

THE GALLIPOLIAN

THE JOURNAL OF THE

GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION



HMTS 'RIVER CLYDE' AT V BEACH 1915

No.69
AUTUMN 1992

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 of the Gallipoli Association will be held on Thursday 29 October in the Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, commencing at 11.15.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of the AGM held on 29 October 1991 printed on page 4
- 3 Chairman's Report
- 4 Treasurer's Report. The accounts for 1991 were circulated with the Spring *Gallipolian* and the Treasurer's Report was printed on page 17
- 5 Secretary's Report
- 6 Election of Officers
- 7 Election of Committee
- 8 Any other business. Members wishing to raise any item should do so in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days before the date of the AGM.

AUTUMN LUNCH

The Autumn Lunch, 1230 for 1300 will follow the Annual General Meeting, see separate booking form for details.

The guest will be Keith Simpson who will speak on The High Command at Gallipoli. Dr Simpson was Senior Lecturer in War Studies at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst 1973-83, while more recently he has been Director of the Cranfield Institute and an advisor to the Secretary of State for Defence. He is the author of several books, and provided the superb introduction to the reprint of *The War the Infantry Knew*, the story of the 2nd Royal Welch Fusiliers.

FOR VETERANS

We are pleased to remind Veterans that the Association has a modest fund to assist with travel costs to attend the Autumn Lunch. Any Veteran wishing to avail himself of this is asked to contact the Treasurer, D. F. Bland.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT
THE CAVALRY AND GUARDS CLUB
127 PICCADILLY, LONDON, 29 OCTOBER 1991.

The Chairman, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Editor and 20 members were present including Veterans E. J. B. Adams BEM, R. C. Chadwick, F. H. Ching, T. C. Dare, Major J. F. Ford, J. Gearing and J. Page.

- 1 Apologies for absence were received from J. Watson-Smith [Secretary], W. Chapman [Auditor], M. Hancock and J. R. H. Stopford.
- 2 The Minutes of the AGM held on 22 October were approved and signed.
- 3 The Chairman presented his Report which was adopted and subsequently published in *The Gallipolian* No 67. He thanked the Officers and the Committee for all their hard work, and expressed regret that M. Hancock had resigned due to other commitments.
- 4 The Treasurer presented his Report which, together with the Annual Accounts were adopted. Thanks were expressed to both the Treasurer and the Auditor.
- 5 The Membership Secretary presented a Report on behalf of the Secretary and drew attention to the current membership totals of 55 veterans, 295 Members and 15 Honorary Members, a grand total of 365. Some 24 members had joined during the past 12 months including 5 veterans.
- 6 The following Officers were elected for the year:

Chairman	Captain C. T. F. Fagan
Treasurer	D. F. Bland
Secretary	J. Watson-Smith
Membership Secretary	N. Pollitt
Editor	D. R. Saunders

- 7 The following were elected to serve on the Committee in addition to the Officers:

Major J. F. Ford	N. Anthony
F. J. Dooley	J. J. Fallon
Sir Arthur Hockaday	H. Jenner
L. Jones	J. R. H. Stopford

ANZAC DAY CEREMONIES

The Veterans present on 25 April were E. J. B. Adams BEM, R. C. Chadwick, F. H. Ching, Major J. F. Ford, J. W. Gearing and I. Newman.

Major J. F. Ford laid the wreath of the Association at the Cenotaph where the Service of Remembrance was led by the Very Reverend Arthur Grimshaw, the Dean of Brisbane. The Regimental Band of the Scots Guards was on parade.

At Westminster Abbey members of the Association and friends were part of a large congregation which heard the Lessons read by His Excellency Mr Richard J. Smith, High Commissioner for Australia and The Hon Philip Burdon, MP, New Zealand Minister for Trade Negotiations. Mr Burak Ozugergin of the Turkish Embassy read from the words of Kemal Ataturk "Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives. . . ."

All the facilities at Wellington Barracks had been made available to us by kind permission of Lt. Colonel R. G. Cartwright, Officer Commanding 1st Bn Grenadier Guards. The lunch was much enjoyed by some 55 members and guests including Chelsea Pensioner Spike Ellis MM, a veteran of the Korean War.

The Chairman, Captain Christopher Fagan, read out the messages of loyal greeting which we had sent to Her Majesty The Queen and to our Patron HRH The Duke of Edinburgh to which he had received the following replies:

"I send my sincere thanks to you, the Veterans of the Gallipoli Campaign and the members of the Gallipoli Association for your loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of your luncheon at Wellington Barracks marking the seventy-seventh Anniversary of the Gallipoli landings.

I was delighted to receive this message and send my best wishes to all concerned for an enjoyable and successful occasion."

ELIZABETH R.

"I am most grateful for the kind message from everyone attending the luncheon on the occasion of the 77th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings. Best Wishes for a very successful day. "

PHILIP
PATRON

The Chairman then gave special thanks to those responsible for the successful arrangements, in particular Captain Christian James, Assistant Adjutant 1st Bn Grenadier Guards, Colour Sergeant Dangerfield for the bus to take Veterans to the Abbey and to the Barracks, Mr Howes the Master Cook, Sergeant Palmer and his Mess staff, and Sergeant Blagdon for the musical entertainment throughout lunch.



Anzac Day 1992: Ben Adams on the drums [Photo Eve Essex]

Mr and Mrs Francis Ching [Photo Helen Freestone]



The band were expertly assisted at one stage on the drums by Veteran Ben Adams, and all who were present will remember his performance for many a long day.

Special mention was made of the Veterans who were present, and our best wishes sent to Major Ford who unfortunately could not come to lunch, and to all our other Veteran members. The Chairman announced that earlier in the day Veteran E. H. Haire, aged 103 had laid a wreath in an Anzac Day ceremony at Edinburgh Castle.

ANZAC DAY IN EDINBURGH

E. H. HAIRE [1061V]

Anzac Day in Edinburgh is always an outstanding occasion. The President of the Royal British Legion in Scotland is General Sir Michael Gow, formerly C in C Germany, ADC to the Queen and Commandant of the Brigade of Guards. He considers Anzac Memorial Day to be the outstanding ceremony of the year. This year was particularly important to him as the Regiment at the Castle was his own 2nd Battalion of the Scots Guards.

The Memorial Chapel is right at the heart of Edinburgh Castle. The service commenced with the Chaplain reading an extract from the Bible before leading the congregation in prayer. This was followed by the laying of wreaths in the small chapel where six Scots Guards NCO's were sat.

The Australian Vice Consul in Edinburgh, a lady, laid the first wreath, the New Zealand Vice Consul the second and I the third. As you enter the chapel one of the NCO's hands you the wreath which you place on the altar before retiring. The Last Post is blown, then the Silence. A piper plays a lament which seems to die away in the distance before Reveille is sounded. The wreaths are then taken out and displayed.

I was in the care of a Scots Guards Major while the photographs and filming took place. There were a large number of visitors in the Castle forecourt in addition to those who had attended the ceremony. Then to the headquarters of the Royal British Legion for refreshments at the end of a very pleasant morning.

DIARY DATE

The Ninth Gallipoli Memorial Lecture will take place at Holy Trinity Church, Eltham, on 28 April 1993. It will be given by The Right Honourable J. Enoch Powell MBE, the title "Turkey and Britain: A Paradox."

OBITUARIES

We regret the following names are recorded:

- 1025 Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Guyon
- 0820V L.McDermott TD [RND Anson & Drake Bns]
- 0868V Lieutenant-Commander R. V. H. Westall RN MA
 [Midshipman HMS *Goliath*]

MARK HUTCHINGS

Mark Hutchings [0811V] who died on 4 February 1992 lived in Birmingham all his life. Born at Saltley on 25 November 1893 he was one of a family of nine children. He left Adderley Road School when he was 14 and worked at Wolesley Motors, save for his military service, until his retirement in 1958.

He joined the Royal Naval Air Service in August 1914 and was soon in France as a machine gunner under the command of Commander Sampson who it was said "looked and behaved like 'Captain Kettle' and had raided with vigour and was the best known figure in Flanders." They came in contact on several occasions with the German cavalry – the Uhlans during the mobile movements of the late summer of 1914.

At the Gallipoli landings Mark Hutchings, now a Petty Officer, served as a machine gunner on the *River Clyde*, and subsequently ashore, where he contracted dysentery which resulted in his discharge later in 1915. This may also have been influenced by the loss of two fingers from his left hand, something he had managed to hide when enlisting.

Mark Hutchings married Eligabeth Jane Worrall in 1914, there was one son and one daughter, five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

We are most grateful to A. Hutchings for help in the preparation of his fathers obituary.

ARTHUR JAMES WILLIAMS

Arthur James Williams [0851V] died on 7 April 1992. Born at Hallwood Green near Dymock, Gloucestershire on 8 March 1894 he worked first as a general help at a farmhouse and then on the land. He enlisted in the 1/1st Herefordshire Regiment in 1914 and landed at Suvla. In the November storms Arthur Williams received very badly frost-bitten feet and had to be evacuated to a hospital ship. His cousin, serving in the same Regiment was not so fortunate, dying of the intense cold and wet. Subsequently he was transferred to another Regiment and went to Egypt though because of the effects of the frost-bite did not see any more front-line service but guarded prisoners-of-war.

He married Louisa Ann Hammond in July 1921, there were no children. He later worked in a garage, and then was a commissionaire for Scribona the cake manufacturers, with whom he was employed until he was 69.

We are most grateful to Mrs J. Gladwin, a niece of Arthur Williams for this Obituary.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR GEOFFREY NORMAN

Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Norman oldest Admiral in the Navy List died four days before Anzac Day aged 95. He served as a Midshipman on HMS *Queen Elizabeth* at the Dardanelles though was not a member of the Gallipoli Association. He later transferred to destroyers in North Sea, and after the war was the model for the naval lieutenant on the Scottish War Memorial in Edinburgh Castle. He said he was chosen because he happened to be there and had a large nose.

He served in a variety of vessels and at shore bases, and eventually commanded his old ship, the *Queen Elizabeth* on operations in the Indian Ocean and off Sumatra in 1944/45. He retired in 1950. In 1924 he married the only daughter of Brigadier General S. Geoghegan.

WHERE IS HE COMMEMORATED?

SIR ARTHUR HOCKADAY [1139]

On page 14 of the Spring 1992 Gallipolian there was a request for information concerning a memorial to Captain Harold Wright of the 6th Battalion, Loyal [North Lancashire] Regiment who died in London on 13 September 1915 of wounds received at the Dardanelles on 28 July.

The answer is that he is buried in the churchyard of St Bartholomew at Quorn, Leicestershire, "near the south-east buttress of the church".

This information was obtained from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. It offers an opportunity for me to remind fellow members, that the answer to the question "Does anyone know where he is commemorated?" is yes. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission knows where every one of the 1,700,000 British Commonwealth war dead of the two World Wars is buried, or if he has no known grave, where he is commemorated on a memorial to the missing.

The Commission is always pleased to answer enquiries about burials or commemorations. Either write to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, 2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7DX, or telephone 0628 34221.

If you have the name and service details of the casualty reasonably accurate and complete, the Commission records staff will be disappointed if they cannot answer a telephone enquiry within two minutes while you remain on the line. If the basic information is incomplete they will need a little longer before replying.

Do not be completely surprised [and do not blame the Commission] if you are told your grandfather fell not on the Somme but in Belgium, or even in Macedonia or Mesopotamia. It is remarkable how often a family tradition has become blurred over the years.

Although the great majority of Gallipoli casualties are commemorated on the Peninsula, rather more than 1,000 died on Lemnos, some in Egypt or Malta, some like Captain Wright in this country. Naval officers and ratings who were lost at sea will be commemorated on the memorials at either Chatham, Plymouth or Portsmouth.

The Commission makes no charge for answering enquiries from relatives, old comrades and the like, but reserves the right to do so if, for example, a researcher asks for a large number of 'traces'.

MEMOIRS OF A BUCKINGHAMSHIRE YEOMAN

FRANK LUNNON

I have read in an account of what the Bucks Territorials did in the Great War that after a few weeks of intensive infantry training the Royal Bucks Hussars went to Suvla Bay, dismounted having left their horses in Egypt.

Actually we were issued with infantry webbing equipment one evening, the following morning we had a parade to see that we had put it together and again that evening to march to the station to entrain for Alexandria.

On our way to Lemnos we were told of the landing at Suvla Bay where, on arrival, we disembarked onto a small mine-sweeper and arrived in pitch darkness. A warship's pinnace towing cutters came alongside to ferry us to the shore. It was about ten days after the initial landing and small wooden piers had been built.

In the morning the Regiment was to go road-making, but after less than half an hour I was detailed to take my section, four of us, to report to the Colonel or Adjutant. I was told to go and find a stores and draw as many picks and shovels as we could carry. There were various dumps near the piers and I returned heavily laden to find the Colonel of the Regiment waiting to move off. He said "We will do without them. Dismiss your fatigue party." I did so very quickly and so had the rest of the day off, which we spent mostly bathing.

The following day was spent unloading stores which were ferried to the piers from ships laying out in the Bay. A few odd shells came over but I never saw one fall near either the piers or the ships.

On Friday night we marched around the beach to Lala Baba which was at the southern end of the Bay. The following morning was spent bathing before we paraded at 1.30pm.

We then crossed a bit of flat land to the foot of Chocolate Hill, the Turks were on the top and although the 29 Division had attacked it earlier that afternoon they had been driven back. We had to go in with the bayonet. Mercifully I do not remember anything about that.

My first recollection was seeing two Turks running for a trench about 100 yards away. I dropped one and missed the other who got to his trench. I then realised there were lots of Turks the other side of a thick belt of scrub about 30 to 40 yards off and you had to stand up to shoot at them. I emptied my magazine, sat down out of sight to reload. As I stood up I saw a rifle pointing at me. I tried to get off the first shot but failed to do so. He broke my right arm. Very shortly afterwards a shell

shattered my left elbow. When I came to I heard an officer shout "Gentlemen we must retire!". Faced with the prospect of lying there victim to John Turk's bayonet I managed to pick myself up and walk back down the hill to our front line trench. I felt too weak to jump across it so I got a man to help me down into it.

He wanted to put on my first field dressing but I told him I only had one and as I had been wounded in both arms would he take off one of my puttees and tie my arms tight to my body, as when they swung it was not very pleasant. He then told me that just round the traverse there was a communicating trench which would lead to the Dressing Station.

I hadn't gone far when I met more troops. The officer and a sergeant picked me up and put me on my feet and so I finally reached the Dressing Station. I think I then passed out because when they came to attend to me it was dark. One man held an electric torch while an M.O. and an orderly cut the clothes off my arms and bandaged them. The Doctor then said "This man must have the first stretcher we can get". The orderly said they wanted a stretcher for a Major. The doctor replied "I don't care about the Major, this man has the first stretcher we can get".

I eventually got my stretcher and had a very rough ride in a mule-drawn ambulance to the beach, and then found myself one of a row of about a dozen stretcher-cases on board a hospital ship. We sailed to Lemnos where they landed the not so seriously wounded and took me to the operating theatre. When I came round I was in a bed. There was a row of beds, a row of stretchercases on the floor, then another row of beds. They then left a passage way.

I don't know how many men died on the way home but I remember a very badly wounded man who used to shout and swear a lot. A steward said to a man on a stretcher "That noisy blighter will probably not last the night, if so you will get his bed in the morning."

We landed at Devonport on the Friday week after being wounded. Before being moved one was labelled with one's name, regiment and disabilities. I got someone to read mine which said "Compound fracture of the humeri."

The hospital train was made of converted coaches from the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. My heart sank; I was on the lower bunk and so could not see out of the window, but I did spot Newbury and then Reading so that meant we were bound for London, and so to Westminster Hospital [the old hospital situated opposite the Abbey].

When the House Surgeon came to look at me and asked "What's the matter?" I was able to tell him "Compound fracture of the humeri." He then told me that Humerus was a Latin word, the plural of which was Humeri. I said "Yes, Sir, its both of them." When the Surgeon came a couple of days later he asked the same question with the same replies. The Visiting Surgeon usually came round with the R.M.O.,

the Matron and a few students. To watch the faces of the House Surgeon, Sister and nurses, who dared not laugh was quite amusing.

Note: Frank Lunnon served as a Trooper in the Buckinghamshire Yeomanry in which he enlisted on 1 April 1912, being then not quite 17. He gained the rank of Lance Corporal and, following time in hospital was discharged on 20 June 1916, his discharge papers being signed by Major C. Disraeli. He wrote his memoirs of which this is an extract, some seven years before his death in 1983.

In recognition of his service to the community in Bourne End and the surrounding district in Buckinghamshire, a cul-de-sac in Cores End was named Frank Lunnon Close in 1984. Are any other Gallipoli veterans so honoured?

We are most grateful to his son John Lunnon [1188], for making these Memoirs available for publication.

LIEUTENANT JOHN HARLEY

In *The Gallipolian* No 66 Autumn 1991 we published a note concerning a memorial in Ludlow Parish Church to Lieutenant John Harley, killed at the Battle of Krithia, 4 June 1915.

Miss Debby Gill of Ludlow has written with further information on this officer, she says:

“He was a member, I believe, of a great family of Harley’s, who in fact still live in Brampton Bryan, near here. Lady Brilliana Harley withstood a siege for a while at her castle during the Civil War, single handed, as her husband was fighting elsewhere. John Harley attended Ludlow Grammar School. He was a historian of some standing, being involved in the publication of the *Hastings Manuscripts* by the Historical Manuscripts Commission. This work was finally published posthumously in three volumes, 1928, 1930 and 1934. He also contributed to the Hampshire volume of the *Victoria County History*. He was elected to the Society of Antiquaries on 4 March 1915, which membership lasted just three months, before his untimely end.”

THE HOOD AT GALLIPOLI

LEONARD SELLERS [1155]

It all started with a small gold locket on a simple base metal chain. This slightly dented piece of jewellery was given to my wife Elaine, as a hand-me-down from my great grandmother Caroline Walls who had it engraved after her son's death, with the following inscription:

In Loving Memory of
Dear Bert
Killed in action at the
Dardanelles July 18th 1915

Inside I found a photograph of my uncle Albert John Walls with my great grandmother Caroline opposite.

I wondered how he had met his fate in that distant land and my resulting researches led me to investigate the history of the Hood Battalion of the Royal Naval Division throughout the Gallipoli campaign. I found a story of colour and adventure, of frustrating failure and of lost opportunities, terrible hardships, suffering and death but balanced by determination and heroism.

We see the Hood Battalion, of the RND like the campaign different, not as other men, but soldier sailors. Churchill's brainchild, known as Winston's army, who nursed them into being and which resulted in so many interesting combinations of officers and men. Hood officers, who in normal circumstances were liable to become future leaders of the nation like Arthur [Og] Asquith, the Prime Minister's son, Denis Browne, of Cambridge University, one of England's best young musicians and critics, F. S. "Cleg" Kelly, an Australian by birth who rowed in the Oxford eight and was three times winner of the Diamond Sculls. Bernard Freyberg, a New Zealander, later to become Lord Freyberg and holder of the Victoria Cross, Governor of New Zealand and Deputy Constable of Windsor Castle. Patrick Shaw-Stewart the brilliant scholar of Eton and Balliol. Charles Lister also of Balliol, a diplomat and son of Lord Ribblesdale. There were also such characters as John Bigelow Dodge, a charming and good looking young American, who turned up "to fight for the right."

But most of all Sub-Lieutenant Rupert Brooke, the poet and symbol of the age, and as it turned out of the whole campaign. Destined to die just before the first landings of blood-poisoning. So near and yet so far. For his hopes, excitement and enthusiasm in the cause turned to waste and premature death at the age of 27 years, which was a shock to all.

The men were mainly former naval reservists and new army recruits, a good proportion of the latter came from the Tyneside towns. My uncle Albert John Walls

was the eldest son of John Daniel Walls and Caroline Walls [nee Durr] of Commercial Road, Peckham, London. He was born on 25 June 1878. Five of his brothers and sisters died before the age of 5 years. He was formerly a printer following in the general lines of his father, but on 28 October 1903 he joined the Royal Navy and saw service at Chatham and on ships such as the armoured cruisers HMS *Acheron*, *Bacchante* and *Leviathan* and the battleships HMS *Illustrious* and *Agamemnon*, the last of which was to play such a leading role in the Gallipoli story itself.

He was discharged on 6 November 1908, being transferred to the Royal Fleet Reserve on the following day, holding the rank of Stoker First Class, with a character reference of very good throughout. Thereafter he spent a weeks training per year until mobilized for war service on 2 August 1914, reporting to HMS *Pembroke* at Chatham. Later he transferred to HMS *Victory* for duty with the Hood Battalion on 17 September 1914.

The three years of research have enabled me to visit many interesting people and places. Everyone has been very kind and I have made a number of friends along the way. The thrill of finding original unpublished material by opening the boxes, albums, letters and documents is something unsurpassed. I get a great kick from finding each piece of the jigsaw building into the finished history. I have been very lucky, and the amount of material available was far greater than my early expectations.

I remember the grey November day when I visited The Modern Archive Centre at Kings College Library, Cambridge, to research the Rupert Brooke papers. As I left, the choir was singing in the famous Chapel. It was twilight and as the lamplight cast its shadows I could hear the music coming from behind the glorious stained glass. As I passed I felt deeply moved as Rupert Brooke must have done, when a Fellow of the College, so many years ago.

Then there was the day in the Photographic Department of the Imperial War Museum looking at material on the Royal Naval Division. I turned the page and there was my great uncle Albert John Walls, a member of a machine-gun section, looking at me. He was thinner in the face than the locket photograph, but it was him, wearing his cloth comforter on his head. This photograph was later confirmed by my father, who as a child saw him before he left for the war. The photograph was taken on 4 May 1915, two days before he was wounded at the Second Battle of Krithia by a bullet in the thigh.

In May 1990 I visited the Liddle Collection at the Edward Boyle Library, Leeds University. The founder and keeper of the collection, Peter Liddle, could not have been more kind and helpful. I joined the Friends of the Liddle Collection receiving the newsletter *The Poppy and the Owl*. I was keen to trace the relations of one Eric Wettern, as I needed his permission to publish an item by him. All leads had proved fruitless when on reading the December 1991 newsletter there was an article by John Wettern on the exploits of his father.

Another highlight were my visits to Blandford, Dorset, where the Royal Naval Division trained prior to Gallipoli. The Royal Signals Museum has a small section on the RND. Roy Adam, Chairman of the Blandford Branch of the Royal Naval Association had invited me to attend the Remembrance Service at St Peter's Church, Pimperne, and afterwards at the Collingwood Memorial at Three Mile Point near Blandford Camp. This was the place where King George V and Winston Churchill had inspected the Division on 25 February 1915. On a day when the weather was described by Violet Asquith as "Being a morning of brilliant sun sparkling on frost, with air like crystal."

The Collingwood Battalion was destroyed at the dreadful battle on 4 June, the few survivors transferring to the Hood. The flag of the Hood Battalion still hangs proudly in the nearby church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul in Blandford Forum.

There have been so many places and people seen that I cannot possibly list them all. However I would like to mention a living member of the Hood, Joseph Murray, aged 95 years and unfortunately now blind. He has helped, as has his daughter-in-law Vera. A real character, who gained the name "Lucky Durham" he fought all through the Gallipoli campaign and on into France before being injured at the battle of Gravelle in April 1917.

Following on from the Hood at Gallipoli I have now commenced research on its activities on the Western Front and have already uncovered gems of unpublished material concerning disputes between the War Office and the Admiralty over the direction that the Royal Naval Division should take, together with marvellous first hand accounts of the fighting in France. If anyone is in a position to supply me with further information, or with suggestions as to other lines of enquiry I will be very grateful.

During my latest research I found a reference to Lieutenant F. S. "Clegg" Kelly who was killed at the Battle of the Ancre on 13 November 1916. He was very interested in the Hood Battalion's Band. In his "An In Memoriam" in the Eton College Chronicle, appears comment on an elegy for strings in memory of Rupert Brooke in which Kelly tried to introduce the atmosphere of Greek temples and the movement of leaves of the olive trees, so recalling the funeral on Skyros. In the following issue a report of a concert by the 2nd Life Guards states that unfortunately the music could not be arranged in time for a military band.

I have now been able to obtain a copy of this music from the British Library and found it to be a work for a 46 piece orchestra consisting of a solo violin, 24 violins, 8 violas, 8 cellos, 4 double basses and a harp. I understand that it would last between 6 and 7 minutes. Hopefully it might at some future date be possible to have this music played, as a fitting tribute to not only Rupert Brooke, himself, but all the officers and men of the Hood Battalion, who gave their lives in the Great War. If any reader has any ideas on this subject please let me know.

L. J. Sellers, 17a Bellhouse Rd, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 5NL.

BOOK REVIEWS

MEMORIES OF THE BORDER REGIMENT IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

COMPILED BY WALTER F. EWBANK

1991. 28 pages. £5.00. **

It would be difficult for me to hear the strains of "John Peel" in quick march time without straight away calling to mind the old 34/55th Regiment of Foot, the Border Regiment, whose cap badge was referred to as the "picture gallery of the British Army," a proudful boast made by an old Borderman – my father. Esprit-de-corps extended through the whole family.

Memories of the Border Regiment compiled and edited by Walter F. Ewbank, Arcdeacon Emeritus of Carlisle, is a collectors piece, reporting the experiences of soldiers from privates to senior officers, from the under-aged recruit to the oldest veteran. We are indeed fortunate that so many recollections are available, and have been brought together in this manner.

For Members the passages concerning the Gallipoli campaign will be of special interest. There is the feeling of the great adventure as troops from all parts of the globe came together shortly before the landings commenced, and then the grim months on the Peninsula.

The Border Regiment landed on X Beach on 25 April, my father serving until late August when he was wounded and eventually invalided back to England. There are names here which I immediately recognised like Captain May with whom my father had previously served in India, the Andaman Islands and Burma, and who was wounded no fewer than three times at Gallipoli. His son, Colonel R. K. May is Curator of the Border Regiment Museum and a member of the Gallipoli Association.

The awfulness of the fighting is brought vividly to mind. Then there are lighter moments like the delightful story of Ernie Sharpe, wounded and while being transported to Mudros, meeting a friend and opponent from the rugby field, Tucker Anderson serving in the RND. He provided jam and loaves "the best meal" said Sharpe "that I have ever eaten".

Lieutenant Ewbank did even better during the course of the evacuation "a ten course dinner in place of bully beef and biscuits" on board the *Princess Irene*. Alas he was later killed at Cambrai in 1917 aged 21, his nephew being the editor of the booklet.

One hopes that other Regimental Museums can be inspired by the example of the Border Regiment, and make available extracts from their archives. The stories deserve to be told.

L. R. Chandler [1210]

** Available from The King's Own Royal Border Regiment Museum, The Castle Carlisle, CA3 8UR, or W. F. Ewbank, 7 Castle Court, Castle Street, Carlisle, CA3 8UF.

THE SUVLA BAY FAILURE

ANGELA & GREG FRANKS

Buttercross Books 1992. 28 pages, 1 map. £6.50 or £6.80 by post from the authors**

This little book brings together several views of the ill-fated aftermath of the landings at Suvla in August 1915. There is an extract from General Sir Ian Hamilton's final despatch in which he says "I did nothing, and said not a word, calculated to modify or in any way affect the attack already planned for the morning."

The other extracts are from sources less easily available. From John Still's *A Prisoner in Turkey*. He was one of five men who survived out of all those of the 6th Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment who had climbed the furthest point from Suvla Bay that our forces reached.

Following publication of *Gallipoli Diary* in 1923 General Hamilton received correspondence from John Still, now resident in Ceylon which was subsequently published in *The Times* and this in turn prompted a letter from James Underhill of Vancouver another officer with the East Yorks. Both are published here.

It is helpful to have these items brought together, and made available by two members of the Association. Would an even greater service have been performed if extracts from the many other sources, concerning the vexed question as to what went wrong on the slopes of Tekke Tepe on 9 August 1915, had been included?

** 2 The Paddock, Bingham, Nottingham, NG13 8HQ

THE PATH TO GALLIPOLI

IAN MCGIBBON

GP Books 1991. 274 pages, 78 illustrations, 8 maps. \$39.95 soft; \$49.95 hard cover.

This book traces the evolution of New Zealand's external defence from 1840 until the commitment to send troops to Gallipoli. Some 600 New Zealanders were killed or wounded on 25 April 1915, while by the time of the evacuation one in four of those involved had lost their lives.

VICTORIA CROSS LOCATOR

DENNIS PILLINGER & ANTHONY STAUNTON

Published by the authors 1991. 58 pages. £5.00**.

A valuable and much needed record of the location of 1,351 Victoria Crosses. Of these 724 are held by museums, regiments or other bodies, 494 remain with the family or in other private hands, their location not revealed for obvious reasons, while 10 are posted as missing.

The book is divided into several key lists. The alphabetical location, with those in private hands being listed as "not publicly held", the country, service and regiment list, the list by museum and other public body, details of auction prices, and finally a list of the living Victoria Cross recipients, 42 at 30 June 1991.

Of the Gallipoli Victoria Crosses some 22 are not publicly held, while the other 19 are in a variety of institutions, no fewer than 9 being in Australia, where 8 are in the War Memorial.

** Available from D. Pillinger, Ringinglow, Harvest Hill Road, Maidenhead, SL6 2QR at £5.00 plus 30p post [60p overseas].

THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM BOOK OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

MALCOLM BROWN

Sedgwick & Jackson 1991. £25.00.

Reading this book is a bit like watching Antiques Roadshow in which experts throw light onto diverse antiques by concentrating on a limited number of objects. Malcolm Smith whose previous books have included *Scapa Flow*, *Tommy Goes to War* and *Christmas Truce* successfully employs a similar approach here.

By dividing it into eight parts he is able not only to describe the arenas in which the actual fighting took place, but also to highlight those less commonly described, such as the war as seen by women and civilians. In each he focuses on the experiences of individuals, relating their stories through their own words; yet through careful selection, these become representative of a wider population. Drawing on his skills as a former BBC TV producer, he also blends these words with a selection of pictures from the Museum's collections. The result provides an overall summary of the war's main events while revealing even more clearly the character of the people who lived through it and died as a result of it.

Whilst Gallipoli is not described extensively, in a book which tries to report in some part on almost all aspects of the war it is covered, perhaps in a fair proportion.

There are comments from a Naval Surgeon and an Able Seaman, a New Zealand officer and an Australian Private, a General Staff Officer and the GOC Royal Naval Division. Described in detail is the story of Commander William Forbes RN, who, aged 70, commanded a squadron of dummy battleships in the Aegean until sunk in May 1915.

The book's main weakness is its price. At £25.00, despite the colour plates, it is a little expensive. However if Members of the Association are in the History Guild Book Club, or the Military and Aviation Book Society, they should be able to buy it more cheaply.

Nigel Steel [1036]

HELL'S FOUNDATIONS: A TOWN, ITS MYTHS AND GALLIPOLI

GEOFFREY MOORHOUSE

Hodder & Stoughton 1992. 19 illustrations, end paper maps. £19.99.

This brilliant and unusual book makes fascinating reading for anyone interested in the Gallipoli campaign, the town of Bury, or the Lancashire Fusiliers. Its pages combine in an unusual and unorthodox manner military history, social history, and economic history.

Several chapters describe the Gallipoli campaign, its bungled command and planning, its heroism, its fearful casualties, of which the Lancashire Fusiliers sustained more than any other regiment, the evacuation and its aftermath. It does not claim to open new windows except to re-examine with perspicacity the often heard Anzac claim that those from "down under" were let down by the British on various occasions.

Nor is the book a history of the 20th Foot, the Lancashire Fusiliers, although certain chapters relate to its early history. From its raising as the East Devonshire Regiment in 1688, to Dettingen and Minden, the Peninsula War, the last guard over Napoleon on St Helena, the Crimea, its arrival at Bury as depot in 1881. Then South Africa, Gallipoli, Mesopotamia and the Western Front, World War II and actions from Dunkirk to Tunisia, Italy and the jungles of Burma with the Chindits, and numerous operations since. Although the spirit of the Regiment pervades the whole book, this is not a regimental history rewritten.

The author, a local man educated in Bury and later a newspaper reporter, author and explorer of distinction tells us much of the social and economic history of Bury. He describes beautifully its landscape before, during and after the cotton mills, and looks with deep understanding at the changing way of life of the townsfolk, both rich and poor. He does not gloss over the tragedies of the post-war years, 1920-30, the

unemployment, suicides of Gallipoli heroes unable to find work, or the pathetic plight of war widows struggling to bring up families in poverty.

It explores in some depth the relationship between the Mayor and Corporation, the Parish Church and its Rectors, the famous Grammar School and its OTC, and the Regiment. With a skilled narrators gift he portrays the Gallipoli Sunday Church Parade, marks the changing tones of the Rectors' sermons on this day, analyses the emotions of the troops on parade, and the similar range of emotions felt by the thousands who watch.

I myself could take issue with the author on one minor blemish where he omits all reference to the King's Own Royal Regiment [Lancaster], 4th Foot; from his list of regiments drawn from the former County Palatine of Lancashire. More seriously, I cannot accept his view that the Lancashire Fusiliers were disbanded in 1968. Absorbed would be a more appropriate expression, as the present Royal Regiment of Fusiliers continues to celebrate Minden, Inkerman and Gallipoli just as their forbears did.

Furthermore the eternal link between the Fusiliers and the citizens of Bury survives as strongly now as it did in 1968. It is very far from being just a museum-piece, and it is alive in the hearts of the citizens, and of the Fusiliers, serving and retired.

These comments should in no way detract from the merits of a fine book which is in my experience unique. Whereas military historians and social historians usually confine themselves to a single chronological exposition of their subject, Geoffrey Moorhouse has not limited his approach to that of a strict chronology, but has conveyed to his readers the emotional, at times spiritual bond, between the Borough of Bury and the Lancashire Fusiliers with the landing on W Beach on 25 April 1915 as its central and evocative theme.

Lt. Col P. Evans [1144]

Note: Lt. Colonel Evans was commissioned into the Lancashire Fusiliers in April 1944. He is currently President of the Ramshotbottom branch of the Fusiliers Association and Chairman of the Regimental Museum Committee at Wellington Barracks, Bury. He has some personal knowledge of almost everyone mentioned in the book from 1930 onwards.

OFFICIAL HISTORY NOW AVAILABLE

Military Operations: Gallipoli the Official History by Brigadier-General C. F. Aspinall-Oglander is now available in a joint reprint by the Imperial War Museum and Battery Press of Nashville Tennessee. The two volume set [the boxed maps from the original edition are not reprinted] costs £55.00 [including handling] from the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ.

The original edition rarely appears for sale so this reprint will be much appreciated by members of the Gallipoli Association. In the words of Cyril Falls "No serious student of the War can avoid reading this book. Of other campaigns he can get a good notion from slighter and more popular sketches, but for the tangled story of the Dardanelles he must go for this."

FROM THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

Available free from the Mail Order Department, Duxford Airfield, Cambs, ACB2 4QR [0223 835000 ext 245] is the Museum's catalogue of posters, books, postcards, photographs etc.

Also available is the Catalogue of Publications from the Department of Printed Books, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ. In addition to the Official History mentioned elsewhere this contains details of two other items of Gallipoli interest.

Rupert Brooke's Death and Burial Originally published in a limited edition of 300 copies in 1917 (this is an account of the last days of the poet. In addition there are articles by Peter J. Miller of the Rupert Brooke Association, and Nigel Steel a Member of the Gallipoli Association, plus previously unpublished letters and photographs. Price £14.00 including post.

Order De Bataille of the Turkish Army Compiled by the Intelligence Department, General Staff, Cairo and corrected to 16 August 1915. Some 48 pages including an introduction. The notes are particularly interesting, eg those for the 7th Division refer to Remzi Bey the officer commanding the 7th Division at Gallipoli as "One of the most dangerous men in Turkey" while the 16th Division "Lost very heavily in Gallipoli Peninsula May 20, June 20 and August 6." Price £8.00 including post.

LANCE-CORPORAL GEORGE POLLITT DCM

N. POLLITT [0946]

George Pollitt was born on 25 September 1892, the second child to William and Mary Hannah. His father was an itinerant plumber who had recently returned from South America after a period of three years, during which he was probably working on the Argentinian railways.

There were to be seven children in the family and all were to survive to adulthood, except John, who died of diphtheria in 1903, aged four. Tragedy had already struck the family three years earlier, when their father died at the age of 34.

The loss of the bread-winner was to bring great hardship to the family and to relieve the financial strain on their mother, George and his younger brother William were sent to a charitable boarding school in Manchester – Chetham's Hospital, or as it was often called the Blue Coat School.

The academic standard of the school was higher than most of its contemporaries, French being one of the subjects taught. The physical well being of the boys was also catered for, and they were fortunate in having their own swimming pool and gymnasium. George soon became quite a proficient swimmer, entering the pool at every opportunity. One of his adroit tricks consisted of diving for pennies in the deep end of the pool, a sport practiced on Open Days and at Swimming Galas. Despite a somewhat spartan regime at the school George enjoyed his days there and the regimented life was to stand him in good stead during his army career.

When he left Chetham's on 1 October 1908, aged 14, he was found a position in a firm of Solicitors in the centre of Manchester. However George did not take to clerical work and soon left to start an apprenticeship as a joiner with a small building firm in the city. He never regretted his change of direction and became a proficient craftsman always taking a pride in his work no matter how small the job.

On 1 April 1908 the Territorial Force came into being, an amalgam of the old home defence units, comprising the Militia, Yeomanry and Volunteers. One of the new units to be created in Lancashire was the East Lancashire Royal Engineers [TF] and its HQ was close to George's home. Sometime around 1910 or 1911 George enrolled in their 1/2nd Field Company as a Sapper. He was able to use his expertise as a joiner in the many training sessions, consisting of bridge building and fortification work, while the annual camp was particularly enjoyed.

The training camp for 1914 was to be at Caernarvon, North Wales, however they were recalled during their journey, to be mobilised immediately at Seymour Grove on 4 August 1914. The Territorials were not bound to fight overseas but the East

Lancashire Division voted unanimously to fight where necessary and they were the first Territorial Division to leave England, sailing from Southampton on 10 September, just six weeks after the outbreak of war. They were bound for Alexandria on board the RMSP *Aragon*, the three week voyage culminating with a train journey to Cairo.

After a months acclimatisation and training the Field Company moved to Kantara and El Kubbi on the Suez Canal. Their duties were to protect the Suez Canal, and for eight months they sweated and struggled to build light railways, to dig wells, to construct bridges and to assist in many other ways Sir John Maxwell's Force in Egypt. Nevertheless they saw little fighting and the hot dry climate was a pleasant change from "Blighty".

On 4 May the 1/2nd Field Company sailed from Alexandria for Gallipoli disembarking at "W" Beach, renamed Lancashire Landing, on 10 May. Their first major engagement was in the Third Battle of Krithia which commenced on 4 June. The outcome of the first assault was mixed; in the Centre the 42nd Division [formerly the East Lancashire Division] burst through the enemy lines and was within half a mile of Krithia, unfortunately they became cut off and had to retire to a point 500 yards in front of their original position.

The whole front was under intensive fire for the next few days, and it was during the night of 6/7 June that Sapper George Pollitt won his Distinguished Conduct Medal. The supplement to the London Gazette, 15 September 1915 gives a very restrained and bald description of the action:

"For conspicuous gallantry near Krithia, Gallipoli Peninsula, on the night of 6th-7th June, 1915. He volunteered under an Officer with four other Sappers to make a communication trench under heavy fire. He showed the highest courage under very difficult circumstances, three of the five being killed".

The contemporary magazine *Deeds that Thrill the Empire* was more forthcoming and included an artist's impression of the deed [very fictional according to the hero]. To obtain a more vivid and detailed account of the action we can turn to the record left by members of the Corps in their privately published *A History of the East Lancashire Royal Engineers*.

"On the night of June 6-7 occurred the affair of the a 'Old Turkish Redoubt'. This small isolated post was within our line, and after consolidation had begun was reoccupied by Turks getting into it from the nullah. The 8th Lancashire Fusiliers cleared them out, and experienced a heavy counter attack. When night came they appealed to Lieutenant Angus, in our neighbouring front line [which he had just come to strengthen with a working party], to give engineering assistance. The circumstances decided him to call for volunteers, and there are in our

history few more splendid incidents than this one. All the volunteers were lads of about twenty-one or less, but across the open to the Redoubt they went, worked all night, and before dawn came handled their rifles vigorously against enemy attacks. The rising sun found hardly one, Royal Engineer or Lancashire Fusilier, who was not either wounded or dead.

Sapping had begun from our front line to the Redoubt, so that the wounded might be got away and supplies and S.A.A. be brought up. It was in this work that Sapper Eachus exposed himself so daringly to fire and was eventually wounded. His handling of an infantry working party on June 4, when he displayed both energy and courage, had already brought him into notice.

Sappers Hinsley, Barlow and Knott died gloriously. Sapper Sapper Harold Smith was wounded, and both he and the other survivor Sapper Pollitt, received the Distinguished Conduct Medal and promotion. After two years of repeated application the D.C.M. was awarded to Sapper Eachus also, whilst Sapper Pareson, who was conspicuous in helping him, received the thanks of the Divisional Commander".

George would never discuss the event, confirming the traumatic effect it must have had on his mind, and it is left to our imagination to visualise the nerve-racking ordeal of this young man of 23 years, seeing three of his comrades killed alongside him during that painfully long night.

Sapper Pollitt became Lance-Corporal Pollitt after the battle, being told he was too short to warrant promotion to Corporal! After the successful evacuation of the Allied Forces from the Peninsula he went with the 42nd Division to France and saw action on the Somme, and in Flanders, finishing the war at Charleroi. He escaped being wounded, and was demobilised on 13 May 1919, receiving a gratuity of £20.00 for his D.C.M. award.

On arriving back in Manchester he was feted by his old school and received an Illuminated Address from the local council. He resumed his trade as a joiner, on the maintenance staff of Tootal Broadhurst Lee, and helped to save their Manchester warehouse during the Blitz of 1940, when he led a team of firewatchers fighting a shower of incendiary bombs which had penetrated the roof threatening the research laboratories on the 8th floor. He finally retired in 1957 and moved to Blackpool with his wife. He died in 1980, five weeks short of his 88th birthday.

Lance-Corporal Pollitt was my father and unfortunately he never did learn of the existence of the Gallipoli Association; had he known, I am certain he would have become an active Veteran Member. It was five years after his death that I had the good fortune to meet two members of the Gallipoli Association Committee - Nevin Anthony and Alan Standley - during a tour of the Gallipoli peninsula; I became a willing recruit.

REFERENCES

Anon 1921 *A History of the East Lancashire Royal Engineers*

Anon 1917 *Deeds that Thrill the Empire* Part II

Rhodes James, R. 1965 *Gallipoli*

Richardson, S. Editor. 1990 *42nd [East Lancashire] Division in the Great War*

CAUGHT SPEEDING

Commander Samson in his book *Fights and Flights* published in 1920 recalls on page 210 how after being called to the Admiralty and told his Squadron was for the Dardanelles:

“We had a great celebration that night.

On the way down from London I was caught in a police trap and naturally not having my driving licence with me, I was informed by the constable that I would be summoned for exceeding the speed limit and failing to produce a licence. I was afraid I didn't treat it very seriously. Eventually at the Dardanelles, I received a long document saying that as I could not be traced the summons had been allowed to lapse; in fact the Chief Constable of Kent had been kind enough to note on it that Commander Samson would not be proceeded against, as he had evidently been in a hurry.”

A LOST DAFFODIL

The article in the Spring *Gallipolian* concerning the lost variety of narcissi “Gallipoli” has alas so far not proved successful. Hopefully it will eventually be possible to locate a source.

Our thanks are particularly due to Dr David Willis, formerly at the University of Coleraine, and Mrs Sally Kington, International Daffodil Registrar for the Royal Horticultural Society, 80 Vincent Square, London, SW1P 2PE for their extensive help with information about the narcissus “Gallipoli”, thus enabling the article in the Spring *Gallipolian* to be prepared.

PRISONERS OF THE TURKS [CONTINUED]

J. DOUGLAS STOTT [0933]

NUMBER	NAME	DIED	BAGHDAD [North Gate] MILITARY CEMETERY
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10th [PORTSMOUTH] BN LIGHT INF ROYAL MARINES

Kiangri Internment Camp

385 Robert T. Fryer

HMS CLACTON ROYAL NAVY

Afion Kara Hissar Internment Camp

John William Roberts Lieut.

3337B Angus McIver

6102A John James Noble

These three prisoners were members of a boat party captured off the Asian coast of Turkey south-west of Bodrum, 2 November 1915.

HM SUBMARINE E7 ROYAL NAVY

Angora Internment Camp

[Cdr] Archibald D. Cochrane Lieut

John Andrew H. Scaife Lieut

Irwin Muirhead Twyman Lieut

216414 William Henry Mathews

Kiangri Internment Camp

K4093 Herbert Blanchard

1569 Aster Coates 30.9.16 Hadjiki Memorial

174160 Louis A. J. Dalnoky

215684 William G. Dempsey

K2079 Alexander Doyle

233750 John Herbert Godfrey

7574 Ernest Gwynne

271342 John Henry Harrison

J327 Reginald Hooper

310854 Frederick J. Hubbard 11.11.16 Angora Memorial

K9390 William E. J. Johnson

271951 William G. McDonald

927 Herbert Macklin

K769 Ernest Osborne

J8151 Thomas Parkhurst

205208 Henry Pope

214966 William Reid 12.1.16 Angora Memorial

NUMBER	NAME	DIED	BAGHDAD [North Gate] MILITARY CEMETERY
233417	Percy Charles Ross		
179585	Robert Walter Sims		
233822	John Richard Smith		
282225	Edward Charles Taylor	16.10.16	Plot XXI
K20431	Thomas H. Tomkinson		
182183	Edward S. Websdale		
7501	Archibald Wilson		

HM SUBMARINE E15 ROYAL NAVY

Afion Kara Hissar Internment Camp

	Edward J. Price Lieut	16.10.18	Plot XXI
	Geoffrey FitzGerald S/Lieut		
	E. S. Palmer Clarence Lieut		
230790	Henry John Barter	11.5.16	Plot XXI
226804	Patrick Brennan	2.3.16	Plot XXI
	Albert Ellis		
	James Geens		
	Charles Gosling		
4557	William Howes		
	Sidney Kenchington		
15768	John B. Lockerbie		
K14409	John McDonough		
	Alfred Edward May		
288459	Ernest Henry Mitchell	26.11.16	Plot XXI
	William Norman		
K22745	Thomas O'Neill		
203222	Herbert Rogers		
169388	John Shepard		
270751	Samuel Todd		
221231	Henry W. Trimmer		
233214	William Williams	4.2.17	Plot XXI

Kiangri Internment Camp

306132	James Bond	2.2.17	Plot XXI
229604	Charles Horn		
K4797	Charles H. Stratford		
184382	George William Williams	4.12.16	Angora Memorial

HM SUBMARINE E20 ROYAL NAVY

Angora Internment Camp

[Cdr] Clyfford H. Warren Lieut

NUMBER	NAME	DIED	BAGHDAD [North Gate] MILITARY CEMETERY
238702	Henry Wilford Pell Lieut		
	Arthur Norman Tebbs		
	Thomas James Piddock		

Kiangri Internment Camp

212543	Alfred J. Burtenshaw		
	Joseph Embury		
6684	Arthur James Howard	8.2.17	Angora Memorial
J2501	Charles Woodman		

Constantinople Internment Camp

William Henry Voisey

HMA SUBMARINE AE20 ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY.**Afion Kara Hissar Internment Camp**

	[Cdr] Henry Stoker Lieut		
	Geoffrey Haggard Lieut		
	John Pitt Cary		
7999	William Thomas Cheater		
2826	James Cullen		
7391	John Kerin		
8221	Benjamin Talbot		
2305	Michael Williams	29.9.16	Bozanti Memorial

Kiangri Internment Camp

160597 [8266]	Harry Abbott		
270766 [8272]	Stephen Thomas Bell		
7296	Cecil Arthur Bray		
8278	Harry B. Broomhead		
8096	Herbert A. Brown		
7970	Lionel Stanley Churcher		
1936	William W. Falconer		
8285	Peter Fawns		
8273	James Henry Gibson		
8053	Stephen John Gilbert	9.10.16	Plot XXI
7216	Horace J. Harding		
8270	Charles Holderness		
2080	William B. Jenkins		
7244	Henry J. E. Kinder		
7893	Albert Edward Knaggs	22.10.16	Plot XXI
8056	George Henry Nash		
7297	Alexander C. Nichols		

BAGHDAD [North Gate]
MILITARY CEMETERY

NUMBER	NAME	DIED
2148	Charles G. Suckling	
8271	Albert N. C. Thompson	
8275	Charles Varcoe	18.9.16
8259	Charles Vaughan	
8289	Thomas Henry Walker	
7861	John H. Wheat	
8277	Thomas Wishart	

Plot XXI

To be concluded in the next *Gallipolian*.

PRIVATE THOMAS BARNES

A REQUEST BY HIS NEPHEW ERNEST BARNES [1206]

Private Thomas Barnes, born in Bickerton, Yorkshire in 1882, died at Suvla Bay while serving with the 9th Bn West Yorkshire Regiment on 9 August 1915. His body was never found, and he is commemorated on the Cape Helles Memorial along with 334 others from the Regiment. Ernest Barnes** is anxious to learn more about the history of the 9th Battalion, and perhaps something of the last months of his Uncle.

The booklet by Everad Wyrall concerning the West Yorkshire Regiment provides this account of the action of 8 August 1915.

Two Battalions, the 9th West Yorkshires and the 6th Yorkshire Regiment apparently made a reconnaissance and succeeded in penetrating to, and occupying Hill 70 [Scimitar Hill], and a point nearly as far as Abrikja without meeting serious opposition. Three and a half companies of the 9th West Yorkshire, A, B, C and half of D reached the latter while part of Battalion HQ was still about 500 yards south-east of Sulajik, while the rest of D Company and the 6th Yorkshires were near Alibey Chesme.

In the afternoon orders were received for an attack to take place on the morning of the 9th. The 11th Division was to advance against the line Ismail Oglu Tepe-Anafarta Sagir. The 33rd Infantry Brigade [less the Sherwood Foresters] and one Battalion of the 31st Infantry Brigade [10th Division] was to attack the line from Ismail Oglu Tepe - 106L.W. The 33rd Inf Battalion was to prolong the line on the left. These orders were subsequently altered on the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief MEF, who expressed a wish that an advance be made forthwith in order to

secure the high ground before the Turkish reinforcements, which were known to be on the way arrived. Orders were immediately issued for an advance, but then it was found that the 32nd Infantry Brigade was not concentrated about Sulajik. By now [1800] the 6th Yorkshires and the 9th West Yorkshires were extended in position from Hill 70 to the slopes of Baka Baba, well on their way to Anafarta Sagir. Indeed, to those two Battalions belongs the honour of establishing themselves further east during the first attack at Suvla, than any other units of the 10th or 11th Divisions. There is every reason to surmise that had they been supported, or their whereabouts known to Brigade HQ, and the importance of their position grasped, the final result at Suvla might have been very different. Instead these two battalions never received orders to concentrate at Sulajik until 0500 on the 9th, by then it was too late.

It is well to let the GS Diary of the 11th Division tell its own story of the unsuccessful attack at dawn on 9 August:

"Owing to scattered position of units, 32nd Brigade unable to move until 0400 when East Yorks Regt, supported by West Riding Regt and 67th Field Coy RE moved towards Hill 278. As the East Yorks Regt approached the top of the hill about 0500, Turks counter-attacked and drove column down the slopes, one company East Yorks being lost. As the West Yorks Regt withdrew to their positions to concentrate at Sulajik, they were heavily attacked from the direction of Abrikja, 105, K. Yorks and Lancs Regt moved up to support them, both Battalions compelled to give ground to support 32nd Brigade. Meanwhile 33rd Brigade attacked north-west slopes of Ismail Oglu Tepe, but at 0915 2 Battalions 53rd Division ordered to support 32nd Brigade and at 1130 remaining Battalions 159th Brigade moved up to reinforce the line"

The 9th West Yorkshires lost heavily. Captain E. Long Price and Captain T. F. Fraser were killed, and six other officers were wounded. Part of the Battalion rejoined Battalion HQ at Sulajikk and part fell back to the second line.

**Ernest Barnes, 1720 Lake Bonvista Dr Se. , Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2J 3B5.

FROM THE SALEROOM

C. Nyman [1263] has contributed an item from the *Daily Telegraph* 1 August 1992.

"The DSO won by Col Stewart Newcombe, Royal Engineers, during Gallipoli rescue operations in October 1915, and seven other medals, has made £2,900 at Buckland Dix and Wood, specialist auctioneers, in London."

FLIES

A. P. HERBERT

Reproduced with acknowledgement from *The Secret Battle* by A. P. Herbert, first published by Methuen Co Ltd, 1919, and subsequently reprinted on a number of occasions, most recently by the Oxford University Press in the series 20th Century Classics.

Few more terrible plagues can have afflicted British troops than the flies of Gallipoli. In May, by comparison there were none. In June they came by armies; in July by multitudes. Most Englishmen have lain down some gentle summer day to doze on a shaded lawn and found that one or two persistent flies have destroyed the repose of the afternoon; many women have turned sick at the sight of a blowfly in their butcher's shop. Let them imagine a semi-tropical sun in a place where there is little or no shade, where sanitary arrangements are less than primitive, where in spite of all precautions, there are scraps of bacon and sugar and tea-leaves lying everywhere in the dust, and every man has his little daily store of food somewhere near him, where there are dead bodies and the carcasses of mules easily accessible to the least venturesome fly – let them read for 'one' fly a hundred, a thousand, a million, and even then they will not exaggerate the horror of that plague.

Under it the disadvantage of a sensitive nature and a delicate upbringing were easy to see. An officer lies down in his hole. The flies cluster on his face. Patiently, at first, he brushes them away, with a drill-like mechanical movement of his hand; by-and-by he does it angrily; his temper is going. He covers his face with a handkerchief; it is distressingly hot, but at least he may have some rest. The flies settle on his hand, on his neck, on the bare part of his leg. Even there the feel of them is becoming a genuine torment. They creep under the handkerchief; there is one on his lip, another buzzing about his eye. Madly he tears off the handkerchief and lashes out, waving it furiously till the air is free. The flies gather on the walls of the dugout, on the waterproof sheet, and watch; they are waiting motionless till he lies down again. He throws his coat over his bare knees and lies back. The torment begins again. It is unendurable. He gets up, cursing, and goes out; better to walk in the hot sun or sit under the olive tree in the windy dust.

But look into the crowded ditches of the men. Some of them are fighting the same fight, hands moving and faces twitching, like the flesh of horses, automatically. But most of them lie still, not asleep, but in a kind of dogged artificial insensibility. The flies crowd on their faces; they swarm about their eyes, and crawl unmolested about their open mouths. It is a horrible sight, but those men are lucky.

A GALLIPOLI FLY TRAP

J PAGE [1185V]

First spread a thick layer of Nadler's Fig Preserve, an Egyptian product on to newspaper, covering the whole surface well. Wait for the flies to arrive, they don't take long, and as soon as the jam is completely covered set the newspaper on fire. Alas the survivors, and trillions more continue to plague you and have to be suffered.

Note: J. Page served with the Royal Field Artillery at Suvla Bay.

LEMNOS ASSES

Athens 28 April 1915

The *Chronos* has received a telegram from its correspondent in Lemnos which seems to have passed the censor despite, or because of the statement that the British requisitioned 1,000 asses in Lemnos of all places, with the object of causing a panic amongst the enemy by driving the beasts laden with ignited petrol-tins into the hostile trenches.

The Times 30 April 1915

I HAVE SEEN

I have seen the sun set over the Isle of Imbros, and rise behind the hills of Gallipoli; and to see the warships lying in Suvla Bay in the mist at break of day was a sight that can never be forgotten.

William Harris

William Harris of Ebbw Vale served in the 1st Welsh Field Ambulance and was present at Suvla from 9 August until 12 October 1915, when suffering with pleurisy he was evacuated to Egypt. On rejoining his unit he served in Egypt and Palestine until his discharge with a bounty of £24.10s on 18 March 1919.

INFORMATION PLEASE

Percy W. Adams DSM: It is believed that Stoker Petty Officer Adams served in an E-class submarine at the Dardanelles and was later lost on board K4 when she was rammed by K6 off the Forth on 31 January 1918. B. G. Mills, 269 Humber Doucy Lane, Ipswich, IP4 3PF seeks information concerning his grandfather.

Reginald C. Bickley RN: Mrs C. M. Parsons, 7 Wode Close, Horndean, Waterlooville, PO8 OHX is anxious to learn more about her father R. C. Bickley who served as a transport officer with the Royal Naval Division at Gallipoli being awarded the OBE and Mentioned in Despatches. He later served in France finally becoming Movements Officer at Marseilles.

Peter Fallon RN: Peter Fallon, a Stoker served with the RND at Gallipoli, was later wounded on board HMS *Lion* at Jutland, and landed on the mole at Zeebrugge, St George's Day 1918. His daughter Mrs E. F. Harrell, 113 Northampton Close, Whitleigh, Plymouth, PL5 4JT would be pleased to hear about these actions and her fathers services.

Private Morris Hains: Morris Hains, a son of John and Julia Hains of Adelaide was killed between 7 and 12 August and is buried at Lone Pine. John Hains, 15/2 Findlay Avenue, Roseville, NSW, Australia 2069 seeks further information concerning his uncle.

John McKenry: John McKenry AB, Tyneside No Z/339 served in the Benbow Batt RND at Gallipoli and later in France with the Nelson Batt where he was killed in action on 10 November 1916. D. McKenry, 33 Beachfield Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5TN seeks further details.

Trooper Ernest Penny: Ernest Penny served with the 10th Australian Light Horse being killed on 7 August, and is one of only ten known casualties to be buried at The Nek cemetery Anzac. He was the son of William and Mary Penny of Alton Priors, Wilts, and a native of Clench Common near Marlborough. J. W. Penny, [12291 of 63 Padacre Road, Watcombe Park, Torquay, TQ2 8PX, is anxious to learn more concerning his relative.

Staff Sergeant Stanley Thompson: Staff Sgt Thompson RAMC landed at Suvla about 15 August and later served in Egypt, Palestine and Mesopotamia. His son, M. Thompson, 6 Broadacres, Durkar, Wakefield, WF4 3BE seeks further information.

Thomas Thompson: L/Sgt Thomas Thompson 12370, 1st Batt Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers served at Gallipoli and then was killed on 1 July 1916 on the Somme. His great grandson D. Sutton [1227] is anxious to learn more of his service.

George Wilson RN: R. Wilson, 57 Appletongate, Newark, NG24 1LN seeks any information on the war service of his late uncle George Wilson who served in the Royal Navy ashore and afloat at the Dardanelles and died recently aged 92.

WHO SAID THIS?

In the Spring *Gallipolitan* we asked "Which Member of Parliament on being wounded at the top of the left groin during the Gallipoli Campaign said on seeing where he was wounded:

"Thank heaven, my seat is safe"

The answer is Josiah Clement Wedgwood, see his book published in 1940 *Memoirs of a Fighting Life*.

Josiah Wedgwood, a descendant of Josiah Wedgwood of pottery fame was born on 16 March 1872. Educated at Clifton College and the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, he worked first as a naval architect, and then during the South African war served as a Captain in the Elswick battery. After a spell as a magistrate in the Transvaal, he was elected in 1906 as the Liberal candidate for Newcastle-under-Lyme, becoming a member of the Labour Party in 1919. He represented the Borough without a break until 1942, when he was raised to the peerage.

Winston Churchill appointed him to the RNVR in September 1915 and he served first in Belgium in command of armoured cars. Then followed a period of training with Rolls-Royce armoured cars at Wornwood Scrubs and then at Holkham in Norfolk. He landed at Gallipoli on 25 April from the *River Clyde*, was wounded on 6 May and evacuated home. Later he served in East Africa and on the Mesopotamia Commission.

Josiah Wedgwood died on 26 July 1943, the *Times* Obituary describes him as a remarkable figure, generous, incalculable, explosive, indiscreet "all his qualities seem to be summed up in the abbreviation of his name Jos by which he was universally and affectionately known." He was one of the best liked men in the House of Commons.

Now another WHO SAID THIS?

"The Turks did not beat us – we were beaten by our own High Command!"

A clue perhaps is in order, it was said by a member of the Gallipoli Association.

A REMARKABLE RECORD

J. J. FALLON [1200]

One of our new members, G. May [1253] has provided a remarkable story and we hope that members may be able to provide additional information to compliment and add to his existing knowledge of his family and their involvement at Gallipoli.

Before the outbreak of war in 1914 the May family who originated in Birtley, Co Durham, had moved to Gateshead with all seven sons working as miners. When war was declared all seven enlisted in the Royal Navy at HMS *Calliope* at Newcastle. They were sent first to Crystal Palace and then after a short period found themselves part of the Royal Naval Division, training on the Downs near Blandford Forum.

The brothers were posted to various Battalions of the RND, Mr May knows that his father, Frank, was in the Anson Btn, but has no knowledge of those in which the brothers served, other to recall that he remembers the names Anson, Hawke and Nelson being mentioned in post war discussions between the brothers. It is this fact which is so remarkable. Everyone knows of the losses suffered by the RND both at Gallipoli and later on the Western Front. Yet all seven brothers survived the fighting in Gallipoli, and then proceeded to France to be involved in many actions, yet all returned home.

Many subsequently had large families, one had thirteen children, while Mr May's father had seven. With the passage of time and the deaths of the brothers, family claims on personal effects has meant that information, medals and papers have been scattered and virtually nothing is available to provide a positive record of what must be a unique family service to the Crown.

Apparently the brothers like most old soldiers of the Great War would only occasionally, and then when they were together, talk of their experiences. However, they always remembered their comrades who died, of the Anzacs, the impossible tasks they had been given, the closeness of the Turkish trenches, the smell of dead bodies, the flies, the food, the shortage of water, and the eventual withdrawal. Later battles in France, at Vimy Ridge, Beaumont Hamel, Arras and the Somme, were among the topics which Mr May recalls being covered. During the spells in the trenches in both Gallipoli and in France it was their habit to visit each other when they could and share what news they received from home, and what little extras and luxuries they had been able to obtain.

A truly remarkable story about which Mr May would like to learn more, so any information please, however small, to him at 42 Ashington Road, Bedworth, Nuneaton, CV12 0LZ.

A SHRINE TO GALLIPOLI

J. DOUGLAS STOTT [0933]

Like all ladies of good lineage HMS *Minerva* formerly Monitor HMS M33 is responding to loving care and attention. Thanks to an invitation from Commander M. J. Jones RN [Rtd] members were given the opportunity to view this for themselves by way of a special ship-board tour on 19 July.

Although the restoration budget is limited, work is nevertheless gathering pace. This progress has largely been possible as a result of immeasurable support given to the ships company from a host of unpaid supporters. For instance there are twenty honorary advisors each specialising in diverse subjects such as wireless telephony, gunnery, legal and public records; all of which will bring the HMS M33 back to its Gallipoli operational state. In addition there are seventeen industrial concerns who have devoted expertise and a wide range of equipment from air tools, welding apparatus to the basic necessity of hard hats. However the true dynamics emanate from the innumerable volunteers, both full, part time and casual. The extent of their value can be readily appreciated with the knowledge that the aggregate working week on an average rate of pay would otherwise amount to a cost of over £30,000.

Volunteers are drawn from all walks of life. In addition to naval and dock personnel there are, for instance two bus drivers, and two prison officers who have a unique means of subcontracting. There is a 73 years old retired dock carpenter, and two schoolboys, one local, the other attending the Royal Naval Hospital School, Holbrook. With the decommissioning of ships, authentic parts come available to those volunteers with a sharp eye for the appropriate fixtures and fittings. Dignity was restored on 1 April when the 6 inch gun was placed fwd by courtesy of the Royal Engineers training team from Bordon who transported it from Whale Island.

It will be of further interest to members to be reminded of one of the policy decisions of Hampshire County Council which is that the role of the ship will be directed towards that of a Gallipoli gallery/memorial supported by a quay side gallery.

It was with some measure of disappointment that notwithstanding a special day being laid on solely for Gallipoli Association members, only eight took advantage of attending. Perhaps, after all, we did not really rue the demise of the *River Clyde*. Or perhaps members were not sufficiently aware of this project.

Commander Jones and his crew will always be pleased to receive support of any kind and may be contacted c/o Royal Naval Museum, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, PO1 3LR. A short history of HMS M33 is available which among other things relates how our Jolly Jack Tars of King George V took one of his warships cattle rustling on Turkish Asia. Also available is a transcript of a day to day diary maintained by a boy signalman serving aboard in North Russia which was discovered in 1990 after his

death, and thoughtfully reproduced for posterity by his son Douglas C. Whitefield. Both publications can be obtained by a small donation of £5.00 [or more if you wish] plus a 9"x7" envelope stamped 41p, from Commander Jones. Cheques payable to Monitor M33 Club.

MONITOR HMS M33 – HMS MINERVA

Attention has kindly been drawn by H. F. J. Higgs [0599] to possible confusion which might arise over the name HMS *Minerva* for HMS M33. When the monitor saw service at the Dardanelles she was HMS M33, and should not be mistaken for HMS *Minerva*, a 20 years old cruiser which also served so faithfully in the campaign. HMS *Minerva* was sold in 1920 and HMS M33 did not take on her name until 1924. Incidentally there had been nine ships of this name in the Royal Navy before the cruiser, so it is a noble line, as befits the Roman goddess of wisdom.

GALLIPOLI MEMORIALS

See photograph overleaf taken in the town cemetery, St Helen's Lancashire by W. R. Makinson [1103]. The wording with the Gallipoli connection is as follows:

"Also of their beloved son Pte Thomas Halsall 6th South Lanc. Regt who was killed in action at Suvla Bay Dardanelles Augt 10th 1915, aged 26 years."



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN

THE BELOVED SON OF
JOHN AND MARY H. HALL
WHO DIED DECEMBER 2ND 1881,
AGED 16 YEARS.

VERE PERFECT PIOUS.

ALSO OF THEIR BELOVED SON
FTH THOMAS HALLSALL.

6TH SOUTH LANE, REPT.
WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION AT
SOUTH BAY, BERMUDALES,
AUGUST 18TH 1881, AGED 22 YEARS.
GIVEN HIMSELF NO MIND THEN THAT
HE'D A MERE LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS
FRIENDS.

ALSO MARY THE BELOVED WIFE OF
JOHN HALLSALL,
WHO DIED APRIL 28TH 1891, AGED 41 YEARS.
THOUGH GONE FROM EIGHT TO NINETY, EVER DEAR.