



Royal Military Police Association Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held on Wednesday 6th July 2022

Members Present: Andy Nelson Plews (ANP); Peter Watson (PW); Jim Savage (JS); Bernie Robinson (BR);

Apologies: Jason McCoubrey (JM); David Kennedy (DK);

Not Present: Alison Sayell (AS); Shane Harle (SH); Rachel Love (RL); Dan Joyce (DJ); James Nylan (JN); Paul DeLay (PD); Paul Clark (PC2); Paul Calderwood (PC3); Jon Wild (JW); Bob Hare (BH); Phil Cohen (PC)

Agenda for July 2022 Meeting

1. Remembrance
2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting
4. Matters Arising
5. Communications
6. Reports
 - 6.1. CESA
 - 6.2. Standard Bearer
7. Social Events
8. Any Other Business
9. Close of Meeting & Date of Next Meeting

1. Meeting opened at 20.01hrs. AP gave an introduction and gave the act of remembrance and welcomed the members present.
2. Members Present/Apologies Received – Apologies received JM, DK,
3. Minutes of the previous meeting – BR proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting were correct. JS seconded.
4. Matters arising – None
5. Communications – All published online and attached in Annex 1.
 - 5.1 Please note the communication regarding next years' National Reunion & AGM. Could members please let the Secretary know whether they intend to attend the event please.
6. Reports
 - 6.1 CESA – No report – AS not in attendance
 - 6.2 Standard Bearer – ANP carried the standard at The Hull War Memorial on Sunday 5th June.
7. Social Events – A general discussion was held regarding the holding of events this year and the general agreement was as follows:

- 7.1 General Discussion on Events. It was agreed that we should increase the social side of the Branch, with increased social events with at least one event per quarter.
 - 7.2 PW reminded Members that he was organising a veterans music festival called Break-Fest 2022, which will take place on Saturday 16th July 2022 at The Manor Farm Camp Site, Thearne Lane, Beverley (opposite Colletta & Tyson Garden Centre). Tickets are available for sale on the EventBrite website at this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/break-fest-tickets-252938805777>
 - 7.3 Old Town Beer Crawl, Hull – It was agreed that Members will meet up for drinks in the Old Town on Saturday 10th September at 13.00hrs. We will meet up at The George Public House, Land of Green Ginger.
 - 7.4 Annual Dinner – Members present agreed that for this year, we would not commit to an Annual Dinner.
 - 7.5 Christmas Function – In the spirit of moving events around and away from Hull, it was agreed that this year's Christmas Function will be held in Beverley (location to be confirmed) on Saturday 26th November 2022.
 - 7.6 Second half of the year (Jan to May) to be discussed later in the year.
8. Any Other Business –
- 8.1 Gauntlets – During our recent event in London, ANP & PW had a discussion regarding the state of the Standard Bearers Gauntlets. These are very very old and are in need of replacement. PW will get a quote from Newton & Newton Flag and report back at the next meeting.
 - 8.2 Raffle – PW stated that there and not been a raffle at the meeting for some time. This has been due to low numbers, lack of meetings etc, but we should recommence raffles from next month. They are the only source of income for the Branch over and above the yearly subs.
 - 8.3 West Yorkshire Branch RMPA Annual Dinner -Saturday 23rd July, still tickets available. On Saturday the 23rd July 2022 at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm. West Yorkshire Branch are pleased to be holding our Annual Dinner once again at The Guide Post Hotel, Common Road, Low Moor, Bradford, BD12 0ST. Dress is Lounge Suits/Blazers for the gentlemen and ladies as appropriate. The cost of the meal will be £25 (inc. gratuities) pre ordering is required and those wishing to attend should complete the menu below and details overleaf. Please note, that one return is required for each person attending. Members and Guests wishing to stay overnight should book direct with the hotel on Telephone Number 01274 607866 Quoting RMPA Dinner Night. Accommodation Rates inc. Breakfast Double/Twin £68 Single £58.
 - 8.4 BR reminded member that we had agreed to move the location of the Branch Meetings, is this still happening? ANP asked if we put a survey on Facebook asking for different locations? JS asked whether it would be good to use The Norland, which is the location of the AFVBC? PW stated that we would keep this in abeyance until a greater number of members attend meetings.
 - 8.5 Increasing members attendance. What else can we do? Facebook countdown for the meeting? Yes, we will trial this. Posters? Yes, but where? Teams meeting as well? Yes. PW to look into this. (Post meeting note, we are purchasing a suitable webcam and Office 365 subscription to enable meetings to be broadcast on the internet. This will be done using the Microsoft Teams platform, which members can download from here:
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/microsoft-teams/teams-for-home>)

9. The time being 20.39hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by ANP. The next Branch Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd March 2022 at 20.00hrs at the Hop Pole Hotel, Kingston Rd, Willerby, Hull, HU10 6LN. Members as usual, can meet up from 18.00hrs for food and drink.

Agenda for August's Meeting

1. Remembrance
2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting
4. Matters Arising
5. Communications
6. Reports
 - 6.1. CESA
 - 6.2. Standard Bearer
 - 6.3. Corps Journal Correspondent
7. Social Events
8. Any Other Business
9. Close of Meeting & Date of Next Meeting

Annex 1.
Communications Received – June 2022

1. An email was received from Stewart Leach regarding the National Reunion for 2023 as follows:

It is being prosed that the RMPA AGM and Reunion event for 2023 be held over the week end of 28th – 30th April 2023.

Depot Branch have an initial reservation on a venue in Portsmouth – the usual date sin May are not available.

We have been informed that the Army – Navy Rigby Match is due to take place that same weekend.

Questions for members are

- *Do you intend to attend the RMPA AGM & Reunion in 2023* *Yes / No*

- *Will you still attend the above event even though the Army – v Navy Rugby match is due to take place at Twickenham that same weekend?* *Yes/ No*

We need obviously to have some form of early idea of numbers to enable the bookings to be confirmed.

Please ask branch members and come back to me asap.

2. An email was received from Stewart Leach regarding notices of deaths:

Over the past 24 hrs I have been made aware of the following two deaths:-

Former Corporal Charles "Jock" Husband (22458060) passed away on 10th June 2022 aged 89, who served from 1951 until 1957 with 6th Arm'd Div Pro Coy RMP.

Jock then went on to have a successful career in the Southampton then Hampshire Police Constabularies.

His final parade will be on 8th July 2022 at Southampton Crematorium. Depot Branch will be on parade as Jock was a staunch supporter of that branch.



Jock Husband

The second note has come in rather belatedly from France.

I have news that former Corporal Cameron Higgins (24006071) passed away in November 2019 at home in Southwest France following a short illness. He is survived by his widow Heather.

Cameron served from 1964 to 1967 initially in BAOR at Bielefeld then with 16 Para Pro Coy at Aldershot.

Nothing more is known of him. (Interestingly I now know that Ron Campbell – Smith served with Cameron in Bielefeld in 65)

3. An email was received from Stewart Leach regarding the 2022 Poppy Pins:

A plea for a volunteer



You will be aware that over the past few years Sav Kyriakou has been arranging the supply, purchase and distribution of RMP crested enamel poppy pins (as per the 2021 version above).

These have raised several thousand pounds for the RMP Central Benevolent Fund and the RBL.

Although the proceeds do not support the RMPA we have always collaborated and supported the effort, Sav has now successfully obtained a new job role, which means he will be domiciled in the USA for the next 5 years.

The result is that it will be impossible for Sav to carry on organising the pins.

We are therefore seeking someone to take over the role.

Sav has already organised with RHQ RMP (Col Jeremy Green) that the initial outlay for the production and delivery of the pins will be covered by RHQ, so there is no need for personal deep pockets, however we really need someone to take over the organising role; otherwise these bespoke poppy pins will cease, as will the income to the CBF generated by this annual appeal.

Essentially it is the partnership advertising and then receiving and processing of orders that needs to be taken on by a willing volunteer.

Any volunteer will get a full brief and all the relevant contacts.

Please contact Phil Ellis of the SIB Branch RMPA for full details on secretary@rmpasib.co.uk

4. An email was recved from Stewart Leach regarding the Corps Motto:

Information update for promulgation and retention perhaps!

Our Motto:

"Exemplo Ducemus" ~ "By Example Shall We Lead"

On the 20th November 1957, members of the newly formed Corps Committee held what was to be their second meeting.

Subsequently, via the RMP Journal, the Committee, very democratically, asked subscribers to submit a Corps motto of not more than five words, for which the princely prize of £3 guineas (£72.45 at 2018 values) was to be awarded, with entries to be submitted no later than 1st August 1958.

The winning submission was made by Major R W Payne RMP, then a Deputy-Assistant-Provost Marshal at Headquarters London District.

On the 9th October 1959, The Provost Marshal (Army), Brigadier P H Richardson DSO, OBE, announced in that year's fourth quarter's RMP Journal, that Her Majesty The Queen had been graciously pleased to approve the Corps of Royal Military Police being permitted to adopt the motto of "Exemplo Ducemus"; the literal translation of which is: "By example shall we lead".

The new motto was promulgated formally in Army Order 73 of 1959.

At the time of the announcement Brigadier Richardson posited that the motto would serve as an appropriate reminder of the aim and spirit of the Royal Military Police and would give the Corps an ideal to live up to.

5. An email was received from Stewart Leach regarding the RMP Royal Cypher:

Here is another snippet of information – funnily enough I was asked a question about the cypher at the reunion.

The Royal Military Police Cypher

The RMP 'Cypher' would have been designed by the Corps 'Regimental' Committee (probably with advice from the College of Arms and/or the Army Dress Committee), but at the time the task appears to have been given to the then SO3 PM1 in Headquarters Provost Marshal (Army); a junior Staff Officer.

At an extraordinary meeting held on Saturday, 11th November 1961, in the War Office (taking advantage of Armistice Day and before the Provost Marshal embarked on a protracted tour of RMP Units based in the Far East) the Corps Committee discussed just two agenda items namely: the final design of a new Corps silver centre-piece and a proposed 'Officer's Tie.'

The cypher - then called a "monogram" - was adopted unanimously at that meeting and placed (and then repeated) on a blue silk tie to be designated as 'The Officers' Dinner Club Tie'. An initial order of two-hundred ties was placed with Beale & Inman of New Bond Street and each tie sold for 25 shillings (£23 at 2018 values). The cypher was also used by Officers on personal stationery.

In November 1994, the Corps Committee authorised its use by all RMP Ranks.

The cypher is of far lower importance to the Cap Badge, which always takes precedence as only the design of the Cap Badge has been graciously approved for wear by Her Majesty, The Queen. The RMP Association has its own official emblem.

Strictly speaking, the only convention as to the cypher's use now, is that it should only be used on correspondence by those serving or by those in Regimental appointments such as the Regimental Secretary and then only demi-official correspondence. However, it is also used on Regimental Silver, on place mats and furniture etc. It may also be worn as a brooch, a lapel pin or as cufflinks by anyone who served with the RMP and other items for sale in the Regimental Shop are so emblazoned.



6. An email was received from Stewart Leach regarding donations from undertakers etc:

All Trustees / Branch Secretaries

Often, I am approached by undertakers and families alike about how and to whom people may make a donation in memory of or tribute to a deceased former Corps member.

Our stock answer has been up until today – that funeral directors' should gather in donations in our name and submit either a cheque or Bacs payment to us – and then we share our address etc and wait.

As of today any such request to any branch or official can be answered by sharing the link to the Much Loved on line tribute and donation service as in the link www.muchloved.com

Now we are registered anyone may go to that site and donate in our name assured that donations will come straight to us and appropriate Gift Aid will be processed by HMRC direct.

Our charity is now on their books and any individual or funeral director may process donations to us.

Another step along the way.

7. An email was received from the Regimental Secretary regarding the Corps Journal:

THE RMP JOURNAL

The RMP Journal is published three times a year (April, August and December) and is packed with a diverse range of interesting articles. A full-colour publication, it is available in print form and on-line. August's edition will have four forward looking and thought provoking pieces on Military Police matters written by members of the serving cohort including the direction the Royal Military Police will take post the Integrated Review and what the RMP can do to achieve 'net zero' by 2050. However, I am amazed how few former RMP subscribe to the Journal - less than 450 from a potential readership of 20K - when it only costs £15 per year (and even less if one subscribes to the on-line version.) The RMP Journal keeps everyone up to date and lets people know of forthcoming regimental and Association events too and if more took it, then they would certainly be far better informed. April's edition is attached to whet your appetite and if you wish to subscribe for a print edition then email Clare Kelly-White at pa@rhqrm.org or follow this link to subscribe to the on-line version https://www.rhqrm.org/journal_local.html

8. An email was received from Stewart Leach regarding the Masters Degree research of a former RedCap:

Morning all

A former Corps member Thomas Creek is now undergoing further education along side his regular work, as you can see below, he is asking for people to complete the attached survey – please do pass this out and about encouraging those that wish to do so to complete it to enable Thomas to have a decent field of responses.

I support his views and would encourage engagement and subscription.

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to hopefully recruit your assistance in a project I'm working on that could be of use to the RMP.

I'm a former Regular RMP member turned reservist (Phase 1 instructor) following the drawdown from Germany (after 7 years out there) and now Masters Degree student.

I'm studying a Masters in Protection Against CBRNe Events with the University of Rome Tor Vergata. I'm researching for my thesis, entitled "What are individual police officers' thoughts and attitudes towards CBRNe in knowledge and training, response and investigation; why are these beliefs held?". As part of this research I am collecting survey responses from different policing entities and the RMP is one of those. I'm evaluating qualitative and quantitative data from all sample groups.

A notice has already been put out (so I'm told) on the Provost Portal, which has been met with some response, but I wondered if I could ask that a message be passed to the RMPA branches encouraging their members to undertake the survey? The survey can be done on any computer or handheld device and is found at the following link:

<https://trcreek0971.survey.fm/royal-military-police-thoughts-attitudes-towards-cbrn-e>

ROYAL MILITARY POLICE: Thoughts and attitudes towards CBRN(e)

**What are individual officers' thoughts and attitudes towards CBRNe in training, knowledge, response and investigation; why are these beliefs held?* ###Thanks for playing Dear all, Thank you all so very much for taking part in this survey. The above question is the title of the thesis I am writing...*

trcreek0971.survey.fm

The survey is anonymous and the only contact information I see is asked for to clarify an answer if required. A person's rank and time period of when a member or veteran of RMP joined is asked for, in order to establish if there's a clear difference among ranks or periods (i.e. between Cold War/Non Cold War) of time in attitudes towards CBRN.

This Masters is being done independently from my now-reserve service, and my service in the London Met. However, the research for this thesis is fully converse with the Official Secrets Act and information asked for is purely based on 'thoughts and attitudes' towards this particular discipline.

I would of course be more than prepared, in return, to deliver a seminar of sorts of my findings to whoever would be interested, be they serving or veteran (it could be done online but I feel an in-person delivery at a place such as DSPG would be much, much better).

Kind regards,

*Thomas Creek
University of Rome Tor Vergata*

THAT IS THE CONCLUSION OF THIS MONTH'S COMMUNICATIONS.