## London Legacy Newsletter December 2019





#### **President's Greeting**

Dear Legacy ladies and friends

We arrive at the end of what has been a very interesting and challenging year for London Legacy. In business terms, it could be described as a transition year.

We have been lucky to have begun the process of establishing new support relationships with companies in small steps, particularly with regard to helping with Anzac Day collections within their buildings.

As well, we have finalised our processes and procedures and set ourselves up for moving forward. Additionally, this year we had one of the biggest and best Annual Receptions that personally I recall.

It is all about the work we do, and this has continued throughout the year. To help us with this mission, we have had a number of people and companies provide support.

So I would like to thank all who have helped London Legacy throughout the year, particularly our good friend from Australia House, Tony Evans.

Legacy Australia has been a wonderful support to us over here in London and we are very grateful. We are also grateful and excited about the support shown to us from a number of businesses here in the UK and hope we can grow these relationships in 2020 and beyond.



I would finally like to thank the trustees, legatees and volunteers who have provided me support. Last but not least, I thank my wife Lisa for her patience and ongoing support to me.

2020 will see us continue our mission to support our families in the Legacy tradition. But for now, on behalf of London Legacy, I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and a very healthy and prosperous New Year.

Yours faithfully

Mark Daley

#### Our special Christmas issue:

- Story of Tomb Unknown Warrior
- London Legacy visits Scotland
- The "Peace Tree"
- War, In Retrospect
- Happy Birthday
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- Book Review: The Anzac Book
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- Queen Victoria awards first VCs
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- Happy Birthday!
- Annual Reception
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- Poem: Armistice Day, 1921
- Field of Remembrance
- Remembrance Day

## The Story of the Tomb of The Unknown Warrior

The Tomb of The Unknown Warrior holds an unidentified British soldier killed on a European battlefield during World War I. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, London on 11 November 1920, simultaneously with a similar interment of a French unknown soldier at the Arc de Triomphe making both tombs the first to honour the unknown dead of World War I.

It is the first example of a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The battlefield that the Warrior came from is not publicly known, and has been kept secret so that the Unknown Warrior might serve as a symbol for all of the unknown dead wherever they fell.

The idea of a Tomb of the Unknown Warrior was first conceived in 1916 by the Reverend David Railton, who, while serving as an Army chaplain on the Western Front, had seen a grave marked by a



rough cross, which bore the pencil-written legend 'An Unknown Soldier of the Black Watch'.

He subsequently wrote to the Dean of Westminster in 1920 proposing that an unidentified British soldier from the battlefields in France be buried with due ceremony in Westminster Abbey "amongst the kings" to represent the many hundreds of thousands of Empire dead. The idea was strongly supported by the Dean and the then Prime Minister David Lloyd George.

There was initial opposition from King George V and others (who feared that such a ceremony would reopen the wounds of a recently concluded war), but a surge of emotional support from the great number of bereaved families ensured its adoption. The War Graves Commission was instructed to create the National Site of Mourning to be dedicated on Armistice Day 1920.

A similar concept had been publicised in France during a public speech in November 1916 and it was debated in Parliament by July 1918 and adopted in November 1919, before being enforced in November 1920. Arrangements were placed in



the hands of Lord Curzon of Kedleston who prepared a committee, the service and location.

Suitable remains were exhumed from six principal battlefields — The Aisne, Marne, Cambrai, Somme, Arras and Ypres — and brought to the chapel at St Pol near Arras, France on the night of 7 November 1920.

The bearer parties were immediately returned to their units and a guard placed on the door. At midnight Brigadier General L.J. Wyatt and Lieutenant Colonel E.A.S. Gell of the Directorate of Graves Registration and Enquiries went into the chapel alone.

The remains were on stretchers, each covered by a Union Flag: the two officers did not know from which battlefield any individual body had come. General Wyatt with closed eyes rested his hand on one of the bodies.

The two officers placed the body in a plain coffin and sealed it. The other bodies were then taken away for reburial. It seems highly likely that the bodies were carefully selected and it is almost certain that the Unknown Warrior was a soldier serving in Britain's pre-war regular army and not a sailor, territorial, airman, or Empire serviceman. The coffin stayed at the chapel overnight and on the afternoon of November 8, it was transferred under guard, with troops lining the route, from St Pol to the medieval castle within the ancient citadel at Boulogne.

For the occasion, the castle library was transformed into a chappelle ardent: a company from the French 8th Infantry Regiment recently awarded the Legion d'Honoure en masse, stood vigil overnight.

The following morning, two undertakers entered the castle library and placed the coffin into a casket of the oak timbers of trees from Hampton Court Palace.

The casket was banded with iron and a medieval crusader's sword, chosen by the King personally from the Royal Collection, was affixed to the top and surmounted by an iron shield bearing the inscription 'A British Warrior who fell in the Great War 1914-1918 for King and Country'.

The casket was then placed onto a French military wagon, drawn by six black horses. At 10.30 am, all the church bells of Boulogne tolled; the massed trumpets of the French cavalry and the bugles of the French infantry played *Aux Champs* (the French "Last Post").

Then, the mile-long procession — led by one thousand local schoolchildren and escorted by a division of French troops — made its way down to the harbour. At the quayside, Marshal Foch saluted the casket before it was carried up the gangway of the destroyer, *HMS Verdun* (L93), and piped aboard with an Admiral's call. The *Verdun* slipped anchor just before noon and was joined by an escort of six battleships.

As the flotilla carrying the casket closed on Dover Castle it received a 19-gun Field Marshal's salute. It was landed at Dover Marine Railway Station at the Western Docks on 10 November and was taken ashore to a train by a bearer party of six Warrant Officers from the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the Army and the Royal Air Force and escorted by two Generals, two Admirals and two Air Marshalls. The coffin then was carried to London in South Eastern and Chatham Railway General Utility Van No.132, which had previously carried the bodies of Edith Cavell and Charles Fryatt.

The van has been preserved by the Kent and East Sussex Railway. The train went to Victoria Station, where it arrived at platform 8 at 8.32 pm that evening and remained overnight under escort of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards. (A plaque at

Victoria Station marks the site: every year on 10 November, a small Remembrance service takes place between platforms 8 and 9.)

The following morning, 11 November 1920, the casket, covered with the Union Flag, on which was placed a steel helmet and side arms, was placed onto a gun carriage of the Royal Horse Ar-tillery drawn by six horses and led by a Firing Party and the Regimental bands of the Brigade of Guards, set off through immense and silent crowds.

As the cortege set off, a further Field Marshal's salute was fired in Hyde Park. The route followed was Hyde Park Corner, The Mall, and to Whitehall where the Cenotaph, a "symbolic empty tomb", was unveiled by King George V.

At the Cenotaph, the carriage halted and King George placed a wreath of roses and bay leaves (the Poppy Appeal did not begin until 1921) on the coffin.

After the two-minute silence the gun carriage continued to Westminster Abbey followed by the King, the Royal Family and ministers of state. Outside the Abbey and flanked by a guard of honour of one hundred recipients of the Victoria Cross, the coffin was borne by NCOs from the Brigade of Guards into the West Nave. The funeral service consisted of music from only English composers.



At the conclusion of the last hymn, the helmet and side arms were removed and the coffin laid in the tomb. The King scattered earth from a silver shell case and the Victoria Cross holders filed past either side of the grave. The service was the mourning of the nation. The honours that had been paid were those due to a Field Marshall.

The guests of honour were a group of about one hundred women. They had been chosen because they had each lost their husband and all their sons in the war. "Every woman so bereft, who applied for a place got it".

The grave was capped with a black Belgian marble stone (the only tombstone in the Abbey on which it is forbidden to walk) featuring this inscription, composed by Dean Ryle, Dean of Westminster, and engraved with brass from melted down wartime ammunition, and reads:

> BENEATH THIS STONE RESTS THE BODY OF A BRITISH WARRIOR UNKNOWN BY NAME OR RANK BROUGHT FROM FRANCE TO LIE AMONG THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS OF THE LAND AND BURIED HERE ON ARMISTICE DAY 11 NOV 1920, IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS MAJESTY KING

GEORGE V HIS MINISTERS OF STATE THE CHIEFS OF HIS FORCES AND A VAST CONCOURSE OF THE NATION

THUS ARE COMMEMORATED THE MANY MULTITUDES WHO DURING THE GREAT WAR OF 1914 – 1918 GAVE THE MOST THAT MAN CAN GIVE, LIFE ITSELF, FOR GOD FOR KING AND COUNTRY FOR LOVED ONES HOME AND EMPIRE FOR THE SACRED CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND THE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD THEY BURIED HIM AMONG THE KINGS BECAUSE HE HAD DONE GOOD TOWARD GOD AND TOWARD HIS HOUSE

Around the main inscription are four New Testament quotations:

THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS (top) UNKNOWN AND YET WELL KNOWN, DYING AND BEHOLD WE LIVE (side) IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE (base) GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS (side)

A year later, The Unknown Warrior was awarded the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor (The USA's highest award for valour) on 17 October 1921, from the hand of General Pershing; it hangs on a pillar near to his burial site (Later, on 11 November 1921, the USA Unknown Soldier was reciprocally awarded the Victoria Cross).

When Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon married the future King George VI on 26 April 1923, she laid her bouquet at the Tomb on her way into the Abbey, as a tribute to her brother Fergus who had died at the Battle of Loos in 1915. The gesture has since been copied by every royal bride married at the Abbey, though on the way back from the altar rather than to it.



It is also the only tomb not to have been covered by a special red carpet for the wedding of The Princess Elizabeth, Duchess of Edinburgh.When Alfred Rosenberg, the Nazi ideologist, visited Britain on a diplomatic mission in 1933 he laid a wreath with a Swastika on it at the tomb. A British war veteran threw it into the Thames.

Before she died in 2002, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother (the same Elizabeth who first laid her wedding bouquet at the tomb) expressed the wish for her wreath to be placed on the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. Her daughter, Her Majesty The Queen, laid the wreath the day after the funeral.

(Courtesy of The Royal British Legion)

#### A Visit to Cumbria

Silloth in Cumbria was the destination for legatee Simon Kleinig when he visited Isobel Tripney in early September 2019. This pleasant and friendly Victorian seaside town on the coast of the Solway Firth, overlooking the Criffel in SW Scotland, has been the home of Isobel for some years. Isobel was born in the region in the town of Wigton, close to the Scottish border.

Legatee Kleinig and Isobel's close friend and legatee Tanya Briggs joined Isobel for dinner at the Golf Hotel, and discussed Isobel's long association with Legacy, both as a widow and as an active supporter and an important volunteer for the charity when she lived in London for many years.

#### London Legacy visits Scotland

London Legacy made a visit to Scotland in early August. Legatee Simon Kleinig made an annual pilgrimage to visit our northernmost Legacy lady, Billie Martin, who lives in Lunanhead in the county of Angus north of Dundee.

Billie welcomed legatee Kleinig to her home and served coffee and biscuits with friendly conversation about events of the past year.

Later, legatee Sian Loftus and her daughter Alice joined the group for lunch in Banchory in Aberdeenshire, including Billie's friend Christine Graham. After lunch the group visited Sian's cottage set in attractive woodland and enjoyed afternoon tea at the nearby Finzean Farm Shop and Tea Rooms.



Isobel Tripney with legatees Simon Kleinig and Tanya Briggs



Legacy group in Banchory, Scotland. From left: legatee Sian Loftus and her daughter Alice, Christine Graham, Bille Martin, legatee Simon Kleinig

#### A Visit to the "Peace Tree" in Scotland

A Legacy pilgrimage was made to a century-old oak tree at Stonehaven in Aberdeenshire in August. "The Peace Tree" is officially recognised as a National War Memorial. This year the tree was put forward by the Woodland Trust for nomination as Scotland's Tree of the Year.

At the suggestion of Bille Martin, members of London Legacy visited this historic landmark just outside the churchyard of the ancient Stonehaven Dunnottar Church of Scotland, which dates back to the 5th century. Billie Martin was joined by legatees Sian Loftus and Simon Kleinig, together with Sian's daughter Alice, Billie's friend Christine Graham and Carolyn Wood.



The oak tree was planted on 6 July 1919 in honour of local parishioners who served in WW1. The historic tree was largely forgotten for many years and the location had been reclaimed by undergrowth and brambles, until the area was cleared a few years ago by an elder of the nearby Dunnottar church.

A commemorative service was held 100 years later on the 6th July 2019 and was attended by Freemasons from the Lodge of Stonehaven, together with guests from local churches and organisations. The original spade used to plant the tree was on display and is kept in the Masonic Lodge above the entrance door.

Once hidden away by brambles, the tree has been returned to view in recent years and celebrated its 100th birthday by producing a healthy crop of acorns for the first time in many years.

As veteran oak trees can live for up to 900 years, the tree is still in its youthful stage and can look forward to hosting many more commemorations in the future.

#### War, In Retrospect

The following is an extract from an anonymous article published in the August, 1957 edition of *Reveille*, the journal of the NSW Branch of the RSL. The article was entitled "War, In Retrospect" and the writer is known to us only as "WW1".

"Though most of us who came back got knocked about a bit, there was a lot of fun; and we gathered a whole of a lot of experience of men and things."

"This is not an attempt to justify war. Far from it. I was disabled (though not badly), so I am the first to condemn it." "But war is like a lot of other bad things. It teaches you great deal about life — and death and is brimful with lighter spots, if only you will look for them. Most men who call themselves true Britishers have the happy knack of doing just that."

"WW1"





(Copy of Reveille courtesy Catherine Constant)



#### Happy Birthday

Our warmest wishes go out to our Legacy ladies who celebrate their birthday in the second half of this year. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to you all:

- Joan Scheldt Mary Sharpe Caroline Shelton Gladys Thompson Laurie May Gloria O'Connell Billie Martin Pauline Roebuck Annette Stone Elaine Woodcraft Audrey Piper Christine Blair Patricia Michael Elaine Luther Doris Bigland
  - Mary Nicholson



(Australian War Memorial AO2022)

#### Lost at Lone Pine

#### My journey to Gallipoli and the search for my grandfather

by Carole Sach

When I was growing up I always knew that my paternal grandfather had died in the First World War. My Father was completely unapproachable on the subject, so it was down to my mother to tell me that 'Your grandfather was killed at the Battle of the Somme; he joined the Australian Army, and Dad and my grandmother received a pension from the Australian Government after he was killed. He has no grave as he was blown to pieces'.

'Oh', I would say, 'perhaps one day we could visit the Somme and see granddad's memorial plaque'. She would shake her head, 'No, it is out of the question, your father would not want to go'. As I was growing up, the retort from my mother when I misbehaved would be 'Well, I don't know where you get your ideas from, certainly not my side of the family; you must get them from your father's side'.

I used to wonder who was my father's side of the family, so once again questions were asked, and my mother would reply 'Oh, there was a family row between your nanny and your great grandparents, and your father never saw his father's family again. Your dad was very small at the time and was very scared so went and hid', and that was that!

All I knew was that he had to have lived in the East End of London, as nanny came from that area. She did tell me once that when my father was small he said that he used to think that perhaps his father had suffered from 'shell shock' and in error gone back to live in Australia, and one day he would remember them and come back and find them and everything would be all right.

The years went by, my Father died in 1983; my life continued as lives do, but sometimes I would ask myself, who was my grandfather? I knew his name, William Pritchard - the same name as my father but that was it, just a name.

Then along came the Internet and with it the ability to search First World War records, so off I started with my research. First, I tried the Commonwealth War Graves Commission 'Debt of Honour' web site.

There were lots of Pritchards, but none killed on the Somme. There was one killed at Gallipoli, but the next of kin was wrong; I was looking for my grandmother, Ada Pritchard. Many long nights followed, coffee made by my husband Steve left to go cold, and then I would give up for a few months.

When I looked at my father's family tree, it was just my father and my grandmother and his half-sisters. His mother (my grandmother) had remarried in the 1930s but there was no father for my father, and then I would start searching again. I would sit down at my computer and say, 'Right, granddad, tonight I am going to find you', but then nothing.

The search went on in this way for five years. I emailed the Australian authorities, but they said they had no record of the pension. I even started to wonder did this man ever exist? — but he had to have existed. Talking to the family, no one knew

anything; my three aunts in Australia knew nothing. However, I never gave up hope of finding him.

I tried birth records, but there was the problem of trying to find someone with the name of William Pritchard when you are not quite sure when or where they were born, and there were a great many people with the same name.

I also looked for the record of his marriage to my grandmother, but found nothing. I was actually starting to feel quite down, but always in the back of my head was the war pension from Australia, so they had to be married.

Then one night I was sitting there staring at the census records yet again, and I realised that I was looking at things the wrong way round. I should be looking for my grandmother marrying my grandfather, and 'bingo' the first search up came with the record of their marriage. Overjoyed, I immediately sent away for the marriage certificate and waited. It seemed to take ages to arrive!

But the marriage certificate did arrive and I found out that my great grandfather was called James, and where my grandfather lived before his marriage - Quins Buildings, Russia Lane, Bethnal Green, London. If I said it once I must have said it a hundred times that night to my husband, 'Did you know that my great grandfather was called James?' He would just smile and nod.

I was getting so frustrated I emailed everyone on a web site who had a William Pritchard born in London, hoping that I may not have the fully story, but perhaps they might have any information. Most people responded, but of course it was all negative, so when I had the wedding certificate and knew who my great grandfather was, I started emailing

everyone again, and that is when I got the reply back from one Lady and she explained that I needed my grandfather's birth certificate as I now had my great grandfather's name I could send for this birth certificate.

There were four William Pritchards born around the time of my grandfather, so I was able to fill in 'Fathers name'. Emails came back saying not this

one and then finally an email to say your certificate is on its way. It finally arrived and gave my great grandmother's name as Ellen Bret and that my grandfather was born in Brick Lane, London. I emailed back this lady and within about half an hour she came back and said 'Hello, Cousin'. I was over the moon; she said she had wondered because my father's full name was William Joseph Pritchard and she was descended from grandad's youngest brother, Joseph.

I then explained to her about my grandfather but she did not have any information either, but she said she would try and help me as I had made her curious.

So in the space of two to three weeks I knew the names my great grandfather and my great grandmother, I knew where my grandparents had married, I knew where they both lived before they were married, and from this relation I found all of the names of my grandfather's brothers and sister — James Pritchard, Lilly Pritchard, then my grandad William Pritchard, Joseph Pritchard and finally Rose Pritchard. My father's side of the tree was now getting full, but there was still the question of grandfather's death in the First World War.

Later that day the family member that I had found emailed with a link to the Australian Service records and said 'Look at page 10'. When I did I found the next of kin 'James Pritchard' crossed out and in red ink 'Ada Pritchard' added. I then went through the documents that she had found on line



for me and on page 25, there it was, Widow Ada Pritchard, dependant William Joseph Pritchard (my father).



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It even told me how much pension they received, which was £1 every other week for my father and £2 every other week for my grandmother. So why did she tell my mother that my grandfather was killed at the Somme?

I just sat looking at the screen. It had been there all the time, but of course how was I to know? I must be honest; I cried, really cried tears of joy. I had done it, I had found him, but I knew very little about Gallipoli. But before I go any further I would like to introduce you to my grandfather.

He was 5ft 4in tall (not very tall, but one must remember that a lot of people were malnourished in those days), he weighed 10 stone 6lb, he had a dark complexion, his hair was dark, his eyes were brown and he had tattoos on both forearms and right upper arm as well (Oh dear, sorry but tattoos, how could you granddad!)

He was born in Brick Lane London in 1890. He was 25 years old when he joined the 4th Battalion, A.I.F (Yes, this was the Battalion that went on the rampage in Cairo!) and served in 'D' Company. He enlisted at Liverpool Camp, New South Wales on 6 November 1914 and left Sydney on the *HMAT* Seang Bee for Egypt, as a 2nd Reinforcement, on 11 February 1915. This was the day before my father's 1st birthday. He left Alexandria on 5 April 1915 on *T.S.S. Lake Michigan* for Gallipoli.

He was killed between 6–9 August 1915 during the attack on Lone Pine, and is commemorated on the Lone Pine Memorial. There was a Court of Enquiry at a place called Fleurbaix, France, which confirmed his death in action, but when I asked the Australian Government if they had the papers, they said unfortunately they have no other papers on my grandfather.

I have no pictures of him at all, no diaries nothing, as I said above. All I had was a name. The Attestation Papers give his occupation as a farm labourer, but on the Marriage Certificate to my grandmother he is what we today would call a French Polisher. In fact according to my relative all the men in that family work with wood, and still do today.

It is unclear whether my grandfather travelled to Australia to enlist. Certainly I was told this by my mother 'He joined the Australian Army because they paid better than the British Army, and if he was killed, then my grandmother also got a better pension', and one must remember that £6 a month in 1915/16 was a lot of money. However, he could have gone to Australia in 1914 to seek a new life and employment on the land, but war upset his plans.

My feeling is that he intended that my grandmother and my father would settle in Australia with him. I suppose the thought of a bright new future in Australia was very appealing. The family row? Oh well that was because his father, James Pritchard wanted some of the pension money! It is unclear why my grandfather put his father, James, down as next of kin on the Attestation Form. Perhaps he did so in case the Australian Army would not take married men from England. But that is something else for me to look up.

My grandfather's death in the period 6-9 August occurred when the 4th Bn. of the 1st Australian Division were engaged in bitter fighting at Lone Pine. An action in which seven VC were awarded. The attack is well chronicled.

C E W Bean devotes no less than 40 pages to it in *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918*. He records that the attack began at 5.30pm on 6 August, on a narrow front with the first troops filing into tunnels, which extended some fifty yards beyond the front line.

The attacking troops reached the Turkish front line but found it roofed over with heavy logs, which the Australians tried to remove while others went further forward and then worked their way back along the communication trenches. Much of the fighting took place in semi-darkness with attacks and counter-attacks that lasted until 9 August.

Another author, Alan Moorehead, comments in his book *Gallipoli* '... it is really not possible to comprehend what happened. All dissolves into a confused impression of a riot, of a vicious street fight in the back alleys of a city, and the metaphor of the stirred-up ant heap persists ...'

What we do know is that 1st Australian Division lost over 2,000 men during the battle. The 4th Battalion, in which my grandfather served went in with 20 officers and 722 other ranks and suffered the loss of 15 officers and 459 other ranks killed wounded or missing (63% of those engaged).

After years of wondering and searching I now have my answers to my questions, but sometimes I can't believe that I found him, and I now have several second cousins into the bargain and loads more as well. But unfortunately I have never been able to track down the descendants of Lilly or Rose Pritchard. I must be honest, it is all so overwhelming — not only to have found my grandfather, but some of his family as well. So I have now arrived at Gallipoli, a different journey to my grandfather, but we both arrived at the same place. Just a footnote: my grandmother emigrated to Sydney, Australia in 1973. I wonder, as she walked down those roads and streets, did she think of her first husband, my grandfather?

To bring this story up to date, I was able to travel to Gallipoli and was there on the 25th April 2015 (although not allowed to visit him until the next day), the same day my grandad had landed there, albeit 100 years later.

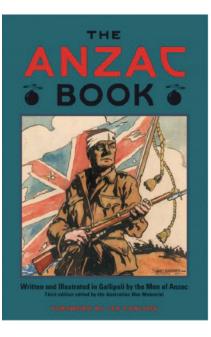
William Pritchard 4th Battalion, 2nd Reinforcement Regiment No. 1422 Killed Gallipoli 6th—9th August 1915

Granddad, you have lain forgotten for many years, but not by me. Now I have found you and you are forgotten no more.

Your granddaughter

Carole Sach





#### Book Review The Anzac Book

edited by C.E.W. Bean

Publisher: Australian War Memorial (Canberra), Third edition, 2010, hardcover, illustrated, 240 pages \$49.95 (£27.00)

This rightly celebrated book is a must-read for anyone wishing to learn more about Gallipoli. Closely researched historical volumes dealing with the campaign abound, but nothing comes close to distilling the actual feel of the place than this timeless classic.

The Anzac Book is a collection of contributions from the soldiers themselves—soldiers who at the time were under constant enemy fire and surviving in often extreme conditions, as they struggled to maintain a tenuous foothold on this strategically vital sector of the Gallipoli peninsula.

The Anzac Book was an instant bestseller when first released in 1916. A second edition was published in 1975. The long-awaited third edition, handsomely bound and presented, is a reproduction of the original book, with a new foreword by *Gallipoli* author Les Carlyon and an introduction by Ashley Ekins, Head of the Military History Section at the Australian War Memorial.

This edition of *The Anzac Book* also contains new material originally rejected by Charles Bean, but preserved for posterity in the archives of the Australian War Memorial and now resurrected for this edition.

The illustrations, stories, cartoons and poems were intended as a Christmas and New Year diversion for soldiers grimly facing the prospect of a harsh winter in the trenches on Gallipoli.Their grit, sense of humour and wry wit shine through strongly in the pages of this book.

Those who have served their country on active service since 1915 will feel in this book an immediate kinship with those first ANZACs; for others, simply reading the pages of *The Anzac Book* will convey a keen appreciation and understanding of how the incandescent Anzac spirit was born.

Simon Kleinig



#### Poem: Where the ranges cast their shadows

Where the ranges cast their shadows Down a valley where a river used to wander to the sea

On a rising patch of level rest the men that dared to tender

Life and all its sweetness for their love of liberty.

In a thousand miles of ugly scrubby waste and desolation

Just that little space of level showing open to the sea

Nothing there to lend it grandeur (sure it needs no decoration)

Save those rows of wooden crosses keeping silent custody.

There's a band of quiet workers, artless lads that joked and chatted

Just this morning. Now they're sullen and they keep their eyes away

From the blanket hidden body, coat and shirt all blood bespattered

Lying motionless and waiting by the new-turned heap of clay.

There are records in the office- date of death and facts pertaining,

Showing name and rank and number and disposal of the kit

More or less a business matter, and we have no time for feigning

More than momentary pity for the men who have been hit.

There's a patient mother gazing on her hopes so surely shattered

(Hopes and prayers she cherished bravely, seeking strength to hide her fear)

Boyhood's dreams and idle memories-things that never really mattered

Lying buried where he's buried 'neath the stars all shining clear.

There's a young wife sorrow-stricken in her bitter first conception

Of that brief conclusive message deep fulfilment of her dread;

There are tiny lips repeating, with their childish imperception

Simple words that bring her memories from the boundaries of the dead.

Could the Turk have seen this picture when his trigger finger-rounded

Would his sights have blurred a little had he heard that mother's prayer?

Could he know some that she knew, might his hate have been confounded?

But he only did his duty and did it fighting fair.

Just a barren little surface where the grave mounds rise ungainly

Monuments and tributes to the men who've done their share.

Pain and death, the fruits of battle and the crosses tell it plainly

Short and quick and silent suffering; wish to God it ended there.

Harry McCann HQ 4th Australian Light Horse Gallipoli 1915

#### New Legatee

London Legacy is pleased to introduce Adam Gale, who has recently joined us as a legatee. Adam brings with him a level of dedication and enthusiasm, together with new ideas which will prove invaluable to the future of the club.

London Legacy always welcomes willing volunteers who possess a depth of understanding and appreciation for our goals as a charity. Interested persons should contact President Mark Daley: <u>markodaley@gmail.com</u>



President Mark Daley and Hon Secretary Simon Kleinig welcome legatee Adam Gale to London Legacy at Australia House in June



#### Queen Victoria awards first Victoria Crosses

This painting by George Housman Thomas forms part of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's collection held in the Royal Collection Trust at Buckingham Palace.

The painting depicts a young Queen Victoria on horseback fastening the Victoria Cross to the tunic of Captain of the Mast George Henry Ingouville, who won the decoration during the Baltic Campaign in 1855.

To the Queen's right on horseback is Prince Frederick William of Prussia and beyond him her sons Prince Alfred and the Prince of Wales. To the Queen's left is Secretary at War Lord Panmure and, on horseback, the Prince Consort, Prince Albert.

The location depicted in the painting was probably the Parade Ground in Hyde Park, with the buildings overlooking Park Lane in the background. The Parade Ground has been in use since Tudor times, and is still used today for special occasions such as Royal Gun Salutes.

(Queen Victoria's Souvenir Album, volume VII, folio 56, Royal Collection Trust)

In 1856 Queen Victoria instituted the Victoria Cross to reward those in the military who had carried out acts of great courage. The first ceremony was held on 26 June 1857 in London's Hyde Park, where Queen Victoria invested Crimean War recipients with the new gallantry award. Queen Victoria had instructed the War Office to strike a new medal that would not recognise birth or class.

The medal was meant to be a simple decoration that would be highly prized. To maintain its simplicity, Queen Victoria, under the guidance

of Prince Albert, vetoed the suggestion that the award be called *The Military Order of Victoria* and instead suggested the name *Victoria Cross*. The original warrant stated that the Victoria Cross would only be awarded to officers and men who had served in the presence of the enemy and had performed some signal act of valour or devotion.

#### London Legacy and Merivale Cakes

It was a tour highlight when the three entries won two gold awards and one bronze. "

"This was the first event in a two-step public display of the award-winning cakes, as Merivale Cakes had invited Queensland House in London to use them in any of the planned Anzac functions being held during the April 2015 commemorations."

Legatee Simon Kleinig recalls the event: "I well remember that 2015 Legacy Anzac Ball at Australia House in London. Your cakes rightly created an enormous amount of interest, and all Ball attendees crowded around the display table throughout the evening to inspect those wonderful cakes."

"I remember how surprised and delighted I was when the Queensland Agent-General, Mr Ken Smith, first offered the cakes to us for display at the Ball."

You can find out more about Mary Reid's forthcoming book here: <u>http://merivalecakesandcrafts.com.au</u>

London Legacy was contacted recently by Mary Reid regarding an interesting book she is publishing about her lifelong passion for creating cakes of outstanding design. Mary writes:

"I am writing a book *Caution! Wedding Cake on Board* — it is story-telling about my 54 year cake journey with Merivale Cakes. One story which I would like to include in my book is about the Anzac cakes that the three students created and took to a London competition in April 2015.

"Their exhibits won two gold and a bronze, and went on display at the Legacy Anzac Centenary Ball on Friday, 17 April 2015 at Australia House. I had arranged this display through Queensland House as a lead up to the competition." "Three students competed in the London Excel expo in late March 2015.

As a fitting and patriotic gesture they chose designs that honoured the renowned Anzac spirit. To ensure their exhibits survived the 18,000 kilometre journey, they created designs that were suitable for long-haul transportation and would require minimal on-site finishing.



Merivale Cakes at the 2015 Legacy Anzac Ball.

### London Legacy

by Roy Palmer

Australian and New Zealand Forces We are known as Legacy We are here for you, be it air, land or sea Legacy is a sharing, caring association For dependants belonging to you Supporting sixty thousand widows and widowers Plus eight thousand children too.

We are here for the protection of your basic needs It really doesn't matter about your rank or creed Assisting through bereavement, in that dark time of loss

Someone there to listen, to help bear the cross.

Ensuring the entitlement to rights and benefits Which we know are yours, helping with your paperwork

Then opening up the right doors.

Despite your adversity, we will help to make you thrive

Being there as your crutch, helping you to survive.

We are run by volunteers, and are called a "legatee"

Could you be one of us? —by asking, is the key. To survive we need your help, we require public support

To help us, to help those that have fought. Dependants of the Defence Force now come under our remit

Of those lost in military service, who have done their bit.

In thirty-seven countries, we really do our best But finding more people to help really is our quest We will look after you if we know where you are So the ball's in your court, be you near or far. If you know someone who doesn't realise that we are here

Tell them of our existence, saying "we are very near".



Roy Palmer recites his poem at at Australia House

Roy Palmer is a Chelsea Pensioner. Roy took up residence at the Royal Hospital Chelsea in 2018 after a long and distinguished service career spanning 25 years. Enlisting initially with the Northampton Regiment, Roy served six years with the Royal Pioneer Corps, and went on to serve in Aden, Bahrain, Germany (three times) and the United Kingdom. Roy then served a further three years with the Territorial Army. Roy held the position of Town Crier of Mabelthorpe in Lincolnshire, the only Mounted Town Crier in the world. Roy has relatives in Roma, Queensland. He wrote this poem specifically for the London Legacy Annual Reception held at Australia House on Thursday, 11 July 2019.



#### November

by Billie Martin

November, most maligned of months portrayed with oral eloquence as dismal, damp or dreary; there is enchantment in your shortening days. Cool mists arising over shrouded streams, where trees, lonely, skeletal stand. Welcoming birds on shadowy wing seeking that last elusive berry. Russet leaves in windstrewn piles, crunch underfoot.

Pale early sunshine turns the mist to wispy ribbons.

Nebulous, ethereal, suffusing the countryside with a fragile beauty.



Billie Martin lives in the county of Angus in Scotland, north of Dundee. She has been a consistent and welcome contributor to our London Legacy Newsletter for some years.

#### A Visit from WA Legacy

President Peter Emmett from the Legacy Club of Western Australia made a visit to London in late September. An informal meeting was arranged at short notice with London Legacy President Mark Daley and legatee Simon Kleinig in central London. The trio rendezvoused at *Ye Olde Cheddar Cheese* at 145 Fleet Street, a famous London pub dating from 1667 and a favourite of such past luminaries as Samuel Johnson and Charles Dickens.

Over the course of the evening's conversation there was a healthy and beneficial exchange of legacy ideas and suggestions. Though the two clubs are located in different hemispheres and may have quite different dynamics, enough common ground was found to enable a fruitful exchange of ideas on a number of subjects.

London Legacy always welcomes visits from legatees from other clubs at any time. We will always extend the hand of Legacy fellowship and make visiting legatees most welcome. You can find our contact details at the end of this newsletter.



At "Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese" on Fleet Street, London. President Peter Emmett from the Legacy Club of Western Australia with London Legacy President Mark Daley and legatee Simon Kleinig

#### Women on the beat in WW1

With so many WW1 soldiers away on active service many of the roles previously considered the exclusive domain of men were through necessity taken up by women. Between 1914 and 1918 about two million women replaced men in the workforce.

The first women police officers came into being during WW1. One of the main responsibilities of the Women's Patrols, as they were initially known, was to maintain discipline and monitor women's behaviour around factories or hostels. They also carried out inspections of women to ensure they did not take anything into the factories which might cause explosions. They also patrolled other public areas such as railway stations, streets, parks and public houses. Another positive outcome of WW1 was that the previously militant suffragette movement got behind the war effort and by war's end the active role demonstrated by women was finally acknowledged. Slowly changes were made to give women voting rights.

#### A meeting in Soho

President Mark Daley and legatees Lisa Daley and Simon Kleinig met with Linda and Megan Kaye at *Bodean's BBQ* in Soho in late September. Linda and Megan live in Portsmouth in Hampshire and were spending a few days together in London. Megan attended three Legacy Camps in Busselton, WA, and benefited hugely from the experience. Linda's son Tom now lives and studies in Melbourne and receives strong support from Melbourne Legacy.



The first women police officers on the beat around the streets of London during WW1 (Imperial War Museum)



Megan and Linda Kaye enjoy a meal at Bodean's BBQ in Soho with legatee Lisa Daley, President Mark Daley and legatee Simon Kleinig

# Have you considered making a bequest to London Legacy?

In order to carry out its important support work London Legacy is wholly reliant on the goodwill and generosity of its wider family of supporters. Bequests can make a real difference in ensuring our duty of care continues into the future. After carefully considering your own family and friends, a bequest to London Legacy in your Will is a powerful way of ensuring you will be remembered, and, importantly, it will provide a vital and lasting contribution towards the continuing work we carry out for our dependant families.



#### **Annual Legacy Reception**

London Legacy hosted this traditional event at Australia House on Friday, 11th of July. The Annual Reception is our way of thanking our legatees, the Defence staff at Australia House, State Agents-General and our supporters for their efforts over the past twelve months. Importantly, three of our Legacy ladies also attended: Catherine Constant from Bristol, Christine Blair from Kent and Linda Kaye from Portsmouth.

LTCOL Anthony Evans greeted guests, and President Mark Daley further extended the welcome with a warm and heartfelt address. Our friends from the Royal Hospital Chelsea mingled with guests, their colourful presence and warm bonhomie adding an important ingredient to the success of the evening, and continuing an important tradition struck up between the Royal Hospital Chelsea and London Legacy eight years ago.



The connection is an important and close one, as many Chelsea Pensioners served with Australian Army units. Chelsea Pensioner Roy Palmer recited his recently-penned poem "London Legacy", whose emotive verses were warmly received and did not fail to strike a resonant chord with all present.



A happy group at the 2019 Annual Legacy Reception. From left: Karen Cano, Christine Blair and Catherine Constant with legatee Lisa Daley

#### A meeting at the Victory Services Club

In early October a London meeting was arranged between legatees Simon Kleinig and Diana Fazekas, who was visiting from the Legacy Club of South Australia and Broken Hill. Diana is the chairperson for the Fleurieu Legacy Group. Diana was accompanied by her friend Lynne Smith, who is also visiting London. Both ladies have a long and close association with Legacy.

The meeting was arranged at the Victory Services Club, conveniently located near Marble Arch in central London. Common ground immediately was found as legatee Kleinig had served for many years with the Legacy Club of South Australia and Broken Hill, having been first inducted into that club as a legatee in the 1980s. On moving to Britain in 2007 he subsequently joined London Legacy.

Diana and Lynne will be returning in April 2020 to renew their acquaintance with London Legacy and to attend Anzac Day commemorations including the traditional Anzac Day Commemorative Service in Westminster Abbey.



Legatees Diana Fazekas and Simon Kleinig at the Victory Services Club at Marble Arch in London

#### National Legacy Conference

"Golden Opportunities — Communities at Work" was the theme of the conference held in Bendigo, Victoria over three fruitful days between 16—18 October 2019. London Legacy is grateful to Sydney Legacy and Canberra Legacy for their generosity in helping us to attend this important conference.

The conference was attended by representatives from 44 clubs. The AGM was followed by an open forum which addressed key issues about how Legacy should best operate and deliver its care and services to dependants in the future, a forum which stimulated a healthy discussion and a vigorous interchange of ideas from representative clubs.

The conference was brought to a conclusion with a formal evening dinner which allowed delegates to both relax and assess what had been achieved over three productive days.



Delegates at the Bendigo Conference. From left: legatees Simon Kleinig (London), Rick Cranna (National Chairman), Graeme Plumridge (Melbourne), Jack Hamilton (Northern Territory)

#### Armistice Day, 1921

By Edward Shanks

The statesman bares and bows his head Before the solemn monument; His lips, paying duty to the dead In silence, are more than ever eloquent.

But ere the sacred silence breaks And taxis hurry on again, A faint and distant voice awakes, Speaking the mind of a million absent men:

'Mourn not for us. Our better luck At least has given us peace and rest. We struggled when the moment struck But now we understand that death knew best.

Would we be as our brothers are Whose barrel-organs charm the town? Ours was a better dodge by far -We got *our* pensions in a lump sum down.

We, out of all, have had our pay, There is no poverty where we lie; The graveyard has no quarter-day, The space is narrow but the rent not high.

No empty stomach here is found; Unless some cheated worm complain You hear no grumbling underground; Oh never, never wish us back again!

Mourn not for us, but rather we Will meet up this solemn day And in our greater liberty Keep silent for you, a little while, and pray.'

Edward Shanks (1892—1953) was an English writer, academic, journalist, literary critic and biographer. He is also remembered as one of the war poets of WW1.





#### Field of Remembrance

The Field of Remembrance was opened to the public in the lawns outside Westminster Abbey on Thursday, 7 November 2019. This spectacularly colourful display of tiny commemorative crosses stirs emotions in peoples of all ages and is a fitting prelude to the solemnity of Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday. The Royal Family was represented by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex who paid their respects by joining others in planting tiny crosses in the grounds of Westminster Abbey.

The tradition began In November 1928 when the Royal British Legion took a group of disabled veterans, a tray of poppies and a collection tin into the grounds of Westminster Abbey. It was not a large display, only a handful of poppies were planted around a single cross, but it caught the imagination of the public and began a tradition that has grown over the decades. Over 90 years later, the Legion organises Fields of Remembrance in six locations where volunteers plant more than 120,000 tributes in fields across the UK.



#### Remembrance Sunday in London

A crisp autumn morning yielded to brilliant blue skies and dazzling sunshine to warm marchers in the traditional Remembrance Sunday Parade in Whitehall on 10 November 2019. Members of the Royal family joined thousands of marchers and onlookers in paying tribute to the war dead from all conflicts. HRH Prince Charles laid a wreath on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen, who watched the Parade from a balcony overlooking the Cenotaph, the commemorative focal point of the Parade.

Legatee Simon Kleinig joined the Parade as a member of the Gallipoli Association and marched proudly with colleagues Hester Huttenbach and John Duckworth. Wreaths were laid at the Cenotaph for the Gallipoli Association and London Legacy, before the Parade right-wheeled into Parliament Square and the Parade ground at Horseguards, where HRH Prince Andrew took the salute.



#### **Remembrance Day**

A small group of dedicated onlookers assembled around the Australian War Memorial near Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner for this important annual commemoration. The event was directed by LTCOL Anthony Evans and led by the Australian High Commissioner, the Hon George Brandis QC.Visiting from Australia was the Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel, the Hon Darren Chester MP, who also addressed the assembly.

Also present were the Commissioner for Veterans' Affairs, Mr Donald Spinks AM, Mr Robert Curtin, Chief of Staff for the Minister's office and LEUT Lisa Blakiston, ADC to the Minister. Immediately following the event, the Minister's party was scheduled to fly direct to Dubai to visit Australian troops serving in the Middle East.

Wreaths were laid by the Australian High Commissioner, the Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel, Head of Australian Defence Staff, CDRE Guy Holthouse and the Agents-General for the Australian states. A wreath was also laid by the Britain-Australia Society, and legatee Simon Kleinig laid a wreath on behalf of London Legacy.



#### Legacy Anzac Gala Dinner

OK, it's now official— in response to many requests and after an absence of three years our hugely popular Gala Dinner is back! It's time to mark your diaries for Thursday, 2 April 2020.

We have assembled a team of dedicated people to make sure the 2020 Gala Diner exceeds all your expectations. If you have attended our Gala Dinner in the past you will know what a great night it is! It's also Legacy's biggest fund-raising event of the year. The Exhibition Hall at Australia House, with its crystal chandeliers and soaring marble columns, is high among London's most coveted dining experiences. The Exhibition Hall was also the setting of Gringotts Bank in the Harry Potter films.

So come along and support a very worthy cause and have a great night out with friends into the bargain! Based on past experience demand will be running high for this premier black tie event.

BOOK NOW! Tickets are £150, which includes everything—pre-dinner drinks and canapés, all beer and wine for the evening, a sumptuous dinner, dessert wine and coffee and fabulous entertainment.

For further enquiries email: simon.kleinig@windingtrack.com

The President and Trustees of London Legacy cordially invite you to attend



#### The 2020 London Legacy Anzac Gala Dinner

to be held on

Thursday, 2nd April 2020

6pm, Australia House, London, WC2B 4LA

Entry by ticket only (no door sales). **This ticket and photo ID are required for admission.** Miniatures may be worn Black tie or mess dress

Carriages at 11.30pm

London Legacy, Registered Charity Number 1085603, www.londonlegacy.org "Behind every service person who risks everything is a family that does the same"



#### London Legacy

Registered UK charity No. 1085603

#### Patrons:

The Australian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom His Excellency The Hon.George Brandis QC

Sir Michael Hintze AM.

#### Trustees:

legatee Mark Daley, President legatee Simon Kleinig, Hon Secretary legatee Paul Wrighter, Treasurer

"London Legacy cares for the dependants of those who served their country, through personal support and by continuing to commemorate and honour the sacrifice of our Australian servicemen and servicewomen."

## London Legacy Newsletter

Simon Kleinig: editor, design and layout <a href="mailto:simon.kleinig@windingtrack.com">simon.kleinig@windingtrack.com</a>

Mark Daley: electronic distribution <u>markodaley@hotmail.com</u>

Newsletter contributions are always welcome. Please contact the editor: simon.kleinig@windingtrack.com

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