

# ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION VICTORIA – AUSTRALIA



President David Wilcox (03) 9870 5360  
Vice President Mo Gorham 9511 8669  
Treasurer Mark Bremner 0448 322 020  
Assist.Treasurer Keith Harrex 9796 1148  
Secretary Michael Tucker 9439 7577  
Assist. Secretary Tony Boyle 9844 3656  
Social Secretary Mo Gorham 9511 8669

## Newsletter No. 7 — July 2009

The last meeting was held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at Ringwood RSL. The President opened the meeting at 13.16 hours with a minute silence for 'Fallen Comrades'. They would have included Edward Kenna V.C. who died on 8<sup>th</sup> July and Harry Patch, aged 111, the oldest and last remaining veteran of WWI, who died in Somerset on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

**Attending** — D. Allen, B. Attwood, Capt. D. Bergman, T. Boyle, F. Davies, W. Drummond, M. Gorham, C. Handoll, K. Harrex, A.Hewitt, Surgeon Lieut. D. Mansie, Rev. Hugh McCartney, R. Readings, V. Rich, G. Roman, D. Shearwood, I. Townsley, A. Smith, M.Tucker, D.Wilcox, B. Youngs. (Total: 21) Mesdame: Mrs.V. Hewitt Total (1).

**Apologies** — A. Boyer, G. Fowler, B. Love, K. Moore, H. Tear, J. Wilkinson (Total: 6)

**Minutes** — these were taken as being read. There were no matters arising.

Alfred Hewitt, Danny Allen: Carried.

**Correspondance In:** Stuart Gill, British Consul General, accepting our invitation to the RMA Luncheon on 25 Oct. 2009.  
AATTV July Newsletter.  
RAFA Invitation to the Battle of Britain Parade and Service, at the Shrine, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2009.  
Mrs Elizabeth Richards – letter of thanks, following her recent hospitalization.

**Correspondance Out:** None.

Alec Smith, Bert Attwood: Carried.

**Treasurer's Report** — Keith Harrex gave a detailed account of the Association's financial position which, once again, resulted in a healthy balance in the Bank. This was Keith Harrex's last Treasurer's Report. As he stated last month, he had decided to resign at the next Annual General Meeting, which was to follow in the next hour. Once again, everyone expressed their great appreciation for all the good work he had done for the Branch over the past eighteen years. With expenses paid, Keith moved that his report be accepted.

Tony Boyle, Victor Rich: Carried.

**Social Report:** Mo Gorham announced that Tony Boyle had nearly completed getting all the prizes for the Corps Luncheon, and Taff Boyer has kindly volunteered to act as Master of Ceremonies on the day. It will be good to have him "on parade" again and I understand the Cake Party will consist of four former Marines, two wearing green and two wearing blue berets. I have been informed that the Cake will be receiving a very colourful, artistic and Regimental touch by the good lady in the Ringwood RSL who is in charge of it behind closed doors! It was confirmed that the cost of the tickets will be \$30.00 to outsiders, but with a \$10 subsidy from the RMA, the cost will be \$20.00 a head to RMA members and their partners. It was emphasized that this special discount is only being offered to members who are financial i.e. those who have paid their

annual membership fee by the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2009. [Application form enclosed. Please complete and return with cheque as soon as possible, so that we have a good idea as to how many will be able to attend. Let's make it a great occasion. Thank you!]

**Sick Parade** – Albert Boyer has not been at all well lately, but hopefully he will be fighting fit by the time of the Corps Luncheon. Billy Polkingthorne and Tony Webster have also reported sick. Hopefully, they will also be on the mend soon.

**General Business** – There was no general business, but because Danny Allen had to resign from the committee due to outside commitments, Alec Smith took the opportunity of proposing a vote of thanks to Danny for all the outstanding work he had done for our Branch in the past, and this was supported with sincere acclamation from the members.

The Meeting closed at 13.52 hours.

**The Next Meeting will be held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2009 at 13.15 hours.**

---

### **The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Marines Association – Victoria.**

The AGM opened 14.06 hours. With Nominations in and all members furnished with last year's list of nominations and a sheet giving the vacant positions etc for this year of 2009 -2010, Alec Smith took the Chair and called for nominations for President. As there was only one nomination, Dave Wilcox resumed a further term of office with acclamation. He took the Chair and called for further nominations. The most important position to be filled was that of Treasurer. Dave Wilcox welcomed and introduced Mark Bremner to everyone attending the meeting, and informed the members that Mark came with a great list of qualifications and experience, all recorded on an eleven page résumé!

In reply, Mark stood up and expressed how happy and honoured he felt in being invited and appointed to the position of Treasurer of the Royal Marines Association. He looks forward to working with us and sharing in the comradeship which exists amongst our ranks. Then Alec Smith proposed that our new Treasurer, being ex RAAF, be made an Honorary Member of the Royal Marines Association. Seconded by Keith Harrex, the motion was carried unanimously in favour.

Keith Harrex agreed to be Assistant Treasurer in order to assist Mark in taking over the reins of the work entailed. Tony Boyle also agreed to stand as Assistant Secretary. Mo Gorham agreed to stand as Vice President with the proviso that if Harry Teear wished to become Vice President, Mo would step down and stay as Social Secretary. Taff Boyer has kindly agreed to be the Public Relations Officer.

**Treasurer's Report:** As in the preceding meeting, Keith Harrex gave an excellent report of the Association's financial situation. Alec Smith, seconded by Duncan Mancie, wished a vote of thanks be recorded for the outstanding work that Keith Harrex had done for our Association of the past eighteen years. Members supported this with acclamation. There was no General Business.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 14.41 hours.

---

**Forthcoming events.** Medals to be worn at all three events, plus blazers, berets and shoes highly polished!

Sub-Mariners Association Australia Commemorative Service to be held at 146 Toorak Road West, South Yarra at 11.30am

Airborne Forces Day to be held at the Heidelberg Repat. Hospital Memorial Garden on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

Battle of Britain Commemorative Parade and Service at the Shrine of Remembrance on Sunday 20<sup>st</sup> Sept. 2009 at 2pm