

HMS BULWARK ALBION & CENTAUR ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF 2023 AGM
QUEENS HOTEL SOUTHSEA - 13th MAY AT 1030 HOURS

Present:

Jerry Stanford - President
Mike Noonan – Vice-President
Jim Ure- Chairman
Steve Foster – Vice-Chairman
Denis Askham- Secretary
Harry Roddis - Membership Secretary
Dave Pinder - Committee Member

Also present: 57 members in attendance. Meeting opened at 1040 hours.

1: Welcome: Chairman welcomed the committee, members & guests.

The association standard was marched in by Neil Pearson.

2: Roll of members crossing the bar: The membership secretary read out the names of members who had CTB since our last AGM. These were: John Marshall (1660)-Mick Morris (2682)-Adrienne Dunnington (widow)-Jean Carr (widow)-Cherry Francis (widow)-John Davis(1619)-Charles Anderson(1970)-Ted Jones(369)-Courtney Randall(856).

We have also been notified of the death of Lt. Charlie Stirling, ATT. Centaur & Squadrons.

Tug Wilson **pip**ed minute still in memory of these personnel followed.

3: Apologies for Absence. Tiny Ashton (1102)-Bob Styants (1533)-David Sheppard (2172)-Mary Easton (2222)-Mary Waite(1940)-Brian Walden(803)-Bob Preece(2142)-(2592)-Alan Yeomans(1836)-Dr Martin Berger(2452)-Peter Francis(2150)-Stan Stacey(2182)-Molly Noonan (1518)-Alan Collinge (2220)-Alan Key(2251)-Ken Bushnell(2472)-Peter Wright(2534)- Mick Loughlin(2648)-Richard Hercock(2297)-John Moore(2424).

4: Minutes of AGM 2022: True record. Proposed by Dave Pinder (927) & seconded by Neil Pearson (1483). There were no matters arising.

5: Reports Chairman. Jim reminded members that we usually have a small contingent marching on Remembrance Sunday. Contact him if you are interested.

Secretary: Missed Scarborough last year. New Albion CO Captain Hember. Looking for suitable future venues. Letter to King re: Coronation. Website hits to date 66,000. Information/photos wanted for website.

Membership Secretary: Harry read out the latest numbers. Currently 290 members, 16 associate members, 3 life members & 6 honorary members. Last AGM total was 326 members.

Treasurer: (Membership sec.) Harry said Tiny's report was in the R08. Subs. were still £10 per annum although some members have been paying £8 despite

reminders. Discussion re: our annual charity donation. Members agreed that £300 would be donated to one of our three sea cadet units annually. Subs. & slops sorted after the meeting. Finances still healthy.

R08 Editor: (Sec.) Denis read Alan's speal. He thanked all who had contributed to the R08.

If anyone can revert to a PDF copy it saves the association money.

Area Representatives: Harry Roddis/Neil Pearson. Neil said he attended Armed Forces Day in Scarborough. Hoping to commence the Yorks. Mafia meetings in Rotherham soon.

6: Elections: Membership Secretary: No nominations received. Harry Roddis is re-elected as Membership Secretary. Proposed by Derek Bathgate (2631) & seconded by John Heppell (2500).

7: AGM/2024 Reunion: Sec. said there had been no suggestions for 2024. I have been sounding out some venues for the best packages as follows. Bristol, Tenby, Scarborough, Bournemouth, Maidstone, Whitley Bay, Barrow & Tyne-mouth. I would recommend the Beaches Hotel, Prestatyn.

Proposed by Terry Griffin (2135). Seconded by Brian Rayner (1090).

8: AOCB: Life Membership presentation for our President, Commodore Jerry Stanford.

- Denis said that John Swan has donated £50 towards the gala dinner wine.
- Harry thought it may be appropriate for us to have a Welfare Officer to help members who have dropped on hard times. Area reps. Should be the focal point.
- Sea Cadets: Denis attended TS Bulwark annual inspection in Buxton.
- Harry has brought his receipt book for any subs/slops paid today.

9: President's Address: Jerry said he was surprised but honoured to be made a Life Member of the association.

In 1953 there were 7 aircraft carriers & 38 naval air squadrons. HMS Bulwark will soon replace HMS Albion following her 6 years' service. Many hot spots around the world such as Ukraine & Sudan etc.

The association is in good hands with an energetic committee.

10: Closing Remarks: Jim thanked everyone present & closed the meeting at 1155 hours.