

# The Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians) Regimental Association



President: Major General The O'Morchoe CB MBE

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## Minutes of the ordinary Meeting held 24 September 2005 at the Leinster Arms. Leinster Terrace, Bayswater, London W2

### Members Attending:

V McGough, Chairman. D Ball, Secretary. H Hogan, Treasurer.  
Mrs. JM Ball, GW Black, E Bryant, K Bryant, T Cooker, DP Donovan, J Fay,  
N Grant, J Howard, A Munro, B McBride, Mrs. B McCaughy, J McCaughy,  
F McDonagh, M McDonagh, Capt. J McNeish, W O'Rourke, R Pearce, F Shaw,  
J Seabrook, E Seabrook-Smith, DG Ward, WJ Weller.

### Apologies:

Maj-Gen. The O'Morchoe, President. Mr B D'Hulster Committee (Belgium)  
Comdt. M McGoona Committee (Ireland), W Boland, P Clarke, S Corballis, JJ Cooke, N  
Cullen, A Finnerty, Col. J Harkon, K Hayes, M Hegarty, P Kirby Mrs. M Kilford R Kilford, I  
Lowe, Maj JM MacLeod, Ms. S Malkin, J McKenna, GFA Ralph, L Sheridan.

### 1. Welcome to Members

The Chairman, Mr Vincent McGough opened the meeting and welcomed all members attending; he thanked all members who had travelled long distances to be present. The Chairman also welcomed Mr. Don Dickson who had recently joined the Association, Mr Dickson had dedicated pages on his family website to the regiment, his grandfather had served in both 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> battalions.

### 2. Apologies

The Secretary read the list of apologies for absence.

### 3. Obituaries

The Secretary informed the meeting of the death of Mr Pete Shortland, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Members then stood in silence for their departed member and for the Regiment's fallen.

### 4. Minutes of the Last Meeting held 30 April 2005

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated to all members and were approved as a true record. This was proposed by Mr Edwin Seabrook-Smith seconded by Mr Harry Hogan.

### 5. Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that membership was still growing steadily, with much enthusiasm coming from Ireland.

He informed members that the financial state of the association was strong again after the O'Neill project and that finances now permitted the Association to make plans for a permanent Regimental Standard. The Association would continue to represent the Regiment

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by being present at as many functions and ceremonies as possible throughout the Irish regimental calendar.

He thanked the Chairman, Treasurer, Committee and members for their continued help and support during the year.

## **6. Finance Report**

Mr Hogan echoed the Secretary stating that since the O'Neill project the Association's financial status was now very strong. He thanked members for their financial support with donations etc. he reminded members that there was a direct debit facility now very much in place. The Treasurer gave his report on Regimental funds. *(Note: these are excluded from this publicly available version of the minutes. All members of the Association have received directly the full minutes containing financial information)*

## **7. Chairman's Report**

Mr McGough gave details of the Regimental Association's first meeting in Dublin. He told members that the meeting was a success with 18 members from the Irish membership attending, a good turnout as there are now 25 members in Ireland.

The Association has decided that because there was such a good show of support from the Irish members, to cut the meetings in London to two a year and to hold the third meeting in Dublin, perhaps the weekend of the National day of Commemoration, which is held at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham every July, details would be given to members once this had been arranged.

The Chairman gave details of the visit to Dublin and ceremony held at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, which was attended by twelve members of the association. The ceremony is held on the nearest Sunday to the 11 July, to commemorate all Irish men and women killed in all wars and in the service of the United Nations. Mr McGough recommended that members should try to attend, as it was a fitting ceremony to remember the Irish Soldier.

The Chairman gave details of the meeting held at The Thatch Public House, Crinkill, Birr. The Association had made contact with the owner of the existing site of the old barracks depot HQ of the Leinsters, and it was hoped that an arch on the perimeter wall would be restored and become a permanent memorial to the Regiment.

He said that there were many ideas open to the Association, ranging from lectures, local exhibitions at Birr town library and that an idea was being followed up by the Secretary to repatriate the remains of an unknown Leinster casualty from the Great War, to be reinterred at the Leinsters Military Cemetery at Crinkill.

## **Other Business**

Mr John Smith told members he, and a group from the Regimental Association were attending the Annual dinner held by the King's Liverpool Regiment in Liverpool. If any members would like to attend next year could they please pass on their details to him?

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Mr Tom Cooker raised a point of concern about the idea of the repatriation of the remains to Ireland, of a Leinster soldier and how it would effect the other Associations of the disbanded Regiments.

Mr McGough stated that this idea would not effect any other Association, as it was a Leinster Regiment issue. Mr Ball said that although contact had been made with the Embassy of Ireland in London, who was very interested in a possibility, the idea in itself was very much in its infancy.

Mr Fred Shaw raised a point about some meeting dates in the Irish Regiments clashing; he asked what could be done to prevent this.

Mr Ball replied that as The Leinster Regiment was an independent Regimental Association, he could not answer the question, but the Leinsters's meetings very rarely clashed with other Association dates as the Leinsters worked very closely with the Combined Irish Regiments Association and that the Committee consulted the notice board of the CIRA website which gives all the dates throughout the year to prevent the Leinster Regiment clashing with other Irish regiments dates. Mr Ball asked if any members present, who were members of other Irish regiments etc, that they would urge their Committees to consult the CIRA website notice board as this was very informative.

Mr Bill O'Rourke asked why a question that he raised about the wearing of medals at the last meeting held 30/04/05 was not recorded in the minutes. Mr Ball apologised for this, and stated that he thought at the time that this was a discussion and was not recorded as part of the meeting. His apology was accepted.

Mr O'Rourke then gave details of a Christmas Social for all members of the Combined Irish Regiments Association, which was to be held Saturday 10 December 2005 12noon at the Albert Pub, Victoria.

With a noted thanks to Rachel, Manager of the Leinster Arms the meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting 29 April 2006

**Secretary: David A Ball**