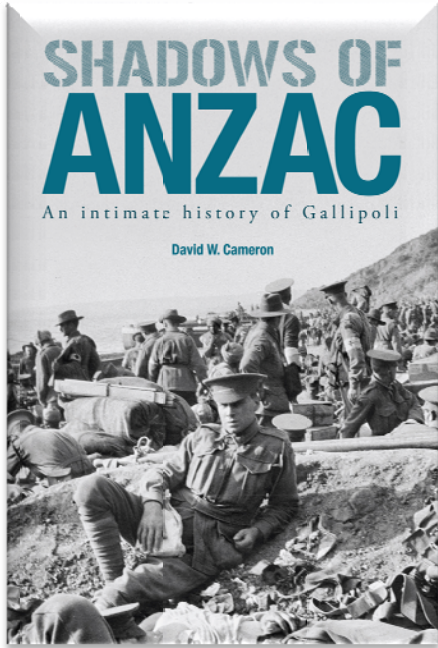




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Media Information



“..Things will not go to plan...”

Shadows of Anzac
 David W. Cameron
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Release Date: late March 2013
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RRP: AU\$29.99
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Category: Military/Australian History/Gallipoli
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Paperback 352pg
 Digital on Amazon, apple etc
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ISBN: 978-1-922132-18-5

Shadows of Anzac

An intimate history of Gallipoli
David W. Cameron

“No doubt you have read in the papers by now all about our landing, but perhaps an account of it from what I saw will interest you, so I will start right from the beginning ...”

Twenty-three-year-old law graduate Private Arthur Blackburn, Gallipoli

Author and historian David W. Cameron is an expert on the ANZAC campaign; ‘Shadows of Anzac’ is his sixth book specifically focused on Gallipoli.

Shadows of Anzac: An intimate history of Gallipoli presents an international perspective of the Anzac experience. Viewed from both sides of the trenches the combination of stories and accounts from Turkish and Anzacs alike provide depth to our understanding of this bloody campaign.

This is the story of the ‘ordinary’ men and women who personally experienced the Gallipoli campaign from April to December 1915. Soldiers of varied nationalities fought on both-sides; the fighting at Gallipoli was not restricted to the Anzacs and Turks alone. Non-combatants, men and women, also faced their own battles and fears supporting the soldiers. Cameron ensures their stories are told.

Drawing on letters, diaries and other primary and secondary sources, Cameron creates a vision of what these men and women – from all walks of life - experienced during the bloody 9 months of the campaign.

Shadows of Anzac provides an intimate and personal perspective of Anzac, a richly varied portrayal that describes the absurdity, monotony and often humour that sat alongside the horrors of the bitter fight to claim the peninsula.

Additional Information: The fighting at Anzac was not restricted to the ANZACS and Turks alone. British troops also fought at Anzac from the earliest days of the invasion and large numbers of British and Indian troops were committed to the Anzac sector during the failed August offensive designed to break the stalemate. The invasion was also supported by large numbers of men — often non-combatants — who performed vital roles. Including Naval beach officers who kept logistics operating in some form of ‘orderly’ fashion; Indian mule handlers who moved supplies to the front lines; and medical staff and army chaplains who worked on the beach, caring for the wounded and the dead.

About the Author: **David W. Cameron** is a Canberra based author with a passion for recording the overarching history of Gallipoli. He has published a number of books on Australian military history and science and over sixty research papers in internationally peer reviewed journals. David is an expert on the ANZAC campaign with this being his sixth book specifically focused on Gallipoli.

David completed his PhD in 1995 and was subsequently awarded an Australian Research Council (ARC) Post Doctoral Fellowship at the Australian National University, followed by an ARC QEII Fellowship at the University of Sydney. He is internationally known as an expert on primate and human evolution. He has conducted numerous international archaeological and palaeo-anthropological excavations in Europe, Middle East and Asia.

Author available for interviews, for more information, cover images

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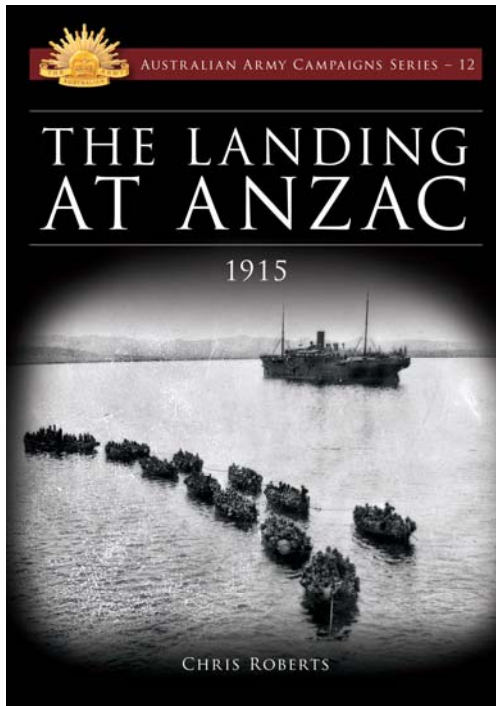


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Media Information



AUSTRALIAN ARMY CAMPAIGNS SERIES



The Landing at Anzac, 1915

Chris Roberts

"This is a book that pulls the Gallipoli campaign into the modern era and provides a compelling argument for its continuing relevance."

Author and highly-awarded retired serviceman Chris Roberts' interest in Gallipoli and the discrepancies between myth and fact began in the 1970s – having interviewed several veterans who landed on 25 April he found their stories didn't correlate with the popular view of the landing. Further intensive research, access to Turkish accounts and by looking at the battle with his own training and military experience (35 years worth) Chris is now able to set straight what really happened at **The Landing at Anzac, 1915**.

The Landing at Anzac, 1915 challenges many of the cherished myths of the most celebrated battle in Australian and New Zealand history – myths that have endured for almost a century. Told from both the Anzac and Turkish perspectives, this meticulously researched account questions several of the claims of Charles Bean's magisterial and much-quoted Australian official history and presents a fresh examination of the evidence from a range of participants.

Chris Roberts takes a forensic look at this iconic battle, providing a tactical analysis of the terrain, scrutiny of the misplaced landing and the two fateful decisions that determined the initial course of the battle, and examines the performance of both Anzac and Turkish commanders and troops. Long considered a ragtag army, the Ottoman forces proved tough, well-trained opponents who outclassed an inadequately trained, inexperienced and poorly prepared Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

The Landing at Anzac, 1915 opens with an essential comparative study of the opposing forces and their respective battle plans, pushes through the failure of the Anzacs to exploit their initial success, the bitter fighting at Lone Pine and Baby 700 on the afternoon of 25 April and concludes with the stalemate reached by the evening of 27 April.

The Landing at Anzac, 1915 delivers some startling findings. But the author's interest extends beyond the simple debunking of hallowed myths, and he produces a number of lessons for the armies of today.

Additional Information: The Australian Army History Units – Campaigns Series

- Number 12 in the Australian Army History Units – Campaigns Series. The Series focuses on leadership, command, strategy, tactics, lessons and personal experiences of war.
- The Series complements Army's other historical publications – providing an introduction / foundation to the campaigns and battles the Army has fought.
- Full Colour – includes maps, specifically prepared in colour & 3D, commissioned artwork, photographs and computer graphics.

About the Author: Brigadier Chris Roberts AM, CSC (Rtd) spent 35 years of military and combat experience in the Australian Army, including operational service in South Vietnam with 3 SAS Squadron, and was Adjutant 5 RAR, OC 1 SAS Squadron, and Brigade Major 1 Task Force. More senior appointments included Commanding Officer - The SAS Regiment, Commander Special Forces, Director General Corporate Planning - Army and Commander Northern Command.

Retiring in 1999 he spent 7 years in executive appointments with the Multiplex Group, and since then he has worked as a volunteer in the Military History Section of the Australian War Memorial. He is a graduate of the Royal Military College, Duntroon; the University of Western Australia (BA Honours in History); the Army Staff College; the United States Armed Forces Staff College; and the Australian College of Defence and Strategic Studies.

Author available for interviews, for more information, cover images

Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

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"...seeks to not only question the commonly accepted myths that have coloured the perceptions of several generations, but also to describe the battle from 'both sides of the hill', considering the actions of the Anzacs and also those of their Ottoman opponents."

The Landing at Anzac, 1915

Chris Roberts

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Release Date: April 2013

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RRP: AU\$19.99

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Category: Military/Australian History/Gallipoli

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Here There & Away

Voices of the families of those who served

Compiled by The Defence Widows Support Group - ACT

In an Australian first, 130 Military families from all branches of the Australian Defence Force, offer a moving insight into their lives in war and peace.

Poignant and often humorous the 130 never before published cartoons and stories featured in *Here, There & Away* celebrate the love and support given by and to members of the wider defence family. This unique compilation spans the three branches of the Australian Defence Force and encompasses the period from World War I to more recent times.

This collection of entertaining stories was gathered over two years, for The Defence Widows Support Group, by three Canberra based Defence family members - Annette Sadler, Judy Rule and Dawn Laing- each with their own story to tell. The three wives of ADF members share an encompassing belief that the stories of the families need to be told.

Annette Sadler said, "Readers will find stories which took a lot of courage to write –in some cases it's the families, the ones who support the serving person, who are the only ones who can tell the story when their husband, sons or fathers simply don't or can't talk about their experiences. ... Writing can be an important coping or even healing strategy."

The stories in *Here, There & Away* and are told with the grace and humor of people looking back, on the ups and downs of everyday life for military families; some stories will tug at the heart strings while others are funny in the extreme. All provide an insight into their ability to put the difficult times into perspective.

This collection is an important contribution to Australian social and military history, and an entertaining and uplifting book for readers of all ages.

Additional Information

- This book is a first – a collection of personal stories told from the perspective of the families of our former service personnel.
- All stories and cartoons are original and never before published.
- The stories often reflect many aspects of the wider social context of the time.
- The stories reveal a breadth of experiences not only between the three branches of the Australian Defence Force but also within branches
- Contains a number of accounts of significant historical events, told from a new and fresh perspective

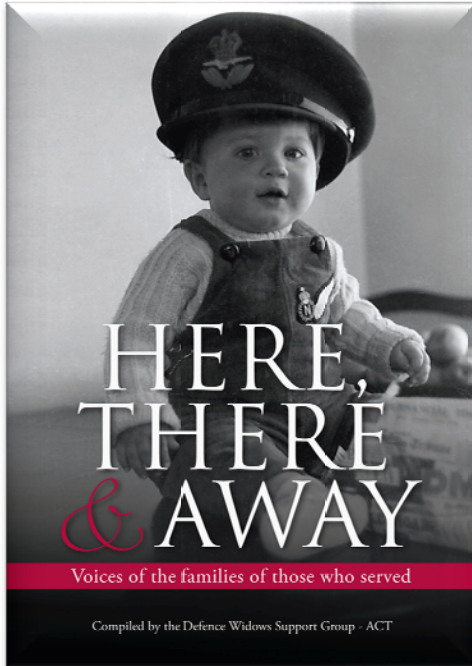
About the Author : Compiled by Annette Sadler, Judy Rule and Dawn Laing

In 2010, as Convener of the Defence Widows Support Group - ACT, Annette Sadler was searching for ideas to celebrate its 30th Anniversary in 2011. She really wanted a project which would be inclusive and significant and suggested the idea of collecting stories of defence service life from the point of view of the wives or partners. *Here, There & Away* is the combined effort of defence wives **Annette Sadler, Judy Rule and Dawn Laing** and the combined effort of every member of the defence family sharing memories with great heart.

The Defence Widows Support Group (DWSG) is a sub-group of the ACT Branch of the Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA) that was founded to promote the interests of serving and former members of the Australian Defence Force. Their combined aim is to provide immediate and effective advice to defence widows/widowers – advice that is independent of any government agency.

Authors available for interviews, for more information, cover images
Publicity Contact – Sharon Evans, Big Sky Publishing

02 9918 2168 | 0410 332 789 | sharon@bigskypublishing.com.au



"Readers will find stories which took a lot of courage to write and hopefully that will give them courage."

Here, There & Away

The Defence Widows Support Group - ACT

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Release Date: 22 Feb 2012

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RRP: AU\$19.99

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Category: Non Fiction/Inspiration/Military

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Paperback 250pp
Digital on Amazon, apple etc

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***Here, There & Away* by Compiled by Annette Sadler, Judy Rule and Dawn Laing for The Defence Widows Support Group –ACT
Interesting points or points of interest... ASKING the ladies...**

“ . . . we were in clover – a fibro house that was unbearably hot in the summer, no hot water, a chip bath heater, no built-in robes and gaps between the wooden floor boards through which you could see the ground . . . We never knew any better and you never complained back in the 60s.”

Background on Annette Sadler, Judy Rule and Dawn Laing. All three ladies are the wives, and widows of members of the Australian Defence Force - Army and RAAF. Members of the ACT branch of The Defence Widows Support Group the book was compiled with the assistance of all members. A group that Annette says encompasses a ‘feisty group of women’. Annette and Judy both have family members currently serving and they’re ongoing links are not confined only to the ex-service community and they are able to observe first hand exactly how things are changing. For all their interest in defence families is ongoing.

All the stories are new – never before published and in some cases never told. You have approximately 130 stories. How hard was it to convince contributors to tell their stories? The majority of stories are not written by professional writers but they demonstrate our innate ability to story tell and the desire to be heard! Annette spent a lot of time speaking to various groups personally urging people to write their stories. One lady who had written her story insisted upon reading it to her and finished by saying, “That was something I had to do”. Or in another instance the lady commented “You’re the first person who has ever been interested!”

For others she spoke to, the scars of memory were too deep. The suggestion of recalling family life took them to a dark place. Many men had gone through multiple divorces/partners and the ones who could have told the story were no longer around. On the other hand many wives were still dealing with ‘their war’ on a daily basis and, although they volunteered that it was vital to tell their story for their husband’s sake, they could not yet do it. When one contributor told her story over the phone to her, Dawn was worried how the husband might react to seeing in print descriptions of the effects of his PTSD. When she queried something the prospective author asked her husband for clarification and Dawn realized he was right next to the phone and also wanted and needed the story to be told.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is something we are becoming increasingly aware of? Have you many stories about this in the book? Not many but those we do have are significant. We have one very honest and harrowing account from a partner of an ex-Vietnam Vet who is coping with both PTSD and cancer related to his service. Another is a very honest account by the widow of a Korean Veteran. That one is particularly significant. All but the youngest in the family were deeply affected by the father’s PTSD and the whole family agreed to have it published. One quote from the story: “Families did not talk about these problems so to the outside world everything seemed OK”. I communicated with the daughter and I had a real sense that the family now not only wanted to tell their story but they also hoped that through the telling the younger generation would be reassured that you can survive and thrive.

We are in an era of instant communication and that must make a tremendous difference when one member of the family is away, particularly in a war zone. It’s made a tremendous difference to the children. A common story is that Dad is away for a long period when they are very young and they do not understand who this man is who now wants to share Mum or for older children having to recalibrate their perceptions of a person who in some cases has changed tremendously during an extended period of absence. The possibility of daily communication must definitely allow the absent parent to be more aware of those changes and also allow an ongoing bonding.

However, in the period covered by the stories in the book, Dad came home to a very different child. To compound things, Dad himself often came home a different person - a need for adjustment all round. Many of the stories allude to this and the ability to be able to manage and accept change must be added to good old resilience. Of course, we must not ignore loving one’s man! A number of the wives describe extreme frustration but in the end they accept because they still love their man.

You must have received a number of stories which have a particular historical context? Yes, we did. Because of the nature of defence service, those who serve are often involved in events of an historical nature and indirectly this affects the family. As part of the editing process we always checked historical events for correctness of date, place and military unit involved. One story caused a lot of wider consulting. Our author, in telling how she first met her husband, talks of her own work as an RAN cipher clerk in General Macarthur’s Office in Brisbane during World War 2. We checked with many sources for the unit title she referred to. Although an internal telephone directory did have it listed, officially it appeared not to exist. It was all too secret!!

Do you think that this ability to be able to cope is a common trait in military families? It’s not only common, it’s a necessity. Resilience is probably the most significant theme through the book. Most of the stories are set in the period post WWII to the 1970’s. Every-day conditions in those days were pretty basic. Wages were not good. Even as an Officer’s wife there was not much money left in the purse at the end of the fortnight, nor food in the cupboard. Housing was very basic and in many cases, substandard. We knew we would get many stories about housing, life in the patch and removals. And we did – most of them hilarious. We might have complained but you never really expected anything to be done about it - you just accepted it and got on with it.

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