

**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 12th MAY 2019**

A large ship in a body of water

Description automatically generated

Picture: HMS Sheffield (D80), Source: Wikipedia

Apologies for Absence:

RAF Chmn; Paul Newton RAF, Civ Sec; Sam Phillips, Welfare Officer; Marina Jones, Robin Maloney RN, Paul Andrews RRF, Roy Baker 1 Kings, David Kerr RPC, Peter Margieson REME, Harry Mills RAOC, Kenneth O'Gara REME, Stuart Warburton PARA, Clive Gander RAF, Edith Gibson, Angela Mills, Vivienne Newton.

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, Civ Sec; Leah Simmons, Entertainments Coordinator; Roy Counsell RLC, Assn Photographer; Anthony Dalton-Hughes RRF.

Members:

ROYAL NAVY:

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

ARMY:

Neil Bergmeier Int Corp, Gary Best RGJ/RRF, James Cruickshanks RRF, Paul Greenhalgh RRF, Mark Hand RRF, Paul Kerr RHA, Peter Lees RAMC, Bernard McCarrick R Sigs, Steve Maloney RRF, Steve McKeown RE, Robert Mielko RAOC, Tim Murphy RE, Alan Norman RADC, Eamonn O'Donnell UDR, Mick Piotrowski RMP, Robert Pollitt R Sigs, Paul Prentice R Sigs, Joseph Rawlinson RRF, Kenneth Slack LF, Roy Swiejko RSigs, David Taylor REME, Stephen Taylor RRF, Susanne Taylor AGC (SPS), William Taylor AGC, Harry Tootill RA, Alan Willetts RE.

ROYAL AIR FORCE:

Liz Davies RAF, Nicola Grey RAF, Ken Johnson RAF, Bruce Richardson RAF, Robert Walsh RAF.

CIVILIAN:

Jane Creegan, Ann Marie Cruickshanks, Paul Hyde, Angie Kerr, Eileen Latham, Wilma McCarrick, Patricia Mielko, Vikie Murphy, Kay Prentice, Ian Rothwell.

(TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE: 64).

**Presiding Member:**

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

**Led by: Leanne Rothwell RN & Kevin Rowe RN.**

This month we would like to remember the 20 crew of HMS Sheffield lost on the 04th May 1982 during the Falklands War:

LT CDR D I Balfour,

POMEM(M) D R Briggs,

CA D Cope,

WEAl A C Eggington,

S/LT R C Emly,

POCK R Fagan,

CK N A Goodall,

L C Keung,

LMEM(M) A J Knowles,

LCK A Marshall,

POWEM A R Norman,

CK D E Osborne,

WEA1 K R F Sullivan,

CK A C Swallow,

ACWEMN M Till,

WEMN2 B J Wallis,

LCK A K Wellstead,

MAA B Welsh,

CK K J Williams,

LT CDR J S Woodhead.

We also remember a Bury local Samantha Stretch WRAC who passed away on 03rd May 2019 and Guardsman Mathew Talbot 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards, who was killed whilst on counter poaching operations in Malawi on 05th May 2019.

“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 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. National Museum of the Royal Navy – Sunday 14th April 2019. Thank you to Jackie and Terry Royal Navy Museum on Sunday 14th April 19.

**A round of applause was given.**

1. Crown Green Bowls. As Ken Slack stated last month bowling is available at Warmersley Conservative Club. Bowls are available for those who do not have their own, however access is limited, if you have your own so much the better. List at the back please add your name if at all interested.
2. Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). CWGC are running a special project [#RememberedHere](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/rememberedhere?source=feed_text&epa=HASHTAG) & [#RAFADucksRemember](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/rafaducksremember?source=feed_text&epa=HASHTAG) where photos are taken of RAFA Ducks at Commonwealth War Graves in your local area. If you are able to & willing to help, we’d appreciate any photos you take so that we can post them on social media. The Ducks are available at £2 each or £5 for a set (all profits to RAFA Wings Appeal).

**£76.55 was raised RAF Association.**

1. Committee Position. Nikki Grey has been acting as our link between the Saddleworth Yanks committee and ourselves. To that end we have decided to bring Nikki back onto the committee as Saddleworth Coordinator. Are there any comments or objections please?

**Treasurer:**

1. Branch Accounts: In summary as at 12th May 2019:

April 2019 bank balance: £

Paid In: £

Paid Out: £

May 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.

**Royal Navy Chair:**

1. Gibraltar Trip 3rd – 5th 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.

1. Million Veterans Static Rally Manchester – Saturday 18th May 2019. Following on from the Million Veterans March on Good Friday there is to be a static demonstration at Media City, Salford on Saturday 18th May 2019. Meet at 1100 hrs at the Greenhouse, 101-110 Broadway, Salford, M50 2EQ.
2. Association Webpage. We have secured the domain name bobva.co.uk and have recently designed and released our Association webpage.
   1. We will be adding a shop page in due course where you will be able to order Association branded items, please let us know what you would like to see on there, items such as key rings, car stickers, mugs etc and we will see what can be done.
   2. Take a look and let us know what you think; [www.bobva.co.uk](http://www.bobva.co.uk).
   3. We also now have a Twitter account, @BOBVA4, and an Instagram account, boroughofburyveterans.
3. Army v Navy. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the army on their successful victory at Twickenham this year.

**Royal Navy Secretary:**

1. Standard Bearers. We are putting together a directory of standard bearers, please add you name to the list on the board if you are already a standard bearer of if you would like to be trained as bearer. Can you also please indicate if you are able to instruct on standard bearing. Thanks.

**Army Chairman:**

1. 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. Greggs Foundation Funding. The Easter bunny has brought the association an Easter gift in the form of £2000 cheque from the Greggs Foundation. The Greggs Foundation is part of the Greggs shop that sells pies and pasties, as well as having the grant, BOBVA name will be in the Greggs shop on the Rock in Bury, so we also get some publicity. This grant along with the other grant is to offset the cost of events and trips for paying members (there is a hint there to pay subs).

**A round of applause was given.**

1. Photo Board. I have taken charge of the photo board and I am half way through giving the photo board a makeover. I would like copies of photos of members service life, on exercise, on barracks, on operational tours, at sea on boats for the navy and in hotels for the RAF. You can either send the photos to me by email or PM on facebook or give me permission to raid Facebook accounts. Thanks to the members who have already sent me photos and also given me permission to raid their Facebook accounts. A word of warning do not go into Leanne’s Facebook account, it's scary.
2. Shining A Light On Suicide. I have recently taken part in a campaign that was launched on the 01st May 2019. Its aim is to get people talking about suicide, facts about suicide and to combat suicide. I have posted links on Facebook and Twitter. Mental health is one of the biggest issues with in the Veterans community and we are shit at talking. If you are having problems then talk to someone about it, we are a family so keep an eye on each other and be there to listen.

**RAF Chairman:**

1. RAFA Wings Appeal Collections – Sunday 19th May 2019. I am organising the Wings Appeal collections at local Tesco stores on Sunday 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. This trip is now full. For those that are travelling:
   1. Travel time to Cosford is approximately 2 hours, access to the event is extremely busy and we have been advised that it can take up to an hour to get parked up. The coach will therefore be leaving Bury at 0715 hrs, we ask that those attending are at the Fusilier Museum at 0700 hrs so we can depart promptly. We should be at Cosford parked up by 1015. We ask for your patience on arrival.
   2. Flying displays start at 1200 hrs and finishes at 1730 hours. Please be back at the coach for 1800 hrs to return to Bury, again please be patient as exit can take some amount of time but we would hope to be back in Bury at around 2130 hrs.

**RAF Secretary:**

1. Nothing to report.

**Civilian Chair:**

1. Mosque Visit. We have again been invited to Cheetham Hill Mosque to attend the Ramadan evening meal. The invite includes a tour of the Mosque before the meal. For anyone who hasn't been this is a lovely evening and they make you very welcome. There are a number of dates available, if interested please see me after the meeting.

**Civilian Secretaries**:

1. Nothing to report.

**Welfare Officers**:

1. Nothing to report.

**Entertainments Coordinator**:

1. Armed Forces Day Bay Horse, Unsworth – Sunday 30th June 2019. Similar to last year BBQ, singer, maybe a raffle and the infamous Roy Counsells’ Play Your Cards Right.
2. 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. Anyone who needs a photo for an ID Card, or simply needs to check if their ID Card has arrived, please see me after the meeting.

**Any Other Business**:

1. Tarryn Dykes Fundraiser. Owen Dykes - On 2nd June 2019 my youngest daughter, Tarryn, will be taking part in 4-hour sponsored spar/kickathon which is being held by her martial arts club NOVA. They are raising funds to send fighters to the world championships in America. The fundraiser involves fighters of all ages; testing their durability and endurance in 4 hours of fitness, drills and sparring. Parents have been invited to take part and I will be supporting my daughter by taking part for the full 4 hours (I think there is a defibrillator on stand by for me). Tarryn is here today dressed in her fight outfit asking for sponsorship for this event, it doesn't have to break the wallet or purse, just a couple of quid. Please support Tarryn. The NOVA martial arts group does wonders for the kids and helps their development by installing good values and standards.

**£179 was raised.**

1. Manchester 10K – 19th May 2019. Leanne Rothwell, Sam Phillips, Gary Best, Nikki Grey, Owen Dykes and Baz Phillips are all completing the Manchester 10K on 19th May 2019 to raise awareness of Shining A Light On Suicide. The team set off at 1430 hours. Please support them on the day by lining the route if you can.
2. Welfare Contact. Alan Willets asked if the Association could organise a welfare contact for members to reach the committee when needed. Owen Dykes pointed out that nearly all the committee are not trained in such matters. Please do not forget that we have the very valuable welfare counselling services offered by Marina Jones.

**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. 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 02nd JUNE 2019**.

**Borough of Bury Veterans Association Key Personnel:**

**email: boroughofburyveterans@gmail.com**

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| --- | --- |
| PRESIDENT | Chris Harness MBE RCT/RLC.  Email: buryveteranspresident@gmail.com  Contact Number: |
| TREASURER  A person wearing a blue shirt and smiling at the camera  Description automatically generated | Steve Collins RN.  Email: buryveteransassoctreasurer@gmail.com.  Contact Number: |
| ROYAL NAVY CHAIRMAN  A person smiling for the camera  Description automatically generated | Leanne Rothwell RN.  Email: buryveteransnavychair@gmail.com  Contact Number: |
| ROYAL NAVY SECRETARY  A person smiling for the camera  Description automatically generated | Kevin Rowe RN.  Email: buryveteransnavysecetary@gmail.com  Contact Number: |
| ARMY CHARIMAN | Baz Phillips RGJ.  Email: buryveteransarmychairman@gmail.com  Contact Number: |
| ARMY SECRETARY | Owen Dykes RA.  Email: buryveteransarmysec@gmail.com  Contact Number: |
| RAF CHAIRMAN  A person wearing a suit and tie  Description automatically generated | Paul Newton RAF.  Email: buryveteransassocrafchair@gmail.com  Contact Number: |
| RAF SECRETARY | Debbie Wilson.  Email: .  Contact Number: |
| CIVILIAN CHAIRMAN | Shirley Simmons.  Email: buryveteranscivvychairman@gmail.com  Contact Number: |
| CIVILIAN SECRETARY | Leah Simmons and Sam Phillips.  Email: .  Contact Number: |
|  |  |
| 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  A person wearing a suit and hat  Description generated with very high confidence | Anthony Dalton-Hughes RRF.  Email:  Contact Number: |

**2019 FORECAST OF EVENTS**

**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**

02nd June 2019.

07th July 2019.

04th August 2019.

01st September 2019.

06th October 2019.

03rd November 2019.

01st December 2019.