

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2016

The Annual General Meeting of the Centarian Regimental Association was held on Sunday 2nd October 2016 at Southover, opening at 11:00

Present

Mike Crick (chair), John Bowra, Brian Fuller, Arthur Banham, Nick Joyce, David Fuller (Hon), Terry Gibson, Steve Harding

Apologies for Absence

Jim Wallace, Bob Sherman, Ed Martin, Ray Pett, Hugh Fisher, Martin West, Dilip Chauhan, Jeremy Cohn, Paul Sherman, John Millen, Tom Harrison, Bob Langley, David Floyd, John Lee, Paul Huggins, Martin Russell, John Cliff, Mike Isaacs

Minutes of the 2015 A G M

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting dated 4th November 2015 were read, approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by Brian Fuller Seconded by Arthur Banham

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

Chairman's Report

This year has followed the trend over the last few years in that it has been fairly quiet.

Last year's AGM was held at the Reserve Force's Centre in Edgware better known as Deansbrook Lane TA Centre where the members enjoyed lunch in the Officer's Mess and a tour of the Middlesex Regiment Territorial Museum after the meeting. Our thanks to our host Major Derrick Harwood for an interesting and entertaining day.

However, as numbers were still lower than hoped and because of the cost of the event it was decided to set our sights lower this year and thus we are meeting at the Clubhouse. Our catering this year is the work of our own President, Brian under the careful direction of his wife Peggy.

A number of Association members were present at the School in November 2015 for the Annual Remembrance Service and the Stockdale Trust provided a comprehensive display of the history of the Unit. The section on the memorials to those killed in the two World Wars continues to expand thanks largely to new information being turned up during the annual trips to the Western Front Battlefields made by Association members Brian Fuller, David Groom, John Millen and Mick Crick.

In a couple of weeks time the group will be spending a week at the Somme to retrace the steps of the twenty or so former school pupils and one school master and first Commanding Officer of the Corps, Captain James Tully, who were killed in that campaign one hundred years ago.

The Stockdale Trust continues to expand its collection and displays and is grateful for the support of its members with a current balance which stands at £1488.24.

The major event of the year was our annual dinner held in June. As always, the Association enjoyed an excellent function this year at the Clubhouse with a number of members being accompanied by their wives.

Our plans that this event could be a joint Regimental and Association dinner did not materialise and sadly the Unit was again under-represented by either officers or cadets. My thanks to Terry Gibson for all his hard work and to Halls our caterers and we look forward to using them again next year although Geoff Cox has indicated he is intending to retire soon.

We had known for a while that one of our founding members, Chris Hannington (CCF 1953-58) was in poor health and sadly he succumbed in January this year. His funeral was attended by several members. We have also learned of the death of John Follis (CCF 1938-45) who was one our earliest members at the school but whose health had been declining for some years.

We also recently learned of the untimely and sudden death of Steve Davies who had been a pupil and cadet at the school in the 1970s. He was one of the few cadets to be appointed Cadet RSM although he never joined the CRA. His older brother Gary is an officer with the Unit and I'm sure you will join me in sending our condolences to their family.

Our links to the OF Club are probably stronger than ever. We now have three former presidents on our committee and congratulations go to John Bowra who is the current OF President.

We have heard from Lt Col Jon Walden that, due to pressures from the MoD requiring Cadet Units to complete more parades in public, he has had to cancel the school parade for Remembrance Sunday this year. Instead the Unit will be parading at the Civic Remembrance service in Barnet where the salute will be taken by Mr Martin Russell, Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Barnet. His is, of course a member of this Association and was at the school from 1964-71.

The committee made representation in vain to the Commanding Officer but we have been informed that next year's parade will be at the school as normal. Meanwhile he hopes that members may wish to attend the service at Barnet in support of the Unit.

My thanks go to Nick Joyce, our treasurer, who has continued his work this year to chase up members whose subscriptions have lapsed. We will hear shortly from him of the healthy state of our accounts.

My thanks also to Terry for keeping the website running and for his work as Membership Secretary.

Michael Crick, Chairman

2nd October 2016

Brian Fuller thanked the Chairman for his report

Treasurer's Report

Nick Joyce reported that subscription income had remained the same as last year and the level of payments identified as "donations" was also unchanged. All cheques issued during the year to 31/3/16 have been reconciled with one exception, the PFCCF donation (for the two years 2014/16) and it was agreed that the accounts should be sent to Martin Russell for verification.

There were four members considered for write-off: Nichol, Bellamy, E Martin and Patel. It was agreed that the chairman would write to J Nicholl congratulating him on his wedding and sending a new standing order form. The other members would be written-off.

Proposed by Brian Fuller, Seconded by John Bowra.

The Chairman thanked Nick for his work and proposed acceptance of the accounts which was seconded by Terry Gibson and agreed unanimously

