

# Submariners Association

Recognised by the Ministry of Defence  
*Patron: Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce KG GCB OBE DL*  
*Vice Patron: Admiral Sir James Perowne KBE*

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Rear Admiral A. J. Whetstone CB  
Cdr. R. C. Seaward OBE RN  
D. Barlow Esq.  
I. Atkinson Esq.  
R. Elrick Esq.

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## NMC Meeting held

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January at West Bromwich RNA 2020, Starting at 1230**

### Present

Mr Jim McMaster (Chairman)  
Mr. Iain Mackenzie MBE (Vice Chairman)  
Mr Rick Elrick (Vice President)  
Mr. Ian Vickers (National Secretary)  
Mr. David Woolterton (National Membership)  
Mr. F Powell. (Committee)  
Mr. Andy Bain (Committee)  
Mr. Andy Morgan (Committee)  
Mr Frank Pas (committee)  
CPO Martin Drake (Serving Rep)  
Mr Stuart Brown (National Treasurer)

#### 1. Welcome.

The Chairman opened the meeting with a welcome to all who could make it with the difficult road conditions and diversions. An apology to Mark Smith who was not informed of the meeting due to the Secretary using a wrong email address.

#### 2. Apologies.

Rear Admiral Niall Kilgour CB (President)  
Mr. I Atkinson Esq. (Vice Presidents)  
Rear Admiral A. J. Whetstone CB (Vice Presidents)  
D. Barlow Esq. (Vice Presidents)  
Cdr. R. Seaward OBE (Vice President)  
PO Mark Butchart (Serving Rep)  
Mr. Brian Tate (Committee)  
Mr Mark Smith (Committee)

These minutes and any other paperwork released by the NMC to the Submariners Association members and Branches is intended for members and should not be published to the general public.

### 3. Minutes of the April NMC Meeting.

All present agreed that the Minutes of the October zoom NMC meeting were a true record. Proposed. Iain Mackenzie, Seconded. Frank Pas.

### 4. Outstanding Actions from 19<sup>th</sup> October 1230 Meeting – Action Grid

270419-01	Over 90 badges	SB	On Going
270419-04	List of Memorials	IV	Complete
200719-01	Update the Secretaries Handbook	All	Complete
200719-03	Letter Master of the Worshipful Company of Upholders	SP	Complete
201719-05	Arboretum Memorial.	Tom Herman	On Going
200719-06	Northern Ireland talk.	IV	Complete
201019-01	Teesside Standard	IV	Complete
201019-02	Charity update from the Admiral	JM	On Going
201019-03	Letter to Serving Rep's reminding them of their responsibilities	IV	Complete

**a. Over 90 badges** **IV** (270419-01)

Rather than a badge a certificate would be more appropriate.

**b. List of Memorials** **IV** (270419-04)

Complete and sent to Branches

**c. Update the Branch Secretaries Handbook** **ALL** (200719-01)

Complete

**d. Letter Master of the Worshipful Company** **SP** (200719-03)

Complete

**e. Arboretum Memorial.** **Tom Herman/SB** (200719-05)

The charity has been established. Stuart Brown is one of the trustees. The bank account goes live shortly and will be open for donations. A contest for the design is in hand and there is more information in In Depth 67

**f. Northern Ireland talk.** **IV** (200719-06)

Sill going on, Northern Ireland Branch have agreed to do it. It should have been the end of January, but holidays have got in the way and a new date is being sort.

**g. Teesside Standard** **IV** (201019-01)

They did have one, but whereabouts unknown

**h. Charity update from the Admiral** **JM** (201019-02)

On going

**i. Letter to Serving Rep's responsibilities** **IV** (201019-03)

Complete

## 5. Correspondence

The Chairman read a letter he has sent to the Association President. The letter is as follows but with the medical details omitted:

Please accept this notice of my resignation from the post of National Chairman of the Submariners Association.

During the last 12 months, because of my wife's health, I have had to revalue my priorities and what the future holds for my wife and me. These reflections resulted in the realisation that my wife needs me, and my time much more than the Association does.

It has been a great honour and privilege for me to have been allowed to serve the Submariners Association and the Submarine Family in general and I take my leave with nothing but very happy memories and immense pride.

I will work closely with the NMC to ensure that the change-over is conducted in a proper manner and my successor has a full hand-over. I believe the change-over can be successfully completed by the forthcoming NCC in March and I will aim for that.

Jim McMaster  
National Chairman  
Submariners Association

This came as a shock to us all at the NMC meeting yesterday and there was a lot of praise and complementary talk on how good a job Jim had done over the years from the members around the table. But we all know that family MUST come first. It was hard for Jim to give up a job he loved doing but there comes a time when you must.

On behalf of the NMC I would like to thank Jim for all the time and hard work he has given to the Association since he took over as Secretary in 2006 and as Chairman in 2012.

This leaves the task of finding a replacement.

The rules are quite clear.

### **Clause 9 - National Management Committee**

(C) The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the National Management Committee will hold office for 3 years; elections being held in separate years.

**These posts must be elected from within the existing National Management Committee at the time of the vacancy or from members who have served on the National Management Committee in the past.**

So, anyone who has served on the NMC is eligible. Think hard and consider if you could fill this important and rewarding post.

The time scale. Nominations to me by the end of January.

If there is more than one applicant, voting forms must go to the Branches before the 15<sup>th</sup> February (six weeks prior to NCC)

All correspondence to go to the National Secretary.

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**a. Northern Ireland invite**

Good afternoon Chris,

I work with Visit Belfast, aiming to bring events and conferences to the city. I understand that my colleague Judith was in touch with the Submariners Association a few years ago and I hoped to pick up with you as I am newer to the organisation.

Visit Belfast work with event organisers to try to bring national and international events to Belfast, often working with local ambassadors to support our bids and help us to find relevant events that could be hosted in NI. I wondered if the Submariners Association had any events coming up that you would consider working with us on bidding for? I note that there is a reunion annually, does this travel around the UK?

We are able to support event organisers for free through various means – venue finding, supplier sourcing, city funding, marketing support and logistical help also. If you do think that the association would have a relevant event and that you would be able to introduce me to the right person to send a proposal to, that would be most helpful.

Many thanks,  
Lindsay  
Lindsay McClenaghan  
Business Tourism Sales Manager (London)

A wonderful idea, but would we get the membership to go. Now we talked about this and agree that Northern Ireland would be a great venue for the NCC but, would we get the members turning up?

**Branch Secretaries.** Will you ask your members if they would like a reunion/conference in Belfast? And let the National Secretary and Iain Mackenzie know.

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**b. NMA**

Dear Submariners,

I would just like to wish you all a Happy New Year in 2020 as well as letting you know that the "Man Who Never Was" memorial and "Operation Mincemeat" will be dedicated at 12 noon on Sunday 19th April 2020. This is an open event in the Allied Special Forces Memorial Grove at the National Memorial Arboretum.

The memorial can be viewed on our website [whoplantswins.info/garden5.htm](http://whoplantswins.info/garden5.htm)

Hope that this is of interest.

Regards,  
Mike Colton  
3 Treasurer  
Friend of the ASFMG

This has been passed to the Branches

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### **c. Charity East Kent**

RMRMC-SM

At its' recent meeting, members of the East Kent Branch discussed the November 2019 circulation from RASM regarding the establishing of a Submariners Benevolent Fund under the Auspices of the existing RNRM Charity.

It is fair to say that a lack of clarity and understanding was apparent.

The first question needed to be addressed is at what stage this proposal currently stands?

Some members were of the opinion it has all been determined and is therefore merely a matter of putting it in place. While others felt it is still up for discussion, needed to be ratified at conference. Clarity at this point will help.

Should it still be at the discussion stage, the majority of members of this Branch feel it should be put to ALL members of the Association before final decision.

Recognising that Conference decisions are normally made by those delegates attending, therefore not representative of all Branches nationally, there should be consideration given to open up participation in this case. To endorse a comment recently reported, this is one of the most important decisions in recent years, potentially affecting every member, and our branch feels that before proceeding, each member of the Association should be given the opportunity to vote on it. What we suggest is that in this case. Conference accepts a postal vote from Branches unable to send a delegate.

Underpinning that, Branches could be required to state the result of their local ballot showing numerically those in favour or against; or abstaining/not voting.

In order to then represent the views of the majority. It would be clear as to what support exists for these changes. The process for arriving at this stage could be relatively quick and simple, but it would give each and every member the feeling that they have been given the opportunity to vote on it.

If the decision to implement has already been taken, the question of Board Members of this new charity raised concern.

It is not RASM's charity, yet proposed membership of the Board leans disproportionality in that direction. With seven members, only one represents the full membership of our Association.

There is no suggestion that each member of the Board would have other than the best interest of all submariners and associated organisations at heart, but it is all about perception.

We thank you in advance for any clarity and advice you can offer, but with those issues you cannot we ask you to take them forward on our behalf.

Barry Harris  
Sec East Kent Branch

**This has been answered by RSAM's latest letter**

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### **d. Charity Wales**

**From:** [steven.bellis@sky.com](mailto:steven.bellis@sky.com) <[steven.bellis@sky.com](mailto:steven.bellis@sky.com)>

Ian

Please see comments from our Branch member David Griggs regarding the need for another Submarine charity when the RNBT already exists with a Submarine section. I've had several comments and questions from other members regarding the same. We've seen the explanatory

letter from Jim McMaster but the RNBT isn't mentioned. Can you please clarify. Could you also please let me know when is the cut-off date to present proposals for NMC discussion.

Best Regards  
Steve Bellis

SA Wales Secretary

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** [d\\_griggs@sky.com](mailto:d_griggs@sky.com) <[d\\_griggs@sky.com](mailto:d_griggs@sky.com)>  
**To:** Steve <[steven.bellis@sky.com](mailto:steven.bellis@sky.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: A note of explanation on the charity

Steve

As a SSAFA volunteer of 25 years standing, in conjunction with RNBT I have helped former submariners in financial need from this fund.

Why do we need yet another service charity?

A link to The Submarine Memorial Fund is below.

I am happy for you to forward my comments to the National Secretary

<https://www.rnsubmusfriends.org.uk/mothership/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Submarine-memorial-Fund-booklet-2016.pdf>

David Griggs MBE  
Lt. Cdr.RN

Chairman SSAFA Dyfed Branch

On Wednesday, 18 December 2019, 15:37:11 GMT, Steve <[steven.bellis@sky.com](mailto:steven.bellis@sky.com)> wrote:  
David yes I'm aware of this as Roy James pointed it out after I sent the original email including RASM's letter. Although I've not seen any correspondence from National referring to the submarine memorial fund I can only presume that the hierarchy know this also and have gone with the establishment of the submarine benevolent fund whilst funds have been available. I'll see if I can find out more. Regards Steve

Steve

I was surprised that the Submarine Service hierarchy has set up a new benevolent fund. There is already a "Submarine Memorial Fund" currently administered by RNBT. for submarine ratings and veterans in financial need.

David Griggs

**This again has been answered by RSAM's latest letter**

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**e. RNRNC SM Benevolent Fund**

2 January 2020

**ROYAL NAVY ROYAL MARINE CHARITY – SUBMARINE BENEVOLENT FUND (RNRMC-SM)**

1. Wishing you all a Happy New Year, I thought now was a good time to update

you on progress and direction of travel of the Submarine Benevolent Fund, following up on the note I wrote 6 Nov 19 proposing the introduction of said Fund. By now you should all be aware that the Fund has been established under the umbrella of the RNRMC and that an opening deposit of £10K was paid from the RASM Fund. Donations can now be made by any individual or organisation to the RNRMC-SM. The Benevolent Fund is where the serving community will be encouraged to make donations and where monies will be transferred to from the sale of submarine merchandise such as Dolphin Whiskey.

2. With Commodore Jim Perks and RNRMC, we are in the process of completing

a paper to explain how the Benevolent Fund will be administered on a day-to-day basis under the RNRMC umbrella. An essential component of the management of the Fund is the introduction of a Joint Management Board (JMB) between the Submarine Community and the RNRMC, as detailed in my Nov 19 note. The proposal is for the JMB to consist of a Chairman and with a membership of no more than 10:

- Chairman
- Head of Fighting Arm
- Executive Warrant Officer (Submarines)
- Representative from the Submarine Association
- Representative of 'We Remember Submariners'
- Representative of 'Friends of the Submarine Museum'
- Representative of the Perisher Club
- CEO RNRMC
- RNRMC Director Relationships and Funding or Head of Grants
- RNRMC Finance.

3. The RNRMC-SM Governance and Administration paper will be shared as soon

as it has matured further (end Jan) , however, in parallel, it is essential that the different family members of the submarine community nominate their representatives for the JMB. I therefore ask you to propose your nominations to either me or Jim Perks, no later than end Feb 20, such that we can schedule the inaugural Board meeting in Apr 20 after the Submarine Association AGM in Mar. If particular submarine Family Organisations do not wish to be associated with the RNRMC-SM Benevolent Fund that is understood, they will neither be represented nor entitled to request financial support from the Fund. However, should individual people wish to donate to the RNRMC-SM, regardless of their Family Organisation, they are free to do so and will be entitled to request support from the Benevolent Fund.

4. It is difficult to forecast how successful the Benevolent Fund will be, however,

serving submariners are being encouraged to donate to the RNRMC-SM and it is anticipated that further donations will be made by the RASM Fund and from HMS OARDACIOUS's sponsorship from rowing the Atlantic. It is also appropriate to mention that changes to the organisational design within the Navy Command Headquarters has shifted the role of Head of Fighting Arm to COMSUBFOR at the 1-Star Level, Commodore Jim Perks is now HOFA. It is not anticipated that this will change the management of the RASM Fund.

J S Weale  
Glenn Germaine

Hi Mr I. Vickers

My name is Mr Glenn Germaine I am the grandson of Albert Bryant. Albert Bryant served as Stoker 1<sup>st</sup> class on HMS Urge (N17) which sailed out of Malta as part of the 10<sup>th</sup> Submarine Flotilla, unfortunately on the 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> of April 1942 HMS Urge was lost at sea with all hands on route to Alexandria in Egypt. Recently last year HMS Urge was located off Malta due investigative work carried out by Malta's University of Classics and Archaeology Department.

I am making initial enquiries in regard to any Memorial Services which may be held in memory of the crew lost, as my Mother Albert Bryant's daughter is still alive and god willing may be able to attend.

I would be most grateful for any information on the aforementioned.

Thankyou

Francis Dickinson has just returned from a visit to Malta to plan for commemorations which will take place there on April 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> and probably 28<sup>th</sup> this year. Andy Law of the HMS Urge family group is leading work on organising wreaths for families for the April commemoration in Malta. Andy's uncle was Leading Signalmen Eric Law of HMS Urge, and he is linked with the Royal British Legion and also now with the Royal Naval Association in Malta. If you want to know more contact the National Secretary.

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Dear Sir

I am writing on behalf of my husband, Paul, who would be honoured to take part in next years Remembrance Day Procession at the Cenotaph in memory of his father Charles William Beattie. Paul is also an ex-serviceman having served in the RAF for 20 years. Charles was a submariner from 1941 - 1965 serving in many boats but, most memorably, the Casabianca. He was also the secretary to the international Submariners Association for many years. It has taken Paul some time to feel that he can apply for the honour to march in memory of his father but he would be grateful for any help you may be able to offer in helping him achieve this. I look forward to hearing from you

Best wishes

Dawn Beattie

Passed on to Andrew Morgan Cenotaph coordinator

## **6. Officers Reports**

### **Secretary**

This is always a busy time of year so I will keep things short.

I have had four proposals for the conference and one application to join the committee.

**Peter Florey.** Back in December I was asked to investigate a donation of £100. This donation is made every year from an unknown source. I phoned the number on the receipt and enquired about the donation. The person who sends the money is Peter Florey, he was not a submariner, but he was related to Don Church who was a member of the Chelmsford Branch and has just Crossed the Bar. Peter sends donations to ten different military organisations every year and has built a military museum in his back garden. Peter is 86 and a collector of militaria and will support our association for as long as he lives.

*This was of interest to the members present and Sandy Powel said he would send off an Association plaque and a picture. This he dually did, and we have had a thank you back.*

**Bob Read.** This year Bob Read celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. He is a member of the Welsh Branch and live in America. I sent a A4 card with as many signatures on as I could get both association and serving, members from AB to Admiral.

*So many thanks to you and the committee for honouring my 100th birthday with that wonderful card. I am most grateful and wish you to convey my thanks to all the signatories.*

*I attach evidence of its safe arrival and it is displayed just behind the card I received from our Patron Admiral Lord Boyce. Doubtless you will recognise from whom I received the other one (framed)!*

*I follow all your reports and activities from this long distance with great interest....it keeps me young!*

*Every best wish to all,*

*Yours aye,*

*Bob Read*

**Zoom.** You can use zoom yourself for a limited time of 20 minutes with a few people. When I get more used to it, I will be contacting our Manchester member who don't/can't attend meetings with it. I have been asked by the Australian branch if we can use it at the conference. We are not geared up for it yet. But I am sure zoom could be an asset in the future. We could use it to have contact from Australia and Spain during the Conference so they would know what was said and if controlled properly have an input.

### **Veterans ID cards**

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) announced last year that the new Veterans ID cards would be issued to service leavers - that process has now started. Cards will also be available to other veterans towards the end of 2019 – however, an exact date has yet to be confirmed by the MoD. This is the last notice I have had on the subject.

As I get the information, I will pass it on.

Ian Vickers National Secretary

### **Treasurer**

### **Treasurers Report – January 2020**

#### **Overview**

The Association accounts remain in a healthy condition and I will shortly be preparing the annual accounts ready to go to the Auditors.

During 2019 we made a £2000.00 contribution to the Submarine Memorial Appeal following hard won agreement at the last NMC meeting.

## **Accounts status**

### **Association main account:**

Balance on the account £52,386.41  
Income for December 2019: £1565.00  
Expenditure for December 2019: £445.76

### **Blue plaque account:**

Balance on the account: £3,015.15  
Income for December 2019 - £0  
Expenditure for December 2019 - £9.00

### **Reunion account:**

Balance on the account: £6,385.65  
Income for December 2019 - £1,490.00  
Expenditure for December 2019 - £9.00

### **Slops account**

Balance on the account: £2347.56  
Income for December 2019 - £147.50  
Expenditure for December 2019 - £54.84

Account signatories. Keith Bishop to come off and Dave Woolterton to go on as membership secretary, and then when we have a new Chairman he will need to go on and Jim off.

## **Membership Secretary**

### [2019 End of Year Membership Report](#)

2019 has not been a bad year for retaining members and we are up by 6 on the start of the year.

#### [The year consisted of:](#)

98 New Members

41 Re-joining Members (Been Lapsed or other for more than one year)

28 Re-instated from Lapsed (Late payers)

There was a total of 114 members who were lapsed in March after the completion of Subs collection.

There was a total of 95 members who CTB, 49 current members and 46 noncurrent members.

#### [From all the applications to join or re-join the Association:](#)

124 new and 22 re-joining members are still to be processed by the branches. During the year there were also a total of 90 potential new and re-joining members who did not reply to the branches contacting them and have been marked as did not join.

We have a total of 213 members paying National by Direct Debit and still have 39 by Standing order to which has been extremely difficult to get these members to cancel them and to go back to the branch or to set up a Direct Debit.

All but 2 of the Direct Debits were collected successfully. I am in discussion with the 2 which were not collected, as to working out a way forward, but I think it was something to do with the issues when the mandate was first set up. My suggestion is for them to pay me or the branch direct for this year and to cancel the current mandate and for them to set up a new one if they wish to try and pay by Direct Debit in 2021.

Out of the 39 Standing Orders, there are only 16 not paying the correct amount for the National part. Many of the others still may not be paying the branch component if it applies, but I have not investigated these, as I am really not concerned if the branch does not get paid their part as this might then help them sort out them cancelling of these Standing Orders.

### 2020 Subscriptions

The subscriptions started to come in before I went away for Christmas and I thank those branches who have got them to me already.

As always if you think I have missed anything or just have any questions then please do let me know, so that I may have the time to get any answers for you before the NMC meeting.

Kind Regards  
David Woolterton  
Membership Secretary Submariners Association

### Serving Rep

Our home is at the Clyde and that it will still take a few years to achieve the intended final end-state with the Submarine School relocated to the North by 2023. Operationally, Boats have been as busy as ever with more tasking than availability. CASD was sustained with Deterrent submarines delivering against a very tight programme and SSNs met all their operational tasking objectives Trafalgar Class Boats have already started to re-locate to the Clyde, HMS TALENT moved north during Summer 2019, HMS TRIUMPH will move end 2020. The new Escape School is now a reality and will be opened in Clyde Spring 2020 when the SETT at Gosport will be closed. The SPAG organisation is being completely reshaped and placed at Readiness for operations under COMSUBFLOT based in Clyde; at last count there were 43 parachute trained SPAG members from across different specialisations that included Royal Marines. The Dreadnought Training building has risen out of the ground, is an enormous structure and is due to open at the end of 2020. Overall, Clyde remains as it always was – a building site. Sadly, what was not delivered was HMS AUDACIOUS, the fourth A Boat, she should/will now arrive in Clyde Spring 2020.

Navy Command Transformation will also introduce further change with the role of Head Of Fighting Arm (HOFA) being delegated to the 1-Star Level for all Specialisations in the Navy. However, I am sure the Service will do all it can to help Commodore Jim Perks deliver the leadership that will be needed.

### 7. Wash up from the Embankment Parade.

### I. Mackenzie

This was one of our better years. As far as I am aware, I don't believe there was any problems. I would like to thank Frank Ian and Andy for doing the wreaths. We managed to get all the wreaths there and ready regardless of the Saturday problem. Our order from the Poppy Factory did not turn up at the UJC and substitutes had to be brought in from around London. The wreaths WILL be delivered to the UJC in future.

Next year the National Standard will accompany the serving submariners with the wreaths across the road to the Memorial.

## Funding

Last year was the last of the donation from BEA Systems and we are now looking for new funding. The Embankment parade cost £6500 and as we have run out of sponsorship it is time to look for more. Several ideas were brought forward; The new charity, the MOD funding list, Head Of Fighting Arm (HOFA) fund, (was RASM's fund) for the Navy side and to approach the big business associated with submarines. Stuart Brown volunteered to work on the commercial side and Jim said he would approach the serving community.

### 8. Reunion 2020 plans.

I. Mackenzie

**Kegworth** At present only around 90 people attending the reunion, this is probable due to the venue. We were there two years ago, and it has not gone down well with the wives. But this is our reunion not a wives shopping trip. Offers of putting on activities for the wives has been a waste of time as there has been no take up.

**2021 venue.** I have tried to keep the price down as much as I can. The major cost is where you have the reunion. If you have it in a city centre the hotel dose not need us, they can fill the rooms easily and it is difficult to get good prices. If we go to a rural hotel, they need to fill the rooms and we can generally get better prices. I will look at hotel to the south again, Bristol, London or South Wales. I will ask the delegates at the AGM if they wanted to go back to Leicester.

### 9. Blue Plaque progress report - Sandy Powell

SEE ANEX A

### 10. Submariners Charity

Jim

The Submarine Benevolent Fund is now a reality being managed under the RNRM Charity as the RNRM-SM Benevolent Fund to which all can make donations.

Submarine Community and the RNRMC is being established with the intent of an inaugural Board in April 20.

This was discussed at length. Things are changing all the time and we do not know how we will be involved, and we are not going to commit any annual payment until we knew more about how it would be run.

The NMC were going to put in a recommendation to the NCC regarding yearly donations but as we have no clear idea as to how much other associations are willing to donate we decided to put it on hold for a year until things are up and running with an active committee.

### 11. AOCB.

None

270419-01	Over 90 badges	SB	On Going
201719-05	Arboretum Memorial.	Tom Herman	On Going
201019-02	Charity update from the Admiral	JM	On Going
110120-01	Picture and plaque for Mr Peter Florey	SP	On Going
110120-02	Embankment funding (industry)	SB	On Going
110120-03	Embankment funding (Navy)	JM	On Going
110120-04	Letter to branches Cameron VC	IV	On going
110120-05	Letter to branches NI reunion	IV	On Going

**Date for next meetings**

**April 18<sup>th</sup> West Bromwich 1230**

**July 18<sup>th</sup> HMNB Clyde**

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SEE ANEX A

**FRASER, GOULD & CAMERON VC, RN –  
BLUE PLAQUE REPORT  
JANUARY 2020 NMC MEETING**

**LIEUTENANT IAN EDWARD FRASER VC, DSO, RNR**

The date agreed for mounting the Blue Plaque to Fraser VC is the **22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2020 at Leasowe Golf Club, Wirral**. This is the only date available as Ian McGinn's term of office as Captain of the Golf Club finishes in March 2020.

Invitations have now been forwarded to the Fraser family, Lord Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Leader of the Council, the Mayor & local Sea Cadet Unit.

The closest Branches that may wish to attend the Blue Plaque event are Merseyside (8 miles), Manchester (42 miles), North Staffordshire (58 miles) and Blackpool (60 miles). Each branch has had 4 invitations forwarded to them for 8 guests each.

I will keep you informed of progress.





**PETTY OFFICER WILLIAM GOULD VC, RN**

Further to my last report I am pleased to report that Dover District Council are now in the process of obtaining permission to mount the Gould VC Blue Plaque on the Grade II Town Hall Building. This should be approved by the end of January and we are now looking at a date in May 2020 for the event.

I will keep you informed.

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**LIEUTENANT DONALD CAMERON VC, RNR**

If any member knows of a living relative of Lt Donald Cameron VC I would be grateful if you could forward me their contact details to the [oldschoolhouselea@talktalk.net](mailto:oldschoolhouselea@talktalk.net)

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Author: Sandy Powell NMC