

THE EYES and EARS

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

Editor: Paul 'Dicko' Dickson email: 131eyesandears@gmail.com Vol 19 No 02 February 2026 No 211
 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



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

**Detachment 131 Divisional
 Locating Battery RAA
 South Vietnam 1966 – 1971
 2026**

**60th Year and the Detachment
 Spirit Remains**



Republic of Vietnam Cross of
 Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation
 Awarded to those who served
 with the Detachment
 from 01.04.66 – 19.08.71



"Sunny" Morning - 31B



Call that an "office"!



Where were the suits!



Steam releasing!



75th anniversary of
 National Service
 1951-1972

**February 14th, 2026
 - 75th Anniversary
 - National Service Day**



On National Servicemen's Day, 14 February 2026, the Australian Government held a national commemorative service in the Great Hall at Parliament House in Canberra, marking 75 years since the 1951 National Service Scheme commenced.

Background

National service refers to two conscription schemes for the armed forces that operated during the Cold War. Both schemes saw young men conscripted into Australia's armed forces for full-time and part-time service. Those who served in the national service schemes were affectionately known as 'Nashos'.

The National Service Training Scheme (NSTS) ran from 1951 to 1959. It required nearly all 18-year-old males to be registered for national service and undergo between 3 and 6 months of full-time training in one of the armed services followed by a part-time service commitment in either the Royal Australian Naval Reserve, Citizen Military Force, or Citizen Air Force.

The National Service Scheme (NSS) ran from 1965 to 1972. This scheme required males turning 20 and resident in Australia to register for potential national service and then men were selected for national service by a ballot system. Those selected were required to complete 2 years of full-time service with the Australian Regular Army or six years of part-time service in the CMF. Nashos in this scheme could serve in Australia or overseas, including in Vietnam, Malaysia (including in the Indonesian Confrontation), Singapore, and Papua New Guinea.

Over 280,000 young men were called up for national service between 1951 and 1972 with the last Nashos discharged in 1974. More than 200 died on active service overseas and others died while serving in Australia. Although many young men were proud to serve their country in uniform, national service came at a personal cost for all Nashos, irrespective of the nature and location of their service.

The National Service Training Scheme 1951 to 1959 (and other eras) - just a look back in comparison to the Conscription era we were involved in...[information extracted from the National Archives of Australia (NAA)]

In the context of the intensification of the Cold War in Europe, Communist insurgency and success in South-East Asia, and the declaration of war in Korea, the Menzies government sponsored the *National Service Act 1951*. The legislation provided for the compulsory call-up of males turning 18 on or after 1 November 1950, for service training of 176 days. Trainees were required to remain on the Reserve of the Commonwealth Military Forces (CMF) for five years from initial call up. Men could nominate the service in which they wished to be trained. Those nominating the Navy or the Air Force were considered only if they volunteered for service outside Australia. The first call-up notice was issued on 12 April 1951.

Between 1951 and 1959 over 500,000 men registered, 52 intakes were organised and some 227,000 men were trained. In 1957 National Service with the Navy and the Air Force was discontinued. Registration remained compulsory, but the intake to the Army was cut to almost a third (12,000 trainees) by instituting a ballot for selection. On 24 November 1959 Cabinet decided that National Service call-ups should be terminated and that arrangements for the January 1960 intake would be cancelled.

From 1951 to 1959, Australia's first National Service Training Scheme saw around **500,000 young men register**, with approximately **227,000** ultimately called up for compulsory military training in the Navy, Army, and Air Force, completing 176 days of service across 52 intakes before the scheme ended in late 1959.

In Australia's **1965-1972 National Service Scheme**, out of over **800,000 registered 20-year-old men**, approximately **63,000 were conscripted**, with about **15,300 serving in Vietnam** and the rest in Australia, facing service under the "birthday ballot" system until the scheme ended in 1972, notes Anzac Portal and the National Servicemen's Association of Australia.

Let's take a step, or several steps, back to...

Australia's 1911 -

Universal Service Scheme (part of the Citizen Military Forces) made military training compulsory for males (initially **12-26**, later 18-60), with roughly **175,000 boys and young men potentially involved by 1915**, though many were exempt or resisted, leading to thousands of prosecutions, but actual overseas AIF enlistment during WWI remained voluntary, a key point of national debate.

Key Figures & Context for the 1911 Scheme:

Compulsory Training: The scheme brought in compulsory military training, but it was primarily for training within Australia, not overseas service during World War I.

Numbers & Participation: Around **350,000 boys were eligible (ages 10-17)**, but about half were exempted or didn't register, leaving roughly **175,000 potentially involved by late 1915**.

Resistance: The scheme faced significant opposition, resulting in about **34,000 prosecutions** and **7,000 detentions** of those who refused to comply between 1911 and 1915.

Voluntary AIF: The Australian Imperial Force (AIF) for overseas service during WWI was **entirely voluntary**, with over **52,000 men enlisting by the end of 1914**, driven by patriotism, adventure, and pay.

While the 1911 scheme aimed for universal training within Australia, it's distinct from the large-scale, voluntary overseas deployments of WWI and later conscription schemes (like 1950s and 1960s Vietnam era), with participation numbers reflecting training, exemptions, and resistance rather than overseas combat numbers.

<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>

In short:

The government has identified 67 defence sites which are lightly used or vacant for potential sale.

The list includes high-profile properties including the **Victoria Barracks in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.**

It could raise up to \$1.8 billion as the ADF tries to address critical capability gaps and redirect investment.

Paul Dickson - I find this situation to be devastating - what does the Government have planned once these funds have been spent! Surely they, the Federal Government, could find a far more meaningful use of these three establishments.

They are **HISTORIC**... for example - Sydney's Victoria Barracks, are a significant example of Australian military architecture built from sandstone between 1841-1848, (**185 years ago!**) replaced older, inadequate facilities to house British troops, later becoming a key hub for colonial and then Australian forces, serving as a vital military base, training ground, and symbol of defence history, remaining active today with heritage buildings and housing headquarters like Land Command, as per the Australian War Memorial.

I served at the Victoria Barracks, Sydney, in 1968 to train for a Cenotaph Ceremony march, no doubt, like others of you.

<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>

Waterfalls appear on Uluru after Red Centre soaking...amazing!

Yulara Airport, located near Uluru, collected just over 16 mm of rain during the three days ending at 9am local time on Thursday, with most of this falling from Tuesday afternoon into Wednesday morning (10th-11th Feb). While this may not seem like a lot of rain, it's more than one month's worth of rainfall for Uluru at this time of year.



The waterfalls were flowing at Uluru today!
This is Kantju Gorge,



Give me a Name?

The “Lost Locator Project”

This Project is being re-ignited for 2025 and beyond.

Our current list contains the names of **86** Locators (as at 28.02.2026) that we have not had contact with since, basically, commencing communications in 2012, so, we are going to focus a little more on this programme to try and reduce this number.

Let's have a look at March's Birthday List, below, where there are 6 Detachment and Battery Members listed as Lost Locators – see the names below.

So, we've done some great discoveries with Members Dates Of Death, I'm hoping we might muster some enthusiasm for this difficult task. I've added some more details as to full DoB's and places of birth according to the DVA Nominal Roll for, maybe, some help.

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 have 252 recipients (Association).** 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 be a good starter.

Date	Name	Regt No	DoB	SVN In	SVN Out	DVA Location
3	Roger Anthony Stanley	2788155	1947	08 11 1968	27 08 1969	Arncliffe, NSW
20	Ronald John Robards	216900	1948	18 02 1968	21 02 1969	Waratah, NSW
21	Michael Gordon King	216504	1948	04 05 1967	02 04 1968	Sydney, NSW

25	Robert Wallace Hargreaves	2790343	1948	05 11 1969	04 06 1970	Tumut, NSW
27	Kenneth Eric Winn	219656	1951	30 05 1970	06 08 1970	Marrickville, NSW
	" "			07 08 1970	05 05 1971	4 Fd Regt.
31	Graham Leslie Hislop Sgt.	15290	1935	22 04 1966	03 03 1967	Casino, NSW

Get in touch - the Association will always be interested.

. Unknown/Known Dates of Deaths continues to be updated...as at 28.02.2026 –

A continuing 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

1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	Total
1	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	7
1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	
0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	8
1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	
0	0	2	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	10
1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
3	2	2	2	0	3	2	1	3	1	19
2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
1	4	4	4	2	9	4	6	6	3	423
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
9	5	5	5	6	8	11	14	10	11	84

Total 170

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 28.02.2026.

If you can help in any way to update this data it would be greatly appreciated – You can send information to the Association, it'll always be appreciated.

Paul Dickson

...continuing investigations –



131 Locators
"Cold Case Division"
 The Eyes & Ears of the Force

Detective Inspector John "Browny" Browne reports in on a very lengthy and thorough investigation -

"Paul,
 Received no replies from the Robinson family, mate.
 I sent messages to all of **Marcus Lee Robinson's** (as above) brothers, sisters and his two sons.
 Not a peep out of any of them. In fact, Facebook has indicated to me that none of those messages were even read.
 I think we're going to be stuck with no Date of Death.
As an aside, I'm 100% Marcus was living in Cairns around about the time of his death.
 So, if any members of the Assoc. live up that way, maybe they could ask some of the locals.
 Might be worth a try.
 Browny."

DI Browny makes a good point, so, if anyone can help out with enquiries with regards to the Cairns area possibility it would be greatly appreciated.
Paul, Jnr Constable.

Got him!

Paul, if this link doesn't work, because maybe you are not a member, then his death date is **2014 (at age 66)**. That's all the info about Marcus on that link, mate.

Paul Dickson - Our Honour Roll has been updated.

Detective Ken Osborne (a new Cold Case Division recruit) - **A Vale discovery** - Ken provided us with information regarding the passing of **Michael James Burgess** on the 29th October 2025 who served as Captain of the RAEME section attached to the Detachment in 1968-69. See More details with regards to Mike in the Vale section below.



Let us continue to communicate - it's been an amazing friendship. - thanks to ALL of you.

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>>

Lance Bombardier James Leslie Menz, Regt No 38838 -



Inside surveyors LP at FSB Berriman during OP Duntroon, January 1968. Jim Menz, wearing hat, second from left.



Sec Treas · 18h · 🌐

<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>



. Odyssey Time.

This is not necessarily a typical (whatever that means) "Odyssey Time" article but one with questions included, so let's get started

"We called places like this HOME" - a continuation...

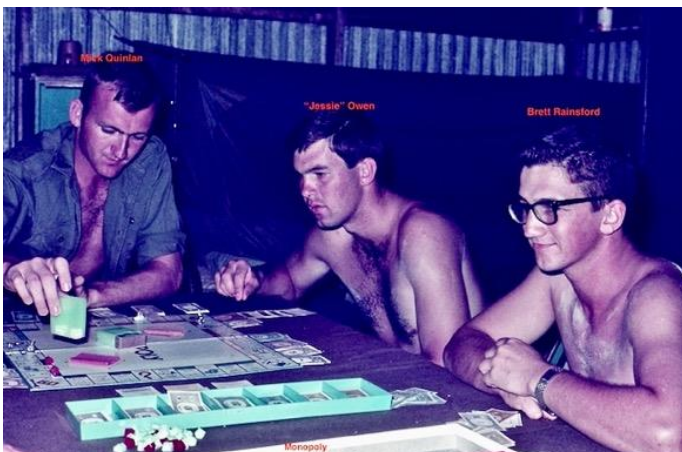
Terry Erbs - "Hi Paul,

Congratulations on another good read which has prompted me to respond to your request for pictures at "home" .

I have attached a few photos for you, although I may have incorrectly named a couple people but I'm sure somebody reading *Eyes & Ears* will correct any mistakes. Terry."



Akai A9 reel to reel tapes - "boys toys"



Monopoly Professionals!" Mick Quinlan, "Jessie" Owen and Brett Rainsford

Leanne Dodds - On behalf of my dad, Tony Dodds, I wanted to share this with you. My daughter and I gifted this soldier statue to my parents for Christmas just gone. Dad was completely overcome with emotion when he opened it.

He wasted no time figuring out how to make it a permanent fixture alongside his very proudly displayed flag pole. He asked if I could share this with you all, he still lives in the 80s when it comes to technology and actually mailed me the photo!

I'm also including a photo of the flag pole, since he didn't send one with the new statue. I'm so proud of my dad, he'll always be my superhero.



Tony served with the Detachment in SVN from 4.5.67 - 2.4.68 as a Temporary Bombardier.

<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>



It seems like it was Christmas only last week, January has flown by and we are already into February. [not long till the AFL season starts... Go Lions!]

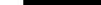
The past month has been about family, birthdays, now back to school for Grandchildren and to work for the family [gee retirement is "tough"].

According to the Courier Mail, Brisbane house prices jumped a record \$149k in just 12 months, double the average Queensland worker's earnings and the median house price hit \$1.178 million in January, a 13.1 per cent rise in 2025. Fortunately, our families are well established in Brisbane because the local property market continues to boom. [massive interstate immigration since Covid and the approaching Olympics 2032]

All around us houses have been sold to mainly developers, demolishing & subdividing the 1000sqm blocks into 3 small blocks. Next will arrive the "tradies", filling our quiet suburb with trucks and noise from 6.30am. Like many at our age, there has been much family discussion of our future but we've opted to stay put, being close to medical services, shopping, clubs and family.

Cheers,
Terry."



Mail Out  **Ed** - I started this section in September 2017 and have continued to write to Locators based on a year quarterly basis, by breaking down the names alphabetically into groups of one third of the then available list. The list has diminished over time, but, in general, there is a good core of blokes who communicate regularly 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.

Total Mail Out Members = 222 & Total Quarterly “Catch Up” Member Responders = 55

Mail In  - Here are the responses...

Peter Dealy - "Hello Paul

Good to hear about your 2026 activities so far.

For our family, Xmas and New Year was exactly that, all the family together. We are blessed.

Yes, January gone. (it will be Easter before we know it) Why does time seem to go faster as we get older?

As you might have read, Australia is living up to the “sunburnt country poem” but we are getting both heat and flood at the same time dependant on where you live.

Here in the GV, the stretch of hot weather tested many, with my summer sport of bowls being cancelled on a couple of occasions as the temp went well over the 38c cut off mark. Had a couple of "cooler" days this week, which is a break, but forecast to get warmer again.

As I have mentioned before, thank you for your contribution to 131. You have left hard shoes to fill.

Due to my heavy involvement in the local community, I frankly do not have the time to fill those shoes.

The GVVVA continues to run smoothly with the emphasis on socialisation. We will continue to operate as long as we have Office Bearers. The same can be said for our local RSL.

Thankfully, all our family are healthy. 2 of the Grandies are now at Uni and learning skills that will hopefully enable them to have a good start to their working life.

All the best Paul for whatever the future holds for you and family.

Cheers

Peter Dealy OAM"

Bryan David - "I think January just got up and went flat out.

Everything going ok.

My eldest daughter moved to Caringbah in October. Now both daughters are down that way the youngest one is in Sutherland. Could have been worse one out at emu plains etc, the weather has been a pain, it took me near two weeks to mow. Do an hour one day then it rains for 3 days and takes 2 days to dry out then bloody rains again, Finally got it done, probably have to mow again this coming weekend.

Well - have a good year."

Ron "Mook" Evans - "Jesus Dicko, you almost gave me a heart attack - '*Catching up to say goodbye*' indeed.

Reading a premature obituary of a friend is not something I care to do.

But as angry as I am with your sloppy writing, it was such a relief to hear that all is well with you and yours.

Nothing much is happening with me. Health is still holding up but the battery is winding down to a crawl. I still drive and drink, though not simultaneously, still swear at Donld "F.....g" Trump every day, still wonder why humanity has made such wonderful technological advances but is still in the Dark Ages politically. I think that when I stop being angry or interested I will be well and truly ready to completely bugger off.

My memory of you and some others of 131 is still vivid and still a very happy memory - wouldn't have missed it for the world.

Take care old friend. Mook."

Phil Connor - **with some not to great news** - "Paul and Helen hi,

Sorry Paul I will have to put on hold atm as I have just been diagnosed with Prostate cancer and starting to go thru all the processes.

Cheers, Phil and Miriam."

Let's wish him all the best, quite a lot of us have been there.

Warwick "Brookey" Brooker - "G'day Dicko

Thanks for the update.

Nancy and I enjoyed a quiet Christmas lunch with our son and family, then Nancy was on a plane to Adelaide three days later to spend a few weeks with our daughter and her 2yo son.

I didn't travel, as I had optical and dental appointments in January and am now receiving injections in the right eye every month to try to prevent worsening of the CRVO (Central Retinal Vein Occlusion) that was diagnosed in October and began impacting the macula by January. So, I had a very quiet January at home.

We copped some seriously hot days in January, around 44C. Parts of Oz were considerably hotter of course. We've had a few cool mornings though, with last Tuesday dropping to 5.7C.

Best wishes to you and Helen for a safe, happy and healthy 2026!

Brookey."

Paul - **It was good to catch up with "Brookey" at the Assoc's ZOOM.**

Peter Creedon - "Hi Paul

Thank you for the catch up, I feel I may have failed to answer your last catch-up note, sorry. It is amazing how time consuming doing very little can be.

Christmas and New Year went off well for us here, nothing too exciting to report though.

Still walking the golf course twice, a week and holding my own, next week I am down to the last four in the match play so can't complain.

Pauline and I are off to Lord Howe island for about eight days in April, not been there before so looking forward to that, will miss Anzac Day this year as we are travelling on that day.

All the best to yourself and your family Peter."

Diane Dean - "Hi Paul

Good to hear from you.

Keith has had a bit of a rough patch dealing with a large oddly shaped stone in his kidney. He had it lasered last week and is now recovering well.

We saw the post about Ezio Bernado. We did send the information to him via an SMS but did not get any response. Maybe he has a new phone number!!

We celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary on 18th February. Boy have those years flown.

We are off cruising in October. Travelling to Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Hing Kong and Singapore. We love cruising, just so relaxing.

All the best for 2026

Dianne and Keith Dean."

Paul - **Let's ALL wish Keith a fast and successful recovery.**

Ian Campbell - "Hi Paul,

I'm good.

Great surf last weekend with my surfing friend.

Good old Melbourne weather, 40 one day 20 the next.

Fab birthday, out to dinner with my family and a giant chocolate mud cake after.

Missed the meeting this morning, at the dentist.

Take care old fella, Ian."

Nick Armstrong - "Hello Paul and Helen

Thank you for your email today.

Christmas/New Year holiday was quiet for us. We did not venture too far from home. One son (Thomas) and two of his sons travelled across from Narrogin (WA) for Christmas. It has become something of a ritual for the past few years. It is an opportunity to catch up with nieces/cousins while they are still young enough to enjoy one another's company. They are growing fast, and will soon be young adults with other, non-family interests developing. When you have young children, it seems we are trapped in some strange time warp, whether nothing seems to change. Then comes that period where they believe they are independent yet still come home to check out the fridge and seem to be in some form of financial crisis. Eventually they visit home less often. That is the time when you realise that the time with your children has been quite brief. Also, it is at a time when your own work commitments have been most intense. There is a sense of regret that more time should have been spent with the children in that brief childhood period.

Thomas and his boys stayed with us for about eight days before returning home to resume work. The eight days in North Shields was only slightly longer than the days travelling between Narrogin and North Shields. I find the journey is quite enjoyable, however it is helpful having crossed the Ceduna to Norseman section on multiple occasions. My last return trip across the Eyre highway between North Shields and Narrogin cost about \$1200 for fuel. That was slightly more than the return trip by QANTAS, for one person. For an adult and two children, the cost would be over \$3000. The rail fare on the Indian Pacific would be more than that, so private vehicle, driving is the cheapest family mode.

Your comments regarding having to wear winter clothes, prompted me to have a look at a map of Mexico. While I was aware it is south of the United States of America, I had not realised the area of the land mass, nor the distance it extends south towards South America. Is the cold weather you are experiencing due to your geographical position, or the current cold conditions being experienced in the USA?

Here on Eyre Peninsula, we have had no rain for about two months. While this is not unusual at this time of year, considering the weather experienced last year, we are wondering whether we could have no rain until July or August. That would be another six months.

School started two weeks ago, and I have found myself bus driving again. One of the permanent drivers is waiting for his licence accreditation to be renewed. I am not aware of why the delay, but it is surprising how often renewal of accreditation is a problem for many bus drivers. A significant number of drivers, me included, are of 'advanced years' and have various medical impediments. This results in having medical conditions which require specialist medical reports. If the licensing authority fails to give sufficient early warning of the need for the reports, the accreditation may expire before requested reports can be supplied. Apart from the medical reports, which are usually required annually, there are the various security clearances required. A clearance to work with Children requires renewal every five years now. A clearance to work with vulnerable people expires after three years. This will lead to a requirement to be chasing up various reports constantly.

I think that is all for now.

Cheers from Nick and Robin."

John Bayford - "Hi Paul and Helen

I had shoulder surgery in November and have recovered enough to get in some rounds of golf so I'm happy with that outcome.

The family are all well and Annette and I have just returned home after spending five nights at the RACV in Melbourne where we caught up with friends and celebrated Annette's birthday at a family dinner.

We plan to spend some time in Tassie next month but have not made plans beyond that.

Happy to hear you are both well. John."

Mike Butler - "Hi Paul

Thanks for your latest note.

Xmas went well - we had 16 - all 3 kids and partners and 8 grandchildren. Fairly hectic but a good day.

Our calendar in January was quite full with a few social engagements at the RSL and medical appointments (just check-ups). Went to a veteran mates place to celebrate Australia Day on 26 Jan.

Our local TPI social club, which is supported by our Box Hill RSL, is separating from the Victorian Head Office TPI following months of toing and froing relating to a few unelected folk who want to run Head Office.

The weather has been way too hot - had days of 43 and up to 50 in the rural areas in mid-January. Haven't had any decent rain since 22 December. The garden is now beginning to suffer - the water tanks that I use for gardening are now only a quarter full. As well as the temperature we had floods along the Great Ocean Road with holidaymakers cars and caravans being swept into the sea, which you may have read about.

Looking forward to a getaway in Warrnambool in early April with all the kids for a family get together - just getting the van and 4-wheel drive checked out beforehand - I like to be prepared !!

Cheers for now. Mike."

George Clark - "Hi Paul,

Sorry I have not answered you sooner, but I have been very busy lately.

I was recently at the shopping centre and I got bowled over by some guy on one of those electric scooters. At the time I did not feel too bad, but within a couple of days I had so much pain in my back, I went to my GP and he sent me off for some scans. They revealed that I had 2 broken vertebrae, in my lower back, together with a few popped spinal discs. Apart from that I don't feel too bad, but I hope my back heals quickly, because it is very uncomfortable. I have not been able to play a round of golf since I had both my hips replaced.

I generally do a lot of fishing and sailing instead now, but I hope to go back to China again for a couple of months starting in mid-April.

I hope you and the extended family are all enjoying the best of health, Paul, and I look forward to hearing from you again in the future.

My best wishes,
George."

Ken Osborne - "Dear Paul,

Where do I begin?

First of all, I am still upright at the moment but have lost a lot of friends of late. My oldest friend from tech school days died last week, we had been friends since 1953. He joined the Apprentices School the year after me, different trade and postings but once or twice a year we would give each other a ring and say hullo. Caught up in person now and then at a reunion but living miles apart was a hassle. Then several of my intake have also died and our numbers are dwindling which makes you feel vulnerable, but we can't all live forever .

I am still living at home and resist all efforts to get me into a nursing home. I have a problem with mobility but with a walker and furniture surfing I manage. Quite happy to read, do family history and waste a lot of time on the laptop and phone, keep up to date on Facebook and have a rant now and then about politics and the world in general and try to sort out reality from all the false reporting that pops up. Only a few comment on my rants even if they point out the failure of people and governments to do the right things and that covers both sides of politics here in Australia at all levels, Question time in Parliament here is like a comedy show, you get asked a question and before they even attempt to answer they bash your ear about how good the person asking the question is, how many constituents he or she has and the wonderful work he or she is doing and how the previous government going back to whenever was in power and they never did anything, and by this time their two minutes are up and the question unanswered. My in-box gets swamped with the news from The New York Times, which was informative but there is a limit to what I want to know about America, so I eventually cancelled my subscription but still get at least 6 mails a day with some news and asking me to renew my subs. I do like my Wordle though and that gets done just before breakfast, after which my banking and mail and then hopefully to relax.

Bought an air fryer last month and get swamped with ads for free recipes, so I responded to same and it turned out to be some health company in America to sign up for their weight and fitness program at some cost and then I would get the free recipes to meet my goal, and then after saying I was not interested I still got at least one email a day trying to persuade me otherwise.

Then I have had to deal with a couple of Spam accounts to block payments and recover the funds which were in all respects were genuine but not authorised by me, only one still in dispute .

I assume you have noted the passing of Mick Burgess, who took over from me as the OC of The Div Loc Bty Wksp Detachment in Vietnam. I used to be his hut corporal at Balcombe, he was a radio mech then and went a different path after leaving the Apprentices School, and did well for himself

Anyhow having bashed your ear with my problems and having forgotten what I had meant to say will close. Next time I will have a check list before I start and hope you can find a replacement, so best wishes for that, keep well, regards.

Ken O."

Pete "Fletch" Fletcher - "Hi Paul,

Sorry I have not responded to your last email.

Veneice is being treated for cancer at the moment so time is consumed by doctors etc.

She is receiving chemo and it will be a long journey. We hope for the best.

I am well. Not much golf at the moment. We are experiencing humidity which puts you off playing. Looking forward to cooler weather.

All the best,
Fletch."

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

Paul Dickson - It's time to say thanks for everyone's support..

This edition, Vol 19 No 2 February 2026 No 211 of *Eyes and Ears* is the final edition, from me, after 17 years of publishing/editing this series. The original series was first published on 22nd July 1967 in South Vietnam where 11 editions were published using the Orderly Room's good old roneo machine - you can see more of the history archived on the 131 Locators Association's website.

It was great to have been the Association's initial President back in 2010 and hand the reins over to Allen Morley and see it continue in strength and growth. It has indeed been an honour to have served in the editor's roll with the Association, but I know it's time for me to stand down and hopefully pass it on.

Over the last 17 years I have -

- . communicated with so many of you, starting with about 15 and now the database contains 374 names, most of whom I've never physically met.
- . had assistance from the likes of Allen Morley, Bert Blink, Grahame Dignam and Ernie Newold who have pre-read and made corrections to editions before publication.
- . Bob Billiards who diligently posted editions, web posts and Facebook posts and been an ardent contributor with some great stories.
- . Peter Meaney has added in depth research into Lost Locators where we have been able to re-unite with those who we have not had contact with, sadly our Honour Roll has increased through numerous Vales.
- . not missed a month's publication, regardless of my location in a couple of 12-month periods we've put out more editions dependent on special events occurring.
- . covered ANZAC Days, re-unions - Coffs Harbour and Brisbane, the dedication of the Detachment's plaque in Canberra in 2012 - the list goes on.

Thank you to all of those who have been in contact and kept our friendships alive over time.

Paul Dickson.

Some comments received -

Ernie Newbold - "G'Day Paul,

It is indeed sad to see the end of a remarkable era in the history of 131 Divisional Locating Battery as you prepare to step down as editor of the *Eyes and Ears*. You have done an outstanding job of finding and bringing together nearly all of those who served with the Detachment in South Vietnam all those years ago.

That also means that Bert and I will become unemployed proofreaders, what will we all have to look forward to each month now??"

These are couple of great examples of a comrades I have never met becoming a mates -

Peter Dealy - "Hello Paul

Thanks for another great read.

Sorry to hear of your editor decision, but we all have to live our own lives.

Thanks for your dedication to 131.

All the very best to you and yours

Regards, Peter Dealy

Bill Taggart (1st/83rd United States Artillery) - 9th December 2025 -

"Hi Paul,

I have been a bit more busy than usual lately and just today read the latest *E&E* and saw your resignation letter. Whenever such significant milestones come along, and that is particularly true in this case, I have mixed feelings. If anyone deserves a bit of a break from all that you have accomplished more than you do, I would be astonished, but on a selfish level I will miss hearing from you each month.

Aside from the joy reading the *E&E* has brought me for so long. I have often felt that it brought me even closer to my wonderful Australian mates whose friendship is so valuable to me. I will be extremely sad to see you move on; I hope that someone steps up to continue the great legacy you have created. I have always been in awe at not only the effort you put in to gather all the varied articles and content in the *E&E*, but I feel you have done your mates a tremendous service in bringing together old friends, keeping them together not to mention your efforts in tracking down past Locators. I know they all appreciate what you have done for so long. I would be willing to bet that deep down you view that aspect of what you have done as especially gratifying. I know myself whenever I have been able to help re-establish old connections among friends, it is worth its weight in gold.

I wish you nothing but the best in whatever is next for you and I hope that I will still hear from you occasionally in all your upcoming "leisure time" (HaHa).

Best of luck my friend and God Bless you.

Bill."

Keep the community alive.

Paul Dickson - Thanks!

Surveyors Website and the future..

The aim is to obtain information to complete the work **John "Kanga" McFadden** and his group commenced years back. We need to seek the support of those surveyors from 1968-1971 to complete the work. This might include their recollections, information on each survey job and supporting photos. But they needed to be able to access **Kanga's** work to see what is being done and therefore what is required. Hopefully some of the group will have maintained a diary, I didn't, but their recollections, dimmed as they may be now, will add to the story.

IF YOU WERE A SURVEYOR, WE WILL BE IN TOUCH. For information on the old website see Links from 131 Locators website below

While you are here, Checkout the 131 Surveyor's archived website **HERE**
or
contact Sec/Treas on sectreas131locators@gmail.com

58 Years
April 1966 – April 2024



Have you tried to source us or your mates via Facebook?

Why not give it a go, if you haven't already, just click onto the Association's Facebook via the link below, then let us know what you think...

Hey, you don't have to have a Facebook page of your own...

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

SALUTE

Official Journal of the Totally and Permanently
Incapacitated Veterans' Association of New South Wales Limited
Winter 2024

Ernie Newbold forwarded in the following link – copy paste and read February's edition -

The link below will take you to the TPI NSW's latest Newsletter – It's a worthwhile read as it contains information from DVA and some great stories...

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=55f192afee&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1802742395713089188&th=1904a0a85603eea4&view=att&disp=safe>



Committee members:

President: Allen Morley

Vice President: Bert Blink

Treasurer/Secretary: Grahame Dignam

Public Officer: Gordon Malcolm

Webmaster: Bob Billiards

Research Officer: Ernie Newbold

Designs and Development Officer: Nick Proskurin

Eyes and Ears Editor: Paul Dickson

General Members: Ian Amos, Ged Carroll, George Lane, Merv Nairn

Regional Representatives: ACT - Bert Blink, Qld - Terry Erbs, SA - Geoff Blackwell, Vic - Alan Adams, WA - Bary Guzder, Shepparton Area (NSW) - Peter Dealy

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



Presidential perambulations

"The future of the association is now uncertain with this possibly being the final *Eyes and Ears* newsletter. Our grouping now comprises many octogenarians and those close to that mark. Seems we may be just too old to keep the whole thing functioning effectively.

Back in early 2009 a group of us met at Grahame Dignam's house to consider if a new Association could arise, phoenix like, from the ashes of the former 131 Association. Paul Dickson, Grahame Dignam, Ian Amos, Nick Proskurin, Ernie

Newbold, Allen Morley and Bob Billiards dined together and began the planning needed to establish a new 131 organisation. This would require a new constitution, a communication initiative to resurrect the 1967, 2-page *Eyes and Ears* newsletter originally roneod at Nui Dat together with operational structure.

We soon had a constitution to incorporate the Association, contact details for most of the 131 cohort, an application for a DVA grant to establish our own website, a monthly meeting program and some activities to bring the group together. These included reunions, laying of 131 plaques at the Australian War Memorial and the Phillip Island Vietnam War Museum, Anzac Day marching and lunches, whilst more recently a Facebook presence. However, to continue to progress our Association we require internal support that seems to not be possible.

Paul Dickson has been amazing in the role of Editor of *Eyes and Ears*. Each month a new edition has appeared on the website, with Paul regularly providing more than 20 pages of stories, information and unfortunately a growing Honour Roll. Many editions have been compiled at Paul's and his wife Helen's residence in Mexico. This commitment has been recognised within the 131 cohort. Paul, our 131 group extend our 131 thanks and appreciation for a job done superbly.

Regards
Allen"



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

59 Years April 1966 – April 2025

**Minutes for the General Meeting of the 131 Locators Association Inc.
Canley Heights RSL & Sporting Club
26 Humphries Rd, Wakeley NSW 2176
and via Zoom internet on Tuesday 10 th February 2026**

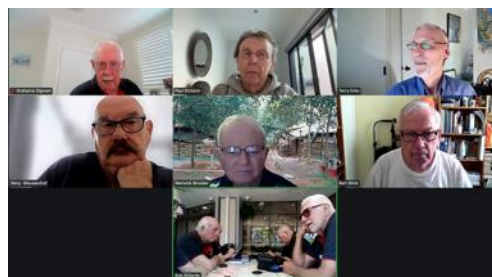
. **Pertinent Points** – extracted from the 131 Locators Association Committee meeting...

Attendees were:

Graham Dignam, Paul Dickson and Terry Erbs

Rieny Nieuwenhof, Warwick Brooker and Bert Blink

**Allen Morley, Allen Morley, Ged Carroll, Bob Billiards ,Merv Nairn,
Ernest Newbold and Ian Amos.**



Apologies: George Lane, Kevin Browning, Peter Dealy, Jim Fitzgerald, Nick Proskurin, Steve Wynn, and other State Reps.

Financial Membership is currently ...**118** plus Associates **2** plus Affiliates **15** Total **135**
Plus Lapsed as of 1st February 2026 **38** members

Presidents report.

Allen referenced

. The proposed sale of Surplus Defense properties has created a storm of protests across the nation.
. A discussion regarding the Surveyors Website continues. A link has been placed at various location on our webpages to draw attention to our proposal to re- birth the archived site and maybe enrich its historical content. See Item 8 for further information.

Public Officer Report.

Due to Gordons' absence, we record a nil report.

Webmaster Update.

. Roberts advised that Facebook members now are 565.

Labor Government proposal to sell off "surplus" Defence properties to repurpose funds for the nation's current needs.

A discussion ensued with various points of view expressed with no one complimentary to the proposal. Aspects such as Our Military Heritage, future uses, commercial and public utility purposes were all mentioned.

Suggestions were made that we write to make known our collective opinions to Local Members, local RSL's etc.

However, it was agreed we would only achieve nothing more than the current outcry as no considered position has been taken by the Federal body. We wait in trepidation as the Federal Government disregard for our military history festers.

Health Report:

In the news department....

. Prostates and Kidney stones are still popular with minor miracles being reported.

. Merv Nairn outlined a procedure he underwent which no man would like to be faced with involving a catheter and a small opening on the front of the body.
 . Steve O is still attending medicos with each trip leaving him in worse shape than the previous one. Recovery time is his problem!

General Business and around the grounds:

Discussions ensued on the following:

. Survey Website: The archived site is currently locked and cannot be improved. I think that "Surveyors" from later tours, could be canvassed for their memories and pictures of Operations / equipment. This could then be added to a fresh tab/page on the 131 website for the periods after 1968 . There are some names of surveyors readily available , who are Association members we could approach to widen the scope of Surveyors' collective experiences out to the time our forces withdrew. This will be developed and results will be advised.

**If you've got more photos that you want added, just send them to: - address To Be Advised
 BUT DON'T FORGET TO ADD TITLES/NAMES ETC.**

Upcoming Events Calendar –

131 Locators Association Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 14th April, 2026 at 1100hrs

Venue and format to be advised



. Birthdays in the Battery...March –

Date	Name	Regt No		SVN In	SVN Out	Comments
1	Ezio Bernard Lombardo	216284	1946	20 05 1966	03 03 1967	
2	Geoffrey Holden	2785828	1945	12 09 1967	17 09 1968	
2	James Harold Townley Brig.	17072	1939	14 06 1963	22 06 1963	103 Fd Bty
	" "			22 04 1966	19 08 1966	131
	" "			30 04 1970	28 05 1970	HQ AFV † 10.02.1970
2	Peter John Bennett	3794060	1948	26 08 1969	04 06 1970	† 22.11.2024
3	Eric Henry Marques Lbdr	3790008	1946	10 06 1967	21 05 1968	
3	Raymond John Smith	3787666	1945	20 05 1966	02 05 1967	† 15.01.2023
3	Grahame Alfred Lee	2787457	1947	23 04 1968	23 04 1969	
3	Roger Anthony Stanley	2788155	1947	08 11 1968	27 08 1969	Arncliffe, NSW
3	Ralph Bruce Mitchell	2788073	1947	08 11 1968	27 08 1969	
4	Joseph James Clendinen	17648	1945	04 05 1967	30 01 1968	
6	Garry Warren Luscombe Temp/Sgt	243144	1942	22.04.66	09 05 1967	RAEME
8	Russell Andrew Jackson Temp/Bdr	3793090	1945	24 02 1969	28 11 1969	† 04.02.2024
8	Barry Cooke Sgt.	54886	1946	16 09 1968	24 09 1969	† 13.03.1999 RAAOC
9	Lawrence John Gallop	5713642	1945	04 05 1966	11 12 1966	
8	Desmond McGuiggan Sgt.	214722	1944	20 01 1970	21 01 1971	† 24.02.2021
11	Robert Scott Tanner	6708362	1945	21 05 1966	28 04 1967	
11	Peter John McKie	2787728	1947	22 04 1968	23 04 1969	
12	James Joseph Fitzgerald	2782044	1945	04 05 1966	29 04 1967	
13	John (Jack) Verenon Heyes	3791085	1945	05 12 1967	03 12 1968	† 09.09.2021
13	Allan James Campbell Sgt.	18257	1946	20 05 1966	11 12 1966	† 19.06.2009
	" "			05 02 1968	31 03 1968	
13	William Ross Bullen Temp/Cpl	243083	1942	20 05 1966	18 11 1966	RAEME † 13.08.1983
14	Neville Charles Worthehock LBdr	54941	1947	29 04 1968	30 04 1969	
17	Geoffrey William Lock	2782439	1945	20 05 1966	29 04 1967	† 09.09.2010
18	Victor Alan Moreau	1200577	1939	22 04 1966	23 01 1967	† 09.02.2019
18	Roy Grayden Clausen	214873	1941	20 05 1966	11 12 1966	
20	Brian Douglas Campbell	2781310	1945	22 04 1966	30 04 1967	
20	Barry Griffin Follington	2783144	1945	12 12 1966	27 09 1967	
20	Iain Michael Kennedy	3791023	1945	27 11 1967	19 11 1968	

20	Ronald John Robards	216900	1948	18 02 1968	21 02 1969	Waratah, NSW
21	Garry Kenneth Smith	2792048	1947	15 04 1970	17 12 1970	† 19.01.2012
21	Michael Gordon King	216504	1948	04 05 1967	02 04 1968	Sydney, NSW
21	Warren John Jaenke	1735584	1946	20 02 1970	11 02 1971	
22	Gregory Kenneth Peck	2790401	1949	05 11 1969	04 06 1970	† 09.01.2024
23	Derek John Hinde	2787403	1947	01 07 1968	14 05 1969	
23	Martin Kryntjes	5715291	1947	26 08 1968	04 06 1969	† 27.12.2017
25	Garth Peter John Nichols	216381	1948	05 02 1968	11 02 1969	
	" "			05 11 1969	28 11 1969	1 Fd REGT
25	Robert Wallace Hargreaves	2790343	1948	05 11 1969	04 06 1970	Tumut, NSW
26	George Edward Lane	2781630	1945	04 05 1966	11 12 1966	
27	Kenneth Eric Winn	219656	1951	30 05 1970	06 08 1970	Marrickville, NSW 131
	" "			07 08 1970	05 05 1971	4 Fd Regt.
29	Jeffrey Leonard Reid	3790495	1946	26 09 1967	17 09 1968	† 21.10.2022
30	Frank Halliday Sgt.	215105	1937	02 01 1967	13 12 1967	† 22.02.2024
30	Edward George Chase	2782043	1945	04 05 1966	11 12 1966	† 12.07.2024
31	Leslie James Cahill	2412281	1947	20 05 1966	30 04 1967	† 30.07.1974
31	Graham Leslie Hislop Sgt.	15290	1935	22 04 1966	03 03 1967	Casino, NSW
31	Philip Allen 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 – 8 blokes not highlighted is looking decidedly better, but still not acceptable! Ok, let's get into it and actively get out there locating a few more!

. Locator Profiles – we've received **181. Ed** – Maybe we need to draw in a deep one so as to hold our breathes 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.

Vale



Name: Burgess, Michael James

Service No: 242895 Rank: Captain (SVN) RAEME
Final Rank : Colonel

SVN In: 24 03 1968 SVN Out: 26 03 69

DoB: 22 12 1938 DoD: 29 10 2025

Lest We Forget



Paul Dickson - Sadly I'm passing on a notice from **Ken Osborne** who sent me an extract from "The Apprentice About" Newsletter of the Australian Army Apprentices Association Inc (a RAEME based newsletter) which notified their readers of Mike's passing peacefully in his sleep on 29th October 2025.

The following was extracted from "The Apprentice About" Newsletter of the Australian Army Apprentices Association Inc (a RAEME based newsletter) -

THE APPRENTICE ABOUT

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INC.

ACT INCORPORATION NO: A84494 ABN: 75 780 051 573

PO BOX 374, NORTHBRIDGE, NSW 2063

WEBSITE: <http://www.austarmyapprentice.org>

PATRON: MAJOR GENERAL ANDREW FREEMAN AM (RETD)

BALCOMBE

BONEGILLA

Volume 6 | Issue 10

February 2026

20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION



Vale COL Michael James BURGESS, 10th Intake Telecom Mechanic (Field)

By Jeff Heron, 21st Intake Radio Mechanic, AAAA Public Officer and Newsletter Editor

Born in Bombala NSW on 22 December 1938, Mike Burgess enlisted in January 1955 and graduated in December 1957 as a Wireless Mechanic (Field), allocated to RAEME. He was subsequently selected for OCS and graduated in June 1962. Promoted to Temporary CAPT, he served in Vietnam from 25 March 1968 to 26 March 1969 as the commander of 131 Divisional Locating Battery Workshop Detachment. As a permanent CAPT, he spent time in the USA on long term schooling in about 1970. His later postings included in the office of DGEME in Canberra, where as a MAJ, his tasks included being on the Editorial Board, and then Editor, of the RAEME Craftsman Magazine from 1978 to late 1981, being promoted to LTCOL along the way. He was then promoted to COL around 1988 and was the initial Commander Bandiana Logistic Group. He passed away peacefully in his sleep on 29 Oct 2025.



SPAASSM Ph I Image 06555 above shows him addressing a parade, possibly at the Army College of TAFE in about 1991.

Vale notices

The untimely passing of a former Army Apprentice is always a sad occasion. It is important when notifying of the passing that we are clear about the details of the notice. Whilst social media posts draw attention to the passing of Apprentices, occasionally there is insufficient information to assist in maintaining the Apprentices nominal roll.

The AAAA Website [Vale Notification Form](#) prompts for the necessary information. If you don't have all requested information, send what you have, and we can follow up. Thank you to all those who have provided details.

This edition's Vale summary below includes four historic entries.

Intake	Reg No	Name (Membership no)	Trade	Passed away
25	220158	Alan James PIERPOINT	Radio Mechanic	2 Jan 2025
25	1203078	Roy Godfrey LINSSEN	Vehicle Mechanic	8 Sep 2025
30	58492	Peter Kenneth OZOLS	Carpenter and Joiner	12 Oct 2025
10	242895	Michael James BURGESS (Ex-#616)	Telecom Mechanic	29 Oct 2025
13 (12 – upgraded)	342807	Patrick James (Pat) MARLEY (#316)	Electrical Fitter	14 Nov 2025
22	55321	Anthony Alfred (Roy) TRIGG	Vehicle Mechanic	14 Nov 2025
21	58887	Victor Hugh VARRIS	Fitter and Turner	16 Nov 2025
19	48655	Brian CALDER	Vehicle Mechanic	21 Nov 2025
10	64310	Colin Havelock FOGARTY (#583)	Electrician	17 Dec 2025
25	45473	William Davies GAMBLE	Vehicle Mechanic	26 Dec 2025
18	342939	George Arthur REID (#429)	Fitter and Turner	17 Jan 2026
27	56885	Michael John BRENNAN (#981)	Electronics Tradesman	22 Jan 2026

Bill Taggart (1st/63rd US Artillery) - "Paul, please pass along the condolences of the 1/83rd. Lest we forget. Bill."

May He Rest in Peace, and Never be Forgotten.

Vales and Locator Profiles...

This is just a request to all and general, that we need to complete, and perhaps, update Locator Profiles, because as of times past and as time moves forward we have lost and will continue to lose mates.

Let's keep a memory alive.



The Vale section in *Eyes & Ears*, can at times be very scant of personal and service details, yes, there is the DVA Nominal Roll which contains tour dates, but supplies nothing for those who did not serve overseas, and contains no personal details.

Is it possible that we can have Locator Profiles completed with photos, where possible, and/or updates to make this section more honouring to those mates who pass and may be unknown to others to help make the Unit and Detachment archived history have more heart?

Take 10 minutes, please, to complete a Locator Profile as it is important to all of us.

For a blank Locator Profile contact the Association

May They Rest in Peace, and Never be Forgotten.



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

Website: <https://www.locatingartillery.org>



Australian Artillery Association – www.australianartilleryassociation.com



www.artilleryhistory.org



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

. 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.