

THE EYES and EARS

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



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Vol. 7 No. 11 – 30/11/2014

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

ABN 92 663 816 973

Supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs

. A Battery Milestone –

HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY

131 Divisional Locating Battery RAA

On **24th November 1954**, 131 Divisional Locating Battery came into being. It morphed from 31 Locating Battery RAA and was located at Pymble in the northern suburbs of Sydney.

. AN/KPQ-1 RADAR South Vietnam

Detachment 131 Divisional Locating Battery South Vietnam 1966 - 1970

This document records a brief history of the mortar locating radars used by Detachment 131 Divisional Locating Battery in South Vietnam...the reproduction of which has been granted by its author –

Keith R Ayliffe BEM
Ex 131 Div Loc Bty

Time to relax - At the Locators Lounge – early 68 (later renamed

the James Menz Club)



L-R – I. Finlay, I. Amos, C. Dreis, K. Woodbine, G. Holden, W. Franklin
Photo: Phil Sheedy

LP 31D at play – 67



L-R – E. Marques, P. Fletcher, B. Blink, G. Blackwell, B. Guzda, K. Peisley
Photo supplied by: Eric Marques



Photo at left – At the sand bag point
Can you name them ? Photo supplied by –
John Dellaca

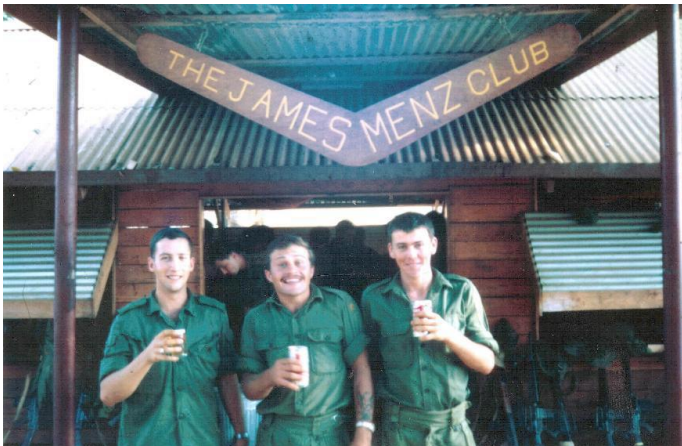


31 May 1970 - James Menz Club (Nui Dat)

Standing from left - Craig Stott (backlighting by window), Pete Ravelje (blurred face - Bty HQ), Grant Perrins (cigarette in mouth - Radar), Bdr Mal Musgrave (Radar), John Lucas (Radar), LBdr Mick Davis (Arty Int), Robert Hargraves (moustached and with beer in right hand). Burt Jacka (Radar - white shirt),
Front centre- Bdr William Slape talking to 'Big Willie' (real name not known), Front and smiling - Al Wheatley (Radar).
RH corner face only - Chris Chapple (Radar). Photo: Richard Chaplin



Dec 67 – Opening Bty Club –The Locaters Lounge – were you there ?
Photo: Ron Royal



March 68 – renaming the Bty Club

L-R - Radar Sec Comd Lt Willis Wight, Gnr Mick Bohl (LP), Gnr Wally Franklin (Radar Op) Photo: Phil Sheedy

Next month we'll get into **Radar Operations...**

. Vietnam – Calender of events ...December

31 December	1967	3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment arrives in South Vietnam	The 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, sailed to Vietnam on HMAS Sydney.
17 December	1967	HMAS <i>Perth</i> under fire	HMAS <i>Perth</i> comes under fire off Dong Hoi, Vietnam.

...a memorable passing...

9 December	1997	Death of Mr Ted Matthews	About 50,000 Australians served on Gallipoli. Some 8,000 died in 1915. Ted Matthews was the last survivor of those who landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915.
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. **Allan Harrison** responded to an article in last month's E&Es and I followed up with a g'day email which got Allan to respond with the following great update on life in sunny Qld –

"G'day again Paul,
Life is good, have embraced retirement comfortably. Having said that I am counting down the days to a hernia operation. The hernia has grounded me from my preferred activities of golf, kayaking and cycling. Surgery due 14th of this month with a 6 week recuperation which means I'll be fit for Xmas fun.

I've stepped down as Pres of LSTAA as you probably know. Stayed on as newsletter editor. I have been honoured with honorary life membership, for which I am most grateful.

Visited 20th STA Regt with Joe K recently to attend the Regimental Dining in Night to commemorate the Regiment's Birthday. Top night. Does make you feel old when you realise that the young subbie assigned to "look after" me was not even born when I retired from the Army 27 years ago after 30 years' service. Bloody hell, 57 years since I marched into 13th Battalion as a Nasho.

I also went to the National Gunner Dinner staged by Kim McGrath's boys (Aust Arty Assn) and caught up with lots of people I've not seen in decades incl Harry Lynas etc.

Get this:



Yours truly with two former members of 133 Bty, Det Chief Insp (formerly Sgt) Jenny Kampouris (NSW Police) and Major (Formerly Cpl) Bernadette O'Shaughnessy (RACT). I take full responsibility for their respective career successes of course.
That was a stunning night.

I remain active in the world of triathlon, as an official with Triathlon Australia and have taken on the task of increasing the number of qualified officials in this part of the world. My dodgy knees won't let me compete any longer but officialdom keeps me involved in a sport that I love.

So that's my life at present Paul, not all bad!

Cheers mate, Allan"

. **Ed** – "I was checking out some potential wine purchases when I encountered the prose and bottle illustrated below. 2012 St Hallett Blackwell Barossa Valley Shiraz 97 pts – JHalliday

'Deep, vivid crimson-purple; has taken full advantage of everything the '12 vintage had to offer; gloriously full, but supple and velvety/juicy red and black fruits, the tannins and oak joining with the fruit on the full-bodied, perfectly balanced, palate.'

Trademark brooding characteristics of Blackwell are on display with notes of blackberry and spice. A hint of vanilla oak. Dark, dense characters of ripe cherry and black fruits. A hint of mocha on the lush palate. Handsome coating tannins add structure, with a long finish. Dark chocolate notes evident in the lingering finish.



Is our **Geoff Blackwell** brooding with handsome coating tannins? Geoff may be tall but could he be described as having a long and lingering finish? Probably not.

The wine is about \$30 a bottle.

Concerned
Sydney"

This question does deserve an answer – is there something "darkshaft" and foreboding in the Adelaide region?

. **Grahame Dignam** being as busy as hell supplied this really interesting note which is worth clicking on the link to view the contents and keeping an eye out for further venues at which the exhibition may appear at...

"PD,

Have a look at this - <http://www.behindthewire.com.au/>
for mention from the Seniors website

BEHIND the WIRE

Images and Stories of Vietnam Veterans

Photographs and Interviews by [Susan Gordon-Brown](#)

Behind the Wire is an exhibition about Vietnam veterans, their jobs and their experiences, in their words.

For the past three years I have been photographing and interviewing Vietnam vets from all over Australia. I have been asking them about their training prior to Vietnam, daily tasks on tour and life since their return to Australia. I have been speaking with national servicemen and regulars. I have spoken to soldiers of all ranks and with a variety of jobs such as: cooks, dental assistants, truck drivers, tank drivers, forward scouts, riflemen, training team members, civilian nurses and more. Much has been written about the politics and military battles and strategy but I am interested in finding out about day-to-day life, how our guys coped with the situations they were put in and how they settled into life on their return to Australia.

It has started its national tour at the **Qantas Founders Museum** in Longreach, 6th June 2014.

Support from the Sky is a companion exhibition to Behind the Wire. Click on the link (above) and go to "**Events**" and check out the upcoming locations for these exhibitions.

. **Grahame Dignam** has excelled himself in his musing on the web and this is an interesting development which began with The Association's desire to "Locate a Locator" exercise which we breathe life into as we go along. However, with a bit of a current resurgence Grahame has become adventurous with exploring the web and typed in **Laurence D'arcy** (see "Birthdays in the Battery" below) and ended up with the discovery and a link to Laurence and also **Mark Jamieson** and a publication called "**365 and a wakey**" which is basically a biography of Laurence's time in SVN.

Please read the following correspondence between Grahame and Mark which is developing into a real find...

"Hello Mark, re: "365 and a wakey!"

As you can see from the detail below I am involved with 131 Locators Association Inc.

We have a programme where we are trying to locate all the OLD veteran Locators so that they may catch up with old comrades. In our search, we uncovered the link to Laurence D'Arcy and your thesis work.

Laurence served in our unit during his tour in SVN and we would like to re-establish contact with him if that is possible. I understand the privacy issues involved and would appreciate you would need to seek his consent. Providing that was forthcoming I would be very keen to make contact either by the above email address.

Thanking you in anticipation and hope,

Regards, Grahame"

...Mark responded...

"Hi Grahame,

I am in constant contact with Larry as he is a very good mate of mine. He was posted to 131 on his second tour with 'A' Bty after a 'misunderstanding' with an Officer I believe.

I know that Larry is away at the moment, but I will forward the email to Larry.

Regards, Mark"

...then Grahame...

"Mark,

Thanks you for your "Assistance". I will look forward to Larry being in contact.

Tell me, is your work available for public consumption and if so, could we obtain a copy as part of our "Det 131 DIV LOC BTY" history project?

Regards, Grahame"

...now this is where the communications takes off in another direction and could involve our readers...

"Hi Grahame,

I will forward you a Pdf of both my thesis and book as long as you credit that I am the author of both thesis and book.

I am currently writing an article on national servicemen, it will be titled 'A National Service: Gunners in Vietnam. If you have anyone who would be interested in adding something to this please forward them my email. I currently have 4 Nasho gunners from 102 CORAL Bty that I interviewed, but would be great to get a few more from other areas., ie 131 Div loc.

I will look at getting this new article in 'Cannonball', the RAAHC journal, and I will happily forward a Pdf once published for you to use on your website.

Regards, Mark"

Ed – if anyone is interested we can put you in touch with Mark. We do have an amazing cross section of Nashos extending over some pretty interesting and varied eras during the conflict. Because of our “one day civilian and the next on a completely different directed path” does hold a wrath of stories. It’s up to you, but give us a yell if you’d like to get in touch.

...the Grahame continues...

Hi Mark,

Our Assn publishes a monthly newsletter "The Eyes & Ears" (first edition SVN 1967 and resurrected 1/2/2009) and all bar 2 editions appear on our website <http://www.131locators.org.au>

If you would like to put your request to a wider audience in the Newsletter I am sure the Editor would look kindly on it. Our readership numbers around 250 members and covers Nashos and Regs who served in multiple units, so Larry would be known to some of them. Could be bigger than "Ben Hur"!

Of course, your IP would be acknowledged respected in anything we do.

Still waiting to hear from you with keener anticipation, regards, Grahame"

...latest from the email Dept...

.Dave Auld is giving us some forward planning details for the Coffs Reunion – so mark your calendars - "G'day, the next reunion will be held on the **first weekend of October in 2016** which is the 50th anniversary of the formation of Det 131 and their move to SVN also the 50th of the battle of Long Tan.

This will be the **last reunion to be held in Coffs Harbour** due to the maturity of the committee. We are handing the reins over to 20 STA Ubique. Dave"

...then continued by responding to an email from **Ed...**

"Thanks Paul, well after getting a dose of staph pneumonia back in April and losing 18 kgs in 7 weeks I am now on the road to recovery but still run out of puff fairly quick, the doc said it could take up to 12 months to get back to where I was so only 8 months to go. I am now living at Woolgoolga just north of Coffs. Rosemary my other half scored a job managing the **Beach Motel** at 78 Beach St, Woolgoolga NSW 2456 and I'm the gopher.

I'm turning 65 on the 17 November, but with Rosemary's income I probably won't see the Age Pension for another 2 years - not that I'm old only 20yrs to go for middle age!! Ubique Dave"

Pete Ravelje gives an update and a forward date in a response to **Ed** – "G'day Paul,

All's well here in sunny Qld....just back from a week in Syd... drove back via Lightning Ridge, very dry & dusty in that neck of the woods.

Jumping on the Harley & zipping down to Lismore for GG's funeral tomorrow.

Heading off on a 31 day cruise next year ex Southampton which in part incorporates Istanbul, 2 days in Cannakale and the 100 year commemoration ceremony at Gallipoli on ANZAC day, viewed from the deck of the ship. Really looking forward to that one.

Hope to get some great photo's from that trip.

Apart from that I am a daily supporter of XXXX/Tooheys breweries & the Oz wine industry.....Buy Australian!

Cheers.....Pete"

Really good to hear from you Pete.

Well here's what I got up to in San Miguel de Allende on **11th of the 11th at 1100hrs**. A group of us (Vets) commissioned the plaque (pictured) and had it dedicated at St Pauls Anglican Church (I think it's only one of two in Mexico) and then placed on an external wall. Had a great turnout and the service went extremely well. I read the following poem with a rather large lump in the throat towards the end of it –

A poem, "In Flanders Fields", by John McCrae, a Canadian (later to become a Lieutenant Colonel), was read. The poem was penned in the rear of an ambulance the day after he took part in the burial of a friend in 1915.

"In Flanders Fields"

*In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunsets glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we
Lie in Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from falling hands we throw
The Torch; be yours to hold high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*



John Stanford sent the following in which is of real interest as it shows the changing face of a place we knew and one that we hold sacred...

"Paul,

As you can see I got this through the infantry network. It may be of interest for those who may be thinking about a visit in the future, particularly as part of a group, or those who have no intentions of visiting just to have a look at how the place has changed.

Regards, John S"

...the following extract and photos are from the Infantry Network...

"Just back from VN and I can advise that the gatherings at the Long Tan cross for 2015, 16 and later will HAVE to be limited.

With the trees down, new plants have been sown - the new rubber trees are about 18" to 24" high right now. They'll grow quickly but will still be fragile for 3 or 4 years yet.

As they grow, the rubber plantation managers do at Long Tan as they do elsewhere - they intercrop until the rubber canopy covers the ground between trees. Currently, it's tapioca, standing about 3' to 4' tall at the moment.

Here's the Cross sans trees - that's the quarried Nui Dat 2 in the background. Here's another:

Imagine what 1000 visitors will do to the tapioca crop as well as the new rubber trees?

That's a row of rubber trees in the gap beyond the white posts - still too small to be even seen among the tapioca. I wouldn't be booking onto any tours to the Cross for a while.

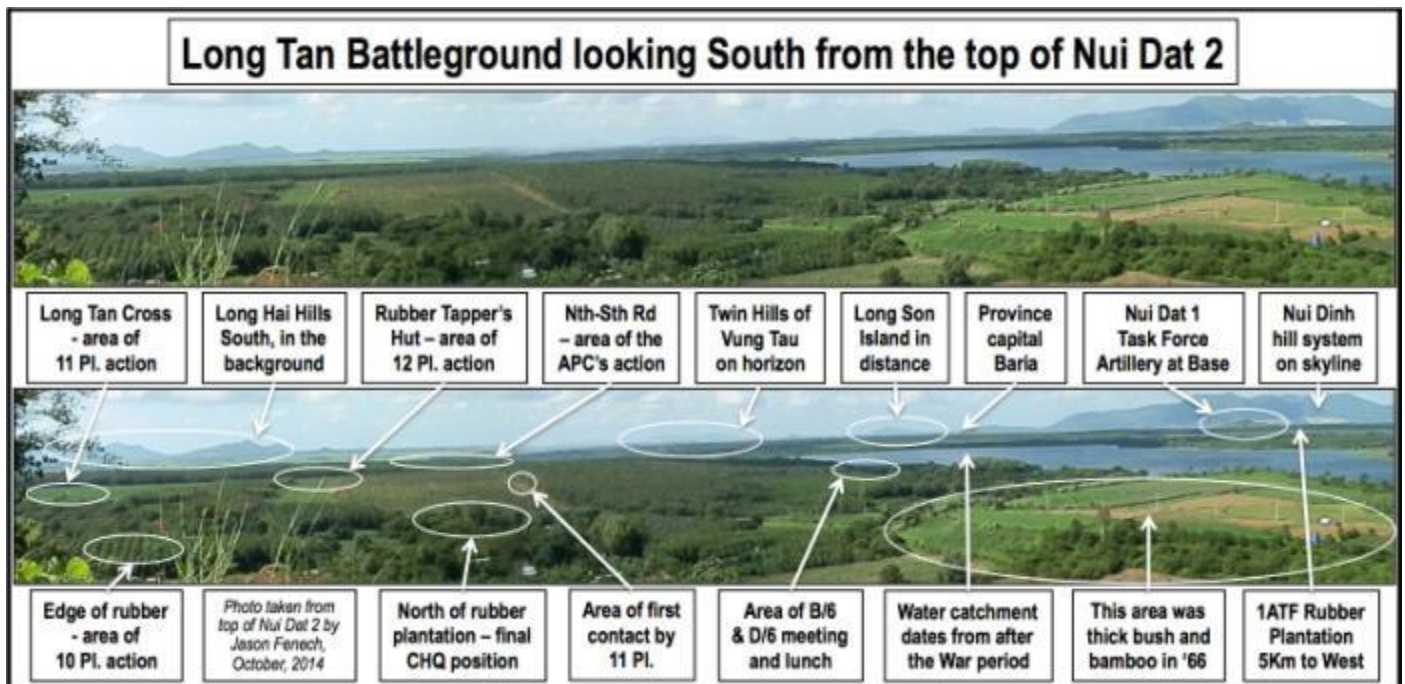
I'd also be looking closely at any move to take people to the Cross for the 50th in August 2016.

Sad but there's the evidence.

Pass to any who might need to see the reality beyond the grand plans and money-making ideas.

Cheers, Dave Sabben"





David Troedel sent his email in with a photo (see below) of a place we all know, I was going to say “fondly”, but I guess “a place we all know” might cover the topic pretty well.

“Hi Paul,

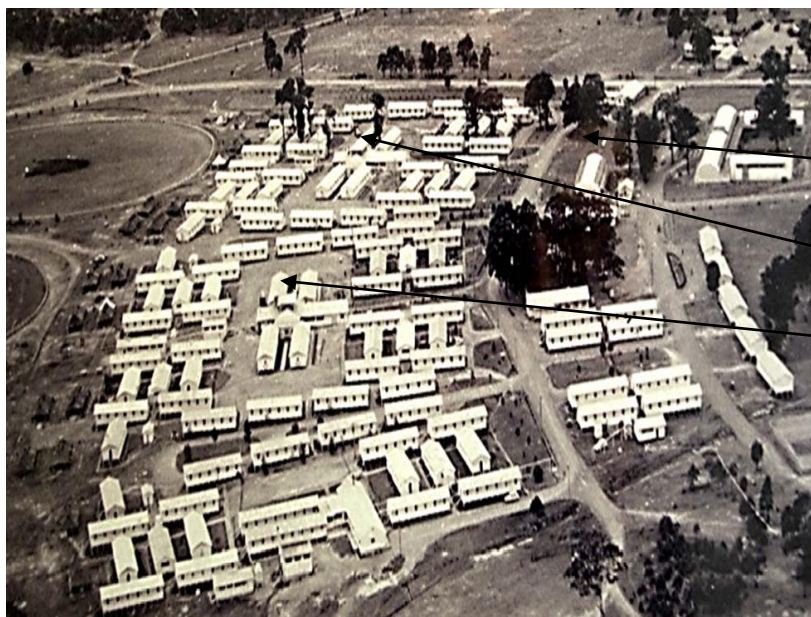
Some time ago you were after information on the old 131 Div Loc Bty lines at Holsworthy.

Attached is a photo (below) and a map (below) that I found, from an email sent to me by Terry Dinneen.

The old 131 Lines are in the top right hand corner behind the Guard Room, adjacent to the road.

As I said before I was in the same lines in 1958 & 1959 with 101 Battery and on a 2 week camp with 132 Div Loc Bty in 1973.

Hope you can recognize the place? Regards David”



Ed scratches his head with the following statements...

There's a photo of Ernie Newbold & Co doing some PT under this tree

I think that that was my hut in 1966/67

I guess that is the mess?

I can't remember where the showers/toilets were?

I remember we parked our cars across the road and when doing guard duty we'd patrol there. I remember also sitting in my car and having a fag and avoiding the duty NCO!

Ed replied to David with a general and got up to speed with the following (thanks David) – “Hi Paul, I think that I told you I was going to Canberra for Anzac Day.

Had a great time, the Dawn Service was very moving.

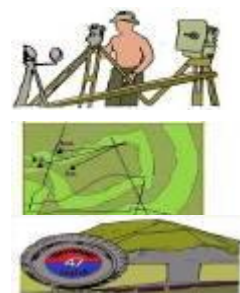
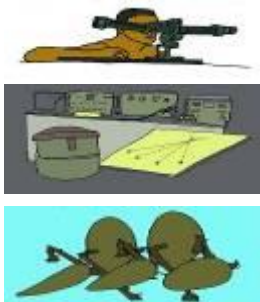
Have been in our new house for 12 months now and have just about have it as we want it.

This will be our last conscious move as it gets harder as you get older. I turned 75 last August.

Attended the National Gunner Dinner and had a great time, it is well worth having a look at the photos on the Australian Artillery Association Website.

It is frightening how fast we are aging, it is 56 years since I joined the army, where has the time gone.

Hope all is well with you, Let me know when you send out the next edition of E&Es, Regards, David”



Committee members:

President – Allen Morley, **Vice President** – Bert Blink, **Treasurer/Secretary** – Grahame Dignam, **Public Officer** – Victor Danko, **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 (Melb) – Alan Adams, WA – Barry Guzder

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

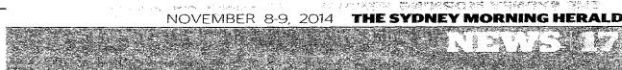
Welcome – The Association has great pleasure in welcoming **Tony Goldsmith** to the Association fold.

Next meeting will be Ordinary meeting on

Upcoming Events Calender –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 16th December, 2014 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



Scrutiny Abuse scandal, Vietnam files gone

Defence records being destroyed and kept secret

Exclusive
Greg Pemberton

Sensitive Department of Defence documents are being regularly destroyed by defence bureaucrats, with erased files including abuse scandals at Duntroon, "chemical and biological warfare", and "treatment of Indonesians captured in Malaysia (in 1964-65)".

Historians warn a regime that allows documents to be destroyed and fails to make them easily available to researchers threatens to cover up important activities by Defence that should be revealed when documents are opened to the public after 27 years.

Fairfax Media can reveal only about 0.3 per cent of surviving Defence records for 1957 to 1987 are listed on the National Archives' electronic database, and even fewer are publicly "open", effectively shielding the vast bulk of files from public scrutiny.

Behind this wall of secrecy, many of the most politically sensitive have been destroyed.

By obtaining and searching the original card indexes, Fairfax Media has established a list of documents that no longer exist, covering some of Australia's most controversial defence activities. Destroyed files include:

- ▶ A file on a 1969 abuse scandal at the Royal Military College at Duntroon called "alleged ill treatment of juniors at RMC" and a 1988 file on complaints about unlawful punishments in the army.
- ▶ Defence files on medical reports from Australian Task Force in Vietnam from 1969 to 1971 – a period when troops were aerially sprayed with Agent Orange and "highly toxic" insecticides.
- ▶ A Vietnam war-era file titled "Insecticides working party, minutes and correspondence".
- ▶ Files on the highly controversial pur-

chase of the F-111 from the United States.

- ▶ Files on the divisive establishment of US Defence installations in Australia.
- ▶ A file on "treatment of Indonesians captured in Malaysia" [during Confrontation in 1964-65] and a file on the treatment of Vietnamese in the Vietnam war.
- ▶ A Vietnam era file on "chemical and biological warfare".

When these files were requested based on the card indexes, Defence replied through the Archives that "Unfortunately, the agency have responded that these records were destroyed".

Christopher Waters, associate professor in history at Deakin University, says Australia's Defence Department has a far worse access record than that of Britain.

"Defence's destruction of such key files is a major concern to historians of Australian foreign and defence policy, especially on Cold War conflicts," Dr Waters said.

"In the United Kingdom the records of the defence departments are one of the major sources for historians on a whole range of important events and issues ... By contrast in Australia the records of the Department of Defence, especially from 1958 onwards, which should be available to researchers, are not, except for a very small percentage ... which has left a big gap in our understanding of Australia's defence history since the late 1950s."

A Defence spokesman said that Defence records are kept in accordance with schedules approved by the National Archives, which its staff are directed to follow.

The Archives' spokesperson said it still held the other 99.7 per cent of files to be "available for public access".

The spokesperson did not explain how the public could identify and request them.

Presidential perambulations

Ah, the end of November already. And your association has a brand new Committee. Well maybe not 'brand new', perhaps just a bit worn around the edges. Your 131 team has guided the Association through an active year. The details of the Committee and Regional Representatives are described elsewhere in this edition. Suffice to say that I acknowledge the efforts of all involved in getting the work done.

Defence has committed more bastardry against our Vietnam cohort. Not surprising I hear you say, Barry G. This time those petty Canberra bureaucrats have destroy 1ATF medical reports for the period 1969-71; a Vietnam-era file of minutes and correspondence of the Insecticides Working Party; Defence files on 'chemical and biological warfare, amongst others.

Perhaps the files were superfluous to needs. But they may also have been very useful for individuals establishing claims against DVA. Now no one will ever know. Terrific to see Tony Goldsmith, Gunner and ballroom dancer extraordinaire has rejoined the 131 ranks. Welcome back Tony.

Best wishes
Allen Morley

. Pertinent Points from the Association meetings – Annual General Meeting and normal General meeting - held on 25th November, 2014...

first up the **AGM** –

- Allen Morley accepted the nomination and there being no other nominations Mr. Morley was duly elected.
- The Election of Bert Blink for the Position of Vice President, Grahame Dignam as Secretary/Treasurer and Vic Danko as Public Officer was unopposed and all previously having accepted the nominations were therefore returned.
- Bob Billiard was returned unopposed as President of the 131 locators' branch of the Locating Artillery Association and Webmaster of the 131 Locators Association Inc.
- The previous Committeemen, namely Ernest Newbold, Nick Proskurin, Ian Amos, George Lane and Ged Carroll all having agreed to continue were returned unopposed.
- The regional Representatives who were appointed recently are not elected and so continue in their roles.
- President-elect Allen Morley expressed his appreciation to Paul Dickson especially, for his continued efforts in publishing the Eyes & Ears regularly . Mr. Morley also expressed his appreciation for the committee who actively assisted during the year.
- The regional Representatives who were appointed recently are not elected and so continue in their roles.
- Jim Fitzgerald FCPA has indicated that he would be available to act as Auditor for the Association for the 2014/2015 financial year.

...then the **General Meeting** –

Keep these dates in mind -

2015 Seymour Dedication ceremony agenda confirmed as :

May 2/3 Sat/Sun travel days -

May 4 Monday - Ceremonial unveiling of plaque at 11a.m. followed by a formal Dinner at the Seymour RSL club 7.00p.m.

May 5 Tuesday -Day trip to Puckapunyal Museum - subject to access approval and timing.

May 6 Bus (or car) trip to Phillip Island to view the National Vietnam Veterans

Museum

May 7 home free

Other Business.

- Ern Newbold attended the final LSTAA meeting and supplied copies of Locrep which reported that Alan Harrison has had life membership bestowed on him in recognition of the service he has rendered to the Loc Arty and LSTA associations. Ern also confirmed sighting the "daily reports" mentioned in the previous minutes and confirmed that they were an additional resource now available to use on the website
- Allen gave some detail for the events for the Seymour Vietnam Vets Memorial Walk Dedication Plaque dinner @\$35 PH projecting 100 members attending at our cost of \$2750 with a DVA grant application to cover the balance of \$1100.
- For the North Head Walk unit plaque event he outlined and asked for a vote to cover the cost of the plaque as provided at \$770 +GST, a total of \$847. There would be a further commitment covering the BBQ lunch for 125 members and a major sponsorship of \$1500 of which \$500 would be borne by the Association. Again we will approach DVA for assistance for the balance.
- Bert mentioned the lack of trees and shade near the Seymour Walk area. The trustees have launched an appeal to replant the area – see <http://www.vietnamvetstalk.org.au/index.php/news/11-newsletter> and so he proposed a donation to assist. The meeting agreed and an amount of \$400 was approved unanimously.
- George asked to confirm the Seymour event timings and the preparations that need to be made – publicity and requests for nominations via website and Eyes & Ears including accommodation information and booking details - RSL Dinner arrangements for 100?- bus rates and bookings 30 and 50 people for Phillip Island day trip.

. web Performance... we're back and operating as normal.

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...December –

A continuing story - Ed kept up some pressure on **Grahame "Bloodhound"** (his new nickname for this article) **Dignam** to see whether or not he could better his last effort re: Harold Little and he puts everyone to shame in this area – have a look at this...

Ed gave him a preview of this month's "Birthdays in the Battery...December" and his response is – "Poor return this time but One piece of gold..."

I will contact the Uni tomorrow and try to get Marks email and follow up the story of "the Story" and if the subject is still around.

“365 and a Wakey” by Mark Jamieson, University of Wollongong

Abstract

Laurence Gilbert D’Arcy (Larry) served in the Citizen Military Forces (CMF) from 20 June 1962 to the 12 February 1964 and the Australian Army from the 18 February 1964 to the 17 February 1973. The Army took Larry on a journey that encompassed a two year tour in Malaya, two combat tours in Vietnam and to his final posting as a gunnery instructor with 123 Training Battery. This book is a personal account of a soldier, it is a collection of memories from an artillery gunner in the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA) and the events contained within this book are entirely how Larry viewed and now remembers the past, this is his perspective.

Suggested Citation

Mark Jamieson. *365 and a Wakey* (1 ed). Wollongong: , 2013.

Available at: http://works.bepress.com/mark_jamieson/2

I’m not sure how you follow on from this, but here goes - We’re still concentrating on the white background listings below.

Let’s try this again for example, let’s take the first “white background” in the table **Keven Bush** – he was in SVN for just over a year – he’s from Victoria, in SVN the same time as **David Dougherty** and **Alan Robb** plus another 100 or so.

How about **Tony Goldsmith** – from Queensland, in SVN in 1967, shared a birthday month with **Hans Weber**, **Peter Fletcher**, **Jim Hogno**, **Ron Evans**, **Chris Bouilly** and **Lionel Outen** – after blowing candles out with him in ’67 you must know where he is now?

Now hold on! Tony Goldsmith has been found!! Another **Grahame D “miracle”** – Tony is well and living in Brisbane with his family. Even **Ed** got to say g’day to him on Skype. Keep an eye out for more developing history – we’ll get a Locator Profile out of him in the not too distant future – he may wonder why he didn’t stay anonymous! **Tony was discovered by “Dig” by looking up ABN history – can you believe that???** (Tony did have a business).

OK can we give “find one of the blokes on the Birthday list” some thought? It’d be great to continue reducing the “where-are-they”.

Can we now get a handle on some of these **17 15** blokes (below) – a phone number, an email address, last known address – we need a starting point to find these guys who were and are our mates!

DECEMBER	NAME	REGT NO	YOB	IN SVN	OUT SVN	COMMENTS
1	DAVID DOUGHERTY	2786594	1946	17 01 1968	04 02 1969	
1	KEVEN BUSH	3792069	1946	18 02 1968	21 02 1969	
1	NEVILLE SMITH	1734352	1946	01 07 1969	25 03 1970	
3	RAYMOND MINNS	4410744	1941	20 05 1966	28 02 1967	† 24.05.97
3	CLIVE DREIS	2785766	1945	05 02 1968	03 12 1968	
6	ALAN ROBB	5715343	1946	29 01 1968	21 01 1969	
7	ANTHONY O'MARA	38334	1940	15 03 1968	18 03 1969	RAEME † 01.01.85
7	TERRY WESTERWAY	215818	1945	04 05 1966	07 05 1967	
8	ROBERT WHITE	311537	1937	22 04 1966	16 05 1967	† 1992
9	ANDREW OPIE 2Lt.	43611	1944	04 05 1966	06 01 1967	
10	HANS WEBER	3789591	1945	04 05 1967	02 04 1968	
12	MICHAEL DAVIS	4720736	1948	20 01 1970	30 01 1971	
12	CHRISTOPHER BRAZIER	2792185	1948	24 02 1970	25 02 1971	
13	JOHN STANFORD	217765	1949	29 01 1969	21 01 1970	
13	LAURENCE DARCY	215649	1945	04 03 1968	04 02 1969	12 Fd Regt.
13	" "	215649	1945	20 05 1971	05 08 1971	131
14	PETER FLETCHER	2783429	1945	04 05 1967	12 12 1967	
14	CHRISTOPHER SELF	66981	1949	1969	1970	† UNKNOWN
14	TOM KING	1411018	1937	12 12 1966	12 12 1967	
15	GEOFFREY PRICE	5715931	1947	08 05 1969	25 02 1970	
16	PHILLIP PERRIN Capt.	53105	1936	29 01 1968	21 01 1969	
17	TONY GOLDSMITH	1732029	1945	04 05 1967	12 12 1967	
18	JIM HOGNO	2783680	1945	03 01 1967	27 09 1967	
18	TOM CHECKLEY	311534	1938	22 04 1966	05 08 1966	† 05.08.66 KBA
19	GEOFF BLACKWELL	4718307	1945	20 06 1967	21 05 1968	
19	PETER GAULT	2783644	1945	04 05 1967	27 09 1967	† 24.05.14

19	RODNEY BEASLEY	3797746	1948	04 03 1971	05 08 1971	
19	MICHAEL FERRIS	1733794	1945	23 12 1968	28 03 1969	1st Armoured Regt.
	" "			30 03 1969	03 12 1969	131-RAEME
21	BOB RETROT	1731922	1945	05 05 1967	30 01 1968	
21	MICHAEL BOYLE Lt.	217004	1946	17 02 1970	11 02 1971	
21	BLAIR SHEPPARD	1735563	1948	01 04 1970	04 03 1971	
22	JOHN MCGREGOR	3787376	1945	20 05 1966	30 04 1967	
22	MICHAEL BURGESS	242895	1938	24 03 1968	26 03 1969	RAEME
22	PETER MEANEY	4719804	1947	03 06 1969	25 03 1970	
22	RONALD RYAN	2793176	1948	19 08 1970	09 06 1971	
24	RON EVANS	3789614	1945	04 05 1967	20 02 1968	
25	STEWART McALPINE	2787471	1946	08 07 1968	04 06 1969	
25	ROBERT HOLDSWORTH	3793058	1945	04 01 1969	03 12 1969	AACC
25	PETER BREMNER	1734544	1947	16 04 1969	16 04 1970	
26	CHRIS BOULLY	4717884	1945	17 04 1967	12 12 1967	
26	DAVID BILLINGS	2793071	1946	19 08 1970	05 05 1971	4 Fd Regt.
28	GEOF. MACAULAY WO2	35753	1936	27 11 1969	05 11 1970	† 27.04.13
28	LIONEL OUTEN	1732195	1945	05 05 1967	30 01 1968	
28	JOHN MARTIN Lt.	43613	1941	25 02 1968	21 02 1969	
29	BRIAN HAWKEY	1200572	1946	20 05 1966	29 04 1967	AACC
29	FRED LENNON Sgt.	29712	1927	20 05 1966	11 12 1966	† 25.07.13

. Locator Profiles – we've received 126 and we've sent out 126. Ed – whoa we've finally gotten off 125 – yooohoo! Who are going to be 127, 128, 129 and 130??

. 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.

"

.Vale –

<u>Name</u>	<u>Regt No</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>In SVN</u>	<u>Out SVN</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>DOD</u>
Greenland, Graham Warren	2792441	Gnr	15.04.70	29.07.70	03.08.48	17.11.2014

Bill Edward notified us of **Graham's** passing and had kept us informed of his deteriorating health situation from early October this year..

Graham Dignam also forwarded the photo below taken at Coffs Harbour in 2013...



Graham Smith, Unknown Lady, Graham Greenland and Geoff Carthew

...another one at Coffs, 2013 ...



Graham Williams , Self (Grahame Dignam), Graham and Graham Smith

Ron Boaler had sent these photos in from the 2011 reunion in Brisbane which include **Graham**...



Gunfire Breakfast 21 STA
131 40th reunion members Pop Jaenke,
Graham Greenland, Al & Jane Gough, Chris
Brazier, Glenda Voss & Steve Voss



Back Row L to R : Graham Smith, Pop Jaenke, Graham
Greenland, Mick Davis, Ted Jux, Blair Sheppard, Steve Voss,
Steve Hall, Eric Williams, Rob Torrisi, Joe Kochka, Barry
Collins,
Front Row: Al Gough, Chris Brazier, Graeme Jennion & Ron
Boaler

Bill Taggart (1st/83rd) sent the following – “Paul, please pass along the condolences of the 1/83rd family to Graham’s family, may he rest in peace. Lest we Forget! Bill”

John Lucas sent us the following – “It was a sad moment to hear the news of Graham's passing. I wish his family the best. John”

Rob Torrisi got this to us – “What terrible news!
We all have to drop off the perch at some time but that is too young.
my condolences to the family. Rob T”

Mike Davis sent in his sentiments – “Poor Greenie, why do the good ones die young. We with all the bad unhealthy habits outlast them.
Very sad but we remember him always.
RIP Mike D.”

Peter Ravelje dug deep to find this one – it's a classic (who is the 4th bloke – any ideas? – “Paul,
Found this shot of us at AWM on 5 Oct. 1992 a few days after the opening of the VV memorial that weekend.



L-R: Peter Ravelje, Gary Lovell, Graham Greenland in the aviator shades I think, and cannot remember the person on the right of the pic. Pete”

...then Pete Ravelje sent the following photo taken at Grahame's funeral on 25th November...

“At the funeral of Graeme Greenland: Tue.25 Nov. 2014.



L-R. Peter Ravelje, Gary Lovell, T.C. White, Bill Edwards.

May he rest in peace



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.

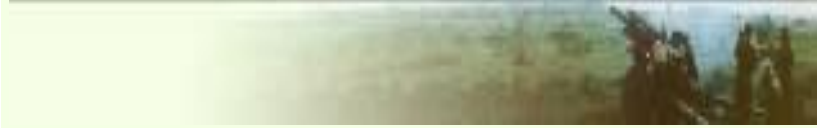
So, if you're a non-financial Associate receiving emails and the Eyes & Ears regularly you could bite the bullet and email **Grahame Dignam**: sectreas131locators@gmail.com and he could forward you the relevant forms to join - Memberships are available for 1 year or longer deposit a DONATION direct (add 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

See the LS & TAA website for information.



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



www.artilleryhistory.org



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



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

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...



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://83rd_artillery.home.comcast.net/~83rd_artillery/

2014 Reunion Report

by Bill Taggart

The Second reunion of the 1/83rd Artillery was held in Branson, MO, at the Radisson Hotel, from October 12th thru 14th. The attendees included sixty Veterans of the 1/83rd plus 55 family members and friends.

The attendees represented 32 States. It was the largest group of 1/83rd Veterans ever assembled since Vietnam.

For a list of the all the attendees, see the 83rd website at...

http://home.comcast.net/~83rd_artillery/Reunions/2014_Reunion/Reunion_2014_Attendees_Final.htm

The agenda was very informal, most of the time was for the Veterans to break into groups to discuss topics of interest and reconnect after many years.

On Monday morning, Sue Marchal hosted a wives meeting which covered several subjects including PTSD and VA Benefits. Sue is a retired VA nurse and she kindly offered to host this meeting which was well attended and was a big success.

Registration and the distribution of welcome information packets were available on Sunday between 1–4 p.m. Sunday evening was the official Meet and Greet. Beverages and lite refreshments were available. The evening was relaxing with good conversation and companionship and gave everyone their first chance to get acquainted or in some cases re-acquainted.

We conducted three fund raising activities which were very successful. We had a raffle to chance off two hotel rooms for the 3 nights of the Reunion, a silent auction during the Meet and Greet and a PX which was open throughout the Reunion.

Tuesday afternoon we met to discuss future reunions. The welcome packet contained a questionnaire that was to be returned by Tuesday morning with individual thoughts and suggestions. We then discussed the results of the questionnaire Tuesday afternoon.

The overwhelming majority voted that we should continue to have our Reunions every other year and at the same time of year and that Washington DC should be the site of our next Reunion in 2016.

Tuesday evening started with cocktails and the singing of the National Anthem by the Hughes Brothers, a very talented group whose dinner show we attended on Monday night. The 5 brothers then mingled with everyone and as they left for their nightly show sang a Christmas Song. Dinner, which followed shortly after, was a buffet with a variety of meal choices and everyone seemed to enjoy it. A cash bar was available for the entire event.

Tables were set for 10 people and the conversations were lively with many stories, big and small, being told. We had many good laughs. Pictures were taken and have been added to the website.

The "**Missing Man Table & Honors Ceremony**" was conducted to honor and remember those of the 1/83rd who never made it home from Vietnam. We read the names of those men. The ceremony also was to remember those of our Battalion who have passed away since Vietnam.

Our guest speaker was Elizabeth Hughes the Public Relations Director at College of the Ozarks. Elizabeth explained the Patriotic Education Program at the College. The program involves students who accompany Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam to locations where they served. She graciously thanked all of us not only for our Vietnam service but also for our service to our country. Her speech was enjoyed by all.

The Hospitality room was available through Tuesday evening and most attendees were heading home on Wednesday.

I believe that one of the things holding many back from attending a reunion is that you think that if your old buddies will not be there, you will not enjoy yourself, etc. I think that this reunion proved that this isn't the case. We all served with the 1/83rd at some time or another and we have that as common ground. We had guys from all Batteries and all different years that the 1/83rd was in Vietnam. I spoke to everyone and all told me what a nice time they had. It was amazing to see how easily everyone of our group just fell into conversation. It was a worthwhile and rewarding experience.



Editor contact email: three-zero@hotmail.com **Ed – Paul ‘Dicko’ Dickson**

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