

Magna Carto

EX- FORTUNA SURVEY ASSOCIATION INC
NEWSLETTER FEBRURARY 2003

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The “Mapmakers of Fortuna” Book Launch Friday 28 March 2003!

For those of you monitoring the progress of the writing of the “Mapmakers of Fortuna” you could have been excused for wondering if, not when it was to be published. Considering the amount of work to be done and that the work was provided on a voluntary basis, I too had my doubts about when it would be finished. It is however, a story that had to be told. My only regret is that some who contributed to the book have passed away before seeing it completed.

Well, the end has arrived with the document currently in the hands of the Film writer and Printer. This *story of us* is to be hard-bound, in A4 in format and includes a dust jacket. Thanks need to be acknowledged for the excellent work by our author Valerie Lovejoy and the work contributed by my fellow members of the Committee of the Ex Fortuna Survey Association. This manuscript fills the current void in formally acknowledging the significant contribution made to Australia and the Australian Defence Force by the Army Survey Regiment and the many members who served at Fortuna during its existence. We also hope that this book serves as a reminder of the good times had by those of us who served in the Royal Australian Survey Corps and in particular those who served at Fortuna.

A number of you have already purchased copies of the book. The committee thanks you for this support and confidence. The pre-publication price of \$50 remains as a sight unseen price until 14 March 2003. After that date copies will only be available at the post publication price of \$60. A pre-publication slip has been included with this newsletter and this must be returned to the committee with payment by the cut off date to qualify for the discount price.

In January, I widely distributed an Email informing as many as possible about a change of date to the book launch. I explained that the reason for the date change to one week later than the notified date was done at the request of the City of Greater Bendigo. Whilst we were aware that it would cause inconvenience to some, it was something that was beyond our control. We regret that some wishing to attend the launch from long distances have now been financially disadvantaged.

The launch... This time there is no maximum limit to the numbers available to attend any of the launch weekend functions. For any who may have missed out on the big “Back to Bendigo” function, this is now your opportunity to join us. This book launch is likely to be the most significant event to be held by Ex Survey Associations for some years. The more that attend, the more significant it will be, and the more catching up with old friends will be possible. Function return slips have been provided at the end of this newsletter and payment must be provided with the return slip by the cut off date for catering reasons. Please distribute these details and the return slip to anyone who you believe may be interested in attending.

The Civic Reception

A civic reception is to be held on Friday 28 March commencing at 1700hrs in the newly restored old Bendigo Town Hall. This reception hosted by the City of Greater Bendigo will be when the book is to be formally launched and it will be one of the first functions to be held in the hall after the

completion of the recent refurbishments. There is no cost for this function but please indicate your intention to attend. The function is anticipated to conclude at about 1830hrs. Books will be available for collection and or purchase at the function. There will be ample time to collect your book at the following functions if there is a long queue. Unfortunately no electronic payment will be available. Dress for this function is neat casual, with some Survey Corps memento desirable.

The Post Launch Dinner

The post launch dinner is to be held at the "All Seasons International Hotel", 171-183 McIvor Road, Bendigo following the Civic Reception, commencing at 1930hrs. There is ample parking at the venue. Dress for this function is again neat casual. There will be minimal formality at this sit down table service dinner. A seating plan will only be provided for the head table. A two course, two choice meal is to be served with your order being taken at the table on the day. The initial drinks that will be provided on the tables on arrival are included in the meal costs, further drinks are available at bar prices. Please go to our reception table on arrival to collect a name tag and your tickets. If you have not collected your book, or you wish to purchase one, they will be available at the book distribution point. Valerie will be available to sign copies throughout the evening. For those of you who attended the successful "Back to Bendigo" function, the slide show of photos from the Unit Albums will again feature in the background. Costs for this function are \$35 per head, see the function return slip at the end of the newsletter.

The Recovery BBQ

The recovery BBQ lunch is to be held on Saturday 29 Mar at the Eaglehawk RSL Hall, the same site as the last "Back to Bendigo" BBQ commencing at 1200hrs. There is again ample parking at and around the venue. The cost of the BBQ is \$12 per head and this includes three items of meat, two salads, sweets and tea or coffee. Collection of a meal is by pre-paid BBQ Meal ticket. Drinks at moderate cost will be available from the Ex Fortuna Bar like last time. Bulk orders of books can be collected at this function if needed.

Other Activities

On Saturday morning you may wish to visit Turriff Antiques. This venue was once the WRAAC Barracks at 5 Carpenter Street. I am sure that a visit will bring back memories. The old Post Office is now the Tourist Information Centre and at no cost you can view an impressive display of exhibits. The nearby RSL Hall contains a Military Museum and it has a large number of exhibits. For a gold coin donation a visit to the Art Gallery is also a very worthwhile activity. Many may remember the large painting entitled "Gentlemen the Queen" that was displayed at Fortuna for some years which is currently on display at the gallery. Or maybe your choice is just to have a coffee at one of the many outdoor venues that now scatter the city.

Association Badges



All Miniature Gold plated metal Association Badges have now gone. There are 80 badges left out of this next run of 100 badges that are identical in size to the first issue, but produced in an "Antique Gold" or a bronze type finish. The cost is \$10 each and they will be available for sale at the book launch functions. There was a slight delay in obtaining these badges because the initial delivery was incorrect and had to be redone.

Accommodation

Accommodation bookings of all types are being coordinated by Tourism Bendigo 1800 813 153

IMPORTANT: RSVP for Catering by Monday 17 March 2003

Gary Warnest (Wk) Ph (03) 5444 1834, Fax (03) 5444 1835, Email: grw@netcon.net.au
Or Doug Carswell (Wk) Ph (03) 5442 0228, Fax (03) 5442 3630.

ASSOCIATION FUNDS HAVE BEEN FULLY COMMITTED TO THE PUBLISHING OF THE BOOK SO THAT PAYMENT BY THE RSVP DATE IS THE ONLY METHOD AVAILABLE TO ATTEND THE LAUNCH FUNCTIONS.



Publication Sales "Mapmakers of Fortuna"

Mapmakers of Fortuna, a History of the Army Survey Regiment traces the events, influences and personalities involved in the Australian Army's mapping activities at Fortuna Villa Bendigo from its arrival in 1942 until the Unit's disbanding in 1996. This is a thoroughly researched factual History, skilfully crafted by Valerie Lovejoy into a very readable story. The publication has many original photographs, map extracts and includes a list of all those who served at Fortuna. This is a valuable resource that should be part of the library of everyone interested in the development of mapping within Australia and especially those who served in the Royal Australian Survey Corps.

.....
(Name) (Date)

Wish to purchase copies of "Mapmakers of Fortuna" at a Pre - Publication Price of \$50.00 ea (Until 14 March 03 only)

I enclose \$..... sent to The Treasurer, Ex Fortuna Survey Assoc, PO Box 865, BENDIGO V1C 3552

Some delivery charge may be payable depending on the delivery method.

Pickup From or Delivery to: I can be contacted by:

..... Phone:

State... .. Postcode. Email:

Office Use only: Amount Correct Y/N Receipt No..... Dated.....

BOOK LAUNCH FUNCTION RETURN

The Secretary
Ex Fortuna Survey Association
PO Box 865
BENDIGO VIC 3552

Name:

Contact Details:Ph.....Email **COST \$**

I / we wish to attend the following Function:

Friday 28 March 03, Civic Reception 1700hrs Number attending..... Nil

I / we wish to attend the following Function:

Friday 28 March 03, Post Launch Dinner 1930hrs Number attending.....x \$35per/hd

I /we wish to attend the following Function:

Saturday 29 March 03, Recovery BBQ 1200hrs Number attending.....x\$12 per/hd

I wish to purchase association minature badge/badges..(while stocks last).....x\$10 ea

Please find enclosed my cheque/money order payment.....TOTAL \$.....



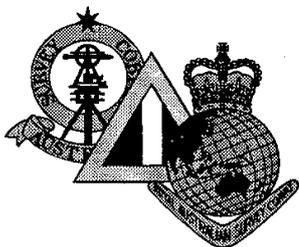
If undeliverable return to:
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BENDIGO VIC 3552

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Volume 2 Issue 10



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NEWSLETTER OF THE
EX FORTUNA SURVEY ASSOCIATION INC