



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SURVEY CORPS  
ASSOCIATION  
Queensland Branch  
**BULLETIN**

PO Box 5784 Stafford Heights 4053  
Website: [www.rasurvey.org](http://www.rasurvey.org)

REUNION EDITION – No 50

AUGUST 2012

**CALENDAR 2012 (outline)**

**1 Sept (Saturday)** Annual Reunion and AGM at the **Kilcoy RSL**  
**November (TBA)** Derek Chambers Award presentation.

**ANNUAL REUNION AND AGM**

Ed: Apologies for incorrectly stating in Bulletin 49 that our Annual Reunion and AGM would take place at the Alderley Arms Hotel. It is to take place at the Kilcoy RSL

It is important that to assist with our planning in conjunction with the Kilcoy RSL a clear and early response on attendance or non- attendance with any special dietary requirements will greatly assist us.

If you know of any of our former compatriots that are not currently members of the Association or were members of other Corps that accompanied us on our various sojourns, please feel free to pass this on to them with an open invitation and ask them to contact secretary Greg Knight on his mobile 0414 321 827

**Some Details:**

The meal will be provided by the Kilcoy RSL Ladies Auxiliary who did such a fantastic job in 2010. The Kilcoy RSL provides a friendly, relaxed atmosphere to enjoy good fellowship, good food and good company whilst having historic ties with our Corps and our inheritors.

Current plans are for fellowship & nibbles @12 noon in the **Cpl. Ashley Birt** bar and lunch at 1pm(ish).

A main course will be followed by sweets which, by request, will include Beccy's famous "Kilcoy Pecan Pie"  
Anticipated cost will be \$25-\$30 per head inclusive of wine and beer.

Further details will follow when available.

**Accommodation:**

Should you choose to stay overnight we thought it prudent to advise you of accommodation details as apparently this is a busy period in Kilcoy so an early booking may be smart. Accommodation can be provided as follows:

**Kilcoy Motel:** 6 William St, Kilcoy (Approx 1 block from RSL) Ph: 5422 0092  
Ranges from double \$120 to 6 \$270 - [www.kilcoymotel.com.au](http://www.kilcoymotel.com.au)

**Exchange Hotel:** William Street, Kilcoy (Approx 2 blocks from RSL) Ph: 5497-1331  
Ranges from Single \$40 to Triple \$70

**Stanley Hotel:** 46 Mary St, Kilcoy, Ph: 5497 1037 (Approx 3 blocks from RSL)  
From \$40 Single

**Kilcoy Gardens Motor Inn:** 62 Hope st, Kilcoy (About 4k other side of Kilcoy) Ph: 5497 1100  
Ranges from \$99 Single to \$147 Family (Double + 2 Single)  
[www.kilcoygardensmotorinn.com.au](http://www.kilcoygardensmotorinn.com.au)

**Greg Knight** Secretary Mobile 0414 321 827

## COMMITTEE

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**Note:** Refer Veteran's Affairs matters to Peter Bates-Brownsword and Stan Campbell

## NOTICES

### POST OUT OF BULLETIN

Post out of Bulletin will continue to those members who are not connected to the internet and cannot access our website. For those with internet access email advice will be sent that the latest Bulletin has been entered onto our website – [www.rasurvey.org](http://www.rasurvey.org), – a good opportunity to check out our website and see what the other state associations are up to. An outline of other state association publications is at the end of this Bulletin.

For your convenience a hyperlink to our website will be provided on the email advice.

### OUR HISTORY PROJECT – WHAT DID WE DO, 1946 – 1996?

Our 'What Did We Do' project remains open for further contributions. Have a look and see if you can fill a few of the gaps. Email your contribution direct to Bob Skitch [bob@skitch.me](mailto:bob@skitch.me) or enter your data on our website – [www.rasurvey.org](http://www.rasurvey.org) .

### BERETS – BERETS – BERETS

Our stocks of our ever popular beret are now nearly depleted. However, stocks are held at Christie's in Sydney. Be distinctive in the RA Survey Association headdress. Contact Alex Cairney email [alex.cairney@hotmail.com](mailto:alex.cairney@hotmail.com)

**Note:** Christies can be contacted as follows:

Unit 4D; 1-7 Unwin Bridge Rd, St Peters, NSW 2044. Phone 02 9519 0784

### MAPMAKERS OF FORTUNA

Copies may be purchased from the Ex-Fortuna Survey Association (PO Box 865 Bendigo 3552) at \$60.00 plus postage of \$11.50 which includes cost of a padded postal bag.

### ASSOCIATION TIE or SCARF & BADGE

Cost of tie or scarf is \$ 25.00 plus postage. Association badges are still available from the Queensland Association. Place your order with the Queensland Association. Phone or email Greg Knight

**VIETNAM – A TECHNICAL TOUR by Bob McMillan-Kay.**

Copies can be obtained from Bob McMillan-Kay at a cost of \$36.00 including postage. We commend this highly successful book of Bob's Vietnam experience. Bob's address is 14 March Lane, Maryborough, Qld, 4650.

**OUR LAST FUNCTION –The Colonel Alex Laing Memorial Dinner** celebrating the 97<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Survey Corps.

Again our 2012 dinner at the United Service Club was a great success and well attended. Run on semi-formal mess lines in the Royal Room of the Club adequate decorum was maintained with lots of lively conversation and of course the inevitable reminiscences. In what has become a regular format that the Club understands and handles very well, we started with pre-dinner drinks at the Military Bar then moving into the Royal Room at 1930h. Our President Alex Cairney welcomed our guests of honour Mr Michael Larmer and Mrs Dianne Larmer, and members attending and read the apologies, then called on Peter Bates-Brownsword to say the Grace. The three course dinner followed after which the table was cleared and the port passed. Rowan Shipley was called to give the Loyal Toast then Bob Skitch proposed the toast to honour the memory of the late Colonel in Chief of the Royal Australian Survey Corps, Diana, the Princess of Wales. President Alex Cairney proposed the toast to the Association and Peter Bates Brownsword responded and proposed the toast to wives and partners which was responded to by Wendy Skitch. Finally Ross Smithwick proposed the toast to departed comrades, a list which regrettably grows longer each year. The port made a couple more rounds and jugs of 'cleansing ale' soon followed.

Our 2011 dinner had a few problems in presentation, service and menu. These had been discussed by dinner convener Bob Skitch with Maitre'd Mr Gerald Fitzgerald of the Club and thoroughly addressed for the 2012 dinner.

Mrs Dawn Laing was a special apology. She had planned to fly from Canberra and had her flight booked but then developed an unpleasant chest infection that ruled her out of flying.

Unfortunately we have no photos – no one brought a camera!

In attendance were

Alex Cairney (President)	Rowan Shipley (Mr Vice)
Michael Larmer	Ian Hutchings
Dianne Larmer	Tony Gee
Greg Knight	Lorreta Gee
Peter Bates-Brownsword	Bruce Gordon
Barbara Bates-Brownsword	Ros Gordon
Ross Smithwick	Lorraine Chambers
Darelle Smithwick	Kym Weston
Barry Lutwyche	Faye Weston
Bob Skitch	Ian Fitzgerald
Wendy Skitch	John Smith
Dave O'Shannessy	Adrian (Charlie) Creedy

**Apologies** received from: Mrs Dawn Laing, Grant & Beth Small, Colin & Ailsa Morehead, Jamie Lyle.

### Departed comrades:

**Corporal Ashley Birt** (1 Topographical Survey Squadron RAE – KIA Afghanistan 29 Oct 2011)

**Neville Fisher** – 5<sup>th</sup> Field Survey Company – WW2

**Frank Cohen** – 4<sup>th</sup> Field Survey Company – WW2 – Western Australia

**Paul Legge Wilkinson** – served on Project Xylon New Britain, 1953/54 then AHQ Carto Coy Bendigo

**David King** – AHQ Survey Regiment – Vietnam 1966/67

**Kevin Moody** – AHQ Survey Regiment 1956 to 59; previously RAE

**Graeme Dowd** – 1968–88; School of Mil Svy, Army Svy Regt, 2Fd Svy Sqn, 8Fd Svy Sqn (PNG), Vietnam 1969/70

**Derek Taylor** – 1986–92, Army Survey Regiment then Western Australia

**Judith Lambert** – wife of Jeff Lambert

**Nance Shaw** – wife of Ken Shaw

### PERSONALIA and other jottings

**Les (LVJ) Smith** phoned to report on the annual get-together (5 June) of his Basic Course survivors. Does it have a name? – I don't think it has. Neither are they all from the same Basic Course but a couple around the early 1950s. They met at Gilhooleys pub in Fortitude Valley and have done so for some years. Attending this year were Jeff Lambert, Dennis Cox, Mike McCarthy, Len Davies and of course, LVJ. This year Jock Campbell in Mount Isa was unable to attend – he is not at all well. Neither is Len Davies. Len lives at Toowoomba in a house next door to his son who drove him down to the get-together. 'What did you all talk about' I asked LVJ. 'Just all sorts of things, reminiscences around the table' LVJ replied. I think the same old stories are probably recounted every year, plus or minus a few bits. Of course there may have been a few burning ears if they are still alive. LVJ said Blue Hunter maintains a lovely place in the hills behind Cairns; grows a few fruit trees. Who reported that? – I am not sure.

**Stan and Helen Campbell** returned in June from an amazing overseas holiday trip of five weeks, cruising the Mediterranean and the North Sea in luxury on the Italian vessel *MSC Magnifica*. Setting out from Venice the ship took them to Bari (on the 'boot' of Italy), Tunis (where they visited Carthage, Gibraltar, Lisbon, Vigo (Spain – Galicia – *The Pilgrim's Way*), Bruges (Belgium), Copenhagen, Kiel (Germany), Bergin (Norway), Tromso (northern Norway) Svalbard Islands (Lat 78 degrees), Alsend (Polar Research Station – 600 miles south of the North Pole), Spitzbergen (where Amundsen set off on his airship trip over the Pole to Alaska in 1926 and the location of the international seed bank), Nordkapp (North Cape – the northern most point of the European mainland), then back to Copenhagen and Keil where they left the ship and flew back to Dubai and thence Brisbane. Wow! What a trip! Stan said the only thing wrong with the ship was that they didn't know how to cook Italian food – good Aussie Spag-Bog.

**Bob and Wendy Skitch** returned on 1 August from a seventeen day trip to Japan including four days in Chiang Mai in northern Thailand. The main purpose of the trip – apart from seeing something of Japan, – was to spend time with daughter Liz who was touring with the Kazenoko Children's Theatre Company and performing in her own children's play 'Hurry Up and Wait'. (Where have you heard that expression before?). They flew Thai Air and Asiana Air into Nagoya then by train to Gifu meeting up with Liz, where she had spent 12 months on Rotary Youth Exchange in 1994. Gifu is famous for its 'Cormorant fishing' in the Nagara River as well as the very beautiful Gifu Castle on top of Mount Kinka overlooking the city. Bob and Wendy travelled on the Shincansen to Fukuoka on Kyushu Island watched one of their daughter's performances and took a day trip to Nagasaki and the Peace Park (ground zero where the 'bomb' fell – on top of the jail that included Australian POWs) and the Atomic Bomb Museum, a very moving and sobering experience. Finally they spent four days in the ancient imperial capital of Japan,

Kyoto, a fascinating experience, visiting the Imperial Palace and the Golden and Silver temples with their very beautiful gardens.

Bob's impressions of Japan encompass its scrupulous cleanliness, its beautiful gardens, its politeness and love of 'cute' things and its remarkable railway system with its fabulous Shincansens that travel at speeds up to 300 kph. Japanese palaces are minimalist in their décor yet in so being have a beauty that contrasts with the lavishness of their European equivalents. Nothing can surpass their garden surrounds.

Chiang Mai was fascinating also – well worth a visit!



**Chris Dahlberg** (from his facebook) ....We are halfway along our world circumnavigation on the Sun Princess. Two weeks ago we sailed past ANZAC Cove where my father served as a reinforcement from Sep to Oct 1915.

**Stuart Parkinson** is far from well. Harley phoned (18 July) to advise that Stewart has been in hospital for some time and it has been touch and go. Nevertheless, there is some optimism now that he is on the mend. Harley says he is as cheeky as ever. Stewart has just celebrated his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**From Stuart (Jnr) to Ross Smithwick** *Father has been in hospital for about three weeks now – very lucky to be alive, but is recovering (tough as old boots). He is off to the Mater Rehab in Brisbane this week, we think – not confirmed. Two weeks there, then a decision will be made as to where he and mother will be placed. .... Will keep you posted..... Cheers, Stuart*  
*Ed: Harley phoned 7 Aug – Stuart now in re-hap at the Mater – progressing well. Stuart is 91 years old!*

**Brian Mead** (From his 'Facebook' entry)..... Brian and Annette have been having a tough time... We enjoyed a break in the autumn weather, late yesterday, with a 35mm downpour that took place in about 30 minutes. Water was literally pouring through the ceiling of our TV Room even though the gutters had been cleaned out a few weeks ago. We placed a call with Defence Housing Insurance this morning and will look forward to what the Rep says. Annette carried the brunt of the "experience" and spent several hours cleaning up the mess / water inside the TV Room. She was soaked to the skin. Our backyard became a creek / pond with about 20 cms depth of water. Plenty of wind and rain. Since the tarp has been placed over the TV Room Roof - no water has leaked through. Annette hurt her back during the storm of last week and is slowly getting better. We are hibernating - feeling cold and miserable. The storms come straight off the ocean - the weather fronts are only a few kms wide and it's pot luck - who cops it. Roast lamb for tea tonight - buck us up a bit !!! Maybe a port or two - to wind down. Life is great in Kingsley, WA !!!!!

I guess that my friends in QLD will say - "Big Deal" ..... but unfortunately I was on my way to work

during this time. The Mitchell Freeway turned into a creek as well, with some of the road drains blocked - causing road hazards. There is more rain expected today ..... etc, etc.....

**Brian Mead also sent this.....**You're a 19 year old kid.

You're critically wounded and dying in the jungle somewhere in the Central Highlands of **Viet Nam**. It's November 11, 1967. LZ (landing zone) X-ray.



Your unit is outnumbered 8-1 and the enemy fire is so intense from 100 yards away, that your CO (commanding officer) has ordered the helicopters to stop coming in. You're lying there, listening to the enemy machine guns and you know you're not getting out.

Your family is half way around the world, 12,000 miles away, and you'll never see them again. As the world starts to fade in and out, you know this is the day. Then - over the machine gun noise - you faintly hear that sound of a helicopter. You look up to see a Huey coming in. But.. It doesn't seem real because no MedEvac markings are on it.

Captain Ed Freeman is coming in for you. He's not MedEvac so it's not his job, but he heard the radio call and decided he's flying his Huey down into the machine gun fire anyway. Even after the

MedEvacs were ordered not to come. He's coming anyway.

And he drops it in and sits there in the machine gun fire, as they load 3 of you at a time on board. Then he flies you up and out through the gunfire to the doctors and nurses and safety. And, *he kept coming back!!* 13 more times!! Until all the wounded were out. No one knew until the mission was over that the Captain had been hit 4 times in the legs and left arm.

He took 29 of you and your buddies out that day. Some would not have made it without the Captain and his Huey.

**Medal of Honor Recipient, Captain Ed Freeman, United States Air Force, died last Wednesday at the age of 70, in Boise , Idaho** May God Bless and Rest His Soul.

*I bet you didn't hear about this hero's passing, but we've sure heard a whole bunch about Whitney Houston, Lindsay Lohan, Dr. Murray, that sicko Sandusky, and a 72- day sham marriage. Shame on the media !!! Honor this real hero. ....Lest we forget*

### **Dennis Gregor**

*Ed: I asked Dennis some time back to give me a brief on himself – his service in RA Survey and since then. Dennis has replied.....*

When I retired in September 2009, I expected to have very little to do, but I think that most people find, on retiring, that they don't know how they found time to go to work, as retirement is a very busy activity. I had a call from the Surveyors Board of Queensland within 2 months of retiring, enquiring if I was interested in a position on the Board. I have always had the greatest respect for the Board and the work it does and so was not about to refuse the opportunity to contribute to the profession that had been mine for 40 years. The majority of the Boards work is to do with new registrations, renewals of registration, disciplinary matters and complaints. While we only meet every 6 weeks, the associated work usually takes between 10 and 15 hours per week. It took some time for me to come to grips with how slowly some things happen, mainly due to legislative requirements (some complaints and the associated disciplinary actions can drag on for years) but things do move on and generally reach a satisfactory conclusion. The Board consists of 8 members, 2 from the community (a Barrister and a

financial adviser) 4 surveyors, one of whom is the Chairman, one public servant and one from an education institution.

The Board is constituted under the Surveyors Act and its primary role is the protection of the public in matters related to the activities of surveyors. Most surveyors (about 98% in my opinion) as we all know, conduct themselves in their professional life with integrity, commitment and competence. The other 2% can be an interesting bunch. We had a case recently of a fellow auctioning a "survey" on ebay. All very well you might say, but he was not registered or competent in the areas he was offering and the price was about 10% of a reasonable fee.

Late last year I was appointed the Chief Examiner for the Board which was a career highlight and a great honour. The role involves supervising the registration of applicants for the various levels and types of registration (Graduate, Associate, Engineering, Cadastral, Mining, Consulting etc). The role is not too taxing as I have a lot of support from the profession but very rewarding and I believe that I have learned an awful lot more than I knew previously about surveyors and what and how they do things. The appointment is for 3 years, usually repeated, so I do not expect to be out of the profession or fully retired for another 4 years.

I never tire of telling people in the profession generally, that the quality of education and training provided by the Survey Corps exceeded anything I encountered after I left. I also still count a number of mates from the Army as good friends.

On a personal note, I have a lovely wife, 8 children, a motorbike and I like walking (Kokoda, Milford Sound and others).

Cheers. ....Dennis Gregor;

PO Box 8895, Mt Pleasant, Mackay 4740.

[dennis\\_gregor@bigpond.com](mailto:dennis_gregor@bigpond.com)

Ph 07 4942 5492, Mob 0409 648 016

## VALE

### **Monica Wilson**

Steve Wilson advised Secretary Greg (27 Jul 12) that 'unfortunately I will be a non-attender at the 2012 Reunion Kilcoy. My wife Monica finally passed on, after long fight with metastatic breast cancer on the 25th of May. She was only 59.

Peter Cross & Greg Anderson long time friends who attended our wedding in 1974 were in attendance at her funeral on the 1st June'.....Regards.. Steve Wilson

### **Laurance Kendall Hazlewood (9 Oct 1923 - 28 Jun 2012) – Geographer, MA (Syd), MA (ANU)**

Charlie Watson reports from Canberra .....Sadly I have to report the death of our colleague Laurie Hazlewood (notice in the Canberra Times of 4 July 2012) who served in 2 Field Survey Company during World War 2 and later as a senior Geographer at NATMAP. A celebration of the life of Laurie was held at the Norwood Park Crematorium at 1.30 pm on Friday, 6 July 2012. A short note of his war service is attached. I don't know a lot of Laurie's earlier years except that he attended The Fort Street High School in Sydney.

#### *Other comments:*

*Bob Irwin.....I also attended Fort Street – probably 25 or so years after Laurance. The note of his war service will go to the Fort St School archivist.*

*Anne Kaminskas ...I know that Laurie's father was responsible for the creation and planting of the Parliamentary rose garden through the family rose nursery in Sydney. There is a plaque acknowledging this in the garden.*

Laurance provided brief of his wartime army service (1942-46)

*A growing undergraduate interest in geography caused me to seek service in a topographic survey unit once I turned 18 in October 1941. But not until May 1943 did I end up in the 2nd Field Survey Coy, O.C. Major Clews, by then based in Childers, Qld.*

*Straightway I went to Iron Range, Cape York Peninsula, with No 2 Section, taking part in 1:253 340 mapping by an inland group using astrofix and pace and compass traversing until we were recalled to Iron Range at the end of the year.*

*Next year (1944) I went back after leave in Sydney to the by then largely deserted Iron Range camp until most of my section flew in from working at Merauke, in (Dutch) New Guinea, on 1 September. Then I went out again on an astrofix party working south of the 1943 'strat.' mapping of Weipa sheet until we all were recalled to Company HQ, now at Ingham.*

*In October (1944) we of No 3 Section left Townsville for Lae, where the topographers worked marking up aerial photos, until I was flown with some others to Torokina, southern Bougainville. A number of us took ship for home leave, disembarking at Cairns on 6 August 1945 for the fateful week before re-embarking for Sydney, where we arrived on VJ Day 2.*

*The remainder of my time before discharge on 24 January 1946 was spent filling in time at the 13th Aust. Field Survey Depot in Lane Cove, surrounded by stacks of topographic maps ancient and modern, mostly working on two University subjects I was allowed to study by correspondence.*

## **NOEL & KATE – for those who like dogs; especially Kelpies**

Noel like many of us gets a great deal of enjoyment from his greatest pal – his dog. His present dog is a Kelpie bitch called Kate. Noel previously had a Border Collie called Ben but Ben finally passed to the doggie netherland leaving a distressed Noel in this land of the living. After a decent interval Ben was replaced by Kate.

Noel sends to his email colleagues little stories about Kate that are never less than amusing and worth repeating....

“I took Kate down to Adey Reserve for her daily exercise chasing the ball that I throw her. Often, when – like today – there is a rainy change coming through, the swallows (swifts?) are out in force. She loves to chase them as did Ben, the border collie, before her. Ben could even anticipate their changes of direction and would cut off across at an angle to intercept them.

Of course, neither dog has a chance in hell of getting them. This morning Kate spied a magpie on the ground feeding and fancied her chances. Whereas a swift can get into the air like a Spitfire, the magpie is more like a lumbering Lancaster. Kate was closing fast before the magpie was able to swap speed for lift and zoom up out of her clutches. Then it was time to turn the tables as the magpie became like a Spitfire and did the avian equivalent of an Immelman Turn.

It was soon behind Kate and closing fast from her 6 o' clock. I doubt if the magpie scored a 'kill' but it must have been close as Kate abruptly broke left and headed off to the safety of Biggin Hill (metaphorically speaking). Funny as a..... I was barracking for the magpie.

On our way home from our daily walk, I let Kate loose at the gate of Andrew, our next door neighbour. Kate rockets up into his back yard and says G'day to him if he is there and then rockets back down the driveway and usually passes me by the time I get to my driveway. This morning she followed the same routine. However, – this time Andrew had some sheets of metal plate on the ground in his shed. And they were covered in a protective oily coating. A slippery oily coating.

Kate barrels around the corner of the shed straight on to the metal sheets. Yeeeeee Haaaaa. Feet going which all ways as she skidded the length of the metal and off the edge. She did get a pat on the head for her enthusiasm and Andrew got a kiss in return and then it was back like a rocket home. Just another day in the life of a kelpie.



### **An environmental message**

Look what happens when we cut down too many trees This is terrible! Global warming is one thing. Look at what might happen if we continue to clear our forests! We have to stop cutting down trees! This is getting serious!



**Doggie talk...**He issued me a Warning Order.I was on one second notice to move whenever He left the room. I was kitted up and ready to go – really! I was just resting my eyes.You know how it is. I had one ear to the ground and one open listening for whatever. Anyhow, He can't go anywhere without His shoes.So what was His problem? At least I was not chewing His shoes for once!



**More doggie talk** OK, it's not a ute and it's not the pillion of a motorbike but it is the next best thing, beggars can't be choosers, so – LET'S GO!

John Bullen said that I had put her in steerage!  
There is a reason as I did bump her up to first class once but her behaviour then destined her forever to steerage.  
You can take the girl out of Lameroo etc.

### **Home again**

We are back from our Tasmania trip and we had a great time. The weather was perfect and we hardly saw a drop of rain. When we wanted the sun to shine, it shone from a glorious cloudless blue sky.Then, next day, when it didn't matter, it would cloud over.I will send some ME pikkies later on when I get organised.



Kate is wondering what she did that was so heinous that she had to suffer three weeks Confined to Barracks at the dog penitentiary on Glen Osmond Rd! I am letting her ponder that at her leisure and maybe some good will come out of it.

But she too is happy to be home.

I had to be up at sparrow's this morning to take the car up to Mark, our local greasy spanner mechanic, for its regular service check. I walked home and gently opened and closed the side gate behind me and snuck up the side path using all I could remember of field craft from my infantry minor tactics training. As I came around the corner I could see Kate sound asleep at the back of her kennel. Like me, she is not much of a morning person.

I could not have achieved this with Ben the border collie.

He slept with ears pricked and head outside the kennel in anticipation of such manoeuvres. I took a yellow rubber ball and lobbed it the ten metres or so at the kennel.

Line was good but length was a bit too much as it clipped the top of the kennel entrance and bounced back with a very satisfying BANG.

Kate was out of the kennel like a flash, belly close to the ground in anticipation of a follow-up attack following the failed grenade.

Can you imagine a wide-eyed kelpie with a Wod-a-F\*\*\*k look on her face?

You could almost see the brain gears clashing (pre synchromesh drivers will understand) as she tried to calculate the options.

Grab the still bouncing yellow ball; mount an attack against the perp; or make for the hills.

Funny as. Must do it again sometime.

### Addressing the car

I pulled into the crowded car park at the local shopping centre and rolled down the car windows to make sure Kate had fresh air. She was stretched full-out on the back seat and I wanted to impress upon her that she must remain there.

I walked to the kerb backward, pointing my finger at the car and saying emphatically,

"Now you stay. Do you hear me?"

"Stay! Stay!"

The driver of a nearby car, a pretty young blonde, gave me a strange look and said, "Why don't you just put the handbrake on'?"

## Newsletters from the other State Associations – since June 2012

### NSW

- Anzac Day 2012 – many great photos
- Museum news
- John Lymbury and his Lancia Fulvia sports
- Ops in Fly River estuary 1962
- PNG explorations 1926-28 by Noel Ticehurst
- Nance Shaw's passing

### SA

- Anzac Day 2012 – many good photos
- AGM
- Vale: Graeme Dowd
- Fortuna update
- Roll Call by Alex Munro – snippets of information about a few members
- An Easter Break in Rabaul – 1965 by Noel Sproles – a good read.
- Who is Brian RA Svy who served with Topo Sqn in 1959?
- Now this is an Atlas – John Frith on RAAF Charting at Fortuna

*Ed: WA, ACT and Fortuna have not put out a further newsletter since our June Bull 49*

## THE FIRST TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY SQUADRON

That 1 Topo at Enoggera value the Derek Chambers Award presented by our Association is demonstrated by the poster below:

The  
**Derek Chambers**  
Prize  
for  
*esprit de corps*

The Royal Australian Survey Corps Association, Queensland Branch, passed a resolution to honour the memory of Derek Chambers by offering to the 1st Topographical Survey Squadron a prize in the form of \$50 book voucher to be awarded to a young soldier (Sapper, Corporal or recently promoted Sergeant), who has made the most significant contribution to the esprit de corps of the Squadron during the preceding twelve months.

**Service Record  
1946 - 2000**

- Enlisted in the Australian Regular Army on 11 November 1963
- Attended the Basic Survey course at Balcombe in 1964
- Posted to Eastern Command Field Survey unit Randwick, Sydney
- Served on mapping operations within New South Wales
- 'Shadow posted' against the Divisional Topographical Survey Troop
- Posted to 1st Topographical Survey Troop in late 1965
- Served with distinction in Vietnam from May 1966 to April 1967
- Posted to Eastern Command Field Survey unit and promoted to Corporal
- Posted to Northern Command Field Survey unit (soon after changed name to 1st Field Survey Squadron) in June 1969
- Served on survey operations in Papua New Guinea and Northern Queensland
- Promoted to Sergeant in October 1978 and posted to 4th Field Survey Squadron in Adelaide
- Staff Sergeant Chambers returned to Brisbane for discharge after 20 years of excellent service to his Corps and Country

**Derek Chambers**

Derek's service record is shown in the column to the left. It reads...

- Enlisted into the Australian Regular Army 11 November 1963
- Attended the Basic Survey Course at Balcombe 1964
- Posted to Eastern Command Field Survey Unit, Randwick, Sydney
- Served on mapping operations within NSW
- Shadow posted against the Divisional Topographic Survey Squadron
- Posted to 1<sup>st</sup> Topographical Survey Troop in late 1965
- Served with distinction in Vietnam from May 1966 to April 1967
- Posted to Eastern Command Field Survey Unit and promoted to Corporal
- Posted to Northern Command Field Survey Unit (later 1<sup>st</sup> Field Survey Squadron) in June 1969
- Served on field survey operations in Papua New Guinea and northern Queensland
- Promoted to Sergeant in October 1978 and posted to 4 Field Survey Squadron in Adelaide
- Staff sergeant Derek Chambers returned to Brisbane for discharge after 20 years of excellent service to his Corps and country.

## SOMETHING TO CHUCKLE ABOUT

*ED – Read from top down....*

Text of a letter from a kid from Eromanga to Mum and Dad. For those of you not in the know, Eromanga is a small town to the west of Quilpie in the far south west of Queensland.

Dear Mum & Dad,

I am well. Hope yuse are too. Tell me big brothers Doug and Phil that the Army is better than workin' on the station - tell them to get in bloody quick smart before the jobs are all gone! I wuz a bit slow in settling down at first, because ya don't hafta get outta bed until 6am. But I like sleeping in now, cuz all ya gotta do before brekky is make ya bed and shine ya boots and clean ya uniform. No bloody horses to get in, no calves to feed, no troughs to clean - nothin'!! Ya haz gotta shower though, but its not so bad, coz there's lotsa hot water and even a light to see what ya doing!

At brekky ya get cereal, fruit and eggs but there's no kangaroo steaks or goanna stew like wot Mum makes. You don't get fed again until noon and by that time all the city boys are buggered because we've been on a 'route march' - geez it's only just like walking to the windmill in the bullock paddock!!

This one will kill me brothers Doug and Phil with laughter. I keep getting medals for shootin' - dunno why. The bulls-eye is as big as a bloody dingo's arse and it don't move and it's not firing back at ya like the Johnsons did when our big scrubber bull got into their prize cows before the Ekka last year! All ya gotta do is make yourself comfortable and hit the target - it's a piece of p...!! You don't even load your own cartridges, they comes in little boxes, and ya don't have to steady yourself against the rollbar of the roo shooting truck when you reload!

Sometimes ya gotta wrestle with the city boys and I gotta be real careful coz they break easy - it's not like fighting with Doug and Phil and Jack and Boori and Steve and Muzza all at once like we do at home after the muster.

Turns out I'm not a bad boxer either and it looks like I'm the best the platoon's got, and I've only been beaten by this one bloke from the Engineers - he's 6 foot 5 and 15 stone and three pick handles across the shoulders and as ya know I'm only 5 foot 7 and eight stone wringin' wet, but I fought him till the other blokes carried me off to the boozer.

I can't complain about the Army - tell the boys to get in quick before word gets around how bloody good it is.

Your loving daughter,  
Susan