

# Half Circle



Number 182 – February 2022

This informal publication is for the members of C Coy 5 RAR (2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**This MAY well be our final *Half Circle* but I wish to raise two points for all our members: First, on Don Harrod's wonderful efforts for us and secondly, about our C Company reunion in Canberra next month.**

At the outset I would like to thank Don Harrod (aka Dan Horrid, alias Pirate) for his sterling efforts in producing *Half Circle*, all 181 issues of them since 2006.

Not only did *Half Circle* achieve its aim of keeping our C Company (2nd tour) members and our families informed of what our blokes have been doing, but also keeping us amused with anecdotes from our past. Further, and in my opinion, most importantly, it brought some of us out of isolation from a post-war darkness to reunite with our mates at Anzac Day marches, at unit and C Company reunions or just by receiving and enjoying Pirate's latest edition.

I don't think our appreciation could be better described than by Bill Hartley, John Hunter and Andy MacDougal.

Bill:

Thanks, Don, for all you have done over the years, keeping us together and in touch has been inspirational by doing so helped us [me] through some dark times. I think there would be few of C Company that this monthly email has helped more than even you can imagine. Hope someone with more clout than I nominate you for an award fitting of your service to all of us old diggers. I'm proud to call ya mate.

John:

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for always keeping the old unit connected. At times you must think it's a thankless task. But I would have to say I always look forward to reading the Tiger Tails (sic) and hearing what everyone is up to these days.

Best wishes to all the old team. I think of them often. I will never forget our time together in 69/70 and hope to be able to make it to the next get-together.

Andy:

Don, I have often thought about all the things you needed to do that we were spared. I cannot think of anything worse than packing up the personal gear of mates who would never return to barracks.

Your initiative in keeping the contact between all of us can never be repaid. It is so valued by us all - more so as we move into our twilight years. All those wonderful stories that are now recorded for prosperity - our great grandchildren will smile in awe.

You are the epitome of the Aussie digger Don. Always there for all of us. Never asking for anything, never complaining, always looking after your mates.

We will never forget the Half Circle Don..... what a wonderful legacy you have created for all of us in Charlie Company 5RAR, and importantly, for our families.



**C Company clerk hard at work at Ap An Phu, Nui Dat, 1969.  
But now it's smoko time Pirate and time to put your feet up.  
Again!**



**On behalf of us all, thank you Don Harrod.**

**My second point for this Half Circle: the REUNION next month:**

We have all received messages from Geoff Pearson and hopefully this will remind and inspire you to join us all in Canberra on 21-23 March.

There are 36 starters for the Reunion as at 16 February 2022. Without more, the **Lake Luncheon Cruise** may have to be cancelled, as we only have 27 starters for the cruise, with the Cruise Company making it clear that they will not “get out of bed” for under 40 luncheon guests. We have until the end of this month to make that call. Everyone that has committed and paid for the Luncheon Cruise will be refunded if the cruise is cancelled.

With regard the **Meet & Greet** and **Reunion Luncheon**, the Rex Hotel have confirmed that they will keep the pricing as initially advised, although they will have to transfer us from the Main Ballroom (where the 2016 Reunion was held) to a smaller room. Although we may be enjoying a more intimate Reunion it would be terrific to see more of you with us.

**BUT the reunion is going ahead** irrespective of the numbers attending.

For some of us, this may be our last reunion. We’re not getting any younger are we, so **MOVE NOW** and contact **Geoff Pearson** by filling out this form and emailing it to him or at least phone him. **Don’t wait any longer. Respond this week.**

[gp@therbco.com.au](mailto:gp@therbco.com.au)

Mobile: 0417 223 001

“C” Company -SRAR 2nd Tour in Vietnam –Canberra Reunion 21-23 March 2022  
Registration & Payment Form  
To be submitted by 21 February 2022

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
Partners First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email : \_\_\_\_\_

I/We will be attending (Please tick the box)	Self	Partner
<b>Monday 21 March 2022</b> Meet & Greet @ Canberra Rex Hotel - \$45.00/Head	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022</b> Boat Luncheon Cruise - \$75.00/Head	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022</b> Reunion Luncheon @ Canberra Rex Hotel - \$85.00/Head	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NOTE: I/We require Vegetarian Food</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I/We need to pay (Write amount in box if attending)	Self	Partner
<b>A: Meet &amp; Greet \$45.00/Head</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>B: Boat Luncheon Cruise \$75.00/Head</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>C: Reunion Luncheon \$85.00/Head</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL COST (A+B+C) = Self \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Partner \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAND TOTAL** (Self + Partner) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Methods:** Make Cheque or Money Orders payable to G.Pearson (copy this Form for your records), attach your cheque/Money Order & mail to: **G.Pearson –C Coy Reunion – PO Box 698, CARINGBAH NSW 1495**  
OR use Bank Transfer to G.Pearson Reunion ANZ 012-262 –A/c # 255042368 – Please ensure that you used **you SURNAME** as a reference & email a copy of your receipt for reconciliation purposes to ([gp@therbco.com.au](mailto:gp@therbco.com.au)) or post to the PO Box address detailed within.

I look forward to seeing you there. **MOVE NOW OUT!**

Dave Wilkins  
Sunray c/s 3  
(December 1969 – March 1970)