

Just as a short side note - we've cracked it for our 131st Edition.

THE EYES and EARS

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Detachment 131 Divisional Locating Battery RAA



Unit Citation for Gallantry (UCG) awarded to the Detachment and those who served at The Battles of Coral/Balmoral in South Vietnam, 1968

2019 – 53 YEARS AND THE DETACHMENT 131 SPIRIT LIVES ON 1966 – 1971



April/May – months for reflections.
53 Years ago, the Detachment laid its first footprints in South Vietnam.

The Bravo Radar crew - Ian Board, Edward "Spike" Chase, George Lane, Mick McDonnell and Vic Moreau (Late) – Vung Tau prior to the Task Force relocating to Nui Dat.

It's just over 53 years since the Detachment left Australia for foreign shores and set foot in a temporary camp in the vicinity of Vung Tau, South Vietnam. The following is just an indicator of what was to follow. It was here that the true spirit was forged, which has lasted the ensuing 53 years – so far. **It's not over yet.**

The following are some "Recollections" that highlight the Detachment's endeavours which was to stretch the length of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

The following is the Overseas Deployment Warning Order issued by Major PTF Gowans RAA on 9th March, 1966 –

RESTRICTED

The information given in this document is not to be communicated either directly, or indirectly, to the Press or to any person not authorized to receive it

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

Major P.T.F. GOWANS RAA

Commanding 131 Div Loc Bty RAA

HOLSWORTHY

9 Mar 66

69. WARNED FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE

69. WARNED FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE

1. The following personnel are warned for Overseas Service, as part of 1 TF Sec 131 Div Loc Bty RAA.

TFAIO 17072 Capt TOWNLEY J.H.
212598 Sgt FINLAY W.J.
36029 Sgt PERRY F.J.
17760 Bdr DOYLE
4410744 LBdr MINNS R.A.
214801 Gnr EWART M.
214806 Gnr PEARCE R.W.
2781310 Gnr CAMPBELL B.D.W.
311534 Gnr CHECKLEY T.W.
1730813 Gnr HASTINGS N.S
214973 LBdr HAYES T.J.
42038 Bdr THOMSON A.J.
215527 Gnr DEAN R.K.
215322 LBdr PRICE B.D.
2781311 Gnr CARROLL G.J.
2781662 Gnr MARTIN D.C.
311357 Gnr WHITE R.B.
61644 Gnr GOW R.D.
1411072 Gnr BURY D.R.

RADAR 43611 Lt OPIE A.L.D.
214873 LBdr CLAUSSEN R.C.
211769 Sgt SIMMONS D.V.
29712 Sgt LENNON F.M.
18257 Bdr CAMPBELL A.J.
215416 LBdr CROWTHER W.D.
16950 LBdr BUCKLEY M.R.E.
215230 Gnr FROST L.D.

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2.

216324 Gnr JONES P.W.
5411499 Gnr PARN H.
2781377 Gnr McDONNELL M.E.
2781443 Gnr BUSS P.
38120 LBdr LEMPA H.
2781420 Gnr THORNTON K.A.
2782043 Gnr CHASE E.G.
2781429 Gnr NAIRN M.D.
3787154 Gnr MASON R.F.
2781630 Gnr LANE G.
5713642 Gnr GALLOP L.J.
3787395 Gnr SAWYER L.R.

Svy	15130	Lt	SADLER P.S.
	15190	Sgt	HISLOP G.L.
	15851	Bdr	HOLLOWAY K.M.
	214545	Bdr	BULLEN N.R.
	213879	LBdr	BOARD I.K.
	38119	LBdr	DOEHRMANN K.H.
	216403	Gnr	VOURVOUHAKIS A.
	2782288	Gnr	BROWN JOHN J.J.
	3787689	Gnr	McMANUS D.P.
	3787197	Gnr	WEEKES T.J.
	433796	Gnr	WORRAL G.W.
	5411514	Gnr	O'MARA W.I.
	1731045	LBdr	SELLWOOD J.F.
	3787005	Gnr	ROBERTS J.L.
	6708362	Gnr	TANNER R.S.
	215815	Gnr	WESTERWAY T.B.
	1200577	Gnr	MOREAU V.A.
	2412281	Gnr	CAHILL L.J.
	2781996	Gnr	WHITTLE K.A.
	2781291	Gnr	ARMSHAW C.A.
	2782129	Gnr	KILLWORTH B.E.
	3783774	Gnr	EARWICKER B.
	2782439	Gnr	LOCK G.W.
	3787376	Gnr	McGREGOR J.D.
	2782044	Gnr	FITZGERALD J.J.
	1200572	Pte	HAWKEY B.J.
	214715	LBdr	UREN B.T.K.
BHQ		Bdr	ROBERTSON P.K.
	3787318	Gnr	ELZINGA S.
	3411391	Gnr	GARBETT R.

131 Div Loc Bty Wksp

242577	Sgt	FIELD E.A.
243085	Sgt	FOSTER M.F.
243144	Cpl	LUSCOMBE G.W.
18646	Cfn	MCILROY T.I.
15858	Cfn	MITCHELL G.T.

2. The remainder of the Bty are warned for Overseas Service until otherwise informed, as replacements or reinforcements.

We're going to start with **Jim Townley** who was Officer Commanding -

Preparations Prior to Departure

I think it must have been sometime in March that we were warned for deployment to Vietnam. Things then got pretty busy, and I can't remember much of the detail of what went on except for our pre-deployment medical which I do remember was conducted in the middle of the night at the Camp Hospital at Ingleburn.

I can only recall one pre-deployment exercise with HQ 1 TF and Tac HQ 1 Fd Regt, up the Colo-Putty Range. In hindsight, our immediate preparation was all a bit once over lightly, but we didn't have a lot of time given that HMAS Sydney, which took our equipment, was to sail about mid-April and the equipment had to be readied for a couple of weeks at sea on an open flight deck. It was also necessary to grant pre-embarkation leave of a week. It was really due to the preliminary administrative work, initiated by **Pat Gowans**, that we managed to squeeze it all in.

During this period also, the Detachment was formally raised, consisting of **an Artillery Intelligence section, two Listening Posts, a radar section of two radar detachments, a survey section a small admin section of a WO2 and (maybe) a clerk and a Q clerk cum storeman**. Also, raised at the same time was the Det 131 Div Loc Bty Wksp commanded by **WO1 Bill Prenter**.

Deployment to Vung Tau and Nui Dat (Operation Hardihood)

The Detachment's deployment to our Vung Tau staging area was split between air and sea. I went with a small advance party, including **WO2 Frank Perry**, our Detachment Sergeant Major, and all our equipment on HMAS Sydney in about the second week of April 1966. It must have been about then, because I can remember an ANZAC Day dawn service somewhere up in the Coral Sea. It was pretty moving as we were about to go on operations, and we already had other Australian units on operations in Vietnam and in Borneo.

Training on a very crowded ship was limited to small arms shooting and PT. There was little or no scope for any work on equipment, which of course had been heavily greased up for sea travel.

On arrival in **Vung Tau Harbour**, the ship was visited by **General Westmoreland**, the American force commander. He arrived in a highly-polished Huey with a couple of equally highly polished aides. We all looked very shabby by comparison. Australian greens and jungle hat do not lend themselves to stylishness.

Unloading began that day, over the side into barges. My own vehicle with my party and me in it was hoisted over by crane about midnight; not a comfortable feeling. However, we survived the experience and arrived at a landing slip to set out for our staging area somewhere on the outskirts of Vung Tau out past the airfield. I should add at this stage that our knowledge of what was going on and what to expect was not good. The only map I had was a 1:1 000 000 Michelin Road map of Vietnam, containing not a lot of detail. It goes without saying of course that there were no guides to get us to the staging area. All there was, was a cheerful wave and the dreaded words "you can't miss it" from an MCO corporal at the top of the slipway. I had unhappy thoughts of taking a wrong turn and ending up in Hanoi. We did find the staging area, however, and flopped, only to be awakened at dawn by a lot of shouting and the

sight of a couple of hundred black pyjama-clad armed Vietnamese on the road nearby. As I said we really didn't have too good a grasp on the situation, so I thought our end was nigh. Fortunately, they turned out to be trainees from a nearby training depot and, at that stage at least, on the government's side.

After about a week or so (I am a bit hazy on the details), a second advance party led by **Andrew Opie**, the radar section commander, arrived by air from Sydney, courtesy of QANTAS, RAAF Caribous and USAF C123s. Finally, again a little later, the main body of the detachment arrived, also by air, led by **Peter Sadler**, the Survey Section commander. The main work in this period was the degreasing of equipment and getting it back into operating order. From the staging area, we deployed to the feature that became known as "Nui Dat". Again, I can't recall the actual date of our deployment from Vung Tau to Nui Dat, but it was by air and road. The area of what was to become the 1ATF base was secured for the 1 ATF deployment by 173 (US) Airborne Brigade, which included 1 RAR and 105 Fd Bty.

Ed – Jim's "Recollections", above, were taken from his larger in-depth coverings in his introduction to 131 Div Loc Bty, later to become the Detachment and of his time in SVN. A great introductory insight.

Terry Westerway - The list of the first detachment of 131 in 1966 is a little short. In Survey Troop, there was also Brian Lock, Karl Doehrmann, Peter Sadler (all now deceased) – as well as Jim Townsend and Barry Campton (still in the land of the living I think). I think Ralph Pearce was also there, but I think he came over on HMAS Sydney. "Shorty" Gow was also there in 1966 (now deceased, I think).

I haven't got any photos – I think Spike Chase has some from 1966.

We went in two "packages" – one "advance party" by Boeing 707 from Richmond and the rest via HMAS Sydney. The official records show my service in Vietnam commencing on 4 May 1966, but I have a recollection of leaving on the 707 from Richmond (must have been after 7:00pm, because it was dark) around the end of April 1966. I had no-one to see me off, I only had an elderly mother who lived in Randwick and did not have a car to get home.

We flew to Manila in the Philippines where the aircraft re-fuelled before setting off for Vietnam. Hah, I remember that we were allowed to disembark in Manila, I exited via the rear door, and a rather naive 20 year old thought it was rather hot and humid, but then thought that we were walking through heat from the engines – until I walked clear of the wings and the temperature and humidity was still there.

Anyway, we landed at Ton Son Nhut in Saigon a few hours later – we encountered "squat toilets" in the passenger hall (first time I discovered that such things existed) – with front doors, but no side walls (obviously so one could chat with a mate whilst shitting). We flew down to Vung Tau by Caribou and were loaded on to vehicles and driven to a paddock on the outskirts of Vung Tau.

One thing I do recall was that they had only managed to get one water purifier working, so we were limited to "one gallon, per man, per day" (for everything, drinking, cooking washing etc) which left about a litre of water for a shower bucket. Thank God for the monsoon – came over about 2:00pm (almost by clockwork) and poured buckets for maybe 20 – 30 minutes. We would see the monsoon building up and every man ran back to their tent, stripped off and as soon as the rain commenced rushed outside with their bar of soap and began washing in the rain before "Huey" turned off the water. Trying to imagine what it must have looked like with several hundred naked guys dancing around in the rain!!

I think it was Ralph Pearce who "bought" a series of urns on the plinth of "the flags" in Vung Tau and started loading them on to the truck. I think it was "Shorty Gow" who was driving the truck and had one of the ARVN "white mice" jump up on to the truck and shove a .45 pistol behind "Shorties" head to order the urns put back. Terry Westerway

Detachment:

Capt. Townley JH, Sgts - Finlay WJ and Perry FJ (Late), Bdr Doyle D, LBdr Minns RA (Late), Gnr - Ewart M, Pearce RW (Late), Campbell BDW, Checkley TW (Late), Hastings NS, LBdr Hayes TJ (Late), Bdr Thompson AJ (Late), Grn Dean RK, LBdr Price BD, Gnr Carroll GJ, Martin DC, White RB (Late), Gow RD, Bury DR

Radar – Lt Opie ALD, LBdr Clausen RC, Sgts - Simmons DV (Late), Lennon FN (Late), Bdr Campbell AJ (Late), LBdrs - Crowther WD, Buckley MRE (Late), Gnr Frost LD (Late), Jones PW (Late), Parn H, McDonnell ME, Buss P (Late), LBdr Lempa H (Late), Gnr Thornton KA, Chase EG, Laird MG, Mason RF, Lane G, Gallop LJ, Sawyer LR

Survey – Lt Sadler PS (Late), Sgt Hislop GL, Bdrs - Holloway KM, Bullen NR, LBdrs - Board IK, Doehrmann KH (Late), Gnr - Vourvouhakis A, Brownjohn JJ, McManus DP, Weekes TJ, Worrall GW, O'Mara WI, LBdr Sellwood JF, Gnr Roberts JL (Late), Tanner RS, Westerway TB, Moreau VA (Late), Cahill LJ, Whittle KA, Armshaw CA (Late), Killworth BE, Earwicker B (Late), Lock GW (Late), McGregor JD, Fitzgerald JJ, Pte Hawley BJ, LBdr Uren BTK

BHQ: Bdr Robertson PK, Gnr - Elzinga LS, Garbett R

131 Div Loc Bty Wkshp: Sgts - Field EA (Late), Foster MF, Cpl Luscombe GW, Cfs - McIlroy TI, Mitchell GT

Det 131 Div Loc Bty RAA "Pioneers" **Honour Roll (known as at June, 2019)**

Name	Rank (Last)	Regt No	Section	SVN	DoB	DoD	
Armshaw, Christopher	Gnr	2781291	Survey	1966-67	09.02.45	10.02.70	1
Buckley, Mills Robin	L/Bdr	16950	LP/Radar	1966-67	03.09.37	02.04.07	1
Buss (Rafferty), Paul	Gnr	2781443	Radar	1966-67	14.06.45	28.09.11	1
Campbell, Allan James	Maj	18257	Radar	1966-68	13.03.46	19.06.09	1
Checkley, Thomas William	Gnr	311534	Arty Tac	1966	18.12.38	05.08.66-KBA	1

Doehrmann, Karl Heinz	Maj	38119	Survey	'66-'67/70	15.06.33	10.08.09	1
Erica (form Earwicker), Bernard	Gnr	3787334	Survey	1966-67	29.04.45	23.11.16	1
Field, Edwin Alfred	T/Sgt	242577	W/Shop-RAEME	1966	08.06.34	20.07.96	1
Frost, Leslie David	RSM	215230	Radar	1966-67	25.08.45	26.03.14	1
Hayes, Terence "Lofty" James	L/Bdr	214973	Alpha Radar	66/67-68/69	17.11.39	14.12.11	1
Jones, Paul William	Gnr	216324	Radar	1966-67	11.10.46	09.09.68	1
Lempa, Helmut	L/Bdr	38120	Radar	1966-67	18.10.46	Unknown	1
Lennon, Frederick Norman	Sgt	29712	Radar	1966	29.12.27	25.07.13	1
Lock, Geoffrey William	Gnr	2782439	Survey	1966-67	17.03.45	09.09.10	1
Minns, Raymond Arthur	L/Bdr	4410744	Arty Tac	1966-67	03.12.41	24.05.97	1
Moreau, Victor Alan	Gnr	1200577	Radar	1966-67	18.03.39	09.02.19	1
Ness, Robert John	Gnr	4717755	Radar	1966-67	09.01.45	01.01.2001	1
Pearce, Ralph William	Gnr	214806	Radar	1966-67	16.06.45	Unknown	1
Perry, Frantz "Frank" John	WO2	36026	Radar	1966	19.11.32	17.10.16	1
Prenter, William Douglas	L/Col	64258	RAEME	1966-67	23.06.33	01.10.97	1
Roberts, John "Beau" Leslie	Gnr	3787005	Survey/LP/Radar	1966-67	08.05.45	20.11.18	1
Sadler, Peter Scott	Maj	15138	Survey	1966-67	09.01.41	09.10.01	1
Simmons, Donald Victor	Sgt	212769	Radar	1966	24.11.37	25.05.15	1
Thomson, Alan James "Big Al"	Bdr	42308		1966-67	12.08.37	07.10.15	1
White, Robert Barnett	Sgt	311537	Radar	1966-67	08.12.37	1992	1
							25

Members in "Red" were part of the "Pioneer" group, but were not included in the initial "Manning" Order list.

The "Pioneer" Group consisted of 75 Members, 33.3% are known to have passed.

An Honour Roll is a sad reminder that we need to remain strong together.

Lest We Forget

At the going down of the sun, And in the morning, We will remember them



The Bravo Radar Crew – Vung Tau May '66
Back – Jim Fitzgerald, Laurie Gallop, Ron Mason, George Lane
Front row – Vic Moreau (Late), Kev Thornton and Mick McDonnell.

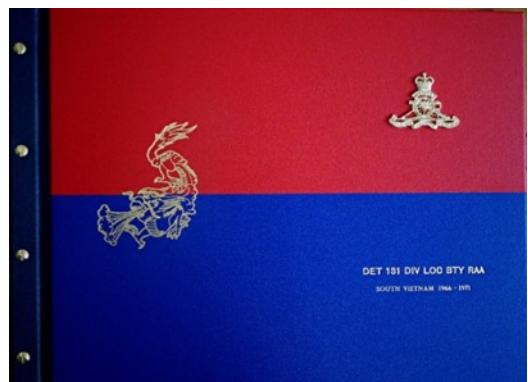
In the next edition of *Eyes and Ears* we have an extension of this Pioneers Recollections and it is an amazing recount recollected by Jim Fitzgerald – DON'T whatever you do lose your internet connection – it's too good to miss. Ed.

. The "Lost Locator Project"

Ed – The Project continues on relentlessly so, we need to be vigilant and keep our minds active as who knows who, where and how we might stumble on, discover someone etc be it by accident but even more so by design. Paul

Get in touch via 131eyesandears@gmail.com

. The "Detachment Album Project" – This project is sponsored by the 131 Locators Association and is in need of some photographic and by-line input from our members/Readers.



. Insights and Recollections...

The series will continue on the receipt of more Insights and Recollections, so if you would care to contribute, please send your Insights and Recollections –

Paul Dickson at - 131eyesandears@gmail.com

This topic/s has raised so much interest – we're still in the middle of some really great discoveries with some remarkable memories being brought to life.

. A Question for discussion –

"How did the Detachment change its activities over time in SVN?"

We started this subject a few months back in *Eyes & Ears* and it has raised some interest as has been seen in the various editions.

The series will continue on the receipt of more Insights and Recollections, so if you would care to contribute, please send your Insights and Recollections –

Paul Dickson at - 131eyesandears@gmail.com

. Oddities – Ed – Ever since sighting the Brisbane coverage of the ANZAC Day service etc, **Allen Morley** has been mystified by the change in appearance of **Stan "Pablo" Briggs**, so much so that it has taken a series of emails (about 19) for **Ed** to respond with some hard fact evidence.

Here are the photos in question –



At left: Joe Losiak, Terry Erbs, Ian Board, Derek Hinde & Stan Briggs

Below: Kym Fox RSM, Derek Hinde, Stan Briggs & Russ Hamsey 2IC



"Pablo"

At left: Torin "TC" White adjusting Joe Losiak's collar in George St.

Allen's 19th – "Paul. I realise that Stan was everywhere. But to apply his name to a chubby midget is a little unfair by us. The bloke in fact looks like **Lance Brigadier McNamara**.

Ed's in depth response -

"Allen, I had to put an end to this "**Briggs B.....t**" - on contacting **Pablo** I got the following somewhat convoluted explanation as to his new dimension i.e. shorter and rounder.

He had sought medical help as to his increase in weight and obviously received advice. This advice was not taken up because of the cost. He was given "advice" from a "friend" - a fellow country dweller. However, he confused the wording and bought **height** reducing drugs instead of **weight** reduction. Sounds like me and *E&Es*, he got his "h's" and "w's" mixed up!

So, as you can see and were obviously confused by he is not the "Pablo" we envisage. He is somewhat dwarfed by **Derek Hinde** (194cm) twice in photos and is standing uphill from **Russ H** (155cm). Then compare him to **Torin "Shorty" White** and **Joe "Even-shorter" Losiak**."

Thanks to both Torin and Joe for supplying their heights – Torin 163cm and Joe 152cm.

It has been discovered via Military records tha "Pablo" was 6 foot 8 inches (old Imperial Army records) and weighed a healthy 14 stone 10 pounds whilst serving. So, one can understand Allen's somewhat surprise at the Brisbane photos. Let's hope that this puts an end poor "Pablo's" demise. Ed

Maybe next month I'll ramble on some more just to drive you nuts!

. David Doyle – “Numerical values...” – Now this is insanely fascinating -

"Hi Paul.

I was just sitting and remembering Geoff Cowgill and when he came to the Bty and after reading his time with us it suddenly came to light about our life around numerals of which I believe that the Asian people have high regard for especially no. 8.

My romance with numbers is this 1314 is the number on our letter box indicating the distance from the intersection of our road and the main road through Bellingen (13.14 Km).

My time in 131 was 4years (I was in and out of the Bty 4 times in 5 years).

The map number for our property under national mapping is 47 which of course was our Tac number on vehicles.

The subdivision next door off our block was 131.

The rego number on our car which Lois purchased for my 40th Birthday whilst posted to School of guns was, DD186 which was when I took my discharge from her Majesty Service in Jan 1986 completing 23yrs service.

It beggars belief to think that numbers can play an active role in one's life. I am currently writing about 31B and the role we played in SVN for the period I was involved. I will endeavour to get it to you before end of October.

Cheers DD"



. Here's a continuing story in the series with regards to Locators' "passions" ...

...Now let's continue on with a “Grey Nomad” ongoing story...

A Visit to China, 2019 – by Allen Morley

A long-planned trip to China was undertaken in March 2019. My wife Diane and I took a chance on the early spring weather, which in the end was very kind to us.

Here's part 2 –

From Suzhou to Shanghai was our next venture. Our arrival was late into this very cosmopolitan city. We discovered a craft beer pub near our hotel and that made for an interesting break. Surprisingly, we met a young Adelaide fellow who was working in town.

Craft UM Beer pub, Shanghai

Day 9 exposed us to the architectural delights of Shanghai on a guided city tour. The waterfront strip called the Bund is amazing. It is a real melting pot of architectural influences on the busy Huangpu River.



The city itself is very cosmopolitan, reflecting its history as a trading port over the centuries. The French Concession, Xin Tian Di entertainment district and other parts of the city were busy with both locals and tourists on a Saturday afternoon. One restaurant featured Australian beef at the top of its menu. The second tallest building in the picture is known to the locals as 'the bottle opener'.

The Bund, Shanghai



We took the optional night cruise on the Huangpu River. Despite the cold over the water the lit-up buildings were quite sensational. The light displays changed colours, the animation on the larger buildings was especially impressive and both sides of the River glowed in varied colours.

Unfortunately, our time in Shanghai was limited and next evening we boarded the flight to Yichang, after of course passing through the multiple level security check. Our destination was to the *Yangzi Explorer* for our downriver trip. We arrived in the dark which was disorienting, but our aquatic home for the next four days was high quality.

Day eleven offered a 6am Tai Chi session, but we took a pass on that.



A section of the Three Gorges Dam

Bridge over the Yangzi River.
The pillar to the left of the arch
is for a fast train crossing



The *Yangzi Explorer* passed through the Xiling Gorges and the boat docked north of the Three Gorges Dam. This engineering masterpiece was the next stop on our travels, and its reputation did not disappoint. A series of locks allows simultaneous ship travel in both directions and a lift arrangement can provide a direct passage from the lower river level to the higher for smaller boats.

After breakfast, we set off in traditional sampan longboat, rowed by local Tujia boatmen through the Shennong Stream. A visit to small village among a rural Chinese community, with people living in mud huts, meat being dried on hooks and coffins (unoccupied) in the bedroom completed our morning.

The *Yangzi Explorer* set off for Fuling, the last city on our cruise. The blokes headed off to the 816 Underground Nuclear cave, whilst the Ladies went market shopping. The 816 was a secret plutonium plant which the Chinese say never went into production. It was an interesting facility with huge quantities of cement used in its construction. The reactor was a graphite moderated type similar to the English design.

Days fourteen and fifteen were passed in Chengdu, our farthest point west. Seeing the giant Pandas at the Research Centre was a popular tour finish point. Pandas were up in trees, on the ground, rolling and wrestling.

One mother grabbed her Panda by an ear and pulled it into a hammock she was resting in. These symbols of China are a delight to watch and simply enjoy their antics.



Panda bamboo



President Mao 'wallpaper' in a village

Next day was spent wandering around Chengdu until our flight home via Beijing. We experienced lots of bicycles, crazy battery powered scooters, some major shopping centres and plenty of food spots.

Misconceptions and other puzzles:

People ask did we like the Chinese food? Not especially, and the sauces often hid what we were eating. Pork and chicken were popular meats.

Was the air badly polluted? Beijing was surprisingly not too bad. In parts of the Yangzi River air pollution was very visible.

Was it very crowded? In parts, such as the Panda Research Station there were significant crowds, including Chinese tourists. Tiananmen Square crowds were starting to build at the time we moved on.

Are Chinese poor? Judging by the number of Mercedes, Audis and BMWs on the roads, the general answer would be, No. However, there certainly were pockets of poor people both in the cities and in the countryside.

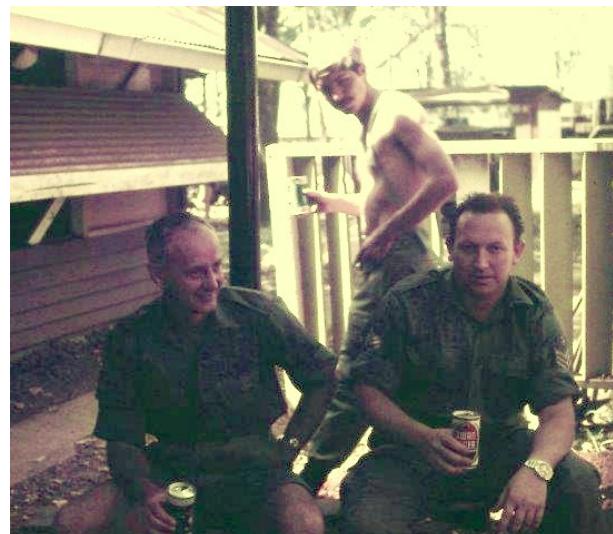
Allen Morley"

It's just amazing what we get up to – let's see what eventuates over the coming editions!

Watch this space.

. Here's the next in the "Unknown" series...

OK, this photo has been extracted from **Norm McManus's** archive and yes, we know that's Norm on the left, BUT who is he having a Christmas drink with?



. Just a thought to ponder on!

The NSW RSL has appointed a new President – James Brown – young, good military background, has political connections – so what are the feelings?

This, however, leads me onto, I guess, a larger question based on geography as to what's happening to a National President?

Over time, not only am I aware that we have some great talent involved in local RSL activities from various correspondence involving all matters - so what are you lot doing? Is there no one game (I use that term with some concern) enough to put their hand up? The RSL ranks might swell if one of us got the job.

What's going on – the RSL isn't terminal?

From the Advocate's Desk...



Our professional Advocate's contact details: -

Peter Pioro JP - email contact: piorowp@ozemail.com.au

Ken Foster OAM JP - email contact: khfoster1@bigpond.com

Disclaimer: Please note that all correspondence submitted will be treated with the total confidentiality between the sender and our Advocates. Printed submissions and responses that may be published in *Eyes & Ears* will be completely anonymous, just used as examples of help.



The Scam Activity seems to be continuing!



It appears that the use of my name, Paul Dickson, is being used in conjunction with Scam emails being received.

On advice from blokes in the "know", please make sure before opening emails sent by me that you ensure that the following email address is being used –

131eyesandears@gmail.com

If this address isn't the originator, then DUMP it!

Ed.

Mail Call...

. David Pires – “Morning Paul,

Just to say thanks for the latest newsletter.

Got to say you do a great job with the newsletter as well as all the responses to members' emails etc.

Excellent work

Kind regards, David Pires”

. John Brewer – sent the following in after his article was published in May's *Eyes & Ears* (No 130)

“Paul,

In the above edition, I referred to the scout of D&E as Eddie Fisher (page 9). Would you let the world know it should read **Tricker**? Would you mention this in the next edition. Must have had **Debbie Reynolds** on my mind.

Regards, John Brewer”

. Paul Tys – “Hi Paul, keep up the good work but I am no longer interested in receiving these emails so please take me off your address list. Many thanks and good luck. Paul Tys”

Ed's response – “Paul. No problems. I've taken you off my regular email out lists - *Eyes & Ears* and other general lists, including my quarterly "Catching up..." etc I have for mail.

However (always a "however"), could you please keep in touch from time to time just with a heads-up so I/we have an idea that you're ok? Paul”

Legacy USC 131 – the following is an update from Keith Ayliffe –

"G'day All,

Sorry our attempts have not borne fruit. See attached letter from CA Lt. Gen. R BURR.

I would sincerely like to thank Jack Parr and Denis Hare for your input into this matter and thank all others for your support.

I suppose I can now close this chapter and move forward. Not the Verdict we would liked, but will have to live with.
Regards Keith"



Army Headquarters
R14-B003
Russell Offices
PO Box 7902
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

Telephone: (02) 6265 4311
Email: AHQ.Registry@defence.gov.au

OCA/OUT/2019/BQ4067848

Mr K R Ayliffe, BEM, BA
41 Centenary Crescent
MAROOCHYDORE 4558 QLD

Dear Mr Ayliffe,

Thank you for your letter of 23 May 2019 seeking a review of my decision not to approve the wearing of the Unit Citation for Gallantry for 131 Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery during the Battles of Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral.

In making this decision, I reviewed the Order of Battle and Legacy of units comprising the 1st Australian Task Force – Forward and relevant contemporary units. This included detailed research, consultation with the Heads of Corps/Regiment, and utilisation of the criteria set in place by the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal (the Tribunal). The role of 131 Divisional Locating Battery was fundamental to the consideration undertaken when making this decision.

Whilst I note the content provided by you in your recent letter, I reaffirm my decision made in respect of this matter. Specifically, the criteria applied in making this decision was set by the Tribunal for the recognition of Legacy units and sub-units which 'substantially deployed' to AO SURFERS.

I appreciate that this may not be the result you were seeking. This decision in no way takes away from those veterans who have been awarded this honour, nor the importance of the historical links maintained by contemporary units. Thank you for your substantial advocacy on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard M Burr".

Richard M Burr, AO, DSC, MVO
Lieutenant General
Chief of Army

/S June 2019

and then an encouraging response from Russ Hamsey –

Keith: Thank you for your tireless work. I wish you to know that I deeply appreciate all that you have done for our beloved Regt and please do not take this disappoint too much to heart. We have other ways....

All: Despite this news, I will speak to Alex McDonald (BC 131 presently) and we will find a way to ensure this legacy is not lost. However, one sure way is for the association(s) to present the Regt with something that commemorates the award. I remind you the story of the Lung (dragon) is preserved within the Regt thanks to work done by Keith to provide us with copies of the original drawing and the story. Perhaps some folks might wish to do the same reference Coral and the UCG to 131 Bty.

Finally, some news for you. MAJ Alex McDonald will be moving on at the end of this year, headed to Staff College. MAJ Fiona Bruce has been designated as the next BC 131. Having known Fiona for several years, you need to know that 131 Bty will be in the hands of a very capable, tough young MAJ.

As well, LTCOL Rod Lang will handover command of the Regt at this end of the year. LTCOL Wade Cooper will assume command. I last served with LTCOL Cooper when he was a LT in 131 Bty. In fact, he commanded our first UAS Tp in Iraq in 2006. I have watched LTCOL Cooper's rapid rise through the ranks with great pride. He is an excellent officer and a fine soldier and no doubt, he will serve the Regt well.

Keith, once again, thank you for all your hard work. I am sorry we could not see a successful conclusion to this endeavour.

Russ Hamsey

RW HAMSEY, MAJ, 2IC, 20 STA Regt
Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, QLD 4051"



Mail Out → I started this in September, 2017 and have decided to continue running down the alphabet of names and sending some emails to blokes in general to say g'day and just to generally keep in touch. A lot of the blokes I've never met, so it's just to keep some connection alive. Plus, it's good to keep in touch, even sporadically, it may help to avoid any unpleasant unforeseen surprises.

← **Mail In** - Here are the responses...

Ed sent out a general warning email to the group re: a supposed scam email from him -

. **David Doyle** - "Thanks for the warning Paul DD"

. **Steve "Boots" Boutlis** - "Thanks, Dicko.

I received a similar one supposedly from "**Brooke**" a few weeks ago.

I apologise for not having responded to your "g'day" emails. I am just a slack-arsed-soldier!

I have resigned from Vietnam Veterans as I am just a slack-arsed-soldier and do not like being a member of an organisation if I am not involved in its activities.

I enjoy reading the *Eyes and Ears* of which you do a marvellous job, and I thank you for helping to keep us 131ers in touch.

My wife Fran has nagged me into getting off my bum and going to Gym five days a week, and doing the odd fix-its around the unit. I might start fishing again this winter.

The usual old-farts' ailments are kept in check by my medics.

The Mighty Magpies are doing well in the AFL (life is good, isn't it?)

You may not be aware that I gave up smoking 22 years ago. I have vowed that I will take up my pipe again on my 90th birthday!

Cheers to you and Helen, and pass on my well-wishes to the rest of the 131ers.

Boots."

. **Warwick "Brooke" Brooker – another Scam response email –**

"Dicko, it sounds like a Mexican scam!!!

Evidently, this particular phenomenon is manifesting widely.

<https://www.quora.com/Why-do-I-get-spam-emails-from-my-contacts-with-a-different-email-address-How-do-spammers-know-the-names-of-my-contacts>

<https://security.stackexchange.com/questions/34518/spam-that-comes-from-names-in-my-address-book-but-not-their-email-addresses>

Who knows how many databases have been hacked over many years? Yahoo Mail's database was hacked several years ago and heaps of names and email addresses were lifted. Apparently, the hackers then upload this information to hacker sites.

Cheers, Brooke"

Now, let's continue on with the regular "G'day" email responses –

. **Stuart Sporn** – "It's bloody cold here with strong easterly winds each morning and we had a wimp of a wet season this year. Have had the woollens on for some time!"

I have a few cartoons from newspapers during the Vietnam period which I will copy and send when I find.

Nothing much happening here in Darwin except some crazy bastard shot and killed 4 blokes this week! Cheers"

. **David Pires** – "Hi Paul. Nice to hear from you again.

Glad to hear you may be getting some rain over there at last.

As you alluded to, we are experiencing some pretty cold weather in Victoria at the moment, sometimes 3 degrees in the evening and 13 during the day.

We are following the Murray River at the moment and spending a week in Mildura, about 300 kms from Adelaide. Checked out some of the houseboats today, just so expensive to Hire though. About \$4000 for three days, okay if we had plenty of cash to spend.

I understand you are in Mexico, is that correct? Obviously retired and having a great time.

Thanks for keeping in touch.

All the best. Kind regards, David"

. **Terry Westerway** – "Glad you are getting into summer – it is winter with a vengeance here in Sydney. Gale force winds last week, pouring rain, low temperatures even in daylight (effing too low overnight) – spending days with heater on permanently. Does no good trying to recover from surgery.

Had a laminectomy (L3, L4, L5, S1) in March – woke up in intensive care with chest feeling like Mohammad Ali had punched me in the chest several times. Turns out that the heart stopped during surgery and they had to do CPR, had it not been successful I would not have known anything about it, but I hate to think of how my waiting wife would have reacted had the surgeon had to tell her that I had died on the table (THAT scares me).

Oh, by the way, if the doctor says "you can have surgery, or....." – choose the "or....". I thought that the surgery would be "cut, cut, snip, snip" and I would be up and dancing around the hospital ward the next day. I couldn't even sit up in bed for the best part of a week. The other day, the surgeon said that I should be okay by (say) October!! Oh Joy!! All well and good, but freezing cold weather play hob with my incapacity. Terry Westerway"

Jim Townley – "Hi Paul. Yes, we are indeed digging for winter woollies, particularly for the next week or so as we have decided to take a bit of a road trip out to Charleville and Cunnamulla. A few things to see; the cattle sales at Roma, the Cosmos Centre at Charleville as well as a recovery program for bilbies and what I think must have been a US Army Air Corps staging post on the way to PNG. Then back from Cunnamulla via St George and Goondiwindi. Good luck with the golf. Let me know if you ever discover the secret of it.

Much appreciate your keeping in touch. Best wishes, Jim"

. John Richmond – "Hi Paul. Nice to hear from you.

We have hit winter down here. I can hear the gas meter running like mad. One of the main problems down in Canberra is the heating bills.

Am still being treated for prostate cancer. Have to front my oncologist for my 4 monthly and have results of my tests including PSA. So far going well.

Was at the ANZAC Day march. very unhappy with the late march on. I actually march with WW2 Air. We had 2 x 90+ men marching, not nice for them to stand around waiting.

Just as a bit of background. On the off side, I wear both a DFC and DFM (+service ribbons). These are not the originals. They are on display in a small alcove behind G for George. The medals were presented to my uncle (mums elder brother), he was the original pilot of George. Went on to the mosquitoes of Pathfinder Squadrons. Was on the 73rd mission and was hit by the blast of a V1 that exploded underneath the plane.

Nice to hear someone is keeping fit. My main exercise these days is walking.

All the best, John"

. Kim Hewitt – "Hi Paul.

Sorry it's taken so long for me to get back to you. I really appreciate your "g'day".

I have not long ago come back from a visit to Dave Doyle and his lovely wife Lois. Dave told me that he expected a visit from Peter Mackie...so I horned in on a lovely lunch. Dave is not in good shape but his spirits are high. Pete did not recognize me at first. Hardly surprising as I have put on the odd pound, and I now have a full white beard. I was most disappointed at Pete's reaction. He sort of denied that we were mates but what is more upsetting is his physical condition. Although Dave was closer to the mine, Pete suffered more injuries. These injuries prevent Pete from getting comfortable. He has now been suffering for 50 odd years. He needs more surgery but I think he has had enough of hospitals. His right leg is in danger.

Paul, I feel that we don't recognize these guys enough. Jimmy Menz paid the ultimate price but is no longer in pain. Dave and Pete have been paying for their time there for the last 50 Years!!! I don't think that either are after glory but maybe we, as a unit, can lift their spirits a little. Dave was, in my opinion, the best sergeant I had. Pete was a great guy and a great mate. He was my most common survey partner. They deserve better.

So, I left Dave's beautiful property with a sad heart. Maybe with a little more PTSD.

I have about 160 pics to show but I am having trouble motivating myself to go thru the process of putting them onto a memory stick. But never fear, I shall get them done and you are the target for one of them. Dave gets one as do Mick Butler and Peter Saint.

I am not doing so well. Cardiac problems continue and IBS keeps me close to home etc etc... yadda yadda.

I am still having trouble locating Blair Sheppard...I would love to talk to him.

I hope this finds you happy and well.

All the best and keep up the good work.... "*Eyes and Ears*" is invaluable and always good to read.

Cheers...Gunner Hewey"

...Ed thought he'd publish his response to Kim –

"Kim,

First up, don't apologise for getting back late - "late" is better than never.

Great that you caught up with Dave D and Peter Mac.

I guess like all or most of us, time is marching on and is not always so kind in a lot of respects to a good many of us. There are quite a few of Dave and Pete's amongst us and their actions and mateships don't go unnoticed by the blokes that care, and you're obviously one of those.

The situation/s we shared, some more traumatic than others, all leave their scars and the effect/s and continue to linger.

I'm no psychiatrist, but I hope through this medium, *Eyes and Ears*, it can help to keep blokes in touch.

Keep up your strength and in touch. Paul"

Notice Board...hey! See what's coming up?

There's plenty of room for notices – has anyone got or getting any events planned?
Just send an email and I'll post it. Ed



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com

Kim Hewitt – gives us a heads-up on an upcoming event –

"Hi Paul,

In case you are unaware, The Australian Artillery Association is conducting its 3rd National Gunner Dinner on the 23/24 Aug 19 at Caloundra, Queensland.

Full details and Registration is available on our Website (see link above).

Locators have always provided a good number of members in attendance. It's great to catch up with the 'old' guys each time.

Ubique, Kim"

* Hey, do you know that YOUR Association is having a birthday in a couple of weeks time?? *

The 131 Locators Association is putting on a couple of drinks and some pizza for lunch at the Canley Heights RSL & Sporting Club

26 Humphries Rd, Wakeley

on 9th July

to celebrate the

Association's 9th Birthday
at 1100 hrs – you're all welcome.

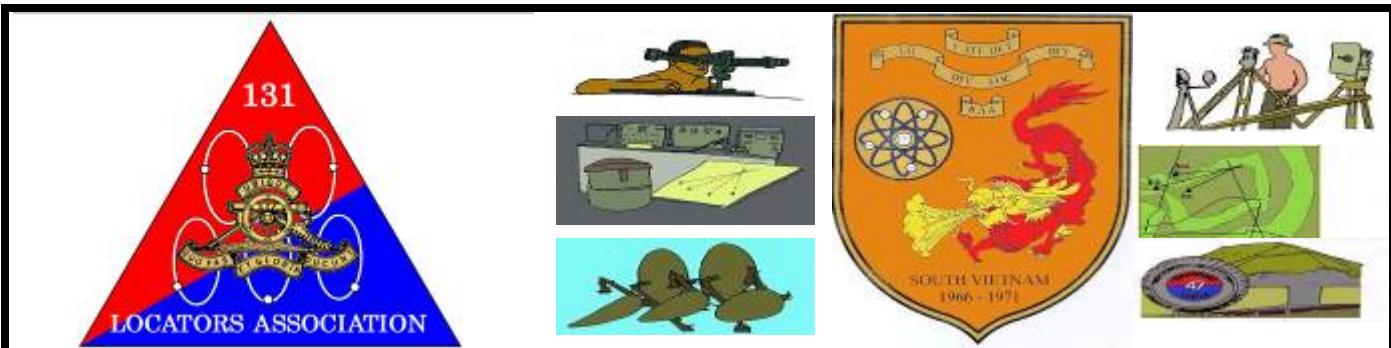


No prior notice required, if you turn up, you deserve the FREE pizza and the appropriate beverage of choice.

Maybe you could pre-warn Grahame Dignam so there's enough topping available!

Email: sectreas131locators@gmail.com to confirm, please.

Anyone else got or getting any events planned? Send us a notice here if you want.



Committee members:

President – Allen Morley, Vice President – Bert Blink, Treasurer/Secretary – Grahame Dignam,
Webmaster – Bob Billiards, Research Officer – Ernie Newbold, Designs and Development Officer – Nick Proskurin,
Eyes & Ears Editor – Paul Dickson

General members – Ian Amos, Ged Carroll, George Lane.

Regional Representatives: ACT – Bert Blink, Qld – Terry Erbs, SA - Geoff Blackwell,
Vic – Alan Adams, WA - Barry Guzder

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

A few well chosen words of wisdom form the Sec/Treas - just a warning that the Sec/Treas is in the process of issuing renewal advices to ALL those eligible Locators who are falling due and including those who may not have renewed last year." Email sectreas131locators@gmail.com to check. Grahame"

Presidential perambulations

Electrical vehicles (EVs) seem to have captured the collective minds of the media. They even played a part in the recent Federal election. There is however criticism of their cost, time to charge, availability of charging stations and their limited driving range. The factor of lots of charging cars drawing electricity from the grid does not get much attention however.



Do readers recognise the cartoon of Grandma Duck to the right?

As Donald Duck's grandma, she was everything a Grandma was supposed to be. And she drove an electric car! Her EV was a Detroit Electric (see left). The batteries that drove the car were large and occupied both the front and rear sections of the body. The first electric car was built in 1884 by Thomas Parker, the man responsible for designing the London Underground. However, the EV failed to thrive. The popular version of the demise of the early EVs is that the oil companies



conspired to kill it off.

Today we see some EVs, especially the Tesla varieties, on our road. Hybrid cars are quite well represented. However, in any shopping centre carpark today the EV presence remains minimal.

Do any of our reader's drive/own an EV? If you do, why not share your story with other *Eyes and Ears* readers?
Cheers, Allen

. Upcoming Events Calendar –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 9th July, 2019 at 1100hrs

Venue: Canley Heights RSL & Sporting Club, 26 Humphries Rd., Wakeley.

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, 11th June, 2019 at 1105hrs...

Attendees were: Allen Morley, Bert Blink, Grahame Dignum, Ernest Newbold, Ian Amos, Gordon Malcolm, Nick Proskurin, Merv Nairn, Ged Carroll and George Lane



Financial Membership is currently 121 plus Associates 2 plus Affiliates 9 Total 132 Plus Lapsed 37 members

Presidents report.

Allen advised that -

- . Following the Federal Election the Shadow DVA minister is Shane Neumann a Qld MP and Chris Bowen has apparently lost favour and is looking after (his) health portfolio.
- . Russell Hamsey has nominated as President of the LSTAA.
- . The AGM for our Association will go offsite on the 12th November 2019 and will be held at the North Head North Fort site. The AGM will be held at a time to be advised then followed by a BBQ lunch. A Tour of the Site is to be arranged to round out the day which will include a brief ceremony at the Association Memorial Paver. A general call to arms for this event will be made to all Locators far and away to attend.

. web Performance...

Mention was made of a Face book page that was established to leverage our footprint in the digital world. The page when fully developed will be included on the links that we are supplying to the Australian Artillery Association (see below)

From minutes of May 2019 meeting:

"Bob has provided the Australian Artillery Association with the information they requested for our section of their proposed APP.

Bob also discussed the possibility of establishing a Facebook presence which would generate more traffic among the younger Locator audience and serving soldiers. This also would allow us to post more newsy items direct to that space. A number of Moderators would also be required to maintain the integrity of the site.

A subcommittee will develop a closed group page and build in security measures where we can control posts."

Health.

No new advices to hand of any health incidents. Committee members commented as to the different approach being applied by various health/fitness organizations as not all are strictly following DVA guidelines which require an ongoing condition requiring treatment. Ask at your

local council what may be on offer – you may be surprised of the benefits available.

Photo Album Project

Ernest Newbold aided by Geoff Jebb, Bert and his aides have processed sufficient photographs to get the Album project moving. Names and descriptions of scenarios have all been checked and are ready for final assembly. More to come but very shortly.

General Business.

Discussions ensued on the following:

. Merv Nairn produces a number of Laminated Survey maps of the Vung Tau – Baria Nui Dat areas of South Vietnam which caused a pause in the meeting while a 10 minute nostalgia pill was taken. Merv will contact the NVVMuseum to offer the items for their collection.

. Ron Mason has provided the Association with a signed Receipt form from the NVVMuseum covering the receipt of the tripod which was donated to complete the tellurometer display already in their possession.

. Nick produced an amended “Nasho” Vietnam campaign ribbon showing the recently awarded UCG on the same panel as the Lung Dragon (extreme right side). The ribbon is laminated and is UV protected against fading. Sale price will be \$6 each and includes postage.

This is it what it looks like -



If you've got more photos that you want added, just send them to: - Paul Dickson – web Photos 131eyesandears@gmail.com– BUT DON'T FORGET TO ADD TITLES/NAMES ETC.

. Birthdays in the Battery...July –

July	NAME	REGT NO	YOB	SVN IN	SVN OUT	COMMENTS
1	STEPHEN FOWLER	217186	1948	16 09 1968	17 09 1969	
2	PETER O'DONNELL Sgt.	213115	1941	24 03 1970	05 11 1970	
3	BRUCE FOWLER	2795238	1949	16 12 1970	29 07 1971	
4	GEORGE WEARN Capt.	2251140	1937	05 08 1968	20 08 1968	133 Div Loc CMF
7	PETER JOSCELYNE	2792023	1945	03 06 1970	17 12 1970	
12	NEVILLE ATKINSON	1733449	1947	08 11 1968	05 11 1969	† 14.12.96
13	DEREK GRIFFITHS					† 02.04.05
10	BILL FINLAY Sgt.	37818	1944	20 05 1966	01 05 1967	
10	ROBERT PELHAM	55342	1949	16 11 1968	19 11 1969	
10	REX ARNOLD	424096	1949	16 12 1970	29 05 1971	
" "				29 05 1971	16 09 1971	Ind 161 Recce Flt.
11	JOHN JAGGARD	4721862	1949	03 03 1971	02 08 1971	131
" "				02 08 1971	18 11 1971	12 Fd Regt
12	HARRY LYNUS	176377	1942			
13	ALASDAIR GOUGH	2105130	1947	27 03 1970	04 03 1971	
14	EDMOND DOUST Sgt.	53111	1939	04 05 1967	02 04 1968	† 26.12.14
14	FREDERICK KRUIMINK	6708867	1945	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	
15	IAN EARLE	3166824	1951	19 08 1970	10 12 1970	131 / 4 Fd Regt.
" "				11 12 1970	23 06 1971	33 Dental Unit
16	GEORGE ADDISON WO2	2410040	1930	16 04 1969	16 04 1970	† 27.12.12
18	KEITH AYLiffe Sgt.	217354	1941	18 12 1967	03 12 1968	131
" "				08 07 1971	24 07 1971	HQ AFV
18	ALAISTAIR McLEAN	312524	1947	21 02 1969	21 02 1970	
18	JOE KOCKA	1202703	1951	20 08 1970	29 07 1971	
19	MAXWELL McPHERSON	3795560	1947	27 11 1969	05 11 1970	†19.05.16
21	GRAHAM WILLIAMS	2789698	1947	03 06 1969	25 03 1970	
21	WILLIAM SLAPE	44464	1950	22 12 1969	17 12 1970	† 12.05.12
21	WILHELMUS Van ZETTEN	3794919	1947	17 03 1970	17 12 1970	
21	PETER SUMMERS	3796803	1948	09 11 1970	09 06 1971	
22	JOHN HOMER	5717596	1949	17 03 1971	02 08 1971	131
" "				02 08 1971	18 11 1971	12 Fd Regt

22	THE EYES & EARS		1967	1967	1967	
23	DAVID DODD	2790139	1947	03 06 1969	04 06 1970	
25	WILLIAM DOYLE	4719912	1947	17 12 1968	04 01 1969	4 Fd REGT
	" "			05 01 1969	28 11 1969	131 † 05.09.78
25	JOHN SMITH	610231	1949	16 11 1968	12 11 1969	
25	PETER BARRY	2794949	1949	17 03 1971	04 08 1971	131
	" "			04 08 1971	02 11 1971	12 Fd Regt
28	MALCOLM MUSGRAVE	214359	1943	03 06 1969	04 06 1970	
29	RICHARD EDWARDS	218595	1949	03 06 1970	14 05 1971	

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

Ed – 8 blokes not highlighted out of a possible **23** (hopefully still with us) is not what might you might call a great result! So what do we have to do? For a start let's put our thinking caps on and start to search/research – the 8 have to be somewhere! Let's have a look at **Rex Arnold** – a Regulat L/Bdr, he's only a "youngster" at 70, from South Aussie and in SVN with the likes of **Kevin Browning**. Ok, he may not have been in Survey, but didn't anyone say g'day later on? He couldn't have left the army when he got out as he was only 22!

In fact, the following were in SVN in 1971- **Bruce Fowler, John Homer and Peter Barry**.

. **Locator Profiles** – we've received **159** and we've sent out **159**. Ed – how long is it going to take to get to **160**?

. 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.)

. Locating, Surveillance & Target Acquisition Association...



LOCATING, SURVEILLANCE & TARGET ACQUISITION ASSOCIATION

The Eyes and Ears of The Battlefield



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company

www.artilleryhistory.org

Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia
Honour the dead, but fight like hell for the living



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 veterans 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...



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: 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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