



The Peregrine Phots Post



Summer
2011
Issue 26

The Royal Naval Photographer's Association

Ahoy there

We have a full newsletter for you with a sample of the Peregrine trophy on the front page with further photos throughout the year.

There was a committee meeting in July where it was decided to hold the AGM on a social weekend in Portsmouth on 23 - 25th September full details on page 8. You will have to be quick for the dinner on board the Victory as it is limited to numbers **Come on** lets all meet up & have a good chin wag! Don't forget Gibraltar 28th October - page 9.

We still need you memories so please send in you photos as you will see part of Paul Yockney's Album we hope you find it as interesting as we did. Thanks Paul.

Happy reading Hilary & Steve

Peregrine Trophy Award went to HMS ARK ROYAL. The Peregrine Trophy was awarded to the Section or Unit submitting the best portfolio of six prints, here is taste of photo submitted



Image by Petty Officer Airman (Photo) Ray Jones.

Harriers from 800 Naval Air Squadron and 1(F) Squadron Royal Air Force launched off the deck of HMS ARK ROYAL for the last time. They had embarked 5 days previously prior to ARK ROYAL paying a visit to Newcastle, the place of her birth. This was the last time that the deck of the ship saw fast jets before her decommissioned.

Highly Commended:

Image by LA (Phot) AJ MacLeod. FRPU (north)

Exercise Joint Warrior (JW) is a UK wide, tri-service exercise conducted in the Spring and the Autumn of each year and it is believed that JW is the largest exercise of its kind in Europe. The event is truly international – apart from the UK and the United States, other countries taking part are: Canada, Italy, France, Estonia, Spain, Poland, Belgium, Turkey, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Denmark.



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Press Release – dated 18th October 2010 - “HMS ILLUSTRIOUS Sailors Remembered”

H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS Association - Press Release – dated 18th October 2010

Liberty Boat Disaster – 17th October 1948 – Portland Harbour

“HMS ILLUSTRIOUS Sailors Remembered”

A Dedication and Unveiling Ceremony took place at Portland Marina, Dorset, yesterday of a Memorial commemorating the memory of twenty-nine sailors of HMS ILLUSTRIOUS who lost their lives when the liberty boat in which they were returning to their ship sank in Portland Harbour.

The event marked the sixty-second anniversary of the tragedy which occurred on Sunday 17th October 1948 and the new Memorial, made from Portland Stone, looks out across the harbour close to the spot where so many young lives were lost on that tragic night.



Photos by Ray Whitehouse

Please visit - The RNPA web site: <http://www.rnpa.info>

Press Release – dated 18th October 2010 - “HMS ILLUSTRIOUS Sailors Remembered”

It was at 22:20 that evening when the ship's Liberty Boat, a 36 foot open motor launch, left Weymouth Pier to return to HMS ILLUSTRIOUS moored in Portland Harbour. The boat was carrying fifty men, including a crew of five, who had been enjoying a run-ashore that evening in Weymouth. Although there was a south-westerly gale blowing with thirty-knot winds and rain squalls the initial part of the journey was carried out quite safely, but as the boat passed through the northern entrance of the breakwater to Portland Harbour, it began to ship water.

It was a very frightening experience for those young men to find themselves in and the situation was worsening with every moment. The sailors began bailing out the boat with their caps, buckets and anything which came to hand whilst others attempted to form a breakwater with their bodies to keep the sea out. The young Midshipman in charge did all he could to keep the boat trimmed and her bows out of the water, but regrettably their efforts were in vain and the boat foundered and sank some sixty yards astern of HMS ILLUSTRIOUS.

Rescue boats were launched immediately from ILLUSTRIOUS and other warships in the vicinity and searchlights were trained on the sea. Ropes, buoys and life belts were thrown and men dived from the gangways of the carrier to assist those struggling in the water. There was incredible bravery, resolve, courage and strength of character shown that night but despite all their efforts, twenty-nine of the fifty young sailors who left Weymouth earlier that evening lost their lives.

The HMS ILLUSTRIOUS Association has been responsible for the production of the Memorial and for the organisation of the Dedication and Unveiling Ceremony. Said John Ellis, Chairman of the Association “That night we lost many friends, shipmates, brothers and sons... young men in the prime of their lives. National Servicemen and regulars, old hands and new, some of the brightest and the best. A tragedy made even more poignant by the fact that some had survived the war only to succumb to the capricious sea. It has been our Association's ambition for many years to establish a permanent and lasting memorial to those who lost their lives that night and I am so pleased that this has at last been achieved and we are all most grateful to those whose hard work and contributions have made this day possible”.

Submitted by Ray Whitehouse

My Visit To Tai-o Village by Julian (Jules) Anderson

I recently spent a couple of days on a stopover in Hong Kong en route to Brisbane and visited the village of Tai-o, I was drafted there in 1973 to coast watching station at Tai-o. Anyway, at that time, when off watch, we used to spend a bit of time on an afternoon having a beer or three at “Henry” which was right next to the bus terminus.

I visited the village & met up with Henry Fong's son - young Henry who remembered us Navy lads & still had a couple of photos of a few of us lads under the glass counter in his cafe. He was very pleased to see me & insisted in providing me with a beer



Henry Fong Jrn the hill in background where the coast watching station was.



The creek Tai-o village



Committee Meeting July 2011

Ian Hooper, Richard Moss, Danny du Feu, Ray Whitehouse, Hilary & Steve King & front Stuart Antrobus.

Your committee

As you can see this committee lark is hard work! Well it is! trying to stay on a subject with out reminiscing!!!!

We received a thank you letter from the Fly Navy Assoc. for our donation to the memorial at the National Arboretum. Just waiting for approval of plaque and it was suggested a

dedication of the plaque in conjunction with a midland visit planned for next year. It was agreed to purchase a bell & engraving for Pete Newton memorial to go ahead it will be called 'Newton Bell' with money donated by Pete Newton's family. Looking into Polo Shirts & ties with RNPA logo. It was proposed the association should mark the Queens Jubilee by having a gala social on the lines of the previous social held at the no.7 boathouse Portsmouth a sub committee was appointed to organise this event. Committee are looking into purchasing a grog tub/run fanny as they have contacts with a cooper to make one.

Full minutes will be available at the AGM 16.00hrs Maritime Club Saturday 24th September see you there.

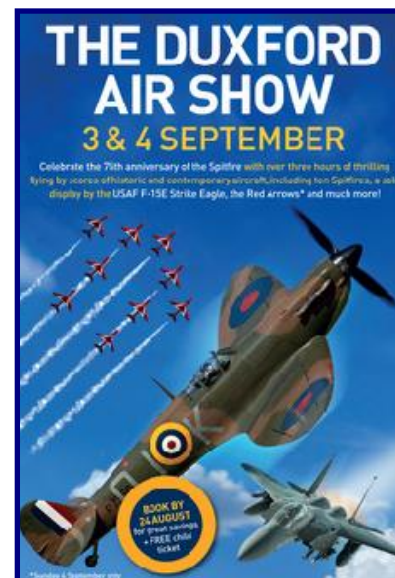
Yeovil Air Show 2011



Impressive displays by some of the world's best military and civilian pilots drew thousands of spectators to RNAS Yeovilton International Air Day 2011. A crowd of 30,000 poured through the gates on Saturday 9th July 2011 for the annual Air Day which also celebrated 40 years of the globally successful small ship helicopter the Lynx which is based at RNAS Yeovilton. Pictured during a display at RNAS Yeovilton Air Day 2011 is the Vulcan with the Sea Vixen.



Photo by CPOA(phot) Susan Emery



Things Historical By Jan Larcombe

A good result from my appeal in the last newsletter about the fire at RNSOP Felpham.

Barney Vollans emailed saying that the story about the V1 bomb was wrong and that the fire was started by a cigarette butt thrown out of a window and catching the thatch alight. He added that one photographer was killed and another badly injured by a large section of thatch falling off the roof.

Barney also emailed

"Incidentally, I mentioned I was the last to leave the blazing building. This is quite genuine. On one of our regular tests (which as you know could result in being slung off the course) I had just started developing a plate which was particularly important to me when the fire alarm went off. Assuming it was "just another" fire exercise I pressed on, despite all the racket, until I was in the hypo. By this time I could smell burning - and moved rapidly. Everybody was already lined up and they were in the middle of a head-count when I shot out of the building. I got a rollocking - but that's my claim to fame (and, yes, Sir - it would have passed the test) !"

Barney was on Class 25b from March to 24th July 1944 and flew from Cowdray Park during his aerial phot training. At 86 he is still running his photographic business (Vollans Photography) in Harrogate.

Confirmation of the cause of the fire came from Paul Wilson who was also on Class 25b. Paul returned to the film business after leaving the Navy and worked on many well know films including some of the James Bond series.

Both Barney and Paul recall flying from Cowdray Park but, not surprisingly after all these years, can remember very little detail.

The only reference to the V1 bomb that I can find was in Douglas Rendalls article in the British Journal of Photography in 1980. Can anyone supply any other references?

No more names from the Staff picture in the same edition but the CO of the School at the time was Cdr WG Gamidge. He was the CO from 1st September 1942 to 1st October 1945. In the 1944 Navy List he is also shown as being the CO of the RN Photo Flight at Ford as an acting Cdr retired having been appointed to the Flight on 1st October 1940.

The normal plea for any info about or pictures of photographers. I will be at the AGM so why not look them out and bring them long

Mystery Picture

No idea where it came from but it was in the collection when I took over. The Officer is a Lieutenant RNVR Observer. Both of those sitting next to him are Leading hands. All the rest Ordinary rates and nobody has trade badges.

Jan Larcombe

jandor@which.net



Final withdrawal of ADEN 1967 photos and comments By Paul Yockney

These marines seen practising for the next day were in danger of having a Wessex 5 land on their heads



Ma'alla, Tawawi & Steamer Point.
ADEN 14th October 1967



I tend to regards this aerial photograph of Ma'alla, Tawahi & Steamer Point areas as being full of menace and that's without the more notorious Crater City.

Pictures taken against the light and the resulting deep shadows can have that effect. This photo shows the harsh volcanic nature of the region.

Magister Aden - Fleet Review

Sailors lining the flight deck of HMS Albion "Cheer Ship" as minesweeper HMS Appleton, carrying Sir Hugh Trevelyan, the Governor of Aden, passes between the commando carrier & the frigate HMS Ajax during the Fleet Review



Lieutenant Joe Barr (white helmet) the crewman in 'sierra', organising the embarkation at the windmills near Shayich Uthman. This 'stick' of Royal Marines was probably, the most isolated awaiting transport out of the colony - I can remember the feeling of collective relief as we became airborne.

Things begin to hot up.

Hectic scenes as the Wessex Mk5's of 848 squadron begin the withdrawal of 42 Commandos from Maidan. Some 600 plus kitbags, cases were airlifted during an afternoon of quite frenzied activity.

A modern day health & safety inspector would be aghast as the helicopters seemed to be here, there & everywhere as they touched down or hovered to collect their designated loads.



The Owen Line Ridge

One of my favourite photos of the whole day as these marines slid and scrambled their way down the shale perched on the Owen Line Ridge above the Crater City.

Unable to land we hovered as low as possible while they almost literally, threw their backpacks & weapons up & into the cabin. Concern was voiced over the RT that they were leaving themselves and us in the helicopter defenceless should the enemy appear on the ridge. I was told by the pilot to point this out, that proved a waste of energy I gave up & helped the crewman to winch & haul them into the Wessex.

HMS Fearless

Commander Wilson the Albion air department commander phoned telling me to meet him ASAP by the Wasp on the flight deck. I got there first & whilst chatting to the ground crew Cdr Wilson approached with a holdall & said "If we ditch forget about the camera - this contains the Fearless fortnightly Pay!"

I kid you not I spent the next 15/20 minutes wondering how I could secrete over £20,000 about my person whilst awaiting recovery away from Aden Harbour.

Later some WAG reckoned I would've had problems being rescued - as I was over 20,000lbs heavier!



2011 AGM & SOCIAL WEEKEND - PORTSMOUTH

23rd & Saturday 24th September 2011

Programme

Fri. 23rd 1900 Social Evening with Buffet Dinner, Open Bar & Horse-Racing
Nelson Room Maritime Club

Cost : Including Buffet Menu, Coffee , Wine
Horse-Racing Event & Raffle
RNPA Members **£20.00**
Non Members **£25.00**

Sat. 24th am Organised Tour (details & cost TBA)

1600 AGM and "Up-Spirits" - **Maritime Club**

1900 Evening on-board with Tour, Reception and Dinner - **HMS Victory**
This has limited numbers so book early to save disappointment.

Cost: **AGM** Coffee, Tea & Biscuits
"Up-Spirits"
RNPA Members **Free**
Non Members **£5.00**

Saturday Tour Details TBA

Evening on HMS Victory
(Limited to 40) Reception Drinks
Escorted Tours
Dinner & Wine
Hire Charges & Donation
RNPA Members **£35.00**
Non Members **£45.00**

Accommodation at the Maritime Club: £40.00 per person Bed & Breakfast
£50.00 per person Bed, Breakfast & Dinner

All bookings through Ray only.

Social **Ray Whitehouse** **01903 770906**
Secretary **e-mail ray@chilston.com**



PHOTOGRAPHERS
ASSOCIATION

RNPA SOCIAL EVENTS 2011

RNPA REUNION GIBRALTAR

FRI 28th Oct - 30th Oct

ROCK HOTEL and QUEENS HOTEL



Package price.

Rock hotel

Three nights Bed and English Breakfast

Reception and Gala Dinner

Costs per person not including flights

£200

Queens Hotel

Three Nights B & B

Reception and Gala Dinner at Rock Hotel

£140

Flights and information available from Ray Whitehouse

From, Heathrow. Gatwick Luton etc It is important that if you are interested in attending to let Ray know as soon as possible

Contact Ray Whitehouse Social Secretary on 01903 770906

or email to ray@chilston.com

Midlands visit will now be next year due to the late reconstruction of the FAA memorial and the further delay in final design of association plaques. Hopefully this will be resolved in October's meeting and a new date set.

Please visit - The RNPA web site: <http://www.rnpa.info>