



LEWES BRANCH ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION



Minutes of The Monthly Meeting 17th February 2023 – St Marys' Supporters Club Meeting Opened at 20:00

The Commemoration of The Gunners: Read by Our Vice Chairman David Harding.

Members Present: David Harding, Mark Harding, Lee Harding, Darryl Twinch, Paul Hughes, Jerry Docherty, Tex Rees-Avery, Mick Bird, Mark Eve, John Shill and Peter Wyatt.

Apologies for Absence: Michael Hobden, Peter Godding, Alan Mayers, Bob Parker, Doug Raynsford, John Talmey, Peter Crowhurst, David Collins, Peter Barnard, Colin Kemp, Alan South, Brian Scott, Dave Scott and Michael Taylor.

Chairman's Report: Budge welcomed all to the February Meeting and thanks all for attending. Budge also thanks all Members who attended the RA Gold Cup. All had a great day and met up with our Affiliated Bty Members.

Treasurer's Report: Lee reported that cash available stands at £853.99 with nothing to pay out.

Welfare Officer's Report: Lee reported that all Members had been contacted this month with the exception of Peter Godding, where Mark left a message on his answer phone. Lee also provided an update regarding Brian Scott, Doug Raynsford who Mark visited to deliver the wheelchair and David Collins. Mark Eve also provided an update regarding John Henderson.

Members would like to thank Peter Crowhurst for visiting Brian Scott and keeping up to date with Brian and his family.

Secretary's Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes from our Annual General Meeting held on 27th January 2023. With no comments, the Minutes were voted and passed as correct. Proposed by Peter Wyatt and seconded by Paul Hughes. Carried.
2. The Lewes Branch RA Race Night is being held at St Marys' on Saturday 25th February 2023. All Members are welcome to attend and there are 16 confirmed to date. Members of St Marys' have also been invited.
3. Gunner Sunday – Sunday 16th April 2023. 12 attending to date. Details sent to all will be the same as 2022. The lunch is £12 per person. Mark will pay for all lunches and ask Members to reimburse the Branch via bank transfer.

Jerry has arranged a minibus via Burgess Hill School for Girls. 12 Members are booked to date and Mark will email separately all with details of pick up etc.

4. Curry Night – 29th April 2023. Members discussed this and it was agreed that Jerry speak to his contact to see if they are able to provide a curry and this will be held at St Marys' Supporters Club. If this is unsuccessful, it was discussed and agreed that we book The Thai Elephant 2 in Peacehaven.
5. Lewes Branch RAA 30th Birthday Celebration (5th April) & 2023 Annual Dinner. Mark confirmed that he has booked The John Harvey Tavern for Saturday 27th May 2023 arrive 17:30 to be seated by 18:00. Spaces are

restricted to a maximum of 35. It was also agreed that we invite two Serving Members of 43 Bty and the want to bring 3. Menu proforma's will be sent out to all in due course.

6. The RA Assembly is being held over the weekend of Friday 12th May 2023. 7 Attending to date with two further to confirm. Jerry will liaise with Burgess Hill School for Girls to see if we are able to borrow a minibus for the duration.
7. RA Service of Remembrance – NMA – Sat 22nd July 2023. All detail previously sent to all by email.
8. Website Gallery Area: Please contact Lee/Mark for access to the Members Area of our website. Send photos to Mark/Lee who will add these on our website.
9. Please remember to check your emails as this is the main medium of contact to all Members.
10. Our November 2023 Meeting to has been moved to Friday 17th November 2023.

AOB:

11. Sword plinth? No further update regarding this. Jerry will advise accordingly.
12. Branch Plaque/Shield and Tie. Mark suggested designing our own Branch Plaque and Tie. See design the from John Talmei attached. Mark to price up and advise Members accordingly.

Mark provided a draft of a Branch Tie and emailed and passed to Members (see attached design). The cost of this would work out to be £18.33 pe tie. Depending upon the number of Members wishing to purchase this will depend on whether we go ahead with this as there is a minimum order of 36. Please would you advise Mark if you would purchase one to establish this? 11 takers so far.

13. Southwick Revival Presents "Spirit of D-Day' Revival 10th/11th June 2023. Southwick Revival Committee, Southwick, Fareham, Hampshire. PO17 6EA. Details attached. Would Members please advise Mark of their interest, and we may look at making this a Branch Event.
14. Wall space in the Meeting Room. It was discussed and agreed that the Shields be placed along the top of the wall to enable more space. The 43 Bty Flag and Frame will be hung at the bottom left-hand corner. If anyone wishes to hang anything on the wall, please bring it along to the Meetings where Members will vote.
15. Lewes Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club. Held at St Marys' Supporters Club on the 4th Sunday of each month. Please book Reservations directly by phone on 07547 905 913 or by email to edafvbc.lewes@yahoo.com. Please ensure that you book on time as places must be booked in advance as Lewes AFVBC have to order the food from Morrison's on the Wednesday prior to the breakfast. Quite simply - book early or go hungry.
16. Mark Eve mentioned Armed Forces Day 2023 to be held at 5 Acre Field in Eastbourne on Saturday 24th June 2023. You may remember that we attended this event in 2021. Would Members please advise if you would like to attend this Event and help out with our RAA Stand. Mark Harding, Mark Even and Budge Harding have already volunteered to assist.

With no other business, our Lewes Branch RAA February 2023 Meeting closed at 20:35.

The next Lewes Branch RAA Event will be our Race Night to be held on Saturday 25th February 2023 at St Marys' Supporters Club.

Venue: St Marys' Supporters Club

Dress: Smart Casual

Timings: 19:00 for 19:30 start

The next Lewes Branch RAA Meeting will be our Monthly Meeting to be held on Friday 31st March 2023 at St Marys' Supporters Club.

Venue: St Marys' Supporters Club

Dress: Smart Casual

Timings: 19:30 for 20:00 start

President: Peter Godding
Chairman: Michael Hobden
Secretary: Mark Harding
Treasurer: Lee Harding
Tel: 07903 702 767
Email: theraalewes@gmail.com

EVENTS ATTENDANCE 2023

Would Members please advise Mark is you would like to attend any of these Events soonest.

Name	RAA Race Night	Gunner Sunday	Branch Curry Night	Annual Dinner	Branch BBQ	Branch Tie
Date:	25 th Feb	16 th April	29 th April	27 th May	26 th Aug	
Peter Godding	0	0	0	0	0	
Michael Hobden	2	1	2	1	2	1
David Harding	1	1	1	2	1	1
Mark Harding	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lee Harding	2	2	2	2	2	1
Darryl Twinch	1	1	1	1	1	1
Steve Winter	1			1	1	
Alan South		0				
Paul Hughes	2	2	2	2	2	0
Jerry Docherty	2	2	2	2	2	1
Ken Amys						
Tex Rees-Avery	2+	2		2	2	1
Peter Barnard						
Mick Bird						1
Brian Cager						
Gary Caulfield						
David Collett						
David Collins						
Peter Crowhurst	0	0	0		0	
Rev Canon Judith Egar						
Mark Eve						1
Peter Head	0	0	0	1	0	
Ray Hughes						
Sean Kelly						
Colin Kemp						
Tim Maloney						
Raymond Metcalfe						
Peter Marcantonio						
Alan Mayers						
Jack Neil						
Simon Odey						
Peter Page						
Robbie Parker	2	0	2	2		1
Doug Raynsford						
Fred Rossington						
Brian Scott						
Dave Scott						
John Shill	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Spooner						
Jim Talmey	0	0	1	1		
John Talmey						
Ray Talmey						
Michael Taylor	0	0	0	0	0	
Brian Walter						
Steve White						
Peter Wyatt	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	16	12	14	18	12	11



LEWES BRANCH RAA

FORECAST OF EVENTS 2023



Items marked in yellow TBC

Items marked in red are specific to Lewes Branch RAA

Items marked in green are general events for the RA/RAA

27 th January	Lewes Branch RAA Annual General Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
16 th February	RA Gold Cup	Sandown Park
17 th February	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
25 th February	RAA Race Night	St Marys' Supporters Club BOOKED
30 th March	RAA NEC Meeting	Larkhill
31 st March	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
16 th April	Gunner Sunday	Royal Hospital Chelsea (RHC)
28 th April	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
29 th April	Curry Night	VENUE TBC
12 th – 14 th May	RA Assembly	Blackpool
13 th May	RAA NEC Meeting	Blackpool
19 th May	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
27 th May	Lewes Branch RAA 30 th Birthday & Annual Dinner	John Harvey Tavern BOOKED
30 th June	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
22 nd July	RA Service of Remembrance	National Memorial Arboretum (NMA)
28 th July	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
18 th August	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
26 th August	Lewes Branch RAA BBQ	St Marys' Supporters Club BOOKED
29 th September	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
4 th October	RAA NEC Meeting	Larkhill
27 th October	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
28 th October	Function Day/Night	SUGGESTIONS PLEASE
9 th November	Field of Remembrance	Westminster Abbey
11 th November	Armistice Day	Lewes
12 th November	Remembrance Parade	Lewes
12 th November	RA Ceremony of Remembrance	Hyde Park Corner
17 th November	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club
25 th November	Lewes Branch RAA Christmas Dinner	John Harvey Tavern
3 rd December	St Barbara's Day	Larkhill
29 th December	Monthly Meeting	St Marys' Supporters Club