

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 5th APRIL 2017

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2005. 48 members attended. Apologies were received from 10 members.
2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman said the Annual Dinner when we dine out former President Dick Barton and his wife Anne will be a formal occasion.

The visit to Central Office has been confirmed as the 30th June. Still places available. List on notice-board.

The list for the Biennial Parade in London on the 10th September is on the notice-board.

The ceremony for the departure of the Portland Helicopter is on the 1st July. More details to follow.

Several Members attended the Civic Service at Easton Methodist Church on the 2nd April. Falklands 35th Anniversary.
3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Pat Hudson, seconded by S/M Alf Larkin. 45 for with 3 abstentions. There were no matters arising.
4. NEW MEMBERS
5. JAN EVANS - Associate
COLLEEN PROWSE - Associate Both were warmly welcomed to the Branch.
6. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Not Forgotten Society.
Letter from Dick Barton.
Homeport Magazine - Spring 2017
Email from Newton Abbot Branch.
Leaflet re Armed Forces Day in Liverpool.
7. WELFARE REPORT

Lionel Butler still has problems.
Pam Gear had a fall but is okay.
John Jeffries has been back in hospital but is now out.
Micky Fox's partner Karen is back home but is not very well.
Roger Court has had further surgery.
Anne Barton is not very well.
8. LIASON OFFICER

Letter has been received from the Captain of HMS Portland.
9. PRO

Reports & photos of Reunion Rally at Bideford & Frome Royal Marines Band Concert on Website, Facebook & Free Portland News.

Report of Sea Cadets presentation of Diamond Community Award in Free Portland News.

Correct meeting dates have been added to the Free Portland News after a long struggle.

Members of the RNA attended the Civic Service on the 2nd April at Easton Methodist Church. Photos on Facebook.
10. STANDARD BEARERS REPORT

S/M Cartwright gave the dates for the following events.

April 25th Anzac Service in Weymouth. 1030 muster.

Monday 29th May US Memorial, Weymouth. Muster at the US Memorial at 1030.

Sunday 18th June. Vets Parade, Weymouth. Muster Astrid way at 1000ish.

He also paraded the Branch Standard at the Civic Service on the 2nd April at Easton Methodist Church.
11. TREASURERS REPORT

The Chairman read out the Branch Account which stands at £3333-84. The report was accepted. Proposed by S/M Maureen Sherren, seconded by S/M Jan Issac. 41 for with 7 abstentions. The Raffle raised £62-50 with donations of £10-50 to our Branch Charity.

S/M Shoemsmith said at the Committee meeting it was proposed that the donation for the Motor Neurone Disease Association be raised to £750. This was put to the floor and carried.

12. WEBMASTERS REPORT

Email received from Rich Gray which stated that a number of updates have been done to the website to "freshen" it up. Including addition of a "noticeboard" page, links to Facebook pages, a new photo gallery of the ship's last deployment, a new "Archive" page, and a means to add eulogies and memorabilia to the "Crossed the Bar" page. Also a reminder to members of the need to provide new items and photos to the webmaster to keep the website live and interesting.

A vote of thanks was given to Rich Gray for all his hard work in doing the Website.

13. SOCIAL REPORT

Annual Dinner Dance Saturday 22nd April 2017 at the Masonic Hall. 1845 for 1915. Tickets £20 per person. Please pay & let me know your menu choices this evening. 81 names so far. Last chance this evening for any more.

Skittles Friday 2nd June at the Trinity Club, Dorchester at 1900. 16 seater mini bus will be provided. £1.00 nominal fee for bangers & chips. Any more names.

Cricket Nat West T20 Blast at the Ageas Bowl, near Southampton. Ticket price £18 per person (instead of £21 for a group of 10 or more. Plus the cost of the hire of the mini bus, fuel and parking between us. 14 names so far + driver Vaughan. Room for two more. If no more want to go I'll invite Bridport/Dorchester to make up the numbers. I'll need your £18 for the match ticket soon.

Remainder nearer the date.

Trip to Buckham Fair Sunday 20th August 2017. 35 Seater coach will be booked if sufficient interest. List will go up at the next meeting.

Area Meeting Saturday 16th September 2017 in the Conservative Club. Social in the evening.

Away weekend to Eastbourne Friday 6th to Monday 9th October 2017. Rooms booked. The coach is booked from South West Coaches, cost £1700. Estimated cost per person £156.50. This includes optional excursions on Saturday and Sunday. All deposits will be sent off soon. 49 confirmed. Pay what you like each month. Balance required in August.

Christmas Social 15th December 2017 in the Jubilee Hall.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

At the Committee Meeting last week it was proposed that we get a hip flask for Micky Fox to thank him for all the fundraising he has done for the Branch over the years. This was put to the floor and carried.

Next meeting Wednesday 3rd May 2017.

15. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2112.

.....Chairman

.....Hon Sec