

ten young people. The total number of New Zealanders and Australians attending the 2005 anniversary ceremonies was estimated at 20,000. We all wish to stand where once they stood. Battlefield tourism is big business.

Published to coincide with the ninetieth anniversary of the landing, Ian McGibbon's excellent guidebook is a great accompaniment to any trip to Gallipoli. Guidebooks need to be lightweight. It is. But it is also a substantive guide, both easy-to-read and easy-to-use. Organized in chronological order, the chapters give the history and events that unfolded, plus information on how to get there, how to travel around the sites and where to stay. A list of battlefield tour operators and guides is included in an appendix. An overview of the fighting at Gallipoli and New Zealand's role in it is provided, along with a reading list for those who want to read further. Maps, historical and contemporary photographs and excerpts from soldiers' diaries, letters and memoirs are integrated into the text. The inclusion of the studio portraits of those who died at Gallipoli helps visually anchor the text in the personal and poignant.

Casting a historian's eye view over the battlefields McGibbon endeavours to adopt a trans-national perspective. In directing our attention to the graves of a number of New Zealand men who served with Australian Expeditionary Force we are alerted to trans-Tasman mobility at the turn of the century. He suggests that New Zealanders should widen their focus and explore the Helles area where the British and French sustained huge losses. The Turkish graves and memorials are included and their significance to the Turkish understanding of nationalism is explained. Nor is the Turkish memorial on Wellington's coastline overlooked. Not all Gallipoli war casualties were buried at Gallipoli. Some lie on Lemnos Island, in Maltese graveyards and in Egyptian cemeteries. McGibbon gives the websites for those who wish to identify specific graves. If there is any irony, it is in the fact that today we can travel to Gallipoli with a firm idea of the topography and clear, easy-to-follow directions on how to get around, which was not the case for the ANZAC troops.

What can we make of the flood of books about Gallipoli? What difference does it make to our understanding of the history of this war and battlefield combat that in the New Zealand case Gallipoli is 'over-represented' and the Western Front is 'under-represented'. The risk is that in the commodification of the Gallipoli 'product' we subvert the past to mean what we want it to mean in the present. A quick glance through the populist publications suggests a demand for those narratives which seemingly offer up an unimpeded view of the subjectivity of the ANZAC soldiers. Perhaps historians need to think more critically about the staging of Gallipoli for audiences both past and present.

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No Better Death: The Great War Diaries and Letters of William G. Malone. Edited by John Crawford with Peter Cooke. Reed Books, Auckland, 2005. 375 pp. NZ price: \$49.99. ISBN 0-7900-1006-2.

THE FINAL YEAR OF LT. COL. WILLIAM GEORGE MALONE'S LIFE has aroused considerable attention amongst writers and historians over the past two decades. From August 1914 to August 1915, Malone, a farmer and high-profile public figure from the 'uttermost ends of the earth' — Stratford, Taranaki, no less — led the Wellington Infantry Battalion into battle against a Turkish army defending its homeland, which subsequently cost him his life. What has attracted people to that last year of Malone's life is its connection with Gallipoli, the mystery surrounding his death at Chunuk Bair,

and, for historians in particular, the diaries and letters he wrote during the first year of the Great War.

These diaries and letters are an invaluable primary source for anyone studying the mobilization of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, its embarkation, travel, military training and eventual engagement with the enemy. These documents are now the focus of a book edited by John Crawford with Peter Cooke, which is the first devoted exclusively to Malone. *No Better Death* focuses primarily on the period 1914–1915, but not exclusively so. The introduction provides a narrative outline of Malone's life before the war, while the conclusion ranges over an extensive period of time beyond 1915. Prime Minister Helen Clark and Air Marshal Bruce Ferguson, Chief of Defence Force, endorse the book and both recognize the diverse qualities of Malone. Crawford recognizes that too, judging by the title of the introduction, 'A full and varied life', which makes this reviewer wonder if there is not another side to Malone's life that could sustain further study. After all, he featured prominently in a young, developing, European settler community that was barely 35 years old at the time of the Great War. The introduction is a helpful start in that direction, but it is the war that attracts Crawford's attention to Malone.

In six chronologically organized chapters, each headed with a quotation from Malone, Crawford provides the reader with Malone's day-by-day thoughts and recollections on a diverse range of topics associated with his life as a soldier early in the Great War. Here the reader becomes acquainted with the enigmatic figure of Malone; his conservatism; his military thinking; his obsession with cleanliness; his thoroughness; his dislike of insubordination; his respect for the soldiers; his love for his family, and so much more. An overview of the period at the start of each chapter would have been helpful to give the reader some contextual understanding of that block of time during the Gallipoli campaign. Gary Sheffield and John Bourne adopted this helpful approach in their edition of Douglas Haig's war diaries and letters. In Crawford's book, chapter four, titled 'It was hell', focuses on the second battle of Krithia in May 1915. Readers need the historian to inform them about the battle so they can gain some insight into why Malone equated Krithia with 'hell'. After all, Crawford devotes a postscript of 23 pages to Chunuk Bair, so why not some guidance for the reader on Krithia?

We have come to associate Malone with Chunuk Bair and, in particular, the circumstances surrounding his death there. *No Better Death* reaches its apogee in the postscript. Here the narrative details the last days and hours of Malone's life and it seems to reinforce the idea that this is what we should remember Malone for: an outstanding life cut short under heroic and somewhat mysterious circumstances. News of Malone's death reached his hometown of Stratford four days later. His death was judged a 'disaster' by press reports and editorials. 'The shock was great' and his death was considered to be Stratford's 'personal loss'. One commentator felt that 'probably no event of the past twelve months has created so profound an impression and brought hard facts of the war so vividly to the minds of the people of this district as the death of Colonel Malone'. Crawford does focus very briefly on the actual death of Malone, but is not as blatant as Peter Stanley in his assessment of how Malone died in *Quinn's Post* (2005).

The conclusion to *No Better Death* is a gem because of the way Crawford draws together the threads of the book into an informative account of how people and communities reacted to and memorialized Malone's death, and what happened to his family during and after the Great War. Crawford has made accessible the war diaries and letters of an early twentieth-century New Zealander who was idolized in Taranaki. This volume is partly a biography, but mostly it is about the observations of a New Zealand soldier at Gallipoli. Crawford's very welcome addition to New Zealand's growing literature on the Great War is enhanced by Peter Cooke's thoughtful photographic research. The photos of Ida Malone and family (pp.29, 51), the photo of Ida on a table in Malone's tent (p.105), and the pensive Malone in his bivouac (p.181) add their own poignancy

to the discourse. For some people this book will obviate the need to visit the Alexander Turnbull Library to read his diaries and letters; for others the contents of the book will make them think afresh, especially when reading about the humanist foil to Malone in the form of his family. For all it will cause speculation about what life had in store for Malone had he survived the Great War.

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Storms and Dreams: Louis de Bougainville: Soldier, Explorer, Statesman. By John Dunmore. Exisle Publishing, Auckland, 2005. 296 pp. NZ price: \$49.99. ISBN 0-908988-57-5.

LOUIS DE BOUGAINVILLE (1729–1811) was the first Frenchman to circumnavigate the world. Despite his own more realistic views, some accounts of his visit to Tahiti were seen as endorsing Rousseau's notion of the noble savage and shifted European dreams of paradise to the Pacific. Bougainville is known more particularly in the English-speaking world for giving his name to a South American vine with bright purple flower bracts and to the largest island in the Solomon's which he 're-discovered'. Canadians know of his role as an aide-de-camp in the war between the French and the British in the late 1750s when the British captured the town of Quebec. Less known are his roles in the American War of Independence and in a briefly successful French attempt to colonize the Malouines (Falkland Islands). An early publication on calculus led to him becoming a Fellow of the Royal Society in London. This very talented man has had the misfortune to languish in the shadow of his contemporary, James Cook.

Even so, his *Voyage Autour du Monde* (1771) made him well known internationally. A beautiful and very professional two-volume edition of the journal he kept during this circumnavigatory voyage finally appeared in French in 1977, and has become the centrepiece of Bougainville scholarship. John Dunmore translated the Pacific section of this journal into English for the Hakluyt Society in 2002. Martin Allanic's important 1600-page biographical study (Paris, 1964) focuses on this major voyage, quoting primary material extensively but paying little attention to the rest of Bougainville's life, as what concerned him was the context of voyages of discovery and, in particular, how Bougainville's scientific achievements compared with those of Cook. Similarly, the earlier Canadian episode has been closely studied as a discrete episode in Bougainville's life. Again there is a journal, covering the years 1756–1760, which has been carefully edited in both French and English.

What John Dunmore has done with *Storms and Dreams* is to give a chronological account of Bougainville's whole life in very readable (rather than the dust-jacket's 'elegant') English. Its five parts (early years, war in Canada, creating the Malouines colony, sailing round the world, war and revolution) are sub-divided into chapters with narrow chronological limits, like 'Across the Pacific from East to West: January–June 1768'. Dunmore writes about how Bougainville himself, in the published account of his circumnavigation, 'had tried to steer a middle course between a popularized version and one addressed to a specialized audience' (p.219), and this is what Dunmore himself tries to do in this biography. A similar project, Victor Suthren's *The Sea has no End: The Life of Louis-Antoine de Bougainville* (Toronto, 2004), is aimed more at a popular readership.

Within the chronological narrative, Dunmore sketches in the historical background and provides clear explanations of important details and brief portraits of the various people who were part of Bougainville's daily life. A light sprinkling of footnotes indicates