

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 1997

The Annual General Meeting of the Centarian Regimental Association was held on Wednesday 12 November 1997 at The Old Finchleians Club, Southover, opening at 2015hrs.

Present

J R Bowra	D Crispin	M J Crick	N G Davies	B W Fuller
T Gibson	C Hannigton	R Helszajn	J Millen	B Mogford
R J Waller				

Apologies for Absence

J N Cliff	A P Dearing	H Fisher	B W Fletcher	P Green
K W James	R Langley	J Murray	P A W O'Shea	S Pentecost
M Russell	D Sizer	G Tucker	J I Walden	M West
H Wirth				

Minutes of 1996 A G M

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 November 1995 were distributed, read and approved as true and accurate.

Proposed by - B W Fuller

Seconded by - J Millen

Matters Arising

The matter of the Premium Bonds has been resolved, They were encashed 28/9/93 and the value placed into the Cash account.

It was proposed that the matter of the missing Units trophies be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Present and future CRA membership produced a lively although relatively inconclusive debate but will be pursued at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Chairmans Report

This year started off optimistically when, spurred on by a request by Lt Col Jon Walden, the Unit Co, the Association organised a quiz evening for Cadets and their families to be held in January. Sadly the response was disastrously poor and the event was cancelled a couple of days before it was due to be held when only one or two Cadets had bothered to reply.

A major event in the Unit calendar was its biennial review in March. The parade was also special for us because the inspecting officer was none other than Association member Major General Ray Pett, himself a former member of CCF and of the Corps. He was accompanied during the day by Unit staff and by our President Peter Green and to the great relief of all those involved expressed his pleasure at the strength, conduct and general turnout of the Unit.

The car rally was organised this year by David Storey but had to be postponed from its planned date in May and the rescheduled date clashed with a Unit activity leading to its

eventual cancellation. The future of such events seems to be in danger due to the lack of support; an issue about which I will say more about later.

Darren Crispin continues as our Magazine Secretary and has followed his first magazine with what I believe to be a bumper edition when it arrives in a few weeks time.

The highlight of our calendar continues to be the annual dinner and this year was no exception with an increase in the number of diners that I note David Groom recorded as 2.9%. Allowing for my poor mathematics I calculate that must mean at least one diner was not all there or alternatively, and more plausibly judging by the activities around the bar, some members were three parts gone.

The fact that numbers were up is noteworthy in that some faces were absent this year, particularly Paul O'Shea who was unavoidably prevented from being with us. His place was taken by Jon Walden who proposed the toast to the Association and responded to the toast to the School which had been proposed by the OF President Mike Riches (in fact, because of the later date of this year's dinner Mike had relinquished his post to Brian Fletcher). The health of the Contingent was proposed in splendid manner by none other than our own David Groom whose organisation continues to provide a fine meal and good company and for whom I wish to record my special thanks.

It was, I am pleased to be able to report, another splendid evening and I can only say to those members who we don't see, please do come along. On that last point there was only one representative at the dinner who had left school since 1980 and the Unit were very poorly represented.

The Association continues to support the School and the Unit financially with a donation to the school following a charity walk by Cadets in support of the minibus appeal as well as our annual donation to the Friends of Christ's College.

We have yet to pay towards the cost of engraving and repairing the trophies although we have provided new linen covers to help protect them against future wear and tear. I must thank Andy Dearing for his work in this respect and also for a good deal of time spent in cataloguing the trophies. The Association was also pleased to purchase a wreath which was laid at the site of the war memorials in the school hall last week on Remembrance Sunday, during the annual service and prize giving.

Treasurers Report

The 1996-1997 financial year was reported.

The Hon Treasurer showed accounts for the current year which showed a balance of £541.05 as at 12 November 1997.

It was pointed out to the Treasurer that the Association's financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March and that the previous financial year should be shown on the accounts for comparison purposes.

The motion to accept the accounts was proposed by - B W Fuller
Seconded by - M J Crick

Election of President and Vice Presidents

As President P W Green

Proposed by - M J Crick
Seconded by - B W Fuller

The following Vice-Presidents were elected en mass:-

A F Banham	M P Goss	B Fletcher
B W Fuller (Life)	K W James	P O'Shea
M Priestley	D Sizer	G Tucker

Proposed by - R J Waller
Seconded by - J R Bowra

The Chairman will make contact with them all to confirm their willingness to take on the role.

Election of Officers and Committee

The following Officers were elected:-

Chairman	-	M J Crick	Proposed by - B W Fuller Seconded by - T Gibson
Vice Chairman	-	B W Fuller	Proposed by - J Millen Seconded by - M J Crick
Honorary Secretary	-	R J Waller	Proposed by - M J Crick Seconded by - D Crispin
Honorary Treasurer	-	R Helszajn	Proposed by - D Crispin Seconded by - J R Bowra
Social Secretary	-	D J Groom	Proposed by - B W Fuller Seconded by - J Millen

Terry Gibson indicated that he might be prepared to stand as Social Secretary at the 1998 election of Officers.

Membership Secretary	-	R J Waller	Proposed by - J R Bowra Seconded by - J Millen
Magazine Secretary	-	D Crispin	Proposed by - R J Waller Seconded by - T Gibson

The following were additionally elected, en masse, to serve on the Executive Committee:-

J R Bowra	N G Davies	T Gibson
R Jacobs		

Proposed by - R J Waller
Seconded by - M J Crick

Appointment of Stockdale Trust; OF and Unit Representative

The following were appointed:-

Old Finchleians - J R Bowra

Stockdale Trust - J R Bowra
- T Gibson

Proposed by - R J Waller

Seconded by - M J Crick

Appointed as Unit Representative - C/Sgt Ben Mogford

Any Other Business

At the next meeting of the Executive Committee John Bowra requested that we discuss the condition of the Unit Colours which are in need of major refurbishment.

It was agreed without vote that the Association make a donation of £25, in June 1999 to the Friends of Christ's College.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 22.23hrs.