

4. 1. 12
SS Hoopinger
Melbourne

Dear Mother

Just a few lines
to let you know that
we arrived at Melbourne
today from Bunbury
W. A. I received 2
letters from you and
2 from Annie and
three papers How
Mother to see in the
letter that you and
Annie both received
what I sent you
for your Xmas box
I am sorry to hear
that you both spent

a very quiet Xmas
but you could not
have spent such
quiet Xmas as I spent
for we left Adelaide
N.S.W. about Xmas
to go for the West
of course we had
a good dinner we
had goose and Plum
Pudding & Brandy
Sauce of and of course
we drank each others
health quite a number
of times until each
man thought he
was Jack Johnson
champion of the world

Then my mate
suggested going over
and having a fight
with the sailors
of course that was
excited as a noble
idea and as the
sailors feeling a
bit lonely themselves
from sampling the
bottle to much
things went pretty
lonely for the next
half hour you could
see everything for
blood and snots
flying about until
mates and engineers

came along and
threatened to log
all hands forward
We all had trophies
of the fray someone
banged on of my
eyes right up and
and by the look of
my beak I think
someone must have
jumped on it in a
mistake when I
was on the floor but
well that ends well
so I suppose it must
be for both my eyes
& my nose were all

might now so that
is the way I spent Xmas
Now Mother I hope that
you and Annie are keeping
all ~~A~~ right for I am
keeping pretty good myself
seeing that the weather is
so hot I has been a 112
degrees of heat in Melbourne
today it was pretty warm
I can tell you and we
had a very hot passage
from the west the whole
12 days we were just about
roasted after being four
hours in the stove hole
for she has a pretty
hot stove hole at the best

of cool weather of our
Mother I am sending
you my photo it is not
a good one but it was
only taken by an amateur
It happened th to be coming
along the wharf just as
we knocked off in the
engine room that night
at 5 o'clock we were going
along the wharf for a
~~swim~~ swim before we
had tea and he asked
to stand for him so
we did but the sun
was right in our
eyes and I wanted
a haircut badly so

10 . 1 . 12

SS booringa
Fremantle
W.A.

Dear Mother

Just a line to let you know that we arrived here this morning I know I ambla N.S.W. We called at Melbourne coming across and I got three letters and two Xmas cards One from you and one from Anne Now Mother I expect that you and Annie have received what I sent you for your Xmas boxes before now I and I hope that

you have both spent a very pleasant Xmas and New Year I had both Xmas and New Year at Sea for we left Port Fremantle on Christmas Eve and we lay off Melbourne for about 2 hours on boxing day we had to call there to pick up an old three masted Barque that they used in Melbourne for helping coal in and as they were sending her to Fremantle for

our company we had
to two her round
to Fremantle and
it made it pretty
heavy for us chaps
down below for she
is heavy enough for
us to fire without
having a great big
bulk to tow and
at the very hottest
time of the year
we have been working
with as far as 135
degrees of heat in
the Stobachole there
is none of sorry to
get a spell for four

days and then we
will be off again
for another 15 days
run East Now Mother
I am sending you two
pound in this letter
this makes the last
for December 1911
Now if you remember
up you will have
received 25 pound
from me since I
joined the booringa
I sent you 1 pound
in January and two
pound each month
since except November
When I sent you
pound a pound extra for
you X was Box

So you can reckon it
up by the time you
get this letter and
you can let me
know whether you
have received it all
or not. Off course
this tax proved counts
in for 1911 as we
were at sea for the
1st of 1912 and did
not get paid till
new Year matter
I will be enjoying
getting my photo
taking when I get
my new suit
and will send it

on to your Paw
Mother I think I
will now conclude
To give my love
to Annie and with
love to yourself
I remain

Your Loving Son
Jack

1. 3. 12.
SS Cooringu
Newcastle

Dear Mother

Just a line to let
you know that I am
still alive and kicking
and in the best of health
which I hope that you
and Annie are still
enjoying. We arrived here
this morning from
Melbourne we have been
laying in Melbourne
for 16 days while we
were in Melbourne
I met Jack Waters
you know his mother
lives in our old house
in Corbridge St he is

donkey man on one
of the Post Boats which
sail from London to
the Colonies so he
will be calling when
he gets back to Shields
and telling you that
he met me he was
giving me all the
news about his three
sons you know I
used to be in the
same class as his
second son at the
Burnes and Mortimer
school but he will
hardly believe it ^{when} he
looks at me but then

he says he remembers
me as a kid when we
used to line in Eldon
If I did not see him
again the time we
were in Melbourn
So I suppose that he
will be home in about
six weeks time & He is
a hell of a liar for
he told me he was
second engineer in the
old Southmore with my
father then he said he
had served his time
to be a blacksmith and
now he is going to see
as donkey man Now he

was telling me his
oldest son is second
to my uncle on one of the
home boats and that
his youngest son was
apprentice at sea and
had two years of his
time in he must have
thought that I had been
out here ten year instead
of two and did not
know his sons he is
a bigger man that
I ever before saw that
I hope that you and
Auntie & are keeping
in gooder health &
I am keeping very well

myself at present
I got those Gayatts
which you sent & the
Xmas papers the Weave
~~has~~ arrived in Melbourne
the time we were there
but I dont know more
of the mess ^{on} of her
the freemen are all
Shields men but they
belong the low end
of the ~~the~~ town
I think that I will
now draw to a close
So give my love to
Annie & with love to
yourselves I remain
Your loving son Jack

P.S. I am enclosing
P.O. for ~~the~~
2 1/2 a/c

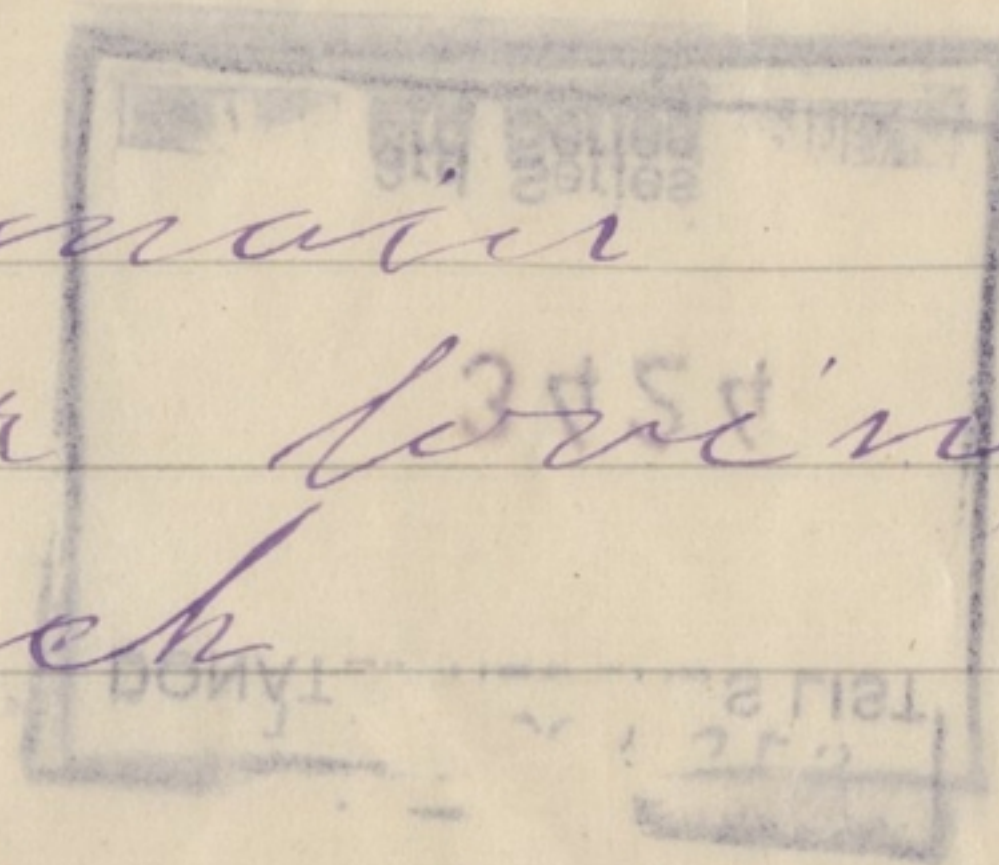
1. 4. 17
S.S. Hoopings
Albany

Dear Mother

Just a few lines
to let you know
that we arrived here
this morning from
Fremantle. There has
been one of the big
passenger boats went
down with all hands
and two sailing ships
with all hands I am
sending you a photo
of the 'Hoopings'
that was the name
of the passenger boat
there was 147 people
on board her she

was built on the
Tyne & Don Mother
I hope that you
and Annie are
keeping well for
I am keeping all
right & our Mother
I am sending you
a P.O. for three pounds
I suppose that Jack
Walters is home by
now - I think I will
now conclude so
give my love to
Annie and with
love to yourself

I remain
Your loving son
Jack



4. 4. 12
88 Floergerga
Bunbury

Dear Mother

I have just received
your letter 4 days ago
in Gerwickton and a
hopes and P. C. from

I am glad to hear
that you and Annie
are keeping well.

I see that the miners
have started work
again and by the
accounts in the
papers out here
they have not got
what they came
out for. It is
damned hard

when you come to
think of it the way
they have been treated
it is a pity they
had not waited for
another two or three
years until they
had plenty of money
in their purses
so that they could
have hung on a bit
longer than the
Government would
have forced a settlement
one way or another
but then it will
all ways be the
way in that loss.

bound country it is not like Australia for we have not got any house of Lords where a lot of empty headed fools have the right to throw out any bill no matter how much benefit it would do to the working classes just because these fathers sat there before them. But then England has always been like that, and always will, be until the people do away with

the lords. Look at the railways, at home for instance they all belong to private companies that pay very large dividends every year through having the men with constant jobs work ten hours a day for the huge sums of 1 pound one shilling a week. Then other people think that they are very well paid like the government worker on the railway out

here were growling
 about a ~~right~~ the
~~they~~ rise of wages
 so they went to
 arbitration court
 and the award they
 got was that no
 man that was working
 for the Government
 connected with the
 railways the
 least he could work
 for was 9/6 per day
 and of course paid
~~the~~ higher wages
 according to your
 job I'm on the ~~the~~
 at home a porter get

22 shilling a week
 one week and 18
 shillings the next
 week and if he is
 extra civil to the
 passengers he might
~~be~~ if he has got
 a bit of good luck
 he might get a
 a steady three penny bit
 so ^{you} will see the difference
 between the two countries
 the working man ^{out} here
 votes for a labour
 Government out here
 but the men at home
 has not got the sense
 for that he must go

and note for the first
 big Liberal capitalist
 that puts up for the
 seat now Mother I
 hope that you and
 and Annie are keeping
 all right and that
 Annie is still liking
 her job I am not
 looking to well myself
 for I went greasing
 a couple of ~~month~~
 months ago and I
 don't think that
 the engine ^{agrees with} runs me
 I have lost about 4
 pound in weight since
 I started so I think

that I think better
 on the hard work
 in the Stockhold off
 course it is a very
 light job I have got
 a responsible
 job to but I ~~do~~ am
 thinking of turning
 it in as it does not
 suit me I see the
 Titone has went
 down with above 1000
 people now Mother
 I will now conclude so
 with love to you and
 Annie I remain
 Your Loving Son
 Jack BO for 3 quid

3424

3.6.12
S.S. Goringea
Newcastle

Dear Mother

3rd Series

Just a line to let you know that I received your letter and 2 P.C. from Anne and a P.C. from Sarah with the three photos on it. I was surprised when I got it considering that I have been out here two years and that is the first P.C. that I have received from Sarah. I suppose in another two years or so I will be getting another surprise

my Sarah will write again. Now the photos were pretty good. Now Mother why did you not have your photo with them it would have made the group up. Now you were telling me that you sent me a photo of Father and that you have had it returned well after this send all my letters to S.S. Goringea c/o Mr. St. Hill c/o Mr. Gurnath c/o each other. Please send on

Now Mother how and
you and Anne keeping
I hope that you are
still well. I suppose
things are pretty bad
in the old country
after the strike and
now there is another
strike in London I
suppose that everything
is about done up. I would
have answered Sarah's P.C.
but I don't know her address
So give my respects to
Sarah & Sam and with
love to you and Anne
I remain

Your Loving Son
Jack

P.S. I am enclosing
P.C. for 3 quid

DONATED RECORDS LIST

12.7.12
85 Koorunga
Melbourne

Dear Mother

Just a line to let you know that we arrived at Melbourne on Tuesday Tell Annie I received her Photo and I am glad to see that she is looking well tell her I have bought some P. L. of Melbourne but I will write her long letter tomorrow. Now Mother you will have to excuse the shortness of this as I am a bit pushed for time Now Mother don't send any more news of the World out to me as I get them in the shops out here every week and when mine have been falling me round they quite old by the time I get them I am enclosing P.O. for 3 quid I will now conclude with best love to you and Annie from
Your Loving Son
Jack

3424

3rd Series

9. 8. 12
 J. J. Hooking
 Geraldton

Mother

Just a line to let
 you know that I am
 still alive and kicking
~~It arrived here from~~
 Fremantle this morn
 Now Mother Mother.

I received a letter
 and a P.O. W. and
 three Shields papers
 in Fremantle and
 two P. G. from Annie
 Row Mother I hope
 that you and Annie
 are keeping well
 and that you are
 having a pleasant

Summer here I
 saw in that Gazette
 about Luis Halibay
 getting killed I
 am very sorry to
 hear it for I knew
 him well is is pretty
 hard luck him getting
 killed for he was
 a good sort of a
 chap Now Mother
 I met a fellow called
 Bockbarn in Fremantle
 he has just come
 out they used to
 live beside us in
 Eldon St He is pursuing
 on one of the coasting

Now Mother I think
I will leave the Hooringa
when we get East
again because the
greasing is knocking
me up I have getting
very thin and as
pale as a ghost I
weigh above eleven
stone and a half
now I cant eat I
have lost my appetite
because when I was
firing I could eat
like a horse for the
Hooringa is a pretty
heavy firing job
and very hot

so I think I will
have a months rest
and then look for
another firing job
Now Mother I am
enclosing you a
P.C. for three pounds
So give my respects
to all my friends
at home & and with
love to you and

I remain
Your Loving Son
Jack

1. 9. 12
33 Fairinga
ex Adelaide

Dear Mother

I just a line to let
you that I received
your letter this morn
I am glad to hear
that you and Annie
are keeping well
and that things
are keeping all
right at home

I see by the papers
at ~~my~~ ^{my} here that the
dock strike has
not been settled
yet and I see that
the railway men
who get $\$2\frac{1}{2}$ 24 bob
a week have got

a rise of 3½ per cent
 I suppose that they
 must have caught
 the owners when
 they were drunk
 and I a generous
 state of mind
 to have got such a
 hell of a rise I suppose
 that the railway
 men will be going
 about like Lords
 now that they have
 got a shilling a
 week rise ^{but} I suppose
 the Lords and Dukes
 will take it off
 them next year

again as the expenses
 will be to try
 for them to keep
 up that is just
 like the style in
 the old country
 Something like the
 Insurance Bill
 that is something
 else that will help
 to pay the mens
^{wages} with bills worth
 ten thousands a
 year I often wonder
 when the working
 men of England
 will wake up and
 see things as other

3424

people see them
what they want
in England is
a good revolution
and that will
clear some of these
millionaires and
lords and Dukes
out of it and then
th with a labour
Government they
will almost be able
to make their own
conditions. I am
enclosing P.O for 3 quid
With Love to You and
Annie from
Your Loving Son
Jack

3424

2nd Series

15. 10. 12
S S Frothinga
Bunbury
W. A.

Dear Mother

Just a few lines to let you know that we arrived here this morning from Fremantle. We have had a very fair passage across from Newcastle. We are loading timber here for Melbourne and Sydney now. Mother I am sending you a P.O. for three quid but there has been a mistake

made in the addressing of it you see it was like this I could not get ashore in time to catch the Post-Office open so I had to get my mate to get it when he was ashore through the day. and instead of getting it addressed to S Shields as I wrote out for him he got it addressed to Durham Post Office but you will

be able to get it
all right as long
as you have got
the Order now you
were telling me in
your last letter that
Will Palmer is
on his way out here
well I hope that he
gets on for he is a
good sort, too good
for the likes of
Peggy dont you think
so I think if I was
to get a wife like
her I would be

getting hanged in
side of a year now
Mother I hope that
you and Annie are
keeping well and
that things are
going all right
at home I am
keeping pretty well
but I am getting very
thin and while since
I started greasing
now give my love
to Annie & love to
yourself I remain
Your loving son
Jack

DONATED RECORDS LIST
Dad Series

3 11 12
Poringu Port Kemble
NSW

Dear Mother

Just a line to let you know that I am still alive and kicking. We arrived here this morning from Melbourne where we were staying there for a week. Now Mother I hope that you are keeping well for I am keeping pretty well but I am very thin yet I don't seem to be getting

my flesh back again at all. Now Mother I am sending you a P.O. for three quid. Now Mother I have not much to say in this letter as I have to go on watch now so give my love to Annie and with love to yourself.

I remain
Yours Lovingly
Jack

DONATED RECORDS LIST
3424
Dad Series

DONATIONS LIST
3424
3rd Series

12-12-12
S.S. Springa
Melbourne

Dear Mother

Just a few lines to let you know that I am still alive and kicking, and keeping pretty well at the same time and I hope that you are doing the same. We are leaving here for Newcastle tomorrow and then we are going West. We have been in Melbourne for a fortnight and it has been very

DONATIONS LIST

hot a bit different to the weather that you will be having at home. Now Mother I hope that you and Annie are keeping well and that Annie is still liking her job. How is things looking up at Thebbs still the same old drum style. I suppose I think I will leave the Frothinga after the

New Year and go
across to the
New Zealand coast
and getting tired
of this side so I
think that I will
have a change
Now whether I am
send you a P.O.
for three quid so
remind me to
all my friends
at home and give
my love to Annie
and with love
to yourself

I remain
Your Loving Son
Jack

P.S. did you have
much trouble to
get that P.O. cashed
that there was
the mistake about