



ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION
LEWES BRANCH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association
24th September 2018 at St Mary's Supporters Club
Meeting Opened at 20:00

Commemoration of The Gunners: Read by our Chairman Michael Hobden.

Members Present: Michael Hobden, Peter Godding, Michael Taylor, Peter Wyatt, Darryl Twinch, Steve Winter, Colin Kemp, Brian Cager, Mick Bird, Mick Norris, Mark Harding, David Harding, Lee Harding & Alan South.

Apologies for Absence: Des Foord, Brian Walter, Paul Hughes, Sean Kelly, Peter Crowhurst, Jack Neil & Russel Simpson.

Chairman's Report: Our Chairman, Michael Hobden welcomed all Members back after the Summer Break as wished everyone well.

Treasurer's Report: Our Treasurer Colin Kemp advised the current amount available in the bank stands at [REDACTED] as at 28/09/2018.

Secretaries Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Meeting held on 27th July 2018. With no comments advised, the Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Steve Winter and seconded by Mick Norris. Carried.
2. Mark provided copies of the Forecast of Events from RAA HQ along with the Annual Reports for Members to view.
3. Mark reminded Members with regards to the completion of Privacy Forms required by RAA HQ and explained what these are for. Some Members advised that they had already received and returned these completed to RAA HQ. Mark will contact RAA HQ to obtain a list of all Members returns that have not been received.
4. Mark confirmed with Members that the Christmas Dinner be held at the White Hart on Saturday 24th November 2018 in the Sheriffs Room.

Mark provided two choices on menus: A Festive one and a Standard one. Members chose unanimously the Festive Menu which is 3 Courses at £22.00 per head.

Mark handed out Festive Menus to all in attendance and will email/post to those Members not present.

Would you please with email/text/phone/post your menu choices to Mark ASAP as these must be in at least 3 weeks prior to the dinner?

It was also agreed that drinks would be individual's responsibility.

Venue: The Sheriffs Room – The White Hart, Lewes.

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

Dress: Blazers and Regimental Ties (Medals may be worn). Ladies dress equivalent.

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Chairman: Michael Hobden

Treasurer: Colin Kemp

Secretary: Mark Harding

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Please could all Members provide a Raffle Prize to make the evening go so much better?

5. Mark thanked Darryl on behalf of our Branch for attending and Parading our Standard at the Annual Dieppe Raid Commemoration on 12th August 2018. Darryl advised that the event was a success but the attendance was down from previous years.
6. Mark advised that he had not heard anything from 43 Bty since our Annual Dinner and he would contact them to get an update. Mark also advised that he would send an invite for a Member of 43 Bty to attend our Christmas Dinner.
7. Mark advised that he had received an email from Stephen Scudder who runs the Eastbourne & District Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club.

Stephen has invited all Members of our Branch to attend Breakfast which is held on the 1st Sunday of every month and muster at the Toby Carvery in Willingdon Drove, Eastbourne from 0930 – 1100 hrs.

The cost for breakfast approx. £5.50 for all you can eat & drink (if you have a forces discount card you also get 20% off).

This is a great opportunity to meet other Branches. Please speak to Mark if you require any further details.

8. Mark advised that the 93rd Annual Reunion Dinner of the Sussex Yeomanry Association is on Saturday 6th October 2018 at St Francis Social and Sports Club in Haywards Health. For Members that have not received details and wish to attend the dinner, please contact the Sussex Yeomanry Association direct or Mark who will provide details.

AOB:

1. Michael Taylor advised that the RBL Race Night being held at St Marys' Supporters Club on Saturday 25th August 2018 was a great success and a great night as always.
2. Darryl provided a copy of the September issue of the Lewes News and advised that the contact details for our Branch are incorrect and do not state where we meet. Mark confirmed that he would contact them and provide the correct details.
3. Darryl advised he had spoken to Jack Neil who advised that the two Sentinels for Remembrance Parade this year are going to be dressed in WW1 uniform. It was also discussed if we wanted to asked 43 Bty to provide a further two Sentinels in up to date uniform as contrast. Darryl advised he would discuss with Jack and refer back to us.

Darryl also advised he would speak to Jack with general regards to this year's Remembrance Parade and get back to us.

4. Mick Bird asked with regards to the Defence Discount Service Card. Various Members already hold these and there seems to be some conflicting information with regards to how to apply and what is required. Mark confirmed he would look into this and bring further details to the next meeting. For further details prior, please see <https://www.defencediscountservice.co.uk/>
5. Mark thanked Darryl on behalf of his Family for attending his Mum's Funeral.
6. Darryl proposed a donation to the Memory Walk that Mark, Budge, Lee and their Family that took part in to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society. It was agreed that our Branch donate £50.00. Thank you to you all.

With no other business, the September 2018 Lewes Branch Meeting of the RAA closed at 2100.

The next Meeting will be at St Marys' Supporters Club on Friday 26th October 2018.

Timings: 19:30 for 20:00 start.
Dress: Casual.