



**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 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014**  
**HMS Collingwood**

<b>Present:</b>	Doug Hotchkiss	G4BEQ	Chairman	
	Joe Kirk	G3ZDF	Secretary	
	Dave Lacey	G4JBE		By Skype
	Wally Walker	G4DIU	Membership Secretary	By Skype
	Mick Puttick	G3LIK	Hon. Vice President	
	Doug Bowen	G0MIU		
	Nigel Auckland	M0NAF		
	Simon Tribe	G0IEY		
	Julia Tribe	G0IUY		
	Bill Mahoney	G3TZM		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Nev Grant	G0FOD		
	Al Terry	G4PZV		
	Adrian Mori	M0JVM		

**1. Chairman's opening remarks**

The Meeting started at 19.30 and the Chairman welcomed everyone.

**2. Apologies for absence**

- a. As above.

**3. Minutes of the last two meetings**

- a. Proposed by Wally and seconded by Nigel and agreed unanimously.

**4. Matters arising**

- a. Bill asked whether any funds had been remitted from the US and Wally said he had not had any. He said he was having to show members as lapsed even though they might have paid to their Regional Representative but because he had not received funds nor details of payments he was left in a difficult position as it was not clear who had paid and who had not.
- It was agreed that members outside the UK that did not have their own local Group (as in Australia) should be encouraged to pay their subscriptions through PayPal.

**5. Chairman's Report**

- a. Doug reported that the AGM had gone well with the exception of the catering. The food in the Dining Room was quite appalling with very few choices. Mick said the Mess Manager had apologised and explained what had happened. Doug said that we should provide our own lunch next year and he suggested we have a finger buffet in the Shack. Various suggestions were made about where we could get the food from. Bill said that M&S provide good party food and Wally

suggested we try Aldi or Lidl.

Mick reminded Joe to confirm next year's booking with the Mess Manager

- b. Doug asked Wally about progress on the History of the RNARS booklet. Wally said he expected to have it finished by Christmas 2014.

## 6. Secretary's Report

- a. We applied for and got an NOV for GB6BFI to commemorate the Battle of the Falkland Islands on 8<sup>th</sup> December. The Shack will be manned on the day by Nigel, M0NAF, Dave, G1OCN and myself and any other volunteers. One of our members Peter M1AYI will be in VP8 land with the RAFARS DXpedition. We will go QRT about 18.00 as the Advanced Exam mentioned below starts at 19.00.
- b. We applied for a licence to site a 2m digital voice repeater using D-Star at the HQ Shack with the call GB7RN. This was awarded to us last week. Work is now in hand to design, source, purchase if necessary and assemble the various elements.

The Chairman said that Secretary would be responsible for the complete installation.

Bill suggested that we consider the 409Shop in Hong Kong as a possible source when purchasing of equipment. He reminded us that operating the repeater would effectively sterilise 2m for any use from the Shack. (Subsequent discussions have suggested that techniques such as aerial siting and notch filtering would enable us to operate on 2m from the Shack.) Bill to draft a press release announcing the repeater.

- c. All the awards made at the AGM have now been despatched to the recipients.
- d. I got hold of the membership records of the Sub Club from Wally G0PPH and Dick G0RPX which I scanned and am now reformatting with a view to contacting local members to see if they would be interested in coming into the Shack on Wednesday afternoons, or any other day of the week for that matter.
- e. I have been working with Diana and Wally to ensure that the membership database is as accurate as we can possibly get it.
- f. We will be hosting 4 candidates for the Advanced Exam on 8<sup>th</sup> December in the HQ Shack.
- g. Just to let everyone know we will be discussing the question of attendance at rallies at our next Committee Meeting, why we attend, which ones we attend and how much they cost.

Joe G3ZDFThe

## 7. Membership Secretary's Report

- a. Continuing the point above Wally reported that he was now effectively in the dark about our members in the US as he had not received any funds from our US Rep. It was suggested we contact members in the US and suggest they pay via PayPal.
- b. Current membership statistics

	Current	Free	Life	TOTAL
Affiliate	14	5	0	19
Associate	106	0	16	122
Corporate	418	2	104	524

Family	7	0	0	7
Honorary	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	546	7	120	673

## 8. Treasurer's Report (received after the meeting)

- a. The Balances for the minutes were;  
Current Account £687.87  
Deposit Account £16,443.40  
The fixed deposit remains unchanged until maturity later in the year..

## 9. Managers' Reports

### a. Shack Manager

- i. Since my last repost all the computers have been moved from about to below the work surface. So far only one keyboard has been treated in this way due to the difficulty in finding Keyboard trays that will fit.
- ii. Whilst not obvious, a lot of cable tidying has taken place under the work surface.
- iii. A small noticeboard has been placed by the shack door for important notices. There is also a hook on it for the shack keys. Unless actually unlocking a door the keys should be on this hook. Please do NOT take the keys with you into the workshop but hang them back on the hook after unlocking the door.
- iv. The repeater NOV has been issued and an impressive rack unit obtained for the equipment. Joe is kindly putting together a full inventory of equipment needed together with costing.
- v. Work will continue during the winter to improve the shack appearance and tidiness.

**Nigel Auckland, Shack Manager**

### b. QSL Manager

No report but Marc had reported at the AGM that all QSLs had been distributed.

### c. Data Comms Manager's Report for the RNARS Committee Meeting to be held on 13th November 2014.

A month ago members of the RNARS Yahoo group were reminded that the group was only available to paid-up members.

Having checked the status of group members with Wally, the RNARS Membership Secretary, those who had not paid their subscriptions to the society were taken off the list. Two were subsequently invited back and have now rejoined the group.

73, Diana GORNNO/3926

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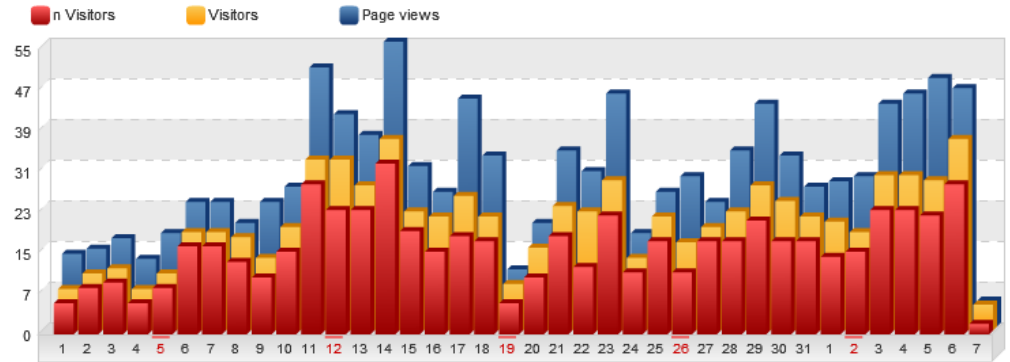
RNARS Data Comms. Manager

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### d. Web Site

- i. I have made a change to the website so that it is no longer necessary to enter a password for every document. The password need only be entered once for every session.

- ii. Website traffic has been fairly steady with a peak around the AGM followed by a dip the following weekend.



- iii.
- iv. .Joe G3ZDF
- e. **Area Rep Co-ordinator**

Wally said that he supported attendance at rallies especially the bigger ones. He asked that the Application Forms contain a field for the Rally name to be entered so it is clear where a new member was canvassed.

Joe to redesign Application Form to include Rally name.

Wally said that he saw our role at Rallies as firstly publicity and secondly recruitment.
- f. **Newsletter Editor**
  - i. The Winter Newsletter went out by e-mail on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, an appropriate date in view of a couple of explosive e-mails I received. Reception of the e-Newsletter by others attracted favourable comments on the Yahoo group, clearly those who didn't receive their Newsletters were quick to get in touch by e-mail after reading the mail on the group system.
  - ii. Fear not, the fault wasn't mine, as is the norm, a few members had changed their e-address, but failed to re-subscribe to the distribution list from their new address assuming me to be a mind reader.
  - iii. Work has already started on the Spring edition and for the first time ever, I may have to hold items back as it is nearly half full already, but don't tell anyone; please!
  - iv. Thanks as always to Doug B and his wife for dealing with the printed edition and postage, Doug H, Wally, Mick and Joe, not forgetting all who provide articles.
  - v. Regards to all, Colin

Chairman said that Colin had been in touch with the editor of the HDARC magazine. They had exchanged copies and had agreed that articles could be republished in each others magazine.
- g. **Commodities Manager**
  - i. Doug said that the current system was working quite well. He holds a small stock of about 20 items. As a personalised item is bought it is taken for embroidering and a replacement bought. He said that his stock of car badges was almost depleted. He had 1 badge which he had inherited when he took

over the job of Commodities Manager. (Note by Secretary: That 1 badge was bought after the meeting ended.)

- ii. He has a problem with the suppliers of blazer badges as the company would not respond. He was asked to find an alternative supplier. Bill mentioned that there was a supplier n Fareham.

#### **10. Other items**

- a. Dave said that not all rallies cost a lot. He attends one where there is no cost.
- b. Wally reported that three people who had applied qualified for the 50 years membership awards, Mick, Des and Bob James.
- c. Bill suggested the formation of a Rallies Sub-Committee to look at the whole question of rallies. After discussion it was agreed that the sub-committee would consist of Wally, Bill and Dave and they would report to the next Committee meeting. Adrian to supply Bill with details of rally costs.
- d. Simon suggested we send a letter of thanks to ICEE for their donation of a 19" rack cabinet in very good condition which will be used for the repeater installation. Simon to draft the letter and Secretary to send it to ICEE.
- e. Collingwood Open Day 2015 was discussed. Simon said we should have a mention in the brochure and assurance that the outside camera teams would be able to get access to the Parade Ground. Chairman said that he had already had preliminary meetings about the Open Day and all these aspects were being discussed.

#### **11. Date of next Meeting**

12<sup>th</sup> February 2015 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month.