

We will remember...

Private James Anderson, Otago Regiment
Killed in action at Gallipoli, 28 April 1915.

Lance Corporal Norman Baxter, Otago Mounted Rifles
Killed in August Offensive on Sari and Chunuk Bair,
6-7 August 1915.

Sergeant Norman Bell, Canterbury Mounted Rifles
Died of sickness 20 July 1915 on the hospital ship *Sicilia* off
Gallipoli. Buried at sea.

Private Peter Biggar, Otago Regiment
Killed in action on Chunuk Bair, 7 August 1915

Private George Browning, Otago Regiment
Killed in action at the battle of Chunuk Bair, 9 August 1915.

Lance Corporal Allan Burns, Wellington Regiment
Killed in action at the battle of Chunuk Bair, 8 August 1915.

Private George Couston, Auckland Regiment
Killed in action at Plugge's Plateau, 25 April 1915

Sergeant John Fea, Otago Mounted Rifles
Died 9 August 1915 on the hospital ship *Delta* off Gallipoli,
from wounds received in assault on Chunuk and Sari Bair.

Private Archie French, Canterbury Regiment
Killed in action at the Daisy Patch, 8 May 1915.

Lieutenant Preston Logan, Auckland Mounted Rifles
Died from wounds 22 May 1915 on hospital ship *Soudan* off
Gallipoli. Buried at sea.

Private Hugh McVicar, Otago Regiment
Missing in action at Gallipoli 1-23 May 1915. His body never
found.

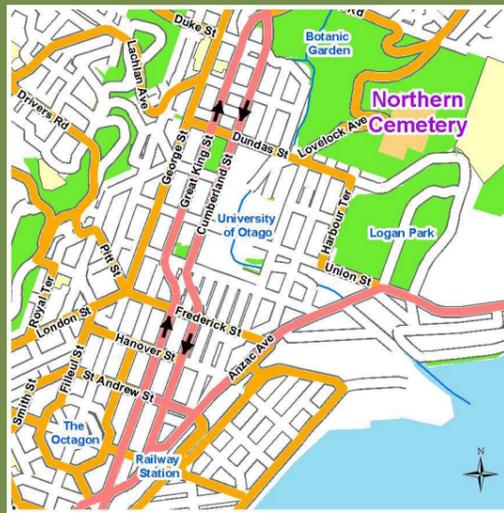
Lieutenant Thomas Nisbet, Otago Regiment
Killed in action at Gallipoli, 7 August 1915.

Lieutenant John Reid, Otago Regiment
Killed in action at Pope's Hill, 3 May 1915.

Gunner Thomas Saunders, New Zealand Field Artillery
Died of disease 28 July 1915. Buried at Alexandria.

Private Fred Smith, Otago Regiment
Died 4 May 1915 of wounds received at Gallipoli.

Private James Warren, Otago Regiment
Died of wounds 8 May 1917.



Sexton's Cottage
Northern Cemetery
Lovelock Avenue
Dunedin
Telephone 03 471 8265

Produced by the Southern Heritage Trust

Research: Juliette Stoddart

Graphics: Karl Perry

Cover:
Memorial to Lieutenant Preston Logan, Northern Cemetery,
Dunedin

Quoted: Laurence Binyon's *For the fallen*, 1914



Anzacs at Gallipoli



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."*



*"To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night"*



Welcome to this guide to those sons of our local community who fought and died at Gallipoli and are commemorated on their family memorials in the Northern Cemetery. None of these young men came home. Some are buried in the cemeteries at Gallipoli, some were lost forever where they fell and have no known grave, while others were buried at sea. But they are not forgotten.

The Gallipoli Campaign

The Gallipoli campaign was intended to assist the Royal Navy to overcome the Turkish shore defences and force their way through the Dardanelles to Istanbul. Once there, they would compel the surrender of the Turkish Government, bring relief to Russia by opening her southern ports, and hopefully bring the Balkan countries into the war on the side of the Allies. Initial attempts by the Navy to pass through the straits in February and March of 1915 failed. The waters were mined, and landing party reports urged the necessity of an infantry campaign.

April 1915

The Allied Landing

On 25 April Allied forces, including troops from New Zealand and Australia, landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula, the Aucklanders going in around 10 a.m. Coming under heavy fire from Turkish machine-guns, snipers and shrapnel they fought their way up and over the hills that rose from the beach. The rest of the New Zealanders arrived during the day and moved to support the Australians who had already secured the hill known as Baby 700, later they were driven back to the ridges below. Further landings of men and supplies followed, as did grim fighting in the gullies and on the ridges. Units were mixed up in the rugged terrain and casualties were heavy. George Couston was killed in the action at Plugge's Plateau, the high ground directly above Anzac Cove. A fierce Turkish counter-attack followed within the next two days and on 28 April James Anderson was killed in unknown circumstances.

May

Allied Advances Repelled

From 1 to 4 May the Allies attempted to advance around Pope's Hill and retake Baby 700. Losses were severe, and the Otago Battalion was halved. Hugh McVicar went missing and was never found. J.S. Reid was killed, and Frederick Smith died of his wounds in no man's land.

On 5 May the two strongest remaining Anzac brigades were sent south to Cape Helles to reinforce an Allied attack on Archi Baba, a hill overlooking fields of wild flowers, known as the 'Daisy Patch'. The British and French troops had been trying to cross this ground to link their front line with the Anzacs to the north. Turkish machine-gun fire from 6 to 8 May devastated the Allied troops. Archie French was killed in action on the 'Daisy Patch', and James Warren died of his wounds on his way to hospital in Alexandria.

The Turkish Counter Offensive

A major Turkish counter-attack was launched on 19 May. There were so many casualties that 'the dead of both sides carpeted no man's land', and on 28 May an armistice was called to bury the dead. Preston Logan died from wounds received on 19 May: his family tombstone tells the story.

June and July

June and July passed with localised attacks and counter-attacks and the ever-present shrapnel and snipers. Living conditions were very poor. Flies bred in the trenches and spread disease. Conditions were appalling and the men's health deteriorated. Norman Bell died of sickness on 20 July and Thomas Saunders on 28 July.

August

The Allied Offensive

On 6 August at 9.30 a.m. the Allies mounted a major offensive, designed to seize the high ground of Sari and Chunuk Bair. Advanced parties led the way, using only bayonets. The gullies and ravines were negotiated in the dark. By dawn on 7 August

the Allied forces were 500 metres from the top of Chunuk Bair. On 8 August, Lt Col William Malone and the Wellingtons occupied the summit, but by nightfall they had been pushed back to the ground just below it, and on 10 August a Turkish counter-attack regained the slopes. Norman Baxter, Peter Biggar, Thomas Nisbet, Allan Burns, George Browning and John Fea were all killed in the action.

December

The Withdrawal

August was the climax of the Gallipoli campaign. Several months of indeterminate trench warfare followed, and on 21 December the Allies finally withdrew. In all 8,556 New Zealanders served at Gallipoli, of whom 2,721 died. 1,669 have no known graves and 252 were buried at sea.

References

Christopher Pugsley *ANZAC: New Zealanders at Gallipoli*, 1995
A.E. Byrne *Official History of the Otago Regiment, N.Z.E.F. in the Great War 1914-1918*

Websites

Auckland War Memorial Museum Cenotaph Database
www.aucklandmuseum.com/130/cenotaph-database

Commonwealth War Graves Commission
www.cwgc.org

Biographical information about these men, including details of their service records and, in many cases, photographs, has been assembled and can be viewed at the Sexton's Cottage in the Northern Cemetery. Guided tours of their memorials are available by arrangement. To enquire, please email southernheritage@xtra.co.nz or telephone 03 471 8265.

Visitors are asked not to walk on the plots: where an inscription is located at the side or rear of a monument, the best view can often be obtained from the path behind the row it is situated in.