



Galley Radio



The newsletter of The United Towing & Salvage Society

Edition number 4 – April 2016

Annual General Meeting

The Society's first A. G. M. was held at the Kingston Hotel on Monday 21st March.

Summary of meeting minutes.

Members attending

Tony Porter (Chair), Mike Hussey (Secretary), Eddie Barker (Treasurer), Ray Scott (Memberships), Pete Bass (Archivist), Marlene Whitlam. Paul Escreet, Ray Chapman, Joe Woodall, Keith Stork, Mark Hoddinott, Ray Jordan, Nev Gray.

Apologies

Howard Anguish, Albert Smith, Pete Elsom, Nick Haslam, Arthur Whiteley, Dave Hoe, Mike Lacey.

Chairman's Address

Tony gave a brief history of the Society from its first beginnings. He thanked Dennis Shakesby and others who attended regular get-togethers and pioneered the first meeting which took place on 11th March, 2015.

Capt. Charlie Noble agreed to be our Honorary President although not being able to attend meetings because of ill health. Eventually a committee was formed. Hull CVS was able to help us apply for a grant and we opened for membership. By July we had 30 members. Various articles in the press etc. gave us more publicity and our membership now stands at 66.

A highlight of this year was the presentation of a plaque from the Society to Myton Law who had taken over United Towing's offices in Nelson Street. Tony gave thanks to Nev Gray who had done the spade work which had led to this presentation.

An article and pictures of crew members of the Yorkshireman at Bridlington were published in the Hull Daily Mail. This was seen by an elderly lady living in London who was a great niece of Thomas Clarkson Spink who was the first Managing Director of United Towing Company. She has a great affection for the Yorkshireman and has donated an oil painting of that tug as well as other memorabilia.

We now have connections with the Hull Maritime Museum and will be holding two exhibitions there at the end of this year and the beginning of 2017. Possibly the hardest worked of the committee is Pete Bass. He has an extremely large collection of artefacts and photos which is a valuable resource. He is presently compiling folders to go into the Hull History Museum as well as having a hand in the calendars and the Veteran's weekend. The Chairman thanked Pete for his dedication.

Many thanks also went to Mike who had now raised over £2,000 for the Society and for starting to get merchandise on sale. Eddie as Treasurer had kept us on the straight and narrow and thanks went to him for doing a very good job with 'the books'. Thanks also to Ray for keeping tabs on the Membership.

A crucial time will be in May when the first memberships are up for renewal.

The biggest change to the Society will be the addition of a web site and thanks goes to Paul Escreet for his generosity in sponsoring this for us. It fulfils our remit of the Constitution as well as widening our aims and intentions to keep the history of Hull and Humber tugs alive.

The first year was mainly getting the Society up and running and getting members, and the Chair felt that we had achieved that. He gave thanks to Mark and Lisa at the Kingston Hotel for accommodating and looking after us. He also thanked all the members and committee for their hard work in our first official year.

Election of Society Officers

Tony stated that he wished to stand down as Chairman. He had offered to take on the role in the early days in order to get a committee formed and the Society off the ground. As he would be out of Hull for much of the coming year it would be difficult to fulfil this role. He had enjoyed his time as Chairman and would still do what he could as and when. Nev Gray pointed out that Tony had made a very good Chairman and this was agreed by the other members.

As there were no nominations, Mike Hussey offered to take on the role and it was unanimously agreed that he be appointed Chairman. His past role had been Sponsorship and Fundraising and he would continue with that also.

It was also unanimously agreed that Marlene would now become Secretary.

At this point Mike took over the meeting as Chairman. He thanked Tony for his past work in getting the Society started and hoped he would still be involved

Sponsorship and fundraising

Mike reported generous income support from the following organisations and individuals.

Paul Escreet of SMS Towage has generously sponsored the cost of setting up our website.

Bob Carver Ltd. Chapel Street, Hull, has sponsored the history folios that will be deposited in the archive of the Hull History Centre.

Rob Langton of MMS Shiprepair Ltd.

Wilberforce Insurance.

Last but not least our Honorary President Capt. Charlie Noble very generously made a personal donation to the society.

Exhibitions & Publicity

Mike reported our next big event would be our exhibition at the Veteran's Weekend at the East Park, to be held on the 30/31st July. He had preordered the marquee, tables and chairs for this event and was awaiting the official form to fill in and return. At this point Tony asked the members if any of them would be willing to give a hand at the event. It was agreed that we should certainly have some visibility at the proposed Icelandic Exhibition to be held at the Maritime Museum during 2017. Mike would be looking into this. The Hull History Centre is also giving us space to put on an event.

Any Other Business

Discussion was given as to how to get membership renewals. Once the website is up and running it will be much easier as we will have a PayPal account. Out of 65 members 12 were not on line. After it was mentioned that Campbeltown had a museum run by the Rescue Tug Association which had wrapped up, it was thought that it would be worth making contact to see about any artefacts or anything appertaining to U.T.C were available.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 15.10 hours, thanking everyone for attending.

The next Committee meeting will take place at 1300 hours on Monday 11th April, 2016.

Minutes of committee meeting of
The United Towing & Salvage Society
11th April, 2016.
Held at Kingston Hotel, Trinity House Lane, Hull.

Meeting opened 1305.

PRESENT; Mike Hussey (Chair), Eddie Barker (Treasurer), Pete Bass (Archivist), Ray Scott (Membership), Marlene Whitlam (Secretary), Tony Porter and Mark Hoddinott.

APOLOGIES; Ray Jordan.

MATTERS ARISING.

1. Having been given permission to erect a flag at the Kingston Hotel it is now up to UTSS to take it further. Tony pointed out that we should have some public liability cover for this and that we would also need to have it for any future events.

ACTION: Pete to check on the condition of the flag pole and report back to Mike. Mike to look into the public liability cover, possibly for a year as could be cheaper on a yearly basis.

2. Eddie was concerned about the cost of posting Bollard Pulls and Galley Radios to the members without computers. It was discussed whether to increase membership fee to cover this but as only 12 members were not online it was decided to keep it at £10 and review it in twelve months. With a view to keeping postage costs down on the Galley Radios, Eddie had produced it as an A5 booklet which looked good.

3. All the Committee members were interested in the History Centre Tour.

ACTION: Mike to check with Martin Taylor with a view to arranging a date.

4. Marlene brought samples of sympathy cards and it was agreed to send one to families of bereaved members to be signed by the Chairman or Treasurer. It was a unanimous decision not to send wreaths but instead a personal whip-round for a donation to the family's charity of choice. The family of the late Sid Hawkins gave Eddie £100 for the 'lads to have a drink with Sid'. This to be used at the next re-union.

5. Web page still in progress and a draft copy was passed round. Sponsorship logo was discussed – SMS to stay for at least five years. Must ensure we have an area giving our 'members only' extra content and information.

6. After being in touch with Tom Goulder, Mike was told the Icelandic project was in the very early stages but that they would be happy to talk with UTSS at a later date.

7. At a meeting with Jayne Robinson at CVS, Mike reported that she had been very pleased with the progress we had made in the time we had been running.

8. After the mention at the AGM that the Rescue Tug Association museum in Campbletown had wrapped up, Nev Grey had made enquiries. The Committee hoped that Nev would look into it further. Tony thought that information about their Constitution and Association rules would be useful to find out why and how it finished.

ACTION: Mike to get in touch with Nev to see if he would like to take on this project.

Tony had passed the stuff from Juliet Brittain over to Pete who had then got it into albums. It was most interesting and contained some excellent artefacts of the Yorkshireman at Bridlington. Pete had also had copies printed of the large posters which he had framed in readiness for the Yorkshireman exhibition.

Mark Hoddinott informed us that HOTA have a large builders model of the Salvageman and as he is now on the board he will check out if we are able to loan it for exhibitions. He also highlighted the Tug Towing and Offshore email.

NEWSLETTERS/CALENDARS

Eddie would be sending out the Galley Radio in the next few days. The theme for the 2017 calendars is Golden Oldies. Pete and Eddie will start these in June or July the aim to have them done for the end of August. Slight delay in getting the History Centre folders printed. They were presently with Paul Escreet who was proof reading them. Mike reported that a new print idea had come up which was much more professional looking.

ACTION: Mike to follow up with Paul regarding proof reading.

EXHIBITIONS

Important that we check out the overnight security situation at the Veterans weekend. It was agreed that a number of the lads would camp out to save removing the models each night.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

1. Ray checked that our present merchandise was:- Mugs, Caps and badges.
2. Tony is to approach the Hull Civic Society regarding getting a blue plaque for the Nelson Street offices.

Meeting closed at 1440. Next meeting on Monday, 6th June, 2016. at 1400hrs.

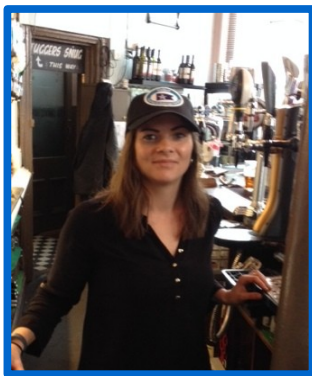
Please note new time.

Society support

The committee's thanks go to all the members that have supported us during our first year. Please continue your valuable support of the society by buying memorabilia as much as you can afford. This is a very important source of funding that enables us to carry on our work according to our constitution. We have received generous sponsorship funds and grants over the past year since we formed the society, most notably from SMS Towage and Bob Carver Ltd., and a start-up grant from the James Reckitt Trust. All that has enabled us to set up our website (should be going live soon) and to produce history folders that will be deposited in the Hull History Centre archives, however there is much more that we are aiming to achieve.

As everyone is aware we are hoping to be staging an exhibition at the Veterans Weekend at East Park in July, and will be staging exhibitions at the Maritime Museum throughout the period from November this year to February 2017. All of this needs funding and we have to raise money to facilitate all this.

Your committee is working tirelessly to achieve all of these goals but we still need the support of our members, both financially and physically. If you have any spare time and feel that you could spare a couple of hours to help out at these events please contact one of the committee members.



Sarah modeling one of our hats!



Don't forget to buy Mike's Mugs.

Impress your friends at dinner parties.

An essential requirement for entertaining at home!

Available with pictures of four different tugs.

Membership

We are nearing the time when memberships are becoming due for renewal, the first being next month. The committee has discussed at length whether we should increase the membership fee this year to cover the cost of postage etc. That has been something of a burden, particularly with those members without email, but in the end we decided to keep it at £10 for the foreseeable future. For example, believe it or not, if we post out a badge to a member it has to be a Large Letter as the width of the envelope is 2mm over the limit. Rod Jardine discovered that to his cost when he joined and I sent out his badge and card with only regular postage. It cost Rod another £2.40 to receive it! Since then we've used Large Letter stamps at almost £1 for 1st class. So as you can see it's not too long before we can spend all that we receive in membership fees.