

Half Circle

Number 25 - December 2008

This informal publication is for the members of C Coy 5 RAR (2nd tour), South Vietnam, 1969/70, and for the families of those who are no longer with us. It is non-political, and is designed for us to have a laugh at ourselves, re-live our memories, and maintain camaraderie. Formal advice, when needed, should be sourced from Veterans' Organisations.

The 60th Birthday of the Royal Australian Regiment

Over the weekend 21st, 22nd and 23rd November, the RAR celebrated its 60th Birthday. Friday night was an informal barbeque held at Victoria Barracks, Paddington, Sydney. Saturday saw a Memorial Service at Regimental Square, Wynyard, Sydney, then all battalion members went to individual reunions. The 5RAR one was held at the Crown Hotel in Sydney. Sunday was spent at Victoria Barracks, where the Colours of all nine battalions were paraded. A Royal Guard was provided by 3RAR, with the parade being reviewed by Her Excellency, the Governor General of Australia, Quentin Bryce. All in all, a top weekend, with the standards of the Regiment being maintained, together with a few sore heads. A good C Coy rollup, including Geoff Pearson, Peter Molloy, Bryan Schafer, Eddie Moon, Tex Cunningham, George Szczurko, Trevor Blackstock, Wally Magalas, Don Harrod. Other 5RAR "personalities" included Colin Khan, Roger Wainwright, Rod Lees, Alan McNulty, Zeke Mundine, and Brian Bamblett.



The Royal Australian Regiment Memorial, Wynyard, Sydney

We found..... Andy Kakafikas. More details to follow.

We also found..... Vince Feenstra. One of our blokes was visiting a medical specialist, and Vietnam service came up. The doctor said that his father was a digger in C Coy 5RAR. Yep, it was Vince's son. Vince is situated in South Qld. More details below.

MISSING..... Does anyone know the current email address of Max Hedley? If so, please let me know. Don

We heard from..... Helen Keed. Helen is a sister of Barry Thompson (8PI), who was the last 5RAR digger killed in Vietnam (details on the Battalion website). Helen wants to hear from anyone who knew Thommo, and would love to receive any pictures or

stories we may have. Helen may be contacted on hel01k@hotmail.com. Please assist Helen, as she genuinely wants to know about her brother, and our mate. Thanks to Dave Wilkins and John Hellyer, who have already made contact with Helen.



The Day the Tigers returned to Sydney after the second tour.



Hurry up and Wait - Remember????????????????????????????????

WANTED..... A photo of the "Mushroom Club" sign, painted in our Company boozier by Vince Feenstra in 1969.



The late Wayne "Bluey" Maltby

At the RAP.....

Reg Smith, Barry Morgan and Bob Hooper

Vince Feenstra said..... Whilst recuperating after being wounded, I met my future wife. We had two sons, one a thoracic physician, and the other working in the Qld gas fields. I have two grand children, have given up signwriting, and have retired. Below are

two photos - the first of me giving Andrew Peacock some advice when the Battalion came home, and the second which was taken on ANZAC Day this year in Brisbane.



Barry Morgan said.....

For those that have not read the latest Army News ... you can now shop on line <http://www.armyshop.com.au/home.html> on the site you'll find badges, rings, cufflinks, laptop bags, Port. It also has some RAAF and RAN items.

Christmas. Something that we all probably celebrate in a different manner. but a time when we think most about our families, our mates, and all those associated values. Whatever you do, have a happy Christmas, and be grateful. Some of your mates may not be doing so well.



Half Circle was compiled and edited by Don Harrod (rosdon@bigpond.net.au), with help from John Yabsley, Barry Morgan, Andy Kakafikas, and Vince Feenstra.