



Royal Marines Association Costa Blanca Branch (Spain)

August 2009

The Chairman- Phil Prince opened our July meeting by asking those that are able, to stand, and observe our usual minutes silence for old comrades, branch members that are unwell and particularly to remember the servicemen recently killed in Afghanistan.

Dave Lawton then read out the names of those servicemen:

- Rifleman Daniel Hume 4 Rifles
- Rifleman James Blackhouse 2 Rifles
- Rifleman Daniel Simpson 2 Rifles
- Rifleman Joseph Murphy 2 Rifles
- Rifleman William Aldridge 2 Rifles
- Corporal Jonathan Horne 2 Rifles
- Guardsman Christopher King Welsh Guards (On secondment from the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards)
Member Rifles Battle Group

Dave also reminded us of the passing of Harry Patch, the last surviving serviceman of the Great War.

There followed a minutes silence

Chairman's Report-Phil Prince said due to a waste of paper there hasn't been a mass circulation of the minutes taken at the previous meeting. There is now one copy for circulation to members to read at the meeting and also a copy placed on the notice board. However for our records, and to follow the rules of the Association, minutes will continue to be taken and archived.

Eric Edwards our entertainments rep got a vote of thanks for the social night in La Marina. (It appears the mozzie's also had a night out!) Well done Eric.

Web Site - Dave Lawton will report on this later.

Secretary-Pete Wilkins then reported that any emails and correspondence that arrives for the association will now be located in a file adjacent to the notice board. Minutes of the previous meeting will be on the notice board so if you haven't seen the circulated copy this is where you can find it. Information from the RMA web site, events and the latest newsletter has also been placed here. Just like D.R.O's, if you don't look you won't know!

If you have anything for the Hon Sec we now have an email address: rmacostablanca@yahoo.co.uk

Our Treasurer Jean Freeman told us that details of our funds have also been placed on the notice board. There has also been a donation of €30.01 from “The Golden Girls” who have asked that the donation be sent to Help the Heroes Fund. Well done girls!!

Welfare – Jack Freeman- Andy Kurek is now back in the land of the living

Jim Rowan – Dave Lawton had a quick phone around on Jim’s birthday and a few of the members gathered at Jim’s pub to celebrate his birthday. Although still in poor health Jim was more than pleased to see us. A buffet was laid on by Penny, his wife, this was an excellent afternoon. Get well soon Jim.

Roger Pay- Now having the needle treatment on his gammy knee and Roger reports it’s slowly working. Don’t throw the trainers out Roger!

Social Secretary – Eric Edwards Thanked all members for attending the excellent 40/60’s night at La Marina. We had a surplus of funds from the night; this will go back into the Association funds to support the Corps Birthday Dinner.

Eric reminded the members about transport to and from these events. It is up to individuals to make their own way to these functions. Note: We are awaiting a mystery lottery winner to purchase a bus!

Christmas draw tickets- Same venue for the draw, Portico Mar in Guardamar and tickets are available.

Valentines Day 2010 – Eric planning a three course dinner to celebrate this. Possible venue Casa Ventura. Details later.

Membership – Maddie Pinfold We currently have 54 members. Those with birthdays and new members were given the usual tot. Sandy bottoms!

PR – Bert Moye- Raised the question of Remembrance Sunday. No details yet, but we expect the RBL will have further information for us in the future.

G & L – Dave Lawton Latest article and photo about our Afghanistan Memorial Service has appeared in the G & L. If you have any info/photos you would like included on behalf of the association see Dave. The web site is nearing completion and the web address will be www.royal-marines-association-spain.org so get logged on!

Merchandise – Bill Nixon – If you have any requirements in this department speak to Bill.

Corps Dinner – Bob Pinfold We currently have 77 attending the dinner. Two bottles of port have been donated but a few more would be most welcome! Bob would also like at the earliest opportunity your €10 deposits; don’t leave it to the last minute !

A.O.B.

Marion Roddington was in the UK recently and heard a whisper from Tony Cruickshank, ex RN, that one of our members, Eddie Cowan had crossed the bar . . . Not true, unless Eddie has a good double! Marion informed him of the true situation. Tony then asked if anyone knew the whereabouts of Rob & Barbara Irvine living in the Alicante area. If you can help speak to Marion.

EVENTS

On 20th August the members enjoyed a coffee morning at Pete & Rita's. Lots of "Pull up a sandbag" tales. The beer helps! Thanks again to Pete & Rita for the venue. A total of €81 was raised during the event.

Next meeting Tuesday SEPTEMBER 29th 6.30pm, Casa Ventura

Forward Looking Events

RAFA Dinner Sat 19th September

For venue, timings, dress code, menu speak to Hon Sec

October 24th CORPS DINNER

All details regarding this event Bob Pinfold

Private Adds-Company Adds-Jokes

Paddy Jokes:

Patrick asked a passer by if he knew the way to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Why he said, "Do you want to join?"

"No, I want to resign."

NEWS FLASH! – A helicopter crashed into a cemetery of an Irish village this afternoon. At the last count 705 bodies have been recovered.

Professor Flannigan made his mark as Ireland's most prolific inventor.

Most notable were:

- **Water-proof tea bags**
- **Peddle wheelchairs**

- **Parachutes which open on impact**
- **L Shaped mobile homes**
- **The one-piece jigsaw puzzle**
- **An index for a dictionary**
- **Beer glasses with square bases so they don't leave rings**

THATS IT !!