



THE ROYAL GREEN JACKETS ASSOCIATION NORTH EAST  
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - SUNDERLAND  
BRANCH MEETING  
1930hrs 28th April 2017

**Present:**

D Nichol, J Snell, A Begley, G Barrs, K Richardson, S Gardiner, J Barrett, G Yates, G Hutchinson, R Holman, D Powell, P Collins, T Robinson, J Toolin, I Longworth, R Coulson, T Walker, B Moore, S Connal, M Donnison, B Kemp, L Wayman, G Oates, M Munt, P Fenwick, N Blakeman.

**Apologies:**

Brig Prideaux, Col Ramsbotham, J Cheetham, R Jukes, L Jukes, T Conlon, D Hunter, R Trower, D Muir, D Terrell, D Bond, S Skelly, G Hillary, M Prendergast, G Chalker, C Adams, P Kelly, D Jones, M Blair, J Cornell, P Preston, T Suggitt, E Loftus.

**New Member:** Mark Munt.

DN welcomed and thanked Members for their attendance.

Minutes silence for fallen comrades.

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of previous meeting were read and passed; matters arising would be covered in the meeting agenda.

**2. Matters Arising:**

- a. DN spoke with regards a Regimental Toast at meetings and functions. This was agreed by the members present.
- b. DN spoke on Membership & Fees. We have 119 members but only 76 members were paid up. He advised that he would go through the spread sheet for members to see who's fees were outstanding and he would write to the members concerned. He also advised that he would write to members who had no access to social media or email so that those members were fully aware of what was happening within the branch.
- c. DN Spoke on an requirement for a Editor for E Zine /Swift & Bold Publications. Malcolm Donnison had done it in the past but was not in a position to do this again. As there was no volunteers at the meeting he advised that he would put this across social media, in the mean time he would maintain this as present. He did advise that we did submit an article to the E Zine but not in the Swift & Bold. He asked members

could draft the article for submittance.

d. DN spoke on the Rifleman's Gathering in London. He pointed out that some of the Rifles were former Royal Green Jackets and this gathering in London is the 10th Anniversary of the formation of the Rifles. DN asked what the members thoughts were on allowing former Rifles being allowed and encouraged to join the association. The members were in agreement that they be allowed to join the branch and possibly allowance be made for some of the Rifles to attend some of our functions and remembrance weekend.

e. DN spoke on Special Occasion Cards. He discussed this with the members and asked if the members were in agreement we would develop a card which would be used by the branch to be sent out to those members affected. This was agreed by the members.

### 3. Correspondence & E Mails:

a. DN spoke on the Freedom of Winchester (Veterans & Rifles) July 2017. So far we have only 4 names from the Branch who have gave their names who wish to take part. He asked that if there were any more volunteers if they could submit their names to him asap.

b. DN spoke on the Regimental Reunion Winchester. This would be continued and would be for some time to come.

c. DN spoke on an email from Sunderland Armed Forces Net Work that there is accommodation available for the Remembrance Parade. He also advised of the VE Parade and the Falklands Parade. He advised that this email would be sent out to the members for their information.

d. DN spoke on the VC Parade for Ned Cooper on the 16/08/17. This will take place in Stockton.

e. DN spoke on Greenstock.

f. DN spoke on the Arbortorium in September 2017. G Barrs also spoke on this and advised that as a committee we would send a wreath with a recognized person to lay a wreath on behalf of the branch.

**Item:** discussed at branch meeting on 14th July 2017 – All members in attendance unanimously voted in agreement for this to happen.

g. DN spoke on volunteers to lay wreaths at Sunderland Remembrance Parade. K Wilson and M Donnison volunteered to lay the wreaths. G Barrs advised that Jake would not be able to take the parade this year and asked for a volunteer to take the parade. Pete Collins volunteered to take the parade this year.

**Item:** Discussed at branch meeting on 14th July 2017 and agreed that a further correspondence would be submitted to members for volunteers to undertake the laying of wreaths. If no response returned by members then the branch would revert back to the two original members listed – All members in attendance unanimously voted in agreement for this to happen.

**Item:** It has now been confirmed that our previous Chairman Jake Cheetham will be present in November for the Remembrance Weekend and will be taking the parade for the branch this year.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

Bank £4253.66                  Cash £300.00

Subs £5.00

Total £4618.66

Jackie spoke on members subs and number of members. There are 119 members, 7 joining since January but there are still only 76 paid up members.

Jackie also advised that someone had set up direct debit payments from the branch account which had paid 3 installments totaling £22.50. She had managed to rectify this and the money had been refunded. K Wilson asked what it was and was advised it was to which mag.

K Wilson asked on the web site there was only 99 members. Jackie advised that she can only use the spread sheet list she had been given by the previous treasurer. Dave advised that we were looking into this and would update the branch at a later date.

Dave and John spoke on the subs and the date that subs are paid. We need to unify the date that the subs are paid especially the cash payments for the subs as these are the hardest to regulate. It was felt that the AGM would be the better date. Members were reminded that only paid up members have the right to vote.

## **5. Branch Events**

### **Venues and Entertainment**

a. Confirmation and Events Agenda Remembrance Weekend. Dave spoke and confirmed that the Roker Hotel would be the venue for both the Saturday evening and the Sunday Lunch event. He advised on how the evening had been planned out. He advised that he and the entertainment committee had been in a meeting with the management of the Hotel. He also advised that they had spoken on the prices and how a 2 tier price worked. This is what had been in operation last year. This will not happen this year. The same prices will be paid throughout the night. The Sunday lunch was not up to standard last year. This will be rectified this year. Dave also advised that members would get a discount on their rooms if they advised the hotel that they were attending the Branch Function. How much discount is not yet known? G Barrs advised members that the money taking in ticket sales does not cover the cost of the function. Raffle and the auction money are used to offset the cost of the evening. Jackie gave a breakdown of the costs involved. Dave advised that we would like to increase the ticket price to £15.

b. G Barrs spoke on a Children's Xmas Party 10/12/17 – Members only. Dave also spoke on this event. A general discussion took place on this. Dave advised that the venue would be the Legion.

c. G Barrs spoke on a Branch Xmas Party 16/12/17. This would also take place in the Legion.

d. G Barrs spoke on a New Years Black Tie Event.

e. G Barrs spoke on Children's Easter Function.

f. Dave advised the members that the committee was in the process of organizing various functions and the organizing was still ongoing. More details to follow.

## **6. Proposals**

Proposed by L Wayman  
Seconded by M Donnison

That the ticket prices for the Remembrance function be raised to £15.

Carried.

## 7. AOB

L Wayman spoke on Buglers and the costs that would be incurred for the use of a bugler.

M Donnison asked about the photographer for the Remembrance function and if he should speak to his contact for the photography requirements. Dave agreed for him to do this.

G Barrs advised that there would only be one contact for the Remembrance Tickets and that would be J Barrett. Dave gave a fuller briefing on this.

G Hutchinson asked if the standard could be provided for the Scarborough Parade which takes place a week before the Remembrance Parade. S Connal advised that he would be able to take the standard to Scarborough.

G Barrs advised that members would be required to supply names for any tickets they purchased for the Remembrance Function.

K Wilson asked if Col Ramsbotham would be taking part in our parade and was advised due to his other commitments he would not be able to attend.

Raffle on the night raised £70

Secret Raffle Winning No 905 – T Robinson

### DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

14th July 2017

22nd September 2017

Meeting closed at 2035hrs