



THE HMS HOOD ASSOCIATION

(Official Website www.hmshood.com)

Shipmates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

June 2000

Well there we are, another Reunion over.

This one was in our 25th Anniversary year and I think all enjoyed it. During the Reunion Dinner on the Saturday evening our guest of honour, Shipmate Bill Stone was presented with a Commemorative Bell.

Bill who will be 100 years young in September was full of the joys of spring and during his thank you speech he sang 'All the Nice Girls Love a Sailor' which was much appreciated by one and all. I must thank Bill's daughter and son-in-law for looking after Bill so well. After the Dinner we held an auction of items generously presented to us. Fred Carrington donated a Knot Board, and Jack Moulden donated a framed painting of 'HOOD'. The proceeds of the auction and the raffle go to the upkeep of our Association, thank you all.

On the Sunday morning we marched from the Royal Sailors Home Club to St. Georges Church for the service and I was so very pleased to see that so many of us managed the march. The band of T.S. TENACITY led the Association Standard and Escort and the Guard of Honour from T.S. SULTAN. Mr. Tony Middleton carried our Standard, as our normal Bearer, Den Finden, was ill. As Den is now retiring Tony has agreed to become our regular Standard Bearer. (Thank you Dennis for all the work you have done for us over the years). These were then followed by our members. I must say it was a very smart turnout by the lads and lasses of TENACITY and SULTAN and I must thank the Sea Cadet Units Officers for the work they put into their staffs training. A very worthwhile job and a wonderful sight to see!! Mrs. Bob Tilburn and myself took the salute at the March Past. As the march passed the Victory Gates at Portsmouth Dockyard the heavens opened and we were all soaked to the skin. The Association Padre, Ron Patterson, conducted the Church service and the Vicar of St. Georges, the Reverend Orchin, assisted him. We thank you both. During the service the Padre mentioned Bill's singing of the night before and asked him to sing it again, which Bill obliged. After he had finished singing the congregation showed their enjoyment by laughing along with Bill and applauding him. Following this, our Treasurer Ken Clark, presented a Roll of Honour to the Reverend Orchin for St. Georges Church. This Roll had been given to Ken by a Mr .H. Johnson of Inverness in honour of Mr. Johnson's brother who was lost in HOOD on 24th May 1941. Our President, Ted Briggs, also presented a painting of HOOD to the Church. Thank you Ted and Ken. After the service we marched back to the Home Club and again the rain came down and we got wetter than before! But then what's a drop of rain.

Overleaf are several photos of the weekend's events.

The following Sunday saw us gather at Boldre Church and as usual the Church was packed. Our thanks go to all those who did such a good job getting things in order and for the refreshments after the service (**And another thing, it didn't rain!**)

As last year we had a visit from T.S. LONDON. Our Guest of Honour, Bill Stone, laid the wreath, Thank you Bill.

Again I must express my thanks to all our members for their letters during the past year, and to the Committee for their help and support. A big thank you goes to Mrs Clark for allowing us to use her home for our meetings and providing the refreshments at the meetings.

Our Treasurer tells me that some members may have forgotten that subscriptions rates have changed and are still not paying the new rate of £5.00 per year (£10.00 for overseas members). This is leading to more work (and cost) by Ken having to write back to you asking for the increase. This increase was mentioned in last years AGM minutes and Newsletters. **Some of you have even forgotten to send anything, come on Shipmates!!**

Please Turn Over

Points of Interest

This year we will have our newly redesigned Christmas cards for sale at 50p each (including envelope) Please contact our Treasurer.

Our amateur radio event, the **GB2HA HMS HOOD SPECIAL EVENT STATION** will be held on the **12th and 13th August 2000**. There will be access to **GB2HA** on **HF, 2mtrs 70cmtrs and Packet Radio**. This is a yearly event for licensed radio amateurs around the world. The station is managed by Malcolm Butler, a long time friend of our Treasurer Ken Clark. The first **GB2HA HMS HOOD EVENT** was held in 1995 and has proved to be a popular annual event. Radio hams generally call in to discuss their memories of the *Mighty Hood*.

I will end by wishing you all the best of health and that those in ill health soon recover..

God Bless you all

Your Chairman John Russell Williams, and the Committee.



Ted Briggs (with wreath) leading the March, passing the Victory Gates. Bill Stone (with stick) marches alongside

Mr Bill Stone and Mrs Bob Tilburn



Rev. Patterson, Ken Clark, Mrs Tilburn, Ted Briggs, and Rev. Orchin



Mr Ken Clark presents the Roll of Honour



Mr Bill Stone at the Reunion 2000 Dinner



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Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Royal Sailors Home Club, Portsmouth 1700 hrs on 20th May 2000

Presiding: A.E. Briggs, President
Chairman: J.R. Williams,
Attending: 32 Members

Apologies for absence were received from Den Finden, Mike Collins, and May and Jack Kiddle

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last A.G.M. had been distributed and those were accepted as a true record

Matters Arising

None

Correspondence

None

Treasurers Report

Shipmate Ken Clark, our Treasurer, had distributed copies of his Balance Sheet; all members accepted this. Ken went on to say that a lot of members were still only sending a £3.00 annual subscription despite the Newsletter stating an increase to £5.00 (£10.00 for overseas members).

Election of Officers

All the existing officers were happy to continue serving. In consequence, all were re-elected.


Den Finden, our Standard Bearer, had stated he would retire after the November 11th service. The Committee on behalf of the members had purchased a pewter mug suitably inscribed to commemorate his years of service as our Standard Bearer. Den was not present, therefore it was left to the Committee to present this to him at the next Committee meeting he attends. Den's place is to be taken by Anthony Middleton who has kindly volunteered to fill the gap.

Guest of Honour for the Year 2001

The Committee submitted the name of Jack Moulden in recognition of the yeoman work Jack has done for the Association at our Reunion Dinners in running the raffles and auctions. His name was unanimously accepted by the members. Jack is very happy to accept.

Chairman: J.R. Williams, 14, Elizabeth Road, Stubbington, Fareham Hampshire, PO14 2RF
Treasurer: K.A. Clark, 57, Bereweke Avenue, Winchester, Hampshire SO 22 6BL
Secretary: J. Heys (Mrs), Toad Hall, 93, Kenilworth Road, Fleet, Hampshire, GU13 9AY
Standard Bearer: A. Middleton

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Items of Interest

John England, on a visit from Germany, had brought a tape of the German choir who sang in the Compass Lounge during our 1999 Reunion. He had arranged to show this after our Church service on Sunday. He tendered greetings from the German choir.

Last years videotape of our Reunion dinner and Church parade was not an Association responsibility. The person producing this had not delivered some of the tapes despite cashing the cheques in payment for the same. Ann Davidson, Bill Stones daughter, had pursued the situation with the Department of Fair Trading and had received a refund. She will be happy to forward details of anyone who is still seeking retribution concerning this situation. We stress this is not an **H.M.S. Hood Association** responsibility.

Reverend Ron Patterson wished to tell members he had a friend, Nixie Tavenor, the daughter of ex-Commander of *Hood*, Rory O'Connor, renowned for his ten commandments. Nixie is writing a book of the days of her father's *Hood* service. Nixie lives in Winchester and had previously attended one of our Committee meetings. It was very interesting to talk with her.

Ted Briggs is presenting a painting of *Hood* to St. Georges Church on Sunday. Likewise Ken Clark is to present a laminated copy listing those lost in *Hood* as a Remembrance Book. This book was sent to Ken by Mr. Johnston of Inverness. A very lovely book.

Venue for 2001 A.G.M. and Reunion

This has already been provisionally booked for Saturday 26th May 2001 at the Royal Sailors Home Club, Portsmouth. The Chairman to confirm this provisional booking. The Boldre Church Service will be held on 20th May 2001.

Any Other Business

A general discussion ensued as to the great benefits of the *Hood* website – re computer, explained by Paul Bevand, the website researcher.

Commander Ken Evans said he had met several people with contacts with *Hood* during his recent hospitalisation, a small world.

No other business

The meeting closed at 18.00 hrs.

R. Turner
Meeting Secretary