



Royal Military Police Association

Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held 2nd. September 2009

Members Present: Bob Hare (RobH); Dave Mitchell (DM); Pete Watson (PW); Ted Johnson (TJ); Steve Woods (SW); Geoff Blakeston (GB); Tony Steventon (TS); Trevor Goodfellow (TG); Fred Hemmerman (FH); Joe Matthews (JM); **Keith Hill (KH)**.

Apologies: George Smith (GS); Dave Emmerson (DE); John Loius (JL); Steve Johnson (SJ); Patrick Howlett (PH); Darren Howlett (DH); Bernard Anson (BA); Peter Ovis (PO); Craig Hemmerman (CH).

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
- 10.0 Any Other Business
- 11.0 Date Of Next Meeting

- 1.0 Remembrance – RobH opened the meeting at 20.00hrs and the Remembrance was observed by all members.
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies Received – Members and Apologies received as listed above. PW stated that he had received apologies from DE who was preparing for an interview tomorrow. The Branch Members hope that all goes well with the interview.
- 3.0 Minutes Of The Last Meeting – TJ proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting were a true and accurate record, this was seconded by TS, all members in favour.
- 4.0 Matters Arising – None (other than minor clerical errors!).
- 5.0 Absent Friends – Nothing heard from PO (but Tinkey-Winkey, Dipsey and Lala are all fine!), PW will give him a call tomorrow to ensure he is okay. (PW – I spoke to Pete's wife Nora, he is fine and did not attend due to the inclement weather (well he was a tiffy after all!!)).
 - 5.1 DM stated that he had had a visit from GS to say that he was resigning from the branch with immediate effect and that he would be writing to RobH.

6.0 Communications – PW stated that he had received the following communications:

6.1 Letter received from the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women (AJEX) regarding their Annual Service of Remembrance to be held at the Hull Hebrew Congregation Synagogue, Pryme Street, Anlaby on Sunday 8th November 2009. All members are invited to attend and there will be a reception in the adjoining hall afterwards.

6.2 PW reported that he had received an email from Barry Dugdale:

On a little wander down memory lane I chanced upon your 'new' web-site and, being a Life Member of the RMPA, looked it up. What a host of memories it brought back for me.

I transferred as a Lieutenant into 252 Pro Coy at Norton from the Durham Light Infantry in 1968 and realised I was 'home'.

One of our detachments at the time was at Wenlock Barracks and I had a great many visits there with lots of good nights with 'the hole in the wall gang'.

Names that spring out for me from your web-site are Bernie Anson, David Emmerson and, of course his father Pete Emmerson, Mick Budding and, last but not least Joe Matthews who fed me in the field handsomely on many an occasion. (Couldn't shoot straight, though!)

Should you come across any of these reprobates please pass on my best regards.

(After handing over command of 252 I moved to NE District where I served as Staff Officer to Deputy Commander. I then moved to the District Specialist Training Team before finishing my service as a PRO. In total I served 40 years 320 days!!! Now 68 and creaking a little but still functioning. I really must try to get down to Hull for your meeting one day.)

Best regards,

Barry Dugdale.

6.3 An email has been received from David Carter of the British Cyprus Memorial Trust. He wanted to know whether any of our members had any photographs of RMP who had fallen during the Cyprus Emergency of 1955-1959. He included a list of names of the fallen along with a brief synopsis of how they had fallen. Any members who served in the Cyprus Emergency should contact PW who will furnish them with a copy of the email. The email will also be linked onto the News page of our website.

6.4 An email was received from Simona Tobai a research student from the University of Reading. Simona is currently trying to locate members of the Corps who severed during the Second World War between 1943 and 1949 so that she can carry out a recorded interview, which will be stored in the Audio Archives of the Imperial War Museum. Any members who wish to take part in this research should contact PW for further information. A link will be placed on the News section of our website linking to the Universities 'Languages at War' website.

6.5 A letter has been received from RHQ RMPA regarding the RMP/RMPA Field of Remembrance 2009. The Combined Field of Remembrance Service will be held at 12.00 hrs on Saturday 7th November 2009 in the Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey. All RMPA branches who wish to be associated with the Annual Service of Remembrance can obtain crosses through RHQ RMP. It was decided that the branch would purchase a small cross which will be planted by the Royal British Legion prior to the Official Opening of the Field at 10.50hrs on Thursday 5th November 2009. A senior member of the Royal Household will conduct a review of the plots. This

event will also be attended by PW and TS, any other member wishing to attend should contact PW in the first instance.

7 CESA Report – DH reported that he had attended the August meeting and had been approached by Sue Kelly and Geoff Blanchard and had been asked whether he would be willing to take over vacant position of Chairman of CESA. He thanked them for the thought and stated that he would speak to the branch before deciding. PW proposed that DM accept the offer, as this would raise the status of the RMPA with CESA, which has over the recent years been somewhat lacking for one reason or another. FH seconded the proposal, all members were in favour. DM agreed to accept the position at the next meeting.

8 Website – PW reported that the website had received 73 NEW visitors over the last calendar month, a new record since the inception of the web site.

9 Social Events –

9.1 DM – Annual Dinner tickets are now available from the Treasurer at a cost of £12.00 per ticket. Of the people present tonight, members indicated that 36 tickets were required. It was estimated that 45-50 would probably be the final numbers.

9.2 RobH asked that PW and DM ring around all members to ascertain the exact numbers required. FH also stated that he would require the address of all persons attending as this is a requirement of the Masonic Lodge for insurance purposes. PW will put together a spreadsheet with the relevant details for the Treasurer.

9.3 Although members had been asked to donate raffle prizes and bring them to the September meeting, only a few had been forthcoming. DM stated that he would willingly accept Raffle Prizes at his Bright Eyes Opticians where he would store them and bring them to the hall on the morning of the event. Bright Eyes Opticians is located at 3 Percy Street in the centre of Hull. Contact 210888 for details of how to find Bright Eyes.

10 Any Other Business –

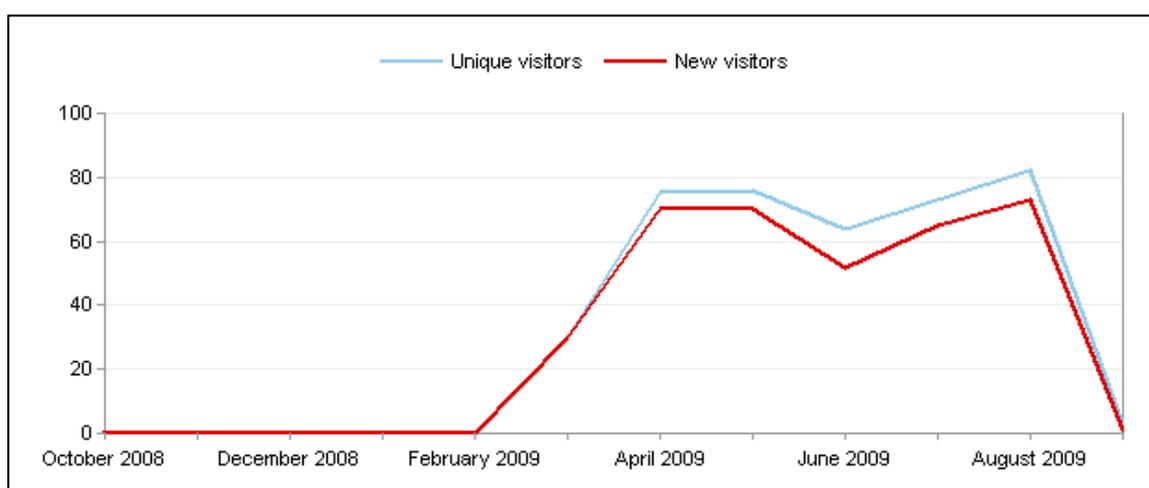
10.1 TS – issued all members present with a discount card for the Union Jack Club Hotel in London. The card gives a discount to the hotel of 50% on the first two nights stay. The hotel is situated directly behind Waterloo Station in the heart of the city. PW stated that he had stayed there previously and that the facilities were first class at a very reasonable rate. Details will be published on the branches website. Members are reminded that this is a Military Hotel only open to military and ex-military members and that identification will be required to gain entry, members should contact the hotel in the first instance to verify entry policies.

10.2 DM issued all members present with a letter from Dr. Wendy Richardson, the Director of Public Health for Hull which included a NHS Veterans' Health & Lifestyle Survey form. Further copies are available from DM. Members are asked to complete the questionnaire at their convenience should they wish to do so. Members are also reminded that Veterans' are able to get priority care on the NHS, ensuring that they

are placed to the top of waiting lists. Members should ensure that their GP is aware of their Veteran status.

10.3 FH stated that members have been invited to the Annual Normandy Veterans Association Dinner at the Masonic Lodge, Beverley Road, Hull on the 24th October 2009. Tickets are priced at £13.50 per person; any member interested in attending should contact the treasurer in the first instance to register their interest.

11 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 2nd September 2009 at 20.00hrs, at the Police Social Club, Inglemire Lane, Hull.



<http://rmpa-hull.org> ~ Website Visitor Statistics 2009

Agenda for October's Meeting

- 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 CENCO Report
- 9.0 Website
- 10.0 Social Events
 - 10.1 Report of the Annual Dinner
 - 10.2 Financial report – Annual Dinner
- 11.0 Any Other Business