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The Gallipolian

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Gallipoli Association*

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HMCS 'River Clyde'

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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OBITUARY

Just as *The Gallipolitan* was going to press we learned of the death of Major John Ford (653V), one of our youngest Veterans and a Member of the Committee. A full Obituary will be published in the next issue.

80TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL PROJECT

Christopher Fagan (Chairman)

It is strange but true, that there is no memorial to the Gallipoli Campaign in the country. There are of course memorials to individual units and formations such as the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars at Gloucester, the 29th Division Chapel at Holy Trinity, Eltham, to say nothing of the Allied and Turkish memorials on the Peninsula to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. But none of these commemorate the campaign as a whole.

The Gallipoli Association project for the 80th Anniversary Year will rectify this omission by erecting a memorial in a national place as befits such a significant and historic campaign in which the Allied Forces consisted of nearly 420,000 British and colonial troops, 50,000 Australians, 8,500 New Zealanders, and 80,000 from France, while the Turks numbered some 310,000 together with several thousand Germans. Of these, the numbers who died from Great Britain and her colonies was 28,000, with some 8,700 Australians, 2,700 New Zealanders and 9,800 French also killed, the Turks losing a staggering 87,000.

All this took place in an area about the size of Southampton where the conditions were appalling and the fighting, often at close quarters, ferocious. It makes people today wonder at the stamina, fortitude, spirit and bravery of all who took part, and the example which they set us. I hope we will not let them down.

It is appropriate that the memorial should not just be to those who died 80 years ago but should honour all who took part in the Campaign, since they were all very, very brave men. We particularly remember the mutual respect which each side had for the other, embraced in Kemal Ataturk's immortal and soothing words, "There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehments to us here; they lie side by side here in this country of ours."

You will, I am sure, be delighted to know that outline approval has been given to the Association by the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral to erect a monument in the crypt. This is a wonderful position and we are really very fortunate to be offered this great opportunity to place a permanent memorial to the Gallipoli Campaign in such an important and historic place.

However, of course, there is a hurdle to jump. We need to raise £10,000 to cover the costs. This can be attained, but only with the support of all our Members, and I will be writing to you shortly on the subject. I am confident that you will agree this is a really worthwhile project which deserves all our support.

Other events are planned to mark this 80th anniversary Year and you will of course be informed of these as plans are completed. Meanwhile I send you my best wishes for 1995 and look forward to meeting many of you at various times during the year.

OBITUARIES

HUGH BARCLAY OBE, MC

The death in Kenya has recently been announced of Captain Hugh Barclay [917V], of whom a full Obituary will be published in the next Gallipolian.

CLARENCE ALFRED BENNETT

Clarence Bennett [713V] died on 22 March 1993 was born at Chesterton, Cambridge on 18 October 1895, and worked after leaving school, at Heffers, the well known booksellers in Cambridge. He enlisted in August 1914 with the East Anglian Field Ambulance, and as a Lance Corporal was among the first ashore at S Beach (Morto Bay) on 25 April, where he was attached to the South Wales Borderers.

Like so many, he was eventually invalided home suffering from dysentery and typhoid. On recovering he went to the Officer Cadet School, being commissioned into the Devonshire Royal Garrison Artillery serving in France, and later in Germany, by which time he was a Captain.

On leaving the Army, Clarence Bennett attended the Royal Dental Hospital, Leicester Square, London where he qualified in 1923, following this profession until his retirement. In 1985 he returned to Gallipoli during the 70th anniversary celebrations, those who were with him on the visit, or saw him there, will recall his great delight on returning to the Peninsula, and also in meeting the Turkish veterans. Subsequently blindness and deafness prevented him attending our own reunions.

He married in October 1918, having two daughters, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

We are most grateful to Shelagh C. Bennett [daughter] for assistance with this Obituary.

FRANCIS HENRY CHING

Francis Henry Ching [1184V] died on the 27 October 1994 in his 97th year after suffering a severe stroke two weeks previously.

Francis, or Frank as he was usually known to his friends, was born in Hurstbourne Tarrant. Hampshire on the 16 December 1897, one of four children two of whom survive him. On leaving school he became a miner and was working down the pits at Pensford, near Bristol when the Great War broke out. Along with many of his friends and thousands of young men throughout the British Isles he volunteered for

the Army, enlisting in Bristol on the 3 September 1914.

Having been drafted into the Army Cycle Corp, 10th Division he found himself 10 months later crossing the Mediterranean bound for an unknown destination. This destination was to be Sulva Bay, Gallipoli, reached on the 10 July 1915. After three months of searing heat exacerbated by the shortage of water and ferocious attacks by the Turkish defenders, the 10th Division was withdrawn and despatched to Salonika. Here the troops were subjected to opposite extremes of climate and due to lack of suitable equipment many succumbed to frostbite, including Frank. He was evacuated in a hospital ship and after recuperation he rejoined his Division on the Somme. It was here, in 1917, that he sustained a bullet wound.

After the war Frank left the pits but embarked on an equally dangerous career – digging wells and drilling bore-holes, surviving a number of incidents when he was trapped and partially buried beneath ground. He worked for many years in the Water Department of the Buckinghamshire County Council until his retirement in 1962.

In 1974 his eyesight began to fail and despite this serious handicap he still remained an active member of the Royal British Legion, the Salonika Association and various other associations. In 1980 he revisited Gallipoli and Salonika for the 75th Anniversary commemorations and was interviewed on TV.

Although a Veteran Member of the Gallipoli Association for only four years, he attended all the meetings and his articulate comments and phenomenal memory of the military campaigns impressed all who knew him.

He was married to his first wife for 54 years, both she and his second wife pre-deceasing him. He is survived by his third wife, Ann, who accompanied him to Gallipoli Association meetings and also by one of his two daughters, 5 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

That he was held in great esteem was testified by the large number of people who attended his funeral.

Information kindly provided by Mrs P Curtis (grand-daughter).

HENLEY CHARLES CLAXTON

Henley Claxton [647V] who served in the Royal Navy from the age of fifteen, died on 21 July 1993, aged 95. His ships included HMS *Implacable*, at the Dardanelles, at X Beach, later immortalised as Implacable Landing he was detailed to be one of a boats crew “to be towed inshore by a Picher boat, five boats in a row each carrying about 20 fully armed troops and eight sailors. The procedure was as follows. At sunrise all the warships bombarded the coastline with everything we had up to the

15 inch guns of the Flagship, at the same time steaming in towards the beaches together with us in the boats. When within 300 yards of the shore the big ships dropped anchor and we in the boats moved in towards the shore. As the boats grounded the troops hopped out pretty smart and we had to row back to the ship for more troops. Memory fades a bit over the years but all hell was let loose although one didn't realise it at the time. One didn't have the time to think. At the end of the day things quietened a bit and the wounded had to be brought out from the shore to the hospital ships. As a point of interest on the day of the landing I still had over a month to go to my 17th birthday."

He later trained as a wireless telegraphist seeing service on several vessels, mainly at Scapa Flow and later off the east coast. Then to Queenstown, followed by HMS *Sprightly* at Holyhead, part of a flotilla commanded by Victor Campbell of "Q" ship fame. He often recalled how he was on wireless duty on the morning of 11 November 1918 when news came in that hostilities were to cease at 1100. While others could look forward to a speedy return to civilian life he had another ten years in the service during which he served in the Black Sea during our intervention in support of the White Russians and later spent much time in the Far East.

After leaving the Royal Navy Henley Claxton worked for British Oxygen, then purchased the village shop at Chippenham, Cambridgeshire. In 1955 he married Dora Kersey. He wrote an interesting resume of his service career in the Burwell Church Magazine which was published in 1981.

Information kindly provided by Mrs Dora Claxton to who we are most grateful.

WILLIAM T. COWLEY MSM

William Cowley [499V] died on 28 August 1994 aged 102. He served with the Army Ordnance Corps (11th Northern Division) sailing on board the *Aquitania* for the Mediterranean and Imbros in June 1915. He landed in the first wave at Suvla Bay in early August where he was to remain, part of the time high on the ridge leading to Jephsons Post, until the December evacuation. Of this he recalled how he was ordered to take some mule carts filled with petrol tins "up as near to the Turkish front line as you can, Piccadilly Circus, and run them round, make as much noise as ever you can to let him (Turks) think we are bringing stuff up." Later he was in Egypt before being posted to France and Belgium where he remained until 1915, rising to the rank of Sub-Conductor (WO 1), and being awarded the Meritous Service Medal.

He married Lilian Deeley in 1918 who predeceased him in 1984. They had a son and two daughters, five grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. One of the great occasions of his retirement years was to accompany his son, and his great friend Gallipoli veteran Fred Tucker, also a member of the

Association to the Peninsula in 1975. He also regularly attended our re-unions up until the early 1980's and remained very interested in the activities of the Association right to the end of his life.

We are grateful to his son Neville Cowley [0650] for providing information for this Obituary.

HUSEYIN KACMAZ

Members who were present at the 76th anniversary ceremonies in London on 25 April 1991 will recall that we were joined in these by a Turkish Veteran, Huseyin Kacmaz, who marched with the other Veterans to the Cenotaph. He was with us at the Abbey Service and later at a memorable lunch at Wellington Barracks.

Sadly Huseyin Kacmaz died, aged 106, in early September, in a room reserved for generals, in Ankara Military Hospital. Shortly before he had participated in the campaign by the Turkish government to raise funds to replant the forests decimated at Gallipoli by the July fire, having given half his monthly salary. From his hospital bed he had declared "I am sad, very sad about this tragic event: I want to make my modest but heartiest contribution to this campaign."

Born in the village of Kestaneci, Eregli Zonguldak, in 1888 he had fought at Gallipoli in 1915, in the Balkans, and later in the War of Liberation 1919-1922, serving eleven years in the Army. He was buried with full military honours in his home village.

We are most grateful to M. Kemal Yilmaz [1157] for this information.

BRIGADIER KENNETH MOLYNEUX-CARTER CBE, MC

Brigadier Carter [193], who died aged 80 in April, was one of the early Associate members of the Gallipoli Association at a time when most of the members were Veterans. His interest stemming from the time he was commissioned into the Lancashire Fusiliers in 1933. With his regiment before the war he served in Palestine, Trans-Jordan, Shanghai and Tientsin, and with the Embassy Guard at Peking and Quetta. In 1939 he was seconded to the Royal West Africa Frontier Force and was awarded the Military Cross when leading a patrol at the crossing of the Omo, East Africa, in 1941, during which he was severely wounded in the head. Later he commanded the 1st Battalion Sierra Leone Regiment during the Arakan campaign. His later service, now as CO of the 2nd Battalion Malay Regiment, concerned anti-terrorist operations in Perak when 250 terrorists were accounted for and for which he was awarded the OBE.

In 1964 he was appointed Defence and Military Attache at the British Embassy in

Ankara, and attended the 50th anniversary ceremonies at Gallipoli. At the end of this posting he was awarded the CBE for helping cement the relationship between our two countries. He retired in 1968 and is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters.

THOMAS MOWBRAY

Jack Griffiths [927] writing from the Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, New South Wales, reports the death in May of their last Gallipoli veteran, Thomas Mowbray who died on 19 May 1994. Since the formation of the Club 170 Gallipoli veterans have been registered as members, so sadly the end of an era has now been reached.

Tom Mowbray was a native of Adamstown, Newcastle NSW and worked all his life in the mines apart from the war years. He joined the AIF in April 1915 and arrived at Gallipoli as a reinforcement for the 18th Infantry Battalion in August. Here he remained up until the December evacuation, leaving in the last boat and in his own words "I didn't see anybody behind me." Later he served in France with the 5th Machine Gun Battalion where he remained until the end of the war. During the Second World War he served as a machine gun instructor with the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Jack Griffiths reminds us that we are responsible for the heritage and tradition of the Gallipoli campaign and that the "Gallipoli Legion Club must continue if, for no other reason, than to honour the memory of that wonderful body of men."

ARTHUR SCUDAMORE OBE

Arthur Scudamore [272V] who had died in his 98th year, was one of the last survivors of the 2/10th Middlesex Regiment, which he had joined as a volunteer at the age of 18, after attending King Edward's School, Bath. The 2/10th landed at Suvla on 8/9 August as part of the 53rd (Welsh) Division TF, and on the 10th attacked Scimitar Hill and the Anafarta spur. During this the 2/10th advanced some 500 yards losing four officers and a number of men until they were withdrawn to the starting line.

H.W. Nevinson *The Dardanelles Campaign* 1918 records that:

"To watch parties of them attempting to steal up sheltered portions of the hill was a piteous sight. The cover was much reduced, because the ground was now black with burning, and most of the bushes gone. – One saw many deeds of courage among officers and men. – On this day, the 10th, Chunuk Bair was lost, and the chance of advance from Suvla almost gone. It was the saddest day in the record of the expedition."

For 76 years he helped to keep the spirit of the “Die Hards”, by the annual reunions of the Old Comrades Association and the Remembrance Day services at Chiswick Parish Church, first as deputy to Major Cattell, and then for many years until his passing by running the Association himself. The success of the service, and annual lunches was entirely due to “Scudy” as he was affectionally known.

In 1990 he was one of a five veterans whose return to Gallipoli was arranged by the Royal British Legion as part of the 75th Anniversary Commemorations. During this he met a number of Heads of State, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who he was able to brief about the campaign and the experiences of his Regiment.

He was to recall that “being so near the actual site of the battle brought it all back. But if I had not gone back I would have regretted it for evermore. It was an unforgettable experience.” He thought there was a special “magic” about Gallipoli and said that “it brings people back, and to me it did too, near the end of my life.” While there he was able to lay wreaths on the graves of five of his comrades from 1915.

At the memorial service at Chiswick Church, Brigadier B.A.M. Pielow said that it was the first time the Regimental Association had been to worship there without Scudy “but I know he is with us in spirit this afternoon and indeed I am sure he is even now watching us to make sure that we have got everything right. He was a friend to all, and to us in the Regiment a truly fine example of what a soldier should be and in his case was – we all have a very special memory of one of the finest Die Hards ever.”

We are most grateful to Scudy’s daughters Anne and Mary for help with this Obituary.

BRIGADIER GEORGE SPRAKE MC, MM

Although not a member of the Association Brigadier Sprake, who died at Folkestone on 20 May, was a regular attender of our lunches, usually as a guest of Jack Gearing [507V]. A full Obituary will be published in the next *Gallipolian*.

ALBERT THOMPSON

Albert Thompson [1080V] died at the Heather Lodge Nursing Home, Folkestone aged 97 on 2 December 1993. He had enlisted in August 1914, and trained largely with the Royal Horse Artillery at St John’s Wood. He then went to Woolwich, and from there to the Mediterranean where he embarked upon the *River Clyde* with the ammunition column for the Gallipoli landings.

After some months on the Peninsula he was struck down with dysentery and sent to

Egypt and eventually back to England until he was fully recovered. Then it was to the Western Front with the Field Artillery, seeing action on the Somme, at Cambrai, Arras, Vimy Ridge and at the Hindenburg Line. While in France he met and married a French girl who returned with him to England where they had two children. Sadly she died several years later, Albert then became the landlord of a public house in Deptford, and later one at Greenwich where he met Constance, a barmaid, who became his second wife.

At the outbreak of war in 1939 he joined the Royal Marine Police and spent much time on security duties at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, while Connie still ran the public house. After the war they moved to Cambridge, where on retirement as a publican he took a post as a Porter at the University until he was 73. They then moved south to Folkestone, to be by the sea, for the fishing. He leaves Connie his second wife, and a daughter Betty by his first wife, and her six sons who all live in America.

We are most grateful to Eve Essex [1152] for providing the information for this Obituary.

GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL LECTURE

The eleventh Gallipoli Memorial Lecture will be given in Holy Trinity Church, Southend Crescent, Eltham, SE9 at 2000 on Wednesday 26 April 1995. The lecturer will be Mr Martin Gilbert CBE, FRSL the official biographer of Sir Winston Churchill: his subject will be Churchill and Gallipoli.

Admission is by ticket only, obtainable from Wing Commander J.V. Towey, OBE RAF (retd), Secretary, Gallipoli Memorial Lecture Trust, 242 Avery Hill Road, Eltham, London, SE9 2JL. 081 859 2952.

Special Note: The collection will be donated to the project for a Gallipoli Memorial in St Paul's Cathedral, see page 2.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yes, another year has come round and Subscriptions are due. Prompt payment of subscriptions is a great help to the Association and I look forward to hearing from members during the first weeks of 1995 and meanwhile thank everyone for their support. Thank you to all those who pay by Bankers Order, please ignore the reminder sent with this Gallipolian.

BROTHERS KILLED ON THE SAME DAY

R.G.MANSELL [1204]

On 10 August 1915 the 1st/5th Battalion (TF) Welsh Regiment joined in the assault upon Anafarta Ova, Suvla. During the attack they lost seven officers and 54 other ranks killed. Among the dead officers were the Evans brothers. Captain Rees Tudor Evans and Lieutenant Richard Stanley Evans, sons of William Evans of Brynteg, Merthyr Tydfil. The brothers had been educated at Shrewsbury School with Tudor going up to Magdalene College, Oxford where he obtained a Law degree. Stanley, who was four years younger, later proceeded to Hertford College, also at Oxford.

The South Wales Echo 20 September 1915, published a letter from a wounded soldier of the Battalion who had returned home to hospital. The following is part of his letter which mentions the brothers:

“Capt Tudor Evans also displayed those qualities which make a real hero, and though wounded he remained at his post, urging on his men, until he was shot a second time and died from his wounds. Lieutenant Stanley Evans too acted nobly he was wounded, and his body was never found.”

Tudor Evans was first shot in the right wrist, he would not give in, and was afterwards hit in the side, but would not allow his men to carry him back to a dressing station, telling them to leave him and look after other wounded, his body was never recovered. Both brothers are commemorated on the Helles Memorial. The medals of both, two 1914/15 Star trio's came up for sale at Sotheby's in July 1982.

Incidentally, another pair of brothers serving with the Battalion were also killed at Gallipoli. They were Second Lieutenant Francis William Morgan Dunn, on 20 August 1915 and Second Lieutenant John Robert Collard Dunn killed ten days later on 20 August. Both are comemorated on the Helles Memorial.

WAR MEMORIAL RESTORATION

The Gallipolian No 71 contained a article about Sub-Lieutenant Arthur Tisdall VC who served with the Royal Naval Division at Gallipoli until his death on 6 May during the Second Battle of Krithia. Many months later he was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions during the landings from the *River Clyde*. His name, together that of his brother John, is on the war memorial standing in front of St George's Church, Deal, where alas much of the lettering is now unclear. An Appeal has been launched to restore the memorial, with further information obtainable from David Heald, 12 Roseacre Close, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7HN.

GALLIPOLI – THE MAPS – PART 5

M.A.NOLAN [1147]

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE BEGINNINGS OF AERIAL SURVEY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TRENCH DIAGRAMS

Before describing the development of the use of aerial photography at Gallipoli a few remarks on developments on the Western Front may serve to indicate how new this technique was, and how little had been achieved even in this primary theatre of operations.

On the Western Front a few aerial photographs had been taken on the River Marne in late 1914 by enterprising officers as private ventures, but it was only in February 1915 that a civilian type camera “appeared” in No 2 Squadron Royal Flying Corps. This was used by the Squadron to make a “mosaic” of the IVth Corps front, at the same time No 3 Sqn RFC made a “composite photographic map” of the trench system opposite Neuve Chapelle which was used in the battle of 10-12 March 1915.

Only in February 1915 had Lieutenants C.D.M.Campbell and J.T.C.Moore-Brabazon been tasked with the design of a military aerial camera. After a short visit to London to discuss their requirements the Thornton Pickard Manufacturing Company made the prototype “A Type” camera in three days. This was taken back to the Western Front and first used over the enemy trenches on 2 March 1915.

Winston Churchill as First Lord of the Admiralty had done much to foster the Royal Naval Air Service. On 3 April 1915 he wrote to the Director of the Air Division:

“– I attach the greatest importance to the development of photography. It is certain to be required for important reconnaissances from May onwards. You must take steps to make sure that in this and in artillery spotting we are kept fully abreast of the latest Army progress. They have had more experience, and we should take every opportunity of learning from them.”

The World Crisis 1915 540-541.

This was followed on 24 April, the day before the landings, by:

“What are you doing about photography from aeroplanes? I am informed that you have only got one officer actively engaged in this, and that no

satisfactory photographs have yet been taken by the Naval Wing. The matter is of great importance and urgency – . Pray see General Henderson yourself without delay, and make sure that we are in a position, either by borrowing a couple of cameras or photographers from the Army or by any other method which is effective, to take photographs required any day after the 1st May. Report to me that this will be done”

The World Crisis 1915 552.

HMS Ark Royal, the Royal Navy's first seaplane carrier had arrived at Gallipoli on 17 February. On 9 March Admiral Carden requested reinforcement of the air service. As a result, No 3 Aeroplane Squadron RNAS under the command of Wing Commander C.R. Samson was sent out from Dunkirk. It established an airstrip on Tenedos Island and commenced flying on 27 March, but later moved to Imbros.

The early reconnaissance traces described in Part 2 (*The Gallipolian* Autumn 1993 16-241) were mainly the result of visual reconnaissances of the Anzac sector made by the seaplanes of *HMS Ark Royal* and of the Helles sector by the aeroplanes of No 3 Squadron.

NO 3 SQUADRON-WING

On 4 April Flight Lieutenant Butler began using a small folding Goertz-Anschutz camera to take near vertical and oblique photographs. In early May the French Aeroplane Squadron 98T commanded by Captain Cesari arrived and a better camera was borrowed from it. This was fixed alongside the pilot's seat on the outside of the nacelle of a Henri Farman aircraft and by the end of June when he was wounded Flight Lieutenant Butler had exposed some 700 plates. Thereafter Flight Lieutenant Thomson was the main proponent of this work reportedly exposing 900 plates.

In June, Wing Commander F.H. Sykes RFC visited Gallipoli and wrote a comprehensive report on aviation requirements recommending a dramatic increase in aviation support which included the need for six Type A aerial cameras. He was appointed to command all aviation resources in the Dardanelles from early August.

NO 2 WING

As a result of the Sykes' report No 2 Wing, commanded by Wing Commander E.L. Gerrard moved from Dunkirk to Imbros in August. The difficulties faced by 2 Wing, even as late as August, are indicated by the following letter:

“There were a few stores and tools available, and only by going round personally begging from the *Ark Royal* Egyptian Engineers, Maps Office, etc was I able to get started. I finally succeeded in getting a darkroom built and equipping it. The best method of attachment of the camera to a

machine presented difficulties, as the idea at home had been to hold the camera in the hand. This was clearly impossible on Morane Parasol machines, where the camera, in order to avoid cutting off, must be on the outside. I arranged a suitable bracket for holding the camera, and proper boxes to hold the plates, and also built onto the cameras sent out from England a direct vision viewfinder. The finders sent out were of no use, and without one the amount of country included in each photograph and the proper overlapping cannot be at all correctly estimated. I carried out a number of trials to find the correct exposure, and, as results of some kind were urgently needed started work. From plates exposed on one day, clear bright prints were supplied to the Maps Office by the next day, and in some cases enlargements made. A number of trench and other maps have been made from them, and I may fairly claim that the work turned out is really satisfactory and of use to the General Staff. Observers from the Ark Royal and captains of the monitors have asked for copies of many of the photographs, which they found of considerable value. No 3 Wing has for long been photographing, but No 2 Wing results and volume of work turned out compare favourably."

Letter from Flt Lt C.F. Lan-Davies to J.H. Dallmeyer Ltd in October 1915 published in *British Journal of Photography* 18 April 1919.

An official No 2 Wing report indicates that it became mainly responsible for photography while No 3 Wing, formerly No 3 Aeroplane Squadron, concentrated chiefly on bombing and reconnaissance. More than 1,500 plates were exposed between 26 August and 19 November of which 160 were failures and 120 were lost through damage to machines. Two cameras were also smashed in aircraft accidents.

These reinforcements must have been most welcome as evidenced by the following letter from General Douglas at Helles to the French Corps d'Expeditionnaire d'Orient dated 30 July. It indicates the dire situation in regard to aerial photography facing the British forces in the Helles sector just prior to the August offensive.

"I have the honour to forward herewith a map on which are marked the areas of which aerial photographs are not at present in my possession. I do not wish so far to trespass on your kindness as to suggest that you should have photographs of these areas taken especially for my use, and it is only in view of the fact that an attack is to be made at any early date, that I venture to request you to be so kind as to lend me any photographs of these areas which may be in your possession or which you may be able to obtain without in any way upsetting your own arrangements.

I may add that I should not in any case have approached you on the subject were it not that our most capable Officer Aviator has been wounded (presumably a reference to Flt Lt Butler – see page 12) and that

the camera which you were good enough to lend us has been damaged through an accident to the aeroplane from which photos were being taken." [PRO WO 95/4273].

HMS ARK ROYAL

A report on photographic work by HMS *Ark Royal* by Lieutenant Park RNVR, the officer in charge of photographic and mapping work indicates that three different cameras were used in her seaplanes.

A Ross Half Plate camera, originally adopted for use from airships, was used from Short seaplanes, hand-held obliques being taken over the side, and near verticals through a sliding door in the floor of the fuselage.

A German aeroplane camera taken from an aircraft captured in France was reportedly the best camera for aerial work but it was badly damaged by water as a result of a crash of a Sopwith Schneider seaplane.

The RFC Type A camera was reportedly heavy and clumsy and the seven distinct manual operations needed to change plates were a drawback especially in the Sopwith Schneider seaplanes which carried no observer but were otherwise considered particularly suitable on account of their good climbing qualities.

Up to 1 November only 55 photographs were reported taken over the Peninsula, principally the Anzac sector from seaplanes from HMS *Ark Royal*.

SYKES' REPORTS

Wing Commander Sykes recorded some of the RNAS activities during the campaign as follows:

"The greater part of air work has naturally fallen to the aeroplane. In the earlier days there was a great shortage of these craft for the work involved. I was fortunate enough to be able to bring more out in August, and a very welcome reinforcement arrived in September. It was not until the latter arrived that we were able to grapple with the work — . I might mention in passing that maps of the whole Peninsula have been made from our photographs, these are the only reliable maps available and are in general use both in the fleet and the army. Trench maps showing all the enemy's positions have also been made. Constant aerial photographic work is necessary to keep these maps up to date. They are issued in hundreds and are in great demand."

Letter to Winston Churchill, 4 November 1915. Sykes Papers RAF Museum, Hendon.

Later in his autobiography *From Many Angles* published in 1942 Sir Frederick Sykes recalled that:

“We at once proceeded to make our headquarters the pivot of information for the M.E.F. and the Fleet. A photographic section was formed as part of the equipment of each wing and seaplane flight. Maps of the whole peninsula and trench maps were made from our photographs; these were the only reliable maps available and were in general use both in the Fleet and in the Army. Constant aerial work was required to keep them up to date, and they were in great demand and issued in hundreds. The most recent maps and aerial photographs were also on view for those who wished to consult them, and hardly a day passed without a visit from some senior officers, naval or military.”

AERIAL PHOTO-MOSAICS

Syke's statement that maps of the whole Peninsula were made solely from photographs is misleading. Photographs were indeed used to make various map series of the operational sectors but these were not homogenous series on constant scale since the necessary photogrammetric techniques were not at that time understood. The early efforts were not based on much ground or map control and the detail between adjacent sheets did not match well. Trench maps of the Suvla sector made towards the end of the campaign, to be described later, still relied on the framework of the captured Turkish maps for planimetric accuracy.

In his claim for cover of the Peninsula Sykes may have been referring to uncontrolled photo-mosaics. If so, few have survived. The only extensive photo-mosaic known to the author is one at approximately 1:20,000 scale measuring 50x40cms of the Helles Sector. It extends from the toe of the Peninsula as far north as Krithia and shows the Turkish defences in some detail. There is however no indication of scale, no system of squaring or positional referencing, and no annotation of features or names. [RAF Museum Hendon Acq 75/33 Album of Lt L.H.Strain.]

Two half-tone photo mosaics of the Anzac Sector were lithographically printed by the Government Printer in Melbourne in 1916. That of Anzac 2 October 1915 at 1:4,600 measures 70x40cm [PRO WO 301-355] while that of Anzac Cove and Gaba Tepe 5 October 1915 is at 1:6,800 and measures 100x40cm [PRO WO 301-556.]

AERIAL PHOTO ARCHIVES

Although a few of the many hundreds of aerial photographs taken at Gallipoli survive in the Australian War Memorial and in other collections I have been unable to locate any comprehensive collection of surviving plates or prints and would welcome any information readers may have.

FIRST TRENCH MAPS FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

The first two Battles of Krithia on 28 April and 6-8 May were fought with only the 1:40,000 scale map available, however:

“The preparatory planning of what was officially designated the Third Battle of Krithia, but which is perhaps better known as the Battle of the Fourth of June, was a vast improvement on anything yet seen in the campaign. Excellent aerial photographs of the enemy trenches had enabled the staff to prepare, duplicate and distribute accurate and detailed maps of the Turkish positions.”

Rhodes James 1965 *Gallipoli* page 211.

The probable source for this is the *Official History*

“The VIII Corps Orders, in effect a resume of the instructions sent out 48 hours earlier, were issued on 3rd June and were for the first time accompanied by a trench diagram (4) showing the various objectives to be reached.”

Footnote (4) reads:

“The Royal Naval Air Service had at last been able to take some good photographs of the Turkish trenches, and though the reading of aerial photographs was still in its infancy, the diagram compiled from them was extremely accurate and proved of great value to the troops. This diagram was made at 29 Division artillery headquarters by a New Zealander, Capt Chrystal, and reproduced by the printing section at GHQ.”

Volume 2 page 44:

A Lieutenant A.J. Chrystal is shown in the *Army List* Part II, January 1915 as being in the Otago Field Artillery Brigade, B (Howitzer) Battery, Dunedin with a seniority date of 28 February 1913, but perversely some of the 1:20,000 situation traces of the Helles area described in part 4 are signed by H.M. Chrystal Captain 8th Corps (Maps) of whom no trace has been found in any Army List.

This trench diagram, the production of which is attributed to Captain Chrystal in the *Official History* is however attributed to Captain W.V Nugent by Sir Ernest Dowson, the head of the Survey of Egypt in the *Geographical Journal* 1921, 53:361.

“In July 1915 I was asked to visit the Dardanelles to see what assistance I could render in improving the map work generally. The use of aeroplane photography for map-work was a tolerably obvious device, but no information on its employment elsewhere had so far been received in the

local theatre. Upon arrival at GHQ MEF., I was met by Captain W.V. Nugent RA (now Lieut Col. W.V. Nugent DSO), and I spent the next month going into the question of mapping and reproduction of maps with him and with Lieut T.C. Nicholas, Map Officer at GHQ, and in visiting the two Gallipoli fronts to see what measures could be concerted to improve the map-work. I found on arrival that Captain Nugent had already made tentative efforts in the direction of utilizing aeroplane photography to prepare maps of the Turkish trenches and surrounding positions. These photographs were supplied by the RNAS with great difficulty, owing to the limited number of machines then available, but provided from the first considerably improved information of surface features of areas in enemy occupation."

In support of Dowson's view, an example of this map held by the Cambridge University Library, probably donated by T.C. Nicholas, is annotated "Drawn by Capt W.V. Nugent RA from air photos. The first map made entirely from air photographs." Cambridge University Library Maps 299.91.33.

The methods used and the development of the process had previously been described by Dowson in an official report to the GSGS in the War Office some time in late 1915:

"The first experimental map was quite crudely constructed merely by taking one series of photographs covering the area it was required to depict and tracing the salient features through on to a piece of plain drawing paper with the points of an aeroplane "fleche". The recessed lines were then pencilled and the rough and uncontrolled map inked in. The scale was primarily gauged from the height at which the plane was flown when photographing (about 6,000 feet) obtained from aneroid readings checked by known distances when possible.

On trial, this diagram, for it could not be dignified by the name of a map, rough and uncontrolled as it was, proved an enormous advance on anything that previously existed. For the first time there was available a picture of the ground shewing the recognisable features and the relative positions of enemy trenches. If shells now burst on the edge of a poppy-field, the position of that field was not only localized but was actually located with a fair approximation to accuracy, and its shape and relation in distance and bearing to the objective closely determined.

From the battery the use of the Trench Diagram spread first to the Corps and then to the whole South-Western front, and at the time I visited GHQ Med Force to see what further help Egypt could give on the question of mapping, Major Nugent had just been appointed to GHQ as

GSO 3 in charge of an embryo Survey and Map Section. Major Nugent worked with me previously in the survey of the northern portion of the Peninsula at Sinai which had been executed by the GSGS in conjunction with the Survey of Egypt, and we were therefore able to cooperate effectively from the start." [PRO AIR 1/2284]

In the *Geographical Journal* 1921, 53:363-364 he again described some of the methods:

"Photographs were taken at varying heights and little attempt to achieve systematic overlap was possible. There was moreover no basic framework available upon which to build up a controlled mosaic. At first these photographs were crudely fitted together without any correction by means of common features. The trenches and field were then roughly outlined and transferred to a piece of paper by the point of an aeroplane "fleche" and the result inked in, autographed and printed. Arrangements were made to set out a triangulation framework extending into enemy territory upon which a controlled mosaic of photos could be built up. A special reducing and correcting apparatus which was used in Egypt for the not obviously analogous object of endeavouring to reconcile old maps of government land with present day conditions was sent for and proved most valuable in correcting aeroplane photographs for variations in scale and tilt distortion. Images of the corrected photographs were thrown on to a ground glass in map-position traced on to tracing cloth and vandyked. In this way it was found practicable rapidly to effect marked improvement in speed and precision and by working all night it became possible to supply forces on the peninsula in the morning Trench Diagrams based on photos on the Turkish trenches taken the previous day.

The reading of aerial photographs for indications of relief given by the fall of shadows, by the comparison of photographs taken at different times of day, etc, was also studied at an early stage and valuable notes on these and other connected points were compiled by Lt A.G. Ogilvie and Lt T.C. Nicholas.

In addition to the names given above, grateful reference should be made to General Street, Chief of Staff 8 Corps and to General Hunter Weston who both from the start grasped the potentialities of aeroplane photography and without whose support Nugent's early efforts would have had a limited prospect of success. Special mention should also be made of Flt Lt Thompson RNAS to whose gallantry and keenness the original provision of photographs was almost entirely due."

The Ogilvie notes on the reading of aerial photographs make no mention of the use of stereoscopes for three dimensional viewing of overlapping photographs and it is inferred that throughout the campaign aerial photographic reading was monoscopic.

In his 1915 report to the War Office, Dowson went on to describe the next steps in the development which were:

- (a) The provision of a controlling framework of fixed points.
- (b) The means of adjusting photographs taken at different altitudes to one scale, the correction of errors in photographs and the methods of extracting information taken from photographs and compiling it into plans.

Another individual closely involved with the development of mapping from aerial photographs in the Near East was Lieutenant W.M. Hayes. He is included in one of the photographs of the Printing Section held by the author. This must be the same Lieutenant Hayes referred to by Dowson as an officer of the Survey of Egypt and mentioned in Lawrence's report on Intelligence IEF "D" in Mesopotamia in May 1916.

The report, published in *Lawrence of Arabia* by J.Wilson 1988, includes among its many recommendations:

"3 That some form of correcting apparatus, like our 'Bahel' be installed. I promised to consult Dowson about it, and let Colonel Beach know the latest developments."

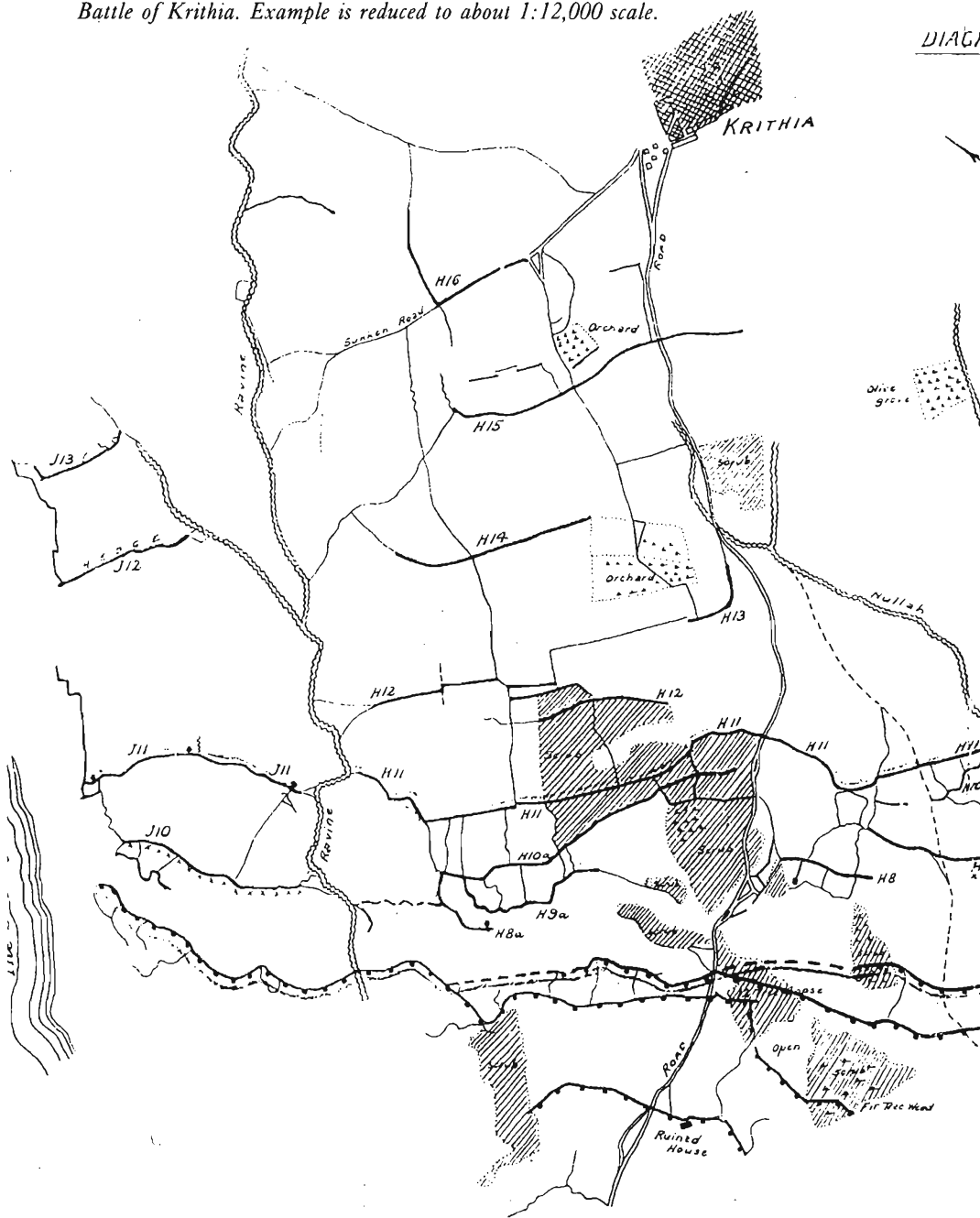
The "Bahel" is presumed to be the enlarging lantern used at Gallipoli mentioned above by Dowson.

"4 That a special officer be told off to compile the air photographs. The present one has to do his ordinary work as well, and in consequence it is all scamped. I would like Dowson to lend them Hayes for a couple of months. He has had more air-photograph compilation than anyone alive, does it magnificently, and besides would teach them what good draughtsmanship means."

That Lawrence was successful in his request on behalf of the IEF is again evidenced by Dowson,

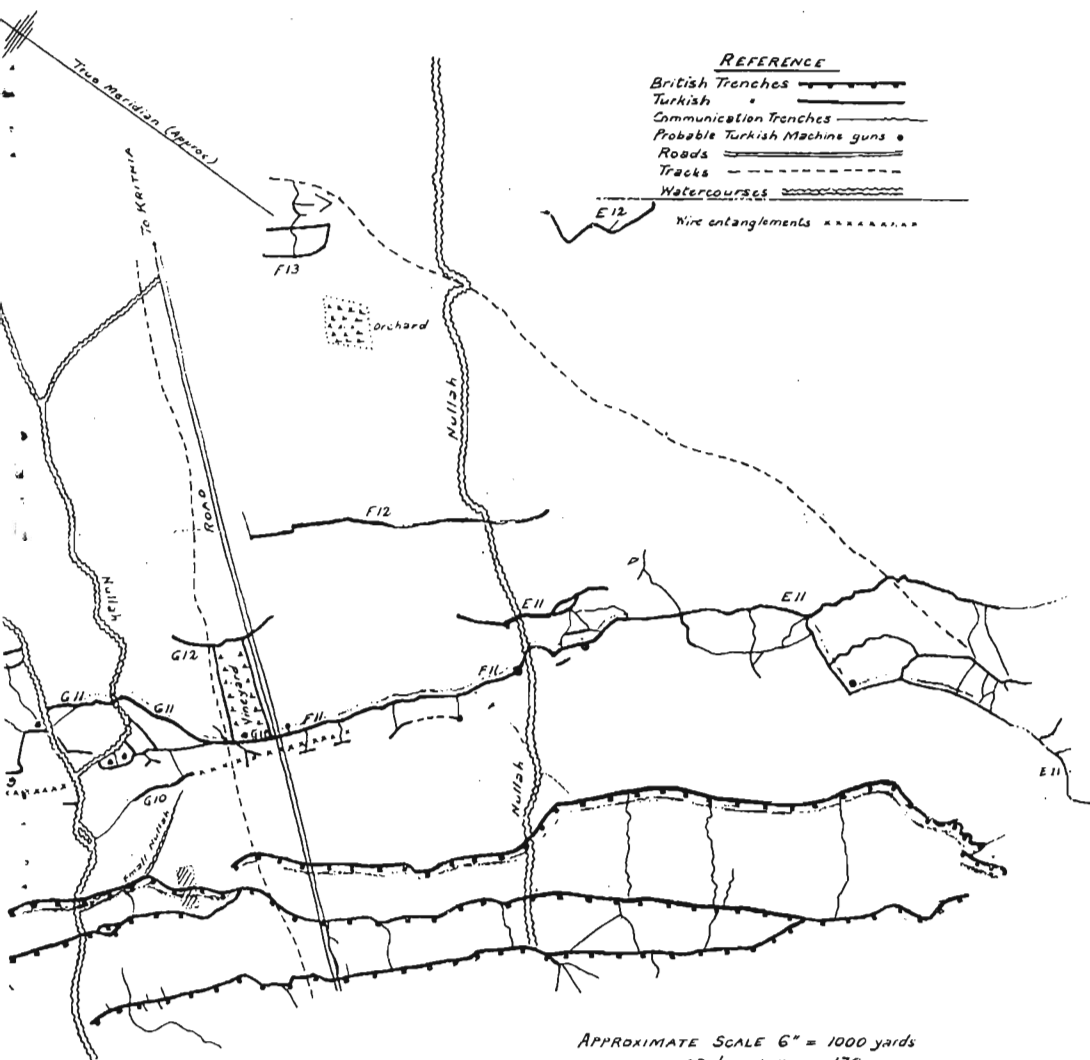
"The work thus started in Gallipoli was carried on without intermission, with gradually improving apparatus, when the active theatre of operations was gradually transferring to Egypt, and later to Palestine. Two officers of the Survey, Captain J.H. Cole and Lieut W.M. Hayes, who were closely

DIAC



AM. SHOWING ADVANCED TURKISH TRENCHES & COMMUNICATIONS

N.B. The diagram is based on information available up to the afternoon of June 14th. Reliance however, must not be placed on the diagram showing every Turkish Trench.



Note: The relative positions of the trenches are correct within small areas, but the diagram should not be used to measure long distances or bearings.

Printing Section
G.H.Q. M.E.F.

concerned with the development of the work in Gallipoli, were detailed by special request in 1916 to initiate aeroplane mapping in Mesopotamia." *Geographical Journal* 1921, 53:364.

HELLES SECTOR 1:6,000 SCALE TRENCH DIAGRAMS NUMBERS 1-9

The trench diagram compiled by Captain Chrystal or Major Nugent from aerial photographs entitled "*Diagram Showing Advanced Turkish Trenches & Communications based upon information available up to the afternoon of June 1st*" is listed as "No 1" in PRO records. It shows the allied front line only but all known Turkish fire and communication trenches. [PRO WO 301-578.]

This map was later reproduced almost exactly as Map 1 – *Objectives for the Third Battle of Krithia* in the *Official History*.

Four successive versions of trench diagrams covering the same piece of ground just south of Krithia were produced between 17 June and 5 July and in the PRO Rolls these have been numbered 2 to 5. Thereafter, extended cover was produced in a block of four sheets. Sheets 6 and 7 show the western and eastern halves of the Allied front line and opposing Turkish trenches and sheets 8 and 9 the ground behind the Turkish front lines as far north as Achi Baba. Several editions of each of these sheets were produced up to late November, some of the later sheets being squared to conform with the 1:20,000 scale maps derived from captured Turkish maps already described.

These maps, being simple traces of aerial photographs with no correction for tilt or height displacements were inaccurate planimetrically. Most sheets carry the caveat that "while positions of trenches are correct within small areas the diagram should not be used to measure long distances or bearings." Most sheets also bear a caveat that "reliance however must not be placed on the diagram showing every Turkish trench" indicating the difficulty of reading or interpreting in detail on aerial photographs. Many also carry the order "Not to be carried into any action."

HELLES 1:6,000 SERIES PRODUCTION SEQUENCE

Representative examples of most of the sheets in the following list can be seen at PRO WO 301 pieces 578-604 but numerous examples survive in other collections. From study of all these the following probable production sequence has been derived. The regular production of new editions of the pair of front line sheets, 6 and 7 is evident, see page 25.

15TH DIV. ☐ 11TH DIV. ☐

OBJECTIVES FOR THE THIRD BATTLE OF KRITHLA.

The ground-work & trenches are based on a diagram issued with the orders for the battle. That diagram was compiled from aeroplane photographs taken up to the 1st June; & the troops were warned that it was only approximately accurate

7TH DIV. ☐

REFERENCE

Turkish Trenches
Wire entanglements
Probable Turkish Machine guns
Supposed Cmn Trenches
Turkish Reserves
British Trenches
1st Objective
2nd Objective
Bde or Div. Boundaries
Roads
Tracks
Watercourses

7TH DIV ☐

12TH DIV. —
(holding to the coast.)

INDIAN BDE.

88TH BDE

42ND DIV.

R. N. D.

*As published in the Official History Maps and Appendices Volume 2.
Scale about 1:19,000.*

SCALE (APPROX.)

Yards 500 4 3 2 1 0 500 1000 Yards

Information up to Nov 5th 1915.

Turkish Trenches
Turkish Trenches
Turkish Trenches (needed)
Turkish Trenches (needed)
Probable Turkish Machine Guns
Roads
Trucks
Mortars/Cannons
Turkish Batteries
Wire Entanglements



Approximate Sample Size = 62,461,000
or 62.46 million

*Trench Diagram No 6.4 5th Revision 5 November 1915.
Scale about 1:17,000.*

SHEET 1	1 June	SHEET 6A	5 September
SHEET 2	17 June	SHEET 6A2	5 September
SHEET 3	22 June	SHEET 9A	5 September
SHEET 4	22 June		
SHEET 3	1 July	SHEET 8A	16 September
SHEET 3	2 July		
SHEET 5	5 July	SHEET 6A3	27 September
SHEET 6	15 July	SHEET 7AR	27 September
SEIET 6R	22 July		
SHEET 7	31 July	SHEET 6A4	16 October
SHEET 7R	6 August	SHEET 7A2	16 October
SHEET 8	? August		
SIIEET 9	? August	SHEET 6A5	5 November
		SHEET 7A2	5 November
SHEET 6A	29 August	SHEET 7A3	5 November
SHEET 6AR	29 August	SHEET 6A6	18 November
SHEET 7A	30 August	SHEET 7A4	18 November

To be continued.

SIMPSON AND HIS DONKEY BOW OUT

A report in the *Herald Sun* 20 April sent by Bob Mansell (1204) makes sad but familiar reading:

“A part of Australian folklore is set to disappear following Army plans to overhaul the unit made famous by “the man with the donkey”, World War I legend John Simpson Kirkpatrick.

The Third Field Ambulance unit achieved a lasting place in Australian history thanks mainly to the exploits of Private Simpson – the name under which he enlisted – who ferried injured soldiers away from the front at Gallipoli in 1915. But it seems the unit will march under its own banner and with its mascot – a donkey – for the final time this Anzac Day. – it will be absorbed into the regular Ninth Brigade and will be likely renamed the Third Medical Company.

Major-General William “Digger” James said while he understood the need to review operations, the loss of such a high profile unit was “terribly sad. Simpson held a special place in Australian folklore. It’s Gallipoli, it’s Anzac Day, it’s looking after your mates – Simpson and the donkey is all those things rolled into one.”

LIEUTENANT W.T. FORSHAW VC

COLIN HAGUE

The sleepy hamlet of Touchen End, south of Maidenhead, Berkshire, was awakened by a rifle salute and bugle calls on 17 October. The occasion was the dedication of a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone for William Thomas Forshaw, who was awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry at Suvla Bay between 7 and 9 August 1915.

Three trenches converged at the north-western corner of "The Vineyard" making it difficult to hold. However Lieutenant Forshaw of the 1/9th Battalion, Manchester Regiment (Ashton Terriers), held off the enemy by throwing home-made bombs for 41 hours. He lit the fuses from his cigarettes, and at the end of that time could barely speak, and although choked and wounded and barely able to lift his arm he refused to be relieved. Later the Turks mounted three heavy attacks. When they did break through, he personally shot three the led his men forward to recapture the position. The citation published in the London Gazette concluded "It was due to his personal example, magnificent courage, and endurance, that this important corner was held."

Lieutenant Forshaw later returned to his profession of school teacher. He died at Holyport, near Maidenhead, on 26 May 1943 and all trace of his grave was subsequently lost. It was thought to be at Ashton-under-Lyne or at Barrow, and it has only been found that he was buried in the tiny overgrown graveyard at Touchen End.

The short service was conducted by the Vicar of Bray. About 40 people attended the ceremony, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Windsor & Maidenhead. A squad from the King's Regiment, into which the Manchesters have been subsumed, fired a volley, and the Commanding Officer of the Regiment gave a brief address. The Last Post and Reveille were then sounded.

So Lieutenant W.T. Forshaw VC was honoured, 51 years after his death, and nearly 80 years after his heroism at Gallipoli.

DUTY UNDER FIRE

JOHN PRICE

Reproduced, with kind permission, from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission house magazine *Intermission* Autumn 1994.

Returning to my apartment after work on Monday 25th of July I could see a large cloud of smoke across the Dardanelles covering the Gallipoli Peninsula, evidence of a large fire. Eileen, my wife, told me that it had been burning since mid afternoon and was getting bigger all the time.

As the evening wore on evidence of a major disaster became apparent with the ferries being commandeered to transport large amounts of emergency vehicles, trucks, bulldozers, buses and soldiers across from Canakkale. By about 9pm the fire was 7 or 8 kilometres long and on a 2 kilometre front. I began to feel uneasy as I could see the flames spreading up the hillside towards the New Zealand Memorial at Chunuk Bair which is only a short distance from the Anzac base site where there are five cottages all of wooden construction, one of which is occupied by the family of Ali Kinali, one of the gardeners on the Anzac group. I phoned Volkan Susluoglu, the Chief Clerk, and contact was made with Ali by telephone. He told us that his brother Mahmut, also a gardener on the Anzac group, had arrived with his son and two daughters and the two families were trying to evacuate the houses. As much as could be loaded was being put into the two transit vans which are kept on site. All of the vehicles including two tractors and the Local Supervisor's car were being taken up the coast out of danger and larger items of furniture were being placed on the beach as far away from the fire as possible. Ali also said that they had been warned that the fire would reach the complex in about 20 minutes, then the phone was cut off (evidence that the fire was getting closer).

The next morning after a very late night of watching and worrying from a distance I set off with Eileen and Volkan early for Anzac. The fire was even bigger by now and we had heard of villages being lost to the flames and knew that at least one death had occurred. With fearful hearts we travelled into the fire area passing large areas which were still burning. As we took the coast road up to the complex everything was gone until just short of the cottages where the fire had stopped. The whole of the valley had been missed after a change in the wind direction and in the middle stood the base site still complete.

At the Complex we found all of the "Anzac" team, including those on leave, plus two of the Works team. All were hard at work clearing pine needles and anything that might burn. Despite the general feeling that the worst was past it was decided to take all possible precautions as there were still flames to be seen on the hills above us. All fuel and machines were ferried away to safety along the coast and the water tank filled and ready on the back of the tractor. All remaining furniture was stacked on the beach and the many gas containers with it.

By mid morning most of the preparations were complete, even to the extent of filling every dustbin and bottle with water. A cheer went up as the Head Gardener from Helles, Turgut Bayraktar, arrived with the second tractor complete with a tank of water, having driven 32 kilometres through the smoke to help. From then on it was just a question of waiting and hoping.

As the day wore on the flames steadily approached us until it was clear that indeed we were in the path of the fire. At this point the vehicles were evacuated along with the women and children leaving only one car which brought back the drivers. By now the wind had risen and the fire was approaching fast. The roar of the flames and the regular explosion of shells on the battlefield was very loud. We decided that with the wind driving the flames ever nearer it would be better to burn an area around us which we might be able to control. The third side to the north was also under threat leaving only the sea on the remaining side.

Two young men who came to help were now within the area with the Commission staff. We were now in contact with the flames and using everything we had to stop the blaze. An increase in the wind brought the flames roaring down the valleys with the speed of a running man, sweeping through the Nursery area (a little further up the road) destroying the tunnel, the shade house and most of the stock, all products of many years of work. At this point we were finally cut off from the outside world but the young men who had been helping us were able to take the last vehicle out along the road north which was being swept by flames and go to save their own property along the coast.

Meanwhile further up the coast, the area in which the women and children had gone to was also under threat as the fire spread through the holiday homes. Another rescue of the vehicles and property was carried out, this time by Eileen Price and the daughter of Mahmut Kinali who were the only ones who could drive. They worked a shuttle system to ferry the rest even further away with success and at the same time keeping everyone calm despite hearing that the Anzac complex had gone and that the men were all in the sea!

The flames had now encircled the Base site with the exception of one small strip between us and the sea. Everything was now in confusion with everyone determined not to be beaten. With each flare up someone or several would appear out of the smoke and dust with buckets of water or fire extinguishers. At one point we had to retreat into the sea as the fire along the coast blew horizontally across the beach. Undaunted the men were running into the sea only to return with buckets of water time and time again until at last we had won and the cottages and Complex had been saved.

The fire fighting had lasted about 3½ hours but seemed far less. Unfortunately hot sparks had fallen on the furniture stacked on the beach and just as we thought it was all over flames were seen. Two beds and mattresses, one kitchen cupboard and one of the children's bicycles had been burnt, but this was nothing to what had been saved. As the only non-Turkish member of staff at the Anzac base that day I am happy to report how brave and determined the men were. Never once did they think of leaving it to burn. Every possible precaution was taken but it was only the fearless

action of the local staff that won the day. Everyone of them when thanked for their work could only shuffle about in an embarrassed way and say "It was our duty", and duty certainly called that day.

A up-date at the end of October from John Price tells how the recent rains mean the cemeteries are looking bright and green. However only a few trees and shrubs survived, and with the Nursery completely burnt it will be necessary to import more stock. It is hoped that re-planting in the cemeteries will be completed by the 80th Anniversary on 25 April.

TURKISH RESTORATION PLANS

M. KEMAL YILMAZ [1157]

After the tragic forest fire which caused a great damage to the national park of Gallipoli battlefield, campaigns organised for the replantation have been going on successfully. Some Turkish companies, banks and citizens took active part in the fund raising activities. The fund only raised by a leading daily news paper Milliyet amounted last month to 2 million British Pounds. In addition to the voluntary contributions the Turkish Government allocated a substantial sum in its national budget. A bank account was opened for the public subscriptions (Ziraat Bankas ECEABAT Şb. Hesap No. 1080). Turkish Rotary clubs also organised some cultural activities for the same purpose. Beymen Club put on sale specially made Gallipoli T shirts, the income of which is devoted to the effort of afforestation of the burned area. In a interesting concert organised for the same purpose by Çanakkale Directorate of Culture, the songs which M. Kemal Atatürk loved the most have been played. The Government of New Zealand contributing 45.000 dollars, has also decided to send young trees to be planted on the battlefield. More than 2000 workers brought from various regions of Turkey have been working for months to clear up and to get ready the area for plantation. A special elementary school was opened on the peninsula for their children. At the end of October, 2500 hectares of land out of 4000 hectares burned area had been already cleared up. Afforestation activities are being carried out according to the project prepared by the Ministry of Forestry. It is planned to plant trees with leaves, sun plants, rose plants as well in addition to pine trees.

It is decided to erect at Gabatepe a statue of Mr Talat Göktepe, District Director of Forestry who lost his life while fighting the fire. The first tree will soon be planted by Mrs Tansu Çiller herself, Turkish Prime Minister. The plantation of whole area is planned to be completed by April 1995.

SOME CORNER OF A FOREIGN FIELD

MARGERY WEST [1226]

The evocative words of Rupert Brooke: "Some corner of a foreign field" taken from his poem *The Soldier* will always be associated in our minds with the sad fate of thousands of British servicemen of the Great War buried where they fell in battles far from home. But, a cluster of headstones huddled together in the quiet country churchyard at Patrick on the west coast of the Isle of Man, is evidence that a plot which is home to us is, indeed, a foreign field to the seven Turkish wartime internees laid to rest there.

Less than a month after war was declared the first group of 200 "prisoners of war," for that was their official description during the First World War, arrived in the Isle of Man. Among the thousands of German and Austrians eventually brought here there were 115 Turks, 14 in the Douglas Camp and 101 in the massive Knockaloe Camp on the west coast.

As numbers grew so did the camp, eventually to become a large town of wooden huts contained within a four mile perimeter. There were 22 compounds, each accommodating over 1,000 prisoners, and at its peak 24,450 were housed here. Each compound had five sleeping huts, a cookhouse, recreation house, bath house and latrines. In the construction of the huts no less than 15,000,000 feet of timber and 1,000,000 bricks were used. The fencing extended for 695 miles, while there were 7,156 electric lights and 72 miles of wiring. To guard this vast camp took over 2,000 men of the Royal Defence Corps, assisted by 250 Manx civilians in administration.

Boredom was the greatest threat to the peaceful running of the camp – the largest in Great Britain. "Barbed Wire Disease" was rampant until 1915 when the Quakers "Friends Emergency Committee" provided the means to start workshops in which goods were made for sale, the proceeds going to improve living conditions.

A recent exhibition by the Manx Museum provided an insight into life at the camp and the handicrafts of the prisoners. They produced inlaid boxes, chess boards and figures, and artistic bone carvings of particular beauty. These carvings were transfigured by the prisoners from cattle shin bones discarded by the cookhouse then boiled to remove fat and gristle and bleached with soda. Bully-beef tins and the metal lining of tea chests were utilized to make ornaments and medallions. Furniture was also made, while the Turkish prisoners specialised in making life-size snakes from thousands of glittering beads. Three snakes in the exhibition had formed part of an exchange between a Turk and a civilian member of staff in return for loaves of bread. The goods could not be advertised for sale. Some were sold through the Friends Emergency Committee shop in London, or at private exhibitions, while others were shipped to New York and sold through the Prisoners of War Committee.

Some was sold in neutral countries like Sweden even reaching Germany to be sold in Berlin.

Seven Turkish prisoners who died behind the barbed wire were originally buried within a square enclosure containing two rows of grave spaces, one of them remaining empty, in Patrick Churchyard directly opposite Knockaloe Camp. A large white stone carried the Crescent and Star and their names. Each of the spaces was marked by a wooden memorial listing the name of the prisoner laid below. The Manx gravedigger of the day (who died only recently) always related that, at the time of the burials, fellow Turkish internees in the camp had insisted that he follow Turkish tradition, the coffins standing vertically. Church authorities would not allow this and so a compromise was reached and the head of each coffin was raised on bricks. After the graves had been dug, the area was cleansed with water since the grave digger was of the Christian faith and, in Turkish eyes, an Infidel.

In 1972 new headstones were placed on the Turkish graves, by arrangement with the Turkish Embassy and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. They were cordoned off from the rest of the ancient churchyard by posts and chains and they carry the following inscriptions:

Ramazan Mehmet	17 November 1916
Huseyin Halid Ibrahim	16 February 1917
Hasan Dervis	18 May 1917
Mehmet Ali	17 September 1917
Halan Yegen	19 April 1918
Ahmet Hassan	15 July 1918

A communal stone within the enclosure carries words in Turkish and English:

Burada i ina dunya	Here are buried
Harbinde Sehid Olan	Turkish internees
Yedi Turk yatiyor	who died in the
Kuhlarina faticha	1914-1918 war

Patrick Churchyard became the resting place of some 200 prisoners. However, in 1962, following a public meeting, the German War Graves Commission was allowed to exhume their war dead buried in Manx Churchyards and rebury the remains at the giant cemetery at Cannock Chase, Staffordshire. At Patrick the only war graves now remaining are the seven Turks, two German internees of the Jewish faith whose families objected to their reburial at Cannock Chase and the British servicemen who died while on duty at the camp.

JIMMY GETS HIS SAUCE

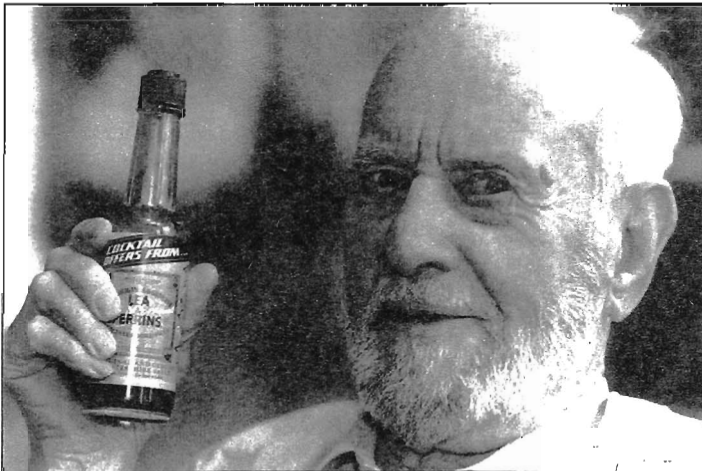
Ninety eight year old Jimmy Page [1185V], veteran of the Gallipoli campaign and resident of the Royal Star and Garter Home amazed sauce makers Lea & Perrins by taking them up on an offer for 12 bottles of Worcester sauce almost 80 years on.

Mr Page was intrigued when he came across an advertisement for the sauce in an original copy of the Illustrated London News dated May 1915. The advert promised to provide "A Gift Sure of Appreciation" by sending a dozen bottles of the sauce to soldiers serving on the Western Front, suggesting it would make a perfect accompaniment to war rations, by mixing it with "Bully Beef" or as a substitute for chutney when mixed with jam. The cost, including carriage, was a mere 5 shillings.

At that time, the then 19 year old Jimmy, who served throughout the First World War with the Royal Field Artillery, was pinned down on the beaches at Gallipoli suffering from dysentery, exhaustion, and the effects of poor food, heat and flies, and was therefore unable to take advantage of the offer.

Enclosing a copy of the original advertisement, Mr Page wrote to Lea & Perrins saying he was still interested and enquiring about the cost of a similar offer at today's prices! Lea & Perrins Product Manager, Andrew Knox, was so honoured to receive a letter from a Gallipoli veteran that he promptly despatched a dozen bottles to Mr Page as a gift!

Reproduced from *Connections* the Newsletter of The Royal Star and Garter Home, Autumn 1994, brought to our attention by Jim Fallon [1200], Public Relations Officer.



INFORMATION PLEASE

Mudros Bay: I am researching the 1915-1916 diary of my great grandfather, Private George McCartney, SS 14715, in the Army Service Corps. He was at Suvla, then at Mudros Bay along with two of his brothers, William McCartney SS14716 and Henry McCartney SS14717.

I am finding much about Suvla, but virtually nothing about Mudros Bay. George was apparently on the west side of the Bay, but I cannot find any maps or other information about the camps, the piers, etc to help me work out exactly where he was. I would be pleased to hear from anyone with information about Mudros, or with suggestions where I might enquire. Valerie Swain [1405], The Gullerie, Flat 5, Cyprus Court, Cyprus Road, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8HB.

Private J. Hoyle: K.Hoyle [1328], 15 Kennoldes, Croxted Road, West Dulwich, London, SE21 8SS is hoping to learn more about his grandfather who enlisted in the 1/6th Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers which embarked in September 1914 for Egypt. They went on to Gallipoli, leading the attack before Krithia on 6 May, and again took part in the heavy fighting on 3/4 June. As part of the offensives in early August they attacked the Vineyard to the west of the Krithia road. Here, together with the 7th Battalion, in the words of Sir Ian Hamilton, they "gallantly stood their ground against a succession of vigorous counter attacks. – it was found possible to hold the Vineyard through the night, and a massive column of the enemy which strove to overwhelm their thinned ranks was shattered to pieces in the attempt." Joseph Hoyle was wounded during this action and died on 8 August being buried in the East Mudros Cemetery. Any information concerning Private Hoyle and the services of the 1/6th Lancashire Fusiliers would be appreciated.

Lieutenant W.D.R.Evans: D.W.Empson [1501], 18 Wilding Road, Pinebrook, Ipswich, IP8 3SG holds the medals of Lieutenant W.D.R. Evans of C Company, 5th Battalion Welch Regiment who fell, aged 22 on 10 August 1915. A native of Treharris, Glamorgan who was articled to the Town Clerk of Merthyr Tydfil, he was reported missing. His remains were found after the end of the war and buried at Green Hill Cemetery. Mr Empson has searched the South Wales local newspapers and national sources, and would appreciate further information concerning this officer.

SS *Haverford* Barry Johnson, 11 St Cybi Drive, Llangybi, Usk, NP5 1TU seeks information concerning 22 San Sec (11 Division) on board the *Haverford*. Also the name and details of the hospital ship which sailed for Malta via Imbros and Lemnos from Little W Beach on 11 December 1915. Has anyone heard of the hill above A Beach with a large piece of rock balanced on it?

LAST LETTER OF A TURKISH MARTYR KILLED IN THE GALLIPOLIAN WAR

INTRODUCTION AND TRANSLATION BY PROFESSOR DR
ERKAN TURKMEN

In 1915 the young, middle-aged and old; the rich, poor and penniless; all hurried from the inner Anatolia towards Gallipoli like blood rushing to a wound. The most beautiful part of the Turkish land had been invaded by a mixture of nations. A large number of reserve officers were composed of teachers. That is why Mustafa Kemal after the war said, "We buried a whole university at Gallipoli". Some of the teachers were writers and poets, who have left behind letters, poems, diaries and war memories in Ottoman Turkish. Hasan Ethem is one such teacher who has become widely known in Turkey⁽¹⁾ for a letter which he wrote to his mother on 17th April 1915⁽²⁾, a few days before his death. This is what the young man wrote:

Dear Mother,

Oh the great Turkish mother! You can take pride in having given birth to four soldiers⁽³⁾. I received your letter full of admonition just as I was sitting in the shadow of a pear-tree near a stream which passes through the middle of a green and beautiful valley very much like your own valley of Divrin⁽⁴⁾. Your letter uplifted my soul already intoxicated by the beauty of nature. I read your letter again and again; and while I read it, I realised many things. I felt happy to be involved in such a sacred and wonderful duty. I opened my eyes and looked far off. The bowing of the green crops under the pressure of the strong wind seemed to be saluting your letter. All those green crops bent towards me as if to congratulate me on the arrival of your letter.

Turning my eyes to the right at the bottom of a slope, I saw magnificent pine trees greeting me with their own special sounds. Turning my eyes to the left, I saw the foaming stream laughing joyfully. I raised my head and looked at the leaves of the tree under which I was resting. They all seemed to express their happiness by dancing. I looked at another branch of the tree, a beautiful nightingale was greeting me with its melodious voice, and it shared my happiness by opening its tender beak majestically.

Just then came my orderly and said,

"Sir, here is your tea, please drink it."

"Alright" I said and looked at it. It was tea with milk.

"Mustafa where did you get the milk from?" I asked.

"Sir, do you see the flock of goats grazing by the stream?"

"Yes, how beautiful!" said I.

“From the shepherd of that flock I bought the milk for ten para (pence)”

Dear mama, 100 drachm (about 1/4 kilo) of pure milk without any water in it! Just imagine. It was freshly milked from a goat and I drank it. But I began to think, “I am able to drink such good milk thanks to the money sent by you while you, my mother, will never be able to drink it. Why can’t Shevkat drink it?”. The nightingale above began to sing loudly “What can be done? Such is the destiny of your mother. If she were a man, she could smell these flowers, drink this milk, watch the tossing of these crops and observe the slow flowing of the stream, and hear its sound.” Don’t worry about Shevkat. He can see all these or perhaps even better things.

Dear mama, don’t be sorry. I will certainly bring you to this place one day. On the dark green side of the meadow, my soldiers were washing their clothes. They all began to line up and one of them who had a sweet voice began the call to prayers. My God, how beautiful was his voice in that valley! Even the nightingale had stopped singing, the crops stood motionless and there came no sound from the stream. Everything seemed to listen to that sacred call. When the call was over, I also washed myself with the water from the stream and offered my prayers with the others kneeling down on the green grass. I forgot all the tumult and splendour of this world. I held up my hands and uttered these words, “Oh Great God of the Turks! The Creator of singing birds, of walking and bleating sheep and green crops, and of these awesome mountains, You have bestowed all these upon the Turks. Save all these beautiful places for them because they belong to the Turks who regard you so High and Holy. My God, all that these heroic soldiers want is to introduce Thy name to the French and English. Please accept this honourable desire of ours and make our bayonets sharper so that we may destroy our enemy! We pray to thee trembling in this beautiful and calm place. You have already destroyed a great number of them so destroy some more”.

After praying thus I stood up. No one could be considered luckier and happier than I after that.

Mama, your son Halid is also at a beautiful place like mine. The most beautiful spot on earth is this area. However, there are no wedding ceremonies in this part of the world. If God wills, the enemy will make a landing and we will be taken (to the front lines), then the wedding ceremony will take place, won’t it?⁽⁵⁾.

Dear mama, don’t hand over your deeds or other documents to anyone. If they ask you say, “I don’t know anything”. Take the bag and put it in the

chest. As I had explained to you once, this world is like that.

But don't worry, if he did not pay, the man at the court would not have paid, either. But we did get the money in the end, didn't we? Nevertheless, time is required. Dear mother, I don't need any underwear. I still have the money, God bless you!

Your son
Hasan Ethem

4th of April 1331 (17th of April 1915)

Notes and references:

1 – This letter has become so popular that it has been published more than four times in various magazines. Ethem belonged to the 3rd Army Corp, 19th division, Mustaf Kemal's 57th Regiment, 2nd Battalion and 6th Squadron.

2 – On his picture published in the "Harp Mecmuasi (War Magazine No. 22, p. 351, 1915) the date of his death is given as 6th of May, 1331 (19th of May, 1915) which is not correct since his younger brother Halit says that he received a telegraph about his death on 17th April (30th of April 1915) at Kumkale see "Bir Çanakkale Gazinin Günlüğünden", 10th August 1990). Ethem's death therefore would have taken place between 17th and 30th of April, 1915.

3 – He had three brothers Halid (22), Hilmi (16) and Shevkat (10). He was shot down by a bullet at Anafartalar (see İsmail Baltıcioğlu, Muallim Ethem Nasıl Şehid Oldu? (How Teacher Ethem God Became a martyr?), Çanakkale Zaferinin 77 yılı, özel sayı, p. 29

4 – His mother's place of birth near Niğde.

5 – For him, as for many other muslims, martyrdom means to meet God as one meets one's beloved after a wedding ceremony.

SOMME HERITAGE CENTRE

The Somme Heritage Centre in Newtonards, Northern Ireland, is dedicated to ensuring the memory of the Irish involvement in the Great War is honoured and kept alive. Although established to pay tribute to the 36th Ulster Division's sacrifice in the Battle of the Somme in 1916, considerable publicity is given to Irishmen who served at Gallipoli.

To celebrate the 80th anniversary of the campaign, the Centre is to mount a special exhibition devoted to the Irish involvement and is appealing for the short-term loan of artefacts associated with the campaign. Members able to assist are requested to contact Hugh Forrester, Somme Heritage Centre, 233 Bangor Road, Whitespots Country Park, Newtonards, Co Down, BT23 9PH.

Jim Fallon
Public Relations Officer

WHO SAID THIS?

In the Autumn *Gallipolian* we asked who said:

The graves are obliterated, and the scattered bones that cost so much in the breeding have returned to earth. But in our history the Peninsula of the Dardanelles, the Straits, the surrounding seas, and the islands set among them will always remain as memorials recording, it is true, the disastrous and tragic disabilities of our race, but, on the other hand, its versatility, its fortitude, and its happy though silent welcome to any free sacrifice involving great issues for mankind.

The answer is Henry W. Nevinston in *The Dardanelles Campaign*, final paragraph, published in 1918.

Now another WHO SAID THIS?

What was the dominant motive that impelled them?

It lay in the mettle of the men themselves. To be the sort of man who would give way when his mates were trusting to his firmness; to be the sort of man who would fail when the line, the whole force, and the allied cause required his endurance; to have made it necessary for another unit to do his own unit's work; to live the rest of his life haunted by the knowledge that he had set his hand to a soldier's task and had lacked the grit to carry it through – that was the prospect which these men could not face. Life was very dear, but life was not worth living unless they could be true to their idea of Australian manhood. Standing upon that alone, when help failed and hope faded, when the end loomed clear in front of them, when the whole world seemed to crumble and the heaven to fall in, they faced its ruin undismayed.

'ORSES WITH 'ORNS

By 5.40 a.m. of the 25th it was light enough to see, whereupon Captain Larken together with the *Dartmouth* (Captain Judge D'Arcy) opened fire on the Bulair Lines. Well out in the Gulf lay *Canopus* in company with some transports carrying men of the Royal Naval Division. To everyone's astonishment there came no reply from Forts Sultan and Napoleon: the seaplane was put in the water, but she came back from her reconnaissance without seeing any sign of the enemy. Next the *Doris* steamed close inshore, and noticed that intensive preparations had clearly been made against any infantry attack. She now fired on a redoubt, but still no reply was made.

Presently there came on board Colonel the Hon. E. Fiennes, Intelligence Officer to the Royal Naval Division, having received instructions to watch the road running south from Adrianople; wherefore the *Doris* moved to the head of Xeros Gulf. On the upper bridge the Captain, the Colonel, and the ship's Chief Yeoman of Signals watched and scrutinised the land – the first two with their binoculars, the last with his long-distance telescope. Not an indication of life anywhere!

Then, suddenly, "I see horses in large numbers," remarked the Colonel.

The Yeoman of Signals readjusted his telescope, screwed up his eye, and spoke exactly as he thought. "'Orses?"; he repeated, "'orses?" – closing his telescope with a snap – "'orses with 'orns."

The man was right: these were some more of those bullock-teams which we saw being used up the Dardanelles for hauling the mobile howitzers.

"But," says Sir Frank Larken, "the Colonel was angry, and complained to me of the fellow's impudence. I reproved the Chief Yeoman, yet he was a privileged friend and, earlier in the day, when I expected the ship to be blown almost to pieces, and on many other occasions, he had been my faithful helper and adviser. Whenever I happened to be on the bridge, he was always by my side."

Reproduced from Dardanelles Dilemma by E.Keble Chatterton published in 1935.

SPECIAL DARDANELLES ARMY ORDER OF THE DAY

Dardanelles Army Headquarters,
11th January, 1916.

The Army Commander has much pleasure in publishing for the information of all ranks the following gracious message which has been received by the Commander-in-Chief from His Majesty the King:-

It is with feelings of intense satisfaction that I have just heard of the successful evacuation of Helles. Please accept for yourself and convey to General Birdwood, General Davies and the troops under their command my hearty congratulations on this fine performance. I am confident all these splendid units from Anzac, Suvla and Helles will renew in fresh fields of action the hard won and glorious traditions gained in Gallipoli.

GEORGE R.I.

The following telegrams are also published for information

Telegram from Lord Kitchener.

It affords me great pleasure to convey to you and all under your command the cordial thanks of His Majesty's Government for the admirable manner in which the evacuation of Helles has been accomplished. My colleagues and I learned with much gratification of the success of your carefully laid plans which reflect the highest credit on yourself, your staff, the Corps Commanders and indeed all ranks. Please let it be known that we warmly appreciate the skillful staff work and the devoted co-operation of all concerned without which this difficult operation could not have been carried out. We recognise how much the Admiral and Navy must have contributed and fully endorse your tribute to their help.

KITCHENER.

Telegram from the Commander-in-Chief.

Please accept my warmest congratulations and convey same to General Davies and all ranks concerned on the admirable manner in which you have successfully accomplished a most difficult operation.

SIR CHARLES MONRO.

Telegram from General Birdwood to the Commander-in-Chief.

Very many thanks for your telegram which will be much appreciated by all ranks. General Davies and all concerned did admirably.

GENERAL BIRDWOOD.

Telegram from Vice Admiral Sir John de Robeck.

Permit me, through you, to thank military officers and working parties on the beaches last night who carried out their duties admirably, especially during the period when the difficulties were very great.

VICE ADMIRAL.

Telegram from General Birdwood to Vice Admiral Sir John de Robeck

Military officers and beach parties will indeed be honoured to receive your thanks, but on behalf of the whole Dardanelles Army I wish to tender our more than grateful thanks for all that you, your officers and all your fleet have done for us since April last. In embarking us safely as you did last night in face of great difficulties you have proved more than ever the truth of Sir Ian's words and we will most gratefully remember our sea parents.

GENERAL BIRDWOOD.

C.F. Aspinall Lieut.-Colonel,
Acting Brigadier General, General Staff,
Dardanelles Army

A copy of this Special Order was kindly provided by Commander Ian Hamilton RN [1304] to whom we are most grateful.

A PREMONITION

So this was war, pointless, uninteresting, exasperating, but still not particularly dangerous. One curious incident relative to premonitions: on my first day at the Crystal Palace as orderly officer I had a London R.N.V.R. Petty officer as my orderly sergeant, and had, in the course of my duties, to make the rounds of the Crystal Palace grounds at night time. Naturally, we talked. He was a pre-war volunteer; a clerk, I fancy, in an insurance office, very well-educated. I asked him why he didn't apply for a commission, and he said, very quietly, after an embarrassed silence, that it wasn't worth while. Then he was silent for quite a long time, so I asked him, more to make conversation than anything else, what he was going to do after the war. Then he said, rather apologetically, that he was going to

be killed the first time he went into action, so that the question did not arise. He was perfectly happy about it. He just knew.

When we took over Nelson Avenue on June 5, I had to go back, being then second-in-command of the company, to see about our rations. When I got back about three hours later I found that this same Petty Officer, who was one of our platoon sergeants, had been killed four minutes after I had left – our first casualty, by a stray bullet through the head, unaimed, unintended, a dropping shot of the kind hardly ever fatal, a chance in a million, and foreseen with absolute clarity eight months before.

From *Georgian Adventure* the autobiography of Douglas Jerrold, first published in 1937, who served in the Hawke Battalion, Royal Naval Division at Gallipoli, and later on the Western Front where in 1916 his left arm was shattered. His books *The Royal Naval Division* 1923 and *The Hawke Battalion* 1925 remain to this day the main histories of the Division. He died, aged 70, in 1964 after a long illness.

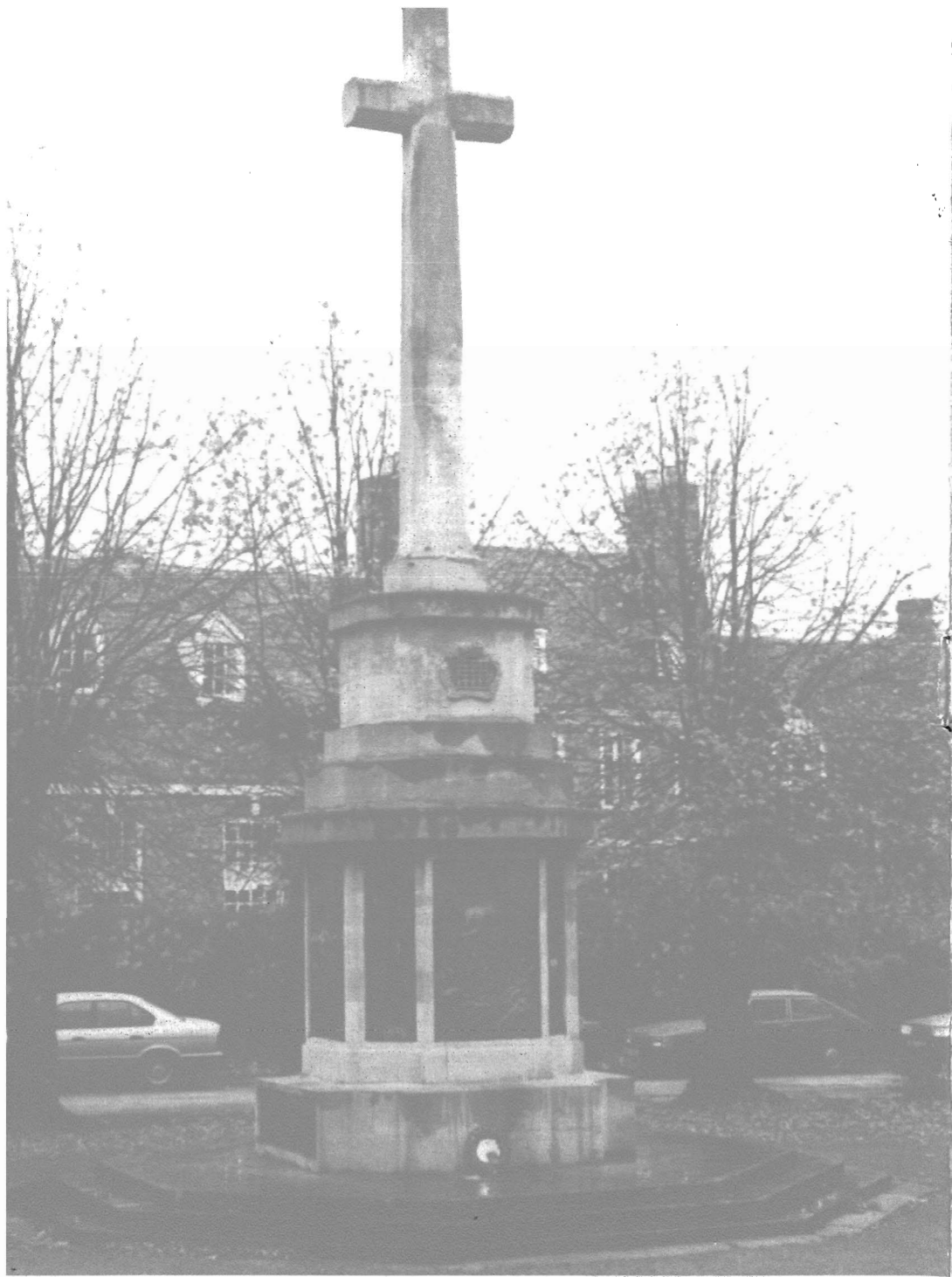
ROYAL GLOUCESTERSHIRE HUSSARS

On the green, near to the west door of Gloucester Cathedral, stands a fine memorial [see rear cover] to the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars. This was unveiled on 29 April 1922, close to the anniversary of the Battle of Qatiya, northern Sinai, which took place on Easter Monday, 23 April 1916. Here a force which included a squadron of the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars was guarding the advancing railroad when they encountered a strong Turkish force which inflicted many casualties. The anniversary of this action is still commemorated by an annual service and wreath laying.

One of the panels on the memorial is entitled Gallipoli 1915 Salt Lake to Chocolate Hill, and depicts the action of the Hussars on 21 August, when during their advance across the Salt Lake, and subsequently on the slopes of the hill, they lost their commanding officer, Lieut-Colonel W.H.Playne badly wounded and 60 officers and men.

The other panels depict scenes of the advance by the Hussars across Sinai and into Palestine. There is also a panel commemorating an action in the Western Desert 1940-1942, when the 2nd Royal Gloucestershire Hussars was so knocked about during the Crusader battles of November 1941 that it was disbanded.

Information provided by J.Lewis [0849].



The Gloucestershire Hussars Memorial Outside Gloucester Cathedral. See Page 37

Photo: David Saunders