

THE EYES and EARS

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Detachment 131 Divisional Locating Battery RAA

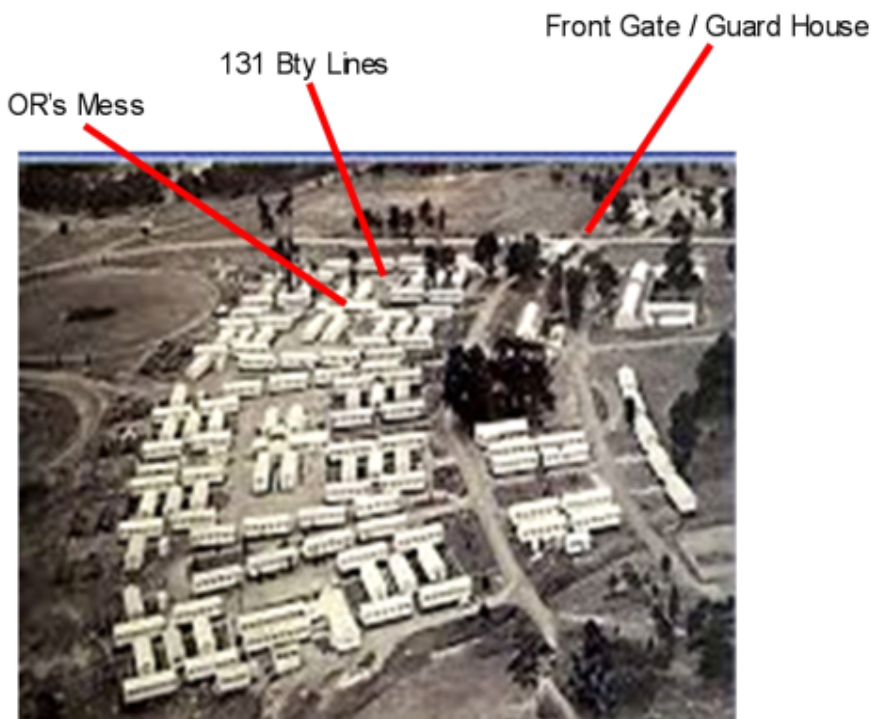
Unit Citation for Gallantry (UCG) awarded to the Detachment and those who served at
The Battles of Coral/Balmoral in South Vietnam, 1968

2021 – 55 Years and the Detachment 131 Spirit Lives On: 1966 – 1971



Home at
"Kokoda Barracks,
Holsworthy.

Now Ernie Newbold gives us a few pointers where certain buildings were back when...

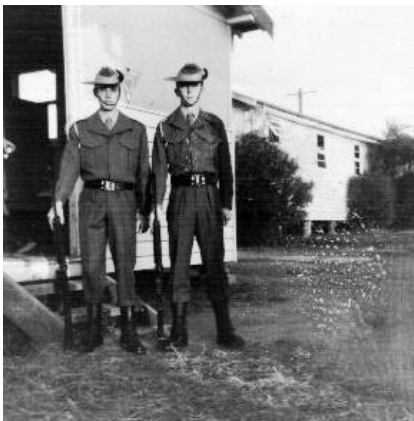


"I was at Holsworthy from about July 1966 (following recruit training at 3RTB Singleton) until 4th May 1967. Two exercises to Tianjara, a stint at North Head and time spent in Queensland at JTC Canungra were the breaks away from Holsworthy during that time. I hope that the article in the Eyes & Ears will awaken memories from others as well.
Regards, Ernie"

Another bit of memorabilia...hut identifying?

In November 1965, the Battery moved to Kokoda Lines at Holsworthy, as an independent Battery and commenced training for the conflict in South Vietnam. The first National Servicemen brought the Battery to strength in 1966.

The following are some pretty blurry photos taken around the hut that I shared.



Left: Tony Goldsmith and self before guard duty.



Right: Tony Goldsmith (again) and self – washing day! Is that the sports/football ground in the back ground?



Left: Self. Is that a water tower behind me over my right shoulder?



Right: Al Keeble, self, Roger Mc Donnell and the late Leigh Hemming and ?? in the back ground.

None of these photos really help me to identify which hut I was in – bummer! Any help? Plus any other input?

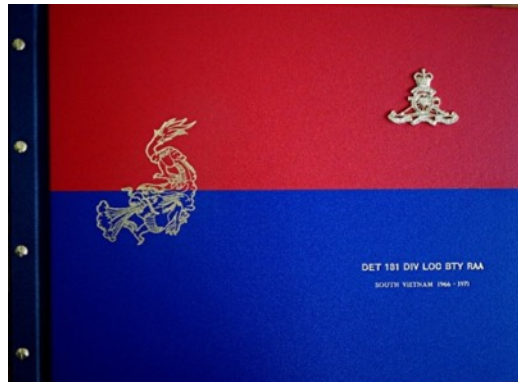
. The “Lost Locator Project”



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...

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

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

. The following should be read as it is a WARNING to ALL of us -

BE WARNED / BE AWARE!!!

The following was forwarded onto us from **Brian Campbell** to **George Lane** then onto **Ernie Newbold**. This **WARNING** is **NOT** to be treated lightly – **PLEASE** read on -

From: Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia **Sent:** Wednesday, 27 January 2021 10:44 AM
To: Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia
Subject: BEWARE of Jay Devereaux **Importance:** High

“Good Morning Everyone
Please read the Emails below and be aware of this fellow.
Kind regards
Leanne Morgan, **VVAA St Marys Outpost**

VETERANS BEWARE!!!!

To All:

The first E-Mail here below is from an ex-soldier named Sean Power, from 5/7RAR. He has fallen victim of a fraudulent fellow who said he was doing welfare work. His name is "Jay Devereaux". The E-Mail is followed by other E-Mails of support. Let us hope that this fellow never interferes with a veteran (or anyone else) ever again! .

19 January 2021. G'day, I'm **Sean Power**. Ex 5/7RAR veteran.

I am writing to inform you of a fraud involving Veterans.

I was recently in hospital due to a suicide attempt after the sudden loss of my wife. The grief and PTSD was just too much.

I was approached by man called **Jay Devereaux from V360/ Veterans 360** whilst in hospital.

To cut a long story short Jay befriended me and offered me assistance at my most vulnerable time. He not only failed to help me but also made my life almost unbearable.

He offered an array of services, Including financial support, housing assistance and advocacy. He offered to manage my affairs as I was going to be an inpatient for several months in hospital. He was going to call the banks and my landlord and freeze everything and even attempt to have some things payed for me. He did nothing. I called him several times when I had the opportunity and he informed me he was onto it and things were looking good.

He lied continuously.

I am now in serious financial trouble and have a bad rental record. But thankfully the RSL has stepped in and helped. He attempted to take ownership of my vehicle whilst I was in hospital and attempted to sell it. He did this knowing my wife's belongings were in the vehicle and it meant a great deal to me. He gave/sold the vehicle to a third party. We managed through the police to recover the vehicle. It had accident damage and the tires were destroyed from what I assume were burnouts

He defrauded **my mother** of \$1000 dollars when he told her he was an ex-soldier and worked for DVA and even attempted to extort money from my father who is also a Vietnam Veteran and a TPI. Patrick Power (snow), 6 Battalion. He told my father I owed him money and was a criminal and he could sort things out if my father contributed to his charity.

He is now I believe under investigation by several organisations and the police.

I wanted as many people to know and be aware of who this predator really is.

Regards, Sean Power

The next E-Mail is from Max Ball - President of the VVAA, who forwarded this E-Mail to all the state branches of the VVAA.

His reply to Sean is:

21 January 2021. Dear Sean,

Thanks for your email below and I am deeply sorry for your bad experiences with Jay Devereaux.

I have taken the liberty of copying this email to the Presidents of our State Branches and other members of the National Executive as I agree that the antics of this man need to be publicised widely.

FYI, some only a few years ago Jay approached the WA branch of the Defence Force Welfare Association (of which I am a member) and introduced himself as representing V360. He was very persuasive and initially we were inclined to assist him.

However, and my memory has lost the detail, his stories did not add up and we parted company. Our experience was not all in the same league as yours and we have heard little or nothing of him since that time.

Best wishes, Max Ball

The next E-Mail is from Richard Usher OAM, who is President of the Defence Force Welfare Association - WA Branch. His comment is:

21 January 2021. Dear Sean,

I can confirm what Max Ball has said, and I too am very sorry that you have fallen victim to Jay Devereaux. He was active in WA for a while but I had heard that he had moved to Qld. Is that where you live?

Jay Devereaux has NEVER served in the ADF and does NOT work for or with DVA.

I believe he has been in prison in South Australia, but unfortunately, I have lost the detail of that and what he was convicted for. I agree that every veteran and ESO should steer well clear of this vindictive man who uses a so-called charity (V360) for his own ends.

Sean, I am more than sorry for what this man has done to you, and I do sincerely hope the police prosecute him and get him out of the clutches of vulnerable veterans.

Kind regards, and my best wishes to you

Richard Usher OAM, President, Defence Force Welfare Association, WA Branch

. **Jim Dickson**, (my brother – he did a tour of SVN with the RAAF, as a Flight Lieutenant in 1970-71), forwarded a link to me re: this article by Michael McKernan which appeared in The Canberra Times...

"The Long Shadow", Peter Yule's account of Australia's Vietnam veterans in the years since the war, is important and impressive Michael McKernan The Canberra Times Jan 30, 2021

A scene from the Welcome Home Parade in 1987 at the Domain. Picture: Australian War Memorial

The Long Shadow: Australia's Vietnam Veterans Since "The War", by Peter Yule. Australian War Memorial and New South, \$49.99.

This book is as important as it is impressive. It is a long book, 568 pages of text. In his foreword, General Sir Peter Cosgrove says he read it in a sitting. Wow! The General obviously has more stamina than most. But if he means it is hard, almost impossible, to put down, then most readers would agree. It is remarkable - even astonishing - that the book is published by the Australian War Memorial, usually a cautious and careful publisher. You won't die wondering what Peter Yule thinks. He lines up his targets and disposes of them carefully and with forensic intensity.



The targets are numerous and include: American and Australian strategy in Vietnam, Australian prime ministers and politicians who sent our soldiers to war and kept them there, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, deceitful and cowardly, most of its ministers and secretaries, the Evatt Royal Commission into Agent Orange, the official historian of Agent Orange, Professor F.B. ('Barry') Smith and, by implication, the supervising official historian who commissioned and published Smith, Dr Peter Edwards.

The Long Shadow is firmly on the side of Vietnam veterans and their families, and it abounds with their voices. The veterans were sometimes wrong. There was no riot at Sydney airport between returning veterans and anti-war protestors. No Australian ever threw red paint over marching Australian returning veterans. There was no booing and little protest at the marches in capital cities to celebrate the return of units.

But mostly the veterans were right. It was the wrong war and it couldn't be won. They were grievously damaged by the war they fought. They were hounded and hurt by the way Australians viewed their war and by their perceived place in Australian society. They were good, perhaps great, soldiers, well-trained, cohesive, resilient, efficient, hard-working and reliant on one another.

But it is a sad book. There is misery, suffering, outrage and injury on almost every page. Yet there are moments of great happiness and joy - the Welcome Home parade in Sydney in 1987, the eventual understanding and broadly-based support of the Australian community, and the support and comfort that veterans fostered among themselves.

This is, fundamentally, a medical history and that is why it is so important. It examines physical and psychological injury at war, it accounts for the emerging term and condition, post-traumatic stress disorder, and it shows how careful medical attention and counselling can - eventually - heal.

The book came about in response to veterans' outrage at the publication of a volume of the official history, *Medicine at War*, and Barry Smith's essay on Agent Orange in that book. Yule concludes - trenchantly - that Smith "did not so much write a history as present a case, making personal attacks, distorting evidence, and gloating over the discomfiture of veterans". "[The veterans]," writes Yule, "deserved better of an official history." They have it in *The Long Shadow*.

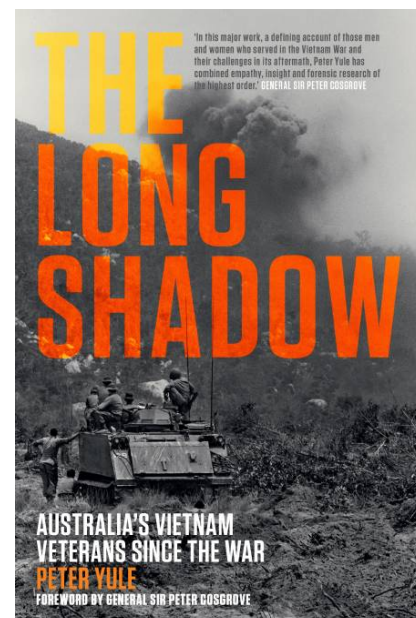
One of the strengths of the book is to show the interconnections between the American experience of Vietnam and the Australian experience. Yule makes the excellent point that the cohesion and comradeship of Australian units was fostered by the fact that most soldiers arrived in Vietnam as part of a unit or battalion. They had trained together to peak efficiency in Australia, they had travelled together, and they fought together. In contrast the Americans arrived in Vietnam individually and were assigned to a unit after their arrival.

But the aftermath of the war in both countries was very similar with a close liaison on so many matters affecting the veterans' welfare, health and wide-ranging medical research. It was American research and integrity that helped overturn the effects of the Evatt Royal Commission in Australia.

Readers will be amazed and warmed by the lengthy account of the persistence of key Australian veterans and organisations in confronting governments, seeking to improve the health and welfare of their mates. Men like Phill Thompson, Tim McCombe and Graham Walker deserve recognition and honour for their unpaid, voluntary and skilled campaigning on behalf of their mates.

Yule makes no distinction between the service in Vietnam of national servicemen and regular soldiers. But he makes the essential point that there was a great deal of difference in their rehabilitation in Australia. A national serviceman, fighting in the jungle one day, might be back at work in bank or office a couple of days later. Mates on whom they had relied for life itself were lost to them. Read this wonderful book. It will open your eyes to a tragedy in the Australian story.

Michael McKernan is the author of *When This Thing Happened*, an account of one veteran's tragedy in Vietnam.



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.



Now this is interesting!



Ernie Newbold – Gives us an insight into DVA car allowances and NSW Licence info...

"G'day Paul,

My current car is the fourth Outback I have owned since the Land Cruiser was stolen in March 2013. The TPI war service pension from DVA allows me to buy a new car every two years or 40,000 kms. whichever comes first, exempt from GST and Stamp Duty and registration also GST free on parts.

Some manufacturers, including Subaru also offer National Fleet Discount to financial members of the T&PI Association. So, every two years or 40,000 kms. I've been getting a new car, they are always under manufacturer's warranty due to the fact that I replace them before the warranty runs out on each one and I don't get as far as the more expensive major service mileage and I haven't needed to replace tyres or batteries etc. this also means good trade in value at changeover time.

However, I may keep the current one a lot longer as Subaru have now discontinued the diesel engine option from the next model.

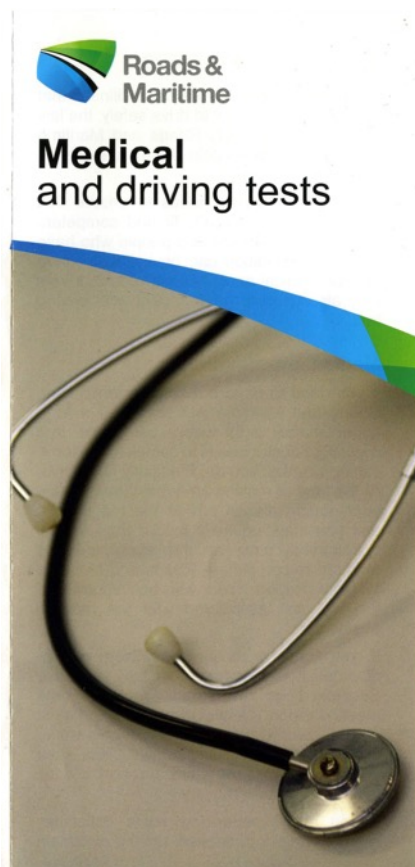
Previously I'd keep a car for a lot longer, nine to thirteen years was probably about the norm. I don't know what I'll eventually replace the current Outback with but I've got time to study the new car market over the next couple of years to see what comes along.

In NSW, once we reach the age of 75 we need to get a medical certificate from our GP stating that we are fit to drive once a year in order to keep our licence and after age 85 we also need to pass a practical driving test every two years.

Fortunately, I'm still OK with the annual medical certificate and hope to keep driving for some years yet.

The following is a copy of the RTA brochure detailing the requirements for driver fitness evaluation.

Regards, Ernie."



ALL LICENCE HOLDERS

If you have a long term injury or illness that may affect your ability to drive safely, the law requires you to notify Roads and Maritime Services as soon as possible. This applies to all licence holders.

Roads and Maritime needs to ensure that all drivers are medically fit and competent to drive. Older drivers and people who have a medical condition can be asked to have regular medical examinations. Some drivers may also need to have a periodical driving test.

Medical examinations

If you need to have a medical examination, Roads and Maritime will send you a form approximately eight weeks before the due date. Your doctor needs to complete the form, stating whether you are medically fit to drive. At the time of making an appointment to see your doctor, please advise the receptionist that you may require a longer than normal appointment time, as the appointment is required to complete a Roads and Maritime Medical Report. You will be responsible for any cost associated with the medical examination.

If you have a recognised vision or eye disorder, it is recommended that you have Section 1 of the Roads and Maritime medical report completed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist, before taking it to an appointment with your doctor. Once your doctor completes the medical report, please take the form to a registry.

If you are experiencing some difficulties when driving, for instance, driving at certain

times of the day/night or in some locations, you should discuss this with your doctor when you have your examination.

Driving test

If you need to pass a driving test as well as a medical examination it will be printed at the top of the form you receive from Roads and Maritime.

After your doctor has determined that you are medically fit to drive you can take a driving test. To make an appointment for your driving test you can book online at rms.nsw.gov.au or contact Roads and Maritime on 13 22 13, visit your nearest registry or Service NSW centre.

The publication *A guide to the Driving Test* explains what will be expected in the driving test. This publication is available from our website, registries and Service NSW centres.

Occupational therapist reviews

Before a licence is issued/reissued a doctor may refer drivers with serious disabilities, or long term illness to have an assessment with a driver trained Occupational Therapist to establish if any vehicle modifications, driving restrictions or special driving aids may be needed.

OLDER DRIVERS

All licence holders aged 75 and over

When you reach 75 years of age, you will need to have a medical examination each year to keep your licence. Roads and Maritime will send you a form approximately eight weeks before your birthday for your doctor to complete.

Class C (car) and class R (rider) licence holders aged 85 and over

When you reach 85 years of age, in addition to your annual medical examination, you are required to pass a practical driving assessment every second year (age 85, 87, 89 etc) to retain your unrestricted driver licence. If you no longer require an unrestricted driver licence you can opt for a modified licence removing the need for a driving assessment.

Heavy vehicle drivers (LR to MC)

If you have a licence to drive a heavy vehicle (LR to HC) you will also need to pass a driving test every year from age 80.

Multi-combination (MC) licence holders are required to pass an annual driving test from age 70 onwards.

Licence options

Modified licence

A modified driver licence allows you to drive in your local area where you are familiar with the traffic conditions. Modified licence options are based on your individual personal driving needs. The limits on the modified licence are negotiated with a Registry manager based on your essential weekly journeys. If your driving needs change, you can convert back to an unrestricted licence at anytime by passing a practical driving assessment.

Unrestricted driver licence

If you need to retain your unrestricted driver licence you are required to pass a practical driving assessment. You can choose to undertake either:

- an assessment from your home, conducted
- (continued overleaf)

by a licensed driving instructor approved by Roads and Maritime, these assessments are on a 'fee for service' basis,

or

- a driving test from a Roads and Maritime testing centre, conducted by a Roads & Maritime testing officer, these tests are at no cost to you.

Roads and Maritime tests are limited to three attempts every second year, but there is no limit on the number of driving assessments with an approved instructor. You may obtain the contact details of approved driving instructors from a Roads and Maritime registry, Service NSW centre, our website at rms.nsw.gov.au, or by calling 13 22 13.

You are free to switch between a Roads and Maritime test and a driving assessment with an approved driving instructor. However you should note that if you demonstrate extremely unsafe driving behaviours, your licence may be cancelled.

A guide to older driver licensing.

The publication *A guide to older driver licensing* provides more information on:

- how to continue driving safely
- your licence options, and
- the requirements of the practical driving assessment.

This publication is available from a Roads and Maritime registry, Service NSW centre, our website at rms.nsw.gov.au, or by calling 13 22 13.

Considering Driver Retirement.

If you are unable to continue driving, you should return your licence to a registry or Service NSW centre.

You may choose to exchange your licence for a NSW Photo Card at no fee.

For more information about driving with medical conditions, or disabilities please visit our website at rms.nsw.gov.au/licensing.

Roads and Maritime Services

The information in this brochure is intended as a guide only and is subject to change at any time without notice. It does not replace the relevant legislation.

For further enquiries:
rms.nsw.gov.au | 13 22 13

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. School of ARTY – Here are some sort of memories...

Allen Morley – explains how he didn't get to the School –

"Hello Paul.

I cannot provide a tale of my time at the School of Artillery. However, I can tell you why that is the case.

Near the completion of recruit training at Puckapunyal, the rectum of rural Victoria, I was advised that I would be heading for the School located near Manly. Quite an opportunity for a soon to be displaced 20-year-old Victorian who had never heard of the Canopus Room.

So, I joined the School group. "What are you doing Recruit Morley? I was asked. I explained that I was heading for the School. "No, you are not" said the voice of Army authority, "you are going to Holsworthy!" "Where the fxxk is that I naively asked?"

Guess where all my goodies were transported? Of course, I went to Holsworthy and my bits and pieces travelled to the School. Typical Army stuff up, one of many experienced in my two years' service.

I therefore had to endure ten days without my goodies. And 'home' was now an Army hut near the oval between Holsworthy Barracks and the Army prison. Wunderbara!

Consequently, the closest that I have been to the School since was in recovering the AN-KPQ 1 radar from North Fort several years ago. Sad, but true. Allen."

Ed – I cracked an Arty Sigs course there in '67. Even mucking around with the radio (had several warnings) was great just being perched on North Head with the view on 3 sides. For the life of me I can't remember who ran or was involved in the course – the memory is saying WO2 Percy Ovenden (somebody will remember?). The Saturday nights were a bit of a blur though – I do remember Doug Parkinson down at "Can" (Canopus Room) at the Pacific Hotel – not sure how we got back up the hill!



. Lanyards – just another curiosity unearthed while sniffing around...



Virtually nothing is written in authoritative text that either mentions a dress lanyard or details its early development except in the period immediately after World War Two. What little is known can be classified as modern myth. For instance, such stories have it that the lanyard was developed for the cavalry to bundle fodder for animals and later used by the artillery to hold various implements, when in fact nothing can be found to support these suggestions.

The word 'Lanyard' itself is commonly used to describe a short rope to hold something, and can therefore be used to describe various items in use by the military. For instance, a lanyard can be used to hold a knife or can opener and can even be part of the trigger mechanism of an artillery piece, but these items are not the forerunner of the modern day Lanyard.

Lanyard of the type worn today are first mentioned in military text within the British Army's Dress Regulation of 1900, which states, that all Officers of a unit should carry a whistle attached to a silk lanyard the same colour as the coat or jacket except for the Light Infantry which will wear a lanyard of dark green. This first mention gives a clear glimpse of the possible development of the lanyard, given that it was to be made of silk

and, for one select organisation, coloured. Given that the lanyard was made of silk, it indicates it was to be worn with dress uniforms to signify status.

The first mention of a lanyard in an Australian manual describes it as an item issued with a military clasp knife to enable it to be secured to the uniform to prevent loss. This type of lanyard was a simple piece of twine looped in the same fashion as a modern lanyard but coloured a natural brown or khaki. These lanyards were still issued to soldiers up until the 1980's and are not the forerunner of the lanyard used on the dress uniforms in more recent times.

Although not mentioned in the various Dress Manuals from Federation to the post-war period, photographs indicate that some Artillery units wore a dress lanyard as part of their formal uniform.

The lanyard was generally worn looped around the left shoulder with the loose end in the breast pocket. In 1920, the position was changed to the right side to simplify retrieval of the loose end from the pocket when a bandolier was worn. The practice of wearing lanyards, of various colours, on the right shoulder, applies to all members of the Australian Army except for Infantry Corps units and 'A' Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery who wear their lanyards on the left shoulder. Officer ranks colonel and above and senior regimental sergeant major's do not wear lanyards.

With the creation of the regular army in 1949, changes were introduced for the new permanent force. These changes included adopting new uniforms, Corps badges and other accoutrements styled on the sister organisations of the British Army.

During the early 1950's, whistles were introduced as an item of general issue to all ranks of the Corps of Staff Cadets and to personnel of the rank of sergeant and above. Whistles were attached to a coloured lanyard and worn round the right shoulder with the whistle placed in the top pocket. With their formal introduction in 1952, there were only seven different coloured lanyards in total, covering the nine Corps of the day with two being used by the Royal Military College Duntroon.

The number of Corps and Regiments had doubled by 1955 and many more colours were introduced. In the early days, these lanyards were not worn by the junior ranks of the army, however, within a very short period of time they were on general issue to all ranks.

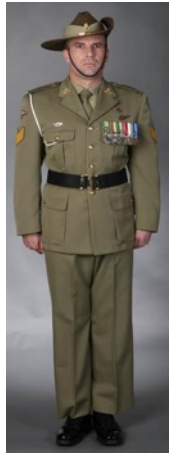
By 1963, the Dress Manual directed that the wearer may at his own discretion attach a whistle to the end of the lanyard that was again to be held in the top pocket. This is a clear link with the origins of the current dress lanyard reaching back in time to the first silk lanyard used for this purpose by the British Army.

Given the available evidence there can be little doubt that the humble dress lanyard started out its military service as a simple cord to neatly secure a whistle to the uniform.

Today's lanyards are worn with some forms of work and ceremonial dress but not all. Lanyards are not worn with field dress except by members of the Australian Army Cadets.

The Black Lanyard

The 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment's band received its drums on the same day as the death of King George VI. As an enduring mark of respect the drums were coloured black as was the battalion lanyard.



Mail Call...

. Ross Gunnell – “Read a lot but don't say a lot. So here goes.

I do enjoy greatly your informative writings and it is most welcome to be part of such a small group but by far large in mateship.

I have taken a while to come to you all. As you know certain elements of my character short circuited my tour at the DAT. I had trouble trying to cope for years, still a bit residual, as my return to Aus was very lonely and that all my mates were still under siege. Being in the West left me somewhat isolated and for 3months the army had lost me and if I had not run

out of money, who knows. Basically, I was void of all my schooldays friends work mates and of course like most no LADY friend. Guzder keep a tab on me no days and Bert and Mary have taken Kate and I sort of under their wings. The committee in NSW of obvious fact, I have a son there. Just ask Digs he has me covered. Victor has become a constant contact over the years since the 100-anniversary march. We are in a sense the same in that my differences with him which I held no secret actually gave us a mateship. All of 31Alpha are indelible on my mind.

Anyway, Paul I do now feel moving on has covered passed whatever/ifs.

2019 was the get off my arse time, finally my grandson came clean from drugs, my mother, at 95, joined dad above, and when death took me by the throat I was not ready for that shit, so I am here.

Part of my intestines and my bowel just gave up so I was surgically built a stomach to which a bag was stuck to be changed every 2 days for life. Wednesday the 10th this month the surgeons did another major op and redesigned and attached the intestine remnants, sort of, and apart from being sore and a 2 month convalescence I will be on deck again. To put the funny side to adversity, yesterday was the 1st FART I have had in 18 months.

The old saying **"IF YOU DO NOT COUGH SWEAT AND FART YOU ARE NOT HEALTHY."**

Paul, you do me proud to be your friend and 131 Div Loc

Thanks for your ear to day. Cheers, Rosco."

Ernie Newbold – "I got wind of Rosco's email and thought the following photo could tell a thousand words – the photo (at right) is of the 31A crew when they were temporarily posted to 31B at the Horseshoe while the 31B crew were away on an operation. Ross and the 31A crew during a quiet morning at the Horseshoe - Ross is the Gunner on the roof of the LP. Ernie."



"A quiet morning on the Horseshoe" LP / OP Bravo
L to R Gnr.J Reid, Gnr. A Goldsmith, Gnr. R Gunnell, Lbdr. V Danko
Long Hai hills in background to the south

. David Doyle – Photo of 31B The LP that spent the most time out of the Barb Wire with 1 RAR /5 RAR / 6RAR

"Left to Right Des Bury (Reg Gympie), Ged Carroll (NS Bankstown), Me - David Doyle (Reg Brisbane), John Robinson (NS Melbourne), Ralph Pearce (Reg Sydney). Never had any bad words with any one just a great bunch of guys to do time with and I would do it all again with them.



Keep up the great mag it is a delight to read and I know that it is treasured by all locators and more.
Kind regards, David"

. **Graham Williams** - "Hello Paul.
Hope things are going well for you over there.

Thought I would send you a couple of articles I came across recently. Up to you if you wish to use them or not.

The first is an article on an upcoming music festival to be held on the **Parade Ground at North Head**.



As for the second, was coming home from a surf at Greenmount a couple of weeks ago and noticed a herd of different boats (8) moored on the riverbank not far from my home. I intended to go back and check them out but got caught up at home and by the late afternoon when I finally got back the "ship" had sailed as they say.

The attached article came out in the paper several days later and all was explained. I thought perhaps the **"Cruising Creedons"** may look for an update for further adventures. A week after that came across one in the local caravan storage so took a few snaps (see attached) ...have never seen anything like it!





Also, I wanted to let you know what a great result with all the work that went into the finding and return of **Les Connell's** slouch hat in America. I served alongside Les at Bravo Radar in 69-70. A real feel good story.

A great read as well to peruse your recent story on **Ken Osborne**. Amazing what some people can do with their hands. His models are simply breathtaking so I take my hat off to him.

Keep up the great work with "Eyes and Ears" Paul. Dare I say it but were you an editor in another life?

O.K., that's all from me this time around and now time to feed and run the hounds. Stay safe.

Cheers, Graham."



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...

. **Darryl Musgrove** – "Hi Paul, good to hear from you. Nothing much happening in my neck of the woods at all. Still have to read "Eyes and Ears" which you posted at the beginning of the Month, so shows just how organised I am. Better luck next month. Cheers Darryl."

. **Bob King** – "Hi Paul,

Yes, the year is flying...

NSW has had no Covid cases for three weeks & things are slowly getting back to normal. However, I think it only takes one case & we will be back in lock down.

Bob..."

Phillip Mulgrew – "Hi Paul.

You have cold mornings in Mexico? I know you live up in the hills, but I thought Mexico was all cactuses and cantinas, with the odd El Chappo drug lord thrown in for good measure.

But seriously, I'm glad to hear you and Helen are well. We have been out and about a bit. Today we have just returned from the Queensland Museum to take in a special exhibition of marine dinosaur's fossils on the third level of the Museum. Very informative. Did you know that the inland of Australia, 110 million years ago, was an ancient shallow sea called the Eromanga Sea, and that was the time all of our marine fossils were laid down?

Enough of the science. The Museum, like most government facilities, have staggered entry times and you have to book a time to enter. Helen and I stayed a while after the exhibition and took in the rest of the Queensland Museum.

No masks, just social distancing and hand sanitiser at every corner.

We are looking at heading down to Victoria to see family and outlaws around the middle of May, Covid restrictions permitting. I'm not sure if we will drive or take a flight down at this stage. At that time of the year, we will have rug-up, and it will be interesting to see how we cope with the cold weather, especially around the Otways, Snow anyone?

Shortly here with the vaccine roll-out, we will get a vaccination certificate to prove that we have been inoculated against the latest rampant version of Covid, both on paper and on the mobile, (cell phone?). I can guarantee that certificate will be used for entry and denial of access to certain areas like some businesses, offices and the like, even state borders. All the same, I'll be lining up for my jabs when my turn comes.

All the best and stay safe. Phillip."

. **Vic Danko** – "Hi Paul,

I have a desktop iMac and an I Mac iPad etc. Early Jan I thought I saw an email from you wishing me a happy birthday. But then when I looked again, couldn't find etc etc.

And have not found since. And besides, I 'm not sure that I didn't already send you a thank you!!

Otherwise things are fine. I've "resigned" from the RSL NSW and will start more attention with 131.

Bought myself a Porsche and drive around playing golf. No Asian trips. Family is fine.

Regards, Vic."

. Iain Kennedy - "Paul,

Happy New Year to you also, both Janet and I are well.

Covid continues to control our lives, don't dare travel interstate. The borders close at a moment's notice, so only safe to travel within the state at the moment. Still cases getting out from hotel quarantine, causing changes in mask wearing, number of visitors, etc. The changes are every week, or so it seems, hard to plan anything with that uncertainty.

Anyway, we move on, have put two of my road bikes up for sale to cover the cost of buying a new one. This time I have gone for a road bike with electric assist. It's a little heavier than a normal road bike due to a motor and battery, adds an extra 6 kg. Australian rules restrict assistance to 25kph, but we can overcome that with a little software override.

Getting back out to eat at some of our regular eateries, but remember to do your QR code on arrival and hand sanitise coming and going. Some of these things will be with us a long time I think.

Going to keep it short as I need to go to Costco to get our fresh salmon for this weekend's Chinese New Year celebration, my wife's family celebrates with a big family gathering and lots of food. Diet starts next week.

Photo of my new Focus Paralane2 and me at bike shop (used to be part owner here)

Cheers, Iain"



. Harry Lynas – "G'day Paul

Great to hear from you. We are sweltering here at the moment, heaps of humidity and temps in the low 30's. So, at the moment even doing nothing we are sweating. Covid is still being kind to us in Qld and we have decided to open up Fort Lytton again. The big news is that on August First 1 Regiment RAA will be coming to the Fort for their part in the Salute for the 150th Birthday. Before that though, if everything pans out, LSTAA and 20 Regiment, RAA will be having an Open Day for families on 24th April and a BBQ at the Fort.

Still involved in a lot of the research on the Fort and its guns, recovered well after my hip replacement and learning to live without pain. No more pain killers and it is good to be able to walk again. No masks here at the moment but we had three days of it about a month ago.

Any way mate that is about it.

Stay Safe, Cheers, *Harry Lynas*"

. Al Adams – "Hi Paul,

I haven't been in touch for quite a while. With all of these lock-downs it's hard to make any plans.

I finished my radio-therapy late last year and won't know the full result for another few months. All is positive so far.

However, now I have come down with Polymyalgia which is being kept under control but the Doc said it could take 12-18 months to be fully controlled. I still manage to play golf but use an electric cart.

I have been going to the gym each week plus the RSL has a weekly exercise class that is run by the same gym. It has been a bit hit and miss with all of the restrictions but is starting up again next week.

Tonight, Vic finishes our 5-day lock-down, but full restrictions won't be lifted for another week. How are you coping in Mexico, do you have restrictions?

Everything is up in the air and is too difficult to make long range plans.

Hope this finds you and Helen in good health? Keep well.

Cheers, Al"

. Bert Jacka – "Hi De HO" - As you know, Victoria is again in lockdown, Tennis still competing without a live audience, (Australian Open) but the world-wide viewing rights would pay for all the expenses and probably provide adequate reward as well. (Ashleigh Barty going ok). From my family point of view, we are all well. Queensland seems to have eliminated Covid for now, our immunisation process starts later this month and then progresses country wide, probably take 6 months. In addition to this, all surrounding countries (I don't know them all but consider, Tonga, Samoa etc) will be covered by our Government Medical practitioners.

Have just purchased a new Honda CR-V for Ana, previous one was 6 years old and only had 50,000 Kms, it went to the daughter (Leonie). Our government subsidy does help in reducing the cost. Ana actually drives that, I have a Ute and it is my workhorse and daily driver. Weather has been good, warm to hot but ok at night, quite comfortable to sleep, some nights a blanket is needed, but not often, basically depends on the wind and weather conditions (not that I live in a tent). Our Cricket tour to South Africa has been cancelled, I understand that, health wise, I think we need world-wide inoculations before international sporting competitions can safely resume. While I hope that you are enjoying your overseas journey, I have no desire to leave our shore's, "I Still Call Australia Home" (Peter Allen) and am in no hurry to change our location.

As I get older, I find that I have less energy and along with that, less desire to do work around the yard. It is a half-acre, perhaps I need to downsize. Real Estate prices have gone crazy here this last two months, probably 10 to 15 %, absurd really, but that is what is happening. Prior to the pandemic, we had huge immigration annually, not now, and house building virtually stopped. Interest rates are at record lows, so borrowing is attractive for the employed. The house owning unemployed are tempted to sell to meet the rising house prices. There are no winners, just a lack of housing.

People have moved to the country for cheaper prices (including rentals) but the schools are having trouble coping with the increased numbers. It is just a self-generating problem that has no easy fix. It is not a matter of which government you support, the problem is too massive, for short term solutions.

Sad to hear that you are doing it so tough over there, I hope that your relative is in recovery mode and not causing transgression problems. Covid is just such a problem and very expensive to try and correct or restrain the flow. As a Country, we have been fortunate and lucky, being an Island does help and our closed borders offers protection other countries are unable to enjoy.

Ok, enjoy your evening and take care,
Seeya, Bert."

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

**What's going to be happening in your neck of the woods
for ANZAC Day this year?**

2020 – same, same? Let us Know.

Welcome to the January/February 2021 edition of e-news, which includes snapshots of articles that you'll find on the [Latest News for Veterans](#) page on the DVA website. They include:

News

Take our survey on [e-news](#) / [Say goodbye to MyAccount](#) / [Everyone has the right to have a safe place](#) / [VAPAC – helping veterans get the medicines they need](#) / [Changes to support mental and physical health of aged-care residents](#) / [Support for homeless veterans](#) / [Help to support veterans' children](#)

Health and wellbeing

[DVA's recovery program for post-traumatic stress](#) / [Veterans' Health Week 2020](#) / [Using technology to support mental health](#)

Features

[Don Spinks AM – Repatriation Commissioner](#) / [Kate Pope PSM – Deputy President, Repatriation Commission](#) / [WRAAF's greatest champion honoured with an OAM](#)

Commemorations

[Office of Australian War Graves – delivering on a solemn promise](#) / [Applications now open for Saluting Their Service grants](#) / [Anzac Day Schools' Awards keep it local in 2021](#) / [The Anzac Portal – a modern approach to learning about our military history](#) / [30th anniversary of Operation Desert Storm](#)

Ex-service organisation news

[42 for 42](#) / [Australian War Widows NSW](#) / [RSL LifeCare – tackling veteran homelessness](#)

Locator's Reunion Program

23/24/25th April 2021 15th Birthday of 20th Regiment RAA



CANCELLED

Russ Hamsey has advised us that this event has been CANCELLED.




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>

Presidential perambulations

February is finished and Easter seems just around the corner. Of course, the big news Downunder is the commencement of the Covid vaccine rollout. Our 131 Gunner cohorts will be early on the list of those receiving the vaccine.

We are told that the vaccine is not compulsory, however I suspect that there will be constraints applied in various areas for those who cannot show proof of vaccination. The media and politicians seem to delight in naming this 'the jab'. A bit like the term social distancing rather than the more accurate physical distancing.

My memory is still of being in the queue and walking through a door at Puckapunyal during recruit training to receive various injections to ward off bad bacteria and viruses. There was no option in those days for we Nashos.

This week sadly we lost one of our popular Association members. Des McGuiggan was what we described as our token Reg on the Committee. Des gave as good as he got from us Nashos and has been missed now for some time when his health deteriorated. Readers will have seen tributes to Des in the previous part of *Eyes and Ears*.

Regards, Allen



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/131divlocbtyraa>

. Upcoming Events Calendar –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 9th March, 2021 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.

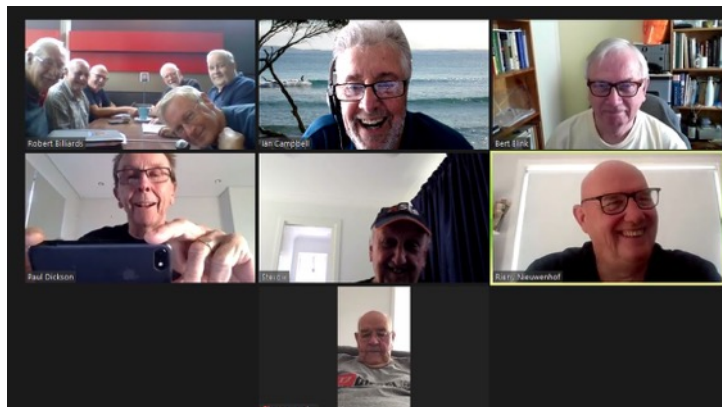
ZOOM arrangements will be advised.

. **Pertinent Points** – extracted from the 131 Locators Association Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, 9th February, 2021 at 1100hrs...

Attendees were: All left to right...

At meeting - Grahame Dignam, Ged Carroll, Allen Morley, Ian Amos, Ernie Newbold Bob Billiards – Gordon Malcolm came 7 seconds too late!

ZOOMers – Ian Campbell, Bert Blink, Paul Dickson, Steve Wynn, Rieny Niuenhoff, and Merv Nairn



Chairman President Allen Morley opened the meeting and welcomed those present and thanked those who had logged in from far and wide.

Financial Membership is currently ...**125**, plus Associates **2**, Affiliates **12** Total **139**. Plus Lapsed as at 1/2/2021 **34** members

Presidents report.

Allen advised that -

- . The Brisbane ANZAC DAY march committee has not yet finalized details. Further information will be advised.
- . The Dawn service on the grounds at 20 Regiment will go ahead with the usual entry conditions.
- . The next QLD LSTAA meeting will be late Feb when the 2021 final program including the 2021 Reunion, will be decided according to local Covid -19 protocols. Again further info to follow.
- . The official NSW ANZAC Day Dawn Service is held at the Cenotaph in Martin Place Sydney at 4.30am. The Dawn Service will be a ticketed event. We encourage you to commemorate locally or watch the service live on television. Other local arrangements will be advised.

. web Master Update...

Bob added additional information regarding Facebook to the web stats for our information. He advised members now are 192. The posts by members are very slow and we are all encouraged to post a photo of what you are doing to-day or a memory from years gone that will strike a chord with other members.

Health...

No one expressed any personal concerns apart for the usual age related aches. Merv Nairn advised that Des McGuiggan was now residing at the Moran Care facility in Engadine and wasn't too flash. The meeting resolved to send Des a card to remind him that he is remembered and being missed.

General Business and around the grounds...

Discussions ensued on the following:

- . **Bert Blink** – DVA Dr is still in the dark re vaccine injection – Anzac Day to by invitation only- Staff encouraged to return to Dept offices.
- . **Steve Wynn** - had an op. more to come - same lack of details re Anzac Day.
- . **Merv Nairn** – local Dawn service – more to come on Sydney City. Des McGuiggan is not the best. A good read if you can get it “Vietnam war on a tourist visa”
- . **Rieny Niuenhoff** – Geelong for the flag! Mentioned “The Long Shadow” deals with Vietnam era chemicals and PTSD etc. VVAA Vic reversed their stance and now supports Royal Commission on military Suicide history. Crowd control is a major incentive for VVAA. Private Anzac Day remembrances preferred.
- Bupa involvement in medical script issuance to be questioned.
- . **Ian Amos** – Covid restriction have eased at last.
- . **Dicko** – Covid activity still very restricted
- . **Gordon Malcolm** who is to undergo a shoulder recon. Recommended a 3 sided MRI machine at Blacktown hospital – no claustrophobic feeling.

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...March –

Name	Regt No	YoB	SVN In	SVN Out	Comments
EZIO LOMBARDO	216284	1946	20 05 1966	03 03 1967	
GEOFF HOLDEN	2785828	1945	12 09 1967	17 09 1968	
JAMES TOWNLEY Brig.	17072	1939	14 06 1963	22 06 1963	103 Fd Bty FARELF
" "			22 04 1966	19 08 1966	131
" "			30 04 1970	28 05 1970	HQ AFV † 10.02.70
PETER BENNETT	3794060	1948	26 08 1969	04 06 1970	
RIC. MARQUES	3790008	1946	10 06 1967	21 05 1968	
RAY SMITH	3787666	1945	20 05 1966	02 05 1967	
GRAHAME LEE	2787457	1947	23 04 1968	23 04 1969	
ROGER STANLEY	2788155	1947	08 11 1968	27 08 1969	
RALPH MITCHELL	2788073	1947	08 11 1968	27 08 1969	
JOE CLENDINEN	17648	1945	04 05 1967	30 01 1968	
GARRY LUSCOMBE T/SGT	243144	1942	22 04 66	09.05.67	RAEME
RODOLFO MARSANI	3796861	1948	20 08 1970	20 08 1970	131
" "			20 08 1970	05 05 1971	4 Fd Regt.
RUSSELL JACKSON	3793090	1945	24 02 1969	28 11 1969	

BARRY COOKE Sgt.	54886	1946	16 09 1968	24 09 1969	RAAOC
DES McGUIGGAN Sgt.	214722	1944	20 01 1970	21 01 1971	† 24.02.2021
BOB TANNER	6708362	1945	21 05 1966	28 04 1967	
PETER McKIE	2787728	1947	22 04 1968	23 04 1969	
JAMES FITZGERALD	2782044	1945	04 05 1966	29 04 1967	
GREGORY LUCAS	1735725	1949	20 08 1970	20 08 1970	131
" "			20 08 1970	29 10 1970	4 Fd Regt.
JOHN (JACK) HEYES	3791085	1945	05 12 1967	03 12 1968	
ALLAN CAMPBELL Sgt.	18257	1946	20 05 1966	11 12 1966	† 19.06.2009
" "			05 02 1968	31 03 1968	
WILLIAM ROSS BULLEN T/CPL	243083	1942	20 05 1966	18 11 66	RAEME † 13.08.83
NEVILLE WORTLEHOCK	54941	1947	29 04 1968	30 04 1969	
GEOFF LOCK	2782439	1945	20 05 1966	29 04 1967	† 09.09.10
VIC MOREAU	1200577	1939	22 04 1966	23 01 1967	† 09.02.19
ROY CLAUSCEN	214873	1941	20 05 1966	11 12 1966	
BRIAN CAMPBELL	2781310	1945	22 04 1966	30 04 1967	
BARRY FOLLINGTON	2783144	1945	12 12 1966	27 09 1967	
IAIN KENNEDY	3791023	1945	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	
RONALD ROBARDS	216900	1948	21 02 1968	21 02 1969	
GARRY SMITH	2792048	1947	15 04 1970	17 12 1970	† 19.01.12
MICK KING	216504	1948	04 05 1967	02 04 1968	
WARREN JAENKE	1735584	1946	20 02 1970	11 02 1971	
GREGORY PECK	2790401	1948	04 11 1969	04 06 1970	
DEREK HINDE	2787403	1947	01 07 1968	14 05 1969	
MARTIN KRYNTJES	5715291	1947	26 08 1968	04 06 1969	† 27.12.17
GARTH NICHOLS	216381	1948	{05 02 1968	11 02 1969	
" "			{05 11 1969	28 11 1969	1 Fd REGT
ROBERT HARGREAVES	2790343	1948	04 11 1969	04 06 1970	
GEORGE LANE	2781630	1945	04 05 1966	11 12 1966	
RAY AURISCH	2212243	1944	1969	1970	† 25.03.70
ERIC WINN	219656	1951	30 05 1970	07 08 1970	131
" "			07 08 1970	05 05 1971	4 Fd Regt.
JEFF REID	3790495	1946	26 09 1967	17 09 1968	† UNKNOWN
FRANK HALLIDAY Sgt.	215105	1937	02 01 1967	13 12 1967	RAEME
EDWARD CHASE	2782043	1945	04 05 1966	11 12 1966	
LESLIE CAHILL	2412281	1947	20 05 1966	30 04 1967	
GRAHAM HISLOP Sgt.	15290	1935	22 04 1966	03 03 1967	
PHILIP SHEEDY	4719418	1947	29 01 1968	21 01 1969	

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

Ed – 14 what, still that many blokes not highlighted – is anybody looking (except Ian Campbell)? Ok, someone's got to have a clue about one of these blokes!

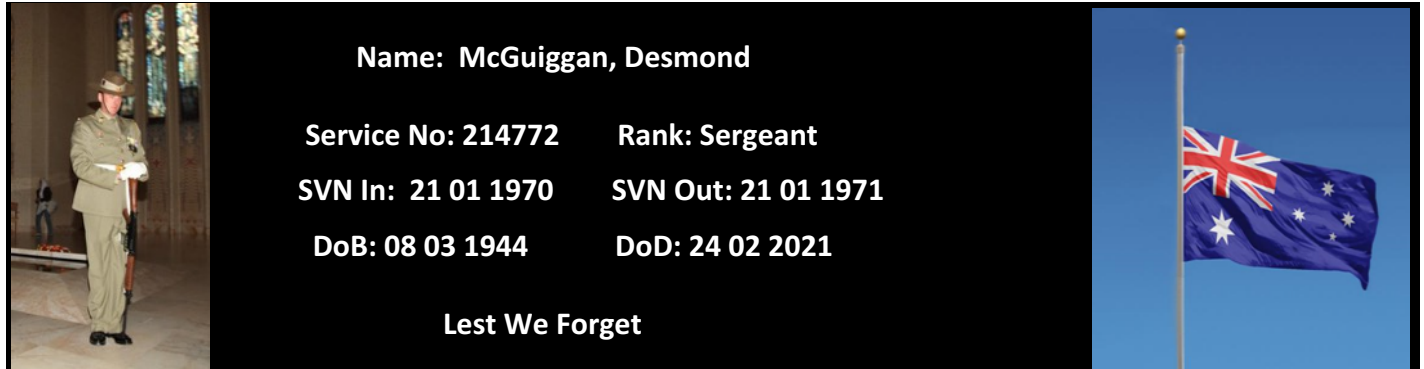
. **Locator Profiles** – we've received 165 and we've sent out 163 – I'll get 164 out next week (I archived it and ONLY just rediscovered it – talk about slack!) – no preview! 165 has just arrived!

. **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.

Ron Ryan – appeared on Facebook and Grahame Dignam is trying a connection. Ron was with us in SVN 1970-70. Watch this space!

. **Merv Nairn** informed us of Des McGuiggan passing at 0400hrs on the 24th February, 2021. Des had not been well for some time and Merv was a regular visitor...



David Doyle – “Hi All,

Thanks for the sad news on my old mate Des Mac we were in contact most of our post-Vietnam Journey, Des would come and stay up home with Lois and I. He even bought his ex-(Lyn) up and had a couple of days together.

He was living on borrowed time and he knew it.

I know that his last few months were not nice but he is at rest with himself and the rest of the world.

For an-ex Bird Gunner coming across to us Locators he had to change a lot in his thinking which to a certain extent he achieved. He did upset a few people in his travels but with Des it's what you see is what you get, no shit??

He loved to visit his Air Defence mates down at Woodside and we had planned a trip down there later this year when he got better I also was looking fwd to the trip to catch up with the Bird Gunners that I served with at the school for many years.

Des was always a very vocal person and in the mess of 4th Field Reg we had a Naval PO Called Vince who was big and black. Well, one night Des challenged Vince to an arm wrestle on one of those noggy alloy tables and guess what their elbows went through the top of the table and completely stuffed it much to the RSM Don Donkin's disgust (Don had to leave the mess he was actually laughing). When Vince left the mess, both had tears in their eyes from the friendship that they had for each other. They were the best of mates. I filled that void when I arrived in country on my second tour and we shared our duties with Arty Int the Anti Personal Radar at the Horseshoe and myself doing Survey sect as well. I will miss his phone calls and visits up here.

You can Stand Down Mission Complete Mate. DD”

Ernie Newbold – (a response to an email from Grahame Dignam) –

“G'day Grahame, yes he was a T&PI. That is where I first met Des, at the T&PI Assn meetings where he mentioned that he had stayed with **Dave Doyle** at Bellingen and that is when the penny dropped that he might have been involved with 131 Div Loc Bty during his military service.

It is sad to have lost another locator from our group.

Des was the Arty Int (Cracker Minor) Sergeant when he was at Nui Dat, same role as **Sgt. Trevor Waghorn** when we were there.

regards, Ernie.

p.s. - from memory, I believe Des served with 111 Anti-Aircraft battery in South Australia, so he was what is sometimes called a “bird gunner” prior to transferring to Holsworthy to be a part of 131 Div Loc Bty.”

Kevin Heenan – “Des was a well-respected SOLDIER. I was his driver, a number of times.”

Ross Gunnell – “I met Des at the luncheon in Sydney on Anzac Day 100 years celebration. He lived in Engadine not far from my son. He helped me not get lost and from then on, each time I visited my kids he would be always happy to see me and drink a couple at the Engadine Bowling Club. I will miss the next time we are safe to travel interstate. Lest We Forget. Rosco.”

. **Ian Campbell** updates the Honour Roll with the following information -

“Hi Paul, some more details to add to the Vale for one of ours.

VALE John Joseph (Joe) McNeill.

According to our records Joe served in SVN from 16/04/1968 - 14/05/1969 and worked in the 131

DIV LOC BTY(WKSP). RAEME – born Mackay

I spoke to Joe's widow Joyce and to a friend of theirs Maxine Godley who both provided a few snippets about Joe's post army life.



Joe was a member of the Farleigh RSL and also worked as an accredited DVA Pensions officer. He also, was very committed to his service with the Queensland Rural Fire Brigade at the Habana Rural Fire Station where he was a trainer and mentor for new volunteers.

Joe passed on 14 th November 2020 at the St Andrews War Memorial Hospital.

Picture of Joe with medals from his memorial web page.

Ian Campbell SVN 1971"

	Name: McNeill, John (Joe) Joseph		
	Service No: 18814	Rank: Corporal	
	SVN In: 16 04 1968	SVN Out: 14 05 1969	
	DoB: 13 06 1946	DoD: 03 11 2016	
	Lest We Forget		

. **Peter Ravelje** forwarded the following information -

Seven Australians Killed in Operation COBURG.

Today we pause to remember the life and service of seven Australians who were killed in Operation COBURG whilst serving in South Vietnam on the 18th of February 1968.

The men were killed during a mortar attack on Fire Support Base Anderson in the Bien Hoa province at 0115 on the 18th of February 1968.

The seven men were:

	National Serviceman Private Thomas Johannes de Vries Van Leeuwen, 22, married of Casterton, Victoria, 3 RAR.	
	National Serviceman Private John Alexander Doherty, 23, married, of Bendigo, Victoria, 3 RAR.	
	Sapper John Edgar Garrett, 21, single, of Ballina, NSW, 1st Field Squadron.	
	Sergeant Colin William McLachlan, 38, married, Cunungra, Queensland, 1st Field Squadron.	
	Lance-bombardier James Leslie Menz, 22, married, Buxton, Victoria, 131st Divisional Locating Battery.	
	Sapper David John Steen, 21, single, of Penola, South Australia, 1st Field Squadron.	
	Sapper Allan Graham Pattison, 19, single, of Kadina, South Australia, 1st Field Squadron.	
Lest we forget.		



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.

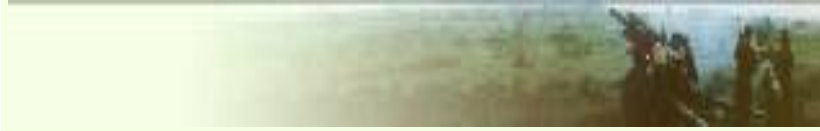
So, if you're a non-financial Associate receiving emails and the *Eyes & Ears* regularly you could bite the bullet and email Grahame Dignam:sectreas131locators@gmail.com and he could forward you the relevant forms to join - Memberships are available for 1 year or longer deposit a DONATION direct (add 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...this is not accessible.



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 Det 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



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

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

. VETERAN'S AFFAIRS WEBSITE

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

. 1st Battalion 83rd Artillery...



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

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



The Royal New Zealand Artillery Association

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

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

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