

# THE RIFLEMANS ASSOCIATION NORTH EAST Association Meeting (Via Zoom) 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### **Present:**

Chairman: David Nichol (DN) Association President: Col (Rtd) James Ramsbotham (JR) Vice-Chairman: Brian Hall (BH) Secretary/Treasurer: Darren Roberts (DR) **Entertainments:** Dean Nichol (DJN) Marketing and Entertainments: **Heather Trow** (HT)

Attendees: Mark Munt

Jeff Cornell

Kenneth Richardson Michael Robinson

Stefan Lines

## **Apologies:**

Brian Dobson Andrew Begley Eamonn Loftus

## 1.0 Minutes of Last Meeting:

N/A

## 2.0 Matters Arising:

#### 2.1 Welcome:

DN: Welcomed everyone to the Rifleman's Associations NE first meeting via Zoom.

DN: Introduction of the New Rifleman's Association NE Committee.

JR: Introduction of his own career and what he is currently involved in across the Region. Also made reference to the heritage of the Royal Green Jackets to include the Light Infantry and the former Regiments which make up the Rifles Regiment of today. The concept of the Rifleman's Association is very exciting because it will help us bring together the veterans from the former Regiments but more importantly Riflemen leaving and returning to the North East will have somewhere that they can go to and still feel part of the Regimental

and the Rifleman's Family. Also mentioned that he is looking forward to appointment of President of the Association and thanked DN and the rest of the committee for what we are doing.

DN: Briefly explained the concept of the set up of the Rifleman's Association North East is to bring together all veterans of the Royal Green Jackets, Light Infantry and former Regiments which make up the Rifle Regiment. This concept has been accepted with great enthusiasm from Winchester and the Rifle Battalions within the North East. We will now be working very closely with the Rifle Battalions within the North East and with the other associated Regimental Branches to drive the Rifleman's Association forward.

## 2.2 Membership:

DR: Membership Fees will be £15.00 per year which can be paid directly into the Association bank account or you can set up a standing order. The membership form can either be emailed or posted completion. Each Member will receive a membership card.

#### 2.3 Forecast of Events:

DN: Due to the current situation all events have been put on hold and we are still not sure when the full lockdown restrictions will be lifted. However, we are planning for the following events in preparation and to be confirmed:

#### August:

Rifleman's Association Meet and Greet - Casual evening of music, food and drink – Location Durham, Masonic Lodge TBC.

## September:

Games Night - With 8 Rifles TBC

#### November:

Remembrance Night Dinner TBC

#### December:

Rifleman's Christmas Function TBC

## 3.0 Correspondence and Email:

3.1. Nil

#### 4.0 Treasures Report:

DR: To Provide Further Details at next Meeting

# 6.0 Proposals:

Nil

## 7.0 AOB:

DN: Mentioned that the Association meetings will be held across the Region, firstly in Durham and then in other Regional Locations as demand increases.

Stefan Lines: Contacting Battalion RCMO's will be beneficial in targeting Riflemen leaving and if they are moving back to the North East Region. DJN: Mentioned Swift with future events and if they have the App then this will send an email or text message. We will need to have further discussions about Swift in the future. DN: Thanked everyone for attending the meeting and hoped that everyone understood what we are hoping to achieve. It has been encouraging the feedback and the enthusiasm which the Association has generated and received. DN confirmed that development of the Association has been slow due to the Covid -19 Pandemic but with the lockdown being slowly lifted this should now see further progress being made. Date of the Next Meeting: June 2020 TBC