

THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

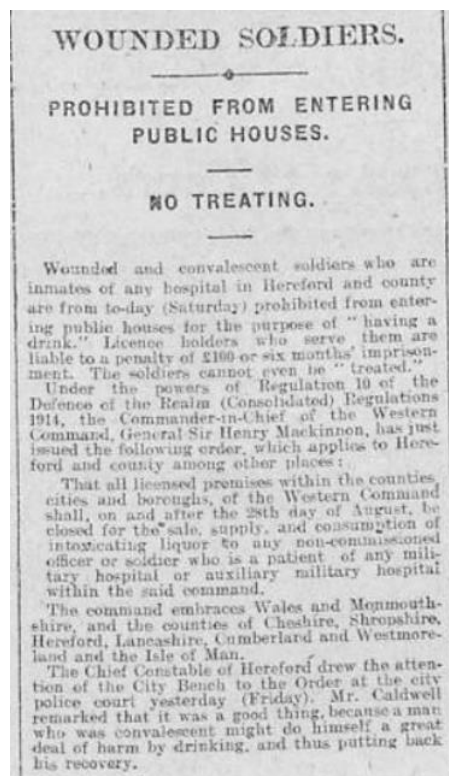
Their First World War 'Story' – AUGUST 1915

The 'Bigger' Picture

- Bulgarian Government negotiate fresh loan for 400,000,000 francs with Austro-German banks
- Agreement concluded between Japan and China substituting Japanese authority for German in Tsingtau customs.
- Entente Governments make conditional offer of territorial acquisitions to Serbia.
- Viscount Kato, Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, resigns; Marquis Okuma appointed.
- Italy declares war on Turkey.
- Ain ed Douleh, Persian Prime Minister, resigns; Mustaufi ul Mamalek appointed.
- British Foreign Minister (Sir E Grey) informs M Supilo that, provided Serbia agreed, the Allies could guarantee the eventual freedom and self-determination of Bosnia, Herzegovina, South Dalmatia, Slavonia, and Croatia.

The Home Front

- National Register taken in Great Britain in accordance with National Registrations Act (Jul 15)
- Lowca and Harrington, near Whitehaven (Cumberland), shelled by German submarine.
- Defence of the Realm (DORA) powers extended – as reported in The Hereford Times:



The Western Front

- German airship L-12 extensively damaged by British aircraft off Ostend.

Other Fronts

EASTERN FRONT

- Warsaw occupied by German forces
- Ivangorod taken by Austro-German forces
- Kowno, Novo-Georgievsk and Osovets stormed by German forces
- Brest-Litovsk and Byelocktok taken by German forces
- Van (Armenia) evacuated by Russian forces and occupied for Turkish forces

BALKANS

- Durazzo (Albania) reoccupied by Serbian forces

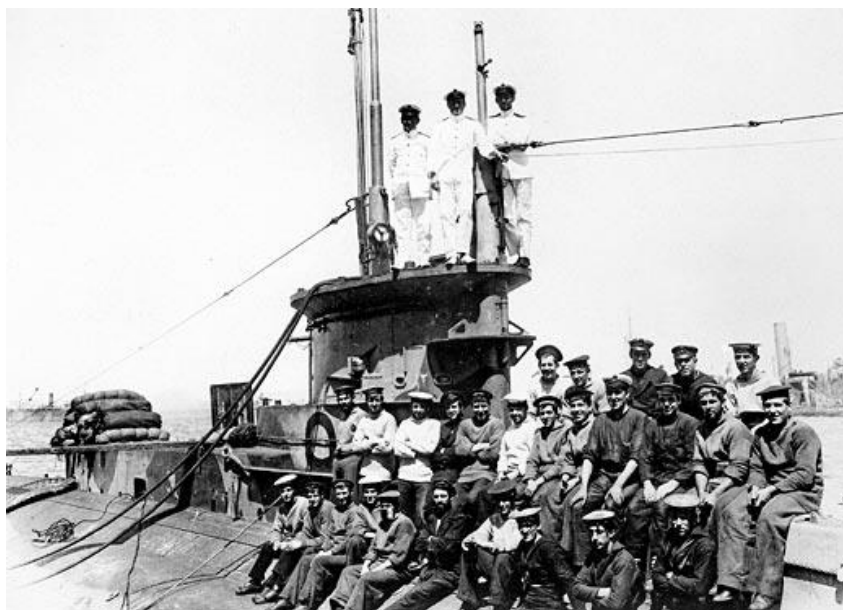
PERSIA

- Bushire (South Persia) occupied by British forces

THE DARDANELLES

- Constantinople (now Istanbul) harbor raided by RN Submarine.
- Turkish battleship 'Barbarousse-Hairedine sunk by RN submarine E11. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander Martin Nasmith awarded the Victoria Cross.

The crew of RN Submarine E11



Submarine B11 passed through the Dardanelles; Turkish battleship Meddudieh was torpedoed and sunk; the Commanding Officer Lieutenant Commander Norman Holbrook was awarded the Victoria Cross.

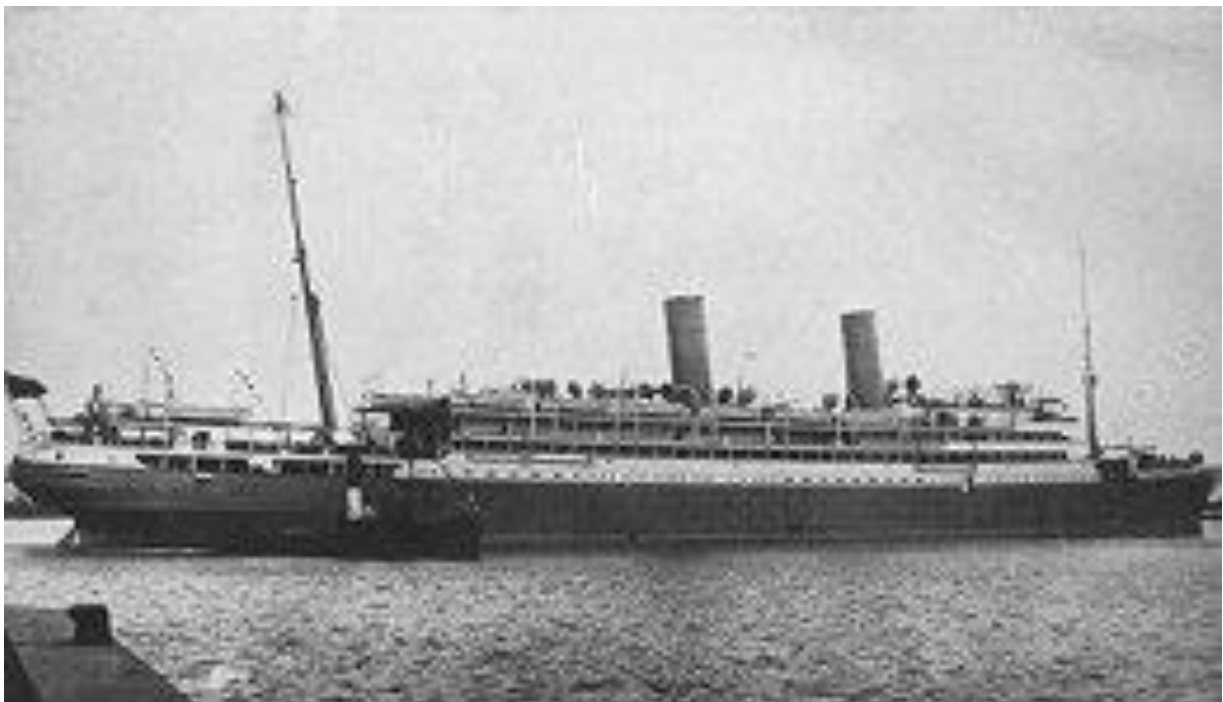


- Allied landings at Suvla Bay

AT SEA

- First ship (Turkish) sunk by aerial delivered torpedo.
- Troopship Royal Edward lost to German submarine – first sinking of a troopship.
-

His Majesty's Troopship (HMT) Royal Edward



- German submarine 2-27 sunk by HMS Baralong. HMS Baralong, also known as HMS Wyandra was a Royal Navy warship, a 'Special Service Vessel' (Q Ship) whose function was to act as a decoy, inviting attack by a U-boat in order to engage and destroy them.

HMS Baralong



BALTIC

- German attack on Riga

MERCHANT SHIPPING

- British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month - 122 ships of 196,000 tons gross.

The 'Herefords'

The first part of the month saw much speculation about the destination of the 1st Battalion; some communications filtered through telling of the sea voyage and associated experiences. The second half of the month saw a thirst for information regarding details of the landings and the state of the Battalion and its soldiers.

The Battalion landing at Suvla Bay was understandably front page news for The Hereford Times who published a 'special war edition' series in August and September featuring on the Herefords at Suvla Bay:

FRYERS
4 GARAGES
MOTORS

HEREFORD
TIMES

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PIANOS
HEREFORD

Price One Halfpenny.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1915.

Price One Halfpenny.

War—2nd Year, 46th Day.

1ST HEREFORDS.

MORE LETTERS FROM
THE DARDANELLES.

OFFICIAL CASUALTIES.

The following casualties were officially issued by the Press Bureau last night. Most of them have already been published in the *Hereford Times*.

WOUNDED.

- Corpl. A. H. Thomas (8183).
- Lance-Corpl. C. H. Baumgart (1732).
- Lance-Corpl. J. Lane (1086).
- Pte. A. E. Adams (2883).
- Pte. W. C. Bowen (8256).
- Pte. W. T. Brown (2645).
- Pte. E. Corbey (368).
- Pte. E. Evans (3599).
- Pte. W. J. Glavin (4795).
- Pte. E. H. Hall (1119).
- Pte. A. W. Hodges (1223).
- Pte. J. Hope (8252).
- Pte. E. W. Howells (2593).
- Pte. E. Milson (315).
- Pte. W. Phillips (1214).
- Pte. E. Price (2856).
- Pte. C. Sinkins (1392).
- Pte. H. Taylor (1622).
- Pte. B. J. Thomas (1623).
- Pte. A. J. Williams (1756).

Sergt. A. E. Davis (8124), D Company, Aber-
Eveony and Kingston.

Sergt. A. B. Dowling (256), D Company, King-
ton.

Pte. T. Tysom (1765), A Company, Hamp-
ton Bishop.

Pte. A. Fleetwood (1143), D Company, 2 High-
land Cottages, Holmar.

Pte. E. Price (2292), D Company, Newton,
Kington.

INVALIDED HOME.

The following list sent from the military
authorities at Alexandria, gives the names of men
who have been invalided home, and are either in
England now or are on their way home: Pte. S.
Bromley (111), Lanchall (111), Pte. G. Randall
(111), Pte. D. Smith (111), Pte. G. Thomas
(111).

SEVERE FIGHTING.

**The German Thrust on the
Eastern Front.
Brilliant Russian Success
Near Kovno**

PETROGRAD, Friday.
The official communique issued to-
night says:

Near the village of Jakubalzi, between
the village of Novyldvov and Lida, all
the German attacks were repulsed.

The enemy, who had advanced as far
as the river Schora, is attacking us near
the village of the same name. He has
crossed to the right bank of the river.

Dvinsk and Lake Samova were repulsed
by our artillery fire. In a skirmish north
of Svintziyan, near the village of Dapve-
lischki, the enemy gained possession of
this village.

In the region of Vilna and east of that
town stubborn actions which have been
in progress for a long time are develop-
ing appreciably.

THE DARDANELLES

THE DARDANELLES.

**TURKISH REPORT OF THE
FIGHTING.**

(Passed for Publication.)
AMSTERDAM, Friday.
The following official communique is issued
in Constantinople.

Near Seddul Bahr our artillery on the left
wing on September 18th caused an explosion
in the position of the enemy mine-throwers.
Our Fleet bombarded the lighthouse and factory
on the south coast of the Crimea.

On the Irak front, on the night of the 11th-
12th, our volunteers surprised an enemy camp
in the district of Kalabatmedin.
Another attack followed next day, whereby
the enemy lost one hundred men killed.

SIR ARCHER CROFT.

**PRIVATE OSEMAN'S FULL
STORY.**

INTERVIEW IN HOSPITAL

FROM OUR REPRESENTATIVE.

(Passed by the Censor.)

Hut 28, Convalescent Camp,
Woodcote Park, Epsom, Surrey,
Friday.

I have just seen Pte. William Oseman (B Co.,
1st Herefordshire Regiment), whose home is at
Bromyard, and he has told me the full story
of Captain Sir Archer Croft's last adventure
in the Dardanelles. I may say at once that
Pte. Oseman discredits Sergt. Cornar's version,
but gives no hope of Sir Archer being alive,
wounded on August 20th, whilst making tea
in the trenches. A bullet struck the back of
the trench and ricocheted, wounding him in
the forehead. He has now practically re-
covered, however, and told me his story in a
clear and straightforward manner. He had
acted as servant for Sir Archer Croft for many
months and was full of high praise for his
master.

After speaking of the voyage out, and the
landing on August 26th, Pte. Oseman said:
"About six o'clock on the morning after we

landed on August 26th, Pte. Oseman said:
"About six o'clock on the morning after we
landed we had orders to advance to help the
Sherwood Foresters, who were in the firing line
some considerable distance in front of us,
Captain Croft warned me specially to keep with
him all the time. 'You must be with me every
moment,' he said, 'and you must not leave
me. I have some very valuable papers here,
and if anything happens to me you must give
them to a captain. And I have a roll book
which you will find in one of my pockets. You
must take care of it, and if anything happens
to me, you must give it to the captain. And
I told me to give the roll book to Captain Hol-
man because he was the officer in charge of B
Company at the time. Sir Archer also told
Quartermaster-Sergt. Price, to keep with him,
saying, 'I want you to be with me, too; that
is the best thing.'

The Sherwood Foresters' trenches were
about a mile and a half in front of us, and when
we advanced the Turks opened a heavy fire
with machine-guns and rifles. We went for

ANXIOUS INQUIRERS.

**RUMOURS WHICH SHOULD NOT BE
CREDITED.**

On Wednesday morning there were fully a
hundred inquirers at the County Court Offices,
in East Street, Hereford, by the wives, sisters,
and sweethearts of the men in the 1st Here-
ford.

The office is open on Wednesdays and Satur-
days for the purpose of giving information in
connection with postage of letters and parcels,
and the proper addressing of the same, and any
other news which may be available. Lady Croft
is kindly undertaking this duty, but to the
many anxious enquirers who besieged the office
she could only return the answer that there
was no news as to casualties among the men.
Some of the women came with tears in their
eyes and asked if a certain rumour was true.
So far as is known, however, there is no founda-
tion for the rumour.

Relatives would be well advised to accept no
statement until it has official sanction, or is
given on reliable authority. As soon as this
information reaches the *Hereford Times* Office it
will be published.

AN APPEAL.

May we appeal to parents and relatives who
receive official notifications from Shrewsbury in
connection with the operations of the 1st
Herefords in Gallipoli, to communicate the
facts to us as soon as possible? It is only in
this way that we are able to anticipate the
official publication of casualties, which are
necessarily delayed by the War Office.

We shall also be pleased to print extracts
from letters received from the 1st Herefords
who took part in the recent fighting. These
letters will be safely returned to the owners.

The Depot functions continued; many family and
friends of soldiers in the 1ST Battalions visited in
an effort to seek information, as illustrated in an
article in The Hereford Times.

Enlistments and Discharges continued and included:

Enlistments:

3915 Pte Noah PRICE of Kimbolton; discharged no longer fit for military service June 1916.
3678 Pte William Samuel PERKINS aged 24; later served in France
Pte Thomas Arthur ASHBURNER, age 50 of Maylord St Hereford
3570 Pte Frank Septimus REED age 20; from Abergavenny working at Dymock

Discharges:

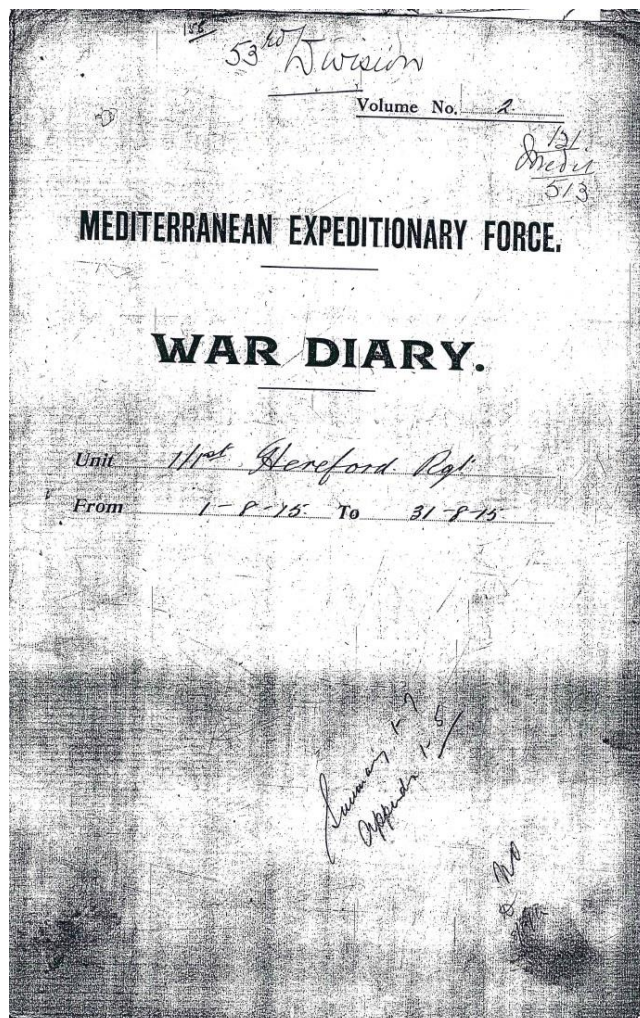
3026 Pte WF INNES, unfit for further military service

Mrs Fletcher of Leominster received a letter from Buckingham Palace as she has 5 sons serving in the forces. Private William Fletcher went on to serve in France.



1st Battalion

To give context to this month's entry the Battalion war diary is reproduced in full; as are accounts from other soldiers.



The War Diary has been transcribed from the original; there a few entries which are illegible.

Date	Location	Detail
1-3 Aug 1915	Port said	Troops on board marched ashore to bathe.
4 Aug 1915	Port Said	Orders received to disembark all in excess of 26 officers and 750 men. 1 st Herefords disembarked Capt G Barker and 2Lt Lloyd with 193 men who proceeded the same day to Alexandria. HTS Euripides with troops on board sailed for Lemnos.
5-6 Aug 1915	At Sea	Troops exercised collision stations.
7 Aug 1915	Lemnos	Arrived Mudros harbour, Lemnos. Euripedes took aground on edge of a reef, 1 /4 Cheshires transferred to steamer and sailed for peninsula.
8 Aug 1915	Lemnos	1 st Herefords and 1 st Welsh Field Ambulance transferred to SS Snaefell and proceeded for Imbros. Arrived Imbros 11pm and sailed immediately for Suvla Bay.

9 Aug 1915	Suvla Bay	<p>Weather fine and sea smooth. Arrived at A Beach, south of Biyuk Kemikla Point at 7am transferred to trawlers and proceeded to C Beach, south of Kuchuk Kmikli Point. Landed from steam launches and cutters and proceeded to area 103T2 where 158 Bde under Brig Gen Lloyd were concentrating.</p> <p>Fatigue parties from Battalion employed in getting water and stores from C Beach. Men had some bully beef and biscuits and lime juice about 1pm. Turks shelled brigade occasionally with 75mm field guns. No casualties in Herefords at this point; shells failed to explode, 53 Div HQ established on western slope of Lala Baba. After meal referred to above 158 Bde moved to 103P6.</p> <p>About 4pm CO sent for by GOC Division who gave him directions verbal as follows – Col Bosanquet of the Sherwood Foresters is anxious about his right flank, he’s near the ‘K’ or ‘D’ of Asmak Dere. Place yourself in communication with him. I do not think you will have much to do or will get a dusting, get away as quickly as possible – or words to that effect. The above order was asked for in writing and was handed to the CO as the Battalion was on the point of moving off, and confirmed the first 3 sentences. No information was given as to our troops, if any, on the right, west, flank or at ANZAC.</p> <p>The Battalion moved out in anti artillery formation with B & C first line under Maj Carless, B directing. D & A second line with the CO. In the few minutes allowed before moving off, Maj Carless sent forward to recce the line of advance; area 92G1. The Battalion after proceeding approximately 1 mile came under heavy shrapnel fire, B & C got into touch with the right, west flank of the Sherwood Foresters who were considerably farther away to the North East from the point of direction indicated to the CO. Touch was lost between the first and second lines. The second line keeping as far as possible on the point of direction indicated arrived at about area G2B7. Here the CO met the captains of D Company and realising that he had gone half a mile beyond the Asmak Dere, a dry watercourse, decided to rally the men, who were a good deal scattered, near him and withdrew to the line of the Asmak Dere. Whilst proceeding farther a staff officer of the 53 Div rode up and showed the CO a written order from the Div GOC which stated that all previous orders were cancelled and that the Battalion was to withdraw to some trenches which were previously dug from the Salt Lake westwards to the sea at G1B1. Just previous to the withdrawal the CO, Lt Col Drage, Capts Yates, Capel and Nott and Lt Bourne were hit by shrapnel.</p> <p>B & C Coys reached the HQ of the Sherwood Foresters, area 105V8. Heavy sniping. Communications eventually established with second line which was in trenches in rear and in consequence of the order of GOC Div, these 2 companies joined HQ at about 2am on the 10th.</p>
10 Aug 1915		<p>Sunrise, Lt Col Drage, Capts Nott and Capel and Lt Bourne transferred to Field Ambulance on beach (RND) and were sent to Hospital Ship during course of day. The command of the Battalion now devolved upon Maj Carless. About 6am the Battalion moved up again to the line of the Asmak Dere, with its left resting on area 92A2/5. Heavy shrapnel during the advance and a good many casualties. The Battalion remained in this position all this day. Capt H Archer Croft Bart, reported missing. Little or nothing seen of the enemy except snipers whose fire galling but no officers hit.</p>
11 Aug 1915		<p>Battalion occupied same position all day. During course of evening received orders to withdraw to western slopes of Lala Baba except one company, C, which was ordered to remain in position holding the whole of the line as was disposed to an outpost company. Capt Green, C Coy wounded just prior to withdrawal. Lt Pilkington took command of company.</p>
12 Aug 1915		<p>The three companies on the beach A, B & D reached Brigade HQ at 3am. At dawn C Coy rejoined the whole Battalion, with Maj Carless, rested until about 6pm when the Battalion was ordered to move to Brigade area 118W7. The Battalion moved in anti artillery formation across the Salt lake. Lt Ashton, assistant adjutant guided the Battalion by a rough bearing assisted by a guide. Heavy shrapnel fire in the course of the advance. The Battalion got extended too far to the left and</p>

		touch was lost when it arrived on the east side of the lake where the country was closer. During the night the various parts of the Battalion regained touch except for a small detachment under 2Lts Berney and Levason, both separated from each other. During this period it is believed Maj Carless was wounded, nothing further was heard of him. The command of the Battalion devolved to Capt Holman.
13 Aug 1915		The Battalion spent a quiet night but was ordered to relieve the 7RWF who were holding a line about 118Q9 to 118V1. Relief was completed about 4pm. The position was poor and very little cover was provided by the trenches. The Battalion was then informed by Brigade HQ that the West Surrey Queen's Regiment would relieve them about 10pm and that the Battalion was to move back to 117Y and dig itself in a line indicated by a staff officer. Emphasis was made on the fact that the Battalion had to be well dug in by dawn. The Battalion moved down in 2 separate parties, each with a guide. The one under Capt Rogers arrived at the proper destination. The other party of the Battalion moved under the CO of the Battalion, Capt Holman, was led astray by a guide and as there seemed no prospect of finding the position 117Y, moved to Div HQ, west of Lala Baba reporting as has been stated above. Lt Berney and party of about 80 men rejoined the Battalion this day.
14 Aug 1915		HQ and the portion of companies with it rested at C Beach until 3pm, when orders were received to return to Brigade HQ at Asmak Gulley at 117T4. This portion of the Battalion moved in small detachments to its destination via the west side of Hill 10, 117R & S. Much shrapnel fire. Battalion spent the night digging trenches in open ground on a line north west to south east between 117T7/8. Heard today that Lt QM Roberts had been wounded whilst on convoy (?) duty.
15 Aug 1915		Spent day in Asmak Gully 117T5 and continued trenchwork all night. 2Lts GP Lloyd and Collins were sent to hospital this day. 2Lt Levason and detachment rejoined.
16 Aug 1915		Spent day in the trenches we had dug. Casualties – 4 killed and some 30 wounded. This was a very tiring day for the men being for many hours under fire without being able to reply. At 8pm Battalion got orders to move out in company with Brigade. Battalion arrived at destination 118L5 at 2am, and found some 200 yards of trench only, but were shown a certain amount of cover consisting of hedges, ditches and old trenches by the adjutant, 1/7 Cheshires. During this time there was heavy rifle fire to the front and left front of the Battalion.
17 Aug 1915		Quiet day except for heavy sniping. Officers and men tired out. At night the Battalion was ordered to advance 200 yards and then dig in again. The Battalion got out of its trenches in one long line with no interval – quite absurd – and lay down to wait; order cancelled. Order came to take over trenches of the 6RWF on our left instead. For some reason the RWF did not leave their trenches and the Battalion returned to its cover partially in trenches, behind hedges and in ditches. A Coy The Border Regt was sent at 1am under Lt Wallis to assist the Battalion. They were shown places they could take cover.
18 Aug 1915		Quiet day except for sniping. Brig Gen Lloyd, Commander 158 Bde wounded, Col Going of SWB assumed command of Brigade.
19 Aug 1915		More casualties – sniping very bad. 9pm the company of the Border Regt left suddenly. 1 Inniskillens who were due to relieve them never came.
20 Aug 1915		Quiet day. Maj C S Rome 11 Hussars, Brigade major, 2 nd Mounted Brigade assumed command of Battalion; Lt Col Mott mounted Division assumed command of 158 Bde.
21 Aug 1915		Heavy firing by Turks all along the front but no attack was made as there was nothing to be seen; the Battalion did not open fire. 12 noon the Battalion left the trenches in detachments and went back to Brigade HQ at 117OV. Only 1 man slightly wounded. Quiet night all over front but battles in front of Chocolate Hill.

22 Aug 1915		Sunday. Two men accidentally shot themselves. At night Battalion moved to Hill 10. 117R & S, where it was said that trenches partially completed would be found – not correct – the Battalion had to dig all night. About midnight 2Lt Lloyd and 187 ORs joined Battalion from Alexandria.
23 Aug 1915		Rested; the Battalion at Hill 10. Good deal of shrapnel fire, one man killed. HQ dugout had plenty of bullets in it. The Battalion dug trenches at night. LCpl F W Dillow Gazetted as Second Lieutenant, LCpl A Wilson unofficially reported as Gazetted Second Lieutenant; remains to be confirmed – and Sgt Ballinger.
24 Aug 1915		Quiet day but shelled at intervals. Rain storm at 4pm. The Battalion dug at night. The Battalion got its first issue of fresh meat and bread.
25 Aug 1915		Quiet day with shelling at intervals. At dusk fatigue parties fetched officers' and men's packs etc from a point west of Lala Baba where they had been left on the 9 th by order.
26 Aug 1915		Gen Martin, GOC 53 Div accompanied by Lt Col Cope GSO1 visited Battalion trenches in evening. Assistant Adjutant went up to view fire trenches to be taken over by Battalion. The Battalion dug in again all night.
27 Aug 1915		Battalion moved out at 8pm to take over trenches held by 5 Welsh and part of those held by 4 Cheshires, 118W2. Communication trenches got blocked and Battalion did not get settled in until about 2am.
28 Aug 1915		About 9pm Lt Col Drage arrived back from hospital at Mudros, 2Lt Levason went sick and was sent to hospital.
29 Aug 1915		Some shrapnel and sniping. Lt Col Drage resumed command of 1 st Herefords; Maj Rome acting CO left in evening. Peace rumours rampant.
30 Aug 1915	Near Annafarta	Two men killed by shrapnel last night. Informed by Division that there was a likelihood of attack by Turks.
31 Aug 1915		Quiet day. Men working at improving trenches. A&B Coys in fire trenches with machine gun sections; D&C in support.
		<p><i>Notes to War Diary:</i></p> <p>The following are extracts from a letter from Capt P J Lewis dated 6 Sep from hospital; Capt Lewis was 2ic A Coy; right company of the second line when in action on 9 Aug. I could find out nothing about the rest of the Battalion or the whereabouts of the Sherwood Foresters. I tried to telephone from HQ, the SWB but they of course were only connected to ANZAC. Eventually I got a message through to Brigade but though I got a reply it contained no information about the Battalion. That was early on Tues 10 Aug.</p> <p>The 1st Herefords went into action without being informed that any British troops were operating on their right or south flank. Capt Lewis with a portion of the company got detached in close country. Capt Lewis was wounded on the 10 Aug and his men were eventually able to rejoin.</p> <p>The importance of inter communication cannot be emphasised too much, company commanders and all officers were only too liable to forget this and send back even negative information. This was the reason the Herefords got so widely dispersed.</p> <p>It should be noted that in the action of 9 Aug, regiments were taken not only out of their brigades but out of their divisions which emphasised the matter of communications.</p>
		Extract from a list of recommendations submitted to higher authority and signed by 'Martin commanding 53 Div MEF' dated 26 September 1915.

		<p>Cpl E E Mann, A Coy, 1st Herefordshire Regt TF at Suvla, night of 9/10 Aug 1915.</p> <p>For great gallantry in volunteering with Pte D H Pike to procure much needed water under heavy machine gun and rifle fire, and afterwards guiding widely separated detachments of his regiment across very difficult country under fire of snipers with great ability and success.</p> <p>Nature of recommendation: Distinguished Conduct Medal.</p> <p>Pte DH Pike, A Coy, 1st Herefordshire Regt TF at Suvla, night of 9/10 Aug 1915.</p> <p>For great gallantry in volunteering with Cpl E E Mann to procure much needed water under heavy machine gun and rifle fire, and afterwards guiding widely separated detachments of his regiment across very difficult country under fire of snipers with great ability and success.</p> <p>Nature of recommendation: Mention.</p> <p>Signed: G Drage</p> <p>Lt Col</p> <p>1st Herefords</p>
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Pte Percy Pritchard who received a minor wound and evacuated but returned to Suvla after 2 days:

July	20	Gibraltar	
July	24	Malta	
July	27	Alexandria	
July	31	Portsaid	
Aug	7	Lemnos	
Mug	9	Suvla Bay	In Action
Aug	17	Imbros	Hospital
Aug	19	Suvla Bay	

Maj Yates who was wounded and evacuated.

The Battalion sailed from Devonport on the evening of 16 Jul 1915 on the Aberdeen Liner "Euripides". The 1 /4 Cheshires and 1st Welsh Field Ambulance were also on board. Although submarines were then fairly active the ship was unescorted. The voyage to Alexandria lasted about 12 days including a brief stop at Gibraltar for orders and a longer one at Valetta, where officers only were allowed ashore for a few hours.

At Alexandria the transports of the 53rd Div assembled, but troops were not disembarked. The only time the men got ashore was on the daily short route march. After about 3 days the Div sailed to Port Said because the 54th Div was arriving at Alexandria. The stay at Port Said was about 3 days and then we sailed for Lemnos escorted by the 5 funnelled Russian cruiser "Askold" – the packet of woodbines, and arrived on Aug 6th. Entering Mudros harbour the Euripides ran on a sand bank, much to the chagrin of the captain who said he would never hear the last of it from the other skippers.

In the afternoon of Aug 8th, a little Isle of Man boat came alongside and took off the Herefords for the last stage of the journey. She had been present at Suvla landing the day before and we gazed with reverence at her holed side and shrapnel splattered upper works. At sunset we came in sight of Peninsula – rather pretty impressive – the roar of the bombardment and the shells bursting on Achi Baba.

We were packed like sardines on the boat but we settled ourselves down to get what sleep we could and awoke to find ourselves in Suvla Bay. It was still dark and the scene rather weird. The naval men had put a boom across the mouth of the bay and inside were crowded all manner of craft – cruisers, monitors, transport, lighters, and the glaringly illuminated hospital ships. At dawn we were taken ashore in steam barges. (The original landing had been made 2 days before, by the 10th and 11th Divs). The 53 Div formed up just above the beach in what appeared to be line of Battalions in close column of companies. A slight rise in the ground hid us from view from enemy's position but it was not long before he became suspicious and shelled us with HE. However the Herefords had only one or two casualties and later we moved further north to the shelter of a small hill close to the shore – Lala Baba. Here No 4 Platoon was detached to guard Div HQ and did not rejoin the battalion for many days.

At this point, as far as I could ascertain, little was generally known about what had happened or was going to happen, and one got the idea that the surprise landing a couple of days before had resulted in failure and somebody was sitting down to think things out.

I think the Cheshire Bde (159) was sent to reinforce the 10 Div and at about 4pm the Herefords were ordered to support the Sherwood Foresters (11 Div) who were getting a hammering on the extreme right and were in danger of being outflanked. We crossed the coast ridge and descended into the plain on the south of the Salt Lake in anti artillery forms and soon afterwards got the order to extend. The formation then was:

----- B Coy -----	----- C Coy -----
----- D Coy -----	----- A Coy -----

When well into the plain we came under enfilade shrapnel fire from the left. It was the first taste of shrapnel we had had, but I have never seen more accurate shooting since. Although we kept up a steady advance every shell seemed to be accurately placed and burst at the right height. One was naturally rather anxious about the way the men would behave, but that was quite unnecessary; they were magnificent. They never faltered and were perfectly easy to manoeuvre.

B & C Coys changed direction left slightly as the Sherwoods were more to the left than we expected. The undergrowth was getting rather thick and it was more difficult to keep touch, but we saw them and changed direction too. Later after I was knocked out, I believe B & C Coys changed direction a second time and this time A Coy did not see the change, with the result that it got out of touch and eventually ran into the 13 Div of the ANZAC army.

At dusk a staff officer galloped up with orders for the Herefords to retire to a position more in rear of the flank, but it was difficult to get in touch with everyone in the dusk and only part of the Battalion came back.

At that time the following officers had been hit: the Colonel, the Adjutant (Capt Nott), Capt Capel, Capt Green, Capt Rogers, Lt Bourne and myself, and Capt Croft was missing.

That night 9th/10th the enemy made a strong counter attack against the centre of the 11 Div and drove it back a bit and there was heavy firing all through the night.

I do not know what happened subsequently, but I understand A Coy was separated from the battalion for 2 or 3 days and after Capt Lewis was wounded Sgt Maj (now Maj) Chipp handled the greater part of it very ably.

Sgt Colley

<i>Date</i>	<i>Detail</i>
Jul 1915 (16 Jul 1916)	Although it is well over 12 months ago, I will try and write down from my memory the happenings and adventures which have occurred since leaving England for overseas. It was July 1915 that we suddenly heard rumours that we were shortly proceeding to Egypt. We had spent 6 glorious weeks at Irchester and on the day of our departure the streets of this small village were lined with crowds of well wishers, men, women and children, and many a tear was shed at the parting of soldiers and their friends, for strong had been the attachment between them. Everyone in the village had a holiday, children and most of the boot factories were closed. We struggled to the station about 2 o'clock in the afternoon and about an hour later our train steamed out of the station, to the cheers and waving of our friends who had made our stay in Irchester a thing which can always be looked back upon with the greatest pleasure.
	It was rather a long train journey, it being nearly midnight by the time we arrived at the docks. We embarked straight away, but not to rest. Fatigue parties being wanted we fell in to load up our ammunition. As our arms were still very bad after recent vaccination, it was a great relief when this job was finished and we all managed to get a wee bit of sleep.
	We were up again early next morning and to our great delight there was very little work to be done. It was a very wet day, in fact I do not think it stopped raining until just before we sailed. Our departure from Devonport was a repetition of Irchester, only on a larger scale. All the boats in the harbour including one or two training ships, cheered us to the echo, and the engineers with their sirens made a noise sufficient to awaken the dead. As we stayed up on deck watching the shore of England rapidly disappear in the gloom, many of us wondered how long (if at all) it would be until we should see them again.
	Now we were well away and on returning to our sleeping quarters we found that hammocks and blankets were being given out and I was just in time to get these. Sleeping in hammocks was a new sensation for most of us, but the majority, I think slept well.
18 Jul 1915	The morning arrived and before long a few were suffering from Mal de Mer, I lasted until breakfast time only and then I joined the majority who were looking rather green. This was the first time I had suffered from sea sickness and I might say it was a horrible first at that. The sea was rough all day and most of us gave meals a miss for a while.
19 Jul 1915	Nothing now unusual occurred, the sea became calm and we were able to tread the decks in the manner of a sea going captain of 50 years experience. We rapidly settled down to our temporary nautical life doing a little physical drill during the day to keep us fit.
20 Jul 1915	We arrived at Gibraltar at about 6 o'clock. This was indeed a fine sight, and I saw for the first time the much talked about 'rock'. I can now quite believe anyone who says it is impregnable. Our stay there was very short and night was rapidly approaching when we entered on the second stage of our journey to Malta.
	We hugged the northern coast of Africa the whole of the next day, during this part of the journey we practiced 'Fire and Collision' drill and continued our physical training.
24 Jul 1915	About 4am those of us who were about early saw land just on the horizon and it was about 6 o'clock when we entered the Grand harbour at Malta. As soon as our boat (The Euripides) dropped anchor we had crowds of Maltese vendors with their cigarettes and silks striking bargains with the tommies. Some of our officers went ashore for an hour, but our stay here was of only short duration as we left again at 11 o'clock for Alexandria. The sea was calm, the weather excellent and one felt glad to be alive, how few of us expected what was to follow in less than a fortnight.

	Very little of importance happened in the next few days. All we did was to idle about the deck and get scorched by the sun.
27 Jul 1915	In the morning we entered the harbour of Alexandria and unloaded some military police, who had come from England with us. We stayed in the harbour all this day and contrary to expectations we did not disembark, but the next day the details and transport were unloaded.
28 Jul 1915	Battalion went for a short route march around, I should think, one of the worst quarters of Alexandria, and this march greatly enhanced my love for the country lanes and fields which we had just so recently seen at Irchester.
29 Jul 1915	In the evening our company went for a stroll through the town of Alexandria, and here we saw some of the Eastern customs, which we had often read and heard so much about.
30 Jul 1915	In evening sailed for Port Said. During this part of the journey I was found a job in the pantry; not a bad little job, but I have never sweated so much in all my life, as I did then.
31 Jul 1915	In morning we steamed into Port Said and dropped anchor in the harbour.
1 - 3 Aug 1915	Had daily bathing parades and I must say that the bathing here is some of the very best that it has been my pleasure to enjoy.
4 Aug 1915	We received orders to proceed once more on our journey and here we left behind a couple of officers and some reinforcements. A Russian gunboat had preceded in acting as escort and we left with all lights out. Although we had an inkling we were not sure where our destination was.
6 Aug 1915	In morning arrived at Lemnos harbour, and the boat took aground on a reef. The Battalion who had travelled on the same boat were taken off on a small steamer for an unknown destination.
8 Aug 1915	Sunday we took our leave of the Euripides and it seemed like leaving an old friend, but we had had a lovely voyage. To proceed the Battalion was crowded on an Isle of man boat 'the Snafell' whose funnel bore unmistakable signs of being in close contact with shrapnel. This was interesting and now we knew that we were going to <u>WAR</u> . This little boat sped on for hours at a remarkable speed, and it was getting dark when we saw the flashes of shells about 12 miles off. I think that we hung off Imbros during the night, lying closely packed with our full kit on, which I think was far from comfortable.
9 Aug 1915	In the early hours of the morning we went on again for Suvla Bay. We arrived there just in time to see the morning 'strafe' begin, several of our cruisers pouring in broadsides of high explosive on the hills where the enemy undoubtedly were. We were taken off again onto a smaller boat and then landed from lighters, this was an immemorial day for the 'Herefords'. We moved off to Lala Baba and before long the first shell came sailing over. Result several fish evidently suffered from shock. The next shell was better, or should I say worse, as the Regt Butcher headed our casualty list, although I think he was only slightly wounded. In the afternoon we moved a little behind Lala Baba Hill and saw a battery come into action. About 4 o'clock orders came down that we were to go up and help the Sherwood Foresters who had had rather a bad time. B & C Coys moved out first followed by A & D. We opened out into anti-artillery formation, and then we went across all kinds of ground for about 3 miles. Bullets were whistling all round us when we struck the 'Robin Hoods'. Our reserve company suffered rather heavily from shrapnel and we lost a lot of officers and men. The Colonel, Adjutant and several captains were wounded. 12 Platoon (my platoon) then moved into the Dere holding a piece of trench. About midnight, for some reason or other we moved back down a lane to some reserve trenches.
10 Aug 1915	Moved up again, this time we had a warm reception, shells falling very fast all round. We had several casualties this time amongst them being my section commander and the second in command of the section got lost and eventually wounded. A horrible day with most of us almost dying for want of water. I helped to dig a small well in our trench. We got down about 8 feet and then struck water, of course it was really sandy and to drink it we had to fold our handkerchiefs into four and drink through that.

11 Aug 1915	On Wednesday we were little better off than Tuesday and we were feeling the want of sleep. At night the Battalion moved down to the beach, but our company stayed overnight and went down on the following morning.
12 Aug 1915	It was on this day that we had our first drink of tea, but the bathe that we had first of all was great. Fighting seemed to be very brisk on the right, and we moved up again that night over the Salt Lake. During our advance across here, we were subject to heavy shrapnel fire and had a few casualties, we also lost our major who was in command.
13 Aug 1915	We were messing about all day Friday until midnight when we returned to the Donja Asmak Gully.
14 Aug 1915	Saturday, rested all day and had our first wash for a week – although it was not much At night we dug a line of trenches.
15 Aug 1915	Rested all day. This same evening I was detailed as one to go on a fatigue party to Hill 10 to fetch ammunition. The corporal i/c did not know the way ... the man behind us and move on again. What with the day's shelling and this I felt rather fed up with things in general, we eventually arrived however at our destination at a place which was commonly known as 'the cow shed' facing Annafarta Village. Here we had quite a lot of fellows killed by snipers, one poor fellow was killed on the stretcher, as he was being taken to hospital being already wounded.
18 Aug 1915	The adjutant sent for me, and I was taken on as his clerk (some job this), I carried the orderly room and its contents in my haversack. Major Rome of the 11 th Hussars came and took charge of the Battalion next day.
21 Aug 1915	Moved out from trenches – just in time evidently, as a rather big attack came off this day.
22 Aug 1915	We stayed at Bde HQ and watched the fighting around Chocolate Hill and then moved on at night to Hill 10. Here we stayed in some old dug outs, although they were not very safe against shellfire. It was well at these trenches that our reinforcements, which we had left behind at Port Said, arrived.
26 Aug 1915	We had our first issue of bread and fresh meat, three weeks on bully and biscuits – horrible!! I managed to get down to A Beach once and had a bathe, but it was of short duration as the Turks started shelling our warships in the bay.
27 Aug 1915	We moved up again to the trenches. Nothing of great importance happened in these trenches except there was a bit of an attack on our left towards Jephson's Post. Col Drage arrived back although wound which he received in his arm was not quite healed.

Pte Davies:

After a few days we moved on to Port Said where I remember having a most enjoyable bath in the surf, the water was splendid, but the surf treacherous. While at Port Said we were moored alongside a Russian Warship, and we sang one to the other all night; I don't suppose they understood us, and I am certain we did not understand them, but you may be sure there was a mighty din.

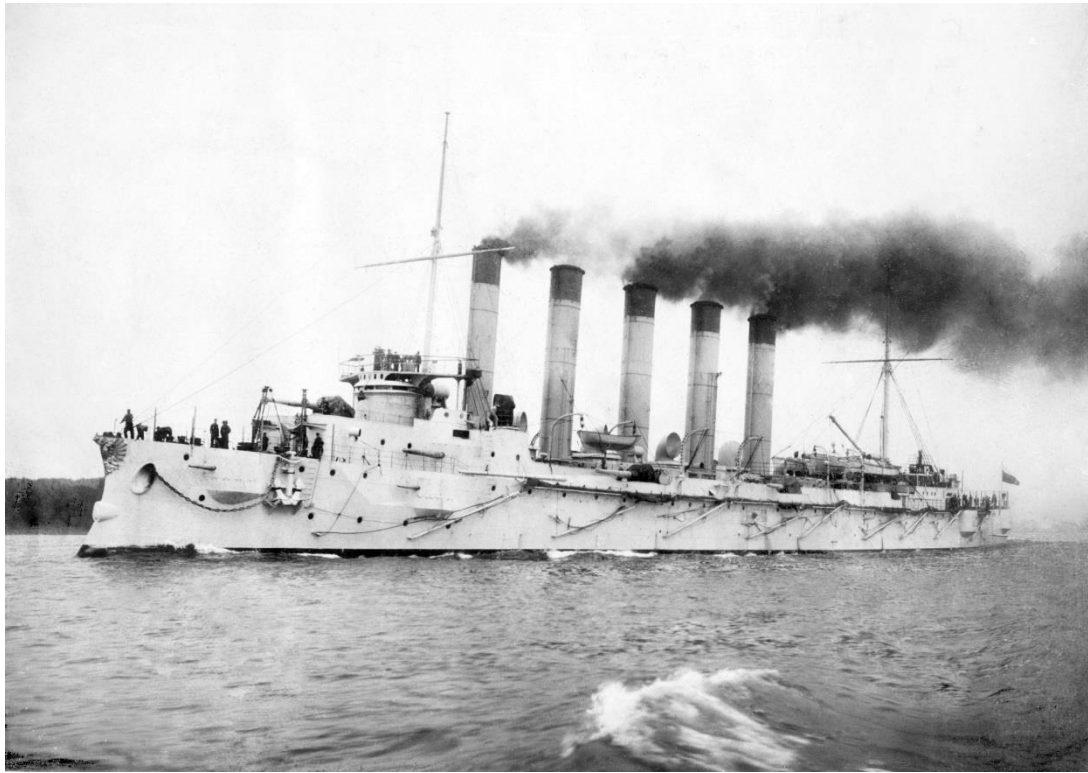
After leaving Port Said we had the idea that something was soon to happen; we were doled out with ammunition, rations, iron and otherwise, and everything put in trim. None of us then really knew where we were bound for, but on being transhipped into a smaller boat at break of day we found ourselves spectators of a magnificent firework display. I had never seen the like, nor am I keen of seeing it again except at a much safer distance; apparently we were regarded as intruders for they commenced throwing dangerous things at us, and knocked our old boat about shockingly.

The Dardanelles landing is surely not a cheerful story, and I do not intend to tell it here, suffice to say that I lost more than one personal friend during those few days, for not only had we the Turks to fight, but also thirst, hunger and disease, but let me proceed with my narrative in lighter vein.

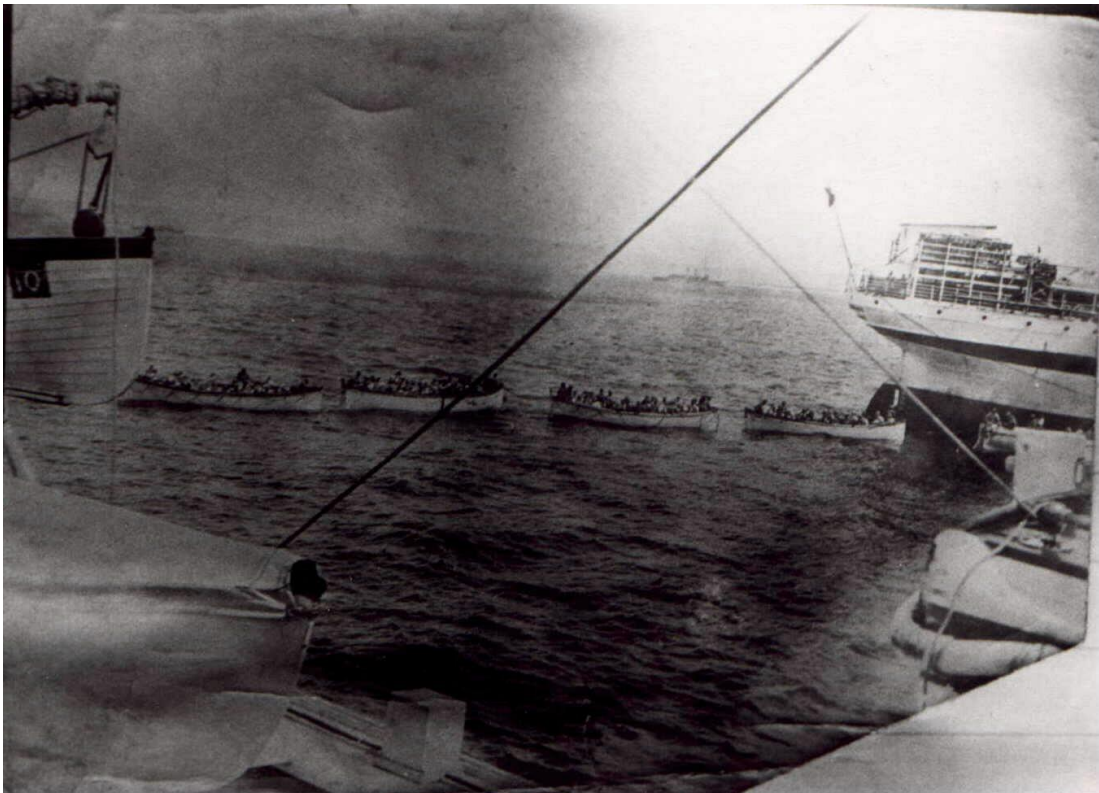
It is a remarkable thing when out yonder how little one thinks of self, and the chief concern is to stop our people worrying about us at home. A week or so ago while at home I was shown a post card which I wrote the second day after landing at Juvla Bay, it read as follows:-

"Keep smiling, am quite safe, everything lovely";
I well remember writing that card, in ghastly company, my lips cracking for a drink of water, and my younger brother and some pals were missing -- happily they turned up later. I leave this little story with you good people at home; it is no use

The Russian Battleship 'Askold', affectionately referred to as 'The Packet of Woodbines' due to her 5 funnel profile.



Soldiers of The Herefordshire Regiment transferring from the Euripides to the Snaefell



The Snaefell



Troops landing at Suvla Bay



A Beach Suvla Bay (1999)



Charles Dixon's painting 'Advance at Suvla' depicting the advance of the 9/10 August.

The original hangs in the Drill Hall at Suvla Barracks, Hereford



THE HEREFORD REGIMENT IN GALLIPOLI.
AUGUST 9TH, 1915.

The Commander In Chief's (Sir Ian Hamilton) despatch specifically mentioning the Herefordshire Regiment- the only Regiment to be mentioned by name.

The 1st Hereford Regiment

Imperishable Glory won at Suvla Bay,

AUGUST, 1915.

“Some of the units which took part in this engagement acquitted themselves very bravely. The Divisional Commander speaks with appreciation of one freshly-landed battalion of the 53rd Division, a Hereford battalion, presumably the 1/1st Herefordshire, which attacked with impetuosity and courage between hetman Chair and Kaslar Chair, about Asmak Dere, on the extreme right of his line.”

Sir Ian Hamilton's Despatch.

The official history of The South Wales Borderers mentions a group of Herefordshire Regimental soldiers, who had become separated from their parent regiment and attached themselves to the 'Borderers'. It goes on to say they stayed with them for several days and acquitted themselves very well. This well illustrates the confusion of the battlefield!

The Battalion had landed at A & C Beaches, the Turks held the high ground and had full visibility of the Suvla Area and British movements, and harrassed them with artillery and sniper fire.



CASUALTIES

There were 34 fatalities recorded in August; these are listed below:

Surname	Forename	Rank	Number	Date of Death	How	Hometown	Remarks
BOUCHER	WARREN IVOR	PTE	2026	9/8/15	KIA	NEATH	
BULL	TOM	PTE	2078	9/8/15	KIA On or since 9/8/15	TAUNTON	
DUTTON	FRANK AUSTIN	PTE	1889	9/8/15	KIA	HEREFORD	
FAULKNER	WILLIAM HENRY	CSM	106	9/8/15	KIA	HEREFORD	
HILL	ALBERT	PTE	2804	9/8/15	KIA	LEDBURY	
JENKINS	FRED	PTE	2223	9/8/15	KIA	WALFORD	
JORDAN	HARRY GEORGE ERNEST	PTE	1154	9/8/15	KIA	HEREFORD	
RAYMOND	ALFRED LEWIS	PTE/ASGT	1802	9/8/15	KIA	ROSS	
RAYMOND	HENRY	DMR	425	9/8/15	KIA	HEREFORD	
WATKINS	FREDERICK GEORGE	PTE	1420	9/8/15	KIA	LEDBURY	
WILLIAMS	ALFRED RICHARD	PTE	2175	9/8/15	KIA	TUPSLEY	
COOK	WILFRED	PTE	1259	10/8/15	DOW	KINGTON	
STALLARD	FRANCIS	PTE	1598	10/8/15	KIA	ROSS	
CROFT	SIR HERBERT ARCHER	CAPT		11/8/15	KIA	KINGSLAND	
TURNER	WILLIAM JOHN	PTE	2245	11/8/15	DOW	CWM	
CARLESS	WILFRID TOWNSHEND	MAJ		12/8/15	KIA	HEREFORD	
OSBORNE	THOMAS JOHN	LCPL	1633	15/8/15	KIA	LUGWARDINE	
POYNER	WILLIAM HENRY	PTE	2772	16/8/15	KIA	MORDIFORD	
EASTHOPE	DONALD EDWARD	PTE	1329	17/8/15	DOW	LUDLOW	
MASON	STANLEY	PTE	8118	18/8/15	DOW	PONTYPRIDD	
MILLS	THOMAS	PTE/LCPL	8209	19/8/15	KIA	OSWESTRY/Rhayader	
MINCHIN	EDWARD	PTE	2497	19/8/15	KIA	BROMSBERROW	
PAGE	RICHARD HAROLD	PTE	8226	19/8/15	KIA	RHYADER	
REES	DJ	PTE	1694	19/8/15	KIA	EBBW VALE	
WILLIAMS	JACK	PTE	1112	19/8/15	KIA	LEDBURY	
JONES	FREDERICK CHARLES	PTE/LCPL	1658	20/8/15	DOW	BRAMPTON BRIAR	
NEWMAN	ALBERT	PTE	1045	20/8/15	DOW	HEREFORD	AT SEA
THORNTON	SIDNEY JAMES	PTE	1727	20/8/15	KIA	STOCKPORT	
MORGAN	GEORGE	PTE	8258	21/8/15	Died	RHYADER	EGYPT
HOWSE	WILLIAM HUBERT GEORGE	PTE	1556	22/8/15	KIA	WORCESTER	
GUNN	REGINALD EWART	PTE	2246	24/8/15	DOW	HEREFORD	
HERBERT	ARTHUR	PTE/ASGT	1319	24/8/15	DOW	HEREFORD	EGYPT
WINTERS	JAMES	PTE	1171	26/8/15	DOW	BROOMS GREEN	
GRIFFITHS	JOSEPH	PTE	1629	30/8/15	KIA	HEREFORD	
PARTRIDGE	WILLIAM	PTE	2739	30/8/15	KIA	HEREFORD	

The following are extracts from The Hereford Journal (although not published until September):

Further Casualties (Unofficial).

KILLED.

Sergt.-Major W. H. Faulkner, 51, Chandos Street, Hereford.
 Lance-Corpl. T. J. Osborne, "C" Company, Y.M.C.A., Hereford.
 Pte. J. L. Millar, 2236, "C" Co., St. John's Mount, Bodenham Road, Hereford.
 Pte. Patsy Watkins, Ledbury.

WOUNDED.

Lieut. Berney, Kenchester.
 Sergt. H. Brookes, "B" Company, Brooms-green, near Ledbury.
 Sergt. Hamlet, "A" Company, Kington.
 Sergt. H. Molyneux, Bargates, Leominster.
 Sergt. Harold Stephens, 26, Church Street, Hereford.
 Corpl. A. Herbert, 36, Ryelands Street, Hereford.
 Lance-Corpl. C. E. Oldacre, 104, Widemarsh Street, Hereford.
 Lance-Corpl. T. Wright, 25, Baysham Street, Hereford.
 Pte. Peter Everett, Church Street, Hereford.
 Pte. Farr (formerly railway clerk at Hereford).
 Pte. Frederick Harper, Leominster.
 Pte. E. J. Harris, Homend Street, Ledbury.
 Pte. J. Harvey, Moorfield Street, Hereford.
 Pte. A. W. Hodges, Dymock.
 Pte. Jordan, Catherine Street, Hereford.
 Pte. H. E. Lane, "B" Company, Ledbury.
 Pte. Stanley Mailles, "D" Company, Hereford.
 Pte. Merrick, Tower Road, Hereford.
 Pte. D. T. Morgan, Schoolhouse, Almeley.
 Pte. J. Phelps, Chandos Street, Hereford.
 Pte. Preese, 13, Foley Street, Hereford.
 Pte. Bert Sparrow, Dymock.
 Pte. W. Trumper, Winton, Eardisley.
 Pte. W. Wilkins, "D" Company (formerly employed by Mr. Stephens, Church Street, Hereford).
 Pte. J. Williams, 20, Mayford Street, Hereford.
 Pte. Jack Wood (who formerly worked at Eign Street Garage).

Heavy Casualties.

LANCE-CORPORAL OSBORNE KILLED.

Pte. F. A. Cotterell, No. 2300, "C" Company, of 72, Newtown Road, Hereford, sends the following letter to Mr. Fred Jones, who is in the employ of Messrs. G. Holloway and Webb, Ltd. The letter was received on Tuesday:—"In the trenches, August 14th.—Dear Fred,—You will have probably heard ere this reaches you that we have seen a little fighting. Well, we landed at this place last Monday early. Luckily, before any aeroplanes were about or we should probably have been shelled there and then. As it was we first had a dose of their Hymn of Hate about three hours after we landed, and after an exciting three or four hours at the base the Battalion moved up under very heavy artillery fire, retiring in the night and advancing again next morning. We have been under fire now for practically a week, and even now as I am writing shrapnel is flying overhead. We have lost a fairly large number of men. All the rest are cheerful. We are most of us pretty well done up, as we have been on the move and in the trenches five days and nights. We have lost all our senior officers except one, and several second lieutenants. It is very hot here by day and rather cold at night. We are living on bully beef and biscuit diet, and have been all the week. I shall be glad when we are able to get a different kind of food although it stays our hunger. We are pretty well off for water. We have had no post from home yet, and I shall be glad when we do. Where we are it is pretty hot; the snipers are out in scores and all of them have most of the wells marked, and it's a dangerous task to get water in some places. You remember Bill Faulkner, C.S.M. of "C" Company. He was shot the first night the Battalion advanced, and we lost two or three others killed that night besides several wounded. The remainder of our casualties are rather large, but a number of them are only slightly wounded."

Under date August 13th, Pte. Cotterell makes the following addition to his letter:—"I am adding a few more lines. We are still in the trenches—eleven days now and not relieved.

The 1st Herefords.

THROUGH A HAIL OF SHRAPNEL.

Regiment Earns the Title of
 "The Dare Devils."

DEAN VISITS THE WOUNDED.

First Official Casualty List of Rank and File.

Official news concerning the 1st Herefords is at last coming through, an official list of casualties being received at Hereford headquarters from the Records Office at Shrewsbury yesterday (Friday), although four names were mentioned in the official list published in the newspapers on Thursday. Many letters are arriving from the men themselves, telling of how they received their baptism of fire on the Gallipoli peninsula. They have survived a most trying ordeal, and are said to have become known to other regiments of the Brigade as "The Dare Devils," such has been their bravery. A few hours after landing on the beach in Suvla Bay they were given the order to advance, enduring a two-mile march under a shower of shrapnel which the Turks sent down from the hills. In the short space of a quarter of an hour, we are told, many officers and men were laid low; they fell wounded, and had to be left behind while their comrades still pressed on. This was even more trying than the shrapnel. To leave behind a wounded comrade is not what any Britisher would do except when compelled by the exigencies of modern warfare. It is said to learn from several of the letters received that Sergt.-Major William Faulkner, of



THE LATE LANCE CORPL. T. OSBORNE.

Chandos Street, Hereford, was one of the first to sustain fatal injuries. Sergeant-Major Faulkner was carpenter's foreman, employed by Mr. G. Cooke, builder, St. Owen Street. He will be a great loss to the Regiment for he had served in the old Volunteers and the Territorials for over 30 years, and was a most efficient non-commissioned officer. Captain Capel writes home stating how sorry he is to lose such an excellent member of his company, and other sympathetic messages have been received. Sergt.-Major Faulkner's son (Sergt. Faulkner) is also with the Herefords, and writes home confirming his father's death. On Wednesday morning the news was received in a letter from Pte. F. A. Cotterell, "C" Company, that Lance-Corpl. T. Osborne, of Hereford, had been killed. Lance-Corpl. Osborne was a son of Mr. J. Osborne, assistant superintendent of the Wesleyan Insurance Company and steward at the Y.M.C.A. Lance-Corpl. Osborne was also employed by the Wesleyan Insurance Company as agent and joined the Herefords on the outbreak of war. He leaves a widow.

Other young men are also reported killed, including Pte. J. C. Millar, of Hereford. Another name mentioned is that of Pte. W. Knight, Perseverance Road.

The casualties amongst the men, although evidently slight for the most part, are none the less numerous, that is judging from the names mentioned in the letters received. It is gratifying to find the men writing in such good spirits despite the strain to which they have been subjected. It must be remembered that before they were able to reach the shelter of the trenches they had to traverse a stretch of open country, and were unable to fire a single shot before many were bowled over. On reaching their "destination" they found the Turks holding a position on a high hill, which by this time probably they have had a hand in storming. Many of the wounded men are now in England, and Capt. Capel is amongst the officers who have left Malta for this country.

LCpl Osborne's headstone in Lala Baba Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery.



Capt Herbert Archer Croft 'went missing' on the 10th August and was not seen again; his body was never recovered and no trace whatsoever was ever found of him. His batman, Pte Oseman reported that the 2 of them had become separated from their company, and that Capt Croft had moved up a valley re-entrant; the enemy gun fire was too keen for Pte Oseman to follow.



THE LATE SERGT. ALF RAYMOND.

Although not from an official source, the news, through a letter received by Mrs. Lewis, of Hampton Park, Hereford, that Sergt. Alf Raymond, third son of the late Mr. Cuthbert Raymond, of Ross, has died from wounds is now accepted as true. In a letter to Miss Yates, sister to Captain Greatrex Yates, of Berkeley House, Ross, Mr. W. Rhodes Lewis, Hereford (brother of Captain Lewis) writes:

"Captain Lewis does not think that many of the men were killed, but one he does mention is Sergt. Raymond, of Ross. He was very badly wounded, and died before he could be got away. We greatly feel for his relatives, and think that if someone could break the sad tidings to them it would be far better than they should learn it first of all by official telegram."

Sergt. Raymond was married to Miss May Phillips, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, of The Stores, Crow Hill, just eight weeks from the day that this sad news arrived. He was only twenty-six years of age, but he was an enthusiastic soldier and worked most strenuously for his regiment while it was in training in this country, and used his best endeavours to secure recruits.

In his private life Sergt. Raymond was a prominent member of the Ross Pierrot Troupe, and possessing a fine tenor voice he also sang for some years in Ross Parish Church Choir. As an athlete he was a splendid association football player and an energetic gymnast, acting as captain to the Ross Gymnastic Society for some time. Although at Cardiff at the outbreak of war, he came to Ross and joined his old B Company, which since the regiment has been in training was made a double company with A. His many friends deeply regret his loss, and they will always honour his name and the fortitude which prompted him to fight and to lay down his life for his King and country in this great struggle.

In addition to the fatalities there were many injuries, many from shrapnel fire during the advance of 9/10 August and from sniper fire. The County's newspapers reported many accounts, some from official sources and some giving information gleaned from letters sent from the front. Casualties were treated at Suvla Bay in medical units, and then if required evacuated by hospital ship for further treatment; this could be to Imbros, Egypt, Malta or England. Ironically the (relatively) lightly wounded were better able to travel and were often returned to UK on returning troopships. Six casualties from the Herefords from the action on 9th/10th August were returned to UK and in hospital in Chichester by 21 August.

There are six wounded men of the 1st Herefordshire Regiment at Graylingwell Hospital, Chichester, a beautiful building which in peace times is the County Asylum. Their names are:—

Lance-Corpl. F. Booth, Presteign, shrapnel bullet in cheek.

Lance-Corpl. Albert Longford, Ross, wounded in the shoulder and foot.

Pte. Frederick Harper, Loominster, wounded in the shoulder and foot.

Pte. David Morgan, Almeley, shrapnel in instep.

Pte. William Trumper, Eardisley, wounded in the thigh, arm, and finger.

Pte. George Wood, Hereford, shrapnel in top of the head.

They are all more or less slight wounds, and the men are making good progress. Most of the casualties occurred on the 9th, 10th, and 11th August. They landed at Suvla on the 8th, and started the advance at 4 o'clock. The majority of the casualties occurred from the bursting of shells.

The Turks' fire continued unceasingly from 7 in the evening until 4 the next morning, the enemy being entrenched on a hill. The Herefordshire men generally behaved with great coolness throughout.

A personal account from 989 Pte Charlie Oldacre, a pre-war Territorai soldier having joined in 1912. This account was not published in the Hereford Times until September

LANC-CORPL. OLDACRE WOUNDED.

"OUR BOYS STUCK TO IT."

Mrs. Oldacre, of 104, Widemarsh Street, Hereford, has received a letter from her son, Lance-Corporal Charles E. Oldacre, of "D" Company, 1st Herefords, informing her that he has been wounded. He writes as follows:—

'Just a few lines to let you know I am still alive. I may tell you I must thank God I was not killed. I did have a narrow escape. I had one through my hat. It went in one side, and out the other, but it did not hit me. I went on a bit farther, and a shrapnel burst right behind me. I got hit twice in the right arm, twice in the right leg, once in the left leg and once on the buttock, so I can say I have had my share, if I never get any more. My word, it was a terrible day, but our boys stuck to it, and our lot did well, but we suffered a lot. When we landed off the boat we got shelled all the time, but when the boys got half way up the hill I got hit. When I got hit we had gained in one afternoon three miles of ground. . . . Excuse writing, but I have to write left-handed.'

Mrs. Oldacre thinks this letter was probably written about the 15th. Lance-Corporal Oldacre is now in hospital at Malta, and has since sent home to say that he is going on well, and expects to have the bullets taken out of his leg and arm.

One casualty was Pte WR (Reg) Griffiths:

Sgt Perks, a signals sergeant was one of the first to write home:



SIGNALLER W. R. GRIFFITHS,
1st Herefords, Old Radnor, wounded
in the Dardanelles.

in the chest.

Signaller W. R. Griffiths (1610), Lower Sunny Bank, Old Radnor, 1st Herefords (formerly in the offices of the Old Radnor Co.), writing from the Dardanelles, August 13th, says:—"We landed at six on Monday morning, were under shell fire at 8 a.m., and advanced up to the firing line in the afternoon. Then the band began to play. It was awful, no one can picture the scene. I got wounded on Tuesday morning—a bullet through my left foot. I was lucky to get off with that, four of us out of the signalling section are in this hospital, two in the same tent with me. We are in an Australian tent, and the flies are simply awful, they almost eat the food while we are putting it in our mouths." A later report says he is also suffering from a poisoned hand.

Pte. Harry Turner (2513), Croft Castle, Old Radnor, is in hospital at Alexandria, having been wounded in the face.

Sergt. E. Perks, signaller, A Company, 1st Herefords, writing to his wife at 81, Foley Street, Hereford, says:—

I am very pleased to say I am all right up to the present. It is terribly hot here during the daytime, and there is practically no cover. We landed on Monday (the 9th) morning, and went into action in the afternoon, twelve hours after landing.

It was an unlucky start, and we were shelled with shrapnel for about a mile. The feeling was awful at first to see the fellows dropping out around us, but the regiment never faltered, and pressed on until we reached the firing line.

In the short space of a quarter of an hour we lost through wounds: Colonel Drage, Captain Yates, Captain Capel, Captain Nott, and Captain Rogers; but, one good job, most of them are not seriously wounded.

Five signallers are lost to us: Griffiths and Fowler missing for five days; Thomas, Barnes, and Harvey wounded. Jim Preece was wounded in the advance on Thursday night (the 12th). He was hit in the mouth by a piece of shrapnel or a bullet; but it not very serious. I saw him running back, but did not know him until he said: "I have been shot in the mouth"; I looked at the wound, which had just been temporarily dressed. . . . I cheered him up and directed him to the hospital; so I expect by now he is comfortable and having a well-earned rest. I am very thankful to say I escaped injury, but how goodness knows. I am anxious to see the paper from home to see the news.

All the troops sleep on the ground in their uniforms; no blankets or waterproofs. I have just had a wash; the second since Sunday morning. I am anxiously looking forward to seeing England again, and hope to come home safe. Give my best wishes to all our relatives, and tell them I am still "on deck" doing my little bit.

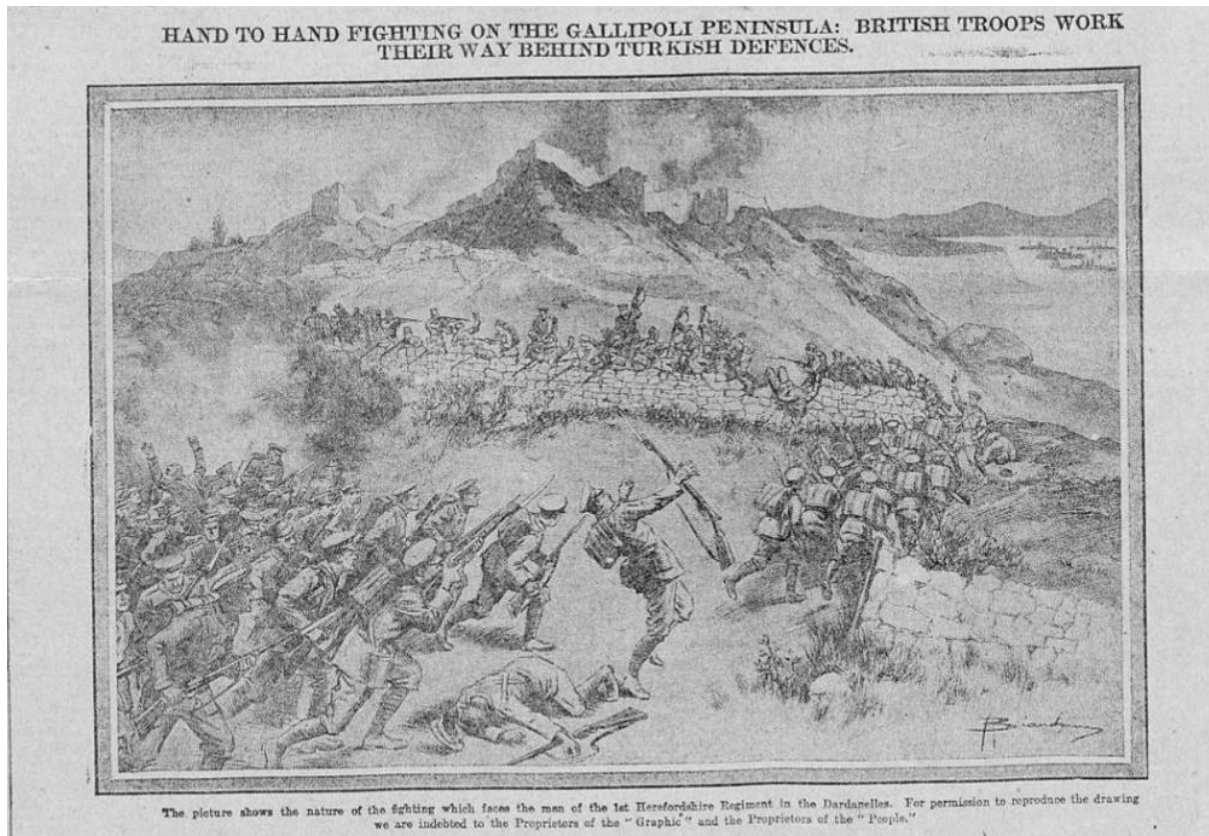
Officers say that the rainy season starts in about six weeks' time, and that this must be over by then, or we shall be swamped with water. So let us hope it will be all over soon.

The troops here are doing splendidly, and the Turks seem weak in men and artillery. The warships keep shelling their trenches, and it makes anyone almost feel sorry when we see the explosions away in the hills, for they must do some damage.

Peter Everitt (Church Street) is wounded in the leg. I saw him only a minute before it was done. He was in a gully having a rest, and a sniper had him.

The Turks are pastmasters in sniping, and they also know the country very well. Wells seem their favourite mark; for in the regiment we relieved on Monday eight men had been killed at one well when fetching water. They also keep well under cover; for though I have been in the firing line or just near for five days, I have only seen one Turk, and he was a prisoner. I am writing this within a few feet of the sea, and I am going to have a dip as soon as I have finished this. It is now 8 a.m. Just fancy writing a letter at this hour in the morning! But as we may be moving back at any minute, I make it my first duty to attend to. Edgar Palamountain (St. Martin Street) is at this base with me. . . . It is rotten here; nothing to buy for love or money; if anybody should be sending me anything out, send for preference chocolate and fags, as the chaps have been offering 6d. for a packet of Woodbines.

How the press saw the action at Suvla Bay:



2nd Battalion

The 2nd Battalion remained in the Northampton area undertaking routine training and duties.

ously threatened.

2nd/1st HEREFORDS.

Early on Friday morning the 2nd/1st Herefords were on the move. They had breakfast at 5.15, and fell in at six o'clock for a Brigade concentration march. The point of concentration was seven miles from headquarters. When the Herefords and Monmouths met they formed up in two lines along the roadside and were inspected by General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien. After the inspection the Brigade marched past the General and Staff. They arrived back soon after noon.

On Sunday evening, the band of the Herefords, under Bandmaster Wheeler, played at the usual concert at the Corn Exchange. The items included:—March, "San Lorenzo" (Silva); selection, "Pride of England" (Weight); march, "Land of Hope and Glory" (Elgar); descriptive piece, "Carry on" (Hume); "God Save the King."

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The first reinforcement draft, of 47 men left the 2nd Battalion for Gallipoli and was made up of the following:

	Lt	FHL	Evelyn	OIC
	2Lt	RJ	Boulton	
	2Lt	A	Wilson	
8035	LCpl	T	Pritchard	
2838	Pte	W	Ansell	
2303	Pte	T	Bamsey	
1090	Pte	CT	Bessex	
3123	Pte	AE	Bridgewater	
2320	Pte	E	Cole	
1646	Pte	WA	Counsell	
3201	Pte	A	Dance	
2793	Pte	WA	Davies	
2979	Pte	W	Dudley	
2957	Pte	G	Elleman	
3072	Pte	A	Evans	
2877	Pte	GRF	Goode	
3100	Pte	HJ	Hill	
2988	Pte	E	James	
2252	Pte	AC	Jarvis	
8250	Pte	SA	Jones	
3012	Pte	SL	Jones	
2878	Pte	W	Jones	
2593	Pte	A	King	
1848	Pte	HE	Lawrence	
2540	Pte	A	Mapp	
2867	Pte	W	Martin	
2224	Pte	E	Matthews	
2560	Pte	EJ	Matthews	
3265	Pte	G	Motley	
2106	Pte	J	Powell	
8187	Pte	FA	Price	
1436	Pte	H	Price	
2732	Pte	FHL	Southall	
3004	Pte	PC	Stedman	
1349	Pte	WA	Taylor	
1767	Pte	J	Teague	
2594	Pte	CJ	Thomas	
2792	Pte	AE	Tipping	
1263	Pte	SA	Tipton	
1906	Pte	CJ	Tobias	
2347	Pte	WSG	Tinsall	
1311	Pte	WA	Turner	
3233	Pte	J	Walker	
1688	Pte	T	Webley	
3131	Pte	EW	Williams	
1494	Pte	H	Wisbey	
2875	Pte	W	Wood	

3rd Battalion

The troops training at Abergavenny are now termed the 3rd/1st Battalion The Herefordshire Regiment, commonly abbreviated to the 3rd Battalion or 3rd Herefords. Routine training continued.



The following article appeared in the County's newspapers:

Many organisations provided 'comforts' to the troops, establishing places of respite from the military routine, a listening ear and a cup of tea and a sandwich. In Abergavenny this was the YMCA.

Soldiers often undertook training course at specialist schools/camps; in this case a recreational activity proved fatal:

The 3rd/1st Herefords.

To the Editor of the "Hereford Journal."

Sir,—Your readers are probably aware that the 3rd/1st Herefords are encamped at our historic town here, and, of course, it naturally follows that the Y.M.C.A. are not very far from them.

We have a tent here almost within their lines, and it is very gratifying to note the use they make of it. We afford them the usual facilities, reading, writing, and games, free stationery, a piano also, and a refreshment bar where they may purchase small goods almost at cost. Our talented friends here come to the rescue in the evening to entertain them with concerts and sing-songs. Generally speaking we "do them well," and provide them with all we can towards their comfort and well-being.

Nevertheless, I feel sure that among your large number of readers they have friends who would be glad of an opportunity of doing something for them. Therefore, allow me to inform such friends that gifts of periodicals, magazines, games, copies and books of music, and any bound books suitable as prizes for various competitions we organise, will indeed be very welcome. Some, perhaps, would like to send them cigarettes, or smokes. These would be much appreciated, and would be faithfully distributed amongst them as a free "whiff" at our "smokers."

Two good ladies here have loaned us a bagatelle table each for the other tents, but the Hereford boys lack this so far. Anyone good enough to loan one will have the same returned at the end of the camping season, while we shall take the utmost care of it.

A gentleman from Abertillery sent us a large number of gramophone records recently, for which we were very grateful. Now we want a gramophone! I feel sure, Sir, that you will place this appeal before your readers, and that we shall have a good response.—Thanking you in anticipation, I am, etc.,

W. GORDON GRIFFITHS,

Organising Secretary.

Y.M.C.A. with H.M. Troops, Central Depot,
46, Frogmore Street, Abergavenny,
August 14th, 1915.

HEREFORD SOLDIER DROWNED.

Comrade Attempts Rescue

Pte. G. T. Rowbury, of Rhea Pitch, Bromyard, attached to the Third Line, Herefordshire Regiment, has been drowned whilst bathing in the sea at Formby, near Liverpool. The sad event was recorded in the Battalion orders of last week-end.

Diligent search was made for the body but without avail. On Thursday last it was discovered at the mouth of the Mersey at High-town.

Pte. Rowbury joined the Herefordshires about two months ago, and went with the Third Line to Abergavenny. He was one of those selected to attend the school of musketry at Altcar, where certain men from each Battalion are sent for the purpose of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the rifle, both in theory and practice, in order that they may be able to instruct others.

Pte. E. H. Marsden, of the Third Line, was bathing with the deceased, who was carried away by the current. Marsden himself nearly lost his life in endeavouring to save his comrade.