#### THE HEREFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

### Their First World War 'Story' - September 1917

### The 'Bigger' Picture

- Anglo-French Conference assembles in London to discuss the question of military assistance to Italy and later assembles in Boulogne to discuss an Italian offensive and the extension of the British front in France
- M Ribot, French Premier and Foreign Minister, resigns; succeeded by M Painleve. M Ribot reappointed French Foreign Minister
- First party of repatriated British prisoners reaches England from Switzerland.
- Central Powers proclaim grant of temporary Constitution to Poland
- Council of Trans-Caucasian peoples, *i.e.*, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Daghestan, proclaim Trans-Caucasia a federal Republic
- Costa Rica severs diplomatic relations with Germany

#### Russia

- General Kornilov heads revolt against Russian Provisional Government and marches on Petrograd, revolt fails and M Kornilov surrenders to Provincial Government.
- Russia proclaimed a Republic by the Provisional Government
- M Kerenski assumes Dictatorship of Russia and issues proclamation declaring General Kornilov a traitor.

#### The Home Front

- Sir Eric Geddes appointed First Lord of the Admiralty.
- First German aeroplane raid on England by moonlight by more than one aeroplane
- Severe aeroplane raid on Kent by moonlight (casualties about 230, mostly military).
- German aeroplanes for the first time raid London by night in force.
- German submarine bombards Scarborough, Yorkshire.
- Despite shortages 'at home' there was still tremendous support for 'the boys' at the front:



#### The Western Front

- Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) continues
- Battle of the Menin Road Ridge (Ypres) begins
- Battle of Polygon Wood (Ypres) begins
- The duration of the war, the deprivations of the front line soldier and families left behind were leading to tensions in 'the ranks'. There were mutinies (which in many cases could perhaps be better described as industrial disputes) amongst the French, Imperial Russian and Italian forces. The British were not exempt from unrest and dissatisfaction and September saw the infamous Etaples Mutiny. This 'limited' mutiny was the result of a brutal training regime including 'the bull ring'. Ruled over by NCOs, often with no battle experience and delivered to battle experienced soldiers, many still recovering from treatment of wounds in the Etaples base hospital, when convalescence was more appropriate than inconsiderate so called training. Lessons were learnt and the regime at Etaples was changed better to suit its purpose.

Siegfried Sassoon's poem Base Details expressed the contempt of infantry veterans for the officers and NCOs who staffed Etaples:

If I were fierce, and bald, and short of breath, I'd live with scarlet Majors at the Base, And speed glum heroes up the line to death. You'd see me with my puffy petulant face, Guzzling and gulping in the best hotel, Reading the Roll of Honour. 'Poor young chap,' I'd say—'I used to know his father well; Yes, we've lost heavily in this last scrap.' And when the war is done and youth stone dead, I'd toddle safely home and die—in bed.

### **Other Fronts**

#### **EASTERN FRONT**

- Battle of Riga ends; Riga captured by German forces
- Jakobstadt (Baltic) stormed by German forces

### **RUMANIA**

- Battle of Marasesti ends

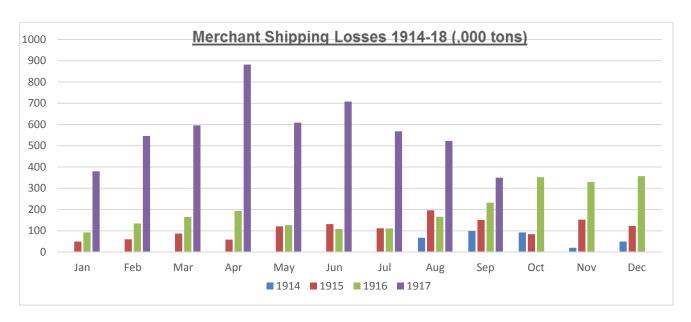
### **ITALY**

- Eleventh Battle of the Isonzo ends

### At Sea

### **MERCHANT SHIPPING**

British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month – 200 ships of 350,000 tons gross.



# The 'Herefords'

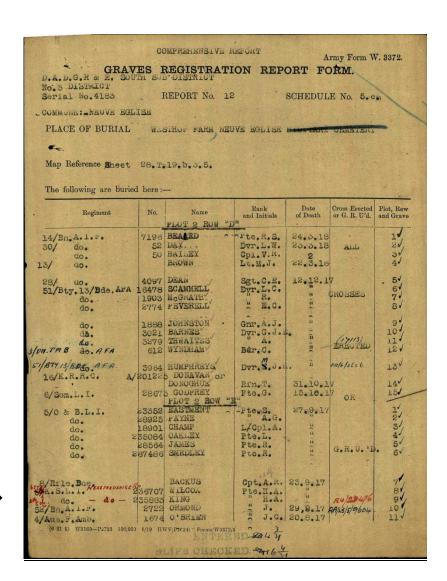
# Casualties (other than 1st Bn)

NAME	INIT	RANK	No1	No2	Date	How	Where	Hometown	Notes
									(Serving with)
BANCHINI	WALTER	PTE		239260	20 Sep	KIA	F&F	WHITCHURCH	KSLI 6
	HERBERT								
BARBER	JOSEPH	PTE		239272	23 Sep	KIA	F&F	DERBY	KSLI 6
	HENRY								
BRATT	ALMOND	SGT	2516	235795	26 Sep	D	F&F	COLWALL	KSLI 7
	JOHN								
CHAPMAN	GEORGE	PTE		236845	26 Sep	KIA	F&F	LEOMINSTER	KSLI 7
JONES	THOMAS	PTE		237357	11 Sep		HOME	OSWESTRY	
	HENRY								
JONES	EDWARD	PTE		238869	20 Sep	KIA	F&F	KNIGHTON	KSLI 6
	JAMES								
JONES	THOMAS	PTE	2399	237357	11 Sep	KIA	HOME	OSWESTRY	
	HENRY								
KING	HERBERT	PTE		236883	23 Sep	KIA	F&F	LEOMINSTER	KSLI 6
	ARTHUR								
MORGAN	WILLIAM S	PTE		239313	12 Sep	KIA	F&F	LITTLE BIRCH	KSLI 6

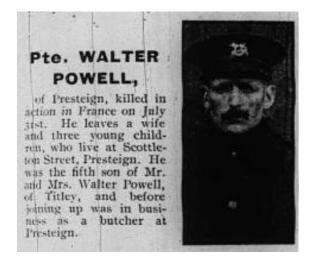
PETTIGREW	GILBERT	LT			12 Sep				RFC
	THOMAS R								
REYNOLDS	CHARLES	PTE	4234		24 Sep	D	F&F	LEOMINSTER	BORDER 7
SEYMOUR	CHARLES	PTE		239266	20 Sep	KIA	F&F	BIRKENHEAD	KSLI 6
URION	FREDERICK	PTE		238850	20 Sep	KIA	F&F	ELLESMERE	KSLI 6
	THOMAS								
WILCOX	FRANCIS	PTE		236707	23 Sep	KIA	F&F	UPTON ON SEV	KSLI 5
	HARRY								
WILLIAMS	WALTER	PTE		239250	21 Sep	KIA	F&F	SHIFNAL	KSLI 6
WOOD	WF	PTE	2842		27 Sep	KIA			WARKS

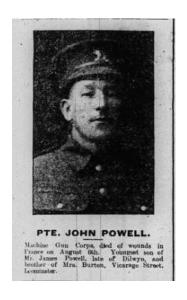






The deaths in action of Pte Walter Powell with the 10 Welsh Regiment, and Pte John Powell both formerly of the Herefordshire Regiment was reported in the Kington Times.





# The London Gazette

<u>Honours & Awards</u> There were no Honours or Awards

### <u>Promotions & Appointments (extracts from the London Gazette)</u>

<b>Publication Date</b>			Detail	Remarks
01/09/1917	Ascroft	GB	to be captain to remain	
			adjutant	
01/09/1917	Bourne	RC	to be captain	
01/09/1917	Brook	TA	relinquishes commission	Volunteer Bn
01/09/1917	Davey	Α	to be captain	
01/09/1917	Hooper	RS	to be captain to remain	
			seconded	
01/09/1917	Jackson-Tayler	PS	to be captain to remain	
			seconded	
01/09/1917	Milyard	G	to be captain	
01/09/1917	Phillips	LB	to be captain to remain	
			seconded	
01/09/1917	Wilmot	E	to be captain	
01/09/1917	Wing	EG	to be captain	
01/09/1917	Winter	WH	to be captain	
03/09/1917	James	ID	to be lieutenant	
03/09/1917	Lovering	CD	reverts to second	
			lieutenant	
10/09/1917	Mahir	EA	to be lieutenant	
17/09/1917	Lovering	CD	secondment ends	
21/09/1917	Roberts	RW	to be captain	
24/09/1917	Trumper	FA	reverts to lieutenant	
26/09/1917	Barnsley	HP	relinquishes commission	Volunteer Bn
26/09/1917	Reeve	RW	to be lieutenant	
26/09/1917	Williams	GJ		
27/09/1917	Nott	FT	captain with precedence	

### **HEREFORD**

Depot functions continue, including the administration of sick and wounded soldiers and those awaiting disciplinary procedures.

No direct enlistments into The Herefords are recorded.

Discharges consisted of a mixture of categories; those wounded and no longer fit for service, those ill and no longer fit for service, those failing their initial medical examinations. Thus there were men who had served at Gallipoli and the Middle East, soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalions and Supplementary Company. Some of those discharged were:

NAME	INIT	RANK	NO1	NO2	TERM	HOMETOWN	Notes
ALDONS	WILLIAM	PTE		237338	xvi SICK		14/15 star as 2214 7 Lanc Fus.attd 7 KSLI
BISHOP	ALBERT EDWARD	CPL	2656	235850	Xvi	Ruardean	
BROOKS	THOMAS	PTE		235836	AO265 17 2D		
BUCKLEY	LEONARD	PTE		237439	TO P(T) TF RES		14/15 star with Lanc Fus.
BUFFEY	JOHN	PTE		237638	XVI		
BUSHELL	HARRY	PTE		237523	xvi		
CALLAGHAN	JOHN	PTE		237367	xvia		
CARTWRIGHT	JOHN THOMAS	PTE	5520	237099	XVI	Wem	Prev Svc 5KSLI 9/8/14 - 29/10/14
DANN	PETER WEBBER	PTE		236966	xvi		
DOWLING	JOHN FRANCIS	PTE		237581	xvi		
DUCKWORTH	JOSEPH HENRY	PTE		237277	xvi		
DUNN	JAMES ANDREW	PTE		237519	xvi		
EMMOTT	ROBERT	PTE		237940	xvi		
FLITCROFT	JT	PTE		237216	xvi		
HANDS	RICHARD THOMAS	PTE		238124	xvi SICK		
HARRIS	HARRY	PTE	2225	238152	1B	Ross	Served Suvla Bay
HIGGIN	ALBERT HUDSON	PTE		237054	xvi		
HOLEHOUSE	FRANCIS SAMUEL	PTE		237639	xvi		
JAMES	ALBERT EDWARD	PTE		238804	2Bii		
JAMES	ERNEST WILLIAM	PTE		237193	xvi	Richmond	
JONES	HARRY SPENCER	PTE/SGT	415	235033	SICK	LEOMINSTER	Cook Sgt, served Suvla Bay
KEOGH	EDWIN	PTE		238832			
LYON	ERNEST	PTE		237384	xvi		
MARQUIS	THOMAS	PTE		236982	xvi		
MARSH	STANLEY	PTE		237520	xvi		
MCTIGUE	GREGORY	LCPL		238217	2B		
PILLING	HARRY	PTE		237315	xvi		
PORTER	WALTER ERNEST	LCPL		236753	2Cii		
PRICE	ALLEN	PTE		239323		MORDIFORD	
QUINN	Т	PTE		237079	Xv1		
RIDAY	WILLIAM HAROLD	PTE	5668	237214	XVI	WIGMORE	
SIMIN	WILLIAM	PTE		236969	xvi		

SMITH	EDWARD	PTE		237536	xvi		
SMITH	SIDNEY	PTE		238833	1B		
STEPHENS	WILLIAM EDWIN	PTE	1806	203997	XVI		
SUMNER	JAMES	PTE		238151	1B		
THOMPSON	JOHN EDWARD	PTE		237343	XVI		
WARD	ALFRED JOHN	PTE		237067	xvi		
WOOD	WF	PTE	2842		KIA		Medal named WARKS
WOOLLIAMS	RAYMOND	PTE	1980	235542	xvi	UPTON BISHOP	Att'd 4 KSLI, discharged 'wounds'. Served Suvla Bay
WREN	HUBERT	PTE		238211	2B		

xvi - unfit through either wounds or sickness

iiicc - unlikely to become an efficient soldier

timex - Territorial soldier whose time of commitment has expired.

There are many more soldiers discharged as unfit, prior to overseas service due to compulsory recruitment of all men.

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confirming this Seclaration. The "Rank," Statio	a," and "Date" should be in his own handwriting.
received by him, and will be forwarded by him, Chelsea, London, S.W.	together with the remainder of the man's documents, to the Secretary, Royal Hospital.
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Christian name of Mother	an
Wife's Maiden name in full Date and Place of Marriage	
Christian names of Children	
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Nature and locality of civil employme	nt desired Munition Tacrory.
I declare that I am the soldier referred	to above, and that all the particulars contained in the above Statement
are, to the best of my knowledge, correct.	
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Station Christdan	(Mank)
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### 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion

#### Casualties

NAME	INIT	RANK	No1	No2	DATE	WHERE	HOMETOWN	Notes (Serving with)
FOWLER	WILLIAM HENRY	PTE	2085	235590	08 Sep	IRAQ	GARWAY	As POW; served Suvla Bay
PINCHES	WALTER	PTE	3708	236361	25 Sep	IRAQ	KINGTON	As POW

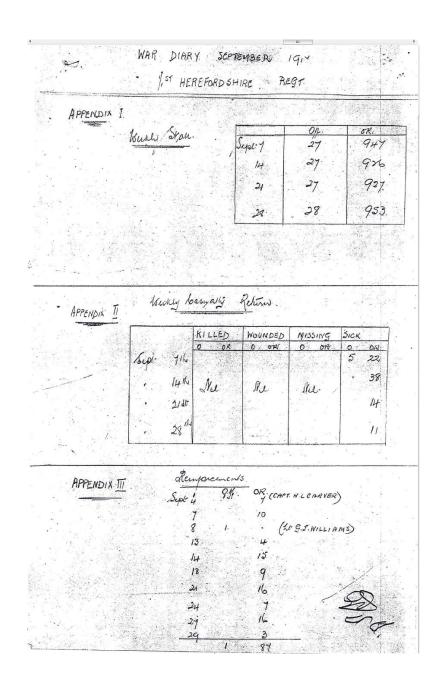
# PRISONER OF WAR.

Hereford Regt.—Ptc. G. H. Jones (235820), Wellington Court, Hereford (previously reported wounded and missing, now reported prisoner of war in Turkish hands).

# From The War Diary:

Date	Detail
1	Coy trg no 2 area. Capt WL Carver returned from hospital. Lts Linzell & Fraser to hospital.
2	Paade Service & Holy Communion
3	Coy trg no 2 area; Lt Col Drage from leave.
4	Coy trg; Lt Haynes to hospital. CO and Capt Whitehouse went on recce towards Beersheba.
5	Company route march, Bn in first stage of attack. Concert at YMCA, chair taken by CO. Maj
	Barker to hospital.
6	Coy route march; Bn night march on bearing in no 2 area; redeployment very good.
7	Coy route march; Bn in second stage of attack; no 2 area.
8	Bn had short range; 500 men fired grouping practice; 37 new Lewis gunners fired. Lt GJ
	Williams from hospital.
9	Sunday Parade Service at 1000hrs. Brig Gen HA Vernon DSO, Comd 158 Bde dined with
	officers.
10	Bde route march; breakfast out with 2 hours rest. Lt GC Williams to RFC on promotion.
11	Bn trg; redeployments
12	Coys anti-gas, physical & bayonet trg. Coys in no2 area; redeployments from various
	formations.
13	1200 - First Line tpt left for El Izraain, these left tea for Bn and proceeded to bivouac area
	about B32b5,8.
	1245 – Bn moved out of bivouac, joined Bde column at xing no2, and marched pas GOC 53
	Div. Bde marched to El Izraain, found tea ready 1645.
	1930 – Bn marched on a bearing to position in Welsh Wadi about B27 b 8,8 and took up
	outpost line; C & D Coys in line A & B and I sect MGC in support occupied 2128hrs ordered
	to withdraw 2320hrs. Bn withdrew to bivouac area B27 b 8,8 tea ready for Bn; water from
	Hesha, rations from Nuran.
14	Bn field firing on range about B15 c 9, 4, Individual firing range 300 yds, targets n bed of
	wadi; direction of fire – East. One man to England on compassionate leave.
15	0630 - 0930 - Bn collective firing Lewis Gun with platoons, battle practice; various ranges
	and practices.
	1400 – Bde concentrated in Welsh Wadi about B15a. 266 Bde RFA fired 150 shells, HE &
	shrapnel overhead at targets on Wadi bank about 400 yds firther on; 158 Coy MGC fired
	about 4000 SA t same target. Artillery fire 1 ½ minutes. MG fire 1 minute. Bn returned for
	bivouac for tea.
	1600 – First Line tpt left for Belah
	1845 – Bn moved to place of Bde concentration about B25 – A central. Bde marched back to
	Belah arriving 2340hrs. Fifty Lewis gunners and 40 ORs under Lts Conway & Horth remained
	for further firing on next day.
16	Sunday: Musketry party rejoined. Two verl slight showers of rain during night of only a few
	minutes duration.
17	Coy administration; A & B Coys inspected by CO – deficiencies etc noted and returns
	rendered. A Coy Lewis gunners under instruction by MGC for 1 hour.
18	Coy administration; C & D Coys inspected by Capt Whitehouse for CO. O, 8 Offrs, 12 Sgts and
	Bn Smoke Det proceeded to watch smoke attack by Bde of 74 Div, which did not take place
	owing to unfavourable weather. Second cholera inoculation continued during next 5 days.

19	Coy administration preparing classes for specialist training; night firing by Lewis guns on short range.
20	Bn manoeuvre day, marched to A29 b 2, 0 for breakfast, practiced attack on return.
21	Bde manoeuvres, BN as advance guard to Bde, together with A Bty 266 RFA/sect AMG Coy/sect 436 RE under CO closed and halted for breakfast atA20 b 4, 9. Bde practiced attack on position 1800yds further on. Conference for all officers by BGC
22	Bn individual trg. Officers & ORS to Zeitoun courses left Bn. Lt HR Horth ro act as A Adjt during absence of Lt EH Pochin.  Brigade sports; following prizes won by Battalion:  Tug of war  1st – Officers pick a back  3 <sup>rd</sup> – 220 yards  1 <sup>st</sup> - platoon sergeants 16 marching orders.  2 <sup>nd</sup> – individual sergeant.  2 <sup>nd</sup> – limbers complete for service.  1 <sup>st</sup> – bomb throwing.
23	Sunday Service and Holy Communion
24	Bn individual trg
25	Bn manoeuvre day, breakfast at A32 b 10, 8, practiced 2 <sup>nd</sup> and final stages of new attack practice.
26	Bn individual trg, CO and 4 officers, 12 sgts and Bn smoke detail proceeded to watch smoke attack by Bde of 74 Div.
27	Bn individual trg in bivouac area; snipers on short range.
28	Bn manoeuvre day, breakfast A36 d 8, 8, practiced attack under Capt Carver; CO umpire. Div Art Competition – 1 <sup>st</sup> prize won byBn team.
29	Bn individual trg – hasty shelters
30	Sunday Service 1000hrs Div Band attended – address by Lord Radsock.



The Battalion activity is well summed up in Sgt Colley's diary:

August, September and October were devoted to training of the hardest type. Dummy trenches were made and everything possible was done to obtain the right conditions of fitness possible. Everyone knew even back in Alexandria and Cairo that a general attack was being prepared – but very few knew the date.

# WAR ITEMS.

LETTER FROM MALTA.

Sergt. Thompson Cockcroft, R.E., sou of Mr. J. Cockcroft, city librarian, in a letter dated 29th Angust and received on Sunday last, says: "You will be surprised to hear that since I last wrote you I have met two more Herefordians, they being 2nd Lett. Raymond, 1st Herefordshire Regiment, and young Smith, who is in the medical branch of the Navy (whose people used to keep the Exchange Hotel. Hereford). As regards Phil Raymond, he was passing through here on a troopship on his way to Egypt, about six weeks ago, and he came ashore to look me up. but I was out, and didn't see him that evening. Anyhow, as he left word what boat he was on, I got leave the following morning for a couple of hours and went aboard the boat to see him. We had a long talk about the old city of Hereford and folks whom I used to know. His boat sailed the same afternoon. Now as regards young Smith, he has been here about a month, and is still here with his ship, the name or type of course I mustn't say. I met him at a whist drive which is held weekly by the Church Army here. I was carrying out the duties of M.C. We had some jolly good talks about various old school chums. I was able to tell him a few hits of news from the Hereford Times which he fidin't happen to know, including Raymond being an oilicer; also about a lot of Hereford fellows who were here in hespital, etc., in the time of the Dardanelles campaign. paign.

A few general photographs of soldiers of the Herefords:









# Maj ALB Green

Date	Detail
1 Sep	Slight sea on which made crutches a bit uncertain but not impossible. We are keeping out of
	sight of land.
2 Sep	Quite chilly this morning and enough sea on to make some think they were sick. Warmer and
	calmer toward evening. We entered the bay about 6pm.
3 Sep	Very quiet day crossing the bay only a slight swell on.
4 Sep	Dull grey day with some rain and rather cold and a bit of a roll. Sighted Lundy Light about 8pm.

5 Sep	Off Barry Docks at daybreak and got into Avonmouth at 10.00. Disembarked and left in hospital train at 5pm arriving Paddington at 8pm. Was sent to Lady Caernarvon's Hospital, Bryaanstone Square – very comfortable.
6 Sep	Dorothy came up having travelled all night from Tenby. She came in for short time in morning and again in afternoon.

Maj Green arrives in UK and further diary entries are not available

The 1st Volunteer Bn - Hereford (formerly the Volunteer Training Corps (VTC))

Life for the Volunteer Bn continued to be busy with regular parades and duties.



Platoon commanders will tender a return, not later than Sept. 6th, giving names of men in their respective platoons who will attend, and stating on which day they will do so.

N.C.O.'s and men proceeding to Ross will parade as under:—Saturday Sept. 8th. 1.15 p.m., Drill Hall, Hereford, Sunday Sept. 9th, 9.30 a.m., Nos. I and 2 Platoons, Drill Hall, Hereford, Sunday, Sept. 9th, 10.0 a.m., No. 3 Platoon Birch Schools, Dress; Drill order (with pouches).

(Signed) G. A. C. THYNNE, Capt.,

Commanding "A" Coy., H.V.R. Headquarters, Hereford.