

The Gallipolian

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Gallipoli Association*

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The River Clyde at V Beach, 25 April, 1915

by Charles Dixon

THE GALLIPOLIAN

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

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

Gallipoli Day including Gallipoli Day Lunch - see pages 2 & 3 and the events leaflet enclosed with this copy of *The Gallipolitan*.

April 24/25 The Digger and the Larrikin Live On see page 25.

April 25 Gallipoli Memorial at the National Arboretum see events leaflet enclosed.

April 25 Rupert Brooke Evening, Grantchester. Details 01223 845788.

Memorial Bursary Presentations See page 3 and separate Booking Form.

14th Sikhs at Gallipoli See page 14 for lecture details.

Major General's Parade See booking form enclosed with *The Gallipolitan*.

Collingwood Day 4 June and other Gallipoli events see leaflet enclosed.

GALLIPOLI DAY CEREMONIES SUNDAY 25 APRIL ROSEMARY FOR REMEMBRANCE

Each year an increasing number of those attending wear a sprig of Rosemary.

“There’s rosemary, that’s for remembrance; pray, love, remember.”

Thus the words of Ophelia to the King and Queen of Denmark and Laertes, son of the Lord Chamberlain, in Hamlet, Act 4, Scene 5.

Medals should be worn St Paul’s Cathedral, also at the Cenotaph
and in Westminster Abbey

ST PAUL’S CATHEDRAL

A 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 a representative of Her Majesty’s Britannic Government, by senior representatives of the Royal Navy, the Army and by the High Commissioners of Australia and New Zealand and other high ranking officials from France and Turkey.

Members and friends are particularly asked and encouraged to attend this
Service arranged by the Association.

It concludes in time to travel to Whitehall and the Cenotaph.

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. As last year, security measures regarding access to Whitehall will be vigorous, thus early arrival is strongly advised. See special note on booking form.

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 CHANGE OF VENUE

The Gallipoli Day Lunch, commencing at 1315 for 1345, will be held in an upstairs room at The Albert, Victoria Street, SW1. This public house is located on the north side of Victoria Street at the junction with Buckingham Gate and is approximately 500 yards from Westminster Abbey.

Anzac biscuits kindly provided by Siro (UK) Ltd will be available prior to the Lunch. A separate booking form with costs is included with *The Gallipolian*.

OTHER CEREMONIES

See the separate programme enclosed with the *Gallipolian* for details of Gallipoli Day and other ceremonies including the Collingwood Memorial, Combined Irish Regiments and Hawick Callants commemorations. Additional copies of the Programme are available on request from the Editor.

We do ask that members unable to join with the Association in London make every effort to attend their nearest ceremony. The Editor is always pleased to receive reports and photographs of other ceremonies.

MEMORIAL BURSARY PRESENTATIONS

Bursary presentations are taking place in quick succession this year, full details are provided on the information sheet/reservation form accompanying this edition of *The Gallipolian*. We hope members will make every effort to attend on:

13 May, Eton College
14 May, Royal Hospital, Haslar
8 June, Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham

AUTUMN LUNCH 2004

The Annual General Meeting and Autumn Lunch will take place at the Naval Club on Wednesday 13 October. More information in the next *Gallipolian*.

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

Wreaths will be laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arc de Triomphe 1830 on Monday 26 April (note date) when representatives from Australia, Great Britain including the Gallipoli Association and New Zealand will be among those present. Further information from the Association Nationale, 137 Boulevard Saint-Michel, 75005 Paris.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN

The 90th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign is just a year ahead. In 1995 the main activity and event embarked upon by the Association was the unveiling of the Memorial Plaque in St Paul's Cathedral where we now gather each Gallipoli Day. As a result of the funds raised by the Association during its Appeal for the Plaque we were able to launch the extremely successful Memorial Bursary scheme which has gone from strength to strength over the past decade.

Now we look forward to the 90th anniversary year and already the Association Committee is making plans for a number of events at different locations round the country. We will be reporting on these in future editions of *The Gallipolian*. Meanwhile we invite members who have ideas and suggestions as to how we might further commemorate the events of 1915 and all those who participated in them to contact us. Suggestions, ideas and offers of help will be warmly appreciated and should be made to either the Secretary or the Public Relations Officer, the addresses for both appearing on the inside of the front cover of *The Gallipolian*.

DONALD BLAND MEMORIAL BURSARY

The retiring collection at Donald Bland's funeral last summer raised £350. In accordance with the express wish of Donald's family, the entire sum was generously donated to the Gallipoli Association Memorial Fund. The Committee of the Association decided to make available a further £150 to the Memorial Fund. This in memory of the effort that Donald had given to helping the Association following its foundation in 1969 thus helping to ensure that the gallantry and self sacrifice of the men who had served in the campaign should not be forgotten. The resultant total sum of £500 will be used in due course to award a Donald Bland Memorial Bursary to enable a young person to visit the Peninsula and study the campaign at first hand.

IN THE LAP OF HEROES

HUGH JENNER

Mr Arthur Muffett, aged 96, joined the Association two years ago. In 1916, at the age of eight, he lived adjacent to the University buildings in Birmingham, which had been converted into a military hospital. Following the evacuation from ANZAC Cove in December 1915, a large number of ANZACs wounded and convalescents were patients in the hospital. With others, Arthur's mother visited them and brought them books and food. Several of them came to the Muffett home for a little home comfort, and for the very popular billiard table.

These early encounters with the heroes of Gallipoli left a lasting impression on the young Arthur. He collected the photographs and cards sent to his parents from the New Zealand training camp at Codford, on Salisbury Plain, and from the Western Front. Since then he has collected books and papers about the campaign. He has given talks to the Rotary Club, the Royal British Legion and various societies. He is concerned that this valuable collection might be lost, and has very kindly given much of it to the Association for our archive.

Arthur moved to Hereford in 1972, where he met Captain Hamlyn Williams and Percy Pritchard, both veterans of 1/1st Battalion the Herefordshire Regiment, part of the 53rd Welsh Division. Percy Pritchard was one of eight veterans to attend the unveiling by our Patron of the Gallipoli Memorial in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral in 1995. Among the collection are some original copies of Battalion Part I orders by Major later Lt-Col Drage and Orderly Officer Reports.

We hope to bring a Roadshow around the country, and will try to exhibit this, some slides and other items from our small archive at these events. If any member can suggest suitable venues, dates and outline plans for such an event, I would be very happy to hear from them, my address is on the inside cover. It would be very helpful, (not to say essential!), to have local assistance with the management.

In the two years since he joined, Arthur has been very active, and hand writes very interesting letters. There can be very few who have such first-hand memory of talking with the heroes of ANZAC. It is marvellous that he has contributed in this way. He feels unable to get to London for our events, but was very keen that his apologies were recorded. It is our loss that we have not seen Arthur, but I feel sure that "we would all wish our thanks to be sent to him along with our very best wishes.

Illustrations: The photographs on the following pages show a very young Arthur Muffet on the knee of Lieutenant formerly Sergeant Harding Leaf who between the wars was a New Zealand Member of Parliament. Sadly he was killed in Crete in the Second World War. The others show the Sisters Quarters at the Birmingham Military Hospital and the interior of the Hospital.



See page 5 for photograph details



EARLY CAREER OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL H.F.N. JOURDAIN THE CONNAUGHT RANGERS

OLIVER FALLON

Henry Jourdain was an Englishman the son of a Vicar born in Derbyshire in 1872. He was educated in Derby and later went to the Royal Military College at Sandhurst graduating in February 1893, aged 20. Very unusually he was given a commission in the Connaught Rangers, an Irish Regiment the old 88th of Foot. This was unusual as Jourdain had no Irish connections and it seems had never been to Ireland prior to being posted to the Connaughts.

His first few years with the Regiment were uneventful stationed at Pembroke Dock, Portsmouth and Sheffield. He was sufficiently soldier like to be part of guard of honour at Sheffield railway station for the visit of Queen Victoria to open new town hall on June 21st, 1897. Later that year Jourdain proceeded to Ireland with the Rangers and found himself in the west in the town of Athlone by the banks of the river Shannon, where he spent the next two and a half years.

On November 10th 1899, Lieutenant Jourdain embarked on the S.S. Bavarian at Queenstown, (now Cobh) Co Cork and sailed with the 1st Connaughts to Cape Town where they sailed onto Durban disembarking on December 1st, 1899. From there they proceeded to Pietermaritzburg. For the next three years Jourdain found himself and his Irish troops in the thick of the action He took part in relief of Ladysmith, the battles of Colenso, Spion Kop, Vaal Krantz, Tugela Heights, Pieter's Hill the operations in Orange Free State Transvaal, Natal and Cape Colony. He was promoted to Captain and in May 1901 commanded a company of mounted Infantry.

In February 1903 the Rangers and Jourdain returned to Ireland after three years fighting the Boers and marching and riding the length and breadth of South Africa. The next four years were spent in the Irish midland town of Mullingar until in March 1907 the 1st Battalion Connaughts left Ireland for Malta. In 1908 the Rangers proceeded to India where they were to be stationed for the next seven years.

Captain Jourdain, however, returned to Ireland from Malta in September 1907 and was posted as Adjutant to the 4th Special Reserve battalion at Boyle, Co Roscommon. The following year he went to Renmore Barracks in Galway and took up duties as Adjutant to the 3rd Special Reserve Battalion. He was promoted to Major in 1911 and remained as CO of the Depot in Galway marrying a Galway girl.

On 4 August 1914 Major Jourdain was strolling near the beach behind the barracks when an orderly came running with the mobilisation order. The War had begun. Initially he expected to go to France with the 2nd Battalion however he was surprised



to learn on the 19th that he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and tasked to form up a new 5th Service Battalion of the Connaught Rangers made up of raw Irish recruits and volunteers.

Jourdain immediately set to work and surrounded himself with loyal junior officers and NCOs. Recruitment in Ireland was steady though without the huge numbers of volunteers that mobbed the recruitment offices in the rest of Great Britain. There were a number of reasons for this. Firstly political, home rule and a break from Britain was very much on the agenda. Secondly economic - Ireland, aside from Belfast, had been bypassed in the industrial revolution and remained largely an agricultural country. Men were needed now more than ever, on the farms and there was a reluctance to leave the land at harvest time. Nevertheless men joined up mainly from the small towns in the west and midlands of Ireland. Jourdain began to build up his battalion- the 5th Connaught Rangers part of the 10th Irish Division.

He had less than a year to turn these Irish itinerant labourers, clerks, travellers and corner boys into a fighting unit and was determined to succeed. Training the new recruits commenced at Richmond Barracks in Dublin in late August where Jourdain took over a nucleus of 220 NCOs and men who had arrived from Galway. By early September the new battalion contained eleven officers and 650 men who moved to Kilworth Camp in Co Cork.

On 11 September 350 men arrived from Pontefract, Yorkshire to quickly bring the Battalion up to full strength. These men initially recruited into the York and Lancaster regiment were at first very disgruntled about the order that had brought them to Ireland. The majority were miners used to earning good wages of up to £2 per week. Now they were in Ireland and surviving on 7 shillings a week. Joudain was forced to address these English recruits and tell them of the proud traditions of the Connaught Rangers. Despite continued discipline problems amongst the Yorkshire men the majority soon settled down to life and training in Ireland.

The Battalion returned to Dublin in October and commenced field operations in the Phoenix Park. In February 1915 they moved to the Curragh in Co Kildare where further training was carried out until 4 May when the Rangers left Ireland for Basingstoke, assembly point for the 10th Irish Division. For the next two months the final preparations were made to bring the 5th (Service) Connaught Rangers up to full potential for a forthcoming move to the Front.

On 8 July the Rangers proceeded to Devonport for embarkation aboard the HM Transport *Bornu*, their destination - Gallipoli. An advance party of twelve officers and 159 men left from Liverpool, a day earlier. It was proud Colonel Jourdain who watched his troops file aboard. Finally just after midday the ship set sail with 18 officers and 794 men of the Connaught Rangers with the famous Ranger band playing the rousing Irish marching tune *Brian Boru*.

An article on Colonel Jourdain's subsequent career will follow in a later *Gallipolian*.

ELLIS ASHMEAD-BARTLETT (1881-1931)

BRIAN BEST

THE VICTORIA CROSS SOCIETY

On 25 April the Anglo-French forces landed on seven separate beaches at Gallipoli and so began nearly eight months of misery and bloodshed which accomplished nothing. For the newspapers, an arrangement was made similar to that operating on the Western Front. The provincial papers were represented by Reuter's man, Lester Lawrence, while, initially *The Daily Telegraph* correspondent was the sole source for news gathering by the London Newspaper Proprietors Association. He was Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, Frederic Villiers' "friend" the Toss from Port Arthur for even as early as 1905 during the Russo-Japan War, Ashmead-Bartlett courted unpopularity amongst fellow newsmen.

He had been accredited to the Navy, where he enjoyed the comfortable life-style of the wardroom aboard the six different warships on which he had been accommodated. Even before he had set foot on the Gallipoli Peninsula he was gaining a reputation for criticising the conduct of the campaign and Hamilton in particular. Convinced that the expedition was doomed to failure, he had a particularly irritating manner and imposed his views on anyone he could collar.

On the day of the landings, he accompanied the Australians and, because he was wearing a wide brimmed green hat rather than the regulation army cap, he was challenged as a spy. Not having an army pass, he was made prisoner until a sailor vouched for his identity. As night fell it was touch and go whether the Turks would drive the Australians from their tenuous position just above the narrow beach and preparations were made to evacuate them at daybreak. In the event, they managed to hold out and consolidate their position. This was the start of Ashmead-Bartlett's growing admiration for the Anzacs. Lester Lawrence, the other accredited special, besides being inexperienced was further handicapped by being very short-sighted and dependent on others for information. As an eye-witness he was somewhat of a non-starter.

Ashmead-Bartlett managed to get a ring-side seat for the much heralded assault on the Turkish held hill, Achi Baba. The result of this clumsy frontal attack was 6,000 casualties and the possession of a few hundred yards of non-strategic ground. The reporter was getting angrier and more frustrated by the day. Unable to pass any comment in his censored reports, he had to confine himself to giving just a descriptive account of the attack.

As an Admiralty accredited correspondent, Ashmead-Bartlett was duty bound to sail

with the navy when they bombarded the Turkish positions. It was a chore he hated and his description of the experience is vivid. "I am sure, however, we hit nothing, except mother earth, and there was the usual fearful waste of ammunition, and consequent discomfort caused to everyone on board, when 12-inch and 6-inch guns are let off. The short 12-inch carried by these ships knocks hell out of you. I have tried every spot on deck to escape the concussion, running round like a scared rabbit whenever I see these monsters being trained on their invisible target. For hours afterwards my head aches as if to burst, and the wardroom looks as if a free fight had taken place in it, all the furniture being overturned, and the cabins full of dust and debris. I wish I could get on a ship without guns".

At the end of May, the navy were alarmed at the increased activity of the German submarines. On 25 May, Ashmead-Bartlett witnessed the sinking of the battleship *Triumph*. Two days later, he actually experienced first-hand a sinking vessel beneath his feet. He was staying aboard the old battleship. *Majestic*, a ship more renowned for her comfort than fighting capabilities, when she was hit by a torpedo. Within minutes the stricken ship had turned turtle and sank. Although he was rescued, Ashmead-Bartlett lost all of his kit and chose to return to London to re-equip.

General Hamilton seized the opportunity to temporally fill the vacancy with a writer of his choice. The man he chose was the Scottish author and playwright, Compton MacKenzie, who was a Royal Marines subaltern serving on the Staff. Reluctantly, Mackenzie had to accept and reported to the Press Censor, who was the former war reporter, William Maxwell, now a captain in the Intelligence Corps. MacKenzie found Maxwell to be a self-important little man bearing a great resemblance to Tweedledum and who resented an amateur being foisted on the Fourth Estate. Maxwell, who had helped in the formation of the *Ladysmith Lyre* during the Boer War siege, now edited a daily sheet called *The Peninsular Press*, which MacKenzie disparagingly referred to as *The Dardanelles Driveller*.

Ashmead-Bartlett returned on 24 June and was annoyed to find that he could no longer enjoy naval hospitality but had to be based at GHQ. While he was in London, he had dined with the Churchills and met the Prime Minister, Kitchener and the Newspaper Proprietors Association. He had poured out his misgivings about the campaign and Northcliffe urged him to continue probing and exposing the shortcomings of the men in command. With the "shell scandal" still rumbling on, Northcliffe wanted to discredit Kitchener further with the Gallipoli fiasco and in Ashmead-Bartlett he had a perfect ally. Interestingly enough, Ashmead-Bartlett was persuaded to take back a cinematograph and took a crash course in its operation. See *The Gallipolian* 101: 11-13, and page 25 current issue regarding a screening on 25 April.

Ashmead-Bartlett was joined at this time by another accredited correspondent, the sixty year old veteran, Henry Nevinson, who represented the *Manchester Guardian*. All correspondents were now billeted in the same camp as the officers of the Manchester

Regiment. Ashmead-Bartlett caused more resentment by bagging the prime position and having an elaborately furnished tent. Amongst the surrounding squalor, Ashmead-Bartlett maintained his taste for the fine things in life. He would often be seen dressed in a robe of yellow silk shot with crimson, reclining outside his tent and sipping champagne. The Australian correspondent, C.E.W.Bean, asked Maxwell why all the correspondents had been rounded up and sited in one camp. He was told the reason was that they wanted to keep an eye on Ashmead-Bartlett.

Another anecdote, told by Compton MacKenzie to illustrate Ashmead-Bartlett's unpopularity, occurred when they were both walking to Divisional Headquarters. The journalist, who hated walking, decided to return to the beach leaving MacKenzie to go on alone. When he reached the camp he was alarmed to find it deserted. As he wondered what to do, a head popped out from a hole at his feet and exclaimed, "Oh, it's you, MacKenzie I thought it was Ashmead-Bartlett, and we didn't want to invite him to lunch". He then called out that the coast was clear and the rest of the Staff emerged from their hiding places.

Although his ostentatious life-style gave the impression that he was something of a dilettante, Ashmead-Bartlett was, in fact, a very good, clever and energetic reporter. Nevins was regarded as more accurate, but he lacked the sparkle of Ashmead-Bartlett's style despite the latter's lapses into exaggeration. What he wrote was largely accurate and unpalatable to the authorities. So much so that he was constantly at loggerheads with Maxwell and he, ultimately, resorted to by-passing the censor. Although he was heartily disliked for his snobbery and arrogance, he, nevertheless, single-handedly exposed the incompetence and waste of life in the campaign.

With Nevins's arrival. General Hamilton found he had an admirer. Their association had started in the Boer War and, being the same age, they were easy in each other's company. Hamilton even took Nevins on a personally conducted tour which brought them within shooting range of the Turks. The General was barely fazed as continued explaining his tactics. Nevins did receive a wound during the attack on Chocolate Hill when a burst from a Turkish shell caused a splinter to gash his head. Fortunately the thickness of his sun helmet lessened the impact and he was soon back in action.

The summer dragged on with the Allies clinging to their enclaves by the beaches on which they landed. There were more costly and abortive attacks and morale was sinking fast. In August, an Australian correspondent, en-route to London, arrived to see first-hand the condition of the Anzac contingent. This was Keith Murdoch, the father of Rupert, and his suspicions about the conduct of the campaign were soon realised. Within a short time, both he and Ashmead-Bartlett agreed that they should forcefully acquaint the British Government with the shambolic state of the campaign. To this end, Ashmead-Bartlett wrote an outspoken letter and gave it to Murdoch to personally deliver to Whitehall.

It is now clear that Nevinson got wind their intentions and, in a spirit of loyalty, wrote a letter to Hamilton exposing the plot. A cable was sent and Murdoch was intercepted by the military police at Marseilles where the letter was confiscated. Undeterred, Murdoch reached London and related the facts to the Australian High Commissioner. Within a short time, Prime Minister Asquith, with the backing of those opposed to the Gallipoli landings, had ordered Kitchener to sack Hamilton and arrange a withdrawal from Turkey.

Ashmead-Bartlett was recalled to London and was able to add his strident voice to those calling for the evacuation of Gallipoli. His place was taken by Ward Price of the *Daily Mail*, who was chosen to represent the Newspaper Proprietor's Association. For all his annoying personal traits, Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett was the only correspondent during the 1914-18 War who persisted in writing the truth and was instrumental in halting the wastage of life in a futile cause. Significantly, he was the only accredited war reporter not to be honoured with a knighthood after the War.

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM GALLIPOLI

Whilst on our tours we have the opportunity to take photographs of graves, memorials and landscapes. We could also investigate or try to find certain locations which may have a special relevance. It must immediately be stressed that there is no guarantee of success, but it could be very interesting to try.

Members should write to Hugh Jenner, address inside front cover, outlining the background and detailing the requirement. The first tour leaves on 22 May. Depending on the nature of the request, it may be appropriate to request re-imbursement of expenses at cost, eg. processing photography, post and packaging.

14th SIKHS AT GALLIPOLI

The heroic sacrifice of the Sikh Regiment during the Gallipoli Campaign will be related by Nigel Steel, Head of Research & Information at the Imperial War Museum on the evening of 26 May at the Museum's North site. The lecture is part of the Portraits of Courage series hosted by the Maharajah Duleep Singh Centenary Trust.

WATERY GRAVE

THANE BURNETT

The grave of a thousand, forgotten men. A disaster, washed over by years and the more familiar tales of the *Andrea Doria* and *Lusitania* and *Titanic*. Sick for the motion of a small boat and the emotion in his belly, Richard Oliff after a year of searching found, and stood over their tomb, long enough to remember them again.

Two hundred and eighty Canadians - most from the Toronto area - were lost to the remarkable aim of one of the first, great German submariners. They were among the crew of the *Royal Edward*, a remarkable and doomed Canadian-owned cruise ship, which was refurbished as a First World War troop carrier. Sons and brothers and fathers, they were among a thousand men who died in six minutes, on 13 August 1915, in the blue-green of the Aegean. Men like Commander Peter Millman Wotton, 3rd engineer Charles Parry, cook James Thomas, greaser Joseph Bull and C. Sadler, one of half a dozen men who hold no rank or title or even first names.

Even among the residents of the Greek Islands, on the horizon of where the *Royal Edward* was sunk by Lt.-Cmdr. Heino von Heimburg and his crew of fourteen on board Germany's UB14, memory of the disaster has faded. Which is why Richard Oliff, inspired by an old snapshot, was determined to mark the tomb of the forgotten men with a gravestone of their own. In 2002, Oliff, a British broadcaster, was visiting family in Vancouver. They hauled out an old picture, and Oliff was told it was his great-uncle William "They didn't know anything other than he died in World War I — lost at sea."

Pushed on by the mystery of the sailor, Oliff began to dig through war records. For a year, he worked to find out how William Duncan Dick Nimmo lived, and more importantly, how he was lost to his family. Oliff found him aboard the *Royal Edward*, and followed the doomed wake right to the bottom of the Aegean. "I've felt like I've lived with those guys for a year," Oliff later told me.

The *Royal Edward* was built in Scotland shortly after the turn of the last century. In 1910, it was bought by the Canadian Northern Steamship Company, based in Toronto. One of its twin ports, this city supplied hundreds of men for its crew. At the time, her motto was "Fastest to Canada" - an opulent cruise ship which was fit for royalty. The switch to Canadian ownership, meant the ship changed its name from the *Cairo* to the *Royal Edward* an unlucky alteration for superstitious seamen.

On that Friday the 13th, 88 years ago, the crew and troops aboard the *Royal Edward* were steaming ahead, without their life vests on. UB14—a submarine of just over 90 feet long and less than ten feet wide - found her, shortly after letting a hospital ship pass by. The *Royal Edward* was sailing unescorted for Mudros — on the way to join troops at

Gallipoli. Lt-Comdr. Heimbürg apparently fired off a single torpedo. The sub was less than a mile away, and the explosive hit the huge liner in its stem. In three minutes, the stern and after deck were under water. Within six minutes, the bow was angry in the air. Many men died below deck, as they were storing gear.

“Each of the men had a story,” said Oliff, who’s written a book on the last voyage of Canada’s misplaced pride. “One fellow was hanging out underpants to dry when the torpedo hit. He went one way, and his underpants and his false teeth went the other. How the many Canadian families learned of the deaths of the Toronto mercantile marines is unknown. Oliff found the last known coordinates for the great ship, and his lost great-uncle, 36 degrees 31 north by 26 degrees 51 east.

Over these many years, there has been only two other known visits to the gravesite. The first, day after the disaster, when a memorial was held on a ship which sailed from Alexandria. The second in 1934, when the Canadian Pacific liner the *Duchess of Richmond* was on her way to Gallipoli, with veterans of the campaign.

In August 2003, with him a granite plaque, engraved with, in part: “In silent memory to those who lost their lives here or near this place – HMT Royal Edward”, Oliff and his wife, Caroline, chartered a boat. “And there I stood, sick to my stomach. A crazy Brit with skinny, white legs, who’s afraid of the water,” recalled Oliff. “Just knowing I had to be there.” Over the spot he read out an emotion-heavy poem, which began: “There are no roses on sailors’ graves, nor wreaths upon the storm tossed waves. No last post from the Royals band. So far away from their native land. No heartbroken words carved on stone. Just shipmates’ bodies there alone.”

Oliff and Caroline dropped flowers into the water, and then the small plaque. An emotional Oliff continued his speech: “From those that care. And words on stone, the who, the where. In special memory of William Duncan Dick Nimmo. With love from your Mum & Dad and all those who loved and missed you.” The plaque sits on the bottom, 502 metres below. How it landed – whether it found its way near the Canadians and their passengers – is a mystery. “But I think they knew I was there,” he now believes. “We nearly forgot these men.” Oliff said he still wonders whether he’s done enough. “If I was a praying man, I’d say out loud ‘have I done it guys? Do you hear us talking about you now?’”

Richard Oliff’s recent book on the disaster *Fastest to Canada* published by Silver Link Publishing will be reviewed in the Autumn *Gallipolitan*. We refer also to the *Loss of the Troopship Royal Edward* by Neil Burnett in *The Gallipolitan* 100: 40-5.

Acknowledgements: *Watery Grave* is a slightly reduced version of an article by Thane Burnett published in *The Sunday Sun* (Toronto) on 19 October 2003. We are most grateful to both the author and publisher for the use of the article and to Tom Brooks of Gravenhurst, Ontario for first providing a copy.

GALLIPOLI COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

PETER MOON

My father served with the Royal Engineers at Suvla, and after my visits to the Peninsula in 1989 and 1990 I wrote a chapter of the family history illustrated with all the commemorative stamps relating to this campaign.

Of all the nations which fought at Gallipoli, Turkey in 1917 was the first to issue commemorative stamps, and since then their designs have outnumbered those in the various Gallipoli commemorative issues by Australia and New Zealand. Neither France or Great Britain has issued commemorative stamps.

The first philatelic recognition of the campaign was by Turkey in 1917. At the 40th anniversary in 1955 the Turkish postal authorities issued another interesting set of four pictorials. In 1936 at the 21st anniversary of the landings New Zealand put out a set of five charity stamps showing a New Zealand soldier with rifle and bayonet against the background of Anzac Cove. Not until the 50th anniversary of the landings did Australia issue a set of three commemorative stamps, these depicted Simpson and his donkey. Although New Zealand did not issue Gallipoli commemorative stamps at the 75th anniversary in 1990 there was an interesting airmail cover printed with troops on a landing beach and "The Man With the Donkey" (Australia & New Zealand section). Australia chose to commemorate "The Anzac Tradition" with six designs based on aspects of the two world wars and Vietnam. In 2000 Australia Day was marked with a set of four stamps depicting three Gallipoli veterans.

Turkey

Less widely collected than Australian and New Zealand stamps, the 1917 Turkish commemoratives have several interesting features. The 5 piastre blue stamp SG916 shows a howitzer at Sedd el Bahr. The design is recognisable as being based on the photograph which appears in a number of books with the eight gunners in the original scene being reduced in number and repositioned for artistic effect. Additional elevation has been given by putting its wheels on baulks of timber and spudding the trail in a shallow pit. A map of the Dardanelles is used in the blue 1 piastre and 50 para stamps SG920 and 921.

The 1 piastre red surcharged 5 piastres in black SG913 is entitled "Soldiers in the Trenches" and is rather badly printed. By scanning and using image processing software the details can be made out sufficiently well to equate the design with the photograph which appears in several books about the campaign, eg *Gallipoli 1915* Tempus Publishing 2001).

A much better printed set of four stamps, (seen below actual size) appeared for the 40th anniversary in 1955. Two in horizontal and two in vertical format. Kemal Atatürk appears in uniform in the 60 kuruş drab SG1559, while the old theme of a Gallipoli map is used again, this time as a pseudo-aerial view of a relief model of the Straits as far north as Bulair for the 15 kuruş green SG1556. The minelayer *Nusret* steams boldly across the 30 kuruş blue SG1558.



Perhaps the most interesting stamp in this set is the 20 kuruş brown SG1557. This shows Corporal Seyyid, a hero of the 18 March naval bombardment, who hefted 600 pound (272 kg) shells on his back to load the Krupp guns at one of the Kilid Bahr forts when the shell hoist was put out of action. Only lately has a curious bit of history emerged in relation to this stamp. Les Carlyon in his book *Gallipoli* reveals that when Seyyid was posing for the official photograph to record his epic feat, he was quite unable to lift a 600 pound shell, and was photographed carrying a wooden practice dummy projectile. The adrenalin rush of battle had given him superhuman strength, which he was unable to summon up in cold blood. There is a statue of him at Kilid Bahr.

The 50th anniversary in 1965 saw three stamps of 30, 50 and 130 kuruş with a surcharge of 10 kuruş printed as part of the original design SG 2087, 2088 and 2089. Patriotic fervour had cooled sufficiently by the 75th anniversary in 1990 for Turkey to be content with a single rather gaudy multicoloured 1000 lira stamp which I remember buying at the post office in Canakkale, depicting the unusual Turkish memorial near Morto Bay SG 3066.

Australia and New Zealand.

The 1936 and 1965 New Zealand stamps SG591 (see below and much enlarged) and 826 showing a New Zealand soldier with rifle and bayonet against the background of Anzac Cove need little comment. The theme of Australia's "Simpson and His Donkey" in that country's 1965 issue SG373 to 375 is too well known to need repetition here. However New Zealand's use of "The Man With the Donkey" theme on its 1990 airmail cover (see page 00) actually depicts Private Henderson, who performed similar service and has been confused with Simpson over many years. His features are clearly different from the well known photograph of John Simpson taken while he was training at Blackboy Hill Camp, Australia. Of the six Australian 1990 "Anzac Tradition" stamps SG1241 to 1245, none has a specifically Gallipoli theme. The 2000 Australia Post Australian Legends Award marked Australia Day by honouring with four 45c stamps the last surviving Anzacs – Walter Parker, Roy Longmore and Alec Campbell together with the 1914-15 Star. See *The Gallipollian* 92: 63. 2000 for a picture of a First Day Cover and more information.



LIST OF GALLIPOLI COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS (STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGUE)

Country	Year	Value	Colour	Picture	SG Number
Turkey					
	1917	5pa/1pa	red	In the trenches	913
		2 pa	violet	Howitzer at Sedd el Bahr	916
		20 pa	red	Martyr's column	919
		1 pi	blue	Map of Gallipoli	920
		50 pa	blue	Map of Gallipoli	921
	1956	15 k	green	Relief map of Dardanelles	1556
		20 k	brown	Gunner Seyid	1557
		30 k	blue	Minelayer <i>Nusret</i>	1558
		60 k	drab	Ataturk in uniform	1559
	1965	50+10	multi	Wreath and map	2087
		90+10	multi	Monument and soldiers	2088
		120+10	multi	Dardanelles monument & flag	2089
	1990	1000 l	multi	Turkish memorial	3066
Australia					
	1965	5 d	drab	Simpson and his Donkey	373
		8 d	blue	Ditto	374
		2s 3d	reddish purple	- Ditto	375
	1990	Six various designs: The Anzac Tradition.			1241-1245
	2000	Three Veterans plus the 1914-1915 Star			1947-1950
New Zealand					
	1936	1/2d+1/2d	green	Soldier at Anzac Cove	591
		1d +1d	scarlet	Ditto	592
	1965	4d	yellow-brown	Anzac Cove	826
		5d	green & red	Ditto	827



Three of the Turkish issue stamps of 1917. SG 916—Howitzer at Sedd el Bahr (Upper), SG 921 Map (Centre), In the trenches SG 913 (lower). All much enlarged.



*New Zealand First Day Cover 1965 (above)
and Australia 1965 (below). Both natural size.*





The Man with the Donkey

1915 · GALLIPOLI · 1990

*New Zealand airmail cover.
The man with the donkey being Private Richard Henderson*



*Two stamps from
the Turkish issue of 1965
(much enlarged)*

Acknowledgements: Thanks are due to Derek Hunt for providing the Editor with initial information about Gallipoli stamp issues, to those members who kindly provided Australian Legends First Day Covers and to U Ugural Vanthoft for very recently sending the 1956 Turkish stamps issue.

THE DIGGER AND THE LARRIKIN LIVE ON GALLIPOLI WEEKEND 24/25 APRIL IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

Saturday 24 April

- 10.15 Opening address.
- 10.30 Nigel Steel (IWM) gives an overview of the campaign at Gallipoli: the facts, the myths and all the combatant nations.
- 11.00 Philip Dutton (IWM) introduces Ellis Ashmead Bartlett's *Heroes of Gallipoli* (1920). Screen: *Britain's Effort* (1918) and *Heroes of Gallipoli* with live piano accompaniment by John Sweeney. (37 mins.)
- 12.10 Philip Dutton introduces *Tell England* (1931). (88 mins).
- 1.40 Lunch
- 2.30 Dr Jenny MacLeod (University of Edinburgh) The British Heroic-Romantic Myth of Gallipoli.
- 3.05 Peter Porter discusses and reads a selection of Australian war poetry, additional readings by Deirdre O'Day.
- 4.00 Tea and coffee.
- 4.15 Professor Carl Bridge (Menzies Centre for Australian Studies) Australia and the Second World War Screen: *Australia Marches With Britain* (1941). (16 mins.)
- 5.00 Closing discussion.

Sunday 25 April

- 10.15 Opening address
- 10.30 Dr Ian Henderson (Menzies Centre for Australian Studies) introduces Peter Weir's *Gallipoli*.
- 10.50 Screen *Gallipoli* (1981). (110 mins.)
- 1.00 Lunch
- 2.00 John Connor (Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, UL) explores the history of the Anzac legend, from Gallipoli to the Gulf.
- 2.40 Dr Toby Haggith (IWM) introduces *From the Four Corners* (1941), *Defenders of Tobruk* (1941), *Men of Timor* (Damien Parer, 1943) and *Maximum Effort* (1944).
- 3.40 Tea.
- 4.00 Speaker or screening to be confirmed.
- 5.00 Closing discussion.

Free tickets for the event can be booked by calling the
Box Office on 020 7416 5439 (weekdays 10.00- 5.00).

Further programme details from www.iwm.org.uk or www.kcl.ac.uk/menzies

MEDICAL COVER AT GALLIPOLI

COLONEL RALPH MAY

I can provide some background to the interesting article written by the Nurses as the Gallipoli Bursary 2003 essay in the Winter Edition of *The Gallipolian*.

My father was wounded in the attack on Scimitar Hill on 21 August. He suffered due to the delay in his being treated as the number of casualties overwhelmed the Medical Services. In the 1930's, he asked his father-in-law, Lieutenant General Sir Alfred Keogh (DGAMS 1905-10 and 1914-18) about the Medical Cover for Gallipoli. Keogh, seen opposite, told him that he was informed in late March of the landing of 60,000 men in the Eastern Mediterranean and was asked how many Hospital Ships he would need for the Operation. He asked for 30 but got three for the landings. In spite of vigorous lobbying for more Hospital Ships urgently needed, the response was too slow, so he resorted to unconventional means.

J.A. Spender was the Editor of the *Westminster Gazette* in 1915. In his book *Men and Things*, published by Cassell in 1936 he wrote a short biography of Keogh, and in it he tells the following story:

"When the test came he (Keogh) had just the qualities needed for a great Director-General of this humane service - warm heart and quick sympathy combined with courage and coolness, resourcefulness and complete freedom from red tape. On one occasion in the Dardanelles campaign, when he was distracted with anxiety about the evacuation of the wounded, he let me take the whole War Office file and carry it to Balfour, who was First Lord of the Admiralty. Instant measures were necessary; I could explain it in five minutes, the official routine would have taken ten days. I suppose Balfour ought to have put me under arrest, but he was grateful and understanding and eight days were saved. I was told afterwards that the affair came to the knowledge of the Dardanelles Commission, and that the late Field-Marshal Lord Nicholson expressed himself in high language about the conduct of the Director-General in letting secret and confidential War Office documents pass into the hands of an irresponsible journalist. Suppose I had dropped it between Whitehall and Carlton Gardens, suppose I had let pass into the hands of the enemy, suppose - most monstrous of all - I had conveyed its contents into the *Westminster Gazette*! The military imagination boiled at the thought of possible calamities only just averted by some unexpected - and never to be expected again - special Providence. The Director-General smiled and said he would do it again."

I believe that a total of 20 Hospital Ships were eventually provided to evacuate the wounded to Egypt, Malta and the UK, but never Keogh's original estimate of 30.



*Lieutenant General Sir Alfred Keogh GCB, GCVO, CH
taken in 1918 when awarded the GCVO*

JOHN LAFFIN'S OBITUARY SOME NECESSARY CORRECTIONS

GEOFF MORAN

Tony Spagnoly's obituary of John Laffin first appeared in the Western Front Association's *Bulletin* February 2001. In it Spagnoly made a number of statements about the military career of a friend whom he had known for 'over twenty years'.

Because Laffin was a long-standing member of the Gallipoli Association and the author of *Damn the Dardanelles*, the editor of *The Gallipolian* sought permission to republish the obituary. On reading it in the Spring 2001 *Gallipolian* I noticed that several of the claims Spagnoly had made about Laffin were more extravagant than any I had seen before. He had summarised the highlights of Laffin's military career:

John enlisted at 18 years of age into the infantry, graduating as a commando before gaining his commission at the Officers Training School at Duntroon ... 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 ..

As Australian WWI and WWII nominal rolls are on the internet, some of these facts could be quickly verified. Within minutes I had Laffin's entry before me¹:

Service Record

Name	Laffin, John Alfred Charles
Service	Australian Army
Service Number	NX69098
Date of Birth	21 Sep 1917
Place of Birth	Mosman, NSW
Date of Enlistment	6 Mar 1941
Locality on Enlistment	Wagga Wagga, NSW
Place of Enlistment	Paddington, NSW
Next of Kin	Laffin, Charles
Date of Discharge	2 Sep 1945
Rank	Sergeant
Posting at Discharge	6 Aust Detn Bck
WW2 Honours and Gallantry	None for display
Prisoner of War	No

I cross-checked with the Awards search function of the Australian War Memorial's website². There was no award to any Laffin. So despite Spagnoly's claims, Laffin had not won a Military Cross or any other decoration during his WWII service, and had served as a sergeant, not as an officer.

The service records of all Australians who served in WWI and WWII are readily available, and I immediately ordered Laffin's on-line. When they arrived a few weeks later I was struck by their bulk: two folders nearly 2cm thick. Those of my father (who was in the Army) and his cousin Billy (the RAAF) comprise only a dozen or so pages. While Laffin's file was inflated by multiple copies of some documents, it stated that he:

... was never commissioned in the Australian Army ... the highest rank he attained was Sergeant. His service in a war zone was confined to less than 5 weeks in Port Moresby and he was never in combat with Australian troops. The major part of his service was as a Sergeant Drill Instructor at the 6th Australian Detention Barracks at Orange [in Australia]³.

Other records in his dossier confirmed that he was not entitled to any bravery award and that he was never wounded:

For his service he was awarded the Pacific Star, the War Medal and the Australia Service Medal⁴ ... we had no record of his service with a commando unit, or that he was ever in action or wounded⁵.

The *Service and Casualty Form AF B.103-1 (Adapted)* in Laffin's dossier shows no entry consistent with his being wounded or decorated:

Disembarked Port Moresby	4 December 1942
Taken on strength of 2/31 Bn	7 December 1942
Embarked Port Moresby	17 January 1943
Disembarked Cairns	19 January 1943

So the official records show that Spagnoly's account of Laffin's military service was wrong in almost every detail: he was never commissioned as an officer during his service with the Australian Army, he received no award or honour (and certainly not the Military Cross), and he was never wounded.

What inspired Spagnoly to make these claims is a mystery. Laffin's remarkable entry in *Who's Who in Australia* in 1968 and 1971 certainly states, quite incorrectly, 'grad. R.M.C. Duntroon 1941', but mentions no decoration. Apparently Laffin had represented his own ten week short course, which did not result in a commission, as being equivalent to "graduating". It also states that Laffin was an 'Hon. Major Brit. Army' (which I have located no evidence to support) and 'M.A. Lond.' (which the University of London's Transcripts Office advised me is untrue).

Laffin's autobiography also contains nothing to support Spagnoly's claims on his behalf. While he makes much of his attendance at an officer training course in 1941 and of his status as 'potential officer', nowhere does Laffin suggest that he was other than a sergeant or that he was wounded or decorated.

What is clear is that Spagnoly failed to adequately check his 'facts'. Australian Army records in Laffin's publicly-available dossier unequivocally show that he did not graduate as an officer, was not decorated and was not wounded 'whilst serving in the jungles of Papua-New Guinea'. These mistakes were completely avoidable. Had Spagnoly spent the time to check the on-line Australian WWII nominal roll, or to thoroughly read the autobiography of his 'very good and supportive friend', he would have seen nothing to encourage him to make such wholly unfounded claims.

Footnote: Tony Spagnoly was provided with this article before going to print and replied that his remembrance of John Laffin was "a general personal recall covering the years I knew him in the United Kingdom and over in France. — I should have applied myself to the Aussie archive. In hindsight obviously a mistake."

¹ www.ww2roll.gov.au/script/name.asp#searchtabs

² www.awm.gov.au/database/h_award.asp

³ Letter from Army Headquarters, Canberra, to the Editor of *Who's Who in Australia*, 15 February 1972

⁴ Attachment to letter to Laffin from Colonel W J A McCausland, OIC CARO, 10 August 1971

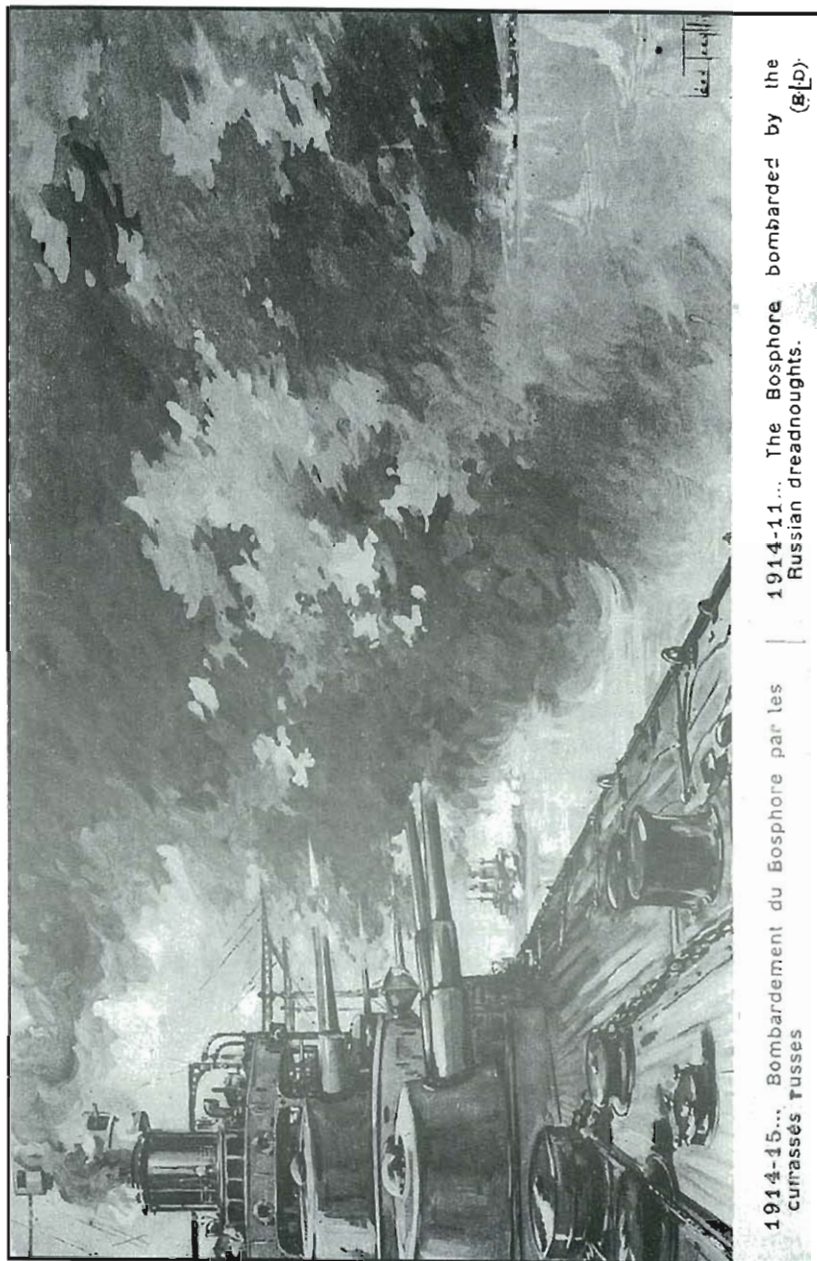
⁵ *John Laffin: Military Historian*; memo from Colonel W J A McCausland, OIC CARO, to Deputy Chief of Staff (Personnel), 9 February 1972

BOSPORUS BOMBARDED

JOHN C WELCH

This postcard opposite illustrates the activities of Russian battleships from the Black Sea Fleet, when they conducted a series of bombardments of the Bosphorus forts, on both the European and Asiatic shores, throughout March, April and May 1915. This was to support the Allied operations in the Dardanelles. These bombardments were not continuous, due to the necessity to return to port for coaling. The ships took up station about eight miles off shore, in order to keep beyond range of most of the Turkish batteries. The Russians were at times fired upon by the battleship *Torghout Reis*, torpedo craft and some shore based guns. There was a half hour engagement on 4th May between the German battlecruiser *Goeben*, and the Russian battleships, *Ioann Zlatoust* and *Yevstafy*. This can be considered a Russian victory, as the *Goeben* retreated after receiving four hits. Although the Turkish land defences received a thorough pasting, the results cannot be considered any more decisive, than those attained by the Allied bombardments at the Dardanelles.

A somewhat spectacular plan by Vice-Admiral Kolach, which was not proceeded with, was to pour oil on the sea at the Bosphorus and set it on fire, whilst other units landed Russian troops in Thrace.



JOHN TERRAINE – AN APPRECIATION

COLIN HAGUE

Nobody seriously interested in the Great War could wish the death of John Terraine who died on 1 December 2003 to go unremarked in these pages, even though his life's work was principally related to the Western Front rather than the Dardanelles.

John was born in 1921 and graduated from Keble College, Oxford. His early career was with the BBC, working on both radio and television output. In the 1960s he received a 'Best Documentary' award for his work on the acclaimed 26-part television series *The Great War*. Many maintain that this groundbreaking endeavour remains the benchmark against which the several subsequent TV series must be judged (and found wanting). It did, of course, include episodes about Gallipoli and other ventures. As a result of much public pressure brought to bear on the BBC over the years it has recently been reshown, and it is now available on video. Later he wrote for the series *The Mighty Continent* and *The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten*. His early written works included:

Mons: Retreat to Victory (1960)

The Western Front (1964)

General Jack's Diary (1964)

The Great War: An Illustrated History (1965)

The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten (1968)

Throughout his life he worked to redress the balance of criticism, often untutored, of the High Command, and his study of Douglas Haig: *The Educated Soldier* (1963) was perhaps the book for which he will be particularly remembered. He also strove to demonstrate how the ill-prepared army of the early years became the army which actually won the war in 1918. At the time his were not the politically correct views, but they are now gaining wider acceptance.

In the 1970s and 1980s he concentrated on books, several of which have become required reading and remain available in softback reprint. The canon includes:

Impacts of War: 1914 and 1918 (1970)

The Mighty Continent (1974)

Trafalgar (1976)

The Road to Passchendaele (1977)

To Win a War (1978)

The Smoke and the Fire (1981), an early study of spin and myth

White Heat: the New Warfare 1914-1918 (1982)

The Right of the Line (1985), the story of the RAF

Business in Great Waters (1989), his magisterial account of submarine warfare between 1916-45, includes a description of Mediterranean operations during the First World War.

John Terraine was the founding President (later Patron) of our sister organisation, the Western Front Association. It was very much a working relationship. He was never honoured by his country but, probably much more importantly to him, the value of his work was recognised by his peers. He was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, in 1982 he was awarded the highest honour of the Royal United Services Institute (of which he had been a Council member), and in 1986 he was appointed an Honorary Fellow of his old college.

He did not gladly suffer fools or those he considered ill-informed, and his cogent opinions were invariably stated strongly. However he was always convivial company, and his trenchant wit will be greatly missed.

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 1,100 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.

Lieutenant Guy Nightingale: Patrick Gariepy writing from 4278 Torrington Avenue, Eugene, OR97404, USA seeks information concerning the suicide of this officer of the 1st Royal Munsters on 25 April 1935. By July of 1915 Guy Nightingale, now a Captain, was one of only three Munster officers remaining who had landed on the 25 April. Patrick Gariepy may also be contacted by e mail at leanes-trench@comcast.net

RND Recruitment: Mrs Pat Francis enquires whether amongst our membership anyone has information on recruitment to the Royal Naval Division. Her father, who came from Forest Gate in East London, had joined the Royal Marines in September 1914, one of only twelve men to do so at a time when most of the recruits were enlisting from mining areas in the Midlands and North. Was the proximity of the docks influential in their choice of district? Did the poor response discourage further efforts. She would be most interested and grateful to hear any information or theories behind recruitment at 18 Heathfield South, Twickenham, TW2 7SS or can be contacted by e mail at pat-francis@care4free.net

SEPTEMBER IN SALONICA

JEAN-CLAUDE LIS

On 26 September 2003 a delegation of the French Gallipoli Association – Association Nationale pour le Souvenir des Dardanelles et Fronts d'Orient – with 14 participants led by the President, Mme Madeleine Stocanne, went to Salonica. This visit marked the 85th anniversary of the Balkan front armistice signed in the city on 29 September 1918.

The ceremonies were organised by Greek associations, with participants from the nations which had been involved in this area: France, Great Britain, Serbia, Italy, Russia. They took place in the cemetery of Zettenlik, in the suburbs of Salonica, on the very spot where Allied troops had their rear base from 1915 to 1918. The initial nucleus of the French Expeditionary Corps being made of the troops evacuated from Gallipoli in early 1916.

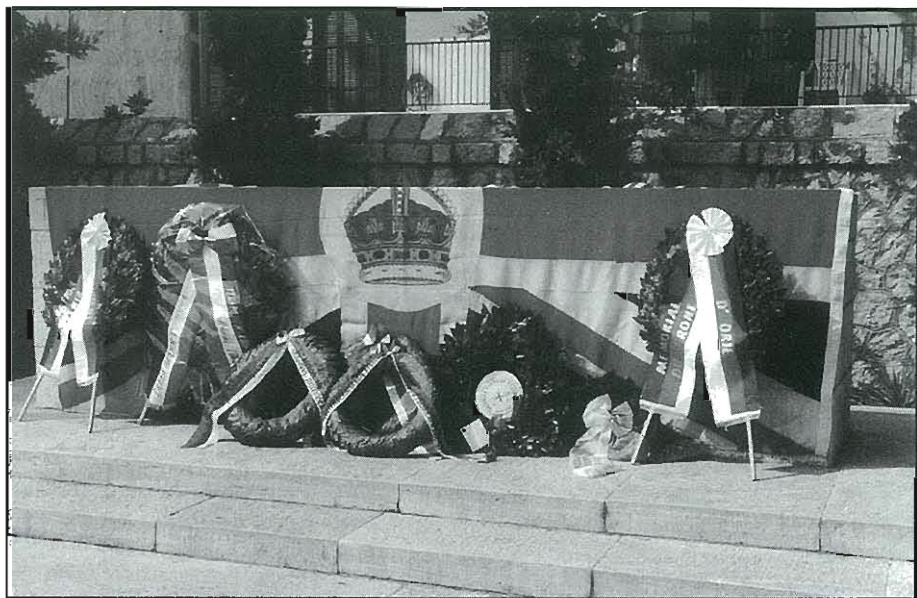
There are four distinct cemeteries: Serb, French, British, Italian, plus a Russian square. At the occasion of the 85th anniversary, the Association Nationale pour le Souvenir des Dardanelles et Fronts d'Orient laid a wreath in each cemetery, notably at the monument of the British cemetery.



French Cemetery



*British Cemetery,
the upper picture showing Mme Madeleine Stocanne having just laid the wreath*



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE 4TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

GEOFF MORAN

Introduction

In 2002 Alec Campbell, the last of the 50,000¹ Australians who fought at Gallipoli, died at the age of 103. He was reputed to be the last survivor of around one million² who served there. Only a relatively small number of Allied soldiers fought at Gallipoli. 332,000 Australians and 99,000 New Zealanders served in all theatres of the Great War³, but only around 70,000⁴ at Gallipoli. Similarly, of a total of 5.4 million soldiers from the UK⁵ who took the field, only 340,000⁶ served at Gallipoli.

Yet interest in the campaign, as indicated by the crowds that attend the Anzac Day ceremonies at Gallipoli, has grown out of all proportion to the number who served there, to the length of the campaign or to its outcomes.

Today many visit Gallipoli on guided tours, some of which have impressive credentials like those organised by the Gallipoli Association with Colonel Michael Hickey as the expert guide. Others accompany the Australian War Memorial's guides with their intimate knowledge of the campaign and the battlefields. While the US\$4,600 cost of the tour⁷ reflects its high standards, it may discourage some potential visitors. Others visit Gallipoli as a side trip on a 'round the world' or 'round Europe' tour. While the incremental cost may be low, you take your chances with the quality of Gallipoli guides. The local guide for my parents' visit on Anzac Day 1993 knew less than they did. Another disadvantage of guided tours, at least for me, is their low yield. Little more than six of the 16 days of the AWM's 2004 trip to Gallipoli⁸ will be spent on the battlefields, and only seven of the 15 of the Western Front tour. The rest are spent in transit or in shopping, sightseeing or 'free days' in Istanbul and Paris.

Gallipoli may seem a more daunting destination than London, Amsterdam or Sydney. But organising your own tour is a lot simpler than many realise, and in this article I'd like to offer some advice and encouragement to those who are keen to try. Although written from an Australian perspective I hope that prospective travellers wherever they live, will find what I say helpful.

The best time to travel

Whether you go on a guided tour or organise your own trip, one of the first decisions you'll need to make is what time of year to visit. Many will automatically answer 'why, Anzac Day, of course!'. The weather is usually good, the roads will be freshly graded, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemeteries spring-cleaned, and there will

be lots of portable toilets at North Beach. However, you will have to share it with 10 to 15,000 others.

The AWM tour 2004 will include the Anzac Day Dawn Service, but the party then leaves for the Kiretch Tepe ridge. This is the farthest place possible from the crowds at Anzac, Lone Pine and Helles, and is out of the path of the departing traffic. It will still be a very slow coach trip back to the ferry, but that is a price that many would gladly pay to be at Gallipoli on Anzac Day.

If you don't want to brave the crowds but still want to enjoy spring weather you can visit immediately before or after Anzac Day. You will probably meet a few other pilgrims, and there will nearly always be some Turkish family or school groups, but the battlefields will be serene and uncrowded. At the end of March and early April the weather is sometimes unreliable, with wind, rain or even snow, but the sunny days are as beautiful as spring can possibly be. One April when I didn't bother wearing a hat and was badly sunburnt I was told that there had been metre-high snowdrifts on Chunuk Bair only two weeks before.

The middle of winter is not a good time. In November 1915 torrential rains flooded the trenches at Suvla and Anzac and drowned dozens on both sides, and then the snowstorms that followed froze hundreds to death. If you read of the terrible conditions during the Third Battle of Krithia and the final battles during August you may not wish to visit in summer. However, you will not face the problems of flies or water supply that bedevilled the soldiers. And with the scrub and the watercourses drier than in winter the going should be easier if you leave the roads. Obviously you need to be prepared for the heat. I've also visited in autumn, and the weather was perhaps even better than in spring.

Nomenclature old and new

The names Gallipoli and Dardanelles tend to be used interchangeably, and are sometimes alternated with 'the straits', 'the peninsula' or even 'the Hellespont' by romantics.

When referring to the battlefields I mostly use the names on English-language maps of the time, rather than the modern versions. What I refer to as Chunuk Bair is now Conkbayiri, Gaba Tepe you will see as Kabatepe, etc. However, I do yield to the inevitable with names of towns: Chanak is now Cannakale, Krithia is Alcitepe and Maidos has become Eceabat. I am not so flexible on the Western Front: I don't care what the signs say, I will always say 'Wipers'!

Getting there and getting around

Once you have decided when to visit, you need to decide how to get there. From Australia the choice is limited, as only Singapore Airlines now flies direct to Istanbul. If you live in Europe there is a wide choice or you may not need to fly at all. On our 1997 visit to Gallipoli we met a Captain of the Staffordshire Regiment who was driving his Land Rover to the UK from a posting in Cairo. Qantas and British Airways had mislaid our luggage on that trip, and we were envious that he was able to keep an eye on his in the rear-vision mirror.

You will need a visa on entry to Turkey. Australians pay US\$20, but visa costs vary with different nationalities, so you should check with your travel agent.

Having your own car gives maximum flexibility, and I have always reserved a hire car at Istanbul's Ataturk airport before leaving Australia. However Cannakale and Eceabat, the 'base camps' for the Gallipoli battlefields, are on major coach routes, which offers a cheaper travel alternative. Your travel agent should be able to advise you on coach travel, or you might be able to book over the Internet. Try www.anzachouse.com/HF_Travel_Agency.shtml, a specialist travel agency based in Cannakale. Several members of the Gallipoli Association in Turkey can provide assistance with local information and may be contacted via the Treasurer or Editor.



The author at Anzac Cove in 2003

If you travel there by coach you can tour the battlefields by taxi. I have never done this, but have met others who have done so successfully. You can engage the taxi for the day, or have the driver take you to the battlefield and collect you at an agreed time. There's generally good mobile/cell phone reception at Gallipoli, so you could arrange to ring your driver when you are ready to be collected.

Some people hike around the battlefields: on every visit I have made to Gallipoli I have given someone a lift between the battlefields and Eceabat. And Taylor and Cupper, who wrote the original guidebook, made their first trip by bicycle.

If you have listened to horror stories of traffic in Turkey you may be reluctant to drive. All but the most timid should discount these fairy tales. The only problems I can recall are that traffic lights can be hard to see, and sometimes (particularly in peak hour traffic near the airport) I am never sure whether there are four lanes of traffic on the road or five which can prove interesting.

From Ataturk airport to Gallipoli is four to five hours driving time. You have the choice of the highway or the tollway ('autobahn'). They converge near Silivri, around 100 km west of the airport. If you turn right on leaving the airport you will join the tollway, and if you turn left you follow the congested highway through the suburbs. There is not much difference in travel time, but it's obviously less stressful on the tollway, which costs only a few dollars.

I have never seen an adequate hard copy map of the route, but the www.multimap.com website is excellent.

The highway keeps within sight of the Sea of Marmara for half of the trip, while the tollway is inland. Initially you should follow the signs to Edirne and then to Tekirdag. Edirne, which used to be Adrianople, is on the Bulgarian border, so don't miss the turnoff from the motorway to Tekirdag. This is the only significant town between Istanbul and the battlefields. On our first trip, with our luggage lost, we stopped at the Sevinc Hipermarket to buy underwear, warm clothing and toothbrushes. There I met Erdal, the owner's son, who has since treated me like a long-lost brother every time we meet.

There are plenty of places at Tekirdag to have lunch, or you can press on. The highway soon moves inland, out of sight of the coast, and the country becomes more rugged and the towns smaller and fewer. However, there are plenty of service stations, a few of which have restaurants. I usually stop for lunch at one on the northern side of the highway near Malkara.

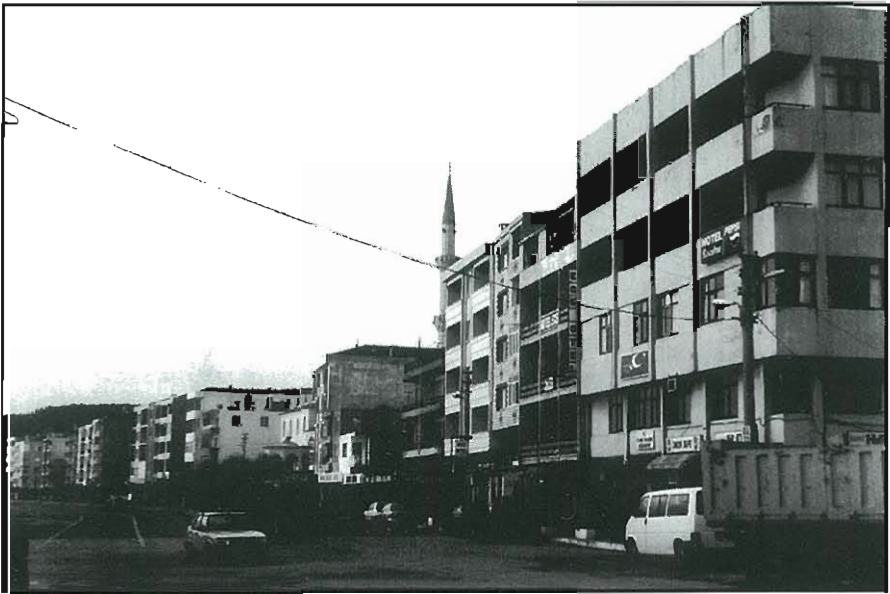
After turning south at Kesan the road passes pine forests and national parks, then the Gulf of Saros looms up on the right, with Samothrace 100 km away. Next will be Bolayr, then the Dardanelles will come into view on the left, and finally the town of Gelibolu,

which gave its name to the whole campaign. From there you can follow the ferryboat signs to Eceabat.

Where to stay

In deciding where to stay, major factors will be the quality of accommodation available and how close it is to the battlefields.

The small town of Eceabat is ideally placed, being 10 minutes from Anzac and less than half an hour from Helles and Suvla. I usually stay at the Eceabat Hotel seen below (fax 90 286 814 2461) opposite the ferry wharf. It is cheap (no credit cards accepted), very basic (no phone, TV or fridge in the rooms), and breakfast is usually hardboiled eggs, olives, bread, jam, cheese and tea. If you are willing to trade off a little luxury for economy and proximity, you will enjoy its atmosphere.



Cannakale, a city of over 60,000, is on the Asian side of the Dardanelles, and is reached by vehicular ferry from Eceabat or Kilid Bahr. The big ferries to Eceabat run on the hour and take 20 to 25 minutes for the crossing. The smaller Kilid Bahr ferry apparently leaves when it is full.

Cannakale has a wide choice of accommodation and plenty of restaurants and shopping. I have stayed at and can recommend the Buyuk Truva Hotel (fax 90 286 217 0903). In the same street on the waterfront is the Akol Hotel (fax 90 286 217 2897), a little more upmarket and expensive. Most hotels here accept credit cards.

The only problem with staying in Cannakale is the ferry across the Dardanelles at each end of the day. It is a pleasant trip but you lose time queuing as well as the time for the crossing. In the queue at Cannakale you will also be a captive market for the vendors of socks, carpets and aftershave.

Visitors with the AWM tour stay at the Kum Hotel at Gaba Tepe, which is listed on www.homemadetravel.com/html/kum_motel.html. It is very isolated: there are no nearby shops at which to buy drinks and the makings for lunch before you set out for the day, as you can in Eceabat or Cannakale. Another website⁹ shows that it costs 70 euros per night for a single compared to 45 at the Buyuk Truva. That's a lot of money: my daughter and I paid less than that to stay in London last year.

The website of the Australian Embassy in Turkey has a page specifically for Anzac Day visitors (www.embaustralia.org.tr/anzac/geninfo.htm), but most of its information, including accommodation, is useful for other times of the year too.

On our last two trips we had dinner most nights in Eceabat, but some evenings took the ferry to Cannakale for its wider variety. The ferry also offers refreshments, and on the infrequent wet days its saloon is a cosy place to enjoy a cup of Turkish tea.



Martin and Edmina in 1997 on the ferry approaching Cannakale.

Reference books

If you are reading *The Gallipolian* you most likely know a lot more about the campaign than the average visitor, even if you profess to being, like me, no more than an enthusiastic amateur. However, a warning is appropriate. Some books about the First World War misinform because they are poorly researched and written, but many are deliberately misleading: their writers do not wish merely to inform and educate their readers, but to influence them.

During the decades after the war there was remarkable bitterness surrounding the writing of the official histories (particularly the British accounts of France and Belgium) as it revived wartime jealousies and rivalries. Prominent historians had their heroes and villains, and the battles to savage some reputations and salvage or redeem others were as ugly as some of the real fighting. This legacy of propaganda, distortion and misrepresentation persists.

The most common way to influence readers is by selective reporting. The inexperienced reader may not know enough to realise that he or she is being given only that part of the story which supports the writer's prejudices. At least Australia's John Laffin is honest about his: with titles like *British Butchers and Bunglers of WWI* it is clear what usual suspects he wants to round up.

Sometimes it can be difficult to reconcile works on the same subject. *Douglas Haig: the Educated Soldier* by John Terraine and *Haig's Command: a Reassessment* by Denis Winter represent opposite ends of the spectrum of treatments of a character who still polarises opinion 75 years after his death.

The Australian official history¹⁰ is not without bias. Serle accuses Bean (the official historian) of 'extraordinary prejudice against Monash'¹¹, and Pedersen¹² notes Bean's 'dislike of Monash', which Bean amply demonstrates by his harsh and stereotypical criticisms of Monash's personality, performance and abilities. Later, in his 1917 volume, Bean allowed blame for failings at Second Bullecourt to fall on Gough (a popular villain for Australians), while later and more objective analysis¹³ showed that they were the responsibility of Brudenell White, Bean's idol and mentor, and, coincidentally, Monash's rival for the position of Australian Corps commander. Ironically, both Bean and Monash are today regarded by Australian historians as almost beyond criticism.

Misrepresentations and distortions are not confined to print. The lavishly-produced 1999 telemovie *All the King's Men* fictionalised the 12 August attack by the 163rd Brigade on the Suvla plain, and with it the 'disappearance' of the 'Sandringham Company' of the 1/5 Battalion of the Norfolk Regiment. This triggered rebuttals, the best of which appeared in the Western Front Association's journal¹⁴. As the *Stand To!* audience is but a tiny fraction of that which saw the original program, there will be millions who now believe that the entire Sandringham Company disappeared in a forest, was carried off by clouds, or was shot by young female snipers.

The official histories of the campaign – British¹⁵, Australian and New Zealand¹⁶ – are informative but can make very dry reading. Bean's account swamps the reader in almost impenetrable detail, naming hundreds of individuals, but giving little strategic analysis or insight. My opinion is by no means widely held or supported:

... Mr Bean has the valuable gift of bringing clarity to the most complicated fighting¹⁷.

But the astute Falls is clearly aware of Bean's proclivities:

The Australian official histories are written in very different fashion to our own. Criticism is permitted and is often strong, especially, let it be hinted, where 'Imperial' commanders and troops are concerned ... When a popular Australian officer comes on the scene we are given a sketch of his career from the day when he backed his first pony. On the other hand official papers and orders are lacking or are scantily supplied.

The British and Australian histories contain many excellent detailed maps. Naturally they do not show today's cemeteries and memorials, but these are the easiest landmarks to find. As they are increasingly scarce the original editions of the histories now command high prices, especially the British and New Zealand ones.

Histories and reminiscences of the Gallipoli campaign began to appear even during the war. Since Sir Ian Hamilton's *Gallipoli Diary* in 1920 there has been a trickle of publications, accelerating to a flood in recent years. Some official material on the campaign was retained for decades under secrecy provisions and some has been lost or destroyed, but little that is new has emerged for decades. Each new author has looked at what went before and in many cases built upon it, but few have added any value through their own scholarship, analysis or insight.

The best single volume on the campaign is still, in my view, *Gallipoli* by Robert Rhodes James. It is (with few exceptions) objective, temperate and concise. Rhodes James records the bravery, suffering and frailties of the participants, but avoids sentimentality. He is measured in his use of hindsight: it is easy to find fault in the campaign's planning and execution, but Rhodes James does not need the sensationalism and melodrama of writers such as Laffin. The book has some flaws (most notably its enthusiastic endorsement of Allanson's allegations, discussed below), but it has been my benchmark since I first read it.

Gallipoli 1915 by Tim Travers is one of the best of the newer books. Professor Travers (as in his *The Killing Ground*) looks not only at the campaign, but also at how its history has been distorted. He gives a fascinating sidelight on the Dardanelles Commission: Sir Ian Hamilton and a network of witnesses, with little in common but self-interest, getting their stories straight and colluding for mutual protection. Travers discusses the

conflicts of interest of the British official historian, who had served on Sir Ian Hamilton's staff as one of the planners of the campaign. While he may not pursue some matters as hard as he could have, I believe that Aspinall-Oglander's account is balanced, informative and more readable than Bean's.

Denis Winter, not averse to conspiracy theories, rates Aspinall-Oglander's work as 'outstanding'. Winter's own book¹⁸ attempts to solve the old mystery of whether the first 1,500 Australians ashore at Anzac – the first wave of the covering party – landed where intended and in the best place. Bean believed that they were carried north by a current (undetected over several thousand years of war and commerce in the area), and most writers since have unquestioningly accepted this. Winter argues that while the landing was initially planned for Brighton Beach, Hamilton and his staff moved it by stages to Anzac Cove as they learned how strongly this otherwise ideal location was defended by new trenches and wire, as well as by Gaba Tepe's batteries. Winter's theory, that they failed to adequately communicate the change, is supported by many other examples of poor planning and communication. As Falls noted, Bean neither includes nor refers to any orders, to which he must have had access, which would have made clear where the landing was intended to be and perhaps even why. Winter must have upset someone at the AWM, as he is singled out for a consumer warning:

... Winter's work must be approached carefully: his scholarship has been described by some as sloppy, and his casual approach to some sources has been strongly criticised by some reviewers¹⁹.

Michael Hickey's retelling²⁰ is comprehensive and detailed: he steers a clear narrative path through the story's complexities, sustaining tension and interest throughout. Perhaps because he himself served he presents the campaign in its military and political background and context. He does not shrink from criticisms, and where he makes them they are fair and measured. His description of the assault on Hill 971 contains a few errors, but throughout the book he reminds the reader, usually through well-selected excerpts from diaries and letters, of the fearful human consequence of battle.

Sir Ian Hamilton is claimed by some (though on what evidence none ever makes clear) to have been hated by many Anzacs. Soldiers' letters and diaries, such as those which Hickey samples, reveal almost universal exasperation and disillusionment, but I would have thought that such feelings would have focussed on the tangible defects of lower-level officers, rather than on a General that no one ever saw. But Hickey also includes a letter to Hamilton, written by six Australian soldiers just before the first anniversary of Anzac Day, expressing their 'loyalty and regard', and exonerating him of any blame for the failure. This touching tribute says as much about the man who inspired such respect as it does about those who were not ashamed to declare it.

Of the reminiscences my favourite is *Anzac: a Retrospect* by Cecil Malthus (a New Zealander). The Gallipoli chapters in Pedersen's study of Monash give valuable

background and a real feel for the pressures on commanders during the fighting. Bean's *Gallipoli Mission*²¹, while not intended as a guidebook, describes the Australian battlefields in detail and in context. It includes a few more swipes at Monash.

Gallipoli: The New Zealand Story is an inspiring book. Pugsley's pride in his fellow countrymen shows through, but it is an objective work of impressive scholarship. Colour photographs of a scale model gave me an understanding of the terrain that several visits had not.

Itineraries, guidebooks and maps

If you take an organised tour you do not have to worry about what to see: your guide will arrange it all. But if you travel independently you will have to develop your own itinerary.

If you are familiar with the campaign you may already have a list of places you want to see. If you aren't, why not start by looking at others' itineraries? Searching the topic *battlefield tour Gallipoli* in Google will produce plenty, e.g:

www.awm.gov.au/services/battletour/index.htm

www.iwm.org.uk/online/gallipoli/2000open.htm

www.angliabattlefields.co.uk/tours/ww1/gallipoli.html

Guidebooks are another source of suggestions, although there are few for Gallipoli. The only one I was aware of at the time of my first trip was that by Taylor and Cupper²². Some things have changed since it was first published, for example the 57th Infantry Regiment memorial and the new Anzac Day commemoration area at North Beach. The coverage of accommodation is outdated, and better maps would enhance the clarity of its directions. Otherwise it is a fine battlefield guidebook.

The Holts have also produced a guidebook²³, but it includes little of value that Taylor and Cupper hadn't covered years earlier. It is not particularly well balanced: it devotes nearly 7 pages to discussion of the tiny part played by the Sandringham Company. However the attempt on Sari Bair, the last and nearest chance of success of the whole campaign, merits only 5 pages, notwithstanding its 12,500 casualties. Its indexing is poor: it excludes Australia Valley and Taylor's Gap, although both are mentioned in the text. The Holts barely mention the existence of the well-preserved French trenches overlooking Kereves Dere, whereas Taylor and Cupper give several routes to them.

I am highly map-dependent, and normally won't go anywhere new without a map. We had to make do on our first trip as my maps had been lost with our luggage, and all I had in my carry-on bag was *Gallipoli Mission*. Yet, *mirabile dictu*, (or *D.V.* as Sir Ian would have said), we still found our way around Anzac and Helles!

The Holts' guidebook has a companion map, but one writer:

... didn't even bother to take the Holts map this time, as it proved so unreliable on the last visit²⁴.

A highly detailed *Gallipoli Peninsula Historical National Park Guidemap* has recently been published²⁵. Only a few million Turkish lira, it is available at the Gaba Tepe museum.

Many visitors to battlefields do not want or need guidebooks. Some are willing to follow their instincts, ask directions (where possible) and take their chances. There are more signposts here than on the Western Front. Perhaps the most photographed on any battlefield is that on the road near Gaba Tepe pointing north along the coast to Anzac Cove and the Suvla plains beyond, and inland up Pine Ridge to Lone Pine, Quinn's Post, The Nek and Chunuk Bair. Farther north other signposts show the way to Hill 60 and to Suvla Bay, and, at Helles, to the cemeteries and memorials on the west coast around Alciptepe.



New Zealand National Memorial and statue of Mustafa Kemal on Chunuk Bair.

Graves and memorials

If you are seeking a grave or memorial at Gallipoli, don't assume that you will be able to find it when you arrive. Use the website of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission: www.cwgc.org.uk/register/register.html. This will tell you at which cemetery or memorial the soldier is commemorated and how to get there. The website also has an Information Sheet and a useful map. But if you are expecting to find a relative's grave you should be prepared for the worst:

In the nine months of this bitterly fought campaign more than 36,000 Commonwealth servicemen died. The 31 war cemeteries on the Peninsula contain 22,000 graves but it was possible to identify only 9,000 of these. The 13,000 who rest in unidentified graves in the cemeteries, together with more than 14,000 whose remains were never found, are commemorated individually by name on the Helles Memorial (British, Australian and Indian names), the Lone Pine Memorial (Australian and New Zealand names) and the Twelve Tree Copse, Hill 60 and Chunuk Bair Memorials (New Zealand names)²⁶.

If the name you seek is on the Helles Memorial you should note the panel number on which it is recorded. There are dead from so many different units of the services commemorated here that you may otherwise have a lengthy search.

Making it happen

Brian and I had been planning a return trip to Gallipoli for some time. Early in 2003 we agreed to visit in April and then meet Stephan in France for the Anzac Day ceremonies. The travel agent arranged the flights and hire cars, and I booked accommodation at the Hotel Eceabat and in France.

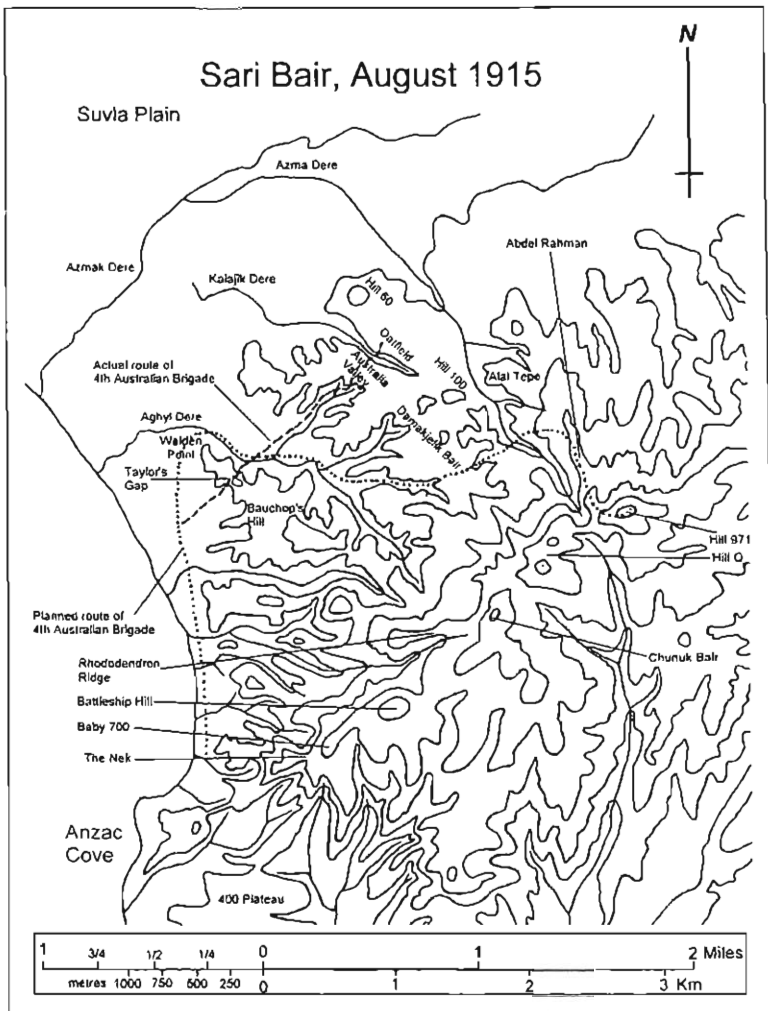
I packed a stack of maps (mainly photocopies from the official histories), Taylor and Cupper and *Gallipoli Mission*. My hardware included Swiss Army knife, Maglite torch (handy for dugouts and pillboxes, mainly on the Western Front), compass, writing materials, sewing kit, cameras, sun block, some first aid items and a small backpack. Clothing included hat, sunglasses, jacket for wet weather, a coat for the cold and a decent pair of boots. After debating the pros and cons of wearing shorts on sunny days we finally agreed that trousers would be more practical.

It's a long flight from Australia to Istanbul, but the Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome scare had decimated (almost literally) air travel, so we had plenty of spare seats in which to spread out. Erdal was at Ataturk airport to meet us and, as usual, insisted on paying for morning tea. When we left the airport mid-morning the traffic was moderate (by Sydney peak hour standards), and we had an easy run to Malkara, where we stopped for lunch.

Taylor and Cupper mention packs of wild dogs that roam the Suvla plain. I have never

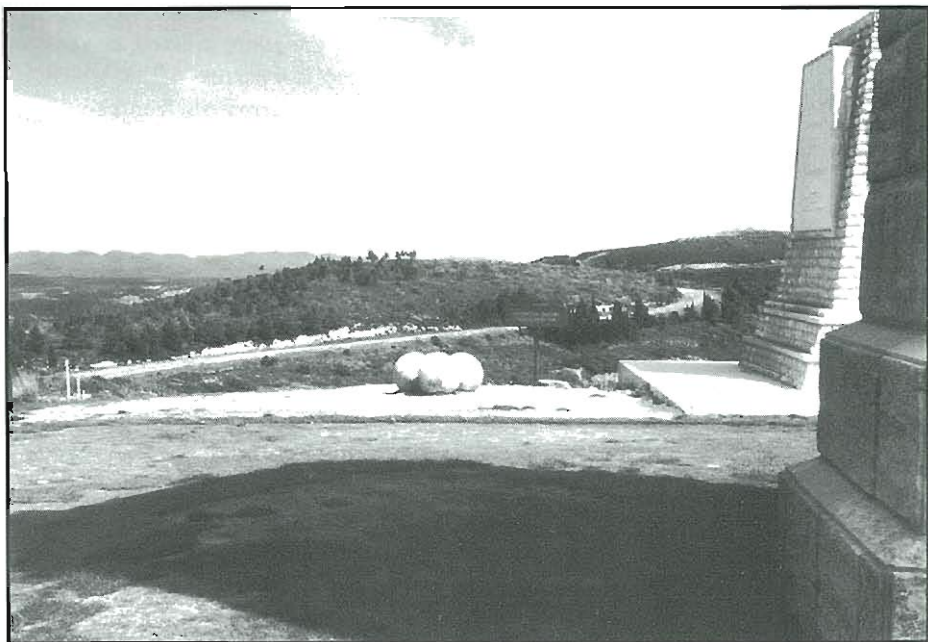
seen them there, but after leaving Malkara Brian and I saw several dogs by the side of the road. They were large, lean and dangerous-looking, and seemed to us to be part wolf. Later we were surprised to see similar dogs being used by shepherds near Bolayr, so perhaps they were friendly domestic doggies that just happened to look mean. Perhaps.

We arrived at Eceabat mid-afternoon, and spent several hours looking quickly around Anzac to orient Brian before we checked into the hotel. We were to make a comprehensive tour of the battlefields, but I also had unfinished business from earlier visits. Twice I had attempted to follow the route taken by Monash's 4th Australian Brigade on the night of 6-7 August, and twice I had failed. I was confident that Brian would bring me luck this time.



Background: The 4th Australian Brigade and Hill 971

The August plan to seize the Sari Bair range, one of the original objectives for 25 April, was extremely ambitious and relied upon precise timing and co-ordination. Left and Right Covering Forces, after dusk and during the diversion of the Lone Pine fighting, were to clear the foothills north of Anzac. The Right Assaulting Column, which included the NZ Infantry Brigade, would then climb Rhododendron Ridge and seize Chunuk Bair. The Left Assaulting Column was to move up the coast and inland along the Aghyl Dere, one of the watercourses or gullies by which the seaward slopes of the range is riven. This column would then separate into two parties to capture Hill Q and Hill 971.



Hill Q (centre) and Hill 971 (right) from Chunuk Bair in 1998.

Hill Q has two crests, only one is visible here.

Hill 971, known to the Turks as Koja Chemen Tepe, was the highest point of the Sari Bair range. If the assaulting columns could seize Hill 971, Hill Q and Chunuk Bair they would overlook the rear of the Turkish positions on Battleship Hill, Baby 700 and The Nek, and those opposite Quinn's, Courtney's, and Steele's Posts and the 400 Plateau. The Turks would be driven back down towards Helles and cut off as the Allies occupied the peninsula from Anzac across to the Dardanelles. The landing at Suvla Bay would commence at the same time as the advance on Sari Bair.

To the 4th Australian Brigade, including the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th Battalions and under the command of Brigadier-General Sir John Monash, was assigned Hill 971. The Brigade had around 6.5 km to cover from its camp in Reserve Gully. The NZ Infantry Brigade had only 3 or 4 km ahead of it, but the country these forces were to traverse includes perhaps the most forbidding scrub, gullies and ridges on the peninsula. The men were tired, suffering from dysentery and other diseases, and many of Monash's reinforcements were not fully trained.

There were ill portents as the march began. The head of Monash's column was delayed until the Left Covering Force had got clear of Anzac, and the tail of the Right Covering Force, in turn, delayed this. Sporadic shelling of the road caused few casualties but disrupted the march. At the head of the Left Assaulting Column Major Overton of the NZ Mounted Rifles, who had reconnoitred the route, was convinced by one of his local guides to swing northeast through Taylor's Gap. This, the guide insisted, was a short cut used by locals to the Aghyl Dere. But Taylor's Gap is a narrow defile, which was then thick with dense scrub. The column was forced to narrow its frontage to pass through, and then came under fire from both sides of the Gap. It took three hours for the first two battalions of the 4th Brigade to file through the 500m of the Gap.

The original plan was to follow the Aghyl Dere east for about 1.5 km, then turn up a branch which came in on the left (north) side. From here they were to climb Abdel Rahman Bair to reach Hill 971. But because of the short cut through the Gap, Overton did not know how far along the Dere they had marched, and when they turned off they did so 600 or 700m too soon. The fairly spacious but much corrugated gully shut in by the spurs up which Monash's 4th Australian Brigade had advanced, and on which it now lay, was afterwards known as Australia Valley²⁷. When they reached the end of Australia Valley, they believed that the next ridge ahead was a spur of Abdel Rahman Bair. The sun had risen [on 8 August] ... the head of the 15th Battalion climbed the bank of the Kaiajik Dere on to what Cannan [its Commanding Officer] thought was the spur of Abdel Rahman, entering an oatfield whose crop had been gathered and stooked²⁸. The 14th and 16th Battalions followed the 15th across the Kaiajik Dere to the Oatfield and began to advance eastwards across it. But fire from well-positioned Turkish machine guns suddenly swept the length of the ridge:

... the 11th Turkish Machine Gun Company [had] placed its four guns on a prominent height known as Alai Tepe. The site was well chosen, since it gave perfect command of the low spur ending in Hill 60, over which the attack might be expected to come. The surface of that spur ... lay in a single plane, so tilted that the guns on Alai Tepe could graze almost the whole of it. On that surface, at daybreak on 8 August, the 4th Australian Brigade appeared²⁹.

The 4th Brigade was forced to withdraw with heavy loss: the Australian official history suggests that it had lost about half of the men with which it started the march. Somewhere in this chaos Colonel Allanson's Ghurkhas gained the summit of Hill Q but

were shelled off, probably by our own guns. Allanson's allegations that Monash had 'lost his head', quoted by Rhodes James, are spiritedly and comprehensively demolished by Pedersen. However, Pedersen concludes from his own analysis that Monash's handling of the 4th Brigade was 'his worst performance of the war'.

The rest of the war

The August campaign was crumbling away. Several kilometres to the south the New Zealanders had gained the summit of Chunuk Bair, but after several days of savage fighting the survivors were driven off by a suicidal Turkish bayonet charge.

The attacks by the Australian Light Horse and 8/Royal Welch Fusiliers at The Nek, Quinn's Post and the head of Monash Valley failed totally with 650 killed, wounded and missing. The Suvla Bay landing, with the attacks on Kiretch Tepe and Scimitar Hill, achieved only a toehold for its 9,000 casualties. Later in August a series of attempts on Hill 60 partly succeeded, with losses of 2,500.

The Lone Pine demonstration advanced the front line a hundred metres and provided seven Victoria Crosses for Australia at a cost of 2,000 casualties. It is usually seen as some kind of victory. However it is only a victory by the desperate standards which would later hail the Somme and Third Ypres as Allied victories, and Verdun and the Kaiserschlacht as German ones.

The common factor in the August battles was that the incredible bravery and self-sacrifice of troops could not compensate for the deficiencies of planning, coordination, organisation and command. The men were worn out by fighting, disease and endless fatigues, with inappropriate diet and no break in the monotony of their routine. The performance of New Army troops is frequently criticised, but this is probably a reflection of their training and the way in which they were employed, rather than of their individual qualities.

Scapegoats were available. The reputation of Colonel Malone, who died on Chunuk Bair with so many of his men, was traduced to provide an acceptable reason for the failure. Stopford and a few others were blamed for the Suvla debacle. But any fair-minded reading reveals deeper failures of the type which today we would call systemic. Indeed, Professor Travers' research has failed to uncover any clear and agreed objective for the landing at Suvla Bay.

The landing on 25 April had been against the backdrop of the Second Battle of Ypres, during which the Germans drove the Salient in from the Broodseinde Ridge to Hooge. Since then the French and British had attacked in Champagne and Artois. Loos, a British instalment of the latter, was only a month away. The Italian front had already seen the first two Battles of the Isonzo, and before the year was out there would be two more. Gallipoli was hence but one of a series of Allied failures. The Official Historian would later acknowledge, with depressing understatement, that:

... the situation with which the Allies were faced at the close of 1915 was not an encouraging one³⁰.

Taylor's Gap and Australia Valley today

Unlike those who were to fight and die in August 1915, Brian and I did not have to march from Anzac. We drove north along the coast as far as the 7th Field Ambulance Cemetery at Walden Point, where we left the car. From there it is only a few hundred metres walk to the southeast, skirting the cultivated fields, until Taylor's Gap comes into sight on the left. The Gap does not appear as formidable as it is portrayed in the histories. But we were walking it in daylight, we knew where we were going, and no one was shooting at us. On top of Walden Point the trenches from which the Left Assaulting Column came under fire are clearly evident. The Gap debouches into a re-entrant and thence to the Aghyl Dere. But as we walked down the slope I made the opposite mistake to that made by the 4th Brigade. When Major Overton became lost the 4th Brigade mistakenly turned left up Australia Valley when it should have continued 600 or 700m farther along the Aghyl Dere. Now, when I was looking for Australia Valley, I took us straight past it. When we turned left it was up the wrong branch, halfway to the one the 4th Brigade should have taken.

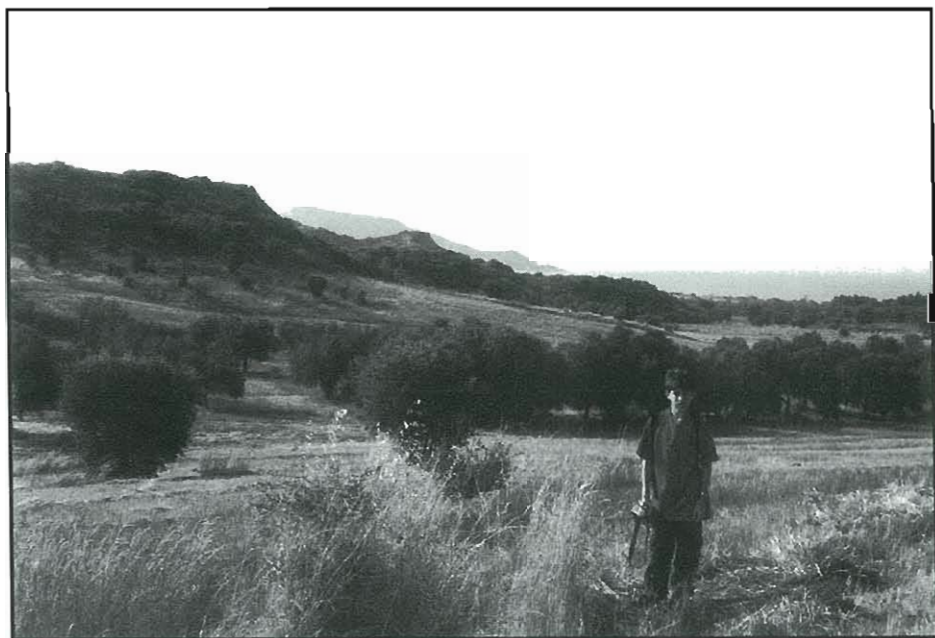
It didn't take long to realise that the ground did not match the map. It was clear that Australia Valley was behind us to the west, but instead of backtracking all the way to Aghyl Dere I decided that we'd climb the intervening ridge and drop into the head of Australia Valley from the east. I was familiar with the flora on these ridges from previous trips. The trees are no more than 1.5m high. Those with bright green leaves and little yellow flowers are covered in long spikes which can penetrate clothing. The duller ones, dwarf oaks, have small dry leaves with sharp edges which scratch and work their way through clothing and into boots. If the scrub is not too thick it is possible to squirm through, but where it is dense it is nearly impenetrable. I remembered telling Brian about this when we were debating whether or not to wear shorts.

The hillsides near the head of the gully were steep and seamed with old trenches and washaways, and these were obscured by the scrub. I became concerned that we were taking too many risks, and that one of us may slip and fall in the rough conditions. It was clearly prudent to retire down the ridge, away from the thick scrub and broken ground. We kept bearing as close as possible to the west, towards Australia Valley. On the grassy lower slopes the going became easier, and soon the ground fell away into a wide valley. We knew this was Australia Valley, and we strolled (or so it felt after the hard scrambling on the ridge) to its northern end.

The map showed that Hill 60 was due north of here. I made one last climb out of the valley and walked across the flat crest of the ridge, and was rewarded by the sight of a white obelisk amongst the pines on Damakjelik Bair a few hundred metres ahead, exactly to the north. It was Hill 60. After three attempts spread over five years I had



Looking north-east with Taylor's Gap to the right in 1999.



Looking south from Taylor's Gap. Foothills of Rhododendron Ridge behind Martin on left, beyond them Plugge's Plateau and Ari Brunu in 1999.

finally made it. I was so elated that I rang Brian on the mobile phone and asked him to climb up and join me.

Across Kaiajik Dere, a few hundred metres inland of Hill 60, I could also see the Oatfield. In 1999 my son and I had sought the place where 1752 Private Walter James Hegarty of the 14th Battalion was last seen. He was a relative of friends of my wife's family in Melbourne. The Australian Red Cross files tell as much of the story as we can ever know:

"I knew Hegarty well. He went out on 8 August. I saw him leaving. He was in the charge in the oat paddock and has not been heard of since (481 Private Henry Blair Mitchell, 14th Battalion) ... Was instantaneously killed alongside informant during the charge on 8 August at Hill 971. He was a great friend of informant (1716 Private Leslie Cochrane, 14th Battalion) ... Witness says he knew Hegarty, and was told by a man he knew (he cannot remember the name), and who was a chum of Hegarty's, that Hegarty had been shot through the head at the time of the Suvla Bay landing (1816 Private Harry Smith, 14th Battalion)."

Later Brian and I explored the Damakjelik spur, up which the 4th Brigade had attempted to advance in the mistaken notion that it was an outlier of Abdel Rahman. A track makes walking easy almost as far as Hill 100, and we passed a farmer and his wife harvesting olives. We were conscious that the 4th Brigade had come under machine gun fire along here. There was no cover except for the same unfriendly shoulder-high scrub on either side of the track. It was thick enough to stop people, but not bullets. We continued east towards Hill 100, from where we could see Alai Tepe, the site of the Turkish machine guns which did the damage, across the depths of Azma Dere.

Had the 4th Brigade stuck to the planned route, it would have crossed Azma Dere between these machine guns and six others, and a mountain battery, in the saddle between Hills 971 and Q. They were doomed no matter what they did.

Monash's timetable allowed an hour for the last mile to the top of Hill 971. The 1911 Field Service Pocket Book gives 18 minutes as normal marching time for a mile, so Monash had allowed thrice the normal time. However, it is difficult for anyone who has not attempted to cross it to understand how wild and treacherous this country is, and why the one hour allowed would have been totally inadequate. Tragically no member of the 4th Brigade would get this close to the summit.

Even more tragically, had they done so their efforts and suffering would have been in vain. Major Overton had not wanted to include Hill 971 in the objectives of the advance, as his reconnaissance had revealed a steep impassable chasm between it and Hill Q³¹. When Bean visited in 1919 he saw that it was 'separated from Q by a steep gap bridged by a razor edge'³². Chunuk Bair is the key to Sari Bair: Hill 971 is an inaccessible dead end, too far from the Turkish positions on the Second and Third Ridges to have threatened them.

Taylor and Cupper give directions for locating Taylor's Gap and Australia Valley. The Holts' book does not, but includes on p219 a photograph captioned:

Reverend Charles Pierrepoint Edwardes ... standing in Australia Valley in 1919 overlooking the Suvla area in which the 1/5 Norfolks disappeared.

This reference to Australia Valley is incorrect and confusing. The photograph clearly shows a valley opening onto the Salt Lake and Lala Baba, but if the Reverend Edwardes or anyone else stands looking down Australia Valley the Salt Lake and Suvla Plain will be behind, not in front as shown.

The same photograph is published facing p340 in Volume II of the Official History, where it is captioned:

The Salt Lake from the north of Kaiajik Dere showing the Azmak valley, Lala Baba, the Kiretech Tepe ridge and, on the extreme right, Chocolate Hill.

The accuracy of this caption can be confirmed by comparing it to Sketch 32 in the same volume.

Lest you think that my criticism of the Holts' book is motivated by jingoism, please check what Paul Reed, one of their fellow Englishmen and also a battlefield guide and author, has to say on his website³³.

Conclusions

In Gallipoli Brian and I did what visitors on a guided tour do: we saw all the cemeteries (except Lala Baba: it's a track for fine weather only), we visited the grave of Simpson at Beach Cemetery, we marvelled at the impossibility of Quinn's Post, we mixed with parties of Turkish school children at the 57th Infantry Regiment memorial and at the Martyrs' Memorial at Morto Bay.

But as well as following the route of the 4th Brigade, we took other excursions off the beaten track that would not have been possible on most guided tours. We located Clapham Junction, the confluence of Krithia Nullah and Engineer Gully, whence the 2nd Australian Brigade set out to the Second Battle of Krithia. We walked cross-country from the Nuri Yamut memorial to the location of the final front line in the upper reaches of Gully Ravine. We followed, with *Gallipoli Mission* in hand, the trail of Captain Tulloch's party to the inland flanks of Battleship Hill. We walked along the French trenches overlooking Kereves Dere.

When our time in Gallipoli was over we saw Erdal and his family again at Istanbul, then flew to Paris. There we met Stephan, with whom we spent eleven days on the Western Front battlefields. We could have taken a guided tour there too. But we wanted to see

some places with personal significance: the sunken road at Bullecourt where Brian's uncle was killed, another sunken road near Hargicourt where one of Stephan's relatives won the Belgian Croix de Guerre, Ploegsteert Wood where my father's uncle is buried, and the paddock near Vaire Wood where Sergeant Herbert Shepherd, a distant relative, was killed while on patrol with the 56th Battalion³⁴. No one else could have organised this for us.

While I have emphasised the advantages of being your own guide, any visit to Gallipoli will be moving and memorable. If the time is not yet right for you to manage your own visit there, then I would urge you to seize the opportunity and go, no matter what the circumstances. The Association Tours with Michael Hickey an admirable way to commence. If Gallipoli captures you as it has me, you will probably have other chances to do it your own way.

- ¹ There is no authoritative estimate of the number who fought there. Not even the Australian War Memorial could tell me. This estimate comes from articles in the Sydney Morning Herald and from the BBC website. Newspapers don't always worry about verifying sources, but around 50,000 is supported by other references.
- ² *Official History Military Operations Gallipoli, Volume II*, Brig-Gen C F Aspinall-Oglander, William Heinemann, shows 410,000 British Empire and 79,000 French fought at Gallipoli. *A Turkish View of Gallipoli*, Fewster, Basarin & Hurmuz Basarin, gives Turkish numbers as around half a million.
- ³ *Anzac to Amiens*, C E W Bean, Australian War Memorial, p 532
- ⁴ *A guide to the Battlefields, Cemeteries and Memorials of the Gallipoli Peninsula*, Australian War Memorial/Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- ⁵ *Anzac to Amiens*, p 532
- ⁶ As the figure of 410,000 British troops given in the Official History represents all British Empire troops, I have subtracted the 70,000 Anzacs from this figure. However, it includes the number of Indian soldiers who served at Gallipoli.
- ⁷ www.awm.gov.au/services/battleof/pricelist.htm
- ⁸ www.awm.gov.au/services/battleof/itinerary_gallipoli.htm
- ⁹ <http://hoteldirectoryturkey.com/city/gallipoli.html>
- ¹⁰ *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918, Volumes I & II: The Story of Anzac*, C E W Bean, Angus & Robertson
- ¹¹ *John Monash: a biography*, Geoffrey Serle, Melbourne University Press, p398
- ¹² *Monash as Military Commander*, P A Pedersen, Melbourne University Press
- ¹³ 'Bean and Bullecourt, Weaknesses and Strengths of the Official History of Australia in the First World War', E M Andrews, *Revue internationale d'histoire militaire*, 72, 1990
- ¹⁴ *The Sandringhams at Suvla Bay*, Dick Rayner, *Stand To!* Number 58, April 2000
- ¹⁵ *History of the Great War: Military Operations Gallipoli, Volumes I & II*, Brig-Gen C F Aspinall-Oglander, William Heinemann
- ¹⁶ *Official History of New Zealand's Effort in the Great War Volume I: Gallipoli*, Major Fred Waite, DSO, NZE, Whitcombe & Tombs
- ¹⁷ *War Books: an annotated bibliography of books about the Great War*, Cyril Falls, Greenhill Books, 1989
- ¹⁸ *25th April 1915: The Inevitable Tragedy*, Denis Winter.
- ¹⁹ *Gallipoli - the sources*, Ian Hodges, www.awm.gov.au/atwar/gallipoli.htm
- ²⁰ *Gallipoli*, Michael Hickey, John Murray 1995
- ²¹ *Gallipoli Mission*, C E W Bean, Australian War Memorial

- ²² *Gallipoli: A Battlefield Guide*, Phil Taylor and Pam Cupper.
- ²³ *Major and Mrs Holt's Battlefield Guide to Gallipoli*, Tonie and Valmai Holt, Leo Cooper
- ²⁴ http://battlefields1418.50megs.com/return_to_gallipoli.htm
- ²⁵ Reviewed in *The Gallipolitan*, Winter 2001-2002
- ²⁶ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission Information Sheet, The Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey.*
- ²⁷ *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918, Volume II*, p593
- ²⁸ *Monash as Military Commander*, p109
- ²⁹ *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918, Volume II*, p659
- ³⁰ *History of the Great War: Military Operations France and Belgium, 1916 Volume II*, Brig-Gen Sir James E Edmonds, Macmillan and Co, p1
- ³¹ *Gallipoli: The New Zealand Story*, Christopher Pugsley, Hodder and Stoughton, p220
- ³² *Gallipoli Mission*, p242
- ³³ http://battlefields1418.50megs.com/return_to_gallipoli.htm
- ³⁴ *The Gallant Company*, H R Williams, Angus and Robertson, p195

QUARTERMASTER'S STORES

Silk Ties – silk, non-crease ties in the Gallipoli Association colours – 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 – are now available at £16.75 including postage.

Standard Tie – in Association colours is available price £5.00 including post.

Blazer Badge – hand embroidered wire and silk blazer badges are now available (see illustration in Spring 2002 *Gallipolitan*) at £5.50 including postage.

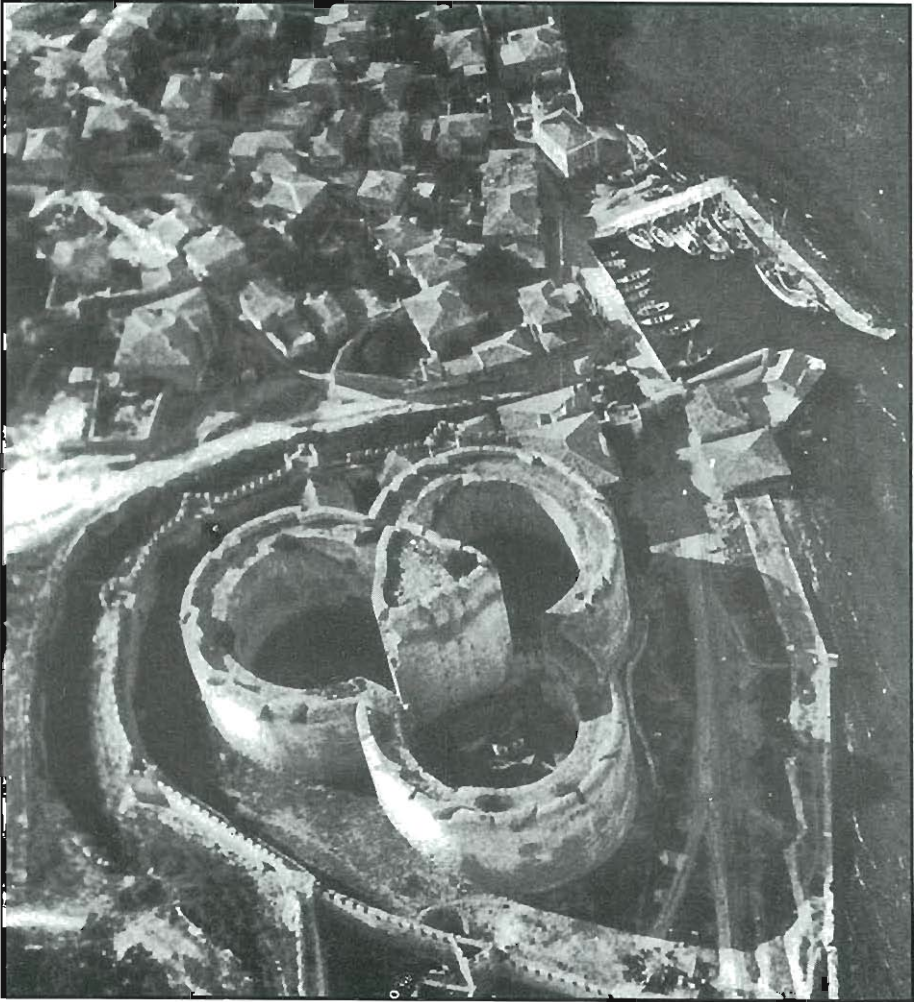
Lapel Badge in the Association colours is available price £5.50 including post.

Binders, which hold 12 copies of *The Gallipolitan* 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.

KILID BAHR FROM THE AIR

Visitors to Gallipoli all pass beneath the walls of the great fort at Kilid Bahr. Some may have explored its surrounds, even been inside. Colonel Carl Mahakian has kindly sent the photograph, first published in *The National Geographic Magazine* December 1928 showing the fort as few will have seen it.



BOOK REVIEWS

GOD, GUNS AND ISRAEL

JILL HAMILTON

Sutton, 2004, h/b, 294 pages, b/w illustrations, ISBN 0 7509 3323 2.

£20, available to members at £18 incl UK post, (telephone 01963 442030, quote GI)

The Duchess of Hamilton's, a member of our Association, latest book is a study of the emergence of the Jewish state. It ranges over a very broad canvas indeed - from pre-Christian times to the present day. Her principal focus, however, is the century immediately preceding the establishment of Israel in the middle of the twentieth century. She concedes that it would be unrealistic to attempt to detail the complete history leading up to that event, and so her principal focus is the mindset of influential British and American politicians. She posits that it was the largely non-conformist upbringing of these statesmen which conditioned their sympathy to the concept of a Jewish homeland citing amongst others Shaftesbury, Joseph Chamberlain, and Lloyd George himself.

Plainly, much centred on the so-called Balfour Declaration of 1917, which Jill Hamilton maintains should be known more accurately as the Lloyd George Declaration. It was interesting to read that this was never debated in Parliament, but was promulgated by a small War Cabinet strongly led, of course, by the Prime Minister now regarded as so highly controversial.

Jill Hamilton devotes over a third of her book to the period of the First World War. It is the political machination during that period which may be of most interest to members. The book explains why, although initially Turkey had close commercial ties with Britain, Turks were predisposed to the Central Powers even before Liman Von Sanders became so influential. Ultimately, it is clear, any ambivalence grew into enmity consequent on the British impounding of two dreadnoughts being built for the Turkish Navy. This resulted in Turkey throwing the Ottoman Empire on the side of Germany and Austria-Hungary.

On the Allied side, the setting up of the Zion Mule Corps by Sir John Maxwell resulted in the recruitment of 650 Jewish men commanded by Lt Col 'Pat' Patterson. Despite the difficulties in creating this formation, 300 muleteers and their beasts assisted 29 Div at Cape Helles and another 300 were landed at Anzac Cove. After the evacuation and the unit's consequent disbandment, many of these Jewish servicemen undertook a difficult journey to enlist with the Allies. Members may also recall Martin Sugarman's item in *Gallipolitan* No 100 regarding the short-lived Jewish Labour Corps, of which records are very sparse. Later, amidst controversy, the 38th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers ('the Jewish Legion') was formed for service in Palestine. The author fully

describes the Middle Eastern campaign in which this element of the London Regiment was to serve. It was around this time that Allied leaders' support for a Jewish homeland began to be widely known, although another thirty years were to elapse before it was actually established as a sovereign state.

In view of the complexities which Jill Hamilton's exhaustive studies have unravelled, an index to this book would have been helpful. However there are seven substantial appendices and useful notes on the innumerable sources consulted.

Colin Hague

THE OAK TREE OF GALLIPOLI

MIKE IRWIN & ERIC PETER DUCKWORTH

Veecross publications 2003. 134 pages, numerous illustrations, maps. ISBN 0 9590345 2 8.
\$AUS50.00. For Great Britain £16.00 including Air Postage*

Reference has been made in earlier *Gallipolians* – see Nos 6, 56 and 80 – to Second Lieutenant Eric Duckworth 1/6th Lancashire Fusiliers who, aged 19, was killed at Gallipoli on 7 August and is remembered by an oak tree in Redoubt Cemetery. One of his nephews is co-author of this excellent compilation of his uncles numerous letters home. Outstanding letters, some from before the war, but the main collection commences with his arrival at Turton when mobilised in late August 1914. As such we see the journey to Gallipoli where he landed on 5 May and the subsequent weeks through a young subalterns eyes. One of his men, Private Taylor Heywood, writing to Eric Duckworth's parents said "I remember, Eric as a chum as well as a platoon officer. To all of us he was more of a pal than a boss, and we loved him as men have never loved a man before. He was, I measure my words carefully, the bravest and smartest subaltern the 6th Battalion had. He never shirked his duty and his contempt for danger was amazing to those who were facing dangers every minute. You may wish to know his last words to his men. They were "Well lads we are not going on church parade today!"

*From Mike Irwin, PO Box 8050, Northland Vic 3072, Australia Veecross@myaccess.com.au

AN ANZAC'S STORY

RON KYLE

Penguin Books Australia 2003. Paperback 306 pages, 15 illustrations. ISBN 0 14 300187 6.

Ron Kyle, who died in 1996 one month short of his 99th birthday (in Obituary *The Gallipolian* No 84) commenced writing his memoirs barely a decade before. He grew up in Gooramadda, a river crossing between Victoria and New South Wales and the highest point on the Murray river reached by paddle steamer. Working as a bank clerk he enlisted, aged 17, in June 1915 and a month later was bound for Egypt from where he sailed in late August for Gallipoli. He was to remain on the Peninsula until the December evacuation, later served on the Western Front where he lost a brother and a brother-in-law. Ron Kyle was one of the veterans who returned to Gallipoli in 1990 to

attend the 75th anniversary of the campaign. When asked by a Turk "Why did you try to invade our country" he answered "We were part of the British Empire" to which the Turk replied "We had an Empire once."

CAPTAIN STANILAND'S JOURNEY

MARTIN MIDDLEBROOK

Leo Cooper 2003. Paperback 143 pages, numerous illustrations, maps.
ISBN 0 85052 996 4. £12.95.

Not Gallipoli, but the fascinating story of two brothers, Meaburn Staniland and Geoffrey Staniland of the 1/4th Lincolns both killed in 1915. Research for the book by a well known member of the Gallipoli Association being prompted by a house name in Boston, Lincolnshire – Lindenhoek. A simple enquiry as to why eventually resulted in a major study of a whole Territorial Division.

THE COLLECTOR AND RESEARCHERS GUIDE TO THE GREAT WAR

HOWARD WILLIAMSON

Anne Williamson 2003. 822 pages, numerous illustrations. ISBN 0 9527544 1 X. £39.00*

A massive volume, one of two, the second which is half the number of pages is a guide to arms, munitions and militaria. Volume one sweeps in just about everything you need to know about Great War medals and one notes with pleasure that one of our members, David Empson clearly played a major part in the compilation. So massive is the coverage that one feels, at least to begin with a little overwhelmed. No one interested in the military, naval and air history of the First World War should be without a copy. The claim that it is a whole library in one volume is truly justified. A book that every time one turns the pages new facts and sources of information are revealed. Just one snippet that caught this reviewer's eye, did you know that UB50 which sank the battleship *Britannia* off Cape Trafalgar in days before the Armistice in November 1918 was escaping from the Dardanelles?

Available from Howard Williamson, 5 Hankin Avenue, Harwich, Essex, CO12 5HE.
01255 241791 at £39.00 plus £5.00 postage in Great Britain. Overseas please enquire as to postage

DEATH OF SALIM MUTLU

GAVIN PINAR

I regret to inform you about the passing away of Mr Salim Mutlu, the founder and owner of the popular private museum in the village Alcitepe. He was a prominent personality of Gallipoli in the last four decades, and was well known by anybody who had visited his museum during their Helles tour.

While other villagers on the peninsula sold battlefield items they found, Mr Mutlu had devoted all his life to collect, sometimes to buy from others all war remnants scattered on the Gallipoli battlefields, save them, and then display in his shanty village dwelling. Almost all of the objects in Kabatepe Museum were bought from Mr Mutlu by the Turkish authorities, sometime in the 1980's, when they finally thought of establishing an official museum on the peninsula. I believe this information will interest the readers of *The Gallipolian* who have met Mr Mutlu in his turned-to-museum village house during their Gallipoli visit.

DAVID HARVEY

As this edition of *The Gallipolian* was about to go to press, the death was reported of our member David Harvey, author of the outstanding two volume work on the Victoria Cross – *Monuments to Courage* published in 1999. A full Obituary will be published in the next *Gallipolian*.

SIMPSON & SLOUCH HAT BADGES

The Gallipoli Association holds a small stock of these most attractive badges produced by the ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee of Queensland. The Simpson Badge is an oval design (three-quarters on an inch) showing Simpson in classic pose with his donkey, while the Slouch Hat measuring about an inch across is exactly that. Each badge costs £2.50 plus an s&e, orders please to The Treasurer, Nowhelan, The Common, Womersley, Guildford, GU5 0PH.

FIRST WORLD WAR RECORDS ON LINE

Members may be interested in this new PRO web-site at:

www.documentsonline.pro.gov.uk/whats-new.asp

The information read thus :- We have just launched our new project to digitise the index cards to the Medal Rolls. The cards contain the medal entitlement for individuals who fought in the First World War. As almost every officer and soldier, man and woman who saw active service overseas received a campaign medal, it essentially forms the most complete "roll-call" of those who fought.

* Search the medals by Name, Corps, Rank or Regimental Number. Surnames starting with A to C are available now.

* Learn more about the Medal Rolls, including: the information you can find out from the medal card, what the qualifications were for campaign medals, along with images of the medals.

The project – covering more than 5.5 million cards will be released in alphabetical batches according to the surname of the individuals. You might find it useful to bookmark this page to ensure you receive the most up-to-date information.

Letter Available From

A – E Now available; F – J May 2004; K – O July 2004;

P – S September 2004; T – Z November 2004.

Cards for women, and those individuals who were Mentioned in Despatches will be available in November 2004. It will cost you £3.00 to access each index card.

Bob Pike

RICHER DUST A STORY OF GALLIPOLI AND A REQUEST

The title of a work by Stanton Hope concerning two fictional battalions of the Royal Naval Division – the Verons and the Rodneys – at Gallipoli where the author himself served. First published by Jarrold's and out of print for many years it is now available, price £11.50 plus post from Naval & Military Press, Unit 10, Ridgewood Industrial Park, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 5QE. 01825 749494.

Bob Pike is compiling a bibliography of Gallipoli fiction, to be published in *The Gallipolitan* and would be pleased to receive information concerning titles known to members. His address 66 Victoria Avenue, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3AE.

29TH DIVISION MEMORIAL

Although we were well aware of the weather forecast it was felt that perhaps we would be lucky at the Memorial this year. Unfortunately it was not to be and in what has become fairly standard weather for this important occasion we felt the full force at exactly 1130 of driving rain in the high winds. However this did not really detract from a most successful event

Six wreaths were laid at the Memorial in the following order:

James Watson Smith	Gallipoli Association
Elizabeth Higgins	Western Front Association
David Harding	City Battalion Great War Living History Unit
Taff Gillingham	88 Field Ambulance (Ipswich)
Geoff Wells	Coventry Standard Bearers Association
David Ray	Rugby School

As in previous years David Ray welcomed those present and gave an address. Geoff Wells had mustered the Standard Bearers and a Bugler.

As a most welcome addition we were delighted that this year a contingent of the Great War Living History Unit were present. The grandfather of John Aston, one of their number was a regular with the 4th Worcesters, 29th Division who landed on 25 April and was wounded in the Second Battle of Krithia. Kevan Derby also present who frequently travels to the Peninsula had a grandfather who served with the 9th Royal Warwicks, 29th Division who landed with his battalion in June and was wounded on 10 August.

As ever we were pleased to see the Brown brothers and Bill Shields, former Mayor of Rugby whose father and uncle served at Gallipoli. Mr Lawrie Wright the present Mayor of Rugby also attended with other members of the Association and members of the local community.

Holding the event this year at 1130 rather than in mid-afternoon was considered an advantage for a number of reasons, but particularly as it enabled those present to meet afterwards in the Three Horseshoes in Princethorpe just a couple of miles away for drinks and a chat.

It is hoped that next year being the 90th Anniversary we can expect an even larger attendance and that is even possible the sun will shine and the wind will drop.



David Ray and Mr Lawrie Wright, Mayor of Rugby, having sought shelter from the weather following the wreath-laying. Photograph Phil Mills.



OBJECTIVES

*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.*

The Gallipoli Campaign is characterised by countless deeds of heroism and endurance. It took place in an area smaller than Southampton amid appalling conditions, such as heat, flies, lack of water, equipment and proper sanitation. Later on, rain and a freak spell of sub-zero temperatures had to be endured, to say nothing of the desperate close quarter fighting throughout the campaign. Some 559,000 Allied personnel were committed, of whom 420,000 were British and Empire troops, 80,000 French, 50,000 Australians and 9,000 New Zealanders. The cost in human terms was terrible. The Allies had 250,000 casualties, of whom 50,000 were killed with only 10,000 having known graves. Turkish forces with some Germans, numbered between 300,000 and 400,000 and of these some 87,000 were killed. The evacuation in December and early January 1916 was a masterly operation - one of the great feats of military history.