

# Branch Meeting

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 7.30pm  
Uckfield Civic Centre, Ashdown Room.

## Branch Minutes

### Present

Mrs M Reed (President)	Mrs Jean Edwards	Mr John Gorrie
Mrs Sarah Rae (Chair)	Mr Eric Osborne	Mr Robin Wright
Mr David Firth (Secretary)	Mr Roy Divall	
Mr Norman Mayers	Mr John Whitcombe	
Mrs Sue Mayers	Mrs Doris Whitcombe	

### 1 **Act of Remembrance**

The chairman opened the meeting with the exhortation.

### 2 **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 3 **Apologies for Absence**

Mr R Green, Mr I K Holford, Mr E Holdaway, Mr and Mrs S Nelson, Mrs M Firth (Treasurer), Mrs E Green and Mr J Edwards.

### 4 **Introduction of New Members**

There were no new members to introduce.

### 5 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Not accepted (see item 6)

The chairman instructed the secretary to amend the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February as per item 6.

### **(Amended minutes attached)**

### 6 **Matters arising from previous meeting**

Mrs Jean Edwards stated that item 11 (Fundraising) of the minutes of the branch meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2009 were incorrectly recorded and appeared negative.

Mrs Edwards explained that the rationale behind the suggestion that members voluntarily donate £1 at branch meetings was not fully explained. The purpose of donations was not to cover costs of room hire alone but were to be used to boost branch funds to cover general expenditure.

The branch President also pointed out that the suggestion was not put to the branch for a vote and that it should be proposed, seconded and voted upon before being implemented.

It was therefore proposed that:

'Members be allowed to voluntarily donate £1 towards branch funds during each branch meeting'

Proposer: Mrs Jean Edwards

Seconded: Mrs Sue Mayers.

The proposal was accepted by majority vote.

### 7 **Secretary's Report**

Attached

### 8 **Treasurer's Report**

Attached

9 **Poppy Appeal Organisers Report**

Following the Chairmans resignation as POA Mr Norman Mayers has volunteered and has been appointed as the new Poppy Appeal Organiser.

10 **Forthcoming Events**

10.1 Lions Day Fete The branch will be manning a tombola stall at the Lions Fete on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Members are requested to bring suitable prizes to the next branch meeting.

10.2 Uckfield Big Day Out The Chairman informed all present of the intention to hire a 'Dunk Tank' for fundraising on the 11<sup>th</sup> July. Due to the nature of the Dunk Tank volunteers will be needed to assist with supervising and manning of the stall.

10.3 Festival of Remembrance The chairman confirmed that the Uckfield Concert Brass Band will be playing at this years Festival of Remembrance.

10.4 Quiz Night A quiz competition will be on the evening of Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> April immediately after the branch meeting. Teams of 4 are invited at an entry cost of £5 per team.

11 **AOB**

11.1 Some members had become aware of an event taking place in the town in which the Royal British Legion band were playing. The Chairman explained that the committee were unaware of such an event but would welcome any information.

12 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next branch meeting will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April in the Ashdown room Uckfield Civic Centre at 1930 hrs.

# Royal British Legion Uckfield Branch

## Branch Meeting

12<sup>th</sup> March 2009

### Secretary's Report

1. **Membership**

Current membership now stands at 34 adult members. All members subscriptions are paid up. The latest membership changes report received in February 2009 showed 2 new members joining the branch, one transfer from Crowborough branch and 5 lapsed memberships.

2. Uckfield Lions are holding a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary fete on Luxfords Field on June 7<sup>th</sup>. They have invited organisations around Uckfield to book pitches for stalls (£10).

3. The Royal British Legion Year in Review 2008 DVD has been received. Members wishing to view the DVD should contact the secretary to arrange loan.

4. The latest Publications Catalogue has been received along with the Internal Financial Statements of Central Funds for year ending 30 Sept 2008 and a copy of Fly Navy 100 detailing 100 years of Naval Aviation. Members wishing to view these documents should contact the branch secretary.

This concludes the secretary's report.

David Firth  
Secretary  
Uckfield Branch Royal British Legion

## Royal British Legion – Uckfield Branch

### Treasurer's Report 12 Mar 2009

(For period 31/1/09 to 12/3/09)

#### 1 **Bank Account**

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

#### 2 **Bills Paid**

Uckfield Town Council – Ashdown Room Hire 12/2/09	£15.10
Uckfield Town Council – Ashdown Room Hire 12/3/09	<u>£20.13</u>
<b>Total Out:</b>	<b>£35.23</b>

#### 3 **Income**

No income received for this period:	<u>£00.00</u>
<b>Total In:</b>	<b>£00.00</b>

Maria Firth  
Treasurer  
Uckfield Branch Royal British Legion

# Uckfield RBL Branch Diary

## 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
7th	Sun	1330	Uckfield Lions Fete – Luxfords Field
11th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre

## July 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event
9th	Thurs	1930	Branch Meeting – Uckfield Civic Centre
11th	Sat		Uckfield Festival 'Big Day Out' – Luxfords Field

## 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

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

Present

Sarah Rae  
Roy Divall  
Sue Mayers  
John Whitcombe

Mary Reed  
John Edwards  
Norman Mayers  
Eric Osborne

Steven Nelson  
Jean Edwards  
Doris Whitcombe  
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 those attending branch meetings be given the opportunity to voluntarily contribute £1 towards branch funds. 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.