REST CAMP
LEMNOS 3.10.1915

Dearest Mother Father & Helen

I have just received your letter of 24th August 1915 for which I thank you. I know you are likely to get a distorted idea of things out there I am afraid you have over estimated the job I was on in connection with the intelligence there were plenty beside myself along the line doing exactly the same work the Colonel appointed me because of my sketching and ability to take prismatic compass bearings it was an unsafe job because every time our trenches were shelled we had to be up in the front line observing and endeavouring to locate the gun. The CO is still away and has not even written to us so we do not know what is the matter with him or where he has been sent. I cant make it out. We had Church Parade this

mommy and the Padre did not
put in an appearance so the Bunjoda
carried on. When it came to the
sermon he told us he did not feel
worthy to preach to us but he said
one man could give advice to other
men to their benefit. He based his
advice on the sermon on the mount
and gave us the best address I
have ever heard on any similar parade
I sincerely hope Hugh is successful
in his Bendigonian venture
I have nothing more to tell you
of so will close with much love
From your loving son
Geoff.

3.10.15.
Opthalmic

LEMNOS
12,10,15.

Dearest Helen.

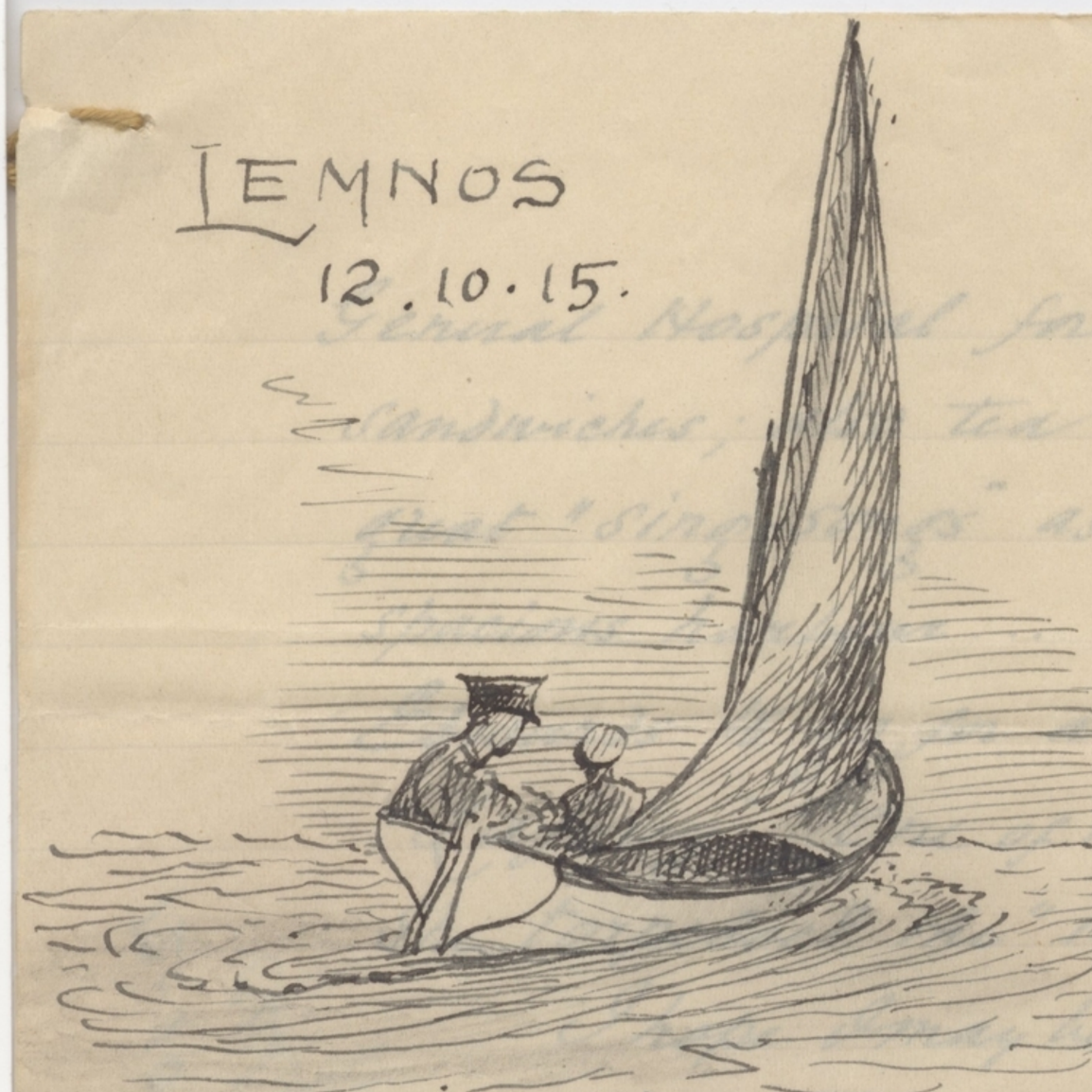
I have just received your letter dated 1st Sept for which I am deeply grateful and thank you for the kind things you have said of me therein. I am delighted to know the Mashobra people went to see you I remember when I gave that letter to McKay he said he would regard the delivery of it a sacred duty and he has been as good as his word and you have thus been on my beloved old ship and met its splendid officers all of whom I love. I am now a ship owner myself rather Swift, Griffs, and I clubbed together and bought a 25 foot boat with sails and gear practically new for £21. This whole island has changed and I love every minute of the time now. I spend all my spare time

sailing. She is a beautiful sea boat and very fast. We are enabled to visit all the ships in the harbour and are getting to know tons of naval officers, who absolutely cannot do enough for us so we are have been having a jolly time. We often take the sisters from No 3 General Hospital for a spin they generally bring sandwiches and also tea in Thermos flasks and we have great jolly jollys as we go splashing across the spacious harbour. I have been invited by Commander Edwards to go for a three days cruise on the "Lafony" one of the latest things in Destroyers she torpedoed the Mainz in the North Sea scrap. I hope I can get leave it would be an experience of a lifetime. I have just received two large parcels from Maude One of figs & raisins and the other socks & chocolate. I know you must love her voice. I have only enticed her to sing to me once and I still hear those soft sweet notes

Farewell Helen dear

Much love from Geoff

LEMNOS
12.10.15.



Dearest Helen,

I have just received your letter dated 1st Sept. for which I am deeply grateful and thank you for the kind things you have said of me therein — I am delighted to know that the "Mashobra" people went to see you .. I remember that when I gave that letter to McKay, he said he would regard the delivery of it a sacred duty and he has been as good as his word. and you have thus been on board my beloved old ship and met it's splendid officers all of whom I love .... I am now a ship-owner myself, or rather Swift, Grylls and I, clubbed together and bought a 25-foot-boat with sails and gear practically new, for £21:-:- This whole island has changed and I love every minute of the time now. I spend all my spare time sailing.... She is a beautiful sea-boat and very fast. We are now enabled to visit all the ships in the harbour and are getting to know "tons" of naval officers who, absolutely, cannot do enough for us; so, we have been having a bonny time. We often take the Sisters from No. 3.

General Hospital for a spin - They generally bring sandwiches; also tea in Thermos-flasks and we have great "sing-songs" as we go splashing across the spacious harbour ... I have been invited by Commander Edwards to go for a three-days-cruise on the "Lafoey". One of the latest things in destroyers. She torpedoed the "Mainz" in the North Sea-"scrap".

I hope I may be able to get leave - It would be the experience of a life-time -

I have just received two "bonza" parcels from M. One of figs and raisins and the other of socks and chocolate

Farewell - Much Love from

(Sd.) Geoff.

(2)

(1)

12-10-15.

Cpl Mag

LEMNOS
14. 10. 1915

Dear Mother & Father

I thank you for your letter of 1st Sept and thank you for the nice things you have said of me therein. I am awfully glad you met my Mashobra friends and saw the dear old ship. I have bought a boat together with Swift & Gulls we have plenty of fun out of it. We are often aboard the Battleships and have made many friends amongst the naval officers and have been invited to go for a three days cruise on a destroyer and "Strafe the Turks" from the sea by way of a change. I hope I shall be able to get leave. We also take the Sisters from No 3 General Hospital for picnics on the Harbour. A Sister Belstrap is over there she appears to know you and the Hamilltons & Cresswicks. I feel awfully disappointed I did not receive any letters from Maude this week although I got many papers & two big parcels of Chocolate socks figs & raisins from her. I wish you would send me some Eucalyptus as winter is fast closing about us. I have

very little to write about. Each day is like the other. I had a letter from Mrs Penne father from London The Australian Jockey Club have supplied the Division with sporting material which is a veritable God Send. Our Band Bandmasters have arrived from Alexandria so this Holiday is not going to be so bad after all.

Must say farewell
Much love
from
Geoff.

LEMNOS.
17. 10. 1915.

Dearest Mother, father, & Helen.

Just got your letters of 5th Sept: for which I thank you heartily. I am sorry to hear of Uncle Nicholas' death, but I suppose he was very weary of hanging on to life. I am glad mother has inherited some cash which she richly deserved; it will no doubt be a great help. Dear old Colonel Bryant has returned to Australia he had been sick for some time and news came of his wife's death and that broke him up altogether. I am awfully sorry; he was as kind as a mother to me, and I absolutely loved him: if you ever see him give him my deepest sympathy; I am glad to hear old "Bickie" is coming to join our party. I am glad you got the photos: of Cyprus. I am enclosing some I took up at Anzac. – Bruce was a sheep farmer from New Zealand I am glad the little Scotch maid is a success and hope she may remain

long with you. I had afternoon tea with Sister Jean Bisset this afternoon. She was inquiring very tenderly after you. She is as jolly as ever. We are still having great sport with the boat. I was congratulated on my handling of her by a commander of the Royal Navy, who said I did it as well as a veteran seaman. This chap, Commander Edwards, has told me to make his ship my home, when ever I want a drink or meal, to go aboard and order it: if I want to sleep, his cabin is ever at my disposal: he has an awfully fine set of officers all of whom I am very fond of. I am having him and his 1st Lieutenant to mess to-morrow night. We are living very well at present: we got on board a transport which has just come from England, and bought £20 odd of stores including frozen ducks, green peas, Asparagus, wines, beer potatoes, flour, baking powder, pickles and a hundred odd other things. Band instruments have been sent up from Alexandria, so we have music to beguile our spare hours.

so we are exactly living the heroic life at present. I had a letter from the Colonel, who is in Devonport Hospital in England; he has had a bad time with coast fever & pleurisy: he was sitting up for three days, gasping for breath. The wet season appears to be setting in here. We get rain daily, and the island is donning an emerald jacket and quickly regaining its old beauty. I was glad to hear of my roses and primroses, and I hope I shall yet again be able to attend to their needs. I am feeling very fit, and at peace with the whole world.

No more news

Much love
from Geoff:

LEMNOS 31. 10. 1915

Dearest Mother Father & Helen,

I have drawn a blank this mail not a letter from you or Maude but I received some parcels though and Father's book Fleet & Convoy. I got one containing six pairs of assorted coloured socks and a waterproof cap which are most acceptable and for which I am awfully grateful Maude sent me a beautiful Christmas Hamper from the Mutual Store full of luxuries isn't she an angel I am sending some photos of this harbour and a couple of other scenes I got from a chap in No 3 General Hospital. I saw the "Madinora" was here yesterday I was away on the H.M.S. Lafoey I am awfully sorry I missed her especially as they had come direct from home and from seeing you. Copies of photos are in

duplicate one set is for Maude
I think you have some of the
snap shots I think you are
already in possession of so if
any are duplicates send them
on to Maude also. Our stay
here has been prolonged indefinitely
so I do not know when we
go to the trenches now but do
not revel in the anticipation
of them wet & draughty conditions
Things are very dull and
I have nothing of interest to
tell you of so as I love you
I will cease You will be
glad to know I am in the
best of health and longing
for that glad day which gives
you back to me

Much love
from
Geoff

LEMNOS 4-11-1915

Dearest Helen

Thank you very much for your letter of 10th Sept and the news of my friends on the "Mashobra". I am pleased to hear Henry & Katie are still doing their duty towards the State. Our stay here has been prolonged, for which none of us are sorry. I still go for sails on the harbour in the good ship "Mandl" there is really little else to do here. I had a gorgeous time during my five days trip on the H.M.S. "Lafoney", when we were ordered to the front again. The other day I went out to say farewell, we went on one another's boats & exchanged two bottles of "bubbly". I am sending you his notes to me for safe keeping as a memento of some of the happiest days of my life. I shall endeavour

Mandl Sister

he did last

bhos

to describe them. – Friday morning 6 a.m. – cold, dark, boisterous morning, nasty short sea; found two oilskin sou'westered figures waiting on the pier for us, got into a dingy and were towed out to where a motor-boat was moored trans-shipped into her and commenced a lovely fast, bumpy ride, out to the large greyhound-like ship; were received on board by No 1. (1st Lieut Hartnell) and taken down into the Wardroom Commander Edwards or "poor little Graham" (as he calls himself) came down in his dressing-gown and we all had a delicious cup of hot coffee. They have made a very fine place of the Wardroom; installed a large gramophone, and round the dado, they have pasted on figures cut out from artistic Theatrical posters, making a great effect. They have also little mottos put up such as

"Live each day so that you can look every damn man in the eye and tell him to go to Hell" The skipper's motto is "My life has been full of troubles but half of them never happened". 8 a.m. a pinnace came alongside and put a navigating Lieutenant on board. We pulled up our mud-hook and went out of harbour to swing ship for compass-adjustment. Whilst this operation was being carried out, we breakfasted. Afterwards we went up on the bridge and returned to Harbour to put the navigator-man back on his ship. As we were turning, some inward-bound destroyers came up with us, the leading ship, the "Foxhound," signalled and asked us if it was "too rough for us?" This gibe was very effectively replied to later on. Having landed our visitor, we proceeded to sea

and on our way out of harbour, we passed the "Tosehound" in the midst of coaling; everyone of his officers & men black as niggers. The "Lafrey" is an oil-fuel-ship and they know not the discomfort of coal dust. So "Little Graham" called the yeoman of signals to him, and told him to send "from Captain to Captain, "would you like a drop of oil?" thus, these bright youths break what to them is dull monotony. When we got outside, we ran up the engines to 25 knots; a never-to-be-forgotten sensation. The sea was fairly big as there had been three days wind, and riding over the waves at that pace was just like being in a well-sprung rocking chair; there was not the slightest vibration. These ships are one huge spring; and, if you

look along the wire rope-rails. at one moment they will be quite "taut" and there they slacken according to the ship as she contracts or expands, riding over the seas. Ordinarily no smoke is seen coming from the funnels, but by slackening down the fires in the furnaces, a most dense smoke is produced which hangs for a long time: this is known as a "smoke screen" and is used to obscure ships from the enemy's view. Edwards gave me a demonstration of it as we went. We arrived at Suvla Bay at 3.30 and anchored; we were ordered farther off shore as we were liable to be shelled if we stayed in so close. The skipper and the "sub." went out on the boat we were to relieve, to make a reconnaissance. They returned for dinner. Next morning

we went out on patrol, spent the morning in the engine & boiler rooms: this oil-fuel is wonderful, only requires two men in the stokehold the furnaces look more like a large kitchen range than anything else. Everything was full of interest and I enjoyed every moment. The ship's people were apologizing all the time and hoping we were not being bored. I forgot to mention Bert Layh came with me. They have on board a most intelligent a sagacious dog named Mick, a wirehaired Terrier, who takes a keen interest in every thing that takes place. He superintends all work done on deck and when it is finished, he comes up with a most satisfied and pleased look on his dear old face and makes his salaam to the Commander.

At 4 a.m. we went in close to the shore and plastered Abdul's trenches with Lyddite, of course I got up to see the show. The concussion of the guns was terrific and the flash quite blinding if you wanted to see the result of the shot, you had to close your eyes on the command "fire". The Turks replied with Shrapnel. It is an uncanny feeling being fired at on the sea. When you are in the trenches you have a certain sense of security, but on board, there is no protection whatever, just to stand on open decks with shells howling over head isnt very pleasant However when they made it too warm, on went the engines at 20 Knots, and we were out of range in no time. One morning Lagh, Scott and I went out sailing and fishing in the "whaler", the sea

was rather choppy and we had some difficulty in stepping the heavy masts. "Little Graham" became a bit anxious, thinking the Turks might take the advantage of a "sitting shot," so he shot away from us at full speed, and got between us and the shore and made a smoke-screen, thus obscuring us from Abdul's vision until we got the sails set and under weigh. The last night we were out, we had a great "stunt" with another destroyer. We fired on the trenches whilst the other ship watched for the batteries on shore to fire upon us, and directly she picked up the flash of the guns, she opened on them then the two ships suddenly changed positions and did the same thing again. I said my prayers rapidly a few times that evening I can assure you.

I think those are the main points of interest during our trip, of course we lived like lords; hot baths every morning, downy beds to sleep in, and an excellent table. I think taking it all round, the navy people have the better time of it. They live in clean surroundings and can always get a clean change whereas we ashore live in dirt and clean clothing and baths are a luxury — And it is bad luck if they (Destroyers) gets hit; she was right through Heligoland 'scrap' without a casualty, and torpedoed the "Mainz"; but on shore you're lucky to come out of it with your life. No more news; hope this long screed has not bored you — all personal items will be found in mother's letter.

Farewell —

Much love

from Geoff

LEMNOS 4.11.1915

Dearest Mother & Father

I must thank you for your long and interesting letters of 20th. Sept. It is very gratifying to have such kind things said of ones work as Col Bryant & Major Isaacson have said, I trust I may continue to uphold the family's honor. I am informed that Col Bryant has returned to Australia owing to his health breaking down, you ought to call on him, He is such a loveable old man. I received the socks you speak of in your letter, also the waterproof headgear, which will be a veritable God send in the trenches. I received a lovely pair of socks from Maude, also a pair from Mrs Mother, also some butter-scotch which was most acceptable. I have got an awfully sweet tooth, and it proved a lovely change from the inevitable chocolate. The parcel Mrs Hamilton

Sam at the Hospital Store was from Maude; it contained nearly every conceivable thing under the sun; Cake, biscuits, Ham & Chicken-paste, Chutney, Chocolates etc. I see you are living up to your reputation as the "Pelican", in the manner in which you are dealing with Uncle Nicholas' bequest – Why don't you think of yourself more? I wish you would take my share if any, and instead of keeping it for me spend it on your dear self, that would please me more than anything – This is some Regiment to belong to: out of nine V.C's awarded to the Army-Corps for the fighting early in August, the 7th Battalion was awarded four, Lieuts Tubb & Symonds & L/Cpls Burton & Dunstan being the recipients – I hope you have recovered from seeing Helen off by now, I expect she will stay her full six weeks if not more From the scale issued for winter-clothing, you need not

be at all anxious about our welfare they are giving us fur waistcoats, Macintosh Cloaks, Gum boots, mittens, mufflers etc. etc. – I must thank you for the many papers you have sent me: it is very enjoyable reading about Melbourne people and seeing pictures of the place to which I am longing to return.

You need not worry about my contemplating early matrimony – no one is ~~is~~ more conscious of how far off that blessed state is than I. If I ever get back I will have to start off scratch and make my way in life and it will be many a weary year before I can provide for a wife. I have not found maude to my ~~any~~ way & for this express reason – But nevertheless I love her and told her, if I ever got back, I wanted her for my own; now, you know exactly how matters stand twixt myself

and her. I am feeling very well and we are well fed here. Shortage of water is the only drawback: it is very difficult to get a bath; that was what I enjoyed most on H.M.S "Lafoey" - a hot bath every morning for five consecqutive days! - no more news, much love

Tom

Geoff

SOMEWHERE
12. 11. 1915

Dearest Mother Father & Helen

I must thank you for your letters and papers of September. I can't think of anything you can send me - we are well provided for by the Quartermaster and as we are only allowed to carry 35lbs baggage, one is rather put to it when he has a lot of surplus stuff. The Olympus of Cyprus is supposed to be the Windless Olympus which old Homer used to write about, and it is most remarkable that the day I went up, there was quite a breeze in the foothills, but on the summit the air was quite still. We have had the honor of being inspected by K. of K. He addressed us and thanked and congratulated us on the work done at Anzac and gave us a message which the King had personally given him to deliver Expressing the King's and the people

of Englands' gratitude for our work.- Kitchener did not look the ferocious man he is pictured. He struck me as a most genial old man. The senior officers were introduced to him and he squeezed my hand and gave me a beaming smile.- We all felt very happy at having received his commendation and praise, and feel very honored, as he is not noted for showering round compliments unless they have been well earned.- There is no more news at present, so I must conclude, I hope the films arrived safely.- If Blizard doesnt give you that parcel soon, you had better ring up the Barracks for his address.- My best wishes.-

Much love
from
Geoff.

LEMNOS.

12. 11. 1915.

Dearest Mother father & Helen

I am enclosing some negatives taken on the island and during my cruise on the Lafoey I should be very grateful if you would send copies to the following people.

Maude.

Commander G. R. L Edwards
H.M.S. Lafoey c/o Admiralty
London.

Mrs H. J. C Lagh.
85 Munro Street Coburg
Melbourne.

I am in the best of health. We are getting some Christmas Cards I desired presented on Board but in case they do not arrive here in time I take this opportunity of wishing you a happy Christmas and the best of new years and I sincerely hope I may be

with you before its termination
should I be spared. Hoping
you are all well

I am your loving son
& brother

Geoff.

15.11.18

12·11·15

LEMNOS.

14. 11. 1915

Dearest Mother.

Enclosed are a few souvenirs. The Turkish Buckle and cartridge are from the now famous Lone Pine position there is also a Greek and an Egyptian coin. The loose is One of the Christmas Gifts from Princess Mary. I would be glad if you would keep the buckle for me till I return Helen can wear it if she wishes you can do with the rest what you will

Much love
from
Geoff

LEMNOS.

20. 11. 1915

Dearest Mother father & Helen

We are still here despite many attempts to get us away. I sold my boat for £13 so I made not much a bad bargain out of it considering the Greeks had stolen two anchors & two oars and much rope. We hear with grief that the boat carrying some thousands of bags of mail for us had been torpedoed & sunk. We have done nothing but pack up & unpack lately so there is nothing to relate. We are living in a very poverty stricken state now we have parted with all our tables & chairs beds etc. nights are very cold & the air laden with frost but I manage to maintain good health & spirits. I had a bath in the hot mineral springs at Therma yesterday rode there & back on donkeys Good luck

Much love

from Geoff

(cp) 1

ANZAC.
26. 11. 1915

Dearest Mother Father & Helen

I was very glad to receive your letters of 4/5th Oct. I am glad the C.O appreciates my work it is nice to know as he never shows it to anyone personally so it is difficult to know whether you are pleasing him. He has returned from England and is at present at Lemnos. I have a request to make and that is you will keep on the telephone at my expense. Both calls & instrument charges. I have never contributed anything to the upkeep of the house ~~so~~ I claim this as my privelege. I would take on Erasmus's proposition re your Legacy. I have not drawn any pay for a long time so I have a £100 credit in my paybook I am getting some funds to remit it to you, take anyw

amount you like out of it for myself as I have a lot to pay you back for and would like to do so now that I am able. The weather is rather miserable at present we had a tremendous thunder storm last night. I have weaned myself from body belts owing to them making too much a harbour for vermin washing water is a very scarce commodity. I am very my excellent health the stay at Lemnos having been very beneficial. I have no more news so will cease wishes every good thing

Your loving
from your loving son
Geoff

ANZAC.

2.12.1915

Dearest Mother Father & Helen

We anxiously awaiting our mail which is promised any day now since I last wrote I have had my first experience with Snow I awoke one morning to find the whole country side under two inches of snow and a young blizzard blowing. It was a most beautiful sight but more suited to Russian Troops than ours. It was penstingly cold. We moved bivouac that day and had a very arduous time of it owing to steep hill tracks covered inches deep in slippery mud. That day we had very little to eat and every particle of our kit was bespattered with frozen mud however the elements have repented them we still and we are now having glorious spring weather and have a fairly comfortable bivouac I am feeling very fit, we turn in about 6pm each evening the only way in keeping warm and candles are scarce

The nights and early mornings are very sharp and days bright and sunny They are getting up an Anzac New Year Magazine to which I have contributed a sketch and hope it will be accepted as it will be quite an Historical affair. I met Bean the other morning and he remembers his trip from Hobart with Helen distinctly 4.12.1915 This afternoon there was a very intense bombardment down at Cape Helles. Cruisers, monitors destroyers and shore batteries kept the whole earth and sky vibrating with an awful din such as I have never before experienced. I have waited vainly for four days for the mail so will not delay this note any longer

much love
from
Geoff.

ANZAC
9 12 1915

Dearest Mother Father & Helen
Thank you very much for your letter of 10th Oct. The Colonel arrived back the day before yesterday looking awfully fit having had a lovely time in England. I was told he was to arrive at 7 in the evening so went to meet him. The first lighter of troops came ashore at 11.30 pm and the next at 1 am I happened to meet Capt Le Messurier on the beach and he took me up to the Hospital gave me supper and a bed and put a man on to watch for the next load which arrived at 5.30 am the Col and I set out at once for our lodgings which we reached at 7 am. Whilst on the beach a rather funny though tragic incident took place. a number of Egyptians found a bomb ~~on~~ this they took for a lamp and overpayed

with them fund stood round it
and let it with the result that
it burst wounding seven of them
I am now back with "B" Co again
with Swift as my second in command
I am just having a new home hewn
out of the earth. Abdul has been
throwing 8in high explosive about
lately but beyond that there is
nothing doing here. I am very
well and in good spirits. The
latest telegrammes are very cheery
I wonder if Kate accepting the
job of Gaw's father. The weather
here is beautiful at present
I think that contains all local
news Things have settled almost
to a routine and consequently
there is nothing of importance
to tell you of. Good luck
and much love
from
Geoff.

MUDROS 27.12.15

Dearest Mother Father & Helen

You will doubtlessly wonder at the long gap between this and my previous letter A week prior to the evacuation we were forbidden to send letters away and the ban has not yet been raised nor will it be until we reach our next destination. The mail outward before the prohibition I believe was destroyed by fire. so hence this long neglect. I have received your letters written in October for which I thank you I cannot find out anything definite about Pte Gordon Hawkins. His effects if not already forwarded to his relatives would be at Intermediate Base Mustapha. Barracks Alexandria. Mother I forgive you for your remarks about Maude and am delighted to know your new view on affection from the right stand point. I am not allowed to give you any details about that brilliant operation of the evacuation which I doubt has its historic parallel Suffice it to say the 7th had the honor of being amongst the last

troops to leave. The move was a triumph of organization coupled with good discipline. If you hear anyone making any disparaging remarks about the discipline of the Australians take it with a large grain of salt. I and many other of our officers were the victims of a gang of greek sailors our baggage was shipped off several days before us and the men on the ship went through our things took what they wanted and gettisoned the rest. Thus I arrived here with only what I stood up in. The sisters at the Hospital came to the rescue with towels sweaters blankets and socks. so our lot was much more bearable than it otherwise would have been Christmas came and went very quietly. I got a letter from Mrs Cresswick with a beautiful assortment of things in it. I also received a parcel from Maude and a plum pudding from a lady in Borders Road. So all my gifts

Came close from home. I am
sending you by this mail our
Christmas Cards which are a bit
late I confess yet will none the
less be historical and therefore
acceptable. I had a card from
Mrs McKenna a letter from Mrs Kellicar
and some cards from Wyneuke.
I am in very good health despite
the miserable wet and muddy sur-
roundings in which we find
ourselves there is however the
consolation that it is not to last
for long. I thank you for the many
papers you have sent. Christmas
eve was a very sad one for me
I did not go out with the rest
of the crowd. The night was still
but cloudy except for brief
intervals when the moon looked
through the crevices and

turned the waters of Marbourn into a brilliant sheet of silver and the great silent ships in their hundreds looked like a flock of gigantic waterfowl sleeping upon its surface. Over the water came the distant sounds of Christmas Carols sung by parties of Tommies at the Hospitals and the old familiar tunes brought vivid memories of home and Maude and a realization of the great gulf which is fixed twixt thee and me. May God give me my next Christmas at home. Give my love to everyone

Much love from

Your loving

Geoff

Enclosed are a few more photos I have made a copy

LEMNOS
28.12.1915

Dearest Helen

I must thank you for your many letters of October and for the flattering remarks therein. Of course it is difficult to write a special letter as all my news is embodied in my epistle to Mater. Still I thought it was up to me seeing you had writ so much. This place is very drab at this season a marked contrast to its brilliant appearance in the spring. We have and have our existence on dank mud flats surrounded by sterile hills which act as funnels to the clammy wind. Thank God we are going South shortly. All postal arrangements are now at a standstill so there will be a big gap between this and previous letters. By the way I think if you were to get Bleyards address from the Defence Department and

ask him for the parcel you will get it all right. He's an absent minded beggar. I haven't seen old Buston yet he only lives a couple of miles from here but I haven't scraped up enough energy to plough my way through the mud there yet. poor old Jimmy doesn't appear to be a howling success. from what one hears. I was put on Observation work again when we went back to the peninsular and had a lovely station strong with sand bags overhead cover & steel loopholes from it I could watch every movement from Gaba Tepe as far south as Achi Baba and eastwards to Khalid Bhar Range I had a staff of six continously on duty and every Abdul that moved a note was made of it what he was doing where he was going and the time this I compiled in a report each evening so I became very familiar with the peregrinations of the chosen One day I went to a neighbouring station to compare notes and whilst I was there an Officer and a sergeant were shot beside me. Il n'y a pas de bien de dire

Much love from Geoff