The Royal Marines Association
North Wales Branch
Cymdeithas y Môr-filwyr Brenhinol
Cangen Gogledd Cymru

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 17 June 2008
At 1930 hrs. In The Kings Head, Rhuddlan.

Members Present

Mike Beckett	Richard Beckett	Eric Borman
Nora Borman	Barry Cahill	Leon Davies
David Drysdale	John Fryatt	Ron Hooper
Jeff Jones	Mervyn Jones	Roy Lockyear
Mike O'Rourke	Peter Wood	Phil Williams-Jones

Apologies

Martyn Ashworth	Derek Bellis	Tim Cahill
Jim Green	Chris Stallard	Helen Stallard

Minute's Silence was observed for absent friends

The Chairman mentioned in particular the recent casualties in Afghanistan.

Minutes of last meeting

It was proposed by Roy Lockyear, seconded by Peter Wood that these be accepted as a true record of the meeting and passed unanimously.

Maters Arising

The Chairman reported that the trip to the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA), to attend the Parade and Dedication Service of the new Royal Marines Memorial, had been well attended and had been enjoyed by all. The mini bus was most comfortable, thanks to Eric who had found it for us.

The Social lunch in Bangor had been a great success, and thanks were expressed to Mike for organising such a good event. A vote of thanks was expressed to Will Parry for his kind donation of £100. 00 towards our Christmas raffle.

It was confirmed that we would attend the Veterans Parade in Rhyl on Sunday 29 June 2008. The Parade will form up at the Rhyl Events Arena at 1000 hrs, for a 1030 hrs Parade to the Memorial Gardens. The Chairman urged all who can to attend.
At 1300 hrs. Activities will commence at Ffrith Beach, Prestatyn, and we have been invited to take a stand there. Eric Borman and Barry Cahill volunteered to organise the Stand.

David reported that he had spoken to the Chef at the Colwyn Bay Cricket Club, he wondered if we would prefer a set course, such as roast beef, or to have a choice. It was agreed that we had a choice of three dishes, David would produce a menu at the next meeting and a pro-forma would be sent out requesting if attending and what choice was required.

A decision on Guests to the Birthday Dinner would be taken at the next meeting.

A letter of resignation had been received from the President and the Secretary had replied accepting the resignation and thanking Lawrence for his work for the Branch

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that with luck his plaster should be off on Thursday so that he would be back to normal. He explained that the reason for the meeting being changed from the 16th. was that the Kings Head had booked a funeral yesterday afternoon and thought that the wake might go on into the late evening.

With the resignation of the President he proposed that the meeting should elect a new President, and he proposed David Drysdale, this was seconded by Eric Borman, and passed unanimously.

The Secretary has produced a Bi-lingual letterhead, which has been vetted by the Hon. Chaplin to the RMA; a copy was circulated and approved by the meeting.

There was to be Commemoration Service at St Paul's Cathedral, London, for all UK Forces who served in Northern Ireland on Operation Banner. It is to be held on Wednesday 10 September2008. Anyone interested contact the Secretary for further details.

Secretaries Report

The Secretary said that it had all been said and he had nothing further to report.

Treasurers Report

Money Banked in HSBC

Income		
Raffle	£ 33. 00	
Subs	£ 34. 00	
Membership subs	£ 10. 00	
Donations	£ 70. 00	
Repayment for NMA	£262. 50	
Raffle money from Bangor	£ 76. 00	£485. 50
Paid out		
Retirement present	£ 25. 00	
Meal tickets NMA	£ 85. 00	
Coach hire NMA	£200. 00	
Meals for Senior Members		
At Bangor	£ 25. 00	£335. 00
Balance to Bank		£150. 50

Total in Banks

HSBC	£926. 33
Nat West	£783. 50
	£1709. 83

Welfare Officers report

Peter reported on the meeting with Mrs Elena Jones in Llangollen, Leon, and a reporter were there but unfortunately, Mervyn, who had arranged it, was unable to be there due to having to attend hospital with his broken arm. It was a most interesting and nostalgic meeting; they took flowers and a treacle tart, for Elena, although it turned out that it should have been a marmalade tart. It was proposed by David that we submit an article about Elena to the G&L. It was further proposed and agreed that we invite her to be an Honorary Member of the Branch.

Ken Hawkins is not too well, his wife is also poorly and son is terminally ill. Alan McGregor is undergoing treatment for cancer. Peter is keeping in touch with them both. The meeting asked Peter to pass on their best wishes to both Ken and Alan. At a visit to Charles Greenbatch Peter was given another donation of £10.00 for the Branch. Thanks were expressed to Charles for his kindness. We had been asked by Central Office to contact a 95 yrs. old retired RM, John Priest, of Runcorn, Peter got in touch with him and he has joined the Branch.

Finally Peter said that if any member would like to accompany him on any of his visits please let him know.

Any other business

The Beckett's stated (I am not sure which one, forgive me) that they had been contacted by Charlie Hobson, regarding the death of a former RM., Patrick Courtney, in Chester. His relatives had sent a donation of £1000. 00 to the RMA. The RBL were arranging the funeral in Chester and the Beckett's were going to represent the Branch.

Mike O'Rourke asked if there were any B&B's in the vicinity of the Colwyn Bay Cricket Club and was informed that there were a number in Rhos-on-Sea, quite near.

Ron Hooper suggested that we ask Swazie Turner MBE to speak to us. This was agreed preferably to the November Meeting. Ron to arrange it.

David suggested that we sent a letter of condolence to the Para Association about their recent losses in Afghanistan. The Secretary was tasked to do this.

Jeff produced a white shirt and a polo shirt with Corps Crests. He could obtain these if there was sufficient interest, with "North Wales Branch" below the crest. It was agreed that he go ahead as most members were interested.

The next meeting will be at 1930 hrs. on Monday 21 July at the Kings Head.