THE SALVATION ARMY.

Headquarters: 69 Bourke St., Melbourne.

W. BRAMWELL BOOTH,
General.

JAMES HAY,
Commissioner.

MILITARY CAMP, BROADMEADOWS,
. . . S.A. TENT.

Wednesday 2nd 1914

Dear Bess

I suppose Les has written & told you that he has joined the L. Horse He came in last week. He came to see me the other night & brought along Will Morrison. You might ~~are~~ have seen him ~~that Sunday~~ you were out for he was in camp.

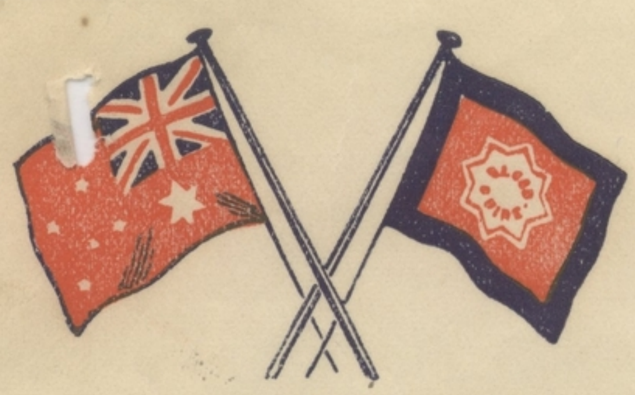
I" boy was down at Williamstown on Monday & got back about 7 o'clock & had to go on guard right away without any tea & had no sleep that night & had to go on a march next morning to Coburg Heidelberg & through Preston home. There were infantry artillery L. Horse & machine ~~gun~~ guns firing in the streets of Preston The march was about 20 miles & there is to be another at 2 on Wednesday.

I think I will try to be home next Sunday as there is going to be a send off given to the Warrant men there will be about 70 going. If we go we will travel by the Adelaide Express & get up the Saturday morning

This is all this time so I will close

Remain

Your Brother George



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Wednesday 21st 1914

All at home

I received your letter today while having dinner I have been transferred from the depot to I Boy 14th Bat. As an acting Sergeant for that I only receive the privates pay until I go through an examination & then I have to go to the A Boy The last of the first contingent went this morning & the 2nd cont was marched up to see them leave camp. We have a swimming parade every 2nd afternoon in the Merry breeches I got paid up to Thursday last & I will send that along as I do not want it. How did the photo I got taken the morning I came away turn out. I have 5 or 6 days days off by next Friday week so I will run up most likely on Saturday week I have not got the boots yet but I suppose they will come along in time This is all this time so I will close

with love from George

Sgt Murray
I. Boy
2 E. F.
B. M.

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Monday 26th 1914

Dear Hetta

Received your letter on Friday but have not got the boots yet but I suppose they are at the station It is too far to go of a night after drill Dad & Les with the Phillips was out on Sunday afternoon The camp is now one mass of dust & it is a nice site when the wind is blowing & it is very cool at times. The camp is very dull & there is not much to do. The Boy Sam in one of the soldiers died. He had a boil on his face & the docta lanced it without cleaning his instruments & he was taken to Melb & died just after admittance. His funeral was on Saturday afternoon & anyone had have to attend it about thirty went to it. Another man fell down a hole & he was found dead with his neck broken No one heard what his name was & he had a quite burial

I am leaving here on Friday dinner time to go

to town & meet Dad at the Coffee Palace
& go up home on Saturday morning
Goodby
From George

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. . . S.A. TENT.

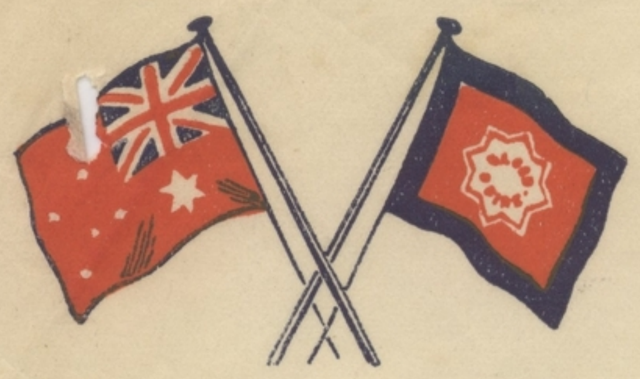
Sunday 31st 1914

Dear Jim

I got your letter a couple of days ago & I have not had one from since last week & the first I knew that Bess was transferred was by your letter. She has gone to a ~~to~~ stinking place where all the tanneries are. I was part Footscray last Saturday the the boy went to Williamstown for rifle practice. Some of the boys did very well while others never hit the target at some of the ranges. I did ~~go~~ best at 400 rapid shooting where I got 15 out of 20. We had 5 shots to do in 45 second. We had to load, aim & fire you had to travel a bit. The Signallers shot a cow that walked past the targets.

I suppose Bess will come out here today as I do not know where she is so I cannot go in I will send you some post cards of the church parades & ~~march~~ march past when I can get them.

We have to marches



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. . . S.A. TENT.

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through town next week, as far as is known now. One is from Flinders street to the Melb. Hospital & the other from Flinders St to St Kilda Barracks for the Batt is to be presented with the colours that it is to carry to the ~~front~~ front. We leave any time within three weeks now & they are pushing the coys along very quickly.

This is all this time & it is near dinner time so I will close

I am
Your Brother
George

Broadmeadows
18/11/14

Dear Hel & All at Home

I suppose you will be wondering why I have not written it is because you never sent the 14 Battalion & you never sent B. Meadows on it but Melbourne. I got it Wednesday morning so I suppose Mum will be home by then & will have told you all the news.

The Battalion got paid today & I will send £3 along in this letter. I got the photo taken & it is not much like me. I got it taken with a cap on.

I have been Orderly Serg. for three days & have to do the office work as well tonight.

The Infantry of the 14th are getting up early Friday morning for a march from Camp to St Kilda & Back. It is only about 28 to 30 miles. The runners for the sports on Saturday will not be very fit to do the [illegible] is cold.

There is a good concert

given in the Y.M.C.A. tonight ~~last~~ a very good one the night before I got a letter from Jim today & he is condemning Horsham & the place he is staying at.

The camp is deserted tonight with the men on leave & dozens of them away for 3 or 4 days

I had to knock this letter off as I had to transfer a man from M. to Thoy & find a place for him to sleep

The flies eat a man out of house & home. They are like currants in a cake as they cluster to the tent roof

The Sergt Major of our Coy. left us today so we all club-ed each into a fund to get a group photo taken. We had it taken this afternoon & it will cost about £-3/10 & what over will go to buy a cane for him. He was the only man the boy would do anything decent for.

This is all this time wishing you are all well & especially Dad. As I am at present

Remain
Your Brother & Son
George

Reinforcement-ton
4th Battalion
B. M.E.F.

Broadmeadows
18/11/14

Dear Bet

How are you getting along in your new home with no one you know around you I suppose Mum went home on Tuesday morning. I got Hel's letter Wednesday morning after its long travel. She addressed it to Melbourne instead of B. Meadows If you are coming out of Sunday just say so & I will go to the Station to meet you The 14th Battalion are going to march from camp to St Kilda & back on Friday It is only a matter of about thirty miles The runners for the sports on Saturday will not fell very fit to do their boys justice. I just have answered Hel's letter & will answer Jim's in a day or two The camp has grown by about 150 tents since last Sunday & about 150 to 200 new men arrived tonight but I never knew any of them

There is a good concert on in the Y.M.C.A. tonight but I could not leave the lines as I am Ordderly Sergeant for three days We had a sham fight this morning in which 1100 men took part & you ought to have heard the shots going off. We knocked off at 12 & never did any more drill but went & had our Boy Photos taken to be presented to the L. Major for he is leaving us This is all this time so I will close

Yourtrue Brother
George

Serg Murray
Reinforcement boy
14 Battalion

B. Meadows

Church of England (Home Mission) Tent.

Expeditionary Force Encampment.

BROADMEADOWS.

November 24th 1914

Dear Bess

I will scribble a short note to you while I have time. It will be of no use for coming out on Sunday as I will be on duty from today till Monday night and am not allowed to leave the lines. There was a wee shower of rain Monday morning but we slept in tents in the rain and are now settled in our new place. The battalion is out on a night march & will be back about 10 or 11 I got a letter from home today & they say Dad has been ill again & has to go to bed The 13, 14 - 15 - 16 Bat. are marching through the city on Thursday so far as we know at present I will close this short note

so goodby

from your true brother

George

Church of England (Home Mission) Tent.

Expeditionary Force Encampment.

BROADMEADOWS.

November 24th 1914

All at home

I received your letter today & was sorry to
hear that Dad was unwell & had to go
to bed. The Battalion is on a march tomorrow
but I never went as I am Orderly Sergeant & that
means a lot of Running about. About 30 out of 9
boys are away on leave including 6 Thewlis
who has 4 days leave to go to Euroa for he
has not been home for 2 years. Bess was out
at the camp on Sunday evening with a teacher
who used to be at Williamstown Mrs Beavis of Warrnambool
was at the camp tonight to see K. McRae I never
saw her

Most of the boys have been issued
with the necessities that they have to take
away with them so it cannot be long before
we have a move. The Tasmanians came in
on Sunday They are about 500 strong. The N.S.W.
& Queensland Battalions have arrived They
are a poor set of soldiers compared with
Victorians They are all sizes & shapes some

are under 5 feet

I am sending a few cards along & will send some more along after a while They are not much ~~[illegible]~~ I sent some to Jim They were views of the camp

I have ordered a group photo of part of our boys & it is to be forwarded about the end of the week I will send the receipt along with it so you will be sure of getting it. The 13-14-15-16 Battalions are to go through the city on Thursday. Colonel Courtney says we have to walk again as he will not have us go by a tram, no matter if the other coys do He is very proud of his 1100 men

This is all this time so I will close

Remain

Your affectionate

George

Church of England (Home Mission) Tent.

Expeditionary Force Encampment.

BROADMEADOWS.

Monday 8th 1914

All at home

I received your letter afternoon while I was down at the depot I boys office. They did not know where to send it to. I will get the photo taken with those twelve stamps & will send it along by & bye.

We are having very windy & dusty weather. We had a half holiday on Saturday & another today & I suppose there will be another tomorrow for the 14th Bat is going to play the Sydney Battery cricket. The 14th Bat. played the L. Horse Cricket on Saturday afternoon & won by 70 runs One of the 14th took 5 wickets for 19 runs

There was a nice crowd of soldiers at Church Parade on Sunday morning There were close on 5 thousand present. Out of the whole 11 hundred infantry men in the 14th Bat there are only 95 Catholics that paraded on Sunday morning. Next Sunday is the march through the City from Flinders

Church of England (Home Mission) Tent.

Expeditionary Force Encampment.

BROADMEADOWS.

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Street to St Kilda & then march back to Bolleard
which will be a fair step for one day

When I
left here to go home I left an order for the
boy clerk to draw Jhewlis & my pay. He
drew it all right but spent it at the
Hotel. So the Lieutenant took it off & made
him fob it off & dismissed him from the
company So I will send £3-10- along with
this letter. I went to the Station on Sat.
to get the boots & had to pay 1-2 for them
You said that you paid 1/6 on them, but
they came as to pay I took the bags out
& sent the boots back, as I do not want them
I have paid for them.

I will write to Jim after
I finish this one.

So I will close so goodbye
from George.

Woodmansterne
8/12/14

Dear Jim
I got to bars safe & sound but found the our lines were shifted & I had to go & look for them & found them in the long run. I got a letter from Bess today she is engaged & is going for a drawing Examination Monday. She wanted to see her last Sunday but I have not seen Jeffy yet.
I do not think it will be long before we have as they are supposed to be Kit-Hull Huffs a longer title next time as it is getting late so I will close
I am
Your affd brother
George

Broadmeadows
9/12/14

Dear Ross,

Received your letter at dinner time today & got back to barracks at half past one & little Pinky to Maribyrnong to the feast & they started to try back. The station was literally crowded & you could not move anywhere. The band played a few times at the R.S. Jim came to Maribyrnong Monday dinner time to see me before I went away for the last time for a long time to come. It looks very well. Lufkozeks came to see you last Sunday & told you all the news but I have not seen him yet. I will close this short note as I have to answer Jim's letter so goodbye

George

Broadmeadows
20/12/14

All at home

I received your letter the other day & will answer it now as there will be no Church Parade this morning as it has been raining all night: The Governa General was to be out to inspect the Battalions before they went on board on Monday. Bess has told you by now that Les & I will be on the water by Christmas Les & I went to see Bess before she left & we met Mr J. Gardiner in Bourke St. When I was on Police duty at the corner of Spring & Lonsdale Streets, I met Mr. Oldray. He was watching the troops march. I saw the girl Fitz on the Flinders Street Station.

There was another riot in the city on Saturday night: I heard that the 4th Brigades Bugler & Drummer were killed in it: I do not know if

there is any truth in it. At any rate there has been no bugle calls this morning

I will be sending the tin trunk & a leather bag up next week. I will not be wanting them any more.

You said Tom Young never received the answer to his letter I answered it straight away so it must have gone astray So I will write another one to him I never knew he had leave to go home till Will Morrison told me All the company is out on French leave but most of them will return Only three out of this boy have gone altogether This is all this time so I will say goodbye I am quite well again Remain

Your Brother Son

George

30/12/14

Dear Het

I received your Broadmeadow letter while I was at sea

We are having a good time with not much to do. I signed that order you sent to me & I will return it with this letter.

The watch that you gave me has disappeared. I was setting the time to the bells while I setting on the railing & it dropped out of my hand into the sea.

I am quite well as are most of the others. I cannot say much as this letter has to be censored so I will close wishing you all a happy New Year from George

Rtw

Lgb J. Murray
14 Battalion
Reinforcements
4th Brigade
2nd E. Force
A. I. F.

This is all the address
that you are allowed
to use
George

S. S. Berrima
Sunday [illegible] 1914

All at home
This is the first chance
I have had to write a letter back
I am quite well & have an
enormous appetite. I have not
being sick yet nor have many
of the other men. The sea has
being very calm. We do not do
much drill for there is no
place to do much work so we
mostly have lectures.
We are well
looked after with 3 good solid
meals a day & supper before
going to bed. There are six berg.
in one berth and we are
issued with mattresses
sheets blankets rug & Pillows
There are other ships on
both sides of the boat

we are on. They are keeping pace with us. We are timed to strike land to night; & then we are to anchor & then there are to be military sports held on the boat

When you answer write to

G. Murray.
14th Battalion
Reinforcements
4th Brigade

A. I. F.

that is the address that is allowable

I will have to close for this letter has to be censored & before it leaves the boat so I will close wishing you a merry Christmas though we did not have a very merry one ourselves &

I am

Your loving Brother & Son

George

I did not see Les before I went on board

All at home

I am still living & quite well. I have not been sick yet for the sea has been very calm We have been three weeks out by the time this letter will be posted. There are a dozen or more ships travelling with us & they look well when lighted up at night.

We have no idea where we will land. I have been vaccinated & innoculated neither being a very painful undertaking.

There were sports held on the boat while in mid ocean the 14th. got a two 1st 2nd & 3rd prizes. Not too bad considering all the

entries there were. The relay race was the best. We were running up till the last man & he dropped the flag.

There is a boxing tournament being carried on now & we have had two wins so far b. Thewlis & I have be separated at last. He got transferred to the Battalion & that was the last I heard of him.

It is late & very hot as we are over the line so I will now close with love from

George