

Royal Sussex Regiment: Sources

11th (Southdowns) Battalion Royal Sussex
Regiment (original held at West Sussex
Record Office RSR MS 7/23)

War Diary covering the Battle of Boar's Head
(30th June 1916)

The whole war diary for the 11th Battalion is
available on this website on the 'Battalion
War Diaries' page.



1916APPENDIXJune

10th. 12 2/8 Warwicks moved off to join
 ctd. noon. their Bde.
 5.30. Enemy blew up small mine S.E.
 p.m. of JERUSALEM CRATER.
 11.45. Our bombers bombed saphead
 p.m. left of JERUSALEM CRATER.
 Weather wet. 1 O.R. Killed.

11th. 6 am. Advance party marched to
 HINGETTE.
 5 pm. Mine exploded by us opposite
 Sap No. 15.
 7 pm. Bn relieved by 2nd A & S
 Highlanders. Battn marched
 to HINGETTE. Weather wet.

HINGETTE

12th. All in billets. Weather wet.
~~It Lupton returned from leave~~
~~& resumed command of B Coy.~~

13th. 11am. 4 Officers & 20 M.O.O's & men
 attended Memorial Service for
 Lt. Mitchener at LOCOM. Weather
 wet.

14th. Weather wet. Lt Lupton returned
 from leave & resumed command of
 D Coy.

15th. 11 pm. Orders from Brigade to move to
 CROIX BARBEE.

CROIX BARBEE

16th. 6.30. Bn marched to CROIX BARBEE &
 a.m. took over billets from 14th
 GLOS. The Bn is in reserve.
 10.15. All in billets. Found billets
 a.m. in very dirty condition.
 Weather Fine.

17th. Weather Fine. Large Working
 parties.

18th. Weather Cold & showery. Large
 working parties.

19th. Weather dull.

20th. Weather dull. Large Working
 parties.

21st. 9.30. Battn marched in sections to
 p.m. relieve 12th Battn front line
 in FERME DU BOIS (NEW) Left
 Sector. Hqs. B C A D order of
 march

1916APPENDIXJuneFERME DU BOIS (NEW) LEFT SECTOR

- 22nd. 1 am. Relief completed. Order in line.
A Coy (Left). C (Coy) Centre.
B (Coy) right - D Coy. in Support.
Weather fine & hot.
Enemy fairly quiet. Aeroplane activity on both sides, enemy aeroplanes being driven back at 1 p.m. & 6 p.m. Snipers active throughout the day. At night enemy M.G.'s active especially around 7 Sisters. Silenced for some time at 11 p.m. by our howitzers. 1 O.R. killed.
Weather fine.
- 23rd. 6 am. Enemy's 5.9s fell on Hill's Post.
to 8 am. 4 direct hits. Little damage.
3 pm. 5.9s on Neuve Chapelle ruins.
2 ORs wounded. Heavy rains in afternoon & evening.
- 24th. 12.30. T.M. Shells well behind right
a.m. Coy. Our artillery retaliated.
11.55. Commn. Trenches shelled with
a.m. whizz-bangs.
12noon Hills Post & Fort Arthur lightly
7 pm.)shelled. 4 casualties.
Artillery & aeroplanes active during day. Enemy quiet during night.
10.50. Observation balloon observed drifting in N E direction on left of our line. Lt.Colonel H.J.Griswood relinquished command of Battn.
- 25th. At intervals during day enemy shelled HUN ST. HILLS POST & FORT ARTHUR also howitzers near LANSDOWN POST. Our artillery active day & night. Enemy M.G. emplacement at S.11.a 5.3. destroyed by artillery. Weather fine. 1 O.R. killed.
- 26th. HUN POST shelled intermittently during morning. Our artillery active. Heavy rain during evening & night.
11.40. We shelled Front Line on Left.
p.m. Enemy retaliated on our Front Line & Supports breaching Left Coy's line in 3 places. Little damage done. No casualties. M.Gs active on both sides.
- 27th. A quiet day; weather wet.
- 28th. Enemy quiet. Support trench & COPSE COMMEN. TRENCH lightly shelled. No damage.
After- Relieved by 1/1st Cambs. marched noon. to Richebourg, taking over billets & Support Posts from 1/1st Herts.

1916

APPENDIX

JuneRICHENBOURG

- 29th. In billets & posts.
 2-5.30. Artillery bombarded enemy front
 p.m. line. Enemy retaliated on
 FACTORY POST. No damage. 1
 OR killed.
 Most of the Battn went as
 carrying parties to 12th & 13th
 R. Sussex Regt. Also formed
 straggler's posts etc.
- 30th. 2.50. Intense bombardment by our
 p.m. Artillery & enemy retaliation.
 Our carrying parties followed
 12th & 13th Battns to enemy's
 Front Line with R.E material
 & S.A.A.
 Casualties. Wounded. Capt. E.G.
 Cassels. LT. H.S. LEWIS. 2nd LT.
 E.B.T. JONES. 2nd LT. A. CHALK.
 Missing believed killed.
 2nd LT. F. GRIEWOOD. 2nd LT. A.C.
 CUSHEN.
 O.R. approx: Killed 4 Wounded 80.
 Missing 32.
 Burial parties & salvage parties
 for FRONT LINE.

G.H. HARRISON, Major,
 Comdg. 11th Royal Sussex Regt.

30/6/16.