

Great War West Sussex 1914-1918 www.westsussexpast.org.uk



Learning Resources for Teachers Learning Resource: Harold Linfield

'the most murderous rifle machine gun and shrapnel fire opened, and no one could get on or get back. People say the fire at Mons and Ypres was nothing to it. No end of brave things were done, and our men were splendid, but helpless. They simply had to wait to be killed. After some considerable time, we got orders to retire, but this was easier said than done. Some men were 300 yards out from our parapet, many dead, and some even on fire; and in two cases, men of ours who were burning alive, committed suicide, one by blowing out his own brains, and another cut his own Jugular vein with the point of his bayonet. Every now and again you would see the men roll over on the ground. Then men began to crawl in, most of them wounded'.

Clue 16: Extract from an account by Lt. Col, F.G. Langham, commanding the 5th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, who witnessed the events of 9.5.15