

Royal British Legion
Falkland Islands Branch
Committee Meeting Minutes

3rd December 2021

Agenda Item:	Actions:
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Keith Biles, Mark Brook, Richard Hyslop, Bob French, Jenny Reece, John & Sarah Maskell Bott, Becky Rees.	
Apologies: Tamsin Harris, Tim Mean.	
Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
Matters Arising: Armed Forces Day action outstanding including speaking to GH about a reception.	Chris Locke
Chairman's report Chris welcomed two new members to the Committee. Jenny Reece is our new Standard Bearer and she will carry the Branch Standard on Battle Day – thanks to Jenny for taking on this position. Tim Mean has volunteered to act as Membership Secretary - thanks to Tim for agreeing to take on the role. Phyl Rendell, Chair of the 40 th Committee, has thanked the Branch for managing the Standing with Giants project; it has been a great success. The Standing with Giants Silhouettes will be taken down on Sunday 12 th December, this will be advertised on the radio and hopefully we will get support from the general public along with RBL members. The ones outside the Cathedral will be removed first to ensure they are down before the start of the Christmas	

<p>Tree Festival Service. Plan is to repair and refurbish any needing attention then store until next year. Chris will liaise with Dan Barton about next year's installation.</p> <p>Chair received positive feedback regarding the Poppy Ball. He also received two letters of thanks, one from the CO of HMS Forth and the second from the CO of the RIC. Final figure of collections, donations etc versus costs gives a balance of £8,754 including £500 from the Poppy Inn Bar. Chair will write a letter to PN to thank people for their generosity.</p> <p>Next year's Poppy Ball will fall on 11th November and already requests for tickets from Gilbert House for 11 veterans have been received.</p>	<p>Chris Locke</p> <p>Chris Locke</p>
<p>Vice-Chairman's report: Wreaths ordered earlier in the year haven't arrived yet but the Branch has been told they are on the way; these are for Cherie Clifford at Gilbert House. MB will put an order in before the end of the year for Associations. Thanks to Dave Lewis for counting the money despite being unwell and thanks to all who delivered the collection boxes.</p> <p>MB confirmed that there is a box of 100 wooden crosses in the store room and he will contact SAMA to check if they have ordered theirs directly from the UK as we may need to order more if they have not.</p> <p>MB said that money from the Remembrance Day event at the Poppy Inn plus the Bingo night on 5th November had made the Poppy Appeal a further £100, which had been banked.</p>	
<p>Treasurer's Report: Bills to pay from Poppy Ball are to be signed off including those for the Malvina, printing and the invoice from the Band which RBC will cover.</p>	

Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.	
Welfare Report: MB explained that prior to the elections Emma Brook had visited Ginge Davies who has trouble getting out of his chair and standing. He needs assistance but doesn't want to ask for it. Could we think about getting an electric riser chair for members in the community. JR to obtain costings and best style and see if we can take it forward.	Jenny Reece
Any other Business: BR explained Phil Middleton had spoken to her about his donation of £500 from sale of RBL100 First Day Covers, that the funds are specifically only to be spent on the local community. She mentioned concerns raised by him and his suggestion was that we should make a new charity. No committee member agreed. KB said the designated funds rules could apply. Mark Brook asked for action on signatures please. NL had drafted the AGM minutes, CL to pass on so Bank form can be approved. Report from Richard Hyslop: On a visit to Plymouth Richard visited the Plymouth Distillery to meet a veterans group who are walking to raise money for their visit to FI in April. They are keen to come and visit Poppy Inn when they are in the Falklands. Speaker of HoC has a 'Garden of Remembrance' at Westminster; Richard laid a cross there and a wreath was laid at the Cenotaph by MLA Teslyn Barkman on Remembrance Sunday. Afterwards they went to the Union Jack club with veterans. They had also attended the FoR at the Albert Hall the night before. Richard is meeting with RBL HQ to finalise the event at National Arboretum. David Cooper,	Chris Locke

<p>Padre from 2 Para in 1982, is estimating there will be 10,000 attendees at the event on 14th June.</p> <p>Lord Ashcroft has recently had a 'book launch' after compiling a book about 40 people from 82 – He invited those who were still alive like Simon Weston for example to join him at the book launch.</p> <p>HMS Invincible's Battle Ensign from 1982 was handed last week, to Richard who in turn will pass it in to Commodore Jonathan Lett, CBFSAI who will present it to the Museum next year as part of the 40th Anniversary commemorations.</p> <p>Standing with Giants - Dan Barton is making more statues for the 1982 installation which Richard Hyslop and FIGO office personnel are going to help with in February.</p> <p>Becky Rees - Regarding the Standing with Giants for 40th Anniversary. A FIDF member had suggested using the triangle to the east of GH to display next year's project. The area around the 1914-18 Memorial with backdrop of Two Sisters was also suggested. Chairman to discuss options with Dan Barton as these positions may not be in line with the concept of the project.</p>	<p>Chris Locke</p>
<p>Date and time of the next meeting:</p> <p>Next meeting January Friday 7th 2022 1730 2030 UK time</p>	