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Transcription of 1915 DLI Trench Diary Cpt. William Regis Claud Hutchinson 2nd Battalion DLI

I left Newcastle on night of 27th Nov 1914.

Arrived at Havre. 30th Nov. 1914.

30th Nov. Was at Le Havre, and stayed in Camp till ordered to proceed to the front, with a large draft. Travelled with Capt. Towsey & about 14 other officers.

Monday 7th Dec 1914. Joined the 2nd Bn. and reported to Colonel McMahan in the Trenches at L'Armée. Had a narrow escape from snipers on the way to HQ.

Tuesday 8th. We were relieved by the Queen's Westminster Regt. at 8.15 pm and lost our way in the fog & darkness. Gibson the O.C. "C" Coy had a bad cold, & could hardly speak. We went into Billets in a farm house.

Gibson went home on sick leave on Tuesday 15th, and I assumed Command of "C" Coy in his place, with Hartley, & Vane as Subalterns.

We remained in Billets at L'Armée till 18th Dec (Friday) when we got orders to march to Pont de Nieppe, and arrived there about 2.30 pm, & went into Billets.

Sunday 20th Dec. We got orders to go as Reserve to the 3rd Army Corps, and we marched into Belgium, but did not have to fight, and returned in the evening to Billets at Pont du Nieppe. I paid the Company that day.

Wednesday 23rd. Marched away from Pont de Nieppe, and went into Billets at Armentières. We occupied a lovely house, but had to break a window to get in, as the owners had locked it up.

24th Dec Thursday, Xmas Eve. Had a ride to Le Bassee. My Coy played football against the A.S.C. and won easily.

Friday 25th Xmas Day. Church Parade. Communion. Got letters from home. Played mandolin at a Concert we got up for the men. Very hard frost. Had a merry dinner, but the rooms very cold as we had no fires.

MEMORANDA.

Sat. 26th Dec. Boxing Day. Returned to the trenches at Houplines. Vane went away sick, and I got Swaby in his place. We had a nice Hut, instead of a dug.out. Heard about Claude's Commission to the 4th D.L.I. Rowlandson joined "D" Coy.

During this time we had several casualties, and on the 28th (Monday) Pte. Cuthbert was killed, shot through the head. I was not far off when it happened. We christened our hut "Egglestone Hall" & our dugout where we had our meals was the "Savoy"!

31st Thursday. Very wet. Westminster's Officers came to see our trenches before taking over. Everything was quiet till about 11.15 P.M., when the enemy opened a heavy fire upon us, and kept it up till after midnight. I was visiting "B" Coy at the time it began and had to run back to my section of the trench as hard as I could. Much relieved to hear that dear Ethel was better. Heard from Gibson.

JANUARY 1915

Friday 1 (1.364) Circumcision. We were relieved from the trenches, at 5 pm, by the Queen's Westminster Regt.. Came into Billets at Houpelines, near Armentières. Towsey went home on leave & took letter to post from me to Ethel. It was very wet. Hartley, Swaby & I Billeted in small workmen's house.

Saturday 2 (2.363). In Billets at Houpelines. Was at a Court Martial in the morning. Walked to Armentières in the afternoon & had a bath at 35 Rue Nationale the house of M. Charvet. Met Father Strickland there. Posted my German Bayonette to Ethel & Princess Mary's Xmas present. Had a letter from dear Ethel, & a parcel from Olive.

Sunday 3 (3.362) 2nd after Christmas.

Houplines

Had a good night went up into the Tower of the Ruined Hotel de Ville with a junior Officer and saw the German trenches well. we were Shelled with "Coal Boxes" about 2. hrs. had Church parade at 3, pm. Dined with B. Coy. had We were not Shelled. Sent out a digging party.

Monday 4 (4.361)

Houplines

Very wet morning. Had route march into Belgium. Went out after dark to dig trenches, in command of party 200 Strong. A good deal of Sniping. Col McMahan left for England. Dined at Head Quarters. Heard from dear Ethel. Wrote home.

Tuesday 5 (5.360)

Rather a busy day. went to see the trenches into which we go tomorrow. They are awful. we relieve the 1st W. Yorks Regiment. My Company is on the extreme far left, and in the worst place of all. Had a letter from dear E.

Wednesday 6 (6.359) Epiphany.

Came into the worst trenches I have seen as yet. we relieved the 1st West.York's. Hope to stay here as short a time as possible! This turkey arrived from home also a hamper from Mrs Wells. no letter from dear E –

Thursday 7 (7.358) Impossible to keep the water back. One man (Gibson) killed in No. 9 Platoon. A terrible day & night. Fearfully wet & cold. Heard from dear Ethel.

Friday 8 (8.357) Cambridge Lent Term begins. Three men killed this morning in my Company & fighter. Barnard Castle was killed. Lieut. J. M. Kent joined me in "C" Coy.. Ethel's parcels and letter arrived. A very wet & cold night. Germans used some Rifle Grenades on our trenches. Hartley took No. 9 Platoon into Reserve billets.

Saturday 9 (9.356) Fire Insurance expires. We were relieved by the Rifle Brigade at 9 pm. and came into Billets at Houpelines in a large School. Simply thankful to God to be under a roof. I was the last to leave the trenches, and joined my Company at the Church yard.

Hartley met us when we arrived and had everything ready. I hear we return to trenches on Tuesday or Wednesday. I hope to get a letter from dear Kiddy tomorrow.

Bowes goes on leave.

Sunday 10 (10.355) 1st after Epiphany.

It was a lovely morning, and the men were busy cleaning up. In Billets at Armentières in a big Girls School. Went into Armentières with Hartley for a walk, & met Young. He says poor Wade is killed. Heard from Ethel (2 letters). Sammy, Taylor, & Bradford are dining with us.

Monday 11 (11.354) Hilary Law Sittings begin.

At Armentières. Route march in morning. Walked to Houpeline to arrange about new trenches. Heavy rain in the afternoon, and some thunder & lightening. Heard from dear Ethel.

Tuesday 12 (12.353)

An easy day. Went shopping at Armentières. Dear Ethel sent shirts & socks for the men, & things for me. We are getting ready to go into the trenches tomorrow. I wrote to Ethel, and had a letter from dear Rose. A draft of 13 men joined me today.

Wednesday 13 (13.352)

Left our Billets at Armentières at 3 am, and came into the trenches. They are full of water, and we are very crowded. I relieved D. Coy of the Sherwood Foresters. Sergt. Ashton for G.C.M. [General Court Martial]. Poured all day, but we reduced the water about 1 foot in the trench. Rowlandson wounded by a Mortar shell in the wrist. Find out that his wound was caused by shrapnel.

Thursday 14 (14.351) Oxford Lent Term begins.

In Trenches. No rain during the night, but the water has risen again. We had a very fine view of the Bombardment of a village about 600 yards away. There was a brewery there from which sniping took place, & it was blown to bits. There was a good Artillery duel from 2.15 pm, till 4 pm. Our H.Q. 2nd Staff had to leave the Chateau, & go into a trench for shelter from the shells. Crosthwaite & Godsall came to my trench in the evening. Had a letter from Ethel

Friday 15 (15.350)

In Trenches, No rain. Two officers of the "Westminster's" came to see me. I wrote to Ethel, Olive & Claudie. A good deal of shelling going on. Had a letter from Ethel. Crosthwaite did not visit my trench today. Improved the trench very much.

Saturday 16 (16.349)

In Trenches. Wet evening. Making all arrangements to be relieved by the "Sherwoods" at 4 am tomorrow. Wrote to Ethel. Worked hard at the trench & got a pump.

Sunday 17 (17.348) 2nd after Epiphany.

Were relieved in trenches by "Sherwoods" and came to nice Billets at Armentières. Heard from Ethel & Olive. Wrote for Orilux lamp. In lovely Billets. Had a fire in my bedroom, & hot bath. Dined with Turner, Bradford, Armstrong, etc. Took the Church Parade myself

Monday 18* (18.347)

Billets. Armentières. Snow in morning. Busy all the morning. Heard from Murray that he had had notice to leave from Ethel. Bought little presents for Ethel, Rose, Beryl, & E. Murray. Wrote to E. Jones went on leave. Bowers due to return tonight. Bowers returned.

Tuesday 19 (19.346)

At Billets at Armentières. Went for a Route march in the morning. Posted things to Ethel. Had a letter from Ethel & fur cap. Some shelling going on at 7. P.M.. Dined at Head Qtrs.. Paid men of Coy

Wednesday 20* (20.345)

Armentières. Heard from Ethel about Bessie's tonsils to be removed. Packed up and got ready for the trenches. Turner dined with Hartley & self at Station Café.

Thursday 21 (21.344)

Trenches. Arrived in our old trenches at 4.30 am. Took over from Notts & Derbys, & found that they had neglected the trench shamefully. Terribly wet.

Friday 22 (22.343)

Trenches. Worked hard in the trench all day. Fine. Heard that my darling Rose is better. Thank God.

Saturday 23 (23.342)

Trenches. Fine day. Worked hard all day. Some shelling, one man killed in "A" Coy. Heard from dear Ethel.

Sunday 24 (24.341) 3rd after Epiphany.

Trenches. Fine but dull. Finished my new dug Out. Expect to be relieved at dawn by S.F. [Sherwood Foresters]. Wrote to Ethel. Nothing particular happened.

Monday 25 (25.340) Conversion of S. Paul.

Billets at Armentières. Left the trenches at 4.15 am. Relieved by S.F. (Capt. Armitage). Came to our old billets and shared them with A Coy. Letters from home. Whiskey. Hartley took our photos in trench clothes. Heard from Ethel. Wrote E.

Tuesday 26 (26.339)

Billets. An easy day. Went out digging at night. Heard from dear Ethel. A little snow. Wrote to E.

Wednesday 27 (27.338)

Billets. General Inspection. (Kits). Legard & Cruickshank went on leave. Byers and Armstrong dined with us.

Thursday 28 (28.337)

Billets. Packed up for the trenches. Heard from dear mummie. Some shelling at Houplines & Armentières.

Friday 29 (29.336)

Trenches. Came in safely. Frost & bright moonlight. Heard from dear E.

Saturday 30 (30.335)

Trenches. Turner wounded in the head. Two men in 'D' killed. No letter from Ethel. Heard from Olive & father.

Sunday 31 (31.334) Septuagesima.

Trenches. Worked hard all day. The Brigade say we may be attacked at any moment. Gunner officer arrived, Battersby by name. Had tea with the Westminsters. Hear we are to be relieved tomorrow at about 6 pm.

FEBRUARY 1915

Monday 1 (32.333)

Trenches. We are to be relieved at dusk by the Sherwoods. (Capt. Armitage.) Hartley very unwell, so have sent for my horse to meet him at the Barrier. Feel better today. Weather very fine. The Brewery was shelled again. Wrote to Mrs Wells re Pte. Walker. also, to Ethel. Got out of trenches safely, and returned to our old Billets at Armentières. Letter & parcels from Ethel, & letter from Ashton.

Tuesday 2 (33.332) Purification of B.V. Mary.

Billets. Sat on a Court Martial at Houpelines. West Yorks. Maj. Barrington President. Paid men of Coy. Heard from dear Ethel. Wet & very cold. Wrote to E. and Ashton.

Wednesday 3 (34.331)

Billets. Route march of 7 miles past our old Billets at L'Armée. Newstead bitten by a dog. Germans shelled again, and I had a narrow escape. We were all at tea, when a shell exploded near us and a small piece came through the window, and touched me. Several fires. No letter from E.

Thursday 4 (35.330)

Billets. Streatfeild & Hartley left for England on leave. There was very heavy firing today & fighting at the Rue du Bois. We all "stood to arms" for a time. I dined at H.Q. Mrs Maughan & Congreve there. Two letters from dear Ethel. Sent letters per Hartley.

Friday 5 (36.329)

Trenches. Returned to trenches today. Fine. Heard from Ethel. Annie. & V. also Olive.

Saturday 6 (37.328)

Trenches. Built our mess Hut. a little rain at times. Capt. Crosthwaite & Brereton called on their rounds. Heard from Ethel.

Sunday 7 (38.327) Sexagesima.

Trenches. Nothing particular. Heard from dear E. Wrote to Ethel, Rossie & H.H.A. Taylor came to see me. I went to see his trench. Very good trench. Rather more sniping than usual.

Monday 8 (39.326) Half Quarter Day.

Trenches. Fine. A draft of 11 men arrived in my Company. General Congreve inspected my trench with Crosthwaite, and said he was very pleased with my work. Taylor dined with us. Cigars & Cigarettes from dear Ethel. Wrote letters home.

Tuesday 9 (40.325)

Billets. We were relieved today by the "Sherwoods". all got out safely. Handed my trench over to Capt. Street. No letters today. Came to our old Billet. dined with "B" Coy. Cruickshank returned from leave.

Wednesday 10 (41.324)

Billets. Went for a ride on my new mare. Godsall lunched with us. Went to the "Follies", & I heard about my leave today; & wrote to Ethel.

Thursday 11 (42.323)

Billets. Had a nice ride with Taylor in the morning. Dined at H.Q. 2nd in the evening. Weather fine. Sent Princess Mary's Box with my piece of shell in it to Ethel.

Friday 12 (43.322)

Billets. Hartley & Streatfeild returned from leave. Godsall & Swaby left for leave.

Saturday 13 (44.321)

Trenches. We returned to the trenches & took over from the Sherwoods. (Capt. Street) My Coy numbered 196 all told in trenches.

Sunday 14 (45.320) Quinquagesima.

Trenches. Wet day. Nothing particular.

Monday 15 (46.319)

Trenches. Wrote to Ethel about my leave. The General, Col. Kemp & Major Paley came to see the trenches. Put out our dummy to try and get one of the enemy as a prisoner, alive or dead.

Tuesday 16 (47.318) Shrove Tuesday.

Trenches. Fine day. Worked hard at the trench. Westminster's called, also Jones & Taylor. Crosthwaite in evening. at about 8.30, what appeared to be an attack on my right. stood to.

Wednesday 17 (48.317) Ash Wednesday.

Billets. Came safely out of trenches. Poured wet day. No letter from my dear one.

Thursday 18 (49.316)

Billets. Took the Canadians (Toronto Regt) to Erkinghem for instruction. Paid the Coy. Hear that leave may be stopped

Friday 19 (50.315)

Morning. Dined with the gunners at Houplines. Taylor came too. On our return heard that my leave was alright!!! Billets. An awful day! I heard that my leave was stopped on account of the Channel being mined. Felt dreadfully low spirited.. Took the Canadians for instruction and lectured them all the [afternoon]

Saturday 20 (51.314)

Billets. Started on leave with Brereton. Met Col Towsey. Arrived at Boulogne at 11.30 pm. Steamer Onward.

Sunday 21 (52.313) 1st in Lent.

Left Boulogne at 4.am, arrived Folkestone at 6 am, and at Victoria 8.30 am. Came to the Clifton Hotel. Met Dick's wife for the first time.

Monday 22 (53.312)

London. Saw Ashton. Olive, Phyllis. Came Home.

Tuesday 23 (54.311)

Egglestone.

Wednesday 24 (55.310) S. Matthias. Ember Day.

Egglestone.

Thursday 25 (56.309)

Egglestone. Left for London at 5.50 pm. Went to Clifton Hotel with Ethel

Friday 26 (57.308) Ember Day.

London. Clifton Hotel. Went to Ashton at 11 am. Evening. David Copperfield.

Saturday 27 (58.307) Ember Day.

London. Hippodrome, & Dalys.

Sunday 28 (59.306) 2nd in Lent. London. Turner called. Lunch at Princes. Left at 6 pm for France. Ethel saw me off.

MARCH 1915

Monday 1 (60.305) S. David's Day.

Arrived back at Billets at Armentières and went into the trenches at 7 pm.

Tuesday 2 (61.304)

Trenches. Fine day. Wrote to Ethel. Capt Green of the Westminsters shot. Crosthwaite & Godsall came to my trench

Wednesday 3 (62.303)

Trenches. A wet day. Called on the C.O. Queens Westminsters. Kent shot a hare in rear of our trenches & we also fired at it with revolvers. Took a photo of the group. The General & Staff came to see the trenches at night. Taylor & a gunner (Marshal) came to tea. Heard that Capt Green (Q. W. 's) [Queen's Westminsters] was dead.

Thursday 4 (63.302)

Trenches. There is a report that we are to go to Nieuport !! The Transport is ready to move at a moments notice. A great deal of sniping day & night. Went to the Westminsters in the morning. afternoon went to A & D Coys. Got secret order to give the alarm at 12.30 am, & see how long the company took to "stand to". Average time 3 minutes.

Friday 5 (64.301)

Billets. Relieved by the FORESTERS. Capt. Street. Spent a long time in the mines. Think we heard men working under us. Came back to our old Chateau. Heard from dear E. Got 2 parcels.

Saturday 6 (65.300)

Billets. Wet day. Went to the "Follies". A very good show. Wrote letters. No particular news. Reported to General Congreve about the sounds we heard in the mines at the Westminsters.

Sunday 7 (66.299) 3rd in Lent.

Billets. Church Parade. Heard from my dear Kiddy. Dined with 'B' Coy & met Clifford Scott.

Monday 8 (67.298)

Billets. Route march in the morning. Came into the Breastworks at night, & reported to Colonel Leveson Gower (Sherwoods). Slept at a farm with Hartley. Very cold.

Tuesday 9 (68.297)

Trenches. Came back to trenches safely. Made dummy trenches in front & dug listening post. Went for a ride in the afternoon with Taylor. Fine day. Very cold. Had a sad letter from my poor Kiddie.

Wednesday 10 (69.296)

Trenches. No letter from my dear one today. Feel very unhappy. A hard day, & a great deal of firing. I lost Pte Kennedy. Killed. Crosthwaite & Godsall came. We bombarded the enemy twice.

Thursday 11 (70.295)

Trenches. Heard from my dear one, thank God. A hard day's work, but the weather fine. Went to the Westminsters. Brereton came round at night.

Friday 12 (71.294)

Trenches. Finished the listening post, and made an attack on the enemys wire with Rifle Grenades. The Party under Hartley & Kent returned safely. Heard from my dear one.

Saturday 13 (72.293)

Billets. Handed over to Foresters. Capt Street. The General came and was very pleased with my long listening post. Had a bad time coming out under fire. Heard from my dear one.

Sunday 14 (73.292) 4th in Lent.

Billets. Hear that we move on Tuesday. Church Parade. Communion. Heard from dear E.& Greswell. Serious letter. Dined with Hartles trench friends & had a bath. Sent off my films & Photos. Wrote to Ashton till midnight.

Monday 15 (74.291)

Billets. Wrote to Ashton, Tratt, & my dear one. Rode out to see our new trenches !!!

Tuesday 16 (75.290)

Billets. Not much doing. Wrote to Greswell & to my dear one. Went to the Follies, and dined with B.Coy.

Wednesday 17 (76.289) S.Patrick's Day.

Trenches. Returned to our old trench. Relieved Foresters (Capt Street) Very quiet. No letter from my dear one.

Thursday 18 (77.288)

Trenches. Work as usual. Rather foggy. C. O. & Adjutant called. Nothing doing. Heard from my dear one.

Friday 19 (78.287)

Trenches. Snow & very cold. Lunch with Oliver. Enemy more active. Heard transport & a lot of shouting. Heard from my dear one.

Saturday 20 (79.286)

Trenches. Mother's Birthday. Nothing particular. Crosthwaite & Brereton called. The General came.

Sunday 21 (80.285) 5th in Lent.

Billets. Returned to our usual Billets. Heard from my dear one. Also Tratt!

Monday 22 (81.284)

Billets. Slept at farm in the Breastworks. The Bn turned out at night for an alarm. Wrote to Tratt.

Tuesday 23 (82.283)

Billets. Paid Coy. Crosthwaite, Congreve & Hartley had tea with me. & went to the Follies. Dined at H.Q. 2nd. Bradford's String Band played for the first time. Heard from dear E. also from Charlie.

Wednesday 24 (83.282)

Billets. Route march. My Coy practiced the attack !! Went to the "Fancies". Dined with Bradford. "D" Coy. The Band played. a very good dinner.

Thursday 25 (84.281) Annunciation B.V. Mary. Lady Day.

Trenches. Lord Durham inspected us. Relieved the Sherwoods. (Capt Street.) Heard from my dear one.

Friday 26 (85.280)

Trenches. Went to "B" Coy to call on Bowers. Heard from my dear one.

Saturday 27 (86.279) Oxford Lent Term ends. Cambridge Lent Term ends.

Trenches. Nothing doing.

Sunday 28 (87.278) Palm Sunday.

Trenches. My first photos came, & were very good. Lt Wiche joined my Company. The General came, also Crosthwaite. I went to the Westminster. Wrote to Tratt.

Monday 29 (88.277) Monday before Easter.

Billets. We were shelled today. No casualties. The General came, also the General of the N. Midland Division. Relieved by the Sherwoods. Heard from Ashton also from my dear one.

Tuesday 30 (89.276) Tuesday before Easter.

Billets. Nothing particular. Rode with Taylor.

Wednesday 31 (90.275) Wednesday before Easter. Hilary Law Sitings end.

Billets. Route march. Dined with Congreve.

APRIL 1915

Thursday 1 (91.274) Thursday before Easter.

Billets. we were called out on Alarm practice at 3, am. C. Coy did very well. Rode with Taylor to Croix de Bac, and got nearly shelled.

Friday 2 (92.273) Good Friday.

Trenches. Church Parade, Relieved Foresters. Rain

Saturday 3 (93.272) Easter Eve. Ball

Trenches. Shelled again today. Heard from my dear one, wrote to Pratt.

Sunday 4 (94.271) Easter Day.

Trenches. Very busy all day. The enemy shelled us at 5. P.M. The C.O. & Brereton with us.

Monday 5 (95.270) Easter Monday. Bank Holiday.

Trenches. Very wet. shelled again. Wrote to my dear one & Pug.

Tuesday 6 (96.269) Easter Tuesday.

Billets. My dear ones Birthday. We were relieved from the trenches. Got in very late.

Wednesday 7 (97.268) Oxford Easter Term begins.

Billets. Went to the Horse show. Sergt Major Jackson joined "C" Coy. Paid the Company. Heard from my dear one.

Thursday 8 (98.267)

Billets. Went for a Ride with Hartley. Dined with "B" Coy. Were told to stand in readiness to support W Yorks if necessary.

Friday 9 (99.266) Fire Insurance expires.

Billets. Slept in the Breast works. Route march.

Saturday 10 (100.265)

Trenches. Violets Birthday. Went for a ride with Taylor. Returned to trenches. Relieved Foresters.

Sunday 11 (101.264) Low Sunday.

Trenches. One man killed at the time. Wrote to my dear one. Nothing much doing. Heard from my dear one.

Monday 12 (102.263)

Trenches. Another man killed in the listening post No 3. I was there at the time with Congreve. Heard from my dear one.

Tuesday 13 (103.262) Easter Law Sittings begin.

Trenches. Lord Londonderry & Lord came to my trench today. We put out some advance wire. Heard from my dear one & from Claudie. Fine day.

Wednesday 14 (104.261)

Billets. Relieved by Sherwoods. new trench begun.

Thursday 15 (105.260)

Billets. Nothing particular. Went out digging trenches till midnight. One man was wounded. A lot of firing. Heard from my dear one. Cashed an order for £40.0.0.

Friday 16 (106.259)

Billets. Nothing much. Hartley appointed A.D.C. to Sir John Kier. Dined with "D" Coy. The Band played. Sent my fur things home. Heard from my dear one.

Saturday 17 (107.258)

Billets. Hartley left & joined the Staff. Garfit got his second star. We dug at night. One man wounded.

Sunday 18 (108.257) 2nd after Easter. Cambridge Easter Term begins.

Trenches. Church Parade. Polo practice. Relieved "Sherwoods". Capt Street.

Monday 19 (109.256)

Trenches. A lovely spring day. Pte Hargrave wounded. Heard from Ashton.

Tuesday 20 (110.255)

Trenches. Nothing much doing. Wrote to Ashton. Tratt. No letter from Ethel. Benton went sick. (Water on the knee.)

Wednesday 21 (111.254)

Trenches. Had lunch at the H.Q. 2nd Chateau, & walked to "Durham Castle" with Brereton. Heard from my dear one.

Thursday 22 (112.253)

Billets. Relieved by Sherwoods.. (Street)
Heard from my dear one.

Friday 23 (113.252) S. Georges Day.

Billets. nothing all day. Heard from my dear one

Saturday 24 (114.251)

Billets. Easy day. We went out Digging at night. Heard from my dear one

Sunday 25 (115.250) 3rd after Easter. S. Mark, Evan.

Billets. Church Parade. Went to a Cock fight. My first, and I am sure my last. (Horrid). My dear one sent me a Colt Revolver

Monday 26 (116.249)

Trenches. Took over from Foresters

Tuesday 27 (117.248)

Trenches. General Sir J. Keir & Col Shea came. Heard of Hon Sualys death.

Wednesday 28 (118.247)

Trenches. Usual work. Hear we may not be relieved for some days

Thursday 29 (119.246)

Trenches. a lovely day. Had Tea with the Westminsterers. Kent heard the Cuckoo, a letter from my dear one, & one from Ivatt

Friday 30 (120.245)

Trenches. Poor Garfit. killed, also pte Murphy & 4 other men wounded

MAY 1915

Saturday 1 (121.244)

Trenches. Garfit was buried today at Houplines at 12.30 pm
I put Rosie & Beryls flowers on his grave wrote to his father

Sunday 2 (122.243) 4th after Easter.

Billets. Came to Le Bizet. Relieved by West Yorks. Bradford left.
Notes: Kent, Wiehe & self all sleep in one small room on the floor. Weather fine but a little rain about 5 pm.

Monday 3 (123.242)

Billets. Le Bizet. Belgium. Went to see the E Yorks trenches with Crosthwaite, Bowers & Leyard. The C.O. himself brought us the message from Paley, and was delighted & congratulated me. Heard from my dear one. Wrote to Briggs. Ivatt. Claudie. Olin & E
Notes: Major Paley, telegraphs. (Staff Major): Colonel Shea & I have just been round the left of your old line and I must congratulate and thank you all very much for the extra.ordinary fine result of your labours

Tuesday 4 (124.241)

Billets. Quiet day. Went into Armentieres and had a lovely bath. Dined with A Coy & heard the Band. Heard from my dear one.

Wednesday 5 (125.240)

Billets. Taylor got measles. Dreadful. Gazetted today as Captain. Went round my new trenches. Harter dined with us.

Thursday 6 (126.239)

Trenches. Came into our new trenches at Le Touquet and relieved the East Yorks. & C Coy Capt. Wrangham. Don't think much of this trench. Wiehe, Kent & self

Friday 7 (127.238)

Trenches. Fine day. Examined new trench, one man killed & 1 wounded. Began new saps. Frightfulness put off. Mine not to be exploded.

Saturday 8 (128.237)

Trenches. Wounded man died today. Heard from Garfits father. Also my dear one. Some shelling. We are to explode Mine tomorrow.

Sunday 9 (129.236) Rogation Sunday. Half Quarter Day.

Trenches. Exploded a mine today. a good deal of shelling.

Notes: General Congreave came to see us. Heard from my dear one. A shell exploded almost in my face. Felt ill afterwards.

Monday 10 (130.235) Rogation Day.

Trenches. nothing particular. Feeling rotten. Think the shell yesterday must have been poisoned.

Tuesday 11 (131.234) Rogation Day.

Billets. Relieved by Sherwoods (Armitage). Came to Houplines. Feeling very seedy. Heard from Briggs, etc.

Wednesday 12 (132.233) Rogation Day.

Billets. Came to Le Bizet. Feeling seedy. stayed in bed. saw M.D.

Notes: Paid Coy.

Thursday 13 (133.232) Ascension Day.

Billets. Very wet. Stayed in bed. Seedy. wrote Lord B. & Ivatt.

Friday 14 (134.231)

Billets. In bed nearly all day. wrote letters.

Saturday 15 (135.230)

Billets. Very Seedy. Harter took Godsall & me for a lovely motor drive. Alarm at about 10.p.m. Stood to.

Sunday 16 (136.229) Sunday after Ascension Day.

Arrived at 18th Brigade Field ambulance at Armentieres.

Monday 17 (137.228)

18th Fld Amb. Field Letter. General Congreave came to see. Am to be sent with a convoy to the Base tomorrow, & hope to London.

Tuesday 18 (138.227)

Was sent first to Bailleul hospital, and then on to Boulogne. Wimereux. Rawl Pindi Indian Hospital.

Wednesday 19 (139.226)

Left Boulogne on the hospital ship St Patrick. Arrived in London at Midnight. Met Hunters Uncle. Notes: No. 3 London General Hospital at Wandsworth. Was given a month's leave from today.

Thursday 20 (140.225)

London. Ethel arrived at Kings Cross. Met Her.

Friday 21 (141.224) Easter Law Sittings end. Oxford Easter Term ends.

London

Saturday 22 (142.223) Oxford Trinity Term begins.

London

Sunday 23 (143.222) Whit Sunday.

London

Monday 24 (144.221) Empire Day. Whit Monday. Bank Holiday.

London. (Academy)

Tuesday 25 (145.220) Whit Tuesday.

London

Wednesday 26 (146.219) Ember Day.

London

Thursday 27 (147-218)

London. Returned to Egglestone.

Friday 28 (148-217) Ember Day.

Egglestone

Saturday 29 (149-216) Ember Day.

Egglestone. Claude returned on sick leave till Wednesday.

Sunday 30 (150-215) Trinity Sunday.

Egglestone

Monday 31 (151-214)

Egglestone.

JUNE 1915

Tuesday 1 (152-213) Trinity Law Sittings begin.
Egglestone

Wednesday 2 (153-212)
Egglestone. Claude returned to duty at Wallsend

Thursday 3 (154-211)
Egglestone

Friday 4 (155-210)
Egglestone. Ethel shot her first Rabbit. Alison came over about the lead, wrote to Ashton + Ivatt

Saturday 5 (156-209)

Sunday 6 (157-208) 1st after Trinity.

Monday 7 (158-207)

Tuesday 8 (159-206)

Wednesday 9 (160-205)
Egglestone. Went to Newcastle + had lunch with Claude at The Hall. Wallsend.

Sunday 13 (164-201) 2nd after Trinity.
Egglestone

Monday 14 (165-200)
Egglestone

Tuesday 15 (166-199)
Egglestone. Went for long walk up the Burn with Ethel + Rosamund. Air Raid near Jarrow. We heard the firing at midnight. **This is the Zeppelin raid that is linked to the enlistment Ledger.**

Wednesday 16 (167-198)
Egglestone

Thursday, June 17 (168-197)
Egglestone

Friday, June 18 (169-196)

Egglestone

Saturday, June 19 (170-195)

Egglestone

Sunday 20 (171-194) 3rd after Trinity.

Egglestone. Went to Church with Rosamund.

Monday 21 (172-193) Longest Day.

Egglestone. Went to Forest Hall, re my application for job on Intelligence Staff.

Tuesday 22 (173-192)

Egglestone. Went to Medical Board at York. Got 1 months leave. went to War Office re my application. Met Ivatt.

Wednesday 23 (174-191)

Egglestone. Connie arrived - I wrote to Ld Barnard - Briggs. Ivatt etc etc.

Thursday, June 24 (175-190) — S. John, Baptist Cambridge Easter Term ends. Midsummer Day.

Egglestone

Friday, June 25 (176-189)

Egglestone

Saturday, June 26 (177-188)

Egglestone

Sunday, June 27 (178-187) — 4th After Trinity

Egglestone

Monday, June 28 (179-186)

London. J. A & N Club. arrived at 6-30. Pm. wrote letters. My Room was W on the 7th floor.

Tuesday, June 29 (180-185)

London. Went to War Office, and was examined in German. Saw Pratt, & went to The Only Way & Dined at Ye Cheshire Cheese.

Wednesday, June 30 (181-184)

Egglestone. Left London at 2-20 p.m. arrived home. Ethel, Connie & Rose went to Newcastle, Wallsend & S.Shields. They lunched with Claudie & had tea with Olive.

JULY 1915

Thursday 1 (182-183)

Egglestone.

Friday 2 (183-182)

Egglestone

Saturday 3 (184-181)

Egglestone.

Sunday 4 (185-180) — 5th After Trinity

Egglestone.

Monday 5 (186-179)

Egglestone. Rosamund left with Connie to go to London, & to stay at Fareham. Corbett came & went over the Estate & Books. I visited the Hall was much pleased with the result. Lord & Lady Barnard called.

Tuesday 6 (187-178)

Egglestone

Wednesday 7 (188-177)

Egglestone

Thursday 8 (189-176)

Egglestone

Friday 9 (190-175) Fire Insurance expires.

Egglestone. Wrote to Secretary War Office re my sick leave.

Saturday 10 (191-174) Oxford Trinity Term ends.

Sunday 11 (192-173) 6th after Trinity.

Egglestone.

Monday 12 (193-172)

Egglestone.

Tuesday 13 (194-171)

Egglestone. Spoke at meeting at Barney.

Wednesday 14 (195-170)

Egglestone.

Thursday 15 (196-169) St. Swithun.

Egglestone

Friday 16 (197-168)

Egglestone

Saturday 17 (198-167)

Egglestone

Sunday 18 (199-166) 7th after Trinity.

Egglestone.

Monday 19 (200-165)

Egglestone. Baby (Beryl) went to Saltburn. Mr. Hibburn came to see over the place. Very wet

Tuesday 20 (201-164)

Egglestone

Wednesday 21 (202-163)

Egglestone. Attended Medical Board at York & was given 1 Months extension

Thursday 22 (203-162)

Egglestone. Father went to South Shields

Friday 23 (204-161)

Egglestone

Saturday 24 (205-160)

Egglestone

Sunday 25 (206-159) 8th after Trinity. S. James

Egglestone.

Monday 26 (207-158)

Egglestone. Beryl returned from Saltburn.

Tuesday 27 (208-157)

Egglestone

Wednesday 28 (209-156)

Egglestone

Thursday 29 (210-155)

Egglestone. Ethel went to Town to fetch Rosamund. York Hotel Berners Street.

Friday 30 (211-154)

Egglestone. Rosie & Ethel returned home.

Saturday 31 (212-153) Trinity Law Sittings end.

Egglestone.

AUGUST 1915

Sunday 1 (213-152) 9th After Trinity

Egglestone

Monday 2 (214-151) Bank Holiday

Egglestone

Tuesday 3 (215-150)

Egglestone. Rent Audit. Amnt recd for half year £1659-7-2. Still to rec. £223-17-5. Total £1883-4-7

Wednesday 4 (216-149)

Barningham. Spoke in Market Place at Barney. Lunch, tea & Dinner at Rokeby. Meeting at Barningham at 8. p.m. Slept at Canon Goughs

Thursday 5 (217-148)

Egglestone. Returned home. Rosamunds birthday. Had a Childrens Party

Friday 6 (218-147)

Egglestone. The Directors of the Lead Company came over, with their engineer, etc

Saturday 7 (219-146)

Egglestone

Sunday 8 (220-145) 10th after Trinity

Egglestone

Monday 9 (221-144)

Egglestone. Gresswell went for a holiday. King took my motor to Nottingham to sell it. Poor Bertie Bowers killed in Action in Flanders. The Engagement at Hooge

Tuesday 10 (222-143)

Egglestone

Wednesday 11 (223-142) Half Quarter Day

London. Club.

Thursday 12 (224-141)

London. Saw Dr. Turner, etc

Friday 13 (225-140)

Egglestone. Returned home

Saturday 14 (226-139)

Egglestone. Wrote many letters. Poor Kents name in the Casualty list (Killed)

Sunday 15 (227-138) 11th after Trinity

Egglestone

Monday 16 (228-137)

Egglestone

Tuesday 17 (229-136)

Egglestone

Wednesday 18 (230-135)

Egglestone

Thursday 19 (231-134)

London. Came to hospital 10 Palace Green, Kensington. Ethel with Mrs Watt at 104 Oakley Street, Chelsea

Friday 20 (232-133)

London, Palace Green. Ethel came to see me twice. Heard from Claudie. Examined by the doctor

Saturday 21 (233-132)

London (Palace Green). Ethel came as usual.

Sunday 22 (234-131) 12th after Trinity

London. (Palace Green) Ethel came new dress

Monday 23 (235-130)

London

Tuesday 24 (236-129) S. Bartholomew

London.

Wednesday 25 (237-128)

London

Thursday 26 (238-127)

London. Went for a motor drive to Wimbledon common. Heard from King about the car.

Friday 27 (239-126)

London

Saturday 28 (240-125)

London

Sunday 29 (241-124) 13th after Trinity

London

Monday 30 (242-123)

London. Dr. Turner came to see me. Wardle in the afternoon motored to Richmond Park

Tuesday 31 (243-122)

London Ethel & Wardle came again. motored with Weeke to Hampton Court. Ethel dined with Wardle & went to the Theatre.

SEPTEMBER 1915

Wednesday 1 (244-121)

London. Went motoring.

Thursday 2 (245-120)

London. Motoring

Friday 3 (246-119)

London. Motored with Wiehe & his sister to Cobham - Sent Claudie £5-0-0

Saturday 4 (247-118)

London. Lady Robb took Wiehe & self for motor drive. Claudies Birthday

Sunday 5 (248-117) 14th after Trinity

London. went in the Park with Ethel, first time since I came to hospital.

Monday 6 (249-116)

London Went out with Ethel for an hour

Tuesday 7 (250-115)

London. Dr. Turner came to see me. Ethel moved to the Regents Palace Hotel, from 2 Whitehall Court. Met Sopwith in Regent Street, air Raid near London

Wednesday 8 (251-114)

London. Went with Ethel & Wiehe to matinée at Hippodrome.
Air Raid in London

Thursday 9 (252-113)

London. Air Raid expected

Friday 10 (253-112)

London. Wiehe left the hospital. Ethel & I had tea with him at his sisters flat. He lunched with E at Princes

Saturday 11 (254-111)

London. Went with Ethel to see The Man who stayed at home at the Royalty - Air Raid expected!!

Sunday 12 (255-110) 15th after Trinity

London

Monday 13 (256-109)

London

Tuesday 14 (257-108)

London

Wednesday 15 (258-107) Ember Day

London

Thursday 16 (259-106)

London

Friday 17 (260-105) Ember Day

London

Saturday 18 (261-104) Ember Day

London. Came to Moray Lodge, Campden Hill

Sunday 19 (262-103) 16th after Trinity

London. Moray Lodge

Monday 20 (263-102)

London. Moray Lodge

Tuesday 21 (264-101) — S. Matthew, Ap.

London.

Wednesday 22 (265-100)

London. Dr. Turner came

Sunday 26 (269-96) 17th after Trinity

London.

Monday 27 (270-95)

Tuesday 28 (271-94)

Wednesday 29 (272-93) — S. Mich. All Angels. Michaelmas Day.

Thursday 30 (273-92)

OCTOBER 1915

Friday 1 (274-91) — Cambridge Michaelmas Term begins.
Medical Board. Got 3 months leave.

Saturday 2 (275-90)

Sunday 3 (276-89) 18th after Trinity.

Monday 4 (277-88)

Tuesday 5 (278-87)

Wednesday 6 (279-86)
Came to Regent Palace Hotel

Thursday 7 (280-85)

Friday 8 (281-84)

Saturday 9 (282-83)

Note: No further entries appear in the diary until December 19th

DECEMBER 1915

Sunday 19 (353-12) 4th in Advent. Cambridge Michaelmas Term ends.

Monday 20 (354-11)

Tuesday 21 (355-10) — S. Thomas, Ap. Michaelmas Law Sittings end.
London

Wednesday 22 (356-9)

London. Called on Dr Turner. also at 10 Palace Green

Thursday 23 (357-8)

London

Friday 24 (358-7)

London

Saturday 25 (359-6) Christmas Day.

Dined at the Piccadilly. Mrs Guy, Weigall, Sheila, Rosie, Ethel & Self

Sunday 26 (360-5) 1st after Christmas. St. Stephen, M.

London

Monday 27 (361-4) St. John, Evan.

London

Tuesday 28 (362-3) Innocents Day.

London

Wednesday 29 (363-2)

London

Thursday 30 (364-1)

London

Friday 31 (365)

London

Plan for Leave

Sunday - go straight home

Mon - at home

Tues - at home

Wed - at home

Thurs - at home, go to Town by night train -

Frid - in Town

Sat - in Town

Sun - Return -

How I propose to map out my leave - Every moment is precious.