



# TIGER TALES

## NEWSLETTER OF THE 5 RAR ASSOCIATION

### *Editor's Notebook*

Welcome to a new year. Last year, 1998 saw many events take place. The Canberra lead up to the 50th Anniversary of the Regiment and the formal ceremony in Brisbane. The latter being a great success, according to all reports. Our thanks to Ron Shambrook who took on the task of co-ordinating the 5 RAR administration in Queensland. The Memorial Walk again was a significant event and to all those members who contributed with hard cash to pay for plaques in memory of our fallen comrades, the association thanks you.

In the main, it has been a good year for the association with some progress in membership. With our extended communication link on the Internet, I foresee increased interest and participation in the association.

Sadly however, we also lost

members through accidents and failing health. To the families and friends who lost loved ones during 1998 we, the members of the 5 RAR Association, share in your grief.

*Brian London*

*Editor Tiger Tales*

### Association Fees

Members may renew their membership now. Use the application form in this issue.



**INTERNET: The web site for the 5 RAR Association can be found on [www.sci.net.au/londonb](http://www.sci.net.au/londonb) or OPERATIONS/HISTORY on [www.netSPACE.net.au/~harrison](http://www.netSPACE.net.au/~harrison)**

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E-Mail  
[londonb@sci.net.au](mailto:londonb@sci.net.au)



## REST IN PEACE

The 5 RAR Association regrets to announce the passing of the following members of the Fifth Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment.

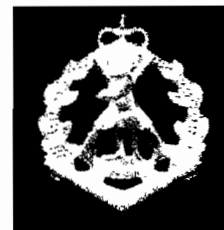
**REIN (RAY) HARRING**  
**PATRICK KEARNEY**  
**WAYNE (BLUEY) MALTBY**



### Lt Col RAY HARRING

*Lt Col Ray Haring enlisted in the Australian Army in 1957 . On graduation from Portsea, he served with the Royal Australian Regiment in Malaya. He also served with various units and held diplomatic postings during his army service. Ray will be remembered by the association for his service in 5 RAR during 1969/70 as Company Commander of B. Coy. Major Haring gave of himself completely during training to ensure the men under his command were prepared for their operational role in Vietnam. Ray was an officer of the highest order and proved his worth by his excellent leadership and example he set for his young team of officers, NCOs and men. Ray Haring was highly regarded and respected by the members of the association, in particular, those who had the honour to serve under his command. Ray will be sadly missed by us all.*

1937  
1998





## PATRICK KEARNEY



*Patrick Kearney enlisted in the Australian Army as a National Serviceman on the 7th February 1968. Pat served in 1 RAR and 5 RAR in South Vietnam and again in Malaya in 1969. Pat served his country with distinction as a rifleman and as a platoon medic and was discharged from his national service in 1970. Pat was born in Young NSW on the 13 January 1946 and lived in Bribbaree where he worked as a motor mechanic until his call up.*

*On discharge from the army he married Elizabeth Moran in May 1970 and moved to Wollongong and worked as a fitter and at BHP. Pat passed away in June 1998. He was a caring person and was always ready to help anyone in need. Two bus loads of his fellow workers attended his funeral. Pat will not be forgotten. May he rest in peace.*

*Dave Gardiner*



## WAYNE (BLUEY) MALTBY

*Cpl Wayne (Bluey) Maltby was born in Brisbane on August 8th 1949. Wayne grew up wanting to be a soldier and joined the 2/14 Q.M.I. Civilian Forces in October 1966. He then enlisted in the Regular Army in March 1967. Wayne received two awards, one for Outstanding Soldier and one for Top Recruit. He was assigned to Armoured Corps but requested reassignment to Infantry. He was eventually transferred to 5 RAR and served with the Battalion in Vietnam in 1969. Wayne was promoted in the field to the rank of Corporal and was the section commander of 3 Section, 7 Platoon C. Company. He was a courageous soldier and very proud of the fact that he never lost a man whilst he was Section Commander.*

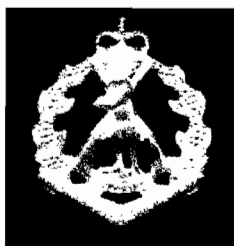
*Wayne passed away in Greenslopes Hospital on November 23rd 1998. He is survived by his wife Carmel and his three daughters Michelle, Lisa and Lynette. No prouder family could any man have had.*

*Wayne penned a phrase quite a while back, which is to be inscribed on his plaque at Mount Gravatt Lawn Cemetery, Anzac Section, "Shall come the darkness, shall come the peace."*

*We will all strive to honour*

*Carmel, Michelle,*

*'Lest We*



*his death by the way we live.*

*Lisa and Lynette.*

*Forget'*



## ANZAC DAY 1999.

### SYDNEY

Form up Phillip and Bent St. Assemble around 11.00 a.m.

The after march venue will be Vaks Bar and Grill. Arrangements as per last year for food and drinks.

### MELBOURNE

Dawn Service at the Shrine. Form up 0545 Hrs, Stand To: 0600 Hrs

#### The March

The Association banner located on Swanson Walk out side Melbourne Town Hall. March starts at 0900 Hrs. The expected step off 5 RAR at 1045 Hrs

#### ORDER OF MARCH

7 RAR, 8, 9, 1, BAND 2 RAR, 3, 4, 5, 6,

REUNION 5 RAR

**"DUKE OF WELLINGTON"**

293 LATROBE ST MELBOURNE

A cold can has been organised on arrival to prevent the rush to the Bar. A donation of \$2 is expected on arrival. A hot meal will be available \$8.00.

Free travel on public transport if medals/ RSL Badges are worn.

*Geoff Levey*

### BRISBANE

Dawn Service- 4.45 a.m. Location BHQ 6RAR Enoggera. All units RAR and RAR Association. Breakfast at all messes. Transport available to Enoggera railway for late morning march.

Brisbane Dawn Service will march off from King George Square to assemble in Anzac Square for wreath laying. March off 4.40 a.m. Speaker Maj Gen Arnison.

Brisbane City March - Form up corner Elizabeth & William St - order of march RAR - 6-7-8-9-1-2-3-4-5RAR. Pde starts 10.30 a.m. 5 RAR to arrive around 10.30.a.m.

### REUNION GALLIPOLI BARRACKS

At the end of parade, busses will take members to rear of Sgts mess Enoggera. Bus fare \$2.00. Food and drinks at the Association reunion is pay as you go. A bus shuttle will take members to railway station after reunion.

All rail travel is free for ex-servicemen.

*Ron Shambrook*

### CANBERRA

Form up in the centre of Anzac Avenue near proposed Korean War Memorial. 5RAR to form up under RAR Banner — Time 10.30 a.m.

March commences at 11.00 a.m.

After march venue- Olims Hotel Ainslie with RAR Association.

*Greg Nequs*

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Form up behind the 5RAR Banner in Bn order. Behind RAR banner. Time - 0930 Hrs.

Location - St, George Tce ( East ) of Barrack St.

After March Venue - "Forrest Centre Tavern"

near the corner of Mill St, and St George St, (West)

Also known as "Righys"

*John Burridge*

### TASMANIA

5 RAR members in Tassie can catch up with mates at the following venues:

Launceston RSL Wellington St after the service.

Hobart- Glenorchy RSL- Lenah Valley RSL.

Lindisfarne RSL- Devernpport RSL Macfie St.

Devernpport RSL- 36 Alexander St

#### NEXT ISSUE

**Peter Isaac's article on his work with the UN. A detailed account of mine clearing operations in Angolia, Bosnia and Herzegovina. If anyone is looking for a job, Peter may be able to put you to work.**

**Editor**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If members change their address, please use the following form to assist us with accurate records.

FROM.....STATE  
DATE.....  
SURNAME  
.....GIVEN NAMES.....  
PRIVATE ADDRESS  
.....STATE.....POST CODE.....  
BUSINESS ADDRESS.....  
PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS ( TICK)  
 PRIVATE  BUSINESS  
PHONE...H.....  
PHONE...B.....

State Representatives

- QLD Lt Col Ron Shambrook AM  
57 Lade St Enoggera 4051  
(07)38554055 B 33541706 H

---

- VIC Mr Geoff Levery  
40 Brook St Sunbury 3429  
(03) 93391229 B 97444078 H

---

- SA Mr Bob Naismith  
33 Martin St Morphett Vale 5162  
(08) 83261813 H

---

- WA Mr John Burr ridge  
88 Watkins St Dalkieth 6009  
(08) 93866826 B 93841218 H

---

- TAS Mr Colin Illman  
3 Blackstone Rd Launceston 7250  
(03) 63449716 B 63430999 H

---

- ACT Mr Greg Negus  
3 Daplyn Close Weston 2611  
(02) 62431029 B 62882070 H

---

- NSW Brian London AOM DCM  
PO Box 422 Batemans Bay 2536  
(02) 44725748  
Editor Tiger Tales

5 RAR ITEMS FOR SALE

- 1. 5 RAR VIDEO@ \$40  \$.....
- 2. 5 RAR TIES@ \$15  \$.....
- 3. CAR STICKERS @ \$3  \$.....
- 4. CAPS @ \$13  \$.....
- 5. HONOUR ROLL @\$30  \$.....
- 6. PLAQUES @ \$20  \$.....
- 7. VIETNAM TASK  
book on first tour @ \$28  \$.....
- 8. YEAR OF THE TIGERS  
book on second tour  
@ \$68  \$.....

Total \$

Name & address.....  
.....  
.....  
.....state.....post code.....

THE SECRETARY  
5RAR ASSOCIATION PO BOX 817 GPO  
SYDNEY NSW 1043

PLEASE NOTE THE ITEMS ORDERED WILL TAKE 4/6 WEEKS TO BE DELIVERED FROM THE DATE OF RECEIPT.



## Letters to the Editor

John Barber Belmont NSW

Page 6

### John Burridge. WA

Dear John,

Thanks for your very informative letter on your trip to Gallipoli in 1998. I'm sorry that I did not have the space to publish your account of the trip in the previous issue. I have the same problem this time, not that I'm complaining. All of the above notwithstanding, I have taken the liberty of including a few extracts from your report.

Regards,

Brian London

*"Most of our pre Anzac Day sight seeing was done from by way of a good 14 seat van (hired from Istanbul, with driver for around SA60 a day). This gave us a great deal of flexibility when moving around the peninsular. The most striking thing about Anzac Cove is just how small it is. To think that thousands of troops moved over that tiny beach, with all their equipment, is just staggering."*

*"Much has been made of the landing at the wrong beach however, when one looks at the intended landing site (Brighton Beach 1 Km to the south) the error may have been a blessing as Brighton Beach is much more of a natural "Killing field." Would I recommend a trip to Gallipoli- would I what!*

*It is an absolute must and full marks to the Turkish people for the manner in which they embraced the Australians.*

*"I would be happy to provide further details should any member be contemplating a trip."*

John Burridge



ANZAC COVE UNLOADING BARGES

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter (10 Sept 98). You raise some interesting points on the article in Tiger Tales on the statistics : "The cost of Australian Commitment in Human Terms." The article was taken from the Internet and I will revisit the location to find the source of the figures quoted. For the benefit of our members, I will quote from your letter the salient points: MIA Australians 1 RAR in action 5-9 Nov 1965.(Operation 'Hump')

"During the action L/Cpl H.R. Parker and Pte P. Gillson were killed in action. Both were regular soldiers. Because of the extent of enemy fire, the bodies were not extracted from the battle field even though several attempts were made. The efforts of Maj Healy, CO Col Brumfield and Maj Essex- Clark to stage a reinforced Bn attack was denied by Gen Westmoreland Comd 173 Abn and the Bn was extracted, leaving behind the bodies of Parker and Gillson."

The statistics show 1 regular soldier and 1 National serviceman were listed as MIA

The point John is making :

1. 1RAR lost 2 regular soldiers MIA, and as 1RAR had no National servicemen, the report is suspect.

Editor's Note: Until I check the source information I would say there is an error in the report from the Internet. Also, John was a sector commander at the time of the action and served as CSM C. Coy 5 RAR in Australia in 1970.

The Editor.

### MORE ON AUSTRALIAN MIA's

The following article is based on information gathered from the Australian War Memorial. There are in fact six (6) Australian Servicemen listed as MIA. The first two are Parker and Gillson from 1 RAR and the circumstances of the action on Operation 'Hump' is correct. The RAAF lost two, M. Herbert and R. Carver. Both of these men were crew aboard an RAAF Canberra Bomber. They were returning from a

**REUNION IN 2000**

mission when suddenly, the aircraft was lost from the radar screen. The report shows that they were out of range of SAM missiles so the loss of this aircraft and crew without trace is somewhat of a mystery. One theory is that a 'Hung up Bomb' may have exploded on board, completely destroying the aircraft.

J. Gillespie was a member of 8 Fd Ambulance and was a medic aboard a 'Dust off' flight en route to a contact area. The helicopter was hit by enemy fire and crashed. All of the crew, except Gillespie, were either thrown or crawled clear of the aircraft moments before the wreckage burst into flames. The body of Gillespie was never recovered.

David Fisher was a member of an SAS patrol. During a 'Hot Extraction' the patrol attached themselves to a rope from the extraction helicopter. The patrol were lifted several hundred feet into the air and it was at this time Fisher fell from the rope. The report goes on to say that Fisher was hit by ground fire and fell at least 300 feet. The body was never recovered. The end to this very sad account is the radio that Fisher was carrying, was found/captured? two provinces away for the contact area some time later.

**Editor's note**

*Australia sent a delegation to Vietnam in an attempt to gather information on the six missing servicemen. The delegation returned the finding that there was no evidence to suggest any of the men were alive or reports of the bodies being found by the Vietnamese Government. Still, here and overseas there are groups not satisfied that Governments have done enough to find out more on our 'Missing' servicemen.*

*The editor take full responsibility for this story.*

*Brian London*

5 RAR will hold the next reunion in **Darwin** on the Easter/Anzac Day weekend. Dates are from the 21 April 2000 through to Tuesday 25 April 2000. The general details are;

- a. A briefing by 5/7 RAR on their role in the region.
- b. A weapons demonstration, with a chance to fire some weapons.
- c. Armoured vehicle demonstration.
- d. A mixed dinner for members and families/guests.
- e. Tours.
- f. March on Anzac Day.

7 RAR will also be holding their reunion in Darwin at the same time.

To assist with planning, members are requested to complete the return form and forward to the Association starting now.

Members' details once submitted, will be used to organise final preparations and will be published in the follow up issues of Tiger Tales and on the internet. Members will probably need to organise a holiday based around the reunion and the chartered bus option looks a good way of doing it. Here are some figures to assist in your planning;

Air Fares- Melbourne /Darwin-	\$819	Seniors \$730
Sydney/Darwin -	\$819	\$730
Brisbane/Darwin-	\$769	\$660
Perth/Darwin-	\$679	\$611
Bus Fares- MelB/Darwin-	\$629	\$496
Sydney/Darwin	\$714	\$602
Bris/Darwin	\$719	\$575
Perth/Darwin	\$872	\$700
Aussie Pass- Greyhound	\$450	for 7 days
travel in a 30 day period.		
Bus Charter- Sydney-Darwin-	\$1575 - 15 Days	Accommodation
		and B/F&dinner *
Sydney-Bris-Darwin	\$1785- 17 Days*	
Bris-Darwin	\$1785- 17 Days*	
Sydney-Bris-Darwin-Alice Springs-Eyres Rock-		
Adelaide-Melb-Sydney	\$2520-24 Days*	

All of the above are return and bus travel includes accommodation and most meals.

5 RAR REUNION DARWIN - APRIL 2000

THE SECRETARY  
5 RAR ASSOCIATION  
GPO BOX 817  
SYDNEY 1043

NAME & ADDRESS.....  
.....  
.....  
.....POST CODE.....PHONE.....

I propose to attend the 5 RAR reunion in Darwin

The number of family and friends attending will be.....people.  
I will require.....seats at the mixed dinner.

My probable means of transport will be;

Car

Air

Bus

Chartered Bus

.....  
I am interested in travelling to and from Darwin by chartered bus.

SYDNEY- DARWIN  SYDNEY-BRIS-DARWIN (ALL RETURN)

BRIS - DARWIN  PERTH - DARWIN

SYDNEY-BRIS-DARWIN-ALICE SPRINGS-AYRES ROCK-ADELAIDE-  
MELB-SYDNEY.

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....



On the 5 December 1998, a memorial to the fifty members of 5RAR who gave their lives while serving in Vietnam was dedicated at Holsworthy. The memorial is adjacent to similar memorials to 7RAR and 5/7RAR (MECH).

Brian Budden arranged for the stone for this memorial without cost, 5/7RAR arranged for transportation of the stone. John Miller arranged for the plaques to be produced and the Army prepared and laid the foundations.

### THE ADDRESS

Col John Warr DSO

*A little over 30 years ago, the elected Government of Australia decided to provide forces to serve in South Vietnam to support that country against aggression from North Vietnam.*

*The Fifth Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, which was raised here at Holsworthy on 1st March 1965, served two tours of duty in Vietnam in 1966/67 and 1969/70. The Battalion served with great distinction and, as a result, it created standards and traditions which I am pleased to see is being inculcated into 5/7 RAR (Mechanized).*

*There is always a price to pay for such service and achievements and the price was fifty young Australian servicemen whose names are recorded on the memorial which is being dedicated here today. While this memorial is specifically here to remind us of the deeds and sacrifices of these young men, it will also remind us of the debt we owe to all who have served their country through the membership of the Fifth Battalion. A great number of members of the Battalion are no longer with us. Their early deaths were, in many cases, due to their service in Vietnam.*

*This memorial will also remind us of the sacrifices made by the families of these men, because theirs is a continuing loss. Some of these family members are here today.*

*Every man who served in Vietnam knew that he might be required to give his life for his country and they were all prepared to do this. They didn't ask "What can my country do for me" Their attitude was "Whatever my country asks of me, I will give." There can be no greater love of one's country than this.*

*Those whose names are on this memorial were the finest young Australians and we could not afford to lose them. These young men did not have the love of their families, the enjoyment of seeing their children develop, of guiding their children, of enjoying the success and achievements in their chosen careers and fields of employment and contributing to the development of our society. We can only surmise as to what might have been. I therefore ask that all members of the 5RAR Association and their friends, when they assemble here at this memorial each Anzac Day and on other appropriate occasions, to remember our friends who paid the the supreme sacrifice in Vietnam and to also remember all the other members of the Battalion who have passed on and the families of our members who are no longer with us.*

*I would like, on behalf of the Association, to acknowledge the arrangements undertaken by a number of people which has resulted in the building of this memorial. In particular, Brian Budden, John Miller and Maj Pevin Price, the Executive Officer of 5/7 RAR (Mech).*

*I think it is fitting that I conclude with the Ode of The Royal Australian Regiment:*

Rest ye O' Warriors  
 You'll battle no more  
 No longer to live the horrors of war  
 Your duty was done with honour and pride  
 Farewell O brother  
 Until we march by your side.



THE MEMORIAL DEDICATION 5/7 RAR LINES

**RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP 5 RAR ASSOCIATION  
PERIOD 2000 -2005**

**THE SECRETARY  
5RAR ASSOCIATION PO BOX 817  
GPO SYDNEY 1043**

**SURNAME.....GIVEN NAMES.....**

**ADDRESS.....**

**.....STATE.....POST CODE.....**

**PHONES..BUSINESS.....HOME.....**

**REMARKS.....**

.....

**I WISH TO RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP AS A MEMBER OF THE 5 RAR ASSOCIATION AND  
ENCLOSE A CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER FOR \$25.00.**

**Editor's note: Subs paid between now and the 1 March 2000 will make members financial to 28  
February 2005. This applies to old and new members.**

**THE INTERNET  
5 RAR WEB PAGES**

**<http://www.sci.net.au/londonb>  
<http://www.netspace.au/~harrison>**

**Ted Harrison is looking for stories to put on the 5 RAR operational page. If any  
member of the Association is interested, contact the editor.**

**ADDRESSES**

**POSTAL - PO BOX 422 BATEMANS BAY NSW 2536**

**E - MAIL...[londonb@sci.net.au](mailto:londonb@sci.net.au)**

**[harrison@netspace.net.au](mailto:harrison@netspace.net.au)**

## THE NEXT SECTION OF MICK HENRY'S TRIP TO VIETNAM

**"I met an American, ex Special Forces, he was married to a Vietnamese lady and she turned out to be the daughter of the....."**

previous Chief of Police in the Long Hai area. She had been working for American Express in Vung Tau for two years when everything collapsed. Her father died in "re-education" in 1982.

**T**his lady was most helpful with my plans to travel to the Baria area as she had just returned from there and suggested that I take a hydrofoil from Saigon to Vung Tau or perhaps even to Long Hai as that service is due to start very soon. --- Wouldn't that have made things easier?

**A**nother great experience happened on Tuesday 15 Sep. I was at the American Club in Hanoi (nothing very flash I might add) and I was asked if I would join a group of people to preview a rough cut of a one hour TV production of the American Ambassador's (Pete Peterson) work here. I found it nothing short of inspirational. I will try to get a copy of the final work but if anyone gets a chance to see it, please don't miss it.

### **Hanoi Towards the End**

Just over one week to go before I leave Hanoi and head South. To say a lot has happened would be the under-statement of my life. It is very hard to describe my feelings about what I have experienced here. Some significant negatives but

so much very positive. In all cases I am pleased to say that the people have been wonderful. I think that alone makes it all worthwhile.

**O**n the negative side, my boss has warned me not to go into the Baria area alone, (take a guide) and do not try to contact anyone in particular in that area. I feel that this is just an example of the distrust that exists between the North and the South. I have also had a few people from the Police checking my papers and generally just looking, but nothing serious. The worst was when they came to my room at 11.30pm to discuss my visa. This happened in Hai Phong where the police have a bad name with visitors. Misinformation in the press and on TV is also very depressing, as is the level of indoctrination in schools with very young children.

**I** have found that many of my students, who are mainly university graduates, often have a healthy distrust of anything that comes from the government and they are getting fed up with corruption in the administration. Unfortunately all anyone in power has to do to win them again is to link what they are doing to Ho Chi Min. The strong nationalism and worship for their fabled

leader has not weakened much at all.

Another of my students was very proud of the evidence of democracy as shown by a photo of various groups participating in an election. After some discussion, he eventually agreed that it would have been good if they had had more than one party to vote into power.

From a positive point of view, while I may not have been the first of our battalion to visit Hanoi I think I would be one of the few to work here as I have done. This has given me a much deeper insight into the people than most would have had the chance to get. If I have been able to pick up a single message it would have to be **"That the war is not still being fought here."**

My army Major / Teacher friend invited me to his wedding last Saturday (he has certainly come a long way from not being sure if he should be talking to me 2 months ago). Attending a semi-military wedding in the Hoi Chi Min Museum was a unique experience. I had an amazing day and I was made welcome as a special guest. There were over 400 people there and I was greeted by an older male member of the family who obviously knew who I was

and my background. I have learnt to treat every male of this age as a veteran. He hugged and kissed me like a long lost brother. This spirit was continued by everyone at the wedding.



**The Happy Couple**

I continue to get the feeling that veterans here want to treat us as members of the "brotherhood of survivors" rather than as a past enemy. A further example of this was at my employer's house on Sunday last. His older brother, now aged 84, a retired doctor who ran a hospital just across the border in Laos from 1969 until 1970, was there. He said it was clear that there was never any question of who was right or who was wrong -- of who won or who lost. There was just this

marvellous acceptance and recognition that we share this unique bond.

**Continued next issue.....The full account of Mick's trip can be found on our web page [www.netSPACE.net.au/~harrison](http://www.netSPACE.net.au/~harrison)**