

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREEN HOWARDS 69th POST WAR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, HELD AT THE ARMY RESERVE CENTRE, STOCKTON ROAD MIDDLESROUGH ON SAT 15 OCT 16 AT 1830HRS

Present Committee	Col R C Mantell MBE Maj (Retd) P Ralph MM Maj (Retd) A Warriner MBE	Representative Colonel and Chairman GHA Treasurer and Assistant Regt Sec YR Secretary
Present	Association Members x 56	

ITEM	ACTION
ITEM 1 – PRELIMINARIES	
1. The Chairman welcomed those attending and thanked members for their continued support.	All
2. The Chairman said, “He had been to visit Bob Martin in Friarage hospital. Bob’s condition improves slowly and he has made some good progress with his speech and seen slight movement in his left leg. Bob is very grateful for the support he has received from the Green Howards family and passed on his thanks to all those who have visited him and sent letters and messages of best wishes.”	
ITEM 2 – OLD COMRADES – ABSENT FRIENDS	
3. The Chairman read out the names of 43 members of the Association whose death had been notified to RHQ since the last AGM in Oct 15. After the reading of names, the Chairman read the Exhortation then members observed a period of silence.	
ITEM 3 – CONVENING NOTICE OF MEETING	
4. A copy of the Convening Notice of Meeting was distributed to members and formally read out by the Chairman.	
ITEM 4 – CHAIRMAN’S INTRODUCTION AND MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING	
5. There were no issues to raise from the Minutes of the Last Meeting but the Chairman made the following remarks on events from the past year:	
5.1 Green Howards Sunday. This was another great success and the highlight of the event was the presentation of the Legion d’honneur to Charlie Hill; not our last but one of our last WW2 veterans. The new position and layout near the War Memorial proved a better location.	
5.2 Crepon. Crepon saw a good turnout and Charlie Hill lead the parade on the march past, then sadly passed away in September. The Chairman has written to Mrs Hill, and the family were very grateful to the support they received from the Green Howards.	

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<p>5.3 Contalmaison. The Chairman thanked those from the Association who attended and notable Kent Branch and Standard Bearer Dave Wardle. In the small French village a celebration had been organized by Maj David Nicholson to commemorate the four VCs from the Somme in 1916. Wreaths were laid on the three buried at Contalmaison. On Tue 18 Oct the Chairman will visit the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) to see the Green Howards new stone in Heroes' Square. He will also take a photograph of the stone laid for Maj Loudon-Shand, the fourth VC. The reason his stone is at the NMA is because he does not have a home town in the UK, as he was born in Ceylon, now Sri Lanka.</p> <p>5.4 VC Memorial Paving Stones. This year we had paving stones laid in Harrogate, Eston and Boroughbridge and the Chairman thanked all those who attended the ceremonies.</p> <p>5.5 Green Howards Bell. We have raised funds towards the Richmond Bells Appeal for St Mary's Church. On Thu 8 Dec 16 the Chairman will visit the foundry in Loughborough to witness the casting of the Green Howards Bell. The bell will have the Green Howards badge and be engraved with the full Regimental title and dates.</p> <p>5.6 Alma Dinner. Another successful event that will remain as a standalone event and not merged with the Reunion.</p>	
<p>ITEM 5 – GREEN HOWARDS ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS</p>	
<p>6. Copies of the Association Balance Sheet for the year ending 31 Dec 15, were made available to members. The balance sheet was presented and explained by the Treasurer, Major Pat Ralph. The Accounts had been adopted at the GHA Executive Meeting held at Richmond on 9 Apr 16. The Treasurer highlighted the following entries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income. £2,998.00 • Expenditure. £7,967.00 • Excess of Expenditure over Income. £4,969.00, which was mainly due to the money spent on the reopening of the museum and Green Howards Sunday • Accumulated Fund. £49,673. <p>7. Donations. The Chairman informed members, "That Green Howards funds had received two generous donations. The son of one of our members has donated £10K, which was deposited in the Friends account. Brig Maurice Atherton donated approximately £5K in sold shares with the intension of it benefiting the GHA. The money had to be deposited in a charity account; therefore it was placed in the museum account." With this in mind the Chairman said; "He will look at this as he wanted the money to fund Green Howards trips and does not intend it to be spent on a Reunion weekend."</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>ITEM 6 – YORKSHIRE REGIMENT BENEVOLENT FUND (YBF)</p> <p>8. Major Ralph explained, “The YBF is controlled by the Yorkshire Regiment but continues to look after Green Howards benevolence interests. He reported that for the year up to 1 Apr 16, there had been 244 cases with £85K spent on these benevolent cases.”</p> <p>9. Members were reminded that the fund does and will continue to look after Green Howards benevolent cases. The Treasurer asked; “If members are doing any fund raising or involved with collection money from funerals and needed a good cause to donate funds to, then think about the YBF, as it will benefit Green Howards.”</p> <p>ITEM 7 – YORKSHIRE REGIMENT MATTERS</p> <p>10. Members were informed that the new Colonel of the Regiment was Brig Andrew Jackson. Brig Jackson has three main priorities: recruiting; maintain the links to the past but looking forward and not hold the Yorkshire Regiment back, and the one that affects the Association is:</p> <p>“Continue to build a strong Regimental family, comprising of serving and retired officers and soldiers, members of the antecedent Regiments and our many cap badged Cadet Detachments. The Yorkshire Regiment Association plays a key role in this and will continue to develop a network of friends of the Yorkshire Regiment, within the county and beyond.”</p> <p>11. Maj Ralph gave the following update:</p> <p>11.1 1 YORKS – Warminster.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alma and Burma Companies have had tours in the Falklands • Corunna Company is presently in Canada • The Battalion will deploy to Canada as a Battle Group in 2017 • The Battalion has had team success in football and rugby with some individuals successful in skiing, tennis, cricket, hockey, fishing, and one in martial arts <p>11.2 2 YORKS – Somme Barracks, Catterick.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presently have two roles; Vanguard Light Battle Group and European Union Battle Group. The latter comprises of: Lithuanian Rifle Company; Latvian Force Protection Company; Finnish Recce Group; Swedish Weapon Locating Radar and a Captain from the Irish Defence Force. The European Union Battler Group with a combined number of vehicles of 364 is commanded by CO 2 YORKS • In December last the Battalion was awarded the York and District medal for the flood relieve over the Christmas period • Deploy to Afghanistan in 2017 and based around Cabul as force 	<p>All</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>protection and training the Afghan Army</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Had a successful year in sport with the Sevens Rugby team going to Las Vegas • During Christmas this year the Battalion will be on standby for flood relief again <p>11.3 4 YORKS – RHQ in York.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A platoon have deployed to Australia and a group to Cyprus with the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers • Over the year up to 80 officers and soldiers have deployed on various exercises with 2 YORKS in preparation for the European Union Battle Group • The Battalion organized and conducted the 10th Anniversary event at York in June • On behalf of 4 Brigade, the Battalion is responsible for the Army Village at the Great Yorkshire Show were all Recruiting Teams merge together • The Yorkshire Regiment Association has a tent at the Great Yorkshire Show; giving out free drinks, which is open to all antecedent Regiments • Recruiting is very good in 4 YORKS with B Company, Stockton Road, leading the way as one of the best recruiting companies in the Reserves • The Annual Camp this year was at Thetford with adventurous training in the Lakes • B Company provide manpower for the Green Howards Reunion and at the same time man the Brigade Defence TEWT in Catterick <p>11.4 Yorkshire Regiment Association (YRA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The YRA is going well with 20 Branches as standalone or joined named Branches with the Green Howards and Yorkshire Volunteers. The PWO and DWR are coming on board slowly • A group of 24 members will march on the Remembrance Parade in London this year • They is an Operational Reunion on 6 Nov 16 for those who deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq but others are welcome • The details for York Races will be published later but all antecedent members are welcome <p>12. The Chairman thanked Maj Ralph for his continued support to the Green Howards along with Colonel David O’Kelly and Charlie Helmn. All are paid to look after the Yorkshire Regiment but still donate a lot of their time to the Green Howards.</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>ITEM 8 – FRIENDS OF THE GREEN HOWARDS REGIMENTAL MUSEUM (FGHM)</p> <p>13. The Secretary gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Alma Dinner and golf events are still well supported • Dickie Inman will retire as Chairman on 31 Dec 16 • Membership is 834 but we still need to be actively recruiting • An overview of the Friends forecast of events for 2016 • Provisionally the next AGM will be at Stockton Road ARC at 1800hrs on Sat 14 Oct 17 <p>14. Contribution to the Green Howard Magazine. The Chairman spoke regarding contributions for the magazine and encouraged members to write articles as an individual or from Branch activities. He said, “All articles would be considered and could be forwarded to him for checking or the Editor, Lt Col Julian Panton.”</p>	<p></p> <p>All</p>
<p>ITEM 9 – MAJOR GREEN HOWARDS EVENTS FOR 2017</p> <p>15. Copies of the Diary Dates were made available to members highlighting the following main events for 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHA Executive Meeting on Sat 8 Apr in the Comrades Club, Richmond • Officers’ London Lunch on 31 Mar in the Queen’s Club • Green Howards Sunday on 14 May in Richmond. RHQ will apply to change the route, which will take us right out of Nuns Car Park, down Victoria Road to Pottergate and the War Memorial. The remainder of the parade will remain extant, finishing in Friary Gardens after church. Refreshments will be taken in the Comrades Club • Alma Dinner on Sat 16 or 23 Sep at the Riverside, Middlesbrough Football Club. The date will be confirmed once the fixtures list is released in Jun 17 • Reunion weekend 13-15 Oct, at the Army Reserve Centre, Stockton Road, Middlesbrough • Officers’ Annual Dinner 13 Oct at The Grange Hotel, York 	<p>Chair/Sec Officers All</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>Officers</p>
<p>ITEM 10 – MISCELLANEOUS GHA MATTERS</p> <p>16. Green Howards Website and Photographs. Members were reminded that the website is run by Steve Walker, who was present at the meeting and introduced to members. The Chairman said; “The new site is great but requires more photographs, especially of the older era. Unfortunately a lot were lost when the old site closed and members are encouraged to dig into their albums and scan/email Steve Walker photographs of past service.”</p> <p>17. Collection from Drumhead Service 2015. For members’ information; last year’s collection from the service raised £238.50, which was donated to the YR benevolent Fund.</p>	<p>All</p>

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<p>18. Collection from Drumhead Service 2016. It has been agreed by the Committee, that the collection for 2016 will be donated to the Richmond Bells Appeal?</p> <p>19. After Notes. The Drumhead Service Collection for 2016 raised £209.00, which will be donated to the Richmond Bell Appeal.</p> <p>20. Policy on 50 & 25 Year Badges. The Secretary said, “He would like to look at changing the qualifying date for issue of 50 & 25 year badges. At present it is when an individual joined the Association and not the Army. There has been some confusion lately and applications have been received with up to five years difference between the two dates. In some cases, individuals have spent many years in the Green Howards, to find they are not on the Association records. This is possible because they were not approached to start the one day’s pay scheme, which was not their fault. We need to encourage attendance to increase our numbers, and if RHQ does not take note of such idiosyncrasies, the Association could start to lose support. To use an individual’s enlistment date will clarify the process and encourage more Green Howards to attend badge presentations at the Reunion and Green Howards Sunday.”</p> <p>21. Members Views. The Secretary said, “He will take the proposal to the Executive Meeting but wanted members opinion on the proposed policy change.” All members agreed with the proposed change, no one opposed.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Secretary</p>																					
ITEM 11 – ANNUAL JACKPOT DRAW OF THE 400 CLUB																						
<p>22. The seven prizes were drawn at the meeting and winners were as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="244 1249 1120 1529"> <tbody> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>John Sly</td> <td>£200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>229</td> <td>Eddie Readman – Cheshire Branch</td> <td>£150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>521</td> <td>Michael Mander</td> <td>£75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>Alan Badger</td> <td>£35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>506</td> <td>Beverley Branch</td> <td>£25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>135</td> <td>Brigadier John Powell</td> <td>£20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>76</td> <td>The Reverend Paul Lipscomb</td> <td>£15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	4	John Sly	£200	229	Eddie Readman – Cheshire Branch	£150	521	Michael Mander	£75	19	Alan Badger	£35	506	Beverley Branch	£25	135	Brigadier John Powell	£20	76	The Reverend Paul Lipscomb	£15	<p>Secretary</p>
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ITEM 12 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS																						
<p>23. Notification of Absent Friends. The Secretary asked, “Members to ensure he was informed of all absent friends by email or phone, ensuring they are formally recorded in The Green Howards magazine and remembered at the AGM.”</p>	<p>All</p>																					
<p>24. Green Howards CV. The Chairman asked “Members to complete a Green Howards CV and have it logged with RHQ. As we never know what is round the corner, this will assist in writing obituaries.” Forms are available through the Secretary.</p>	<p>All</p>																					

ITEM	ACTION
25. GHA Funds. The Chairman said, "There are funds available to support Branch trips such as Battlefield Tours and the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) etc. The funds will cover transport, fuel, fees and other general cost; but not accommodation, food and drink. Apply to the Secretary for an application form."	All
26. RHQ Standard. The Secretary informed members, "That RHQ requires a new Standard as the present one is now beyond repair. The cost will be approximately £600.00."	Secretary
27. Green Howards Christmas Cards. Christmas cards with envelopes are available through the Secretary at £5.00 for a pack of ten.	All
28. Point from Middlesbrough Branch. Kenny Kirkbride asked, "Will funds be made available to visit the NMA to see the Green Howards Paving Stone in Heroes' Square?"	
29. Chairman's Reply. The Chairman said, "Yes, but it would be advised to wait for better weather and at the preview he will take photographs and put them on the website."	All
30. After Note: Ticket sales for the Reunion 2016 were: Friday – 153; Saturday – 298 and Sunday – 166.	
ITEM 13 – ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING	
31. Arrangements made after the Meeting. The next meeting will be held at the Army Reserve Centre, Stockton Road, Middlesbrough, at 1830hrs on Sat 14 Oct 17.	All

(Computer signed)

R C MANTELL MBE
Colonel
Chairman

Distribution:

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