.....Alf Carpenter.....100 not out
This edition carries a full report on the Gallipoli Art Prize which again attracted a broad range of entries. We also look at the commemoration of Anzac Day at the Club which included the HMAS Hobart Association and was highlighted by the 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Reunion which doubled as celebration of the 100th birthday three days earlier of its Battalion Association President for the past 33 years, Alf Carpenter. The numbers at the reunion lunch were bolstered by the many friends Alf has made among the families of his World War Two mates and the support he has given to those families as the ranks of the 2/4th diminished over the years. The new Gallipoli Club President, John Robertson, joined the celebration and presented Alf Carpenter with a certificate of Club Life Membership. The elevation of John Robertson to Club President at the April Annual Meeting sees the continuity of the strong leadership the Club has benefitted from over past decades since the Club was lifted out of financial uncertainty in the early 1990s. "Robbo" joined the Committee in 1991 along with outgoing President Stephen Ware and myself. So, I know first-hand of John's strong commitment over many years to the Club and its ideals. The Club also owes a massive debt to retiring President Stephen Ware, who has stepped down to be a Committee member for continuity. Thank you Stephen for your visionary leadership and prudent financial management over three decades.
2017 Gallipoli Art Prize

The 2017 Gallipoli Art Prize was won by Sydney based artist Amanda Penrose Hart with her painting ‘The Sphinx, Perpetual Peace’.

The painting depicts the towering rocky outcrop at Gallipoli that the Anzacs called The Sphinx. It was selected from the thirty eight finalist works for the $20,000 acquisitive prize. Amanda said that her painting of the extreme landscape that faced our soldiers on April 25, 1915 showed the extreme height of the hills and sharp barbed wire like vegetation which slashed the men trying to advance over those hills.

"I walked this hill on two trips to Gallipoli and while in good shoes and good clothing I struggled to reach even half way. To some the land is now a mere tourist site, but to others it is a sacred burial ground. The trees have rejuvenated and the grasses spread like wildfire – they camouflage the thousands of body parts within,” she said.

"However, we saw when we were dragging through the bush with all our gear quite a few body parts, it’s really awful." The painting took her about a year to complete and is her way to commemorate the soldiers who lost their lives and whose remains still lie on that hill, camouflaged by the vegetation.

"There were so many people died there and that’s why it’s so full of bones, and the vegetation grew and grew because there’s so much blood and bone in the hills," she told the media conference after her win.

Ms Penrose Hart often paints landscapes in-situ. Born in Brisbane in 1963 she holds a Diploma of Fine Art from Queensland College of Art and a Bachelor of Visual Art from Griffith University.
The last Fuzzy Wuzzy
By Noel Kelly

She has held twenty solo exhibitions and has shown in many more group exhibitions. She regularly has work selected in prizes such as the Portia Geach Memorial Award (2006, 2007, 2008, 2011) and the En Plein Air Art Prize. Her works are also included in public and private collections including Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney; Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Brisbane Polo Club; Gold Coast City Art Gallery; Hawkesbury Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Redcliff Regional Gallery, Qld; Taronga Park Zoo, Sydney; and University of Sydney Art Collection.

Every year Australian, New Zealand and Turkish painters are invited to submit works to the Gallipoli Art Prize that reflect upon the themes of loyalty, respect, love of country, courage and comradeship as expressed in the Gallipoli Club’s ‘creed’. Artists can interpret the broad themes in relation to any armed conflict in which Australia has been involved from 1915 up to the present day. The works do not need to depict warfare.

“The Gallipoli Art prize continues to attract the support of the visual arts community who have once again responded with innovative works that preserve the best of the ANZAC spirit,” said the head of the Judging panel, Jane Watters, who is the Director of the S.H. Ervin Gallery.

“The broad range of imagery represented in the Prize demonstrates the level of inquiry by the artists into the stories and people from not just the Gallipoli campaign but from other conflicts and also from daily life experiences,” Ms Watters said.

THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB CREED

WE BELIEVE....

that within the community there exists an obligation for all to preserve the special qualities of loyalty, respect, love of country, courage and comradeship which were personified by the heroes of the Gallipoli Campaign and bequeathed to all humanity as a foundation for perpetual peace and universal freedom.
Winston Churchill, then first Lord of Britain’s Admiralty, believed victory over the Dardanelles would give access to the Black Sea and enable the allies to link with Russian forces. He thought this would be facilitated through a decisive naval strike by ships of the allied navies – Britain and France.

The proposed victory was to give some relief to the rising public condemnation of the awful troop losses and lack of success on the western battle front at Flanders. It was largely a political decision that was given little military forethought. Conceived at a time when Britain’s leaders grappled with the unpalatable reality of deadlock on the western front, the Dardanelles campaign sought to utilize Britain's major asset, sea power.

Churchill believed that a British-French fleet would easily force its way through the Dardanelles, the straits that separate Europe from Asia, and then menace Constantinople, capital of Ottoman Turkey – which was allied with Germany. He reasoned that with Turkey’s surrender to allied naval power that Russia, unhindered, could then deploy powerful army forces from Balkan states such as Romania and Greece to fight in the Balkans.

Instead, the allied navy lost the advantage of surprise by bombarding Turkish coastal defences in February 1915. After firing massive salvos at the protective fortifications, the fleet suffered heavy losses from mines and accurate fire from Turkish shore batteries when on 18 March it attempted to force the straits.

When this failed the British 29th Division was landed on the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula, at Cape Helles; and the untried Australian and New Zealand Corps (ANZAC) landed at what became known as Anzac Cove. At the same time a French diversionary force landed on the Asiatic shore.

The French withdrew, according to plan, but the men of 29th Division were pinned down at the water’s edge on the two main landing beaches. By the end of the day, the 29th had established a limited beachhead despite massive casualties. At Anzac Cove, the ANZACS pushed a little way inland only to be forced back to the beach by a Turkish counterattack and losses were heavy.

Despite the lessons of the west front, trench warfare ensued. Conditions were primitive, and the summer heat took its toll. Over the next few months both the Allies and the Turks launched concerted attacks to try to break the deadlock, but all met with pathetic failure.

Then, on 6 August, the British initiated fresh landings at Suvla Bay and a major effort was made to break out of the Anzac Cove deadlock. When this also failed the British generals decided at last to evacuate Gallipoli in two stages, in December 1915 and during the following month. The Dardanelles campaign, which had promised so much, ended in disaster. Yet it has earned near heroic status in which facts have had to compete with myth and legend. Many admirers of Churchill believe his plan to breach the Dardanelles only failed because of poor tactics by both naval and military commanders. However, there can be little doubt that the concept was too ambitious, that planning and intelligence
were lacking, that the response of the Turks was grossly underestimated, and that the operation was under resourced. This much-touted decisive strategy was nothing more than a military folly destined to fail from the outset.

The original plan proposed that British and French warships would force their way through the Dardanelles, and cause the surrender of the Ottoman capital, Constantinople. Even if it had been supported successfully by land forces the army component should have been significantly larger than the one deployed, as defenses on both shores of the straits would have had to be overcome.

Even if the English and French battleships had got through there was no guarantee that the Ottoman’s would have surrendered or that a military coup would have been triggered. Without soldiers to fight a ground campaign, the fleet would have been forced to retrace its steps, humiliated.

The allies always referred to the enemy as ‘Turks’ but this was not entirely true. Yes, they belonged to the army of the Ottoman Empire but really they represented a mixed lot that included Greeks, Turks, Jews, Arabs and Armenians. They also had many German officers and advisors in the Ottoman army. As I wrote in a previous “Gazette” article, Gallipoli was a multinational operation by the allies, involving troops from England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Newfoundland, British India (including Gurkhas from Nepal), France, the French empire (including north Africans and Senegalese), Russian Jews (who wanted to occupy Palestine), as well as the ANZACS -- Australians and New Zealanders. The landing force on 25 April 1915 consisted of 18,100 ANZACs, 16,800 French, and 27,500 British troops.

The total number of British soldiers that served at Gallipoli far outnumbered Australians and more French troops fought there than did Australians. The British casualties totalled 70,700 (26,000 dead); Australians, 25,700 (7,800 dead); French, 23,000 (8,000 dead); New Zealanders, 7,100 (2,445 dead) and Indians, 5,500 (1,682 dead).

By any measure Gallipoli was an unmitigated disaster lacking in intellectual merit and applied military planning. A disaster compounded by the subsequent slaughter at the Western Front.

In the minds of many Australians and New Zealanders (especially returned ANZACS) Winston Churchill’s reputation never fully recovered from this costly military blunder – even at the height of his popularity during the battle for Britain in WWII.

For all its faults, Gallipoli was an historic watershed for both Australia and Turkey. Australia established a national identity as a country that would not be taken for granted and Turkey threw off the restrictive shackles of its Ottoman leaders and took the necessary steps to become a modern democracy.
Pre-Federation military involvements

This is Part One of two part series on the role of the Australian colonies in defence ahead of Federation

When the first colonial settlements were established in Australia, British military units were included in the personnel. As British naval captains led the settlement, naval personnel were the most prominent. From the outset marines guarded the Sydney Cove and Norfolk Island settlements. In 1790 they were replaced by personnel specifically recruited for colonial service. The first line regiment to serve in Australia was the 73rd Regiment of Foot in 1810. Over the following 60 years, 25 British infantry regiments and several smaller artillery and engineer units were stationed in the colonies. The overt role of the troops was to guard the colonies from external attack, but their main job was to maintain civil order in a land where convict rebellions or attacks by aborigines were a constant worry.

There were various incidents with aboriginal tribes but the only major convict event was at Castle Hill in March 1804 when 233 convicts led by Philip Cunningham, a veteran of the 1798 Irish Rebellion, escaped from a prison farm and planned to steal ships to sail to Ireland. Martial Law was declared in the Colony. The mostly Irish rebels, many armed with rudimentary weapons confronted the troops. Under a flag of truce Cunningham was arrested. The troops were charged and the rebellion was crushed. Nine rebel leaders were executed and hundreds punished before martial law was revoked a week later. Soldiers were involved in putting down the next biggest insurrection, the Bathurst rebellion, by the "Ribbon Gang" a group of escaped convicts who ransacked villages and engaged in shootouts in October-November 1840. They were led by 25-year-old English convict Ralph Entwistle. The group at its peak numbered about 130 men. After an altercation with local graziers led by William Henry Suttor, the 57th and 39th Regiments of William Henry Suttor Foot were called in to assist along with Mounted Police from Goulburn. The gang encountered the mounted troopers from Goulburn near Boorowa, with casualties on both sides and three convicts taken prisoner. The Ribbon Gang was exhausted and depleted so they surrendered when the military reinforcements arrived. On 30 October 1830, the bushrangers were put on trial in the Bathurst Court House by the order of Governor Ralph Darling. They were tried by a Special Commission and a jury of military officers and ten men publicly hanged either for murder or plundering farmhouses.

British soldiers based in Australia were sent to the Anglo–Maori wars of the 1840s and 1860s to bolster the insufficient troops in New Zealand. The 58th Regiment of Foot was dispatched in February 1845 and was soon followed by further troops. Fighting died down after 1846 but flared again in 1860 before a truce was declared and peace returned.

It was not until 1854 that volunteer corps and militia again formed in the Australian colonies. News of war between Britain and Russia in the Crimea led to the establishment of volunteer corps in some colonies and the formation of informal rifle clubs in others. When the Crimean War ended in 1856 volunteer units faded. They were revived in 1859 with fears that Napoleon III
planned to invade England. By early 1860 most suburbs and towns in Australia supported a volunteer unit, usually a rifle corps. British troops did join police in a battle with miners at the Eureka Stockade, on Victoria’s Ballarat goldfields, in December 1854. In the previous week, several hundred miners protesting about the cost of mining licences and led by Peter Lalor had taken an oath of allegiance to their Southern Cross Flag, and marched off to the Eureka diggings where a rough stockade was built from timber and slabs. Throughout Friday, December 1, the diggers continued to build the stockade. They gathered as many firearms as possible. On Saturday, December 2, the authorities decided to launch a pre-emptive strike. Soon after midnight on Sunday morning, when only about 120 diggers were left inside the stockade, the British troops and mounted police launched their assault.

The battle was all over in 15-20 minutes. For some time after that the police troopers went berserk bayoneting and shooting wounded diggers. Five British troops and 22 diggers were killed or later died of their wounds. Many diggers were taken prisoner. The public revolt at these actions and a Gold Fields Royal Commission led to reform of the laws. Troops were not used again against white settlers.

In the last decades before Federation volunteer corps became more organised, with professional soldiers as instructors. In 1890-91 several thousand citizen soldiers were mobilised in eastern Australia to assist regulars and police to maintain order during the maritime and shearing strikes. Contingents were sent overseas to British Empire conflicts:

Sudan
The British-backed Egyptian regime in the Sudan was threatened by an indigenous rebellion under the leadership of Muhammed Ahmed (known as the Mahdi) in the 1880s. In 1883 an Empire force was sent south to crush the revolt, but was defeated. The British Government sent the highly acclaimed General Charles Gordon to determine how to safely withdraw the troops. Instead, Gordon sought instead to delay the evacuation and defeat the Mahdi, but failed and was besieged in Khartoum. Further troops were sent into the conflict. When Gordon was killed in early 1885 the New South Wales Government offered troops in a telegram to London with costs met by the colony. Other colonies soon followed and were accepted. This was the first time that soldiers in the pay of a self-governing Australian colony were to fight in an Imperial war.

In March 1885 an infantry battalion of 522 men and 24 officers, and an artillery battery of 212 men, left
Sydney amid much public fanfare. The NSW contingent anchored at Suakin, Sudan’s Red Sea port, on 29 March 1885 and were attached to a brigade composed of Scots, Grenadiers, and Coldstream Guards. Soon after they marched for 30 kilometers as part of a 10,000 man formation to the village of Tamai.

Although the march was marked only by minor skirmishing, the men saw something of the reality of war as they progressed among the dead from a previous battle. Minor skirmishing took place on the next day's march, but the Australians, sustained only three injuries and no fatalities. The infantry reached Tamai, burned whatever huts were standing, and returned to Suakin.

Then most NSW soldiers worked on a railway line which was being laid across the desert towards the inland town of Berber on the Nile, half-way between Suakin and Khartoum. This lack of the expected excitement meant that when a camel corps was raised, 50 men volunteered immediately. However, they saw little action.

By May 1885 the British government had decided to abandon the campaign and left only a garrison in Suakin. The Australian contingent sailed for home on 17 May 1885, arriving on 19 June. They disembarked at the quarantine station on North Head near Manly as a precaution against disease. One man died of typhoid there before the contingent was released. Disease caused the only fatalities of the war. Five days after their arrival in Sydney the contingent, dressed in their khaki uniforms, marched through the city to a reception at Victoria Barracks where they stood in pouring rain as political and military leaders gave speeches.

It was generally agreed at the time that this small contingent marked an important stage in the development of colonial self-confidence and provided proof of the enduring link with Britain.

**Boer War**

Several colonies sent troops to fight in the Boar War. This war will be covered in the next edition.
Previous Winners Gallipoli Art Prize

2006  Margaret Hadfield  Ataturk’s legacy
2007  Lianne Gough  Glorus fallen
2008  Tom Carment  Max Carment, War Veteran (the last Portrait)
2009  Euan Macleod  Smoke/Pink landscape/Shovel
2010  Raymond Arnold  The dead march here today
2011  Hadyn Wilson  Sacrifice
2012  Geoff Harvey  Trench interment
2013  Peter Wegner  Dog with Gas Mask
2014  Idris Murphy  Gallipoli Evening 2013
2015  Sally Robinson  Boy Soldiers
2016  Jiawei Shen  Yeah, Mate!

Margaret Preston helps the shell-shocked service men
By Geoff Harvey(Winner 2012)

Love, loyalty and separation by Susan Sutton
Anzac Day at the Gallipoli Club

Anzac Day 2017 at the Gallipoli Club was dominated by the 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Reunion on the middle level which doubled as a celebration of the 100th birthday three days earlier of its President for the past 33 years, Alfred Clive Carpenter.

Fifty people, mainly the descendants of 2/4th members, attended the short April meeting, which was followed by the President of the Gallipoli Club, John Robertson, congratulating Alf on his centenary and handing over a certificate to commemorate Alf being made a Life Member of the Club.

John and other speakers outlined the amazing life of Alf Carpenter since he was born in Wagga Wagga, NSW on April 22, 1917.

Alf had a job as a hardware buyer in the retail industry and joined the 50th Battalion Militia in 1934. He rose to the rank of sergeant. Automatically called up when war was declared, Sergeant Carpenter saw service in Libya, Egypt, Syria, Damascus, Aleppo, Greece, Crete and in the Pacific campaign. While a member of the 42nd Landing Craft Company he was helping land troops near the Buka Passage, north of Bougainville when the Japanese attacked his flotilla of landing barges.

Alf had to swim out to sea to escape the raid and save his life.

The other soldier swimming with him was a retailer worker from Wallsend in the Hunter Valley.

A year later with the war over, that same soldier urged Alf by telegram to move up from Wagga Wagga and help set up a general store in Warners Bay, which is how Alf became a citizen of the Hunter valley.

After selling that business he became and agent for the Kelloggs and Pick-me-Up food brands.

Alf and his wife Marjorie later headed overseas. Among his many careers, Alf has been a Yogi Ramacharaka instructor in India, taught Tai Chi on the Great Wall of China and toured many countries in a hypnotism show with Marjorie where he performed under the name of Kim Karson.

Sadly, Alf lost the site of one eye later in life due to being hit in the head by shrapnel from a German mortar in fighting near Heraklion during the Battle of Crete in 1941. However, a cornea implant ten years ago gave him back 25 per cent of the sight in the eye and Alf proudly reminds people he still has a drivers licence.
Enjoying an ANZAC Day reunion at the Gallipoli Club were members of the HMAS Hobart Association. They included Michael Kielty, Rear Admiral Guy Griffiths, (retd) who is the Patron of HMAS Hobart Assn, Captain David Blazey (retd), Chief Petty Officer William (Bill) Bowley, Ben Welfare (immediate past-President of the Association), Bill Ross, the current Association President and Kenneth O’Connor.

Two ships have carried the name of HMAS Hobart, both served with great distinction during war time and peace time. A third HMAS Hobart is due to be commissioned in September this year. The first HMAS Hobart was a Leander class light cruiser built for the Royal Navy as HMS Apollo in 1934 but later commissioned as HMAS Hobart in September 1938. At the outbreak of World War Two, HMAS Hobart was in Sydney, so put to sea and patrolled the eastern seaboard before a very distinguished wartime career which took her to the Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, Red Sea and Pacific. She featured in the landing of British, Australian and American troops in many theatres of war. Among her many exploits was her ability in AA fire and this earnt her the nickname of the "The Flaming Angel". She was scrapped in 1962.

The second HMAS Hobart, affectionately known as the "Green Ghost" was a Perth class guided missile destroyer built by the Defoe Shipbuilding Company in Michigan, USA and purchased for US$45 million by Australia. She was commissioned on the 18th December 1965 in Boston USA and decommissioned on the 12th May 2000. She is now in her final resting place as an artificial reef and dive site in South Australia.

Buried where they fell by Ian Chapman
The King’s letter By Capt. Darlene Lavett (Retd)

Kent McCormack with his painting Hope Rallies Courage
The rifle designed by William Scurry that saved lives at Gallipoli
By Bob Marchant

Piebald Hill with shrubs
By Max Berry
Sergeant Thomas Brogan

Club Committee member John Brogan last year visited the grave of his grandfather along with some relatives on the centenary of his death in the Battle of the Somme. John shares his story with us.

Simple fate determined whether a man survived the Great War. If coming through it was not to be his destiny, it determined exactly how he met his end. You died when your number was on the bullet. The story of a new ‘Australian’, Thomas Brogan, is one of those fascinating ones where a man defies seemingly impossible odds during the fury of battle, only to die almost by chance on one of the quieter days on the Western Front. When Irish-born Thomas Brogan emigrated to Australia in 1912, after a seven-year stint as a professional soldier in the British Army, he could not have foreseen that destiny would soon see him recalled to fight in much larger battles than he’d seen as a soldier policing the Empire. He could not have predicted that he would miraculously survive two of the most iconic individual battles of the Great War – namely, the storming ‘W Beach’ at Gallipoli on April 25th and the July 1, 1916 attack on Beaumont Hamel - while others around him were wiped out. Just being part of these actions made him special; everyone knows the story of the ‘Six VCs before Breakfast’ or has seen the famed Geoffrey Malins photo of the men in the sunken road as they wait the order to go over the top on that bloody first day of the Somme. And Thomas was present on both occasions.

I first ‘met’ Thomas Brogan on the sharp, misty morning of October 2 2016. Seven of his Australian descendants were there exactly one-hundred years from the date of his death to honour him. Typically, as with many men who left a young family behind in a distant land, he left few records behind to help his now proudly Australian grand and great-grand-children know him. Just an etched name, the name of an almost anonymous man who had started a new Australian dynasty. But, as we gathered around the white Portland headstone, with prayers and wreaths, one bit of information on an otherwise sparse tombstone biography seemed to shout out; his regimental number. No. 561. The low number denoted a regular soldier, a soldier with a longer history than most who lie in the Picardy or Flanders soil. It became the key to unlocking part of an extraordinary life and reuniting the younger Brogans with their Anglo/Irish-Australian heritage.

Thomas Brogan could easily have been in an ANZAC uniform. He was, after all, just as much an ‘Aussie’ as the near 40% British-born who joined the AIF. However, like many hundreds of newly arrived immigrants, he was still on the British Army reserve list when war broke out in 1914. He would have been immediately

‘Six VCs before Breakfast’ W Beach
recalled to his regular battalion; the famed 1st Bn Lancashire Fusiliers, formally the 20th Regiment of Foot.

Thomas had originally signed up for seven-years with the colours, and five in reserve in April 1905. He was in Wigan at the time, hence the Lancashire Fusiliers whose base depot was in nearby Bury. He was single, as you had to be, and aged 23-years old. That a man originally from County Clare should have been in an English regiment was not uncommon; approximately nine percent of the British Army was traditionally recruited from Ireland and many signed up after crossing the Irish Sea, initially to look for work in the mills and mines of Northern England. The promise of overseas adventure was often more appealing to a young man than a life ‘down t’pit’. Perhaps Thomas was simply too tall for mine or mill; there are no known photographs, but family legend talks of his being a commanding six foot-seven inches. He was really too tall for the trenches, too, and would have spent his time constantly hunched over or ducking. It is possible that with his unique stature one might make him out on one of the battalion portraits taken before the Somme; or perhaps he’s represented on the painting of the ‘W Beach’ Lancashire landing. He would have quite literally been head and shoulders above the average-sized soldier of five foot and eight inches.

As a regular with the 1st Battalion Thomas saw postings in Egypt and Malta (1906) and then served throughout India from 1907 to 1912, probably being discharged there on completion of service having achieved the rank of Pioneer Sargent. He would then have made his way to Australia, bounty in pocket and seeking a new life, where early in 1914 he married Margaret Mary Murphy. It was possibly in an ‘arranged’ marriage to one of the many single women who went out to help populate the country. Thomas would have been 34 at the time.

A long married life was not foretold by his tarot cards, but before his recall in August 1914 he at least managed to leave Margaret Mary with an heir. Life cannot have been easy for the young family he was forced to leave behind.

Thomas caught up with his old battalion, recently returned from Karachi, in Warwickshire, and was posted to Alexandria where, as part of the 29th Division, supplemented with ANZAC and Indian Army troops, they awaited until that fateful Gallipoli morning of April 25. Of the five beaches chosen for the Helles landings, the Lancashires drew one of the short straws; ‘W Beach’. Along with the neighbouring ‘V Beach’, these witnessed scenes of unimaginable carnage. Thomas was not only one of the 30% who survived the W Beach landing but also survived the three battles of Krithia, including...
the attack at Gully Ravine. Incredibly, he was also involved in the August Suvla attack on Chocolate Hill and survived the freezing cold and floods of November. Unscathed, the Lancashire Fusiliers finally left Gallipoli on January 2. What would have been the odds on Thomas leaving with them? He was no ‘spring chicken’ but perhaps the ‘old soldier’ in him had taught him a few survival tricks. Nevertheless, over 1300 men of his regiment were left on the peninsula with no known grave and whose names grace the Helles Memorial for the Missing. Still hundreds more lie beneath headstones that bear their names.

A short re-fit later and the battalion was in France, posted to the Somme. Once again the battalions of General ‘Hunter Bunter’ Weston’s 29th Division were in the thick of it. That fateful July 1 attack on Beaumont Hamel cost the Lancashire Fusiliers dearly; 7 officers killed and 14 wounded, 156 other ranks killed and 298 wounded with 11 missing presumed dead. Perhaps it was the God he prayed to that saw Thomas through the carnage. Perhaps as the Pioneer Sergeant, and one of the oldest surviving members of the battalion, he was one of the cadre held back. Whichever, he survived the day.

Wednesday, October 25 1916 was the 117th day of the Battle of the Somme. The 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers (29th Division) were in the line near Gueudecourt preparing for an attack against Le Transloy. Continuing bad weather had resulted in postponements of the general assault but men were still dying; in fact 485 on that day alone, with another 219 ‘missing’. It was also to be the day that Thomas Brogan’s number was on the bullet.

The Lancashire Fusiliers Annual records simply that ‘the Battalion suffered a very heavy loss in the death of Regimental Sergeant Major Kesby, who was killed by a shell at the mouth of the HQ dugout; Sergeant Brogan ... being killed almost at the same time’.

Thomas lies now in Bull Road Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery, next to five of his comrades killed by that same missile. He could not have foreseen that having survived so much and for so long that his own end would come without glory that October day from a stray shell splinter. Fate was the final arbiter.

Alas, he would never again see his adopted country, nor the wife he had recently married, nor see the progeny he left behind in New South Wales grow and prosper in the proud new nation of Australia to which he contributed as much as any man who wore the ANZAC uniform.
The great adventure
By Kristin Hardiman

Mortarium
By Judith White
THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN
THE BEGINNING – "THE LANDING"

Men of the 1st Australian Division A.I.F. (Australian Imperial Force) landing under heavy Turkish fire at ARI BURNU, 4.30am on 25th April, 1915. The beach was later named ANZAC COVE.

The name “ANZAC” originated in Egypt early in 1915 where the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps were training. The Corps Commander, Lieut. Gen. William Birdwood, used the abbreviated title of the Corps, A.N.Z.A.C., as the code word for the Corps in preparation for the Gallipoli Campaign – a word that was to make history and be revered by Australians and New Zealanders for all time. An “ANZAC” was an Australian or New Zealand soldier who served in the Gallipoli Campaign. The term “an Original ANZAC” identified those men who participated in the initial landing on the 25th April, 1915 – the 1st Australian Division, A.I.F.

The Campaign ended on the 18th December, 1915, following the evacuation of all Allied troops from the Peninsula.

In the 8 months period of the Campaign, Australian casualties were:

Killed in action and died of wounds 8,079
Wounded in action and missing 17,924
Total 26,003

Our Club was originally “The Gallipoli Legion Club” until November, 1967 when it became “The Gallipoli Memorial Club” – a memorial where the legend of GALLIPOLI would be firmly entrenched as an inspiration to future generations of Australians.

It was founded and developed by the GALLIPOLI LEGIONS OF ANZACS, those “ANZACS” who survived the Gallipoli Campaign and following that, the Campaigns of France and Belgium until the Armistice on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.