

Minutes of Uckfield Branch Meeting
12 Feb 09, Ashdown Room, Civic Centre, Uckfield.
7.30pm

Present

Sarah Rae	Mary Reed	Steven Nelson
Roy Divall	John Edwards	Jean Edwards
Sue Mayers	Norman Mayers	Doris Whitcombe
John Whitcombe	Eric Osborne	John Gorrie

- 1 The Chairman opened the meeting with the Exhortation.
- 2 The Chairman asked those present to remember former Chairman, Barrie Murray, who died recently and stated that without the enthusiasm and support of Mr Murray in 2006 the Branch would not have reformed.
- 3 Apologies were received from: David Firth, Maria Firth, Sarah Nelson, Martyn Rae, Richard Green.
- 4 There were no new members to introduce.
- 5 Minutes of the previous meeting, previously circulated, were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed: Mary Reed, Seconded: Eric Osborne.
- 6 There were no matters arising that were not dealt with else where in the agenda.
- 7 Secretary's Report – the Chairman read the Secretary's report (attached).

War Memorials Trust – talk to be given after the Branch meeting on 12.3.09. Other interested parties to be invited. The Branch cannot get involved with matters relating to the war memorial but any members who are interested may wish to form a separate group to pursue the issue after the 12.3.09. The Chairman clarified that guidelines recently received from HQQ (and read out at the last Branch meeting) had made the RBL's position on war memorials clear.

Uckfield Festival

Branch members were keen to take part in the Big Day Out again, despite the rise in pitch costs. Details received from the Festival Committee had stressed that it was felt that there were too many tombolas on the field last year and asked groups to be a little more imaginative in their choice of fundraising activities. The Chairman reminded those present that the Branch needs to raise more money generally to fund the day-to-day activities of the Branch and that whatever is done at the Big Day must make significant funds for the Branch.

Group 10 AGM

The Chairman read the minutes from the Group 10 AGM. No one remembered receiving an invitation to the AGM, and the Chairman was unsure as to who had supplied the Uckfield Branch report given in the minutes.

- 8 Treasurer's Report – in the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman read the report.

- 9 Poppy Organisers Report – the Chairman said there was little more to report this month. She is now unable, because of work and other commitments, to continue as Poppy Organiser and will shortly be writing to the County PAO to advise them of this. The Chairman asked for volunteers from within the Branch to come forward to take on the role of PAO. If no one within the Branch felt able to do the job, volunteers from outside the Branch would be sought through Uckfield Volunteer and Information Centre.
- 10 Forthcoming Events:
March meeting – talk by War Memorials Trust
April meeting – Quiz Night – all welcome. Details will be circulated shortly. It is hoped that teams can be encouraged to take part and help us raise funds for the Branch by taking part.
July 11 – Big Day Out – Ideas please for innovative fundraising ideas. The Chairman expressed an interest in having a “dunk tank”.
October 10 – Festival of Remembrance – still very much in early planning but it is hoped that Uckfield Concert Brass will be able to join us again. Following brief discussion it was felt that the ticket price should be kept at £10 per person.
- 11 AOB
County Conference – attended by the Chairman, President (Mary Reed) and Chris McMahon (delegate). Not a great deal to report. But the Branch did receive the D’Acre Cup for most improved membership.

ATC Awards Evening – the Chairman and President attended the evening in January and presented the cadets with their Poppy Certificates for helping us last November. A very enjoyable evening.

RNA – Mr Osborne advised that the RNA branch will be closing shortly due to dwindling membership numbers.

Fundraising – the Chairman reminded everyone that we need to raise funds to keep the Branch going. It was suggested by Mrs Whitcombe that everyone contribute £1 at each meeting to cover the costs of room hire. Not everyone was in favour and it was agreed that this should be optional to begin with. However, this will only cover room hire and the Branch does have other costs to cover. Ideas for fundraising events to be held after Branch meetings should be forwarded to the Secretary or Chairman.
- 12 Date and time of next meeting – 12 March, 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Royal British Legion Uckfield Branch

Branch Meeting

12th February 2009

Secretary's Report

1. **Membership**
Current membership now stands at 32 adult members. All due subs have been paid.
2. **War Memorials Trust Presentation**
The War Memorials Trust has accepted an invitation to give a presentation about their work at the next branch meeting on 12 March 2009.
3. **Uckfield Festival**
This years festival 'Big Day Out' will be held on 11th July. The festival organisers have asked those groups wishing to book stands to come up with fresh ideas for their stands as it was felt that there were to many Tombolas last year.
4. **Group 10 AGM**
Group 10 AGM minutes have been received. Members wishing to obtain a copy should contact me. A point to note in the minutes is that Uckfield managed to pip Crowborough at the post as the branch that raised the largest amount in the Poppy Appeal.

This concludes the secretary's report.

David Firth
Secretary
Uckfield Branch Royal British Legion

Royal British Legion – Uckfield Branch

Treasurer's Report

12 Feb 2009

(For period 1/1/09 to 31/1/09)

1 Bank Account

The current account stands at **£4327.29** as at **31 January 2009**

No adjustment is required to my predicted figure from my last report as all figures tally with the HSBC statement.

2 Bills Paid

Uckfield Town Council – Ashdown Room Hire 8/1/09

Total Out: £15.10
£15.10

3 Income

RBL Membership (HQ Refund):

Total In: £31.50
£31.50

Maria Firth
Treasurer
Uckfield Branch Royal British Legion

Uckfield RBL Branch Diary

March 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
12th	Thurs	1930 2000	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre Presentation by The War Memorials Trust

April 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
9th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

May 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
14th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

June 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
11th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

July 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
9th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

August 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
13th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

September 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
10th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

October 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
8th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

November 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
12th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

December 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
10th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre