



# NEWSLETTER

*Promoting National Security and Defence*

## RUSI of SA

Building 160, Keswick Barracks  
Keswick, SA 5035  
Tel/Fax: +61 (8) 8305 6378  
Email: [rusikes@bigpond.com](mailto:rusikes@bigpond.com)

### Office Hours:

Monday and Friday  
10.00am to 4.00pm  
Library also opens on Wednesday

### Patron

His Excellency,  
RADM Kevin Scarce AC, CSC,  
RANR  
Governor of South Australia

### Council Members 2011/12

#### President:

BRIG T. Hanna AM ADC

#### Vice Presidents:

COL C. Burns CSC

Dr J. Bruni

#### Past President:

COL D. Stoba RFD ED (Retd)

#### Councillors:

Mr M.J. Gorroick

Dr G. Griffin

MAJ R. Marlin

CAPT M.J. Orchard RFD ED (Retd)

WGCDR M. Ryan (Retd)

#### Hon Treasurer:

COL L. Thompson AM RFD ED

(Retd)

#### Representing:

##### RAN

CMDR A. Williams ADC RAN

##### Army

COL M. Burgess

##### RAAF

WGCDR B. Tonkin

#### Hon Auditor:

Mrs L. Larkin

Chartered Accountant

#### Librarian/Hon Editor

CAPT M. Orchard RFD ED (Retd)

#### Secretary/Public Officer

Ms E. Atkinson

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the RUSI of SA.

February/March 2012

Issue No. **437**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**We have just celebrated Australia Day. Well, at least I and many others did! Some of us went to special Australia Day events, some of us went to the cricket and some of us simply got together with family and friends at the beach. Our newest Australians were welcomed as citizens at ceremonies around the country. Other members of our great country don't think there is anything to celebrate and have an entirely different view of what 26 January stands for. They chose to mark Australia Day, not as a day to celebrate but as one to continue to grieve over.**

Australian Defence Force members in Afghanistan celebrated Australia Day under a blanket of snow. Up to 20 centimetres of snow has covered the mountains near Multi National Base Tarin Kot, also leaving a thick layer of snow on armoured vehicles and over the base. While snow is common on the mountains around Tarin Kot, it is unusual for snow to fall in the town and Coalition Headquarters.

Snow has also fallen in Kabul with temperatures in Afghanistan

expected to drop below minus 8 degrees Celsius overnight. This did not deter our Kabul-based personnel who celebrated Australia Day with an Aussie-style barbecue breakfast.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, in Timor Leste and in the Solomon Islands our soldiers, sailors and airmen paused from their duties to commemorate Australia's national day.

Regardless of what your view may be about the relevance of 26 January, we are truly the 'lucky' country. Despite the fact that we still have many problems to solve, the freedom we have to express ourselves, which is not available to many millions of people around the world, is something that our newest citizens value and which our Defence personnel continue to protect wherever they are.

Who remembers Somalia? The Australian Defence Force undertook operations there in the early 1990s. However, the war torn country has been plagued by problems of corruption, violence and famine for many years. Last week, the Australian Government announced that it will provide additional support to African Union troops confronting terrorist organisation Al-Shabaab in Somalia. The Minister of Defence, Stephen Smith said the \$2 million contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) would assist the African Union troops to build on security gains made late last year.

"Al-Shabaab continues to pose a threat in Somalia, more broadly in Africa, and well beyond its borders including in Australia, and much work lies ahead," Mr Smith said.

"Australia's contribution will support the expansion of the AMISOM mission to a full strength of 17,000 troops, drawn from Uganda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti and Sierra Leone."

It builds on earlier donations by Australia of tactical bomb suits and counter Improvised Explosive Device equipment to the UN Support Office for AMISOM. Australia also contributes to international counter-piracy efforts off the coast of Somalia, including through the deployment of the ANZAC Class frigate, HMAS PARRAMATTA.

We have some exciting speakers lined up for 2012. I look forward to your support and patronage. As always, the Council continues to seek your thoughts on how we might improve our program. Please let us know.

Tim Hanna AM  
Brigadier  
President



Powering through the snow, an Australian Light Armoured Vehicle (ASLAV) makes its way to the range at Multi National Base - Tarin Kot in Afghanistan.

The photo and information was extracted from the Australian Defence Image Library at

<http://images.defence.gov.au/fotoweb/>

where there are many more photographs of life for the Australian Forces in Afghanistan.

## CURRENT ISSUES BRIEFING

**The next Current Issues Briefing will be held at the Naval, Military & Air Force Club on Thursday, 23 February 2012 at 7.00 pm.**

Professor Pumendra Jain from the Centre for Asian Studies at the University of Adelaide, will address the subject:

**'Japan's Triple Disaster: Earthquake, Tsunami and Fukushima. What really happened and what have we learned?'**

Professor Jain has recently returned from Japan and is expertly positioned to discuss these recent events and their impact on Japan as well as the rest of the world.

The cost for the CIB is \$35 which includes canapés and drinks. Booking can be made via the Secretary on 08 8305 6378 or

[rusikes@bigpond.com](mailto:rusikes@bigpond.com).

## DSTO



For over 40 years DSTO played a major role in developing and supporting capability to ensure the safe and effective operation of the F-111 aircraft until its withdrawal from service in 2010. An article at

[www.dsto.defence.gov.au/publications/5328/](http://www.dsto.defence.gov.au/publications/5328/)

looks at the support and innovation that DSTO provided over that time, and the role it played in maximising the service life of the F-111 fleet.

Many other articles describing DSTO achievements can be found on this web site, including the most recent publication of the "Defence Science Australia magazine".

## Monthly Luncheons

Monday 6 February 2012  
Speaker: LCDR Garry Callow, RAN  
Topic: **Cyber Attack**.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Monday 5 March 2012  
Speaker: Mr Michael Miller  
Manager Security Resilience,  
Air Services Australia  
Topic: **Security and Emergency  
Planning at Australia's Airports**.

\*\*\*\*\*  
All members are invited to attend our luncheons. Indeed you are encouraged to invite partners, friends and colleagues to join us and, if they like what they see and hear, to nominate them for membership. Please book in advance. If you are unsure whether or not your name is on the booking list, please check!

The dress code for the luncheon is neat casual, taking into consideration weather conditions. We usually assemble in Building 34A, Keswick Barracks, Keswick, at approximately 11.30 am for drinks and good fellowship. Members are asked to be seated by 12 noon when our President welcomes members and guests and lunch is served. The cost of the buffet is \$25 for members, first time guests and university students and \$30 for non-members. We also conduct a raffle to help cover expenses. Our caterer has agreed to provide vegetarian meals and sweets for diabetics, but these must be ordered before midday on the Thursday before the lunch.

For those who do not have time to enjoy lunch, but wish to hear the lecture, chairs are provided around the perimeter of the hall. Please be seated before 12.55 pm. The address is of about 30 to 35 minutes duration with 15 minutes for questions, after which coffee or tea is available. We aim to complete the program by 2.00 pm.

**Cancellations must be advised to the RUSI-SA Office by midday of the Friday before the lunch. Subsequent cancellations will attract a fee of \$25.**

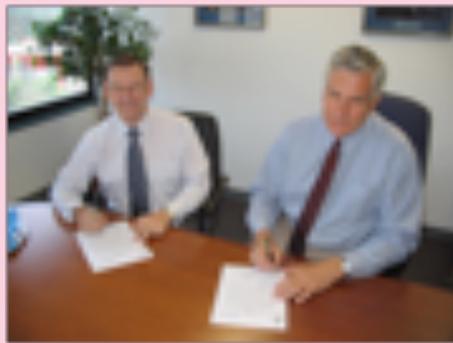
## RUSI OF AUSTRALIA

### The RUSI National Body is in the process of creating members'-only access to transcriptions of presentations given in State Bodies.

When this is complete, only financial members of a RUSI State Body will be able to access this valuable resource. Until this process is complete, all interested people will have the opportunity to view and download this resource - you do not need to be registered or logged in to do so - for a limited period.

The National RUSI website can be accessed at

[www.rusi.org.au/index.php](http://www.rusi.org.au/index.php)



The Institute is grateful to receive funding from the Defence Department in its mission and to gain much-needed financial support from its major National Sponsor **Rolls-Royce** and its Principal in Australia, Air Vice-Marshal Rox McLennan, AO (Retd) for a third year of generous sponsorship to be applied to the RUSI website development.

The photo above shows the signing of the agreement for Rolls-Royce to sponsor the RUSI of Australia.

For information about Rolls-Royce and its Defence Aerospace related activities, please visit

[www.rolls-royce.com/defence/](http://www.rolls-royce.com/defence/)

## DEFENCE

### Australia's Mentoring Task Force - 3 (MTF - 3) is heading home after a seven-and-a-half month deployment in Afghanistan.

Lead by the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment (2RAR), MTF-3 has seen significant improvement in the Afghan National Army's (ANA) capability and confidence. The result is greater security across a larger footprint in Uruzgan Province.

Commanding Officer, LTCOL Chris Smith, said that when MTF-3 arrived in June 2011 the ANA was conducting around 25 activities on its own across the Brigade each week. By the end of the tour, that number had grown to around 100 independent activities a week.

*"The sophistication of those operations has also improved to encompass far more complex cordon and search operations, linked in with intelligence, to achieve a much greater effect out of their operations,"* Lieutenant Colonel Smith said.

Sadly, these gains did not come without sacrifice. Three MTF - 3 soldiers were killed in action. Private Matthew Lambert died from wounds sustained in an IED strike on 22 August 2011, while Lance Corporal Luke Gavin and Captain Bryce Duffy were killed in action along with Corporal Ashley Birt from Combined Team Uruzgan, when an ANA soldier opened fire at Forward Operating Base Sorkh Bed on 29 October 2011.

Lieutenant Colonel Smith said that despite two such incidents, Australians continue to work side by side with their Afghan counterparts. *"Our soldiers recognise that most of the ANA members are interested in maintaining security in their country, they're eager to learn, eager to do the right thing."*

This information was provided by the Department of Defence through the Defence Media Centre.

# RUSI-SA LUNCHEON SPEAKERS FOR 2011



7 February  
LTCOL David Edmonds  
*"Winning the War in Afghanistan"*



7 March  
CMDR Dave Walter RAN  
*"AWD Platform – Engine Room Matters"*



4 April  
WGCDR Max Heinrich  
*"EW Capabilities in the ADF"*



2 May  
LTCOL John McLean CO 16 AD Regt  
*"Changes for 16 AD Regt and 6 Bde"*



Monday 6 June  
CMDR Danny Durward RAN and  
CMDR Dominic MacNamara RAN  
*"AWD Combat Systems – Rounds on"*



3 July  
Mr John Bradford  
*"Valour Deferred: The Evolution of the Imperial Gallantry Honours and Awards System from 1914 to the Present Day"*



1 August  
LTCDR Michael Devine  
*"AWD Capability – Network Nodes"*

5 September  
MAJ David White  
*"Lawyers in Operations"*



10 October  
Mr Andy Keough  
*"Experiences of a Collins Commander and Life of Modern Sub-mariners"*



7 November  
Prof. Ying Zhu, University of SA  
*"The Chinese Economy"*



5 December  
MAJ Paul Graham DSM,  
Operations Officer 7 RAR  
*"Operations in Afghanistan: What it is Really Like"*

## WGCDR MARK RYAN (RETD), THE MASTER NETWORKER

**WGCDR Mark Ryan (Retd) is a member of the RUSI-SA Council and is the General Manager of Legend Defence Industries. The following article by Grant Smyth first appeared in SA Defence Business, the official publication of the Defence Teaming Centre Inc. Legend is fast making headway in the defence industry as a result of its strong experience in electronics design and manufacturing – and good networking.**

Sometimes it's the little things that make the biggest difference. Ten words that sum up the importance of electronics in modern warfare. In Defence, those little things are so important that they can mean the difference between life and death. The competitive advantage can be in a simple electronic device.

Imagine a missile heading for your war ship. Suddenly, at the last moment it turns, heading for open sea, and then it's gone. You're safe. To the untrained eye, it looks like a miracle. Or it could be that you have deployed a Nulka hovering decoy rocket which has sent out an electronic signal to attract the missile towards it, and not your ship. At the heart of that rocket is the electronic circuitry that performs magic. Circuitry that was in the past made by Hendon Semiconductors, a division of Legend Corporation.

Mark Ryan is the man charged with bringing in business for the recently established Defence division of Legend Corporation

Limited. Legend Defence Industries was formed with the express purpose of providing the Australian Defence Force with advanced Australian engineering solutions. With 25 years served in the Royal Australian Air Force and more than ten years in business, Mr Ryan, General Manager of Legend Defence Industries, is well placed to understand the requirements of defence and how they can be met by industry. His drive, business acumen and strategic approach have helped Legend Corporation win contracts with Pacific Marine Batteries for the Australian Collins Class submarine and Ultra Electronics-Avalon Systems



Mark Ryan, Legend Defence Industries

As GM, his responsibilities include strategic business planning, engagement with Prime Defence contractors, contract negotiations and the identification and acquisition of suitable companies for Legend Corporation.

He has successfully acquired two businesses in the past year. The first was the South Australian company Computer Controlled Instrumentation, which specialises in advance power supplies, battery chargers and high-tech electrical measuring devices.

Most recently, Legend acquired a Queensland company specialising

in the manufacture of insulated safety equipment for electricians and power grid workers. Legend Corporation has also acquired MSS Fibre, a major fibre optics supplier and MSS Power, a specialist power tools manufacturer.

Mr Ryan said that Legend Corporation was on an aggressive acquisition program and the defence sector was one target area. His work means bringing in Defence work for Hendon Semiconductors, the advanced electronics manufacturing and assembly division of Legend.

Hendon Semiconductors design and manufacture unique integrated circuits, thick film hybrids and printed circuit board module assemblies. Their chips are used worldwide in a huge range of products. *"Every other hair straightener in the world has a Hendon Semiconductors chip in it,"* said Mr Ryan. *"We also have our electronics in the Resmed equipment to deal with sleep apnoea, Bosch automotive power regulators and a wide range of power supplies for the rail sector. But it's my job to expand our business in Defence. We've been working with Pacific Marine Batteries and Ultra Electronics-Avalon Systems and have built electronics for the Collins Class submarine and Defence. We have a strong heritage in Defence electronics manufacture, our pedigree includes involvement in the Nulka Hovering Rocket, the Barra Sonobuoy and the Kariwara solid filled towed sonar array, to name but a few."*

The cutting edge nature of Legend Corporation's products is down to more than 30 years experience in advanced electronic design and manufacture. *"We have one of the most advanced facilities in Australia and we pride ourselves on finishing our projects on time and on budget,"* Mr Ryan said.

One of those successfully completed projects was for an advanced electronic safety device credited with saving the lives of Australian soldiers in Afghanistan.

An area in which Mr Ryan has made one of his greatest achievements has been in the raising of public awareness of Legend Corporation and its work within Defence circles. *“One of my tasks was to raise the profile of the company in the defence industry. Within months we’ve gone from being not very well known to being highly visible in the defence and the technology industry,”* he said. *“I’m known across the Defence Teaming Centre (DTC) as a master networker. In these tough times, collaboration and innovation are the key success strategies for moving forward and it is important to establish good trusted relationships with other company and industry leaders. I find the business to business introductions exciting - I call one of the techniques I use ‘speed date networking’.”*

Mr Ryan’s mix of advanced electronics and high-speed networking is making headway for Legend Defence Industries. In spite of that success, when asked how he finds working in the defence sector generally, he finishes on a concerned note. *“The current climate of lack of Defence spending is having a negative impact on the defence industry in SA as a whole, and I don’t believe that I have ever seen the defence industry cycle as depressed as it is at this moment. I know that the long-term future looks exceedingly promising, but some companies might not be able to hold out for that long. Much more needs to be done to progress the projects through to industry. After all, we are a strategic capability for the defence of Australia and it should not be put at risk.”*

## NEW MEMBERS

The following have recently joined the RUSI of SA:

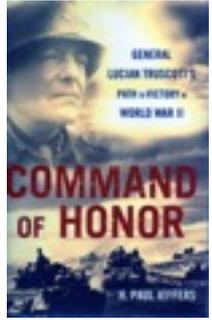
Mr Ryan Scott  
Dr Ian Ketteridge  
Mr Terry Griffin  
COL Stuart Ellis (Retd)

## LIBRARY

Non-fiction

*“Command of Honour”* by H.Paul Jeffers.

“Command of Honour” is a well written, fast paced, fascinating and long-overdue look at General Lucian Truscott, one of America’s greatest combat commanders. H.Paul Jeffers’ well-researched narrative has done a service for all historians by putting Truscott back at centre stage in America’s most titanic struggle. Eisenhower’s statement to Truscott, *“Lucian, you’re just the man I need”*, might have been uttered by all Americans: a fact of history that Jeffers now makes plain.



## RSL

**On and around 11 November each year, the League sells millions of red poppies for Australians to pin on their lapels. Proceeds go to League welfare work. Why a red poppy?**



The red poppy, the Flanders poppy, was first described as the flower of remembrance by Colonel John McCrae, Professor of Medicine at McGill University of Canada before World War One. Colonel McCrae had served as a gunner in the Boer War, but went to France in World War One as a medical officer with the first Canadian contingent. At the second battle of Ypres in 1915, when in charge of a small first-aid post, he wrote in pencil on a page torn from his dispatch book:

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders' fields.

The above was extracted from the RSL web site at [www.tributesofhonour.info/](http://www.tributesofhonour.info/) where you can find more on the subject and other RSL related information.

## THE JOINT COMMONWEALTH SOCIETIES COUNCIL IN SA INC.

The Chairman of the Joint Commonwealth Societies Council in South Australia, J Lennox Pawson, has extended the following invitation to members of the RUSI of SA.

The annual celebration of Commonwealth Day will take place throughout the Commonwealth of Nations on Monday 12 March 2012. However, in this State the Adelaide Cup Holiday falls on that date. Therefore in honour of this important occasion the Joint Commonwealth Societies Council has arranged a reception to be held at WYATT HALL,

PULTENEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 190 South Terrace Adelaide, on Monday, 19 March, commencing at 5.15 p.m. We will once again have some entertainment provided by one of the Commonwealth countries following the display of Scottish dancing in 2011.

We would be delighted to have your organisation represented at this function, and have pleasure in inviting any of your members to attend, and would ask that you publicise this event as widely as possible among your members. Could those attending please wear name tags to indicate the organisation they represent.

Entree cards will be available, at \$25 per head, from the Council's Honorary Treasurer,

Miss Erica Cox  
Unit 1, Rundle Court  
388 Fullarton Road  
Fullarton S.A. 5063  
(telephone 83797 595)

We look forward to your response by 13 March. Should you require any further particulars, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## AIR WARFARE DESTROYER



The AWD project will provide the Royal Australian Navy with one of the world's most capable multi-mission warships. In selecting the Spanish F100 as the baseline platform design, and coupling it with the Aegis Weapon System, the Australian Government has ensured tomorrow's Navy has the best equipment to defend Australia and its national interests. This photo and information was taken from the website:-

[www.asc.com.au/asp/ships\\_overview.aspx](http://www.asc.com.au/asp/ships_overview.aspx)

where there is more information on the construction, capability and program for the AWD.

## C E W BEAN AND THE ANZAC SPIRIT

**This is the third and final article in a series of chronological reviews of selected Australian literature, from about 1860 until the present day, covering the major conflicts in which Australians have been involved, written by Council member Dr Gillian (Gill) Griffin. The first two articles appeared in Issues 344 and 345.**

Prior to 1914, Australia was a fledgling nation, less than 15 years old. As such it was feeling its way towards a national identity with many loose themes of nationhood. In 1914, Australia entered the First World War. There were enormous casualties and Empires fell. France and England left the war distraught over the awful mistakes and loss of life. Germany and Russia fell into anarchy and Austria-Hungary disappeared. However, Australia ended the war self-confident, with a clear national identity.

In August, 1914, Britain entered The First World War to defend Belgium's neutrality. As a British dominion, Australia was also at war. The Australian Imperial Forces joined the Allied push to open the Dardanelles and defeat Turkey in early 1915. On 25 April, 1915, as part of the land-based operation, the Anzacs landed at Gallipoli.

Coming just fourteen years after the Federation of Australia the Gallipoli campaign was one of the first international events that saw Australians taking part as Australians. When Australia went to war in 1914, many white Australians believed that their Commonwealth had no history, that it was not yet a true nation, that its most glorious days still lay ahead of it. In this sense the Gallipoli Campaign was a defining moment for Australia as a new nation. Ironically this campaign was not a magnificent victory, quite the reverse. The campaign was a disaster and the Western Front a massacre. It is truly a triumph over adversity that Australia gained social confidence out of the dreadful destruction and loss of life that epitomises World War One.

The written word of course played a major part in depicting the Australian as a true soldier of the bush, uniquely Australian. CEW Bean wielded his pen with the skill of a story teller whose obsession was to tell the Australian story. He was the official war correspondent for Australia and he soon learnt that British reporting of the war would often fail to mention the Australian contribution. He rectified that and more endowed the Australian soldiers who were fighting with special qualities that would set them apart, from their allies.

Bean was 34 years of age, in October 1914 when he accompanied the Australian troops from Melbourne to Egypt and he had already established a career as a respected journalist. He had a strong sense of national identity and a deeply felt concern with defining national character. This helped him win the position of Official War Correspondent.

Bean landed in Gallipoli only hours after the AIF and remained there for the next eight months. He was the only Australian war correspondent present at Gallipoli for the duration of the campaign. Troops soon became accustomed to finding him in the trenches with them during or soon after battles on the front line. He was so conscientious and so obsessed with accuracy that he was often careless of his own life. During the 6 August offensive Bean was shot in the leg, just below the thigh and because treatment would mean leaving the battle field, he refused medical assistance and carried that bullet for the rest of his life. He simply rested in his dugout for a few days.

Bean depicted the Australian soldier as physically fit, casually

competent, suspicious of pretensions and airs, who countered authority with cynicism and a deprecating humour, and to most Australians this has become an enduring national image.

The excerpt below is taken from Bean's *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918, Volume I – The Story of ANZAC from the outbreak of war to the end of the first phase of the Gallipoli Campaign, May 4, 1915* (11th edition, 1941).

*Long before the end of this great battle the Australian soldier had revealed to himself, to his own officers, and to a few of those outsiders who watched him closely, what manner of fighter he was. He had not yet the astonishing mastery of the soldier's craft which marked him in 1918. But he had scattered to the winds once and for all the notion often reiterated, that an Australian force would be ineffective through lack of discipline. 'In flame of the whitest heat was tested the discipline of this new force, raised suddenly from a people unaccustomed to restraint, naturally haters of the system of cast-iron subordination on which most armies are trained. It was not the discipline of habit which made either Australians or New Zealanders endure. What motive sustained them? At the end of the second or third day of the Landing, when they had fought without sleep until the whole world seemed a dream, and they scarcely knew whether it was a world of reality or of delirium-and often, no doubt, it held something of both ; when half of each battalion had been annihilated, and there seemed no prospect before any man except that of wounds or death in the most vile surroundings; when the dead lay*

*three deep in the rifle-pits under the blue sky and the place was filled with stench and sickness, and reason had almost vanished- what was it then that carried each man on?*

*The Australian loved fighting better than most, but it is an occupation from which the glamour quickly wears. It was not hatred of the Turk. It is true that the men at this time hated their enemy for his supposed ill-treatment of the wounded-and the fact that, of the hundreds who lay out. Only one wounded man survived in Turkish hands has justified their suspicions. But hatred was not the motive which inspired them. Nor was it purely patriotism, as it would have been had they fought on Australian soil. The love of country in Australians and New Zealanders was intense-how strong, they did not realise until they were far away from their home. Nor, in most cases, was the motive their loyalty to the tie between Australia and Great Britain. Although, singly or combined, all these were powerful influences, they were not the chief. Nor was it the desire for fame that made them steer their course so straight in the hour of crucial trial. They knew too well the chance that their families, possibly even the men beside them, would never know how they died. Doubtless the weaker were swept on by the stronger. In every army which enters into battle there is a part which is dependent for its resolution upon the nearest strong man. If he endures, those around him will endure; if he turns, they turn; if he falls, they may become confused. But the Australian force contained more than its share of men who were masters of their own minds and decisions. What was the dominant motive that impelled them? It was not love of a fight. It lay in the mettle of the men themselves. To be the sort of man who would give way when his mates were trusting to his firmness; to be the sort of man who would fail when*

*the line, the whole force, and the allied cause required his endurance; to have made it necessary for another unit to do his own unit's work ; to live the rest of his life haunted by the knowledge that he had set his hand to a soldier's task and had lacked the grit to carry it through-that was the prospect which these men could not face. Life was very dear, but life was not worth living unless they could be true to their idea of Australian manhood. Standing upon that alone, when help failed and hope faded, when the end loomed clear in front of them, when the whole world seemed to crumble and the heaven to fall in, they faced its ruin undismayed.*

C E W Bean argued that for the soldiers at Gallipoli life would not have been worth living if they had betrayed the ideal of mateship. Through his writing he developed a stereotype of the ANZACS as rejecting unnecessary restrictions, possessing a sardonic sense of humour, being contemptuous of danger and proving themselves to be the equal of anyone on the battlefield.

He suggested that the Australian and New Zealand soldiers possessed and shared unique qualities. These qualities included endurance, courage, ingenuity, good humour, mateship and even the notion of being a larrikin. The soldiers themselves were seen as innocent, fit, stoic, laconic, egalitarian and irreverent in the face of authority. Importantly the Anzac sector was a distinct arena in which the Australians could fight. They were not bit players submerged in the British army, the campaign was not the industrialised massacre of the Somme, but a battle based around smaller units. Secondly, Gallipoli's terrain was bush-like in its composition. It had the dust, the flies, the hills, cliffs, intense heat and arid landscape. This encouraged themes of bush ethos that had grown in popularity over the past decades. Bean was able to build on this.

He kept Australians at home informed about the war. There is no doubt that he was brave and often risked his own life to report. He wrote in an evocative fashion. His intention was to inform the readers of events and provide vivid descriptions of the context and conditions of the battle. Readers of course would be able to experience this in a limited way. But also another aim would be to maintain the morale of the Australian public by emphasising the virtues of Australian soldiers in battle.

Bean did all of this bringing Gallipoli to life for the reader. His style of writing helped to create the idea of the Australian soldier as a distinctive kind of fighter, who could be distinguished from both friend and foe by a set of values and physical attributes. These values would later become synonymous with what is known as the ANZAC Spirit. It is however the last paragraph of Bean's Official History which makes perhaps describes the best, how Australians at home responded to the reports they read in the safety of their homes. It can only be imagined not just the nationalistic pride but the sense Australians had of having an identity apart from Great Britain, an Australian identity.

In describing the evacuation of the ANZAC area he wrote in his book ANZAC to Amiens

*By dawn on December 20th ANZAC had faded into a dim blue line lost amid other hills on the horizon as the ships took their human freight to Imbros, Lemnos and Egypt. But ANZAC stood, and still stands, for reckless valour in a good cause, for enterprise, resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship, and endurance that will never own defeat."*

"In the Official History, Beans last paragraph reads,

*"What these men did nothing can alter now. The good and the bad, the greatness and smallness of their story will stand. Whatever of glory it contains nothing now can lessen. It rises, as it will always rise, above the mists of ages, a monument to great-hearted men; and, for their nation, a possession for ever."*

(CEW Bean, *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914–1918, Vol. VI, Chapter XXII*, Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1942, p. 1096)

Charles Bean died in 1968. Guy Harriott who was a Second World War Correspondent from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, wrote that Bean acted as "midwife of Australia's National Conscience."

## Note

**He was a man of his time in many respects and not only has he had his admirers but also his critics. However, this article has only dealt with his reporting of the courage of the ANZACS at Gallipoli. It is, however, interesting to note that five times the number of Australian soldiers died at the Western Front than Gallipoli, yet many Australasians know very little of this sacrifice.**

## COMMANDING OFFICER NAVY HEADQUARTERS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**On 13 January, 2012 CMDR Michael Doherty completed his tenure of CO of Navy HQ, South Australia. He handed over his responsibilities to CMDR Alan Williams ADC, RAN, whose biography follows.**

CMDR Williams was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on 16 November 1958. He joined the RAN in 1989 and graduated from the Royal Australian Naval College in March 1990. As a 'dual stream' officer, Training Systems and Management Executive, CMDR Williams has held a range of training, staff and representational appointments.

Training duties have included Electronics Instructor, HMAS NIRIMBA in 1990/91, Junior Officers' Staff Course Instructor, HMAS CRESWELL in 1992/93, as well as Training Development Quality Control Officer at HMAS CEREBUS in 1994/96. He served as OIC of the Staff Training

School at HMAS CRESWELL in 1997/99 and OIC of the Navy Personnel and Training Centre - Canberra in 2006/08.

In 1994 CMDR Williams served as the Training Development Officer in HMNZS TAMAKI while on ANZAC Exchange. As the Senior Naval Officer of Australia's Federation Guard in 2000, he served in London, England as Captain of the Queen's Guard Buckingham Palace.

Staff appointments have included Assistant Staff Officer Development at COMTRAIN in 1996, Staff Officer to Director General Career Management Policy in the Defence Personnel Executive in 2000/01, and MILPERS1 at Systems Command Headquarters in 2002/03. CMDR Williams was Executive Officer HMAS HARMAN in 2003/05 and a force protection officer during Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2005.

CMDR Williams completed the RAN Staff Course at HMAS PENGUIN in 1996. He holds a Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other

Drugs Work, Graduate Certificate in Vocational Training, Bachelor of Education, and a Master of Management Studies in Human Resource Management from UNSW-ADFA.

In 2009 CMDR Williams deployed to the MEAO as the J1 at HQ JTF633 on Operation SLIPPER, including support to Operation KRUGER and the wind down of Australian forces in Iraq on Operation CATALYST. On return to Australia, he was posted to the Strategic Reform Program as Navy's Coordination and Reporting Officer. In January 2011, CMDR Williams took up a position as a Directing Staff member at the Australian Command and Staff College.

CMDR Williams is married to Trudi, who is a public servant in Defence, and they have two sons, Jonathan and David. CMDR Williams is an enthusiastic motorcyclist and bicyclist who also enjoys cooking and fine wine.