

**ROYAL NAVAL WRITERS' ASSOCIATION (RNWA) MEETING THURSDAY
16TH NOVEMBER 2017 AT THE GOSPORT & FAREHAM RNA AT 19:10**

Present: - Colin Hughes President (CH)
Les Heyhoe BCAv Secretary (LH)
Mike Moncur Committee (MM)
George Mytom-Hart BEM Committee (GMH)
Dave Kelly Member (DK)

Apologies: - Pat Prior BEM QVRM Treasurer (PP)
Tony Webber Committee (TW)
David McQuitty Member (DM)

1. Minutes

The minutes of the AGM 13th October 2017 were taken as read.

2. Deaths

The President (CH) reported during his Reunion Dinner speech on the 13/10/17 of those members that had 'Crossed the Bar' since the last AGM, but the following are after the last minutes of the 21/09/17 (those recently departed will be recorded in the next newsletter – December 2017): -

Geoff	Luton	-	30/09/2017
Alan	Price	-	01/10/2017
Kenneth	Dunstan	-	02/10/2017
Albert 'John'	Parsons	-	10/10/2017

3. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of PP, a temporary copy statement had been obtained by LH and the balance shown was £6,844.35. A true balance however was £4,463.10 (less £2,381.25) as cheque payment No.100459 for the Reunion Dinner at the UJC London had still to be processed. Additional expenditures were also due to be paid out i.e. £105.00 to CH for printing of the menu cards and £41.00 for draw prize & heads and tails rum bottles and other expenses, such as payment of the order of 50 new RNWA pins costing approx. £300+. Total and finalised cost for the Reunion Dinner will be known and provided by PP at the next scheduled New Year meeting 18/1/18. Work in progress is underway by PP with a view of 'Online Banking' and discussion for later in the New Year of 'online membership' but a process had to be established.

4. Membership

Membership as at the date of the meeting comprised of: -

Honourary Members:	3
Life Members:	31
Members:	244
Total Membership	278

New members for the months of October / November 2017 (in no order of month or alphabetical name / location): -

Wtr. McKayla Gullis of Port Solent / Trevor Dixon of Dartmouth / Ms. Janice McColl of London / Stuart Sexton of Heysham / Michael Blatchford BEM of Coventry / Mark Whitty of Fareham / Wtr. Emily Riley of Bridlington / Wtr. Rebecca Young of Hayle /

Wtr. Jake Lacey of Kirby / Wtr. Joshua Jackaman of Rhyl / Wtr. Karl Horrocks of Crosby / Wtr. Martyn Glover of Walsall.

A note of thanks and recognition was recorded by the Committee for the past few years that Stephen Kendrick (working for Babcocks) had been instrumental in coercing and recruiting new members from his place of work at DMLS at HMS RALEIGH; CH also 'phoned and thanked him for his services as he had now retired, hence the 7 new Wtrs recruited as a last effort before his retirement. Unfortunately, Mr Kendrick is not being replaced so the RNWA is relying on the DMLS WO1 Wtr, CPO Wtr & PO Wtr (all recent 2017 members) to promote the Association to the newly trained Writer recruits.

5. Any Other Business

i. CH advised that the Revised Rules & Guidelines as agreed by the Committee had been published on the website and members informed via the July 2017 Newsletter but as mentioned at the AGM very little feedback had been received. Therefore, additional time will be given and announced in the December newsletter for them to be viewed and any comments made by the end of 2017 otherwise they will come into force. Member Pete Nicholls (PN) has been the only person to comment so far regarding the 'Audit Form' and the terminology of Audit. CH had discussed with PN the offering of his services to complete an independent examination of accounts as at 31/12/17 and arrangements were to be made via CH, PN & PP and ideally asap after this date, but prior to the next scheduled New Year's meeting of 18/01/2018.

ii. 131st Reunion Dinner 2018 – Friday 12th October. LH had reviewed various locations, costs and venues locally within the Portsmouth area and had concluded and proposed that the reunion dinner should be held at the Royal Beach Hotel (previously held there in 2013 & 2014) St Helens Parade, Southsea PO4 ORN. After discussion regarding the alternatives and 'pros & cons' it was agreed to go ahead, for LH to sign the contract and a deposit of £200.00 paid by the 20/11/17 (PP / CH to arrange via details from LH). An announcement would be made in the December 2017 Newsletter but in the meantime full details and an application form would be made available via the website. Cost of meal to members £30.00 and non-members/guests £40.00.

iii. UJC Reunion Dinner 13/10/17 – Favourable feedback had been received by LH from a variety of sources which had been most welcome regarding the organisation, venue, food & wine, 1SL as speaker etc. CH agreed to write to UJC (LH to provide contact details) to thank them for their hospitality.

iv. A letter had been received from Mrs Shergold, widow of former Life Member, which was passed to CH to investigate and action with the cooperation of GMH.

v. CH advised of an article reported in the Daily Mail on the 24/10/17 which may be of interest to the Committee and RNWA members about Writer George H Bainborough who served at HMS TAMAR in Hong Kong 1939-1941 but more significantly his story as a POW and surviving the sinking of the Lisbon Maru 02/10/1942. More information will hopefully be forthcoming, and a link and his story told via the RNWA's website.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:10. Date of next meeting, 19:00 Thursday 18th January 2018 at RNA Gosport & Fareham Branch.

Merry Christmas & A Happy & Healthy New Year for 2018!

Les Heyhoe BCav

RNWA Secretary & Membership