

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREEN HOWARDS 62nd POST WAR
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE TA CENTRE, COLDYHILL LANE,
SCARBOROUGH ON SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER 2009**

Present:

Major General A P Farquhar CBE	President
Lieutenant Colonel C B K Smeeton OBE	Chairman
Major R Martin MBE	Treasurer

In Attendance:

Major A Warriner MBE	FGHM Secretary
Captain D Appleyard	Secretary

1. Deceased Old Comrades.

The Chairman read out the names of 41 members of the Association whose death had been notified since the last AGM, October 2009.

2. Convening Order.

The Chairman read out the Convening Order of the Meeting.

3. Preliminaries.

a. The Chairman welcomed those attending and thanked members for their continued support.

b. The Chairman reminded members that this year is the Centenary Year of the formation of The Green Howards Association, which had its first meeting at Imphal Barracks, York on Alma day in September 1909. He has been tasked by the Editor of 'The Green Howard' Magazine to produce a potted history of the GHA for the next issue.

c. Members would have heard the sad news of the death of Lt Col Kinty McIntosh, a former Chairman of the GHA, on 13th October. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral and Memorial service will be held on 29th October in St Mary's Church, Richmond. All members would be welcome including Branch Standards.

4. Green Howards Association Accounts.

a. Copies of the Association Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December 2008 were made available to members and were presented and explained by the Treasurer, Major R Martin. These had been adopted at the GHA Executive Meeting held at Richmond on 25th April 2009.

5. Benevolent Fund Report.

a. Major Martin reported that The Yorkshire Regiment Benevolent Fund continues to look after Green Howards Benevolence interests.

b. The Benevolence fund had received 266 cases from its antecedent regiments. The total sum paid out was in the region of £73,285.81. The report has been published in the September issue of 'The Green Howard' Magazine.

6. **Friends of the Green Howards Museum.**

a. The chairman introduced Major Tony Warriner, the new secretary of the FGHM.

b. Major Warriner went on to say that his main aims since taking over as secretary was to up date the membership database and increase membership to the FGHM. All were encouraged to pass the word. Membership Forms for those interested were available after the meeting.

c. The FGHM are hosting an 'Evening at the Museum' event in the Museum on Friday 27th November. The event is open to members and non-members. Please inform Major Warriner if you wish to attend.

7. **Reports.**

a. 2nd Battalion. The President updated members on the activities of the 2nd Battalion, he highlighted:

(1) The current tour in Afghanistan. The battalion had an extremely good six months run up to an important deployment which they had been looking forward to.

(2) The Battalion has had an interesting and successful first few weeks. They had an extremely good handover in theatre from the 2 Mercian Battlegroup and already they believe have had significant effect.

(3) The Commanding Officer asked the President to pass on his thanks for the previous support from the Green Howards Association received during the last deployment. He requests that that support continues during this tour.

b. Regimental Museum. The Chairman brought members up to date on matters affecting the Museum.

(1) The temporary exhibition, 'From Frontline to Fame' will continue until the end of November. So please do come and see it.

8. **GHA Association Visit to Crépon 2010**

Regimental Headquarters has organised a 4 day visit to Normandy, travelling on Friday 4th June, picking up at designated pick-up points starting at The TA Centre, Middlesbrough and returning on Monday 7th June 2010, via the Dover/Calais route. The ceremony at the Hollis Hut and Crepon Memorial is to take place from 10.30 am on Sunday 6th June 2010. There are still a number of seats left, interested parties are to contact RHQ soonest.

9. **Bell VC Memorial - Contalmaison**

The FGHM have organised a First World War Battlefield tour 9th – 11th September, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Bell VC Memorial. Further details can be obtained from the FGHM.

10. **Presentation of New Colours**

The presentation of new colours to the Yorkshire Regiment Battalions is to take place at Imphal Barracks, York on 18th and 19th June as follows:

18 th June	-	Presentation of New Colours
19 th June	-	Parade through York to the Regimental Chapel (York Minster) followed by Church Service and Lunch.

Participation in these events by the GHA has not yet been finalised. Details will be promulgated when known. The President and Chairman requested maximum attendance on both days, to what will be one of the biggest military events in the Country.

11. **Dress for Standard Bearers**

To ensure uniformity when our Standards are on parade, Cross Belts are to worn from the right shoulder and berets are to be khaki.

12. **Recruiting**

- a. The President reported that across the British Army recruiting had gone up markedly over the last 18 months. Mainly because of the recession, also people still respect what the army does and the people in the army for what they do.
- b. The 2nd Battalion would have been fully manned by June 2010, but because of the financial restraints imposed by the government and reducing the number of recruits going through training at Catterick the Battalion may not be fully until later in the year.
- c. Members were still urged to continue to look for suitable recruits, including young officers.

13. **Yorkshire Regiment Association (YRA) Executive meeting**

The YRA Executive Meeting will be held in York on Saturday 30th January 2010. GHA Chairman, all Branch Chairman and Secretaries are invited to attend. Lt Col Simpson, the project officer for the New Colours Parade will be in attendance to brief Associations in their involvement for the event. **Afternote: A Calling letter has been forwarded to Branch Secretaries.**

14. **Freedom Parades**

The following Freedom Parades, with new colours, are to take place in June 2010. This includes the new Freedom town of Stockton:

Middlesbrough	am	22 nd June
Redcar	pm	
Richmond	am	24 th June
Stockton	pm	
Bridlington	am	26 th June
Scarborough	pm	

15. **Diary Dates**

A list of Diary Dates is attached. The following dates were highlighted:

GHA Executive Meeting	10 th April 2010
Richmond Sunday	23 rd May 2010

16. **Reunion 2010.**

The dates for the 2010 reunion will be 22nd/23rd/24th October, (now firm date) to be held at The TA Centre, Coldyhill Lane, Scarborough.

17. **Laying up Old Colours**

The Green Howard 1st and 2nd Battalion Colours will be laid up in St Mary's Church, Richmond on Richmond Sunday in May 2011. (Date to be confirmed).

18. **Annual Jackpot Draw of the 400 Club.**

19.

Ticket No	Name	Amount
242	Major J C Conway	£200
276	C D Dunn Esq	£150
419	Guisborough Branch GHA – Syndicate B	£75
336	East Anglia Branch GHA	£35
442	Scarborough Branch GHA – D Harrison	£25
378	Northallerton & Bedale Branch GHA – B Stockhill	£20
162	Captain I H S Homersham	£15

19. **Any Other Business**

- a. Founders Day. Mr Dennis Bowen asked that tickets for Founders Day at The Royal Hospital be made available to Association members. Major Martin is to investigate through RHQ YORK.
- b. New Colours Parade. Once the Associations involvement in the parade is known, the Chairman will issue the appropriate instruction.
- c. There is no decision as yet to drop the brackets from the Battalion titles.
- d. Major Bailey would like to congratulate all those involved in the recent grant of the Freedom of Stockton.
- e. General Sir Richard Dannatt has been installed as the Constable at The Tower of London. He has been offered a post as Senior Defence Advisor to the Conservative Party, in the House of Lords; he has yet to decide to accept.
- f. Green Howards Museum. The President assured members that there is no truth to the rumour that the Green Howards Museum is to close. It is our Museum, therefore up to us what happens to it.

g. The last word from Mr Dennis Bowen was that he can remember when the dress for Standard Bearers was a **Trilby Hat**.

20. **Date of The Next Meeting**

The date of the next AGM will be 23rd October 2010 in The TA Centre, Coldyhill Lane, Scarborough.