



**Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the New Zealand Branch of the RMA  
Held at Point Chevalier RSA, Auckland 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2015**

**Attendees:**

Mick McMahon	Ticker Ayling	Martin James
Rob Morrice (Treasurer)	Gordon & Gloria Moore	Phil & Jacqui Turner

**Apologies:**

Noel Harker	Peter & Gill Collins	Phil Ayling
Joe Simms	Vanessa Jones	Jacqui Mellamphy
Joann Steel	Max & Kath Beare	Vince & Beryl Harris
		Pip Townend

**Meeting opened at 12.10**

Loyal Toast to Her Majesty the Queen

Royal Marines Prayer recited by our new member, Will Fielding

A moment's silence for Fallen Comrades with special thoughts going out to our member Peter Gosling and his family – Peter passed away in Auckland on the 11th of January. Special thoughts also to former Royal, Ted Cox and his family. Ted passed away in Christchurch on the 29th of January.

**New Members in Attendance** Will Fielding

**Visitors** – none this time round

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

Peter had no feedback from non-Auckland based members re travel subsidies to travel to bi-monthly meetings.

Proposed by Phil Turner and seconded by Ticker Ayling that the previous minutes be accepted as a true record. Carried unanimously.

**President's Report**

We had good representation at the funeral of Peter Gosling on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January – Gordon paraded the Standard and was able to say a few words on behalf of us all and Mick and Rob were also able to attend. Many thanks to Rob Morrice who liaised with Peter's son to produce an obituary that the Globe and Laurel editor has confirmed will be in the March/April edition.

Dave Workman represented us at the funeral of Ted Cox in Christchurch on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February and said a few words on behalf of us all, thanking Ted for the service that he had given to his King and country. The coffin was draped with a Union Flag, a green beret and Ted's medals. Dave gave a brief insight into the role and purpose of the RMA after which Ted's daughter, Jacqueline, and her husband enquired about family membership. Good effort Dave who travelled up from Ashburton – a 3 hour round trip.



Our invitation to Government House this year for Waitangi Day was personal in our President's name and was not transferable. Unfortunately Peter was unable to attend so we had no representation at the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Peter received an e-mail from Eric Hayward RMB/x 3051 to advise that they will be holding a reunion for ex Royal Marine Band Service personnel in Adelaide over the weekend of March 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. Details can be provided by Eric if interested – [jananderic9@gmail.com](mailto:jananderic9@gmail.com) Peter sent out an APB on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January.

Peter received an e-mail from Steve Heyworth who served in the Corps between 1974 and 1992 - he had spells in Cdo Log Regt RM; 41 Cdo RM (Deal); CTCRM; HMS Intrepid; 40 Cdo RM & RM Poole. He will be visiting New Zealand from the 26<sup>th</sup> of February to the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. He is keen to meet up for a beer or 2 – possibly Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of February in Auckland and Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of March in Christchurch. Peter has sent out an APB.

The Corps Birthday was discussed and Mick aired a number of options.

1. To celebrate on a Saturday vice Sunday - Was there any appetite to have the celebration on the Saturday? Timing could range from normal time 1100 church service to afternoon or early evening. Maybe could suit any travellers.
2. To have on the long weekend i.e. Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> of Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> of October – or to have the following weekend i.e. Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup> of October or Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of November?
3. The effect of the Auckland marathon - for numerous years we have had the birthday on the same day as the Auckland marathon with minimum interruption to attendees, albeit the venue has been at the Birkenhead RSA. The event starts early in Devonport and is normally well clear by 1000 tbc, Mick didn't see it causing traffic problems for people travelling to Devonport should we decide to hold it there. We will need absolute confirmation of that.
4. Location preference -discussed some of the merits of holding at DNB / vice RSA Birkenhead. Ticket prices would probably be higher for DNB but could maybe be decreased from last year - we paid for the top range of food plus band costs which we probably wouldn't entertain this year. Either way both venues are excellent value for money.
5. The flexibility of timings and the sole use of the chapel and SRFM.

The outcome was that there were insufficient attendees to make an informed decision. Peter will send out an APB with the options presented and either an e-vote or returns to the committee by a certain deadline and the committee make an informed decision.

Mick undertook to check the availability of the SRFM for both weekends.

### **Outward Correspondence:**

Flowers and message sent to Jacqui following a short period of illness.

Peter sent our condolences to Jacqueline, the daughter of Ted Cox.

Peter responded to a letter that he received from Nancy Gosling, widow of our recently passed member, Peter.



## **Inward Correspondence**

Peter received a letter of thanks from Nancy Gosling, widow of our recently passed member, Peter, thanking the Association for the representation at his funeral.

Thank you e-mail from Jacqui for the flowers.

Peter had an e-mail informing that Fred (Mick) Ellis RM12198 had passed away in January 2014. He was the nephew of our passed member James (Mick) Ellis.

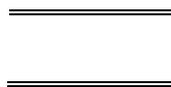
David Bailey received an e-mail from George Davis who was over from the UK recently and attended our December meeting. He expressed his thanks to David and Heather for sharing their car with him and to us all for hosting him. He also asked for his best wishes to be passed onto all former Royal Marines in New Zealand. He will present the pennant that we gave him to the Swansea Bay Branch Chairman at their next meeting.

Peter received an e-mail from L/Cpl Adrian Cooper who is serving with 43 Cdo RM and is currently on honeymoon in New Zealand. He is interested in transferring to the NZDF. Peter sent the mail onto a number of our members and Chalky Carr and Marty Kavanagh responded. Chalky speaks from a position of experience having headed up the NZDF overseas recruiting team for over 6 years. Adrian was very grateful for the advice given to him.

**New Members** – Will Fielding has signed up – he served with 45 Cdo RM and FPGRM between 1998 and 2004 and now works for Fletcher Construction Company. See post meeting comments below.

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

## **Treasurer's Report**



Rob discussed the possibility of changing /combining bank accounts. ANZ have a serious saver account which would provide more return for minimal cost/ see ANZ website for more details. It is probably appropriate that the committee vote on this issue? A full Treasurer's Report will be included in the April meeting minutes

A donation of \$708.00 was made to the RMCTF with the takings from the Corps Birthday raffle. Rob sent a \$ cheque to Peter and he has sent a Sterling cheque to the equivalent amount payable to the RMCTF via RMA Head Office – Peter has sent a receipt to Rob.

**Secretary's Report** Joann had made her apologies.

**Entertainments Rep's Report** - No member elected.



**Standard Bearer's Report** The Standard was paraded at Peter Gosling's funeral and will next be paraded at the ANZAC Day Parade on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April.

**Sick Visitor's Report** Nothing raised this time round.

**Globe & Laurel Report:**

Our Branch submission was sent on the 5th of January together with Peter Gosling's obituary - copies are always sent out to our members and were available at the meeting. Peter received the latest edition of the Blue Band, the Journal of the Royal Marines Band Service and sent it on to Jim Roots. It included a letter from Max Beare entitled "Greetings all from the Land of the Long White Cloud and the All Blacks." It contained a summary of our Branch activities including the 350<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

**Webmaster's Report:** Nothing raised this time round.

**General Business** - no further discussions

**Propositions** - There were no propositions

The meeting closed at 12.55pm

**Next Meeting:** Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of April at NOON at Pt Chevalier RSA

Our new member Will Fielding was welcomed to the Association and drank the cup of friendship (quaiche)

Will then gave a good brief on his career within the Corps from 45 Cdo RM, to snipers course, to Op Herrick, to FPGRM and then an AE3s course. After leaving the Corps he studied and gained a degree in construction management and has been in New Zealand for 6 and half years. He lives in Browns Bay and presently works for Fletcher Construction.