



Royal Military Police Association

Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held 7th August 2013

Members Present: Fred Hemmerman (FH); Dave Mitchell (DM); Steve Woods (SW); Pete Watson (PW); Joe Matthews (JM); Bob Boreland (BB); Frank Maunder (FM); ; Ted Johnson (TJ); Brian Petch (BP); Tony Steventon (TS); David Kennedy (DK); Terry Scholes (TS2); Mike Walker (MW); Pete Westmorland (PW2); Craig Hemmerman (CH);

Apologies: Steve Johnson (SJ); Jon Wild (JW); Brian Fenwick (BF); Scott Jenkinson (SJ2); Derrick Garton (DG); Pat Howlett (PH); Michael Sutton (MS); Bob Hare (RobH); Darren Howlett (DH); Dave Emmerson (DE); Andy Jefferson (AJ); ; Adrian Marshall (AM2); Andy Doyle (AD); Keith Hill (KH); Trevor Goodfellow (TG); Phil Newton (PN); Andy Murdoch (AM); Sandra Robinson (SR).

Agenda

- 1.0 Remembrance
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies received.
- 3.0 Absent Friends
- 4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 5.0 Matters Arising
- 6.0 Communications Received
- 7.0 CESA Report
- 8.0 Website
- 9.0 Standard Bearer
- 10.0 Any Other Business:
- 11.0 Close of Meeting, and date of next meeting.

- 1.0 Remembrance – DM opened the meeting at 20.03hrs. The Remembrance was observed by all members.
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies Received – New Member in Pete Westmorland served with 252 Pro Coy 1993 – 2003, Welcome Pete. PW sent apologies from BF, SJ on holiday.
- 3.0 Absent Friends – Other than listed above, the Branch was reminded of the members currently suffering ill health.
- 4.0 Minutes Of The Last Meeting – CH stated that getting the minutes so late in the month prevents members from attending any events reported in the minutes. Noted. BP stated that on item 10.2.2 he did not vote against, he seconded. Noted. All in favour.
- 5.0 Matters Arising –

No matters arising.

6.0 Communications – The Branch received the following communications in June:

6.1 An email was received from 150 Pro Coy RMP detailing the Northern RMPA Reunion on the 14th September 2013. As follows:

The RMPA Northern Reunion is an annual event that is held to bring together members of the RMPA with serving members of the RMP, over a structured weekend.

2. This is the second event following a nine year absence and the event will be held over the weekend of 14-15 Sep 13. The breakdown for the weekend will be as follows:

a. **Sat 14 Sep 13.** Timings and activities as detailed below:

(1) **Arrival (1400 – 1430).** There will be complimentary non-alcoholic refreshments and biscuits served, for those that wish to drink alcoholic beverages the Cpls' Mess bar will be open.

(2) **Overview of 150 Pro Coy (1435 – 1530).** An update following the Coy's return from Op HERRICK 17, outlining the future of 150 Pro Coy.

(3) **RMP Stands (1535 – 1700).** Various stands covering current aspects of the RMP. As requested, there will be a range of goods on sale from the museum shop (if you require any specific items please include details on your confirmation/attendance email).

(4) **Admin/ Recess (1700 – 1855).** Personal time to either remain in Beach Head Lines (bar will remain open) or return to hotels.

(5) **Evening function (1900 – 0100).** Held in both the WOs' and Sgts' Mess and the Cpls' Mess. Entertainment will comprise of a disco and the enhanced charity 'Rabbit Racing' night for the RMP CBF. A raffle will also be held (prize donations are welcome).

b. **Sun 16 Sep 12.** Timings and activities as detailed below:

(1) **Church Parade (timings TBC).** Church parade and service in Catterick Garrison Church; dress will be as per RHQ policy and RMPA Standards are requested.

(2) **Sunday Lunch (1230 – 1400).** At 1300 a roast lunch will be served. The cost of the lunch will be covered, however personal donations to the CBF are welcome.

3. **Dress.** The dress throughout the duration of the Reunion will be casual civilian attire (wet weather clothing is recommended). Standards and parade attire will be required for the parade.

4. **Transport.** There is no transport available at this stage. Options are being explored and further information will be provided if the situation changes.

6.2 A letter was received from the outgoing Secretary and incoming Chairman of the RMPA Col. Baber as follows:

Dear Secretary,

Please convey to your members my sincere thanks for the support which you have given to me over the last ten years as your Association Secretary and for the great honour which you have done me by voting me in as your Chairman.

Wendy and I are very much looking forward to our continued association with the RMPA and being able to visit both those Branches around the Country with which we are familiar and those we are yet to meet.

Please do use me as a conduit into the corridors of RMP power as and when you feel it necessary. Rest assured that I will endeavour to ensure that the RMPA remains at the heart of RMP ceremonial and remembrance during my term in office.

Yours Aye

Col. J. Baber (Original Signed)

- 6.3 The minutes of the 32nd Trustee Meeting RMPA held on the 13th May have been received. The Branch Secretary will report back with any salient points.
- 6.4 Details of the forthcoming CENCO meeting were received and have been forwarded to the CENCO Rep.
- 6.5 Details of the forthcoming Remembrance Weekend in London were received as follows:

Provost Remembrance Weekend 2013: 7-10 November 2013

1. The Provost Remembrance Weekend will take place over the period 7-10 November 2013 and will be conducted in three phases, namely:

a. Thursday 7 November 2013. The opening of the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey by HM the Queen (or her designated representative). All detail is contained within Annex A;

b. Saturday 9 November 2013. The RMP/MPS (including the respective Associations) Service of Remembrance will take place at Westminster Abbey at 1200 hrs. All detail is contained within Annex B; and

c. Sunday 10 November 2013
The Royal British Legion (RBL) Cenotaph Parade will take place in Horse Guards/Whitehall at 1100 hrs. All detail is contained within Annex C.

2. Any further detail which members feel they require may be obtained from the NEC.

Any Members wishing to attend this event should contact the Branch Secretary in the first instance.

- 6.6 Further to the above, details were also received pertaining to The Field Of Remembrance including the order form for the Remembrance Cross which is purchased by the Branch on an Annual Basis. This was passed over to the Treasurer so that he could arrange for a cheque to be sent to RHQ.
- 6.7 A new set of RMPA Logo's have been received from Alan Watkins of the Cheshire & North Wales Branch. These have been produced as the old graphics have deteriorated so badly that they are becoming unusable. The are as follows:



These logo's are being adopted across all of the RMPA.

- 7.0 CESA Report – BP stated the following:
- 7.1 Church Parade – 6th October 2013 14.00hrs Holy Trinity Church, followed by a buffet. There may be a parade. (Details now on the website)
 - 7.2 Aden Veterans Service was very good and was followed by a buffet. The event went very well.
 - 7.3 Plaques for War Memorial discussed.
- 8.0 Website – a lot of work done, new front page, new events section, new photographs section. PW reminded the members about the amount of time and effort that goes into the website and has asked for some patients with regard to getting photographs etc on line.
- 9.0 Standard Bearer – Standard Bearer. BF had attended both the Bridlington Armed Forces Day and the Hull Veterans weekend during July. Although BF was not in attendance, he had previously notified both the Branch Secretary and the Branch Chairman that he no longer wanted to carry the standard due to health problems. PW asked that the branch member consider this and that a volunteer to take over the standard bearers duties will be sought at the next meeting.
- 10.0 Social Events:
- 10.1 Annual Dinner – The following has been agreed with regards to the Annual Dinner.
 - 10.1.1 Date 28th September 2013
 - 10.1.2 Guests – DM stated that we hadn't s yet confirmed a Hon. Guest. He suggested that PM(A).
 - 10.1.3 Dress Code – Lounge Suits/Black Tie/Mess Dress
 - 10.1.4 Menu – Roast Beef all trimming.
 - 10.1.5 Entertainment – Paul Santos
 - 10.1.6 AOB – Invitation to 150 Pro Coy, Raffle Prizes please. Stand-up bingo. Parking. NVA Invite. CESA.
- 11.0 Any Other Business –
- 11.1 DM gave his thanks for all who turned up to the Hull Veterans Weekend.
 - 11.2 Eden Cam. Details were given regarding this event which takes place on Saturday 8th September 2013
 - 11.3 MW had brought some application forms for those that did not have the Veteran's Badge. These where handed out.
- 12.0 The time being 20.49hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by DM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th August 2013 at 20.00hrs, at the Police Social Club, Inglemire Lane, Hull.

Agenda for February's Meeting

- 1.0 Remembrance
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies received.
- 3.0 Absent Friends
- 4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
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And Finally.....

Personal Statement – Peter Watson

It is with regret that my position as Branch Secretary has become untenable and I have officially given my resignation to the Branch Chairman. Over the last 6 years as Secretary, I have endeavoured to make the Branch the best Branch in the Association. I believed that we were. The friendship and comradeship once shared by all, seems to have diminished. Where we once gathered as a group of friends, this has made way to cliques with individual agendas. This also comes at a time when one of our most senior members has also stated that he will no longer be attending the Branch meetings or functions, including our Annual Dinner, because the Association he joined back in the 50's has changed, and has now turned into a competition with back biting and one-upmanship. I know exactly how he feels.

When you no longer have the wholehearted support of the committee and elements within the committee publically criticise and rebuke you, then it is time to stand down, and this I have done.

I would like to wish my successor, whom ever that may be, good luck and resilience.

I intend to continue in my role as Webmaster, unless a suitable candidate becomes available that could take over the mantle.

I will not be at the meeting of Wednesday 4th September, as I feel this will give you all the freedom you need to further discuss this. Please accept and record my apologies.

It now seems we need to take heed of our old cry – 'Rally Provost!'