

PHANTOM NOTES NO 20

BRAVO COMPANY 6 RAR
MARCH 2011 EDITION



Site of
Operation "BRIBIE"

determined by
Google Earth and involved
mathematical equation
undertaken by
ex 6 RAR INT officer 69/70
Capt Fred Fairhead

The "Bribie" location is 10 deg 27'36" North and 107 deg 19' 1.5" East
In the language of 1967— 541568 as per picto map

Old picto map we used of area in 1967— circle is from 44 years ago





The B Company key ring as depicted on the front cover is proving popular with over 100 sold of a total 150 so the advice is **get in now** before all are gone. The above goes with the key ring as proof of authenticity of the soil (sand) from the approximate area of Op “BRIBIE”.

Each key ring and authenticity certificate is numbered to correspond .

Also have a number of D Company key rings- we are selling them for D Company and they are doing the same for us..

Cost is \$20.00 per key ring including postage. Don't delay purchase if you want one as they will not last until June this year!

Not a department store sales pitch-no end of run markdown-there will be none available!

MEMBERS DRAW

This fundraiser will be conducted again with the draw at the Meet & Greet to be held on 16th February 2012.

RULES OF DRAW

1. Donations to Company funds of \$10 or more will be eligible for draw.
2. One third (1/3) of monies raised will be the one and only prize.
3. Members number as per previous years master sheet.
4. Draw- eligible member number checked by three people.
5. Prize- CASH or Cheque.

Result of 2011 draw

Brian “Father” Bourke took home the prize of \$120 cash.

Maybe able to put the bite on for a loan??

Money raised was \$360 -at \$10 per person **only 36** out of a total of 150 odd who receive “Phantom Notes” donated-**need a better result in 2012.**

***** PLEASE NOTE *****

45th ANNIVERSARY “OPERATION BRIBIE”
MEMORIAL SERVICE and REUNION

*** 17th FEBRUARY 2012 ***

MEET & GREET

5.00 pm /1700 hrs

Bribie Island Sports Club

16th February 2012

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

4.00pm/1600hrs

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park

17th February 2012

REUNION BANQUET DINNER

6.00pm/1800hrs

RSL BRIBIE ISLAND

*** 17th February 2012***

Prior to the dinner and after the service drinks and light refreshments will be served in the grounds of the RSL at Korea Place

COST OF EVENTS will be in the **NEXT ISSUE**
of **“PHANTOM NOTES”**
(early June 2011)

A bit of interesting information passed on by the 'Info Post'

I was recently asked what was the history behind the placing of our right hand over our hearts at funerals and remembrance services and such like. After some research I found the following and was surprised to learn that we are actually placing our hand over our medals. If you could forward to Sub Branches for their info I would appreciate it. If more info is required I will endeavour to follow it up

The Salute by Veterans at the Cenotaph or Wreath Laying Ceremony (Remembrance Service)

It will be noticed at any Remembrance Service or when passing a Cenotaph Veterans will place their Right Hand over their "Left Side" many believing that they are placing their 'Hand over their Heart' in Respect or Remembrance of their Fallen Comrades";- this is not so.

The Veterans Salute to their "Fallen Comrades" originated in London on Armistice Day in 1920, during the ceremony to unveil and dedicate the Cenotaph in Whitehall at the same time a funeral procession accompanying the remains of the "Unknown Soldier" halted at the Cenotaph during the ceremony before proceeding to Westminster Abbey for internment. Those present included the senior Soldier, sailor and many Victoria Cross winners. The ceremony concluded with a march past. The Regimental Sergeant Major of the Guard Regiment conducting the ceremony, faced with a gathering of highly decorated and high ranking military men (including many Victoria Cross winners), all wearing rows of medals, decreed that all would salute the Cenotaph as they marched past by placing their hand over their medals, signifying that "No matter what honours we may have been awarded they are nothing compared with the honour due to those who paid the supreme sacrifice".

With ANZAC DAY only weeks away thought this would be of interest—history and protocol of SALUTE TO THE FALLEN

VALE

Herbert George (Herb) ZELLER
1200367

Passed away peacefully after a short illness on 8th February
Funeral Service held in Bundaberg 14th February

Herb was a Bombardier with the FO's Party from 102 Bty attached to B Company 1966/67.
A wreath was organized for the funeral on behalf of all members of B Company

GOOD OLD AUSSIE ATTITUDE

The Supreme Court has ruled that there cannot be a Nativity Scene in the Australian Capital this Christmas season.

This isn't for any religious reason.

They simply have not been able to find Three Wise Men in Canberra.

A search for a Virgin continues.

There was no problem, however finding enough donkeys to fill the stable

Author Unknown ——— but wise!

Reflection

War does not determine who is right, it determines who is left.

Author—maybe Confucius?



Dick Odendahl was good enough to send through a photo of the skull and cross bones which is in the grounds of the North Rockhampton swimming pool. Dick reckons he would only be about the middle of the nose in height and thinks the model would be roughly 12 foot high.

Stretching the imagination a bit —looks vaguely familiar to someone we knew once? Cannot remember the gold fillings though!

Another Central Queensland place of interest especially to all you people with caravans and travelling the stock routes of Australia.

Alan Munster (Emu Park) was involved in a part of the construction of **COCKSCOMB VETERANS RETREAT.**

Situated about 30km NE of Rockhampton and 15 km from Emu Park ,it is on private land with bunkhouses, toilets, showers ,covered kitchen areas, gas fridge, sites for vans and on site caretaker.-NED -ph 0438652144

COCKSCOMB has been on the go since July 1997,built by veterans for veterans, open to all veterans, most welcome to stay up to a maximum of 5 days.

The going rate is \$10 per person per night.

For Internet users -Google -Cockscomb Retreat-Australia and a couple of listings with all the necessary information.

Look closely and you will recognize Alan Munster and Bob Moody in some of the presentation slides.



From Iain Seabrook ,South Australia.

The above is one bridge on the Northern Expressway out of Adelaide that is named after various battles including Hamel 1918,Kokoda PNG and Kapyong in Korea.

The first bridge coming from the north is dedicated and named Long Tan.

On the subject of South Australia, remember to mark the calendar For **ANZAC DAY** next year (**2012**) in for 6 platoon to attend the dedication of a Memorial at Tininara, South Australia.

This invite to all comes about because of care packages that arrived in 6 platoon lines in '66 from the community and a long filed message of thanks from Butch Brady to the mother of one of the organizers of this district Memorial.

Good wine in South Australia as evidenced by bottles we get as a raffle prize from Seebee! Not a lot of water if that flat above is a bridge over a creek or river so all head for SA next Anzac Day-out of the wind, floods and bushfires of this year!

“Butch “is coordinating the meeting of ex soldiers for this event so contact him if you are contemplating going. You have to march in step -they tell me!

A Bit of Trivia

There are five Fridays, five Saturdays and five Sundays in July of this year (2011), Something that is said to happen only once every 823 years. ??????????

It is estimated that 10% of all human beings ever born are alive at this very moment

There are more living organisms on the skin of every human being than there are human beings on the planet.



This was taken as the Australians were about to leave on the last day at Nui Dat. The Pearly Gates look like they had a good dose of COD (carry or drag) about them. Seen better cocky gates in the bush and what about the pick and pay scavengers lined up to fleece the place. When on the trip back to Vietnam last year the closest Nui Dinh Mountain had a quarry scar along most of the pictured base.



During the reading of the Honour Roll for Op Bribie this year members of B Company and the APC Sqn came forward and placed a flag with a poppy attached for each of the boys above the Corp badges. With a little more adjustment, timing and a few volunteers for 2012 we will make this one of the focal points of the service.



Photo of Spike delivering this years address to the gathering on Bribie Island .

A very informative and well researched talk on the events of Op Bribie from a respected and passionate member of B Company.

It was probably one of the hottest and most humid days of summer this year.

The young soldiers and bugler from 6 RAR were excellent and really topped off their day by purchasing a donated chopper (model Huey) at auction for their OR boozer.

The price of these choppers donated by Wedge is steadily rising in value-\$130 last year,\$280 this year and helped to keep the pot boiling in company funds.

Once they saw the key rings they were wrapped and purchased quite a few for themselves and mates back in camp at Enoggera- Boys will be boys and we are only an older version!

I was lucky enough to be invited to Maryborough to witness the presentation to Harry Smith of his upgraded medal by the local MP Paul Neville and the opening of the Long Tan display at the Maryborough Military & Colonial Museum on 9th March.

A very impressive display across all conflicts Australia has fought—well presented –not cluttered and a dedicated staff.

I recommend it to you if visiting that area of Queensland.

The latest VC winner was present– great public speaker and an absolute top bloke with the one desire to just keep on soldiering.

Summary for coming year-2011/2012

1. ANZAC DAY –Monday 25th April 2011
2. Next Edition -"PHANTOM NOTES"- early June 2011
- Will have venues and cost of events so you can plan attendance**
3. August /September Edition -"Phantom Notes"
4. 18th August 2011– 45th Long Tan –6 RAR Enoggera
5. **Need attendance confirmation to meet obligations for venues (Bribie 2012)**
Deposit money so I can gauge (????) attendance
6. **November/December** Edition- "**Phantom Notes**"

Final planning—lots of work by Volunteer organizers
Make life easy for them please!
Early notification needed attendance/change of plans
7. Would appreciate monies for event by mid December if attending!
You will get a refund if unable to attend if personal issues arise!
8. **Most Important**— ring your mates even if no contact for years to make sure they attend—may be the last we have as a group-the years roll all too quickly!
9. Prepared to take money by instalments if that is the way you wish to proceed with total payment. NO pay on the day caper—warning!
10. **DONATIONS** above and beyond the cost of events would be appreciated as in the long run this reduces the amount of the event.
11. **Remember**—those who cannot attend—life was young and short!
At least we can still attend-have fun-meet mates!
12. **FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT ATTENDED ONE OF THESE MEMORIAL SERVICES /REUNIONS—DO MAKE THE EFFORT!**

ATTEND and you will be surprised how close and happy people are talking about the many funny things that happened—even though the day was a sad one, I compare it to going back from school holidays and meeting mates—
ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY—NO BULLSHIT—NO PACK DRILL!

