



Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the RMA New Zealand Branch

Held at

Pt Chevalier RSA, Auckland

5 February 2011

Attendees

Dennis Ayling

David Bailey

Bob Battersby

Edwin Barton

Max Beare

Colin Campbell

Peter Collins

David Glenn

Noel Harker

Vince Harris

Martin Kavanagh

Jacqui Mellamphy

Gordon Moore

Jason Pace

Harold Robinson

Joe Simms

Darren Wood

Phil Ayling

Heather Bailey

Katherine Beare

Bob Battersby

Katherine Beare

Gill Collins

John Glaze

Barbara Harker

Beryl Harris

Brendon Johnston

Mick McMahon

Gloria Moore

Rob Morrice

Bob Reay

James Roots

Pip Townend

Apologies

Jock Munro

Steve Ritson

Welcome to Brian and Diane Bartlett. Brian is the Honorary Life President of the Northern Region of the RMA in the UK and also the Chairman of the 40 Commando Association.

What a fantastic turnout at today's meeting, with 34 in attendance. This is the best attendance that we have seen in many years.

The meeting opened with Peter proposing the Loyal Toast and Royal Marines Prayer read by Philip Ayling. A moment's silence was observed in respect of Fallen Comrades

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Two issues from the previous minutes were addressed further into the meeting; entertainments and the Corps Birthday celebration. The latter is to be held at the Birkenhead RSA on 30 October. The President and committee are very pleased to have us there again

Proposed

Gordon Moore

Seconded

Max Beare

All in favour



Correspondence Outwards

- Emails and letters sent to members who have outstanding sub payments.

Correspondence Inwards

- Formal invite received from Government House for 2 March, for 2 of our members to attend a reception to mark the imminent departure of the Governor General and his wife.
- Suggestion that some of our Wellington members may be able to attend. Phil Ayling, Darren Woods and Brendon Johnson said that they could possibly attend if the Wellington members were unable to. (Post meeting note: Patrick Toner has volunteered and is Wellington based.)
- Email from the Corps Museum Eastney, advising that the personal details for Lt Col George Dowell VC will be corrected by Easter. Barbara Bayly, his Great Granddaughter, is very pleased with this outcome.
- Christmas cards received from: Gwyneth Fraser, widow of Jock Fraser, who wishes the RMA and its members all the best. Card received from the RMA, President and Trustees, Central Office, UK.
- Funeral Obituary received from Mary Lewis on the passing of Eric Lewis on 31 July 2010 by the Treasurer with donation of \$50.00.
- Letter received from Mary Lewis thanking the association for the support over the years and asking that she continue to receive the mailings as her children and grandchildren are very interested in all things to do with the Royal Marines.
- Email from Paul Reid, son in law of Henry Cook, asking if there could be an RMA representative at his funeral. Continued in President's Report.

President's Report

- Our member, John Williams, passed away at the Auckland Ranfurly War Veterans Home on 28 January 2011. Gordon & Gloria Moore, Dennis Ayling and Bob Battersby attended the funeral with the Standard and White Ensign.
- Paul Reid, son in law of Henry Cook, asked for RMA representative at Henry's funeral. Although Henry was not a member, he remembered his time in the Corps fondly. Unfortunately, Paul Reid monitored the wrong email address so didn't get any of Peter's replies until after the funeral.
- Peter Collins made payment to 45 Commando with funds from the raffle proceeds from Corps Birthday totalling \$714.00. An email was received in thanks from the Commanding Officer of 45 Commando.
- Another visitor is due on 28 February to Auckland; Brian Pearson, Chairman of the East Essex Branch, will be in Auckland for one night while on a cruise. Peter will put out an "all-points bulletin" closer to the date for possibility of drinks in the Viaduct.



- Well done to Philip Ayling for arranging the RMA shirts and caps.
- Charles Bowden, Corps Drum Major, aged 92, passed away recently.
- Thank you from Peter and Gill for the flowers received following Gill's surgery. Very appreciated, and Gill is doing well.

Vice President's Report

- RMA caps are \$19.00 each, as modelled by Dennis Ayling. This is the price that they are purchased for.
- Suggestion from Bob Reay, that the caps sell for \$20.00 each and \$1.00 is donated to the funds. Agreed, and caps on sale at the meeting then sold for \$20.00 each.
- Our webpage is updated regularly; the RIPs are now on the home page.
- Plenty of publications for anyone to take home. Lots of previous copies of Globe and Laurel; please take them or they will be destroyed.
- Nothing Impossible and Royal Marines in East Devon also available.
- Brendon Johnson took the Nothing Impossible book to be returned at the next meeting.

Secretary's Report

As we still have no Secretary there is no report. **Is anyone prepared to take on this role?**

Thank you to Jacqui Mellamphy for taking the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

The following cheques have recently been written:

Peter Collins, 45 Commando donation	\$714.47
Jacqui Mellamphy, Mission Impossible and Laminates	\$207.08

Current Account has a balance of	\$4,073.64
Ready Saver Account has a balance of	\$2,686.07
Term Deposit has a balance of	\$6,000.00

One internet banking payment received on 11 January for \$15.00 with no details of who has made payment for their 2010 subscriptions. Any information would be greatly appreciated on this please.

Gordon Moore to be reimbursed at 40c per kilometre when taking the Standard, as he travels from Waiuku. Jacqui to purchase petrol vouchers.

Proposed	Peter Collins
Seconded	Dennis Ayling
	All in favour



Report from Standard Bearer

Recent marches were:

Funeral of John Williams and upcoming ANZAC Day in Auckland.

Report from Sick Visitor

Nothing to report.

Globe and Laurel

Ken Weldon submitted a very good article for the last issue. If anyone has anything that they think should be included, please send to Ken. Peter does final vetting of the submission before going for publication.

Entertainments' Officer

- Brendon Johnson proposed a 'Jolly Boys Outing' or 'Good Run Ashore' be held for the men only. An entertaining coach trip around Auckland with several stops along the way. This to be held by April 2011.
- Harold Robinson said that the wives of the members should also be invited to attend functions as they are also an important part of our membership, and if they are not invited, then you won't have an Association. Many good evenings have been held in the past with wives in attendance.
- James Roots suggested a mid-winter dinner/outing as has been suggested at previous meetings.
- We should use memorable Corps dates for socials along the lines of D Day etc.
- The British Airborne Forces Association have invited us to a few of their events, and to date, we haven't invited them to anything. Their membership is a lot older than our own, with no younger members in attendance at previous gatherings.

General Business

- Incoming newsletters from Australia have almost dried up. This could be in some part due to what has been happening there recently.
- Peter Collins emailed Tony Cude, he has been having computer troubles recently, hence why 3 issues of the TITTM have been sent out this week.
- Peter asked if members have had difficulty in receiving or opening emails recently. No one had any particular problems, although some attachments are unable to be opened. This could be due to the format they were saved in.
- Peter will send these three issues out when he does the next mail out with the minutes to non-email members.



- The Corps RSM, Mark Wicks, has recently been selected for a high profile position with NATO; he is being labelled as the RSM of the World – a fantastic achievement.
- Max Beare asked if the minutes of the last meeting could be read so that members can remember what was happening before voting on their acceptance. Peter agreed to do this going forward.
- Steve Ritson sends his regards; currently working on anti-piracy in Somalia.
- 3 Commando Brigade will deploy to Afghanistan in April; our thoughts and prayers are with them.
- Mark Ormrod, who lost three limbs in Helmand Province wrote his book 'Man Down'; this is worth the read. He is now the Assistant Welfare Officer, sponsored by 42 Commando. He talks to those who have recently been injured or lost limbs, and is the best ambassador that the RMA could have for welfare.
- Pip Townsend advised that the Royal Marine Charitable Trust was asking for £6 Million by the 350th birthday of the Corps. These funds will be made available to those transitioning in life outside the Corps and recently wounded. Peter has the application forms for the Trust. (Post meeting note: Pip made a very generous donation for Peter to forward on).
- Harold advised that there is a very good English shop in Victoria Street, Onehunga, Auckland if you want Eccles cakes and English products. Also in Browns Bay, Pakuranga and Pukekohe.
- Interesting programmes coming up:
 - Road Warriors on the History Channel
 - Prime on 14 February at 7.40pm, Monty Halls in Scotland.
 - Harry Brown, new movie with Michael Caine, who plays an ex Royal Marine.

Next meetings

The next bi-monthly meeting will be held on the 9 April, and the AGM and following bi-monthly meeting on the 11 June.

Meeting closed at 3.00pm

Brian Bartlett, Honorary Life President of the Northern Region of the RMA, then gave us a brief on his positions in the RMA, and Peter presented him with our NZ Branch banner.