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1996

**ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SURVEY CORPS ASSOCIATION**  
**(WESTERN AUSTRALIA) INC.**

Issue No. 21

**WESTLINK**

1st December

(Please address all correspondence to the Secretary: Phil Bray, 33 Nalpa Way, Duncraig 6023)



*To All Associations and Their Members a  
Merry Christmas and warm wishes for a  
Happy New Year*



**THE ANNIVERSARY DINNER - JULY 2000**

(The roof leaked hence the bucket)



**OUR HISTORY - NOW FACT NOT FICTION****The History of the Royal Australian Survey Corps has finally been published**

The Corps History, written by a distinguished military historian, Dr Chris Coultard-Clark, was launched at the Australian War Memorial on Friday 8 September 2000 by Major General John HARTLEY AO. The function hosted by our six colonels commandant, was attended by some 150 former members of the corps from NSW, Queensland, Victoria and the ACT. Brigadier Don MacDONALD AM, the much loved doyen of the Corps, presented a copy of the history to Army Staff Cadet Ariane ROSEBLADE, whose grandfather, Ltcol (later Major) H.A. (Bertie) ROSEBLADE, was one of six RE topographers loaned to Australia before the great war. Don was to serve with "Bertie" before the Second World War.

The history, "Australia's Military Map-Makers", is the fifth in the Australian Army History series and was published by Oxford University Press.

*An order form was sent to W.A. Association Members with the Xmas Function notice however if you have missed the ordering deadline (17th November) copies may be ordered from the: RAE Corps Shop - attention Russ Parish, Steele Barracks, Liverpool Military Area, Liverpool NSW 2174. Phone (02) 9600 4419 Fax (02) 9600 1721.*

*When Ordering Quote PLU No 25 - Cost is \$46 which includes postage of \$9 to the Perth Metro area. Insurance may be taken at an additional \$2.20. Cheques payable to "RAE Corps Shop"*

**ARMY MUSEUM - SAVE THE BARRACKS CAMPAIGN****Update from the Army Museum of Western Australia Foundation Newsletter August 2000**

"We have overwhelmingly demonstrated that the WA public will not stand by and allow the Artillery Barracks to be sold. We re now advancing Stage 2 of the campaign. This involves producing a business plan that indicates how, with sensible management and the leasing of under utilised portions of the site (married quarters, etc.) the Precinct can be funded in perpetuity.

Defence through the Defence Estate Organisation (DEO) has employed an international real estate firm, planning consultants and a public relations firm to assist them advance the sale.

On our side we have asked kindred bodies to write letters to the Federal Government and have lodged Freedom of Information requests, a complaint to the Commonwealth Ombudsman and a caveat on the site. The title cannot be traded until the caveat is lifted. Should we not agree to remove this Defence will have to take us to court. Already one law firm has offered to defend our case on a Pro Bono basis (for nothing). They consider the free publicity associated with such a case would be adequate return. We have had discussions with the City of Fremantle and are doing a presentation of our business plan to Councillors and staff on September 6th.

Our aim is to have the Barracks remain in Federal ownership, leased (peppercorn) to the Museum with us managing the site on their and the public's behalf. However, as the Federal Government seems hell bent on disposal, the next best options is for the State Government to buy or be granted the site as a Centenary of Federation gift. This would enable the State to grant the Precinct A class Reserve status, and vest management in the Army Museum Board, a precinct board and the City of Fremantle:



**MUGS GALLERY - CORPS ANNIVERSARY DINNER**



**Cedric  
CLUTTERBUCK**

**Doug  
BATH**

**Brian  
WILSON**

**Alan  
CARSON**



**Raffle Tickets at the Ready - Philip Bray Draws the Winning Number**

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Firstly let me wish each and everyone of you the compliments of the season - A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and hopefully Prosperous New Year.

This has been quite a successful year for the Association, attendance's at our functions are rising and we have had a fairly gratifying result to our recruitment campaign.

I wish to thank my Committee for their support and once again make a special acknowledgement to Philip Bray for his superhuman contribution. Mention must also be made to his wife Judy for her help when Phil is away - Thanks Judy.

Attendance at the Anzac March and AGM is still a bit disappointing; thanks to Doug Bath for his attendance's. Doug commutes up from Bunbury for the day.

Our two main annual reunions, Corps Anniversary and Christmas Dinners are still proving popular and it is often quite surprising at who turns up "out of the woodwork". Over the last few years we have been using the facilities of the Victoria League Club in Subiaco which I feel most members will agree is more than adequate given the factors of location, private ante-room and dining room, parking and ambience together with a reasonable menu and service especially in view of today's prices. The Committee has periodically looked at other venues but has been unable to match the Leagues offerings.

Best wishes to you all  
Ray

**PERSONAL SNIPPETS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA****New Members**

We welcome the following new members to our ranks:

**Margaret TAYLOR and Maj Peter JONES**  
and welcome back to fold to **Alex COOK**

We look forward to seeing you all at our reunions and get-togethers.

oOo

President RAY is gearing up for retirement - has taken delivery of a Jayco Eagle Camper trailer and now joined the ranks of the "pretty campers" - no more tents and stretchers.

He and Barry Parker took off on a shakedown cruise to the Goldfields for 10 days, staying at Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie and Esperance.

Both carried family history research along the way and with the help of an old map which lists all Aust. town co-ordinates and a GPS located the site of Siberia - home for a number of years to Archie Hancock and Meryl. Incidentally we were probably amongst the last of the tourists to visit Ora Banda, the week before the murder and subsequent bombing of the hotel.

Ray has had a letter from one Marlene LAWLER. Marlene - not heard of for some time is now in Real Estate - at the Woodvale Office of Ray White Real Estate. Hopefully another rejoining ex-member!!

Frank Cohen and son have returned from their trip to the USA and New Zealand. Not sure just where they went but will try and get a report from him for the next issue of Westlink. Also believe Frank is having some skin grafts done on his leg shortly.

The death of Con TSAKALOS occurred suddenly in Perth on the 29th September. Con was not a member of the Association but many of us from the 50's will remember him from 5 Fd Svy Sec days.

Doug BATH has written in to advise us that Ken Mosedale, he pilot of that tragic air accident, over Queensland was the son of the late Cecil MOSEDALE was an Orderly Room Sergeant in the 4 Fd Svy Co.

And yes people do read our magazine....

Issue No 18 July 99 contained an enquiry from Frank Cohen asking for information regarding a table cloth, signed by a 1946 survey team and embroidered by the Mt Eba Station owner's wife, a Mrs Florence (Flo) Crombie. Colin van Senden has just contacted Frank to say that it is in the possession of the now 93 year old Mrs Crombie, who is living in Kalgoorlie. Apparently in 1946 and during later years Mrs Crombie invited guests at Mt. Eba Homestead to sign a table cloth, which she later embroidered as a memento. Amongst the signatures are those of Len Beadell, Wally Reif, Lindsay Lockwood, John Showers, Colin van Senden and Frank Cohen. Besides other Corps members there are also signatures of a governor-general, a state governor and many very senior officers.

**ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SURVEY CORPS ASSOCIATION  
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA) INC**

**MEMBERSHIP 2000**

BARRELL	Lance	10 Welch Way	WARNBRO	6169	9593 2661
BATH	Doug	50 Frankel Street	BUNBURY	6230	9721 3498
BOULTER	Bob	223 Scott Street	CLOVERDALE	6105	9277 1036
BOWEN	Peter	8 Rosea Close	MAIDA VALE	6057	9454 6219
BOWLER	Stephen	3 Seacrest Drive	SORRENTO	6020	9447 3796
BRAY	Philip	33 Nalpa Way	DUNCRAIG	6023	9447 9699
BREWER	Bob	14 Arthur Road	LESMURDIE	6076	9291 6203
BRUCE	Bob	34 Gregory Street	WEMBLEY	6014	9381 2103
BROOK	Eric	6 Binns Court	NORTH FREMANTLE	6159	9336 4324
BROWN	Fred	9A Bocaccio Court	SORRENTO	6020	9246 4804
BULLOCK	Fred	P.O. Box 117	INNALOO	6018	9448 2475
CHERRY	Nevis	8 Abrothos Close	SHELLEY	6148	9457 0612
CLIFFORD	Leo	41B Kittyhawk Grove	BUSSELTON	6280	9754 3748
CLUTTERBUCK	Cedric	18 Glennon Way	ROSSMOYNE	6148	9457 4651
CLUTTERBUCK	Eric	4 Carob Place	GREENWOOD	6024	9342 2181
CLUTTERBUCK	Noel	357 Hardey Road	CLOVERDALE	6105	9277 7072
COHEN	Frank	121 North Street	SWANBOURNE	6010	9384 7094
COOK	Alex	92 Nolan Avenue	UPPER SWAN	6069	92961297
CRADDON	Clive	212 Corinthian Road	RIVERTON	6148	9354 1312
DELANEY	Shane	7/119 South Terrace	FREMANTLE	6160	9336 3636
DIXON	Chris	15 Orchid Drive	ROLEYSTONE	6111	9397 5380
EDDY	Peter	6 Cullen Street	SHENTON PARK	6008	9381 2616
EDWARDS	Frank	4 Batavia Way	SALTER POINT	6152	9450 3945
FIRNS	Brian	59 Thompson Road	NORTH FREMANTLE	6159	9335 6825
GAY	Doug	16 Waratah Court	MADDINGTON	6109	9452 2298
GILLHAM	Michael	3 Penny Place	KELMSCOTT	6111	9495 2214
GRIFFITHS	Leon	33 Engler Street	BOORAGOON	6154	9364 8019
HALL	Warren	PO Box 298	TOODYAY	6566	9574 4484
JONES	Peter	19 Merrifield Circle	LEEMING	6149	93135236
LAWLER	Martene	20B Admiral Grove.	HEATHRIDGE	6027	9307 7652
LENANE	Frank	12 MacKay Crescent	GOSNELLS	6110	9398 5815
LOCKE	Cec	35 Amos Way	GIRRAWHEEN	6064	9342 6098
MACDONALD AM	Don	8/17 Heydon Street	MOSMAN N.S.W.	2088	
MAZZAROL BEM	Jo	52 Cleveland Street	DIANELLA	6062	9276 6170
MEAD	Brian	8 Barrisdale Drive	KINGSLEY	6026	9409 8292
MUSGRAVE	Don	27 Marjorie Parade	ROCKINGHAM	6168	9527 3473
PARKER	Barry	41B Jefferson Drive	MARANGAROO	6064	9342 7245
REYNOLDS	Kim	39 Churchill Drive	BUNBURY	6230	9721 6169
ROBERTS	Jim	8 Waxberry Close	HALLS HEAD	6210	9582 9857
SARGEANT	Ray	29 Bouvardia Way	GREENWOOD	6024	9448 5787
SAWYER	Tom	5 Mandoon Close	DARLINGTON	6070	9299 7039
TAYLOR	Margaret	22 Callistemon Avenue	GREENWOOD	6024	9447 0465
TILL	Alf	21 Cromarty Road	FLOREAT	6014	9387 5113
UWINS	Bev	12 Kexby Street	BALCATT	6021	9344 1968
VENN	Mick	29 Waitara Crescent	GREENWOOD	6024	9448 0407
WEBB	Cliff	8 Nalpa Way	DUNCRAIG	6023	9448 3176
WILLIS	John	35A Newborough Street	SCARBOROUGH	6019	9341 3956
WILKINSON	Darren	10 Winjana Road	LESMURDIE	6076	9291 8426
WILSON	Bryan	69A William Road	NEDLANDS	6009	9386 4729

## 5TH FIELD SURVEY SQUADRON

1982

33672	MAJ	P H	WOOD
54199	CAPT	D	TAYLOR
45430	LT	J	BLOOR
2190893	2LT	D H O	BURNS
226253	LT	R D	HANCOCK
53723	WO2	J L	ROBERTS
53004	WO2	I J	HASTINGS
1201147	WO2	J T A	HOOK
3109614	SSGT	D A	GAY
1201993	SSGT	A H	STRAIN
1203731	SSGT	R J	LARSEN
3107631	SSGT	P J	PRESSER
55193	SGT	A G	COOK
315292	SGT	P W	HAMMER
2412082	SGT	D R	SHAW
55483	SGT	J W	JONES
315657	SGT	N F	KELLY
317723	SGT	G C	MASKELL
313993	SGT	M C	VENN
54662	SGT	A J	WRIGHT
450010	CPL	M J	BODMAN
1202719	CPL	M D	EVANS
319354	CPL	P A	JOHNSON
320096	CPL	G R	JOHNSTON
320098	CPL	S L	HRABE
430744	CPL	F W	LAWRENCE
318997	CPL	P F	LESKOVEC
49392	CPL	R	TALBOT-SMITH
282117	CPL	R M	GREEN
59929	CPL	J S	REID
220440	CPL	M	JOHNS
662073	CPL	T G	BOTTOMLEY
2137214	CPL	B L	LUCAS
320670	SPR	L P	CLIFFORD
397868	SPR	J F	COWIE
553277	SPR	A	DE GRAUW
179945	SPR	T C	POLL
553222	SPR	S	THROSSEL
179109	SPR	P R	BURT
4400812	SPR	C R	HARTLEY
63383	SPR	C D	JAMES
553012	SPR	P R	MAIN
322539	SPR	M J	SHAW
553690	PTE	N M	SMITH
553889	SPR	D J C	SMITH-CAMERON

IN

223520	CPL	B D	HAMMOND	18 January
220364	LT	D P	GALBRAITH	8 March
1200512	WO2	K J	GALLAGHER	3 February
1201868	WO2	W P	GRIGGS	3 February
126236	SSGT	R	SKUSE	15 March
554081	SPR	G R	NEIL	23 April
320966	LCPL	J S	RUIZ	10 February
38950	WO2	W W	PRIOR	29 September
553998	SPR	G	MATTOCK	24 February
322824	SPR	O E	WEEKS	24 February
315293	SGT	R	VANDEBOM	16 February
552616	CPL	J	MARTIN	21 July
4400516	CPL	I J	FORSYTH	24 November
56139	CPL	J A	RATCLIFFE	1 June
318818	CPL	P A	DROVER	?
553690	SPR	C	KELLETT	?
5718984	CPL	R C	BROCKMAN	?

OUT

LT	J	BLOOR	8 Jan - AHQ Svy Regt
SSGT	P J	PRESSER	26 January
CPL	M	JOHNS	26 January
SGT	M C	VENN	18 Feb - Discharge
CPL	R M	GREEN	3 Mar - 19 CE Wksps
SGT	N F	KELLY	16 Jun - School of Mil Svy
WO2	I J	HASTINGS	5 Jun - Discharge
LT	R D	HANCOCK	28 Nov - 1RTB
CPL	G R	JOHNSTON	30 November
SGT	D R	SHAW	15 Jan - Discharge
CPL	B L	LUCAS	?
CPL	P F	LESKOVEC	?
CPL	S L	HRABE	?
LT	D H O	BURNS	?

PROMOTIONS

WO2	J T A	HOOK	WO1 - 25 Mar
CPL	T G	BOTTOMLEY	SGT - 30 Jul
SPR	P R	BURT	CPL - Jun
LCPL	J S	RUIZ	CPL - Jun



## 5TH FIELD SURVEY SQUADRON

1983

33672	MAJ	P H	WOOD
54199	CAPT	D	TAYLOR
220364	LT	D P	GALBRAITH
1201147	WO1	J T A	HOOK
53723	WO2	J L	ROBERTS
1200612	WO2	K J	GALLAGHER
1201868	WO2	W P	GRIGGS
38950	WO2	W W	PRIOR
3109614	SSGT	D A	GAY
1201993	SSGT	A H	STRAIN
1203731	SSGT	R J	LARSEN
126236	SSGT	R	SKUSE
55193	SGT	A G	COOK
315292	SGT	P W	HAMMER
55483	SGT	J W	JONES
317723	SGT	G C	MASKELL
54662	SGT	A J	WRIGHT
552073	SGT	T G	BOTTOMLEY
315293	SGT	R	VANDEBOM
450010	CPL	M J	BODMAN
5718984	CPL	R C	BROCKMAN
179109	CPL	P R	BURT
318818	CPL	P A	DROVER
1202719	CPL	M D	EVANS
4400516	CPL	I J	FORSYTH
223520	CPL	B D	HAMMOND
319354	CPL	P A	JOHNSON
430744	CPL	F W	LAWRENCE
552616	CPL	J	MARTIN
59929	CPL	J S	REID
320966	CPL	J S	RUIZ
49392	CPL	R	TALBOT-SMITH
56139	CPL	J A	RATCLIFFE
397868	SPR	J F	COWIE
320570	SPR	L P	CLIFFORD
553277	SPR	A	DE GRAUW
4400812	SPR	C R	HARTLEY
63383	SPR	C D	JAMES
553690	SPR	C	KELLETT
553998	SPR	G	MATTOCK
553012	SPR	P R	MAIN
554081	SPR	G R	NEIL
179945	SPR	T C	POLL
322539	SPR	M J	SHAW
553690	PTE	N M	SMITH
553889	SPR	D J C	SMITH-CAMERON
553222	SPR	S	THROSSEL
322824	SPR	O E	WEEKS

IN

536317	LT	J C	GREENWELL	4 January
225556	LT	S D	ROBERTSON	21 February
314939	WO2	C J	CUSKELLY	28 February
318881	SGT	W F	JONES	2 February
577611	CPL	N T	JONES	7 March
231302	PTE	B J	ORMONDE	28 February
217599	SGT	E C	ALLISON	11 April
222975	SGT	L S	BARRELL	16 December
314602	CPL	C K	YANDELL	21 December
554547	SPR	A A	MATISON	16 December
554174	SPR	R J	SMOLDERS	3 February
1204166	CPL	J D	SMITH	

OUT

LT	D P	GALBRAITH	20 Jan - AHQ Svy Regt
SGT	A G	COOK	19 Jan - AHQ Svy Regt
WO1	J T A	HOOK	26 February
CPL	R	TALBOT-SMITH	25 Feb - Discharge
CPL	F W	LAWRENCE	7 Mar - DSU Perth
SGT	G C	MASKELL	13 Apr - 1 Avn Regt
PTE	N M	SMITH	9 Jun - Discharge
SSGT	R M	SKUSE	13 Dec - DSU Perth
SGT	P W	HAMMER	20 December
CPL	M J	BODMAN	20 December
CPL	J A	RATCLIFFE	14 February

PROMOTIONS

CPL	B D	HAMMOND	SGT - 25 Mar
SPR	P R	MAIN	CPL - Nov
WO2	K J	GALLAGHER	WO1 - 24 Mar
SPR	TC	POLL	CPL

**FROM THE OTHER ASSOCIATIONS**Queensland Branch - Bulletin June 2000**Current Office Bearers**

President:	<b>Peter Bates-Brownsword</b>	(07) 3289 7001
Secretary	<b>Mary-Ann Thiselton</b>	(07) 3353 1026
Treasurer	<b>Stan Campbell</b>	(07) 3285 3970

**Last Friday of the Month Drinks**  
the Gaythorne RSL.

The Association meets for drinks on the last Friday of each month - at

Unfortunately, as so many Newsletters and Bulletins from kindred Associations do, this Issue contained names of comrades passed on:

**Ian Campbell**

died earlier this year after a long illness. Ian had been classified as TPI as a result of Vietnam service with the 1st Topographical Survey Troop. He was dedicated to the cause of Vietnam Veterans and the travails that many of them suffered in the years since. A couple of years ago Ian wrote some reflections on the Troop and these were published in the June 2000 Bulletin.

**Keith Todd**

also passed away early in the year after a battle with cancer. Keith enlisted in 1955 as a licensed surveyor with the rank of Sergeant, he was commissioned after attending a 'Knife and Fork' course and served in a number of units until his retirement in 1975.

Keith is survived by his wife, Gloria, three sons and two daughters.

**Derek Chambers**

Derek passed away on the 9th April this year, tragically only 54 years of age, of leukaemia condition suffered over a long period. Derek served for 20 years (1963-83) and was a member of the first detachment of 1 Topo Svy Tp to be deployed to Vietnam in May 1966. He is survived by his wife Lorraine and children Michelle, Grant and Kerry.

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South Australian Association - Newsletter No. 27 June 2000**Current Office Bearers**

President:	<b>Bob Cooper</b>	(08) 8295 3911
Secretary	<b>Dave Irving</b>	(08) 8364 1736
Newsletter	<b>Alex Munro</b>	(08) 8277 7074

**First Friday of the Month Drinks:** Usually at the Queen's Arms Hotel in Wright Street - after 5p.m.**People News:**

<b>Butch Winterflood:</b>	Operating a courier service on Bridie Is. Qld
<b>Graham Dowd</b>	A retired pensioner living the good life - also on Bridie Island
<b>Terry Lord</b>	Back in the ARA as a Major - stationed at Puckapunyal as SO2 Combat Engineers
<b>Barry Lutwyche</b>	Has bought into an ice-cream sales business in Brisbane
<b>George Ricketts</b>	Still recovering after his stroke, he was able to participate (wheelchair driven) in the Anzac Day March
<b>Anthony Stephens</b>	Still in the business of selling maps - The Map Shop, Peel Street. City.
<b>Blue Blaskett</b>	Blue and wife Irene are living a life of Leisure in retirement in Caloundra QLD
<b>Dick Small</b>	Operating as a produce agent and selling agricultural goods at Yarraman QLD

**Vale:****Keith Alexander**

Keith died in Adelaide December 1999.

**Eric Jewell**

Passed away in Melbourne, February 2000

**Max Haworth**

Max died some months ago in WA. He will be remembered by hundreds of students who attended SMS at B Balcombe and Bonegilla, as the transport wailah for several years before retiring to Perth.

**Dr. Rosenthal**

Recently in Bendigo. As the Area Medical Officer at Fortuna for many years, he would have treated hundreds of members who were posted to the Army Survey Regiment, at the old RAP on the balcony.

**Stephenie Henson**

The daughter of Barbara and Arthur Henson, she died suddenly in Canberra earlier this year. Stephenie suffered an asthma attack which lead to heart failure.

**Samantha Farrington**

Daughter of Jan and Joe Farrington, Sam died accidentally a few months back in South Africa, aged about 21 years. It is understood that she was a staff member with a tour group, when she succumbed to carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas shower unit.

oOo

**JIM STEDMAN**

It is with great sadness that we advise that Jim Stedman, our past Director, Colonel Commandant friend and mentor of many, died of a sudden heart attack in his home in the evening of Monday 9th October 2000. For many of us, Jim was the Survey Corps. His values were the Corps' values and the values we all adopted. It is hard to think of any significant achievement of the Corps during the post WW2 years in which Jim Stedman did not play a prominent role. His passing closes a chapter as certainly as the passing of the Corps itself.

Queensland Branch - Bulletin October 2000

**ROSS HYDE**

Ross passed away in Bendigo on 12 September 2000 after loosing a battle with cancer at age 70. Ross was a character of the Corps and one who had a significant role in the storage of the Corps archival records and reformat. He will be remembered for not throwing out some of the original plane table sheets which we so value today, when ordered to do so.

From Magna Carto - October 2000

**HELP WITH PENSION APPLICATIONS AT ANZAC HOUSE**

Due to the increase in the number of veterans seeking assistance with pension applications, ANZAC House now has a whole group of volunteers and professional personnel available to assist RSL members with pension and welfare problems. These officers help to ensure that the pension applications are prepared in a manner that is acceptable to the Department of Veterans' Affairs. In this way, unnecessary delays and possible distress to veterans and their families can be avoided.

For an appointment with a pensions officer, please ring 9352 9799.

## Address by Major General John Hartley -at the launch of the History of the Royal Australian Survey Corps.

Firstly, thank you for the privilege of being asked to launch this book. In doing so, I must firstly acknowledge that many of you have travelled long distances to be here. I also recognise the wealth of service that exists in this room, which clearly attests to the considerable interest displayed here in this project. I should also recognise the efforts of Roger Lee and his staff for arranging this occasion and thank General Gower and the staff of the Australian War Memorial for allowing us to use this facility. I think it is entirely appropriate that the launch should take place here - the Centre of Australia's military heritage and history. For a book of this nature to be a success, I believe there need to be three ingredients.

Firstly, there needs to be a desire to produce it. I suspect there are many who have had that desire for sometime. Indeed, I have seen a very readable regimental history at Bendigo. But the decision to amalgamate the Corps with RAE undoubtedly was the primary catalyst. I recall several years ago, not long after I became DCGS, and shortly after the decision was taken, receiving a telephone call from my old friend and Duntroun classmate, Charlie Watson, wishing to see me on an urgent matter. I was somewhat surprised to see not only Charlie but a delegation of Corps notables who looked particularly grim and determined. Certainly Clem Sargent was present. And what was scheduled to be a discussion on a class reunion turned out to be a well placed ambush.

Thus the project was launched.

This was not a difficult decision. I suspect if we had not taken it then, we would have no written record of a number of unofficial records which would not have given the complete story or which would be subject to the vagaries of individual memories and perceptions. So right from the start, there was a genuine appreciation of the need to produce a record of the work of the Royal Australian Survey Corps.

The second ingredient is the need for a process to produce the book. This has several components. In our case, it required some official basis. Roger Lee provided this, using the Australian Army History Oxford University Press.

Of course, the publication with its attendant research, writing, editing, production and publication does not come cheaply. In our case, a good deal of sponsorship was provided by the Survey Corps itself but also by the Institution of Surveyors in New South Wales, and I should like to mention three people, all

of whom are here today: Alan Cavanagh, the past-president of the Institution, John Brock and Charles Jerrard.

Next and a most crucial step, is the author. And here we were extremely fortunate to gain the services of Chris Coulthard-Clark. Chris is an experienced military historian and has been involved in the production of over 20 books, most of them with a military theme. A Duntroun graduate, he spent a number of years with the Australian Intelligence Corps. In his role as an author he has developed a detailed understanding of how to use the labyrinth of research facilities, here and throughout the Department.

The third, and final element, is that there must be a story to tell. And what a story this is. I suspect - as is inevitably the case - this book will be read largely by those who have served in the Corps or who continue its work under different arrangements. This is a pity because the book has the potential for a much wider appeal. It is, in many ways, part of the story of the development of Australia itself.

The military aspects are well covered. The coverage of Survey in both World Wars and other campaigns is well documented. Those of us who have been involved in the planning and conduct of military operations cannot stress strongly enough the value of terrain presentations. Indeed, as the British found in the South African War, not to have current, accurate and detailed maps reduces the war fighting capacity of a force as much, if not more, than poor logistics, low morale or bad planning.

The Corps also played a major role in the mapping of Australia. It is almost impossible to imagine the development of this country without adequate mapping, especially in terms of population centres, communications, transport and mining and pastoral development without suitable mapping. Nor should the Corps' role in developing national mapping be underestimated, both in terms of the leadership Corps members provided and the pioneering of new Procedures and techniques, many based on the evolution of new technology.

To give some substance to these statements, let me provide a small amount of detail. Since the Second World War, the Corps has engaged in survey and mapping operations in Australia, producing over 50 percent of first map coverage of the nation at a scale of 1:250,000 and some 3400 maps at scales of 1:100,000 and 1:50,000. Furthermore, from 1954 to 1994, the Corps undertook some 50 survey and mapping operations in PNG, Indonesia and the South Pacific as far east as Kiribati. It produced 400 maps at scales of 1:250,000 and 1:100,000 to completely cover PNG.



The last chapter points to a difficult time experienced by the Corps in recent years. In a way the outcome probably was inevitable as Chris Coulthard-Clark points out. Certainly the expanded influence of National Mapping and the advent of new technology played their parts. But we should not underestimate the pruning of many capabilities over the last ten years, which saw Army's strength reduce by a third and the failure of governments, of all persuasions to increase Defence expenditure in real terms. Any possibility to reduce manpower, or to consider outsourcing, commercialisation or the rationalisation of similar service capabilities, would be instantly grasped. This type of thinking undoubtedly played its part. Indeed, I suspect there is a good case for a further book to objectively analyse this whole aspect of Defence culture.

But the story of the Survey Corps is about its people. Small in number, highly trained and motivated, frequently deployed for extended periods, it had no shortage of characters, colourful personalities and visionaries. It played a vital but frequently understated role.

Chris has captured all of this in a most readable fashion. I commend the book to you and declare it officially launched.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF  
HIS EXCELLENCY  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN M SANDERSON,  
AC  
GOVERNOR OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

Lieutenant General John Sanderson retired as Chief of the Australian Army in June 1998. He was sworn in as Governor of Western Australia on 18 August 2000, returning to his home state after 43 years absence.

Born in Geraldton in November 1940, General Sanderson completed his secondary education at Bunbury High School in 1957 before entering the Royal Military College Duntroon 1958. He graduated in 1961 and was commissioned into the Royal Australian Engineers in December of that year. After completing a Fellowship Diploma in Civil Engineering at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, General Sanderson had a series of regimental postings. These included second in command of 10 Field Squadron and Troop Commander and Construction Officer of 21 Construction Squadron on operation service in Sabah, Malaysia. He was promoted to Captain in 1965.

Following eighteen months as a Staff Officer in the Office of the Engineer in Chief, he was posted as the Exchange Instructor of the Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatterden UK from 1967-69. He

returned to Australia to command 23 Construction Squadron at Holsworthy prior to taking up command of 17 Construction Squadron in South Vietnam at the end of 1970.

Returning to Australia in late 1971, he was the Senior Instructor at the School of Military Engineering throughout 1972 before attending the Australian Staff College Queenscliff during 1973.

General Sanderson was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1975 after serving for a short period as a Staff Officer at the Headquarters of Field Force Command. His initial appointment as Staff Officer Grade 1 at the Directorate of Engineers was followed by two years (1976-78) as the Exchange Instructor at the British Army Staff College, Camberley.

He commanded the 1st Field Engineer Regiment from 1979-80, and then attended the Joint Services Staff College in 1981. General Sanderson was appointed as the Military Assistant to the Chief of the General Staff in late 1981, serving in that capacity until being promoted to Colonel as Director of Army Plans in 1983.

**FROM MAJOR GENERAL P M JEFFERY  
AC AO(Mil) CVO MC**

20 June 2000

Dear Mr Sargeant

Thank you for your recent letter and your kind words regarding my tenure as Governor of Western Australia; they are very much appreciated.

Marlena and I found the appointment challenging, stimulating and very rewarding. It has been a pleasure to have served the people of Western Australia for the last 61/2 years.

Thank you for advising me of the published history of the Survey Corps to be released at the end of the year. I shall follow this up nearer the time.

I have been delighted to be associated with the Royal Australian Survey Corps Association (WA) Inc and extend my best wishes for its continued success.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely  
PM Jeffery  
Major General (Retd)

*(The Association wrote to MajGen Jeffery thanking him for his interest in the Corps and wishing him well in his retirement)*

**The RSL Badge**

The badge is a symbol of a readiness at all times to render service to Crown and country and to former comrades. It is a time-honoured emblem - one that has been worn with a deep sense of pride by the most revered in our land and one that glorifies all privileged to wear it.

Not wealth, influence, or social standing can purchase the badge, which may be worn in honour only by those who have rendered service in the armed services of the Crown or its Allies

The wattle is symbolic of Australia. The leek, rose, thistle and shamrock are symbolic of and represent the link with Wales, England Scotland and Ireland respectively. The red in the badge represents the blood tie of war that exists between comrades. White stands for purity of motives in joining the League - to render service without thought of personal gain or ambition. The blue indicates a willingness to render that service to a comrade anywhere under the blue sky - wherever he or she may be.

Depicted in the Centre of the badge, and encircled by the name of the organisation, are a sailor, soldier, airman and service woman marching together with their arms linked in friendship. This is to show that, within the circle of the League, all Services and all ranks march together in unity and comradeship.

**Australian Defence Force Ensign**

Australian Defence Force Ensign has been proclaimed as an official flag of Australia under the Flags Act 1953. The proclamation does not alter the pre-eminent statues of the national flag. The Australian Defence Force Ensign was created by the Defence Force in 1969 to identify Australian military formations serving in Vietnam containing more than one of the three services. The ensign's use has grown since that time with the greater co-operation of the three arms of the Defence Force in joint operations. The ensign has not, until now, been accorded the formal status of an official flag of Australia.

*(Above items reproduced, in part, from "The Listening Post" Vol:23 No.3 Spring 2000)*

**1 Topo Svy Sqn****New Home for Topo**

Staff at 1 Topo Svy Sqn have moved into new facilities at Enoggera after being decentralised at various buildings around the base.

The squadron was tendered for redevelopment in March last year after identification of an increase in numbers from about 60 to about 120 personnel following amalgamation with RAE.

2IC Capt. Shaun Hoffmann said the original building was designed for the unit as it was in RASvy and needed to be restructured for the new manning levels.

"The building was supposed to be finished earlier this year but there were delays," he said "What it will mean for the Squadron is that it will be the first time the three geomatic troops, data support and admin are all co-located". The new facility will provide a secure environment for the troops dealing with sensitive information, who currently have to visit a secure facility when required.

"We can't operate within the current squadron environment because it's not a secure area and a lot of the work we're now seeing is secure information."

The \$3.2 million project saw some revamping of old buildings as well as construction of the main facility and was officially opened on June 8.

**and New Equipment**

Support from survey assets on deployment will soon flow more smoothly with the arrival of new equipment to aid the soldier in the field

Project Topographic Support System (TOPOSS) will deliver, custom-mounted in a media-maintenance shelter, machinery designed to deal with military geospatial information.

2IC 1 Topo Svy Sqn Capt. Shaun Hoffmann said the acquisition of the 10 units would provide a mobile topographical support system in the field.

"Each of those systems will have the ability to work on all the common operating environments the army is currently acquiring and will contain several output and scanning devices as well," he said.

"The equipment can be used in the workplace, then when we need to deploy to the field we back our trucks up to the building, load the equipment and drive out the gate."

Scene: Artillery Barracks, Burt St. Fremantle around the early sixties.  
Coll.- food.

### FRANK

Frank never tired of the things he admired, the ones with the big blue eyes,  
with hands cupped in jest in front of his chest, he'd watch as the girls passed him by.  
A humorous bloke, and fond of a joke, a good pun is what he liked best,  
he joined the corps towards the end of the war, served most of his time in the west.

His religious belief though followed in brief, but not as his Rabbi would choose,  
as an uprighteous bloke, he didn't gamble or smoke or over indulge in the booze.  
A religion subscribed, and never denied was one he often revealed,  
when spreading the word, a message was heard, that the lips of his pockets were sealed.

Despite all that he's a generous chap, some times after work he would pause,  
with a nod and a wink he'd say come home for a drink, I've got a can and two straws.  
No one would know he's a doubleyou oh, he was always one of the boys,  
to us he was Frank, rarely pulled rank, and not prone to make lots of noise.

The reason I lay out his background this way, I'm just about to set down,  
and the reason is lunch, and that one of us bunch would take turns to get it in town.  
Frank offered one day, we all said OK, and away he went in his car,  
no problem with that, he soon would be back as Fremantle wasn't that far.

Of course he was late coming back through the gate and responded this way to abuse,  
"just hang on there mate, and give me a break, I've got a damn good excuse."  
"Let's hear it," we cried; "we all night have died," then he said with this farcical smile,  
"I had to drive round, 'til a meter I found, that still had some time on the dial."

Well we accepted that, but then a tyre went flat while he was away getting the munga\*  
as he perched on his heel and replaced the wheel, we suffered acute pangs of hunger.  
Here comes the best, now he felt like a rest, so he leaned for a spell on the bonnet,  
then! despite being late, he decided to wait as the meter still had ten minutes on it.

Some feigned surprise, from others outcries and some too dumbfounded to speak,  
although partly true he sure stirred a few, for his story was told tongue in cheek.  
Still, if it's clichés you prize, then try these for size, forget about religion or rank,  
'only fools make a plan' and 'time waits for no man,' unless of course, it is Frank.

Lofty