

No 2170
Pte H. W.
34th Battalion
10th Infantry Brigade
AIF
Abroad

Sunday at Sea.

My dear Auntie Ellen

Just a line to say that I am well, although for nearly three days I was terribly sick, & most of the other lads were the same. but now I have gained my sea legs & can stand the rolling allright.

A big crowd came to the pier to see us off. & it looked very pretty to see the crowd waving flags & ribbons hanging from the boat as it pulled out.

Time passes fairly fast on board, we have a piano which was given for our use by the Y. M. C. A. & we have concerts twice a week. & preparations are being made now for sports to be held next week, the main events being boxing, wrestling, tag of war, treacle & bun competition ect.. Well Auntie I will now close with as I havent anything of interest to tell. No attraction only plenty of water & fish. With best love to all

From your loving nephew.

Harry Whitley

Hurdcott Camp
Salisbury Plains

Nov. 25th/11/16

Dear Auntie Ellen

Just a line to wish

you all a merry Xmas & a happy New Year. & to say that we landed safely after a good trip over.

after leaving Cape Town the only port we called at was Dakar a French Sea Port on the north western Coast of Africa. we did not stay there long they mounted a gun on the transport & we came straight away. When we got through the Bay of Biscay we were met by about a dozen gun boats & destroyers which escorted us in. It looked very nice to see them circling round the boat & one taking a zig zag course in front. we anchored inside the Plymouth harbour about 2 hours after dark, & they had about 8 powerfull search lights from the Drake Island Fort & other forts all playing on the water.

lighting it up for miles. The next morning we landed & had a 7 hours journey to Bovington Camp at Wood in the South of England. We stayed there a week, then came up here, it is a very good camp & only 7 miles from the City of Salisbury. We are getting four days leave next week. I am going home with Norman Seale an English Chap who came with me from Whitfield, so he will be able to show me round a bit.

I met a Chap named Tom Bowes who used to live on the battle land above Whitfield. Last night, he is over from France for 3 months spell. He looks very thin. I also met a Chap at Bovington Camp, who was in Gerald's Company in the 8th Battalion. He said Gerald was very popular with his men. I was well when he left. We are going to France &

III

think in a few weeks time, as I
may have a chance to see Gerald
then. The drill here is very stiff.
no 8 hours a day about it. they have
no drillings half the night at times.
well Auntie I will now close with
best love to Uncle & all the girls &
boys not forgetting yourself.

From your affec nephew

Harvey Whitley

address

No 2170

Pk 4 W.

37th Batt

10th Infantry Brigade

AIF

abroad

3rd London Genl
Hospital
Wandsworth
5/2/17

Dear Minnie

Just a line to thank
you for your nice Xmas Card, which I
received about a week ago. I sent an
enquiry from to Headquarters about my
mail, & last week I got 8 letters &
this week I got 4. They were fairly old
but still very interesting. I also
received a nice letter from Aunt Julia
saying that she had sent a parcel
but they would not send that back
from the front, owing to the roads being
in such a state. Well I am still
in hospital, but I hope to be sent
to Convalescent very soon. I got a
surprise yesterday I had written a
letter to my mate at the front, a
young scotch Chap who used to be
with Mrs Black (Muntwood) & I got
the letter back yesterday with (Killed

written on the envelope. It is terribly cold over here, it has been snowing off & on this last month. The bar told me it is the coldest winter since 1880, he is the Kings doctor Sir John Broadbent, the other day he brought Princess Mary from Russia in to see us, but she was a pretty Ancient.

Princess, I should say about 60, the only attraction was her lovely pearl earrings & costume, but she seemed very nice to speak to. A chap came in this ward the other day, he says.

he came over with the 5th Kings & I know Ken well. he said Ken & all the rest of the Batt, were on Railway Construction work, when he left them.

I suppose you have seen in the paper of the big explosion, which occurred in a Munition Factory here, it gave us a bit of a shaking here, although it was some miles away, it shook some of the windows out in the top floors, we thought at the time that it was another Zeppelin raid.

I am always supplied with Ans paper
by the Red Cross lady, I see by them
that you have had a terrible lot of
rain out there it would make it
bad for the harvest. Well Minnie
I will now conclude with best love
to Aunt Ellen, & Uncle John, Edie
& all the boys not forgetting yourself
From your Affec Cousin
Harry Whitty

3rd London General
Hospital
Wandsworth
Jan 16th 1914.

AUSTRALIAN BRANCH



B. R. C. S.

My dear Auntie

Just a line to say that I am back here in England again in hospital, I was only three weeks in France ~~France~~ ~~at the time~~, with a slight attack of pleurisy & was admitted to Hospital at Etaples in France & finally sent back here, it was a dreary journey too we could not sail from Boulogne through a ship being sunk at the entrance to the harbour. & we had to go right down to Le Harve in a very

slow train. we were put on the train at 11.30 A.M. on the Friday & it was 6.30 A.M. Saturday when we reached Le Harve, we were put on the Hospital ship there & sailed in to South Hampton Harbour that evening, & anchored for the night, next morning we were put on the train & sent there, This is a lovely big hospital, there are 1800 patients here altogether. It was built in the time of the Crimean war, for the soldiers & sailors orphans, & then they used it as soldiers hospital the time of the Boer war, & is used for the same purpose now. we have a big Concert hall attached where London artists give entertainments nearly every night. & the London people take the boys out in cars all over London, I am looking forward to a

good time when I am allowed out. I have
3 nice ladies to see me twice a week & they
bring me fruit, lollies, & Cigarettes & never seem
to think they can do enough, I can tell you it
is jolly nice, when a fellow is so far from his
own friends, One of these ladies lost her three
sons in France. an Australian Red Cross lady calls
once a week, & leaves the Australian papers, I got the
Argus. Australasian. Leader & Bulletin they were dated
Nov 10th although old they were very interesting, this
lady is a Miss Henry Sister-in-law to Archbishop Armstrong
& knows Warragatta well & the King river, she knew the
Howards & Gerald Anderson at Chestnut. I met several
boys I knew in France (Jack Bowen Mafku) Roman

McCormick (Carbon) & Jack Bartrop from King Valley
he is a brother of Mrs Tom Jones. Well Auntie Ellen I
will now close with Best love to Uncle John, Minnie &
Eddie & all the boys not forgetting yourself

From your affec nephew

Harry Whitley

No 2170

Pte H.W.

37th Battalion

10th Infantry Brigade

A.I.F.

Abroa