Hughie:

Do you know what you’re celebrating today? Do you? Do you even know what it all meant? Have you ever bothered to dig a bit, find out what really happened back there, what this day meant? Oh, Wacka – what would he know about it? What does the man who was there ever know about anything? All he knows is what he saw, one man’s view from a trench. It’s the people who come after, who can study it all, see the whole thing for what it was...How do I know? Didn’t you shove it down my throat? It’s here. Encyclopaedia for Australian Kids. You gave it to me yourself ... Do you know what that Gallipoli campaign meant? Bugger all ... A face-saving device. An expensive shambles. It was the biggest fiasco of the war. “The British were in desperate straits. Russia was demanding that the Dardanelles be forced by the British Navy and Constantinople taken. The Navy could not do it alone and wanted Army support. Kitchener said the British Army had no men available.” So what did they do? ... There was one solution. Australia and New Zealand’s troops had just got to Cairo for their initial training. Untrained men, Untried. “Perhaps they could be used.” Perhaps. Perhaps they could be pushed in there, into a place everybody knew was impossible to take from the sea, to make the big gesture necessary ... to save the face of the British ...the British, Dad, the bloody Poms. THEY pushed those men up those cliffs, that April morning, knowing, KNOWING, it was suicide ... You know what it was like. Show them the maps. Show them the photos. A child of six could tell you men with guns on top of those cliffs could wipe out anyone trying to come up from below. And there were guns on top, weren’t there, Wacka, weren’t there?... Oh yes, great credit to them – if you happen to see any credit in men wasting their lives ...And as long as men like you are fools enough to accept that, to say that, there’ll always be wars.