



HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

HMS COLLINGWOOD
Newgate Lane
FAREHAM
PO14 1AS

29 June 2026

MINUTES OF THE 25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION HELD 19 JUNE 2026

Present:

Capt J. Palmer	Chairman and Webmaster
Lt Cdr D L Howe	Vice Chairman
Cdr D. Coombes	OA Sec
Cdr N Quine	Acting OA Sec
Lr Cdr D Rook	Treasurer
Lt Cdr M.P. Carr	Membership and Social Secretary
Lt Cdr C Brooks	Elected Member
Lt Cdr J R D Rouse	A/Sec

Members of the Association: - Lt Cdr R Chadwick, Lt Cdr M Churchill, Lt F Dugan, Surg Cdr J Iles, Lt Cdr R Mannion, Cdr D Dawson Taylor, Lt Cdr N Rayner, Lt Cdr EJ Richardson. Cdr C Stanley.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from-, SEO JP Brady, Cdr AR Dent, Lt Cdr D Dowsett, Lt Cdr CJC Kidd, Lt Cdr PR Marland, Col PJ Martin, Capt JN McGrath, Lt Cdr RS Sherriff, Lt Cdr D Shields, Lt Dr MJA Smith, Lt Cdr K Todd, Lt AB Tomkins, Cdr D Warren, Lt Cdr HN Watson, Lt Cdr SP White, Lt Cdr GH Williams, Capt ACG Wolstenholme.

2. MINUTES OF THE 24th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 6 JUNE 2025

With one correction, the date of the minutes should read 10 July 202~~5~~⁶ and not 10 July 202~~3~~⁵, the minutes were accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr Richardson and seconded by Surg Cdr Iles.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Capt Palmer gave the following report: -

Good morning to you all and thank you so much for making the effort to join us – I very much look forward to hearing your views and then I hope you'll be able to join us for lunch.

I'd like to start by saying what outstanding support I get from the amazing and hard-working team around me on the committee. Nothing that we do would happen without them, so I'd like to offer them my heart-felt thanks.

We've been missing Derek, our Secretary, for much of the year, so I'm delighted that he's felt well enough to rejoin us. And I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Nick Quine, who stood up at very short notice to help and is currently covering the security and pass responsibilities, which has grown

substantially. Thank you so much Nick. We'll formalise Nick's position shortly, including making some small amendments to the Rules and Constitution to allow for it.

I'm also enormously grateful to the other members of the OA Committee, many who have done years of service, giving their time and effort generously. Without them, our Association and its events would not function, so many thanks to all of them.

Perhaps the biggest change over the last eighteen months has been the way that our social events have evolved. You'll recall that escalating costs were making our big social events less viable and we were searching for alternatives that were both attractive to our members and affordable. We've settled to regular monthly Fish & Chip lunches where we simply sit down to lunch in the mess after a drink at the bar. We regularly have between 15 and 25 at these events. We also held an enjoyable and successful informal lunch in the Collingwood Room after this year's Remembrance Ceremony, which cost us £7.50 a head, including a glass (or two!) of port. We'll aim to continue organising these low-cost events, which provide a great opportunity for meeting up with friends & swinging the lamp. I would encourage the membership to take the opportunity to attend some of the Wardroom events – I'm looking forward to the Summer Ball next month. And of course, our Trafalgar Ladies Night remains our flagship social event. More on these and our other social events from Martin in a moment.

The OA Sword this year was presented to Lt Cdr Daniel Crook by Admiral Sir Keith Blount at Ceremonial Divisions last month. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend this time as I was getting my sea time in on Queen Mary 2, so many thanks to Doug for standing in. I'm pleased to advise that we've recently had two swords donated, so we're well placed to continue with the sword.

I'm well aware that our ability to access the facilities here isn't as good or easy as it should be but following recent meetings with both the new CO and the XO, I can assure you that both keenly welcome our involvement within the life of the establishment. I should have mentioned that Captain John Cromie, the new CO, joined in February and I've brought along copies of his CV if anyone would like to find out more.

Back in March, the Wardroom Mess Committee decided it again needed to increase the fees charged to the OA for its membership. We've lost a few members as a result and I would welcome your views on how you feel about this.

My thanks again to the team around me and also to you for attending the AGM and, I hope, making your views known.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lt Cdr Rook, Treasurer, gave the following report: -

Treasurers Report

- a. Lt Cdr Rook said that his report for the 2026 Annual General Meeting of the Officers Association commences from the last position given at the 6 June 2025 AGM, where the fund stood at £6,622.74. From the OA account activity through the year up to 19 Jun 26, the current financial position stood at; £7,025.50.
- b. As pre-warned at the last AGM, the Wardroom Mess put up their dues to the Officers Association earlier in the year, which had necessitated the committee having to raise OA subscriptions. It was decided to only raise OA charges by the increase made by the Wardroom, plus

the VAT required. Therefore, the OA member charges were now: £33 for Active members and £19 for Country members.

3. Annual detailed receipt and expenditure figures appear below, where the 2024/2025 equivalent totals are also provided.

OA's Fund Annual Statement 2026

Income		2024/25	2025/26
	Central Fund B/F	£5,713.29	£6,222.74
	Members Subscriptions	£5,913.03	£6,381.40
	Total	£11,626.32	£13,004.14
Expenditure			
	WR Levy	£3,216.67	£3,900.00
	Subsidies to OA events Trafalgar night	£614.12	£930.36
	Sword	£823.34	£736.50
	Refund Subs	£301.65	£220.82
	Committee Meetings	£47.80	£50.96
	Committee Expenses	£0.00	£0.00
	OA's Sword Board	£0.00	£140.00
	Total	£5,003.58	£5,978.64
	Balance C/F	£6,622.74	£7,025.50

Lt Cdr Mannion commented on the fact that a substantial proportion of the OA fund was to the WR levy. There was a lengthy general discussion over this topic where the Treasurer agreed with the point being made and that although the Wardroom took less from Country members, a similar differential also existed.

Post meeting note by the Treasurer: *Active members are charged £33, of which VAT is £6.60, The Wardroom Mess takes £20 and therefore £6.40 is added to the OA funds. Country members are charged £19, of which VAT is £3.80, The Wardroom Mess takes £10 and therefore £5.20 is added to the OA funds.*

Lt Cdr Raynor suggested increasing Country members subs to £25. Capt Palmer stated that from 1 Apr 26 no new applications for Country membership had been accepted, and that he expected that the OA would lose members.

The Financial Report was accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr Raynor and seconded by Surg Cdr Iles.

5. MEMBERSHIP AND SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lt Cdr Carr gave the following reports.

Membership Report

Membership Stats – 16 June 2026 – (2025 numbers in brackets)

ACTIVE – 180 (200)

COUNTRY – 79 (82)

FULL – 6 (8)

HONORARY - 8

Total 273 (298)

Crossed the Bar

Capt John Bench
Lt Cdr Anthony Crump
Lt Cdr James Edwards
Lt Cdr Edward Peck
Lt Cdr Anthony Quinn
Lt Cdr Ralph Stenning
Lt RNR George Copus

SOCIAL

A successful Trafalgar Night saw over a hundred in attendance and as well as the normal entertainment, the diners were led in the Sea Shanties by the Hayling Shanty Crew; it was intended to invite them again for the 2026 Trafalgar Night.

The Friday Fish and Chip Lunches (other meals are available) continue to be well attended. Dates are promulgated on the web page; the next lunches are Fri 19 Jun (post the AGM), Fri 17 Jul, Fri 11 Sep and Fri 2 Oct. All are most welcome with guests. Those attending take advantage of the standard wardroom menu at a reserved table. Cost is less than £5 per head. Please notify the Social Sec (social@hmscoa.org) by Monday of the respective week. The main gate will tick members and guests off the attendance list.

Socially, the OA was now joining in more with the Wardroom, and their Social Programme is promulgated on the OA web site.

WARDROOM/OA Social Events 2026

WARDROOM SUMMER BALL

Saturday 25 July 2026. Book Closes Friday 17 July.

Tables come in sizes of 8/12/16 - If booking in more than one group, it is necessary to use the same seating preference name to ensure members and guests are sat on the same table.

OA TRAFALGAR LADIES GUEST NIGHT

CHANGE OF DATE

Lt Cdr Carr reported that the Wardroom Mess had moved their Trafalgar Night to 29 Oct to accommodate their GOH; because of this, the OA would now hold their Trafalgar Night on Fri 23 Oct instead of Fri 30 Oct. It was hoped to have a Shanty Band performing. Lt Cdr Carr stated that, because of his personal commitments, the book for the Trafalgar Night would close late September. The proposed costing would be £75 for Active members and £80 for Country members and guests, but if sufficient numbers signed up for the event, the costs would reduce if the costings allow.

OA REMEMBRANCE SERVICE LUNCH

Wed 11 Nov – Post Remembrance Service, a sit down 2 course lunch in the Collingwood Room (depending on numbers). The WR will require numbers attending lunch.

WARDROOM CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Wed 16 Dec Provisional date for WR Christmas Lunch (tbc)

80th ANNIVERSARY OF WE BRANCH

There was a discussion on whether and how to mark the 80th anniversary of the WE Branch. A formal lunch for OA members on Wednesday 9 Sep had been proposed if sufficient numbers were interested in attending.

6. TO RE-ELECT OFFICERS TO THE COMMITTEE

The current Committee members were re-elected, proposed by Cdr Dawson-Taylor and seconded by Lt Cdr Churchill

One nomination for the Committee had been received by Cdr Quine, proposed by Cdr Coombes and seconded by Lt Cdr Rouse and Cdr Quine was unanimously voted in.

Assuming that the revised Rules and Constitution were agreed, Cdr Quine would take on the roll of Amenity Passes and ID Secretary. Lt Cdr Churchill asked if renewing passes was more complicated than previously. Cdr Quine explained that a visual ID of a photo such as passport, copy of household bill and 2 references from members was now required. Current members were not required to provide references. Details could be found on the OA website.

7. TO RATIFY REVISED HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION RULES AND CONSTITUTION

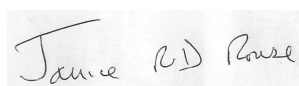
Capt Palmer presented the Revised Rules and Constitution and said the main changes were: -

- a. Vehicle passes were not now required to enter the establishment.
- b. No cash, only cards would be accepted in the Wardroom.
- c. An increase in the maximum number of committee members and the introduction of the Amenity Passes and ID Secretary.
- d. The abolition of Country membership for new joiners.

The revised Rules and Constitution were accepted, proposed by Capt Palmer and seconded by Lt Dugan.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 18 June 2027 at 1130 (tbc)



J R D ROUSE
Lieutenant Commander
A/Sec

Distribution: Committee Members
Wardroom Mess Treasurer

OA Website