



Royal Marines Association Costa Blanca Branch (Spain)

July 2009

The Chairman Phil Prince opened our June meeting by asking those that are able, to stand, and observe our usual minutes silence for those that had been killed on operations, particularly Rob Richards, 24 Armoured Support Group who has died of wounds.

Phil thanked the members for attending the Afghanistan Memorial Service but it was a poor show from the other associations. However the sum of €20 was raised and this will be sent to the RMBF.

Coffee Morning & Pig Roast was well attended and a great success. Lots of pork left over which was raffled. Our thanks go out to **Bill & Kath Nickson** for the venue. The raffle raised €143.

Secretary Pete Wilkins reported that all correspondence he receives will be put on the notice board. Plastic correspondence trays will be at the rear of the hall with info from Central Office i.e. RMA joining forms, RMA Newsletter.

Jack Freeman Welfare Rep has said there is little change with **Jim Rowan**- will have an update in the future from Jack.

Andy Kurek entered hospital 30th June, the day of our meeting and was discharged 6th July. Treatment is continuing –Jack will keep us posted.

John Cameron is going to have surgery on his stomach problem in September.

Royston & Iris Kear- Royston all clear on his previous problems. Returned to the UK for the summer break and his return to Spain expected in September.

Entertainment- The 40/60's night 16th August was a sell out. Optional Fancy Dress being the dress code. **Eric Edwards** our entertainments director looked like a lost hippy looking for his next spiff ! Good fun. Nice evening Eric.

Treasurer Jean Freeman reported that a breakdown of funds are on the notice board at the rear, so if you want to know where the money goes look here.

Membership- Maddie Pinfold requires info for the memory file so dig out your old photos and try and remember where you were.

PR- Bert Moya reported we had a nice slot in the Coast Rider newspaper for the Afghanistan Memorial Service. Pete will send Paul Mutter a letter of thanks for his editorial.

G & L Dave Lawton Every article so far submitted has been published. Hopefully this will continue. If you have anything you would like printed in the G & L then please see Dave.

Merchandising- Bill Nickson- If you want anything see Bill. We are still awaiting comprehensive catalogue from UK, it was promised by Easter (Not sure which one)!

Corps Dinner- Bob Pinfold reports that the deposit has now been paid and entertainment booked so all systems go. List of members attending is on the notice board. Currently 67 names so far but we require at least a 100, Bob reckons that this is achievable given enquiries so far.

A.O.B.

Dave Lawton -Tony Smith in Australia who will build the website F.O.C. Only information that members give will be on the site. The site will be similar to current RMA sites in Aussie and NZ. See “royal marines association australia” as your first port of call.

RAFA Dinner- 20 places up for grabs. The dinner is being held at The Venue on the Lemon Tree Road. Last year was a good night. Further details from the Chairman.

Sol Bank- If you want to transfer your account from your current bank or set up an account with the Sol Bank, the bank will donate €5 to the Association. Don't forget, those pesetas you put under the mattress are still legal tender. Further details Phil Prince.

Bob Pinfold- Anyone who wants to donate a bottle of port for the Corps Dinner see Bob.

Bert Moyer- indicated that the web site “once a marine always a marine.co.uk” is a very useful site for information on ex members of the Corps, and other info on the Corps so get logged on. Ref Books: There is a book in our library called the “Apache”. This is about the Apache helicopters role in Afghanistan. If borrowed please return to the “system”. Since Pete Wilkins wished to read it first he donated €10 to the association.

Dave Lawton- Welcomed **Chas Sargeant** ex “Rifles” at our June meeting. Welcome aboard Chas.

Next Meeting Tuesday AUGUST 25th, Casa Ventura, St Luis Urb

Forward Looking Events

20th August Coffee Morning- Pete & Rita's 1130. Bring your cozzies if you want to swim. If you don't want to swim don't fall in, they don't employ lifeguards ! If you require directions see Pete or Rita.

25th August BBQ Casa Ventura (Note: Same day as August meeting) Starts 3pm food at 4pm € per head. Bring a raffle prize. The August meeting will follow at our usual time of 6.30pm