

Hybaldra Rd

Hunters Hill. 12 June 1916

The Editor

Sydney Morning Herald.

Sir.

I enclose a letter forwarded home by last mail.  
If you think it of sufficient interest, you are at liberty  
to publish it. only please leave out the names.

Yours faithfully,

H. G. Kilby

My dear mother

I hope you are well

I am well

Yours

W.A.

Warrant

Business card for Mrs. Warrant

Address: 123 Main Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Phone: 12345678

Warrant

Warrant

PR82/8

Lowestoft, May 1st, 1916.

Monday afternoon.

Dear Mr. Barratt,

Many thanks for P.c., and once again our little town has come out more than fortunate in such a small loss of life.

It was a very exciting night as the bees had been buzzing about, and the guns had been doing their duty, and at times we could distinctly hear them dropping the Easter eggs. At 3 a.m., all was quiet so I went to bed, and at 4.15 a.m., I was soon awake, and in a few minutes it seemed as though the town would soon be a mass of ruins, and the shells fairly whistled overhead. We had a fair share in this road. I made haste and had my crew under the table on the lower decks and smothered plenty of bed clothes over and around them and must say they were all really good, and did exactly as I told them. The children were not in the least frightened, so in a very short time I was able to try and help those who did not come off quite so fortunately. One piece of shell, 34 lbs, was picked up just outside my back that had gone right through one of my neighbour's houses. The factory was not hit. One piece went through the church at the top of the road. Opposite me and just below it was fairly bad. Some of the shells were picked up that did not explode, 12 inches, and the Mayor told me that it was estimated they weighed half a ton each.

It has been a very pitiful sight here since to see the poor people who cannot afford to go out by train pushing the prams with food and a few clothes to go outside the town and sleep with the children in fields and on the roadside. It is estimated that

7,000 to 8,000 have left the town this last few days. I do hope we shall soon be able to stem this tide, but I cannot help saying that I should myself feel much happier if my wife would go away with the family, but they refuse to go without me, and my place is here as long as there is trouble about. Even if we cannot do any good, we are doing the best we can, and if they let us alone for a few nights we shall soon get the people back again. About 200 houses were hit, some slightly, and damage is estimated at about £50,000, but that is nothing compared to the shock to the people.

I am more than glad that you allowed all the recipients of the Adelaide Fund to go on again, as even if people have just enough to live on, how much nicer it must be to be able to get a little extra in times like these.

With kind regards from us all,

Ever yours,

W. J. H.