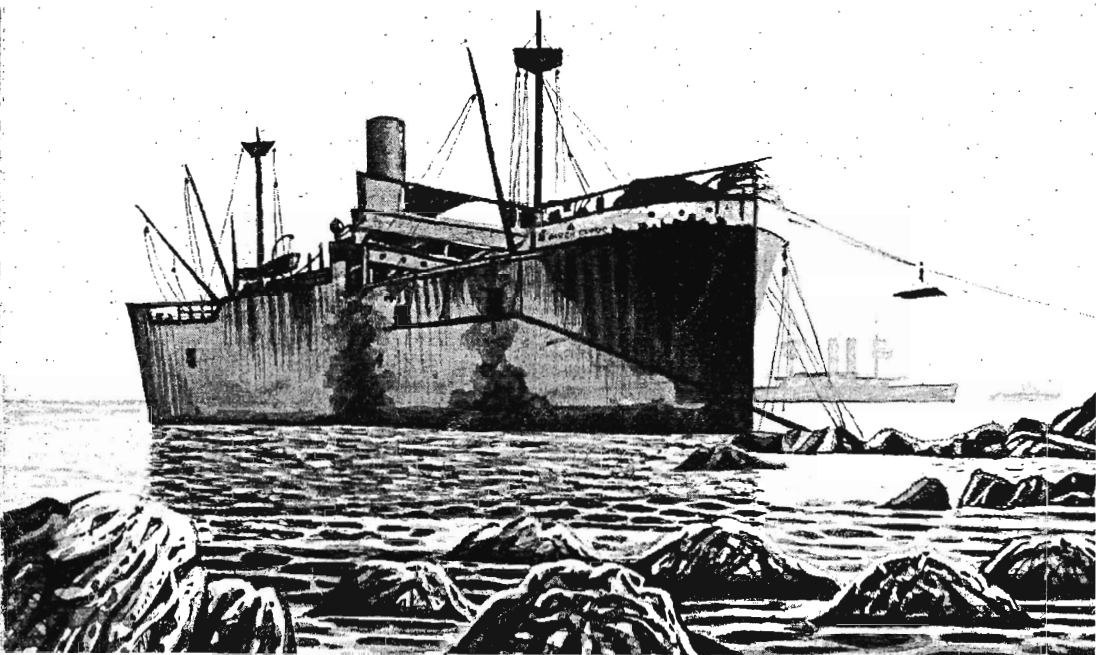


The Gallipollian

*The Journal of the
Gallipoli Association*

No. 95
SPRING 2001

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THE GALLIPOLIAN

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

The Gallipoli Association
PO Box 26907, London, SE21 8WB
WEB SITE <http://www.gallipoli-association.org>

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SECRETARY	J. C. Watson-Smith Earleydene Orchard, Earleydene, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 9JY [01344 626523]
TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP	W. Marsh Nowhelan, The Common, Womersley, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0PH [01483 892749]
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER	Major Hugh Jenner 73 Pymers Mead, London SE21 8NJ [0208 670 7691]
COMMITTEE	Sir Arthur Hockaday KCB CMG A. Mullen Colonel Michael Hickey Major J.R.H. Stopford
EDITOR	D. R. Saunders Woosung, Pointfields, Hakin, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire SA73 3EB [01646 692316] e-mail DavidGallip15@tesco.net

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MEMORIAL SERVICES

We draw attention to the programme of Memorial Services and other events on pages 3-8. Those in London and at several other venues across the country take place on Wednesday 25 April, others on Sunday 22 & 29 April, not forgetting the ones at the Collingwood Memorial in Dorset and in Manchester in June. Hopefully there will be members at each and every event so gentlemen please wear your Association tie as a means of identification and do not neglect to make yourself known to the organisers. One small request if we may for reports and photographs which will always be welcomed by the Editor.

GO AND READ THE NAMES

CHORUS

Go and read the names, go and read the names
In city or in hamlets the list is just the same
Peace forever more they said, never mind the blame
Don't let it all begin again, just go and read the names.

In market square or village green or country churchyard old
You will find a list inscribed as the Honour Roll
Cast away in youth and prime to die by bombs or flames
And if you don't believe it, go and read the names.

O'er land and sea men went to fight forsaking daily chores
Each within their hearts thought it would quickly end all wars
Some paid the greatest sacrifice and needlessly were slain
And if you don't believe it, go and read the names.

Highborn Lord and Country Squire, clerk and factory hand
The flower of generations all across the land
The cause was right, the call was made, and willingly they came
And if you don't believe it, go and read the names.

The tablets may have verdigris and the stonework flakes away
But the terrible message of the past is close to us today
So purge the anger from you hearts, don't condemn us to the flames
And don't think it can't happen, go and read the names.

Acknowledgement: We are greatly indebted to Ian Davidson and Friends of the Laurel (see also page 20) for kind permission to reproduce this poem by Ken Stephens.

GALLIPOLI DAY CEREMONIES

WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, LONDON

BATTERSEA PARK

The Dawn Service and wreath laying in Battersea Park will take place at 0500 for 0515. It is hoped that for early risers a gun-fire breakfast will be available. Further information is available on the web site www.wandsworth.gov.uk/events or from Alison Smith, Events Co-ordinator, 020 7223 6241.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

A short Service and Wreath laying ceremony will take place at the Gallipoli Memorial in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral at 0915 for 0930. Wreaths will be laid by high ranking officials from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and France including Rear-Admiral T. McClements, OBE, Chief of Naval Staff, Major-General M. A. Charlton-Weedy, CBE, Senior Directing Staff (Army) Royal College of Defence Studies, H.E. The Rt.Hon. Paul East QC High Commissioner for New Zealand, H.E. Mr Michael L'Estrange High Commissioner for Australia, H.E. Mr Korkmaz Haktanir, Turkish Ambassador and Capitaine de Vaisseau Henri-Francois Piot, French Naval Attache.

Members and friends are particularly asked and encouraged to attend this Service arranged by the Association which concludes with ample time to travel to Whitehall and the Cenotaph. Medals should be worn.

THE CENOTAPH

A wreath will be laid at the Cenotaph on behalf of the Association. Members and guests should assemble at the entrance to King Charles Street, which is just to the south of the Cenotaph, by 1025. Members are encouraged to join with us to march to the Cenotaph, Major Hugh Jenner will act as our Marshal. Medals should be worn here and also in Westminster Abbey.

THE ABBEY

We have as in previous years been invited to join the Anzacs at Westminster Abbey. Please complete the enclosed booking form. Tickets will be handed out by the Secretary at the entrance to King Charles Street before the Cenotaph service and subsequently at the Abbey door. Members should be seated by 1140 for the Service which commences at 1200. Please ensure that on arrival you are directed by the usher to the seats reserved for the Association in the North or the South Transept.

GALLIPOLI DAY LUNCH

The Gallipoli Day Lunch, commencing at 1315 for 1345, will be held in the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, beside Waterloo Station. The Lunch is held in the

Gascoigne Room the entrance to which is in Waterloo Road and directly opposite the station. A brass quintet from the Regimental Band of the Welsh Guards will play during Lunch. Hopefully Anzac biscuits will be available prior to the Lunch. A separate booking form with costs is included with *The Gallipolian*. Parking at the Club is not possible. Cars should be parked in the car park in nearby York Road. Members and guests booked for Lunch may use the Club facilities throughout the day, providing means of identity on their arrival.

OTHER GALLIPOLI DAY CEREMONIES

CHEPSTOW

A splendid memorial to Seaman Williams VC of *River Clyde* fame stands in Beaufort Square at the centre of Chepstow, here at a ceremony arranged by the Royal Naval Association wreaths will be laid at 1100.

CHILWORTH

Members and friends are invited to join the Freyberg family and friends at St Martha's on the Hill at 1600. The Church stands on the Downs above Chilworth. Reg Miles, President of the Guildford Branch of the Royal British Legion, on 01252 728172, will be pleased to provide access details to anyone wishing to attend.

DALLACHY STRIKE WING

The furthest north where wreaths are laid is the Dallachy Strike Wing Memorial, Bogmoor, Morayshire where the ceremony will commence at 1000. The Memorial is situated beside the B9104 running south from Spey Bay to Fochabers. Information from Derek Smith 01340 820920.

EDINBURGH

A wreath will be laid on behalf of the Gallipoli Association at the Service at 1200 at the Scottish National War Memorial, Edinburgh Castle. Further information on this impressive ceremony from Deirdre Barclay, The Earl Haig Fund Scotland, New Haig House, Logie Green Road, Edinburgh, EH7 4HR. 0131 557 2782.

HAREFIELD

The annual Anzac Service will take place at 1500 in St Mary's Church following which wreaths will be laid on the graves of Australian servicemen buried in the cemetery. Refreshments will subsequently be available in the Church Hall.

PETERBOROUGH

A short service attended by The Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire and His Worship the Mayor of Peterborough will take place at 1430 at the grave of Sergeant

Hunter, "the lonely Anzac" in the Broadway Cemetery. Refreshments will be available after the Service at St Mary's Church, New Road, Peterborough. Information from Tony Chaplin 01733 562941.

SHAFTESBURY

A short Memorial Service will take place at the War Memorial Park Walk, Shaftesbury at 1500 when a wreath will be laid on behalf of the Gallipoli Association. John Freeman, a member of the Gallipoli Association, will be accompanied by John Arkell DCM President, and Gordon Morgan Chairman of the Shaftesbury Branch of the Royal British Legion. Information from John Freeman 01202 471561.

SUTTON VENY

A service will take place at the Church of St John the Evangelist commencing at 1330 when children from Sutton Veny School will lay flowers on the graves of the 143 Australian servicemen and nurses buried here. See also 29 April.

CEREMONIES IN ADDITION TO THOSE ON GALLIPOLI DAY

SUNDAY 22 APRIL

BROCKENHURST

The Service at the New Zealand Memorial, St Nicholas's Churchyard will begin at 1430 for 1500. Major T. Le M Spring-Smyth, whose father served with a New Zealand Field Company at Gallipoli, will lay a wreath on behalf of the Association. A special feature of the service is the participation of local Youth Organisations who place flowers by every headstone. Tea will be available following the Service.

CAMBRIDGE

A service arranged by the Cambridgeshire Branch of the British Australia Society will be held in the Church of St Andrew the Great, Lion Yard, St Andrew's Street commencing at 1500. The Australian and New Zealand High Commissioners will be present together with the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr James Crowden. One of our members Norman Smith will again read the Words of Remembrance. Further information from John Springett 01354 654271.

CANNOCK CHASE

The massive Anzac Commemoration Service will be held in the War Cemetery, Brocton, Cannock Chase at 1000 for 1030. This is the largest service outside Australia and New Zealand with about 150 Standards being paraded.

LEIGHTERTON

Tucked away in the south Cotswolds is the village of Leighterton where 23 men from Australia and New Zealand lie, all killed while training nearby during the First World War. The Parade will assemble at Leighterton School at 1400 for inspection by the Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire before marching to the cemetery for the Service. Members might like to meet at the Royal Oak prior to the Parade. Information from Bill White 01453 890623.

FRIDAY 27 APRIL

PRESTON

On the last Friday of every month the Fulwood Fusiliers meet at Fulwood Barracks, Preston. On 27 April a special Gallipoli Lunch will take place, price £4.00. Further details from Walter Bentham, 60 Chatsworth Street, Preston, PR1 4XY.

SUNDAY 29 APRIL

BURY

The Parade will form up at the Drill Hall before marching to the Church for the Gallipoli Commemoration Service commencing at 1145 following which wreaths will be laid at the War Memorial followed by a March Past. There will then be a reception and buffet lunch in the Ballroom of the Castle Armoury. Information from Captain J. O'Grady Regimental Secretary 0161 764 2208.

CARISBROOKE

A wreath will be laid at 1500 by our members resident on the Isle of Wight at the memorial at Hero's Corner, Mount Joy Cemetery to those who fell at Gallipoli. The three crosses in the photograph opposite are all that remain of 21 brought back from the Peninsula.

ELTHAM

Now that the annual Gallipoli Memorial Lecture has ceased, Holy Trinity Church in Southend Crescent, Eltham is restoring the Gallipoli Service commencing at 2000. The Preacher will be the Reverend Andrew Wilson whose grandfather served at Gallipoli and whose journal was extensively quoted by the Bishop of Oxford during the final Gallipoli Memorial Lecture last year – see *The Straits of War*. A wreath will be laid on behalf of the Association in the Memorial Chapel and Sir Arthur Hockaday will read one of the lessons. Information from John Towey 0208859 2952.

NORWICH

A splendid Service arranged by the Norfolk Branch of the British-Australia Society will be held in Norwich Cathedral commencing at 1530 to include singing by the two choirs of the Cathedral. Information from June Trafford 01603 782616.

ST ALBANS

Over 200 war dead rest in the Hatfield Road cemetery where a service of commemoration will commence at 1500 to which all are invited.

STAPLEFORD

The service arranged by The Royal Marines Association (Nottingham Branch) will take place at St Helen's in Stapleford, Nottingham at 1130 when the Mayor of Broxtowe is the principle guest and will be followed by the laying of wreaths at the grave of Walter Parker VC.

SUTTON VENY

Since 1919 a Service of Commemoration has been held in the Church of St John the Evangelist and this year will commence at 1500. See also the Childrens Service here on Gallipoli Day at 1330.

WALTON ON THAMES

The Anzac Service will take place at 1000 in St Mary's Church, Church Street. Such a Service has taken place in the town since 1920 remembering especially the 27,000 wounded soldiers from New Zealand who were treated at the Mount Felix Hospital during the First World War.



OTHER COMMEMORATION EVENTS

COLLINGWOOD MEMORIAL

The Annual Service at the Collingwood Memorial on the Downs just east of Pimperne, Dorset, will take place on Friday 1 June at 1500. The Service will be conducted by the Chaplain of HMS Collingwood and taking part will be the Venerable Graham Roblin OBE. Colonel Michael Hickey will lay a wreath on behalf of the Gallipoli Association. **Please note the date is Friday 1 June, not the accustomed 4 June.**

Members and friends wishing to attend should meet from noon onwards at the Anvil Hotel, Pimperne for introductions and lunch as required. The Chairman of the North Dorset District Council, Councillor Mrs Della Jones MBE has kindly invited all attendees to join her for tea after the Service. Permission to use the Headquarters Mess Royal Signals has been kindly given by the Commander of the Blandford Garrison, Colonel J W Ewbank. Further information from Roy Adam MBE, Camveere House, Portman Road, Pimperne, Dorset, DT11 7DG. 01258 453797.

MANCHESTER REGIMENT

The Manchester Branch of the King's Regiment Association will hold their annual Gallipoli dinner in memory of the men of the Manchester Regiment Territorial Battalions on Saturday 2 June at 1930 in the TA Centre, Ardwick Green, Manchester. The following morning a short Gallipoli Parade and Service will be held at the War Memorial of the 8th (Ardwick) Battalion on Ardwick Green commencing at 1200. Further information from Major J J Jobs, Assistant Regimental Secretary, RHQ(I) The King's Regiment, Ardwick Green, Manchester M12 6HD or by e mail: rhqkings@northwest.co.uk

COMBINED IRISH REGIMENTS

At 1015 on Sunday 17 June The Combined Irish Regiments Association will gather at Whitehall as they have done every year since 1922, to lay wreaths at the Cenotaph. One of the objects of the Association being to perpetuate and honour all those who have made the supreme sacrifice whilst serving in an Irish Regiment of the British Army including those Regiments disbanded in 1922. The Duke of Wellington will act as Inspecting Officer and the march to the Cenotaph will be led by the Regimental Band of HM Grenadier Guards and Pipes and Drums of the London Irish Rifles.

GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION EVENTS

RECEPTION AT NEW ZEALAND HOUSE

In 1995 members of the Gallipoli Association were guests at a reception at New Zealand House hosted by the then High Commissioner His Excellency Jon Collinge. We are now pleased to announce that the present High Commissioner, His Excellency The Rt Hon Paul East QC has invited members to a reception in the Penthouse Suite at New Zealand House on the evening of 1 June. We very much hope that Members and their Guests will avail themselves of this splendid opportunity to meet in a quite remarkable setting. See enclosed Booking Form for the Reception and the Major General's Review the following morning.

MAJOR-GENERAL'S REVIEW

The Association has been able to obtain tickets for the Major-General's Review on Horse Guards on Saturday 2 June. The Review, a full Dress Rehearsal for Trooping the Colour, is always well attended. Please use the enclosed booking form to reserve a place.

GALLIPOLI BURSARY LECTURE 2001

Two officers from the Royal Marines – Major Rob Bucknall and Major Roger Cooper-Simpson have been awarded the Gallipoli Bursary 2001. They will make their presentation at the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham just north-east of Swindon on 3 August.

Members of the Association have been invited to attend a series of presentations at the College on 3 August by participants in the Advanced Amphibious Warfare Course. These will commence at 1000 and will be followed by lunch at 1300 - Price £4.00 including two glasses of wine. The Gallipoli Bursary presentation will commence at 1400. **It is hoped that the Gallipoli Association will be strongly represented at this very special day in our calendar – see enclosed Booking Form.** Please note that members and guests can attend for all or part of the day.

AUTUMN LUNCH & AGM

Will take place at the Naval Club, London, on 17 October. Full details in the Autumn *Gallipolian* but please note the date now.

CONFERENCES & OTHER EVENTS

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

An all-day symposium – *Histories of Gallipoli* – will take place in the Menzies Room, 28 Russell Square on 20 April. Sir Martin Gilbert will open proceedings at 0900 when he speaks about Churchill and Gallipoli. The “jam-packed” programme for the day, which runs until 1800, includes Dr Christopher Pugsley on the combat effectiveness of the Anzacs, Dr Jenny Macleod on the romantic myths of Gallipoli and Roger Dalley on current commemoration at Gallipoli.

Admission, including lunch and refreshments £10.00, concessions £5.00.

Reservations with cheque by 12 April to Kirsten McIntyre, Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, 28 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5DS.

GRANTCHESTER

The Rupert Brooke Society will be holding its St George's Day event at the Orchard, Grantchester on 23 April, the 86th Anniversary of Brooke's death. The event, to which all are welcome, commences at 1400. Further information from the Rupert Brooke Society, 45-47 Mill Way, Grantchester, Cambridge, CB3 9ND. 01223 845788. E mail rbs@callan.co.uk

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

As announced in the Winter *Gallipolian* the Imperial War Museum is hosting a Gallipoli event on Tuesday 24 April. This will commence at 1600 and include talks on the background to the landings at V Beach and at Anzac by Nigel Steel and Peter Hart authors of *Defeat at Gallipoli* and members of the Gallipoli Association. The short programme of talks will conclude about 1745 when there will be a break. Phillip Dutton will then introduce the historic film *Tell England* which will conclude the programme. The Museum's new Gallipoli web-site (see also page 14) will be officially launched during the evening with those attending having the opportunity to view this. The cost of the evening for members of the Gallipoli Association, including wine and refreshments is £5.00. Box Office 020 7416 5499.

PRESTON

The extremely popular Beating the Retreat will take place at Fulwood Barracks, Preston on 23 June commencing at 1800. The Standard of the Gallipoli Association will be on parade together with those of about 30 other organisations. The Standard is a treasured memento from an earlier Gallipoli Association which was active especially in north-west England prior to the Second World War – see *The Gallipolian* 87: 45-47 1998.

THE ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS ASSOCIATION EVENTS 2001

26 April The Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern T.D. will officially launch the Website and CD Rom of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association at Dublin Castle at 1930. All members and friends are welcome. An historic occasion not to be missed.

26 May The Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association will visit the Regimental Museum of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in Enniskillen.

17 June Each year the Combined Irish Regiments Association and the Organisation of National ex-Service Men lay a wreath at the Cenotaph in London. Last year members of the RDF Association attended this parade and laid a wreath. This year we hope that a few more members and friends will join us. (See page 8.)

8 July The National Day of Commemoration, Venue. Time 10:00 a.m. Note. Any member and friend of the RDF Association can attend this commemoration at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham commencing at 1000. Tickets are available from The Protocol Section, The Office of An Taoiseach, Government Buildings, Merrion Street, Dublin. Telephone. 6194091 or 6624888.

Further information on all these events and the Association itself from The Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association c/o The Dublin Civic Museum, 58 South William Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. 6794260 Email: rdfa@eircom.net website: www.greatwar.ie

Spectamur Agendo.

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

The first Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey was in 1928, the inspiration of George Howson MC, founder chairman of the Poppy Factory until his death in 1936. Only two crosses were planted by the first organisers, one in memory of Private Tommy Atkins and the other to the memory of Field Marshal Earl Haig, but small crosses were offered to passers by to plant for those they remembered. In November 2000 some 300 Memorial Plots were allocated to regiments, regimental and ex-service and other associations.

In November 2001 the Gallipoli Association will for the first time have a Memorial Plot. Members wishing to place a memorial cross can do so while arrangements will be announced with the Autumn *Gallipolian* for members who cannot attend in person. A photograph of the Plot will be published in the Winter *Gallipolian*.

OBITUARY

JOHN LAFFIN 1922-2000

In their obituary for the late John Alfred Charles Laffin, the *Sydney Morning Herald* described his life as full of dedication to the theme of remembrance, and an 'extraordinary Australian'. Having had the privilege of being his friend since we first met in Flanders over twenty years ago, these words seem to sum up the sometimes feisty character I knew and admired. The news from Canberra of his death on 23 September 2000 after battling a long illness leaves me, and others who knew him well, with a deep sense of sorrow.

Always a firm supporter of the Western Front Association and all it stood for from its founding, it was John who actually instigated the first of the seminars to be held at The Hill College at Abergavenny which have now become an annual firm fixture enjoyed by many members.

He had a certain robust style of writing which did not always appeal to some, and a smile often was his response to my querying the 'anti-Pom' nature of some of his text: "It's an Aussie thing, we won't fall out over it". One thing for sure that even his critics cannot refute was that, with over 130 books published, he must have been the world's most prolific military author. Many of his works emphasised the achievements of the First AIF (Australian Imperial Force) in the Great War. His last book was an autobiography in two parts: *A Kind of Immortality* – a neat title to sum up John's life. His *Guide to Australian Battlefields of the Western Front 1916-1918* is now a necessary item in the pack of any Australian pilgrim visiting Europe.

John was a long-standing Member of the Gallipoli Association and many will be aware of his book *Damm the Dardanelles* first published in 1980, where he says in the Introduction "The purpose of this book is to explain the defeat, to apportion blame, and to let the soldiers speak." It is also worth repeating here the dedication:

"To my Mother, Sister Nellie Alfreda Laffin (nee Pike), 1880-1980, who served with the 3rd Australian General Hospital on Lemnos Island off the coast of Gallipoli during the campaign, in Egypt and in France and England

and

To my Father, Lieutenant Charles George Laffin, 1894-1948, of 20th Battalion Australian Imperial Force, who served on Lemnos, in Egypt and on the Western Front."

His Mother had been a member of the Association for a short while prior to her death, the only Nursing Sister who had served in the eastern Mediterranean to join the Association.

Not surprisingly John was born and brought up deep in the old Anzac tradition. In the Second World War John enlisted at eighteen years of age into the infantry, graduating as a commando before gaining his commission at the Officers Training School at Duntroon. This was a period of his life for which he held a deep pride in the old 'digger' tradition. In 1942, whilst serving in the jungles of Papua, New Guinea, he was to be awarded a Military Cross for his bravery and at the same time was wounded and sent back to Australia to convalesce where he met Hazel, a young VAD nurse tending him. After eloping to marry, they were to enjoy 50 years of happy life together – much of that time being spent in Europe. Hazel sadly succumbed to a heart problem and died in 1997. It was the end of a very happy period of John's life. They were quite inseparable.

For the past decade, John was a chief feature-writer on Middle East affairs for the London *Daily Mail*, sometimes taking a position which brought him to the attention of several terrorist groups. If this perturbed him at all, the old warrior never showed it. John spent many years campaigning for the Australian Memorial Park at Le Hamel, France and to his immense pleasure, one was finally opened in 1998 – a Laffin-inspired project.

John's family were very much around him when he died and a special service of thanksgiving for his life was held at the Anzac Memorial Chapel of St Paul, Duntroon where he had passed-out as a young officer 58 years earlier. His partner, Annie; two daughters, Bronwen and Pirenne; and son, Craig, survive him. John was a very good and supportive friend and certainly an 'extraordinary Australian'.

Tony Spagnoly

(The above obituary (to which the section on the Gallipoli connection has been added) first appeared in issue No. 59 (February 2001) of The Western Front Association's Bulletin and is reproduced in The Gallipolian with the kind permission of the Editor of the Bulletin.)

ROSEMARY FOR REMEMBRANCE AND A REQUEST FROM NORFOLK

Please ensure you wear a sprig of Rosemary when attending any of the Gallipoli events listed on pages 3-8.

"There's rosemary, that's for remembrance; pray, love, remember."

The Norfolk Branch of the Britain-Australia Society are very anxious for children, grand or great grandchildren of those who served at Gallipoli to be present in Norwich Cathedral on Sunday 29 April (see page 7) and be willing to present sprigs of Rosemary to the congregation. If you would like to participate please contact Mrs June Trafford, Broad House, Wroxham, Norwich, NR12 8TS. 01603 782616.

PAYMENT OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS BY CREDIT CARD

NOTE BY TREASURER

From time to time members, particularly those living outside of the U.K., have raised with me the possibility of paying their annual subscription by Credit Card. The problem with this is the costs involved. I have discussed the matter with our Bankers – the NatWest – who tell me that in order to be able to accept Credit Card payments the Association would need to rent an appropriate terminal at a monthly cost of £18.95p plus VAT. There would then be a further transaction charge of roughly 3% of the value of each transaction. Since the number of members who would want to use the Credit Card payment facility is likely to be small, the cost of providing the facility cannot be justified at the present time. However, NatWest tell me that they are currently working on a version of their system for use by low volume users such as the Association. When that becomes available I will give the matter further consideration. In the meantime, if anyone knows of a simpler system for accepting payments by Credit Card than that currently on offer from NatWest, I would be glad to hear from them.

On a slightly different topic, I should also be particularly pleased to hear from those few members who have not yet paid their annual subscription for this year.

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM GALLIPOLI 1915

The Gallipoli 1915 web-site:- www.iwm.org.uk/online/gallipoli/navigate.htm of the Imperial War Museum will be launched at the Gallipoli evening, 24 April (see page 10). This excellent site has sections on Helles, Anzac, Sari Bair, Suvla, Conditions, War at Sea, The Air War and Information, though sadly the latter does not include the Gallipoli Association, hopefully something to be rectified before too long. Well illustrated with maps and photographs the information provided presents a brief but comprehensive view of the events of 1915. Links from some of the main pages take one to both sound and visual images while detailed papers from the joint Museum/Australian War Memorial Tour of last summer are also available.

ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION MEMORIAL

Members of the Gallipoli Association will be delighted to learn that on 1 March Westminster City Council's Planning Department gave their approval for the move of the Memorial fountain back from Greenwich to its original site on Horse Guards Parade. We will report more fully on this as plans proceed.

AUTUMN LUNCH 2000

SPEECH BY MAJOR-GENERAL JULIAN THOMPSON CB, OBE

Thank you very much for the excellent lunch and your warm hospitality. There are four reasons why it is a pleasure and privilege to address you today.

First, my Uncle fought at Gallipoli in The Wellington Mounted Rifles (which was part of the New Zealand Mounted Rifle Brigade). They did not, as you know, land until 12 May and fought as infantry. He often spoke to me about the campaign. He was the “black sheep” of family, and was sent to New Zealand to farm sheep to get him out of the way. He used to laugh about how he was “trained to fight the last war”, in this case the Boer War, where mounted infantry was extensively used. After Gallipoli he served as a gunner on the Western Front.

Second, The Royal Marines fought at Gallipoli in large numbers, both in ships, and more to the point, in four battalions ashore. The only Royal Marine battalion to land on 25 April, had the somewhat frustrating experience at Y Beach caused by muddled orders, lack of a clear chain of command, and several other factors. That Hamilton and Hunter-Weston allowed the force landing at Y Beach to consist of battalions from two different divisions, instead of putting in the complete Royal Marines Brigade, under its own commander, beggars belief. Three Royal Marine battalions as part of two understrength brigades of the Royal Naval Division landed at ANZAC on 28 April (D+3 in modern parlance) to relieve the 1st and 3rd Australian Brigades. The Marines were impressed by the Australians, but the Australians, according to their official history were dismayed by the, “weedy physique, extreme youth, and bewildered air” of the new arrivals. It is hardly surprising that the newcomers were bewildered, since, according to the historian of the Royal Naval Division, ANZAC beach was in utter chaos and lacked any semblance of order. The narrow beach and close proximity of the enemy were partly to blame, but some of the shambles was caused by inexperienced staffs who had no idea how to organise a beachhead; because they lacked training for amphibious operations, a theme to which I shall return.

The Australians need not have worried about how the Marines would perform. A few days later the Australian Major Quinn said to a Royal Marine officer, “The bravest thing I have seen so far was the charge of your two battalions up that hill on Bloody Sunday”. He was of course referring to the charge of the Chatham and Portsmouth Battalions RMLI up Dead Man’s Ridge on 2 May.

The Australian Official History also remarks that from 29 April to 1 May a considerable portion of the ANZAC line was in the hands of the Royal Marines. The Marines bore the brunt of Mustafa Kemal’s third attack; although better timed and delivered than the last, it completely failed.

My third reason is because I have studied the campaign for much of my life, and as a practitioner of the Amphibious Art, it fascinates me to this day.

Finally, I am a member of the Association.

For various reasons that I will not cover today, the Dardanelles campaign was mounted when art of amphibious warfare was at a low ebb in the order of British warfighting skills. So none of the things that less than thirty years later would be taken for granted in say Sicily, Italy, Burma, Normandy, and Walcheren, were available or even considered, or so it seems. Some it is fair to say were beyond the technology of time, such as portable battlefield radios and tracked amphibians.

Others, I suggest, with some thought pre-war, and some intelligent foresight at the time, and were perfectly feasible, such as:

- Proper beach reconnaissance

- Terminal guidance on beaches

- Co-location of Naval and Army commanders in a proper Headquarters ship.

- Direct naval gunfire onto targets ashore – this was carried out by HMS *Implacable*, but by no one else.

- Better security

- Co-locating operations and administrative staffs.

Avoiding sending the ships carrying the Royal Marines Brigade to “demonstrate” off Gaba Tepe after the failure of the navy’s attempt to force the Dardanelles, some six weeks before the landings on 25 April – thus informing the Turks of the Allies interest in the area. The Turks were not slow to pick up the hint.

Avoiding the most elementary mistake of all, “signalling” intent by the Navy’s attempts to force passage unilaterally.

I could go on!

Between the Wars, the campaign was studied in Britain and United States, but the Americans got considerably more benefit than the British from this study. Amphibious Operations were a “poor relation” in the British Armed Forces before 1939, and until fall of France May 1940. They regained their importance only as means of returning to mainland Europe in the second half of the Second World War.

After the Second World War, amphibious operations again became a “poor relation”. Which brings me to 1982 and the Falklands War. As a keen student of Gallipoli, there were several disturbing similarities in initial phases of the operation to regain the Falklands. At least one of my staff thought the same, but did not say so until

afterwards. These were all indications of lack of knowledge of amphibious operations in high places, and sloppy planning by senior staffs:

The MOD failed to tell both the Royal Marines and those responsible for the Amphibious shipping that they would be required, until just before the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands on 2 April 1982, although key elements of the Fleet had been alerted as early as 31 March.

The Landing Force (the 3rd Commando Brigade Royal Marines) was given 72 hours to load and sail, resulting in a total lack of combat loading of ships necessitating a restow at Ascension Island. You will remember that ships carrying the 29th Division and most of the Royal Naval Division had to proceed to Alexandria to restow their loads.

There was a grave lack of maps; but this was put right before we arrived off the Falkland Islands.

To begin with there was a dearth of low-level information about the Argentine Forces, so I sent my staff to the public library in Plymouth, to seek this in such publications as *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*, and the *Strategic Balance*. At the time it reminded me of Hamilton's staff buying guide books in Alexandria.

There was considerable ignorance of the imperatives of the amphibious art in high places in particular, but also throughout the armed forces, as a result of the low priority placed on such operations by the MOD in general and the Royal Navy in particular.

Fortunately the amphibious flame had been kept alive by the Royal Marines and a small but dwindling number of naval officers over the years. To us the basics came as second nature, for example:

The necessity to co-locate commanders

The importance of conducting reconnaissance before landings, and afterwards

A knowledge of how to use Naval Gunfire Support to best advantage, and a specialist battery of gunners as part of my brigade to spot for and control such gun fire.

The know-how which enabled us to extemporise with merchant ships to make up the shortfall of specialist amphibious ships. For example bringing years of expertise to bear in solving such problems as how to move large numbers of heavily-laden marines and paratroopers from a cruise liner into landing craft at night, in a sea-way; and many, many others.

But thirty-eight years after Normandy and Walcheren, we lacked most of the kit regarded as indispensable for amphibious operations against anything other than the lightest opposition for example we had no:

Tracked amphibious assault vehicles, such as swimming tanks, and Buffaloes
 Gun equipped landing craft
 DUKWs

Armoured Vehicles Royal Engineers (AVREs) – bunker-busters, mine clearers, and other armoured specialist vehicles. We had two Combat Engineer Tractors, which were still on trial and had been designed for use in Germany on the Central Front, and not in salt water

Or indeed much of the other paraphernalia of amphibious warfare which our forebears in 1944/45 would have regarded as indispensable. We therefore had to land where the enemy was not present in strength.

We owed our success to the residual expertise of the “Amphibious community”, retained against much opposition over many years. For example, in late 1981, when the Royal Marines in a paper in the MOD stated that there was still – just – an amphibious capability the Director of Naval Operations and Trade riposted petulantly, and I quote exactly what he said:

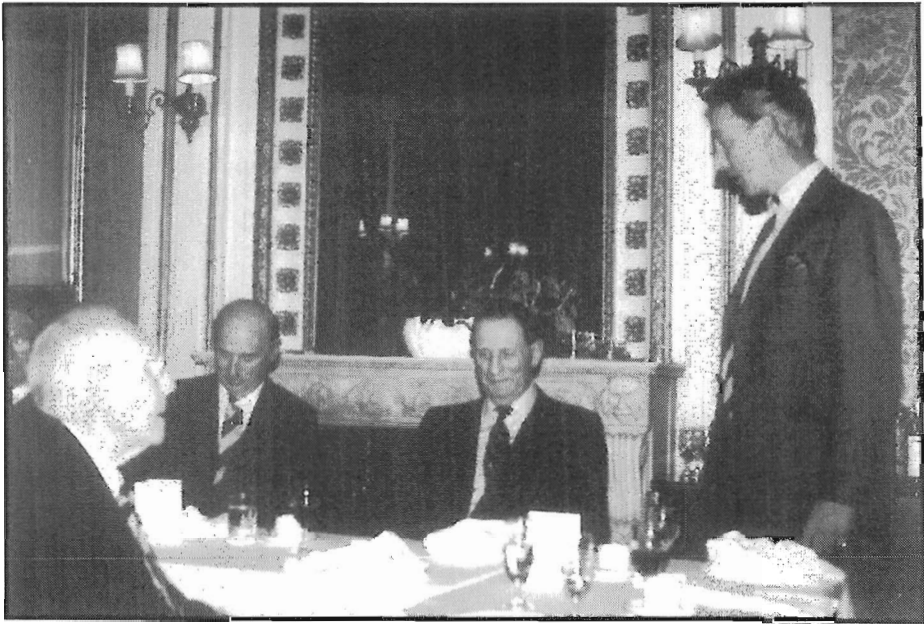
“As the wretched Director of Naval Operations (and of course Trade) who would have to put flesh on such a skeleton, I can’t visualise such an operation. Please let the first *victorious* battle of the Falkland Islands remain the only one – otherwise Ministers will be led to believe that we can repulse Argentina et al.”

Whether he was just guessing that the Argentines would invade early the following year, or knew something denied to most of us, I cannot say. I have already mentioned the key part played by the residual expertise of the amphibious community in our success in the Falklands. It is not an exaggeration to say that the continued existence of the Royal Marines was critical. This included the crucial, but unsung, part played in battles fought in Whitehall over many years by the Royal Marines, and their handful of supporters, first to persuade the Chiefs of Staff to build, and subsequently retain the Logistic Landing Ships (LSLs) and the assault ships (LPDs). Without these ships, and the craft and trained crews they carried, there would have been *no* amphibious operation, and consequently *no* re-possession of the Falklands. The result would have been disaster for Britain. By early 1982 Britain was, in the words used by Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach at the recent dedication of the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel, “already regarded as being long on advice and short on action”. When he found the Prime Minister, in her room in the House of Commons, being advised by the Secretary of State for Defence, that once Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands nothing could be done, Admiral Leach told her; “if we took no action in response to the Argentine invasion, the country would never recover, indeed would sink even lower in everybody’s estimation”.

Gallipoli was the first “modern” amphibious operation, it should be required study

by Ministers, the MOD, and at all staff colleges, as a warning of the perils of letting our amphibious skills wither and perish. No criticism of the way the operation was conducted by the higher command, and especially the politicians, should be allowed to tarnish the memory of the men who took part.

I salute them all for their example to later generations for the way they overcame the immense difficulties they faced; for their courage, their enthusiasm, and their spirit in adversity. Today the word hero has been devalued by being applied on an almost daily basis by the media to footballers and other sports stars, who are mainly motivated by money and narcissism, and many others, whose actions are far from heroic. The men who fought at Gallipoli truly were heroes and it is fitting that we should remember them forever.



*James Watson-Smith thanking Major-General Thompson at the conclusion of his address.
Captain Christopher Fagan (left), Fred Bunday (left foreground).*

FRIENDS OF THE LAUREL

LOOKING FORWARD – TO REMEMBER THE PAST – FOR PEACE

Ian Davidson will perhaps be better known to members as the founding father of the Friends of War Memorials. More recently he has channelled his energies into the Friends of the Laurel an organisation charged with protecting and honouring our military memorials and memorabilia. The Objectives of the Friends of the Laurel are:

The education of the younger generation concerning the wartime sacrifice of our servicemen and women and our military and cultural heritage and promoting their involvement in anniversary celebrations. In support of this objective we will promote the 4 Rs – Respect, Recognition, Responsibility, Results.

The raising of awareness of the loss to the nation of historic military memorabilia being sold and exported abroad.

The raising of funds to purchase and retain military memorabilia in the United Kingdom for the benefit of future generations.

Further information from Friends of the Laurel, 29 High Street, Bookham, Surrey, KT23 4AA. 0208 205 1693 E mail: ian@friendsofthelaurel.co.uk Web site: www.friendsofthelaurel.co.uk

FIRST WORLD WAR SOLDIERS RECORDS

With support from the Heritage Lottery Fund the project to microfilm all the surviving records of soldiers who served in the First World War should be completed in July 2002. Many records were lost during the Blitz of 1940 and those that survive were badly damaged by fire and water – the so called Burnt Records. Filming is taking place in stages according to the initial letter of surnames, those still to be made available are names beginning with M – July, L – September, K – October, I & J December 2001, H – April and G – June 2002. Information on progress may be accessed on the Public Record Office web-site www.pro.gov.uk

MEDICAL BURSARY 1999¹

MAJOR A J McCLUSKEY RAMC

INTRODUCTION

In April 2000 I visited the Gallipoli Peninsula as part of the Memorial Bursary Scheme, having been unable to take the opportunity in 1999. During my prior research I realised that many of the problems faced by the Army Medical Services (AMS) in the Gallipoli campaign struck a resonant chord with my own personal experience, as both a regimental and junior staff officer. In this article I will attempt therefore, to compare a modern personal view with the historical accounts of three aspects of expeditionary operations; communication, training and a brief look at the impact of disease on the expeditionary forces. I apologise if the whole article is not totally centered on Gallipoli geographically, but would like to point out that as a medic, my battlefield stretches in time and space, from the point of wounding to the moment the healed walk back to duty, wherever that may be.

MEDICAL ORBAT

The organization of the AMS resulted from the Army's experiences during the Boer War. Several War Office committees considered the lessons learned from South Africa in the first decade of the 20th century and the changes they instituted were both far reaching, and fundamental.

For command and control the principal medical officer of a field force was designated the Director of Medical Services (DMS), and his assistant the Assistant Director of Medical Services (ADMS). ADMS was also used for the principal medical officer within a Division. The principal medical officer of the lines of communication was designated the Deputy Director of Medical Services (DDMS) and his assistant the Deputy Assistant Director of Medical Services (DADMS).

The organization in the field units was designed to collect casualties from the point of wounding and to evacuate them to hospital expeditiously through a series of medical facilities capable of delivering a level of treatment appropriate to their proximity to the battle-front. The overall aim was to deliver a structure which was agile enough to conform to tactical manoeuvre whilst at the same time delivering a continuous system of care.

The health of personnel in the field was maintained by the Regimental Medical Officer (RMO) assisted by a section trained in field sanitation and in particular the

¹The Medical Bursary we are able to offer has been made possible by a most generous donation by the Hospital Savings Association (HAS) the well known provider of hospital, medical and sickness benefits.

provision of clean drinking water. During operations casualties were collected by unit personnel designated as stretcher bearers on the war establishment. These stretcher bearers were distributed to the companies and were tasked with the collection of the wounded and their subsequent transportation to the Regimental Aid Post (RAP). The RAP was established by the RMO, who would classify casualties for evacuation and whose basic equipment allowed him to control bleeding, immobilise fractures and ease pain. As such he was able to prepare casualties for evacuation to the first specialised medical unit in the chain of evacuation, the Field Ambulance.

The Field Ambulances consisted of a Bearer Division and a Tent Division. These two divisions were further sub-divided into three sections each consisting of a Bearer and Tent sub-division. The Bearer Sub-Division, as its name suggests, consisted of stretcher bearers whose task was to collect the casualties from the RAP and carry them to an Advanced Dressing Station (ADS), which was formed by one or more Tent Sub Divisions. At this point they could receive emergency treatment as necessary and would be transferred to one of the ten ambulance cars issued to each field ambulance, for rapid evacuation to the main dressing station. The Main Dressing Station (MDS) had a similar role to the ADS, but was more capable of treating any casualties beginning to suffer the onset of shock prior to their further evacuation. The Field Ambulances were allocated three per Division and although they operated within brigade areas, they were commanded by the Divisional ADMS.

From the Field Ambulances the casualties were evacuated to the Casualty Clearing Stations (CCS). The CCS had been developed to clear casualties from the Field Ambulances more rapidly than could be achieved by evacuation direct to the hospitals, in an attempt to maximise the ability of the Field Ambulances to keep up with the fighting formations. As such the CCS had three roles; to receive and hold serious casualties until fit for further evacuation, to expedite immediate onward evacuation those casualties fit for travel, to treat and return to duty those likely to recover in a few days.

There was normally one CCS per Division and they were under control of the DMS.

From the CCS, casualties would be evacuated to the Stationary and General Hospitals. These were established for one of each type per Division and by 1915 and could bed 400 and 1040 casualties respectively. The initial difference between these two types of hospital was that the Stationary Hospital was designed to provide a smaller hospital for posts on the lines of communication whilst the General Hospitals operated within the base areas. However, in the First World War in general, and Gallipoli in particular, the compressed nature of Army deployments made this largely academic. The hospitals came under the control of the DDMS.

The transfer of casualties between the Field Ambulances and the CCS was normally

carried out by Motor Ambulance convoys, whilst that between the CCS and the hospitals was carried out by ambulance trains. As conditions at Gallipoli prevented their use I will not elaborate on them further.

If the casualty could not be returned to duty from the Hospitals he would be repatriated to the UK via hospital ship. These were controlled by the co-operative methods of the Directorate of Movements at the War Office, the Transport Department at the Admiralty and the DMS Embarkation, who was responsible for the reception of casualties and their placement in UK hospitals.

MEDICAL PLANNING

After the political decision was taken to exert pressure on the Turks in order to aid Russia in January 1915, several military options were explored in Whitehall as to how this was to be achieved. Although an assault on the Dardanelles was the agreed course of action the decision to mount a combined operation, with troops supporting a naval penetration of the Dardanelles defences, was only agreed on 16 February. As a result the Royal Naval Division (RND) together with some of the ANZAC troops in Egypt embarked for Mudros. More delay ensued with respect to the regular 29th Division as executive authority for its embarkation from Great Britain was not given until 10 March. Two days later General Sir Ian Hamilton was appointed to command what was now called the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force (MEF) and he arrived in the theatre on 17 March.

A point of great importance here is the fact that due to the speed of departure of Hamilton, he was only able to form a small General Staff and departed without any Administrative (A) or Logistic (Q) staff with him. This support grouping contained the DMS of the force, and its delayed departure would ultimately cause fundamental difficulties to the campaign. There seems, however, to have been some earlier anticipation by the DGAMS, General Sir Alfred Keogh, who, on 24 February nominated Colonel J Maher to act as DMS to the expedition. He was ordered to proceed to Malta and took with him an ADMS and a DADMS (sanitation). Unfortunately no instructions, verbal or otherwise, were given to the party as to the nature of their task ahead until they reached Malta, due to a perceived requirement for operational secrecy. They were then ordered to proceed to Lemnos and report on it's suitability as a base for operations from a medical perspective but still do not seem to have been given any inclination of the strategic concept. They arrived there on 15 March and found the 1st Australian Stationary Hospital set up near Mudros Village, with the 3rd Australian Brigade and Royal Naval Division aboard ship in the harbour. On 18 March, Maher reported to Hamilton that Lemnos was unsuitable medically due to an insufficient water supply. As a result of this, and other adverse factors, the decision was then taken to base the MEF in Alexandria, although the 1st Australian Stationary Hospital remained at Mudros to care for the sick from naval transports.

The decision to move the base to Alexandria brought with it more fundamental administrative medical problems. Egypt was already an operational theatre charged with defence of the Suez Canal. Already in place there was another DMS, Surgeon General Ford, together with the ADsMS to Cairo, Alexandria, 42nd Division, 1st Australian Division and the Australian & New Zealand Divisions. This chain of command presided over two small pre-war military hospitals, the Cairo Citadel military hospital and the Ras el Tin military hospital in Alexandria. In addition, the ANZAC force had No 1 Australian CCS at Port Said, with the 2nd Australian Stationary Hospital and the 1st and 2nd General Hospitals in the ANZAC concentration areas around Cairo. Also arriving with the MEF were two further General Hospitals, Nos 15 and 17, two Stationary Hospitals, Nos 15 and 16 and No 11 CCS.

Although somewhat divorced from the Eastern Mediterranean there were also four pre-war hospitals in Malta at Cottonera, Imtarfa, Forrest and Valletta. These Hospitals were administered by Lieutenant Colonel Sleman as DDMS and Lieutenant Colonel Cumming as DADMS and had a capacity of up to 3000 beds.

That these hospitals were going to provide accommodation for two separate theatres and be part of an evacuation plan to Great Britain, India, Australia and New Zealand should probably have necessitated the formation of a Mediterranean Theatre DDMS and staff. However this did not take place, with the Egyptian hospitals remaining under Ford's control, and the Maltese under Sleman's. As a result, right from the very outset, the medical support plan was lacking coherence in a crucial area of hospital accommodation.

Medical planning at the operational level began in earnest in April. The delayed A and Q staff arrived in Alexandria on 1 April. Within this staff group was an officer appointed to supersede Maher as DMS, Surgeon General Birrell and an additional ADMS, Lieutenant-Colonel Keble. Hamilton left for Mudros with his Staff on 7 April to finalize the details for his attack. He took with him Lieutenant Colonel Keble, leaving all other medical staff, along with the other A and Q Staff in Alexandria, to follow at a later date.

Hamilton's plans included the following medical support. The bearer division and some tent subdivisions the field ambulances, with as much medical and surgical equipment as could be carried, were to land at each of the assault beaches. This translated into the following deployments.

For 29th Division, 87 Field Ambulance was to land its' bearer division at X Beach and a tent section at Y Beach. 88 Field Ambulance was to land complete at S Beach. 89 Field Ambulance was to land its' bearer division at V Beach with a tent section at W Beach. At ANZAC the bearer division of 3 Australian Field Ambulance was to land at the north of ANZAC Cove, with the bearer divisions of 2 Australian Field

Ambulance following up to the south. 1 Australian Field Ambulance was to land in the north later in the assault schedule. Following the Field Ambulance echelon were two CCSs, earmarked to land to support the assault forces, with 11 CCS supporting 29th Division at 1400 and the 1st Australian CCS to support the ANZAC at 1000. In order to complete the medical deployment as the MEF moved inland, it was intended to land 15, 16 and 2nd Australian Stationary Field Hospitals as soon as possible.

Due to the shortage of light craft, the conflicting requirements for casualty evacuation and assault force disembarkation could not be met concurrently. It was therefore decided that priority would be given for assault force disembarkation until 1400. Until this time the field ambulance elements ashore were tasked to hold all casualties in the immediate vicinity of the landing beaches until evacuation could commence. To carry out the casualty evacuation, the 29th Division and ANZAC covering forces were both allocated three launches, each capable of carrying 12 cots. These were to evacuate serious casualties to the hospital ship and the more lightly injured to the hospital transport ship tasked to support each assault force. It was intended that these ships would evacuate the casualties to Alexandria as soon as the landings were confirmed as secure.

The General Staff had based their plan on a staff study of the Battle of Mons. It was deduced that II Corps of the BEF had suffered a 7.5% casualty rate in that battle. This was rounded up to 10% for the purposes of the amphibious assault operation about to be undertaken, which equated to 3,000 casualties. This data underpinned the deduction that two hospital ships and two transports would suffice, having a combined capacity of 700 serious cases and 2,000 slight cases.

Surgeon General Birrell arrived at Mudros with the Deputy Adjutant General, Major General Woodward on 18th April at which time he was first appraised of the plan. Birrell was aghast at the proposed arrangements to the rear of the beaches. He believed that the casualty estimate was light and would be nearer to 10,000. A series of memoranda passed between Birrell, Woodward, and the War Office during the ensuing days, which resulted in a vast increase in the medical shipping allocation. By the time the Medical Operation Order was issued on 24 April, the two original Hospital ships were to be supported by seven transports and an additional naval hospital ship on station in the Aegean, with a combined capacity of 1,995 serious and 7,300 slight casualties. The transports were to be manned by the staff of 15 and 2 Australian Stationary Hospitals with 16 Stationary Hospital kept in reserve. The one proviso however, placed on the additional shipping, was that they would not be allowed to leave Gallipoli for at least 48 hrs, lest the operation be unsuccessful and the force require re-embarkation. In addition to these ships, three other hospital ships were dispatched from Alexandria, one to clear the now full hospital at Mudros, and two to further support the MEF after the initial landings.

The plan hit difficulties even before the landings commenced. The 2nd Australian and 16 Stationary Field Hospitals were embarked on the ship *Hindoo*, which unfortunately was delayed by bad weather in transit to the Dardanelles. Consequently the necessary staff were not available to cross deck into their designated transport ships which were thus forced to sail without them. This particularly affected the medical support to ANZAC.

The assault itself did not go according to plan. Many casualties were caused before the troops could disembark and, as a result, these casualties remained in the assault craft which returned to the waiting fleet to collect the next assault echelons. The assault craft, without any direction as to the appropriate destination for their casualties, sailed from ship to ship looking to offload them as quickly as possible. Colonel Howse, ADMS 1st Australian Division reported,

“The NCO of a boat I put off, late on 25 April, told me he tried seven transports before he could get wounded taken on, and that they were taken on board one of those transports between five and six o’clock on the Monday morning.”

The result was that many casualties were re-embarked on ships that were neither staffed nor equipped for their reception and care, sometimes after a long delay. For example the *Seang Choon*, being deprived of the personnel delayed on the *Hindoo*, had on board two medical officers with two surgical panniers with which to care for the 800 casualties who were on board. The best that can be said was that some of the medical personnel earmarked to land with the later assault echelons were redirected to treat those casualties now coming back from the beaches. In some cases, the ships that received casualties were in no fit state to hold them, due to the insanitary conditions caused by the prolonged prior occupation by men and animals.

The wounded began arriving in Egypt from Gallipoli without warning on 29 April. Over the next two days, seven transports arrived bringing 3,346 casualties to Alexandria. The unexpected arrival of these casualties illustrated what was to become a feature of the problems in controlling hospital accommodation for Surgeon General Ford, the DMS of Egypt. Throughout the campaign he complained that he was always in the dark as to the troop strengths, operations and casualty estimates expected from Gallipoli for which he was required to prepare.

In order to examine why the medical plan collapsed with such catastrophic consequences I wish to examine the impact of communication and staff training.

Strategic direction from the General Staff and the AMS command Staff was poor from the inception of the campaign. From the lack of briefing to Colonel Maher on his deployment to the separation of the MEF General Staff from the A and Q Staffs, little or no detailed information as to the projected concept of operations seems to

have taken place until a very late stage. Of the 113 days available between 2 January and 25 April, only in the last seven does any purposeful communication and coherent planning appear to have taken place. This delay had two key consequences. Firstly, it prevented a timely dissemination of orders, with Birrell's Army level direction being issued less than 24 hours before the landing itself. As a result the dissemination of orders throughout the command did not take place. This was illustrated by the confusion as to the position of the hospital shipping. Secondly, it delayed the arrival of key medical personnel, with the result that many casualties were inadequately cared for on their return to Egypt.

Communication between the medical commanders was also fatally compromised. Birrell himself was aboard the *Arcadian* on the 25th with the other A and Q Staff. That the *Arcadian* had no communication equipment meant that Birrell was divorced from his ADsMS ashore and was unable to react to their pleas for help. Manders, the ADMS for the Australian and New Zealand Division, twice sent wireless signals suggesting that additional hospital ships may be required, and asking to which ships he should evacuate his casualties. These signals were received by GHQ on board the battleship *Queen Elizabeth* but were not acted upon by the General Staff or passed to the A and Q Staff.

However the weaknesses caused by the lack of communications were in themselves latent. The flawed assumption that underpinned the medical plan was that the landing would be successful enough to allow the collection and classification of casualties to take place ashore. This patently ignored the possibility of any Turkish response preventing the anticipated outcome. The histories of the Gallipoli campaign attempt to ameliorate this shortcoming by the statement that amphibious operations were not covered in the latest editions of the British Armies Field Service Regulations, and therefore had not formed part of their training. However, at least one historian has pointed out that Admiral Sir John Fisher and Sir John French had carried out some exercise work in this field as early as 1904 with a view to operating in the Baltic. Indeed, had the history of the British Army been searched as far back as the 18th century, battles at Louisberg, Belle Isle and Havana to mention but three, would have illustrated how combined operations had been a central part of our military strategy in building the Empire.

The fact that this historical knowledge was not exploited was almost certainly rooted in the nature of staff training delivered to the Edwardian Military. Attempts had been made to improve this as lectures were given at Staff College from 1907 onwards which contained the study of, amongst other things, ".....various problems connected with the handling and disposal of medical units in different military situations....." To complement this training of staff officers, in April 1908 Commanders in Chief were directed by the Army Council to, "...arrange staff tours to instruct medical officers in map reading and the general principles of tactics, strategy and administration."

I do not intend to explore the reasons why this training did not engender a mind set capable of coping with a difficult and unforeseen circumstance, save to say that they obviously did not. What is important however is that the flawed assumption it produced fatally exposed the latent weaknesses in the medical plan.

INTERLUDE ONE

At this stage I wish to briefly advance 84 years and compare my experience with the factors of communication and training.

I arrived at HQ LAND in April 1999 fresh from the Army Junior Command And Staff Course and was moving into my current post of Staff Officer Grade 3, Med Ops. At the time the aerial bombardment of Serbia was in full swing, with a British deployment at brigade strength poised just to the south in Macedonia. During my first week in post we were directed to begin planning for potentially opposed assault into Serbia of up to Divisional Strength, should the air war fail. If the gravity of the situation did not at first sink in, the following weeks awakened me somewhat rudely.

Our major staff effort was to produce timelines around which political decisions needed to be made. In essence the government told us the latest date by which we needed to be ready and what we needed to achieve. In return we told the government how much time we needed to prepare the various force options under discussion. If a decision was delayed then various force elements and therefore strategic options would become unavailable. Like Colonel Maher we were strategically preparing the ground for those who would be called upon to deploy. However, unlike him we were given the clearest indication as to what the desired end state was and what we would need to do to achieve it. Our input was able, at least in some small way, to shape the final operation, based on the forces we could train, equip and deploy in the given timelines.

This level of planning however only allows us to prepare at a very generic level. In most operations, the detailed planning will be delegated lower down the chain of command. In my experience I believe that, like 1915, there are still problems in communication at the operational and tactical level. On more than one occasion, both at HQ LAND and whilst serving in field units I have experienced the adverse effects of a lack of consultation. Lack of visibility of a particular commander's concept almost always leads to an inappropriate medical deployment which has required short, or no notice redeployment to remedy. Fortunately no soldiers have died due to this but I would suggest that this is more down to good luck than good judgement.

With respect to staff training, my great concern is that I believe that it now focuses too closely on battle rather than campaign. My experience on the Army's Junior Command and staff course is that exercises examine tactical aspects of fighting whilst paying lip service to the gritty detail of the medical, logistic and equipment support

required to enable a force to sustain itself in the field. My concern is not for the professional competence of personnel involved in these force sustainment areas. It is more for the lack of exposure other students receive in the factors which impact adversely on how we operate.

DISEASE

One of the most painful lessons learned from the Boer War was the impact of disease on an Army in the field. As a result, the Edwardian British Army had set in place a comprehensive organisation to approach the problems of sanitation. Schools were established to instruct RAMC personnel from specialist sanitation sections and selected regimental personnel. Instruction in field sanitation was also a part of the training of all other troops. These measures provided the Army with field units, which were capable of managing their own sanitary procedures, backed up by specialist personnel available at divisional level as required.

Despite this however, by far the greatest cause of casualties within the MEF was disease, producing a rough ratio of 2:1 against battle casualties, with the medical history recording 66 separate types of infection requiring admission to hospital. The largest cause of infection, and the disease on which I will focus, was dysentery, causing 29,728 British hospital admissions out of a total of 145,154 and almost 20,000 more than its nearest rival, diarrhoea.

The dysentery bacillus was first recognised in Japan in 1897. Between then and 1914 several further strains of varying toxicity were isolated. The bacillus is found in the large intestine and is spread by direct contact with an infected person, or faecal contamination of food or eating utensils. Once in a victim, the bacillus incubates for 2-7 days, and as it matures it begins to secrete toxins which attack the mucosal membrane of the lower bowel wall. The first symptoms are likely to be mild diarrhoea and vomiting. These symptoms become more pronounced as the infection takes hold and as the bowel wall breaks down blood will begin to appear in the faeces. The toxins then spread around the body and begin to affect other organs. Depending on the severity of the infection, physical collapse occurs either early due to toxæmia, or between 3 and 4 weeks due to fluid loss.

Although dysentery was present in the MEF from the outset of the operation, it was not recognised as such, with the increase in intestinal complaint being put down to a change of diet and the increase in anxiety or bathing in the sea. A marked and rapid increase took place between early July and late August. This was particularly noticeable at ANZAC where, unlike Helles, no professional sanitary teams were operating.

On 4 May a group of 30 men from various rear area units were extemporised into a sanitation company to deal with cleanliness of the ANZAC area. Despite the

provision of this company, there seems to have been a lack of hygiene discipline by the troops in front line units, especially with respect to waste and latrine management. The routine burning of rubbish was prevented as it was argued that the resulting smoke attracted enemy fire. A memo from ANZAC HQ on 14 May stated that latrines had not been filled in and that waste foodstuffs were lying around and were being used by flies to breed. Added to these two factors was the number of corpses, some of which were undoubtedly infected, lying in the open in inaccessible areas under fire. These conditions provided a breeding ground par excellence for flies. As the summer progressed these insects were primarily responsible for vectoring bacteria into the troops as illustrated by the following quote.

“We had flies by the hundred billion. They were everywhere, from the heaps of dead to the cooks’ pots. Put jam on a biscuit and it was always a sprint between you and the flies, the event usually ending in a dead heat.”

A factor in the spread of the dysentery outbreak was the apparent lack of urgency from the chain of command in recognising, or dealing with, the severity of the problem. ANZAC was losing 10% of its troops per week with perhaps up to 80% of the remainder carrying the infection, and yet there still persisted an attitude that to go sick was to fail your mates. Notwithstanding the medical impact, the debilitating impact on the fighting capability of the troops was also severe. For example the Australian 4th Brigade was tasked to carry out the left flanking attack on the Sari Bair Ridge on the night 6/7 August. These troops were required to advance approximately three-and-a-half miles over unreconnoitered and broken terrain in three hours, then climb and assault Koja Chemen Tepe, 971 feet above sea level. The results were far short of expectations with a battalion CO involved, being quoted as follows,

“Our physical condition was very poor and we had heavy loads to carry.....Most of our men were very weak, and I doubt if they could have marched the distance in the required time given daylight, proper guides, and no opposition. It was the worst 48 hours I can recollect in Gallipoli.”

The effects of the disease were not only felt on the Peninsula. The average time in hospital was about 50 days, further increasing the already high demand for hospital accommodation. The control of the disease was at best sporadic. Despite the presence of dysentery being formally identified in August, infected personnel ‘soldiered on’ and were not evacuated at the earliest opportunity. This action therefore increased the reservoir of further infection. Indeed fly proof latrines were not provided at ANZAC until the time of the August offensive, giving the flies prolonged access to the major source of the bacillus which they then passed on.

That the epidemic died down in the early autumn was due to several combined factors. Firstly the effects of improved food hygiene; secondly the effects of

improved waste and excreta management; thirdly, the evacuation of sick personnel; and finally the cooling weather reducing the numbers of flies.

The point I wish to highlight here is that protection in a health context is usually the product of a systematic approach rather than a medical 'silver bullet.' At Gallipoli these were; minimise the source of infection and minimise the route of ingestion. Later in the war added to these was improved vector control, with widespread research and development in the use of insecticides.

INTERLUDE TWO

The two modern issues of disease I intend to discuss are force protection measures and field hygiene.

I believe that there is still an attitude of indifference to health issues for personnel serving in various units of the current British Army. I have a concern that there is a laissez faire attitude to the enforcement of health advice and a complete lack of acknowledgement of the effects of sickness on a fighting force.

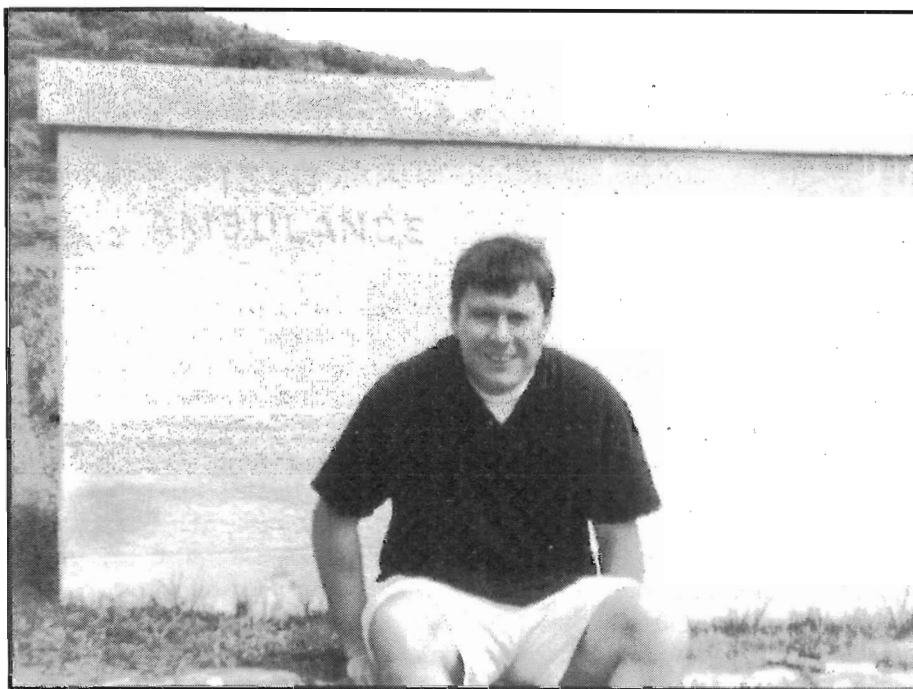
During a recent tropical deployment, personnel were protected by an anti-malarial system which consisted of repellent for clothing, dress states to minimise exposed skin at high risk times of day, use of insecticides to kill mosquitoes and, finally, provision of chemo-profilaxis to counter any infection if bitten. Following the recovery of the force, cases of malaria began to appear with a final infection rate of around 7%. In the subsequent investigations by the AMS however, it was discovered that many of the personnel had not taken full precautions or their drugs as prescribed. Indeed one soldier had not done so in the belief that he was immune to malaria.

Secondly I wish to consider the issue of field hygiene. Of the many changes experienced in the Army over the last 15 years, two on which I would like to focus are exercise duration and latrines. The longer field exercises, common in the BAOR of the 1960s, 70s and 80s seem to have been replaced by shorter exercises with a higher intensity of operation. Although this gives a more efficient use of resources it reduces the time that personnel are required to practice and master the mind numbing tedium of essential field administration. In essence they 'rough it' until the end of the field deployment. Linked to this is the issue of latrines. It has become noticeable in recent years that exercise areas, particularly in Germany, have sprouted the ubiquitous chemical toilet for the use of soldiers in order to protect the environment. The result is that exercising personnel do not learn how to manage their waste to protect themselves at first hand. Failure to do this, as we have seen, can have catastrophic consequences.

The two observations were illustrated last year during the entry into Kosovo. A post

operational point raised by a CO of a deployed Field Ambulance, was the lack of ability of personnel to construct fly proof latrines without the assistance of his men. In addition to this Comd Med of 3(UK) Division was forced to 'brow beat and pester' the divisional staff to provide hand washing facilities outside cookhouses and enforce their use. I accept that these hygiene tasks are part of the *raison d'être* of the AMS but these are basic skills, that we seem to be losing.

In conclusion I hope that I avoided the trap of judging those engaged in the Dardanelles in 1915 with the benefit of hindsight. In considering the three separate aspects of communication, training and health protection I think it is clear that errors in 1915 were not necessarily caused by lack of ability of the personnel involved. They were a product of the system that selected and trained them, and I have little doubt that they were doing their best, in what was for many, a totally alien environment. I hope I have illustrated that many of the pitfalls they suffered were due to the impact of fundamental, routine and occasionally unglamorous aspects of military life, as relevant and unforgiving today as they were then. I also hope that in acknowledging that fact, we can best remember the Tommies, Diggers, Poilus and Mehmetciks who suffered 85 years ago by learning from their experience.



Major A J McCluskey RAMC at 7th Field Ambulance Cemetery, April 2000.

NONE WHO WENT OUT THAT DAY CAME BACK

HELEN BRITTAN¹

Growing up in New Zealand, it was impossible not to know of the campaign of 1915, but my knowledge was limited. I knew about the ANZAC landings of 25 April, and that two of my grandfather's brothers had died later in the campaign, but little else. In April 2000, I had the good fortune to travel to Gallipoli as the recipient of the Medical Bursary 2000 from the Gallipoli Association, sharing my journey with Major Alistair McClusky the recipient of the 1999 Medical Bursary who had not been able to make his visit until then. The Anzac Cove area was similar to how I had imagined it, though, arriving a day before most of the crowds, it was surprisingly peaceful. However the rest of my journey made me realise just how narrow my view of the campaign was. I knew nothing about the landings at Cape Helles, nor of the battles of Krithia, where many New Zealand troops lost their lives. The closeness of the front line trenches, sometimes feet apart and the terrain that troops had to cope with were a surprise, even though I had heard them described. It was impossible to imagine what it was like living there under constant enemy fire. I also learned a lot about Mustapha Kemal, and his amazing leadership. With Alistair McCluskey's maps and knowledge of the campaign, visiting the battlefields gave me an unforgettable look back into events that affected both my country and my family.

My main reason for wanting to visit Gallipoli was to visit Hill 60. This is where, on the 28 August, two of my grandfather's brothers died while serving in the Canterbury Mounted Rifles. The sons of Francis and Flora Brittan of Avonside, Canterbury, New Zealand, Edward Guise aged 24 and known in his family as Guy had arrived with the first contingent on 12 May, his older brother Henry Bertram aged 27 and known in the family as Harry joined him in mid-August. The Canterbury Mounted Rifles took part in the great assault which commenced on 21 August, their task, one shared with the Otago Mounted Rifles, was to seize Hill 60. Together they numbered some 400 men, sickness and the fighting earlier in the month had already taken a heavy toll. Christopher Pugsley in *Gallipoli The New Zealand Story* (1984) described them as:

"fine-drawn, gaunt, with nerves on knife edge. They were dressed in brimless forage hats, cut-down trousers and boots, no socks and in many cases no shirts – just brown grimy bodies, shaven headed, walking skeletons fighting over bodies sprawled in the saps, with rifle butt, bayonet and bomb."

Later he describes the fighting from the 27-29 August as:

"an inferno that consumed the last fighting strength of Godley's New



Edward Guise



Harry Guise

Zealand Mounted Rifles and the 4th Australian Brigade. Those not fighting were too sick and manned the trenches. Those fighting were killed, wounded, or exhausted to the point where they too joined the sick.”

Of the 32 officers and 645 men of the Canterbury Mounted Rifles who had landed on the Peninsula just one officer and 39 men returned to Lemnos on 14 September, the rest were dead, injured or sick. Many of the Rifles had known each other from their school days, and the only clue we have as to what happened to my great-uncles comes from a letter written by a schoolmate Lieutenant Gordon G Harper of the machine-gun section. His previous letters to the school and the parents of some of those killed never arrived, however that from Egypt dated 1 March 1916 to Mrs Bevan-Brown, wife of the Principal of Christchurch Boys High School did reach it's destination.² In this, which thanks her for gifts and letters, he details the deaths of several members of the brigade earlier in August then concludes one paragraph thus:

“Hill 60 cost us four Old Boys before it was finally conquered.
No one can say how Sergt. Jack Evans and the two Brittan boys died.
No one who went with them came back.”

My uncles' names are, like so many others, remembered on the Hill 60 (New Zealand) Memorial standing at the centre of Hill 60 Cemetery.

¹ Helen Brittan was born in New Zealand in 1970 but moved to England in 1989. Subsequently she returned to New Zealand in 1992 and spent five years at University. After completing her degree she returned to England where she works as a research assistant in a medical research laboratory at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex.

² The letter is published in *Letters from Gunner 7/516 and Gunner 7/517* edited by Barbara Harper and published by Anchor Communications Ltd, Wellington, New Zealand 1978. Barbara Harper is the wife of Robin Harper (Gunner 7/517), Gordon Harper's brother. We are most grateful to Pauline Harper for permission to quote from her mother's book.

DIGGERS

AN EXHIBITION IN CELEBRATION OF THE 100th BIRTHDAY OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY

The exhibition, which commenced in March at Australia House, Strand, London, WC2B 4LA runs until 24 April. Open daily, except for Good Friday and Easter Monday from 1000-1600. However intending visitors are advised to confirm times and availability prior to their visit by phoning 020 7887 5477.

EDUCATION

COLIN HAGUE

The objectives of the Gallipoli Association are defined as:

- to keep alive the memory of the Gallipoli campaign of 1915.
- to ensure that the men who fought and died in the campaign are not forgotten.
- to encourage and facilitate the study of the campaign so that lasting benefit can be gained from its valuable lessons.

Whilst the Association's healthy membership level reflects a continuing interest in the action at Gallipoli and the background to it, one must be concerned as to how long this fascination can survive. The events of 1914 to 1918 are sufficiently recent to seem relevant to our own experience. We remain horrified by the scale of the casualties, and believe that we should learn from the mistakes made. Few of the gallant veterans are still with us. So, in a decade, will events in the Dardanelles seem no more significant than, say, the battle of Naseby? This, in turn, brings forward the whole question of whether History is at all important.

Our educational system seems to be constantly evolving, in response to changed priorities. New subjects are studied, and some believe that traditional ones such as History are less important. This is a frequent topic of debate by our friends in the Western Front Association. A most interesting letter was published in the WFA Bulletin, February 2001 from the Head of Education at the National Army Museum. He comforted readers by reminding them that the National Curriculum requires all pupils in the state system to study the Great War. His view was that teachers spend more time on the First World War than on any other military topic. Of school age visitors to NAM in 1999, the highest number (39%) came to study the period between 1914 and 1918. However – and here we come to the point – he opined that one aspect of this pro-Great War situation:

“... is that the curriculum – and hence classroom teaching, museum visits and battlefield tours – emphasises the Western Front at the expense of all other aspects of the war. Very little time is spent studying Gallipoli, for example, the war at sea, or even the home front. In other words, young people spend a disproportionate amount of time studying one theatre of war ...”

Is this inevitable? The Gallipoli Association is to be commended on awarding bursaries to students showing a special interest in the Dardanelles campaign. But should more be done to redress the balance? If so how? The Editor would welcome your views and ideas on this serious subject.

GALLIPOLI DAFFODIL

In *The Gallipolian* No 68 Spring 1992 we reported on a long lost daffodil named "Gallipoli". This was one of some 403 narcissus cultivars raised by the Brodie of Brodie (1868-1943) one of the great daffodil hybridists of the 20th century. The Brodie who had previously served in the Scots Guards and the Lovat Scouts was on the staff at Gallipoli in 1915, later in Egypt and Palestine, being awarded the Military Cross and Mentioned in Despatches.

"Gallipoli" was registered in 1923 with the Royal Horticultural Society. A large-cupped daffodil with a glowing orange-red cup with pale yellow flowers "Gallipoli" flowered late (perhaps to coincide with 25 April?) and was said to be very vigorous. Another description refers to it "as a most striking giant." Sadly there seems to be no record of "Gallipoli" since 1968 when a specimen was exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society following which a photograph was published in the Yearbook for 1969.

Despite extensive enquiries in this country and in Australia and North America no examples of "Gallipoli" have been discovered, though it could well still be in existence. The possibility of another cultivar being given a name connected with the Gallipoli campaign has been suggested – perhaps "Cape Helles" or "Dardanelles." One hopes that in the not too distant future an appropriately named daffodil will once again carry a name connected with the campaign of 1915 and its forebear the long lost "Gallipoli."

We are grateful to several members who have been most active in the hunt for "Gallipoli" – John Barber, Tom Brooks, Colonel Carl K Mahakian USMCR (Ret), James Orton, the late John Price and Major Tom Spring-Smyth. Our enquiries have been greatly facilitated by a number of daffodil experts and we are especially indebted to Brian Duncan of the Daffodil and Tulip Committee and Sally Kington, Daffodil Registrar of the Royal Horticultural Society, and to Fred Silcock of Australia.

WESTRALIAN CAVALRY IN THE WAR

Published in early April is a reprint of the history of the 10th Light Horse Regiment in the First World War to which Neville Browning and Ian Gill have added an 83 page supplement including a Roll of Honour and extracts from diaries and letters. 432 pages with many maps and photographs, the book which has a limited print run of just 1,000 copies and is available to members including post, for £30.00 cash or the equivalent by International Money Order in Australian dollars from I. Gill, 8b Patfield Street, Myaree, Western Australia 6154.

GEORGE HOGG – A GALLIPOLI CASUALTY

DAVID McM R WARNES

Before the First World War my mother who would have then been about 16 years of age was sent from Galston in Ayrshire to keep house for her two brothers – George and Robert Hogg – at Keremeos in British Columbia. They had been sent there from Galston to “work on the land.” George, the younger of the two returned to Scotland after the war broke out, overstated his age and enlisted in the Royal Engineers. He was sent to Gallipoli where during an artillery barrage he was buried alive at Suvla Bay. Eventually he was rescued but shell-shocked and later caught amoebic dysentery which in time destroyed part of his brain.

After briefly returning to Canada he made his way back to Scotland and commenced a course in medicine at Aberdeen University, however after passing a number of the examinations he was admitted to Sunnyside, the large psychiatric hospital near Montrose. Here he was to remain for 60 years until his death in 1982 aged 85. Despite his severe disability he became a well-known figure in the district as he roamed about the countryside becoming very knowledgeable on wildlife, with a special interest in bird migration. Despite his obvious disability he managed to triumph in his own quiet way over the great suffering he experienced when buried alive at Gallipoli.

His older brother, Robert, had joined the 48th Canadian Highlanders, allied to the Gordon Highlanders in which he served on the Western Front during which time he was commissioned into the Border Regiment. He was recommended for the Victoria Cross and received the Military Cross in 1917. He was wounded three times during the Third Battle of Ypres, once severely in the abdomen, despite which he remained with his men directing the consolidation of the captured position. On being carried away at nightfall he was not given long to live but fortunately survived. His wounds were such that he emigrated to the kinder climate of South Africa where he worked as an accountant. He died in 1952.



George Hogg (my Uncle George) (left) aged about 15 in Keremeos, British Columbia with his Sister (my Mother) and their Father.



*Lieutenant Robert Hogg,
Border Regiment.*

THE BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY

The Society was inaugurated in 1971 by Sir Robert Menzies, Australia's longest serving Prime Minister, and Sir Alec Douglas-Home (later Lord Home), of Great Britain who recognised the value of continuing cultural exchange between the two countries and founded complementary societies in Australia and Britain. In addition to the National Office in London (see below for address) there are ten branches around the country. Total membership currently is approximately 800. Members are informed of cultural and social events and functions via a regular Newsletter and the medium of the internet.

Events occur throughout the year and branches devise their own programmes. As well as an ongoing calendar of events the National Office organises two flagship functions annually: the prestigious Australia Day Dinner in January, and a summer Reception, usually held at The House of Lords. Exceptionally, in 2000, the reception in June was held at St James's Palace in the presence of our Patron, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. The Australia Day Dinner 2001 took place at Le Meridien Waldorf, attended by 300 guests. The Guest of Honour and speaker was Lord Coe OBE. Sponsorship support was provided by AMP. Membership also provides the opportunity of subscribing for tickets by ballot for typically British events e.g. Lords cricket, Wimbledon, Glyndebourne and The Chelsea Flower Show.

The London Branch currently has 400 individual members, approximately half of whom are Australians living and working here, and Britons who have Australian connections, or who have an interest in Australia and want to maintain it by social contact. Membership provides the opportunity for access to uniquely British institutions and events, as well as helping to maintain the fundamental links of social, cultural and business life which have bound Britain and Australia since 1788.

The Society is also supported by corporate membership provided by Australian commercial institutions with a presence in the UK. Additionally the Society has strong links with other organisations such as the Australia New Zealand Chamber of Commerce (ANZCC), Australian Business in Europe (ABIE), the Royal Overseas League, the Victoria League, the Commonwealth Trust, the English Speaking Union and the Scots-Australian Council.

This year sees the 30th anniversary of The Society's foundation. To mark this significant occasion, a celebration will take place in October at which prominent representatives of the two countries will be present. To obtain further details about membership please contact:

Sue Whitby, National Secretary The Britain-Australia Society, Swire House, 59 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AJ Tel:020 7630 1075 Fax:020 7828 2260 email: britaus@britain-australia.org.uk. Website: <http://www.britain-australia.org.uk>

LILY DOUGHTY-WYLIE

A DISTANT MEMORY

GAVIN KIRKPATRICK

This little piece stems from a chance discussion with Barrie Thorpe, a member of the Gallipoli Association and my daughter's father-in-law.

My Godmother was Lily Doughty-Wylie, the widow of 'Dick' Doughty-Wylie VC whose heroism during the Gallipoli landings at V Beach and the capture of Sedd-el-Bahr will be well known to members, indeed many have visited his lone grave above the village. The following recollections are based on two childhood meetings with my Godmother and anecdotal information passed on by my parents and grandmother during their lifetimes.

Lily was a cousin of both my maternal grandfather and my grandmother – who were themselves first cousins, once removed. Her family name was "Wylie" and my grandfather's name was Alexander Wylie Sclanders. She was related to the Wylie-Hill family in Scotland and its' believed that the family wealth had its roots in the Wylie Lochhead Department Store which was eventually taken over by the House of Fraser.

Family legend has it that she and her sister "Vi" were both born illegitimate. When their parents were finally persuaded to get married, Lily and Vi accompanied their parents to the altar hidden beneath the extensive and hooped skirt of the bride, and thereby they were made legitimate.

Lily and possibly Vi were both bridesmaids at my grandparents' wedding in Paisley. Lily in particular enjoyed a close friendship, based on mutual affection, with my grandfather Alec Sclanders who was some years older. Evidently Alec had been especially helpful to her when she was quite young and I have a vague feeling that it may have been Alec who persuaded Lily's parents to marry, i.e. it may have been Alec to whom Lily was indebted for her legitimacy.. This affection was later extended by Lily to my mother Margaret (née Sclanders) whom she called "Imp" or "My little Imp".... and ultimately to myself as her Godchild.

It is at this point that the extent of my knowledge and memory may not be entirely reliable. However I do recall that she was married twice. Her first marriage was to a Lieutenant Adams of the Indian Medical Service, who died rather young in an accident involving a bullock cart. In the meantime, she had trained as a nurse and later met Dick Doughty whom she married in 1904 and persuaded to incorporate her 'Wylie' into their married name; thus he became Dick Doughty-Wylie. I have read in a relatively recent article about Gallipoli in an Australian Weekend Colour Magazine, that Dick Doughty-Wylie had a considerable reputation as a philanderer. Certainly

he was very close to Gertrude Bell the Middle East traveller and archaeologist though it never emerged anecdotally during family discussions that I can recall – but this kind of gossip would not have arisen in my family in which Dick was regarded as a hero.

In the Balkan War Doughty-Wylie was Director of Red Cross units in Constantinople and Lily served as a Superintendent of Nursing Staff. During the early months of the First World War Lily was in charge of a hospital at St Valéry-sur-Somme and it was here that she heard the news of Dick's death. Although I have no knowledge about the details, it is believed that with her nursing background she subsequently set up, financed and ran a field hospital for the casualties of the Gallipoli campaign. Indeed there are the rumours that she actually visited Dick's grave on the battlefield prior to the evacuation.

At the end of war, she returned to India and established and ran a mission in Calcutta to help the poor of that city. In recognition of this public and charitable work she was honoured with an award in the gift of the Viceroy. This was sent and delivered to her by an Indian Bearer. She refused it with the words, "If the Viceroy is not able to present this award to me in person, I am not willing to accept it from anyone else, least of all from an Indian Bearer!". I think there was a subsequent occasion when the Viceroy made the presentation personally.

The Second World War found her in Cairo where she helped set up, and run the first of the Lady Lampson Clubs as a place for officers to rest and recuperate from the rigours of the desert war. Lady Lampson being the wife of Miles Lampson, later Lord Lampson, High Commissioner for Egypt and the Sudan from 1933 to 1946. One of my Scottish cousins, Lieutenant Colin Lang MC, became seriously ill as a result of the North African campaign and spent time in her care. Whether they knew they were cousins is not known. After the war and when Britain's military presence in Egypt was scaled down, she set up and ran the second Lady Lampson Club at the RAF base of Akrotiri in Cyprus where she remained until her death in 1962.

Amongst the members of my family and those who knew her, she was clearly a formidable personality with a strong spirit for independence of thought and action. With wonderfully bright and penetrating eyes, she was quite slight in physical terms yet even when she was elderly, she was capable of running along the cliff at Fairlight Cove, near Hastings where we met for the second and last time in the early 1950's. Although a formidable character, I remember her as a sympathetic person as well. At the time of this meeting, as an early teenager, I was going through the usual stresses of this age and was extremely lazy at school. Evidently Lily had been primed by my parents to read the riot act to me. I cannot remember her exact words, but she said something along the lines:

"I should not be harsh with you; we might never see each other again.

But your parents want you to do better at school; they are right of course. You do not have to do better for them – or for me – but for yourself; that's what is important."

The conversation immediately changed and she then asked what I wanted for my birthday. At the time, I was desperate to get my own little sailing boat. In due course a cheque for £70 arrived (a fortune in those days) and I was able to get my boat. I still have it!

There are a host of unanswered questions, not only about her first husband but about her role at Gallipoli – was this unique or was she one of many such initiatives – and when did she receive her RRC and OBE, that I dutifully wrote after her name on envelopes when sending her letters? There is also another puzzle; within our family, she was always known as 'Lily'. I never knew why it was that she finished her letters to me with the expression "from your affectionate Godmother, Judith."

Perhaps others who read this little account may have additional and more accurate information and can fill in some of the gaps. Until then this must remain stamped 'E. & O.E.' !



Lily Doughty-Wylie from a photograph taken at my Grandparents wedding in the mid 1890's.

SIMPSON VC?

JAMES ORTON

Members might have seen references in their newspapers over the past few months to a move in the Australian Federal Parliament to obtain a posthumous award of the Victoria Cross to John Simpson – of Simpson and his Donkey fame. Some papers, through an ambiguous wire from a press agency, reported that the award had actually been made. Others suggested that it was imminent. The truth, however, is otherwise.

The proposal has been made most recently by Jill Hall, MP for Shortland, an electorate centered on the coal and steel town Newcastle, NSW, who addressed Parliament in Private Members Business on 30 October 2000, just before the Christmas recess. In doing so Jill Hall quoted very effectively from a poem written by a West Australian digger returned from the Gallipoli front and published at the beginning of the Second World War:

“I would like each of you today to take with you this poem, sent to me from Western Australia and written by one of John Simpson’s fellow soldiers at Gallipoli”¹

Along the tumbled hills that lie
Beside the oldest sea of all
The Diggers saw him passing by
And heard his answer to their call
And well they knew him, although to
But few of them his name was known
And broken was a mateship true
When Simpson’s donk came back alone
He sleeps beside the sapphire wave,
But ever shall his spirit live
He knew not men would call him brave
When giving all he had to give
He’d take a wounded cobber’s weight
In arms that ease and hope would bring
And proved himself a dinkum mate
When mateship was a living thing
Again the scrub has over-run
The hillside paths where Simpson went
Whereon his splendid deeds were done
Whereon his glorious hours were spent
But there’s a roadway that shall last
That no wild growth can ever claim:
The roadway up which Simpson passed
To the eternal halls of fame.

Jill Hall concluded: "Just think about those heartfelt words for a moment. Prime Minister, how can you not open up your heart and correct the injustices of the past?"

I recently made enquiries concerning the proposed award in the Ceremonies and Awards section of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet where I was informed authoritatively that the Australian Government had not approved the award, and it was not its intention so to do.

The reasons given were:

Simpson had already been Mentioned in Despatches.

If Simpson's Commanding Officer had wished to put Simpson forward for the VC or indeed any other award, he had ample opportunity to do this.²

Again, in the "End of War" Honours list, there was the opportunity for Simpson to be nominated. This was not done.

There were hundreds if not thousands of other notable acts of bravery that went unacknowledged, often because the CO had himself been killed and there were no remaining men to make the necessary nomination.

It was apparently known that Simpson (as Fitzpatrick) had stated his purpose in enlisting was to get back to Britain after the war. It was felt that an award of an "Australian" VC was not therefore appropriate.

Any award to Simpson at this present time, the end of the 20th century, would have created a precedent, and the authorities could envisage a flood of similar meritorious applications, all of which would take much time, trouble and expense to verify and process.

¹ The author of the poem is believed to be an Oscar Walters who possibly served in a Western Australian battalion during the First World War, with publication, possibly in *Carry On* early in the Second World War, chosen as a means of providing new troops with an idea of what their fathers had been through.

² But see Curran, Tom *Across the Bar* 1994 where reference is made to Simpson's commanding officer Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred Sutton writing up "poor Simpson's case with a view to getting some honour for him. It is difficult to get evidence of one act to justify the VC the fact is he did so many." While Colonel (later General Sir John) Monash personally forwarded a recommendation for military honours the day after Jack had been killed.

TWO VILLAGES A TRIBUTE TO THE FALLEN

The message was short, but clear, when we received it as a result of the Gallipoli Association web-site being investigated by Ted Sparrow, who wrote:

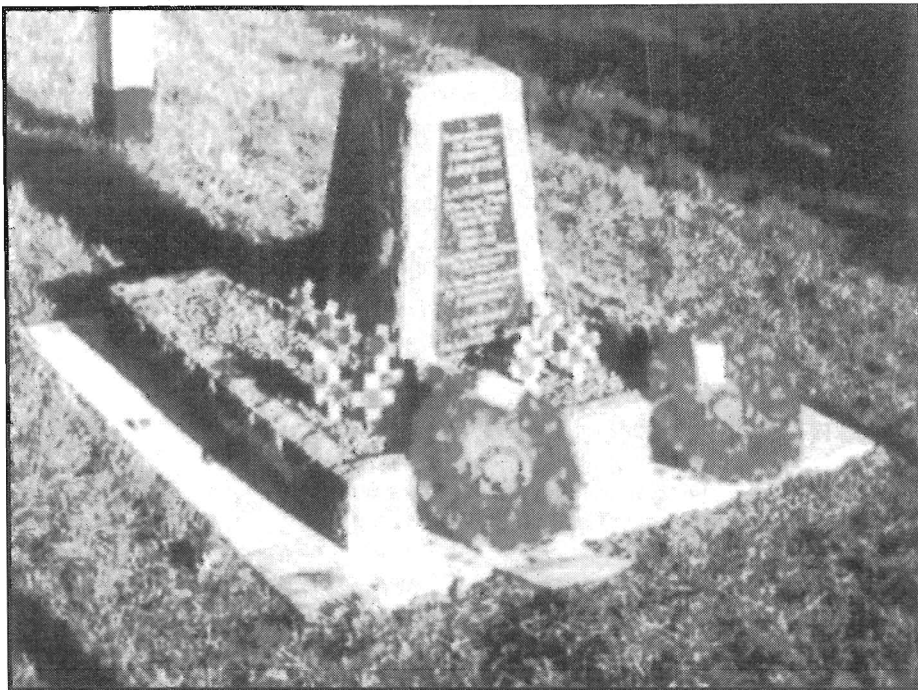
Our Church has a website memorial to the "Fallen" from our villages. There is a section on Gallipoli, where we lost one soldier with the 1st Battalion Essex Regiment and Sub-Lieutenant Fryer from HMS *Vengeance*. We have pictures of the men, their medals etc and of HMS *Vengeance*. www.geocities.co/abbertonroh is the site.

Immediate investigation revealed that the two villages in question were those, closely adjoining, of Abberton and Langenhoe just south of Colchester, Essex, home to 49 and 46 families respectively at the start of the 20th century. Much of Abberton is now taken up with the enormous reservoir completed in 1941 and where the Dam-Busters did some of their training, while a great part of Langenhoe towards the estuary of the River Colne and the Pyefleet Channel is marshland and Army firing ranges.

To help mark the new millenium the Parish Council decided to erect a new War Memorial on the village green. Previously there was just a list, 12 names in all, on the wall of Saint Andrews Church, Abberton. These were read out on each Remembrance Sunday, however there was no mention of which war they had died in or where, even in which service they had served. The Council came to the conclusion that if the villages were truly going to remember these men then they needed to find out more about them. Subsequent enquiries showed that three of the men were not from the villages but were relatives of villagers. Even more surprising was the fact that nine men had been completely overlooked as the families had moved away. Following much research for the new memorial on the village green and that in Saint Andrew; a new list was produced of 18 names – eleven from the First World War, seven from the Second, the latter including two brothers.

Two of the men had been killed at Gallipoli. Arthur Radford of Abberton, one of seven children, was a regular soldier who had enlisted in 1906 in the Essex Regiment and had served with them overseas. He was with the 1st Battalion and aged 25 when he was killed during the Battle of Fir Tree Wood on 7 May 1915. His name is on the Cape Helles Memorial. When researching the names for the new memorial it was discovered that a member of the family living in Scunthorpe had signed the visitors book about two years previously, so previously unknown personal details became available.

Little more than a month later, on 15 June 1915 Sub-Lieutenant Ernest Fryer aged 28, died of burns on board HMS *Vengeance*. It is believed that he may have suffered these injuries fighting a fire on another ship a few days previously. He was buried at



The new war memorial on Abberton Village Green.



Arthur Radford standing left probably taken in India and sent to his Mother.

sea and his name recorded on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial. His sextant and sword used were passed to his nephew Captain Peter Archer RN (retd) who was able to provide information about his uncle.

Ernest Fryer hailed from Abberton and aged 12 had run away to sea endeavouring to join a windjammer in the London Docks, the Captain having contacted the family suggested the lad come for a short while to "get it out of his system." Far from this the boy decided this was the life and remained in the Merchant Navy before joining the RNR and being commissioned in 1912. He joined HMS *Vengeance*, a battleship of the Canopus class launched in 1899, which November 1914 sailed for Gibraltar and then on to the Cape Verde Isles, later was off Cape St Vincent before heading for Malta in February and then to the Dardanelles. Flying the flag of Rear-Admiral de Robeck HMS *Vengeance* participated in the bombardment of the Dardanelles Forts on 19 February the Official History noting these as:

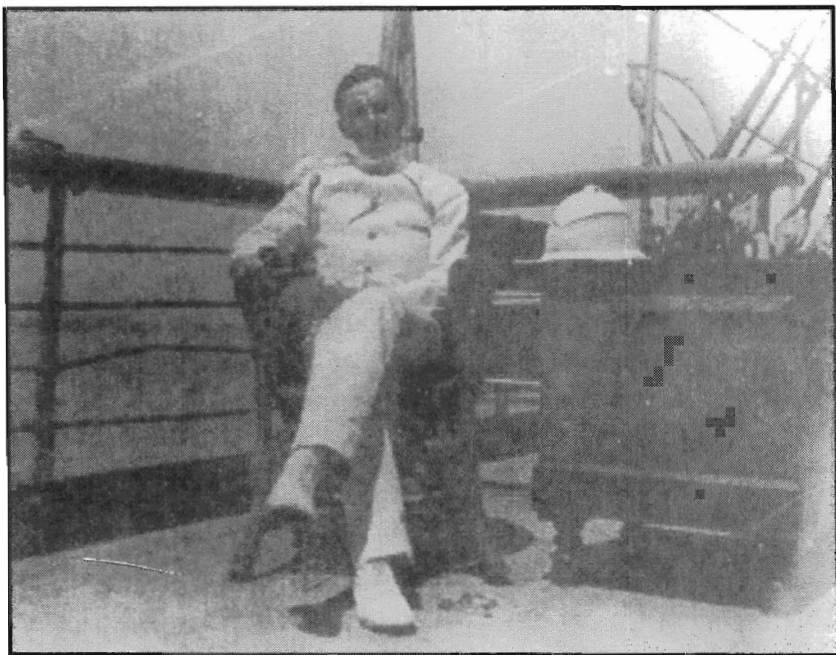
— the first shots heralded the opening of the unparalleled operations which were destined to attain such vast proportions, to consume so much heroism, resource and tragic effort, and to end with so glorious a failure."

A week later her torpedo officer, Lieutenant-Commander Robinson, who was to be awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions, led the demolition parties charged with the task of destroying the guns at Kum Kale. The following month more bombardments in which the *Vengeance* played a major part these culminating in the major attempt of 18 March to force the Narrows.

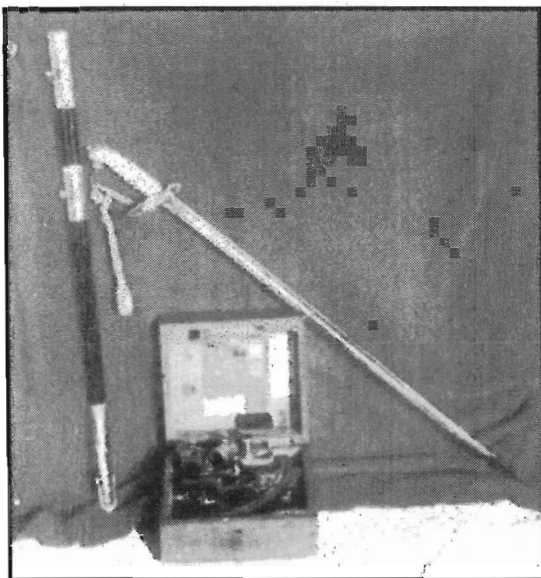
Acknowledgements: We are most grateful to Ted Sparrow for first of all making contact with the Gallipoli Association and secondly for much help with this short report. The Association is also indebted to Saint Andrews Church Council and the families of the two casualties for kind permission to publish the accompanying photographs.

ON THE WEB CAN YOU BE A SPIDER?

The article *Two Villages: A Tribute to the Fallen* would not have been possible, and we would be quite unaware of the Abberton and Langenhoe web-site *A Tribute to the Fallen* if its compiler, Ted Sparrow, who is not a member of the Gallipoli Association had not contacted us. There are probably many more web-sites with a Gallipoli connection. Do you know of any? Perhaps you have even created one, or are thinking of doing so. If so the Editor would be very pleased to hear with a view to a report for the benefit of members being published in *The Gallipolian*.



Ernest Fryer date not known.



The sextant used by Ernest Fryer and his sword.

BATTLEFIELD TOURS TO BE WON

NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM'S MILITARY HISTORY CHALLENGE

Team entries are now being accepted for the National Army Museum's Military History Challenge, organised in association with Holts Battlefield Tours who will be offering a selection of their tours as a prize to the winning team.

The Challenge, which marks Museums and Galleries Month 2001, will be held in May and early June and will test teams on their knowledge of British Army History, from Agincourt to the present day. An eliminator round will be held at the Museum in pub-quiz style on an evening in early May and the final, in the style of University Challenge, will be hosted by Loyd Grosman, Chairman of the Campaign for Museums.

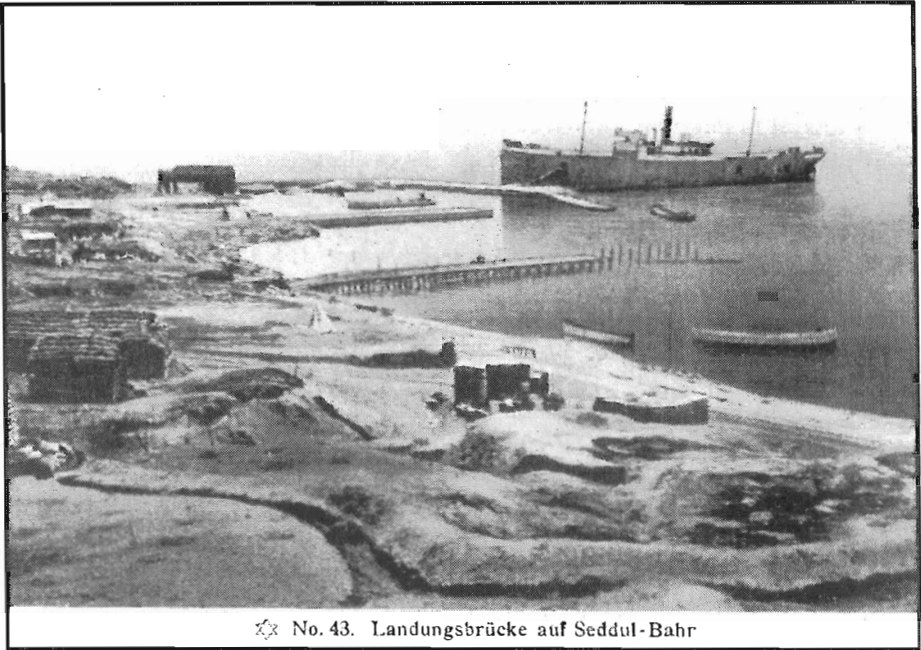
Teams need to consist of four people and entry to the Challenge costs £5.00 per person and includes a glass of wine.

First Prize: a place for all team members on any coach tour in the 2002 Holts Programme. **Second Prize:** a place for all team members on any two/three day coach tour in the 2002 Programme. **Third Prize:** a place for all team members on any one day tour in the Programme. **Fourth Prize:** Holts maps and guidebooks.

An entry form and competition rules can be obtained by calling the Museum's Department of Public Relations on 020 7730 0717 ext2243 or by e-mailing pr@national-army-museum.ac.uk.

GALLIPOLI POSTCARDS

Simon Jenks has very kindly made available on loan a collection of postcards published in Turkey in 1916 and the years immediately following. This comprises some 48 cards from two publishers. Both are incomplete with the numbering on one set reaching 50 so maybe it does not extend beyond this. The other reaches at least to 198 so there is still much searching to be undertaken before both sets are complete. The pictures were taken after the evacuation, the captions are in Turkish script and in German. Two cards only are reproduced here, members wishing to obtain a complete list of those held should send an sae to Simon Jenks, 20 Six Acres, Radbrook Green, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY3 6AF. He is willing to provide laser prints of all 48 cards for £25.00 including postage or 52p for individual cards. It is hoped to publish more examples in a future *Gallipolian*.



☆ No. 43. Landungsbrücke auf Seddul-Bahr



No. 53. Verschiedene Kriegsheute am Teke-Burnu

RECENT SALES

The Editor is always pleased to hear from members with information about the sales of medals to those who served at Gallipoli or of other Gallipoli memorabilia.

Note: Price in brackets are the catalogue estimates.

The orders and medals of Lieutenant-Colonel Archie Godley CBE together with an interesting selection of photographs and research papers failed to sell at Sotheby's on 17 November where the estimate was £700-1,000. Archie Godley was the brother of Major-General Sir Alexander Godley who commanded the Australian and New Zealand Division at Gallipoli. See page 64 Winter 2000 *Gallipolian*. Information contributed by John Welch who is preparing an article about the family for a future *Gallipolian*.

Spink's sale on 30 November included a DSM group of five to Chief Engine Room Artificer P L Whalebone who served in the battleship *Vengeance* and later, when on board the destroyer HMS *Valhalla* was awarded the DSM for services during the first six months of 1918. The group sold for £402 (200-250). A trio plus Memorial Plaque to Private James Brown of the Hampshire Regiment who was killed on 11 July while serving with the 2nd Hampshires reached £218 (180-220). A collection of 10 to four members of the Australian Imperial Force included with a group of three to J.W. Daniel a Gallipoli Star, this Lot sold for £126 (100-120). A British War Medal and Military Medal to Gunner Edward King of the Australian Field Artillery who served at Gallipoli, later the Western Front where his actions when serving as a telephonist, for which he was awarded the Military Medal, included bringing back to safety a wounded comrade, the citation reporting how he "has repeatedly shown the same valour and disregard for danger in carrying out his work under heavy fire." Estimated at £40-60 the two medals sold for £126.

The Dix Noonan Webb sale, 15 December, as always included some interesting medals with a Gallipoli connection. These included a 1914-15 Star to John Timms who enlisted in the 10th Battalion County of London Regiment (Hackney) in May 1915. He reached Gallipoli in early December and was eventually discharged from the Army nearly a year later by then still only aged 16 years and 6 months, after much agitation by his parents. His Star together with four others realised £90 (40-60). Another who served under age at Gallipoli was George Taylor, he was sent home in September. His Star and four others, including that of William Lane who died of wounds there on 18 August reached £100 (50-60). A 1914-15 Star and Territorial Force Efficiency Medal belonging to Sergeant Frederick Chatterley 11th (Finsbury Rifles) London Regiment were sold for £75 (80-100). The Sergeant had landed at Suvla on 10 August and was killed five days later on the Kiretch Tepe Ridge.

Surgeon Captain Aloysius Flemming commanded the 1st Field Ambulance, RND at

Anzac Cove where he landed on 28 April being mentioned in General Sir Ian Hamilton's despatch of 22 September and awarded the DSO. This together with his 1914-15 Star, War & Victory Medals sold for £1,250 (800-1,000). A 1914-15 Star, War, Victory and Territorial Decoration to Captain James Walker of the Manchester Regiment sold for £310 (80-100) while a group of three together with a Memorial Plaque to Private Simeon Bright of the same regiment who was killed at Gallipoli on 7 August sold for £170 (100-130). He is remembered on the Memorial at Cape Helles.

See Dixon Noonan Webb definitive website at www.dnw.co.uk

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.

A Lost Sword: My great-uncle Second-Lieutenant Kenneth Greenway, 4th Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment arrived at Suvla Bay on 9 October 1915 and was killed on 27 November while repairing the wire in front of the trenches. He is buried in Azmak Cemetery, Suvla. I have most of his papers including letters from Gallipoli and his swagger stick, but sadly not his sword. This was last seen around D-Day 1944 at Oxford House, Risca just west of Newport, Gwent where my grandparents had lent it to a drama society for a production. The passage of time means I will probably never see the sword again but someone among the members might be able to provide a lead to its whereabouts, if so I, David Lee, Gowan Close, Staveley, Kendal, LA8 9NW will be delighted to hear from them.

72nd Field Company Royal Engineers: Does this ring any bells? My Father, Sergeant Arthur Pollock 42624 fought at Gallipoli and later in Egypt and Mesopotamia. He was awarded both the Military Medal, *London Gazette* 19 October 1916, and Medaille Militaire, *London Gazette* 21 October 1916. There are apparently no citations but I am particularly anxious to learn where more information might be obtained. Is there a Military Medalists Association, and why was the Medaille Militaire awarded?

It has been said in the family that he was one of three or four Warrant Officers who having ensured the munitions were destroyed were amongst the last to leave

Gallipoli. At some point during his Army career he was shot through the throat needless to say he survived, otherwise I would not be here to make these enquiries. Any recommendations on sources of information or reading about the part played by the Sappers at Gallipoli would be very welcome.

Graham Pollock, Holly Cottage, Holt Fleet, Worcestershire, WR6 6NW. E mail gpgreengrass@yahoo.co.uk

EXCHANGE & WANTS

Missing Military Medal & Medal Militaire: Graham Pollock, see address above, is searching for the Military Medal and Medaille Militaire awarded to his Father Sergeant Arthur Pollock, Royal Engineers 42624, mentioned in despatches from Major-General Sir Percy Lake, 24 August 1916. Indeed reports on any medals awarded to any person with surname Pollock would be gratefully received.

Gully Ravine: Steve Chambers, 71 Station Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5EX, 01403 272035 or e-mail steve_chambers@hotmail.com is seeking information concerning Gully Ravine, in particular photographs, letters, diaries which will be of assistance as he compiles information on this area of the battlefield and in particular the action there on 28 June. Any material received will be treated with the utmost care and respect and any costs gratefully reimbursed, and in the event of publication appropriate credit will be given.

The Gallipoli Gazette: The Regimental Magazine of The Lancashire Fusiliers – has the title *The Gallipoli Gazette*. Walter Bentham, 60 Chatsworth Street, Preston, PR1 4XY would be very pleased to hear from members having copies to dispose of, or knowing the whereabouts of copies of the magazine.

Zion Mule Corps Photographs: Visiting Gallipoli with your camera? If so Martin Sugarman, Archivist, AJEX Jewish Military Museum, East Bank, Stamford Hill, London, N16 5RT is very anxious to obtain a photograph of six names of members of the Zion Mule Corps newly added to the Cape Helles Memorial. These are Lieutenant A Gordisky, Corporal A Frank and Privates B Katznelson, D Muscovitz, J Rouah and H Stern. See *The Gallipolian* Autumn 1999 90: 36-49 for a paper *The Zion Muleteers at Gallipoli* by Martin Sugarman.

Help in Your Search? Is there something you require, that elusive book for instance. An obscure article published many years ago? Photographs, badges, books, artefacts, indeed anything to do with the Campaign of 1915. Then why not send details to the Editor to include in *The Gallipolian*. You may be able to help another Member, or another Member may be able to help you.

QUARTERMASTER'S STORES

TIES, BADGES GALLIPOLIAN BINDERS

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

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

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

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

THE ROYAL HAMPSHIRE REGIMENT MUSEUM

Members may be interested to hear that the threat over Serle's House, Winchester, which contains The Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum seems to have been lifted by the Ministry of Defence agreeing to sell the historic building to Hampshire County Council.

This splendid house, built about 1730 for William Sheldon, an equerry to James II was subsequently purchased by James Serle, an attorney, whose son Peter served in both the Hampshire Volunteers, rising to command a Corps, and then in the South Hampshire Militia, which he also commanded. In 1796, the house was sold to the Ecclesiastical Commission for the County of Southampton, and has been used by the military with only minor breaks, ever since.

The ground floor contains the Regimental Museum and includes a number of items from the *River Clyde* including original brass letters from her name; the port light; and direction indicator. The 2nd Battalion landed at Cape Helles on 25 April and remained in theatre until January 1916. The 1st/8th (The Isle of Wight Rifles) (Princess Beatrice's Own) landed at Suvla in August, while the 10th (Service) Battalion of the Regiment landed at Anzac.



The Memorial Garden in front of Serle's House (see above) is to all members of The Royal Hampshire Regiment, who have fallen in battle, or died in service with the Regiment.

Note: The Museum is open weekdays 1000-1200 and 1400-1600 April to October inclusive, it is also open at weekends and on Bank Holidays 1200-1600. It closes for two weeks at Christmas and New Year. Admission is free.

GALLIPOLI IN THE HISTORY ZONE

The BBC History Zone in the First World War section has a number of interesting pages devoted to Gallipoli. The extracts are all drawn from the BBC Sound Archive of recordings made in 1965 and 1966 including one of Joe Murray, Hood Battalion RND, a stalwart member of the Gallipoli Association for many years. There is a humorous tale of the bayonet umbrella by W.J. Crawford while both W.R. Hyde and J.M. Stewart recall the assault on Chocolate Hill. There are accounts of church parades, the food, the hygiene, or rather lack of it, and much else. Access is by way of www.bbc.co.uk/history then into the Wars & Conflicts section and from there to the First World War and finally Gallipoli.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE SKIES OF GALLIPOLI

CENK AVCI

Nart yayincilik 2000. 101 pages, numerous illustrations, 2 maps. (see note below Review)

This little paperback book covers an aspect of the Gallipoli campaign often overlooked, and also has the benefit of being written from the Turkish viewpoint. Although well illustrated the reproduction is not brilliant but should not detract in any way from the interest, or the authors' second title reviewed below.

Note: Cenk Avci is willing to provide members of the Gallipoli Association with copies of this and the following book, including postage, at £7.00 per copy by money order to his account at the Topagaci Branch 1113 of the Turkiye Ys Bankasi, Istanbul. Account No 1113-169024. Orders, with payment having been made direct to the Bank, should be sent to Cenk Avci, Poyracik Sokak No 21/5, Nisantasi, Istanbul, Turkey e mail adige_lad@yahoo.com

THE MYSTERIOUS FATE OF THE AE 1

CENK AVCI

Nart yayincilik 2000. 105 pages, numerous illustrations, 4 maps. (see note above)

AE-1 sister ship of AE-2 of Dardanelles fame, this is her story from inception and voyage from Barrow-in-Furness until her loss in unknown circumstances with all her crew, 11 Australians, one New Zealander and 23 Britons, somewhere outside Blanche Bay, New Britain on 14 September 1914.

THEIR NAMES SHALL BE CARVED IN STONE

FRANK BOND

Published by the author, 2000. Softback, 175 pages, fully illustrated. ISBN 09538240 0 4. £10.00 by post from 15a Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick, Windsor, SL4 6LT (01 53-850960)

Eton Wick is in the Thames Valley, sandwiched between Windsor and Slough. Frank Bond loves the village, where he has lived all his life. This book is the fruit of research over many years, commemorating all the village men who died as a result of the two World Wars and whose names are recorded on the War Memorial at the Parish Church. Of the 46 names, 34 relate to the First World War. The main portion of the book consists of at least two pages about each man. In addition to detail of his local and family connection there is a good description of the action in which each fell. Additional chapters provide a most interesting illustration of the way in which communities set about commemorating their dead during the post-war era.

Only one record relates to a Gallipoli death, that of Henry Douglas Ashman (see photographs on next page) whose entry extends over four pages. Trooper Ashman served with A Squadron of the Berkshire Yeomanry, and embarked from Egypt to serve with 29 Division. Dismounted, the Yeomanry were attached to the South Midland Brigade. He was killed whilst attacking Scimitar Hill from Chocolate Hill on 21 August 1915. His body was never identified, and the four photographs for his entry include one of the Helles Memorial, where his name is recorded. He is also remembered on three local memorials. At the time of his death he was 23 years old and unmarried. His only brother was also killed, whilst serving with the HAC, and is buried at Tyne Cot.

This book is a fine example of the work undertaken by so many in connection with their local memorials, and is a model for others contemplating publication. It is printed in colour and is beautifully designed, with numerous photographs. A labour of love, which is truly worthy of its subject.

Colin Hague

Note: The exploits of the Berkshire Yeomanry at Gallipoli are well covered in *The Berkshire Yeomanry – 200 Years of Yeoman Service* by Verey, Sampson, French and Frost, published in 1994 by Alan Sutton. Illustrations include an engraving of action at Scimitar Hill on 21 August while information is also provided concerning the award of the Victoria Cross to Private Potts for gallantry on the same day.

LECHLADE AND THE GREAT WAR 1914-18

PAUL & TESSA COBB

In association with Lechlade Historical Society 1998. 132 pages, illustrations & maps. £9.50 including post from the authors at Box Tree House, High Street, Lechlade, Gloucestershire, GL7 3AE.

Some 40 names are listed on the war memorial at St Lawrence Church adjacent to the market- square, Edmund King Lewis being killed at Gallipoli. He emigrated to New Zealand not long before the outbreak of war and subsequently joined the Wellington Regiment, sailing for the Middle East in December 1914. Half the Regiment landed at Gallipoli on 25 April, the remainder the following day with Edmund Lewis being killed on 16 May, his name commemorated on the Twelve Tree Copse (New Zealand) Memorial. Local histories, like this concerning those who did not return to Lechlade, are always to be commended as models for those wishing to embark upon a study of their own village or town.



Douglas Ashman is on the left, the identity of the other soldiers is not known. The photograph may have been taken at a pre-war territorial camp, probably at Churn. This was a frequent venue for the Berkshire Yeomanry, although they were at Patcham in 1913. When mobilised in August 1914 they were soon shaking down at Churn, so it is possible the picture was taken then.



Douglas Ashman is standing second from the right at a Berkshire Yeomanry territorial camp or possibly immediately after mobilisation. As Frank Bond says "They were only boys, trying to look older than their years, with six of them smoking pipes. Smoking was thought to signify reaching manhood." How many survived?

A DANGEROUS OCCUPATION

A Story of Paddle Minesweepers in the First World War

CHRIS COLLARD

Wheelhouse Books 1999. 175 pages, numerous illustrations and maps. ISBN 09534275 i x.
£19.95.

This is the latest of Chris Collard's books about the fortunes in peace and war of Bristol Channel paddle steamers in general and those of the famous P & A Campbell White Funnel Fleet in particular. Of special interest to readers of *The Gallipolian* will be the chapter *Alarums and Excursions* dealing with the exploits and adventures of HMS (formerly PS) *Barry* in the Mediterranean and notably in the waters around the Gallipoli peninsula. These are brought to light in an imaginative way by the sensitive use of a considerable number of entries from the log-book of the *Barry* and other primary source material, supplemented by photographs and maps. Accounts of life on board vessels such as the *Barry* provide us with another valuable insight to what was involved in being part of a less glamorous seaborne aspect of the Gallipoli campaign.

Jack House

ORDERED TO DIE

A History of the Ottoman Army in the First World War

EDWARD J ERICKSON

Greenwood Press 2001. 265 pages, 12 illustrations, 7 maps, numerous tables. ISBN 0-313-31516-7. £52.95.

The first complete history of the Ottoman Army in the First World War to be attempted outside of Turkey *Ordered to Die* fills a long awaited need and deserves to be on every Gallipolian's bookshelves, despite the price. A pity about this, still you can always ensure your local library has a copy. General Huseyin Kivrikoglu, Chief of the Turkish General, in his Foreword in says that he is "extremely pleased that a balanced and objective discourse on the subject of my nation's military performance during the First World War is emerging." He goes on to maintain that the book will stand as the definitive work in English on the subject of the Ottoman Army in the First World War for a long time. The author, who now teaches social studies in New York, had a distinguished military career in airborne and artillery assignments including Operation Desert Storm.

VC's OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR THE FINAL DAYS 1918

GERALD GLIDDON

Sutton Publishing 2000. 218 pages, numerous illustrations, maps. ISBN 0 7509 2485 3. £19.99

A must for those who already have other titles in this excellent series and a good one to begin with as well. Among those included in the book are several, who three years previously served at Gallipoli. These include Louis McGuffie, King's Own Scottish Borderers; James Crichton, Auckland Infantry Regiment; Frederick Riggs, York and Lancaster Regiment; Joe Maxwell 18th Battalion AIF; Dudley Johnson, South Wales Borderers who was wounded on 25 April 1915 and James Kirk, Manchester Regiment; the last two being for their actions on 4 November 1918.

LEADERSHIP IN CONFLICT 1914-1918

MATTHEW HUGHES & MATTHEW SELIGMAN

Leo Cooper 2000. 291 pages, 28 illustrations. ISBN 0 85052 751 1. £25.00

An examination of the frequent stormy relationships between determined individuals on both sides charged with decision making. A little disappointing to find that Gallipoli has been passed over, although two chapters are devoted to the Italian Front. This should not distract from overall theme, nor the hope of Professor Brian Bond in his Foreword that the book "opens up exciting possibilities for further research and publications along the lines developed here."

DONITZ THE LAST FUHRER

PETER PADFIELD

Cassell 2001. Paperback 534 pages, 32 illustrations, 2 maps. ISBN 0 304 35870 3. £16.99.

One may be forgiven for wondering why this book, described in one review as "Compellingly readable" when first published in 1984, appears in *The Gallipolian*. The answer is simple, for Donitz as a midshipman was posted to the light cruiser Breslau and was on board from 1912 until the autumn of 1916, a period which included service in the Mediterranean and Black Sea together with the *Goeben*, service which of course included Gallipoli.

100 YEARS OF CONFLICT 1900-2000

SIMON TREW & GARY SHEFFIELD

Sutton Publishing 2000. 344 pages, numerous illustrations and maps. ISBN 0 7509 2170 6.
£25.00.

Two of the senior staff at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst have drawn together the work of many experts to present a compelling story of armed conflict in which the Gallipoli campaign receives only the barest of mentions, but so wide is the canvas this is hardly surprising.

BRITISH BATTALIONS ON THE WESTERN FRONT

RAY WESTLAKE

Leo Cooper 2001. 270 pages, 31 illustrations, 18 maps. ISBN 0 85052 768 6. £19.95.

The author, a member of the Gallipoli Association, will be well known to many for his mail order book service and his *British Regiments at Gallipoli* (1996). His latest book follows the same pattern, and is an essential reference for all those with an interest in the almost day by day activities of the battalions which served on the Western Front, January to July 1915.

DOCTORS IN THE GREAT WAR

IAN R WHITEHEAD

Leo Cooper 1999. 309 pages, 20 illustrations. ISBN 0 85052 691 4. £25.00.

A subject largely overlooked by historians here described in detail though with only the briefest mentions of Gallipoli. Personal accounts are drawn upon in addition to numerous official reports, each chapter concluding with a plethora of references which will serve well those wishing to explore the subject further.

AWARD TO AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

The Australian War Memorial, Canberra was the winner of the 2000 Australian Tourism Award for the "Best Major Tourism Attraction." For the majority of us unable to visit the War Memorial in person one can view the web-site at www.awm.gov.au

WHO SAID THIS?

In the Winter *Gallipolian* we asked who said:

Afterwards I went to the brigade office and saw F—, who told me orders had arrived practically pointing to our going to the Dardanelles. Everyone is to be measured for helmets, and heavy draught horses are to be handed in.

Monday, March 8 I went up to London to see the Chaplain-General and get books for the Dardanelles. I also ordered Gospels from the Scripture Gift Office. I stopped off at Rugby on the way back and saw C—, and discussed the new move. I do hope it is the Dardanelles. It is about time we went somewhere.

Thursday, March 11 We had a big sham battle. Our brigade, with some artillery, went out to attack a skeleton army of cyclists holding a line on the other side of the Avon. I rode out with the R.F.'s. There was the usual waiting about. At last I got away and rode ahead, crossing the Avon and finding myself among the enemy. However, operations ended much sooner than was expected, and we got home about 3 p.m. I heard we were to have an early parade at 7.30 for the whole Division, but purpose and destination were kept entirely secret. However, we all guessed it must mean a Royal Inspection.

Friday, March 12. I rode off with Captain F— at 7.30. We joined the R.F.'s, who had started early, after a bit, and I stayed with them most of the rest of the day. We went seven or eight miles, and got on to a fine road with a wide grass border on either side, in which grew a magnificent avenue of elms and oaks. Every side road was blocked by a policeman, but the whole thing had been kept so secret there was practically no one about. At last the order came to halt, and we all drew up in a long line, four deep, on one side of the road under the trees. The whole line must have stretched three or four miles. After a longish wait the men were called to attention, and a little cavalcade of staff-officers came riding down the road through the trees, with the King at their head. I sat on my horse just between the R.F.'s and the Munsters. The Colonel of the R.F.'s was beside me, and, as did all the Colonels, walked down the line of his regiment with the King. The King seemed very much interested. No one had been told officially he was coming. Then, after another long wait, the march past started. Our brigade simply marched past in fours. I rode with the leading regiment of the leading brigade. The King and his staff were at a cross road, some way down. After we had passed I broke off and got among the little crowd that had collected. It was wonderful seeing the long line of silver bayonets winding through the trees like a stream. It seemed quite endless watching 12,000 infantry pass. Unfortunately, I missed the artillery and other divisional troops, as they had passed ahead of us. There must have been 18,000 men altogether. It seemed vast, and the men were magnificent. The King has sent us a very nice little message.

The answer the Reverend O Creighton in *With the Twenty-Ninth Division at Gallipoli* published in 1916.

Now another WHO SAID THIS?

Of all the major operations which composed this historic campaign, only one may be said to have been completely successful, namely, the evacuation. ... As a combined operation in which the Navy and the Army worked together with absolute precision and secrecy and in the completest harmony, the evacuation stands as a classic example of perfection of the military art never before achieved and possibly never again to be equalled.

29 DIVISION MEMORIAL

On 12 March 1915 the Division was reviewed by King George V at Stretton-on-Dunsmore, east of Coventry where the impressive memorial recalls this event. Three brigades of infantry marched past with bayonets fixed along with artillery, engineers and cyclists. A total of 18,000 men, it must have been a most impressive sight. Originally it had had been assumed France to be their destination but two days previously the decision was taken for the 29th to proceed to the Near East, subsequently the Dardanelles. Afterwards the "Immortal 29th" would find itself on the Somme in 1916 and onwards in France and Flanders. But the Regular element of this magnificent Division present that day in March eighty-six years ago should be remembered in particular for their achievements in Gallipoli.

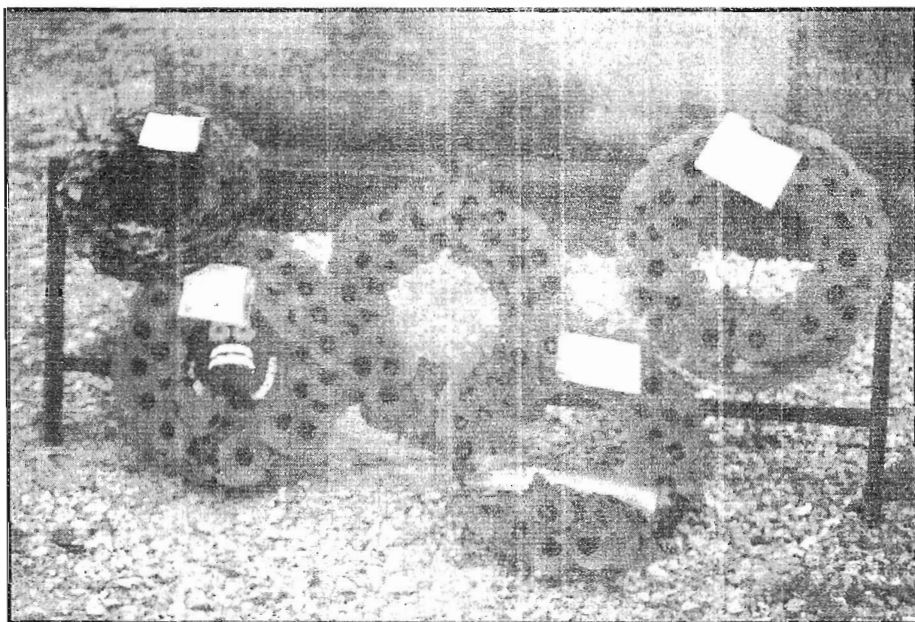
This year we gathered on Sunday 11 March at the Memorial, to remember the Division and especially all those who served in Gallipoli. James Watson-Smith laid a wreath on behalf of the Gallipoli Association in addition wreaths were laid on behalf of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers Association by Major Hugh Jenner, the Western Front Association by Elizabeth Higgins, Secretary of the Association and the Friends of War Memorials by Ian Stephens. David Ray quoted from Rupert Brooke and gave the Exhortation. The standards were provided by the REME County Branch organised by Geoff Wells.

We are grateful to all who attended and participated and especially to David Ray for making the local arrangements, to Don Perry for providing photographs, to Geoff Wells for the Standard Bearers and to Dr Bernadette Taylor who generously allows parking on her nearby property.

Please make a note of the date for next year – Sunday 10.



*James Watson-Smith lays the Gallipoli Association wreath at the 29th Division Memorial,
11 March 2001. In photograph below the wreath is lower right.
Photographs Don Perry.*



A LONE PINE IN SHEFFIELD, TASMANIA

COLIN HAGUE

Sheffield is a town near the north-west coast of Tasmania. Although only having about 1,200 inhabitants it has become a major tourist attraction with over 30 large outdoor murals on the walls of houses and other buildings. They show graphically the life of Tasmania in earlier times.

A fine pine in the town park will be of special interest to members for the sign in front reads:

1915-1916

This tree was grown from a seed of the Lone Pine
Which stood on the slopes of Gallipoli
Where 9,000 Anzacs fell in battle

Apparently several seeds were brought back and planted, but it is thought that this is the only tree to survive.

