



ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION
LEWES BRANCH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association
30th March 2018 at St Mary's Supporters Club
Meeting Opened at 20:00

Commemoration of The Gunners: Read by our Vice Chairman Peter Godding.

Members Present: Peter Godding, Mick Taylor, Pater Wyatt, Darryl Twinch, Brain Cager, Mick Norris, Mark Harding, David Harding, Alan South, Sean Kelly, Peter Crowhurst and Russel Simpson.

Apologies for Absence: Michael Hobden, Des Foord, Steve Winter, Colin Kemp, Mick Bird, Paul Hughes, Lee Harding and Jack Neil.

Treasurer's Report: Details will be provided at our April 2018 Meeting.

Secretaries Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Annual General Meeting held on 26th January 2018. With no comments advised, the AGM Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Darryl Twinch and seconded by Mick Taylor. Carried.
2. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Meeting held on 23rd February 2018. With no comments advised, the AGM Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by David Harding and seconded by Peter Crowhurst. Carried.
3. Mark provided copies of the Forecast of Events including the RA Assembly for all Members to read.
4. Mark advised that he had passed on a report to our Area Representative Col Ian Howard-Harwood (Retd) with regards to our Branch activity during 2017 to enable him to pass this on to RAA HQ. Ian thanked all Members for having a great year.
5. Mark discussed the 2018 Annual Dinner to be held at the White Hart on Saturday 26th May 2018. Timings are arrive at 18:30 ready for seating at 19:00. Would all Members that have not done so far, please provide confirmation of your attendance along with yours and any guest's menu choices. Please also provide the names of your guests for the seating plan.

Mark also confirmed that Michael Hobden had received confirmation the both the BC, Maj Tim Haskell RA and the new BSM, WO2 (BSM) Lou Davies-Shilling will be attending our Annual Dinner as our Honourary Guests.

Mick Taylor has kindly advised that he will arrange for the Button Holes to be provided for our Annual Dinner.

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen
Chairman: Michael Hobden
Treasurer: Colin Kemp
Secretary: Mark Harding

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Would all Members please check the attached menu choices to ensure they are correct?

AOB:

1. Members discussed the Raffle funds from last year and it was decided that these should remain in our Branch funds.
2. Mark advised that the 2018 Grand Draw raffle tickets are now available from him. Mark will bring them along to all Meetings.
3. A Summer Event was again discussed. Members initially discussed the possibility of a trip to visit 43 Bty RA and Mark advised that he would follow up on this. It was mentioned that as they are currently extremely busy and changing over BSM's, this may not be an option for this year. Mark will contact them to discuss. In the meantime, Members are requested to share additional ideas.
4. Darryl advised that he will be parading our Branch Standard at the 67th Annual Chattri Memorial Service on Sunday 10th June 2018 at 14:30. The Chattri is the Memorial built to Honour the Indian dead of the First World War. All Members are encouraged to attend also.

The Chattri stands on the Downs near Patcham at the place where Hindu and Sikh soldiers who died in Brighton war hospitals during 1914-1915 were cremated. It was unveiled by the Prince of Wales on 21st February 1921.

The Chattri is located On the Downs near Patcham, Brighton (Standean Lane, Patcham, Brighton. BN1 8ZB).

5. Mark advised all Members that are also Members of the Sussex Yeomanry Association of the sad passing of Mick (Ned) Kelly. 200 (Sussex Yeomanry) Bty/100 (Yeomanry) Regt RA.
6. Mark advised Members that one of our Members, Ray Metcalfe, has advised that he will be no longer able to attend Meetings due to hanging up his gloves due to speak as he is approaching his 80th and will be giving up driving next year so his mobility will be an issue. I have since discussed this with Ray and advised that he will remain as a non-active Member and he is more than welcome to attend any future Meetings or Events.

With no other business, the March 2018 Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the RAA closed at 20:55.

The next RAA Lewes Branch Meeting will be held on Friday 27th April 2018 at St Marys Supporters Club.

Timings: 19:30 for 20:00 start.

Dress: Casual.