



PERSONAL
DIARY.

No. VX5354

CPT K. L. LEWTAS,

~~A Tp 2/4 BHO,~~
2/2 Fd Arty Regt,

~~2/3 Fd Arty Regt,~~
6 Div Arty,

2 A.I.F.

No V.

Letters to R. Duncan
Showgrounds - Sup,
- Old Camp Site,
Seymour → Meck
Reconnaissance
Regiment → Raube
march → Application
for transfer to
Field Artillery
→ January fatigue
→ German threat to
Holland → German
bid for peace →
Transfer to A Troop,
2/3 Field Artillery

NOV

Regiment → Sergeants'
Mess Kitchen Orderly
→ Gun Drill →
lectures → Leave from
Thursday night to
Sunday night → Mid
Brighton → Train
to Maryborough →
Tennis → dance
→ met Schwennsen,
Ray Duncan, &
Jack Tranter →
Supper at Martys
→ bar to
Bartlemaine → train

NOV
to Middle Brighton
→ Elsie, Eric &
Grace visited
→ by drop train
to Seymour →
A Pt of 2/3 Fd
Regt disbanded →
transferred to
BHO, 2/4 Fd, BTy,
2/2 Fd Regt → Germany
introduced dropping
of magnetic mines
by parachute →
Major British merchant
ships lost →

NOV

Definitely selected
on battery staff as
a mathematician
→ Gun Quill →
drawing panoramas
and sketches →
bad weather →
Lieut ^{North} ~~Eastwood~~ i/c.
4 B.H.P. Lieut
Eastwood and Lieut
J. Blamey → work
interesting → inspection
by the C.P.A.,
of Col. F.F. Herring.
→ inspection by

G.O.C. 6 Div, Lieut-
Gen Blamey →
met Angus Kennedy
who is on the
Bey Staff with me
→ week-end leave
again granted →
train to Melbourne
→ Russia invades
Finland → Met Jack
McLeod, late of
Maugborough → i/c
sent no 7. → Sgt Turner,
late of BGS. → Sgt
Wertheim, also late of

NOV-DEC

B.G.S. → Passed 2nd
 Medical and Dental
 examination as A.I.
 → Camp struck at
 Seymour and move
 to Puckapunyal →
 Christmas leave →
 doing water in Twoli
 Ballet → Mildura
 train to Maryborough
 → week-end by car
 back to Melbourne
 with Ray & Ken
 Duncan, & A. Schumann
 → They went to Fran
 Sebeck's wedding →

Met Bill Gynge →
 Prince of Wales. Met
 Frank Palmer, late
 of B.G.S. → Palais
 De Dance → Slept
 at 11 Sussex St →
 Christmas dinner
 with Mal & Mrs Blake
 and Twennie & Helen
~~Little~~ → Back to
 Maryborough on
 Sunday → Jennie at
 Andrews → Tea
 at Alan Miensch's
 place → Dance with
 A. Schumann →

DEC - JAN

Trains to Seymour
via Ballarat &
Geelong → 2 days'
isolation hut for
Springburn → Week-end
leave at Seagrind with
Boddners → Swim
→ watched golf at
Aspendale course
→ Vaccination
→ X-Ray photograph
→ Shooting with live
ammunition commences →
Battery runner for day
→ Escort for Gutterly
Room for one day →

Made honorary member
of O.B.C.S. for duration
→ Week-end leave.
→ Convoy to Engineers
Depot, Batman Avenue.
No leave granted →
Historical march of
Victorian section
of 6 Div A.I.F. through
Melbourne streets →
Record crowds →
only mounted in
vehicles → Jim Stokes
only one I noticed
although others saw
me → drive back
to Puckapunyal →

JAN

→ "Ack" positions
chosen. I am share
→ Orders do, go do
Sydney → Leave in
Melbourne → Visit
watch presented by
Mrs Boldner and
family, → 2/4 Fd Bty
move to Holdsworth,
Sydney, by M.T. →
First stop on Benalla
Show Grounds. No
leave. → Next day
to Holbrook. Leave
at night → Gundagai,
the favourite place,
barracked near

river by bridge
and viaduct →
"action" N of Gundagai
against imaginary
invaders. Twinn in
Murrumbidgee River
→ Law monument
of "Dog sitting on
letterbox" and Snake
Gully Tea Rooms
→ Louburn. Leave
on Sunday night
where band played
in park →
Holdsworth Barrack

JAN-FEB

→ Tents → We as
Training Cadre
Battery do Officers
doing course at
School of Study
→ Week-end leave
do Sydney city
→ Ham do
Bondi → Tram
over Bridge do
Juna Park →
Ferry back under
bridge → Stayed
again at Hotel

Metropole → Train do
Richmond. Visited old
Spaw, (now Flight-
Tergeant RAAF), and
Mary → following
Sunday A.W. do Sydney
but not detected.
Others lined 10/- →
Walk through bush do
George Ryels → passing
motorboat do Eggs
Hills → drain do
Sydney → Ferry do
Manly → met Mrs
Harrington → ride

FEB - MAR

in speedboat → visit
do sharks at aquarium
→ ferry trip around
Lane Cove → Bty went
on 4 days bivouac,
but with about 30
others, had to remain
in camp → Return
to Kuchapungat by
road, sleeping each
night at Louburn,
Lundagav, ~~of the~~
allway. Quite an
enjoyable holiday.
→ Issue of gas masks

→ Week-end leave
at Boughson → Iwen
has just presented
me with a proper
diary, so I have
decided to continue
in that one. Boris
lost the election
last night, so it
is an indication
that the majority
are against sending
troops abroad. In
my opinion, this is right.

MAR.

Although I believe
in loyalty to the
British Empire,
Australia's own
security should
be her first
consideration and
as it would be
no more possible
for Great Britain
to assist Australia
in a crisis any
more than it
was possible for
her to assist
Greece, Turkey

Slovakia, Poland
or Finland, it is
not an obligation
for Australia to
lend military
support for
Britain. However,
the decision of
the Government
is the decision
of the majority
(so far as the
political machinery
will allow) and
we cannot complain

MAR

at the decision
to send the R.A.I.F.
overseas in view
of the fact that
we enlisted for
service at home
or abroad.

Furthermore, the
war experience
gained by the
R.A.I.F. should be
an asset to the
defence of Australia
as she will have
one thoroughly

trained and
experienced Division.
In my humble
opinion, Australia
with a defence
force as strong
as her population
would allow,
plus her splendid
isolation (which
is the greater
factor) could
keep her secure,
far removed
from the chaos

MAR

and tell which
governs in the
older continents,
and give freedom
and peace to
all her fine people.
In my own individual
case, however, I am
pleas'd to have
the opportunity
to see and to
study and to
learn what may
be of use to

Australia for
her defence, liberty
and security.
We are sympathetic
for Great Britain,
which has tried
to lead the world
to peace and
better understanding
but it is doubtful
that it is possible
now for her to
defeat all the
countries to

MAR

which she has
pledged herself
to defeat.

(Continued in
next diary).

LETTERS:

Ma.

Gwen

Elio

Margaret

Grace

Ray Duncan

A. Bryant

ADDRESSES:-

From Grace:-

M^{rs} Frank Appleyard,
32 Bagby Rd,
Leeds 2
Yorkshire, Eng.

Sister Lucie Finlayson.
A.I.F.

PROB252

