

**MINUTES OF THE RGJ ASSOCIATION (NORTH EAST BRANCH)  
HELD AT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - SUNDERLAND  
ON FRIDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2012**

**In Attendance**

J Cheetham (JC), R Holman ,N Loftus ,C Adams, J Arnott ,G Barrs, A Begley, N Blackeman, S Bonallie ,J Charles  
R Coulson ,G Cook ,M Donnison ,P Fenwick ,G Gibson ,J Kelly ,P Kelly ,E Loftus, G Mallaby, F McPartland,  
G Netzler, D Powell, Richardson ,R Ross, J Snell ,D Sproat, T Suggitt ,J Toolin ,K Wilson.

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Brigadier N Prideaux, J Ramsbotham, P Axtell, D Bond, T Conlin, A Kerwick,  
I Longworth, W Machin, B Moore.

JC welcomed and thanked members for their attendance.

Minute's Silence for Fallen Personnel and Comrades.

New members introduced themselves.

**1 Matters Arising**

**1.1 Membership**

Members were reminded that the annual subscription of £5 was now due. The most convenient method of paying is by standing order Account Number 73787818 - Sort Code 20-25-29

**1.2 Editor's Report**

M Donnison informed members that the North East Report will appear in the 2012 Swift and Bold. If members know of any event for future ezines please inform the editor, articles and photos are most welcome.

**1.3 Col John Poole-Warren**

The Colonel's replacement will be announced later in the year.

**1.4 Royal Green Jacket Medal**

The medal at a cost of £45 is available from

Peter French

Medal Management

37 Twin Oak Close

BROADSTONE

BH18 8JE

01202 694873

### 1.5 Diamond Jubilee Medal

JC informed members that at this moment in time Veterans will not be included in the presentation of the medal. If there is any change members will be informed.

### 1.6 Remembrance Weekend 2011

JC thanked members for their generosity. Raffles prizes for 2012 had already been gratefully received. G Gibson informed members he could secure an ABBAesk group who could provide all the entertainment including disco at a cost of £1100. Members agreed that no more than £500 should be spent on entertainment for the night. More details to follow.

### 1.7 Laying of Wreaths

G Barrs asked how people were chosen to lay wreaths on Remembrance Sunday. JC informed members that names are put forward for consideration and thus K Wilson has been chosen as he has attended 25 parades in Sunderland.

### 1.8 Welfare Officer

G Barrs raised concerns he had about the role, including loaning members' money. JC informed members that at no time had the branch loaned money and the first point of contact is the Royal British Legion. The branch does not have a Welfare Officer.

## 2 RGJRA Meeting November 2011 Winchester

### 2.1 Memorial Peninsular Barracks - Winchester

M Donnison outlined the proposal for the memorial. G Gibson, who attended the meeting, gave an account of the presentation given by S Barrett. JC asked the branch for a show of hands if they supported the proposal. No Show, motion carried.

## 3 Events

### 3.1 Branch Functions

#### **November**

10th Pullman Lodge Hotel

11th Remembrance Parade

Sunday Lunch - Details to follow

### 3.2 Events in North East

#### **June**

30th Armed Forces Day, Sunderland Tattoo - Standard Bearers required.

Details to follow from City of Sunderland Council.

### 3.3 Regional Events

#### **February**

25th Rifles Race Day - Chepstow

#### **May**

20 HM Queen's Diamond Jubilee Parade - London

#### **June**

3rd HM Queen's Jubilee Thames River Pageant

12th Diamond Jubilee Service - St Paul's

**July**

14th Veterans Day - Winchester

20th 30th Anniversary Regents Park Bombing

23rd Opening ceremony Olympic Games

**October**

18th Rifle Musical Extravaganza - Royal Albert Hall

**November**

8th Field of Remembrance - Westminster Abbey

RGJ Normandy Memorial - Date to be confirmed

**3.4 Overseas Events****July**

18th-23rd Rifles Battlefield Tour - Salamanca, Spain

**4 Treasurer's Report**

Cash £112.34 Bank £2353.43 Total £2465.77

Profit from November Function £1287.01

**5 AOB**

N Loftus presented JC and Mrs Cheetham an envelope containing a thank you to them both for all their hard work behind the scenes. JC thanked members and said that we were a team and it was team effort that made the Branch as strong as it is. Since the meeting JC has sent an email to all members thanking them.

**NEXT MEETING**

**AGM 11 May**