

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON
WEDNESDAY 5th DECEMBER 2018

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2005. 62 members attended.
2. APOLOGIES – were received from 13 members.
3. CHAIRMANS REPORT

November Branch activities have been about Remembrance and the 100 year Anniversary of the Armistice. On Sunday the 10th a Festival of Remembrance was held at the Drill Hall where a large audience watched presentations from St John Ambulance, young dancers and a soloist singer. This was followed by a Drumhead Service. A good number of Members were there and I would like to thank S/M Alf Larkin who paraded the Standard.

On Sunday the 11th over 40 Members were in attendance at the Cenotaph for the RBL Remembrance Service. The Branch wreath was laid by S/M Nige Rimell and the Branch Standard was paraded as always, together with Standards of many other Associations. Following the Service Revd. Tim Gomm announced that, after 22 years of stalwart service S/M Charles H was standing down as Parade Commander. This was greeted with dismay by those present, but was followed by three cheers and a loud round of applause. We then retired to the Con Club for” Up Spirits” where a warming tot was dispensed by Rum Bosun S/M Alf Larkin. S/M President Ben and I along with our ladies represented the Branch at the Beacon Lighting Ceremony on the Sunday Evening. Then after a short walk to the Drill Hall we took part in “The Battle Over – a Nation’s Tribute” Service.

The Annual Portland Town Council Carol Service will take place at Easton Methodist Church on Sunday 9th at 1600. Festive refreshments will be served afterwards in the Church Hall.

Shipmates I will like to take this opportunity to say Pam & I will be making a donation to a Charity of our choice in lieu of Christmas cards this year, but would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Karen Miller seconded by S/M Pat Hudson. 51 for with 11 abstentions.
5. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE

.Letter from S/M Mick Arnold.
Christmas card from Dick & Anne Barton.
6. ITEMS DISCUSSED AT COMMITTEE MEETING

Raffle Prize for 2019 Area Reunion Rally.
Invoice for Branch Website Annual Fee.
Guest for 2019 Annual Dinner.
Letter of Thanks to Charles H.
7. AREA REUNION RALLY

The raffle prize was discussed and it was proposed that a hamper up to the value of £50 be purchased. This was put to the floor and carried.
8. ANNUAL FEE FOR BRANCH WEBSITE.

The fee has now been sent off.
9. GUEST FOR ANNUAL DINNER

A letter was sent to S/M Mick Arnold and an acceptance reply has been received.
10. S/M Oswald has sent a thank you letter to S/M Charles H Thompson thanking him for all his hard work over the years being parade Commander at the Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph. S/M Oswald then read out a reply from S/M Charles.
11. STANDARD BEARERS REPORT

Portland Town Council Carol Service 9th December at the Methodist Hall at 4pm.
A Carol Service will be held on the 12 December at 1600 at St Mary’s Church, St Mary’s Street, Weymouth.

The Christmas Veterans Rendezvous will be held on Wednesday 12th December from 10.am to noon at the RAFA “Wings Club” Maiden Street, Weymouth. The Mayor of Weymouth and Portland will share Christmas treats with local Veterans. A tasty mince pie and a slice of Christmas cake donated by local bakers Dorset Cake Co as part of the Borough’s December Veterans Rendezvous will be available.
12. FUND RAISING REPORT

Nil Report.
13. AREA

Nil Report.
14. WELFARE REPORT

S/M Jan Evans has been in hospital and is now back home.
S/M Ray Charnock is making progress.
S/M Sue Harvey has been in hospital with pneumonia but is now back home.

15. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Nil Report.

16. TREASURERS REPORT

The Branch Account stands at £3458-91. Proposed by S/M Rich Gray seconded by S/M Karen Miller. 56 for with 6 abstentions. There were no matters arising.

17. WEBMASTERS REPORT

Nil report.

18. SOCIAL REPORT

Christmas Social Saturday 15th December 2018 in the Jubilee Hall. Entertainer Mike Walker. Tickets £10.00 each, including buffet. 54 names on list, still room for plenty more.. Please pay this evening. Wrapped raffle prizes appreciated. Any help setting up the hall at 1100 on the day would be appreciated.

Social Evening Saturday 16th February 2019. I haven't yet been able to book an entertainer. Awaiting a reply from one.

Annual Dinner 2019 Saturday 27th April at the Masonic Hall, Victoria Square. Entertainer – Paul Laming.

20/20 Cricket July or August 2019. I have received a suggestion that we choose a midweek 'double header' instead of the usual Friday evening match. This would be a women's match in the afternoon and a men's match in the evening. I'll check on available dates.

Away Weekend 2019 at the Barrowfield Hotel, Newquay from Friday 4th to Monday 7th October. We have 51 names on the list. There is one more twin room available. Thanks to all for paying their non-refundable initial deposit of £5.00 per person. Interim deposit of £30 per person due in March and the balance in August.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

S/M Dennis Matthews said Dorchester Branch are looking to hold a Shep Wooley night in the future.

Next Meeting Wednesday 9th January 2019.

20. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2036. The Christmas raffle followed on afterwards.

Chairman

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