

Half Circle



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(Please increase picture size to 150% for a better read!)

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.

JOHN HELLYER REMEMBERS - SGT FREDERICK BERNARD (PADDY) CAHILL:

Lately I have been thinking about our SGT Cook, the late Paddy Cahill. As we all know, Paddy could be a bit volatile, with his Irish temper and whether or not he was able to seek a refreshment. I was fortunate enough to be a part of both tours of 5RAR to Vietnam, and on both tours, Paddy was the SGT cook.

One occasion on the 2nd tour I vividly remember was one morning in our C Coy base, I was standing in the mess queue, awaiting breakfast. The ice truck arrived and Paddy instructed me to leave the mess line and help to put the ice away. **(We all remember that we had no refrigeration, and the daily supply of ice was our only means of preserving food, and hopefully grog)** I foolishly said "It's OK Paddy, I'll fix it after breakfast". Paddy hit the roof "Listen you f***ing d***head, I am SGT Cahill, not Paddy, and MOVE NOW!" I did. Later that afternoon, Paddy came back to my tent and gave me another almighty serve. I had never seen him so furious.

I hit back and told him that as he had reminded me he was a SGT, there would be no more early beers for him at the "Mushroom Club", the name the C Coy blokes had affectionately given our boozery. Another mistake, as I had forgotten that Paddy had provided a few luxury meals when he could scrounge up the resources (most of the Nui Dat meals were provided in Admin Coy when the Battalion was on operations). Many years later, Paddy and I met at the Fairfield RSL in Sydney, and had quite a few beers. I took him home to Holsworthy, but left him at the front gate. I didn't want to take the risk of meeting Mrs Cahill, if as I feared she had the same temper as Paddy.

God bless you Paddy, rest in peace, your duty to C Coy 5RAR is done.

I had a terrible dream last night. I dreamed I was eating duck and when I woke up, my feather pillow was missing.

Dave Wilkins said: Have a look at page 158 of the new "Year of the Tigers" book. The photo shows Dave with a group from CHQ and 8PI. Who are they? So far we have Don Frohmuller, Aussie Biele, Dave, **unknown**, Rod Zunneberg, **unknown (sitting)**, Bill Murphy, **unknown (standing)**, and Eddie Kime. *Please let us know.*

Bob Hooper reckoned that he once had a job in a muffler factory, but left because it was too exhausting. He then got a job as a historian, but found there was no future in it. His next job as a musician wasn't very noteworthy either.



This month's flashbacks: Ian Hosie, Russell (Kiwi) Hill, Jack Lake and Peter Commerford on the loose in Vung Tau. (With thanks to Mike Radwell).



Who are this lot? Please help with their identities: **unknown**, Michael Struchlak?, Blue Newberry? Matt Smith, Don Harrod, Owen Schmidt, Guy Ansell, Reg Smith, next three **unknown** - possibly Terry Bates with the weird hat?. Obviously they have just been let loose on R&C in Vung Tau and are heading to the nearest waterhole. (With thanks to Alan Miles)

DFRDB AND MILITARY PENSIONS: There has been a lot of media lately regarding the reduction in real terms of pensions. All diggers who may be affected by this are urged to contact suitably qualified ex-service organisations, who have the expertise to guide you.

Waiter, how long will my braised sausages be? About three inches, Sir.

How does an elephant cry? He sits on his bum and bawls. (Get it?)



"Half Circle" is supported by the Georges River Golf Club, Henry Lawson Drive, Georges Hall (Sydney). If you are in Sydney, call in for a game, a feed or a beer. All veterans are most welcome. Phone (02) 9724 1615

From Major Dave French, OC Coy 5RAR, Darwin, 2010:

G'Day Gents,

We have very happily received a number of donations over the past weeks including photographs and equipment. These items are now on display and we are in the process of developing appropriate placards describing their history and who donated them.

Once we have completed this I will send photos and a short article through my HQ to the association for your use.

My apologies for the delayed reply, my wife gave birth to Son No 2 a lot sooner than we were expecting and as such I have been on leave for the last ten days. I will be back at work full time on Thu.

Thanks again, the diggers have already shown a considerable interest in what we have received. Dave can be contacted on: david.french3@defence.gov.au; (08) 8935 3470, 0438 614 369

A pretty suspect looking bloke came up to me the other day and asked me what was the quickest way to the hospital. I pushed him under a bus.

MORE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM C COY DIGGERS TO OUR NEWSLETTER WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED. THIS PUBLICATION IS YOURS, AND ONLY YOU CAN DIRECT ITS FUTURE. What about something from a digger of the current C Coy 5RAR?

Half Circle was compiled and edited by Don Harrod - donharrod@bigpond.com, (02) 6842 4913, 0418 423 313, with help from John Hellyer, Mike Radwell, Bob Hooper, Dave Wilkins, Alan Miles Dave French, the photo gallery and the usual crook humour.
