

**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/35/3

**Title:** 18th Infantry Battalion

October 1915



AWM4-23/35/3



18th Battalion A.I.F.  
Oct. 1915

Oct. 1st. 6th Bty. F.A. arranged to drop shells on road to Chunak Bair tonight at 5 sec. intervals. Pointed out 3rd M.G. over shaft. Arranged for 17th Siege to fire on M.G. 'Jacko' still at work.

Oct. 2nd. At 0430 heard Pope's shouting out 'Stand to Arms'. 17th Siege fired on Chessboard but did not shift guns. Six inch shells fell on our post at Monash Gully. Second in Snipers Jay 3rd. A few yards to my left into dug-out, one on Latrines &

(The original of above appears on the same sheet as entries for previous month and will be found with the diary for that month).

2 others on Todd Rd. <sup>18th</sup> saw movement of  
Lurks to left - (about 19 in Party) at 1800.

Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>  
0005 Yesterday we broke through to Lurk's  
gallery & found the blow had been successful.  
Very warm today - nothing much doing.

Oct 4<sup>th</sup> Artillery duel at 0900 to 0940. 75's & coal  
bates. no damage reported.

Oct 5<sup>th</sup> very quiet today

Oct 6<sup>th</sup> sent party to trench - report 12 Lurks  
there in small section. everything  
very quiet all night.

Oct 7<sup>th</sup> Beattie Byrne, Paine promoted 10<sup>th</sup> Lt. Roper  
to Capt & Wether to Major. Everything quiet all day.  
Just heard report that Lurks now  
using gases. (report since denied)  
a few wounded.

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 75 got to our no 2 Post - wounded 4  
men in one hit - one man dead.  
Rained a little. Lurks fired wildly  
for 1/2 hr at the wind.

Oct 9<sup>th</sup> Storm last night wrecked Anzac.  
Boats, wharf, stores etc on beach.  
New firing line nearly complete.  
Only 1/2 gallow water for some time now. Near

only 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  days supply <sup>18<sup>th</sup> Bn</sup> here.

- Oct 10<sup>th</sup> Bully beef had another visit from the 70<sup>th</sup>.  
Broke one man's leg with sandbag.  
Ray came along today. Hear that two  
spies are at work along our front.  
Hew orders out promoting Bloomfield  
to 1st Lieut. My app<sup>nt</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Bn to date 22/8/15  
Over at Hill to Turk's lost direction  
blew up their own trench.
- Oct 11<sup>th</sup> Sent officers down to 18<sup>th</sup>. Took Turk  
down to crater to coat others over. No good.
- Oct 12<sup>th</sup> In afternoon met Sir Ian Hamilton  
who went through benches.
- Oct 13<sup>th</sup> In bed ill (getting worse since  
Sept 29<sup>th</sup>) Turk's tried to blow us up  
New firing line opened
- " 14<sup>th</sup> X
- " 15<sup>th</sup> Moved to 5<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance.
- " 20<sup>th</sup> plenty of birds about, heavy shelling.
- 21<sup>st</sup> very windy all day & night.
- 24<sup>th</sup> geese flying overhead today.  
Turk's fired 26 shells at one spot -  
near Bonaeville - no damage but cut wires



18pm

- Oct 25<sup>th</sup> Beautiful day. Atmosphere very clear.  
 Lt Ferguson back last night. Feel much  
 better today - getting up for 15 minutes.  
 Blew a mine at Russel Top last night  
 but not a great success formed a crater.
- Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Very cold. A lot of shelling going on  
 just now. A bomb put 13<sup>th</sup> MG out of  
 action last night no one hurt. Heavy  
 firing from seaward all day.
- Oct 27<sup>th</sup> Close & Windy, very heavy firing all day.
- Oct 28<sup>th</sup> Very close - had had turn tonight.
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup> Close & dull. Explosion up Wagon  
 Gully. Lt Thom killed along with 30 others
- 30<sup>th</sup> x
- " 31<sup>st</sup> Over 50 large bombs on R. Top last night.  
 It injured. Very windy night.