

Letters from Private Cyril Buckler to his family

From Cyril Buckler to William Buckler (Father)

24 Jan 1916

*Dear Will, I should have been off duty from today but I got no word from the D.P.M.G. They asked me a day or so ago when I wanted to get leave, so I said from the 24th January. That would give me a week at home. I also want to take a run up to Bright before I go. Was going to get into Seymour camp of the 1st February but maybe a little later now. I would have been there long ago only Mum did not like me leaving the P.O but one has to do his bit as well as the rest. Camped out fishing Saturday night and got a nice lot (about 12 lbs). Am sending you a photo of Claude Deam and myself. We got them taken in plain clothes in case we would not be able to get them in uniform. Just fancy I will be 20 tomorrow night*

From Cyril Buckler to Sidney Buckler (Brother)

13 Jul 1916

*Sid just a note to say I am doing well over here. Have just come out of the trenches after being in for a fortnight. It wasn't too bad in there but they used to make it a bit of a hurry up now and again. I didn't like their iron factories flying about my old head. It will do me if the next place we go is the same. Our blokes used to give Fritz about 3 times as much as he sent over to us. It was great fun watching his trenches go up in the air. I was lucky about the second day in. A damned big piece of shell came down a bonser on the steel helmet. It was just as well it never had much force or it would have been, "Good-day". Must ring off now. P.S. Just had a letter from Will. Will be into it again in the next few days I think*