

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION – PORTLAND BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB ON
WEDNESDAY 3rd JULY 2019

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2010. 46 members attended.
2. APOLOGIES – were received from 17 members.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Annual service at the American Memorial in Victoria Gardens was held on the 6th June, which marked the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, when thousands of American troops and vehicles were transported from Portland to the landing beaches in Normandy. The service was attended by the Town Mayor Cllr Susan Cocking, other Cllrs and members of the public. The Branch was well represented with over a dozen Members on parade.

On the 7th June a group of us went to a skittles evening organised by Dorchester Branch. Another enjoyable evening with Bridport Branch winning the cup albeit with four players from Portland helping them out!! There were lots of prizes in the raffle but not one came back to Portland.

On the 8th June we joined about 100 people at D-Day Remembrance service at Castletown slipway where the US troops embarked for Normandy.

On the 15th June our Summer Social Evening was held at the Con Club. More than 70 people (including some friends from Dorchester Branch) were in good spirits and good voice, singing to the music of Bill Sole AKA the “Tambourine Man”. The raffle was very well supported and a big “thank you” once again to S/M Christine who managed to extract £190 from members and friends.

On the 16th June many of us attended the Annual Service at the HMS Sidon Memorial to remember those who did in the terrible incident when a torpedo exploded resulting in the sinking of the submarine.

The Veterans Parade on Sunday 23rd June was attended by hundreds of Veterans and other Organisations. Well done to the Historic Flight pilot who made three passes in a Spitfire, marked in D-Day colours, along the Bay before the start of the service at Weymouth War Memorial. This was warmly cheered and applauded by onlookers. Following the service there was a march past along the Seafront to the Pavilion. Numbers were down on last year but Members of the Branch were on parade.
4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – were read and accepted. Proposed by S/M Tony Seal seconded by S/M Rich Gray. 43 for with 3 abstentions. There were no matters arising.
5. SECRETARIES REMARKS & CORRESPONDENCE

Not Forgotten Association Annual Review Booklet.
6. ITEMS DISCUSSED AT COMMITTEE MEETING

Proposal for 20/20 cricket transport to be paid from Branch Social Fund. After a discussion it was proposed that £50 be put towards the cost. This was put to the floor. 45 for with 1 abstention.
7. CEREMONIAL REPORT

S/M Cartwright thanked all members for supporting all the various ceremonial events. He gave the following Ceremonial Dates.

8th September Biennial Parade in London.

Monday 23rd September Merchant Navy Flag Raising at the Memorial on Weymouth Esplanade. Muster at 1030.
8. FUND RAISING REPORT

S/M Stanley thanked members for the donations she has received for the Southwell Street Fair on the 3rd August. Any more would be gratefully appreciated.
9. WELFARE REPORT

Jeff Jowett has had an accident.
10. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Nil Report.
11. NATIONAL CONFERENCE

S/M Shoemith said himself and Barbara thoroughly enjoyed the Conference weekend. He gave a detailed report of the meeting.
12. TREASURERS REPORT

The Branch Account stands at £3749-32. Proposed by S/M Bill McMurray seconded by S/M Karen Miller. 42 for with 4 abstentions. There were no matters arising. The raffle raised £62-50 with donations of £22-50 to Branch funds.
13. WEBMASTERS REPORT

Nil report.

14. SOCIAL REPORT

Skittles evening at Dorchester on Friday 7th June at 1900 was a good evening. Some of our members helped Bridport win the Trophy, and we have never heard the last of it! Thanks to Ben for driving the ICA minibus. It was much appreciated and was a huge saving on hiring a minibus elsewhere.

Summer Social Saturday 15th June was also an enjoyable evening. Bill Solo got us all to rattle our tambourines and shake our maracas. Dogwatch instruction for those who didn't shake, rattle and roll will take place tomorrow!

20/20 Cricket Friday 9th August at 1900 – Hants v Somerset at the Ageas Bowl. Approximate cost £30 per person. I am waiting for the tickets, which are all paid for. The balance to cover minibus hire, fuel and parking will be required on the day.

Away Weekend 2019 at the Barrowfield Hotel, Newquay from Friday 4th to Monday 7th October. I will collect whatever you want to pay this evening. The balance is required at the next meeting.

Trafalgar Night Dinner. Friday 18th October at the Masonic Hall, Victoria Square. Entertainers Mike Walker plus the Dorset Wrecks.

Xmas Social Saturday 21st December in the Jubilee Hall. Entertainers Gut & Steel. Hannah Barnwell booked for catering.

Annual Dinner 2020. Saturday 25th April at the Masonic Hall, Victoria Square. Hall booked and paid for. Caterer Adrian Smith.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

S/M McCaughey said that a new Fleet Air Arm Association is being formed in Weymouth. Initial meeting will be held at the Wyke Smugglers on the 10th July.

S/M Prowse said anybody wishing to go to the Shep Wooley evening at Dorchester on the 31st August to see him after.

Next meeting Wednesday 7th August 2019.

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

Chairman

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