

# Minutes of the RNZNCA AGM 23 September 2023



Held 1100 at Birkenhead RSA and via Zoom

The meeting opened with the President, Gary Houghton welcoming everyone and noting those who have crossed the bar in the last 12 months.

**The Ode** – the Ode was recited by Vice President Dave Wistrand in memory of all passed comrades.

**Present:** Gary Houghton (President), Jim Blackburn, Frank Rands, Dearne Berry, Rod Berry, Kerry Hamilton, Greg Hansen, Neill Cameron, Barry Jordan, Brian Henman, P Matthews, Colin Burgess, Rex Rodgers, Alan Padgett, Sandy Watson, Dale Leggett, Frank Lewis, Tank McLean, Frank Elliott, Hazel Dickman. **Via Zoom:** John Bullock, Dave Wistrand, Murray Nash, Mike Catlow, Wayne Berry, Ali Berry, Jan Lutterell, Jeff Brown.

**Apologies:** Dennis Powell, Ian Jacques, Dave Earl, Steve Mowbray, Murray Kingham, Geoff Brindle, Malcom Jackman, Barry King, Jim Bettridge, Jim Dell, Heather Chandler, Dave McKirdy, Jean Bretherton, Elaine Dunlop, Frank Ward, Richard Bibby, Jerry Payne, Frank Saunders, Greg Hartley, Alan Whitley, Peter Patton, Neil Catley, Michael Miller, Bob Young, Jan Wills, Richard Blackmore, Joseph Sweeney, Paul Murray, George Randall, Bob McKenzie, Peter Marten, Marlene Marten, Yvonne Ohlson, Bob Ohlson, Bernie Duff, Beth Duff, David Synnott, Karl Moen, Paddy Long, Des Sanson, Ken Smith, Chris Farrow, Gary Rzepecky. Moved the apologies be accepted Frank Lewis seconded Sandy Watson – carried.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** 24 September 2022 moved be accepted by Alan Padgett seconded Sandy Watson – carried.

**Matters Arising:** Was a review of the regional representatives done. Secretary Frank Lewis said he had contacted all regions.

**Presidents Report:** Gary Houghton presented his report. (Attached). A small discussion re Veterans Affairs took place. Moved report be accepted by President seconded Dale Leggett.

**Financial Report:** Sandy Watson presented the audited financial report. See separate report. Sandy thanked Barry King for his work. Moved by Sandy Watson seconded by Frank Rands – carried.

**Correspondence:** Frank Lewis commented on the letter asking when the review of the Burial can be expected. Reply said nothing had been done at this stage and will not happen until later this year.

**Reunion Report:** Alan Padgett gave a report on what is happening to date with further details to be announced around 31 October 2023. Due to inflation, there are some quite big increases in costs which must be taken into. The reunion committee will meet after this meeting to finalise details.

Wayne Berry inquired about merchandise being available. Gary H stated that polo shirts and anything from previous year will be available. Rod Berry inquired about the band. Will most likely be a DJ. Moved by Alan Padgett be accepted seconded by Dale Leggett – carried.

**Election of Officers:** The following officers were nominated and accepted.

President - Gary Houghton

Vice President – Dave Wistrand

Secretary - Frank Lewis

Treasurer – Sandy Watson

Committee – Alan Padgett

Greg Hanson

Dale Leggett

Jeff Brown

The above were elected unopposed.

**Communicator of the Year:** Greg Hanson stated that the Navy are no further ahead in sorting out the winner. Jim Blackburn gave a brief history on the award which started in 1967. It was suggested by Frank Rands that we send a letter to the Comms personal still in the navy for their support. Discussion was held whether we should continue awarding the trophy as the communicators these days are totally different from our day. It was decided an email will be sent to all members and a vote will be taken whether to continue or take the trophy back. A letter also to be sent to CNS letting him know our concerns. If we take it back it was suggested by Jim Blackburn that it be presented to the navy museum.

**Other Business:**

1. Rod Berry asked about the progress on the proposal to have Irirangi made a site of historical value. Frank has not done anything for quite a while. It was decided that we go ahead and do it ourselves. Frank agreed and will get back onto the project. It will be discussed at a committee meeting. Rod proposed that we continue looking at the project with the committee taking responsibility. Frank noted that Heritage NZ had made it a place of historical importance and allocated it a site number. Seconded Barry Jordan – carried.
2. Sandy Watson brought up about how the future reunions will be run. The time has come for us to talk about the future. It may have to be changed to a 1 day/night reunion. Rod Berry inquired what the cutoff numbers were for this reunion. Some figures were splashed around it nothing has been decided. Perhaps regional reunions could be looked at. It was suggested that we get a feeling from the members on the future of reunions.
3. SEAVA – it was asked what further is happening. Frank Rands said that RNZRSA are taking a good look at a review of the Veterans Support Act 2014. Gary reported on what is happening re RNZRSA. Frank gave details on what the SEAVA are proposing re service in SE Asia. Dave W is going to a RNZRSA meeting at Russell so will make enquiries.
4. A short debate took place on the state of defence today.

Meeting closed 1217

Signed:

Gary Houghton, President

Dated: