

# PHANTOM NOTES

BRAVO COMPANY 6 th Battalion

Edition 21 – June 2011



OC Bravo Company

Major Andrew Judd

Enoggera 21st April

CSM Bravo Company

WO 2 Mick Hoggins

**Maintaining the Tradition**



Bravo Company parade at completion of inter section competition  
Enoggera 21st April 2011.

Different greens, age the same, characters and larrikins the same,  
youthful banter the same! Some with chaffing, sweaty but grinning.

As the noggie saying went——same ,same only different!  
Spot the bearded soldier?

During a conversation with the CO 6th Battalion, Lt Col Mark Jennings at  
the Bribie Service this year it was suggested it may be appropriate if the  
now present day soldiers in B Company be made aware of the origins of  
the still used Company Logo. **“PHANTOM”**

Five *old* soldiers attended a BBQ where we presented a Phantom Plaque  
to the winning section and told them how the PHANTOM came to life in  
South Vietnam during the later stages of 1966,his exploits/cult status.  
Made sure the OC is not to blame us if the boys want to bring in a few  
modern updates to the exploits of the mythical figure.

To the **OLD PHANTOM**,we did not reveal your identity !



Blue Dog Bugle, May 2010

## Combat Team Bravo (CT-B) The Phantom's



Welcome to the first report from the newly raised Combat Team 'Bravo' (CT-B). CT-B is still in its infancy, and is a motley crew of some of the best soldiers and officer's the Mentoring Task Force was able to provide. The CT is made up of predominantly Cavalry, but there is a strong contingent of both Infantry and Engineer's within our team along with specialist Signaller's, our Clerk and Quarter-master Sergeant. Our role is more traditional than the Mentoring Team's in that we provide the protection and combat power to ensure that the outlying patrol bases are sustained with supplies and their personnel are protected

when they move to and from the Multi-national Base in Tarin Kowt. CT-B is lucky to have a lot of personnel from a broad range of experiences who have worked and travelled all over the Province. They have a mix of experience from dismounted patrolling in the green zone to motorised operations working from their ASLAVs and Bushmaster vehicles. A couple of us even have the more horrific experiences of working in MTF-1's Headquarters.

The combined experience of CT-B is extremely diverse and is of great benefit to the style of operations we have been asked to provide. Unfortunately we barely had a chance to catch our breath before the high tempo of operations in Uruzgan Province

caught up with us. We have had to hit the ground running and it is a credit to the professionalism and training of the men that they have been able to stay on top of the myriad of tasks asked of them.

For those who are unaware, CT-B's mascot is The Phantom, which dates back to B Coy, 6 RAR Vietnam days. At first we considered using a more universal symbol, considering that we are such a mixed lot from different units, but in the end the 'man in the purple pants' proposed by 2 Platoon was hard to knock back. Just like 'the ghost who walks' we are already starting to leave our mark on Afghanistan and everything we do here. We see a lot of ourselves in this mascot, especially in the way we provide aid to those less fortunate (less a bunch of friendly pygmy's following us around, as The Phantom might have done in his day). We liken our modern means of transport, the ASLAVs and Bushmaster's, to that of the Phantom's white steed Hero who always gets him to where he needs to go (just with a little more armour and something bigger than his twin .45 pistols by his side). As for his wolf Devil, there's no doubt that Devil represents our infantrymen with their strong link to Blue Dog, the 6 RAR mascot. We are still looking for what our Engineer brothers may be represented as but don't expect any photos of them patrolling the dasht wearing purple lycra with their underpants on the outside just yet. At least wait until they get home and have put a couple of beers under their belts.

With the operational tempo remaining high, the CT-B soldiers haven't had much time to settle in their new accommodation and have found ourselves spread throughout the province conducting many different tasks. Most of the men are looking forward to catching up over a brew as they return from their wide spread tasks at least to spend a bit of time making themselves feel at home in their new accommodation. From preparing their gear for the next mission to building shelves for a bit of home comfort in their tents, the soldiers manage to occupy their time in trying to make the most their surroundings in which they currently call home for the time being.

The men have represented themselves and the CT extremely well on a number of difficult and challenging occasions and there will be a mix of exciting and funny stories that should find their way back to all of you by the end of the trip. Even though these busy times never seem to end, CT-B will continue to maintain its edge and stay ready to tackle any situation that comes its way. There are only a few short months to go, and the talk of when the next group will arrive is already moving through the camp. Know that we are all excited at seeing our families and friends again soon and the thought of spending some well earned time relaxing with family and friends is foremost in our minds.

We look forward to hearing the daily occurrences and messages of love and support from all of you and even if many of us don't admit it over the phone or in an email, receiving a few niceties or even a surprise letter out of the blue can make the difference between a very low day and a great day. We can only generate so much morale at this end before the jokes start repeating on themselves, so please keep your mail and email coming!

Thankyou to all of you at home who continue to send us your support. Know that we here at CT-B are thinking of you, and watch this space – more from CT-B jungle drums soon!

Prepared by Sergeant Daniel Carr (2 Platoon Cavalry Patrol Commander) and Major Andrew Judd (OC CT-B).



Henry Chisholm and Ian Mackay .  
Anzac Day March, Sydney 2011

Happy Birthday  
**TED**

**“I’m 75”**

Looking younger  
as the years fly past.  
*Congratulations!*



Best Wishes, The Phantom!



I took this photo of this particular number—**21B**— on a Bushmaster at Enoggera when we gave a short talk to the diggers re the Phantom. This was the vehicle we old blokes used to complete (?)(and watch) the young blokes do the assault course during the inter section competition. **Without cheating**—do you know the significance of that number—**21B**. See how you go –memory test— it certainly tested my old brain for a few

## **HEALTH REPORTS**

With February 2012 and our reunion approaching rapidly now is the time to contact mates from those days in Vietnam to see how they are health wise and to make sure they attend what could quite possibly be the last big gathering we will have.

A few have some health issues and would no doubt appreciate a phone call or letter.

“Roo” Ellis, “Bluey” Bartsch, Jimmy Condon. “Niko” Mike Nichols, Don Woolley ,good result with his knee replacements,

“Snow”Chris Gannon, hospital stay where he caught up with Rod Cain.

Hope all you fellows are on the improve health wise, just a few I know but possibly others so give the phone lines a bit of business and check up on each other. LATE NEWS—”Spike”a bit crook after overseas trip.

## **SCOTTISH PROVERB**

What may be done at any time will be done at no time!

## ***THE ANSWER***

M113 (Armoured Personnel Carrier) 134178 (Callsign 21B) after being hit with recoilless rifle fire on 17th February 1967 during “Operation Bribie”.(Photo taken on the morning of 18th February)

How big a coincidence is that after 44 years, an enjoyable ride in the next generation of troop carrier. Wish the vehicle and troops who travel in it all the best!



### **How a saying originated**

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pints and quart-sized containers. A bar maid’s job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in “pints” and who was drinking in “quarts”, hence the term ***“minding your “P’s” and “Q’s”***.





**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**BRAVO COMPANY 6RAR**  
**43rd ANNIVERSARY BRIBIE**  
**Period 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	account S26-1	\$ 4736.80
	Account S 1	\$ 330.07
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5066.87</b>
RECEIPTS as per CASH BOOK		\$ 5850.27
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10917.14</b>
Less EXPENDITURE as per CASH BOOK		\$ 2375.24
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8541.90</b>
BALANCE as per BANK STATEMENT s26 account		\$ 8211.83
BALANCE as per BANK STATEMENT S1 account		\$ 330.07
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8541.90</b>
Less Unpresented Cheques Banksia Flowers wreath		\$ 75.00
BALANCE as at 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2011		\$ 8466.90

*K.S. Jaques*  
 .....  
 K.S. JAQUES  
 CO TREASURER  
 Date: 21/2/11.....

*R.W. Jones*  
 .....  
 R.W. JONES  
 CO TREASURER  
 Date: 21/2/11..... 2011

- Your organizing Committee for 2012 Remembrance Service,**  
 Dave Thomas.....Coordinator & Co Signatory of Bank Account  
 Paul Boyns .....MC  
 Henry Chisholm.....2IC/MC  
 Spike Jones.....Treasurer/Auditor  
 Kerry Jaques.....Co Treasurer/Auditor  
 Howard Barker.....Co Signatory of Bank Account  
 Bluey Ross.....Committee

MAIL ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO DAVE THOMAS ...PLEASE

## Format for Events 16/17th February 2012 Bribie Island Old

*Thursday 16th*

**MEET & GREET.....Bribie Sports Club.....1700 hrs (5.00pm)**

We will conduct the B Company MEMBERS DRAW during evening  
**NB** The first \$10.00 of any donation to the Company Funds will be eligible ....ONE WINNER receives 1/3 of the amount raised.

Other raffles will be conducted.

All former 6 RAR soldiers, other corps, relatives and friends are invited.

*Friday 17th (morning)*

*If enough people are interested a 2 hour boat trip on the Puminstone Passage*

*OR*

*possibly Bowls/Golf can be organized*

**FRIDAY 17 th**

**1600 hrs (4.00pm) precisely**  
**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**

Vietnam Veteran's Park

General public, relations, friends and ex soldiers all welcome.

On completion of Service retire to Korea Place (adjacent the RSL) for pre dinner drinks and savouries.

**1830 hrs (6.30pm)**

Move to the **RSL Dining Room for Banquet Dinner**

Booking is essential

We will be able to supply you with a few drinks and great company!

After dinner you will be free to enjoy the RSL Club amenities.

**Dress Code...at Bribie Sports Club (owned by RSL)**

No Thongs

Shirt with collars

No offensive logo's

Basically....clean, tidy, smart attire

**Courtesy Bus....to and from all areas of the Island.**

Can be pre booked for your trip to the RSL.

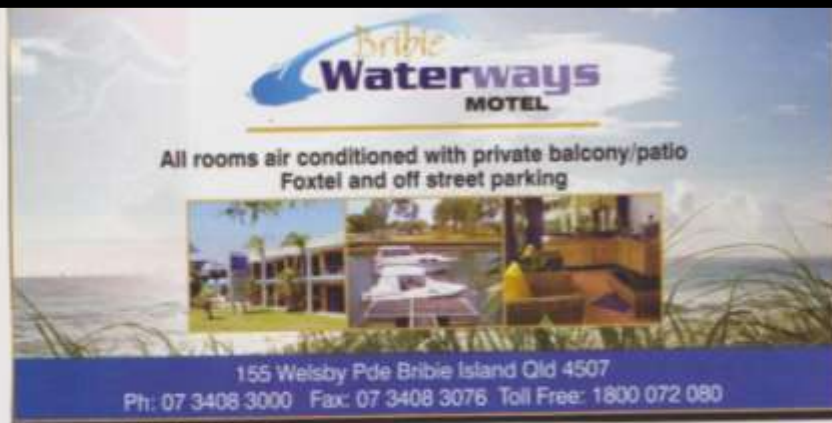


**BOOKINGS**  
**BANQUET DINNER**  
**ESSENTIAL**



# ACCOMMODATION on BRIBIE ISLAND

## BOOK EARLY— BRIBIE ISLAND is quite busy in February Especially if wanting a caravan site.



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ACCOMMODATION	
*see also Real Estate for holiday rentals	
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Avon Lodge Bed & Breakfast	3410 7318
Bali on Bribie	3410 0188
B&B On Godwin	5497 5211
Beachmere Caravan Park (Lions Club)	5496 8077
Beachmere Palms Motel	5496 8577
Bellara Caravan Park	3408 7436
Bongaree Caravan Park	3408 1054
Bribie Island Beach Huts	3408 8189
Bribie Island Caravan Park	3408 1134
Bribie Island Hotel/Motel	3408 7477
Bribie Waterways Motel	3408 3000
Donnybrook Caravan Park	5498 8219
Fairways Golf & Beach Retreat	3400 2100
Inn Bongaree Guest House	3410 1718
On The Bay Resort	3400 1800
On The Beach Resort	3400 1400
Our Holiday House	0433 843 877
Placid Waters Holiday Apartments	3408 2122
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# MAP of BRIBIE ISLAND



Note where the RSL is situated and all our events for the two days are all within walking distance to a lot of the accommodation.

**Ferryman Cruises** on Puminstone Passage have indicated a price of \$24 per head for a booking between 12 and 20 people...indicate if interested! (on booking form for Banquet Dinner—last page of Phantom Notes)

## **DATES of INTEREST**

17th August.. D Company invites interested parties to the  
45th Anniversary Dinner, Holiday Inn, Roma St, Brisbane.  
Bookings please contact John Heslewood 07 34107734

18th August.. 1000 hrs 6RAR “Trooping of the Colours” Parade  
Enoggera when the Governor General will present the  
UCG Streamer to Harry Smith who will then attach to the  
Battalion Colours.

August /September Edition “Phantom Notes”  
Need some indication of attendance for next February  
(Deposit monies for venues due to be paid)

November/December Edition “Phantom Notes”  
Final planning for February—lots of work by organizers,  
Please make life easy for them by **early notification of  
attendance—preferably before this edition!**

**16/17 FEBRUARY 2012** B Company Commemorative Service and  
Reunion (make the 2 days a memorable one by attending  
and sharing with mates your lifetime experiences)

Anzac Day 2012...6 Platoon gathering at Tintinara ,South Australia, for  
Dedication of Community Memorial  
(contact Butch Brady ph 03 52784670)

## **A LITTLE BIT OF IRISH**

*PER DAY...A man, started working for a farmer, asked if he would be paid  
per day or perhaps.*

*DEAD BIRD...A man who was told by his friend that his fork was open,  
rushed to close it. His wife said "It's all right, a dead bird won't fall out of  
the nest"*

**NOTE.....**                      **REMINDER** ..... **NOTE**

**PHANTOM KEY RINGS** If you want one this is your last chance--  
5 left so now is the time before all are gone—have the same number of  
D Company also (Boots) Both are and will be a great keepsake/gift.

**BANK BALANCE** Whilst the account is in a healthy position I would  
like to point out that it is only because a **few contribute generously** to  
make sure we hold events such as planned for next February.

I ask you to **consider making a donation** —leave that decision to you!  
It is the organizing committee intention to only **retain minimal funds** in  
the account to fund the publication of YOUR Phantom Notes over time.

