



Newton Abbot & District Branch of the Royal Engineers Association

Minutes for Meeting Dated Sunday 23rd November 2025.

Branch Officials:	Mr Mike Jepps	Branch President (not present)
	Mr Martin Rogers	Branch Chairman
	Mrs Moira Hamilton	Branch Secretary
	Mrs Sam MacCormick	Branch Treasurer
	Mr Bob Rainey	Branch Vice Chairman (not present)

Members Present: 12

Apologies received from Members – Mike Jepps, Iggy Gagola, Sue Peters, Mike Joyce, Richard Underhill, Bob Rainey

Meeting Opened: 11.30hrs

1. OPENING ADDRESS

The Chair welcomed those members and partners who attended, and then invited those who were able, to stand and join him in giving a thought to all those service men and women who would be on duty over the upcoming festive period.

This was followed by the Exhortation and a moment's silence.

2. NEW MEMBERS

No new members

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Chair asked if there were any comments in relation to the previous meeting Minutes.

The Minutes were then agreed as an accurate record of events.

Proposed: Michael Darke

Seconded: Steve Hocking

That the Minutes as presented be accepted.

Carried

4. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST BRANCH MEETING IN September.

- Summary of Branch Governance Town Hall meeting held on 4th November 2025
- An invite to all members, from John Gallimore, the Secretary of the Taunton Branch REA, to attend the John Chard VC RE Memorial Service, at Hatch Beauchamp Church on Sunday 25th January 2026 commencing at 10.15hrs.

5. BRANCH TREASURERS REPORT

Opening Balance		£6,630.15
Curry/quiz night food	+	£ 102.00
Curry/quiz night prizes	-	£ 17.49
Rugby scratch card	+	£ 40.00
Bank charges	-	£ 4.25
Christmas Lunch	+	£ 50.00
Tea & coffee	+	£ 8.00
Raffle	+	£ 70.00

Closing Balance	+	£6,852.91

Proposed: Stephan Bouloux

Seconded: Kev Davis

That the Treasurer's report as presented be accepted.

Carried

6. WELFARE MEMBERS REPORT

- Keith Tapp is finally on the waiting list at Torbay hospital to have his cataracts done, an admin error at the doctors, has caused the delay.
Sandra Tapp is going for an assessment on the 14 Dec with regards to her double hip replacement.
- No real changes for either Richard or Barbara Underhill, who has recently had a cortisone injection to help ease the pain in her knee. Richard is still chasing doctors to get Barbara's knees replaced without any success at the moment.
- Brian's wife Dawn, saw her consultant on Friday afternoon with regards to her knee op, and he was well pleased to see her walking without any aids. The doctor said her knee had healed well and there was no need to see him again.
- Trish Jepps has a scan appointment finally, on 4th December.

7. BRANCH EVENTS

- The Curry/Quiz night at the RBL was on Saturday 1st November 2025. The Chair said it was a great night and thanked Moira and Sam for running it and Elaine for cooking the food.
- This year's Remembrance Day Parade, Newton Abbot was attended by a number of Branch members.
- This year's Branch Christmas Luncheon is being held at the RBL on Sunday 14th December 2025. 51 members and family are attending. Roger has received all payments and asked members to bring a wrapped gift to be raffled.

8. 2025 UPCOMING POTENTIAL EVENTS

Newton Abbot RFC. 28th March 2026. This is the Newton Abbot & Paignton rugby match. Further details to follow.

The Chair asked members to have a think what events the Branch can look into arranging, ideas came forward:

Curry / Quiz night
Games Night
Tank Day at Bovington Tank Museum
Trip to National Arboretum
Summer BBQ

Further details to follow during 2026.

9. CHAIRMAN'S POINTS

- The Chair once again highlighted the advantages of spouses/partners joining the 'Friends and Family' group of the REA. This will be beneficial if they wish to attend any organised REA events, whereby they will pay the lesser amount and would also be entitled to welfare support should they need it in the future. He also reminded members that the Branch have voted on automatic membership for spouses/partners once they apply for membership online.
- Summary of Branch Governance Town Hall meeting held on 4th November 2025. The Chair summarised the letter from REA HQ in relation to the transfer of Branch funds to a centralised bank account. The Branch would have their own bank

account number and sort code and have full control of their funds. More information to be issued by REA HQ.

- The Chair reminded the members about the Branch AGM in January, and the fact that the committee would all be automatically standing down at the AGM. All positions on the Committee would then be open for nominations. If any member of the Branch wanted to apply for any of the positions, it would be ideal if they approached the person currently holding the position, to check what the position entailed. A nomination form for any position can be obtained from the Secretary.

10. PROPOSALS FROM THE FLOOR

Roger Andrews proposed two potential new REA 'Friends & Family' Members .

1. Jennifer Allum (his daughter)

Seconded by Michael Darke
Carried

2. Richard White (branch friend)

Seconded by Tony Franklin
Carried

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Moira mentioned the Plymouth Valentines event is to be on Saturday 14th February 2026 in Plymouth. Further details from Plymouth Branch to follow.

It was agreed the Branch fund bacon baps after the January AGM/Branch Meeting.

CLOSING ADDRESS

There being no further business, it was agreed the next Ordinary Branch Meeting will be held on Sunday 18th January 2026, with the Branch AGM following directly after.

Signed:

Martin Rogers

Mr Martin Rogers (Chairman)

Signed:

Moira Hamilton

Mrs Moira Hamilton (Secretary)

Dated: 25/11/2025