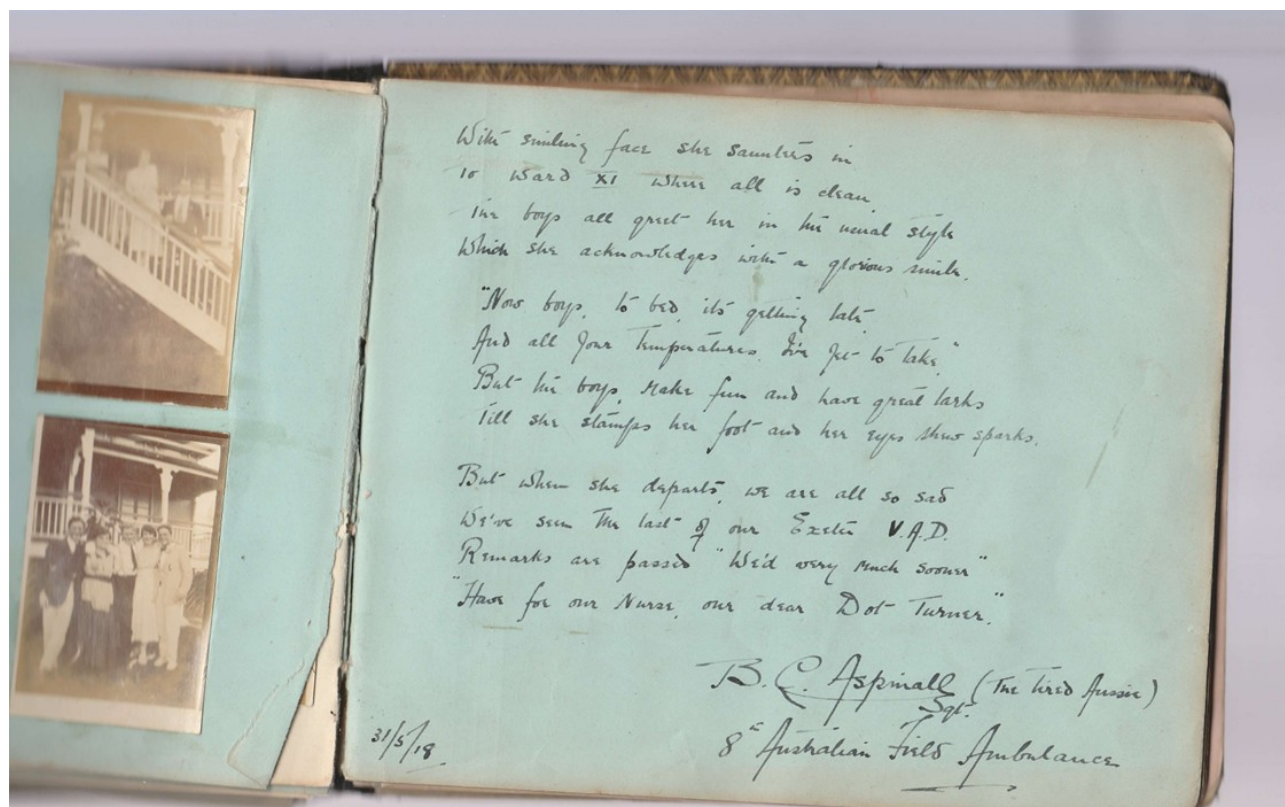


Brian Cyril Aspinall 6608

My grandmother, Dorothy Turner, (later Martin) was a VAD nurse at an Exeter Hospital during the First World War and kept an autograph book that was signed by many of the soldiers she looked after.

One of those soldiers was Brian Aspinall.



This is Brian's contribution to my Granny Martin's book:

'With smiling face she saunters in
To Ward XI when all is clean
The boys all greet her in the usual style
Which she acknowledges with a glorious smile

'Now boys, to bed, it's getting late
And all your temperatures I've yet to take
But the boys make fun and have great larks
Til she stamps her foot and her eyes shoot sparks

But when she departs we are all so sad
We've seen the last of our Exeter V.A.D.
Remarks are passed 'We'd very much sooner
Have for our Nurse, our dear Dot Turner.'

B. C Aspinall Sgt (The Tired Aussie)
8th Australian Field Ambulance
31.05.1918

On the 23rd of April Brian had been severely gassed and was admitted into the 20th Casualty Clearing Station at Vignacourt.

He was then transferred to the 6th General Hospital in Rouen 2 days later and owing to the severity of the gas poisoning, he was evacuated to England on the 5th of May and admitted into the Red Cross War Hospital in Exeter where he spent nearly four weeks.