

ADEN VETERANS ASSOCIATION GLOUCESTERSHIRE 10TH ANNIVERSARY
BRANCH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH APRIL 2018 AT STROUD
CONSERVATIVE CLUB AT 11.00 HOURS

1. Our Branch Chairman Stephen Weall welcomed everyone to this 10th Anniversary meeting and asked everyone to stand for the Exhortation and Kohima read by our Branch President Chris Price.
2. Stephen Weall conducted the Act of Remembrance for past members of the Branch.
3. Apologies for Absence were received from Ian Cooper, Hugh and Sheila Gibson, Keith and Pam Spiret.
4. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th October 2018 (Circulated): approval of these was proposed by Chris Blick and seconded by John Page and agreed without dissent.
5. Our Chairman had proposed that our Committee be increased by two members. Jane Wathern and John Longhurst had been nominated and had agreed to serve on the Committee. This was agreed by all present.
6. David Gearing confirmed that the total excess received from Gloucester Cathedral collection was £631. As previously agreed half of this sum would go to SSAFA and half to "branch projects". After some discussion and consideration of possible projects, the formal proposal by Bryn Richards, seconded by Rose Longhurst, that the money should be given to the Eye Hospital at Steamer Point, Yemen was carried by 18 votes to 7. David also confirmed that the state of the branch account remains healthy; he thanked all members for their continued support.
7. The dates for the forthcoming events were confirmed – Anzac Day, St Georges Day, Earthcott Green, and Summer Outing. All those wishing to attend should register on the lists provided. In addition, there is to be the Dedication of the Pavoir at the National Arboretum on 28th June. Chris Price recommended that for those who had not done so, a visit to the National Arboretum would be worthwhile anyway.
8. Jean Stublely gave a report on the First Wednesday lunches which she had arranged; currently the attendance is in excess of 20. Jean requested a decision on the choice of venue for the next Christmas lunch: Gloucester Old Spot (£32.50), Gloucester Farmers Club (£21.00) or Brickhampton Golf Club (£19.95). After some discussion, the choice was put to a vote and 25 members voted in favour of the Brickhampton Golf Club.
9. Chris Blick gave details of his sponsored walk – 50 miles along the south coast to Bigbury-on-Sea. He is raising money for the Children's Hospice in Cornwall and Devon.
10. Roger Acland gave details of the RBL sponsored Western Front Trek due to take place in September. He is hoping to raise £1400 for the Poppy Appeal.

11. Under “Any Other Business”, the following points were raised:

- a. Sally Welzel stated that the Gloucestershire Armed Forces and Veteran Breakfast Club meets at the Cross Hands, Brockworth on the last Saturday of every month.
- b. Concern was expressed by a number of members, that the last edition of the Dhow was below its usual standard, and that there had been no mention of the service held by our Branch at Gloucester Cathedral. It was suggested that we should put together a report to go into the next issue.
- c. Chris Price thanked everyone for their involvement in the service at Gloucester Cathedral last November. He suggested that when Dame Janet Trotter retires from her term as Lord Lieutenant, we should give her a memento as thanks for her support over the last few years. In addition he requested the Secretary to write to her, inviting her to the Christmas lunch.
- d. All members wished to state their thanks for the generous donation of the 10th Anniversary birthday cake most generously given by Dorothy and Chris Blick.

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