



Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society
Hon. Secretary Joe Kirk BSc MBCS CITP G3ZDF 111 Stockbridge Road
Chichester, West Sussex PO19 8QR

MINUTES

Committee meeting Thursday 12 June 2014

19:30, HMS Collingwood

Present:	Doug Hotchkiss	G4BEQ	Chairman	
	Ray Ezra	G3KOJ	Vice-Chairman	& Station Manager
	Joe Kirk	G3ZDF	Secretary	
	Dave Lacey	G4JBE		By Skype
	Wally Walker	G4DIU	Membership Secretary	By Skype
	Mick Puttick	G3LIK	Hon. Vice President	
	Adrian Mori	2E0JVM	Treasurer	
	Doug Bowen	G0MIU	Commodities Manager	
	Bill Mahoney	G3TZM		By Skype
	Nigel Auckland	M0NAF		

1. Chairman's opening remarks

The Meeting started at 19.30 and the Chairman welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies for absence

- a. None.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Proposed by Wally G4DIU and seconded by Dave G4JBE.

4. Matters arising

- a. **4 (b) Secretary to write to US rep asking him to remit funds via PayPal and let Membership Secretary have details of who had paid OPEN**

Joe reported that he had advised the US and Australian representatives.

The Society's identity on PayPal is rnars.hq.shack@btconnect.com

The Instructions on PayPal say:

To send money, all you need is the other person's email address or mobile phone number. If they don't have a PayPal account already set up they'll be prompted to open one to receive the money.

To send money:

Log in to your PayPal account.

Click Send Money and follow the on-screen instructions

- b. **11 (a) Joe was asked to design an appropriate certificate to commemorate 50 years membership of the RNARS. DONE**
Wally was asked to work out how many members would be eligible.
Anyone who is eligible can claim one of the certificates. Claims should in the first place be sent to Wally who will be able to verify the length of service.

This will be publicised in the Newsletter, on the Yahoo group and on the website

- c. **13 (c) Bill to draft a letter to Santander (the successors to the Plymouth Group's bankers) to investigate how the funds could be remitted to the Society. This will then be sent by the Secretary**
DONE

Bill reported that he had copies of the death certificates of 2 of the original 3 signatories to the account.

No response received from Santander and a follow up reminder was also sent.

- d. **14 (b) Joe to supply a list of affiliated societies.**

This will be done when Wally confirms the majority of subs have been paid.

- e. **The Chairman asked the Vice-Chairman to check out the availability of accommodation in the WO & SR's mess for the AGM**

Ray said he had spoken to the Mess Manager. Anyone attending the AGM who would like to book accommodation is asked to contact Mick G3LIK who will coordinate the bookings with the Mess Manager.

- f. **Ray to confirm with the Mess Manager that we would be providing lunch for those who attend the AGM.**

Confirmed.

The Chairman said that with the tightening up of the security arrangements he would have to look at special arrangements for the AGM similar to those used with people from outside the Establishment who attend the cinema in Collingwood.

- g. **Doug – Commodities Manager to send Wally a stock of badges.**

Joe reported that the badges were due any day and as soon as he received them he would pass them over to Doug.

5. Chairman's report

- a. Doug reported that it had been a quiet period. The main item to report was a change in the arrangements for signing visitors and for authorising passes. Only 3 people can sign visitors in, Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. The Chairman is the only person who can authorise applications for a security pass.

6. Secretary's report

- a. Badges with the new logo have been ordered and will be available shortly.
- b. We hosted the final RCF (RAE) exam for 4 candidates who had been tutored by the Horndean Club. Three passed including 1 who passed with a merit.
- c. We now have a new digital modes award, the RNARS BITS award. Details are on the website. The purpose is to encourage digital mode activity among members.

Joe G3ZDF.

7. Membership Secretary's report

- a. Wally reported that funds were still coming and that at last count we had 653 members.

Wally G4DIU

8. Treasurer's report

- a. We have a balance of £2,500 in the current account and £17,440.46 in the savings account.
- b. There was no change in the amount in the long term savings.
- c. Insurance for the HQ Shack renewed at a cost of £299.
- d. Nigel was asked to get the ATV group to list any individual items installed in the Shack with a value in excess of £1,000 so they could be listed separately on the insurance policy.

Adrian

9. Ex-Officio's report.

- a. No report.

10. Collingwood Open Day(Ray G3KOJ)

- a. Ray sent a write-up of the day to Colin, the newsletter Editor.
- b. Nigel and Julia also sent photos of the events to Colin.
- c. Camera crews had problems getting beyond the barriers to film the events and they were not given any help by the designated liaison person.
- d. Joe G3ZDF had arranged with OFCOM for the issue of a special events station licence with the call sign GB6COD. Joe ran the PSK31 station and also kept the RNARS membership up dated via the internet with the frequency HF SSB/CW operators were using. Mick G3LIK was on CW first, but had to go home as he became very ill. Al Terry G4PZV took over and operated SSB on various bands throughout the day. Unfortunately for Terry, the QRN interference on the HF bands was very high this year from the attractions and events going on around the area of the club. This made it almost impossible to be able to have a worthwhile QSO. Terry did struggle with trying to make SSB contacts. Joe G3ZDF was also having problems on PSK31. He found that his PSK set up kept going into transmit mode and locking on even with the receiver input switched off. Ferrite filtering was tried on the individual input leads. Unfortunately this did not cure the problem. Even changing over the antenna from the G5RV to the beam did not cure the problem. Phil G1LKJ was in the driving seat in the Skype and Echo-link bay. Phil was able to have a few contacts on Echo-link. Towards the end of the day as the activities and displays for the public to see and be involved in drew to a close, the QRN subsided. I went back on the HF radio and was able to make a few CW contacts just before we had to close down.
- e. The RNARS club in HMS Collingwood hosts the Amateur Television Repeater GB3IV. This repeater allows amateurs to relay live television pictures along the south coast and sometimes over the channel to France when propagation allows. Here in the club we have a thriving

ATV group. Peter G3PYP and his stalwart band of ATV enthusiasts were very involved in setting up cameras to monitor the main car park which had the Helicopters and numerous display tents. The ATV group had mobile camera crews walking round the site relaying pictures of the various activities going on back to the club room. The video was then streamed round the world via the internet. The group received reports back via the internet from as far away as Australia. The ATV group members deserve to be congratulated for once again doing a superior job.

- f. The 3 ratings who were delegated to help us during Open Day did a splendid job and the Chairman said he had written to the Commander to thank him and to commend them. Doug had also spoken to Lt Cdr Burbridge who was in charge of the Open Day and was told that there had been some excellent reports about the streaming of the event over the web. Chairman proposed and it was agreed unanimously that Secretary prepare Certificates of Appreciation for the 3 ABs who did so much to assist.
- g. Nigel repeated that the PO who was our liaison for the day had not been much help but the 3 ratings could not have done more. He said that one of our younger members, Nathan, M6IVS had done a splendid job editing video as it arrived. He suggested we will need a higher specification PC if we are to do the same next year.

11. AGM

- a. Doug, G4BEQ said he had been persuaded to offer himself as Chairman again next year but ultimately it would be a decision of the Committee whether he continued.
- b. All the existing officers and members of the Committee were prepared to serve again next year but any other members wishing to stand for the Committee should send their details to the Secretary. The Chairman said he wanted to encourage as wide a membership of the Committee as possible and reminded everyone that attendance could be through Skype.
- c. Previously the Honorary Vice-President (Mick G3LIK) could attend all Committee meetings but did not have a vote. It was proposed by Wally and seconded by Ray and agreed unanimously that Mick could vote at Committee meetings.
- d. (Secretary's Note: Subsequent to the Meeting Ray G3KOJ stood down as Vice-Chairman and Station Manager and resigned from the Committee.)

12. Managers' reports

a. Shack Manager

A new G5RV was purchased and installed. The faulty G5RV was repaired by Ray and donated to Di Cardwell if needed.

The Asset Register was checked and is now up to date. Still a few items in use by the ATV group that their ownership was unclear. Peter G3PYB will let Ray know which items belong to the Shack.

Ray said that now was the time to decide what was surplus, have it photographed and offered for sale to members otherwise it would sit in the Shack losing value.

Ray Ezra. G3KOJ. RN594

Vice-Chair and HQ Station Manager.

b. **Affiliated Societies Manager**

Nothing to report.

c. **QSL Manager**

No report.

Chairman reported that the Horndean Club had tried to contact Belfast Group as they were organising a coach trip to London but had difficulties getting a response. Only when they contacted John Short, Secretary of the Belfast Group did they find out they needed to contact the Secretary of the Belfast Trust.

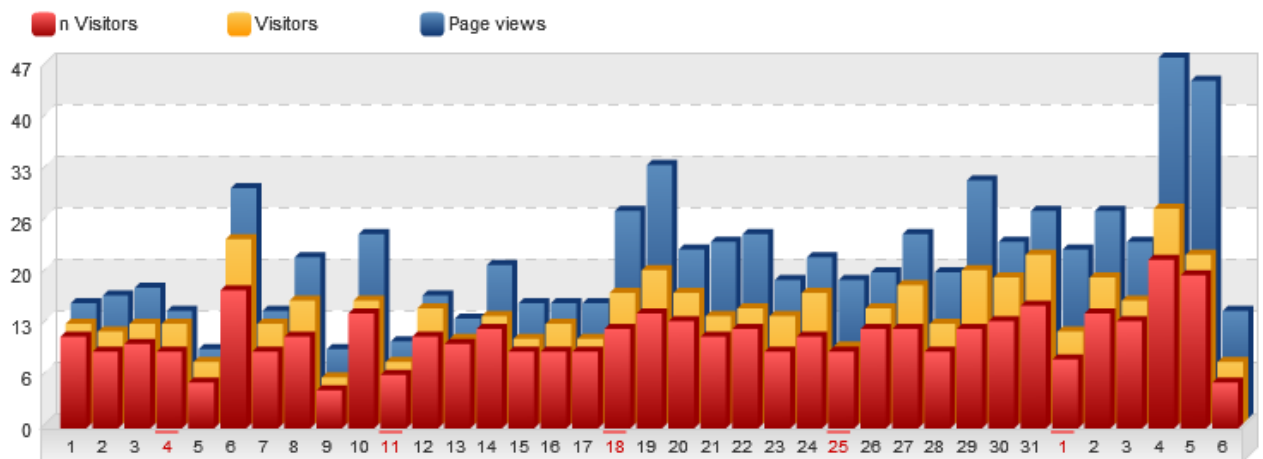
d. **Data. Comms. Manager's Report for 12th June 2014 Committee Meeting**

There is nothing to report.

73, Diana ~~~~~G0RNO/3926~~

e. **Web Site (G3ZDF)**

- i. There are new pages on the site. One to show in real time which modes and frequencies are active from the HQ Shack. The other shows the rolling news without it rolling for those who prefer to view it that way.
- ii. Dave G4ZMP reported on the Yahoo Group that he bought one of the aerial analyzers mentioned in the Technical Library article on the site and he is very pleased with his purchase. The cost of the analyzer was considerably less than others on the market.



iii. Joe G3ZDF

f. **Area Rep Co-ordinator**

- i. Wally reported that rallies were still being attended but it was getting increasingly difficult to find members to staff a stall.

g. **Newsletter Editor**

The Summer Newsletter is almost full, but I have retained space for

pictures from Collingwood open day and further rally reports.

Can I ask that checks are carried out on the following information from the respective committee members:

AGM Notice, agenda and EGM (If service accommodation is available, the contact details for a person responsible.)

Commodities have now been spread over two pages due to the increase in the available products. Incidentally, I wasn't aware of some of the new lines until I read the last committee minutes. Can I ask that the product list, prices and postal charges are checked over in the draft attached and corrections sent to me and if there is any new lines in the future, can I be advised.

Final point, if it hadn't been for Eric Bray allowing me to serialise his book in the Newsletter, this edition would have been very short!

In spite of pleas to our affiliated clubs, I have received NOTHING from them.

End of report.

Colin Topping

h. **Commodities Manager**

Doug reported he had taken 100 new log books into stock.

He plans to have a set of commodity clothing without personalisation so that members can see what is available but that personalising would still be included in the prices quoted.

Wally asked when the badges would be available as he had run out of the old stock. Joe who had ordered them said they were expected any day. (Subsequent to the meeting the badges arrived and were passed to Doug.)

Dave G4JBE asked if 6 mugs, 12 log books and badges could be taken to the McMichael Rally for him to collect. Doug to arrange delivery.

13. AOB

- a. It was reported that some 83 stations had registered for the Museums Weekend.
- b. It was proposed and agreed unanimously that we donate our audio amplifier to the WO & Senior Rates Mess. Shack Manager to arrange.

14. The meeting ended at 2110.

Date of next meeting – 11th September 2014 which is 2nd Thursday in the month.