



LEWES & SUSSEX BRANCH

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION



MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING 24th July 2026 – St Marys' Supporters Club Meeting Opened at 20:00

The Commemoration of The Gunners: Read by Our Vice Chairman, Jerry Docherty.

Members Present: Budge Harding, Jerry Docherty, Mark Harding, Lee Harding, John Talmey, Darryl Twinch, Tex Rees-Avery, Mark Eve, Colin Kemp, Gary Miles and Jim Talmey.

Apologies for Absence: Bob Parker, Mick Bird, John Bishop, Peter Head, Chris Kemp, Phil Kemp, Stephen Kent, Dave Scott, Brian Scott, Michael Sinclair, Alan South, Ray Talmey, John Woollard and Peter Wyatt.

Chairman's Report: Jerry Welcomes all members to the Meeting and discussed looking forward to our Annual Summer BBQ.

Treasurer's Report: Lee advised that there is currently £986.36 available in our funds. £4.25 has been paid out in bank fees.

Welfare Officer's Report: Mark provided a Welfare update to all. Should any Member wishing for details, please contact our Welfare Officer, Paul Hughes.

Secretary's Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes from our Monthly Meeting held on 26th June 2026. With no comments, the Minutes were voted and passed as correct. Proposed by Darryl Twinch and seconded by Budge Harding. Carried.
2. We will be holding our Annual BBQ on Saturday 1st August 2026 from 1300 onwards. Volunteers are required for assisting with this event. Lee & Lynda have volunteered to provide pasta bowls. Lawrence and Chris have volunteered to assist with cooking and Ray with the setup of this event. Budge has volunteered to provide a gazebo. Mark H will provide coleslaw. Please advise soonest if you are available with the set up and strip out etc, or any other duties. 32 attending to date. Tex volunteered Carly to provide potato salad for the event.

Would Members please be kind enough to donate a raffle prize for this event.
3. 43 Bty Update: Mark provided Members with a 43 Bty Update.
4. The Dieppe Raid Commemoration Sunday 9th August 2025. It has been confirmed that Darryl will be our Standard Bearer & Jim Talmey our Wreath Layer. John T, Mark H also attending. Names applied for the lunch are as follows: Darryl Twinch, John Talmey, Mark Harding, Jim Talmey, Colin & Chris Kemp.
5. Branch Event: 24th October 2026 (Lee & Jerry to lead). Quiz Night and Fish & Chips. Teams will consist of up to a maximum of 6 people (subject to numbers attending). £1.00 per team member for entry. Please ensure that you place your food order with Mark H no later than 1945 (Members arriving later may be disappointed) and collect your Quiz Sheets any pay Lee at the same time.

6. Our Annual Christmas Dinner has been booked on Saturday 28th November 2026 at Lewes Golf Club. We can confirm that Lt Col Paul Bates – RA Secretary will be attending as our Honoured Guest (his wife yet to confirm). 43 Bty Members have also been invited. The Xmas Dinner Proforma has been emailed to all Members. Would you please advise Mark H either way if you will be attending or not. If yes, please provide your menu choices ASAP.
7. Please remember to check your emails as this is the main medium of contact to all Members.
8. Branch Website. Send photos to Lee who will add these on the Gallery Area of our website. Please also contact Lee or Mark for access to the Members Area of our website. <https://www.theraalewes.co.uk/>
9. Lewes Branch RAA business cards are now available to carry and hand out. They will be available for collection at every Meeting.

AOB:

10. Ray suggested holding an event in support of the Great Tommy Sleep Out. Ray to advise.
11. Darryl advised that he attended another stand in Lewes. Many thanks to Daz.
12. It was proposed by Darryl Twinch that Ian Newman (Sec Lewes RSRA) be invited to join our Association as an Associate Member and was seconded by Lee. This was put to vote and all Members agreed. Carried. Mark will email Ian with our invitation.

With no other business, our Lewes & Sussex Branch RAA July 2026 Meeting closed at 20:50.

The next Branch Event our Annual Summer BBQ will be on 1st August 2026.

Venue: St Marys' Supporters Club.
Dress: BBQ Dress.
Timings: 1300 onwards.

The next Branch Meeting will be on 28th August 2026.

Venue: St Marys' Supporters Club.
Dress: Smart Casual.
Timings: 1915 for 1930 Start for Committee Meeting.
1930 for 2000 start for General Meeting.

Captain-General and Patron: His Majesty King Charles III

President: David Harding

Chairman: Robin Parker

Secretary: Mark Harding

Treasurer: Lee Harding

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