

The Quickfirer! No 36 December 2008



Bringing alive the dry pages of history

Damaging roadwork's on Gallipoli peninsular

Work continues near Gully Ravine and Lone Pine, Gallipoli, on road improvements and a new car park. The work, within the Gallipoli Historic National Park, has caused controversy following the alleged finding of numerous human remains. Turkish authorities halted the work while archaeological experts were consulted, but to date no official news on discoveries has followed. The works are being made to provide a car park and lay new asphalt along "second ridge" running passed Lone Pine and up to Chunuk Bair. Various Australian presses report "*Diggers bodies cut in two*", missing bones, and another stated that "*the care to protect soldiers remains is less than adequate*" This most disturbing news certainly stands contrary to the graceful and evocative words of Ataturk in 1934 - "*Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives...! You are now lying in the soul of a friendly country, There is no differences between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours...You, the mothers who sent their sons from far away countries wipe away your tears. Your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well.*"



Battle Honours guide Julian Whippy guided the Irish Guards at Ypres last week. With a bespoke tour the 20 strong team from HQ Company visited sites of several Irish Guards Battle Honours in their tour of the salient and laid wreaths at the Menin Gate and Lone Tree Cemetery (Messines) All of the team had served in Iraq and are currently this countries "response" battalion.

This month in History – December

Fort Niagara seized 1813. Late at night on December 18th 1813 an Anglo-Canadian force of 500 under Colonel Murray seized Fort Niagara in a daring raid. Silently crossing the river, they used boats dragged 60km over land to achieve surprise. Having captured an isolated sentry they "extracted" the sentry password and used this subterfuge to obtain entry through the main gate to the American held fort. With a loss of only 6 men they captured the Fort , 27 Cannons and over 400 prisoners.

These selected units wear this honour with pride

Venlo Pocket 1944—Monmouthshire Regt, Herefordshire Light Infantry, Scots Guards, 22nd Dragoons, Gordon Highlanders, Royal Ulster Rifles, Westminster Dragoons, Seaforth Highlanders, The Black Watch, Middlesex Regt.



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