



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019  
At the Novel Hotel, Long Eaton, Nottingham**

**Meeting Opened @ 10:05**

**Item1** - The National Standard was paraded into the meeting by Debbie Lofts and accepted by Malcolm White National Chairman.

**Item 2** - The Homage was read by the By Mr William C Boyles MSM

Item 3 Rev. Roger Parry gave a short Pray

Item 4 two minutes silence for reflection

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



**Roll of Honour 2018-2019**

Mem No	Forename	Surname	Branch	Date Deceased
UK/O/2764	John	Kennedy	Cardiff	02/03/2017
UK/O/0582	Derek	Morris	Colchester	28/09/2018
UK/O/1682	Roy	South	Colchester	18/04/2019
UK/O/4443	John	Lilley	Colchester	22/03/2019
UK/O/4466	Monty	Glover	Colchester	07/10/2017
UK/O/4573	Angus	Murdoch	Colchester	2017
UK/O/6453	Alan	Rusby	Colchester	2018
UK/O/7790	Stuart	Jasper	Colchester	12/012/2017
UK/O/6198	James	Picken	Doncaster	N/K
UK/O/3056	Alan	Prince	Durham	N/K
UK/O/4445	John	Bell	Durham	23/11/2018
UK/A/75	Robert	Hosie	Durham	17/05/2019

UK/O/4252	Gordon	Squires	Grantham	20/12/2018
UK/O/5529	Alan	Mackay	Leicester	25/12/2018
UK/A/7817	William	Docherty	Mid Ulster	04/03/2019
UK/O/3608	William	Bateman	North Wales	Apr-18
UK/O/3786	Donald	Maxfield	North Wales	16/02/2019
UK/O/6167	Peter	Brown	North Wales	25/12/2018
UK/O/5953	Gordon	Fox	Northern Ireland	18/01/2019
UK/O/5358	Michael	Willson Lloyd	Nottingham	06/09/2019
UK/O/4464	Brian	Roche	Pontypridd	28/12/2018
UK/O/1909	William	Hesleton	Postal South	02/04/2019
UK/O/6674	John	White	Postal Central	16/01/2018
UK/O/747	Leonard	Chandler	Postal Central	N/K
UK/O/7510	Nicholas	Read	Postal Central	05/09/2018
UK/O/7549	Thomas	Usher	Postal Central	N/K
UK/O/7795	Peter Burrows	postal	Central	01/06/2019
UK/O/7958	Eddie Mendham	Postal	Central	27/03/2019
UK/O/0395	Earnest	Ellwood	Postal North	N/K
UK/O/2664	Roger	Swiers	Postal North	25/11/2018
UK/O/5261	George	Donaldson	Postal North	Jul-17
UK/O/6048	Alan	Taylor	Postal North	21/01/2019
UK/O/6704	Arthur	Lavis	Postal	North N/K
UK/O/7338	Fred Bray		Postal North	17/09/2017
UK/O/5330	Norman	Job BEM	Postal South	11/12/2018
UK/O/1961	Derrick	Cozens	Postal South	N/K
UK/O/4345	Dominic	Elliot	Postal South	Oct-18
UK/O/7602	Michael	Sharp	Postal South	29/06/2019
UK/O/5627	David	Lewry	Solent	26/11/2018
UK/O/6174	Tony	Crisp	Solent	26/12/2018

Malcom White, these are the only names of members who we have been notified of, if anyone knows of any other member who has passed on, please inform the National Secretary or National Membership Secretary

#### **National Chairman's Welcome Mr Malcolm White**

Item 4

Meeting opened by the National Chairman: Mr Malcom White

A special welcome to those members who have not attended an AGM before and hope you will all have an enjoyable time. A special warm welcome to those that support the AGM, year after year, you are the glue that keeps the association going; Thank You

#### **ITEM 5**

Apologies; Ltd. Col. Tex Pemberton OBE., Mike Weller & Betty, John McAulay. All four unable to attend due to health problems, regrettably John has now passed on. Mike

Hawkins who expressed his regrets. A special thanks to Mike and Betty for Denoting their refund of £179 to the association

Page by page acceptance of the Minutes of the 2018 AGM. Acceptance of Minutes of the 2018 AGM

Proposed by Peter Grundy Seconded by Mick Smith

#### ITEM 6

Chairman's Report.

Welcome all, Thanks for attending

It is just over 25 years since a group of Veterans on returning from a re-union in Malaysia set on the path of forming the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association.

We have achieved several milestones since, we successfully reversed the decisions that, first we were not allowed to receive the PJM, and later the permission to wear the PJM.

We have installed a Plaque in St. Pauls and a splendid stone memorial in the National Memorial Arboretum. Both will be there for many years to come reminding people of the effort that our fellow forces personnel contributed to the successful outcome of the formation of Malaysia. Also sadly of those that made the ultimate sacrifice and did not return home.

Each Year, along with the Not Forgotten Association and the assistance of Ted Williams our National Secretary, we organise several functions for members to attend, not forgetting our Annual Reunion dinner which brings together members from all of our military forces.

Our association will carry on for many years yet enabling members to meet-up and socialise with each other.

Our AGM informs members of the work that their National committee has carried out, also gives members the chance to air their views and put forward ideas and possible changes for our organization.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend and look forward to getting to meet members later.

#### Item 7

National Secretary Report

Item 7a Communications

I sent out to every member a Pro-forma request motion for this meeting unfortunately I did not get one reply, if the NEC is going to meet your aspirations, we need feedback. Suggestions and ideas from members to save you time I'll welcome a phone call but please please keep us informed of your expectations

#### Item 7b PJM

On a visit to the Malaysia High Commission, I discussed with Brig. Gen Dato' Subarei Tomo(Defence advisor) on the issue of the PJM, and a this has been established. In fact, this was a very productive day. All application for the PJM have to go through the secretary of the NMBVA, Application can be downloaded from the NMBVA Web, Please read instructions for completion, also ensure that you include proof of service with your application. No medal will be issued without proof of service.

#### Item 7c The Not Forgotten Association Fund Raising

This year Rosie has Teamed up with 15 injured veterans to take on the challenge of Stovenia's high Mountain, Mount Trigla, as in previous years to make the NMBVA donation count we request that Branches make a collection recording donations on the

attached pro-forma make cheques payable to the NMBVA endorsing the Not Forgotten Association on reverse of cheque individual donors likewise the last time we were able to make a donation of £2,000, we as a association have benefit greatly from the various trips organised by the the Not Forgotten Association like Buckingham Palace Garden party and various other events, so please gave generously, send cheques along with donation sheet to the National Treasure, Dick Richardson who will keep a separate account the flow amount collected along with donors will published, thanking you all in advance. Rather disappointed with response at a time of writing

Item 7d NMBVA Spring Get Together.

A lot of members wanted a change from Blackpool therefore, we have booked the Warners Gunton Hall Hotel at Lowestoft. This is an elegant Hotel with 1st class service and brilliant food, for the Ladies it has a Hair salon and many more attractions with Live top-class entertainment nightly. The price includes 2 excursions and full use of the Warners Leisure facilities. If you contact the IOW tours, you can pay by instalments. I call on Dick to gives his experience of the Hotel. Dick, I stayed this hotel some time ago, and it was absolutely fantastic the price looks a little high, but this include the cost of the excursions full use of hotel leisure facilities, which includes indoor pool and first class entertainment nightly, I have contacted the IOW Tours who will accept payment instalments, I believe this is value for money

Item 7c Festival of Remember at the Royal Albert

To mark our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary The NMBVA Stanadard will be paraded by Debby Loft at the Royal Albert Hall

Item 7d Merdaka Carnival 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Regrettably there has been a lot of confusion over this event this year. We we were to told it was off, but at short notice told it was back on, and Brigadier General Dato' Subarei Tomo (Defence advisor) requested that as many as possible NMBVA members attended. This is always s good out, therefore if interest please contact John Meacham, who is our organiser of this event

Item 8 National Treasurers Report. 2018-2019

From July until the end of October, I have been virtually unable to do any of the duties my office required owing to major surgery and complications. I would like to thank Ted and my wife Sue for keeping the ship running.

I am now back to almost full head of steam and look forward to the future.

I have now about caught up waverers At the end 2018 there were 219 members not having increased their subscriptions after having been advised in the Christmas newsletter December and further letters/emails this resulted in the loss of income of £657.00. Year 30 June 2019 the problem had almost halved 117 Members had failed to increase their subscriptions creating a loss of £351.00 over a period of two years the association lost £1,007.00 and a further £77.00 on postage the equivalent of letters to members to members. Certainly not acceptable for a decision by the Annual general meeting of 2017

INCOME: Having brought forward £4,786.07 from the previous year, Joining Fee`s

£66.00 Subscriptions £12051.00 subscriptions and latte payment. Regalia Sales and Postage £520.50, accommodation Accommodation £214.00 Voluntary Donations £1190.80. Total Income £18,828.62.

EXPENDITURE: Stationary £41.20 Printing £289.43 Postage £760.89, Audit £325.00 Insurance £1,118.63 Keris £2,848.30. Newsletter not published to owing to bereavement NEC travel £875.58 Accommodation £1646.0, Rebate £00.00 Remembrance £3,900.00 Contingency £00.00 Regalia £739.10 £1,000.00 Transferred to reserve account Total Expenditure 12,514.13 Leaving £ £6314.49 to be carried forward in July £2,500.00 was transferred to the reserve account

The Financial Situation has improved but the Membership should be aware that the Annual General Meeting is the body that negotiates any changes to the financial structure Of the Association. We do not decide we implement your decision

#### ASSETS

Current Account	£05,245.79
Reserve Account	£25,086.24
Cash in Hand	£00,902.00
Total	£31.216.30

The Assets do not include Property and Regalia

D Richardson

Proposed by Annie Burden Seconded by Dennis Jones that the above is accepted Agreed

#### Item 9 Membership Secretary Report

Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen this is the membership secretary's report from 8th October 2018 to 5th October 2019. I took over as membership secretary in 2012 the membership stood at 2103 since then membership has dwindled to 1214 a loss of 889 members. This is due to fall again this year as there are members names on the database that have not been transferred to lost touch/resigned. These members will be removed shortly. I apologise for not taking this action earlier but my wife and I have had a year of health problems. Again, we have quite a number of branches that do not seem to grasp that the date for paying annual subscriptions is the 1st July, hence, the number of outstanding arrears.

Members of the association		
Association membership in	Oct 2018	Oct 2019
A: Members on the database	1283	1214
B: Paid up members	1192	773
C: in arrears	277	441
Membership is made up		
A: Associate member	143	125
B: Honorary Members	17	16
C: Ordinary Members	1309	1073

Recruitment

A: Associate Members	6	5
B: Ordinary Members	28	10
C: Returning Members	39	5

We have lost since last AGM

A: Deceased	48	38
B: Lost touch	32	30 Approx.
C: Resigned	38	23*

Conclusion

On the figures, the lost touch figure is an approximation as there was a blip when converting the database to conform to the data protection act.

The resigned figures include those who resigned due to the increase in Subscriptions

Of the 441 members who still have not paid their subscriptions 99 will have to be moved as they last paid in 2018. Some of the members pay members pay by standing order, later year, unfortunately I cannot isolate them. Once again, I request very strongly the help of branch secretaries giving details of those who have paid

I submit this report for your approval

Bob Roberts

National Membership Secretary

this is a moderate increase of £3 (price of a cup of coffee per year) which was agreed at an AGM

Ted Pemberton there are a number of reasons why numbers are not paying, when I first joined we paid annual subscription on the anniversary of my joining dated now we pay earlier, secretary explained that we agreed a financial at the 2010 AGM 1st July to 30th June implemented in 2011 for the following reasons 1 It gave the National Treasury time to prepare accounts and have them audited in time for the AGM, it is also easier to ascertain non-payments. On the change over period we erred on the membership side, if the member paid in October we credited to the next financial year, therefore no member was out pocket due to the change quite the reverse On the new joining application there is a scale of payments for members joining. Ted went on to say that you will always lose member if you increase basic payments, he explained that he has an association of Small Traders over 20,00, They never increase fees to existing members, but increase fees to new member. Secretary; You have an expanding association and the NMBVA's are a dying association, and prices are going up and he believes this to be a very moderate increase

Proposed by by Mr Paul Cross second by Peter Grundy that this report be accepted  
Agreed

Item 9 Report from the International Liaison Officer - John Measham

Proposed NMBVA Trip to Borneo Malaysia 2020

Our Defence team in Kuala Lumpur have been in talks with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission regarding the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Labuan in June 1945, where the Allied troops successfully fought the Japanese Imperial Forces for control of the Brunei Bay, and developed it into a base to support future offensives. After securing the island, the Allied forces developed Labuan into a significant base.

Although it was mainly the Australians that took part in the offensive in 1945, we have been invited by our KL Defence team and the CWGC to attend the commemoration, to honour those allied troops that died during the battle.

The proposal for the trip is that we in June 2020, in much the same format as our successful 2017 trip, go to the Island of Laduan in Sabah, off the coast of North Borneo spending 5/6 days there, then travelling south to Kuching Sarawak and spending a further 4 days there, and then on to Kuala Lumpur for 2 days before returning home to the UK.

There will be no minimum numbers this time as there was in 2017, so if only have a smaller group that want to go, no problem.

Although nothing has been finalised, any feedback is welcomed, along with a show of interest.

Merdeka Carnival Saturday 12th October at Brickendonbury Hertfordshire.

Although several veterans from Solent and Doncaster branches go to the carnival every year as guest of the Malaysian High Commissioner. We have been asked by the Malaysian Defence Adviser Brig General Tomo if we would parade for the New HC. So we are trying to get as many NMBVA veterans there, Solent Branch Chairman David Chandler has offered to lead the Veterans on the parade, should this go ahead. Dress code will be headdress, blazers and medals.

Item 10 Motion by Mrs Annie Burden Second by Mr Malcom White

Reference the increase of Annual National Subscription from £7 to £10 agreed at the 2017 AGM. I propose that spouses/partners of fully paid up members are exempted from the increase. They only get one copy of the Keris / Newsletter between them, they only joined to support their husbands/partners many of which would not attend the meetings without their husbands/partners. This has come from members of Colchester. If this is not approved, we will lose members.

Comments

A This has been discussed at the NEC 2 times. It was carried 1st time, but due to remarks, it was brought up again.

B Ted: at the AGM the increase in subscription was agreed there was no mention of publications, and he considers it a very small increase.

C Bob: pointed out that this was a few members in one Branch.

Mrs Annie Burden requested that it should be decided at the AGM.

Opposition: Ted Williams; Dick Richardson and Bob Roberts

A On today prices this is only equivalent to one cup of coffee per year.

B This is accepted and actioned by every other Branch therefore we will lose money. (In my view members get far more for their money than they had in the past and pensions etc have increase)

C It will increase the workload for both the National Treasurer and National Membership Secretary.

D There are a lot of members who work hard for the association and don't claim expenses, we also have on occasions anonymous donors what will their reaction be?

To ensure there will be no intimidation you all have a voting slip. Spoiled voting slips will be recorded but not counted. Voting paper will be counted immediately by members of the committee in front of you

Dick Richardson the argument appears to revolve around the Keris, the fee is an all-round figure not just for one item

Mick Smith we only get one Keris/Newsletter etc, but the wife goes on the trip organised by the No Forgotten Association/National

Malcom White if they pay the same they should have equal rights therefore associated members living in the same home as an ordinary should receive a copy of the Keris/Newsletter etc. this was dealt at length.

David Chandler stated that his wife has been an associated for over 5 years they only one copy of the KERIS/newsletter and they agree that it would be a waste of money to have 2 copies, and does not know why the fuss

One member (No Name given) suggested save money we send end copies to the Branches for distribution; We have tried that while some branches cooperated the majority did not, and we came to the conclusion that their only that we could be certain that we send literature direct to members home

Annie, we have a number of paid up members whose wives are not associated member, but still go on trips, therefore why pay to be an associated member Ted perhaps it time to charge non-contributing who take advantage of our kindness

John Barker Lincolnshire Branch, it seem to me that the argument is around the increase do the NEC intend to increase the fee year after year. Mal no this is a onetime increase

Mal said the we had a a long-varied discussion and its time to vote please open envelope number one and vote

Spoiled papers 2 for the motion 15 against 21

Paper counted by Mrs Valeri Nisbbet and Mrs Annie Burden  
Not carried

Motion by Mr E. J Williams seconded by Mr D Richardson  
Proposed that Lt. Col. Pemberton is made an honorary Vice President for life in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the association during his period as National Chair he was the man for the time. The association was at a very low ebb, the previous chairman had walked out a delegates meeting because inter fighting and the meeting became like the house of commons, all shouting an no action. It was also through hard work that we have a magnificent memorial at the Arboretum, there were 3 previous memorials prior to the present one.

Mal it was due Tex we have got a magnificent Memorial John Crossley and £24,000. Ted; yes, but he got done up till then it was all talk and no action

Owen Lawrence MBE I was at the meeting when Birmingham Branch appeared intent on destroy the association and Alun Rees the national Chairman walked out. I thought the

Association was finished. As Ted said without, we would not be here today, we got a memorial and he got us organised, as I said I could not stand him

John Crossley Leicester Branch, the previous I was at that meeting and the Chairman did not walk out, Ted he did, John he did, John we were you there, Ted I as seated next to him. John over the year a lot have tried to humiliate other members Birmingham Branch came in force with a lot of questions. The Chairman answered but they still kept on asking the same question, in a frustration he resigned. In my view he was the best Chairman we ever had organising meetings,

**Note this is only a synopsis**

Mal; I can understand that you are defending Alun and I appreciate I, but we are talking about Tex I was told by another member that he just walked in and took over Ted that's wrong Brian Roche, suggested that we approach Tex and he agreed he was opted on to the committee and voted in at the next AGM he was autocratic but he save the Association

Mal we have had; we a long disunion, now the time to vote please open envelope 2

Result of vote spoiled paper 1 against 4, for 32 there was a round of applause. Lt. Col Tex Pemberton OBE is now a honorary Vice President for life

*Motion by Malcolm White (National Chairman) and second by Dick Richardson*

To save money we stop the Christmas Newsletter.

Mal, I have produced the Keris and Newsletter over the years the amount of material I receive for the Keris has decreased. The Keris has been going for approximately 9 years. I have put a lot of articles in it from all forces, the well is drying up I do not have much information to publish I the Kris last year I put all the information from the AGM etc and I found this made the Keris into the normal size my proposal is that we have one publication per year and the information that used to go into the Christmas newsletter will go into the Keir this will be a little later than normal

Opposed Ted, at this period of the Associations life communications are important, we can cut the quality, a few sheets of A4 paper would suffice. But we must communicate especially to the postal members

Owen Lawrence is there some we keep the postal members there is by convincing those with computer to accept emails, to be fair to Mal he tried this a few years ago and it was a disaster, but this is no reason why we should not try again. Mal, sent out 150 letters to those who had email from address's on our database I only got 20 replies that indicated to me that member who have emails are not looking at them, members like to receive hard copies. Ted Pemberton Nottingham Branch Mr Chairman did you request a rely and did you put your email on the, yes

Have looked for sponsorship Mal sent 20 likely to sponsors, the only positive reply was from the IOW tours. It's doubtful if you get sponsorship unless you have a large circulation however if you have any suggestions please pass them on. If you would like a shorter newsletter we will oblige but branches must send us information. From the floor why don't you ask Branches to send in yearly reports for publication, we have tried

If you want to go down Ted's route with 2 publications, we do

Vote, those in favour of keeping the Christmas newsletter 23

Those in favour of no publication per year

Insurance. All Branches and Standards are covered for public liability

Proposed by: Ted Williams; seconded by: Dick Richardson that monies collected at the Reunion Dinner AND Church service go to the NMBVA. Agreed unanimously

David Chandler chairman Solent Branch

We have a Secretary supposedly who started the Branch off slowly I realised that we don't make any decision he tells us. This was brought up on the July meeting, He stormed out saying he resigned, we had no secretary to take the minutes with over 40 members waiting. Angie our Treasurer stepped in and was voted in at the meeting since then I have had emails from him saying to the effect that she should not be the Secretary what is your advice, if she has been cop on the committee and voted in by the members she remains as secretary until the Branch AGM common sense must prevail. Ted I shall contact Colin, and hopefully we will reach an amicable agreement

Election of Officers 2019/20 to assume on the rising of the AGM:

Position	Nominee	Nominated By	
Chairman of the Association	Malcolm White	Sitting Chairman	Unopposed
Secretary of the Association	Ted Williams	Sitting Secretary	Unopposed
Treasurer of the Association	Dick Richardson	Sitting Treasurer	Unopposed
Membership Secretary of the Association	Bob Robert	Sitting Membership	Unopposed
Webmaster	Annie Burden	Sitting Webmaster	Unopposed
Member of the NEC	Clive Boyles	Sitting NEC Member	Unopposed
Member of the NEC	Valerie Nisbet	Sitting NEC Member	Unopposed
Member of the NEC	John Measham		Charles McIntosh

Seconded: Mrs Annie Burden

John Measham voted in unanimously

Non-Executive Officers NEC

Resident representative	Kuala Lumpur Dhato'	Ahmad Tejudin	Ted Williams
Regalia Officer	Annie Burden	Also Webmaster	
Cenotaph Organising Officer	Don Mott	This is an Appointment	
Postal Coordinator North	Bob Roberts	Also NEC member	
Postal Coordinator Central	Mr Clive Boyles	Also NEC member	
Postal Coordinator South	John Measham	Also NEC member	
Postal Coordinator Overseas	Valerie Nisbet	Also NEC member	
International Liaison Officer	John Measham	Also NEC member	
Editor of the Kris Magazine	Malcolm White	Also National Chairman	
National Standard Bearer	Ms Debby Lofts		

Westminster Abbey  
Garden of Remembrance Organiser Graham Chilton Surry Branch  
NMBVA Padre Rev Roger Perry

23. Polite reminder: Dress for Reunion Dinner

Black tie with miniatures or Lounge Suit with miniatures or Blazers with medals.

We would be grateful if members would ensure your guests adhere to the dress code.

Wine reception at 1830. and guests to be seated in dining room by 1900. There may be a little delay to accommodate the Brigadier General Dato' Subari Tomo.

The Chairman and all the NEC wish you a very enjoyable evening.

24. Recovery of National Standard and Union Flag.

Chairman Closes meeting at...12:1 hours