



## ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION LEWES BRANCH

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### Minutes of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at St Mary's Supporters Club Meeting Opened at 20:00

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

**Members Present:** Mick Bird, Pete Crowhurst, Mark Eve, Derek Glen, Peter Godding, David Harding, Lee Harding, Mark Harding, Paul Hughes, Colin Kemp, Alan Mayers, Ray Metcalfe, Robbie Parker, John Talmey, Darryl Twinch, Steve Winter and Peter Wyatt.

**Apologies for Absence:** David Collett, Des Foord, Michael Hobden, Sean Kelly, Jack Neil, Doug Raynsford, Alan South and Michael Taylor.

**Chairman's Report:** David Harding welcomed all Members to the Meeting. David also welcomed our new Member, Alan Mayers.

**Treasurer's Report:** Colin Kemp advised that the Cash in the bank as at today is £509.98 but we have a further £54.00 to go out, leaving a total available of £455.98.

#### Secretaries Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019. With no comments advised, the April 2019 Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by Paul Hughes and seconded by Darryl Twinch. Carried.
2. Mark advised that a Serving Member of 43 Bty were due to attend our Meeting but he had not heard any update. Mark will email them for a Bty update.
3. Mark provided copies of the Forecast of Events including the RA Assembly along with the draft accounts for all Members to read.
4. Annual Dinner. The Annual Dinner is being held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at the White Hart. Arrive 18:30 to be seated at 19:00. The cost for the Christmas Dinner is £25.00 per person. Please note that Members and Guests are responsible for the cost of their own refreshments.

Would all Members please advise Mark if they are attending or not and if so, if they are bringing a guest soonest to allow for a final number count to see if we can then invite other guests as we have a maximum of 41 place settings available..

5. 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.
6. Mark also advised that David Collett is an additional New Member of our Branch. Mark discussed waiving the joining fee to our Branch for the help and assistance David has provided in the past which was agreed enblock.
7. Mark advised that he has been in contact with Megan Maltby who is the Public Engagement Coordinator (South East) for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to possibly provide us with a talk on what they do. Mark confirmed that he has booked Megan in to provide a presentation to our Branch during our February 2020 Meeting.

Would any Member with access to a presentation screen please let Mark know soonest as this will be needed for this presentation? Alan Mayers advised he will also look into this.

8. Mark gave a huge thank you to all Members who attended and/or participated in the following events over the past month or so:

18 May: Our Annual Dinner  
1 Jun: Trooping the Colour  
6 Jun: 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day Dinner – Haywards Heath  
9 Jun: 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Chattri Memorial Service  
28 Jun: Lewes Old Grammar School Memorial

9. Mark confirmed that he has contacted RAA HQ with regards to our new website which they think is great. They mentioned this and provided a picture and a link in their Jun 2019 Newsletter.

Mark handed over to Lee who explained the workings of this and how to access the Members Area. For any further info, please email Lee or Mark.

10. Mark advised that Darryl has confirmed that we have 2 RAA Wreaths back in stock for future events.
11. Mark also discussed a Charity called Waterloo Uncovered and explained what they do along with Derek Glen providing info. Mark asked Members if we would like them to come along to provide us with a presentation which Members agreed. Mark will contact them to arrange.

**AOB:**

1. Darryl advised the Annual Dieppe Raid Memorial is due to be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August in Newhaven at 14:30 for 15:00 start. Darryl will be Parading our Standard. Darryl also advised that we should contact Newhaven Council direct to start a direct relationship with them rather than receiving this info via other Associations. Mark advised he will do this.
2. Paul Hughes mentioned a BSM from the ACF who he spoke to at the Chattri and advised he will contact him which he has done and has passed the info onto Mark to follow up.

**With no other business, the June 2019 Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the RAA closed at 21:00.**

The next RAA Lewes Branch Meeting will be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at St Marys' Supporters Club.

Timings: 19:30 meet for 20:00 start.  
Dress: Casual.

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