

Half Circle

March 2007

A publication for the members
of C Coy 5 RAR (2nd tour) South Vietnam,
and especially for the families of those who are no longer with us.

On the 25th April, we again commemorate ANZAC Day. We will now probably admit that in the first few years we used this day to get together with our mates, join in with the March, and then get totally plastered, if we weren't beforehand. How different it is these days. As we are spread all over Australia, we have different ways of participating in ANZAC Day commemorations - in my case, living in Sydney - it usually means attending a Dawn Service, breakfast in the host RSL Club, train travel to Sydney in time for the Service at Regimental Square at 0830 (**this is a MUST - all units of the RAR are represented, and a senior officer of General rank addresses the attendees**), a beer and a yarn, forming up and participating in the March, and then to our reunion, with somewhere between plenty and a lot more beers. Later in the day, the train trip home. The group with which I spend ANZAC Day always takes the opportunity to raise a glass to remember our C Coy mates, who didn't get to sail on the HMAS Sydney or fly home to Australia, and we remember those whom we have lost since returning to Australia. We also try to remember our forefathers - we thought that our equipment was limited - what about them? **PLEASE** consider participating in your local ANZAC Day commemorations this year - be proud, put on your gongs, and walk tall, representing not only your fallen mates, but YOUR contribution also. The **original ANZACs** and those who served in all campaigns for Australia cannot ever be forgotten. Your own ANZAC Day formats, in your own State/area, would be of great interest to our members. Please let me know. *We can always publish a special - pre-ANZAC Day edition of "Half Circle".*

OUR COMPANY BOOZER:

Can anybody remember any of the great pieces of verse that were inscribed on our boozer wall? We all had a go at writing something, a lot of it unprintable. Someone out there must have a photo.

THE 5RAR WEBSITE:

Ted Harrison is constantly adding more information. It is recommended that you visit it regularly - the amount of information that Ted has gleaned is exceptional. No fee to look - log in to www.5rar.asn.au/. Ted often reminds me that this website is not his - it belongs to each and every Tiger. If this isn't the best site anywhere, I'm an astronaut.

MEMBER PROFILES:

Eddie (Suave) Moon. Lives Hammondville, Sydney. Retired blacksmith. Interests include golf, military history, fighting de-hydration with the assistance of Tooheys, gardening, and his family, including grandchildren.

Kevin "Mudeye" Mulligan. Our Company Medic.

Left 5RAR after return to Australia in 1970, returned to Vietnam with the AATTV in 1972. As a conscientious "Reg", stayed in the system for the full 20 years. Returned to Tassie after discharge. Love a beer (nothing new here), trout fishing, and have made a large commitment in the field of sports medicine (sports trainers). I have a nice little fishing bait business (catching and selling mudeyes). **Any C Coy members** thinking of a trip to Tassie, please contact me for assistance with your itinerary. We live in Devonport - where the vehicular ferry docks. I consider that the 2005 reunion in Canberra a benchmark in my life as it was the first time I had re-established contact with that chapter from my past. I believe I could be the best trout guide in Tassie!

Ed's notes:

1. Kevin's email is a contact only - his brother - ex 2RAR and 8RAR (must be on our side) is: dbmulligan@tadaust.org.au. Mudeye will get the message.
2. I suppose it's OK now, about 38 years after the event, to finally come clean and tell the World that Kevin had a pet at Nui Dat - strictly forbidden, and so well hidden by the C Coy boys. It was a white rabbit, named "Bunny-San". Our officers and senior NCOs were pretty good at detecting what we were up to, but I think that "Bunny-San" slipped under their guards.
3. Kevin also tells me that he has made contact with Eddie Kime and Geoff Ford (Artillery). I hope to be able to have some personal details on them shortly.
4. The Vets in Tassie have a beaut shack in the highlands - five bedrooms, sleeps 10 people comfortably. Kevin is sending a brochure - details will be published in a future "Half Circle".
5. Thanks, "Mudeye", great information, and it's good to hear from you again.

YOUR INFORMATION, TO LET YOUR MATES KNOW HOW YOU ARE, GOES IN THIS SPOT! There is room for about 140 of you to provide details. This newsletter can only be as good as you want it to be.

PADDY CAHILL - OUR SERGEANT COOK:

Remember Paddy - "You ***king d***head". We lost Paddy a number of years ago, but his memory remains. Paddy, on occasions, would get lost for a few days, allegedly visiting villages, and allegedly with a certain battalion Padre. He came back very tired and emotional, and usually slept for a day or two. The same Paddy was generous to a fault, and when he put his mind to it, was probably one of the best cooks around. He was assisted by Cpl Kurt Buchmaier, and two Private cooks. One was Alf Ashford. Anyone remember the other one?

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER:

Please send me any information that you think may be of interest to the C Coy Tigers. I am learning how to post photos, so a couple to try would be very welcome. John Yabsley (Yabs) has sent me some, I'm still trying to learn how to transfer these from the disc you sent, Yabs.

It really doesn't matter what you send, I'll try and use it. I may have to edit a couple of things to save our necks, but your contribution will remain yours.

REUNION:

A few of the C Coy First Tour are heading to Launceston for ANZAC Day. Any Charlie Company second Tour guys would also be welcome. For details, contact John Hellyer at jhe99005@bigpond.net.au.

WARNING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SEVERE VIRUS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (Courtesy, Barry Morgan)

There is a dangerous virus being passed electronically, orally and by hand. This virus is called Worm-Overload-Recreational-Killer (WORK). If you receive WORK from any of your colleagues, your boss or anyone else via any means DO NOT TOUCH IT. This virus will wipe out your private life completely. If you should come into contact with WORK put your jacket on and take 2 good friends to the nearest pub. Purchase the antidote known as Work-Isolator-Neutralizer-Extractor (WINE). The quickest acting WINE type is called Swift-Hitting-Infiltrator-Remover-All-Zones (SHIRAZ) but this is only available for those who can afford it. The next best equivalent is Cheapest-Available-System-Killer (CASK). Take the antidote repeatedly until WORK has been completely eliminated from your system. Forward this warning to 5 friends. If you do not have 5 friends, you have already been infected and WORK is controlling your life. This virus is DEADLY (Destroys-Every-Available-Decent-Living-Youngster). Update 05-02-2007: After extensive testing it has been concluded that Best-Equivalent-Extractor-Remedy (BEER) may be substituted for WINE but may require a more generous application.

GOOD NEWS FOR WINE DRINKERS - TRY THIS BLEND!!!! (Courtesy, Barry Morgan - again!)

New Wine for Seniors
California vintners, in the Napa Valley area, which primarily produces Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir and Pinot Grigio wines, have developed a new hybrid grape that acts as an anti-diuretic. It is expected to reduce the number of trips older people have to make to the bathroom during the night. The new wine will be marketed as...

PINO MORE

I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

AT THE HOSPITAL:

The Casualty Sister was trying to sell a raffle ticket to the half-drunk patient. "Sister, what is the raffle for?" he asked. She said "One of our porters died last week. It is for his widow and three children". He replied "No thank you Sister, I don't want any tickets. What would I do with a wife and three children? I've already got one woman and six children at home".



SEIZE THE DAY - GRAB IT AROUND THE NECK, AND GET EVERY MINUTE OUT OF IT!!!!!!!!!!!!

Somebody that I am very close to had a perfectly normal life - husband, job, home, car, etc., until one day a headache appeared. This "headache" turned out to be a brain haemorrhage - months in hospital, learning to walk again, learning how to cope with basic functions, and the desire to once again resume a normal life. Seven brain operations later, and after being only the sixth person in the world to beat this particular illness, this person went home, and got on with life. This person lives with permanent pain - it never goes away, just the intensity diminishes on occasions. If anyone asks this person how things are, the answer is always the same - "Can't complain, we're upright, every day's a bonus, you know". We can all learn from this attitude. **If anyone thinks that they are doing it a bit tough, think about what others may be enduring.**

NEW GOLF RULES - VERY IMPORTANT: (With thanks to Bryan (Blue) Schafer)

Senior Golf (Gentlemen Only Ladies Forbidden) Rules

1. A ball sliced or hooked into the rough shall be lifted and placed on the fairway at a point equal to the distance it carried or rolled into the rough with no penalty. Senior players shall not be penalised for uncontrolled mechanical phenomena.
2. A ball hitting a tree shall be deemed not to have hit the tree. This is simply bad luck and luck has no place in a scientific game. The player must estimate the distance the ball would have travelled had it not hit the tree and can play the ball from there.
3. There shall be no such thing as a lost ball. The missing ball is on or near the course and will eventually be found and pocketed by someone else, making it a stolen ball. The player is not to compound the felony by charging him or herself with a penalty stroke.
4. If a putt passes over a hole without dropping in, it is deemed to have dropped. The law of gravity supersedes the law of golf.
5. Putts that stop close enough to the cup that they may be blown, may be blown in. This does not apply to balls three inches from the hole. No one wants to make a travesty of the game.
6. There is no penalty for so called "out of bounds". If penny-pinching golf club owners brought sufficient land, this would not occur. The golfer deserves an apology, not a penalty.
7. There is no penalty for a ball in a water hazard as golf balls should float. That they do not is a technical problem that manufacturers have yet to overcome. Golfers should not be punished for manufacturer's shortcomings.
8. Advertisements proclaim that golf scores can be improved by purchasing new clubs, balls, shoes etc. Since this is financially impossible for the average senior golfer, a stroke per hole be subtracted for using old equipment.



The 5RAR Website:

Ted Harrison, our Webmaster, has taken a period of leave, in order to explore Tasmania. Ted and Mrs H will be away for about five weeks, and on behalf of all of the Tigers, I take this opportunity to wish them a happy and relaxing holiday. Ted's commitment to the 5RAR website is a full-time one. He works for each and every one of us, and without his effort, the Tigers would not enjoy the recognition that their service to Australia has received.

Come on you buggers – how about some information on yourselves for this newsletter? Your mates would like to know how you are going. Send any details – in any form – to me, and I'll put it into words for you. We don't really care if you are the CEO of a multi-national company, or follow an elephant around the zoo, carrying a big shovel. We were, and still are, one family. Nobody can take away what we had.

Also, how about getting a copy of this newsletter to any of our mates that you realise aren't on the address list of this newsletter? Please send me their email details for inclusion on our distribution list.

When it came the time to see me to book your R&R leave, or question your pay details, you didn't hesitate to speak with me – why not now?



Sorry boys, but this is what I look like now – 110 kgs of pure muscle!

Keep in touch, and have fun!

**Don Harrod
(The Pirate)**