

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON
WEDNESDAY 1st May 2019

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2012. 48 members attended.
2. APOLOGIES – were received from 17 members.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman asked members to be upstanding for a few moments silence in memory of S/M Jim Holt who crossed the Bar on the 5th April. Jim's Funeral Service will take place at Weymouth Crematorium this Friday 3rd May at 1345.
Congratulations to S/M Dennis Matthews on being made Chairman of the Dorchester Branch and to S/M George Osborne former Chairman being made President of the Branch (he is 97 years of age).
On the 14th April the Branch was represented at the Ceremony of The Keys and church service which held at the Methodist Church in Easton.
A Service was held at the ANZAC Memorial on Weymouth Esplanade on the 25th April. Nine Standards were on parade including our own Branch Standard. S/M Tony Seal was Parade Marshal and myself and other Members were in attendance
The Annual Dinner took place on the 27th April. My wife and myself enjoyed the evening as I am sure others did as well. The Social Secretary will give you a report later.
4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Karen Miller seconded by S/M Micky Fox. 42 for with 6 abstentions. There were no matters arising.
5. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE
Nil report.
6. ITEM DISCUSSED AT COMMITTEE MEETING
Branch donation to S/M Joan Stevenson towards installation costs of a new stairlift.
7. CEREMONIAL REPORT

S/M Cartwright said he has paraded the Standard twice since the last meeting.
First on the 23rd April at the St Georges Day Service held at St George's Church, Reforme. He was accompanied by a young scout from the 1st Portland Group who did them proud.
Secondly on the 25th April at the ANZAC Memorial on Weymouth Esplanade. Alf Larkin and Dennis Matthews paraded their respective Standards. The Parade Marshal was Tony Seal. Also in attendance were Alex our Chairman, Charles H and Josie. I apologise for any I may have missed.
Lastly, Alex, Josie and I attended the Ceremony of The Keys at Easton Methodist Church on Sunday 14th.
Forth Coming Events are.
At 1500 on Thursday 30th May at Rowan House in Dorchester there is the unveiling of a Blue Plaque in honour of Gerald O'Sullivan of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusilliers who was awarded the VC for action in Gallipoli. If anyone is interested in attending please let me know as the local organisers require names.
Finally the US Memorial Day Service is on Monday 27th May at the Memorial on Weymouth Sea Front.
8. FUND RAISING REPORT
S/M Lynn Stanley said she has received replacement sweets. Donations would be appreciated for the stall at the Southwell Street Fair.
9. WELFARE REPORT
Keith Tubbs is out of hospital.
Brian Hewson is not well.
10. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
Nil Report.
11. AREA REPORT
Nil Report.
12. TREASURERS REPORT

The Branch Account stands at £3589-02. Proposed by S/M Bill McMurray seconded by S/M David White. 47 for with 1 abstentions. There were no matters arising. The raffle raised £62-50 with donations of £12-50 to Branch funds.
13. WEBMASTERS REPORT
S/M Grey said the Royal Naval Association has been awarded a Soldiering on Award for Project Semaphore. This was decided by public vote and Project Semaphore topped the short list of six contenders.
14. VOTING ITEM

A donation of £500 has been received from the Area Welfare Fund towards the installation costs for a new stairlift for S/M Joan Stevenson.

At the Committee Meeting it was proposed by S/M Shoemith and seconded by S/M Karen Miller that the Branch donate £200 towards this. It was then put to the floor and carried unanimously.

A letter of thanks will be sent to No4 Area Secretary.

15 SOCIAL REPORT

Annual Dinner last Saturday went well. 72 were expected but unfortunately two could not attend. Thanks for all the help in setting up in the morning, collecting our gear on Sunday and returning it to the Con Club on Monday. Thanks to Pam for the place cards and menus. Special thanks to Grahame for donating the floral table decorations. Thanks were expressed to S/M Prowse for all his hard work organising the Dinner.

Skittles evening at Dorchester on Friday 7th June at 1900 for 1930. ICA minibus booked. 17 on the list. Six making their own way. I will contact those going in the minibus about pickup times.

Summer Social Saturday 15th June in the Jubilee Hall. Entertainment Bill Solo. Cost £10.00 per person including buffet. Wrapped raffle prizes appreciated. Thirty names on the list so far.

20/20 Cricket Friday 9th August at 1900 – Hants v Somerset at the Ageas Bowl. Approximate cost £30 per person. Only eight on the list so far, with possibly two more, so there is room for another six at least. I will need £16.00 per person please as soon as possible so that I can book early bird group tickets. They are £10.00 cheaper, for the next week or so than the price at the gate. The balance to cover minibus hire, fuel and parking will be required on the day.

Away Weekend 2019 at the Barrowfield Hotel, Newquay from Friday 4th to Monday 7th October. We now have a full complement of 53. All deposits paid. The balance is required in August. I will collect whatever you want to pay at each month's meeting as usual.

Trafalgar Night Dinner. Friday 18th October at the Masonic Hall, Victoria Square. Entertainer Mike Walker. I have booked the Dorset Wrecks to give us a short rendition of sea shanties after the dinner.

Xmas Social Saturday 21st December in the Jubilee Hall. Entertainers Gut & Steel.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Next meeting Wednesday 5th June 2019.

15. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2123.

Chairman

.....

Sec

.....Hon