



Minutes of the Bi- Monthly meeting of the New Zealand Branch of the RMA  
Held at Point Chevalier RSA, 14th April 2018

**Attendees**

Peter Collins    Gill Collins    Mick McMahon    Rob Morrice    Pip Townend    Ticker Ayling    Phil Ayling  
Steve Hall    Pusser Hill    Darren Wood    Jacqui Mellampy    Vince Harris    Marty Kavanagh    Jason Pace

**Apologies**

Peter Coombe, David and Heather Bailey, Martin James, Gordon and Gloria Moore, Noel Harker, Phil and Jackie Turner, Bob Garrett, Ted Palmer, Nathan Jones, Dylan Nash, Cuong Huynh and Bruce Cain.

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

**The Royal Marines Prayer** was recited by Phil Ayling

**A moment's silence in respect of Fallen Comrades** was observed and our special thoughts and prayers went out to our member, Edward Ryan, who crossed the bar recently and his family and friends.

**New Members in attendance:** None

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

There were discussions in respect of inviting one of Chalky's friends from the All Blacks to be our Corps Birthday Guest Speaker but it has since come to light that the 27<sup>th</sup> of October is the day they leave for their European tour and the preceding 2 weeks will be very busy.

Mick will chase up re Mark Owen gifting us a White Ensign.

Phil Ayling only got one response in respect of the peak caps and uniforms etc that he was offering up. Noel Harker was not in attendance so Phil will make arrangements.

There were no other matters arising from the minutes of the February meeting. It was proposed by Ticker Ayling and seconded by Steve Hall that the previous minutes be accepted as a true record. Carried unanimously.

**New Business**

**President's Report:**

The Crusaders Chief Executive paid a superb tribute to Chalky Carr acknowledging the immense contribution that he had made to rugby. He said it was important to celebrate the life of an important member of the Crusaders family. He said that Chalky gave so much to everyone during his time in rugby and they wanted to express their support for his family and their gratitude for all that Chalky contributed.

Chalky's sons, Josh & Jamie led the Crusaders Super Rugby Team out onto AMI Stadium at the game against the Chiefs as the Crusaders region stood together for the Carr boys.

Chalky's Gala dinner raised in excess of \$150,000.00 and was a resounding success. Phil Ayling sent Peter a summary e-mail from Sir Peter Leitch, better known as the Mad Butcher, in which he really sang Chalky's praises.

Anyone attending the ANZAC Day Parade at the Point Chevalier RSA should meet at the RSA or the start line at 1000 ready to step off at 1030. Peter will lay a wreath on behalf of the Royal Marines and the Association.

Dave Vaudrey received a call from a guy called Darren Ketchley who was hosting a guy he believed to be an ex-Royal. It was thought that he was either ex 148 Battery or 29 Cdo RA. He has been having some issues and is possibly suffering PTSD. His name is Ollie Hehir and it seems he is the son of Les Hehir, believed to be ex-148 Battery who died in a helo crash. A few members met up with him for a few beers and it transpired that he was ex Royal Signals Regiment.

Peter had a request from the son and daughter of one of our members in Gisborne asking if we could provide anything at their father's funeral on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of April to give it a Royal Marines touch. He was Cpl Edward James Ryan and was a WW2 and Burma commando. Peter sent a red and a green Association pennant and a green beret. They e-mailed back to say they were very grateful and it would have meant the world to their father.

Marty recently spent a week with the Australian Amphibious Ready Group when he met up with former Lt Col John Davies who is now serving as a Commander in the Royal Australian Navy in the role of the Fleet Amphibious Officer. Marty will stay in touch and will look out for when he is visiting New Zealand.

The RMBS annual re-union is scheduled to be held in Adelaide over the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> of May.

**Inward Correspondence:** Peter received an e-mail from the Office of the Governor-General (see below).

Peter received an e-mail from Alan Paddock, the son of Norman Robert George Paddock who served in the Royal Marines from 1940 until 1953. He served on HMNZS ACHILLES from 1944 to 1949. It seems he was based in the Auckland area. Alan is visiting New Zealand next year and is seeking any information in respect of his father's time in New Zealand. Peter put him in touch with the Navy Museum.

Topsy received an e-mail from Rod Busby who is the son of an ex-Royal who served from 1944 to 1946. He served with George Warman and he is trying to locate him in New Zealand. George was once a member of the Association. Dave Glen advised however that he believes George would have crossed the bar by now as he was elderly and he had serious health issues.

#### **Outward Correspondence:**

Peter sent a letter to the Office of the Governor-General formally inviting Her Excellency the Governor-General The Right Honourable Dame Patsy Reddy and her husband His Excellency Sir David Gasgoigne to be our Guests of Honour at this year's Corps Birthday celebration. Unfortunately Her Excellency is not able to make it.

Mick has been busy in respect of the Corps Birthday – see Vice President's Report below.

#### **Vice President's Report:**

Mick has sent letters in respect of the Corps Birthday to the Executive Officer of HMNZS PHILOMEL, the President of the Senior Rates Fleet Mess, to the Naval Base Padres and to Mick Dowrick requesting a bugler.

Mick will approach the appropriate authorities in the Devonport Naval Base to see if we can set up the Corps Birthday arrangements on a permanent basis.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

##### **Current Statement** as of 13/4/2018

Current Account	\$3,137.17
Ready Saver	\$802.43
Term Deposit	\$7,374.53
	<hr/>
	\$11,314.13
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**Incoming** since last meeting (from 10<sup>th</sup> February to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018)

- \$125 for Subs/Donations.

- \$37.16 interest

## **Outgoing**

None

Rob will send out an APB to inform all members that subscriptions for FY 2018/19 are now due.

**Secretary's Report:** Phil sent his apologies for not attending.

**Standard Bearer's Report:** Gordon sent his apologies for not attending. We really need to be looking for a volunteer to take on the role of Assistant Standard Bearer who can stand in when Gordon is unavailable. Also a White Ensign Bearer as Phil has said that Ticker can no longer do it.

**Entertainment Members Report:** Pusser will start investigating the Rugby internationals coming up in June and July with a view to arranging a social function and tickets for the game. He will also investigate a lunch and cinema event.

**Sick Visitor's Report:** NTR

**Globe & Laurel Report:** Our most recent Branch submission was made at the end of February and was sent out by way of an APB. Our next submission will be sent at the end of this month.

**Webmaster's Report – NTR**

**Any Other Committee Members Report – none**

## **New Members:**

Ian Potts (subject to paperwork).

Paul Bowler, former WO2 Sigs and WO1 RM SO3 Security at Northwood now serving in the New Zealand Army at Linton near Palmerston North.

Mike Gill who served in the Corps for 12 years and is in New Zealand on a 12 month work visa, living in Browns Bay. He would have attended today but he is in New Plymouth for the weekend.

Nenand Trifkovic, who served in the Croation Naval Infantry for 5 years, and served in Iraq for 8 years in support of the Royal Marines and the USMC. Living in Wellington.

## **General Business**

Corps Birthday – firmed up for Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> of October.

Guest of Honour – As previously mentioned we had provisionally invited Sam Whitelock, Richie McCaw or Kieran Reid but we got a response from Kieran to say the 27<sup>th</sup> of October is the day the All Blacks leave New Zealand for Europe. The Governor-General has a conflict and has declined. **Post meeting note:** Peter has e-mailed Louise Exley in the British High Commission for suggestions.

## **There were no new propositions**

**Date of next meeting -** Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June commencing at 1200 at the Point Chevalier RSA to be followed by our AGM.