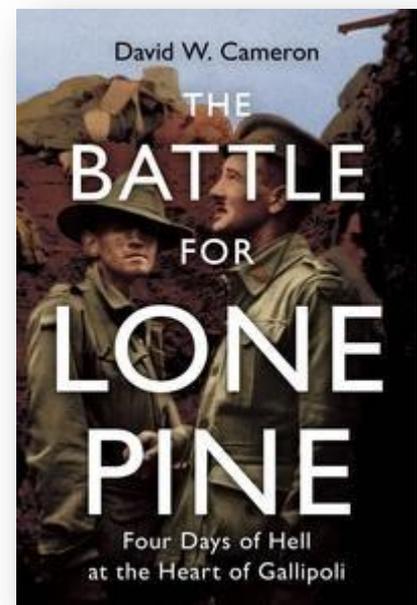


# **The Battle for Lone Pine**

**Author: David Cameron**



**Penguin Q & A with David Cameron,  
author of *The Battle for Lone Pine***

**What is your new book about?**

The four day battle for Lone Pine at Anzac during the August Offensive at Gallipoli in 1915.

**What or who inspired it?**

There has been no detailed account of this battle since the official history first published by Charles Bean in 1924. There has been no single volume published on this important and crucial Australian/Turkish battle.

**What was the biggest challenge, writing it?**

Sorting out the chronology and positioning of men and units in the small confines of Lone Pine over the intense four day period of the battle.

**What did you want to achieve with your book?**

People to understand the heroism of the men from both sides and the sacrifices they made on behalf of others.

**What do you hope for your book?**

That it will become recognised as the authoritative work on the battle for Lone Pine.

**Are there any parts of it that have special personal significance to you?**

Yes, my great uncle was killed in the area four days (29 April, 1915) after the landings before the defences of Lone Pine were constructed - four months before the battle.

**What do you see as the major themes in your book?**

An intimate history of some of those who participated in and out of the line - including those in the front line and supporting them including nursing staff, sappers, cooks, engineers, stretcher-bearers etc.

**Did the title come instantly to you or did you labour over it?**

Yes - the sub title a little longer.

**To whom have you dedicated the book and why?**

To all of those who served at Gallipoli and in the supporting areas.

**Who do you think will enjoy your book?**

Anyone interested in Australian history and/or military history. The general reader who is keen to learn about individuals from the past.

**When did you start writing?**

About two years ago.

**Tell us a bit about your childhood?**

I grew up in the western suburbs of Sydney, having moved there from Bondi at an early age. I spent lots of time camping in the bush on weekends and generally exploring around the bush.

**Tell us a bit about your day job?**

I'm a Canberra based author. I used to be an archaeologist and held a number of positions as an Australian Research Council Fellow at the ANU and University of Sydney. I spent a considerable amount of time overseas on excavations and various surveys - India, Hungary, Turkey, and Vietnam. Looking for fossils of early humans and non-human apes.

**Describe yourself in three words?**

Driven, inquisitive, and collegial.

