

21st May

1916

My Darling Mother,

I received a letter from Dor, and I am pleased that everything appears to go well at home.

We are now out of the trenches, and as I had the best of times in the trenches, I wish I was back again. The first part of our stay in the firing line I was on what is called listening, and we were out in front of the trenches all night and slept all day, our duty was to listen for any unusual noise in the enemy's lines, and to stop patrols coming so close to our trenches, it was much better work than observing in the firing line, but the latter part of our stay in the trenches I was laying barbed wire entanglements in front of the trenches, and I did 3 hours work ~~in~~ laying wire at night, and had the rest of the 24 hours to myself, and I can tell you it suited me

(2)

1916

down to the ground laying on t my back for 24 hours. We also had splendid tuckers, so I spent all my cash on food, and so did the others, we had Pork sausages for breakfast toast butter + tea or cocoa for dinner we had steak, toast, butter + tea, for tea we had meat + vegetables, toast, butter, tea, + fried peaches + condensed milk, which served as cream, we also had quakers oats for a couple of breakfasts, of course we had a drum on which we could cook things. You can see by the above that we lived fairly well, also I eat a good deal of chocolate, so I am feeling pretty fit.

I am pleased you gave Dor, a henky, and I am only sorry I was not able to send both Flo + Dor, a present, but of course my cash would not run so hot, also I would have liked to send June + Peter something, but I did not have the cash at the time I

was in Egypt and I have not been in
a town since but when I get in a
city I will send them some little things.
Remember me to Rena.

Well mum tell Dor. I will not
answer her letter this time, but will
write ~~later~~ later, there is very little
more to say so I will say au revoir for
the present and I hope you don't worry
unnecessarily and that you are happy
as possible.

I am, my darling mum
your loving Son
Es.

P.S Love pall at home
& love for yourself & plenty of kisses.

{ Show this to Harry
When I come home I will start a business of some kind, perhaps
Harry & I will be able to start in the case June or something.

25th June 1918

My ~~Dear~~ Darling Mother,

I am now in hospital with the
Mumps, and I feel in the best of condition, and as it
is a lovely day, and I am writing sitting in the sun, I feel
almost as though I was in Australia. Of course while I am
away from the battalion I will not be getting any of
your letters, but I will only be away a couple of weeks so
when I get back I will answer them immediately.

Yesterday I left the hospital I was in to
go to the main Mump. Hospital, and I had a glorious ride
in a Motor ambulance of about 30 miles, the scenery was
lovely coming along, and we passed through a couple of
fairly big towns.

In this hospital I am very comfortable,
and am practically better although I will have to stay here for
3 weeks or so. We have lovely ~~very~~ warm beds with nice white
sheets, and splendid food, including puddings which I had
nearly forgotten the taste of, it is a splendid rest and
although I will be pleased to get back with the battalion
I will make the best of it, also I have had a complete
issue of new underclothes including 3 pairs of socks. All the
~~nurses~~ nurses here are very nice that is as many of
them as I have seen, I believe there is a nurse Doyle

here but so far I have not seen her, when I do I will see if she is a relation. ⁽²⁾

Well Mother mine I have very little more to tell you, as news is very scarce, but I will write again soon.

By now I suppose Flo is with you, and I hope you are all very happy at home, and that the home is looking very nice, also don't work too hard, and don't worry about me as there is no necessity for it.

Give my love to Flo, Harry, Peter, Cor, Van, & June & lots of love & kisses for yourself Darling man, and please don't worry, but try and be happy, and it won't be long before I am with you once again.

Well mum I just feel as though I would like to write you a long letter, but I cannot find anything to say so I will say au revoir, and I must see if I can write a fairy tale to you in the next letter, these short letters must be very disappointing but it is not really my fault.

P.S. Don't worry,
Be happy.

Well au revoir Darling man
For the present. Love, my darling Mother
Your loving son Geo



Church Army Recreation Hut

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

WITH · THE · BRITISH · EXPEDITIONARY · FORCE

24/9/16.

My Darling Mother, as the post does not go for some time this will not be long as I am sending another later on. I am sending you the addition to fragments from France, and I hope you get it, after you have seen let Joe have it, and ask her to let Gordon have a look at it. We are having a good time at present, and the tucker is good, we are having a rest at present also. It will please you to know that



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(2)

I have not now got two (2) stripes, and also that
they have given me the Military Medal,
so far I have not got the medal that
General Birdwood presented me with the ribbon
to-day at the same time as he was presented
many other chaps with ribbons & medals..
Well darling I will say more in now
so there is nothing further to tell you, but will
write later on. Give my love to all at
home (home includes Guilford of course) and two
of love & kisses for yourself.
P.S. Don't worry darling, my darling Mother
your loving son
Geo.
Be happy.

6th Dec, 1916

My Darling Mother,

I received your letters dated Sept. 16th + Oct 3rd to-day and am answering them now.

As usual I was ~~delighted~~ delighted to get them, but mum do not worry about my not getting parcels, papers etc., I have had quite a number of parcels of papers from you so do not worry about them, As we are being supplied with warm leather coats + warm gloves, and so far the weather has not been very cold. The cable I did not get, but that does not matter much, as I will be able to get it when I produce my pay book at the bank. Also I notice that little Peter was christened + the please

(2)

Remember me to Win. He parcelled
with the Christmas Cake, nuts
sodas etc. I received, and you
can bet I enjoyed them.

Mrs. Harry & Peg. would be
happier at home in Bow Bay
than anywhere, and I am
pleased to be with you, as ~~is~~
she ~~is~~ loves home, and I
don't think she was happy
away, whereas also Ven. has a
better position. Yes I ~~to~~ got a
new Australian uniform & most of
our chaps have Australian clothes.

At present we are put up
the benches having a good long seat,
we have good hats & furs in them
so you can guess we are very
comfortable now, and all provisions
are being made to make us feel
the cold weather as little as possible.
My leave is not very far off

(3)

and no doubt in a couple of
months time ~~we~~ I may
have the pleasure of seeing
England. Where is B. G. Cox you
do not say, as I have not heard
anything about him since I
have been in France, and I
have not seen Miss Purser
since we arrived at France,
but I believe that he is now
in command of some battalion
or other the 36th I think.
You will notice that I wished
you many happy returns of your
birthday in some previous letter
and I do hope you enjoyed it
darling mum. You have said
Twilight is very good, but no doubt
you are pleased, and needless to
say so too. It must be
lovely weather and in Australia
especially Sydney, and they
garden must require the hose

(4)

so it was good luck the
Rain came.

Well duckie do
I will say au revoir for the
present and I hope you
will not worry specially
about little things, and
remember the papers exaggerate
things greatly, and most of
their descriptions are ridiculous,
to say the least of it.

Love & kisses to all
at home & remember me to all
others who count & sons of love
& kisses for yourself.

Love, my darling

P.S. Don't worry

Be happy

Whether
Your loving Son

Bo

X X X X X X X X X X



Australian
1st ANZAC CORPS,
B.E.F., FRANCE,

.....25th February, 1918.

Dear Mrs Baldwin,

Thank you so much for thinking of sending me the extracts from Sydney newspapers containing an appreciation of your boy's splendid service in the A.I.F. As I see that Colonel Moore has given you all particulars of the fighting in which your boy was killed, there is nothing further I can tell you. I should, however, like to express my deep sympathy with you in your irreparable loss. I am sure your boy was as good a son as he proved himself to be a soldier, and it is indeed a heavy blow for you to bear.

I am so glad that he was awarded the Military Medal in recognition of his great courage and devotion to duty in our heavy fighting at Pozieres in August, 1916. He was employed carrying messages under heavy sniping and shell fire, and was obliged to pass over ground, where many casualties were being incurred. This he did continuously throughout the day, and later he volunteered

to/



- 2 -

to bring up parties to the front over very dangerous country. By his splendid example of bravery, coolness and determination under very trying circumstances, he inspired confidence in those with him.

I am sure you must be very proud of your son's record, and though your loss is indeed a great one, yet I hope that it will be of some consolation to you to know of the esteem and admiration in which your boy was held by all who knew him, and how gallantly he gave his life for King and Country, and all that we hold dear.

With my kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

W. J. Gidwood

20RL324
AUSTRALIAN
WAR MEMORIAL



HE whom this scroll commemorates
was numbered among those who,
at the call of King and Country, left all
that was dear to them, endured hardness,
faced danger, and finally passed out of
the sight of men by the path of duty
and self-sacrifice, giving up their own
lives that others might live in freedom.
Let those who come after see to it
that his name be not forgotten.

Sgt. Cecil C. Harper Baldwin, M.M.
3. Bn., A.I.F.