

## Learning Resources for Teachers

Learning Resource: **Harold Linfield**

'About 4am our artillery bombarded the enemy's trenches for a long time to destroy the barbed wire etc. Then 'C' company was ordered to advance. We reached their barbed wire but no further. The wire entanglements were not destroyed, and as our fellows tried to get through they were shot down like sheep, shells dropping around us like peas . . . I only had time to make a small hole, just large enough to put in my head (which I did) when the Germans opened rifle fire and machine guns on all lying about, dead or alive. I lay in the open exposed to the guns all the morning, and never got hit once . . . it makes me quite faint to think of it, seeing bodies flying through the air, without limbs, and expecting to be blown to pieces any minute. I did not dare to move to get a drink of water out of my water bottle. When it had become quite dark I started to crawl back to our trench.'

**Clue 15:** Extract from a letter from Private Coldwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sussex Battalion to his mother in Southwick describing events of 9.5.15