

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH  
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON  
WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2005. 44 members attended.  
Apologies were received from 14 members.

2. CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman said he regrets to inform the Branch that he has taken the decision to stand down as our Chairman as soon as a replacement can be appointed.

He said at this year's AGM when we were left with a void in this position following Bens move to President. "That he would agree to act as Chairman even though it was something he did not particularly want."

Well after six months of trying to drive our Branch forward and maintain our standing within the RNA he has run out of energy.

The old adage of to never volunteer has come true in his case. He wished all the very best to the Committee and hopes they can fully support the next Chairman and allow him, or her to run the Branch affairs.

The Paschendaele Service was poorly attended but luckily the RNA and other Standards were there to do their respectful best. A thank you has been received from the Town Council.

Yesterday the Standard was presented at Weymouth Crematorium following a request from the family of Malcolm Pengelley. Malcolm was a founder member of the Weymouth Branch and a two times Chairman. The seven Standard bearers were roundly thanked for making an ordinary funeral something special.

The postponed Portland Fete at Weston playing fields is now planned for the 19<sup>th</sup> August from 1400 onwards. Volunteers to help would be appreciated from 1300 please.

The Southwell Street Fair this Saturday will be another event we are taking part in to raise some much needed funds for the Branch.

Arrangements for the official organisation for the No 4 Area Meeting in September are well under way. Anyone wishing to help out on the Friday night in setting up and on Saturday to help out in general will be most welcome.

The Chairman than gave a brief report of the result of the vote for DNCM for No 4 Area.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Maureen Sherren, seconded by S/M Alf Larkin. 39 for with 5 abstentions. There were no matters arising.

4. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Bude Branch.

Email from Roy Dean of Dorchester Branch.

Navy News & Warship Magazines.

5. WELFARE REPORT

S/M Pat Hudson has had a hip replacement and is getting on well.

S/M Jean Rawson has been contacted and S/M Alex Oswald has been to see her.

S/M Alan Hunter is getting on alright.

S/M Micky Fox's partner Karen is back in hospital.

S/M Steve Skerman has been in hospital and is here with us tonight.

Nice to see S/M's Joan Stevenson & Daphne Butler here with us.

6. LIAISON OFFICER

Nil report

7. PRO

S/M Maureen Sherren said the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wrens and the Paschendaele Service are both on Facebook.

8. STANDARD BEARERS REPORT

S/M Cartwright said the following events are taking place this month.

6<sup>th</sup> August Service at St Georges Church at 1645hrs.

13<sup>th</sup> August Memorial Service for CPO Pitcher at St Mary's Church, Swanage at 1345.

3<sup>rd</sup> September Merchant Navy Day, Merchant Navy Memorial, Weymouth at 1030.

**9. TREASURERS REPORT**

S/M Shoemith read out the Branch Account which stands at £2796-62. The report was accepted. Proposed by S/M Pete Foster seconded by S/M Dave McCaughey 40 for with 4 abstentions. The Raffle raised £50 with donations of £8-50 to our Branch Charity. There were no matters arising. S/M Shoemith thanked S/M's Maureen & Dan Sherren for their fundraising activities.

**10. WEBMASTERS REPORT**

Nil report.

**11. SOCIAL REPORT**

Cricket Nat West T20 Blast at the Ageas Bowl, near Southampton, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August – Hants v Essex from [1900-2200](#). £29 per person. Pickup 1445 at Courtlands bus stop.

Trip to Buckham Fair Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2017. 35 Seater coach has been booked. Entry ticket £7 per person, payable at the gate. 25 names so far. We will leave Courtlands bus stop at 0900 departing from Buckham Fair at 1700hrs.

Area Meeting Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in the Conservative Club. Social in the evening. Cost £10 per person. Wrapped raffle prizes appreciated. List on notice board. Ticket money required at next meeting.

Away weekend to to the Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne Friday 6<sup>th</sup> to Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Total cost per person £156-50. 49 confirmed going. A reminder will be posted on Facebook.

Christmas Social Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in the Jubilee Hall.

Annual Dinner 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at the Masonic Hall. Caterer booked, hall booked and paid for.

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

S/M Shoemith asked members to support the Social in the Evening on the 16<sup>th</sup> September.

Next Meeting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**13. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2110.**

Chairman

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