

Honorary President:
Major. Ron Cassidy M.B.E. ®

Chairman
Joe Mills
(01394) 270552

Benevolence:
John Bevan
(01394) 396272



Secretary:
Gordon Pilcher
(01394) 285925

Entertainments:
Mick Burtenshaw
(01394) 270596

The Royal Green Jacket Association

Suffolk Branch

Minutes of a meeting held on Friday 4th of April 1997
at the Army Cadet Drill Hall Felixstowe

1. **Those Present:** Joe Mills, Gordon Pilcher, John Bevan, Mick Burtenshaw, Jim Hitches, Larry Lamb, Jim Crack, Brian Pepper, Frank Moss, Tommy Evans, Fred Edwards, Vic Steedman, Brian Taplin, Mick Read & Del Hemsley.
2. **Apologies:** Stu Duckett, Dave Hazel, Alfie Adams & Craig Thomas
3. **The Meeting** was opened at 20.00 hrs by Joe Mills, with a warm welcome to Fred Edwards and Brian Taplin.
4. **The minutes of the previous meeting** were read out, proposed by Jim Hitches and seconded by Frank Moss that the minutes as read be passed.
5. **Matters arising:** Nil
6. **Correspondence:** Sent letter to Sgt Parry 1RGJ, awaiting reply.
7. **Finance:** Savings account £1942.48 with General account at £ 193.07
8. **Benevolence Report:** John Bevan presented his accounts for the year, showing that he still had £52.75. John also advised that the Festival Committee had put awarded us £140.00 and that he would collect the cheque on our behalf.
9. **Chairman's Report:** Gordon read out Joe's report which as this is our 10th Anniversary Joe has taken back and brought upto date as can be seen by the attached:-

Cont.

10. Winchester Weekend.

Returns received so far:-

Joe & Fe Mills	John & Margaret Bevan	John & Jenny Powell
Gordon & Jan Pilcher	Frank Moss	John & Sue Brunton
Tommy Evans	Jim Hitches	Larry & Julie Lamb
Del Hemsley	Mick Burtenshaw	Fred & Lally Edwards
Brian & Pauline Pepper*	Brian & Sheila Taplin	Vic Steedman
Fred Breyer @	Adam & Anne Easdon*	Dave & Tilly Caston@

* = two rooms @ = Family room

For those who haven't already done so please forward your deposit of £10.00 per adult to Gordon, so that we can confirm our bookings.

10. Any other business

- a. Joe suggested that we should write to RHQ for a donation towards this years coach for the Winchester weekend. Gordon will advise as soon as a reply is received.
- b. Having identified a need for us to bring the name and the activities of the RGJ Suffolk Branch to a larger audience than that covered by the minutes and the Annual RGJ News Letter it was proposed by Frank Moss and seconded by Tommy Evans that Del Hemsley become our Press Officer, taking on the responsibility of writing pieces for the News Letter, Journals and Local Free Papers on a regular basis. Del was happy to take on the task and the proposal was passed by all present.
- c. Curly Hoopers memorabilia: As promised previously the matter of Curly's collection was discussed and the following agreed upon:-

We will publish a list of all available items with a suggested price (that quoted unseen by Phillips Auctioneers) Each member will then have the opportunity to bid via post for any item that they would like - each bid will be kept and opened by a sub committee to be formed advising the highest bidders by the next months minutes.

All remaining goods will be sold off in one lot

The list will come out with Mays minutes and hopefully the whole matter can be resolved by August so that the proceeds which will go into our General Account can be advised at the August Birthday Dance.
- d. A proposal by Tommy Evans and seconded by Fred Edwards that Mick Burtenshaw and Larry Lamb who every month put up the Bar and do a marvelous job forcing drinks down our throats without too much forcing I might add, was warmly passed and agreed by all.
- e. Just to prove to Lally & Sheila that Fred and Brian were really with us in Felixstowe, they proposed and seconded that to try and get a better attendance at the AGM in April that the first two rounds of drinks be free paid for by the Assc. This was discussed and agreed for all future AGMs.

e. Cont. The Gordon Highlanders Assc, have been trying to get a proposal passed like this for years??

f. Date of the next meeting will be on Friday the 2nd of May 1997, same place same time.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 2045hrs.

Joe Mills
Chairman

Gordon Pilcher
Secretary

June 1987 was the first get together of what was to become the Suffolk Branch of the R.G.J. Association.

When I contacted Col Elliot about forming a local branch he said that I must be a very brave person. I think that I was a very lucky person, the way things have gone. It never ceases to amaze me how much we have achieved in the last 10 years.

One of the reasons for our success is that there has been very little change on the committee over the last few years, but I think another important factor must be that we have always tried to involve wives and families wherever possible.

What we must remember is that no matter what a committee does or tries to do, it requires the backing of the members, and here I believe we are very lucky because all our members whether they are local or live outside the area have been great and I thank you for all your support.

During these last ten years we have managed to put together a great set of functions which must be the envy of many other branches.

WINCHESTER

During the last 5 years or so this has become a very popular function and 1996 was no exception, we should give Ron Cassidy a big thank you for finding the Marwell Hotel for us, however the down side this year is that due to increase cost we will need to make a small charge for the coach. It was agreed that people from East Anglia should pay £10 per member and members using the coach from the Marwell to John Moore Barracks should pay £5 per member. There will be no charge for the usual shopping trip on Saturday.

SUFFOLK REUNION DINNER DANCE

For the first time the event was held in the Orwell Hotel and was very well attended with a large proportion of guest made up from members of our families. The whole evening was a huge success, the food, service and organisation was great. I will admit to having some reservations about moving the venue here, and it was very nice to have been proved wrong. This year however will be a little different because it will be classed as a tenth anniversary or birthday party, Frankie Moss has already designed and ordered the cake, and I hope to see more people than last year.

27/04/97

REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY

For us this always a bit special because we were instrumental in getting the wreath laying ceremony changed to 1100hrs on the Sunday, and having our regimental march played at the local festival of rememberance on the Saturday evening. Once again Alfie Adams did us proud as the standard bearer, and as usual was a credit to not only this branch but the whole Green Jacket Regiment, and again as usual after the parade all members adjourned for the usual lunch.

LADIES DINNER DANCE

Without doubt the one this year was thought to be the best one so far, with an attendance of over one hundred, it must have been the first time that no one has actually complained. Lets hope that we can increase the numbers in 1998.

I believe that we owe our committee members a big thank you for the work they have done over the last 10 years,

Gordon as Secretary, Mick & Larry Bar Entertainments

John Benevolence and Festival Rememberance Representative

Alfie Adams the Standard Bearer

But we must also thank Frank & Tommy for all the effort they put into in helping to raise finance by doing the Raffles etc.

I would also like to thank Barry Gilmore for all the work he did organising the very first 3 dinners we held and who set the standard.

Everyone connected with this branch whether local or from outside the area can be proud of the achievements that has been made by this small branch, and I hope that we can carry on making progress for the next 10 years.

Once again my sincere thanks to all our members wherever you live for your loyalty and support.

JOE.



BIRTHDAY INVITATION

COME HELP US CELEBRATE

OUR *10th* BIRTHDAY

THE ROYAL GREEN JACKET
ASSOCIATION

AT THE

ORWELL HOTEL

ON FRIDAY THE *22nd* OF AUGUST

1997.

*1930 - 2000hrs.
Buffet Dance.*