



Royal Marines Association Costa Blanca Branch (Spain)

November 2009

We had 41 members and 5 guests attend the October meeting which was a good turnout.

The Chairman Phil Prince opened our meeting at 1839 by asking those that could, stand and remember old comrades, all members of the branch that are sick, and those members of the Corps on active service. Phil had not heard of any casualties but there have been fatalities from other UK units.

There followed a minutes silence.

Phil followed by talking about the social schedule undertaken by the branch during October. **NOTE: If you are reading this and looking for information or a report on the Corps Dinner this was reported on, in some detail, in the previous newsletter.** If you didn't attend the last meeting then see Pete who will make sure you get a copy of the relevant newsletter, if not get on the website and see the news in all its glory!

Remembrance Sunday was well attended by the association. The speaker system was a vast improvement on last year. Phil apologises for the poor buffet at Casa Ventura but he will be having a word in the right quarter to solve this problem.

Secretary's report

Frankton Memorial - Information on this important fund raising within the Corps is in the correspondence file. Note a letter/email from an ex Royal Marine who was visiting Gibraltar for the Remembrance Sunday, read it and bring yourself up to date.

Treasurers Report

Detail of income and expenditure as always, on the notice board.

Welfare – Jack Freeman reported there had been little change with Jim Rowans health therefore Penny has decided she will be returning to the UK with Jim sometime in February next year. In this respect the committee are looking at several means to give assistance and will report back to members on progress.

Social Secretary

Coffee morning at Bob & Maddie's. Another opportunity was taken by the members and visitors from the UK to have a social gathering and swing the lantern. Excellent buffet, many thanks to those that brought food and to Bob & Maddie for also providing the food, drinks and of course the venue. The raffle raised €62 for the association so well done to all.

RMA-RNA Quiz night 3rd October

This again was a good social evening well attended by both associations. The result on the night was RMA WINNERS !!!!! The results stand at all square after 4 meets. Well done the team.

Christmas Draw

. . . will now take place December 7th and **NOT December 8th** as previously stated. We now have 41 attending.

COFFEE MORNING

Arthur Richardson's 14th January 2010 at 1130am. See Dave Lawton for details and map.

Valentines Night

At the end of the January meeting Eric wants all monies paid up for this function. Menus will be available including a vegetarian menu. Cost €10 for members and €14 for non members.

Cruise – If interested Pete has details of cruises similar to the one undertaken recently by members of the branch last September.

SOCIAL BREAK

Following the social break it was time for the members and visitors tots. Roy Sainsbury, Gary Winchester and member Bert Moye being the lucky ones.

Minutes

Phil asked the minutes be approved. Proposed Eric Edwards & seconded Roger Pay. Carried by the members

Membership

Not a great deal this month but Maddie informs us that we have 81 paid up members.

PR

Bert Moye reports that all the newspapers have the relevant details of the association but no feed back at present. If you have any photos or info for the G & L then please pass to Dave.

G & L

Good report in the latest issue. The G & L currently has a readership of 35,000 so we will be getting noticed. The association web site is one of the better ones out of the 38 branches which is all credit to Dave here in Spain and Tony in Australia.

Merchandise

We should be in receipt of “Help the Heroes” wrist bands shortly.

Corps Dinner Committee Chairman Bob Pinfold

Bob in his final report stated that the dinner went really well, other than a few minor hiccups. The food, as reported earlier, was excellent, and of course a lot of hard work went into this event. Bob thanked everyone that turned up and helped to make the dinner successful. The CEO RMA donated scarves, bow tie and other gizmos to the raffle. Bob then reminded everyone that in January 2010 there will be a requirement to for a Chairman to form a committee and take over the running of the next Corps Dinner. From a financial point of view this dinner had been a success and although some figures are available the final figures will be given at the next meeting. The final word from Bob being, “What a great weekend and what a fantastic branch”.

A.O.B.

Christmas cards

... are available from Joan Prince. Don't forget these are hand made and look really nice.

WWII Table Cloth

We will shortly be in receipt of a table cloth that was made in WW11. An idea was to use it on a side altar at funerals of the members where we can place a candle as a mark of respect. Further details of the table cloth will be available when known.

Frankton Memorial - (Cockleshell Heroes)

There is a circular from the RMA requesting donations for this memorial to be built in France to commemorate this military operation. More info and details are on the notice board.

EVENTS

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Now December 7th **NOT 8th December** Portico Mar Restaurant Guardamar 1pm – 1.30

COFFEE MORNING

14th January Arthur Richardson's – Details, map next meeting or see Dave Lawton

VALETINES NIGHT

February 14th See previous details in this newsletter

RMA RE-UNION WEEKEND LYMPSTONE 2010

This re-union will mark the 60th Anniversary of the “Chosin Few “It is expected that the Americans will be on parade and the RM Display Team will be in attendance.

Don't forget our website

www.royal-marines-association-spain.org

or

email

rmacostablanca@yahoo.co.uk

Private adds / Company adds / Jokes

The Colonel was sitting quietly in his club when Fonsonby approached. “Sorry to hear, old boy, that you buried your wife yesterday”

“Had to,” replied the Colonel, “Dead you know”

Teresa answered a knock at the door. “I'm collecting for the “Home for Alcoholics”, said the caller. “Well come back around nine o'clock “ she said. “My husband will be home then, and you can have him”

THAT'S IT!!!!