

Brian Osborne - Journey to Gallipoli

1st November 1915

My darling mother

I received your three letters from home with great joy, and as you asked me to let you know how I got on board the boat I will tell you.

On a Thursday morning the Regiment set out at about 4am to go on Active Service in the army. I came too, so that I could bid them goodbye. As the train sailed out of Canterbury, I was pulled in by many hands. So then I was in the train, much to my delight and fear of being caught. I was unhappily underneath the seat with my head on a rifle, and getting the most awful cramp.

The train rolled into Liverpool. I hid myself for three hours waiting for our lot to come up. Finally I saw the Machine Gun Section going on so I risked it and succeeded in getting on with them without being seen by anyone.

I hid away for another day when we were sailing, and then gave myself up. I went up before the Colonel who told me if I had been put off at Liverpool, I would have found myself in jail. They were all very nice about it.

We are all out in Gallipoli now, I cannot tell you where.

I am feeling very well and like a tiger which I think is a good sign.

With a Gallipoli hug from your loving son, Brian