



**Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the New Zealand Branch of the RMA
Held at
Point Chevalier RSA, Auckland
9th February 2013**

Attendees:

Phil Ayling	Ticker Ayling	Bruce Cain
Gill Collins	Peter Collins (President)	Wayne Collins
Neil Fisher	Dave Glen	Beryl Harris
Vince Harris	Vanessa Jones	Jacqui Mellamphy
Gordon Moore	Rob Morrice (Treasurer)	Bob Ray
Harold Robinson	Dee Roots	Jim Roots
Joann Steel (Secretary)	Pip Townend	Gloria Moore

Apologies:

Max Beare	Noel Harker	Pusser Hill (on RNZN ship off Bluff)
Marty Kavanagh (his stag do!)	Mick McMahon	Jason Pace

Meeting opened at 14.10

- Loyal Toast to Her Majesty the Queen
- Royal Marines Prayer recited by Neil Fisher
- A moments silence for fallen comrades was observed

Peter welcomed our visitors:

Neil Fisher over from the UK visiting his daughter. He served from 1959 to 1993.
Wayne Collins, Peter and Gill's son also over from the UK.

New members in attendance

Bruce Cain (PO46738B) lives at Hatfields Beach. He is aged 44 and served from 1987 – 91 before being commissioned into the Royal Navy.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Matters Arising

Payment of \$500.00 voted in at the October meeting has not yet been made to the Fallen Heroes charity. Marty did not get much response from the RNZN and therefore this will be **carried forward to the next meeting.**

Blue Band magazine. We are now fully subscribed and will receive the 3 editions annually.



Former Royal Marine Jake Fraser running a pub in Takapuna.

- **Action: Rob to try and get an email address from him for Peter.**

Minutes of Previous Meeting accepted as a true record

Proposed

Dave Glenn

Seconder

Jim Roots

All voted in favour

President's Report

Beryl Archer, wife of our member Dan (former Drum Major), passed away last Sunday the 3rd of February of cancer. Members Chip Adcock and Archie Campbell attended her funeral on Thursday. Chip advised that it was a beautiful and simple service held in the garden of their home that Beryl loved so much. The sun was shining and they sang her favourite hymn All Things Bright & Beautiful. Her husband, Dan, was fantastic and gave a very heartwarming tribute of their life together. A sad but beautiful send off, as summed up by Chip.

Passing of Thomas Millross in Hamilton who was a former RM but not a member of the Association. He joined up before WW2 and served until 1946. He was aged 94 and suffering advance dementia. Our member, Colonel David Bailey, represented us at the funeral and Ken Weldon and Noel Harker were also in attendance. Peter had received an email request from his daughter asking for any Corps related memorabilia. Peter provided a beret with cap badge that was placed in the coffin with the body.

Vince Harris updated us re polo shirts. He had brought the shirts with him to the meeting for members who had requested, but none of them were at the meeting, so he took them back home again. He still has the opportunity to get some more if people want them.

Peter has been informed from a contact in Australia, that former RM Corporal, Bob Perchard, has been masquerading as a retired RSM. He is also the President of the non-recognised (i.e. made up) Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association. Peter provided a photo of him on the tables, and he should be outed if anyone recognizes him.

Does anyone know the whereabouts of the book "Nothing Impossible"? Joann stated that it was taken to the Corps Birthday.

- **Action: Peter to send out and APB to see who has the book.**

Peter has had contact from former Royal, Mark Greenfield PO49600J who is working on a reconstruction project in Christchurch. He is a good pal with our member Kevin (Barney) Charlwood, and Peter has put them in touch with each other and we are hoping that Mark will sign up with us.



Mike White from the Exmouth Branch of the RMA mailed Peter advising that he was mentoring some recruits at CTCRM. A new £3.7 million pounds rehab centre has been built for use in Hunter Company. It is a “gold standard” rehab centre for injured recruits. It has been named after Walter Parker VC who was awarded the first Victoria Cross at Gallipoli.

“At the outbreak of the first World War (1914), Walter Parker enlisted into the Royal Marines Light Infantry Division and was awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery and gallantry while under enemy fire at Gaba Tepe, Gallipoli, Turkey on the 1st May 1915.”

CSgt Martin Ash is the chief instructor and would like to set up a communication base with the Australian and New Zealand branches of the RMA.

Outward Correspondence

None

Inward Correspondence:

Peter received an email sending best wishes to us all for 2013 from Gwyneth Fraser, widow of ex RM, Jock Fraser

New Members

Bruce Cain in attendance and there are another 3 or 4 new members who were unable to make the meeting.

Vice President’s Report

Mick had sent his apologies as he is on Marty’s ‘stag do’. Hopefully he will return with his eyebrows!!

Treasurer’s Report

Rob is going to email everyone after the 1st April regards subs, the rules around the payment of subs and membership.

Cheque Account	\$3,938.57
Savings Account	\$2,739.83
Investment Account	\$6,576.16
Total	<u>\$13,254.56</u>

- **Action: Rob to chase up Brendon for his payment on the knife he bought at the Corps birthday.**

Secretary’s Report

No report



Entertainments Rep's Report

Marty has sent his apologies as he is on his "stag do". However, Marty has got a couple of things in the pipeline such as RNZN ship visit. He will update how things are progressing at the next meeting.

Standard Bearer's Report

Our Standard & the White Ensign were paraded at a Commemoration Service for the Battle of the River Plate at Point Chevalier RSA at 1045 on Sunday the 16th of December. Ticker presented our wreath on behalf of Peter.

The next time it will be presented is the 25th of April, ANZAC Day.

Sick Visitor's Report

Gordon Moore spent a couple of days in Middlemore Hospital in Auckland.

Kath Beare (Max's wife) had been released from hospital on Thursday but was re-admitted at 0300 on Friday morning. We all send her our best wishes.

Globe & Laurel Report:

Submission sent 2nd of January, and e-mail and hard copies were sent out. Copies available at the meeting.

Webmaster's Report:

Thanks to Darren Wood and Tony Smith for the recent updates to our web site, and it is now up to date.

Propositions:

Jacqui suggested a proposition of sending flowers to Kath. \$50 on flowers plus \$15 for delivery. Jacqui will organise the sending of them. **Post meeting note: Peter had received an e-mail from Max expressing Kath's and his sincere thanks.**

Proposed: Jacqui Mellamphy

Seconded: Harold Robinson
All in favour.

General Business

Gordon thanked everyone for their emails during his temporary illness. He had a book written by Roman White, on how, by using in flight refuelling, they managed to get one Vulcan Bomber to bomb Stanley airport. It is an excellent book and he recommends it. If anyone would like to borrow it please let either Gordon or Peter know.



Jim Roots is organising a get together to meet Charlie Solomon from the UK who was in the Marines as Band Master. Unfortunately his visit does not coincide with the RMA meetings.

Pip raised the issue of his offer to being host to incoming possible migrants or visiting Royals or former Royals. We don't spend much time welcoming them. He would be happy to meet them at the airport and arrange lunch. Peter said it is on a case by case basis, and he does have Pip's offer in the back of his mind. However, it is difficult knowing when they arrive as they don't know about the NZ branch.

Peter said it was great to see Harold at the meeting

Dave brought up a discussion on the website as to why phone numbers and contact details of members are not it. A discussion was held. Peter, Rob and Joann hold a list of current members, but it was agreed not to put the full details on the website.

- **Action: Peter to send Dave a copy of the membership list.**

Next Meeting

- Saturday 13th April at 2pm at Pt Chevalier RSA.
- The meeting closed at 2.45pm.

Post Meeting Closure

- Neil gave a brief update on his career and Peter presented him with the RMA pennant.
- Bruce also gave an update on himself.
- Vanessa Jones wants to become a member. Will have to be voted on at next meeting.