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AUGUST NEWS LETTER 2014

ANZAC DAY 2014

Sydney turned on a wet autumn day for the Sydney 2014 ANZAC Day March, but it did not stop the huge crowds that lined the route of the march from participating on this special day of remembrance for all those involved in past and present conflicts.

There was confusion on the order of the march as there had been a change in the order and form up locations. As the NSW Survey Corps Association had two WW2 members marching again this year we formed up as in past years in front of the Yagoona Marching Band which confused the march marshals in Pitt Street.

As in past years members from the Geomatic Wing of SME volunteered to carry the banner and the two senior members of the association took place of honour in front of the Survey Corps Association Banner.

In total there were 17 personnel from the Survey Association 4 more than the last ANZAC Day and 6 from the Geomatic Wing of the SME marching on the day.

During a heavy down pour of rain and prior to forming up for the march the members of the New South Wales Survey Corps Association held their annual general meeting under the cover on the stairway of one of the commercial buildings.

As usual there was a rush by members to fill the position.

The current President Treasurer and Secretary Richard Jackson-Hope was re-elected to fill all positions for the next twelve months.

He then thanked the members of Geomatic wing for turning out and for carrying the banner during the march and thanked the association members for their attendance.

He expressed the association appreciation to WO1 Josh Andrews for arranging the banner party for the march and his assistance prior to ANZAC Day.

He then gave the treasurers report for the past twelve months.

At the conclusion of the treasurers report he said the association has 32 paid up members with a bank balance of \$2501.40 as of the 24.4.2014

40 news letters were posted out prior to ANZAC Day.

Members who attended;

Phil Bannister, Bob Campbell, Wally Chilcott, Frank Fischer, Frank Gould, Greg Grace, Bruce Grisdale, Rob Hunter, Richard Jackson-Hope, John Lymbery, Grant McGuinness, Peter Raue, Tom Stockwell, John Siddons, Peter Tierney, Andrew Wardle.

Apologies Bruce Williams and Noel Ticehurst

100 year Celebration Survey Corps Caps.

The Bendigo association has produced a one colour survey logo for their new cap leading up to the 100 year celebration of formation of the Survey Corps which I purchased and wore on ANZAC Day to replace my burnt beret.

There was interest in by members in purchasing a cap and to this end I commissioned a local company to produce a colour version of the Bendigo cap as a one off to see if the quality is of a high standard before testing the waters to see if members were in agreement with the colour and design of the cap.

The minimum numbers of caps for a run is 25.

See the photographs at the back of the newsletter.



John Lymbery and friend



Frank Gould supported by his family & John Lymbery



Peter Raue, Andrew Wardle, Peter Tierney, Wally Chilcott. Frank and John leading the Association members



Tom Stockwell Rob Hunter

Canberra War Memorial Plaque

World War 2 Shelling of Sydney by Japanese Submarine

We get the odd request for assistance from people wanting mapping information the last one involved the shelling of Sydney by the Japanese during WW2 in 1942 and a request from Terry Jones. Below is an extract of Terry Jones email.

The bombardment of Sydney was never discussed at any length during 1942 and was heavily censored (rather like Darwin) and we therefore had to dig around a fair bit to understand the full story.

Basically, the submarine fired 10 rounds into the eastern suburbs of which only 3 exploded. Our research focused on the unexploded shells with a particular aim of finding them; We found three on display in museums and traced the other three recovered shells to various localities, but did not actually see them. At the time of going to publication one shell had eluded us. We knew that it had fallen on the Royal Sydney Golf Club and we had an approximate location from eye witness reports.

We knew that the Bomb Disposal Officer had written a report on his activities that morning and on the following day, but we could not, until now, unearth that report.

Now that we have it, it confirms what we knew, the bomb did not explode and the search for it was abandoned because of the poor quality soil, excessive water flooding into the excavation and no pumps. But it also gives us the position by map reference "269144".

I recognise the 6 figure system but am unable to find anyone who can convert it to a position on the ground. It seems that a lot of your Corps' work is in the archives at some unknown locality.

Tony Jones provided 3 grid references and Noel Ticehurst from Canberra offered his service to convert the old map references given by Terry to the new mapping standards below is Noel's assessment and plots of the possible locations of these shells.

THE SUBMARINE ATTACK ON SYDNEY

The three map references sent to me are:

- 1- 269144
- 2- 268151.
- 3- 263144

Therefore the full coordinates are:

- 1- E 426 900 Yds
N 814 400 Yds.
- 2- E 426 800 Yds.
N 815 100 Yds.
- 3- E 426 300 Yds.

The accuracy of these map references are at best + or - 50 yards. Using a 1933 Royal Australian Survey Corps one inch to the mile map. I plotted point 1 before I received the email with map references of points 2 and 3. The first position looked ok, from the point of view that it plotted in the golf course area. However, I was compelled to change my opinion after I plotted points 2 and 3. Point 2 plotted about 190 yards east of Manion Ave. Manion Ave is where it should have plotted. Point 3 plotted about 90 yards east of Beresford Rd. Although two points isn't much to go on, I obtained 140 yards for the average discrepancy.

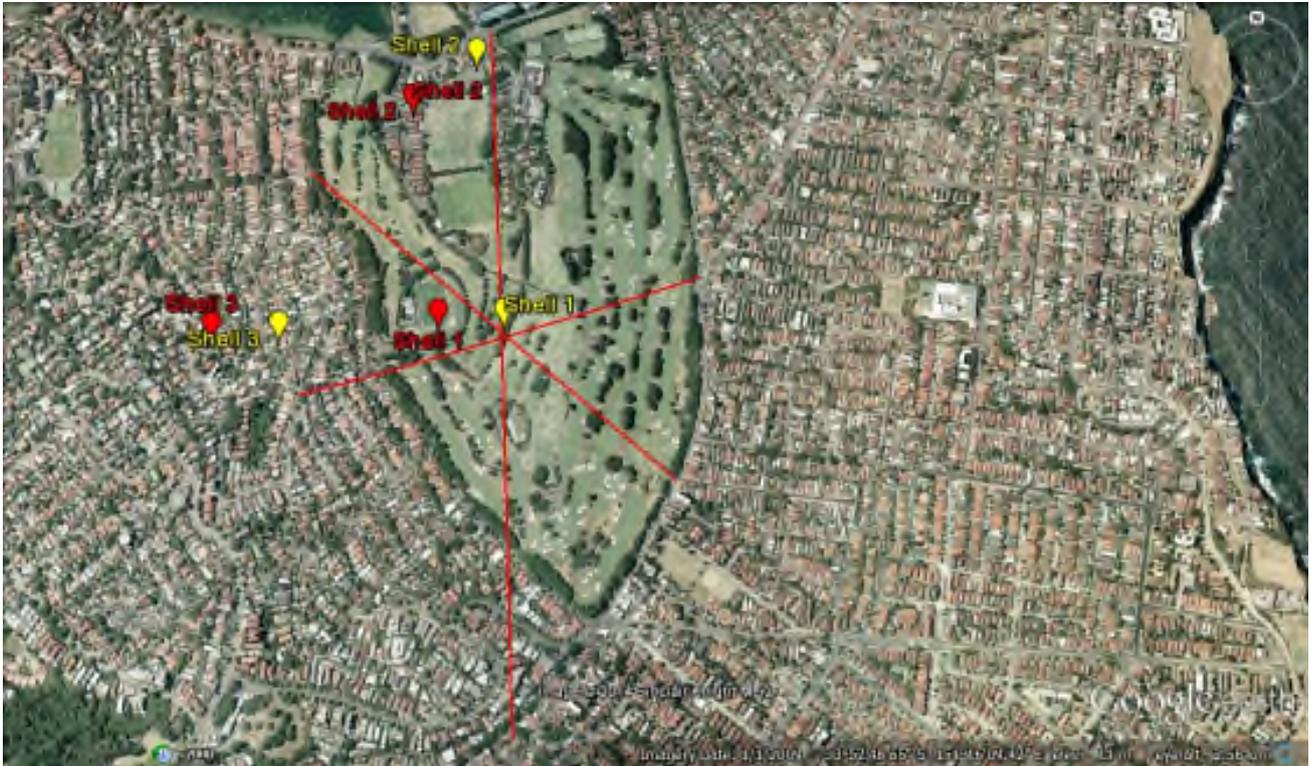
It immediately rang a bell with me! I remember seeing one mile maps of SE Queensland with a second grid in blue overlaying the original black grid. An explanation at the foot of the maps explained that the grid shift was as a result of Sydney Observatory changing its Longitude. Therefore it was back to the National Library of Australia (NLA) for me, to search for one mile to the inch maps from the 1940's back as early as possible. There I found a number of maps around Sydney from 1917 to 1935, which have a second grid printed in blue as an overlay.

The shift of the Longitude to $151^{\circ} 12' 17''.85$ was a shift of 166 yards (152 metres) to the east. Rather than calculate where the shells fell on Google Earth. It was simpler to do it by graphical methods and a block shift of 152 metres. First I transferred the three positions on the map to a Google Earth image. The positions are in red on the map and yellow on the image. Shell 1 wasn't close enough to any cultural object. Therefore, shell 1's position on the map was intersected with three lines passing through well-defined cultural objects on the map and the image. A position on the image was found by using the three lines (in red) to intersect a position for Shell 1 in yellow. Next I shifted Shell 1 position 152 metres to the west now plotted in red. Shells 2 and 3 were also shifted to approximately where they should be and plotted in red.

Noel Ticehurst
23-5-2014

Please note;

If any past or present Survey Corps members dispute Noel's calculation forward your comments to the president at jackoz40@bigpond.com and they will be forwarded to Terry Jones.



Reminder of two functions to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Corps in 2015.

Bendigo Royal Australian Corps Centenary Celebrations

The Ex-Fortuna Association has made arrangements for a possibly large function (400 plus) in Bendigo as part of the commemorations of the Royal Australian Corps centenary.

Early arrivals function Friday evening 3 July 2015

A Major function Saturday evening 4 July 2015

A Luncheon and (not yet approved) and a visit to "Fortuna" on Sunday 5 July 2015

The Ex-Fortuna Association has reserved bookings with about \$3k in deposits already paid.

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.

All past members, families and friends of the Corps are welcome and encouraged to attend. Attendance numbers are not restricted at this time. Estimated cost for the dinner & BBQ \$100 per head. More details will be released in the future however the association is happy to accept suggestions to enhance the Bendigo celebrations. Contact Tracy Phillips phipsys@tpg.com.au or grw@netcon.net.au for more information on making bookings.

Canberra Royal Australian Corps Centenary Celebrations

Please let Rob McHenry know at rob@mchenry.net.au if you intend attending

As you are aware, the 100th anniversary of the Corps occurs in 2015.

In Canberra, a number of functions have been organised for Wed 1st July 2015 to celebrate this occasion. There will be a wreath laying ceremony at 11am in the Western Courtyard of the Australian War Memorial. This will be followed by a gathering at the 'Australian National Library' at 3pm for a nostalgic viewing of our mapping and related documents. The day will finish with a mixed dinner at the Lobby restaurant, an iconic Canberra fixture.

Planning has now reached a point where, due to financial agreements that have to be made with the Lobby, I seek your commitment to attend – in particular the Lobby restaurant. This mixed function will comprise a three course alternate drop meal including coffee/tea and a generous amount of wine/beer.

A bar will operate for heavy drinkers should the money run out.

Chris Coulthard-Clark has agreed to be our guest speaker.

Price for the evening is currently set at \$98 per head.

I am not seeking any deposit but do request your firm commitment to attend the restaurant as numbers are important to alleviate financial risk. Please indicate your planned attendance or otherwise, including numbers, to myself via email at rob@mchenry.net.au Your earliest response is important and would be appreciated as the booking has to be confirmed to hold the date. **Full payment will be required two weeks prior to the actual date.**

The 100th anniversary is realistically the last opportunity and excuse for many of us to get together and tell each other how great we were. It is a time to look forward to catching up with as many old friends as possible at the above and other functions being planned for the occasion.

Survey Corps Caps



Bendigo Cap



NSW Association sample Cap

Feed-back on the NSW Association Cap would be appreciated.

If we go ahead how many NSW members would be interested in purchasing a cap.

Cost is \$25.00

Need to sell 25 to cover costs.

Vale

William (Bill) Montague a life time member of the old NSW Survey Association and a member of the new association passed away in South Australia on 7th August 2014.

Bill was one of the secretaries of the old association and produced a number of the magazine put out twice a year.

Bill had not been in good health over the past 12 months and 5 months ago his niece took him Adelaide to look after him. There will be a memorial service for Bill in Sydney at a date to be advised.