



**Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the New Zealand Branch of the RMA
Held at
Point Chevalier RSA, Auckland
8th June 2013**

Attendees:

Ticker Ayling	Max & Kath Beare	Bruce Cain
Gill Collins	Peter Collins (President)	Dave Glen
Neil Grant	Peter Griffin	Beryl Harris
Vince Harris	James Hill	Pusser Hill
Sonja Hill	Thomas Hill	Bill & Beverley Houston
Vanessa Jones	Marty Kavanagh	Ange McMahan
Callum McMahan	Mick McMahan (Vice President)	Gordon & Gloria Moore
Rob Morrice (Treasurer)	Harold Robinson	Joe Simms
Joann Steel (Secretary)		

Apologies:

Phil Ayling	David & Heather Bailey	Bob Battersby
Roger Biggs	Colin Campbell	Noel Harker
Brendon Johnson	Jacqui Mellamphy	Jason Pace
Bob Reay	Jim Roots	

Meeting opened at 14.07

- Loyal Toast to Her Majesty the Queen
- Royal Marines Prayer recited by Bruce Cain
- A moments silence for fallen comrades was observed. Our thoughts go to Bill Harris, son of Vince & Beryl who died from cancer recently. Bill was a former Royal Marine Cadet and a member of our Corps of Drums here in New Zealand.

Peter welcomed new visitors to the meeting – Peter Griffin was attending his first meeting, Neil Grant was visiting from Upper Hutt, and Bill Houston who has returned from Australia after losing his wife Margaret.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Matters Arising

Fallen Heroes Charity: They have not shown any enthusiasm for our proposed donation and therefore Peter made the proposition that the \$500.00 donation be rescinded.

All voted in favour to rescind the donation of \$500.00 to the Fallen Heroes Charity.

Has Mick got his badge back from Brendon – NO!

That the Minutes of the Previous Meeting be accepted as a true record



Proposed

Mick McMahon

Seconder

Vince Harris

All voted in favour

President's Report

Vince Harris said a few words about his son Bill's funeral. Vince appreciated the attendance of the RMA members and the Standards to the funeral on the 30th May. He was in the old Warkworth Hospital, but then transferred to the North Haven Hospice where he died on the 27th of May. Bill continued to always have a sense of humour and Vince gave us some very funny quotes that he made even when he was quite ill. Peter thanked everyone who attended.

Vince Harris represented us at the funeral of Lew Nathan on the 6th of June at Warkworth. Lew joined the Corps at Chatham in 1942 and served for 12 years. He was too infirm to have been a member and to attend meetings. Pip and Harold also attended the funeral making 5 members in total in attendance. Dave Glen dwelled on his RMA service which the family greatly appreciated and Lew would have certainly approved.

We had a decent turn out for the ANZAC Day Parade. Approximately 10 members attended and both Standards were paraded. It was good that protocols in terms of precedence for the wreath laying were observed this time round. We were 4th after the RNZN, NZ Army and RNZAF. This was an excellent outcome after Peter raised the issue of Protocols with the RSA, who took his suggestion very well. We agreed, of course, that the Senior NZ services should go first, but the RMA should be recognized as armed forces and a part of the UK's Senior Service. Vince and the RMA congratulated Peter on a great outcome.

There is to be a Government House Patronage Reception in Wellington on the 20th of June. Patrick Toner and Roger Biggs will represent the Association

We have subscribed to the Blue Band Magazine (RM Band Service) and recently received our 1st edition that Peter sent to Jim Roots. It's an excellent publication and will be circulated around.

Peter has received a copy of the latest edition of the RMA Head Office magazine. It is available for anyone to take on completion of the meeting.

We need to acquire a bigger presentation cabinet as the current one is not big enough. Phil has researched and found an appropriate one costing \$998.00. This is at a reduced price. There is a proposition to this effect pending the permission that Peter has sought from the RSA and photos are available to view. Peter is comfortable with Phil's choice and the need for a new cabinet, but he understands that it is difficult to vote on something that people



have not physically seen. **Post meeting note: the RSA has since advised that the cabinet is too big so we are back to the drawing board!**

Everyone needs to agree on the purchase. There was some discussion over the existing cabinet located in Pt Chev RSA. It was confirmed that this cabinet belongs to the RMA as Les Goodyear made it. There was a suggestion that we could donate the old cabinet to the RSA as they have been very good to the RMA over the years.

Peter is still waiting for a response from the RSA as to whether they will agree to allow us to put up the new cabinet. If they do not, then we will have to consider rescinding the vote.

Refer to the post meeting note above

Due to increasing work commitments Philip Ayling will not be able to chase up donations for our Corps Birthday raffle this year as he is working more in Australia. Therefore we all need to rally round to seek or provide donations. As Peter stated, the raffle is not about receiving major prizes, but to raise money for our chosen RMA charity. Therefore any prize donations will be very welcome.

Inward Correspondence:

Our Corps Birthday invitation to the Governor General was declined and, unusually, no alternative was offered

Peter received an e-mail from Denis O’Dea in Australia. He lived in NZ in 2011 & 2012 and he didn’t say whether he was ex RM but enquired about ANZAC Day parades and other RMA activities. Peter has not heard from him since!

Outward Correspondence

We have sent an invite to the Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral Jack Steer, to be our Guest of Honour at the Corps Birthday. **Post meeting note. Admiral Steer has declined but has offered up his deputy, Commodore Dean McDougall. We await his formal acceptance.**

New Members

None this time around

Vice President’s Report

Mick had nothing to report. However, the email that had been received from the Naval Base Chaplain requesting for the RMA to have a church service had just got his wires crossed!

Treasurer’s Report

More details will be given of the full accounts in the AGM minutes. However, Rob has received \$475 in Subs, \$10 donation and there is approx \$13,800 in the bank. Rob thanked



Ian Pallas for doing the accounts again and Peter gave Ticker a bottle of his favourite wine to pass onto him. Rob's company BROCAL will be donating stamps and envelopes to the RMA. Peter thanked Rob for this very generous gesture.

Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

Entertainments Rep's Report

We are hoping to try and re-establish connections with the naval base and maybe have a second annual function. At the Corps Birthday Captain Jim Gilmore was enthusiastic about a joint venture. The suggestion of Trafalgar Day would not work as it is too close to the Corps Birthday, but D-Day 6th June may be a better option. Marty is going to have a think about it and report back. Peter thanked Marty for organising the All Blacks v France rugby social. He also congratulated him and his band on qualifying for the National Finals, and being promoted to Chief Petty Officer RNZN – well done Marty!

Standard Bearer's Report

The standard was paraded 4 times:

- 19 April Gordon's daughter's school at Waiau Pa. He then stayed for assembly and gave a talk on what it meant.
- 25 April ANZAC parade
- 28 April St Andrews Cathedral
- 27 May at Bill Harris's funeral. Gordon said that it was an atmosphere of "joy" rather than sadness.

Next parades will be:

- Corps Birthday 27th of October
- 11 November Remembrance Day.

Sick Visitor's Report

Max & Kath Beare and Joe Simms have not been too well. Peter said it was great to see them all here today and wished them well on behalf of the Association.

Globe & Laurel Report:

Submission sent 29th of April - e-mail and hard copies were sent out - copies were available at the meeting.

Webmaster's Report:

N/A



Propositions:

That the \$500.00 previously voted towards the Fallen Heroes Charity be rescinded as Marty has had no cooperation or response from them

Approved by: Mick

Seconded by: Vince

Passed: All in favour.

That the sum of \$998.00 be provided to purchase a much larger presentation cabinet to be on display in the Point Chevalier RSA.

Approved by: Ticker

Seconded by: Vince

Passed: All in favour

Peter noted that the RMA can afford it as the funds have gone from \$6K to \$14K – **Refer to post meeting note above**

General Business

Did Brendon get the book Nothing Impossible to Dave Glen? Yes he did.

Next Meeting

- Saturday 10th August at 1400 at Pt Chevalier RSA
- The meeting closed at 2.55pm.