



**Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the New Zealand Branch of the RMA  
Held at  
Point Chevalier RSA, Auckland  
14<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

**Attendees:**

Ticker Ayling	Philip Ayling	Max & Kath Beare
Gill Collins	Peter Collins (President)	Dave Glen
Vince & Beryl Harris	Pusser Hill	Bill Houston
Marty Kavanagh	Jacqui Mellamphy	Mick McMahon (Vice President)
Gordon & Gloria Moore	Rob Morrice (Treasurer)	Dee & Jim Roots
Joe Simms	Pip Townend	Phil & Jackie Turner
Dave Vaudrey		

**Apologies:**

Noel Harker	Bruce Cain	Keith Anniss
Colin Cooper	Joann Steel	Nathan Jones
Peter Griffin		

Meeting opened at 14.10

- Loyal Toast to Her Majesty the Queen
- Royal Marines Prayer recited by Dave Vaudrey
- A moment's silence for fallen comrades was observed.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Matters Arising**

The subject of a full membership list being available for all members had been discussed and Rob said he could do a contact list with name, region, email and phone number only so people could visit or contact other members. Rob has not had the opportunity to do this just yet so it was carried forward.

Proposer and a seconder that the previous minutes be accepted as a true record – vote

Proposed	Rob Morrice	Seconder	Dave Glen
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All voted in favour

**President's Report**

A former Royal Marine, PO/X 5695 Thomas Newland, who was the father of a friend of Phil Ayling's, passed away on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November. His funeral was held on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November in Auckland – Ticker represented us and said a few words on our behalf. Pip was also in attendance and Phil provided a pith helmet to sit on top of the coffin. Tony enlisted



in September 1945 as a boy bugler aged 15 and served on HMS DIADEM. He was accepted into the Royal Marines at the age of 17 with 525 Squad and he served with 42 Commando in Malaya in 1950. He was discharged in 1955.

Peter received an e-mail from RSM Bruce Riach, who is the Royal Marines Command Warrant Officer. It concerned a former Royal Marine by the name of Ted Cox who now lives in Christchurch. Bruce advised that he is not very well and could be approaching the end of his time. Peter mailed some of our Christchurch based members with a view to a visit or even a phone call. Chalky Carr has been in communication with Ted's daughter and Peter has also e-mailed her. Ben Curry has also offered his services as he lives very close by. Ted served in World War 2 with 40 Commando – he is now aged 90 and suffers from Parkinson's disease.

Peter received an e-mail from Carlo Mekkelsen who is a member of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Auckland/Northland Regimental Association. He was looking for a Falklands War veteran to talk to that Association in respect of the conflict. Our member, Peter Griffin, has volunteered and will talk to them on Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> of May at the Arch Hill Army Centre in Auckland. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Auckland/Northland Regimental Association hold lecture evenings on the last Friday of each month between May and October covering personal military experiences, conflicts and deployments and Carlo has kindly given the RMA an open invitation to attend any of them.

Former Royal Marines Band Bandmaster, David Yates, and his wife Suzy, will be visiting New Zealand – staying in Tauranga 17 to 20 December, Napier 20 to 23 December and Tauranga again from 23 December to 4 January. They would like to meet up with former Royals for a pint and some lamp swinging – please contact Peter if you are interested.

The contents of our memorabilia cabinet are to be scanned for tracking and tracing purposes in the event that any are stolen – Phil Ayling, our Quartermaster has been briefed by the RSA and he has purchased the necessary DNA fluid for \$80.00 (proposition later).

Peter has had correspondence from Paul (Brad) Bradshaw – left the Corps in 1999 and now works and lives in Indonesia. He will be visiting NZ sometime in the early part of next year – previously scheduled for November but he has been delayed.

An ex member, George Warnham rang Peter. He had been ringing Bob Reay but getting an unobtainable tone – Peter tried but got likewise and has had no response to an e-mail. Dennis Harvey & Mark Owen advised that they had been talking to Bob at the Corps Birthday and Bob said that they would be moving into a retirement village in Havelock North so that they could be close to their son. If anyone has any more details could they please let Peter know. **Post meeting note – Bob has since mailed Peter and all is good in Hawkes Bay.**



The Corps Birthday celebration was another resounding success much enhanced by the 4 serving members visiting from the UK. They were visiting New Zealand to conduct amphibious training with the New Zealand Defence Force but Peter has not heard anything further. Our member, Pusser Hill, took part in some of the training and gave a brief summary.

Our mate Tony Smith in Australia uploaded some Corps Birthday photos provided by Max Beare onto our website. Peter sent an APB on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November to notify members.

The Corps Birthday raffle takings were \$538.00 which equates to 279.32 GBP – see proposition below?

Corps Birthday venue for next year? – Garry Cooley, manager of the Birkenhead RSA - e-mail in response to Peter's thank you e-mail. ***"It is always a pleasure to host your celebration and we look forward to doing so again next year and what will clearly be a very special occasion. The girls always ask to work when you are here as they really enjoy the day."***

Garry is the son-in-law of our deceased member, Bill Hale – should we invite Garry and Bill's 3 daughters next year? Peter advised that if anyone proposes that we should change the venue for next year they should put up a sound business case for our consideration. There was some discussion in respect of the noisy band upstairs and Peter undertook to take that up with Garry.

Corps Birthday Guest Speaker next year – Peter will again invite the Governor General. As an alternative we may look to Roy Clare who is the current director of the Auckland Museum and a retired Rear Admiral from the Royal Navy.

Peter made thanks to all those who had contributed to the very impressive finger food spread.

### **Inward Correspondence:**

Christmas Card from the Governor-General

Christmas Card and donation to our funds received from our member Peter Coombe in the Taranaki

Various e-mails as covered above

### **Outward Correspondence**

Several Corps Birthday thanks you letters.



### **New Members**

Dave Vaudrey (PO?????) Still awaiting Dave's joining documentation) CSgt S1- made the Corps Birthday

Sid Cooper (CH/X 1160 joined in 1935 and served for 12 years, now aged 95

Phi (Topsy) Turner (PO33062W) CSgt S1

Tony Oberdries (RMB/X 3338) ex Band Service who retired in 1972 after serving for 17 years.

**Vice President's Report** – nothing to report

### **Treasurer's Report**

Cheque Account	\$4,989.61
Ready Saver Account	\$2,756.94
Term Deposit Account	\$6,724.82
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$14,471.37</u></b>

**Incoming** since last meeting (from 12<sup>th</sup> October to 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2013):

\$538.00 from Corps Birthday raffle

\$105.00 from subscriptions

\$567.00 Corps Birthday ticket sales

\$57.00 donations

\$3.45 bank interest

### **Outgoing**

\$1281.00 for Corps Birthday lunch

\$\$255.0 for Corps Birthday toasting wine

\$\$155.00 for Corps Birthday cake

**Corps Birthday** – ticket sales income = \$1050.00, expenditure above = \$1681 = deficit of \$641.00

**Secretary's Report** - not present

**Entertainments Rep's Report** - nothing to report

**Standard Bearer's Report** - nothing to report



### **Sick Visitor's Report**

It was good to see Dave Glen at the meeting after recovering from a recent bout of pneumonia. Good also to see Kath and Max Beare and Joe Simms all on good form.

### **Globe & Laurel Report:**

Submission sent 25<sup>th</sup> of October - e-mail and hard copies were sent out - copies were available at the meeting.

### **Webmaster's Report:**

N/A

### **Propositions:**

That the proceeds of the Corps Birthday raffle be rounded up to the equivalent of 300 GBP and sent to the RMCTF

**Approved by:** Bill Houston                      **Seconded by:** Gordon Moore  
Carried unanimously

That \$80.00 be paid to Phil Ayling to reimburse him for his outlay on the DNA solution to be used to scan for tracking and tracing purposes the contents of our memorabilia cabinet

**Approved by:** Gordon Moore                      **Seconded by:** Mick McMahon  
Carried unanimously

### **General Business**

There were discussions in respect of a special edition of the NZ Branch of the RMA polo shirt to be made to commemorate the 350<sup>th</sup> Corps Birthday next year – to be discussed further at the next meeting. Any volunteers to take this project on?

There were some strong feelings that we should represent our displeasure at the fact that Marine A had been publicly identified and that his family were now at permanent risk. Peter to register with the CEO of the RMA.

### **Next Meeting**

- Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of February at 1400 at Pt Chevalier RSA
- The meeting closed at 15.12