



Issue 62 December 2022 Newsletter of 5th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment Association (Inc) We are all Tigers together.

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CO'S DISPATCH

G'day Tigers,

It is again my privilege to write to the Tiger community and provide you an update on life in the Tiger Battalion, particularly as we move to the end of a very successful 2022.

Before I go any further, I must acknowledge the outstanding service that the outgoing RSM, WO1 Sean Casey has provided to the unit. As the RSM, WO1 Casey has been a resolute support and the quintessential senior soldier for the Tiger Battalion; it is a fact that Sean has put his heart and soul into the unit and his efforts will endure long after he departs. WO1 Casey has been a driving force in reintroducing key initiatives, customs and traditions back into regimental life and he leaves the battalion better for his service in it. On behalf of the entire Tiger community, I would like to publically thank him for his service to the Battalion and wish him the best for his next appointment as the RSM of the 5th Brigade in Holsworthy. As much as Sean's service has been exemplary, I must also acknowledge that he was not able to achieve this alone, and the support of Megan, Zara, Heath and Eden has equally had a lasting effect on the unit. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours and know that you will always be a part of the tribe.

With WO1 Casey about to complete his handover, I would also like to welcome WO1 Brad Foster, OAM, CSM to the Battalion to commence his two-year appointment as RSM 5 RAR. WO1 Foster joins the battalion with a stellar reputation, and with his penchant for hard work and out of the box problem solving, I could not think of a better RSM to serve alongside as we continue to work towards the 1st Brigade evolution working in the littoral geography of Australia's north. On behalf of all Tigers, I welcome you and your family to the team.

Since I last wrote to you, the Tiger Battalion has continued to train hard in the north of Australia, completing Exercise Tigers Run and Exercise Predators Run in the Northern Territory. For Exercise Predators Run, we formed Battle Group Tiger from across the 1st Brigade, including our friends from 103 Battery and the 1st Field Squadron. Importantly, we were able to incorporate a Rifle Company and two platoons from the Special Forces Ranger Battalion into the Battle Group from the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The activity was a high water mark, travelling across the Beagle Gulf to conduct raid operations in the Tiwi Islands and across Dundee Beach, before transitioning to conventional operations at Mount Bunday alongside the 1st Armoured Regiment and the USMC.

Parallel to our foundation warfighting training, we have continued to reach out into our near region through Security Cooperation with our northern partners and friends. Bravo and Support Company have each contributed to training team missions in Timor Leste and Charlie Company have deployed twice to Baturaja Training area in Indonesia, participating in Exercise Garuda Shield and



LTCOL Chris Gilmore

Wirra Jaya. In all of the above activities, the Tigers have performed to an outstanding level and have represented the Army with distinction. As importantly, and with very little preparation, the Tiger Battalion was crowned the 1 Brigade champion sporting unit for 2022 following the Brigade sports week.

As I write to you now in November, we are currently completing our Support Company courses period and an Advanced Small Boat Operators Course. The conduct of these courses will set the battalion up to close out the year, assist us to reorganise for 2023 and get ready for what we know will be a busy,

but fulfilling year next year. We will finish the year with end of year awards where we will get to recognise our best performers, including (but not limited to) our champion soldier, Section commander, Champion Platoon and the Endeavour Award. We will also finish the year with a sports week and a final Combatives Night in the Gary Holmes Club.

The support of the association this year has been tremendous, and I cannot thank Dave French enough for his efforts and personal support through 2022. I also would like to thank Gary Townsend for his continued effort in continuing to publish Tiger Tales – ours is by far the best association across the Regiment. With this, I would also like to offer a placeholder for Binh Ba Week in 2023. The commemoration of the battle and the battalion will occur on the week of 5-9 June 2023, and we will again hold a welcome, soldier and veteran dining in night, combatives night and a parade in Darwin followed by a reception. I hope to see as many of you there as possible, including any members of the 5/7 RAR Association who are able to attend.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the families that support our busy men and women. Without them, our Battalion could not have achieved what it has this year. Whilst service life is a privilege, none of us do this alone, and our loved ones often bear a greater share of the load for us to do what we do. I am forever grateful for the trust that our Tiger Tribe puts in me in my position.

Lastly, I would like to wish all Tigers across the globe a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and prosperous 2023.

Duty First!

Chris Gilmore

New edition now online - see details page 2.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

G'Day to All Tiger Battalion Association Members and Families,

As many of you would be aware, we recently held the Annual General Meeting of the Association where we were graciously hosted by our friends at FDM Group. At that meeting it was a pleasure to welcome 'new veterans' Chris Appleton and Jason Johnson to the Committee. Chris will be our ACT State Representative with Jason taking on the same role in Queensland. Having served with both men before, I know they will do a fantastic job in looking after our members in their States/Territories.



Dave French

On that note, on behalf of you all I must thank Vince 'Dutchy' Feenstra for his efforts over many years as the Queensland Rep. Vince has worked hard to have the voice of the Cane Toads heard in Association matters and is still a very active member of the Association. Mate, thanks very much from everyone. You've played hard, and done good!

At the AGM the Committee was also approved permission to undertake planning for the 5th/7th Battalion Association to merge with us in December 2023. This was an initiative put forward from the 5th/7th team who are an orphan association (Without a Battalion on the current ORBAT) and recognising that there is strength in numbers. We will work closely with their committee over the next year to ensure that we have an organisation that is strong financially, in membership numbers and recognises the unique history of both Battalions and Associations. There is a great strength in this merger for our Association, with the members of the 5th/7th linking the Vietnam and post-2006 veterans of the 5th. Indeed, many new veterans of the 5th Battalion commenced our careers in the 5th/7th!

Another link to the Battalion's Vietnam tours is the up-

coming publication of the latest edition of 'Vietnam Task'. We are still awaiting the final details on this including pricing options, but it would be remiss not to mention the work of Roger Wainwright, Gary Townsend and Ron Boxall in particular to see this project through to it's conclusion. No matter where we end on price I can guarantee that this will be one for the bookshelves in years to come with updated lists, photos, indexing and story details.

On a personal note, I must acknowledge the passing of Claus 'Claude' Ducker and the amazing representation of the men of Charlie Company in particular at his funeral. In the

most serendipitous of circumstances, I grew up a few doors down from Claude in Canberra never knowing his background. It was only as I prepared my own soldiers of Charlie Company for deployment to Afghanistan that we figured out the connection. I had the opportunity to talk to Claude as I trained my own crew for war and some of the advice he passed on I have no doubt in saving the lives of my men, as it did for his own so many years before. I will treasure those chats always.

Those chats, memories and stories are best kept alive through the Association. Our membership period is coming up and it is imperative that we have as many financial members as possible in the coming years to ensure we can continue to meet the aims of the Association. At the back of this edition of Tiger Tales you'll find a list of 'Missing Members'. Please take the time to go through the list and if you know any of them, either reach out directly or let Gary Townsend know.

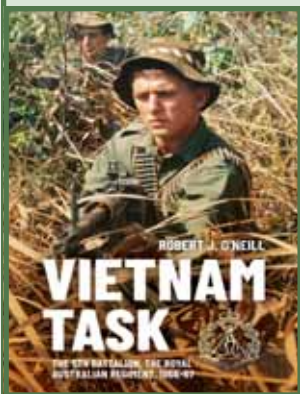
With those thoughts, take care of you and yours. Enjoy the Christmas period and stay healthy, stay safe.

Duty First

Dave French

NEW EDITION OF 'VIETNAM TASK'

The Association has previously advised that 'Vietnam Task' is being digitised and re-printed with the help of a grant from DVA. The digitised version was published on 18 November and can be downloaded and read on line for free at the website; <http://doi.org/10.22459/VT.2022>



Hard copies. These are not yet available as our publisher, ANU Press, is finalising a contract with a new printer. This is expected to occur very soon so keep an eye on the above link to see when hard copies are available. Printing will occur on demand and members will be able to order direct on the ANU Press website. A discounted price from the RRP is being negotiated for 5 RAR Association members.

Whilst many members will still have an old copy of 'Vietnam Task', this new edition is now a companion volume to 'Vietnam Vanguard' published in 2020. Its key attraction is the inclusion of a new appendix which is a nominal role of all who served with the battalion on the first tour of Vietnam. Also, most photographs have been enhanced by obtaining high resolution copies from the AWM. In addition, two new colour maps have been created that could not be adequately scanned from the old edition. These improvements make it a valuable keepsake for veterans and family members.

The successful completion of this project means that the history of the first tour of Vietnam is forever available for future generations. 'Vietnam Task' is still used as a teaching text in many military and tertiary institutions in the study of counter-insurgency doctrine.

You are encouraged to purchase a copy when it becomes available. We will advise members when this occurs via our website, social media and our State and Territory representatives.



INCOMING RSM'S MESSAGE



WO1 Brad Foster OAM, CSM

G'day Ladies and Gentlemen, men and women of The 5th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, Association members, family and friends. I would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous new year and offer a few words of introduction to the broader battalion family. I look forward to my appointment as your Regimental Sergeant Major in 2023 and supporting the Commanding Officer with his leadership and

command of the battalion. My appointment to serve this battalion, and you, as the Regimental Sergeant Major is truly an honour and privilege and I do not have the words to express how fortunate I feel. I had the pleasure to join the battalion on Exercise Predators Run 2022 and genuinely feel that the battalion is in great shape. The exceptional attitude of the soldiers has left a lasting impression and I look forward to being part of the Battalion's journey.

To allow people to gain an insight into who I am, I think I can sum it up with a few points:

- I am continually motivated by developing our people to reach their full potential.
- I am driven to support the generation and enhancement of military capability on behalf of our nation in order to support Army's mission. This is our no fail responsibility.

In closing, I would like to thank Sean Casey for the work he has done to prepare me for this appointment and I look forward to continuing the great work he and all those before me have done.

Duty First

WO1 Brad Foster

Editor's Note: WO1 Bradley 'Brad' Foster will assume the position of RSM of 5 RAR in mid-December. Brad has recently returned from overseas and will contribute his official biography and photograph to be included on our website and in the April issue of Tiger Tales.

BRAVO COMPANY

After returning back to Australia after executing the Joint Australian Training Team – Philippines, Bravo Company got a well-deserved two week break before getting back onto the training wagon. First up was Tigers Run, this saw the company complete conduct an amphibious landing at Gunn Point before heading into to gorgeous scenery of Mount Bundey. Tigers Run saw the Platoons conduct a number of tasking's including clearances, blocks, ambushes and area defences. This initial training period allowed the Pls to consolidate and enhance their training throughout the year, though some individuals needed it more than others. Honorary mention goes to LT 'Obi'

BRAVO COMPANY - Cont.



OC B COY giving orders to the PL COMD of the AFOP Special Forces and his own PL COMD.

Haddock whose distance description of "it's very, very far away" managed to confuse an entire CP. The final task of the Company was a Cordon and Clear of the Urban Operations Training Facility (UOTF). This was a co-ordinated manoeuvre of 21 and 23 Platoons denying any movement out of the UOTF while 22 Platoon cleared. While the initial clearance was a success and Target Objective, codenamed 'Big Hat', which suspiciously looked like a SPT COY LT wearing an Akubra, was secured. During the day 21 PI held the route in, while 22 and 23 PI held the UOTF and got bamboozled when the enemy party decided to drive past and wave, using the age old deception art of 'act like you belong'. Though after five days of field B COY was able to call End Ex, and all rejoiced. This was not to last, as the next exercise was only two weeks away, Predators Run.

The final exercise of the year was here, Predators Run, the culminating exercise for the Brigade and Battalion. The beginning of the exercise saw Combat Team-Bravo (CT-B), attached to 1 Combat Engineers Regiment (CER), assault and secure the airfield, with a troop of Abrahams from 1 Armoured in support. While the mission was a success and CT-B successfully conducted their night assault, it was not over yet. Post securing of the field saw CT-B support the Forward Passage of Lines

(Continued on page 4)



21 and 22 PL conducting their amphibious movement to Gunn Point for EX Tigers Run.



FROM THE BATTALION - Cont.

BRAVO COMPANY - Cont.

(Continued from page 3)

(FPOL) of the US Marines BN through their position, a command and control heavy tasking. This ended Phase 1 of Bravos tasking's, for the rest of Predators Run they were to be back with BG Tiger (BGT), clearing the eastern region of Bunday of any 7 RAR troops. While unfortunately, or fortunately, there was minimal action during the initial movements of the BGT there were a few action filled moments. The primary was of 22 Platoon getting removed from the arena due to artillery fire. The smooth words however of LT Haddock managed to convince the DS he would have only lost 1 Protected Mobility Vehicle (PMV) and not all of them. The common sense reasoning of that "if one saw an artillery shell land amongst your position, you're going to move off pretty quickly", managed to convince the Directing Staff. The final days of the exercise had the Combat Team attach a PI from the Philippines Special Forces, and then participate in the BGT dismounted clearance of a suspected enemy position. While the overnight clearance went without a hitch, it would have been better if the 'enemy' hadn't decided to leave the position. This concluded EX PRED RUN and after 10 days of field the Coy could go home.

The end of the year has seen the majority of the company away on support courses, with many young aspirants reaching for the lofty heights of Support Company. Though 2023 looks to be a busy year for Bravo Company, there is no doubt that they will take it in stride and excel at anything thrown their way.

CHARLIE COMPANY

On the 30th of July 2022, 7 and 9 Platoons from Charlie Company embarked to Baturaja Training Area in Southern Sumatra, Indonesia on Exercise GARUDA SHIELD 22. This was a historic occasion, a privilege and enormous responsibility as the Australian Army has never committed troops to GARUDA SHIELD before. This Exercise was a multinational effort, consisting of participants from the Indonesian Defence Force, the Singaporean Army, the United States Army, and Charlie Company 5 RAR.

GARUDA SHIELD is an Exercise of great strategic importance. It demonstrates the ADF's commitment to a



Members of C Coy preparing for an air mobile assault.

CHARLIE COMPANY - Cont.

free and open Indo-Pacific, and also our commitment to enhancing the level of interoperability, and multilateral cooperation in the region with our partner forces. Our focus, was to demonstrate our professionalism, and ability to operate alongside partner forces, as well as learn the way that our peer nations think, live and fight in the austere, sweltering jungles of Southeast Asia.

The Exercise consisted of a week of SOP development and integration training, as all participants got actively involved in learning how each nation operates in the jungle environment. This was followed by a Brigade blank-fire jungle clearance, with all participant nations working together to clear a series of tactically significant objectives. The Exercise culminated with a live-fire combined arms Brigade attack, which was swiftly followed by an Indonesian style cultural day, where everyone let their (regulation) hair down.



CPL Alex Johnson of 7 PL on patrol near Objective Peasan Ridge.

Aside from the positive reinforcement of local relationships, the Exercise provided Charlie Company with ample training opportunities. During the blank-fire jungle clearance, 9 Platoon conducted an Air Mobile Assault in conjunction with the Indonesian 515 Raider Battalion and Blackhawks from the United States Army in order to support the Brigade's clearance of the AO. After clearing the enemy position on the pickup-zone two day's prior, air mobile elements were postured to air lift a Company plus element of United States Army, Indonesian Army and 9 Platoon into Objective Peasan Ridge. This element subsequently cleared and seized two enemy positions before returning to the Battle Group position.

After the blank-fire exercise was complete, 7 Platoon, supported by Apache helicopters and Lockheed Martin M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS), kicked off a live-fire Brigade clearance by conducting a bangalore obstacle breach alongside United States Army Engineers, before reorientating to clear a target rich enemy position to allow forward passage of lines by United States and Indonesian infantry elements.

The Cultural Day was an eye-opener for even the most seasoned veterans of an Indonesian shin-dig. With a live band, a mosh pit and a demonstration of Pencak Silat, a form of Indonesian martial arts that is deeply rooted in their military culture. Members of Charlie Company could



CHARLIE COMPANY - Cont.



Members of C Coy, as well as soldiers from the US Army, the TNI and Singaporean Army enjoying a day of cultural exchange.

hardly have imagined on their first day in country that by the end of the Exercise they would be up on a stage, in front of hundreds of people from all over the world singing "Country Roads" by John Denver!

Many of the soldiers from Charlie Company have stated that this Exercise was a highlight of their career. Corporal James Dachs from 7 Platoon, who was promoted by the Chief of Army the week before departure stated that 'GARUDA SHIELD' was an incredible opportunity for us to hone our skills and SOPs whilst operating in the jungle environment" continuing to state that he "enjoyed the opportunity to learn from and work with our regional partners in my first outing as a full track".

Exercise GARUDA SHIELD was an invaluable experience, which allowed the soldiers of Charlie Company an opportunity to show their qualities as infantrymen. We demonstrated our ability to rapidly deploy, integrate, live and fight with soldiers from all walks of life, and cultural backgrounds in unforgiving environments.

DELTA COMPANY

Delta Company hit the ground running this year, with the first company to deploy overseas to Rifle Company Butterworth (RCB) on a three month rotation from February to May 2022. The new environment was challenging to some, for many, it was their first time outside Australia.

During this period, Delta undertook two field exercises in



D Coy after completion of EX Tigers Rising.

DELTA COMPANY - Cont.

the Jungle. SGT Bernhardt (10 Platoon) described it as "an inoculation towards both surviving and thriving an extremely, hot, dense and wet environment". The terrain combined with the local fauna and flora made the environment difficult to operate in. However, Delta Company quickly learned the value of insect repellent and importance of checking sensitive areas for leaches and ticks quickly.

We followed this with conducting cultural immersion activities whilst in Malaysia. This included a guided tour of Penang and Kuala Lumpur, visiting cultural landmarks such as unique temples and monuments of war from WW2 and the Malaysian Emergency. "The conducting cultural immersion, RCB was the most exciting opportunity I had this year" PTE Wing (12 Platoon).

Battlefield History tours were conducted and visited key battlefield sites where previous Australian soldiers had fought bravely. This gave an immense appreciation of the uniqueness of jungle operations. One of the tours conducted was the Trong Ambush site, south of Butterworth. This was the first Australian Ambush conducted by Australian Forces in Malaysia. The Platoon ambush destroyed a company sized element which included five vehicles, a logistics attachment and a two star Japanese General. Delta Company are believed to be the first Australians to ever return to the site since it was sprung in WW2.



10 Platoon at Sik National Park



D Coy representatives at the ANZAC Day ceremony at Sandakan.

In the past time; D Coy travelled around Malaysia and sent members overseas on representational duties to Kanchanaburi, Thailand, and Sandakan for ANZAC Day. SGT Douglas said "This was a big day for Delta Company, representing Australia overseas is a great opportunity, especially in a country with so much history".

Delta Company pounced on opportunities to conduct reality based training which saw a large progression of ranges being conducted. Three weeks were dedicated to conducting; high explosive, combat shooting and manoeuvre

(Continued on page 6)



DELTA COMPANY - Cont.



WO2 Potter and MAJ Sargeant provide demonstration of a littoral manoeuvre.

(Continued from page 5) ranges in Pulada (Malaysia). Once we returned we continued training at the Marksmanship Training Range CB on a three month rotation from February to May 2022. The new environment was challenging to some, for many, it was their first time outside Australia.

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SUPPORT COMPANY

In September this year, 5 RAR once again demonstrated that it is the Unit of choice for Security Cooperation Operations (SECCOPS) activities in the near region.

With little time to prepare post Ex PREDATORS RUN 22, Mentoring/Mobile Training Team-Charlie 1 (MTT-C1) was raised from members of B Company and Mortar Platoon for Ex ARAFURA WARRIOR 22 (Peacekeeping Operations Training).

Deploying on 05 Sep 22, the MTT-C1 inserted into Timor-Leste and tied in with staff from the Defence Cooperation Program – Timor-Leste. Once Reception, Staging, On-Forward Movement and Integration (RSO&I) was complete, the MTT-C1 cracked straight into running peacekeeping operations training and mentoring for members of the Timor-Leste Defence Force (F-FDTL) at Metinaro and Baucau to the east of Dili.

Within the MTT-C1, the two sections rotated between running the inaugural PKO package and running Infantry Minor Tactics (IMT) continuation training and for the Soldiers of the MTT-C1 it proved an excellent opportunity to further the ADF's relationship with the F-FDTL and the team did exactly that through the provision of excellent training which was well received by the F-FDTL trainees.

Returning in October, the members of the MTT-C1 came home with their heads held high having achieved the mission and having helped the F-FDTL move forward in their own journey of modernisation and development.



A UN Base 'Lafaek' group photo.

LOGISTICS COMPANY

Log Coy continued to achieve excellent result over the last few months. The enthusiasm and attitudes demonstrated in sustaining the unit has been outstanding, especially backing off very busy start to the year from deploying on Operation FLOOD ASSIST. The Q-Store has remained strong with the many challenges presented and I must recognise the efforts of my Regimental and Technical Quartermasters. They have been pivotal with 5 RAR setting the standard for Business Process Management (BPM) in the Bde. TSP once again displayed excellent capacity and maintenance support in getting the PMV Fleet of Vehicles (FOV) ready and deployed on all exercises. There is never a task too hard for the crew in TSP. The Transport team haven't stop instructing on Driver



LOGISTICS COMPANY - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

courses to chip away at the driver training liability Army wide. Log Coy might be light in manning but we don't lack enthusiasm, mateship and drive. My first year as OC Log Coy has been very rewarding and we look forward to 2023.

DISTRIBUTION PLATOON – LT O'Mahony

Distribution Platoon continued its high tempo start to the year with the provision of exported driver training to the Battalion. Transport Section soldiers and JNCO's were continually running courses to build mounted capability in G-Wagons and PMVs while simultaneously developing the next generation of instructors for not only the Unit but supporting the Brigade through exporting the Driving Instructor and Driving Assessor courses. The Q-Store supported the deployment of multiple force elements overseas as well as supporting the visiting international forces through their training in Australia. Distribution Platoon deployed into Predator's run with a mission to sustain the Battle Group Tiger. Distribution Platoon provided this close Combat Service Support (CSS) and successfully eluded the enemy for the duration of the exercise which ensured the combat team's had continual support. Closing out the year Distribution Platoon has continued to develop as they provide CSS support to the Support Courses, ASCO and CSIC whilst grinding out daily duties.



In November, Log Company upskilled in heavy weapons to ensure their ability to conduct Combat Logistics.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT PLATOON – LT Allen

The 2022's exercise period went off without a hitch this year from the perspective of the RAEME lads, seeing all sections working day in and day out to have the Tiger Battalions equipment ship shape for war at the Mt Bunday Training Area. From Protective Mobility Vehicles to Night Aiming Devices, the Battalion was in the best shape seen for quite some time.

As part of the Logistics Company training weeks during Exercise Tigers Run, Technical Support Platoon (TSP) deployed to Mt Bunday with the focus of getting back to the basics. For many, this exercise was their first since IMTs at the trade school, and their first living the glorious life of a Tradie in the field. Simulated Forward Repair Teams (FRTs) were sent out to various locations in the AO led by the junior members with the strict supervision of the Platoon's Corporals. This was mixed in with the No



Soldiers of Logistics Company move forward to resupply the fighting echelon during Ex Predators Run 22.

Duff FRTs in support of B Company, D Company, Recon Platoon and Battalion Head Quarters (BHQ). All members involved learnt the various lessons needed for our subsequent deployment on Exercise Predators Run.

Again, for the first time in a long time, 5 RAR had a Battalion's worth of equipment deployed on Exercise. TSP Detached the C Company FRT in support of the Battalion's first large scale littoral Exercise. The rest of the Platoon deployed with the A2 Echelon to Mt Bunday once again in support of the rest of the Battalion. This time we were ready for it thanks to our hard earned training in the weeks previous. All the equipment was functioning before entering the Training Area and let's say it all made it out of there. Arte et Marte

Quote: "People sleep peacefully in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf."

GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND

The Soldiers Medallion Badge is issued with the Soldiers Medallion for Exemplary Service (SMES). Once awarded, the SMES Badge can be worn by all ranks. The Badge is worn on the right above the pocket, as are the Army Individual Readiness Notification (AIRN) Badge and unit citations, on shirts and jackets.

The Soldiers' Medallion for Exemplary Service recognises those soldiers of the Australian Army of the rank of corporal (E) and below, who have demonstrated exemplary service well above that expected of soldiers in the performance of their duties in the past 12 months, or for noteworthy service over a number of years.

Five members of 5 RAR have just been awarded the SMES, They are; PTE L Clark, LCPL S Collinson, PTE K Jessop, PTE P Lancaster and PTE D Norton. The 5 RAR Association extends sincere congratulations to these five soldiers.





5 RAR'S DOCUMENT OF ESTABLISHMENT

The document shown below was written on 23 December 1964 and initiated the raising of The 5th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment. It gives military approval for 1 RAR to be reorganised into the smaller Tropical establishment. It also gives approval for 5 RAR to be raised on 1 March 1965, to reach establishment strength in September, with the National Servicemen (NS) of the first intake, and to assume the responsibility for the Corps training of those NS recruits.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
MILITARY BOARD
(Chief of the General Staff)

CONFIDENTIAL

Army Headquarters
Administrative Building
CANBERRA ACT.

Quote in Reply
605/R1/6

23 Dec 64

E Comd (15)


Copies to: AG Branch 11 (incl 6 for CARO); QMG Branch (8); MGO Branch (10);
CMPM Branch; Secretary's Branch (3); DMO & P (3); DMT (4); DRAC;
DEA (2); E in C (2); D Svy; D Sigs (2); D Inf (2); I of Adm; SAMB;
MA to CGS; PA to DCGS.

Copies for information: N Comd (4); S Comd (5); C Comd; W Comd; NT Comd;
AAS London; AAS Washington; Aust Army Force FARELF.

RAISING/DISBANDMENT INSTRUCTION 3/64

1. Approval is given for the following :-
 - a. 1 RAR to be reorganised on establishment II/20/1 (TE)
 - b. 5 RAR to be raised on establishment II/20/1 (TE).
2. This re-organization is to be effected, on 26 Feb 65, within the present strength of 1 RAR with priority in manpower given to 1 RAR. 1 RAR is to reach operational readiness by 30 Apr 65.
3. 5 RAR is to be brought to approved establishment strength in Sep 65 from the first National Service output from Recruit Training Battalions. 5 RAR is to be responsible for corps training these members.
4. Location of both units is to be HOLSWORTHY, E-Comd.
5. Approval is given for the present Commanding Officer 1 RAR to be carried supernumerary to the establishment of 1 RAR for the period 26 Feb 65 to 30 Apr 65 for the purpose of co-ordinating the re-organization.
6. Establishments, equipment table TET2020 and amendments to the ORBAT are to be issued separately.

CONFIDENTIAL


(R.K. ROSEBLADE) Brigadier
Director of Staff Duties

Internal
SD (Estb)
SD (Gen Org)
SD (ORBAT)

HANDS OFF THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

9



Editor's Note: The information below is posted for the information of our members, the 5 RAR Association is an apolitical organisation. It does not have a position on the this petition, that is a matter for each individual member to decide for themselves.

From the petitioner:

The Chairman of the Council of the Australian War Memorial recently declared that "the Memorial's governing council had decided that they would have a much broader, a much deeper depiction and presentation of the violence committed against indigenous people, initially by the British, then by pastoralists, then by police and then by Aboriginal militia".

The purpose of the War Memorial is to honour the thousands of Australian men and women who died in the defence of this nation and its values.

This proposal is contrary to the charter of the Memorial as expressed in the Australian War Memorial Act 1980 which defines its functions as to maintain the memorial in remembrance of Australians who have died on or as a result of active service, or as a result of any war or warlike operations in which Australians have been on active service. It is not a generic history museum.

There is no doubt that violence was committed against Aborigines as a result of colonization but it does not fall into this remit. Supposed colonial wars, the very existence of which is highly contested, have nothing to do with our defence tradition.

This proposal, which attacks and denigrates the very foundation of our nation, is highly offensive to the large majority of veterans who survived our wars and more so to those who did not - those to whom the Memorial is dedicated.

I ask concerned citizens to join me in opposing this divisive proposal.

Peter O'Brien
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) and Vietnam veteran

The link is here: <https://chnq.it/qQwCQL9Sy7>

5 RAR ASSOCIATION DUES

The 5 RAR Association triennial membership period will end on Tuesday 28 February 2023 and your renewal should be received by that date.

To the right of your name on the address sheet of this Tiger Tales, you will find a date or text shown. This will tell you to when you are financial to. If this date is shown as 2023 you will need to pay \$50.00 to extend your membership to 28 February 2026.

If the date shown is later than 2023, or if there is any text shown there, you do not have to do anything at all.

Payment can be made by Bank Transfer, cheque or Money Order, for details see the form on page 20, please note new Bank Account details. If you are not sure about your membership please contact Gary Townsend, details on Committee Page.

REWARD FOR A GOOD DEED

Around a decade ago four of us oldies had a weekend getaway on the East Coast of Tasmania, with our wives.

The hotel/motel we stayed at had a beautiful double open fire-place in the dining room/lounge area and as it was about seven degrees outside we decided to settle there for the rest of the evening after dinner.

There was only one other couple at dinner that evening and as they were enjoying their after dinner drinks we invited them to join our group. As it turned out they were on their honeymoon from Sydney (they were in their late 20's) and were wondering what to do for the rest of the evening.

One thing led to another and I am proud to say (or embarrassed) that we drank every bottle of merlot in the place and we had to settle for a bottle of cab-sav for our last drinks (totally unnecessary also).

The next morning at breakfast (very late I may add) the young chap came up and asked if we had any 5 RAR memorabilia as he would like it as a souvenir of a very happy and enjoyable night in Tasmania. One of us had an unused 5 RAR car sticker and we handed it over and said our goodbyes, exchanged our details and they left.

About six months later the young chap rang and asked that the next time any of us were in Sydney to contact him as he had a 'gift' for us. The 'gift' turned out to be a beautiful 5 RAR plaque, approximately 280mm wide, made in the intarsia style. (I have shown a photo of the plaque and presentation box, which has the Ode etched on a silver plate, and has all brass fittings). It was an exact copy of the car sticker. As you can imagine we were gobsmacked at his return thanks for our small gesture.



I am the only surviving member of that quartet who had the weekend away, and I feel that this magnificent item should be handed on to the Association. I would like to gift it to the incumbent 5 RAR Association President to be used as a table piece when our great Battalion is represented at meetings and other

public relations events.

I would also hope that each incoming President inherits this plaque upon taking up their duties.

R.I.P. Gerry Coret, Irvine Brookes and John Smee.

Kevin Mulligan



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DUCKER'S CODE

The code was based on the phonetic alphabet from A to Z. Each letter, which was repeated for clarity, e.g. "Alpha Alpha", was allocated a specific meaning such as a direction, terrain feature, timing and the like. The code was changed for each operation and perhaps somewhat surprisingly, took little time to learn and utilise.

A typical example of the code was:

- Alpha Alpha = West
- Bravo Bravo = River/Stream
- Charlie Charlie = Bunker System
- Delta Delta = Track
- Echo Echo = North
- Foxtrot Foxtrot = 2400 hours
- Golf Golf = Tactical Harbour
- Hotel Hotel = East
- India india = Resupply Location
- Juliette Juliette = Ambush Position
- Kilo Kilo = Enemy Signs
- Lima Lima = South West
- Mike Mike = First Light
- November November = Headquarters
- Oscar Oscar = Situation Report
- Papa Papa = Move/Moving
- Quebec Quebec = Last Light
- Romeo Romeo = Hill/Mountain
- Sierra Sierra = North East
- Tango Tango = Location Status (LOCSTAT)
- Uniform Uniform = North West
- Victor Victor = South
- Whiskey Whiskey = Beach
- X-ray X-ray = Fire Trail
- Yankee Yankee = Civilians
- Zulu Zulu = South East

A typical short-term low security message would go something like this:

"30 this is 33, over. Am at the Bravo Bravo. No Kilo Kilo. Intend Papa Papa Uniform Uniform"

To the OC, this told him that 9 Platoon had reached the river, there were no enemy signs and that I intended to move North West.

"30 this is 33, over. Have located vacant Charlie Charlie. Recent Kilo Kilo. Intend Juliette Juliette on Delta Delta prior Quebec Quebec. Detailed Oscar Oscar and Tango Tango to follow."

This advised the OC that 9 Platoon had come across an enemy bunker system with recent signs of activity. My intention is to set up an ambush position on the track prior to last light. A detailed situation report would be given together with the LOCSTAT (location).

As one can see, this was a very efficient means of keeping the OC advised without the radio operator having to encode the messages using the official codes issued for the operation. Of course, Situation Reports and LOCSTATs were always sent in official code.

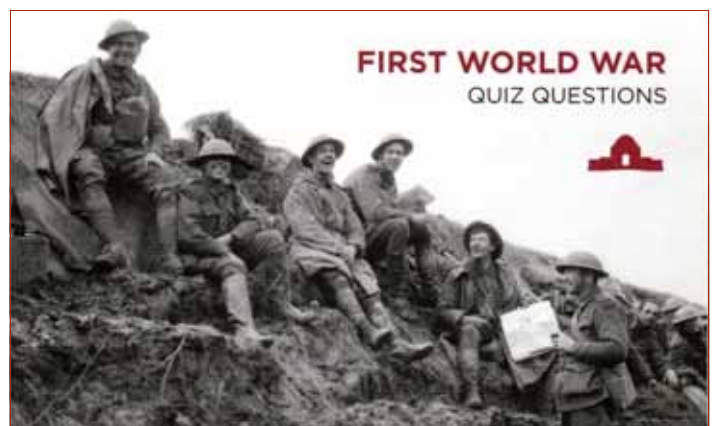
Claude was also very conscious about man-management. He was always ensuring that his troops were looked after, especially after the loss of any of his 'charges' as a result of enemy action, be it KIA or WIA.

A warrior, a leader and a great superior officer.

Roger Lambert

SPECIAL SALE

Better be quick – only 16 units available – until sold. **NOTE:** This Association Vietnam sticker is actually the 'domed' edition of our 'sold out' (Never to be reproduced) car sticker. It is the actual 'domed/raised' sticker that graces our Vietnam Plaque. The set is available for \$10.00 per set (Vietnam Sticker + Vietnam Ribbon Bar). Interested in securing a set, contact – Geoff Pearson (Ph: 0417 223 001) (E: secretary@5rar.asn.au). Orders will be processed as received, with payment being made directly to the 5 RAR Association's **NEW** Bank Account at CBA: BSB (062-136) (Acc # 1048-1883).



Q. Who was Sir John Monash?

A. The commander of the Australian Corps, appointed in May 1918. He is widely regarded as Australia's greatest First World War.

Quote: "I have always regarded the forward area of the battlefield as the most exclusive club in the world, inhabited by the cream of the nation's manhood -- the men who actually do the fighting."

"Lt-Gen Sir Brian Horrocks, A Full Life (1960)"



The Eternal Flame is central at the far end of the Pool of Reflection, we believe that this photograph was taken when the Colours of all the Battalions were present at the AWM on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Royal Australian Regiment's establishment.

Visitors to the Australian War Memorial will have noticed the Eternal Flame located within the Pool of Reflection in the commemorative area of the memorial. Our member, Paul Greenhalgh was involved in its installation in his post military life. Paul has provided this background to the flame:

"I retired from the Army in 1981 and joined The Australian Gas Association as its General Manager. The Association was the "voice" of the distributors (the utilities) of gas.

In 1987 the industry made an offer to the Australian War Memorial for a Bicentennial gift for the installation and operation of an Eternal Flame. It took some time for the Memorial to respond and accept the offer due to their apprehension about taking gifts and then giving recognition. I asked the Memorial that a small bronze plaque be placed opposite the flame saying, "A Bicentennial Gift to the nation by the Australian Gas Industry."

On Anzac Day 1988, the Governor General, Sir Ninian Stephen lit the flame at the Dawn Service.

As it happened the engineers miscalculated the flooding of the pool after heavy rain and on a number of occasions the flame went out! This has now been corrected".

Paul Greenhalgh



The Eternal Flame burning in the Pool of Reflection.

Editor's Note: Paul Greenhalgh was Officer Commanding Delta Company during the Battalion's 1966-67 tour of duty in South Vietnam.

5 RAR AND THE NAVY



In late September of this year members of 5 RAR's Small Boats Platoon (SBP) conducted joint training with the Australian Navy's HMAS Launceston in Darwin harbour. The team worked on embarkation and disembarkation drills as part of HMAS Launceston's certification. SBP was originally 8 Platoon.

Courtesy 5 RAR's Facebook page



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IN MEMORIAM

2791471 NEVILLE THOMAS RHODES 17 February 1948 - 19 July 2022

PTE Neville Rhodes died on the morning of Tuesday 19 July, he had been suffering for some time.

Neville, was conscripted in January 1969, started his Recruit Training at 1 RTB Kapooka, he then transferred to 3 TB (Infantry Corps Wing) for his Corps training. He joined Infantry Centre (Reo Wing) until deploying to 1 ARU Vietnam on 3 September. On 1 October he joined 11 Platoon, Delta Company, 5 RAR and there served until the Battalion returned to Australia in February 1970. Neville completed his tour of South Vietnam with 8 RAR and returned to Australia in September 1970.

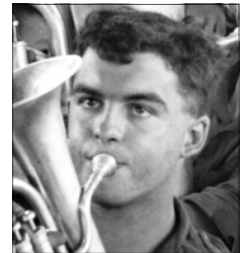


The Funeral Service was held for Neville at the Young Lawn Cemetery on Thursday 28 of July.

1200137 BARRY MAXWELL PEMBERTON 27 January 1947 - 19 July 2022

PTE Barry 'Spike' Pemberton died on Tuesday 19 July, due to a cardiac issue, at his home in St Clair, NSW.

Barry enlisted in March 1964, he did Recruit Training at 1 RTB, Corps Training with Infantry Centre and then joined 2 RAR. In January 1966 he was transferred to 5 RAR and deployed to South Vietnam on 6 May, Barry completed the Battalion's full 1966-67 Tour of Duty. He served in Admin Company, as a member of the band, but on operations or patrols he operated as a stretcher-bearer for Bravo Company. Barry later served with the Armoured Corps Band and took discharge in March 1970.



A Funeral Service was held for Barry at the Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair on Tuesday 2 August and was followed by a burial at Springwood Cemetery.

214565 JOHN BAILLIE STUBBS 16 August 1941 - 26 July 2022



PTE John 'Stubbsy' Stubbs died on Tuesday 26 July in the Maclean District Hospital, NSW, he had not been well for a long time.

John enlisted in February 1962, completed his recruit training at 1 RTB and Corps training at Infantry Centre. He joined 1 RAR in November of that year. For 2 years John served with HQ 28 Commonwealth Infantry Brigade Group in Singapore and Thailand. He joined 5 RAR in October 1965 and deployed to South Vietnam, as a rifleman with CHQ of Charlie Company, aboard HMAS Sydney, on 22 April 1966. He continued in that position for the full 1966-67 tour of SVN and returned to Australia on 12 May 1967, again aboard HMAS Sydney.

A Funeral Service was held for John at the Uniting Church, Angourie Road, Yamba on Saturday 6 August.

215023 KEVIN JOHN SMEE 11 April 1944 - 5 August 2022



CPL Kevin 'John' Smee died in hospital on Friday 5 August, he had been admitted to the hospital some time ago.

John enlisted in January 1963, he did his training at 1 RTB and then Infantry Centre before joining 1 RAR in August of that year. He was a member of 5 RAR when the Battalion was formed and served on both tours of South Vietnam. John was a LCPL with CHQ of B Coy on the 1966-67 tour and a CPL with ADM Coy on the 1969-70 tour. He stayed with 5 RAR until it was linked with 7 RAR and then served 6 years with 5/7 RAR. John continued in the ADF, serving for 20 years and discharging in January 1983.

John's Funeral Service was held at the C.J. Finney Centre, Kings Meadows on Monday 15 August.

55855 CLIFFORD MALCOLM HINDMARSH 1 September 1947 - 12 August 2022

PTE Clifford Hindmarsh, of Cloverdale WA, died on Friday 12 August after battling illness for some time, he passed away peacefully.

Malcolm enlisted in November 1968, was trained at 1 RTB and Infantry Centre. He joined 1 ARU in South Vietnam on 10 September until 7 October 1969 when he was transferred to 4 Platoon, Bravo Company, 5 RAR, as a rifleman. When 5 RAR returned to Australia he was transferred to 7 RAR, where he completed his tour of duty and. On his return to Australia he rejoined 5 RAR, staying with the Battalion until his discharge in November 1971.



Clifford's Funeral Service was held at Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Cemetery, east chapel, Padbury on Friday 2 September.

2787945 DONALD BRUCE GIBSON 22 October 1946 - 26 August 2022

PTE Donald 'Donny' Gibson, of Wardell, near Ballina NSW, died peacefully on Friday 26 August, after suffering a cerebral haemorrhage.

Donny started his recruit training at 3 TB in October 1967, then he completed his Corps training at 3 TB (Infantry Corps Wing). He joined 5 RAR in February 1968 and then transferred to 7 RAR in November 1968. In May 1969 he was deployed to 1 ARU in South Vietnam, staying with the unit until 18 June. Donny was then posted to 12 Platoon, Delta Company, 5 RAR on 19 June and served with that sub-unit for the balance of the Battalion's 1969-70 tour of South Vietnam.



A Funeral Service was held for Donald by Parkview Funeral Home, Ballina, NSW on Thursday 1 September.

IN MEMORIAM - Cont.

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44584 GUY HAMILTON ANSELL 16 August 1948 - 29 August 2022



CPL Guy Ansell died on Monday 29 August after a long and heroic battle with melanomas.

Guy enlisted in November 1967, and following initial training was allocated to the Corps of Infantry. After training at Ingleburn NSW he was posted to 5 RAR in May 1968 joining C Company. Guy deployed to Vietnam with the

Battalion's Advance Party in January 1969. He initially served as the OC's Batman until transferring to Support Section in C Company Headquarters. He was promoted to section commander. Guy returned to Australia on 5 February 1970. He remained in 5 RAR and was discharged after his three years' service in November 1970.

The Funeral Service for Guy was held by Farrell and O'Neill Funerals on Monday 5 September.

215619 DONALD LEO KENNEDY 27 December 1946 - 20 September 2022

CPL Donald 'Don' Kennedy died peacefully in his sleep on Monday 20 September, in the nursing home where he had been residing.

Don enlisted in January 1964, did his recruit Training at 1 RTB and Corps Training at School of Infantry. He was transferred to 1 RAR in August 1964 and served with that unit until March 1965. Don then joined 5 RAR assigned to 6 Platoon B Company and deployed to South Vietnam (SVN) with them. During his time in SVN he was promoted to Corporal and appointed the Section Commander of 8 Section. Don took his discharge after his 3 year enlistment



A Funeral Service for Don was held in Nowra, NSW, on Tuesday 27 September.

44556 ERIC JOHN GRAY 23 June 1946 - 5 October 2022



PTE Eric Gray of Kadina, South Australia, died on Wednesday 5 October.

Eric enlisted, for a three year term, on 6 November 1967 He attended 1 Recruit Training Battalion for recruit training and then Infantry Centre for corps training. After his initial training he was transferred to 5 RAR on 3 May 1968. In February 1969 Eric de-

ployed to South Vietnam with 11 Platoon, D Company, 5 RAR as a rifleman. On 9 March, near the village Hoa Long, he received a severe gunshot wound to the head and was evacuated from the field. Eric was medivaced to Australia on 24 March 1969. He was discharged on 10 April 1970.

A private family cremation was arranged for 1100hrs on Friday 14 October in Moonta, South Australia.

335075 CLAUDE HENRY DUCKER MC 22 September 1933 - 18 September 2022



MAJ Claude Decker MC, died, in a nursing home on the evening of Sunday 18 September.

Claude was accepted into RMC-D in February 1952. In January 1957 he was posted to 3 RAR and deployed to Malaya, where he was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry. Claude had various postings, including 1 RAR and 4 RAR, Staff College and Officer Training Unit. Before deploying to SVN and joining HQ-AFV in January 1969. In April he joined 5 RAR as OC Charlie Company where he was mentioned in dispatches. Claude then transferred to the CMF and was discharged in 1983.

A Funeral Service for Claude was held on Friday 30 September, at the Anzac Memorial Chapel of St Paul at Duntroon. Claude was interred privately.

18200 BRIAN JOSEPH SCHULTZ 9 January 1942 - 26 September 2022

PTE Brian "Dutchy" Schultz died Monday 26 September in the nursing home he had been in for a while suffering bowel cancer.

Brian enlisted in June 1963, attended 1 RTB and Infantry Centre (IC) and in February 1964 he joined 1 RAR. In March 1965 he was a founding member of 5 RAR until May 1966 and then rejoined 1 RAR. In July 1966 he was transferred to IC (RAR Reo Wing) until he deployed to Vietnam with 1 ARU 31 August to 23 September. Brian then joined CHQ and 9 Platoon, C Company, 5 RAR for the Battalion's 1966-67 Tour. He RTA'ed with the Battalion, and had various postings, until he took his discharge in May 1971.

The Funeral Service was held for Brian by Tobin Brothers at Sunbury, Vic, on Wednesday 12 October.



5715712 LIONEL CHRISTOPHER MORRIS 8 August 1947 - 24 October 2022



LCPL Lionel Morris died in hospital on Monday 24 October, he had been battling the recurrence of an aggressive cancer.

Lionel was conscripted on 7 February 1968 and did his recruit training at 2 RTB. He was transferred to 3 RTB (Infantry Corps Wing) on 19 May for his Corps training. In July he joined Mortar Platoon, Support Company, 5 RAR as a Mortarman. Lionel deployed to Vietnam with the Battalion on 8 February 1969. He remained in that position until he was medically returned to Australia on 3 December 1969. He completed the remainder of his National Service at HQ Western Command and discharged in February 1970.

A Funeral Service was held for Lionel at 1100hours on Monday 7 November at Mandurah, WA.



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IN MEMORIAM - Cont.

2412308 JOHN FREDERICK SCALES
16 October 1943 - 31 October 2022



PTE John 'Scalsey' Scales died on Monday 31 October, he had been ill for a while and suffered an aneurysm.

John enlisted on 28 July 1965, completed his recruit training at 1 RTB and corps training at Infantry Centre. On 26 May 1966 he deployed to 1 ARU in Vietnam and in July and was transferred to Support Company 5 RAR. When the Reconnaissance Platoon was formed he applied and was accepted. John returned to Australia with the Battalion on 12 May 1967. In January 1969 he joined 5 Section, 1 Division Provost Company. John returned to Vietnam attached to 7 RAR in February 1970 until March 1971. He discharged, as a sergeant, in July 1971.

John's Funeral Service was held at the Bathurst Crematorium Chapel on Friday 11 November. A wake was held later, at the Bathurst RSL, for family and friends.

AROUND THE STATES

WA

Vietnam Veterans Day on 18 August 2022 was once more commemorated at our go to place of 43 Below. There was an excellent roll up of 5 RAR veterans and partners, along with members of 103 Field Battery RAA led by Peter Manucci. 103 Battery supported 5 RAR on its first tour and Peter was member of FO parties with B and C Companies. It was also attended by a couple of Engineers, so providing a mix of people associated with 5 RAR. This was a first and we will ensure it continues in future years and events. Peter with his superior technical skills meant that the Ode, the Last Post and Reveille along with the National Anthem, was provided through a miniature speaker operated from his mobile phone.



Some of the WA members who attended at 43 Below to commemorate Vietnam Veterans Day this year.

Our service attracted the attention of other patrons and as a consequence two of the patrons donated \$200.00 each for us to enjoy drinks without the need to put our hands in our pockets. How times have changed and we are now the elder statesmen of the ex-service community. This has certainly given us, who served in Vietnam, a lift in

AROUND THE STATES - Cont.

WA - Cont.



morale and people are now acknowledging our commitment was not of our making.

Our next function will be our Christmas Lunch in December.

Ray Ward

On Wednesday 7 September 5 RAR members attended a luncheon at HQ 5 RAR, Perth to meet Rod Lees who is travelling around Australia with his wife Wendy. We could not tell Rod much about WA because he has travelled here on numerous times.



Alan and Marian McNulty, Peter Armstrong, Russell Briggs, Rod Lees and Terry Bates.

He looks great and it was good to talk about old times in 5 RAR, especially the good times in Sergeant's Mess, Dining in Nights and the great RSMs we served under.

We normally get up to 20 members attending these events, but due to old age and illness, but the regulars arrived. It was a great day, lots of stories and with small numbers made conversation easy.

Alan McNulty

TAS



We seem to be getting more than our share of members attending their last parade, for a state with such a small population.

On Sunday 25 October a Memorial Service was held for Bruce Heron, who did both tours with the Battalion and was seriously wounded on the Second Tour.

Bob Fenwick, his Platoon Commander on the 1969-70 Tour, flew down from Sydney and he gave a very moving, and at times, thought provoking eulogy. Other interstate visitors were Vickie Barnes and Karen Patterson, the daughters of John Kennedy who was KIA with D Coy on 15 June 1969.



Vickie Barnes, Bob Fenwick and Karen Patterson after Bruce Heron's Memorial Service.

It was a little disappointing that more local 5 RAR members didn't attend.

Kevin Mulligan



NSW

By the time you receive this edition of Tiger tails we would have had your Xmas Drinks get together Our next get together will be 1 March 2023 celebrating the Battalion Birthday. Organise your mates. Hope to see you there I would be interested to know of any get togethers around NSW.

On the 18 August D Company 1966-67 had their annual reunion in Ballina northern NSW, finally after 3 years of trying to have it due to Covid. A good number of members and partners attended, including Graham Warburton's (KIA 1 October 1966) brother Barry and his wife Barbara.

The event this year was hosted by Alby Clarke and his partner Dianne Hambly. They did a great job and it was enjoyed by all.



Alby Clarke and Rob 'Bear' Perry laid a wreath to those who did not return, they are followed by Barry and Barbara Warburton who laid a wreath to the memory of his brother Graham.

Have a Merry Xmas to you and yours

Barney Ruttle

AUSTRALIA IN TIMOR-LESTE

Australia's Defence Cooperation Program supports the Falintil-Forças Defesa Timor Lorosae (F-FDTL) preparation and training for participating in Peace Keeping Operations.



5 RAR and F-FDTL members work together.

5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment 5 RAR Mobile Training Team has started a training program with the F-FDTL at the Baucau Military Base and in Metinaro. The training will deliver UN mandated foundation skills in areas such as Basic First Aid, Navigation, Skill at Arms, Communications and Physical Training.

But not everything is training! Both teams had time for team-building and fun activities, such as Volleyball and Futsal.

DCP Training Adviser John Smallcombe said: "The cooperation between the F-FDTL and 5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment has been impressive so far. Everyone is keen and has a positive attitude and willingness to learn."

Courtesy of 5 RAR Facebook Page

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

I have received these two photos, taken on 18 August, of the Melbourne blokes on the left. The one on the right shows Ken Davies, John Taske, John Reister and Vince Feenstra at Cleveland, Queensland.





I deployed with Combat Team – Charlie to Afghanistan in November 2010. My call sign was assigned as the Company Quick Reaction Force and worked out of Forward Operation HADRIAN. One reaction task happened when we were called out to assist an Australian Bushmaster vehicle that found itself in a spot of bother and rolled off a road. Thankfully there were no serious injuries. None the less my section geared up in our Bushmaster with the support of two ASLAVS and made our way to the site. While in transit we were given our orders to establish a Vehicle Check Point (VCP) to allow no other vehicle access near the site to prevent clutter so the American recovery team could do their job unhindered.

Once we arrived at our VCP location, my section split into two parts which are called 'bricks'. One was to stay with the Bushmaster and two ASLAVS in rear security while the other four of us made our way to the VCP location on foot 500m away. The site of the VCP was smack bang in a bottleneck. It was a Narrow road about 5 metres across with a steep cliff on one side and Afghan compounds, called qualas, on the other. One of the qualas had an Afghan National Police checkpoint on it's roof with sandbags which was manned by a teenager with an AK-47.



Roads were a constant menace to the tall Bushmaster vehicles. Here Sam O guides one around a sharp U-turn as the driver cannot see the ground. Trust and understanding was paramount between the crew.

Our orders were clear and simple, no vehicles including Australian, American and Afghan were allowed past the checkpoint until the Bushmaster was recovered. When we arrived I positioned myself in the middle of the road while my team mates took up security positions around me. After about 15 minutes a platoon of mounted Afghan National Army with heavy weapons came flying into the VCP wanting to gain access to the crash site. Me, with my rifle slung across my front in a non-hostile manner, used hand signals to get them to stop.

Since we had no interpreter with us at the time, there was a breakdown in communication through language barriers and I soon found the barrel of an M-60 Machine Gun with a balaclava wearing ANA soldier on the other end of it jabbing me in the stomach below my front Kevlar plate simply because I wouldn't let them pass.

Straight away one of my teammates, Private H, jammed the muzzle of his rifle into the back of the Afghani soldier's head, only for that to piss the entire platoon off. Within a matter of seconds, myself and Private H were

“YOU READY?”

completely surrounded by ANA soldiers, under the influence of substances pointing everything from M16s, AK-47s, PKMs¹ and RPGs trained on us from multiple angles at close range. It was like a Mexican drug deal gone bad.

The other two members of the brick were desperately trying to raise communication with the vehicles we arrived in so they could help defuse the situation. By this stage several minutes had passed and the situation was deteriorating quickly.

It was then I turned to Private H and said... “You shoot the #and^% with the RPG and I'll shoot the #&^% with the mounted PKM. Not that made any difference as we still had 30+ weapons pointed at us.

The next words from Private H I'll never forget – “You Ready?”

This was our cue. We weren't going to let them get the first shots off so we flicked our weapons from action to instant, took aim at our already agreed targets and took up the first trigger pressure. We had both resigned to the fact that we were both about to be killed in a hail of bullets. Finally one of our other team members did manage to get a hold of our rear security and the sounds of ASLAVS roaring around the corner forced the ANA to lower their weapons. Even they didn't want to take on 25mm cannons from point blank range.

Right at the moment, myself and Private H kept our weapons up, the slightest squeeze of one of our triggers would have changed the relationships between Australian and Afghani troops forever. But thanks to good training and discipline, some timely reinforcements and to be honest, not wanting to get filled with holes, a disaster was averted.

This was the type of thing that I find hard to explain to people. Myself and Private H have had many conversations about that day. We accepted the fact that we were about to die but through sheer luck, we didn't..... But we were ready.

Sam O'Neil

Courtesy of Soldier Tales website soldiertales.com

¹ PKM stands for Pulemot Kalashnikova Modernizirovannyi. The weapon is a select-fire, gas operated, air cooled, belt fed, general purpose machine gun based on the Kalashnikov operating system.

Hoping that all 5 RAR Association members and their families have a happy Christmas and a safe and healthy 2023.

The Editor

DISCLAIMER: The 5 RAR Association, the National Committee and the Editor take no responsibility for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies contained in this newsletter. Nor do they accept any liability for any loss or damage suffered directly or indirectly from use of information contained in this newsletter. Nor do they warrant that articles or opinions published in this newsletter are necessarily the opinions held by the Association, the National Committee or the Editor.

VALE – FRED HOARE – 2nd/5th BATTALION

17



Fred attending an ANZAC Day ceremony a few years ago.

The 5 RAR Association lost a respected friend in July with the passing of Fred Hoare. Fred was the long-standing President of the 2/5th Australian Infantry Battalion Association (NSW Branch). 'Long-standing' is an apt description as he was possibly the very last remaining veteran of the 2/5th Battalion of World War 2 fame.

Fred was born on 30 January 1926, he enlisted in June 1943 and served until November 1946, discharging with the rank of Sergeant. In the New Guinea campaign

Fred was a member of A Company and his early section commander was Tom Muggleton, who is well known to many Tigers. Tom's post WW2 career included being a 3 RAR veteran of the Battle of Kapyong, the long serving RSM of RMC Duntroon and Quartermaster of 5 RAR's second tour of Vietnam. Fred and Tom had not seen each other since WW2 but finally caught up at the 5 RAR Reunion on the Gold Coast in 2010. They, with their wives, Val and Thelma remained good friend since that time and often caught up.

The 2/5th Association until recent years held two annual reunions, one on Anzac Day and the other on Tambu Day in August. The Battle of Mount Tambu was one of their most significant engagements and a Battle Honour of the battalion in New Guinea. Both Colin Khan and I have been honoured as guest speakers for this commemoration which was always well attended by their veterans and extended family members.

Fred did not miss an Anzac Day and when he could no longer undertake the march in Sydney, he was pushed in his chair by his son Greg or his grandsons Oliver and Chris. He was most caring of his fellow veterans and kept in continual contact with them until the role call was no longer answered.

Fred was a proud father and grandfather who sadly passed away only a few days before his grandson, Oliver Hoare, won the gold medal in the 1500 metres race at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games. Oliver proudly dedicated the win to his "Pop".

Fred and Val were together for 66 years. Together, they were the strength behind the 2/5th Battalion Association and were also strong supporters of our Tiger Association attending a number of our major reunions. During my tenure as President, I would frequently call in to see Val and Fred on my way to or from our committee meetings in Sydney. Fred would always insist on welcoming me at the door, even when his mobility was declining and would



Oliver pushes Fred's wheelchair in the 2013 Parade.

also be the one to make me a coffee to accompany Val's culinary delights.

In 2012, the 5 RAR Association and the 2/5th Battalion Association collaborated to donate a plaque to the Museum at the Victoria School at Villers Bretonneux in France in honour of the actions of the original 5th Battalion, AIF in WW1. This plaque was presented to the Mayor of Villers Bretonneux, Monsieur Paul Simon AO by the Director of Australian War Graves, Brigadier Chris Appleton. Chris is a former CO of 5/7 RAR and his son, Chris Jnr, is a 5 RAR veteran of Afghanistan.

It is sad to note that there are possibly no more veterans of this fine battalion. The 2/5th will always be remembered as being one of only two Australian battalions in WW2 "to Fight all the King's Enemies" – Germany, Italy, the Vichy French and Japan.

To maintain the connection, a history of the 2/5th Battalion is displayed in the 5 RAR museum in Darwin.

Farewell Fred, thank you for your service, your love of your country and your loyalty to your comrades.

Roger Wainwright



CONGRATULATIONS TO CPL MAX McCULLOCH

The winners of the 2021 Kennedy Cup have recently represented 5 RAR in the Duke of Gloucester (DoG) Cup, the competition to determine the best rifle section in the Royal Australian Regiment. The competition was not held in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

We extend our congratulations to CPL Max McCulloch, the section commander, for being awarded the RSM's Trophy as the best section commander in the DoG competition. Keep up the good work, Max and we thank you and your section for their sterling effort.

Max and his section were drawn from the Reconnaissance and Snipers Platoon and Mortar Platoon from Support Company and also from Charlie Company.



Max, in the central position, with his section that competed in the Duke of Gloucester Cup competition.



MISSING MEMBERS

The following is a list of 5 RAR Association members who did not renew their membership in the 2017-20 and 2020-23 membership periods. They are shown alphabetically and we would like to re-establish contact with them. If you know them could you please contact them to ensure that they are alright, and to enquire if they would like to renew their membership of the Association?

Service No	Family name	First name/s	Fin/Year
2789361	Agland	Phillip Bruce	2020
219124	Almond	Brian	2020
3786746	Anderson	Trevor Patrick Paul	2017
8443209	Archer-O'Leary	Aidan	2017
3786658	Baker	Robert Bruce	2020
5715800	Bamford	Ronald Trevor	2020
39619	Barnfield	Laurie Arthur	2020
17103	Battle	Michael Reginald	2017
2797834	Bell	Raymond Lionel	2020
5713611	Bockisch	Lutz	2020
219163	Boland	Geoffrey Terrance	2020
1200253	Boyns	Paul Thomas	2017
3786980	Brand	Thomas Arthur	2020
53116	Brendish	Gerald Aubrey	2017
1731056	Brunckhorst	Michael Brooke	2017
3789028	Buchanan	Bruce Eion	2017
4720687	Burner	Ian Michael Francis	2020
2789626	Burton	Brian Stewart	2020
2791659	Cakoliris	Dennis	2020
2411548	Caldwell	Raymond Joseph	2020
222528	Carlisle	James Neil	2020
4410794	Carlyon	Lindsay Noel	2020
1731354	Carney	Wayne Douglas	2017
3793455	Carroll	Laurence Roy	2020
215776	Chapman	Raymond Phillip	2020
42567	Christensen	David Leslie	2017
43442	Clarke	Francis Howard	2020
214476	Cleary	Vincent Paul	2020
1731575	Connell	Peter John	2020
215524	Cook	Harvey	2020
217653	Cook	Terrence James	2020
216093	Cotterill	Graham Cecil	2020
2788279	Cox	Ian Charles	2020
39531	Coyne	Kenneth Anthony	2020
8496237	Cripps	Ryan Christopher	2017
1814151	Croft	Simon Nathan	2020
6410173	Cross	Michael Graham	2020
3411761	Daly	Kenneth Francis	2020
3794512	Davies	John Nicholl	2020
2796739	Di Pede	David	2017
2781478	Dibden	Clifford Ronald	2017
61857	Dick	Gregory Charles	2020
622154	Dixon	William Brian	2017
1733691	Dobson	Dennis Anthony	2020
2788450	Doolin	Graeme Francis	2020
8540405	Dorling	Samuel Jack	2020
2781552	Dorough	Haydyn	2020
5411654	Douglas	William Thomas	2017
214935	Dunbar	William Ronald	2017
213028	Dunn	Reginald Terrence	2017

4717487	Ettridge	John Patrick	2020
4720107	Exindaris	Charles	2020
5716467	Fallon	John William	2020
2782107	Farrell	Robert Clarence	2017
2782064	Ferguson	Robert Stuart	2017
8283079	Ferguson	Douglas James	2020
314618	Flanigan	Laurence Peter	2020
3793474	Forster	Garry Thomas	2017
16590	Fryer	Gerald Anthony	2020
3792869	George	Ronald David	2017
2788737	Gibbons	David George	2020
2790470	Goddard	Brian	2020
8539795	Godfrey	Russell Colin	2017
51811	Goldspink	Norman Herbert	2020
2789498	Gourlay	David Dalrymple	2017
3793799	Grant	Franklin Charles	2020
6708985	Green	Peter Graham	2017
2786664	Hannah	Michael Patrick	2017
217965	Harmer	Michael Francis	2020
64349	Harris	Norman Jonathan	2020
17105	Hartley	John Curtis	2020
3794948	Harty	Ian Charles	2020
1201666	Harwood	Alan Charles	2020
5715267	Haug	Mons Linton	2020
54856	Hawkins	Rodney Cameron	2020
615654	Haywood	Ian Donald	2020
243164	Henrys	Michael Ernest	2020
2789537	Herrmann	Brian	2020
2412246	Heyhoe	John Kenneth	2020
2789668	Hinton	Ronald James	2017
5715860	Hohnen	Giles John	2017
2781497	Hurley	James Albert	2017
1733741	Hutchison	Robert Allen	2020
2788759	Imlay	Neil Andrew	2020
2789986	Innes	Stuart Courtenay	2020
8545823	Innes	Bob Michael	2017
1733461	Iltzstein	Graham Malcolm	2020
16792	Jackson	Henry Ernest	2020
54326	Jackson	Arthur Edward	2020
4800361	Jaunay	Christopher Paul	2020
1733341	Johnson	Marshall Leigh	2017
44572	Karasoulos	Euthimios	2020
3792428	Kent	Douglas Allan	2020
2781504	Kneller	Arthur Thomas	2020
315837	Knight	Bruce William	2020
3793443	Krois	Leonhard	2020
5714719	Larson	Robert John	2020
2788389	Lewis	Brian James	2020
557463	Logan	Stephen	2017
4719872	Logins	Peter	2020
2412184	Mackay	Ian Roderick	2020
2799762	Malcolm	David Simmonds	2020
1733750	Manning	Michael Francis	2020
218075	Marston	Reginald James	2017
216542	Mason	Bruce Edward	2017
860537	Mateer	Gary Francis	2017
2790912	McAlister	Kenneth Henry	2017
216819	McBean	Ross John	2017

MISSING MEMBERS - Cont.

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2781375	McBride	Michael Hugh	2020
42989	McCauley	Peter Charles	2020
18243	McIntyre	Wilfred Kingswood	2020
61555	McPhedran	Donald	2020
2789625	Mitchell	John Brian	2020
3794296	Mitchell	Bruce Roy	2020
2790905	Morgan	William Steuart	2020
38351	Morrison	Paul Frederick A	2020
3793849	Morse	Frederick Thomas	2017
4719973	Oakley	Donald Wayne	2020
2217256	O'Brien	Terrence Dominic	2020
1201659	Olive	James Robert D	2020
216072	Olson	Arthur Allan	2020
7801135	Omaji	Reuben Ute	2017
3787161	Ordner	Neil George	2020
214602	O'Sullivan	Lawrence Vivian	2020
4720183	Partridge	David John	2017
393677	Patterson	Andrew G	2020
1201333	Pearson	Walter Edward	2017
61616	Peck	Noel James	2020
8199106	Perriman	Nicholas James	2020
2412385	Perry	Stephen Jeffery	2020
2790138	Pickering	Charles Francis	2020
3794507	Plunkett	Gregory Reginald	2017
1200867	Rains	Norman Gerard	2017
2789066	Ridge	Warren Francis	2020
217885	Roberts	Michael James	2020
2782298	Roberts	Thomas Herbert	2020
2787958	Robinson	Rodney Charles	2020
45118	Roe	Terrence Albert	2020
15562	Rogers	Raymond Walter	2020
4717569	Rogers	Roy Winston	2020
212682	Rose	David John	2020
37277	Ross	Graham Henry	2020
5716348	Ross	John Raymond	2020
8240242	Royal	Bradley Lloyd	2017
2796794	Russell	Graham	2017
2790200	Samuel	Anthony Wallace	2020
3792091	Sanders	Reginald Rex	2020
3793395	Savige	Bruce Ronald	2020
216572	Scaysbrook	Kenneth William	2020
3786727	Shannon	Bruce Mcpherson	2020
4720007	Simes	Rodger David	2017
43394	Smith	Ian Redford	2017
2791764	Spaderna	Wolfgang Peter	2017
4717579	Stanford	Peter	2020
4717580	Stein	Paul Edward	2020
217913	Stewart	William Ernest	2020
5716143	Stingemore	Patrick James E	2017
8442607	Stuart	Christopher Jon	2017
254647	Sturla	James William	2020
214040	Supple	Robert William	2020
2781515	Sutton	Christopher John	2020
43605	Tape	Dennis Bruce	2020
2790899	Taylor	Peter James	2020
262205	Toms	Peter Macquarie	2020
2788933	Traill	Glen	2017
3135159	Van Liessum	George Edward	2017

5716162	Waldock	Trevor William	2020
2782852	Wales	Kenneth Claude	2017
4720030	Ward	Ian William	2020
5715984	Wardrope	Peter Giles	2017
3795323	Whitaker	Richard	2020
2789879	White	Jeremy Gibson W	2020
3786815	White	Murray Robert	2020
221403	Wilson	Brian James	2017
3786804	Wolk	Urie	2017
3167846	Wright	Wayne Smith	2020
61846	Wrigley	James Barry	2017
61918	Youd	Malcolm Francis	2017

Editor's Note: This list was extracted on 15 November, if any member has renewed their membership since that date will now be shown as financial on the database.

NOTICES

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES AND ENQUIRIES

All enquiries regarding membership, or changes and amendments to your contact details should be forwarded to:

Membership Officer, 5 RAR Association,
82/117 Palm Meadows Drive, CARRARA, QLD, 4211.
07 5594 4780 or garyt.5rar@gmail.com

5 RAR DARWIN VISITS PROCEDURE

If you are going to Darwin and would like to visit the Museum, please email 5rar.welfare@defence.gov.au with your available dates and one of the team will get back to you with arrangements.

The Battalion will strive to arrange security requirements, if it is at all possible, to suit your travel time frame for you to visit Binh Ba Lines and the Museum.

D COY 1969-70 – NEXT REUNION?

The next Reunion has been planned for 2-5 May 2023 at Wauchope (Port Macquarie area) in NSW. We will be using the Wauchope RSL as "fire support base". Ray Knapp is doing the on ground planning and coordination.

If any D Company 2nd Tour members don't have contact through the platoon reps, Ray Ward, Bernie Pye and Ray Knapp then please get in contact with Bob Fenwick on 0417 471 172 or email sendfenwick@bigpond.com

Hoping to get as many involved as possible. Any other local "Tigers" are more than welcome to join us.

Quote: "People sing about victory, about liberation. They're wrong. Who won and who lost is not a question. In war no one wins or loses. There is only destruction. Only those that have never fought like to argue about who won and who lost."

Bao Ninh, NVA Soldier and Author



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Remit this form and payment due to:

The Secretary
5 RAR Association
P O Box 698
CARINGBAH NSW 1495

Current at 1 December 2022

Please indicate use of this form

Joining/Renewing Membership

Change of Details

Purchase of Memorabilia

Form with fields for Surname, Christian Names, Known As, Partners Name, Regimental No, Rank, Home Ph, Mobile, Business Ph, Address, Suburb/Town, State, P/Code, Email, and a table of items with prices and quantities.

The Association has limited stock of 'Vietnam Vanguard' and 'Vietnam Task', or they are available on the ANU Press website at: https://press.anu.edu.au/publications/vietnam-vanguard and http://doi.org/10.22459/VT.2022

Complete all sections of this form and remit it, with Cheque or Money Order made payable to 5 RAR Association, to the address above, or, email this form and Internet Deposit Receipt/CBA Deposit Slip to gp@therbco.com.au please include your Surname and Initials as the reference. Bank details: Account name: 5 RAR Association. Bank: CBA. BSB: 062-136 Account: 1048-1883 (Please note new account details).

Your Committee Members and State Representatives.

Patrons: BRIG Colin Khan DSO AM (Ret'd) Ph: 02 6257 7249 - MAJGEN Justin Ellwood DSC AM CSC Ph: 07 3332 6025

Table with 4 columns: President, Vice President, Secretary/Memorabilia Officer, Treasurer, Membership Off/TT's Editor, Webmaster, Committee Member, Committee Member, Committee Member, Committee Member.

Submissions for Tiger Tales to 82 Lake Hills, 117 Palm Meadows Dve, CARRARA, QLD, 4211 or garyt.5rar@gmail.com

Table with 4 columns: ACT Representative, NSW Representative, QLD Representative, SA/NT Representative, TAS Representative, VIC Representative, WA Representative.