

THE EYES and EARS

"FIRST PUBLISHED 22nd JULY 1967 in Nui Dat, South Vietnam"



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 Official newsletter of the 131 Locators Association Inc
 web site: <http://www.131locators.org.au>

Vol 10 No 8 August 2017 No 109
 ABN 92 663 816 973
 Supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs

30 Years - Commemoration of Vietnam Veterans Day, 1987...



Vietnam Veterans Day is commemorated on 18 August every year. The day was originally known as Long Tan Day, chosen to commemorate the men of D Company, 6RAR who fought in the battle of Long Tan in 1966. On that day, 108 Australian and New Zealand soldiers fought a pitched battle against over 2,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops in a rubber plantation not far from the small village of Long Tan. The Australians prevailed, but only after fighting in torrential rain for four hours. They were nearly overrun, but were saved by a timely ammunition resupply, accurate artillery fire from the nearby Australian base, and the arrival of reinforcements by armoured personnel carrier. Eighteen Australians lost their lives and 24 were wounded, the largest number of casualties in one operation since the Australian task force had arrived a few months earlier. After the battle the bodies of 245 enemy soldiers were found, but there was evidence that many more bodies had been carried away.

On the third anniversary of Long Tan, 18 August 1969, a cross was raised on the site of the battle by the men of 6RAR. Veterans from the battle gathered at the cross to commemorate the fallen, and the day was commemorated by them as Long Tan Day from then on. Over time, all Vietnam veterans adopted the day as one to commemorate those who served and died in Vietnam. **In 1987, following the very successful Welcome Home parade for Vietnam veterans in Sydney, Prime Minister Bob Hawke announced that Long Tan Day would be known as Vietnam Veterans Day.** Since then, it has been commemorated every year as the day on which the service of all those men and women who served in Vietnam is remembered. (Source: Australian War Memorial - 15 August 2008 by libste)



The Vietnam War was Australia's longest military engagement of the 20th century. Almost 60,000 Australians fought in the war and more than 500 lost their lives. Originally known as Long Tan Day, Vietnam Veterans Day is commemorated on 18 August every year.

This year marks the 51st anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan.

Grahame Dignam fills in the gaps from the Bankstown Sports Club, Sydney –

"I have added a couple of pics from the Bankstown Sports Club function organised by the Granville **VV s and Peacekeepers Assn** with a lot of support from surrounding club as donations for the raffles etc.

We had a table for 10 but 9 attendees as **Allen Morley** had an appointment he had to keep. Our numbers were made up of **Terry Westerway and wife, Merv Nairn, Ged Carroll, George Lane, Jim Fitzgerald, Ern Newbold, Nick Proskurin and me.**

The address was by **Dr Daryl Chamberlain**, at the time a newly graduated MD, recalling memories, some amusing and some gory of his experiences in country. A very different perspective but none less traumatic.

The entertainment was **Roland Storm** and a group of older musos who were age appropriate for his audience. He reminded us of the age we grew up in and the **BLOODY** good times we had. He wove into his patter his mates of the era, the Rockdale mafia, Lucky Starr and Brian Davies, and the little Blonde bombshell, Little Pattie. Col Joye, Johnny O'Keefe and Warren Williams received Honourable mention in Dispatches as well.

The close of the function was the drawing of the raffles where our table scored 2 hits with **Merv Nairn** the owner of a bottle of Port and **yours truly** a Bunnings gift card.

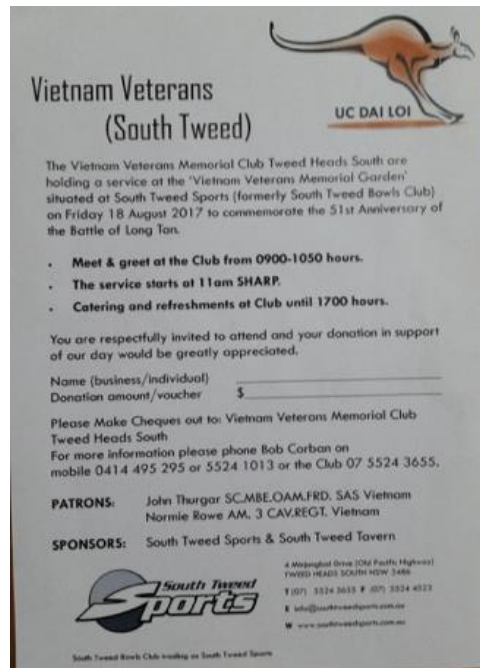


Nick Proskurin, Jim Fitzgerald, Ern Newbold, Merv Nairn, George Lane and Ged Carrol – Grahame Dignam excused to take the photo!!

Derek Hinde lets us know what transpired at the South Tweed Heads Sports Club on the 18th – “G'day Paul, we had a great 18th AUG celebration at South Tweed Heads Sports Club yesterday. In attendance was Joseph Losiak, Graham Williams and myself (Lbr Rtd) ...here are some photos of the day. Hope to see them in the Eyes & Ears soon. Regards Derek Hinde. 2782401.”



Joe Losiak and myself (Graham was AWOL at the bar!)



Vietnam Veterans' Day and anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan 18 August 2017

“Minister for Veterans’ Affairs Dan Tehan today encouraged Australians to pause and reflect on the service and sacrifice of the men and women who served in the Vietnam War, as the country marks Vietnam Veterans’ Day and the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan.

Mr Tehan will attend the Vietnam Veterans’ Day Remembrance Service at the National Australian Vietnam Forces Memorial in Canberra with the Governor General, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd).

“Today we remember nearly 60,000 Australian men and women who served in the Vietnam War between 1962 and 1975, including 521 who lost their lives and more than 3,000 who were wounded,” Mr Tehan said.

“We also mark the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan, where 105 Australians and three New Zealanders of D Company 6RAR were engaged in one of the fiercest battles of the Vietnam War.

“In the Battle of Long Tan a total of 17 Australians were killed in action and 25 were wounded, one of whom later died of his wounds.

“D Company were greatly assisted by an ammunition resupply by RAAF helicopters, support by Australian, New Zealand and United States artillery and the arrival of reinforcements in APCs as night fell.

"On Vietnam Veterans' Day we honour the Australians who served in Vietnam. Today is an opportunity to reflect on that period of our history and to say 'thank-you' to our veterans for their service."

Graham Anderson OAM JP, National Secretary, Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia Inc distributed the following – thanks to the blokes who forwarded it on...

"Always As One" - Address by George Mansford (Cairns)

Today throughout our nation there will be gatherings such as ours to reflect on our involvement in the Vietnam War and above all, to honour our fallen. In doing so, we also pay our deepest respect to yet another generation of our military currently on operations. It seems nothing changes on our troubled planet Was it so long ago that our men and women went to war in a place called Vietnam?

It was a time when frequent government lotteries in rolling barrels full of birthday numbers determined which 20-year-old males would be conscripted for two years' military service.

It was a time of anti-war demonstrations and vilification of those in uniform and their families which caused our military to become closer and united more than ever.

It was a time when protesting mobs burnt our national flag and the consequences were that our troops cherished the sacred cloth even more.

In Vietnam, our units stood fast in battle. They endured the physical and mental demands placed on them. They refused to relent against what seemed impossible odds on more than one occasion. Always evident was their battle discipline, confidence and trust in each other and even when battle weary, no matter when or where, were the grins. As well as major battles, it was also a time of countless patrols, ambushes, cordon and search operations, much of which is now long forgotten and gathering dust in history records.

Always are the veteran's memories of such times. How could they ever forget the wok wok of the beloved Huey and the familiar drone of the Caribou or perhaps they were on one of the warships patrolling a very dangerous coast line. The nurses waiting at the landing zone called Vampire ready to receive yet another group of wounded. Do you remember counting the days until it was one day and a wakey before going home and so many dreams to pursue? It was a time of varying farewells such as watching mates struggling with heavy packs and weapons boarding a chopper or armoured personnel carrier to commence another operation. Departing on Rest and Recuperation to escape the madness for just a few days or going home. No matter the circumstances, always was the firm hand shake, sharp wit, a hug, a wave, a thumbs up as a fond farewell or perhaps a shout of "Take care". Unknowingly for some, it would be for the last time.

There were forgotten lessons of war from previous campaigns and re-learnt the hard way in Vietnam. There were also new lessons learnt in Vietnam which have since been neglected or distorted thanks to social engineering and the continual onslaught of political correctness.

Common was the immense camaraderie, determination, wry humour and battle discipline which demonstrated that the magnificent qualities of the original ANZACs had not been diluted.

There was pride, duty, honour and acceptance of responsibilities which had been developed from early age in our society then strengthened in the military during training and mastered on operations.

It was a time of loved ones waiting for news and dreading any unexpected knock on the door. We should never forget the wives, mothers and families who bore the brunt of isolation, not knowing and always searching for mail and the media for any fragment of news. They met the challenges with dignity and stood the test. Wives were both mother and father and always praying that the next knock on the door would not be by a grim faced official.

At war's end, it was a time for adjustment and sadly that was not to be for so many who thought they had come home but hadn't. There are still those who confront the consequences of war in so many ways.

There were those who in desperation said "enough is enough" and left us to join the fallen.

Today the ranks grow thinner and always are the increasing nudges from Father Time to remind all of their mortality. If the fallen could speak, perhaps it would be to remind all "Who they were and what they were".

They would say "Our nation is indeed the lucky country and will remain so, if you, the living strive to keep it so".

They would remind us "To fight the good fight for what you believe to be right".

They would demand "Honour us by your actions as active members of the community; for you are us and we are you. While you live, we live."

Bill Taggart a great mate from the **1st Battalion 83rd Artillery** who served in Vietnam from 1966-1971. Sent the following message –

"To all our Australian and New Zealand mates, I want to let you know that we at the 1/83rd are thinking of you on the 51st Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan. We know how significant a date this is in history for all of you and we want you to know that we stand by you to remember those who fell in this battle along with all the other brave men of your countries who died, were wounded or otherwise suffered in any other way as a result of the Vietnam War. Lest We Forget."



Ernie Newbold sent in the following which adds a timely conclusion **Long Tan / Vietnam Veterans Day** - "I have an image (below – which I took) that you may be able to use, taken in 1967 around the time of the 1st Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan looking E.S.E from the top of Nui Dat early one morning showing the Sun's rays breaking through the cloud cover and appearing to be falling on the Long Tan rubber plantation as if to honour the souls that died there, both ours and the the enemy's. I sent a copy to Dave Sabben some time ago and he added it to his website showing the pictorial history of the Long Tan Cross, see: <http://www.sabben.com/longtantrek/VN%20Long%20Tan%20Cross.html>



. Insights and Recollections –

this is a continuation in the series pertaining to Fire Support Base Coral Balmoral.

After some 49 years, we are gathering **Recollections** and perhaps **Insights** from members of the Detachment who were involved, in some way or another in Fire Support Bases (FSBs). We are starting to see that these memories are helping us to broaden our understanding and giving us greater insights into the Detachment's involvement in South Vietnam.

This is the third in this series, which recounts events by **David Doyle (SVN 22.04.66-11.12.66 & 22.09.70-08.02.71)**. These Insights/Recollections are not based on official documentations, but memories which add another dimension other than the factual Reports recorded in the Australian War Memorial (AWM).

David Doyle - Insights and Recollections - Coral Balmoral, May 1968

My recollections in regard to my time at Coral/Balmoral now due to time are a little hazy in regard to detail but here is some of what I do remember.

The advice as I remember was that I was being sent out to Coral as someone from 12 Fd. Regt. had been killed. Accordingly, I spent the entire period there, bar the first night.

My first memory of Coral was a pissaphone being highly exposed, being in the centre of the base on about the highest point.

My pit was located on the southern perimeter adjacent to the US 2/35 Battery.

On one occasion when (Captain) Perrin carried out a crater analysis I was one of those who went out with him. He grabbed a couple of the nearest blokes to go. I can distinctly remember being in trousers only, no shirt and only rifle and the mag on it and thinking that if any NVA were out there we were pretty good targets.

Of spreading out hootchies to collect water for a tub, but not for drinking as mentioned somewhere else that I remember having read.

An air strike falling short on an American company situated a few hundred metres outside the western perimeter.

An ice cream delivery being made by the Americans, something we'd never seen before and I never saw again.

Watching while the dozer was digging trench to bury NVA dead, who were laid out beside it.

The CP looked as I remember like a trench dug by the dozer covered over with sand bags and a bit of a ramp down into it and located back a bit up the slope.

At Balmoral, there was the situation of a Vietnamese woman with a couple of kids tagging along who set herself up outside the main entry over a couple of days for anyone prepared to go out to her and the blokes back inside cheering them on.

And of course, the Chinook incident, being one of the persons on board when the radar was dropped due to the pilot not being able to gain height.

I did not have a camera with me at Coral so have no photos. In an ironic way, I had just got a new camera and did not want it damaged by taking it out on ops, but then what was the point of having it if it wasn't going to be used. I also have an impression that I had been at Coogee though I have no actual memory of it.

. Locators and Locations - Now here's the long-awaited breakdown of Locators and their Locations in Nui Dat.

Thanks to ALL who participated by responding to requests.

As explained earlier, the table shows locations that Locators (and we include the RAEME blokes as our "Mr Reliable" Locators) served. It doesn't include the temporary roles in LPs etc where Surveyors and others did time (actually "did time" in some instances could be related to something similar to "penal confinement"!).

The table does not purport to be complete and may still need some adjusting, but in a short time it is going to be archived on the Association website, so if you have alterations/additions to make, get them in pronto.

There are some explanatory notes by **Ernie Newbold** and **Kevin Browning** following the table. If you have any additional comments, well, now is also time to get them in.

Detachment Locations

(Name can appear in several locations; the number/s after the name represents the year's in SVN; the letter, after the year, in Radar and LP's designates location/s)

1966					
Det HQ	Arty Tac	Survey	Radar	LP's	RAEME
Campton, B 66/67	Campbell, B 66/67	Cornell, D 66/67	Buckley, R 66/67 B	Campbell, B 66/67 A	Bullen, W 66
Chase, E 66	Hastings, N 66/67	Doehrmann, K 66/67	Campbell, A 66/67 B	Carroll, G 66/67 C/D	Cartwright, G 66/67
Townley, J 66	Martin, D 66/67	Erica (Earwicker), B 66/67	Chase, E 66 A/B	Chase, E 66 C	Coffey, M 66/67
		Fitzgerald, J 66/67	Crowther, W 66 A/B	Checkley, T 66	Field, E 66
		Follington, B 66/67	Doehrmann, K 66/67 A	Dean, R 66/67 A/B/C	Luscombe, G 66/67
		Killworth, B 66/67	Gallop, L 66 B	Dougherty, D 66	Prenter, W 66/67
		Locke, G 66/67	Halliday, F 66/67 B	Doyle, D 66/67 A	Thwaites, G 66/67
		Mason, R 66/67	Hayes, T 66 A/B	Hastings, N 66/67	
		Roberts, J 66/67	Hislop, G 66 B	Lock, R 66/67	
		Sadler, P 66/67	Jones, P 66/67 A	Lombardo, E 66/67	
		Westerway, T 66/67	Lane, G 66/67 B	Minns, R 66/67	
		Whittle, K 66/67	Lempa, H 66/67 B	Roberts, J 66/67	
			Lennon, F 66/67 B	Thomson, A 66/67	
			Mason, R 66/67 B	White, J 66/67	
			McDonnell, M 66/67 A		
			McGregor, P 66/67 B		
			McManus, D 66/67 B		
			Nairn, M 66/67 B/A		
			Opie, A 66/67		
			Roberts, J 66/67		
			Sawyer, L 66/67 B		
			Simmons, D 66/67 A/B		
			Smith, R 66/67 B		
			Thornton, K 66/67 A		
			Turner, B 66/67 A		
1967					
Det HQ	Arty Tac	Survey	Radar	Lp's	RAEME
Bonser, B 67	Adams, A 67	Armstrong, N 67/8	Amos, I 67/68 B	Bayford, J 67/68	Bailey, D 67/68
Dignam, G 67/68	Blackwell, G 67/68	Boutlis, S 67	Ayliffe, K 67/68 A/B	Billiards, R 67/68 D	Fawcett-Smith, N 67/68
Fletcher, P 67	Blink, B 67/68	Brooker, W 67/68	Boutlis, S 67 A	Binns, P 67/68 A/B/C	Osborne, K 67/68
Hamilton, W 67/68	Boutlis, S 67	Bruce, T 67/68	Campbell, LM 67 A	Blackwell, G 67 D	Pimm, D 67/68
Hutchinson, R 67/68	Briggs, S 67/68	Evans, R 67/68	Finlay, I 67/68 A	Blake, J 67 D	Richardson, G 67/68
King, R 67/68	Campbell, B 66/67	Fuhrmann, P 67/68	Habben, M 67	Blink, B 67 D	

McNicol, D 67/68	Clark, G 67	Green, G 67/68	Ipsa, F 67	Boaler, R 70 A/B	
Morley, A 67/68	Dickson, P 67	Greenaway, J 67/68	Kennedy, I 67/68	Boutlis, S 67 B/D	
Prideaux (Waghorn), T 67/68	Dignam, G 67/68	Holden, G 67/68	Malcolm, G 67/68 B	Briggs, S 67/68	
Reid, J 67/68	Evans, R 67/68	Hopper, P 67	McNicol, D 67/68	Campbell, B 66/67 A	
Royal, R 67/68	McNicol, D 67/68	Irvine, B 67/68	Retrot, R 67/68	Clark, G 67	
	Newbold, E 67/68	McDonnell, R 67/68	Sporn, S 67/68 B	Danko, V 67 A/B/D	
	Proskurin, N 67/68	McFadden, J 67	Wight, W 67/68	Evans, R 67/68 C	
	Wilson, R 67/68	McNamara, K 67	Wood, G 67 A	Fletcher, P 67	
		Poustie, M 67		Gault, P 67 C	
		Woodbine, K 67/68		Goldsmith, A 67 A/B	
		Yerbury, I 67/68		Guzder, B 67/68 A/B/C/D	
				Hemming, L 67 A/B/C	
				Hogno, L 67 B/C	
				King, R 67/68 A/C/D	
				Marques, E 67/68 A/B/D	
				McNicol, D 67/68	
				Millar, V 67/68 A/C/D	
				Newbold, E 67/68 A	
				Nugent, B 67 A	
				Proskurin, N 67/68 A/B/D	
				Reid, J 67/68 A	
				Wilson, R 67/68 A	
1968 Det HQ	Arty Tac	Survey/Sound Ranging	Radar	LP's	RAEME
Chilton, J 68/69	Atkinson, N 68/69	Billiards, R 68	Coutts, A 68/69	Bohl, M 68	Bensley, A 68/69
McKie, P 68/69	Chilton, J 68/69	Browning, K 68/69	Dougherty, D 68/69	Dealy, P 68/69	Bothwell, J 68/69
Perrin, P 68/69	Hinde, D 68/69	Dougherty, D 68/69	Gibson, R 68	Dellaca, J 68/69	Leslie, G 69/70
Wortlehock, N 68/69	McKie, P 68/69	Jebb, G 68/69	l'Anson, I 68/69	Chilton, J 68/69 A	McKenzie, I 68
	Robb, A 68/69	Lahore (Lochore), J 68/69	Sheedy, P 68/69 A	Dougherty, D 68/69 D	McNeill, J 68/69
	Wortlehock, N 68/69	Merchant, J 68/69		Hinde, D 68/69 B/C	Palmer, S 68/69
		Owen, G 68/69		Leplaw, G 68/69	Strautins, J 68/69
		Quinlan, M 68/69		McKie, P 68/69	
				Mulgrew, P 68/69 A/B/D	
				Pettiford, P 68/69	
				Robb, A 68/69	
				Woodbine, K 68 A	
				Wortlehock, N 68/69 C	
1969 Det HQ	Arty Tac	Survey/Sound Ranging	Radar	LP's	RAEME
Eaton, A 69	Browne, J 69/70	Chalmers, D 69	Angel, P 69/70	Chalmers, D 69 A	Bailey, R 69/70
Kennedy, B 69/70	Chalmers, D 69	Jackson, R 69	Butcher, P 69/70	Clark, G 69/70	Browne, J 69 A

Ravelje, P 69/70	Clark, G 69/70	McLean, A 69/70	McPherson, M 69/70	Maker, K 69/70 A/B	Carvey, B 69/70
	Dealy, P 68/69	Pioro, P 69/70	Meaney, P 69/70	Meaney, P 69/70	Hartshorn, I 69/70
	Maker, K 69/70		Stanford, J 69/70	Price, G 69/70	Holmes, W 69
	McLean, A 69/70		Williams, G 69/70 B	Schafer, J 69 B	Jones, B 69/70
	Meaney, P 69/70			Williams, G 69/70 B/C	Wallace, J 69/70
	Smith, N 69/70				
	Stanford, J 69/70				
	Williams, G 69/70				
1970 Det HQ	Arty Tac	Survey/Sound Ranging	Radar	LP's	RAEME
Boaler, R 70/71	Boaler, R 70/71	Browne, J 70	Chaplin, R 70 (H'shoe)	Chaplin, R 70 A	Adlam, D 70
Ford, T 70/71	Jux, A 70/71	Butler, M 70/71	Chapple, C 70 (H'shoe)	Chapple, C 70 A	Bensley, A 70/71
McManus, N 70/71	McMillan, I 70	Joscelyne, P 70	Connell, L 70 (H'shoe)	Connell, L 70 A	Dickerson, W 70
Pryke, R 70/71			Dougherty, D 70/71	Gough, A 70/71 A/B	Hoger, H 70
			Jeffrey, W 70/71	Jux, A 70/71 A/B/C	Hutchinson, G 70/71
			Lucas, J 70/71	Lucas, J 70/71 A/B	McLeod, E 70
			Negus, D 70	McMillan, I 70 A/B	Padovan, D 70
			Riley, D 70 A (H'shoe)	Navas, G 70/71 A/B	
			Tommasi, G 70/71	Pryke, R 70/71 A/B	
				Riley, D 70 A	
				Sheppard, B 70/71 A/B	
				Voss, S 70/71 A/B	
1971 Det HQ	Arty Tac	Survey/Sound Ranging	Radar	LP's	RAEME
Evans, J 71	Falkai, L 71	Buzacott, R 71	Suckling, P 71	Jaggard, J 71 A/B	McDowell, B 71
	Fountain, B 71	Evans, J 71		Nieuwenhof, R 71 A/B	Perri, V 71
	Jaggard, J 71	Molenkamp, J 71			Thompson, R 71
	Nieuwenhof, R 71				

Note – Det HQ = Detachment Head Quarters, Arty Tac = Artillery Tactical Head Quarters, LP's = Listen Posts

Additional notes –

Listening Post call signs/location -

Ernie Newbold's interpretation - Now while that is where they were when we were there they weren't always in the same locations throughout the Task Force's occupation of the Nui Dat area. I suspect that 31A was always on the hill known as Nui Dat and that 31B was always on the Horseshoe. When the third battalion and the Centurion tanks joined the Task Force 31C had to move and when the 1st/83rd moved out I suspect that 31D may have had a move too.

I was talking to Des McGuiggan at the TPI Assn meeting yesterday and he said when he was there, there were only three LPs, Nui Dat, Horseshoe and one at Dihn Coh down on the Long Hai Hills. See the flower power photo in June Eyes and Ears.

I also believe that 31C was originally on the northern side of the Task Force with one of the Infantry Battalions.

31A on top of Nui Dat Hill

31B on top of "The Horseshoe"

31C on the wire at "The Engineers"

31D at the 1st / 83rd U.S. Arty.

Sound Ranging and Sensors -

Kevin Browning's comments - Sound ranging was part of the survey arena for the whole period 68-70. So, the surveyors were double hatted and basically, we had three shifts. First shift on sound ranging commenced at 7 pm and went to 1 am then the next shift 1 am to 7 am. The third shift had the night off. Then it would mount duty at 7 pm whilst the previous first shift mounted duty at 1 am. The shift that had been on duty in the dog hours the night before had the next night off. That was the theory. Of course, normal survey duties also had to be done so when people were out on operation those remaining in camp filled in. The Survey Sergeant from the regiment was brought into assist and filled in both with survey and sound ranging. That allowed for a WO2 and two sergeants to the three shifts. The LT also filled in but had other tasks as well. We had two signallers with us for sound ranging to maintain the lines but they also came out with us as drivers when we were on survey tasks.

I have always assumed that when the radars came home the sensors were taken over by that arena, that is those that would have manned the LPs for the radars were now working on sensors. The Regimental survey sergeant appears to have been given carriage of the sensors. So, I would suggest you group them with the LPs/artillery int.

. "Unknowns" - Here's the latest in the series ...

Nick Armstrong is responsible for this one. **Ed** spotted it in Nick's photo archives (tickled his fancy again!) and then saw it in his Locator Profile with the following note -

"Cutting hair at FSB Harrison. I had bought scissors and hair clippers at Baria while on a laundry run. It was difficult to find a barber when on operations, and I think most of the Survey section borrowed the hair cutting equipment and cut one another's hair. There is only a week between a good haircut and a bad haircut!"

Ed can't help himself and has to comment - "a clip joint" on an operation? Looks more like a Boy Scout's Jamboree!

OK I reckon I know the barber
"hacker" at the back, but how
about some help with all of them anyway?



"Unknowns" - Here's some responses to last month's "tester" ...



The photo at left was shot sometime in '70. Now it begs the question as to who are the Locators, where are they and what had they been doing?

Responses...

John Browne responded with - L-R ?... ,?... , **Wes Hindmarsh, Peter Coleman.**

Mike Butler couldn't resist giving us the gen on the blokes needing what could be a "gurney" treatment to get them parade ready - "Hi Paul, just read the latest edition.

The "four grubby blokes" in the photo on page 4 are from L to R -

Peter Mackie, Mike Butler, Bill Van Zetten and Peter Colman.

We had just come back from a FSB and needed a good shower - shot was taken at the rear of the Survey huts. Incidentally, I am also meeting with Rieny shortly with the rest of the crew mentioned in his piece on Geelong. Cheers, Mike Butler'

. Oddities continues, again it comes from scouring the archives.

Last month I mumbled on about Service Issued passports. So, continuing along in this vein I couldn't help but consider R&R...

...Now, I know I went to Singapore – the photo at right shows **Barry Nugent** and me with two Yanks having a “Tiger” or 3, but the blur started on arrival and ended on that bloody flight back from Saigon in a Caribou to Nui Dat! The pilot rice-paddy- jumped wherever he could!



OK, now to some questions about R&R – nothing too dark and devious -

1. Who booked the hotel? Did “Chalkie” Royal or Grahame Dignam do it? Did they accumulate all the “Fly By” points as well? We must have had some sort of a voucher?
2. Did we pay for the hotel? If so, then how? I didn't have a cheque book or a credit/debit card. I can't make any sense out of my pay book and I can't see a large amount being drawn around about R&R time to have money in reserve to spend. How did we have enough cash with us? We must have had \$US as the MPD wouldn't wash in Singapore?

All of this is really some sort of mystery to me – anyone got any clues?

Mail Call...

Ian “Scotty” McNicol sent the following in with regards to **Ernie Newbold's “LP's – where were they?”** which gave some pointers on possible sites for LP's in Nui Dat in last month's *Eyes & Ears* –

“Hi Dicko, just read another excellent edition of the E&E newsletter (July '17). Well done.

I thought I'd add to Ernie Newbold's article on 'LPs, where were they'.

There was in fact another LP that was established on top of the **water tower** at 131 HQ area after it was installed. Known as 31E, it consisted of a chair on top of the tank where the duty “waller” sat with a compass & radio. At that stage I was near the end of my tour and was Transport NCO during the day, and did a few stints on the tower at night. How long this LP continued after I went home in Sept '68, I wouldn't know. I'm sure some of the later members might remember.

Keep up the great work mate...Scotty.”

Ed – Now that's an interesting discovery.

...the story continues...

Ed (again) – I've taken the following photo from **Peter Ravelje** out of the following Vale section as it is a curiosity to me (***Eyes and Ears October 2011***) – the **Q Store in Nui Dat (circa 1970)** – my memories have it a more “tentified” spot in the plantation, NOT with the Balmain Tigers (as they were then) – Pierre Goss's favourite Rugby League team colours emblazoned on the front door. The Rover is parked correctly (were there parking restrictions?), they look like fire extinguishers hanging on the outside wall to the left (was there a “Hazchem” mat though?) – the place looks very orderly – it looks as though someone's done an “Emu” bob! Peter took the photo from a **tower** not far away – **a tower for what??**

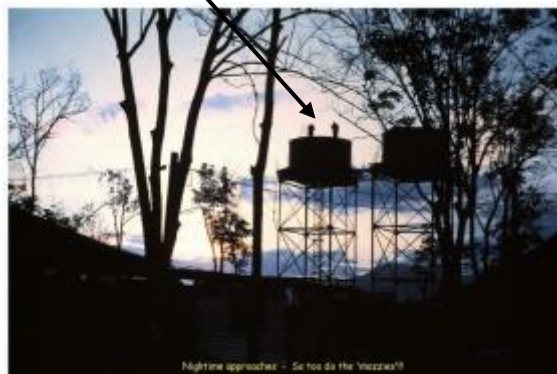




...then Ed discovered the following photos in **Graeme Owen's** archives of towers that might fit the bill as well –



Now the one below actually has blokes standing on it at dusk/dawn! OK – LP what?



Ian Amos – “Paul,
The photo of the Q store in September E&E was taken from the water towers put up in 1968. During the placing of the second tank, the downdraft from the skycrane flipped half of the roof off a nearby building which I presume is the one behind the landrover in the Q store photo.



Attached are photos of the tank installation and one I took from the tower looking the opposite way over Bravo radar site. Ian”

Warwick “Brookey” Brooker - “Thanks for the latest *Eyes and Ears* (July, 2017).

I have a comment and a question.

Oddities - May 67 trip to South Vietnam - That departure date from Sydney has created some confusion, with the published records showing different dates for personnel on the same flights via Darwin, i.e. DC6 to Darwin then Herc to Vung Tau the following day.

I believe we departed Sydney on 4 May 1967 and arrived in South Vietnam on 5 May. I don't know whether our overseas service is supposed to include the 4th or not. I think that varies among individual records.

LP call signs - Do you know what the call sign was at the LP attached to the Radar installation on the wire in front of the Survey and Reo lines? I thought it was different from the Radar call sign, but maybe not. Radar and LP had separate landlines. I think 31C was a different location again, at 'The Engineers', as you have it in E&E. Brookey”

Ed's response or findings –

1.May 67 trip to South Vietnam - after driving “Brookey” and Ernie (Newbold) slightly crazy and sending a couple more emails I have worked out that my information recorded on the Nominal Roll is INCORRECT.

I, along with others, have our departure date from Australian shores as 4th May, 1967, which is incorrect. We left Sydney on 4th and finally after overnighing in Darwin left on the **5th May, 1967**. The Nominal Roll has me serving 223 days in SVN whereas my Certificate of Discharge has me correctly serving 222 days.

Grahame Dignam offered the following photos taken on Thursday, 4th May –



Dad, Mum, me, Marlene (sis).



Me, Dad, Mum, David (bro).

Taken **D day 4 May 1967 Mascot**

Ernie was quite sure that the breakfast was a memorable one! And I quote – “Do you remember the RAAF mess where we had breakfast on the morning of the 5th? It was so different from what we were used to at Holsworthy.”

Then “Brookey” responded with this with regards to the “Darwin Breakfast” - “Now that you mention it, Ernie, I do seem to remember the quality cuisine at Darwin, but what I remember more clearly is the heat and humidity, a climate similar to that to which we were heading.”

P.S. - I have since written to the Nominal Roll personnel requesting that they amend my records.

Now to...

2.LP Call signs - now I had a feeling LPs were 31A/B/C etc and Radars were 32A/B. Was 32B at the Horseshoe with 31B? I have no idea what Survey was in Nui Dat or what they were outside the perimeter? Ernie - any ideas? This could be a great topic for further investigation?

... Brookey responds with -

“Kanga, Bruce and I have discussed the elusive call sign at times and come up with a blank. You could be quite right, Paul: 31 for LPs and 32 for radars. **But** if the radar at the Horseshoe was 32B, then according to your 'feeling', the radar near the survey lines should have been 32A, which means the LP at that location should have been 31A. But 31A was atop Nui Dat!

I'm pretty sure the survey operational call sign was 31G. I can check that with Kanga and Bruce. We didn't use the same call sign at the Nui Dat LP, as both call signs were in use simultaneously when we were outside the wire. Actually, since no one seems to know what the Nui Dat call sign was, I could probably invent one and everyone would

be happy. So how about 31Romeo? 😊 Regards Brookey”

Ahh well, we tried!!!

Mike Butler responded to another email after sending in his “Unknowns” discovery – “Hi Paul

I have been well - no major problems at this stage. Hope you are too?

Went overseas to Europe last year and we couldn't wait to get back to Oz after 8 weeks. It was a good trip but too many people EVERYWHERE!!

You must like tacos etc etc!!

Am contemplating doing some tour guide stuff at the Phillip Island Museum later this year - have a mate at the Box Hill RSL who is doing it and is trying to recruit me - could be good therapy showing kids and Probus people around.

Will certainly organise photos as we did last year - it will probably be Rieny who organises. We are meeting mid-November in Portarlinton.
All the best. Mike Butler"

Ron Mason sent in the following after catching up with some of the Association blokes at the July Meeting –
"George, Grahame, good to have a catch up the other week and have the chance to join in on a meeting – all good. Have attached a couple of snaps taken at the venue – getting the light right has spoilt the job a bit. Hope you are all still going strong and have a good day on the 18th. Have had a look at *E&E* last night and yes, I think there was an LP out on the north side with the grunt's (don't recall the call sign) – I only spent a night or 2 there filling-in but was there when the NZ Bty dropped a shell inside the wire.
Regards to all, Ron"



Kevin Browning sent the following in after reading July's *Eyes & Ears* - "Hi Paul,
I note in the Birthday list for this month you have Norm McManus listed. Unfortunately, a colour code change is required. Norm passed away last year, 4 October 2016, aged 92. He is listed in the Honour Roll. Regards Kevin"

...Ed responded...

"Kevin, Thanks. On further investigation, I now realise that for some reason the columns have moved and it looks as though something further up the page was deleted, hence the movement.
Though in hindsight it wouldn't have been bad to bring Norm back! Paul"

Karen Altaras – a great friend of **Ed's** from Fort Worth (TX), now down south of the border, sent in the following.
The article is pretty straight up and down and is worth having a read of -

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/04/opinion/what-was-australia-doing-in-vietnam.html?smprod=nytcore-ipad&smid=nytcore-ipad-share>

The country contributed some 60,000 soldiers to the American war effort.

I thought you might find this article interesting. Karen"

...Ed responded with –

"Karen,

That's a great article and one that is very believable.

Much to many people's surprise that along with Australia, New Zealand there were Laos, Thailand, South Korea, The Philippines, The Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Khmer Republic and of course the Chinese and Russians on the North Vietnam side.

I've met a US Viet Veteran here who served twice (once in the year I was there '67) who did NOT know that Australia plus others were in SVN!

Australia always felt it owed a debt of gratitude to the US after WW2.

Anyway, thanks for the article. Paul"

Bert Blink got a response to the "Passport" article in last month's *Eyes and Ears* in a lunch time conversation – "Hi all. At lunch, today I was told that the regs called these passport their shooter's licence. Bert"

Kevin Browning responded with a follow-up question with regards to our "George Medal" recipient mystery in last month's *Eyes and Ears* – "I believe one of our boys from either 66 or 67 was awarded for bravery whilst on R&R in NZ. Do you know who it was or could you ask someone that might know?"

"Paul, nothing. I contacted Les Frost's widow and also the RSL and they had no knowledge. Dave Doyle couldn't assist but I need to call Bill Finlay. Without knowing a name and/or the award the NZ Honours people couldn't help either. A George Medal is a seriously high award so it may have been something else.

Thanks for the input in the last *Eyes and Ears*, Regards, Kevin"

The Radar Project...

Ron Mason gets in touch with some correspondence sent to the Association with regards to the Radar transit to the National Vietnam Veterans Museum, Phillip Island (see relevant notes in the Association section below) – “Grahame, I spoke with Phil Dressing at the Museum last Saturday – he was hoping the radar would have been delivered by now – last month in fact! He said he would make further enquiries as to any progress re transport. Phil also pointed out where he was hoping it would fit – just in the door of the museum. That would make it pretty much the first thing you see when one enters the museum from the café area. All good I hope!

There is a rolling slide show next to the Artillery alcove that shows some photos of the Radar & also the tellurometer along with photos of US guns, APC's etc. It makes it clear that any photos we send to the museum should be named “**on the photo**” - not just attached to the photo if you follow what I mean. When a photo is put in a slide show the attached naming does not show & the value of the photo is lost. (Sample below – I hope)
Regards to all, Ron M”



Latest on the Radar – hot off the press... forwarded on from Grahame Dignam -

“Grahame,

Well I'm pleased to advise we successfully unveiled caribou 231 on Saturday 5th August, had a visit from the **Governor General** last Sunday and the radar unit arrived at the Museum on 7 pallets yesterday. Do you have a photo of what the finished unit looks like? We have a restoration team here at the Museum but their specialty is airframes, not radar units. Could you recommend someone who could come down to the Museum and either re-assemble the unit or provide advice as to how we do it?

Phil

Phil Dressing

General Manager

National Vietnam Veterans Museum

Phillip Island, Vic 3925”

...then Grahame responded –

“Hello Phil,

To-day we had a meeting scheduled so I spread your words far and wide to a keen audience. And I had a call from Ron Mason within minutes.

I am going to put together some pictures, electronic manuals and whatever else I can lay my hands on and get it to you. At the same time, Ron will contact local Victorians Vets to mobilise some old Radar guys to give you the benefit of their experience.

We will be back in contact shortly.

A job well on the way...but a little more to do!

Thanks for all your assistance Phil - we will have to arrange another visit for the unveiling.

Grahame”

...then more from Ron Mason – ‘All arrived OK, have just downloaded WinZip to view some of the shots (bad choice – I mean photos!)

So far, I have only one helper who was in 131 but never saw a radar. Sent out about 27 emails to the locators you sent to me last year – no result yet. Perhaps the next Eyes & Ears could carry a notice with my email address & see if that gets a result. At a V Vets meeting last night a Sig spoke up about knowing a RAEME guy how may have worked on the radar – we will see what comes of that. Will you give my contact details to Phil Dressing - that way he knows I'm an approved contact.

Here are my contact details – Mob: 0427 326 410 Email: boxland@mcmedia.com.au

Marg & I were planning to be away until about the 17th September but daughter in-law is not too well so may have to change our plans. Know more next week on that score.

Ron Mason"

...then Grahame Dignam's email to Phil, including a bit of a plea, on Ron's behalf for some Radar assistance –

"Phil,

I would mention that Ron Mason, one of your locals, has been a driving force in getting the Radar down to the Museum for you.

He could be biased though as he was one of the "Pioneers" of Det 131 DIV LOC BTY in SVN and to top it off was a Radar man. He obviously had ulterior motives! Ron contact details are: boxland@mcmmedia.com.au and Mobile 0427 326 410.

Ron is our Riverland Rep and he has a list of the other Victorian 131 Vets and has made an initial appeal for them to step forward again to lend a hand. However, like all these appeals (and for various valid reasons) the response was light. But, we try again. We also publish a monthly newsletter and we have an item coming up where we report on the move and follow that up with another prod. then another. We see this as a heritage item and quite unique in the Australian Army's history.

At the Long Tan Day function, yesterday it was also mentioned that another Radar is on display up at Bandiana and a couple of the pics were from that display.

Phil, it looks like I need to send email #4 so please look for it.

My mobile is 0437 361 602 if you need anything sent again. Grahame."

Grahame Dignam reports in after the Association meeting held on 15th August with a great topic which is really worth the group feedback –

At the meeting to-day a conversation erupted about the **DVA Heart Health Program** and a possible **cut** in their funding.

Of the group, present at the meeting, Des McGuiggan, Grahame Dignam, Ern Newbold, Ged Carrol and Bob Billiards are current attendees.

Ian Amos is tri-athlete and is OK,

(Ed – if Grahame reckons Ian Amos is "OK" – then that has to be the greatest understatement of all times – he looks amazing! Though how old is the photo – was it taken to prior to the '67 Call Up??)

Terry Westerway walks with the aid of a stick (think Robin Hood and Lil' John fighting for the right to cross the log bridge) ...a big stick!

Bob (Billiards) sent some links - <http://njfwellness.com.au/veterans-exercise-program/> Grahame"



Then, importantly, someone suggested why don't we do an article in *Eyes and Ears* and ask our people if they go to a **DVA Heart Health Program** or are at least involved in something? –

So here goes –

- . Do you go to a group or to a one on one exercise therapist?**
- . Do you go to get fit or for the comradeship among other vets?**
- . What is your experience?**

We're VERY keen to get your feedback on the DVA any other programme in which you may be involved?

Feedback so far (obviously, only from the meeting at this stage) –

Grahame Dignam lets us know his involvement – "I go for the fitness aspect and for the comradeship among other Vets and I find it very therapeutic.

<https://www.dva.gov.au/health-and-wellbeing/wellbeing/heart-health-programme>

This is general info and resource - particularly see dot points 2 and 3 and info sheet last.

After talking to Tony Goldsmith, I joined up and have lost 20 Kg in last 2 years simply from doing a 5+ km walk x 5 days a week in the sunshine with all the resultant benefits

- . Lower blood pressure
- . Feel stronger
- . Better appetite
- . Better everything (except for NRL team selection)

The therapist running our group does a 12-monthly review and sends us to our Dr to confirm we are getting benefit from her program. **Once accepted by the DVA the costs are covered.**

The social aspect has huge beneficial effect on some of the more severe handicapped and the jokes and barbs that get thrown around help to break down barriers. Also, it tends to keep the guys grounded and shows the guys that everyone has their own problem and we have to deal with it or perish!

No one is “special” or “more special” than the next guy.”

Bob Billiards comments –

“I get this on Facebook regularly <http://njfwellness.com.au/veterans-exercise-program/> I don't use them but it may be something you can follow up if you are not already on a scheme. Great for body and mind. Bob”

Barry Guzder responded – “I swim 1500m a week and also run 6 kilometres in that week. Seems to be good for me. But thanks anyway. Barry.”

Grahame Dignam regularly, like clockwork, forwards media releases issued Dan Tehan, Minister for Veteran's Affairs (amongst other titles) and the recent one that caught some attention was the one titled

“15 August 2017 **Victory in the Pacific Day**”.

It wasn't the content, but the title that drew blood as noted by the following –

Barry Guzder – “This used to be called VJ Day (victory over Japan). Talk about bloody ‘political correctness’! Barry G.”

Geoff Blackwell – “My father and his mates always called it VJ Day! And so, did Sally's father who flew Mosquitos in Burma.

In respect to them I always call it VJ Day, I suspect your father would have too Behram? Geoff.”

Ian Amos is giving us some warning on an upcoming memorable anniversary -

12th September, 1967 - 50 Years since a group of Reo's were on their way north

“Hi Paul,

These three adventurers (**Gnrs Geoff Holden, Ken Woodbine and Ian Amos**) were snapped by **Bob Billiards** 12 September 1967 at Singapore airport on our stopover enroute to Saigon. On 12th September 2017, we will be commemorating the occasion with a Vietnamese lunch in Cabramatta.

Cheers, Ian”



Ernie Newbold gives us an update on the late **Allan Campbell** (SVN 66/67 Radar) –

“G'day Paul,

I have come across two tributes to Allan Campbell, born 13th March 1946, died 19th June 2009 - see the following link to the RAAHC site for the tributes.

http://www.artilleryhistory.org/gunners_past_and_present/obituaries/obituaries_c/campbell_allan_james.html

You may now be able to enter the date of Allan's death on the birthday list.

The tributes may be of interest to those locators who knew and/or served with Allan.

Regards, Ernie.”



My point is: if you have EVER served in 131 Locating either overseas or here at home, we would love to make contact so you can add your story to our history. You can see from the item re Birthdays below we keep asking for information about our mates we have served with to honour them in their passing or to include them as comrades.

Grahame (Dignam). Email sectreas131locators@gmail.com.

I just happened to look in the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* recently to check on the weather forecast. And just below the weather map was a column topic called "Search". This is a daily collection of requests for contacts - lost usually - found items and reunions.

Diane was delighted when I called her that we knew the Kevin she was after and had made contact. Diane explained that Kevin had been best man at their wedding 50 years ago, and they wanted him to attend their anniversary celebrations. She also told me that they had delivered Kevin to Richmond air force base for his departure to SVN.

They had tried different ways to contact Kevin, but none had been successful. Kevin came good and attended the 50th anniversary knees up for Diane and Michael. Diane tells me that they had not set eyes on Kevin since 2006.



. Upcoming Events Calendar –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 19th September, 2017 at 1100hrs

Venue: Canley Heights RSL & Sporting Club, 26 Humphries Rd., Canley Heights Ph (02) 9604 9975 and for directions - <http://www.canleyheightsrsl.com.au/contact-us/>
You're all welcome

. Pertinent Points – extracted from the 131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 15th August, 2017 at 1105hrs...

Attendees were: Grahame Dignam, Ernest Newbold, George Lane, Ged Carroll, Des McGuigan, Merv Nairn, Ian Amos and Bob Billiards

In the absence of the senior executives Allen and Bert, the Chair was taken by Sec/Treas G Dignam. The meeting was opened at 11.05 A.M.

Financial Membership is currently ...129, plus Associates 2, Affiliates 8. Total 138.

Lapsed 24 members

Presidents report. As Allen is absent his report has been deferred

Public Officer's Report: As Vic is absent his report has been deferred. However, he did indicate via email that an issue had arisen which needs to be discussed. This also has been deferred until his return.

Webmaster Update. Bob has supplied stats bi-monthly via email to each of the committee members. He gave a pen picture of the activity which indicates the Association is particularly popular in Europe and the Baltic States. Mexico and the USA are also heavily represented in the stats.

Radar Moves...

Update...refer correspondence attached to these meetings' Agenda between NVVM Phillip Island and Sec/Treas for the current position of Radar ANKPQ1...(see in "Mail" above)

Radar has been received by the Museum and the hard work is about to commence.

Technical manuals and photographs from a number of sources have been supplied to the Museum.

Radar ops have been canvassed for assistance in advising on the restoration of the Radar for display.

This Assn will look to acquire a CURTA mechanical calculator for inclusion in the general Det 131 DLB display. Also check out a revolving photo display showing the radar in various FSB positions.

Photo Album project. A trawl through the website Members albums continues.

web Performance...

If you've got more photos that you want added, just send them to: - Paul Dickson – web Photos three-zero@hotmail.com – BUT DON'T FORGET TO ADD TITLES/NAMES ETC.

. Birthdays in the Battery...September –

September	Name	Regt No	YOB	In SVN	Out SVN	Comments
1	ERIC THOMPSON Sgt.	44153	1948	18 02 1968	18 02 1969	
	" "			13 05 1971	04 06 1971	VISIT
2	PHILIP MULGREW	3411756	1948	29 04 1968	07 05 1969	
3	MILLS BUCKLEY	16950	1937	20 05 1966	03 03 1967	† 02.04.07
3	PETER SAINT	45033	1949	04 11 1970	29 07 1971	
6	JOHN DELLACA	3791355	1945	29 01 1968	28 01 1969	
7	STEVE BOUTLIS	3787962	1945	02 01 1967	27 09 1967	
7	GARY BESTER	3411737	1948	08 01 1968	03 12 1968	
7	IVAN MILLS S/Sgt.	213051	1934	31 01 1969	05 11 1969	
8	WILLIAM EDWARD	2789911	1947	21 02 1969	21 02 1970	
12	BARRY NUGENT	1411039	1945	03 01 1967	12 12 1967	
12	LARRY BRIDGE	2786506	1946	15 03 1968	18 03 1969	
12	PHILIP JOHNS	4719086	1946	16 09 1968	18 03 1969	
12	STEVEN VOSS	1735605	1948	29 04 1970	18 03 1971	
12	KEVIN GEOGHEGAN	219351	1951	16 12 1970	02 06 1971	131
	" "			02 06 1971	23 12 1971	HQ AFV
13	VICTOR CLAXTON	4410991	1948	17 01 1968	23 12 1968	
14	MERV DART	37821	1942	03 01 1967	09 01 1968	† 2001
14	FRANK IPSA	3786657	1945	04 05 1967	12 12 1967	
14	RUSSELL HEWITT	2792435	1948	03 06 1970	04 03 1971	
16	FRANK PEPPER	216683	1948	12 09 1967	17 09 1968	† 27.12.89
16	RONALD DEAN	215527	1944	20 05 1966	29 04 1967	

50 Years
April 1966 - April 2016



The Memories Remain
1966 - 1971

16	BRIAN BLACK	2786469	1946	27 11 1967	26 11 1968	† 18.01.11
16	ALLEN WHEATLEY	2790305	1947	16 09 1969	04 06 1970	
17	JOHN BLAKE	1731550	1945	04 05 1967	13 12 1967	
17	BARRY GUZDER	5714500	1945	10 06 1967	21 05 1968	
17	MAURICE ARCH	43350	1937	02 01 1967	14 11 1967	
17	ERNEST GALLOWAY	216708	1948	08 01 1968	22 04 1968	
18	BOB WILSON	3791425	1946	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	
18	JIM LAWLER Sgt.	28523	1936	18 12 1967	03 12 1968	
19	ROBERT DAVID GOW	61644	1944	20 05 1966	03 03 1967	
19	HUBERT ANDREWS	2790121	1947	21 02 1969	21 02 1970	
19	WESLEY HINDMARSH	2791313	1947	30 09 1969	13 08 1970	
19	PHILLIP WAPSHOT	3793468	1947	27 11 1969	18 03 1970	
21	GARRY LEPLAW	217182	1948	05 02 1968	11 02 1969	† 06.12.83
22	IAN BUBB	2792358	1948	13 05 1970	11 03 1971	RAEME
23	GREGORY TOMMASI 2Lt.	3791966	1946	10 03 1970	25 08 1970	131
	" "			25 08 1970	11 03 1971	4 Fd Regt.
	GORDON CAMPBELL GUNN	16915	1944	11.03.69	11.03.70	† 23.09.13
24	BOB. BILLIARDS	2785702	1946	12 09 1967	17 09 1968	
24	GEOFFREY CARTHEW	2793339	1949	03 06 1970	09 06 1971	
26	KEN. MCNAMARA	2783740	1945	04 05 1967	12 12 1967	
26	JOHN DAVIES Sgt.	29351	1937	07 10 1966	30 04 1967	† 2004
26	RONALD BOALER	130230	1948	20 02 1970	11 02 1971	
28	LEONARD WALKER	3798942	1949	16 12 1970	30 06 1971	Det 131 † Unknown
	" "			30 06 1971	30 10 1971	12 Fd Regt.

*Above colour background coding explanation – Red – financial Locator, Yellow – located Locator, Black – passed Locator, Blue – honorary Member, White – NOT Located Locator.

Ed – 9 blokes not highlighted is still looking lame! There's still more work to be done to Locate a few more of the blokes!

. **Locator Profiles** – we've received **144** and we've sent out **144**. Ed – how long is it going to take to get to 135 . **Located...**

Have a look at the Association's web site - <http://www.131locators.org.au> – you might find some lost mates or get in touch with us and see if we can for you.



131 Locators Association is always on the lookout for new financial members. With the establishment of the web site we continue to be burdened with the ongoing cost of maintenance etc and we need to be able to support this effort equally.

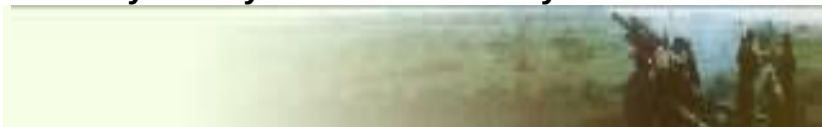
So, if you're a non-financial Associate receiving emails and the *Eyes & Ears* regularly you could bite the bullet and email Grahame Dignam:sectreas131locators@gmail.com and he could forward you the relevant forms to join - Memberships are available for 1 year or longer deposit a DONATION direct (add your name) to the associations account at "A/c Name: 131 Locators Association Inc. Bank: Westpac, Kingsgrove NSW BSB No: 032 166 A/c No: 264133"

Hope we hear from you?

Website: <http://www.131locators.org.au>

. **Other related sites...**

. **Artillery Surveyors 131 Div Loc Bty...**



ARTILLERY SURVEYORS 131 DIV LOC BTY

"Elements of 131 came wandering in from the bush" (A quote whose origins are lost, yet the sentiments expressed will not be lost on many who served with 131 Div Loc Bty SVN.)

This website seeks to make contact with the Artillery Surveyors of 131 Div Loc Bty. We welcome your relevant contributions of photos, insights and observances so we might endeavour to expand 131 Artillery Surveying Vietnam record, beyond this window. Please use the [contacts page](#) for details: <http://www.artillerysurveyors131.com.au/>

<http://www.artillerysurveyors131.com.au/operations/coburg.html>

. **Locating, Surveillance & Target Acquisition Association...**



LOCATING, SURVEILLANCE & TARGET ACQUISITION ASSOCIATION

The Eyes and Ears of The Battlefield

Meetings: - **Sun 3 Dec 2017**: at Panania RSL, also Christmas Reunion after the meeting.
Sun 11 Mar 2018: at Paddington RSL. **Sun 8 Jul 2018** and AGM: at Panania RSL
All meetings commence at 1115 hrs



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL COMPANY

www.artilleryhistory.org



Website link - <http://www.vvaa.org.au/>

Website link - <http://www.dva.gov.au/Pages/home.aspx>

. VETERAN'S AFFAIRS WEBSITE

The Dept of Veteran's Affairs has launched a new mental health initiative to assist veteran's experiencing the affects of mental illness and their families. Providing information and fact sheets about understanding mental illness, links and contact information for accessing support, and online resources for health professionals, this website focuses on helping veterans identify early warning signs of mental illness to effectively manage their mental illness and seek treatment. For more info or to access, please visit www.at-ease.dva.gov.au

. 1st Battalion 83rd Artillery – US Army...



Dedicated to the men of the 1st Battalion 83rd Artillery who served in Vietnam from 1966-1971. We left Fort Sill in October 1966 for Vietnam. We originally were at Bear Cat, Nui Dat and Xuan Loc. We later were in many other locations in Vietnam. We also welcome our Australian and New Zealand Allies to whom we owe so much.

It is also dedicated to those members of the 1/83rd who did not return. We will never forget their sacrifice. Website: <http://www.1stbn83rdartyvietnam.com>



The Royal New Zealand Artillery Association

<http://www.rnzaa.org.nz/>

Editor contact email: 131eyesandears@gmail.com Ed – Paul 'Dicko' Dickson

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