

THE EYES and EARS

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

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

Vol 16 No 05 May 2023 No 178

Official newsletter of the 131 Locators Association Inc ABN 92 663 816 973

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

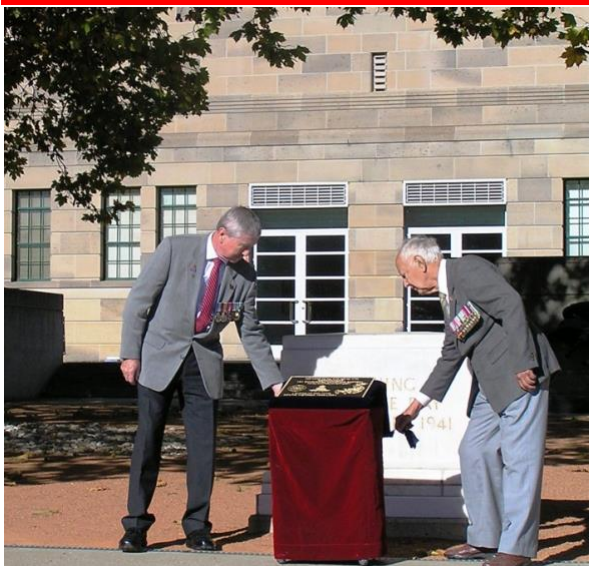
Supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs



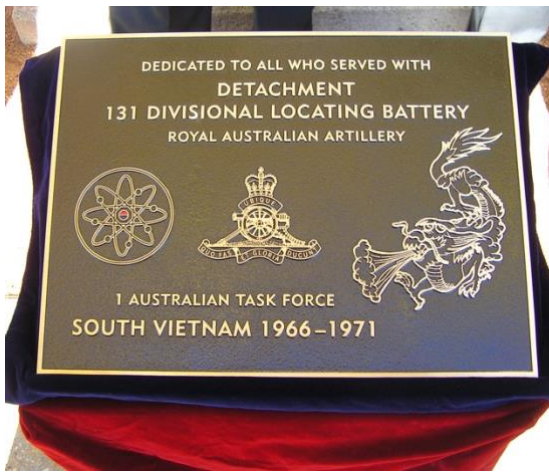
Detachment 131 Divisional Locating Battery RAA

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

2023 – 57 Years and the Detachment 131 Spirit Lives On: 1966 – 1971



4th May, 2012, some 11 years ago saw the Late Norm McManus and Peter Colman unveil Our plaque at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra...



The Plaque Unveiling Ceremony, which coincidentally happened on the 46th Anniversary of the Detachment putting their collective feet onto South Vietnam soil.

The Plaque in itself is dedicated to the Members of the Detachment, who served in South Vietnam from 1966 to 1971 however it can and is also an expression of gratitude and conscience to those Battery Members who supported us on Australian soil during this time.

The opening address was made by, the now Late, **Warwick Hamilton**



and the familiar words for the Ode were spoken by **Dave Doyle**.

Then in a pleasing generational and inter-service contribution **Tim Billiards**, son of **Bob Billiards**, SVN 1967-68, played the Last Post and Rouse.



Allen Morley closed with the thanks and farewell.



While ALL of us below watched on and enjoyed the ensuing comradery.



ANZAC Day – a continuing story...

. **Iain Kennedy** - "Paul,
Some photos from our Anzac Day in Glen Waverley run by local RSL,
Regards
Iain Kennedy."



. **John Vitkovsky** - "G'day Paul, Couple of pics attached from Dawn Service, Victor Harbor. Over 1000 attended. I am the second from the left wearing a hat, with South Coast Veterans mob. Cheers."



. **Barry Guzder** – Caught up with some photos from ANZAC Day...



Left - 10th Light horse leading parade
Right - Cadets with Aust. Flag



Servicemen marching (me
4th from right, Essendon jumper
behind!)
Me and memorial.



Gallipoli Pine planted (note
security screen)

. The 6th May saw the coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla – a new era begins.





The “Lost Locator Project”

This Project is being re-ignited for 2022.

Our current list contains the names of **117** Locators (as at 01.01.22) that we have not had contact with since basically commencing communications in 2012, so, we thought this year is as good as any to try and reduce this number.

However, this doesn't mean that we still have contact with the total number of Battery/Detachment members we have Located over time as continuing correspondence has lapsed in a lot of cases.

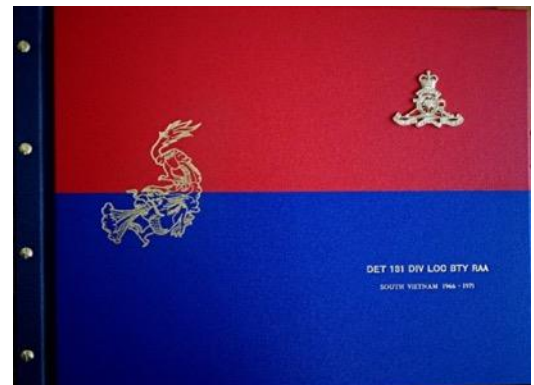
We regularly check bereavement/funeral notices and this does not locate members in the way we really want to. So, we're appealing for YOUR help in scouring all sorts of sources – local RSL's may not a good starter.

I can send you the total list of names or, if you prefer, by years in SVN to give you a starting point. I will keep an update and publish monthly results in *Eyes & Ears* and the Associations Facebook page on the web site.

Paul Dickson

Get in touch with me 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

Following on from this article in April's *Eyes & Ears* re: 'We are so sorry': PM apologises to Vietnam veterans...

It got Ed into reflection mode and prompted the following –

An *Eyes & Ears* Editorial

by Paul Dickson.

The article re: **50 Year Medallion and Certificate**, prompted some memory searching as to things Vietnam and what has transpired.

Let's start with some thoughts by dates...

1964 – The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal was issued by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam for service in the prescribed area of operations in Vietnam during the period commencing on 31 July 1962 and ending on 28 March 1973 for Australian personnel.

1965 - 1972 National Service...

The above award (now some 50 years hence) could be considered as somewhat discriminatory.



I'm looking at this from a National Serviceman's perspective, in recognizing Vietnam Veterans, whereas if you look at the following statistics: out of the 63,740 twenty-year old conscripted, 15,385 did a tour of duty and the 48,359 who served in the military, as support etc, are receiving NO recognition for serving their country. OK, a National Service medal was awarded in **2001**, which was a bit of a stretch in time too!

1968 - The **Vietnam Medal** was instituted in 1968 and awarded for service in Vietnam between 29 May 1964 and 27 January 1973. Service from 24 December 1962 until 29 May 1964 was recognised by the General Service Medal 1962 with clasp SOUTH VIETNAM.



1973 - The Voting age for Australians was reduced -

"The Parliament passed the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1973 to lower the voting age to 18 through an amendment to the Electoral Act, the imperative was clear. Several recent wars had been fought and the number of 18 to 21 year old who lost their lives or were seriously injured was significant.

How would you have voted back in the Federal Election held 26th November 1966 if you were legally able to?

1987 – In the following fifteen years post-Vietnam War, the Detachment lost 12 Members (based on available data) during that period.

These losses were not because of old age.

How long did it take for the Government to recognize that trauma possibly caused some of these deaths? Even RTA'ing added to this weight.

1987 – Why did it take the Government some 13 years after the end of the war to organise the 'Welcome Home Parade'? We waited far too long for a very proud day.

1997 - The Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 was approved in 1997. It may be awarded for service in, or after 1945, in connection with prescribed warlike operations from 3 September until 13 February 1975.



2001 - The **Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal** was introduced in 2001 to recognise those who completed their obligation under the two National Service schemes that had operated in Australia between 1951 and 1972.

Eligibility for the medal is dependent upon a person's obligation to serve and upon this obligation being fulfilled under the National Service Act 1951 (As Amended), as it applied to the individual at the time of his service. Additionally, he must not have been discharged for disciplinary reasons. Women were not conscripted under the National Service Act.



2006 - The Australian Defence Medal recognises Australian Defence Force personnel who have enlisted for an indefinite period and rendered four years qualifying service; or enlisted for a fixed period and completed the specified period of enlistment, or a period of four years, whichever is the lesser. Qualifying service is counted by enlistment/appointment year - 12 months from your enlistment/appointment date - not calendar or financial year.



2016 - 21 Vietnam Veterans were repatriated from military graves in Malaysia and Singapore. Why did this take so long?

2018 - The granting of the Unit Citation of Gallantry (UCG) for units involved in battles of Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral back in 1968. Even, as at 2018, was it clear that the Detachment would be awarded the Citation. Again, some 50 years had elapsed.

2023 and still ongoing - The **Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (RVCM)** – This medal was awarded to Service Personnel for serving more than six months (181 Days) in the Vietnam War.

The Medal was created by Executive Order 11213, July 8, 1965. It is awarded to all service members of the armed forces who between July 4, 1965 and March 28, 1973, served in the following areas of Southeast Asia; Vietnam and the contiguous waters and airspace; Thailand, Laos, or Cambodia; or the airspace thereof and in the direct support of military operations in Vietnam who served for six months in South Vietnam during the period March 1, 1961 to March 28, 1973.

How discriminatory the decision was, that there was no consideration for those who served in a theatre of war for one day up for those who served, in many cases, days/hours short of six months!

Should we, perhaps, return the Medal awarded in protest to this discrimination.

I know mates who served with me and were returned home with less than the mandated time period agreed upon in 1973, well after they had served! They've marched alongside me not being recognized equally. Civilians have enquired as to why the medal count is different.

Times of war were bad enough, but official reactions are made so convoluted and tedious by monumental discussions. This editorial is not just for those who served, but for the families who lived and continue to live through all of this.

A Reflective Thought with regards to Vales as we progress on in years.

The following table reflects Members passings over the years since our 'journeys' into South Vietnam which began back in May 1966.

It reflects on 10 year periods since, and including, 1966. The figures speak for themselves, and if you exclude deaths in SVN, of which there were two, the initial period does show a dark period considering the ages of our mates.

10 Year Detachment/131 Battery Death Periods

										<u>Total</u>
1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	
1	0	2	1	2	0	3	0	1	0	10
1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	6
1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	
0	0	2	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	9
1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
3	2	2	2	0	3	2	1	2	2	19
2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
0	5	3	5	3	9	6	6	6	3	46
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
8	4	5	4	6	7	9	5	0	0	48
Unknowns*										9
Total										147

Please note that these figures represent data provided by Members, from what was, and is stated to be reliable sources (official notices/family/mates etc). Data as at 27.04.2023.

*Unknowns – Sadly, we have only been advised of the Members' passings only.
Here are the names and details –

Name	Rank	Regt No	Section	SVN	DoB	DoD
Broadbent, William				N/a	24.09.?	Unknown
Holmes, William John	SSGT	61040		1969	09.02.37	Unknown
Fawcett-Smith, Neil	Sgt	17732	RAEME	67-68/70-71	29.06.42	Unknown
Lempa, Helmut	L/Bdr	38120	Radar	1966-67	18.10.46	Unknown
McNaughton, Quentin			Catering Corp	N/a	N/a	Unknown
Pearce, Ralph William	Gnr	214806	Radar	1966-67	16.06.45	Unknown
Reid, Jeffrey Leonard	L/Bdr	3790495		1967-68	29.03.46	Unknown
Robinson, Edward "Ted"	WO2		Radar	N/a	N/a	Unknown
Self, Christopher	Gnr	66981	33 Dental Unit	1969-70	14.12.49	Unknown

If you can help in any way to update this data it would be greatly appreciated – You can send information to Paul Dickson at email 131eyesandears@gmail.com Subject: Vale update

Ed - As a closing thought, can we give some thought to completing Locator Profiles, which do add a personal background and also keeping in touch as it keeps us up to date with you and mates.

AN INVESTIGATION

181 Days



. The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (RVCM)

This is just a continuing update with regards to the progress being made with the submissions on behalf of Defense Force Members, who for no reasons of their own, were not awarded The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (RVCM) –

“G’day Paul,

The message hasn’t changed since last month’s update.

We are waiting on the completion of Senate Estimates after which we will go into bat again - a little bit harder. This Minister has had my appeal submission for almost twelve months.

Cheers Richard.

Richard Barry OAM.”

Paul Dickson

“Nothing ventured, nothing gained.”

Mail Call...

. **Grahame Dignam** – sent in the following item –

“Nick (**Nick Proskurin**) sent me a pic of Ern (**Ernie Newbold**) taken at the Canterbury Bankstown RSL on ANZAC DAY. He was front page news!!!!”

CELEBRATING ONE HUNDRED YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Can Bankstown Torch • Wednesday, 3 May, 2023 • Volume 104 • Issue 16

Old, young in Anzac tribute to bold fallen

❑ Veterans were joined by school students, politicians, dignitaries and members of the public for Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Sub-branch's moving ANZAC Day service.

COMPLETE with pipers, the didgeridoo, wreath-laying and the 23 Field Battery, 9th Regiment in attendance, Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Sub-branch have staged a moving ANZAC Day tribute. In keeping with their ANZAC traditions, the service - outside Bert Crook Me-

morial - opened with Uncle Brendan's 'Welcome to Country' and was hosted by students from Canterbury Girls and Boys High Schools who shared their important 'younger generation' perspective on the day.

Ashbury Primary School Choir performed Australia's and New Zealand's national anthems and their band joined the choir to perform throughout the Gunfire breakfast which followed.

Continued page 7



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...

. John 'Kanga' McFadden – “Wow Dicko!

Hats off to the both of you! That was some 3 weeks!

I have seen that Gallipoli display in Te Papa. Good to take in the Kiwi side of ANZAC.

Of the day itself, very quiet here. An early rum & milk to honour Gnr Mac, Mick & Rob, then a true dawn service with the scent of rosemary reminding me of you all.

Did watch the Sydney March and found 131 slotted in after anti-aircraft???

Keep Safe, Keep Well

Kanga.”

. **Ron Mason** – “Hi Paul, what a whirlwind trip, makes our coming weekend look very tame. Bus from Shepparton to Phillip Island for 2 nights, traveling with a group of Vietnam Veterans. Will spend some time at the VV Museum - reason for trip.. And hopefully a bit of time just relaxing, sipping coffee or something out of a glass maybe.

Life has been pretty quiet really with no major trip around the country. So far we have managed to avoid the "Covid" - the rules are very relaxed now, only masks at the doctors or hospital & aged care. I guess you found that in Sydney & elsewhere. Looks like you had to fly into the US on the way home. Did you drive or fly from there?

Anzac Day is done & dusted for another year - close to 200 at the Dookie memorial which was quite a good turn out for a small town.

That's about it for the time,

Stay safe

Ron M.”

. **Darryl Musgrove** - “Hello Paul, thanks for your contact.

Happy to hear that your trip “Downunder” was so successful, and that you have survived. Sorry I could not get to Platform 26 at the Exhibition – that was one of my watering holes during a working life spent mainly at Central Station, across the road. Maybe next time.

All is quiet here for a while, Anzac Day has been observed once again, and Battles of FSB Coral this month to be remembered at Ingleburn RSL club. Time to enjoy being alive while we can. Cheers.”

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

An Introduction to an upcoming events this year...

Battle of Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral 55th anniversary...(extracted from ‘CONTACT’ Magazine)

55 years ago today, Australian and New Zealand forces were attacked, resulting in their largest battle of the Vietnam War – the Battle of Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral.

25 Australians lost their lives in the 25-day battle.



Australian and New Zealand Forces were setting up bases to defend Saigon when they were attacked in the early hours of 13 May 1968.

An Australian artillery battery, its mortar platoon and machine gunners were subject to intense fire.

First light revealed the aftermath of the overnight attack – nine Australian soldiers killed in action, with a further 28 wounded.

Over the next 25 days, another 16 Australian lives were lost.

FILE IMAGE: A 102 Battery gun in action at Fire Support Base Coral. AWM P01770.015

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Matt Keogh said today, we honour those who lost their lives in combat and we commend the bravery of all those who served in the defence of our nation during the Vietnam War.

"The Battle of Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral, during the Vietnam War, must never be forgotten," Minister Keogh said.

Throughout 2023, the Australian government is recognising the contribution of our Vietnam veterans, their service in Vietnam and their role as integral members of the ex-service community in the decades since the war.

On Vietnam Veterans' Day, 18 August 2023, a national commemorative service will be held at the Vietnam Forces National Memorial in Canberra to recognise the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War. For more information about the service and the 50th anniversary, visit the [Department of Veterans' Affairs website](#).

...read on for our Associations upcoming activity –

50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War...



An Invitation

An event to commemorate the **50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War** is one of the last opportunities to gather as a large group.

Your 131 Locators Association has decided to organise a Reunion for those interested in marking the date.

Consequently we are asking for "expressions of interest" for those interested. **Please reply to this post** with your name and details to sectreas131locators@gmail.com

The usual places of interest will be available but no other unit activities are planned at this stage. Social gatherings at local venues are encouraged e.g. The Ainslie Football and social club which is nearby.

Association accommodation and dinner venue will be at the Pavilion on Northbourne Avenue, Canberra.

You may arrange your own accommodation of course. However, If you wish to stay at the venue the information required is:

Full Names

Number of persons

Number in rooms /beds required (if a family)

arrival date and departure date

Attend Reunion Dinner on 18 August in the Pavilion venue (full details to be further advised) Yes, No, How Many

The Association will not be responsible for any accommodation costs or other personal costs as these are to be borne by those attending.

Please keep the date in mind but early responses will help with room bookings in the venue.

As soon as more details are available (Room rates and Diner costs) they will be provided to those interested .

An Advance Calendar Notice...1st July, 2025

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY!!!

An email from **Keith Ayliffe** -

"G'Day All,

It has come to my notice and discussed with members that 'Locating Artillery' under its various disguises will reach 100 years of service in Australian Artillery.

I have notified the RHAAC, who agree and John Cox, Chairman of the RAA Regimental History Committee, through Paul Landford who is preparing a decision brief to the Executive Regimental Committee (on behalf of the RAA Assoc) in order for a recognised origin date of Locating Artillery to be formally added to the RAA Regimental calendar.

John will further consult with the Head of Regiment Staff for their advice on how formal progression for a decision might best occur. We will be advised as soon as the way ahead is determined.

So Please mark **1 July 2025** down as a 'must do day'.

I am "assuming although not confirmed" this could be our next reunion date.

Thank you."

Keep your eyes on this space for further information s it comes to life.




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, Vic Nth – Ron Mason, WA - Barry Guzder
<http://www.131locators.org.au>

50 Years
April 1966 - April 2016



The Memories Remain
1966 - 2016

find us on
Facebook

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

Association Meeting, Date: Tuesday, 9th Mayl, 2023 at 1105hrs...

. **Pertinent Points** – extracted from the 131 Locators Association Committee meeting...

Attendees were:
 Allen Morley, Grahame Dignam, Ged Carroll, Ernest Newbold Ian Amos, and Gordon Malcolm

Zoomed members were.
 Ron Mason, Paul Dickson, Terry Erbs, Bert Blink, Steve Wynn, Rieny Nieuwenhof and Laurie Sawyer

Apologies: Nick Proskurin, Merv Nairn, Bob Billiards, Kevin Browning, George Lane, Warwick Brooker other State Reps and Jim Fitzgerald



Financial Membership is currently ...**128**, plus Associates **2**, Affiliates **15** Total **145**. Lapsed **31** members

Presidents report.

Allen referenced -

. The Association established in 2009, with our roots in SVN 1965-73 needs to be aware of our “end of life” relevance and contribution to our Locators as we near the end of our rainbow. The issue has been raised before but we weren’t ready to address it then. Now we can work toward an orderly winding up after celebrating some more milestones. Watch this space.....!!

. July 2025 marks the 100 th anniversary of “Locating in the Australian Army” and a major reunion is mooted for Ennogerger Qld. It would include a dedication of the Shadow UAV as its’ focus and also encompass the IRAQ and Afghanistan operations. Again, we will have more information as time passes.

. Webmaster Update.

In Bobs absence Grahame reported Facebook now has 351 members but needs more content. Ern Newbold is doing his bit with some birthdays and other milestones.

Health Report:

Rieny Nieuwenhof mentioned the “Veterans Benefits” website. If you haven’t yet visited the link is here:

<https://veteranbenefitsaustralia.com/>

General Business and around the grounds:

Discussions ensued on the following:

. **Ron Mason** visited Philip Island Museum recently and was hoping to gather information on the State of the VCAT claim against the Museum utilizing its new site. However, no one of authority was available.

. **Terry Erbs** mentioned that the new banner did not make the Brisbane AD march. There also was an issue with the readability of the banner to do with the manner it was held whilst in motion. More support was believed to be the issue.

. **Rieny Nieuwenhof** - Geelong held a commemorative service on 13 May re the end of the SVN conflict

<https://timesnewsgroup.com.au/surfcoasttimes/news/geelong-to-host-vietnam-war-commemoration/>

. A vet’s hub will be established at Mt Hotham Vic

. **Ian Amos** has reported that a re-routing of the Sydney Anzac Day march is being suggested by his local RSL Sub-branch.

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.

. Upcoming Events Calendar –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 13th June, 2023 at 1100hrs

Venue: to be advised

Also, available via Zoom link to be advised



. Birthdays in the Battery...June –

DATE	NAME	Regt No	SVN In	SVN Out	Comments
1	GEOFFREY SULLIVAN	3798292	02 12 1970	03 05 1971	131
	" "		03 05 1971	20 10 1971	12 Fd Regt.
3	ALLAN MACLEAN Capt.	32203	24 05 1967	28 06 1967	RAEME † 24.06.2013
5	PETER DEALY	3411983	18 02 1968	21 02 1969	
5	JAMES LOCKHART	6709144	03 06 1969	21 02 1970	† 12.04.2014
5	VITO CICCOLELLA	2791669	16 12 1969	17 12 1970	
6	JOHN I'ANSON	2787424	12 04 1968	16 04 1969	† 18.01.2023
7	BRUCE IRVINE	2783695	04 05 1967	20 02 1968	
8	EDWIN FIELD Sgt.	242577	22 04 1966	31 07 1966	RAEME † 20.07.1996
10	KEITH WHITE	2783029	17 04 1967	13 12 1967	AACC
12	IAN AMOS	2785676	12 09 1967	17 09 1968	
12	LAWRENCE SAWYER	3787393	04 05 1966	03 03 1967	
13	JOHN JOSEPH MCNEILL	18814	16 04 1968	14 05 1969	† 14.11.2020
14	PAUL BUSS	2781443	22 04 1966	28 04 1967	† 28.09.2011
15	KARL DOEHRMANN Sgt.	38119	{20 05 1966	29 04 1967	† 10.08.2009
	" "		{28 01 1970	27 08 1970	
15	EDWARD WEBB	29964	27 01 1970	21 01 1971	
16	RALPH PEARCE	214806	22 04 1966	30 04 1967	† Unknown
18	ROGER WHITTAKER	2184592	19 08 1970	05 08 1971	† 01.12.08
20	JOHN CHILTON	215855	09 12 1968	03 12 1969	
23	WILLIAM PRENTER WO1	64258	22 04 1966	07 06 1967	RAEME † 01.10.97
	" "		20 08 1970	09 06 1971	4 Fd Regt
25	PAUL BUTCHER	3411454	01 04 1969	25 03 1970	
26	LINDSAY MEAD	3790714	27 03 1968	26 04 1968	
26	GERRY CARROLL	2781311	20 05 1966	29 04 1967	

28	BARRY COLLINS	2793213	20 08 1970	20 08 1970	131
	" "		20 08 1970	07 03 1971	4 Fd Regt.
	" "		08 03 1971	09 06 1971	12 Fd Regt.

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

Ed – 4 blokes not highlighted is sort of OK, but a small nudge could help for them! Ok, let's get into it and actively get out there locating a few more!

. **Locator Profiles** – we've received **175** and we've sent out **175**. Ed – Maybe we need to draw in a deep one so as to hold our breaths for a while longer.

. **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...**

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



LOCATING, SURVEILLANCE & TARGET ACQUISITION ASSOCIATION

The Eyes and Ears of The Battlefield



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



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](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

All material that is included in Eyes and Ears, official Newsletter of the 131 Locators Association Inc remains the property of 131 Locators Association for its sole use. Prior written authorisation for the use of any material whatsoever contained in the Newsletter must be sought from 131 Locators Association Inc. Any material approved for use by third parties must acknowledge 131 Locators Association Inc as the source. No responsibility is accepted for unsolicited manuscripts, illustrations or photographs, or for the accuracy of information contained in the text of Eyes and Ears.