



The Royal Green Jackets

Regimental Association

Winchester & District Branch

www.greenjackets-net.org.uk/winchester/branch/htm

Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held on Tue 3rd Apr 2018

In Attendance

President: Brig (Retd) Nicholas Prideaux
Chairman: Maj (Retd) Roy Stanger
Treasurer: Lt Col (Retd) Brian Scott
Secretary: John Fritz-Domeney

The meeting opened at 19.30hrs with 19 members present.

Item 1: Apologies

Apologies were received from the following: Messrs George Elliott, Roger Downton, Chris Mitchell, Tony Cottrell, Lyndon Harper, Vic Osmand and John Pearson.

Item 2: Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held at 1930 hours on Tue 6th Feb 2018 were read and approved.

Item 3: Matters Arising

The Chairman stated that there were no specific items under this heading requiring further comment as many would be further clarified under the meeting agenda.

Item 4: Chairman's Points

1. The Chairman wished to make the point that he was a little disappointed to note that the previous months Social Meeting held on the 6th March was very poorly attended by the membership (in fact there was no other member present). Despite completely understanding the reasons why attendance at this type of meeting is generally so poor (travel, drink driving putting people off etc), he nevertheless once again wished to encourage all members - particularly those who live in the Winchester catchment area and therefore more able to support the branch social meetings to please consider doing so again. He further pointed out that the alternative would be to sadly remove it from the events calendar – a move he would be reluctant to do for a number of previously well discussed and documented reasons.

Two Appointment/ Title name changes to note.

- a. Within the branch the Battlefield Tour Member will now be known as the **Activities Member**.
- b. Within the RGJA (Main) the annual reunion RGJA Gathering will now be known as the **RGJA Veterans Day Reunion**.

A number of 'Thank You's to members of the branch and others within the RGJA

- a. He thanked all members of the branch plus their family and friends who had attended and supported Brian Craven's funeral on the 21st February. The ranks of green blazers standing to attention as the bugler played was a fitting tribute to Brian and his service with the Regiment and Association.
- b. A special BIG branch 'thank you' to our Activities Member Tiny Adams for taking his appointment by the scruff of the neck and organising so many interesting and varied things for us to do. In particular and most recently for organising and facilitating the Memorial Service at Magdalen (Morn) Hill Cemetery on the 40th anniversary of the death in NI of Lt Col Ian Cordon- Lloyd. Although originally only organised for Col Ian's family the power of the internet quickly took over and a number of Ian's fellow Riflemen 'appeared' from nowhere (one even from the USA) to mark the occasion. However rather than distract from what was only intended to be a quiet family affair it once again pleasingly reminded those members of the family who attended of the great respect and affection held for Ian by his fellow Riflemen.
- c. To May and Pat (once again wishing to be known as Alan) Low for their continuing hard and dedicated work on the Light Division Memorial Garden. The Regiment appreciates everything you do on its behalf. Pat (Alan) if by some miracle you read this **DO** let May know!
- d. To Lt Col (Retd) John Poole Warren who this summer will be retiring after 50 years of service with both the RGJ and latterly as Reg Sec of the RGJ and The Rifles. In addition to which he was also for many years the secretary of what was then the RGJRA in which capacity he fully supported and nurtured all branches throughout the UK and abroad. A great servant of the regiment and friend to all Riflemen. He will be sorely missed.
- e. To Peter Andrews and John FD for auditing the branch accounts.
- f. To all branch members for making the branch so effective.

Item 5: Treasurers Report

The Treasurer Brian Scott gave a detailed report with regard to the branch finances. The Treasurer then presented a Statement of Accounts dated 1st April 2018. A copy attached.

Brian asked that subscriptions for 2018 be paid as soon as possible. £15 for Full Membership and £10 for Associate Membership. Honorary members do not pay a subscription.

The Chairman thanked Brian on behalf of the branch for his careful husbandry of what is a very healthy account.

Item 6: Forecast of Events

The Chairman stated that he has now liaised with the SWGC and can confirm the following additional dates/venues which you can now add to your Forecast of Events.

1. Sunday 11th Nov 2018. Lunch at the SWGC. Details to follow.
2. Saturday 8th Dec 2018. Branch Christmas Dinner at the SWGC (unless any member can offer up a viable alternative). Details to follow.

Item 7: Branch Activities

The Branch Activities Member Tiny Adams spoke on the following activities planned for 2018.

1. Exxon Refinery Tour 10th May 2018. Unfortunately due to the low take-up for this visit which was probably compromised in favour of the visit a few days later to the RHC this has now been cancelled. However it will be reintroduced later in the year if enough interest is shown.
2. Visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea (Governors Parade) 13th May 2018. This visit is now on and confirmed. A separate covering letter is attached to these minutes giving all visit detail together with a list of those members and their wives/partners who have indicated a wish to go. Please note on the covering letter there is a requirement to inform the organiser (John FD) **by return** the preferred method of transport to the RHC (mini bus or private car).
3. Winchester Cathedral Tour. Brian Scott has now made the initial approach and received a favourable answer in return. It will consist of a 90 minute guided tour including Military Memorials inside and outside the cathedral. A date has yet to be decided but in all probability will be in either the late summer or early autumn once all renovation work is complete. The cathedral authorities normally charge £6.50ph for a tour. However they are prepared to waive that due to our status and accept a *smallish* donation instead.

Item 8: Welfare

The President gave the meeting an update on the condition of George Elliott (one of our longest serving members). Please add George to your thoughts and prayers.

Item 9: AOB

There were none.

Item 10: Next Meeting

The next Formal Meeting of the branch will be held at 19.30hrs on Tue 5th June 2018.

There being no further business for the good of the branch the meeting closed at 20.20hrs.

Chairman: Dated.....

Secretary: Dated.....