



**MINUTES OF THE**  
**BOROUGH OF BURY VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
**MEETING HELD IN FISHPOOL LIBERAL CLUB,**  
**79 NELSON STREET, BURY, BL9 9HX,**  
**AT 1300 HRS ON SUNDAY 09<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**



Picture: HMS Queen Elizabeth & HMS Prince of Wales.

Apologies for Absence:

RN Secretary; Kevin Rowe RN, Civ Sec; Leah Simmons, Welfare Officer; Marina Jones.

Present:

Committee:

President; Chris Harness RCT/RLC, Treas Steve Collins RN, RN Chair; Leanne Murphy 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, Saddleworth Coordinator; Nikki Grey RAF, Entertainments Coordinator; Roy Counsell RLC, Assn Photographer; Anthony Dalton-Hughes RRF.

Members:

ROYAL NAVY:

ARMY:

.

ROYAL AIR FORCE:

.

CIVILIAN:

.

(TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE: 47 & 2 Guests).

**Presiding Member:**

1. Opening Address. Ladies and Gentlemen welcome to the meeting, please be upstanding for the Loyal Toast:

- a. Her Majesty, The Queen.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain standing for the eulogy followed by one-minute silence, can I ask please that all members show due respect to the call for silence:

**Led by Owen Dykes RA.**

“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.**

2. 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.**

3. Annual General Meeting 2020. The Annual General Meeting 2020 will take place on 01<sup>st</sup> March 2020 immediately after the monthly meeting. Anyone wishing to stand for a committee position please let a member of the committee know.

### **Treasurer:**

1. Branch Accounts: In summary as at 08<sup>th</sup> February 2020:

January 2020 bank balance: £

Paid In: £

Paid Out: £

February 2020 bank balance: £

- a. Are there any questions regarding the account?

### **Royal Navy Chair:**

1. Paint Balling – 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020 TBC. List at the back, we need 15 names to take on GMP. So far, we have 14 names, reserve names will be taken. Free members event therefore call members please ensure they are up to date with association subscriptions which are due 01<sup>st</sup> Apr 2020.

2. Army v Navy – 02<sup>nd</sup> May 2020. For those attending the AvN rugby. Detailed times are to follow.

- a. Part payments are due please, as a reminder, instalments Feb, Mar & Apr of £12, £12 & £11 for full price tickets and £10, £5 & £5 for OAP tickets.

- b. As this is a subsidised trip (over £20 per head) can all members please ensure that they are up to date with association subscriptions which are due 01<sup>st</sup> Apr 2020. Please also remember no refunds.

3. Gibraltar Trip 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020. For the time being we have decided not to offer this trip as its was working out to be a little too expensive. We will investigate this again in the future.

### **Royal Navy Secretary:**

1. Nothing to report.

### **Army Chairman:**

1. Defence Discount Service Card (DDS Card). Just a quick reminder about the DDS card which veterans can apply for online, £5 for 5 years. There are lots of discounts on offer and well worth the look.

### **Army Secretary:**

1. Frosted Steins. The order has been cancelled due to ongoing issues with the supplier. Any member who hasn't had a refund then please see me or Jumper after the meeting.

### **RAF Chairman:**

1. We are investigating the possibility of supporting local cadet units by way of affiliation like how the RBL and RAFA affiliation system. In simple terms we agree a set of terms and conditions with local cadet unit(s) invitations supporting events and attendance at Parades. We could offer Veteran talks about service experience by different service, trades and ranks, hold tri-service competitions around collection ie individual cadet & overall detachment. This could potentially lead to the grow a youth section.

### **RAF Secretary:**

1. Nothing to report.

### **Civilian Chair:**

1. Nothing to report.

### **Civilian Secretary:**

1. Nothing to report.

### **Welfare Officer:**

1. Nothing to report.

### **Entertainments Coordinator:**

1. On the feedback there was a suggestion of additional entertainment, a quick show of hands please if anyone is interested in a quiz. No hands. Next month we will offer Play Your Cards Right after the AGM.

### **Saddleworth Coordinator:**

1. Nothing to report.

### **Association Photographer:**

1. Anyone requiring photos for ID cards please see me after the meeting.

### **Any Other Business:**

1. Xmas Dinner 2019 Mementos – Paul Newton RAF. After the Xmas Dinner the committee decided to have some photos framed for some of our more senior members who are no online and would not have seen the photos from the evening. Presentations were made to:

Eric Wilson RN, Harry Tootill RA and Robert Walsh RAF.

2. Feedback – Chris Harness RCT/RLC, Owen Dykes RA & Leanne Rothwell RN. Last month we gave out feedback forms, you may have noticed on the table at the door there are now suggestion/comments cards. Feel free to use these at your own discretion but please be [www.bobva.co.uk](http://www.bobva.co.uk) email: [boroughofburyveterans@gmail.com](mailto:boroughofburyveterans@gmail.com)

constructive and polite. We will now talk through the feedback (attached at APPENDIX 1) we have so far, hopefully this won't take too long but please feel free to comment as we go through each point. The feedback is broken down into 3 sections: Trips and Events, Positive Comments and Negative Comments.

a. Trips and Events. First page of the printouts you have just been given. There are some really good ideas on this list, there are some that are out of reach for day trips, but we will be taking a close look at the suggestions and see what we can do. If there are any further comments, please use the feedback box.

b. Positive Comments. On the reverse side of page 1. We thank you for these positive comments.

c. Negative Comments. The next 4 pages, we will go through these line by line to explain how we think we can address these issues. If you have any comments, can you please wait until we have completed each committee response in turn before raising any points.

d. For the main part the feedback and remedial actions identified were accepted, Spud Taylor AGC questioned the reasoning of reducing the committee to 6.

(1) Currently the committee is 14 strong, for the main mostly, different jobs, different shift patterns, different hours etc. The committee met the previous weekend and of the 14 only 7 were available and this was the most convenient to most committee members. Reducing the committee to 6 will enable easier coordination between committee members. The president has the deciding vote if there is a split vote.

(2) We have re-assigned some roles from the committee to support non-voting roles, namely administrative type roles. These roles are not committee roles and therefore do not need to be elected.

(3) The constitution allows for the committee to co-opt additional members as required. Branch chairs have the option to source their own secretaries if necessary.

(4) For the AGM we have 6 positions for election: President, Treasurer, Royal Navy Chair, Army Chair, Royal Air Force Chair and Civilian Chair.

(5) Also, at the AGM we will need volunteers for:

(a) Association Admin – Chris Harness RCT/RCT has volunteered.

(b) Welfare Officer.

(c) Events Co-ordinator – Roy Counsell RLC has volunteered.

(d) Web Master / Social Media – Leanne Murphy has volunteered.

(e) Photographer.

e. A copy of the feedback is attached at Appendix 1.

3. James Daly MP – Mike Harling REME. Mike asked if the committee could invite James Daly MP along to a monthly meeting. Owen Dykes responded that liaison with James' office was already underway. Further, Lee Patterson, a local independent council candidate had already expressed an interest in investigating what issues were relevant to local veterans and their families and was keen to visit during a monthly meeting.

4. HMS Prince Of Wales – Leanne Murphy. The second of the Royal Navy's giant new aircraft carriers will arrive in the city on 28 February for a week-long visit packed with celebrations and engagement with the local community. People will also be able to step on board over the weekend of 29 February – the first time one of the new aircraft carriers has officially been open to visitors.

5. Royal British Legion VE Day Celebrations 2020 – Paul Newton. In 2020 the RBL will be asking the nation to remember the impact that leaving, missing and returning home has on service men and women & their loved ones – then and now. The commemorations for both VE and VJ Day will be the central part of the national remembrance and will bring home the scale of service and sacrifice made by men and women of the Second World War generation.

a. A special programme of events marking VE 75 will take place over the Early May Bank Holiday 2020 in Central London and has been designed to be of particular interest to all from the Second World War generation who served at home and overseas across the European theatre. Similar commemorations are expected to be reflected in communities across the nation.

b. The RBL plan to host 750 Second World War generation from across the UK, each accompanied by a nominated companion, to attend the VE 75 events programme in Central London over the period 8-9 May 2020. The invitation includes a fully funded plan for transport, meals and accommodation; travel to London will be courtesy of the National Rail Group on Thursday 7 May 2020 and returning home on Sunday 10 May 2020.

c. Similar events are planned to mark VJ Day.

d. Please see the RBL website for further details and application process.

6. A Thank You – Wilma McCarrick. Wilma thanked association members for support that she and her family had received with the recent passing of Bernard McCarrick R Sigs.

7. A Happy Birthday – Baz Phillips RGJ. Baz wished Keith Beckley RCT a very happy birthday, members present also wished Keith a happy birthday.

8. A Happy Birthday – Robert Walsh RAF. Robert wished his comrade in arms Ken Johnson RAF a very happy birthday, members present also wished Ken a happy birthday.

9. Household Boilers – Shirley Simmons. Shirley has access to 4 household boilers which are free after meeting certain criteria. Please contact Shirley for further information.

**Closing Remarks:**

1. Anyone with any suggestions for trips or otherwise please either use the feedback / comments / suggestion box or speak to a member of the committee and we will see what can be done.
2. Sandwiches today courtesy of Christine and Roy Counsell.
3. We once again would like to thank everyone for your continued support.

**NEXT ASSOCIATION MEETING:**  
**FISHPOOL LIBERAL CLUB, 79 Nelson St, Bury BL9 9HX,**  
**1200 HRS SUNDAY 01<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2020.**

**FOLLOWED BY THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**DON'T FORGET THE FOLLOWING ARE UP FOR**  
**ELECTION AT THE AGM:**

**PRESIDENT**  
**TREASURER**  
**ROYAL NAVY CHAIR**  
**ARMY CHAIR**  
**ROYAL AIRFORCE CHAIR**  
**CIVILIAN CHAIR**

**Borough of Bury Veterans Association Key Personnel:**  
**email: [boroughofburyveterans@gmail.com](mailto:boroughofburyveterans@gmail.com)**

**PRESIDENT**



Chris Harness MBE RCT/RLC.  
Email: [buryveteranspresident@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteranspresident@gmail.com)  
Contact Number: 07792699684

**TREASURER**



Steve Collins RN.  
Email: [buryveteransassoctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteransassoctreasurer@gmail.com).  
Contact Number:

**ROYAL NAVY CHAIRMAN**



Leanne Murphy RN.  
Email: [buryveteransnavychair@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteransnavychair@gmail.com)  
Contact Number: 07703812578

**ROYAL NAVY SECRETARY**



Kevin Rowe RN.  
Email: [buryveteransnavysecretary@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteransnavysecretary@gmail.com)  
Contact Number:

**ARMY CHARIMAN**



Baz Phillips RGJ.  
Email: [buryveteransarmychairman@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteransarmychairman@gmail.com)  
Contact Number: 07926 945911

**ARMY SECRETARY**



Owen Dykes RA.  
Email: [buryveteransarmysec@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteransarmysec@gmail.com)  
Contact Number: 07428143923

**RAF CHAIRMAN**



Paul Newton RAF.  
Email: [buryveteransassocrafchair@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteransassocrafchair@gmail.com)  
Contact Number:

**RAF SECRETARY**



Debbie Wilson.  
Email: .  
Contact Number:

**CIVILIAN CHAIRMAN**



Shirley Simmons.  
Email: [buryveteranscivvychairman@gmail.com](mailto:buryveteranscivvychairman@gmail.com)  
Contact Number: 07983933755

**CIVILIAN SECRETARY**



Leah Simmons.  
Email: .  
Contact Number: 07856703323



**WELFARE OFFICER**



Marina Jones  
Email:  
Contact Number:

**ENTERTAINMENTS  
COORDINATOR**



Roy Counsell RLC.  
Email:  
Contact Number:

**SADDLEWORTH COORDINATOR**



Nicola Grey RAF  
Email:  
Contact Number:

**ASSN PHOTOGRAPHER**



Anthony Dalton-Hughes RRF.  
Email:  
Contact Number:

# **2020 FORECAST OF EVENTS**

## **Sunday 01<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting & Annual General Meeting.

## **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

## **Wednesday 01<sup>st</sup> April 2020**

Royal Air Force Day.

## **Sunday 05<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

## **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

## **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Paintballing - Charity Event v GMP.

## **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Gallipoli/St Georges Day Parade  
Castle Armoury Reservist Centre, Bury.

## **Saturday 02<sup>nd</sup> May 2020**

Army v Navy, Twickenham.

## **Sunday 03<sup>rd</sup> May 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

## **Friday 08<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day (also early May Bank Holiday).

**Saturday 09<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

VE Day Fun Day, Drill Hall, Bury.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Cosford Air Show.

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Armed Forces Day Heywood.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Armed Forces Day Parade, Blackpool.

**Saturday 04<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Yorkshire Wartime Experience.

**Sunday 05<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

National Memorial Arboretum.

**Sunday 02<sup>nd</sup> August 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting  
(delayed start 1300 hrs).

**Sunday 02<sup>nd</sup> August 2020**

Minden Day.

**Saturday 08<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

**Saturday & Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> & 09<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

Yanks Are Back In Saddleworth.

**Thursday 03<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**

Merchant Navy Day.

**Sunday 06<sup>st</sup> September 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Eden Camp.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Battle of Britain Day.

**Sunday 04<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020 (TBC)**

Fishpool Social.

**Sunday 01<sup>st</sup> November 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

**Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Remembrance Sunday.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Remembrance Day.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

**Saturday December 2020 (TBC)**

Association Xmas Dinner.

**Sunday 06<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Association Monthly Meeting.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Association Coffee Morning Drop-In.

Meeting Date

Parade / Trip / Event / Function

Day of Note