



## ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION LEWES BRANCH

---

### Minutes of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association Monthly Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020 - St Marys' Supporters Club Meeting Opened at 20:00

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

**Members Present:** Mick Bird, Peter Crowhurst, Jerry Docherty, Mark Eve, David Harding, Lee Harding, Mark Harding, Paul Hughes, Sean Kelly, Colin Kemp, Peter Marcantonio, Alan Mayers, Robbie Parker, Fred Rossington, Jimmy Talmey, John Talmey, Ray Talmey, Darryl Twinch, Steve White and Steve Winter.

**Apologies for Absence:** David Collett, Des Foord, Peter Godding, Michael Hobden, Ray Metcalfe, Jack Neil, Mick Norris, Doug Raynsford, John Shill, Alan South, Michael Taylor and Peter Wyatt.

**Vice Chairman's Report:** David Harding welcomed all Members to the Meeting and Welcomed New Members Jerry Docherty and Jimmy Talmey to our Branch and presented them with their Membership Card and Book and Lewes RAA Lapel Pin. A total of 20 Members attended.

**Treasurer's Report:** Colin Kemp advised the total cash in the bank stands at £836.55 as at 23 Nov 2020.

**Welfare Report:** Lee advised that all Members had been contacted during the previous month and there are no concerns. Lee reminded Members of the support they are able to obtain through the RBL and SSAFA including the free will service via the RBL.

Lee also handed out to Members present a copy of the Service Record we hold for them to check and complete if details are missing. Lee will send this for the same to all Members not in attendance.

#### **Secretary's Report:**

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Monthly Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020. With no comments reported, the September 2020 Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Darryl Twinch and seconded by Robbie Parker. Carried.
2. Mark provided copies of the Forecast of Event2020/2021s, the new RAA GAI's and the 2019 RAA HQ Accounts for Members to read.
3. Mark read an email received from Stacy McGrath, BSM 43 Bty providing a Bty update.
4. Mark confirmed that our Branch are unable to Lay Our Wreath of Remembrance on Remembrance Day due to this being very low key surrounding the current Covid-19 situation. Various members of Lewes Town Council, The Lord Lieutenant and the PWRR (County Regt) will be laying wreaths. Whilst this is a very low-key event, I would ask Members wishing to attend to maintain social distancing and follow the current Covid-19 rules. Members wishing to Lay a Wreath must do so after the main parade has dispersed.

Jack Neil has confirmed that we are able to Lay Our Wreath of Remembrance on Armistice Day Parade and Darryl Twinch has volunteered to do this. Darryl will liaise directly with Jack regarding this.

5. Chris of St Marys' Supporters Club kindly offered to open the club on Remembrance Day for Members to return to after the Parade. Due to the current situation and low-key event, it was agreed that we would not require this and thanked Chris and The Club for their kind offer.

6. Mark had been contacted by email via RAA HQ from The War Horse Memorial regarding purchasing Purple Poppies to lay in Remembrance for those animals that played their part in the Two World Wars and conflicts since. Due to the low-key event this year, it was agreed that we would not pursue this, this year.
7. Mark reminded Members that we do hold a Branch Scrapbook where any Member is able to add to this. This can be anything that keeps our history going. Please feel free to bring along anything to add. Mark also reminded Members the importance of keeping up to date with emails, our website and our Facebook page as much information is emailed and/or posted on these platforms.
8. Mark emailed all Members the details with regards to Award Nominations that had been received by RAA HQ. Members wishing to suggest a Nomination should contact Michael Hobden with their reasoning for their nomination.
9. Mark proposed that we purchase a further batch of our Lewes Branch Lapel Pins as we have no more in stock. It was suggested that we purchase 25 and be paid out of our Branch funds. This was voted on and passed as accepted. Proposed by Mark Harding and seconded by Lee Harding. Carried. Lee Harding will order these.
10. Mark confirmed that he had booked in the diary at St Francis Social and Sports Club the 95<sup>th</sup> Sussex Yeomanry Annual Reunion Dinner for Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Further confirmations will be sent to all SY Members in due course directly from the Sussex Yeomanry Association.

**AOB:**

1. Darryl Twinch proposed that Mark Harding be nominated for an award. Members concurred and it was agreed that Darryl and Lee will liaise with Michael Hobden regarding this.

**With no other business, our October 2020 Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the RAA closed at 20:40.**

**The next RAA Lewes Branch Meeting will be held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at St Marys Supporters Club.**

**Timings: 19:30 for 20:00 start**

**Dress: Casual**

**Subs: £7.50**

**Please remember that our Meetings are restricted to a maximum of 20 due to the current situation. Please do not turn up on the day with no confirmation of attendance.**

The following Members have confirmed that they would like to attend our November 2020 Meeting:

Jerry Docherty, Peter Godding, David Harding, Lee Harding, Mark Harding, Paul Hughes, Colin Kemp, Peter Marcantonio, Robbie Parker, Fred Rossington, Jimmy Talmey, John Talmey, Ray Talmey, Darryl Twinch and Steve Winter.

There are currently 15 Members wishing to attend which leaves 5 available spaces. Would any Members wishing to attend please contact Mark to advise soonest?

Future Meeting Dates all to be held at St Marys' Supports Club unless otherwise advised:

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (AGM)

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

21<sup>st</sup> May 2021

18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

20<sup>th</sup> August 2021

17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

29<sup>th</sup> October 2021

19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**Patron:** Her Majesty The Queen

**Chairman:** Michael Hobden

**Treasurer:** Colin Kemp

**Secretary:** Mark Harding

**39 Dunstall Avenue, Burgess Hill, West Sussex. RH15 8PJ**

**Tel: 07903 702 767**

**Email: [theraalewes@gmail.com](mailto:theraalewes@gmail.com)**