HMS BULWARK, ALBION & CENTAUR ASSOCIATION

**MINUTES of the HMS BULWARK, ALBION & CENTAUR AGM 2002
Saturday 20th April in the Victory Club, HMS Nelson, Portsmouth.**

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| **Those present:** |   |
| **VADM Sir Patrick Symons** | **President** |
| **Mick Dunnington** | Vice Chairman |
| **John Truscott** | Secretary |
| **Robbie Cowan** | Treasurer |
| **Mike Noonan** | Editor |
| **Time Holt** | Social Secretary |
| **Leigh Easton** | Membership Sec. (Designate) |
| **Mike Bridges** | Historian (Designate) |
| **Mick Toman** | Committee Member |
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| **With 32 members & guests attending.Special guest Danny Siggers** |
| **Apologies:** |
| **Ned Parkinson (7)** | **John Finlay (1612)** |
| **Steve Reed (9)** | **Ted Jones (?)** |
| **Ron Alder (686)** | **Steve Perry (188)** |
| **Ron Bird (1667)** | **Bob Styants (1533)** |
| **Jack Higley (1416)** | **Roger Billingham (1369)** |
| **John Margetts (1504)** | **Gordon Green (421)** |
| **Taff Hildige (891)** | **Jeff Snell (881)** |
| **Geoff Ackroyd (918)** | **Robin Wood (1545)** |
| **Doug Rylatt (485)** |   |

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| **The Meeting opened at 12.34 hrs with the following items under discussion:** |
| **1.** | The Vice-Chairman welcomed the President, Committee, members and guests present. Mick said what a good year it had been for the Association with a large party attending the launch of the new HMS Bulwark. Members having the chance to meet Captain Winstanly and Cdr Trevor Gulley. |
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| **2.** | The meeting held a 2 minute silence in memory of HM The Queen Mother and members no longer with us. |
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| **3.** | The minutes of the 2001 AGM were read out and agreed by those present.Proposed by Clare Pollard (709)Seconded by Laurie Barrett (1467) |
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| **4.** | **Treasurer's Report**Robbie Cowan presented the financial report for 2001/2002. The accounts closing balance until 19th April was £1610.11, with subs totalling £3696.00 expected in 2002.Proposed by Mick Toman (379)Seconded by George Sexton (1604) |
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| **5.** | **Membership Secretary's Report (Designate)**Leigh Easton Reported that 2001/2002 had been a good year with 614 members in the association with 221 members recruited during the year. Leigh thanked Colin Taylor (208) for his unstinting efforts in bringing in new members, and thanking all those involved in the recruiting effort. |
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| **6.** | **Social Secretary's Report**Tim Holt thanked members for attending events over the year but stressed the need for more support from members at events. Tim outlined the successful Trafalgar Night last year and hoped that those high numbers attending would continue. Tim informed those present that he was standing down as Social Secretary at this AGM and wished the Committee and members well and thanked them for their support. Cheyenne Body (1507) asked the Committee whether further advertising for events could be placed in newspapers etc... Committee agreed to look into this. |
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| **7.** | **Historian's Report (Designate)**Mike Bridges reported that since the post was created after the 2001 AGM he had received lots of information and had started projects, which hopefully would lead to an archive for members and non-members to access information. Major projects include HMS Bulwark(5) blown up in Sheerness 1914, an historical report on the Melika incident and personal recollections of Suez 1956. |
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| **8.** | **Editor's Report**Mike Noonan reported that the cost of the Commemorative Spring Edition was more expensive due to the special nature of the edition combined with the cost of 1st class postage so members received their copies without undue delay, ready for the AGM. Mike hoped members had enjoyed the issue as much as he had. Mike informed everyone that the R08 will go back to the usual format, he stressed the need for material for the magazine from members. Mike asked all those present to ensure that if they heard from any members or past members that had passed over the bar to let the committee know so that they could be remembered appropriately. |
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| **9.** | **Secretary's Report**John Truscott thanked Frank Jones, Mick Dunnington and Tim Holt as outgoing officers for their unstinting efforts for the Association. Those present agreed this and a round of applause was given.Secretary reported that it had been a good year for recruitment with a 66% rise in membership and much thanks should go to all those involved especially Leigh Easton and Colin Taylor for all their efforts.The Trafalgar Night Social in 2001 had been well supported and it is hoped that this will continue into the future.Sec invited members to give a round of applause to Mike for his efforts on the Commemorative Issue of the R08 and to those who had contributed to it, making it an excellent edition. It is also hoped that as many members as possible will visit the associations new web site and give comments and make suggestions so that this can be a useful and enjoyable additions for the association.John reported that the affiliation with the new HMS Bulwark was progressing extremely well and the committee was working on closer ties with HMS Albion although an official affiliation was unlikely. John thanked all members for their attendance at a very successful launch in November of HMS Bulwark, which was very enjoyable. It is hoped that this sprit will be continued into the future.Sec outlined future plans for socials and an away week-end to Birmingham and hoped as many members as possible will attend a formal Trafalgar Dinner in October where out President Sir Patrick Symons will be the guest speaker. |
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| **10** | **Election of Officers and Committee**The following members were elected as officers and committee members as follows:* Chairman - Mike Noonan (Editor R08)
* V/Chairman - Mike Bridges (Historian)
* Membership Sec - Leigh Easton
* Historian - Mike Bridges
* Committee - John Finlay

Social Secretary post is currently vacant, as it was felt a local member is needed and efforts will be made to fill the post at a later date.Detail of proposers and seconders available from Secretary. The V/Chairman handed over the meeting to the new Chairman who thanked all present for their support and brought the meeting to order.  |
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| **11** | **AGM Proposals and Resolution**The following items were proposed for consideration:* Sec proposed the adoption of a resolution, which aligns the association with all members and HMS Bulwark and Albion. Agreed by those present.
* The publication and auditing of AGM minutes and accounts were discussed and it was agreed that a brief financial statement would be published with each R08 and a full report at each AGM. Bob stressed that the accounts had been successfully audited and area available at each AGM.
* Sec stated there was nothing in the constitution that said the AGM minutes should be published at any special time, but a précis of the minutes would be included in the Summer R08 with full minutes in the Spring R08 ready for the following AGM.
* The meeting was asked to agree to offer Vice Presidency positions to the incumbent Commanding Officers of the new ships. Agreed unanimously.
* It was agreed that Rule one of the constitution be changed to included HMS Albion to be referred to as the "HMS Albion Association" when corresponding with the new ship, in line with that afforded to HMS Bulwark.
* It was proposed and agreed unanimously to offer an Honorary Membership of the Association to Danny Siggers for his outstanding work in the setting up of the associations web-site. Following his acceptance Danny thanked all present for their generosity and hoped that everyone will enjoy the website.
* Other proposals presented to the AGM were not taken up as suggestions from those present indicated that proposers or those in support of a motion should be present at the AGM. As this was not the case those proposals were not tabled. Sec stated that this suggestion would be formally proposed at the 2003 AGM.
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| **12** | **Any Other Business**Mike Bridges proposed a vote of thanks to those who had presented commissioning books to the association. Mike also gave a report on our membership of the Federation of Naval Associations (FNA) and hoped that as many members as possible will attend the Jubilee March of Veterans at Horse guards Parade on June 4th.A new association badge design was presented to members. Changed were propsoed and a refined design will be published.Photos of the launch of the new HMS Bulwark and Albion were on show and available for sale to those present.Ron Tigwell proposed that members would be able to save association costs if they provided stamps for personal correspondence (voluntary).Steve Foster proposed that a vote of thanks be given to Clare Pollard for all his hard work in promoting the association. |
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| **13** | **Close of Meeting**  The President addressed the AGM and outlined a successful year for the association. Sir Patrick presented certificates to outgoing committee members and Danny Siggers. Flowers were also presented to Jackie Truscott for her administration support.The AGM 2003 is to be held on Saturday 5th April, in Portsmouth. Venue to be notified. The meeting closed at 14:44hrs.  |
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