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PERSONAL DIARIES FROM WORLD WAR I



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Life Interrupted: Personal Diaries from World War I

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PERSONAL DIARIES FROM WORLD WAR I

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INSIDE COVER: FRONT LINE AT BOIS-GRENIER, APRIL 1916, WH BURRELL PXB 198

INSIDE BACK COVER: '577' WRITING HOME. HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861



Life Interrupted: Personal Diaries from World War I

As the First World War drew to its end, the then Public Library of NSW began collecting the personal accounts of those who enlisted - farmers, doctors, nurses, journalists and artists - to document the war as they had experienced it.

This extraordinary collection - including some 1100 volumes of diaries written by around 550 servicemen and women – is supported by newspapers, photographs, artworks, maps and ephemera. The Library's collection is one of the richest and, until now, rarely seen records of the Australian experience of World War I.

In Life Interrupted, Curator Elise Edmonds reveals the captivating personal experiences - often harrowing, sometimes wry - of the servicemen and women, stretcher-bearers, POWs, in their own words.

A century after the start of the war, we look back on that global conflict which so profoundly affected and shaped Australia and its people. The diaries are at the heart of our contribution to that recollection. The majority have been completely digitised, transcribed and are available on our newly launched World War I website <www.wwl.sl.nsw.gov.au>.

The Library's program is about sharing our stories, your stories, war stories with all Australians on site, on tour and online over the next four years. This exciting program would not be possible without the generous support provided by our sponsor, News Corp Australia, and through the NSW Government funding of our Digital Excellence Program.

ALEX BYRNE NSW State Librarian & Chief Executive

Foreword



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Introduction



'577' WRITING HOME, HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861 We do not know how many Australian soldiers took a diary to the First World War, nor how many took to diarykeeping once there. Certainly not a majority, for most of the 330,000 soldiers who went abroad preferred to write letters or postcards if they wrote at all. But thousands kept a diary, not of the introspective or confessional

introspective or confessional kind, but rather a spectator diary, a record of travel and war, of tourism and duty done, something to be sent home, or to carry home; to be read by family and friends or, perhaps, to be consulted later, to confirm a memory or fuel a reminiscence.



Australians are privileged to have a wonderful collection of these diaries at the State Library of New South Wales in Sydney. The collecting began before the war ended. As events at Gallipoli seized the nation's imagination, the Principal Librarian, William Ifould, was formulating an acquisition policy in haste. Ifould was determined to collect first-hand accounts of battle written by the front-line men. With the approval of his trustees, he placed advertisements in newspapers around Australia and in Britain, offering to buy diaries and letters in original form. The Library's Letter Books for 1918-22 reveal

that some diaries subsequently offered to Ifould were rejected on grounds of being insubstantial or in some way rewritten or overwritten later. Authenticity was at a premium.

By 1919 the collection was already a valuable one. By 1921 the total number of war diaries in the Library had reached 247, complemented by collections of letters and in some cases photo albums as well. Today the collection stands at around 550 diarists and over 1100 volumes.

These diaries take many forms. Some were written on odd sheets of paper or in memo books or signal message books.



[AUSTRALIAN TROOPS ON PYRAMID], C. 1915. COLART'S STUDIO. MELBOURNE PXR 481

Others were cloth or leather bound. Occasionally the narrative begins in a hefty gilt-edged volume but inevitably continues in any kind of notebook that comes to hand. Most diaries were pocket-sized and fit for purpose.

The variety of bindings complements the range of writing styles. Some are terse and random: 'Getting warmer. Glassy sea with strong under currents. Dance for nurses and officers. Commenced growing a moustache.' Some are prolix and strain for literary effect: 'The sun as it arose threw a golden glory over the distant horizon and finally appeared in a great white disc in all its glittering heat.' Some don't strain at all and achieve a lyricism that seems effortless.

A small number of diaries were acquired from the families of men killed abroad but the majority in this collection were purchased from men who made it home, survivors, many of them diarists over two, three or four years. Their chronicles bear the hallmarks of the true diary. They are not carefully planned, they are raw and unpolished and rich with the 'diamonds' of more or less spontaneous jotting. Their pre-eminent quality is an unpretentious authenticity and immediacy, a realism that is rarely matched by other records of wartime experience. They are intensely 'in the moment', all the more so in the trenches where death was everywhere.

Why did they write them? Firstly, they did so because they could. Australia was an unusually literate society for the time and

> PETER COCHRANE July 2014

be alive.

many were schooled enough to tell their story. And what a story! The soldier-diarists. and the airmen, sailors and nurses who kept a diary, knew they had a big story to tell. They often used the word 'adventure'. One even gave his diary a title. He called it 'the great adventure'. But the innocence or the optimism suggested by this phrase was short-lived. The 'great adventure' was mugged by war and soon enough we see a change - the language becoming darker as the romance disintegrates.

For some their cryptic notes were probably no more than an *aide-memoir*. For others, the diary was a way to connect with home. They were writing for an imagined audience, for the family and friends they had left behind. The importance of a 'conversation' with home can hardly be overstated. Along with letters and postcards and sometimes photographs, the diaries were the Facebook of their day impressions and experiences for the kitchen table or the mantelpiece. Last but not least, these wartime

chroniclers wanted a record of duty done. They wrote of hard training and hard times, of battle and death and ruin everywhere. There are lines, hastily scrawled upon the eve of battle, by soldiers who knew this entry might be their last. There are passages where men puzzle as to how they could still

These are voices full of life and fun and fear, and resolute purpose. They are voices from the greatest tragedy of the twentieth century, a tragedy that engulfed an age.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES AT GALLIPOLI, 1915 PXB 250



'I have shut down my practice and closed my doors' Charles Rosenthal

The scene opens at the breakfast table at Cutterabah, Kyogle NSW, one morning in late July, where I was but languidly interested to hear that another war had started in the Balkans. I had never interested myself in international politics & so took another helping of eggs & bacon without a thought to the monstrous possibilities that a war between Austria & Serbia opened up. Maurice Evans

Charles Rosenthal and Maurice Evans enlisted in the first weeks of the war. Architect and soldier Charles Rosenthal went on to be a Major-General and was given command of the 2nd Division in 1918. By the end of the war he would be highly decorated and respected by his men. Agricultural student Maurice Evans served with the 1st Light Horse Field Ambulance in Egypt and Palestine throughout the entire war.

Evans was nineteen, 5 feet 10 inches, had good teeth and knew how to ride a horse. Rosenthal had previous military experience, holding the rank of major in the Australian Field Artillery in 1908.

These were the prerequisites for the newly formed Australian Imperial Force (AIF): men aged between 18 and 35 years, at least 5 ft 6 ins tall with good teeth and a chest measurement of at least 34 inches. Men who were members of the military, or had previous military experience, were highly sought after.

Life interrupted

BELOW: FREE TOUR TO GREAT BRITAIN AND EUROPE Q940.394/9

OPPOSITE PAGE: COL-SERGT JACKSON RESISTING A SNAPSHOT HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL



A "Coo=ee" from Australia.

there to brother for a I made and what all his colleges too Wishing them the best of lick I may going water two.

MMPOSED BY H-DEMPSEY 12-11 10

YERA



ABOVE: TWO-PIECE SUITS GIVEN AWAY Q940.394/9

BELOW RIGHT: WORLD WAR ONE REJECTED VOLUNTEERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES BADGE, C. 1916 R 2055

The AIF was looking for the best, the healthiest. Many hopeful men worried about these requirements, concerned they might be rejected and miss out on the adventure. Archie Barwick was only 5 ft 4 ins. Somehow, he got through and turned somersaults of joy when he received his letter of acceptance: '... we all had our Khaki & how proud we all were to get it ... '



As the war dragged on, recruitment standards became less strict. Men aged between 18 and 45 years and those over 5 ft 2 ins were accepted. Concern over dental health lapsed. Jack Hutton had been a jockey, riding horses at Randwick. At 5 ft 2 ins, he passed his medical inspection and was accepted into the AIF in October 1915.

Berry well ! Leicester-square.

Binna long, long way Tipperary

Simenect

By gum I bin go there.

AUNTRALIAN ABORIGINAL -THE COD=CE Lite & Coonce Thise

Longa, longa, Tipperary, and Correct Constraints. Longa way me think it go. "Land" Reads from Endercome Binna long, long way Tipperary, Leep cheer I don't diefair To badgerie Mary I bin know. SugetByembye! Piccadily.

LAD-LL-LOL IN ATLAN IN LLING THE

and setting to the new

the lines much the flower street

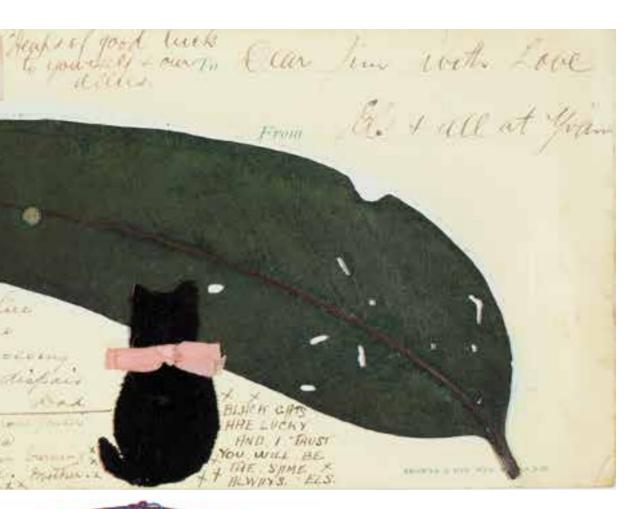
Will will some much it have - Brithans

By April 1917, when enlistment numbers were declining, men were being accepted who were 5 ft.

Some men were never accepted and wore badges that identified themselves as rejected volunteers to avoid community shaming or suspicion of being a 'shirker'.



2 ad



ABOVE: A COO-EE FROM AUSTRALIA A FAREWELL CARD JAMES BRUNTON GIBE MLMSS 3446 ADD-ON 2220 / BOX 2 / FOLDER 1

LEFT: YOU'LL DO KANGAROO PXA 623/2

9







The government printed full-colour, mass-produced recruitment posters with powerful messages to men and women at home in Australia. Displayed at train stations, recruitment offices and in shop windows, they transmitted patriotic messages, encouraging bravery, sacrifice and mateship. While it is hard to determine how effective these posters were in recruiting additional men for the AIF, they do tell us the message that government was communicating to its citizens on the home front: that all able-bodied men were needed to fight for the British Empire.

Those who successfully passed the medical exam were marched off to training camps. Here they began their military careers, learning how to march, fire a rifle and use a bayonet. They made friends and had their photographs taken wearing their uniform. Ellis Silas, an artist from Perth, entered Blackboy Camp in Western Australia but doubted he could go through with killing a man. He didn't like his rough comrades and kept going AWOL in the evenings, sneaking back to his studio to finish his artwork.



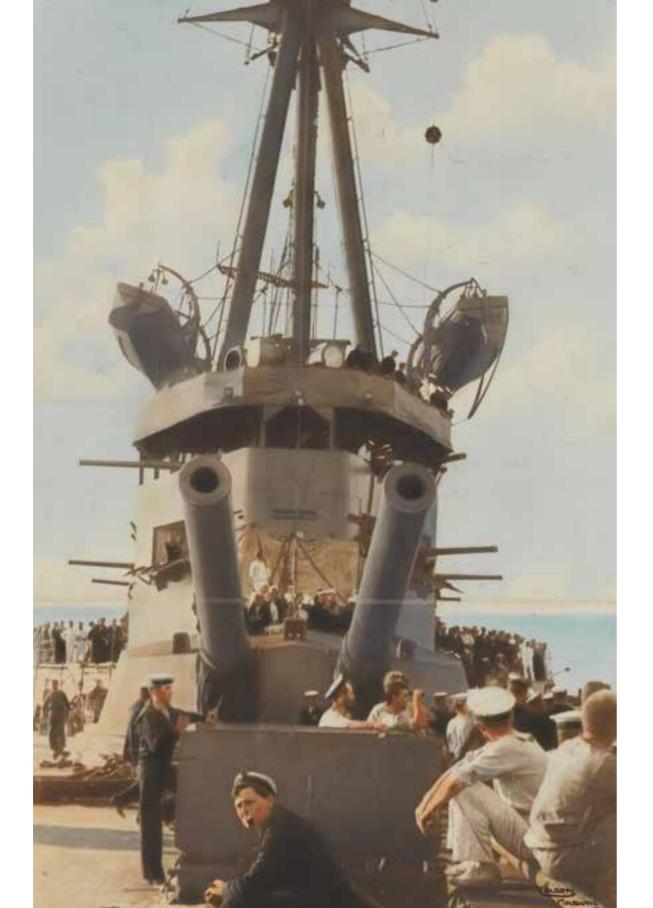
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

IT'S OUR FLAG / FIGHT FOR IT, WORK FOR IT, C. 1914, GUY LIPSCOMBE PX*D 160 VOL. 2

HEADQUARTERS STATE RECRUITING CAMPAIGN [CHALLIS HOUSE, SYDNEY], 1916 PXE 705 / 5

REST AT BONDI: 16-MILE ROUTE MARCH SOUTH HEAD, 1914, HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861

OPPOSITE PAGE: COME ON BOYS, FOLLOW THE FLAG, C. 1916, JAMES NORTHFIELD © JAMES NORTHFIELD HERITAGE ART TRUST PX*D 160 VOL 2



The Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force in German New Guinea

With recruitment and training underway at home, Australian forces sailed to New Guinea with instructions to capture or destroy radio stations and to seize the Germanheld territory. Naval troops landed and after several brief skirmishes, Rabaul was occupied on 12 September 1914. The German administration in New Guinea surrendered on 17 September 1914.

The first casualties of war began to be counted. A young Sydney doctor, Brian Pockley, was mortally wounded after assisting an injured crew member. His last letter, written the night before he was killed, was optimistic. He explained he was to be a member of the landing party to capture the German wireless stations and that he didn't think there would be any opposition to the Australian landing, writing 'personally I think it will be a very pleasant little picnic'. Pockley's hasty actions, taken in the middle of a confrontation with enemy troops, ensured that he would be one of the first Australian war casualties whose name would be linked with bravery and sacrifice. Pockley had assisted a wounded sailor and gave his Red Cross identification to the man to ensure he could return safely back to the ship. Wearing no medical identification, Pockley was shot as he tried to advance. Seriously wounded, he was taken back to the Berrima but died soon afterwards.

OPPOSITE PAGE: HMAS AUSTRALIA CREW WAITING DEPARTURE OF THE SYDNEY DESTROYER FOR A NIGHT RAID ON RABAUL, C. 1914-1915, COLART'S STUDIO MELBOURNE PXD 481/ 164163

It was an act of heroic self-sacrifice, even though it was contrary to all regulations. You should indeed be proud of him ... He died like an officer and a gallant gentleman.

Major FA Maguire wrote to Pockley's father about his son's death:

It was an act of heroic self-sacrifice, even though it was contrary to all regulations. You should indeed be proud of him ... He died like an officer and a gallant gentleman.

Two days after these casualties, the entire crew of submarine AE1 vanished. The crew — three officers and 32 sailors — were lost in the Navy's first major tragedy. It vanished on 14 September 1914 and has never been located. Dr Hamilton-Kenny, a surgeon on board the *Upolu*, wrote to his wife about the tragic disappearance. We are face to face this aft with a terrible tragedy – the loss of AE1 & all her crew. What happened we don't know. The submarines were to patrol turn & turn about & at 7 am yesterday morning AE1 went out. Scarlett was forward on the tiny bridge – Besant was aft – I saw them go out. They patrolled along with the destroyer *Parramatta*. All went as per usual, nothing to be seen, all well.

The destroyer last saw AE1 about 2.30 pm in St George channel. Both were returning. The destroyer went to Herbertshöhe & naturally concluded AE1 came up harbour to us. She was due about 7 pm. We had dinner & told the stewards to keep things hot for them. About 8 pm inquiries began to be made & Stoker was sent for to the flag ship. A wireless went out to the *Parramatta* & she told all she knew. Anxiety deepened ...





BRIAN COLDEN ANTILL POCKLEY, C. 1914 MLMSS 1092 / ITEM 5



The German cruiser *Emden* had been shadowing and destroying Allied shipping across the Indian and Pacific oceans. Between August and October 1914 she had captured or sunk 21 ships. This posed a great threat to the first Australian and New Zealand troopships sailing in convoy through the Indian Ocean on their way to Egypt. By November 1914, nine Allied ships were hunting for the *Emden*.



On 9 November a warning from the British radio station on Cocos (Keeling) Islands was picked up by HMAS Sydney. A German ship had been sighted.

The *Sydney*'s chaplain felt the ship increase its speed and, surmising that they would soon be facing their first battle, he prayed with the crew. He remembered afterwards: 'this historic prayer before Battle was read before the Ship's company for the first time in Australian Naval history'.

The Sydney and the Emden

HMAS *SYDNEY* WITH SUBMARINES AE1 AND AE2, CAIRNS, QLD, 14 MAY 1914 AT WORK AND PLAY - 04907

OPPOSITE PAGE: [PHOTOGRAPHS RELATING TO THE SYDNEY-EMDEN BATTLE OFF COCOS ISLAND], 1914 PXB 241



ABOVE: SYDNEY, EMDEN MEDAL, 1914

[THE DECK] OF THE *EMDEN*, C. 1914, COLART'S STUDIO, MELBOURNE PXD 481/167

ABOVE RIGHT: FIRST CUTTERS FROM HMAS *SYDNEY* BOARDING THE *EMDEN*, C. 1914, COLART'S STUDIO, MELBOURNE PXD 481/ 164164

OPPOSITE PAGE: ACTION BETWEEN HMAS *SYDNEY* AND SMS *EMDEN*, 9.11.14 ... 1928 MT3 995.31/1914/1



Dr Leonard Darby was the senior medical officer on board HMAS *Sydney*. He started preparing his sick bays ready for action. He and his team would spend the next 24 hours treating Australian and German casualties.

A team was working in the sick bays. Dr Darby had three staff, including one registered nurse, to assist him. When they required emergency assistance, they had to train cooks, stewards and other crew members including the chaplain, Reverend Vivian Little. Little wrote later about assisting the wounded, many with severe burns and missing limbs.

Two stokers' bathrooms were improvised as sick bays and were filled up as well as possible. Other adjacent bathrooms were utilised for preliminary attentions to the wounded. Everything was necessarily done at great disadvantage and amid intense heat and unhygienic surroundings.

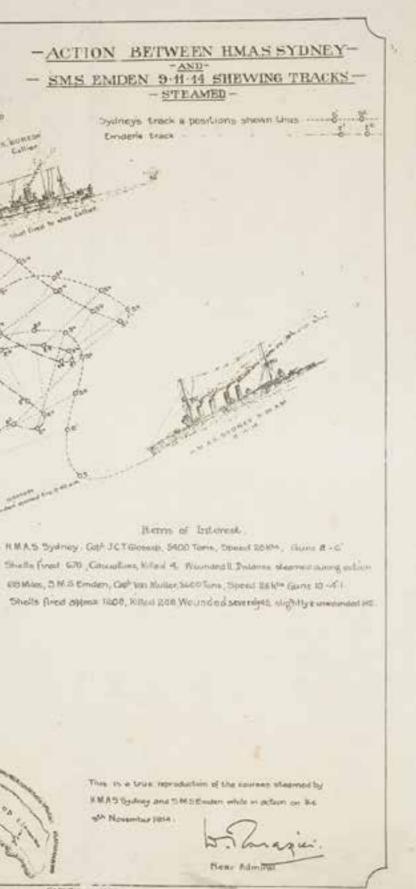
After the *Sydney* began to take on board survivors from the *Emden*, the German surgeon, Dr Luther, assisted in a number of operations.

The *Emden* was destroyed that same day.

NORTH HEELING P

18

EAPTRIS 19.00



19



It was a six-week journey by sea from Australia to Egypt and after the excitement of enlistment, training and farewells some feelings of boredom were inevitable among the troops. To alleviate the monotony on the ship, sports carnivals were held, with boxing matches and games such as pillow fights and wheelbarrow races.



The crossing the Equator ceremony, 'Neptune's journey', was played out on each troopship as it headed north. Passengers were often covered in tar and then dunked in water. Soldier Archie Barwick described the ceremony on his ship, A19, *Afric*.

Our next bit of excitement was crossing the Line, we had a great big canvas bath fitted, and filled with salt water, and some of the officers were dressed in all sorts of costumes, we had a father Neptune (Capt Swanell) ... and then special constables, who had been duly initiated, that is ducked, were told off by Father Neptune and his Court to arrest all & sundry ...

Leaving Home

PILLOW FIGHT, SPORTS MEETING PORT SYDNEY, LIONEL CHERRY WILLIS PXB 248

OPPOSITE PAGE: BOARDING FERRY BOATS FORT MACQUARIE 18 OCTOBER 1914, HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861



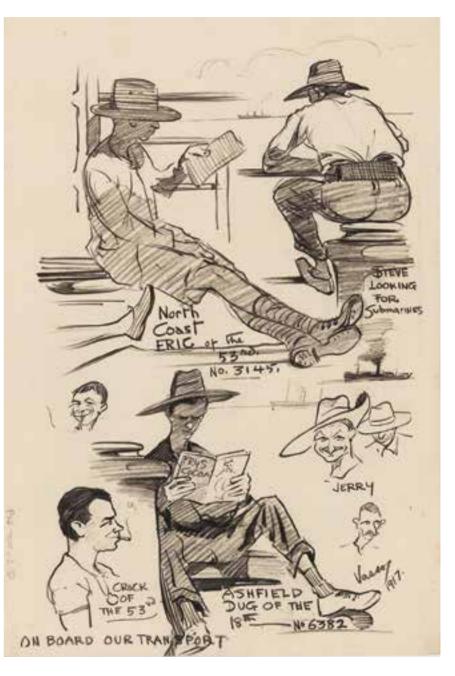
FATHER NEPTUNE'S CEREMONY CROSSING THE EQUATOR, PORT SYDNEY LIONEL CHERRY WILLIS PXB 248

RIGHT: SOME OF THE 'BHOYS' EN ROUTE FOR 'THE OLD DART' ... DECEMBER 1916 LOUREIRO VASCO PXE 700 / VOL. 2 ... when they got them to the tank they shot them in clothes and all on and when you came up some of Neptune's slaves shoved you under again with a pole until you were nearly drowned and when you went to get out, they were there to help you with hands all over grease and tar ...

... once you had been through Neptune's hands you were free to go and help the others drag them in ... Water & wet towels were the only weapons that were legal and the deck was a mass of flying towels ...

BHO en route for " the old DART' Vasco7 Dec 1916

One way to pass the time on a troopship was to draw. Here are some of the 'bhoys': Yorkey, Balks, Red and Ray. North Coast Eric is stretched out reading as too is Ashfield Dug. Steve is looking for submarines, or is he dreaming about home?





ABOVE: PLENTY OF WORK FOR GLASSES HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861

LEFT: ON BOARD OUR TRANSPORT, 1917 LOUREIRO VASCO PXE 700 / VOL. 2



LEFT TO RIGHT:

RATIONS AT SEA ... 1917 LOUREIRO VASCO PXE 700 / VOL. 2

THE SAPPERS' BOUDOIR ... 1917 LOUREIRO VASCO PXE 700 / VOL. 2

Loureiro Vasco – who changed his name to the more conventional Louis when he enlisted – spent his time on the *Suevic* drawing his shipmates. A professional cartoonist, he had trained at the National Gallery of Victoria School and produced artwork for postcards in Melbourne, Sydney and in the United States.

Ellis Silas, a fledgling signaller on board the transport A40 Ceramic and an artist before enlistment, filled the time by reading, sketching and painting.

SAPPERS BOUDDIR

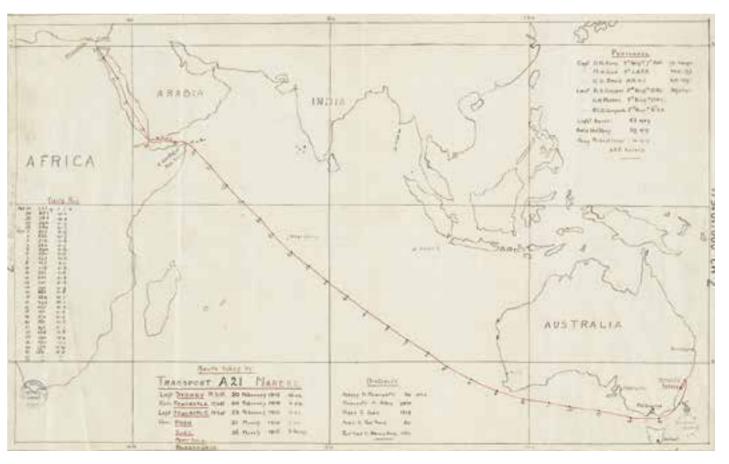
SOME WHERE AT SEA

25 December, Christmas Day All day painting and reading. Fruit is given us as a little extra - I presume no day of any importance could be such unless there were something extra for the inner man.

26 December

Usual routine - meals, drill, etc., how I hate signalling! At night I try to read the ship's signalling with lamps - I feel in despair, I cannot read six words - wonder if I ever will. Sketching as usual; as I use my pencil whenever I get a chance ...

One morning, just before Reveille, went to get some tea; it was given me in a metal cup which I cannot drink out of; I said to the cook, "Wait a minute, I'll get a china cup" - this was too much for the lads, who immediately began some days.



to call out for their valets and shaving water! I never heard the end of this incident for

The original sketch (below) was made by Captain Brian Gaynor, of the 2nd Field Artillery Brigade, who served in Gallipoli and France. His map shows the route taken, with daily progress, by the Transport A21 *Marere* from Sydney through the Indian Ocean to the Suez Canal and Egypt. The map also has a list of AIF personnel on board, along with the numbers of horses.

ROUTE TAKEN BY TRANSPORT A21 MARERE, 1915, BRIAN GAYNOR Z/M2 990/1915/1



Originally they thought they were heading to Europe, but the first convoy of Australians and New Zealanders arrived in Egypt on 3 December 1914. They were deployed there to protect British interests in the Middle East which were being threatened by the Turkish Ottoman Empire. The big concern was a possible Turkish takeover of the Suez Canal which continued to be a significant link for British trade and shipping. The Australians headed to camps at Maadi on the Nile and Mena, which was situated near the pyramids of Giza. They commenced military training: marching through sand, digging and attacking trenches for six days a week. They were granted some free time and the men relished it. Egypt was so interesting — a foreign country, foreign people — and unusual food and exotic smells were often



Egypt

BELOW: PITCHING TENTS IN SIGHT OF PYRAMIDS, 8 DECEMBER 1914 HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861

OPPOSITE PAGE: 1ST BATT. ROUTE MARCHING NEAR PYRAMIDS HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861 should not be dangerers. The difficulty is to make em-tain that they are not zone instation made with fibby water and sold in a bottle with the lable of a suppertable free The salest way is never to truck them except at some of the best restaurants which would act dream of such deseption. Cordials may be generally taken to be instatums of waterer bink they are sold for. Abulicle deals sold under the name of Cognae, Abustile

and other - sportify - are liable, except at good restaurants, to be sative instations made from doubtilal case spirit and necessarily parts potential any presentage of alcohol and be practically part potent; and as none cases the cohort is obtained in ways too diagnoring to be observed. Some admitted have as commerce whitener in this metter. andy object in to sell.

Hals rule - a decant restaurant.

The best advice is to avoid either advand or soft drinks anders at the heat places in types. Indeed the one safe rule is to go to a good notament in the European quarter, and never from a baking your much in a networe restaurant. The co-fee in the European quantum which have tables on the pare-sent costicle are generally infe provided you which to denke that you know and observe the above roles as to salad and that you know and observe the shore raises as to sated and franks. It is generally used out to talk to any satisfi liker — they may be kindly well-intentioned statistic, who would some into conversation out of politerent, or they may be will doesn't tricketen who would set why at drogging is most; it is practically impossible for us to distinguish them with see slight acquaintance. European emidents in Coirs say the only and rule for newcomers in to be polite had seven fami-

There are several thereagily good restaurasts in Cases where discuss samples that for all or a good for all or the for the discussion may be had for all or a good for all or the tax for \$ d in 1/2. But of course the need acclerate is the cases which the lacks of Carto have expressed for addition — in the Labeleck gardens (grammaneed Labeleck) in the mul-dle of the Energients transmission for plane house and the Grand Continental Motel. Everything at this cafe is good

WHAT TO KNOW IN EGYPT: A GUIDE FOR mentioned in diaries and letters. They were AUSTRALASIAN SOLDIERS, CEW BEAN soldier-tourists: training and marching through the Egyptian desert, visiting Cairo, 'the city of sin and shame' as Jack Hutton

called it.

Australian journalist CEW Bean produced a 47-page guide for the troops, What to Know in Egypt: A Guide for Australasian Soldiers, which covered a range of topics such as the history of Egypt and the pyramids, opening times of the museums, where to eat and what to avoid (avoid fruit, coffee was deemed to be the safest drink), some useful phrases and currency conversions. Bean also included detailed information about the Islamic religion and urged religious tolerance of the visitors: 'It is particularly important that we should not through ignorance or carelessness interfere with their right to serve God in their own way'.

1.4 and the prices are the lowest prissible. . We case a debr to the habes of Case for the provision of this cafe

Dangar of hothing or going have foot.

The much fire enting and delinking. But there are elinearen much in Egypt headre these contracted through load or drick. One discuss superally is very prevalent amongst as-trice who work in the fields — the investor of a worm, which gets into the barly threads the skin and whose eggs finally notice in the binddle and coverties. This happens coversatily to assess builting or public inter the Nile, or in the chan-rele or peels on the flats, or walking scress the flats with bars list. The infection raw enter through like solen of the feet, Many English troops in the Kase-IL3-Nil harracks by the Nile cought this reception which has very exploratent consequen-on. The damp will around native villages in full of this Indextion as well as typicoid and dyoentery.

A hot bed of disease.

Lastly Carrs has easily itself a same in the world as a has-test of lastly grearrises used apphala. These is a means for this, Egypt is not a country under the full south of the grearmone. The Egyptian officials even though they had able florade alianeastration to bely flows have represented in the florade alianeastration in bely. Been here possessed with metrical over the theringness which Empoyae actions have only ad-wided to their construction which florades are endy ad-worlded to their control of by mixed indexall. I Egyptian roots may ind deal rule will Emotions above any ad-metric dropped and the second strategies and the second part of the constructed by mixed indexalls of Egyptian is the constructed by mixed indexalls. Excep-ptions have here constructed by mixed indexalls. Egypt has been a second there a found in the skill forme of the been above timp and the to chead the diamae it has been above timp and the to chead the diamae it has been above timp and the to chead the diamae it has been above timp and the to chead the skill been of meaning a disette which is alway or certainly been mannin a fineter which is alwort certainly synklin. Mo-ders Carte with its minture of women from all cations, East and Wort has long how mated for particularly wireless forms af disease. Almost meny eilings contains cyphilis. And

They climbed the pyramids and rode camels. Many had their own cameras and took photographs of their friends at the top of the Great Pyramid and in front of the Sphinx. They visited mosques, museums and the Cairo zoo and frequented European-style cafes. Photographer Henry Marshall enlisted in the 1st Battalion and photographed his journey from the military camp at Kensington in Sydney to Cairo and on to Gallipoli. On one of his days off. he and his mates climbed the pyramids and Henry was there, at the top, to take their photographs. On Christmas Day 1914 he and his friends visited Heliopolis and old Cairo. They saw the sights and bought a fez.

Sister Anne Donnell visited Cairo in October 1915 and delighted in everything, especially the bazaar quarter which she visited with several British nurses. It provided excellent shopping:

This place seems to be devoted to everything that is oriental in the way of Alleys full of copper ware, brass-ware, gold and silver, precious and ornamental stones, Turkish slippers etc etc etc. It's most fascinating.

Then there was the 'big dust up', a riot in the Wazzir (red light) district of Cairo on Good Friday 1915. Too much alcohol led to violence and bad behaviour. All leave was cancelled after that. Some New Zealand officers encouraged their men to have nothing to do with the Australians, although New Zealand troops had also been involved.



/03

916 2/3

WHAT TO KNOW

IN EGYPT

CODE FOR AUSTRALASIAN SOLDERS

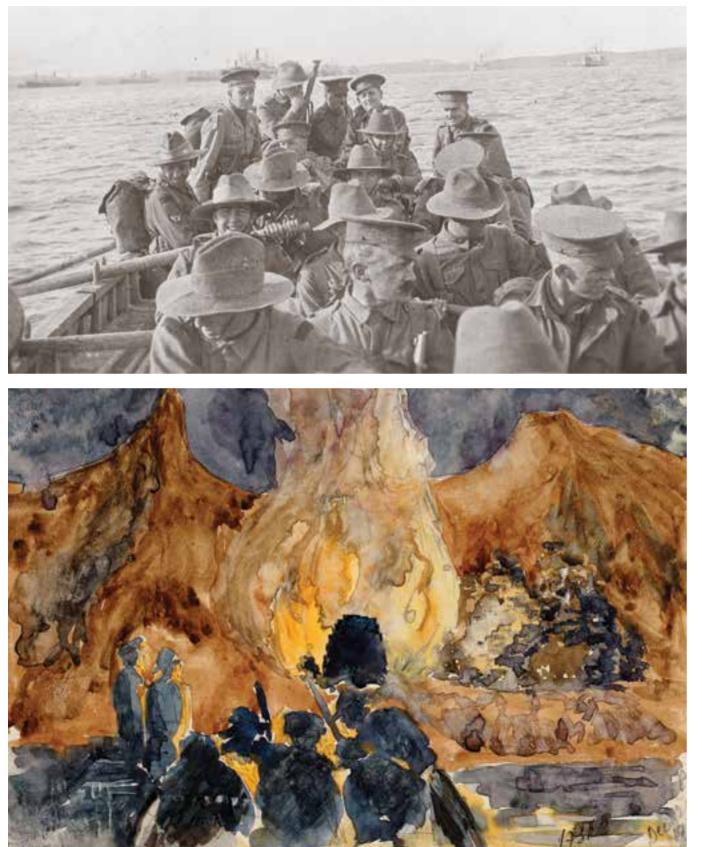
Paul I Perfort Text.

the spectral to the same first and it is

- 01 '577' THE TURK'S SHADOW HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861
- 02 MOONLIGHT AT SPHINX HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861
- 03 GEIZAH TRAM STOP HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861
- 04 GROUP, AT TOP OF CHEOPS HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861
- 05 NATIVE BARTERING WITH SOLDIER HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861







This is where 'things got lively'. Corporal Crooks observed early on that there were 'plenty of stray bullets flying around, a bloke wants to keep his nut down or he will quick get it smacked'. A signaller, who in his previous life was an artist, stayed awake for four days, running between outposts and headquarters with messages. In the midst of dodging screaming shrapnel he listened to early morning birdsong. Ellis Silas, who doubted his courage prior to landing at Gallipoli, did a lot of running with messages, serving with distinction at Pope's Hill, Quinn's Post and Bloody Angle.

I have been running despatches all night and in between endeavouring to make a dugout – I couldn't lift the pick so had to use my trenching tool. Wonder what I am going to do for rations – I had to throw mine out, it was too heavy for me to carry. Feeling very weak and tired. He lasted a month on Gallipoli and as evacuated out on 28 May suffering

He lasted a month on Gallipoli and was evacuated out on 28 May suffering from nervous exhaustion. He had been found unconscious and delirious and later developed enteric fever (typhoid).

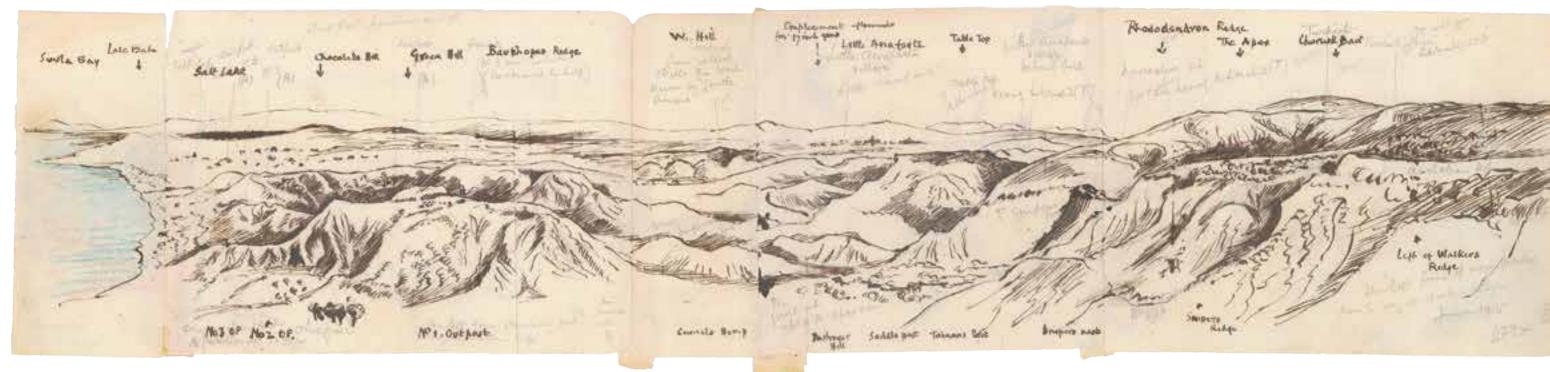
Gallipoli



ABOVE: ELLIS SILAS DIARY, 1914-1916 MLMSS 1840

OPPOSITE PAGE: [GALLIPOLI], 1915 HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861

FINIS, 20 DECEMBER 1915 LESLIE FRASER STANDISH HORE PXE 703



Poor 'young Duke' from Wagga was shot and killed instantly while his mate Archie Barwick was eating breakfast. His body was buried somewhere in Shrapnel Gully. Barwick and Reg Duke had enlisted at the same time, in August 1914, and had become good friends. Archie described him as 'a right good mate' and said they had some good times together:

I was a good bit downhearted for some time after this I know. I got what things I could of his & sent them home to his people, as he asked me to do if ever he got knocked & Len went round to the orderly room & got his revolver which he promised him if ever he got knocked.

Poor Wagga was buried down by the beach & this much I know, that a clergyman read the burial service over him but try as I would I could never find his grave. He was as game a lad as ever looked through the sights of a rifle, & I shall never forget him. A lawyer from Hobart, Leslie Hore arrived at Gallipoli in May with the 8th Australian Light Horse Regiment. His watercolour views of the Gallipoli Peninsula depict the harsh, steep terrain and the trench systems. His works also capture some of the natural beauty of the peninsula. The sunsets were beautiful and much remarked upon by diarists. Hore's watercolour, *Bathing Party, Gallipoli*, is a particularly dramatic scene with a deep blue sky, a full moon, steep cliffs, the small figures of men at the edge of the water and some mules looking on.



ABOVE: ... FROM 1/2 WAY UP WALKER'S RIDGE, 1915 LESLIE FRASER STANDISH HORE PXE 702/5

LEFT: *BATHING PARTY, GALLIPOLI,* OCTOBER 1915, LESLIE FRASER STANDISH HORE PXE 702



[AT GALLIPOLI], 1915, HENRY CHARLES MARSHALL PXA 1861

RIGHT: ELLIS ASHMEAD-BARTLETT TELEGRAMS, 1915 A1585 British journalist Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett telegraphed the news of Australian troops proving themselves in battle for the first time. His reports were the first to be published in Australian newspapers. Within five months, his support for the Gallipoli campaign was gone and he wrote a scathing letter to British Prime Minister Asquith describing it as a ghastly and costly fiasco.

of Another St. St. J. Blands



The army is in fact in a deplorable condition. Its morale as a fighting force has suffered greatly and the officers and men are thoroughly dispirited. The muddles and mismanagement beat anything that has ever occurred in our Military History.

The fundamental evil at the present moment is the absolute lack of confidence in all ranks in the Headquarters staff.

Visiting Australian journalist Keith Murdoch was to carry the letter back to London. However, someone had tipped off the military authorities and the letter was confiscated by the French police at Marseilles. Murdoch continued on to London and delivered his own letter to the Australian Prime Minister, Andrew Fisher, reiterating many of the main points from Ashmead-Bartlett's original letter. The resulting political furore may have assisted in Hamilton's recall as Commander-in-Chief and to the eventual evacuation of the Gallipoli Peninsula.

PATIENTS AND INTERIOR OF WARD DURING EARLY DAYS ALBERT WILLIAM SAVAGE PXE 698/19



THE STAFF 3RD AGH PHOTOGRAPHED ON CHRISTMAS DAY 1915, LEMNOS ISLAND ALBERT WILLIAM SAVAGE PXE 698/42

RIGHT: MEDAL COMMEMORATING BATTLE AT DARDANELLES, 1915, ARTS & CRAFTS ASSOCIATION OF SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA R 686(S)

OPPOSITE PAGE: OPERATION ORDER NO. 3 FROM HEADQUARTERS, ANZAC (DETAIL) 16 DECEMBER 1915 MLMSS 7903 Ashmead-Bartlett was ordered to leave Gallipoli on 2 October. Two months later, the evacuation of Allied troops from Gallipoli commenced.



OFERATION ORDER No. 3 by <u>Colonel C.F. C o x. C.B. V.D.</u> <u>Commanding. 1st. A. L. H. Brigade</u>

Reference - 1-20,000 KOJA DERE

1 - INFORMATION :-

The Australian and New Zealand Army Corps has been ordered to re-embark and proceed to MUDROS. The re-embarkation will be effected in two nights and will commence on a date to be notified later. It will be effected principally at ANZAU COVE and NORTH BEACH, a few troops on the flanks re-embarking on the second night at BRIGHTON BEACH and opposite the ASMAN DERE.

2.- <u>PRELIMINARY MEASURES</u> :-(a) Immediate steps will be taken by C.O's to hand over to the Divisional Loading Officer, Bread and Meat Store, WILLIAMS PIER, all official papers, records, maps, kits, baggage, etc, which it is necessary to keep. Indents for transport to be sent without delay to Divisional Transport Officer, No. 2 POST. (b) All notices or guiding marks likely to be of use to the enemy will be destroyed on second day

3 .- EMBARKATION :-

(a) First Night - 317 all ranks of the Brigade embark. Second Night- 350 all ranks of the Brigade embark.

(b) Detailed instructions re time, place and parties is given in Appendices "A" and "B" attached.

(c) In moving to place of assembly parties are not to use MAIN BEACH SAP. .

(d) Ample time is to be allowed for the movement to place of assembly and troops are to be kept under cover as much as possible.

(e) On no account are the numbers set out in Appendix "E" to be exceeded. Any troops in excess are to be embarked under Appendix "A".

(2) The Brigade Commander embarks with B Party on second night. Lt.-Colonel J.B. Meredith will command remainder of Brigade.

(E) O.C., "C" Farty second night is informed that a "keep" provided with food, water and aumunition has been prepared by

Head quarters, OLD No. 3 POST, ANZAC, 16th, Dec., 1915.

Copy No.

Somewhere in France June 25th Precious 1917. It's just aborione that yourse Toowoonton last setter speaks Unix 101 Duffy's and the lides. Edge since & in France life has been Jou could AT perfect. la more cavel imagine than the one we shot in now. This morning Spice creat through a forest alonger class 16021020 armyard they cook place' most delicions French / they can't belgit) mes the the open monthed Where Ainger cat catches milk have the cows the. absolutely the latest squirted Mandevelle stund larmyard old mounta Just home losth Francia 24 again. grandfather fireplace chas Roberts, open old toas ami couhly our Dais in made mund to any ling O'CADA après here Thoras more Sunday - see violent Contrasto more dalica wine signisite food Counde cale strick more funday On OL Gent.M. lion needed moderly and snobs 1 coule hore Ch. 2.10 good might 100 for wonds Hard to believe! etc. etc. aller day & came across taraget.

They began arriving in France in late spring 1916. The lush green beauty of the country impressed the Australians who had spent months in the desert heat of Egypt and on the dry steep cliffs of Gallipoli. Allan Allsop from Sydney wrote that the 'grandeur of Southern France at this time of the year is truly astounding'. Louis Vasco was so inspired by French farm life that he filled his letters home with watercolours of the landscape, people and animals and promised his wife he would bring her back to France 'après la guerre'. Many purchased colourful embroidered French postcards to send home to loved ones. The food, the wine and the French women were also much remarked upon.



Western Front



OH PIP, 1915-1916. AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS' JOURNAL OF WORLD WAR, 1914-1919 A 2771

LEFT: SILK EMBROIDERED POSTCARDS C. 1916-1918 EPHEMERA/WORLD WAR I/1914-1920

OPPOSITE PAGE: LETTERS FROM LOUIS VASCO (VASCO LOUREIRO) ... 1916-1918 MLMSS 8191 / BOX 1X





FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

THE BATTLE OF THE MENIN ROAD ... 1917, FRANK HURLEY PXD 22/34

HEAVY ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENT MAP, 1918 MAPS/1079

A WINDY OUTPOST ON WESTHOEK RIDGE, 1917, FRANK HURLEY PXD 22/39 And then came trench warfare. No more 'La belle France'. A shaken stretcher-bearer, Langford Colley-Priest, wrote to his parents: 'this war not human and is a disgrace to Christianity'. He, like other diarists, tried to describe the noise of war to those fortunate enough not to be there.

The sky looked beautiful, one mass of light and star-shells etc. and the booming of guns etc. was deafening ... The noise of the guns, grenades and machine guns was terrific. No one can realise what the noise is like unless they are close by.

Allsop described the sound as:

Chaos and weird noises like thousands of iron foundries, deafening and dreadful, coupled with the roar of high explosives on coal-boxes



as they ripped the earth out of the parapet, prevailed as we crept along ...

Official photographer Frank Hurley was also in awe of the sights and sounds of battle.

We were just walking along the Menin Road in the twilight, near Hellfire Corner, when our barrage began. Simultaneously from a thousand guns, and promptly on the tick of five, there belched a blinding sheet of flame: and the roar — Nothing I heard in this world or in the next could possibly approach its equal. The firing was so continuous that it resembled the beating of an army of great drums ... and the screaming shriek of thousands of shells. As they read the casualty lists, Australians at home became familiar with once obscure French and Belgian placenames: Fromelles, Pozières, the Somme, Ypres, Bullecourt, Passchendaele. There were so many names on the casualty lists. So many men had just disappeared into no-man's-land, never to return.



On New Year's Day 1918, Anne Donnell, a nurse stationed near Ypres, sat on her bed and wept, homesick and exhausted. She had been away

from home for three years. Sister Donnell was working in the acute medical ward. Her patients were mainly suffering from gas poisoning and there were lots of pneumonia cases. As she wrote, she could detect the smell of sickly sweet pineapple in the air – the tell-tale sign of poison gas: '10 p.m. Will this restless life never end. As I write the shelling is going on again - heavier too. I am not undressing - It's a terrible life this.'



Konnell Thapke reading only gas Staller Mari Unit Car Tesperate Feade" I perfut at not to cut to ded most of as - got denie threat I about I cought and Second as it - read clough manchalate Wat superster 12 wit done celles at a Trated 10 por 2011 the wetter life has ich as state to Shilling a - or you - factor Traan west understand - It a terrule lefs this. We had mi

ABOVE: ANNE DONNELL DIARY, 31 DECEMBER 1917 [DETAIL] MLMSS 1022/ITEM 2

LEFT: ANNE DONNELL, FRONTISPIECE FROM ANNE DONNELL: LETTERS OF AN AUSTRALIAN ARMY SISTER, SYDNEY: ANGUS & ROBERTSON, 1920



A POOR PHOTOGRAPH OF THE 'COVES' ... MLMSS 3446 ADD-ON 2220 / BOX 2 / FOLDER 1

Yet in the midst of it all there were moments of light relief. The Anzac Coves - an entertainment troupe performing songs and skits satirising military life provided a respite from mud, fear and death and the soldiers loved them. They set up their theatres in barns and sheds, just back from the trenches and their shows were always packed. All of the Coves had seen active service, some at Gallipoli, others at the Western Front. There were singers, comedians, female impersonators,



and burlesque. Queen and Princess Mary.



a monologist (who recited poems and monologues), singers, dancers, musicians

They were so popular that they toured Britain during 1918, even performing at Buckingham Palace in front of the King,

OFFICIAL WAR PHOTOGRAPH OF THE ANZAC COVES MLMSS 3446 ADD-ON 2220 / BOX 2 / FOLDER 1

LEFT: BILLBOARD POSTER ADVERTISING THE ANZAC COVES ... APRIL 1918 POSTERS 1204/4





While most of the AIF deployed to the Western Front in early 1916, the Australian mounted troops stayed in the Middle East to fight the Ottoman Turks in Egypt, Palestine, Jordan and Syria. The Middle East campaign ended on 31 October 1918, a few weeks after the capture of Damascus.

The famous last charge at Beersheba of the Australian Light Horse is one of the enduring events of this campaign. The horses are also part of their legend. Some 135,926 horses were shipped from Australia to serve in the war. These hardy animals had to go up to 60 hours without water and carry around 130 kg of rider, saddle, equipment, food and water.

The horses are mentioned regularly in the men's diaries. Maurice Evans, a member of the 1st Light Horse Ambulance, wrote often about his horse, Bernard, who endeared himself to Evans after kicking the unpopular Sergeant-Major:

... an old man very fat and very fond of his food and rather a glutton to boot who had started to ... hog into our jam when Bernard, who was also having breakfast nearby, neatly, deliberately and with no little aplomb, kick[ed] him in the back of the neck. Wonderful horse! ... Horses can show marvellous intelligence at times.

Middle East

COLUMN ON THE MARCH APPROACHING THE SEA OF GALILEE, COLART'S STUDIO MELBOURNE PXD 481/15A

OPPOSITE PAGE: SIGNALLING TROOP SADDLING LAID OUT ... NEAR KHAN YUNUS, AW EDWARDS PXA 404/43





ABOVE: TAFFY, AW EDWARDS PXA 404/27

ABOVE RIGHT: 1ST AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS, PALESTINE, FRANK HURLEY PXD 31/128

Prior to the charge at Beersheba, Evans was spending most of his time on the horselines, making sure Bernard was getting enough food and water. They were stoking the horses with five feeds a day so they would be battle-ready.

Signaller Austin William Edwards of the 1st Light Horse Regiment didn't keep a diary, but took lots of photographs of his horse, Taffy, and members of the regiment in the Sinai Desert. Edwards captured scenes of the signallers working in the desert, men and horses resting on a beach in Palestine and getting their kit ready for an inspection by General Chauvel.

Towards the end of the war, some Light Horse men swapped their horses for a new, daring form of warfare: the air war. One such horseman, Jack Butler, had been a member of the 2nd Light Horse Regiment but decided to transfer to the newly established Australian Flying Corps in early 1917. After several months of training, he graduated as a pilot with the rank of Second Lieutenant in June 1917. He enjoyed several exciting months serving as a pilot flying over Palestine and, in particular, Jerusalem.

He was relieved that he didn't have to bomb 'this lovely city'. Writing to his family he proudly announced:

... I now consider myself a bird-man, as I have flown a plane on my own, and stunted about the skies for 5 hours at all heights up to 3500 ft. This I did in about 6 flights. I have put in something like 14 hours in the air already (i.e.) Dual, and solo. Dual is with an instructor ... I'll send you a snap of me in flying rig-out & my pet aeroplane.

Some of our fellows failed when it came to flying. Some got chucked out as "duds" (no good) some had bad crashes, and were lucky to get off with their lives. Two or three poor beggars were killed.

It's wonderful the amount of crashes, and breakages, and smash-ups they get in a flying school. For my part I had luck, and never even strained a wire.

Visiting the Australian Flying Corps in Palestine and going up with pilot Ross Smith, official war photographer Frank Hurley wrote:

We are crossing the hills of Judea at 90 miles per hour and yet from our great height we appear stationary. Away on the horizon lays a dark streak which is rapidly enlarging. It is the Dead Sea. In a few minutes we are over it ... I am powerless and utterly incapable of describing the wild and tremendous grandeur of the view now stretched before us.

In January 1916 the Imperial Camel In late 1916 the Camel Corps was

Corps was formed from Australian infantry battalions who were recuperating after Gallipoli. Eventually four battalions were created. The 1st and 3rd battalions were Australian, the 2nd was British, and the 4th was a mix of Australians and New Zealanders. The Corps was established to deal with the revolt of pro-Turkish Senussi tribesmen in Egypt's Western Desert. deployed to the Sinai desert to take part in operations against the Turkish army. Here they fought alongside Australian Light Horse units at Romani, Magdhaba, Rafa and Beersheba. The Camel Corps remained part of the Allied forces that advanced north through Palestine in 1917 and 1918.



CAMEL LINES OF THE EGYPTIAN CAMEL CORPS ... PALESTINE, FEBRUARY 1918 FRANK HURLEY ON 25

and had in Autocaut theit has an Bland + that the the -hate - Takarall- 4 S. Mary manage Enders Al miles 20-2C-Poplatore 1 providenty robbed a store 18th - In trained the nite . water store . . Run any loomen - triff lad itenting yoth - flitty Clothan . Wenn her M.D. Man order to an Sacry Report, Sals Steel Corter-15th He again died theo-neellest. doneles to to st. At Staylors as mein at my frend reading crise perithete Stiller , le in Olar and alarde Telle Cover #12 a glatter berd where the last of A Palase Litt winnell. Transah to - Lug of " And a state of the second of the Kassia Sila offer offerthe of the band dentis wool i Pilesvia lui ktopped Execution tester while 11 the the office of Walk Metal Story marbecher att The meast low full with "mus 19th, taken to thene large ou 18 flay FLEENER THE T 14 In making in the adaminations a five the the the Arms in excelled in the the to mile childe account a hadital Service the rais theread have all the littletim political Silder & altally in de 215 unabaration - save transla Atmlung new fail get, lood bacallast and aloog 22 19. Back boas bluelthead wow present to a Sam krant Bloude That water the cour blen Hat water and Strance Starters. do orderaldered is recommend, in more all afered to Praine Tread. Recorden Stent & Jan Der Earle Marken Soa aufrigourable. 12 take cut stanches " dels sident Which She watty which carries The there was withank henry. 15th marth = 30 & rance accust Talie 22 march . Mussian sadeflag and . 24th Karee unforvid. Scoth remain. Lett had yet have

Prisoners of War

Around 4082 Australians were taken as prisoners of war. In the Middle East, 232 were captured by the Ottoman Turks and German forces captured 3850 on the Western Front. They were brave. Many were captured during battle, suffering terrible injuries as they were transported into Germanoccupied France and then Germany. The men recalled that a number of French and German women living near the prisons helped them, secretly providing food and care.

Fifteen-year-old Keith Harris (pictured right) was one prisoner who was surreptitiously helped by German women. Keith, a deckhand on a freighter in the Pacific Ocean, was among 467 crew members captured by the German raider *Wolf* and taken to Germany. He turned 16 while in a German prison camp. Preparing to celebrate his birthday with jam, mouldy black bread and some acorn coffee, Keith scalded himself with the coffee, severely burning his face.

He wrote afterwards about one woman who all the prisoners called Grandmother. This woman treated the burns on his face with a type of oil. Another older woman gave



KEITH HARRIS P03236.237 IMAGE COURTESY OF THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

OPPOSITE PAGE: WAR NARRATIVE (DETAIL), 14 APRIL 1917 - 14 MAY 1918 ... GEORGE WD BELL MLMSS 893 / ITEM 2 him potatoes grown in her garden. Keith also met a younger woman living in the area where he was working who cared for him:

I became friendly with a German woman who afterwards insisted on me calling her Mother. She had two young daughters and one son, her husband being at the war ... She used to wash and mend my clothes and I was always welcome at her home, but I had to be very careful not to be seen going to or coming from her house. If I were seen it meant trouble for both her and I, but she didn't care ... She used to say she didn't care who won the war and I don't think she did.

West Australian man George Bell, from the 16th Battalion, was taken prisoner at the battle of Bullecourt in 1917. Although suffering with a badly injured back and a shattered knee, he defied his captors by keeping a diary hidden for 13 months.

For the purpose of secreting my notes I have used ordinary British note paper. Firstly, I carefully opened the flat end of the tube to insert the notes. Secondly, when softened and tightly folded, the papers were easily inserted into the centre – or thereabouts – of an ordinary large tube of Colgate's toothpaste.

George had received the notepaper and toothpaste from the Prisoners Department of the Australian Red Cross Society in London.



Other prisoners attempted escape, some successfully. Adelaide man Wesley Choat, from the 32nd Battalion, was captured by German troops after the disastrous battle of Fromelles in July 1916. The same day he was taken prisoner, his two brothers were killed in the same battle. Choat wrote about his dramatic escape through Germany into Holland after he returned home. The fact that he was able to speak German helped him enormously as he and fellow soldier, Lance Corporal James Pitts, pretended to be Belgian workmen travelling by train through Germany. Choat wasn't sure whether they had crossed into Holland until he recognised Dutch placenames on the cars parked in the streets.

... I was sure we were at last on friendly Territory. I noticed a boy open a door so straight away, went up to him and asked for a drink. He referred me to his father, who was not satisfied with giving us water, but took us into his kitchen and gave us a drink of good Coffee, which although cold was to us most delicious, it being the first drink of real coffee we had tasted for 17 months. I then asked him if we were in Holland? "Yes" he said, and asked, "Have you come from Germany?" I replied in the affirmative, and said "We are English," at which he grasped our hands, seemingly over-joyed that we had been successful in our escape.

Painting of a local and and

· Indexically The av Perfettion 63 due the Ard = 1 mounter " Out Below, Frig ben. Belge Mehante anon to return with En which activity march recording . Kning the of Martings but which it note with diversity and bears the lo "Auf Carlinon Round his ? "Die trie ben" "Pro the dimension Bus mai - hurs Seen -I try to realizing new mith whilet B is the compact obtaining the ting I have that he will back up an angled third also be made the luckless discound -An Suge has made the discovery und mittain both deve he diche als mast makinda hade exit, believe he had committee a contra conter-

WAR NARRATIVE, 14 APRIL 1917 - 14 MAY 1918 ... GEORGE WD BELL MLMSS 893 / ITEM 2

RIGHT: WESLEY CHOAT (STANDING), JAMES PITTS (SEATED) P03236.156 IMAGE COURTESY OF THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

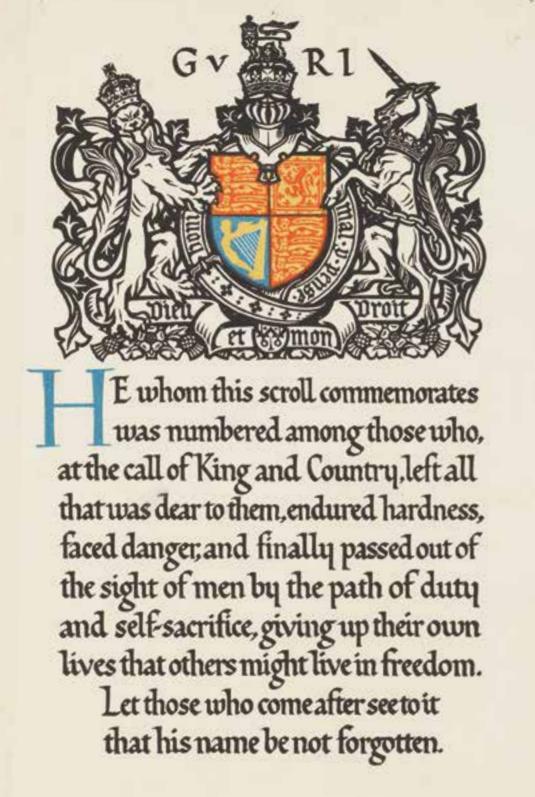
Captain William Cull, who spent 13 months imprisoned in Germany. suffered severe injuries to his hip. As an officer, Will lived under better conditions than the other ranks of prisoners and was housed in officer camps at Karlsruhe, Freiburg and Heidelberg. Unlike other ranks, officers were not forced to work. The first letters Will wrote to his family from prison were cheery and optimistic. He wrote about his fellow inmates – in particular a humorous Belgian who was looking after him – and of his gradually improving health. He also wrote about his French fiancée, Marie, who he hoped would return with him to Australia after the war. He was thankful to receive many supplies from the Red Cross. However, after he was released and living in Switzerland, he wrote

Now that the trouble is over and don[e] with I can tell you that the pain I suffered, both day and night, for five months was I'm sure the most terrible possible for [a] mortal to suffer an[d] live with. I wonder that I'm not dotty. Doctors say that no one else could have lived through what I had.

to his family:



WILLIAM CULL, LETTER HOME, 18 JUNE 1917 MLMSS 1165



Major. Terence Ward Garling 10F.A.B.,A.I.F.

Only one known body was returned home to Australia: Major-General Bridges. He was buried at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, in Canberra. Since most Australians were buried in cemeteries in the foreign fields where they died, or were buried at sea, there were no bodies to mourn over, no funerals and no wakes.



In 1916 the first statues of soldiers began appearing in Australian towns and the names of the fallen were engraved on monuments to the war dead. New traditions of public mourning were being formed around Anzac Day. Bereaved families privately mourned loved ones who would never return.

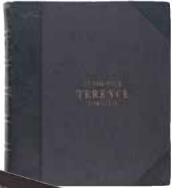
in France.

In Memory

William and Marie Garling from Sydney created their own memorial to their son, Terence, who was killed in April 1918. His letters home, carefully bound together with photographs and memorabilia, were placed reverentially inside a wooden box. He was only 24 years old when he died of wounds received at Dernancourt on the Somme

LEFT: PEACE FLAG, 1919 R 2054

BELOW AND OPPOSITE PAGE: TERENCE GARLING: COLLECTION OF LETTERS HOME MLMSS 3432 / ITEM 1







ZOLA (CAIRO), TERENCE WARD GARLING 1915 PXA 1011/42

BELOW, RIGHT AND OPPOSITE PAGE:

TERENCE GARLING: COLLECTION OF LETTERS HOM MLMSS 3432 / ITEM 1

Terence Garling represents all of those young men who held so much potential, who could have contributed much to society, if not stopped by premature death.

Terence's letter home, dated seven days before his death, was annotated by his parents as 'his last letter'. Following this letter are the bright pink telegrams that were sent to notify the family of the death of their soldier. The Reverend Wilcoxson, from the Greenwich Anglican church, was sent an urgent telegram requesting that he notify Mrs Garling of the death of her son Terence. Receiving a visit from the local clergy was a common method of notifying next of kin of the death of a family member.

After the telegrams came many letters of condolence. Everyone from generals and officers to the men who were part of his artillery brigade wrote describing a brave, respected, caring young officer. A life with so much potential had been cut short.

Description of a second date POPTROTER CONTRACT DEPUTYON NEW SOUTH WALKL URGENT TELEGRAM. The Manual Am has remark unland as the floor and Disposit dut and Manual of Consulton in its assessment is using so the finish Partner's Count. That they are the for the second The - Material A TARXAGE T lesson of Stranking 10th Heald 3. Eller priorite late Souther menulase column had of words to the de the Lasting theme have head henguer the Orley I Sandha

- bed home spring I source The Glass of the grade 5Hr 24 15 more 2416 Mr. Reger & hiche to alle The second diare referred wortigit your silverel There wee tall Filler & Thoroughly addition any all that the report the his het induction way come Yestar days finently her armies andrea To she multi year hiller milistle have try non thing Tobar / my - his ada the fl Example Thy fair go and Young Life so the entry in The planne - but he dee mand with tout with with the interest a transformation where the Just any dis get France of him to the 2/ y chi 7 a wear as the here I med a got wind and I have the a hobity is he suitily attacted by the cank while yet a youth I tooked Tope me a comment way way way would

France 14.4.18

Dear Uncle Willie

I have deferred writing about Terence till I had thoroughly satisfied myself that the report of his death in action was correct. Yesterday I went to his grave & added to its simple yet fitting embellishment my own offering, a token of my silent but deep sympathy for a grand young life, sadly cut off in its prime. But he did grand work, Uncle, & all, both his seniors & juniors, speak in just as high terms of him as an officer & a man as our his confreres speak of him. His ability was amply attested by his rank while yet a youth & so his life we cannot say was wasted ...

with love

Your affectionate nephew

Gerald

Major Garling has served with me on many occasions both in Egypt & Gallipoli as well as in France. On every occasion & under all conditions he has proved himself an able soldier and an excellent officer. His cheerful courage, sustained & inspiring energy has at all times been an example to his brother officers & the men under his command. I have lost, in him, an experienced Battery Commander & an officer of proved ability, whose personality & service I cannot replace,

Brig. General Burgess, Commanding 4th Aust. Div. Artillery, 14 April 1918

In Mit Fuld Stance

14 th april 1918.

Jan willing these

Paris gent A Stingers

few levis insdequali at best;

It express to you for sugget

Toma distly in mules 7

surgest mupathy in the los

of some Sone, Maps J. W. Barling ,

37th Bally, 10tha & a. chugane.

nee de anoren ortanin boll mi

you have notained in the death

Magn Balling - has served with

& all the officer of the of aust

Dear Su

Dear Mrs Garling

officers too.

France. 7.4.18. ten Mu Guling, Anne is my name from ald giving and I much the heart + pale and felline officers for long have, as I am writing to you to give you my deepeat egopt they . Jerry was a an to be find i drant any enough for him I was not about the bearing man I have ever known and the "whiteat." His min loved have , his affected too, He was always where the hould was, in the shape of shelling, I mean He was het whilet walking up and ihrow his

Fergusson is my name, poor old Terry and I were the best of pals and fellow officers for a long time; so I am writing to you to give you my deepest sympathy. Terry was a son to be proud of, I can't say enough for him, he was just about the bravest man I have ever known ... His men loved him, his

He was always where the trouble was, in the shape of shelling, I mean. He was hit whilst walking up and down his battery which was being heavily shelled; giving confidence to his men; it was absolutely necessary too, as the enemy was attacking in overwhelming numbers and the batteries had to keep firing so long as there were men to man the guns; Terry as usual was doing his job properly as he always did; he was badly hit and was never properly conscious so did not leave any messages,

MA Fergusson, 7 April 1918

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