

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2000. 47 members attended. Apologies were received from 13 members.
2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman asked member to be upstanding for a minutes silence for S/M Terry Maisey who crossed the bar on the 15<sup>th</sup> June. Terry was not with us for very long but those who got to know him found him to be a very fine chap who did not disclose how ill he was. I should have known there was something amiss when at one of our meetings he asked me if he could donate some bits and pieces of memorabilia to the Branch. Hindsight is a great thing and I should have realised he was actually cleaning out his locker before he went on draft, this time for ever. The funeral was well attended by our Standard and 7 shipmates. I have since received a message from his son Christopher thanking us for our attendance.

Thanks to all those who attended Lionel Butler's and Terry Maisey's funerals.

Thanks to our Vice Chairman Nige who stood in for me at short notice last month.

The visit to RNA Central Office on the 1<sup>st</sup> July was interesting.

The trip to HMS Portland to retrieve the Portland Plate went well. The ship goes into refit soon.

Thanks to Vaughan for driving us.

The Diamond Award was presented to Dave Prowse our Social Secretary who does such good work for us.

S/M Rich Gray our Webmaster was presented with his gong.
3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Jan Isaac, seconded by S/M Bill McMurray. 41 for with 6 abstentions. There were no matters arising.
4. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Jean Rawson.

Letter from Rev Tim Gomm Portland Parish.
5. WELFARE REPORT

S/M Joan Stevenson is getting on alright..

S/M Roger Court is progressing.
6. LIAISON OFFICER

S/M Rimmel said we have received the last letter from the Commanding Officer of HMS Portland as the ship goes into refit on the 12<sup>th</sup> July and not back in service until 2020. The letter is now on the Website. We have recovered the Portland Plate from the ship.
7. PRO

Reports have been sent to FPN, Echo, Our own, Area & Central Office Websites. Concerning Visits to HMS Duncan, HMS Portland, the Sidon Anniversary, Weymouth Veterans Parade, visit to Central Office, Dorchester Armed Forces Day, presentations to our nominated Charity & Micky Fox.
8. STANDARD BEARERS REPORT

S/M Cartwright said he carried the Area Standard at Dorchester Armed Forces Day on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July and S/M Dan Sherren carried our Branch Standard.

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July the Branch Standard was paraded at Terry Maisey's funeral.

The following events are coming this month.

9<sup>th</sup> July Laying up of Sherborne Branch Standard at Sherborne Abbey at 1830.

16<sup>th</sup> July Falmouth Sea Sunday at the Moor, Falmouth at 1015.

21<sup>st</sup> July Association of Wrens 100th Anniversary at Greenhill Gardens, at 1400.

30<sup>th</sup> July Battle of Paschendale Memorial Service at Easton Methodist Church at 1830.
9. TREASURERS REPORT

S/M Shoesmith read out the Branch Account which stands at £3102-84. The report was accepted. Proposed by S/M Alf Larkin seconded by S/M Mike Beatty 44 for with 3 abstentions. The Raffle raised £50 with donations of £8.50 to our Branch Charity. There were no matters arising.

S/M Shoesmith said the Bidford W/E is from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mon 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Price £140 for 3

nights. Deposit of £20 required by the October meeting, and balances by January's General Meeting.

10. WEBMASTERS REPORT

S/M Gray said a few changes have been made to the Website. There are lots of photos of HMS Portland on it. He is concentrating on HMS Portland Naval History.

11. NATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT

S/M Shoesmith gave a detailed report of the National Conference which was held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June in Perth.

12. VOTING ITEM

At last week's Committee Meeting it was proposed that the Branch pay the Piranhas Skittles Team entrance fee for the coming season of £65. This was put to the floor. It was then proposed by S/M Isaac and seconded by S/M Maureen Sherren that the Branch pay the entrance fee. 27 for with 3 abstentions. Carried. S/M Cartwright thanked the members.

13. 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. We now have a full minibus, thanks to Vaughan and friends from Bridport. I have ordered and paid for the match tickets and parking. Should receive the tickets soon. The money for the minibus and fuel will be collected at the August meeting. Estimated total cost £29 per person. Trip to Buckham Fair Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2017. 35 Seater coach has been booked. Entrance ticket has gone up from £5 to £7 per person, payable at the gate. Still only 18 names so far. No charge for the return trip.

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.

Away weekend to to the Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne Friday 6<sup>th</sup> to Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Estimated cost £156-50. Balance required by the August Meeting. 49 confirmed going.

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.

Unfortunately the cost to hire the hall has increased by 50% to £75.00 but it is still a much cheaper option than the Sailing Academy.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

At the Area Meeting volunteers will be required to help out on the Friday evening 15<sup>th</sup> September and also the next day on the Saturday to meet and greet our guests, help with tea and coffee, raffles, tuck sop etc.

S/M Alf Larkin said the Chesil Bank Country Faye including Dog Show and helicopter rides will be held at the Chesil Bank Recreational Ground near Portisham on Sunday 23 July.

Next Meeting Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017

15. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2122.

.....Chairman

.....Hon Sec