

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON
WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH 2019

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2010. 53 members attended.
2. APOLOGIES – were received from 21 members.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed two new members to the Branch.
S/M Geoff Robertson – FULL.
S/M Lynn Rimell – Assoc.

Just a couple of things to let you know what has happened since our last meeting. On Friday 15th February a number of us from the Branch attended a short graveside Service of Remembrance, at the Portland Royal Naval Cemetery, for a Japanese sailor who died 100 years ago while his ship was in Portland Harbour. S/M President Ben Cartwright will give you a few more details later.

On Thursday 28th February Portland Sea Cadets held their Presentation Night at TS Penn Headquarters. After Divisions and Morning Colours, along with many parents in attendance, we were treated to a film showing all the various activities that the Cadets were involved over the last year. Portland Town Mayor S/M Charlie Flack was present to help with awarding various certificates, trophies and cups to the deserving Junior and Senior Cadets. He was ably assisted in this duty by S/M President Ben Cartwright, myself, S/M Captain John Harvey, S/M Dick Barton and S/M Joan Stevenson. After stand easy with tea and biscuits, the evening ended with Divisions and Evening Colours. Portland Sea Cadets are a unit to be very proud of.

Congratulations to S/M President Ben Cartwright for winning No 4 Area Standard Bearers Competition. He will continue as Area Standard Bearer for the next two years.
4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Karen Miller seconded by S/M John Rowden. 43 for with 10 abstentions.
5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

S/M Rowden said the Veterans Breakfast Club will now meet at the Spyglass Inn in Weymouth and not the Clifton Hotel.
6. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE

Nil Report.
7. ANNUAL CHARITY 2018/19

Two applications received for our Annual Charity 2018/19.
Inspire – Special Research Charity.
Mind Dorset – Mental Health Problems in Dorset.

After a discussion it was proposed that we share our donation between both Charities. They will get half each. This was put to the floor and carried.
8. STANDARD BEARERS REPORT

S/M Cartwright said at 1315 on February 15th, 9 members of the Portland Branch with two members of the Weymouth Branch of the Royal Naval Association and two members of the Merchant Navy Association joined with members of the public to pay their respects to Petty Officer Harada of the Imperial Japanese Navy who was interred, with full military honours, in the Navy Cemetery on Portland exactly 100 years ago. Further details available on the website.

S/M Cartwright said we have received an invite from Councillor Gill Taylor Mayor of Weymouth & Portland to join her for a ceremony of Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth on Monday 11th March 2019 from 0945 am at WPBC, Council Offices, Commercial Road, Weymouth, Dorset.
9. FUND RAISING REPORT

Nil Report.
10. WELFARE REPORT

S/M Steve Sandford is in hospital.
Micky Caswell has had surgery. Getting better.
Mike Harvey has had a cataract operation.
Keith Tubbs has had a fall. Now in Dorchester Hospital.
11. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

S/M Miller thanked members for renewing their membership promptly. Thanks were given to S/M Karen Miller for all her hard work in taking on the job of membership secretary.
12. AREA REPORT

S/M Shoesmith gave a detailed report of the Area Meeting held in Plymouth on 19th January.
13. TREASURERS REPORT

The Branch Account stands at £3938.20. Proposed by S/M David White seconded by S/M John Rowden. 46 for with 7 abstentions. There were no matters arising. The raffle raised £75 with

donations of £12-51 to Branch funds.

14. WEBMASTERS REPORT

Information regarding the new Veterans ID Card is available on the Website.
Dorset County Council is running a survey for Veterans and Service Families as part of the Armed Forces Covenant Programme to create 13 Veteran and Family Hubs based in libraries across Dorset. Further information is available on the Website.
S/M Joan Stevenson has now received a new Ipad.

15. SOCIAL REPORT

S/M Prowse said the Bideford Weekend went very well. He won the Trophy for the best act at the Chairman’s Concert.
Annual Dinner Saturday 27th April 2019 at the Masonic Hall, Victoria Square. Entertainer – Paul Laming. 44 names on the list so far. The menu is on our Facebook page and on our web page. Please give your menu choices and money tonight or at the April meeting at the latest. The cost is £20 per person.
Skittles evening at Dorchester on Friday 7th June.
Summer Social Saturday 15th June in the Jubilee Hall. Catering Hannah Barnwell and Paul Laming entertainer.
20/20 Cricket Probably Friday 9th August at 1900 – Hants v Somerset at the Ageas Bowl. I am awaiting a reply with reference to group prices. I checked on matches at Taunton, but they are a lot more expensive.
Away Weekend 2019 at the Barrowfield Hotel, Newquay from Friday 4th to Monday 7th October. 48 names on the list. Interim deposit of £30 per person due in March and the balance in August. I will collect whatever you want to pay at each month’s meeting as usual.
Trafalgar Night Dinner. Friday 18th October at the Masonic Hall, Victoria Square. The hall is booked and paid for. Adrian Smith is booked for the catering. Entertainer still to be booked.
Xmas Social Saturday 21st December in the Jubilee Hall. Entertainer still to be booked.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

S/M Charlie Flack Portland Town Mayor presented the Branch with a cheque from money raised at the Battle Over ceremony which took place at the Drill Hall, Easton in November.
Next meeting Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

17. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2148.

Chairman

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