



Royal Fleet Auxiliary Association

London and Home Counties Branch

Charity Number 1093950

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th January 2016 RFA Pineapple - London

Present: Richard Fernley (RF), Derek Pevier (DP), Bob Nichols (BN), John Caruana (JC), Gillian Downham (GD), David Smith (DS), Tom Adams (TA), Peter Harrison (PH), Steve Taylor (ST), Stan McCabe (SM), Shane Redmond (SR).

Apologies: John Allix, Jimmy Smith, Mike Ainley, Ian Prescott, Peter Russell, David Cooper, Bob Mitchell, Colin Spencer.

The meeting opened: 13.00 hours

Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes of the last meeting were accepted. Proposed (DS). Seconded (TA).

Matters Arising: Maltese seaman who died in Cyprus, request for a headstone. (FA) stated that this was possible with HQ funds. Further details have been sent through from Cyprus with advances being made.

Officers Report:

Chairman's Report: (SR) Welcomed a new member Steve Taylor, and pleased with the turnout of members. Reported that the Sea Cadet initiative is going well.

Vice-Chairman: Delighted with the Christmas lunch last November, and potential new venues to investigate for 2016 including HMS President and HMS Belfast. Kings Maritime Lecture all are invited (See Programme). Branch crests now available are there any interest from members.

Treasurer's Report: The balance in the bank £522.66p + Gangway Fee

Secretary's Report: Pleased with turnout and an exciting programme for 2016 including two visits to museums and two pub visits + normal Marine Society meetings.

Vision Document: Various aspects of the document are currently underway with a visit to HMS President / Lt Cdr Cliff Lewis concerning the possibility of sponsoring a trophy for the Sea Cadets. Other aspects such as advertising products are being discussed with head office, specifically bookmarks and crests. The initiative continues.

2017 Reunion: Further details including the venue will be obtained from Frank Andrews. Various issues were discussed including the AGM which potentially could be held at the VSC on the afternoon of the main event. No date can be set until venue details have been finalised. Dress code was also discussed and agreed black tie would be in order.

Trip to Malta: (SM) Thanked (DP) for the work he has done in getting flight details and venues. It was agreed that we need to know exact numbers for the tour which would be approx for 4 days. (RF) would put details on the website to get further people who wished to go. It was also agreed that the trip should take place on or about the 10th-14th October (subject to change).

2016 Programme:	March 3 rd	-	King's College Lecture Salvage of Scapa Flow
	March 23 rd	-	Meeting Marine Society
	April 27 th	-	Lunch / The Admiralty Trafalgar Square
	May 18 th	-	Visit Imperial War Museum
	June 15 th	-	AGM – Marine Society
	July 13 th	-	Visit – Museum London Docks
	Aug 11 th	-	Pub Visit (Prop Jamaica Wine House – Lombard Street)
	Sept 4 th	-	Merchant Navy Day Parade
	Sept 14 th	-	Meeting Marine Society
	Oct 10 th	-	Malta Trip
	Oct 12 th	-	Seafarers Service – St Paul's
	Nov 13 th	-	Cenotaph Remembrance Day
	Nov 30 th	-	Christmas Lunch

All dates are subject to change

AOB: (JC) Reported his expulsion from the Medway Branch of the MNA. RF would provide support as necessary and to have words with various members of the MNA.

(DS) Brought to our attention a visit to the new RFA Tidespring by the Plymouth Branch. (GD) requested to visit the ship, as it holds personal memories – (SR) to investigate.

(GD) will report back at the March meeting the possibility of a fund raising luncheon at her Steyning home including dates.

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 23rd March 2016 @ 1pm
12noon @ The Pineapple

The meeting closed at 14.50