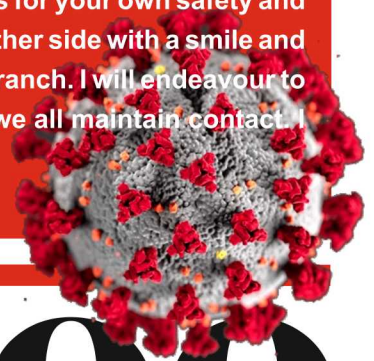




We are now living in dramatically changing times due to Covid-19, and find ourselves being asked to refrain from social contact. I am sure, members of the RSSG Waterloo Branch like me will not find this easy, being the sociable people we are. I urge you all to follow the government guide lines for your own safety and that of your families. I am sure we will come out on the other side with a smile and ready to reunite with our friends in the RSSG Waterloo Branch. I will endeavour to cobble together some kind of newsletter to make sure we all maintain contact. I wish you and your families well and stay safe.

Bob Smith - Chairman



News from

WATERLOO

keeping you up to date...



41 attended the short A.G.M. on the 17th February at the Civil Service Club. I was delighted that we elected a President, Ghanaian-born Major Nana Kofi Twumasi-Ankrah from the Household Cavalry.

The Afghanistan war veteran, known as TATA to his friends, is thought to be the Royal Family's first black Equerry to the Queen, our Patron. I was pleased to be able to present TATA with the Waterloo tie. Our thanks go to Fred Barrett for the introduction and to Committee Member Dave Bowles for taking the photographs.

The Waterloo branch annual subscription has not been increased for many years and it was unanimously carried that, from 1st January 2021, the subscription be increased by £5 to £25. Maybe the fact that our Branch provides a free meal to all members attending the A.G.M. prompted unanimity!

In our last newsletter we welcomed Major Hugh Montgomerie and now warmly welcome further additions to our membership: Gavin Dunbar, Angela Leach, William (Bill) Sheldon, Anne Wadsworth O.B.E., Jennifer Yates-Rowe and Don McQueen. Rodney Wardlaw has changed his single membership to a joint one to include his wife Valerie as a Waterloo branch member. As I write we have 97 members listed.



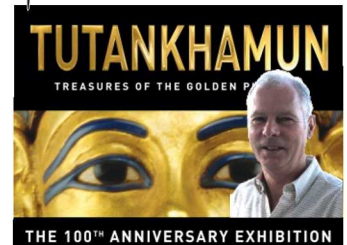
MOUNTBATTEN FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

– Royal Albert Hall – 7th March.



Organised by our Events Secretary, Lesley Oakley, 23 Members and 1 Guest enjoyed a feast of popular music. It featured the Massed Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, and the variety of music was remarkable. Afterwards we repaired to Da Mario's Italian Restaurant, 15, Gloucester Road, where we enjoyed a feast of good company and food.

Spring has sprung after a very wet Winter but your Committee's spirits have not been dampened and has produced what I hope you will agree was a full and varied programme, which I attach. As you will see several dates have already had to be cancelled, but I will keep you informed as soon as we are able to resume our events schedule. I reiterate the remarks I made at the A.G.M., thanking the Committee all for their time, enthusiasm and support, and I also thank you, our Members, for making the branch so vibrant and so friendly. Hopefully it will not be too long before we can all meet again.



One of the most popular attractions in London this winter was the Tutankhamun 100th Anniversary Exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery in Kings Road. Lesley had secured 20 tickets and these were quickly reserved. On 20th January the lucky ticket holders met for lunch at the French themed Cotes Brasserie in Sloane Square before walking to the nearby gallery for our timed entrance at 3.00pm. Security for admission was thorough and I initially feared a rushed tour of the exhibition. This proved not to be the case. The exhibition started with a screening of the discovery of the tomb by the British explorer Howard Carter and his backer Lord Carnarvon before we were welcomed to the various rooms displaying some 150 pieces of glittering artefacts, many of which had not been outside Egypt before. We could browse the exhibits at leisure, and they were stunning. In the last gallery was a display of articles and memorabilia that spawned from the public's reaction to the find, which led to a craze for Tutankhamun inspired jewellery, fashion and pottery designs, amongst others. A very memorable and interesting day..

David Dominey