

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 1st April 2010

Chairman's Welcome – Barry Beck welcomed a full house to the 2010 AGM and confirmed there were no new members or visitors present. The 2010 AGM was initially planned to take place a month earlier than usual due to certain committee members being in Guernsey for the 65th Liberation Tour, but ultimately was overshadowed by the General Election which would have lost us our normal venue anyway being voting night! Barry then apologised that the raffle prizes were a bit thin on the ground due to the absence of our normal raffle organiser.

Apologies – R. & M. Reynolds, J. & K. Aldis, J. & E. Hindle, L. Dench, D. Goddard, D. & L. Hawes, J. Cushing, R. Wyatt, H. & M. King, L. & A. Maan.

Minutes of 2009 A.G.M. - were read and accepted as a true record.

Chairman's Report – Barry indicated that 2009 had been a very different year for both he and Doris and although privileged to have taken over the Chairman position last year this had been overshadowed by the accident in Normandy and he thanked all committee and members who supported them and his position through this difficult time. Thanks were given to Richard and Sandra who were confronted with a growing number of events and the corresponding Health and Safety requirements. However with Ray Elderton's assistance most issues were resolved. Publicity for the Group is of paramount importance and Charles was thanked for his efforts in this area and in conjunction with Richard we were able to benefit from publicity where possible with respect to the handing over of charity donations. The Christmas Dinner was again a great success and Rodney and Marinas fears of lack of attendance were not realised resulting in another outstanding event. The low light of the year was the sad passing of our President Lt. General Sir Anthony Mullens who became well known to us all at the 7th Armoured Division Memorial events and we will miss him. Barry indicated it was pleasing to see a good attendance at monthly meetings helped in part by a number of interesting guest speakers, thanks to the efforts of Joy Skinner. Given that the Group has been in existence for over 30 years Barry indicated the Committee and members must be getting something right as the membership remain around a very healthy number. Barry finished by indicating he was very proud to be our Chairman, and reflected it is a true family organisation not just a military vehicle drivers club but a group of dedicated friends which to him was something very special. As such he was prepared to re-stand for the position with the memberships support.

Vice Chairman's Report – Rodney Reynolds was not present and no report was submitted.

Secretary's Report – Ian McCallum thanked the membership and committee for their continued support over the year. Ian also considered the strength of the Group was in the membership, and their individual enthusiasm, without which there would be no organisation. Ian was heartened to see a growing number of younger members with their equally younger vehicles which offered another dimension to our military heritage when shown at events. It was also pleasing to see that we continue to secure value in our Public Liability Insurance through our membership of the FBHVC, managing to maintain premiums at realistic cost to the benefit of all. With reference to his continuation in the role of Secretary Ian however indicated that although prepared to stand for a further year he wished to stand down at the end of the term. By this date he indicated he would have held the position for 20 years including a parallel role of Newsletter editor and before that some fourteen years in all of the positions within a similar Scottish organisation. As such Ian felt it time to try and take more of a back seat although would obviously continue to support the committee from the 'front row'.

Treasurer's Report – Peter Cushing advised that our current account balance at year end stands at £3473.28, up on the previous year. On the income side we acquired £1710.00 as a result of donations from event organisers allowing a distribution of money to attending members of some £1100.00. This also allowed for donations to worthy causes throughout the year totalling £600.00. Other notable outgoings were Group Public Liability Insurance, Room Hire and guest speakers plus Newsletter reproduction costs and postage. Peter advised that a full account would be published in the next Newsletter and that he was prepared to stand for a further year, unless as always some other mug wished the position.

Rally Secretary's Report – Richard Edwards thanked everyone for their participation and contribution to the smooth running of events but especially Sandra, Ray Elderton and the committee. Richard indicated it had been a difficult year with the Group being in great demand resulting in a split of resources on more than one occasion. Richard then indicated that although he was prepared to stand for a further year he would then be standing down due to personal commitments.

Membership Secretary's Report – Bill Purchase advised praises of the membership had already been said and that he agreed with such comments. Over the 30 plus years of the Group it most certainly is now recognised thanks to your participation and subscriptions which make the running of the Group possible. Bill then indicated he was prepared to stand again with the membership's approval.

Publicity Officers Report - Charles Warren thanked the members and committee for all of the support he had received during the year and that friendly phone calls with snippets of information often lead to the possibility of positive publicity. Charles asked that this is a reflection on the membership and to please keep the stories coming in and that it is nice to see both young and old members with a common aim. Charles indicated he was prepared to stand for a further period in office if it was the desire of the membership.

M.V.T. Liaison Officer – Ian McCallum indicated that he was fulfilling the MVT liaison role with respect to submission of the quarterly Area Reports, distribution of minutes, and responding to the mail requirements but unfortunately as with last year had not had time to attend any meetings. Ian advised he was prepared to continue in the position.

Newsletter Editors Report –Dave Goddard indicated this was his last meeting in the capacity of Newsletter Editor and anticipated that his identified replacement should be formally elected. Dave advised that after 11 years both Sue and he had recognised it was time to put the pens down before the articles become boring and thus offer the opportunity for fresh blood and ideas. The chairman then thanked both Sue and Dave for their outstanding contribution over the period and asked that the membership show their appreciation.

Minutes of March Meeting - The minutes of the April meeting were then read and accepted as a true account.

Election of Officers –At this point the Chairman stood down and the Secretary took over to explain the process. Members were reminded that although the majority of outgoing officers of the committee were prepared to restand for given positions any fully paid up member could be nominated for any position requiring a proposer and seconder. Where more than one formal nomination is received election would be via a show of hands from those members present.

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NOMINATION</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>SECONDED</u>
Chairman	Barry Beck	D. Skinner	J. Dann
Vice Chairman	Rodney Reynolds	P. Cushing	D. Goddard
Secretary & Group Shop	Ian McCallum	John Morter	Ray Elderton
Treasurer	Peter Cushing	Joy Morter	C. Salisbury
Membership Secretary	Bill Purchase	J. Dann	B. Sewell
Rally Secretary	Richard Edwards	D. Goffin	C. Warren
Assist. Rally Secretary	Ray Elderton	John Morter	M.Thomas
Publicity Officer	Charles Warren	R. Herring	J. Skinner
Newsletter Editor	Mike Pollard	D. Goddard	S. Goddard
M.V.T. Liaison Officer	Ian McCallum	Joy Morter	B. Purchase

ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

John Morter		
Marina Reynolds)		
Joy Skinner)	D. Beck	C. McCallum
David Goddard Jnr).		

Upon the completion of the election process the chairman, Barry Beck, thanked the membership for their continued support indicating it was a privilege to be carrying on in the position. He took the opportunity to thank Doris for all her support and was saddened at the potential loss of two valued members of the committee at the end of the coming year being the Secretary and Rally Secretary. Barry also advised that Keith Thomas has been admitted to hospital as planned although the decision was made following further review that an operation at this time was not necessary.

John Sayer Trophy – This award is presented annually to an individual or persons that have contributed to the Group in some way. There is no strict ‘nomination criteria’, the responsibility for its award being undertaken by the previous year’s winner who was David Goddard Jnr. David Senior, speaking on behalf of David Jnr., presented the award this year to Tom Blevins for his outstanding representation both at NMVG events and his work for the Royal British Legion. Tom in receiving the award said it was an honour to receive an award for something he only enjoys doing.

A.O.B.

Secretary – Ian advised that he was organising a ‘mini tour’ to Dunkirk during the period 25May – 1st June. There was still capacity for anyone wishing to attend although it is only open to vehicles manufactured during 1940 or earlier. Ian also indicated that a new supply of vehicle pennants were now available in the Group Shop in addition to the normal stock of clothing.

Rally Secretary – Richard thanked those attending the Langley School event and updated members on forthcoming events through April and May.

Membership Secretary – Bill Purchase advised he would be collecting 2010 subscriptions after the meeting.

Newsletter Editor – Mike Pollard thanked the membership for their support and confidence in voting him into the position. It was the intent to retain a similar format and he asked the membership for their support in information and stories for future issues.

Cyril Salisbury – Gave membership information on the Halesworth to Southwold road run and indicated he had given a 20 minute interview on a local radio station – Blyth Valley Radio in which he mentioned the Group. Whilst on air a listener from Derby rang in regarding what a wonderful job we do in running World War II vehicles and keeping their memory alive.

Joy Skinner – Advised she was taking bookings and collecting the money for those wishing to attend the Crank Up Dinner.

David Goddard – Thanked those that had contributed gifts or money for the ‘shoe-box’ appeal indicating that a total of 41 boxes had been assembled.

David Hines – Gave information on the 34 Model A road run from Tibbenham Greyhound via Hardwick and Thorpe Abbott on 29th May. All welcome, speak to David for more details.

Peter Cushing – Indicated he had received a letter from the Royal British Legion requesting donations in support of the VE Day 65th Anniversary Appeal for needy veterans. Following discussion and a show of hands it was proposed and seconded that the Group make a donation of £100.00.

Tony Emmerson – Indicated that there was a pile of military enthusiast magazines at the back of the room, free to anyone wishing them.

Ian McCallum – Indicated that David Hawes had contacted him advising that the 40’s Dance at Acle had gone well with 23 members in attendance and £250.00 being raised on behalf of Help for Heroes.

John Morter – indicated that he would keep the list open for a further two weeks for those wishing to attend Beltring at the Group reduced rate. Entry forms must be returned, including insurance details and be accompanied by the fee of £10.00. John also asked if there had been any thoughts on a replacement President. The Chairman responded that Rod Scott of the 7th Armoured Division Memorial Association was also in a similar situation since the passing of Lt. Gen. Sir Anthony Mullens although this should not

influence our seeking of a nomination. The possibility of approaching General Sir Richard Dannatt had been discussed at a recent committee meeting and the Secretary was asked to compose a suitable letter.

Barry Beck – Barry thanked both Tony Emmerson and Ray Elderton for their offer of support with the Rally organisation and closed the meeting indicating there would be a video at the June meeting on John Dann's trip with the American Military Vehicle Organisation from Washington to San Francisco.

Being no other formal business the meeting closed at 2150.