



Minutes of the Bi- Monthly meeting of the New Zealand Branch of the RMA
Held at Point Chevalier RSA, 10th February 2018

Attendees

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Peter Collins | Gill Collins | Mick McMahon | Rob Morrice | Phil Turner | Jackie Turner |
| Pip Townend | Ticker Ayling | Phil Ayling | Bob Garrett | Ted Palmer | Steve Hall |
| Bruce Cain | Noel Harker | Dave Vaudrey | | | |

Apologies

Peter Coombe, David and Heather Bailey, Martin James, Vince and Beryl Harris, Gordon and Gloria Moore, Dave Glen, Pusser Hill and Marty Cavendish.

New Members

Ian Potts (subject to paperwork). Kevin Simms has now been enrolled as an Associate Member. Paul Bowler, former WO2 Sigs and WO1 RM SO3 Security at Northwood now serving in the New Zealand Army at Linton near Palmerston North. Peter has mailed but had no response from Tony James and Steve Bailey,

The Loyal Toast was proposed and drunk to Her Majesty the Queen

The Royal Marines Prayer was recited by Bruce Cain

A moment's silence in respect of Fallen Comrades was observed and our special thoughts and prayers went out to our member, Chalky Carr who crossed the bar on the 14th of January and his family and friends.

New Members in attendance: None

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

There was discussion at the December meeting as to whether or not \$300 of the raffle money raised at the Corps Birthday be redirected to Chalky's Trust Fund. It was decided that this was not appropriate as we promoted ticket sales, hence members bought tickets, with the expectation that proceeds would go to the Royal Marines Charity. To move the goalposts after the event was deemed to be inappropriate.

There were no other matters arising from the minutes of the December meeting. It was proposed by Bob Garrett and seconded by Dave Vaudrey that the previous minutes be accepted as a true record. Carried unanimously.

New Business

President's Report:

Mick McMahon and Paddy Quinlan represented us at Chalky's funeral on the 20th of January and Paddy gave the formal address on behalf of the Branch. Angie McMahon also attended. Also in attendance were our members, Ian Smith and Dave Workman and 3 former Royals, Iain Dixon, Tony James and Steve Bailey who are fairly recent arrivals in New Zealand. A copy of Paddy's address was sent out to all our members. Paddy mailed an update to Peter as follows:

"Half of Christchurch must have been present at this moving and enlightening funeral. There must have been over 400 folk present, family, RNZN, NZ Army, the great and good from the All Blacks and seven Former Royals. It was a celebration of Chalky's life; there was a lot of laughter, tears and smiles all round and a fire alarm during the service, which had everyone evacuating the chapel, as if it was Chalks having the last say! I attach a copy of

my address, a bit daunting considering the size of the congregation but well worth it and by all accounts it went down well. We had a Guard of Honour, consisting of the RNZN contingent and ourselves.”

Chalky’s passing was published on the Obituaries page of the Once a Marine web site and there was a great deal of social media correspondence. An obituary for the Globe and Laurel is being produced by 3 of his batch mates.

Chalky’s Trust Fund achieved its target of raising \$100k mid December. Chalky immediately set the next goal and started a second Givealittle page to raise funds towards the purchase of specialist oncology chairs for Christchurch Hospital. Donations can be made at <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/chalkys-chairs>

Inward Correspondence: Peter received an e-mail from David and Heather Bailey thanking us for our good wishes and the superb bouquet of flowers.

Peter received an email concerning the recent HCDC Report on the future of the RM and Amphibious Shipping

Peter received an e-mail from Patsy King who is the daughter of ex WW2 Royal Charles Willoughby. He currently lives in Hamilton and he is submitting an application for the Legion d’Honour medal. Patsy has asked if he can be added to our distribution list for correspondence.

Outward Correspondence: Peter wrote to Sarah Carr to formally offer our sincere condolences to her and her 2 sons

Vice President’s Report: Mick provided a follow up on Chalky’s funeral. Between 400 and 500 attended with Chalky’s humour being a theme throughout the service. Representatives from all 3 Services were in attendance. The All Blacks World Cup winning team were in attendance.

Our member, Mark Owen offered a white ensign to replace the current one as it looks worn and pretty shabby. The RMA would welcome the offering.

Ex Royal Chris Challis is currently in New Zealand. Mick McMahon will try to arrange a get together and will send out an APB when he returns to Auckland.

In respect of the Corps Birthday function, Mick asked for a consensus on staying with Senior Rates Mess and that was agreed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Subscriptions are now overdue for FY 2017/18 – Peter sent a reminder e-mail to all defaulters on the 25th of January.

Current Statement as of 9/2/2018

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|-----------------|-------------|
| Current Account | \$3,010.40 |
| Ready Saver | \$802.43 |
| Term Deposit | \$7,339.14 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$11,151.97 |

Incoming since last meeting (from 7th December to 9th February 2018)

- \$50 for Subs/Donations.
- \$12 donations
- \$37.21 interest

Outgoing

\$121 for flowers for Members

\$106 for Corps Birthday Port/Rum

General Business

Corps Birthday – proposed Saturday the 27th of October

Possible Guests of Honour – discussions were had that our Captain General will be in Australia in late October for the Invictus Games and maybe we should invite him. A long shot but if you don't ask etc. Peter will look into it. Sam Whitelock, Richie McCaw and Kieran Reid were other suggestions as they were very good friends with Chalky.

Phil Ayling mentioned that he is having a clearing out and has a number of peak caps and uniforms going free should anybody wish to take them - please contact Phil direct. **Post Meeting Note: Phil sent out an APB on the 12th of February.**

Date of next meeting - Saturday 14th April commencing at 1200 at the Point Chevalier RSA