

Royal British Legion
Falkland Islands Branch
Committee Meeting Minutes

17th June 2022

Agenda Item:	Actions:
Present: Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Keith Biles, Mark Brook, John & Sarah Maskell Bott	
Apologies: Becky Rees, Tamsin Harris, Tim Mean, Jenny Clarke, Bob French, Richard Hyslop	
Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	All
Matters Arising: Thanks to Mark and Becky who met with the bank last week to sort out our branch account. Pleased to report all necessary paperwork has been signed and put in place for our account to be updated. This has been an on-going issue for sometime - well done and thanks for finally sorting out.	
Chairman's Report: The Standing with Giants set up went well despite problems in getting Dan Barton and his team to the Islands. In the end they only managed three days here however they achieved a lot including meeting the Governor and an off road trip to the outlying mountain sites around Stanley to take photographs of the Silhouettes. Photographs were also taken at some of the memorials. Although most of the set up had been completed before Dan arrived his final placement of wreaths and Silhouettes was most helpful at the main display in the paddock adjacent to the Welcome to Stanley sign. Thanks to Nigel Bishop and his team along with members of the RIC and to Sue Luxton and Helen Jeffery who all helped with the set up. There has been a lot of good acclaim from the public and press. Plans to take down the Installation were scheduled for	Chris Locke

<p>18/19 June however due to the weather and heavy snow fall they had to be been postponed and are now scheduled for either next weekend or the first weekend of July; again weather dependent.</p> <p>The RBL 40th Anniversary installation designed by Linda Kitson was situated in the Town Hall under the instruction of the 40th Committee. This was far from ideal but the Museum said they were unable to display it due to space. This was a real shame as a lot of work had been undertaken in getting it to the Islands. Plans are in place for it to be homed in the new museum space when it is built. In the meantime, it will be housed in the Cathedral until Remembrance Weekend when it will be move to the Poppy Inn.</p> <p>Thanks to Mark Brook for very successful Liberation Day in the Poppy Inn, it was very busy with members from the RM Band, HMS Forth, FIDF, Volker Fitzpatrick. Thanks also to Nancy and Jenny for helping behind the bar.</p> <p>No further news regarding the future of Hillside and in particular he Poppy Inn so we carry on as normal. However, we understand that the FIDC have undertaken a 'show round' to local businesses of the facilities and infrastructure at Hillside.</p> <p>Chris helped one of the locum doctors at KEMH to bring her husband to the Islands for Liberation Day. He was the Observer on HMS Broadsword's Lynx.</p> <p>RBL Wreaths were laid at many of the 1982 memorials including Fitzroy, Cape Pembroke and the main 1982 memorial in Stanley.</p>	<p>Chris Locke</p>
<p>Vice-Chairman's report:</p> <p>Mark reported that 20 wreaths arrived a week before Liberation Day and although they were not needed it was reassuring to know they were here.</p> <p>In the lead up to Liberation Day 10 different wreaths were requested at short notice so he will be invoicing for those once the bank account is unfrozen.</p>	

<p>Mark received a thank you from the Falkland Island Community School, Deputy Head Master, for the wreaths and crosses used for the RBL filming programme last month. The Branch has stood the cost of the wreaths in lieu the School's 'Pennies for Poppies' fundraising appeals.</p> <p>Fitzroy wreath laid on behalf of Welsh Guards family in Leeds.</p> <p>The Poppy Inn Bar took over £850 on Liberation Day afternoon. This gives an indication of how busy the event was!</p>	
<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>No report available, Becky sent her apologies – Chris to ask for bank balances when accounts are unfrozen.</p>	
<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>Welfare Report:</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> <p>John and Sarah Maskell-Bott mentioned the recliner chair and have agreed to source either second-hand or new and get it shipped to the Falklands through Roy McGill.</p>	<p>J and S Maskell-Bott</p>
<p>Membership:</p> <p>Facebook account, new people joining regularly.</p>	
<p>AOB:</p> <p>Elaine Howison had asked for a contact for wreath laying here – Mark Brook's name was forwarded.</p> <p>Nancy noted that funds were being transferred by BFAI for Poppy Appeal, also donation re Neil Russell and Wendy McPhee's sponsored walk. Mark said they may not be able to whilst the account is frozen.</p> <p>John and Sarah Maskell-Bott attended the Liberation Day event at the National Memorial Arboretum and said it was an excellent day. They met up with Bob French, Paula Fowmes, Ailsa Crichton, Andrew Newman, Debra Davidson, Craig Lewis as well as Richard and Venetia Hyslop. The Committee all agreed that Leona's speech was very emotional. Live link up was very short despite all the build up to it, this was a real shame.</p>	

