

**ADEN VETERANS ASSOCIATION GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH MEETING HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022 AT STROUD CONSERVATIVE CLUB AT 11.00  
HOURS**

1. Our Branch President Chris Price welcomed everyone to this meeting and asked everyone to stand for the Exhortation and Kohema.
2. Apologies for absence were received from Jim Major, Keith Spiret, Peter House, Stewart Harrison, Tony Holland, Ray Bunnage, Bob and Sybille Wood, Emlyn, Phennah, Judith Compton, Douglas Smith and Jane Gandy. There were 28 attendees.
3. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th October 2021 had been circulated. Dennis Flamson proposed their acceptance and Rose Longhurst seconded. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
4. David Gearing confirmed that the formal accounts will be presented at the AGM. He reminded those present that the annual donation of £10 would be appreciated after the meeting. He also stated that his position is due for re-election at the AGM, and that he would be happy to continue in post should he be proposed and elected.
5. Summer Functions for this Year.
  - a. St Georges Day Service - 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Including the standard bearer, we have 6 tickets. 4 tickets including the one for the standard bearer have been taken up. Sally Welzel bid for one of the spares, so we have one spare. Please apply to the Secretary if you would like to attend.
  - b. Remembrance Service at Earthcott Green - 15<sup>th</sup> June. 18 members have already stated that they would like to attend. The organisers for the event have already agreed that about 20 may attend, so there are still spaces for another two – please advise Michael Compton if you would like your name added to the list.
  - c. Armed Forces Day - 25<sup>th</sup> June. We are still waiting for the details of this event to be published by Gloucester AFD Committee Chairman. They will be passed on as soon as we know.
  - d. AGM - 6<sup>th</sup> July. Clive Candling the new National Committee Chairman has accepted our invitation to attend. As a special celebration for the Platinum Jubilee, Sheila Gibson and Dennis Flamson have kindly volunteered to provide a cake.
  - e. Summer Outing - 3<sup>rd</sup> August. The visit to the Cotswold Airfield to look at the renovated Britannia; Jean Stublely has been in conversations with two lunch venues. Also the AV8 has been suggested as another. Jean will advise when her deliberations are complete.
  - f. Branch Meetings - 5<sup>th</sup> October
  - g. First Wednesday Lunches - 4<sup>th</sup> May to be held at the Lamb at Eastcombe, and 1<sup>st</sup> June to be held at the Dockers Club, Sharpness (which is prepared to open for lunch especially for us). Our thanks to Jean for arranging these.
  - h. ANZAC Day - 24<sup>th</sup> April. Chris Blick reminded us of this event. The details are as follows:

1300 to 1330 – Arrival at Leighterton School GL8 8UH

1415 – Parade forms for inspection at 1435

1445 – March Off

1500 – Service at the Cemetery after which, attendees may return to the school for refreshments.

j. Falklands Memorial Service - 18<sup>th</sup> June. Rick Rutter has been asked that we be represented at a service of remembrance at Gloucester (Quedgeley). Since some of the Branch will be at the Weymouth Weekend, David Gearing and Michael Compton have agreed to attend on behalf of the Branch. It is expected that a wreath will be required.

6. The planning for the special arrangements for the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service and Lunch on 29<sup>th</sup> November has proceeded; after Sally Welzel's initiative, a full committee meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> February. It was agreed that we invite four official guests, and depending on their responses, the final details – i.e. timings - would be published at the end of June after a further confirmatory committee meeting. Michael Compton stated that the following had been agreed:

a. A service of remembrance will be held at St Katherine's Church, Matson, Gloucester.

b. There will be a lunch at the Best Western Robinswood Hotel after the service. This is intended to replace the annual Christmas event.

c. We have paid a deposit to the hotel based on the numbers attending of 80. Menu choices will be published in due course.

d. The event will be open for attendance by any member of the National AVA Association.

e. We have already asked for a grant from the National Association to assist with the extra costs of this event. It is our intention to bring the cost down to about £30 if possible.

6. Any Other Business

Michael Compton passed on a message just received from Stephen Weall that anyone wishing to attend the Trooping The Colour on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and/or the Remembrance Sunday Service at the Cenotaph in London on 13<sup>th</sup> November should apply for tickets from him direct.

7. Lindsey Johnson, the NHS Practitioner of the Falls Assessment and Education Service, gave a comprehensive talk on how to minimise the risk of falls as we get older – how we may have to change our routines, possibly modify where we live, - and if we do fall, how to get up without risking any further damage.

8. The meeting closed at 13.00 for raffle and rolls.