

ISLE OF WIGHT MERCURY

Friday, November 17, 1916

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Christmas Gifts for Ventnor Prisoners of War.

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Two parcels will be sent to each man. The first, despatched this week, contains the following : -

Tea, ½lb.
Milk, 1lb.
Sugar, ½lb.
Cocoa, ½lb.
Tongue
Oxo
Packets soup
Golden Syrup
Vaseline
Mustard
Wool
Thread
Needles
Cigarettes (boxes and packets)
Slade's Toffee
Carbolic Soap
Chocolate
"Bulls' eyes"

The other parcels will each contain: -

Cardigan jacket
Two pairs socks
Khaki handkerchiefs
2lb tin beef
Biscuits (2lbs.)
Stationery cabinet
Salmon
Xmas Pudding (2lbs.)

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It is desired to send a pipe and say quarter pound of tobacco to each man if our readers will subscribe another sovereign.

The parcels were arranged and packed by Miss Wheeler, Pier Street, and Mrs. B.W. Russell. This involved a good deal of labour, and we have to acknowledge Miss Wheeler's initiative in the matter and the business-like and expert way in which she packed the parcels.

Parcels have been dispatched to the following:
Pte. A.G. Blake, 3rd Batt. Canadians, prisoner in Germany
Sergt. P.C. Channing, R.G.A., prisoner in Turkey

Pte. H. Young, 2nd Dorsets, prisoner in Kut
Driver T. King, R.F.A., Constantinople
Driver R. Downer, R.F.A., Constantinople
Pte. W. Steele, 1st Batt., Hants Regt., Germany
Sidney Stevens, P.O., Royal Navy, Groningen, Holland
Pte. H. Farrow, Royal Scots, Germany
Ernest Davie, P.O., Royal Navy, Groningen, Holland

We are waiting for the address of a Wroxall man, also a prisoner, which has not yet come to hand.

(not all of the report has been transcribed)

Friday, November 24, 1916

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**Christmas Gifts for Ventnor
Prisoners of War.**

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The total amount expended to date is £22 18s. 4d., leaving £1 2s. 8d., in hand. Anyone may see the vouchers and accounts by calling at this office

The address of Pte. J.H. Jolliffe, 48th Canadian Highlanders, is to hand, and two parcels have been sent to him. He is a prisoner in Germany. The name of another prisoner in Germany, Charles Pittis, A.B., late H.M.S. Nestor, has also been received. A parcel, or two parcels, will be sent to him in due course.

Each of the prisoners will also be sent before December 1st, the following: -
100 cigarettes, best quality
Tobacco (¼lb.)
Briar pipe, value 1/-.
Biscuits, 1lb.
Cheese, ½lb.
Bulls' eyes, &c., 1b.

The approximate value of the contents of ten of the parcels was 15/-, and the other ten, £1 2s. 6d. Parcels to the value of 10/- each are being prepared.

The following official receipt has been received: - Post Office, Ventnor, November 20th, 1916: - Received this day from the *Mercury* office the following parcels: -

8 Parcels for prisoners of war in Germany
8 parcels for prisoners of war in Turkey
4 Parcels for prisoners of war in Holland
20

A. PEARSON
Acting Postmaster

We acknowledge with thanks the gift of six briar pipes from Mr. S. Du Feu.
(not all of the report has been transcribed)

Friday, December 1, 1916

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PRISONERS OF WAR FUND. – Eleven more parcels have been despatched this week – five to Germany, four to Turkey and two to Holland. Each contained 100 cigarettes, quarter-pound tobacco, pipe, 1lb. sweets and toffee, khaki handkerchief, 1lb. biscuits, ½lb. English cheese, ½lb. carbolic soap, &c. Remaining goods which could not be posted have been sent to the Bonchurch Convalescent Home. – There is an amount of 8/3 in hand.

(for several weeks prior to the parcels being sent to the prisoners of war the Mercury had listed the amounts of money and items that had been received with the names of the donors)