



Royal Marines Association Costa Blanca Branch (Spain)

January 2010

Scribes sends his apologies for the delay in this newsletter. Problems with the computer and my modem do not make a good mix!!

32 Members attended our January meeting and we had two visitors Chris Finch, and John Austin from the UK, member RMA Windsor & District Branch.

The Chairman Phil Prince commenced the meeting at 1837 and asked that those who could, to stand and remember old comrades and those members of the Corps on active service, particularly those KIA. There have been a number of fatalities since we last met, especially from "The Rifles", our sister regiment and not forgetting the people of Haiti who had suffered during the recent earthquake.

There followed a minutes silence.

The Chairman and our standard bearer Mac Makenzie and his good lady represented the Branch at the Torre Vieja Flower parade in December. A poor turnout from the members, but Phil appreciated there is a lot of hanging around as the whole programme can take 3 hours!! The second Branch Xmas lunch was held again at Porto Del Mar restaurant in Guardamar. Phil conveyed his thanks for everyone who attended and in particular Eric and June Edwards for organizing a very enjoyable afternoon.

A very pleasant coffee morning at Bill & Kath Nixons was held on Christmas Eve to celebrate their Wedding Anniversary, many thanks go to them, as ever. The usual raffle took place and the monies raised were donated to the "Jim Rowan Appeal".

Several members, hangovers permitting, met at Corky's Bar on January 1st to celebrate the New Year and to say farewell to Jim & Penny's ownership of the bar as they have sold and

handed over the tenure. It was a good day as all drinks were a euro a time and it was nice to see Jim's health very much improved.

A coffee morning was held on Arthur Richardson's rather windswept roof on January 15th and thanks must go to the members who attended and helped with the catering on Arthur's behalf.

Monies raised through a raffle were donated to the "Jim Rowan" appeal. Many thanks Arthur.

Phil reminded us that Jean Freeman is going through a traumatic time of late. Her twin sister and Mother recently passed away and our thoughts are with her at this tragic time.

With Jean, our treasurer being away, Phil reports that the financial state of the branch is sound, details of which are on the notice board . This includes monies raised so far by the branch for Jim Rowan. 575 Euros raised and a very generous donation of 250 euros by Dai Thomas.

Phil then explained that he will be standing down at the AGM as the tenure of two years will have been completed. Therefore it is necessary that the office of Chairman be filled at the AGM.

There is also a requirement for a branch Entertainment/Social Secretary as Eric will be standing down and a Corps Birthday Committee for 2010.

SECRETARY All emails and correspondence are in the appropriate files or on the notice board.

WELFARE Roger Paye reports that Penny needs surgery and this will be carried out in February and the report from SSAFA regarding Jim is currently pending. Roger will continue to monitor the situation and let the Branch know of any developments. Bill Nixon – Don Churchill is well and sends his best wishes. The wheel chair currently used by Don is u/s therefore Bill has hired a chair for him.

ENTERTAINMENT Eric reported that the Christmas Draw went very well.(See earlier info) Valentines Night – Further comments from Eric our Entertainments rep at the next meeting.

The Band of "THE RIFLES" have produced a CD that can be downloaded on the internet at Help the Heroes. All proceeds to Help the Heroes fund.

BIRTHDAY TOTS- This has been delayed until the next meeting

MEMBERSHIP Your monies now required. If not already done so see Maggie

PR Bert Moye – Has extended an invitation To Graham Witham a former Royal Marine who visits the area. Mne Mark Ormoroyd who lost both legs in Afghanistan has written a book about his life and subsequent time in the Corps. Proceeds from the sale will go to the Selly Oak hospital.

MERCHANDISE Bill Nixon reports that shirts with the RM logo are available at 20 euros.

PROPOSAL That the monies raised by Joan Prince through the sale of recycled Xmas Cards to the sum of 223 euros be donated to the "Jim Rowan Appeal"

Proposed: Pete Wilkins

Seconded: Phil Prince

Carried by the members

AOB Jim Austin a visitor at the meeting, and member of the Windsor & District Branch, presented a plaque to the branch. The Chairman thanked Jim and reciprocated by presenting Jim with one of our branch plaques.

EVENTS

Possible coach trip to Seville & Cordoba in September 2010 4 days half board all details from Eric

F.Y.I.

Mountbatten Festival of Music Has moved from its traditional February slot to Thursday 4th March – Saturday 6th March

Graspan Parade 16th May 2010

If you require contact details on the two events see Pete

Private Adds Company Adds Joke

Lady Montague-Smyth took more than the usual care of her staff. So when her butler was hurt in an accident she was quick to attend the hospital. "Sorry," said the nurse, "No

visitors except Family. Are you his wife?" "Indeed not," said her ladyship, "I'm his mistress."

At one of the recent palace tea parties a young man was presented to the Queen "What do you do for a living?" she enquired. "I'm a photographer, Ma'am", he replied. "Isn't that remarkable," said the Queen, "My brother-in-law is a photographer" "Indeed it is remarkable," said the photographer, "My brother-in-law is a queen."

THATS IT !!!