

# THE LONE PINE MEMORIAL HONOURS GALLIPOLI HEROES

This year Australia is celebrating its 175th anniversary of nationhood. It is a sobering fact, however, that the name of Australia first rang round the world as the result of the heroic exploits of its fighting men in World War I.

The nation's history will forever be linked with Anzac Cove on faraway Gallipoli Peninsula and the gallant men from Australia and New Zealand who forged their code name of ANZAC into an imperishable memory.

On the eve of Anzac Day, 1963, it is perhaps fitting to look back 48 years and shine a present-day torch on a massive memorial at Lone Pine, which today overlooks what was the entire front line on Gallipoli in May 1915.

The purpose of this Memorial, to thousands of soldiers with no known graves, is expressed in the inscription carved in the centre of its screen wall:—

“To the glory of God and in lasting memory of 3,268 Australian soldiers who fought on Gallipoli in 1915, and have no known grave, and 456 New Zealand soldiers whose names are not recorded in other areas of the Peninsula but who fell in the Anzac area and have no known graves; and also of 960 Australians and 252 New Zealanders who, fighting on Gallipoli in 1915, incurred mortal wounds or sickness and found burial at sea.”

The Anzac Area, as defined by the Treaty of Lausanne, is an area of about two-and-a-half square miles, permanently conceded by the Turkish Government in its entirety on account of the number of cemeteries and unlocated graves that it contains.

In a wider sense, it is the mid-most of three areas into which Australian operations on Gallipoli, and our cemeteries are divided.

## The Dawn Landing

The Australian occupation began at 4.30 o'clock on the morning of April 25, 1915, when the 3rd Australian Brigade landed at Ari Burnu. That brigade was followed by the remainder of the 1st Australian Division, and by a combined New Zealand and Australian Division.



The Lone Pine Memorial

Before the end of April, the landing place became known as “Anzac Cove” and the code name formed by the initials of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps had been given to the semi-circular area, 1,100 yards across, held by the Corps.

From April to August a series of desperate attacks and counter attacks against the Turkish forces took place on the edge of the Anzac Area. The 4th Australian Battalion attacked the positions forward known as “Johnston’s Jolly”, on April 26 and during the first few days both Australian and New Zealand troops made desperate attacks to gain possession of The Nek.

The “Chessboard”, further north, was attacked on May 2 by the 13th, 15th and 16th Australian battalions and the Otago Infantry Regiment and two battalions of Marines. On the same day a Turkish observation post at Lala Baba was destroyed by the New Zealanders. On May 4 the 11th battalion raided Gaba Tepe. From May 9 to 15 and from May 28 to June 5 there was fierce fighting around Quinn’s Post.

From May 19 to 21 the Turks in an engagement known as “The Defence of Anzac” assaulted the centre of the position; their casualties were very great and an armistice was arranged on May 25 in order to bury the dead.

On the night of June 29-30 the Turks made another unsuccessful attack. Lone Pine was not secured by the 1st Australian Division until August 12, but Chunuk Bair and Hill 60 (on the Suvla side) were still in enemy hands in spite of the desperate bravery and temporary success of the main force.