

**Royal British Legion**  
Falkland Islands Branch  
Committee Meeting Minutes  
6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>Actions:</b>
<b>Present:</b> Chris Locke, Nancy Locke, Keith Biles, Bob French, Tim Mean, Jenny Clarke, Mark Brook, John & Sarah Maskell Bott, Tamsin Harris, Richard Hyslop.	
<b>Apologies:</b> Becky Rees.	
<b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
<b>Matters Arising:</b> The Poppy drape is an outstanding action for Nancy Locke.  The Stafford Instillation – Nothing further heard from UK RBL on this project.  Chris Locke will be attending the National Conference in London virtually on 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> of this month.  The Tea Dance booking for this month has been cancelled but we will hopefully look at organising something for next year.  Chris Locke attended to a 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee meeting last week and said it all felt a bit down as there appeared to be less support for the RBL than he has hoped for.  The payment has gone through for the Fighting Pig Band who played at last year's Poppy Ball.  Our bank mandates are not up to date, an on-going issue. New forms are to be completed with new signatories. Chris Locke is liaising with the bank.	<b>Nancy Locke</b>  <b>Chris Locke</b>  <b>Chris Locke</b>  <b>All</b>  <b>Chris Locke</b>    <b>Chris Locke / Becky Rees</b>

<p><b>Chairman's Report:</b></p> <p>Standing with Giants programme is looking good and as per the email sent recently. Dan is flying to the Falklands on the 15<sup>th</sup> May and staying until 27<sup>th</sup> May. Chris Locke said he had put out a request on Facebook for helpers and had received a lot of replies to help on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to put up the silhouettes. This will be on the paddock to the east of the 'Welcome to Stanley' sign. Dan didn't get enough time to make the all frames for the silhouettes, short by around 100, so he's asked us to take them off the existing ones and put them on the new ones. Chris Locke is going to explore how difficult a job this is going to be.</p> <p>Chris Locke said he had received an email from Elsa Heathman asking for two silhouettes for Landing Day and he's planning to utilise the ones that BFSAI used. Tony Duckett, the BFSAI CWO, has agreed to help and will take them to San Carlos.</p> <p>Chris Locke said the receiving of the Noel Rogers Award was splendid news and a press release had been sent to Penguin News. He has also been interviewed by FITV. It's hoped Bob French may be able to collect the award for the Branch in London on the 15<sup>th</sup> May when it's being presented at the National Conference</p>	<p><b>Chris Locke</b></p> <p><b>Chris Locke</b></p> <p><b>Bob French</b></p>
<p><b>Vice-Chairman's report:</b></p> <p>The Poppy Pins that we received at the beginning of April have been going well. Mark Brook said he's banked just short of £500 from Pro-install and around £500 from Gilbert House so the Pins have raised a significant amount of money which will go towards this year's Poppy Appeal. There's around 300 left so do not intend at the moment to order any more.</p> <p>Around 20 extra wreaths have been ordered and should arrive very shortly. There are still stocks in the store. Invoices have now been sent to all relevant people.</p> <p>The Poppy Inn will not be opening tonight due to the pandemic which is hitting Stanley quite badly. Holding the June social will be reviewed nearer the time. The</p>	<p><b>Mark Brook</b></p>

<p>plan is to open on the afternoon of Liberation Day.</p> <p>Chris Locke said the RBL in the UK are proposing to film young children laying wreaths at the different memorial sites around the Falklands. They're planning to take 4 days to do it. Tony Smith has organised it. As a result, there's a possibility they might want eight wreaths. Chris expressed dismay that we weren't contacted about this project but only heard through a non related conservation. He also reported that the RBL Press Officer had asked for fresh flowers to be laid over the Sheffield site. Chris said he was sending an email to HQ saying it would have been appropriate to come through us. John Maskell-Bott said the children already do this and people will be upset. Richard Hyslop said he was aware but highlighted that the children have already made an amazing video that could be used. He added there are 30 or 40 children in it saying thank you and that it's really nicely done and very genuine. He said it had been sent to the RBL. Mark Brook said the branch have enough wreaths to support this project. Richard shared the film for the committee to see and despite the sound issues, it was agreed it was a lovely, genuine video.</p>	
<p><b>Treasurer's Report:</b> There was no report as Becky Rees is poorly.</p>	
<p><b>Secretary's Report:</b> Nothing to report.</p>	
<p><b>Welfare Report:</b> Nothing to report.</p>	
<p><b>Membership:</b> Tim Mean confirmed there was nothing to report.</p>	
<p><b>AOB:</b> Nancy Locke said the Falkland Island Association had asked if any members are attending events in the UK where there's wreath laying to be done, their help would be much appreciated. Members said they were happy to help and the email was forwarded to everyone.</p> <p>Richard Hyslop reported on the event happening on</p>	<p><b>UK members</b></p>

<p>the 14<sup>th</sup> of June at the National Arboretum. There will be a Standard Bearer for the Falkland Island Flag. This will be an outdoor version of the Festival of Remembrance with stories of the conflict. The Freedom of the Falkland Islands will be presented to all veterans and there'll be 3,000+people attending. He added that it should be a very positive event.</p> <p>Sarah Maskell-Bott asked if it was clear now that we can use our local funds to purchase things such as the recliner chair? This was confirmed to be a yes. She said it would be a good idea to contact the hospital as the requirements for such items are specific, like water proof covers.</p> <p>Mark Brook said a request had come in to have our Standard at Landing Day as its being filmed. Jenny Clarke said he hoped to be there.</p> <p>Chris Locke asked Richard Hyslop how the event at St Paul's went. He said he sat very close to the South Atlantic Memorial and that feedback had been very positive. Just over 300 in congregation, including veterans and 30 serving military. Almost all those who attended from the Royal Navy had served in 82! The new Bishop Jonathan preached a very good sermon and amongst those attending was Junior Ambassadors, a widow, a member of the British Antarctic Survey, dockyard workers who worked to prepare everything and a Yeoman of the Guard who served in 82. Also in attendance were the Princess Royal and her husband, the Veterans Minister and Falkland Islands Minister and the new Governor Designate.</p>	<p><b>Jenny Clarke</b></p>
<p><b>Date and time of the next meeting:</b> Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June – 1730 (Falklands) 2130 UK</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>