

Agenda Item:	Actions:
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Keith Biles, Mark Brook, Richard Hyslop, Bob French, John & Sarah Maskell Bott, Jenny Reece, Tamsin Harris.	
Apologies: Becky Rees, Tim Mean.	
Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
Matters Arising: Chris Locke confirmed he has yet to talk to the Governor about Armed Forces Day but would make it a priority. Chris also confirmed he had talked to Dan Barton about the Standing with Giants Silhouettes and has another Zoom call next week. He will forward a report of the meeting to the Committee following the meeting. The action to provide a special chair is in hand. It will cost between £500 and £1,000. Sarah Maskell-Bott said she would support Jenny Reece. Draft minutes sent to Mark Brook and action has been taken regarding the bar.	<p>Chris Locke</p> <p>Chris Locke</p> <p>Jenny Reece</p>
Chairman's report Chris Locke started by thanking Jenny Reece for agreeing to attend her first duties as Standard bearer this Sunday at the Memorial Wood. Chris reported that he would write a letter of thanks to John Whitby for all his help but particularly for fulfilling the role as our Branch Standard Bearer. John and Sarah leave the Islands in a couple of weeks.	<p>Chris Locke</p>

Chris also reported that Ian McPhee had sadly passed away on Christmas Day, a great shock to everyone. His widow, Wendy said she would like the RBL to put a message out to all members. The 12 th January has been set for Ian's memorial service.	Chris Locke
<p>Vice-Chairman's report:</p> <p>Mark Brook reported that all wreaths have been ordered, plus half a dozen extra of each one in case we are short. He said he had received a note from Fiona saying our end of year accounts submission form should have been sent by 31st December. Chris Locke confirmed he would check if this had happened when he next spoke to Becky Rees.</p> <p>Mark also reported that the RBL are investigating a 40th memorial lapel pin. He said he hadn't heard more but would report back when he did. The RBL can also recycle any unused lapel pins from previous years.</p>	<p>Chris Locke</p> <p>Mark Brook</p>
<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>Becky Rees was not present and no report was forwarded.</p>	
<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>Welfare Report:</p> <p>Nothing to report. There have been no cases, apart from the chair that is being actioned.</p>	
<p>Any other Business:</p> <p>There is to be a service at the Memorial Wood this Sunday at 1800. As stated above Jenny Reece is going to carry the Standard. Keith Biles confirmed it's to be an ecumenical service to start the 40th Anniversary year but the weather may mean the service takes place in the Cathedral. The Military Wives Choir are attending. It will be a fairly short service with the Governor in attendance and the military Padre taking part.</p> <p>The MOD have already asked for 30 tickets for this year's Poppy Ball. It is certainly in the minds of many people and it was agreed we should say yes as we did last year.</p> <p>Thanks were given to John and Sarah Maskell-Bott for washing, drying and folding up the sand bags which had been used at the base of the Silhouettes.</p> <p>Chris Locke said he was concerned about this year's Standing with Giants project and how the Silhouettes are going to be</p>	Chris Locke

displayed. Dan Barton whose project it is, wants all 256 in one place and to be seen on a horizon. Chris is going to ask him if the overall figure includes the ones already in the Islands. Richard Hyslop said it was to be noted that Dan does all this by himself, giving all monies to the RBL and this means he struggles to make ends meet. Apparently, he also finds people are wary of him, especially from the more established charities. All this means he may not have the resources to make more. Richard also confirmed that Lucy Taylor who was the Air Cadet who wrote to us about the project in the first place, has been awarded a Thames Valley Wing Best Cadet 2021 for her project and for sending the Silhouettes down. It was her initiative to send them to The Falklands.

Richard Hyslop gave a 40th anniversary update. He said the first Falklands 40 event was going to be on Monday at the Royal Hospital Chelsea where flowers were to be put on Baroness Thatcher's grave and then there was a tea with the pensioners and specifically any who served in The Falklands, though there were none from 82. In the evening the Falklands 40 Thatcher Lecture was being delivered by Charles Moore. John Knott was to be in attendance and the Secretary of State was to give the vote of thanks. There was to be a live link to Stanley and MLA Leona Roberts would be speaking about being there as a 10-year-old girl in '82 and meeting Margaret Thatcher in '83.

On the 5th April there will be a service in St Paul's Cathedral to mark the departure of the Task Force. It will focus on those who prepared the Task Force, dockyard workers, etc. The Minister will be attending and the new Bishop for the Falklands will be preaching. HRH The Princess Royal is invited and the Lord Mayor of London will be there.

Richard also reported that there are to be lots of regional events happening.

There will be a major event at the National Arboretum on the 14th of June. Quite a few people from the Islands will be involved, some telling their stories from '82. He asked any committee members wishing to attend to let him know via email.

The new 40th Anniversary Project Officer has just started in Richard's office, good news as events are constant now and the Anniversary is shaping up to be huge in the UK.

In terms of the Islands, Richard said he didn't know a huge amount about what was planned, but key events will be much

bigger this year with many veterans coming down (subject to quarantine) and dignitaries too. There's a lot of media interest with Songs of Praise recording two services from the Islands. A BBC Breakfast item ran this week and the subject has been aired on the Radio 4 Today programme and on American news.

Nancy Locke reported Christmas cards had been sent to us from Andy Keeling, Chief Executive and one from BFSAl. The Civil Liaison Officer, Ailsa is leaving and is going to introduce her replacement.

All

Date and time of the next meeting:

Friday 4th Feb. 17.30 Falklands Time – 20.30 UK time.