
Minute Book One & Letters

A transcription of the original minute book

FROM

February 1866

To

July 1878



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RULES
OF THE
BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS

VOLUNTEER LIFE BRIGADE.

1.—That this corps be called "THE SOUTH SHIELDS VOLUNTEER LIFE BRIGADE," and its object is to assist the Coast Guard in saving life in cases of shipwreck.

2.—That this corps consist of enrolled members (effective and non-effective), and honorary members; the latter contributing to the funds of the corps, but not enrolled for service.

3.—That the affairs of the corps be managed by a secretary, treasurer, and a committee of twelve effective members, to be elected annually by the enrolled members of the corps. The chief officer of the coastguard to be a member of the committee ex officio

4.—The members who are passed as effective by the district commanding officer shall elect annually the company officers in the proportion of two to each fifty men.

5.—Candidates for admission to the corps must be nominated by two members, and admitted or rejected by a majority of the committee present at its next meeting.

6.—That the committee meet monthly for the transaction of business, and that five of their number be a quorum.

7.—That all officers of the corps shall be elected by a majority of votes, each member entitled to vote being supplied with a list of members, and a voting paper to be filled up and presented personally to the presiding officer.

8.—That each member shall be provided with

a distinguishing badge, as may be agreed upon by the committee, which shall be worn at drill or on active service.

9.—That the property of the corps be vested in the committee.

10.—When the corps is assembled for drill or actual service, each member shall yield implicit obedience to his superior officer, and discharge the duty assigned him as quietly as possible.

11.—That in all cases when the volunteers are called together, either for drill or actual service, the officer of Coast Guard in charge at the station shall take the command; but should their be (from any unforeseen cause) no Coast Guard officer present, then the command shall be taken by the chief officer of volunteers present.

12.—That insubordination on the part of any member shall be followed by immediate dismissal from the brigade, on the offence being fully proved before the committee.

13.—That the committee shall cause an abstract of the accounts to be prepared annually for the information of the members of the corps

14.—That any gentleman shall become an honorary member of the corps on payment of a guinea annually.

15.—That any member of the corps wishing to alter any existing rule, or propose a new one, shall give notice in writing to the secretary fourteen days previous to the annual meeting.

N.B.— The Signal to the Volunteers that a Ship is an Shore will be a gun fired twice, in quick succession, from the Spanish Battery, and as soon after as may be a Coloured Rocket fired in the direction of the Town.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MONDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 12TH 1866

Present Rennoldson (Chairman) Maxwell, Blair, Tynemouth, Crisp, MacRay, Stevenson and Malcolm.

Proposed by Mr Maxwell seconded by Mr Blair that each member of this committee be requested to use his best exertions to raise a Fund for the benefit of the Brigade and that Mr A Stevenson act as Treasurer pro tem.

Proposed by Mr Rennoldson seconded by Mr MacRay, that the distinguishing badge of the Brigade be a belt of white girthing with the letters V.L.B. worked in red.

Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by Mr Blair that the Secretary write to Mr Byrne Coastguard officer Tynemouth and request him to bring four of his men to act as head of sections till this Corps be efficient.

Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by Mr MacRay 1st that the Board of Trade letter be published. 2nd that two advertisements announcing the first drill to be inserted in both the Daily Papers, and 3rd that 50 bills be posted announcing the same.

Mr Stevenson resigned the office of joint Secretary and also kindly offered to get printed 150 copies of the rules and the same number of cards with the Drill instructions for the use of the Brigade.

LETTERS SENT

THE SOUTH SHIELDS VOLUNTEER LIFE BRIGADE

From the subjoined communication, which been received Archibald Stevenson, Esq., it will be seen that the proposal to establish a Volunteer Life Brigade at South Shields meets with official favour, and has the prospect of immediate assistance from the proper quarter:—

“Board of Trade,

“Surveyor General's Office,

“5 India Avenue, St.

“London, E.C. Jan. 25, 1866.

“Dear Sir,—I have made year letter to me respecting the life Brigade an official one. You need, therefore, do nothing more. You will hear amply from the Board of Trade, gladly accepting the services of the Life Brigade. I suppose you will form it (at least for the present) like the Tynemouth Brigade, adapting similar rules. The Inspecting Commander at Sunderland will be directed to communicate with you and Mr Malcolm with a view to commencing drills, Etc., as soon as possible; and wishing your Corps every success, I am, yours very faithfully,

“R. Robertson”

SHIELDS VOLUNTEER LIFE BRIGADE

— At a meeting of the committee, held last night, in the Mechanics' Institute. The following letter, addressed to the honorary secretaries was read:— “Board of Trade, Whitehall, 30th January, 1866. Gentlemen, —I am directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, and in reply I am to inform you that this Board will be glad to accept the services of the Volunteer Life Brigade at South Shields, on their adopting, temporarily, the present rules of the Tynemouth Brigade, a copy of which is enclosed. I am further to inform you that general rules for the formation of life brigades are under the consideration of this Board.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, J. Emerson Tennant.”

Committee Meeting held in the Mechanics Institute

WEDNESDAY EVENING APRIL 11TH 1866

Present Messrs Stevenson (Chairman), Blair, Tynemouth, Cay, Rennoldson, MacRay & the Secretary

Proposed by Mr Cay seconded by Mr Blair,

That lists of the Names of Members and Ballot papers for the Election of 4 Captains & a Committee of 12, beprinted and issued at the next Drill, the same to be given in not later than the Saturday following to Messrs Blair, Tynemouth, MacRay & Secretary, after which the time and place of General Meeting of members to be announced in the Daily Papers.

Archd. Stevenson

Committee Meeting held in the Mechanics Institute

MAY 2ND 1866 PRESENT

Messrs Stevenson (Chairman) W James, W Cay, R Blair, T Tynemouth, J Crisp, L MacRay, J P Rennoldson & Secretary

The Committee met on this occasion for the purpose of examining the Voting Papers for the election of 4 Captains and 12 Committeemen.

The 4 members who received the highest number of Votes for Captain were Messrs W Cay 68 votes, Stephen Cottew 57 Mathew Cay 51 and Thomas Tynemouth 40. They were accordingly declared elected.

The 12 members who received the highest number of Votes to serve on the Committee were Messrs J Crisp 54, R Blair 46, S Stevenson 44, Joseph Smith 38, Luke MacRay 36, J P Rennoldson 36, S Malcolm 34, W Wright 33, Geo Stokoe 31, T A Wilson 30, Geo Smith 26 & Charles Pearson 26

It was resolved to announce the above result in the papers and at the next Drill and not at a General Meeting of Members as previously agreed on.

Archd. Stevenson

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MAY 12TH 1866

Present Messrs A Stevenson (Chairman) Geo. Smith, L MacRay, T A Wilson, R Blair, W Wright and the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Blair seconded by Mr MacRay that Belts should be given to those Members who have attended 3 drills and that such members obtain the same from Mr MacRay.

The Treasurer reported having received the following subscriptions towards the Funds of the Brigade. Hugh Taylor Esq £5, A. H. Hunt Esq £1, H Edwards Esq £2 2s A Stevenson Esq £2 2s.

Accounts for belts were presented amounting to £ 11 9s. It was resolved to pay Mr MacRay the above subscription on account.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JUNE 12TH 1866

Present Messrs JP Rennoldson (Chairman) Geo. Smith, Joseph Smith, C Pearson, L MacRay, T A Wilson, R Blair, Dr. Stokoe and the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr T A Wilson seconded by Mr MacRay that Messrs Geo Smith, Joseph Smith, R Blair, C Pearson, TA Wilson & Secretary be sub committee to make arrangements for erecting a Mast on the sands in lieu of the present crane used for working the gear.

Proposed by Dr Stokoe seconded by Mr MacRay, that Messes Stevenson, Rennoldson, Dr Stokoe and the Secretary be a deputation to wait on the Tyne Commissioners respecting a Watch House required by the Brigade and to hear what steps they would be willing to take in the matter.

Archd. Stevenson

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

AUGUST 7TH 1866

Present Messrs R. Blair, Geo. Smith, Joseph Smith, T. A. Wilson and W. Cay Secy. pro tem

Proposed by Mr T A Wilson seconded by Mr G. Smith That the secretary draw an outline with a specification of the proposed Mast to be erected on the sands and submit the same to Commander Bateman and Mr Byrne for their opinion and then advertise for tenders for its erection.

This meeting begs to remind the deputation appointed to wait upon the River Tyne Commissioners that the season is fast advancing and that the business of the Watch House be pushed on as quickly as possible.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

OCTOBER 4TH 1866

Present Messrs Stevenson (Chairman), J Crisp, R Blair, W Wright, T A Wilson and the Secretary.

Mr Stevenson reported to the meeting that he had arranged with the Tyne Commissioners respecting the erection of the Watch House, for which they have agreed to find the labour and to proceed with it as soon as possible Mr Marshall also agrees to provide the timber at cost price.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Blair That a Subscription Box be placed at the Shipping Office to receive contributions from the Sailors and that letters be written to the County Members and the Coal Exchange London soliciting subscriptions to the Funds of the Brigade.

Archd Stevenson

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5TH 1866

Present Messrs Stevenson (Chairman), W Wright, T A Wilson, Geo. Smith, Dr. Stokoe, & the Secretary.

Proposed by Dr Stokoe seconded by Mr Wright That Messrs T A Wilson, Geo Smith, A Stevenson and the secretary be a sub committee to carry out the internal arrangements of the Watch House.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Smith that the 2 Coastguard Officers Liscombe and Ellis be paid 10/6 each for past services and in future to receive pay on the same scale as at Tynemouth Brigade.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Stevenson that the Captain in charge be empowered to offer the services of any Members of the Brigade to bring the stores ashore of any stranded vessel.

Archd Stevenson

LETTER TO SHIELDS GAZETTE REGARDING AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS TO THE READERS TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED WATCH HOUSE

SOUTH SHIELDS VOLUNTEER LIFE BRIGADE

Sir, —Allow me, through the medium of your valuable paper, to bring before the public the claims of the above brigade on their liberality and support. As will be seen in another column, a perfect hurricane swept along our coast early on Sunday morning, bringing destruction to several vessels, and, in all probability, to several lives, but for the timely efforts of the life brigade and others who were present. It is the desire of every man connected with this institution that it should be the most efficient in the kingdom, and it is very evident from what has already occurred this year, and last year also, that its formation has not been in vain. During that time they have saved from a watery grave about forty persons, among whom were a woman and her infant child. While we are willing to risk our lives in this noble cause, we confidently hope that the public will come to our assistance, and provide us with funds for efficiently carrying on our work. At present we are having a watch-house built on the South Pier for the accommodation of the members in stormy weather. The Board of Trade and others have come to our assistance, but still we are greatly deficient in the necessary funds for completing it. It is the wish of the committee not only to rescue the poor sailors, but also to supply them with those comforts so necessary in their helpless condition. During the recent disaster we had 26 men thrown on our hands, more dead than alive, from the great exposure they had undergone, without being able to administer to their comforts, save the warmth derived from a fire. The consequence was the greater part of the poor fellows had to walk more than a mile through sleet, snow, and wind, before they could get dry clothing or anything to eat or drink. It is our wish to have all these necessaries in our new watch house, which can only be done by liberal response to this appeal. For this purpose, by the permission of the bankers of the town, subscription lists will lie at their establishments. Donations will also be thankfully received by any of the committee or myself. In conclusion, I may state, we stand in the proud position of being the first volunteer brigade in the United Kingdom that has saved life from shipwreck, and while we are still willing to give our services and expose ourselves for our suffering fellow creatures, we trust our efforts will be seconded by the public, that they will identify themselves with our success and liberally sustain the prestige we have already gained.

Yours very truly,

S. Malcolm, Honorary Secretary to South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade Jan. 7th, 1867.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JANUARY 14TH 1867

Present Messrs J. Crisp (Chairman) Byrne, T. A. Wilson, Geo. Smith, W Wright, R. Blair, T. Tynemouth & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Smith that the sum of 22/6 be paid to the following Coastguard for rendering service before the Captains were appointed viz Robert Cliff, John Williamson, Philip Bide, Wm. Odges & Rich Miller.

Proposed by Geo. Smith seconded by W Wright that the following Bills be paid - Coulson £7-13s. Daily News 2/6. Learmont 7/10. Refreshments 8/-.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Blair that a number of notices be printed for announcing Drills and calling Committee meetings.

Moved by Geo. Smith seconded by Mr Wright that the Watch House be insured for £150 in the Lancashire Fire Insurance.

Moved by Geo. Smith seconded by R. Blair That 3 bright lights be hung on the North end of the Watch House to show when a ship is on the South side of the South Pier, and 2 lights when a ship is on the North side of the South Pier.
50 bills to be printed to this effect.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Smith that Mrs Ellis wife of the Coastguard John Ellis be appointed to take charge of the Watch House at a salary of 30/- per annum.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Wright that the Captains be added to the Committee.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 12TH 1867

Present Stevenson (Chairman) Blair, Stokoe, Geo. Smith, Wright, Rennoldson, W Cay, T.A. Wilson, Byrne and the Secretary.

Proposed by Blair seconded by Smith,

That February 27th at 7.30 p.m. be appointed to experiment with lights to show on which side of the Pier a wreck occurs and notices be sent to those members of this Committee who are not here to night.

Proposed by S Malcolm seconded by Mr Wilson that J W Lamb Esq be appointed an Honorary member for his services in collecting Subscriptions.

Proposed by Wright seconded by Wilson that the following accounts be paid Sisson £7 9s Wylie 15 4 10, France & Co 4 12 6 Sutherland 14/6 Gazette 1-2-10 Malcolm 10/11 Crisp 7. 9.7 Harbutt & Co £14 10 Robson £3 8.

Proposed that the Men employed at the Watch House be presented with 10/6 on its completion. Archd. Stevenson

15 Jan 1867

South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade.

The committee beg to acknowledge the receipt the following subscriptions, per Mr J. W. Lamb—Messrs John Fenwick and Son, London, £5 5s; Messrs W. Cory & Son, London, £5 5s; Messrs Dixon & Harris, London, £5 5s

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS

MARCH 13TH 1867

Present Messrs Stevenson (Chairman) Geo. Smith, L MacRay, Dr. Stokoe, T Tynemouth, T A Wilson, and the Secretary

1. Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by Geo. Smith that the secretary and Captains have discretionary power to order any provisions that may be thought necessary for the men on night duty at the Watch House or any other small stores that may be necessary.
2. Proposed by Geo. Smith seconded by Dr. Stokoe that the following bills be paid Mather 14/-, Jennings 12/8, Fenwick 24/4.
3. Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Geo. Smith " That Mr MacRay be instructed to procure 1/2 a gross of belts of the same materials as the last but with larger buckles.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

May 8th 1867

Present Messrs Mr MacRay, Blair, T A Wilson, Dr Stokoe, and the Secretary.
Mr MacRay Chairman

1. Proposed that the following bills be paid
Proposed by Dr Stokoe seconded by T A Wilson.

Vendor	£	S	D	Vendor	£	S	D
Wright & Sons	1	8		MacRay & Son			
Crisp & Hails		18	6	T. A. Wilson	17	3	
Councillor		1	6	Sisson	2	6	

2. Proposed by Mr MacRay seconded by Mr Blair "That a formal vote of thanks be presented to Mr Foy for his present of a "Storm Indicator to the Brigade".

3. Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Blair,
That a Plan & Specification for an additional room to the Brigade House be prepared by the Secretary for presentation at the next committee meeting.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JUNE 24TH 1867

Present T A Wilson (Chairman) M. Cay, W. Cay, Blair, Geo. Smith, Byrne, and the Secretary

Proposed by Mr Blair seconded by Mr W Cay, that the following bills be passed Marshall 45 17 6, Gowan 3 16 6, Cassells £17 4, Tyne Commissions 5 8 8 & 4 3 0, Coastguard for drills 8/- Ellis for Watch House 15/- Rent of Committee room 13/-.

Proposed by Mr M Cay seconded by Mr Smith,
That the necessary Election papers be prepared for the Annual Meeting viz A list of Effective Members and Ballot Papers for the election of Officers and Committee. It was understood that all members who had not attended drill during the year should be struck off the roll.

COMMITTEE MEETING MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JULY 8TH 1867

Present, Rennoldson (Chairman) Wilson, Byrne, MacRay, Stokoe, Wright, W Cay, M Cay, C. Pearson, Malcolm.

Proposed by Dr Stokoe seconded by T A Wilson that the form of Voting Papers as presented by the Secretary be printed

Proposed by Mr T.A. Wilson, Mr Rennoldson that the report just read be adopted and presented to the Members at the Annual Meeting.

Proposed by Mr Rennoldson , seconded by Mr Wilson that the following Bills be passed, Sutherland 12/2, Learmont 7/2, Malcolm 2/-.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Blair,

That the Annual Meeting be held in the Brigade House on Wednesday the 17th July 1867, at 7,30pm.

Proposed by Dr. Stokoe seconded by Mr Rennoldson, that a round of beef and beer be provided for the Members at the Annual Meeting and that Messrs W Cay, Wilson & Wright be a sub-committee to carry out the arrangements.

SHIELDS DAILY GAZETTE 18 JULY 1867

SOUTH SHIELDS VOLUNTEER LIFE BRIGADE

ANNUAL MEETING

The first annual meeting of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade was held in the new watch house last night. Alderman Glover was called to the chair, and there was a large attendance of members and those interested in the prosperity of the institution. Among those present were—Alderman J. F. Spence, secretary to the Borough of Tynemouth Life Brigade ; Messrs John Robinson; J. W. Lambe; M. Cay; S. Malcolm (secretary); Dr. Stokoe; J. Crisp; and S. Cottew and T. Tynemouth (captains), &c., &c.

The Chairman said he had been called upon most unexpectedly to fill the chair this evening. Although unexpectedly, he had great pleasure presiding for five minutes, or half an hour, or whatever the length of time might be, over meeting of the members of so noble a body the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade. (Applause.) After stating the object of the meeting, the chairman called upon Mr Malcolm (secretary) to read the report.

Mr Malcolm read the report, as follows:—

"The committee, in presenting the first annual report to the members of this institution will endeavour briefly as possible to give outline of the transactions of the Brigade since its formation. The establishing of Life Brigades in general is of recent date, and to Tynemouth will ever belong the honour of organizing the first brigade, on the model of which this and other brigades have been established. To establish one on this side of the mouth of the Tyne, a few gentlemen met together in December, 1865, and formed themselves into provisional committee. A public meeting, convened by the Mayor, was held in the Town Hall early in January, 1866, and, the 31st of the same month, the services of 47 volunteers who had enrolled themselves members were accepted by the Board of Trade, from which date the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade was officially established. The first drill took place at the south pier, February 17th, 1866, under the command of Mr Byrne, of the coastguard service. The movement soon became popular, and in a few weeks the roll had increased to one hundred and forty, and now reaches to two hundred men who have attended drill. The necessity for it soon became apparent, for on the night of April 2, the schooner "Tenterden," of Sunderland, came ashore behind the South Pier during a heavy gale. Forty-five members were speedily on the spot, and, under the superintendence of the Coastguard, succeeded in rescuing the crew, 5 in number, and a woman and her infant, from a watery grave. Without further detail the members have attended 9 wrecks, the crews amounting to 57 all told, and of which they have been instrumental in saving 30 lives, the rest, with the exception of two boys, being saved by the lifeboats or were enabled to get ashore themselves. In the fearful gale of January 6, 1867, these two boys were drowned, one by getting into a boat which was swamped, the other being washed off his vessel by a heavy sea. During the past long and severe winter the members have been very much exposed to storm and tempest while pursuing their arduous and perilous vocation. It soon became evident that something would have to be done provide for their comfort while on duty. An appeal was made the public for funds to erect a watch-house, and the liberal response enabled us to erect the comfortable and commodious building we now occupy. Your committee takes this opportunity of thanking the subscribers for their sympathy, and those gentlemen who have given us the useful instruments which adorn its wall. Our thanks are also especially due to P. J. Messent, Esq., the piers engineer, for furnishing the plans, and rendering valuable assistance during the erection. While the committee have been mindful of the comfort the members in general, they also contemplate providing before the winter sets in an additional room especially adapted for the accommodation of shipwrecked crews, and they are encouraged by the hope that their intentions have only to be made known when the necessary facilities will be afforded for carrying out this much needed project. We have cause for congratulation that this Brigade during the first year of its existence has been enabled to distinguish itself so much, especially in being the first institution of the kind to save life from

shipwreck. This we say, not from any boastful superiority in point of efficiency, because we believe had other brigades been similarly situated a like success would have attended their efforts in the noble cause for which these establishments have been instituted. In conclusion, we hope that the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade, successfully launched, will continue to be a permanent institution of the town, that each member will be stimulated in the future by the events of the past, and, in the words of our motto, will be "Always ready" to risk their lives to save any poor manner who may be wrecked on our coast."

In the absence of the Treasurer (Mr A. Stevenson), Mr Malcolm also read the financial statement, which showed that the income of the Brigade during last year was £195 17s 1d, and the expenditure £179 9s 9d, leaving a balance of £16 7s 4d. This sum, added to which £25 they had been promised from the Board of Trade, would make £41 odd, which would be applied towards defraying the expenses of the new room they intended to build before the winter set in.

Mr Wilson moved the adoption of the report and in doing so expressed his admiration of the way in which the Secretary for the Brigade had performed his duties during the past year.

Mr Robt. Bell seconded the motion.

Ald. J. F. Spence, North Shields, said the Chairman had asked him to say few words, and although he did not attend the meeting with the intention of addressing them he had had very great pleasure in expressing his admiration of the report which he had just heard read. He congratulated the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade on being the first to save any lives in the kingdom. They on the other side, being the older institution of the two, were naturally desirous to be the first to save life, but when they heard of what their friends in South Shields had done he for one—and he might speak for the whole of the members of the Tynemouth brigade—rejoiced to think that they were the first whose services were called into requisition with such important results. He considered it a great honour, and thought there was not a more laudable movement, or one more calculated to raise men in the estimation of their fellow-men than that in which they were engaged. They had already saved many lives when in peril and their success he ascribed to diligent practice, and the state of efficiency in working the apparatus to which they had attained. They all remembered the loss of the Stanley, and he could confidently assert that if Mr Byrne had had twenty-five disciplined men to aid him on that occasion, many valuable lives might have been saved. (Hear, hear.) He did not like to see men acting who were totally unacquainted with the apparatus they were handling.

When everyone knew his business, the chances of saving life were more favourable than when the force was composed of nothing better than the rabble. He rejoiced to think that the South Shields brigade had attained such a high standard of proficiency, and he was delighted to see many of the members present. He hoped they would never fall short of the motto at the end of their report, as he was sure they would not, and although he did not wish to see wrecks, he hoped, when they did occur, that they would be as successful in saving lives as they had hitherto been. (Applause)

The Chairman then put the motion approving of the report, and afterwards scrutineers were appointed to go over the votes recorded for the election of officers during the ensuing year.

Mr Wilson said he was pleased to see many of their worthy supporters present. It had been their study as officers of the institution to give all their friends satisfaction. Their humble endeavours to save Life had been very successful, and he hoped they would always be ready to do what lay in their power for their fellow-men when they required their services. He wished to propose, as most of the members of the brigade were working men, in regard to the money that the Board of Trade awarded, that it be distributed among those who were the means of saving the life of shipwrecked crews, to buy clothes and boots, as there was great tear and wear upon them, and they could not be replaced unless some assistance was given. If the meeting approved of the proposal he was confident that the public would supply them with the necessary funds to provide the food that might be consumed. He had much pleasure in submitting the resolution to the meeting.

Mr Wm. Spence seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Capt. Cottew proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary and Treasurer. Since the institution of the Brigade they had conducted its affairs in way which had given entire satisfaction to its members.

Mr McQueen seconded the motion, which was carried amid vociferous cheering.

Mr Malcolm replied. He was very much gratified to think that his services had been highly appreciated. For any trouble he had been caused he thought himself fully rewarded by the success of the Brigade. They were successful in their very infancy, for after the third time they had been at drill they had to put what they learned in theory into practice, and were able thereby to save a ship's crew.

He hoped since they got on so well last year that they would still go on progressing. On behalf of the Treasurer, who, he had no doubt, would duly appreciate the motion just made, and himself, he begged to return thanks.

Mr Malcolm proposed a vote of thanks to the Captains. It was necessary to have leaders or captains in an institution of this kind, and he was sure those who had experienced the storms and wrecks of last year would admit they (the captains) were at least well worthy of vote of thanks. If re-elected, he had no doubt they would continue to discharge their duties in an equally satisfactory manner.

Mr Wilson seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

Captain Matthew Cay being unavoidably absent, Captains Cottew and Tynemouth briefly replied.

Mr Wilson then moved that Dr Stokoe should be elected doctor to the Brigade. Mr Bell seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Mr Cay said although he had not the honour of being a member of the Brigade, would take the liberty, as fellow townsman and an old tar, of telling them much he admired their institution. He had always been impressed with the idea that on their iron bound coast there were places where for many miles a lifeboat was of no use. This objection had been seen by the Board of Trade, and for many years they had been thinking of the line and rocket. They had now tried to introduce it, and he was proud to say that they had been so far successful. The benefit to be derived from such means of saving life was incalculable, for, Mr Spence stated, had the rocket apparatus been in use when the Stanley came ashore, a number of valuable lives might have been saved. He thought Tynemouth and South Shields should produce the two best Brigades on the coast. There were plenty of men competent for the work, and with the spirit of humanity which they evinced, he had no doubt they would do great amount of good in the way of saving valuable lives. He was only sorry that there was not some way of remunerating those who watched night after night, but hoped that they would come to that by and by, as it could not be expected that people could always work for nothing. He was very unfit to say anything the subject. He had risen merely for the purpose of introducing his friend Mr Robinson (applause), who, he had doubt, could say something better worth listening to than anything he could say.

In conclusion he hoped that there would be no strife between the Tynemouth and South Shields brigades further than an honest emulation to who should do most to promote the welfare and happiness of their fellow-men. (Applause)

Mr Robinson then addressed the meeting. After stating that he had not heard the report read, which he regretted and that he was very glad to see such an enthusiastic and numerous meeting, he spoke of the benefit of having good captains, and the necessity there was for those who were under their command being thoroughly trained. He trusted that the members of the South Shields brigade would attend to discipline and training, so that when the time for action came they might be able to perform their duties with efficiency, and credit to themselves. Mr Robinson then spoke of the moral benefit coming to the members of the brigade from the philanthropic nature of the work in which they were engaged. When they felt they were doing good to their fellow creatures, they were doing good to themselves. There was no satisfaction in man working only for his own benefit. If they wanted to promote their own happiness they must seek to promote that of others. (Applause) In conclusion, he trusted that the society would go and prosper. He hoped their services would not be called too often into requisition, but storms would rise, and ships would be wrecked, and he trusted when these occurrences did take place that every member of the Brigade would be found at his post. Many people had predicted that the volunteer movement would not last, but to-day it was as vigorous ever, and it was great benefit to many young men. He trusted that their voluntary efforts would be the same to the end, and he hoped they would have the thanks of their townsmen for their labours. (Applause and cheers.)

Mr Malcolm thought that it was desirable that those gentlemen who contributed to the funds of the brigade should know how the money had been expended. He therefore moved that the report and financial statement should be distributed among the subscribers and members. The motion was seconded by Mr Smith, and agreed to.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Wilson for the interest he had all along taken in the institution, which was enthusiastically responded to.

Mr Wilson replied.

The scrutineers not having their task finished the time the other business of the meeting over, an interval elapsed, during which the members of the Brigade were treated to a plentiful supply of refreshments. On the list being made up, the following were found to have the highest number of votes, and were declared duly elected office-bearers for the ensuing year: —

Captains—W. Cay, S. Cottew, M. Cay, jun., and Wm. Wright. Secretary—S. Malcolm. Treasurer—A. Stevenson. Committee of management —Geo. Stokoe, Robert Blair, George Smith, Jos. Crisp, G. A. Wilson, Thomas Tynemouth, Joseph Smith, L. Mackey, Charles Pearson, Robert Wells, T. G. Mabane, and G. P. Renoldson-

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

August 21st 1867 Present Messrs Rennoldson (Chair), Wright, M Cay, W Cay, L MacRay, Wells, Wilson, T G Mabane, Dr Stokoe & the Secretary.

Proposed by Capt. Wright seconded by Mr Wilson,
That the following accounts be passed, R Bell for Beer 2 17 9, Sanderson Beef 17 9, Fairbain Beef 1 4 91/2, Jennings Groceries 6/4, Wilson sundries 8/21/2.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Capt. Wright,
That each Member (seamen excepted) in order to make himself effective must attend 5 drills during the year and any member not attending 3 drills during the year will have his name struck off the roll.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Capt. M Cay,
That each Captain be requested to provide a uniform white covering for his head as a distinguishing badge.

Proposed by Capt. Wright seconded by Mr MacRay, That Messrs Wilson, Stevenson, Dr Stokoe and the Secretary be a sub committee for carrying out the building of the new wing to the Watch House.

The Secretary reported that after the last drill Mr Coulson of No. Shields exhibited his apparatus for saving persons in danger of being drowned.

A meeting of the committee present was held at which it was agreed to order 4.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

OCTOBER 15TH 1867

Present Capt. M. Cay Jun (chairman) Wilson, Mabane, Wells, Rennoldson, Wright, Dr. Stokoe & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Rennoldson seconded by Mr Wilson

That the sum of 34/7 be paid to the Tynemouth Brigade being their expenses in connection with fixing of the 3rd signal guns.

Proposed by Dr. Stokoe seconded by Capt. Wright

That the offer of Mrs Bagnall & Blakey viz the free use of the Alhambra Music Hall with the whole of the Artists for a Benefit towards the funds of the Brigade be accepted and that the committee look after the arrangement for taking the money, printing bills, etc.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Dr. Stokoe;

That an additional £100 be insured on the Watch House in the Lancashire Fire Insurance.

It was also agreed the Rule 12 be posted up in the Watch House in order to bring it more prominently before the Members.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

OCTOBER 21ST 1867

Present W. Cay (Chairman) Wilson, MacRay, Mabane, Byrne, Dr. Stokoe, Wells, Rennoldson, Tynemouth, the Secretary and Mr Blakey of the Alhambra Hall.

Messrs W Cay, Wilson & Wright agreed to take the money at the Gallery door.

Messrs, MacRay, Dr Stokoe & T G Mabane the door at the Boxes & Pit.

Proposed by Mr Rennoldson seconded by Mr Mabane That the members of the Brigade meet at the Watch House on Thursday at 6. 30 p.m. to march to the Alhambra headed by Band of the 6th Durham Rifle Volunteers. Members to wear their belts.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr MacRay That an advertisement embodying this resolution be inserted in each of the daily papers on Tuesday & Wednesday.

Proposed by Mr Rennoldson seconded by Mr Tynemouth That Mr Richardson be applied to for 2 policemen to stand at the doors.

Messrs Mabane & Malcolm were appointed a deputation to wait on Mr Ingham to invite his attendance on this occasion.

Tickets were distributed for the Boxes to the following Members W Cay 12, Wilson 24, MacRay 12, Mabane 12, Byrne 12, Stokoe 12, Wells 12, Blakey 12, M Cay 12, Rennoldson 12, Tynemouth 12.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MONDAY OCTOBER 28TH 1867

Present Stevenson (Chairman) Wilson, Mabane, Wells, W Cay, Crisp, Rennoldson, Pearson, Geo. Smith, MacRay & Secretary

Proposed by Mr Wilson, seconded by Mr Mabane. That the Committee of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade, on behalf of the Members, return their most sincere thanks to Messrs Bagnall and Blakey for their great kindness and generosity in handing over to the funds of the Brigade the entire proceeds of the entertainment at the Alhambra Music Hall on Thursday Oct 24th 1867 amounting to £28 10. 6.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MONDAY DECEMBER 2ND 1867.

Present. Messrs Stevenson (Chairman) R Blair, T A Wilson, T G Mabane, R Wells Dr Stokoe, J P Rennoldson, T Tynemouth, Captains W Cay, M Cay, & S Cottew, and the Secretary.

Proposed by Captain W Cay Seconded by Dr Stokoe that the following accounts be paid.

Account	£	S	D
Marshall timber	22	7	6
S Wright & Son Bread	1	17	6
Crisp & Hails	6	19	6
Wylie Slater	7	9	9
Fox Brothers	5	13	
Jennings Groceries		9	8
Malcolm postage etc.		4	0
Counsellor Cartage	1	10	
Wilson Sundries	1	2	9 1/2
Coulson Glazing		15	

Proposed by T Tynemouth seconded by Dr Stokoe That John Milburn Pilot be elected a Member.

Propose by Capt. W Cay seconded by Capt. Cottew That for the present no more Members are to be admitted to the Brigade.

A Vote of Thanks was passed to Mr Rennoldson for supplying iron work for the new room. To Dr Stokoe for the way he had fitted up the surgery in the new room. To Mr Kennedy for supplying a new lamp and 3 gallons of petroleum oil and to Mr Clarke spirit merchant Market Place for supplying 1 gallon of brandy. Mr Wigham has given 1 pair of blankets and 1 quilt, messes J Fenwick & Sons 1 pair blankets and 1 quilt. Messrs Rickley and Co 1 pair of blankets and Mr Colluison 1 Quilt. Mr Robson 1 pair of blankets. Messrs Watkin Smith & Banon 1 pair blankets 1 quilt. Thorp & Son 1 Quilt 1 pr. blankets Henry Hedley 1 quilt.

It was agreed that the Officers and Members should patronise the performances at the Alhambra Music hall on Thursday week in return for the kindness of the proprietors in giving a Benefit to the Funds of the Brigade.

Committee Meeting held in the Mechanics Institute Wednesday January 29th 1868

Present Stevenson (Chairman) R Blair, T A Wilson, Byrne, Charles Pearson, R Wells, Geo. Smith & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Blair, seconded by Mr Wilson

That the following accounts be paid.

Gazette 4/8, Daily News 2/6, Jennings 10/8,

Mensforth 1 14 6, Walker & Emily £20 7 8

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Wells That Messrs W Cay, S Cottew, R Blair, Geo Smith & T A Wilson be a sub committee to procure and erect a Mast for Rocket Practice.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

APRIL 28TH 1868

Present Messrs Stevenson (Chairman) W. Cay, T A Wilson, Jos. Smith, M Cay, J P Rennoldson, G Wells, Geo. Smith, Dr. Stokoe, J Crisp and the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Rennoldson seconded by Mr Wilson

That a written apology be given by Mr Ayr to Mr Cay within 7 days for the improper language used by him at the drill on April 25th 1868 and that such be posted in the Watch House. Unless such apology be given Mr Ayr must be dismissed from the Brigade according to Rule 12.

Proposed by M Cay seconded by Mr Rennoldson

That in future no advertisements be admitted in the Watch House except for Brigade purposes and that existing ones be removed.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr M Cay

That Mr Ellis is be paid 10/6 for making 2 flags for the Brigade.

Proposed by Geo. Smith seconded by Mr W Cay

That the painters bill 17/6 for Mast be paid.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JUNE 23RD 1868

Present Messrs Stevenson chair Cottew, Wells, Wright, Mabane, Pearson, Geo Smith, W Cay, Wilson, Tynemouth, Dr. Stokoe & the Secretary.

On the Minutes of the previous Meeting being read an Amendment to the second resolution was proposed by T A Wilson & seconded by Geo. Smith. That any Honorary Member shall have the right to put up an advertisement in the Watch House not exceeding 18 inches by 12 inches. Framed and Glazed. Only 3 voted in its favour, it was therefore lost.

Proposed by Dr Stokoe, seconded by Mr Mabane
That the resolution respecting Mr Ayr stand in abeyance for a month and that Capt Wright & Mr Wilson endeavour to persuade him to comply with the wishes of the Committee.

Proposed by Mr Wright seconded by Mr Wells
That Mr Crisp a/c £2-3- be paid.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

TUESDAY JULY 7TH 1868

Present Mr J P Rennoldson (Chairman) Messrs Geo. Smith, W Cay, M Cay, T A Wilson, Joseph Smith, Byrne, Blair, Dr Stokoe, Crisp, Pearson, Wright, Wells and the Secretary.

Proposed by Capt. Wright seconded by Mr Wilson
That the following accounts be paid. Daily News 10/6
Gazette 8/-, Mechanics Institute for Committee Room 7/-

Proposed by Capt. Wright seconded by Mr Blair
That all the names on the roll books be printed and that the form of voting paper be adopted the same as last year.

Proposed by Capt. Wright seconded by Blair
That the Annual Meeting be held in the Watch House on Thursday July 30th 1868 at ½ past 7pm.

Proposed by Mr Pearson seconded by Dr Stokoe
That the Secretary have discretionary power to act in connection with the affairs of the Brigade.

Proposed by Dr Stokoe seconded by Capt. W Cay
That the property of the Brigade now vested in the property of the Brigade now vested in the committee be transferred to Trustees and that the following gentlemen be requested to act as such viz Messrs J C Stevenson, M Cay sen, E Maxwell, H Nelson, A Stevenson, J B Dale, J S Hall, Hugh Taylor, Jas. Young, Joseph Smith, John Robinson King St., Joseph Wilson & J W Lamb.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JULY 16TH 1868

Present J P Rennoldson chair, Wilson, Jas Smith, M Cay, Wells, Crisp, Mabane, Pearson, Blair & the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed on the understanding that the part referring to the Trusteeship should stand over till the Annual Meeting.

Proposed by Mr Crisp seconded by Mr Blair

That the Report and Financial Statement just read be adopted and presented at the Annual Meeting and that the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Secretary for the pains he has taken.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

Thursday July 30th 1868.

On the motion of Capt. W Cay seconded by Mr Wilson, Alderman Glover was called upon to preside

The Secretary read the General Report, Its adoption was moved by Mr Baridge and seconded by Mr Vint. Carried.

The Treasurer read the financial statement.

Its adoption was moved by Capt. Wright and seconded by Capt. Cottew Carried.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Bell, that each member (Pilots and Seamen) excepted in order to make himself efficient must attend five drills during the year, and any Member not attending one drill during the year, will have his name struck off the roll book. Members must wear their Belts at Drill.

Proposed by Mr Birch, seconded by Mr Ayr,
That the Deputy Captains be chosen by the members.

Proposed by Mr Birch seconded by Mr Micheson
That the Watch House be open Summer and Winter. It was also understood that an officer or member of the committee must be present to be responsible for the safe Keeping of the property.

Proposed by Capt. Wright, seconded by Mr Mabane
That the Secretary have full discretionary power over the Watch House ... Carried

Proposed by Capt. Wright, seconded by Mr McQueen
That the Captains be ex officio Members of the committee

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Capt. Wright and supported by Capt. M. Cay
That the Property of the Corps, now vested in the committee be transferred to trustees and that the following gentlemen be requested to act as such.
Messrs J C Stevenson, M. Cay sen. E Maxwell, H Nelson, A Stevenson, J B Dale, J S Hall, Capt. Taylor, Jas. Young, Joseph Smith, John Robinson, Joseph Wilson & J. W Lamb.

Proposed by Mr Birch seconded by Mr Bell,
That Messrs S. Malcolm, T Houslby, T A Wilson and Mr McQueen be the Deputy Captains for the ensuing year.

ALHAMBRA BENEFIT OCTOBER 24TH 1867

Receipts

Gallery Money	9 5 9	
Boxes & Pit		14 5 9
Tickets Sold		<u>4 19 -</u>
		28 10 6

Expenses

Tyne Dock Band	1 - -	
Alhambra do	- 12 -	
Robinson for Gallery	- 2 6	
Bill Poster	- 15 -	
Gazette	2 5 -	
Daily News	- 7 -	
2 Telegrams & Train Ex.	- 3 -	
Printing	2 18 -	
Mr Bonmley	- 2 -	
" Blakey	<u>- 4 6</u>	<u>8 9 -</u>
Nett Balance	£20 1 6	

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

SEPTEMBER 21ST 1868

Present Capt. M Cay (Chairman),
Crisp, Wright, Wilson, Housby, Wells, Blair, Geo. Smith and the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Crisp seconded by Mr Smith That the Annual Report & Financial Statement be printed and circulated amongst the Members & Friends.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Capt. Wright
That Duncan Frazer Alma St, Nicholas Riddle 3 Woodbine St, and Herdman Sculpture reader aboard the "Joseph Straker" be admitted as members to the Brigade.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MONDAY NOVEMBER 30TH 1868

Present Capt. W Cay (Chairman) Capt M Cay jun, T A Wilson, Dr Stokoe, T G Mabane, B Birch, R Wells, R Bell, S Houlby, J Crisp & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Birch
That the following bills be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
Shields Daily News	2	15	6
Shields Gazette		8	8
E. Jennings	1	15	4
Crisp &Hails	2	00	00
Wright & Son	2	12	

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23RD 1869

Present Capt. M Cay (chair) Capt. Cottew, Capt. W Cay,
Messrs Crisp, Geo Smith, Joseph Smith, T A Wilson, Dr Stokoe, S Houlsby, B Birch, R Wells, T A
Wilson, Dr Stokoe, S Houlsby, B Birch, R Wells, T G Mabane & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Dr Stokoe
That the Fire Insurance due to the Lancashire Insurance Co from January 1867 to December
1869 amounting £2 12 3 be paid.

Proposed by Mr Crisp seconded by Dr Stokoe
That Messes Cottew, Birch & Wilson be appointed to wait on Mr Oldroy with a view to get a
reduction of his account for setting stones for Mast.

Proposed by Mr Joseph Smith seconded by Mr Wilson Mr Counsellor be paid 9/6 for cartage of
coals & Fox Brothers 2/7 for hardware.

The secretary reported having received £15 from the Board of Trade as the Grant for 1868. Great
indignation was expressed by the Committee at smallness of the amount and on the motion of Dr
Stokoe seconded by Capt. Cottew the secretary was instructed to have further communications
with the Board of Trade on the matter.

Proposed by Mr Joseph Smith seconded by Capt Cottew that the Chaplain of the "Joseph
Straker" Mission ship be allowed the use of the Watch House occasionally for evening services
and that due notice such services be given to the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Houlsby, That the next Drill be held on Saturday first at
6pm.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MAY 19TH 1869

Present Messrs Joseph Smith (Chairman) B Birch, T A Wilson, L Byrne, R Wells, W Wright, T G Mabane, Geo. Smith, R Bell, Dr Stokoe.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Proposed by Capt. Wright seconded by Mr Birch,
That the following Bills be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
Jennings		13	8
Crisp & Hails	3	8	7
Daily News		2	6
Seaimount		1	8

Proposed by Capt. M Cay seconded by Capt Wright That the question of the Board of Trade grant stand referred to next meeting and that in the meantime the Secretary see the Member for the Borough and lay the matter before him.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JULY 5TH 1869

Present Messrs A Stevenson (Chairman)

B Birch, T A Wilson, Capt W Cay, Capt M Cay, Joseph Crisp, R Bell, T Houlsby, T G Mabane, Joseph Smith & the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported that in accordance with the resolution at last Meeting he had given the member for the Boro' a copy of the correspondence with the B. of Trade respecting Grants for Shipwrecks requesting him to make enquiries about it. In consequence a letter from Mr Bright President of the B of T to Mr Stevenson M.P. promising to look into the matter was read to the meeting and was considered satisfactory.

The following Bills were passed,

Vendor	£	S	D
Wigham Draper		4	11
Crisp & Hails	1	2	4

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JULY 8TH 1869

Present Capt. Cottew (chairman) Joseph Smith, T A Wilson, R Bell, B Birch and the Secretary.

Lists of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions of efficient and non-efficient Members.

It was proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Bell that these be printed along with all other necessary papers for the Annual Meeting.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JULY 29TH 1869

Present Capt. W Cay (Chairman), Capt. M. Cay, Capt. Wright, T G Mabane, J Crisp, R Bell, Joseph Smith, Geo. Smith, Geo Smith, B Birch, S Houlsby, T A Wilson, & the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The Secretary read the General Report and Treasurers which were approved of and ordered to be presented to the Members at the Annual Meeting.

Moved by Mr Crisp seconded by Mr Birch That it be added to the Treasurers Report "The thanks of the Committee to the various Gentlemen who have contributed to the Institution during the past year.

Arrangements for Annual Meeting

Mr Clarke to have charge of the door and taken the voting papers and tickets from the Members as they come in. The tickets to be collected after the business part of the Meeting is over.

Captain Wright undertook to get 4 scrutineers to go over the voting papers.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE SOUTH PIER

JULY 30TH 1869

Proposed by Mr Mabane Seconded by Mr Wilson that Mr Ald. Glover take the chair.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Wilson
That the Secretary & Treasurers Reports be adopted.

Proposed by Mr Lamb seconded by Capt. W Cay That reports be printed and circulated among the members and friends and that copies be sent to the local papers and Shipping Gazette.

Proposed by Capt. W Cay seconded by Mr Stevenson, That vote of thanks be given to Mr Wilson for the great interest he has hitherto taken in the affairs of the Brigade.

Proposed by Mr Blakie, Collector of Customs seconded by Mr J L Hall
That a vote of thanks be given to the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr M Cay senior,
That a vote of vote of thanks be given to the Treasurer.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Malcolm
That a vote of thanks be given to C W Anderson Esq., for his kindness in supplying the Watch House with coals free of charge.

Proposed by Mr R Bell, seconded by Capt W Cay That a vote of thanks be given to Mr Glover as representative of the Tyne Commissioners for supplying the Watch House with water and to Mr J L Hall for providing the pipes.

Proposed by Capt. W Cay seconded by Mr Herdman
That a vote of thanks be given to Dr Stokoe and his assistant Mr Winter for their valuable services during the past year and that Dr Stokoe be appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Brigade.

The following Officers were elected for the Year ending June 30th 1870.

Captains			Deputy Captain		
Mr	William	Wright	Mr	T	Houlsby
Mr	William	Cay	Mr	T. A.	Wilson
Mr	Matthew	Cay	Mr	George	Smith
Mr	Nicholas	Riddle	Mr	John	Clarke

Treasurer
Mr A Stevenson

Secretary
Mr S Malcolm

Committee

Dr		Stokoe	Mr	Benjanum	Birch
Mr	R	Bell	Mr	Joseph	Smith
Mr	T. A.	Wilson	Mr	George	Smith
Mr	Joseph	Crisp	Mr	James	Wood
Mr	T. G.	Mabane	Mr.	Mark	McQueen
Mr	T.	Houlsby	Mr	Robert	Wells

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

AUGUST 11TH 1869

Present Messrs Stevenson (Chairman)

W Cay, T G Mabane, T A Wilson, T Houslby, J Wood, R Bell, Joseph Smith, W Wright, N Riddle, Mark McQueen, B Birch & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by W Cay, that the old House committee be re appointed with the addition of Mr Birch with full powers to do what is necessary to repair and paint the Watch House.

The meeting afterwards adjourned to the Watch House where Mr Stevenson presented Geo. Heron sen with a Parchment Certificate received from the Royal Humane Society for his exertions in saving the crew of a Salmon boat capsized on the beach.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

OCTOBER 20TH 1869

Present Messrs W Cay (Chairman)

T A Wilson, R Bell, James Wood, Mark McQueen, N Riddle, B Birch, R Wells, A Stevenson & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Wood

That the following a/cs be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
Robert Bell (For new block)		10	6
Wright & Son		19	00
Jennings	1	7	00
Gazette		12	6
Yorke	2	18	00
Youngs Paraffin Oil		12	1
Daily News		13	00
Crip & Hails	10	6	3

Proposed by Mr McQueen seconded by Mr Bell

That the Secretary write to the Board of Trade respecting the enrolment of the Members as Special Constables to preserve order and protect property.

Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by Mr Bell, That the Captains be instructed to draw up a modified draft of the Board of Trade instructions for the use of Members at Drills.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Stevenson that it be an understood thing that the officer on duty at the Watch House should appoint the men who intend remaining during the night to their various posts in order to prevent confusion in case of shipwreck and also that during the evenings opportunity be taken to give the men instruction in their various duties.

Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by Mr Bell. That Mr Wilson be authorised on behalf of the Committee to summons William Purvis, Pearson Street, for unruly behaviour in the Watch House on the morning of October 17th 1869.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Birch that the request of Mrs Tullock Publican East King St, to have a subscription box in her parlour for the benefit of the Brigade be granted

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

NOVEMBER 29TH 1869

Present Messrs T G Mabane (Chairman) Quick, Wilson, Geo. Smith, J Wood, Jos Smith, McQueen, Stevenson, Riddle, Bell, Birch, Houlby, Wells, Crisp, M Cay & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Stevenson, That in the opinion of this Meeting a New Rocket House should be placed at Man Haven nearer the coast than the present Coastguard Station The Committee is also of opinion that a Cart would be of very little use to the South Shields Brigade.

A letter was read from Dr Crease offering his services as honorary surgeon to the Brigade in the room of the late Dr Stokoe on the motion of Mr Malcolm seconded by Mr Bell. Dr Crease of South Shields was appointed to the above vacancy until the next Annual Meeting of Members.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JANUARY 12TH 1870

Present Capt W Cay (Chairman) Capt Wright, Riddle, Wilson, Joseph Smith, B Birch, Geo Smith, Wells, Bell, McQueen, Mabane, Wood, Mr Quick, & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Capt Riddle That Members who made themselves efficient last year be provided with a Guernsey Frock and that such become their property on making themselves efficient, during the year ending June 30/ 6 70. Failing these conditions the Frock to be delivered up to the Captains of the Division the Member belongs to.

Proposed by Capt Riddle seconded by Mr Mabane That all matters relating to the procuring of the Guernseys be left to the Secretary.

Proposed by Capt Wright seconded by M McQueen That £150 additional be insured on the Watch House.

Proposed by Mr Geo Smith seconded by Capt Wright That Mr Ayr be summoned before the committee at its next meeting to answer for insolent language used in the Watch House.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JANUARY 31ST 1870

Present Capt M Cay (Chairman) Capt N Riddle, Joseph Smith, J Crisp, McQueen, Wood, Wells, Bell, Mabane, Geo Smith, Birch, Houslby, Wilson & the Secretary.

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Wood
That Mr Halls account £7 5 1 be paid.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Capt Riddle
That a Testimonial be presented to Capt W Wright by the Members of the Brigade on the occasion of his leaving the town for Sulind.

Proposed by Mr Crisp seconded by Mr Birch
That Messes Wilson, Riddle, Mabane & the Secretary be appointed a Testimonial Committee with power to add to the number.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

FRIDAY FEB 25TH 1870

Present A Stevenson (Chairman) Wilson, Wells, Bell, Geo Smith, Quick, Birch, Wood, Riddle, S Houlby, M Cay & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Wood
That Jennings Bill £1 13 be paid.

The Committee met to receive a report from the sub committee appointed to get up a Testimonial to Capt Wright who is leaving the Brigade and also the town for Sulind.

The Sub Committee reported having purchased a handsome gold Albert which was shown and gave general satisfaction. A General Meeting of the Members was held the same evening when Mr Stevenson in suitable terms presented the Testimonials to Capt W on behalf of the subscribers.

It was also arranged to have a supper in connection therewith on Monday March 7th 1870 at 8pm tickets 1/- each.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MAY 2ND 1870

Present Mr Mabane (Chairman)

Capt M Cay jun, N Riddle , Geo Smith , R Bell, J Wood, McQueen, T Houslby, Birch, Wilson, Joseph Smith, Quick & the Secretary.

Proposed by Capt Riddle seconded by Mr Bell

That Mr Ayr be cautioned against using hasty expressions in the Watch House and that he apologize to Capt M Cay for his insolent language which he did at the Meeting.

Proposed by Capt M Cay seconded by Mr Bell

That all advertisements and communications with the daily papers be left in the hands of the Secretary and that the advertisement a\cs relating to anniversary services." be returned to the respective newspapers.

Proposed by Mr McQueen seconded by Mr Geo Smith That the standing order relating to the admission of Members be suspended.

Proposed by Mr Malcolm seconded by Mr Bell That Mr Liscombe late a Coastguard in connection with the Brigade be admitted as an ordinary member.

Proposed by Capt Cay seconded by Mr Quick That the standing order relating to the admission of members be resumed.

A report having been brought before the committee as to some disorderly conduct in the Watch House it was proposed by Capt Cay and seconded by Mr Mabane, that the Secretary be requested to write to Mrs Tullock exonerating her from all blame in the matter.

The new insurance policy on Watch House for £400 was produced by the Secretary and the Premium 26/- ordered to be paid.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

MAY 16TH 1870

Present Capt M Cay (Chairman)

Capt Riddle, Birch, Bell, Jos Smith, McQueen, Wood, Mabane, Houslby, Geo Smith & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Birch That Guernsey Frocks be given out to those Members who make themselves efficient this year and that it becomes their property on becoming efficient next year.

Proposed by Mr Wood seconded by Joseph Smith That the Guernsey a/c £24 17 3 be paid.

Proposed by Mr Malcolm seconded by Mr Wood That the Guernseys be issued to the 52 members who have attended most drills this year on condition that each member brings his belt to the Secretary and signs a receipt complying with resolution of the Committee.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JUNE 29TH 1870

Present: Messrs Stevenson (Chairman) Joseph Smith, Wilson, Bell, Birch, Houslby, Wood, Riddle, W Cay, McQueen, Geo Smith, Quick and the Secretary.

The Secretary reported having ordered another 50 Guernseys also having received a grant of £20 from the Board of Trade which had been sent for Mr R Bell for his improvements in the Travelling Block.

Proposed by Mr Cottew seconded by Mr Bell
That all the outstanding a/c's be paid

Vendor	£	S	D
Crisp & Hails	4	0	9
Wright & Son	3	2	00
I. J Hall		15	00
Learmount	2	10	00
Counsellor		12	6
Mechanics Institute		7	00

Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by Capt Riddle That the Annual Meeting be held in the Watch House on Thursday July 7th at 7.30 p.m. and that all arrangements be left in the hands of the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Cottew seconded by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Cottew that no person be allowed to take out of the Watch house any books belonging the Library.

The Secretary submitted the General Report which with slight modifications was approved of.

MINUTES OF 4TH ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 7TH 1870

Mr Ald Glover in the chair

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Bell That the Minutes of last Annual Meeting as read by the secretary be confirmed.

The Secretary & Treasurers Reports were read and adopted and ordered to be printed and circulated among the Members.

Proposed by Mr Malcolm seconded by Mr McQueen and supported by Mr Wilson That Dr Crease be the Honorary Surgeon for the ensuring year.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Secretary and Treasurer and also to Mr Thompson of Newcastle for his kindness in providing 50 volumes for the Library.

Officers

Captains

Mr W Cay
Mr M Cay Jnr
Mr N Riddle
Mr J. Cottew

Deputy Captains

Mr T. Houlsby
Mr B Birch
Mr T. A. Wilson
Mr R. Bell

Secretary S Malcolm,
Treasurer A Stevenson
Surgeon Dr Crease

Committee

T.
T. A.
T. G.
Jas

Houlsby
Wilson
Mabane
Wood

Robert
B
J

Bell
Birch
Crisp

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

AUGUST 30TH 1870

Present Messrs J Smith (Chairman)

Quick, Wilson, Bell, Wood, White, Houlby, Riddle, Birch, Crease, Geo Smith, McQueen, Mabane, M Cay & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr G Smith seconded by Mr Wood That the following accounts be paid.

Vendor	Description	£	S	D
Tippets & Son	For Guernsey's	17	3	3
Gazette			2	00
Daily News				9
Mabane	For Music at Annual Meeting	1		6

Proposed by Mr Riddle seconded by Mr Wood

That Messrs Wilson, Birch and Houlby be a sub committee to keep the Watch House in order.

Proposed by Mr Wilson, seconded by Mr G Smith

That private draws be provided in the inner room for the Captains and Secretary.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

OCTOBER 25TH 1870

Present T A Wilson (Chairman) Quick, J Smith, Bell, McQueen, Wood, Riddle, Birch, Houlsby, White, Dr Crease, Geo Smith & the Secretary.

It having been reported to the Committee that the firing of the Signal Guns from HMS "Castor" had been discontinued it was proposed by Mr Bell seconded by Mr White That the Secretary be empowered to ascertain the reason why such alteration had taken place.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Houlsby that 4 small moveable tables be provided for the use of the Watch House.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

DECEMBER 29TH 1870

Present A Stevenson (Chairman)

W Cay, M Cay, N Riddle, Quick, Wood, McQueen, Birch, White, Houlsby, Wilson & the Secretary.

The Secretary read the correspondence he had with the Captain of the "Castor" and the Board of Trade respecting the discontinuance of the Firing of the signal guns. The result of which was that the Guns have to be fired as usual.

Proposed by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Wood
That the following accounts be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
J. S. Hall	1	10	6
Crisp & Hails	2	11	3
Jennings	1	4	00
Richardson		15	10
Wright	1	19	00

Except Harwood & Fairless account about which Mr Birch & the Secretary were instructed arrange. Harwood £8 15

It was also suggested that the Secretary endeavour to arrange with the Lifeboat Trustees respecting the erection of a Mast for the Signal Lamps. Also to get a grant of a chest of clothes from the same parties to be kept in the Watch House.

Also to get the Tyne Commissions to fix sockets for lamps on the Gear Van.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MARCH 28TH 1871

Present Capt. Riddle (Chairman)

Messrs T A Wilson, Jos Smith, Wood, White, Houslby, McQueen, Mabane, Stevenson, Birch, Birch, Bell, Dr Crease & the Secretary.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Mabane That the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed except that part referring to the Mast for Signal Lamps.

Moved by Mr Stevenson seconded by Mr Mabane That the Superintendents of the Lifeboats be requested to apply to the Lifeboat Trustees with regard to the Mast for Signal Lamps and the Life Brigade Committee will be very glad to carry out any arrangements they may suggest.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Wood that the following accounts be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
Gazette	1	2	6
Daily News		12	8
Learmont		17	6
Wright & Son	1	1	00

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Birch

That a Concert on behalf of the funds of the Brigade and that the following be a sub committee with power to add to the number to make all necessary arrangements and report to the General Committee viz Messrs Riddle, Bell, Birch, McQueen, White & Wilson Wood.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded Mr Bell

That Messrs Thurnburn & Bullock be requested to allow subscription boxes to be placed in their offices at Tyne Dock.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Houslby

That the outside of the Watch House be painted and that the Secretary advertise for Tenders.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Stevenson That the Secretary be requested to write to Mrs Ayr and ask her to return the Guernsey and belt belonging to her late husband.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

APRIL 14TH 1871

Present Capt M Cay (Chairman) Messrs Riddle, Cottew, White, Birch, McQueen, Houslby, Mabane, Wood, Wilson, Bell, Crisp, W Cay & the Secretary.

The Concert Committee reported that the N E F Glee Club had promised their services and Messrs Harris and Meller had offered the use of the Theatre Royal.

Mr Wilson proposed & Mr Wood seconded
That the above kind offers be accepted and that the Concert be held on Tuesday 25th inst.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr W Cay That M Nicholson have the printing of the large bills.

Proposed by Mr Crisp seconded by Mr Riddle
That all details in connection with the arrangements for the concert be left in the hands of the sub committee appointed at the last meeting.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Riddle That unless Mrs Ayr returns the Guernsey and belt within a week Mr Mabane be instructed to take Proceedings against her.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MAY 15 1871

Present Dr Crease (Chairman) Wilson, Quick, Wood, Houlsby, McQueen, White, Riddle, Birch & the Secretary.

The Secretary reported that the nett proceeds from the concert given by the North Eastern Foundry Glee Club amounted to £34 11 7 and that Mrs Ayr had given up the Guernsey and belt used by her late husband.

Tenders were received for painting and varnishing the Watch House from:

Alex Birch £26 16,

Gailbutt & Jameson £15 10

and from B Birch for pointing all the joints in the woodwork inside and out where necessary, cleaning the House and superintending the job generally for 36/-.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by M Malcolm

That Garbutt & Jameson & B Birch tenders be accepted.

Proposed by Mr McQueen seconded Mr Wood that Mr Riddle be appointed to inspect all books that require binding and to get them bound if he thinks it prudent.

Proposed by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr White

That a boat be provided for saving life and that Mr Birch be requested to provide an estimate.

Mr Wilson gave notice that at the Annual Meeting he would move that members who stop on Duty at Watch House from 10 o'clock at night till 3 in the morning be entitled to a Drill.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 5TH 1871

Present Capt W Cay (Chairman)
Messrs Cottew, M Cay, Quick, Wood, White, McQueen, Wilson, Bell, Birch, Mabane & the
Secretary.

Proposed by Capt W Cay seconded by Mr Bell
That the question of providing a boat be postponed until this day 6 months.

It was also resolved that the Minutes of the last meeting be confirmed except the last 2
resolutions.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr M Cay that the following a/c's be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
Rent of Committee Room			
Dixon & Wood		10	00
J. L. Hall	1	1	4 1/2
Counsellor		7	6
Nicholson		5	00
Wright	1	00	00
Leamomnt	1	1	6
Crisp & Hails	1	1	4
Coulson		9	10

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr M Cay That the necessary printing be done by M
Nicholson Barrington St.

The Secretary read a draft of the General Report which was adopted on the motion of Mr Mabane
seconded by Mr Bell.

The Secretary also reported that Mr A Stevenson had promised to give the members a Supper
after the Annual Meeting.

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 13TH 1871

Ald. Glover in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Ridley
That the Secretarys Report be adopted.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Bell
That the Treasurers Report be adopted.
Both reports to be printed and circulated amongst the Members.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by W Riddle
That it be suggested to the Board or Trade that Members who attend the Watch House from 10pm to 3 am should have it counted as a Drill.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr White That Dr Crease be appointed Honorary Surgeon for ensuring year.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Scrutineers and officers of the Institution.

It was also arranged that at next Annual Meeting the Scrutineers were to be chosen from among Strangers present and unconnected with the Brigade.

Officers Elected

Captains			Deputy Captains		Division
Mr.	William	Cay	Mr.	T Houlby	1st
Mr.	Matthew	Cay	Mr	R Bell	2nd
Mr.	N	Riddle	Mr.	B Birch	3rd
Mr	T. G.	Mabane	Mr.	James Wood	4th

Committee

Mr.	I. T.	White	Mr.	Thomas	Houlby
Mr	R	Bell	Mr	M.	MaQueen
Mr.	J.	Wood	Mr.	Jos.	Hopper
Mr.	B	Birch	Mr.	S	Cottew
Mr	T. A.	Wilson	Mr.	J	Clark
Mr.	Jos.	Smith	Mr.	I	Ross

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

AUGUST 1ST 1871

Present Capt. W Cay (Chairman)

Messrs Birch, Riddle, Dr Crease, Hopper, Clarke, Wood, White, McQueen, Cottew and the Secretary.

Proposed by Mr Cay seconded by M Malcolm that the Old House Committee be re appointed.

Moved by Mr Riddle seconded by Mr Wood That the offer of the North and South Shields Dramatic Club to give a Benefit to Messrs Harris and Mellor be under the patronage of the Life Brigade.

Proposed by Mr Cay seconded by Mr Clarke

That the sub committee of the Glee Club Concert be re appointed to carry out the arrangements for the above Benefit.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

AUGUST 29TH 1871

Present Messrs A Stevenson (Chairman)

Houlsby, Clark, Bell, Dr Crease, M Cay, W Cay, Cottew, Smith, Wood, Hopper, Ross, McQueen, Riddle, Birch, White & secretary, Mabane, Wilson.

Minutes of previous Meeting were read and passed.

Mr Wilson reported that at the suggestion of Dr Crease the house committee had provided an iron bedstead for the use of persons having broken limbs. The action of the sub committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Malcolm seconded by Mr Bell.

The following Gentlemen were then elected Members of the Brigade.

B Heron	17 votes	Wm Oates	12
J Pollard	17	W Findlay	11
P H Moore	17	B Joseph	10
W H Price	16	Thos Edmond	10
Thos Pike	15	T G Hunter	9
Jno Marshall	13		

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INST.

OCT 23RD 1871

Present W Cay (Chairman)

Riddle, Hopper, Wood, McQueen, Ross, Mabane, Smith, Quick, Birch, T A Wilson and the Secretary.

Moved by Mr Mabane, seconded by Mr Wilson that the following a\cs be passed.

Jennings 5/4

Daily News 5/4

Moved by Mr McQueen seconded by Mr Hopper

That the Board of Trade letter thanking the members for their attendance during the past year be copied and posted up in the Watch House.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

DECEMBER 4TH 1871

Present A Stevenson (Chairman)

Quick, Cottew, Riddle, Bell, Wood, Houslby, McQueen, Hopper, Birch, Wilson, W Cay, Dr Crease, M Cay, Mabane, Ross, Hopper, and the Secretary. White

Proposed by Mr Wilson, seconded by Capt. W Cay

That the following accounts be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
Jennings		4	81/2
Gazette		9	6
Crisp & Hails	2	10	9
Wright & Son	1	1	00

Proposed by Mr Cottew seconded by Mr Mabane

That 6 lines with Lifebuoys attached be provided.

Proposed by Dr Crease seconded by Capt M Cay

That 2 canvas stretchers and 3 Tin Foot warmers be provided.

Dr Crease stated that it was highly necessary that some of the Members should be educated as to the proper mode of treating apparently drowned persons and he would be very glad to give the necessary instructions. It was agreed that the Captains and their Deputies should get the names of such members who wish to be so instructed.

Proposed by Mr Stevenson seconded by Mr Cottew That the Deputy Captain wear white Sou'westers.

It was also arranged that the next Drill be held on Saturday the 9th inst at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

FEBRUARY 5TH 1872

Present Capt W Cay (chair) Capt M Cay & Mabane Messrs Wilson, Birch, White, Ross, McQueen, Hopper, Houlsby, Smith, Quick, Bell, Wood

Proposed by Mr Hopper seconded by Mr White That the Minutes of the last Meeting be confirmed

Proposed by Mr Ross seconded by Mr McQueen

That the following a/cs be paid

Fire Insurance	26/-
Nicholson	17/-
Yorke	39/-
Counsellor	4/6

The Secretary reported having received £25 from the Board of Trade in the last year and £5 from Messrs Lee, Son & Co Rochester

Proposed by Mr Ross seconded by Mr Wood

That each Member who has made himself efficient for the last 3 years be presented with a pair of trousers to be worn at Drills & Shipwrecks

An amendment was proposed and carried that the matter lie over for a short while it being understood that any Member of the Committee having any scheme for the disposal of the surplus Funds must come prepared to the next meeting with the probable cost of carrying out his idea.

Mr Wilson reported that he had provided for the Watch House a Royal Coat of Arms and asked permission to have it placed over the outside door.

Proposed by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Wood

That it be accepted and agreed to.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MARCH 6TH 1872

Present Capt T G Mabane (chair) Wilson, Hopper, Wood,, McQueen, Houslby, Quick, Birch, Bell White, Smith, Ross & the Secretary.

Proposed by Mabane seconded by Wood
That the minutes be confirmed.

Proposed by Wilson sec by McQueen
That Robsons a\c 15/- for stretcher handles be paid.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr Parry of the Theatre Royal asking the Patronage of the Brigade for his Benefit.

Proposed by the Secretary seconded by McQueen
That the application be respectfully declined.

Proposed by Mr Wood seconded by the Secretary
That each member who has made himself efficient for the three years ending June 30th 1871 be presented with a pair of blue pilot cloth trousers from the Funds of the Brigade to be worn at Drills & Shipwrecks.

Proposed as an amendment by Mr Birch Seconded by Houslby
That a full suit of oil skins and a pair of light trousers be provided instead.

The motion was carried only 3 voting for the amendment.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Wood
That advertisements be issued asking for Tenders for supplying 60 pairs of blue pilot cloth trousers.
The committee to meet again on Thursday 14th inst.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN MECHANICS INSTITUTE

MARCH 14TH 1872

Present Captain Mabane (chair)
Capt W Cay & M Cay, Messrs Cottew, Birch, Wood, Hopper, Bell, Ross, White, Wilson, Dr
Crease & the Secretary.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

Proposed by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Wood
That in the future no orders be given for any article or repairs to the House unless the same is
sanctioned by a majority of the House Committee each member having previous notice.

Proposed by Mr Ross seconded by Mr Wood
That Mr Halls a/c £3 1 9 be paid.

The Secretary reported having received several Tenders for trousers. On the motion of Mr
Wilson seconded by Captain M Cay the following sub committee was appointed to examine
the same and fix who has had to have the contract viz
Messrs Mabane, W Cay, Birch, Captain Bell & the secretary.

The Sub committee met in Messrs Cay Brothers office on Saturday March 16th 1872

After a most careful examination of the Tenders and samples of cloth it was resolved that the
contract for trousers be given to Messrs Smith & Co East King Street at 18/- per pair.

It was also resolved that the Sec. provide an Order Book be printed and orders issued to
Members entitled to trousers countersigned by the Captains of Divisions & the Secretary.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JUNE 6TH 1872

Present Messrs Mabane (chairman) M Cay, Wilson, Ross, Wood, Hopper, White, Bell, Birch, Houslby, Dr Crease & the Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The following a/cs were passed

Crisp & Hails 104

Gazette 86

The Secretary read a letter from Mr Rogers challenging the Brigade to a competition on the Town Moor Newcastle with his Apparatus. It was resolved that the Secretary write declining the invitation on the motion of Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Wood.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr White

That Mr Smith be granted the use of the Guernseys in the Watch House to be worn by the Pilots at the launch of the New Lifeboat on Saturday next.

Tom Perry

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JUNE 28TH 1872

Present Messrs Mabane (chair)

McQueen, Birch, Smith, Crease, Wilson, White, Ross, Wood, Hopper, Cottew, Quick, Bell, White and the Secretary

Moved by Mr White sec by Mr Wood

That the following a/cs be paid

Hall	2	12	3
Crisp & Hails	1	-	4
Counsellor	-	8	-
Jennings	-	2	2

Moved by Mr Wilson sec by Mr Wood

That Thursday July 11th 1872 be appointed for the Annual Meeting at 7 30 p.m.

Resolved that the next drill be on Saturday July 20th at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

JULY 4TH 1872

Present Messrs M Cay (chair)

Ross, Birch, Quick, Smith, McQueen, Wilson, Wood, Hopper, Bell, Mabane, Houlsby, W Cay & the Secretary.

The minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

The Secretary read the Annual Reports which on the motion of Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Bell were adopted and appointed to be read at the Annual Meeting.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Smith

That the House committee be instructed to get the remainder of the top panes in the inner room made to open and a few more also in the large room.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr W Cay

That Dr Crease be asked to appoint a night to give a lecture to the members on the best means of restoring the apparently drowned.

The Committee then proceeded to take an inventory of the things in the Watch House.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 11TH 1872

Alderman Glover in the Chair.

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr White
That the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting as read by the Secretary be confirmed.

Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Bell
That the Treasurers Report be adopted.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Bell
That Dr Crease be Honorary Surgeon.

Votes of thanks were given to Mr Thompson for supplying the Chronicle for the last 2 years.
Also to Mr Anderson for coals.

A discussion arose as to the best means of recognizing the services of those members who attend most frequently at the Watch House during storms. Mr Thompson of Newcastle offered to give 6 silver medals to those who attend the best. Arrangements for which to be left with the Committee.

Proposed by M Cay sen. seconded by Mr Crisp
That a vote of thanks be given to the Captains & Committee for their services during the past year.

Officers for year ending June 30th 1873

Captains
W Cay
M Cay
T G Mabane
S Cottew

Deputy Captains
James Wood
J T White
Ben Birch
T Houlsby

Treasurer
A Stevenson
Secretary
S Malcolm

Surgeon
Dr Crease

Committee Attendance at Committee Meetings for year ending June 30/73

	August 19	Oct 7	Dec 27	Feb 27	June 7	- 30	Total
--	--------------	-------	--------	--------	--------	------	-------

T A Wilson	3 Wallis St							4
J T White	Pier Terrace							5
T Houlsby	4 Lawe Buildings							4
J Ross	10 Ivy St							4
J Hopper	22 Franklin St							6
J Wood	Dale St							6
Jos Smith	Coble Landing							
W Bavidge	Palmerston St							3
R Bell	Woodbine St							6
B Birch	4 Pilot St							6
M McQueen	6 Park St							5
T Potter	River Police Station							5
M Cay								
W Cay								
S Cottew								
T G Mabane								
Dr Crease								
A Stevenson								
W Quick								

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

AUGUST 19TH 1872

Capt. M Cay in the Chair

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed

Dr Crease related that it was of very great importance that the Members should thoroughly understand how to treat persons apparently drowned and kindly offered to meet the Committee at the Watch House on Tuesday evening Aug 27th and give them instruction in the matter.

Moved by the Secretary sec. by Mr Wood
That the old House Committee be re-appointed.

Some discussion took place relative to the offer of Mr Thompson of Newcastle to give 6 silver medals to members of the Brigade who should attend best at the Watch House. It was considered unadvisable to offer such an inducement to members to attend their duties and on the motion of Mr Bell sec. by Mr Wilson.
That the Secretary write to Mr Thompson explaining the feelings of the Committee and ask him to kindly withdraw his offer.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

OCT 7TH 1872

M Cay jun in the Chair

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Proposed by Mr M. Cay seconded by Mr Mabane
That Mr G D Halls a/c for altering windows in the Watch House be paid.

Proposed by Mr M Cay seconded by Mr Birch
That a vote of thanks be awarded to Dr Crease for his instructive lecture on the restoration of the apparently drowned with the request that he will repeat the same at his convince.

The Committee then proceeded to fill up the vacancies in the Brigade and as the result of a ballot the following gentleman were elected.

Mr Lowe 11	Mr Gillie 8
- Everson 10	- Cook 7
- Henderson 10	- Potts 7
- Spooner 10	
- Strachan 9	
- Armstrong 9	

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

DEC 27 1872

Capt. M Cay jun in the chair

Moved by Mr Mabane sec. by Mr Wood that
The following a/cs be paid.

Tyne Commissioners for ground rent of the Watch House (6 yrs) 12/-
" for repairs to Mast 10/2
Jennings 7/4 ½

Moved by Mr Potts seconded by Mr Wood
That the Captains M Cay jun, Mabane and the Secretary be a sub committee to arrange a
Notice in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Act so as to prevent the Public obstructing
the operations of the Brigade at a Shipwreck.

Mr Thompson of the Marine Hotel very kindly offered to give the Members a Supper. It was
moved by Mr Wilson sec. by Mr McQueen that Messrs Cay, Mabane & the Secretary call at Mr
Thompsons tonight to arrange with him as to the most suitable night to have it.
Moved by Mr Mabane sec by Mr Wood

That Messrs White, Wood, Hopper, Birch, Potter & Pollard be a subcommittee to carry out the
arrangements

The Secretary reported that a 3rd Coastguard had been placed on the Station and on the
motion of Mr White sec. by Mr Wood It was agreed that he be paid for attending the Drill the
same as the other Coastguard men.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

FEB 27TH 1873

Capt Mabane in the Chair.

Proposed by Capt M Cay sec by Mr Wilson

That the Secretary be empowered to engage a woman to clean the House twice a week and that she be paid monthly at the rate of £7 10 per annum. The engagement to terminate at a months' notice on either side.

Proposed by M Cay seconded by Mr Wilson

That a new lock be put on the outside door furnished with 12 keys and that the Captains and House Committee be each furnished with one.

Proposed by Mr Porter seconded by Mr White

That the following a\cs be paid,
Hall 9/-, Jennings 4/5, Gazette 14/6,
Nicholson 19/-, and Coulson 6/-.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JUNE 11TH 1873

Mr Bell in the Chair

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Proposed by Mr Wood seconded by Mr McQueen

That Messrs Garbut and Jameson tender (£17 10s) for painting the Mast and painting and varnishing the Watch House be accepted.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr White

That the clothing in the Watch House be replaced where necessary and that Messrs Wilson, McQueen and Birch be a sub committee to carry it out.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 9TH 1873

The Mayor Ald. Glover in the chair

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and confirmed. Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Johnson.

Moved by Mr Potts seconded by Mr McQueen
That the Secretary's report be adopted.

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Wilson
That the Treasurers report be adopted and that both reports be printed and circulated.

Moved by Captain W Cay seconded by Captain Cottew
That a vote of thanks be given to Dr Crease for his services during the past year and that he be re adopted Honorary Surgeon.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Ross
That a vote of thanks be given to Mr C W Anderson for gratuitously supplying the Watch House with Coals.

A vote of thanks was also given to Mr Thompson for supplying the Weekly & Daily Chronicle.

Officers Elected

Captains

Mathew Cay 59
William Cay 58
S Cottew 56
T G Mabane 55

Deputy Captains

Thomas Houlsby 49
J T White 47
James Wood 45
Robt Bell 29

Treasurer

A Stevenson

Secretary

S Malcolm

Committee	
T A Wilson	56
J T White	47
T Houlsby	45
Jas Wood	44
Thos potter	43
Robt Bell	42

Joseph Hopper	40
James Ross	38
M McQueen	36
W A Bavidge	34
Robt Hobson	34
D Frazer	25

Committee

		July 19	Aug 13	Oct 10	Dec 4	Feb 20	June 29	
T A Wilson	3 Wallis St							5
J T White	3 Ocean Terrace Ocean Road							6
T Houlsby	4 Lawe Buildings							6
Jas Wood	46 Alma St							6
Thos Potter	River Police Station							4
Robt Bell	Woodbine St							5
Joseph Hopper	Franklin St							4
James Ross	39 Cuthbert St							2
M McQueen	6 Park St							5
W A Bavidge	54 Palmerston St							5
Robt Hobson	31 Eleanor St							5
D Frazer	9 Dale St							6
M Cay	Winchester St							4
W Cay	Charlotte Terrace							2
S Cottew	East Winchester St							1
T G Mabane	Winchester St							4
Dr Crease	East King St							1
A Stevenson	Wellington House							1
D W Quick Wheaton	Tynemouth							2

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 19TH 1873

Captain W Cay in the chair

Proposed by M Potter Seconded by Mr Bavidge

That Messes Wilson, Houlsby, Bell, Stevenson & the Secretary be the House Committee for the ensuing year.

Proposed by M Bell seconded by Mr Potter

That candidates wishing to become Members must send in a written application to the Secretary signed by 2 members. The Candidate agreeing at the same time to conform to the Rules of the Brigade if elected and that he see one of the Captains before sending it in.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

AUGUST 13TH 1873

Captain Mabane in the Chair

Moved by Mr White seconded Mr Frazer that the following Candidates be elected Members viz.

William Wood,
John Heddle
Robert French,
John James Peacock
John Robertson,
Alfred Richardson
John Gardiner,
Henry Whitelaw
Robert I Atley,
George Scrafton.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Hobson
That Messes Well's a/c of 1/6 for repairing trousers be paid.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

OCT 10TH 1873

Captain Mabane in the chair

Proposed by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Wilson
That the following Candidates be elected members.

Joseph Heslop,
W M Ede
Joseph Nixon,
John Short
Robert Beck,
William Burn
John Burn,
William Johnson
John Barnett

Mr Wyle's a/c 8/3 for repairing roof was passed.

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Wood

That a notice be posted up in the Watch House requesting the members to wear them Belts, Guernseys & Trousers at drill and failing to do so their attendance not to be marked in the Roll Book.

It was resolved that the Captain endeavour to get in the Belts that have been used by members struck off the Roll.

The Secretary was also requested to bring his shooting cap to the next meeting for the inspection of the committee with a view to providing some for the Brigade.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

DEC 4TH 1874

Mr Bell in the chair

Proposed by Mr M Cay seconded by M Wood
That the style of cap shown by the Secretary be adopted for the Brigade.

Proposed as an Amendment by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Houlsby That Mr Wilson's Cap be adopted. The original motion was carried.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr McQueen
That the caps be of the lightest drab colour and the letters V L B be woven in the front if not too expensive.

The Secretary reported having received £7 10 as the Annual Grant from the Board of Trade on the motion of Mr Wilson seconded by Mr M Cay it was resolved to send the money back. The Secretary writing previously to Mr Gray to enquire if there had been a mistake made in the amount.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Potter
That Mr Bell be empowered to alter the Belt buckles.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY BUILDINGS

FEB 20TH 1874

Captain M Cay Jun in the chair

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr White That the Sample Storm Cap light drab colour be adopted with the letters VLB and Divisional Number worked in red on the front and that 100 be ordered from M Cooke of Newcastle at 5/- each.

It was also moved that the Secretary call a meeting of the Members for next Tuesday in the Watch House at 7 pm to be measured for storm caps.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

29 JUNE 1874

Captain W Cay (Chairman)

Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Bavidge

That the following accounts be paid.

Smith & Co 3 12

Crisp & Hails 2 8 9

H A Yorke 2 5

I S Hall 9 1

Wright and Son 2 4

R Bell 7 4

Free Library 5

Counsellor 18

Daily News 2 4

Shields Gazette 3

Cleaning Watch Ho 1 17 6

The Secretary stated that Mr Aynsley, photographer wished to have portrait of the Officers of the Brigade it was moved by Mr Stevenson seconded by Mr Bavidge that the next Drill day he appointed for the purpose.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Bell

That the Annual Meeting be held on Thursday July 9th 1874 and that the Secretary make the necessary preparations.

Mr A Stevenson kindly renewed his offer to provide a Supper for the Members as usual.

ANNUAL MEETING IN THE WATCH HOUSE

THURSDAY JULY 9TH 1874

The Mayor Ald Glover in the Chair.

Moved by Mr Jas Wood seconded by Mr Bavidge
That the minutes of the last Annual Meeting be confirmed.

Moved by Mr Riddle seconded by Mr Bell
That the Secretary's & Treasurer's Reports as read be adopted printed and circulated amongst the Members.

Moved by Captain M Cay seconded by Mr McQueen
That Dr Crease be the Honorary Surgeon for the ensuring year.

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by Mr J T White
That the thanks of the members be given to Treasurer and Secretary for their valuable services during the past year.

Moved by Mr Thompson Newcastle sec by Mr Jas Wood
That the hearty thanks of the meeting be given to Mr Thompson for supplying the Daily & Weekly Chronicle free.

Moved by Captain Mabane seconded by Mr Whitelaw
That a vote of thanks be given to Mr C W Anderson and the Hilda Coal Co for gratuitously supplying the Watch House with coals.

Officers Elected

Captains

W Cay

M Cay

S Cottew

T G Mabane

Deputy Captains

T Houlsby

J T White

R Bell

Jas Wood

Committee
T A Wilson
J T White
T Houlsby
Jas Wood
Thos Potts
R Bell

J Hopper
Jas. Ross
M McQueen
W A Bavidge
Robt Hobson
D Frazer

Attendances of Committee for year ending June 30th1875

Name	Address	Aug 12	Dec 11	April 13	June 28	July 15
T A Wilson	3 Wallis St					
J T White						
T Houlsby						
Jas Wood	46 Alma St					
T Potter						
Robt Bell						
Joseph Hopper	22 Franklin St					
James Ross						
M McQueen						
W A Bavidge						
Robt Hobson						
D Frazer						
W Cay						
M Cay						
S Cottew						
T G Mabane						
Dr Crease						

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

AUGUST 12TH 1874

Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Frazer
That Captain Whitelaw,
G Elsey
Thomas Simpson
be elected members of the Brigade.

Moved by Captain Mabane sec by Mr Wood
That the Secretary be empowered to procure an improved sample of buckle for the belts.

Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Hopper
That 25 New Guernseys be purchased by the Secretary.

Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Bavidge
That the Old House Committee be re-appointed.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

DEC 11TH 1874

Captain Mabane in the chair

Moved by Captain M Cay seconded by Mr Frazer

That the question of the purchase of New Belts lie over for the present.

Moved by Mr Hobson seconded by Mr Wilson

That the following a/cs be paid.

Tippets for Guernseys	14 19 2
Jennings	16 2
Gibb	8 8
Gazette	3
Free Library	2 6

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Wood

That the following gentlemen be admitted as members.

J C Cay

John Dixon

William Hardy

Moved by Captain Mabane seconded by Captain Cay

That the Secretary see Mr A Harrison respecting fresh signal lamps in connection with the Lifeboats and to have full power to do what is considered necessary.

The attention of the committee was drawn to a paragraph published in the Glasgow News relative to the conduct of the Brigade at the shipwreck of the Henry Cook. Moved by Captain Cay seconded by Mr Wood That the Secretary write to the editor of that paper respecting the matter.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Bavidge

That any Member entering the House in a state of intoxication be brought before the Committee and dealt with.

Note The members were entertained at Supper in the Watch House by the officers January 7th 1875.

NEW GUERNSEYS JOS HESLOP, GEO SCRAFTON (3)

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

APRIL 13TH 1875

Capt M Cay in the chair

The Following Candidates were elected Members of the Brigade

J Walter Buckland

George Gray

Philip S Wood

William Clarke

W Brierly P.C.

Ernest N Wright

H Nelson

Proposed by Capt Mabane sec by Mr White

That the Plans submitted by the Secretary for the extension of the Watch House be approved of and that the Secretary be empowered to take the necessary steps for carrying them out before next Winter.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

JUNE 28TH 1875

Capt Mabane in the chair

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter was read from the Tyne Commissioners granting a site at the So Pier for extending the Watch House.

Tenders for the necessary joinery and labour in enlarging the Watch House viz adding 18 feet to the present room and making a Look Out above from plans prepared by the Secretary were received and opened from ,

George Blackburn 127 12

James Frazer 105

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Wood

That Mr Frazer's tender be accepted.

The tender of Marshall Guest & Co for supplying the wood was also accepted.

It was also agreed to engage one of the Pier Inspections to act as Clerk of Works.

Moved by Mr Hobson seconded by Mr Wood

That Annual Meeting be held on Friday the 16th July and that the Secretary prepare the necessary voting papers etc.

The Secretary reported that the Treasurer Mr A Stevenson had kindly renewed his offer to give the usual supper on that occasion.

The Secretary reported that the Rev. Mr Cracknell had offered to give the Brigade a tea at the Tabernacle July 13th and on the motion of Captain W Cay seconded by Mr Wilson.

It was agreed to accept the kind offer that the Members appear in uniform and assemble in front of Charlotte Terrace at 6pm prompt.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY JULY

15TH 1875

Captain Cottew in the chair

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed

The Secretary read a letter from Commander Dawson R.N. thanking the committee on behalf of the "Missions to Seamen" for the gratuitous use of the Watch House for Sunday evening services.

The Secretary & Treasurer's reports for the year ended June 30 1875 were read and adopted for presentation at the Annual Meeting.

It was also agreed that Mr Wilson should procure 2 dozen new tin pannikins and that the next drill should take place on Saturday July 24th at 6pm.

MINUTES OF NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 16TH 1875

Ald. Glover in the Chair

Moved by Mr John Johnson 1st seconded by Mr Hopper That the minutes of last Annual Meeting be confirmed.

Moved by Mr James Wood seconded by Mr Bell

That the Secretary & Treasurer reports be adopted, printed and circulated.

Moved by Mabane seconded by Captain Cottew

That Dr Crease be Honorary Surgeon.

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by Mr White

That a vote of thanks be given to the Treasurer and Secretary for their valuable services during the past year.

Moved by Mr Jas Wood sec by Mr Bell

That a vote of thanks be given to the Rev Mr Cracknell for his kindness in entertaining the Members at tea in the Tabernacle July 13th 1875.

Moved by Captain Mabane seconded by Mr White

That votes of thanks be given to Mr Thompson for supplying the Newcastle Daily Chronicle, to Mr Davison for the Journal & The Harton Coal Co. for coals during the past year.

Moved by the Rev T H Chester seconded Reverend P H Mine

That a vote of thanks be given to the Chairman for presiding over the meeting.

Officers elected
Captains

Mr T G Mabane		53 votes
- W Cay		52
- M Cay		52
- S Cottew	49	

Treasurer

Mr A Stevenson		54
----------------	--	----

Secretary

Mr S Malcolm	54	
--------------	----	--

Deputy Captains

Mr James Wood		48 votes
“ J T White		47
“ R Bell		40
“ T Houlsby		40

Committee

Mr T A Wilson		48
Jas Wood		48
J T White		46
R Hobson		45
T Houlsby		45
T Potter		44
W A Bavidge		44
D Frazer		44
R Bell		44
Jos Hopper		40
Jas Ross		36
G R Potts		33

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

AUGUST 7TH 1875

Captain W Cay in the chair

The Secretary read a letter from Mr Isdale detailing particulars of the proposed Rocket Contest to be held at Douglas Isle of Man August 19th when the following resolution was adopted on the Motion of Capt Mabane seconded by Mr James Wood.

That a General Meeting of the members be called for Tuesday the 10th inst in the Watch House at 7.30 pm to take into consideration the proposed Rocket Contest at Douglas Isle of Man.

A general Meeting of the Members was held August 10th in accordance with the above resolution when it was unanimously decided that the Secretary write to the Isle of Man Committee respectfully declining the invitation.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

DECEMBER 3 1875

Captain Mabane chairman

The Secretary reported that the Extension to the Watch House was completed and that the Board of Trade had promised £200. As a further sum of £200 will be required to defray the cost it was resolved on the motion of

Capt Mabane seconded by Mr Wood

That an effort be made by the Officers and Committee to raise by public subscription the sum of £200 towards defraying the cost of extending the Watch House.

Moved by Captain M Cay seconded by Mr Hobson

That the following Candidates be elected.

I W Lawes

Thomas Walkins

Robert Purvis jun.

Moved by Mr Wilson sec. by Mr Hopper

That George Chandler be elected a member.

Moved by Capt. M Cay sec. by Mr Wood

That Messrs Stevenson, Malcolm, Housby, R Bell, Wilson and Hobson be the House Committee for the ensuing year.

Moved by Capt. M Cay sec. by Mr Wood

That the Sec have full power to settle with Mr Frazer the Contractor on the best terms possible for the Brigade.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

DEC 17 1875

Capt. W Cay in the chair

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Proposed by Capt. M Cay sec. by Mr Potts

That Mr J W Lambton and Mr R R Glover be elected members of the Brigade.

Mr Potter reported that Mr Siddall had offered to give the Brigade a benefit at the Alhambra.

It was proposed by Capt. Mabane sec. by Capt. M Cay

That the Secretary write to Siddall thanking him for his kind offer and that the Brigade would gladly accept it leaving him to fix the date to his own convenience.

Moved by Mr Potts sec. by Mr Hobson

That Tuesday December 28 be fixed for formally opening the enlarging of the Watch House and the arrangements be left in the hands of the officers.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

FEB 9 1876

Captain W Cay in the chair

The Secretary reported that Mr E B Railton Post Master had presented the Brigade a valuable telescope and had written to thanking him for his gift.

Mr Bell moved and seconded that

The Secretary take the necessary steps to have the Telescope mounted on a mahogany table and that a Brass plate with the name of the donor be fixed on it.

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Hopper

That a lock similar to the outside door be fixed on the door at the bottom of the Lookout Stairs and that it be kept locked except in stormy weather and that the door only be opened by those Officers who are in possession of keys. Captain W Cay was instructed to get the necessary to the so that the present door keys would fit it.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

JUNE 15TH 1876

Captain W Cay (chairman)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved by Mr M Cay sec by Mr W Cay,

That the telescope be mounted on a Table and Stand and that the offer of Mr Adams to supply the table at £4 4 and the offer of Mr Martin for the stand at £3 be accepted and that the Secretary provide a brass plate with the name of the donor of the telescope and have it fixed on the Table.

The Secretary read a letter from the Board of Trade requesting a Special Rocket Drill in the presence of Commander Pompen of the Brazilian Imperial Navy.

It was resolved that the request be acceded to. The time to be fixed to suit the convenience of the Commander Pompen.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

JULY 12TH 1876

Mr G R Potts (chairman)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Bell

That the Annual Meeting be held in the Watch House on Thursday July 27th 1876 and that the Secretary make the necessary preparations.

The Secretary reported that the Treasurer Mr A Stevenson had promised to give the members a supper as usual.

It was resolved that each member get 2 pint bottles of beer, one to be served out before and one after supper.

Proposed by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Bavidge

That Mr Robert Wells be paid 7/6 for extra work done during the enlargement of the Watch House.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

THURSDAY JULY 27TH 1876

Alderman Glover (Chairman)

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by Mr Frazer
That the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting as read be confirmed.

Moved by Mr James Wood seconded by Mr Whitelaw
That the Secretaries & Treasurers reports be adopted printed and circulated.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr W Potts
That Dr Crease be Honorary Surgeon for the ensuring year.

Moved by the Reverend R Glover Bristol seconded by Mr T A Wilson,
That a vote of thanks be given to the Treasurer and Secretary.

Moved by Mr W H Bell seconded by Mr John Robinson Willington Terrace,
That a vote of thanks be given to the Coastguard, Captains & Committee

Captains		Deputy Captains	
W Cay	68	James Wood	50
M Cay	67	J T White	49
T G Mabane	67	Robt Bell	45
S Cottew	66	B Birch	22
Officers			
Committee			
G R Potts	64	J Ross	48
T A Wilson	62	R Bell	46
R Hobson	57	W A Bavidge	45
J Wood	54	R Frazer	44
J T White	54	T Potter	37
J Hopper	52	H Richardson	24
Treasurer		Secretary	
A Stevenson	65	S Malcolm	66

Attendances at Committee Meetings Year ending June 30 1877

Name	Address	Sept 29	Dec 7	Dec 29	Feb 16	June 14	July 10	July 18
G R Potts	Lawe Buildings							5
T A Wilson	Albert Terrace							6
R Hobson	31 Eleanor St							5
James Wood	46 Alma St							6
J T White	8 Lawe Buildings							3
J Hopper	22 Franklin St							6
J Ross	39 Cuthbert St							5
R Bell	61 Woodbine St							5
W A Bavidge	Palmerston St							5
D Frazer	1 Dale St							5
T Potter	River Police Station							5
H Richardson	96 Denmark St (Cleveland St)							4
W Cay								6
M Cay								3
T G Mabane								5
S Cottew								2

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

SEPT 29 1876

Captain Mabane Chairman

Moved by M Wilson seconded by Captain Cay
That Messrs Wilson, Bell, Wood & Potts be the House Committee for the ensuring year.

Mr J W Short of the Pier Works was elected a Member of the Brigade.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

DEC 7TH 1876

Captain W Cay in the chair

Moved by Mr White seconded by Mr Hobson
That Mr W A Smith be elected a Member.

Moved by M Hopper seconded by Mr White
That Mr R S Buckland be elected a Member.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Potts
That the Reverend S Streeten be elected a member.

Moved by Mr Hobson sec by Mr Bell
That Mr J E Smith be elected a member

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Wilson
That in consequence of the conduct of Mr Mitcheson at the October drill he be reprimanded and told that a repetition would lead to his expulsion from the Brigade.

Moved by Mr Mabane seconded by Mr Wilson
That Messrs W Cay and S Malcolm be a deputation to wait upon the Pier Committee of the Tyne Commission to urge the necessity of a hand rail being fixed on the So Pier as a protection to the Members in stormy weather.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

DECEMBER 29TH 1876

Captain W Cay (Chairman)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The secretary read a report of the recent wrecks which was adopted for transmission to the Board of Trade.

Several applications for Membership were read
On the motion of Mr Mabane it was decided that the question of electing Members should stand adjourned.

Moved by Captain Mabane seconded by Captain Cottew
That a board be fixed outside the Watch House respectfully requesting the Public to keep outside during stormy weather.

Moved Captain Mabane seconded by Mr Potts
That a notice be fixed informing the Public of the liabilities incurred by any one interfering with the member of the Brigade in the performance of their duties.

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by Dr Crease
That the Secretary be requested to write to the Tyne Commissioners asking for gates to be erected so as to prevent people crowding in to the Pier during Stormy weather.

Moved by the Secretary by Mr Bavidge
That 12 small lifebuoys be provided with lines attached and that the matter be left in the hands of Captain W Cay.

Moved by Captain Mabane seconded by Captain Cottew
That the Captains and Secretary be a deputation to confer with Mr Messant with respect to the proposed Handrail on the So Pier recommending that the same should be placed 18 inches from the North Edge.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 16TH 1877

Capt W Cay in the chair

Various applications for Membership were considered and on the motion of Mr Hopper seconded by Mr Richardson the following were unanimously elected.

Mr John Wilson

Mr J W Woolmer

Mr Thomas Coulson

Mr W Moffett

The Secretary reported the receipt of "The Life of Thomas Edward" as a present from Mr R R Glover of London to the Brigade Library.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Richardson

That R R Glover Esq of London be elected an Honorary Member of the Brigade.

The following accounts were passed:

Shields Gazette	13 8	Free Library	10
Wright & Son	2 15 6	Hall Son	4 8
Crisp & Hails	6 14	Frazer	11 6
Smith & Bewick	1 16		
Guthrie	3 10		
Daily News	3		

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr Potts

That all the Members who were in the Brigade previous to June 1873 be entitled to a Guernsey and that six years must elapse before any of the above receive another.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

JUNE 14 1877

Captain W Cay in the chair

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Wood that the Secretary write a letter of condolence to Mrs Arch Stevenson expressing the sympathy of the Brigade on account of lamentable death of the Treasurer Mr Arch. Stevenson.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Richardson
That M Mabane be instructed to take proceedings against Mr Frazer for the recovery of the Secretary's Plans of the Brigade House.

Moved by Bavidge seconded by Mr Frazer
That the Plan submitted by the Secretary for an additional drying room and enclosing the Watch House with a railing be adopted and that the same be sent to the Tyne Commissioners for their approval and that the Sec have power to make any alterations that the Commissioners may suggest.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

JULY 10TH 1877

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The following accounts were passed:

Free Library	2/6
Smith & Bewick	6 6 0
Jennings	1 11 0

Moved by Mr Wilson sec. by Mr Bell

That the Annual Meeting be held on Thursday July 26th.

Moved by Dr Crease sec. by Mr Wood

That the question of a Supper at the Annual Meeting be left in the hands of the Officers.

Moved by Dr Crease sec. by Capt. Cottew

That the office of Treasurer having become vacant and the duties having been performed by the Secretary since the establishment of the Brigade in 1866, the committee unanimously recommended to the members at the Annual Meeting that both Offices be combined.

The following notice in accordance with Rule 15 was given by Capt. W Cay of the following alteration to Rule 3.

After the word "Corps" and that the duties of Treasurer and Secretary be combined.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

JULY 18 1877

Captain Cottew in the Chair

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary presented the Annual Reports which were approved of.

Moved by Mr Wood seconded by Mr Richardson

That the corner of the Watch House outside the staircase be temporarily boarded up.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 26TH 1877

Alderman Glover in the Chair

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by Mr Hopper that the Minutes of last Annual Meeting as read be confirmed.

Moved by the Mayor (M Staindon Esq) seconded by Mr I L Hall and supported by Reverend Mr Herdman that the Secretary & Treasurers Reports be adopted, printed and circulated amongst the members.

Moved by Captain w Cay seconded by Mr Wilson that Rule 3 be altered so that the duties of Secretary and Treasurer be combined.

Moved by Captain Mabane seconded by Captain Cottew that Dr Crease be re - appointed Honourary Surgeon.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Captain Mabane that a vote of thanks be given to the Harton Coal Company and Mr Charles Anderson for supplying the Watch House with Coals during the year.

Moved by Mr James Edgar seconded by Captain Johnson R.N. that a vote of thanks be given to the Secretary, Officers and Committee for their services during the past year.

Moved by Mr Bell seconded by Mr James Johnson that a vote of thanks be to Messes Thompson, Davidson & Lambton for supplying the Watch House with Daily Newspapers.

Moved by Capt. Cottew sec. by Capt. Mabane that a vote of thanks be given to the Tyne Commissioners for fixing the Railings along the Pier.

Moved by Mr Gray sec. by Mr Birch that a vote of thanks be given to the Coastguard

Officers for the Year ending June 30th 1878

Officers Elected

Captains			Deputy Captains		
Mr.	W.	Cay	Mr.		Bell
Mr.	M.	Cay	Mr.		Whitelaw
Mr.		Cottew	Mr.	Jas.	Wood
Mr		Mabane	Mr.		Birch

Secretary / Treasurer Mr S Malcolm

Surgeon Mr J H Crease

Committee

Mr.	Potts	Mr.	Bavidge
Mr.	Wilson	Mr.	Frazer
Mr.	Hobson	Mr.	Potter
Mr.	Hopper	Mr.	Richardson
Mr.	Ross	Mr.	Whitelaw
Mr.	Bell	Mr.	Watkins

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

AUGUST 15TH 1877

Mr Potts in the chair

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved by Mr Richardson sec. by Mr Potter taht messes Whitelaw , Wilson , Hobson, Potts and Belli be the House Committee for the ensuring year.

Moved by Mr Hopper sec. by Mr Wilson that Secretary provide 12 Keys for the watch House and that one be given to members of cmmittee.

Moved by Mr Wilson sec. by Mr Mabane that Mr Charles account of 21/- for a Photograph of the wrecks at the South Pier be paid.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

NOVEMBER 29TH 1877

Mr Whitelaw in the chair

Minutes of the last meeting were read and conformed.

Moved by Mr Potts sec. by Mr Baridge that the resolution respecting the issue of Guernseys be adhered to.

Moved by Mr Wilson sec. by Mr Potts that the thanks of the Committee be given to Capt. Mabane for his offer to have the names of the 12 most important ships wrecked carved on boards for fixing in the Watch House.

Moved by Mr Baridge sec. by Mr Richardson that the following accounts be paid.

Vendor	£	S	D
Harwood	2	19	10
Daily News		3	00
Gazette		7	4

Moved by Mr Bell sec. Mr Wilson that the old beer account for the Treasurers supper of July 1876 be paid 3 6 0

Moved by the secretary seconded by Mr Potts that messes Whitelaw, Watkins and Hart be a sub committee to provide

Snatch blocks for the new railings at the Pier.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

MONDAY JANUARY 1878

Capt. Mabane (Chairman)

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved by Capt. W Cay sec. by Mr Potter that the following accounts be paid:

Vendor	£	S	D
H. A. Yorke	2	6	00
Free Library		7	6
Smith & Bewicke		18	00
Tippetts	7	9	9

A letter was read from the River Tyne Commissioners granting permission to enclose the Watch House with Iron Railings and also to build an additional room subject to the usual conditions.

The Secretary reported that he had received a letter from the Board of Trade appointing him an Honorary Deputy Receiver of Wrecks and requesting that the committee would nominate another officer as his colleague for the purpose of suppressing disorder at shipwrecks. It was moved by Capt. M Cay, sec. by Capt. W Cay that Capt T G. Mabane be so nominated which was carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr Potter sec. by Mr Bell that a special meeting be called at an early date to fill up vacancies in the Brigade and that the candidates be summoned to be present.

11 December 1877

An application from Mr Malcolm on behalf of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade was read asking permission to place an Iron Railing around the watch house and also to add another room to the house.

It is recommended that permission be granted.

Source: Minutes from the Pier committee of 11th of December 1877.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE FREE LIBRARY

8TH OF FEBRUARY 1878

Dr. Crease (Chairman)

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

This was a special meeting for the election of Members to fill the Vacancies in the Brigade.

The following candidates were elected:

Wm. Wood 16

James Thompson 14

T Wightman 15

Geo. Stevenson 14

M Thompson 15

Henry Birch 14

W Thompson 14

Jms. Nichol 10

Mr Cottew (Chairman)

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JUNE 24TH 1878

The following accounts were passed:

Vendor	£	S	D
J. L. Hall		14	4
Fire Insurance	2	5	6
Jennings		3	8
Free Library		2	6
Coastguard		10	6
Smith & Berwicke		18	

The Secretary reported having received from Mrs Stevenson a portrait of the late Mr Stevenson which had been hung up in the Watch House.

Moved by Mr Wilson sec. by Mr Richardson that this meeting be adjourned to Thursday July 4th.

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

4TH OF JULY 1878

Captain M Cay (Chairman)

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by Mr. Bell

That the following accounts be paid

Vendor	£	S	D
Crisp and Hails	3	00	8
Counsellor		12	00
Wright & Son		11	6

Moved by Mr Bell seconded By Mr. Potts

That the revised report & financial statement as read by the Secretary be approved and adopted for presentation to the members at the Annual meeting

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by MR Potts

That the Plan for the new Drying Room as prepared by the Secretary be approved.

Moved by Mr Whitelaw seconded by Mr Potts

That the Drying Closet in the New Room be heated with hot water.

Moved by Mr Potts seconded by Mr Bell

That the tender of messes Dinning & Cooke to remove present bath and stove.

Provide a pine clothes horse, washbasins etc. as specified in their offer, be accepted.

Moved by Mr Wilson seconded by Mr Potts

That the dwarf wall round the Watch House be of concrete and the Iron railings similar to those in front of the Coastguards Houses

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded By Mr Whitelaw

That the Secretary write to the Tyne Commissioners asking them to continue the railings along the edge of the Pier further seawards.

The committee also sanctioned a memorial to be signed in the Watch House asking the Tyne Commissioners to provide a landing stage at the south pier.

12TH ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN THE WATCH HOUSE

JULY 18TH 1878

Alderman Glover in the chair.

Moved by Mr James Wood seconded by Mr Bell

That the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting as read be confirmed.

Moved by Mr James Wood seconded by Mr Coulson

That the Secretary & Treasures Report be adopted presented and circulated

Moved by Captain M Cay seconded by Mr Potter

That Dr. Crease be re-elected Honorary Surgeon of the Brigade

Moved by Captain Mabane seconded by Mr Whitelaw

That a vote of thanks be given to those gentlemen who supply the Watch House with Daily Papers.

Moved by Captain Cottew seconded by Mr Walkins

That a vote of thanks be given to the Harton Coals Co for supplying the Watch House with coals

Moved by Mr Coulson seconded by Mr Potter

That the best thanks of the meeting be given to Mr Mabane

For his present of the?

LETTERS

THE FOLLOWING ARE COPIES OF LETTERS AS DRAFTED BY MR SAMUEL MALCOLM THE HONORARY SECRETARY TO THE BRIGADE AS RECORDED WITHIN THE BACK OF MINUTE BOOK ONE.

TIMBER TO CONSTRUCT THE WATCH HOUSE

South Shields

May 29th 1867

Dear Sir

The Life Brigade Committee are very anxious to get the Timber a\c for the New Watch House settled, if you could favour us with it at an early date we shall feel much obliged. We are also desirous this summer of putting up an additional room for the reception of shipwrecked crews. Of course we should like it erected on the same terms as the Watch House. This may be asking too much of the Commission, if so, at any rate we should like you to be architect for this part of the building also. If you would kindly let me have your opinion on these points you will oblige.

Yours very truly

S Malcolm

P J Messant Esq.

Tynemouth

COLLECTION FROM THEATRE

9 Charlotte Terrace

June 18th 1867

Dear Sir,

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your note enclosing twelve shillings being the contents of the boxes you were pleased to place in the theatre for the benefit of the Funds of the So Shields Life Brigade.

On behalf of the Committee and myself I sincerely thank you for your kind consideration in so doing.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely

S Malcolm

A Reeve Esq,

Ogle Terrace

So Shields

THANK YOU NOTE TO P J MESSANT ESQ

P J Messant Esq

9 Charlotte Terrace

June 29th 1867

Dear Sir,

Enclosed is a cheque for £9.11.8 the amount due for materials supplied by you for the Life Brigade Watch House the receipt of which please acknowledge in due course.

Mr A Stevenson has promised to see the Pier Committee respecting the additional room and I now thank you for your offer to supply the necessary plans.

I have to draw up an annual report in a few days and I am very anxious to note in some way the kindness of yourself and the Commissioners in assisting us in our difficulties.

I have an impression however that the Commissioners will not care it to be made public that they have been spending money for the Brigade so that I propose in speaking of the House to say "That the Committee feels under a deep obligation to P J Messant Esq for his kindness in providing Plans, and sending valuable assistance during its construction or something to that effect. I thought I had better mention the matter to yourself and get your opinion on the matter.

Yours

S. Malcolm

LETTER REGARDING REPRESENTATION TO PIERS
COMMITTEE

South Shields

July 22nd 1867

My dear Mr Glover,

The life Brigade Committee will feel very much obliged if you would represent to the Piers Committee that they purpose putting a new room to the present Watch House on the South Pier, for the special accommodation of shipwrecked crews.

This would have been done while the present House was being constructed, had the funds allowed. After paying our debts we have a balance in hand and if the Piers Committee would kindly allow their men to do the labour as in the case of the Watch House, we hope to be able to raise sufficient money to pay for material and fittings. The proposed addition will not be very large say 1/3 of the present House.

Returns &

S Malcolm

Hon. Sec to

Life Brigade

T. Glover Esq.

LETTER TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY AT THE BOARD TRADE

South Shields

July 25th 1867

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Watch house of the So Shields Vol. Life Brigade is finished and in the terms of your letter (5056W) we are entitled to £25 granted by the Board of Trade.

Referring to your letter (M 227) requesting to be informed whether the Watch House will afford sufficient accommodation for shipwrecked crews, I beg to state it does not, and that we intend commencing immediately with an additional room specially fitted up with every requisite for shipwrecked mariners.

From the tenor of your letter I infer that the Board of Trade will be willing to render us further assistance.

To carry out our views will require an expenditure of about £80. From the annual statement which I enclose you will see the public have subscribed very liberally to the Fund which was in recognition of our services at the wrecks in January last and which has been spent in the manner set forth in the Treasurer's Account.

The Members, many of whom are poor have had hard work during the past Winter, and at the Annual Meeting it was resolved that the money received on account of wrecks, such be divided amongst those present at such wrecks to pay for loss of work and destruction of clothes.

The Annual Returns to June 30th 1867 were forwarded in due course to the Inspecting Committee of this district.

I am Sir

Yours very respectfully

S Malcolm

Hon Sect

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

Whitehall S.W.

LETTER REGARDING THE SAVING OF 2 MEN FROM A SMALL
BOAT AND MEDICAL CERTIFICATE FOR HENRY
STEPHENSON

South Shields Aug 6th 1867

Sir,

I take the liberty of bringing before the notice of the Board of Trade a very gallant and courageous action recently performed at the mouth of the Tyne.

The circumstances of the case are as follows:-

On the afternoon of July 28th 1867 a small boat containing 8 persons, was, owing to some mishap driven among the broken water of a heavy sea at the entrance of the above river. In consequence she was swamped and the occupants thrown among the boiling surf. A boat was speedily manned by 5 pilots, who at the imminent risk of their lives succeeded in rescuing 2 men who had clung to their boats bottom.

They also picked up a woman, but it was found on reaching the shore she was quite dead. Had it not been for the heroic conduct of these brave men the whole of the unfortunate people would have been drowned.

I enclose a medical certificate respecting Henry Stephenson, who in his eagerness to render assistance, fell among some rocks which threw back his hand, and split it open. The brave fellow nothing daunted got into the boat and managed with great skill to steer her on her dangerous errand.

I may state that this is only one among many like deeds that have been performed by the pilots of the Tyne and it would be a fitting opportunity of publicly recognising it, not only for the benefit of the men in question, but in letting their comrades and the public in this neighbourhood see that such deeds are appreciated by those in Authority.

I would respectfully suggest that this is a fitting case to be recommended to her Most Gracious Majesty as worthy of being granted the Albert medal and I have no hesitation in saying should such an honourable decoration be awarded it would have

a most beneficial effect in stimulating others to try and do likewise.

The names of the men are; Robt. Young, Thomas Brown, William Stephenson and Robert Tynemouth.

I am Sir,

Your obdt. Servant

S Malcolm Hon. Sec. S.S.V.L.B.

The Assistant Secy

Board of Trade

and

L. J. H. Young Esq

Royal Humane Society 3 Trafalgar Sq, W.C.

Copy of Medical Certificate

I hereby certify that Henry Stephenson Pilot and a member of the So. Sh. V.L.B. is unable at present to follow his employment in consequence of a lacerated wound of the right hand and a contusion of the knee joint caused by a fall on Sunday 28th July in rescuing the crew of a boat upset at sea.

Geo Stokoe M.D. &

Hon. Med. Officer to S.S.V.L.B.

South Shields

Aug 6th 1867

LETTERS TO PIER COMMISSIONERS REGARDING NEW
ROOM AND THIRD GUN AT SPANISH BATTERY

South Shields

August 24th 1867

Dear Sir,

The Piers Committee have declined rendering further assistance to the Life Brigade Committee in extending the Watch house. We would however take it as a favour if you could let us have sufficient rubble to level up the foundations of the proposed extension the Brigade paying all expenses against it.

Yours very truly

S. Malcolm

P J Messant Esq

August 24th 1867

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your note respecting the expenses of pricing the 3rd signal gun at the Spanish battery. Unfortunately we have had a Committee Meeting this week so that the settling of the point in question will be deferred for a month. With kind regards etc

S. Malcolm

J. T. Spence Esq

Tynemouth Life Brigade

REWARD TO THE 5 PILOTS FOR THEIR BRAVERY

So. Shields Sept. 19th 1867

Dear Sir,

I duly received your letter of yesterday's date and am glad to learn the money has arrived from the National Life Boat Institution for the 5 So. Shields Pilots who rendered such good service as stated in my letter to the Board of Trade dated the 6th inst. This I presume is the same sum granted on application of the Coroner Mr Farell and does not affect my application to the B. of T.

With regard to the arrangement come to between us respecting the examination of witnesses as to the merits of the men in question to be awarded an "Albert Medal".

I have to state the man Henry Stephenson is not anxious about receiving such an honourable distinction, but as he is a poor man and has lost a great deal of work through his accident a pecuniary reward from the B. of T. would do him more good. This I think coincides with your views as to the form an acknowledgement should take from that quarter.

I remain

You're very truly

S. Malcolm

Capt. Parsons R.N.

Sunderland

REWARD TO THE 5 PILOTS

Shields October 11th 1869

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst enclosing an order on H.M. Paymaster General for £6 being a reward from the B. of T. to 5 pilots who saved the lives of 2 men at the mouth of the Tyne as detailed in my letter of 6th August last.

I have much pleasure in conveying the thanks of these men to the B. of T. for their kindness and herewith you will please find receipt for the several sums awarded.

I am Sir

Your obt Servant

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Dept.

Board of Trade

SW

FORMATION OF SUNDERLAND VOLUNTEER LIFE BRIGADE

South Shields Oct. 15th 1867

J.G. Campbell Esq

Sunderland

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your note of the 13th ins. stating that it is intended to form a Life Brigade at Sunderland, and requesting to be furnished with a copy of the Rules of the So. Shields Brigade.

I send you by book post a copy of our rules, Drill instructions etc. I may state that they are a facsimile of the Rules of the Tynemouth Brigade and are recommended by the Board of Trade as suitable for adoption by all Volunteer Life Brigades.

I am very glad the formation of as useful an institution is in contemplation at your important port, and trust that abundant success may attend your efforts. For my own part I shall be most happy to give you the benefit of my experience and render all the assistance I can, to facilitate the formation of the Sunderland Volunteer Life Brigade.

Yours very truly

S. Malcolm

BUILDING OF THE L.S.A. HOUSE

So Shields Nov 21st 1867

P J Messent Esq

Tynemouth

New Rocket House

Dear Sir,

Before writing you on this matter I thought it better to see how the Insurance of the Watch House would be affected by the proposed addition. I enclose a letter relative thereto from which I infer the room will have to be quite independent of the present House. I have consulted with the Insurance Agent here and he thinks a foot space between them will be sufficient. However, before it can be built, I must have a guarantee from the Board of Trade that they will take all responsibility in case of an explosion.

I think it might be arranged not to keep cartridges in these premises.

A great deal depends on Mr Byrne with whom it will be better if you consult not only on this point but also on the internal arrangements of the Rocket House.

I would suggest if powder has to be kept; that a lined with bricks and cement and covered with iron plate, should be provided for the purpose under the floor.

I think a room 14 feet square will be large enough, with the ridge running parallel to that of the old room. Capt. Robertson wished provision made for getting a Gear Cart in and out if necessary.

Yours very truly

S. Malcolm

FUNDS LOW

Dec 6th 1867

Sir,

At the request of the Committee I take the liberty of bringing before you notice of the present financial position of the South. Shields Volunteer Life Brigade.

Our income from all sources since the formation has been about £260 and our liabilities to the present time £283 leaving a deficiency of £23 which is required to pay the outstanding accounts in connection with the additional room for shipwrecked crews just completed. The public have subscribed very liberally hitherto and we hope the B of T will give us some further assistance to clear off this debt.

In a previous letter I gave you an outline of the services rendered by Members in cases of shipwreck. We think the B of T ought to come to some decision as to the grant we are entitled to for such services. This will be applied not to the general expenses of the Brigade but for providing suitable clothing to necessitous members while on night duty.

We also understand Brigades have been furnished with waist belts gratuitously. Ours have cost 18 guineas or 1/9 each. As we were unaware of the above arrangement we hope the B of T will take into consideration whether we are entitled to have the money refunded.

Yours etc

S Malcolm

Assistant Secretary

B of Trade

London

WILLIAM BUTCHER & PAYMENT OF ANNUAL GRANT

Dec 8th 1867

Dear Sir,

I duly received your note and the accompanying accounts of wrecks at or near the mouth of the Tyne.

In the last paragraph, i notice the public are enlightened as to the way in which the crew of the William Butcher was saved but are left completely in the dark with regard to the crews of the other vessels.

Did they swim ashore?

Yours truly

S Malcolm

Horatio A Adamson Esq

Alma Place,

No. Shields

So. Shields Dec 23/67

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (M 9043) enclosing an order on H.M. Paymaster General for the sum of £25 granted by the Board of Trade towards deferring the expenses of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade for the year ending June 30th last.

I also acknowledge with thanks the receipt of an Abstract of Wrecks for the year 1866.

I am sir

Your orient servant

S Malcolm

The assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

ERECTION OF A PRACTICE MAST

To Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

So. Shields Feb 7th 1868

The So Shields Town Improvement Committee

Gentlemen,

The Committee of the Volunteer Life Brigade are desirous of fixing a mast for Rocket Practice in the hollow piece of ground between the Workhouse and the Railway to Trow Rocks and which is now being filled up by the Corporation.

We propose fixing it close to the said Railway and respectfully solicit your sanction to its erection.

I am Gentlemen

Yours very truly

S Malcolm

ERECTION OF MAST 2

Feb 22/68

Dear Sir,

We propose fixing a Mast for Rocket Practice next Saturday and will feel obliged if you would allow us the use of a derrick with suitable tackling etc. for raising it. We also request your permission to take some of the loose stones on the West side of the Railway for securing the mast in the sand.

I remain, Yours very truly

S. Malcolm

P.S. The Mast will be placed in the hollow now being filled up between the Railway and the Poorhouse and about 40 feet from the said Railway.

P. J. Messant Esq

HOLE FOR PRACTICE MAST

Feb 22/68

Dear Sir,

Will you allow one of your men at the Pier to cut a circular hole 12 ½ in. in diameter 6 in deep in a stone we require for fixing a Mast for Rocket Drill, the Life Brigade paying the expense you may be at?

I remain

Yours very truly

S. Malcolm

J Goldney Esq

IMPULSE AND PAYMENT

South Shields Sept 30th 1868

Sir,

I have the honour to report that the Schooner "Impulse" of Maldon from Rochester in ballast came on shore at the entrance of the Tyne on the 27th inst. and that the crew were rescued with the Rocket Apparatus by the Members of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade under the superintendence of the Coastguard.

I beg also respectfully to remind you that the Members of this Brigade have attended 9 shipwrecks previous to the above and have brought ashore altogether 37 people, for which we have received no grant according to the instruction in the Wreck Circular issued by the Board of Trade.

We are now without funds which makes it very important that an allowance should be made at once as the winter is still before us. It would simplify the matter if a scale of payments were adopted and I would suggest that for every person brought ashore from a wreck a grant of £1 should be made and for the Brigade attending a shipwreck without saving life a sum of £5.

I have the honour to remain

Yours obedient servant

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

PAYMENT OF GRANT

South Shields 9 Feb/69

Sir

I beg again most respectfully to remind the Board of trade that the South. Shields Volunteer Life Brigade has received no Grant for the year ending June 30th 69. I beg also to refer to my letter of Sept 30/68 and to my previous letters setting forth the services rendered by this Brigade and to state that the members are very much dissatisfied (and I think justly so) that their case has not the consideration it deserves more especially as at least one Brigade in the neighbourhood is in receipt of its allowance for the above period.

Captain Robertson who inspected the Brigade last month expressed his astonishment that we had no communication from you on the subject as he understood it had been settled by the Board of Trade some time ago.

I have the honour to remain

Your obedient. Servant

S Malcolm

USE OF THE WATCH HOUSE FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

9 Charlotte Terrace

February 24/69

My dear Sir,

At a Committee Meeting of the South Shields Life Brigade the following resolution was passed unanimously. That the Chaplain of the "Joseph Straker" Mission ship be allowed the use of the Watch House occasionally for evening services and that due notice of such services be given to the Secretary.

I hope they will be well attended and be the means of doing much good.

I remain etc etc

S Malcolm Hon Sec

DISPUTE OVER PAYMENT OF GRANT

25th February 1869

My dear Sir,

Last week I received from the Board of Trade, the sum of £15 as the Grant to our Brigade for the ending June 1868.

I take the liberty of bringing this before your notice because I think there must either be a mistake or a very invidious distinction between the South Shields Brigade and the Tynemouth Brigade, the latter having received £20 for a like period. Apart from services at wrecks I think no arguments can be stated to show there should be a difference in the Grants and I am at a loss how to convey accurately the indignation of the Committee at what I may call "shabby" treatment of the Board of Trade.

When you also consider we have been at between 12 & 20 shipwrecks and saved nearly 40 lives, it is plain these are good grounds for dissatisfaction so much as that it was nearly resolved to send the £15 back again. How can this be reconciled with the terms of the Wreck Circular relating to these payments a disregard to which is considered by us as a breach of faith and it is my decided opinion if payments have to be made at all they will never be on an equitable footing until a scale is adopted for certain services. In the present case the money is doing more harm than good and this coupled with the overbearing conduct (of which you have been made fully aware) of an Inspecting commander at the recent Hawser Experiments at Tynemouth will have a tendency very much to impair the efficiency of the Brigade.

In these remarks we are actuated by no selfish motives. This is not a question of money so much as of simple justice that we wish properly adjusted, or in other words to take our position with other Brigades relatively to work accomplished.

Whether the Board of Trade adopt money or merit as their standard of showing a Brigades efficiency we are equally willing so long as we stand in our right position.

I take the liberty of writing you on this subject because intimately as your acquainted with the working of Brigades you will be able to represent our case in the proper quarter and I trust with good effect. This I intended to be a private communication but if you think it should be official I am quite agreeable.

Yours etc. S Malcolm

Captain Robertson R.N. Surveyor General

LETTER TO CAPTAIN ELLIOTT

9 Charlotte Terrace

15 Mar 1869

My dear Sir,

On Saturday the 27th inst. We intend having a Drill of the Life Brigade and shall be glad if you can make it convenient to be present at 6 p.m.

We shall also feel obliged if you ascertain why the Signal Guns were so long in being fired after blue lights had been shown in the case of a pilot boat in distress last Friday week. A messenger was sent to the Lifeboat Station, the boat launched and men rescued and taken into the harbour before the guns fired.

Yours very faithfully

S Malcolm

Captain Elliott R.N.

Sunderland

PAYMENT FOR LIVES SAVED

South Shields

March 31st 1869

Sir,

In reply to your letter (M 1872) of the 12th inst., respecting the amount contributed by the Board of Trade to the funds of the S.S. Vol. Life Brigade for the year ending June 30/68

I beg to state that if the sum awarded for attendance at the monthly exercises of the Rocket apparatus is in proportion to the sums awarded to other Brigades for life services we are quite satisfied.

What however I wish to impress upon you is that the Board of Trade with one exception quite ignores the services we have rendered at shipwrecks.

I am quite aware that in the period for which the last Grant was paid no wrecks occurred consequently my letter referred to wrecks anterior to that. The exception mentioned was the case of the "Tenterden" wrecked Apr 2nd 1866 whose crew of 5 hands & woman & child were saved by us. For this we received £5 12 6. I submit a list of wrecks only at which life has been saved, leaving out numerous others to which we have been summoned and would simply ask as it was thought proper to make a Grant for the "Tenterden" whether it is not also proper to treat the other wrecks in a similar way.

I am Sir

Your obedient. Servant

S Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Year	Ships name	Date	Lives saved	Remarks
1866	Tenterden	2 nd of April	7	
	Blossom	16 th of November	4	
1867	Mary Mac	6 th of January	6	
	Mergee	6 th of January	5	
	Lucerne	6 th of January	8	
1868	Impulse	27 th of September	7	These properly belong to year ending June 1869
	Premier	6 th of November	5	

LETTER TO CAPTAIN ELLIOTT

So Shields 32 Mar 1869

My Dear Sir

When I sent you the returns of the attendance of our Members for the year ending June 1868 I unfortunately didn't retain a copy- If you could give me the information I shall feel much obliged as also a copy of the Tynemouth return.

With kind regards

Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

Capt Elliot R.N

Sunderland

LETTER TO M.P.

So. Shields May 24/69

J. C. Stephenson Esq. M.P.

Dear Sir,

I have been requested by the Committee of the Life Brigade to bring before your notice how matters stand between our Brigade and the Board of Trade with regard to Grants for Services at Wrecks.

I have thought it the best plan to give you a copy of the correspondence on the subject which I now enclose together with a Wreck circular with paragraph referred to marked therein.

The great point of annoyance with our members is that the Tynemouth Brigade although not having saved life at shipwreck received a larger Grant than us last year and in previous years an equal sum with ourselves.

If you would be good enough to take the trouble to call at the B. of Trade and see Mr Gray the Assistant Secretary and ask for an explanation of the matter you would greatly oblige the committee and also.

Your obedient. Servant

S. Malcolm

BRAVERY AWARDS FOR THOMAS HOUSLBY, J.G. FOLEY &GEORGE HERON

South Shields

June 22/69

Sir,

I have to report that on Tuesday June 15/69 our Coast was visited by a tremendous gale from the N.E. which was attended with loss of life and much destruction of property. About 10 o'clock P.M. the Members of the S.S.V.L.B. on duty at their Watch House were alarmed by the sound of the Signal Guns from the Tynemouth Coastguard Station signifying that a vessel was in distress and that the services were required. The Rocket Apparatus was got out and taken along the Pier. When near the end a Rocket was seen to go up in the neighbourhood of Manhaven about 2 miles off. At the time the wind was blowing a complete hurricane and the rain coming down in torrents. The Members after great exertions arrived in time to assist the Coastguard in getting up the Cliff the crew of the Schooner Anne of Rye. they got back to the Watch House in a most pitiable condition and quite exhausted about 12 p.m.

It was known that a great number of fishing boats had gone to sea in the afternoon which gave Members additional cause for anxiety and they had just returned from the Wreck at Manhaven when a fishing smack was driven ashore.

Being under the lee of the Pier the crew got out themselves and were brought to the Watch house where they received refreshment and dry clothing. Satisfied of their safety about 20 of the Brigade although very unfit, were able to save all the poor fellows nets. They were scarcely finished when another boat was seen to drive ashore mid-way between the Pier and the Rocks. The Brigade proceeded at once with the Rocket Apparatus where under the superintendence of the Coastguard a Rocket was fired and communication effected.

This was done by the men standing up to their middle in the surf. No response being made it was thought there was no one on board or that they were helpless. Thomas Houlsby volunteered to go off with a belt and rope attached to him. At the time the boat would be about 150 yards from the shore and the sea breaking up over her.

After great struggles and much difficulty he succeeded. He also hauled the whip-line off which was made fast by one of the 3 men who were on board. The chair in being hauled off fouled among the nets and wreckage. Houlsby in a most courageous manner got the man on his back , jumped into the surf and was hauled ashore in a very exhausted condition having to be conveyed to the Brigade House for medical assistance. The belt and line were then fastened to another Member who was however so exhausted by previous exertion that he had to give up.

There upon Mr J.G. Foley of Blackwall volunteered to go on board. His assistance was gladly accepted as the Members had been up all night and a great part of that time in the water. On getting aboard he found a man sitting at the front of the mast quite benumbed and so stiff that he was unable to get him into the breeches buoy. He came ashore but went off again and put a clove hitch round the man's body when he was hauled ashore. In doing this Foley got entangled among the ropes and had a narrow escape of being drowned. Dr Winter whose untiring exertions are much to be praised succeeded in bringing them round. The third man left on board was underneath the sail and broken spars and was supposed to be dead. Foley again volunteered to go on board and was closely followed by George Heron. They cut the sail and to the joy of all the poor fellow was brought ashore alive.

I may state that it is only within the last month that Heron was the means of saving the lives of the crew of a salmon boat which had got among the broken water and on former occasions he has distinguished himself in a similar manner.

It is impossible for me to convey a correct idea of the fatigue and exertion of the S.S.V.L.B. but I think the B. of T. ought in some special way to mark its appreciation of the conduct of

Thomas Houlsby, J.G. Foley & Geo. Heron.

I remain My dear Sir

Yours very faithfully

S. Malcolm

LETTER IN SUPPORT OF BRAVERY AWARDS

Capt. Elliott R.N.

Sunderland

So. Shields June 23/69

My Dear Elliot

I enclose you with this an official account of the services of our Brigade during the storm of the 15th inst. I hope in your remarks to the B. of T. you will do all you can to get some medals for our Brigade who have done so much not only now, but on previous occasions to save their fellow creatures from a watery grave.

I remain

Yours very faithfully

S Malcolm

LETTER REGARDING THE BOATS VALUE TO CAPTAIN ELLIOTT

My dear Elliott

One answer will do to your first 3 questions vz that the men got to the boat by wading with a line attached to them.

The value of the boat and cargo would be about

Nets £100

Boat £010

£110

Our new Block has been altered and improved. What steps must be taken to bring it before the notice of the Board of Trade. Please send me some of the Blank forms (Wr 45) that I may fill up my annual returns.

Yours very truly

S. Malcolm

Captain Elliott R.N.

SPECIAL CONSTABLES

Oct 22nd 1869

Sir,

I am requested by the Committee of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade to inform the Board of Trade that two vessels came ashore at this place about midnight on the 16th inst and that the Members of the Brigade while in the performance of their duties were surrounded by an excited mob who would most assuredly have rendered the apparatus useless had it been required. Fortunately the Lifeboat rescued the crews or the consequences might have been very serious.

In the Wreck circular it is provided that if the boards of Trade think fit South Shields Members of the Brigade can be sworn in as special constables to preserve order and protect property.

The Committee wish to impress upon the Board of Trade that they think this step is absolutely necessary and they wish to know if it is approved of by the Board of Trade and what steps must be taken to carry it out.

I have the honour to remain,

Sir

Your obdt. servant

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec.

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

Whitehall SW

ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

South Shields

Oct 23rd 1869

Mr James Ramsey,

Sir

It has been reported to the Committee of the Life Brigade that abusive language was used by you in the Watch House on the 17th inst.

The Committee wish to inform you that it is only through their kindness that non-members are allowed to enter the House and if this privilege is abused by you or anyone else it will result in the House being closed to stranger's altogether.

I wish further to state if your conduct is repeated proceedings will be taken against you.

Hoping that such may not be the case.

I remain

Yours truly

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec.

NO REPLIES

So Shields

Oct 23rd 1869

Capt Elliott R.N.

Dear Sir,

On June 22nd last I wrote you a Report on the services of our Brigade in saving the crews of some fishing boats.

June 23rd I sent you the Annual Returns as required by the Board of Trade.

July 3rd I brought before your notice a New Travelling Block invented by one of the Members.

To none of these letters have I received a reply.

If you will be kind enough to explain the reason of this silence.

You will oblige,

Yours faithfully

S.Malcolm

ROCKET HOUSE AT MAN HAVEN

9 Charlotte Terrace

So. Shields 29/11/69

My dear Elliot,

The Committee of the South Shields Life Brigade have had under their consideration the question of the New Rocket House at Man Haven and also the enquiry from the B. of T. as to the necessity of a Cart for conveying the Apparatus along the Coast.

I am directed by the Members to state it is their unanimous opinion that the Rocket apparatus should be kept much nearer Man Haven than the present Coastguard Station and also that if a Rocket Cart was provided it would be seldom or ever used seeing we have a Set of Gear kept in a wagon which runs on a tramway from the end of the Pier to the first Rocks.

I remain yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

APPOINTMENT OF DR. CREASE

9 Charlotte Terrace

29/11/69

Dear Sir,

I have much pleasure in acquainting you that the committee have accepted your kind offer to become the honorary Surgeon to the South Shields Life Brigade this appointment holds good until the next annual meeting in July next. When all officers are elected by the members.

The key of the Surgery you will obtain at the Watch House from Mr Wilson. Please examine the contents as I understand there are several medicines left by the late Surgeon.

I remain

Yours very truly

S Malcolm

Dr. Crease

So. Shields

RECEIVER OF WRECKS

9 Charlotte Terrace,

3/12/69

J Blake Esq,

Receiver of Wrecks,

So. Shields

Dear Sir,

I have received from the Board of Trade a communication confirming the arrangement we mutually agreed upon respecting the preservation of order at shipwrecks.

I have also received from yourself two Board of trade Notices for which please accept my thanks.

Yours very faithfully

S. Malcolm

PAYMENT OF ANNUAL GRANT

9 Charlotte Terrace

20/12/69

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst. enclosing an order on the Majesty Paymaster General for £40 being the amount awarded by the Board of Trade to the So. Shields Vol. Life Brigade for attendance at Rocket Drill during the year ended June 30th last and for services at shipwrecks during that and previous years.

I have much pleasure in conveying the thanks of the Committee and Members for the above liberal Grant.

I have the honour to
remain

Sir,

Your obedient servant

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec.

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

MODEL OF TRAVELLER BLOCK

9 Charlotte
Terrace

Dec 20/69

Sir,

I have forwarded to you by this post a Model of a Traveller Block invented by one of the Members (Mr W Bell) of our Brigade. This I do at the request of the Divisional Officer of Coastguard. I may state that the original Block has Brass Sheeves with Patent Bushes.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient. servant

S. Malcolm

Hon Sec

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

BOOKS FOR LIBRARY

9 Charlotte Terrace,

January 12th 1870

C. M. Palmer Esq.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of a cheque for £2.2 to the Funds of the So. Shields Vol. Life Brigade which has been spent in purchasing books for the Library at the Watch House.

I remain,

Yours respectfully

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec.

PURCHASE OF GUERNSEY

9 Charlotte Terrace

So Shields Jan 15/70

Messrs Tippets & Sons

Plymouth

Dear Sirs,

The Committee of the So. Shields Vol. Life Brigade are desirous of supplying the Members with hand knit Blue Guernsey Frocks. Your Firm has been recommended to me as supplying a good article to the Tynemouth Brigade. We should like instead of a plain blue Frock to have a band knit in round the wrist about 3 inches broad say red or white colour or red round the neck and wrists. These distinctions merely to have something different from an ordinary frock and shall be glad to have your opinion on the matter. Also what would be the cost of say 100 including writing the letters VLB on the breast.

I remain

Yours truly

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec.

SAMPLE FROCK GUERNSEY

South Shields

January. 21/70

Messrs G Tippets & Son

Plymouth

Dear Sirs,

I am in receipt of yours of the 19th inst. and shall feel obliged if you will forward a Frock with Scarlet round the neck and wrists with the letters VLB on the breast. I ask this favour that the Members of our Brigade may have an opportunity of expressing an opinion and of judging of the appearance of a Frock as described.

Yours truly

S. Malcolm

ORDER OF 50 GUERNSEY'S

9 Charlotte Terrace

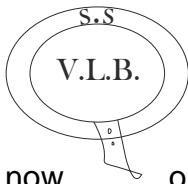
5/2/70

Messrs Tippets & Son,

Plymouth

Dear Sirs

I duly received the Guernsey Frock which gives general satisfaction. We should however like S.S. to be worked in small letters as shown in the sketch



and none of the frocks to be smaller than the one sent me. I now order 50 as a first instalment which will you please put in hand at once and forward as soon as possible. I also enclose your a/c for pattern frock and post office order for same.

Yours truly

S. Malcolm

FIRST RESCUE BY T.V.L.B.

9 Charlotte Terrace

Feb 8th 1870

My dear Mr Spence,

I have read in to nights Papers of your successful efforts in saving the lives of some poor sailors. Allow me to congratulate you on behalf of the Members of So. Shields Brigade and to express the pleasure it has given us to know that after years of patient waiting you have won your spurs. I think you have fully illustrated the text "Be not weary in well doing for in due season ye shall reap if ye faint not". I hope your reward of today will absorb all past disappointments, that your Members will be encouraged and that the Tynemouth Life Brigade will have received a fresh impetus in the good work it inaugurated.

Ever yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

TRAVELLER BLOCK TRIALS AT TYNEMOUTH

12 April 1870

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the New Blocks sent down to Tynemouth were tried by the Members of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade on the 9th inst under the direction of the Inspecting Commander of Coastguard for this District.

I have to report that the Block which appears to have been made from the model forwarded by me some time ago is considered by those present at the trial to be decidedly the best.

We also tested this Block with Mr Bell's original Block with a still more favourable result for the latter.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient. Servant

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

FULL SCALE BLOCK SENT TO BOARD OF TRADE

May 24/70

Sir

At the request of Captain Robertson R.N. I have forwarded a full size Model of the Block invented by W Bell of this Brigade and which I sent you a small model some time ago.

Mr Bell considered it would be better not to send the original block but to make another so constructed that if the Board of Trade decided to make any from it the sheeves could be easily taken out and examined.

I have the honour etc

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

50 MORE GUERNSEY'S

10 June 1870

Messrs G Tippetts & Son

Plymouth

Dear Sirs,

I have much pleasure in giving you a further order for fifty (50) Guernsey Frocks for the Life Brigade to be of three different sizes and in all respects similar to those last supplied. Hoping you will put them in hand at once and forward with all convenient despatch.

I remain

Yours etc.

S Malcolm

TO THE CAPTAIN OF H. M. S. CASTOR

Oct 25th 1870

Captain Smythe R.N.

H.M.S. "Castor" North Shields

Dear Sir

It has been reported to the Committee of the So. Shields Vol. Life Brigade that the firing of the Signal Guns from the "Castor" has been discontinued. As this arrangement was the result of considerable correspondence between the B. of T. and myself we shall be glad to know what cause has been assigned for the alteration.

I remain

Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec

LETTER TO BOARD OF TRADE REGARDING FIRING OF GUNS
BY H. M. S. CASTOR

Oct. 31st 1870

Sir,

I am requested by the Committee of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade to inform you that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have ordered the discontinuance of the firing of Signal Guns on board H.M.S. "Castor" in cases of shipwreck.

The original arrangement for summoning the volunteers was by firing Guns from the Coastguard Station at Tynemouth. It was found that with certain winds the reports were not heard at South Shields. This was represented to the Board of Trade in the winter of 1867 by myself after which it was arranged with the Admiralty that the "Castor" stationed in Shields Harbour should repeat the Tynemouth Signals. This has been found to answer very well indeed and we are surprised to hear of the above decision without any previous consultation with us as to its advisability.

As it was through the Board of Trade that the arrangement was made for the "Castor" to fire her guns we most respectfully request that the B. of T. kindly enquire into the matter.

I remain

Your obdt. Servant

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec.

The Assistant Secretary

Board of Trade

BOARD OF TRADE GRANT FOR 1869-70

So Shields Dec 27/70

Sir

I beg to acknowledge receipt of £25 as a Grant from the B. of Trade to the Funds of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade for the year ending June 30th 1870.

I am desired to convey the thanks of the Committee and Members for the liberal donation awarded by the Board.

I have the honour to remain

Your obdt servant

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Board of Trade

RETURN OF GUERNSEY FROCK

South Shields 13/4/ 1871

Mrs Ayr

Dear Madam

I am directed by the committee of the Life Brigade to request that you will return without delay the Guernsey frock and Belt issued to your late husband. A frock only becomes the property of a Member on condition that he makes himself effective the following year after receiving it which in this case was not done.

I may state in conclusion that your late husband signed a document agreeing to the above.

Yours truly

S. Malcolm

THANK YOU TO GLEE CLUB

May 2 /71

W. Black Esq

Dear Sir,

It gives me much pleasure to inform you that at the recent Concert given by your Glee Club for the benefit of the Funds of South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade the Gross Receipts were £45. 10. 10. and the Expenses £10. 19. 3 leaving a net balance of £34. 11. 9. I am desired by the committee of the Life Brigade to thank you personally for permitting the entertainment to be held, and through you to thank also. Mr Mason and the members of the Club for their readiness in complying with your wishes, and the ability displayed by them on the above occasion.

I remain, Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

REQUEST TO THE BOARD OF TRADE FOR A CHANGE IN RULES

Oct 14 1871

Sir,

At the last Annual Meeting of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade a Resolution was passed by the Members to the following effect

That it be suggested to the Board Of Trade that Members who attend the Watch House in stormy weather from 10 at night till 3 in the morning should have it marked as a Drill and returned as such in the Annual Returns.

On the recent visit of Captain Robertson R.N. I explained this matter to him and I have no doubt he will be able to give the Board any necessary information on the subject.

I remain etc

S. Malcolm

AN APOLOGY

Charlotte Terrace 5/12/71

Dear Sir,

At a Meeting of the Life Brigade Committee held last night the ungentlemanly treatment you received from one of the medical men present at the Watch House on Sunday morning was considered and I am requested to express our regret, to thank you for the valuable services you have rendered on similar occasions previously and to hope that the incident alluded to above will not prevent you rendering our Honorary Surgeon (Dr Crease) any assistance in the future which we know you are so well qualified to give.

I remain **Yours** faithfully

S. Malcolm

C Legat

PAYMENT OF BOARD OF TRADE GRANT FOR 1870 - 1871

Dec 26th 1871

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter M 11132 enclosing the Order for £25 as the Contribution of the Board to the Funds of the S.S.V.L.B. for the year ended June 30th 1871. I am desired to convey to you the thanks of the Members and to assure you of their unabated interest in the Brigades success.

Yours etc.

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Board of Trade

MEMBERS REMARK TO MR QUICK

Feb 20 1872

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (M 11670.71) conveying the thanks of the Board of Trade for the Joint Report of the Inspecting Committee. Mr Spence & myself respecting the prejudicial remark made against Mr Quick by Mr Wilson at the same time wishing to know what are my feelings and those of Members as to whether Mr Wilson should be allowed to remain in the Brigade or whether a severe admonishment would be sufficient.

In reply I beg to say that although he is a very active member of the Brigade his zeal sometimes leads him to act and speak in a way which would be avoided by a more discreet person and his great anxiety for the Guns to fire at the wreck of the "Frisia" led him I have no doubt he used the expression complained of.

We therefore think under the circumstances that a very severe rebuke from the Board of Trade might be sufficient to make him more guarded in his language for the future.

I shall be glad to be informed whether the B. of T. have power to cause the dismissal of a Member of a Volunteer Life Brigade.

I remain

Sir

Yours etc.

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Board of Trade

LETTER TO MR THOMAS GRAY

Private

South Shields Dec 5th 1873

Sir,

I am requested by the Committee of the South Shields Life Brigade to write you privately respecting the Grant (£7 10) which the Board of Trade have sent for the year ending June 30th last.

We think that as the sum is so small there must have been a mistake and before writing officially I shall be glad to know whether the Board have decided after due consideration that this is only what our Brigade is entitled to for the past year.

I may add there is great dissatisfaction among the members about it.

I remain

Yours etc

S. Malcolm

Thomas Gray Esq

RETURN OF GRANT FROM THE BOARD OF TRADE

South Shields

Dec 20th 1873

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge your letter (M 16108) enclosing an Order for £7 10 as a Grant from the Board of trade to the South Shields Life Brigade for the year ending June 30th last.

I am requested to inform you that the Committee have had the matter under consideration and they are dissatisfied with the insignificant sum which the Board have been pleased to award to the Brigade for the services of the Members during the past year that they decline receiving it.

I therefore return the Order herewith.

I remain

Your Obedient Servant

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

HENRY COOKE

South Shields

Dec 14 1874

To the Editor of the "Glasgow News"

67 Hope St

Glasgow

Sir,

My attention has been directed to a paragraph in your issue of 10th inst referring to the loss of the barque "Henry Cooke" with all hands at the mouth of the Tyne.

You begin by throwing out some doubt as to the efficiency of the Life Saving Apparatus and follow it up by saying that it would be hard to satisfy the public that the lives could not have been saved.

Now by these statements a reflection is cast upon the crew who worked the Rocket Apparatus on that occasion viz the Members of the South Shields Life Brigade, and they are highly indignant, and justly so, as the writer of the paragraph could have no idea of the circumstances of the case.

From the vessel first striking until she was lying in splinters along the beach not a living soul was seen or a voice heard. You confess that a line was thrown across her jib boom. Perhaps you are not aware that the next operation must be performed by the crew, and if they fail, what more can be done from the shore?

It is not my intention to occupy your space by recounting all the services of our Brigade since its formation in 1866, but will merely state that we have landed from wrecks at least 120 people.

The latter part of your paragraph casts a further slur on our character, that the Rockets were badly aimed and that a Royal Commission should enquire into this, and the whole question, commencing at South Shields and ending at Frazerburg.

As far as the Shields Brigade is concerned I say-not boastfully, but in defence, that it would be difficult to find a body of men who are more expert in firing Rockets or handling the Rocket Apparatus, and if your Commission ever comes to Shields it would be to see how thing can be properly done.

I do not know whether if I have given an undue weight to the words of your paper but false impressions get abroad and are spread all over the country from which innocent persons suffer. It is for the benefit of your readers and in justice to the Brigade that I trouble to reply to this.

To show a different view of the matter is taken by one of our local papers. I will conclude by quoting some remarks published this morning.

“The South Shields Life Brigade are worthy of the highest honour for their magnificent courage and promptness on the terrible morning of Wednesday. No one can have any conception of the dangers and difficulties they had to encounter, without going down to the South Pier, when the sea was comparatively calm and witnessing the wild and terrific scene which was then presented. We need not say much of the degeneracy of Englishmen when she can produce sons such as these”

Trusting you will publish this as soon as possible.

I remain Yours truly

S. Malcolm

Honorary Secretary South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade

LETTER TO BOARD OF TRADE

South Shields

December. 16. 1874

Sir

In reply to your letter M 10945 requesting to be favoured with a detail statement of the expenses included in the balance sheet under the heading of "Sundries" in the Report of South. Shields Life Brigade for the year ended June 30th last. I beg to enclose a printed copy of the information required, and in doing so, I take the liberty of stating that as the greater part of our income has been hitherto derived from private sources, I have yet to learn that it is our duty to furnish the Board of Trade with full details of expenditure, but only of those sums that are granted from time to time out of the Mercantile Marine Fund.

I may further add that at the present moment the brigade is about £10 in debt, having recently spent 14 guineas for Guernsey Frocks, besides other necessaries.

I remain, Your obedient Servant.

S. Malcolm

Hon. Sec.

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

LETTER TO TIPPETS & SON SUPPLIERS OF GUERNSEYS

3 Charlotte
Terrace

Jan 2 1875

Messrs Tippetts Son & Co

Dear Sirs,

The 25 Guernsey Frocks were duly received and they gave great satisfaction.

I have much pleasure in forwarding Banking Draft now enclosed for the amount of £14.14.11 which please acknowledge in due course.

Yours truly

S. Malcolm

COAST GUARD STATION FOR SOUTH SHIELDS

South Shields

January 14 1875

Sir,

In reply to your letter (M. 16877) enclosing an order for the sum of twenty pounds as a contribution from the Board of Trade to the Funds of the South. Shields Life Brigade, I have much pleasure in conveying the thanks of the Committee and Members for your liberality and would also express the same feeling with regard to the New Exercising Mast which give great satisfaction.

I think the time has now arrived when the Coastguardsmens' houses (so long talked of) ought to be erected, and when the Station should have the benefit of a Chief Officer of Coastguard. During the last few weeks, as the Board will be fully aware, there have been a great many wrecks and it would add materially to the efficiency of the Rocket Apparatus if the Coastguard lived close to the South Pier instead of dwelling in houses in different parts of the Town.

This question I understand belongs to the Admiralty Department, but I mention the matter that the powerful influence of the Board of Trade may be brought to bear on the matter.

I remain etc

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

DONATION

South Shields

January 14th
1875

William B. Gibbons Esq

Eatington,

Stratford on Avon

Dear Sir,

I have received through Mr T. A. Wilson a cheque for £25 which you have been good enough to contribute to the Funds of the S.S.V.L.B.

On behalf of the Members I can hardly sufficiently thank you for your great liberality, and we all the more highly appreciate it as it has come from an inland town where such services as we render to shipwrecked men are perhaps seldom heard of.

I shall have much pleasure in forwarding you at an early date some of our previous General Reports which will give you some idea of the work we engage in.

I remain

Yours very faithfully

S. Malcolm

LETTER REGARDING CREATING THE POST OF CHIEF
COASTGUARD AT SOUTH SHIELDS

South Shields

January 16 1875

My dear Captain Prouse

In writing the B. of Trade the other day acknowledging receipt of a £20 Grant incidentally mentioned the subject of the Coastguard Houses and also the importance of having a Chief Officer stationed here. I shall be very glad to receive any suggestions from yourself as to writing the Admiralty on the matter.

We have a Drill next Saturday at 3pm.

Hope you will get over.

I remain

Yours Faithfully

S Malcolm

NEW LIFEBOAT HOUSE INFRONT OF THE BRIGADE HOUSE
VIEW OF THE SEA

South Shields

February 19 1875

Joseph Wilson Esq.

Hon SEC Life Boat Fund.

Dear Sir

I find on working through the Life Brigade Accounts that there is due to the Brigade from the Life Boat Fund 2 years subs (£20). We shall be very glad to receive the amount when convenient.

The site of the proposed new Life Boat House has been pointed out to me and although as a Brigade we may have no power to object to the decision of the Trustees. Yet I would like to say that when the Watch House was erected it was expected there would always be an uninterrupted sea view from its windows.

I am afraid our lookout will be somewhat blocked up to the S.E. and we shall probably be put to the expense of erecting an upper storey so as to overlook your New Boat House.

Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

BOARD TRADE FLAG TO BE FLOWN AT THE WATCH HOUSE

South Shields. March 13 1875

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter (M 3463) informing me that the Board of Trade had directed Messer's Birt to Forward a Flag to be hoisted in fine weather on the building occupied by the South Shields Life Brigade.

In reply I beg to inform you that the Flag has been received, and that I Shall have much pleasure in seeing that the wish of the Board of Trade is carried out.

I am. Sir

Your obedient Servant

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

EXTENSION TO THE WATCH HOUSE

South Shields

April 5th 1875

Sir,

I have the pleasure to enclose a Plan of the Proposed Additions to the South Shields Life Brigade Watch House and shall be glad if you will forward it to the Board of Trade with any remarks that may suggest themselves to you as to the necessity for the alterations to the present House.

I had the honour to submit and explain the confirmed Drawings to the President and Assistant Secretary of the Board of Trade on Saturday last and at the same time made a verbal application for a grant of £200 to pay the cost.

The Assistant Secretary T. Gray Esq. you will remember at our joint interview subsequently kindly promised that the Board would grant us £150 for the proposed alterations.

I do not think this will cover the total cost but never less the Brigade will feel grateful for this substantial assistance.

I remain

Yours

S. Malcolm

Capt. Prouse R.N.

REQUEST TO THE TYNE IMPROVEMENT COMMISSIONERS TO EXTEND WATCH HOUSE

South Shields April 21 1875

Dear Sir

The committee of the South Shields Life Brigade are desirable of increasing the accommodation of the Watch House and for that purpose have desired me to apply through you to the River Tyne Commissioners for permission to extend the present Watch Room 18 feet to the South.

On this extension it is proposed to build a second storey to act as a look out and give us a better view of the Harbour Entrance which at present is somewhat obscured by the Pier staging.

I hope the occupation of this additional piece of ground will in no way affect the Piers Works Plans and that the commissioners will kindly accede to our request.

I remain

Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

P I Messent Esq.

Piers Works Office

Tynemouth

8 June 1875

A letter was read from Mr S. Malcolm on behalf of the South Shields Life Brigade asking leave to extend the Life Brigade House at the South Pier to the extent of 18 feet to the South and for the Commissioners to grant the use of the additional ground required for the purposes.

The Committee recommend the Commissioners to comply with this request

Source: Committee meeting minutes of Pier Committee

October 13 1875

Sir

In a Communication (M 5698) from the Board of Trade dated May the 10th the sum of £150 was promised towards paying the cost of enlarging the South Shields Life Brigade Watch House.

I have now to report the building is so far completed that the Painters have commenced to put on the finishing touches.

I have also to report that the total cost will be about £300 of which £200 has already been paid to the contractors on account. It will therefore assist us very much if the Board could send at early date an Order for the amount promised.

Perhaps you will be good enough to report as to the great improvements in the Watch House and to suggest the desirability of a Supplementary Grant to pay the total cost otherwise we must appeal at once to the Public in subscriptions.

We are endeavouring to make the place as complete as possible and among other things we intend fixing an Anemometer so that in heavy gales a record may be kept of the force of the wind.

An important point sometimes at Board of Trade enquiries.

Yours obedient Servant

S. Malcolm

Capt Prouse R.N.

COMMENTS ON THE LIFE SAVING APPARATUS INSTRUCTIONS

South Shields. Nov. 13. 1875

My dear Prouse

I am duly in receipt of your letter of Yesterday requesting my opinion as to paragraph 91 of the new L.S.A. Instructions.

The whole section under the head of "Wreck Service" does not appear to be clearly expressed of Brigades for Services rendered at Wrecks. I think it would be a step entirely opposed to our constitution, volunteering as we do to attend these occasions. The whole statue of Brigades would be lowered, and while some doubtless enrol themselves for the sake of payment. Yet the majority of Brigadesmen act from a further and purer motive and it might be the means of withdrawing from the movement the active sympathies of latter.

During the last 10 years the Annual Grant to defray the working expenses has worked very well and it would be a pity to disturb the arrangement.

Some years ago I suggested to the Board of Trade that the Annual Grant should be based on the Services at wrecks etc. say so much for each life saved. This would embrace the principle embodied in the institutions without direct personal payment. Any further expression of opinion I shall be glad to give if necessary.

Yours very faithfully

S. Malcolm

INVITATION TO OPENING OF THE EXTENDED WATCH HOUSE

South Shields Dec 6 1875

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter (M 16148) increasing the former grant towards re extension of the South Shields Life Brigade Watch House by £50 making altogether £ 200.

I am desired by the members of the committee to express their sincere thanks and to hope that it will be convenient for the amount to be forwarded at an early date.

I have also further to state that it is our intension to have a Formal opening of the Watch House and we should like it done by a member of the Board of Trade

We would feel honoured if you and Captain Murray or any other of the officials who take an interest in Brigade could pay us visit for this purpose (the date to fixed to suit your convenience) before the Year closes.

An early reply will oblige

Your obedient servant

S. Malcolm

To Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

BISHOP OF DURHAM

Extract of a letter from the Bishop of Durham to Rev. T H Chester

Date Auckland Castle December 13 1875

- " It needed no apology on your part for having
- " Under my notice the case of the Life brigade
- " Those noble hearted volunteers in their efforts
- " To save the lives of those who are shipwrecked
- " Deserve all praise and encouragement
- " I therefore enclose a contribution (£25).

3 Charlotte Terrace

Dec. 15 1875

My lord

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt (Rev. Mr Chester) of your Lordships liberal donation of £25 to the fund of the South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade.

I am desired by the Committee and Members to thank you for your very great kindness and to add that we shall be glad if agreeable to your Lordship to send you periodically the Annual Reports of our Brigade.

I have the honour to remain

Your Lordships Orient Servant

S. Malcolm

The Lord Bishop of Durham

ALHAMBRA BENEFIT

Dec. 17 1875

Mr Siddall

Alhambra Music Hall

Dear Sir,

At a committee meeting of the Life Brigade held this evening it was reported by Mr Potter that you had offered to give a Benefit at the Alhambra either on the 12th or 14th Of January next. Either night to be fixed by the committee.

I am desire to write to you and thank you for your kind proposal which we will gladly accept leaving the time to be arranged to suit your own convenience.

I remain dear Sir

Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

GIFT OF TELESCOPE

Feb. 8 1876

Dear Sir

It has been intimated to me by Mr Potts that you have presented to the South Shields Life Brigade a first class Telescope.

On behalf of the Committee and Members I much pleasure in conveying our sincere thanks for your valuable and opportune gift.

I can assure you that so useful an instrument will be highly prized and I hope it will be handed down uninjured by many generations Life Brigades men.

Before its removal I will endeavour to see you personally.

I remain

Yours very faithfully

S. Malcolm

E. B. Railton Esq.

BOARD OF TRADE GRANT TOWARDS THE COST OF EXTENDING THE WATCH HOUSE

Feb. 11 1876

Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (M 18490) enclosing an order for £200 being the amount contributed by the Board of Trade towards the Extension of the Watch House And also your letter (M 12914/15) enclosing an Order for £30 towards the ordinary expenses of the Brigade for the year ended June 30th 1875.

I am desired by the committee and Members to thank you for these liberal Grants, and also that we learn with pleasure that our services still continue to give satisfaction to the Board of Trade

I remain

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

S Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

Board of Trade

THANK YOU FOR THE BENIFIT

South Shields

February 23rd 1876

Dear Sir

The committee of the life Brigade desire me on behalf of themselves and the members to thank you very sincerely for your kindness in giving a Benefit at the Alhambra towards the fund for enlarging the Watch House on the South Pier.

The total amount received was £7 6s 00d for which we again thank you.

Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

S. B. Siddel Esq.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE VISIT BY A COMMANDER FROM BRAZILIAN IMPERIAL NAVY

South Shields – 20th June 1876

Sir

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (M 8422). In reply the Committee of the Life Brigade will be very glad to make arrangements for a Rocket Drill to suit the convenience of Commander Pompen of the Brazilian Imperial Navy.

I also acknowledge receipt with thanks of two parcels of Tables relating to Life Salvage.

I also enclose copy of Report in connection with the recent enlargement of our Watch House.

I have the honour to remain

Your obedient Servant

S. Malcolm

The assistant Secretary

Marine Department.

SPECIAL DRILL FOR COMMANDER POMPEN

South Shields July 5th 1876

Sir

With further reference to your letter M8422 I have the honour to inform you the South Shields Life Brigade had a Special Drill on the 30th of June in the presence of commander Pompen of the Brazilian Imperial Navy.

I have also much pleasure in stating that the officers of the Coast Guard fully explained the details of the apparatus to the entire satisfaction of Commander Pompen.

I remain your obedient servant

S. Malcolm

The assistant Secretary

Marine Department

END OF YEARS RETURNS

October 12th 1876

Sir

I beg to enclose the returns of South Shields Life Brigade for the year ended June 30th last as requested in your letter M13688 dated the 9th inst.

Apologizing for the unusual delay

I remain

Your obedient servant

S. Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Board of Trade

RAILINGS ON THE PIER

December 30th 1876

Dear Sir

The prevailing opinion appears to be that the proposed railing on the South Pier should be fixed about 18 inches from the edge.

The committee of the Brigade have appointed the Captains and myself as a deputation to confer with you on the matter.

I shall therefore be glad if you will appoint a time when we can meet you on the South Pier.

Yours faithfully

S. Malcolm

STORM GATE FOR THE PIER

To the Chairman and members of the piers Committee of the River Tyne Commissioners

Gentlemen

At the request of the Committee of the South Shields Life Brigade I beg respectfully to ask the River Tyne Commissioners to co - operate with us in order if possible to prevent the Public crowding on to the Pier in stormy weather especially at shipwrecks.

During the recent gales as well as in former occasions our operations have been very much impeded thereby and we suggest the advisability of fixing additional iron gates at a suitable place between the Brigade House and the jetty with instructions posted up forbidding anyone to pass without special leave.

I remain

Gentlemen

Your obedient Servant S Malcolm

WRECKS OF CLAREMONT – TYNE – FENNELLA – NEW CORNWALL – BLENHIEM & HERMAN SAUBER

South Shields December 30th 1876

“Sir,

In further reply to your letter of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to report that on Tuesday, the 19th instant, a most terrific gale from the south-east commenced on this part of the coast, and was attended by most disastrous results both to life and property, as the following condensed account will show. The South Shields Volunteer Life Brigade, as usual on such occasions, mustered in force at their watch-house to be ready for any emergency that might arise. The gale increased, and the sea rapidly rose on Wednesday to an alarming extent. On Thursday morning, about two o'clock, the lookout observed a vessel, the steamship Claremont, of Newcastle, making for the harbour. On nearing the bar, a succession of heavy seas struck her, and she became unmanageable, eventually stranding about two hundred yards on the south side of the pier. Meanwhile, the apparatus was taken along the pier, and in a few minutes a rocket line was thrown right amidships, but falling on the stays out of reach of the crew, a second was fired abaft the mainmast, by means of which the other gear was got on board, and all the crew, with a woman and child, numbering 21, safely landed. They were taken to the watch-house and supplied with dry clothing and refreshments. As the morning advanced the wind and sea increased, with heavy rain. Shortly after six o'clock, the lights of another steamer were descried through the darkness, and in a very short space of time she was driven against the end of the pier. The apparatus was all in readiness and a rocket line fired on board. By this time the vessel had become submerged and the crew had taken to the rigging. The scene was now most heartrending; rocket after rocket went over the ship, the crew being unable to leave their positions to take advantage of them. Shortly after striking very little was to be seen but the bridge and the masts. The former soon washed away, and the latter followed in rapid succession, carrying with them the poor fellows who had gone there as a last refuge. She proved to be the steamship Tyne, of North Shields, with a crew of seventeen hands, one of whom was member of this brigade. They were all drowned. Just as the last rocket was fired over the Tyne, another screw-steamer struck the end of the pier. After backing off she was run full speed ahead to the beach, just clearing the sunken wreck, which had she struck might have been attended with serious loss of life. Two rockets were fired, both of which took the lines over the ship. They were not used; the crew, 20 in number, remaining on board till low water, when they got ashore and were supplied with necessary food and clothing the watch-house. This steamer was the Fenella, of London. After the breaking up of the Tyne a detachment of the brigade was told off to go along the beach in search of any bodies that might wash ashore. It was while in performance of this duty that one of the members was knocked down by a wave and had his leg broken. Other members also had narrow escapes. The storm still continued to rage, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon the steamship Blenheim, of Hartlepool, struck the pier, and immediately parted amidships, the after part remaining fast and the fore part washing round the north end of the pier. The men on this piece of the vessel jumped on to the pier staging and were saved, except one who fell short and was drowned. A rocket was fired over the stern, and the remainder of the crew, six in number, safely landed. The total on board was twenty, nineteen of whom were saved and taken to the watch-house, where they were treated in the usual manner. The gear was collected together and kept at the end of the pier to be ready for any other emergency. Soon after the wreck of the Blenheim, a small schooner named the New Cornwall, of Barnstaple, got among the broken water, was capsized, and all the five number, perished. We could render no assistance, the melancholy sight being over in three or four minutes. Saturday the sea continued very high, with blinding showers of sleet. The members of the brigade were on duty, and about midnight another

screw-steamer was observed making very bad weather near the end of the pier. She was struck by heavy seas, and eventually stranded near the other vessels. The apparatus was taken down the pier and the first rocket fired right amidships. No action being taken by the crew a second was fired, by which the whip line was hauled on board. From some cause this got foul, and other three rockets were fired, by which a second whip line was hauled off, and also a hawser, but these also got entangled by the heavy sea and the large quantity of wreckage floating about.

After working with the lines for two hours it was determined to try the lifeboat. This proved successful, and all the crew safely landed and taken the watch-house. One of the life boat men got his leg broken while assisting to get the lifeboat launched This vessel was the Herman Sauber, of Hamburg, with a crew of 19. By this time most of the members were nearly worn out with the exertions of the last two or three days, but as the weather still continued stormy some remained on duty all through Christmas Eve. On Christmas morning about half-past three o'clock, the brig Mary, of Whitby, was observed to go ashore on the Herd Sand. The signal was instantly given to the lifeboats. The brigade ran along with heaving lines and life-buoys, but the crew was taken out by the lifeboat. Such is a brief account of the most fearful and disastrous gale that has occurred, here since the formation of this brigade, and one that will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it. We have landed by the apparatus 27 people, besides assisting the others to the best of our ability. We have also received 80 shipwrecked persons into the watch-house, providing them with all necessary comforts, for which they have been very grateful. In conclusion, I think it my duty to add that the officers of coastguard have been most assiduous and attentive to their duties, and are well worthy of special recognition. I would also respectfully suggest that the regulation quantity of stores at this station should be increased.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant S. Malcolm

"The Assistant Secretary, Marine Department, Board of Trade."

STORM CAPS

January 4th 1877

Sir,

In accordance with the request contained in your letter (M 16233/1876) I have forwarded by passenger train to your store keeper one of the Helmets worn by the Members of the So Shields Brigade at Rocket Drills and wrecks.

As it belongs to one of the men and as we have no spare ones please return it as soon as practicable.

From our experience of these Hats, I think if the question were to come up for consideration again, we should be inclined to make a change, not perhaps as to shape, but material.

In designing the Helmet we tried to accomplish three things 1st to be waterproof, 2nd to be light in weight 3rd to be light in colour so as to be easily distinguishable in the dark. They are not perfectly watertight and those that have seen much service are soiled and out of shape. If the outer covering could be replaced with a glazed material it might prove more serviceable.

My report of the recent wrecks was forwarded on the 30th ult.

I remain

Your obedient. Servant.

S Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

THANK YOU TO THE LIFE BOAT FUND

Jan 16th 1877

Dear Sir

I am desired by the Committee of the South Shields Life Brigade to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 5th inst. To thank you and the Trustees of the Life Boat Fund for their kindness in making an additional allowance of Ten pounds per annum to the Funds of the Brigade.

Yours faithfully

S Malcolm

Joseph Wilson Esq

CONDOLENCES TO MRS STEVENSON

June 20 1877

My dear Mrs Stevenson,

The Members of the Life Brigade heard with very deep regret of the death of their Treasurer the late Mr Arch. Stevenson. From the formation of the Brigade Mr Stevenson took a great interest in it and although latterly circumstances prevented his being often amongst us he from time to time gave proof that he was not unmindful of its welfare.

I have been requested by the Committee (and I do so with much sorrow) to convey to you the sympathies of the members of the Brigade in your heavy affliction, trusting that this feeble expression from a small portion of the fellow townsmen of your late respected husband will afford you a little consolation.

A wish has been expressed to have a Portrait of Mr S hung up in the Watch House and we will take it as a great kindness if you could spare me a carte de visite to get enlarged.

Mrs Malcolm joins me in kind regards and much sympathy.

Believe me, Yours very faithfully

S Malcolm

IRON RAILINGS AROUND WATCH HOUSE

South Shields June 19 1877

James Guthrie Esq

Tyne Commission Offices

Dear Sir

The Committee of the S.S.V.L.B. are very anxious to have the Watch House protected by an Iron Railing and also to add another room for the purpose of Drying the clothes of shipwrecked sailors & the want of which was very much felt during the last Winter.

I am requested to forward you the accompanying plan on which is shown the proposed alteration.

The Committee will feel obliged if you can bring the matter before the Tyne Commissioners at an early date asking their permission to enclose the ground as indicated.

Yours faithfully

S Malcolm

REQUEST FOR NOTICE FROM THE BOARD OF TRADE

South Shields December 3 1877

Sir

On a former occasion I pointed out that at shipwrecks the operations of the So Shields Life Brigade have been impeded by persons crowding amongst the Members and the Apparatus.

I understand there are certain penalties attached to anyone interfering on these occasions and the Committee thinks that a Notice drawn out under the authority of the Board of Trade warning the Public of the consequences would have a good effect. If you could oblige us by so doing we will get it painted on a board and fixed in a conspicuous place.

I shall also be glad if you could oblige us with 100 copies of the Pamphlet (LSA 1) which gives a detailed description of the Apparatus and which has never been placed in the hands of our Members.

I remain your obedient Servant

S Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Board of Trade

APPOINTMENT AS DEPUTY RECEIVER OF WRECKS

January 7 1878

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (M 16073) stating that the Board of Trade propose that I should be appointed an Honorary Deputy Receiver of Wreck for the purpose of giving me legal power to suppress disorder at shipwrecks under the 444d & 445d Sec. of the Merchant Shipping Act.

With regard to the other suggestion of appointing a second officer of the Brigade I have brought the matter before the Committee and they have nominated Mr Thomas G Mabane as my colleague.

I have to add that we are both willing to accept the appointment.

I remain

Your obedient. Servant

S Malcolm

The Assistant Secretary

Marine Department

EXTEND RAILINGS ON THE PIER

South Shields July 6 1878

Dear Sir,

I am desired by the Committee of the Life Brigade to ask if you would kindly extend the Railings on the edge of the Pier a further distance seawards from the Iron Gates.

I observe some of the necessary holes in the stone coping are already countersunk.

Yours faithfully

S Malcolm

P. J Messant CE

Tynemouth