

DIARY 1914 - 1918
ROBERT SAYLE BARCLAY.

Feby 10th 1915 Censed duty P.O. S.T.W.

STARTED TRAINING Broadmeadows 12th.

After one month in Infantry was transferred to Signal School, one month Signal School then allotted to No.4 Brigade Section 6th Brigade (1st Reinforcements)

3.6.15 At last we have got away. Left Broadmeadows 12 noon 3rd June embarked "Port Macquarie" 2p.m. with No.3 Section and Naval Bridging Train. The gates at pier were not opened for the public causing great indignation amongst the boys.

Anchored about one mile away for night. Got away at 9a.m. next morning and passed "Heads" about noon. Pilot took back mail bag to O'cliff, included one card for home.

Everybody hungry. Am eating all the day. Boat beginning to rock a treat.

M&T Charlie Wright of the N.B.T.

Expect some rough weather soon, then for some fun. Am getting giddy already. Slept well in hammock.

Monday 7/6/15 Cape Otway passed Friday. Last of Vic. Missed Adelaide. Had some rough weather Sunday. Getting into Bight now. Am missing my meals. Crowds of the boys are very bad. Was on duty Sunday on the Bridge from midday till 4p.m. and from midnight till 4a.m. Very rough weather and boat rocking. Loafing about today (Monday) feel too tired to do anything.

Wednesday 9.6.15 Good weather yesterday (Tuesday). Appointed permanent guard for rest of voyage. Means four hours on duty and twelve off. Sleep broken but otherwise good job. Tuesday was on 3a.m. till midday and from midnight till 4a.m. Wednesday. Cold on top deck early this morning and got to bed at 4.30a.m.. Guard misses all parades so dodged inspection and have now found a quiet corner. Passed two boats last night miles to South about 9.30p.m. In distance to North can see two high peaks, am told it is Breaksea Islands which are South of Albany.

Going about 10 knots most of the time. Due West.

Most of the boys feeling fit again. Am eating meals myself and had a smoke, for the first time for three days, this morning.

Grand up here this morning am right at stern off boat. Birds have

BEEN WITH BOAT EVER SINCE leaving Pt. Melbne.

Boat sailing to South of usual track, am told, so see only a few other vessels. Saw Brecksea Is. at daylight and from then till dark passed near what I was told was the South Coast of W.A. Consisted of high range of hills. Just at dark saw reflection of lighthouse at Cape Leewin which we passed during night. First concert held tonight on mess deck.

Thursday 10/6/15. Have passed Cape Leewin during night and now going S x N.W. across Indian Ocean.

Boys have half holiday to do washing etc.

Tuesday 15/6/15. Since Thursday have been going N.W. Passed into Tropics yesterday. Now getting some warm weather. Had a concert on Saturday night and Church Service on Sunday. Have been living on biscuits for days but got tired of them; now eating chocolate. Unable to take to food on board. We are not on usual route so no other boats seen.

Shortage of flour and fresh water on board so warned to be careful of same. My washing day today.

Thursday 17/6/15. Still going N.W. Fine weather. Had three meals today so am feeling much better. Very warm. Got an idea of tropical rains tonight. Flying fish very interesting.

Saturday 19/6/15. Still going N.W. Good calm weather although getting very warm. Sleeping up on deck as it is too warm below. Am feeling O.K. now.

Monday 21/6/15. Changed course last night, now going N.E. am told for Colombo. Tropical rains. Expect to cross "line" in a couple of days.

22/6/15. Saw steamer away in distance to E. about 9.30a.m. Very hot today. Have posted letters. Hope they will be cut off at Colomba.

23/6/15. Crossed "line" about 9p.m. last night, and today went through usual "Father Neptune" business. Started 2p.m. today "Neptune" and about a dozen others of the Train dressed up. On the boat deck a canvas bath was placed about 8' x 8' x 4' filled with water. All of us who had not previously crossed the line had to go through the performance. Brought before the "Court" and given "medicine" and then the Order of the Bath" was the sentence. Then rushed to the "bath", made to sit on a stool and then suddenly upset into the water.

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clothes and all. Once in the water three of the men ducked me under several times and then sent me out of it. There was no getting out of it. Very amusing. Now all the "clothes" lines on the boat are full. Have got off the guard work now, am pleased to say. The others have to take a turn at it.

Thursday 24th June. Came in sight of land at 2p.m. today and anchored at Colombo at 3p.m. "Ajano" followed. A lot of other large boats in harbour. Letters sent to P & O boat which then left for Aust. Plenty of rumours on board. Martial law proclaimed in Colombo owing to trouble there.

Expect to leave for Bombay any minute now, where, I am told, the horses are to be put off. A few local papers brought on board but have not read one yet. The usual diving for coins by the Singalese boys. Got away at 10.30p.m.

Friday 25/6/15. Following the coast of India all today. Boat on either side of us. Can see land on Starboard side also lighthouse. Very mild tonight. Had a kit inspection today. Got sunburnt today, my arms, legs and neck very sore.

Monday 28/6/15. Same course on Saty and Sunday. Sunday was roughest day we have had. Very amusing at dinner time. Everything and everybody falling on deck. Got into Bombay harbour today 3p.m.. Anchored half a mile from shore. Scores of other boats in harbour. Hope to get into City tomorrow.

Tuesday 29/6/15. Anchored in dock today. Horses put off. Lost about eighty on voyage. Got off for a couple of hours today and had a look around the city. Has been 25 ins. of rain within a week so place is very wet. Had a jolly good feed though.

Received terrible cable today about Clara. Has been waiting for me for four days.

2/7/15 Friday. Cut in Bombay harbour yesterday and today. Have taken on water and coal.

Tuesday 6/7/15. Left harbour Saturday morning. Did not get off the boat again. Great indignation meeting held aft on Friday night re leave on shore. Applications sent in from all; but C.O. said he has no authority to grant leave.

Since leaving Bombay have been going West. Good weather but shipping

HEAVY SEAS. Much better without horses but still work for all.
Burial at Sea (Donkey man).

Brought "Times of India" on board. Only a second rate paper. From June 1st to June 26th 29 inches rain in Bombay.

Full dress parade today. Very warm with all on.

Thursday 8/7/15. Still making for Aden. Strong wind against us but cool. Shipping heavy seas.

Sunday 11/7/15. Passed Aden last night and this morning had a good look at forts on coast of Arabia and Perim. Going towards "Hell's Gate", the entrance to Red Sea and it is very warm. Sea very calm and light breeze. Missed Church Parade (now on). Am put on guard again from today. Had a very interesting lecture with Chaplin last night on his experiences in Boer War.

The first war news received yesterday and posted up.
Petrol ship passed by last night.

Monday 12/7/15. Going up Red Sea now. Passed some islands last night and some lighthouses, also few boats. Water very blue and packed with fish, sharks etc. Water very calm but slight breeze tonight.

Tuesday 13/7. Signalling to battle cruiser early this morning. Passed several boats during day. Glimpse of land on port side. Getting ready to leave boat.

Thursday 15/7. Red Sea. Very remarkable coast line. High Mtn. peaks of bare rock both sides. Anchored at Suez 10p.m.

Friday 16/7. On duty bridge from 4am to 8a.m.. All Signallers ready to disembark. N.B.T. So go on to Eng.? Very warm. Left "Pt. Macquarie" 3p.m. entrained at 5.20p.m. and kept along side canal for some time then West. Desert all way along. Passed through many small stations. Changed trains at Ismailia. Ismailia, Zara Zig, and Benha Station large cities. Arrived Cairo at 11.30p.m. and left here at mid-night for camp at Helminah. Slept on table.

Sunday 18/7/15. Came over to camp at Heliopolis Saturday morning. Had dinner then went into Cairo. Had a good look around and returned at 10p.m. Today Church Parade. Visited Citadel and Mosques today. Gardens for tea and the Concert there (Dragoon's Military Band). Met Creswick boys. Very good climate.

Tuesday 20/7/15. All material to hand now so starting work. One letter to hand last night.

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Sunday 25/7/15. Have settled down to work. Everything going O.K.
Wednesday 23/7/15. Put all night work Monday. Left 5p.m. with all
gear and walked out to Station. Returned next morning 11a.m.
Do same work tonight with 2/3 Bn.

Tuesday 3/8/15. Went to rifle butts last Friday morning at Abbysia.
Did some shooting & phone work then returned Saturday night.
Had a good look at Pyramids on Sunday (inside & out).

Saturday 14/8/15. Moved from Aerodrome Camp last Wednesday. Now
camped at 2nd Div. Hqrs, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away. We are now formed in
section, No. 3 Section, 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Co.

Fifth Bde sigs leaving for front today.

Sunday 29/8/15. Left Helicopolis & entrained at Helmich at 10.20 pm.
Arrived 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours later at Alexandria. Got on boat at 5 am on 30th Aug.
Black kit bag and contents left with Cook & Sons, Cairo for storage.

Sunday 5th Sept. Left Alexandria on transport Southland Monday
afternoon & took zig zag course towards Lemnos. Good trip Tuesday &
Wednesday. Fine weather and nothing to do.

On Thursday (2nd Sept.) I was on deck with rifle ready for inspection
at 10 am. At 9.50 am torpedo struck boat on port side. I watched
periscope for a few minutes when our 4.7 fired & it disappeared.

Whistle blew to abandon boat I then went to No. 3 boat & put rifle in
rail. I took off boots and hung them on rifle. Order given to get into
boat which was lowered safely. We then pushed off & after three hours
were picked up by a sea plane boat BEN-MY-Chree. Thanks to wireless
about a dozen boats were seen about us. The first was a hospital ship
then the Ben-my-Chree, then war boats, submarines & transports.

We were then taken to the Bay of Mudos (Lemnos Is) & transhipped to
H.M.T. Transsylvania. Bay full of transports & war boats of every
description.

Am none the worse for experience.

Hear about thirty lost & few drowned but most lives lost on boat.
There is a hole on port side of boat 23' x 32' & on starboard side,
three small holes. The boat which was only three hours steam off this
Bay was brought in & beached. Friday, Sat. & Sun. our kits were
brought over. Many articles missing. Posted card home today.
Monday 6th Sept. Supplied with ammunition & iron rations today.

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GALLIPOLI ↓

Tuesday 7th. Transhipped and left Bay 4 pm arrived at Anzac midnight.
Slept on beach.

Wednesday 8th Went up gully to our home. Now in Dug-out on side of hill.
Friday 10th Sept. Working on phone. Cooking for ourselves
Thursday 30th Sept. Phone.

Sunday 10th Oct Everything OK.

Sunday 31st Oct (Do)

Thursday 25th Nov (Do). Very cold weather

Sunday Nov 28th. Heavy snow storm.

Lemnos Is. 21st Decr. '15. Ready to leave Anzac Saty & Sunday.
All wires cut at 11 pm. Sunday at old office, then moved to Reinforcement Camp office. Left here at 2.30 am Monday 20th. Embarked then came around here.

First night rain & camp in bad state.

GALLIPOLI ↑

Xmas Eve. Everything going OK. Pudding & Xmas billy to hand.
Met CW of NBT today.

Xmas Day (Saty 25th 1915)

EGYPT ↓

1916

Good weather. Had a walk through native village.

Embarked on Ascanius on Tuesday Jan. 4th left following morning ^{about}
arrived Alexandria Friday morning. Good trip. Waited on boat/about 2000 then entrained for Camp at TEL-E - KEBIR arriving about 0330 Saturday. It was raining at Alexandria and also here so ground too wet to sleep on and no tent available.

Sunday 9th Jan. Moved to Divl. Hqrs last night, still no tents.
Lovely weather today but ground still too wet.

Mail delivered OK. Cable sent home.

Wednesday 26th Jan. Left Tel-El-Kebir Camp 1 am Tuesday entrained & arrived Ismailia just before daylight then marched across Canal to camp situated about a mile away.

Friday 28th Jan. Left Camp & marched out & across desert to present camp about nine miles from Canal.

Saturday 19th Feb. Had a trip to Cairo Thursday & met Dave.
Saturday 4th Mar. Trip to Cairo.

Tuesday 7th Mar. Left desert slept night at Staging Camp.

Wednesday 8th Mar. Arrived MOASCAR Camp midday.

Tuesday Mar 14th. Left Moascar 2300 arrived by train at Alexandria 0300.

Wed 15/3/16. Had a look around city and got aboard the Themistocles 1300. Left Alexa 1730.

Sunday Mar 19th. Called at Malta.

1st tour FRANCE

Tuesday Mar 21st. Arrived at Marseilles 3 pm. Good trip across.

Wednesday Mar 22nd. Disembarked and entrained left Marseilles 1130 Passed through Orange, Valence, Lyons and within 15 miles of Paris, then north to Thermes arriving 2030 Friday 57 hours train journey. All day Friday passed through snow. Slept Thermes night, then marched through Aire to Lambres about five mile walk. Billeted in stable. Cold & wet.

Sunday 26th March. Church Parade.

Wednesday 29th Mar/ Arrived Roquetoire .

Sunday 2nd Apr. Day off visited Aire.

Monday 3rd Apr. Left Roquetoire 0930 Motor bus arrived Fluebaix 1600. Tues. Wed. & Thurs went over lines.

Left Fluebaix 8 pm Friday 28th April & arrived at Erquinghem 9 pm Left Erquinghem 11 am Saturday 17th June & arrived English Farm, about one mile from Neuve Eglise (Belgium) 12.30 pm.

Left English Farm Thursday evening 6th July and arrived Neuve Eglese. Left Neuve Eglese 4 pm Saturday 8th July and arrived Steenwerck OK 6.30 pm.

Sunday afternoon went to Erquinghem arrived back Steenwerck 10.30 pm Monday 10th July left Steenwerck 10 am & arrived at Strazelle 4.30 pm. Tuesday 11th July left Strazelle 9.30 am & arrived Renescure 5 pm. Wednesday 12th July left Renescure 11.30 am & arrived St Omer 2.15 pm entrained here & left 5 pm passing through Calais & Boulange & arrived - ? Rly Stn about two miles? west of Amiens 3.30 pm following morning. Thursday 13th July marched through Amiens, leaving Rly Stn 4.30 am, & arrived Vaux-en-Amienois 10 am. Friday 14th July left Vaux-en-Amienois 10 am and arrived St Sauveur 11 am. Rejoined 6th. Saturday 15th July. Helping cook.

Sunday 16th July left St Sauveur 10 am & arrived Rainneville 3 pm.

Tuesday 18th July left Rainneville 10.15 am & arrived Puchevillers 4 pm.

Thursday 20th July left Puchevillers 8.30 am & arrived Varennes 11.30 am

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Wednesday 26th July left Varennes 5 am & arrived Albert 9 am. Leaving tanks. Left Albert 7 pm 26th & marched to Sausage Gully H/qrs (6th Bde) arriving 9 pm then a few of us went up to advanced Signal office near Chalk Pit & about half a mile from Poizeres. Seven days here (Holl from a box seat). Gas shells, tear shells, shrapnel & 5.9 HE's. H E L L.

Wednesday 2nd Aug. Left for Sausage Gully,

Sunday 6th Aug. Left here & marched ½ mile to Tara Hill arriving about 10 pm. Got in a trench to get a few hours rest but Fritz made it too hot so sent off hurriedly & got back to Albert 5 am Monday.

Monday 7th Aug. Left Albert 11 am & marched to Warloy arriving 3 pm.

Thursday 10th Aug. Left Warloy 1.30 pm & marched about a mile up the road, lined up and King George passed 3 pm. Another twelve miles march & arrived at Levicogne 8.30 pm.

Friday 11th Aug. Left Levicogne 10.30 am & marched ten miles through Canaples to Bertheaucourt les Dames arriving 4.30 pm.

Friday 13th Aug. Left Bertheaucourt les Dames 10 am & arrived Levacogne 3 pm.

Saturday 19th Aug. Left Levacogne 8.30 am & arrived Herrisart 11.30 am

Sunday 20th Aug. Left Herrisart 9.30 am & arrived Vadencourt noon.

Monday 21st Aug. Left Vadencourt 12.30 pm & biked to Albert 2 pm

Tuesday 22nd Aug. 8th Btn relieved. Met boys of MG section & informed Dick killed on previous Saturday (19th Aug) wisbang. Left Albert 2 pm & arrived Sausage Gully 4 pm.

Sunday 27th Aug. Left Sausage Gully & arrived back at Albert 3 pm.

Monday 28th Aug. Left Albert 9 am & arrived Warloy 11.30 am. Wet.

Tuesday 29th Aug. Left Warloy 9 am & Arrived Herrisart 11.30 am.

Wednesday 30th Aug. Left Herrisart 7 am & biked to Feiffes. Wet.

Sunday 3rd Sept. Left Feiffes 8 am. & arrived Gazeincourt (1.9 kilo from Doulling) 10.30 am. Wet.

Tuesday 5th Sept. Left Gazeincourt 5.30 am & marched to Doulling arrived 6.30 am. Entrained & left 7.40 am passed through Marles & Hazelbruck & arrived Proven 2.30 pm. Then marched through Poperinghe to St. Lawrence Camp about two miles East of Poperinghe.

Sunday 17th Sept. Biked to Fleurbaix, Sailly. Met Dave & slept Erquinghem. Stayed Erquinghem Monday & returned Tuesday morning

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to St Lawrence Camp.

Sunday 15th Aug. Left St. Lawrence Camp 10.45 am motor lorry & arrived Ypres 12 pm then walked to Hqrs., Railway Dugouts.

Thursday 19th Oct. Left Ry Dugouts 11.30 am & marched to Ry 3tn Rms, then entrained & arrived Ry Jtn Godewaerbeek 3.30 pm, then marched to Steenvoorde arriving 5 pm.

Sunday 22nd Aug. Left Steenvoorde 10 am & marched thro Cassel arriving Armentie 3 pm.

Left Armentie 3.30 pm & marched to Bapaume arrived at 6.30 pm. (15 miles)

Tuesday 24th Oct. Left Bapaume 11.30 am & marched to St. Omer arrived 2.30 pm. Entrained & left 4 pm passed thro Calais, Boulogne & Abbeville & arrived Longue Ry 3tn 2cm Hmds, 25th then marched to Bruay arrived 6.30 pm.

Thursday 26th Oct. Left Bruay 8.30 am & marched two miles then taken in motor bus through Amiens to Ribemont arrived here at 4 pm & then marched two miles to Baire about five miles South of Albert.

Friday 3rd Nov. Left Baire 9.45 am. & marched passed near Albert on to Mametz Wood arriving 3 pm.

Saturday 4th Nov. Left Mametz Wood 11.40 pm & marched to Dde H.Q. about one mile from Flers arriving 5 pm. Then advanced party went on to "A.P." first advanced Sig. Office at Flers arriving about 9 pm.

Wednesday 22nd Nov. Left "A.P." 5.30 pm & arrived B.H.Q. 6.15 am then left with party 7 am & marched about two miles to Railroad, entrained & came to Ry Siding then marched to Dourancourt arriving 11.30 pm.

Thursday 23rd Nov. Much needed bath.

Friday 24th Nov. Trip to Amiens.

Wednesday 30th Nov. Left Dourancourt 9 am on bike with transport and arrived Frenvillers 1 pm.

Thursday 1st Dec. Left Frenvillers 8 am. on bike and arrived Flesselles 1 pm.

Sunday 17th Dec. Left Flesselles 7 am. & marched to Ry 3tn. Waited two hours for train then returned to billets. Left again 1.30 pm. entrained & left 4.40 pm. Through Amiens to Siding near Baire then marched back to Ribemont arriving 8.5 pm.

Wednesday 20th Dec. Left Ribemont 8.40 am & marched to Fricourt Farm

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DAILY

Arriving 12.30 pm.

Friday Dec 22nd. Left Fricourt Farm 12 noon & marched to D.H.Q. at Quarry then on to B.H.Q. at Waterloo Farm then advanced to advanced ~~Rust~~ Station arriving about 4 pm.

Saturday Dec 23rd. Have taken over position from No.4 Sect. 5th D.S. Coy. Wet & cold. Bally, bread & tea for three weeks. Water taken out of shell hole. Quiet.

Sunday 24th Dec. Went over lines this morning. Menu same as yesterday. Game of euchre tonight.

Monday Decr. 25th Xmas Day. Patrolled lines. Bacon & tea for breakfast. Steak & onions for dinner Xmas pudding for tea. Quiet. 1917 Sunday Jan 7th. Quiet day so went back to B.H.Q. to enquire about leave. While there Div. rang up for me to collect leave pass at D.H.Q. Returned to TP for clothes and arrived D.H.Q. 3 pm. Leave pass OK. Slept D.H.Q.

Monday Jan 8th. Left D.H.Q. (Bournafay Wood) 7 am & arrived Albert 11.30 a.m.

Tuesday Jan 9th. Entrained and left Albert 2 am. Slow journey, very cold. Snowing.

Wednesday Jan 10th. Arrived at Rest Camp Havre 4 pm. & left 10 pm marched to boat.

Thursday 11th Jan. Left Havre 2 am boat & arrived Southampton 9 am entrained & arrived Waterloo 12 noon. Marched to Horsecross Ferry Road & got a fixed up.

Friday evening "A Misleading Lady" at The Playhouse. Alert War Chest.

Friday 12th Jan. Looking around. Left Buxton 1.15 pm for Glasgow arriving 11.30 pm. Slept at Popular Hotel, Holm St,

Saturday 13th Jan. Went to Hillhead & Wings Theatre for High Jinks.

Sunday 14th Jan. Visited Hillhead & to Church in evening.

Monday 15th Jan. Visited Grants Munition Factory, Glasgow Cathedral & Art Gallery. Tea at Hillhead Pictures.

Tuesday 16th Jan. Left Glasgow 11.35 am & arrived Edinburgh 1.50 pm. Went to Forth bridge & "Oh Caesar" at the Lyceum.

Wednesday 17th Jan. Went to Holyrood Palace & Edinburgh Castle, also round about Leith in taxi. Left Waverley Stn 10 pm.

D.M. 12.

Thursday 13th Jan. overslept passed Doncaster & arrived London 7:30 AM
CAUGHT TRAIN 8:45 AM AND ARRIVED LINCOLN
12:30 pm. stayed at Gracebridge. Visited Cathedral etc.

Saturday 15th Jan. Left Lincoln 1:15 pm & arrived London 2:15 pm. Slept our chest.

Sunday 21st Jan. Left Waterloo 5th 3:20 pm & arrived Southampton then on boat across to Havre.

2nd Tour of FRANCE ↓

Monday 22nd Jan. Left boat 7:30 am & marched to Rest Camp.

Tuesday 23rd Jan. Leville 3:15 pm. Marched to Ely 5th & left about 7 pm.

Wednesday 24th Jan. Arrived Libomont 6 am. & rejoined unit.

Monday 29th Jan. Left Libomont 11 am & marched to Bocourt Camp arrived 3:30 pm.

Thursday 1st Feb. Left Bocourt Camp 4 pm & marched to Shelter Wood Camp arrived 4:30 pm.

Sunday 4th Feb. Walked through Contalmaison & Pozieres & back thro' Sausage Valley.

Monday 5th Jan. Left Shelter Woods 11 am & arrived S.H.A. Hurtinwich 1 pm.

Thursday 22nd Feb. Went to Lower Dinner School at Bricourt.

Tuesday 27th Feb. Returned to S.H.A. then came to Le Bars near e Bars.

Thursday Mar 1st. Moved to Hexham Rd. then to cement house near Ely 5th. then back to Middle Cutting.

Saturday Mar 17th. Moved to Milt French near Le Coupe Goule.

Sunday Mar 18th. Moved to Bapaume.

Wednesday Mar. 21st. returned to Le Coupe Goule.

Thursday Mar 22nd. Walked to Basintni for bath.

Monday Mar. 26th. Left La Coupe Goule 10:30 am & marched to Monitz Camp arrived 4 pm.

Friday Mar 30th. Left Monitz Camp & marched to Bocourt Camp.

Sunday April 3th (Buster Sunday). T.A.B.

Friday April 13th. Left Bocourt Camp 8:45 am & marched thro' Pozieres, Le Bars, Bapaume & camped about a mile N.E. of Bapaume.

Saturday April 14th. Marched thro' Vaulx to Cutting near Horicoul arriving about 11 pm.

Sunday Apr. 15th. Attack by Fritz on right.

Sunday Apr 22nd. Returned to camp near Bocognatre. Good weather.

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Tuesday May 1st. Returned to Noricul.
Wednesday May 2nd. Left cutting 10 am & went to Rly embankment.
Thursday May 3rd. "Up over". Took wire up to Hindenburg Support line.
Friday May 4th. Return to Noricul.
Monday May 7th. Left Noricul 10 pm & walked to Vailly then motor lorry to Bapaume.
Tuesday May 8th. Walked to Biefvillers then to Faverul then thro Bapaume agn to Camp near Martinpuich.
Wednesday May 9th. Marched to Mametz Camp.
Thursday 17th May. Marched to Marloy.
Friday 15th June. Left Marloy 9.30 am & marched to Varennes, entrained & left 7.30 pm & arrived Bapaume, then marched to camp near Le Transloy arrvg. 1130 pm.
Wednesday 4th July. Still near Le Transloy. No signs of moving yet. Decided to post this book home per R. Donaldson who goes on leave to England tomorrow.
Am in the best of health.

(Signed) I. S. Barclay.