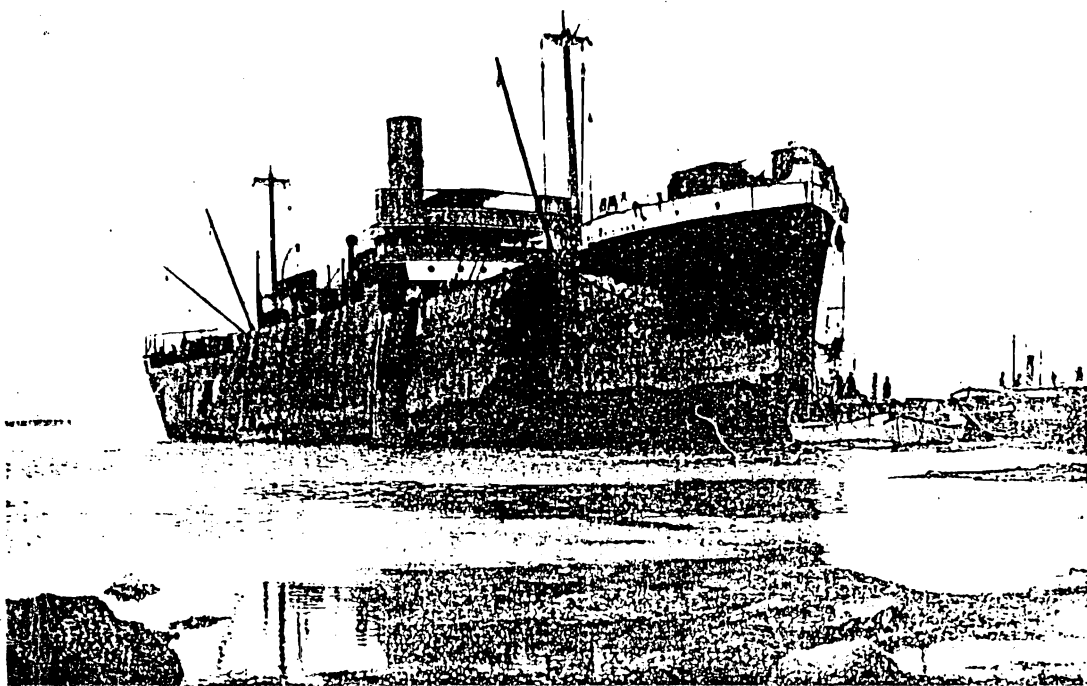


THE GALLIPOLIAN

THE JOURNAL OF THE
GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION



HMTS 'RIVER CLYDE' AT V BEACH 25 APRIL 1915

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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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CONTENTS

Page 3 - 4	Anzac Day Ceremonies
4	A Sculptor with 29 Division
5 - 6	New Members
7	Change of Address; Amendments
8	Obituaries
9	Hon. Treasurer, Membership Secretary Autumn Lunch
10	Hon. Treasurer's Report
11 - 14	The Gallipoli Memorial Chapel and Lectures
15 - 16	An English Oak, Follow the Drum
17 - 18	HMS <u>Minerva</u>
19 - 28	Come on the Fighting Fifth!
29 - 34	Gallipoli Victoria Crosses - Edward Courtney Boyle VC
35 - 38	A Night in a Crater
38 - 39	Book Review

ANZAC DAY CEREMONIES

We have been kindly invited to join the Anzacs at the Cenotaph and at Westminster Abbey on 25 April. Our wreath will be laid at the Cenotaph by the President.

THE CENOTAPH

Our party should assemble at the kerbside opposite the north (Trafalgar Square) side of the Cenotaph before 10.45 under the direction of a representative of the Association who will give the order to march the short distance to the Cenotaph.

THE ABBEY

Please write to the Hon. Secretary if you intend to be present at the service which will commence at 1200. Tickets for the reserved seats may be collected from Norman Pollitt at the Cenotaph, or in the Abbey porchway. The Hon. Secretary will be in Gallipoli for the 25th. A bus will be available to travel from the Cenotaph to the Abbey but must be boarded straight away. Please Note: Seats for Association Members will be reserved on the left beyond the choir stalls as you look towards the altar. Ensure that on arrival at the Abbey you inform the usher that you are a member of the Association and ask to be directed towards the reserved seats.

THE LUNCH

The lunch commencing at 1400 will be held at the Officers' Mess, Chelsea Barracks by kind permission of Lieutenant-Colonel H.R.G. Wilson, Officer Commanding 1st Battalion Irish Guards.

Price: Veteran Members	£8.00
Associate Members	
and Guests	£12.00

PLEASE NOTE THAT PAYMENT FOR TICKETS MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE TOGETHER WITH A SAE TO THE SECRETARY BEFORE 15 APRIL. NUMBERS LIMITED TO 50.

A bus will be available for the journey from the Abbey, and anyone wishing to board this should gather near the main entrance to the Abbey. Members are asked to wear medals and the usual name tag for ready identification. Guests are cordially welcome. A cash bar will be available in the ante room at the Officers' Mess from 1245 onwards. Members are requested not to arrive before this time.

Members not travelling by bus from the Abbey should report to the sentry at the gate in Chelsea Bridge Road and be prepared to identify themselves. Parking is available at the Barracks all day so that cars may be left here while at the Cenotaph and the Abbey.

A SCULPTOR WITH 29 DIVISION

By D.R. Saunders (928)

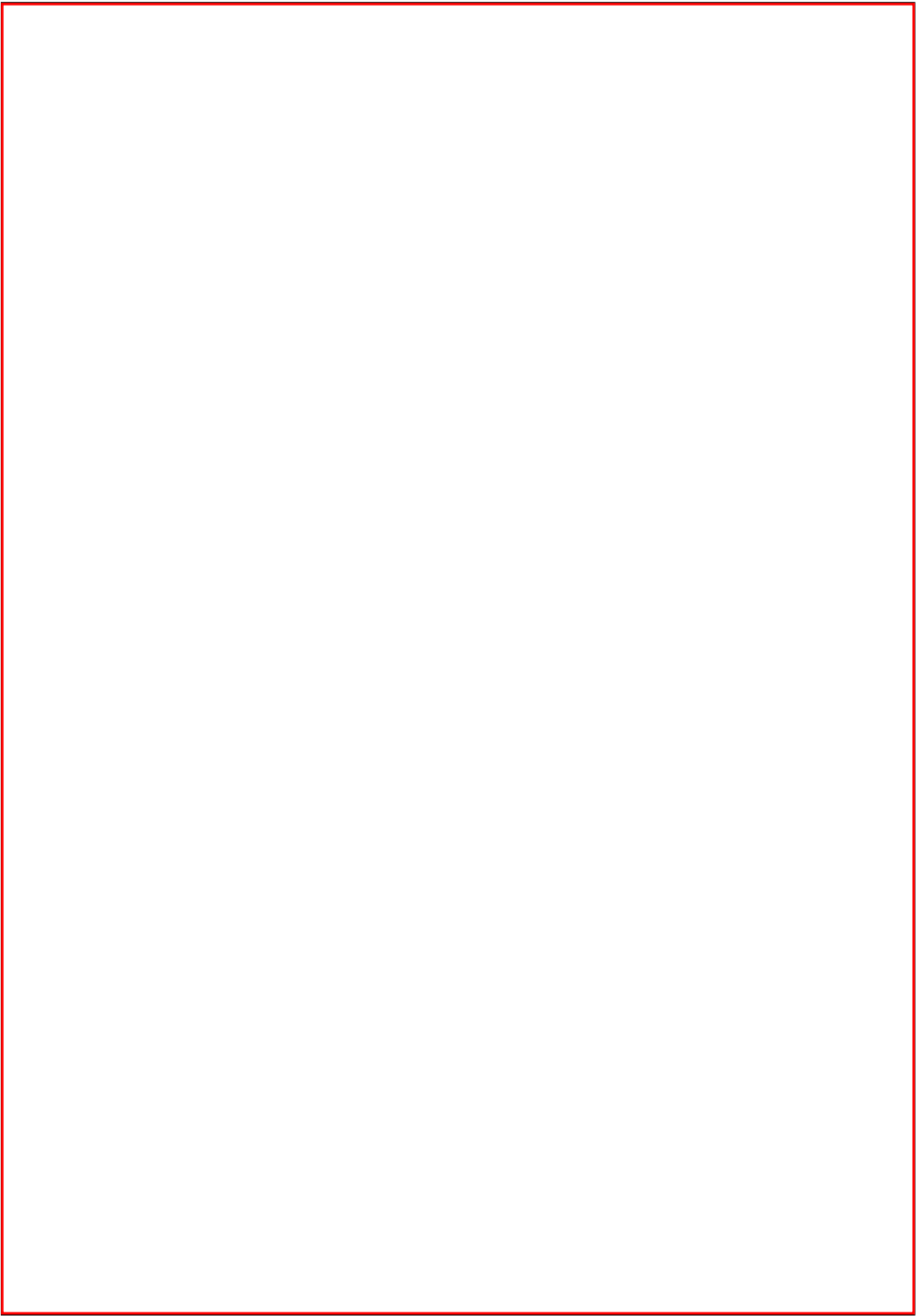
Many members will be familiar with the superb Royal Artillery Memorial at Hyde Park Corner, a tour de force amongst memorials, surrounded by the roar of traffic at one end of the busiest corners of the world. Rather fewer will know that the sculptor was Charles Jagger born at Kilnhurst, Yorkshire on 17 December 1885. In the autumn of 1914 he enlisted in The Artists Rifles then transferred to The Worcestershire Regiment, sailing on 23 September 1915 as a Second Lieutenant with a draft of replacements for the Dardanelles; the 4th Worcesters were then serving with the 88th Infantry Brigade of the 29th Division. He was shot through the left shoulder on 5 November and evacuated to Malta. Later with the 2nd Worcesters he was shot twice at Neuve Eglise during the desperate days of April 1918. For his bravery during this action he was awarded the Military Cross. In addition to the Royal Artillery Memorial, Charles Jagger is noted for many more including the Soldier Reading a Letter at Paddington Station and the Hoylake and West Kirby Memorial. He died of a heart attack at the early age of 49 in 1934.

A short account of his life and work is published in the bi-monthly magazine Military Illustrated Past and Present for Feb-March, 1987.

NEW MEMBERS

In the original printed journal, this page and the two following contain the names and full addresses of new members, and also address amendments.

For reasons of data protection and personal privacy, this content has been omitted.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

AMENDMENTS

- 0863V I de Keyser OBE (Sapper, Royal Engineers (Signals), FF Cable Section; 2nd MTD Divn. Sulva Bay) wishes to drop his honorary rank of Colonel.
- 1013V A M Smith OBE - 39 DREWSTEAD Road not Drenstead (Address in The Gallipollian No 55).
- 1016 W E Durnford - MARSASCALA not Marascala (Address in The Gallipollian No 55)

RESIGNATION

- 0661V A E Garrison MC FO RFC (Lt 6th York & Lincs 11th Division)

OBITUARY

With deep regret the following names are recorded:

0094V E J Bennett (Sgt RND Portsmouth Bn)

0129V Major G B Horridge TD (1/5 Lan Fus 125 Bde 42nd Div)

0673V A R Swinnerton (Ment Disp, ASC 10th Division HQ)

0595V W R Pooley (S/Sgt Bedfordshire Regiment 54th Division)

GALLIPOLI'S LAST ANGRY MAN DIES

The West Australian 24 November 1987 under this headline recorded the death of Fred Cunningham, a member of the gun crew at Anzac which fired the last shot at the Turkish forces. He was one of seven remarkable brothers, six of whom served in the Kaiser's War, all being mentioned in Despatches. Ted Cunningham served in the 10th Light Horse, the others including Fred in the artillery.

HONORARY TREASURER

Members will be sad to learn that Donald Bland, our hard working Hon Treasurer since 1976, has been ill in hospital. We wish him well and hope that he makes a speedy recovery to be with us on the 25th. In the meantime the Hon Secretary would be pleased to hear from anyone with the necessary expertise who might be able to provide assistance with accountancy matters until such time that Donald is able to take full control of our affairs again.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

At a meeting of the Committee held on 20 January it was agreed that Norman Pollitt should be appointed to the new post of membership secretary. It is through his interest and dedication that all membership records are now stored on a computer which means that updating is so much easier and address labels printed. Any changes of address or other membership queries should be sent to:

Norman Pollitt
9 Garnet Court
Marlow-on-Thames
Bucks SL7 2AN

AUTUMN LUNCH

ADVANCE NOTICE ***** ADVANCE NOTICE ***** ADVANCE NOTICE

The Autumn Lunch preceded by the Annual General Meeting will be held most probably on 12 October. Full details in the next issue of The Gallipolian.

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT 1987

The Audited Accounts are enclosed with this issue of the journal.

The following explanations are appropriate:

1. The cost of stationery varies from year to year according to our needs and stocks held, but the increase this year is largely offset by savings in the cost of producing the Gallipolians.
2. "Other postage" (up to £130) compared with 1986 is due to £55 which should have been claimed in 1986 and the cost of sending subscription reminders.
3. The figure for "sundries" is swollen by the expenditure of £57 for wreaths etc. and by £40 room hire for the A.G.M.
4. Ties - present stocks will result in a profit on sale.
5. Interest is up £68 following a change to Nationwide Anglia to take advantage of better terms, but £24 is attributable to last year's accounts due to the change in date of crediting interest.

Members will be aware that through lack of interest, the Edgar Banner Memorial Essay Competition was abandoned. The accumulated sum held in the Prize Fund is now shown in the Balance Sheet as a Reserve which will be held at the discretion of the Committee for the benefit of Veteran members.

A number of members who pay their subscriptions by standing order through their banks have also sent me cheques. I am treating these duplicated payments as donations but any member desiring a refund should contact me.

My thanks to all the many members who have added extra to their subscriptions by way of donation to Association Funds. Finally, I must again express thanks to the Honorary Auditor, Mr. W. P. Chapman, for yet again undertaking this duty.

D.F. BLAND.

THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CHAPEL AND LECTURES AT
HOLY TRINITY, ELTHAM, BY REV'D C LOWSON (1006)

The reason for the link between Holy Trinity Eltham - a pretty but otherwise typically ordinary 19th century parish church in south-east London - and the Gallipoli campaign of 1915-1916 lies in the personality of one of my predecessors as Vicar of Holy Trinity Eltham; an extraordinary individual, the Rev'd Henry Hall.

Henry Hall already had a distinguished academic and educational career when he arrived in Eltham in 1907; he had been an Exhibitioner of St John's College, Cambridge and was successively Headmaster of Reigate and Totness Grammar Schools. He remained Vicar of Holy Trinity until his death in 1942.

During the early days of his incumbency he was appointed a chaplain to the Territorials and as a result of this particular ministry he volunteered temporarily to leave his parish to become Chaplain to the 29th Division as they embarked for the Dardanelles. He was with them on the 25 April 1915 when they landed on the West Beach at Gallipoli. In a letter to his wife, later to be published in the Eltham Times, he wrote:

'...the landing was awful - men and officers shot down in shoals, caught in the wires, killed, wounded and drowned. The naval people say that Sunday week's landings here, in what was supposed to be an impregnable position, is the greatest feat in military history. The storming of the heights of Abraham was, in comparison, child's play...'.

Like many chaplains in the Great War, Henry Hall exhibited notable courage; he stayed with his men, celebrating Holy Communion for them, in the midst of the battle for which he was mentioned in despatches. Unfortunately he was invalided to Alexandria in July, demobilised in the following April, and returned to Eltham in 1916.

Soon after his return and because he was moved by an experience that was to haunt him throughout his life, Hall resolved to set up a memorial to the men of the 29th Division. The recently converted St Agnes Chapel at Holy Trinity provided an appropriate venue and became commonly known as the Gallipoli Memorial Chapel, with a particular remembrance of the officers and men of his beloved 29th Division.

Each year from 1917 to 1984 a service of memorial as well as a requiem mass was held in the church. Veterans of the campaign, official representatives of the nations which took part, and members of the general public participated. The Gallipoli Memorial Service had a distinguished history attracting hundreds of people to this south London church on or near the 25th April each year.

Though the memorial had begun primarily as a remembrance of the 29th Division, it soon acquired international significance. News of its existence had reached across to the other side of the world when in October 1926 the Australian Prime Minister, S.M. Bruce, attended Evensong at Holy Trinity in order to present two Australian flags to the Memorial Chapel; in the next year the New Zealand Prime Minister, J.G. Coates, presented his country's flag.

But in the 1960's and 1970's interest began to fade; dwindling attendances caused understandably by a reduction in the numbers of veterans able to come to Eltham, meant that when I came to Holy Trinity in 1982, the future of the service was in some doubt.

I soon learned of the ministry of Henry Hall and his great vision in instituting and maintaining such a distinctive memorial. It was obvious that it would have been a great loss if this occasion were to disappear and so Holy Trinity invited a prominent member of its congregation, Judge Batterbury (0961) to convene a committee to explore a creative way in which Gallipoli could be remembered in the future.

Drawn from the local academic and military community this new committee's task was to consider the possibility of launching an annual memorial lecture which would examine issues arising from the Gallipoli campaign, followed on each occasion by a short act of remembrance. It was thought that this might give the Gallipoli Memorial Chapel and Service a valuable role in future years.

Judge Batterbury gathered and chaired such a committee. Its membership included the then present and former Directors of Army Education, based at Eltham Palace, the Professor of Naval History at the Royal College at Greenwich, the Regimental Colonel of the Royal Artillery at Woolwich and a Senior Lecturer in History from Avery Hill College, as well as the Vicar and churchwardens of the Parish.

The work of the committee (now a Trust) - guided principally by its first and present chairmen Judge Batterbury and Major General A.J. Trythall and ably assisted by Major General D.E. Ryan and Major General J.S. Lee, its successive secretaries - has resulted in a successful series of three lectures: in 1985 General Sir Hugh Beach spoke on "The Murderous Responsibility", in 1986 the former Prime Minister, The Rt.Hon. Edward Heath lectured on "Defence: Face the Facts!", and in 1987 H.R.H. Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, gave a lecture entitled "Ends & Means". The lecturer in 1988 is to be the Most Rev'd Dr Robert Runcie, M.C., (Archbishop of Canterbury) who will speak on 19 April at 8.00 p.m. and in 1989 the lecture will be delivered by John Grigg, an eminent historian, journalist and biographer.

The first three lectures have attracted large audiences, including the High Commissioners from both Australia and New Zealand, the Charge d'Affaires from the Turkish Embassy and senior serving officers from the Army and the Royal Navy, as well as (of course) several veterans of the campaign itself and representatives of the Gallipoli Association and appropriate regimental associations.

The lectures have been published as booklets by the Woolwich Building Society. Copies of the lectures by Edward Heath and Prince Philip can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope (A5) to me at: The Vicarage, 59 Southend Crescent, London SE9 2SD. You can apply at the above address, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, for tickets for the 1988 lecture and I will also be glad to send you details of how you may become a 'Friend' of the lecture.

Based on material researched by Dr David Shorney,
Ph.D,M.A.

THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL LECTURE TRUST

Fourth Gallipoli Memorial Lecture

(Holy Trinity, Eltham)

THE GOD OF BATTLES AND THE FIGHT FOR FAITH

by

The Most Rev'd Robert A.K. Runcie, M.C.,
(Archbishop of Canterbury)

at

Holy Trinity Church, Eltham, London
S.E.9. - nearest BR is Eltham.

TUESDAY 19 APRIL 8.00 PM

Applications with sae for tickets from
The Rev'd C. Lowson, The Vicarage,
59 Southend Crescent, London SE9 2SD.
(Tel: 01 850 1246).

2nd Lieutenant Eric Duckworth, B Company 1/6 Lancashire Fusiliers, was killed at Gallipoli, 7 August 1915 aged 19. In 1922 his parents visited the battlefield where he was killed, taking with them an English Oak which they had been asked to plant by his brother Geoffrey, in memory of Eric. The sapling travelled by ship in a bucket of water, and the War Graves Commission on Gallipoli planted it in Redoubt Cemetery near Krithia where it was watered and carefully tended. During the pilgrimage to Gallipoli in 1934 it was noted that the sapling had reached nearly 10 feet high. Now, 65 years after it was planted, this is how the tree looks, a fine memorial, a breath of England in this secluded part of the Peninsula.

Photograph by Chairman of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

'FOLLOW THE DRUM'

An exhibition of drums, drummers and drumming in the British Army at the National Army Museum 16 June - 18 September 1988

The exhibition will examine the varied role of the Drummer in the British Army through the ages. He acted as signaller, transmitting orders in battle. He was the regimental timekeeper. He was often present at parleys with the enemy and carried messages for officers. When discipline was enforced by the lash, the Drummers administered the floggings. The Drummer's important status was recognised by his distinctive uniform, examples of which will be on display.

A unique assembly of historic drums and associated items will be on show, many for the first time. One drum with a fascinating history is a side drum of Guise's Regiment, later the Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers, which was lost when two companies of the Regiment were cut to pieces by Bonnie Prince Charlie's highlanders at the battle of Prestonpans in 1745. It remained lost until 1905 when it was found in a highland croft. On a more ghoulish note is a Tibetan drum, acquired by the Younghusband expedition of 1903, which is made from two human skulls.

'Follow the Drum' will include music and AV displays, and drums will be available to enable visitors to 'have a bash' themselves!



HMS MINERVA

The River Clyde, the Goeben, the Queen Elizabeth, indeed nearly all the great ships from the Dardanelles campaign may have gone, most long ago, to the breakers yard. One remains in Great Britain, largely forgotten and with a future only recently made secure. This is HMS Minerva.

Early in 1915 a number of small monitors for inshore bombardment work were ordered by Winston Churchill and Lord Fisher. Minerva was one of five 6 inch monitors ordered from Harland and Wolff at Belfast who sub-contracted Minerva (Monitor 33) to the neighbouring shipyard of Workman, Clark. After a rapid completion, she was ready for service at the Dardanelles and arrived in time to assist at the Suvla landings in August 1915. For the remainder of the Gallipoli campaign she gave close support off the Suvla beachhead.

Following the withdrawal from Gallipoli in January 1916, M33 moved north to Salonika to support the Allied flanks against the Bulgarians. From the middle of 1916 to the middle of 1918 she was attached to one or other of the several Detached Squadrons operating in the Central Aegean. Her duties included bombardment of the Turkish Coast, blockade of their ports, control of shipping and general patrol work. She then returned to the Salonika front for the rest of the war. Early in 1919 she was sent home to prepare for services with the White Sea Squadron. Arriving at Archangel in June, she was sent up the River Dvina to help the Allied Forces in operating against the Bolsheviks. Her shallow draft and relatively heavy armament proving invaluable when covering the Allied withdrawal in September, she was then returned to England and paid off into Reserve at the Nore.

In 1924 she was sent to Pembroke Dockyard for conversion into a Coastal minelayer. She completed the following year, when she was renamed Minerva, and was then stationed at Portsmouth and used as a relief ship for her sister Medea, attached to Vernon for

instructional purposes. Although prepared for sale early in 1939, she was restored to naval service on the outbreak of war and used for instructional purposes.

More recently she had been employed as a Royal Maritime Auxiliary Service Workshop until made surplus to requirements. In 1987 she was taken, together with the wooden frigate Foudroyant on board the giant submersible barge Goliath Pacific to Hartlepool where in the skilled hands of the Hartlepool Ship Restoration Company Limited she will be restored to her 1915 appearance. So far all the appendages fitted to the ship during her years as a training minelayer and harbour workshop have been removed. The funnel has been constructed and fitted aboard. The fo'c'sle deck plating and most of her upperworks deckhead plating have been renewed. Progress is likely to be slow until a buyer for this unique vessel can be found. In the meanwhile members having any information, photographs or drawings which may be of interest to the Ship Restoration Company is asked to write to Walter Brownlee, Ships Historian, Warrior Shipyard, The Custom House, Victoria Terrace, Hartlepool, Cleveland, TS24 0SD.

COME ON THE FIGHTING FIFTH.!

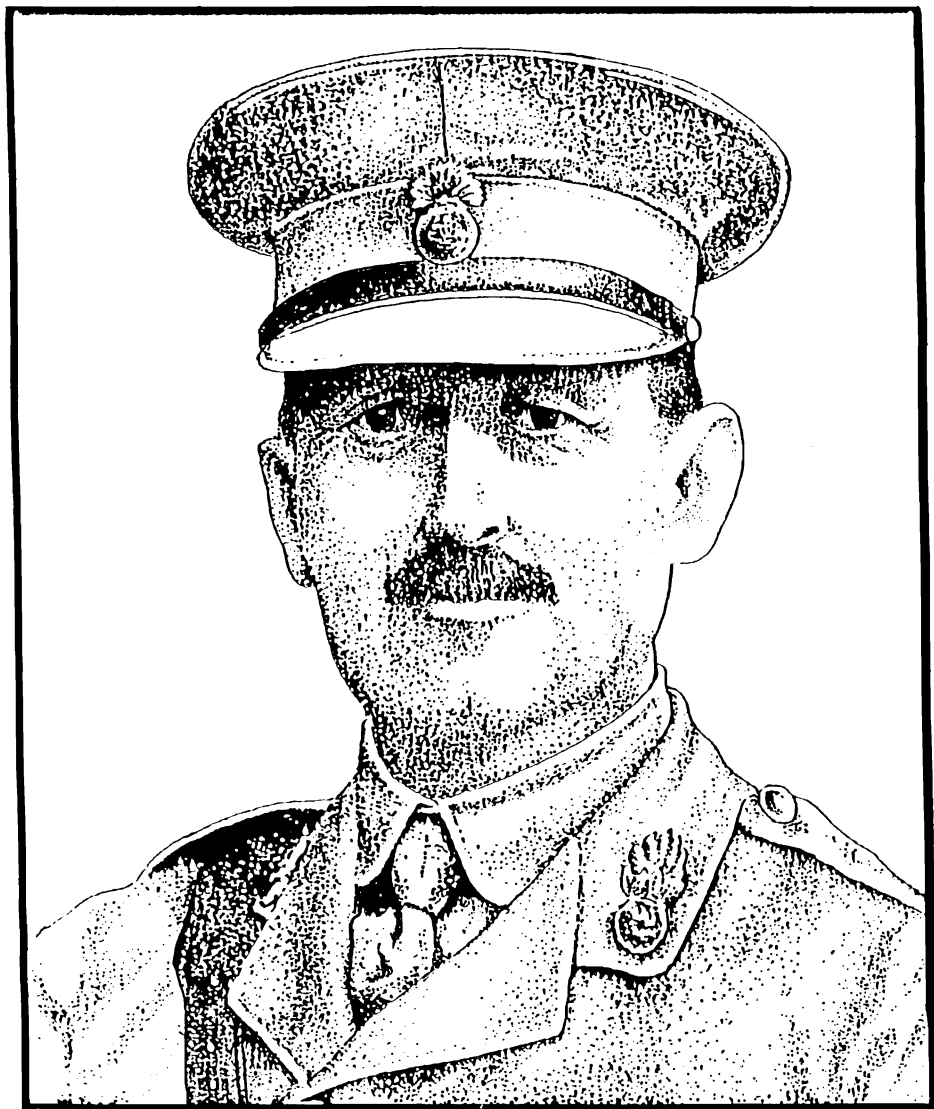
By Charles W. Evans-Gunther (1001)

My interests in the events of 10 August 1915 grew from my family history studies when I asked the question "What did you do in the Great War, Taid?" (Note: 'Taid' is Welsh for grandfather.) Since both my grandfathers are dead I had to use other sources, the results of which led me to learn about the baptism of fire that the men of Flintshire went through on one fateful day in 1915. Most of the information comes from reports in a local newspaper - The Flintshire County Herald - while the remainder was gleaned from official reports and regimental histories. What follows is only part of the evidence and may not be completely accurate.

When Britain declared war on Germany on 4 August 1914 the Flintshire Territorials were at Conwy as part of the North Wales Infantry Brigade under the command of Colonel F.C. Lloyd. It consisted of four battalions of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, each having developed from local volunteers. The 4th were from Denbighshire and had been formed in 1861, the 5th from Flintshire, 1860, while the 6th Caernarvonshire and the 7th Montgomeryshire and Merionethshire were both formed in 1897. All these became Royal Welsh Fusiliers in 1908. The North Wales Brigade quickly moved to Flint where recruiting had already begun. In the months that followed many men from Flintshire rallied to the Flag. On 22 August the battalion departed from Flint in high spirits - "Flint to Berlin - First Stop" read one of the slogans on the side of the train. The following day the 5th marched through the streets of Northampton. By September 40,000 Territorials from all parts of the country had gathered in the town being inspected by General Hamilton. The 5th were stationed at Rushden and Higham Ferrars until 21 December when they moved to Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Hertfordshire. On 5 May 1915 they moved once again to Bedford where on the 15th they

became part of the 53rd (Welsh) Territorial Division under the command of Major General Hon. J.E. Lindley. The Division was divided into three brigades: 158th under Brigadier General F.C. Lloyd (who had commanded the North Wales Brigade), 159th commanded by Brig. General E.A. Cowans and the 160th under Brig. General J.J.F. Hume. The 158th consisted of four battalions: the 5th under Lieutenant Colonel Basil Edwin Philips, the 6th, Lt. Colonel T.W. James, the 7th, Lt. Colonel A.E.J. Reveley, all Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and the 1st Hereford Regiment under the command of Lt. Colonel G. Drage. (The latter had replaced the 4th Royal Welsh Fusiliers when they were called to the Western Front in November 1914.)

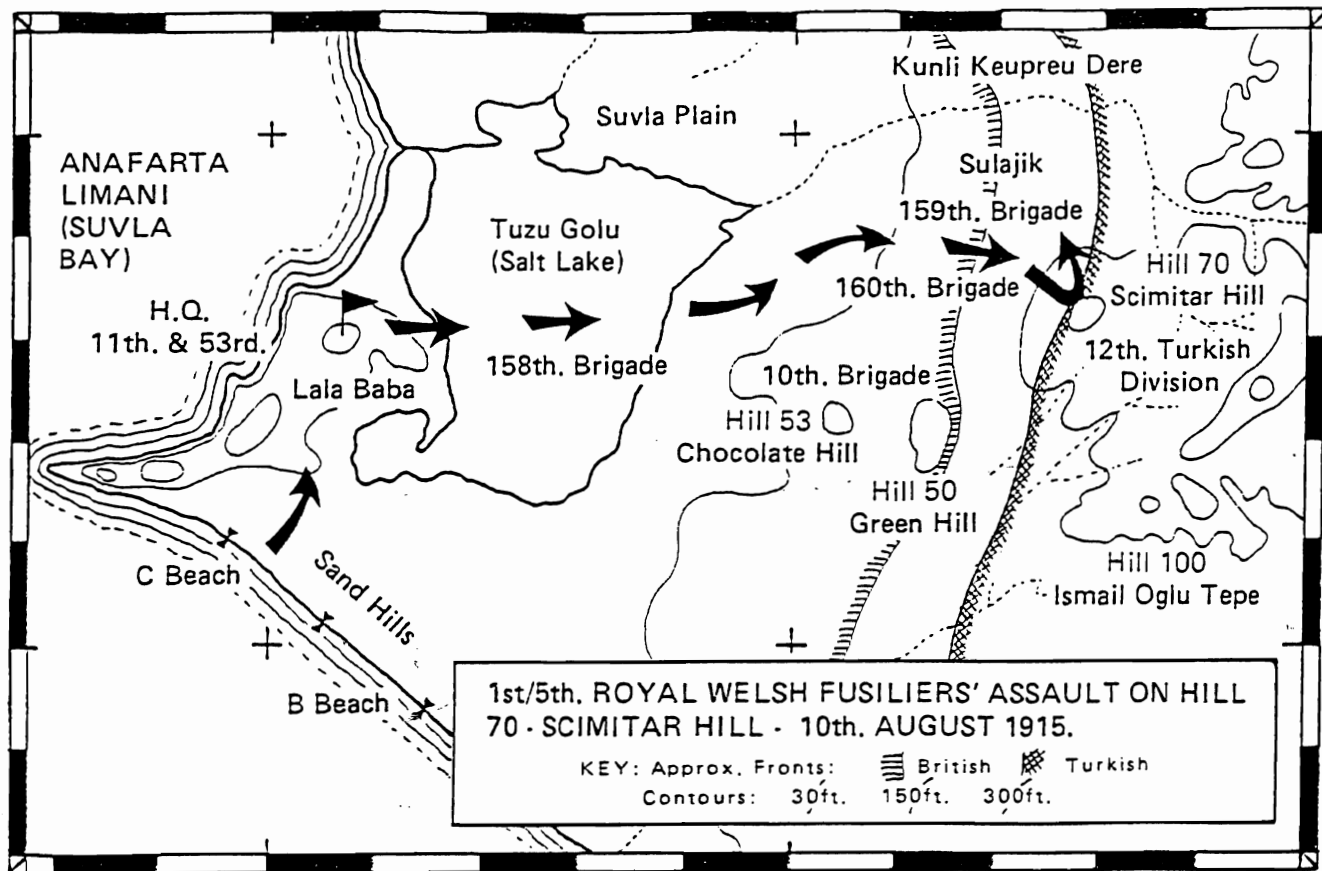
On 3rd July General Lindley was ordered to join the IX Corp under the command of Lieutenant General Sir F.W. Stopford. The 5th boarded trains on 13 July at Irchester and next day embarked from Devonport on the S.S. Caledonia. On the 17th the S.S. Caledonia stopped at Gibraltar and the next day entered the Mediterranean, arriving at Alexandria on the 25th. Within a couple of days the Battalion disembarked at Mudros Bay on the Greek island of Lemnos. For the next week or so they trained, then on the 8th 29 officers (including Chaplain and Medical Officer) and 811 other ranks boarded HMS Rowan and sailed to the island of Imbros where they anchored for the night. They sailed at 0430 towards Suvla Bay landing at C Beach around 0600. The 5th were the first to disembark in small boats, and as the growing light revealed the situation to the Turks, they began to send shells at the beach. By now the 5th had settled down to tea and biscuits but were now forced to take cover further in land, bivouacing at Lala Baba. Little happened for the 158th Brigade except that the 1st Herefords were ordered to join the Sherwood Foresters south of the Salt Lake. Meanwhile, men of the 5th watched as the ships in the bay and off shore laid down heavy shell-fire and they could hear gunfire coming from further inland as Scimitar Hill was assaulted.



Lieutenant-Colonel Basil Edwin Philips of Rhual,
Mold 1864-1915.

On 10 August reveille was at 0330. The officers having been told the previous evening that in the morning they would be moving inland against the enemy. While the men had hot tea Colonel Philips gave his company commanders further orders and showed them on the map where they were to advance. They were to act as reserve to the 159th Brigade until they reached the area of Sulajik and then to go through the 159th and continue an attack against the Anfarta Spur which should be under bombardment. At 0445 the 158th Brigade moved from Lala Baba with the 5th in the centre and leading the advance with the 7th on their right and the 6th on their left (together with the 2nd/10th Middlesex who had replaced the Herefords). The first obstacle they came to was a large semi-dry lake - Salt Lake - which consisted of a couple of miles of mud covered with a white salty crust. One soldier later described it as being like the sands of the River Dee between Flint and Neston. No sooner had they begun to cross the lake than a Taube spotter plane reported their position to the Turkish artillery on the hills about three miles away. About half way across, and up to their ankles in white sticky mud, the 5th experienced their first bombardment of shrapnel shell which caused some casualties. Captain Armstrong, of "D" Company, was the first to be wounded when shrapnel hit him in the thigh. Sergeant Tim Flaherty was hit, also in the leg, while Private Robert Hayes, of the machine gun team, was blown over by a shell burst, shrapnel penetrating his face and lodging in his neck. The wounded men managed either to make their own way back to the beach or were helped by the stretcher bearers who were bringing up the rear. When the Battalion, led by a platoon of A Company reached the edge of the Lake they came under gunfire from the south east. Captain Beswick led the leading company in skirmishing formation while the rest had spread out and were moving forward at short distances at a time until they reached the brush beyond the lake. The two leading companies took the full brunt of the enemy machine gun and rifle fire which was coming from Hill 50.

But they managed to reach the rendezvous point at Sulajik without great loss. There they found a rather confused position. It was supposed to be occupied by troops of 159 Brigade but at least one officer, Captain Kenneth Taylor, recorded that they passed through the trenches of the 160th. Whatever the situation, they were then ordered to advance on Scimitar Hill in an attempt to do what earlier attacks had failed to do. In the trenches to the west of Scimitar Hill the Welshmen could see the results of the previous day's action. The hill was burnt and bodies of both sides lay charred on the slopes in front of them. A writer later wrote that it was little wonder that all the spirit had been knocked out of these untried soldiers, yet they had hearts of lions. While the advance to the line at Sulajik was taking place the Turkish position came under heavy bombardment. Colonel Philips now led his men beyond the trenches and sent the following message to Colonel James of the 1st/6th Royal Welsh Fusiliers: 'Bring all the men you can find to where I am, 200 yards in front of the 159th Brigade trenches. We can rush the hill they are shelling as soon as they stop'. The commander of the 6th had become separated from the main body of his troops, but arrived with about a company of men. "Fix Bayonets" was ordered and Colonel Philips moved up and down the line encouraging his men with "Come on boys. Come on the Fighting Fifth!" As the shelling stopped one observer watching the attack from Chocolate Hill described a mass of khaki figures rushing up the hill in a fan-shaped formation. The terrain was difficult to traverse and soon the attack got split up into small groups. Within 150 yards of the Turkish trenches, the enemy broke and despite encouragement from their officers, some of whom seemed to have been German, the trenches were evacuated. It now looked like the British were going to take Scimitar Hill. But then the Turkish artillery opened fire with a heavy bombardment of shrapnel shells which had a devastating result. Colonel Philips stood up to lead his men to success but as he neared the top



of the ridge he was hit and died instantly. Some of the 5th reached the trenches while others almost reached the top of the hill before being forced to take cover from the shrapnel fire. As the bombardment continued some of the troops were compelled to retreat. Seeing the situation the Turks returned to their trenches and in some places hand to hand combat took place, possibly accounting for a greater part of those reported missing on that day. Once the Turks had regained their position they began to enfilade the British with machine gun and rifle fire. The Welshmen had not fired at the Turks until 1130 but by 1300 hours the assault had failed. Many soldiers had become cut off and had to cope with sniper fire while others managed to reach the trenches where they tried to make some sense of the situation. Many soldiers were wounded in the attack - mainly from shrapnel - and now the battalion was mixed up with other battalions including the Dublin Fusiliers, Lancashire and Yorkshire Regiments. It was a confused mess. The attack was called off at 1330 but a second attempt was made at 1700. Only small groups of soldiers took part due to the breakdown in communications and when they tried to advance they were cut to ribbons by Turkish fire. By now the Turks had been reinforced and had strengthened their position making a successful assault doomed to failure. The soldiers dug in where they could and began to suffer the discomforts that many had already experienced on the Dardanelles Peninsula:- snipers, heat, flies and lack of water. The attack on Scimitar Hill had been a complete failure on 10 August 1915. The Flintshire Territorials had suffered their "baptism of fire". Compared to the casualties of the previous day, or those daily on the Western Front, it wasn't as bad but the 5th had lost their commanding officer, four officers and 13 other ranks, one officer and 39 ranks were missing, six officers and 116 other ranks had been wounded. The total casualties recorded were 12 officers and 168 other ranks - later the actual death toll amounted to six officers and 26 other ranks.

However, this was only the beginning because more died from their wounds in the days, weeks and months that followed. The last to succumb was Private John Ellis of Bagillt, near Flint, who had been wounded in the spine on 10 August and died at Bristol on 16 January 1916.

Many stories can be added to these bare-bones but it would take a great amount of space. Here are but a few: Another John Ellis, who lived in Flint and had played for Tranmere Rovers, had come through the first assault but in the second was hit in the shoulder. Lieutenant Astbury of Northop was hit in the leg with shrapnel but as he crawled back for medical attention was hit in the other leg.

Sergeant Bithell of Holywell Road, Flint, was in the first assault when he felt a bullet narrowly miss his face but it hit a young private, Tom Hewitt, next to him, penetrating his forehead and exiting the back of his head. The Sergeant picked up the mortally wounded lad and carried him to cover where he lived long enough to take a last sip of water. Private Arthur Jones had a lucky escape when he was hit in the chest by a bullet. He had been given an English Presbyterian Church pocket memorandum book before he left Flint and while on Lemnos bought a small metal tin to keep it in. When a bullet hit him in the chest the tin and book helped deflect the projectile away from his heart and it wounded him in the shoulder.

Possibly the most fascinating story was that of Private John E. Povey of Swan Street, Flint. During the attack on Scimitar Hill Povey and a small group of soldiers were forced to take cover about 400 yards from the Turkish trenches. That evening, after the second attack, he left cover with a load of canteens attempting to get some water for his comrades and himself. Unfortunately a shell exploded overhead flattening him to the ground. When he came to he found that the impact had caused

him to lose both his hearing and speech. Povey was then taken to the beach from where he was shipped, eventually, back to Britain. While at a hospital in London another wounded soldier played an advantage trick on him. It was in a darkened corridor that the soldier, not knowing that Povey couldn't hear him, prodded him with his walking stick. Povey hadn't seen the trickster in the shadows and the prod shocked him and he screamed with surprise. His voice and hearing gradually returned to him.

A number of soldiers received rewards. Colonel Philips (who didn't survive the encounter), Corporal Nathaniel Griffiths and Private Williams were mentioned in despatches. Private Williams, later, together with Lance Corporal Ernie Joyce, were awarded the DSC. Captain Thomas Parry, who commanded the Mold Company, received the DSO though it seems he never spoke about it in public. One soldier wrote home saying that three VC's had been won on the 10th August, and Nat Griffiths told a friend that he was to be awarded that coveted medal. Unfortunately these men may have been recommended for the honour but never received it. On a wet 13 July 1922 at the Drill Hall, Rhyl, then the H.Q. of the 5th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, a special ceremony was held. Mrs Helena Philips, widow of Lt.Colonel Philips who had died at Suvla Bay, and Mrs J. Tuck, of Hawarden, mother of two sons who had given their lives during the Great War (Tom died of wounds while travelling home, 22 August 1915, and Douglas died in Egypt on 5 October 1915), unveiled a memorial to the dead of the 5th Battalion. It consisted of a plaque bearing the names of 250 officers and men, mounted on Aberdeen granite, made by Mr H. Goodman of Birmingham. The plaque bore the inscription:

'5th Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Gallipoli, Egypt, Palestine. To the Glory of God and in everlasting memory of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 5th Royal Welsh Fusiliers, who made the supreme sacrifice for God, King and Country in the Great War, 1914-1918. Erected by the officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Battalion, A.D. 1922.'

I am most grateful to all those who have provided information for this article, particularly Mr & Mrs Hughes, and Mrs Mahoney of Flint and Mrs Keogh of Holywell. I would be pleased to receive further information concerning the events of 10 August and may be contacted at 9 Earls Lea, Flint, Clwyd, CH6 5BT, N. Wales, or 'phone me on Mold 2121, extension 4014. Many thanks.

A SONG CALLED SUVLA BAY

Mrs D E Owen, 46 Churchill Terrace, South Chingford, London, E4 8BZ writes to enquire whether any members know of a song called Suvla Bay? She remembers her mother singing the song which had a beautiful sad tune and nice words. Can any members help Mrs Owen? If the words are available we can reproduce them in a future issue of The Gallipolian.

FOUR BRAVE SOLDIERS REMEMBERED

The Carmarthen Journal 11 December 1987, reported that on 29 November a special service took place at St David's Church, Carmarthen, when the graves of four soldiers, all men of the Welch Regiment were re-dedicated. One was Sergeant Richard Albert Evans who died of disease after serving in Gallipoli and Palestine.

GALLIPOLI VICTORIA CROSSES

Edward Courtney Boyle VC

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Edward Courtney Boyle was born in Carlisle, Cumberland, on 23rd March, 1883, the son of Lieutenant Colonel and Edith (nee Cowley) Boyle. Colonel Boyle was an officer in the Army Pay Department who himself was the son of a survivor of the Indian Mutiny, a fact recalled by another grandchild, General Sir Edward Spears, Bt., KBE, for the tales he told the children of his defence of his home. Sir Edward also remembered his cousin's intense admiration for the airmen of the 1914-18 period.

Prior to joining the Royal Navy young Boyle attended Cheltenham College (where he is proudly listed on the College Roll of Honour) and he entered HMS Britannia as a Midshipman in 1898. He was a thoughtful, reserved boy with a quiet sense of humour. Early in his naval career he became intensely interested in the new type of craft - the submarine - then in its formative stage so it is not surprising to learn that in July 1904, as a Sub-Lieutenant, he was given command of one of the earliest submarines, a Holland boat, a small 150-ton vessel. He progressed on promotion to Lieutenant to command a larger boat, the C.4 built in 1907. The C.29 of 1909 was his next ship and then the D.2, a boat of 600 tons in 1910. At the outbreak of war in 1914 he was in command of D.3, a boat of the 8th Submarine Flotilla in the North Sea. For his part in the Heligoland Bight Action, on 28th August, 1914, he was Mentioned in Despatches. In December 1914, Lieutenant Norman Holbrook, VC, had demonstrated the possibilities of submarine warfare in the Dardanelles with his little B.11. In October 1914, the 660-ton E-Class boats were being completed at Chatham Dockyard and thought

to be highly useful in the type of warfare and conditions prevailing in the Eastern Mediterranean. Boyle was given command of E.14 with the rank of Lieutenant-Commander. E.14 was equipped with five torpedo tubes and carried ten torpedoes. She had a crew of 30 and her diesel engines could produce a speed of 15 to 16 knots on the surface.

Three E-class boats slipped out of Portsmouth in March 1915 bound for the Eastern Mediterranean with specific orders to operate in the dangerous waters of the Dardanelles and the Sea of Marmara. E.15 was the first to attempt the passage of the Narrows but unfortunately ran aground in the strong currents and was captured. After various tries she was eventually destroyed by parties from HMS Majestic, her crew having been taken prisoner earlier.

On 27th April 1915, at 2 a.m., Boyle - taking advantage of the darkness - began his attempt of the passage. Approaching the first of many minefields and other underwater obstructions, plus the shore batteries on either side of the narrow channel above Chanak, he was forced to submerge and proceed at a depth beneath the mines, because of roving enemy surface vessels. For an alarming time E.14's crew listened with bated breath as their little craft's sides were scraped by the mooring cables. The passage of the second minefield was even more hazardous due to the strong currents and many changes in the depth. Boyle partially surfaced his vessel - only the conning tower being above the surface - and then sailed over the mines and steered full ahead. Once again he was sighted by enemy shore batteries who opened fire but failed to hit the fast moving craft.

Above Chanak, E.14 was approached by a mixed force of ex-German gunboats. Boyle dexterously manoeuvred his craft to make an attack. Although he missed the target with his first torpedo he made no error with the next and sank the second gunboat - a ship of some 600 tons. Immediately he had fired he submerged and

E.14 rocked with the explosion and lay motionless on the bottom for a while before continuing on her way into the Sea of Marmara.

By this time it was essential for her to surface to charge her batteries as in the 24 hours since leaving base she had been submerged for more than 17 hours - her passage through the Narrows alone had taken six hours. The Sea of Marmara, however, proved to be a very busy sheet of water and it was difficult to find a quiet stretch in which to surface long enough for the recharge.

Boyle received orders to confine his attacks to the transport ships plying the Sea with reinforcements for the Peninsula - the Allied Landings having begun two days before he commenced his cruise. On April 29th came his second success. Boyle spotted two large transports escorted by destroyers and he sank one of the heavily laden ships. As he proceeded through the Sea of Marmara, always on the look out for "trade" and gathering information concerning the shore establishment, he made a rendezvous with the Australian Navy submarine, A.E.2 - Lieutenant Commander H.G.D. Stokes - who wanted to beg a couple of torpedoes from E.14. Boyle refused. The unfortunate A.E.2 was sunk by a Turkish ship the next day and her crew was taken prisoner.

For a further week E.14 cruised around searching for likely targets and here and there picking off a few. On May 8th Boyle actually entered the harbour of Rodosto and his crew exchanged rifle fire with the shore patrols, but he found no ships. Then on May 10th Boyle found a 5,000-ton ex White Star liner, the Guj Djemal, proceeding towards the Peninsula just south of Constantinople loaded with enemy troops but without any escort. Boyle's torpedoes found their target and E.14 surfaced to observe the terrible results. The water was full of the 6,000 men aboard the liner, but there was little the small submarine could do to help them and by the time the ship had

sunk beneath the waves, Boyle was forced to submerge due to the arrival of Turkish naval vessels.

The E.14 had now only one defective torpedo remaining and as at this time the E-Class boats carried no deck weapon there were only the crew's rifles aboard as armament. Boyle got his men to rig up a length of piping and an oil drum and erect the contraption as a dummy gun forward of the conning tower. Not long afterwards they sighted a small steamer and manoeuvred as if to attack. The Turkish vessel took fright and rammed herself ashore to avoid being sunk. The phoney gun had played its part! Later E.14 and the other E-class boats were armed with a 12-pounder.

Successfully negotiating the Narrows, Commander Boyle returned to Mudros on 18th May to be met with a great welcome. The French Admiral Guepratte congratulated the submarine by steaming around her in his flagship with his ship's band playing British tunes. That night Boyle reported to Admiral Roebuck aboard his flagship at a working dinner. Among those present were Admiral Keyes and Lieutenant-Commander M.E. Nasmith. The latter sailed in E.11 later in the night to replace E.14 in the Sea of Marmara and into history, for the exploits which would also gain for her commander the Victoria Cross.

On 21st May, 1915, the London Gazette carried the details of the award of the Victoria Cross to Commander Boyle, newly promoted to that rank, Distinguished Service Crosses to his two officers and the Distinguished Service Medal to every member of his crew. His exploits had been very considerable - he had sunk a large tonnage of enemy ships, he had caused fear and anxiety among the enemy forces in and around the Sea of Marmara, provoked the Turks into providing ships there on a ceaseless watch and brought home much useful information. Also he had proved the viability of submarines in the region.

The night that Nasmith returned from his equally

successful sortie, there was another dinner with Admiral Roebuck, and Boyle was present. That night the latter sailed again in E.14 for his second cruise in those dangerous waters. For three weeks he roamed the Sea of Marmara creating alarm and despondency afloat and ashore. As E.14 left to return to Mudros another submarine took her place. Boyle made yet a third hazardous voyage into the area and on July 21st he rendezvoused with E.7 on her way out. Nasmith made his second cruise on 5th August, meeting up with E.14 before she in turn departed for base. Boyle and his crew had spent more than 70 days in the Sea of Marmara since June. Now they could enjoy a comparative rest.

Commander Boyle continued to serve in submarines for the remainder of the war. In March 1916 he went to London to receive his decoration from King George V at Buckingham Palace. He was also honoured by the French Government who made him a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour and the Italian Government bestowed the Order of St Maurice and St Lazarus upon him. In 1918 he was appointed to command the Australian Submarine Depot Ship, Platypus, and the Australian Submarine Flotilla. Whilst he was in Australia in June 1920 he was promoted to Captain.

In 1922, the tall dark-haired and distinguished looking officer took command of HMS Birmingham for two years. He then commanded the light cruiser HMS Carysfort from 1924 to 1926 and then took up the appointment of King's Harbour Master at Devonport until 1928. In August 1929, he took command of HMS Iron Duke, remaining with the old battleship until she was de-commissioned for scrapping in 1931. Awarded a Good Service Pension in July 1932, he was promoted Rear-Admiral in October that year and then retired. Recalled to active duty at the outbreak of the Second World War he served as Flag Officer in Charge, London, until 1942.

A childless widower, Admiral Boyle lived for the

last 20 years of his life at Sunningdale near Ascot, Berkshire, and was an active member of the famous golf club there. He died on 16th December, 1967, as the result of injuries received when he was knocked down by a lorry on a pedestrian crossing in Sunningdale on the previous day. He had up to then been enjoying excellent health and was active in local affairs.

Admiral Boyle attended the Prince of Wales' Dinner for Recipients of the Victoria Cross at the House of Lords on 9th November, 1929, and was present at the Victory Parade in Whitehall on 8th June, 1946, and the VC Dinner which followed later that day. He also attended the Centenary VC Review by the Queen in Hyde Park on 26th June, 1956.

Captain Eric W. Bush, DSO, DSC, records an amusing story relating to Commander Boyle's first excursion into the Sea of Marmara in his book Gallipoli (Allen & Unwin, 1975). After one of his attacks on shipping, Boyle had submerged the E.14 when to his horror he suddenly found he could see nothing in his periscope, it had gone black. He was "blind" - and puzzled. E.14 fortunately carried two periscopes, so he raised the second to discover the cause ... and saw a wizened old Turkish fisherman in a rowing boat trying to pull the first periscope out of the water! The palm of his hand was over the top glass, thus cutting out the light and the view!

A NIGHT IN A CRATER

By G. F. Clifford

The hottest corner I have experienced on the Peninsula occurred during the evacuation of Suvla and Anzac - while this evacuation was proceeding a pretty big demonstration was made at Cape Helles which included a heavy and long bombardment and an advance at one or two points along our front.

Our Regiment was in reserve at the time at Eski lines, which is a series of trenches running from the Gully across the Krithia Road towards Pink Farm. These Eski lines command the whole of the high flat ground which exists round Krithia towards Achi Baba and from this position we had the privilege of seeing a successful infantry advance on our right, but the grand sight was quickly ended as the men were soon enveloped in smoke from bursting shrapnel.

As regards the spectacle of bursting shells in the bombardment it is impossible for me to portray and I can only liken it to an exaggerated Brocks Benefit at the Crystal Palace. As regards the damage we did I was lucky enough to see some of the Turkish trenches which I will describe later. During this demonstration the Engineers sprung a gigantic mine and our Division occupied the crater. What actually happened then, I could never get two men to tell the same story, but I know the Turks made a surprise attack and occupied the crater for about 20 minutes when a successful counter attack cleared them out again. This crater was hotly contested for days afterwards and the bombers got most of the hard knocks. It was about 3 o'clock in the afternoon when the West Kent bombers got the order to move up and relieve the Sussex bombers who had had a very rough time owing to some big shells (coal boxes) the Turks had managed to drop in. What a sight met our eyes.

I have never been in a big crater before and only had a slight idea of what they were like. This one was like a huge gravel pit about 50ft deep and 250ft in diameter, with great cracks in sides and bottom and huge lumps of earth and rocks scattered about which had been torn out by the explosion. We had two bombing teams and one in reserve. My team occupied a Turkish communications trench which had run into their bombing pit previously destroyed by our mine. We had about 50ft of this trench, the remainder was blocked by a loopholed barricade where one man was told off to put down five rounds rapid. Occasionally we were in an absolutely rotten position for bombing. The explosion of the mine had filled in the trench to such an extent that we were compelled to move about on our hands and knees. To make things worse a machine gun kept flicking the tops of the remaining sand bags so after we got the observer in position we set to work to well stock ourselves with bombs and then dig ourselves in. After about 4/5 hours hard work, 9.30 p.m., during which time we were continuously shelled and sniped at, our observer noted a movement just in front of us, word was passed along and we were ready. They were again making one of their many counter attacks. We waited for them to get a little nearer then we got the word "Go!" The noise was terrific, what with bursting bombs, "whiz bangs", rifle and machine gun fire, it was necessary to shout in the next man's ear to get an order passed up. This attack lasted about 40 minutes, when we then got the order to cease fire. After replenishing our bomb supply we again started digging and about 11.30 p.m. our observers again reported movements, but we got a screen of bursting bombs going so quickly that they did not show themselves for more than 10 minutes. Once more we got on with the digging but were again interrupted at 2.30 a.m., but they found nothing but bursting bombs.

They had evidently had enough for the time being and seemed to content themselves with shelling and

sniping. It's a rotten feeling when you can hear these big shells come screaming towards you, but lucky for us they were exploding about 200 yards behind us. Nevertheless, we never knew when a lucky shot of theirs was going to put paid to our little party. As it was the concussion alone was beginning to fill up our trench again.

By midday we had completed our trench and a fine one it was, 6ft deep with a good sandbag parapet. Quite different from the wreck we went into at first. We then began to consider our chances of retiring if it had been necessary and found there were practically none. We all realized when we first went into the crater that we were in a tight corner. The crater was about 100 yards in front of our firing line and about 10 yards in front of the crater a small gully ran across our front. It was impossible to see down the gully and the Turkish trenches on the opposite side prevented any forward movement on our part. One never knew what this little gully hid from view and it was this fact that made our position so rotten. Lucky for us there was a particularly bright moon that night which made observation by periscope possible. Had it been dark I am sure the first attack of theirs would have carried them into our position. As it was we only had two men wounded during our stay. From our position now we could see the damage caused by our heavy bombardment. Great sections of the Turkish trenches were knocked down and men could be clearly seen. In some places the trenches were absolutely destroyed and men could be seen lying behind single sandbags, but these poor devils had a rough time as our snipers could get them on either flank. We were relieved about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, but it had since started to rain in Gallipoli style and in a short time we were wet to the skin. To make matters worse the gully was turned into a torrent and we had the pleasure of wading through mud and water for half a mile to our quarters. As a special privilege we were put into

real dugouts with corrugated iron roofs and, after a good feed, slept the clock round.

Note: Corporal Geoffrey Clifford served in Gallipoli with the West Kents (QO) Yeomanry from 7 October until evacuation on 31 December. He lived at Eltham where he was known locally as 'Raggy' because he used to sing ragtime songs from America.

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THE COUNTRYSIDE AT WAR 1914-1918. CAROLINE DAKERS.
Constable, 1987. 238 pages, 60 illustrations, £12.95.

Histories of the Great War of 1914-1918 have tended to concentrate on the battlefronts in Belgium, France and the Dardanelles, on military life in the trenches and on the appalling loss of life of thousands of youths who enlisted in a wave of patriotic sentiment in 1914. But whilst soldiers stared out across no-man's land, millions of ordinary Englishmen and women in every village in England were actively involved in the war effort. For them, life on the 'Home Front' demanded far-reaching adjustments and sacrifices, and led to unpredicted changes in the social and economic life of their rural communities.

In 1914, only twenty per-cent of the population lived in the English countryside. As British farmers were only producing enough food for 125 days of the year, large quantities of wheat, meat and cheese were imported. But by 1915, German submarine blockades were effectively cutting off essential food supplies and British farmers were forced to plough-up millions of acres of pastureland. The recruiting campaign of the Government, however, had stripped the land of skilled labourers as well as plough-horses; in this situation women labourers began to work in the fields, alongside German prisoners. New agricultural practices were also adopted and machinery such as tractors and steam ploughs became indispensable.

The peace and tranquillity of village life was disrupted. Country homes were converted to hospitals for the care of the wounded, and the Women's Institute Movement started up, becoming a forceful presence in English village life. There was also constant noise from the temporary army camps, aerodromes and munitions factories. A Country Life article commented, 'the mutter of rifle-shooting and the roar of heavy guns have become more familiar to the ear than the whistle of the steam plough ... Quiet, secluded lanes daily witness the march of infantry and are churned into mud by the heavy artillery.'

Soldiers returning from the battlefield were shocked by the effects of all this activity. Many had fought for an idealised vision of the English countryside: 'We were invited to fight to preserve England. We believed, we fought ... we saved our country that we might ourselves destroy it.'

This is a fascinating book on a generally forgotten aspect of the war which deserves a wider recognition. It brought home the losses to families, and to communities, in a much more poignant way than most other histories.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that subscriptions became due on 1 January last. These should be sent to the Hon Treasurer :£3.00 for Veterans, £6.00 for Associates. Thank you.