



**Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the New Zealand Branch of the RMA
Held at Point Chevalier RSA, Auckland 9th August 2014**

Attendees:

Philip Ayling	Ticker Ayling	David & Heather Bailey
Max Beare	Gill Collins	Peter Collins (President)
Vince Harris	Pusser Hill	Mick McMahon(Vice President)
Jacqui Mellamphy	Gordon & Gloria Moore	Rob Morrice (Treasurer)
Jim Roots	Joann Steel (Secretary)	Pip Townend

Apologies:

Noel Harker	Martin James	Nathan Jones
Phil Turner	Dave Vaudrey	

Meeting opened at 12.10

Loyal Toast to Her Majesty the Queen

Royal Marines Prayer recited by Pusser Hill

A moment's silence for Fallen Comrades with special thoughts for our members, Bill Houston, who passed away on the 17th of July, and Harold Robinson who crossed the bar on the 3rd of August

New Members in Attendance

None

Visitors

None

Peter thanked Pip for bringing in some sushi for the members. Everyone was invited to help themselves.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Matters Arising

Pusser Hill is now in receipt of a number of DVDs that he received from Chris Terrill. Chris is a documentary film maker and he is the only civilian to pass the Commando Course and receive the Green Beret. Chris would not accept any payment and said he would be happy to be repaid with "a few cold wets" the next time he is in New Zealand. Pusser passed the DVDs on to Max, who said he is happy to make anyone a copy for \$4 (to cover his costs).

Joining documentation and subscription was received from Dave Jennings who is now fully on board.

Peter received a cheque from Frank Atkins but unfortunately it was from a UK bank account and written in NZ dollars! Frank is now sending a UK cheque to Peter in pounds and Peter



will arrange the deposit into our bank account. This will all be documented and clearly auditable.

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

Proposed Gordon Moore

Seconded Pusser Hill

Carried Unanimously

President's Report

As at the last meeting we will leave the 350th Corps Birthday discussions until the end of the meeting.

Bill Houston had a really good send off with good attendance and participation at his funeral on the 21st of July. We had our President Peter, Gordon and Standard, Gloria, Ticker and White Ensign, Phil Ayling and Jacqui, Pip and Vince Harris. A bugler sounded the last post and reveille and Ticker recited the Ode in between. Peter said a few words on behalf of the Association and the RM. They also wanted an RM pall bearer so Peter helped out with that one.

Harold Robinson also had a really good send off with good attendance and participation at his funeral yesterday. We had our President Peter, Gordon and Standard, Ticker and White Ensign. There was a very large attendance and good representation from the Association. Bob and Hilda Reay travelled up from Hawkes Bay and Noel and Barbara Harker from Hamilton and there was good attendance from the Auckland based members. Phil was a pall bearer and Peter said a few words on behalf of us all. A bugler sounded the Last Post and Ticker recited the Ode. His daughter, Diane, organised the whole show and she did him massively proud, but as she said 'she had plenty of time to prepare'. All in all, a very good and appropriate send off to a very nice man and a loyal member of the Association. As Peter said in the church "we will meet again at the final RV"

Peter received an e-mail from our member, Len Cox in Marton, tendering his resignation and saying "I am too old to attend functions and I am getting very lax with my computer which gets full and upsets things. I have enjoyed being connected with you and am still proud of once being a marine. Please pass on my best regards to all"

As part of our 350th celebrations Pusser Hill would like to have a "gronks board" and power point set up with photos of our members in uniform (rig doesn't matter). Pusser is asking if we can all look through old albums, slides or digital photos for all our old service photo's, scan them and send them to him. If you cannot scan them in, bring them to the next meeting and Pusser will do it and return your photo. They will be kept on file for the 350th celebration and then destroyed on completion. Please send to Pusser's home e-mail address: pusserstoker@yahoo.co.uk



Peter had an update from the daughter of ex Royal, Ted Cox, who is in a retirement home in Christchurch. He is doing OK but falls over from time to time! She enquired about getting a green beret and Peter will send her one. Post Meeting Note – sent 12th of August.

Inward Correspondence:

E-mail from our Auditor, Ian Pallas making his apologies for not attending the AGM and advising that “the RMA finances are in good shape and that Rob (ably assisted by his wife Sally) has done a very good job of record keeping.

E-mail from our member Vanessa Jones expressing her sincere thanks for the flowers we sent to her following her most recent bout of chemotherapy. Vanessa is Gill’s sister and has a long history with the Corps. She is hoping to attend the Corps Birthday.

Outward Correspondence

Peter sent formal condolences to the daughters of Bill Houston and Harold Robinson.

Peter wrote formally to the President of the Senior Rates Fleet Mess requesting the use of that Mess for the Corps Birthday celebration.

New Members

- Dave Jennings RM22911 who lives in the Bay of Islands is now fully signed up.
- Paddy Quinlan N021209N has joining documentation to sign up. He retired as a Captain in 1997 and worked as the Estate Manager at Condor in Arbroath until 2009. He moved with his wife to Rangiora in North Canterbury in March of this year. Paddy has a brother Andy, who was a pilot in the Air Squadron, and Peter knew him.

Vice President’s Report

A former RM who left about 10 years ago, called Terry Cruise, walked into Mick’s office. Mick will try to get him on board, or at least come to the Corps Birthday.

Treasurer’s Report as of 08/08/2014

Current Account	\$5,344.51
Ready Saver	\$2,772.27
Term Deposit	\$6,842.86
	<u><u>\$14,959.64</u></u>

Incoming since last meeting (from 13th June to 8th August 2014)

- \$75.00 Subs
- \$3.00 bank interest & credits

Outgoing

- \$136.99 for MTA vouchers for Gordon and wine for Ian Pallas by way of thanks



Rob said he only has 9 names from the whole of the group for the contact list. Peter said to put the names he has on the website and for Rob to do one final trawl. If no further names then it will be left as it is.

Ticker has received a nominal list from Queensland. They have the regimental number in it. Please contact Ticker if you want any information on Australian members.

Secretary's Report

Joann passed on congratulations on behalf of the RMA to Peter & Gill on becoming grandparents for the first time. Their daughter Marie and son-in-law Stefan had a little boy named Zac on the 26th May. All are doing well.

Entertainments Rep's Report -

No member elected to report.

Standard Bearer's Report -

Gordon Moore – there has been two funerals this month where the white ensign and the standard were in attendance.

Pip congratulated Gordon and Ticker on the great job they do. Peter seconded it.

Gordon has a limp standard, but is looking at ways of getting it fixed.

Sick Visitor's Report

- Joe Simms remains not well. He can't walk or talk, but hopefully he will be with Max in 6 weeks so Max can take care of him.
- Kath Beare is not well at all.
- Les Goodger – Max said Dave Glenn spoke to him and he sounded very low and his speech is not good. Allen Coates will endeavour to visit him.
- Phil Ayling received a phone call from Australia from Denis Wilkinson who sent his regards to all. He is not well as he can't eat. Peter to email him.
- Vanessa Jones undergoing a bout of chemo every week for the next 18 weeks.

Globe & Laurel Report:

Submission sent 27th of June - copies are always sent out to our members and were available at the meeting. A further submission will be made before the 30th of this month.

Webmaster's Report:

Steve Campbell is in the UK. He has done excellent work on the web.

General Business

None



350th Corps Birthday issues:

Mick has received formal approval for **the venue to be at the Senior Rates Fleet Mess at the Devonport Naval Base in Auckland on Sunday 26th October 2014.**

- It will be a catered sit down meal for 70-80 comfortable or 80-90 with a bit more of a push.
- The church is booked to start an 11am service. We have the Navy padre and the RMA padre Jim booked. All 3 of the Navy padres would love to do it.
- There is a proper organ for Max to play.
- The hymns are to be finalized – **Peter to Action.**
- At the completion of the church service, to have a group photo and send in for the Globe & Laurel submission.
- After the church service there will a ship visit (probably HMS CANTERBURY) for those people who want to go.
- The mess will be a formal sit down, but we will be getting outside catering, which means we will lose the use of stewards. However, it will require a seating plan, and therefore names and money will need to be in to Rob early, in order that the seating plan can be finalized.
- Suggest that the tickets cost \$40pp – see propositions. The budget set is \$8,000, but for a one off event it will be value for money. The RMA can afford it, and even though we have offered to subsidise members from outside of Auckland, no one has come forward yet taking up the offer.
- Vince said what a great job the team was doing. This comment was greatly appreciated by all involved.
- Names will be required for security clearance, along with car number plates and every attendee will have to bring photo ID.
- Peter will send out an email asking for names to Rob. **PMN – sent 12 August.**
- Mick to send Peter an email confirming what he needs.
- The bar is to be open from 11.45am to 7pm
- Phil and Keith to drum and march the standard in to church, and there is a bugler for playing the last post.
- **There will be a strict dress code – no jeans, jandals or leather jackets.** All men should have a neck tie, dress trousers and medals and berets.
- Should the demand for places exceed the seating capacity, then the guests will have to be culled.
- Peter to write to Gary Cooley at Birkenhead RSA to invite him and his wife as our guests, as they have always looked after us over the years at Birkenhead. All agreed. **PMN – wrote 12th of August. Garry replied very positively.**
- Pusser is doing a power point presentation to play throughout the meal of members photos whilst serving.



Peter formally thanked Mick, Pusser and Marty for so much work on this event.

Polo Shirts

Phil will put out a form to order shirts. It is very important that you get the size correct as once they have been ordered and done they **can't be changed**.

Raffle

There will be a raffle – proceeds/donations for further discussion at next meeting, but maybe just have 15 prizes? It must be short this year.

Propositions

In view of the enhanced nature of the Corps Birthday celebration this year and the associated expense, it is proposed that tickets be charged at \$40.00 per person. This will cover the costs of wine on the table, port passed before the speakers, the cake, the invitation of 8 guests, and a 4 piece navy band playing.

Approved by: Vince Harris

Seconded by: Phil Ayling

Carried unanimously

That the committee be given full authority for the budget expenditure of \$8,000 associated with the Corps Birthday celebration, in accordance with the estimations given earlier. There will be full visibility of all income and expenditure and a full statement of accounts will be sent out to all members on completion

Approved by: Mick McMahon

Seconded by: David Bailey

Carried unanimously

Phil had a box from Bill Houston's funeral – full of RMA stuff for members to take away

Vince asked if we could have a different venue due to the noise (School Jazz bands on). Unfortunately Joann was not at the last meeting and did not check there was any conflict of noise with the meeting. Gill said we do use the facilities for free. Peter suggested that if people want to use a different venue then they come up with a business plan for a new venue. In future Joann to confirm a week prior that there is no noise conflict.

Peter asked if a 1200 start was still preferred and the consensus suggested that it was.

The meeting closed at 13.20

Next Meeting: Saturday the 4th of October at NOON at Pt Chevalier RSA