

# Royal Naval Writers' Association (RNWA)

19:30 Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022

Held virtually via Google Teams – see Hyper Link:- <https://meet.google.com/vqp-saee-kqi>

**Present:**

Colin Hughes	(CH)	-	President
Pat Prior BEM QVRM	(PP)	-	Vice-President & Treasurer
Les Heyhoe BCAv	(LH)	-	Secretary & Membership
Tony Mason	(TM)	-	Committee Member
David Spicer	(DS)	-	Committee Member
Tony Webber	(TW)	-	Committee Member

## Committee Member Apologies

Jim Donaldson	(JD)	-	Mike Moncur	(MM)
Lyn Gannon	(LG)			

## Member Apologies

Kathryn Simmons	(KS)	-	Steve Hamblin	(SH)
Chris Cole	(CC)	-	Richard Dickson	(RD)
Brian Wead	(BW)	-	Alfred Parr	(AP)
Robert Carr	(RC)	-	Philip Jones	(PJ)

## 1. 'Crossed the Bar'

A minutes silence was held for the following who was reported as having 'CTB':-

- i. 15/06/22 - Gordon Wilkinson (aka Gordon Peters of TV/ entertainment) of Surbiton, Surrey.

## 2. Minutes

The minutes of Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were proposed by PP and seconded by DS and were taken as read with no further or additional comments by those present.

## 3. Treasurer's Report

PP advised as at close of business Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 of the current financial situation:-

£6,512.63\* - Note: £1,506.50 'ring fenced' for National Arboretum & £65.00 for Memorial Bench

- \* i. Included in this sum is £1,670.00 received for the 2022 Reunion Dinner
- ii. A reduction in the total is due to be applied in respect of LH expenses and PP requested they were forthcoming by the end of July 2022 for authorization and payment e.g., printing for Directory, Newsletter & Dinner application, envelopes etc. Action: LH/PP & CH.

## 4. Membership+

Membership as of 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 comprises of:-

3 Honorary Members  
29 Life Members  
218 Members  
**250** Total Membership

## 5. Any Other Business

Continued ...

- i.
  - a. Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 135<sup>th</sup> RNWA Reunion Dinner at Union Jack Club, London. Guest of Honour (GOH) confirmed as the Royal Navy's first female of Flag Officer rank, Admiral Judith Helen 'Jude' Terry OBE, Naval Secretary and Director of People & Training.
  - b. In view of the significance of the GOH's attendance, it was proposed that promulgation promoting the Admiral's presence was made via The Navy News (DS stated that he would 'write in' as a reader's letter) and other linked military sites – Action: LH. In the absence of LG it was suggested that Lyn was approached to ascertain if it was possible to get something published in the WRNS Association newsletter / publication to potentially encourage more female presence in support of the GOH and possibly encourage ex-WRNS to join the RNWA. Action: LH/LG
  - c. See Annex A. of the Alphabetical order of current (as at 21/07/22) paid attendee members and guests for the Reunion Dinner – If your name doesn't appear contact LH immediately. .
  - d. A complimentary invitation (plus guest) had been issued to Wtr. 'Oggie' Augustine (OA) onboard HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH but to-date unfortunately no response had been received. It subsequently transpires that OA is currently serving at DNR HQ, so LH will reapproach to ascertain his availability and acceptance.
- ii. Writer of the Year trophy – In CH's letter to the GOH it was mentioned and requested that an update of the future of the Writer branch was provided at the Reunion dinner and to mention about the award and the future of the Writer branch. .
- iii. National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) – CH advised he had been informed that no further trees or plaques were going to be accepted, so the sum of £1,506.50 would have to be reassigned. It will be mentioned at the AGM and in the following newsletter.
- iv. The publication of the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Platinum Jubilee RNWA Directory (produced every five years) appeared to be a success with very few negative responses and the overall general feedback received by LH was encouraging and welcomed. The 140<sup>th</sup> publication in 2027 would be reviewed 18 months prior to issue to ascertain if there was a means and way to cut costs, especially for those members living abroad due to printing and postage etc.
- v. TM informed everyone that as well as being eligible to hold a 'Defence Discount Service' card – see <https://www.defencediscountservice.co.uk/> - serving and ex-service personnel are entitled to apply for a 'Blue Light' card. Cost £4.99 for 2 years providing Blue Light members with thousands of amazing discounts online and on the high street gaining access to more than 15,000 discounts. This includes large national retailers to local businesses across categories as holidays, cars, days out, fashion, gifts, insurance, telephones, and much more.- see <https://www.bluelightcard.co.uk/>

***RNWA Committee & Members (all welcome!) future 2022 'Virtual meetings are 19:30 (sign in from 19:15):-***

Thursday	-	15 <sup>th</sup> September	2022
Thursday	-	17 <sup>th</sup> November	2022

Note: AGM - 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at The Union Jack Club, London.

<https://meet.google.com/vqp-saee-kqj>

Note: Try logging on/in a week or weeks prior to the meeting. If you don't have access that is the main concern. On your initial access you do have to go through a process to join but once processed then access should be easily accessible. You will not be able to join in the 'meeting room' unless invited to do so by LH. If you are having difficulties in gaining access then give LH a call to arrange a mutual time and date that a 1:1 meeting can be held to potentially support and assist you and 'invite you to the meeting room', thereby 'ironing out the gremlins' so you know for certain that you have access for the actual future meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:20

*Les Heyhoe BC Av*

**Les Heyhoe BC Av**

RNWA Secretary & Membership

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

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*Postscript:-*

**A link of a modern recruitment advert online of 'What is a Writer'? ...**

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/roles-and-specialisations/services/surface-fleet/writer-logistician>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOaWBcX2OMw>

Annex A. to RNWA Minutes of 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 - (Surname Alphabetical Order)

1	Jane	Adams
2	Denis	Alger
3	Michael	Blatchford
4	Beverley	Carrington
5	Mike	Coombes OBE
6	Jim	Donaldson
7	Steve	Hamblin
8	John	Hart CBE
9	Vince	Hawkins
10	Lyn	Heyhoe
11	Les	Heyhoe BCAv
12	Carol	Higham
13	David	Hill
14	Nancy	Hill
15	Bill	Howil
16	Colin	Hughes
17	Mike	Hughes MBE
18	John	Large
19	Doug	Lewis
20	Albert	Light
21	Mary	Light
22	Patrick	Magill
23	Barbara	Mason
24	Tony	Mason
25	Don	McGeorge
26	Anne	Miller
27	John	Miller
28	Ron	Miller
29	Debi	Mills
30	Celia	Myers
31	Pat	Prior BEM QVRM
32	David	Ramsey
33	David	Rawlings
34	Doreen	Shaw
35	David	Spicer
36	Marilyn	Stephens
37	Andrew	Straw
38	Cassandra	Terry
39	June	Terry
40	David	Turner
41	Gill	Walby
42	Penny	Wallis
43	Andrew	Whitfield
44	Anne	Whitfield
45	Linda	Wibley
46	Ian	Wills