

# Royal Naval Writers' Association (RNWA) Committee & Members meeting held

19:30 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Held virtually via Google Teams – see Hyper Link:- <https://meet.google.com/ahs-rfcg-smu>

<b>Present:</b>	Colin	Hughes	(CH)	President
	Pat	Prior BEM QVRM	(PP)	Vice-President & Treasurer
	Les	Heyhoe BCAv	(LH)	Secretary & Membership
	Tony	Mason	(TM)	Committee Member
	Lyn	Gannon	(LG)	Committee Member
	Jim	Donaldson	(JD)	Committee Member
<b>Apologies:</b>	Tony	Webber	(TW)	Committee Member
	David	Spicer	(DS)	Committee Member

## Member Apologies

Kathryn	Simmons	(KS)	Brian	Wead	(BW)
Nancy	Hill	(NH)	David	Hill	(DH)
Bill	McIntosh	(BM)	Bob	Carr	(BC)
Peter	Danks	(PD)	Paul	Johns	(PJ)
Alf	Parr	(AP)	Christine	Senior	(CS)

## 1. 'Crossed the Bar' (CTB)

No members were reported as 'Crossing the Bar' since the last meeting held in March 2023.

## 2. Minutes

The minutes of Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were proposed by LG and seconded by CH 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 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 the current financial situation was:- £6,153.27 - Note: £1,406.50 'ring fenced' for National Arboretum (NMA) with £100.00 having been returned to the original donator and £65.00 currently held for the Memorial Bench.

i. A total of £30.00 remained outstanding regarding Grand National payments of £10.00 x 3 that the cheques had yet to be 'cashed' i.e., Norman Bartley (CH to contact), Pat McCarthy's son and Tom O'Rourke (LH to contact).

ii. Approximately £1,200.00 gross was collected for the Grand National Draw held in April but due to ever increasing costs i.e., printing & especially postage, the net amount profit was £427.00, the lowest since the draw began. Still a reasonable profit and amount to subsidize the 'Writer of the Year' award and pay for the VIP & Complimentary guests for the annual Reunion Dinner.

iii. PP's contact details were to be added to the website. Action LH / Webmaster.

iv. The 'Writer Pins' were discussed due to the cost doubling (now £8 each) and PP would source the next request – currently 47 held so based on 5-8 new members a year, probably in 5 - 8 years' time?

v. PP wished to recognize CH's contribution and that of LG regarding no financial expense incurred in their recent visit to DCLP for the Award ceremony.

#### 4. Membership

- i. New Members:-
  - a. Jane Ballard (nee Elwin / Cook) of Fareham ('76-'81 / LWtr. (G)
  - b. Stephen Heggie of Gosport ('71-'03' / CPOWtr.)

Both the above proposed by LH and seconded by CH effective May 2023.

- ii. 242 Members as of 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 with 7 outstanding for 2022 and 48 due 2023

#### 5. Any Other Business

a. For the 136<sup>th</sup> Reunion Dinner being held Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023, LH advised that as at today there were 51 attendees – see Page 3 for Alphabetical List of attendees – a better response than in previous years at this time of the year.

b. Pat & Lesley McCarthy visited the Defence College of Logistics, Policing & Administration (DCLPA) in March and details of their visit will be published via the website, together with an update of the attendance of CH & LG to the Award Ceremony 3<sup>rd</sup> May when 'official photographs' have been made available to the RNWA.

c. CH is to approach DCLPA to remind that 'The Writer of Year' membership and reunion Dinner application has yet to be received, together with any potential new members applications.

d. The Committee and members were advised by CH that Rear Admiral Andy Kyte CB who in September 2023 has been appointed by King Charles III to be the next Chief of Defence Logistics (CDLS) succeeding Lt Gen Richard Wardlaw, will be invited to be the Guest of Honour at the 137<sup>th</sup> RNWA Reunion Dinner to be held at The Royal Maritime 75-80 Queen Street, Portsmouth Hants., PO1 3HS Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

e. A RNWA Newsletter was due to be issued in June 2023 and CH is to provide an introduction and LH is to include the Grand National results, NMA & Reunion Dinner reminder. Limited distribution to non-email members only and not via post, including those members living abroad but sent via email. PP offered to print the newsletter on production (in colour) to reduce costs.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned 20:10.

An email reminder of the next meeting will be issued via the webmaster one week prior to the date.

**Next Meeting Thurs.19:30 20<sup>th</sup> July via <https://meet.google.com/ahs-rfcg-smu>**

***Les Heyhoe BCAv***

RNWA Secretary & Membership

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19<sup>th</sup> May 2023