



Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the RMA New Zealand Branch
Held at
Pt Chevalier RSA, Auckland
10th December 2011

Attendees

Dennis Ayling (Ticker)	Phil Ayling	Max Beare
Kath Beare	Peter Collins (President)	Gill Collins
Maggie Collins	Oliver Collins	David Glen
Martin Kavanagh	Mick McMahon	Jacqui Mellamphy (Treasurer)
Gloria Moore	Gordon Moore	Bob Reay
Jim Roots	Joann Steel (Secretary)	Marilyn Glen

Apologies

Bob Battersby	Steve Campbell	Barney Charlwood
Celia Lashmar	Rob Morrice	Joe Simms
Colin Campbell		Noel Harker

Visitors

Margaret & Oliver Collins

Meeting opened at 4.00 pm.

Loyal Toast to the Queen.

Royal Marines Prayer recited by Gordon Moore

A moment's silence was observed for fallen comrades and our members Leonard Guest who passed away 8th October and Charles Lashmar 23rd October 2011.

Welcome to our visitors. Margaret and Oliver Collins Peter's sister and nephew. Oliver has just been accepted into the TA in the UK.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Matters Arising:

No matters arising

Proposed Bob Reay

Seconded Gordon Moore
All in favour

New Business

Change of order. The President's report will now come before inward and outward correspondence.



President's Report

- BAFA (British Air Forces Association) reunion in Rotorua and invited them today Peter was a bit disappointed that that there has been no response to either invite.
- February 2012: Visit of Frank Atkins to New Zealand – Frank was the best friend of ex-Royal Jock Fraser who died a couple of years ago. Frank made a donation of \$1000.00 to the Association in recognition and thanks for the continued communication with Jock's family – Frank will attend February meeting.
- "Nothing Impossible" – Darren Wood/Rob Morrice – neither one here today. If they do arrive please "ambush them" re the book.
- New CEO in the RMA Head Office – Brigadier Mike Ellis. He has a difficult act to follow, but is definitely up to the task.
- Peter represented us at the Armistice Day unveiling of a Memorial Wall containing a good number of Armed Forces Plaques – located at 159 Dominion Road in Papakura. Our plaque represented "Royal Marines in New Zealand 1769 to 1960". As the oldest organization of the 9 that were represented we were given precedence. Exceedingly pleased with that.
- Very good turn out at Charles Lashmar's funeral and good representation by RMA. Ticker stated that Celia had thanked the Association on how the RMA has sent him on his way – it was the way he would have wanted.
- Thanks to Jim and Marty for organizing today Thank you for all the effort to put today's function together.
- Not heard anything from the Point Chevalier RSA in respect of the Battle of the River Plate commemoration on the 12th of December? There has still been no word. Ticker could not get any information either. It seems that they are just not doing anything.

Action: Peter to talk to the RSA as to what is happening.

Post meeting note: after the meeting the RSA confirmed that the commemoration was scheduled for the 11th of December. Ticker and Gordon would parade the White Ensign and our Standard.

Inward Correspondence

- We have received a Christmas card from the Governor General and a letter of invite to Government House Waitangi Day – Jim Begg and Patrick Toner are our only representatives in Wellington who can attend on our behalf. Only paid up members can represent.
Action: Jacqui to give current paid up member list to Pete.
- E-mail from Major Ducan Roy expressing his thanks in respect of the Corps Birthday. Peter felt he was excellent value for money and an excellent speaker.
- Letter of thanks to Ticker from St Matthews in the City Church for acting as the Parade Marshall on Remembrance Sunday. Peter carried the white ensign with Gordon as short of people.
- Very nice thank you by e-mail from Vince & Beryl Harris following the flowers that we sent to Beryl. They greatly appreciated the gesture.



- Thank you card from Sharon Wigley for the \$500.00 & \$50.00 donation we made to the Shrapnel Charity in the UK. Very grateful for our support.
- E-mail from our padre, Jim Withers – Corps Birthday “it was a joy to be there and at the luncheon”. “Nothing will keep me away from the RM Birthday 2012 you can be assured.”
- Previous secretary Colleen Ellis has forwarded review details onto me. Peter was pleased about that in view of circumstances on how she left.
- Our member Steve Campbell got an e-mail from an ex Royal - Jon Flint in respect of his best mate and another ex Royal, Lee Jones. Lee emigrated with his girlfriend and son in 2005 but sadly died of an aneurism whilst surfing in 2007. He is now buried in Awanuwi Cemetery in New Plymouth. Lee retired from the Corps in 2005 and Jon asked if anyone could put flowers on the grave. Peter Coombe is our only member who could do the flowers. Although going in to hospital himself he will put flowers on the grave and will take a photo.

Outward Correspondence

- Condolence letter to Pat Guest – Jacqui sent flowers on behalf of the branch and Peter also spoke to her on the phone. She is still sharp as a button. She was very grateful for the flowers.
- Pete has sent out lots of Corps Birthday thank you letters – hopes he hasn’t missed anyone!
- CO Devonport Naval Base re shooting package – new CO, Captain Corina Bruce – to try and reincarnate this – more news to come in the new year.
- Thank you letter to Major David Hopkins for our invite and participation in the Memorial Wall dedication. Peter got a tour of the museum on Dominion Road. It has a host of facilities and has got 5 years of unlimited funding.

Vice President’s Report

- Cards for Charles’s funeral, along with flags and music.
- RMA received a Christmas card from Central Office.
- Tony to get the fabulous photos of the Remembrance Day parade on our website.
- Max – mentioned the TV programme “The Choir” – put together from military wives. He has made some DVDs of it if you want to take one.
- The cartoon book from the guys at the Falklands is back.
- There is a DVD done by Gareth Malone. Max will do a copy if anyone wants one.

Treasurer’s Report

Cheque 00 Account	\$5250.49	
Savings 30 Account	\$2708.44	
Investment 73 Account	\$6232.65	The accounts were accepted as a true record
Total	\$14,191.58	



The investment account is due to mature on 16th December. Do we want to re-invest for a further 12 months?

Proposed: David Glen

Seconded: Ticker

All in favour

Corps Birthday

Raffle	\$833
Brendon	\$167
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Total	\$1000

David Glen	\$360 for Auction of Miniatures
David Bailey	\$200 Donation
Grand total	<u>\$1560 to RM Charitable Trust Fund</u>

- There were 70 people at the Corps Birthday. After paying for the cake \$180, wine \$173.70, Catering \$1420 we paid out \$1773 received \$1470 so made a small loss
- Dave Glen stated that the raffle was previously used to cover the costs and could the older members afford an increase in the ticket price to \$25.00? There will be vote on raising the cost closer to next year's birthday.
- Peter stated that we are making the donations to the RM Charitable Trust Fund which is doing a lot of good work for all marines. The fund is going to try and achieve its goal of \$6million by 2014. Feel that it is a good cause to support.
- What is our tax position on paying tax?

Action: Jacqui to email our auditor Ian with the question.

Secretary's Report

No report.

Entertainments Officer's Report

A question arose as to why the tickets were \$20 and not \$16 as stated in the previous minutes. Martyn responded that the \$4 extra was to cover the cost of food for the bandsmen who were playing for free.

Dave Glen suggested that any shortfall in the band meals be paid for by the RMA.

Proposed: Dave Glen

Seconded: Gordon Moore

All in favour

Report from Standard Bearer



The standard was presented three times:

- Charles Lashmar's funeral
- Corps Birthday
- Armistice Day – unfortunately the National anthem was played before the standard was presented.

Battle of the River plate 11th of December.

Next presentation will be ANZAC day.

Sick Visitor's Report

- George MacLeod (from Tauranga) – George Wootton phoned him – doing OK and on his way to the Officers' Club for a drink!!
- Jock Munro – still in Ward 2 of Taupo Hospital (moved from Rotorua hospital) – improving and may be released next week. Jacqui and Phil organized flowers and Jock was very appreciative. There are a number of people contacting Jock.
- **President's update – Jock was released from hospital on the 21st of December and is recovering at home**

Globe & Laurel Report:

Submission to be sent by the 4th of January – Ken Weldon and Peter will produce – Peter will e-mail and hard copy to members. On track for it.

Any Other Committee Members Reports

Other General Business

Max – has the DVD re Paddy Ashdown – the UK Liberal MP and in respect of the the CockerShell Heroes era. Contact Max if you want a copy.

Gordon Moore – presentation of the Pingat Jasa Malaysia Medal

Max stated he has his NZ Defence Medal coming in the post.

Next Meeting

- The date for the next meeting will be Saturday the 11th February at 1400
- The meeting closed at 4.45pm.