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Fortuna Villa's New Owner



Paul Banks, Fortuna Villa's proud new owner

As so many of us who served at Fortuna recall, history has many turns and unexpected changes with the “don’t buy a house in Bendigo, the Regiment is moving” still ringing in our ears. So it was, when the \$3 million dollar bid made by Bendigo property developer Spiros Kolaitis fell through in May this year, that Paul Banks with Fortuna Villa Pty Ltd shareholder Ben Calvert were able to make an offer of \$2.21 million dollars that was accepted to gain the jewel in the crown of Central Victoria’s historic buildings.

Fortuna Villa’s new owner, after rezoning, has plans for the heritage classified site that may possibly include:

- Establishing an exclusive five room boutique hotel,
- Tea Rooms,
- Wedding and venue hire for the multiple ballrooms,
- A day spa in sections of the house with smaller rooms, plus the restoration of the Roman baths,
- The building of an Aged Care residential facility,
- The development of the barrack buildings into town houses, and
- Possibly the establishment of a micro brewery.

Paul is excited on behalf of Bendigo, with the possibilities ahead, but “he knows that if he doesn’t take the people of Bendigo with him, it will not work.” His plans may involve partnerships in some of those mentioned enterprises.

“We have to choose our priorities. Our first is to put a lick of paint on the outside,” he said. Other priorities are the removal of “eyesore” outbuildings and some areas of asphalt. He has also started on cleaning up some of the grounds.

Paul kindly agreed to meet with me at Fortuna and candidly discussed his plans as we walked around the mansion. During that visit the care and feeling that Paul has for the building was very evident. Sure he has to also look at things that are done with good business sense, and we would not deny him that, but his desire to develop and restore things in sympathy with their history also came through.

He has been exceptionally understanding and receptive to our desires to celebrate part of the 100th Anniversary of the Survey Corps weekend in 2015 with a visit to Fortuna and an activity involving the memorial cairn.

I am confident that we can continue work closely with him in the future to our mutual benefit.

Paul Banks is seen here in the shadow of the statue of George Lansell, a previous owner of the Villa.





Look familiar but where are the turtles?
Many of you will be surprised to see that another one of these iconic baths is in Bendigo hidden from prying eyes in Lansellstowe.

"LANSELLSTOWE" - GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY! LANDMARK CITY MANSION C. 1913

For those of you who missed out on the purchase of Fortuna Villa you get a second chance. For a spare 2 million dollars or so, this could be your big chance.



To be offered as follows: Firstly: As a whole on 3163m², if not sold. Secondly: The mansion on 2403m².

Few city residences compare with the grandeur of this very special property. Constructed C. 1913 for its first owner, Mr L.V. Lansell and designed by renowned Architects' Beebe and Garvin. With the closing of the mines and the social changes wrought by the Great War, "Lansellstowe" was probably the last "mansion" built in Bendigo. Of special interest internally are the fine staircases and the large bow windowed rooms. There is also a marble bath and shower similar to the one at "Fortuna Villa".



TOTAL LAND AREA: 3163M2 with approved permit for a 3 Lot Subdivision. 2 Street frontage.

BUILDING DESCRIPTION: Built on three levels and containing 20 rooms (approx). Lansellstowe is an unusual design both within Bendigo and State contexts. Derived from the Italian Renaissance, the design is unique.

GROUND FLOOR: Formal Banquet Dining Room, jarrah flooring, bay window, Gentleman's room, original wood panelling, custom made Bar, Den, Cellar, Meals room, laundry, kitchen with stainless steel appliances, gas cooking, granite bench top and a large butler's pantry.

FIRST FLOOR: Expansive Formal Entrance, leadlight windows, stunning mahogany stairs, Ballroom, magnificent timber flooring, Lounge room, bay window, Drawing Room, Office, master bedroom, sunroom, ensuite, 3 other bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

SECOND FLOOR: 2 bedrooms, multipurpose room and a large balcony with stunning views.

OTHER OUTSTANDING FEATURES: 14' Pressed metal ceilings and parquetry flooring.

REMARKS: Not all homes are created equal! An important part of our City's early history, constructed for one of Bendigo's most famous families. No expense has been spared in the tasteful renovation and upkeep of this property



Craig Tweed (03) 5440 9500 indicates that inspection is by appointment only. I have included his number so you can race off now to arrange your pre-purchase inspection.

(Sorry but the sports car is not included)

VALE:



4231 **COLONEL Nathaniel Rickards John HILLIER (NRJ)**

He served in the Survey Corps from 26 Mar 1946 – 3 Jul 83

He was the Director from 1978 till his retirement.

THE retired army colonel largely responsible for the High Country Rail Trail on the old Wodonga-Cudgewa line, John Hillier, has died at the Westmont Homestead in Baranduda, 19 September 2013 aged 85.

Colonel Hillier spent 37 years in the Royal Australian Survey Corps, including a period as chief instructor at the Army School of Military Survey at Bonegilla.

He occupied the position of Colonel Commandant of the corps from 1989-93.

He had several overseas postings including Papua New Guinea, Singapore and Jakarta and advised several Pacific island nations on survey matters.

Colonel Hillier and his wife, Joy, and their three sons, all originally from Adelaide, first lived at Bonegilla in 1966.

They loved the area and after Colonel Hillier worked as a civilian in Darwin and Canberra, they moved back to the Border country in 1997.

One of the reasons for that move was that it allowed him to indulge in his love of sailing.

Colonel Hillier, an engine driver's son who lost his mother at seven, left school at 15 to work as a clerk and then a draughtsman.

After joining the army in 1946, his early cartographical duties included helping to map the Kosciuszko area for the Snowy Hydro project and working at the Woomera missile firing range in central Australia.

He was commissioned in 1951 as a Lieutenant and married Joy Harford in Adelaide in 1952.

While stationed in South Australia, Colonel Hillier was off work for 18 months with TB before serving in the survey school at Balcombe, survey headquarters at Bendigo and in Papua New Guinea in 1962-63.

Colonel Hillier returned to Balcombe as chief instructor and moved with the school to Bonegilla in 1966. He was seconded to the British Army in Singapore in 1967 to head its survey corps with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

From 1969 until retirement from the service in 1983 he held senior roles in Canberra and Jakarta. In civilian life, he worked for the Northern Territory Government and the Mineral Resources Bureau in Canberra.

From 2000 he worked tirelessly to preserve the disused Wodonga to Cudgewa line as a rail trail, lobbying governments to ensure this Crown land was not sold.

He founded advisory groups, lobbied for support, and negotiated grants of hundreds of thousands of dollars to develop the trail and restore bridges.

Parklands Albury-Wodonga once described him as: "Bower bird, map-maker, planner, recruiter, chaser of sponsors and grants, designer of signs, history and heritage adviser, working bee co-ordinator, risk management assessor and implementer and much, much more."

Colonel Hillier is survived by his wife Joy of 61 years, three sons, four grandchildren and a great-grandson. A private funeral was held in Albury on Friday 27 September.

Courtesy of the Border Morning Mail

Jim Jefferies has suggested that the possible refurbishment of the Trig quadrant at the old site of the School of Military Survey Bonegilla could also include some recognition of NRJ's contribution along with the information about the existence of the Survey School.

John Mobbs has put it well:

"John Hillier affected different people in different ways.

You only had to withstand one or two of his challenges to realise that there was a soft and generous heart beneath the gruff exterior. Despite that, I believe that his work as Director, to retain and improve the Corps' capabilities, during his time, was tireless. Remember, he was only a Colonel and all the big decisions were made by Brigadiers or equivalent.

I think he stood the test well.

Everyone has an NRJ story; such was the impact of the man. Rob McHenry has captured a better picture of the man and his significant achievements in the latest ACT Newsletter. I commend that article to you.

John Hillier was on hand at the Kiewa River crossing near Killara to see the final bridge span lowered into place. (2005)

(Part of the Rail Trail)



Cliff Swatton presented John Hillier with the "Mr Rail Trail" award. (2004)



Cpl Wally Mooney, 1968

34785 Cpl Walter Leslie (Wally) Mooney

Wally died peacefully at the age of 82 years in mid May this year, after being in care suffering from Parkinson's disease for some time, at the Glynde Lutheran Homes, Adelaide.

Wally served at Fortuna for about 20 years until 1970, and as a corporal managed the Other Ranks Tavern for many years, consequently he was known to most serving members who passed through the Regiment during that time, many of whom would still be able to recall his time in the tavern and be saddened at his passing. He was considered to be something of a character during his time and I'm certain many will recall with laughter a few of Wally's

escapades. (From the SA Newsletter)

1821 WO1 Percy Henry Long



He served from Oct 48- Nov 69

Percy died in late May this year at the Greenslopes Hospital in Brisbane.

Percy served

long term as a field surveyor in the Corps, retiring having done a tour of Vietnam. He was highly regarded for his ability as a surveyor and the integrity of his work in the field providing dependable control for mapping, and as an old school surveyor his passing will sadden many. Thanks Alex Cairney.



216481 WO2 George Edwin Graham

He served from Jul 65- Feb 96

George died unexpectedly at the age of 72 years in late June this year, about two days after what was hoped would be routine heart surgery at the Epworth Hospital in Melbourne. Although such procedures are not without risk, it was still a shock to his wife Pat.

George was a WO2 camera operator in Litho Sqn at the time he was discharged, retiring after 20 years service including a year in Vietnam during 1969/70. George had also been assisting other veterans in Bendigo to achieve their entitlements and his eulogy was conducted by the State President of the Vietnam Veterans Assoc Bob Elworthy.

Pat is finding it hard to get around these days but was appreciative of the support that their many close friends provided.



Bob Chandlerlain, Grog Kilmack, George Graham, Chris Osborne, John Nichol, Frank Lenane, Terry Edwards, Bill Jones, GJ, Peter Ineson, Warren "Wallo" Sharley, Mick Ellis, Garman Hill

As a mark of the esteem that George held within the Fortuna community, the large crowd containing many past Survey Corps members made a guard of honour to farewell George.



Some faces in the photo are:
Far side, Don Swiney, Stuart Thaxter,
Noel Coulthard, Peter Biorac, and this
side, Bob Rogister, Rowan Gillies and
Rhys Delaine.



Seen here L to R are: Phil Smalley, George Timmins, Tracey Phillips, Sam Chambers, Rusty Williams, John Phillips, Stu Symonds, Heather Slater, Dick Barwald, Lloyd Patterson and Joyce Gray

The Canberra Times notified the death of **Joyce (Joy) Buckland** wife of former DSvy, BRIG Frank Buckland who passed away on 7 October 13. Condolences to her daughter Sue Hopman and family.

Country boy Bill Forrest receives NAIDOC honour

By Kristen Alebakis, July 15, 2013

The Loddon Aboriginal Action Group hosted a dinner and awards night as part of NAIDOC Week celebrations. Event organiser Aunty Louise Sinnappan said it was an important night for the community. She said Mr Forrest was a deserved winner.



“He has worked with the traditional owners of Bendigo, he has done a lot for our community,” Ms Sinnappan said. “He has a wonderful history and it was great to see him get acknowledged for the wonderful work he has done.” The 79-year-old said he was surprised to have won the award. “I was lost for words,” he said. Mr Forrest, originally from Western Australia, has lived a long life filled with many ups and downs. He was a member of the stolen generation,

taken away from his mother when he was only a couple of weeks old. Mr Forrest said he was bought up in a children’s home alongside former VFL champion Polly Farmer.

He then joined the armed forces and while fighting on the frontline in Korea, he received a message from his captain. “All the message said was to go and see the boss when we had finished. “I had gotten a letter from Australia saying my mother was trying to find me. “She had heard that I was in the army. So when I finished my service I went a met her for the first time in Western Australia.

”Mr Forrest was in the army for 26 years before settling in Bendigo. “I was based at Puckapunyal when I was in the army so I decided to live in Bendigo,” he said. “I am a country boy.” Mr Forrest said he also worked at Fortuna Villa for 18 years, working throughout the historic grounds. “There are 72 rooms in that place and I have been in them all,” he said.

The man with the Green Thumb

You may remember **Ken Maes** from Fortuna as the friendly and knowledgeable gardener for over seven years. Ken is seen here with his standard rose “*Rosea Fortuner*” that he has grown from a cutting from the Fortuna gardens. A fairly apt name for a the rose don’t you think. Ken was one of the original gardeners to help setup the Bendigo racecourse gardens and those that come to the 100th Anniversary of the Survey Corps will see the fruits of his current labour, helping to develop the Goldmines Hotel gardens with owner Rick Walduck.



Birty's Bitter

A recent article in the Army Newspaper headed “In memory of a mate.” It read:



A fellow soldier has brewed a beer in the name of Cpl Ashley Birt, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2011. ANZAC Day was a very special occasion for the family and friends of fallen soldier Cpl Ashley Birt as they sampled a new beer brewed in his honour and bearing his name. Birty's Bitter was made commercially available for the day of remembrance in Cpl Birt's hometown of Gympie, in Queensland, and also in Brisbane near his former unit of 6ESR.

For you mate: Cpl Nick Wiseman brewed Birty's Bitter in memory of Cpl Ashley Birt (pictured inset). He shared one with Cpl Birt's father, Don, at the Gympie Royal Hotel on Anzac Day. Photo Craig Warhust, The Gympie Times

The beer was originally designed and made at home by Cpl Nick Wiseman who is an **Army** reporter. Cpl Wiseman met Cpl Birt while at the School of Military Engineering in 2008 when he was on his Geospatial Basic course. “He was one of those people that everyone liked straight away,” he said. “I was on my Multimedia Technician course and although we were on separate courses we did PT, sport and other social activities together.”

The next time Cpl Wiseman heard Cpl Birt's name was after his death from an insider attack in Afghanistan. Cpl Wiseman said he was the first soldier killed that he had personally known and it really hit home. “When the name was released I didn't believe it at first,” he said. “After a few months I knew I had to do something in his honour and as a keen home brewer it made sense to make a beer I could have on tap all year round to remember a mate.” He designed a mid-strength ale based on the classic English pale ale, or bitter, which was an “easygoing beer dedicated to an easygoing bloke”.

“I remember he was always a happy bloke, having fun and loved his sports from that short time I got to know him.” Cpl Wiseman and other friends joined Cpl Birt's family to share a beer together on Anzac Day while reminiscing about the times they shared with Cpl Birt. Cpl Wiseman said he hadn't ever thought making a beer at home in the memory of another soldier would lead to anything, but a friend of the Birt family learned what he had done and asked for the recipe to make the brew for Cpl Birt's family. One thing led to another and the beer ended up being professionally brewed and made available to the public.

“I just started this for myself at home and any visitors I had and all of sudden it has grown in to this experience. I still can't believe it,” Cpl Wiseman said.

Cpl Birt's mother, Linda, said it was an amazing tribute to their son. “I just know he will be smiling down on us as we have a beer for him,” she said. “I am absolutely in awe of how much response we have had for the beer and the numerous people who have asked for it in bottles.” His father, Don, was also overwhelmed by the occasion. “I'm sure Ash would like it,” he said.

The beer was meant as a once-off commercial offering for Anzac Day 2013, although some are interested in seeing it available more often.

Balcombe Barracks Commemoration



The badges of the units that occupied Balcombe, Army Apprentice School, School of Military Survey, School of Signals, School of Music, 1st Div US Marine Corps and WRAAC.



Balcombe Barracks Commemoration took place from 3 to 5 May 2013. The Royal Australian Survey Corps was represented by Bill Boyd, Max Neil and Don Swiney. The following account, with supporting photographs was provided by Bill Boyd. Thanks Bill.

Balcombe 2013 – A nostalgic weekend – by Bill Boyd OAM

The commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of the 1st Division US Marines Guadalcanal campaign was the catalyst for the events in Mornington on the weekend of the 3rd, 4th and 5th of May. All previous “tenants” were invited to participate. As best I could ascertain all groups were represented at the organised events at three venues in the Mornington area.

You might well ask where the US Marines fit. They were encamped at Balcombe after they “shipped out” of Guadalcanal. As you will see in, *The Mantle Fits*, the marines took us to heart, as indeed, did we them, back in 1942. They were represented by Colonel John Stevens USMC (R) who at ninety four “Waltzed Matilda” down Main Street Mornington as deftly as he might have waltzed a “Mornington Matilda” way back then.

The weekend format was logical, with registration on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning at the Mornington Race Course.

The unveiling ceremony was on Saturday afternoon where previous “ Balcombe tenant” stake holders’ representatives unveiled duplicates of the permanent story boards that outlined the roles of those stakeholders in Balcombe. These were ‘virtual unveilings’ that were performed in the well appointed shelter of the Balcombe Grammar School assembly hall which is situated where the Army Apprentice School Metal Trades Wing had been.

Don Swiney did the honours for the School of Military Survey. Brass plaques on rock plinths with their accompanying permanent story boards are installed on a median strip in the car park which once was the Apprentice School parade ground, just inside the memorial gates (built by the Apprentices as a memorial to the 1st Div US Marines) which are the access from the Nepean Highway to Mace Oval. This oval was part of the apprentice school facilities. Concern over fickle weather resulted in the “virtual unveilings”.



The Principal of the Balcombe Grammar School, Mr. Matthew Dodd, addressed the assembly, in excess of five hundred, consisting in no small part of local citizens. His message was that Balcombe Grammar School is acutely aware of the historical significance of the site they occupy, not only from a military perspective, but in particular the educational history of their military predecessors. His seven year old school has become part of the proud educational history of “Camp Balcombe” and today’s students are imbued with that history. The manner, presentation and bearing of the student welcoming group who distinguished themselves that day, bodes well for Balcombe Grammar’s future.

About five hundred attended the Saturday night dinner at the Mornington Race Course. The food and company was good. The speeches were pertinent and made good listening. The one identifiable

survey representative and his wife, occupied a table for ten designated for "Survey/WRAAC" together with two WRAAC representatives and one ex-infantry husband.

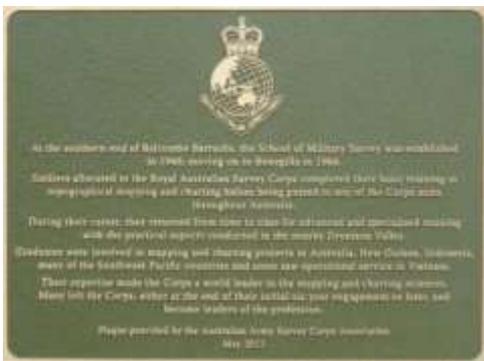
Sunday morning saw us formed up in two groups front and rear of the excellent Army Band Melbourne, with which we paraded to the Mornington Cenotaph for a memorial service and wreath laying. Bill Boyd did the honours for Survey Corps.



The Dava Hotel was the venue for post cenotaph morning tea which, for many participants, morphed into lunch and something a little stronger.

Don Swiney, Max Neil (also an ex-apprentice) and Bill and Ann Boyd "showed the Survey flag", which consisted of Bill's purple beret. Unfortunately Don was only able to attend on Saturday afternoon.

Max Neil added, "I graduated from the Apprentices School in 1961 before transferring to RASvy after completing my fitting and turning apprenticeship at Broadmeadows in 1962 so I spent a good deal of time in dear old "Balcatraz" as we called it...hence the AAS badge on my cap at the reunion."



The plaque reads –

At the southern end of Balcombe Barracks the School of Military Survey was established in 1948, moving on to Bonegilla in 1966. Soldiers allocated to the Royal Australian Survey Corps completed their basic training in topographical mapping and charting before being posted to any of the Corps units throughout Australia. During their career they returned from time to time for advanced and specialised training with the practical aspects conducted in the nearby Dromana Valley. Graduates were involved in mapping and charting projects in Australia, New Guinea, Indonesia and many of the South West Pacific countries and some saw operational service in Vietnam. Their expertise made the Corps a world leader in mapping and charting sciences.

Many left the Corps, either at the end of their initial six year engagement or later and became leaders of their profession. Plaque provided by the Australian Army Survey Corps Association – May 2013.

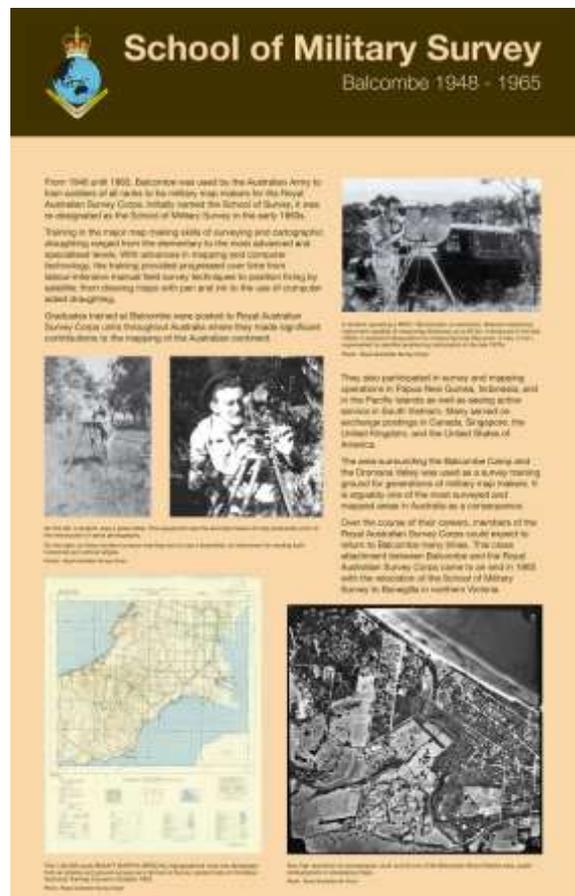
The Story Board text: From 1948 until 1965 Balcombe was used by the Australian Army to train soldiers of all ranks to be military map-makers for the Ruyal Australian Survey Corps Initially named the School of Survey it was re-designated as the School of Military Survey in the early 1960s.

Training in the major map making skills of surveying and cartographic draughting ranged from elementary to the most advanced and specialised levels.. With advances in mapping and computer technology, the training provided progressed over time from labour intensive manual field survey techniques to position fixing by satellite, and from drawing maps with pen and ink to the use of computer-aided draughting.

Graduates trained at Balcombe were posted to Royal Australian Survey Corps units throughout Australia where they made significant contributions to the mapping of the Australian continent.

They also participated in survey and mapping operations in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and the Pacific Islands as well as seeing active service in Vietnam. Many served on exchange postings in Canada, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The area surrounding the Balcombe camp and the Dromana Valley was used as a survey training ground for generations of military map makers. It is arguably one of the most surveyed and mapped areas in Australia as a consequence. Over the course of their careers members of the Royal Australian Survey Corps could expect to return to Balcombe many times. The close attachment between Balcombe and the Royal Australian Survey Corps came to an end in 1965 with the relocation of the School of Military Survey to Bonegilla in Northern Victoria.



Survey Corps Badges

I heard about these badges at a Bendigo swap meet earlier in the year and found that an Ex Survey Corps member had them for sale. Les Stillman who runs Les Stillman Militaria from Melbourne has this set of Australian Survey Corps badges. **Hat badge and pair of collars. 1938-1942. Oxidised copper. in very good condition for \$750.00.**

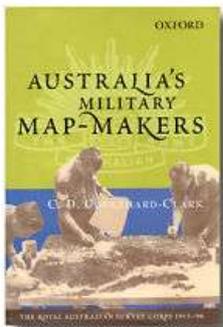
Unfortunately he cannot guarantee availability, as they could sell at any time.

He can be contacted by Email at: lesstillman@bigpond.com or mobile: (0407820868)



And who said our Survey Corps History was not valuable.

Ebay doesn't agree!!



C D Coulthard-Clark AUSTRALIA'S MILITARY MAP-MAKERS Royal Australian Survey Corp for AU \$114.96 +AU \$9.00 postage

Paul Hunter (Hutch)

A surprise name coming out of the latest Federal Elections was that of our own Paul Hunter representing the Bob Katter Australia party. He was running in the outer Brisbane southern suburbs electorate of Forde that encompasses Logan City. It was a big ask running against heavy weights such as Peter Beatty. Bert van Manen won the seat with 33,081 votes, Peter Beatty had 28,003 and Paul gained 1,247 votes.



DIKKO by Rene (Bob) Dikkenberg, (The last Geo Tech SSGT in the army)

Melbourne Survey Reunion

Norm McMurtrie worked on a Survey Reunion in Melbourne for over the weekend of 25th - 28th April. Ken Jeffery, Rob Langley and a couple of others have been making an annual pilgrimage to Melbourne for the last 42 years for the reunion. This year they get together at the Montmorency RSL coincided with Anzac Day.

Roger Green reported that "The gathering was a very casual and enjoyable evening over dinner and a few beers. There was lots of reminiscing and trying to remember names." Thanks for the photos Roger.



Norm McMurtrie, Tom Zentai and Andy Wilson at the Montmorency RSL

Bill Black, Lindsay Saunders and Ken Jeffery



Peter Harrup, Rob Langley and Adrian Rynberk

Roger Green, Peter Harrup, Joe McCrae and Adrian Rynberk



Retirements

As previously mentioned Phil Smalley has joined the retirement ranks early in the New Year. Others taking packages and retiring are Noel McNamara (Macca), Ian Belmont, Lance Hillier, Tracey and John Phillips, Harald Mai, Bob Garritty and Anne Greenwood.

This retirement is hard work, but someone has to do it..... (At the Reservoir Hotel)



100th Anniversary Royal Australian Survey Corps - Bendigo

I am now able to confirm the following Ex Fortuna Survey Assoc activities for the 100th Anniversary of the Survey Corps to be held in Bendigo 2015.

- **Wednesday 1 July 2015** - National Library **Canberra**, afternoon presentation, followed by an evening function.
- **Friday 3 July 2015** – Evening arrival Bendigo RSL Bistro Meal own arrangements
- **Saturday 4 July 2015** – 1030hrs Civic Reception Bendigo town hall (400?) Corps Banners, Medals, Main Group photo taken, Mayoral address. Survey Corps Memorabilia available.
- **Saturday 4 July 2015** – 1900hrs Main Function All Seasons Function Centre Bendigo (400? plus official guests) Corps Director guest Speaker. Partially subsidised two course meal and drinks on arrival. Other drinks own arrangements. Limited Survey tech and historical displays. Slide show.
- **Sunday 5 July 2015** – 1200hrs BBQ Lunch Goldmines Hotel Bendigo and gardens. Limited cost.
- **Sunday 5 July 2015** – 1500hrs Commemorative Service, Unveiling of Survey Story Board and brass plaque at Memorial Cairn Fortuna Villa. Photo opportunities. Cutting of the Cake and afternoon tea provided.

This is our big opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the Royal Australian Survey Corps achievements and the contribution that we and those that came before us played. The 100th Anniversary is a significant milestone and it needs to be appropriately recognised. These celebrations are open to all past members, families and friends of the Corps and your attendance is encouraged and welcome. **Considering a number of logical factors, it is highly likely that this will be the Last Big Survey Corps gathering, so you are advised to make the most of this opportunity.**

A visitors/attendance book will be circulating throughout the weekend among other planned activities to make this a memorable reunion.

Accommodation in various forms will be available through the Bendigo Tourist information centre with discounts at the All Seasons Function Centre, more to follow.

We will be circulating an attendance sheet with costing a little closer to the date, so the purpose of this Email is to just inform you of the events.

Indications of attendance and prepayments will be requested closer to the event.

For the Civic Reception I ask that all attendees wear medals and Survey Corps attire and if possible the banners of all kindred Survey Associations be represented. I am hoping that the 2/1 Banner may also be in attendance. This is planned as the main official photographic record of the 100th Anniversary both inside and outside the town hall. Smaller group photos with the Mayor will also be possible on the day.

See you in Bendigo 2015.

**For widest dissemination through your networks please.
Individuals, mark it in your diaries/phone calendars..... Now!**

Faces of the Corps – 100th Anniversary

As part of the 100th anniversary of the Corps activities to be conducted by the Canberra Association, we would like to produce a "Faces of the Corps" presentation. The idea is to get a photo of as many Corps members as possible, ideally but not necessarily connected with a Corps activity, and project them on a large screen in a continuous loop during our reception and/or dinner on the 1 July 2015. Noting the years and the number of people who have served in the Corps, we will obviously not be successful in adding everyone to the presentation. However, I seek your help in getting as many as possible - not just from Canberra but from all over Australia. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if each state representative passed this email on to their members and if each member who receives this would contribute to our "Faces of the Corps" presentation.

John Mobbs has volunteered to produce the presentation and all images should be forwarded to him. A maximum file size of 2Mb per image would be appreciated. Also, if anyone has analogue pics and can't get them scanned, John has also volunteered to do that for them and return them by mail.

John's contact details are:

email: jdmhome@inet.net.au, Ph: 02 4471 1322, Mob: 0404 820 776, Skype: Horrebaw
Postal: P.O. Box 3413, Batehaven NSW 2536, Australia

Blue Mountains Fire

I spoke to **Richard Jackson-Hope (Jacko)** this morning. He was in his home at Springwood. He said he was at home when he spotted a puff of smoke on a ridge to the west. He immediately rang 000. Twenty minutes later the fire was in the gully about one hundred metres to the rear of the house. Jacko estimated the speed of the winds at 100 kilometres/hour. It was very dark under the smoke while he was fighting the fire. He was able to save the house. The caravan and a large shed which contained all of his survey gear and computer equipment was destroyed. The three houses to the north of his were totally destroyed. Both Jacko and Ann are safe.

I first met Jacko in a hut at Kapooka in February 1958; two seventeen year old boys just out of school. We were allotted to RASvy where we did the 13/58 Basic Course. We remained friends and often meet in Canberra, Springwood or Sydney. Jacko has been a member of the SES for many years, helping others in trouble and need. He is also on the Board of the Springwood Hospital. He also runs the NSW branch of the Ex-Survey Corps Association. Have a look at the NSW bulletin on the RASvy website.

I believe that one of ours who has so unselfishly helped many others should be helped by us in some way. I don't have anything in particular in mind, so I am open to suggestions. I hope to be in Springwood early next week.

Regards,

Noel Ticehurst (02) 6254 4255, 0429 233 742

Magna Carto Postal Distribution

The Magna Carto is no longer distributed largely by post.

The Magna Carto is available through the ExFortuna Survey Association Homepage.

www.exfortunasy.org.au If you haven't visited the site yet, go and have a look. It includes previous Magna Carto and photos.

Membership Remains at \$10 per year and we are able to accept Internet Banking Transfers

Name: Ex Fortuna Survey Association BSB: 633-000 Account No: 101109718

Reference: "Your Name"

It is also requested that those paying by Internet Transfer, Email Tracey on phipsys@tpg.com.au

2013 AGM

The 2013 AGM is to be held at the **Gold Mines Hotel Marong Road, Bendigo.** (03) 54436175 on **Friday 8 Nov 2013.**

Drinks at 1700hrs with meeting start at 1730hrs.

As usual this will be a short but informative meeting.

Please come along even for a short while to enjoy the company and ensure that we have enough numbers for a quorum. Bar snacks provided. A bistro meal is available for anyone wishing to stay on after the meeting. Please come.



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