



ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION
LEWES BRANCH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association
26th October 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, Mick Bird, Mick Norris, Mark Harding, David Harding, Alan South, Lee Harding, Peter Crowhurst and Jack Neil.

Apologies for Absence: Des Foord, Brian Walter, Paul Hughes, Sean Kelly, Colin Kemp, Brian Cager and Russel Simpson.

Chairman's Report: Our Chairman, Michael Hobden sent sincere congratulations on our Members behalf to Peter Crowhurst on his recent marriage to Jackie. Michael also advised the Members of recently being contacted by an old comrade from previous RA days via Facebook. Once he responded he was inundated with contacts and memories from his deep and distant past. Oh the power of Facebook!

Treasurer's Report: Our Treasurer Colin Kemp advised the current amount available in the bank stands at £[REDACTED] as at 26/10/2018.

Secretaries Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Meeting held on 28th September 2018. With no comments advised, the Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Mick Bird and seconded by Peter Crowhurst. Carried.
2. Mark provided copies of the Forecast of Events from RAA HQ along with the Annual Reports for Members to view.
3. Mark advised that he had contacted RAA HQ to obtain a list of all Members returns that have not been received but had not yet received a response. Mark to follow up. Mark also asked Members to check the contact details that he holds for them.
4. Mark confirmed with Members that the Christmas Dinner is being held at the White Hart on Saturday 24th November 2018 in the Sheriffs Room.

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

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

Tel: 01444 871 885

Mob: 07903 702 767

Email: theraalewes@gmail.com

Most menus have been returned and Mark will contact those that have yet to. As at 29/10/2018 the attendance for our Christmas Dinner is 31.

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

5. Mark advised that he had emailed the BSM of 43 Bty asking for an update. However, Mark did advise that as summer block leave is now over, they are most likely to be all hands at the pumps again so we may not hear from them. Mark also advised that he has invited a Member of 43 Bty to attend our Christmas Dinner.
6. Mark reminded Members with regards to the Eastbourne & District Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club and left leaflets for Member to take.
7. Mark advised that he had contacted Fran from the Lewes News and had confirmed that our Branch details will be changed in time for the next issue in November 2018.
8. Mark advised that he had received and sent the orders with regards to Remembrance Parade and provided Members with copies. The format seems to have not changed from last year.

Mark asked if any Member would like to lay our wreath and it was agreed that Mark will do this on our Branches behalf. Darryl has confirmed that he will Parade or Standard.

Mark asked Jack to provide details with regards to the Armistice Parade and Jack advised as this is a low key event, historically this would not be a parade but more a gathering with people attending in normal working gear. Darryl has confirmed that he will Parade or Standard.

Jack also confirmed that the Lewes Bonfire Society have provided four Sentinels to stand guard at the Memorial in WW1 uniform.

9. Mark provided details with regards to the Defence Discount Service Card along with instructions as to how Members are able to request their Service Records.

AOB:

1. Jack provided details of the Combined Service Dinner. Please see the attached proforma with menu choices. Members wishing to attend please complete your menu choices and return all to Jack using the contact details on the proforma.
2. Mick Taylor advised details of The Lewes, Glynde and Beddingham Brass Band who are presenting a concert of Remembrance, Reflexion and Celebration at Lewes Town Hall on Saturday 10th November 2018 at 16:00. Admission is free and there will be a retiring collection in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

To reserve your tickets, please contact Jane using secretary@lgbbass.co.uk or call 07980 407 831.

With no other business, the October 2018 Lewes Branch Meeting of the RAA closed at 20:40.

The next Meeting will be at during our Christmas Dinner of Saturday 24th November 2018 at The White Hart.

Timings: 18:30 for 19:00 to be seated.

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

**GREEN MAN – RINGMER CHRISTMAS MENU 2018
COMBINED SERVICES CHRISTMAS DINNER
SATURDAY 8th DECEMBER 2018 – 19:00 for 19:30**

STARTERS

Stilton & Broccoli Soup with Crusty Bread (GF Available)

Prawn Medley Cocktail (GF Available)

Duck & Orange Pate Served with Crusty Bread (GF Available)

Tempura Battered Vegetables Served with Light Soy Dip & Salad (Vegan)

MAIN COURSE

Roast Turkey with All the Trimmings Served with Roast Potatoes & Vegetables (GF Available)

Brie, Hazelnut & Cranberry Wellington Served with Roast Potatoes & Vegetables (V)

Cod Fillet in a Provençale Sauce with Vegetables and New Potatoes (GF)

Mediterranean Vegetable Tart on a Bed of Salad with New Potatoes (Vegan)

Lamb Braised in White Wine, Mint & Cranberry Served with New Potatoes and Vegetables (GF)

DESSERTS

Christmas Pudding Served with Brandy Sauce or Cream Roast Potatoes & Vegetables (GF Available)

White Chocolate, Mandarin & Grand Mariner Gateaux

Raspberry, Coconut & Malibu Cheese Cake

Cheese & Biscuits

Fruit Salad (GF) (Vegan)

Followed by Tea or Coffee & Mince Pie

3 Course £24.50 2 Course £18.95

Please reply by 30th November 2018 to:
Jack Neil. 19 Yeomans, Ringmer. BN8 5EL.
Tel: 01273 813895

Cheques Payable to: Combined Services Lewes
Dress: Lounge Suit or Jacket & Trousers (Medal may be worn)

Name:

Starter:

Main Course:

Dessert:

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Chairman: Michael Hobden

Treasurer: Colin Kemp

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