

William Eve's First World War Diary

1915

Friday 1 January

Guard 3.15 – 5.15 & then another ½ an hour 10.15 – 10.45. Went back to Billet at about 11 o'clock to act as guard to Relief guard of the D.L.I. After being relieved went with another chap & had a couple of eggs & coffee then got kit together & went with George for incase de caffee. Paraded at 4.45. moved to trenches at 5. P.M. told off with 6 others including George for delvance trench had to go through sewer. got jolly wet as usual.

Saturday 2 January

Went for shot to our trenches at rear nothing particular doing. One of our chaps hit by sniper, the bullet just grazed the top of his head.

Sunday 3 January

Very wet. Germans did a little shelling some falling very close to us.

Monday 4 January

Raining hard. Everything in very bad state. Had card from Mrs Nicholls.

Tuesday 5 January

Sent card to Mrs Nicholls. Sergeant Wilson killed while sniping at flashes of the rifles of enemies snipers. Such shot through the head by dugout, progressing favourably. Sent letter card to Mrs Goshawk.

Wednesday 6 January

At second watch at about 3.40 A.M. had close thing, shot hitting sandbag in front of me. Heard cry in night of one of our fellows who was shot in the ankle. Woken up by George, who thought he heard a bughatch fall in, but which was Robinson taken bad in the leg. He left at 5.20 for the dressing station. 3 of ours went out just in front reconnoitering, returned safely. Had cigarettes & letter from Lippert.

Wednesday 6 January

Poored with rain all day & night. Water rose steadily till knee deep when we had the order to retire to our trenches. dropped blanket & fur coat in the water. Slipped down as getting up on the parapet, got soaked up to my waist. Went sand bag filling

& then sewer guard for 2 hours. Had no dug out to sleep in, so had to chop & change about.

Thursday 7 January

Roache shot while getting water, & Tibs (S.B.) shot while going to his aid. (in the mouth). Laid in the open all day, was brought in in the evening, unconscious but still alive. Passed away soon after.

Friday 8 January

Very wet day.

Captain Shattock shot through the eye, passed away 2 hours later. Went on wood fatigue at night, had to wait 1 hour at S.M. & then had to make two journeys. very muddy. got back just in time for guard. 9.50.

Saturday 9 January

Orderly.

Sent letter Card home.

“ Card to Elsa & Mary.

One or two Aeroplanes passed over which were fired at, the shots going very near.

Sunday 10 January

Fine day.

Heard officially that we are going out to-morrow to return after 4 days.

Artillery drill, farms all round shelled, our artillery replying. General of the 18th came down the trench at 3.30, was observed by the Germans & one of our fellows next to him shot dead. Rifleman Ingrham.

Monday 11 January

Lot of sniping done. One of our chaps being hit, the ones in the next trench all sent here as their place not safe. Lot of firing going on. At stand too went out. Officers Servants Quarters & sort by large fire got nice & dry & then had to go on water fatigue. Captain Hewaters led. In one place we had to go through about 2 foot of water. were sniped at a good bit.

Nos 3 & 4 Companys relieved by the Durhams for 4 days.

Tuesday 12 January

Quiet day. Very wet.

Sent card to Mrs Hedges & one home.

Had symptoms of a soup in packets issued for dinners. General Congreave passed down again at about 5. P.M. Just come off guard. Lot of sniping going on.

Wednesday 13 January

Heavy shelling at Houses at our rear. Some insendry shells: - shell to catch a place on fire. (Insendry.) Word passed down to keep close up to parapet as at 3.30 the Brewery was to be bombarded. At 3. the Germans shelled the farm at rear where we get our water, our guns later (to time) replying rapidly. Excellent firing, the brewery being shatered, saw chimney fall. Snipers shot while leaving two of their shots before going through the Officers hut. missing them by about a foot. The best bit of fun we've had.

Thursday 14 January

A Corporal shot dead while passing where sandbag which had hole in it. Tossed with Williamson who should go on fatigue. Sand bag filling. I lossed. Party consisted of 4 filling & 4 carrying, we filled about 80 in 3 hours.

Friday 15 January

Were told to be ready to be relieved at 5 in the evening or next morning.

Saturday 16 January

Stand too with full equipment ready to go at 4. A.M. Waited until about 5.30 before relieved. Marched to Billets at Houplines. Got in ripping cottage with 4 others. George included. The people were awfully good, doing anything for us. bailed water for us to wash our feet & bandage them. After washing my feet were very bad, went for parcels which made them worse. George in the evening had to go on food fatigue to trench.

Sunday 17 January

Paraded sick for feet.

Wrote letter home.

Gave Madam 5ps as souvenir. Went to Dressing Station to go to Hospital at 4. P.M. Waited in a sort of barn for horse ambulance. It arrived at about 8. P.M. took us to Armontiers. Stayed the night in a hospital, had pea soup before turning in. In ripping room, stretchers as beds. Regular gave me German stud & English knife as souvenirs.

Monday 18 January

Chaplain came in to us at 9.30 gave us packet of cigarettes & paper & post cards.
Sent letter home.

Had wash & brush up.

Left in motor Ambulance for Baileu. Stopped the night at clearing station, separated from Hall. Got up in room with lot of regulars waiting to go in train for Base.

Midnight in train for Boulogne, Indian troop brought large cans of hot milk for us.

Tuesday 19 January

Collision which buckled 2 rear carriages, but didn't wake me. Hot cocoa & bread & butter brought along by English ladies, spoke to Indian from Calcutta who gave me a souvenir. Arrived at Boulogne at 4.30 stayed in train till 7. then went in motor Ambulance to Hospital at Docks. Stayed there all day. Embarked at 3.30. Left for ~~England~~ Southampton at 12. P.M. on the St. Andrew, No. 2A. turn (?) screw.

Companion got bunk for us two.

Wednesday 20 January

Had breakfast at 8.15 in bunk. then went on deck. Saw one Netley Hospital. 10. A.M. waiting to go in. Landed at 10.30 went straight into Hospital train for Leicester. Stopped for tea at Bedford at 7.15. Got to Leicester at about 8.30. taken by private cars to 5th North General Hospital. had some supper & then went to sleep.

Thursday 21 January

Breakfast at 8. A.M.

Wrote letter home, to Elsa, Aunt Friscoe, Redirecting Officer & Scottey.

Friday 22 January

Chap in next bed to mine had operation, varicous veins taken out.

Had telegram from Mother.

Wrote home & George.

Saturday 23 January

Had letter from a Miss B. Cook. Answered by return. Had letter from Elsa.

Sunday 24 January

Miss Inglesant & Miss Driver called in.

Had tea with London Scottish.

Saturday 30 January

Left Hospital. Stayed in Leicester. Caught train at 6.40 arriving home at 8.30.

Sunday 31 January

Went to church in the morning in old things

Tuesday 2 February

Went up to Head Quarters stayed until about 7. P.M. after seeing Doctor.
Had Great Coat but me. Had 12 Photos taken in Oxford St.

Wednesday 3 February

Arrived at Hospital Wandsworth. 3rd. London General. Was in next bed to a Mr Harding a nephew of Mr Newmans.
Wrote home & included Pass.

Wednesday 17 February

Dr. Honored me with trying an experiment of congestion of blood in foot to restore the nerves back quickly. An elastic bandage round my leg just above my ankle.

Thursday 18 February

Given discharge.

Sunday 1 August

Left Richmond Camp 10.15. Left Waterloo 11.50. arrived at Southampton. 3P.M.
Marched to Rest Camp about 2 ½ miles. On the Common. Geoff Tiger with draft of the Artists in tent in front of mine. Went on Pier in the evening.

Monday 2 August

Drew Rifles from the Docks in the morning. Trained it down & Back. Captain Glazier subing (?) up for thould (?). Stayed till 5 o' clock with 4 others to draw rations, & then met the rest at a tea room. Went to Theatre but as only one Box available I & 4 others went on the Pier & listened to the Band.

Met Mr & Mrs Nicholls on the Pier.

Went into Free Hall on the way back & had supper & then retired for the night.

Tuesday 3 August

Orders just come through to leave at 4. P.M. on the Princess Victoria.

Berth. 38. Went down to the town had hair cut & bought a few sundries.

Sent card home. Arrived back to camp at about 10 past 11 o'clock.

Marched down to the boat at 3.30 got ammunition. Boat left at 8.30.

Wednesday 4 August

Passed Havre at 4. A.M. Then went up the Line to Rouen arrived at 8.30 A.M. Men marched about 6 miles to No2 Territorial Base Camp, it rained nearly all the way. Had medical inspection. Saw Stansby & George 's friend. Went to meeting at Y.M.C.A. in the evening. Weather fine towards evening. Very good Camp. Suficant Mess (?) for Corporals.

Thursday 5 *2nd to.*

R. A. Robinson

A. E. Hood.

J. I. Hagarty.

W. H. Smith.

H. bickRalls

H. Key.

N. Batchelor.

P. H. Jones.

L. Deaking.

Arthur W. Hogarth.

R. B. Priest

Frank Hore. "The Devon Boy"

W. M. Pratt.

J. F. G. Rew. "Sandy"

C. H. Fuller.

E. G. Johnson.

J. W. Burton.

Segt. Major Burt of the Lionfoot Scottish took Arsnic stopping out of tooth.

Had kit inspection in morning. Went to medical Insp for Pharnasitine for toothache.

Had dinner in Corporals mess. Went to sleep & then went to Y.M. for tea.

Went to Service at Y.M.C.A. when the chief Sec Mr A. K. Yapp spoke, this Y.M. having been font (?) up by Dogs & Cats. Left Camp at 9 A.M. arrived at station 11. P.M.

Good train 9 in our carriage. 2nd Class. Train started at 11.30. (Raining)

Friday 6 August

Abville, Etaples, Boulogne, Waimille Wimireux, St Omer. Stoped at Hazelbrouck. Poperingag : destination.

Marched to Ypres after only stoping $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour went into billets, I lived in billets, won shelled a lot. (Left packs behind).

Saturday 7 August

Still in billets. Shelling going on each morning.

Sunday 8 August

Left Billets in the evening. Marched to wood as reserves to the Durhams who were attacking after our guns had bombarded the Germans line at Hooze. A lot of German shells falling in the wood. I & four others in one dug out. candle burning.

Monday 9 August

Got into dugouts in wood at 2.45 just before our guns started. EWhen they started the noise was terrific, we had about 250 guns going including the famous .75. French gun. The Germans replied back, a lot of the shells falling close to our dugout. The bombardment lasted 2 hours then we had to double accross the open to another wood then again to the one just behind the firing line, then the German guns simply poured shells of every description in, killing a great number of the Durhams, we got lost, after nearly getting into the firing we went in to the reserve trenches.

Tuesday 10 August

The Germans gave three counter attacks each being repulsed with heavy losses. About 4 of our fellows gone mad with the shock. We seemed simply sitting waiting our turn. Terrible ordeal. Key of the draft, wounded Cpl. Coppard of my section wounded badly in arm. Relieved at about 12.30 P.M. but the 1st Royal Fusiliers City of London Regt. Marched back to Present rest camp at 'Elvercliru' about 5 miles behind the firing line, though roughly about 8 from where we were.

Wednesday 11 August

Still at rest camp. Feeling rather rotten. (Dessintry). Nothing special going. quiet most of the day.

Went on Guard at 6.30 as Cpl of the Guard. Had disentry very badly. Arm felt rotten.

Thursday 12 August

On Guard till 6.30. About same.

Saturday 14 August

Inspected by General Plumer in Command of the 2nd Army.

Had two fried eggs for breakfast. Went sick for Disentry. had medicine & was told not to eat anything all day. Went for a walk after tea with George had a cup of milk a leothage (?) spoke to a man & boy coming through Hops. Came back in time for a concert, which was very good, Durhams band. Orders now & again coming through after different regiments could stay there of from. (?)

Sunday 15 August

An alarm at 3.30, one or two German shells falling close by all went well so went to sleep. Had to see Dr. again had more medicine, not to eat any meat. Missed Church-Parade. Sat in wood writing letters. Word just come through to stand by as report issued that the Germans have brought up some long range guns.

Monday 16 August

Paraded sick. Had usual medicine & Pills.

Tuesday 17 August

P. sick/ Taken bad while talking to Dr. Germans dropped few shells. We had to vacate huts for about a couple of hours. Nothing particular happened. Had letter from Miss Blanche Hicks. Went to Concert in the evening. It was very good. Had one of my turns again.

No letters.

Wednesday 18 August

P. sick. Had usual. but if better am parading with Company tomorrow.

Wrote letter home & one to Miss Hicks.

No letter again.

Played cards in the afternoon & evening.

Thursday 19 August

Paraded for usual.

Had two eggs for breakfast. Paraded with Company at 10 A.M. Went on Platoon drill & sent march.

Played cards in the afternoon & evening.

Friday 20 August

Usual drill at 7.15 next parade at 9. A.M. for road fatigue till 12.30 then had dinner (T, orderly) after changed huts as draft coming down to-day. Wrote letter home. No letter again.

Saturday 21 August

First Parade. 10. A.M. Drill order. Raining hard. Parade washout.

Had letter from father & mother.

Inspected at 3.30 by General Kerr of the 6th Army Corps who gave us a little speech, congratulations etc.

Sent card home.

Had parcels from home.

Sunday 22 August

Church Parade. 10.30 for 11 oc. Stayed to Communion there were about 50 stayed.

Quiet all day. Shelled heavily in the evening had to retire to wood at rear. returned after about an hour 1. Durhams Doctor killed 2 men. killed 9. 5 wounded.

Had letter from mother & father.

Wrote home.

Hagerty just received a paper from the Mayor of Fulham telling him he is gizzeted & asking him to report as soon as poss.

Monday 23 August

Heard we are going into trenches this evening. Rifle inspection at 11. oc.

Wrote home.

Had letter from Mary & mother. & in the evening Auntie Friscoe. Our casualties to day of fellows gone into Poperinge to have a bath 2 killed & 2 wounded.

Cleared all out of huts ready. Left Huts for trenches at 10-8 arrived at trenches 11.30.

Crossed the "Yser" on a Pontoon bridge trenches about 2 miles on at "Patizji".

Tuesday 24 August

In trenches.

Rifle inspection 11.30.

Got up about 10.30. Went on Guard for one hour after had breakfast, then played cards until 7 in the evening, on going to tea were told we had to mount guard at Garrison. Ration Reserve at 7.30. Had tea. Went on first guard at 10.30 – 11.30 then again 3.30 – 4.30.

Had letter from Hubert.

Wednesday 25 August

Had Ripping breakfast & splendid Wash. Our guns rather active & also Germans. some of their shells coming right down the road. Lot of aeroplanes about.

Wrote letter home.

Place inspected by the Major. Got French Cartridge for souvenir & papers out of account book. Beautiful weather.

Thursday 26 August

3.35. On Guard. Rather active sniping. Very misty & cold.

Had letter from Father & one from Batha.

Left guard before time to help dig dugout for Canell. Worked hard for 2 ½ hours & dug down well.

Friday 27 August

Had letter from Lippport.

I & Hagarty acted day cook for Section.

After went to houses to get wood. In the evening went on wood fatigue & rations.

One of our Batteries near us battled. Marvellous shooting by the Germans. 11

Casualties. Shell passed just over our head going in the ground just by us.

Saturday 28 August

Helped fill a few sand bags for shelter. after went out to get some doors. Shrapnel shell burst over us (I & Hagarty) shell shrapnel coming all round us, neither hit, the next one dropped a few yards up. Went on back were fatigue till lunch time, one shot just missed me & hit the guard just at the back of me.

Sent card home.

Just going on Guard.

Had letter from Gert & Mary Boucky.

Sunday 29 August

On Guard from 7-8 finished letter for home. Sent it.

Cloudy day not so hot.

Went on barb wire fatigue again. finished at dinner time sat & read all the afternoon. Went on wood fatigue at 6 P.M. raining all the time.

Ground very bad.

Monday 30 August

I & Hagarty. Acting book for section. had grand meals.

Had interview with Major Tyrwhith in the morning, & with Colonel Shoolbud in the evening. Had orders to go to Canal bank to see the General if I was not called for in the mean time.

Tuesday 31 August

General didn't turn up.

Reported to our H. Q. at 5. P.M. received papers with covering note. Then went with Hagarty to the Canal Bank. Nice walk went fast way along the Canal then passed over bridge & after went through dark tunnel to the 18" I.B.H.Q. came out into room, with nothing but wires & 3 Telegraph's going, wonderfully done. About 20-30 layers of sandbags on top making it shell proof to most of shells. Waited about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. Colonel turned up then had papers signed & came away. On arriving here a fatigue party was just going out which we had to join to pull down sheds which were attracting Artillery fire. Did it in about 15 minutes. Had supper & turned in.

Wednesday 1 September

4. A.M. Had stand too. Our Artillery bombarded the German lines left of Hooge. Lasted $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour. Pretty heavy but quickly died down. Went back & turned in again. Sent card home.

Thursday 2 September

Very heavy Artillery bombarding on both sides.

Very bad tooth ache all day. parading sick this evening at 8.45. P.M.

Hagarty just left for the transport on the way home. 7.45 P.M.

Saturday 4 September

Raining hard all day. Trenches in terrible state. Went on ration fatigue at 7.45. P.M. taking rations up to the firing line. about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles. First through. wood very muddy & slippery & watered shell holes. after some distance got into Communication trench. floor boards all the way but plenty of holes & gaps, water about half way up your legs. Most of the way water in one particular part right above your knees. eventually got back at 1. A.M. Had ripping plate of Porridge + & parcel from home & one from Hubert. Turned in for the night at about 2. A.M. Sunday.

Sunday 5 September

Beautiful day sun out all the afternoon. dried our things.

Wrote letter Home.

Went on fatigue in the afternoon to get soup for Major's dugout but so many Aeroplanes up had to come back without. Went on Ration fatigue again a 7.45. Stood about waiting till 9.45. Wood about same. trench very bad, had to get out at one place & go along the parapet, a shot hit the ground just at the side of me, word passed along. Anyone hit. Got back at about 1 o' clock. I took Officers' rations. On arriving back had letter from Father. Had plate of Porridge & Tea, (then turn in a little later (?)).

Monday 6 September

On Guard. Started at 2.30 A.M. come off at 3.30. A.M.

On fatigue in the morning & afternoon fixing in a cupboard in parapet for ammunition. While looking in Houses for the cupboard picked up a Flemish bible. Went on Ration fatigue to firing line at 7.45. Started off earlier & got back in good time. Wood ground not slippery, water in trenches about same. Made ripping fire when got back, had Porridge & Tea. While having a stop in the trenches the following two messages were passed down. –Weary Walker wonders why we're waiting. - & - When you come to a dry spot stop.

Tuesday 7 September

Went on Guard at 7.40 A.M. till 10.45. Cleared up & got Breakfast. After wrote home & to Hubert & Jack.

Just going to have a Tweenies Wifflette. Had ripping Wash. Came back & had dinner. Sardines & Tined Peaches. Beautiful day. Sun very strong.

On ration fatigue again tonight. Germans putting over very heavy shells, trying to find our Battery. Started off with rations at 9.30 got back at 11.30. trench very much better. turned trousers up above knees. Kept them dry.

Had ripping parcel from Home & letter from Mother.

Turned in a 1. P.M.

Rifleman Crompton shot through the heart at Dumping ground just arrived again from England.

Wednesday 8 September

Got up at about 8.30.

Beautiful morning sun very strong.

Wrote letter Home.

Just helping make custard for dinner.

Rifleman Benthall getting Com. in 6th City of London Rifles. his Father is Doctor in same Lt balout (?).

Thursday 9 September

Beautiful day.

Left trenches at 10 P.M. lost our way & eventually got back at just on three the next morning.

Friday 10 September

In huts beautiful morning. Staffing going on very much. Got up at about 8.30 and went with Benthall to Cottage & had cup of Coffee & biscuits. Came back. we had five parcels, had a piece of cake, ripping.

Saturday 11 September

Went at 6.50 to cottage had coffee & biscuits: got back & had another coffee. Had chat with people the little kid of 12 being able to talking English fairly well. Just going to leave for breakfast. Went into Poperinge in the evening with Benthall & George. Very long walk but had enjoyable time. Returning at 9. P.M. bought German helmet & French .75. Gun.

Sunday 12 September

Ripping service, at which General Congrave attended.
Wrote letter home & one to Mother.

Monday 13 September

Parade at 10.30 in full Marching order. Very hot. Had Company drill & then short route march. Dinner at 12.30. rifle inspection at 1.30. Went to Cottage for dinner had eggs, fruit & coffee. After inspection went to have hair cut, & now am waiting my turn.

Tuesday 14 September

T. W. Brooke of the 6th City (1st Batt. L/Cpl. Quail Captain Clay of the 6th friend of Morgan. Breakfast at 6.30. Left on fatigue at 7.30 arrived at destination at 8.30 got back at 1.15. Had dinner & then left at 1.45. for Poperinge for. bath, had lift in Ambulance on the way, had ½ hour interval before returning, got book of views, returned arriving at 4.50. Had tea & then inquired about rings. they wanted 4 frs, too much. Went into Cottage & had eggs & coffee. Wrote letter home.

Wednesday 15 September

Breakfast as usual.

Cleaned up rifle.

Benthall taken prisoner sistance (?) 7 C.B.

Band playing the "Lost Chord" jolly fun.

Thursday 16 September

Paraded at 10.30 clean fatigue, had Rifle inspection & heard orders.

Dismissed went to canteen. bought few things, then cleared out things ready to pack. Had dinner. Have just Packed up. We are leaving to-night but don't know where we are going.

Left at 6.15. Marched for 1 hour had 10 minutes halt & then marched the next without a halt. 1 ½ hours. Destination Bricland.

Quiet little village, houses fairly intact, & Church not hit, people still living here.

Billeted in empty Houses.

Friday 17 September

Rivally. 7.30.

Breakfast 8.30.

Just as we had finished, we were shelled so had to take to trenches at rear, have got a piece of shell that fell between I & another chap hot.

Had first glass of Beer in the morning & another in the afternoon.

Started letter for home.

Went on fatigue at 6.45. Marched to Cross Roads. Dumping Ground. & then carried sacks to firing line, trench fairly good. only had to do one journey. Got back at 11.20.

Had letter from home awaiting me.

Benthall saw General when signed his papers.

Saturday 18 September

Got up at 9.15. Had wash at house close by. Breakfast at 10.30.

Continued with letter for home.

Rifle inspection 11.30.

Manned trenches at 12. o' clock for inspection.

At about 5.45 we had a shell landed just a short distance from where I was laying.

We quickly took to the trenches just got in when they came quickly. at about 6.30 they sent several gass shells which exploded just where we were, throwing a lot of earth on me, the fumes making me feel very queer. All went at 7. P.M. Casualties, 7 wounded & 2 killed.

Sunday 19 September

Nothing happened during the night. Gave Smith 3.50 for Gass shell nose cap.
Tried to dig out nose cap from trench, but gass got too strong so gave it up.
Wrote letter home.
Went on fatigue to firing line, felt very fit.
Had letters from Father, Mother & Mary.

Monday 20 September

Beautiful day.
Started letter for home. am now on sand bag filling fatigue. Working hard?
Went on fatigue at about 6.30 got back at 11.45. Got time fuse while digging.
Had parcel from home all broken. Had Parcel from Gerald.

Tuesday 21 September

Had best breakfast for some time. Wrote letter home. (Margate). Had orders to pack up & be ready to move at 6. P.M.
Shelled a little in the morning. several falling about 25 yds from our trench.
Left at about 6.30 for the trenches. the same ones at the cross roads.
Marched all the way without a stop.
Went on Guard at 11 till 12.
beautiful night.

Wednesday 22 September

Beautiful day. Had breakfast.
They have just congratulated me on my Birthday.
Just finished letter for home & F. S. Card to Aunt Friscoe.
Fed up with Artillery, guns going hammer & tong all day, making our heads ache.
Fed up with it. Went on digging fatigue in the evening doing Communication trench just at rear. Got back at 9. P.M. Had pears from Mrs Goshawk & letters from Aunt F. & M & Grandad & Aunt Bessie.

Thursday 23 September

On Guard at 7.-8.
Artillery on both sides very active. Guns just at our rear kicking up a dickens of a row.
On Guard till 7. then we had orders to pull our Brightest down as we had to rebuild another in other trench. Started raining hard so had to leave off, went to sleep till about 12. P.M. then had orders again to dismantle ours, so started & finished at 3.

A.M. , stopped raining. Turned in bombers/before bughutch (?) while they just put ours up.

Letter from Hubert.

Friday 24 September

Got up at 7.45. The bombers going to have (?) their rest. They have finished our bugey.

Wet morning.

Moved in the morning to henpasy (?) bugey, had good sleep.

Artillery very active. Gun just at our rear absolutely deafening. Shells keep hitting tree about 20 yds away. the pieces of tree falling all around. 2.15. Just had word from Cpl. Davis to get my things together as going back to-night. Go with the Transport at 7.30.

Just had a little tea, & now having a smoke.

Went with section to Guard Room, shell dropped very close. Lift on transport at 8.30 arrived at transport at 10.30.

Saturday 25 September

Got up at 7.15. had a wash & then had breakfast, after went to farmhouse & had coffee, waiting to report to Quarter Master at 10' (Breland) Riflm. Exelby.

Left at 12 for Poperinge got on Motor Lorry. Went to Astanana & am now just going to have dinner.

In train 1.35. First class for Rouen change at Hazelbrook.

St Omer.

Andronicq.

Major E. Crawley.

Sunday 26 September

Arrived at St Rous at 2. A.M. now have to wait till 7 AM for train to Rouen.

Slept on Station. Got up 5.15 went & had some breakfast bought fr witite (?). & now waiting at station for train.

Bacouel.

Namps – Qiuvaouvillers.

Arrived at Rouen 12.15 went up the town & then went into ripping coffee & had dinner, then took train to race course (2nd Lieutenant Camp.)

Wrote letter home & to Hubert & Jack.

Monday 27 September

Roll call at 6. A.M.

Paraded at 10.15 for Medical inspection & had to wait till 11.30.

Had dinner at 1 o'clock.

Went to play. (Henry V) in the evening at Y.M.C.A. tent. very good.

Tuesday 28 September

Still waiting for boat.

No news come through except that 3 boats have come in.

Now sitting in Y.M.C.A. , impatiently waiting.

Wednesday 29 September

Just had orders. 12.30 to parade at orderly room to move off at 2.30.

Started down to the Docks at 3. took the train, after getting there went & had tea.

Boat just started (Queen Alexandra) 6. P.M. Washing the decks.

Now waiting downstairs for roll call.

Thursday 30 September

Rough crossing. Slept well. 5. A.M. just waiting by the Isle of Wight, expect to get in by about 7.30.

Monday 4 October

Went to Buntings re cycle. Caught 10.25 train to Baker St. went to Head Quarters. nothing doing.

Went on to Teagues to be measured. After had lunch with Father.

Went & saw Gerald & after sticked about London. now waiting for Father at Lyons.

Thursday 7 October

Gazetted to 6th Rifles. Reported at Head Quarters. Went & had measurements taken.