

LEST WE FORGET

Anzac Day, which is one of the most important national occasions of both Australia and New Zealand, falls on April 25 (Easter Monday) this year.

The date marks the anniversary of the first major military action launched in the Gallipoli Peninsula by Australian and New Zealand forces during WW1, in April 1915.

The acronym ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

ANZAC Day is also the day we remember all Australians who served and died in every other war and conflict as well as in peacekeeping operations.

Silence for the Fallen

The *Encyclopedia of Melbourne* tells us it is to journalist Edward George Honey, who was born in St Kilda [arguably Elsternwick], that we owe the ritual of observing a silence in commemoration of those fallen in war.

As a permanent tribute to Honey a simple plaque was erected by Eric Harding and unveiled in the Kings Domain Birdwood Ave in May 1965. It reads: 'In memory of, Edward George Honey, 1885-1922, a Melbourne journalist who, while living in London, first suggested* the solemn ceremony of silence now observed in all British countries in remembrance of those who died in war.

Honey, who worked for *The Argus*, served briefly with an English regiment before being discharged due to ill health and dying of consumption.

Anyone with more information about Edward Alfred Honey or have images we could reproduce, would you kindly contact SKHS.

*Suggestion made under the penname of Warren Foster in the London Evening News, 8 May 1919.



E.G.HONEY PLAQUE
Stone boulder
with bronze and
aluminium plaque

Commemorating Albert Jacka VC

Dorothy Lobert represented SKHS at the memorial service held on the 79th anniversary of the death of Albert Jacka VC (10 January 1893 – 17 January 1932), ANZAC hero and former Mayor of St Kilda, at St Kilda Cemetery, 2 pm, Sunday January 16.

Jacka was the first Australian awarded the Victoria Cross (VC) in WW1. He later served on the Western Front where he was decorated twice for bravery and, according to many historians, he should have won two more VCs.

This year the 2nd/10th Field Regiment returned to provide the catafalque (funeral) party and the bugler. The party marched to Jacka's grave, followed by the descendants of the 14th Battalion "Jacka's Mob" Inc.

After the service which included a minute silence, attendees were invited back to St Kilda Town Hall for afternoon tea and to view a display of Jacka memorabilia.

Furthermore, Port Phillip City offers a scholarship, for one year valued at \$1000, titled the **Albert Jacka and William Newton* Memorial Scholarship** to a student who completes Year 8 in a Victorian school and is involved in community and school activities

* Wm Newton was a WW2 Victoria Cross winner who was born in St Kilda.



Albert Jacka



William Newton

A ST. KILDA 1914 ANZAC: JOHN DUDLEY CULLEN

by Maureen Walker

John Dudley Cullen, known as Jack, was born in Brighton but when World War One broke out in 1914, resided with his family at 23 Argyle Street, St. Kilda.

At twenty one years of age, he was one of the many young men (and some women) who readily volunteered for service in the early days of the war and enlisted on 14 August.

Jack Cullen was an electrician, having completed an apprenticeship with the Melbourne Electric Supply Company. He had also completed three years service with the militia.

Gunner Cullen embarked for overseas in October on the *SS Shropshire*, a member of the 5th Battery, 2nd Australian Artillery Brigade. He was paid six shillings a day, two of which he allotted to his mother, Louisa.

Cullen arrived in Egypt and served in the Middle East but after a short period of hospitalisation in Alexandria and Port Said due to enteric fever was returned to Australia, arriving home in October 1915.

After convalescence Cullen was assigned to permanent guard duties at Broadmeadows Training Camp but in late 1916 he again proceeded overseas, this time to England with the 118th Howitzer Battery on the *SS Aeneas*.

It appears that Cullen's service was confined to England prior to again being returned on health grounds, on this occasion suffering a bronchial condition. In June 1918 he was discharged.

In the previous February however, while still in England, Jack Cullen married Miss Daisy Dawes of Durrington, near Salisbury.

Besides the amendments to his will and the allocation of his pay, Cullen's pay book also records the cost of a cable (one pound, five shillings) to Australia – presumably to advise his family of the event.

Cullen's file also contains a request, in January 1919, for a refund of his wife's passage to Australia.

It is therefore extremely likely that Mrs Cullen was among the family and friends gathered at the St. Kilda Town Hall on 14 May 1919 for the second of the special Welcome Home ceremonies held to honour the city's '1914 Anzacs'.

Although the first was held the previous December, the second was postponed as a result of the Spanish influenza epidemic and the consequent ban on public events.

On both occasions Mayor Sculthorpe presented the men with special medallions. Each was inscribed with the recipient's name.

By 1923 the Cullens were back living in England.

Some years ago however, Mrs. Cullen donated the medallion (opposite) together with her husband's Discharge Certificate, pay books and service medals to the St. Kilda Historical Society.

The St. Kilda Historical Society would welcome any further information on John Dudley Cullen and/or his family.

Email info@skhs.org.au



**Medallion presented to
Gunner J.D. Cullen
by the
Citizens of St Kilda**

Source: St. Kilda Historical Society Collection
Image: M. Walker

**Medals awarded to
Gunner J.D. Cullen
for service in
1914-1918 War**

Source: St. Kilda Historical Society Collection

Image: M Walker



DAWN of the LEGEND, 25 APRIL, 1915

Transcribed from www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/anzac/

On that early dawn when Australian and New Zealand troops landed on the embattled shores of the Gallipoli peninsula in Turkey, some saw it as Australia's "baptism of fire" and "the birth of nationhood".

Today, the spirit of the ANZACs — courage, mateship, and sacrifice, resourcefulness and endurance — continues to have relevance for our sense of national identity.

KNIGHTS of GALLIPOLI

The 25th of April was officially named ANZAC Day in 1916. It was marked by a wide variety of ceremonies and services in Australia, a march through London, and a sports day in the Australian camp in Egypt.

In London over 2,000 Australian and New Zealand troops marched through the streets. A London newspaper headline dubbed them "the knights of Gallipoli".

Marches were also held all over Australia; in the Sydney march, convoys of cars carried wounded soldiers from Gallipoli attended by nurses.

For the remaining years of the war, ANZAC Day was used as an occasion for patriotic rallies and recruiting campaigns, and parades of serving members of the AIF were held in most cities.

During the 1920s ANZAC Day became established as a national day of commemoration for the 60,000 Australians who died during the war.

In 1927, for the first time every state observed some form of public holiday on ANZAC Day and the first official dawn service was held at the Sydney Cenotaph.

Initially, dawn services were only attended by veterans who followed the ritual of 'standing to' before two minutes of silence was observed, broken by the sound of a lone piper playing the Last Post. Later in the day, there were marches in all the major cities and many smaller towns for families and other well wishers.

By the mid-1930s, all the rituals we now associate with the day — dawn vigils, marches, memorial services, reunions, two-up games — were firmly established as part of ANZAC Day culture.

With the coming of the Second World War, ANZAC Day also served to commemorate the lives of Australians who died in that war.

In subsequent years the meaning of the day has been further broadened to include Australians killed in all the military operations in which Australia has been involved.

If members have biographical information and/or photographic images of St Kilda-born ANZACS, do let SKHS know. Email: info@skhs.org.au.

Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman Empire entered "the war to end all wars" in late October 1914 to support its allies, Austria-Hungary and Germany, who were known as the Central Powers.

Australia, New Zealand, and other colonies and dominions of the British Empire supported England and its European allies (which included Serbia) and the Russian Empire. They were known as the Allied Powers or the Allies.

AIF

As part of the larger Imperial Force, ANZACs comprised the 1st Australian Division, and a composite New Zealand and Australian Division.

Unlike European armies, the Australian Imperial Force was formed from volunteers.

While most were of English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh extraction, several Australian-born offspring of settlers who had previously emigrated from countries classified as the Central Powers also volunteered. They considered Australia "home" and ranged from country boys right up the ranks to General Monash.

NO FOE SHALL

GATHER OUR HARVEST

...

*We are the sons of Australia,
Of the men who fashioned the
land;*

*We are the sons of the women
Who walked with them hand
in hand;*

*And we swear by the dead who
bore us,*

*By the heroes who blazed the trail,
No foe shall gather our
harvest,*

Or sit on our stockyard rail.

Dame Mary Gilmore