



Royal Military Police Association Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the AGM & Branch Meeting Held 3rd. March 2010

Members Present: Fred Hemmerman (FH); Bob Hare (RobH); Dave Mitchell (DM); Pete Watson (PW); Ted Johnson (TJ); Steve Woods (SW); Geoff Blakeston (GB); Dave Emmerson (DE); Craig Hemmerman (CH); Joe Matthews (JM); Tony Steventon (TS); Steve Johnson (SJ).

Apologies: John Loius (JL); Keith Hill (KH); Patrick Howlett (PH); Trevor Goodfellow (TG); Darren Howlett (DH); Bernard Anson (BA); Peter Ovis (PO); Kenneth Manners (KM); Michael Sutton (MS); Mike Walker (MW).

Agenda

- 1.0 Remembrance
- 2.0 Members Present / Apologies Received
- 3.0 Minutes Of The Last Meeting
- 4.0 Matters Arising
- 5.0 Absent Friends
- 6.0 Communications
- 7.0 CESA Report
- 8.0 Website
- 9.0 Social Events
 - 9.1 Ladies Night – 25th March '10
 - 9.2 Annual Dinner
- 10.0 Any Other Business
- 11.0 Date of Next Meeting

- 1.0 Remembrance – RobH opened the meeting at 20.02hrs and the Remembrance was observed by all members.
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies Received – DH is working outside the UK. PH was not well, and hopes to be back for next month. PO is in Castle Hill recuperating from a minor operation and hopes to be back for the Ladies Night. DM reported that ex-252 Phil Lusby had died last Thursday. His funeral will take place next Wednesday at 10.30hrs, at Haltenprice Crematorium. DM also reported the death Janet Kendrew, wife of Colin, a former Member of the Branch. Our thoughts go out to the families of both Phil & Janet.
- 3.0 Minutes Of The Last (January's) Meeting – TJ proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting where a true and accurate record, this was seconded by DE, all members in favour.

- 4.0 Matters Arising – No matters arising. Although, JM commented that the pies were fantastic at the last meeting.
- 5.0 Absent Friends – Other than listed above, RobH asked how Hazel was. DM replied that although she has been told that her Cancer is very serious, she is coping well and is in very good form considering, and looking forward to coming to the Ladies Night on the 25th. RobH asked that the thoughts and love of the Branch Members be passed onto Hazel. FH stated that he had received BA's subs and that he is in good spirits.
- 6.0 Communications – The Branch had received the following communications:
- 6.1 An email was received from Mr. Kevin Jobson, the Secretary of the North East Branch RMPA. Kevin is a member of the Rotary Club of Chester-le-Street and they are holding an Extravaganza Book Launch on the 27th March 2010 at the Rainton Meadows Arena in Houghton-le-Spring. The event is in aid of 'Help For Heroes' and the 'Army Benevolent Fund' and will comprise of a three course dinner and concert to promote the launch of a book entitled 'My Son The Enemy'. Any member wishing to attend the event or who requires any further information should contact the Secretary in the first instance.
- 6.2 An email was received from RHQ asking if any Branch wishes to sponsor one of the Sunday Church Parades, especially the one to be held on the 28th March. The other dates are 25th April, 18th July and 17th Oct.
- 6.3 An email was received from Rachel Gilner, the veterans liaison for the American based website pleuralmesothelioma.com, a website relating to infections caused by Asbestos. She was asking to be linked to our website so that the pleuralmesothelioma.com website would appear on our links page. This was discussed by the Members, PW stated that in his opinion, this appeared to be a commercial venture and as such should not appear on the website.
- 6.4 A letter was received from ex SGT Geoff Mitchell who had served between 1979 and 1988. Geoff is preparing to undertake a London to Brighton cycle ride and is looking for Branch Members to Sponsor him. All monies raised will be given to the Central Benevolent Fund of the RMPA. Geoff's letter was validated by a letter from Col. Baber. FH proposed that the proceeds from the Ladies Night raffle be donated to the cause, seconded by RobH all in favour. The event is not happening until September, so Branch Members may want to think about individual sponsorship.
- 7.0 CESA Report – DM reported that on the 18th June there is a parade in York for the new colours of the Yorkshire Regiment. 8th Army Association have now ceased to be. DM also gave a financial report, please speak to DM for further details. Funding is available from CESA and if the Association needs anything they can apply for funding to the Council.
- 8.0 Website – PW reported that he had cleaned up the website for 2010 and added a new 'Archive' section. This contains all the minutes and News section entries for 2009. The Archive section is located on the main toolbar on the right hand side.

9.0 Social Events –

- 9.1 Ladies Night – RobH reported that he has organised the Ladies Night for the 25th March and asked for as many members as possible to attend. A minimum of 30 members have been booked in so could we all please try to attend.
- 9.2 Annual Dinner – PW proposed that an open invitation be sent to all Branches to our Annual Dinner. This appears to be fairly standard practices throughout the RMPA and is an excellent opportunity for Members of other Branches to meet our Members. Other Branch Members would be charged the same prices as our Branch Members. TS seconded and stated that he had bumped into Mick Coverdale (ex-RSM 252) who had stated that he would like to attend. All in favour.

10.0 Any Other Business –

- 10.1 FH Normandy Veterans on the 25th April are visiting the National Arboretum. If members want to attend, the cost is £10 for travel. Members should speak to FH in the first instance, places available on a first-come first-served basis.
 - 10.2 FH stated that NVA have been invited by the Dutch Royal Family to their Liberation Day on the 3rd May. If members want further information or want to attend, please contact FH in the first instance.
 - 10.3 Branch Information and Contact Directories – PW issued all Members Present with a new Branch Members Information and Contact Directory. He expressed the importance of members ensuring that their contact information is kept as up to date as possible at all times. This print run had cost £41.10 (an increase on last year as a greater number had been required) PW asked whether member thought it right that we look for a sponsor for next years Directory to cover the cost. The general consensus was that as long as the advert was for business that was appropriate to the branch, there would be no objections. It was thought that a Gentleman's Outfitters or a Medal Mounter may be the best options. PW will look into this and report back to the branch.
 - 10.4 PW reported that he had attended the Annual Church Parade at H.M. Tower of London on the 7th March 2010 with his partner Dee. Turn out was very good, certainly better than last year! (so I'm reliably told!) Cornel John tried his best to rouse the troops at the fourth gate, before a gruff voiced RSM took charge and BLODDY WELL put us in our place!! We paraded through the Tower to The Chapel Royal of St. Peter ad Vincula where we had a full service. Afterwards, we paraded back toward a welcome pint at the Waders Mess! The Mess, for those of you who haven't been, is like any other Military Mess, it's just that they have more than their fair share of plaques! So much so, they have to keep the US Plaques in the toilets! Overall, I had a fantastic day and I URGE you all to put it in your diary's for next year. You will not be disappointed!
- 11.0 The time being 20.55hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by RobH. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th April 2010 at 20.00hrs, at the Police Social Club, Inglemire Lane, Hull.



Agenda for April's Meeting

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