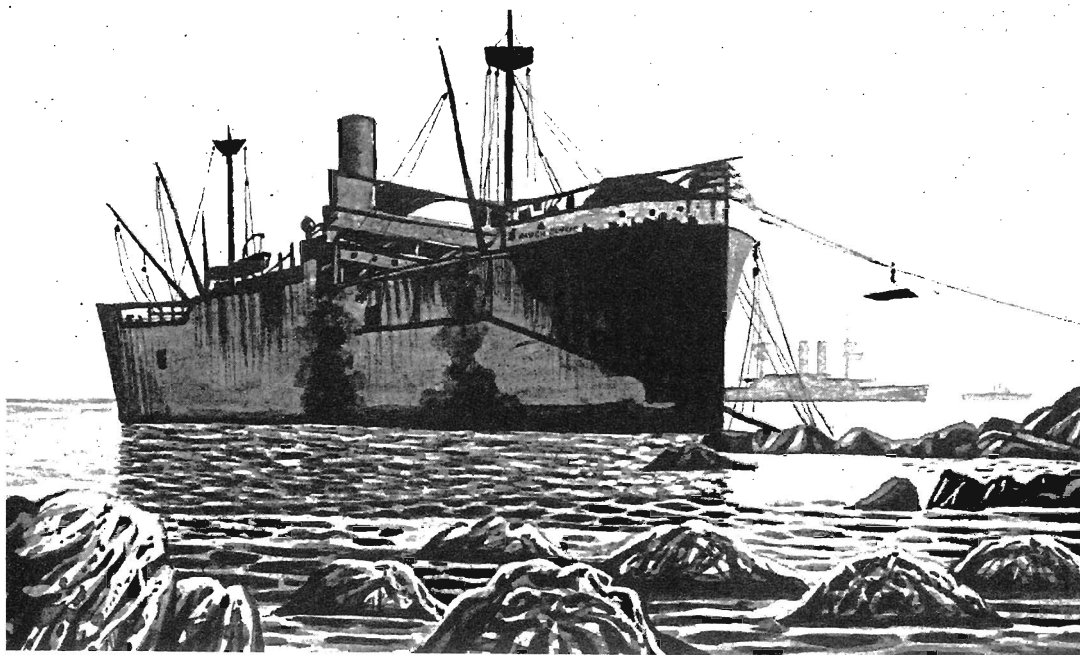


The Gallipollian

*The Journal of the
Gallipoli Association*

No. 90
AUTUMN 1999

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THE GALLIPOLIAN

THE JOURNAL OF THE GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED BY MAJOR E. H. W. BANNER IN 1969
ON THE CAMPAIGN OF 1915

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TURKISH EARTHQUAKE DISASTER

Just as *The Gallipolian* reaches the final stages of production news has been coming in of the earthquake centred on the Gulf of Izmit. All members of the Association, many of whom know Turkey well, and have many Turkish friends, will be deeply moved by this disaster which has befallen them. We share the grief of the Turkish nation in this tragic hour of their history. Especially with those who have lost relatives and other loved ones, their homes and livelihoods.

CONTENTS

Page 2-4	Annual General Meeting
Page 4	Fred Bunday – Legion d'Honneur
Page 5-10	Obituaries: Richard Barron, Arthur Glazier, Len Hall, Frank Isaacs, Robert Rhodes James
Page 11	The Liddle Collection, RND & RND Index
Page 12-13	Association Nationale Pour Le Souvenir Des Dardanelles Et Fronts D'Orient
Page 14-19	Gallipoli Day Ceremonies
Page 20	Anzac Day in Malta
Page 21-22	Anzac Day in Melbourne
Page 23	Anzac Day by Hugo Hardy
Page 24-25	Collingwood Day
Page 25-26	Manchester Regiment Gallipoli Events
Page 27-29	Gallipoli Association Website
Page 29	Simpson Prize
Page 30-31	Unique Memorial
Page 32-35	As Told to a Son by Private William Falloon, 1st Battalion The Royal Dublin Fusiliers
Page 36-49	The Zion Muleteers of Gallipoli
Page 50-52	Gallipoli Savings Stamps
Page 53	Monuments to Courage
Page 54	Memorial Gates Trust
Page 55-57	Recent Sales
Page 57	Rupert Brooke Society
Page 58	Colonel Hancock MC Remembered, Tribute to Those Who Were There, Gallipoli Memorial Lecture Trust
Page 59	Friends of War Memorials
Page 60-61	All the King's Men
Page 62-66	Book Reviews – See Special Offer Page 64
Page 66	Quartermaster's Stores, To What End Did They Die
Page 67	Historic Visit by Commonwealth War Graves Commission to Gallipoli
Page 68	Who Said This?
Page 69-70	Skyros Magic

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Gallipoli Association will be held on Thursday 14 October commencing at 1130 at the Naval Club, 38 Hill Street, London, W1. Directions for the Naval Club are included on the enclosed booking form.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of the AGM held on 15 October 1998, printed on pages 3—4
- 3 Chairman's Report
- 4 Treasurer's Report & Adoption of 1998 Accounts
- 5 Election of Officers
- 6 Election of Committee
- 7 Any other business

Members wishing to raise any item under any other business should do so in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days before the date of the AGM.

AUTUMN LUNCH

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

Following Lunch the speaker will be His Excellency Mr. Ozdem Sanberk, the Turkish Ambassador.

VETERANS

We are pleased to remind Veterans and their families that the Association will, within reason, be pleased to meet all expenses incurred by any Veteran wishing to attend the Lunch including travel and overnight stay. Any Veteran or Veteran's family on his behalf wishing to avail themselves of this is requested to contact the Treasurer or Secretary, whose addresses and telephone numbers appear inside the front cover of *The Gallipolian*.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE
NAVAL CLUB, HILL STREET, LONDON W1,
15 OCTOBER 1998**

Vice President Jim Fallon together with the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Public Relations Officer and Editor, Committee members Sir Arthur Hockaday and Denis Pollard and 15 members were present.

Apologies for absence were received from Vice President Donald Bland, Lady Moira Browne, N.Anthony, J.Brazier, T.Chamberlain, W.Chapman, M. Doyle, Captain Harland, Colonel M.Hickey, Mr & Mrs D.Pope and R.Phillips.

1 The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 October 1997 and published in *The Gallipolian* No 87 were approved and signed as a correct record.

2 The Chairman presented his report, subsequently published in *The Gallipolian* No 88 pages 2-5 drawing particular attention to several items, especially the Gallipoli Memorial Fund and Bursary.

3 The Treasurer presented his Report and the Annual Accounts. Mr M.Rixon expressed the hope that prices for the lunches would be kept as low as possible to enable many members and guests to attend. It was important not to make a loss, but these events should not be looked upon as making a profit. The Report and Annual Accounts were adopted by the meeting.

4 The following were elected Officers for the year:

Chairman	Captain C.T.F.Fagan
Treasurer	W.J.Marsh
Secretary	J.Watson-Smith
Membership Secretary	N.Pollitt
Public Relations Officer	Major H.Jenner
Editor	D.Saunders

5 The following having agreed to serve on the Committee in addition to the Officers were then elected:

M. Doyle	Sir Arthur Hockaday	Major J.R.H.Stopford
Colonel S.M.W.Hickey	D.Pollard	

6 Sir Harold Walker informed the meeting that there would be a re-launch of Robert Rhodes James book *Gallipoli* in April. Mr Rixon enquired how the Association was to be promoted, and the meeting was informed about the new brochure and the Web Site. In answer to a question by Captain Harland the meeting was informed that about 50% of the membership had replied to the

questionnaire but no decision had been made how best to use the information. Reference was made to the possibility of a permanent display concerning the campaign on board Monitor M33 in dry dock close to HMS *Victory* in Portsmouth.

FRED BUNDAY – LEGION D'HONNEUR

Fred Bunday, veteran of both the First and Second World Wars is a familiar figure at Gallipoli Association events, and since no veteran of the campaign is able to be with us on Gallipoli Day Fred lays the wreath on behalf of the Association at the Cenotaph, and later delivers the exhortation at lunch. He thus follows in the footsteps of his great friend the late Jack Gearing.

When surviving veterans of the First World War received the Legion d'Honneur on the 80th anniversary of the Armistice in November last, Fred missed out. However, on 19 June, in a singularly epic ceremony beside the tomb of Napoleon in Les Invalides, he became the first British veteran to receive the award on French soil. Fred Bunday, who received the award from General Jean Gruinard, when asked about the ceremony said, "I was looking forward to being kissed on both cheeks and I wasn't disappointed." Later he joined with other veterans in laying a wreath at the Arc de Triumph before being entertained to tea at the British Embassy by Sir Michael Jay and his wife Sylvia. Subsequently the party moved to the battlefields of Flanders before returning home.



Alastair Miller

OBITUARIES – RICHARD BARRON

It is sad to record that the death of Veteran Richard Barron was announced in March just as the Spring *Gallipolian* (see page 55), which included a feature on him was being printed.

Richard Barron was born in 1895 in Peckham in south London and although he won a scholarship to the West Kent Grammar School had to terminate his education when just 14 to become a clerk with Thomas Cook on Ludgate Hill where his father worked. He was a noted athlete, and also boxed, fenced, shot and played football, indeed he was selected for the Army XI after the First World War.

Although under age he enlisted on 1 September 1914 when he and his friends went to the Duke of York's Headquarters and as he had wanted to be a medical student and had learned first aid in the Boys' Brigade he was posted to the Field Ambulance, 2nd London Mounted Brigade and sent to Egypt. Much later he enjoyed telling the story of what was known as the monkey box, a box of numbered pills for different ailments, No.9 being for constipation. A colleague, on finding he had no No.9's left began to issue a No. 4 and a No.5! He served at Gallipoli for three months, later recalling the heavy casualties amongst his RAMC comrades as they tended the wounded, so small was the battlefield. After contracting severe dysentery he was evacuated to hospital in Malta, where at first there was doubt whether he would survive. Later he was to serve on both the French and Italian fronts, but his main memories of the war were the beautiful dawns in Egypt where the calls from the temple reminded him of a passage from *The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam*, and the horrors of Gallipoli.

After the war he trained, and later practiced as a solicitor, and early in the Second World War joined the Royal Engineers being posted to a searchlight unit on the Isle of Grain. He was then commissioned into the Royal Artillery and subsequently served as an instructor at Shrivenham before being posted to North Wales to run battle experience courses.

A modest man, but full of *joie de vivre*, Dick Barron was an entertaining raconteur, the speech he made on his 100th birthday after lunch of a baron of beef and spotted dick will long be remembered by all those present. In 1998 he participated in BBC television's much admired programme *Veterans* (see the review of the book *Veterans* in *The Gallipolian* No 89 page 64), and in November that year was among the veterans awarded the Legion d'Honneur for their services to France during the First World War.

Dick Barron married Kathleen Moister in 1930, who predeceased him, and they had two daughters.



Richard Barron at the 80th Anniversary of the First World War exhibition at Woolpit, organised by the Western Front Association, Suffolk Branch. David Empson.

ARTHUR GLAZIER

Arthur Glazier who died three weeks after his 104th birthday in June 1998, had been resident in Canada for many years. He had enlisted at Guildford on 10 August 1914 and was sent to the Royal Artillery at Woolwich. The same evening, and still wearing civilian clothes he was put on the train for Holyhead and thence to Dublin, a rough journey so that not only was he suffering from his inoculations but was also seasick.

At the Curragh his unit was in tents, while he always vividly recalled the shortage of equipment, even things like utensils and drinking mugs. In the absence of the latter he was given a jam jar but the tea was so hot the bottom dropped out so no tea! Later they moved into Barracks and equipment, even mugs began to arrive. They were subsequently to form part of the 10th (Irish) Division and the following May the whole Division concentrated at Basingstoke where one of the features of training was the Divisional marches. At the end of the month the Division was inspected in Hackwood Park by King George V and Queen Mary and four days later by Lord Kitchener. Bryan Cooper in *The Tenth (Irish) Division* concludes his description of this event thus:

“After the Infantry came the Field Ambulances, and after them the squadron of the South Irish Horse. These were followed by rank after rank of guns with the Engineers and Army Service Corps bringing up the rear. The long lines of gleaming bayonets, and the horses, guns, and wagons, passing in quick succession, formed a magnificent spectacle. Not by dragon’s teeth had this armed force been raised in so short a time, but by unrelenting and untiring work.”

The Division sailed for the eastern Mediterranean in early July, landing at Mudros where it was not long before they began to experience the four plagues of Gallipoli – dust, flies, thirst and enteritis. Part of the Division landed at Anzac, the remainder at Suvla where among notable actions was the capture of Chocolate Hill. At the end of September the Division was withdrawn from Gallipoli and moved to Salonika, later to Egypt where Arthur Glazier was when the war ended. He left the Middle East the following February and was demobbed at Wimbledon in March.

We are most grateful to Tom Brooks for informing us of the death of Arthur Glazier and providing the short reminiscence published several years ago in Canada.

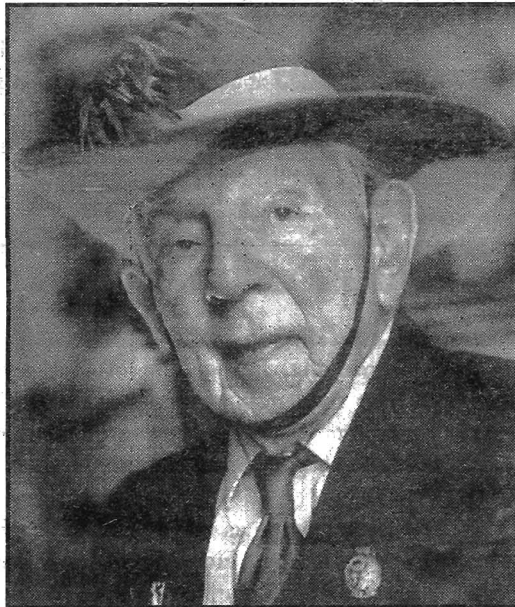
LEN HALL

Among the Anzacs, Len Hall, who died in Sydney in February, aged 101, was one of the youngest of the few remaining. Recognition of how revered these original Anzacs can be seen both from the length of the Obituary in *The Australian* under the headline – *Horseman’s ride into history* and the prominent report in the same paper with a similar bold headline *At 101, one of the last Gallipoli warriors falls*.

Born in Sydney in May 1897 he signed on as a bugler in the Light Horse, an officer had heard him playing and the 10th Light Horse needed a bugler, he was 16 years and five months. He served as a machine gunner at The Nek, later saying he owed his life here to his machine gun. Charles Bean, in describing the action said “With that regiment went the flower of the youth of Western Australia.” Len Hall was one

of the last to leave the beach at Anzac during the evacuation. Later he rode with the Light Horse of the Desert Mounted Brigade, including participating in the legendary charge at Beersheba where he was injured by an aerial torpedo, nine of his 14 man mounted gun crew and his horse, Q6, being killed. The horse had been allocated to him by the cattle baron Sid Kidman whose brand was Q6. According to Lawrence of Arabia the Australian Light Horse regiments were among the best riders in the world "a band of sporting Australians who saw the battle as a point-to-point with Damascus as the post." He wrote in *The Arab Revolt* how, "With no better horsemen available, I deployed these fearless Australians to the north and west of Damascus to lead the charge into the city....." Len Hall's death means Australia has lost its last living link with Lawrence of Arabia.

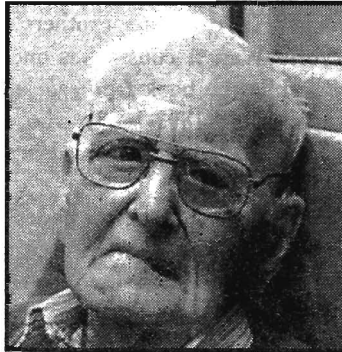
As Len Hall was leaving Freemantle for Egypt he plucked the emu plume from his hat and thrust it into the hands of a girl in the crowd. As he marched back four years later a women stepped forward saying "Excuse me sir, would you like your plume back?" Hall fell in love with the caretaker of the feather, Eunice Lydiate and they were married two years later, and subsequently had two children. Between the wars Len Hall worked first as a grocer, then as a telephone technician, later as a postmaster on the West Australian coast. Here he relayed messages during the battle in 1941 between HMS *Sydney* and the German commerce raider the *Komoran* which resulted in the loss of both ships.



Len Hall seen here in 1998 is survived, for Eunice died in 1996 aged 96, by his two children, three grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

FRANK ISAACS

Frank Isaacs, who died in Perth on 5 April was the last surviving Anzac living in Western Australia. He was born in Charters Towers, Queensland on 10 August 1896 and when aged six placed by his mother in an orphanage following the death of his father in a mining accident. When just 12 he ran away to work as a shearer's roustabout and at 15 joined Clarke's shoe company before enlisting, aged 18, in the 9th Battalion, later serving in the 49th Battalion. At Gallipoli he was wounded in the face and limbs by shrapnel, and after recovering from his injuries was sent to France where he was wounded again, this time losing the sight of his left eye.



Frank Isaacs aged 100.

After the war, his restless streak undimmed, he moved around Australia, at times labouring on the railways, as a Sydney tram conductor, at others carting sheep and cattle until he moved to Binnaway to open Frank Isaacs Boot and Shoe Shop. He married Phyllis Stapleton and they had seven children. Another war and itchy feet again, this time he served with the Civil Construction Corps building airfields, afterwards he took up market gardening.

Following the death of his wife in 1976 Frank Isaacs continued his wanderings, was mugged in Sydney, had his false teeth and medals stolen from an old people's home in Brisbane. Here he was found by his daughter Joy and agreed to return with her to Perth providing they did not have to fly, he had never flown before. She described how on boarding "I said it was a train, but we had a bumpy landing and Dad asked 'What the hell has the train hit now?' and I told him it's not a train, it's a plane." Frank Isaacs declined to be interviewed for the book *The Last Anzacs* by Tony Stephens published in 1996, largely because he refused to wear a hearing aid. Nevertheless during his last years in Perth he became a celebrity leading Anzac Day marches with Len Hall, see previous Obituary.

We are most grateful to Mrs Sharpe-Paul and Ray Martin providing reports on both Australian veterans from which these Obituaries were prepared.

ROBERT RHODES JAMES

Robert Rhodes James who died in May had a distinguished parliamentary and literary career, though will be remembered by members for his classic work *Gallipoli*, first published in 1965 and since reprinted in several softback editions, the most recent being reviewed in the Spring 1999 *Gallipolitan*.

Born into a military family in 1933, indeed he was the only male member not to have a Service career, poor eyesight being the cause, he was the youngest son of Lieutenant-Colonel W.R.James who had spent his life soldiering in India and Afghanistan and won the Military Cross during the retreat from Kut while serving with the 89th Punjab Regiment. His two elder brothers served with the Gurkhas in Burma during the Second World War. A cousin was one of the few survivors of the landing from the *River Clyde* while the book *Gallipoli* is dedicated "To the memory of my Uncle Brigadier R.L.Lemon (1890-1963) who, while attached to the 1st Battalion, The 6th Gurkha Rifles, served and suffered in Gallipoli, August 1915."

On leaving Oxford with a First in 1955 Robert Rhodes James became an Assistant Clerk at the House of Commons and when he ventured to suggest he might become an MP was told, "Whatever you do, my dear boy, never go into politics. We had a Clerk who did so (Erskine Childers) and he was shot." Notwithstanding such advice, and after a varied career which included working for the UN Secretariat, he stood as Conservative candidate in the Cambridge by-election of 1976 when, "as an intruder from Oxford" he quadrupled the majority in what had been regarded as a highly marginal seat.

After the 1979 election he was appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary at the Foreign Office but when the Falklands crisis forced Lord Carrington's resignation his junior ministers went with him and Robert Rhodes James was to languish on the back benches for the rest of his career. As an admirer of Edward Heath, to Margaret Thatcher he was definitely not "one of us" and rarely agreed with her way of doing things. He was knighted for political service in 1991 and in 1992 resigned his seat.

Sir Robert Rhodes James' first book, a much acclaimed biography of Lord Randolph Churchill, Winston's father, was published in 1959 when the author was 26. Among his other outstanding works in addition to *Gallipoli* were *Lord Roseberry* (1963), *Chips: The Diaries of Sir Henry Channon* (1967), *Churchill, A Study in Failure 1900-39* (1970); *The Complete Speeches of Sir Winston Churchill 1897-1963* (1974); *Victor Cazalet* (1976); *Anthony Eden* (1986); *Bob Boothby* (1991); His last work *A Spirit Undaunted - The Political Role of King George VI* was published in 1998.

He married in 1956, Angela Robertson; they had four daughters and three grandchildren.

THE LIDDLE COLLECTION

Members will be aware of the tremendous archive of First World War material – the Liddle Collection – which has a very strong Gallipoli content, housed in the Brotherton Library, Leeds University. Dr Peter Liddle, a long-time member of the Gallipoli Association, and Keeper of the Collection at Leeds for the past ten years, and previous to this at the Sunderland Polytechnic, has recently taken early retirement.

The Library and the University remain fully committed to maintaining and developing the Liddle Collection as a First World War archive. The material in the Collection will remain safe in the Library's keeping, recognised as a unique collective asset to support research.

Where to Peter Liddle? Members who know him will probably be aware of his interest in the Second World War and to this end he has been a prime mover behind the creation of The Second World War Experience, of which he is now Director. The aim being to save another crucial part of our heritage before it is too late. Not just the prominent soldiers, sailors and airmen, but the daily civilian and military experience of all manner of men, women and children in every community during wartime.

Many members of the Gallipoli Association may well have information, both oral and written to impart. Further information from The Second World War Experience Centre, 6-8 York Place, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS1 2DS. 0113 2450475.

E-mail: enquiries@war-experience.org Website: <http://www.war-experience.org>

RND & RND INDEX

RND – *Royal Naval Division* the journal edited and published several times a year by Len Sellers, a member of the Gallipoli Association, author of *The Hood Battalion*, his great his uncle was killed while serving with the Battalion in Gallipoli, reached issue number 9 in June this year. These nine issues cover a staggering 832 A4 size pages including photographs, a mammoth undertaking. Naturally there is much of Gallipoli interest.

Of great value is the detailed Index of 96 pages recently published. This is available, price 6.00 from Len Sellers, Honeysuckle House, 17a Bellhouse Road, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 5NL. The journal, available from the same address also costs 6.00 per issue and represents excellent value.

ASSOCIATION NATIONALE POUR LE SOUVENIR DES DARDANELLES ET FRONTS D'ORIENT

We are pleased to report that the Editor represented the Association at the ceremony held on 24 April when a wreath was laid by Madeleine Stocanne, The President of the Association Nationale pour Le Souvenir Des Dardanelles et Fronts D'Orient at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arch de Triumph during the ceremony of *le ravivage de la flamme* – the reviving of the flame which burns permanently over the Tomb.

Members of the Association Nationale, veterans of the many campaigns waged by the French, flag bearers and onlookers gathered at the Arch at the top of the Champs Elysees from about 1730 onwards. The ceremony which included the laying of two wreaths, began at 1830 after which the dignitaries shook hands and spoke with all of those present.

It is intended that our two Associations, which have in common the objective to maintain the memory of the Gallipoli campaign will liaise closely to ensure time does not erode the memory. To this end we look forward to further visits to Paris and to welcoming members of the Association Nationale to London to join with us both on 25 April and on other occasions.



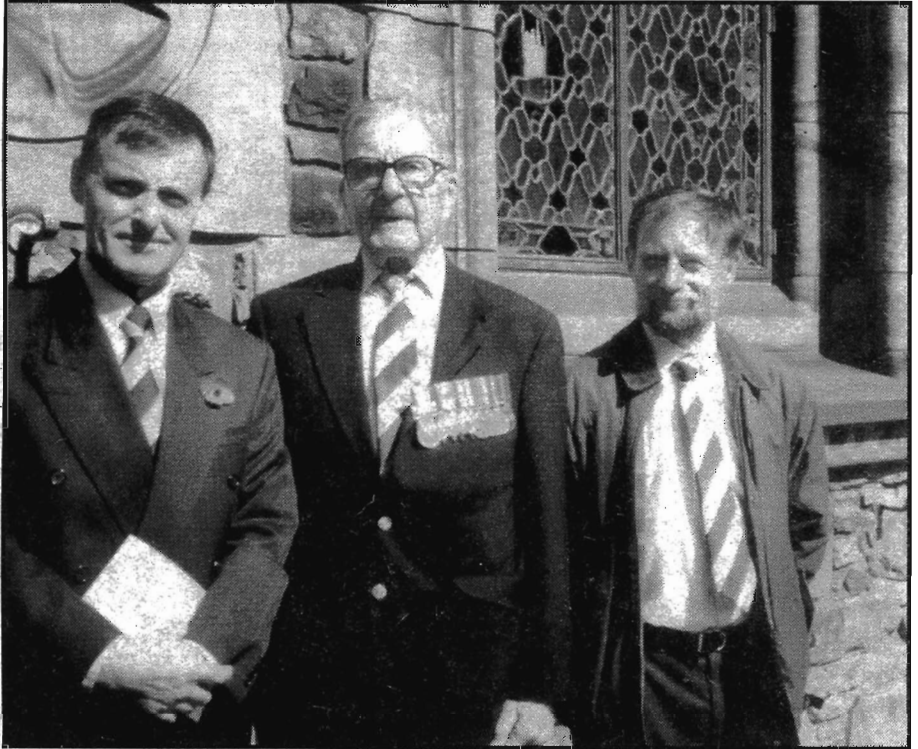


Madame Stocanne with on her right Mr Woods, The New Zealand Ambassador, after the laying of wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

There is at least one remaining French veteran of Gallipoli, Madame Stocanne's father, aged 105 who was President of the Association Nationale until 1987. The Treasurer, Jean-Claude Lis is the husband of one of the grand-daughters of General Georges Masnou who commanded the 1st Division of the French Expeditionary Corps in Gallipoli being mortally wounded near Morto Bay on 12 July 1915.

GALLIPOLI DAY CEREMONIES

Actually, the commemoration of Gallipoli Day and all that followed it in 1915, commenced two days early when three members of the Association - Lieutenant-Commander Ian Hamilton RN (Rtd), Ian Dowell and Gavin Richardson - were present at Edinburgh Castle on Friday 23 April and laid a wreath on behalf of the Association.



Gavin Richardson, Commander Ian Hamilton RN (Rtd), Alan Dowell (left to right) at Edinburgh Castle.

In London, Gallipoli Day, a fine one, after the drizzle of 1998, started when an even larger number of people, mostly young Australians and New Zealanders, gathered as dawn broke over Battersea Park. Here, following an emotional address by Rolf Harris, wreaths were laid at the RAAF Remembrance Stone.

Quite a number of those from Battersea then joined Association Members and friends in the short service before the Gallipoli Memorial in the Crypt of St Paul's. Following a introduction by the Reverend Canon John Halliburton wreaths were laid by the Chairman, Captain Christopher Fagan on behalf of Her Majesty's

Government, Major-General Evelyn J. Webb-Carter, OBE, Officer Commanding London District, Rear-Admiral Hugh Rickard, CBE, Senior Naval Officer, RCDS, His Excellency Mr Ozdem Sanberk, Turkish Ambassador, His Excellency Mr Philip Flood, AO, Australian High Commissioner, His Excellency The Rt Hon. Paul East, QC, New Zealand High Commissioner, Lieutenant-Colonel Fernand Metivier, Assistant Defence Attache, France. Commander Henry Brooke, MBE, DSC, RN (Rtd) laid a wreath on behalf of the Gallipoli Association and also spoke the words "They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old —" followed by the Turkish Ambassador who spoke those by Kemal Attaturk "Those English, French, Australian, New Zealand and Indian heroes who shed blood on the soil of this country —". The Last Post was sounded by a musician from the Band of the Welsh Guards.



Memorial plaque to General Sir Ian Hamilton, with single Poppy, close by the Gallipoli Memorial in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral on Gallipoli Day. David Saunders.

Less than an hour later we gathered in Whitehall in preparation for the parade and short service during which Fred Bunday laid the Gallipoli Association wreath at the Cenotaph. Then to Westminster Abbey which seemed to contain even more people than last year and where the sermon was given by The Reverend Tony Martin, Senior Chaplain, 20th Armoured Brigade. The Association Lunch was taken in a new venue as far as we are concerned, the Union Jack Club at Waterloo, where prior to Lunch a consignment of Anzac biscuits was enjoyed by all, and especially deserved by those who had been up since before dawn. Among the guests was Joe Vardy, 85 years young, a Sergeant with the 2nd Battalion The Hampshire Regiment who as a Bandsman in the Regimental Band played for the 29th Division Association's Reunion and March on Sunday 23 April 1939. The salute that day was taken by General Sir Ian Hamilton who after the parade made a point of talking to

the members of the Band as they took lunch in Lyon's Corner House, New Coventry Street.



Terry Lane-Smith MM, Mrs Charlotte Mitchell whose grandfather Captain Black-Hawkins was killed at The Farm, Sari Bair Ridge, 9 August 1915, and former Sergeant Joe Vardy of the 2nd Battalion The Hampshire Regiment at the Cenotaph. David Saunders

After lunch a magnificent Kutayah porcelain vase was presented to Vice President Jim Fallon by the Chairman Captain Christopher Fagan who also presented a bouquet to Clarice Fallon. In thanking them both, the Chairman emphasised the tremendous work accomplished by Jim Fallon when as our Public Relations Officer he was largely instrumental in the growth in our membership and for arranging a series of most memorable events for members. The vase is two feet high, with flowers hand-



Jim and Clarice Fallon receiving the Kutayah vase from Captain Christopher Fagan, Chairman of the Gallipoli Association. Major Hugh Jenner, Public Relations Officer on right. David Saunders.

painted reaching from top to bottom in glorious colours of blue, red and gold. Once again we have to thank Brigadier Tony Twiss and his wife Hermione in Ankara who decided on, and despatched the vase via the Turkish Embassy in London, all within three days.

Members of the Association attended other Gallipoli Day ceremonies at venues across the country. These included the most northerly, at Dallachy Strike Wing, Bogmoor, near the mouth of the River Spey in north-east Scotland, where Derek Smith laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. Here the memorial, in the shape of a Beaufighter's rudder, is for all who flew from Bogmoor between October 1944 and May 1945, and especially those numbering over 70 who did not return. These include men from no fewer than nine aircraft lost on 9 February 1945 (Black Friday) during a raid on Førde Fjord, Norway.

From Scotland to Wales, where in Chepstow members of the family of William Williams VC, one of the heroes of the landings from the *River Clyde* on 25 April 1915, joined the Royal Naval Association and the Royal British Legion at the memorial gun which stands in the centre of the border town. The gun, which comes from a German submarine was presented to the town by King George V in memory of Seaman Williams.



Now east, to Cambridge, where several members of the Association joined the congregation in the Church of St Andrew the Great for a Service organised by the Britain/Australia Society. One of these members, Norman Smith reports that sprigs of Rosemary were provided as they entered the Church, while after the Service everyone was invited to tea. Only after the event did we learn of the annual service at the grave of Sergeant Thomas Hunter 10th Battalion Australian Imperial Force who is buried in Broadway Cemetery, Peterborough. Sergeant Hunter had served at Gallipoli, later on the Western Front, dying in the City Infirmary, Peterborough from wounds received at Pozieres.



Relatives of Sergeant Thomas Hunter at his graveside at Peterborough. John Harvey.

Colin Hague, our member who regularly attends the service at Harefield, informs us how some 350 people crowded into the beautiful little 12th century parish church where an address was given by an Australian, the Reverend Tim Gadden of Battersea. Afterwards everyone moved to the section of the cemetery where 111 Anzacs are buried, many from wounds received at Gallipoli, and where as always local children laid flowers on every grave.

Finally to the south, to Shaftesbury where the Town Crier, Bob Scott was in the Australian Army and saw service in Malaya. Our member, John Freeman, who is also Vice President of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, ensures that a tribute is paid to those who fell at Gallipoli, these include his uncle Staff Sergeant Major George Freeman who is buried in Lancashire Landing Cemetery.

Thanks are due to all our correspondents for reports and photographs. We are always pleased to receive details of Gallipoli Day events, and since the publication of the Spring *Gallipolitan* have received information on two missing from the list, those in Peterborough as reported above and in Arbroath.

ANZAC DAY IN MALTA

JOHN MIZZI

The Anzac Day ceremony in Malta has been held annually since 1916 without any interruption, even during the Second World War when the island was under constant air attack. This year the ceremony was presided over by the President of Malta, Professor Guido de Marco, within days of his appointment.

Originally the wreath-laying took place at the War Memorial outside Valletta, but in recent years it has become a more private ceremony of prayer and thanksgiving at the military cemetery at Pieta where the dead of Gallipoli are buried. Malta has perhaps the largest number of the Gallipoli dead outside the Peninsula as it was the main hospital and convalescent centre. The island was a principle support base for the operations and the port of call for troopships and hospital ships. In all 28 hospitals were established and 2,500 officers and 55,400 other ranks were treated. Of the dead from the campaign 1,600 are from British regiments including Brigadier-Generals George Hodson CB, DSO and Noel Lee VD, 204 are Australian, 72 are New Zealanders together with French, Indians and Turks.

The Gallipoli Day ceremony is an ecumenical prayer service attended by the British High Commissioner, the Australian and New Zealand Consuls together with representatives of the Royal British Legion, the Armed Forces of Malta and many others. The line-up in front of the Cross of Remembrance by Scouts recalls the part played by boys in helping at the hospitals during the First World War.



The President of Malta at the wreath laying, Pieta Military Cemetery. John Mizzi.

ANZAC DAY IN MELBOURNE

RAY MARTIN

At 5 am in the early morning darkness of Anzac day in Melbourne, Australia, a procession of cars, and people on foot, could be seen making their way towards the Shrine of Remembrance, set on high ground, in a park just outside, but in view of the city centre. Their objective was the Dawn Service, and wreath laying ceremony of Anzac Day. By 6 am some two thousand people had gathered round the shrine, lit only by the Eternal Flame of Remembrance, which burns in front of the Cenotaph. A short service followed, with private, followed by official wreaths being laid. Meanwhile at the Victoria Barracks, across the road, a free gunfire breakfast was being served.

At 9 am the Commemoration March began from the city centre, led by Air Commodore K R Parsons. The columns made their way along the route to the Shrine Forecourt, where the Governor of Victoria, viewed the march from a dais. As they reached the Forecourt all marched to attention, and the Eternal Flame was saluted with an eyes right, and lowering of colours. For over three hours veterans of 136 Army units, 33 Navy, 39 RAAF, and 8 other units, from all over the State of Victoria, and representing its many ethnic minorities marched by. In the days leading up to the commemoration, there had been a controversy in the papers, as to whether the Serbs should be allowed to take part, and in one letter it was stated that Anzac Day was not commemorated in Britain. A letter to the paper soon corrected this misconception, and drew their attention to our Gallipoli Association. It was also accompanied on the same day, by a letter from the President of the Returned Servicemen's League, who also pointed out that this was not true. A welcome feature of the march was the number of young people who marched with their relatives, or in some cases, proudly wore the medals of those who had passed on. Amongst the large crowd watching, several grey haired anti republican ladies, handed out leaflets defending the monarchy, and proclaiming "Save our Flag". With the usual Australian friendliness an Admiral and Army Officer, stewarding the parade and recognising us from last year, came over and had a chat, enquiring as to how things were in the UK. The units on completing their march broke up, and groups of veterans gathered under the Eucalyptus trees, and beside the memorial to Simpson and his donkey, to relive old memories.

When the end of the column had arrived, there followed a short Commemoration Ceremony, with an address given by His Excellency the Governor of Victoria. Then the Anzac Requiem was read starting with the words.

"On this day above all days we recall those who served in war and who did not return to receive the grateful thanks of the nation. We remember those who still sleep where they were left – amid the holly scrub in the valleys, and on the ridges of Gallipoli – on the rocky and terraced hills of

Palestine, and in the lovely cemeteries of France.”

All then turned to face the Shrine and a Silent Tribute was made, broken by the Guard Commander's order, "Present Arms". The Last Post sounded, and all present repeated "Lest we Forget," followed by the Rouse. The Anzac Day commemorations drew to a close with the singing of the hymn, "God Save the Queen", followed by the Australian National Anthem. Those who had taken part in the march then set off to find one of the many Returned Servicemen's Clubs in Melbourne, and to slake their thirsts, whilst swapping old tales.



The Eternal Flame and Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne. Ray Martin.

EXCHANGE & WANTS

Have you any items of Gallipoli interest to dispose of? Photographs, badges, books, artefacts, indeed anything to do with the campaign? Is there something you require, that elusive book for instance? An obscure article published many years ago? Then why not send details to the Editor to include in *The Gallipolian*. You may be able to help another Member, or another Member may be able to help you.

ANZAC DAY BY HUGO HARDY

This letter by Hugo Hardy, aged eight, the grandson of Gallipoli Veteran Alec Campbell, aged 100, of Hobart, Tasmania was published in *The Australian*, 26 April 1999 and kindly sent to the Association by our member Elizabeth Sharp Paul.

"I think my great grandfather Alec Campbell is a real hero. He and his comrades fought bravely so that Australia can be a free country. The landing at Gallipoli was very difficult. They expected a beach but instead found a cliff face. They invented ghost guns from tin cans gradually filling with water. When they escaped in the night the guns went off and the Turks thought the Anzacs were still there. Today I rode with Alec in the Anzac parade. We went in a jeep and I was so proud of him. We saluted the Governor. All the crowds along the way clapped and cheered. The Lord Mayor and the Governor shook Alec's hand. After the march I went to the pub with Alec and his mates. I had raspberryyade but the others all had beer. A complete stranger came and said "Take a good look at those medals. You won't see those again."

He said this because Alec is unique, one of the last Gallipoli heroes. He is my great grandfather."



Alec Campbell, with his grandson Hugo Hardy, Anzac Day 1999. The Australian.

COLLINGWOOD DAY

Another year, another large gathering on the Downs to the east of Pimperne, near Blandford, Dorset, on 4 June to honour those who served in the Collingwood Battalion of the Royal Naval Division and especially those who did not return.

“Over the top on a bright summer’s day; a brilliant charge; capture of trenches; only to be followed by immediate defeat and slaughter. The Commanding Officer, Officers, Petty Officers and Men, all gallant fellows were wiped out in an hour. The Collingwood Battalion, Royal Naval Division was destroyed.”

Thus, the words of Stanley Geary, who was wounded that day and later wrote a short history of the Battalion at the Dardanelles, which are spoken at the memorial by Roy Adam who each year organises the ceremony.



Captain Richard Annand VC, whose father Lieutenant-Commander Wallace Moir Annand RNVR, Adjutant of the Collingwood Battalion fell on 4 June, together with the Chairman of North Dorset District Council, Mrs Della Jones, prior to the Service. Brian Moore.

Note: The Collingwood Memorial Service in 2000, the 50th to be held, will take place on Friday 2 June NOT Sunday 4 June. Mark this in your diaries now.



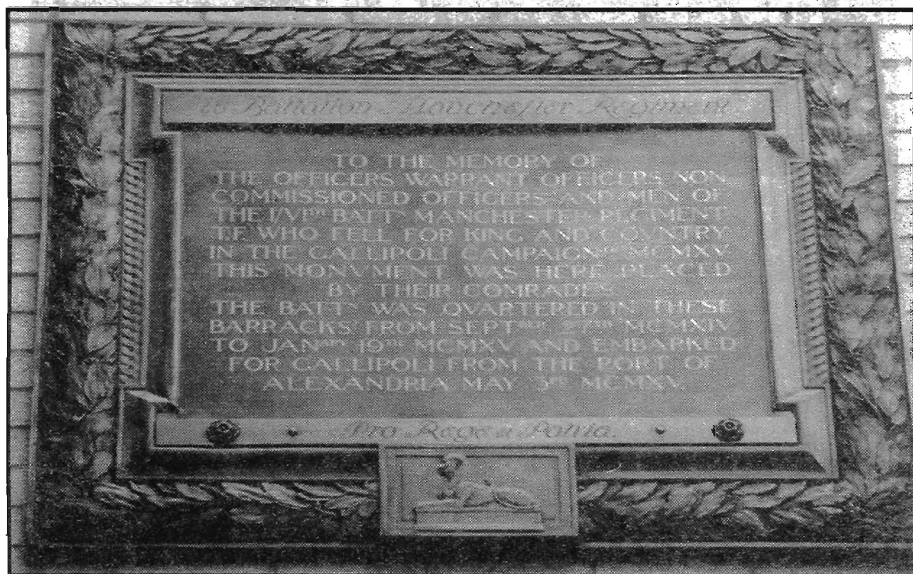
Norman Pollitt with the Gallipoli Association wreath. Peter Ford.

MANCHESTER REGIMENT GALLIPOLI EVENTS

The annual Gallipoli Dinner, in memory of the men of the seven battalions of the Manchesters who fought at Gallipoli, was held in the officers mess at Ardwick Green on 5 June. Forty members of the Regimental Association and guests, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Tameside, dined in the room, which would have been familiar to so many of those who were at Gallipoli.

On the following morning a short service was held at the cenotaph of the 8th (Ardwick) Battalion on the Green after which members of the Association and soldiers from the Volunteer battalion drove the short distance across Manchester to University Barracks. There they were joined by the High Sheriff of Greater Manchester, many friends of the Regiment, a Guard of Honour provided by the Army Cadets and members of the Great War Society.

University Barracks, the home of Manchester & Salford University OTC, was built four years ago replacing the original Drill Hall of the 6th Manchesters (TA). Before the original building was demolished the many memorials of the Battalion dating from the Boer War were carefully removed and refurbished. These were then built into the fabric of the new building. The purpose of this parade and service was the rededication of all the memorials from South Africa and the First World War, including the fine bronze memorial commemorating the 6th Battalion's activities at Gallipoli. This was originally installed in the Garrison church in Alexandria but fortunately recovered following the withdrawal of British troops from Egypt.



Following a welcome address by Captain Robert Bonner, Chairman of the Trustees of The Manchester Regiment, the Right Reverend Kenneth Riley, Dean of Manchester, carried out a service of rededication of all the memorials. Buglers from 1st Bn The King's Regiment sounded the Last Post and the Reveille. The service ended with the Regimental Collects, after which everyone adjourned to the Cadet's Mess, where an excellent military curry lunch was enjoyed.

THE GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION WEB SITE

ANDY MULLEN

The Gallipoli Association is now on the World Wide Web and can be reached at:

<http://www.gallipoli-association.org>

E-mails can be sent to:

webmaster@gallipoli-association.org

This is an important step in the ongoing promotion of the Association. Currently the content is rather modest, with the home page performing only a simple introduction but it's the start of a programme of work in which Association membership is encouraged to participate.

The Association has established a code of practice for web-site maintenance and development. This is very important in deciding how the site's objectives should be met which are themselves firmly in line with the Association's aims. A sub-committee has been established to "manage" the web-site content and will perform an editorial role for submissions and their approval. Actual content update and administration authority will be strictly password-controlled, via the Association's "webmaster", to ensure that pages continue to promote the Association appropriately. Maintenance and administration is currently entirely voluntary and although a wide variety of ideas for its development have already been considered, it is hoped that the membership accept that a selection process is required to prevent the site losing focus. The importance of an evolving site in line with web-users' expectations is well understood while the possibilities are enormous. However, a balance must be struck between possibility and the realities of manageability.

Members with ideas in concept form or completed projects should submit a synopsis clearly indicating estimates of work-to-complete required to establish the project online. Submissions should be sent to Major Hugh Jenner (see address inside front cover) while the editorial group will meet monthly and make selections according to benefits, resource availability and established policy. The web-site will operate as a separate medium and will not alter the status or importance of *The Gallipolian*. In fact, development of the two in partnership is essential and the Editor, David Saunders sits on the site's editorial group.

With the voluntary characteristics of the web-site in mind, it is hoped that members, especially those already familiar with the Internet, will actively contribute to its development. For those not already Internet connected, the following basic introduction covering the essentials needed may be helpful.

THE BARE NECESSITIES

The Internet is a collection of interconnected computers located all over the world and accessible by local telephone connections to Internet Service Providers (ISPs). The Internet contains a number of other facilities such as the World Wide Web which consists of an ever-increasing number of 'sites' available to the computer user. A site consists of a collection of 'pages' offering information and services about a set subject. To access the sites of the World Wide Web, you will need a computer, a modem connected to a telephone line, an internet connection, browser software and a 'host' service (from an ISP). Most computers and a standard telephone connection will be sufficient, and you can easily log on to one of the free ISPs to get some experience. Free browser software, such as Netscape Navigator or Internet Explorer is easily available too. The modem will cost money – about £50 to £100 as a separate item – and it pays to buy the fastest one available to keep the phone bills down and obtain reasonable performance.

FINDING A HOST SERVICE

Signing up to an ISP will provide you access to the Internet. On the Internet, use of your browser will enable you to examine sites all over the World Wide Web. E-mail facilities, provided again by easily obtainable software, will also enable you to communicate with other users. In choosing an ISP and host services, there are many options open to the user. It would be inappropriate to recommend any particular service but the easiest to experiment and try are the no-cost high-street retail web access services. They usually consist of free e-mail accounts and space to setup your own web-site. There are some drawbacks with the free services (e.g) performance constraints and a contractual commitment to allow others to advertise on your pages but their very existence is generally forcing pay-services to offer increasing additional benefits to the customer.

If you have queries about starting, I am willing to help (from a service-independent perspective). Assuming e-mail is not already available I can be contacted (evenings) on 01252 810001.

THE MEMBERS INTEREST DATABASE

The members interest database is also available for use by the membership. It will be maintained in accordance with the Data Protection Act and respects any members request for control of the information held. With the number of categories offered to members in the questionnaire, a large amount of information and knowledge is possessed. Coverage of the campaign is remarkable. All sorts of interesting statistics can be drawn but one of the most important was that of all serving British infantry

battalions, only the following received no specific references of interest (and it would be beneficial to see if we cannot actually obtain full coverage):-

Scottish Rifles (1/7th and 1/8th)
East Lancs (6th)
Essex (1/5th and 1/7th)
Lancashire Fusiliers (1/7th and 9th)
London Regt (1/11th)
Manchester Regt (1/6th, 1/9th and 11th)
South Lancs (6th)
Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders (1/5th)
Royal West Kents (2/4th)
Royal Scots Fusiliers (1/4th and 1/5th)
Royal Sussex (1/4th)
Royal Welsh Fusiliers (1/6th and 1/7th)
South Staffs (7th)
Welch Regt (1/5th and 8th)
Worcesters (4th)

If a member has a need to locate references to a unit, location, event, individual etc and wishes to determine who else might be recorded as possibly able to help then it is highly recommended to try the database. This can be searched on your behalf by request to Major Hugh Jenner (see inside front cover), who has kindly offered to facilitate requests.

SIMPSON PRIZE

Michael Robson, writing from Israel, has recently sent a newspaper report from Australia regarding The Simpson Prize. This was established by the Federal Government as a competition for Year 9 students to write a 1,000 word essay of the relevance of the Anzac spirit to contemporary Australia. Announced as the ACT winner of the Prize, 15 years old Eleanor Jenkin will visit Gallipoli with winners from the other states and territory. Eleanor, a student at Canberra Church of England Girls' Grammar School, entered the competition because it combined her love of English and history. Very appropriately the report included a picture of her stood next to the statue of Simpson and his donkey.

UNIQUE MEMORIAL

One of the more unusual memorials to a Gallipoli casualty, if not a unique, can be seen in the Royal Memorial Chapel at Sandhurst. Here, amongst the wealth of wall plaques and memorials, and perhaps easily overlooked by the un-observant, are three stair rods in memory of Major George Brooke of the 1st Battalion The Border Regiment, killed at Gallipoli on 28 April 1915.

The inscription reads:

In Loving Memory of

Top Rod

George Cecil Brooke

Centre Rod

Major 1st Bt The Border Regt killed Gallipoli 28 April 1915

Bottom Rod

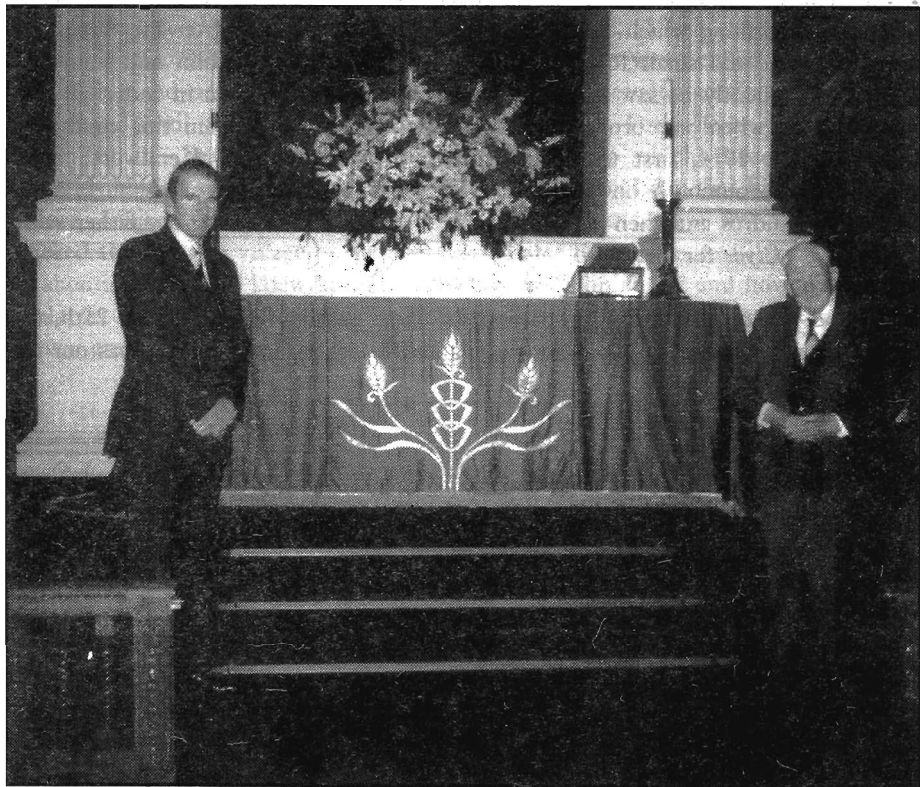
Major Brooke was the only son of Brigadier General Henry Francis Brooke of Brookeborough, Co. Fermanagh, who was killed during the Second Afghan War at Kandahar in August 1880, as he attempted to save the life of his staff Engineer Officer who had been seriously wounded outside the walls, while returning from a sortie against a village. Born in 1870 he was commissioned in 1890 and served with the Malakand Expedition of 1897 later in China, being present at the relief of Peking during the Boxer Rebellion. Subsequently he was seconded to the First Chinese Regiment as Adjutant based at Wei-hai-wei before returning to this country. In 1910 he was with The Border Regiment in South India and Burma from where they returned in 1914. As part of the 29th Division the 1st Battalion The Border Regiment sailed for the eastern Mediterranean in March 1915 and landed on 25 April at X Beach. That same day, when Major Charles Vaughan was killed, Major Brooke took over as Second in Command, a post which he held until he too fell, during the First Battle of Krithia on 28 April. That same day the Battalion lost three other officers killed and three wounded.

Major Brooke had married Barbara Allen in 1912 and their only child, a son, was born the following year. Early in the 1920's, Mrs Brooke wanted to make a presentation to the Chapel of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, as it was then known, from herself and her son in memory of her husband. The Chaplain, The Reverend Harry Blackburne, later Dean of Bristol, asked for some carpet rods, in order to prevent the carpet from slipping when officiating clergy were on the steps of the Sanctuary in front of the altar. Accordingly three oak rods were suitably inscribed as a memorial to her late husband.

Almost certainly present at the Dedication, which may have been in 1921, would have been her son, Henry Brooke, who subsequently decided not to follow his father and grandfather into the Army but instead chose a naval career. Commander Henry

Brooke MBE, DSC RN (Rtd) will be known to all those who attend Gallipoli Day and other functions. We are most grateful to him for drawing our attention to this memorial to his father and providing both the photograph and the information on which this article is based.

Group photographs of Border Regiment officers, including Major Brooke were published in *The Gallipolian* No.84 Autumn 1997 and No.86 Spring 1998.



Commander Henry Brooke MBE DSC (RN) Rtd and Colonel M.H.H.Brooke OBE, son and grandson of Major George Brooke.

AS TOLD TO A SON BY PRIVATE WILLIAM FALLOON 1ST BATTALION THE ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS

William Falloon (he dropped an "o" to become Fallon in later life) first saw the light of day 13 September 1890 in Newry Street, Kilkeel, Co. Down. His father, a fish dealer and the local horse doctor, dying when William was but four years of age meant a very harsh upbringing, there being no benefits office in those days where his mother might seek assistance. The one good thing that came from all this was that young William fell into the harbour of Kilkeel so often that he became a formidable swimmer, something which was to stand him in good stead in later life. Eventually Kilkeel became too small for him so he made his way to Dublin and joined the Army. Subsequently he saw service in Egypt and the Sudan then in India where he was stationed when war broke out. The Battalion arrived back in this country on Christmas Eve 1914, first to Torquay, later to Nuneaton and Kenilworth before sailing from Avonmouth on 16 March. So to Mex Camp near Alexandria before moving to Mudros and then Tenedos, with W Company including my father sailing on the *River Clyde* for Gallipoli.

At first all was quiet as they approached the shore on the morning of the 25th, then firing broke out, those who had not disarmed being of the opinion it was our men



giving the Turks a hot time. When William Falloon emerged from a sallyport with Sergeant Major Halligan, the sight that met their eyes was of unbelievable horror. The gangways were choked with casualties, landing barges were equally full, some on fire, while in the water some who had been shot and fallen into the water and others, who had jumped in to save themselves from the carnage all about, each held in his watery grave by the 90 pounds pack they were carrying.

Being old soldiers, and recognising that discretion is the better part of valour, they divested themselves of their packs, plunged into the water and swam for the shore. Here they managed to take cover and gather the necessities of equipment from around them and gave thanks to God for his deliverance. Later when the roll was called it became clear the Battalion had been decimated, officers were almost as few as trees in the Sahara and to add to the misery there was neither food or water. Indeed they did not receive food supplies until the afternoon of the 27th and were not relieved until sometime on the 28th. At about 2200 Turks began to arrive in the vicinity of the beach and the hand to hand fighting which ensued went on to daybreak the following morning. It was during this second day that his Commanding Officer, Major Cecil Grimshaw DSO was killed, just a few feet away, as they attacked through the village of Sedd-el-Bahr. Later he used to recall that, despite all his shouting, the men knew him affectionately as "Johnnie G" and how they said he would die "shouting and bawling" which is exactly what happened as he urged them to even greater efforts among the shattered buildings.

The rest of this sad tale can only be told in the light of incidents like the occasion when in hand to hand fighting a Turk managed to hit William in the mouth with his rifle, smashing his top teeth. While on a carrying party fatigue a shell burst killed the man he was carrying while all he suffered was a slight wound to the left hand and concussion. Apparently he wandered round in a dazed state until he was picked up by a French patrol and returned to the Fusiliers by which time he had been reported as "Missing believed killed." Another time he saw this soldier sitting on a rock with his rifle upright between his knees, getting no reply to his hail he sneaked over to the man and put his hand on him to claim attention, the soldier fell over, he had been dead sometime.

William Falloon always praised the courage of his Turkish opponents. Following an attack a Turk lay in front of their trench, the Dubliner's compassion was so great for this brave soldier that they contrived to drag him to safety, dressed his wounds gave him water and food then sent him back to his own lines. Several days later a wounded Turk lay in front of their trench, who when dragged to safety proved to be the same fellow from the previous incident. He was again accorded the hospitality of the Dubliners and sent on his way never to be seen again. On another occasion, after a shell burst, a Turk was seen to stagger, fall, then get up again and return running to his line despite the explosion having removed both his feet.

Water shortage was always a problem, at times a chronic one, so much so that men were often reduced to urinating in their water bottles. Bullybeef was by contrast to be had in boundless amounts, but what they would have done for an orange. The empty beef tins with a few stones in them were strung in No Man's Land to give warning of night-time marauders. Snipers were a particular menace and could remove a finger unwittingly exposed. William Falloon said he could come to terms with the conditions at Gallipoli, even the flies and lice, but the rats which infested the trenches were his big hate.

A young Lieutenant who came with reinforcements asked what time the firing stopped at night, the reply was of course "Never!". The Lieutenant then blew his brains out. There was the tragic case of a man whom William claimed, was one of the bravest men in the Regiment. An attack was ordered and he refused to go forward, instead cowered at the bottom of a trench, he was suffering from what was later called "Battle Fatigue." He was court-martialled, the charge cowardice in the face of the enemy and ordered to be shot. The firing party was told off and the man brought out before them, the order was given to fire and they aimed above his head. The Lieutenant in charge then stepped forward and administered the coup de grace with his revolver.**

He used to say the Army charged relatives of soldiers who lost their lives one pound for the blanket used as a shroud at burial, claiming the same blanket was used on more than one occasion. Blankets were often used to screen vulnerable areas of the trenches from the keen eyes of Turkish snipers, so giving their occupants a little more safety.

Once he was briefly taken prisoner, but released as the Turkish positions were overrun during a counter attack. Gangrene began to affect several fingers in his left hand which necessitated their amputation at the first joint, subsequently at the second, this resulted in him leaving the Peninsula for home on 18 June 1915. Later he was to serve in Salonica with the Royal Irish Fusiliers, and again was invalided home, this time not being expected to complete the voyage. Fortunately he did otherwise I would not be here to bring you his story! He was eventually discharged in August 1918 as "Ceasing to fulfill medical requirements."

William Falloon died in August 1955 of "General Delibity" having never fully recovered from his Gallipoli experiences. In the night he would often start shouting in his sleep and thrashing around, bathed in sweat, and it took some time to bring him to his senses. The nightmare always took the same form, the Turks stood on the parapet looking down upon him and he was powerless to oppose them.

He was mostly reluctant to talk about of his experiences, but as a blood-thirsty schoolboy I learned how to lead him on to the subject when we were alone. I was rather sceptical of the authenticity of these "tales" as I used to view them at first,

though I was greatly entertained by them. I realised later that the tale never differed from the last telling and as Anzac Day came near he would become agitated. He was a man who I think never knew fear but somewhere within himself knew there was something which only death could overcome.



William Falloon, the right marker Armistice Day Parade 1947 in Selby.

That then is the story of my Dad. I have put it down as a faithful record of his reminiscences. I am now almost 73, but these things are still clearly etched in my memory. I give them to you for what they are worth. Firstly in thanks to you and your Association in perpetuating the memory of these men and secondly that these lines may help others to appreciate the torture and turmoil these soldiers went through so that we can live in the freedom we enjoy today.

T.Fallon, 29 St Nicholas Street, Castleford, WF10 4EN

**** Gerard Oram in *Death Sentences passed by Military Courts of the British Army 1914-1918* does not list anyone from the 1 Royal Dublin Fusiliers as being executed, or indeed court-martialled at Gallipoli, but a soldier from the 1 Royal Munster Fusiliers was shot for quitting his post. This is probably the incident William Falloon remembered for the two Regiments were temporarily amalgamated, so reduced in numbers were they following the landings.**

THE ZION MULETEERS OF GALLIPOLI

MARTIN SUGARMAN

March 1915 saw the formation of the Zion Mule Corps as a unit in the British Army. It was the first independent Jewish fighting force to take an active part in a war since the destruction of the Temple by the Romans 2000 years ago. It marks a momentous point in Jewish history; many of the men later formed what was to become the core of the modern Israeli army. General Sir Ian Hamilton, C-in-C of the Anglo-French Expeditionary Force in the Dardanelles, was later to write (27 August 1915) in his diary, "I have here, fighting under my orders, a purely Jewish unit – the Zion Mule Corps. As far as I know, this is the first time in the Christian era such a thing has happened. They have shown great courage taking supplies up to the line under heavy fire" and proved "invaluable to us" (published in the American Yiddish newspaper *Der Tag – The Day* – 7 August 1917).

The commander of the Zion Mule Corps was Lieutenant-Colonel John Henry Patterson DSO, a tall, elegant and experienced Boer war veteran of Southern Irish Protestant origin, born in Dublin in 1867. He was very knowledgeable of, and sympathetic towards, the Zionist cause in particular, and Jewish history in general and as a young man had read and devoured all that was to be known of Jewish military and religious history from the Bible. His main claim to fame however were



J. Henry Patterson, about 1901 during the Boer War.

his big-game hunting skills and his best selling book *The Man-eaters of Tsavo* published in 1907. He arrived in Egypt early in 1915 when the British Commander in the area, General Sir John Maxwell, was looking for a suitable officer to raise and command a Jewish military unit to fight against the Turks in the Middle East.

In Alexandria were perhaps 11,000 Jewish refugees, many Russian speaking, who had fled or been expelled from Palestine by Turkey and were being cared for by the Egyptian Jewish community in barracks at Gabbari and Mafruza, under the watchful eye of Mr Hornblower, Inspector of Refugees with the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior. Many wished to put themselves at England's disposal to liberate Palestine from Turkish rule and so take a step towards the dream of a reborn Jewish Homeland.

On the evening of 23 February 1915 a Jewish committee of eight had met at the house of a Mr Mordechai Margolin or Margolis in Alexandria. They included the noted Zionist leaders Ze'ev Jabotinsky and Joseph Trumpeldor (see *The Gallipolian* No 87 Autumn 1998.) These two veterans had already met beforehand and they put their plan about the raising of a Jewish Legion to the committee, who voted for it by a five to two majority, one member abstaining. On 2 March, in a dim hall – a converted stable – of the Mafruza barracks, about two hundred Jews met to discuss the plan. By the end of the evening, one hundred signatures had been put on a piece of paper torn from an exercise book, on which was written a seven line resolution in Hebrew.

The British believed it would benefit the war effort morally and materially to have bound up with them a Jewish fighting unit; materially because the myth of Jewish financial wealth was still deep-rooted in the genteel circles of British upper-class anti-Semitism; morally because there were millions of Christian Zionists world wide who supported the idea of helping the Jews reclaim their ancient homeland. The committee plus representatives of the volunteers then went to Cairo to see the War Office Minister responsible, Ronald Graham, who was sympathetic but told them they had to see the British Commander in Egypt, General Maxwell. But when the Jewish delegation, led by Jabotinsky, went to see Maxwell on 5 March he said he was unable (under the Army Act) to enlist them as fighting troops as they were foreign nationals. He could only form them into a volunteer transport Mule Corps though they would be fully trained for combat. To begin with they were called "The Assyrian Jewish Refugee Mule Corps"! It was further known that whilst aliens could be enlisted into the British Army, the Act forbade their numbers exceeding 2% of any Army Corps to which they were attached.

The delegation left and later at an all night meeting the civilians, including Jabotinsky, rejected the proposal. But Trumpeldor did not. With three other members he called another meeting at Mafruza and the volunteers agreed to go ahead. They were addressed by Hornblower, and a Capt. Holdich spoke for Gen. Maxwell, with a Mr Gordon acting as Hebrew interpreter. It would be the first time

in British history that non-Britons or non-colonials were to be admitted as a unit into the British forces.

On 19 March Patterson, backed by his friend and fellow officer Major-General Alexander Godley, was appointed commander of the new force he was to recruit, with Trumpeldor as Second-in-Command, and they left Cairo for Alexandria where all the Jewish refugees were living, setting up Headquarters at 14 Rue Sesostris. With the help of leading members of the Jewish community – especially the Grand Rabbi Professor Raphael de la Pergola – and with an emotional telegram of encouragement from Israel Zangwill the noted author and British Zionist leader (who later described Patterson in the *Jewish Chronicle* 28 August 1915 “as the soul of chivalry and gentleness”) – he swore in the volunteers at Gabbari, just outside Alexandria, on 23 March with the Grand Rabbi officiating at the oath taking ceremony. The Rabbi referred movingly to Patterson as another Moses who would lead the Children of Israel again out of Egypt back to the Promised Land. He also took the opportunity to distribute a booklet to the volunteers listing the favours bestowed by the British Government and bid them all to be good soldiers; it also contained rules for behaviour towards officers and apt quotations from the Bible (Lipovetsky 1953).

The *Jewish Chronicle* reported that Zangwill’s telegram had read “Welcome omen for their happy return to Palestine”. But on reading this, Zangwill wrote to the *Chronicle* on 7 May denying this wording and said his “telegram had been toned down by the local military censor” but that Colonel Patterson had said to the assembled troops, “Pray with me that I should not only, as Moses, behold Canaan from afar, but be divinely permitted to lead you into the Promised Land”.

Some Jews had been against the forming of a mule corps and refused to join, complaining it was demeaning for them to enter the arena of Allied armies as a “donkey battalion”. But Trumpeldor argued, “We’ve got to smash the Turk. On which front you begin is a question of tactics. Any front leads to Zion”. Further, Patterson told the men that the soldier who carries ammunition and supplies to the trenches requires no less courage than the man who fires a rifle. These views prevailed and hundreds, including many Egyptian Jews, volunteered.

The Russian Consul in Alexandria, Petrov, used his influence to try and force the Egyptian and British authorities to insist that the Russian Jews in fact be sent back – much against their will – to Russia and enlist in the Russian army. But the Grand Rabbi used his own contacts to foil this.

The sanctioned strength of the Corps (which was officially designated a Colonial Corps of the EEF – Egyptian Expeditionary Force) was only allowed to reach 737 men all of whose names may be found in *The British Jewry Book of Honour*. In addition they were allocated twenty horses for officers and NCO’s, and 750 pack mules, purchased in Alexandria. Special wooden carriers to fit the pack saddles were

designed and made locally to carry four gallon water cans – also made locally – in groups of four. There were five British and eight Jewish officers and the Grand Rabbi was named as Honorary Chaplain.

Patterson's most famous Jewish officer was Captain Joseph Trumpeldor seen below, born in Piatigorsk in the Caucasus in 1880. He had already lost his left arm as an officer in the Russian army at the siege of Port Arthur in the Russo-Japanese war, where he had received the Gold Order of St George no less than four times by the Czar for gallantry and had been a prisoner later of the Japanese. He was the *only* Jewish officer permitted in the Czar's army! A Socialist lawyer and vegetarian, he was tall, powerful, fearless and Nordic looking and been a kibbutz farmer on the shores of the Sea of Galilee until forced into exile in 1914. Patterson described him as "the bravest man I ever knew". He frequently deliberately exposed himself to Turkish gunfire – often on horseback – as an example to his men. Numerous testimonies to Trumpeldor's utter fearlessness and courage are found throughout chapter 7 of Lipovetsky's book (1953), see also Robson (1998).

Many of the other soldiers were educated and professional people – students, teachers, lawyers, etc and included Dr Meshulam Levontin who became the commander of the medical unit, the only Palestinian Jewish doctor officer allowed to serve in the First World War (Hurwich 1998). The Corps consisted of four troops, each with two officers; each troop with four sections with a sergeant; and each section was split into sub-sections with a corporal in charge.



Joseph Trumpeldor.

They were given a site at Wardian outside Alexandria where they pitched their tents on 2 April. Patterson wrote, "never since the days of Judah Maccabee had such sights and sounds been seen and heard in a military camp – with the drilling of uniformed soldiers in the Hebrew language" (in fact, Yiddish was also used as 75% of the men were of Russian origin and Yiddish was a lingua franca for them). Their badge consisted of the Magen David – Shield of David (there is some doubt as to whether this was ever issued, but in an interview with the *Jewish Chronicle* on 24 March 1916 Patterson says he and the men wore the badge and that "sometimes I would meet a General who would be puzzled out of his life by the Magen David but naturally would not care to admit his ignorance. When he found out what it meant, he would say "Oh yes! I know – and very good work your Corps has done too" The Corps also made a blue and white Zionist/Israeli flag to fly alongside the Union Jack. Though a mule corps. they were all equipped with rifles, bayonets and ammunition, as they were expected to be a fighting unit as well, the rifles having been captured from the Turks at the Suez Canal.

Intense training went on from dawn till dusk for three weeks as they were under orders to sail for Gallipoli. Their job was to supply the front line troops with food, water and ammunition. The newly appointed C-in-C of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, General Sir Ian Hamilton, carried out a spot inspection and was delighted with the workman-like appearance of the Corps after such an unbelievably short time of training. At Pesach (Passover), Patterson, known to his men as the “Collon-el”, fought unfriendly attitudes in high places to get his men Kosher food and Matza (unleavened bread) for the Passover meal celebrations, in which he fully participated. After Pesach, the Corps paraded and marched three miles to the Great Synagogue in Alexandria where they were blessed in an emotional ceremony by the Grand Rabbi and cheered by the local population. The Corps then sailed on two ships, HMT *Hymettus* and HMT *Anglo-Egyptian* on 17 April from Alexandria singing *Hatikvah*, the Jewish and later Israeli anthem, to Lemnos, where they arrived on the 20th. In the harbour they astonished many of the English soldiers by chatting freely in Russian with the sailors of the Russian cruiser *Askold*.

At Lemnos, Patterson was informed, under protest, that the Corps was to be divided into two, the *Hymettus* group (about 300) to accompany the 29th Division, and the remainder with the ANZAC Division. Patterson foresaw what would happen. The ANZAC group – unused to soldiering and mismanaged by strange officers – not in his care, became demoralised and after three weeks were returned to Egypt. The remaining men were transferred to the *Dundrennon*, after the *Anglo-Egyptian* had run aground and sailed for Cape Helles.

On the morning of 25 April they approached the Peninsula, hearing clearly the dull roar of battle before landing at V beach the following evening. It took them three days to unload in the badly organised shuttle of lighters going to and from the shore. By this time the Corps was badly needed to take up supplies to the front line trenches and once ashore went straight to work under intense enemy fire. Two hundred mules were ordered to take water and ammunition to W beach with Patterson, whilst the remainder finished unloading at V beach, under heavy fire. From W beach the Corps worked all night and through the next day taking supplies up to the front. Often at night, the men and animals walked unknowingly into No Mans Land being shot at by both sides in the confusion.. Finally, by the following dawn, they were stood down, utterly exhausted, and miraculously with only a few wounded men and mules!

In an interview with Patterson in the *Jewish Chronicle* 10 September 1915, whilst recruiting in Alexandria, he recalled how at the landing; “These brave lads who had never seen shellfire before most competently unloaded the boats and handled the mules whilst shells were bursting in close proximity to them.....nor were they in any way discouraged when they had to plod their way to Seddul Bahr, walking over dead bodies while the bullets flew around them.....for two days and two nights we marched....thanks to the Zion Mule Corps the 29th Division did not meet with a sad

fate, for the Zion Mule Corps were the only Army Service Corps in that part of Gallipoli at that time”.

In a gully near the front, they made their first camp and mule lines. By an amazing stroke of luck, Sergeant Farrier Leib Schoub discovered a hidden well in the corner of a demolished Turkish farm house, thus solving the problem of water for the mules. Whilst some slept, parties of men and mules took turns bringing up forage, water and ammunition from the beaches to the front all through the day and following night. The Corps were the only transport available and were constantly at work.

In one strange incident on V beach, a Zion Mule Corps soldier had been left guarding the baggage when he became an object of suspicion by some of the French soldiers who were there. He could speak only Russian or Hebrew, which must have sounded like Turkish to the French, and as he had a captured Turkish rifle and bayonet he was taken for a spy, court martialled and condemned to be shot. He was about to be executed against the wall of a nearby ruin, when the Zion Mule Corps Sergeant in charge realised what was happening. He could speak French, and so a tragedy was averted.

That night, the Corps slept like logs, so much so that one man awoke next day to find he had been shot through the leg, and had not even woken up. On the night of 1 May, a Turkish shell landed near the mules and 40 galloped off into the darkness. However, it saved the situation because Turkish soldiers had been creeping forward in three waves for a night onslaught. The terrified mules with clanking chains, some wounded, careered into the Turks, who took them for charging cavalry. They opened fire, thus giving away their positions the British replied and the attack failed. On 5 May near Krithia, Private M. Grouchkowsky distinguished himself greatly by preventing a number of mules from stampeding during another attack, exposing himself fearlessly to the Turkish fire. Although having been shot through both arms, he kept hold of his mules and delivered his ammunition to the trenches. He was decorated for gallantry in the field with the DCM, and promoted to Corporal.

A strange incident involved an English soldier Sergeant James Matin. Badly wounded in the leg he was carried to a field hospital where doctors found his shin bone splintered. But a graft was hastily made from the bone of a dead ZMC mule, and his leg was saved.

Although officially forbidden, the Zion Mule Corps took part a few days later in a charge with the



M. Grouchkowsky DCM.

Inniskilling Fusiliers, against the Turkish trenches. Reaching their lines with supplies, they saw the Inniskillings had been reduced in numbers by many casualties. So, they joined them in the charge, led by Corporal Elie Hildesheim.

Another story related how the men refused to unload sides of bacon from the jetty until the Grand Rabbi granted dispensation. This he did, as well as allowing them to eat it if necessary. They then applied unsuccessfully for their rejected unkosher rations! Later, a New Zealand officer wrote how it always amused the troops to see the Jews of the Zion Mule Corps returning to their cookhouse with little bags of bacon!

Lieutenant Arthur Behrend, a Jewish officer serving with the 4th Battalion East Lancashire regiment, wrote in his diary (Behrend 1961) how, on 10 May, he was sent to enlist the help of the Zion Mule Corps; "...I found the Mule Corps in an open meadow. With much saluting I was taken to the C.O., Colonel Patterson....and he handed over a corporal, six men and fourteen mules. 'Take great care of my men and don't expose them', he said as he wished me goodbye. 'The mules don't matter so much because they can be replaced more easily'. I returned to our lines followed by the stolid Zionists and the equally stolid mules, and handed all over to our astonished Transport sergeant...half an hour later I strolled across to see how they were getting on and found them all sitting round a big fire with our own transport section, a dixie of tea boiling merrily in the middle. East Lancashire Arabic quickly became the lingua franca because our men had picked up a number of Arabic words in Egypt; equally quickly too the Zionists won respect and affection because despite their over fondness for saluting, they showed a curious disregard for shell fire".

On 11 May, the Zion Mule Corps moved to a new bivouac two miles inland which became their base for the next seven months. During intense shelling on the 20th, the Turkish guns, now well ranged in after trench war had been established, seriously wounded several more men and killed a dozen horses and mules. Arthur Behrend wrote that on the 23rd, as the padre arrived to take a service in his lines, a Turkish shell landed, dispersing the congregation. The only soldier who did not move was a Zion Mule Corps man grooming his mule; sadly, a second shell killed him as the mule ran off. According to Colonel Patterson's list of casualties this was probably Pte Katznelsohn, whose death in action is given as the 30th, just seven days later.

Around this time, following fighting near The Nek, reports reached ANZAC HQ that Indian troops with the Allies had been mistaken for Turks. The shout, "Don't shoot – Indian Troops!", had been used as a ruse by Turkish skirmishers raiding Allied trenches. It was believed for a short while that Turkish agents were operating behind Allied lines and the Zion Mule Corps came under suspicion, so much so that steps were arranged to withdraw them. However, it transpired that nervous Australian sentries were to blame and the matter died down (Bean 1921).

Through May, June and July the Zion Mule Corps doggedly continued its

dangerous and important work in the ever deteriorating situation at Gallipoli, Patterson receiving dozens of letters from senior officers testifying to the excellent and fearless work of his men. Their courage even reached the ears of the Turkish Commander in Palestine, Djemal Pasha, who was very indignant that a unit of Palestinian Jews were fighting against the Turks in Gallipoli. On 4/5 June they performed particularly distinguished service, taking up ammunition and evacuating wounded during the Third Battle of Krithia.



Lancashire Landing Cemetery as is the illustration on page 47. Martin Sugarman.

Trumpeldor himself was wounded in the shoulder but refused to be evacuated. This is not surprising as he was often seen in the midst of shell and rifle fire, quietly writing his letters to his friends as the raw material for the history of the Corps (Lipovetsky 1953). Private Nissel Rosenberg, under intense fire, brought his supply mules through to the front line when many other reinforcing troops were retreating. He was recommended for the DCM for bravery in the field and promoted to Sergeant, but received a Mention in Despatches (announced 8 August), as did Lieutenant. C.J. Rolo. Sgt. Mayer Erchkovitz received the DCM for bravery in action as well as being Mentioned in Despatches (7 January 1916).

By the end of July, owing to casualties and illness, the Zion Mule Corps was down to less than half its original strength. The intense heat and plagues of flies were almost as effective as Turkish shelling in creating casualties so Patterson was ordered to Alexandria to recruit two fresh troops.

A considerable stir had been created throughout the Jewish world in particular, about the raising of the Zion Mule Corps and its courage in Gallipoli. However, they did not get their first mention in the *Jewish Chronicle* till 9 April 1915 when it stated, somewhat surprised, that a "Jewish Volunteer Force was in existence in Alexandria among the Jewish refugees from Palestine"; this was followed by a much longer feature article about the Corps on 30 April

Pte Aaron Ben Joseph (probably 434 Pte Aron Jouseff in the nominal roll of the Zion Mule Corps on page 515 in *The British Jewry Book of Honour*) was born in 1878 in Baku, South Russia and spoke Persian and Turkish as well as English. He had fought as a sharpshooter in the Russian army against Japan and then emigrated to Palestine. In A B Levy's book *East End Story* (1948), he tells how he married and had a carpet business in Jerusalem but when war began his shop was looted by the Turks and he fled to Alexandria via Jaffa on an American ship (he never saw his wife again). Here he joined the Zion Mule Corps and describes at Gallipoli "the masses of killed and wounded, dysentery and malaria, the scant food, mostly biscuits. It is summer time and I am lying there, swollen from hunger and lousy, lying among the dead. The Indian troops came to bury us with their shovels. I am weak and am half buried before I manage to say something in Persian. They take me out and give me milk; take me to a hospital ship and then to Lemnos and Alexandria. I get malaria even till now. At Alexandria I get discharge papers and come to England on a ship. In 1916, I enlist again in the RAMC and the Labour Corps and go to Belgium and France. I help the Royal Engineers as I am an expert engineer especially in water. I am discharged because of malaria and neurasthenia".

On 4 June the *Jewish Chronicle* reported that Lance Sergeant Harry Schoenthal, a Jewish soldier with the 29th Cycle Company serving in Gallipoli, wrote to his father in London that "there is something still more interesting, because there is a Jewish battalion here with us.....they do not come from home. Have not had a chance to get to speak to anyone of them yet....it is splendid to see so many Jews serving here".

On 18 June, a Jewish naval officer who was a manager of the Oxford and St. George Jewish Youth Club in Stepney wrote to his Club Leader, Sir Basil Henriques, that he had heard Yiddish being spoken in the trenches at Gallipoli. On investigation he discovered the Zion Mule Corps. They could not believe he was a British Jewish Naval Officer, so he showed them his Club badge which he always carried. They were flabbergasted and gave him a captured Turkish bayonet as a parting gift which he claimed as "the Club's property as it was obtained by means of the Club badge". Later, wrote the officer, he asked some English officers about the ZMC. They said "they were most excellent fellows and though they were nearly all merchants and shopkeepers in private life and had no experience of outdoor life, yet they made splendid soldiers and had suffered many losses".

Yet again on 23 July a young engineer from Headingley attached to the Royal Naval

Division was reported in the *Yorkshire Evening Post* as having, “met on landing a party of Russian Jews from Palestine who lent us their mules for transport and carried out some wonderful but unostentatious work for us at the Gaba Tepe landing”.

On the 25 July, Patterson, Trumpeldor and Groushkowsky sailed for Egypt to recruit a new company for the Zion Mule Corps as Hamilton had announced his readiness to expand it. At a meeting in the Cairo main synagogue, 150 new recruits were raised as the “Cairo Troops” having had the oath read to them in Hebrew, Arabic and French by the Rabbi as they raised their hands and repeated the words after him. However, this time they were more careful as to who was picked (Lipovetsky 1953). On 21 August, in the synagogue at Rue Nabi Daniel, a scroll of the Law was presented to the new recruits to take to Gallipoli. Three troopers rose to accept the Scroll from the Grand Rabbi as he said, “May this scroll of the Torah which has guarded us for thousands of years preserve and bring you back home safely. May our common cause triumph and may it hasten the day of universal peace”. The congregants with much feeling replied, “Amen!”.

The *Jewish Chronicle* on 20 August, reported that Israel Zangwill had been in close correspondence with Colonel Patterson and that an emissary from Egypt had been introduced by Zangwill to Major General Sir Alfred Turner at the War Office with funds to recruit Jews from various countries into the Zion Mule Corps, especially from Italy. Sadly the War Office did not facilitate the idea and the young Jews were taken to join the Italian army instead.

On returning to Gallipoli, Patterson found that 2nd Lieutenant Alex Gorodissky had died of illness on 11 August (Gareipy 1996 claims 11 September). He had been promoted from the ranks since his enlistment as a private on 23 March and he was a grave loss to the Corps. An only son of a widowed mother, he had been a railway engineer and mathematics teacher at the Lycee in Alexandria and had turned down a senior engineering post to fight – and die – in Gallipoli. Corporal Zalman Cogan, writing from a hospital in England on 11 November, said, “he had been an officer and at the same time best friend of all the soldiers. Owing to his knowledge of English he was the intermediary between us and the Colonel....I never heard from him one complaint...an honest and just man...we have lost one of the best men of the Corps...promoted in the field to Lieutenant.”

Earlier, on 6 August, Sergeant S I Luck had written to his father at 164 Commercial Road, Whitechapel, from the 1st Australian Base Hospital in Gallipoli of “patients reaching us from the Zion Mule Corps...the censorship officer asked “why the devil don’t these men use the English language? How can I censor this rubbish?” But he was only telling his dear wife away in Russia that he was sick. “It’s either TB or malaria” he coolly explained ...it became rather ludicrous when German is the only language the patient can understand....one spoke Arabic, his bullet was extricated and wrapped neatly in a piece of bandage, he hung it from his wrist. “Would you

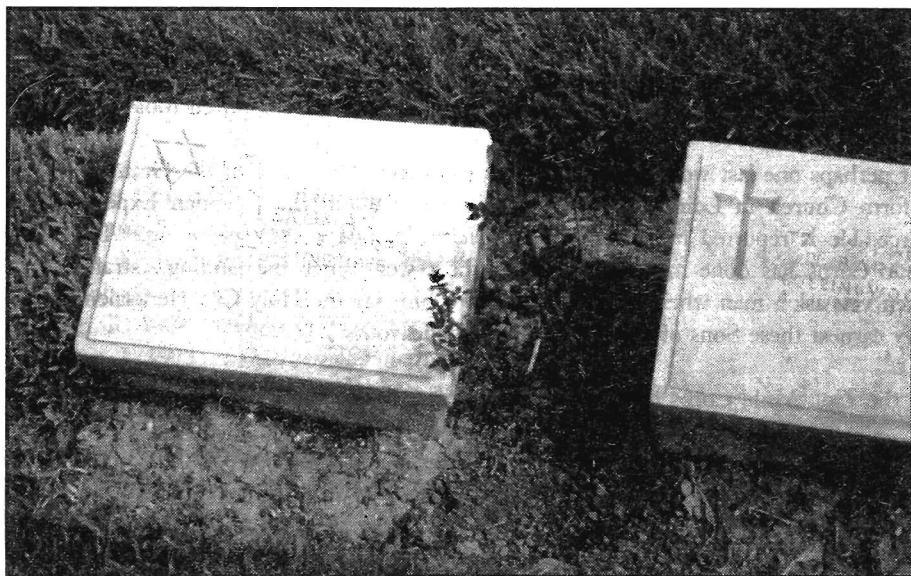
like to go back and fight those Germans and Turks?" I asked. "Certainly, as soon as I get well. Have I not got all my friends there?" And the man lived in Turkey and spoke German. The irony of fate. But who knows, perhaps the last two factors were the cause of his enlistment in the first place!"

By the start of September, there was a lull in the shelling as the Turks appeared to run out of heavy ammunition. Dancing and singing around the camp fire became possible, with songs in Hebrew and Russian, but always ending with God Save The King and the Hatikvah. Deep communication trenches had been dug and the Corps could actually ride their mules up to the front. They were dubbed the "Allied Cavalry". Patterson also related the story of how, whilst excavating a dugout for the coming winter in October, the men found a slab of marble with a huge Star of David carved on it. They immediately erected it as a talisman and in fact the dugout was never hit by a shell the whole time they spent there, even though shells fell all around them.

On 29 November Patterson had to be evacuated ill, to Alexandria, and thence to London where he arrived on Boxing Day. Trumpeldor took over command and on 19 December was wounded in the left shoulder by a rifle bullet. He refused to be evacuated and stayed until the Zion Mule Corps was disbanded when in December, they were down to five British and two Jewish officers and 126 men. The order for disbandment had come on 28 December the last parade having been held on the 21st with Trumpeldor addressing the men in Hebrew (Lipovetsky 1953). In January 1916, the Gallipoli peninsula was evacuated and the Jewish muleteers paid formal tribute to their 14 dead comrades, Sergeant. H L Gordon leading the prayers at the graves. Then they slashed the throats of their mules, about 100 having previously been killed in action, and left.

Taken to Alexandria, Egypt the men of the Zion Mule Corps were told they were to be ordered to Ireland to help quell the revolt there. To a man, they refused, saying they enlisted to fight the Turks, not Irish patriots. So on 26 May 1916 the Corps was disbanded. Most of those of the Corps who died (sixty were wounded) were later the first Jews to be buried in the tranquil British War Cemetery on Mt Scopus in Jerusalem, the Star of David on their tombs testifying to their role as the precursors of the Israeli Army. At least two, however, are buried at Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Gallipoli - Pte Y. Rotman and Pte Bergman, while Bardin, Halimi, Kirshner, Wertheimer and Zaoui died of wounds, and are buried in, Alexandria, Chatby Jewish Commonwealth War Graves cemetery.

General Hamilton in his diary (Hamilton 1920) had written on 7 April 1915 "the Corps may serve as ground bait to entice the big Jew journalists and bankers to our cause; the former will lend us colour, the latter the coin". With the experience of seeing them on the Peninsula behind him he wrote to Jabotinsky on 17 November from his home at 1 Hyde Park Gardens, "The men have done extremely well, working their mules calmly under heavy shell and rifle fire, and thus showing a more



difficult type of bravery than the men who were constantly in the trenches and had the excitement of combat to keep them going" (Friedman 1973).

The promised Kosher food often was deliberately not provided; Jewish officers of the Zion Mule Corps were paid 40% less than their British counterparts despite the official rates published and had to eat at separate tables from them as well as being eligible for lower pensions. Neither were they shown military courtesy by British junior officers, despite Trumpeldor's protests. Sidney Moseley, a War Office representative in Gallipoli, however, complimented the Corps, describing them as "absolutely indispensable" (Moseley 1916). Brigadier-General Aspinall-Oglander wrote in the Official History that, "...Special recognition is due to the Zion Mule Corps for their untiring energy.....bringing up ammunition and water to the forward positions and carrying back the wounded, under very heavy fire". While the New Zealand History speaks of, "the risks run by the Zion Mule Corps...they carried their lives in their hands...for the enemy had the range to a yard of every landing stage, dump and roadway which they used." On 15 December, Sir John Maxwell added his own praise writing to Trumpeldor as he recovered at his billet, Pension Tewfiq, Rue Moghrabi, Cairo, praising "the personal fighting value of yourself and the Jewish volunteers of which..... the behaviour of the Zion Mule Corps under fire in the Gallipoli Peninsula gave ample proof".

Patterson himself had used his influence to get the Corps its promised name and badge, as well as flag, fighting army prejudice, probably at the expense of his own career. Even ex-President Teddy Roosevelt wrote to him asking if the Zion Mule Corps had made as good soldiers as those Jews in the US Army. Corporal Cogan wrote of Patterson , "His relations with us reminded me more of the care of a father

for his children than that of a commander for his subordinates....the organisation of the Corps meant a good deal of hard work for him and thanks to him...the Corps was in such excellent condition". Patterson's name is much honoured today in Israel.

But perhaps one last word of praise comes from Rev. Dr Ewing of the Grange United Reform Church in Edinburgh, serving as a Chaplain to the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. He is reported in the *Jewish Chronicle* 28 January 1916 as saying, "The Zion Mule Corps has done most excellent transport work since the landing....strange it is when you ask a man where he is from to have him say the Holy City (Jerusalem)...and very earnest these Sons of Jacob are in their endeavours".

So the Zion Mule Corps marched into history, a unique unit in military annals.

On 3 March 1916 a memorial to the fallen of the Corps was unveiled at the Alexandria Jewish Cemetery (Chatby), with representatives of all the Allied nations in attendance together with hundreds of veterans and citizens of the city. In 1926, the name of the unit – with all the others who had served – was inscribed on the inner wall of the British Gallipoli memorial on the lonely headland at Cape Helles, overlooking V beach where they had come ashore on that fateful April morning in 1915. And in Israel today, a road in Tel-Aviv is called "Rehov Lohamay Gallipoli" – "Gallipoli Fighters Street" (Robson 1998) .

This was however not the end for 120 of the Corps re-enlisted and thanks to Patterson and his close friend Major Leopold Amery, were all placed in the 20th Battalion of the London Regiment as platoon 16 and became the core of the soon to be formed Jewish Battalions of the Royal Fusiliers (38th-42nd) who were to fight in Palestine itself as the Jewish Legion or "Judeans". Patterson went on to command the 38th Battalion, which included Lieutenant Ze'ev Jabotinsky and by those strange coincidences that occur in war-time he had already met in Gallipoli that gallant Australian Jewish officer who later commanded the 39th Jewish Battalion, Colonel Eliezer Margolin DSO, whilst the 40th Battalion was to include two future Prime Ministers and one future President of Israel – Ben Gurion, Eshkol and Ben-Zvi. But that is another story.

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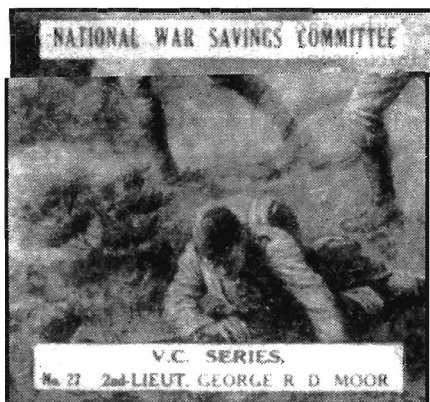
Several different sets of stamps, mostly of a war theme, were issued to attract savers. In the first series there was a Victoria Cross set of 80 stamps; together with naval and medals sets. The VC stamps were coloured brown, the naval stamps blue. Around 1919 a second series of stamps was issued, these included another set of 80 Victoria Cross stamps, also coloured brown. All the stamps measured 35mm by 55mm, some being printed in portrait style and others landscape. The perforations of the First Series were very rough but had improved by the Second Series.

During the First World War the Government, through the National War Savings Committee, raised money from the public to support the war effort. Savings stamps (or more accurately "labels" since they carried neither a denomination nor the monarch's head) were issued by the Committee to encourage school children to save towards the purchase of 15/- (75p) National Savings Certificates. One stamp was issued with each 6d (2.5p) NSC stamp purchased.



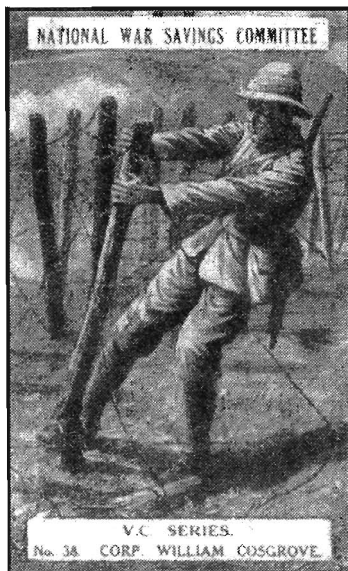
reproduced here is for information only and did not appear with the stamps.

Some of the stamps in the first series were Gallipoli VC winners, nine are illustrated here from my collection. I do not know the exact number of Gallipoli VC stamps in both series as, unfortunately, I do not possess complete sets and these items are becoming very scarce. The stamps only had the heading and caption as seen in the illustrations. the biographical details



George Moor VC (1896-1918)

2nd Lieutenant, 2nd Bn The Hampshire Regiment. During a heavy Turkish attack he dashed back 200 yards, stemmed the retirement led back the men and recaptured a lost trench near Krithia, 6 June.



William Cosgrove VC (1888-1936)

Corporal, 1st Bn The Royal Munster Fusiliers. Led his section with great dash at Cape Helles 26 April pulling down the posts of the enemy's high wire entanglements single-handed.



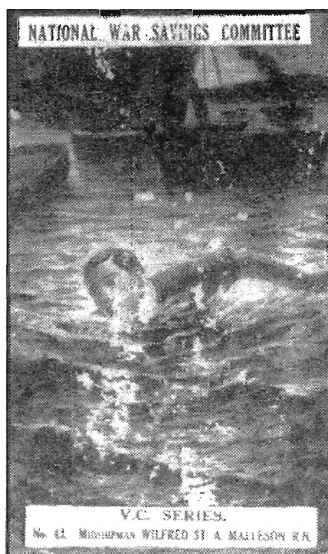
William Forshaw VC (1890-1943)

Lieutenant, 1/9th Bn The Manchester Regiment. Held the north-west corner of "The Vineyard" against heavy Turkish attack for over 40 hours 7-9 August, by continuously throwing bombs.



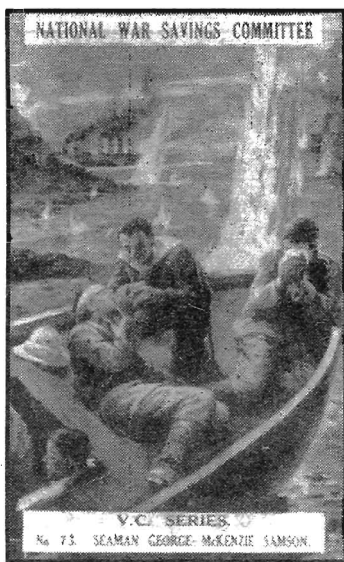
Leonard Keysor VC (1885-1951)

Private 1st Bn. (NSW) Australian Imperial Force. At Lone Pine 7-8 August picked up two live bombs and threw them back at the enemy and continued throwing bombs, although wounded.



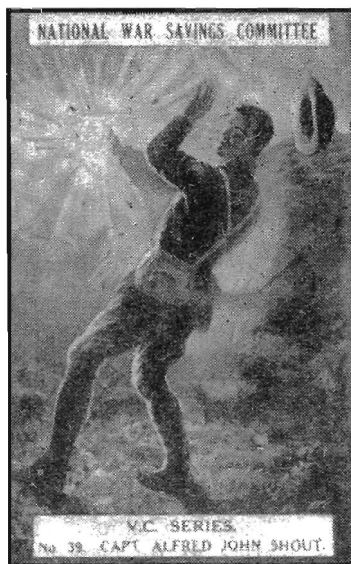
Wilfred Malleison VC (1896-1975)

Midshipman, Royal Navy. Assisted Commander Unwin VC at the landing from the River Clyde at V Beach on 25 April in securing lighters by swimming with line between lighters under fire.



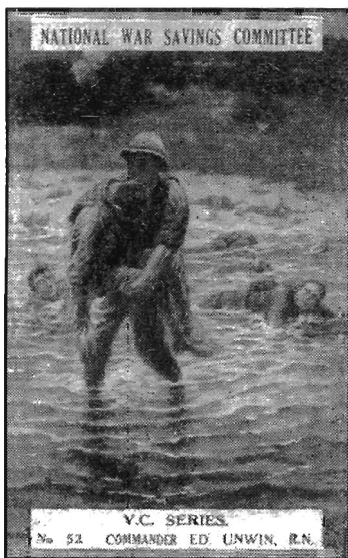
George Samson VC (1889-1923)

Seaman, Royal Naval Reserve. Assisted Commander Unwin VC at V Beach 25 April where he worked all day under fire, attending wounded and getting out lines; he was eventually dangerously wounded.



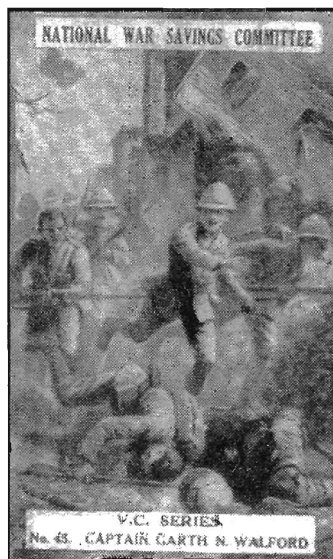
Alfred Shout VC (1882-1915)

Captain, 1st Bn (NSW) Australian Imperial Force. At Lone Pine on 9 August he charged down trenches strongly occupied by the enemy, continued to bomb the enemy at close range until severely wounded.



Edward Unwin VC (1864-1950)

Commander, Royal Navy. At V Beach on 25 April he left the River Clyde under murderous fire to help get the lighters into position, working at his heroic labour until forced to stop through exhaustion.



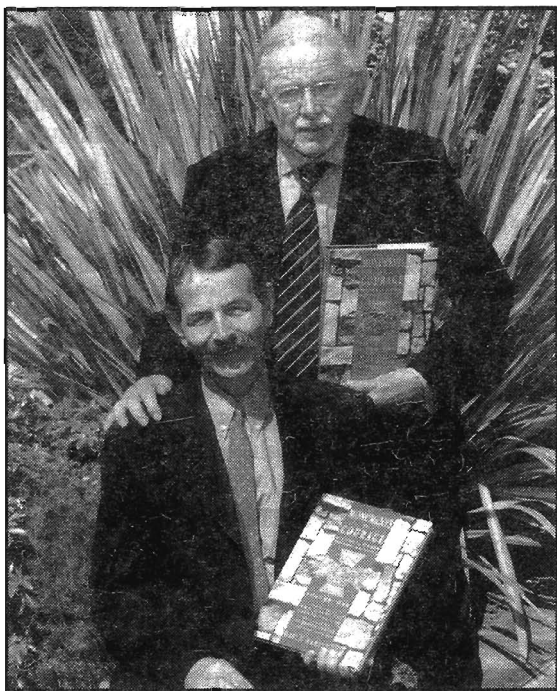
Garth Walford VC (1882-1915)

Captain, Royal Artillery. Helped organise and led a successful attack through and on both sides of Sedd-el-Bahr where the enemy position was very strongly held, being killed in the moment of victory.

MONUMENTS TO COURAGE

A monument to courage of a different sort is the tremendous achievement by David Harvey, a member of the Gallipoli Association, in bringing together the results of nearly 40 years' research on the holders of the Victoria Cross. This two volume set of 800 pages and containing almost 6,000 photographs deserves a place in every library. As one reviewer noted "There is so much information within this work that anyone with an interest in military matters cannot help but be consumed by it all. — *Monuments to Courage* is a fabulous piece of work, of which the author must be very proud and it is highly recommended." David Harvey was hit by a car driven by a drunken motorist in France in 1992, his injuries were such that he is now confined to a wheelchair. Despite this setback he has pursued the necessary research and completed the book.

The price is £75.00 plus £6.50 post and packing from Monuments to Courage, 124 Oatlands Drive, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 9HL. All proceeds are going to the Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Servicemen in Richmond. If you cannot afford the book yourself make sure your local reference library purchases a copy for it deserves to be in every one.



Lieutenant Colonel Eric Wilson VC with the author, David Harvey, at the launch of the book at the Royal Star & Garter Home, July 1999. Terry Champion.

MEMORIAL GATES TRUST

At Marlborough House in January, the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Chief Emeka Anyaoku launched a £900,000 appeal to build memorial gates to commemorate the massive sacrifices made by the peoples of the Indian Sub-Continent, Africa and the Caribbean who served in the armed forces in two World Wars.

The gates will be on a prestigious site next to the Buckingham Palace Gardens where Constitution Hill joins Hyde Park Corner. The Secretary General said this was an important Commonwealth initiative. The Gates would commemorate a magnificent achievement which underlines the strong solidarity of the Commonwealth family. This solidarity is never more pronounced when they are faced with common enemies and their democratic freedoms are threatened.

Baroness Flather, Chairman of the Memorial Gates Trust said that her own father, Aftab Rai had responded in 1914 to the call to arms when a law student in Dublin. Mindful of Mahatma Gandhi's advice that Indians must help the war effort but not kill he had served as a medical orderly in Mesopotamia. The real impetus for the Gates came during the VE and VJ celebrations in 1995 when she had been saddened to see the enormous sacrifices and contributions made by the peoples of the Indian Sub-Continent had not properly been recognised. A number of colleagues in the House of Lords shared her sadness, especially Viscount Slim and Lord Weatherill, who had both served in the Indian Army. They resolved to join forces. The Trust had been established and they had persuaded the Millennium Commission to give a grant of over £900,000 towards the cost of the Gates.

More recently it has been announced the HRH The Prince of Wales has decided to oversee the design of the Memorial Gates. He will join nine other panel members to select the best of three or four entries for further examination. A winning design will be announced on Remembrance Day and the gates will be built next year.

In the First World War, 1,440,500 men from the India and Ceylon volunteered for military service, in all 47,000 were killed and 65,000 were wounded. The units which served at Gallipoli were:

14th Sikh's
69th & 89th Punjabis
Patiala Infantry
Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps

21st (Kohat) Mountain Battery
26th (Jacob's) Mountain Battery
Indian Mule Corps

Donations should be sent to Leonard Hay, Director of Memorial Gates Trust, 184 West Barnes Lane, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 6LS from whom further information can be obtained.

RECENT SALES

Three medals sales since late April have all furnished some excellent Gallipoli opportunities and the wealth of information that the catalogues now contain. If you cannot afford the medals do not hesitate to subscribe for the catalogues. **Note – prices in brackets are the catalogue's estimates.**

Spink's sale on 27 April was noteworthy for the number First World War trios amongst the medals on offer starting with three plus a Memorial Plaque to Able Seaman E.G.Andrew killed when HMS *Goliath* was sunk off Cape Helles on the night of 13 May 1915. These sold for £260 (60-80). Similar groups to Able Seaman W.Shute of the Anson Battalion, RND, kia 7 May and Able Seaman W.T.Meredith of the Nelson Battalion RND kia 6 June were sold for £200 and £260 respectively, (80 – 100).

A First World War trio to Private Harry James of the Berkshire Yeomanry, killed at Scimitar Hill, Suvla, 21 August 1915 sold for £190 (50-60). While the trio to Lieutenant Kenneth McKenzie 9th East Yorkshires attached to 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers was sold for £380 (250-300). One of the Padres at Gallipoli, the Reverend D.S.McKenzie wrote, "A very gallant attack was made, but your brother and his men came under the concentrated fire of some machine-guns and only one returned." Trios together with Memorial plaques to Private Joseph Wood, 6 Lincolnshires also killed at Scimitar Hill, to Private John Gray 6 East Yorkshires killed on 12 August and Private John Law 1/4 King's Own Scottish Borderers, aged 18 from Hawick, killed on 12 July, were sold for £180, £130 and £130 (all 80-100). A trio to Private Lewis Jacobs of the 10th Hampshires killed on 10 August reached £100 (60-80).

A similar group estimated at £80-100 to another 18 year old, Private Colin Ford of the 8th Scottish Rifles reached £140. He was one of the casualties of an attack on 28 June when the Battalion strength afterwards stood at just three officers and 70 other ranks. A trio and memorial plaque to Lance-Corporal Albert Hough 5th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who died of wounds received at Kidney Hill, 15 August sold for £250 (80-100). Lance-Corporal John Brookes of the 9th Worcestershire Regiment was killed near the Farm on 10 August when the enemy rolled bombs down the hill and onto the forward trenches. His medals sold for £260 (120-140).

Claimed as probably unique, was the First World War trio and Memorial Plaque to Private James Gourlay, aged 50, serving first with the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry in France but later transferred to the 2nd Hampshire Regiment and killed at Gallipoli on 6 August. This sold for £150 (100-120). Among the last casualties at Gallipoli was Private Hugh Sweeney 1/5 Highland Light Infantry killed on 19 December and buried in Pink Farm Cemetery. His medals and plaque sold for £170 (80-100).

Now to three trios from the Australian Forces. Firstly, that to Private John Campbell 5th Battalion (AIF) killed at Anzac Cove on 25 April sold for £350 (200-250) while that to Private John Hibbert 2nd Battalion AIF killed sometime between 6-9 August sold for £260 (120-160) and to Private Ernest Ford 15th Battalion AIF killed on 2 May £140 (80-100). Trooper Charles Dobson of the Auckland Mounted Rifles was killed on 8 August during the attack at Chunuk Bair, his medals fetched £160 (70-90).

A well travelled casualty at Gallipoli was A.J. Turpie of the 9th Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment which landed at Suvla on 6 August and lost so many men on the 21st during the attacks at Hill 60, "W" and Scimitar Hills. Although listed in the sale catalogue as Private, his entry in the War Graves Record for the Helles Memorial gives him as Corporal. He had previously served on the North-west Frontier of India during the Tirah Campaign during which he was wounded, later during the South African War. His five medals reached £550 (300-400).

As a young man "Jack" Crozier had ended in hot water for climbing the spire of Trinity College, Dublin prior to being ordained in 1903. He landed at Gallipoli in July and served with the 10th (Irish) Division with distinction. While he addressed the troops prior to the attack on Hill 60 the "Bullets of snipers were whistling overhead and ploughing furrows through the ground —". After the war he rose to become Archdeacon of Dublin and later Archbishop. His Great War Trio sold for £400 (120-150).

At Sotheby's on 11 May the particularly fine Gallipoli DCM, Boer War and Long Service Group to Lieutenant Albert Prosser was sold for £2,530 (1,500-2,000). The citation for the DCM refers to his "conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty on 21 August 1915 at Suvla Bay" where he "went out under heavy fire to bring in a wounded officer, who was, however, killed by a second bullet before he could be put into shelter. He immediately returned and brought in another wounded man, and continued going out and dragging the wounded out of the burning scrub and carrying them to safety on his back. Owing to his bravery and total disregard of personal risk he undoubtedly saved many lives." It appears he was recommended for the Victoria Cross for his heroism that day, but received instead the DCM and a commission. Lieutenant Prosser was subsequently killed on the Western Front on 26 November 1916. While sitting in a tent back from the lines he was hit by a piece of shrapnel and killed instantly, his three companions were un wounded.

Finally to the sale on 22 June by Dix Noonan Webb. The Gallipoli interest commenced with Lot 678 a First World War Trio and Memorial Plaque to a submariner, ERA Frank Williams of E-20 torpedoed in the Sea of Marmora by the German submarine UB-14 on 5 November 1915. This sold for £550 (300-350). An important First World War Group to Rear-Admiral Hayes-Sadler was a reminder that this officer commanded the battleship *Ocean*, first during operations in the

Persian Gulf, later at Gallipoli where it was one of those which participated in the bombardments of the Forts in March 1915 only to hit a mine and then, disabled, to be sunk by gun-fire

Described an an exceptional Military Cross and two bar group of five were the medals of Lieutenant-Commander R.F.E.Blackmore, RNVR, Hawke Battalion RND who had served in the ranks as Company-Sergeant Major at Gallipoli where he was commissioned in October 1915. Estimated at £5,000 to £6,000, the medals sold for £6,800. Able Seaman William Longworth was awarded the DSM for services in the picket boats of HMS *Triumph* and *Majestic* during the torpedo attack with the aim of preventing the stricken submarine B-11 falling into the hands of the enemy. His medals sold for £1,700 (600-800). A DSM to the Chief Yeoman of Signals, A.J.Chatwin of HMS *Cornwallis* for gallantry on the morning of 25 April when he "leapt to an exposed position on the front of the captured battery and signalled for a long period, the various positions of the Turkish artillery." This was one of only 24 DSM's awarded specifically for the Gallipoli landings. The medal sold for £500 (200-300). Finally a DSM and First World War trio to Sergeant, later Second Lieutenant Ernest Bonnett RMLI sold for £1,500 (600-700). This for his heroism during an effort to capture Turkish trenches before Krithia on 23 June during which the Commanding Officer Major J.Grover was killed. Ernest Bonnett was himself killed during the famous attack by the Royal Naval Division on Passchendaele Ridge in October 1917.

The Editor will always be pleased to receive information relating to sales, either national or local, of Gallipoli material.

RUPERT BROOKE SOCIETY

Despite the enormous popularity of Rupert Brooke as poet, icon and figure of intrigue during the 85 years (almost) since his death, there has never been an organisation bringing together people around the world interested in Brooke. This is now being rectified by the establishment just a few weeks ago of the Rupert Brooke Society.

The new Society has the good fortune to have as its permanent home Brooke's old residence, The Orchard, Granchester where there will be a permanent museum, bookshop and tea garden. A Rupert Brooke magazine will be published and the editors invite articles and other contributions.

The annual subscription is £7.50 and should be sent to the Rupert Brooke Society, The Orchard, 45-47 Mill Way, Granchester, Cambridge, CB3 9ND.

COLONEL HANCOCK MC REMEMBERED

The magazine *Newsweek*, 15 March 1999, in a series *Voices of the Century – The Warriors Tell Their Stories* included for the Dardanelles a short extract from a letter from Second-Lieutenant Malcolm Hancock to his parents in which he describes his first experience of combat.

“We were not facing the enemy at all and they were firing at us from our right. Our whole position was absolutely wrong, as we realised very soon. As we were not yet accustomed to hiding ourselves, we were standing or crouching where we must have been seen plainly, for it was halfway down one of these gullies where the first man, a lance-corporal in my platoon was wounded. We got him under cover behind a bush and I sent a man back for stretcher bearers. This man, as he was coming back, was himself wounded when he was standing next to me, reporting that the stretcher bearers were on their way back. This man I carried back to the top of the gully as we only had one stretcher and I was afraid the enemy might advance still further and we should be forced to leave the wounded. It was only about 50 yards but it was in the open and uphill. Soon after that the Essex came up to relieve us and we straggled back to the rest of the battalion, minus a good many things, including our first feelings of funk.”

For an Obituary of Colonel Hancock, who was awarded the Military Cross for “bringing wounded men to safety in the full face of enemy fire” see *The Gallipolian* No 60 Autumn 1989. Colonel Hancock was President of the Gallipoli Association from 1983 until 1989, having previously been a Vice President.

TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO WERE THERE

One of our members in New Zealand, Colin Townsend has just completed a book – *Gallipoli 1915* which he says is “not just about Gallipoli. It is of Gallipoli. — presenting the human face of some of the New Zealanders who served there through diary accounts, letters, poems and photographs.” *Gallipoli 1915* is in a soft-cover format of 182 pages and costs £16.00 pounds by Air Mail from Colin Townsend, 5A Nahum Street, Paeroa 2951, New Zealand. Hopefully we can carry a review in a future *Gallipolian*.

GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL LECTURE TRUST

Please note the Memorial Lecture at Holy Trinity Church, Eltham will take place on the earlier date of Thursday 13 April. The Lecture will be the last in the series and will be given by the Bishop of Oxford. More information in future *Gallipolians*.

FRIENDS OF WAR MEMORIALS

The Friends of War Memorials founded by Ian Davidson and with The Countess Mountbatten of Burma as Patron and Winston Churchill as President sprang from the fact that often no-one could accept ultimate responsibility for those War Memorials which were suffering the ravages of time or had been vandalised or even just forgotten about. Not just the well known memorials which occur in cities, towns and villages, but the many memorials, sometimes no more than a simple Roll of Honour board, which can be found in churches and halls. When such buildings become redundant, usually after a period of neglect, memorials are often forgotten or discarded. One of the aims of the Friends of War Memorials is to ensure this does not happen, often by re-siting in a school or church.

The objectives of the Friends of War Memorials are:

To monitor the condition of War Memorials of all kinds and to take steps to ensure that local authorities and other relevant organisations are alerted to such conditions with a view to their undertaking any necessary cleaning, restoration, maintenance, repairs and renovations.

To liaise with ecclesiastical authorities, regiments and other responsible bodies with a view to their accepting responsibility for, and undertaking repairs and renovations of War Memorials.

To educate, inform and publicise the spiritual, archeological and historical significance of war memorials as part of our national heritage, to encourage and inspire young people to cherish their local war memorials and the memory of those who sacrificed their lives in the cause of freedom.

To aid this work the Halifax plc has pledged to make available through the Friends small grants to groups endeavouring to restore, refurbish or relocate Memorials and Rolls of Honour.

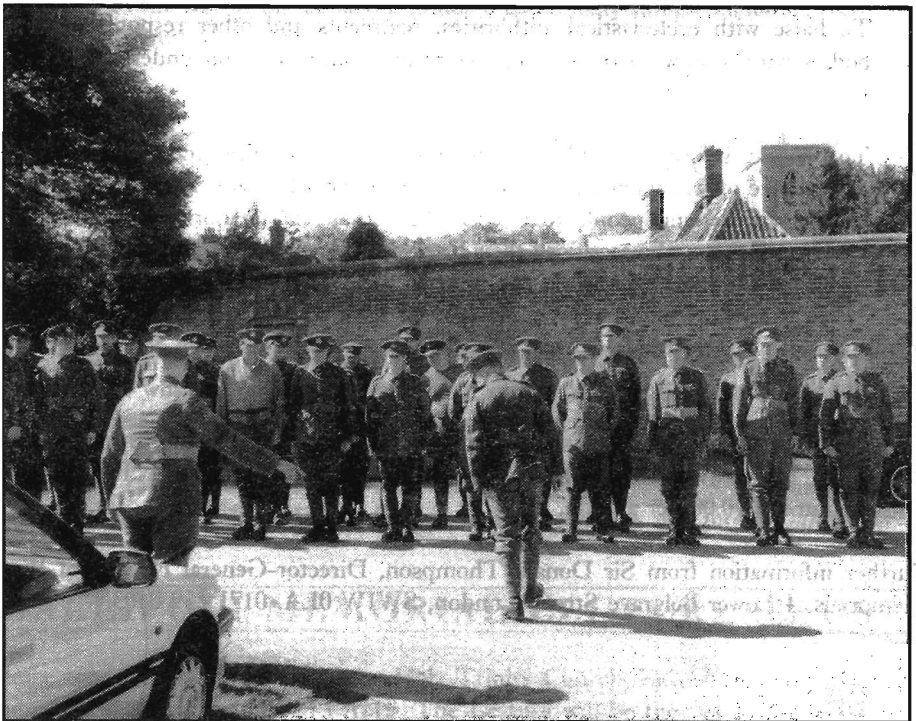
There are two ways you can assist. Firstly by reporting to the Friends on memorials at risk or in need of refurbishment. Secondly you can become a Friend, the subscription is £10.00 per annum.

Further information from Sir Donald Thompson, Director-General Friends of War Memorials, 4 Lower Belgrave Street, London, SW1W 0LA. 0171 259 0403.

ALL THE KING'S MEN

The fate of the 1/5th Norfolk Regiment, the so called Vanished Battalion, including the Sandringham Company at Suvla, has always aroused much interest and at times wild speculation, though the salient facts as to the fate of the 12 officers and 104 men have been known since at least 1919 when the battlefield was examined for the first time. This however did not prevent stories, some of them far-fetched to say the least, being published, indeed this continues right up to the present day. The remains of 112 Norfolk's were subsequently interred in Azmak Cemetery, each grave marked "A Soldier of the 1/5th Btn. The Norfolk Regiment."

Later this autumn, this year, probably in early November, a film based on the story of the Battalion and its eventual end on the evening of 12 August 1915 will be shown by the BBC. David Jason, best known for his role in *Fools and Horses* and as Sergeant Jack Frost in *A Touch of Frost*, plays Captain Frank Beck, Commanding Officer of the Sandringham Company and one of those killed, who in peacetime was the agent for the Sandringham Estate, first to Edward VII later to George V. The actress Maggie Smith plays Queen Mary and David Troughton King George V.



New recruits to the 1/5th Norfolk Regiment in preparation for filming.



David Jason as Captain Beck. David Empson second left.

Filming took place at Blickling Hall and other locations in Norfolk while a site in Spain was chosen for the Gallipoli sequences. One of the "extras" for the filming in Norfolk was our member David Empson who confirms from his first hand experience as one of the "1/5th Norfolk's" that they "received correct uniforms and '08 pattern equipment" and that "The story line, settings and period dress are as close as practically possible to the original. Knowing the story of the 1/5th Battalion well I found it most interesting to take part and from what I witnessed myself know without question that the finished result is going to be a very fine piece of work and will tell an accurate account."

We are most grateful to David Empson for providing information about the film and a selection of photographs taken on location in Norfolk.

BOOK REVIEWS

A CHESHIRE PARISH AT WAR

ANN CLAYTON

Published by the author 1998. 172 pages, 54 illustrations, 3 maps. ISBN 0 9532258 0 1. £5.99.

The parish is St Chad's, Winsford, Cheshire where almost 1,500 of its young men served in the the First World War and 247 did not return. The author, a member of The Gallipoli Association, will be well known to many as the editor of *Stand To!* the journal of The Western Front Association and author of *Chavasse Double VC* and *Martin-Leake Double VC*.

The inspiration for this fine book comes from the work during the war of the-Vicar, the Reverend William Stables who corresponded with over a 1,000 of his young men. Their letters, the Parish Magazine and the names on the War Memorial are central to the story of this parish at war, where incidentally the war memorial was erected while the war was in progress and names added as they were received. Six were Gallipoli casualties – Captain Charles Cooke, Thomas Hodgkinson shot by a female sniper, George Tomkinson and Alfred Whitehead of the 7th Cheshires, Arthur Chamberlain 8th Cheshires, John Johnson 11th Manchesters and Samuel Hodgkinson 7th North Staffordshires.

VCs OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR – THE AIR VCs

PETER G. COOKSLEY

Sutton Publishing 1999. Paperback edition 224 pages, 240 illustrations. ISBN 0 7509 2272 9. £10.99.

The paperback edition of a book first reviewed in *The Gallipolian* No 85 Winter 1997, includes the story of Richard Bell-Davies VC, the only air VC of the Gallipoli campaign.

WAR MEMORIALS AND WAR GRAVES IN HARLOW

ARTHUR GRAHAM

Harlow Council Cultural Series nd. 72 pages, 40 illustrations. No price given.

This A4 size publication is dedicated to the memory of the author's father's youngest brother killed in northern France 27 March 1918, and his father-in-laws youngest brother who died from the effects of malaria and beri-beri in Thailand on 18 June 1945. Indeed the publication was inspired by the author's research into the career of the uncle he never knew. Soon it extended beyond this to cover Rolls of Honour in addition to War Memorials and War Graves from both World Wars. Nine Gallipoli casualties are noted including Thomas Riley who died of dysentery in Malta, his brother Cecil died of the same cause in Mesopotamia while a third died of wounds in France.

THE WARS OF THE ANCIENT GREEKS

VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

Cassell 1999. 224 pages, numerous illustrations, maps & diagrams. ISBN 0-304-35222-5. £20.00

This book is part of the Cassell History of Warfare, the recently launched multi-volume history of war and warfare from ancient to modern times. Two of the major Greek battles, those at Aegospotami 404 BC and Granicus 334 BC took place close to the Dardanelles, together with scores of lesser conflicts while not forgetting the Trojan war few after all who visit the Gallipoli battlefield fail to cross the Straits to view the ruins of Troy and buy postcards of the wooden horse. An elegant book which immediately whets the appetite for others in the series.

THE KOREAN WAR

MICHAEL HICKEY

John Murray 1999. 397 pages, 56 illustrations, 4 maps. ISBN 0-7195-55590. £25.00.

Another peninsula, another war, it hardly seems true it all happened almost half-a-century ago, but here the full story of the first, and critical, test, by the Communist bloc of Western military resolve. Resolve that wilted somewhat in the early months when we were almost pushed out of Korea, then changed with the landings at Inchon and the dash northwards, then another retreat before finally a stalemate was reached, and that is where the border between North and South Korea sits to the present day. The author, a member of the Committee of the Gallipoli Association, is probably best known for his book Gallipoli previously reviewed in *The Gallipolian*.

THE GREAT WAR GENERALS ON THE WESTERN FRONT 1914-18

ROBIN NEILLANDS

Robinson Publishing 1998. 549 pages, 16 illustrations, 12 maps. ISBN 1-85487-900-6. £25.00

Described as one of our most readable military historians, the author of over thirty books on travel and military history exposes many of the myths while examining the role of our generals on the Western Front. Some had previously seen service at Gallipoli like Birdwood whose fondness for "his diggers was fully reciprocated by the men themselves — and the mutual regard that developed between them is one of the warmest tributes a general and his soldiers can share." Perhaps the Robert Neillands could be persuaded to turn his attention to our generals at Gallipoli? There could be another first-class book in the making if the present volume is a bench-mark.

COMMAND IN THE ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION

CHRISTOPHER PAGE

Spellmount 1999. 194 pages, 16 illustrations, 6 maps. ISBN 1-86227-048-1. £20.00.

This is the story of one of the most distinguished professional soldiers of the First

World War, Brigadier-General A.M. Asquith DSO, nicknamed "Oc" third son of the Prime Minister from 1906 to 1916, Herbert Asquith. Douglas Jerrold, historian of the Division, who lost an arm on the Ancre, wrote of Asquith as "irresistibly convincing – a born leader who was allowed to lead – the rarest event in war." Described by someone no less than Freyberg VC as "the bravest man I ever knew" Asquith was to rise in the Royal Naval Division from Temporary Acting Sub-Lieutenant to Brigadier-General in just over three years, being awarded the DSO and two Bars and recommended for the Victoria Cross. Such a career, which included service at Gallipoli from late April until the evacuation, was not without a cost. His first wound, to the left leg was in early May 1915, while as a result of being wounded for the fourth time in 1917 he lost the same leg.

The author had one of those strokes of good fortune that all biographers dream of, he found among Asquith's private papers a tin trunk with the painted inscription *Commander AM Asquith, Hood Battalion RND*. This contained a wealth of material including all his Field Service Notebooks. Using these and other archives, including the unpublished diary of "Cleg" Kelly, Christopher Page has provided a masterly history of the Royal Naval Division through this biography of one of the leading figures.

Special Offer – Members of the Association can avail themselves of a special offer to purchase *Command in the Royal Naval Division* at £18.95 including post or £22.95 overseas. Orders to Spellmount Ltd, The Old Rectory, Staplehurst, Kent, TN12 0AZ.

FISHER, CHURCHILL AND THE DARDANELLES

GEOFFREY PENN

Leo Cooper 1999. 280 pages, 38 illustrations, 4 maps. ISBN 0 85052 646 9. £25.00.

One of the many fascinating aspects of the Gallipoli campaign is that which was waged in London between Fisher as First Sea Lord and Churchill as First Lord of the Admiralty. The Admiral, the dynamo who had dragged the Royal Navy from the Victorian Age, the author describes him as "standing out like a mountain on a plain of ordinary men" and the equally thrusting and hugely ambitious, young First Lord. A devil's brew if there ever was, yet one that did offer the chance of breaking the stalemate on the Western Front. Of all the politicians Churchill was the only one to try to achieve this. Would forcing the Dardanelles have proved possible, and the whole course of the war changed, if the Turks had not been given notice of our intentions by the warning bombardment. The author believes so, but the question will be debated over and over again. Geoffrey Penn rightly concludes by drawing attention to the benefits resulting from the ruin of 1915, the immense benefits brought by the experience of Churchill when he became Prime Minister in 1940 and gave the country the leadership so desperately needed. And Fisher was his tutor. Make sure this book is on your Christmas list!

VCs OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR – GALLIPOLI

STEPHEN SNELLING

Sutton Publishing 1999. Paperback edition 288 pages, 240 illustrations. ISBN 0 7509 22710. £10.99.

Another in the series and the one of most interest to members of the Association. See the Review in *The Gallipolian* No 77 Spring 1995, or better still make sure the book is on your shelves if you missed it the first time.

FOREVER ENGLAND THE LIFE OF RUPERT BROOKE

MIKE READ

Mainstream Publishing 1997. 288 pages, 79 illustrations. ISBN 1 85158 995 3. £17.50.

Having died so young, he was just 27, and with only one small book of poems published in his lifetime, it is remarkable that his name shines more brightly and his image looms larger than most. General Sir Ian Hamilton reflected on why Brooke was special at the unveiling of a plaque to his memory in the chapel at Rugby School:

Is it because he was a hero? – There were thousands.

Is it because he looked a hero? – There were few.

Is it because he had genius? – There were others.

But Rupert Brooke held all three gifts of the gods in his hand ...

The author, perhaps better known as the Classic FM presenter, has produced an excellent biography which includes many of Brooke's poems.

CARRIER GLORIOUS

JOHN WINTON

Cassell 1999. Paperback Edition pages, illustrations. ISBN 0-304-35244-6. £5.99.

First published in 1986, the book tells of the life and death of an aircraft carrier, the death, along with her gallant escorts *Acasta* and *Ardent* being at the guns of the *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* in June 1940. What is the connection between the loss of of three ships and 1,519 men in the Norwegian Sea, there were only 46 survivors, and Gallipoli? The captain of *Glorious* was Guy D'Oyly-Hughes who was second-in-command of E-11 at the Dardanelles, and later commanded E-35 in the North Sea and elsewhere. His command of *Glorious* and her fate is a controversial story well worth reading.

THE SUBMARINERS LIFE IN BRITISH SUBMARINES 1901-1999

JOHN WINTON

Constable 1999. 316 pages, 35 illustrations. ISBN 0 094 78810 3. £20.00.

A fine election of personal accounts by those who served in "The Trade" including four relating to the Dardanelles – *The Submarine Passage of the Dardanelles* by Rear-

Admiral C.G.Brodie, *The Loss of AE-2* by Commander H.G.Stoker, *Letter Home from E-11* by Captain Guy D'Oyly-Hughes, and *Letter from a Turkish POW Camp* by Petty Officer R.A.Perkins. The author of the latter account having been captured when E-14 was sunk in the Dardanelles, January 1918. The author served for seven years in the submarine service so is well placed to bring to our attention something of life between the waves in peace and in war.

BIRINCI DUNYA HARB'NDE TURK HARBI CANAKKALE

Ankara 1997. 380 pages, 71 maps. ISBN 975-409-101-3

Having received this book, which covers the period July 1914 to January 1916, from a German friend with extensive contacts in Turkey, I draw it to members attention on the basis of its maps which are well drawn and extremely detailed and can be followed even by those without knowledge of the Turkish language.

QUARTERMASTER'S STORES

TIES, BADGES GALLIPOLIAN BINDERS

The Association Tie which comprises wide green bands for the land of Gallipoli and blue-grey for the waters of the Dardanelles, with narrow stripes of navy-blue and scarlet for the services is available price £5.00 including post.

A Lapel Badge in the same colours is available price £5.50 including post.

Binders, which hold 12 copies of *The Gallipolian* are available finished in an attractive simulated leather, coloured maroon, with the title blocked in gold on the spine. Price per Binder is £5.25 including post in the United Kingdom and £6.25 including post for overseas.

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

TO WHAT END DID THEY DIE

This book, first published in 1985, lists over 2,000 officer casualties at Gallipoli with brief biographical and other details largely from the War Graves Registers. It is currently available at the reduced price of £6.95 plus £2.95 postage from The Naval and Military Press, Order Dept. PO Box 61, Dallington, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 9ZS. Credit Card Hotline 01435 830111.

HISTORIC VISIT BY COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION TO GALLIPOLI

At a recent meeting in Canakkale Sir John Kerr, Vice-Chairman of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, expressed warm appreciation for the practical support and co-operation received from local and national government agencies in Turkey in the care of Commonwealth war graves on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

He was speaking at a dinner to mark the occasion of the first visit by the full body of the Commission to this place of immense significance for the commemorative heritage of Turkey and countries of the Commonwealth. Commissioners attending included representatives of the Commonwealth member governments of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India and the United Kingdom. During their visit, the Commissioners toured and inspected many of the 31 Commonwealth cemeteries and memorials on the peninsula.

It is nearly 85 years since the battles of 1915 when over one million soldiers from different countries clashed in combat over the rugged ground of the Gallipoli Peninsula. When the forces of the British Empire withdrew at the end of 1915 some 120,000 Allied and Turkish dead lay side by side on the battlefields. Since the early 1920s the Commission has cared for the graves and memorials of the 37,000 young men of the Commonwealth forces who died.

Over the years, many have come to Canakkale and Gallipoli to pay homage to those war dead – to keep alive their memory. Of recent years, the numbers of such visitors have been increasing, especially from Australia and New Zealand, when the ANZAC tradition, born in the shadow of the Sphinx on 25 April 1915, is so much a part of the national consciousness.

In his remarks, Sir John Kerr explained that the Commission commemorates some 1.7 million Commonwealth dead from the two world wars in cemeteries and on memorials in around 150 countries. From the outset the Commission adopted the principle of equality for all in commemoration. The Commissioners were struck with the resonance of this principle with the words of comfort of Kemal Mustafa Ataturk which he addressed to grieving families in far away lands.

The Commissioners were impressed by the work of the local Commission staff under the direction of Mr John Price and by the excellent co-operation and support that he and his staff enjoyed within the local community. Mr Price was recently awarded an MBE in recognition of his work for the Commission in Turkey.

WHO SAID THIS?

In the Spring *Gallipolian* we asked who said:

"Still," our enemies say, "you did not win the Peninsula." We did not and some day; when truth will walk clear-eyed, it will be known why we did not. Until then, let our enemies say this: "They did not win, but they came across three thousand miles of sea, a little army without reserves and short of munitions, a band of brothers, not half of them half-trained and nearly all of them new to war. They came to what we said was an impregnable fort, on which our veterans of war and massacre had laboured for two months, and by sheer naked manhood they beat us, and drove us out of it. Then rallying, but without reserves, they beat us again and drove us farther. Then rallying once more, but still without reserves, they beat us again, this time to our knees. Then, had they had reserves they would have conquered, but by God's pity they had none. Then, after a lapse of time, when we were men again, they had reserves, and they hit us a staggering blow, which needed but a push to end us, but God again had pity. After that our God was indeed pitiful, for England made no further thrust, and they went away."

The answer John Masfield in *Gallipoli* published by William Heinemann, 1916.

Now another WHO SAID THIS?

"Well done, Blue Caps! I now take the first opportunity of thanking you for the good work you have done. You have achieved the impossible. You have done a thing which will live in history. When I first visited this place with other people of importance, we all thought a landing would never be made, but you did it, and therefore the impossibilities were overcome—and it was done by men of real and true British fighting blood. You captured the fort and village on the right that were simply swarmed with Turks with machine guns, also the hill on the left, where the pom-poms were. Also the amphitheatre in front, which was dug line-for line with trenches, and from where there came a terrific rifle and machine-gun fire. You are indeed deserving of the highest praise. I am proud to be in command of such a distinguished regiment, and I only hope, when you return to the firing line after this rest (which you have well earned), that you will make even a greater name for yourselves. Well done, the Dubs! Your deeds will live in history for time immortal. Farewell."

SKYROS MAGIC

MAJOR HUW & MRS JILL RODGE

The warm early June sunshine filtered through the gently moving grey green leaves of the ancient olive trees and touched the shining white marble tomb. The red earth, dusty after previous weeks of dry weather, bore the footprints of the black and white long haired goats and the wild Skryrian horses that freely graze on the aromatic sage and thyme bushes in the olive grove and rub themselves against the four white painted pillars and the wrought iron railings that surround the grave.

The site of Rupert Brooke's grave is little changed. It is still a place of "strange magic and peace" and standing under those very same olive trees, the words that Denis Browne, his close friend, wrote to Edward Marsh in his detailed account of Brooke's death and burial flowed through one's mind:

"We buried him the same evening in the olive grove – one of the loveliest places in the earth, with grey green olives around him, one weeping above his head, the ground covered with flowering sage. Think of it all under a clouded moon, with the three mountains around and behind us, and those divine scents everywhere. We lined his grave with all the flowers we could find and Quilter set a wreath of olive on the coffin..."

Another gifted friend, the Australian Cleg Kelly, who was to die later on the battlefields of the Somme, began a musical elegy to Rupert just hours before his ship sailed for Gallipoli and also wrote these words:

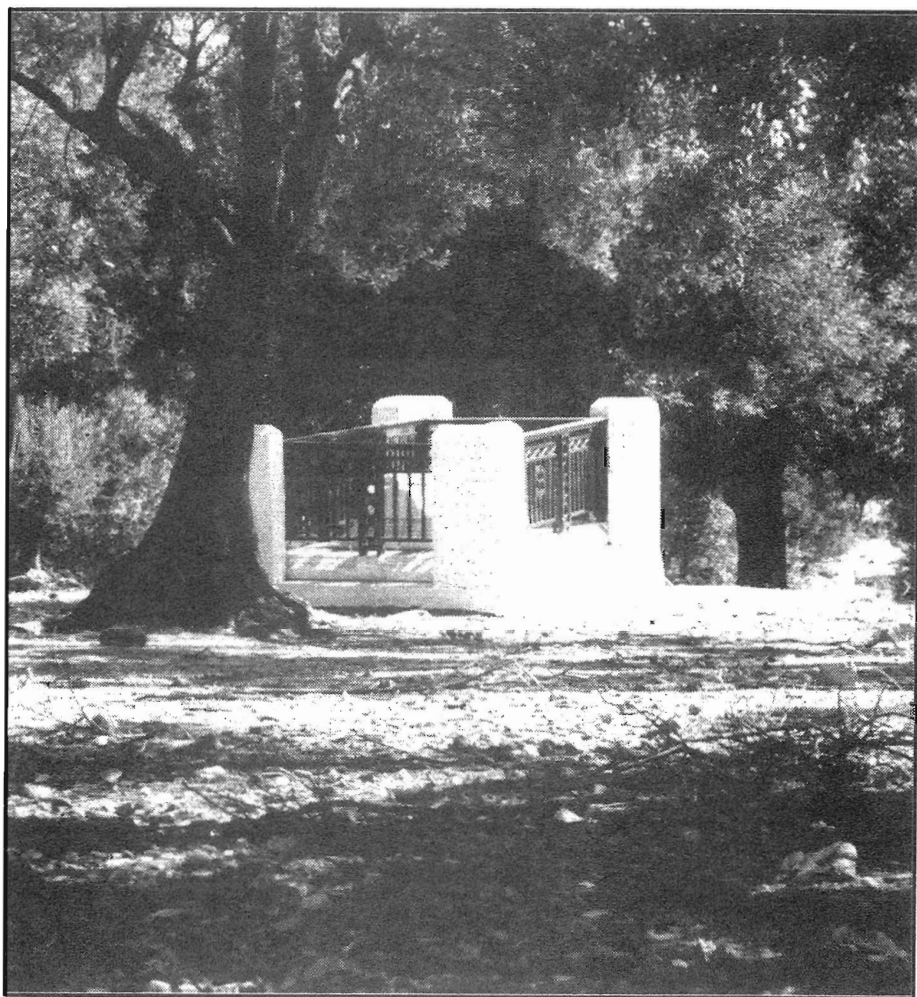
"He wears
The ungathered blossom of quiet, stiller he
Than a deep well at noon, or lovers met;
Than sleep, or the heart after wrath. He is
The silence following great words of peace".

This unforgettable moment was one of the highlights of a recent visit made to Gallipoli in preparation for a tour to commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the Landings 25 April 2000 and the 85th Anniversary of Rupert Brooke's death 23 April 2000. As it is the Millennium, we are planning a unique visit combining the Gallipoli Peninsula (including the Landing Beaches, Helles, Anzac and Suvla), an introduction to the Battlefields of Salonika, Greece with its lakes, mountains and wide river valleys (rarely visited by pilgrims), including Doiran, followed by a stay on the Greek Island of Skyros.

We have obtained official permission to land by boat in the beautiful natural harbour of Tri Boukis Bay, and to follow the route of the cortege which carried Brooke's coffin up

the dry river bed to the olive grove. A special Commemorative Service will be held at the graveside, with poetry readings, in the presence of the Mayor of Skyros and the Commandant of the Naval Base. We will then return to the town of Skyros and the impressive Statue "To Rupert Brooke and Immortal Poetry" where we will enjoy the hospitality of the Mayor and the local people. Further details of this very special visit which will be from 23 April – 6 May 2000 can be obtained from:

Major Huw and Mrs. Jill Rodge, Botcoet 56160 Ploerdut France. Tel: (0033) 29751 2084, Fax: (0033) 29751 2217.



The grave of Rupert Brooke in the olive grove on Skyros. Huw & Jill Rodge.