



Minutes of Bi-Monthly meeting  
of the RMA New Zealand Branch  
Held at Pt Chevalier RSA, Auckland  
12 June 2010

**Attendees**

Phil Ayling	Ticker Ayling
Bob Battersby	Max Beare
Gill Collins	Peter Collins
David Glenn	Beryl Harris
Vince Harris	Martin Kavanagh
Jacqui Mellamphy	Gloria Moore
Gordon Moore	Bob Reay
Joe Simms	Darren Wood

**Apologies**

Keith Annis	David Bailey
Edwin Barton	Colleen Ellis
Mick McMahan	Rob Morrice
Jason Pace	Steve Ritson
Harold Robinson	

The meeting opened with the Royal Marines prayer read by Darren Wood.

**Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

No business was outstanding from the previous minutes which were accepted as a true record

<b>Proposed</b>	Max Beare
<b>Seconded</b>	Bob Battersby
	All in favour

There was a request that minutes be sent out in a format that can be opened. In future they will be sent out in Word and PDF format

**Correspondence Inwards**

- Roy Tilley of the British Airborne Association is keen for their association to have an informal affiliation with the RMA. We have invited their Auckland based members to join us at the Corps Birthday. They have invited us to attend their Social commencing at Noon on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of September at the East Coast Bays RSA on Auckland's North Shore. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Ken Catt on [kiwicatt@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kiwicatt@xtra.co.nz) a week or so beforehand as they need to reserve tables. A number of Auckland based members have expressed their interest.
- The £1000 donation received a few months ago was from Alan Todd, we have received an email saying he is very sick, RMA NZ to send Best Wishes card. (Post meeting update – sadly Alan passed away on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June after a long battle with cancer.)



- Email received from Colleen Ellis thanking the RMA for the flowers of appreciation.
- Email from Barbara Bayley regarding updating the caption at the museum in respect of Lt Col G D Dowell VC. Peter has replied to Barbara advising to keep in touch.
- Peter had received a letter from Graham Beeson advising that he would not be renewing his membership.
- David Glen to send copy of newspaper clipping of recent article in North Shore City Leader.

### **Correspondence Outward**

- Monthly update, copies of minutes and newsletters from overseas have been posted to our members who are not on email.
- Acceptance letter of resignation sent to Graham Beeson.

### **President's Report**

- All Points Bulletin was emailed to members by Peter as we are still looking for someone to take over the secretary role, and also the newsletter editor. No volunteers have been forthcoming as yet.
- Email from Jason Pace with suggestion that bi-monthly meetings be held on a Sunday. We need to check with the Pt Chevalier RSA to see if they are able to accommodate this, and also need to send an all points bulletin to members to gauge response on change of date. Agreed that 2.00pm is a good time to meet. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month is not suitable for Max Beare or Vince Harris who have other commitments.
- David Gwilliam will be in New Zealand on holiday in August, and in Auckland on 7 August for drinks at the Pt Chevalier RSA. (Refer to date of next meeting at the end of the minutes.)

**Proposed**

Ticker Ayling

**Seconded**

Bob Battersby

All in favour

- Phil Ayling to contact Tony (webmaster) to put this on the website.

### **Vice President's Report**

- The suggestion of Support our Business page on the website, Western Australia already have this on their website. Let Phil Ayling know if you would like this on the NZ section and also if you would like your business on there.
- If there are any photos on the website that you may know the people, please advise Phil so we can get the names updated. If several people on the photo, please state, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left, etc, and also the date and location of photo (if known).
- Phil Ayling photographed the assets held at the Pt Chevalier RSA after the meeting, and these will be documented on the website.
- NZ Branch Royal Marines Association Banners are available for purchase at \$12.00 each – contact Philip.
- Discussion held on whether NZ should have our own website. We would need a business case as to whether we should have our own or not, and whether we should be able to



upload photos on the current website. Consensus was that we keep with the current situation.

- Darren Wood offered to help on the website if required, as his background is in IT. (Post meeting note: Darren has set up a Facebook page for the branch)

### **Finances**

Report from our Treasurer, Jacqui Mellamphy, on the finances.

Current Account has a balance of	\$2,968.99
Ready Saver Account has a balance of	\$2,668.11
Term Deposit (maturing 15/12/10) has a balance of	\$6,000.00

Darren Wood purchased two banners.

Cliff Heywood (visitor) arrived for his presentation at 2.50pm.

### **Report from Sick Visitor – recent visits**

Edwin Barton – recent eye problems – Edwin remains chipper and positive.

Charles and Celia Lashmar - visited by Max Beare, and Ticker Ayling. Charles goes into respite care every three weeks.

George Warman – lives in Swanson, is going into hospital shortly. If you have time to call and talk with him would be appreciated. He will keep you laughing.

John Connolly (badly assaulted policeman and ex Royal) – is now home and making a slow recovery, may be back at work in August. Our member Neil Grant's daughter is a friend of John, and has advised that when he is recovered, he would like to become a member of the association.

### **Report from Standard Bearer**

Standard not presented since ANZAC Day, which was reported at the previous meeting.

### **General Business**

Suggested that the Association should purchase a copy of the publication 'Royal Marines Nothing Impossible'. Cost is around £45.

<b>Proposed</b>	Max Beare
<b>Seconded</b>	Vince Harris
	All in favour

It was agreed that Jacqui will purchase the book for borrowing by members. Circulation will be strictly controlled.

### **Globe and Laurel**

John Glaze had submitted an article on the Taupo Reunion.



### **General Business**

- Corps Birthday is Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> of October at Birkenhead RSA. A message has been left for the Padre but no response as yet. Peter to contact him as a reminder.
- Since the meeting, Peter Collins asked the Padre at the Naval Base, Colin Gordon to come to the Corps Birthday and he has accepted our offer. Peter met Colin whilst he was conducting the christening of our member, Mark Kavanagh, and his partner, Kim's, daughter. Peter to contact our Padre, Jim Withers, to advise him that we have invited Colin along. Jim will conduct our Church Service as usual. Peter is waiting for a response from the Defence Secretary to be our guest speaker. Bob Reay will be sending out more details in due course.
- We need to give the Birkenhead RSA a minimum of two weeks notice for numbers attending the birthday – please get your numbers and monies to Jacqui ASAP. \$21.00 per person payable to “the Royal Marine Association”.
- Vince and Beryl Harris were recently in Thailand, they found three RM's graves and showed photos. They also showed photos of the remains of the metal (not wooden) bridge. The youngest marine that died there was only 20; all 3 were from the Repulse, and were known as the Plymouth Arygles.
- Agreed that the next meeting would be on 7 August at the Pt Chevalier RSA to coincide with the visit by David Gwilliam; meeting will be followed by a few drinks and sandwiches. (Post meeting note: David has not been able to get a visa for his wife to visit New Zealand and will not therefore be visiting. Meeting to remain as 7 August.)
- Meeting closed at 3.15pm followed by Presentation by Cliff Heywood, the Deputy Director of the Naval Museum in Auckland
  
- An interesting and informative presentation was given by Cliff Heywood on the new naval museum in Torpedo Bay currently being built. He also offered the members a tour of the museum and the music area, and that our meetings could be held in their new boardroom, but there is a cost associated with this, and no bar.

Presentation concluded at 4.00pm with Peter Collins presenting Cliff one of our banners as thanks for taking time out of his Saturday to come and talk with us.