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**MARLBOROUGH RETURNED SERVICES ASSOCIATION (INCORPORATED)**


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BLENHEIM  
17th June, 1955

Dear Member,

In this personal letter, we hope to make three points clear and to enlist your maximum support, in providing an administrative Building and Clubhouse in Blenheim worthy of returned service men and women and as free of interest-bearing debt as possible.

**Point 1.** A new building is necessary for many and varied reasons. Our present building is about 70 years old and will not outlast the lives of World War II and Kayforce men. The Health Department and Licensing Commission will enforce major expenditure on our clubhouse, if we do not voluntarily conform to regulations. Expert opinion is against costly repairs. Maintenance of the building will increase to terrific proportions as the years go by, while in the meantime, we would not be as proud of our building as we are of our achievements overseas. Finally, we would not have a Clubhouse in another 20 years.

**Point 2.** We can finance a building project costing up to £20,000. It is reliably estimated that a suitable clubhouse can be built in concrete for £18,000, possibly less.

An article covering estimated revenue and expenditure appears in the June, 1955, issue of Loophole. These and all estimates are definitely on the safe or conservative side. Furnishings, which will be costly, have not been forgotten.

Membership has never been higher, in spite of the severe loss by death each year. A better and more convenient Clubhouse will give us additional revenue. We have no fears of the future.

With an average of £10, seventeen hundred and fifty members could produce £17,500; sufficient to give us a building, we and our district would be proud of. If this sum is raised by the issue of interest free debentures, all would have their money refunded at the rate of about £850 to £1000 per year, by ballot.

**Point 3.** You can afford to LEND your Association a minimum of £10—free of interest.

Having tested the feelings of a number of our older members who are on the lowest income scale and learned from them of their willingness to subscribe, we do not hesitate to say that all our members are capable of investing a minimum of £10. For those on the lower wage scale, your Committee is prepared to accept £1 per month during the next ten to twelve months. When £10 has been received by this method, an interest free debenture will be issued. We have a very large proportion of our members who will be able to pay £10 or more immediately and also a large number who wish to lend their Association sums far in excess of the amount we have set as a minimum. Already, two members have come forward and paid in very generous contributions, one of £200 and one of £50. At the moment, we do not have permission to publish their names; but their action is more than encouraging and is deeply appreciated. We are confident that even greater amounts will be received from those whose financial position will allow, and whose heart is in the right place. Our sincerest thanks go to these two—Rod and Ken, who have given us this encouraging lead. All can afford to lend generously.

Our Women's Section Bowling Club are making a straight out donation of £35 to the building fund. Isn't this a grand gesture?

**General:** A small committee of Messrs R. T. Scott (Chairman), J. A. Bell (Association President), J. R. Naysmith (Hon. Treasurer), R. B. Hadfield, G. R. Cole and P. G. Tizard (Association Secretary), has been set up under the title of a "Building Finance Committee." As far as is possible they, and all members of the Association's Executive Committee, will call on our members for their practical support; but to hasten the project and lighten their duties, we appeal to you to call on the Secretary or send in your contribution without delay.

This is an individual matter for each and every returned man to deeply ponder over—to consider seriously—and then to act.

We look forward confidently to your full support.

For the Committee,

**P. G. TIZARD, Secretary.**