

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 6th
November 2019

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2006. 50 members attended.
2. APOLOGIES – were received from 18 members.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman asked members to be upstanding for a minutes silence for Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi GCB former National President and Vice Patron of the Royal Naval Association who crossed the bar on the 10th October 2019. His funeral will take place at St John's Church, Pitney, near Langport on Friday 8th November at 14-30. Some may remember him from 820 NAS or the 2nd Frigate Squadron.

It has been quite a busy month for the Branch. Some things that have taken place since the last meeting include the Away Weekend, another successful event thanks to S/M Dave our Social Sec. Portland Sea Cadets Annual Inspection and Evolution Display. S/M President Ben, S/M Peter and myself attended where we were shown all the various events and courses etc that the Cadets had taken part in throughout the previous year. A very interesting evening.

The Trafalgar Night Dinner at the Masonic Centre was another enjoyable evening with our guest of Honour Rachel Harris, Commanding Officer of TS Penn. "Hands to Dinner" was piped by Ordinary Cadet George. We were then treated to some excellent food and entertainment. Thanks again to S/M Dave our Social Sec, and also to all those who helped set up the tables etc.

On Friday 25th October S/M Ben our Standard Bearer and myself attended the Field of Remembrance Service in Weymouth, organised by the BIG4 Littlemoor Group. South Dorset MP Richard Drax was at the service, during which he planted an oak tree in Remembrance of all those who gave their lives for Crown & Country. Afterwards everyone was invited back to Littlemoor Centre for refreshments.

The Chairman welcomed Richard Fagan a prospective new member to the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Nige Rimell seconded by S/M Bill McMurray. 43 for with 7 abstentions.
5. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you letter from Rachel Harris.

6. ITEMS DISCUSSED AT COMMITTEE MEETING

Public Liability Insurance.

Rum for Remembrance Sunday.

Area Charity Donation to Veterans Hub.

Letter from the General Secretary.

7. PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

S/M Shoemith said it is being proposed that the Branch take out a Public Liability Insurance. It will cost £105 a year from Military Mutual Liability Insurance. This was put to the floor and agreed.

8. RUM FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Donations would be gratefully appreciated. S/M Alf Larkin will be "rum bosun".

9. AREA CHARITY DONATION TO VETERAN'S HUB

The Chairman said he has received a phone call from S/M Charles H Thompson, who proposed that the Branch make a bid for a donation from the Area Charity Fund, for the Veterans Hub in Wyke Regis.

10. LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

S/M Shoemith read out a letter of thanks from the General Secretary.

11. CEREMONIAL REPORT

S/M Cartwright said he received on the 2nd November the following communication from the Rev. Tim Gomm reference Remembrance Day Service.

DAILY ORDERS FOR SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2019

1020 Parade leaves the Drill Hall (Muster by 1010).

1100 Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph.

O/C Muster in Conservative Club for Post Service bone warming tots.

1230 Service in Victoria Gardens.

1830 Evening Service at Underhill Methodist Church.

There is no Beacon Lighting Ceremony.

MONDAY 11TH November 2019

1100 Armistice Day . Customary gathering at the Cenotaph – Muster by 1045.

The wreath will be obtained from the RBL.

Reference Admiral Cassidi's funeral. I have been asked by Central Office to attend with the Area Standard at the Service.

Wadebridge Branch, although closed, are not laying up their Standard yet as they hope to resurrect the Branch in the near future.

12. WELFARE REPORT

Yvonne Copus is doing alright.

Valerie Baldwin had her operation on the 16th October.

Graham White has not been very well.

Nice to see Mick Harvey with us tonight.

13. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

A notice regarding subscriptions for next year is in the Free Portland News.

14 TREASURERS REPORT

The Branch Account stands at £3745-46. Proposed by S/M Tony Seal, seconded by S/M Dave Prowse. 45 for with 5 abstentions. There were no matters arising. The raffle raised £75.00 with donations of £15 to the nominated Charity fund. 50% of the raffle proceeds and all donations go to the nominated charity.

15 SOCIAL REPORT

The Away Weekend at the Barrowfield Hotel, Newquay was most enjoyable. Unfortunately there was a cancellation at the last minute, due to an accident. I managed to get a small refund. S/M Pete Foster had to make his own way there. Otherwise I only heard of a few minor complaints and the day trips went well.

Trafalgar Night Dinner on Friday 18th October was a success. Two had to cancel on the day and I had to explain that I could not give a refund. S/M Arthur Copus and Yvonne gave a generous donation as they could not attend. We still made a loss on the event due to fewer than usual attending and that there were two payments for entertainment.

Xmas Social Saturday 21st December in the Jubilee Hall. Entertainers Gut & Steel. Cost £10 per person including buffet, Please pay tonight or at the December meeting. Wrapped raffle prizes appreciated.

Annual Dinner 2020. Saturday 25th April at the Masonic Hall, Victoria Square.

Away Weekend 2020. Watch this space.

Xmas Social 2020. I will check to see if the Jubilee Hall is available on Saturday 19th December.

16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting is on the 4th December.

17 There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2136.

.....Chairman

.....Hon Sec