

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



President Major General The O'Morchoe CB CBE

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Held Saturday, 23 September 2006,
At Leinster Arms, Leinster Terrace, Bayswater W2**

Members Attending:

V McGough, Chairman; D Ball, Secretary.

Mrs. JM Ball, E Bryant, K Bryant, Ms C Clifford, T Cooker, Mr & Mrs D Dickson, D Dingvean, D Donovan, Mrs A Ferguson, Mr & Mrs D George, E Heardman, Ms S Malkin, Major JM MacLeod, B McBride, P Moggan, A Munro, P Murphy, R Pearce, GFA Ralph, L Rees, Cpl E Rooney, E Seabrook-Smith, J Seabrook, J Smith, A Walker.

Apologies:

Major General The O'Morchoe, President; Comdt M McGoona, Vice-Chairman; H Hogan, Treasurer; JJ Cooke, Committee, Ireland; N Cullen, Committee, Ireland; B d'Hulster, Committee, Belgium.

P Chapman, Mr & Mrs P Clarke, A Cooke, K Cooke, P Corcoran, J Fay, N Grant, Colonel J Harkon, K Hayes, J Hogan, J Hollingsworth, J Howard, Master C Johnston, S Keeley, P Kirby, W Lennon, D Llewellyn-Rees, I Lowe, I Lyon, Mr & Mrs J McCoughey, M McDonagh, TL McKenna, B Nugent, J O'Connell, Pte C O'Leary, S Relton, P Sheen, T Slater, F Walsh, D Ward, W Weller.

1. Welcome to Members

The Chairman, Mr Vincent McGough opened the meeting, welcoming all members that were attending, thanking those who had travelled long distances to attend.

2. Apologies

The Secretary read the list of apologies for absence.

Secretary: David A Ball

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3. Obituaries

The Secretary informed the meeting of the death of Billy Boland, Billy was a pensioner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea and hailed from Tipperary and had family connections with the regiment. Sadly he was plagued with ill health and could not attend any meetings, though some of us knew him through the Combined Irish Regiments Association. May he rest in peace, the members then stood in silence for departed members and the regiment's fallen.

4. The Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held 29 April 2006 had been circulated to all members and were approved as a true record. This was proposed by Mr Patsy Moggan and seconded by Mr John Smith.

5. Finance Report

The Treasurer, Mr Harry Hogan could not attend the meeting and in his absence the Secretary Mr David Ball gave the finance report.

Bank Account as of 30-06-06	
Balance brought forward 31-03-06	£545.26
Income	£688.75
Subtotal	£1,244.01
Expenses	-(£75.35)
Balance as per Bank Statement 27-08-06	£1,168.66

6. Secretary's Report

- a) **Report:** Mr Ball stated that as members had heard from the finance report that the association was once again in a very strong financial position. It was reported that there were new members still applying to join the association though the association had lost a few and that this had been expected.
- b) **Annual Lunch and Parade:** Mr Ball gave a report on the annual lunch and parade, which is organised by the Combined Irish Regiments Association. He thanked the association's standard-bearer Mr George Ralph, for his immaculate turnout and his outstanding execution of duties at the annual parade.

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- c) **Donation To the Combined Irish Regiments Association:** The Secretary Proposed that the association donate £50.00 in perpetuity for the regimental plot at the annual Garden of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey, which is now the responsibility of the Combined Irish Regiments Association, as are all the plots of the disbanded Irish regiments. Mr Bert McBride seconded the proposal.
- d) **Trip to Flanders:** He told members that plans were being made by some members to organise a trip to Flanders, this was likely to be around St Patrick's Day 2007, he added that if the trip went well, then it was hoped that it would become an annual event and would be organised by the association.
- e) **QM Stores:** Mr Eddie Bryant has kindly offered to be Association Quartermaster on a regular basis, selling items not only at meetings, he will also supply them by post. Once the stock has been replenished etc, his contact details will be given to all members who wish to purchase association items.

7. Chairman's Report

Mr McGough informed the members of plans for the association to publish a newsletter, which will be published over the next year or so. The Chairman also spoke of the outstanding association website which had been set up by the Webmaster, Mr Don Dickson, he added that this would certainly help in promoting the association. Mr McGough also mentioned the success of the meeting, which was held at the Gresham Hotel, Dublin in July.

The Chairman also commented on the position of the association on the proposed memorial arch and that the interest of the local societies had stalled and that it looked increasingly likely that the association would "Go it alone", but he added that the Birr County Library project was going ahead as planned and the association was in contact with the Library and as soon as the redevelopment of the Birr County Library itself was finished, headway would be made. Mr McGough thanked the Committee and members for their show of support to the association throughout the year especially Operation Ginchy, as sadly he could not attend due to business commitments.

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8. Operation Ginchy

Mr Ball reported on the fantastic turnout from association members, for the 16th (Irish) Division commemoration. Members not only attended from the UK, but from Ireland as well. He said that it was an excellent opportunity for members to meet up and also to meet members from the other associations of the disbanded regiments. He thanked Major MacLeod, Chairman of the Combined Irish Regiments for the organisation of the parade and ceremony as well as organising the transport etc. The Secretary said all members attending, were made very welcome, the hospitality from our French hosts was outstanding, but sadly some accommodation was not up to scratch. Major MacLeod apologised for this, unfortunately the accommodation was out of his hands and had he known he would have made plans for hotel accommodation for the weekend. Mr Ball commented on this and said he felt that this had not spoiled the weekend, to which members who were present at Ginchy, agreed.

9. Association Website

Mr McGough invited Mr Don Dickson to address members. Mr Dickson explained to members the link with his family and the regiment and that he had incorporated a page dedicated to the regiment for many years in his family research website The Dickson's. It was through The Dickson's website that Mr Dickson was informed of the Leinster regiment association's existence and applied to join. Mr Dickson emphasised the fact that as the internet is now helping with many aspects of historical research that by setting up a website would promote the association immensely as the internet is open to people of all ages.

10. Other Business

Mr Reg Pearce, who is a member of other regimental Associations, brought to the attention of members that some members of these associations, who cannot attend meetings, send a small donation along with their apologies. Mr Pearce added it would be a good idea if Leinster Regiment members were to do this also. Mr McGough thanked Mr Pearce for this initiative and for putting it forward, but felt that it would be best left to the individual member if they wished to send a donation along with their apologies for not attending meetings.

With a noted thanks to Rachel and the Leinster Arms, the meeting was closed
Date of the next meeting would be for the AGM 28 April 2007.

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