

Royal Australian Survey Corps Association (NSW) News Letter

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Of Special Interest

Victoria Barracks Plaque Dedication

Papua & New Guinea Plaque

Membership fees

New Banner for ANZAC Day

Survey Corps Museum

The editor must apologise for the late publication of this news letter and the news letter on the Victoria Barrack Plaque Dedication.

Papua & New Guinea Plaque

Bob Skitch from the Queensland Division has advised that negotiations are drawing to a close regarding a plaque for Papuan & New Guinea. All the state Survey Associations have been asked to contribute \$500 to the plaque.

As a group we raised \$800.00 towards this plaque and when requested the funds will be transferred to Queensland

Membership Fees

The membership fee is the same as last year \$15.00. Enclosed is an application form for membership for 2008 – 2009.

New Banner for ANZAC Day

It was decided at the last meeting on ANZAC Day that it was time to renew the Banner and bring it up to date. The cost of the new banner is in the order of \$2000. The Association has \$1000 for this project and we are seeking donations for the other \$1000.

Survey Corps Museum

Three members of the NSW Association have visited the Museum and are keen to participate in assisting with the sorting out of equipment and records held at the museum. We are waiting for direction from the committee set up to oversee the establishment of the museum before we can proceed to undertake any work.



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Berets for ANZAC Day.

Queensland still has RAS Corp Berets available for \$30.00 they are in the following sizes. It would be great if all the NSW Association members who are marching on ANZAC Day 2009 could turn out wearing the corps beret.

Small	54	55
Medium	56	57
Large	59	60
X large	61	62

The address to purchase a beret is:
Assistant Treasurer
RA Survey Corps Association QLD
P. O. Box 5784 Stafford Heights
Qld 4053 **Add \$5.00 for postage**

The Ex-Fortuna association has advised that the replacement stock for Survey Association ties (\$20) and miniature antique gold association badges (\$10) have arrived and are available for purchase. The address is; Ex-Fortuna Survey Association. P.O. Box 613 GOLDEN SQUARE VIC 3555. **Add \$5.00 for postage**

Vale Bruce Coburn.

Bruce passed away on Thursday 19th June 08 at Boggabri after a long illness Bruce was awarded the BEM for his services in Papua & New Guinea and will be missed by all this friends and associates.

Vale Jack McMahon

Jack passed away in Canberra on 24th Oct 08. He was 92 years old the previous day. Jack Served with 6 Coy during WW2, most notably in the NT with No1 Sect which was stationed there for close on two years.

Special Thank you

The new Royal Australian Survey Corps Association (NSW) would like to thank the past Survey Association for the transfer of funds totaling \$1206 to assist with the purchase of the New Banner and defraying some of the cost associated with the Plaque Dedication.



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Dedication of Royal Australian Survey Corps Plaque Victoria Barracks 1st July 2008



Dedication of Survey Corps Commemorative Plaque, Victoria Barracks Sydney NSW.

On July 1, 2008 at Victoria Barracks, Paddington, NSW, the Royal Australian Survey Corps Association (NSW) hosted the dedication of the Commemorative Plaque to members of Survey Units who served in the First World War, the Second World War and Vietnam War

For those who attended the dedication it was a moving ceremony and the culmination of years of planning by Ted Hunter to establish a plaque to dedicate the service undertaken by the Royal Australian Survey Corps personnel over the past 60 years.

Full credit goes to Bruce Williams for his coordination and planning leading up to the day.

Over 70 persons attended the dedication ceremony, including many former members of the Survey Corps from New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia & Canberra; current serving army officers, including members of the Geomatic Wing of the RAE; members of ISNSW Inc, friends, family representatives; plus a large contingent of the Australian Army Band, Sydney.

It was a crisp sunny day, the plaque being located on rising ground overlooking the immaculate lawns in front of the historic Victoria Barracks.

Richard Jackson-Hope the president of The Royal Australian Survey Corps (NSW) opened proceeding with a welcoming address then invited Ted Hunter to address the gathering on his "Memories of the Past"

Ted, suffering from pneumonia, was released from hospital for the ceremony then gamely addressed the gathering by reflecting on his and other members of the Survey Corps experiences during World War II.

Ted proudly noted that Australia, together with Russia, was one of only two countries which had a dedicated Survey Corps during WW II. The Corps (during WW II) was responsible for making 1347 individual maps and printing 13.5 million copies of maps, used extensively by Allied forces during the war. During the Vietnam conflict the Survey Corps printed maps for the Americans and a Survey Squadron was maintained in Vietnam during that conflict and today there are support elements maintained in Iraq and Afghanistan via the Geomatic Wing of the RAE.

Following Ted Hunters Address Chaplain Yossi Segelman led the assembled group in prays and the hymn "*O God our help in ages past*".

Brigadier Greagh Chief of Staff, Training Command gave an address then he and Ted Hunter unveiled the plaque.

(See page 2 for

Brigadier Greagh speech)

**ADDRESS TO THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SURVEY CORPS ASSOCIATION (NSW) FOR THE OCCASION OF UNVEILING AN RASC
COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE
BY BRIG D.A. CREAGH**

VICTORIA BARRACKS SYDNEY – 01 JULY 2008

Retired members of the Royal Australian Survey Corps, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great honour for me today to unveil this commemorative plaque on behalf of Royal Australian Survey Corps Association of NSW. The plaque that is being unveiled today is dedicated those units of this Corps that served in the first and second world wars, the Vietnam war and the surrounding peacetime periods. It is also dedicated to the members of the Royal Australian Survey Corps who served in those units between 1915 and 1996.

Recognition of Service is a phenomenon that has come to the fore in Australia in the last decade. Obviously, our operational tempo has significantly increased in this period, and this has lead significantly more public exposure for our Defence Forces. Furthermore, our society has been able to focus on the sacrifice and the dedication of Armed Services and their contribution to the history of this great Nation. The Royal Australian Survey Corps has played a prominent role in this history as the 'Military Map-makers to Australia' and, as such, deserves an appropriate level of recognition. Remembering the sacrifice of those who have come before us is especially important in the Defence community, and the unveiling of this plaque here today will go a long way in accomplishing this.

Earlier, Mr Ted Hunter gave an inspiring account of Survey Corps' History, and spoke of the distinction of which its units served. While I won't reiterate Mr Hunter's speech, I will say that the Royal Australian Survey Corps has had a small but significant role in its Service to the Nation and the Army, contributing to the map making and reconnaissance capabilities of those Australian Forces engaged in wartime operations. To those members who served in Survey Corps between 1915 and 1996, let me remind you that your contribution to the achievements of Army in peacetime and during operations will always be remembered. The plaque I unveil here today plaque is symbolic of your dedicated Service as the "Military Map-Makers to Australia".

Today, the geomatic and topographical work previously undertaken by Survey Corps is carried on by the Royal Australian Engineers, some of whom are here at this service. It is heartening to see that the present day RAE units involved in this work have this continued association with their forebears, and I am aware that on Anzac day, RAE members assist the Survey Corps Association in carrying the Corps Banner in the parade through the city. This is excellent, and I encourage this association to continue. Defence communities and associations are a vital part of the lives of many serving and former serving members, and it is encouraging to see serving and former serving members working together to remember the Legacy of the Royal Australian Survey Corps.

Without any further a due therefore, let me officially unveil the commemorative plaque dedicated to the units and members of the Royal Australian Survey Corps.



Welcoming Address by President
Richard Jackson-Hope



Ted Hunter reflecting on the service
to the nation by past members



Brigadier Geagh giving the address
and Bruce Williams M.C



Brigadier Geagh & Ted Hunter unveiling
Royal Australian Survey Corps (NSW) Plaque



Singing Wandering the Kings Highway
accompanied by Sydney Military Band

