



LEWES BRANCH ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION



MINUTES OF THE LEWES BRANCH ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION 17th September 2021 – St Marys' Supporters Club Meeting Opened at 20:00

The Commemoration of The Gunners: Read bay Our Chairman, Mr Michael Hobden.

Members Present: Michael Hobden, Budge Harding, Mark Harding, Colin Kemp, Darryl Twinch, Lee Harding, Steve Winter, Alan South, Jerry Docherty, Peter Marcantonio, Bob Parker, John Talmev and Peter Wyatt.

Apologies for Absence: Paul Hughes, Mick Bird, Brian Cager, David Collett, David Collins, Peter Crowhurst, Rev. Canon Judith Egar, Mark Eve, Des Foord, Peter Godding, Peter Head, Jack Neil, Mick Norris, Fred Rossington, Dave Scott, John Shill and Brian Walter.

Chairman's Report: Michael welcomed Members to the Meeting and thanked all for attending.

Treasurer's Report: Colin Kemp confirmed that as at 31st July 2021, funds available were £787.68. Colin advised that the latest statement had not yet arrived as early ion the month, but once received will advise Mark Harding of current funds available and Mark will advise all Members via email.

Welfare Officers Report: Lee advised that there was no further news regarding Mick Norris or Des Foord and advised that Jack Neil had finally received his bionic knee and is recovering well.

Secretaries Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Meeting held on 20th August 2021. With no comments advised, the Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Jerry Docherty and seconded by Peter Marcantonio. Carried.
2. Mark advised that the amended GAI's are available and have been sent to all Members that have email.
3. Mark advised Members to contact him if they require a copy of the Forecast of Events (also on our website) or a copy of the RAA 2020 Accounts.
4. 43 Bty Update: No further update.
5. CWGC 3 dates outside of normal Meeting dates; Nothing heard back as yet.
6. The re-scheduling of Our Service of Remembrance. St Annes' Church Sunday 31st October 2021 at 15:00. The Rev. Canon Egar asked if there were any specific RA related hymns we would like and any form of Order of Service. Michael advised he would look into this and Mark also advise he would contact RAA HQ for any info too. Darryl advised he would look into an RA burials at St Annes' where our Chairman will Lay Our Wreath of Remembrance.

Michael Hobden advised he would contact the Mayor of Lewes to invite to attend.

We would like as many Members as possible to attend. Please also feel free to bring along families and Guests. Would you please confirm your attendance to Mark soonest?

Timings: Arrive 14:30 for the Service at 15:00.

Dress: Regt Ties, Blazers/Suits (Medals may be worn). Partners/Guest dress equivalent.

Members suggested reconvening to one of the Public Houses opposite St Annes' after the Service.

7. Lewes Branch RAA Games Evening. Mark thanked all who attended. The general census of the day is that all had an extremely good day (apart from the Men being hammered by the Ladies at Skittles). Mark advised that he had sent various photos of the day to RAA HQ who advised that they would try to get them into the next RAA Newsletter and Gunner Magazine.
8. Annual Dinner 2021 will be held at The John Harvey Tavern on Saturday 9th October 2021. The event is limited to a maximum of 40 Members/Guests.

There are a total of 33 places confirmed as at today. Would Members wishing to attend, please advise Mark soonest. The close off date for attendance is Friday 1st October 2021.

It was discussed and agreed by unanimous vote that Our Branch subsidise wine on the table at 1 bottle between 4.

Mark advised that there are no parking facilities at the Tavern but there are many car parks available very near to the venue such as the Premier Inn, Tesco and behind Cliffe High Street among various others.

Mark also advised that he would speak to the Sussex Yeomanry Museum Trust to ask for the loan of their Silver for our tables.

Timings: Arrive 18:30 for sit down at 19:00.

Dress: Regt Ties, Blazers/Suits (Medals may be worn). Partners/Guest dress equivalent.

We will be holding a raffle as usual and ask Members to please provide prizes for this.

9. Mick Larkin - Branch visit to the little museum under the Town Hall. Members discussed and agreed to arrange this in Spring 2022. Mark will liaise with mick and arrange in the New Year.
10. RAA HQ AGM. Mark sent details to Members regarding if they wanted to attend this Meeting via Zoom or whether they would like to add anything to AOB. Members have not provided any confirmation of this and no Member at this Meeting advised they would like to participate or add anything. Mark will confirm this to RAA HQ. Mark will be attending this Meeting.
11. Mark reminded Members of the Gallery area on our website along with our Branch Scrapbook and to send photos/cuttings etc to Lee or Mark who will add them.
12. Mark reminded Members of the importance of checking and reading emails as this is the main source of media that all information is sent to regarding our Branch.
13. Mark reminded Members to submit their signed Permission Forms to enable us to use images, cuttings, videos etc of them on our website, social media, send to RAA HQ for publications etc.
14. Mark discussed with Members about bringing our Monthly Meetings back in line to the last Friday of each month. All Members agreed.

AOB:

1. Des Foord 25 Pounder. Mark has chased to see if this has been completed yet and awaits news.
2. Nothing further to update regarding having to become Members of St Marys' Supporters Club. Mark will advise as and when.

3. Roll of Honour with the RA CWG in the Lewes Area. As previously, Lee advised that the cost of this may be very high and was looking into other alternatives. Peter Head also advised that he may have a source and will look into this and revert back to us. No further update.
4. Dave Scott advised that the Chess Set from Des Foord sold for £60.00. Mark is holding the funds until advice from Des' daughter Sara confirms which charity to send this too.
5. Remembrance Parade/Armistice Day. Await further details from Lewes Town Council and/or Jack Neil.
6. Jack Combined Services Dinner 2021 will be held at The Green Man in Ringmer on Saturday 11th December 2021. Await further details from Jack.
7. Alan Mayers Lewes Breakfast Club. Await further details from Alan.
8. Darryl discussed the wear and tear on Our Standard and the possibility of purchasing a new one. Mark advised he would seek guidance from RAA HQ and revert back to Members.

With no other business, our September 2021 Meeting of the Lewes Branch RAA closed at 20:40.

The next Lewes Branch RAA Event will be held on Saturday 9th October 2021 for our Lewes Branch RAA Annual Dinner at The John Harvey Tavern.

Timings: Arrive 18:30 for sit down at 19:00.

Dress: Regt Ties, Blazers/Suits (Medals may be worn). Partners/Guest dress equivalent.

The next Lewes Branch RAA Meeting will be held on Friday 29th October 2021 at St Marys' Supporters Club.

Dress: Smart Casual

Timings: 19:30 for 20:00 start

Lewes Branch RAA Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday 31st October 2021 at St Annes' Church.

Timings: Arrive 14:30 for the Service at 15:00.

Dress: Regt Ties, Blazers/Suits (Medals may be worn). Partners/Guest dress equivalent.

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Chairman: Michael Hobden

Treasurer: Colin Kemp

Secretary: Mark Harding

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Please see the list below for those Members who have already confirmed their attendance at our Annual Dinner.

Members who have confirmed their attendance but have not yet provided their menu choices, please advise Mark soonest.

CURRENT ATTENDANCE OF EVENTS

Annual Dinner 9th October 2021

Ser	Name	Annual Dinner 9 th Oct	
		Attending	No's
1	Michael Hobden	Yes	1
2	David Harding	Yes	2
3	Mark Harding	Yes	2
4	Colin Kemp	Yes	1
5	Darryl Twinch	Yes	2
6	Lee Harding	Yes	2
8	Alan South	Yes	2
9	Paul Hughes	Yes	2
10	Mick Bird	No	0
13	David Collins		0
14	Peter Crowhurst	Yes	2
15	Jerry Docherty	Yes	2
16	Rev. Canon Judith Egar	Yes	1
19	Peter Godding		0
21	Ray Hughes		0
22	Sean Kelly	Yes	1
23	Raymond Metcalfe	No	0
24	Jack Neil	Yes	2
25	Peter Marcantonio	Yes	1
26	Alan Mayers	Yes	1
30	Doug Raynsford		0
31	Fred Rossington	Yes	1
33	John Shill	Yes	1
35	Jim Talmey		0
36	John Talmey		0
37	Ray Talmey		0
38	Michael Taylor	Yes	1
39	Brian Walter	Yes	2
40	Steve White		0
41	Peter Wyatt	Yes	2
42	Tim Maloney	Yes	1
43	Mick Larkin	Yes	1
		Total	33