

NEWCASTLE & GATESHEAD 0370 BRANCH

BENWELL HILL CRICKET CLUB

Denton Bank, West Road, NE15 7EU

RAFA Secretary 07954 598883

MAY 4TH 2026 BRANCH MEETING - 7pm

6th April 2026 Branch Meeting Minutes

Present

C. James, D. Owens, B. Houston, M. Collins, K. Mongan, M. James, D. Gilbert, B. Cuss, M. Leonard – RAFLO.

Dedication M. James

Apologies

K. Bowers, K. Allen, R. Knox, R. Hill, A. Farley

Chair

Welcomed all to this Easter meeting, could not persuade Molli to dress as the Easter Bunny, though she had been in costume this week.

Down to business, the main event coming up is our ANZAC service and parade on the 25th. Pleased that most of the organisation is in place, confirm a SqnLdr from Australia and a Flt Lt from New Zealand will be joining us, however no representative from CWGC.

Have been to see our VIP Molli at her home regarding transport and if they have PR for this. Did also advise many other branches and associations to attend, know we have the Bikers, Army and Navy Cadets but still awaiting numbers from RAFAC.

Wreath layers – BH – RAF, RAFA, RAF Rgt, 2 Commonwealth, Lord Lt Northumberland, 3 Civic members, Bikers are known and will have to sort out placements if more turn up.

Have a running programme, sound system to set up also the gazebo/chairs. Space allocated for VIP car, armourers' vehicle and music from Backworth band arranged from VIP entrance and throughout service, march past.

Friday and Saturday Central Station – 10/11th April, who will be collecting
BH – Friday – Myself, Michael Collins, Molli James, David Gilbert, Mark
Leonard – no other uniform expected.

Saturday, Myself, Chris James, Michael, Kevin Mongan, 1 RAF Boulmer and 1
RAF Leeming.

Secretary – Volunteers required for several locations.

Further dates/locations for Armed Forces Day. - Spennymoor 20th June,
Stanley Flag Raising 21st June, Stanley AFD 18th June.

Blyth Battery has their weekend on 16/17th May – volunteers as also SNINE
Annual Conference. St Georges, Jesmond have a family's day 16th May.
Ponteland Party in the Park Sunday 14th June. Evington meet 8/9th August.

Still waiting to speak to Dean of Newcastle Cathedral re Battle of Britain
Sunday and if costs will be incurred.

Treasurer

March accounts have been circulated, but briefly – opening balance £5048.99,
with month income £266.60 of Wings donations, a raffle donation and 2
refunds to branch account from Welfare. Payments for month £608.40 being
monthly Solveteck email/web costs, A wellbeing transport cost which was
refunded to Branch account and a sound system purchase, Committee
approved, for event use. Balances to April, Branch £2700.23 and Wings
£2006.96

Wings – Not available

RAFLO Boulmer finished exercise but as to be expected with ongoing
situations the station is very busy.

Kevin Mongan had planned a wellbeing evening with a quiz, however having
to hold our meeting in another room and a small presence, it was decided to
hold this till next meeting. A small raffle was held and a good old veteran's
chinwag took place instead. Happy days.

Meeting Closed.