



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Saturday 4th October 2014  
At the Tillington Hall Hotel Stafford**

**Meeting Opened @ 10:00**

**Item1** - The National Standard was paraded into the meeting by Mike Weller, the Union Flag by Debbie Lofts and accepted by Malcolm White National Vice Chairman.

**Item 2** - The Homage was read by the National Vice Chairman Malcolm White.

2 minutes silence for reflection

“We remember especially today those members of our association who have Departed this life since the last AGM. Names read out by Malcolm White Vice Chairman)

ROLL OF HONOUR

Membership Number	Name		Branch
UK/O/6644	Bernard	Welborne	1st Lincoln
UK/O/0510	George	Hraham	Bristol
UK/O/4307	Peter	Steward	Colchester
UK/O/2948	Fred	Burden MBE	Colchester
UK/O/0319	George	Morgan	Colchester
UK/O/2365	George	Worsnop	Doncaster
UK/O/5126	Christopher	Usher	Doncaster
UK/O/3781	Peet	Thomas	Doncaster
UK/O/7726	Ernest	Fisher	Grantham
UK/O/6796	Graham	Benbow	Grantham
UK/O/2938	Alan	Atkins	Leicester
UK/O/7028	William	Jennison	Leicester
UK/O/2952	Peter	Morley-Jacobs	North Kent
UK/O/4551	Robert	Kennedy	North Wales
UK/O/1963	Harold	Whittle	North Yorkshire
UK/O/2592	Dennis	Bowen	North Yorkshire
UK/O/2688	George	Ableson	North Yorkshire
UK/O/5795	George	Duke	North Yorkshire
UK/O/3101	Harold	Kirk	North Yorkshire
UK/O/6192	Gordon	Rutherford	Nottingham

UK/O/6648	Jack	Clough	Nottingham
UK/O/1236	Maurice	Smith	Nottingham
UK/O/2621	Coin	Evans	Postal North
UK/O/7698	Kenneth	Chapman	Postal South
UK/O/2383	Peter	Park	Postal North
UK/O/4191	Andrew	Blacley	Postal North
UK/O/7759	Michael	Fleming	Postal North
UK/O/0697	Robert	Couper	Postal North
UK/O/4505	Raymond	Brookes	Postal South
UK/O/7181	Karl	Kettle-Linsell	Postal South
UK/O/7465	Bruce	Hunt	Southern
UK/O/6191	Michael	Machin	Southern Area
UK/O/6846	Chales	Wibrew	Southern Area
UK/O/4467	Ian	Duncan BEM	Surrey
UK/O/7246	Neville	Hunter	Surrey
UK/O/7706	William	Mathias	Swindon
UK/O/3119	William	Thorburn	Tyneside

**Item 3** Meeting opened by the National Chairman Mr David Neil, He thanked everyone for attending the meet with a special welcome who have never attended an AGM before. He hopes that everyone will benefit from the meeting, and enjoy the reunion Dinner

**Item 4** **Apologies** National Secretary I had 4 written apologies:- Lt. Col Tex Pemberton OBE. Group Capt. Mike Hawkins. Keith Seaton, Reg. Hollins 3 verbal apologies John & Gillian McAulay, Terry Parkinson

**Item 5** **Minutes of the Meeting** Held at the Royal Court Hotel Coventry 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013  
The National Secretary went through the minutes page by page.  
Mr John Crossley questioned the approval of the minutes, National Chairman this will be done today on the acceptance of the minutes.

The minutes were accepted unanimously and Approved by the National Chairman

There were no matters arising

**Item 6** **National Chairman's Report**

**Mr** Neil had left his reading glasses on the coach, therefore his report was read out by the vice Chairman Mr Mal White, however those part written in Italics' which appertain to membership were read out by Mr Bob Roberts National Membership Secretary

Dear members,

Yet another year has flown by and, sad to say, has taken its toll from our ranks as you will see by the list of postings. However membership at the moment is as follows

*1: Recruitment into the Association has been quite good this year. We have 64 new members and 69 returning members. With the inauguration of the new Solent branch as seen an influx*

*of Associate members the majority being wives of members. Unfortunately the recruitment figures as been partially offset by members being posted up stairs, lost or resigning.*

*2: The Association members are as the following.*

*A: Members on the Database 1754*

*B: Paid up 1553*

*C: In arrears 201*

*3: Membership made up of*

*A: Associate members 124*

*B: Honorary members 19*

*C: Ordinary members 1611*

*4: Since the last AGM We have recruited*

*A: Associate members 21*

*B: Honorary 1*

*C: Ordinary 43*

*D: Returning members 69*

*We have lost*

*E: Deceased 36*

*F: lost touch 21*

*G: resigned 57*

5: Most of the returning members that where down as lost or resigned when asked reconsidered and decided to return mostly as Postal Members. I would ask branch secretaries or membership secretaries to contact all their members that are in arrears to determine the reason. Are they 1: to infirmed to travel to branch meetings 2: do they live to far away and try to travel. The reason I ask for this is obviously a lost member is lost revenue.

I thank Bob Roberts ,our membership secretary for doing a fanatic job in sorting our membership database, but for taking the trouble to ascertain why a member have resigned, and in many cases get them to relocate to a more convenient branch

I should also like to wish Clive Boyles all the best in taking over the position of International Liaison Officer

This year we celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Association with a commemorative service at the Arboretum, even the sun came out to celebrate. During these twenty years we have had our ups and downs, but fortunately I think we can say the Association has made some outstanding achievements i.e. two Memorials, one in St Paul's in London and now the other in the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. Then there was the acquisition of the PJM and the right to wear it and the invitation to parade with our Malayan Comrades in Kuala Lumpur on Merdeka Day 2007. Some of our branches have exhibited our national display at a number of prominent venues on Armed Forces Day and will be doing so next year, this time at Guildford, which will be hosted by the Surry Branch.

To continue, we have once more been offered a good number of very interesting and attractive events through the generosity of the Not Forgotten Association in partnership with our own National Secretary. These kind gestures are very much appreciated and long may they continue. Last but not least the Service of Remembrance held at the National Memorial Arboretum to mark the Associations Twentieth Anniversary was attended by a very good turnout of our members and guests to witness a very moving service conducted by our Padre the Rev Roger Perry.

I conclude this report by reminding everyone that behind all this is a strong and extremely dedicated team who spend many hours of their own time to keep the association on course. They are your Committee.

There is much to do in the coming year and we will keep you informed every step of the way.

Thank you for your support and I hope that will continue into the future.

David Neil

David Neil asked for question or comments. This was followed by silence

Item 7

**Treasurers Report** Mr. Dick Richardson

Dick ensured everyone had the necessary documentation

Dick firstly went through the Audit report for 2013/2014 explaining each page/ Statement He proceeded to explain the proposed Budget for 2014/2015, which was agreed Going on to explain the memorial, revenue account NEC administration account which had dropped by a £1,000etc.Profit & Loss account Ending by informing the meeting that during the past year we had replaces £4,000 back into the capital account, today we signed a chitty putting another £2,000 back into the capital

Dick asked for questions

Mr. Geoff Hallett Surrey Branch: I should like to thank the National Treasures for giving a very clear explanation on the Audit report I believe we all understand where we are now

David Neil could I Have a proposal of acceptance John Crossley seconded by Cyril Goodhand

By a show of hands carried

David Neil: Dick has done a gigantic job, it's been very difficult getting this money back into the capital account. I should just like to remind everybody it is still ongoing collecting money for the memorial and hopefully within 12 months we will be back to the position before the memorial was built. I know that Branches have projects going to raise money for the memorial. On behalf of the whole NEC for your efforts, There is a bucket

Item 8

**National Secretary Report** Ted Williams Sigmund Fraud wrote that the maximum retention time of an audience to a speech is 7 minutes, therefor my report will be very short First Commercial

1st Please delete item 11 Page 3 Counter Proposal, you will understand the reason why when Ted Pemberton will explains his and Mike Smiths Motion

2<sup>nd</sup> If you have not signed my attendance register, please do so

3<sup>dr</sup> There will be tea/Coffee and biscuits at 11.15

Branch Secretaries, I plead with you please answer e-mails, letters or at least acknowledge them. If we are going to plan ahead we must have information

For examples, An email we sent out to ascertain members interest in the project I have 2 replies and one of those was from me on behalf of Bridgend Branch

Potted history Again I request information from Branches request when they were formed and any special events worth recording if possible with photos again next to no response  
The Not Forgotten Association

I have sent sponsorship forms regarding Rosie Thompson running in 3 marathons to raise money for this worthwhile Charity. By Christmas over a 100 of our members will have benefited example;- Remembrance tour of Italy, Garden Party Buckingham Palace, a number of boat trips with meals, visit to Highgrove Garden, High Tea with entertainment at the Royal Hospital Chelsea 8 different venues throughout the country for Christmas Luncheons with entertainment, Christmas part St James Palace. If you go on one of these trips, why not write a small article with photos to Mal White for the Kris or newsletter

I requested that Branches sponsor Rose send the donations direct to The Not Forgotten Association keeping me informed so that we can keep a record, again acknowledgment from 3 Branches only I could go on, but I am sure you have got the gist.

Blackpool was very successful this year, we shall be going again in 2015 27<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> May, although we will be using the Tiffany hotel as appose to the Parisian, because it has bigger bathrooms.

The NMBVA memorial at the Arboretum, we are negotiations to get small personal plaques that you can purchase to line the path leading to the memorial. I should have more information tomorrow, and Mal will be able to put a feature in the newsletter If you ever need information or have any suggestions for the improvement of the Association, please do not hesitate to contact me.

David Neil, Have you any question for the secretary? Mrs Joan Pemberton; I should like to thank Ted for doing a good job

Coin Barnes, do every realise that the NMBVA has joint the Royal Martine Club in Portsmouth so if anyone is in the area for can get reasonable rates in the hotel, Secretary. I have not for some reason got our membership number yet (which I shall chase up) and publish on our website This is an excellent Hotel, in a good location

Mr David Davies of Bristol Branch, Although the Bristol Branch has gone and members have joint Postal South or other Branches. However members are still there, and we do have the occasional get together and we lack information this is no once fault, because basically we are not there. Ted, but if the members are still members of the association albeit another branch are they not receiving

Copies of the Kris/newsletter yes but they don't receive the e-mail etc. The discussion went on. Ted suggest that if he got in contact with him after the meeting I could put him on my e-mail list, and as suggest By Alan he could arrange a few telephone contact points, who in turn would pass information to others

David Neil this goes back to what we have already discussed please, please get in contact with the secretary there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes but if you don't inform us of your problems then we cannot help, so please answer e-mail or at least acknowledge them. We have better communications today than we have ever had We got the website the Kris magazine the newsletter and e-mails, and a hard working NEC to help

Alan, Why don't we use the website, Ted a lot of these members are elderly, they have never used a computer and see no need too.

The problem is solved if we have a point of contact

Item 9 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemorations Service held at the Arboretum on the 1<sup>st</sup> June  
This was an absolutely a splendid day, the Weather was good blue sky no wind. It rained on the Saturday and again on the Monday, but Sunday was perfect, I believe we have the Padre too thank for this. We had 10 Standards on parade, there will be an article in the

newsletter with photos, therefore I shall say no more, apart from thanking those who attended, like all enjoyable occasion it's the company that makes the day.

From the floor, no name given; just a point on the newsletter is there a deadline, Mal the third week of this month, and it should arrive on your doorstep about the middle of November.

Delaine for the Kris is the end of March, I start getting things together after Christmas Ted. It would be nice if more Branch or members would send in articles, it would help Mal, bring it up to date and probably make it more interesting. Mal there are only a few branches that contact be regularly telling me what they have done, this is good, but perhaps what would be even better if they told me would the intend, I could publish this and may be other would like to participate bring branches closer together, So Kick your Branch Secretary into action

David Neil, just a little add on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Mr and Mrs Pemberton attended, I believe you were made very welcome and were the first to receive one of the new table standards, they won it in the raffle. Thank you both for attending

## Item 10

### Notice of Motion

Proposed by Mr E. J. Pemberton (Nottingham Branch 10) Seconded by Mr Mike Smith (Nottingham Branch)

That the NMBVA concenter the feasibility of creating an umbrella organisation called the (VOFC) Veterans Of Foreign Conflicts

Ted Pemberton: normal salutation then Ted got into his stride First of closing the NMBVA or any other organisation people have got a misconception, most probably due to my hurried wording. The idea came to me when I was at the Arboretum for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary when how previous Chairman told that the RBL had taken over responsibly for the Arboretum. The RBL said that they wanted all brick monuments replaced, I came across a brick monument of an organisation that had closed, who is going to replace it, the RBL will not A lot of us have given money to the RBL, however I am not having a go at the RBL. I believe we need a new organisation let's call it What we need is a new organisation let's call it "Veterans Of Foreign Conflicts (VOFC) in every year since 1945 this country has been involved in a foreign conflict. There are dozens of different Veterans Organisations at the moment all, most are like us getting a bit long in the tooth and some stage they will all be gone and forgotten, and this should not happen. Our bureaucrats have done very little for our veterans, the US of A appreciate their Veterans much better than our country

All our veteran organisations are silly, because we are all individuals NMBVA do what they want to do, the Korean Vets do what they want to do and so on, if we for organisation to represent veterans called Veterans of Foreign Conflicts and get all other veterans organisations to support it we would get something done for veterans, The reason I say this, I am a member of an organisation called the federation of small businesses we started off with 40,00 members once we got to over 250,000 (More members than the Labour Party) government/ bureaucrat's started taking notice of us and we got things done.

Therefore say we have an organisation called Veteran of Foreign Conflicts and all veterans organisations and they are all affiliated, suddenly our representatives start talking to government, bureaucrat's representing most probably over a million we are not sure at the moment, but it would be a very large number, could you imagine what power those people would have to talk to government/ bureaucrats about veterans. Why shouldn't someone who only served 6 years have a pension,

M P's get a pension after 5 years why are they better than our veterans who have fought for the country let ensure that these veterans are not forgotten At the moment we only hear

about the 1<sup>st</sup> world War 2<sup>nd</sup> World War Falklands , but never a word about Malaya or Borneo if we put it on TV once a week people we Not forget!!

To try and organise the new organisation we need a little of money a website to tell people and its it all about 2<sup>nd</sup> we need to write to other organisation telling explain concept and aims inviting them to would they join on behalf of their members Once we got a website and people start reading, start knocking on doors to get as many veterans as possible to join We already have a website, if you think it's a good idea we could in cooperated in the NMBVA website and the NMBVA could lead it and we could encourage younger veterans interest This is only at the feasibility stage at the moment, the main concept is to get every veteran a pension even if it small for short service veterans. We'll have to have a separate account and get someone to lead. Remember this our PMs are only interested in getting re-elected, if our representative went up to one and said I represent 5 million veterans, and its time you did the ! they would take notice and the same applies to the bureaucrats. What can it archive, quite a lot, I have done it with the federation and I will gave my support to whoever takes the task on, it can be done and it will work

John Crossely if you count Northern Ireland as a foreign country, you are going to upset a lot of people

There was a long debate a lot of names were put forward, however it was stressed that it had to be short

From the floor (Name) Could we could get another organisation to host it like the Not Forgotten Association, Ted this association was formed in 1920 to provide entertainment for veterans, not suitable

Alan Raiston-Good Thames Valley Branch Can I comment Ted from this item to our attention, and well worthy, it will affect every one as we drift to the Great Temple above however I also feel it's more of a political lobby group rather than an old comrades association gathering. I should like to add that we to the proposal we do a feasibility by a selected few within our group using the National Chairman and secretary to communicate with other retired organisation, not harassed associations because the political conation may prevent other organisation or some from joining. However I think if we can get the view of other association maybe that will help towards creating this "small business organisation" where it would be a veterans organisation that would be perfect for an increase pensions for those have not got one. This is an excellent thought, but I wonder how other association assist. I propose we elect a small team of people to do a little more research and report the feasibility

Secretary, I backup what Alan said this is common-sense

Mike Smith I seconded this motion and when we talked about, there are association we were talking about the D Day veteran, the Burma Star and other association who have folded through the loss of membership, however there are still a number of them left scared around the country. With this umbrella association, we can keep these people informed of the Not Forgotten Association events, organise an annual event keep them in the picture generally It was suggested that the British Legion do this already, no they don't they are only concerned with welfare

Ted all these are applaudable aims, but I suggest that at this stage of the game we go along with what Alan said, because it requires finance as well. We could say here all day talking, but that useless without action. There is a lot to be done, there are a lot of if's and but's to be sorted out

Joan Pemberton, New name Veteran of All British Conflicts (VOABC) Accepted

Colin Barns Solet Branch, We had a branch meeting last Saturday and I don't think there was enough information on this motion in the agenda for the to form a popper opinion, they vote against. The reason they did so, is because we have a very young vibrant branch and they did not want to have a new identity

Secretary I agree, but I can only put on the agenda what is sent to me, and I was under the same illusion, as agreed by the author it was misleading, that is why the counter proposal was submitted

David Neil This idea of a feasibility study is essential to move on. We are fortunate in have a lot of contacts points with other association. As an association we have no remit to take this sort of action into consideration, therefore it may mean an alteration to our constitution, because this type of motion was never envisioned Secretary to look into the constitution

Ted Pemberton, regardless of what we call the umbrella association, we need it

Proposed by Ted Williams seconded Mike Smith that we vote on Alan's proposal to carry out a feasibly

Carried unanimously

Coffee /Tea Break

Item 11 Counter Proposal withdrawn

Item 12 Proposed that Mike Weller is granted the privilege of being made Honorary Vice President. Proposed by David Neil seconded by Ted Williams that Mike Weller is made Honorary Vice President for life in recognition of outstanding service to the Association ( reference constitution page 2 par 3/A.

David Neil; Mike has carried the National Standard (actually this is the second, he wore the first one out) for twenty years. Mike has carried the Standard around the world and has been a credit to the Association, never shirking anything he has been request to do for the association; therefore I request your approval of the award

Carried unanimously

Mike Weller, Mr Chairman Ladies and Gentlemen Since the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1994 I have carried the Standard and carried out many other tasks on behalf of the association and I thank everyone for their support, but especially my Betty and I hope the top table will gave recognition to Betty at the Dinner tonight (David Neil, we thought of this before you Mike)

Item 13 Informal reunion Blackpool, already covered

Item 14 Rededication Of the Association Plaque at St Pauls 2016

It's off the ground and in the Cathedral and we have a meeting with the Cathedral and Mansion house next year (more later) Once these are in place there will be a spinoff. To ask people to travel from the far corners of the country for one day is asking a lot so we do have other ideas? We have the full support of our President

Sir Garry Johnson who will be in at the planning/negotiations. You will be kept informed through your Branches and website

Ted; we are working various projects, people are prepared to give us block bookings at reasonable prices, provided we book well in advance



Mall, the other reason we planning this event in 2015, is because it in 50 years of the ending of hostilities in Borneo

David Neil: I am trying Prince Harry has our Guest of Honour, I shall keep you informed of progress

Item 15 Covered in item 14

Item 16 David Neil, I am delight to inform you that our National Standard will be paraded in the British Legion festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall this year, carried by Mrs Debby Lofts. It has been parade twice before.  
From the (floor no name) Ted, No I have tried, but have been informed that tickets have got to come from RBL Branches the will not issue them to associations  
Alan Raiston-Good that we get permission to parade our Standard at the Albert Hall again and try to get a pool of tickets from the RBL. Secretary: I have already written regard parading our Standard and will try to get tickets

Item 17 Prosed by Ted Williams seconded by Dick Richardson that monies collected at the Reunion Dinner Raffled be donated to the Association Memorial Fund

Item 18 Proposed By David Neil seconded by Ted Williams that the 2015 AGM and reunion are held at the Tillington Hall Stafford  
Carried unanimously

Item 15 Open Forum No response

### **Election of Officers 2014/15, to assume on the rising of the AGM:**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Nominated By</b>
Chairman of the Association	David Neil Sitting Chairman	Valerie Nisbet Seconded Ian Robson
Vice Chairman of the Association	Malcolm White Sitting Vice Chairman	Mr Brian Roach Seconded Mr J Sandilands
Secretary of the Association	Ted Williams Sitting Secretary	Mr Clive Boyles MSM Seconded: Gywn Rees
Treasurer of the Association	Mr D Richardson Sitting Treasurer	Mr Terry Parkinson Seconded: Mr K Seaton
Membership Secretary of the Association	Bob Roberts Sitting Member.	Mr Clive Boyles Seconded: Ted Williams

	Secretary	
Association Webmaster	Annie Burden Sitting Webmaster	Mr M.V Boyles Seconded: Mr G. Reeves
Member of the NEC	Clive Boyles MSM Sitting NEC Member	Dennis Jones Seconded: Masel Lewis
Member of the NEC	Valerie Nisbet Sitting NEC Member	David Neil Seconded Mr Ian Robson
Member of the NEC	Brian C Roche Sitting NEC Member	Mr Keith Barclay Seconded: Mr J Sandilands

### Non-Executive Officers

International Liaison Officer	Clive Boyles MSM	This is an Appointment
NEC Resident representative Kuala Lumpur	Dhato Ahmad Tejudin	Ted Williams Seconded: David Neil .
Regalia Officer	Annie Burden	Also Webmaster
Cenotaph Organising Officer	Don Mott	This is an Appointment
Postal Coordinator North	Valerie Nisbet	Also NEC member
Postal Coordinator South	Brian Roche	Also NEC member
Postal Coordinator Overseas	Clive Boyles	Also NEC member & International Liaison Officer
Editor Of the Kris Magazine	Malcolm White	Also National Vice Chairman
National Standard Bearer	Ms Debby Lofts	
Westminster Abbey Garden of Remembrance Organiser	Bert Godsiff	
NMBVA Padre	Rev Roger Perry	

18. **Reminder of Reunion Dinner:** Dress Black Tie, Lounge suits or Blazers with miniatures. Please be seated in dining room by 1900hrs. There will be a wine reception Garden Suite

The National Standard was officially Handed over from Mike Well to Mrs Debby Lofts at a small ceremony conducted by the National Chairman Mr David W Neil

**19. Recovery of National Standard and Union flag.**

**20. Chairman closes the meeting at...1235.....hrs.**

Minutes Approved By Chairman    Signature.....Date.....

Other information	Money taken at Raffle	£545.00
	Collection Church Service	£135.32
	Raised By Bob McCarthy	<u>£ 27.00</u>
		£707.23

For those who contributed many thanks for you very generosity  
From all members of the NEC