

CONSTITUTION

Birmingham District Branch of the Malaya Borneo and Far East Veterans

This Constitution encompasses the needs for the Democratic Administration of the Birmingham and District Branch of the M B F E V with the following intentions relating to the Membership of the said Branch W.E.F 25th January 2004. This Constitution will remain in force until such time as any amendment should need to be made. The Membership will be consulted prior to any such amendment and it will only be inserted with their approval.

ORGANIZATION (THE COMMITTEE)

An elected committee will be responsible for the administration of Branch affairs on behalf of the membership. The Branch membership will elect officers at each AGM who will take office and administer Branch affairs for a period of time determined by the membership or when nominations are submitted for election at the annual AGM.

The elections will be held at the Branch headquarters and the result will be taken on a show of hands at the AGM . The nominees must be proposed and seconded, unless the sitting officers are returned to office unopposed. The ballot must have a quorum of members in attendance at the meeting and a teller confirms the result.

OFFICERS

The following offices will be vacant:

Branch Trustees 2

Branch Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Branch Secretary

Standard-Bearers

Social Secretary

Committee Members

Mr William Cranston, our standing President by way of a previous decision will remain in office `sine die` as a mark of respect and gratitude for his outstanding work carried out at the Malaysian High Commission on behalf of our branch, he will also hold full executive voting powers.

The elected Trustee will have all powers of administration and his decision will be final.

In the dispersal of branch all branch funds and he also will hold full executive voting powers.

Other committee members may be seconded onto the branch committee as and when required but only with the membership approval at the following branch meeting.

When a committee is elected they will take office and be responsible for the administration of the Branch in all aspects as referred to below:

1. Parade our Branch Standard.
2. Dealing with Branch correspondence.
3. Formulating the Branch Agenda.
4. Collecting all subscriptions and donations.
5. Keep the Branch accounts to date and presenting them to the Branch.
6. Conducting meetings in an orderly manner.
7. Be responsible for maintaining the Branch membership database. (Secretary)
8. The Branch Secretary will oversee all duties as Social Secretary.

OUR INTENTIONS WILL ALWAYS BE

To bring together comradeship amongst all of those who served in Malaya Borneo and all other Far East stations (in whichever branch of the Armed Forces they served).

To honour our fallen comrades at all times.

To represent our Branch with honour and distinction.

To abide by our standing orders and constitution.

To follow Branch procedure and only after consultation with the membership.

The committee on advice from the Branch Secretary will have the power to interpret any of the sections of our Constitution if they appear to be ambiguous.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership will be open to anyone who has served in the Armed Forces and these will be known as Ordinary members.

The Branch will also be open for Honorary membership with the approval of the Branch members.

Also any male, female or family relative or community member who wishes to become an Associate member can apply for membership and upon receiving an application from any such person the Secretary will dispatch a form to the applicant.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

All subscriptions will be payable yearly in advance from January to December but any member who joins after September of an ongoing year will not be liable for further subscriptions until September of the following year. The branch Treasurer will be responsible for all such transactions carried out during the financial year in respect of all income and expenditure. Subscriptions for the all-future periods will be levied at £7.00 per year but may be subject to adjustment in future years.

MEETINGS

Branch meetings will be held at the Branch headquarters "The Forget Me Not Club", Tyburn Road, Pipe Hayes, Birmingham on the last Thursday evening of the month at 19:30 Hrs unless otherwise stated at the previous meeting. The Branch Chairman and Vice-Chairman will take the chair and carry out business without disruption or hindrance and conduct the Branch Meeting in a cogent and succinct manner. The AGM date will be announced in advance but at the discretion of the Branch Secretary and with membership approval, usually in February of any year. Because of the transparency in which the Branch Funds Accounts and all other matters concerning the branch are now administered these will always be presented on a monthly basis to the membership. This will remain so until such time as the members decide otherwise.

Emergency General Meetings will only be convened on a written request to the Secretary with a correct quorum of members signing an appropriate form stating their reason.

Disciplinary hearings will be convened on a date at the Secretary's discretion and the dates of any such hearing or appeals will be conveyed to the person or persons concerned. They may have two independent witnesses attending the hearing or appeal.

It is the decision of the Branch Committee by a previous motion carried by the membership that

branch Funds will be used to the benefit of the Membership and the community and no expenditure will be dispersed without the prior approval of the Trustee with the consent of the members. Our branch will always be an open forum and will remain so until the membership decide otherwise.

The Branch accounts and minute book will be on display during every meeting and it is the responsibility of each individual member to be acquainted with the previous minutes and accounts that are recorded in the said documents.

Our Branch administration is now and always will be based on trust and common sense and will remain so until there is a change in administration or constitutional affairs. The Branch will always be a benevolent and philanthropic movement as is our custom. If at any time the branch dissolves, all funds will be distributed to charitable societies with the consent of the members after all outstanding debts have been settled.

Any member who may have reservations regarding the authenticity of this constitution and who may have constructive criticism or proposes amendment may challenge its validity by placing a motion on any other business at the beginning of a meeting and may speak on their disapproval or motion. This constitution must be ratified by the membership before it can be accepted and will be voted on by being proposed and seconded before it can be accepted as our future Branch Constitution.

OUR BRANCH MOTTO WILL ALWAYS BE: **`BONNO ANIMO ESTA`** (BE OF GOOD COURAGE)

Branch Secretary

LLB

Branch Chairman

Branch Treasurer

Branch Trustee

Branch Trustee

Standard Bearer

Standard Bearer

The standards must always be in the possession of the standard bearers who will guard them.