

**MINUTES OF THE**

**BOROUGH OF BURY VETERANS ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD IN FISHPOOL LIBERAL CLUB,**

**79 NELSON STREET, BURY, BL9 9HX,**

**AT 1200 HRS ON SUNDAY 07th APRIL 2019**

A group of people walking down a dirt road

Description automatically generated

Picture Source:.Google

Apologies for Absence:

Welfare Officer; Marina Jones, Paul Andrews RRF, Kevin Heselwood RASC / RCT, Ray Johnson LF, Tim Murphy RE, Eamonn O'Donnell UDR, William Taylor AGC, Barbara Robinson WRAF, Kim Holland, Vikie Murphy.

Present:

Committee:

President; Chris Harness RCT/RLC, Treas Steve Collins, RN Chmn; Leanne Rothwell RN, RN Secretary; Kevin Rowe RN. Army Chmn; Baz Phillips RGJ, Army Sec; Owen Dykes RA, RAF Chmn; Paul Newton RAF, RAF Secretary; Debbie Wilson RAF, Civ Chmn; Shirley Simmons, Civ Sec; Leah Simmons, Civ Sec; Sam Phillips, Entertainments Coordinator; Roy Counsell RLC, Photographer; Anthony Dalton-Hughes RRF.

Members:

ROYAL NAVY:

Brian De-Mullet RN, Nick Lappin RN, Peter Latham RN, David Law RN, Celia Mitchell RN, Denis McHugh RN, Ian Vickers RN, Jackie White WRNS, Terry White RN.

ARMY:

Roy Baker 1 Kings, Keith Beckley RCT, Neil Bergmeier Int Corp, Gary Best RGJ/RRF, Marc Bland RCT, Mark Hand RRF, John Heesom QLR, Paul Kerr RHA, Bernard McCarrick R Sigs, Robert Mielko RAOC, Harry Mills RAOC, Mick Piotrowski RMP, Robert Pollitt R Sigs, Joseph Rawlinson RRF, Kenneth Slack LF, Roy Swiejko RSigs, David Taylor REME, Stephen Taylor RRF, Susanne Taylor AGC (SPS), Harry Tootill RA, Stuart Warburton PARA.

ROYAL AIR FORCE:

Michael Burns RAF, Clive Gander RAF, Nicola Grey RAF, Ken Johnson RAF, David Norris RAF, Neville Rayner RAF, Bruce Richardson RAF, Robert Walsh RAF.

CIVILIAN:

Paul Hyde, Sasha Hyde, Angie Kerr, Eileen Latham, Wilma McCarrick, Angela Mills, Vivienne Newton, Chris Slack, Gail Slack.

(TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE: 60).

**Presiding Member:**

1. Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen to the meeting, please be upstanding for the Loyal Toast.
   1. Her Majesty, The Queen.
2. Please remain standing for the eulogy followed by one minute’s silence to remember Our Fallen Comrades.

**Led by: Gary Best RGJ/RRF.**

“They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

we will remember them.”

*(one minute’s silence).*

Ladies and Gentlemen Our Fallen Comrades.

**Our Fallen Comrades**.

1. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising. Hopefully, you have all seen the previous minutes either electronically or hard copy, has anyone not seen them? Is anyone having difficulty obtaining a copy? Are there any points from anyone?

**No points were raised.**

1. Gallipoli Dinner – Saturday 27th April 2019 & Gallipoli Day Lunch Sunday 28th April 2019.
   1. At the last meeting, we let you know that we had been invited to the Gallipoli Dinner hosted by the Fusiliers on 27th April 2019, cost per person is £29.
   2. We had also been invited to the Gallipoli Day Lunch held after the parade, cost per person is £10.
   3. Both events are held in the Drill Hall, Bury. No names for the dinner and only 2 for the lunch after the parade, so we will be putting in a nil return unless there are any objections?
   4. Don’t forget the parade, form up in the Drill Hall, Castle Armoury Reservist Centre, Bury 1030 hrs.
2. National Museum of the Royal Navy – Sunday 14th April 2019. Jackie and Terry have left some information leaflets for those attending the Royal Navy Museum on Sunday 14th April 19 at the sign in table, anyone attending please make sure you get yourselves a copy.
3. Yanks Are Back In Saddleworth 10th / 11th August 2019. We are still looking for volunteers to help at Saddleworth with gate control and road marshalling for the Sunday parade.
   1. The Yanks event planning team are organising a coach to take volunteers to/from site on both the Saturday and Sunday of the event. The coach will depart from the Fusilier Museum in Bury at 0830 hrs and will return from Saddleworth School at 1715 hrs on both days.
   2. If you intend to make your own way. Parking is available free of charge at Well-i-Hole Farm Caravan and Camping. A free shuttle bus will operate every 30 minutes and 1/4 past and 1/4 to the hour.
   3. The Association will be given green wristbands to issue to named volunteers prior to arrival. The wristbands will give volunteers free tea and coffee at the Veterans Café and Churchill Bar. They will also ensure free parking at the campsite for those making their own way to Saddleworth.
   4. The Association, courtesy of Roy Counsell, will have a marquee to use as a HQ over the weekend. It will be positioned at the top of the site on the astro turf pitch. We will also, again courtesy of Roy, have our own radio net operating from the marquee along with a handset of the main organisers net. There is the possibility to stay overnight in the marquee although facilities are minimal, please let Roy know ASAP if you would like a bed space.
   5. On the Friday evening there is a BBQ held for re-enactors and volunteers, Association members acting as volunteers are welcome to attend, the food is free, the beer is NOT.
   6. On the Saturday evening there is a fund raiser victory dance where Association volunteers will be welcome, but we MUST know ASAP if you would like to attend the dance.
   7. If you are interested in volunteering then please add your name to the list, we need to know:
      1. If you are volunteering for Saturday, Sunday or both days.
      2. If you intend to use the coach, please state clearly for both out and back on both days.
      3. If you would like to attend the Saturday evening dance.
      4. If you intend to make your own way.
4. Course Fishing – Starmount Lodges. For those that put their name down for the free fishing pass, please come and collect your pass after the meeting. Marc Bland and Chris Slack have requested a fishing pass.
5. Committee Presentations: We have a few presentations to make to thank the outgoing members of the committee for all their hard work over the past 2 years, in no particular order:
   1. Jackie White WRNS.

**A round of applause was given – well done Jackie!**

* 1. Nikki Grey RAF.

**A round of applause was given – well done Nikki!**

* 1. Tracy Buckby.

**A round of applause was given – well done Tracy!**

* 1. Terry White RN.

**A round of applause was given – well done Terry!**

**Treasurer:**

1. Branch Accounts: In summary as at 07th April 2019:

March 2019 bank balance:

Paid In:

Paid Out:

April 2019 bank balance:

* 1. Are there are any questions regarding the account?

1. Association Subscriptions. A reminder that subscriptions are now due, £10 per member, £4 OAP, over 80s free. Payment can be made via cash, cheque or online, ask for bank details.
   1. Individuals who are not online can setup a standing order if they so wish, please ask for bank details if you need them.
2. Standard Bearer Costs. The committee met this morning and have decided to reimburse costs to individuals representing the association in the role of standard bearers. Are there any comments or is anyone against this?

**No comments from the floor.**

**Royal Navy Chair:**

1. Gibraltar Trip. Due to our commitments in November we have moved this trip to the 3rd April to 5th April 2020, form will be going up on the board after the meeting, we have been asked if you are willing to share a room, this will reduce the cost. Please come and speak to me or a member of the committee if you are wanting to attend but not wanting to share a room.

Prices we received for this year including flights were:

\*Single room £299 - £389 per person.

\*Double room £236.50 - £289 per person.

1. Million Veterans March Manchester – Friday 19th April 2019. I’m sure you have all heard about the veterans’ marches that are taking place around the country in support of Soldier F but just in case someone hasn’t there is a march in Manchester stepping off at 1200 hrs from Piccadilly Gardens. The association isn’t coordinating anything but if you like please meet up at Wetherspoons in the Printworks in Manchester at 1030 hrs on Good Friday.

**Royal Navy Secretary:**

1. Nothing to report.

**Army Chairman:**

1. Range Day. The Range Day is proving difficult to sort out, we are still looking for a supplier and venue however it may be easier to organise a Clay Pigeon Shooting Event, so that will be looked in to as well. We will publish any future dates when something has been sorted.
2. Service Of Remembrance Heywood – Saturday 22nd June 2019. At 1100 hrs on Saturday 22nd June 2019 there will be a Service of Remembrance in Heywood Remembrance Gardens to commemorate the 'Forgotten Wars', Aden, Korea, Far & East Falklands, and the 50th Anniversary of Operation Banner 14th August 1969 – 31st July 2007.
   1. Events begin on the day at 1000 hrs and carry on until 1800 hrs, Service at 1100 hrs and parade at 1300 hrs through Heywood centre. 1400 hrs concert at The Heywood pub, everyone welcome.
   2. Anyone interested in attending please let a member of the committee know, list by the door, so that we can give Harry an idea of numbers.

**Army Secretary:**

1. Nothing to report.

**RAF Chairman:**

1. RAFA Wings Appeal Collections – Saturday 19th May 2019. I am organising the Wings Appeal collections at local Tesco stores on Saturday 19th May 2019. I am looking for ANY Veteran volunteers who are willing to help with the collections 1000 hrs to 1600hrs at Tesco stores in Farnworth, Prestwich, Horwich & Bury. Monies raised is to be split between RAFA Wings Appeal and BoBVA. All you need to do is turn up, everything else will be there ready organised for you. Please come and see me after the meeting if are able to help. Thank you.
2. RAF Cosford Air Show – 09th June 2019. Tickets for RAF Cosford Air Show are £29 per person. We require the full ticket amount as deposit please from anyone wishing to attend. We may in due course be able to offset the costs of this trip. As was mentioned earlier by Terry we are looking at offering free trips where possible. List on the board as usual, it is important that we have names by the next meeting on 12th May 2019 please.

**RAF Secretary:**

1. Eden Camp Trip – 08th September 2019. We have decided to run this trip on 08th September 2019 to coincide with when the museum hold their annual All Services Parade. Ticket prices are yet to be confirmed. Eden Camp Modern History Theme Museum located at Malton in Yorkshire, details of Eden camp can be found at <https://www.edencamp.co.uk/>. Again, list on the board.

**Civilian Chair:**

1. Asda Token Scheme. In October I requested to Asda Bury, if the Association could be included in the green token scheme they run for community groups. I also asked if it could be left until late October, using my marketing skills for the run up to Remembrance Sunday.
   1. Firstly, thanks to everyone that assisted covering this. Secondly thanks to Peter Lees and Terry and Jackie White for blackmailing children with stickers to fill our box.
   2. Well, today I have the greatest pleasure to announce we came first, and I was sent a cheque on Monday for the Association for £500.00.

**A round of applause was given – well done Shirley!**

**Civilian Secretaries**:

1. Easter Egg Donations. Leah had asked for donations of Easter eggs to compliment efforts at her place of work where they were collecting Easter eggs for care leavers and children in residential homes. The Association gave the voluntary donations to the cause and a small raffle was held to assist further.
   1. The raffle raised £47, Leah won the football card and donated her £20 winnings to the cause.
   2. A huge 100 eggs were donated and a further 70 bought.
   3. Leah gave a massive thank you to everyone for their kind donations.

**Welfare Officers**:

1. SSAFA. Sam Phillips reminded the members that she was no longer area secretary for SSAFA. Anyone needing the services of SSAFA should contact Dave Shawcross.

**Entertainments Coordinator**:

1. Yorkshire Wartime Experience – Saturday 06th July 2019. We are looking at having a trip to the Yorkshire Wartime Experience in July, there is the usual list up on the board. As has already been mentioned, deposits are required to secure seats, deposits will be returned on the day.

**Association Photographer**:

1. We have a few outstanding ID cards to order, we are missing photos of individuals. If you have not received your ID card, please come and check with me.
2. A reminder we would like to take a new yearly group photo after this meeting.

**Any Other Business**:

1. Veterans United Against Suicide. Owen Dykes briefed the meeting on Veterans United Against Suicide, small cards to carry in your wallet that have helplines for MIND, NHS Samaritans, Saneline and Icarus Online. At the moment we need to talk and bring the subject of mental health and suicide out of the shadows, cards are available at the front desk to either keep or hand out.
2. Armed Forces Day 2019. Stuart Warburton asked if there was any planned events in Bury to mark Armed Forces day 2019. No one new of any such event, however Paul Newton made the membership aware of events taking place in Bolton on Saturday 29th June 2019. The association is coordinating attendance at Manchester on the same day.
3. Crown Green Bowls. Ken Slack updated the membership with regards bowling available at Warmersley Conservative Club. Bowls are available for those who do not have their own. At the next meeting a list will be made of those interested.
4. James William Pritchard KOBR. Harry Mills briefed the membership on the passing of James William Pritchard, a veteran of the Kings Own Border Regiment who has no known relatives. Funeral arrangements are TBC. Details will be published when known, anyone available on the day is requested to parade to give this veteran the send-off he deserves.
5. Service & Regimental Memorabilia. Ian Vickers has been making up small display boxes containing service and regimental badges. Please speak to Ian if you would like such an item.

**Closing Remarks:**

1. Anyone with any suggestions for trips or otherwise please speak to a member of the committee and we will see what can be done.
2. Please remember if you are unable to attend meetings then please tag your-self on the facebook page for the trip.
3. We once again would like to thank everyone for your continued support.

**NEXT ASSOCIATION MEETING WILL BE HELD AT**

**FISHPOOL LIBERAL CLUB, 79 Nelson St, Bury BL9 9HX,**

**COMMENCING AT 1200 HRS SUNDAY THE 12th MAY 2019**.

**2019 FORECAST OF EVENTS**

**Sunday 14th April 2019**

National Museum of the Royal Navy,

Hartlepool

**Sunday 28th April 2019**

Gallipoli/St Georges Day Parade

Castle Armoury Reservist Centre, Bury.

**Thursday 06th June 2019**

75th D-Day Anniversary.

**Sunday 09th June 2019**

Cosford Air Show.

**Saturday 22nd June 2019**

Armed Forces Day Heywood.

**Saturday 29th June 2019**

Armed Forces Day Parade, Manchester.

**Saturday 06th July 2019**

Yorkshire Wartime Experience.

**Sunday 04th August 2019**

Minden Drum Head Service.

**Saturday & Sunday 10th & 11th August 2019**

Yanks Are Back In Saddleworth.

**Tuesday 03rd September 2019**

Merchant Navy Day.

**Sunday 08th September 2019**

Eden Camp.

**Sunday 15th September 2019**

Battle of Britain Day.

**Sunday 29th September 2019**

National Memorial Arboretum

**Sunday 10th November 2018**

Remembrance Sunday.

**Monday 11th November 2018**

Remembrance Day.

**Sunday 24th November 2019**

Birmingham International Tattoo.

**ASSOCIATION MEETING DATES 2019**

12th May 2019 (Bank Holiday 06th May 2019).

02nd June 2019.

07th July 2019.

04th August 2019.

01st September 2019.

06th October 2019.

03rd November 2019.

01st December 2019.