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The Governor General to unveil a Survey Corps memorial plaque

About 11-11:30 am Monday, 9 July 2007 His Excellency the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC and Lieutenant Colonel Clem Sargent OAM (Retired) will be unveiling a Memorial Plaque dedicated to those who served in Survey Units on War Service. The plaque is to be unveiled at the Western Courtyard, Australian War Memorial, Limestone Avenue CANBERRA. Her Excellency Mrs Marlena Jeffery will also be attending and the Reverend Gary Kenney will dedicate the Plaque.

The Canberra Survey Corps Association has formally invited former members of the Royal Australian Survey Corps, their partners, relatives and friends to attend the unveiling followed by a gourmet style sandwich buffet in the Courtyard Gallery at the conclusion of the ceremony. (cost \$22 per person).

RSVP : 1 July 2007 (enclosing lunch payment, preferably by cheque payable to Canberra Survey Corps Association) To: Charlie Watson 7 Cleland Street LATHAM ACT 2615
Phone: (02) 6254 3463 Email: cbwatson@webone.com.au

A large attendance is anticipated and all are encouraged to be there if possible to help make this a very special occasion. Whilst the RSVP is 1 July 2007 (RASvy Corps Day) any earlier notice would be greatly appreciated. The OLIMS Hotel located within easy walking distance of the Australian War Memorial has been designated as the preferred accommodation location and Charlie is attempting to organise another function for those attending at this location on the Monday evening. Keep the grapevine open for further updates on this function. <http://www.olimshotel.com/> or (02) 6248 5511 or 1800 020 016 for bookings.

John Bullen kindly provided the following information: Thought there might be a few people down your way who might like to know that the LHQ Cartographic Company is on the plaque to be unveiled at the AWM by the Governor-General on Mon 9 July 07.

There is one unit listed for WW1, eleven for WW2 and one for Vietnam.

In accordance with AWM policy, this plaque is strictly to commemorate those Survey Corps units that saw active service in war. This means that LHQ Carto Coy, based at Fortuna, would not normally have been eligible to appear on this plaque.

However, the case has been successfully made for the inclusion of LHQ Carto Coy on these grounds...

LHQ Cartographic Company was at Bendigo for almost the whole war. This unit's contribution to the war effort was so remarkable that its inclusion on the plaque is strongly sought. It was the key unit to which all the field companies overseas sent their field compilations for LHQ Carto Coy to do the draughting and printing of all their maps. Between 1942 and 1945, LHQ Carto Coy printed 75 million impressions in the course of printing some 15 million maps. LHQ Carto Coy's tremendous importance to the war effort was the very reason it was moved from Melbourne (too close to the front line!) to Bendigo in 1942.

If any doubt remains as to the inclusion of LHQ Carto Coy on this plaque it should also be mentioned that any deaths in that unit were eligible for the Australian War Memorial's Roll of Honour in exactly the same way as Colonel R G Legge (who died of illness in Melbourne in 1940 while in a staff posting in Australia) and Staff Cadet J Reid (who died in an accident at Duntroon in 1944).

Thanks John Ed.

Following on from the Museum information in the last Magna Carto the dates of the Museum RECCE has now been tentatively changed to Tuesday 10 July through to Thursday 12 July at SME. This allows attendees to be at the Plaque unveiling in Canberra and then attend the RECCE. We currently have representatives from QLD, Canberra, the Museum committee and Bendigo. If there is a representative available from the other Assoc please contact Don Swiney on dswiney@bigpond.com.au info myself on grw@netcon.net. There are 10 places available.

The PMC and Members of the RAE Sergeants Mess wish to extend an invitation to all past and present WO's and SNCO's of both: RAE and RASvy to the "**BACK TO SME 2007**" **28-30 September 2007** For further information please contact: Warrant Officer Class One Bob Hopper (02) 8782 1537 bob.hopper@defence.gov.au



FORMAL: Michael Hayden with his parents, Anne and Bob, enjoy the Faculty of Education 2007 graduation ceremony at the Schweppes Centre.

Vale



Major Robin Wilson - Passed away peacefully at the Gawler Health Service (SA) on May 30, 2007. Aged 79 years. His much-loved wife of 53 years, Margaret, survives him. (He is pictured here as a WO1 at Fortuna, Bendigo around 1965)



We believe that both **Merle Simonds** and **Neil Pearson** have both passed away in March this year.

Pictured here is Merle in the "G Office" at Fortuna circa 1945 with Lt S Garwood.

Personalities

Peter Cates has dropped us a quick note to update us on his situation and travels. He has taken on a volunteer role for two years with AVI (Australian Volunteers International) and the AFL to help develop AFL in PNG.

Amazingly, he first taught young kids to play AFL in PNG on Daru Island in 1974 as a young 2LT and now finds himself back there 33years later doing it nationwide.

Cheryl stayed in Adelaide with the dogs and to be close to the grandchildren. He has recently got onto the net (electricity as well) and is able to receive the Magna Carto electronically. His youngest son has just been posted to 4RAR in Sydney with his wife and their newest granddaughter. His other two sons are also serving; one son is at the SAS Regiment and the other at Duntroon.

Thanks for the update Peter, hope the ball keeps bouncing in your direction.

For all of you who have been posted overseas will remember, news from home becomes special so give him an Email. His details are:

Peter Cates,
National Football Operations Manager

AFLPNG

Ph: (675) 325 4943

Mob: (675) 693 9394

mail: aflpng@global.net.pg

website: <http://www.afl-pn>



Not everyone has a sundial in his backyard, but **Jim Jefferies** at Bethanga does and “look mum no batteries” its solar powered.

Jim built it in 1991/1992, just after his discharge and this is how he did it.

One of our GPS Courses at SMS had kindly provided 4 survey marks in Bethanga, and I set up on one of these and using Mahers Hill as RO, ran a short closed traverse through my yard to fix the position of my pillar that I had constructed to RE Specifications. I used an Inverted

image Wild T2 that I had bought from Joe Scharcher (who used to service the Corps' Photogrammetric equipment) in 1991, but quickly decided to borrow a Sokkia Total Station from Albury Council where I still work. The traverse computed very nicely to provide the coordinates and height of the pillar.

I used the lat and long of my pillar as the basis for calculating the graduations, and standard time offset, on the brass rings of the armillary sphere, and etched these into the brass before assembling it. The graduations and the lettering and numerals were all hand drawn and then the surrounding brass was blocked out with bitumen paint. Bob Scaddan provided a very large photographic tray for the hydrochloric acid bath. The small circles represent the tropics and the shadow of the small brass ball on the gnomon falls precisely onto these rings at the June and December Solstices. My next-door neighbour is a fitter and turner (bit of an Ozzie Barrett) and he turned the brass, brazed the rings and helped with the assembly.

As you saw during your visit, the dial is accurate to at least a minute, after correcting the indicated time for the equation of the sun. After I had made it, I checked it for a week or so against a time signal and an almanac and found the error to be about half a minute of time, which pleased me no end!

I had made a vertical sundial as a parting gift to SMS in 1991. I had hoped that it would be set up on the wall behind the flag so that the troops on parade could watch the sun's shadow move around whist the parade dragged on! It was mounted after I left, but placed lower than I had planned, under a roof overhang, so that it was entirely in shadow during the summer. Best laid plans, etc!

When I left SMS, I was head hunted to work on Council's GIS which in those days was GDMS running on a Wang system. My primary task was to set up a road asset database and link it to the GIS. Map output required a computer programs to be written as compared to today's drag and drop with ESRI's ArcGIS. Ten years ago I moved to the IT Dept, and have been here ever since. I must be one of the oldest IT people still in captivity (a registered geriatric as of last October!), but still enjoy the job; My current project is to introduce an electronic document management system for Council this year.

Lake Hume, as you saw it, looks pretty sick at 3% and is now reported to have blue/green algae. The survey beacon next to the Kangaroo Store looks as if the vandals have had a go at the quardruped, but is still standing. Bonegilla Block 19 is preserved as a Migrant Centre (I confess that I have not visited it, but it looks as though it takes in much of the old Detachment area).

Best wishes

Jim Jefferies

Corporate Data Supervisor

Corporate & Customer Service

AlburyCity

PO Box 323 Albury NSW 2640

Thanks Jim for the story. Ed

Ian "Rock" Thiselton was reported in the latest Queensland Bulletin as having had a massive heart attack requiring immediate triple bypass surgery. It is great to be able report that they were able to identify the problem before he had a heart attack but he has come through the serious operation very well. Still sore and taking things easy he is able to fly to Bendigo for the June long weekend to see the family and grand kids. It is now confirmed however that he does have a heart.

Graeme Wastell is now back at work following some treatment and remains in good spirits. Hope all continues to go well.

The New Association Plaque has arrived and is available



The New Assoc Plaque has finally been finished and is ready for distribution.

The final design incorporates the three badges stepping down in profile from the "Flying Pineapple" to the Theodolite.

The cost of the Plaques is \$50 plus postage (if necessary) from your own Association.

The ExFortuna Assoc is covering production and freight costs to other Assoc and the profit is staying with your own Association. So support your own Association and order one through them.

40 plaques were initially produced and as of today only 20 remain unallocated.



The Association has recently purchased some of the original Royal Australian Survey Corps Plaques with scroll. There are still several left so that if you are after one, please contact Tracey. Please note the current Postal address on this Magna Carto as it is incorrectly reported in some Association newsletters.

The Association fees remain at \$10 per year. Magna Carto newsletters can also be distributed as pdf documents. If you would like Magna Carto distributed digitally in pdf format then please Email Tracey at phipsys@bigpond.com and let us know what Email address you would like it sent to. The pdf viewer called acrobat reader can be downloaded free from <http://www.adobe.com>



Unfortunately we have run out of both the Association ties and Miniature Antique Gold Association Badges but more have been ordered and are due to arrive soon. Scarves are still available at \$20 ea and "Mapmakers of Fortuna" books are available at \$60.

Monthly Happy Hours

The South Australian Association meets on the First Friday of each month at the Saracens Head, give Darby a call if you are in the area 08 8277 7074. The QLD Assoc meets at the Gaythorne RSL on the last Friday of the month. The Ex Fortuna Association meets at the Bendigo RSL on the third Friday of the month and bar snacks are provided.

Bill Black has taken over the role as the secretary **3 Fd Svy Assoc** from Camberwell VIC. Congratulations Bill. His Email address is blakmail@bigpond.net.au (03) 9889 2143 or 0418 339 523

Richard Jackson-Hope has revitalised the **NSW Assoc** as its new President and Secretary. He has already released a comprehensive newsletter including this photo of the Anzac Day March. Full marks Richard.



Royal Australian Survey Corps Association (NSW)

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 Fax 02 4754 4555
 E-mail aro@pnc.com.au

Small	54	55
Medium	56	57
Large	59	60
X large	61	62

Purple Berets

As previously reported the Queensland Association has had a purple beret produced by Christies. After a hiccup with the colour the berets were delivered just in time for their Anzac Day March this year. Other Associations across Australia have enthusiastically embraced the new beret. If you are after one you can place an order with the Assistant Treasurer RA Survey Corps Association, PO Box 5784 Stafford Heights, Qld 4053. Include a Cheque for \$30.00 that includes postage made out to the RA Survey Corps Association Queensland.



Bron Minelli and the Qld Assoc proudly wearing their new Purple Berets

BENDIGO ANZAC DAY 2007



L to R Richard, Doug and Andrew Arman marched for the first time this year. Here they are at the form up point prior to the Bendigo march. Great family effort.



Keith Barber (centre) surprised and overwhelmed us all by his decision to turn up and be part of the march this year. His presence certainly made it a very special occasion. Thanks Keith for the effort. Carrying the banner this year was Dave Lampton-Young



This year was the largest turn up yet, with about 40 fronting up for the march and later at the RSL. This was the first year that we wore berets and it seemed to be successful. We will try it again next year with the option of the traditional or the new purple beret.

Pictured above L to R are:

Don Swiney, Don Ridge, Tony Heslop, Colin Cuskelly, Keith Barber and Doug Arman at the ceremony following the march.

Those attending were:

Andrew Arman
 Doug Arman
 Richard Arman
 Keith Barber
 BJ
 Russ Brodie
 Doug Carswell
 Colin Cuskelly
 Grant Davis
 Rhys Delaine
 Alan Derby
 Steve Drummond
 Terry Edwards
 Mick Ellis

Mick Flynn
 Bill Forest
 Bill Friswell
 Bob Garritty
 George Graham
 Donna Grayland
 Gordon Haswell
 Tony Heslop
 Graham Johnston
 Janet Justin
 Dave Lampton-Young
 Harold Mai
 Brenton McDonald

Eric Nicholson
 Ken Peters
 Tracey Phillips
 Don Ridge
 Bob Rogister
 Don Swiney
 Stu Symonds
 Stu Thaxter
 Bob Thrower
 Brett van Leeuwin
 Gary Warnest
 Jeff Willey
 Rusty Williams



Scenes from the Museum thanks to Peter Raue and WO1 Bob Hopper.

There is still much more to be done with cataloguing and accession registers



And Litho Lives on!!!



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