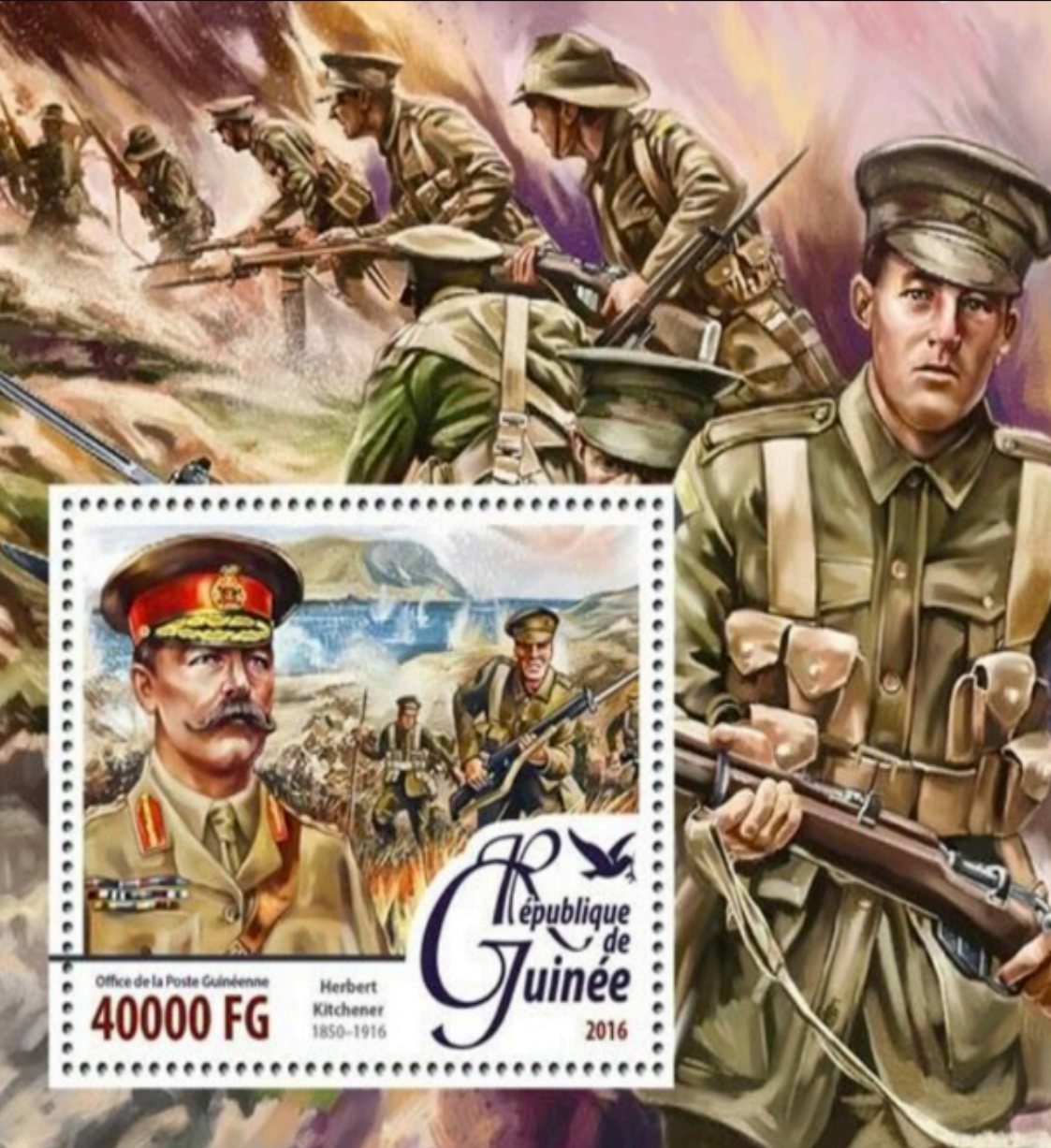


The Gallipolian

The Journal of the Gallipoli Association

No. 161 - Spring 2023



THE GALLIPOLIAN

No 161 Spring (March) 2023

The Journal of the Gallipoli Association
founded by Major E H W Banner in 1969 on the Campaign of 1915

The Gallipoli Association

Registered Charity No. 1155609

www.gallipoli-association.org

Secretary, East Lodge, Hunters Ride, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY75QN

Please direct correspondence about membership to the Membership Secretary : address below

PAST PATRON

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT, 1921 – 2021

PRESIDENT

Captain Christopher T F Fagan MBE DL

PAST PRESIDENTS

The Lord Granville of Eye

Vice-Admiral E W Longley-Cook CB CBE DSO

Lt General Sir Reginald Savory KCMG KCIE DSO MC

Brigadier B B Rackham CBE MC

Lt Colonel M E Hancock MC

TRUSTEES

Chairman Brigadier James R H Stopford CBE : chairman@gallipoli-association.org

Secretary & general enquiries Margaret Carter : secretary@gallipoli-association.org

Treasurer Mike Cairns : treasurer@gallipoli-association.org

Web master & Historian Stephen Chambers : webmaster@gallipoli-association.org

Membership Secretary Peter Luff, 19 Old Exeter Road, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 0JE
Mob: 07979 541 256. Home: 01822 612864 : membershipsecretary@gallipoli-association.org

Education Officer Ian Binnie, education@gallipoli-association.org 0797 648 5828

Overseas Liaison Officer: Thomas Iredale, overseas@gallipoli-association.org

Other Appointments

Editor Bryn Dolan : editor@gallipoli-association.org

Communications Officer Robert Rathbone : communications@gallipoli-association.org

Digital Officer Bernard de Broglio : communications@gallipoli-association.org

Events Co-Ordinator Hester Huttenbach : events@gallipoli-association.org

Historian Panel Enquiries should be directed to: historian@gallipoli-association.org

CONTENTS

The Gallipoli Association Colours	2
Walking Gallipoli Battlefield Tour	2
Landing of the Wellington Battalion NZEF	3
The Heir to the Turkish Throne at Gallipoli	4
The Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps	5
Sergeant Richard Humberstone DCM	7
Knee Surgery	13
Gallipoli Battlefield Tour 15-20 Sept, 2023	14
Aboriginal Soldiers	16
Sun Shines on the Evzones	17
The Gallipoli Teddy Bear	20
A New Zealand Soldier's Chronicle of Anzac -Part 1	22
Colour Photographs section	29
Helles Battlefield Study Project - Part 1	37
Dundee Trooper Dies from Wounds	46
Sanitation Control at Suvla Bay	47
Get your article in print!	55
Gallipoli - My Story; Field Ambulance, RAMC	56
With the 9th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment	59
Major-General 'One-Arm' Sutton MC	60
Last Post	65

General enquiries:

The Gallipoli Association

Monomark House

27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N 3AX

Members' Contact Details

Members occasionally change their email address without notifying the membership secretary. As a result notices and information do not reach the intended member. If you do change your email address please confirm the details to the membership secretary (contact details opposite), who will change the information on our database.

This edition's cover

Republic of Guinea 2016 postage stamp; 100th anniversary of the 'End of Battle of Gallipoli.'

See photographs page 30.

THE GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION COLOURS

In July 2022 Gallipoli Association member Michael Robson raised the matter that the current colours and format used in the GA's logo had varied significantly from those first introduced in 1969 and 1971. In his opinion it appeared that whenever artwork was required for any new Gallipoli Association item then the first inclination seemed to have been to use something based upon the current lapel badge, thus perpetuating the original error in the colour shades and sequence.

The trustees were very grateful that Michael had brought this to our attention and on reviewing our merchandise and logos realised that he was correct. It was decided that the colours should align to the colours and sequence of the colours on the tie. The tie was the idea of our founder Major Edgar H W Banner, and the design was executed for him by Gallipoli Association member William Francey. The tie was followed by the Association's plaque/shield in 1971. A blazer badge was then added to the Quartermaster's Stores.

Like the tie and the plaque it conformed to the original colours and order of colours as specified by Major Banner and William Francey. The order of colours was originally green to represent the land of Gallipoli; green-cyan azure for the waters of the Dardanelles; navy blue and scarlet to represent the services involved in the campaign.

As the Quartermaster's Stores were running low it was decided to thoroughly research colours before ordering new stock. Our aim was to get the colours on the lapel badge, blazer badge and plaque in line with the colours and the sequence of the colours on the tie. As these items are all in different materials and fabrics this was no mean feat. The badge company was extremely helpful and patient, providing us with dozens of colour charts and scenarios.

The changes to the existing colours, back to as near the original colours as possible, are now reflected in *The Gallipolian*, our various social media posts, the monthly newsletter, web site and items for sale. *See page 29 and back cover.*

Margaret Carter, Hon. Secretary and Trustee.

WALKING GALLIPOLI BATTLEFIELD TOUR

NEW DATES - 15-20 September 2023

May 2023 departure now SOLD OUT

Due to the early sell-out of our May 2023 departure we have decided to add new dates this year. As per the website we will be covering Helles, Anzac and Suvla, as well as the Dardanelles. Our walks (and maybe a swim) will immerse you in the fabric of the Gallipoli battlefields and allow stunning views and quiet reflection. This is predominantly a walking tour but the distances are not excessive. Our average day involves around 5-6 miles over undulating ground but at a pace to suit the needs of the group. *See pages 14-15.*

If you have any concerns please feel free to contact us at tours@gallipoli-association.org

LANDING OF THE WELLINGTON BATTALION NZEF

25 April 1915

The 'Lutzow' with Battalion Headquarters and Taranaki and Ruahine Companies on board arrived off the Cove at Gaba Tepe about midday on Sunday, 25th April, and by 6 p.m. all had got ashore. In the actual process of landing, one officer, Captain M. McDonnell, the Battalion Adjutant, and four men were slightly wounded.

The two companies were assembled under the shelter of the cliffs just above the beach and, about 7 p.m., two platoons of Taranaki Company, under Major J. W. Brunt, were sent to the assistance of the 16th Australian Battalion under Colonel Pope, fighting hard at the head of Monash Gully.

These two platoons soon found themselves in a warm corner, but, by using their entrenching tools, they soon got some cover, and rendered some support to their hard-pressed Australian comrades. The two Taranaki platoons remained in line with the Australians in the vicinity of what was afterwards known as Courtney's Post, at the head of Monash Gully, until 2.30 a.m. on the 27th, when they were relieved by troops of the Otago Battalion and made their way to the beach.

During the fighting, Private H E Hayden, Cpl W G Looney and CSM A J M Bonar [left to right, below] were conspicuous for their gallantry. Unfortunately all three were killed. The death of CSM Bonar was a big blow to Taranaki Company.



Cunningham, W H. *The Wellington Regiment N.Z.E.F. 1914 - 1919*, p27



THE HEIR TO THE TURKISH THRONE

with his staff on an inspection trip to Gallipoli.



Visit of the Turkish heir to the throne Yussuf Izzeddin-Effendi (front centre).

Şehzade (Prince) Yusuf Izzeddin (29 September 1857 – 1 February 1916) was the eldest son of Sultan Abdulaziz and his first wife Dürrünev Kadın.

Izzeddin became heir (Valiahd Şehzade) to the throne upon the accession of his cousin Sultan Mehmed V on 27 April 1909. In 1910 he represented the Ottoman dynasty in London on the occasion of the funeral of Edward VII.

In July 1915, he visited Ottoman troops during the Gallipoli campaign six months before his death. It is rumoured that he reprimanded Enver Paşa for sacrificing the lives of thousands of Ottoman soldiers in vain. (Glencross & Rowbotham (eds), *Monarchies and the Great War*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019 p 146).

He is said to have committed suicide, but there are some who believe that he, like his father (officially committed suicide in 1876), was murdered.

Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs: Photography Collection, The New York Public Library. "Der türkische Thronfolger mit seinem Stabe auf einer Inspektionsreise auf Gallipoli." NYPL Digital Collections.

THE CEYLON PLANTERS RIFLE CORPS

John Dixon

I was very interested to read General Birdwood's comments on the service of The Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps during the Gallipoli Campaign (No 160: Winter 2022) and their service as his personal guard. It appears that at the start of hostilities some 280 members of the Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps were offered to the Imperial government for service and were accepted. In due course they reached Egypt some months before the Australians to whom they were attached 'for duty and discipline' arrived. It appears that they quickly bonded with the Australians and worked well with them.

Some years ago I was visiting Sri Lanka and whilst in Kandy I came across their war memorial. It is in the manner of a Celtic cross so it is rather out of keeping with present day Kandy and readily seen by visitors even if they are not sure what it signifies. The base of the cross has panels on which the names of the fallen are commemorated. A little research and I realised that there was something different about this memorial since there were so many officers recorded amongst the fallen, approximately 80% of the names recorded are to those of officers. At the time I had no knowledge of the Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps but further research brought me to the realisation that many, if not most, men of the corps had been commissioned into a wide variety of British and Indian army units. Perhaps, this was related to the fact that the rifle corps was essentially composed of men who were in the first instance from English public schools and universities and secondly were owners, managers and so forth of the tea plantations in the country. It was perhaps inevitable that this small unit was to become known amongst the men of the Anzac Corps as the "Tea Leaves" and perhaps their badge only helped to reinforce this nickname.

According to the CWGC records there were only four men of the CPRC killed during the Gallipoli Campaign, at least only four that were still part of that corps. Of these men, three are buried on the peninsula, at Beach Cemetery; (Riflemen Henry Ashfield Carlisle, Alexander Forrest and Guy Middlemiss), and one at Alexandria in Egypt (Private Lionel Narramore Were). A further man, Captain Alexander Norman Galbraith, strictly was not killed during the campaign since he was killed in a vehicle accident near Mena on the outskirts of Cairo before the campaign began. The records of the CWGC shows that he is buried in Ireland and thus his body was one of the few that was repatriated. It is interesting to note that the other officer involved in the accident was Lieutenant-Colonel (later Brigadier-General) Joly de Lotbiniere who was Birdwood's CRE during the fighting. He escaped the tragic accident without injury.

With the exception of Captain Galbraith the men who fell at Gallipoli are commemorated on the Kandy war Memorial and the large impressive war memorial at Colombo whilst Captain Galbraith is commemorated only at Colombo.

It is clear that some of the men commemorated on the memorials in Sri Lanka who were killed in Gallipoli with other regiments, such as Second Lieutenant William Innes Short of the 1st KOSB and Second Lieutenant Herbert Gordon Wace of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, both killed in the August fighting on the peninsula, had started their service with Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps.

Others who had served with the CPRC at Gallipoli, such as Lieutenant Ralph Walter Hargreaves, had survived the peninsula before receiving a commission in the Welsh Guards, only to be killed in France. These men, too, are commemorated on the memorials of Kandy and Colombo.



One of the panels at the base of the Kandy War Memorial. Many of the men named belonged to the CPRC for at least part of their service.

Photograph by John Dixon
See photo of memorial, page

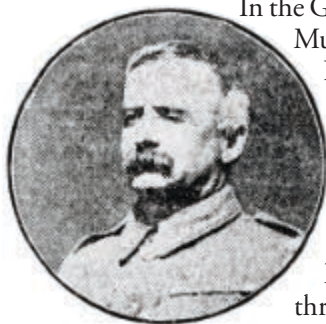


Rifleman Guy Middlemiss
Killed in action 6 May 1915, aged 23.
Buried Beach Cemetery, Anzac.

*The Ceylon Roll of Honour and Record of Service
in the Great War 1914-1918.*

SERGEANT RICHARD HUMBERSTONE DCM

Bryn Dolan



In the Gallipoli room of the Maryborough Military and Colonial Museum, Queensland, are four medals named to Richard Humberstone. Although he served with the AIF at Gallipoli, his World War I trio is noticeably absent from that group.¹ He was wounded at Anzac and discharged from the army as unfit for further service, so in theory he should have possessed the trio, the component medals of which were issued in the early 1920's.

Richard Humberstone enlisted as a private and rose through the ranks, and I will usually refer to him by his final rank of sergeant. He stated that he was born in Winchester, Hampshire,² and served with the Duke of Edinburgh's Own Volunteer Rifles during the South African War, and with the Natal Carbineers during the Natal Rebellion of 1906. When the Great War broke out he was living in New South Wales, where he was enlisted as number 1293 into the 3rd Battalion, Australian Imperial Force. At Gallipoli he was awarded the DCM, received a 'Corps Complimentary' award, and was mentioned in despatches for gallantry and coolness during the initial landings and on subsequent occasions.

A labourer / / bushman / railway employee, apparently living in Newbridge, near Bathurst, NSW, Private Humberstone on enlistment gave his age as 39, but there is some evidence to suggest that he was in fact significantly older.³ He gave as his next-of-kin a Mr J McMorley, butcher, of Newbridge, who appears to have been completely untraceable, both during the war and up until the present. He was severely wounded by a bullet to the left eye in the Lone Pine area on 11 July 1915 and evacuated to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station and then transferred by fleet-sweeper to HMHS *Gascon* the same day. The bullet was removed from his eye on 12 July and the eye was enucleated on 16 July while *Gascon* was en route to Malta.⁴ Admitted to Hamrun Military Hospital in Malta on 18 July, he spent 29 days as a patient before being discharged to All Saints Convalescent Camp.

On 28 August he embarked aboard HMHS *Demosthenes* for England. He was admitted to the King George Hospital, South London, on 9 July where he was fitted with a glass eye. Discharged on 21 September to 'furlough', but was admitted to No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, on 11 October. The following newspaper report states that it was here that he was presented with his DCM:

The presentation of Distinguished Conduct Medals to four Australians: Private M. D. Canton (A.S.C.), Lance-Corporal J. T. Mayer (15th Battalion), Lance-Sergeant Humberstone (3rd Battalion), and Lance-Corporal R. V. Gay (6th Battalion) — will be shown in films at the Lyceum Theatre to-morrow.

The honors were won at Gallipoli, and the recipients are now in the 3rd Australian Hospital, Harefield, England. Many prominent Australians were present when Sir George and Lady Reid made the presentation, while the films also introduce Lieutenant Foote, of Petersham, who was promoted from the ranks for gallantry with the 13th Battalion at Gaba Tepe landing. (*Sunday Times* (Sydney) 21 Nov 1915 p16). See photo page 11.

On 12 December 1915 Sergeant Humberstone was declared medically unfit and returned to Australia aboard *Star of England*, arriving in Sydney on 1 February 1916. On 4 February he was admitted to No 4 Australian General Hospital, Randwick, during which time he was recommended for 'discharge and pension.' His discharge took effect on 22 May 1916. Although no longer in the army, he wore uniform to be presented (again) with his DCM by Brigadier-General Gustave Ramaciotti VD on 23 June 1916 during a review of reinforcements in Moore Park, Sydney.

The following extract from an article in the *Daily Telegraph* (Sydney) of 23 June 1916 includes more detail:

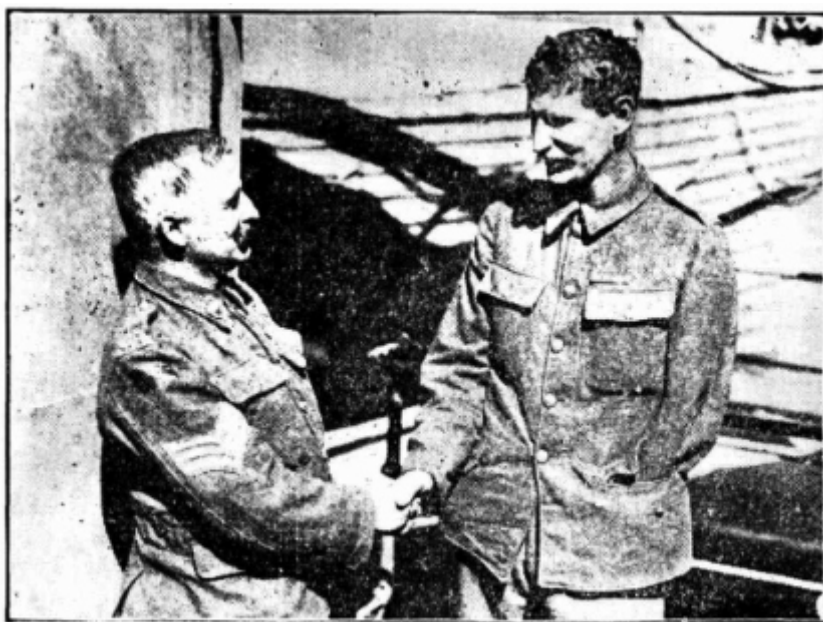


'District Commandant [Brigadier-General Gustave Ramaciotti] congratulating Sergt. Humberstone, recipient of D.C.M., for gallantry while on active service.'
(*Daily Telegraph* (Sydney, NSW) 23 June 1916 p7).

A man such as Sergeant Humberstone, who has fought over much of South Africa, and served under such leaders as Lord Methuen and Colonel Mackenzie, the latter of whom conducted the operations against the rebel Zulu chief Bambatta, know how to take advantage of every inch of cover, and as a

consequence the sergeant was able to do a lot and save his men from needless exposure and risks.

Referring to his final exploit, the sergeant remarked “that the trench in front of Lone Pine was just hell. It was half full of dead men but I sent word that we — there were only 20 of us left, and our officer Lieutenant Brodziak (who has just returned again to the front) was shot through the neck — would hold on till supports arrived. Well, we did manage to hold on, but it was a tight corner, and not the sort of party a man wants to be at twice. [Lieut Brodziak was shot in the neck on 25 April, so this refers to the fighting on the 400 Plateau on that day – editor] I got knocked out in the end after 14 weeks in those trenches when a Turkish sniper’s or some other bullet whipped my left eye out. My one eye is as good as ever, and if they’d let me I’d be off again.’ (Daily Telegraph (Sydney) 23 June 1916 p7).



Sergeant Humberstone, D.C.M., and Trooper Hewart, of the Seventh Light Horse.
Both were wounded at Anzac, the former losing an eye and the latter an arm.

‘Soldiers’ Return This Morning.’ *The Sun* (Sydney, NSW) 1 February 1916, p6.

In 1907, following the Natal Rebellion and in hard economic times in South Africa, Richard Humberstone applied to the Australian government for repatriation to Australia,⁵ and an entry in an immigration record (*image below*) indicates that ‘R M Humberstone’, a 48-year-old ‘bushman’ bound for Queensland, departed Cape Town on 9 May and arrived in Melbourne on 9 June aboard the Howard Smith cargo steamer *Cycle*,⁶ one of the ships that had been chartered by the Australian government to transport the repatriates.

Mr. H.	✓ Humberstone	Old.				1 Bushman	118
--------	---------------	------	--	--	--	-----------	-----

The *Cycle* continued on to Sydney on 10 June with the NSW repatriates, and SS *Yongala* departed Melbourne on 11 June for Brisbane with about 30 repatriated Queenslanders, arriving on 17 June 1907.⁷

The conditions for securing this repatriation were strictly based on the applicant being Australian, and for Queensland repatriates there seem to have been extra requirements.⁸ The *Cycle's* passenger list again indicates that 'R M Humberstone' was 48 and was contracted to land in Queensland.⁹ As the repatriation was open to Australians only, the obvious question seems to be: how did Richard Humberstone, if he had in fact never been in Queensland, secure passage 'back' to Queensland under this scheme?¹⁰

Returning to the deeds for which he was awarded the DCM; there is no mention of Sergeant Humberstone's actions in either the 3rd Battalion History or the Official Histories. There are accounts of one action, however, in which the 2nd and 3rd Battalions combined to form a patrol into no-man's land (in and near Owen's Gully; see sketch map page 33), in both battalions' war diaries:

2nd Battalion:

A party of 17 from 2nd & 3rd Bns sent out on reconnaissance to the old Turkish trench. Private Hummerstone [sic] of 3rd Bn in charge of advance party & Sergeant Collingwood 2nd Bn in charge of main party. Three engineer sappers carried an explosive charge of 12lbs of guncotton to destroy any works &c ... All of reconnoitring party except Pte Dukelow 2nd Bn had returned and reported that no fresh works being carried out by the enemy in the ravine. Private Hummerstone 3rd Bn & Pte Carrick[?] 2nd went to search for missing man, but without success. (*2nd Battalion war diary* 11 May 1915).

3rd Battalion:

At 9.30 pm a patrol consisting 1 NCO & 6 privates from 2nd Bn & 1 NCO & 8 privates from our Bn moved out with instructions to investigate & reconnoitre a donga from 100 to 150 yards in front of our trenches & to ascertain if any attempt was being made by the enemy to sap towards our trenches. The men were, previously to setting forth on their mission, fully instructed as to mode of procedure. The ground was explored but no trace of activity on part of enemy found.

There was some fire from the enemy trenches which were approached to within 25 yards by part of the patrol & every care was taken that any man known to be hit should be brought back. When all had returned it was found that one man (2nd Bn) Pte No 156 H Dukelow had not returned although he was with that half of the patrol when they began their retreat. There was no indication of any man being wounded, the men were well together, there were a number of dead Turks through which the party had to crawl, so it can only be surmised that this man was killed instantaneously. Cpl Humberstone and private Smith again went out and made search for Dukelow. His name was called several times close to where he was last seen but nothing resulted.

I wish to record the cool and soldierly conduct of the whole of the patrol & particularly Corporal Humberstone number 1293 of 3rd Bn and Private P. Smith number 1088. (Barely legible *3rd Battalion war diary* 11 May 1915).

D.C.M. FOR AUSTRALIAN HEROES.

PRESENTATION SHOWN IN FILMS AT LYCEUM.

The presentation of Distinguished Conduct Medals to four of the Australian heroes who won their spurs at Gallipoli, is shown in a special series of films at the Lyceum Theatre to-morrow.

LANCE-SERGEANT HUMBERSTONE (3rd BATTALION).

PTE. M. D. CONTAN (A.S.C.).

LANCE-CORPORAL J. T. MAYER (15th BATTALION).

LANCE-CORPORAL R. V. GAY (6th BATTALION).

are the gallant recipients shown in the pictures. The presentation is made by Sir George Reid at the Harefield Hospital, England, where several hundred wounded Australians now are. It is a hearty greeting these heroes send to mothers, wives, and sweethearts here by means of the films, and in the hundreds who cheer their mates as the D.C.M. is pinned to their coats by Lady Reid, one can recognise many of the boys of the Dardanelles, including

LIEUT. FOOTE, OF PETERSHAM,

promoted from the ranks for gallantry with the 13th Battalion in the Gaba Tepe landing.

Sunday Times (Sydney) 21 Nov 1915 p16.

The film was screened in many locations around Australia.

A search of the The National Film and Sound Archive of Australia found no reference to its existence.

The final piece of the puzzle regarding the whereabouts of Sergeant Humberstone's World War I service medals fell into place when it was found that he had died in 1917. The newspapers of the day provided more detail:

WINNER OF D.C.M. KILLED

While crossing Stanley Street, Sydney, near its intersection with Riley Street, on Saturday afternoon, Richard Nicholas Humberstone, a returned soldier, living at Empire Bay Woy Woy, was knocked down by a tram. His skull was fractured, and on his arrival at the Sydney Hospital life was pronounced extinct. In his clothing were his discharge papers, which showed that he had been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal [*sic*] in the present war, and was also entitled to wear both the King's and Queen's medal in connection with the South African war. (*Darling Downs Gazette* 31 May 1917 p4).

The coroner's inquest recorded that his name was Richard Nicholas Humberstone, that his age at death was 64, that he was born in Hampshire, England, and that he had died from:

Injuries accidentally received through being knocked down by an electric tram.

No next-of-kin was ever traced, and though a single correspondent with Army Base Records office had the faint possibility of having been related, this appears never to have been established and so Sergeant Humberstone's Great War service medals have never been issued.

Sergeant Humberstone received a full military funeral. The coffin was carried on a gun carriage from Oxford Street to Waverley cemetery, a distance of about 5 kilometres, preceded by a brass band and a firing party, and followed by 'many returned soldiers' marching behind the cortege."

Evidence seems to point to the conclusions that Sergeant Humberstone was born in England, but that he had lived in Australia at some time before his service in the South African (Boer) war and / or the Natal Rebellion. Also that he probably was, in fact, about 62 years of age when he performed the actions at Gallipoli for which he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Acknowledgement

I would like to acknowledge research undertaken by Robert Simpson for his 'Anzac biography' of Sergeant Humberstone at <https://www.anzac-biographies.com>

Endnotes

¹ The medals on display in the Maryborough Military & Colonial Museum (see photo page 31) are: Distinguished Conduct Medal GV to 1293 Pte. R. Humberston. 3/Aust: I.B. - N.S.W. Queen's South Africa (clasp; Cape Colony) to 2424 L. Cpl. R. M. Humberstone. D.E.O.VR; King's South Africa (2 clasps; SA 1901 and SA 1902) to 2424 L. Cpl. R. M. Humberstone. D.E.O.VR; Natal 1906, (clasp; 1906) to 1906 Tpr. R. Humberstone, Natal Carbineers.

² No reference in English records can be found to this birth, though there is one 'Richard Humberstone' whose birth was recorded in St Pancras district, London in 'about 1852' and the 1861 Census lists a Richard Humberstone aged 12 (born Kentish Town [St Pancras] living at 4 Inwood Court, Kentish Town with parents William and Hannah E[lizabeth] Humberstone and nine siblings.

³ A report in *The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* (Parramatta, NSW) of 1 October 1913 states: 'Richard Humberstone, 56, labourer, for drunkenness at Rookwood [Sydney], was fined 5s, or two hours' imprisonment.' At this time there is a Richard Humberstone on the electoral roll living at Enfield, approximately 5 km from Rookwood. This may not be the same Richard Humberstone, but it has so far not been possible to locate another living in the Sydney area at the time. The *Australian Town and Country Journal* of 13 June 1917 gives his age as 64. A typed entry in Humberstone's Repatriation case file p39 states that he is '52 years of age' (this is undated but would be 1916 or 1917), indicating, if accurate, a birth year of around 1865) and near the bottom of the page somebody has handwritten 'Age now 90' and circled this. Add to this the emigration record of 1907 records his age on arrival as '48'.

⁴ HMHS *Gascon* departed Anzac on 12 July and arrive in Malta, via Lemnos, on 18 July. Corporal Humberstone's eye operation is stated to have taken place 'three days after' his wounding [14 July] and as '16th July'.

⁵ National Archives of Australia Series A6586, *Forms of Agreement of Repatriated Distressed Australians from South Africa*. This series consists of files made up of a number of forms of application and agreement, together with testimonials, of distressed Australians who had applied to return to Australia under a repatriation scheme. Many of the applicants were former members of Commonwealth and State Contingents who had served in the Boer War, or had emigrated there shortly after the war's end. This series holds great value in documenting South Africa's economic state in 1907, and the returning Australians generated immense interest at the time. 'Humberstone, Richard Nicholas' is recorded as having applied, but unfortunately does not have an associated digitised file.

⁶ Public Record Office, Victoria, holds the Victoria, Australia, Assisted and Unassisted Passenger Lists, 1839-1923, including the list of passengers aboard *Cycle* (formerly the *Boveric*). The *Cycle* and the *Hymettus* are named in NAA records as two of the ships that transported the repatriates. 'A list of repatriated men who arrived by the steamers *Cycle* and *Hymettus*, disembarked at Port Melbourne and proceeded to Brisbane by the steamer *Yongala*, is contained in the Chief Secretary's inward correspondence in series A6585', but this series is not available online.

⁷ A detailed article in Melbourne's *Leader* of 15 June 1907 p36 states that the *Yongala* departed Melbourne for Brisbane with the Queensland repatriates aboard. This was not clear from the immigration record, which had all non-Victorian repatriates listed under the *Cycle's* 'Sydney List.'

⁸ It had been proposed that each State should endeavour to find employment for all who were brought back to that state, and to collect the passage money whenever possible, with the Commonwealth to bear half any loss resulting from non-payment. Queensland refused, stating that if any bona fide Queenslanders wished to return and applied to the Queensland Government, the State would be prepared to provide the whole of the passage money and run the risk of non-payment.

⁹ Victoria, Australia, *Assisted and Unassisted Passenger Lists*, 1907

¹⁰ The organiser of the scheme in South Africa was the NSW Government's commercial agent there, Mr George Valder, who wrote: "The selection of applications was a difficult, trying, and painful one, as an enormous number of people applied who really had no claim whatever on Australia. And attempts were made in every possible way by these people to endeavor to deceive me and obtain passage." [*The Herald* (Melbourne) 3 June 1907 p3]

It is worth noting, however, that some people, listed as 'Never been in Australia', did slip through

¹¹ *Sydney Morning Herald* Wednesday 30 May 1917 p11, referring to the previous day.

KNEE SURGERY

Trooper Norman Wainwright, a sturdy and youthful horseman from the Northern Rivers, who returned with the last batch of wounded, feels that an unequal distribution of good fortune explains his home-coming on Saturday.

Landing at Gallipoli on May 19th last year he took part with the 5th L.H. in the memorable fight at Anzac on June 28th. In November, the Turks made two attacks on Chatham's Post, and caused some damage with bombs. He was wounded in the right cheek, thigh, and leg, and was taken off to the 1st A.G.H., where the pieces of shell were extracted. He afterwards spent two months at Malta, nine days at Naples, and finished up in the London General Hospital No. 3.

Trooper Wainwright's right cheek is as if scalded, a big reddish blotch radiating from a yellow centre — the mark of the shell. He is quite jubilant over his experience, and he humorously remarked that he was as proud of his disfigurement as he would be of a D.C.M.

Whilst in hospital Trooper Wainwright lay alongside Trooper Ingles, of Victoria, who, he stated, was the victim of a unique operation. Trooper Ingles was hit on the knee by a shell at Lone Pine on October 18th. The bone began to rot, and it was deemed necessary to amputate the limb from the hip. Ingles was put under chloroform 17 times, and 11 operations were performed on him. Before the amputation took place, however, Colonel Symonds, of the English Army Medical Corps, decided to take out the knee-cap and scrape the affected part of the knee. Having done this and replaced the kneecap, Trooper Ingles now occupies a post in the Pay Corps at London, showing only a stiff knee as the full extent of his injuries.'

— *Richmond River Herald and Northern Districts Advertiser* (NSW) 22 Aug 1916 p3.

GALLIPOLI BATTLEFIELD TOUR 15-20 SEPT, 2023

Following previous tours of Gallipoli, in conjunction with Battle Honours Ltd, we are pleased to be offering trips for members and friends to visit the Peninsula in the company of fellow enthusiasts and authorities.

During September 2023 we will run the 'Walking' tour only.

'Walking Gallipoli' is designed for those who have never visited Gallipoli, while 'Hidden Gallipoli' is intended for those returning to Gallipoli and who would like to see more of this spectacular battlefield.

Both comprehensive battlefield tours cover not only the main areas of the campaign, at a relaxed pace, but also some of the seldom-visited spots not offered on other tour itineraries.

We believe these tours are second to none, and with all the advantages of like-minded individuals, this intimate group will discover trench remains, old mule tracks, dried up gullies and the quiet beaches of this beautiful peninsula.

Our tours are led by *Gallipoli Association* and *Guild of Battlefield Guides* members.

- 'Walking Gallipoli' tour: 15 - 20 September 2023

Costs:

- £1,600 with flights (£50 discount for GA members)
- £1,400 non-flight option (£50 discount for GA members)
- Single supplement £130

The distances are not excessive, with our average day covering around 6 miles over undulating ground but at a pace to suit the needs of the group.

If you have any concerns, please feel free to give us a call as the coach is never that far away.

We will stay in a charming Çanakkale boutique hotel with well-equipped rooms: A/C, TV, en-suite bathrooms and bar facilities.

Bed and breakfast basis, with packed or cafe lunches included. Evening meals are not included.

For the full itinerary please visit the Association's website.

‘Walking Gallipoli’ Tour

Helles – Starting at W Beach, Cape Helles. We visit the cemeteries of Lancashire Landing and V Beach. Crossing the fields around Hunter-Weston Hill we arrive at the magnificent Helles memorial to the missing. We then visit Sedd-el-Bahr where the substantial Turkish defences awaited the men assaulting from the famous *River Clyde*. In the afternoon we visit the isolated grave of Lt-Col Doughty-Wylie VC. We then walk ‘up the line’ along the weather-beaten Gully Ravine to Pink Farm, allowing us to visit spots that once housed over-burdened field ambulances and countless billets in the shelter of the ravine, alongside wells sunk by the engineers to quench the parched thirst of the troops.

Anzac – A boat trip around Anzac Cove is undertaken before we land and walk from the stunning Beach Cemetery to the high ground of Lone Pine. Here the AIF stormed ashore and scrambled past the ‘Sphinx’ to breach the Turkish lines. After an optional climb to Plugge’s Plateau, we ascend Bolton’s Ridge via Shell Green, where the briefest of cricket matches was played under fire, and end up at the Lone Pine Memorial with its breath-taking views over the Aegean. In the afternoon we cling to the cliffs above the beaches, and chart the front line held by Anzac troops. Intimate burial spots at 4th Battalion Parade Ground Cemetery and Johnston’s Jolly join preserved trenches and memorials named after courageous and colourful Australian characters. We finish at the tragic site of the attack by the Australian Light Horse on The Nek.

North Anzac - A beautiful walk in the remote area of north Anzac. Leaving Embarkation Pier Cemetery, we follow the path of Monash’s brigade through the notorious Taylor’s Gap and into the Agyhl Dere. From there we ascend onto Damakjelik Spur, passing Australia Valley, before ending the day studying the actions of Hill 60. In the afternoon we have a spectacular walk from the heights of Chunuk Bair to the beaches below. Focusing on Kiwi forces and New Army troops we follow their battle along the Rhododendron Ridge. This walk is on steep, mountainous terrain along a winding trail and is not for the faint-hearted but enormously rewarding. We end the day with an optional dip in the Aegean Sea so do not forget your trunks.

Suvla - Starting at Nibrunesi Point, we follow the initial landings of the New Army troops as they assaulted up Lala Baba and approached the Salt Lake and beyond. We then explore Scimitar Hill and Green Hill as we look at the last great attack of the Gallipoli Campaign. In the afternoon after a stop at Chocolate and Green Hills, we spend the afternoon looking at the ill-fated Suvla landings in August 1915. Our walk begins on the beach before passing Hill 10 and following in the footsteps of the 5th Norfolks to uncover the true story behind ‘The Vanished Battalion.’

To enquire or to reserve a space, please email: tours@gallipoli-association.org

ABORIGINAL SOLDIERS



The Chief Secretary, in reply to a question in the Assembly yesterday, said he had forwarded to the Minister for Defence the suggestion that aborigines and half-castes should be sent to the war, as a result of petitions from people in districts where aborigines and half-castes lived. Some of these men had offered their services and had been turned down. They resented this, as they considered that they were the very men for the job. He, therefore, agreed to suggest to the Minister for Defence that the natives might be used as snipers or scouts. (*Daily Telegraph* (Sydney) 20 August 1915 p8).

About four months ago Mr. A. Meston, director of the Queensland Government Bureau, made an offer to the Commonwealth Minister for Defence to organise and lead a force of North Queensland

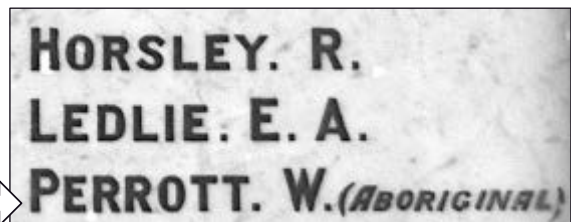
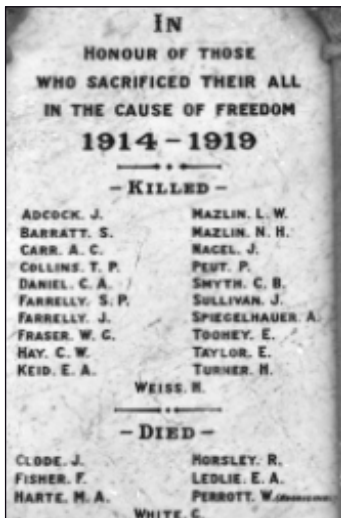
aboriginals to the front, wherever required.

The Minister replied expressing his keen appreciation of the offer, but stating he was "not prepared at present to recruit aboriginals."

The offer was then sent direct to Lord Kitchener at the War Office, with references to Sir William MacGregor, and Sir Thomas Robinson, and yesterday Mr. Meston received the following reply from Lord Kitchener's private secretary, at the War Office: —

Dear Sir, — Lord Kitchener desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of August 14, offering to organise and lead a body of North Queensland aboriginals for service in the field. The Secretary of State desires me to inform you that he has brought your letter under the notice of the Colonial Office, as the department more immediately concerned with the consideration of your proposal.

(*Daily Telegraph* (Sydney) 13 November 1915 p11).



SUN SHINES ON THE EVZONES

at Melbourne's Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial

Jim Claven

In their first official engagement of their visit to Melbourne, the Hellenic Presidential Guard – the Evzones – featured at the first Anzac Day commemorative service held at the Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial at Lemnos Square, Albert Park. (Photos p32).

The Lemnos Gallipoli Commemorative Committee hold an annual service at their Memorial every August, in commemoration of the role of the northern Aegean island of Lemnos in the Gallipoli campaign and on the anniversary of the arrival of the Australian nurses there in August 1915. Due to the COVID pandemic they have been unable to hold their traditional public service at the memorial.

The visit of the Hellenic Presidential Guard to Melbourne prompted the Committee to hold its inaugural Anzac Day commemorative service on Thursday, 21 April 2022.

Over 100 people attended the commemorative service, with representatives of many Hellenic Australian community organisations being present. These included a large contingent from Melbourne's Lemnian community led by President Phil Diamataris. Others represented the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre, the Waverley RSL, the Greek Community of Melbourne & Victoria, the Pankorinthian Association, the Papaflessas Brotherhood, the Kalamata Society, the Cretan Brotherhood, the Panarcadian Federation, the Pontiaki Estia, the Australian Federation of Pontic Associations, the Imvrian Society, the Krythian Association, the Greek Australian Cultural League, AHEPA Victoria, the Federation of Greek Elderly Citizens Clubs, the Greek Community of Dandenong, and many more. Many local government councillors were also present, including from the Cities of Brimbank, Cardinia Darebin, Monash, Moreland and Port Philip.

Master of Ceremonies for the service was Committee Vice President, Ms Christina Despoteris.

The service commenced with the formal arrival of the Hellenic Presidential Guard who performed the role of the catafalque party, marching proudly to the Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial and forming its guard of honour at each corner, throughout the ensuing service.

Following the formal religious memorial service provided by Australian Army Chaplain Robert Vun, a number of key speeches were given, each honouring in their own way the role of Lemnos in the Gallipoli campaign and its part in Australia's Anzac story.

President of the Lemnos Gallipoli Commemorative Committee, Mr Lee Tarlamis OAM MP, formally welcomed all to the Memorial and the service, recounting the story of the conception of the Memorial, its creation by Australia's pre-eminent commemorative sculptor Mr Peter Corlett OAM and its erection and unveiling in



The Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial, with wreaths, following the Anzac Day commemorative service. Photo Jim Claven 2022.

2015, the year of the centenary of Anzac.

In doing so, Mr Tarlamis explained how the memorial – comprising the sick or wounded soldier and the caring nurse, with the villages of Lemnos listed on the stone plinth in Greek and English – combine the Australian and Hellenic aspects of this story. This is a key to Peter's artistic creation, even in his inspiration of the face of the God Artemis and images of nurses from Lemnos in 1915.

He stressed the memorial represented the Committee's conviction to create a permanent and lasting legacy for Lemnos and Gallipoli. Mr Tarlamis also pointed out that the memorial symbolised the connection between Australia and Greece, representing the many personal stories in that connection. These included his own family, both through his Lemnian relatives and his ancestor Private Ted Tozer

who served on Lemnos in 1915. He also pointed to the presence of Ms Deb Stewart, a member of the committee, with an equally important connection to the memorial in the person of her grandmother, Sister Evelyn Hutt, who served on Lemnos in 1915.

Mr Tarlamis was followed by addresses by Mr Emmanuel Kakavelakis, the Consul-General of Greece, and Major Vasileios Sakelaropoulos, Head of Delegation of the Presidential Guard throughout their visit. Both stressed the important role of Lemnos in the Gallipoli campaign, including references to the many volunteers who served alongside the Anzacs during the campaign. Major Sakelaropoulos expressed the appreciation of the Guard for the invitation to take part in this important commemorative event, celebrating the enduring links between Greece and Australia.

Other speakers included Ms Nina Taylor MP, representing the Victorian Government, and Mr David Davis, representing the Victorian Opposition. Ms Maria Vamvakinou, Federal MP and co-chair of the Australia Greece Parliamentary Friendship Group, and former Victorian MP Mr Bruce Mildenhall, also took part in the service.

It was my pleasure to also address the assembly in my capacity as a historian and as Secretary of the Committee, outlining the importance of Lemnos' role in Gallipoli. While the other northern Aegean islands of Imbros and Tenedos played a lesser role in the campaign, Lemnos was its advanced base, with supply depots, huge rest camps and medical facilities, its massive harbour at Mudros Bay hosting some 200 ships prior to the landings on April 25. Nearly all of Australia's 50,000 service personnel – as well as the hundreds of thousands of other Allied troops – served on Lemnos for greater or lesser periods of time. For all these reasons, I said that:

“Without Lemnos there would have been no Gallipoli campaign. And there can be no discussion of Australia's Anzac story without Lemnos.”

Given the presence of the Hellenic Presidential Guard, I explained the Hellenic contribution to the Gallipoli campaign. I pointed out the role of Hellenic volunteers on the Gallipoli front as interpreters and guides as well as in the two fighting units of the French Foreign Legion, which comprised Hellenic volunteers from Asia Minor, Crete and beyond. However these also extended to the Hellenes who served in the Australian forces, such as Private Peter Rados, who came to Lemnos, took part in the landings on Anzac Day and would later become the sole Hellenic Anzac to be killed during the Gallipoli campaign (see article in *The Gallipolitan* No 160 – editor).

The speeches were followed by a traditional Anzac service, with the reading of the Ode by Squadron Leader Steve Campbell-Wright, the playing of the Last Post as well as the Australian and Hellenic national anthems and the laying of wreaths.

Mr Tarlamis said it was a proud day for the Lemmon Gallipoli Commemorative Committee to host the Hellenic Presidential Guard at the Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial.

“This is a great privilege for our Committee and the wider Australian and Hellenic communities of Melbourne. To have them take a formal role in our inaugural Anzac Day service as their first public appearance in our State is truly an honour. By their attendance today they have helped raise awareness of Lemnos and its role in the Gallipoli campaign, a participation that will be noted throughout Melbourne, Australia and in Greece,” he said

Mr Tarlamis thanked the Victorian Government for its support for the Hellenic Presidential Guard's visit and Mr Tony Tsourdalakis of the Victorian Council for Greek National Day for his assistance with the visit. Mr Tarlamis and I presented Major Sakelaropoulos with a copy of *Lemnos & Gallipoli Revealed* in recognition of the Hellenic Presidential Guard's visit to the Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial.

The Guard appeared at various other events throughout their ten day stay, including taking pride of place in Melbourne's Anzac Day parade at our own iconic, Hellenic-inspired Shrine of Remembrance on 25 April.

GALLIPOLI TEDDY BEAR

David Saunders OBE

In May 1999 Jim Fallon, a vice-president of the Association, provided a cutting from *Saga Magazine* reporting a teddy bear resident in the Regimental Museum of the Royal Regiment of Wales, Brecon. A very special bear indeed for it had been found by Sergeant Sidney Bean of the South Wales Borderers in a trench at Gallipoli in 1915. Having failed to discover the owner Sergeant Bean brought the bear home, subsequently depositing it in the Regimental Museum where it can still be seen together with his voluminous diaries and correspondence. (See photo page 29).

Sidney Bean born near Bath the son of a fruitier enlisted in the South Wales Borderers aged 18 in 1903 with his first overseas service being South Africa from December 1910 to November 1912, followed by Manchuria. A return to Great Britain and thence to Gallipoli embarking on the SS *Canada* of the American Dominion Line at Avonmouth on 16 March 1915.

In June 1946 when depositing in the Regimental Museum his diary covering departure from England until 14 May 1915 had this to say in a covering letter:

'I am afraid you will not find it of much use as we were not allowed to mention casualties or units in any diaries and notes, neither were we allowed to make sketches. After 14 May we were forbidden to keep diaries of any description but if there is any special information you require up to the 21 Aug 1915 I shall of course be pleased to give it if it is possible to do so. The conditions prevailing on the Peninsula were much better than during the Tingstau expedition. Water was rather scarce at times especially for the first four days after landing.

We were always well fed after the early days of the campaign. In this respect our Battalion was far ahead of any other on the Peninsula as we kept up our system of Coy. Cooks whereas in most other Regts. rations were issued to individuals and each man was responsible for his own cooking, consequently the bacon ration was often wasted and as many very seldom went to the trouble of warming his preserved meat ration even when he had the opportunity which was not often. Of course we never had fresh meat but after about the first month we had a part ration of bread instead of biscuit.

As the preserved meat ration was far in excess of requirements Col. Easson made arrangements whereby the excess was exchanged for condensed milk, rice or dried fruit (raisins, figs etc). When trench warfare developed the following scale of diet was adhered to as nearly as possible.

Breakfast 7 a.m. Tea. Bacon fried or boiled. Biscuits.

Mid. Day Cold preserved meat. Boiled rice pudding or stewed fruit.

Tea 3.30 p.m. Tea. Biscuits & jam.

Supper 7 p.m. Hot Stew (preserved meat and preserved vegetables)

As the days were extremely hot a cold meal at mid day was much more acceptable than a hot one would have been, the latter being more palatable in the cool of the evening when the flies had ceased to torment.

Trusting you will write to me if at any time you require information of happenings in the 2 Batt, which if I cannot give myself I may be able to collect from others who were serving with the Batt.

I remain Sir Your Obedient servant S Bean.

Byron Rogers, author of the original *Saga* article, wrote:

And in Brecon, in the barrack square of the Royal Regiment of Wales, I am staring at a small, bedraggled teddy bear. This was found in the trenches at Gallipoli by a Sergeant Bean DCM, who never did find out whose it was. Someone, someone very young, took his old friend with him into the Hell which was the Dardanelles in the Great War, and only the bear came home... the teddy bear in Brecon is probably the most moving of all museum exhibits on earth. The old friend is threadbare now.



Sidney Bean DCM

Company-Q.M.S. Sidney Bean, of the 2nd South Wales Borderers, has been wounded at the Dardanelles. During fighting on August 21 a bullet struck him under the right breast and penetrated the side. He was taken on board a hospital ship, and is said to be progressing favourably. C.Q.M.S. Bean, who was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal a few months ago for gallantry on the Gallipoli Peninsula, is an old boy of Bathforum School. His parents live at Locksbrook Place, Lower Weston. (*Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette* 18 September 1915 p6).



NEW ZEALAND SOLDIER'S CHRONICLE OF ANZAC

(By Sergeant 'X')

The original account that follows, by an unidentified soldier of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, appeared in serialised form across five issues of the Auckland Star in April and May 1916. Though the writer is not identified, clues in the text suggest that he was a member of the 15th (North Auckland) Company, of the Auckland Infantry Battalion. — Editor.

[The value of this record lies in the fact that it is the actual story of memorable events on the Gallipoli Peninsula, as written on the spot by one who participated in, or was an eye-witness of, the most stirring occurrences. Nothing at all approaching this in stern realism and vividness of impression, nor any story so detailed and consecutive, has yet been published. — Editor 'Star.']

Gulf of Saros, April 25, 1915

We arrived in the semi-circular basin of the Gulf of Saros before daylight, and stood well off shore. As dawn approached, the thunderous firing of heavy guns close to us brought us with a rush to the deck, whence we could see the hazy outline of the hills along the coast with the black, indistinct shapes of numerous battleships standing close in, many other transports being anchored like ourselves well out from shore. A haze seemed to envelop the scene in mystery, and we felt that great events were shaping invisibly before our very eyes. Flashes of lightning were seen and series of flashes broke from the sides of our battleships, accompanied by deafening reports from the huge guns.

As the heralds of daylight began to dispel the darkness, our transport, the German 14,000 ton prize, Lutzow, crept up close to the line of fighting ships till we were right beside the thundering guns. How we enjoyed this wonderful, exciting scene, watching the vivid flashes, hearing the thunder of reports from all sizes of guns up to the 'Lizzie's' 15-inch barkers – watching a real battle-fleet in sharp action, following everything with keenest interest, proclaiming with delight the exploding of our shells on the enemy's hills. We felt as though we were looking at a real live cinematograph picture, and didn't seem to realise that in a few hours a large percentage of us, now so fit and vigorous with energy and life, would be but cold heaps of mangled flesh amidst the scrub on those hills.

At daylight we stood out from a scrub-covered, precipitous bluff, very high and rough, with ranges of cliffs and peaks extending for half a mile on each side. All along the top and down the face of these formidable heights the Turks were entrenched in force, with many machine guns, one being placed half-way up the face of the central bluff; the dense, short scrub affording the enemy splendid cover.

Just before dawn three brigades of Australians were sent off to effect a landing, and



Captioned Four boatloads of New Zealand troops being towed ashore by a destroyer after leaving HMAT Lutzow. AWM A01148.

they had to pay a heavy toll before touching the soil of Turkey – the machine-gun and rifle fire, so murderous in itself, being made just hellish with the sweeping shrapnel sent in storms from flanking batteries along the beaches. Jumping out of their boats into the sea, the gallant Australians at length won a footing, and with fearful loss and unparalleled valour drove the Turks up the face of the bluff, capturing the machine gun half-way up. On they pushed the enemy over the top, and we could now plainly see them in small groups running about on the ridge. All this time the battleships, cruisers and destroyers were firing maddeningly, trying to locate and destroy the enemy's batteries and trenches, but without any great success; the noise and clatter were terrible, the least interval between the thunder of the big guns being occupied by the rattle and roar of rifles and machine-guns. Our hearts were beating faster, and we felt that an element of danger had come into our soldiering.

The Turks had retreated over the bluffs, across a deep gully and well along the plateau leading to Sari Bair Peak, with the Australians right on their heels, relentlessly crushing opposition to their advance at any sacrifice, both sides losing heavily. At this moment the New Zealanders were needed to reinforce the advanced line of Australians, and we were loaded into large wooden barges and towed ashore by a steam launch from a battleship.

As we neared the shore, guns from Gaba Tepe and Anafarta fired at us with high explosive shells, and the screaming projectiles flying just a few feet over us made us bob our heads instinctively. It was with relief that we watched each shell burst quite a safe distance from us in a column of water. Shrapnel with a wild humming flew

around us, bursting and spreading bullets everywhere, the man in front of me getting hit in the mouth as we stepped ashore. There were very few casualties, though a little later Colonel Plugge got wounded in the hand, but he put a bandage on and took no further notice of it.

When all were landed, We formed up on a hillside, took off our valises, and got our rifles ready for work. At one o'clock in the afternoon we started, the 15th (North Auckland) Company leading. When the top of the bluff was reached we were extended and went forward. We could not see any Turks, did not know where they were, or how far off; we crept on, and suddenly entered the fire zone, and then we knew what war was – we just melted away, our casualties being fearfully high. The shrapnel bullets beat about us like hail, and got those that escaped the fierce, murderous, direct and enfilading machine gun fire. Bullets sang about us like bees, or spurted at us like rain from shells overhead – it was a positive inferno, and the noise was like an intensified engineering workshop in full clatter. Just as we reached the further edge of the hill-top, I received a piece of lead which put a stop to my progress. I made my way back to a dressing station with the assistance of a New Zealand Medical Corps man. This branch of the service, during those first wild days, showed even greater personal bravery and devotion than our infantry, and they deserve all praise for it. Captain (now major) Craig especially shone out in that trying test-time.

Wounded men were streaming down the hillsides – some unaided, some assisted, some in stretchers; the beach was packed with them, waiting to go to the hospital ships and transports. It was a sad realisation of the glories of war to watch the maimed, hurt limbs and bodies stained and dirty, yet still alive; it was sadder still to think of the hundreds in the scrub without life, cold and staring. There was little time for these thoughts, however, as shells were continuously falling on the beach, and the roar and rattle of the fighting was as fierce and intense as ever – frequent reports of the desperate plight of our firing-line, of its impetuous advance and disastrous retirement to a line of hastily-dug entrenchments, being brought in by the ever-coming wounded. All that night the nerve-racking din continued, and the warships and transports held every boat ready to take our troops off at any moment.

All next day (**Monday**) the fight raged with awful vigour and deadliness, but our men had become old soldiers in those first few vivid hours, and now fought with a cool grimness. No boats would be needed.

I was anxious to be with my mates, and so slipped back into my platoon again in the firing-line on **Tuesday** morning. By this time several field-guns had been hauled into position on the hills, up specially-made roads, and at tremendous labour, and these were barking merrily at the enemy. The thunder of our ships' guns was most comforting to us, and gave us a sense of security and support.

Wednesday, April 28

Yesterday evening we held the trenches on Plugge's Plateau, on the left of the position. Although the weather has been glorious, the nights are severely cold and shivery;

but when darkness fell we lay jumbled up in the trench and slept despite everything, not heeding the wet earth or the showers of dirt and dust that trickled down continuously on face, neck, and clothes; unmindful of the shells that sang sibilantly overhead, sometimes exploding above us. The warships' and our big guns were booming around us, like whacks of a big drum against our ears in confused succession, and the roar and rattle of machine guns and rifles made the air hoarse with sound. We slept the sleep of the fatigued, each doing an hour's sentry duty, till 2.30 a.m., when we moved to the right, where there were no trenches, and here we were set to work digging. It was a weird experience, digging on the top edge of a hill in the moonlight, the gulf behind – a beautiful glittering scene, the islands standing up like black, cutout shapes – and the hill in front, 400 yards or so away, blazing forth death, the bullets whistling about us as we worked, but not hitting anyone. At daylight the rough trenches were ready, and we stood to arms for an hour, then lay down anyhow to snatch some rest.

Plugge's Plateau, April 28, 1915

To-day was seemingly a quiet one, the enemy shelling and attacking our positions in a desultory fashion. I spent my spare time in watching a party of New Zealanders trying to proceed along the beach to Fisherman's Hut to bury a number of our dead boys, who lay in a boat which had drifted ashore there on Sunday. The Turks made a lively attack on our men, who were unable to reach the boat for fear of being cut off, so with reluctance they fought their way back, running, dodging, shooting, with the bullets whizzing about them. Fortunately no one was wounded, and so it proved quite an exciting scene to us up on the cliffs.

After tea we moved along to another undefended portion of the plateau on the right, where, when dusk came, we were set to dig trenches. The night was a beastly one, cold, windy, with blustering rain, like one in our worst New Zealand winter's weather. After doing our shift with the picks and shovels, my mate and I, after a short search, found a shallow hole about eighteen inches deep, which we lengthened and widened to take the two of us, excavating a hole to shelter our heads. We were wet and shivering, and we put my wet greatcoat on the bottom and my mate's wet one above us, and snuggled up together. We couldn't sleep a wink, shivering in numb misery, wet and chilled, till daylight appeared, when we got up and, after standing to arms from 4 to 5 o'clock, prepared a little breakfast (tea, bully beef and biscuits).

After lunch I went down to the dressing station to get my wound dressed, and then walked up Shrapnel Gully to Pope's Hill. It was an interesting but sad walk, the road being pitifully strewn with the belongings of fellows wounded or dead, their torn, stained clothes being cast about with abandoned rifles and equipment. The gully was alive with traffic, groups of Australians and Royal Marine Light Infantry passing and re-passing, whilst Sikhs and Greeks assisted in transporting supplies to the firing line.

The Royal Marine L.I. relieved the Australians on Pope's Hill to-day, the latter coming out of the trenches and constructing dug-outs for themselves.

I returned to my lines again, and there, at dark, we were put on trench-digging till midnight. It was too cold to more than doze for a couple of hours, although I had two greatcoats on with mittens and Balaclava.

The Turkish snipers are excellent shots, and get behind our lines in the scrub on the hills; and there, safely ensconced with a week's rations and ammunition, they deal out sudden, silent death to officers and N.C.O.s, often going many days without detection. The damage wrought by these men is fearful, as they only pick off those in authority. But our own boys are counter-sniping the snipers, and, although many splendid fellows have gone under in this way, yet the evil has been somewhat checked, and will soon be practically nullified.

Saturday was a quiet day for us, our duties consisting of carrying up kerosene tins full of water from the beach, drawing stores, etc.

Sunday, May 2

About 2 a.m. the Turks commenced shelling our trenches, and shrapnel fell about like rain, the empty shells whacking into the trenches, or on or about the parapets. We were compelled to lie very low, but even then Dave Bailey got badly shot in the abdomen about daybreak [12/500 Private David Shaw BAILLIE, 15th (North Auckland)



Pte D S Baillie NZEF

Co., Auckland Battalion. Died of bullet wound to abdomen aboard HMT *Devanha*, 3 May 1915, aged 21]. A hurried breakfast was made, and at 8 a.m. we moved to the right along some shallow trenches; then out on open ground over the ridge into shelter, down a gully and on to the beach. While we were moving out of the trenches the enemy peppered us with shells and machine gun fire; and it was specially hot dashing across the open piece for safety, several boys having holes shot in their clothing or equipment, one through his cap, but only one being wounded. Despite the flying bullets Colonel Plugge climbed on to a rise (above the trenches) which was fully exposed to the Turks, and directed the moving of his men, we expecting every moment to see him fall.

We fell in on the beach and marched to the left flank of the firing line, where we did some road-making till late that night, making our dug-outs on a hillside close by. There we stayed till Monday, doing fatigue work in the daytime and acting as reserve to the firing line at night.

At 7 o'clock on the Sunday night every gun we possessed – the Indian mountain guns and our field guns, with the warships' large and small armaments – burst into a deafening chorus, enveloping land and sea in a series of blinding flashes, with a dumbing succession of deafening reports as the guns hurled forth their tremendous bolts of death. The air has, at all times since the landing, been alive and instinct with sudden death, taking next no one knows whom, or how; from 7 till 7.30 this

Sunday evening, however, it was awful, stunning – numbing one's senses of quick thought and reasoning, and creating rather an amazed curiosity and fearful wonder, as the shells sang and hummed overhead in swarms – the Turks' guns also furiously blazing reply and swelling the infernal chorus, so that machine gun and rifle fire could hardly be heard. At 7.30 the bombardment stopped with startling suddenness. The Australians charged forward, and took some Turkish trenches; but owing to the cleverly-placed multitude of machine-guns and the excellent bomb-throwing of the Turks, the captured positions at Quinn's Post were evacuated.

Monday, May 3

Nothing of import has occurred today. There has been the same shooting in the trenches, the same small stream of wounded downhill to the beach, the same procession of ammunition and provisions up again, the same big-gun reports, and the singing and bursting of enemy shells, the same endless chorus of rifle fire. We are now used to all this, and take very little notice of it as we calmly pursue our duties.

At 8.30 in the evening we-moved off, having left our packs behind stacked in a pile. We marched along the beach to the right, then turned up 'Shrapnel Gully.' The night was pitch dark, and the affair was most weird with the long files of silent men tramping steadily along in the blackness, pursuing a slushy watercourse in the depths of the valley, following each other grimly, trustingly. The haunting death-smell that became more pronounced at night-time seemed to eddy around us, speaking of those many bodies on the hillsides as yet unburied. We plodded on, following the tortuous way, passing many laden stretchers which the stumbling bearers had brought from the hilltop trenches above us.

Onward we went and upwards, climbing the steep side of a hill, and reaching the trenches at Pope's Hill, which we silently filed into and occupied, the Australians leaving as we entered. We fixed bayonets, saw that our magazines were full, and then waited. We didn't know where we were, where the enemy were, or what we were there for; but that didn't trouble us. The enemy's bullets were falling in showers on the parapets of our trenches, or whistling overhead, those that hit the earth and many whilst in the air exploding about us like crackers as the nickel coverings of the bullets burst open. The night was pitch dark and severely cold; we slept little that night, for we had no greatcoats. We had to keep all our equipment on, and found the trenches wet, soft. and mucky; besides, the rifle-fire of the Turks frequently became alarmingly heavy.

When dawn appeared, how we welcomed the light, and how, a little later, we welcomed the sun's warming rays! Then we saw for the first time, about 50yds from us, the opposing trenches, across a small hollow, which was pitifully strewn with sad, inanimate things, lying in all sorts of broken, abandoned attitudes. New Zealanders, Australians, and Turks lay side by side. On all the hills around and in the gullies between this same scene was repeated, with more or less toll from both sides.

Wednesday, May 5

Yesterday was spent in putting bullets into anything we could see to shoot at in the Turkish trenches in front of us. We peppered their loopholes, shot at hats, heads, hands, shovels, or any suspicious-looking articles. They were busy all day long industriously improving their trenches, and digging new ones – they don't seem to rest at all. Opposite us one of them plied his shovel with annoying regularity and perseverance, so Sergt.-Major Fletcher (15th N.A. Co.) took a shot at the shovel as it threw out some earth, hitting it and turning it partly in the wielder's hands; but the Turk was not a whit put out; he simply waved the shovel across the trench two or three times, signalling a miss.

On **Sunday**, the Otago Battalion advanced and took a hill in front of Walker's Ridge, driving the Turks back. Half the Canterbury Battalion were sent out to dig trenches and defences for the Otagos, who were holding the Turks off the hill, but in the darkness they got lost, and eventually returned without having found their Otago comrades. When daylight dawned on **Monday** morning the Southlanders found themselves on an exposed open hill, without any protection whatever; and when the Turks found the range with their machine and field guns, the Otagos were pitilessly mown down, without hope of retaliation or succour. Those alive finished water and eatables that morning, and for the rest of the time, till Tuesday night, were tortured by thirst, for the days were as hot as the nights were cold. Monday night found them surrounded and subjected to sustained bomb attacks; nearly all their ammunition was gone, and there seemed to be no hope of rescue; their numbers grew less and less.

Tuesday was a day of torture and nerve-strain to all, but to the wounded it was anguish unimagined, their pain-wrung cries for water being indescribably awful. Preferring the chance of death – in an attempt to break back to our lines – to another night of bomb terror and suffering, all who were able to move fired their last rounds and dashed through the enemy on this (Tuesday) evening, eighty reaching our trenches, where we gladly supplied the one craved want – water. The poor fellows were absolute wrecks. It was a most exciting moment for us when they were heard running towards the front of our trenches in the dark, calling out not to shoot. Many of our men thought it a Turkish trick covering an attack.

At 1 a.m. a cry of "All to arms!" made our hearts beat fast, as a fierce Turkish fire attack was directed at our trenches, and it required the exertion of every atom of courage and will to act calmly and put our heads above the parapet – upon which the bullets were flicking like rain, and over which they poured, hissing spitefully – and to fire with steady aim at the flashes of the rifles of our opponents just in front of us. Four volleys quietened the enemy a good deal, and soon afterwards those not on watch were able to go to sleep again – which we were able to do immediately, so remarkably used have we become to being under fire.



Gallipoli Association order of colours: green for the land of Gallipoli; green-cyan azure for the Dardanelles waters; navy blue and scarlet for the services involved in the campaign. See page 2.



The war memorial at Kandy, Sri Lanka.
See pages 5–6.



The Gallipoli Teddy Bear.
See pages 20–21.

Stamps from the Republic of Guinea

Republic of Guinea 2016 "End of Battle of Gallipoli"
Herbert Kitchener (1850-1916))



Guinea 2016 'End of Battle of Gallipoli' 100th Anniversary. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk (1881-1938) - Soldiers of the British Empire during Battle of Gallipoli - Soldiers of the Ottoman Empire defending their position, Gallipoli - Sir Ian Standish Monteith Hamilton (1853-1947)





Medals to Sergeant Richard Humberstone, 3rd Battalion Australian Imperial Force,
 On display in the Maryborough Military Museum, Queensland,
 DCM GV (1293 Pte. R. Humberston. 3 Battalion AIF);
 QSA Cape Colony (2424 L. Cpl. R. M. Humberstone. D.E.O.VR);
 KSA (2424 L. Cpl. R. M. Humberstone. D.E.O.VR);
 Natal 1906 (Tpr. R. Humberstone, Natal Carbineers.) See pages 7 – 13.



German postcard titled 'Türkische Truppen bei Gallipoli', a depiction of the Gallipoli landscape by someone who had apparently not been there.



The Hellenic Presidential Guard (Evzones) form the catafalque party at the Lemnos Gallipoli Memorial. Photographs by Jim Claven 2022. See pages 17 – 19.





Sketch map from 2nd Bn war diary. The patrol sent out led by Cpl Humberstone and Sgt Collingwood was probably investigating the trenches to the right (north) of the position known as 'The Pimple.' 'Approximate Scale' is in yards. See pages 7 - 13.



All photographs this page and next taken during the Helles Battlefield Study Project, October 2022

Above: HSS/002 – German Flak position. Concrete base in the foreground.



HSS/004/DO/02 – ‘Command Post dug-out’ entrance.

See pages 37 – 46.



HSS/o04/DO/o2 - Main room in the 'Command Post dug-out' showing the corridor & annexe.
Entrance to the 2nd room on the right.



HSS/o05/DO/o3 - Seen from the west. Kanli Dere valley ('Shrapnel Valley') in the background.



Above: HSS/006/DO/04 - Entrance to deep dug-out as seen from the west.

See pages 37 – 46.

Below: HSS/007 - A section of the redoubt's outer ring defensive trench.



HELLES BATTLEFIELD STUDY PROJECT - PART I

Mike Crane

In February 2022, Association trustees agreed to fund a comprehensive study of the Helles battlefield, to be known as the Helles Battlefield Study Project (HBSP). The condition of the battlefield is degrading year-on-year, and the purpose of the study is to record systematically remaining battlefield archaeology on the southern zone of the peninsula. We plan that the GA study team of Steve Chambers and Mike Crane assisted by GA member volunteers will complete a minimum of one five-day field trip a year, over the next five years.

All the sites visited will be geopositioned, sketched, measured, photographed, videoed and where appropriate surveyed using LiDAR.

On our return to the UK, we will collate the research data and photography to create detailed maps and reports. Reports will explain the history and use of each site, wherever possible naming the units that occupied it. Throughout the project, we will validate, then share the knowledge we gather, by publishing findings on the members page of the website.

Additional information will also be added to the study. This will include; a glossary of official and unofficial place names, the locations of places mentioned in the literature of the campaign, and those of battlefield cemeteries and individual battlefield burials (including those of member's relatives). To this we will add the changes in the British and Turkish firing-lines, the British/French boundaries, the divisional boundaries, and also the locations of small actions and notable incidents.

To assist in the collection and collation of this data, the team plan to tap into the collective knowledge that exists within the Association membership, to create a shared ownership of this Heritage Project.

Ultimately, we hope that the project contributes to fulfilling the Association's objectives by delivering resources to members and future historians and creating new insights to the circumstances of those who fought in the campaign.

The following text, maps and photographs are extracts from our preliminary report to Trustees. The report is published in full on the members' page of the Association's website. All distances are taken centre-to-centre and 'as the crow flies,' and the attached maps are orientated north to south.

In early October 2022 the study team, helped by local GA member Bill Sellars, undertook the inaugural HBSP field trip. It had been intended that the study be carried out in sequence, by pre-delineated zones. However, an increase in the felling of trees made it necessary to prioritise those sites considered most at risk. Some of the best-preserved sites are to be found in woodland areas. These have up until now been protected by trees and bushes. However, swathes of woodland are now being thinned out, leaving the ground in these areas covered in a thick layer of branches



Lieutenant John Bolton, 1/5th East Lancs Regiment.

and cuttings. The result is that trench lines, dug-outs, battery positions and the like, are being obscured from view. An additional concern is the potential damage done to sites by tractors employed in the logging process.

The woodlands that cover Observation Hill ridge are particularly rich in battlefield archaeology. These woods are easily accessed and as such have been subjected to a great deal of logging. It was therefore decided to dedicate four of our six working days to this area.

The first day however, was spent in a search for the original burial site of Lieutenant John Bolton of the 1/5th East Lancs Regiment, in an area close to 'Y' Beach.

On 4 June 1915, John Bolton was waiting for the order to advance in the second line trenches on Gully Spur when he was hit by

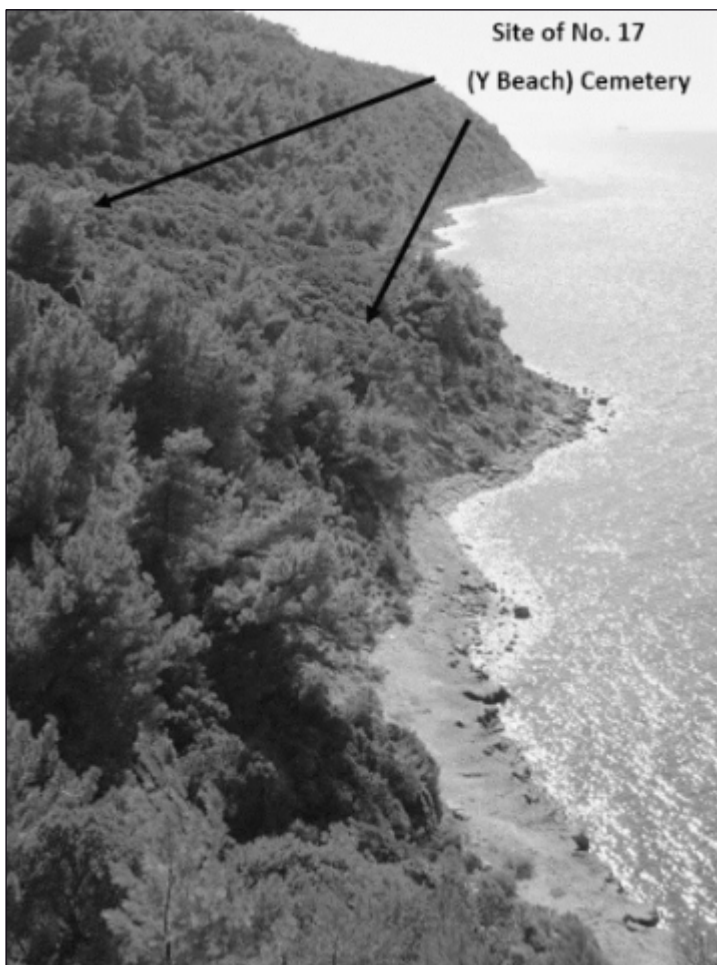
a 150cm piece of shell casing which shattered his left arm and crashed into his left side. He was stretchered to the forward dressing station at 'Y' Beach (Section B, 87th Field Ambulance) and died around six hours later after 'bearing his wounds with great bravery.'¹ John's Army Form B. 2090 A. (report on the death of an officer) simply states he was buried 'S.W. of Gurkha Bluff, Gallipoli Peninsula.'

Maps created after the armistice give the name of this burial place as 'Y' Beach Cemetery (with an added numeric reference of either No.17 or H.17). Photographs of John Bolton's original grave show a pair of very distinctive standing stones close by. Finding these stones would not only confirm the location of John's grave but also that of cemetery No.17 and the 87th Field Ambulance's forward dressing station.²

I had previously identified a large sloping terrace (roughly 90 metres in diameter)

¹ For more information on John and his three brothers see my article 'The Four Bolton Brothers', *The Gallipolian*, No. 146, Spring 2018.

² The site was occupied from the 14 May up until the evacuation by a succession of Field Ambulances including in order of occupation; the 1st Field Ambulance, RND, the 87th Brigade Field Ambulance, various Field Ambulances of the 42nd Division and the Southern Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance.



HSS/001 - View of 'Y' Beach looking south from Gurkha Bluff.

as a likely site. It sits about 15 metres above the southern end of 'Y' Beach and immediately to the south of Gurkha Ravine. After parking near the top of 'Y' Ravine, it took me about 2½ hours to get to the western edge of the terrace. The entire terrace is thickly covered by small dwarf (prickly) oaks and various bushes limiting visibility to a few metres in either direction. As I crawled through the dense undergrowth I passed several large stones, similar to the ones in the photographs. 45 metres or so onto the terrace I was delighted to see to my right the two stones pictured in the photographs.

I cleared the site of dead branches and leaf litter which revealed a row of indentations that corresponded to the positions of the graves shown in the photographs. After



HSS/001 - Lieutenant John Bolton's grave taken in 1915
with the standing stones in the background.

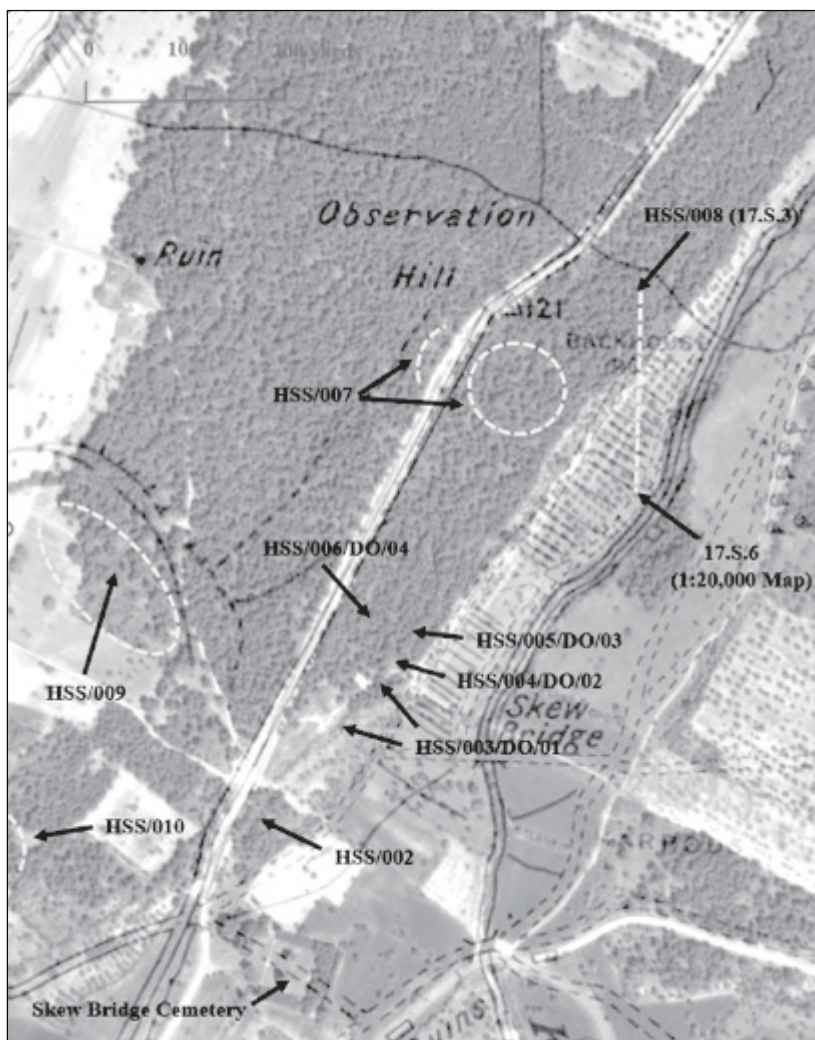


HSS/001 - The standing stones taken on 4 November 1922.
A memorial cross marks the approximate position of John's original grave.

logging the position of the stones on my GPS device I retraced my steps back the car. As this was the first of the sites visited it was accorded the reference HSS/o01.

The following day the team moved to the Observation Hill area to begin the study of site HSS/o02. It covers an area of approximately 160 square metres and is situated in a small pine wood, around 140 metres north of Skew Bridge Cemetery.

The site comprises of a series of dug-outs and trenches radiating from a 76cm diameter, steel reinforced concrete base. Some have suggested it to be a base plate for a heavy mortar, however, we now know that the site was occupied in the post-evacuation period by a German flak battery and the concrete base was probably a mounting for an anti-aircraft gun.



Map 'Helles Opposing Trenches, January, 1916,' from the Official History, overlaid onto Google Earth Imagery

A sketch map was drawn up in situ and key dimensions recorded. Still photographs and video were taken, a LiDAR survey attempted (with partial success) and the base plate's position logged on two separate handheld GPS devices.

The team moved onto the next site, HSS/o03/DO/o1. Situated on the eastern edge of the ridge around 130 metres NNE of HSS/o02, is the first dug-out in a 45-metre-long row of at least six similar shallow dug-outs. All are cut underneath a one-metre-thick band of rock strata that runs under the topsoil on this part of the ridge. Still photographs were taken of each dugout, however, time constraints meant we were unable to carry out a measured survey.

A few metres from the most northerly of these dug-outs, high on the eastern slope of Observation Hill ridge, sits the best-preserved dug-out on the peninsula (HSS/o04/DO/o2). It lies under the same band of rock strata as the nearby small dug-outs and is situated approximately 180 metres NE of site HSS/o02 and 300 metres NNE of Skew Bridge Cemetery. This dug-out has been described by some as the 'RND dug-out' or 'Hospital dug-out,' and the more fanciful have even suggested it as the site of Backhouse Post! It seems more likely however, given the number of artillery batteries that were stationed in the area, to have been used as a headquarters command post for an artillery brigade. It is also probable that the dug-out has served a variety of purposes, during and post campaign, with some present features having been added at a later date.

The dug-out comprises of two rooms and a small annex which are connected by a short corridor. The first and largest room has a hearth with a large ventilation shaft/chimney cut into the ceiling. One of the walls has several small 'pigeon holes' cut into it and the corroded remains of signal cables all point to it being used as an orderly room. The large room behind has a similar large ventilation shaft in its ceiling, and may well have served as senior officer accommodation. The annex which spurs off the corridor linking both rooms may well have been used to accommodate an officer's servant or an orderly room clerk. Detailed dimensions were taken of all four areas and logged onto prepared plans and elevations. Still photographs and video were taken and the interior was surveyed using LiDAR. The dug-out's position was logged on two separate handheld GPS devices.

Just 25 metres north of HSS/o04/DO/o2 the team surveyed a large, open dug-out, HSS/o05/DO/o3. Situated on the top of the eastern edge of Observation Hill ridge, and approximately 350 metres NNE of Skew Bridge Cemetery it measures approximately 8.1 x 6.3 x 2 metres deep. The dug-out which would have originally been roofed over, has two large rooms which are separated by the remains of a thick wall with a 2.6-metre-wide opening at one end. A 5.5-metre-long trench slopes down to the dug-out's entrance which is situated at the SW corner. The dug-out's purpose is as yet unknown but it may have been utilised by artillery units that occupied the area. A sketch map was drawn up in situ, and key dimensions recorded. Still photographs and video were taken and the interior surveyed using LiDAR. The dug-out's position logged on two GPS devices.

About 55 metres west of HSS/o05/DO/o3 and 385 metres north of Skew Bridge Cemetery is a small, deep dug-out (HSS/o06/DO/o4). This site had, up until a few years ago, lain unnoticed despite being just 25 metres from the Krithia Road.

Access was gained after clearing a tangle of loose branches from the steep, 3-metre-deep, 7.2-metre-long trench leading down to the dug-out's entrance. The interior is roughly rectangular and measures approximately 3.4 x 2.6 metres. The ceiling has a maximum height of 1.46 metres and shows signs of collapse, with piles of earth and rock littering the floor. During the campaign up to six batteries of artillery were situated around the southern end of Observation Hill ridge and the remnants of several gun pits can be found within a few tens of metres of the dug-out. It seems likely, then, that it and the gun pits are linked. Once again, a sketch map was drawn up in situ, and key dimensions recorded. Still photographs and video were taken and the interior surveyed using LiDAR. The dug-out's position was logged on two GPS devices.

About 210 metres NNE of HSS/o06/DO/o4 are the well-preserved remains of a large redoubt (HSS/o07) measuring over 200 metres wide (SE to NW) and 110 metres deep (SW to NE). It covers an area of more than 5,500 square metres and stretches from the eastern edge of Observation Hill ridge to a point about 20 metres west of the 'Krithia Road.' Its centre is around 600 metres NNE of Skew Bridge Cemetery and its NW corner is close to a dog-leg in the Krithia Road. The redoubt consists of an outer defensive ring of trenches with a central command post/strongpoint. The two are connected by four equally spaced communication trenches which radiate from the hub. These well-preserved trenches are cut into the underlying stone strata and are at places over 1.2 metres deep. A communication trench, running SE to NW, continues across the road to connect with an arc-shaped defensive trench.



HSS/o07 - Aerial photograph (1937) of the redoubt.
The Krithia Road runs diagonally across the photo.

Recent logging activity has left many of the redoubt's trenches filled with off-cut branches which unfortunately obscure whole sections of the redoubt. It was therefore decided to return to this site at a later date.

The team moved on to an area around 275 metres NE from the centre of HSS/o07, to carry out a search for the true location of Backhouse Post (HSS/o08). Commodore Oliver Backhouse, commander of the 2nd Naval Brigade, RND, established his headquarters there on the night of the great Turkish attack (1/2 May) when his brigade moved into a line of support trenches running across the northern edge of Observation Hill. A well-known photograph in the IWM collection showing Commodore Backhouse and three other officers standing in trenches believed to be those of Backhouse Post, provides a clue to the terrain. While GHQ Force Order No. 27 (29 October 1915) gives an indication of the post's location. In the Force Order, Backhouse Post is designated with a 180-metre linear grid reference of 17.S.3 to 17.S.6,¹ which can be seen on the map attached to this article, 'Helles Opposing Trenches, January, 1916.' As the majority of land shown between these two points is over cultivated ground on the valley floor, we focused our search around grid reference 17.S.3., in the woods near the eastern edge of Observation Hill ridge. Here the ground conditions match those shown in the IWM photograph and we found a similar complex of trenches to those shown.

The remains of several petrol tins (used as water containers in the campaign) found inside the complex had the words 'Petroleum Spirit – Highly - Inflammable' pressed

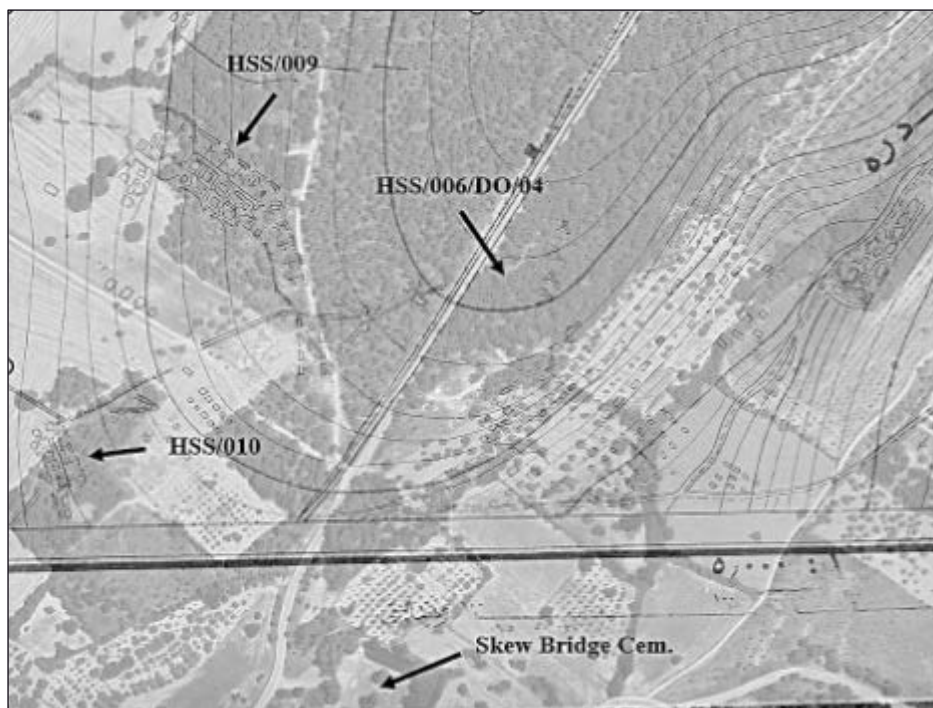


HSS/o08 - Commodore Oliver Backhouse and three of his officers at Backhouse Post.

¹ On the 1915 1:20,000 map.

into the bases. Time restrictions prevented us from carrying out a measured survey, with this being held over for a future trip. However, the site was photographed and its position logged on two GPS devices.

The team moved back to the southern end of Observation Hill ridge to visit the next two sites. As already mentioned, up to six batteries of artillery occupied the southern area of Observation Hill Ridge at any one time. The Şevki Pasha map shows a battery close to dug-out HSS/o06/DO/o4, together with single and double battery positions located in woodlands west of Krithia Road. The double battery position (HSS/o09) is situated approximately 400 metres NW of Skew Bridge Cemetery and covers an area of approximately 1,000 square metres. When I first visited the site in 2018 it was fairly easy to identify half a dozen or so individual gun positions, but these have now been obscured by logging activity, with a thick layer of off-cut branches covering much of the ground. However, the deep ammunition bunkers close to the southern edge of the wood are largely untouched and are still easily identifiable. Once again, it was decided to return to this site at a later date.



HSS/009-010 – Şevki Paşa map overlaid onto Google Earth imagery showing artillery positions.

The single battery position (HSS/o10) covers an area of approximately 160 square metres and is situated in a small wood around 275 metres SW of HSS/o9 and approximately 275 metres WNW of Skew Bridge Cemetery. Second Corporal Alec

Riley, a signaller in the 42nd Division, was bivouacking at Bridge Bivouac, about 350 metres SSW of HSS/010 in early May. On 8 May Riley wrote in his diary, 'Behind a thin line of trees, to our front was a battery of RFA [17th Bde. RFA] and while things were quiet, I photographed part of it.'¹ Given the close relative proximity it seems reasonable to assume that the battery Riley photographed would have been occupying the HSS/010 position at the time. The site today is covered by dense undergrowth. As such it was decided to return to this site at a later date.

(Part 2 of this article will appear in the Autumn edition of *The Gallipolian*. The entire preliminary report which includes many more images and maps can be viewed on the member's page on the Gallipoli Association's website).

See photographs pages 34, 35, 36.

¹ Alec Riley, *Gallipoli Diary 1915*, edited by Michael Crane & Bernard de Broglie (Little Gully Publishing, 2021) p.26.



Source: *Evening Telegraph* (Dundee, Scotland) 28 December 1915
No known grave. Name commemorated on the Helles Memorial.

SANITATION CONTROL AT SUVLA BAY

Ritchie Wood and John Dixon

There were early warnings of the potential medical dangers caused by poor sanitation facing all forces landing on the peninsula. Many of the problems to be faced on the peninsula relating to sanitation had cropped up during the preparations in Egypt of the first divisions to land. The problems associated with heat, the abundance of flies and disposal of faecal matter had been faced by, for instance, the sanitary sections of 87th Field Ambulance. Much of the ground became fouled by troops who came into the area and left just as quickly. Although some discipline was maintained the problems related to provision of latrines remained an issue even after these troops reached the peninsula. Some of the lessons learned in Egypt had to be relearned on the peninsula, particularly by those troops who arrived during the Suvla phase of the campaign.

Whilst it is understandable that at Suvla priority was given in getting the Allied troops on shore as quickly as possible, complete with its full complement of animals, necessary equipment, weaponry and artillery support, there was little thought given to the overall sanitation requirements during the hours immediately after the landing.

The medical units were to land as part of the divisional support shortly after the main force. They were seen as having the total responsibility for all medical needs of the troops, including sanitation. However, the medical officers often asked to act as sanitation officers had very little knowledge of how to achieve effective sanitation within the context of the battlefield. This was to have an unfortunate long term negative effect on the general health of the troops at Suvla. Under the difficult conditions of landing, on narrow beaches under fire and attempting to make progress into difficult terrain it is, perhaps, understandable that the troops had little option but to defecate whenever the need and wherever each individual felt was the most suitable place. The inevitable result was the rapid fouling of the ground.

For the medical units following up it was a frustrating and, at times, a hopeless game of 'catch-up' as they tried to instil some form of sanitary discipline within their designated areas. The decline in the general health of the troops was inevitable as flies, feeding on unburied corpses, human and animal faeces, invaded the troops' eating areas, spreading disease far and wide. Initially this showed itself as miserable attacks of diarrhoea and dysentery before worsening into epidemic proportions to include enteric fever and jaundice amongst the troops at large. There was an inevitable decline in the health of the troops.

At Mudros, the 30th Field Ambulance (30FA), 10th Division, arrived on 3 August to be welcomed by a

... prevailing disease being a form of enteritis. The place is simply a plague of flies. There seems to be no organisation or co-ordination as regards sanitation. There is more than one Division on the island with various Details. Sanitation

in each of these is rather haphazard and at the whim and fancy of various individuals. I notice rubbish scattered about.

This was followed by the rather hopeful remark 'One can easily understand the FLIES, I hope it will stop at that'. Disappointment was to follow.

The Assistant Director of Medical Services (ADMS), 10th Division, reported the experiences of the 30th, 31st and 32nd FAs when on arrival at Suvla Bay on 7 August. They found there was little control, if any, regarding sanitation. At the landing places, troops and animals of different divisions were being landed, many only pausing temporarily before moving on and as a result of the lack of control and abnegation of responsibility, human faeces, animal manure, waste food and litter was not being cleared up. The FAs also noted there appeared to be no central authority to whom they could apply for either sanitary fatigue parties or sanitary police.

The OC, Lt-Colonel S W Hignell, of the 22nd Sanitary Section, 11th Division, on 10th August expressed what was to become a common complaint amongst the medical units that attempts to establish latrine lines was all but impossible due a continual passage of troops who fouled the ground

The 30th FA moved to a site near Charack Çeşme on 17 August. It found the whole area already badly fouled and becoming rapidly worse on a daily basis. Troops were moving about the area so much it was impossible to fix responsibility and the whole hill, covered with bushes, made it difficult to catch or to prevent men defecating where they pleased.

This unfortunate position soon extended from the firing line and along paths to and from the firing line. Progress was made in the digging of deep latrines but because of the nature of the country they proved difficult for the troops to locate and resulted in men relieving themselves wherever without being seen. Wood from biscuit boxes were put up marked LATRINE but they were frequently stolen for firewood.

It is possible to understand the frustration of the 54th Division Sanitary Section commenting of 20th August:

Sanitation amongst the troops apparently an unknown science, many Officers as bad. Either the men have forgotten their training or have never been trained. The ground is getting into an appalling state.

On 25 August the ADMS 10th Division informed IX Army Corps Headquarters that although the ground had been divided up for specific uses there was no central control of the issues regarding sanitation, including cleaning the area of refuse and matters such as the burial of bodies. He recommended a permanent camp commandant, quartermaster and sanitary squad be detailed for each area. Further,

Troops at present enter an area, dig latrines where they will, and perhaps leave in a few hours. At present it is quite impossible for sanitary officers of Divisions to exercise much control of these areas.

As a result of the ADMS's comments there was a positive response. On 28 August, a permanent sanitary fatigue party, of one sergeant and 20 men of Royal Irish

Regiment, was allocated to the 10th Division for sanitary duties. They were put to work in the area cleaning the area of tins, refuse and faeces. Old latrines were properly filled. New deep latrine trenches were dug and provided with trestles and poles for seats and enclosed in wire netting to prevent paper being blown about. The party was also instructed to act as sanitary police to prevent men soiling the ground outside given areas. At this time an incinerator was built and proved of great assistance in waste disposal.

Pressure was kept on the military hierarchy and on the same day the 54th Division Sanitary Section submitted two memoranda for consideration to the base commandant for possible circulation among the troops in the base area:

1. Box Latrines

Each Unit on Base or Reserve Areas must provide Box Latrines. These should be made as per Sketch:-

1. Knock bottom out of Biscuit or similar box.
2. Cut centre $\frac{1}{3}$ out of top and make cover for this opening from wood of bottom. Hinge with leather.
3. Under seat so formed place biscuit tin from which top has been cut.

The tin box is removed by lifting the wooden box from off it and emptied daily into a special pit 3 feet deep and which is then filled in. A fresh pit must be cut every day.

Cresol solution 1oz to 1 gallon of water must be placed in the bottom of the tin before it is replaced.

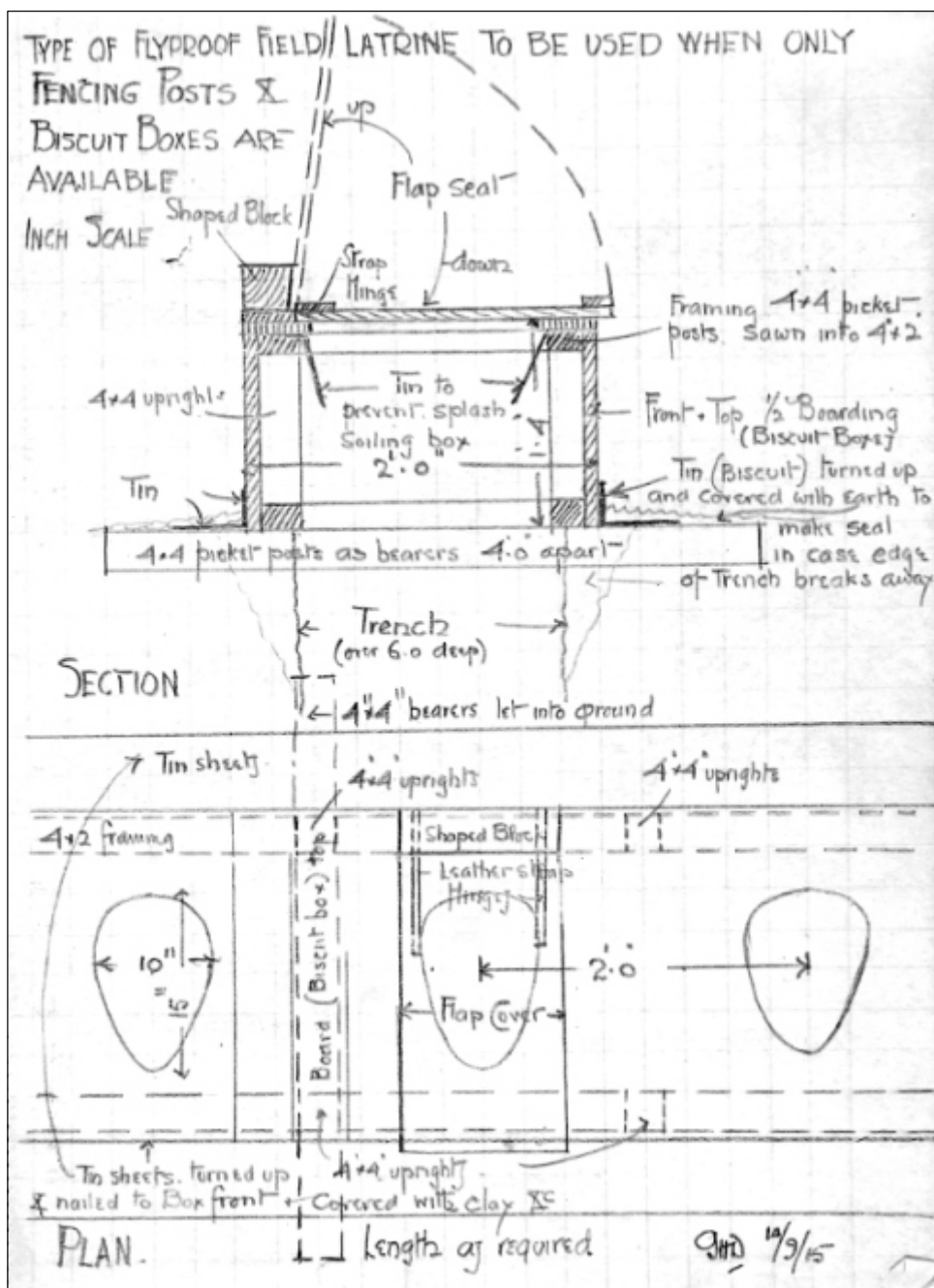
A Sanitary NCO should be appointed to be responsible for this work

2. To Base Commandant, Suvla Bay

May a Memorandum upon the following be circulated to all Units or entering the Area

1. Every Unit is responsible for the cleanliness and Sanitation of the area it occupies and 20 yards adjoining that area unless occupied by another Unit.
2. Every Unit must have a sufficient number of box Latrines and Box Units in use
3. Every Unit must have a Destructor in which used bins and rubbish must be burnt daily and the rakings from the Destructor buried.
4. The whole area and 20 yards adjoining the area occupied by the Unit including dugouts must be cleaned daily.
5. These Orders refer to units only passing through the area as much as those permanent Units in the Area.
6. Men fouling the adjoining ground in any way should be severely punished.

Although the demand on troops during trench warfare was recognised the need for good sanitation control was seen as absolutely vital. The sanitation officers were sympathetic to the reality of the difficulties facing both troops and medical units trying to maintain acceptable levels of personal cleanliness within the demands of the exigencies of warfare. The 31st FA reported, on the 2nd of September, cases of



Sketches this page and page 53 are from the war diary of the 53rd (Welsh) Division Sanitary Section, November 1915.

men wounded whilst using a trench latrine in the firing line. Understandably, men were not prepared to put themselves into such a dangerous position but unfortunately this could only lead to an increased fouling of trenches. This situation served to encourage even more flies spreading even more disease, particularly in the confined areas of the trenches. In this situation, the ADMS 10th Division introduced the pail system.

The hard ground found in many trenches excluded the use of deep pits. If available, bucket latrines were used and if not, available biscuit tins in turn were used and proved adequate for purpose with the close-fitting wooden boxes complete with a hinged lid being used as a seat. They were spaced out where possible along the trench and the contents were burnt at night. There were complaints that these tins were rather flimsy and easily broken but it was a case of needs must when in such a situation.

Another frustration was the fact that the casualty rate among both officers and men schooled in the demands of sanitary discipline were being replaced by new men and the whole process of educating them into the realities of the much-needed sanitary control needed to be repeated.

Despite the improvements and the approach of winter, the flies remained in huge numbers much to the discomfort of all personnel throughout much of the autumn.

There was an urgent need for yet more positive action and after a careful inspection of plans for troops of the division, the ADMS 11th Division on 11 September issued the following instructions:

SANITATION:

Trenches: latrine trenches will be dug at about 150 yards interval and at least 20 yards behind the firing line. They will be of the deep variety and will be connection by saps – Biscuit Tins or oil drums as urinals will be placed at convenient intervals in the firing trenches and these will be emptied into the latrine trench or into soaking pits. When owing to the nature of the ground it is difficult or impossible to dig latrine trenches the bucket system will be resorted to – Biscuits tins can be used for this purpose (when buckets are unavailable) ant seat and cover being made from the wooden box in which the tins are packed. The latrine buckets will be emptied at least once daily and excreta buried so as to ensure covering of two feet of earth. A free use of disinfectant will be use in latrines and urinals. These are obtainable from OC Supplies.

Under Regimental Arrangements, a sanitary squad of NCO and 4 men will be told off to attend latrines and urinals. The Regimental MO will supervise the sanitary arrangement and will advise the CO on any points and bring any sanitary defects to his notice.

Reserve Areas: Central Latrines will be dug in these areas. They will be divided into sections, each section in charge of a sanitary squad assisted if required by fatigue parties detailed daily for some fixed hours to assist in the general cleaning up – A Battalion QM will be detailed daily to supervise and co-ordinate the

working of the sanitary squad. A Battalion MO will also be detailed daily to inspect and report on any sanitary defects.

All rubbish will be burnt when possible – when not burnt it will be buried.

Such advice was well meaning but cognisance should have been taken of the difficulties facing the military authorities. The troops had been called upon to play a key role in the August attack on Sari Bair and their priority simply had to be to play their attacking role to their very best effort regardless of any shortcomings resulting from the general health of the troops. For this reason the lack of sanitation control ensured the continued decline in the general health. The concern over the effect on the men was expressed by medical officers who pointed out that it was simply not sufficient to head count availability of troops but to consider the number of troops able to act in any way that resembled their fitness levels when they first arrived at Suvla in early August.

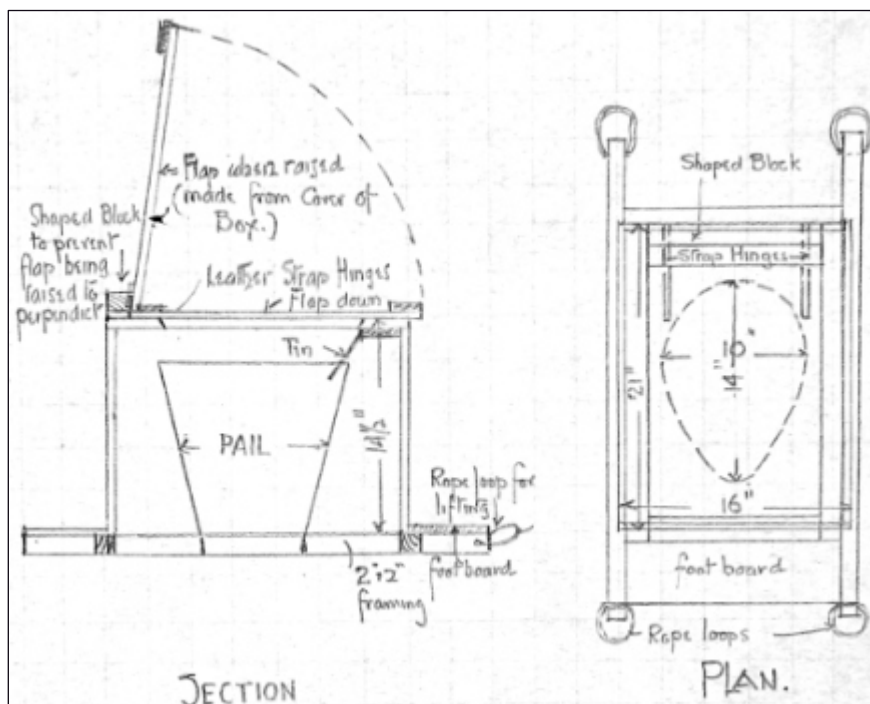
The overall situation at Suvla was greatly improved with the arrival of disinfectors. Two Manlov-Alliot disinfectors were delivered on 13 September at 54th Division Sanitary Section. Brought into service on 2 October, one disinfector alone recorded 7,297 articles disinfected, including 6,097 blankets. It was unfortunate there was an early delay because household instead of steam coal was supplied for the engine. The engineers required approx. 2 1/2 cwt (128 kgs) of steam coal a day and could disinfect some 400 blankets in a day of eight hours after steam was up. The ADMS, Royal Naval Division, received one thresh disinfector and the 29th Division ADMA reported two steam disinfectors at work on the beach. This ensured that at least some of the troop were provided with clean articles of clothing.

Heeding the military order that incinerators were not to show smoke in daytime and risk attracting enemy shell fire, the routine became to flame by day and smoke by night. In order to lessen the risk large incinerators were built well away in front of the camps and refuse was carted up to them for disposal.

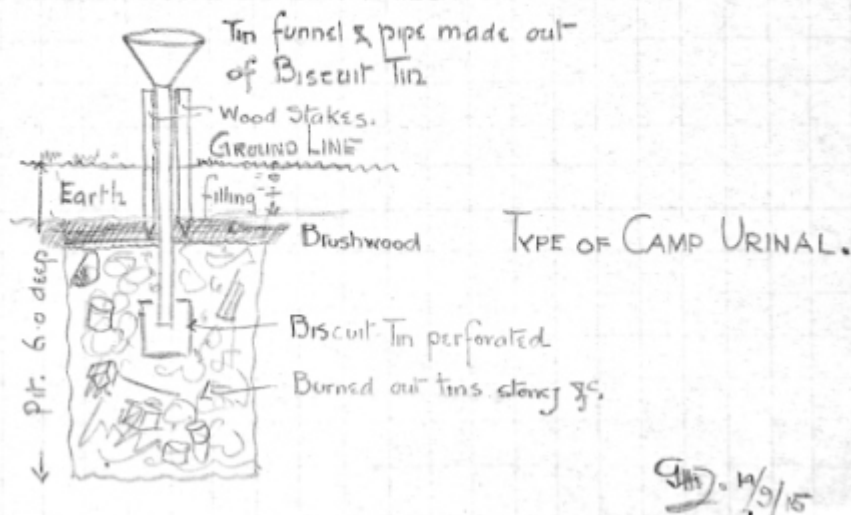
The 53rd Division Sanitary Section persisted in its effort to improve sanitation control in submitting, on 13 September, detailed plans of the preparation of the division's area being divided into eight separate areas complete with various types of flyproof latrines and shelters. They were frustrated in finding there was insufficient material available with the exception of one brigade who did carry out the plan and reported it worked in a most satisfactory manner.

Latrine trenches in the area occupied by the 11th Division were replaced on 10 October with the bucket systems established with use of boxes and tins but latrine buckets were still in very short supply. Biscuit tins were still the only receptacles available and, as these were flimsy and easily breakable, the excreta had to be disposed of into large deep pits, but because of the nature of the ground, the pits had to be blasted in many places. The pits were then covered to prevent flies getting in.

On 23 October, the 53rd Division Sanitary Section made a survey of an old Turkish well with a view to adapting it as an incinerator. A report and detailed drawing of the scheme were submitted to the DDMS.



TYPE OF FLYPROOF FIELD LATRINE MADE FROM BISCUIT BOXES
SUITABLE FOR USE WITH PAILS. INCH SCALE



On 29 October, the 2nd Mounted Division ADMS received a plan of an improvised Serbian barrel for disinfecting clothing. These proved very useful. They were developed initially by the British military medical mission to Serbia. Heated water at the bottom of the container generated sufficient hot steam to penetrate through suitable holes which allowed the disinfection of clothing and bedding, destroying lice and their eggs and, in turn, preventing the spread of diseases.

The 1/1st Welsh FA, 53rd Division, reported on 30 October that their septic water latrine showed no sign of filling and very little odour issuing from it after nearly a month in service.

In its November monthly summary, the 54th Division Sanitary Section reported the delivery of two further thresh disinfectors and disinfection was continuously carried out in both machines. This allowed many articles to be disinfected.

The 53rd Division Sanitary Section reported on the 26 working days of November the articles treated were: –

Tunics	1781
Trousers	1781
Overcoats	1335
Puttees	1929
Shirts	2380
Underpants	234
Body Belts	224
Cap Comforters	376
Towels	115
Blankets	3938
Socks	4458
Cardigan Jackets	579
Sundries	4

TOTAL 19,133 (Capt. Robert Proudfoot OC San. Sec).*

It is clear from the sketches produced in the war diary of the 53rd (Welsh) Division Sanitary Section in November that Captain Proudfoot had given some considerable thought to the sanitary work required in his area including the construction of suitable latrines and a 'refuse destructor.' It is not clear from the war diary how much of the work outlined was actually carried out, or was intended, before the evacuation.

The 54th Division Sanitary Section reported on the 1 December that persistent very wet and cold weather had played havoc with ongoing sanitary work. Latrines had been flooded and the re-digging of such required much hard labour. A few long box latrines for pails had arrived and were an improvement on the biscuit box latrines as they were stronger and able to bear wear better. 100 such latrines were temporarily put up by this section at the main supply depot and the adjacent public latrines on Little West Beach. Their function was to meet the demands of the large number of

troops who were temporarily sheltered among the main supply boxes following the storm. There was very great difficulty obtaining fatigue parties but despite this it was found possible to continue the work in a satisfactory and efficient manner. Given the circumstances this is to the great credit of all concerned. By the time the evacuation took place it appears that there was a relatively efficient sanitation system in all divisional areas at Suvla. It had taken some time to evolve because of the continuing shortages of equipment and stores and the fighting to gain ground. Whilst the work of the medical units must be praised for the eventual results they achieved, there is no doubt, however, that the delay in establishing good sanitation practises undoubtedly added to the spread of disease over the area during the time immediately following the Suvla landing. Unfortunately, much of this was outside the control of the medical units, so their achievements by the end of the campaign should be congratulated.

* Captain Robert Proudfoot MD, Royal Army Medical Corps, was awarded the Serbian Order of the White Eagle, 5th Class (with Swords). [Supplement to *London Gazette* 15 February 1917 p1608].



GET YOUR ARTICLE IN PRINT!

Articles for the Gallipolian

Articles and smaller items of interest about any aspect of the Gallipoli campaign are always welcome. These should be submitted direct to the editor, preferably by email, at the email address shown on the inside front cover (editor@gallipoli-association.org). It is not always possible to feature articles in the issue following submission although where there is an element of topicality the editor will try to accommodate them, or refer them to colleagues responsible for the Association website. For those considering the submission of articles the editor can provide notes for the guidance of contributors on request.

Disclaimer

Readers are reminded that the observations and opinions expressed in articles published in *The Gallipolian* are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, or of the Association.

GALLIPOLI - MY STORY

M E Gray, Sgt RAMC 1/2 Field Ambulance

53 Division (465)

This article first appeared 50 years ago,
in *The Gallipolian* No. 11, of Spring 1973.

I had joined the Territorials in 1910 when reporting in West Wales and on drifting back to my home town, Cardiff, I transferred to the 1st/2nd Welsh Field Ambulance, 53rd Division. I had chosen this unit as it seemed to me to be more interesting to learn how to heal the body than to destroy it. I certainly found the lectures we had in the old University College, Cardiff, by Col Sheen, one of the cleverest surgeons in the country, extremely interesting. I had just finished a week's camp at Portmadoc, N Wales, and came back for the August Bank holiday 1914. At 3 am there was a loud knock at the door and a policeman handed me my calling papers. And now I was a soldier and destined to remain so for 4½ years.

After spending the remainder of 1914 intensively training at Northampton, Cambridge and Ipswich, the last named attending the infantry who were strengthening the defences on the East coast and always wondering where our ultimate destination would be, we were issued with tropical kit and it was evident we were soon to find ourselves in some warm theatre of war.

Then one night we were bundled into a train, travelled slowly all night and woke up at Portsmouth. No-one among us knew where we were bound for but on the troopship *Northlands* (swarming with cockroaches and other undesirable companions) we were soon sailing South-West. A destroyer escorted us for a day or two and then we were alone. We seemed to be changing course often, no doubt for the benefit of German 'U' boats which were very active. And now most of us were very sea-sick.

The old tub of a boat pitched and rolled and I decided that the sea was not for me thank you. Then came Gibraltar where we stopped but were not allowed ashore. On to the wonderful Mediterranean with its Recketts blue water and the porpoises playing with the bow of the ship. We kept in mid-ocean for safety reasons. Our next call was Malta and while lying off in the huge harbour, those who could swim were allowed over the ship's side down rope ladders or off the deck about 30 feet up for expert divers. The water was beautifully warm and I swam until I was nearly all-in. Then whistles blew all round the ship and we were ordered to come aboard quickly as a shark had been sighted. There was a scramble for the ladders and ropes but I was unlucky with the ladder and was too tired to shin up a rope so had to be hauled aboard with many others. It was a wonderful swim after the sweltering heat of a packed ship - temperatures as in Sacramento in June - same latitude.

A day ashore at Malta and then on once more to Alexandria where we stayed for a few days but were not allowed to leave the camp on the sands. On again in a North

Easterly direction and we guessed we were bound for Gallipoli which had been much in the news and whose planners had come in for much criticism. After a while, in the middle of the night, with no moon, we were put off the *Northlands* in small landing craft and beached. This was Suvla Bay. The first troops had landed the night before and some heavy fighting had taken place the day before.

I am tempted to write from a military point of view, but firstly I am not competent to do so and secondly we have all seen, heard and read so much about war and the fiasco of Gallipoli that I will try to confine myself to personal incidents.

Just before the break of dawn we moved along the beach of Suvla Bay in single file and having by now become a corporal I was the last bringing up the rear of 'C' section. We had rests on the way along the beach because we were heavily weighted with kit including ground sheets, blankets, etc., etc. I found I had left my greatcoat about ten yards behind on the beach and went back for it. As I got to it I heard a 'Whoof' very close and there was a spout of sand. I wondered at first what it was but it soon dawned on me that it was a shell which had sunk into the sand without exploding. The Turks on the hills encircling Suvla Bay had a perfect view of the beach and they had the range to a nicety. But here let me say they respected the red cross and when we put up our operating tents and red cross flags they never shelled us unless infantry were passing. We had no identification and therefore they were quite entitled to shell us. Fortunately, we had no casualties on this occasion, but I did not like my 'christening'.

Life was not pleasant at Suvla Bay. There were millions of flies, lice, scorpions, scorpion-spiders, chameleons, centipedes, frogs and crickets incessantly croaking at night with many other crawly creatures. We used to put a few lice in the centre of a piece of notepaper and gamble which would reach the edge first. On one occasion our chemist gave a frog an injection (in the cause of science, of course) and it jumped about ten feet into the air. Kind creatures, weren't we?

In one camp under famous Hill 10, we would wake up to find dozens of centipedes on our blankets. They would not sting unless provoked but I have seen more than one 'sting' consisting of two rows each of 50 poison injections from their 100 legs. The doctors used to make a shallow incision along the rows of stings and rub in permanganate of potash. Sometimes we used to put a scorpion and a scorpion-spider together and see which would win. The spider usually did.

The heat was terrific, especially on the white Salt Lake which reflected the sun. To make things more interesting we had snipers who played havoc with our boys when they caught them singly and who were shown no mercy when they were found and a party sent out to surround the tree in which they were hiding, wonderfully camouflaged. So we had our first taste of war and what it meant. What a waste - how idiotic it all was. After some weeks of attending to badly wounded, sick and dying men I often went down to the water's edge on a moonlight night and the words that always came to my mind were, 'How long, Oh Lord, how long.'

But you must not think it was all toil and tears - far from it. We formed a band

consisting of two flutes, a tin whistle, mouth organ and accordion and had some wonderful musical evenings under the stars and the moon shining on the sea with the sombre warships lying out a few hundred yards. Every now and then there would be a flash on the distant hills, a shrill whistle down at the food dump and then the crump of an explosion.

Some fine lads, including our own Quartermaster Sergeant,* were killed while drawing rations. The Turks used to shell it regularly. Sometimes the site was changed and the new position well camouflaged and for a time the shells would go wide. We had erected an observation pole on which a sentry was posted. As soon as he saw the flash he would blow his whistle and all those on the dump would take cover. In spite of all this, to be detailed to draw rations was always coveted as there was always some extra sugar, jam or cheese which could be 'scrounged'.

Then came a terrific blizzard and we were not prepared for it. In fact we were clothed in drill shorts and tunics. Hundreds of our boys died from exposure, pneumonia, dysentery and other diseases. It was very trying to be in charge of a marquee packed with unconscious men, some badly wounded and to be helpless to do anything useful for them. On several occasions I was on night duty trying to get some warmth and life into frozen limbs and bodies. When we saw that one of the boys was breathing his last we would call the medical officer. On more than one occasion I have been told, 'Don't worry, Corporal, if he came round he would soon die as he has double pneumonia.' Some of the boys in the shallow trenches got hold of jars of rum, which proved to be the end.

We seemed to be getting no-where and then we heard that Lord Kitchener was on the Peninsula. As a result of his visit the evacuation was decided upon and its organisation commenced. This was a wonderful piece of work. Alan Moorhead has described the evacuation and in fact the whole of the Gallipoli campaign in his book called 'Gallipoli'. One paragraph reads: 'There was a simple and immediate reaction (to the news that we were evacuating the peninsula) and possibly it was a desire to remove the stigma of defeat, to create artificially a chance of heroism since the plan provided none : the men came to their officers in hundreds and asked to be the last to leave the shore. It was nothing more than a gesture, something for the pride to feed on, a kind of tribute to their friends who were already dead, but they were intensely serious about it ... there was no need to call for volunteers to man the trenches at the end; it was a matter of selection ... At Suvla every man and animal had been got off.'

* 845 Acting QMS / Warrant Officer Class 2 Edwin Thomas Diggory, 1st/2nd Welsh Field Ambulance, was killed in action on 20 August 1915 aged 25. Born Cardiff on 9 May 1890, he was single, a railway clerk of 46 Albany Road, Cardiff, where he lived with his widowed mother. Buried Hill 10 Cemetery, Suvla.

WITH 9 BATTALION ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGT

at the Evacuation of Suvla Bay

H A Hibberd, 9th War R War R 3 Division (270)

This article first appeared 50 years ago,
in *The Gallipolian* No. 11, of Spring 1973.

I was very interested in the article of the Autumn issue of the *Gallipolian* by T H Edmunds, RE Signals (346) and well remember how we tried to hoodwink the Turks into making believe we were there to stay. I was picked for a digging party on December 14th. There were about 20 of us and we were taken to a trench on the extreme right communication trench and told to dig and throw the dirt as high as possible over the parapet to attract attention of the Turks, which we did very shortly after starting with disastrous results.

After 10 minutes digging, the Turks sent a shell over which exploded after passing over us, about 400 yards away. A few minutes later, after our young officer in charge had got excited and instructed us to carry on digging, the Turks sent 2 more shells over, each getting nearer to our trench, and I said aloud that we should get to Hell out of it. The officer heard me and asked if I was getting the wind up, and I told him the truth – I certainly was. But before the officer or any of our digging party could say or do anything, over comes No. 4 shell, exploded smack over the trench we were digging, killing five and wounding four of our party.

We had orders to retire to reserve trench, but with another comrade who lived at Small Heath, Birmingham, I returned to help the wounded. We managed to carry two who were wounded in the legs to the reserve trench before stretcher bearers arrived. My company officer, Captain Berthon arrived and asked me to go and get the identity discs and belongings from the dead comrades, which I did with the same comrade who helped me with the wounded; for some minutes I felt very sick as it was a terrible sight and also a difficult task as the dead comrades appeared to be lying altogether. The Captain was very pleased with our efforts and gave orders that both of us were to be excused all duties for 48 hours. We were sent to rest in small tents on the beach for that period.

Captain Berthon was an excellent officer, served in the Boer War and was very popular with all of us. I regret to say he was killed in Mesopotamia in 1917. As for the comrade who assisted me in this awful incident, he was also killed in Mesopotamia on April 9th during an attack we made on the Turks. I was wounded and sent to India. I was there for five months, then back to Mesopotamia in September 1916, with the Battalion, until 29th March 1917 when I got two very severe wounds. I went back to India until January 1920, then home to Blighty and Demob until 1939, when I rejoined and served until 1945 with RA, but I did not go abroad – I was busy with a Bofor Gun, helping to defend England.

MAJOR-GENERAL 'ONE-ARM' SUTTON MC

Bryn Dolan

Second Lieutenant Francis Arthur Sutton, Royal Engineers



Frank Sutton was born in Widford, Essex, on 14 February 1884, the son of Francis Richard Sutton, squire of Scawby, Lincolnshire, and of Edith (Pryor) Sutton. He was educated at Eton (1897-1902) and at University College, London, (1902-1905), where he studied Engineering.

He was a keen golfer, a 'prominent player' in England with the Romford Club in Essex, and won the River Plate amateur golf championship in Argentina, where he was working, in 1907. He returned to England with wife and daughter on the outbreak of war and took up a commission in the Royal Engineers.

It's stated that when he arrived at Gallipoli he was carrying with him a bag marked 'theodolite legs.' Shrapnel ripped the bag open and out tumbled not engineering equipment, but golf clubs.

Second Lieut Francis Arthur Sutton, RE, MC

'Whatever happens as the next chapter of One-arm Sutton's career, you can be sure it will seem slightly incredible. All his life, Major-General F. A. Sutton, M.C., A.M.I.C.E. — to give you the title they quote in *Who's Who* — has been taking his adventures and his inventions neat.

Even when he lost his arm, he had almost unbelievable luck. The enemy swarmed over to kill him as he lay on the ground. A hefty Turk took Sutton's throat in his sinewy hands. The general was at the last gasp when his hand fell on one of the great hook blades that a dead Gurkha had been carrying.

With a single sweep, he flung it round in a great arc, and the Turk dropped. Then, bleeding profusely, Sutton gained his M.C. by slaying a few more Turks.' (*Townsville Daily Bulletin* (Qld) 3 Jan 1940 p2).

At least some of that is true.

Sutton himself stated that

"... you see, the bombs had nine seconds time fuse. But one day an old Turk got wise to our little game and held his bombs for four or five seconds before bunging them across. One pitched near me, and in about a second I had to

decide whether to let him have it back or to stamp it into the sand. I put my hand on it, and the next second my arm was on the missing list!

Immediately afterwards the Turks charged, and a young bloodthirsty gentleman lunged at me twice with his bayonet. I felt for my revolver, and then discovered I was a hand short, so I socked him under the jaw with my left, and increased Turkey's casualty roll by one."

Some sources state that the arm was amputated without anaesthetic while three men sat on him. After recovering from his wounds, Lieutenant Sutton was appointed to work in the Ministry of Munitions, where he turned to bombs and the devices used to throw them. He invented the "Sutton fuse" for mortars, and made improvements to the design of the Stokes mortar.

The National Archives lists, among other items related to Lieutenant Sutton's service:

'Extracts from diary of Lieut F A Sutton for period June to October 1915 on early history of Stokes gun.'

and

'Extracts from Lieut F A Sutton's personal papers on 2 trench mortars and ammunition.'

Frank Sutton did become a major-general; just not in the British army.



Illustration from article 'The Man They Cannot Kill!'
by H A George in *Answers* (British periodical) 5 August 1939 p23.

To list Sutton's activities and adventures would require a longer article than this, and of course would stray far from Gallipoli. In 1917, when the US entered the war, he was sent to the United States to convince the authorities there of the Stokes Mortar's efficacy and to train soldiers in its use. When the Armistice announced the end of the war, Sutton is said to have bribed his way to near the top of the 'eligible for discharge' list and gone on to his next adventure.

Sutton's movements after the war were complex and again, outside the scope of this article, but he spent some time in Siberia, supporting the 'Whites' against the 'Reds' and never failing to find money-making opportunities, particularly with the supply and sale of arms.



Eventually, after dealing with the 'Red' government and making a fortune from a gold-dredge that he'd shipped in from the US via Japan, Sutton made his way to Shanghai. Having previously purchased the rights to produce the Stokes mortar in China, he made a lot of money manufacturing and selling these weapons, which could throw a shell 2,500 yards, to various warlords. After surviving a siege, Sutton decided to return to Siberia, but stopped off in Mukden, Manchuria, where he met and eventually went to work for Chang-tso-lin (Zhang Zuolin), the most powerful warlord there. It was Chang who elevated Sutton to the rank of major-general in his army. Sutton is said to have killed Ma Yu-Shing (either a rival warlord or an army general) during a meeting in which Ma pulled a revolver on him but

missed with his shot.

A Chinese official said of Sutton:

As a result of his efforts, the only efficient army in China was created, well armed, well disciplined and equipped. In consequence, Marshal Chang-tso-Lin was able to maintain his supremacy until his death.

In 1924 Sutton hosted the world-travellers 'Cap Wanderwell' and 'Aloha Wanderwell' – and their entourage – as they passed through what was a war zone on their round-the-world car journey. Photos of Sutton with the travellers and a still from film footage of 'Aloha' firing a Stokes mortar appear next page.

In 1927 Sutton travelled to Canada, where he invested the fortune he had acquired in real estate. He acquired the Glyn building, at the corner of West Pender and Granville Streets, Vancouver, for a record \$1 million, which was at the time the biggest real estate transaction in the city's history. As a result of the Great Depression, however, he lost that fortune in 1929.



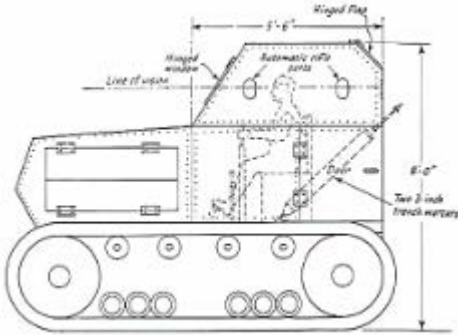
Still from a movie showing 'Aloha Wanderwell' (Idris Galt), Canadian world traveller, firing a Stokes mortar while she and her entourage were visiting One-Arm Sutton, Mukden, Sep 1924.

Source: *The Aloha Wanderwell Story – Driving Passion* <https://www.alohawanderwell.com/movies/>
Film commentary suggests this took place in Russia, however there are photos of 'Aloha' in a group with Sutton - who was in Mukden at this time - with similar landscape behind, and including 'Olga' the assistant shown behind 'Aloha' (above) and on the far left (below), who is said to have left the expedition before it entered Russia from China. Sutton, looking as if he's playing golf, on 'Aloha's' left.



He then designed and, in 1932 produced, the ‘Sutton Skunk’ for use in the Chinese civil wars, and which, though often referred to as a ‘tank’, was essentially an armoured body placed on the Caterpillar semi-armoured 5-ton M1917 artillery tractor. By 1932, the US still had 600 of these in surplus. The vehicles were for sale, and the army eventually lowered the price from \$8000 to \$800.

Sutton stripped out the back seats, fuel tanks, and other components. The engine and driver’s seat were enclosed in bullet-proof steel and he put a superstructure on the rear, which made the vehicle eight feet tall. Two Browning machine guns were mounted on either side of the driver in gun ports. There were also two ports on both sides of the hull for automatic weapons and smoke grenades.



In the rear, and facing rear, two 82mm Stokes mortars were fitted, and were in fact the source of the vehicle’s name, as Sutton is reported as saying “I’m calling it the Sutton

Skunk, as both big guns shoot out of the rear” (source: *online tank museum*).

Sutton had married Carina Descou Chester (1886 - 1955) in London in 1910. They had two daughters, Frances Pepita (1911 -1977) and Pamela Bettine (1916-1993). There is virtually no reference to any of them in accounts of Sutton’s life, but it is apparent from shipping records that they accompanied him to many locations including Japan, China, Canada and the US.

Returning to the East, Sutton was for a time war correspondent for London’s *Daily Mail*, and seems to have angered the occupying Japanese by apparently supporting the Chinese against them. A file in the National Archives (Kew) dated 1938 (not seen), is titled *Treatment of Mr. F. A. Sutton by Japanese police authorities*.

He was living in Korea at this time (1933–38) but was expelled by the Japanese and set up business in Hong Kong. In 1941 he was captured and imprisoned in Stanley Internment Camp and died there on 22 October 1944, aged 60.

His biographer Charles Drage attributes his death to ‘slow starvation undermining not so much his superb physique but his always vulnerable emotions.’ He was admitted to Tweed Bay Hospital with ‘beriberi, avitaminosis and bacillary dysentery’ – Drage suggests ‘hunger and heartbreak’ was a simpler diagnosis and a nurse in the hospital at the time agreed, saying he died from ‘malnutrition and despair.’

Citation for Military Cross, *London Gazette* 23 July 1915:

For conspicuous gallantry during operations west of Krithia, Dardanelles, on 22nd May, 1915, when attached to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. During a counterattack, which he led, he picked up and threw back into the enemy’s trenches, at great personal risk, a number of bombs, thereby probably saving many lives. He threw six bombs, and the seventh exploded in his hand.

LAST POST

It is with regret that the Association learnt of the death of the following member:

General Lord David Ramsbotham GCB CBE - member 6798,
died aged 88 on 12 December 2022.

General Lord David Ramsbotham, former British Army Officer, Chief Inspector of Prisons, Honorary Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, member of the Gallipoli Association, was born on 6 November 1934.

He died following a fall on 13 December 2022, aged 88.

Extract from obituary in *The Times*:

David John Ramsbotham was one of three sons and two daughters of the Right Reverend John Ramsbotham, a much-loved bishop of Wakefield in the Tractarian tradition. After Haileybury and Imperial Service College, he undertook National Service in the Royal Artillery before he, like his father, went up to Cambridge. He returned to a regular commission with the Rifle Brigade (later incorporated into the Royal Green Jackets) and a four-year secondment to the King's African Rifles in Kenya.



After leaving the army, in addition to his work as Inspector of Prisons, he became chairman of the Hillingdon Hospital Trust. He was made an honorary Doctor of Civil Law by seven universities, and ennobled in 2005 as Baron Ramsbotham of Kensington, in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

In 1958 he married Caroline Dickinson, daughter of Robert Joicey Dickinson, and his wife the former Alice Barnett, descended from the Monck baronets. They had two sons, Richard, who leads a private life, and James, a former Green Jackets officer who is the chairman of the Newcastle Building Society. Lady Ramsbotham predeceased him last year.

One of Ramsbotham's last interventions in the House of Lords was in support of the Assisted Dying Bill.



OBJECTIVES

To advance education for the public benefit by raising public awareness of the Gallipoli Campaign of 1915 and by encouraging and facilitating the study in the legacy and lessons of that campaign. To keep alive the memory of the campaign and to ensure that all who fought or served in it, and those who gave their lives, are not forgotten by applying such means as the Trustees deem fit.



*The River Clyde at V Beach, 25 April 1915, William Lionel Wyllie.
National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, Caird Collection*

The Gallipoli campaign is characterised by countless deeds of heroism and endurance. It took place in an area smaller than Southampton amid appalling conditions - 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, including 50,000 Australians and 9,000 New Zealanders, and 80,000 French. The cost in human terms was terrible. The Allies had 250,000 casualties, of whom approximately 58,000 were killed, with only 11,000 having known graves. Ottoman forces, with some Germans, numbered between 300,000 and 400,000 and of these some 87,000 were killed. The evacuations in December 1915 and early January 1916 were masterly operations – one of the great feats of military history.