



Address: PO Box 613 Golden Square VIC 3555

Patron: Don Swiney MBE

President/ Editor : Gary Warnest (03) 5446 3171 (AH), Email grw@netcon.net.au

Secretary: Tracey Phillips (03) 5442 0263 (03) 5449 6330 (AH) phipsys@bigpond.com

Treasurer : Bob Thrower (03) 5442 0280, (03) 5442 5780(AH),

Public Officer : Bob Thrower Committee : Phil Smalley, Stuart Symonds, John Phillips

Melbourne Rep: Dave King (03) 5981 2549

DIGO Farewells

Fortuna

6th and 7th Sep 2008

The Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation (DIGO) Social Club located at Bendigo has planned functions over the weekend of 6-7 September to farewell and to mark it's immanent departure out of Fortuna Villa. This will bring to a close 64 years of Defence association with Fortuna since the arrival of the Land Headquarters Cartographic Company in 1942. This association has had a significant impact on mapping within Australia and also the lives and families of all those who have worked there over the years.

On Saturday 6th September there is a dinner dance to be held at "Fortunes" located at the All Seasons International. **An Open Day and a BBQ lunch held within the grounds of Fortuna will follow on Sunday 7th September.** The main "Villa" building will be open for tours on the day.

Both functions are open to all past and present employees and their partners. This in particular includes DIGO Canberra staff and their partners and all ex Survey Corps members and their partners.

For the Survey Corps Members arriving on **Friday 5th September** there are drinks and a casual bistro meal to be held at the Havilah Street RSL from 1730hrs onwards.

The future use of the Villa is uncertain and it may very well be the last opportunity you have to say goodbye to Fortuna in style. For those who attended the 90th Anniversary of the Survey Corps celebrations you will have the opportunity to catch up with some of the people you missed last time and for those who did not come don't miss this opportunity.

It is expected that numbers will be similar to the 90th Anniversary weekend so register your interest now using the forms below. Please spread the word to anyone who you think may be interested in attending, as this will be your last chance to say Goodbye to an era.

Remember that payments for the functions are to be sent to the DIGO Social Club NOT the ExFortuna Assoc.

Accommodation with friends is encouraged but it can also be arranged through the Tourist Information Centre. The All Seasons dinner dance venue is again offering a 10% discount to those members staying at that location, as long as you mention that you are with the DIGO function when you book.

Association memorabilia will again be available over the weekend so that if you are after badges, ties, scarves, RASVY Plaques or Assoc Plaques they will be able to be picked up. Of course the book "Mapmakers of Fortuna" will be available on such an occasion.



There was a fair amount of interest in the Polar Fleece tops that the committee was wearing at the 90th Anniversary BBQ so that Tracey is putting together a special order should any Members wish to take advantage of that opportunity. They are available in various combinations to suit your needs and will be available on about a four-week turnaround.

Polar Fleece

Half zip long sleeve \$33 (size S to 4XL)

Full zip Ladies or Mens Jacket \$36 (size S to 4XL)

Unlined vest \$28 (size S to 4XL)

Reversable vest \$33 (size S to 3XL)

Polo Shirt

Short sleeve Polo top \$25 (size S to 5XL)

Please get in contact with Tracey by phone, email or letter if you require any of the Association memorabilia or tops.

We have just learnt that the DIGO Social Club will be releasing a commemorative port bottling especially for the occasion. We will supply details as soon as they become available.

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.

Booking Form

End of an Era
Fortuna Dinner Dance Saturday 6th Sept 2008

Venue: All Seasons International
McIvor Hwy, Bendigo

Includes: Hot and cold savouries on arrival
2 course meal (main and dessert)
Initial Table drinks
And dance band

Cost: \$45 person

All bookings and money needs to be received by 22nd August 2008

Please note refunds will only be given under exceptional circumstances

If you or your guests require accommodation
You can book thru Bendigo Tourism

Ph 1800 813 153 to book accommodation (free service)
Or you can book online
www.bendigotourism.com

For any information please call:
Tracy Ash on 03 54420 317 or Tracey Phillips on 03 54420 337
Or email tracy.ash@defence.gov.au
tracey.phillips1@defence.gov.au

Please return form with Cheque or money order
Payable to: **DIGO Social Club**

To
Tracy Ash OR Tracey Phillips
DIGO
PO Box 2793
Bendigo Business Centre
Bendigo, Victoria 3554

Dinner/Dance – Sat 6th Sep 08

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Guest names: _____

Booking Form

End of an Era

Fortuna Open Day and BBQ Sunday 7th Sept 2008

Venue: In the grounds of Fortuna. The main building will be open for tours

Includes: BBQ

Cost: \$15 person

Note: The bar will be open for the purchasing of hot and cold drinks

All bookings and money needs to be received by 22nd August 2008

Please note refunds will only be given under exceptional circumstances

If you or your guests require accommodation
You can book thru Bendigo Tourism

Ph 1800 813 153 to book accommodation (free service)

Or you can book online

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For any information please call:

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tracey.phillips1@defence.gov.au

Please return form with Cheque or money order

Payable to: DIGO Social Club

To

Tracy Ash OR Tracey Phillips

DIGO

PO Box 2793

Bendigo Business Centre

Bendigo, Victoria 3554

BBQ/Open Day – SUN 7th Sep 08

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Guest names: _____

Anzac Day 2008 Melbourne

As most of you will be aware members of the Ex Fortuna Survey Assoc joined with the members of 3 Aust Field Survey Coy AIF for the 2008 Anzac Day march in Melbourne.

I am happy that what I had hoped to achieve with the combined activity was achieved. We were able to swell their numbers for the march and the function afterwards. The fact that we had made the effort to travel from Bendigo to be with them on the day was our way of acknowledging the contribution made by the members of 3 Aust Field Survey Coy AIF. Their hospitality was excellent and all who attended believed that it was a worthwhile activity and had a good time. Thankyou to all those who participated.



This is the Survey group including families around the Survey Tree after the march.

I had been at the ceremony for the planting of the Survey Corps Tree at the Shrine in the early 70's and I was surprised just how big it had become.



Later at the Bull and Bear Tavern





**3 AUST FIELD SURVEY COY AIF & EX FORTUNA SURVEY ASSOC, ANZAC DAY 2008
AT THE SURVEY CORPS TREE, SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE, MELBOURNE**

BACK ROW: DARYL HOCKINGS, BRETT VAN LEEUWEN, LESLEY MORTIMER, KEN PETERS, STUART SYMONDS, RALPH LAWRENCE, ADRIAN RYNBERK, ALAN DERBY, JOHN KEIL, LINDSAY SAUNDERS, BILL BLACK, COLIN CUSKELLY, PHIL SMALLEY (REAR), ROD FRASER, TONY O'SHEA, ROBERT THROWER, PAT HOGAN, BRIAN & GAIL PENDELBURY, LLOYD PATTISON (REAR), FRED LAVERICK, "ROCKY" CAMPS IN HIS E TYPE JAG

FRONT ROW: GARY WARNEST, MAL BRENTNALL, MAX WEHNER, ALAN (TED) LONG, LEN HERRON, ALEX LYNCH, WES RUNTING

Anzac Day 2008 Bendigo



Although a number of the ExFortuna members were in Melbourne for Anzac Day this year the numbers marching at Bendigo were equivalent to the first year we participated. Rhys Delaine lead the march and David Lampton-Young carried the banner.

The Bendigo Advertiser reported that Bendigo residents Andrew and Nikki Arman yesterday attended the Anzac Day ceremony at Pall Mall to pay tribute to the past and present efforts of servicemen and women across Australia.

It is an annual ritual for the couple, who have friends from their service days still serving abroad in Iraq. Andrew started his 15-year career in the army in the Transport Corps, transferred to the Survey Corps and then served in East Timor in the transport field again.

Partner Nikki also served in the army in Victoria for four years before leaving to have children



Vale



It is with regret that we announce the passing of **Wilf Bennallock**. Wilf had been an early member of the Corps but was most remembered as an honorary member of the Sergeants Mess. He lived behind the Regiment in Booth Street and as a previous employee of Mayfair helped organise the Xmas hams. His funeral in early May was attended by about ten members of the Association.

Judith Charlton has sadly reported the recent passing of **Ester Michael nee Robotham** who served during WW2 at Fortuna and also the passing of **Gwen Oldham nee McGowan** who also served at that time. Gwen had also lost her husband **John** earlier in the year.

Sick List

Doug Carswell came off his pushbike in spectacular fashion cracking ribs and badly breaking his wrist in 20 places. After a bone graft, a plate and a bout of pneumonia he was still able to march at Anzac Day. Mary Williams has broken both her wrists in a fall and Chris Edwards' s new wife Pauleen also broke her wrist at the airport. Go carefully everone !!!

Web Page

The production of the ExFortuna Web Page has been on the books for a few years now and it is finally in production. It will have links to the RASVY web site hosted by the Queensland Association <http://www.rasurvey.org> The History Project tab of the RASVY website has been updated with the information compiled to date. Much more work and information is needed, so please send any further information that you may have to the Queensland Assoc or to Kym Weston at kym@westonsweb.com

National RA Svy Association

The Queensland Association reports that negotiations are in hand with other State Committees for the formation of a National RA Svy Association. Such an Association would need to be incorporated and should this happen a Patron of national significance would be appointed. The Ex Fortuna Svy Association suggests that each Association nominate two delegates for this Australia wide Association. The Ex Fortuna Svy Assoc plans to submit nominations for Don Swiney MBE and Gary Warnest as its delegates for the National RASvy Association.

Gary Bondeson

I was staying at Chillagoe Cabins during a tour through northern Queensland where I discovered that our host was ex Survey Corps member – Gary Bondeson. He now runs these cabins and conducts tours of the area. I found out that the TV show "Getaway" is doing a segment on Chillagoe in which these cabins are being featured. I thought you may want to pass this information onto other ex Survey members as I believe it is to be aired this Friday, 31 May 08. Gary can be contacted by email on info@chillagoe.com or his website <http://www.chillagoe.com/>.

Gavan Bennett

Email: gavan.bennett@airservicesaustralia.com

Ed: Thanks for the email Gavan, when you visit the web site you can see Gary's Survey Corps background coming through with comprehensive maps and information.

Survey Corps Plaque Dedication Victoria Barracks, Sydney

The NSW Association dedication of the Royal Australian Survey Plaque at Victoria Barracks in Sydney is to be held at **Victoria Barracks on July 1, Corps Day, at 1100 hrs.** It would be appreciated if members wishing to attend the dedication would be kind enough to advise the Secretary by **the 7th June 2008.** We need to know the numbers for catering purposes and to advise the OIC of Victoria Barracks who will be attending.

I will be attending the Dedication. **Cost of Catering \$ 15.00**

Name.....

Address.....

City / Town..... State..... Post code.....

Telephone..... Email.....

Enclosed is my Cheque / Money Order for Catering \$.....

**Please return to: Secretary Survey Corps Association (NSW)
P.O. Box 14 BLAXLAND NSW 2774
Email aro@pnc.com.au**

Membership

The ExFortuna Survey Association fees remain unchanged 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>

COL ALEX LAING MEMORIAL DINNER

The Queensland Assoc is hosting the dinner at the United Service Club on Friday the 4 July 2008. The dinner celebrates the 93rd anniversary of the formation of the Australian Survey Corps on 1 July 1915. It is conducted in the very comfortable and appropriate surrounds of the Royal Room, of the United Service Club, Wickham Terrace, Brisbane. The dinner carries the title Colonel Alex Laing Memorial Dinner because it was Alex who inspired the first dinner on his visit to the Association in July 1997, only a few months before his untimely death. Alex's wife Dawn attends the dinner whenever she can make the trip from Canberra. **All past members of the Royal Australian Survey Corps and their dependants are welcome and encouraged to attend.** Rank held on leaving the Corps has no bearing on who may attend. The dinner is conducted along regimental lines but informality prevails. Port is passed at the conclusion of the meal and a toast is offered to her Majesty the Queen, our late Colonel in Chief, Diana, the Princess of Wales and the Royal Australian Survey Corps Association. The Association meets the cost of all beverages consumed both before and during the dinner. The meal is three course, excellently prepared and presented. Meal cost is in the vicinity of \$ 60.00.

Dress: Lounge suit or reefer jacket ensemble (with tie) is preferred; ladies 'after five'. Miniatures may be worn.

RSVP: direct to Bob Skitch by phone (07 5438 0550) mail (PO Box 1039 Caloundra 4551) or email (bob.skitch@runbox.com)



While in Canberra for the Governor General plaque unveiling I bumped into **Frank Fischer** from my early Survey Corps days. He had a photo of his Basic Survey Course that I am sure will be of interest to some of our members.

38/70 BASIC SURVEY COURSE SCHOOL OF MILITARY SURVEY, BONEGILLA VIC GRADUATION NIGHT

TOP: BILL BLACK (Instructor)

CENTRE: L to R: STEVO HINIC, BARRY STUART, RUSTY WILLIAMS, DENNIS MARSHALL

FRONT: PETER OSTERHAGE, BRUCE BOWERS, PHIL BOYLE, WALLY HERBST, UNKNOWN.



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