



Royal Marines Association Costa Blanca Branch (Spain)

September 2009

Just a brief word from the current "Scribes":

We try to keep this newsletter as informal as possible for our members and for others that log on to our website, but the information contained runs in parallel with the minutes from the previous meeting. We then add any other additional information not available at the previous meeting.

If you have any information for this newsletter, see Pete or email rmacostablanca@yahoo.co.uk

The Chairman - Phil Prince - opened our August meeting at 1832 by welcoming our members but apologised for our president who had an appointment at the hospital.

Phil was not aware of any casualties from the Corps or "The Rifles", but reminded us of the dreadful toll in casualties suffered by British forces over the past month. Phil then asked us to stand and observe our usual minute's silence.

A branch thanks went to **Pete & Rita** for the coffee morning on the 20th August and further thanks went to those members that gave prizes and bought raffle tickets; the raffle raised €81 for the Association. Could members who haven't the space, join with other members in a similar situation and provide the goodies and hold the event at an agreeable member's house.

Phil also thanked **Dave Lawton** for his articles in the **G & L** since he had taken over as G & L rep. Note: The price of the G & L has risen to £21.00 so if you are subscribing notify your banks and change your standing order.

The **Secretary Pete Wilkins** had only one item to report on, this being [the Bletchley Park Commemorative Badge](#). This badge is available to anyone who served at the Government Code and Cypher School or it's outstations during WWII. Full details are in the correspondence file. The minutes from the previous meeting are on the notice board.

For details of who is eligible and how to apply for the badge, go to:

<http://www.uk-in-oz.com/ukinoz/bletchley-badge.html>

Our Treasurer Jean Freeman then spoke – Details of income and expenditure are on the notice board, so if you don't look you won't know!

Welfare – Jack Freeman - Margaret Smallwood is progressing after a skin graft **Andy Kurek** is now fine and well, and **Roger Pay** is now OK. Please note: If planning to visit **Jim Rowan** please pre-empt your visit with a phone call. We are also pursuing further avenues regarding longer term care for Jim. Whilst on the subject of welfare **Eric Edwards** at short notice, gave a lift for our President to enable him to get to hospital. Well done Eric.

PR Bert Moye then announced that 40 Commando now have a Regimental Association. The membership of which is not strictly limited to previous serving members of 40 Commando. Details to join the Association are on the notice board.

Social Secretary Eric Edwards - The Quiz Night at Corky's Bar 15th September was well attended. A big thank you to the 43 members that managed to get there making this one of the best quiz nights so far. During the evening 110€ was raised for the Association this amount was divided equally between the Corps Dinner and the Association Fund ; once again well done Eric.

November 3rd RNA Quiz Night at Casa Ventura 7-30 prompt. All welcome 2€ to enter

December 8th Christmas Draw- All monies for this event to be paid up at the October meet.

BBQ- Prior to the scheduled RMA meeting August 25th those members that could attend enjoyed an excellent BBQ. Lots of food and wine supplied by the Association and a very enjoyable social get together. Must have more of these Eric!

20 mins SOCIAL BREAK

Not a great deal from our **Membership Secretary Maddie Pinfold**. We currently have 53 paid up members.

G & L Rep Dave Lawton continues to produce good articles for the Globe & Laurel magazine. If you have any newsworthy items let Dave know.

Bill Nixon -Merchandising once again reminded members if you require any goodies speak to Bill.

Corps Birthday Dinner Bob Pinfold reports that we have 108 attending the dinner 2 from the Andalusia Branch and a 14 from the UK. The cost for Associate Members confirmed at 17€ and Non Members at 24€ The table plan is now available, please check and make any changes now to insure you and your guests are accommodated. Donations for Port are still being accepted and raffle tickets for the dinner draw will be available at the next meeting. NOTE: The cut-off date for anyone wishing to attend the dinner will be 14 days prior to the event.

EVENTS

Dai Thomas 90th Birthday. Numerous members attended the party at the Hillside Complex La Marina to celebrate the birthday of one of our oldest members Dai Thomas. Great atmosphere and his close family, some travelling from the UK, were more than delighted to see so many members of the RMA joining with them celebrating this unique occasion.

Kath Nixon's Birthday Another birthday bash! Held at the Hillside complex La Marina, great social atmosphere and good location. Many happy returns Kath.

NOTE: This could be the start of a Birthday Dinner Club, watch this space.

MEET AND GREET 22nd October Buffet at Corky's Bar (Corps Dinner guest's from the UK) approx 1230. After the scheduled committee meeting.

The complete programme of events for the weekend of the Corps Birthday will be produced and distributed by Dave Lawton. These details will also be available on our web site.

COFFEE MORNING 28th October 1130 Bob & Maddie Pinfolds

RMA/RNA QUIZ NIGHT 3rd November Casa Ventura 7-30 prompt All welcome 2€to enter

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 8th November RBL Orihuela Costa 1015 Mil Palmeras Church. Following the service there will be a Special Sunday Lunch at the Olympia Restaurant commencing at 1.00pm this to include wine or coffee. Further details menu etc from the Secretary.

REMEMBRANCE DAY 11 November RBL Torrevieja Branch 1015 seated La Siesta Church

CHRISTMAS DRAW & DINNER December 8th Portico Mar Restaurant, Guardamar 1pm-1.30 Members are encouraged to support this excellent event. If not sure about this event speak to some of the members that went last year! We only have 24 members currently going. Require 40 or more to make this viable so get your names to Eric ASAP.

RACE NIGHT- January- Date and venue to be agreed

VALENTINES NIGHT February 14th Casa Ventura. Further details from Eric when known.

Private Adds-Company Adds-Jokes

An Englishman and his wife finally achieved sexual compatibility last for the first time last night. They both had a headache.

“I say, old chap, who is the CO talking to?”

“He is talking to himself.”

“Then why is he shouting?”

“He's deaf”

Why is British beer like making love in a canoe?

They are both close to water

THATS IT !!