

*Buccaneers, Explorers and Settlers: British Enterprise and Encounters in the Pacific, 1670–1800.* By Glyndwr Williams. Ashgate, Aldershot, 2005. 300 pp. UK price: £66.99. ISBN 0-86078-967-5.

THIS COLLECTION OF GLYN WILLIAMS'S ESSAYS represents the breadth and depth of his great contribution to understanding the history of British exploration of the Pacific in the eighteenth century. From the first buccaneers who probed into the Pacific to raid Spanish settlements through to the presiding impresario, Joseph Banks, who, in the late century saw the Pacific as an arena for British science and exploitation, the collection covers an impressive range of topics. It also represents a lifetime of scholarship by a pre-eminent historian who published in many venues and presented his work in many parts of the world. The first of these articles appeared in the *Pacific Historical Review* in 1961 and the most recent appeared in 2003. Over more than 40 years, Glyn Williams has made a contribution to the history of Pacific exploration that is unrivaled in the field.

Many of his contemporaries who write on eighteenth-century European expansion into the Pacific tend to concentrate on a particular aspect of that history, some focusing on individual explorers, others on subjects such as navigation, technology, the intellectual legacy or relations with native people. What is impressive about this collection is the scope of the topics covered. There are articles on the thinking behind these voyages and their impact on the European mind and imagination. Others deal with geography and cartography. A number of the leading figures in eighteenth-century exploration have essays devoted to them. It befits Cook's overwhelming importance that three or four are on different aspects of his voyages, but there are also individual essays devoted to Anson, Fonte, Vancouver and Banks. There is a particularly interesting piece on Tupaia, the Polynesian who left Tahiti and accompanied Cook on the first voyage, and his various contributions to the expedition before his death at Batavia. On Australia, there are two on early contact with, and reactions to, the Aborigines and another on the first fleet. On the other end of the Pacific, there are two on the mapping of the northwest coast of North America.

I have a special affinity for these last two essays as they were first presented at conferences held when I was at Simon Fraser University to mark the bicentennials of Cook (1978) and Vancouver's (1992) presence on the northwest coast. Both were later published in the collections of essays that came from each conference. Both entitled 'Myth and Reality', they look at the theoretical geography of the northwest coast and the contributions that Cook and Vancouver made to establishing its reality. In each case Williams is the master of what I would call the precision essay. He defines the issue, examines the evidence and draws it all to a clear and logical conclusion. In the first of the two, on Cook's reconnaissance, he argues that, at the end of the third voyage the great navigator had lost the sceptical edge that had preserved him from the influence of theoretical geographers in the south seas and so, in the north, he remained hopeful that he might find the northwest passage. Williams comments on Cook's 'suspension of disbelief' that resulted in not subjecting the maps to 'critical scrutiny'. In the companion piece on Vancouver, Williams surveys the theoretical geography that developed between Cook and Vancouver and shows that it was left to the careful, methodical Vancouver 'to silence the speculative geographers of Europe' and demolish, once and for all, the myth of the northwest passage. These essays are as much a pleasure to read now as they were to listen to when they were first presented. And it is fitting that the frontispiece to this volume shows Williams at Nootka Sound, the place which both Cook and Vancouver spent most time when they were on the northwest coast.

Unlike Williams's contribution to Pacific history, the presentation of this volume is modest in many ways. As in the other volumes in Ashgate's *Variorum Collected Studies* series the articles appear in the form that they were originally published. The original

typeface, pagination and illustrations are all retained, but the essays are consecutively numbered and that helps with the index. The really useful thing about this volume is to have all these essays in one place, representing as they do the contribution over many years of one historian to our understanding of British exploration of the Pacific in the eighteenth century. And I would be hard pressed to think of anyone who has made a greater contribution.

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*Return to Gallipoli: Walking the Battlefields of the Great War.* By Bruce Scates. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2006. 273 pp. NZ price: \$44.95. ISBN 9-78052168-1521-3.

FEW PLACES INVEST THE IMAGINATION of Australians and New Zealanders like Gallipoli. As the horror of direct memory has vanished with the passing of the Anzacs, the Gallipoli Peninsula has become the central shrine in a national legend (perhaps more aggressively in Australia than New Zealand) which, Bruce Scates reminds us, has drawn visitors since the end of the campaign. In *Return to Gallipoli*, he mounts a careful and useful exploration of the 'Anzac pilgrimages' made by government officials and private citizens since 1915. Limited though he is by the nature of the evidence, Scates's study of battlefield pilgrimage provides a fitting complement to Ken Inglis's studies of the Australian national rituals of public commemoration. Scates makes occasional reference to New Zealand throughout the book but rightly sees the New Zealand experience as worthy of separate investigation.

*Return to Gallipoli* explores the battlefields of the First AIF as sacred sites in four parts. The first of these, 'Loss, Memory, Desire', explores the records through which Australian families at home learned of killed and missing soldiers across the seas. From the first, Scates reminds the reader, the true horror of war was euphemized, sacramentalized and redacted in ways which could lead to tension both for those who conveyed (soldiers, nurses, chaplains) and those who received the news. Noting both the profound centrality, and limitation, of the written word in the grieving process, he allows the Red Cross files to tell 'both sides of the conversation' as families sought to mourn loved ones physically removed forever. As written testimony of death in the field was shepherded by the Red Cross Wounded and Missing Bureau, the care of the body (often unidentified) was to become the duty of the War Graves Commission. Chapter two traces the development of the battlefields as a site of pilgrimage from Charles Bean's 1919 Gallipoli visit onwards, as the War Graves Registration Unit located bodies and began to memorialize the landscape.

Part Two offers perspective on 'family pilgrimages' to the war graves of Europe and Turkey from the 1920s for those few Australians with the economic means to make the journey. As the official agencies of national commemoration used their energies to memorialize the dead within Australia, the battlefields remained beyond the reach of all but the most privileged despite desperate attempts from mourning families to obtain state subsidy. For those who could visit, personal loss was, it appears beneath the surface, the abiding motivation for battlefield pilgrimage. 'Travel, in this context', Scates notes, 'acquires knowledge through suffering . . . . And it is very much the province of the bereaved, those who nursed their grief and clung desperately to memory' (p.81). As elsewhere in Australian life, the character of remembrance was contested in the 1920s, so that plans for an ex-soldiers' pilgrimage were abandoned as incompatible with shared pilgrimage involving women and families. Those who have followed