

The Gallipolian

*The Journal of the
Gallipoli Association*

No. 120 - AUTUMN 2009



The River Clyde at V Beach, 25 April, 1915
by Charles Dixon

THE GALLIPOLIAN

The Journal of the Gallipoli Association
founded by Major E. H. W. Banner in 1969
on the Campaign of 1915

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Gallipoli Association will be held on **Thursday 15 October 2009**, commencing at **1130**, at The Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, London W1. Directions for The Naval Club are included on the enclosed booking form for the Autumn Lunch.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the AGM held on 15 October 2008 – printed below.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the 2008 Accounts.
5. Election of Officers (as listed inside the front cover of *The Gallipolian*).
6. Election of Committee (as listed inside the front cover of *The Gallipolian*).
7. Any other business.

Note: Members wishing to raise any item under Any Other Business should do so in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days before the date of the AGM.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE NAVAL CLUB, HILL STREET, LONDON ON 15 OCTOBER 2008

Present: The Chairman, Captain C T F Fagan, Secretary, J C Watson-Smith, Treasurer, W J Marsh, Membership Officer, J Crowe, Editor, F Summerson, Webmaster, A Crooks, Committee Member, Colonel S M W Hickey, and twelve members.

Apologies were received from Mr R Boissier, Major H D Jenner, Mr D Saunders, Lt Colonel J R H Stopford and Sir Harold Walker.

Minutes

1. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24 October 2007 were approved and signed as a true record.

Chairman's Report

2. The Chairman presented his report, which was circulated to those present (and published in the Winter issue of *The Gallipolian* – No. 118). He drew attention to the Committee's decision to increase subscriptions with effect from 1 January 2009 but to offer a 10% discount to those paying by direct debit. The latter was by far the most efficient method of payment for the Association, and provided safeguards to users and the recipient. The Chairman invited views on the proposal to increase subscriptions. The proposed increases were then put to the vote and carried without dissent.

Treasurer's Report

3. The Treasurer's report was circulated and the annual accounts were adopted. The Treasurer recorded his thanks to Mr G D Enticknap, the Independent Examiner, and his wife Hazel, for their excellent work and support over the past ten years. This was endorsed by those present at the meeting. Mr Enticknap had now decided to retire but another Accountant had agreed to take on the role.

Election of Officers

4. The following were elected for the year.

Chairman	Captain C T F Fagan
Secretary	J C Watson-Smith
Treasurer	W J Marsh
Membership Secretary	J Crowe
Editor	F Summerson
Webmaster	A Crooks

Committee: Colonel S M W Hickey, Major H D Jenner, D R Saunders and Lt. Colonel J R H Stopford.

JIM FALLON (1200)

Members will be sad to learn of the death of our Vice President, Jim Fallon.

Jim joined the Association in 1991. He served as a Committee member from October that year, and as our Public Relations Officer from 1993 until he relinquished the post on health grounds in 1997. During that time Jim did much to bring the Association to the attention of a wider audience, an achievement reflected in the great increase in membership during that period. He was appointed a Vice President of the Association in 1998.

Our thoughts are with his wife Clarice and family at this sad time. An obituary will be published in the Winter issue.

THE 29TH DIVISION MEMORIAL

The annual commemoration at the 29th Division Memorial, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, Warwickshire took place on Sunday 8 March. David Ray, a member of the Gallipoli Association, welcomed the organisations and individuals present and made a moving address, which is reproduced below:

“This impressive obelisk behind me, over twelve metres high, is one of the more remarkable memorials remaining from the Great War era. Many of the officers and men who paraded here that March day in 1915 are commemorated on the even bigger, thirty three metre high, Helles Memorial overlooking now tranquil beaches 1,500 miles away.

The ‘Immortal’ 29th. Division were regulars – men from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales – that formed the bulk of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. The division was composed of County Regiments from Surrey in the south, Lancashire in the north, Worcestershire in the west and Essex in the east. 27 Victoria Crosses were awarded to men serving in the division, which would suffer 94,000 casualties between 1914 and 1918.

Men were billeted from Henley-in-Arden in the west, Rugby in the east, Nuneaton in the north and Shipston-on-Stour in the south. The county was awash with khaki.

2 March 1915 was dry without sun. Over the next ten months, the Division experienced everything from suffocating heat to severe frostbite. HRH King George V arrived at the long gone Dunchurch station. He rode past the two-mile review and then positioned himself to my left at what was then a crossroads, around 12.15pm. The march past was completed by 1.23pm. A magnificent sight including the infantry of the Division, eight abreast, with bayonets fixed.

There had been emotional scenes all around the county and north Oxfordshire. The billeted Division had been taken to the hearts of the locals. Within days they were off to Gallipoli via Avonmouth and Alexandria. After two hundred and fifty nine days on the peninsula only 14 officers and 1,523 other ranks of the original force were evacuated without being invalided during the campaign, or killed.

The people of Warwickshire never forgot those young men. The monument was constructed in late 1920. On 24 May 1921, Empire Day, it was unveiled. Several wreaths were laid at its base. The captured German guns, at the base of the memorial, are long gone. This annual gathering is becoming a tradition and I trust will continue long into the future. The oldest survivors have also gone but their bravery and steadfastness should never be forgotten”.

After the address, wreaths were laid by Cllr. Bill Sewell, Mayor of Rugby, on behalf of Rugby Borough Council and by James Watson-Smith on behalf of The Gallipoli Association. Wreaths were also laid by representatives of the Heart of England and Stratford-upon-Avon Branches of the Western Front Association, the Stretton-on-Dunsmore History Society, The Great War Society, the Isle of Wight Rifles and the Coventry and Warwickshire Military Police. Xander Morgan, one of the recipients of the Gallipoli Association's Bursary, laid a wreath on behalf of Rugby School Combined Cadet Force. Individuals also laid wreaths.

The Last Post was sounded, the assembled platoons in period uniform were brought to attention and the Standard Bearers lowered their flags for the Exhortation. There followed a minute's silence, reveille and the raising of the Standards. A lone, uniformed piper blew a lament and those present on a bitter day with driving rain were thanked again and encouraged to attend in 2010; ninety five years on.

A photograph of the ceremony can be found on page 29.

ANZAC/GALLIPOLI DAY SERVICES

London

A few early risers among the membership were present at the well-attended Dawn Service held at the Australian War Memorial, Hyde Park. However, for most of us the day started at St Paul's Cathedral at 0930 for the Association's annual wreath-laying ceremony at The Gallipoli Memorial. Later we joined the 'Anzacs' at the Cenotaph where 'The Gallipolians' formed one of the contingents on parade, with our Chairman laying a wreath on behalf of the Association. Sadly, the brief service at the Cenotaph was marred by a breakdown in the loudspeaker system making it inaudible to most of those present.

At the invitation of the Australian and New Zealand High Commissions, members were again given seats for the service in Westminster Abbey. After the service, the Association's lunch was held at the Civil Service Club, Great Scotland Yard – a new venue, just off Whitehall, and one that provided a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere to renew old acquaintances and make new friends.

[Photographs of some of the day's events can be found on pages 29–30.]

Harefield and Walton-on-Thames

Photographs of the commemorations at St Mary's Church, Harefield, on Anzac Day, and at St Mary's, Walton-on-Thames on 26 April (where services have been held since 1920) are on page 31.

Cardigan

Anzac Day in Cardigan was dry but with a blustery cold wind. At 1100 those attending mustered at the town's Cenotaph. The Mayor accompanied by her Consort, together with the Town Clerk and several councillors were in attendance. The ecumenical service was conducted by the town's Vicar, the Revd. John Powell, assisted by Father John Matthews of Aberforth Parish. The Standards of the HMS Gambia Association, the Royal Air Force Association, and the Cardigan Branches of the Royal British Legion and the Wrens' Association were paraded. The Cardigan Branch of the Royal Naval Association were also represented on the parade, as were the Air Cadets and a contingent of Army Cadets.

It was pleasing to see a large number of local people attending the service, two or three of whom were 'Antipodeans'. Wreaths were laid on behalf the Cardigan Branch of the Royal British Legion and the HMS Gambia Association. After the service, refreshments were served in the Cardigan Bowling Club and our thanks go those who helped with the arrangements, and to the Club Committee.

Richard Watson

National Memorial Arboretum

The service of Remembrance for Anzac Day was conducted by the Revd. Vic Van Berge, Padre of 35 Signal Regiment, Coventry, in the Arboretum's Millennium Chapel. The service began with a message of good wishes from Her Majesty, The Queen read by Colonel Michael Beatty CBE TD DL.

The words of M. Kemal Ataturk, delivered on the occasion of the first pilgrimage to Gallipoli by British, Australian and New Zealand mothers and widows in 1934, was recited in Turkish by Nadir Imamoglu and then in English by 14-year-old Jacob Charles Pepper, Great Grandson of Pte. Charles Pepper of the Border Regiment who served on the Peninsula. After the first hymn, Miss Sue Plant read the poem *Outward Bound* by Lt. Nowell Oxland, who was killed in action at Gallipoli in August 1915. The address by Padre Berge dwelt on the great commitment and sacrifices made at Gallipoli, following which Nadir reflected on the success of the evacuation from the Dardanelles and speculated that if the whole campaign had been as well organised, the outcome might have been different.

Afterwards, we walked to the Gallipoli Memorial where wreaths were laid by representatives of the Australian and New Zealand High Commissions, local dignitaries and others, and a minute's silence kept. After the wreath laying, 19 year old Lucy Ward, a local girl and finalist in the BBC's 'Young Singer of the Year' gave a most moving rendition of *The Band Played Waltzing Matilda*. We then adjourned to a nearby marquee for tea and Anzac biscuits.

The only sad note was death, a few days, before, of 95 year old Nancy Bevan, one of the two people who opened the Gallipoli Memorial five years ago. She was a remarkable lady. Her father, Lt. George Pilkington RN, grandfather and great grandfather were all killed in naval actions. [A photograph of the wreath laying ceremony can be found on page 32.]

Roger Pepper and Nadir Imamoglu

Peterborough

The Annual Service held at the grave of Sgt. Thomas Hunter, 10th Battalion, Australian Infantry, took place in bright sunshine on Anzac Day. Sgt. Hunter was buried in the Old Broadway Cemetery following his death from wounds received during the attack on Pozieres in July 1916. Hunter had previously served at Gallipoli where he had been wounded, and evacuated to Alexandria before rejoining his Battalion.

The service, attended by even larger crowds than in previous years, was organised by the Peterborough Branch of the Royal British Legion, whose Padre conducted the service. This year saw two firsts. The Australian flag was carried by Australian Cadets from the Geelong Grammar School in Victoria who were on an exchange visit to Stamford School. In addition, US Air Force personnel based in the UK had asked to attend the ceremony, and their party was led by Colonel Toney.

Standards were paraded by a number of local ex-service organisations and by the Stamford School Combined Cadet Force and made a most impressive sight. A Guard of Honour from the Peterborough Sea Cadets enhanced the whole scene. After the Last Post was sounded, the Exhortations said, and Reveille, wreaths were laid by Col. Peter Horrell TD, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Cllr. Pat Nash, the Mayor of Peterborough, and by Flt. Lt. White, on behalf of the Australian Government. Other wreaths were laid by Mr Langfords-Smith, President of the Peterborough Branch of the Royal British Legion, Wing Commander Gullidge representing East Anglian RAF Stations, and by Colonel Toney representing the US Air Force. A group of Australians attending, wearing either sprigs of rosemary, or sprays of wattle were most impressed and visibly moved by the Service.

So once more a most fitting tribute has been paid to 'The Lonely Anzac of Peterborough'.

John W Harvey

94TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS IN TURKEY

John Crowe

As a result of previous contacts with Sergeant Martin Gwillim, Deputy Military Attaché at the British Embassy in Ankara, I was invited to attend the 94th anniversary commemorations at Gallipoli, which took place on 24 and 25 April. It was a great privilege to be present on such an auspicious occasion.

Led by the host nation Turkey, other countries represented were Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, France, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Ireland, Canada, and Germany. The British contingent was led by HRH The Duke of Kent, President of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Mr Nick Baird, HM Ambassador to Turkey, General Sir Richard Dannatt, Chief of the Defence Staff, and Col. Richard Robinson MBE, the Military Attaché.

The events began on Friday 24 April with an impressive Turkish International Service at Mehmetcik Abide in full view of Turkish Memorial built in 1960. Wreaths were laid by the national representatives. As the national anthems were played, flags were raised accordingly. It was a display of Turkish pride with the Janissary Band and culminated in a superb flying display by the Turkish Air Force.

The next service was at the French cemetery at Morto Bay where a simple and moving ceremony took place. It was led by the French Consule generale de France, Christine Moro. Wreaths were laid and flowers were then handed to all the visitors to place on the graves.

The final ceremony of the day was at the Helles Memorial. The service was conducted by The Venerable Geoffrey B Evans, Chaplain to the British Embassy. HRH The Duke of Kent laid a wreath on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and General Sir Richard Dannatt on behalf of the Defence Staff, after which all national representatives placed their wreaths. I laid a wreath on behalf of the Gallipoli Association. We were very fortunate that it was a bright and sunny day. I was delighted when General Dannatt asked me to show him where Captain Frank Beck and the men of the 5th Norfolk's were commemorated. I did this with pride as my father had served with them at Gallipoli. [See 'My Father was one of the King's Men at Gallipoli' in the Spring 2005 issue of *The Gallipolian* (No. 107).]

The first day ended with an evening reception at the hotel hosted by the Governor of Canakkale, which was very well attended. This was another demonstration of the warmth and hospitality that Turkey offers to all its visitors.

It was a very early start to the second day, Saturday 25 April.. We boarded the coaches at 3.45am for the Dawn Service, held at the Anzac Commemorative site, which was scheduled to start at 5.30am. The service started in the dark and finished at sunrise. It was a moving experience to be there. The Master of Ceremonies was Brigadier Bill Rolfe AO (Retd.), Repatriation Commissioner, Australia. There were a number of readings including individual accounts written by soldiers who served during the campaign. Again the main emphasis was on the need for peace. Wreaths were laid by all the national representatives.

After the service the official party was invited by The Ambassadors of New Zealand and Australia, Mr Hamish Cooper and Mr Peter Doyle, to attend an Anzac Breakfast at the nearby Kum Hotel. Following breakfast, the Australian service took place at Lone Pine, the seating being arranged around and within the cemetery. Throughout the moving and dignified service, there was an emphasis to show respect as we walked near to the graves of soldiers that had died during the campaign.

The service at the Turkish 57th Regiment Memorial that followed was conducted with great dignity. Wreaths were laid. There was an emphasis on Turkish pride and the high regard for their founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. The Janissary Band was thanked for their faultless performance.

The final ceremony and wreath laying was at the New Zealand Memorial, Chunuk Bair, where the Master of Ceremonies was Chaplain 1st Class, Don Parker RNZChD QHC. It was a very moving ceremony attended by a large number of people.

The emphasis throughout the two days was the defining of nationhood for Turkey, Australia and New Zealand following the Gallipoli campaign. The three countries emerging as new nations, and over the ensuing years a strong bond has developed between them.

This was my fifth visit to the peninsular and the circumstances were very different to the previous ones. There were designated official coaches led by a fleet of police vehicles and followed by others. We were the VIPs on this occasion! People lined the street to see the motorcade drive by. All road junctions were manned and controlled by soldiers and police to ensure a smooth procession to the various destinations. This was a complete contrast to my other visits where often very few people were around.

This article is merely a pen picture of what I experienced and does not seek to fully describe the events in detail. I would particularly like to express my thanks to Sergeant Martin Gwillim for all his hard work. He made all the arrangements for my visit. It went like clockwork. He was most professional and was always available for assistance when needed. Readers will recall that Sgt Gwillim accompanied the five British 'Missioners for Peace' who were invited by Mrs Emine Erdogan, the wife of the Turkish Prime Minister, to attend the Symposium for Peace in Ankara, and to visit

Gallipoli in March last year (see the Autumn 2008 issue of *The Gallipolian* – No. 117).

On my return to Istanbul, I was met at the airport by the previous Military Attaché in London, Colonel Mustafa Gonel, and his wife Berrin for a coffee before my flight home. This was the perfect ending to a very memorable visit.

[Photographs of some of the commemorative events can be found on pages 32 and 33]

COLLINGWOOD MEMORIAL PARADE

Each year, on or close to 4 June, and on Remembrance Day, a service of commemoration is held at the Collingwood Memorial. The inscription on the monument tells the sad story of the battalion, and how the memorial came to be erected:

In memory of the Commanding Officer, Officers and Men of the Collingwood Battalion, Royal Naval Division who fell in action in Gallipoli on the 4th June 1915, when the battalion was practically destroyed.

The Collingwood battalion completed its training on these downs. This memorial is erected by the survivors.

This year, the Act of Remembrance took place on 5 June.

Readers will be aware that the ceremony is arranged by Association member, Roy Adam. Sadly, Roy suffered a stroke on 22 January when arrangements for the ceremony – the 59th he had been involved with – were already well in hand. I am sure readers would wish to join me in sending our good wishes to Roy, and to thank his son Stuart, a senior trustee of the Collingwood Memorial, for taking over the reins from his father. I understand from Stuart that Roy is making good progress.

SANDRINGHAM

As reported in the Spring issue (No. 119), a Memorial Service will be held in St Peter and St Paul's Church, West Newton at 1430 on Sunday 13 September. If you would like to attend please contact John Crowe (address inside front cover) as seating is limited in this small church.

AUTUMN LUNCH

The Autumn Lunch will be held at The Naval Club on Thursday, 15 October 2009, commencing at 1230 for 1300 and will follow the Annual General Meeting. The cost this year is £40.00 – see enclosed booking form for details. Although the price is slightly higher than last year, the Committee consider it represents good value for a central London location at an interesting and pleasant venue. The ticket price is based on the costs charged to the Association.

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE WESTMINSTER ABBEY

The Gallipoli Association will again have a Memorial Plot in the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey.

The Field of Remembrance was the inspiration of Major George Howson MC founder and Chairman of the Poppy Factory until his death in 1936. In 1928 two Crosses were planted by the organisers – one in memory of Private Tommy Atkins, the other in memory of Field Marshal Earl Haig. Others were offered to ‘passers-by’ to plant for those they wished to remember.

Details of the Gallipoli Association plot and how to arrange for a Cross to be placed, are given in a leaflet accompanying this issue of *The Gallipolian*. We encourage members to avail themselves of this unique opportunity to remember family and friends who served at Gallipoli.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

For the fourth year running, the Association is producing a Christmas card. The design this year is ‘Sunset Over Lemnos – HMS *Triumph* and HMS *Swiftsure* by Robert Gibbings.

An Order Form is included in this issue of *The Gallipolian* where reference is made to copies of cards produced in 2007 (‘Troops landing on C Beach, Suvla Bay’) and 2008 (‘The Man with the Donkey’) still being available.

GALLIPOLI GARDENS

Clive Summerson

The Manchester Evening News carried a report on 22 April that Sparrow Park in Silver Street, Bury is to be renamed 'Gallipoli Gardens' in memory of Lancashire Fusiliers who lost their lives during the First World War.

The renaming ceremony will take place in September and will mark the opening of the new Fusiliers Regimental Museum at the Bury Arts and Crafts Centre in Broad Street. In announcing the renaming of the park, Councillor Bob Bibby, Leader of Bury council, said: "We feel that Gallipoli Gardens will be a fitting tribute to those who took part in a battle which cast a long shadow over Bury and nearby towns ... the garden will be a peaceful place to sit and remember the sacrifices that the Fusiliers made at Gallipoli and in many other conflicts, and help ensure that their fallen will never be forgotten." Colonel Mike Glover, Regimental Secretary for Lancashire, commented: "Members of the Fusiliers Association, who live locally and around the world, think that this is a marvellous idea. It's a great recognition of the relationship between the regiment and Bury. It's also nice that it links in with the new museum and what Bury is doing to develop its cultural facilities".

The new £3.7m museum will be formally opened in September, before the Fusiliers' annual gathering over the weekend of 26 September. It will house the Lancashire Fusiliers' collection (including artefacts that once belonged to Emperor Napoleon) from the Wellington Army barracks on Bolton Road, Bury, and a new Royal Regiment of Fusiliers collection. The War Memorial, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, which was unveiled at the barracks in 1922, will also be relocated.

THE DOUGHTY WYLIE GUN

In the postscript to the article on St Peter's Church, Theberton, which appeared in the Spring 2009 issue (No. 119), I noted that enquiries had failed to establish the current whereabouts of the 'Doughty-Wylie Gun', which was once displayed in the foyer of the Sergeant's Mess, 1st Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment at Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester. **Taff Gillingham** has informed me that the gun is still with the Royal Anglians who are currently based at Pirbright. He also referred me to an article in the *Leiston Heritage Gazette*, which mentioned that the gun was removed in 1939 and hidden in the village being replaced on VE Day.

PILGRIMAGE TO GALLIPOLI AND SALONIKA

The January issue of *La Voix Du Combattant*, the journal of what might be termed our sister organisation, the Association Nationale Pour Le Souvenir Des Dardanelles Et Fronts D'Orient, carried a report of the Association's visit to the Dardanelles and Thessalonique (Salonika) from 21 – 29 September 2008.

The visit was arranged to mark the 90th anniversary of the armistice on the Eastern (Salonika) Front, which was signed at Salonika on 29 September 1918 but it was decided to include a visit to Gallipoli to commemorate the French forces that fought there in 1915. Indeed, the visit was made to honour the memory of all combatants of the Great War regardless of the side on which they served.

The group comprised 18 people who had family connections with, or an interest in, the Gallipoli and Salonika campaigns. The focus of the visit to Gallipoli was naturally the area where the French forces were engaged and a wreath-laying ceremony was held at the French National Cemetery above Morto Bay. This was attended by Ms. Regine Moro, Consul-General of France, who came from the Consulate in Istanbul, and Ms. Regine Lotte, one of Military Attachés of the French Embassy in Ankara.

For many this was their first visit to Gallipoli and Salonika and everyone was impressed by the sad beauty by of the places visited and the battlefield sites. The small size of the party added to the intimacy and poignancy of the visit.

A FIRE ON THE GALLIPOLI PENINSULA

Nadir Imamoglu

On 13 March, *Milliyet*, one of the best selling daily newspapers in Turkey, reported that a fire in Gallipoli peninsula had exposed the remains of Turkish soldiers from 1915.

The fire was near the village of Yalova, and apparently occurred a few months ago. When the villagers came to cut down what was left of the burnt out trees and shrubs they saw quite a lot of human bones lying on the surface. The newspaper printed photographs of the area.

Milliyet quoted a Turkish historian who specializes in the Gallipoli conflict as saying "... this area was used by Turkish field hospitals. The wounded who did not survive the treatment were hastily buried at this particular location".

FROM THE BOTTOM UP – RESTORING THE HELLES MEMORIAL

The following information is reproduced, with permission, from information issued by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and published on their website.

Although the restoration work, extending over five years, will mean that some sections of the memorial will not be accessible when the work is being carried out, I am sure readers will agree that it is necessary for the long-term preservation of the memorial.

THE MEMORIAL

The Helles Memorial commemorates 21,000 British, Indian and Australian dead from the Gallipoli campaign who have no known grave.

The Gallipoli peninsula can be inhospitable, a place of extremes, its bleak but beautiful landscape scorched brown in summer, scoured by bitter winds and frosts in winter. No part of the peninsula is more exposed than the headland at its southern tip where, for ninety years, the Helles Memorial has stood overlooking the waters of the Dardanelles. In that time the weather has taken its toll on the memorial eroding many of its name panels, and underground tremors from seismic activity have unsettled its very foundations. This year the Commission has begun a major project to refurbish the memorial that will include the replacement of huge amounts of stonework and 551 name panels. The work, to be undertaken in stages, is expected to take five years.

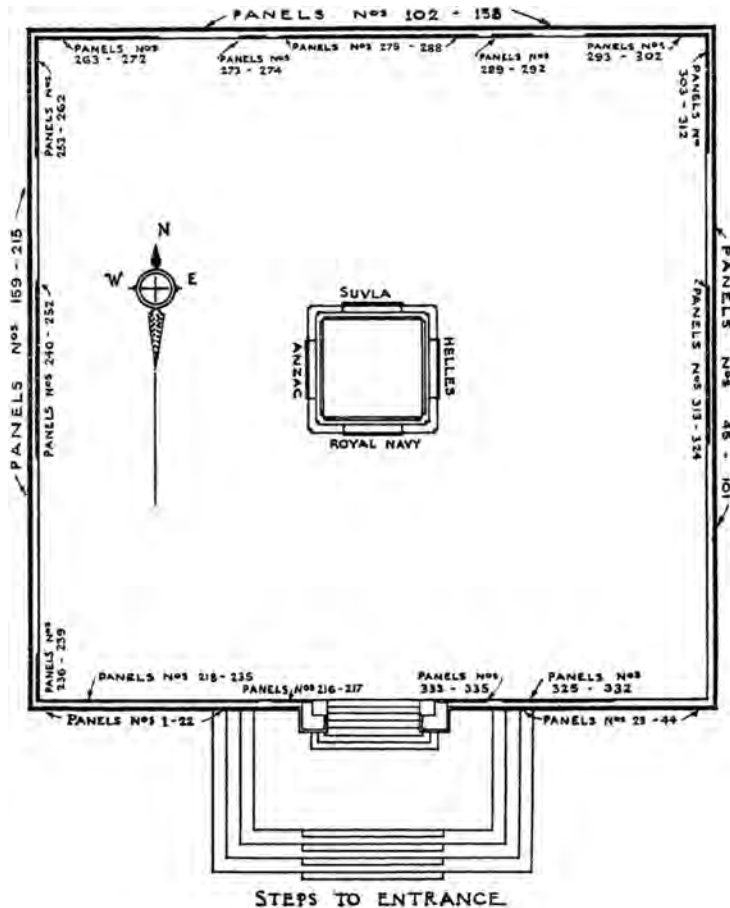
THE PREPARATIONS

A project of this size needs a great deal of planning and preparations have been underway for some time. The work must be staged to cause least inconvenience to visitors and to make the best use of the Gallipoli working season. Craftsmen and stonemasons must be found and engaged and materials – in this case huge quantities of stone – must be secured in advance. But stone types used when the memorial was first constructed are no longer available.

The original name panels were in Hopton Wood, a British limestone that cannot be quarried today in the sizes required, so a replacement, Italian Nebrasina, has been sourced and enough secured to make the 551 replacement panels. Ilgadare, a limestone quarried locally on the peninsula, originally used for construction, copings and facings, is to be replaced with an alternative quarried near Antalya in southern Turkey, although it is expected that once redressed at the CWGC cutting yard a certain amount of the Ilgadare limestone will be reused as cladding.

THE WORK

The memorial consists of a 30 metre high obelisk, which stands on a terrace enclosed by a 3–4 metre high parapet wall on which the commemorative name panels are fixed. The work involves the parapet wall.



Phase 1 of the project will concern the front, south-east corner, of the parapet wall. This section has suffered movement over the years and needs the most work. The existing wall will be dismantled, panel by panel and stone by stone, down to the foundations and a new concrete wall, with a drainage system and soak away, constructed in its place. The new wall will then be faced with stone and the replacement name panels attached with stainless steel fixings, a new system which will allow the wall a degree of movement without causing damage to the panels. Stonemasons will then build new stonework up to where the name panels start.

Phases 2 – 5 concern the east, north, west and south-western elevations where the walls will be taken down to the level of the sub-structure (the bottom edge of the panels) and built up from there.

Unavoidably, while each phase of the work is underway there can be no public access to the panels being replaced and the Commission apologise for this. The timings of each phase and panels affected are as follows:

Phase 1: 4 May–1 November 2009 : External face panels 23–59 (top and bottom), Internal face panels 335–325

Phase 2: 4 May–8 November 2010 : External face panels 60–111 (top and bottom), Internal face panels 324–293

Phase 3: 3 May–7 November 2011 : External face panels 112–168 (top and bottom), Internal face panels 292–253

Phase 4: 1 May–8 November 2012 : External face panels 169–1(top and bottom), Internal face panels 252–235

Phase 5: 7 May–5 August 2013: External face panels 2–22 (top and bottom), Internal face panels 234–216

A GALLIPOLI STAMP FROM NEWFOUNDLAND

Philip E L Smith

Postage stamps commemorating the Dardanelles campaign have, over the years, been issued by four countries. Those from Australia, New Zealand, and Turkey have been described in earlier issues of *The Gallipolian* [See Note 1]. A stamp commissioned by the former Dominion of Newfoundland has not been published here before. It seems to be little known to connoisseurs of Gallipoli postage stamps but is by no means rare. It appeared in 1919, thus making Newfoundland the second country to issue such a stamp; Turkey had produced a series of five in 1917.

Newfoundland suffered heavy casualties in the First World War, especially in France. It has been argued that they were the highest, in proportion to the number of its men sent overseas, of any of the self-governing British dominions. Most of them occurred in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, a newly raised infantry unit attached to a brigade of the 29th Division of the British army from 1915 to 1918. There were additional casualties among volunteers in the Royal Navy, the Royal Flying Corps, and in the Canadian forces. Others were lost or injured in ships of the Newfoundland merchant marine sunk by enemy submarines.

In the last year of the war the Government of Newfoundland authorised a new series of postage stamps as a patriotic gesture to commemorate the war effort as well as to alleviate a war-related stamp shortage. They were officially released by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs on 2 January 1919. They are known as the 'Caribou Series', since they have a common basic design: the head of a caribou, the native reindeer that was the emblem of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and the principal game animal of the country. (Curiously, the antlers portrayed resemble those of a moose rather than a caribou.)

Twelve denominations were issued, in values ranging from one cent to 36 cents. Each denomination has a distinctive colour or shade. Eight of them show the major engagements in which the regiment participated from 1915 to 1918 in Turkey and France. The other four denominations commemorate the Royal Naval Reserve contingent in which several thousand Newfoundlanders served overseas dispersed on many ships. Some of these reservists manned the minesweepers that attempted to clear the Dardanelles in March 1915; a number of them died or were wounded in that action. Each military denomination has the legend 'Trail of the Caribou' on a ribbon beneath the animal head, and below that a tablet with the name of an engagement. Above the ribbon are two sprays of oak leaves. The four naval denominations have the legend 'Royal Naval Reserve' on the ribbons, the Latin adverb *Ubique* ('Everywhere') on the tablets, and the oak leaves. The stamps, of local design, were engraved by Whitehead, Morris & Co. of London and printed by Thomas de la Rue & Co., Ltd of Basingstoke. Nearly eight million specimens of the Gallipoli denomination were produced, and they were in circulation for some years, valid up to and even after the union of Newfoundland with Canada in 1949. They are easily available from dealers at modest prices. In the latest online Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, the Gallipoli stamp and three others in this series are omitted. ('Canada - Newfoundland. 2 January 1919. Newfoundland Contingent, 1914-1918. P14.')

The Gallipoli denomination (reproduced on page 34) was one cent and its colour green. The tablet bears the words 'Suvla Bay', where a battalion of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment served from 19 September to 19 December 1915. It was then moved to Cape Helles, from 22 December until the final evacuation on 7-8 January 1916. The battalion was the only combat unit from North America present on Gallipoli. Short accounts of its actions on the peninsula have been published in *The Gallipolitan* on three occasions [Note 2].

I thank Professor Thomas Nemec for presenting me with the stamp shown here. He and John Walsh, both of St. John's, Newfoundland, also provided information about the history of the series.

Dr. Philip E L Smith is a retired professor of Middle Eastern archaeology living in Montreal. He is the author of two recent articles in *The Gallipolitan*: 'John Gallishaw and Gallipoli', No. 118, Winter 2008, and 'Gallishaw after Gallipoli', No. 119, Spring 2009.

NOTES:

- 1: R M Gale, 'A Gallipoli Stamp', No. 15, Autumn 1974, pp. 30-31; R M Gale, 'The Ranker', No. 22, Christmas 1976, p. 19; P Moon, 'Gallipoli Commemorative Stamps' No.104, Spring 2004, pp 17-24; D Caves, 'New Zealand Gallipoli Stamp', No.109, Winter 2005, p. 15; D Hunt & D Caves, 'Anzac Day Commemorative Stamps', No. 117, Autumn 2008, pp 13-14.
2. J E Price, 'The Newfoundlanders – a forgotten contingent at Gallipoli', No. 64, Christmas 1990, pp. 34-36; W D Parsons, 'The Newfoundland contingent at Gallipoli', No. 67, Christmas 1991, pp. 30-33. There is also reference to the Newfoundland Regiment in 'John Gallishaw and Gallipoli', No. 118, Winter 2008, pp 46 – 53.

MORE STAMPS WITH A GALLIPOLI CONNECTION

The May/June 2009 issue of *Australia Post's* Stamp Bulletin focuses on new 55c stamp issues depicting four of Australia's iconic dishes, one of which is 'Anzac Biscuits' featuring a cropped image of a photograph of Australian soldiers in the front line at Anzac against a background of two biscuits.

The article notes that there are as many recipes for the Anzac biscuit as there are stories about its origin, and that its creation is claimed by New Zealand as well as Australia. The first known receipt that combined the words 'Anzac Biscuits' with the ingredients used appearing in a New Zealand cookbook in 1921. The article goes on to say that what is not disputed is that these biscuits were named after Anzac soldiers who fought alongside each other at Gallipoli in 1915. The most common story being that the biscuits were made by antipodean women looking for food that would remain edible for prolonged periods to send to their troops fighting overseas.

And the other 'iconic' dishes? The Pavlova (the first verifiable dish being created in 1935 at the Esplanade Hotel in Perth); the Peach Melba (named after the Australian opera singer, Dame Nellie Melba); and the Lamington (a square piece of sponge dipped in chocolate and coated in desiccated coconut, thought to have been named after the 2nd Baron Lamington who served as Governor of Queensland from 1896 to 1901).

Editor's Note: I am grateful as ever to **Derek Hunt** for sending me this information.

THE REVD. OSWIN CREIGHTON – A CHAPLAIN’S EXPERIENCE AT GALLIPOLI

Andy Crooks

Although every aspect of the Gallipoli campaign engages me, I have always had a special interest in the distinctive actions that took place in and around Gully Ravine, in the north Helles sector. As a keen field walker and amateur archaeologist, identifying physical locations and making ‘then’ and ‘now’ comparisons have a significance for me which, I suspect, many who walk the battlefields will know and understand.

Perhaps inevitably, my position as a lay minister in the Church of England has also led me to consider and research the role of military chaplains in the Great War.

Arguably, The Revd. Geoffrey Kennedy is the best known clerical name from the First World War, even to those who know him only as ‘Woodbine Willie’, a sobriquet arising from his remarkable if somewhat unconventional work and ministry on the Western Front, and in particular his reputation for handing out cigarettes to soldiers.

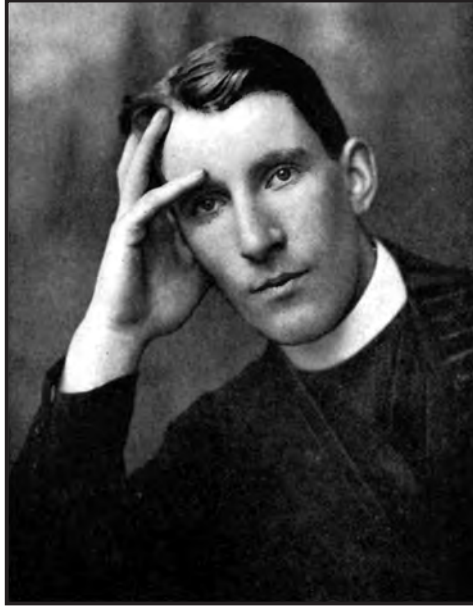
At Gallipoli too, chaplains served with distinction. Father William Finn, a Roman Catholic priest, accompanied the 1st Bn. Royal Dublin Fusiliers ashore at V beach. He was seen moving amongst the wounded and dying on the beach, offering comfort and first aid, and to some absolution, until he collapsed with shrapnel wounds and died from blood loss. Today he lies in V Beach cemetery.

It is in the person of the Revd. Oswin Creighton however that my special interests have found a distinct combination. Creighton was born on 10 June 1883 in Northumberland, the son of The Revd. Dr Mandel Creighton, who in 1897 became Bishop of London. Oswin followed his father into the church as a priest, and given his lineage and his remarkable oratory, it was likely that he too would have held a high ecclesiastical office if he had survived the Great War.

There are two major sources of information about Creighton. His own book *With the 29th Division in Gallipoli*, compiled from his meticulously kept diaries, was published soon after he moved to the Western Front, following his service in Gallipoli. The foreword is dated 16 February 1916 [Note 1]. In addition, Creighton’s mother Louise edited and published a selection of Oswin’s eloquent letters in 1920. These have been reprinted and are also available as a free download as a PDF file, in the public domain [Note 2].

In early 1915, having served in parish ministry, Creighton applied for permission to serve as a Chaplain with HM forces. On permission being granted, he was appointed as

Chaplain (4th Class) and directed by the War Office to the 86th Brigade, 29th Division, and quickly discovered that he was to be part of the 'Dardanelles' expedition. After a number of short-term postings in the UK, he was attached to the 89th Field Ambulance (The 'Aberdeens') and sailed with them from Avonmouth to Alexandria in March 1915.



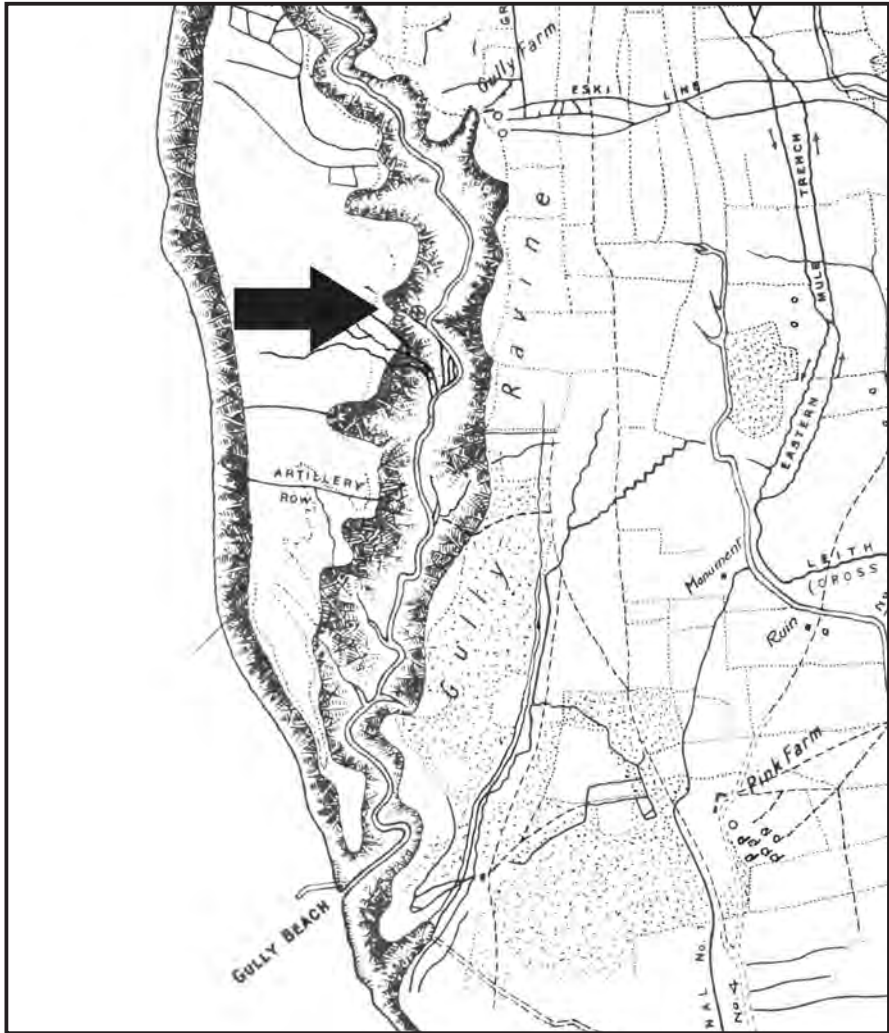
O Creighton, 1910, by G C Beresford. [Note 3]

Despite seeing his work as intimately connected with the soldiers he moved among, Creighton's writing conveys a quaintly stereotypical stance. As an officer and clergyman, it was very much a case of 'going off to see and chat to the men' before lunch or supper appointments with other officers, whom he frequently names individually, and he betrays his occasional frustration when celebrations of Holy Communion or parade services are cancelled or compromised by lack of interest or attendance. His diary is also peppered with an unintentionally humorous thread relating to his frequent requests for a change of batmen or servants, whom he tends to rate according to their horse-grooming skills [Note 4].

Creighton went ashore at Gallipoli a few days after the first landings and, following the battles of Krithia in May and early June, he found himself more permanently ensconced in a side gully in Gully Ravine. He describes his location thus:

It is about 500 yards from the firing line in a little gully called Aberdeen Gully (as the 89th come from there), which runs off from the main gully. A narrow path about fifty yards long has been cut out of the bed formed by a stream now dry. The path runs up into

a little natural amphitheatre in the cliff, about fifteen yards in diameter. The sides of the gully are almost precipitous, but it has been widened enough at places to make a dressing station, cook-house, and officers' mess, and the amphitheatre is also used as a dressing station if necessary. It is almost absolutely safe, but bullets have a way of dropping anywhere, and a man got one in his arm last night, and one was at the foot of my dug-out this morning [Note 5].



The lower section of Gully Ravine, showing Aberdeen Gully, marked by an arrow.

Creighton was present in Aberdeen Gully during the battle of Gully Ravine, which began on 28 June 1915, and he recorded the drama that took place behind the front line as he witnessed the wounded arriving:

... first the slight cases, able to walk, in crowds. Then later on in came the stretcher cases, and they kept coming all night and next day until about 2pm. We had five doctors fortunately, and five wagons working the whole time clearing the wounded down to Gully Beach. In twenty four hours we had 500 wounded through, and the 88th, who are next door, about the same number [Note 6].

In late July 1915, Creighton developed a fever. He is decorously vague about his complaint (it was almost certainly dysentery) and he was evacuated from Gallipoli in early August, before the Suvla landings. Typically, he praises the doctors and nurses for their attentiveness, but equally makes no bones about having complained when he felt he was not receiving the urgency of care due to an officer.

Almost three years later, on 15 April 1918, whilst serving with a casualty clearing station on the Western Front, and having gone forward towards the lines to arrange for burials from a recent battle, Oswin Creighton was killed instantly by a shell burst as he stood with a group of soldiers. He lies today at Chocques Military Cemetery. [Note 7].

Creighton's writing and his experience at Gallipoli have long been a source of fascination to me. In 2007, as part of a private visit to the peninsula, I walked the length of Gully Ravine. Armed with Stephen Chambers' excellent book, *Gully Ravine* [Note 8], and some prints of contemporary maps, I had little difficulty in finding Aberdeen Gully, as others have done before. It lies about 400 metres northeast of Artillery Row on the left and seaward side of Gully Ravine (assuming that one is walking from Gully Beach 'up' the gully), and, apart from its mapped location, it can be identified by walking a little further onwards and checking for the presence of another offshoot gully, the location of the 88th Field Ambulance. There is no similar geography in the area. Both side gullies are now heavily overgrown and the soft carpet on pine needles and leaves make it difficult to imagine the scene as it would have been almost 100 years ago, comprised of bare rock, sandbags, tents, dugouts and the constant coming and going of wagons and wounded men. This area of Helles is remote and untamed and receives very few visitors.

On the day of my visit, my plan to walk the whole length of Gully Ravine prevented me from exploring Aberdeen Gully further, but in 2008 another chance arose. In the good company of fellow association members Mark Perkins and Peter Ramsden, we stopped in Aberdeen Gully for a brief rest and a drink whilst en-route to Fusiliers' Bluff. I immediately set off to explore.

I had long been intrigued by Creighton's contemporary description of his dugout location, referred to above, which suggested that 'the path runs up into a little natural amphitheatre in the cliff, about fifteen yards in diameter'. I had seen no trace of this on previous visits, and I had rather assumed that erosion and later use had changed the place beyond all recognition.

It was not long however before my search at the rear of Aberdeen Gully revealed steep limestone walls ahead. A few moments later, emerging from the last of the trees, I was facing a narrow path, almost a trench, slightly rising, between two shoulders of rock. The cutting was thigh-deep in brushwood and other wash-down, and it took a few minutes of struggling before I emerged into what can still only be described as an amphitheatre.

It was a rare moment of discovery. The cliff was scooped out into a bowl shape, and on the right hand side, amongst other evidence of workings, was a clearly hand-cut overhang for a dugout (see photographs on pages 34–35). I am not for a moment suggesting that this latter was actually Creighton's – one could never know for sure – but the little area at the back of Aberdeen Gully had most definitely once been modified for occupation.

Ninety four years after Oswin Creighton left his home in Gully Ravine, nature is now inexorably reclaiming the area where he and so many others lived, slept, and died. The walls of the amphitheatre are eroding, and the sense of a dwelling place is fading with every rock fall. Above the cutting, however, the remains of the mule track which Creighton alludes to in his book are still visible [Note 9], providing further verification of this unique site.

Aberdeen Gully is a tiny part of the history of the Gallipoli campaign, but in my opinion it is well worth the effort of visiting, whilst its distinctive features yet remain. For those seeking to do so, whether privately or with the Association's excellent programme of tours, I cannot recommend highly enough Stephen Chambers' book *Gully Ravine*, mentioned above.

For me, it is such close personal connections between individuals and locations, which cause the Gallipoli campaign to exercise such a hold.

It can be argued, of course, that precise locations in battlefield settings are not important per se, and I would have some sympathy for such a view; to become overly fixated on a specific place is run the risk of limiting one's perspective. Once in a while however, to be able to draw so closely to a location which it is possible to verify from contemporary accounts is, I feel in some way, to further honour the men who gave so much – and many everything – in the campaign.

NOTES:

1. *With the 29th Division in Gallipoli* *. Revd O Creighton. Foreword. Longman Green and Co, London, 1916. Reprinted by Naval & Military. ISBN: 184734495
2. *The Diaries of Oswin Creighton*, edited by Louise Creighton. Public domain PDF file download. <http://www.archive.org/details/lettersofoswincr00creiala>
3. Photograph published in *The Letters of Oswin Creighton*, edited by Louise Creighton. Longmans, 1920. ASIN:B001NGX84U

4. * Ibid: Page 132.
5. * Ibid: Page 135.
6. * Ibid: Page 146.
7. www.cwgc.org.uk and search for 'Creighton', WWI.
8. *Gully Ravine*. Stephen Chambers. Leo Cooper 2003, Barnsley. ISBN: 850529239
9. * Ibid: Page 143.

ROYAL MARINE SERVICE REGISTERS ON-LINE

The National Archive (NA) have recently put more than 110,000 Royal Marine service registers (ADM 159) online enabling those who cannot visit Kew to search and download the information. The information covers those who joined the Marines between 1842 and 1936. The records can be searched by surname, first name and date of enlistment.

The registers indicate the ships the Marine served on, medals awarded, details of their conduct – or misconduct – and other service information. The initial search (i.e. to look up a name) is free but it costs £3.50 to access and download the details of each record.

The NA has also produced some search tips, and advice on understanding the registers and suggestions on where to look for more information. There is also an information leaflet entitled *Royal Marines: Other Ranks' Service Records: Military Record Information No. 45*.

Other naval records already available on-line (on the same basis as above) are:

RNVR Service Records from WW1 (ADM 337).

Royal Naval Division Service Records (ADM 339).

Royal Naval Officers' Records (ADM 196): These cover officers who joined the Royal Navy between 1756 and 1917.

WRNS: Women's Royal Naval Service (ADM 318 and 336): These provide background information on the service records of the WRNS between 1917 – 1919.

LOCATING THE BURIAL PLACE OF MY GRANDFATHER

Richard Hill

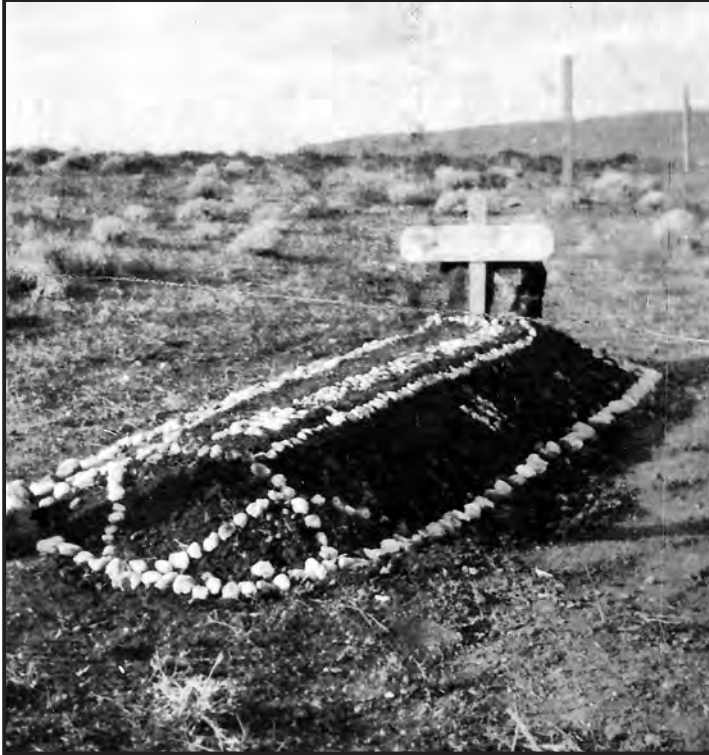
As a young lad I remember being told that my grandfather has been killed in Turkey and being shown a photograph of the grave. My father talked little about his father, no doubt because Dad was only 4 years old in 1915, so for another forty five years I rarely gave Lt. and Quartermaster William Hill DCM, 8th Bn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers, a second thought. But I remembered the photograph and the feeling of sadness that we could never know from the fairly featureless image where in Turkey he lay.

When I started my family history research seven years ago I, naturally, questioned my father about my grandfather. I was astonished when he presented me with his war diary, of which I had been unaware, and that photograph. At that point I determined to try my utmost to do four things: to discover how he died, where he died, where he was buried and to be the first of his family to visit the site of his grave.



Lt. William Hill DCM, 8th Bn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers

I soon became familiar with the Gallipoli campaign and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemeteries and quickly discovered that my grandfather's remains lay in Lala Baba cemetery. Even as a lad of eleven I should have realised that the photograph I had been shown was not his final resting place but his actual battlefield grave. This was really exciting. Unfortunately, apart from the grave itself, there was little to see except for some scrub and the silhouette of a distant hillside. Surely, it was impossible to identify the spot from that?

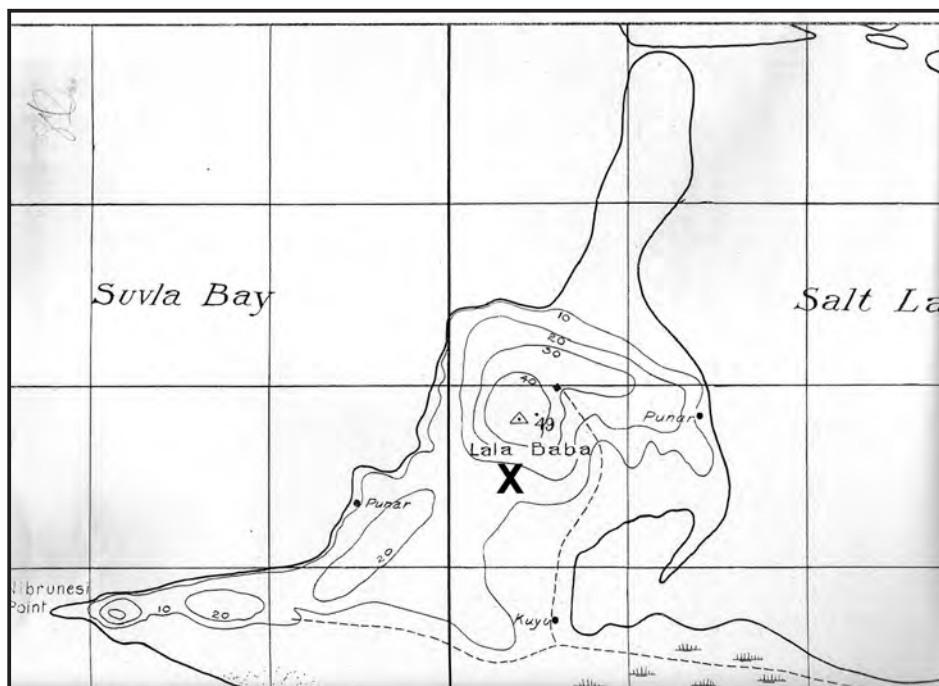


Lt. William Hill's grave in 1915

My Eureka moment came in the bath (honestly!) when I realised that there is an unambiguous connection between geographical coordinates, date, the sun's elevation and azimuth and the time of day. I knew the first two (Lala Baba and 11 October 1915). Were there any shadows on the photograph? If so that would give the sun's angle of elevation and we would have enough information to calculate time of day and the sun's azimuth. The latter was the most interesting, as that would give the compass direction that the photographer had been facing.

Unfortunately, I was visiting my mother at the time and the photograph was at home 250 miles away. The rest of my visit passed slowly – but upon my return I was overjoyed

to see that my grandfather had been buried on a sunny day! The calculations showed the time at of the photograph was between 1510 and 1530. The compass direction meant that the distant hillside was probably the Kiretch Tepe ridge but uncertainties in the measurements and assumptions made, meant that it could conceivably be the western flank of the Lala Baba hill itself. It was impossible to obtain a detailed modern map of Gallipoli showing the all-important contours but I was able to find several very detailed maps of the area at the National Archives and the Imperial War Museum. Plotting the outline of Kiretch Tepe from its contours gave a good match with the silhouette on my photograph whilst its gradient was too shallow for Lala Baba hill. I estimated that I had identified the grave's position to an accuracy of 200 metres – an improvement on 'somewhere in Turkey'!



Map showing the burial place of Lt. William Hill at Lala Baba

By comparison, finding out how my grandfather had died was easy. Being a professional soldier (an 'Old Contemptible') his Service file at the National Archives was bulging and discovering within it the official report on his death was one of the momentous events in my family history research. The report stated:

This officer met his death through the explosion of a bomb which he took to the edge of the cliffs to throw into the sea with the idea of killing fish.

Private Roberts 8th Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was below the cliffs on the sea level. He states he heard an explosion and saw Lieutenant Hill's body falling into the sea.

Several of the 7th Cheshires were near Lieutenant Hill and were wounded. The Officer commanding 8th Royal Welsh Fusiliers states that he cannot ascertain from anyone near any information as to the cause of the explosion. Lieutenant Hill's right arm was blown away and his right leg, his chest and his face badly injured. He was still alive when picked up, but died half an hour afterwards without regaining consciousness.

Where Lieutenant Hill obtained the bomb it is impossible to state, every effort to find out having failed. Lieutenant Hill had been living at the Regimental Dump.

The accident took place on the morning of the 11th October at Lala Baba. The bomb was one of the new black Cylindrical ones.

No court of enquiry was held but the matter was fully investigated by the Officer Commanding 8th Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Photographs of Lala Baba beach are numerous and show an extended line of cliffs so I was prepared to accept that the exact spot would elude me or that I would have to research tide tables to find places where it is possible to fall from the cliff into water. Then, another stroke of luck; the Aegean Sea is part of the Mediterranean – there are no tides to speak of. There is only one promontory where the sea continually laps its base so that must be it. Time to enter coordinates in my GPS and phone Turkish Airlines.

Standing at the exact spot where my grandfather had been killed, peering into the waters into which he fell, standing in the field in which his body had lain, my visit to Gallipoli could not fail to be memorable (see photographs on pages 35–36). But it was enhanced considerably by the huge kindness and hospitality of a Turkish man I met on the Internet. Onur met me at the airport, showed me Istanbul, put me up for the night at his home and then drove me to Gallipoli and stayed with me for two days in Eceabat.

I spent a week in Turkey and apart from achieving my four goals I was able to visit many sites of significance to the 8th RWF, thanks to the Battalion War Diary, trench maps and my GPS. One such place was the gully above Monash Valley where the battalion suffered severe losses while attached to the Australian 3rd Light Horse Brigade being in support during the latter's failed attack on The Nek. I had climbed down in to the gully while Onur waited for me at the top. As I charged back up to him, Onur's words came down to me "...just like your grandfather." But no machine-gun nest this time – just a dear Turkish friend.



*David Ray stands at the 29th Division Memorial, Stretton-on-Dunsmore
as Standards are lowered [Photograph - David Mason]*



*'Chelsea Pensioners' at the Australian War Memorial, Hyde Park Corner
after the Dawn Service on Anzac Day [Photograph - Phil Mills]*



The Revd. Canon Martin Warner, conducts the service at the Gallipoli Memorial, St Paul's Cathedral [Photograph Phil Mills]



'The Gallipolians' march off parade following the Anzac Day service at The Cenotaph [Photograph - Phil Mills]



The service at St Mary's Church, Harefield. Children prepare to lay flowers on the graves of Australian soldiers buried in the churchyard [Photograph - Phil Mills]



The service at St Mary's Church, Walton-on-Thames. Many New Zealand soldiers are buried in the churchyard [Photograph - Phil Mills]



*Wreath-laying after the service at the National Memorial Arboretum on 25 April
[Photograph -Nadir Imamoglu]*



John Crowe at the Helles Memorial after the service on 24 April



Participants and guests from all nations mingle after the service at the Turkish 57th Regiment Memorial. The Janissary Band are in red uniforms.



The service at the New Zealand Memorial, Chunuk Bair, on 25 April, conducted by Chaplain Don Parker



The 1 cent Newfoundland Stamp, issued in 1917, bearing the words 'Suvla Bay'



The western part of Aberdeen Gully, off Gully Ravine, showing the path leading to 'The Amphitheatre'



'The Amphitheatre' at the rear of Aberdeen Gully, off Gully Ravine, possibly used by the Revd. O Creighton



*Richard Hill stands on the cliff top at Lala Baba
where his Grandfather, Lt. William Hill, met his death*



Richard Hill holding the 1915 photograph of his Grandfather's grave overlooking the original burial place near Lala Baba



Marjorie Williams (nee Porter) in the front room of Anzac Cottage, Mount Hawthorn, W.A. where she was born in 1921

RESEARCH GROUP

Clare Church

Members are most welcome to join the Association's Research Group, which now meets on the **second Wednesday** of each month (**note the change of day**) at 11.00am at the National Archives. The meeting place is outside the bookshop, near the entrance.

Please contact me first if you intend to be present, or need further information. (Tel: 01590 673145 or by e-mail at clarechurch@tiscali.co.uk).

WAS GAS USED IN THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN?

Cenk Avci, Istanbul

Cemil Hakki was a Turkish newspaperman. He visited the Gallipoli battlefield 13 days after evacuation of the Allied troops. He was also the correspondent of *Milli Ajans* (National Information Service) and *Tanin*, a well-known Turkish newspaper of that time. He related his impressions in the area of Kayacik Agili, one of the strongly defended posts of the Allied forces at The Farm district – Saribayir.

Here is the translation of some sentences extracted from his report [See Note 1]

22 January 1916

'... Many holes are seen that were caused by detonated mines. These are over the tunnels, which were dug by both sides towards the firing line. Over this shellfire infested zone, and most of them are on our trenches, dark rusty yellow and greenish large spots are noticeable, caused by chemical gases. The spots are made by enemy shells carrying gas charges. The stains are plastered all along the trench line as I could see. It is likely that most of the soldiers who confronted the gas were not suffocated since fumes were dispelled by the air currents. However, they may have fainted after vomiting. By using the chemical gases, Britons have gone far beyond legal warfare. This could be their natural action or the result of their weakness. There are no stains of this kind over the English trenches. So, this confirms that we made legal warfare...'

The other accounts referring chemical warfare are taken from the diary of one young Turkish officer [Note 2]:

[Page 51] *November 2, 1915 – Tuesday*

'It is now 16.00 hrs ... Before firing their [British] howitzers, they fire a few shells. A shell, which landed on trenches of 6th Company, directly above Hulusidere [Hulusi Gully], spread smoke that smelled of ...[word not deciphered] acid ... Enemy plane overhead. Must be trying to assess results of their shelling ...'

[Page 83] *November 12, 1915 – Friday*

'16.00 hrs – Food arrives. A plane goes away after circling briefly overhead. Eat our meal. Wash our hands. Howitzer shell weighing 8 kilos explodes on the left wing of 125th Regiment. Thick pall of smoke covers area. It spreads over the plain and gully and mingles with smoke from fires lit by those preparing for evening.'

[Page 84] *November 13, 1915 – Sunday* [The day is wrong. It should be Saturday]

07.00 hrs – ... Deal with paper work. Then walk down hill to see our Doctor. He gives me a surgical mask. Said to be very effective against poison gas.'

[Page 137] *November 27, 1915 – Saturday*

'11.20 hrs-On my way, as I go by his dugout, [Battalion] Commander shows me a shell with strange fuse. Its explosive smells like aniseed. He also has a 10.5 [cm] howitzer shell. He has extracted from it some 'folemenat' [spelt in Turkish as shown – he could have meant formaldehyde]'

Here is another comment about this topic by Alan Moorehead in the book *Gallipoli* [Note 3]

'... This camaraderie with the enemy – the mutual respect of men who are committed to killing one another – was not peculiar to Gallipoli for it existed also in France; but on this isolated battlefield it had a special intensity. The Australian and New Zealand troops refused to use the gas masks that were now issued to them. When they were questioned about this they made some such reply as: "The Turks won't use gas. They're clean fighters ..."

Then Moorehead also put a note for the readers 'Gas was never used at Gallipoli'.

He continues later:

'... and with very few exceptions all the other generals, German, Turkish, French and British, in France as well as Gallipoli, believed the same thing. The artillery bombardment followed by the charge of the infantry was believed to be the surgical act that would bring success in the quickest way, and nobody had yet suggested any alternative to it except, of course, poison gas ...'

Actually, the British side became nervous when they received information from their Romanian ally. They reported that their agents saw German-made poison gas cans delivered to Turkey by the diplomatic couriers. This was totally a rumour. The Turks did not possess chemical weapons. However, upon this intelligence, the War Council permitted using poison gas in the Gallipoli campaign. Poison gas charges that were packed in 6,000 cans and thousands of gas masks were sent to the battlefield. But the geological structure of the peninsula and air currents over the zone, did not allow them to use widely. Allied forces fought mainly on the slopes and bottom of this hilly terrain. In case of shells carrying poison gas charges, the thick and heavy, suffocating gas clouds would have come down like a gaseous waterfall on their troops. Also, in some places, the space between opposing trenches was not more than 10 metres. Under those circumstances, gas could not be effectively since it would kill all the soldiers – friend or foe. Allied fleet tested the gas charges on the Turkish troops under good weather conditions (with no air currents) and mainly on the flat ground. And generally, gas charged shells were launched beyond the fire lines. In December 1915, evacuation of the Allied troops began. During this operation, unused poison gas charges were sent away together with those soldier groups who were shifted to the Egypt front.

Recently, a historical document was found in the Ottoman archives of the Turkish Prime Ministry, which throws light on the use of gas in the Gallipoli campaign. This official paper was sent from Gallipoli front to the Ministry of War in Istanbul. It is dated July 2, Friday 1915, and carries the signature of the permanent under secretary of the Ministry of War. On behalf of the Commander in Chief of the fighting forces, he wrote that the enemy forces were using chemical weapons. Then he stated, unfair employment of this weapons should be protested by the diplomatic channels via mediator neutral and friendly countries.

Could the use of poison gas charges be a reason for the high casualties on the Turkish side in the Gallipoli campaign?

NOTES

1. This report is taken from the book *Cepheden Mektupla* (Letters from the Front) – Pages 82, 83, 84, and 85. T.C. Milli Savunma Bakanlığı Ankara -1999. All of its articles are compiled from the archives of ATASE, Turkish General Staff. Ankara
2. These sentences are compiled from Lieutenant Mehmed Fasih's diary Vol. II. 'Lone Pine (Bloody Ridge) : Diary of Lt. Mehmed Fasih, 5th Imperial Ottoman Army Gallipoli, 1915'. Denizler Kitabevi, Istanbul 2001.
3. Page numbers have been omitted as they vary between editions.

Editor's Note: Perhaps the current research being undertaken in the Turkish Archives will throw further light on this issue [see *Completing The Story : Researching Gallipoli in*

the Turkish Military Archives by Harvey Broadbent in the Spring issue of *The Gallipolian* (No. 119)].

The British *Official History of the War : Military Operations – Gallipoli* makes no reference to the use of gas.

C E W Bean, who wrote *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914 – 1918* (Volumes 1 & 2 : *The Story of ANZAC*), refers to a secret report being received at the British GHQ in early July to the effect that ‘... a Turkish force of 100,000 strong was being collected for a final attack upon the allies in the Peninsula’. The following week, further information was supplied that at a [Turkish] council of war, held on 11 July, final arrangements had been made for the attack and that ‘... Gas, inflammable liquids and all possible means of dislodging the allies were to be employed; and chemicals for these were arriving at Constantinople’. Bean goes on to say that the reports ‘... were to some extent confirmed by Turkish prisoners captured at the time, who made vague reference to the arrival at the straits of a consignment of gas bombs’.

Later, in describing events in Autumn 1915, Bean notes that the gas attack, of which the British staff were rightly apprehensive, was never launched by the enemy... A few German shells or bombs containing ‘tear gas’, which caused the eyes to water, and was intended to hamper observation were thrown into The Apex and Brown’s Dip, and on the southern flank; the chemical which they contained was the only ‘gas’ used by either side at Anzac. Interestingly, however, in a lengthy footnote Bean states:

It was suspected that a different gas was on one occasion employed by the enemy in the mines at Helles, where lachrimatory (ie ‘tear gas’) was also employed by him. Information had been received that the Germans were determined to introduce gas into the Gallipoli fighting, and the increasing use of tear bombs was thought, probably rightly, to prelude its employment. In case the Turks made a gas attack the British had, at the Dardanelles, a sufficient supply of poison gas to enable them to retaliate by discharging it on a 1,000 yard front for half an hour. [Editor’s underlining] They were not, however, tricked into using it in reply to the enemy’s tear bombs. In some reports references are made to a number of Australians who were ‘gassed’ on the Peninsula. These, however, were men who were injured by the poisonous gases following the explosion of some of their own mines. If a mine, when fired, did not break through satisfactorily to the open air, or to the enemy’s workings, the poisonous gas left by the explosion remained in the tunnel endangering the life of anyone who entered it. Bean then goes on to give examples of incidents of this kind.

Perhaps the conclusion that should be drawn from the above accounts is that there were reports and concerns on both sides regarding the use of gas by the other and preparations may have been made, or considered, but whether gas was ever used is still far from proven.

PTE. J PORTER : PROUD RECIPIENT OF ANZAC COTTAGE

Anne Chapple – Granddaughter of Private Porter

Editor's Note: Readers will recall that the Spring 2009 issue of *The Gallipolian* (No. 119) featured photographs of Anzac Cottage taken by member Alan Martindell during a visit to Australia in 2008. In preparing some background information on the cottage to accompany the photographs, the Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia (Western Australia Branch) put me in touch with Anne Chapple who kindly agreed to contribute this article. I am most grateful to her.

.....

Cuthbert John Porter was born on 8 July 1883 in Dulwich, Surrey, England. An only child born to older parents, he lived a privileged existence, being educated at a 'posh' school and being indulged by his doting parents [See Note 1]. Cuthbert, a carpenter, showed an interest in the military life through his activities with the London Territorials whilst resident in England. He emigrated to Australia in 1911 and met his wife-to-be, Annie, in his newly adopted country.

When war was declared, Cuthbert wasted little time in enlisting in the AIF, as evidenced by his number: 1013. Perhaps understandably, Cuthbert chose at this time to ignore his given name, was enlisted and henceforth known as John Porter. Private John Porter became a member of 'C' Company, 11th Battalion.



Private John Porter, 1013, 'C' Company, 11th Battalion

He undertook his initial training, along with his Western Australian compatriots, at Blackboy Hill camp, taking as many opportunities as possible to dash down to Jolimont, where his wife was now living, to visit his newly born daughter, Nancy Jean. With the rest of his battalion, John set sail for Egypt on 31 October 1914 on the SS *Ascanius*. After some months in Egypt and on Lemnos Island, the men of the 11th Battalion were relieved and somewhat apprehensive when called into battle in late April 1915.

Private John Porter was one of the first to land at Gaba Tepe on 25 April 1915. The horrors that he and his fellow soldiers suffered can only be imagined. John was wounded either on 25 or 26 of April. His medical records record both dates. So, his war only lasted, at best, for two days. John was wounded in his left thigh and may well have been one of those left waiting for medical assistance on the beach at Gaba Tepe as his transport to hospital and subsequent medical treatment began on 29th April [Note 2]. His wound rendered him unable to return to combat and so he was invalided home, and returned to Western Australia on the second ship to arrive back after Gallipoli, the HMAS *Ballarat* on 30 July 1915.

John and his wife Annie were overwhelmed by the offer of Anzac Cottage. Indeed, it was reported that John had indicated to the War Council that he did not feel worthy of the honour as many of his countrymen had fought with him and had been equally as brave. However, this protest strengthened the resolve of both the War Council and the Mount Hawthorn Progress Association and they insisted that John and his family be given the cottage.



Anzac Cottage- Mount Hawthorn's Monument to Australian Valor [Note 3]

The formal opening of the cottage was delayed for several months whilst Councillor Sid Gibson went to the Eastern states for a holiday. However, on 15 April 1916, a rousing opening ceremony was held, complete with the Police Brass Band. Premier John Scadden gave a lively speech and the festivities continued for some time.

The next day, Sunday 16 April, the keys to Anzac Cottage were handed over to Private Porter, along with the conditions of the occupation, which stipulated, amongst other terms, that the Porter family could have full ownership provided they resided permanently in the cottage [Note 4].

John Porter, still debilitated from his wounds and the horror of war, asked Councillor Gibson to accept the cottage on his behalf, which he did.

John Porter, and his wife Annie went on to have another three daughters, all born in the front room of Anzac Cottage. My mother, Marjorie, now the only surviving daughter of the family, is understandably proud of her heritage and has fond memories of a happy childhood spent in the cottage. A photograph of Majorie in the front room of Anzac Cottage, where she was born in 1921, can be found on page 36.



Anzac Cottage Souvenir Book

My grandfather never spoke of his time at Gallipoli, but was rendered disabled for life from his injuries. Unable to continue in his trade as a carpenter because of his disability, he eked out an existence for his family through taking odd jobs and handyman work and his wife Annie also worked as a cleaner and laundress.

During World War II, perhaps in a reflection of the generosity awarded to them, my grandfather and grandmother welcomed servicemen from all parts of the world into Anzac Cottage and were pleased to give these people a taste of the family life that they missed so much. My mother joined the Australian Women's Army Service in World War II and served in the anti-aircraft corps. All four of the Porter daughters married servicemen either during or just after World War II and several of the Porter grandchildren have also served in the Australian Defence Forces.

John and Annie Porter lived out their lives in Anzac Cottage, forever grateful for this amazing gift given to them by the Mount Hawthorn Progress Association and the citizens of the area. My grandfather faithfully raised the 'Anzac' flag every Anzac Day and Remembrance Day at 4 am until his death in 1964.

Anzac Cottage, the house that was built in one day, still stands at 38 Kalgoorlie Street, Mount Hawthorn. The Cottage is now owned by the Town of Vincent, but from 1990–2006 was vested in the Vietnam Veterans Association of Western Australia. These men, in a reflection of the origins of Anzac Cottage, working with the residents and businesses of Mount Hawthorn, restored Anzac Cottage to its former glory.

The cottage has now become a tribute and a memorial not only to the Anzacs, but to all of the fighting men and women of Western Australia.

NOTES:

1. Verbal anecdote from Marjorie Williams, daughter of John Porter
2. Belford, Walter C *Legs Eleven: Being the Story of the 1th Battalion (AIF) in the Great War of 1914–1918*, Perth, WA.
3. Souvenir Booklet, 2nd edition, 1916
4. Contract between Mount Hawthorn Progress Association and Cuthbert John Porter November 15, 1921

THE LIFE AND LETTERS OF CAPTAIN (TEMP. MAJOR) CUTHBERT BROMLEY VC

Clive Summerson

In looking through the index of articles that have appeared in *The Gallipolian*, I was surprised that there are few references to Cuthbert Bromley who was awarded the VC for bravery during the landings at ‘W’ Beach on 25 April, and who perished when the SS *Royal Edward* was torpedoed on 13 August 1915. In researching the latter, I met Lance Bromley – Cuthbert’s nephew – who was kind enough to allow me access to letters written by his uncle. I should also like to thank William Facey for access to the letters to his mother, Mary (Cuthbert’s niece). Both have provided much general information about the family. The letters form the basis of the present article.

The Bromley Family

Cuthbert Bromley was born on 19 September 1878. Nearly all references to him give his place of birth as Seaford, Sussex but the 1881 Census shows his place of birth as Seaford, Sussex but his birth certificate states that he was born at 6 Earls Terrace, Shepherd’s Bush, London. He was the second son of John and Marie Louise Bromley (nee Bowman) who had four sons and a daughter – Hugh born 1877, Cuthbert 1878, Irene 1881, Raymond 1883 and Lancelot 1885.

The family were not from a military background. Cuthbert’s father was a civil servant having served in the Exchequer and Audit Department at Somerset House from 1869, including spells as Principal Clerk in Charge of the Audit of Navy Accounts in 1893, Principal Clerk in Charge of Audit of Army Accounts in 1901, and then as Accountant General of the Board of Education from 1903–9. He also served abroad on special service at Mediterranean stations in 1891 and in South Africa (Natal) in 1895. In 1908, John Bromley was knighted in recognition of his service to the Crown.

Cuthbert was educated at St Paul’s School, London where he was an enthusiastic athlete and strong swimmer but plans for a career in either medicine or the civil service were not pursued. Instead, he joined the Army, where following service with the 3rd King’s Liverpool Regiment, a militia unit, he gained a commission (2nd Lt.) in the 1st Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers on 4 May 1898. During his army career, Cuthbert wrote a number of letters to his mother and later to his niece Mary (daughter of Irene – Re or Rene in his letters). What becomes clear in the letters is Cuthbert’s love for his family and his sense of fun. The letters are generally short but are illustrated from time to time with captions and cartoons; unfortunately due to space constraints only a few of the cartoons can be reproduced.

The letters are in chronological order with notes and explanations shown thus [...]

Warrington 1896 : Service with the 3rd Bn. King's Liverpool Regt.

Thursday 9th July [1896]

My dearest Mother,

I wish you very many happy returns for your birthday and am sorry I am not at home to do so in person. I send you a small sweet dish herewith and I hope you will like it. I hope Rene had a successful party last Saturday but I trust she did not eat too many sweets but reserved herself for your birthday cake. I am awfully glad Toodles [one of Cuthbert's younger brothers] is doing so well at cricket, tell him I shall not forget my promise if he gets his colours.

Colonel Eyre Williams (commanding the depot) had to go & meet the Massachusetts Honourable Artillery Company at Liverpool the other day, he has a very poor opinion of them.

Last Sunday I marched the Protestants to Church (being asked to do so by a subaltern of the Regulars whose duty it was), a magnificent band preceded us, I may remark that the Protestants go to Church in far more style than the Catholics, and I marched in front of the Tommies in all the glory of my new tunic and helmet. I sat in the chancel and saw all the ladies admiring me (ladies always admire officers in uniform however insignificant they be) and every time I got up or sat down my sword gave a martial clank against the pew.

The Sergeant Major of my Battn. is a very good chap and catechised me on my drill etc. every day for 1 hour in my room. Tell Father I have got about £2 left or rather less of that. I shall want some more about the 20th to settle up with.

I hope Ray's [Raymund, his younger brother] bump has disappeared for good now. Skene, [Cuthbert's friend] I expect will be home soon. I wrote to him twice but have not yet got an answer. I hope Billy [the family pet] is treated as becomes the son of the second son of the house. A fellow here, named Armstrong has just bought a £5 brindled bull pup about the size of a rat.

Last Sunday afternoon I walked over to Chester, it is 21 miles away. By the way are they the 1st XI or 2nd XI colours which are trembling in the balance?

The weather is still very fine here, not too cold and not too warm.

With love to all and embraces for yourself

Ever your loving son

Cuthbert

P.S. Tell the others to write. When I get down in the morning it cheers me up immensely to see a letter in my section of the rack in the anteroom.



Sketch of Cuthbert Bromley included with letter to his mother 9 July 1898 captioned 'who is this bounder?'

Aldershot 1899 : Service with the 1st Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers

MALPLAQUET BARRACKS

ALDERSHOT

11th July 1899.

My dearest Mother

Many happy returns of the day, goodwill and best love to you on this your "let me think how old" birthday. May your shadow never grow greater and may you, to the end of your earthly existence, rest peacefully in calm serenity like unto a turtledove.

Father wrote to me the other day in haste "don't forget tomorrow the 7th July is Mammy's birthday". What price this for the memory of a loving husband? Well I shall see you on Saturday next I will cease my footle.

With my best birthday kiss

I am your loving son

Cuthbert



Sketch of John Bromley (later Sir John Bromley) accompanying letter of 11 July 1899 captioned 'The loving husband with bad memory'

Malta

Cuthbert became a full Lieutenant on 28 December 1898, and in August 1899 he was posted to Malta. Shortly after his departure, a family tragedy occurred. In September 1899, Cuthbert's younger brother Raymund died of Appendicitis. He was only 16 years old.

There is no information as to whether Cuthbert returned for his brother's funeral but it seems unlikely due to the outbreak of hostilities in South Africa in October 1899. The next we hear from Cuthbert is later that year at Christmas 1899.

*Fort Chambray (Malta)
20 Dec 1899*

My dearest Mother

Thank you very much indeed for the very handsome links you sent me. The crest is awfully well put on.

The puddings arrived today in perfect condition as far as I could see. When I came into the garden today, after having opened the box I observed the waiter, his eye glistening with gluttony absorbed in the contemplation of the outside of those puddings.

I heard from Mr Currie today – a very nice Xmas letter. [Captain] Hamilton it now appears has Mediterranean fever and this local native doctor never knew it!! and called it lumbago. I am sending you lace handkerchiefs – I hope you won't be bored at getting all lace from me.

I hear they have had snow in Bletchley.

I wish you a happy Xmas and may you live many happy years – a just reward for being the best mother a bad son ever could have.

Ever dearest Mother

Your loving son

Cuthbert

*Fort Chambray
9 January 1900*

My dearest Mother

Thanks very much for the New Year's cards. The Xmas puddings were excellent. The store puddings supplied the whole detachment (95 men) entirely.

The men dined at 5pm rested for an hour and then held a smoking concert which lasted until they were all ready for sleep. The Lance Corpl. who is our pianist accompanied the songs and towards the end was placidly performing on the keyboard. My idea of having their dinners in the evening was to get them to bed as soon as they were quite full of the good things of Xmas and it was successful as I had no cases of drunkenness the next day a thing very unusual with soldiers.

My reign is drawing to an end as we get 100 recruits on Friday under Captain Robinson of the[?] who is staying here until my..... .[?] arrives "Oh joy oh rapture unconfined" from Crete.*

Le Marchant [Gaspard de Colligny Le Marchant] and I dined together in solitary state on Xmas and New Year's days and thoroughly enjoyed that pudding [illustrated with a drawing of a pudding]. I see Bridges Militia are going to be mobilised for service somewhere (as yet undecided where). It is a trifle annoying to say the least of it to hear of those militia actually going to the front!

Grenfell is adverse to any more Regulars leaving Malta as he thinks that it would weaken the Garrison too much. Am having rather a busy time now. We still pay hockey & cricket at the latter I am becoming great, my last scores being 26 not out, 18 & 22 not out against what I consider to be respectable bowling. Tell Lance to trump that if he can.

We have weekly route marches and half way carry out wonderful schemes of my very own conception over the worst possible ground (ie.) very rocky and stony.

In the early morning I am to be seen and heard (very much so) drilling my detachment. It is very much pleasanter running this show than being run with it.

Thank Hugh exceedingly for those capital little pipes he sent me. Am writing soon to everyone.

Best wishes from Le M & myself

Ever your loving son

Cuthbert

[* The quote is from Gilbert and Sullivan – HMS Pinafore]

*Fort Chambray (Malta)
17/4/00*

My dearest Mother

I hope you will enjoy your well earned rest at Seaford.

For the wicked there is no rest. The WO [War Office] evidently believes in that as they have stopped all leave from Malta this summer. Perhaps when I am a bearded pard I shall see you all again.

I suppose you have taken up golf again with even more, I hope, than your pristine success (no sarcasm intended)

Well this fountain of knowledge having run dry I must say goodbye ever dearest little mother.

Your loving son

Cuthbert

[On the next page Cuthbert illustrates his letter with captions and drawings of his parents playing golf]

Cuthbert was promoted to Captain in 1901 and received his company on 15 June of that year. He was 22 years old. It was reported at the time that he and his friend and colleague Gaspard de Colligny Le Marchant (who also served in Malta) were the two youngest Captains in the British Army.

While Cuthbert remained in Malta due to sickness of his commanding officer Captain Hamilton (mentioned in the letter of 20 December 1899), his friend was posted to South Africa. Sadly, Captain Le Marchant, was killed in action the following year. I found the following sad entry reporting the death in *The Boer War Casualty Roll 1899 – 1902*.

Le MARCHANT – Captain Gaspard de Coligny – 1/Lancashire Fusiliers

Killed in action at Boschbult, Kleinhardts River. 31st March 1902. Aged 22. Great-grandson of General Le Marchant (killed at Salamanca). Born April 1879.

Africa and India

Unfortunately, no letters survive for the next 9 years, but an idea of Cuthbert's service career during this period can be gleaned from the records held at the National Archives.

In 1901 – 1903 Cuthbert was seconded for service with the West Africa Frontier Force (Southern Nigeria Regiment) and saw action in the punitive expedition to the Aro country and in Southern Nigeria. For his services, he received the African General Service medal with 2 clasps (Aro 1901-1902 and Southern Nigeria 1902). The medal ribbon sometimes seen in pictures of Cuthbert reflects this little known service in Africa during which he must have experienced a good deal of rough bush fighting. While in Southern Nigeria, he also gained the Royal Humane Society's Certificate for saving the life of a native – an incident that necessitated Cuthbert holding the man up in the water for some hours!

Family tragedy again struck in September 1906 when Cuthbert's elder brother Hugh (whose occupation is given in the 1901 census as a civil servant) died in Mombasa, East Africa, the result of either a snake or insect bite.

During 1906-7 Cuthbert Bromley had taken the post of Superintendent of Gymnasia, Irish Command, but soon resigned this post in favour of returning to his own regiment. In 1909, he rejoined the Lancashire Fusiliers, where the 1st Battalion was in India. In the years that followed, under his direction and enthusiasm the battalion won a number of Army championships in football, boxing, and cross-country running.

Two short letters survive from March and November 1909, one from Meerut and one from Jawalapur.

Meerut
4th March (1909)

My dearest Mother,

Just a line to say I'm still going strong. We move to Chakrata next week and after a few months to Mooltan [Multan] and Shaval. It is uncertain yet whether we spend most of our time at Mooltan or Shaval. Shaval is in the Murree hills and is the hill station for Mooltan.

I've been very busy lately taking an active part in a big assault at Assam here. I enclose a letter which may interest Father, it's from our General who commands the Cavalry Brigade here.

Meerut is very gay this week – what they call the “Meerut Week” is on. Races, theatricals, amateur and otherwise, dances and the first (?) Regimental Polo tournament, the final takes place tomorrow between the 10th Hussars and King's Dragoon Guards the XXth being “at home” on the ground.

Love to all. Ever your loving son

Cuthbert

The General's Letter

March 1909
Meerut
United Province

My dear Bromley

I am writing to thank you for the great assistance you gave me in the preparation for and in the carrying out the programme for the assault at Assam. I think it is the best we have had here for some years and it could not have been the success it was without your and the fusiliers hard work.

Yours sincerely

W S Peyton (?)

*The Camp
Jawalapur
Nr. Hardwar
4/11/09*

My dearest Mother

Just time for a hurried line before the mail goes. We're in a very nice camp here digging elaborate forts on the Russo Japanese war pattern, prior to manoeuvres against them later on when they're to be attacked with live shot and shell.

Rather interesting work but inclined to be hot in the sun. Tomorrow we celebrate Inkerman day.

Hardwar the big town near here is a great place for Hindu worship one might almost say fanaticism.

Love to all. Ever your loving son

Cuthbert



Cuthbert Bromley: Multan 1911

In November 1913, the Battalion had moved to Karachi from which Cuthbert wrote the following letter to his mother.

Karachi
21/11/13

My dearest Mother

Many thanks for your long letter received at length. We've moved here for 2 or 3 years now. It's of course a better place than Mooltan and it's nice to be near the sea although it's not a very attractive bit of the coast.

The chief drawback is it's not India. Poodle faking [An old Raj or Indian Army officer's term for one who flirts with older women to gain influence, or otherwise flirts outrageously with women] is predominant and very poor polo but some fairly good racing.

I'm very disappointed with the change(s). I should love to come home but as I told father it's out of the question.

I was offered the adjutancy of the 4th Reserve Battn. at Bury but thought it was too hopeless a job to take. Well, in 2 or not more than 3 years I shall be with you again.

Mary is going very strong.

Love to all

Ever your loving son

Cuthbert

PS I've not written lately owing to the move. At present were in camp until the Yorks & Lincs clear out of their barracks on 29th Nov.

PPS Many thanks for parcel just received.

In May 1914 Cuthbert was appointed Adjutant of the 1st Battalion.

The First World War

When war broke out in August 1914, the Lancashire Fusiliers were still in Karachi. The Regiment moved to Aden in October before sailing for England – it arrived at Avonmouth on 2 January 1915. From Avonmouth it proceeded to Nuneaton joining 86th Brigade of the 29th Division.

Unfortunately just as Cuthbert had returned to England, his father, Sir John Bromley, died on 14 January 1915. Cuthbert was given leave to attend the funeral and wrote two letters – one to his niece whom he had never met (because of his service in India) and

one to his mother. Cuthbert and his niece continued to write to each other whilst he on active service in the Dardanelles. His letters to her were always comically illustrated.

Nuneaton
19 January 1915

My dear Mary

I hope to see you next Friday morning. I will let you know what train to meet.

I enclose a recent photograph of myself but I'm not really so terrible as I appear in it.

I don't think I've ever looked forward so much to meeting anyone as I have to you and I hope in the short time I have with you to find you well up to the Bromley traditions in walking.

Fond love & many xxxxxxxx. Ever your affectionate uncle

Cuthbert.



Sketch accompanying letter of 19 January 1915 to his niece captioned "Nunky"

Nuneaton
Tuesday
20 January 1915

My dearest Mother

I shall be with you by train arriving 11.2 am on Friday. I think it's best to finish off my shopping on Thursday and then have my time complete without any worries.

I hear we are to be ready to move by 15th February so don't forget about those knitted things. Our Brigade is rather a good one Lancashire Fusiliers, Royal Fusiliers, Royal Munster Fusiliers and Royal Dublin Fusiliers. All regulars and no scallywags.

Fondest love, my admiration for you increases every day, you know what I mean.

Ever your loving son

Cuthbert.

At the end of January, Cuthbert was staying with his brother Lancelot, a surgeon at Guy's Hospital. London. Lancelot and his wife Dora were expecting their first child in 1915.

Warden's House
30/1/15

My dearest Mother

Herewith cheque book.

I got up to town a little bit late but got through my shopping all right and met Lance and signed the necessary documents giving Lance power of attorney until one month after the war. There is no need for you to hand over to Lance. You will have to sign whatever is necessary and Mr Bikker (?) will probably bring the papers to Seaford unless you like to come up to town to do it.

Dora is in bed and not getting up today. I hope I've not tired you out with those walks and hope they did you good.

Many thanks to Re for the splendid way she catered for me. I feel all the better for my holiday but rather swollen.

I will write again from Nuneaton.

Fondest love and many xxxxx to you all and a special one for Mary.

Ever your loving son

Cuthbert.

Nuneaton

9/2/15

My dearest Mother

I am sending today my heavy kit to you at Sutton Corner. I enclose a list of practically all of it. The only things valuable are the really good red and blue uniform and new riding boots and new Wellington boots.

My khaki and white is useful to keep but by no means essential if it's in the way. I have told Messrs. Cuter & Co, Pall Mall to send my busby to you.

Still very busy. I will let you know soon if I want anything. Tell Re there is room for the knitted things of Dora's if she likes to send them. I will distribute them.

No news.

Love to Re and Mary. I will write tomorrow to Mary but my day is very full.

Ever your loving son

Cuthbert.

Editor's Note: The second instalment of this article, tracing Captain Cuthbert Bromley's departure from England, journey to Gallipoli and service there, with the letters he wrote, will appear in the next issue.

QUARTERMASTER'S STORES

Silk Ties – silk, non-crease ties in the Gallipoli Association colours – green bands for the land of Gallipoli and blue-grey for the waters of the Dardanelles, with narrow stripes of navy-blue and scarlet for the services – are now available at **£16.75** including UK postage. [Europe £17.00, Rest of the World £17.35]

Standard Tie – in Association colours is available price **£6.50** including UK postage. [Europe £6.75. Rest of the World £7.10]

Blazer Badge – hand embroidered wire and silk blazer badges are now available (see illustration in Spring 2002 *Gallipolian*) at **£7.50** including UK postage. [Europe £8.25, Rest of the World, £8.75]

Lapel Badge in the Association colours is available price **£5.50** including UK post. [Europe £6.25, Rest of the World £6.75]

Binders, which hold 6 copies of *The Gallipolian* are available finished in attractive simulated leather, coloured maroon, with the title blocked in gold on the spine. Price per Binder is **£6.75** including post in the United Kingdom [Europe £7.25, Rest of the World £8.25]

Note: Some prices have been increased to reflect the cost of items to the Association, and rising postal charges.

Orders with payment, cheques and postal orders made out to 'The Gallipoli Association', to the Secretary, James Watson-Smith, Earleydene Orchard, Earleydene, Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 9JY.

SIMPSON BADGES

The Gallipoli Association holds a small stock of these attractive badges produced by the ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee of Queensland. The Badge is an oval design (2 inch) showing Simpson in classic pose with his donkey. Each badge costs **£2.50** plus a sae, orders please to The Treasurer, Gallipoli Association, Frinton Cottage, 3 Cambridge Road, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9HN.

INFORMATION PLEASE

Do you have a question about some aspect of the Gallipoli campaign? Something perhaps you need to know about a regiment, a ship perhaps, or an individual, but have so far failed to find the answer. Hopefully, there is someone among the membership who would be pleased to help? So please do not hesitate to send in your questions, long or short, share your enquiry with the membership, and hopefully someone will provide the answer or, if not the answer, another avenue or two to be explored.

I have received three requests for assistance. The first comes from **Richard Hill** who has a particular interest in the **8th Bn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers** and would like to contact anyone else with a similar interest.

The second comes from **Mr G W Honeywill** whose father was a Royal Marine who served on the battleship **HMS Exmouth** which was sent to the Dardanelles in May 1915 and operated there until November. Mr Honeywill would like to find out more about the actions of the marines from *Exmouth* during that seven-month period. He believes that his father served ashore for part of that period and has a photograph of him at a field kitchen, below what appear to be some cliffs.

Finally, another naval query, **Mr George Moors** writes: I note that a mention was made of the cruiser **HMS Europa** in the last paragraph of the article relating to 'Recent Sales' on page 60 of the Winter 2008 edition. My interest lies in the fact that my maternal Uncle, **Petty Officer Harry Turner, MSM** served on this ship as well as on **HMS Julius** and **HMS Caesar** during the First World War. I was wondering if anyone might have known him, or the role played by these ships during the war. He was born in 1881 and died in 'Constantinople' on 24 April 1919. He is buried in the Military Section of Haydarpasha Cemetery in Istanbul – I have a photograph of the WW1 plot in the cemetery this but not of his grave. Any help you can give on this matter would be much appreciated.

If anyone can assist, please send the information to the Editor and I will pass it on. Alternatively, I will put the correspondent(s) in touch with the person who made the request.

A REQUEST

M. Jacques Ragot, who lives in Amelie, France, has a particular interest in the Gallipoli campaign would like to hear from any Gallipoli Association members in France. Jacques, who speaks English, can be contacted on: jacquesragot@gmail.com

‘THE LAST MAN OUT’

Following the article under the above title in the Winter 2008 issue, I have published several other accounts and claims. The story of the last-minute departure of General Sir Stanley Maude is well known but **Richard Hill** has provided the following account from someone who was there.

The following letter was sent to the regimental journal of the Royal Welch Fusiliers in April 1935 by Lt. Col. Edward Stretch DSO, DCM, MSM who laid claim to being the first NCO into Kimberley and the last man out of Gallipoli. In it he details a report that General Sir Stanley Maude was the last man off and then follows this with his own claim to that distinction (although he does appear to qualify it slightly):

Dear Sir

Enclosed is a cutting from a local paper, ‘Last to leave Gallipoli’. Commander R. Langton Jones in a recent letter to The Sunday Times claimed to be the last to leave the shores of the Gallipoli Peninsula. ‘Whilst not wishing to contest his claim to be the last to leave the shores, I think,’ writes rtd Lt-Col W.N.S.Alexander to that journal, ‘the last man to step off the beach was either the late Gen. Sir Stanley Maude, the then GOC 13th Div or one of the small party with him’.

This is what happened to make the general so late that he nearly missed the last lighter to leave the shore. Two lighters were provided to take off the rearguard of the 13th Div from Gully Beach in the rear of a section of the line it was holding, but owing to the heavy seas, one lighter ran ashore. 650 men were crammed in the remaining lighter which got away all right and discharged them on a transport, but the General, some members of the staff of the Division and 150 officers and men still remained at Gully Beach.

Under instructions from W Beach we left at about 4.30 am to embark in two lighters which were still there, the General with two of his staff going by the road over the cliff. The 150 officers and men and myself moving along by the shore, which was considered further. When my party had reached W Beach, the General had not turned up there, the two lighters were therefore kept alongside the jetty to wait for him and everyone embarked in the lighter which was ready to cast off at a moment’s notice. We waited there perhaps half an hour, our surroundings brightly lit up by the burning dump on the cliff above and we wondered whether the General or the Turks would arrive first and what would happen when the main magazine just over our heads went up. Just before it did so, plunging us into the darkness and hauling “jam pots” all around us, I saw some people run down the beach and embark on the lighter which was inshore of us.

These were Sir Stanley Maude and his party who had been unable to find a gap in the wire until luckily a demolition party came along who showed them the way through.

We lost no time in getting off. The other lighter, more lucky than we were, soon found accommodation on a transport.

All our requests to be taken on board met with a blank refusal and an invitation to go to "Helles" so that there was nothing for it but to push off in the gale to Imbros where thanks to our "Captain" we arrived safely, though we narrowly missed being carried by the wind back to the Gallipoli Peninsula.'

As nothing appears in the History you so kindly sent me, it is only fair for me to let you know that the 8th RWF were the last troops to leave Gallipoli. We were holding the line at the top of the gully which is about 4? miles from Gully Beach and we were supposed to arrive there at about 2.30 am. There lighters would be waiting to take us off but when we arrived, the lighters were not available and we were therefore forced to proceed to W Beach.

It was the wire that our troops had put down which delayed us so much as we had to cut our way through and then relay again so as to delay "Johnny Turk" in case he was coming up behind us and by the time we had arrived at W Beach it was getting towards daylight.

We had heard the explosion of the dump and were getting "the wind up" thinking that we would be left on the peninsula.

However, it was a great relief to discover a lighter still there and as it was a case of devil (or the Turks) take the hindmost, it would be difficult to say who was actually the last person to leave, but I can definitely say that the 8th RWF were the last troops to leave.

Kind regards, Paddy Stretch

Editor's Note: Without wishing to be seen to endorse any claim, I think this contribution might be a suitable point to conclude the interesting round of correspondence about who was 'The Last Man Out'.

Readers might like to know that this is not the first time the issue has been discussed in *The Gallipollian*. In Autumn 1970 (Issue No. 3), a veteran member **Major Colin Avery**, formerly a Sergeant in the Plymouth Bn. RMLI, recalled that he received orders to retire just after 1.00am on 9 January and boarded HMS *Grasshopper* from the River Clyde around 2.00am. He does, however, note that when they were on board, they heard explosions as sappers blew up all they could on the beach.

Another veteran member, **T H Edmunds** formerly RE (Signals) wrote in issue No. 9 (Autumn 1972) that he had been ordered by Major Crocker (O/C Signals Office) to send a message to 9th Corps HQ (which had been transferred to a ship in Suvla Bay) reporting that the evacuation from Suvla was complete, and that he '... arrived at the

landing stage just after the last lighter was pushing off, and that with the possible exception of two naval ratings he had the distinction of being the last to leave Suvla insofar as he could ascertain. In the same issue, **Commander H S Ewart** wrote saying that he believed he had been the last to leave Anzac.

Perhaps the last word should go to another veteran **George Dale** of the RFA, whose letter appeared in issue No. 22 (Winter 1976). Mr Dale said he had once met 'a baggy-eyed humbug' who claimed to have been the last off at Suvla and was then sent to Helles, where he was again last off. Mr Dale commented that in his view there should be an election, raffle or even a free-for-all to choose the 'Lasties' from the three evacuations, and that those selected '... should be hallmarked with 'LAST MAN' tattooed on each manly chest!'

BOOKS

THE SECRET BATTLE

Author: A P Herbert Publisher: Frontline Books an imprint of Pen & Swords Books 2009.
Contents 256 pages, ISBN 978-1-84832-521-0, Price £14.99

A P Herbert served in the Royal Naval Division at Gallipoli and later on the Western Front and this, his first book, was published in 1919. My first copy was the 7th edition published in 1936, while between 1963 and 2001 no fewer than five editions by different publishers have appeared. Now a sixth, this having a bonus feature, an introduction by the historian Malcolm Brown.

With a sub-title *A Tragedy of the First World War* the main character of the novel is Harry Penrose. On joining the battalion shortly before it left Plymouth for Gallipoli, Penrose is described as 'a shy, intelligent-looking person, with smooth, freckled skin and quick, nervous movements ———.' About half the book is taken with his service at Gallipoli from where he was eventually invalided off suffering with dysentery. Now newly married the remainder concerns his time on the Western Front, his eventual Court-Martial and execution, when – 'He was shot by his own men, by men of D Company'. Indeed, the book was inspired by the execution of Sub-Lieutenant Edwin Dyett, Nelson Battalion, RND on 5 January 1917 see *For God's Sake Shoot Straight!* by Association member Len Sellers.

The Foreword by Winston Churchill written for the first edition of *The Secret Battle* commences 'This story of a valiant heart tested to destruction took rank when it was first published a few months after the Armistice, as one of the most moving novels produced by the war'. Later Churchill says of Harry Penrose 'He had much to give. He gave it all. But a blind Fate declared it was not enough' and concludes 'It is a soldier's

tale cut in stone to melt all hearts'. One can ask for no better recommendation for the book than these eloquent words.

David Saunders

THE HEART OF A DRAGON THE VCs OF WALES AND THE WELSH REGIMENTS

Author: W Alistair Williams Publisher: Bridge Books 2008 Contents: 480 pages, numerous illustrations and maps. ISBN 1-84494-028-4. Price £35.00

For the past quarter of a century the same author's book *The VC's of Wales and the Welsh Regiments* has been a constant source of reference. Now he has greatly expanded this work to produce two sumptuous volumes. The first volume of *Heart of a Dragon* was published in 2006 and covers the years 1854 to 1902. The second volume covers the years 1914 to 1982 and forty-four heroes who were either Welsh or served in a Welsh regiment. The regiments being the 1st King's Dragoon Guards, 2nd Dragoon Guards (Queen's Bays), The Welsh Guards, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, The South Wales Borderers, The Welch Regiment, Monmouthshire Regiment, Montgomeryshire Yeomanry and the Welsh Horse.

Two of the accounts concern Gallipoli, both at Sedd-el-Bahr, the Victoria Cross heroes William Williams on 25 April and Charles Doughty-Wylie the following day. That concerning Williams takes eleven pages with twenty-three illustrations, including that which graces the front cover of *The Gallipolitan*. Also featured is the U-boat gun memorial to Williams in Beaufort Square, Chepstow which was presented to the town by King George V, and where a short service of remembrance is held each 25 April.

Twelve pages, 20 illustrations and a map are devoted to Doughty-Wylie, who I can claim first sparked my interest in the Gallipoli campaign. Half-a-century ago I chanced upon his memorial, then a German machine gun set in front of the war memorial, in the quiet village of Thebberton, East Suffolk. Perhaps his story is the one that fascinates most visitors to the Peninsula for he lies in a lone grave, the only Allied one, close to where he fell. Then the intriguing story of his grave being visited in November 1915 by a women. The author discounts that this was his wife Lilian, for she was working at a Red Cross Hospital in France at the time. It was more likely to have been the archaeologist Gertrude Bell with whom Doughty-Wylie had a very close friendship, who travelled from Marseilles to Egypt at this time taking ten days with two days unaccounted for on her journey.

No fewer than ten of the other forty-two VC's described in *The Heart of a Dragon* had served at Gallipoli before moving to the Western Front and their acts of bravery. As Sir Ian Hamilton said of his friend Doughty-Wylie, he "was no flash-in-the-pan VC

winner. He was a steadfast hero.” A fine book concerning so many steadfast heroes which, together with the first volume, deserves a place on all our shelves, so make sure you reserve space for they measure 10.5 by 8.25 inches and are well over an inch thick.

David Saunders

GALLIPOLI :THE END OF THE MYTH

Author: Robin Prior Publisher: Yale University Press. Contents: 287 pages, 28 maps and 24 illustrations. ISBN 978-0-300-14995-1. Price: £25.00 (Hardback).

Robin Prior, a visiting professorial fellow at the University of Adelaide and visiting fellow, University of New South Wales, Australian Defence Force Academy may be known to readers through two other works – *Passchendaele : The Untold Story* (1996), which he co-authored with Trevor Wilson, and *The Somme* (2005).

In his current work, the author challenges the view he considers prevalent in current literature that the Gallipoli campaign was full of alleged turning points and was the lost opportunity of the First World War. In doing so, he carries out a careful examination of the alleged ‘missed opportunities’ and produces a detailed account of the campaign and places it in the context of the war as a whole. He concludes that the campaign was not ‘almost won’ but decisively lost.

Whilst the publisher’s statement – in promoting the book – that Prior is ‘... the first historian to acknowledge that the French were even there’ is nonsense, and I would take issue with the author’s figures for the number of French dead (8,000), which he equates with Australian losses, the book is otherwise well-researched and well-written.

I found it refreshing, from a personal viewpoint, that although accounts by ordinary soldiers are quoted, they do not predominate as is sometimes the case in books about the Gallipoli and the First World War generally. Instead, the author adopts an analytical approach to the conduct of the campaign and its participants on both sides. The author is critical of Churchill and most of the senior officers involved in the campaign – Anzac as well as British – although he takes care to highlight the factors that had a bearing on the decisions reached. Interestingly too, he contends and produces evidence to support the view that the troops at Anzac were not landed in the wrong place.

The book is a valuable addition to the increasing body of work about the campaign.

Foster Summerson

GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION TOURS IN 2010

Members will wish to know that two tours are being considered for 2010 – the 95th Anniversary of the campaign. The dates are:

15 – 23 May

11-19 September

There will be a maximum of 20 places available for each tour; and a minimum of 12.

Hugh Jenner, Tours Officer

THE 1915/16 ‘X’ LIGHTERS

Gallipoli Association member **Dave Mallard** has produced a film, in DVD format, entitled *A Brief History of the 1915/16 ‘X’ Lighters : The wreck of the water lighter X 127 [L9]*. The film contains a brief account of the order and construction of the 1915/16 ‘X’ Lighters, and a plan of the 1916 ‘Y’ Lighters. This sets the scene for the other parts of the film, which focus on the wreck of X 127 in Marsamxette Harbour, Manoel Island, Malta GC and feature fascinating underwater shots of X 127 including the Engine Room Door and one of Tangye Engines. The film also shows how the engines were started.

It took Dave 4¹/₂ years research to identify X 127, and 60/70 hours diving on the wreck, which he is currently trying to get protected from development work proposed for Manoel Island.

Dave has generously offered to send copies of the film to Association members interested in this subject without charge*. He also has a complete list of the 200 1915 ‘X’ Lighters and 25 1916 ‘X’ Lighters with builders/yard nos. history etc. and would be happy to help members who are looking for information on ‘X’ Lighters.

He would also like to hear from members who have any information or photographs of ‘X’ Lighters, especially information on X 127 (L9), as he would like to copy any photographs and put them on his website [www.xlighter.org]. Dave can be contacted at 11 Yarborough Close, Godshell, Isle of Wight PO38 3HS.

* Dave says he is happy to pay the postage but I am sure anyone taking him up on his kind offer would want to make a donation to cover the latter – Hon Editor

Disclaimer: The observations and opinions expressed in articles and letters published in *The Gallipolian* are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of either the Editor, or of the Association.