



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](mailto:grw@netcon.net.au)

Secretary: Tracey Phillips (03) 5449 6330 (AH) [phipsys4@bigpond.com](mailto:phipsys4@bigpond.com)

Treasurer : Bob Thrower

Committee : Phil Smalley, Stuart Symonds, John Phillips

Melbourne Rep: Adrian Rynberk (03) 9561 7190 (AH), Email [rynberk@bigpond.com](mailto:rynberk@bigpond.com)

## Fortuna Renovations Commence



The conservatory, turret and villa veranda have been restored.

The Bendigo Weekly has reported that the facelift of Fortuna Villa has started. Owner Paul Banks said the conservatory, turret and veranda have been restored.

"The villa has begun to receive a long awaited paint job and in conjunction with Haymes Paint, Provincial Constructions and Rapid Powder Coating the works are full steam ahead with the building being brought back to life in its original heritage colours," he said.

"We will be opening a café and shop also conducting tours first up; followed by a wedding venue in a year with long term intention of boutique hotel accommodation, works have begun in every way possible the guidelines are simple and we follow them.

"We have revealed the conservatory now that we have 24-hour, live-in maintenance and security and restoration to the famous leadlight turret is complete and the remaining front will take place in the new year.

"We are also near completion of the Pompeii fountain and should have it fully sealed and all systems go before the end of the year".

In other Fortuna news, Greater Bendigo council has received two objections to the planning scheme amendment of the villa, one from nearby residents and another from a member of the Friends of Fortuna Villa group.



Paul Banks, Fortuna Villa's at the public session

The Bendigo Advertiser reported that residents had aired their concerns about Paul Banks' vision for Fortuna Villa, noting the potential of excess noise, restricted views and increased traffic.

Most attendees of a public session, held recently to discuss the proposed rezoning of the site, praised the owner of Fortuna for his grand vision. But some nearby residents questioned future planning.

One resident, who lives opposite the site, shared concerns about future outdoor concerts planned at the site.

"We can hear the alarm going off in Fortuna as it is so I'm worried about what implications the entertainment will create in regards to noise," he said.

He also said the road abutting the site was already dangerous, and was worried that increased traffic would result in even more accidents. But a council representative ensured the meeting that any future development would undergo stringent analysis, as well as the regular planning permit process.

Mr Banks said "I think the information evening was useful, but some residents just needed clarification and explanation in writing," he said.

"Overall to only receive two submissions re-assures me I am doing the right thing towards the villa and the people of Bendigo.

"It's always a shame to get any negative response, but I am trying to avoid a panel meeting which could see the villa come to a standstill for up to two years, so it's in my best interest to satisfy the two submissions.

"The economics from my end of proceeding to a panel would be extreme and I would prefer that the money be spent on the villa restoration".

The City of Greater Bendigo considered the Fortuna Re-zoning application in February but then passed the application to an independent panel to consider the issue.

The concerns surrounding historic Fortuna Villa were then discussed at an independent panel hearing in late March, the Bendigo Advertiser reported.

A unique clause in the C204 amendment - which relates directly to Fortuna Villa - states that once design controls are set for the block of land, the community will no longer be able to object to any future development.

Once guidelines have been approved, residents will no longer be able to appeal or object to development.

The design guidelines will remain in place even if the block of land is sold to another development.

A representative for Booth Street residents said the objectors were not against development at Fortuna, but said it was a serious concern that residents would lose their right to appeal. He is calling on the clause to be removed or modified to reinstate the rights of residents.

However owner Paul Banks has at this stage refused to remove the clause from the amendment, but said he has had been delighted with the outcomes of the consultative process.

"There will always be issues and valid perspectives in a project like this which is so important and heartfelt to the community," he said.

"We have been encouraged by the support of the City of Greater Bendigo, Heritage Victoria and the state government planning department."

"The sooner we can get the gates open to the public, the better."

The deliberations of the panel will now be duly considered by council and state government but nothing more has been heard so far.

## Vale

### 35961 SGT Peter Henry Saunders



Peter Served in the Survey Corps from April 1956 to October 1976.

Peter was a Litho Squadron printer for most of his Army career and was one of the characters of the Corps. He was an avid sportsman and had coached the Fortuna Aussie Rules Team. Peter was a no frills sort of a guy and that was reflected in the simple thanksgiving service held in Bendigo on Friday 28 March. The service was attended by many Ex Survey Corps types, representatives from The Golden Square Bowling Club, family and friends. Peter was 77 years old and it was lung cancer that got him in the end.

His son Steven was the MC and he ran through Peter's family history (quite a few amusing tales as we have come to expect) and was followed by Mal Finch from the Golden Square Bowling Club.

Mal outlined Peter's long history at the club and rattled off an impressive list of positions that Peter occupied within the club. They included Life Member, President, Bowling Coach and assistant groundsman.



It was a fitting send-off for Peter and the many Bowls Club members present formed a Guard of Honour.

A number of Ex RASvy people attended the service :

Peter Mansell, Mick & Rhonda Dempster, Tom Royle, Stan Vote, Bill & Yvonne Forrest, Gary Warnest, Mick Flynn, Terry Edwards, Mal Grant, Doug Carswell, Rowan Gillies, Phil Smalley, Jeff Willey, Stu Symonds, Colin Cuskelly, Trevor Osborne and his wife Christine and Frank Thomas (a quiet reserved Hon member of the Sergeants" Mess and a bowls mate)



Jeff Willey, Trevor and Chistine Osborne



Stu Symonds, Tom Royle, Colin Cuskelly, Doug Carswell, Phil Smalley, Stan Vote and Terry Edwards at the service.

We adjourned to the Bowling Club for a light lunch and an afternoon "tea".



Rhonda Dempster, Peter Mansell, Bill (Rocker) Forrest and Stu Symonds at the Golden Square Bowling Club.

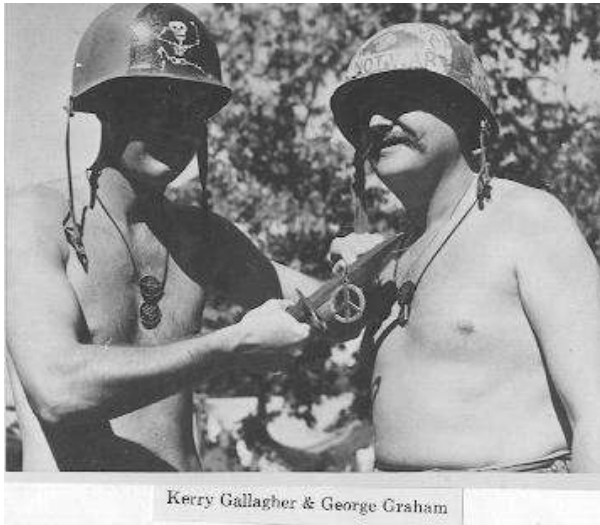
Peter Mansell commented "All in all, a bloody good day for a bloody good bloke."

Mal Grant informed us that Peter's ashes were sprinkled around the greens last Monday.

Mal also added that he had just been speaking to Stan Campbell and he has recovered from major surgery and he and Helen are flying to Miami on Thursday to embark on a 40 day cruise by sea so his health must be fine for him to undertake such a journey.

Stan hopes to be present at the Survey Reunion next year and Mal hopes to be there as well.

## 216481 WO2 George Edwin Graham



Another photo has emerged showing George and Kerry hard at work during their Vietnam tour.

## WO1 Ken Johnston OAM, MM

Ken Johnston was the RSM at the Survey Regiment in 1995.

The Army newspaper records that unfortunately Ken succumbed to cancer in March. Ken joined the Army in 1966 and served till 2002. He was awarded the MM for two actions in Vietnam as a section commander with B Coy 2 RAR in August and December 1970, resulting in the deaths of ten enemy. He was wounded in action on both occasions and continued to direct his section throughout the contacts. He had previously served in Vietnam with the SASR in 1968 and although he wanted to



return for a third tour with the Australian Army Training Team (AATT) his injuries prevented this. He was awarded his OAM in 1990 for service as the RSM of the Battle School at Tully.

WO1 Peter Coombes replaced Ken as RSM in 1996 and became the last Army Survey Regiment RSM.

## DFRDB Indexation

*The Australian Government is committed to ensuring fair indexation is applied to DFRB and DFRDB retirement pay for recipients aged 55 and over. The Government will ensure that fair indexation will be delivered and funded in the Government's first budget with the new measure to apply from 1 July 2014. DFRB and DFRDB retirement pay recipients aged 55 and over will see their retirement pay indexed in the same way as age and service pensions.*

The Bill was passed by the House on 26 March 2014 and will now go to the Senate. The Bill was supported by the Labor Party. Speakers included three ALP members, one Independent and twenty one LNP members. The Bill's Second and Third Readings in the House are recorded in Hansard.

An amendment by Andrew Wilkie to include under age 55 DFRB/DFRDB superannuates was defeated.

**Hopefully, the Senate with ALP support will pass the Bill.**



**Another Classic Photo for the Photo Album.**

The Prime Minister will want to keep this special one with WO2 Lee Palfrey and Brian Johnson (BJ).



Some things don't change in the new 2014 digital? environment.

## The Cambrian Hotel

Doug Carswell's two sons have taken over the lease to the Cambrian Hotel in Bendigo and it was a good reason for this to be selected as the venue for one of the Scratches, Chainmen and Trogg dinners held at various places around Bendigo. Wayne Rothwell (Rags) and Mick Flynn have been doing a great job organising these dinners for many years, well done. Another great night.



Wayne Rothwell (not looking at us), Phil Smalley, Mick Flynn, Fred Cowie , Sharron and Peter Trebble over from Maryborough, Paul Cheater, Brenton McDonald and Doug Carswell

Again at the Cambrian in April when Fred Brown visited from WA.

Doug Carswell, Gary Warnest, Rowan Gillies and of course Fred Brown.



## Retirements

Bob Rogister has now joined the ranks of the retired and he and Kathy took advantage of the timing to head overseas on a well deserved holiday cruising through Europe.

## 100th Anniversary Royal Australian Survey Corps - Bendigo

The Ex Fortuna Survey Association now announces the release for sale of their 100th Anniversary Cap. Caps can be ordered through the secretary and payment can be made by direct deposit with the details at the end of the newsletter. Caps are \$15 ea plus postage.





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

- **Wednesday 1 July 2015 - Canberra** 1100hrs Wreath Laying at Australian War Memorial, afternoon display at the National Library Canberra 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 technical 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 made. The 100<sup>th</sup> 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 is just to inform you of the events so that you can reserve the spot in your diary or calendar.

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 100<sup>th</sup> 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 – 100<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:jdmhome@inet.net.au), Ph: 02 4471 1322, Mob: 0404 820 776, Skype: Horrebaw

Postal: P.O. Box 3413, Batehaven NSW 2536, Australia

Steve Pick provided this conundrum. This is Lance Percy at Fortuna in 1972, with a Carto Squadron Pte, but what is her name?



### 2014 Anzac Day - 3 Aust Field Survey Coy AIF

An invitation is extended to all members of the Survey Corps to join with the members of 3 Aust Field Survey Coy AIF for the 2014 Anzac Day march in Melbourne. The Survey Coy is arranging for WWII veterans to be in vehicles and others to march. If you are in Melbourne and intend to march then: **PLEASE CONTACT Bill Black on 03 9889 2143** or Email ([blakmail@bigpond.net.au](mailto:blakmail@bigpond.net.au)).

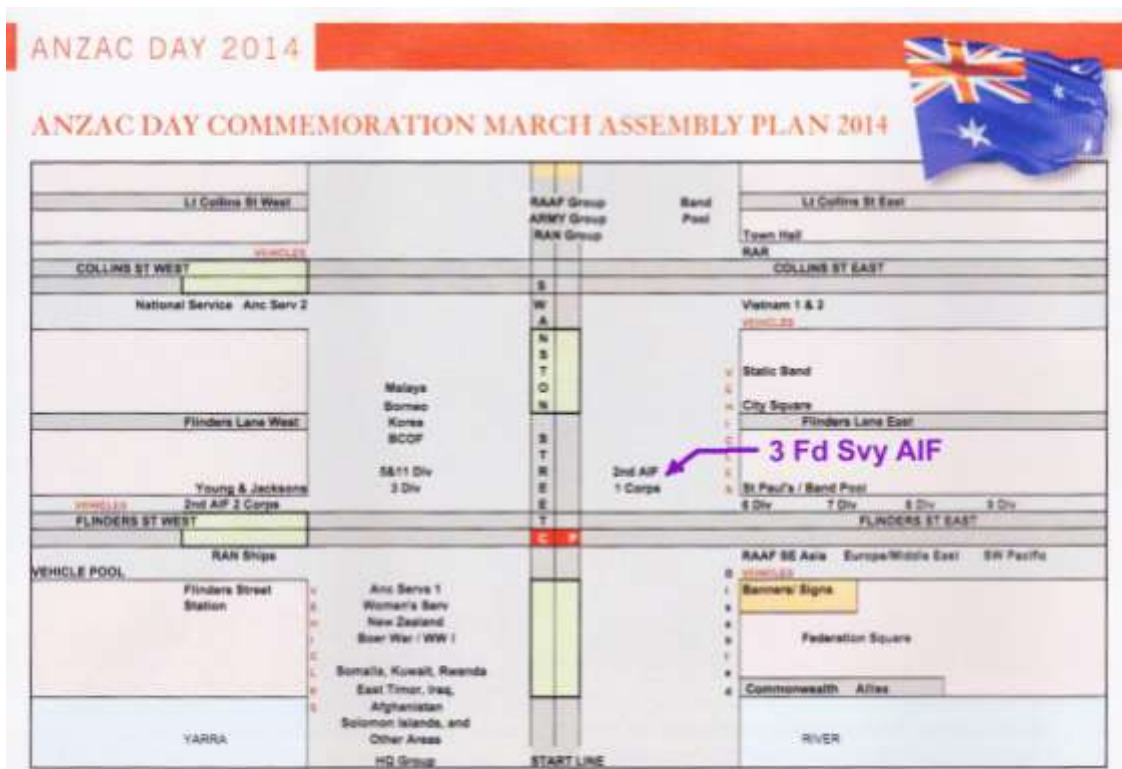
The dawn service at the Shrine of Remembrance is held between 0545hrs and 0630hrs.

The march on Friday 25 April commences from the form-up location and proceeds down St Kilda road for about 1 km to the Shrine. The form-up position is with the 1 Corps of 2AIF and is located on Swanston St East between Flinders St and Flinders Lane. See the map below. The step off time for the Survey Group is thought to be approximately 0945hrs so that anyone wishing to participate should be there by 0915hrs.



Directly after the march, 3 Aust Field Survey Coy AIF have a cuppa near the NE corner of the Shrine and then move to the Survey Corps Tree located on the Western side of the Shrine and hold a short commemorative service. Following the service members move to the Survey Corps lunch and (possibly a beer) at the **“Bull and Bear Tavern”** – 347 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, situated between Elizabeth and Queen Streets. Take the steps down to the reserved function room. If there is anyone who is not able to make the march you are more than welcome to join them for lunch, however please let them know of your intention for catering reasons. Lunch will be at your own expense.

Dress for the march would generally be neat casual or better and include medals. Survey Corps or Survey Association badges/ ties and in particular berets (either purple or blue) are strongly encouraged.



## 2014 Anzac Day - Bendigo

The dawn Service commences at 0600hrs at the Bendigo Cenotaph. For those wishing to march at that service, form-up is at 0550hrs at the Memorial Hall. This is followed by a limited "Gunfire breakfast" back at the Memorial Hall.

We will again march in Bendigo behind our Association Banner in 2014. **If you intend to march this year then please let the secretary, Tracey Phillips know.**

As usual the form- up point is the same as last year opposite the Bendigo Regional TAFE in McCrae Street and members are asked to be at this location by NLT 1030hrs on Friday 25 April. Members are requested to wear medals and some form of Survey Corps apparel. You are encouraged to wear a beret.

Following the march and service it is planned that the group would re-deploy to the **Gold Mines Hotel** (Ed's pub) where snacks and Lunch will also be available this year. **Please come and join us even if you are not marching, and pass the word around.** Some may wish to then move onto the RSL at Havilah Road.



### Anzac Day in Bendigo 2013

Prior to the march L to R: Gary Warnest, Phil Smalley, Alan Derby, Tracey Phillips (with scarf), Rhys Delaine, Doug Carswell, Bob Thrower, Terry Edwards, Bob Rogister, Brett van Leeuwin, Paul Davis, Stu Thaxter, Harald Mai, Eric Nicholson, Brett Treneman, Jeff Willey and Roy Hicks.



Gary laying a wreath amongst the large crowd.

At the Goldmines after the March



The Girls L to R:

Tracey Phillips, Donna Smalley, Kristin Skidmore and Chris Carswell

Gary W, Joyce Gray, Kristin S, Doug C and John Bateman visiting from Queensland



John Bateman even brought his own map of Heathcote, not sure if it is a silk map or a relief map or even a handkerchief, but thanks for showing it to us John. Not sure why we would need an escape map to get either into or out of Heathcote, but one thing is for sure it will be rare map.

## Lance Hillier and Bridget Robertson

For those that came to the first Friday drinks at the Goldmines this month they would have been entertained well because Lance Hillier and Bridget Robertson were there to release their new Anchor and the Butterfly album. Lance an Ex Survey Corps member has recently retired from DIGO. Another artist started the evening to warm up the crowd and later played with the group. That turned out to be the hat wearing Brett Marshall, son of our well known Dennis and Joy Marshall. Great night guys, all the best with the album.



Lance Hillier, Brett Marshall and Bridget with her guitar

## A Brief History of the Australian Army Ed4

Title            The Australian Army: A Brief History  
Contributors   Australia. Department of Defence, Maurice Austin  
Publisher       Australian Government Pub. Service, 1985  
ISBN            0644501472, 9780644501477  
Length          32 pages



Graham Johnson reports:

I was surprised not to find any mention of RASVY or the previous RASVY under Engineers in the document "The Australian Army a Brief History". I rang the Army History Unit and they said it was only a brief history. I said if the Band Corps and Pay Corps got a mention then as it was a history document, RASVY should do as well. They have asked for words and pictures to be supplied for the next edition. Bit disappointing that the Unit responsible for our history did not originally acknowledge the RASVY contribution, especially as we come up to our 100th Anniversary. **We need to fix this.**

## 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.exfortunasvy.org.au](http://www.exfortunasvy.org.au) If you haven't visited the site yet, go and have a look. It includes previous Magna Carto and photos.

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# "Magna Carto"

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