

THE EYES and EARS

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

Supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs

A new home with a new family...



Welcome 131 DLB Locators

To your new home with us

20 STA Regt RAA

All of this is leading up to April in Enoggera...

. April 2016 at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, Brisbane

— You've only **23** days to go to catch up with a lot of us for the 50th reunion weekend in Brisbane in April!!

It's going to be a great long weekend which includes the dinner on Saturday night, the commemoration ceremony and lunch on Sunday, then the Dawn Service / gunfire breakfast (which contains some real surprises!), then onto the city for the ANZAC Day March and refreshments afterwards

Let's make the 50th one to remember.



Now the following could be handy for those of you, who are driving, looking for 20 STA.

The Gallipoli Barracks are in Bugden St, which can be accessed through the front gates of the base which are on Lloyd St. Lloyd street runs off Wardell St and this crosses Samford Road which is the main drag out of the city etc. You're going to need ID – so your license will suffice. The Survey blokes shouldn't have any problems!!

SEE YOU THERE!!!

The history of Anzac Day...the following is an extract forwarded in by **Ernie Newbold** and is taken from a Government document relating to the history is a very big file and here's the link to it - http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/anzac_day/relevance - **Ed** has used some bits and pieces so have a squiz at the total document and all its parts.

"Anzac Day was first observed on 25 April 1916, as people came together to honour those lost at Gallipoli. In Australia, some state governments organised events to commemorate the occasion—but the Commonwealth did not. Acting Prime Minister (and Minister for Defence) Senator George Pearce viewed Gallipoli as a failure, and believed that a later battle might prove 'more worthy of remembering'. He clearly misjudged the importance to the people of this day. The wartime Anzac Days were especially important for the bereaved. With so many killed, the pain was palpable. Anzac Day was a moment to recognise and acknowledge the sacrifice with services and simple acts of remembrance, such as women tying ribbons onto the gates of wharves where they last saw their sons, brothers or husbands alive. Anzac Day was a fixture by the war's end."

... "In the Second World War, the 'sons of the Anzacs' were welcomed, and the day now honoured veterans of all wars. But despite greater numbers of veterans, by the 1960s its popularity had waned, and many wondered if Anzac Day would survive.

The resurgence started in the 1980s and 1990s. The RSL had been slow to welcome 'others'—notably those who did not serve overseas, including most ex-servicewomen, and veterans of the 'small' wars."

... **"Is it Anzac Day or ANZAC Day?**

The Anzac acronym comes from the initial letters of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, into which Australian and New Zealand troops were formed in Egypt before the landings at Gallipoli in April 1915. What was once commonly 'Anzac Day' is nowadays often referred to as 'ANZAC Day' (in homage to the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps). Which is the more correct?

The official historian, Charles Bean, who knew more about Australians in the Great War than anybody, wrote of a day in early 1915 when a staff officer arrived at HQ seeking a code name for the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. Having noticed 'A&NZAC' stencilled on cases and also rubber stamps bearing this mark, a clerk suggested:

'How about ANZAC?' Major Wagstaff proposed the word to the General, who approved of it, and 'Anzac' thereupon became the code name for the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.'

...the following has been included after the term "gunfire breakfast" came up in emails and **Ernie** raised the item...

"History of the 'gunfire breakfast', held after the dawn service on Anzac Day

Many communities follow the dawn service with a 'traditional' gunfire breakfast.

'Gun Fire' is a British tradition and was:... the usual term for the early **cup of tea** served out to troops in the morning before going on first parade, whenever possible. In the War [WWI] recruits in training always had 'Gun Fire' supplied

to them, the work before breakfast being found particularly trying. The morning gun in a garrison town suggested the name probably. (From Edward Fraser and John Gibbons, *Soldier and Sailor Words and Phrases including slang of the trenches and the air force; British and American war-words and service terms and expressions in everyday use; nicknames, sobriquets, and titles of regiments, with their origin; the battle-honours of the Great War awarded to the British Army*, Routledge, London, 1925, p. 113.)

The 'gunfire breakfast' seems to have evolved from the above, and comprises whatever is available at the time - it could be 'coffee and rum' or 'stew, sausage and bread', or even 'bacon and eggs' (which is possibly served by a local group for their 'gunfire breakfast' on Anzac Day)."

Ed – can't wait to see what the blokes at 20 STA serve up this 25th April – I'm getting hungry thinking about it! Two easy over with bacon and sausages – yummo!

. OK we're going back to school – Here's what happened when I had a look at **Kim McGrath's** photos. I noted Kim's grade 1 photo taken in '56 and I thought "Hey I've got a similar one to that", so promptly scrounged around and found one taken in "51.

They're both below –



Kim 2nd from right rear –
San Souci School –
Sydney 1956



Me 5th from left rear –
Winsor State Primary
School –
Brisbane 1951

I can't believe the
number of the boys
wearing ties – in
Queensland (what
was Mum thinking!!

Stuart Sporn explains the lack of photos and more entertaining commentary – “Primary School was a terrible time for me and think I have used all school photos to light BBQ’s.

On day one we were issued with our kit. My mate Rolly Glastonbury and I were issued with grey plasticine and on curling up the tubular contents it looked like day old dog shit which highly amused us. We were each delivered 6 wacks on the bum with a large ruler.

My mother was stuck in a time warp including “The Depression” regarding my school dress as we had no uniforms. My dress included high reach leather boots, long socks, home-made Donegal tweed long shorts which stretched between 1” below the knee to just under the tit-line . It was accompanied by braces as belts were considered for commoners. Also included shirt and tie and jumper. In the summer I was required to wear a white pith helmet. In all I looked like a cross between Dr Livingstone from Africa and a complete dork.

The BBQ enjoyed my school photos!!!!”

Merv “Baldy” Nairn recounts part of a story already told in his Locator Profile (it’s worth the read again for the rest of it) which is just so Merv and so unique and yes I will catch up him in Enoggera in April – “G’day Dicko, I don’t think anyone would have had a more unusual school time than I. As I have previously detailed in my profile I was the son of Circus performers therefore I spent all of my childhood on the road travelling all over Australia & New Zealand meaning a new town & a new school every day. Dad’s first stop each morning when we rolled into town was the local school to drop me off. I would wander in & make myself known to the principal & be put into a class for the day. To satisfy the government I had to get an attendance book signed by the Principal so that if the authorities came to check we could prove that we were keeping up with a required education. I was lucky that I was pretty good at school so didn’t have to much trouble keeping up with what was a fairly disjointed education as each day the lessons would possibly be at a different point of the curriculum. The schools I went to over my school time would number in the thousands. Different states would also have a vastly different education system which took some adjustment. We are talking about the 1950’s when things weren’t as nationalised as they are now, also spent a couple of years in NZ during this time all different again. Those attendance books that I was talking about, I still have 1 as a keepsake: wish I had more of them as it tells me where I was on any given day & has some nice reports put in by some of the teachers, nice to reminisce. The only thing I can’t give you is class photos, never around long enough to sit for them. Luckily in those days we all wore “civies” to school would have been difficult to have a different uniform every day. Believe you are coming over for the Enoggera week so I look forward to catching up. Merv. (Baldy) Nairn”

Dave Crowther hits a six with his contribution – in a few words he covers a lot of territory – it’s a great read - “Hey Dicko, dc here. Thanks again for all the good work with E&Es. Here are some photos of my late wife Bev and I. I first met Bev in kindergarten in 1951. School together for four years and took up with her again when she was 18 in 1964. We married in October 1965 and our first son was born 29/9/1966 whilst in SVN. We were inseparable and would have been together 51 years this year. God blessed me with an angel (and I needed one). keep well, dc”



No pointy arrows required!

David Dougherty – no horses, but a dirt road down in the Shire – combine that with a great memory and you’ve got a hell of a story really worth telling...

– “Hi Paul, No unfortunately I did not have the opportunity to ride a horse to school but can remember kicking tins along the road (dirt as they all were then) on the way to and from school.

In regard to school photos I have attached one of mine, from 2nd Class 1954 at South Cronulla Public School. That’s me back row 4th from right and that’s “her” (Wendy) 3rd row 4th from left. Well I thought it was “her” at the time. Many years later after she moved to Qld a message from her was passed onto me asking to be remembered and saying hello so all my 8 year old dreams were not totally in vain. The girl I did marry came from the “other” school across the bay. The lad 2nd row far left had his mother teaching at the school, she being our teacher in 6th class, I still remember the “Robert Ferguson, I will see you when we get home” on more than one occasion.

Another memory is being sent out of class and told to sit on the veranda. I can’t remember the transgression that caused this but I do remember the result. There did not seem much value in sitting idly on the verandah so I promptly took myself off home, I cannot remember the repercussions in regard to this action so maybe it was considered “initiative”. (and to KB perhaps that is where “that look” you mentioned started). A further incident occurred while playing cricket in the paddock across the road from the school. In those days I usually went to school in bare feet as many did, something my wife did not believe until I showed her a photo with some of the girls in bare feet as well. The ball was hit across the road and I went after it. When I was back fielding I felt something sticky under my foot. When I looked there was blood pulsating from it, I had stepped on a piece of glass getting through the fence. The teacher had me lie on my back with his tobacco tin jammed in the back of my knee to help stem the blood flow (yes, smoking is good for your health) whilst they contacted my mother. In the meantime an ambulance had turned up and the rumour in the school was that the situation was much worse and that the ambulance was for me, it in fact was for a person at a house across the road. I only suffered 5 stitches at the local doctor.

Other memories are of being an “ink monitor” and the mess involved, sour milk at playtime and the great technological change that occurred when the school received a tape recorder and I was put in charge of it, being required to demonstrate dancing with Robyn, passed her up in later years, singing Advance Australia Fair at assembly (a progressive school ahead of the times?). Years later my mother was told by an old teacher of mine that she didn’t believe that I could be a draftsman as my school work was too messy.

Another memory while not directly related to my schooling but occurring while my sister was at kindergarten is of learning to drive, at 7 years old. My mother had stopped at the Kindergarten to pick up my sister and left me in the car, parked on a hill. With nothing to do while waiting (bit like the school veranda) I hopped in the driver’s seat, promptly let off the handbrake and started rolling backwards. Not a problem I thought as I distinctly remember knowing that if I turned the wheel the car would run into the kerb and stop. Ah, but which way? Not that way idiot, we (the car with me in it) went across the road, over the footpath, through a fence and were finally stopped by a house. It could be considered that I was not popular that day, was it because we had to walk home?

Back to riding the horse to school and dirt roads, my mother was a teacher at Coonabarabran and one of her memories was on the odd occasion that it looked like rain all the kids from out of town would immediately leave for home because the roads could become too muddy and flooded to navigate. Whereas when my father was at school he did not have that problem, he only had to hop the fence between his place and the school.

No doubt these sorts of reminiscences are familiar to us all.

Regards, David”



2nd Class 1954 at South Cronulla Public School.
That’s me back row 4th from right and that’s “her” (Wendy) 3rd row 4th from left.

David leaves one mighty unanswered question – “Whatever happened to Wendy??????”

Hey, we all survived those days in one way or another and crossed paths several years later on another adventure – we must have learnt something!

Allen Morley sent in the following pretty disturbing facts regarding US decrease in earnings of the following group - **Sons of Americans Drafted for the Vietnam War Earn Less 40 Years Later**

The effects of the Vietnam draft lottery on the labor market persisted into the next generation, according to a study by Sarena Goodman at the Federal Reserve Board and Adam Isen at the Office of Tax Analysis, U.S. Department of the Treasury. They found that sons of draft-eligible fathers earned an average of **\$268 less in 2013** than sons of fathers who were not eligible for the draft, and were nearly 3.5% more likely to serve in the military between 1999 and 2013. The earnings losses are due to reduced labor force participation and to lower income. This finding underscores the strong role that parental factors play in determining children's long-term outcomes, the researchers write.

Source: **Un-Fortunate Sons: Effects of the Vietnam Draft Lottery on the Next Generation's Labor Market**

David Dougherty wrote the following to **Grahame Dignam** – “Hi Graham, As it has been a long time since I've been in contact I am responding to your request for information regarding changes to 131 lines. In particular I have attached some photos regarding the SR Post and lines taken in 1968.

The photo (at right) showing the hole was provided by WO Jebb. I was out on ops at the time it was being dug and found it complete when I came back in.

The roof was built by myself with help from who I am not sure at this stage, me being conscripted as a “builder” as I was a draftsman in a prior life and the nearest they had to a builder. Jeff Jebb scrounged the materials from somewhere and if you contact him I am sure that he will provide some background. It is interesting to note the safety gear we are all wearing as well as the barricades around the hole. This being even more pertinent as a few too many cans in the Menz Club could have had a dire consequence.



I also had the job of preparing the plotting boards (at right) (draftsman again) and when operational my main task was as a reader of the “tapes”. For those not in the know a plot similar in appearance to that produced by an ECG was produced by sound received by the microphones causing a blip on the tape and the distance between these being converted to bearings on the plotting board, an electronic version of bearings provided by the LPs. A single sound was easy but at times there was a lot of noise and picking the correct blip amongst it was sometimes impossible. Upon its completion many matches were won and lost in games of blackjack while on shift.



Two of the photos are obviously of the post and would be at Christmas '68.





Not sure where I scrounged the photo of the plotting board from but off the net somewhere. As mentioned WO Jebb provided the photo of the hole and would be the best source for information.
Regards, David"

Stan Briggs – it could be said and backed by the following photos that **Stan** possibly should take up less active tasks – I'd hate to think what could happen to him with knitting needles though. Anyway his daughter, **Narelle**, sent the following info in via a couple of emails – "Hello Paul, Sorry to bother you, but I don't know how to login to the page and see any pictures of Dad. What do I put in for the username and password? I tried his name "Stanley Briggs", then "1731999" but it says it's wrong. Am hoping to find any new pictures of him that maybe I can do something with for his birthday this year. Have more or less run out of ideas. Got him a revisit to Shoalwater Bay last year, as he grew up there before the defence department bought it. I think perhaps I can't top that gift but he does like to see new pictures of himself in Vietnam. Thanks, Narelle Godwin"

Ed responded - "Narelle, Your wish is our command - Grahame, who I've copied in this reply will get in touch with the "necessaries" to get you in. Paul"

...more from Narelle – "Wow. You are quick on the emails. Thank you so much. I should send a pic of dad now. I do have a beauty of him after he came off a motorbike, the day before my sister's wedding. Narelle"

...now for the gory bits from Narelle -

"Hello again. Sorry, had to go to pick up the kids at school. Thought you'd be done by the time I got back. The first photo is dad after he came off a motorbike the day before my sister's wedding. She wasn't amused. Lots of photoshop used in that album.



The next one is from Shoalwater Bay. There are others but I don't think I can share them...at least that's the impression I got from the Major that showed us around that day.
Photos were for private use only.

Ed – Thank God the barrel of the tank was securely fastened!!



The last one is from having a hay rack fall on him off the back of a work car. He always seems inordinately proud when he gets hurt. I should ask him about some of his Vietnam pics and if he wants them sent to the association. Thanks again, Narelle”



Keith Ayliffe forwarded on an interesting article from **the National Vietnam Veterans Museum (NVVM)**

Interesting little barrel....now preserved -

“The National Service Birthday Ballot Barrel is significant icon of the Vietnam War. The wooden barrel used for the National Service Scheme ballots belonged to the Tattersall's Corporation.

Fifty years prior to the Vietnam ballots, it was used to draw Tattersall's Melbourne Cup sweeps. It is now on display at the National Vietnam Veterans Museum (Phillip Island). The fortunes of thousands of young Australian men and their families were changed when a small wooden ball with a number on it was pulled through this wooden hatch. A moment in time resulted in so many stories, which are now recorded at the Museum for posterity, so that future generations will never forget this controversial era in Australia's history. Regards Keith”

...Kim McGrath responded... “Hi Keith,

Although I was a 20th Intake Nasho I wasn't drafted because I volunteered. They couldn't draft me due to my Regular Navy Service. It was only a few years back that I checked that whether or not my birthday (28 Feb) came up. Well it didn't. So I would not have been called up anyway...but...the rest is history.

I reckon that there would be a few blokes around that wouldn't like the 'Barrel' even though it is a piece of our service history.

Ubique, Kim”



Ed – couldn't resist adding a photo of the day they drew my birth date - maybe!! How could the four of them have stood there from '66 to '71 – not a chair in sight?

Charles Brewer Hi there Paul, Charles Brewer here ex 133 Div Loc. Great newsletter - "well done" as the old saying goes.

So; Kim and Tracey McGrath - saw the letter there from Kim; attached is a recent photo of Helen and me, taken just out the front of our villa here in Coffs; we moved from Sydney 1st May - family had been chasing us for about 3 yrs. The relevance is that Kim was TRNG SGT at 133 when I was posted there, so 1978-1986 (and I will always remember his um...special sense of humour!); and would you believe - Tracey was my Recruiting CPL! She was so efficient in running the Cell and staff, and looking after the applicants, that I added RDR TP CMDR to my duties.

Would you be good enough to pass this on to them for us? And our best wishes for their future too of course. And for all the Locators this Anzac Day.

Ubique - Charles (and Helen) Brewer.”



Bill Taggart (1st/83rd) sent the following email and the following two entries were extracted – “Please check the list on the website to make sure I have you listed if you are attending the Reunion and check to make sure I have the correct information in each column. The list is current as of 3/8. Let me know if you see any problems. Here is a link to the list...http://www.1stbn83rdartyvietnam.com/Reunions/2016_Reunion/Reunion_2016_Attendees.htm Bill”

Attendees – There’s a couple of names below that you might recognize??

Bob Billiards (Royal Australian Artillery) – 131 Divisional Locating Battery 67-68

Allen Morley (Royal Australian Artillery) – 131 Divisional Locating Battery 67-68

Now that’s really good to see – might there be any other blokes considering attending?

Grahame Dignam forwarded the following item which is extremely relevant to our well being –

The Royal Commission into the Department of Veterans Affairs. Play the following video link

[Play video](#) Veterans rights 00:04:56

then go to this link and consider signing the petition. YOU will receive an email response recognizing your petition signing. <https://www.facebook.com/RoyalCommissionIntoTheDepartmentOfVeteransAffairs/>

It could also be handy to keep your eyes and ears out for rallies and further local meetings to attend.

Wayne Jeffery sent the following picture to **Grahame Dignam**, who forwarded it on after adding the names to the photo - **Graduation School of Arty 1970**



Grahame Dignam forwarded this in thinking it may be a handy note for some of you to lock away somewhere – “G’day All,

FYI I received this and if you are travelling may be an option to consider

For all our veteran caravaners:

During our current travels we stayed in quite a number of caravan parks, showgrounds and bush camps. As we moved south on the NSW coast towards the Victoria border we stayed at the **Merimbula Lake Holiday Park** at Pambula. This was an outstandingly park run by Vietnam veteran, Wayne Mathews. The sites are all huge (10mtr x

10mtr) and level, there's a great camp kitchen and a pool, the amenities are immaculate. The local club courtesy bus picks up at the office on request. There are always people who enjoy a friendly happy hour. It wasn't our intention but we stayed a week.

Wayne and his son Adam work hard to ensure the park is always immaculate.

To your advantage Wayne is offering all veterans a 10% discount this is generous as the nightly stay is already inexpensive.

In Wayne's words: *"If any veterans are passing through and wish to stay for a few days, if they let us know they are veterans on booking in we will give them a 10% discount. This would only apply if they are not already entitled to a discount."* **Merimbula Lake Holiday Park Mob: 0427 403 607**

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



Now that the time is getting close and Russ is getting excited about meeting the rest of the family – which of course is US!

Russ Hamsey as you're all aware (by now) is the MAJ S7 (Trg and Stds) 20 STA Regt at Gallipoli Barracks

This nice bloke wants your company at
The 50 Year Commemoration Ceremony to be held on **SUNDAY, 24TH APRIL**

Come and say g'day at 0900hrs



August 2016 in Canberra – Vietnam Veteran's Day

Not to be missed.

**50th Anniversary Battle of Long Tan.
Function Great Hall Parliament House.**

Vietnam Veteran's Day Service Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Det 131 DLB Commemorative Dinner.



Vietnam History Alive

Long Tan - 1966 50th Anniversary

Dien Bien Phu 1954 French Defeat
Loc Ninh, An Loc & Saigon 1973 - 75 End of Hostilities
An authentic cultural & historical experience

15 - 27 August 2016 - 13 days

*See the history of Vietnam come alive
Stand in places that changed the world
Bring home your own special memories*

\$4395 per person twin share



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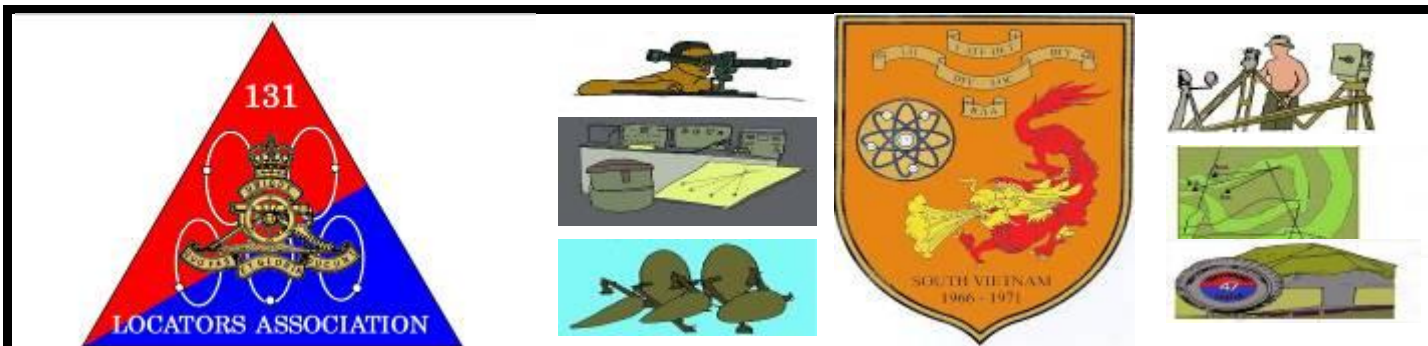
Tour leader **WALTER PEARSON** blends decades of research with personal knowledge of Vietnam to give you a unique experience.

Walter Pearson is not just another war historian, but an expert in Viet Nam - its wars, its history, its culture and its language. Walter has more than 40 years involvement in Viet Nam as a two-tour Veteran, combat soldier and interpreter. Walter was one of the last Australian soldiers out in 1972 and one of the first veterans back in 1989. He was a central figure in the search for Australia's MIAs. He is a television reporter, documentary maker, on-screen talent and production advisor. His shows include, The Team, In Their Footsteps, Australian Story, Foreign Correspondent and Vietnam Minefield. Walter has been a resident in Viet Nam for nearly half a decade and tour guide since 2000. Clients include Australian and American Veterans and their families, Australian Command and Staff College, Australian Embassy Ha Noi and leading travel companies like Exotissimo, ICS Travel (Indochina Services) and Remote Lands.



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

The Sec/Treas aka Grahame Dignam is not mincing words this month; very short and to the point - "get off your surfboard or lounge and get moving to Qld "this is the 50th Anniversary re-union for Det 131 DLB and in Gods' own."**DON'T MISS IT!!**"

Presidential perambulations

I was shopping yesterday for some downlight globes. Have you ever noticed that the rated hours never seem to equate with the use history? Serving me was a young lady in her 30s. She noticed I was wearing my Seymour Memorial Walk t-shirt. Asked if I had been to Vietnam. Her father had not been called up, and I said that he had been lucky. Then in a surprise action she put out her arm to shake my hand. "Thanks for what you did," was her message. They still remember.

The Welcome Home Parade was one that I unfortunately did not attend. Wrong mindset for me at that time. I regret that I was not involved, but I cannot change that.

The 50th anniversary of the 131 Pioneers setting off for South Vietnam is however, one that I will not miss. It will also correspond with the 49th anniversary for a group of reos, of which I am proud to be one.

Your association Committee was hoping for a great turnout for the dinner, radar handover and Anzac Day march with 20STA Regiment. However, going upon early returns, that may not be the case.

So, I urge every one of you out there is 131 Div Loc Battery land, to consider being involved in the Anzac weekend's events. It is not too late to register and to show our modern day soldier equivalents that we are committed to the memories of 131 Div Loc Bty Detachment, both at home and in SVN.

Regards
 Allen

. Upcoming Events Calender –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 19th April, 2016 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

...and of course...

April in Brisbane – 23rd dinner at Kedron-Wavell RSL; 24th Memorial Service and BBQ at 20 STA Barracks, Enoggera; 25th Dawn Service and "gunfire" breakfast at Enoggera and then ANZAC Day March in Brisbane

**50 Years
 April 1966 - April 2016**



**The Memories Remain
 1966 - 1971**

. Pertinent Points – extracted from the **131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 16th March, 2015 at 1100hrs...**

Presidents report.

Bert (Blink) presented the report on Allen's behalf.

Discussions are ongoing with Maj Geoff Meekan regarding -

Final arrangements to place the Radar in position.

The Names plaques has been ordered with delivery direct to 20STA (cost \$2733.50)

The Dedication of both the Remembrance plaque and the Names plaque listing the Names of all those involved in the SVN conflict.

Allen has confirmed the order of the tee and polos (cost \$2293.50) with delivery prior to Easter 2016. Watch this space and the website for prices.

Bert

Webmaster Update.

Bob (Billiards) provided copies of the web data via email.

General Business.

Bert Blink. 3D model of Radar.

From Feb Minutes – see Item 3 above for latest pricing

If the original radar is accepted by the NVVM Philip Island, it will be transported to the museum as they are very keen to display it. If conditions can't be met other options will be investigated. The proposal for a 125mm 3d computer-produced model of the Radar would fill the void for the NVVM. It would be placed in the Det 131 DLB display case and could be a very good reproduction at the appropriate cost. Details of the initial cost are to be confirmed but it may be possible to have a personal model on your bookcase at a cost in the vicinity of \$400 each (to be confirmed and dependant on level of interest). More information to come. Bert Blink.

Moved that the record of names of veterans of Det 131 Div Loc Bty SVN who served overseas should be consistent across all records. The contentious point being that some personnel who were posted overseas in the 131 Det numbers may have been RAEME or Catering Corps. Etc.

The matter was put to a vote and carried unanimously

Raffle. Vic Danko has generously donated a 2 night escape at <http://www.netanyanoosa.com/> with tickets to be offered to Locators from the Association at \$20 each. Check the website shown above to see the value of the prize offered. The proceeds will be used to assist a 131 Locator veteran to attend the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in Canberra in August 2016. The winner to be selected by the 131 Locators Association committee. An email will be circulated and details will be on the 131 website.

Ern Newbold enquired regarding the banner for the Sydney March. As the LSTAA banner will be present it was decided that Locators will march behind this banner. Refer Reveille for the timing and Order of the March.

. web Performance...

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

. Birthdays in the Battery...April –

April	Name	Regt No	YOB	SVN In	SVN Out	Comments
1	DES SPENCER	3787905	1945	03 01 1967	13 12 1967	
	IAN MORRIS Capt.	243062	1941	10 03 1970	09 07 1970	RAEME
	" "			09 07 1970	11 03 1971	106 Fd Wkshp
2	HILTON HOLLOWAY	1736606	1949	16 12 1970	03 05 1971	131
	" "			03 05 1971	26 10 1971	12 Fd Regt.
4	KEVIN MAKER	2251507	1949	26 08 1969	13 08 1970	
4	WILLIAM LAUGHLIN	2788465	1945	13 01 1969	27 08 1969	
7	JOHN McFADDEN	2783243	1945	04 05 1967	27 09 1967	
7	DAVID MARTIN	2781662	1945	22 04 1966	29 04 1967	
8	RICHARD BRISTOW	1733143	1945	12 04 1968	16 04 1969	
8	LEON DJATSCHENKO	312532	1949	26 08 1969	13 08 1970	
9	TERRENCE MYERS	217798	1950	08 05 1969	30 04 1970	
11	MICHAEL McDONNELL	2781377	1945	04 05 1966	11 04 1967	
11	TERRENCE FOX	1200934	1949	08 07 1968	02 07 1969	
12	KEVIN BEVANS	3798316	1949	10 02 1971	07 06 1971	131
	" "			07 06 1971	02 11 1971	12 Fd Regt
15	Martins Van De Nieuwenhof	3798241	1947	10 02 1971	05 08 1971	
19	RON ROYAL WO2	23552	1929	02 03 1967	20 02 1968	† 01.05.02
19	PETER CLARKE	3792212	1947	11 11 1968	27 08 1969	
19	BARRY DYSON	3795956	1947	03 06 1970	04 03 1971	
20	ANTHONY TURNER	1202849	1946	27 01 1971	30 06 1971	131
	" "			01 07 1971	15 11 1971	12 Fd Regt.
21	JEFFREY BASSFORD	2792419	1949	29 04 1970	14 04 1971	
21	NEVILLE DAVIS	5716997	1949	11 02 1971	12 08 1971	
22	BARRY CAMPTON Capt.	61270	1937	{14 07 1963	22 07 1963	
	" "			{13 08 1966	28 04 1967	

22	MARK SZYPULSKI	313270	1951	19 08 1970	17 03 1971	4 & 12 Fd Regt.
	" "			18 03 1971	29 07 1971	131
23	MURRAY SMALE	5411587	1948	27 11 1967	20 08 1968	
24	JOHANNES LAS	3792338	1947	23 09 1968	18 06 1969	
25	KEVIN BANKS	3794366	1948	27 11 1969	04 06 1970	
25	QUENTIN KNIGHT	2412578	1949	09 12 1968	24 09 1969	
26	GRAHAME DIGNAM	2784745	1946	04 05 1967	20 02 1968	
26	WILLIAM CROWTHER	215416	1946	22 04 1966	02 11 1966	
27	GERALD YOUNG Maj.	311460	1926	{06 03 1967	04 04 1967	RAEME
	" "			{25 05 1967	22 06 1967	RAEME
28	GARY LOVELL	218160	1950	08 05 1969	30 04 1970	
29	RON MASON	3787154	1945	04 05 1966	03 03 1967	
29	KEVIN THORNTON	2781420	1945	04 05 1966	02 02 1967	
29	BERNARD ERICA	3787334	1945	20 05 1966	03 03 1967	
29	PETER FUHRMANN	3789807	1946	21 06 1967	02 04 1968	
30	IAN McMILLAN	215117	1945	15 07 1970	09 09 1970	

Ed – 11 not Located – not a bad effort, but frustrating none the less – where the hell are they?.

. Locator Profiles – we've received **131** and we've sent out **131**. **Ed** – Now we've reached that kilometre-stone where to next?

. Located...

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



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

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

Hope we hear from you?

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

. Other related sites...

. Artillery Surveyors 131 Div Loc Bty...



ARTILLERY SURVEYORS 131 DIV LOC BTY

"Elements of 131 came wandering in from the bush"

(A quote whose origins are lost, yet the sentiments expressed will not be lost on many who served with 131 Div Loc Bty SVN.)

This website seeks to make contact with the Artillery Surveyors of 131 Div Loc Bty. We welcome your relevant contributions of photos, insights and observances so we might endeavour to expand

131 Artillery Surveying Vietnam record, beyond this window. Please use the [contacts page](#) for details:

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

. Locating , Surveillance & Target Acquisition Association...



LOCATING, SURVEILLANCE & TARGET ACQUISITION ASSOCIATION

The Eyes And Ears Of The Battlefield

...notes taken from the LS & TAA website – the last in the series of Coffs Harbour re-unions will take place next year on the October long weekend (30 Sep-1-2-3 Oct 2016). Please note this in your calendar and start planning travel and accommodation early.



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY HISTORICAL COMPANY

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: www.1stbn83rdartyvietnam.com](http://www.1stbn83rdartyvietnam.com)



The Royal New Zealand Artillery Association

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

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

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