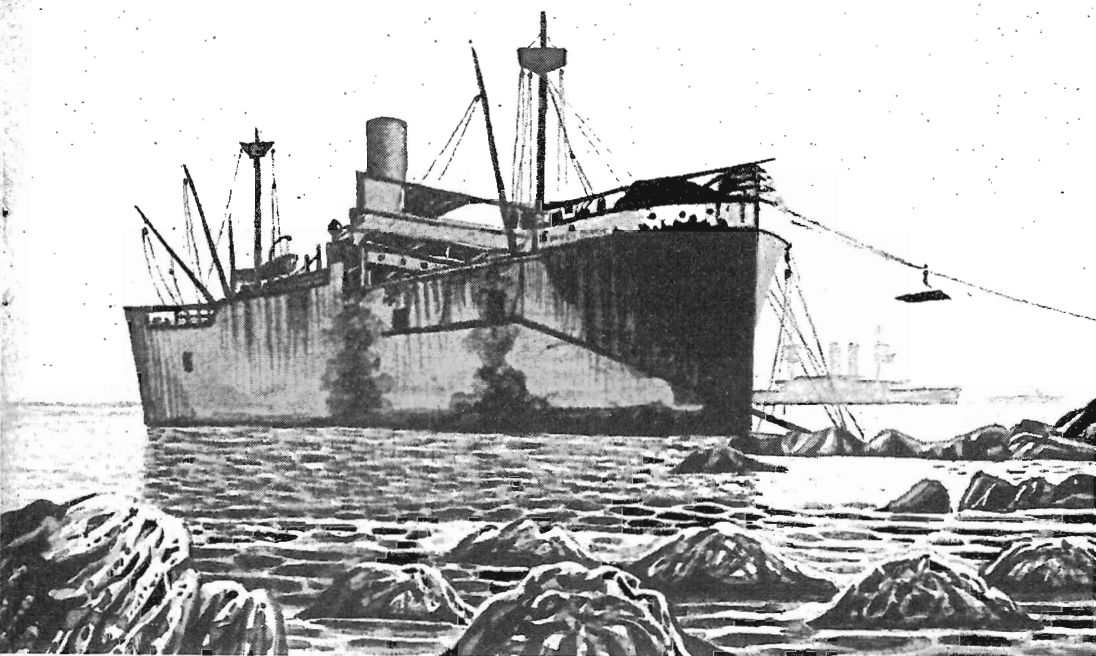


The Gallipollian

*The Journal of the
Gallipoli Association*

No.: 93
AUTUMN 2000

RONMAN
BROWN



THE GALLIPOLIAN

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

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

PATRON HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT OM GBE PC

PAST PRESIDENTS The Lord Granville of Eye
Vice-Admiral E. W. Longley-Cook CB CBE DSO
Lt. General Sir Reginald Savory KCMG KCIE DSO MC
Brigadier B. B. Rackham CBE MC
Lt. Colonel M. E. Hancock MC

VICE-PRESIDENTS Donald Bland Jim Fallon

CHAIRMAN Captain C. T. F. Fagan

SECRETARY J. C. Watson-Smith
Earleydene Orchard, Earleydene, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 9JY
[01344 626523]

TREASURER & W. Marsh
MEMBERSHIP Nowhelan, The Common, Womersley, Guildford, Surrey
GU5 0PH [01483 892749]

PUBLIC Major Hugh Jenner
RELATIONS 73 Pymers Mead, London SE21 8NJ
OFFICER [0181 670 7691]

COMMITTEE Sir Arthur Hockaday KCB CMG D.A. Pollard
Colonel Michael Hickey N. Pollitt
A. Mullen Major J.R.H. Stopford

EDITOR D. R. Saunders
Woosung, Pointfields, Hakin, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire
SA73 3EB [01646 692316] e-mail DavidGallip15@tesco.net

CONTENTS

Page 2	Annual General Meeting & Autumn Lunch
Page 4	Salonika Campaign Society
Page 5-6	Obituary: Ernest Stocanne
Page 7-8	New Memorial at Gallipoli
Page 8-9	The Peninsula 85 Years On
Page 10-13	John Simpson Kirkpatrick – A Tribute at Gallipoli
Page 14-15	Gallipoli Day in Great Britain
Page 16-17	Anzac Day in Jerusalem
Page 18	Anzac Day in Malta, Gallipoli Veterans on Tape
Page 19-24	Eighty Five Years On
Page 25-28	A Lucky Escape – Private Charles Greenslade
Page 29	In Memoriam, Rupert Brooke Society, Immortal 29th
Page 30-31	Private Ernest John Legg – A Headstone At Last
Page 32-37	Letters from the Light Horse
Page 38-39	The Opening of Tisdall's Building
Page 40-44	Statement by Lieutenant-Colonel The Hon A.G.A.Hore-Ruthven VC
Page 44-48	Alexander Hore-Ruthven First Earl of Gowrie VC
Page 48	First to Fall, History in the Depths
Page 49	On the summit of Chunuk Bair
Page 50-51	Presentation on Collingwood Day
Page 52-53	Funeral of Atatürk
Page 54-57	Fleet Air Arm Memorial
Page 57	Centenary of Australia's First Victoria Cross, Westminster Medal for Michael Hickey
Page 58-59	Information Please
Page 59	The Sandringham Company at Suvla
Page 60-64	Book Reviews
Page 65	At the National Army Museum, Shot at Dawn Memorial Service
Page 66	Quartermaster's Stores

AUTUMN LUNCH

See page 2 and booking form but note the change of date to 18 October.

BURSARY PRESENTATION AT MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL

In April Mark Herbage and Osman Osturk two cadets from the Merchant Taylors' School Combined Cadet Force travelled to Gallipoli on Gallipoli 2000 bursaries provided by the Gallipoli Association. They will make their presentations concerning their research at the School on 29 September commencing at 1700. Members are cordially invited to attend this event.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Gallipoli Association will be held on Wednesday 18 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. (Note change of date to that announced in the Spring *Gallipolian*)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held on 14 October 1999 and printed on page 3
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report & Adoption of 1999 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 on 18 October at 1230 for 1300, will follow the Annual General Meeting, see enclosed booking form for details.

Following Lunch the speaker will be Major-General Julian Thompson CB, OBE, a member of the Association who will probably be best known as the commander of 3rd Commando Brigade during the Falklands campaign and author *No Picnic: 3 Commando Brigade in the South Atlantic*. He has written a number of other books including *The Imperial War Museum Book of War Behind Enemy Lines* and contributed to others like *The Parachute Regiment at War*. Since 1997 Major-General Thompson has been Visiting Professor, Department of War Studies, King's College, London.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE
NAVAL CLUB, HILL STREET, LONDON,
14 OCTOBER 1999

Vice President Jim Fallon together with the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Public Relations Officer and Editor, Committee members Sir Arthur Hockaday, Dennis Pollard, Andy Mullen and 13 members were present.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Vice President Donald Bland, Clifford Bayliss, Tim Chamberlain, Bernard Dunn, Walter Chapman, Malachi Doyle, Captain P.A.C Harland OBE, RN Colonel Michael Hickey, Tom Mills, Ian Peake, Mr & Mrs D. Pope, H.W. Pope, Norman Welch.
2. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 October 1998 and published in *The Gallipolian* No 90 were approved and signed as a correct record.
3. The Chairman presented his report, subsequently published in *The Gallipolian* No 91.
4. The Treasurer presented his Report and the Annual Accounts which were then adopted by the meeting.
5. The following were elected Officers for the year:

Chairman	Captain C.T.F. Fagan
Treasurer/Membership Secretary	W.J. Marsh
Secretary	James Watson-Smith
Public Relations Officer	Major Hugh Jenner
Editor	David Saunders
6. The following having agreed to serve on the Committee in addition to the Officers were then elected:

M. Doyle	Colonel Michael Hickey	D. Pollard
Sir Arthur Hockaday	A. Mullen	N. Pollitt
Major J.R.H. Stopford		
7. Attention was drawn to the fact that Erol Beycan, a well known gardener with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in Gallipoli was the third generation of his family to hold this post. It was agreed, subject to clarification with the Commission that he be elected an Honorary Member.

Sir Harold Walker wished the Minutes of the Meeting to show thanks from the floor for the work of the Committee and in particular that concerned with the Association web-site and the bursary.

The Gallipoli Memorial Lecture at Eltham in April 2000 will be the last, though it is hoped that similar lectures can continue at some other venue, possibly in central London.

Commander Coxon asked whether there is to be a President of the Association, a post which has remained vacant since the death of Lord Granville. The matter remains under consideration by the Committee.

Mr M. Rixon expressed a wish that funds can be devoted towards the production of a new membership brochure. Mr D. Greenslade asked that this be widely distributed at appropriate venues, even used discreetly at events like the service at St Paul's.

Reference was made to the intention to provide more activities and events for members and indeed potential members and Mrs Pat Barber, Secretary of the Friends of the Public Record Office offered to promote these through the Friends.

SALONIKA CAMPAIGN SOCIETY

From 1924 until 1969 the Salonika Reunion Association flourished being replaced by the Salonika Society though sadly this was wound up about 1992. However a small group continued to meet annually to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph and at British, French and Serbian First World War cemeteries and a Macedonian Partisan Second World War Cemetery. A wreath will be laid at the Cenotaph on 7 October, meeting close by at 1120 for 1140. Further details from Philip Barnes, 020 8427 0947.

We are pleased to report that recently a new society, The Salonika Campaign Society has been founded, their first Newsletter – *The New Mosquito* – being published in April this year. Why “Mosquito” well the magazine of the original Association was indeed called *The Mosquito*. We certainly wish the new Society and *The Mosquito* well in this new venture.

The Society will promote interest in the Salonika Campaign, in which of course many of those who served at Gallipoli subsequently participated. It aims to perpetuate the memory of those of all those nations who served, whether they were members of the armed forces, medical service or civilian staff.

Applications for membership, the subscription £3.00 per annum to Alan Wakefield, 4 Watson's Walk, St Albans, Herts, AL1 1PA.

OBITUARIES

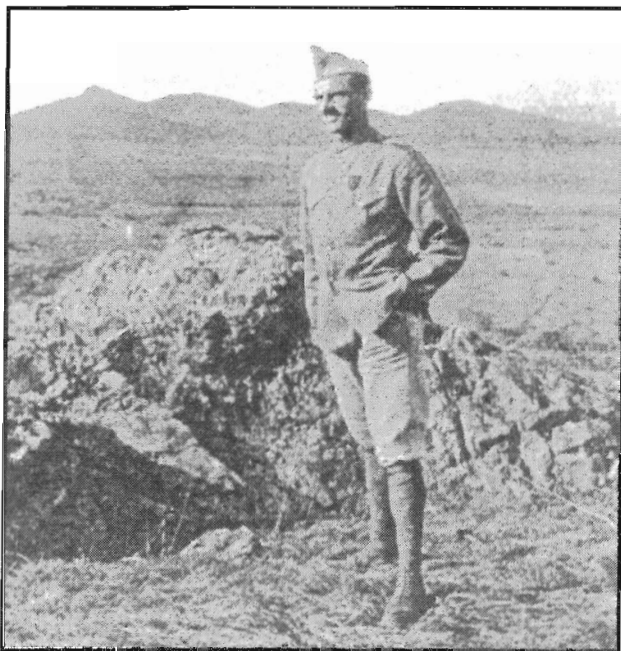
ERNEST STOCANNE

Ernest Stocanne, last French veteran of the Gallipoli campaign died in December at the age of 105 less than a month before his 106th birthday. Born on 6 January 1894 he was drafted into the French Army at the outset of the First World War and assigned to the 17th Artillery Regiment. This left on 20 March for the Eastern Mediterranean and eventually took part in the Dardanelles campaign. Ernest Stocanne remained on the Gallipoli Peninsula until 2 October when he was assigned to the Armee d'Orient and two days later landed at Salonika. He remained in the Balkans until July 1917 before returning to France where he was assigned to the 245th Artillery Regiment with whom he participated in the fighting around Compiègne, later on the eastern part of the Front, where he was at the time of the Armistice in November 1918.

Subsequently Ernest Stocanne was assigned to Poland where he assisted in the reconstitution of the Polish Army from April 1919 until February 1920. An honorary Artillery Captain Ernest Stocanne was an officer of the Legion d'Honneur, while he had been decorated on the front with the Medaille Militaire and the Croix de Guerre avec Palme. He also received the Golden Medal of the City of Paris. After a career as a civil servant in the Prefecture de Police he became head of the security inquiries unit of the US Embassy in Paris, a post he held from 1949 to 1964.

Ernest Stocanne was involved throughout his life after the First World War with various associations, notably the Societe Nationale des Medailles Militaires and as President of the Medailles Militaires de la Prefecture de Police de Paris. He had long been a leading member of the Association Nationale pour le Souvenir des Dardanelles et Front d'Orient and served as the last veteran President of the Association from 1982 until 1987. The post of President has been subsequently held by his daughter Madeline Stocanne.

We are most grateful to Madeleine Stocanne and to Jean-Claude Lis, Treasurer of the Association for providing information for this Obituary.



Ernest Stocanne at Salonika, 1917



Ernest Stocanne being greeted by HM Queen Elizabeth and President Chirac at the Arc de Triomphe, 11 November 1998. Photo: French Press Agency

NEW MEMORIAL AT GALLIPOLI

As part of the ceremonies on 25 April at Gallipoli the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr John Howard and the Prime Minister of New Zealand The Hon Helen Clarke inaugurated a new commemoration site at North Beach, Anzac. Such provision has proved necessary in order to accommodate the immense numbers now attending the Dawn Service each year. We are pleased to reproduce Mr Howard's speech in full:

"To this ancient land, the passing of 85 years must seem but an instant in time, a mere moment in the journey towards forever. But to us it is the distance of human life. Thus we come to this place, at this hour, on this day to observe not only a dawn but a dusk. For dusk has all but fallen on that great-hearted generation of Australians who fought here. The shadows gather on a time and a world in which our nation's spirit was born

Soon the story of ANZAC, which forever joins the people of Australia and New Zealand, will pass gently from memory into history. Soon, the fire struck here will be ours to tend. Soon, its record, once written on pages wet with tears, will be ours alone to guard, ours to cherish, ours to live.

It is a remarkable legacy. Only now, from the sheltered safety of our time, can we comprehend what was dared and done here. Only now, from the vantage point secured for us by others' lives, can we see the scale and scope of their achievement. For those young Australians, as wild and free as the land they loved, left us a creed to which we can all aspire in the gentle years of peace as in the hard and hungry years of war.

The inheritance we claim today is not a fallen sword, nor have we come to extol a warrior's code. The respect of gallant foes and the high regard of comrades is the praise that soldiers seek. It is not for us to give. Let them rest far from the thoughts of battle. Instead, we come to claim from them a heritage of personal courage and initiative, of daring and determination in the face of overwhelming odds. A heritage that requires of each of us a conscious decision to do what is right regardless of the resistance we meet or the fears we hold.

We come to seek the inspiration of stories of compassion and comfort given to others in their time of need, knowing that there are opportunities in our own lives to ease the burden of those suffering adversity and hardship. We come to draw upon the stirring example of unity and common purpose, to believe that, whatever our differing circumstances, we are all companions with each of our countrymen and women, and together we travel a single path. We come to join with those who rest here in a shared love of our nation, bathed in sunlight and so blessed with bounty. We come to stand on soil rich with the lives of our kin, and vow that what they began we will finish. For they fought to build a nation which would stand proud and respected among the free people of the world.

A nation where ordinary men and women would live long lives of happiness and fulfilment. A country where children would grow nourished by the land's harvest and by the love of their parents. A country where prosperity and opportunity are derived not by birth but by endeavour. A people made independent and free for all time. And in the attainment of these ideals, in the keeping of a decent and responsible Australia, in every year of peace between the nations of the world, we will build for all those who have served and suffered in war, a monument upon which evening will never fall."

THE PENINSULA – 85 YEARS ON

MICHAEL HICKEY

With every year, it seems greater crowds attend the ceremonies held at Gallipoli. This year's were notable for the presence of Mr John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia and The Hon. Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand, both of whom spoke movingly to the large audience at the great Turkish memorial overlooking X Beach and Morto Bay. Here the South Wales Borderers made their successful landing on that fateful morning, beyond which is the stretch of water where lies all that is left of the battleship *Goliath*. A French naval vessel was anchored in Morto Bay and members of the crew formed an honour guard at the French Necropole Nationale overlooking the Bay. As is now the regrettably standard practice, official British representation was minimal; our Ambassador, H.E. David Lagan CMG kept our flag flying but only Mr John Spellar, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, who was allotted no part in the programme, was sent out from Whitehall.

The day before the main ceremonies, a group travelling with Holts' Tours was able to make a significant, if unofficial contribution. In a brief but intensely moving ceremony Mr Stanley Blenkinsop scattered sand taken from the Northumbrian beach on the John Simpson's grave at Beach Cemetery, see pages 10-12 for a full report. Elsewhere in another informal ceremony, at Sedd-el-Bahr, Mr Erol Beycan, recently retired from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission after 36 years' service as head gardener, then works supervisor, was made an Honorary Life Member of our Association and presented with our tie and badge, as well as a letter of appreciation from the Chairman, Christopher Fagan. Mr Beycan's father had been head gardener before him, and his son is now carrying on the family tradition. To this remarkable family must be attributed much of the credit for the immaculate condition of the peninsula's cemeteries throughout the year. The Beycans now run the delightful and comfortable Pensyon Panorama overlooking Morto Bay; its beautiful garden, the scene of the presentation, is within a few yards of the grave of Colonel Doughty-Wyllie, VC.

The presence of the Australian and New Zealand Prime Ministers, moving informally around the battlefields, gave some of us a chance to speak with them. It is pleasing to report that both spoke movingly at the official ceremonies, pointing out that the greatest numbers of casualties were in fact borne at Gallipoli by the British and French contingents, a fact often overlooked by many of the youthful pilgrims who visit the area at this special time of the year.

It was particularly pleasing to meet up with the Merchant Taylor's contingent at the Cape Helles memorial. The Gallipoli Association's bursaries for 2000 had been awarded to Mark Herbage and Osman Osturk and they were immaculately turned out in their CCF uniforms, accompanied by Lieutenant Commander Keith Bridgeman, one of the school contingent's officers. As his name implies Osman is half Turkish and was highly amused when it was put to him that his presentation might start with the words "This is the time when we fought us!" We look forward to hearing what these two most agreeable young men will have to say on 29 September when they are due to make their report to a discerning audience – see contents page for details.



Osman Osturk and Mark Herbage at the Cape Helles Memorial, 25 April, with Colonel Michael Hickey (right) and Lieutenant-Commander Keith Bridgeman (left).

Photo: Dr Kevin Gallagher

JOHN SIMPSON KIRKPATRICK A TRIBUTE AT GALLIPOLI

STANLEY BLENKINSOP

“These are the words I spoke when I laid a poppy wreath on John Simpson Kirkpatrick’s Gallipoli grave at Beach Cemetery on the eve of Anzac Day 2000.

This is the grave of the “Man with the Donkey”. The eight words on his headstone say it all: “He gave his life that others may live”. John Simpson Kirkpatrick is Australia’s great national hero. But he was English – a Geordie born at South Shields on Tyneside. Seventeen of his all-too-short 22 years were spent on the banks of the Tyne – “the coaley Tyne, queen of aal the rivers” as Geordies still know it. Geordies are named after another great son of the Tyne – George “Geordie” Stephenson, father of railways whose motto was “Never give up”. It was an appropriate motto for Simpson too. As was the motto of his home town – “Always ready”. He lived up to both during his final 24 days of life at Anzac.

Here in the valleys in the shadow of death where, under murderous Turkish fire, he rescued up to 300 wounded comrades with the aid of his faithful donkey before he was killed on 19 May 1915. It is said he won the Victoria Cross 50 times over – senior officers recommended him for the medal. So did the Australian Government. But no award was ever made – partly because of bumbling bureaucracy in the initial application.

John Simpson had learned all about donkeys as a ten year old schoolboy in South Shields. He earned pocket money giving rides to fellow children and young ladies on the Herd Sands beside the Tyne. There he once worked for a man called Murphy – so he named his Gallipoli donkey after him. Today South Shields has its own life size statue of Simpson and donkey, this stands not far from one of the biggest pubs in town, called Kirkpatrick’s in his honour.

When he was 14 a girl was born just a few hundred yards from his home in the Tyne Dock area of South Shields. From the most humble of beginnings she became one of the world’s most prolific novelists, Dame Catherine Cookson. It is unlikely they ever met but in one novel she wrote of a fictional river rescue at Tyne Dock in which the hero dived to the aid of a child who had fallen in. Was Dame Catherine perhaps inspired by the real-life story of Simpson who, as a schoolboy had once saved not one, but two children from the exact spot then walked away. It was only later that his name – and boyhood heroism – emerged. The young Geordie’s determination would certainly have appealed to her. After all she once said: “I can and I will has always been my motto”.

Simpson – “Wor Jack” in Geordie twang to family and friends – went to sea at 17. After several voyages round Australia he tried other jobs like coal and gold mining, cutting cane and farm labouring before becoming a seaman again on another Australian freighter.

When the Great War broke out in 1914 he promptly volunteered as a stretcher bearer with the Australian Army, dropping his “Kirkpatrick” surname and enlisting as plain “John Simpson”. Perhaps he feared trouble over jumping ship and so wanted to disguise his real identity.

He had served a few months in Britain’s part time Territorial Army back home and was in a four man team of stretcher bearers who landed together at Anzac in the first wave of troops. Within minutes the other three were dead. On the treacherous steep slopes, it took four men – one at each corner – to carry a stretcher. What could Simpson do singlehanded? Then, spotting a donkey, he recalled his childhood job on Herd Sands and immediately enlisted it. So began the legend of Simpson who, thanks to the donkey, did the work of four men.

For 24 days Simpson operated as an independent unit, carrying the wounded down Shrapnel and Monash Valleys to the beach. In the British Army he could have been accused of deserting his regiment in the face of the enemy – an offence carrying the death penalty by firing squad. But his Australian officers – less rule-bound than their British colleagues – realised the Geordie’s value and let him carry on. Daily his fellow Anzacs marvelled at his bravery and wondered how long he could survive. Repeatedly they asked: “Has the bloke with the donk stopped one yet?” On 19 May, he did – killed instantly by a Turkish machine gunner near Steele’s Post. But it is said his donkey and passenger both escaped – and Murphy, without his master, delivered his special load to the beach.

Hardened “Diggers” were deeply distressed at Simpson’s death. Some sobbed uncontrollably. Indian troops who knew him as *Bahadur – Bravest of the Brave* – beat their breasts in anguish and rubbed soil in their hair. Then they laid flowers on his makeshift grave. By a millions-to-one coincidence one of his passengers had been his closest boyhood pal from South Shields – Billy Lowes who was serving with Britain’s Royal Naval Division alongside the Anzacs. But neither recognised each other because Billy was unconscious during the ride and his wounded face was heavily bandaged. It was only later – and too late to say “Ta” the Tyneside way – when Billy discovered his saviour’s identity. He still regretted that when he told me the story in 1965.

Another day a wounded British officer who had been carried by Simpson and his donkey was so grateful that he offered the Geordie Pom a golden sovereign – worth about £100 in today’s money. “Aa divvent want yer bliddy quid” he snapped in his broad Geordie accent. “Aa divvent dee this job for money, man!”

As a Geordie myself I first learned of the breath-taking bravery of the “Man with the Donkey” back in 1939 as an eight year old schoolboy in my Tyneside village school 15 miles from South Shields. By coincidence it was by a teacher from South Shields who, like Billy Lowes had served alongside the Gallipoli Anzacs with the Royal Naval Division. At the 1939 school pageant to mark Empire Day – a long forgotten festival nowadays – I carried an Australian flag as big as myself as I nervously told the Simpson story to my school. Since then he has fascinated me. This is the first time I have seen his grave. I find it a tremendously emotional moment.

In addition to laying this wreath of poppies I will sprinkle some very special sand round “Wor Jack’s” last resting place. Sand from the Herd Beach at Shields where he first learned to handle a donkey as a short-trousered ten year old schoolboy. Sand poured from a South Shields milk bottle. For Jack’s first full-time job on leaving school was delivering milk for a local dairy.

Now I ask you all to join in a brief silence for the canny Geordie lad who became an Australian national hero. Canny this time in the Geordie sense in which it means pleasant, helpful, thoughtful, cheerful. Canny – the greatest tribute one Geordie can pay to another.”

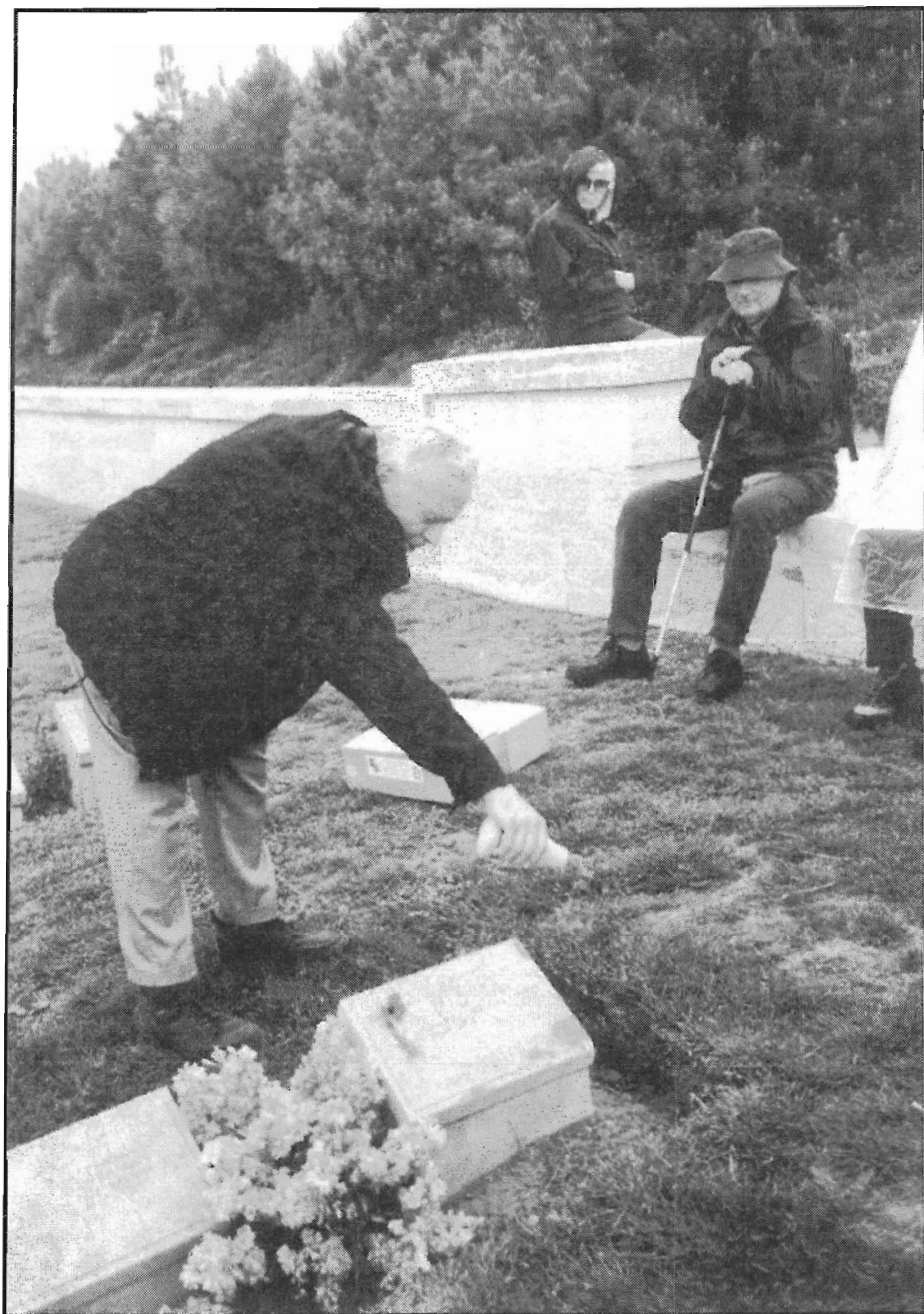
Note: For Members information I left the following message on the wreath:

“Like myself the Man with the Donkey was a Geordie – someone from Tyneside England. It is 60 years since I was first taught at school about John Simpson Kirkpatrick’s breath taking bravery by my Geordie teacher who also fought at Gallipoli. Since then Simpson’s story has fascinated and inspired me.”

SIMPSON PETITION

Members will be interested to learn that Jill Hall, a Member of the House of Representatives in the Federal Parliament in Australia, is assiduously endeavouring to raise the question of a posthumous award of the Victoria Cross to John Simpson Kirkpatrick. Under the Imperial Award system, the Victoria Cross was denied to Simpson as a result of some confusion in the original application when in 1915 John Monash (later General) recommended Simpson for the VC. The matter was raised again at the highest level in 1967 by Lieutenant Casey (later Governor General Lord Casey) and the Chief of the General Staff, Major General Brand both of whom witnessed Simpson’s work, together with Prime Minister Holt, when they recommended Simpson for the VC. Sadly their efforts proved unsuccessful.

Further information on the campaign is available from Jill Hall MP, PO Box 499, Belmont, NSW 2280, Australia. Copies of the petition are available at www.anzacs.net/PrintPetition.htm, or can be obtained from the Editor of *The Gallipolian*.



*Stanley Blenkinsop scattering sand from South Shields on the grave of
John Simpson Kirkpatrick.*

GALLIPOLI DAY IN GREAT BRITAIN

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Gallipoli Association, laid a wreath at the Gallipoli Memorial in the Crypt of St Paul's Cathedral during a simple ceremony when wreaths were also laid by the First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff, the Chief of the General Staff, the High Commissioners for Australia and New Zealand, the Turkish Ambassador and French Military Attache. Cadets from Merchant Taylors' School had formed a guard of honour at the entrance to the Cathedral and were later on parade with members of the Gallipoli Association at the Cenotaph.

Earlier that same morning in Battersea Park Rolf Harris read an ode during the Dawn Service as a new memorial was dedicated in the presence of a large number of people, mostly young folk from Australia and New Zealand. Many of these later attended the services at the Cenotaph followed by that in Westminster Abbey.

We were as in previous years pleased to receive from members of the Association reports of Anzac Services from a number of venues across the country, though these only represent a few of over 20 services that took place. From Brockenhurst in Hampshire over 300 people attended the service when posies of spring flowers were laid by Brownies, Cubs and Guides on the graves of the 93 New Zealand servicemen buried there. At the other end of the country in anything but spring weather, the community of Spey Bay marked Anzac Day by laying wreaths at Dallchy while on the same day at Chilworth a wreath was laid on the grave of General Lord Freyberg VC. As has happened since his burial there in 1916 a service was held on the afternoon of 25 April at the grave of Sergeant Thomas Hunter "The Lonely Anzac" in The Broadway Cemetery, Peterborough. The fallen of 1/8th Battalion, The Hampshire Regiment (Isle of Wight Rifles – Princess Beatrice's Own) at Suvla were remembered at Mount Joy Cemetery, Carisbrooke during a ceremony at which Major Anthony Hill laid a wreath on behalf of the Gallipoli Association. At Totnes a Festival of Remembrance was held on Anzac Day as part of the town's millenium celebrations, Field-Marshal Sir William Birdwood having taken the title Baron Birdwood of Anzac and Totnes. At the end of the week some 55 old comrades, mainly Fusiliers, were present for the traditional Gallipoli Lunch of the Preston Branch held on the Friday before the impressive Parade in Bury on 30 April.

The Editor is always delighted to receive reports, photographs and newspaper reports of Gallipoli events, and is indebted to all those who have sent material over recent months.



Cadets from Merchant Taylors' School on Parade at the Cenotaph and then off duty on Gallipoli Day.

ANZAC DAY IN JERUSALEM

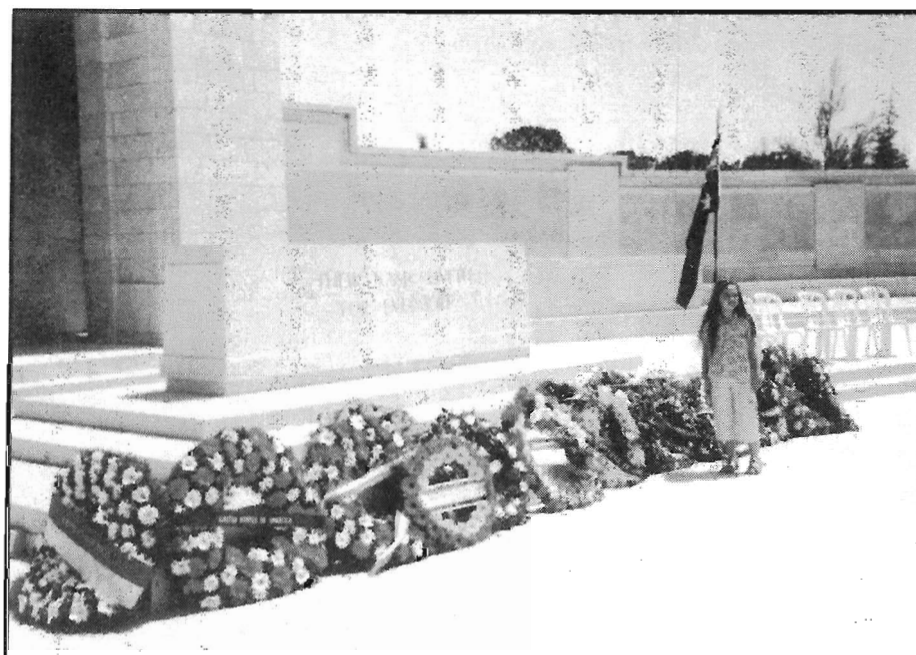
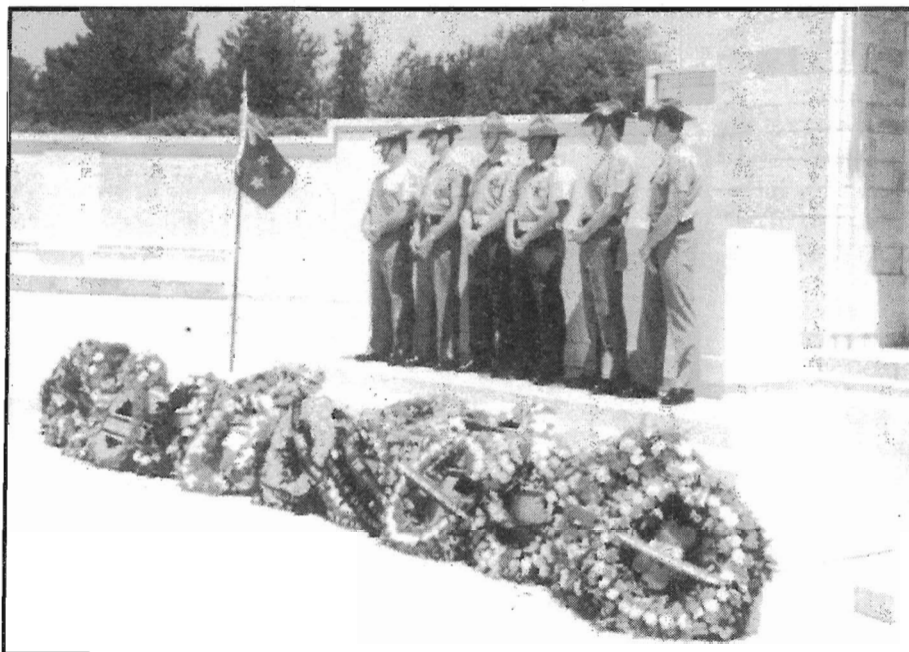
MICHAEL D ROBSON

As the Greek name suggests, Mount Scopus overlooks Jerusalem from the northeast. The legions of Titus camped here in 70AD, as did the crusaders in the year 1099. Here too, General Allenby's troops rested after taking Jerusalem from the Turks in 1917. It was therefore quite appropriate that Mount Scopus should have been chosen as the site for the principle Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery in Jerusalem and here, under the auspices of His Excellency Dr. Richard Rigby the Australian Ambassador to Israel, the Anzac Day Remembrance Service commenced at 1100 on 25 April.

Following Dr. Rigby's opening remarks, prayers were said by Father Fabian who also read from the Book of Samuel and from the Letters of Saint Paul while Rabbi Shlomo Goldberg also gave a reading. Mr. Malcolm Beer, a fifth generation Australian who's family has over the years contributed more than two score members to the Australian forces, gave a moving address about their sacrifice. Eleven wreaths were then laid by the diplomatic and military representatives of Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Turkey, South Africa, France, U.S.A., Canada, India and Israel. These tributes were followed by three more from the Israel-Australia Chamber of Commerce, the Zionist Federation of Australia and AJEX – the Association of Jewish Ex-servicemen and women. The trumpeter who sounded the Last Post was provided by the Israel Defence Force.

Mount Scopus is the last resting place of many an Anzac soldier, some of whom will also have been veterans of the Gallipoli campaign. Eighty-five years after the landings, the Anzac's proud heirs and successors are once again stationed in the Middle East, today serving as Multinational Force Observers. They have also exchanged one peninsula for another; that of Gallipoli for the Sinai where they monitor the treaty between Egypt and Israel. Happily, members of the M.F.O. representing Australia and New Zealand were able to provide the honour guard for the service and to supervise the wreath laying.

Dr. Rigby commented on how appropriate it was for the 85th Anzac Day to fall during the Jewish holiday of Passover and between the dates of the western and the orthodox Easters. He also explained that the Passover dietary restrictions meant that this year he could not offer the customary Australian hospitality following the service, as the leavened bread of buffet sandwiches, beer and whisky are made from grain and therefore not kosher at Passover time. Such losses he promised to make good next year.



Anzac Day on Mount Scopus, Jerusalem. Photos: Michael Robson

GALLIPOLI DAY IN MALTA

JOHN A MIZZI

On Anzac Day, President de Marco paid tribute to the many ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps), British and Allied servicemen who lie buried in the military cemeteries on the island and who died of wounds or illnesses contracted on the battlefields of Gallipoli. The ceremony was held at Pieta Military Cemetery which contains 1,284 war graves, most being of Gallipoli casualties.

Malta played an important role in the campaign, being the back-up base, besides sending labour battalions to assist the troops. A number of those who volunteered to serve in the British regiments were killed and are commemorated on memorials as their remains were never found. Malta also became the main hospital centre for the sick and wounded. Twenty-eight hospitals and convalescent centres were set up throughout the island. These dealt with 2,550 officers and 55,400 other ranks, the maximum number in hospital on any day being 16,004.

Sadly the memorial to the gallant men of Gallipoli, Australia Hall, lies derelict at St Andrew's, having been deliberately gutted by fire on 1 December 1998, though is still classified as a Grade 2 protected building by the Planning Authority.

Note: This report is a shorter version of one written by our member in Malta and first published in *The Sunday Times* of Malta, 30 April.

GALLIPOLI VETERANS ON TAPE

Although published in 1994 the catalogue prepared by Peter Hart of the oral history recordings relating to Gallipoli held in the Imperial War Museum is still available. This 230 pages, A4 format, catalogue contains detailed summaries of about 100 interviews with Gallipoli veterans plus extracts from their recordings and brief biographies. Most, if not all were members of the Gallipoli Association, and some like Edgar Banner, Eric Bush, Jack Chadwick, John Ford, Jack Gearing, Malcolm Hancock and Joe Murray were particularly well known and active in the affairs of the Association. The recordings themselves are available for listening in the Museum's Sound Archive.

Copies of the catalogue are available to members of the Gallipoli Association, **make sure you mention this when ordering**, at the special price of £10.00 including post. Orders with cheque or credit card number to Department of Sound Records, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ.

EIGHTY FIVE YEARS ON

HARRY MOUNT

Eighty five years ago, on 21 August 1915, my great-grandfather, the fifth Earl of Longford¹, died at Suvla, Gallipoli. His last words to his second-in-command, who was crouching down to avoid the shells flying overhead, were, "Please don't duck, Fred. It won't help you and it's no good for the men's morale".

Soon after, Thomas Longford, advancing at the head of his Yeomen troops, with a map in one hand and a walking-stick in the other, was mown down in a hail of rifle fire. 'Fred' – Fred Cripps, brother of Sir Stafford, the future Chancellor of the Exchequer – survived for another sixty years. He was one of the lucky few: eighty-six of the seven hundred and fifty men, twenty-one of the twenty-eight officers and all Longford's staff were killed. So heavy was the fire that bullet met bullet in mid-air – several of the squashed crosses of lead that were formed by these collisions are now in the Gallipoli museum.

The 25 April, Anzac Day to many, marks the anniversary of the beginning of the Gallipoli campaign when 1500 Australians landed on the Turkish coast 200 miles south of Istanbul. These were the first of some 500,000 men poured onto the Gallipoli peninsula over the next four months as part of Winston Churchill's ill-fated scheme to spring the deadlock of the Western Front with a push into Europe from the east. 250,000 of these men were wounded or killed.

This year, for the first time, there will be no British Gallipoli veterans alive to witness the passing of Anzac Day. The last British survivor, Darcy Jones, a member of Longford's brigade, died in January at the age of 103. Across the world, the generation that fought in the First World War is disappearing. The last French veteran of Gallipoli died in December. Of the three surviving Australian Anzacs commemorated earlier this year by the issue of stamps illustrated with their portraits, only two are left; one died in January, aged 105.

While the last soldiers may be dying, the memory of Gallipoli in Australasia remains strong: Anzac Day is a national holiday in Australia and New Zealand. The Australian Prime Minister, John Howard, attended the Dawn Service at Anzac Cove, where a new memorial to the Australian dead was inaugurated. Although at least 27 church services took place in Great Britain on or close to the day, the response of the British Government was not been exemplary. It seemed that only at the last minute were arrangements made for an official British presence at Gallipoli: the British Government and the National Assemblies of Scotland and Wales being represented by John Spellar, Minister for the Armed Forces.

After Lord Longford's death, it was not possible to collect his body; it was lying too close to the Turkish guns. The survivors retreated and the corpses remained where they fell for three years, until the Armistice. "My father had had his coat of arms tattooed on his chest in blue," recalls Lady Violet Powell, Longford's youngest surviving daughter and wife of the novelist, the late Anthony Powell, "Because he knew how difficult it would be to tell the bodies apart".

The family crest, an eagle displayed *gules* coming out of a mural crown *or*, and the accompanying motto – *Gloria Virtutis Umbra* – punctured on to Longford's chest, had naturally long since disappeared when the men of the Allied war graves commission arrived in 1918 to bury the dead. The battlefields which had been craters and mud and dust were now covered with camel thorn, wild thyme, saltbush and myrtle and it was difficult to find the bodies. All that remained of those that were found were bones. Of the 3000 tombstones in Green Hill Cemetery, Suvla 2400 of them, including Longford's, are topped with the words, "Believed to be buried in this cemetery".

For a year after his death, he was listed as missing in action. His wife persisted in thinking that he might have been taken prisoner. "She once called me to her room to write a letter to him because she had an idea that a child's letter might get through," says Lady Mary Clive, Longford's other surviving daughter. "It didn't get through; it was sent back and the following July she gathered us all together and said that he was dead. And then it was never mentioned by my mother for about twenty years."

Lord Longford, 50 at the time of his death, was a career soldier who had served and been wounded in the Boer War. When not on duty, he returned to his houses in Oxfordshire and Ireland, where he was Lord Lieutenant of County Longford and a keen hunter. According to Cripps, Longford "was never happier than when he came home after a day's hunting, with his face covered with blood from swinging through an impenetrable 'bull-finch' [a high hedge]".

"He was also a literary man," Lady Violet says. "He built up a large collection of books, as did my mother, who thought old books were unhygienic and so she always bought new ones." This literary streak was passed on to his children and grandchildren – the Pakenham clan of writers, among them the present Lord Longford, Thomas Pakenham and Lady Antonia Fraser. Thomas Longford published nothing, but he was a prolific letter-writer. On leaving for Gallipoli, Longford wrote a short card to Lady Violet.

"Goodbye till we meet again. Do be a good girl.

Your loving dada,
Longford."



Four of Lord Longford's children. Left to right Lady Pansy Pakenham (later Lady Pansy Lamb), Hon Frank Pakenham (later 7th Earl of Longford), Lord Silchester (later 6th Earl), Lady Mary Pakenham (later Lady Mary Clive).

"I just remember him visiting us in the nursery to say goodbye," says Lady Violet, who was three at the time. "Turning his back and going out of the door."

The ship sailed to Gallipoli via Egypt. Longford's 2nd South Midland Mounted Brigade awaited the call to action in Cairo for four months. While they were there the Waza – Cairo's red-light district – was burnt down by Australian troops in revenge for the venereal disease they had contracted in its brothels. Even before the brigade left Cairo, it became clear that all was not going according to plan in Gallipoli. The first fronts carved out largely by the British at Cape Helles, and by the Australians and New Zealanders at Anzac Cove, had not shifted for some weeks. Here the troops were securely dug into the lee of the slopes leading up from the coast but they could progress no further without being fired upon by the Turks entrenched in the hills above them. It was decided that a third front would be opened up to the north. The 10,000 horses that had been shipped from England would not be needed; so they were left in Egypt. Trained as cavalrymen, the men of the Mounted Brigade had less than a fortnight to turn themselves into infantry.

They sailed on towards Gallipoli, disembarking at the mouth of the Dardanelles, not far from the stretch of water that Byron had swum across a century before. On the far side lay Asia and, just visible, as a small mound commanding the flat plains of Ilium, the ancient site of Troy. Uncovered only forty years before by Heinrich Schliemann, the German archaeologist, Troy had already reverted to its martial role: the Turks had dug a trench and set up a machine-gun post on top of Priam's citadel. "My father read Classics at Oxford and was still keen on it," Lady Violet says. "He wrote how he looked across to Troy from the ship and longed to visit it."

The Brigade headed north towards the second front. Their route took them across a salt lake, dried in the August sun, leaving a great white bed of crystals. Before setting off across the lake, Longford beckoned to Cripps and said, "I wanted to say good-bye to you, as we shall both inevitably be killed this afternoon". Walking across the stark, white salt-bed, Longford and his men presented easy targets to the riflemen ensconced in the hills ahead of them. Shells burst in the sky above, showering the British with shrapnel.

The men hurried towards the shelter of a bluff known as Chocolate Hill: still today, a few minutes' walk through this fertile wine-growing region clogs the shoes with heavy, cocoa-coloured mud. From this refuge, the survivors turned round to look at the dead and the wounded. Among the casualties was Cripps, who had been hit in the leg and was unable to move. As the Westminster Dragoons came by, a Lieutenant Ferguson handed over his troop to his sergeant and went to Cripps's aid. Arm-in-arm, the two figures could just be picked out against the dust and the smoke. Bullets and shrapnel fell around the limping pair. When they at last reached the safety of Chocolate Hill, Cripps produced a cigar case from his pocket and lit an out-sized corona. A cheer went up from the spectators.

Longford took his brigade on towards the next significant Turkish outpost, the crescent-shaped Scimitar Hill. A thick mist, unusual for the time of year, had settled on the battlefield and dusk was gathering. Sir John Milbanke V.C., a colleague of Longford's, was ordered "to take a redoubt, but I don't know where it is and don't think anyone else knows either, but in any case we are to go ahead and attack any Turks we meet". In this confusion and the now almost complete darkness, Longford was killed.

So ended the action of Scimitar Hill – according to the regimental history, "the most costly, in proportion to its size, and the least successful of all the Gallipoli battles".

"The British losses particularly of the Yeomanry and the 29th Division, were heavy and fruitless," Churchill later wrote of the battle. "On this dark battlefield of fog and flame, Brigadier-General Lord Longford, Brigadier-General Kenna V.C., Colonel Sir John Milbanke V.C., and other paladins fell."

These words of praise were not enough to absolve Churchill for his part in the conception of the Gallipoli campaign. For a decade afterwards, hecklers shouted, "What about the Dardanelles?" at him when he stood for election. And Lady Longford never forgave him.

"It was the custom then," says Lady Violet, "To invite the parents of your children's friends to their coming-out parties, although very few of them ever came. I remember my mother being horrified at the thought that Churchill might turn up with his daughter at one of her parties. It was rather lucky my mother didn't live to see him become saviour of the world."

Lady Longford could not bear to visit the supposed site of her husband's grave for a decade. She tried once, got as far as Istanbul, and then turned back, unable to face the ordeal. The next year, in 1926, she did get to the cemetery, accompanied by her daughter, Lady Mary Clive.

The general in charge of the whole campaign, General Ian Hamilton, later wrote a tribute to the men of Gallipoli:

"You will hardly fade away until the sun fades out of the sky and the earth sinks into the universal blackness. For already you form part of that great tradition of the Dardanelles which began with Hector and Achilles. In another few thousand years the two stories will have blended into one, and whether when "the iron roaring went up to the vault of heaven through the unharvested sky", as Homer tells us, it was the spear of Achilles or whether it was a 100lb shell from Asiatic Annie won't make much odds to the Almighty'.

It does, though, make a difference to today's tourists. The site of Troy is filled with coaches and parties of schoolchildren. A café and playground – its main feature a large wooden horse – have been provided for the visitors. The cemeteries of Gallipoli are immaculately kept. Each of them is surrounded by a bank of pines and planted with arbutus, rosemary, junipers, cypresses and Judas trees. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission looks after the cemeteries in perpetuity. But the cemeteries are empty. In the day I spent wandering round the graveyards I saw nobody except for the Commission gardeners, assiduously weeding and pruning away.

A year after Longford's death, a memorial service was held in St Mary's, Bryanston Square. Lady Violet Powell remembers wearing a posy of forget-me-nots. An extra verse was added by Lady Longford to one of the hymns that were sung – *Within the churchyard*.

'And those who die away from home
Their graves we may not see
But we believe God keeps their souls
Where'er their bodies be.'

This article originally appeared in *The Spectator* magazine for the week 20-27 April and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the Editor. It was also published in the *Daily Mail* on 25 April.

¹ The author is the grandson of Lord Longford's youngest daughter, Lady Julia Pakenham (later Lady Julia Mount) seen here, aged 18, painted by her brother-in-law Henry Lamb, in 1931.



A LUCKY ESCAPE PRIVATE CHARLES GREENSLADE SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY

DENNIS GREENSLADE QPM

My father was born on 5 December 1883, at Burrow Farm, Withiel Florey, West Somerset, 180 acres rented from the Chargot Estate, Luxborough, Somerset. He was the eldest son of twelve children – five brothers and six sisters. Father left school at the age of eleven to work on his parents farm which had then increased to nearly 500 rented acres.

On 29 October, 1914, with a few friends and in a fit of patriotic fervour, at the Drill Hall, Bampton, Devon, he enlisted into the West Somerset Yeomanry. After 12 months cavalry training and invasion repelling exercises on the Essex coast, his unit received infantry equipment including the issue of new Lee-Enfield rifles. There followed a hectic period of sketchy instruction until the 23 September 1915 when the Regiment entrained at 3 am at Thorpe-Le-Soken, en route for Liverpool. That same day the 2nd South West Mounted Brigade embarked in H.M Troopship *Olympic* – most famous of White Star liners and sister-ship of the *Titanic* – for her maiden trooping trip.

Three brigades of Yeomanry and other troops, over 7,000 in all, boarded this huge vessel where conditions were not good. The crowding on decks to which direct air was not admitted was not calculated to deliver them to their destination in the best possible condition. The passenger glories of the ship were boarded up and the boat deck was forbidden to all save the machine-gunners whose guns were mounted thereon. Travelling independently and at great speed the *Olympic* and passed through the Straits of Gibraltar after two and a half days.

In the Mediterranean two boatloads of men, the crew of an Italian ship recently sunk by a submarine, were picked up and during their rescue the 800 feet long *Olympic*, without escort, was stationary for 20 minutes. A prime target for a patrolling U-boat. Many on board heaved a sigh of relief when the ship eventually got under way. Later that same afternoon, the quiet was broken by the discharge of the *Olympic's* forward gun, followed by the alarm of the ship's steam siren. The great ship, bellowing like some wounded monster, immediately began to turn in a vast circle to port after a torpedo had crossed the bows. This near escape, duly chronicled as a submarine attack where the ship was saved by its speed and skilful handling by the Captain.

At Mudros Bay father's unit was transferred to the Kedivial liner *Osmanieh* en route to Suvla Bay, there another transfer, this time to K11 motor-lighters; such operations can be difficult for troops weighed down with their complete equipment. Some 25

officers and 477 other ranks landed on the Peninsula where they remained for precisely ten weeks; evacuating on the night of 19 December 1915. By then their strength had been reduced to 10 officers and 148 other ranks.

Apart from the grim experiences of those stricken by dysentery and the great blizzard, of 24-26 November when the temperature dropped, more than 20 degrees with heavy rain quickly followed by bitter north east winds and driving snow my father had a lucky escape. On 17 October Private Arthur Tarr (1890-1968) asked my father to join him in his foxhole, shortly afterwards a Turkish shell landed and exploded in the trench still occupied by Major M. Greig and Private Blackmore, killing both.

During the Gallipoli Association Lunch on 25 April, 1998, I was having a discussion with a friend Foster Summerson who told me of the existence of diary written by Corporal Frank T. Phillips RAMC. A Somerset man, Frank Phillips was attached to the West Somerset Yeomanry from their time in Essex until the evacuation from Suvla. His diary has added a valuable new dimension to my research, indeed enabled me to learn much concerning the activities of my father's unit previously unknown to me. In particular it describes in graphic detail the shelling of 17 October when Major Greig and Private Blackmore were killed, and my father narrowly avoided the same fate.

Corporal Phillips recorded the incident as follows:

SUNDAY. OCTOBER 17th Very black day indeed, and one of the worse days anyone could wish to experience. I felt a little better this morning, and about 8.30 had just gone over the ridge, and was stood talking while some shells went over, when one pitched down close to one of our big guns, about 20 yards to my right. I imagined someone must have been wounded and I was on my way down when cries of help went up. I arrived and the picture that confronted me was enough to turn the bravest heart. There were two men lying stretched out about 3 yards apart. Myself and a medical orderly in the artillery bandaged the first man and placed him on a stretcher, and he was taken under cover and died soon after. The other man was also in a most terrible state. He was bandaged and put on stretcher to be taken to the hospital. All the time we were attending these poor men, just behind one of our howitzer guns, the shells were falling all round, some very close, terrible shells they were mostly high explosive. When we had done all we could we went to our dugouts, while the shells still dropped thick and fast.

This bombardment lasted about two hours, and we had about a shell a minute round about our ridge. We watched a lot burst on the hill opposite us, and when they burst great clouds of black smoke and dust went up, and afterwards one could pick up plenty of bits of shells, jagged

iron about an inch in thickness. This is the worst bombardment they ever had on this ridge, and no one could ever wish to see another such one. But this is not all. Major Grey, [it was, in fact Major Morland Greig] of the North Devon Hussars, just by us, was killed during the morning, a piece of shell striking his head and blew his head to pieces.

Soon after this a West Somerset Yeomanry man by name Blackmore, was discovered dead just over the top of our ridge. It appears he was in the act of building a new dugout for himself, when a piece of shell caught him in the head and he fell backwards and was quite dead and blue in the face when discovered. I went over and we tied his head up, and lifted him on the flat and then took all the things out of his pockets and I took a ring off his finger and covered him up with a blanket. After dinner the Doctor asked if I would sew him up in a blanket, which I did, and then he was taken on a stretcher to a distant hill overlooking the Gulf of Saros and I escorted the party and led them to a small cemetery. Major Grey [Greig] had just been buried when we arrived, and we had a short service, and I got in his grave, which was only about 3 ft deep and lowered him in. We got back to our dugout, and nothing more unusual took place, but it was a most gruesome day for me, and especially on a Sunday, and one I shall not easily forget.

Major Morland John Greig, a married man aged 50, Royal North Devon Hussars, who lies in Hill 10 Cemetery, Suvla, was Master of the Devon & Somerset Staghounds, Exford, Somerset, where the kennels are situated. The memorial plaque in St Mary Magdalene Church, at Exford, includes his son Richard Morland Greig, who was lost at sea on 23 March, 1941. Private Blackmore, also married, was aged 39 and came from Lewes, Sussex, he too lies in Hill 10 Cemetery. Corporal Frank Phillips was born in Frome in 1897, one of six children whose parents kept The Swan Inn. He was killed by shellfire, while tending the wounded, during the Battle of Sheria – part of the Third Battle of Gaza – on 6 November 1917. His diary, a 52 page typescript covers the period 22 September to 21 December 1915 was typed up by Phillips himself, presumably from a hand-written version, and a copy given by his parents to his fiancée Evelyn Huish. The Regimental History refers to Corporal Phillips' gallantry during the incident described above, and again at the time of his death which it notes "met no material recognition".

My father was discharged on 30 October, 1918 for 'ceasing to fulfil Army medical requirements'. He was later admitted, to Taunton General Hospital his condition was described as 'too ill to operate'. Although he recovered he was refused a pension, which, had it been granted would have been about five shillings (25p). On leaving the Army he purchased on mortgage 30 acres of grassland near Brompton Regis and in 1923 married my mother, a school-teacher. They were to live in an ex-Victorian railway carriage which he converted into a bungalow before they moved to a small

rented farm at Huish Champflower and then 15 years later to one of 126 acres at Wiveliscombe, Somerset. They had six children of whom I am the eldest. Father seen below died on 29 December, 1965. A oak tree is being planted, dedicated to my father, in the Gallipoli Plot at the National Memorial Arboretum being created near Lichfield. I believe that no-one dies until they are forgotten and remembrance is one of God's great gifts to mankind.



I am most grateful to Foster Summerson for providing much information about Corporal Frank Phillips.

Boyle, Captain R.C. 1929. *Record of the West Somerset Yeomanry 1914-1918*. St Catherine Press, London.

Brittain, Private H.C. *Diary of a Yeoman 1915-1919* Published in *If You Want the Old Battalion*, the Newsletter of the Essex Area, Western Front Association Nos 67 December 1994 to No 71 April 1995.

Phillips, Frank. *Diaries of Corporal Frank Phillips, RAMC*. Published in *If You Want the Old Battalion*, the Newsletter of the Essex Area. Western Front Association Nos 76 September 1995 to No 83 April 1996.

IN MEMORIAM

As is customary the Gallipoli Association placed the following *In Memoriam* notice together with the Treasurer's address in *The Daily Telegraph*:

"Gallipoli Day – On this anniversary, April 25, 1915 of the landings at Gallipoli, we remember with pride and gratitude all those who served, and especially those who did not return and now lie together with the Mehmetciks."

A number of other *In Memoriam* notices connected with Gallipoli have been published this year in *The Daily Telegraph*. One to Sub Lieutenant Richard Bossier lost when MGB 2002 sank in the Skagerrak on 13 May 1945, his father, also mentioned in the notice, had served with the Howe Battalion, Royal Naval Division at Gallipoli. Lance Corporal Frank Cavanagh of the Manchester Regiment who fell on 4 June was remembered by his family. Another on this date is in honoured memory of Lieutenant James Grogan, King's Own Scottish Borderers. The gallantry of the same regiment at "Achi Baba Nullah" on 12 July is remembered by a notice, published annually rightly concluding with the words "Not forgotten."

Now to a mystery. For several years a notice has been published with respect to Private William Clyne of the Royal West Kent Regiment referring to his death at Gallipoli, aged 18, on 7 February 1916. The date rules out his death at Gallipoli while the Commonwealth War Graves Commission registers reveal that he is buried in the Basra War Cemetery, Iraq. Perhaps a member may be able to throw further light on this entry.

RUPERT BROOKE SOCIETY

The Summer edition of the Rupert Brooke Society magazine contains much of interest for Gallipolians including an article about the installation of the tombstone in 1920 at Brooke's grave on Skyros, the poem *Skyros at Sunset* by Herbert Asquith and a memoir of William Browne who was with Brooke when he died. Further information on the Society from 45-47 Mill Way, Grantchester, Cambridge, CB3 9ND, e-mail rbs@callan.co.uk

THE IMMORTAL 29TH – A CORRECTION

On page 30 of *The Gallipolitan* No 93 Spring 2000 reference was made when listing the units of the 87th Brigade to the 2nd South Wales Fusiliers, this should of course read 2nd South Wales Borderers. The Editor is grateful to Les Larnder for kindly drawing attention to this error.

PRIVATE ERNEST JOHN LEGG A HEADSTONE AT LAST

JENNIE STRINGER

The morning of 3 May dawned grey and chill over Portsmouth, which was still a town when Ernest Legg lived in Abercrombie Street, Landport. This one of many small, narrow streets of terraced houses, not far from the Dockyard Wall; an area which was to suffer during the air raids of the Second World War and finally cleared during the 1950's.

Patrick Gareipy in his article *That None Shall Be Forgotten* in *The Gallipolian* Winter 1999 No 91: 14-15 provides brief biographical notes on Ernest Legg, The Royal Hampshire Regiment, who was slightly wounded at Gallipoli on 1 July 1915, and on 6 August wounded again, sustaining a severe fracture of the left arm. After time in hospital he was discharged and came home to Abercrombie Street, where he died from tuberculosis on 12 July 1916. He was buried in the family grave in Kingston Cemetery, his mother, Ellen Louisa having died in August 1913, and his father, Albert, ten years later. I assume that there was not enough money for a headstone, as the grave remained unmarked, with the possibility of a non-family internment at a later date.

As a result of Patrick Gareipy's communications with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and their own subsequent investigations they eventually agreed to provide a headstone. This was being unloaded as I arrived on the afternoon of the 3rd. Shortly afterwards Mr. Long, the Cemetery Manager arrived then the Colour Party from the Hampshire Regiment Old Comrades Association. When all was ready the Colour Party was brought to attention, and as the Regimental Collect was read, the headstone was eased into position. The Regimental Standard was lowered as the notes of the Last Post echoed over the silent cemetery, followed by a minute's silence, and Reveille. I was pleased to have been able to take part in this short, simple ceremony to honour a young soldier, who had fought briefly at Gallipoli. May he and his family rest in peace.

Note: We are most grateful for Jennie Stringer for representing the Gallipoli Association on 3 May and for providing this report and the photographs. To Patrick Gareipy whose untiring efforts helped ensure the provision of the headstone. To the Commonwealth War Graves Association and the Hampshire Regiment Old Comrades Association for enabling the commemoration to take place.



LETTERS FROM THE LIGHT HORSE

IAN GILL

In the course of studying and researching West Australian participants of the 1st A.I.F in the First World War, I came into contact with two families who only live less than six miles apart in Perth. Both had relatives who were members of the 10th Light Horse Regiment. Whilst the present day families do not know each other, it can be virtually guaranteed that the Light Horsemen did. Both were original members of "A" Squadron. They embarked overseas and eventually fought alongside one another, albeit briefly – at The Nek where one was killed during the famous Charge on 7 August 1915, whilst the other survived the same ordeal to go on until invalided back to Australia in 1919. The other interesting link to this story is that both men wrote letters home to loved ones. One being five days prior to the Charge in which he died, the other by the survivor recounting his story from hospital due to illness, no doubt brought upon by the awful conditions endured at Gallipoli. So here are these two mens stories and the letters they wrote.



10th Light Horse Regiment prior to embarkation at Perth.

Albert George Cobb was born in Carlton, Victoria in 1887. He was aged 27 years married to Catherine and with a two month old son John, and resident in Kurrawang, a small town between Boulder and Kalgoorlie where he enlisted. His occupation was as a labourer for the West Australian Goldfields Firewood Supply. That same company supplied him with his own mount on hearing of his enlistment. His attestation papers state he had previous military service of three years with the 11th Australian Infantry Regiment.

He embarked at Fremantle on the A47 *Mashobra* on the 8 February 1915. After the spending time in Egypt he embarked for Gallipoli on the 16 May 1915 leaving their horses behind with some men to look after them. His records show no other details until his death on 7 August. Albert wrote lovingly to his wife five days prior to his last action.

My Dear Kitty,

The World
2nd August 1915

Just a few lines to let you know I am still alive, and doing as well as can be expected, considering it is pretty rough. We are in supports one night and trenches the next night, so we have no sleep at night at all.

We are 12 hours out of the firing line out of 48. Well dear Kitty our mail is hung up again, I have not had a letter for a fortnight, if they don't hurry up, they might have to send them on to Constantinople. Just before I started this scribble the Turks have been firing a very powerful shell about 20 yards from where I was having a sleep and I thought she was going to fill my dugout in but she knocked off after breaking a telephone wire, they were trying to knock off one of our batteries. Well dear Kitty this is all as we have to get tea on and then go into the trenches tonight with always a prayer for yourself and baby. Hoping you have the same for me, remember me to mother and all of our friends, hoping this will find you and baby in the best of health with fond love and wishes.

August 4th O.K.

From Your Loving Husband
Albert Cobb
Kixxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxss

Much has already been written on the costly Charge at the Nek. The 8th and 10th Light Horse suffered very high casualties, the former, from Victoria, the highest as they were in the first two waves and the Turks were well ready. Out of roughly four lines each of 150 men, 234 men were killed and about 140 wounded. The 10th Light Horse lost 81 men and many more wounded. Albert Cobb was one of those reported missing and has no known grave. A Board of Enquiry assembled at Russells Top on the 8 or 9 August 1915 for the purpose of reporting on the 37 men reported missing as a result of the action. Of those 37, three of them were officers and five of them were NCO's.



The wife and son of Albert Cobb seen above were both allocated pensions. Kitty received two pounds per fortnight from 8 October 1915 and John ten shillings, rising to twenty shillings a fortnight from 18 October 1915. Kitty Cobb would later marry one of Albert's mates, Bruce John McCarthy who served overseas with the 28th Battalion had lost an arm and was invalided home. Albert's son John served in the RAAF in the Second World War with 14 and 458 Squadrons in several theatres before returning home in 1945.

My second Light Horseman, Maitland Hoops was born in York, Western Australia in 1894 from a line of pioneers. A farmer, he was 20 years of age on enlistment and prior to this had 18 months service with the 25th Light Horse Regiment. With the rank of Corporal he also embarked with A and B Squadrons, Headquarters and the Machine Gun section at Fremantle on the A47 *Mashobra* 8 February 1915, "C" Squadron followed on the 17th on the A53 *Surada*.

Matie Hoops did not reach Gallipoli until early August as part of a group of reinforcements under Lieutenant Hugo Throssell, who later won the Victoria Cross. They participated almost immediately in the new offensive planned to break the deadlock in the trenches, including a new landing by the British at Suvla Bay. After the Charge at the Nek, the survivors manned the trenches for a few more weeks. Matie himself went down with enteric and influenza on the 25 August and was invalided to Port Said, later Australia. His letter dated Heliopolis September 1915:

"No letters for six weeks, probably due to my changing about and the transport that was carrying our mail to the Peninsula was sunk, and of course all mails lost. Dick Playdell is working in Cairo in the Base HQ, and he and Irwin Whitfield and I were together a few days before I went away. My departure was hurried, as I took the place of a Sergeant who fell ill. We went across on the *Haverford* as far as Lemnos. Lemnos has a beautiful harbour with a narrow mouth, which has two rows of mines and submarine nets across it. There were about a dozen battleships and dozens of streamers. We re-embarked there and went on to the Peninsula. We were stationed up on Walkers Ridge all the time I was there, to reach which from the bank you have to climb Cathedral Hill and the ascent is tedious. The first two days we were camped in Shrapnel Terrace, and then we had the charge the next morning. We were forming the third line, the 8th Light Horse were the first and second. At about 3.30am our officer called us and we put on our equipment and filed up onto the saps. We got to our place and had to wait a bit until it got lighter. Then the first line charged, but they never got 20 yards before they were all shot down, as a perfect hail of lead opened on them from rifles and machine gun, and bombs were falling amongst them in dozens as well as shells. The fire from the rifles and machine guns was like a heavy shower of rain on a roof. Well, with a cheer, the second line charged, but this got no further than the first, and then we charged but they dropped like flies. We did not advance further than the first line. I can tell you it looked terrible to see your chums toppling over on the ground and lying in all sorts of attitude. I dropped down and a chum put out his hand and shook hands and said 'Good-bye' as he said he was done. He was shot through the lungs and bleeding from the mouth, but he got back into the trench and is in hospital here now. As soon as I had shaken hands with him I heard someone calling me, and discovered it was Geoff Howell, a

particular chum of mine. He desired me to shoot him as he said he was settled. It was a rare sight to see the smile on his face all the time, I will never forget it. Poor fellow, he got a bullet through the head a little later. I was lying down alongside Captain McMasters and he got two bullets through the head and I had two through my haversack which was on my back, and a piece of nickel struck me full above the right eye, but it was only a scratch. The bullets were still flying like rain and the bombs were lively, so I thought it time to get back into the trench. This I succeeded in doing and I could see Leo Roskams lying wounded just over the trench. I took off my putties and put a stone in the end and threw them out. Someone pulled, so I started to haul in – Who should it be but Jack Linto – a Yorkite. I was just throwing it out again when Leo, who must have become suddenly deranged, stood up for a second facing the Turkish trenches and he got one in the eye which laid the poor fellow out. He was promoted to a lieutenancy the day before. We few who were left had to man the trenches from where we charged for four weeks and a couple of days. There were hundreds of dead bodies within a few yards of the trenches. We were living underground all the time, for everywhere you go you proceed per medium of trenches which are about seven feet deep, with little dug-outs in the sides where you sleep and cook your own food. There are plenty of flying machines about. I saw a bombardment by the battleships one afternoon and it was a magnificent spectacle. There were about eight battleships, and after about 5 minutes you could not see the hills for dust, and all the rest of the afternoon there was a haze over the place, – so great was the dust thrown up. As soon as the battleships had finished firing the infantry charged the hills and took six of the trenches. You can hear the shells going through the air quite plainly, they make such a row. I went to a hospital ship which are painted all white with a red cross on the sides. I went off on a pinnacle to Imbros Island and after a couple of days proceeded to Lemnos, from there to Alexandria, and arrived here on Thursday by the hospital train. Ethal Manger was nursing me and it was half a day before she recognised me. I had six weeks growth of beard on, so that accounts for my temporary disguise. I was feverish so could not take much notice of my attendant. She has gone on a hospital ship now. I have slight touch of typhoid but am recovering.”

Matie Hoops was in the No 8 A.G. Hospital Fremantle in January 1916 and pronounced fit for duty on the 29 January. He embarked as a Sergeant with the 20th reinforcements for the Middle East at Fremantle on the RMS *Malwa* on 31 July 1916 and taken back on the strength of the 12th in October. In March 1917 during the battle for Gaza he was wounded in the hand. This caused Matie much trouble and kept him out of action and mainly on duty with the 3rd Light Horse Training Regiment before he succumbed to malaria on 28 October 1918. On 29 April 1919 Matie boarded the *Dorset* for repatriation to Australia. During his service he had been wounded at Gaza

and been ill with influenza, enteric, typhoid and malaria. He was granted a 20% disability which was reduced to 10%. After the war his work included that of a teamster, shearer and apple grower, he also helped a brother growing flowers in a nursery. He married a Jean Hunter when he was about 40 years of age. In the Second World War he served on Garrison duties within Western Australia. He died aged 82 in 1976. Maties nephew Jef Ginbey also served in the Second World War, with the 2/3rd Field Regiment, 6th Division 2nd AIF in the Middle East and later the Pacific.



The two letters give a wonderful insight into how men at war felt and coped. Albert Cobb seemed to believe that Constantinople was achievable, a testament to gritty determination at long odds. I am greatly indebted to Jack and Ethel Cobb and to Jef and Betty Ginbey for providing such wonderful information about their relatives who served at Gallipoli and which can now be shared by so many more.

THE OPENING OF TISDALL'S BUILDING BEDFORD PREPARATORY SCHOOL

C. GOODWIN

Tuesday 20 October 1999 was an important day for Bedford Preparatory School. An opportunity to remember the history of the school, whether it be the buildings, or the people who have had such a profound affect on the school as a community. Not only did the School commemorate the opening of the Inky building in 1899, for so long the symbol of the Prep School, but it also opened the new Tisdall's building.

In naming the building an opportunity was provided to recognise and honour the achievements of the notable Old Boy and Victoria Cross winner Sub Lieutenant Arthur Walderne St. Clair Tisdall. The first VC to be awarded to a former pupil of the School was awarded posthumously after an extreme act of bravery at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 when Tisdall as a RN Volunteer Reserve was responsible for leading a number of men to rescue injured soldiers from the beach under heavy and accurate fire.

The School was particularly delighted that Vice Admiral Malbon, Deputy Commander Fleet was the Guest of Honour on a day that will be long remembered with the most poignant memories relating to our recognition and honouring of Tisdall. The Vice Admiral proved to be a perfect guest for the occasion. Following the opening of the building he gave a very profound speech to the boys and guests, providing a fascinating and totally absorbing account of Tisdall's final days in Gallipoli.

The School's Ousel Journals from the early part of the century give an excellent insight to Tisdall and his time at the School. His death had a profound impact on those who knew him. He was remembered as a schoolboy with many fine qualities. "I shall always remember him as one of the most brilliant pupils. He was one of the most intelligent and appreciative boys I have ever encountered. Conscientious in work and hearty in play. His sense of humour was always alert and it was a pleasure to catch the twinkle in his eye. He had an unswerving allegiance to what was right and honourable and pure."

The comments of a colleague who was at School and at Cambridge University with Tisdall summarise his qualities.

"We often wondered what Tidsdall would do in the world. We knew it would be noteworthy, but we never dreamed of this. Three times we are told he risked his life in rescuing men under heavy fire. Humble men they were, perhaps, men without any of his gifts, but he counted his life cheap beside theirs."

The day at Bedford last October was certainly memorable and we hope a very worthy tribute to an Old Boy who displayed many outstanding qualities.



Photo: Tony Woodcock LMPA

**STATEMENT BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
THE HON. A. G. A. HORE-RUTHVEN,
V.C., D.S.O., WELSH GUARDS, G.S.O.,
1/62ND (WEST RIDING) DIVISION LATE
GENERAL STAFF MEDITERRANEAN
EXPEDITIONARY FORCE¹**

- 1 I feel I can best assist the Commission by stating briefly some facts that come under my personal observation during the time I was a member of the G.H.Q. Staff, and the impressions formed from them. I was General Staff Officer, 2nd Grade, in the Operation Section of the G.H. & Staff, Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, from the end of June to the 21 August, 1915. My duties were briefly as follows:-
 - (a) To assist in working out the details of military operations.
 - (b) To maintain personal touch between G.H.Q. and the troops in the Field.
- 2 During the month of July I was constantly round the trenches of the Helles and Anzac positions. Two points generally impressed themselves on me during this period.
 - (a) The self confidence, high state of efficiency, and anxiety to take the offensive on the part of the troops who had taken part in the original landing.
 - (b) In contrast to the foregoing the lack of knowledge of trench warfare and the routine of trench life, due to inexperience, on the part of the newer formations when first taking over sections of the line. In this connection it was interesting to note the improvement which the new formations made after even a, short tour in the trenches, when placed beside seasoned troops.
- 3 During the Suvla Bay operations in August, I was despatched on the 6th to watch the operations in the Anzac zone in order to give first hand information to the C.G.S. as to the progress of events, in the first instance by telegram and subsequently by verbal description, Captain J. M. Smith, General Staff (G.H.Q.)

¹ The statement reproduced here is contained within file CAB 19/29 at the Public Record Office and is the submission made by Lieutenant-Colonel Hore-Ruthven to the Dardanelles Commission on 30 January 1917. We are grateful to Derek Hunt for providing this, see also pages 44-48.

being detailed to perform a similar duty with the IXth Army Corps. I witnessed the attack of the Australians on Lone Pine on the evening of the 6th and remained at the headquarters of the G.O.C. Australian-New Zealand Corps during the night of the 6th-7th.

On the morning of the 7th I visited the headquarters of the G.O.C. New Zealand, and Australian Division, and from his observation post witnessed the attack of the 4th Australian Brigade against Koja Chemen Tepe. The difficulty of successfully carrying out this operation, owing to the natural features of the ground and the fatigue of the men after their long night march, was evident, but from the determination with which they went into the attack, their ultimate success appeared probable. I forwarded this opinion by telegraph to the C.G.S.

During the day a very large number of casualties were accumulating on the beach, and although there were hospital ships ready to receive them, the lack of sufficient lighters and small craft to take them out was causing considerable delay. I returned to G.H.Q. during the night 7th-8th and reported that I had been much impressed with the energy of Commanders and Staffs and the determination of all ranks to carry out their difficult task, cost what it may.

- 4 On the night of August 9th I was ordered by the C.G.S. to take an urgent letter to the G.O.C. 9th Corps at Suvla, urging on him, the necessity of carrying out a further advance without any delay. I reached his headquarters 2 a.m. on the 10th and delivered my letter. While the G.O.C. was perusing this document, I discussed the situation with Brigadier-General Reid. He pointed out to me the great difficulties of water supply, supply of rations, ammunition, etc, which he appeared to consider insurmountable, and for these reasons he thought an advance from the present position was impossible at the present time. I endeavoured to impress upon him the supreme importance of making an advance before the Turks had time to concentrate any large forces on the heights and that every minute's delay might prove fatal. He admitted the necessity of this but contended that a further advance was impossible. I subsequently discussed the situation with General Stopford who was equal emphatic on the absolute impossibility of carrying out a further advance. He was evidently more concerned with digging a defensive position across Ghazi Baba Point, as otherwise he feared that his troops would be driven back into the sea.

The impression left on my mind from these two interviews was, that although the difficulties were great, they were magnified in the minds of Generals Stopford and Reid, and that the resolution to overcome all difficulties and the determination to push on at all costs so evident in the Anzac zone, was less apparent in this theatre. At 6 a.m. I returned to GHQ bearing General Stopford's reply. On 12th and 13th I, was again at Suvla.

5 On the 14th August I was ordered by the C.G.S., to make a tour of the line from Chocolate Hill to the left of our Suvla position. I was accompanied by a Staff Officer from the 53rd Division. I walked across the open to a line of lightly dug trenches which I, at first, assumed were occupied by the reserves, as the men were standing about on the top of the parapet, cooking in front of the trenches, and were not being fired at except by an occasional sniper. But little work appeared to be going on to improve the trenches and a general air of inaction appeared to exist. I was, therefore, much surprised when I was informed that these were the front line trenches. There were no Turkish trenches or Turks to be seen in front, and the only sign of the enemy was some desultory shelling and the sniping already referred to. The Officers in Command of this part of the line were often unaware of the position of troops on their flanks, and while I was there it was discovered that what for some days had been supposed to be Turks in Turkish trenches in the bushes on our left front, were in reality our own men. There appeared to be no difficulty in water, rations or ammunition reaching the firing line, and pack mules were going continually to and fro to the front trenches from the beach. The general impressions that I received from this and my other visits were:

- (a) The lack of cohesion between the various detachments occupying the line.
- (b) The failure of the junior leaders owing to inexperience to realise the importance of gaining and maintaining touch with the troops on their flanks.
- (c) The lack of energy of leaders in the matter of the improvement of trenches.
- (d) The possibility of advancing the front line trenches a considerable distance without opposition

On the 15th, 16th; 19th and 21st I was again at Suvla.

6 On the 15th I was ordered by the C.G.S. to visit the left sector of the Anzac position. I made my way with great difficulty to General Cox's headquarters, which were situated in a branch of the Aghyl Dere. The approach to these headquarters was under constant shell and rifle fire from the Turks on the hills above. The route was strewn with dead men and mules, and in certain places, which came into view of the Turks, it was advisable to run as fast as the obstacles caused by the dead men and animals would permit in order to avoid being hit. All the supplies for the troops in this sector had to come by this route. In spite of the heavy losses that they had sustained and the desperate fighting in which they had recently taken part and of the great difficulties of water, etc., I found General Cox's Brigade busy improving their defences cheerful and confident, and ready and anxious to renew the attack at the earliest possible moment.

The contrast in the spirit of the troops in this sector compared with that of the

troops in the Suvla zone, whose difficulties were not as great as most marked. I quote these instances to show the impressions which I gained on every visit to the Anzac and Suvla sectors of the line, that while in the former there appeared to be energetic control and determination to overcome difficulties and push on, which was supported by seasoned and self-confident troops, in the latter confusion, inertia and the magnification of difficulties appeared to exist. I attribute this state of affairs chiefly to the following causes:-

- (a) A pessimistic attitude on the part of the higher Commanders and Staffs which filtered through to the lower ranks.
- (b) Lack of self-confidence and consequent absence of initiative of the part of junior officers, due in part to the hasty and superficial military education which they had received.

The then system of peace training, which relieves the soldier of the necessity of ever having to shift for himself.

- 7 As regards the operations generally, two points, occur, to me:

The task allotted to the new formations at Suvla was not as formidable as that allotted to the formations engaged in the original landing, because:

A large force was already occupying part of the Peninsula and the Suvla landing was made under cover of active operations by this force.

The beaches on which the Suvla landing was made and the ground over which operations were to take place after the landing had been effected were more suitable than the confined beaches and formidable cliffs of Helles and Anzac.

And so the experience gained in the success of the first landing on April 25th appeared to justify the expectation of the successful achievement of the later enterprise. The partial failure can only be attributed, to the causes already given in paragraph 6.

It may be argued against this that the troops which took part in the original landing were equally unseasoned, but it must be borne in mind that the 29th Division and the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, who bore the brunt of the fighting on that occasion, were not only led by young and vigorous Commanders, but were composed in the one case of highly trained and highly disciplined regular troops from India, and in the other of the finest natural soldiers in the world; whereas the new Divisions that were asked to carry out the considerably less formidable task of the landing at Suvla were composed of individuals who, although they had been trained as a Division for a year, were

neither by training nor habits of life as yet particularly adapted to war, and who were in some cases led by Commanders who were no longer equal to the physical or mental strain of a campaign on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

- (2) The experiences of the present war have shown that offensive operations on a large scale against entrenched positions have usually resulted in a partial success, that is the attackers have gained a certain amount of ground but have not broken through the defenders' line, as for instance at Neuve Chapelle, Loos, Verdun and the Somme. The result of the Suvla operations was similar. A considerable amount of ground was gained but, despite the absence at first of a strongly fortified enemy trench line, the limit of the objective was not reached. But whereas in the former instances the partial success carried with it certain moral and tactical advantages, in the latter case, although, these advantages were equal to those of the battles in France, the partial success landed our troops in an unsatisfactory, and what was eventually regarded as an untenable, position.

A. HORE-RUTHVEN Lieutenant-Colonel, Welsh Guards,
G.S.O 1 62nd Division (late General Staff, Mediterranean Expeditionary Force).
Bedford 13 December 1916.

ALEXANDER HORE-RUTHVEN 1ST EARL OF GOWRIE VC

DEREK HUNT

Brigadier General Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven, the first Earl of Gowrie, VC, PC, GCMG, CB, DSO, was the first Windsor born man to win the Victoria Cross. He was born at the Hermitage, Windsor, on 6 July 1872, the second of four sons of Walter James Ruthven, the 8th Baron Ruthven of Freeland. His mother was Lady Caroline Annesley-Gore, daughter of the 4th Earl of Arran. He was educated at Eton College (37 former pupils have won the Victoria Cross). After leaving Eton College Alexander joined the 3rd Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry in 1891, reaching the rank of Captain in 1896.

He took leave from his militia battalion in February 1898 and travelled to Egypt. While in Cairo he met Captain McMurdo, the Director of the Egyptian Slavery Department who made an offer which was to change the course of his career. McMurdo explained that he was about to make an expedition to Kassala in Sudan, on behalf of the Department and asked Hore-Ruthven to join him. The Egyptian Slavery Department was part of the Interior Ministry and was established to help break up the slave trade which was still widespread in the region at that time. Hore-Ruthven fully expected to be back in the UK for annual training in July so agreed to

take part. However, on arrival at Kassala, it was discovered that the Slavery Department was to be used on operational duties in a war zone and an Arabic speaking British officer was urgently required to take charge of a Camel Corps detachment. Hore-Ruthven who spoke good Arabic was persuaded to take up the position and was attached to the Egyptian Army with the temporary rank of 'Bimbashi'. He applied for permission to be excused annual training but unfortunately his letter went astray in the chaos of war. Sudan was, at that time, under joint control of Britain and Egypt, and the Sudan Campaign of 1898-99 was one of the colonial small wars of the Victorian era. The British public had long demanded that General Gordon's death at Khartoum should be avenged and in the years since his death in 1885 many European nations had been active in the area. The British Government ordered a campaign of re-conquest, under the overall control of General Kitchener.

The force from Kassala Garrison consisted of approximately 1,350 Egyptian and Sudanese soldiers with no artillery support and only seven British officers to lead them. Hore-Ruthven led 80 old and medically unfit Sudanese Camel men during the attack upon the last Dervish stronghold at Gedaref in September 1898. He was also present at subsequent operations in the Sudan in 1899, including the final defeat of the Khalifa. It was at Gedaref that he won the Victoria Cross for saving the life of an Egyptian officer.

When a strong force of Dervishes attacked the rear of the column, the survivors, including Hore-Ruthven and his Camel Corps men, fell back towards the main body of the Egyptian army, pursued by the enemy. Hore-Ruthven stopped to pick up a wounded officer and carried him to safety. A Victoria Cross recommendation was made by Colonel Parsons, Hore-Ruthven's Commanding Officer, in October 1898. When it reached the War Office in London it was subjected to the usual scrutiny. While no-one doubted Captain Hore-Ruthven's bravery, there was some dispute whether he qualified for any British award, VC or otherwise. It was pointed out that he had not been acting in his capacity as Captain of the Highland Light Infantry but as a Bimbashi in the Egyptian Army, and therefore outside the scope of the original VC Warrant. Although there was overall British command of the Sudan Campaign, there were no regular British troops in action at Gedaref and so, it was argued, he could not have been fighting for Queen and Country. To further complicate matters, it had been noticed that Hore-Ruthven was absent without leave from his militia regiment and did not have permission to offer his services to a foreign government, his application for extended leave having been lost in transit.

Despite other cases where British officers serving with Egyptian forces had not received VCs when recommended, the application was eventually approved. The London Gazette recorded in its edition of 28th February 1899: "On 22nd September, 1898, the action at Gedaref, Captain Hore-Ruthven, seeing an Egyptian Officer lying wounded within 50 yards of the advancing Dervishes, who were firing and charging

picked him up and carried him towards the 16th Egyptian Battalion. He dropped the wounded officer two or three times, and fired upon the Dervishes, who were following, to check their advance. Had the officer been left where he first dropped, he must have been killed". The Egyptian officer in question, Lieutenant Mohammed Munib, described Hore-Ruthven "as an angel from Heaven" who exposed himself to great danger in picking him up.

Winston Churchill, who was in Sudan with the 21st Lancers, was covering the Campaign for the *Morning Post* and for his second book which was published as *The River War* in 1899. Churchill covered the action in some detail and described how the "heavy fire of the regular battalion checked the Dervish advance... and Hore-Ruthven still carrying his native officer found safety in their ranks". Queen Victoria presented him with his VC at an investiture ceremony at Windsor Castle on 11 May 1899. Less than a week later Hore-Ruthven was granted a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and returned to the Sudan Campaign. From 1903 to 1904 he was Special Service Officer in Somaliland where he saw action at Jidballi in January 1904.

He was military secretary and ADC to two successive Viceroy of Ireland, Lords Dudley and Aberdeen, from 1905 to 1908. It was during this time that he met his future wife, Zara Eileen Pollok, and they were married in London in June 1908. In April 1908 he had been promoted to Captain with the 1st Dragoons and later that year to military secretary to the Governor-General of Australia.

At the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 he was in India, back with the 1st Dragoons. In April 1915 he was appointed Major and GS02 of the newly formed Welsh Guards Regiment and joined General Sir Ian Hamilton's staff at Gallipoli from June until wounded in August. By the end of the war he had earned the Distinguished Service Order and bar, was mentioned in despatches five times, was made a Companion of the Order of Bath and Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George.

In 1928 he retired from the Army with the rank of Brigadier-General upon being appointed Governor of South Australia, a position he held until 1934. On leave in London in 1933 he helped to mediate in the infamous 'bodyline' cricket crisis. He was appointed Governor of New South Wales in February 1935 but had not been there long before he was promoted to higher office. In January 1936 he was sworn in at Melbourne as Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. In 1935 he had been raised to the peerage as Baron Gowrie of Canberra and Dirleton, County of East Lothian. Because of the Second World War his appointment was extended to November 1944, when he returned to England. The tragedy of war was experienced first hand by Lord and Lady Gowrie when their only son was fatally wounded in North Africa in 1942.



In January 1945 Lord Gowrie was appointed Deputy Constable and Lieutenant Governor of Windsor Castle, a position he retained until he finally retired from public life in 1953. Lord Gowrie took an active interest in Windsor, and became President of the Royal Windsor Horse Show and in 1947 was elected president of the Old Etonian Association. He died at Shipton Moyne, near Tetbury, Gloucestershire on 2 May 1955. As his son had predeceased him, the Earldom passed to his elder grandson, Alexander Patrick Greysteil Hore-Ruthven. The 2nd Earl of Gowrie was present at a plaque unveiling at the Hermitage, Windsor in March 1997.

Note: This article was first published in 1998 by the author in his excellent booklet *The Windsor Victoria Cross Exhibition* which tells the story of the three men, all closely connected with Windsor, who were awarded the Victoria Cross. Copies of the booklet are still available from Derek Hunt, 9 Harrington Close, Windsor, Berks, SL4 4AD, price, £2.50 including postage.

FIRST TO FALL

First to Fall is a CD-Rom that provides the only comprehensive list and details of 621 Australians who were killed on the first day of the Gallipoli campaign. This is an incomparable record of their personal details plus information on their enlistment, embarkation, death, burial and commemoration. Through their lives we can glimpse an Australia now gone, but celebrated forever in the national memory. Orders to The AIF History Project, School of History, Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra ACT 2600. Orders from overseas by Visa or Mastercard only, the price 75.00 Australian dollars which includes Air Mail postage.

HISTORY IN THE DEPTHS

This 60 minute video is an edited version of a five episode series of programmes filmed in Turkey, each of 30 minutes duration, produced to mark the Gallipoli Campaign. One of our members Savas Karakas, grandson of a Gallipoli War Veteran who fought on Seddul Bahir is the Producer. The film presents an interesting perspective of the events of 1915 with much archive material, in addition to which there is striking underwater footage including the wrecks of HMS *Irresistible*, *Majestic* and *Triumph* and the Turkish battleship *Mesudiye*. Recently the television rights have been sold to SBS TV Australia who intend producing an English language version to be broadcast on Anzac Day, 2001. A video which has sub-titles in English will be available towards the end of the year with details on this being provided in the Winter *Gallipolian*.

ON THE SUMMIT OF CHUNUK BAIR

COLIN TOWNSEND

When I wrote *Gallipoli 1915* (see Review in *The Gallipolitan* No 91 Winter 1999: 58-59) I had no idea of what the outcome would be. I, like all authors wanted to see my work in print but as the publishing industry did not beat a path to my door a small private print run was discussed. It was felt that there should be enough copies made available for the families and friends of those who had contributed to the book. This was achieved here in New Zealand and we were pleasantly surprised when more and more enquiries and orders were received. The Internet played a part in promoting the book and it was from this source that our friendship began with Australian Dean Hunter a professional guide and Gallipoli historian working for Hassle Free Tours at Canakkale. He asked my permission to use quotes from the book for they conveyed to the people in his tour parties simply but with authenticity what it was like to fight suffer and die on the Peninsula.

During our correspondence he soon discovered that I had never been to Gallipoli and with poor health and limited funds my wife Patricia and I would realistically never get there. Undeterred Dean suggested that the best time to be on Chunuk Bair would be on 8 August 2000, this being the 85th anniversary of New Zealand winning and holding against overwhelming odds these most important heights for some 36 hours. Time passed and then the fantastic news that Hassle Free Tours had made all the arrangements and would fly us both to Istanbul and thence to Canakkale. We were overwhelmed by this most generous offer.

On 8 August we made our way by ferry across the Dardanelles then travelled by coach to the summit of Chunuk Bair where we were welcomed by the New Zealand Ambassador to Turkey, Mr Alan Cook, as well as his wife, private secretary and others of his staff. Also present was Mr John Price of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and his wife. There was considerable interest from the Turkish media in our event, indeed the following day we made the front page of one of the national papers. We have had an experience brought about by people we had never met whom we shall now never forget and to whom our grateful thanks are due.

Note: Members are reminded that *Gallipoli 1915* is available for £16.00 including Air Mail postage from Colin Townsend, 5A Nahum Street, Paeroa 2951, New Zealand.

PRESENTATION ON COLLINGWOOD DAY

The Spring *Gallipolian* No 92:13-15 reported on the 50 years of service given by Roy Adam MBE towards the care of the Collingwood Memorial at Pimperne, Dorset, and for the organisation over the same period of time of the annual service of remembrance held in early June. During his short address to commence the service, the Bishop of Sherborne and Bishop to H M Forces the Right Reverend John Kirkham, said that "One man, and only one man has kept the memory of the Collingwood Battalion alive." It was therefore most appropriate that a presentation was made to mark this unique record, this took place following tea in the officers' mess in the Blandford Garrison. Unknown to Roy, friends and supporters had contributed some £800 to a fund organised by Cllr Della Jones MBE, Chairman of North Dorset District Council, while Pol Roger Ltd had generously donated a magnum of their Winston Cuvee champagne. The cheque was presented by Captain Fulford Dobson CVO, the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, Mrs Della Jones MBE presented the champagne, following which Mrs Hazel Adam was presented with a bouquet of flowers by David Saunders, Editor of *The Gallipolian*.

Note: Why Pol Roger? Winston Churchill, founding father of the Royal Naval Division always drank Pol Roger champagne recalling the words of Napoleon "I cannot live without champagne. In victory, I deserve it, and in defeat, I need it!" We are greatly indebted to Pol Roger Ltd for their generous gift of Winston Cuvee champagne for presentation to Roy Adam MBE.

RND

The June issue of *RND* includes Part 1 of a three part series based on the diaries of Reginald Gale who served with the Royal Naval Division Signals. This part takes his story up to late May and arrival alongside the *River Clyde*. Particularly interesting are the photographs of Blandford Camp and Mudros. The 2nd Field Ambulance, Royal Naval Division was one of only two RND units at Suvla, their War Diary for August 1915 is the other Gallipoli item in the present issue, available at £6.00 from Len Sellers, Honeysuckle House, 17a Bellhouse Road, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 5NL.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION TOUR

A seven day tour to Gallipoli arranged by the Royal British Legion will commence with a flight to Istanbul on 5 May. Two full days will be spent on the Peninsula, with other days at Troy and in Istanbul itself. Further information is available from Remembrance Travel, Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7NX.



*(Above) Wreath layers in readiness at the Collingwood Service, Roy Adam MBE with head bowed, James Watson Smith, Secretary of the Gallipoli Association second to his left.
(Below) Mrs Hazel Adam, Roy Adam MBE and Mrs Della Jones MBE following the presentations. Photos: Brian Moore*

FUNERAL OF ATATURK

Commander Ian Hamilton, has kindly loaned the photograph reproduced opposite which shows the Royal Marine guard of honour present at the funeral of Kemal Ataturk. In November 1938, as he recalls in a section headed *Reconciliation* in his *A Short History of the Bute Battery and the 4th (Highland) Mountain Brigade Royal Garrison Artillery (T.A.) in the First World War* he served on the battleship HMS *Malaya*.

Flying the flag of the Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, Admiral Sir Dudley Pound, HMS *Malaya* travelled from Malta to Istanbul, to represent Great Britain at the funeral in Ankara of Kemal Ataturk. Before sailing the ship's Royal Marine Band was augmented by Bandsmen from other ships at Malta. In addition all the seamen in the fleet, six feet and over, were embarked, given an HMS *Malaya* cap ribbon and were ostensibly crew members. Prior to the body of Ataturk being conveyed to the Asiatic coast on board the *Yavouz*, formerly the *Goeben*, ready for the journey to Ankara, HMS *Malaya* became flagship of the International Squadron that steamed past *Yavouz* in salute to the departed President.

Most of the Mediterranean countries which had navies were represented in the international squadron, save for the Italians. The Turks had shot down one of the Italian planes shortly before being suspicious that it was spying over the Dardanelles. Each nation gave a small cocktail party for officers – the French and the Germans on the same day and at the same hour so they would not have to attend the other's party! On the Sunday evening following the funeral we had private guests on board for supper and cinema including about eight Germans but only one Frenchman.

Earlier this year Commander Hamilton had a visit from a man on a business matter. During their discussion he discovered the man's father, Marine N. Hudson, had served on HMS *Malaya* at the same time as himself, indeed been part of the Royal Marine Guard of Honour which travelled to Ankara for the funeral as shown in the photograph.

We are most grateful to Commander Hamilton for this information and for kindly arranging the loan of the photograph from Marine Hudson's son, Malcolm T. Hudson. The Hudson family have a long history of service in the Royal Marines as Marine Hudson's father has joined them in the 1880's, while Malcolm Hudson was in the Royal Marine Cadets as is his second son.



Royal Marines guard of honour from HMS Malaya at the funeral of Kemal Ataturk.

Photo: Marine N.Hudson, HMS Malaya guard of honour

FLEET AIR ARM MEMORIAL

The Fleet Air Arm was remembered in a moving ceremony beside the Thames on 1 June when His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales unveiled "Daedalus", a striking bronze, winged figure from Greek legend which graces the Fleet Air Arm Memorial (see end note). In a dramatic moment the audience gasped as The Prince released the rope which bound the navy blue silk covering Daedalus and a gust of wind lifted the "parachute" to reveal the winged figure beneath. A flypast of Royal Navy Sea King helicopters took place immediately after the unveiling.

The Memorial stands not only as a tribute to the brave men and women who pioneered naval aviation in the last century but also commemorates over 6000 who have died while serving with the Fleet Air Arm and its predecessor, the Royal Naval Air Service. The Memorial column records every Battle Honour achieved by Naval Squadrons and is inscribed with a dedication, motto and gold wings insignia of the Fleet Air Arm. The Memorial was designed and created by sculptor James Butler RA in association with architect Tim Kempster from Treheame & Norman.

The Prince of Wales and The Duke of York received a formal salute from the Royal Navy Guard of Honour comprising personnel from the two premier Naval Air Stations RNAS Yeovilton and RNAS Culdrose. The Memorial Service was led by Chaplain of the Fleet The Venerable Simon Golding and assisted by Naval Chaplains, Reverend A Maze and the Reverend Monsignor Burns. Admiral of the Fleet Sir Benjamin Bathurst President of the Memorial Appeal, said:

"To have a National Memorial commemorating the Fleet Air Arm in Central London is a very significant achievement, I would like to thank the consortium of Fleet Air Arm and Naval Associations, Companies, Charitable Trusts and individuals who have donated to the Memorial Appeal so generously to make this exciting project a reality. The Memorial Appeal is still actively raising funds for an endowment to Westminster City Council which will ensure the Memorial is maintained in perpetuity and those who still wish to make a contribution should write to the Fleet Air Arm Memorial Appeal, 4 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4JU."

Over 2000 guests including many veterans, widows and families attended the ceremony outside the Ministry of Defence Main Building. Among them were the three surviving members of the ill fated Swordfish attack on the German warships *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau* and *Prinz Eugen* in the English Channel, the incident now known as "The Channel Dash". Lieutenant Commanders Pat Kingsmill and Edgar Lee and Chief Petty Officer (TAG) Don Bunce were reunited for a photo beneath the wings of Daedalus and were grateful to have survived the might of German fire power on that grim day in February 1942. All Swordfish aircraft involved in the attack were lost and only five survivors were brought ashore. Lieutenant Commander



Eugene Esmonde who led the attack was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

The Fleet Air Arm is proud to have four Victoria Cross medals awarded to aircrew, two in each of the World Wars. One of these was to Richard Bell Davies for his gallantry in November 1915 during an attack on Ferejik railway station, a key point on the supply lines through Bulgaria, in support of Turkey during the Gallipoli operations. A reminder of the part played by the Royal Naval Air Service, forerunner of the Fleet Air Arm, at Gallipoli

Among the widows attending was Mrs Mavis Morton from York who was married to Sub-Lieutenant Jimmy Macrae who was one of the British Pacific Fleet aircrew shot down and captured in the raids on Palembang in January 1945. Jimmy was cruelly executed with other naval aircrew by Japanese guards at the end of the Second World War, there is a memorial to their memory in the Fleet Air Arm Church, Yeovilton. Mavis attended with her son Ian, who had flown in especially from New Zealand to attend the ceremony. Others attending had travelled across the Atlantic from Canada and America to honour lost colleagues and family members.

A poignant reminder that Service personnel are still lost while training to fly to the exacting standards required for air combat was the presence of several young widows with their children. Lynne Auckland and her five year old son Charlie accompanied Jo Holmes and her son Stephen to honour their husbands, Mike Auckland and Stephen Holmes who were killed in aircraft crashes. The Prince of Wales and Duke of York met many of the widows, service veterans and families at a special reception at St James's Palace following the ceremony.

Note: The Fleet Air Arm Memorial Committee agreed upon the Greek mythological figure of Daedalus to represent the Service for a number of reasons, not least because the name Daedalus has long been associated with the Royal Navy and especially the Fleet Air Arm. Since 1780, five ships have borne the name *Daedalus*, the last was an ex-floating battery refitted in 1915 as a depot ship for the Royal Naval Air Service, the predecessor to the Fleet Air Arm. HMS *Daedalus* was first commissioned as a shore establishment in April 1916 as the Royal Naval Air Service training establishment at Cranwell, training officers to fly aeroplanes, non-rigid airships and observer kite balloons. In 1918, the Royal Air Force was formed absorbing the Naval Air Service but in 1939 the Admiralty regained control over their aircraft and Royal Air Force Lee-on-Solent was handed back to the Royal Navy and named HMS *Daedalus*. In 1996, this establishment was de-commissioned but the name lives on through this striking contemporary bronze figure.

Daedalus literally translates as "cunning craftsman". According to Greek legend, he was a skilled Athenian inventor who was imprisoned with his son Icarus in Crete by King Minos. Daedalus escaped successfully by fashioning wings from feathers and wax and flying to Italy but sadly his son disregarded his father's warning and flew

too close to the sun and the heat melted the wax and he fell into the sea and was drowned. The Fleet Air Arm Memorial Appeal was launched in 1996 in response to a call for a National Memorial to commemorate the achievements of all those who have pioneered and developed naval military aviation. Also to remember that over 6000 men and women of the Fleet Air Arm, both aircrew and maintenance staff, serving afloat and ashore have lost their lives in the service of their country. The Battle Honours listed on the memorial's two sides signify the wars, campaigns and conflicts in which the Fleet Air Arm has served with distinction. Sadly many others have lost their lives in peacetime aircraft accidents while training to fly to the exacting standards required of air combat.

CENTENARY OF AUSTRALIA'S FIRST VICTORIA CROSS

In July the Australian Post Office issued a set of five stamps to commemorate the Centenary of the first Australian Victoria Cross Award, this to Captain Neville Howse at Vredefort, Orange Free State, during the South African Boer. As reported in *The Gallipolian* Winter 1999 No 91: 48-49 Captain Howse went on to serve at Gallipoli where he was Mentioned in Despatches. The set of stamps shows in addition to Captain Howse the three living Australian Victoria Cross recipients, Sir Roden Cutler, Edward Kenna and Keith Payne, together with the Victoria Cross itself. The names of all 96 Australian VC recipients are printed in the gutter strip.

We are most grateful to Derek Hunt for bringing this to our attention.

WESTMINSTER MEDAL FOR MICHAEL HICKEY

Many members will have met Colonel Michael Hickey at Association events, perhaps accompanied him on tours to Gallipoli, while others will know of him through his book *Gallipoli* first published in 1995. All will be delighted to learn that in early May he received the Westminster Medal for Military Literature of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies, this for his book *The Korean War* published in 1999 by John Murray. The Westminster Medal, created with the support of the Duke of Westminster, is bestowed yearly on the best work in the English language, which provides a notable and original contribution to the study of international or national security, or the military professions.

INFORMATION PLEASE

Do you have a question about some aspect of the Gallipoli campaign? Something perhaps you need to know about a regiment, a ship perhaps, an individual, but have so far failed to find the answer. Surely there is someone amongst the nearly 800 members who would be pleased to help? So please do not hesitate to send in your questions, long or short, share your enquiry with the membership, and hopefully someone will provide the answer, or if not the answer another avenue or two to be explored.

Regimental Information Sought – Jeff Cleverly is preparing a tour of Gallipoli on behalf of Headquarters, Northern Ireland. Between 20 and 25 participants will be drawn from serving Regiments resident in Northern Ireland with an historical link to Gallipoli. The intention is for young soldiers and NCO's to research unit and individual actions in which their Regimental ancestors fought, and then walk the actual ground over which these actions occurred. He would greatly appreciate Gallipoli campaign information on any of the following:

- The Royal Scots (1/4th, 1/5th, 1/7th and 1st Garrison Battalions)
- The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (1/5th Battalion)
- The Worcestershire Regiment (4th Battalion and 9th (Service) Battalions)
- The Sherwood Foresters (9th (Service) Battalion)
- The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (1st, 5th (Service) and 6th (Service) Battalions)
- The Gloucestershire Regiment (7th (Service) Battalion)
- The Wiltshire Regiment (5th (Service) Battalion)

Jeff Cleverly is particularly interested in primary sources of information from any of these Regiments. Individual narratives or personal accounts would be especially useful, as these allow a more "personal" approach to be adopted. The tour represents an excellent opportunity to foster interest in the Gallipoli Campaign amongst today's soldiers and he will welcome any contributions or suggestions at: Fairfield, Harmony Hill, Lisburn, Co Antrim, BT27 4EE, 02892 666252 or by e mail: Jeff.GailCleverly@ukonline.co.uk

11th Battalion (Infantry) AIF – Ian Gill, 8b Patfield Street, Myaree 6154, Perth, Western Australia is writing a book about the honours and awards made to men of this Battalion 1914-1919, the first West Australian Battalion. Already he has nearly 200 names on his register but would be pleased to hear from anyone with information or further points of contact. See also his article *Letters from the Light Horse* pages 32-37.

Crew of Submarine AE-2 – Fred Branchley, 11 Arthur Circle, Forrest, ACT 2603, Australia together with his wife Elizabeth are at the advanced stage of writing a book, to be published by Harper Collins, on the exploits of the submarine AE-2. Publication is scheduled for Anzac Day 2001. The submarine, one of the first in the young Australian navy, was the first allied submarine to successfully penetrate the Dardanelles defences and reach the Sea of Marmara, though shortly afterwards she was sunk and her crew taken prisoner. The authors are most anxious to contact relatives of these members of the crew of AE-2: Lieutenant John Pitt Cary, CPO's Harry Abbott and Charlie Vaughan, ERA1's Peter Fawns and James Henry Gibson, Leading Seamen George Henry Nash and Charles Holderness, Able Seamen Lionel Stanley Churcher and Benjamin Talbot, Stokers Thomas Walker and Thomas Wishart. Information please to Fred Branchley at the address above or by e-mail to branchley@effect.net.au

THE SANDRINGHAM COMPANY AT SANDRINGHAM

Following an exhibition at the Royal Norfolk Regiment Museum in Norwich a number of items relating to Gallipoli and especially those connected with the Sandringham Company are now on permanent display at Sandringham. These consist of a replica of Captain Frank Beck's tent with his sleeping bag, dress sword and helmet box; six large panels and a plan telling of his life, the formation of the Sandringham Company, the journey to Gallipoli, the day of the battle and its aftermath. One panel does have pictures of the drama *All the King's Men* but the text provides as accurate an account as is possible regarding the death of Frank Beck and his men. Also included in the display is a reproduction of the stained-glass window from West Newton Church dedicated to the men from Sandringham. In short a very effective exhibit and well worth a visit. Sandringham House and Museum are open daily until 8 October with the Museum and Gardens also open on weekends during the rest of October. Enquiries about opening times in 2001 should be made to The Estate Office, Sandringham, Norfolk, PE35 6EN. 01553 772675.

THE SANDRINGHAMS AT SUVLA BAY

Members will receive with the Autumn *Gallipolitan* an authoritative article by our member Dick Rayner regarding the fate of the 5th Royal Norfolk at Gallipoli. The article was first published by the Western Front Association in their journal *Stand To!* and we greatly appreciate the kindness of the Association, and their Editor Anne Clayton, for allowing reproduction on behalf of the Gallipoli Association. Members are also reminded that *The Gallipolitan* No 91 Winter 1999 pages 2-5 contained a review of the programme *All The King's Men*.

BOOK REVIEWS

1914-18 A VILLAGE REMEMBERS

CHRIS AND KEN ADAM

Faulkbourne Press 2000. 173 pages, numerous illustrations. ISBN 0953 8028 0 9. £14.99.

Faulkbourne, one of the smallest villages in Essex lies between Witham and Braintree. Here is a collection of letters, diaries, memories of relatives and friends, service records and many photographs of the 23 men and one woman from the village who served during the First World War. Among them Percy George Sutton served at Gallipoli with the Essex Regiment and survived, and later joined the Essex Police Force where he remained for almost 40 years rising to become Assistant Chief Constable.

This book, like that in the following review is another excellent example of detailed local studies of the names on War Memorials. Members might like to keep the Editor informed of those published in their home areas. Is there a bibliography of such works? There deserves to be one.

NOT JUST A NAME

ROGER BULLEN

Mersea Island Museum Publications 2000. 209 pages, numerous illustrations and maps.
ISBN 0 9537322 1 5. £9.95.

This A4 format book recounts the lives of the men of Mersea Island, Essex, who fell in the First World War, a publication produced with the aid of a Millenium Festival Award. Some 320 Mersea men served during the war of whom 50 were killed. One of these, Albert Jordan was killed at Gallipoli on 6 August with the Essex Regiment, and is commemorated on the Cape Helles Memorial. Two others served at Gallipoli only to die in France including Hugh Smith who had landed on 25 April and was wounded eight days later. He was killed in France in February 1916.

IRISH WINNERS OF THE VICTORIA CROSS

RICHARD DOHERTY & DAVID TRUESDALE

Four Courts Press Dublin 2000. 272 pages plus 16 pages of illustrations.

ISBN 1 85182 442 1 £12.50

This brilliantly researched and well written book records the deeds which won the Victoria Cross for men born in Ireland or with at least one Irish parent. Over 200 are chronicled, a significant contribution from such a small country, and it is worth noting that the first man to win the VC, Charles Lucas, was an Irishman, his award for being for gallantry at Bomarsund, 21 June 1854. Each man's action is recorded in date order of campaign and there is also an alphabetical appendix containing more

useful information. Four Irishmen won the Victoria Cross at Gallipoli: Corporal William Cosgrove, Private William Keneally, Captain Gerald O'Sullivan and Sergeant James Somers. Their stories are all told in this important addition to VC literature. *Derek Hunt.*

STRAITS OF WAR

Sutton Publishing 2000. 200 pages, 14 illustrations, 8 maps. ISBN 0 7509 2408 X. £20.00

Sadly the Gallipoli Memorial Lectures held annually at Holy Trinity Church Eltham since the first in 1985 by General Sir Hugh Beach have now ceased. That in April this year by the Rt Revd Richard Harries being the last. Each of the lectures, all by a distinguished person, is published here, together with an Introduction and Afterword by Sir Martin Gilbert CBE who also delivered the 1995 lecture. What a pity though that the opportunity was missed to tell readers more of the 29th Division Memorial Chapel in Holy Trinity and the work of the Reverend Henry Hall who inspired it.

MAJOR & MRS HOLT'S BATTLEFIELD GUIDE TO GALLIPOLI

TONIE AND VALMAI HOLT

Leo Cooper 2000. 272 pages, lavishly illustrated in colour, with accompanying map
ISBN 0 85052 662 0. £14.95

Readers familiar with the authors' previous guides to the Somme and to Ypres will have waited with eager anticipation for the present volume. They will not be disappointed, for here is a book that deserves to be on every Gallipoli Association members bookshelf, whether or not you are planning a visit. Following an historical summary and the diverse ways to reach the Peninsula come five detailed itineraries – Helles and Krithia, Anzac Coastline, Sari Bair Ridge, Suvla, the Asian Side. The numerous illustrations, the extensive historical information on each of sites and those who served, and often fell, provides readers with everything needed to make the most of a visit, or from ones armchair. The accompanying map, see *The Gallipollian* No 93 Spring 2000 page 62 is excellent, but the absence of small maps from the text is disappointing, they would have added even more to this essential work.

A SOLDIER'S LIFE GENERAL SIR IAN HAMILTON 1853-1947

JOHN LEE

Macmillan 2000. 292 pages, 20 illustrations, 5 maps. ISBN 0 333 73444 0. £25.00

Three years ago the author, a member of the Gallipoli Association, was the speaker at the autumn lunch, his subject General Sir Ian Hamilton. We have looked forward since then in eager anticipation to his biography of the General, a biography that has been long overdue, for the last was published in 1966. Although Hamilton will forever be Gallipoli one quickly learns from this excellent and highly readable

account of his many other services and skills, including that of an author, skills often far advanced from those of his contemporaries in the armies of Victoria and Edward VII.

He was to spend the first 25 years of his military life in India, save for an interlude in Africa where his left wrist was smashed by a Boer bullet at Majuba, an injury which ruined it for the rest of his life. For his actions that day he was recommended for the Victoria Cross but the army decided he was too young to receive such an award. He subsequently returned to South Africa for the Second Boer War during which "his victories in the field were complemented by his brilliant staff work. Senior appointments followed interspersed with visits to foreign manoeuvres and observation of the war in Manchuria.

At the outbreak of the First World War he took command of the Home Army, but 1915 was his year of destiny. Command at Gallipoli at short notice, with no staff, no proper instructions, of shortages in both men and equipment and perhaps greatest of all a scarcity of key commanders. Despite this he achieved in a remarkably short time of preparation the landings at Helles and at Anzac, the first large-scale landings ever undertaken in the face of the enemy on a hostile shore. If his needs had been answered by London there were several occasions in subsequent months when success which seemed within his grasp might have been achieved.

The campaign at Gallipoli was remarkable in so many aspects; this surely must be the reason why our Association flourishes. One of the most remarkable aspects is without doubt the leadership of Ian Hamilton. The present biography does much to set the record straight and deserves to be on every Gallipolian's bookshelf.

VICTORIA CROSS BIBLIOGRAPHY

JOHN MULHOLLAND & ALAN JORDAN

Spink & Son 1999. 217 pages. ISBN 1 902 04021 X. £25.00.

The first published work about the Victoria Cross, a compilation of all VC citations relating to the Crimean War, appeared in 1857, only a year after the VC itself was instituted. Since then there have been hundreds of books about the Victoria Cross and its recipients. In recent years the trickle of VC books has become a flood, reflecting the continual interest in the nation's highest award for valour. But, surprisingly, until now there has been no comprehensive bibliography of these many works.

In 1994 Jim MacDonald, a VC researcher from Nova Scotia, published the first serious attempt at a VC bibliography. His booklet, which listed almost 300 VC books, led to other researchers from all over the world informing him of additional titles. As a result the Victoria Cross Research Group, which included Jim MacDonald among its members, was established. The aim of this group was to

produce a comprehensive bibliography. After years of painstaking research and planning this has been achieved, and the Victoria Cross bibliography has now been published. This long awaited volume is one every VC researcher, indeed anyone interested in the subject will want to add to their collection. As a collector of such books I have been eagerly awaiting the publication for many years, and it was well worth waiting for.

The book is divided into three parts. Part One contains an alphabetical list of 630 VC books and booklets in order of author with publication details and a brief annotation as to the content and those VC recipients with significant coverage. Each book has a reference number which cross- refers to the index. Part Two lists over 100 non- fiction and fictional books written by VC recipients but unrelated to the VC. For example Sir John Smyth VC as well as writing *The Story of the Victoria Cross, 1856-1963* also wrote books on such diverse subjects as lawn tennis and cats. Finally a detailed 32 page index lists every VC recipient and records the date of the London Gazette citation.

The cross-reference system enables readers to quickly identify the books listed in the first two parts which are relevant to specific VC recipients. This is particularly useful for researchers and biographers. Lord Roberts, for example, as one of the most famous VC recipients has 61 entries. Even lesser known recipients like Harry Greenwood (three entries) are cross-referenced. John Mulholland and Alan Jordan, and the other members of the Victoria Cross Research Group have produced one of the most important reference works currently available to anyone with an interest in the Victoria Cross. This highly recommended book deserves to become a classic.

Derek Hunt

GALLIPOLI THEN AND NOW

STEVE NEWMAN

After the Battle 2000. 232 pages, numerous illustrations, maps. ISBN 1 870067 29 0. £24.95

The author first visited the Peninsula in 1990 when he was 17 and has returned many times since, the result being his first book which as the title suggests compares the scenes of 1915 with those of today. A pity that size largely precludes it accompanying owners to Gallipoli, rather this is a book for study beforehand, something which will add to the eager anticipation by first time visitors, or reveal yet more new facts to hardened campaigners. The "today" photographs were all taken in June 1999 while many of those from 1915 have not been published before. Steve Newman recalling the words of General Birdwood during the evacuation "I hope they won't hear us marching back to the beach" concludes his Introduction by saying "Eighty-five years on I hope they did hear us return." This book will surely do just that, a further inspiration to explore this extraordinary Peninsula and its battlefields.

FIVE YEARS IN TURKEY

LIMAN VON SANDERS

The Battery Press in association with War & Peace Books 2000. 326 pages, 3 illustrations, 15 maps plus 3 in end pocket. ISBN 0 9535181 1 6. £25.00 **

One of the classic accounts of the Gallipoli campaign is contained within the memoirs of General Liman von Sanders head of the German military mission to Turkey from 1913 until 1918. A review of the book which was first published in English the year before the authors death in 1929 refers to it as "the bald and precise statement of a soldier" and "one of the most interesting pictures we have of the other side." The publishers of the present edition are to be congratulated for the fine production, their efforts with this and other now obscure titles deserve every support.

** Gallipoli Association members in Great Britain may order the book post free from War & Peace Books, 32 Wellington Avenue, Fleet, Hampshire, GU13 9BL. E-mail gwyn.bayliss@virgin.net

SONS OF THIS PLACE

PATRICIA UTECHIN

Robert Dugdale 1998. 92 pages, 34 illustrations. ISBN 0 946976 07 4 £5.95 or £6.50 by post from Robert Dugdale, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, OX1 4JF

The author, who will be known to some members for her previous books, *Epitaphs from Oxfordshire* and *The Trumpets Sounded* which commemorates the war dead in the parish churches of the same county. She is the daughter of our late veteran member, Brigadier R B Rathbone OBE who served with the 6th Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment at Gallipoli, later in Egypt and Mesopotamia, indeed the book is dedicated to his memory. *Sons of This Place* is a commemoration of the the War Dead in Oxford's Colleges and Institutions and provides a fine guide to the many memorials. One of the more unusual is a bookcase and books in New College which once belonged to George Cheeseman, a scholar and later Fellow and tutor, who was killed on Chunuk Bair while serving with the Hampshire Regiment, 10 August 1915.

RED BERETS AND RED CROSSES

N.M.G. CHERRY

Published by the author 1999. 168 pages, 110 illustrations. ISBN 90 804718 1 X. £17.95 or £21.95 by post

Although not concerned with Gallipoli we draw your attention to this book by a member of the Association who describes the work of the Airborne Medical Services in the Second World War. Copies are available from the author, 3 Church Road, Warton, Lancashire, PR4 1BD.

AT THE NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

Among forthcoming events at the National Army Museum is a Family Learning Weekend 7-8 October when visitors will have the opportunity to talk to servicemen and women about their roles and postings. Former soldier and mountaineer Bronco Lane will describe his experiences, including the ascent of Mount Everest in 1976. In addition there will be numerous activities for children and families.

The weekend of 4-5 November is being devoted to the First World War, largely the story of the ordinary soldier. Throughout November the Lunchtime Lectures continue the First World War theme when a number of authors of Pen & Sword publications will be present including Major and Mrs Holt who will speak on the Gallipoli Campaign.

Details of this and all events are available from the National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London, SW3 4HT. 020 7730 0717 ext 2243. E-mail info@national-army-museum.ac.uk Web site www.national-army-museum.ac.uk

SHOT AT DAWN MEMORIAL SERVICE

A short service and wreath-laying will take place on Saturday 11 November at the Cenotaph, Whitehall in honour of the 361 men court-martialled and shot during and immediately after the First World War. All are welcome at the Cenotaph and anyone wishing to lay a wreath is encouraged to do so. Information from John Hipkin, 45 Alderwood Crescent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE6 4TT. Tel: 01912 624753.

Three of the men were executed at Gallipoli, their names:

Thomas Davis 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers

John Robins 5th Wiltshire Regiment

Harry Salter 6th East Lancs Regiment

The National Memorial Arboretum will contain a grove in memory of all the executed men, the centrepiece of which will be a statue modelled on Private Herbert Burden aged just 17 when he was shot in 1915. Information on this and of course the planned Gallipoli Grove at the National Arboretum will be provided in future *Gallipolians*.

QUARTERMASTER'S STORES

TIES, BADGES GALLIPOLIAN BINDERS & BOOKS

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.

The very attractive **Simpson Badges** are still available, as are **Slouch Hat Badges**, both produced by the ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee of Queensland. The price per badge is £2.50 plus an a/c.

Published by the ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee of Queensland is a splendid 52 page lavishly illustrated in black & white and colour life of **Simpson "The Man With The Donkey."** Copies £10.00 including postage.

The pocket size **Handy Guide to Canakkale, Gallipoli and the Dardanelles** was reviewed in *The Gallipolian* No 91 Winter 1999 page 55. Copies £4.54 including post.

Orders for Badges and Books with payment made out to The Gallipoli Association should be sent to The Editor, David Saunders, Woosung, Pointfields, Hakin, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 3EB.

RESEARCH CENTRE AT CANAKKALE

The Turkish Ambassador, Mr Korkmaz Haktanir, has written to the Association to draw attention to a recently founded research centre on Ataturk and Gallipoli at the University of Canakkale, 18 March. The Centre, which will include a library and museum regarding the campaign, urgently seeks items of interest including memorabilia from each of the countries which participated in the events of 1915.