



## ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION LEWES BRANCH

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### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019 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, Brian Cager, Mark Eve, Derek Glen, Mark Harding, David Harding, Lee Harding, Mick Bird, Colin Kemp, Mick Norris, Robbie Parker, John Shill, John Talmey, Darryl Twinch and Peter Wyatt.

**Apologies for Absence:** Peter Crowhurst, Des Foord, Peter Godding, Paul Hughes, Sean Kelly, Ray Metcalfe, Jack Neil, Alan South, Michael Taylor, Brian Walter and Steve Winter.

**Chairman's Report:** Michael Hobden welcomed all Members to the AGM and wished all a Happy New Year. Michael also welcomed New Members: Mark Eve, Robbie Parker, John Talmey, John Shill and Associate Member Derek Glen.

**Treasurer's Report:** Colin Kemp provided all Members present with a copy of the 2018 Accounts showing all income and expenditure which will be submitted the RAA HQ. Cash in the bank as at 31/12/2018 is £XX.XX.

Colin also advised that our Branch have to pay the subscription for the WebMaster for 2018 which is £2.50 (to be confirmed) per Active Member along with our Branch Annual Subscription Fee of £10.00. As with last year, this will be paid out of the Branch funds.

The 2018 Accounts were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Darryl Twinch and seconded by Peter Wyatt. Carried.

#### **Secretaries Report:**

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for the Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018. With no comments advised, the October 2017 Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Lee Harding and seconded by Mick Norris. Carried.
2. The Committee and Members were asked if any changes were to be made to the current Committee.

Mark advised that he had spoken to Peter Godding who has advised that he is stepping down as Vice Chairman as at 31/12/2018. Mark asked if any other Member would like to take over this role and David Harding showed interest. If any other Member not present also shows interest, please notify Mark Harding and this will then be discussed again at the February Meeting.

All other current Committee Members advised that they were happy to continue in their current role which was also agreed by the Members.

The Committee therefore reads as follows:

<b>Chairman:</b>	Michael Hobden
<b>Vice Chairman:</b>	Vacant
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Colin Kemp
<b>Secretary &amp; Welfare:</b>	Mark Harding
<b>Standard Bearer:</b>	Darryl Twinch
<b>Committee of Four:</b>	Colin Kemp, Darryl Twinch, Steve Winter and Michael Taylor

The Committee Members were voted in unanimously enblock. Carried.

3. Mark advised that the RAA Annual Returns are now due and he has completed and send them and given them to Colin Kemp to send to HQ with the accounts.
4. Mark provided copies of the Forecast of Events including the RA Assembly for all Members to read.
5. Mark thanked all those who attended the Christmas Dinner at the White Hart in November 2018.
6. Annual Dinner. The venue and date was discussed during the Christmas Dinner for our Branch Annual Dinner. It was put to the Members and unanimously agreed that this should take place on Saturday 18<sup>h</sup> May 2018 at the White Hart. Menus and costs were provided by Mark (see attached). Mark discussed ideas for an Honourable Guest and said he would discuss again during our February Meeting for final ideas.

It was also discussed if we would like to subsidize our Annual Dinner using Branch Funds. It was voted and agreed that £5.00 per person would be subsidized. The Members voted unanimously. Carried.

7. Annual Summer Event. Mark asked Members if we would like to arrange a Summer Event this year. Mark suggested the possibility that Members visit 43 Bty in some capacity. Mark said he would liaise with the BSM and revert back soonest. Members also discussed various other venues. Mark asked Members to gather ideas and we will discuss this again during our February Meeting.

Mark advised that he had been in constant contact with 43 Bty and provided them with a full and current update which had been provided by the BSM. Mark will continue to liaise with the BSM and provide updates.

8. Mark advised that he had been in contact with Ian Howard-Harwood, our Regional Representative. As always, Mark provided Ian with a comprehensive report of our Branch for 2018.

Ian advised that he will not be renewing his post of Regional Representative at the Assembly in May 2019 as he has been doing this for 25 years. Ian asked if we had any ideas who might like to volunteer for this post.

Ian did also ask if we would like to nominate our Affiliated Battery, 43 Bty, for the RAA Cup. The Royal Artillery Association Cup is awarded in recognition of action(s) or achievement(s) of particular merit by a RA Major Unit in support of the Royal Artillery Association. Members discussed this and Members agreed that we submit this nomination due to the tremendous support provided by 43 Bty since our new Affiliation with them. Mark confirms that he has sent this nomination to RAA HQ.

9. Mark reminded Members with regards to the Eastbourne & District Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club and left leaflets for Member to take. This is held at the Toby Carvery, Willingdon Drove, Eastbourne. BN23 8AS every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at 0930 onwards.

**AOB:**

1. Darryl mentioned further possible available tickets for Trooping the Colour. Please contact Jack should anyone require tickets if he is able to obtain any more.
2. Mark advised that some Members attended the Combined Services Dinner at the Green Man on 8<sup>th</sup> December and was a great success. Thanks to Jack for organising this as always.
3. Darryl advise that he had attended a debrief for the Remembrance Day Parade. Darryl advised that the band was mentioned due to the mistiming of the beat whilst marching. This was taken on board and will be passed on.
4. Darryl advised that we only hold one Wreath in stock and it was agreed that we purchase a second one. Darryl advised he would arrange this.

5. The Branch then handed over to Derek Glen, who is a Military Enthusiast, who provided a very interesting presentation regarding the RA and RHA in our local area.

**With no other business, the 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the RAA closed at 2140.**

**The next RAA Lewes Branch Meeting will be held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 at St Marys Supporters Club.**

**Timings: 1930 for 2000 start.**

**Dress: Casual.**

**Patron:** Her Majesty The Queen

**Chairman:** Michael Hobden

**Treasurer:** Colin Kemp

**Secretary:** Mark Harding

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# ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

LEWES BRANCH

## ANNUAL DINNER

18<sup>th</sup> May 2019

THE WHITE HART – LEWES



### STARTERS

1. *Hot Sussex Smoky Served with Crusty Bread*
2. *Confit chicken and mushroom terrine served with rocket garnish red onion marmalade*
3. *King Prawn cocktail served in Marie rose sauce and croutons*

### MAIN COURSES

1. *Lamb shanks served on a bed of spinach with a rosemary jus and dauphinoise potatoes*
2. *Roast sirloin of beef served with roast potatoes seasonal vegetables Yorkshire pudding bacon Lardons and baby onion jus*
3. *Pan fried sea bass served with new potatoes and winter vegetables*
4. *Mediterranean tart served with seasonal vegetables and vegan gravy (vegan)*

### DESSERTS

1. *Spiced apple and rhubarb crumble served with custard*
2. *Banoffee pie served with infused crème Anglaise*
3. *Chefs cheese board*

*Tea or Coffee*

**Cost:** £25.00 Per Person

**Dress:** *Regt Ties and Blazers/Suits (Medals may be worn). Partners & Guests Dress Equivalent.*

Name	
Starter	
Main	
Dessert	

Guest Name	
Starter	
Main	
Dessert	