

WELCOME TO THE SURVEY DATUM SPRING EDITION ...

I was fortunate to visit Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia during the second half of June.

I was there to attend a week long International Surveying Conference "FIG2014" which is French for International Surveying Federation !!



It was evident then that the Malaysian MH370 loss was felt strongly by all there, so the more recent loss of Malaysian MH17 over Ukraine will have had a significant effect on the whole population.

Being an International Conference, you hear what's going on across the globe and you hear how major issues can be dealt with when you have an organisation that has a worldwide membership. Dealing with poverty and the 75% of the world's population who don't have access to property rights, is only possible when Global groups like the World Bank, the United Nations and FIG work together to facilitate property Ownership to raise people out of poverty.



Closer to home, we have just come back from a Bush Camping trip to "Alpana Station" about 25km west of Blinman. A wonderful part of South Australia, where you can only touch the surface of the things there are to do in 6 days. One of the hidden treasures is the Blinman Mine Tour. The Blinman townfolk (population 19!) have done a magnificent job creating a fascinating underground tour for all the senses. You really gain a better understanding of life in the Outback, in a mine back in the 1860's.

This month's newsletter contains articles on Colonel Light and his amazing work in establishing Adelaide. We also look a bit deeper into the solutions for the 75% of the world with little or no property rights.

Happy Spring
Michael - Ed

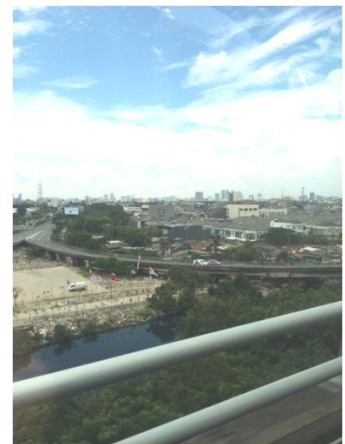
Securing Land Rights For The Poor

(Information from paper @ FIG 2014 Conference- Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur. Revised by M Gear)

According to United Nations reports, 75% of the world's population do not have access to property rights. This means that not only don't they have any actual ownership but no formally recognised system to acknowledge their current use of the land either.

While we in Australia are comfortable in understanding that most of us "own" (or part own) our home, or maybe we rent a house, to the exclusion of others, 75% of the world live without this security, and therefore live in a constant threat of eviction.

Because of this situation, the United Nations, the World Bank and FIG (International Federation of Surveyors) have joined resources to introduce tools and exert influence on countries leaders to turn these huge numbers around.



Having quickly worked out that to "Torrens Title" all the worlds' unofficial properties would take decades or possibly centuries at its current rate, the way to deliver rapid security of tenure (land rights) is through a 'Continuum of Land Rights'. This is best described as a "Ladder", where the aim is to get everyone at least on the bottom rung, so they can work their way up. In reality we start with sourcing as much basic data for as many properties with minimal resources, to at least have a simple understanding of What, Who and Where.

What is the right or parcel involved?

Who is it that has the interest in the land? And

Where is it and approximately how big.?

Did you have your wits about you?

Thanks for those that joined in the fun from the Autumn Ed of The Survey Datum.

The answers are ...

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. 26 L in the A | 26 Letters in the Alphabet |
| 2. 88 PK | 88 Piano Keys |
| 3. 18 H on a G C | 18 Holes on a Golf Course |
| 4. 90 D in a R A | 90 Degrees in a Right Angle |
| 5. 8 S on a S S | 8 Sides on a Stop Sign |
| 6. 21 D on a D | 21 Dots on a Dice |

Hope that the winner/s have enjoyed their Boost!



This is enough to begin the continuum of rights. Once more information is gathered, the stronger the security becomes and the higher up the "ladder" they go. It becomes a "Fit for Purpose" system, whereby if the bottom of the "ladder" works for that community in that area, why waste resources on getting more data.

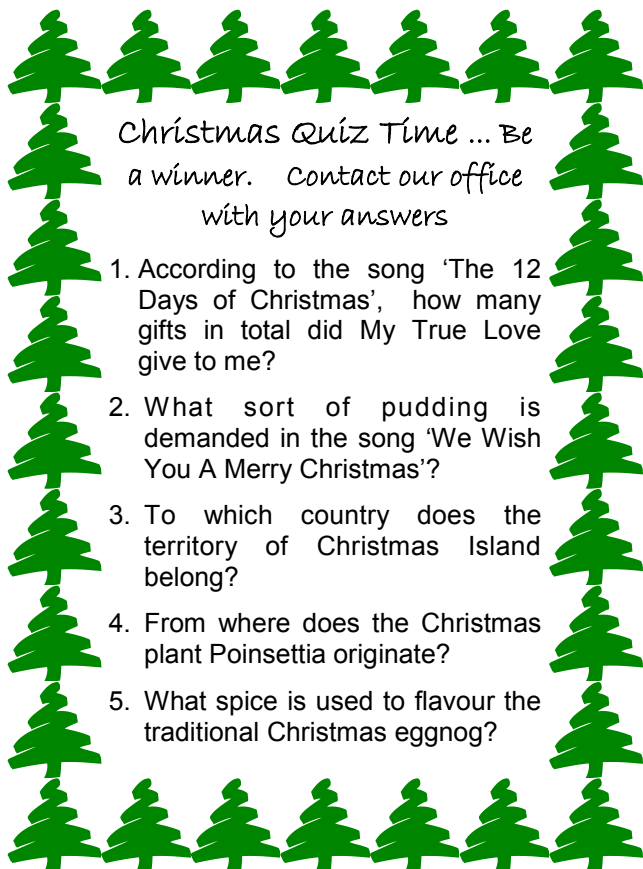


This enormous data collection would never have been possible at this scale 20 years ago. But with the use of Hand Held GPS devices, worldwide internet and the use of the "Cloud", data bases are being set up and details cross checked as a combination of crowd sourcing and field operatives gather data from across communities, across the world.

Thought of the day ...

In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock.

-Thomas Jefferson



Christmas Quiz Time ... Be a winner. Contact our office with your answers

1. According to the song 'The 12 Days of Christmas', how many gifts in total did My True Love give to me?
2. What sort of pudding is demanded in the song 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas'?
3. To which country does the territory of Christmas Island belong?
4. From where does the Christmas plant Poinsettia originate?
5. What spice is used to flavour the traditional Christmas eggnog?

Colonel William Light

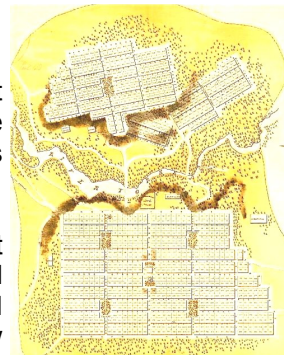
- the Surveyor (Part one)

Colonel William Light and his Survey Team were sent from England in 1836 with the responsibility of selecting the site for the new capital of the Province of South Australia. This was to be then filled with the poor and unemployed of England in an orderly colonization for a healthy new society. Once a site was selected, Light was then to set out the City of Adelaide and subdivide the adjacent rural land.

The criteria that Light was to use in site selection included,
Does it have a safe accessible harbour?
Is there large tracks of fertile land?
Does it have plenty of fresh water?

After looking at a number of locations, it soon became apparent to Light that the Adelaide Plains with the Port River was the best site.

On the 7th November, 1836, the first settlers arrived before Light's team had begun the sub-division of the new land that had been promised. The new settlers were forced to remain in camps along the coastal sand dunes of Holdfast Bay. This put pressure on Light to fast track the process but he refused to be forced to cut corners.



City of Adelaide as designed by Col. William Light

So, on January, 1837, Colonel William Light began to set out the first boundaries of the City of Adelaide, with the first peg placed at the corner of South and West Terraces.



Current Statue commemorating Col. William Light on Montefiore Hill Adelaide

Once complete, right angles were then turned off and the pegging of the city parcels began.

Acknowledgement - Information from a paper by John Porter presented in Sydney FIG 2010

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