



# THE MIGHTY 12TH

Newsletter of the 12th National Service Battalion

Issue No 2 April 2008 ~ email [lamaher@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lamaher@bigpond.net.au)

Hello again- We have quite a few new 12ies to read

this issue. Thanks to those who have corresponded with positive remarks about the initiative and have ordered books and badges.

There has been a bit of a “badge holdup” due to a redesign necessity. (Nothing major guys) and books are on their way.

Just a note about the “merchandise”: I am selling the badges for cost plus postage- (2 badges don't go for the same as 1). The sale of the books is to try to cover my costs in producing same and covering postage, printing, production, binding and all the other little bits and pieces involved, so if you purchase a book it really helps to keep this idea going and I won't have to sell the wife and kids.

I am looking for bits and pieces to put into the newsletter and any contributions you would like to make would be greatly appreciated. I know it's hard to put stories down on paper sometimes and I am looking for a way to get around this.

Thanks to the chaps who have phoned and had a chat. The calls rarely last less than 15 mins and some go for much longer- I don't mind.

Don't forget, if you have contact with any other 12 Bn guys, encourage them to get in touch and register. It's all just between us- promise!

I am always on the lookout for pictures from Nasho days and I have been “swamped” with your responses. It won't be possible to include

them all in the present publication so it looks as though I will have to start on a supplement to the supplement. Not all pictures are suitable for scanning and inclusion- but I will try.

Email addresses: Some have been supplied but if you do have an email I would love to add it to the directory, besides it cuts down on the cost of postage. Mine is : [lamaher@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lamaher@bigpond.net.au)

I am including with this newsletter an aerial shot of the camp- in 1954-I think- Even though it is in the book I thought you might like a separate one to pick out your “home away from home”

On the next page you will find a table showing the numbers of registration as at 11/4/08

For our first time readers , I have included a flyer to “advertise” the 12 Bn Book and Badge. Up to you whether you wish to purchase same but a cheque or postal note would be great. My Postal address is

PO Box 8160 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650. And my phone number is (02) 69263123

Some of you will know that I also wrote and edited 2 books on National Service “Nasho Tales” and “This is My Rifle”

The former contains anecdotes and cartoons from old Battalion Magazines and from individual contributors (about 60 of) about Nasho days in all battalions.

The second book has some more stories and includes many of the forms and information materials used to “conscript” us.

Both of these have sold out ( thank heavens says my pocket) but if anyone is really interested I could probably copy them to a CD and if you are a computer “nut” or just a “bolt” you could look through them. Some Sub Branches purchased copies for their local libraries so you might like to check there first.

I reckon 10 bucks for the 2 books on CD , posted, would be fair!.

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Suggestions and constructive criticism welcomed.

Intake 1	Registered	Intake 2	Registered	Intake 3	Registered	Intake 4	Registered
51	1	51	0	51	0	51	-
52	8	52	1	52	3	52	4
53	3	53	1	53	3	53	-
54	14	54	4	54	3	54	-
55	6	55	4	55	7	55	-
56	6	56	5	56	7	56	-
57	4	57	1	57	0	57	-



Thought it was time for a “bit of jocularit

A father, passing by his son’s bedroom, was astonished to see bed was nicely made and everything was picked up. Then, he an envelope, propped up prominently on the pillow. It was , “Dad.” With the worst premonition, he opened theope and read the letter with trembling hands.

Dear Dad,

It is with great regret and sorrow that I’m writing you. I had elope with my new girlfriend, because I wanted to avoid a with Mom and you. I’ve been finding real passion with , and she is so nice, but I knew you would not approve her, because of all her piercings, tattoos, her tight clothes, and because she is so much older than I . But it’s not only the passion Dad, she’s pregnant.

Stacythat we will be very happy. She owns a trailer in the, and has a stack of firewood for the whole winter. We share a dream of having many more children. Stacy has openedeyes to the fact that marijuana doesn’t really hurt anyone. ‘ll be growing it for ourselves, and trading it with thepeople in the commune, for all the cocaine and ecstasywant. In the meantime, we’ll pray that science will find afor AIDS, so Stacy can get better. She sure deserves it!!

Don’t worry Dad, I’m 15, and I know how to take care of . Someday, I’m sure we’ll be back to visit, so you can to know your Grandchildren.

Love, your son, John.

P.S. Dad, none of the above is true. I’m over at Tommy’s house. just wanted to remind you that

there are worse things in than the report card that's in my center desk drawer. Iyou! Call when it is safe for me to come home.

For some time now I have been collecting copies of "old" Battalion magazines from all Battalions. I have copies of 2/53, 3/53, 1/54, 2/54, 1/55 from 12 Bn. I don't know whether any others exist and have had no luck trying to find one from my own 1/56 intake. If you have a copy or know of the existence of copies from other intakes I would be pleased to know. If you know for certain that your own intake DID NOT have a magazine then I can cross this off my "anticipations" list.

One chap suggested that I include a section for names of regular Army staff who\ trained us. I don't have any contact with same but if anyone wants to enlighten the rest of us I can include it in the next Mag.

I have full lists of intakes from the abovementioned magazines but see no useful purpose in reproducing these unless individuals wish their own copy. I can photocopy same if you send a self addressed, stamped envelope

Included in the book are a number of platoon photographs. Unfortunately, names have not been supplied in many instances so if it's "yours" you will just have to find yourself. I included my own platoon and honestly can only remember the names of 3-4 of the guys in the photo.