

HARROW SCHOOL AND GALLIPOLI



HARROW
SCHOOL

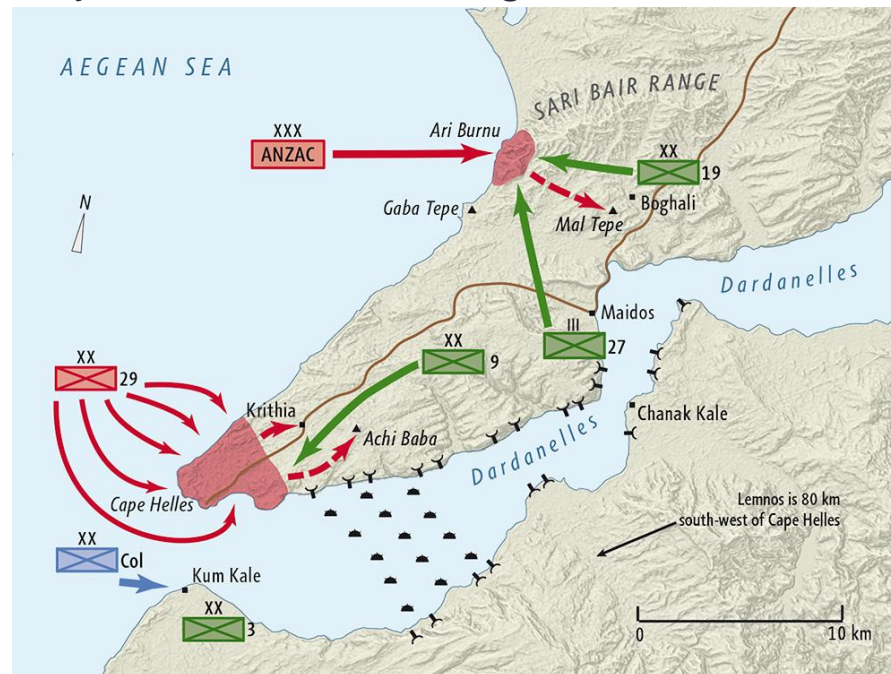
Jack Oelhafen, Harry Neville,
and Dexter Wan

Role of Old Harrovians in Gallipoli



Admiralty Plan for the Attack on the Dardanelles

- Devised by First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill in 1914, and put into action in February 1915. Its aims:
 - Alleviate pressure on the Russians
 - Capture Istanbul and control the Bosphorus
 - Encourage the entry of Greece and Bulgaria into the war.



Planning the Campaign

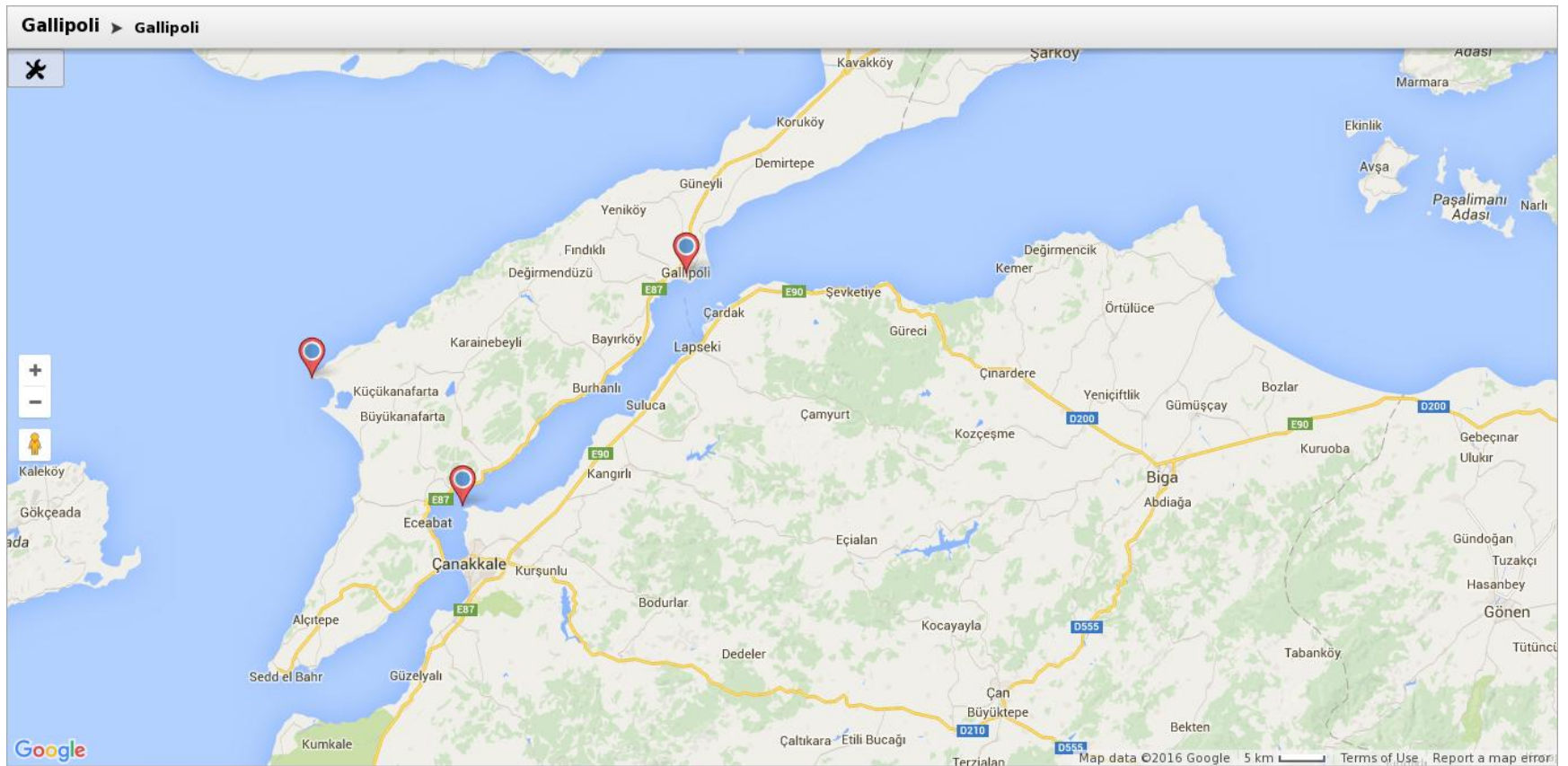
- Britain declared war on the Ottoman Empire the 5th of November 1914.
- Russia's southern port - Odessa - now cut off. They needed British armaments.
- Winston Churchill OH devised the plan for attacking the straits - based on inaccurate information about Ottoman troop numbers.



During the Campaign



Interactive Map



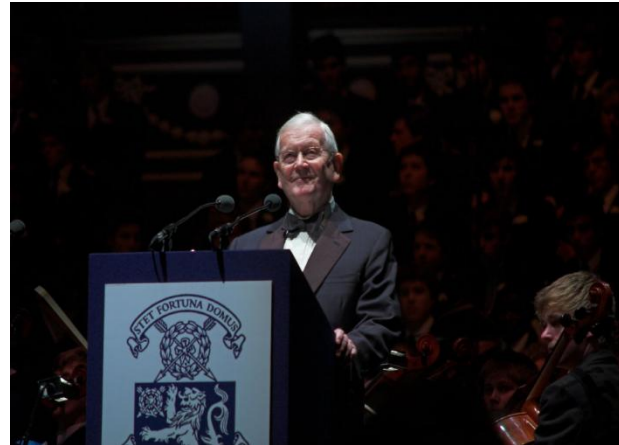
Andrew Hamilton-Russell

- He was at Harrow from 1880-85
- Attended Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst
- Left having been awarded the sword of honour
- He bravely led his brigade at Gallipoli
- He refused orders from Godley, anticipating the fire across the front line from the Turks
- He led a successful night-time attack at the Battle of Sari Bair
- He led the successful evacuation of ANZAC troops from Gallipoli



Lieutenant Commander EG Boissier

- He was in charge of the machine gun unit at the Battle of Achi Baba at Gallipoli
- Had been seriously injured by some shrapnel at the Battle of Achi Baba just 1 month later
- He returned to England in 1917
- His son, John (Moretons, 1937), was killed 4 days after VE day when his boat was destroyed by a German mine in the Skagerrak off the coast of Denmark.



Gareth Neville Walford

- **Garth Neville Walford**, The Grove 1895-1900.
- Obtained the VC for gallant action on V Beach, Gallipoli.
- Killed in action 26 April 1915



Old Harrovians killed at Gallipoli

- Lieut. C.B.H. Beck (West Acre 1902²) – 15 August 1915, aged 24
- Capt. A.H.M. Bowers (Elmfield 1898²) – 9 August 1915, aged 35
- Capt. A.A. Fowler (Elmfield 1905³) – 28 April 1915, aged 27
- Capt. Sir J.E. Fowler, Bart. (Elmfield 1902³) – 22 June 1915, aged 30
- Capt. E.A. Marrow (The Park 1900³) – 25 April 1915, aged 31
- Capt. H.C. Marten (High Street 1907¹) – 9 August 1915, aged 25
- Lieut. W.F.J. Maxwell (Elmfield 1903³) – 13 August 1915, aged 30
- Lieut. T.R. Mills (West Acre 1905²) – 4 June 1915, aged 29
- Lieut-Colonel M.H. Nunn (The Grove 1881²) – 10 August 1915, aged 50
- Lieut. A.M.F.W. Porter (The Headmaster's 1909¹) – 25 April 1915, aged 24
- Capt. J.A. Tennant (Rendalls 1907¹) – 22 August 1915, aged 26
- Capt. A.J.N. Thomas (Elmfield 1902³) – 25 April 1915, aged 29
- Capt. G.N. Walford, V.C. (The Grove 1900²) – 26 April 1915, aged 32
- Lieut. M.B. Browne (Newlands 1891³) – 28th April 1916, aged 39
- Lieut.-Colonel J.G. Fairlie (Newlands 1895²) – 21st April 1916, aged 39
- Lieut. R. Williams (Newlands 1907) – 8th October 1915, aged 27
- **Over 100 Old Harrovians served**

“Lions Led by Donkeys”

- Twice the rate of other British soldiers
- Public School = Christianity and patriotism
- The Old Lie: The Great War and Public Schools Ethos
- “The golden age of the public school system”
- Loyalty to the school
- *How disagreeable some officers are. They talk chiefly about their billets and personal grievances. One never hears a word about the men of the army.... The officer of old standing is much more modest in his manner.*
Crawford

Ethos

- Subordinates
- Loyalty
- Nationalistic
- Christianity
- Prestige



Treatment of Subordinates

- *“He was the servant, as well as the leader, of his men: at all times and in all places they came first in his thoughts, and until they were made as comfortable as circumstances permitted, he gave no thought to himself.” John Maxwell*
- Graham Greenwell = 200 soldiers at the Somme
 - *“avuncular”*

Overall effect:

- “Michael Howard has argued, there was no shortcut to creating the professional army that eventually won the war and without the sacrifice and leadership of the officers from public schools from 1914 onwards”

From Gallipoli- May 10th 1915

- *'As we are having a bit of a rest this morning after a fortnight's frightfulness, I will send you a few lines about our first experience of war (as a battalion) since 1863... By the way, on the beach I shot a sniper who was picking people off from the cliff edge. It was a good shot, and I saw him after we got up - hit in the mouth! Under cover of the cliff, we started cleaning our rifles which were rendered useless from sand and water, and it would have amused you to see men cleaning their bolts with tooth brushes, etc., with hell's tornado going on all around!'*



From Gallipoli

- *'I am so far very lucky. I have about 20 holes in my clothing and equipment but so far only one very slight wound- my periscope was hit, and the splintered lead and glass spattered me all over and slit up my index finger.'*- Letter to the boys in The Harrovian June 1915.



From Gallipoli

- *'I have had my revenge in advance as I am a good quick shot with a rifle. I suppose you are in London now. I would not mind a day or two there to get clean. I fancy a Turkish bath would be a good thing in London.'*



Founder's Day 1915

- *'There were none of the usual celebrations on October 7th, Founder's Day, this year. There was no football against Old Harrovians in the afternoon. The commemoration service was held, at which the Bishop of Birmingham preached. He pointed out the different outlook of today and two years ago; instead of discord there is now absolute union, and the result of this is the so called German hate.'*



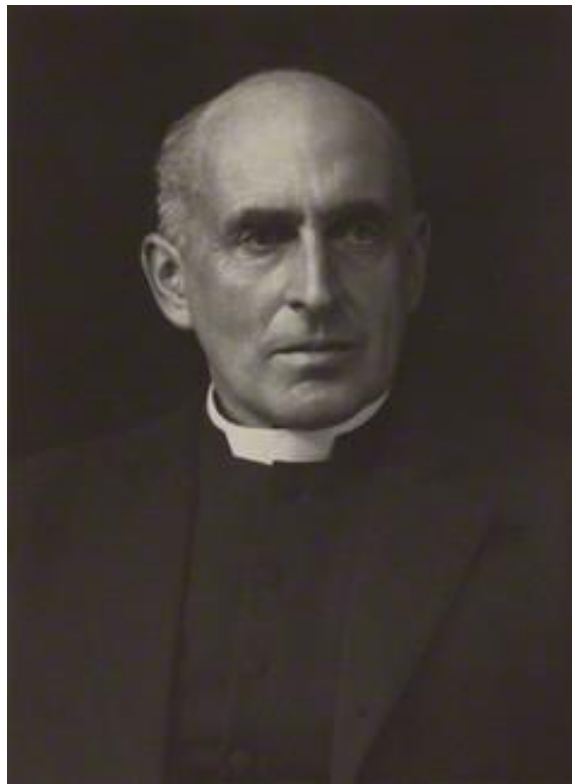
Religion at Harrow

- *At the present day people are really turning to the church in earnest prayer, and the greatest gift of which religion can give is vitality. The war has shown the greatness of English public schools, which had given of their best. Many young lives had been taken; but in the words of Archbishop Tate, “God would not have taken my son away from the good work he was doing here unless he had better work for him to do elsewhere”*



Lessons from the War

- *‘The war has emphasised the necessity for unselfishness and united effort, lessons which we have not been very ready to learn in the past’*- Headmaster (Lionel Ford) 20th June 1915



Lionel Ford (1910-25) insisted on hard work; after the innovation of a Board of Education inspection he reorganized the timetable and abandoned the traditional pupil-room system. He introduced Spanish and Economics, and in 1917 abolished the distinction between the Classical and Modern Sides, introducing a number of specialized sixth forms. He erected the War Memorial Building and began the demolition of the shops on the west side of the High Street to the south of the School Yard, completely transforming the central area of the school and creating the present vista.

Military Service

- *'He mentioned the very large number of Old harrovians now serving; in the School itself, out of 471 boys, 467 were in the Corps. Harrow was not pre-eminently a military school, and at first the Corps had hard work to make its way'* - The Harrovian (about the Headmaster's speech on 2nd July 1915 for Speech Day)



Harrow Mission

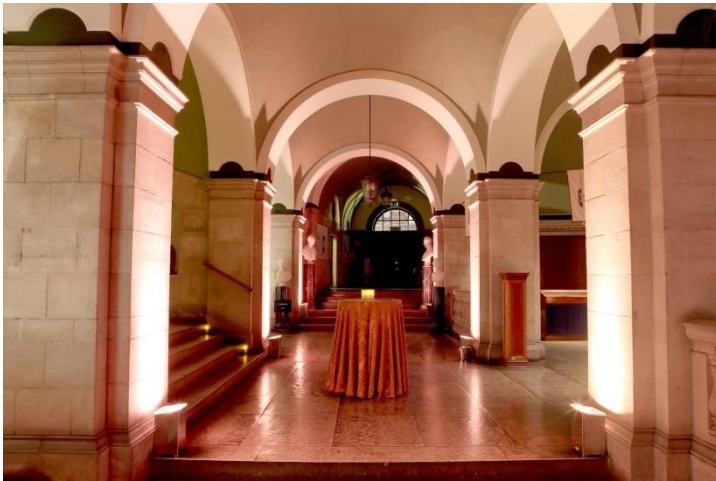
- *‘So many thanks for giving us such splendid help in the collection for paying the railway fares of the wives and mothers who want to go see their wounded husbands and sons.’*

*What did Gallipoli mean to
the school at the time?*

*What does Gallipoli mean to
Harrow today?*

Relevance and Meaning of Gallipoli today at Harrow





Giants of Old

*'There were wonderful giants of old, you know, there were wonderful giants of old;
They grew more mightily, all of a row, than ever was heard or told;
All of them stood their six feet four, and they threw to a hundred yards or more,
And never were lame or stiff or sore;
And we, compar'd to the days of yore,
Are cast in a pigmy mould.
For all of we, whoever we be, come short of the giants of old, you see'*

- Giants 1874

