

# Royal Air Forces Association – Benalmádena Branch 1357

Minutes of the Committee Meeting Held at The Galaxy Bar, Avda. Bonanza, Arroyo de la Miel, on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2010 at 1230 hours.

Those present at the meeting were as follows:

## **Members**

Fred Briggs Chairman  
Reg Haywood Hon. Treasurer  
Derek Brown HWO  
Jack Griggs Hon. Secretary

## **Associate Members**

Sandra Martin Social Events Coordinator  
Georgina Young Public Relations  
Helen Buchan Social Events Coordinator

In Attendance: Wendy Sweeney, a member of the Welfare team.

## **1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from: - Bill Dixon, Corinne Mudie, and Alan Gibson. Not present:- Doug Heron.

## **2. Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes from the July 2010 meeting were accepted and signed.

## **3. Matters arising from the previous meeting:**

- 1. Conference Travel Nil Returns.** No claim to be made for the Gibraltar Conference, Bill to contact Simon on arrival.
- 2. Partnerships.** Update from Jack. Current position put on the website. Copy of a Euroweekly News article sent to HQ to show them how we are second thoughts with the Consulate.
- 3. Caravan Holiday Dates.** Still await dates from Bill. **Dates now received.**
- 4. Wings Items and Display boards.** Arrangements have been made to borrow a Display Board from Gibraltar for our Iceland collection. Failing that, the RBL may loan us one. Action in hand.
- 5. Honorary Vice President Post.** **Jack in contact with Consul.**
- 6. e-Mail Addresses.** Despite more than one request, Steve is refusing to change his personal e-mail address from "rafabenalmadena". All European Branches and HQ have been advised that "rafabenalmadena@yahoo.co.uk" is NOT the Branch address and that it is being used by a private individual. It was agreed that the committee decisions will be discussed with our President during his September visit.

## **4. Treasurers Report: -**

Reg presented the July accounts and balance sheets for the Committee to examine. There were no observations and the report is filed. The accounts can be examined on request.

## **5. Welfare Officers Report:-**

1. Three cases handled since last meeting. One referred to RBL/Royal Navy Association as client served in the fleet air arm.
  2. I am still tracking down the Fuengirola Alzheimer Centre, they are very elusive! I will definitely locate and visit and report back to October committee meeting.
  3. Regarding continued use of Villa Jacaranda for respite care, the branch welfare team does not specifically recommend or endorse this resource. Clients who wish to use it are of course free to do so.
  4. A new care team, Nursing Care Solutions, NCS, was commented on by Wendy Sweeney. The owner, Michelle Grant, runs a fully legal and registered nursing agency. The geographical area of coverage is from Torremolinos to La Cala de Mijas. Fees are; Basic care 11.50 Euros per hour, nursing care 13.50 Euros per hour, Physiotherapy 20.00 Euros per hour. The welfare team have a supply of leaflets for NCS for reference if required.
  5. I will be away in the UK from 6th September till 22nd.
- Derek Brown, Branch HWO.

## **6. Wings Appeal Report:-**

1. Reg reported 50€ from a Bear this month.
- 2. Wings Week Collections.** This was discussed after the meeting and Reg is putting together the Iceland Schedule. The aim is to have a minimum of 4 on each 3 hour shift, covering from 10am to 4pm. Reg will distribute the list asap. We can cover the week but can always use more people to help shoppers pack their purchases.

## **7. Social Events Report:-**

1. The **Monthly social**. These will resume in September with a quiz. Later there will be a talk on the Battle of Britain Flight aircraft and other vintage aircraft, and Cruz Roja have offered to talk to us.
2. **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Battle of Britain Dinner Dance**. Big push still needed by all to sell tickets. We must close the list on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. There will be a raffle and prizes are being collected by Reg now, please help if you can. There will be a small gathering on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 1200 in the Rima to finalise details. Have to note that there has been a VERY poor response from branch members for this prestige event.

## **8. Secretary's Report:-**

The usual correspondence work with HQ. In particular concerning the Autumn Conference where we are helping Gibraltar on transporting delegates. HQ advice sought on the use of Branch identity in private e-mail addresses. Their response has been reported to the committee. Formal letter of invitation sent to the Australian Ambassador, via Steve, under our President's signature, formally inviting her to the Remembrance Sunday Parade. This was to recover a situation principally caused by the use of a confusing e-mail address. Surprisingly, the reply went to Steve and not our President. Much effort put into the Battle of Britain Dinner Dance but with little or NO response from anyone.

## **9. Other Notified Items: -**

- 1. Georgina's Garden Party.** 16<sup>th</sup> October from 1430 onward. Ticket price agreed at 5€ and Reg will get them printed. We need to sell this one hard!!!!
- 2. Newsletter items.** Reminders to go in for the Wings Collections, the Battle of Britain Dinner Dance, Georgina's Garden Party, Peck House (Reg to submit) and the Social dates.. (Steve has been sent details.)
- 3. Remembrance Sunday.** Arrangements well in hand. Steve to finalise details asap. Food to be organised nearer the time.

## **10. Any Other Business:-**

1. Derek gave his apologies for the next meeting as he will be away.
2. Fred met someone involved in arranging Army Band tours. He will talk with Reg on details as he, Reg, is already speaking to RAF Music Services in regard to concerts next year.

**The meeting closed at 1410 hours.**

**Date of Next Meeting: - 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at the Galaxy Bar at 1230 hours. (Followed by the social gathering)**

## **Diary of Events**

**11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September. Wings Week. Collections in Iceland store, Mijas Costa.**

**11<sup>th</sup> September. 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Battle of Britain Dinner Dance at Resort Sol Andalusi. 1930 for 2000. Full details distributed and on the Website. 3 Course Dinner with wine etc, Arrival aperitifs, entertainment and dancing. Dress smart or DJ, Cost 40€ per person. Details on web and Newsletter. Accommodation (B&B) at Sol Andalusi available at 69€ per couple.**

**20<sup>th</sup> September. Committee meeting at 1230 followed at 1400 hrs by Social Meeting. Galaxy Bar.**

**16<sup>th</sup> October. "Brew for The Few" Cream Tea Garden Party at Georgina's 1430 onward. Details later.**

**18<sup>th</sup> October. Committee meeting at 1230 followed at 1400 hrs by Social Meeting. Galaxy Bar.**