

The Gallipolian

***The Journal of the
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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GALLIPOLI DAY CEREMONIES FRIDAY 25 APRIL

(See also www.gallipoli-association.org)

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 Britannic Majesty’s 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.

Security measures in and around Westminster are most stringent and only members and guests with named tickets (please complete enclosed booking form) will be allowed access to the west side of Whitehall. Early arrival is strongly advised. Access is by Clive Steps which front on to Horse Guards Road at the Cabinet War Rooms and which lead into King Charles Street and thus Whitehall just to the south of the Cenotaph. We will assemble close to the exit from King Charles Street by 1025. Members are encouraged to join with us to march to the Cenotaph and should please make a point of finding and linking up with the member of the Association appointed as our Marshall for the day who will give the necessary instructions.

THE ABBEY

As in previous years, we have been invited to join the Anzacs at Westminster Abbey. See enclosed booking form. Tickets will be handed out by our 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 normally in the North or the South Transept.

GALLIPOLI DAY LUNCH

The always popular Gallipoli Day Lunch will be held, as before, in an upstairs room at The Albert, Victoria Street, SW1, commencing at 1315 for 1345. The Albert is situated on the north side of Victoria Street at the junction with Buckingham Gate and is approximately 500 yards from Westminster Abbey. A separate booking form with cost is included with this copy of *The Gallipolian*. Please book early to ensure a place.

MAJOR GENERAL'S REVIEW

Members will have the opportunity to apply through the Association for tickets for the parade on Horse Guards Parade on Saturday 31st May. See Booking Form enclosed with this *Gallipolian* for details.

COLLINGWOOD MEMORIAL

The Service at the Collingwood Memorial on the Downs east of Pimperne, Dorset, will take place on Friday 6 June at 1500. The Chairman of the North Dorset District Council and the Blandford Garrison Commander have kindly invited attendees to tea in the Headquarters Mess Royal Signals, after the Service. Those wishing to attend should notify, including car registration, Roy Adam MBE, Camveere House, Portman Road, Pimperne, Blandford, Dorset, DT11 8UJ. Tel: 01258 453797. It is the popular and much appreciated tradition that those attending should, if possible, meet from noon onwards at the Anvil Hotel, Pimperne for introductions and lunch as required.

EAST ANGLIAN REGIONAL LUNCH

The second East Anglian regional lunch(see *Gallipolian* No 114 pages 35 & 37 for a report and picture of the first lunch) will take place on Friday 27 June in the historic Guildhall, King's Lynn. Please see enclosed information flyer with booking form.

SANDRINGHAM

A Memorial Service will be held in St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, West Newton at 1430 on Sunday 14 September. Standard bearers will attend from various local ex-service organisations, on behalf of which wreaths will also be laid. Afterwards, tea and Anzac biscuits will be served in the Village Hall. Further information from John Crowe, who will be pleased to hear from anyone intending to be there so that appropriate seating may be arranged. Last year 180 people attended in this small church which normally holds a maximum of 150. Tel: 0208 697 2787, mob: 07956 188826 email: johncrowe@uwclub.net

OTHER CEREMONIES & EVENTS

See the separate programme enclosed with the *Gallipolian* for details of Gallipoli Day, other ceremonies including the Collingwood Memorial, Combined Irish Regiments, Hawick Callants and Sandringham 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.

AUTUMN LUNCH

The Annual General Meeting and Autumn Lunch will take place in the Naval Club on Wednesday 15 October. More information in the next *Gallipolian*. Meanwhile please make a note in your diary.

29 DIVISION MEMORIAL 9 MARCH 2008

The ceremony will take place at 1130 for 1200 on Sunday 9 March when a wreath will be on behalf of the Gallipoli Association. Wreaths will also be laid on behalf of other organisations and of individuals who served with the 29th Division. See *The Gallipolian* 114: pages 11-12 and 29 for a report and photographs from 2007.

The memorial is situated in the centre of a roundabout on the A45 about 5 miles east of Coventry, grid reference SP415733. Members and friends might like to gather afterwards at a nearby hostelry for lunch or other appropriate refreshments. Please contact the Secretary, James Watson-Smith, address inside front cover, for information.

ANZAC WEEKEND AT THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

Tickets are available for the Imperial War Museum Anzac weekend – 26/27 April at at £15 per day, Friends of the Imperial War Museum and concessions £7.50 per day or a special two day price of £25, FIWM and concessions £15.00. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 020 7416 5439.

The weekend will commence on the 26th at 1015 with the first speaker (at 1030) the Australian War Memorial and military memory followed by Stephen Gapps (ANU) Diggers, Larrikins and Historical Re-enactment in Australia. At noon during the discussion Toby Haggith (IWM) will also offer some points of comparison with the British scene regarding battle dioramas and historical re-enactment

Speakers during the afternoon include Sarah Davy who will discuss Military Iconography in New Zealand Decorative and Graphic Arts since the First World War.

The following day will commence at 1015 with Frank Bongiorno (Menzies Centre) An historical overview of the involvement of Aboriginal Australians in the armed forces. Then comes Ian Henderson (Menzies Centre): Literary Accounts of the Aboriginal Digger, the case of The Ridge and the River by T.A.G. Hungerford. Followed by Anne M. Brennan (ANU School of Art): Protecting Country: The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander War Memorial and the politics of war commemoration in Australia and finally Peter Hart (IWM) will be offering a realistic perspective on the Gallipoli campaign, with his paper entitled 'Helles: The Real Fight for Gallipoli' and Sarah Paterson (IWM) will discuss Nursing and the Gallipoli Campaign.

The programme is subject to change while at the time of going to press in early February details of the full Sunday afternoon session had not been finalised. Details of the finalised programme can be found on the Imperial War Museum website www.iwm.org.uk.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2008

Members are reminded that subscriptions became due on 1 January, the Membership Officer will be delighted to hear from you (address inside the front cover), the current rates are:

Member £15.00; Couple £20.00
Overseas Member £20.00; Overseas Couple £25.00

ANZAC DAY AT CAMP BAKER

STEPHEN RAYSON TD

It will come as no surprise that each April I remember the death in action of an ancestor, specifically Private William Lawrence, 2nd Bn South Wales Borderers, killed on 28 April 1915. It may be of interest for members of the Gallipoli Association to learn that, even on deployed operations, serving forces of the Commonwealth still take time to remember their fallen predecessors of 1915.

ANZAC day 2007 found me serving as a staff officer with the British Forces on Operation HERRICK, in Southern Afghanistan. A representative party from HQ UK National Support Command were invited to join our Australian comrades for a dawn service in Camp Baker, Kandahar. As may be seen from the photographs (see page 00) a substantial effort had been made in preparing the catafalque, and the maintenance of a lawn in the middle of the Afghan desert is a notable achievement in its own right!

There was an impressive printed Order of Service and standing there alongside representatives of a number of allied nations, most significantly in this context, Australia and New Zealand, I was particularly taken by the prayer read by Corporal Gordon, and enjoyed also the poem "Our Australian Flag" (see opposite).

The formal ceremony was conducted with great dignity and respect, followed by an informal breakfast of hot egg and bacon banjos (sandwiches), and playing the classic ANZAC game of "Two Up". In effect it's a glorified game of heads & tails, but enjoyed with great gusto by all the players.

It was a true privilege to be invited to share in this service, both as an act of remembrance for the fallen, and through the social aspect that followed, to enjoy a brief interlude in the continuing operations.

GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION WEB SITE

Member Andy Crooks was appointed as the Association's webmaster in February, and will be getting to grips with the task in the next few months. Andy has had a lifelong interest in Gallipoli, has visited the Peninsula and is currently researching two distant relatives who fell at Helles. He comes to the role of webmaster with a background in charity communications and IT. Do please look at the website for developments and additions, although he warns that these will not all happen overnight! Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please feel free at any time to contact Andy Crooks at webmaster@gallipoli-association.org

OUR AUSTRALIAN FLAG

W02 PAUL WILLIAMS

Our flag bears the stars that blaze at night
in our southern skies of blue,
and that little old flag in the corner
that's part of our heritage too.

It's for the English, the Scots and the Irish
who were sent to the ends of the earth,
the rogues and the schemers,
the doers and the dreamers
who gave modern Australia birth.

And you who are seeking to change it
you don't seem to understand,
it's the flag of our law and our language
not the flag of a faraway land.

There are plenty of people who'll tell you
that when Europe was plunged into night
that little old flag in the corner
was the symbol of freedom and light.

It doesn't mean we owe allegiance
to a forgotten imperial dream
we've the stars to show where we're going
and the old flag to show where we've been

CHANGE OF EDITOR

After twenty-one years as Editor of *The Gallipolian* David Saunders has decided to retire. Twenty-one years during which the Association and the journal, published three times a year have steadfastly grown. The new Editor (more information in the Autumn *Gallipolian*) will be Foster Summerson, a member of the Association since 1992, who will take over the reins once all the matters in connection with the present issue have been concluded. His address: 18 Ranulph Way, Hatfield Peverel, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 2RN. Tel: 01245 381314. E mail foster@summerson.fsbusiness.co.uk.

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Please note that John Crowe (address inside front cover) has taken over as Membership Officer from Bill Marsh the Hon Treasurer. Subscriptions for 2008 should now be sent to him – he will be very pleased to hear from you.

TELEGRAPH OFFICE CASUALTIES

PATRICK GARIEPY

In *The Gallipolian* No 115 Winter 2007 pages 58-59 were devoted to photographs of a telegraph office demolished by a Turkish shell and a cross marking the grave of those who died. Although, even on the original photograph the inscription on the cross is not very legible I can provide some information about the incident and of the casualties.

On August 1, 1915, 2nd Lieutenant F.H. Woodrow of the G.H.Q. Signalling Company filed the following report with Lieutenant E. McLaren:

“I regret to report that the Signal Office was wrecked this morning at 12.30 pm by a shell killing 5 and wounding 4 of our men. There were also several men (unknown) sheltering in Office Doorway who were killed or wounded (1 killed & 5 wounded so far as is known).

The following is a list of our casualties:-

Lt. Ward. wounded.
 2nd. Cpl. Taylor. N. Wireless, wounded.
 2nd. Cpl. Elliott. G.H.Q. killed.
 Sapr. Williamson. N. wireless. wounded.
 Sapr. Ward, N 14 (wounded (slightly) not retained in hospital).
 Sapr. Bull G.H.Q. killed.
 Pte. Merrell. A.S.C. S.Wireless, wounded
 Pte. Cook. A.E. R.E. (Re-inforcements) killed.
 Pte. Wheatley. A.S.C. killed.
 Sapr. Medford. N15. killed.

I had recently left Signal Office and at the moment was outside my dugout and seeing that the Office had been struck I immediately returned. Although only a few seconds had elapsed I found that Cpl. Walker had already commenced removing wounded etc. and everything possible was being done for their comfort. Men were at once despatched to R.A.M.C. for stretchers and the office was cleared quickly. Finding AC was in circuit I informed them what had occurred and asked them to inform, G.H.Q. as it was imperative that the undamaged instruments should be removed immediately, I issued instructions to run a lead from Terminal Pole to the Q.M.S. Office, fix up instrument and inform each office in turn what had happened. As each Office came in circuit a new lead was run and instruments fixed up as expeditiously as circumstances admitted.

2 Baseboards damaged but repairs put in hand immediately. Woodwork of Telephone Switchboard damaged but impossible to say what internal damage has occurred until removed. Test Board practically OK, and will be removed with S. Board when roof shored up.

The Camp Commandant made early enquiry as to what he could do and asked me to report to him immediately work was properly in hand. This I did and he has now obtained permission for us to use HCO Dining Hall which is very substantially built on the side of cliff.

In conclusion I have to report that practically the whole of our men off duty under Sergt. Wright came to Signal Office immediately after the explosion and rendered valuable assistance, Perfect order was maintained throughout, Corpl. Walker acted throughout with splendid presence of mind under such terrible circumstances."

On the same date Private Robert Edward Atkinson of the 29th Divisional Cyclist Company, Army Cyclist Corps, noted in his diary:

"Asiatic shell in Telegraph Office on W beach, 6 killed 5 wounded."

In Lieutenant Colonel A.H. Tubby's memoir *A Consulting Surgeon in the Near East* (page 34), the author describes the shelling at "W" Beach:

"On another occasion, one [shell] fell into a signal station on W Beach, killed six officers and men, and severely wounded thirteen. It completely disorganized the working of the signals; yet, in thirty nine minutes, our people had them going again. On this evening, we were operating till midnight on the wounded [at the 89th Field Ambulance at "W" Beach] from the effects of this single shell."

On 31 July, 1915 (sic), Captain John Gillam, Army Service Corps, Supply Officer of the 88th Brigade, noted in his diary:

"Later in the morning we got a few high explosive shells from Achi. One pitched clean on the roof of our signal officers, which is a timbered erection, sand-bagged, and proof against splinter only. There the clerks work, tap-tap-tap and buz-buz-buz to and from all over the Peninsula, messages being sent and received every minute, almost all the day and night, like a central telegraph office in London. Down came the shrieking thing: a deafening report; splinters of timber, torn sand-bags, dust, stones, and smoke fly into the air, and then silence. A pause, and men rush, not away, but to the ruined office. Nine men and one Signal Officer have been killed outright. Several wounded are carried up the cliff to the hospital [No.11 Casualty Clearing Station]."

Those Killed

Ward, Lieutenant William Arthur Bayford Kirwan. General Headquarters Signalling Company, Royal Engineers. Born June 14, 1888, in Rayleigh, Essex, the only child of the Rev. William Hallowes Kirwan and Elizabeth Ethel (nee Bayford) Ward of Asthal Vicarage, Burford, Oxfordshire. He was educated at Dover College and King's School in Birmingham, and was unmarried. In civil life he was employed as an electrical engineer. On June 1, 1914, he was gazetted 2nd lieutenant in the R.E. (T.F.) and in December 1914 he transferred to the Regular Army. He served served with the British Expeditionary Force in France in 1914. Mentioned in Despatches.

Lieutenant Ward was mortally wounded in the forehead by shrapnel on 1 August 1915, and died the following day (August 2) on H.M. Hospital Ship *Assaye*, aged 27 years. He was buried at sea. Name commemorated on the Helles Memorial and on a marble plaque in St. Nicholas' Church, Astall, Oxfordshire.

Lieutenant Ward's will was probated to his father in London on 20 October 1915. His estate was valued at £3195 17s 10d.

BULL, Sapper Stephen No.72405 General Headquarters Signal Company

Sapper Bull enlisted in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire though is not commemorated on the Biggleswade War Memorial.) Killed in action at "W" Beach, Helles, on 1 August 1, 1915. Buried in row E, grave 70 Lancashire Landing Cemetery.

COOK, Sapper Albert Edward No.34016 "M" Lines of Communication Signal Company. Sapper Cook was born in 1898 in Horncastle, Lincolnshire. After the outbreak of war he enlisted Lincoln. Killed in action at "W" Beach, Helles, on 1 August 1915, aged 17 years. Buried in row E, grave 76 in Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Helles. Name commemorated on the Horncastle War Memorial; the roll of honour in St. Nicholas Church, Lincoln; the Lincoln War Memorial, Lincolnshire; and the roll of honour in St. Mary's Church, Horncastle.

ELLIOTT, 2nd Corporal Nelson William No.72117 General Headquarters Signal Company. Born in 1896 (June quarter) in Millwall, Middlesex, a son of Richard James Elliott, general labourer, and Elizabeth (née Buckell) Elliott of 95a, Crown Road, Twickenham, Middx. In 1901 his family was living in Chad St. Mary, Essex. He enlisted in Leeds, Yorkshire. Killed in action at "W" Beach, Helles, on 1 August 1915, aged 19 years. Buried in row E, grave 71 in Lancashire Landing Cemetery.

MEDFORD, Sapper Gilbert John No.72623 15th Motor Air Line Section Sapper Medford was born in 1882 (September quarter) in Cardiff, Glamorganshire. In civil life he was a telephone wireman, and in 1901 was living in Manchester, Lancashire. After the outbreak of war he enlisted in Leeds, Yorkshire. Killed in action at "W" Beach, Helles, on 1 August 1. Buried in row E, grave 72 in Lancashire Landing Cemetery.

WHEATLEY, Private James No.M2/073225 Army Service Corps attached G.H.Q. Signals Company. Private Wheatley enlisted in London. Killed in action at "W" Beach, Helles, on 1 August 1. Buried in row E, grave 73 in Lancashire Landing Cemetery.

I have lots of gaps in my knowledge about most of these guys. Maybe somebody will respond with more details that might help me carry on the search? Very common names for most of them.

A CONNECTION WITH FIELD MARSHAL LORD MONTGOMERY

An Obituary of Colonel Richard Oswald Hobart Carver OBE of Milford-on-Sea Hampshire, who died on 24 July 2007, revealed a Gallipoli connection and also one with Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery.

The Colonel's father, an Olympic rower in the 1908 London games, was Captain Oswald Armitage Carver, 1/2nd (E Lincs) Royal Engineers who died of wounds 7 June 1915 and lies in Lancashire Landing Cemetery.

At the time of his death his son Richard was aged just one, his brother John just three. In 1926 while holidaying at Lenk, Switzerland with their mother Betty, daughter of Robert Hobart a distinguished Indian Civil Servant who had died in 1910, they were introduced to then Lieutenant-Colonel Montgomery. The following year they returned to Lenk and met Montgomery, and on this occasion Betty Carver became engaged to the future Field-Marshal. They were married in Chiswick parish church in July 1927.

After some ten years the marriage ended tragically. During a holiday at Burnham-on-Sea with her nine year old son David, Betty was bitten on the foot by an insect, by the evening her leg was so swollen she was admitted to hospital. The infection spread, the pain increased, her leg was amputated but to no avail, after some six weeks she died.

Her younger son Richard served on his step-father's staff in North Africa, Montgomery writing "I am devoted to him and very glad to have him here. Unfortunately he was captured in November when moving forward with the intention of establishing a new headquarters in an area incorrectly reported clear of Germans. As Montgomery in his Memoirs noted but for bumping into some of the enemy rearguard he too would have taken the same road as his step-son and "if so, I'm pretty clear that I wouldn't be writing this book today."

Acknowledgement: We are most grateful to P A Courtney for noting the Gallipoli connection and providing the very full Obituary of Colonel Carver OBE.

MY FASCINATION WITH GALLIPOLI ADDRESS AT AUTUMN LUNCH 2007

GENERAL THE LORD RAMSBOTHAM GCB CBE

My fascination with Gallipoli began in 1943, when I was sent to Hillbrow, the same preparatory school as Rupert Brooke, whose photograph was on the wall of my first class room. During my first holidays from there I found John Masfield's book *Gallipoli* on my father's bookshelves, where he had had it since it was written in 1916. It has been on mine ever since, not least because it contains, in one sentence – "everywhere in those positions there was gaiety and courage and devoted brotherhood" – the best description of what the regimental system is all about that I have ever read.

Soon afterwards I was introduced to the paragraph from the Official History, which I use to introduce lecture tours of the Peninsula that I conduct from time to time:

"The drama of the Dardanelles campaign, by reason of the beauty of its setting, the grandeur of its theme and the unhappiness of its ending, will always rank among the world's classic tragedies. The story is a record of lost opportunities and eventual failure; yet it is a story which men of British race may ponder if not without pain yet certainly not without pride; for amidst circumstances of unsurpassed difficulty and strain, the bravery, fortitude and stoical endurance of the invading troops, upheld most worthily the high traditions of the fighting services of the Crown".

I read everything that I could about the campaign, and came to my interview for selection for my regiment, the Rifle Brigade, with interest. My interviewer, the Colonel of the Regiment, was General Sir Montague Stopford, son of the initial commander at Suvla, who, thankfully for me, appeared to be more decisive than his father in coming to his decision.

While at the Staff College, where we had to present a military history event to our fellow students, naturally I chose Gallipoli. We played out the final scene on a cloud in heaven/hell, where, as the correspondent Ashmead-Bartlett, I conducted a discussion between role playing protagonists, the students playing Hunter-Weston and Stopford nearly coming to blows with those playing von Sanders and Ataturk, when accused of incompetence.

But it was not until 1989 that I was, at last, able to visit the Peninsula, after visiting a NATO exercise in Thrace. The Turkish Commander Land Forces, knowing of my interest, kindly arranged for me to be taken round by a young Turkish Army historian, asking me to lay a wreath both at Helles and the Turkish memorial, for which ceremonies I took a Royal Green Jackets bugler. The RAF, who helicoptered me there

from Istanbul, produced, as co-pilot, a young Australian exchange officer, who told me that his grandfather had been killed at Courtney's Post, but that none of his family had ever visited his grave. When we landed at the Gaba Tepe Museum, I found that the young Turkish officer's grandfather had also been killed at Gallipoli, just below Baby 700. So I said that, come what may, we must visit both scenes, which we did. Having done that, we lunched in the garden of the CWGC compound, where I learned much more about its wonderful work. But I shall never forget the two ceremonies at the end of the day, with a Turkish guard of honour, a Turkish army band and the haunting sound of a regimental silver bugle. They were moving beyond words.

Now, when I take tours, experience has shown me that you will rush things unless you can spend two and a half days on the battlefield. On the first day, after driving down from Istanbul, and lunching in Gallipoli itself, we visit Ataturk's headquarters and then drive over the ridge so that we can look down on Suvla Bay from Scimitar Hill. In small vehicles I like to drive down to Hill 10 and Suvla Point. But I always go to Hill 60, to show one of the three New Zealand memorials, and discuss the close nature of the fighting. I then point out the astonishing nature of the ground of the Sari Bair feature, which they will not see again, but which, unless seen from ground level from the north, does not seem to me to be understandable. We then drive down to Anzac, to experience the tenuous link up, and so to Eceabat and the ferry to Cannakale.

The second day is devoted to Helles, beginning with Kilitbahir Fort, with its new museum, and then stopping above the lighthouse so that we can look over the scene of the naval action on 18 March. We drive across the Peninsula, through Alcitepe, to Gully Beach, to which I make people walk. I tell the story of Y Beach and Gully Ravine, and the final evacuation, looking at the remains of the lighter still in the water. Past X Beach and Lancashire Landing, I again make people walk down to W Beach because, again, I feel that without seeing the ground, you cannot understand how vital the left flank was to escaping from the beach itself. And then to Helles itself, after which we walk to Etrugul and on down to V Beach, where we lunch in the cafe.

After lunch we drive to Doughty-Wylie's grave and then, past S Beach to the French Cemetery. I make no apologies for including cemeteries, because I think that how a nation looks after its war dead, tells you something about it. Contrast the "I will make you a name" of the CWGC, with every headstone the same regardless of rank, and the separation of the French by rank. Then to the Turkish Martyr's memorial, which has so many international aspects such as trees, and where I mention the magnanimity that seems to me to be the key word of their approach to friend and foe alike. We then drive through the Vineyard and take the new road up to the summit of Achi Baba, from which we look south, and north west, before returning to the ferry.

The first stop on the third morning is the Gaba Tepe museum, followed by a walk from Beach to Ari Burnu cemeteries to see the length of Anzac Beach. Then up the hill to Lone Pine, where we are met by the CWGC gardener, who talks to us as we eat our

sandwiches. I find that this is a much appreciated part of the tour, because so many people have relatives buried or remembered there, and hearing how they are cared for, so devotedly and with such skill, makes a deep impression. I then walk people to Johnston's Jolly, to see the trenches on either side of the road, and then bus on to the Nek. From here we walk to Walker's Ridge, looking down, as we go, on Suvla, and then on Anzac and the ground to its north, from which the two attacking columns set out. Pausing at the 57th Regiment memorial we come finally to Chunuk Bair, where we discuss the final assault. I find that, by this time, although we finish a little earlier than on the other days, people are emotionally tired, and do not object to catching an earlier ferry.

On the way back I return to the theme of magnanimity, because, during the day, people have seen the remarkable words of Ataturk, on the large plaque at Anzac, the statue of the Turkish soldier carrying in a wounded Australian, and the joint grave of the Turkish and Australian officers who killed each other. I cannot help contrasting it with the lack of magnanimity about the Argentinian cemetery in the Falklands, deliberately sited in a hollow so that it cannot be seen from either Goose Green or Darwin.

I firmly believe that, whether it succeeded or not, it is the human story of Gallipoli that must be kept alive, which I know is one of the aims of the Association, because there can be few campaigns in history in which there are so many lessons for those who study it from the human point of view. These are more easily understood when related to the ground itself, because the interplay between it, men and weapons becomes much clearer. Question marks will always remain about the campaign, when merely looked at on the map or when considering the resources available. To me the ethos of Gallipoli is most accurately and movingly expressed in the words of the Turkish poet on a sign at the Martyr's Memorial:

"Do not ignore the ground on which you have walked,
It is not ordinary soil.
Reflect on the thousands of people who lie beneath
Without a shroud.
You are the son of a martyr -
Do not hurt your ancestor",

And then two lines that are, of course, particularly directed at Turks, but will be recognised by everyone who has been there:

"Do not give away this beautiful motherland,
Even if you have the whole world".

OBITUARY

Late in the autumn we heard of the death on 11 August, aged 98, of Vicky Banner, wife of our founder Major Edgar Banner who died in 1984. She had followed with pride the fortunes of the Gallipoli Association and wrote an article about the formation appropriately titled *In the Beginning* (see *The Gallipolitan* 87: 16 – 20).

She always steadfastly, but politely, refused to attend any of our functions. Save on one occasion when she appeared briefly, before members including several Veterans enjoyed the Autumn Lunch of 1994, in order to present a framed telegram sent by H M The Queen to the Association (see photograph page 30). She also gifted in 1998, though did not attend in person on that occasion, the fine painting of Edgar Banner in conversation with the then President of the Association Lieutenant-General Sir Reginald Savory KCMG, KCIE, DSO, MC (see *The Gallipolitan* 88: 10-11 and the photograph on page 30 of this *Gallipolitan*).

Note: We are grateful to our members Mr & Mrs D Nelson-Roberts who since 1975 have lived in a house which they purchased from Major and Mrs Banner for informing us of this news.

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 1,400 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.

Howe Battalion I had an uncle killed/missing in action during Third Battle of Krithia, 4 June 1915, whilst serving with the Howe Battalion, Royal Naval Division. How/where can I find information about this unit, from its formation till its service in Gallipoli? Frederick W. Heaney, 101, Appleby St. Cheshunt, Herts EN7 6QP.
E mail derek.heaney@ntlworld.com

HOLD ON AND DIE LIKE IRISHMEN

The Autumn 2007 journal of the Royal Munster Fusiliers Association contains an interesting article with four photographs regarding Captain Edward Crump Dorman 1st Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers. He was killed on 1 May while exhorting his men to “hold on and die like Irishmen.” With no known grave he is remembered on the Helles Memorial.

GALLIPOLI! – A GALLIPOLI POEM

ROBERT PIKE

The poem below written by Sydney Bolitho on 23 May 1915 was published in the *Inglewood Advertiser* 9 July 1915. Sydney Bolitho was born in Orange, New South Wales and enlisted at Bendigo, Victoria in the 6th Battalion AIF in which he served from 12 September 1914 until 5 November 1917. He took part in the landings on the 25 April and was on the Peninsula for about three months before being invalided off with knee and thigh wounds and shell shock. He died in Australia on 1 May 1919 of tuberculosis.

His poem didn't show a title – but it could well be called *Gallipoli!*

The new dawn breaks the eastern sky,
Night's shades depart from off the sea;
The Third Brigade with courage storm
The wooded heights of Gallipoli.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
Australians tread Gallipoli!

Serried ranks form on the beach,
Courage beams in every eye.
What care these Australian lads,
That giant death is very nigh.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
There's death upon Gallipoli.

One by one the brave lie low,
Machine guns, shrapnel, do their work,
Australian hearts that know no fear,
That never have been known to shirk.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
Their names carved on Gallipoli.

For days they hold with grim, set grip,
Their feet firm planted on thy shore;
Repelling each fierce night attack,
With cheerful hearts they seek for more.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
Their trenches line Gallipoli.

Thund'rous bursts from iron mouths,
Myriad messengers of death.
Warships ply their deadly fire,
Watching comrades hold their breath.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
There's hell upon Gallipoli!

Forward they press in endless stream,
Up the heights they shouting go.
Comrades fall, but on, still on,
They press the now retreating foe.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
There's fleeing Turks on Gallipoli.

Reduced, cut up, their numbers show,
The murderous fore that swept the field.
But, still victorious, there they stand,
Who never have been known to fear.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
Thick dead lie on Gallipoli.

And so for thirty days they fought,
For Britain's sake they gave their best.
With uncomplaining voice they stand,
And neither want nor ask for rest.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
They've conquered thee, Gallipoli.

The waves break on thy wave swept shore,
The breeze still blows across thy hills.
The cross that near and far abounds;
The mound that deepest grief instils.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
Their graves lie on Gallipoli.

That few that still remain, Gallipoli!
War-worn, but grim and eager yet
To hurl full vengeance on the foe,
Because they never can forget.

Brave hearts, that gave their all to show
Australia's worth in this great war.
The tear, the sigh for those that sleep,
E'en now beneath the cannon's roar.

I warn you now
When Australia's sons and
Turks shall meet,
The onslaught of our small brigades
Will sweep you right from off your feet
Upon the graves of those that sleep

Upon they wooded slope and vale.
Gallipoli! I warn you now
Australians will not, cannot fail.
Gallipoli! Gallipoli!
Thy end's in sight, Gallipoli!

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE *RIVER CLYDE*

Sotheby's Marine Paintings auction on 6 November included at Lot 76 a fine painting (see pages 32-33) by Charles Dixon (1872-1934) of the *River Clyde* ashore at V Beach during the first landings, a view from the opposite direction to the more familiar one which we use as the cover of *The Gallipolian*. The painting has the unfortunate caption, one assumes by the artist himself "Anzac" then to compound the error the auctioneers in their description say "This powerful work depicts the landing of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps on V Beach, Cape Helles on 25 April 1915."

Suffice to say the Association, on learning of the error, made strong representation to Sotheby's to make an appropriate correction. In the event, the painting with an estimate of £10-15,000 was sold after the sale to a private collector for £10,000.

Acknowledgement: We are grateful to Michael Grist, Marine Paintings at Sotheby's for kindly providing the image of the painting which we reproduce on pages 32-33.

GEORGE HOGG, ROYAL ENGINEERS A GALLIPOLI CASUALTY

DAVID M R WARNES

The Gallipolian No 96 Spring 2001 pages 38-39 contains a short article with photographs concerning my two uncles, George Hogg who served at Gallipoli and his older brother Robert who served on the Western Front. My uncle George is buried in Sleepyhillock Cemetery, Montrose, Scotland.

Aged 18 while serving with the Royal Engineers in Gallipoli he was buried alive at Suvla Bay during heavy Turkish shellfire. Later he contracted amoebic dysentery which subsequently caused physical destruction of part of his brain. On being discharged from the Army he returned briefly to Canada before coming back to study medicine at Aberdeen. Sadly his health deteriorated and as a result he was admitted in 1922 to the Sunnyside Psychiatric Hospital near Montrose where he was to spend the rest of his sixty years of life until his death in 1982 aged 85.

There is no date of death recorded on the tombstone (see photograph page 35), this being a deliberate omission prompted by words in the *Sonnet to My Friend – With an Identity Disc* by the poet Wilfred Owen killed in action shortly before the Armistice in November 1918.

“Now rather thank I God there is no risk
Of gravers scoring it with florid screed
Let my inscription be this soldier’s disc.
Wear it, sweet friend. Inscribe no date nor deed.

THE DARDANELLES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

During a debate on Iraq in the House of Commons on 11 June 2007 reference was made to the Dardanelles Commission by the Rt Hon William Hague, Shadow Foreign Secretary. An extract from Hansard is reproduced below.

Mr Hague: In a democratic society, the examination of successes and failures is a sign of strength, not of weakness. I have some experience of listening to soldiers serving in Iraq or who have recently returned from there, and they do an heroic job. They of all people are particularly anxious that the political decisions made in the aftermath of the Iraq invasion receive searching examination.

I would say to my Hon. Friend the Member for Grantham and Stamford (Mr. Davies), who intervened on me earlier, that in circumstances of war, indeed even of total war, our predecessors in this House have conducted the most vigorous debates about wartime debacles, whether in Norway in 1940 or in the Dardanelles in 1915. Indeed, in the latter case, they set up a major commission of inquiry while the first world war continued. They were even encouraged to do so by the Minister principally responsible, a certain Winston Churchill, who clearly had a stronger sense of the need for accountability and learning lessons than we sometimes see today.

Mr. Quentin Davies: The historical precedents that my right hon. Friend has just cited reinforce my position, rather than his. There was indeed an inquiry in 1915 into the Dardanelles, but only after the last British troops and sailors had left Suvla Bay. In 1940, we did indeed have a memorable debate in the House on Norway, but only after the last British troops and sailors had left Narvik. I am suggesting that we should hold an inquiry into Iraq only after our last troops have left the country.

Mr. Hague: I am suggesting that when a war has been going on for this length of time, it is entirely valid to conduct such an inquiry. If it was good enough for Winston Churchill, it should be good enough for my hon. Friend. It remains our view on these Benches that such an inquiry should begin at an early date. For one thing, some of the events to be examined took place as long ago as 2002, and we will soon find that memories will have faded, letters will have been shredded and e-mails will have become untraceable.

Secondly, we have to be absolutely clear about some of the errors that have been made so that they are not repeated, for instance in Afghanistan. Thirdly, everyone supporters of the war as well as its opponents must now recognise that the events of the last four years have damaged public trust and confidence in the political handling of such matters more than any events in our lifetime. A major inquiry and the debates that will necessarily flow from its findings are an essential precursor to rebuilding trust and confidence in the capacity of this or any Government to deal with situations in the middle east. Such rebuilding of public trust is a vital task, and should not be delayed.

In debates in the House of Lords, there has been a good deal of consensus, very much in line with what I propose. Former Foreign Secretaries such as my noble Friend Lord Hurd of Westwell and the noble Lord Owen have put the case for an inquiry to consider the workings of the machinery of government. Lord Owen said: There is now an overriding case to establish an inquiry very similar to the Dardanelles Commission. [Official Report, House of Lords, 29 June 2006; Vol. 683, c. 1350.]

HE WON THE BET

GEOFF HECKLES

I joined what turned out to be a very excellent September 2007 Association Tour of Gallipoli, prompted by the opportunity to visit my Grandfathers grave in the Lala Baba cemetery. On the day the tour went to Suvla, it was perfect weather with pristine beaches, so difficult to visualise the 1915 conditions. However the reason for this narrative is to relate the story of how he got there.

Lynn Heckles was killed in action on 2 September 1915, the day after the Scottish Horse landed at Suvla. Mild confusion exists re his age, believed born in 1869. At Lala Baba he is 47, on the family gravestone at Esh, Durham he is 46, regimental records have him as 30 in 1914 on enlisting, yet he served in the Boer war with the 2nd Scottish Horse as farrier corporal (No. 33415) from March 1901 to September 1902. He then returned to his trade of journeyman blacksmith building coke works while leaving his wife at home in Durham to run the Maltman Inn, being referred to as a licenced victualer on some documents. On re-enlisting in 1914 he gave his address as Middlesbrough as well as his Maltman Inn one, per the regimental register.

According to a comment made by my father many years ago, a very rare thing, grandfather and two pals who had served with the regiment in the Boer War were having a session in the Maltman one evening. As the evening wore on they got to bragging as to who was still good enough to be taken on again by their old regiment. So the next morning, presumably sober, they went to enlist – two were rejected and Grandfather accepted, where he was rated again as farrier corporal.

He won the bet, but does gambling pay?

ALL THESE FINE FELLOWS

The Winter 2007 *Gallipolian* (see pages 28-29) contained an article regarding the annual service in Hawick on 12 July remembering the men of the 1/4 (Borders) Regiment who took part in the action on 12 July 1915 when over 300 officers and men were killed and over 200 injured.

The book *All These Fine Fellows* by Derek Robertson which concerns Hawick and District in the First World War is still available from the author at Plot 2, Station Buildings, Langholm Street, Newcastleton, Scottish Borders, TD9 0RQ. The price £7.50 including post or £10.00 including post for overseas.

GENERAL HUNTER-WESTON'S 'APPRECIATION' OF THE DARDANELLES EXPEDITION

ELIZABETH BALMER

Note: This article was first published in *Stand To!* No.79 April 2007 and we are most grateful to the author for enabling us to reprint it here.

I think it is fair to say that the reputation of Lieutenant-General Sir Aylmer Hunter-Weston does not stand high. He might well be thought to typify the general public's collective idea of a First World War 'donkey', veering from buffoon to butcher. He is remembered mainly for his remark, 'Casualties? What do I care for casualties?' quoted by Compton Mackenzie, but Mackenzie's rider to this remark is not remembered. He continues that it was because the general never hesitated to talk in this 'ruthless strain' that he achieved the reputation of butcher on Gallipoli. He goes on say 'Actually no man I have ever met brimmed over more richly with human sympathy, He was a logician of war...and believed that...provided the objective was gained, casualties were of no importance.' (1) While this attitude may offend modern sensibilities, it was the unquestioned and unsentimental approach at the time, and it is this aspect of the General as logician that I feel needs remembering. It is typified by his 'Appreciation of the Situation in the Dardanelles' written according to information received up to the 25 March, 1915, when he left Malta, which proved to be both realistic and accurate.

Hunter-Weston's career began with a commission into the Royal Engineers in 1884; he was always a practical man, and was interested in technical innovations. (2) He saw service both on the North-West Frontier and in Egypt, and was mentioned in dispatches in both campaigns. From here he was nominated for Staff College in 1898, but really made his name during the Second South African War, displaying dash and bravery during engagements at Colesberg, Bloemfontaine and Kroonstad which won him the DSO and promotion to brevet Lieutenant-Colonel in 1900. From 1902 until 1914 he held various General Staff positions and also became Assistant-Director of Military Training at the War Office. Recognising the importance of this work for which he had a passion, he developed his catchphrase 'Teach the trainers how to teach before they try to teach the Tommies.'

The outbreak of war in 1914 saw him as Brigadier-General in command of the 11th infantry brigade, and in action in France from the beginning. He enhanced his reputation during action at Le Cateau, and particularly on the Aisne at Venizel where his brigade was the first to cross the bridge on which four large charges had been laid by the Germans. One had failed to explode, leaving a precarious crossing with a considerable risk of the bridge collapsing. Hunter-Weston, following a personal inspection, decided that an attempt to seize the heights on the other side was worth the

risk, and ordered the men to cross in single file. The ammunition was unloaded from carts and passed from hand to hand. All crossed safely and the heights were taken by a bayonet charge, following which Hunter-Weston was rewarded with promotion to Major-General and two mentions in dispatches.

Had the Dardanelles Expedition not taken place, he was to have been appointed Inspector of the New Armies under Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Murray, although when the Dardanelles Expedition was being planned, he had in fact been mentioned by Churchill in a letter to Kitchener on 20 February as a possible commander of 'whatever troops, including the Naval Division, may arrive.' (3) However, on the same day in a telegram to Lieutenant-General Sir John Maxwell (GOC Egypt), Kitchener states that Lieutenant-General Birdwood was to command the ANZACs. Clearly Hunter-Weston, as a junior Major-General, could not have taken precedence over Birdwood, nor was it within Churchill's remit to pick a military commander. His part in the expedition was decided when, on 11 March, he was given command of the 29th Division, and five days later set sail from Avonmouth for Gallipoli.

His first recorded thoughts on the proposed Dardanelles campaign appear in a letter to his wife, Grace, written in Malta on 24th March, 1915, en route for Alexandria. Here he says:

'I don't want you to say so to anyone, but I should not be surprised if we came home again. As you know, I have always thought that if the Turks are capably directed and have the necessary material of war, they should be able to prevent our ships getting through the Straits, and they should also prevent our landing troops on the Peninsular [sic], for they have had ample warning and have lots of men... It is, as I have said to you always a big gamble, and if there is any chance of pulling off the big stakes it is well worth trying. If I don't see a good chance, I shall counsel caution. If I see a good chance, I shall try and work it out carefully and push it through with determination and vigour. But the decision does not lie with me.' (4)

The crux lies, I think in the last two sentences. In fact, according to his opinion stated in the Conclusion to his Appreciation, he certainly did not think the Gallipoli Expedition could have a successful outcome: ... 'if the views expressed in this paper be sound there is not at this period a reasonable chance of success.' Success, he said, had been seriously compromised from the beginning by lack of secrecy and by poor organisation at the planning stage in England, France and Egypt; while the naval bombardment five months before, which, although more successful than the recent major naval attack of 18 March, had only served to alert the Turks to the weakness of their defences. (5) He added that 'failure would do irreparable harm to our cause and be a serious disaster to the Empire.' (6) A rider to the Appreciation, providing a concise summary of his Conclusion, explains that he had given the CGS, MEF, (Major-General Braithwaite) a copy of it, and also says:

'I took the first opportunity of meeting and expressing to the C-in-C (Sir Ian Hamilton) my view of the inadvisability of attempting a landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula with the Force then available, about 50,000 infantry (29th Division, the weak and ill-trained Naval Division and the French Division, half of which were Senegalise. [sic]) I pointed out that owing to the ill-advised action of the Navy, our greatest asset, the element of surprise had gone; that the beaches which were limited in breadth and extent were heavily entrenched and wired; that the Turks had had plenty of time to prepare for us and to improve their communication as well as to dig deep trenches to bar our advance from the few possible landing places; and that we knew that they had got howitzers and other movable armament ready for us. I was of opinion therefore that it was very unlikely that we should be able to effect a landing, and that even if we did effect a landing, we should be seriously delayed by the Turkish entrenchments and involved in a war of trenches in which, as we had insufficient numbers of men and an altogether inadequate supply both of howitzers and of ammunition, the Turks would be likely to hang us up for a very long time. ...I [also] emphasised the fact that [our] Ships' guns with flat trajectory and projectiles designed to pierce armour and to fight a vertical target, were ill-adapted for engaging enemy howitzers and guns in concealed positions behind hills.' (7)

General d'Amade, commander of the French Corps Expéditionnaire, and Lieutenant-General Sir William Birdwood, British commander of the ANZAC corps, were both of the same opinion as himself, he says, and both also pressed on Hamilton and the French government the inadvisability of the proposed operation. (8) John Spencer Churchill, noting the 'gloominess' of the three, comments: 'the enthusiasm shown by H.W. in London and B, when he thought he was to command, has partly evaporated.' (9)

Even Carlyon, generally hostile to him in his recent book, admits he is a realist with regard to his initial summing up of the situation. (10) However, his own preferred plan represented in the Appreciation did not show the same clear-sighted pragmatism. This was to wait until the MEF had enough properly trained and equipped troops for the operation, and also to offer Bulgaria (the most important factor in the Balkans) fifty million pounds sterling and 150,000 troops to be sent straightaway, with another 120,000 later. This was because he saw the 'first and principal' object of the Dardanelles expedition as being to bring the 'wavering and neutral' states of the Balkans (i.e. Bulgaria, Romania and Greece) in on the Allies' side. The defeat of the Turks locally and the threat to Constantinople he saw as only the secondary object. (11) Where these troops were to come from, he does not specify, but as their provision would certainly have weakened the forces on the Western Front, and Maxwell's force (already depleted) in Egypt, his proposition was completely impractical. His view was supported, though, by Major Thomas Cunninghame, the Military Attaché in Athens who, during this March/early April period was on an official visit to Alexandria. By the 12th April (too late, therefore to effect changes in the plan) he had returned to Athens, and wrote to Hunter-Weston reporting that he had 'got at all the Ministers of the Entente' and

explained Hunter-Weston's views as his (Cunninghame's) own -

'as indeed they were, and [I] got them to wire their own governments in the following terms : "The British Military Attaché who has returned from Lemnos and Egypt has represented to us that of all the alternatives presented to the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, the line of operation in Thrace offers the most facilities and the best results, but owing to the difficulties of disembarkation on the shores between Enos and Xeros means virtually the use of Dedea-Gatch. This of itself renders the co-operation of Bulgaria desirable and as the attitude of Bulgaria has long been vacillating it is strongly advised that the Bulgarian government be approached to allow passage for 150,000 troops (7 Divisions) and any refusal to comply being taken as evidence of a hostile attitude.'" (12)

All the Ministers, Cunninghame reports, agreed with this advice, especially and predictably, the Serbs. However, the Foreign Office made no response, which is perhaps not surprising. Indeed their attitude to their own experts was casual, to say the least. This is shown, for example, by their complete lack of interest in Lt.-Colonel Charles Cunliffe-Owen's reports from Constantinople where he was the Military Attaché up to 1914, and who had also made a complete survey of the Gallipoli Peninsula and the Dardanelles together with all its military dispositions. He was ignored, however, and not invited to join Hamilton's Staff when candidates were being recruited, even though he was available at the time.

By the 8th April, Hunter-Weston was resigned that his advice had not been taken. In his diary entry for that day he writes -

'Having expressed my views and so done my duty as Counsellor, I now wholeheartedly accept whatever place may be decided on by the Commander and shall do my 'damnest' [sic] to bring his plan to a successful issue; thus doing my duty as a man of action and a subordinate leader. Fully understand that the fact of my views not being taken does not worry me or effect [sic] me in the least.' (13)

In a letter to his wife he says -

'Long before this reaches you, you will know all about it and another leaf in the Book of Fate will have been turned and that which is written on it now unknown to us will be known to all. The Common Herd, being wise after the event will say either "How easy, why think twice about so obviously correct an operation", or will say "Criminal idiots to attempt the impossible." Personally, I should not have undertaken the operation. The chances of success being so small and the consequences of defeat being so disastrous. I expressed that view to the C in C, but he decided otherwise. That being so, I am wholeheartedly for carrying the

plan to a successful issue and I intend to pull off the outside chance and make a success of it. I tell the Division that we shall succeed. I believe we shall succeed and I think I have made the Division full of confidence of success after hard fighting which latter they are all for. They are out for blood and will take a lot of stopping. – I am very fit and well, very confident, happy and cheery and so start well.’ (14)

In his note accepting that his advice was not taken, he says ‘I put my whole soul into giving effect to his [i.e. Hamilton’s] orders and wishes without any regard to my own ideas on the subject.’ (15) Here, he sounds rather as if he is convincing himself as well as his men in this confident prognosis. His perhaps excessive confidence and enthusiasm (by now recovered since John Spencer Churchill’s observation on the 3rd April) was commented on by many observers, Hamilton, Braithwaite, Compton Mackenzie and Ashmead-Bartlett (the accredited war correspondent), among them. By now the scale and momentum of the Expedition carried with it its own impetus, and as a well-trained and obedient soldier, he was determined to do his best to make the operation succeed. His message to the 29th Division on the eve of battle was bracing:

‘The eyes of the world are upon us, and your deeds will live in history. To us now is given an opportunity of avenging our friends and relatives who have fallen in France and Flanders. Our comrades there willingly gave their lives in thousands and tens of thousands for our King and Country, and by their glorious courage and dogged tenacity they defeated the invaders and broke the German offensive. We also must be prepared to suffer hardships, privations, thirst, and heavy losses by bullets, by shells, by mines, by drowning. But if each man feels, as is true, that on him individually, however small or however great his task, rests the success or failure of the expedition, and therefore the honour of the Empire and the welfare of his own folk at home, we are certain to win through to a glorious victory.’

On 27 April he reports ‘My men, God bless them, have effected the impossible and have effected a landing in the face of severe opposition from defences that were apparently impregnable. We have many great difficulties before us, but if we can keep up this form, nothing can stop us....’ Here, perhaps, his realism faltered. For in the well-known story of the Helles landings on 25 April the men had not all landed with the security and success he suggested. Casualties at V and W Beaches (the landings for which he was responsible) had been so heavy as to seriously compromise the chances of success later. His original plan was to take over the command of the troops from Brigadier-General Hare and lead them in person in the assault on Krithia, and after that, on Achi Baba, the hill in a commanding position behind Krithia, but his confident assertion on the 27th that he hoped to take Krithia next day was not achieved, and was, in fact, never achieved. A captured Turkish order dated May 1st stated that if Achi Baba were to be taken, all would be lost. (16)

Despite the depressing lack of success, the MEF pressed on, and Hunter-Weston, who, because of the absence of corps staff on Helles, Aspinall noted, had been 'invested with far more authority than normally falls to a divisional commander', was promoted acting Lieutenant-General and commander of VIII Corps on 24th May. (17)

However, with his initial optimism proving unfounded and with the appalling conditions of heat, dysentery, poor food, little water, the loss and suffering of men through both fighting and illness, Hunter Weston's confidence foundered a little. On 14 July he noted that he did not feel very well. In a letter dated the 15th to Major-General Callwell, Director of Operations at the War Office, he lays out the position as he sees it in stark terms. Either 'proper and constant reinforcements' are sent out backed up by the necessary artillery and ammunition, or the expedition will fail. Realising that 'everything put in here has been, is, and must be put in at the expense of what we otherwise could do in France – it must be ...decided whether this Expedition is to be supported at the expense of our troops in Flanders, or to be abandoned....There must be no indecision, no giving of "as much as can be spared". That is criminal weakness. Either cut the loss and send not another man, not another round: or give at once every detail that after careful and clear thinking is decided to ensure victory here.' (18)

This valedictory tone was prescient. By 17 July he was on the Vice-Admiral's yacht hoping to recover quickly from what he described as 'a slight touch of the sun'. But by the 19th he was on the island of Imbros, where he noted in his diary for the 21st: 'This silly sunstroke has given me 5 days of fever and the temperature is not yet down to normal. It has made me thus v. weak and I shall almost certainly have to come to England to recoup and get fit and well. A terrible blow to lose my Corps.'(19) On the 22nd he wrote a letter of resignation to Sir Ian Hamilton acknowledging he must withdraw until fit again, and from Malta he returned to London and was not signed off as fit until January 1916. This illness, during the course of which he lost two and a half stone, was clearly no mere 'slight touch of sun' as reported in the Official Diary, and which has been variously ascribed to some form of enteric sickness (although he reported on 30 July that the blood culture taken had proved negative), to neurasthenia, probably triggered by a fever. (20)

While his reputation as a 'butcher' was already current – according to John Churchill, his drive was missed by some (21). Major-General Sir Walter Braithwaite in a letter to his friend, General Sir Launcelot Kiggell on 11 August reporting on the failed attempt to take the Tekke Tepe ridge: 'I am as convinced as I sit here that had we had Hunter-Weston and his 29th Division he would have been on top of that ridge within five hours of landing on the beach. It really is maddening.' (22)

Hunter-Weston recovered in good time to take part on the first day of the Somme. By now he had been knighted, promoted temporary Lieutenant-General, and was again given command of VIII corps. His sector unfortunately was on the Beaumont-Hamel-Serre line, the most heavily defended section of all, which is reflected in casualties of

14,581. The worst of the day for no gain of enemy positions. Following this action rumours were evidently circulated that he was to be 'stellenbosched', which he countered strongly, saying that on the contrary, the difficulty of his stretch of line was recognised by both French and British and that he had received 'from the Commander in Chief a particularly complimentary communication highly commending the work that has been done by this humble one in particular and by the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the VIIIth Corps in general.' (23). By 2nd July Haig had realised that his diary entry for the previous day – 'I am inclined to believe...that few of the VIII Corps left their trenches' – was inaccurate (24).

For the rest of the war he remained in command of VIII Corps which, however, was never involved in major operations again. In all, he was mentioned ten times in dispatches, and on 1 January, 1919 his rank of Lieutenant-General was confirmed. In October, 1916, he had been elected as Unionist MP for North Ayrshire. After the war he took a more active part in local affairs, as Laird of Hunterston, West Kilbride, than in national, employing as many men as he could on his estate during the Depression. He retired in 1935, and died in March, 1940, while doing his morning exercises in a fall from a turret on his house which commands a spectacular view of the Firth of Clyde.

NOTES:

1. Compton Mackenzie: *Gallipoli Memories*, Cassell, London, 1929, p. 152. The popular novelist was seconded to H.-W. by Sir Ian Hamilton. In 1917 he became director of the Aegean Intelligence Service in Syria.
2. For example: his active involvement to secure improvements in the Stokes gun. Paddy Griffith: *Battle Tactics of the Western Front: The British Army's Art of Attack, 1916-18*. Yale U.P., London, 1994, pp. 105 and 109.
3. Gilbert, M., *Winston S. Churchill: Vol.III, Companion, Part 1*, (London: Heinemann, 1972), Even by this late stage, the attack was still intended to be primarily a naval one, with only limited numbers of troops as backup. (Aspinall-Oglander, Brigadier-General C.F., *History of the Great War Based on Official Documents: Military Operations – Gallipoli*, (London: Heinemann, 1932), Vol. 1., p. 69.pp. 535. 544 and 675, n.1.
4. BL: Add. 48364, p. 9-10. (From the British Library's Hunter-Weston archive, his official war diaries being contained in Vols. I-VIII, Nos. Add MSS. 48355-48362, and his private war diaries in vols. IX-XIV,48363-48368.
5. 'The bombardment of 3rd November warned me, and I realised that I must spend the rest of my time in developing and strengthening the defences by every means.' Jevad Bey, the Turkish commander of the Dardanelles, acknowledged. Aspinall-Oglander, Vol. 1. pp. 35 .
6. BL: 48364, p. 19
7. BL: 48364, p.20.
8. BL: 48364, p. 20.
9. Gilbert, p. 766. J.S.C., W.S.C.'s younger brother, who was at this date a member of

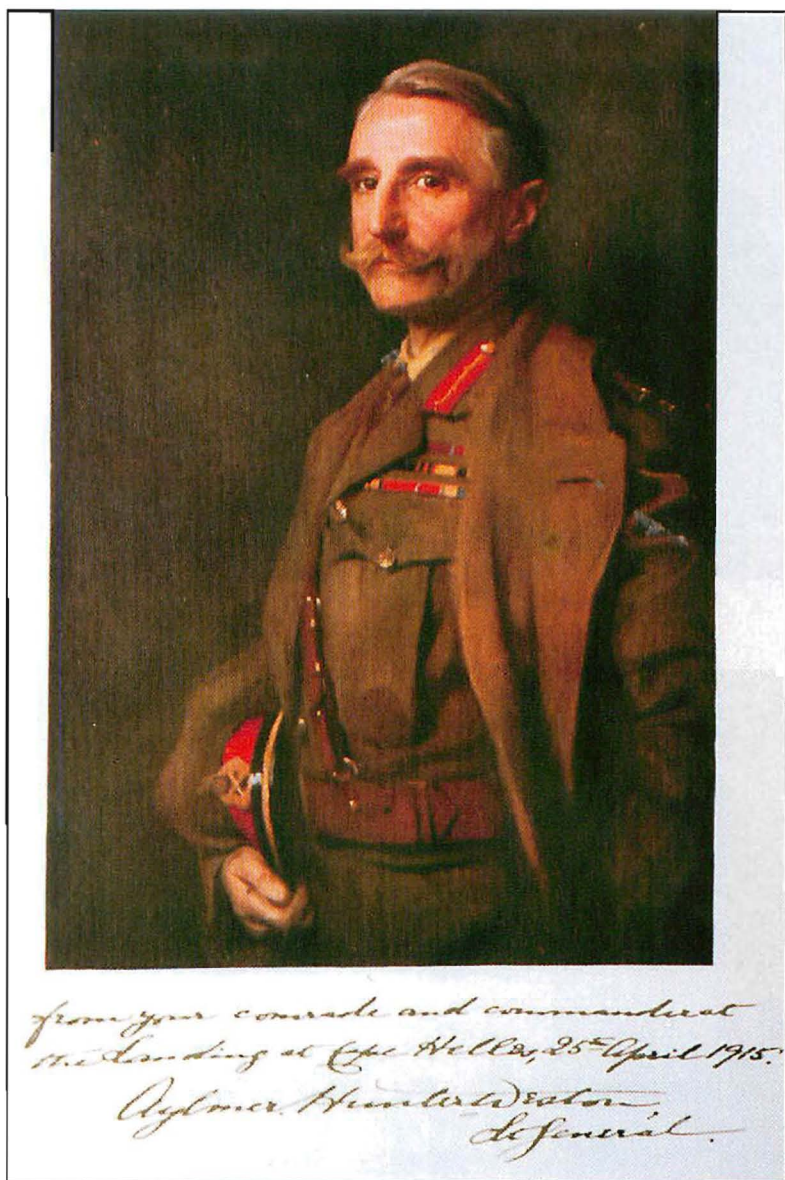
Sir Ian Hamilton's staff as Naval Liaison Officer. His remark seems to show that H.-W. knew he had been put forward as commander by W.S.C.

10. Carlyon, L.A., Gallipoli, (London: Doubleday, 2002), p. 94.
11. BL: 48364, p. 16.
12. BL: 48364, p.21.
13. BL: 48364, p. 37.
14. BL: 48364, pp. 42-3
15. BL: 48364, p. 20.
16. Gilbert, Part 2, p. 845.
17. Aspinall-Oglander, Vol 2., p. 28-9, p.33.
18. BL: 48364, p 124.
19. BL: 48364, p.126.
20. Official War Diary: BL 48356, p. 334:
21. Gilbert, p. 2, p. 1073.
22. Major-General W.P. Braithwaite, private letter from GHQ, MEF to Major-General Kiggell, War Office, 11 August, 1915, from an unpublished study of Braithwaite by John Hussey. It is J.H.'s opinion however, that Braithwaite was being unrealistic here as to the 29th Division's capabilities at this stage.
23. BL: 46365, p.82, from a letter dated 27th July to his friend Brigadier General B.D.L.G. Anley, GS01 41st Division.
24. *Douglas Haig: War Diaries and Letters, 1914-1918*, edited by Gary Sheffield and John Bourne, (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 2005), p. 196.

Acknowledgements: Hunter-Weston Papers quoted by permission of The British Library. With many thanks to Sonia, Madam Hunter of Hunterston, David Filsell, John Hussey and Bill Crisp.

ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION ON LINE

As *The Gallipolian* was in the final stages of preparation it was announced that the records of 10,200 members of the Royal Naval Division who lost their lives have been made available on line. The records made available by the history website www.ancestry.co.uk/military (fee payable) include letters, memoirs and diaries and are the most comprehensive record of those who died while serving with the Division. A rich treasure trove of information which should prove of considerable interest to members of the Gallipoli Association.



Lieutenant-General Sir Aylmer Hunter Weston by de Laslo
A portrait in the Officers' Mess of 204 Bty, Royal Artillery, Kingston Park,
Newcastle upon Tyne. The wording on this presentation copy:
"from your comrade and commandant the landing at Cape Helles, 25th April 1915.
Aylmer Hunter Weston, Lt General."
Copy provided by Dr F. L. Constable TL



Vicky Banner with the Chairman Captain Christopher Fagan and Mrs Mary Fagan, Autumn Lunch 1994. See page 15.



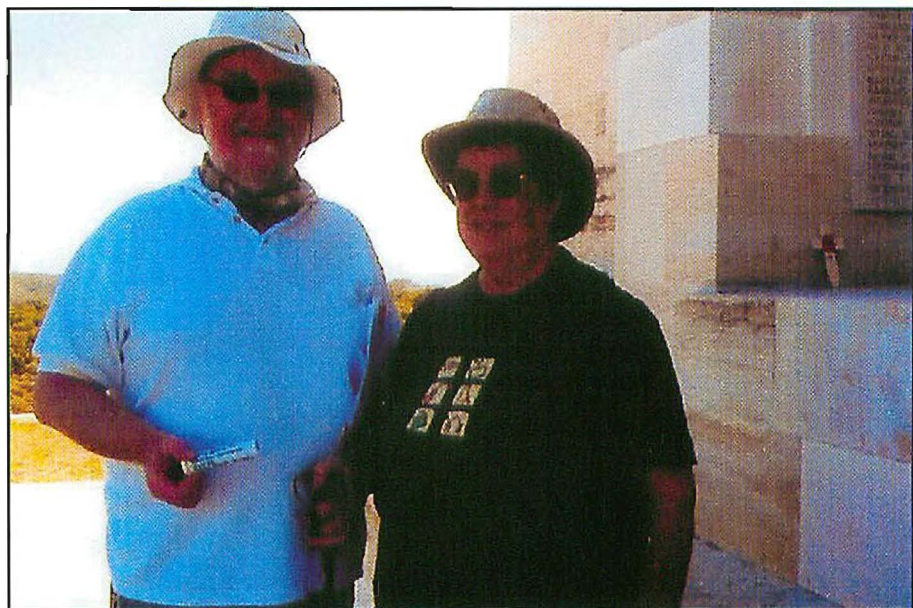
Former Treasurers, Donald Bland (right) now deceased and Denis Pollard (left) with the painting presented to the Association by Mrs Vicky Banner Gallipoli Day Lunch 1998. See page 15.



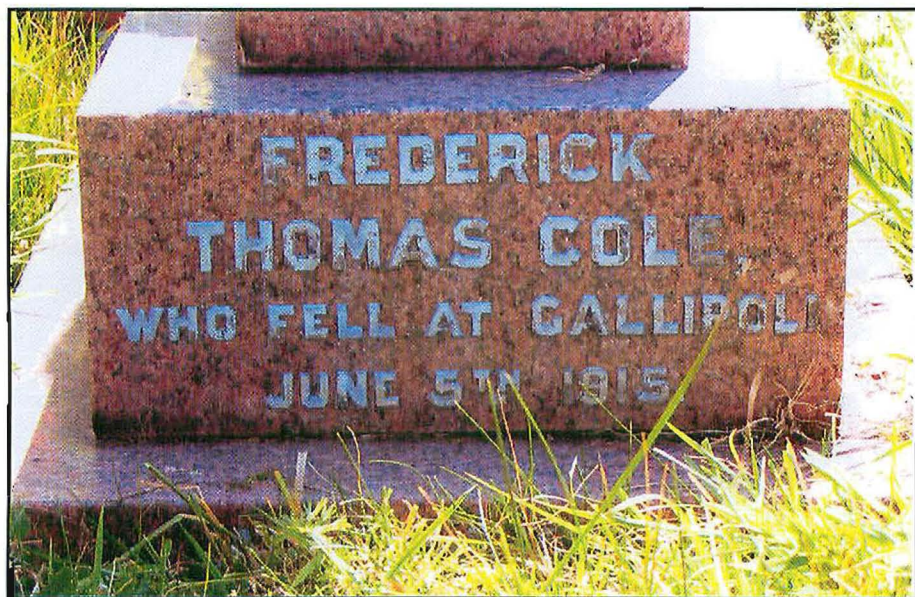
The message on the reverse of this postcard (kindly provided by Carl Mahakian) dated 15 January 1916 and postmarked Vienna reads (translated by Hugh Jenner) "My dear boy, I almost met it here. The English left too early. Tomorrow I will explain more. In the meantime, heartfelt greetings to you and to your mother (mummy) from Vienna. From your Daddy."



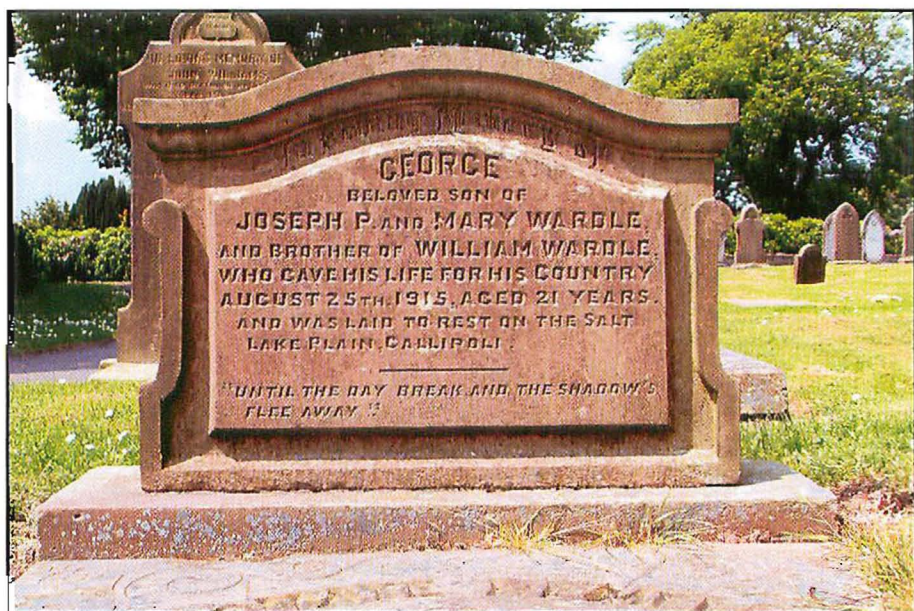
Another view of the River Clyde at V Beach 25 April 1915
A painting by Charles Dixon. See page 17 for more details.



*Jack and Rosemary House at Cape Helles
with a phial of earth from East Harptree. See pages 42-46.*



Inscription on the Cole family grave in Chew Stoke churchyard. See page 46



Memorial at Henbury, Macclesfield to George Wardle 25 August 1915
"laid to rest on the Salt Lake Plain" Photograph Robert Hooley.



George Hogg. See page 18. Photograph David M. R. Warnes.



Bursary awards 2007. See pages 37-40.

*Upper: Sandringham Cadets Matthew Harvey and Russell Bradham
Lower: Loretto School – Jane Osborne, Flora Munro,
Robert Hunter (a member of the Association), John Elder, Ailsa Munro.*

SANDRINGHAM ARMY CADETS IN GALLIPOLI AND THEIR BURSARY PRESENTATION

JOHN CROWE

On 15 September 2007 nine cadets from the Sandringham Detachment of the Norfolk County Cadet Force with their Captain Steve Davison and Sergeant Loraine Hartog-Davison, both of whom are members of the Association travelled to Gallipoli with and led by John Crowe who organised the trip. Two of the cadets, Sergeant Matthew Harvey and Corporal Russell Bradnam had been awarded bursaries. They had seven full days in Turkey covering both the peninsula and Istanbul.

On their first full day the group visited Cimenlik Fort, Naval Museum and the Nusrat minelayer before travelling to the ancient city of Troy. The following day they visited, on the first day of term, Canakkale Milli Piyago Anotolian High School where the headmaster introduced the cadets during the school assembly. A shield was presented to the Headmaster who expressed an interest in an exchange program with a High School in Norfolk. E Mails were exchanged between the pupils and the cadets in the English class. It was very interesting and rewarding day resulting in articles being published in three local newspapers.

The third day was spent visiting the European side of the Peninsula for the first time in daylight including both Kilit Bahir and Seddul Bahir Castles. Then followed S and V Beaches and wreath laying at the Helles Memorial in remembrance of the Sandringham Men of the 5th Norfolks. Whilst at Helles Cadet Ellis Etherington helped to locate the name of Trooper Frank Yarnell for member John Harvey who is conducting some research on this soldier. It would appear that he was the only soldier from his village, South Carlton, Lincolnshire, to die in the Great War.

The weather was excellent. The group was privileged to be visited by a Colonel and Captain from the Turkish Army, both of whom were travelling in plain clothes. They knew our member Lieutenant Colonel Mustafa Gonel in London very well. Both showed great interest in the Cadets and the reason for the visit. They were happy to pose for photographs and gave permission for the wreath to be laid. Following a visit to Lieutenant Colonel Doughty-Wylie's grave the group went on to W beach and Lancashire Landing Cemetery followed by a drive to Gully Beach.

The final day spent on the peninsula proved to be equally long and taxing. The guide, Kenan Celik who is a member of the Association, displayed a very thorough knowledge of the campaign. He was able to explain to all in a way that was not to complex and was very much appreciated by the Cadets. They visited the following cemeteries, Lala Baba, Hill 60, Green Hill, Scimitar Hill, Hill 10, and Azmak and were able to appreciate just how young many of the soldiers were, some very close to their own ages.

During the trip whenever a Norfolk grave was located, details were noted, photographs taken and a cross put in place. By this time a number of local Turkish press were in tow together with the Turkish Army Captain. At Azmak John Crowe was interviewed which resulted in an item being placed on the Internet in Turkish relating to what was believed to have happened to the Sandringham men on 12 August 1915. The Turkish Gendarmerie Memorial was also visited and respect paid to the men it represented. The day ended with a very pleasant meal in the harbour of Galibolu Town, followed by a long drive to Istanbul arriving at 0100.

Another full day followed commencing with a guided tour of the Old City including the Topkapi Palace, Hippodrome, Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia Museum on the first day in Istanbul. Whilst in the Blue Mosque the guide explained how worship took place and the significance of Ramadam. The next day the group visited Scutari Barracks. A Colonel explained the history of the Barracks before taking all to the Florence Nightingale Museum. In appreciation he was presented with a shield by Sergeant Lorraine Hartog-Davison. They then visited Haydarpasha British Cemetery where again many Norfolk graves were found and respect paid with crosses put in place. The day concluded with a visit to Harbiye Military Museum with the Janissary show.

The final day took in the Spice Bazaar and a cruise on the Bosphorus. Unfortunately it was very windy and wet which rather spoiled the cruise but spirits remained high while during the final meal that evening everyone reflected on the enjoyable and informative week.

The cadets were supervised very well by their Captain and Sergeant who enjoyed an excellent relationship with them. The group proved popular wherever they went and their sense of humour went down very well with waiters and everyone they came into contact with. They were particularly struck by the friendliness and warmth extended everywhere they went and are now aware of the importance and significance of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk to the Turkish people.

Bursary Presentation

On 24 November the bursary holders together with the other cadets gave a power point presentation in their Drill Hall at Dersingham, Norfolk to an audience some 55 folk strong – members of the local British Legion and local residents together with the parents of the cadets. In addition members of the Gallipoli Association included Lady Angela Oswald, Colonel Michael Hickey, John Harvey, Tony Stubbs, Margaret and John Plant. Thelma Stollar a senior member of the Association travelled unaccompanied from the London for the day. John Harvey presented cadet Ellis Etherington with a book on Gallipoli together with background information on Trooper Frank Yarnell, in appreciation of her efforts at Helles.

John Crowe was presented with a shield by the County Commandant Colonel David Hedges in appreciation of his efforts in organising the tour. Captain Steve Davison the commanding officer of the Detachment explained the events leading to the visit.

Colonel Michael Hickey, the authoritative voice of the Association highly commended the cadets on their presentation. Having been to many presentations of bursary holders throughout the country it was one of the finest he had seen.

Paul Mooney, the history master at Smithdon High School. Hunstanton, Norfolk, attended and was so impressed that he has since joined the Association while steps are now in place to establish a link with the school in Turkey. This is really exciting news.

Last but not least Turkish delicacies were provided with the compliments of the local Turkish kebab shop in Dersingham. Again it demonstrates the warmth and good will that now exists between the two countries, this is indeed good news after the anguish of 1915.

LORETTO SCHOOL GALLIPOLI BURSARY

AILSA MONRO & JANE OSBORNE

When we first wrote our proposal for the chance to go to Gallipoli to research the campaign, we decided to retrace the footsteps of one of our old boys from Loretto and a pupil from the King's School, Sydney, from whom Loretto receives two boys to play rugby at the school for the duration of the Autumn Term. However, once we arrived we began to realise we couldn't pin down the scale of the campaign on the experiences of only two men as we saw the struggle and sacrifice that so many of many nationalities fought and died for.

We landed in Istanbul airport on the 28 July 2007 and spent the night in a youth hostel called the Antique Hostel, which was within walking distance of the Blue Mosque. Although we really liked Istanbul we couldn't wait to reach our final destination and so it was with great excitement that we sent off on our bus trip to the Peninsula. We were based in a hotel in Canakkale for the duration of our stay and took the ferry across to the peninsula each day.

On our first day spent we visited the Australian and New Zealand sites being joined on tour by 25 Australians, three New Zealanders and five from Great Britain including ourselves. Although very interesting it was also very anti British which made us feel ever so slightly uncomfortable! The overwhelming majority of Australians demonstrated to us quite how important Gallipoli is for them, especially as many of them were young men and women in their early 20s. We visited the beaches of the Anzacs, the trenches of both the Turks and Anzacs and memorials of soldiers on both sides.

At the Lone Pine Cemetery that we found the name of the pupil from the King's School Sydney. He was Major Richard Lewis Hay Blake Jenkins and served with the 20th Battalion AIF being killed on the 11 December 1915, shortly before the evacuation. As you can imagine we all found many of these sites very emotional as it is a very sad story that is told there, however we really enjoyed many of the stories and accounts that our

guide told us. A particularly favourite is probably that of John Simpson and his donkey because this is a very good example of the huge heroism and selflessness that was present in the men fighting there. What is also quite nice about the story is that although Simpson was fighting with an Anzac regiment he was actually born in South Shields to Scottish parents!

On another day we hired a driver to take us down to Cape Helles to visit the British cemeteries. The fact that we had to hire a driver because there were no tours going down there was yet another example to us of the relatively little importance that the British contribution is held in compared to the Anzacs. We very much enjoyed this part of the Peninsula and stayed for quite a long time on V Beach as it was an extremely hot day! We found the name on the Helles Memorial of our Old Lorettonian, Captain Lynedoch Mackenzie of the East Lancashire Territorial Division. He was wounded twice and died of his wounds on a hospital ship on 19 October.

On return to school our lecture had a very pro British slant whilst still being absolutely truthful about who and what we thought was responsible for the failures. Before we went out to Gallipoli we hadn't anticipated the feeling of resentment towards the British felt by both the Anzacs and the Turks. Perhaps this is our patriotism coming out but we felt that this was somewhat unfair. We found it unfair that although there were a lot of criticisms for the British politicians in that period and also for some of the military commanders that were in charge at Gallipoli, normal soldiers and officers that were sent out to do their duty to their country and were simply following orders are not being remembered in the same light as those of the Anzac and Turkish forces. Looking at the statistics you see that many more British died than any other nationalities that were present there. Whilst we know that you can't look at the statistics to know the full extent of any battle it is a good place to start. There were many examples of bravery from men on all sides, including the British. We emphasised this point a lot in our talk because that is that is the way that we perceived matters to be in Gallipoli and it is a point that we feel very strongly about.

Our visit to Gallipoli was a great success as we learnt so much and we have since taken that knowledge on to present a lecture to the 6th form and a member of the Gallipoli Association, Robert Hunter. We think, and hope, that the lecture was of interest to those present as we certainly enjoyed preparing it! It was a period of slight pressure and the occasional bout of hysteries but we managed to have it completely ready and by the time we were on the stage our nerves had gone which was fortunate! We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Gallipoli Association so much for our amazing experience that you made possible. We have learnt so much about the topic that otherwise we would probably not have looked at in detail. We think that the bursary is a great idea as it encourages an interest in history and in the Gallipoli campaign. We would also like to thank Mr Hunter for coming to our talk and at least pretending to find it interesting! We hope that the experience was fun for him and that he enjoyed the supper afterwards as well!

THE ORDEAL OF PRIVATE PORTER

As reported in *Guests of the Unspeakable* by T W White
published by John Hamilton, 1928

Aided by inadequate lighting, our blondest blondes, arrayed in the very creditable frocks which Capt. McDonald made from sundry clothes and patches, were passable imitations of the dashing heroines or designing adventuresses they were represented to be. Wigs made from goat hair, cleverly designed by Private Porter, a wig maker by profession, who had had an unparalleled experience before being taken prisoner on Gallipoli*, further aided their looks, and his bountiful beards and flowing moustachios (when properly hung) converted beardless boys into fearsome villains or paternal patriarchs.

* Private S. A. Porter, 8th Hants Territorials, who during his captivity served as an orderly in No. 4 House in the officers' camp at Afion Kara Hissar, gave me the following facts regarding his capture. I have seen the various wounds that he received, and have reason to believe his story to be true in every detail. (He also had two brothers taken prisoner in Kut, one of whom died as a result of his treatment.) Pte. Porter was a signaller in advance of the leading platoon on the day of the big advance on August 8th, 1915, at Suvla Bay. Portion of a shell struck him, carrying away a large portion of the right buttock. After freeing himself from a field telephone which he carried, he roughly bandaged the wound and commenced to crawl back to some cover, but before reaching it he lost consciousness through loss of blood. When he regained consciousness the attack was over, and he heard enemy voices close at hand. Soon afterwards a Turkish soldier approached and finding him still alive struck him many times on the head with the edge of a shovel, inflicting severe gashes that rendered him unconscious. (These blows left long depressions in Porter's skull.) Once more regaining his senses, he found himself lying on his face and heard a Turk approach, load his rifle, and while standing near his feet, fire point blank at his head. The bullet struck him in the back of the neck, gouging out a wound at least four inches long and coming out below his left ear. He was again left for dead, but a party of Turkish soldiers on seeing him move bayoneted him no less than twelve times. One thrust went through his arm, another made a bad wound in the stomach, a third punctured his cheek, while the remainder were scattered over various other parts of his body. Fortunately for him the Turkish bayonets were of the old-fashioned pointed variety, or recovery would have been impossible. He again lost consciousness but woke to find a more humane party of Turks were taking him to a dressing station. Nevertheless they made him walk with a rope tied round him which they jerked whenever he stumbled. Though he was a diminutive little fellow he miraculously recovered and quickly, his most painful memories being the dressing of his wounds without chloroform, while being held down by burly wardsmen. Although his wounds when healed could be plainly seen he found them only a slight inconvenience, so much so that when we were allowed to play football he proved himself a dashing outside right!

FROM SOMERSET TO GALLIPOLI VIA NEW ZEALAND

The story of Private Frederick Thomas 'Eddie' Cole – No 6/1489
Canterbury Battalion, New Zealand Infantry Brigade

JACK HOUSE

My engagement with the story of Eddie Cole and his participation in the Gallipoli campaign arose from a casual conversation with a long standing friend, Fred Young of Wells in Somerset. I had remarked to Fred that my wife, Rosemary and I were proposing to take part in the 2006 Association tour of the Gallipoli peninsula. Our purpose in going was to honour the memory of my maternal grandfather, W02 David Watson DCM, 1/4 King's Own Scottish Borderers, who was killed in the famous action of 52 (Lowland) Brigade on 12 July 1915 (see *The Gallipolian* No.99 Autumn 2002 pp 36-39).

I had further mentioned to Fred that we intended to take with us a file of earth from the farm on which my grandfather was born at Fettercairn, Angus, in Scotland and scatter it with due ceremony at the location of his death near Achi Baba Nullah, during that action (see *The Gallipolian* No 112 Winter 2006 pp 11-12). In response to my remarks, Fred recounted that a great uncle of his, Frederick Thomas Cole – always known as Eddie – had been killed in action at Gallipoli, though he, at that point, knew nothing of the circumstances. I made the suggestion that if it was possible to unearth some details, then during our visit to the peninsula we could, in like manner, honour Eddie's memory.

This began a process of relentless yet patient research into the history of Eddie Cole, beginning with the discovery of a kitbag. (See photograph opposite.)

The Kitbag

Following upon a circulated appeal by Fred to numerous relatives, requesting any information they might have with regard to Eddie Cole, he received a reply from a cousin. This stated that the cousin was in possession of a kitbag which he believed had been returned to Eddie's father following his death in the Gallipoli campaign.

The kitbag bore the stencilled markings 6/1489 PTE C COY 1st CANT DEFENCE NZ 1914. Using this information we concluded that Eddie had probably enlisted and served in the Canterbury Battalion which had formed part of the New Zealand Brigade in Gallipoli. This supposition of course immediately gave rise to the question as to why a farmer's son from Somerset should have been a member of an ANZAC formation. To confirm our supposition and hopefully to gain some clues as to the answer our question, contact was made with Archives New Zealand via the internet.

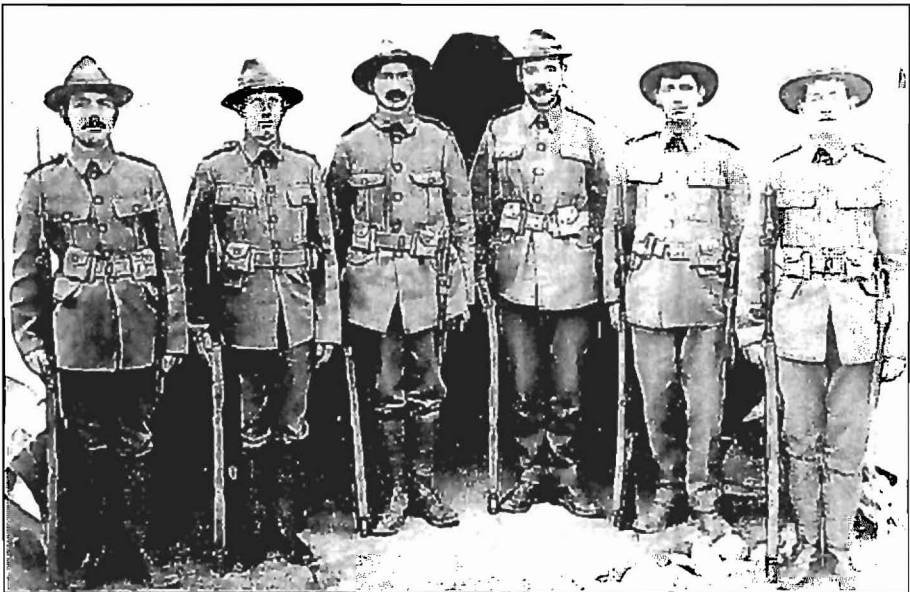


*Fred Young with Marion Atwell and John Hudson,
great neice and great nephew of Eddie Cole*

Archives New Zealand

Contact with Archives New Zealand brought to light a number of facts regarding Eddie Cole. He had enlisted as a member of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force at Trenthan in Auckland on 21 December 1914, when he was residing with members of the Richmond family in Epsom, near that metropolis. His date of birth was confirmed as 29 November 1882, his occupation was given as 'farmer' and his next of kin as being his father, Thomas Cole of Butcombe Farm, Blagdon in Somerset, England.

Eddie Cole's Military History Sheet records that, following his enlistment and medical examination, he sailed from New Zealand with the Canterbury Battalion in Transport No. 7, on 13 February 1915 which arrived in Egypt on 27 March. The seemingly short period of time between enlistment and embarkation would certainly seem to point to the fact that Eddie had previously undergone some military training under the provisions of the New Zealand Defence Act of 1901. This made it obligatory for the whole able bodied male population to undertake such training in their home districts – a territorial system which provided New Zealand with a front line force of some 30,000 men for the Gallipoli campaign.



Eddie Cole third left

On the Peninsula

Although no precise details are seemingly available as to Eddie Cole's movements following arrival in Egypt, the likely pattern of events leading up to his being killed-in-action on 5 June 1915 can be traced with reference to the engagements of the Canterbury Battalion. The battalion had landed, as part of the initial assault at ANZAC Cove, on 25 April. The assault was met with a ferocious Turkish counter attack, so much so, that serious thought was given to the possibility of immediate evacuation. However, the ANZACs dug in and stuck it out with great determination.

Then on the night of 5/6 May the entire New Zealand Infantry Brigade and the 2nd Australian Brigade were shipped from ANZAC Cove to Cape Helles to reinforce the allied troops in that sector in preparation for a new offensive on Achi Baba in what became known as the Second Battle of Krithia. Following the inconclusive outcome of Second Krithia, the two brigades were returned, somewhat depleted to the ANZAC sector. Thus it seems certain that Eddie Cole, as a member of the Canterbury Battalion, within days of landing in Gallipoli would have experienced warfare at its most brutal in both sectors of the initial campaign.

Following the failure of the great Turkish counterattack on ANZAC, operations in the sector became limited more to predetermined skirmishes around strong points such as Pope's Hill and Quinns Poot in which the fighting remained extremely bitter. The ANZAC troops when not actually engaged in fighting, were deployed in constructing dugouts, trenches and pathways and landing supplies, each activity undertaken under constant threat from the Turkish artillery. And it was in this period of the campaign that Eddie Cole met his death. The official document certifying his death sent to Mr F.Richmond, his nominated persona, records that 6/1489 Private Frederick Thomas Cole of the Canterbury Infantry Battalion was killed-in-action at Gallipoli on 5 June 1915.

Lone Pine Remembrance

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, responsive as ever to the information supplied to them, informed us that Eddie Cole was commemorated with so many others of his fallen comrades, who like him had no known grave, on the ANZAC memorial at Lone Pine at panel 76. In anticipation of our participation in the Association's 2006 tour, Fred Young had provided us with a file of earth from Pitt Farm at East Harptree, now in North Somerset where Eddie's parents and family were living in the years leading up to 1915. During our visit to Lone Pine we were able to scatter this earth from his native county and homestead in proximity to the panel on the memorial bearing Eddie's name with commemorative prayer and due ceremony.

However, happy as we were to honour Eddie on behalf of Fred Young and his family back in Somerset there were other important aspects of Eddie Coles' story which were not fully clarified until after our return from Gallipoli. Chief among these was why Eddie, a Somerset farmer's son, had, in fact, gone to New Zealand in the first place.

Destination New Zealand

Various lines of research were followed up in our attempt to ascertain why Eddie had migrated from Somerset to New Zealand, a migration which led ultimately to the inclusion of his name on the Lone Pine Memorial. In the process of our research contact was made with the National Archives Centre with regard to shipping passenger lists. A family Bible was discovered and near century-old correspondence emanating from New Zealand came to light. Arising from these and, other phenomena, Fred was enabled to construct a family tree which indicated that two of Eddie's immediate forbearers, both of whom were farmers, had emigrated from Somerset to New Zealand in the middle period of the 19th Century. These folk were themselves forbearers of the Richmond family with whom Eddie was living in Auckland at the time of his enlistment and from time to time letters had been sent to Eddie's family in Somerset regarding their life in the then colony. Eddie himself had been listed as a passenger on SS *Corinthia* which sailed from London bound for Wellington on 25 April 1913, two years to the day before the initial Gallipoli landings. His occupation was recorded as being a farmer.

Thus it is reasonable to conclude that Eddie Cole saw very real possibilities in taking advantage of these family farming contacts to seek possible fame and fortune in New Zealand. Unfortunately, the onset of the Word War barely a year after his arrival in the Colony, cut short these prospects for ever.

A Somerset Remembrance

The last piece of the story concerning Eddie Cole to fall into place was the discovery of a grave in the churchyard of Chew Stoke in what is now North Somerset. The inscribed gravestone having listed other members of the Cole family finally bears record of "Frederick Thomas Cole who fell at Gallipoli. June 5th 1915" – an inscription that somehow completes Eddie's journeyings between Somerset and Gallipoli via New Zealand.

A LONG LOST FRAGMENT OF FILM

In 2007 the Australian War Memorial reported the discovery of long-lost footage film taken at Gallipoli. Just 45 seconds of grainy 35 mm film which shows the only known moving pictures of the shore line at Anzac Cove and of British soldiers massing at Suvla Bay. While 45-seconds doesn't sound much, Australian War Memorial film and sound collection curator Stephanie Boyle said it was actually remarkable for anything at all to survive from that pioneering era. The film is believed to have been shot by British war correspondent Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett whose report of the Anzac landings was the first to reach Australia. His vivid and electrifying account of bravery did much to create the Anzac legend.

Ashmead-Bartlett was on board a British ship sunk by a German submarine on 27 May. Returning to London to replace his lost possessions, his literary agent suggested he take one of the new fangled movie cameras back to Gallipoli. The result was the 20 minute film *With the Dardanelles Expedition: Heroes of Gallipoli*. It is the only known movie footage

taken on the Peninsula in 1915 and shows the first genuine vision of troops in action.

In 1938 the memorial paid £25 to Alexander Noad for a documentary film, a compilation of newsreel material, patriotic recruiting films and some of Ashmead-Bartlett's *Heroes of Gallipoli*. It was consigned to the archive and there it sat until last year. There was the familiar scenes from *Heroes of Gallipoli* plus another 45 seconds not in Ashmead-Bartlett's film. So what does the newly discovered fragment actually show? A slow panning shot of Anzac Cove taken from a beach front promontory. The camp looks like a cutaway of an ants' nest with trails and the dugouts. The other shot shows British troops at Suvla Bay almost close enough to start making out faces. Some are shaving, others leaning on their guns and chatting. Some with arms folded stare straight at the camera, an amazing scene

Acknowledgement: We are grateful to several correspondents in Australia who sent news reports upon which this short report is based.

TWO GENERAL BIRDWOOD STORIES

MALCOLM ORCHARD

The book *Echoes of Anzac* edited by Graham Seal published in 2005 (see review *The Gallipolitan* No 109: 63 Winter 2005) contains two amusing General Birdwood stories. Birdwood was known to the Anzacs on Gallipoli, and after, simply as "Birdie". His rapport with the troops made him highly respected as a digger with stripes, a view reflected in most of the many yarns about him

I Ducked!

He was nearing a dangerous gap in a sap on Gallipoli when the sentry called out: "Duck, Birdie; you'd better ——— duck." "What did you do?" asked the outraged generals to whom Birdwood told the story. "Do? Why, I ——— well ducked!"

First published in *The Anzac Bulletin* No. 64 29 March 1918.

The Digger's Tenner

A digger was lying in camp dead broke so irreverently decided to write to God for a tenner. He addressed the letter "per General Birdwood, Headquarters." When the General got it he was much amused. He took it into the officers' mess, and all the officers entered into the humour of the joke. The General said: "We will collect amongst us and raise the tenner for this fellow, but all he could raise was seven pounds; so he sent it to the Digger. Next day the receipt came to hand as follows:

"Dear God, Thanks for sending me the tenner, but the next lot you send you don't send it through Headquarters, as Birdie and his mob pinched three quid of it."

First published in *The Listening Post* 17 August 1923.

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 *Gallipolian*) at £5.50 including postage.

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

Binders, which hold 6 copies of *The Gallipolian* are available finished in an attractive simulated leather, coloured maroon, with the title blocked in gold on the spine. Price per Binder is £5.25 including post in the United Kingdom and £6.25 including post for overseas.

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

SIMPSON BADGES

The Gallipoli Association holds a small stock of these most attractive badges produced by the ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee of Queensland. The .Badge is an oval design (three-quarters of an inch) showing Simpson in classic pose with his donkey. Each badge costs £2.50 plus an s.a.e, orders please to The Treasurer, Gallipoli Association, Frinton Cottage, 3 Cambridge Road, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9HN.

RESEARCH GROUP

Anybody willing to have an interesting time researching the Gallipoli campaign is most welcome to join me on the second Tuesday of each month at 1100 at the National Archives, formerly the Public Record Office at Kew. The meeting place is outside the bookshop near the entrance

Please contact me first if you intend to be present or need further information
Tel: 01590 673145 or by e mail clarechurch@tiscali.co.uk .

Clare Church, Co-ordinator

RECENT SALES

Pride of place in the Dix Noonan Webb medals sale of 13 December was the Victoria Cross group of five awarded to Petty Officer G McK Samson RNR for his gallantry at the landing from the *River Clyde* on 25 April. Wounded in 19 places Samson was eventually taken below for treatment, the surgeon on board later recalled how “whether he lived or died I knew he had won the Victoria Cross.” The price realised was £210,000 (estimate £150,000 to £180,000).

Other notable items of Gallipoli included a First World War DSC group of eleven awarded to Captain J S Metcalfe Royal Naval Reserve sold for £8,500 (estimate £2,500 – £3,000). He was decorated for his gallant command of one of HMS *Triumph*'s picket boats during the landings during which he was wounded in the arm, a blessing actually, as he was in hospital in Alexandria when the ship was sunk.

A First World War DSO group of five to Vice-Admiral Claude Seymour, who during the naval operations and subsequent landings at Gallipoli, was in command of the destroyer HMS *Colne* sold for £6,500 (estimate £2,500 – £3,000).

Lieutenant, later Rear-Admiral Eric Bent survived the loss of the *Ocean* on 18 March 1915 and went ashore on 25 April to serve and stayed for the whole campaign as a Naval Observation Officer. A fellow officer later recalled how Bent was ensconced on Chocolate Hill where he was shelled all day. His DSC was in recognition for “persistent good work as naval observation onshore from the first day of the landing.” Estimated at £2,500–£3,000 the medals fetched £4,200.

The catalogue, in the description of the medals of Lieutenant-Commander John Corby, speculates whether during the landings he served in the same picquet boat as the then Midshipman Eric Bush as both were on HMS *Bacchante*. His DSM group of ten realised £1,500 (estimate £1,800–£2,000).

Chief Petty Officer Geoffrey Rumming of the RNAS Armoured Car Section was originally recommended for the Victoria Cross by his commander Lieutenant-Commander Josiah Wedgewood MP for his bravery ashore and afloat at the landing from the *River Clyde*. In the event he received a CGM and this together with his Medaille Militaire sold for £15,000 (estimate £15,000–£20,000).

Rear-Admiral Henry Doughty brother of Lieutenant-Colonel Doughty-Wylie VC of V Beach fame commanded the monitor *Abercombie* at Gallipoli from July onwards. Later he took command of HMS *Agincourt* described as “the longest battleship in the world with the largest number of guns afloat.” His fine medal group (see page 00) sold for £3,200 (estimate £2,500–£3,000).

Late of the Imperial Yeomanry Squadron Commander W H “Old Bill” Wilson RNAS came to Gallipoli already having gained a reputation over the Western Front of engaging enemy pilots and observers with his rifle. Sadly his flying career came to an end after engine failure resulted in his plane coming down in the sea. He was four hours in the water before being rescued. His DSC group of five sold for £4,500 (estimate £3,000–£3,500).

A submarine casualty, Stoker Tapper RN, died on 18 April 1915 of injuries received when E 15 was shelled by Turkish batteries. His War Medal, together with that of his father sold for £75 (estimate £40–£60).

Robert Hamilton Baillie had a chequered career. He rode with Theodore Roosevelt’s Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War, with the Imperial Yeomanry during the Boer War and then served five years with the Canadian North-west Mounted Police. Having enlisted in the 9th Battalion AIF he was killed in Gallipoli on 29 May. His Memorial Plaque reached £320 (estimate £120–£160).

GALLIPOLI IN ARIZONA

David Druckman has written from the United States to report that he has recently completed teaching a four-week, two hours a week, course entitled “The Tragedy of Gallipoli in WW1”. It was sponsored by ILR (Institute for Learning In Retirement) in Sun City Vistoso, Oro Valley, Arizona. The two dozen men and women in the class remembered that “the men who fought and died in the campaign are not forgotten”.

Using over 160 overhead transparencies plus DVDs the first two hours were devoted to a resume commencing with the *Goeben* passing through the Dardanelles to Istanbul and ending with the evacuation of the peninsula in January 1915. Subsequently lectures included the leaders, military and political, both heroes and sinners, together with then and now pictures of the battlefields, and the results. The third two hours were videos of the battle taken from various TV programs (History, etc) plus personal video of his own Gallipoli trip. Finally the drama documentary *All The King's Men*. Subsequent presentations will include a review of the truths and false accusations against Winston Churchill and his involvement with the Gallipoli campaign.

ABOUT COURAGE AND ENDURANCE

“Anzac is not merely about loss. It is about courage and endurance, and duty, and love of country and mateship, and good humour and the survival of a sense of self-worth and decency in the face of dreadful odds.”

The words of the then Governor-General Sir William Deane spoken on Anzac Day 1999 on the entrance wall of the Gallery of Medals at Melbourne’s Shrine of Remembrance.

Contributed by Malcolm Orchard

VETERANS IN 1967

In *The Gallipolian* Spring 2007 page 65 we published a speech of welcome from the Turkish Veterans Union to British veterans on a visit to Gallipoli in May 1967. Unfortunately the copy held by the Association did not include the author's name. We were thus extremely pleased when our member R C Camp informed us that his father had been on this pioneering pilgrimage and had been most impressed by the speech which had indeed been given by Major General H G Aran Retired. Furthermore Mr Camp's father subsequently had been in correspondence with Major General Aran whose reply we are pleased to reproduce below.

"I regret the long delay in replying to your very kind letter of 15th September 1967.

I have been away from Ankara in October 1967 to attend the twelfth General assembly of the World Veterans Federation at the Hague, in Holland as Turkish delegate. At the end of the General Assembly I have been elected Council Member for Turkey to The World Veterans Federation.

Many other activities which took place after my return home, has prevented me from writing earlier to express my deep appreciation for the spirit which you have shown, specially on the speech, delivered at the Officers Club on Bosphorous. I have deep pleasure to sending a copy of that speech.

My dear friend, very difficult to say that I prepared this simple speech for your pilgrimage party, I translated to Turkish, the President of the Union read and I repeat my text again in English. As you see my English still very poor! But, since you like it I shall be deeply honoured anyhow !

Actually I did nothing for you! It was my obligation to look after all pilgrimage party as Turkish Veteran Associations Chairman of the Foreign Relation, and finally an honorary life member of the Royal Artillery Association in England, which I am very proud of my second Association too.

I had very exciting invitation last week from the President of the British Legion in Istanbul. I will attend their annual Dinner on next Saturday evening in Istanbul as their guest. This very close relation adding more colourful pages to my life!

You should know that my father was chief medical officer of the second Turkish Division at Dardanelles! This is the last obligation for me to serve you. Be sure that when I will come to England, I will pay my humble respect to you personally!

My deepest regards and very best wishes. I remain most sincerely yours."

H G Aran

UPDATE ON MUSEUMS NEAR THE GALLIPOLI BATTLEFIELDS

GRAHAM LEE (IBRAHIM AKSU)

For those visiting Gallipoli, there are now more museums than ever on the peninsula near to the battlefields. It would not be logical to visit all of them on one trip – and everyone has their own favourite – but this brief round-up will at least inform you of what there is and where they are. Each “museum” or “visitors’ centre” features battlefield artefacts and exhibits. Some are state-run, others were set up privately by Gallipoli enthusiasts. Web site addresses have also been given here. Whether they have an English version or not, clicking around will at least give you an idea of the building to look out for, not to mention the chance to view some rather good wartime photos. Gelibolu town appears not to have any Gallipoli Campaign-themed museum, so the first one most visitors will encounter is the recently-opened Kilia Bay Visitors’ Centre (Kilye Koyu Ana Tanıtım Merkezi) at Kilia Bay/Harbour (lîman) just one km north of Eceabat.

If you head directly over towards Anzac Cove, you will meet on the crest above Brighton Beach the now-familiar Kabatepe Visitors’ Centre (Kabatepe_Tanitım_Merkezi) with various sculptures around it. On the way to or from the Anzac front, it is quite practical to drive through the village of Bigali where you will find Atatürk’s house, his headquarters during the campaign, which underwent restoration in 2007. New facilities include a library, cafeteria, display room and internet room. The web site (www.canakkale.gov.tr) covers all three afore-mentioned locations. If, on the other hand, your itinerary includes Suvla Bay and your route passes through the village of Buyuk Anafarta, look out for a private museum (Buyuk Anafarta Koyu Baris Muzesi) opened on 16 June 2007 containing 6,000 war relics and documents collected by Onur Akmanlar over 15 years, especially concentrating on the Suvla part of the campaign. The museum also goes under the name of “Buyuk Anafarta Koyu Cephe Savaslari Koleksiyonu” (duryolcu.com).

Should you head directly into Eceabat, there are some outdoor exhibits and a small museum at the Gallipoli Peninsula National Park Visitors’ Centre (Gelibolu Yarımadası Tarihi Milli Parkı Tanıtım Merkezi) about one km straight ahead on the other side of town. However, there is much more to see in the village of Kilitbahir a little further on. Firstly, a nice little museum on the slope behind the castle sponsored by Opet, one of Turkey’s largest oil and gas corporations. Secondly, past the souvenir stands near the sea, there is a display centre devoted entirely to Gallipoli inside the “Namazgah” tower of the castle. Thirdly, beyond the castle are impressive newly-restored (2007) late 19th century artillery emplacements that played a key role in the 18 March 1915 naval battle. There is a fully-equipped museum in the middle of the batteries, possibly not open for visitors yet.

On the way down to Cape Helles you will pass through the village of Alcitepe (Krithia). The private museum established by the late Salim Multu is still open, apparently, run by his family (Salim Mutlu Savas Muzesi). In the same village, set up in 2007, is the Gallipoli Living History Gallery (Canakkale Savaslari Canli Tarih Galerisi), containing life-like models against wartime panoramas (www.canakkaletarihgalerisi.com). Once at Cape Helles, most visitors like to admire the view from the Turkish Memorial (Abide) on the headland, constructed between 1954 and 1960, which at 41.7 metres high is the highest monument in Turkey. The museum underneath may or may not be open due to repair work on the memorial.

The road to the right at Morto Bay leads into the village of Seddulbahir. Nearby is the "Gallipoli War Relics Gallery" (1915 Seddulbahir Savas Malzemeleri Galerisi), containing all sorts of interesting battlefield memorabilia collected by Ahmet Uslu and opened in 2006 (duryolcu.com). This is actually an offshoot from a small Gallipoli museum opened by Ahmet Uslu several years ago in Canakkale itself, down a side street near the city centre. In Canakkale, however, the one to aim for is the Naval Museum (Canakkale Deniz Muzesi) in Cimenlik Park, with a variety of modern displays and film shows covering all aspects of the campaign in three separate buildings: the two-storey museum near the entrance (which contains a well-stocked library including rare books in English, open to researchers), the replica of the minelayer *Nusret*, and the inner keep of the castle, plus artillery pieces, mines and torpedoes around the park. Some information in English may be gleaned from two web sites (anzac.govt.nz/gallipoliguide) and (wowturkey.com/forum).



*Soldier's Memorial Garden in Unley, one of Adelaide's older suburbs.
Photograph Peter Clayton provided by Malcolm Orchard.*

BUILT IN A DAY PERTH'S ANZAC COTTAGE

A unique and probably first memorial to the Gallipoli Campaign is Anzac Cottage, a four room bungalow standing in Mount Hawthorn, Perth, Western Australia. Number 38 Kalgoolie Street (not far from Anzac Road though that came later) is also known as "the house that was built in a day" built by an enormous gang of workers watched in turn by a crowd estimated as several thousand.

At 0330 on 12 February 1916 to the accompaniment of a ringing bell a town crier exhorted residents: "Arise! arise! Anzac Cottage is being built today". Actually some preparatory work had been done on the previous two Saturdays. First a stand of trees had been felled, after which both workers and spectators enjoyed afternoon tea provided by the Ladies Patriotic Guild.

Describing the following Saturday a souvenir booklet records "No finer display of Patriotic and Industrial effort has ever been seen in Perth than ... when 70 drays, laden with building material, formed up in procession.... Fully 150 men gave up their Saturday afternoon... and the procession was about half a mile long. Mrs. C. Roberts, the "Soldiers' Queen" headed the procession in her motor car, which also carried a Metters' stove and copper, and was accompanied by two other decorated motor cars. Then came 20 drays of stone, 27 of bricks, 1 of lime, 3 of tiles, 12 of timber, 1 of cement and paints, 1 of scaffolding, 1 tiled grate, 1 large enamel bath, 1 of refreshments, and 1 of sundries. The procession was viewed by thousands as it proceeded to Mt. Hawthorn, and on arrival at 'Anzac' was greeted by hundreds of enthusiastic men women and children."

The following Saturday about 4,000 people watched as 200 volunteers worked tirelessly to build the house which they aimed to complete in the day including the fence, gateposts, and turf lawn. By early afternoon the walls were at ceiling height. while by 5pm the finishing touches were being put in place, to be followed by speeches and much joyful ceremony. Anzac cottage had been built by the community for a person still to be chosen, in the event the first wounded Anzac soldier to return to Mount Hawthorn from the Gallipoli campaign.

He was Private Cuthbert John Porter who at first was understandably embarrassed at being the sole beneficiary of the city's gratitude to his military colleagues. His reluctance to accept the free house, available to his family in perpetuity as long as they occupied it, only made him more of a celebrity. He formally took over the property on 16 April 1916 to the accompaniment of community singing featuring "Rule Britannia" and "Home Sweet Home".

He lived in Anzac Cottage with its flag aloft his death in 1964, his wife died four years

later and for some years afterwards several of their grandchildren occupied the house which remains a unique memorial to the campaign of 1915.

Acknowledgements: We are grateful to Reg Clements for drawing our attention to and providing newspaper reports and other information concerning Anzac House.

ANZAC COTTAGE & SUVLA

There are probably many other house names connected with the Gallipoli Campaign. If you know of any, and especially know of the Gallipoli connection, the Editor would be delighted to hear from you. Meanwhile the briefest mention of two, one England, the other Wales.

“Anzac Cottage” at Chacewater, near Truro, Cornwall is a 300 year old stone and cob cottage commanding lovely countryside views. Not early as old, but with stunning coastal views, including across the Bristol Channel to north Somerset and Devon is “Suvla”, a cottage in Freshwater East, Pembrokeshire.

DOWSING AT GALLIPOLI

RICHARD SLIFIERZ

In the Polish edition of New Zealand dowser, turned author, Richard Webster's book, *Dowsing for Beginners*, I came across one line of information stating that dowsing was used at Gallipoli by Australian troops during the First World War. What surprised me further, after asking around, was that none of my fellow Australian dowsers had any idea about this! So I set off to find out for sure whether this was indeed true. Was dowsing used at Gallipoli and if so, by whom?

The battle site of Gallipoli in Turkey is deeply connected to Australian history as it has been chosen as the place of remembrance for fallen Australian soldiers involved in all wars. Nearly 9,000 of the 50,000 Australians who fought at Gallipoli over a nine month period were killed, although these losses were dwarfed by the volunteer army on the Western Front, particularly at the Somme Poziere's battlefield, where it is estimated 45,000 Australians did not return home to their sun-burnt country.

Originally, I followed the idea that “my” dowser was Captain T.R. Williams, guessing that the most likely place for a dowser was in the engineers. Also, the founder of the Victorian Dowsing Society in Melbourne, Australia (and my mentor) was George Williams and, I guess subconsciously I was looking for an elusive link to him. However,

my research was to no avail, there wasn't one. Unperturbed, I started looking into the records of Lieutenant William H. Dawkins, his second-in-command, and rang all the Dawkins's in Melbourne to see if he was related to any of them. However, once again I drew a blank.

Next I contacted renowned dowser John Living because he was a dowsing soldier who was taught how to dowse for anti-personnel mines, and he passed me on to a retired army general in England who was helpful but told me not to spread rumours if I couldn't prove that dowsing was used!

It is not very widely known that only after the troops landed at Gallipoli on 25 April, 1915, was it discovered that no provision had been made for water. According to, *The Story of ANZAC* (11th Edition, 1941), arrangements for the supply of water were omitted by General Headquarters because no-one suspected that the fighting would take that long. Thus when the soldiers arrived at Gallipoli, water was carried from the beach up the gullies in kerosene tins, but this supply did not last very long. Quickly, it became clear that the soldiers could not run through the Turkish positions in search of water, so two special parties of the 2nd Field Company of Engineers, under Captain T.R. Williams and Lieutenant W.H. Dawkins, began to search the gullies for it.

By nightfall they had sunk two tube wells at the mouth of Shrapnel Gully. The next day, Lieutenant Dawkins, a graduate of Duntroon, Australia's Military Academy, moved to what became known as Dawkins' Point – the seaward end of M'Cay's Hill. By the end of the second evening, they had sunk twenty shallow wells, giving 20,000 gallons of good drinking water a day. Troughs were immediately erected for 500 horses and the pipes from there were laid under fire. But did they find these wells by dowsing? In some ways I was no closer to finding any proof of this.

Sadly, after the vital water supply had been secured young Dawkins was killed by a shell only a couple weeks later on 12 May. Further misfortune befell the "diggers" when the summer arrived, the water table dropped, the wells dried up and water had to be shipped in on barges.

My lucky break in finding the final piece of information came in a way that is known to many dowsers: "happy coincidence". Whilst I had found out where Dawkins and his parents had lived in Melbourne, there were no more records and I thought I had come to a real full stop this time.

Over the months of my research in the archives of the Australian War Memorial, Mrs. Mary Pollard, the Senior Curator was very interested and helpful. She drew up a short-list of material for me to review and since there are over 10 million objects, of which about 10% has been digitised and is available on line, her help was gratefully received.

We found a picture of William Dawkins, pictures of water pipes running from the wells

that were dug and the piping at Shrapnel Gulley, but still no confirmation that he had been dowsing. Also a letter relating to his death.

Then, one weekend Mrs. Pollard just happened to be out bush walking with a lady called Judith Ingle, also from Canberra. In conversation about the Memorial, Mrs Pollard mentioned that she had this chap who was interested in William Dawkins and in particular whether he was a dowser. Mrs. Ingle was quite stunned as she just happened to be a relative of William Dawkins and had written two books about him and the Military Academy of Duntroon. Over the remaining weekend, Mrs. Ingle rang all the relatives that she could in search of more information. Finally, she spoke to Dawkins' great nephew, Raymond Mark who lives at Euroa, a small country town approximately 150 miles from Melbourne. Apparently he was orphaned as a young boy and lived with William Dawkins parents whilst he was growing up and might know more.

I was overjoyed at this link and immediately rang Raymond who confirmed that William Dawkins was indeed a dowser who used his skills at Gallipoli to help his fellow countrymen. And how did he know? Well, William Dawkins' Mother, (Raymond's adopted Mother) used to re-read William's letters for comfort, after his death, detailing his exploits at Gallipoli and so Raymond heard all about William's dowsing. Not only that, he said "dowsing runs in the family", as he too is a dowser!

It took a lot of time and effort to track down some of this information, and I am very grateful to the Australian War Memorial staff, in particular Mrs. Pollard. I'd also like to thank Judith Ingle and the relatives of William Dawkins for their help. The story also resulted in dowsing receiving a bit of publicity here in Australia, as I was interviewed on national radio.

Note: This article was first published in *Dowsing Today* to which our attention was kindly drawn by Hamish Robertson whose attention in turn had been drawn by a dowsing friend whose father and Hamish Robertson's father had served together at Gallipoli in the Ceylon Planters Rifles. The Editor of *Dowsing Today* and the author of the article both kindly agreed to its reproduction in *The Gallipolitan*.

I, TO, WAS AT HELLES

And if any place where soldiers gather and tell old tales there are two men who can say to each other "I, to, was at Helles on such a date, there is a great bond between them.

From *The Secret Battle* by A P Herbert himself a Gallipoli veteran.

A HERO'S VISION REVEALED

The Weekend Australian 29-30 December devoted two whole pages to the discovery of a series of photographic negatives from Gallipoli, which had resided in the bottom of a suitcase for over 90 years. The present owner, Mrs Helen Wighton, is a granddaughter of Arthur Blackburn who was one of the first to land at Anzac Cove on 25 April. She is reported as saying "there are those negatives of what appears to be Gallipoli but we'll have a look at them later."

The photographs show in amazing detail aspects of Gallipoli. Views of warships very close inshore before they were ordered further out from the coast in early May. Peter Stanley, the Australian National Museum's head of research has said "I can't think of any seaward looking photos showing so many ships." He was equally effusive about the trench photographs saying he had "never seen trench photos like that."

The photographs cover a range of aspects of life at Gallipoli including the inside of a dugout and Anzac Cove very early on before it became cluttered with stores, pack animals and far more troops. Ashley Ekins, senior historian at the Australian War Memorial when giving his opinion of the photographs said "God they're good".

Arthur Blackburn together with "his old tent mate" Phil Robin reached further inland on 25 April than any other soldiers, in the words of Charles Bean "whose movements are known." He was to serve on Gallipoli for almost the entire campaign being promoted Second Lieutenant in August.

Moving to the Western Front he was awarded the Victoria Cross in 1916 for leading a series of bloody grenade attacks on German strongpoints at Pozieres. Later the same year and suffering from pleurisy he was invalided home. In the Second World War and by now a Brigadier he was captured on Java in 1942 and spent the remainder of the war in a prison camp. He died in 1960 and received a state funeral.

A biography is scheduled for publication in April. We hope to carry a review in the Autumn *Gallipollian*, and at the same time reproduce several of the photographs.

Acknowledgement: We are most grateful to James Orton who despatched copies from Australia of the newspaper reports which announced the discovery of the photographs and from which the above report has been compiled.

BOOK REVIEWS

ANZACS AND IRELAND

JEFF KILDEA

Cork University Press 2007, 295 pages, illustrated with maps and photos.

ISBN 978- 185918-422-6 Euro 29. £25.00.

Irish emigration to Australia and New Zealand resulted in substantial Irish recruitment to the Anzac forces during the Great War. Some Irish women became nurses with the Australian Imperial Forces. Anzacs, the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, fought alongside Irishmen serving in Gallipoli with British Army regiments such as the Connaught Rangers and the Dublin and Munster Fusiliers.

Dr Jeff Kildea is a barrister in Sydney where UNSW Press originally published the book. He researched the Irish connections in Gallipoli, the Western Front, Australia and Ireland. The excellent book outlines the main military events but the emphasis is on human stories. Many Irish emigrants and their descendants returned to the northern hemisphere as soldiers.

Chapter 1 deals with Gallipoli and the shared experiences of the Irish Anzacs and the Irish in British khaki. During attacks on Chunuk Bair and Hill 971 in August 1915, an Irishman, Major General Alexander Godley commanded the Anzacs which included a Maori infantry battalion. Anzacs who fought alongside the 10th (Irish) Division at Anzac Cove praised Irish bravery. As Jeff Kildea explains, however, in Australia Suvla Bay was considered a bad joke, an irrelevance synonymous with inertia, provoking smirks of inverted colonial snobbery. Peter Weir's film revived negative images. For the Irish at home, Suvla came at a sensitive time as Home Rule was postponed and the Gallipoli experience spurred anti-war feelings and nationalist sentiments.

Australian troops on 'Blighty leave' visited Britain and Ireland. During the Easter Rising against British rule in 1916, Anzacs of Irish descent served in the Crown forces against the Irish rebels. These revelations provoked great interest in the Irish media when the book was launched. The ironic epithet 'Six-bob-a-day tourists' was applied to relatively affluent soldiers on leave. Many visited Irish scenic resorts and the book cover includes a photograph of Anzacs on a jaunting car in Killarney.

The Irish and Australian nations share communal experiences such as opposition to conscription and complex attitudes to remembrance. Appendices list Australian soldiers named on Irish memorials and also Australian First World War Graves in Ireland. Although some relevant sources are omitted, there are good references, an index and bibliography.

Anthony P Quinn

WINSTON & JACK: THE CHURCHILL BROTHERS

CELIA LEE

Published by the author 2007. 407 pages, 67 illustrations. ISBN 978-0-9539292-1-4. £25.00.

While Winston Churchill's involvement with the Gallipoli campaign is well known, and considered by some to very controversial, what is less well known is that his younger brother Jack actually served there. This fine book by a member of the Gallipoli Association is offered as a celebration of the lives of some "great Briton's", indeed this year 2008 is the centenary of both Winston and Jack's marriages.

During service as a staff officer at St Omer on the Western Front, Jack Churchill, was telephoned by Winston to ask if he would like to serve with their old friend Sir Ian Hamilton at Gallipoli. Jack would be the only one of the staff officers with practical combat experience from the present war. Permission was first needed from Sir John French though he had "to kick his heels for a while as the general watched a battle." By 13 March he was back in London though barely in time to see his family before he was off, his wife Goonie, Winston and Clemmie and other family members waving goodbye at Charing Cross Station. Although not referred to in the book Orlo Williams, a new cipher officer later described the scene and how Jack "conveyed tremendously the hardened warrior, with a vicious bludgeon in his hand and a large revolver sticking out of his belt." During the landings on the 25th Jack was on board HMS *Queen Elizabeth* and was to remain on the staff at Gallipoli until the very end of the campaign receiving a "Mention" in Sir Ian Hamilton's final despatch and the French Legion of Honour. Jack's single verse poem of five lines Y Beach rather than in the appropriate chapter is fortunately included in the chapter notes at the end of the book.

The historian Andrew Roberts has said of *Winston & Jack* "The Lees have done Churchillian history a great service with their diligence, throwing light on a part of the story that has not hitherto been fully understood."

The author's previous book *Jean, Lady Hamilton: A Soldier's Wife* was published in 2001 while her husband John, also a member of the Gallipoli Association is the author of *A Soldier's Life: General Sir Ian Hamilton* published in 2000.

Winston & Jack is available for £25.00 including post from the author at Middlesmarch, 12 Longhurst Road, London, SE13 5LP. Tel: 020 8318 4940. E mail: j.lee470@ntlworld.com

THE LANDINGS AT SUVLA BAY, 1915

MICHAEL J MORTLOCK

McFarland & Company 2007. 237 pages, maps & illustrations.
ISBN 13 978-0-7864-3035-2. £22.95 softback.

The author, born in West Suffolk and now living in Richmond, Virginia, examines in

detail the landing at Suvla Bay under six main sections: Plans and Prevarications, The Preparations, The Landings, Failure, The End, The Conclusion. We are told he has spent the past 27 years on a work of three volumes, a history of the 54th (East Anglian) Division in the First World War. The present book, a portion of this much larger work. A relative, Private Jacob Mortlock served with the 1/5th Suffolk Regiment at Suvla being invalided to Malta when diagnosed as a severe case of diphtheria. He survived the war to die aged 76 two days before Christmas in 1971. Among the books conclusions being that "the impetus was there, it only required competent generalship to sustain the forward momentum — the generals squandered the golden opportunity presented to them at Suvla Bay." Another must for the bookshelves of all Gallipolians.

THE IRISH BRIGADES 1685-2006

DAVID MURPHY

Four Courts Press 2007. 311 pages, 58 illustrations. ISBN 978-1-84682-080-9. 45 Euros.

The author, whose previous book is *Ireland and the Crimean War* (2002), has provided in this invaluable reference of Irish military service past and present, brief histories of an amazing number of units, choosing as his start date 1685 when James II came to the throne. Also rightly drawing attention to the huge number of Irishmen who served elsewhere noting that no fewer than 128 Irish-born soldiers were serving with the 7th Cavalry at the time of the Little Big Horn in 1876.

From a Gallipoli point of view and choosing the Connaught Rangers as the example, to which just over six pages are devoted. The regiments' history, first raised in 1793, is outlined then followed by details of each battalions' service. It was the 5th (Service) Battalion which served at Gallipoli and amongst the Regimental Battle Honours Suvla, Scimitar Hill, Gallipoli 1915. The Motto "Quis Separabit" means Who shall separate us while amongst the regimenal nicknames "the Devil's Own."

THE ANZACS: GALLIPOLI TO THE WESTERN FRONT

PETER PEDERSON

Penguin Group 2007. 445 pages, illustrations & maps. ISBN 13 97806 70041 244. £25.00

Dr Peter Pedersen is a graduate of the Royal Military College, Duntroon (Canberra), the Australian Command and Staff College and the University of New South Wales, and has commanded the 5th/7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment. he is also the author of a detailed and dispassionate account of Sir John Monash's development as a military commander before and during the First World War. In 1990 Dr Pedersen guided Prime Ministers Thatcher and Hawke over the Gallipoli Peninsula as part of the 75th Anniversary commemorations. And as he writes:

"A glance at a sepia photograph or some grainy newsreel footage gives an idea of what the Anzacs were like at the time. They recalled the war afterwards in

contrasting tones, setting the warmth of comradeship and shared effort alongside the misery of privation and the shock of battle. It was the most intense period in their lives. They had escaped, temporarily at least, the humdrum existence that is the lot of all but a very few. Since their passing though, the letters, diaries and memoirs that they left have become the only means of getting to know them. Yet these writings carry an emotional risk. Browsing through the weekly letters of a soldier makes the reader part of the family to whom he addressed them. When they stop because he has been killed, the reader shares the sadness his family felt.

The sorrow at such a loss can also transcend the years in other ways. Private Charles Johnston of the 56th Battalion fell at Fromelles in 1916. A highly regarded teacher, he had influenced many lives and his passing was widely felt. His parents were devastated to lose a second son, Frank, on the Somme later that year. They could not bear to tell their other children that Charles and Frank were never found. Margaret, a sister, believed that they rested in war graves in France. Curious, her son found out from the Office of Australian War Graves that Charles was commemorated on the wall of VC Corner Australian Cemetery at Fromelles, and Frank on the wall of the Australian National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux. Her grand-son subsequently visited them. Nothing was ever said to Margaret, who remained unaware of the truth to the end of her life. Far from fading with time, the deaths of her brothers had touched three generations. I am Margaret Johnston's grandson. Charles and Frank Johnston were my great-uncles."

The Anzacs is particularly well illustrated with over 300 photographs and art works, and by combining detailed battle narratives with soldiers descriptions and accounts Dr Pedersen has graphically recreated in detail the Gallipoli, Palestine and Western Front campaigns. Indeed as one reviewer, an historian from the University of Queensland has written in review in a leading Melbourne newspaper:

"The technicalities of military strategy and tactics are related in easily understood terms. Petersen keeps just the right amount of humanity in his work. *The Anzacs* is outstanding and appears fit to become the standard modern work on the AIF in World War 1."

Pedersen on page 108 in conclusion of the section devoted to Gallipoli writes:

"From the landing to Krithia, from Lone Pine to the Nek and Hill 60 the campaign made the notion of the Great Adventure a sick joke for the Australians."

At least 8,520 Australians and 2,806 New Zealanders had been killed and respectively 18,500 and 5,000 wounded.

Malcolm Orchard

THE DARDANELLES DRIVELLER

NO. 001. DARDANELLES, MAY 17 1915. ONE

The Editorial under the above heading in the first edition (two pages) of *The Dardanelles Driveller* reads:

"It is customary, when a new periodical obtrudes its unwelcome presence upon a population already satiated with literary fare, that the Editor should anticipate his critics by giving due and sufficient reasons for being allowed to remain alive. In these waters however, where the arrival of the Literary Supplement of the Times is delayed beyond all bearing by the painful irregularities of the (not daily) Mail, we are of opinion that such humility on our part would be entirely out of place. **Autres temps autres moeurs.** But since a few details as to the aim of our journal may be of interest to our many readers (we are ready to back our circulation against that of the Peninsula Punch any way) we take this opportunity of outlining the course which it is proposed to pursue. Humble in disposition, our aim will not be high; it will be our endeavour merely to take the place, in the Dardanelles, of the paper which each of our readers may happen to prefer. All tastes will, to the best of our abilities, be catered for; the daily news will be from a more interesting and we hope not less reliable source than is at the disposal of our somewhat turgid contemporary; the literary supplement will be on a level never yet attained in Sedd-el-Bahr; the poetry will be such as can only be inspired by the Aegean or the Plain of Troy. Such is our aim. It must be for us rather than our readers to say if it is attained. But if our paper is of any use at all to the troops in the field we shall be more than satisfied. In conclusion we would add that the editorial staff will always be glad to receive contributions to our columns, but that nothing calculated to bring the flush of shame to the cheek of a modest recruit can in any circumstances be published—unless we are paid for it."

This was followed by a number of short items, for example:

Our esteemed contemporary the *Peninsula Press* informs us that "the Russians were knocking at the door of the Bosphorous," while a "detachment of the Russian Baltic Fleet was cruising in the neighbourhood of Windau." We presume the Germans shut the Windau as soon as the Russians began knocking at the door.

The howitzers on Achi Baba are becoming dangerous. Yesterday they fired 126 rounds and hit two empty biscuit boxes.

Things we want to know.

How anyone can read the Peninula Press? The situation of G.H.Q. Where the Helles the Harem.

YOU HAVE PROBABLY TRIED ANZAC BISCUITS BUT HOW ABOUT ANZAC PUDDING?

You take your biscuit tin, empty it of its contents, and then perforate the tin from the interior with a number of holes. You have thus an effective grater at hand. You then grate the biscuit or biscuits - according to the number of the greedily expectant party you are cooking for — and thoroughly mix with the now finely ground cereal — of whatever substance it may be that the biscuit is made of add a quantity of bacon fat. The compound is now dumped into a canteen lid and baked or fried over the fire that has been hastily made of bits of old boxes and twigs. In 5 minutes, if the directions are properly followed, it is cooked, and turns out of the canteen tin a beautifully golden tinged cake some 2 inches in thickness.

You take your jack knife and divide the cake or pudding laterally as if making a sandwich, then with your jack knife you lift up a load of jam. By this time, at a rough computation, some thousands of flies have arrived on the scene and are taking an intelligent interest in the operations - flies with black and green backs, and bigger and more pertinacious than the domestic fly of old England. You rapidly make a sandwich with the jam, and divide it among your comrades. The flies split up into battalions and cover everything. Both sides of your jack knife are black with them. They attack the morsels as they are conveyed to your mouth, literally flying into the jaws of death. But annoying as this may be they do not prevent one from enjoying the Achi Baba pudding. One gets used to them as to the shells which are continually whistling and screeching through the air. Only while you are cooking you must take care that your head does not appear above the trench.

It is not known who is the inventor of the Achi Baba Pudding, a home-made delicacy that is especially favoured among the Lancashire soldiers on the Gallipoli Peninsula. The story that it is the creation of a French chef may be dismissed as an idle rumour. A Preston soldier of the New Army who spent what he regards as the 15 happiest days of his military career in the firing line before Achi Baba - that is compared with what happened before and after; he is now at home rapidly recovering from wounds - describes the pudding as a dainty, almost a luxurious meal, and “filling” at the same time.

Note: First published in *The Westmorland Mercury* 8 October 1915 and more recently in March 2006 in the Newsletter of the Essex Branch of the Western Front Association.

WATSON PIER

Watson (see photograph opposite) was a prominent landmark at Anzac Cove. A South Australian officer Lieutenant Stanley Holm Watson, from the 1st Australian Divisional Signals Company, supervised its construction. The pier was the first and main means for landing supplies and ammunition onto the peninsula at Anzac. Its construction required a measure of Australian ingenuity. Perhaps this is why Watson Pier became famous in Australian military history. To make the weight for the pile driver, Watson defused an unexploded Turkish shell, scraped out the explosive filling and refilled it with shrapnel pellets. Watson was on Gallipoli from 25 April until evacuation in December 1915 when he was involved in maintaining wireless communications until the end. He was the last officer onto the last lighter leaving Anzac Cove. Watson then served in France and Belgium. After the war, he rejoined the South Australian Railways and was Deputy Commissioner, 1948-1953. Stan Watson died in 1985, aged 98.

Acknowledgement: Reproduced by kind permission of the History Trust of South Australia from their leaflet *Gallipoli The South Australia Story* which commemorated the 90th anniversary of the Gallipoli Campaign. C E W Bean in *The Story Of Anzac* Volume I amongst other information reports how the pier and vessels alongside or in the vicinity were continually shelled by the Olive Grove batteries of the Turks. John Robertson in *Anzac and Empire* provides a photograph of Lieutenant Watson and other officers in May 1915 and one of a devastated pier after the violent gales in November.



Lieutenant Stanley Watson (far right) supervising a working party, 2nd Field Company Engineers at the pier which bears his name. Photograph Australian War Memorial G01046



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.