

Hello All and Welcome to 2016!

It's the year of the Olympics, (which means it must also be a Leap Year). For the Chinese, it's the year of the Monkey, the United States Presidential election happens in November and Port Adelaide gets another go at the finals!



We have settled into our new office in Blackwood, finding our feet in the new area. (Turning left, not right in the morning!)

This Summer's newsletter contains a diverse mix of articles including:

How did our current calendar evolve and why does February only have 28 days?

Understanding our survey plans; especially the fencing offsets we show for our Boundary Identification Surveys, Land Division application time frames, competitions and more.

Have a read and a great year to come. Enjoy! Michael—Ed

Take a look at the **Michael Grear Surveys** website for more information and past issues of **The Survey Datum**

@ [www.mgsurveys.com.au](http://www.mgsurveys.com.au)

What would you find at -  
Latitude **35° 0' 55.24" S**  
Longitude **138° 36' 59.14" ?**

Send your answers to [admin@mgsurveys.com.au](mailto:admin@mgsurveys.com.au)

## HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

A Word From Annette

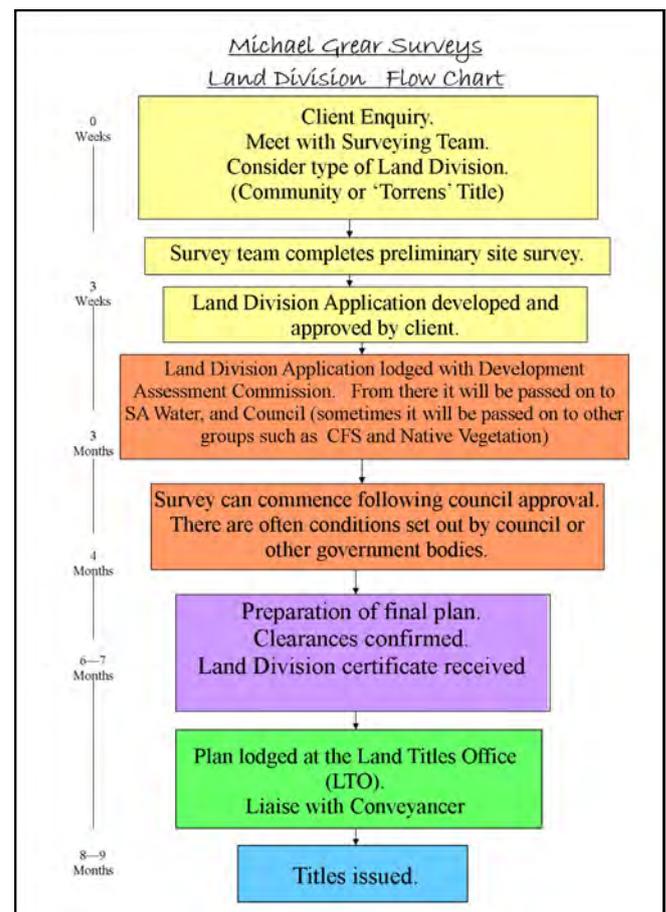
- MGS Land Division Co-ordinator



A commonly asked question is; "How long will a Land Division take to complete?" Below is a flow chart, also found on Michael Grear Surveys website, that gives an estimate of timing for a 'typical' land division.

Our office will keep you updated on the progress of your land division, request information as required and advise the appropriate time to make payments to Government Agencies (money may as well stay in your account as long as possible!).

Michael Grear Surveys aim is to take you through your Land Division efficiently and stress free.



**Quote ...** To sin by silence when they should protest makes cowards of men.

- Abraham Lincoln

## What Do These Symbols Mean?

Plans are often busy and confusing to read. When a Licensed Surveyor has completed a Boundary Identification Survey, they will then draw a plan to show information such as boundary dimensions, easements, boundary marks placed onsite and the relationship of existing fences, walls and buildings to the boundary.

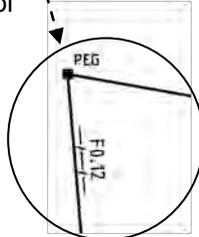
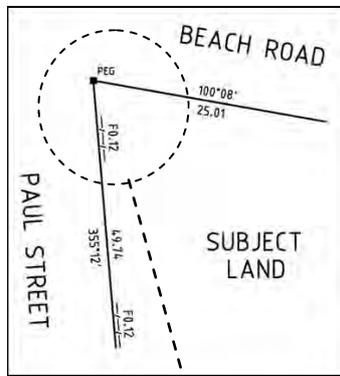
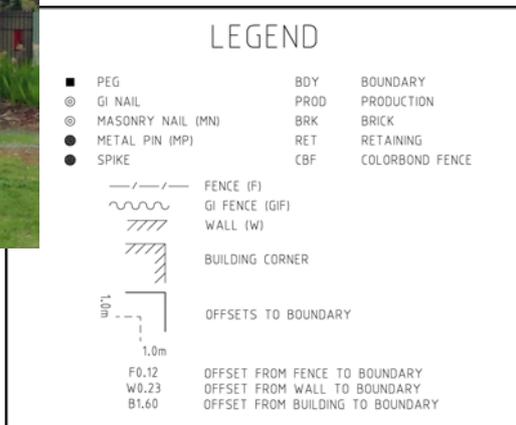
Fences, walls and buildings are shown on plans as symbols with an offset distance in metres to the boundary. (Offset meaning, distance away from the actual spot)

The diagram above shows a fence symbol (-/-) and text F0.12 adjacent to it. The symbol is on the right hand side of the boundary line indicating that the fence is 0.12 metres inside of the subject property.

The diagram below is a plan legend that shows other common symbols used on plans.



Our surveying team are always happy to give further explanation and clarification. There are no 'dumb' questions!



## It's A Leap Year!

Have you wondered why the month of February has only 28 days? Or 29? Why February? In fact why each other month of the year oscillates between 30 and 31 days?



Below are some interesting discussions –

In the Roman calendar March was the first month of the year. There were 10 months in the year with no January and February as these wintery, 'un-useful' times were not worth counting. This would explain why the prefixes for September, October, November and December mean 7, 8, 9 and 10 (respectively), instead of their actual month placement of 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Around 700BC King Numa Pompilius is suggested to have added in the months of January and February so that the calendar covered a standard lunar year.

The months were counted following the lunar year (354 days) but really the length of year follows a solar year (365 days). More additions of months were erratically added when seen fit to ensure that the months aligned with seasons.

In the time of Roman emperor Julius Caesar, it was decided that all months would have 30 or 31 days, except February, which at that time had 29 days (being the last month of the year perhaps). It is suggested that after Julius Caesar's death, the month that was then known as Quintilis was renamed July in his honour. During the reign of Julius's successor, Augustus Caesar, the month that then had the name Sextilis was renamed in honour of the new emperor as August. While July had 31 days, August only had 30, and in order to make his month as long (and as important) as Julius's month, Augustus took a day from February and added it to August. From then on August had 31 days and February 28 (except on leap years, when it once again has 29 days).

The "new" calendar, as we know it today, was not adopted uniformly across Europe until well into the 18th century.

Happy Leap Year everyone!



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Competition Answers from last Edition.  
Thanks for joining in the fun!

### This Little Light of Mine—Christmas Quiz

1. How many years have the Brewery Christmas Lights entertained visitors? **56 Years**
2. How long have the Lobethal Lights been enjoyed? **Over 60 years**
3. Carols by Candle Light have been a celebration in Elder Park for how many years? **71 Years**
4. Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. What light form showed the Shepherds and Wisemen where he was? **Star**