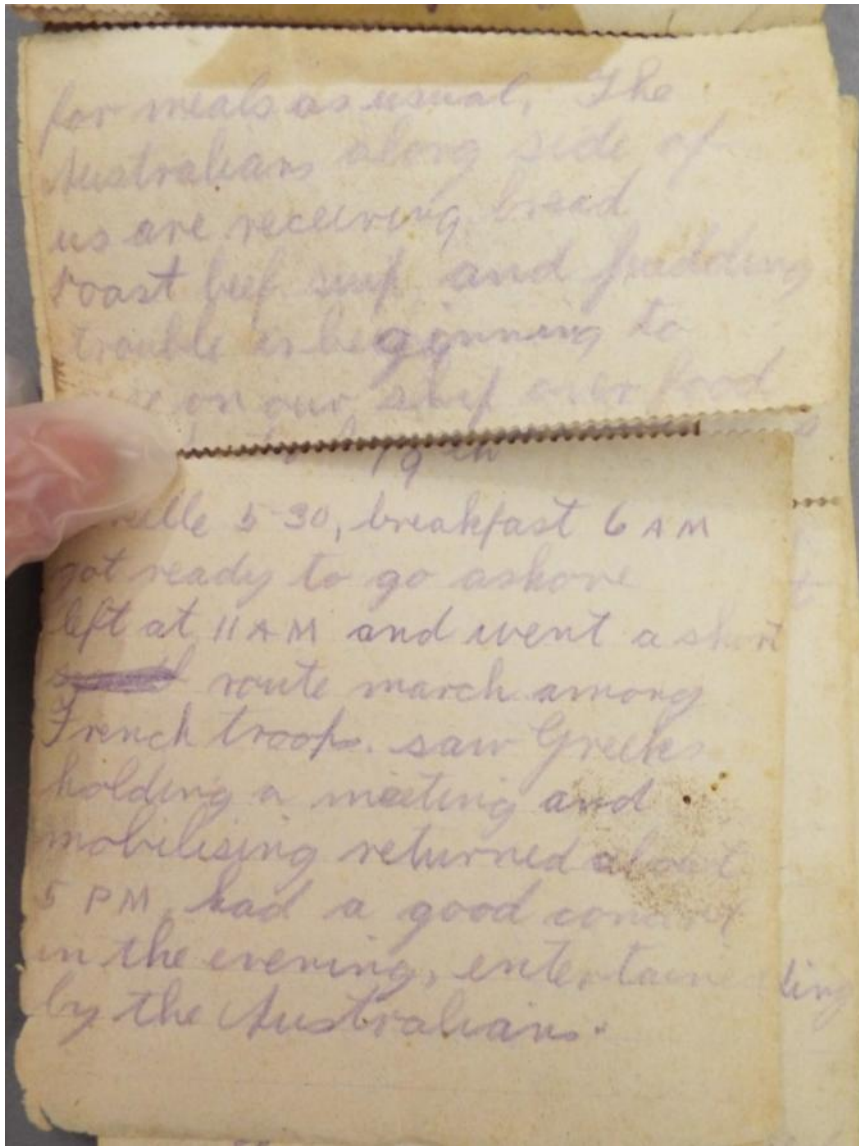
Physical drill 6-15. Marching order 9 AM – 2 PM marching order had a short lecture on bringing ammunition into line of fire. The Seang-ch tied to our boat with Australian troops aboard



Page 10

16 April

Full marching order 7.30 went ashore in ships boats marched through 2 Greek villages, was met by dozens of hawkers selling Turkish delight, walnuts, almonds, cigarettes tobacco oranges sweet lemons chocolate etc. Peculiarities in the village were the Greek women all washing in a small creek in tubs made of solid stone, passed shepherds minding small flocks of sheep and in many places they were tethered in a yard of [hump back]

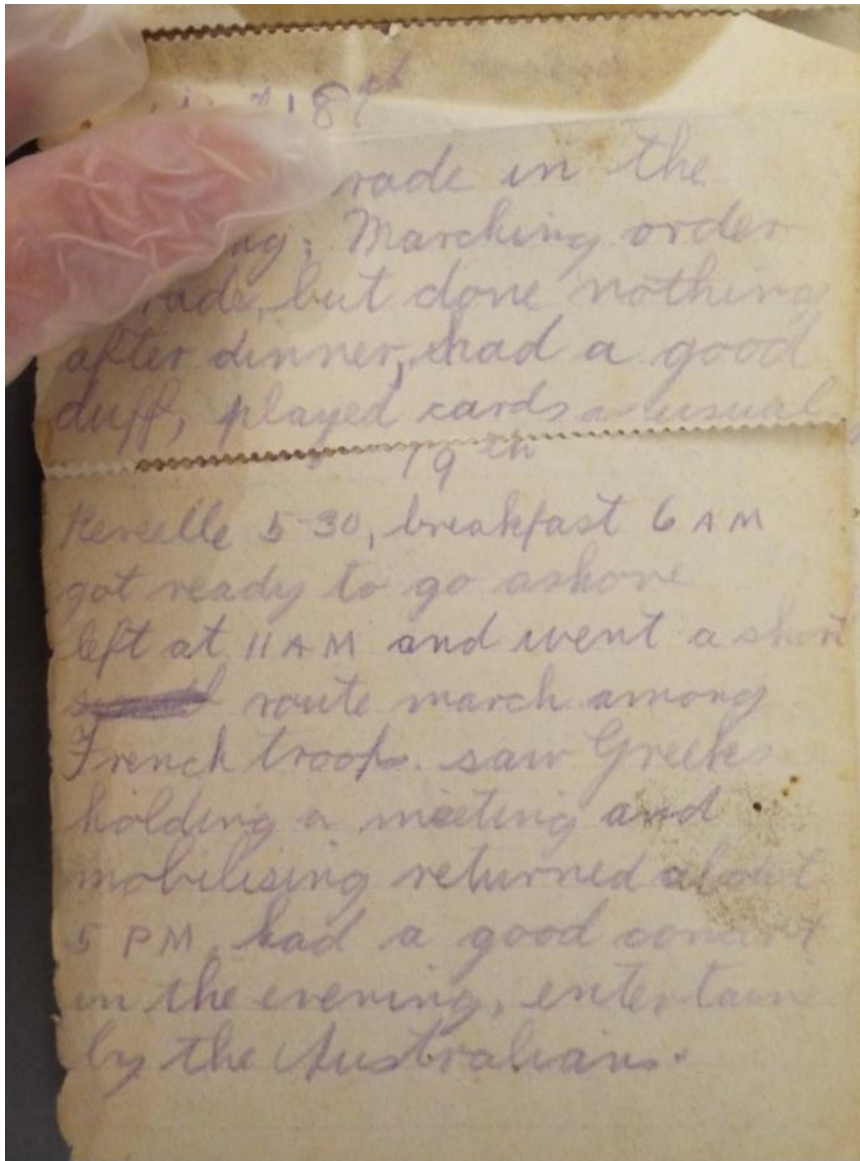


Page 11

for meals as usual, The Australians along side of us are receiving bread, roast beef, soup and pudding trouble is beginning to rise on our ship over food

Note

The bottom half of this page of the diary is missing, what appears is the bottom half of the next page



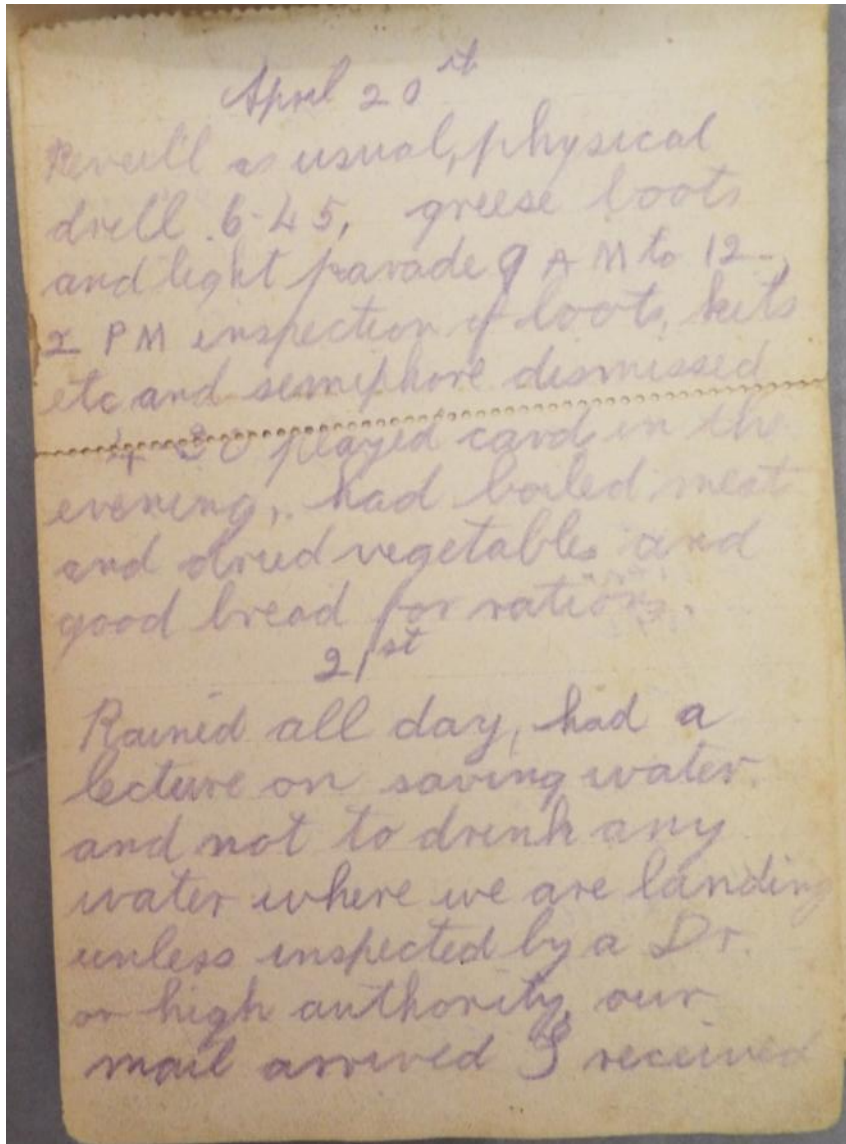
Page 12

April 18th

Church parade in the morning; Marching order parade, but done nothing after dinner, had a good duff, played cards as usual

19th

Reveille 5-30, breakfast 6 AM. got ready to go ashore left at 11 AM and went a short route [— [word crossed out]] march among French troops saw Greeks holding a meeting and mobilising returned about 5 PM. Had a good concert in the evening, entertained by the Australians.



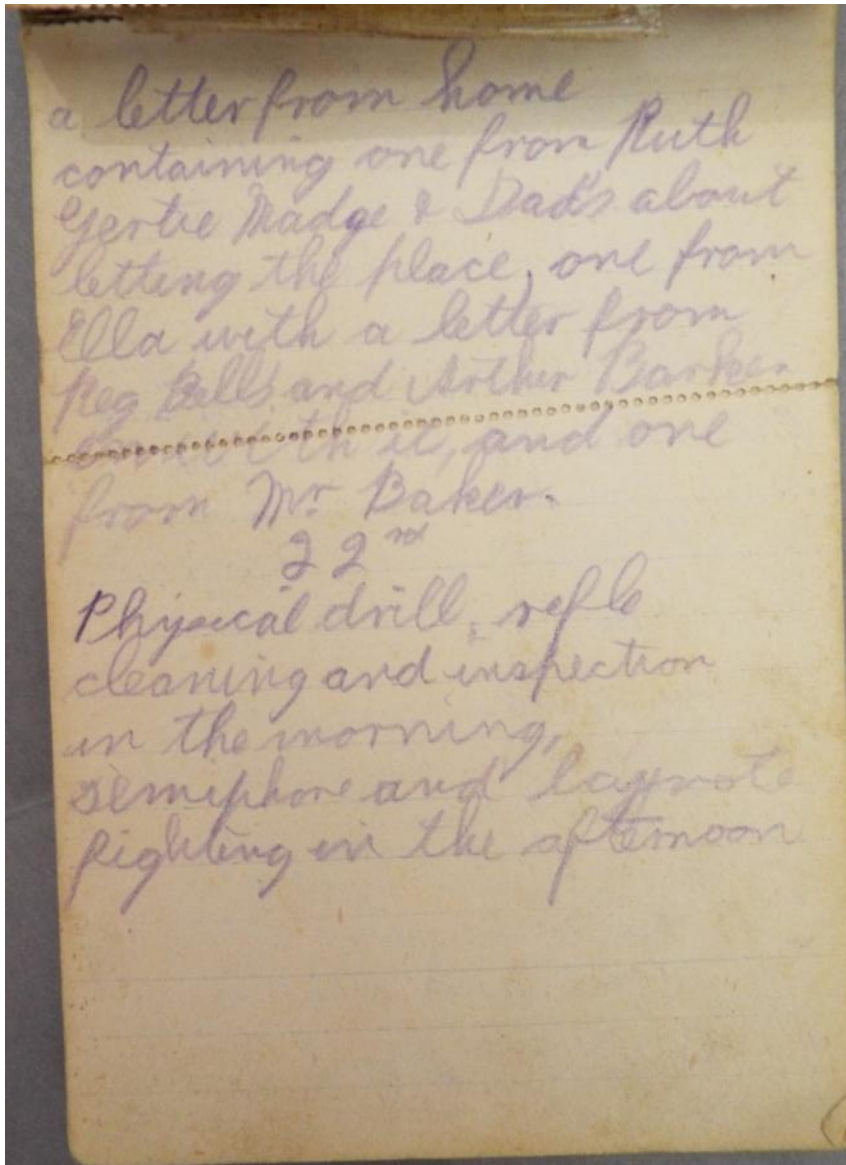
Page 13

April 20th

Reveille as usual, physical drill 6.45, greese (*sic*) boots and light parade 9 AM to 12. 2 PM inspection of boots, kits etc and semiphore (*sic*) dismissed 4.30 played cards in the evening, had boiled meat and dried vegetables and good bread for rations.

21st

Rained all day, had a lecture on saving water and not to drink any water where we are landing unless inspected by a Dr. or high authority our mail arrived I received

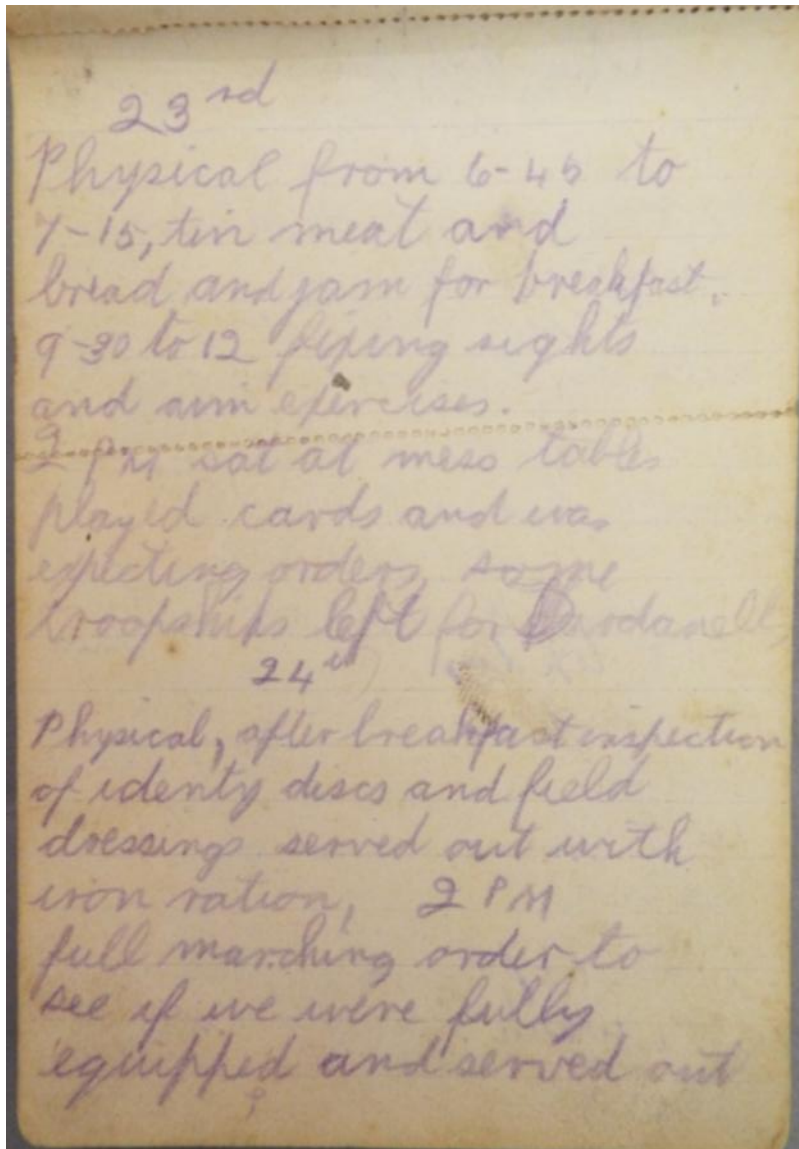


Page 14

a letter from home containing one from Ruth Gertie Madge & Dad's about letting the place, one from Ella with a letter from Reg Belles and Arther Barker in with it, and one from Mr Baker.

22nd

Physical drill, rifle cleaning and inspection in the morning, semiphone (*sic*) and bayonet fighting in the afternoon.



Page 15

23rd

Physical from 6-45 to 7-15, tin meal and bread and jam for breakfast, 9-30 to 12 fixing sights and aim exercises.

2 PM sat at mess tables played cards and was expecting orders, some troopships left for Dardanelles (*sic*)

24th

Physical, after breakfast inspection of identity discs and field dressings served out with iron ration,

2 PM full marching order to see if we were fully equipped and served out

with ammunition,
 had an apricot and
 rice pudding for dinner
 which was plentiful and
 well cooked, played
 cards in the evening
 and watched a man
 hip tising three chaps
 had them on and
 auction sale and catching
 flees, acting officers etc.
 25th Sunday
 Left Lemnos 7 A M
 had good meals
 arrived at Dardanelles
 about 9 P M ^{we could see} dozens
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Page 16

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 captured 4 gun and
 prisoners in a bayonet charge
 several boat loads of
 both sides have been
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 several shells land near
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 The first and second Comp
 of our Battalion arrived
 before we did and
 lost our (Colonel)
 and Major ~~How~~ ^{Grant}, and
~~Lieu~~ ^{Lieu} ~~wounded~~
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 Heavy bombardment
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Page 18

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26th

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was held in reserve
 in trenches, and was
 shifted in the afternoon
 as reserves to Australian
 we entrenched for
 the night on a ridge
 which was occupied
 by the Australians.
 we slept in our overcoats
 the night was fairly
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Page 20

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April 27th Tuesday
 Stood to arms at 4 A M
 waiting for daylight
 but nothing in our front,
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 top of the hill. The
 Enemy found our landing
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 continually all day.
 The bombardment was terrific
 from our war ships and
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Page 21

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Page 22

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suspicious men, another order was passed along that the French and English were advancing on our right and we were to cease fire on that point it was afterwards found not correct, the order was suspected to of come from a spy, we had plenty of rations and water, and was well looked after. the weather was good, but it appears as if rain was coming but cleared off.

Page 23

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April 28th
 Bombardment continued
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 night and eight times
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 trawlers or mine sweeper
 and was sunk near our
 landing place, the
 enemy guns were silenced
 and there shrapnel was
 doing very little harm,
 we located one of the
 enemy guns about 3 miles
 away it was fired at
 but escaped and was hauled
 away by sixteen mules.
 We are still holding
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Page 25

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We are still holding the same position and firing is not so bad as the day before, more reinforcement arrived & we are only waiting for French and Tommy to come up.

April 29th Thursday
 Had a rough night rained
 from 10 PM to midnight and
 a cold wind blowing, one
 baynote charge was made
 by the enemy, it was one
 rattle of rifles from our side
 and they were soon refused
 with heavy looses and not
~~many~~ ^{many} was hurt on our side.
 very few casualties were
 carried from our lines ^{the day} during
 we were taken from the
 firing line and was put
 on making roads to
 take battery up, we were
 put under a small spur
 and had ^{to have} a good night rest

Page 26

April 29th Thursday

Had a rough night rained from 10 PM to midnight and a cold wind blowing, one baynote (sic) charge was made by the enemy, it was one rattle of rifles from our side and they were soon refused with heavy looses (sic) and not [many] > many < was hurt on our side, very few casualties were carried from our lines during > the day < we were taken from the firing line and was put on making roads to take battery up, we were put under a small spur and had > to have < a good night rest

a spy or snipe shooter
 was found entrenched
 on a cliff with food and
 ammunition, he was
 firing at intervals at us
 but we never noticed any
 casualties from him, he
 was fired on by a mob
 and was riddled by 16 bullets

April 30 Friday
 Had a good breakfast, bacon
 was served out which we
 fried in of mess tin lids
 and boiled a cup of tea
 we then went to the beach
 for a swim and returned
 at 10 AM then went on
 road making until 2 PM

Page 27

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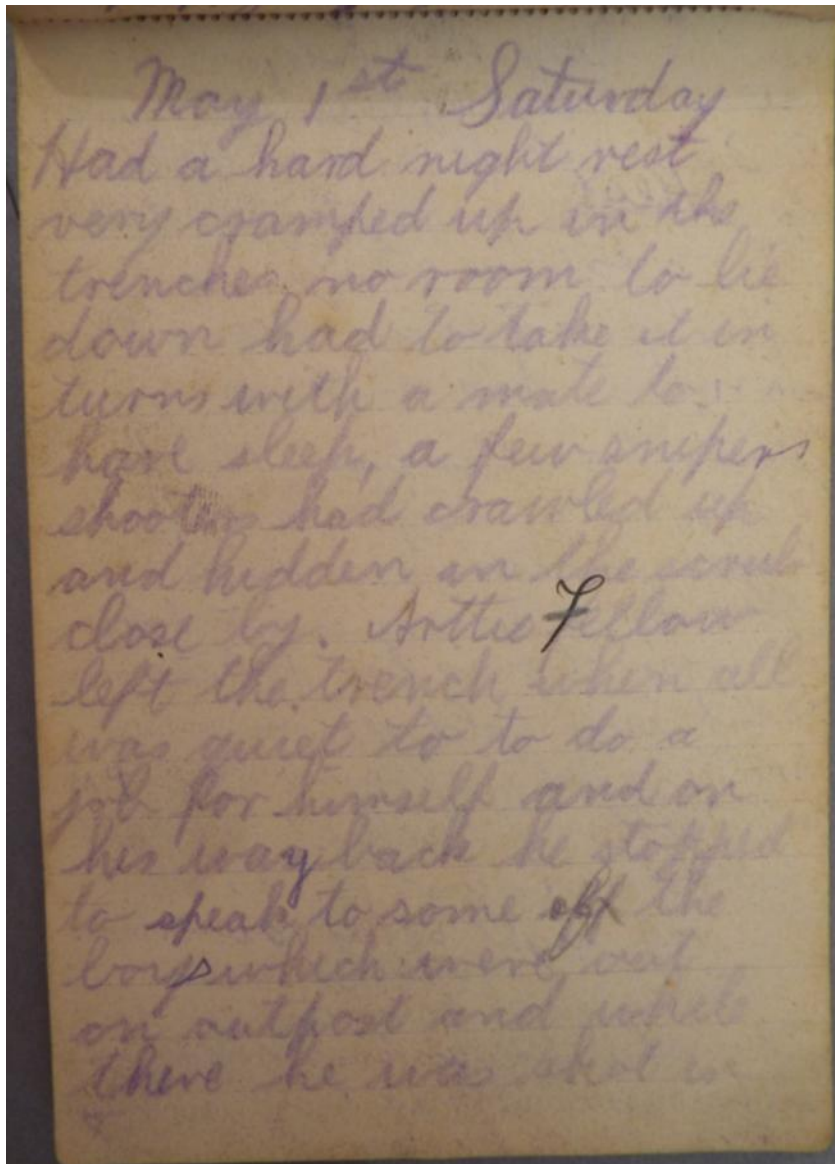
April 30 Friday

Had a good breakfast bacon was served out which we fried in of mess tin lids and boiled a cup of tea, we then went to the beach for a swim and returned at 10 AM then went on road making until 2 PM

and orders came that
 we were to take up a
 position on a hill away
 from the main body we
 went to the beach and
 waited until dark and
 while there the enemy
 shelled us, but their range
 was too far over our heads,
 we left at 8 P.M. and
 marched through scrub
 among the enemys snipers
 and scaled a steep cliff
 and dug trenches
 all night one 13 Bg
 Sgt Hilston was shot in
 the head and was not
 expected to live

Page 28

and orders came that we were to take up a position on a hill away from the main body we went to the beach and waited until dark and while there the enemy shelled us, but their range was too far over our heads, we left at 8 PM and marched through scrub among the enemys snipers and scaled a steep cliff and to dug trenches all night one 13 Bg Sgt Hilston was shot in the head and was not expected to live



Page 29

May 1st Saturday

Had a hard night rest very cramped up in the trenches no room to lie down had to take it in turns with a mate to have sleep, a few snipers shooters had crawled up and hidden in the scrub close by. Artie Fellow left the trench when all was quiet to to do a job for himself and on his way back he stopped to speak to some of the boys which were out on outpost and while there he was shot in

the back of the head and
 died in a few minutes,
 this happened in the
 morning it made us
 all very careful, and
 if we showed our heads,
 we were soon shot at
 as night came we made
 our trenches a little more
 comfortable, it was good
 weather and we could
 just manage to keep
 warm, our water was
 getting short and we
 had to go without until
 it got dark and a
 kerosene bucket was
 brought up filled with our
 day supply

Page 30

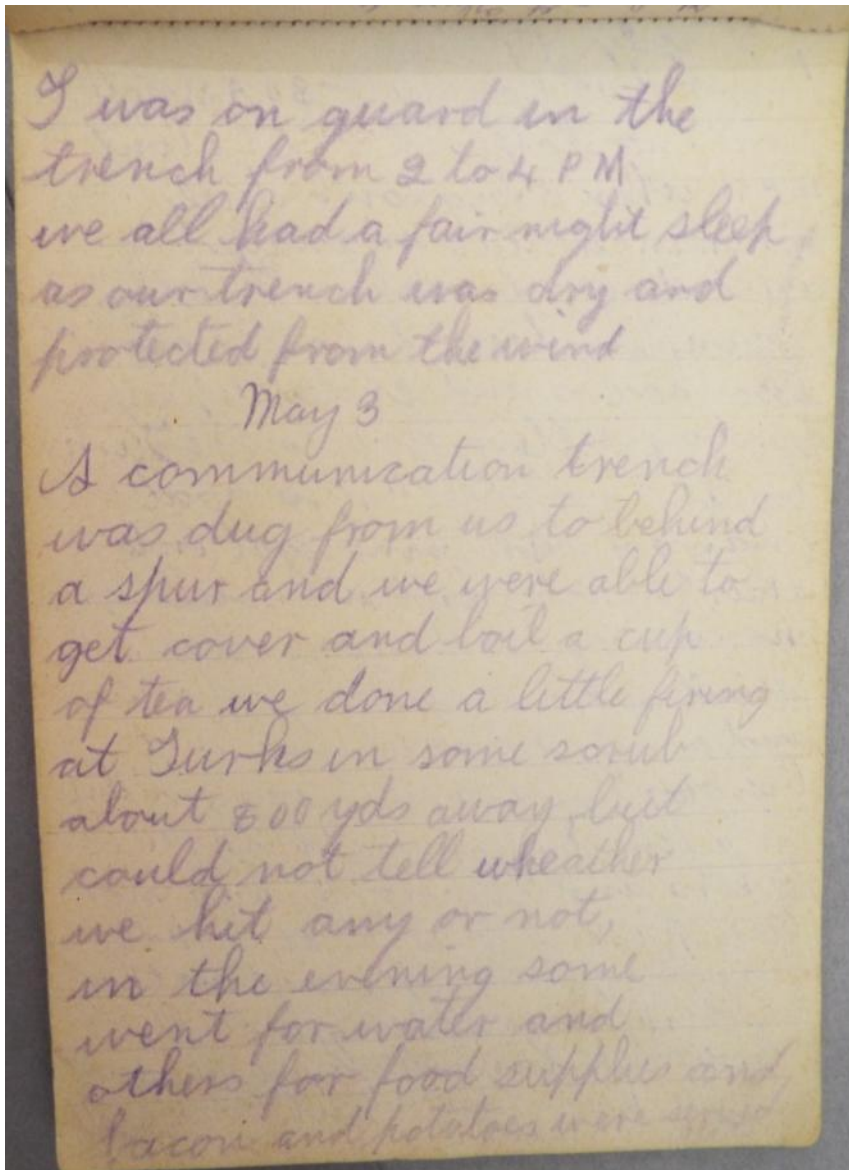
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 all very careful, and if we showed our heads, we were soon shot at as night came we
 made our trenches a little more comfortable, it was good weather and we could just
 manage to keep warm, our water was getting short and we had to go without until it got
 dark and a kerosene bucket was brought up filled with our day supply

May 2nd
 Still in trenches the night
 was quiet and only a
 few rifles were at use and
 a ships gun occasionally
 was fired until 5 P.M. when
 the aeroplane sighted some
 trenches and boom of gun
 commenced, we hurried
 Artie Fellowes and some
 went down for water to
 a spring, about 8 P.M.
 our boys made a charge
 on a ridge opposite us
 and yelling and row
 from rifles were terrific
 for about 2 hours, and
 they gained 600 yds

Page 31

May 2nd

Still in trenches the night was quiet and only a few rifles were at use and a ships gun occasionally was fired until 5 P.M. when the aeroplane sighted some trenches and boom of gun commenced, (sic) we hurried Artie Fellowes and some went down for water to a spring about 8 P.M. our boys made a charge on a ridge opposite us and † yelling and row from rifles were terrific for about 2 hours, and they gained 600 yds



Page 32

I was on guard in the trench from 2 to 4 P.M. we all had a fair night sleep as our trench was dry and protected from the wind

May 3

A communication trench was dug from us to behind a spur and we were able to get cover and boil a cup of tea we done a little firing at Turks in some scrub about 800 yds away but could not tell wheather (sic) we hit any or not, in the evening some went for water and others for food supplies and bacon and potatoes were served

May 4th Tuesday
 Was called to stand to at
 2 A M ~~but~~ as one of the sentries
 had two shot fired at him
 but missed and he ordered us
 to stand to in case of Turks
 advancing but we settled
 down again and went to sleep,
 we fired a few more shot
 during the day at Turks
 the same range as the day
 before. A big battle was
 fought in the main
 firing line and about 1000
 casualties were reported
 and the Turks were surmised
 to be bigger, as heaps of
 Turks were advanced
 over dead the Otago suffered

Page 33

May 4th Tuesday

Was called to stand to at 2 AM but as one of the sentries had two shot (*sic*) fired at him but missed and he ordered us to stand to in case of Turks advancing but we settled down again and went to sleep, we fired a few more shot during the day at Turks the same range as the day before. A big battle was fought in the main firing line and about 1000 casualties were reported and the Turks were surmised to be bigger, as heaps of Turks were advanced over dead the Otago suffered

most on our side,
 we received by flag signal
 that we were to be
 relieved by the 13 Reg and
 we left about 9 PM and
 went to the beach and
 bivouaced. May 5th
 Slept in a small trench
 from ~~s~~shrapnel until 6.30
 went and carried water
 and made a stew of tin
 meat potatoes biscuits
 flavoured with a little
 cheese, went for a swim
 and washed clothes in
 the sea, it was fairly
 quiet in the firing line,
 until dark then terrific

Page 34

most on our side,

we received by flag signal that we were to be relieved by the 13 Reg and we left about 9 PM and went to the beach and bivouaced (*sic*).

May 5th

Slept on a small trench from shrapnel (*sic*) until 6.30 went and carried water and made a stew of tin meat potatoes biscuits flavoured with a little cheese, went for a swim and washed clothes in the sea, it was fairly quiet in the firing line, until dark then terrific

rifle fire began, we
 received word that we
 were to shift to the
 mouth of the Dardanelles
 and we left in a punt
 towed by a steam launch
 and embarked on a
 torpedo destroyer about
 midnight we left about
 3 A.M. and landed on
 the shore and slept until
 daylight it was a cold
 night and a wind blowing
 and one of the boys fell
 overboard and it was
 very cold for him for the
 rest of the night

Page 35

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(sic)

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a cold night and a wind blowing and one of the boys fell overboard and it was very cold for
him for the rest of the night

May 6 Thursday
 Marched from bivouac
 on the beach about one
 and half miles and dug
 some small trenches to lie
 in from schrapnel we
 then boiled some water
 and made ~~from~~ some
 stew, our batteries were
 close to us firing all the
 time and rifles were
 busy on the firing line
 about another mile further
 on, we had a fine day
 and as wood water
 and rations were plentiful
 we spent the day like
 a picnic

Page 36

May 6 Thursday

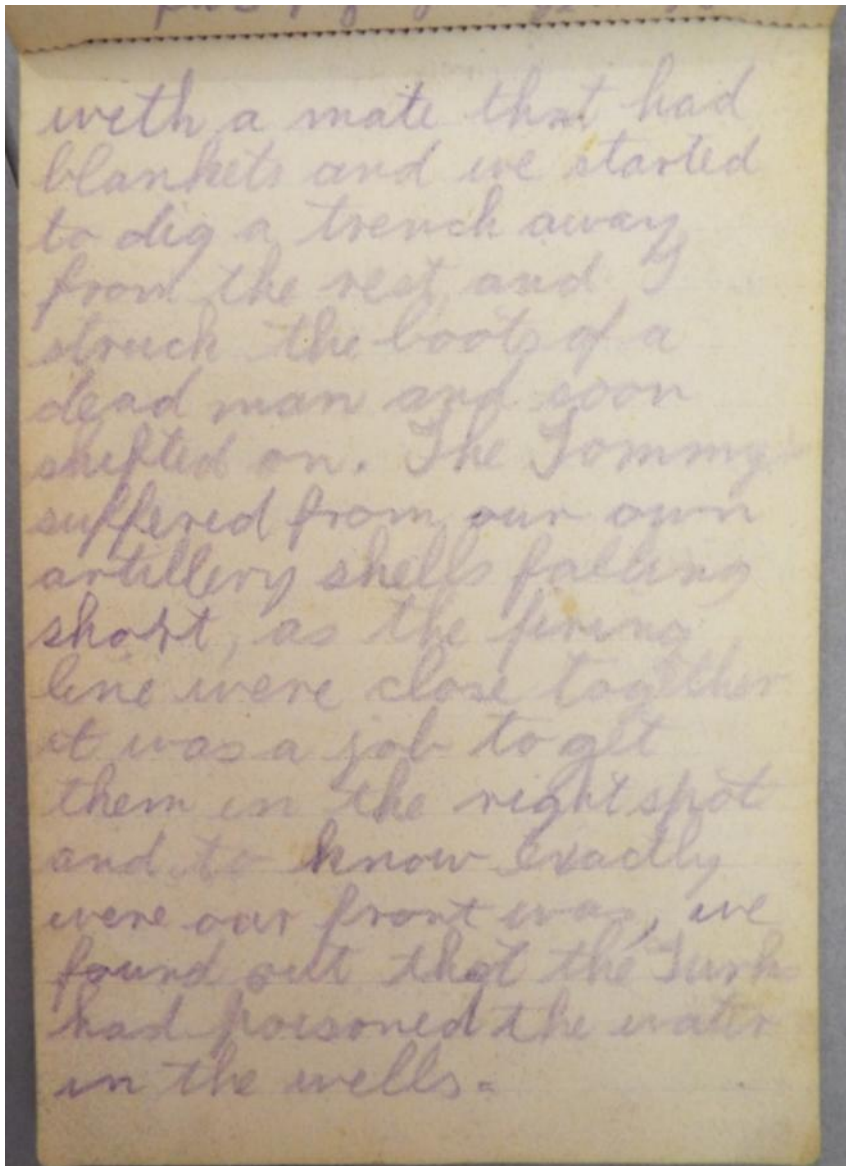
Marched from bivouac on the beach about one and half miles and dug some small trenches to lie in from schrapnel (*sic*) we then boiled some water and made ~~from~~ some stew, our batteries were close to us firing all the time and rifles were busy on the firing line about another mile further on, we had a fine day and as wood water and rations were plentiful we spent the day like a picnic

May 7
 Heavy artillery fire was
 carried on all day, we
 remained in trenches
 waiting for orders, had
 plenty of food, occupied
 our time in frying bacon
 and making stews etc.
 Cleaned rifles and we
 left to take up a position
 on left flank, while
 marching over we were
 fired at by artillery and
 Dr Peerless was hit in
 the thigh and two Otago
 chaps wounded, we remain
 in some old trenches
 for the night, I slept

Page 37

May 7

Heavy artillery fire was carried on all day, we remained in the trenches waiting for orders, had plenty of food, occupied our time in frying bacon and making stews etc. Cleaned rifles and we left to take up a position on left flank, while marching over we were fired at by artillery and Dr Peerless was hit in the thigh and two Otago chaps wounded, we remain in some old trenches for the night, I slept



Page 38

with a mate that had blankets and we started to dig a trench away from the rest and I struck the boots of a dead man and soon shifted on. The Tommy suffered from our own artillery shells falling short, as the firing line were close together it was a job to get them in the right spot and to know exactly where our front was, we found out that the Turks had poisoned the water in the wells.

May 8th
 Left for first line of trenches
 then got orders to push on
 at all costs our Company
 leading, we reinforced
 the Tommy's as thick as
 possible, then in platoons
 in open order we rushed
 through, the fire was awful
 and then our casualties
 list went up. I left with
 five men in my sight
 and I was the only one
 to get into line, I dug
 a small place with my
 trenching tool to put my
 head in and lay for a
 few minutes until the pour

Page 39

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of bullets was over, I got
 a place, so as I could lay
 in and looked around and
 within a dozen yds I could
 see seven men three killed
 and four wounded I could
 not get to them to give
 them help, it was a awful
 sight, watching one poor
 begger lying with his
 head blown open dying
 he laid about three hours
 then I could see he had
 stopped breathing, I could
 see further down the line
 more wounded men groaning
 and struggling and asking
 for help, but no one could
 get near them

Page 40

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 for help but no one could get near them

we made another advance
at dark and took some of
their old trenches and
twice during the night they
made attacks but we kept
them back with rifle fire.
our artillery had bombarded
our front and we could
see Turks buisy with their
casualties.

May 9

Had very little sleep, Turks
firing rapidly at intervals
during the night as if
they were going to charge,
but we fired at random
and kept them back.
the day was fairly quiet

Page 41

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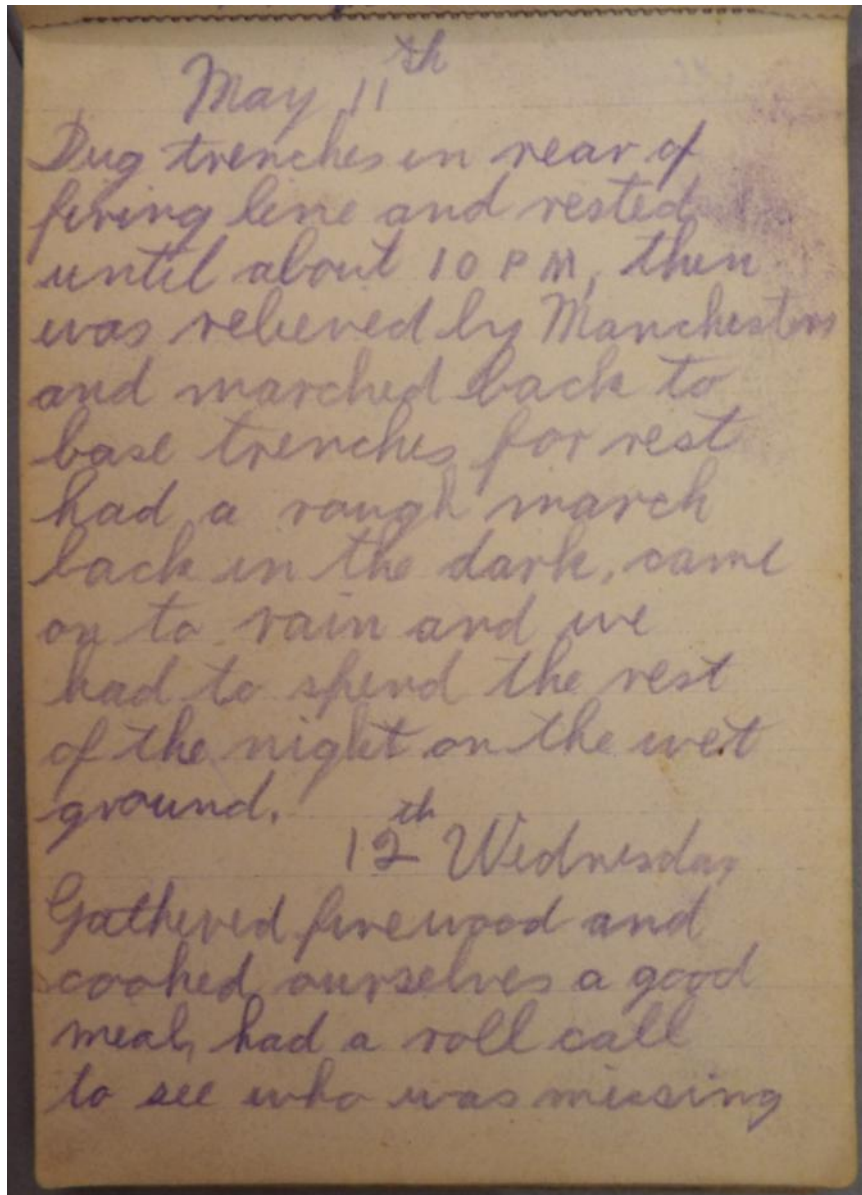
only a little sniping done
 and very few casualties on
 our side, a little bombardment
 was carried on at intervals.
 May 10 Monday
 On sentry duty from 12 to
 2 A M rapid fire was carried
 under the lights of the ships
 searchlights and ~~and~~ rockets
 fired in the air, the
 day was fairly quiet and
 we remained in the same
 trenches waiting for flanks
 to come up, the artillery
 gun were only firing
 at intervals, the enemy
 was firing shrapnel at
 our airships but could not
 get near them.

Page 42

only a little sniping (*sic*) done and very few casualties on our side, a little bombardment was carried on at intervals

May 10 Monday

On sentry duty from 12 to 2 AM, rapid fire was carried under the lights of the ships searchlights and ~~and~~ rockets fired in the air, the day was fairly quiet and we remained in the same trenches waiting for flanks to come up, the artillery gun were only firing at intervals, the enemy was firing shrapnel (*sic*) at our airships but could not get near them.



Page 43

May 11th

Dug trenches in rear of firing line and rested until about 10 PM, then was relieved by Manchester and marched back to base trenches for rest had a rough march back in the dark, came on to rain and we had to spend the rest of the night on the wet ground.

12th Wednesday

Gathered firewood and cooked ourselves a good meal, had a roll call to see who was missing

and found in our Platoon
 was S. Tombs wounded and
 died, Pvt D. P. Boyde killed
 Bugler A. B. Hoy wounded,
 P. Sadd wounded, N Tunncliffe
 slightly wounded, P. Westrupp
 and Sgt Evans was missing
 supposed to be killed.
 J Brooks was shot as
 we were leaving the
 firing line and died in
 a few minutes the Company
 losses was not available
 the Lieu of 10 platoon
 was greatly missed,
 (Lieu Louthithe) and Sgt
 Corbet who were killed.
 (Later) our casualties were $\frac{1}{4}$ of our Coy
 about 59

Page 44

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(Later) our casualties were $\frac{1}{4}$ of our Coy about 59

May 13 Thursday
 Had a good night rest,
 plenty to eat and drink.
 We all paraded and
 went to the beach for a
 swim, returned and cleaned
 rifles and laid about,
 in the evening took a
 walk towards firing line
 and gathered some spare
 rifles and equipment
 turned to bed about 9 and
 the night was warm and
 slept like a top. 14th
 Had a good night rest got
 up when we thought
 fit, cooked breakfast,
 bacon and dried potatoes

Page 45

May 13 Thursday

Had a good night rest, plenty to eat and drink. We all paraded and went to the beach for a swim, returned and cleaned rifles and laid about, in the evening took a walk towards firing line and gathered some spare rifles and equipment turned to bed about 9 and the night was warm and slept like a top. 14th

Had a good night rest got up when we thought fit, cooked breakfast, bacon and dried potatoes

cleaned lines of tins and
 rubbish etc, and 2 P M
 went for a swim returned
 back and fell in full
 marching order to see
 if there was any shortage
 of equipment and inspected
 rifles and baynotes, most
 men had lost their own
 rifles and picked up the
 Tommy's & Australians that
 were lying about in heaps.
 15th Saturday
 Reveille at 4 AM and left
 for the beach on a fatigue
 party, some were unloading
 supplies stores, I was posted
 with 12 mates pumping

Page 46

cleaned lines of tins and rubbish etc, and 2 PM went for a swim returned back and fell in full marching order to see if there was any shortage of equipment and inspected rifles and baynotes, (sic) most men had lost their own rifles and had picked up the Tommy's & Australians that were lying about in heaps.

15th Saturday

Reveille at 4 AM and left for the beach on a fatigue party, some were unloading supplies stores, I was posted with 12 mates pumping

water from a barge into
 canvas tanks for use in
 hospital and headquarters etc.
 returned about 2 PM and
 cooked our usual meals
 and went to bed about
 8 PM 16th Sunday
 Reveille 6 AM fried bacon
 for breakfast left for beach
 for fatigue at 8 was put
 on making roads to
 bring supplies up until
 2 PM returned did a little
 more cooking made a
 stew of dried vegetables and
 a few potatoes which had
 fell out of a sack at the shore
 at 6 PM we had a short
 church service ^{conducted by} S. Thompson

Page 47

water from a barge into canvas tanks for use in hospital and headquarters etc. returned
 about 2 PM and cooked our usual meals and went to bed about 8 PM 16th Sunday
 Reveille 6 AM fried bacon for breakfast left for beach for fatigue at 8 was put on making
 roads to bring supplies (sic) up until 2 PM returned did a little more cooking made a stew
 of dried vegetables and a few potatoes which had fell out of a sack at the shore at 6 PM
 we had a short church service conducted by S. Thompson

just after tea Jack Laird
 (Sgt) was hit in the leg
 by a spent bullet, none
 of thinking of bullets at
 the time, scharpnell had
 been bursting near us
 all day and the enemy
 were firing at our airflor
 but their shots were very
 wide, very little alteration
 was made in the firing
 line just holding position
 waiting to get supplies up
 and more reinforcements
 before pushing on, we are
 expecting orders to push
 on and a big battle, but
 no definite orders to our
 Company

Page 48

just after tea Jack Laird (Sgt) was hit in the leg by a spent bullet, none of thinking of (*sic*)
 bullets at the time, scharpnell had been bursting near us all day and the enemy were firing
 at our aeroplanes but their shots were very wide, very little alteration was made in the
 firing line just holding position waiting to get supplies up and more reinforcements
 before pushing on, we are expecting orders push on and a big battle, but no definite orders to
 our Company

May 17 Monday
 got up when we thought
 fit about 7^{AM} rifle cleaning
 and bayonet inspection 9 AM.
 Left for beach on fatigue
 at 11 AM stacking brand and
 maize. The enemy was
 shelling the shore all the
 time, fired about a dozen
 high explosives shells one
 smashing four men to
 pieces and wounded 8,
 another blew a mule and
 water cart to pieces and
 landed in a heap of supplies
 another landed in the
 exact spot where we had
 just left a minute before,
 we returned about 6 PM

Page 49

May 17 Monday

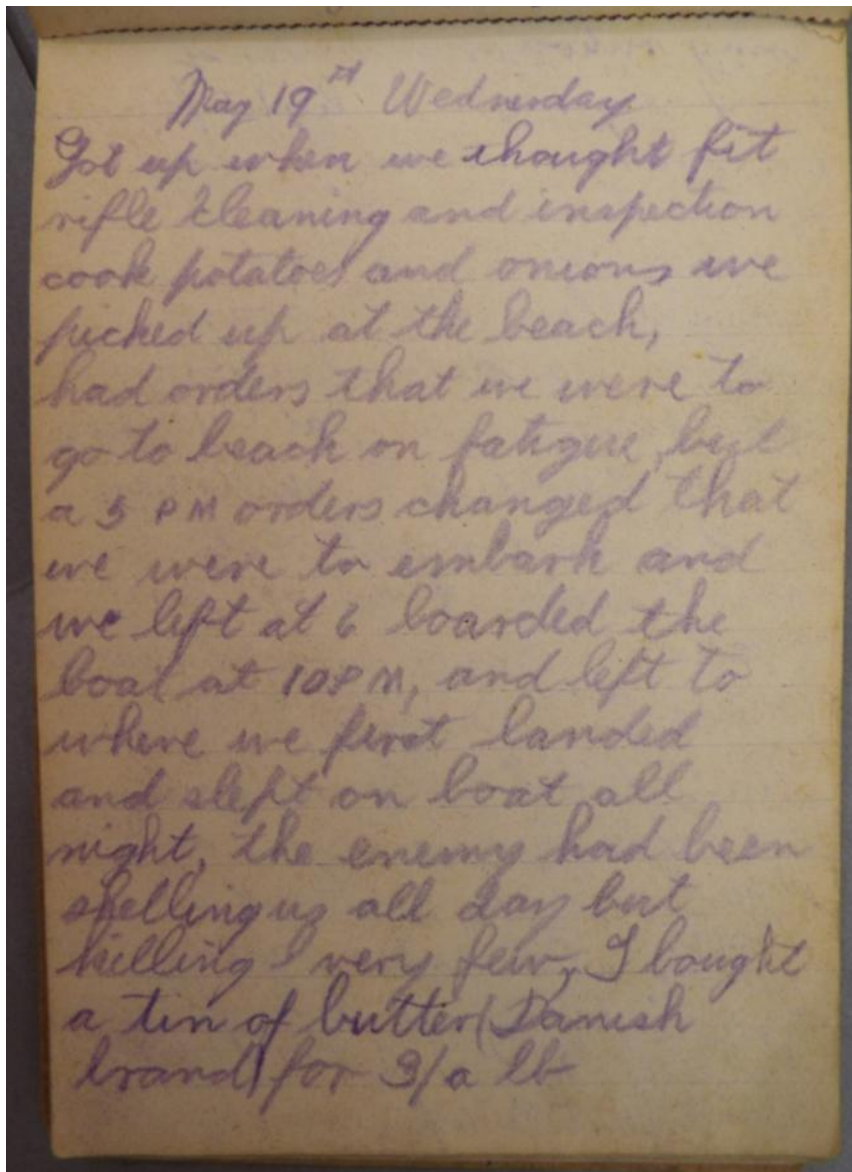
Got up when we thought fit about 7 AM, rifle cleaning and bayonet inspection 9 AM.
 Left for beach on fatigue at 11 AM stacking brand and maize. The enemy was shelling the
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 heap of supplies another landed in the exact spot where we had just left a minute before,
 we returned about 6 PM

May 18th Tuesday
 Reveille 6 AM, went to beach
 road making at 8 AM to 2 PM,
 returned and was called
 out again at 6 to relieve
 another party, returned about
 10 PM after march 8 miles
 for the day, the enemy
 had shelled the beach at
 interval, causing several
 casualties among the Otago
 Reg killing 2, and wounding
 4, besides destroying about
 12 horses and mules, our
 guns were very busy
 all night, and at times
 the firing line was pretty
 busy, but very few getting
 hurt,

Page 50

May 18th Tuesday

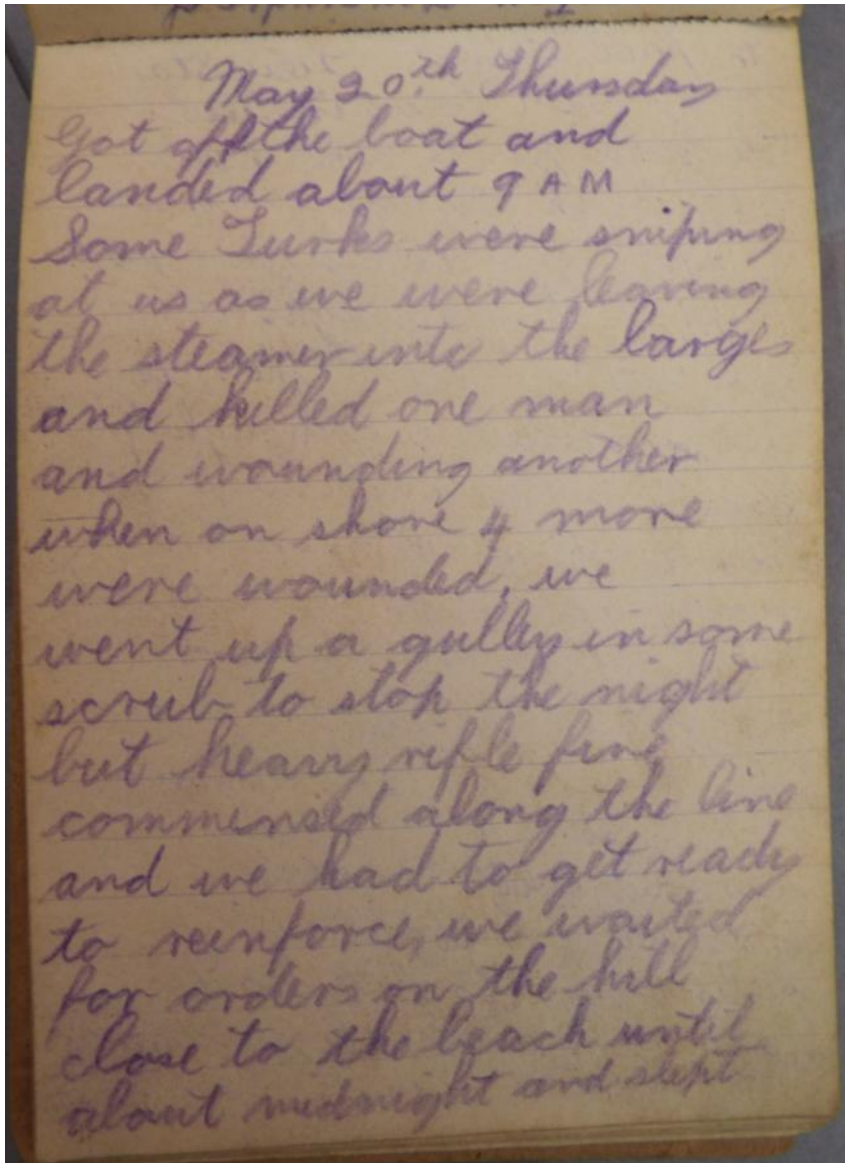
Reveille 6 AM, went to beach road making at 8 AM to 2 PM, returned and was called out again at 6 to relieve another party, returned about 10 PM after march 8 miles for the day, the enemy had shelled the beach at interval, causing severe casualties among the Otago Reg killing 2, and wounding 4, besides destroying about 12 horses and mules, our guns were very busy all night, and at times the firing line was pretty busy, but very few getting hurt,



Page 51

May 19th Wednesday

Got up when we thought fit rifle cleaning and inspection cook potatoes and onions we picked up at the beach, had orders that we were to go to beach on fatigue, but a 5 PM orders changed that we were to embark and we left at 6 boarded the boat at 10 PM, and left to where we first landed and slept on the boat all night, the enemy had been shelling us all day but killing very few, I bought a tin of butter (Danish brand) for 3/ a lb

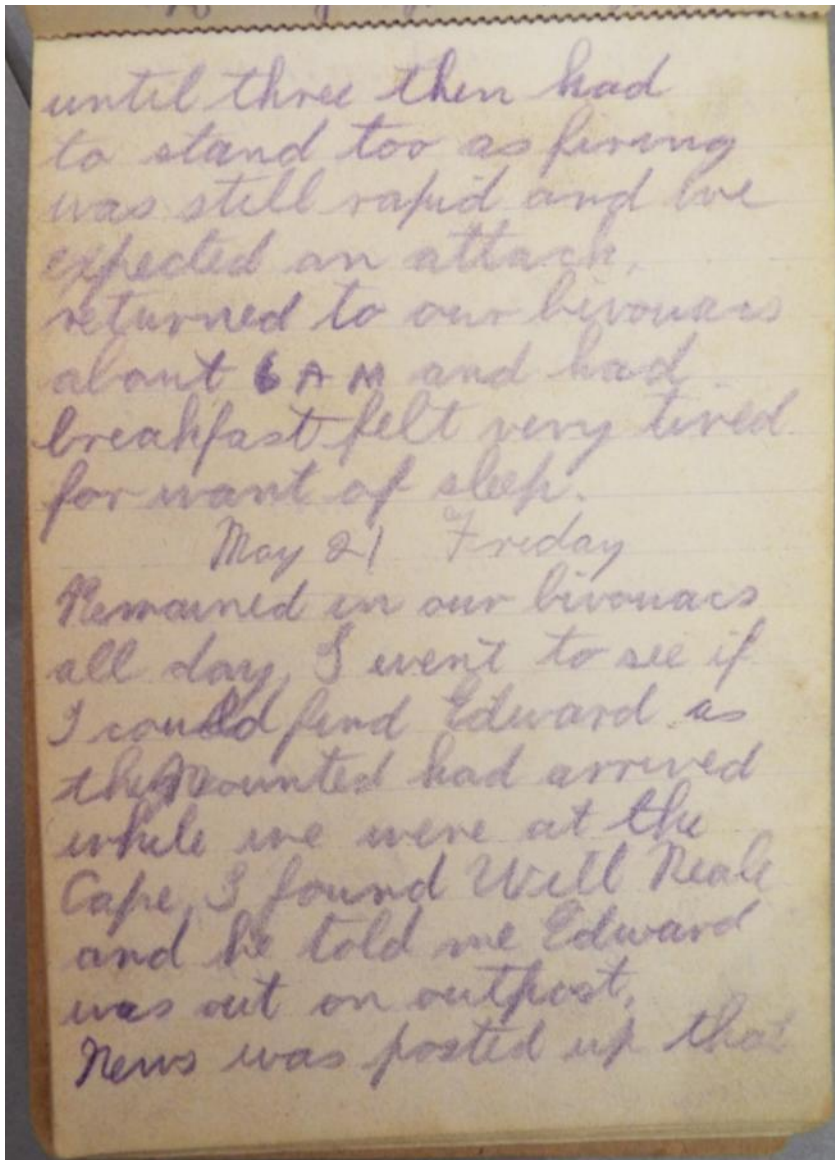


Page 52

May 20th Thursday

Got off the boat and landed about 9 AM

Some Turks were sniping at us as we were leaving the steamer into the barges and killed one man and wounding another when on shore 4 more were wounded, we went up a gully (*sic*) in some scrub to stop the night but heavy rifle fire commenced (*sic*) along the line and we had to get ready to reinforce, we waited for orders on the hill close to the beach until about midnight and slept



Page 53

until three then had to stand too as firing was still rapid and we expected an attack
 returned to our bivouac about 6 AM and had breakfast felt very tired for want of sleep.

May 21 Friday

Remained in our bivouacs all day, I went to see if I could find Edward as the Mounted had
 arrived while we were at the Cape, I found Will Neale and he told me Edward was out on
 outpost.

News was posted up that

in the battle on 29th
 in this front when the
 Turks had made up their
 minds to drive us into
 the sea, had over 8 acres
 covered with dead and
 we estimated their loss
 at 7,000 against about
 a dozen of our men,
 a German officer had
 got into our lines and
 connected a telephone
 on our wire and started
 to speak to our head
 quarters, he started on
 a conversation and told
 them that they were
 going to drive these

Page 54

in the battle on 29th in the front when the Turks had made up there (*sic*) minds to drive us
 into the sea, had over 8 acres covered with dead and we estimated their loss at 7,000
 against about a dozen of our men, a German officer had got into our lines and had
 connected a telephone on our wire and started to speak to our head quarters, he started
 on a conversation and told them that they were going to drive these

Australian devils into
 the sea, he said "you
 are speaking to a German
 Officer" and then left.
 The Turks were flying
 a white flag on our
 right flank and a man
 came in to our lines
 they blindfolded and
 taken to the General,
 who told him if they
 wished to be taken
 prisoners they would be
 well treated, he was
 taken back and let go
 to his own men, he
 said that about 500
 wished to surrender who
 were cut off.

Page 55

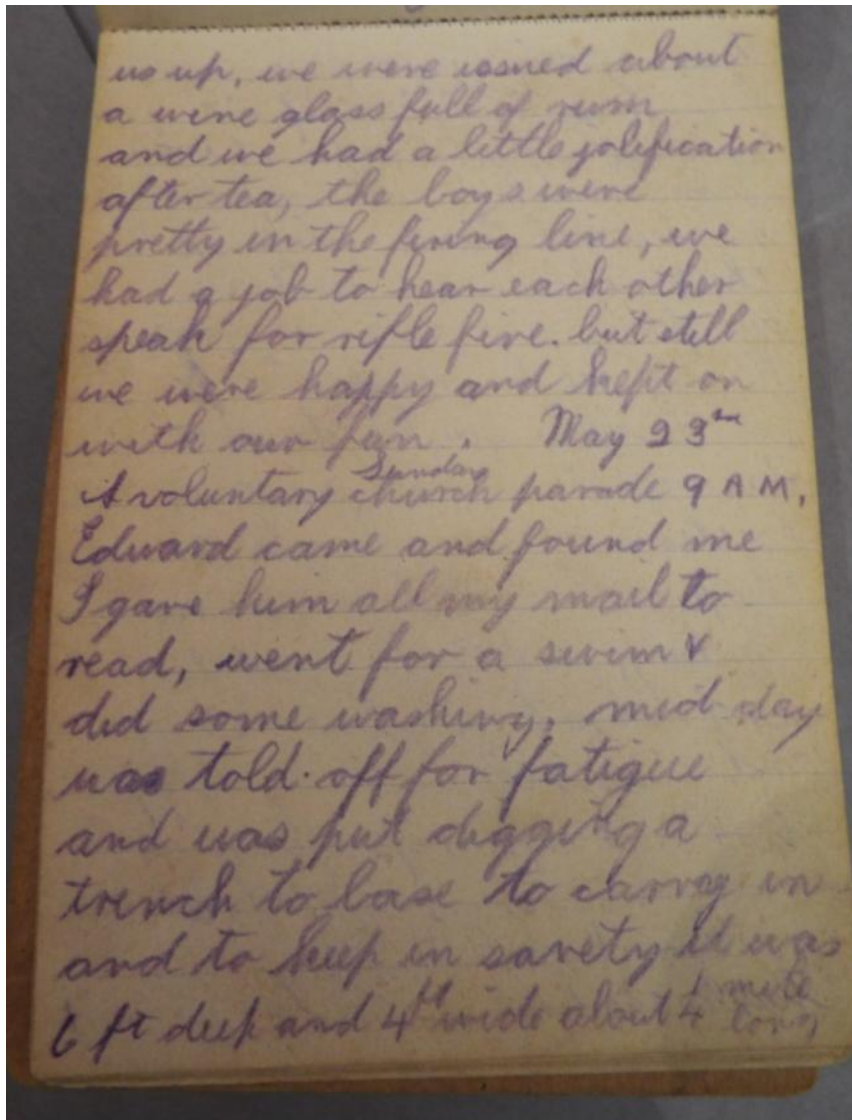
Australian devils into the sea, he said "you are speaking to a German Officer" and then left. The Turks were flying a white flag on our right flank and a man came in to our lines then blindfolded and taken to the General who told him if they wished to be taken prisoners they would be well treated, he was taken back and let go to his own men, he said that about 500 wished to surrender who were cut off.

May 22nd Friday
 Turned out about 5:30 AM
 as it began to rain we
 were in pairs and tied our
 oil sheets together and made
 a little shelter for ourselves
 about 10 AM our mail arrived
 I received one from Edie,
 a long letter from Rene
 (like a newspaper) and one
 from Ruth [writer] from
 Job Palmer Wakefield, and
 one from Eileen Hadcliff C.h.
 ("a girl who ask me to write
 to her when I was far away")
 and one from Elenor, and
 Aunt Eva. The weather
 cleared and our mail cheered

Page 56

May 22nd Friday

Turned out about 5:30 AM as it began to rain we were in pairs and tied our oil sheets together and made a little shelter for ourselves about 10 AM our mail arrived I received one from Edie, a long letter from Rene (like a newspaper) and one from Ruth [writer] from Job Palmer Wakefield, and one from Eileen Hadcliffe C.h. ("a girl who ask me to write to her when I was far away") and one from Elenor and Aunt Eva. The weather cleared and our mail cheered

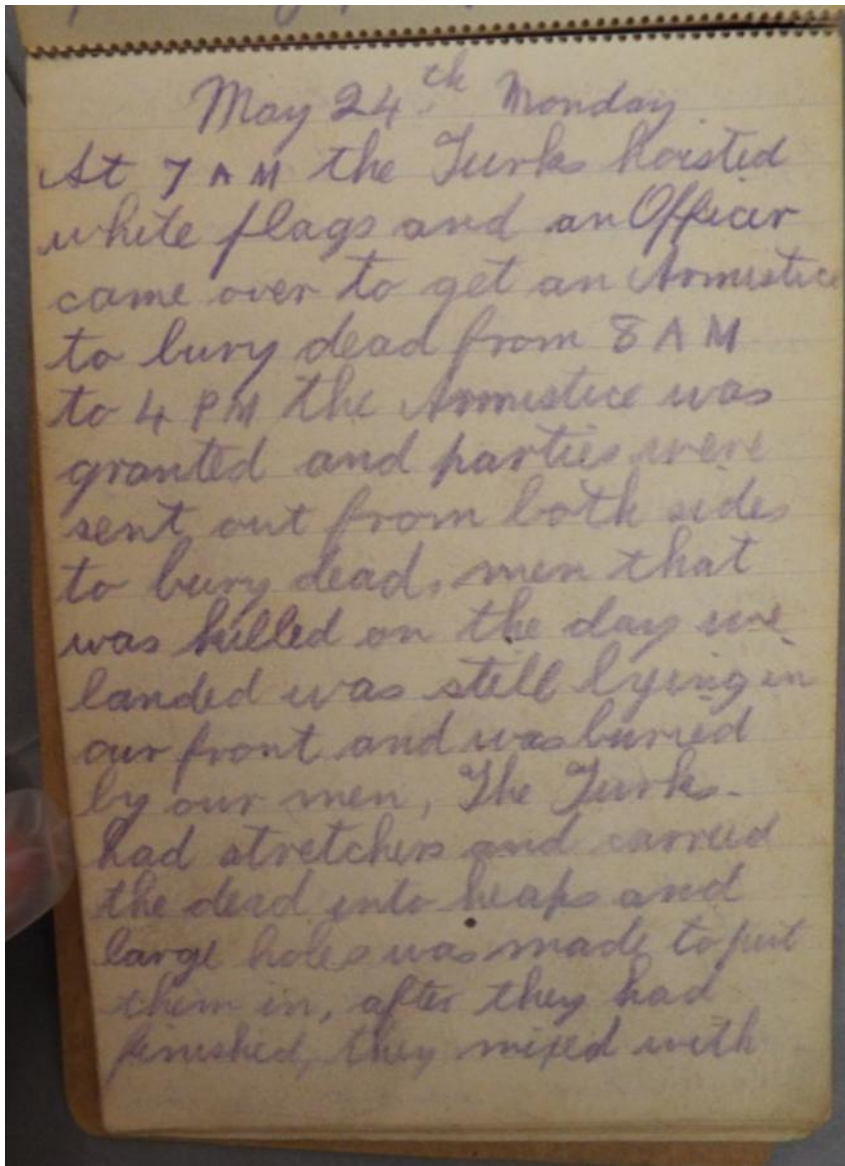


Page 57

us up, we were issued about a wine glass full of rum and we had a little jollification after tea, the boys were pretty in the firing line, we had a job to hear each other speak for the rifle fire, but still we were happy and kept on with our fun.

May 23rd > Sunday <

A voluntary church parade 9 AM. Edward came and found me I gave him all of my mail to read, went for a swim & did some washing, mid day was told off for fatigue and was put digging a trench to base to carry in and to keep in [safety] It was 6 ft deep and 4 ft wide about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long



Page 58

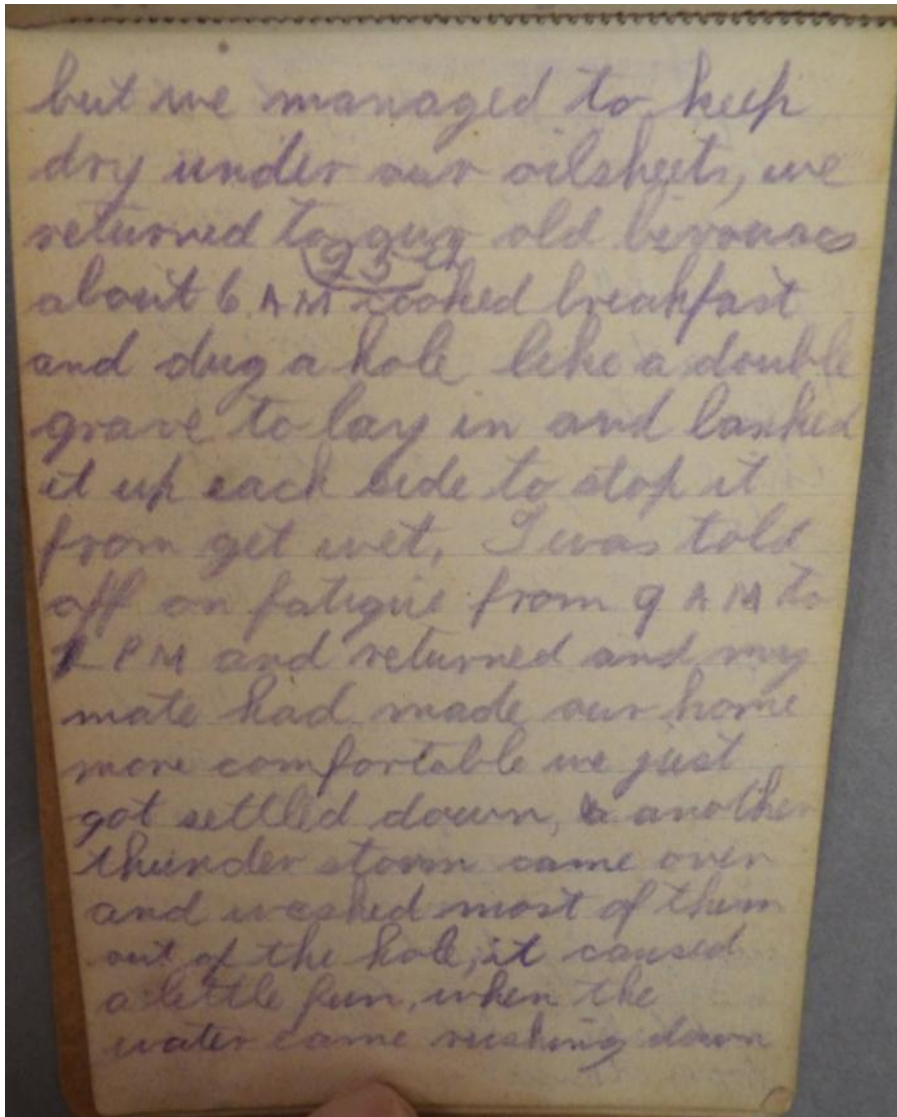
May 24th Monday

At 7 AM the Turks hoisted white flags and an Officer came over to get an Armistice to bury dead from 8 AM to 4 PM the Armistice was granted and parties were sent out from both sides to bury dead, men that was killed on the day we landed was still lying in our front and was buried by our men. The Turks had stretchers and carried the dead into heaps and large holes was made to put them in, after they had finished, they mixed with

our men between the firing lines, but only officers were allowed to converse with them, not a shot was fired and it was quite a change to be in quietness, at 4 P.M. they returned to the trenches and firing soon commenced, at 8 P.M. our Reg was told off to support the firing line and during the night, the rattle of rifles were getting faster but no charges were made and we laid quiet until 3 A.M. then had to stand to arms and be in readiness, it rained a very sharp thunder shower during the night.

Page 59

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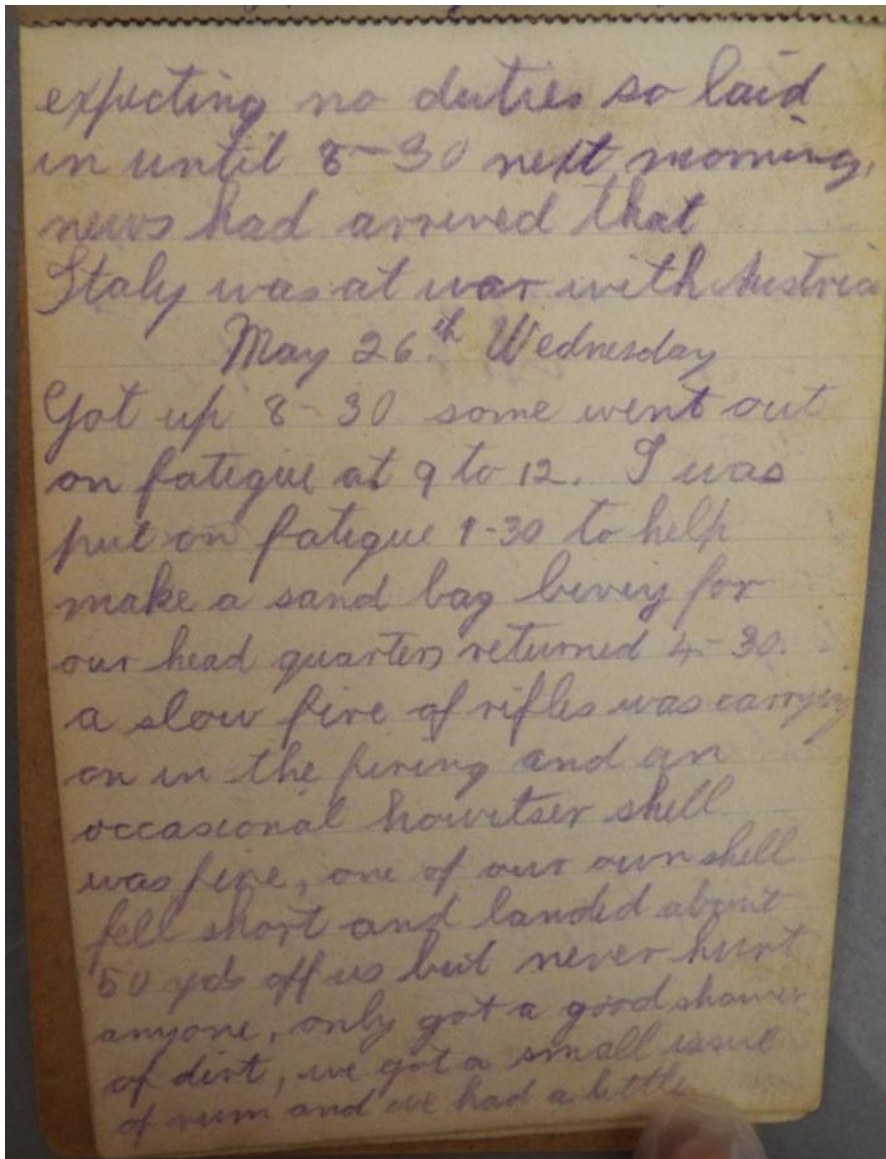
Page 60

but we managed to keep dry under our oilskins, we returned to our old bivouacs about 6. A.M. > (25th < cooked breakfast and dug a hole like a double grave to lay in and banked it up each side to stop it from get wet, I was told off on fatigue from 9 AM to [1] 2 PM and returned and my mate had made our home more comfortable we just got settled down, & another thunder storm came over and washed most of them out of the hole, it caused a little fun when the water came rushing down

While we were on fatigue
 we heard that the torpedo
 destroyers were rushing about
 and a few minutes later the
 Triumph had been struck
 by a submarine torpedo tube
 and was sinking, she sank
 in twenty minutes, having
 fired several shots at the
 tube as it was coming into
 her, but shots missed, the
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 deep and could not be
 traced, no particulars were
 yet gathered of the Triumph's
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 early about 8 P.M. and was

Page 61

While we were on fatigue we heard that the torpedo (*sic*) destroyers were rushing about and a few minutes later the Triumph had been struck by a submarine torpedo tube and was sinking, she sank in twenty minutes, having fired several shots at the tube as it was coming into her, but missed, the submarine was chased and fired at, but had dived deep and could not be traced, no particulars were yet gathered of the Triumph's loss of life, we went to bed early about 8 P.M. and was

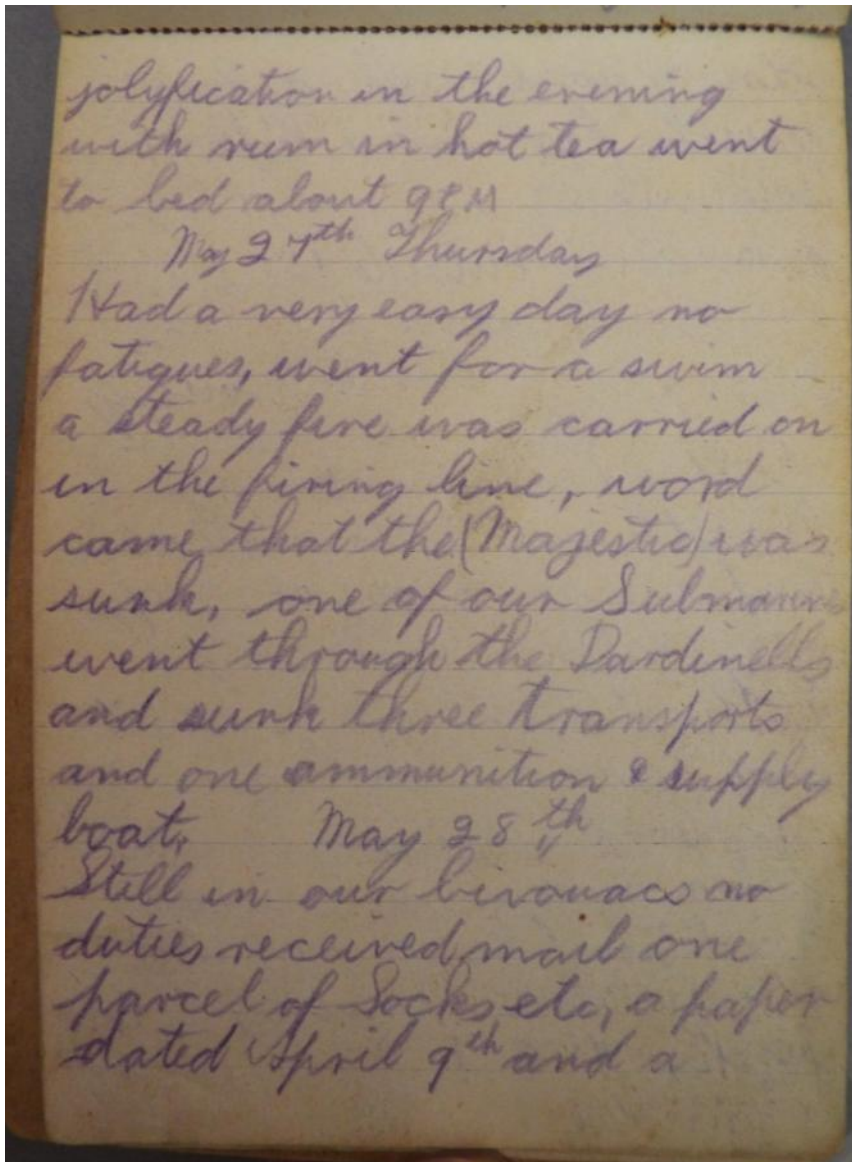


Page 62

expecting no duties so laid in until 8.30 next morning, news had arrived that Italy was at war with Austria

May 26th Wednesday

Got up 8-30. some went out on fatigue at 9 to 12. I was put on fatigue 1-30 to help make a sand bag bivey (*sic*) for our head quarters returned 4-30. a slow fire of rifles was carrying on in the firing and an occasional howitzer (*sic*) shell was fire, one of our own shell fell short and landed about 50 yds off us but never hurt anyone, only got a good shower of dirt, we got a small issue of rum and we had a little



Page 63

jolyfication (*sic*) in the evening with rum in hot tea went to bed about 9 PM

May 27th Thursday

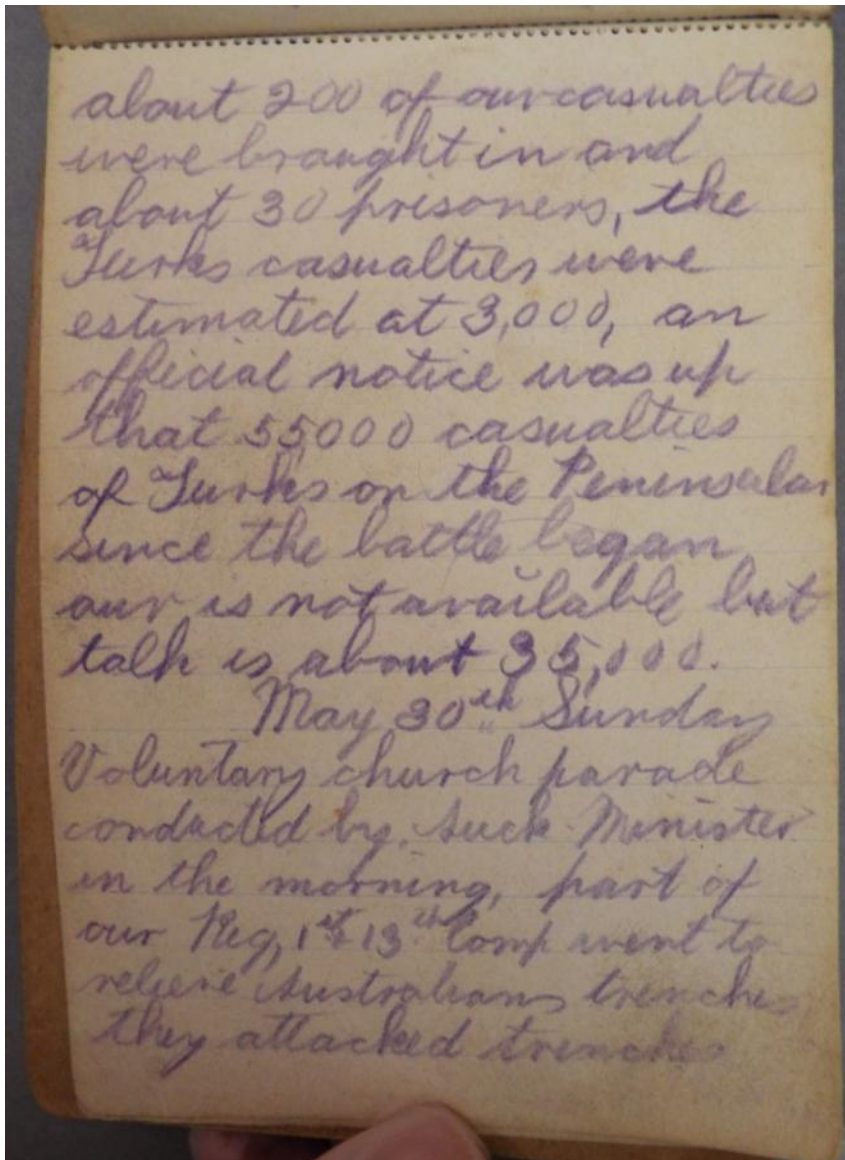
Had a very easy day no fatigues, went for a swim a steady fire was carried on in the firing line, word came that the (Majestic) was sunk, one of our Submarines went through the Dardinells (*sic*) and sunk three transports and one ammunition & supply boat. May 28th

Still in our bivouacs no duties received mail one parcel of Socks etc, a paper dated April 9th and a

letter from Ruth with a half sovereign in, our
 Batallian left in the evening as supports to the
 firing line at 3 a m a big attack commenced
 the Turks had sapped a hole into the Australian
 trenches and blew it up causing a few casualties
 I was told off as a guard to go to beach to look
 after supplies and guard water. May 29th Sat -
 On guard at the beach the Turks shelling very
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 harm

Page 64

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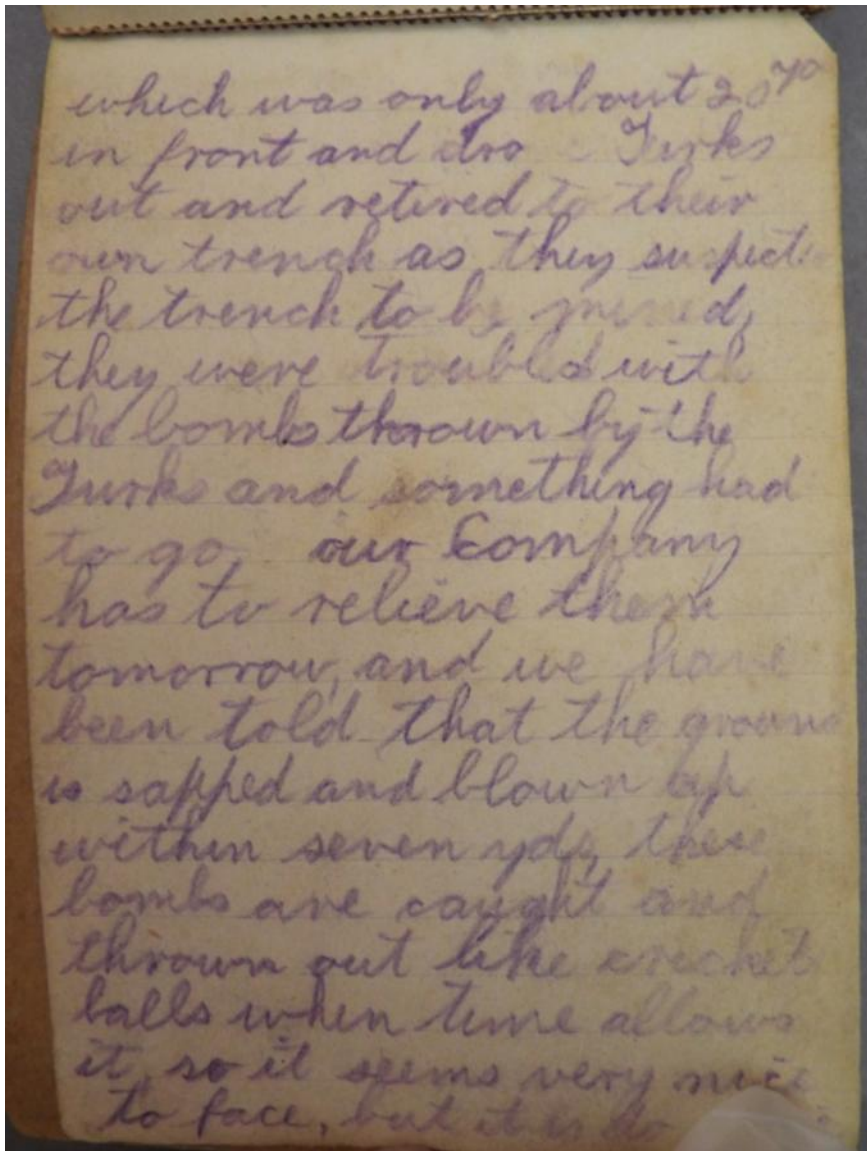


Page 65

about 200 of our casualties were brought in and about 30 prisoners, the Turks casualties were estimated at 3,000, an official notice was up that 55,000 casualties of Turks on the Peninsular since the battle began our is not available but talk is about 35,000.

May 30th Sunday

Voluntary church parade conducted by Auck. Minister in the morning, part of our Reg, 1st & 13th Comp went to relieve Australians trenches they attacked trenches



Page 66

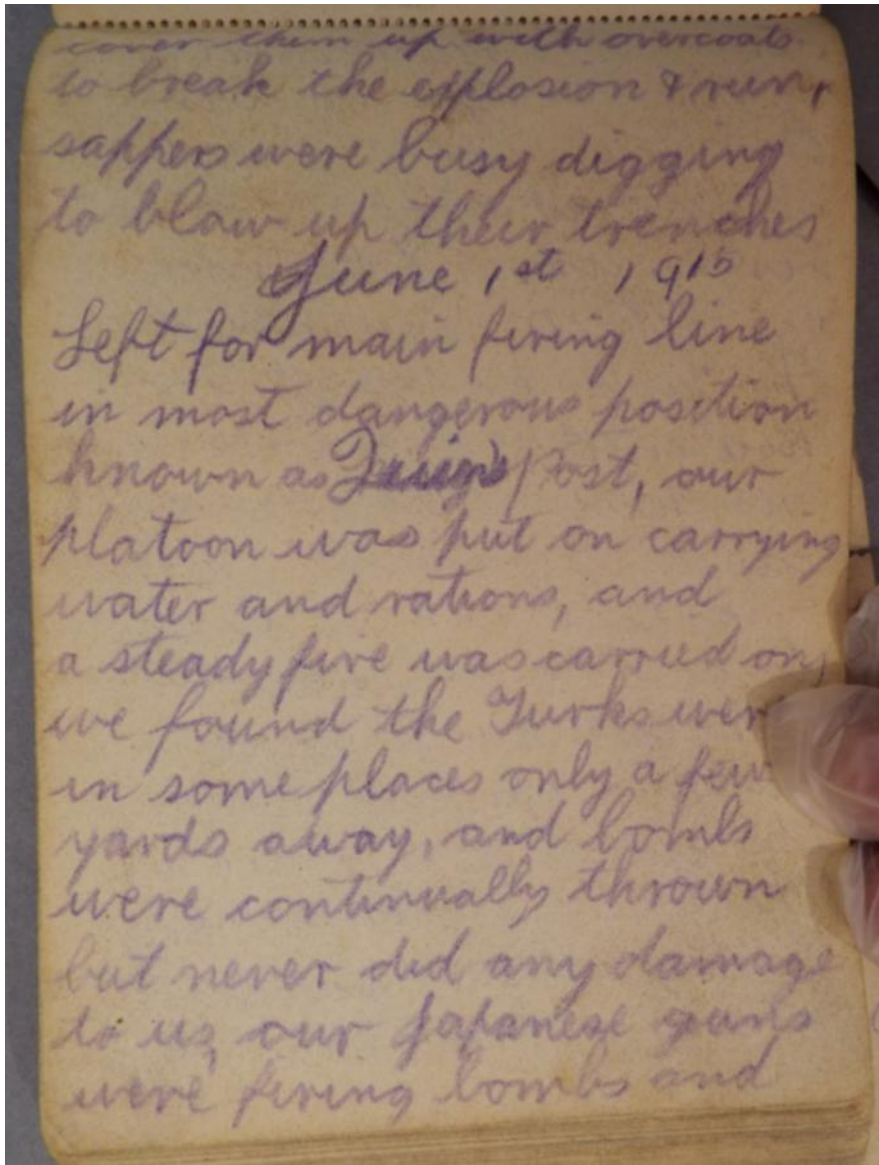
which was only about 20^{yds} in front and drove Turks out and retired to their own trench as they suspected the trench to be mined, they were troubled with the bombs thrown by the Turks and something had to go. our Company has to relieve them tomorrow and we have been told that the ground is sapped and blown up within seven yds, these bombs are caught and thrown out like cricket balls when time allows it so it seems very nice to face, but it is do or die

May 31st Monday
 Slept in readiness, all night
 Australians came in a
 Company at a time and our
 left one after the other,
 Nelson Coy left about midday
 I was told off on a party
 to sort and old mail,
 unclaimed wounded and
 killed, went to join Comp
 about 11 P M behind Indian
 transports, the place was
 dangerous as in places
 there were only seven
 yards and one ^{could} to speak
 to the enemy, but to
 show your head it was
 fatal they would throw
 bombs in and we would

Page 67

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Slept in readiness, all night Australians came in a Company at a time and our left one after the other, Nelson Coy left about midday I was told off on a party to sort and old mail, unclaimed wounded and killed, went to join Comp about 11 PM behind Indian transports, the place was dangerous as in places there were only seven yards and one > could < to speak to the enemy, but to show your head it was fatal they would throw bombs in and we would

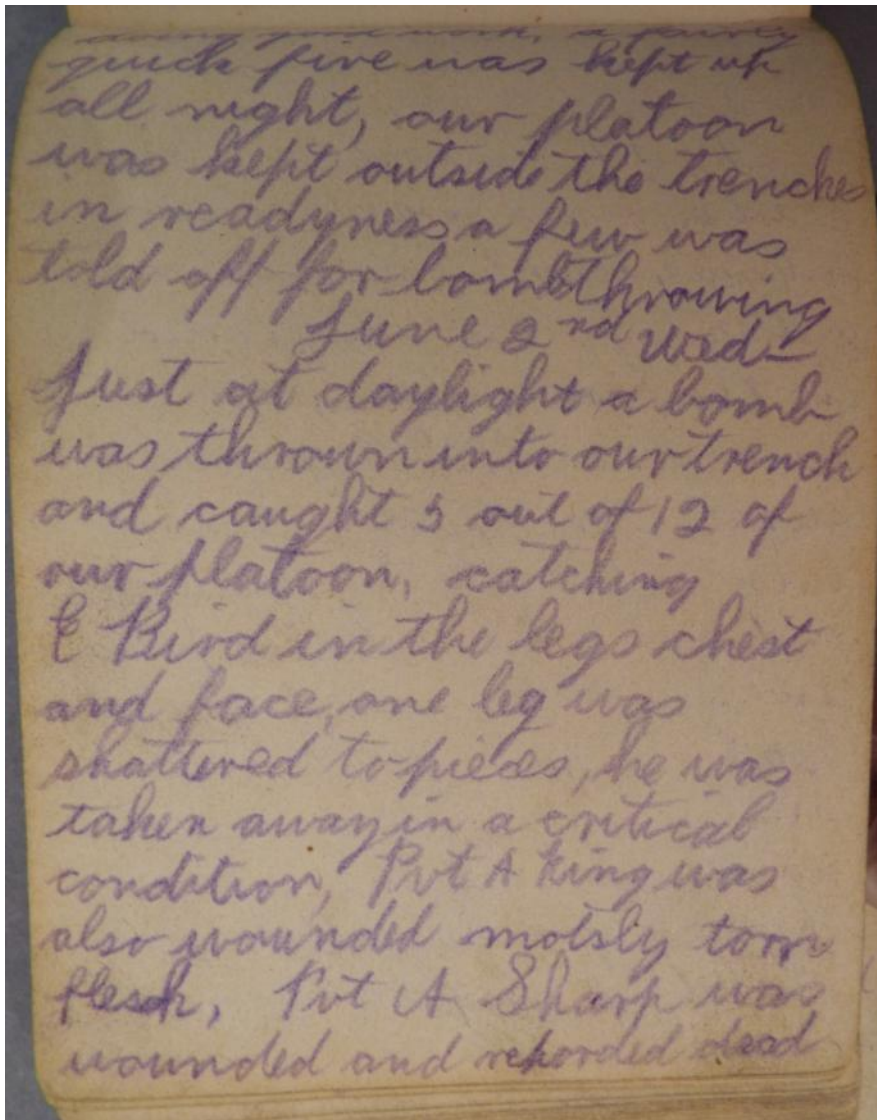


Page 68

cover them up with overcoats to break the explosion & run, sappers were busy digging to blow up their trenches

June 1st 1915

Left for main firing line in most dangerous position known as Quinn's Post, our platoon was put on carrying water and rations, and a steady fire was carried on we found the Turks were in some places only a few yards away, and bombs were continually thrown but never did any damage to us, our Japanese guns were firing bombs and

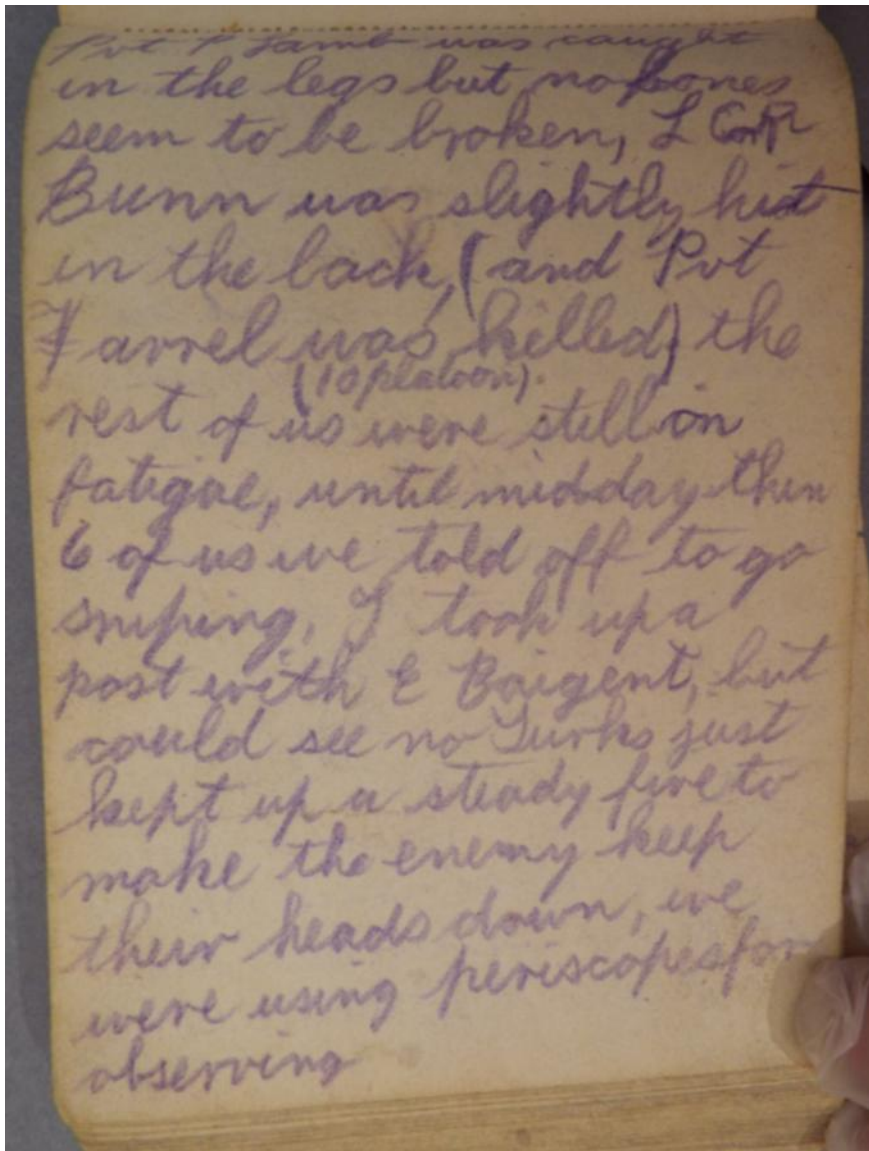


Page 69

doing good work, a fairly quick fire was kept up all night, our platoon was kept outside the trenches in readiness (*sic*) a few was told off for bomb throwing

June 2nd Wed

Just at daylight a bomb was thrown into our trench and caught 5 out of 12 of our platoon, catching E Bird in the legs chest and face, one leg was shattered to pieces, he was taken away in a critical condition, Pvt A King was also wounded mostly torn flesh, Pvt A Sharp was wounded and reported (*sic*) dead



Page 70

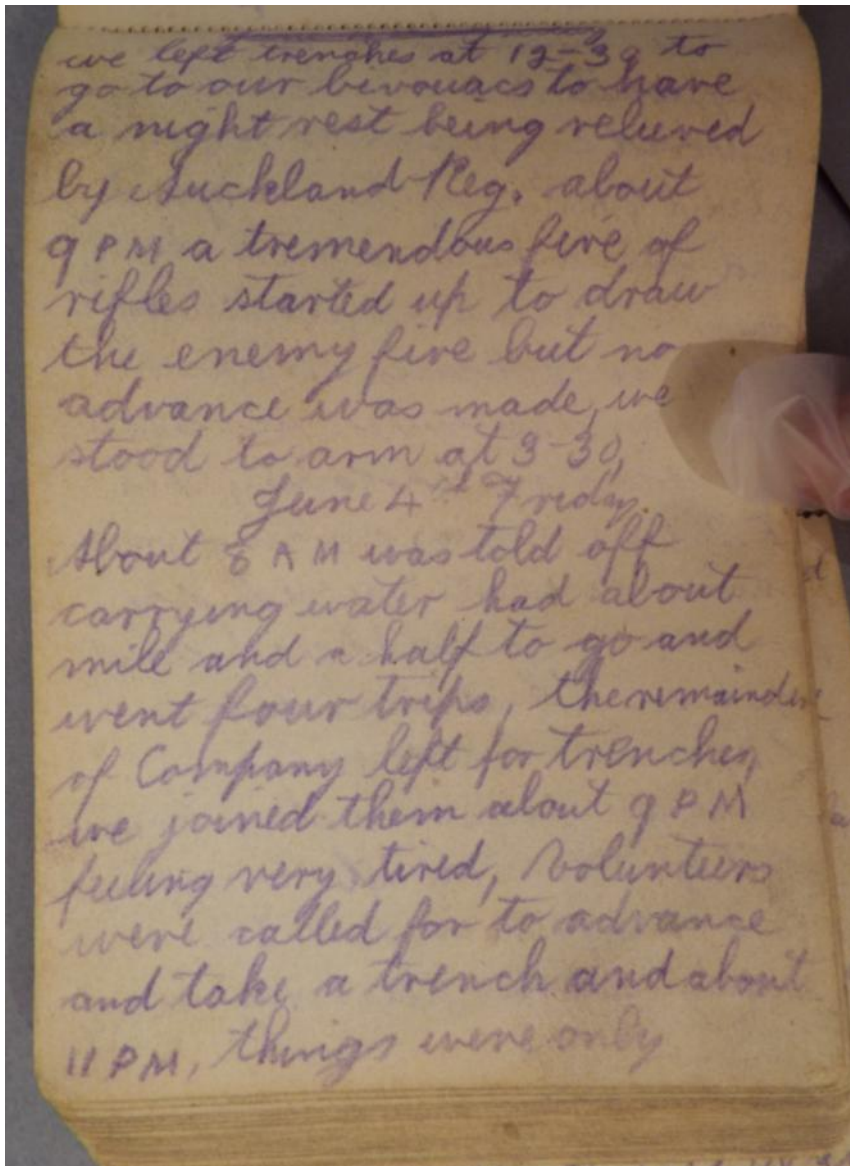
Pvt P Lamb was caught in the legs but no bones seem to be broken, L Corp Bunn was slightly hit in the back, (and Pvt Farrel was killed) the rest of us > (10 platoon) < were still on fatigue, until midday then 6 of us we told off to go sniping. I took up a post with E Baigent, but could see no Turks just kept up a steady fire to make the enemy keep their heads down, we were using periscopes for observing

I still was in sniping hole doing sentry during the night on 2 hours and off four but could not sleep much as the rattle of rifles were pretty severe at times was feeling pretty tired as for three night we had to be in readiness and stand to from 3-3.30 AM every morning we are to be relieved next day at 11 AM, we are resting in a place were dozens are buried and the smell is pretty high, between our trenches are dead Turks ~~unburied~~ unburied, and bombs that were thrown and missed the trenches blew them about and thing got pretty high.

Page 71

June 3rd 1915 Thursday

I still was in sniping hole doing sentry during the night on 2 hours and off four but could not sleep much as the rattle of rifles were pretty severe at times was feeling pretty tired as for three night we had to be in readiness (*sic*) and stand to from 3-3.30 AM every morning, we are to be relieved next day at 11 AM, we are resting in a place were (*sic*) dozens are buried and the smell is pretty high, between our trenches are dead Turks ~~unbear~~ unburied, and bombs that were thrown and missed the trenches blew them about and thing (*sic*) got pretty high.



Page 72

~~June 4th~~ Friday

we left trenches at 12-30 to go to our bivouacs to have a night rest being relieved by Auckland Reg, about 9 PM a tremendous fire of rifles started up to draw the enemy fire but no advance was made, we stood to arm at 3-30,

June 4th Friday

About 8 AM was told off carrying water had about mile and a half to go and went four trips, the remainder of Company left for trenches, we joined them about 9 PM feeling very tired, volunteers were called for to advance and take a trench and about 11 PM, things were only