

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
held at the Civil Service Club, Whitehall, London SW1  
at 3 pm on 26 November 2015**

**1. Members attending:**

Major General The O'Morchoe, President; Col P S Walton, Chairman; Mr D Ball, Secretary; Mr I Lowe, Treasurer; Mr D Dickson, Website Manager; Mrs S Dickson; Mrs J Ball; Mr T Bolger; Mr D George; Mr B Hall; Mr D Kirby; Mr P Murphy; Mr A Overton; Mr Bob Templeman; Lt Col Nick Weekes; Sir Anthony Weldon; Lt Col Mark Weldon.

**2. Members Died:**

Mr Ian Lowe gave a eulogy in memory of Mr Sean Cooke of Crinkill who had died very recently. Members present stood in respect.

**3. Exhortation:**

Mr David Ball, Secretary, gave the Exhortation.

**4. Apologies:**

Mr Roy Ball; Mr Muiris De Buitleir; Mr Ross Glennon; Mr Harry Hogan; Mr Garry Holman; Mr Larry Kearns; Mr Stephen Keeley; Mr Kevin Kelly; Mr William Lennon; Mr Adam Lyon; Mr Gerard O'Meara; Mr Frank O'Neil; Mr Gerry White.

**5. Minutes of the 2014 AGM:**

The Minutes of the 2014 AGM were proposed as an accurate record by Sir Anthony Weldon, seconded by Mr Bob Templeman, and were approved by a show of hands.

**6. Matters Arising:**

No matters were raised.

**7. Accounts:**

The Accounts for the year to 31 December 2014 were presented by Mr Ian Lowe, Hon Treasurer. In his presentation, the Treasurer drew attention to the satisfactory state of the Association's funds. He also mentioned the receipt of a donation of £5,000 to enable research into the present resting place of those killed at Pr mesques on and around 20 October 1914; around 60 men are not accounted for and are thought to be buried on the battlefield. Adoption of these Accounts was seconded by Mr Tom Bolger and approved by a show of hands. A copy of these Accounts is being circulated with these Minutes.

**8. Chairman's Report:**

The Chairman began by regretting the loss of contact with some members in Ireland. Some seemed to feel that the Association was centralised in Great Britain to the neglect of members living in other places: this of course was neither the case nor the intention. But to resolve the matter the Committee had decided to develop a new Constitution in order to ensure that there is every freedom for every kind of educational, commemorative and recreational activity wherever members can gather together. This would be proposed later in the meeting.

Looking back over 2015, the Chairman noted the annual trip to Ypres and Ledegem with a quick visit to Pr mesques on the way. This was extremely successful and enjoyable thanks in particular to Ian Lowe, the organiser, and also to Terry Goodman, our piper. Also this year, our

member Andrew Overton has begun his work of research into the location of the dead of the Regiment at Prêmesques. It is believed that some 60 Leinster soldiers are still in makeshift graves on the battlefield and we intend to use every means of locating them, hopefully identifying them and arranging for their dignified re-interment. The Chairman noted that the Association was grateful for charitable funding to help this work forward (referred to in the Accounts as “the Maffett Fund”). Similarly, the Association plans to help achieve the recovery and re-interment of the remains of other Leinster soldiers who died in Silesia after the end of the First World War and who seem to have been forgotten ever since.

The Chairman thanked the members of the Committee and all others who had helped during the year. At the same time, he said, it was important to point out that essential activities do not happen by themselves and there were still appointments for which volunteers are needed. He appealed to members to communicate with the Committee so that it is fully aware of what is expected of the Association. Any member who feels that they can offer help in leading or administering its activities is encouraged to contact the Chairman, or one of the new Vice-Chairmen (whose election was anticipated later in the meeting).

Ending on a buoyant note, the Chairman expressed the view that, with the new augmented team to be introduced later in the meeting, the Association's prospects were improving; he looked forward to wide participation in the events being organised in 2016.

#### **9. Membership Secretary's Report:**

Mr Don Dickson outlined how he had been maintaining the membership database. He went on to report that his database confirmed that the Association had at present 92 members, of whom 62 had confirmed their e-mail address. The database also showed that a further 68 persons had formerly been members but had failed to pay a subscription since 2014 or earlier. The Chairman thanked Don for his report and for his service as Membership Secretary. The Chairman also thanked Mrs Sheila Dickson (Don's wife) for her previous contribution; Sheila had served as Membership Secretary for several years but had been obliged by ill health to step back from the role.

#### **10. Proposal of New Constitution:**

The Chairman noted that from the completion of this item, the 2010 Constitution would cease to be in force, and all members of the Committee would be considered to have resigned. The text of a new Constitution for the Association having been posted on the Association's website (and members having been alerted to this by an insert in the latest edition of *The 40-10*), the Chairman commended it to the Meeting and proposed its adoption. This motion was seconded by Mr Denis Kirby, and carried with neither question nor objection. The new Constitution has associated Rules annexed; the new Constitution and the new Rules are combined in a single document that is known informally as the 2015 Constitution. It was agreed that the text of this document should be posted on the Association's website; a copy is being circulated with these Minutes.

#### **11. Election of the General Committee:**

The Chairman drew attention to paragraph 4 of the new Constitution which states that the elected members of the General Committee are collectively responsible for the sound governance and management of the Association. Nominations for the new General Committee had been made as shown below. The Chairman read out the detail below, explaining that Mr Templeman and Mr Bolger had not only offered to serve on the General Committee but had also volunteered to assume specific responsibilities within the Association's central management structure. The Chairman then asked if there were any nominations from the floor. As there were no such nominations, the seven persons listed below were elected to the General Committee and three potential vacancies were not filled.

<b>Role</b>	<b>Nomination</b>	<b>Proposer</b>	<b>Result</b>
Association Chairman	Col Peter Walton	Mr Ian Lowe	Elected
Association Secretary	Mr David Ball	Col Peter Walton	Elected
Association Treasurer	Mr Ian Lowe	Col Peter Walton	Elected
Association Vice-Chairman (Ireland)	Mr Denis Kirby	Mr Ross Glennon*	Elected
Association Vice-Chairman (GB and RoW)	Sir Anthony Weldon	Col Peter Walton	Elected
Member (will also serve as Membership Secretary)	Mr Bob Templeman	Col Peter Walton	Elected
Member (will also serve as Public Information Officer)	Mr Tom Bolger	Col Peter Walton	Elected

The term of office of the members of the General Committee is until the next AGM (see sub-paragraph 6f of the 2015 Constitution). All members of the General Committee must then retire but they may stand for re-election.

(\* The proposal made by Mr Ross Glennon was made in his absence by his duly nominated Proxy, the Chairman of the meeting.)

## **12. Forthcoming Events:**

The Chairman gave out a list of forthcoming events. This had drawn on the list published in the recent issue of *The 40-10*, augmented with other events derived from the calendar of events circulated by the Military Heritage of Ireland Trust (MHIT). The Chairman's list is at Annex A to these Minutes.

## **13. Any Other Business:**

The Chairman said that he had one item – the appointment of a number of individuals who had been invited and had agreed to continue, or to take up, responsibility for specific activities of the Association but would not themselves be members of the General Committee. They were:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Individual Appointed</b>	<b>Individual Needed</b>
Webmaster	Mr Don Dickson	Mr Dickson wishes to hand over to a new Webmaster or to enjoy the support of an Assistant Webmaster.
Editor of <i>The 40-10</i>	Col Peter Walton	Col Walton wishes to hand over to a new Editor.
Historical Adviser	Lt Col Nick Weekes	
Overseas Visits Manager	Mr Ian Lowe	Ian Lowe wants an Assistant.
Research Project – Prémésques	Mr Andrew Overton	
Minutes Secretary		To support the Committee at one Annual and two Ordinary General Meetings each year.

The Chairman hoped to hear soon from volunteers needed for the roles identified. He then

asked for any other business from the floor: there was none.

The Chairman then concluded the meeting shortly after 4 pm, thanking the President and everyone attending for their loyalty and support.

Confirmed: 8 December 2015 (date) P S Walton (Chairman)

**Annex:**

A. Future Events for Members – as at 3 December 2015.

## The Leinster Regiment Association

### Future Events for Members – as at 3 December 2015

**Note:** It is anticipated that the Regional Committee (Ireland) will add further events early in 2016.

Sat 5 Dec 2015	Combined Irish Regiments Association Christmas Social, at the Civil Service Club, Whitehall, from 1300 hours.
Thu 10 Dec 2015	Lecture by Dr Timothy Bowman on “The Ulster Division” at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, 2 Titanic Boulevard, Belfast. Contact WFA Antrim Down. <a href="mailto:antrimdownwfa@gmail.com">antrimdownwfa@gmail.com</a>
Sat 12 Dec 2015	Lecture by Foster Summerson on “The Withdrawal from Gallipoli” at Collins Barracks Dublin sponsored by the WFA. Contact <a href="mailto:ian1914@eircom.net">ian1914@eircom.net</a>
Fri 1 Jan 2016	Opening event of the Irish State’s 1916 Commemorations, Dublin Castle. Time TBA. Contact Department of An Taoiseach (tel Dublin 01677 7444)
Mon 21 Jan 2016	Lecture by Prof Jay Winter “1916 and the Great War”, Royal Irish Academy, Dawson St, Dublin (University College Dublin Centre of War Studies; tel Dublin 01716 8608)
Sat 11 Jun 2016	Association OGM at 1200 hours followed by Annual Lunch at Civil Service Club, Whitehall, London. Limited accommodation available. To book places contact David Ball ( <a href="mailto:dave@the-bunker.freeserve.co.uk">dave@the-bunker.freeserve.co.uk</a> )
Sun 12 Jun 2016	Combined Irish Regiments Association Annual Parade, Commemorative Service and Wreath-laying Ceremony at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, London, at 1100 hours. Contact David Ball ( <a href="mailto:dave@the-bunker.freeserve.co.uk">dave@the-bunker.freeserve.co.uk</a> )
Sat 9 Jul 2016	Association AGM in Dublin in the morning followed by the RBL Annual Commemoration and Wreath Laying Ceremony, Islandbridge, at 1400 hours.
Sun 10 Jul 2016	Irish National Day of Commemoration, Royal Hospital Kilmainham, at 1030 hours.
Fri 29 Jul – Fri 5 Aug 2016	Birr Vintage Week (Association involvement to be confirmed)
Sun 7 Aug 2016	Wreath laying at Dungarvan Memorial

- Aug – Sep 2016 Association group visit to the Somme – TBA. If you are interested please contact Ian Lowe as soon as possible at [ianlowe@marfordms1.demon.co.uk](mailto:ianlowe@marfordms1.demon.co.uk). Our focus may if feasible be on the Battles of Guillemont (3-6 Sep 1916) and Ginchy (9 Sep 1916), both 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion; also the Battle of Delville Wood (15 Jul-3 Sep 1916), 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.
- Thu 20 Oct 2016 Association one-day group visit to Prêmesques (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 1914) and Ledegem (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 1918) to maintain local contacts and to lay wreaths at commemorative locations. (This is likely to be one car with room for 2 members, or if there is more interest, a minibus.)  
Contact Peter Walton ([peter@scarletgunner.com](mailto:peter@scarletgunner.com))
- Thu 10 – Sun 13 Nov 2016 Remembrance events (London, Dublin and elsewhere)

(PSW Dec 15)