

Royal Australian Survey Corps Association (NSW) P.O. Box 63 SPRINGWOOD NSW 2777 Telephone 0409 644 210 E-mail Jackoz40@bigpond.com Survey Corps Web site www.rasurvey.org

## ANZAC DAY MARCH SYDNEY 2016

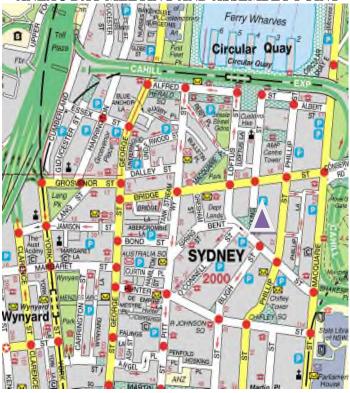
This notice is to advise all old, new members and inter state visitors of the Royal Australian Survey Corps Association NSW the arrangements for the 2016 SYDNEY ANZAC DAY MARCH. Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**There is a change to the time and location** we will assemble at the corner of **Bent & Young Street at 10.15 AM see purple triangle on map** and wait direction from the marshal to form up behind the banner. The line-up order is Survey Corps is between the Signal Corps and the Intelligence Corps.

We look forward to members and non-members marching to keep up the past traditions of the Royal Australian Survey Corps on this Special Day of Remembrance.

As in past years members from the Geomatic Wing of SME have volunteered to carry the banner. For those who have purchased the Corps purple beret & badges please remember to wear them on the day.

At the conclusion of the march we will hold a short meeting in Hyde Park near the Red Cross tea stand. **Items for discussion;** Presidents Report Treasurer's report Conformation of Presidents report The election of office bearers



#### ANZAC DAY MEETING AND ASSEMBLY POINT

#### INTERSTATE ASSEMBLY POINTS

#### **Brisbane Queensland**

FUP is in George Street between Charlotte & Elizabeth Streets. Form up behind Water Transport at 1000hrs

#### **Canberra ACT**

FUP ANZAC Avenue at the junction with Blamey Crescent form up behind Survey Corps Banner at 1000hrs

#### **Melbourne Victoria**

FUP is on the Western side of Swanson Street between Flinders Lane & Collins Street. Form up with 2AIF behind Survey Corps Banner at 0900hrs

#### **Adelaide South Australia**

FUP Group A12 Grenfell Street 150 Metres West of Pulteney Street at 1000 hrs Telephone 08 8277 7074

#### Perth Western Australia

FUP is Crn King Street & St Georges Terrace 0915-0930 Telephone 0418 566 898 to confirm location

# Report by Phil Bannister on 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of RA Svy Corps

R A Svy held a celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the corps in Canberra on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July and in Bendigo from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2015. My wife Jane and I decided to drive from Sydney to Canberra and Bendigo via Bonegilla and on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July I was asked to write a report about these celebrations for the NSW Association. There are numerous detailed reports about these celebrations and to differentiate I decided to present a more personal experience firstly about our journey on how I joined the corps and then some a photo journey Canberra – Bonegilla – Bendigo.

I was a member of the R A Svy Corps from 1970 to 1979, from an age of 18 to 27 and I have come to regard my experience in the corps as the foundation of my working life. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the RA Svy is certainly a good time to reflect my own journey and how it all begun.

In 1963 at the age of 11 I was a member of the Inverell Boy Scouts Group and on one weekend group outing we were accompanied by a Mr. Ken Angel, a sometimes scoutmaster, I say sometimes because for some reason he was away a lot. Ken took a group of us to the Ashford Caves where he instructed us in the craft of caving. At lunch time we would re-emerge from the caves, light a fire, put on the billy, cook up a few snags and have a bit of a yarn when we learned that the reason Ken was away a lot was because he was a surveyor, at that time a mining surveyor and this caving experience was the sort of work he did for a living.

Ken sported a full beard, drove a land rover and when Ken advised us that the best way to become a surveyor was to join the army and learn surveying through the RA Svy Corps that advice became my career path which I held firm on for the next 7 years joining the Corps immediately out of High School like so many of us did at that time.

I have since become to believe that Ken served with Corps in 1 Topo Svy Coy (CMF) during the 1950's and he is mentioned by Dick Lovegrove's (RAA) article dated 21 SEP 09 printed in

<u>http://rasurvey.org/NSWNewsletters/Dec%202009.pdf</u>. In this article Ken is mentioned as coming from Narrabri which is not far from Inverell and I know he worked all over the North West.

A google search brings Ken's name up again with a connection to one Alan Shepard who's story was told as "Personality of the profession" in the Institute of surveyors Azimuth magazine No 52 Issue 11. Alan was also a member of the Corps in Sydney after being conscripted for the Korean war in 1952.

In about 1966 Army Recruiting came through our town and when I told them about my intentions they looked up the pay scales and told me that in no time I would be a sergeant on \$100 per week with nothing to spend it on but wine, women and song and they asked me when will you ever need more than \$100 per week.

During the school holidays in September 1969 I went to Sydney to be interviewed by Major Hammett. Upon my arrival I met one Frank Fischer also awaiting the same interview for "Corps enlistment" and we were both accepted. There was a 6 week difference between our enlistment dates although we were on parallel courses for recruit training at Kapooka and then for our Basic Survey course at Bonegilla.

Upon completion we were both posted to 2Fd Svy Sqn in Randwick where we spent the majority of our time in the corps.

Today Frank and I remain good friends and we are engaged as volunteers at the Engineers museum at Holsworthy which incorporates R A Svy equipment and memorabilia. Both Frank and I decided to attend the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebrations of the corps and we attach a few photos of that experience.

### A Photo Journey from Canberra to Bonegilla to Bendigo



A Trig Point in Canberra to celebrate 100 years of RA Svy



Canberra invited a special guest to address members for the centenary of RA Svy



Simon Lemon and Don Swiney laying a wreath at the War Memorial



In Canberra former members of 2Fd Svy Sqn from the 1970's L to R, Rowan Shipley Danny Galbraith and Phil Bannister





Flags on show for the  $100^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$  anniversary of RA Svy from the National Library





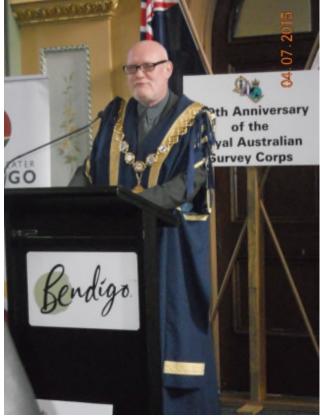
Hume Weir looking south towards the Bonegilla The only remaining evidence of the School Mil Svy Bonegilla



The original occupants of the School of Mil Svy have re-taken possession



Piped in to the Bendigo Civic Reception



The Mayor of Bendigo addresses RA Svy members



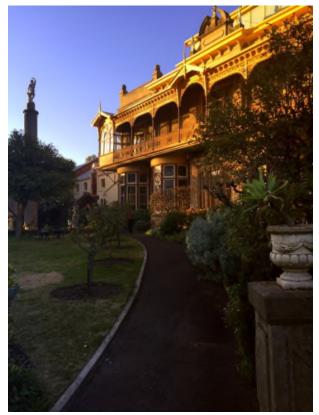
Phil Bannister and frank Fischer install the NSW banner at the Bendigo civic reception voted as the best banner on show



"Purple flowers" at the Bendigo Civic reception



Bendigo Dinner – 2Fd Svy Sqn Blast from the past Bruce Bowers, Wally Chillcott and Alan derby



Golden Fortuna in Bendigo



Bendigo Fortuna Prior to Dedication Ceremony



Duncan Burns and Bob Skitch with the Story of the Army Survey regiment



Fortuna - The cairn Dedicated to RA Svy

Fortuna – The Dedication



Beautiful window in Fortuna



The bath in the cupboard of the OC's office Fortuna

It with great sadness that I report the passing of Stan Campbell. Stan passed away peacefully in his home at 6.00am Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Queensland. Stan was a wonderful person who served in the Survey Corps for 22 years and a great asset to the Survey corps.



Bill Hills and Stan Campbell in PNG 1962 (Stan is on the right in first photograph and left in the second photograph)

If any member has an article or information they would like to have published in the next newsletter please send it to jackoz40@bigpond.com