

THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

Their First World War 'Story' – November 1916

The 'Bigger' Picture

The Home Front

- Merchant ship losses in the month were the second highest of the war; the impact on the home front increases.
- Second German naval raid on Lowestoft
- German airship raid on East coast of England: airship L-34 destroyed by aeroplane off Hartlepool, and L-21 destroyed by aeroplane off Yarmouth.
- First German daylight single aeroplane raid on London.
- Admiral Sir David Beatty appointed to succeed Admiral Sir John Jellicoe as Commander-in-Chief, Grand Fleet.
- Rotherwas Munitions factory opened in Hereford, the first lyddite shell leaving the factory on 11 November.

Diplomatic

- Germany and Austria proclaim an 'Independent State of Poland'
- Herr von Jagow, German Foreign Minister, resigns; Dr Artur Zimmermann appointed.
- Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria dies. Archduke Karl succeeds to the throne.
- Mr. Wilson re-elected President of the United States.
- Inter-Allied Conference held in Paris to discuss: (a) the relations between Governments and Staffs; (b) policy and strategy; (c) Greece; (d) Poland.
- Entente Governments demand dismissal of Ministers of Central Powers at Athens and surrender of Greek military material
- Greek Provisional Government (M. Venizelos) at Salonika declares war on Germany and Bulgaria
- Russian Premier and Foreign Minister, resigns.

The Western Front

Battles on the Somme continue until 18 November when the Battle officially ends.

Beaumont-Hamel stormed

Battle of Verdun continues:

French offensive battle and capture of Fort Vaux

Other Fronts

EASTERN FRONT

RUMANIA

- Battle of Targa-Jiu
- Craiova taken by German forces

BALKAN FRONT

- Monastir (Serbia) captured by Allied forces
- Mackensen's army effects passage of the Danube at Islaz and Simniza.

GREECE

- Allied forces landed at the Piraeus

HUNGARY

- Orsova taken by Austro-German forces

EGYPT/WESTERN DESERT

- British advance into Sinai begins
- SUDAN
 - Affair of Gyuba (Darfur). Forces of Ali Dinar, ex-Sultan defeated by Sudan force. Ali Dinar killed.

ARABIA

- Coronation of the "King of the Arabs" at Mecca

PERSIA

- Shiraz (South Persia) occupied by British forces.

INDIA

- Third Affair of Hafiz Kor (North-West Frontier of India).

At Sea

- German commerce raider Seeadler leaves Germany.
- German raider Moewe sails from Kiel on second cruise

U Boat Warfare

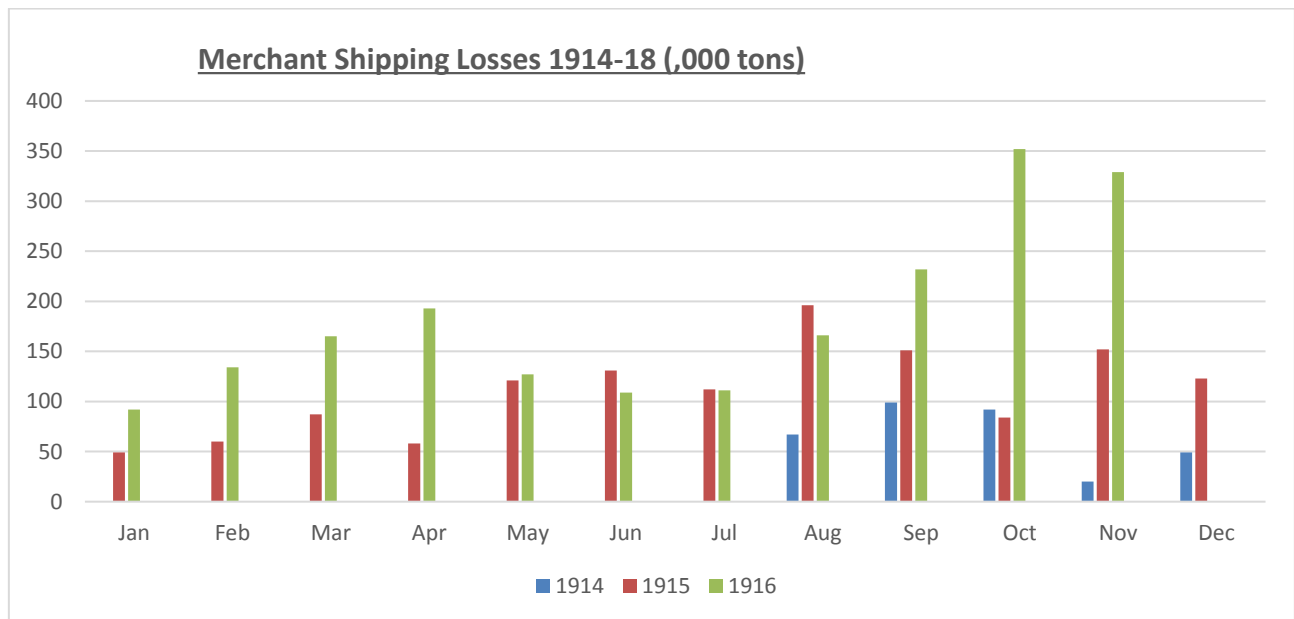
- French battleship Suffren sunk by submarine in the Bay of Biscay.
- British hospital ship Braemar Castle damaged and beached in Aegean
- British hospital ship Britannic sunk by mine in Aegean Sea.



HS Britannic with HS Galeka alongside

MERCHANT SHIPPING

British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month - 189 ships of 329,000 tons gross.



In The Air

- The German air force established as a separate branch of the German army

The 'Herefords'

Casualties

The Herefords, as such suffered no casualties, but Herefordshire Regimental soldiers who had transferred to other units did become casualties. Many of these were attached to the 11 Border Regt and their account is covered in a separate website post. Other casualties were:

NAME		RANK	NO	DATE	SERVING WITH	WHERE	HOMETOWN
Weale	William	Pte	2325	30 Nov 1916	Gloucestershire Regt	France	Orcop
Vowles	Edward	Pte	1937	21 Nov 1916	South Wales Border	France	Newport, Shropshire

This list does not claim to be exhaustive.

The London Gazette

Honours & Awards

Publication Date			Detail	
25/11/1916	Capel	Ernest Amplett	Military Cross	<i>Capt. Ernest Amphlett Capel, Hereford R. For conspicuous gallantry in action. He held his post against the enemy and under intense fire, displaying great courage and determination. Later, he rendered valuable service by observing for the artillery.</i>

Promotions & Appointments (extracts from the London Gazette)

Publication Date			Detail	Effective Date	Remarks
02/11/1916	Pateshall	HEP	to be major E Yorks Regt	08/01/16	
09/11/1916	Barnsley	Harry P	to be lieutenant and adjutant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Beakbane	Charles F	to be lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Berkeley	Woolstan E	To be second lieutenant	10/11/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Bickham	Harry SH	To be second lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn; 2Lt HRVC
09/11/1916	Brook	Thomas A	to be lieutenant	10/11/16	Volunteer Bn
13/11/1916	Cope	RPH	relinquishes commission	14/11/16	Provisional Bn; ill health
09/11/1916	Drennan	William St G	to be captain	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Edwards	John	To be second lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn

09/11/1916	Ellwood	William M	to be lieutenant	10/11/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Foster	Henry K	To be second lieutenant	10/11/16	Volunteer Bn
16/11/1916	Fuller	Frank	To be second lieutenant	25/10/16	
10/11/1916	Gurney	RG	to be captain	01/09/16	
09/11/1916	Hammonds	Henry J	to be lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Harding	John R	to be lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Harvey	Charles H	To be second lieutenant	10/11/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Holloway	George	to be Hon lieutenant and quartermaster	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Holt-Needham	Oliver H	to be lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn;
03/11/1916	Jackson-Taylor	PS	Appointed Flying Officer Observer RFC	14/10/16	
07/11/1916	Lewis	CJ	restored to establishment	27/10/16	Provisional Bn
09/11/1916	Lewis	Andrew	To be second lieutenant	10/11/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Meats	Thomas W	to be captain	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
08/11/1916	Morant	Rowland H	amendment to 10 Oct entry	28/09/16	CO of Volunteer Regt
09/11/1916	Morton	Godfrey M	to be lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
04/11/1916	Ray	Cecil	To be second lieutenant	25/10/16	
09/11/1916	Rowden	Arthur R	to be captain	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Smith	Charles T	to be lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Thynne	Geoffrey AC	to be captain	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn
09/11/1916	Woodhouse- Smith	John W	To be second lieutenant	01/09/16	Volunteer Bn

The redesignation of the Volunteer Training Reserve as the Reserve Battalion Herefordshire Regiment is recognised by the granting of the King's Commission to its officers as included in the London Gazette.

HEREFORD

Depot functions continue.

Enlistment procedures had changed and there are no direct recruits to the Herefordshire Regiment recorded for November 1916. Hereford became the 233 Territorial Force Depot as indicated on Pte Briscoe's enlistment documentation.



IRONBRIDGE.

SHORT SERVICE.

(For the Duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve).

Card No.

89

2.

ATTESTATION OF

NOTICE & DEBITS

No. *106* Name *Francis Briscoe* Corps *THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.*

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name? ... *Francis Briscoe*
2. What is your full Address? ... *4 New St - Waulley*
3. Are you a British Subject? ... *Yes*
4. What is your Age? ... *19* Years *270* days
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... *Printer*
6. Are you Married? ... *NO*
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, which? ... *NO*
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... *Yes*
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? ... *Yes*
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? ... *Yes* { Name *...* Corps *...* }
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services? For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the Colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve, in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th Oct., 1915, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months. ... *Yes*

I, *Francis Briscoe* do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Francis Briscoe SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

W. R. ... Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Francis Briscoe* swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty, King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act. The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at *Ironbridge* on this *22* day of *Jan*, 19*16*.
W. R. ... Signature of the Justice

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required conditions appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the *Res. 1st Herefordshire* Regt. If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 273 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

W. R. ... Wing, Captain, G.C.
Hereford No. 233 T.F. Depôt, Hereford, Approving Officer.

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit. ‡ Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character to be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz.—(Name of Regiment) on the (Date).

And some of those discharged were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	TERM	HOMETOWN	Notes
CHESTERMAN	ARTHUR EDGAR	PTE	1963	xvi	WYEBRIDGE	Served Suvla Bay
COLBURN	PERCY GARFIELD	PTE	3235		HOW CAPLE	
DAVIES	THOMAS	PTE	5413	xvi	L Dewchurch	
DAVIES	JAMES	PTE				
DAVIES	WILLIAM ALFRED	PTE	2793	2B		Served Suvla Bay
GWILLIAM	JOHN	LCPL	6311		MORDIFORD	Supplementary Coy
ILLMAN	THOMAS ROLFE	PTE	1747	xvi		Served Suvla Bay
JONES	EDGAR	PTE	868	xvi	TARRINGTON	Served Suvla Bay
JONES	FRANCIS H	RQMS	2666	xvi		
MORGAN	ARTHUR	PTE/SGT	1736	xvi	ROSS	Served Suvla Bay
PEGG	JOHN	PTE	3544	xvi	BISHOPS FROME	Supplementary Coy
ROBERTS	ERNEST JOHN	PTE	3428	xvi	Hereford	Supplementary Coy
RUTLAND	ALEXANDER	PTE		xvi		
THOMAS	MORRIS	PTE	8223	timex	LLANDRINDOD	Served Suvla Bay
WOODHALL	J	PTE	3550		HEREFORD	Supplementary Coy

xvi - unfit through either wounds or sickness

iiicc - unlikely to become an efficient soldier

timex - Territorial soldier whose time of commitment has expired.

6311 LCpl J Gwilliam was an ex regular soldier (12 years with South Wales Borderers) and had served in India and Burma. His stated age was 51 years on enlistment, in 1916 he appears to be 59 – is this a case of taking years off his age to enlist! He had joined the supplementary Company of the Herefords in May 1915. He was employed as a Prisoner of War guard on the Isle of Man when he was discharged with Chronic Bronchitis.

3544 Pte J Pegg was another old soldier who had served in India and South Africa with the Royal Artillery and was employed with the Supernumary Company; he was discharged as no longer fit for military service.

Ptes 3428 EJ Roberts and 3550 J Woodhall were also old soldiers in the Supplementary Company and were discharged as no longer fit for service.

868 Pte E Jones was wounded at Suvla Bay and was discharged as a result of wounds at the end of his period of engagement.

Description of John Guillian on Enlistment.

MEDICAL INSPECTION REPORT.

(Applicable to all Ranks.)

Name John Guillian
 Apparent age 57 years 2 months.
 Height 5 feet 5 inches.
 Chest measurement (Girth when fully expanded) 36 inches.
 Range of expansion 2 inches.

Vision
 Physical development
 * Chest measurement will be obtained by adjusting the tape so that its posterior upper edge touches the inferior angles of the shoulder blades, and its anterior lower edge the upper part of the nipples, while the arms hang loosely by the side.

Certificate of Medical Examination.
 I have examined the above-named Recruit and find that he does not present any of the causes of rejection specified in the Regulations. He can see at the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs; he does not suffer from hernia; and declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him* fit for the Territorial Force.
 Date 19 Place Horford Medical Officer.

Certificate of Primary Military Examination.
 I hereby certify that the above-named Recruit was inspected by me, and I consider him* fit for service in the 10th Marchmontshire Regt. Guard B Coy and that due care has been exercised in his enlistment.
 Date 3 May 1915 Place Horford A. M. Woodcock Capt. Recruiting Officer.
 *Insert here the "fit" or "unfit."

Certificate of Approving Officer.
 I certify that this attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been completed with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him in the 10th Marchmontshire Regt. Guard B Coy as Private and that the enlistment will be attested to the original attestation.
 Date 1915 Place Horford A. M. Woodcock Capt. Approving Officer.
 *Insert here the "fit" or "unfit."

MILITARY HISTORY SHEET.

1. Service at Home and Abroad (including former service of re-called men, when allowed to reckon towards G. C. Pay or Pension).

COUNTRY	FROM	TO	YEARS	DAYS	N.B.—The Country only to be shown—It is not necessary to show separately the service in the different stations of same country. England, Scotland, and Ireland to be shown under the general term "Home."
<u>India</u>	<u>10. 12. 84</u>	<u>14. 12. 85</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	
<u>India</u>	<u>15. 12. 85</u>	<u>8. 5. 86</u>		<u>148</u>	
<u>India</u>	<u>9. 5. 86</u>	<u>9. 11. 87</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>187</u>	
<u>India</u>	<u>14. 11. 87</u>	<u>17. 11. 93</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	
<u>Home</u>	<u>17. 11. 93</u>	<u>11. 8. 94</u>		<u>260</u>	
<u>Home</u>	<u>6. 8. 94</u>	<u>9. 9. 96</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>127</u>	
			<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	

2. Name and Address of Next of Kin Father James Guillian, Stoke Ecclith, Near Horford

3. Campaigns Burma 1884-89

4. Wounded Nil.

5. Effects of Wounds Nil.

6. Special instances of gallant conduct Nil.

7. Medals, decorations, and annuities General Medal + Clasp 1884-89

8. Injuries in or by the Service Nil.

9. Married Nil.

10. Passed Classes of Instruction 2nd Class 26.8.94 2nd Class 5.9.96

11. Certificates of Education Nil.

12. The names of the children (if any) and the dates of birth Nil.

13. The date of being brought on the Married Establishment (if not on the Married Establishment, it should be so stated) Nil.

14. Discharged Nil.

15. Died Nil.

16. Notes Nil.

MILITARY HISTORY SHEET.

1.—Service at Home and Abroad (including former service of re-called men, when allowed to reckon towards G. C. Pay or Pension).

COUNTRY	FROM	TO	YEARS	DAYS	N.B.—The Country only to be shown—It is not necessary to show separately the service in the different stations of same country. England, Scotland, and Ireland to be shown under the general term "Home."
<u>Home</u>	<u>10. 12. 84</u>	<u>14. 12. 85</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	
<u>India</u>	<u>15. 12. 85</u>	<u>11. 9. 93</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>228</u>	
<u>Home</u>	<u>15. 11. 93</u>	<u>12. 9. 96</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>22</u>	
			<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	

2. Name and Address of Next of Kin Father, James Guillian, Stoke Ecclith, Near Horford

3. Campaigns Burma 1884-89

4. Wounded Nil.

5. Effects of Wounds Nil.

6. Special instances of gallant conduct Nil.

7. Medals, decorations, and annuities General Medal + Clasp 1884-89

8. Injuries in or by the Service Nil.

9. Married Nil.

10. Passed Classes of Instruction 2nd Class 26.8.94 2nd Class 5.9.96

11. Certificates of Education Nil.

12. Character on being passed to Reserve Nil.

13. Character on being Discharged Nil.

14. Place of Discharge Nil.

15. Cause of Discharge Nil.

16. Pension awarded Nil.

17. Died Nil.

18. Notes Nil.

Medical Report on an Invalid

RECEIVED BY
 4 NOV 1916

Station Knarshall
 Date 7 September 1916

1. Unit R. D. C.
 2. Regimental No. 20514
 3. Rank 2nd Corporal
 4. Name Guillian J

5. Age last birthday 59
 6. Enlisted on May 8 1915
 7. Former Trade or Occupation Labourer

8. Disability Chronic Bronchitis

Statement of Case.
 Note.—The answers to the following questions are to be filled in by the Officer in medical charge of the case. In answering them he will carefully discriminate between the man's unsupported statements and evidence recorded in his military and medical documents. He will also carefully distinguish cases entirely due to venereal disease.

9. Date of origin of disability November 1915.

10. Place of origin of disability Knarshall.

11. Give concisely the essential facts of the history of the disability, noting entries on the Medical History Sheet bearing on the case.
Got a chill in November 1915 & has been off duty for 2 weeks. Went away on sick leave for 14 days & then returned to duty. On 15th Nov 1915 he was again off duty for 9 days suffering from Bronchitis. Has been away on sick leave & has been under treatment off duty for 4 times in 15 days. Although during his duty is labourer with a chronic cough & the damp winter weather has had a detrimental effect on his health.

12. Give your opinion as to the causation of the disability.
Influenza & damp & cold.

13. If you consider it to have been caused by active service, climate, or ordinary military service, explain the specific conditions to which you attribute it (See note on page 2).
The weather was very damp & cold about the time of his first attack. The condition caused by Influenza when he returned home.

MILITARY HISTORY SHEET.

1. Service at Home and Abroad (including foreign service of recruited men, when allowed to reckon towards G. P. Pay or Pension).

COUNTRY	FROM	TO	YEARS	DAYS	N.B.—The G.P. Pay to be reckoned only in the different stations of same country, England, Scotland, and Ireland, to be shown under the general term of Home.
Home	25 Dec. 90	1 Dec. 90	1	32	
Home	2 Dec. 90	4 Mar. 96	5	94	
Home	5 Mar. 96	14 Dec. 96	3	306	
South Africa	15 Dec. 96	26 Dec. 97	1	21	
Home				2	
Total			13	5	484

2. Educated at ... Royal Military Academy, Woolwich

3. Name and Address of Next of Kin ... *Walter, Mary, Charles, Birmingham*

4. Campaigns ... *South Africa, 1899*

5. Wounded ...

6. Effects of Wounds ...

7. Special instances of gallant conduct ...

8. Medals, decorations and awards ... *South Africa 1899 with clasps, Chamberlain, Diamond, Hill, Belfast, Cape of Good Hope, 1899*

9. Injuries in or by the service ...

10. Married ...

11. Passed Classes of Instruction ...

12. Certificates of Education ...

13. Character on being passed to Reserve ...

14. Numerical position on roll of Non-Commissioned Officers on transfer to the Reserve ...

15. Character on being Discharged ...

16. Place of Discharge ... *121 Dartmouth Street, R. Lane*

17. Intended place of Residence on Discharge ...

18. Cause of Discharge ...

19. Pension awarded ...

20. Died ...

21. Notes ...

Print—These entries are to be made from time to time as they occur, and initialled by the Officer issuing the entry.

Army Form B. 178.

To be used for recruits enlisting direct into the Regular Army only. Army Form B. 178^a to be used for Special Reserve recruits and Special Reservists enlisting into the Regular Army.

MEDICAL HISTORY of

Surname *Jones* Christian Name *Edgar James*

TABLE I.—GENERAL TABLE.

Birthplace ... Parish *Lawington Hereford County Herefordshire*

Examined ... on *28th* day of *February* 1910.

Declared Age ... *19* years ... days.

Trade or Occupation ... *Schoolmaster*

Height ... *5* feet, *6 1/2* inches.

Weight ... *140* lbs.

Chest Measurement ... *35* inches.

Physical Development ... *Very Good*

Vaccination Marks ...

When Vaccinated ...

Vision ... *R.E.—V=* *5/10* *L.E.—V=* *5/10*

(c) Marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease ...

(b) Slight defects but not sufficient to cause rejection ...

Approved by ... (Signature) ... (Rank) ... Medical Officer.

Enlisted ... at *Leominster* on *28th* day of *February* 1910.

Joined on Enlistment ... *1st Herefordshire Regt* ... *66*

Transferred to ...

Spouse non-effective by ... *Discharge: Termination of Engagement, Under Paragraph (Sub-para. xxi) of Art. 4 of Case 4946* on *13th* day of *November* 1916.

(Signature) ... Captain, G.C. *Edgar*

(Rank) ... *26. 265 S.F. Depot, Hereford.*

P. 7. 0.

The Volunteer Bn (Hereford - formerly the Volunteer Training Corps (VTC))

1st BATTALION HEREFORDSHIRE VOLUNTEER REGIMENT.

BATTALION ORDERS by Major R. H. Morant, Com. 1st H.V.R.

1. The Battalion will furnish a guard by night daily of 2 N.C.O.'s and 12 men on the Hereford Electric Power Station until further orders, viz.:—Mondays, C Company (Ross); Tuesdays, B Company (Leominster); Wednesdays, D Company (Ledbury); Thursdays, B Company (Leominster); Fridays, C Company (Ross); Saturdays, A Company (Hereford); Sundays, A Company (Hereford).

2. These guards will mount at sunset and dismount at sunrise.

3. Officers Commanding Companies will arrange for an Orderly Officer to visit these guards once by night.

4. On arrival at Hereford these guards will march to headquarters, Drill Hall, Friar St., where arms, ball ammunition, and great coats will be issued half an hour before sunset, at which time the guards will parade at the Drill Hall.

Rations for the night will be provided regimentally.

5. Officers Commanding Companies will see that these orders are communicated to their men as far as they are concerned.

7. Officers Commanding Companies will take every opportunity of practising their commands in "The Duties of Armed Guards."

H. P. BARNESLEY,
Lieut. and Adj. 1st H.V.R.

"A" Company.

ORDERS WEEK ENDING, NOV. 12th, 1916.

1. Sunday.—No. 2 Platoon will furnish guard consisting of two N.C.O.'s and 12 men for guard work at Electric Light Works. Orderly Officer, Platoon Commander H. K. Foster. Guard will fall in at Drill Hall at 5.30 p.m. and mount guard at 6. Greatcoats will be issued. Rations will be issued. Men to provide own knife, fork, spoon, towel, and soap, to be carried in haversack.

2. Monday.—Bugle practice, 7.30 p.m., Drill Hall.

3. Tuesday, 7.15 p.m.—Recruits' drill, St. Peter's Church House. For duty, Sec.-Coms. Pinniger and West.

4. Thursday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.—Recruits' class firing, Holtmer Range. For duty, Sergt.-Instr. of Musketry Rev. W. B. Glennie.

5. Friday, 7.15 p.m.—Recruits' drill, St. Peter's Church House. Sec.-Coms. Pinniger and West. 7.15 p.m., Ambulance class. 7.30. Drum and Fife practice, Drill Hall.

6. Saturday, 2.30 to 4.30.—Practice in Holtmer Range for men and recruits. For duty, Sergt. W. H. Leek.

(Signed) G. A. C. THYNNE, Coy. Comdr.,
Commanding "A" Coy., H.V.R.

1st Battalion

The 1st Bn continued to serve in Eastern Egypt on the banks of the Suez Canal. They were out of action and had a relatively quiet time in the first part of the month. Towards the end of the month they moved location in support of the British advance into the Sinai.

The 53rd Div reorganised on a 'camel transport' basis and it is assumed the Herefords received transport camels. For an infantry battalion there were: 12 horses (riding), 29 pack mules and 110 camels; the camels had 36 native drivers.

Date	Location	Detail
1 Nov	El Ferdan	Training and work on posts. All Saints Day, memorial service for men of Division who were killed, died of disease etc in this war.
2 Nov		Battalion exercise to Sand Dune 45, sheet 003, 1:40,000 B32. The heaviest possible going was purposely chosen. Owing to the very slow pace little fatigue was felt.
6 Nov		New routine introduced; 3 days work on defences and 3 days training; 1 brigade, 1 battalion and 1 company on workdays: companies have cold lunch sent out saving considerable time in walking to and from posts.

9 Nov		Brigade exercises. 1/5 RWF, ourselves, CO Lt Col C S Rome, company of 1/7 RWF, CO Lt Col Harker; the exercise was hampered considerably because of fog.
15 Nov		Battalion moved across canal to West Bank; move continued all day. 1/7 Essex Regiment arrived about 8pm and proceeded to make camp.
17 Nov		2Lt Reeve to Alexandria to join RFC on probation. Battalion route march to Ballah; first road march for some time.
23 Nov		Following reversions and promotions appeared: ACapt W L Carver to be Lt Lt F H Trumper to be Capt Lt C J Pilkington to be Capt

November 1916

WAR DIARY
1st HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.

APPENDIX I Weekly State

Week Ending	Officers	O. R.
7-11-16	29	841
14-11-16	31	952
21-11-16	30	951
28-11-16	30	939

APPENDIX II Weekly Casualty Returns

Week Ending	Hospital	
	Officers	O. R.
7-11-16	1	15
14-11-16		7
21-11-16	1	11
28-11-16		40

APPENDIX III Reinforcements etc

2 Officers (Capt G. J. Williams & Sgt. Dunsen) and
114 O. R. from England 8-11-16

2Lt E. J. Ricketts to Hospital 7-11-16
 Lt DMV Robert Ross to Hospital 19-11-16
 2Lt J. R. Paulson rejoined from Hospital 14-11-16

2Lt W. A. Hopkins rejoined from Hosp. 14-11-16
 2Lt R. R. Rice to R. F. B. on 7-11-16

W. J. ...
 Camp 1st Herefordshire Regt.

Maj ALB Green

Date	Location	Detail
1 Nov		All Saints Day. Early service and memorial service at 5pm. Pateshall, Lewis, Bennett and Caddick to dinner from Tomailia. Boxing after dinner.
2 Nov		Battalion exercise – route march in echelon South of Ferdan, East Bank. Weather shows sign of breaking – heavy lightening at night.
3 Nov		2 BWIR marched through Ferdan en route for Ballah. Lt Col Poe and 3 officers to lunch. Ashton went to Port Said. BGC visited works. Paulson returned from hospital. More lightening, gusty winds, colder.
4 Nov		Battalion exercise – advanced in echelon in direction of Nir El Uruk. Some rain heavy thunder clouds about.
5 Nov		A year today since I sailed from Devonport. Usual Sunday routine.
6 Nov		Began new routine of working 0830 to 2.30 with 1 hour for lunch. ? to hospital thank goodness.
7 Nov		Brig Gen Doddington, 161 Brigade came to see line showed him round bridgehead line.
8 Nov		Maj Gen Dobell, GOC Eastern Force came round sub section. Met him by bridgehead where he inspected 1/5 RWF camp. He then drove up to ours and said he would come again another time.
9 Nov		Brigade exercise. Quite interesting but protracted owing to fog. Got back to camp about 1300.
10 Nov		Inspected our new camp area on West Bank. Very foul and inconvenient. Darned nuisance having to change over. In evening rode out to prospect for Battalion ex tomorrow. Got the horses badly bogged – had to send groom for help to transport and ultimately got them out. Tate came to dinner.
11 Nov		Battalion ex – quite interesting and instructive. Dined with 1/5 RWF in evening.
12 Nov		Church parade as usual.
13 Nov		Started a party over canal to lay out new area and sent over some of the heavy baggage.
14 Nov		Witnessed artillery practice with aeroplane spotting. BGC came in evening, told us we were moving tomorrow. Hopkins returned. Mail in – letter from Do and Pater.
15 Nov		Moved camp to West Bank. Very windy and quite an uncomfortable day. 1/7 Essex came in to our old area in the evening.
16 Nov		Spent the day cleaning up and getting straight.
17 Nov		Coy training. Conference with BGC in evening.
18 Nov		Battalion route march to Ballah.
19 Nov		Brigade Church parade – not a great success.
20 Nov		Coy training.
21 Nov		Battalion ex.
22 Nov		Brigade ex. Long morning – advanced with advanced guard and flank guards out.
23 Nov		Battalion ex with 1/6 RWF.

24 Nov		Brigade ex – the attack. Very hot and long. My leave approved. Hope the CO comes back up to time.
25 Nov		Coy training. Hear the hut coming out.
26 Nov		Transport inspected by ADST who seemed very pleased. Ashton and Sale on leave.
27 Nov		Battalion and transport inspected by Maj Gen Dallas. A & B Coys inspected in Coy Drill and training. C & D in musketry and field firing. Not so offensive as usual.
28 Nov		Great strafe over organising and packing camel transport. Brigade night ops postponed.
29 Nov		Coy training and loading camels in afternoon. CO and Evelyn due back from leave – didn't return.
30 Nov		Spent entire morning loading camel transport under supervision of Gen Dallas. Rather a heating morning. Finished up by taking Battalion with camel transport short march over desert.

3820 Pte L Griffiths

duty till Sept 13th when
 came back through I made
 Moascar to El Ferdan. About
 where we were in training
 and making some out post
 line trenches stronger.
 Nov. 15. cross the Suez Canal
 to El Ferdan East. while
 we were at El Ferdan we
 were in tents of course it
 was on the desert Jan 6th 1917
 we left El Ferdan to march
 to Romania to attack the turks.
 on the 1st we went marched to
 through Ballahits. Thantara
 where we slept in huts for
 two nights Jan 6th we went
 to G. Ban where we slept
 out in the open for the night
 we found it rather cold
 after the hot days. Jan 7th
 we got to Pelusium which

Many men took the opportunity to visit some of the local towns and have their photographs taken.





1593 CQMS JF Harris



'Leonard & Joseph' surnames unknown

The following article appeared in the Hwereford Times and gives some idea of what the soldiers were enduring:

A HEREFORDSHIRE MAN IN EGYPT.

Some Impressions.

A Hereford man belonging to the Herefordshire Regiment, writes from Egypt:—

The Desert! The howling waste of wilderness! The endless sea of untaken, scorching sands of Egypt. That is the first impression one gets when he first crosses the Suez Canal. And that was the one gained by the Herefords as they left the Peninsular, covered with glory, and commenced to do their bit to mop up the Turks and Bedouins who invaded Egypt. The country was all sterile, a lifeless blank on the map. Save for the millions of detestable flies, one saw no living thing. Nothing but a land of death, of petrified forests and fossilised shells.

Someone says 'tis a land with a history. True, but it is ages ago since the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness. Centuries have rolled by since Joseph and Mary fled to Egypt with the infant Nazarine.

We camp on the sweltering sands and when night comes, the long looked for respite from the pitiless sun, we gaze up at the stars that have twinkled through the ages. As we look we can see one star that traverses the heavens at a phenomenal rate. We are told that that is the sacred Star of Bethlehem. It is a remarkable experience for us Hereford boys to wander along these historic sands trod by Jew and Chaldean, Greek and Syrian, Turk and Arab,

and men from Mesopotamia. It is one which, if by the grace of God we are spared, will live ever in our memories as we gladly settle down to civil life in "good old Blighty." As we trek from one post to another (for here we are for ever on the move) now and again we strike an oasis and revel in the generous shade of the date palms. Here one stays and wonders how it was that he had never really appreciated the gloriousness of nature in old England in those never to be forgotten but now seemingly far distant days of peace. "What a contrast!" he murmurs to himself as he recalls the emerald green fields splashed with the dazzling yellow of the buttercups and tells himself he would almost give his soul to wander at will along those paths again. How restful and soothing to the eye the sight of those green meadows would be after gazing day after day at an unbroken stretch of sand. The order comes around "kit on" and immediately he dismisses such thoughts and accepting the present circumstances as inevitable with a contented smile the march is resumed. "The war can't last for ever" someone says "It's bound to end some day"; until then we're going to make the best of it. That's the spirit that is going to win the war.

A UK leave (furlough) scheme was also in place, where soldiers returned to the UK for 5 weeks leave – as can be seen from the personal documents of 1729 Pte CC Jarvis.

X. (9178)—Wt. W12165—2146.—1,250,000.—2-15.—C. & G. Forms B. 103/1. (57) **Army Form B. 103.**

E501 **Casualty Form—Active Service.**
1st BATTALION

Regiment or Corps 235408. HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT.

Regimental No. 4779 Rank Pte. 4779 Name Farris, C. C.

Enlisted (a) 7/8/14 Terms of Service (a) 14 yrs Service reckons from (a) 7/8/14

Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to lance rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

Date	From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 33, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
16/7/15	O.C. 1/1st Hfds	Embarked TSS Euripides	Devonport	16/7/15	Nominal roll
31/10/15.	Unit.	Awarded 5 days F.P. no 2.	Gallipoli.	31/10/15.	B 2069.
30/11/15.	Hos Ship.	Admt "Galeka" (Exposure)	do.	30/11/15.	A 36.
4/12/15.	Hos.	Admt 17th Gen Hos	Alexandria.	4/12/15.	A 36.
10/12/15.	do.	Trans Con Depot. Mustafa.	do.	10/12/15.	A 36.
24/12/15.	do.	Discharged to Base. (duty)	do.	24/12/15.	A 36.
9/1/16.	Unit.	Rejoined.	Wardan.	6/1/16.	B. 213.
11. 11. 16	Base Depot	Arrived for furlough to U.K.	Alexandria	7. 11. 16	B213 HW
8. 11. 16	Ship	Embarked H.T. Megantic. 5 weeks leave to U.K. (M/G.H.A. 802/6589/1592. 4. 11. 16. Serial 1592.	do	8. 11. 16	D16192. D16203. HW
28 12 16	W3 Inveria	Embarked for Egypt	Horsham	28 12 16	D17654.
12. 1. 17	W3 Kelgan	Disembarked & W3 Inveria	Alexandria	12. 1. 17	D17655.

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
 (b) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties. [P.T.O.]

2nd Battalion

The second battalion remained in Lowestoft as part of 205th Bde in 68 Div.

Reserve Battalion (formerly 3 Bn – Oswestry)

The routine of the Reserve Bn with training (of recruits and trained soldiers) and soldiers going on leave and returning from leave and convalescence continued.

The Hereford Times includes an account of the Battalion's social activities:

RESERVE HEREFORDS.

Herefords Lose Cup - Tie.

The Herefordshire Regiment football team met the A.S.C. on Saturday in the Garrison Cup Competition and lost by 5-1. It was in the opening stages of the game that the A.S.C. did the best work, and three goals were put up in next to no time. Do what they would, the Hereford men could not pull together, and their opponents had pretty much their own way. Presently things improved, but the Herefords rarely became dangerous though they held the A.S.C. forwards better. In spite of all their efforts, however, they turned over with a score of 4-0 against them. The ground was in a very bad condition, and on occasions it was almost impossible to control the ball. The second half was better contested, and each side scored once—the Hereford goal being scored by Sergt. Owens. Corpl. Blanch saved some good shots after a somewhat "shaky" opening, but the backs and halves did not defend well generally. Sec.-Lient. Morrish, at left back, was the best man on the Hereford side.

The league competition is going ahead now, and much interest is taken in it. The following are latest results obtainable. Some of the regiments have famous footballers in their ranks, and have a large number of men to choose from:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Royal Welsh Fusiliers ...	3	3	0	0	6
Cheshire Regt.	3	3	0	0	6
10th King's Liverpool.....	3	2	1	0	4
4th South Lanes.	2	2	0	0	4
4th Loyal North Lanes..	2	2	0	0	4
Welsh R.A.M.C.	3	2	1	0	4
Lanes. R.A.M.C.	1	1	0	0	2
5th King's Liverpool	2	1	1	0	2
Cyclists ...	2	0	1	1	1
Army Service Corps	3	0	2	1	1
Monmouth Regt.	2	0	2	0	0
7th King's Liverpool	2	0	2	0	0
4th King's Lancaster	2	0	2	0	0
1st Hereford Regt.	2	0	2	0	0
Yeomanry	2	0	2	0	0

LAST WEEK'S ENTERTAINMENT.

Last week a company got together by Sergt. Beddoes, gave a farcical comedy in the Regimental Institute, entitled "Made or Maid." There was a crowded attendance, and Major Speer announced that he hoped to provide a programme each week during the winter. These entertainments are greatly enjoyed by the men and so, of course, the announcement was greeted with loud applause.

Sergt. Beddoes had spent a great deal of time and trouble over "Made or Maid," and much fun was provided by it. The parts were taken by Sergt. Beddoes, Pte. Griffiths, Pte. Hanks, and Pte. Wheel, and the company would also have given another piece had time permitted.

Lieut. Banks, who always receives a warm welcome at the Institute concerts—in fact a programme without one of his coxter songs does not seem complete—sang "It's a great big shame." He was dressed in an elaborate coxter suit, and the expression he put into the words was very good. Before the men would be satisfied he had to give a couple more items "Owd yer row" and "Knocked 'em in the Old Kent Road." Sergt. Drummer Evans was great in his two comic items, and Pte. Reeve and Pte. Metcalf, two visitors, also contributed a song apiece.

THE GARRISON THEATRE.

On Sunday, at the Garrison Theatre, one of Miss Lena Ashwell's companies that has just returned from a visit to France, where the soldiers were entertained, gave two excellent performances which were greatly appreciated by packed houses. These Sunday evening programmes are very popular for there is not much to do in camp, especially if the weather is bad—as it has been for some time—and the men are glad of the opportunity of spending a couple of hours listening to really good artistes. During the week a variety programme was given twice nightly.