



**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 07<sup>th</sup> JULY 2019**



Picture: Neville Foote RA. February 1919 – June 2019. Source: The Sun.

Apologies for Absence:

RAF Chmn; Paul Newton RAF, Civ Sec; Sam Phillips, Civ Sec; Leah Simmons, Welfare Officer; Marina Jones.

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 Secretary; Debbie Wilson RAF, Civ Chmn; Shirley Simmons, Entertainments Coordinator; Roy Counsell RLC, Saddleworth Coordinator; Nikki Grey RAF; Assn Photographer; Anthony Dalton-Hughes RRF.

Members:

ROYAL NAVY:

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ARMY:

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ROYAL AIR FORCE:

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CIVILIAN:

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(TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE: 72 including 5 guests).

**Presiding Member:**

1. Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen to the meeting, please be upstanding for the Loyal Toast.

a. Her Majesty, The Queen.

2. Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain standing for a dedication and the eulogy followed by two minute's silence:

**Led by: Owen Dykes RA.**

It is with great sadness I have to announce the passing of our eldest member, Neville Foote RA, who sadly passed away earlier this week. As most of you know Neville was one the last surviving D-Day veterans, having landed on Juno beach June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944.

“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.”

*(two minute's silence).*

Ladies and Gentlemen to Neville and Our Fallen Comrades.

**Neville, Our Fallen Comrades.**

Neville's funeral will take place at St Annes, Tottington at 1130 hrs on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019, the service will be led by the Rev Hugh Bearn, Chaplain to the Queen. Can as many members as possible please attend to give Neville well deserved send off. Dress Full Regalia.

3. For the newer members or for those first timers at one of our meetings, my name is Chris, I served 25 years 7 months with the Royal Corps of Transport and Royal Logistics Corps, I discharged on New Years Day 2008. I have the honour as serving the Association as President. If you have suggestions for trips or events or anything else or indeed any complaints then please speak to a member of the committee, preferably your service chair or secretary.
4. Greggs Community Fund – Visitors. As you already aware Greggs have kindly donated to the Association which enables us to offer the trips that we run, today we have two ladies from Greggs Community Fund visiting us, please welcome Sue Donnelly and Debbie Masters.
5. 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.**

6. Website / Facebook Policy.
  - a. With the development of the Association website, bobva.co.uk, the main interface between members and the organising committee is shifting away from our facebook page which is now being used predominantly for banter. We would ask all members to visit the website frequently to keep up to date with events, trips and other news. For trips we will in the future email all participants the confirmed details, as well as giving details at meetings as we currently do.
  - b. The Association facebook group page is moderated by the Association committee. The guidelines for posts have been agreed by the committee.
  - c. As a general principle no political or religious posts will be permitted on the Association page. Posts must be current.
    - (1) Political posts are those that are seeking to influence votes or political allegiance.

- (a) Example A: An MP, who is also a veteran, takes a political stance and “goes on strike” in support of other veterans. This is deemed to be veteran related and not political and would be allowed to be posted.
- (b) Example B: In relation to a recent news item, a topical cartoon picture of an MP requires moderation. This is banter and permissible.
- (c) Example C: A post seeking a following and/or attempting to sway voters for a new political party which is led by a veteran. This is political and is not therefore permissible.

(2) Religious posts derogatory to any religion are not permissible.

d. Whilst everyone has the right to an opinion, it does not necessarily mean that opinion will be aired on what is after all a closed group on Facebook ran on behalf of a subscription-based association. If your subscription lapses why would you think you have to the right to determine what is good for the group, what direction it takes etc. Essentially like every other membership, membership terminates when subscription lapses. Would you pop into the local knitting or photographic society and expect to be able to voice an opinion or vote at their AGM, no you wouldn't, same rules apply here!

e. The committee will review this policy quarterly to ensure it remains current and relevant.

7. RAF Cosford Air Show – 09<sup>th</sup> June 2019. We had a great day out at RAF Cosford, thank you and well done to Debbie for organising the trip. Some people have asked if we can make this an annual event which we will try and do.

8. Keith Beckley Presentation. I have a small presentation to make, most of you are probably aware that we have had our monthly meetings here in Fishpool for around 18 months now. We have other events here too and we are not charged at all. We obviously have to thank the members of the Liberal Club, but we should also thank Keith Beckley who made this possible by taking the time to come along and approaching the Liberal Club. So without further ado, Keith.....

**The presentation took place after the meeting had closed as Keith's arrival was delayed.**

9. December Meeting Date. We have changed the date of the December meeting from 01<sup>st</sup> December 2019 to 08<sup>th</sup> December 2019. This is because the Association Xmas Dinner ins on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

#### **Treasurer:**

1. Branch Accounts: In summary as at 07<sup>th</sup> Jul 2019:

Jun 2019 bank balance: £

Paid In: £

Paid Out: £

July 2019 bank balance: £

- a. Are there any questions regarding the account?
2. 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.
- a. Individuals who are not online can setup a standing order if they so wish, please ask for bank details if you need them.

### **Royal Navy Chair:**

1. Gibraltar Trip 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Form is up on the board, please put your name down if interested and also if you are willing to share a room to keep the cost down. 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.

2. Xmas Party 2019. For the Xmas event we are hosting a "Mess Dinner" type event, this would be a formal event with distinguished guests invited.

- a. The event will take place at The Village Hotel at a price of £25.00 a ticket for both members and guests, ticket price includes:

- (3) Drink on arrival (glass of house wine, bottled beer or soft drink).

- (4) 3 Course Meal – Menu:

- (a) **STARTER:**

Slow roasted red pepper and tomato soup, with paprika croutons.

- (b) **MAINS:**

Roast chicken dinner with stuffing, pigs in blankets and chicken gravy.

***OR***

Sauté Mushroom and Leek Pie (v) with a pumpkin and sunflower crust and a tarragon gravy.

*Served with roast potatoes, brussels sprouts, honey glazed carrots and parsnips.*

- (c) **DESSERT:**

Salted caramel and chocolate tart, with orange & chocolate sauce.

- (5) Tot of Port or Rum for toasts.
  - (6) DJ.
  - (7) 10% discount on rooms if you wish to stay the night, individual to book.
- b. Dress: Blazers and medals (no headdress) if possible, please. No jeans, no trainers.
- c. There will be a small raffle which will include 2 prizes donated by The Village Hotel:
- (1) 1 for an overnight stay for 2 including breakfast, and
  - (2) 1 for a carvery meal for 2.
- d. A list is up on the board, we will require a £13 non-refundable deposit per ticket and the balance of £12 at the start of October 2019 please.

3. Association Merchandise. Wristbands. As mentioned last month we now have Association wristbands for sale, £1 per band, all proceeds to the Association.



4. Royal British Legion D-Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Poppy Collection. We raised £150 for the Royal British Legion selling the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pins. I have Manchester bee pins if anyone is interested.

**Royal Navy Secretary:**

1. Sea Sunday Celebrations – Sunday 14 July 2019. We have been invited to attend the Sea Sunday celebrations being held at The VASA Club, Whitemoss Road, off Rochdale Road, Blackley, Manchester, M9 6EF. The celebrations take the form of a static parade & memorial service. Parade at 1145 hrs for 1200 hrs service. Held indoors inclement weather. Buffet, Tot & entertainment to follow the service.

**Army Chairman:**

1. Veteran Funeral – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Henry (Harry) Leighfield was 93 and has outlived his family and friends. He did his National Service - though no one now recalls where and with whom he served. Harry's funeral is at 1345 hrs on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Southern Cemetery, 212 Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, Manchester M21 7GL. His coffin will be draped in the Union Flag. If anyone, particularly standard bearers, available on the day, your presence to honour this veteran will be much appreciated.

2. Minden Drumhead Service – Sunday 4th August 2019. The Minden Drumhead Service takes place at 1200hrs in Gallipoli Gardens, Bury.

**Army Secretary:**

1. Five-A-Side Football. On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2019 a 5 a-side football tournament is being held at the Play Football Arena, Market Street, Bury. It is free to enter and has been organised and supported by GMP and Bury Council as part of a Joint Initiative to counter hate crime and to celebrate Burys' diversity. Any football minded members interested in getting a team together to enter please see me afterwards for details.

2. The Pitch Funding. The second round of Bury MBCs' Pitch Funding will take place in September, date and time to be confirmed. This involves community groups giving a 3-minute pitch for funding of £1500. As we have all seen the Pitch is an important source of funding for members of BOBVA, the success of the pitch depends on as many members possible showing up to support and vote on the pitch, remember the funding is for you the members.

**RAF Chairman:**

1. Apologies.

**RAF Secretary:**

1. Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). As you may recall the CWGC were running an appeal with RAFA Ducks. £76.55 was raised for the appeal, I have a Certificate of Appreciation from the RAFA to present to BOBVA for the monies raised.

The certificate was gratefully received by the President who in turn presented Debbie with a RAFA Certificate of Appreciation for collecting over £300 at Tesco, Bury last month.

2. Barton Airfield Breakfast Club, Veterans Garage and Airfield Tour – 05<sup>th</sup> August 2019. We are trying to coordinate a visit to Barton Airfield, breakfast is free the airfield tour costs £2. The funds support the Veterans Garage. For those that don't know, the garage is a community automotive club that will encapsulate the excitement of all thing's cars, motorcycles and aviation. Its aim is to alleviate social isolation and promote social inclusion in all ages in a fun environment.

3. Eden Camp Trip – 08<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Nothing to add at this point, list on the board.

**Civilian Chair:**

1. Nothing to report.

**Civilian Secretaries:**

1. Nothing to report.

**Welfare Officer:**

1. Nothing to report.

**Entertainments Coordinator:**

1. Armed Forces Day Bay Horse, Unsworth – Sunday 30th June 2019. For those that went along to the Armed Forces day at the Bay Horse, we had a great time, well done to Barbara and her friend Sue for looking after the bar-b-que, to Christine and Roy for hosting us, £236.50 was raised for SSAFA, well done to everyone that contributed. Roy presented Dave Shawcross a cheque for £236.50.

**Saddleworth Coordinator:**

1. Nothing to report.

**Association Photographer:**

1. Nothing to report.

**Any Other Business:**

1. Range Day 03<sup>rd</sup> August 2019. Daz Taylor. Lots of interest in this, list on the board, last chance to add your name today please. Atherton Indoor Range, 1st Floor Victoria Mill, Bolton Old Road, Atherton, Greater Manchester, M46 9JQ. The range opens 1100 hrs but please arrive for 1030 hrs so that we can discuss the format for the day and aren't wasting any range time. Driving time from Bury around 15-20 mins. Although there are catering facilities on site you might want to bring your own packed lunch/ flask, its up to you. The details will be posted on to the webpage and Facebook nearer the time to act as a reminder. Are there any questions?

2. Association Newsletter. Terry/Jackie White. The 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Association Newsletter has been produced, get yourself a copy online or request a hard copy.

3. Crown Green Bowling, Warmersley Conservative Club. The crown green season is upon us again. The first opportunity to bowl is on the weekend of 27/28<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Take your BOBVA ID card or Veterans badge. Please speak to Ken Slack for further details.

4. Owen Dykes. After the meeting a photo will be taken with Greggs presenting the funding cheque.

**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. As usual sandwiches are available, thanks to Vikie and Tim Murphy.

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 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2019.**

**Borough of Bury Veterans Association Key Personnel:**  
**email: boroughofburyveterans@gmail.com**

**PRESIDENT**



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**WELFARE OFFICER**



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**ENTERTAINMENTS  
COORDINATOR**



Roy Counsell RLC.  
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**SADDLEWORTH COORDINATOR**



Nicola Grey RAF  
Email:  
Contact Number:

ASSN PHOTOGRAPHER



Anthony Dalton-Hughes RRF.

Email:

Contact Number:

## **ASSOCIATION MEETING DATES 2019**

04<sup>th</sup> August 2019.  
01<sup>st</sup> September 2019.  
06<sup>th</sup> October 2019.  
03<sup>rd</sup> November 2019.  
08<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

## **2019 FORECAST OF EVENTS**

### **Saturday 03<sup>rd</sup> August 2019**

Association Range Day.

### **Sunday 04<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Minden Drum Head Service.

### **Monday 05<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Barton Airfield Breakfast Club, Veterans Garage and Airfield Tour.

**Saturday & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Yanks Are Back In Saddleworth.

**Tuesday 03<sup>rd</sup> September 2019**

Merchant Navy Day.

**Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Eden Camp.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Battle of Britain Day.

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

National Memorial Arboretum

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

Remembrance Sunday.

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

Remembrance Day.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Birmingham International Tattoo.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Association Xmas Dinner.