



HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

HMS COLLINGWOOD
Newgate Lane
FAREHAM
PO14 1AS

1 July 2020

**MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HMS
COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION HELD 'VIRTUALLY' JUNE 2020**

Committee Members:

Capt J.N. McGrath	Chairman
Lt Cdr D L Howe	Vice Chairman
Capt J Palmer	Webmaster
Cdr D Coombes	OA Secretary
Lt Cdr M.P. Carr	Membership and Social Secretary
Lt Cdr D.J. Rook	Treasurer
Lt Cdr T C James	W.R.M.C. Representative
Lt Cdr C.F. Brooks	
Lt Cdr J R D Rouse	A/Sec

Because of the Covid-10 pandemic lockdown, the 2020 OA AGM was held as a 'virtual' meeting. The Agenda together with the Minutes of the last AGM and the Reports by the Chairman, Treasurer and Membership and Social Secretary were sent out to members on 16 Jun 20 for their comments. A deadline for responses was set for 30 Jun 20. Responses were received from 3 members of the Association but no issues or questions were raised. Also, all members were deemed to have voted in favour of the resolutions unless they informed the Secretary in writing before the deadline of 30 Jun 20.

1. MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 9 JUN 19

The Minutes were accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr Carr and seconded by Lt Cdr Brooks.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lt Cdr Rook's written report:-

a. My report for the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Officers Association commences from the last reported position from the 9th June 2019 AGM, where the fund stood at £7,412.24. From the OA account activity through the year up to this meeting, our current financial position stands at; £6,799.43.

b. As to notable activity through the year, we have provided a subsidy of £348 to the OA Trafalgar Night dinner and £312 for the 80th Anniversary Lunch. In addition, the cancellation of the Summer Ball resulted in a band cancellation charge of £962. The OA Committee have also made the investment of £1,153 in the purchase of a further sword for presentation.

c. From the Chairman's appeal of last year for the Collingwood Bust, after making all payments, we remain with an excess amount of £378 which will be held for any ongoing care and maintenance requirement.

d. It is worthy of note that the subject of the annual levy that we pay to the Mess has been opened at the Wardroom Mess Committee, where we are looking for a reduced contribution for next year as we have not been able to access the Wardroom facilities for some months now.

e. Annual detailed receipt and expenditure figures appear at Annex A for the information of our members and for reference, the 2018/2019 equivalent totals are also provided. The Wardroom Treasurer – Jo Darcy - has been commendable in her support to the OA's and myself throughout the year. The HMS Collingwood Wardroom is thanked for providing our Association with an auditable medium for the OA fund.

The accounts were accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr James and seconded by Lt Cdr Howe.

3. MEMBERSHIP AND SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lt Cdr Carr's written report:-

Membership

<u>397</u>	<u>Total membership</u>
267	Active
107	Country
13	Full
10	Honorary

Changes since last AGM:-

<u>23</u>	<u>Changes</u>
6	Deceased
11	Cancelled
6	New Members

Social

No update since last global email.

Depending on Government advice on lockdown and MoD sanctioning opening of HMS COLLINGWOOD to non MoD Personnel the following are proposed:

Sep	(tbc)	Golf Day (Southwick Park)
Sep	(tbc)	Wine Tasting (Wardroom)
Oct 31 st	Fri	Trafalgar Ladies Guest Night (Wardroom)
Dec 6 th	Sun	Families Christmas Lunch (Wardroom)

If permitted we will also look at some form of major event in August.

Post Meeting Note: All social functions inside the Wardroom have been cancelled for the remainder of 2020. Alternative solutions will be investigated.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Capt McGrath's written report:-

As I begin to compose this report that you will read rather than hear, it is difficult to comprehend the differences a few short months have brought to all our lives. A year ago, when I took over as Chairman from Commodore Adrian Whyntie, I could not have predicted how much our routine business would be interrupted; but more of that later.

Almost the first task I had to do was cancel the Summer Ball. With very few takers on the list by the closing date this was an unpleasant but inevitable duty. Your Committee has taken note of this and previous experiences and planned major changes in the Social Programme. Balls will not feature for at least a couple of years and then the members' views will be sought before any reinstatement. Meanwhile, a number of different formats will be on trial, both formal and informal, to evaluate what sort of events attract the most support.

On a much happier note it was a great pleasure to attend Ceremonial Divisions on 26 July and witness the First Sea Lord present the HMS *Collingwood* Officers' Association sword for 2019 to Lieutenant Dave Haw, Royal Navy, a truly worthy recipient. Full details including the citation and photograph can be found on the Association's website.

In September, after a short interregnum, Captain Catherine Jordan Royal Navy became the new Commanding Officer of HMS *Collingwood*. If the name seems familiar it is because her husband, Commodore Andy Jordan, was the last but one CO.

The ever popular Ladies' Trafalgar Night started with a problem when the Gosport Sea Cadets withdrew at short notice because they are now unable to attend events at which alcohol is served. Fortunately, the Fort Cumberland Guard was available and paraded the beef in traditional style. It was a great pleasure to present Commodore Whyntie with Honorary Membership of the Association in gratitude for his splendid service over eight years.

Moving on to Armistice Day, I laid a wreath at the Falklands memorial in HMS *Collingwood* alongside the CO. This simple but dignified service was well attended by both service and civilian personnel from the establishment and I rather hope that the Officers' Association might have a more visible presence at this year's ceremony.

The year ended with the OA/SD Families' Lunch which attracted a good turnout.

Running in the background have been the monthly Film Nights efficiently organised by Mick Legg and, in his absence by Robert Blake. They have a loyal band of supporters for whom they are much valued and regular informal events.

Our revised social programme began with a formal lunch to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the opening of HMS *Collingwood* as a Training Establishment and to commemorate the 210th Anniversary of the death of Admiral Lord Collingwood. Our Guest of Honour was Captain Catherine

Jordan, the current CO of HMS *Collingwood*. She gave us a welcome update on the current role of the establishment.

After that the coronavirus really struck home. The next events in the Social Programme were to be a Wine Tasting in April and a family barbecue in July. Between these would have been the AGM and OA/SD Lunch. In response to Government advice, HMS *Collingwood* cancelled all social gatherings up to Summer leave. All these events have therefore been cancelled. I have not been invited to a wreath-laying to commemorate those killed when HMS *Collingwood* was bombed during WWII, which I assume was cancelled. However, the award of the OA sword will take place in a socially distanced ceremony held either outdoors or in the Wardroom and I have been invited to attend this. Now we must hope that restrictions can be lifted and that we can resume normal service in the Autumn.

Meanwhile, an alternative form of AGM conducted by correspondence, either by email or post will take place. This report is part of that exercise.

The role of Chairman would be impossible were it not for the support of the Committee. It would be wrong to single out one or more from this team, rather I look on it very much as described by the Psalmist: *Quoniam angelis suis mandabit de te ut custodiant te in omnibus viis tuis.* (Psalm 90[91]).

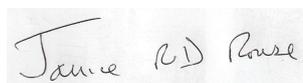
5. TO RE-ELECT OFFICERS TO THE COMMITTEE

With the exception of Cdr Quine, who resigned during the year, all other officers had indicated their willingness to serve another term of one year. No new nominations had been received. There was a unanimous vote to accept the current members remaining on the Committee, Proposed by Cdre A Whyntie and Seconded by Cdr C Stanley.

Thanks were given to Cdr Quine for the time he spent on the Committee. It was hoped that when his commitments eased, he would consider re-joining the committee, but in the meantime, the Association looked forward to welcoming him at those social events he was able to attend.

6. Date Of Next AGM

The next AGM would be held on Sunday 13 June 2021 at 1130.



J R D ROUSE
Lieutenant Commander
A/Sec

Annex A: OA's Fund Annual Statement 2020

Distribution: Committee Members
Wardroom Mess Treasurer
WRNB
OA Website

ANNEX A TO THE OA AGM 2020 TREASURER'S REPORT

OA's Fund Annual Statement 2020

Income		2018/19	2019/20
Central Fund B/F		£7,607.92	£7,412.24
Members Subscriptions		£6,181.03	£5,917.90
Collingwood Bust		£4,779.00	£0.00
Total		£18,222.94	£13,330.14
Expenditure			
WR Levy		£3,132.50	£3,007.50
OA Subsidy	WR D-Day Dinner	£8.33	£0.00
	WR Summer Ball	£33.33	£0.00
	WR Trafalgar Night	£12.50	£0.00
	WR Burns Night	£25.00	£0.00
	WR Xmas Ball	£50.00	£0.00
Subsidies to OA events	Trafalgar night	£379.74	£348.38
	Valentine Night	£1,043.21	£0.00
	Summer Ball	£0.00	£962.50
	Golf Day	£0.00	£20.00
	80 th Lunch	£0.00	£312.68
Sword		£1,084.25	£1,153.14
Dining out ex Committee members		£180.37	£0.00
Refund Subs		£198.29	£118.31
Committee Meetings		£50.00	£45.84
Committee Expenses		£325.58	£393.73
Collingwood Bust		£4,287.60	£113.05
Presentations/Wreath		£0.00	£55.58
Total		£10,810.70	£6,530.71
Balance C/F		£7,412.24	£6,799.43