



ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION LEWES BRANCH

Minutes of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association April Meeting – 30th April 2021 – Via Zoom Meeting Opened at 20:00

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

Members Present: David Harding, Mark Harding, Darryl Twinch, Lee Harding, Paul Hughes, David Collett, David Collins, Peter Crowhurst, Jerry Docherty, Sean Kelly, Peter Marcantonio, Dave Scott and Peter Wyatt.

Apologies for Absence: Colin Kemp, Michael Hobden, Colin Kemp, Mick Bird, Mark Eve, Des Foord, Peter Godding, Ray Metcalfe, Mick Norris, Bob Parker, Doug Raynsford, John Shill, John Talmey and Brian Walter.

Chairman's Report: David Harding Welcomed all Members to the Meeting. 13 Members attended.

Treasurer's Report: Colin Kemp advised Mark and confirmed that there is £701.40 available in the bank and £20.00 petty cash. Total available £721.40 as at today. There is £18.50 due to be paid out for a stock RAA Wreath. Therefore, the total available £702.90 as at today.

Welfare Officers Report: Lee Harding advised that all Members have been contacted this month and no problems arisen.

Secretaries Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Meeting held on 26th March 2021. With no comments advised, the Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Peter Wyatt and seconded by Sean Kelly. Carried.
2. Mark advised that if any Member would like to see a copy of current GAI's, RAA 2020 Accounts or Forecast of Events, please email Mark who will provide them.
3. 43 Bty Update: 43 Bty are doing well, we are continuing to plan for our upcoming deployment to Cyprus in April, where a number of the Bty will conduct live flying of the Watchkeeper system at RAF Akrotiri, we continue to run virtual training packages and low-level training. The Bty Will Remain in Cyprus until September, on return we will conduct live flying in a UK location. The Bty Along with the Regt are currently conducting a 100,000km Charity event to raise money for the NHS and RACF, our soldiers are contributing by walking, running, Cycling or rowing the Distance, we have already achieved a quarter of the distance, which is good going, regular posts and updates are on social media. Ex Members are more than welcome to join the event, if anyone wishes to contribute please join the 47 Regiment Strava page
4. Mark advised that we may have a possible new Member and will advise once confirmed.
5. Mark discussed further CWGC Presentations and the consensus is that Members would like to continue with these via Zoom. Mark will liaise with the CWGC and suggest dates and revert back to Members soonest.
6. Mark confirmed that he had found 13 of the 14 RA CWG in and around the Lewes area. Photos of these can be seen in the Gallery area of our website. To access the Gallery area, you must sign up to the website to create access. Should any Members have any problems with this, please contact Lee or Mark for further details.

7. Mark confirmed that he had not received any response from The White Hart regarding them re-opening but will continue to follow up and advise Members accordingly.
8. The Royal Artillery Service of Remembrance to be held on Saturday 3rd July 2021 at The National Memorial Arboretum (Alrewas, Staffordshire (Nr Tamworth)). Guests arrive at 11:00 hrs.

Currently 6 Members confirmed attendance to travel Saturday AM and stay overnight and return Sunday. Mark, Budge, Lee, Paul, Bob and John Talmey. If anyone wishes to attend, would you please advise Mark no later than Friday 7th May 2021 who will collate all and inform RAA HQ as required.

9. Mark emailed Members regarding The District Armed Forces Day in Eastbourne on 26th June 2021.

There are currently 6 Members confirmed as attending and to help man the stall. Budge, Mark, Lee, Paul, Pater Crowhurst and Peter Marcantonio. Any other Members wishing to attend, would you please let Mark know soonest and advise if you are also able to assist with manning the stall?

Paul Hughes confirmed that he will be providing a gazebo and 6ft table and Peter Crowhurst confirmed he will be providing 2 chairs and a fire extinguisher. Darryl has confirmed that he will bring Our Standard and Base to the May 2021 Meeting for Mark to use at this event.

Mark emailed 43 Bty possible for supply of paraphernalia/items to display and the BSM has responded advising she will speak to the BK and am still awaiting their confirmation. Mark also emailed RAA HQ for leaflets, car stickers and 2 RACF collection boxes which have arrived already.

10. John Shill has offered to provide a presentation regarding the Sussex Yeomanry. Members agreed that they would like to go ahead with this. It was agreed that Members would like to see the "Adventures of 144th Field" and try to hold this during a Meeting at St Marys'. Mark will liaise with St Marys' to see if they have a projector and screen available to use. If not Mark will trawl Members etc. Failing this, we may have to revert to a Zoom Presentation. Mark will liaise with John Shill to set this up and revert back to Members with various dates.

David Collett advised that at this time, Members would not be able to ask for copies of The Sussex Yeomanry photos due to GDPR. David advised he would discuss this with the SY Museum Trust and revert back to Mark.

11. Mark reminded Members of our Branch Scrapbook and asked Members to provide suitable photos, news cutting etc to keep in this. Paul advised that he has a portable photo scanner which he is happy to bring along to Meetings for Members to scan photos and we can then print and/or add to our website Gallery.

Mark advised that he would be sending our Permission Forms for Members to agree for their photographs and/or video clips to share with Members, send to local newspapers, press, publications, use in promotional literature or keep in our photo album and gallery on our website.

This Permission Form is attached to this email. Would Members please send back to Mark ASAP?

AOB:

1. Mark confirmed that Members would like to arrange a Summer BBQ at St Marys. Paul Hughes agreed that he would lead this with possible assistance from other Committee Members. Mark advised that St Marys' do hire out their Garden Area and provide a BBQ. We would have to provide our own food and cooking. Mark & Paul will discuss with St Marys' during our May 2021 Meeting.
2. Mark advised that he will email our Padre, The Reverend Canon Judith Egar to ascertain when St Anne's Church would be available to hold our postponed Service of Remembrance to celebrate the 100th Year since the inception of The Royal Artillery Association and The 75th Anniversary of VE and VJ Days. Mark will revert back to Members with 3 possible dates accordingly.

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

The next RAA Lewes Branch Meeting will be held on Friday 21st May 2021 at St Marys' Supporters Club.

Dress: Regimental Tie and Blazer.

Timings: 19:30 for 20:00 start.

Due to current restrictions, we are again only able to have a maximum of 20 Members attend.

Please see the list below for those Members who have already confirmed their attendance in reply to the email Mark sent out on Monday 12th April 2021.

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Chairman: Michael Hobden

Treasurer: Colin Kemp

Secretary: Mark Harding

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May 2021

Name	Confirmed Attending Meeting
Michael Hobden	Yes
David Harding (Budge)	Yes
Mark Harding	Yes
Colin Kemp	Yes
Darryl Twinch	Yes
Lee Harding	Yes
Steve Winter	Yes
Alan South	
Paul Hughes	Yes
Mick Bird	
Brian Cager	No
David Collett	Yes
David Collins	No
Peter Crowhurst	Yes
Jerry Docherty	Yes
Rev Canon Judith Egar	
Mark Eve	Yes
Des Foord	No
Peter Godding	Yes
Sean Kelly	No
Raymond Metcalfe	No
Jack Neil	
Peter Marcantonio	Yes
Alan Mayers	
Mick Norris	No
Simon Odey	No
Robbie Parker	Yes
Doug Raynsford	No
Fred Rossington	
Dave Scott	Yes
John Shill	
Paul Spooner	No
Jim Talmey	
John Talmey	Yes
Ray Talmey	
Michael Taylor	
Brian Walter	No
Steve White (Knocker)	
Peter Wyatt	Yes
Bill Quaintmere	Awaiting Confirmation
Total	18