

# The 60s 16ers Reunion Club



## MINUTES OF THE 60s 16ers AGM at NOVOTEL HOTEL, WORSLEY, MANCHESTER SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2022 at 10.30

**Committee:** **Chairman** – Hazel Hebden; **Vice Chairman** – Bill Robinson;  
**Treasurer** – Lyn Aldous; **Secretary** – Beverley Robb

**Mercury Editor** – Iain Haldane; **Webmaster** – Ted Hebden; **Almoner** – Bill White

### 1 Welcome

The Chairman opened with a welcome to everyone at the AGM.

### 2 Bereavements

Hazel then went on to inform us of those bereavements since we met last year.

Sadly, this includes Barry Edwards, Moira Graham, Julie Buckley, Judy Cottam and Elizabeth James's partner Vivian. Always in our memories, may they rest in peace.

### 3 Apologies

Apologies were received from John Aldridge, John & Joyce Hartley (at the event but could not stay for AGM), Des & Sue Roberts, June & Chris Skelton and Gerry Weedon.

### 4 Previous Minutes

When asked, there were no requests to review the previous minutes or any issues arising. By a show of hands, the previous minutes were accepted.

### 5 Chairman's Report

Hazel reported that this year has been like no other, we have come through covid and hoped the world would settle down to something like normal but oh no, Putin reared his ugly head on 24th February (our wedding anniversary) and invaded Ukraine. I am sure we all hope this madness ends soon.

In June we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, something for everyone to enjoy and her afternoon tea with Paddington Bear will go down in history. Sadly, on September 8<sup>th</sup> our Queen passed away and I am sure most of you were glued to the tv as I was.

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Over the past year the committee have discussed the future of the club and how we proceed and I have tabled that in any other business so that all views can be heard. We don't want the club to fold, we would like it to go on for many more years but maybe in a different format.

I would now like to thank Kerry for his hard work in putting this weekend together along with Dave and Syd with their input as entertainments gurus. I'd also like to thank Iain for producing our great magazine and Ted for all the hard work he has done on the website and I can vouch for the amount of hours he spends on it. Thanks to Bill as our Almoner, I think he has had quite a busy year. Last but not least I would like to thank Lyn, Bev and Bill for all their hard work and supporting me throughout the past year, the dream team!

## 6 Treasurer's Report

Lyn presented that attached Income and Expenditure sheet to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, with her comments included.

## 7 Secretary's Report

**New Members** - When I took over, I sent out and posted out an enquiry to see if there were any potential new members. Mr John Ackers joined the club and wanted to come to the reunion, unfortunately his wife, Nanette is ill and they could not come for the weekend.

Adverts were placed in the Wire and the Lioness, but there have been no enquiries. Even the form on the website has not generated any interest.

It is realistic to think that our membership will decline as the membership get older, are ill, die or have financial constraints that prevent them attending.

**Information** - Moira's Poems raised £506 for St Michael's Hospice. The Hospice was grateful for the donation. Thankyou to everyone for their support.

I emailed the Editor of The Wire with Moira's poems 'Jimmy' and The Harrogate Apprentice. She said that they might use either one or both of them in the winter magazine, so keep a look out as you might just see them. Publications are often looking for 'fillers' when they put their magazines together.

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**Important Request on Data** - If anyone has changed any personal information – home address, telephone number, email address etc, please let me know asap so that I can keep the database up-to-date. Many thanks.

**8 Mercury Editor's Report** – Iain stated that he is always looking for articles from the members. Currently, he is having to input several articles himself to fill the magazine. If you have anything you would like to present, please email it to him.

[laindfhaldane@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:laindfhaldane@hotmail.co.uk)

He also asked if anyone was having an issue with downloading the magazine. No problems were reported.

As Iain and Rita are travelling, it will be about a week before his weekend pictures will be available to view.

**9 Webmaster's Report** – Ted asked if anyone was using the Chat Room. It would seem that the Comcen has become the popular mode of communication therefore it was decided that the Chat Room would be removed from the website.

Also, the Alternative View facility would be removed too.

Pete Weedon complimented Ted on his front page for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II.

**10 Almoner's Report** – Bill reported that in the 7 years he had been carrying out the role of Almoner, he has had 122 events at a cost of £1400 where he has provided flowers, chocolates and other items from the club. He found the role emotionally draining at times, but it was rewarding to hear the gratitude from those members who have been ill, become bereaved or have received items that the support of the club and its members was so comforting during difficult times. This is a testimony to the club of the spirit and camaraderie that it generates.

**Barry Edwards** - Bill attended the scattering of his ashes at the Cow and Calf on Ilkley Moor. Iain and Rita were there too and Iain took pictures of the event. These have provided some comfort for Pauline, Barry's wife, who has now returned to the United States. Bill also went to Barry's memorial service in Leeds

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**Ken O'Hagan** – is still resident in Primrose House Nursing Home. Bill has visited and reported that he is on good form, although he is still struggling with his breathing. He enjoys daily visits from his sister and can have other visitors if anyone wishes to catch up with him. He sends his best wishes and regards to you all.

**Julie Buckley** – Ian and daughter Georgie put on a celebration of Julie's life with a request not to wear black but to wear Julie's favourite colours which were yellow and blue. There was a large number of people who attended the service at the Crematorium and at the Rugby Club afterwards.

**Judy Cottam** – Judy passed away on 15<sup>th</sup> September after a long illness. She suffered with PSP (Progressive Supranuclear Palsey). Her funeral on the 7<sup>th</sup> October was a celebration of her life with those at the crematory all dressed in Pink and her leaving to the music of Hey Jude!! There is a video of her funeral available to watch. The details are: <https://watch.obitus.com/> The user name is: gice7065 and the Password is 218263. The video is available until 4<sup>th</sup> November. Bill recommended that you should "look at her son's eulogy at the start and the end, where a joyful rendition of Hey Jude sums up the event!"

After years of having carer coming in and then living in, Chris is now on his own. However, his running community are getting him out and about. Some people have asked for Chris's details. Would you kindly contact me and I can see about passing them on.

**Elizabeth James** thanked the members for their support after her partner Vivian died. She found the support was very comforting.

## RSA Update

**Project Noel** – goes from strength to strength. Now, it is in its 13<sup>th</sup> year and highly recommended if you fancy a fun filled weekend. Dates this year are 25-28 November and the details are available at <https://www.projectnoel.org.uk/>

**RSA weekend at Blandford** – 16 – 18 June 2023

Corps Event – on the RSA website <https://www.royalsignals.org>

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## 11 Election of Officers

The position of Vice Chairman was up for re-election. Peter Weedon volunteered for the position and, by a show of hands, was carried.

The Treasurer's post was also up for re-election. However, there were no takers and Lyn very kindly offered to continue in the role.

## 12 Venues for 2023

Please see the separate email for details of the potential venues for next year.

## 13 Any Other Business

**Format of the Reunion Weekend** - As we are all getting older and slowing down a bit, the Committee took the decision to check with the members on the format of the reunion weekend.

Several members put forward their view on different aspects of the weekend but the consensus of opinion was that, for now, the format should remain the same. This can be re-visited and reviewed in the future.

## Guests

**VIP Guest** - A group of members enjoyed a nice chat with The Master of Signals, Lt General Sharon Nesmith at Alrewas. She has now been promoted and is the Deputy Chief of The General Staff. She is very sorry she had to pull out of attending our reunion and particularly in meeting our ladies, who like her, had served in Krefeld.

It was agreed that we would still invite VIP guests to the Gala Dinner.

At Alrewas, Bill White had been talking to Caroline Addison, who has been a guest previously, but she would like to come again at her own cost. The members agreed that she could and look forward to welcoming her back again.

Bill also proposed Col Amanda Hassle as our next VIP guest. I have met her, as have others, and she is a great personality. She will be an entertaining guest.

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## Personal Guests

As numbers attending the reunion weekend are declining, Dave Aldous asked the question about being able to invite guests.

The Constitution states: 'All members may also invite 1 or 2 guests with the approval of the Chairman/lady for one reunion. This means that a couple who are members can only invite 1 or 2 guests between them. These guests will not be eligible to attend subsequent reunions.'

Following a discussion with the members, it was decided that there could be a change.

As inviting guests is a constitutional matter, the Committee is looking at the wording of a proposal to put forward for a vote.

Once the vote is returned, the Constitution may be altered, or not, according to the outcome.

Meeting finished at 11.50.

Beverley Robb  
Secretary  
24.10.2022