

SURVEY EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA

President	George Ricketts	Ph.
Secretary/Treasurer	Alex Munro	Ph.
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NEWSLETTER No. 11
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EDITORIAL

A colleague of mine recently told me that he works hard, plays hard and rests hard. A very good attitude indeed, as its nearly time for me to rest hard along with most other people over the Christmas break.

But Christmas is not only a time of rest, it's a time of catching up with the distant cousins and uncles and aunties that we only see now and then. Christmas is about family, sharing good times, giving (and receiving) and being happy.

But in writing this article, several cases of sickness of friends and relatives come to mind. Unfortunately, life is short, so work hard to be a friend, play hard to do the best you can and rest hard when you can.

The Association committee members wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

JIM DUNN

IAN TURNER

Ian passed away at his Bendigo home on 4th September, after a long illness suffering from motor neurone disease. Better known as 'Lofty' to all his friends at the Survey Regiment, he was a true character. Most will remember how he rode his beloved W.D. Harley Davidson to work each day, and how when crash helmets became mandatory wear, Lofty used an old steel helmet instead until the local gendarmes explained the difference.

He was very well respected in his trade as a Litho Printer and was a dedicated worker. After his retirement in 1978, Lofty maintained his ties with the Regiment as a regular visitor to their Association functions.

Lofty will be sadly missed, by all who had the pleasure to know him.

We sadly report the death this year of Elizabeth, wife of Eddie Schulze, after a long illness. Our condolences to Eddie and his family in their sad loss.

Again with sadness, we report the passing in September this year of Lucy Jean MacDonald, wife of Brig. Don MacDonald. The news reached us in time for our condolences to be expressed to Brig. Don and his family.

N.G. SURVEY SECTION

Brian Murray wrote to thank us for the inclusion of his letter in our last issue. As you remember, Brian was attempting to locate the 85 members in the old N.G. Survey section at the time it was disbanded. He states that only 25 have been located and it seems unlikely that more than about five others are still living; it seems the years have not treated them at all well.

THE 2/1 SURVEY ASSOCIATION

Received the September and December copies of the 'Survey Sentinel' which are available to anyone by ringing Alex Munro.

Very interesting article by Tom Patullo on the first white Christmas for survey troops in Lebanon at the village of Suk-el-gharb, in 1941, as it mentions (besides others) Harvey Hall and John Nolan who were well known to many of the later generation enlisting during the '50's and '60's.

Another good article of general interest was by Keith Yardy on the problems of transporting by 4 WD vehicle the bronze plaque honouring Dr. Bruce Philip Lambert, from Melbourne to the Kulgera Police Station in the far North of South Australia. The memorial was then transported to the Lambert Centre in the Northern Territory and unveiled on Monday 22nd August, 1994.

SICK LIST

Not much local news that I know of, so I hope everybody is in good health. Reported in the last copy of Magna Carto that Bill Childs in Canberra and Ross Hyde in Bendigo are both recovering from illness, but no other details.

Andy Strachan's wife Elaine is very ill with recovery sometime off. Parents George and Marj Ricketts advised me of Elaine's condition, so let us all hope there is better news later.

3RD FIELD SURVEY COY(A.I.F.) ASSOCIATION

Received the latest newsletter recently from Secretary Ray Smith. I notice there were a couple of yung'uns at your Anzac Day March - Bill Black and Dave King. Thanks Ray, your newsletter will be made available to our members.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (MEANING THE ADELAIDE ADVERTISER)

It all started 150 years ago, when surveyor John Charles Darke was speared to death by natives, while exploring in the west of South Australia, on 20th October, 1844.

In due course a local topographical feature was named "Darke Peak" and a sizable farming community gradually developed throughout the district.

Early this year the Darke Peak Community formed a committee to hold special re-enactment activities during October to honour the 150th Anniversary of the surveyor/explorer's death. A short time before the event, a lady from Adelaide visited Darke's gravesite and monument, and noting its dilapidated condition, wrote a letter to the "Advertiser" (duly published) lamenting on the shabbiness of the grave and the sorry way that a piece of history was being treated, urging all to do something about it.

Unbeknown to her, restoration had been planned for some time, and a few days later a well prepared group from the Institution of Engineering and Mining Surveyors moved on site and completely renovated everything over the next two or three days, just in time for the Anniversary activities, which apparently went very well. Included in the group were our own John Harrison and Peter Davis - well done all.

As the dust settled, a letter was sent to the "Advertiser" from the Institution, setting the facts straight, another letter from the organising committee setting further facts straight plus a second letter from the lady who started it all, acknowledging the efforts of all. John Darke was speared at Waddikee Rock and the remains were re-interred a few miles away at the present location of Darke Peak in about 1911.

The entombment of the unknown soldier in the Australian War Memorial, late in 1993, was not covered as well by the local media as it deserved, so we have taken the liberty of including a description of the event direct from Bulletin No. 80 - 1994 of the N.S.W. Association. Our thanks to the Author.

ENTOMBMENT OF THE UNKNOWN AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER

The Survey Ex-Servicemen's Association of N.S.W. was extended an especial invitation to attend the ceremony for the Entombment of the Unknown Australian Soldier in Canberra on Armistice Day, 11th November, 1993 and to march with our banner in the procession following the Gun Carriage. The Canberra Survey Association for some forty years has also held it's Annual Dinner on the night of 11th November and we were also invited to attend that.

As a result President Noel Fletcher and Peg, Secretary John Maltby and Joyce, Bill and Noelene Lafferty, Bob Alderton and Harry Kilby all from your Committee motored down to Canberra on Wednesday 10th November. Tom Kirkpatrick came down from 4 a.m. on the 11th, and Jim and Dara Aitken came up from Melbourne. Don and Lucy Macdonald were already in Canberra. All except Don and Lucy stayed at the same Motel in Canberra and the social weekend was enjoyed by all.

The weather for the morning of 11th November, 1993 turned out to be perfect, with a nice sunny day, occasional scattered cloud and a temperature of about 18 deg. The procession for the Entombment was led by two troops of mounted horsemen on teams of horses which had been trained immaculately to slow march in front of a band playing slow march music - a sight never to be forgotten. They were followed by large detachments of Navy, Army and Air Force personnel slow marching behind the same Army Band. These were followed by an Army Jeep towing the Gun Carriage bearing the remains of the Unknown Australian Soldier. Important personnel from the Governor-General and Prime Minister down also followed. At the end of this group, Ex-Servicemen's organisations with banners who had been lined up behind barriers both sides of the procession were invited to join the procession and subsequently assemble where the ceremony was to commence. Estimates of the number of banners was from 500 upwards and these included four from the Royal Australian Survey Corps - our own banner from 2 Coy carried by Noel and John, 3 Coy's carried by Don Macdonald and Brian Murray, and banners from 2/1st Association and Canberra Association.

The unanimous opinion of all who attended was that it was the most impressive Service we had ever attended. The organisation was carried out with Military precision and the absolute silence of 40,000 or more who attended had to be experienced to be believed. You will no doubt have all seen it on T.V. but your Editor was in a fortunate position to obtain some excellent photos not seen on T.V. which it is hoped are reproduced on the middle page of this Bulletin.

DINNER AT THE UNION HOTEL

Held on Saturday, 5th November, 1994 and attended by 20 members and wives, with apologies from several unable to get there on the night. The venue was not one of the best we had been to but turned out fairly well in spite of a couple of hiccups.

We were originally booked into the Polo Club, a quaint lounge/dining room upstairs in the Pub, but found this was unavailable on our night when confirming the booking two weeks before, so management offered a small but suitable downstairs dining room instead. This turned out to be double booked at the last moment, leaving no time to find another venue. We finished up out back of the bar, which was adequate enough, but not as salubrious as originally planned. Not to worry though, at least the prices were reasonable.

Those attending were Ted and Beryl Bear, Mick and Barbara Hansen, Bob and Pam Griffin, Alex and Joan Munro, Laurie and Pam Sutton with son Charles, Bernie Watson, George and Marj Ricketts, Peter and Dianne Davis, Ken and Beth Jeffery and Bill and Elizabeth Love, all captured on film through the lens of Bernie's ever-ready camera.

Dining out and catching up on gossip twelve months apart is not often enough really, so perhaps a couple of extra gatherings might be the go, probably smaller and definitely casual.

LIKE FATHER LIKE SON

Lt. James Sproles was recently commissioned in the Army Reserve with 144 Sigs Sqn. You've already guessed - Noel Sproles son. Congratulations James.

PROFESSOR IAN P. WILLIAMSON
PROFESSOR OF SURVEYING AND LAND INFORMATION
PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC BOARD



23 November 1994

Col. Simon Lemon
Director of Survey - Army
Campbell Park
ACT 2600

As you can see, the following letter was received by Col. Lemon from the University of Melbourne, and duly passed on to our Association. A sheet showing additional information has been enclosed separately.

Dear Col. Lemon,

I am delighted to announce the establishment of the O.F. Smith Scholarship Fund to support young men and women entering the Surveying and Geomatics profession.

As you are aware our Department has changed dramatically over the last decade in response to changes in our profession and industry. The Department is committed to a high level of excellence in providing an education for future surveyors and Geomatics professionals to ensure the continued growth and vitality of our profession and industry.

The Department recognises that the most important people within our profession are our students, the future leaders of the profession. This Fund has been established as an initiative to raise the profile of our profession as well as attracting young men and women of high calibre into the profession.

I seek your support in purchasing one or more of the signed and numbered reproduction prints of the painting titled "The Attributes of a Surveyor". This is a painting by artist Gregory S. Smith VAS, the grandson of Oscar F. Smith a Surveyor with the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works. The painting depicts Oscar Smith's surveying equipment used during the Depression earlier this century. The original is held in the permanent collection of The University of Melbourne and is hung in the Department of Geomatics at the University.

All proceeds from the sale of these prints will go to the Scholarship Fund. I would particularly encourage you to consider making a contribution to the Fund as a patron or a corporate contributor. Contributors in these categories will be invited to the official launch of the Scholarship Fund in February 1995 to meet the artist and other major supporters of the Fund.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the contribution of the Land Information Centre in Bathurst, which has produced these high quality prints as a contribution to education.

I look forward to your support of the Scholarship Fund, and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian', written in a cursive style.

Ian P. Williamson

CIVIL ACCREDITATION OF MILITARY TRAINING AND ON JOB EXPERIENCE

I am writing the following article to inform members of the introduction of ARMY OFFICE STAFF INSTRUCTION No. 07/93 dated 30th April 93. This instruction provides the avenue for ex-service personnel to gain civilian recognition for some aspects of their previous military service.

The Civilian Accreditation Program (CAP) aims to gain civil recognition for Army formal training courses, on job training (OJT) and experience gained on the job (OJE). Recently, there has been a change in the approach to recognition of training for industry. OJT and OJE are now acknowledged as valid and recognisable forms of training, complementing recognition given for success on formal services.

The correct procedure for ex-members is to write a "Letter of Application" to the Soldiers Career Management Agency (SCMA) stating what courses you have successfully attended and their respective completion dates. On receipt of a request, SCMA will confirm your eligibility and issue the appropriate credentials. The mail address for this agency is SCMA, 360 St. Kilda Road, MELBOURNE VIC. 3004.
Attention Wills and Discharge Section.

From my understanding of the AOSI it applies to courses successfully completed on or after 1st January, 1975. It is applicable to ALL ranks and covers technical, administrative and specialist courses.

Due to the various trades within the Survey Corps covered by this AOSI it would be impossible to elaborate in depth in this newsletter on which or what course is eligible for civilian recognition. Hopefully this article has provided enough information for those who are interested and wish to pursue the matter further.

Prior to corresponding with SCMA it would be essential to obtain a copy of AOSI 7/93 and read it. Annex J of this instruction details the pre-requisites, eligibility and the civilian credentials you are entitled to. This AOSI can be obtained from the Survey Squadron at Keswick Barracks. The Chief Clerk, Sgt. Hans Evertz can be contacted on (08) 305 6274 at the Orderly Room between 0800 - 1600 hrs. daily.

Finally, I have provided Alex Munro with a copy of the AOSI for the retention of the Association. Personally, I have used CAP and if the application is lodged correctly and you are eligible, the credentials take about 5-6 weeks to process and then are mailed out to the applicant.

STEVO HINIC

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Recently received a Christmas card from the Director of Survey - Colonel Simon Lemon - wishing all Association members and their families the very best for Christmas.

PHOTO SLIDES CIRCA 1958/62

I was recently asked by Gordon Santo to identify persons and places in a quantity of old slides, held by 4 Fd Svy Sqn as part of their historical records. A lot were familiar, some even photographed by me, but I'll need help with the others so some of the old hands who served in the former Central Command Field Survey Section can expect a 'phone call for assistance.

ALEX MUNRO

CIDA REPORT (ANOTHER GONG MAYBE)

Noel Sproles recently sought information as to what medal awards his late father was entitled to for service in the RAAF, and in doing so came across an interesting report which could be of interest to many members. Relevant extracts from the report included below are only recommendations at this stage, but are very likely to be approved.

In April 1994, the Government released details of the report by the Committee of Inquiry into Defence and Defence Related Awards (CIDA).

CIDA Recommendations

The CIDA recommendations include:

- the establishment of an Australian Service Medal (ASM) 1945-75 to recognise service in a prescribed peacekeeping or non-warlike operation for the period 1945-75 where recognition has not extended previously through an award;
- the award of the Africa Star as well as the 1939-45 Star for those who participated in the Syrian Campaign, and for those who did not receive the Africa Star for prior or subsequent service, that the Government examine whether an executive authority exists in Australia to deem service in Syria to be qualifying service for the Africa Star;
- that service in the Territory of Papua New Guinea from 1951 until 16 September 1975 be recognised through the award of the ASM 1945-75 with clasp 'PNG' with the relevant qualifying period of 180 days;
- the award of the ASM 1945-75 with clasp 'Korea 1953-57' for service in Korea from 28 Jul 53 (the signing of the armistice) until 26 Aug 57 with the relevant qualifying period of 30 days;

PEOPLE NEWS

EDDIE JACOBS

Since retiring from the Service early this year, Eddie has decided to become a teacher and is now studying in the first year of a three year course, at the Salisbury Campus of the University of South Australia. Best of luck Eddie.

JACK ELVERD

I definitely can vouch that Jack is a bus driver with the Transport Authority. At the corner of Grote St. and Victoria Square, an articulated bus wheeled around the corner only a couple of feet from me with a blast on the horn. I looked up in time to see a wave of the hand and a cheery(or cheeky) grin from Jack, looking very competent in the driver's seat.

RALPH CHANT(Courtesy of Magna Carto)

Previously reported as having a top job in Bendigo, but with lots of spare time it seems. Ralph has produced a video showing old and modern photography coupled with a descriptive narration and background music, called "Fortuna, a photographic collection from 1865 to 1994." Ralph has copies for sale at \$20 each including postage(not certain if this includes S.A.) available from his address at 9 Hadrian Court, GOLDEN SQUARE, 3555.

KEN TALBOT-SMITH

Last reported as posted to Perth, but now back in town pending retirement, after a long career in the Corps. Smithy intends to remain in the surveying profession, and has plans to enter into a business enterprise, but details are sketchy at the moment. We wish you every success Smithy.

NEWS SNIPPETS FROM MAGNA CARTO (9TH NOV, '94 EDITION)

Thanks to newshound Tom Royle - 'Ex Fortuna' Survey Association.

BLUE AND IRENE BLASKETT now reside in Darwin. Both work for the same company-Air Research.

PETER BARRETT apparently attended the Commonwealth Games in Canada as manager of the Tongan Athletics team, but now back in Bendigo and looking around.

ACKY BARBER rarely seen since retirement years ago. Keith had a couple of stories printed about a character named 'Bill', who was Batman to Major Lockwood when OC of 6 Topo Svy Coy back about 1943 or thereabouts.

KEN AND NANCE SHAW are still travelling up and down the East Coast on a regular basis.

MIN CHAMBERS resides in Moruya, NSW.

BOB COULTARD and Eda still live south of Perth. Bob has retired and concentrates most of his time playing his beloved golf.

JOHN AND SALLY CATTELL still live in Tasmania. Sally is teaching full time and John is with the Department of Surveying and Info Sciences at the University of Tasmania.

JOHN RANKINE still resides in Shepparton, but unfortunately is presently having cataract problems with his eyes.

GEORGE HANN is still in Queensland. He and his sons have developed a method of 3D colour printing on relief maps, pictures, plaques and ceramic ware, apparently a world first.

LLOYD BINION is in security at the Hastings(Vic) BHP steel plant.

DEMISE OF THE 'FORTUNA FUMBLERS FOOTBALL TEAM'
The end of an era after around forty years as the Army Survey Regiment will not likely field a team next year because of staff cuts.

NEXT FUNCTION - The 'Ex-Fortuna' Survey Association will hold its next function in the grounds of Fortuna on the Labour Day week-end (March in Victoria), 1995. If interested in going contact Alex Munro.

4 FIELD SURVEY CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

Held at Keswick Barracks on Friday 9th December. As usual, invitations were sent out to Association members, and those attending with their wives were John Wicker, Neville Stone, Jack Elverd, John Harrison, Bob Williams, Alex Munro, Eddie Jacobs, Peter Davis and John Zuringer.

Apologies for anyone not mentioned, including the ladies. Also present were Bob Mills, Stevo Hinic, Ken Talbot-Smith, and Peter Hammer, just to mention a few.

The OC-Major Peter Demaine-made a short speech during the evening, extending the compliments of the season and a Happy New Year to all.

The Annual Christmas Draw, organised throughout the year, was concluded during the night with prizes galore, except to the table where I sat. I did notice Neville Stone collect a couple of prizes, also "Lucky" John Zuringer.

The supper was great, with stacks of seafood and seasonal fare. The music was good, but far too loud, so I conclude that all DJ's must be deaf, and are hell bent on making everyone else the same.

A good night out and enjoyed by all, with thanks to the organising committee.

ALEX MUNRO

Merry
Christmas
Happy
New Year