



THE PEREGRINE PHOTO POST



Winter
2011
Issue 28

The Royal Navy Photographer's Association

Ahoy there!

It's your Editors

Well nice and rested from our Gibraltar trip - what fun ! We had six lovely sunny days just what you need before the winter cold. Hope you are all tucking into the Turkey and vino or a tot or two.

This issue has a full report on the Gibraltar long weekend, though a few of us did stay the week. Well organised by Ray Whitehouse I don't know how you sorted the sunshine but was much appreciated.

To bring a bit of festive cheer we have printed a few old Christmas cards see how many faces you recognise the answers are on the back page with a few more cards and please name the ones we can't remember see if we can get the files up to date.

We would like to wish Pete Thorne a speedy recovery from his recent health problems and of course and to anyone we don't know about.

May we on behalf of the committee wish you a very Happy Christmas, a peaceful and a healthy New Year.

Hilary & Steve King

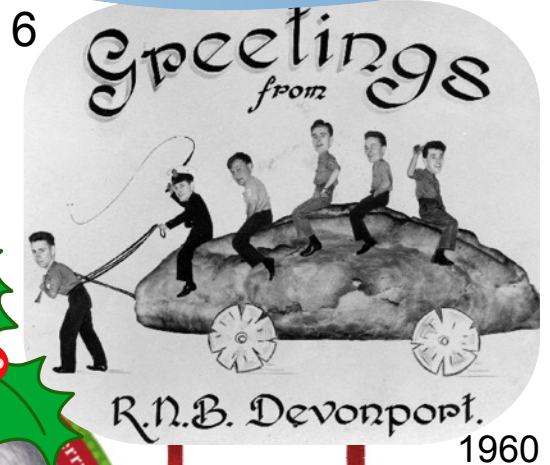
From The Acting Chairman:

As you know from last newsletter I have taken over as Acting Chairman until the next AGM. It's now time to start thinking about a permanent replacement so would anyone who would like to volunteer or nominate someone else (with their agreement of course) please contact the Secretary Ian Hooper at:

ian@hoops48fsnet.co.uk or telephone 01283 53 0428

by Jan Larcombe

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Fare well to a Shipmate

Tony: 'Big man,Big in stature'

As printed in The Northern Scot on 18/11/2011

A PASSIONATE photographer and former Elgin Rotary Club stalwart has died. Tony Spring (81) was well known in the area, having set up his photography business, Studio Tyrrell, in the early 1970s.



He died in Dr Gray's Hospital in Elgin on Sunday, November 6th. Mr Spring had diabetes and complications from the condition resulting in him having both his legs amputated. Originally from London he arrived in Lossiemouth in 1955. He joined the Navy based in the town, working as a photographer, and served on many tours of duty abroad, before leaving the service finally in 1970. It was then Mr Spring started his own business on Elgin High Street. He photographed hundreds of Weddings and contributed photos to local newspapers. Some of his favourite assignments were covering royal visits - his claim to fame being taking pictures of all the Royal family, up to and including Prince Charles and Princess Diana.

Mr Spring met Kate, his second wife, when she came to work at the studio as a developer. She said: "He knew everybody. He was a big man, big in stature. "He loved the masons and went right up until about three months before he died. She added that her husband was an avid church-goer and a member of St James' in Lossiemouth. If unable to attend he would get a recording of the service and listen to it the following Sunday at 11 am. Kate's son James Smith, Mr Spring's step son,said: "He was her life. " They were 22 years married and she worked with him everyday -24 hours a day they were together." Only when he had to go into hospital did the couple ever spend the night apart. Retiring in 1996, Mr Spring began painting,but had to give it up because of his failing sight. He was an avid gardener and enjoyed do-it-yourself. A funeral service was held for him in St James' Lossiemouth last Friday.



Gibraltar Reunion Oct 2011

The Rock Hotel was the venue for our visit to Gibraltar, a little tired but still has the Colonial ambiance. We met at the Wisteria Room for pre dinner drinks .

Our Guest was The Governor of Gibraltar Sir Adrian Johns. Ray Whitehouse gave a short introduction & later Ray and Dave Morris presented him with some Photographs of Historic value.



Ray Whitehouse & Sir Adrian Johns



Dave Morris & Sir Adrian Johns



Hilary & Steve King your editors



Mike Gilbert, Ray & Pam Whitehouse



Sir Adrian Johns, Ray Whitehouse, Mike & Jean Keeling , Paul & Sue Parrack (back to us)



Mike & Jean Keeling, Paul & Sue Parrack



Olga & Dave Price, Ray Whitehouse & Sir Adrian Johns

Letter from Sir Adrian Johns

Dear Ray,

It was very good to see you and the RN Photographers' Association in Gibraltar last weekend. Thank you so much for inviting me to be part of the show and for your hospitality at dinner in the Rock Hotel on Friday evening.

I hope the reunion weekend turned out the way you had wished and that you all enjoyed re-visiting old haunts on the Rock. I understand that you met up (eventually) with some of the RN contingent on Saturday morning – the navy is not here in strength these days but the role is no less important. And I trust that Pete Jackson did his bit on the tunnel tour.

Finally, many thanks for passing on the memorabilia from Dave Morris and others – I can promise you that they have a good home.

With renewed thanks and best wishes to all.

As ever, AJ

Gibraltar Reunion Oct 2011 continued:

Saturday morning we all visited the RN Gibraltar Squadron in the Old Boathouse by Flagstaff gate. After a general briefing by the CO Lt Tom Knott we met the staff & divided into two groups, then shown around the site & the ships alongside. ME Alistair Young took us aboard HMS Scimitar 284 and talked us through its role and capabilities. The second group remained on the jetty to see the Artic rigid hull inflatable boats. A very interesting visit, followed by a group Photograph by Flagstaff gate. (front cover)



Pam & Ray Whitehouse, Mike & Mary Gilbert, Hilary & Steve King, Mike & Jean Keeling, Bill Simpson, Olga & Dave Price.



In the afternoon a coach tour of the island by Pete our tour guide (Siege Battlefield Tours). First stop Casement Square, here we walked through a tunnel and came across a local trying to play a mouth organ. Suddenly he improved and sounded very good but to our amazement it was Dave Morris playing. Pete was an excellent guide who knew his History. We visited the Hundred Ton Gun and Europa Point, which has just been modernised also the huge Cave where concerts can be held. Next the Babary apes where Sharon was happy to have one sit on her shoulder. Fantastic views of the town below before we entered the Rocks famous tunnels, some 34 miles have been blasted out. That evening we had a meal at The Waterside restaurant now inside the old dockyard walls.



Gibraltar Reunion Oct 2011 continued:



Sunday Pete met up with us again for our second tour of WWII tunnels, this was a short hike from the hotel to the entrance passing the old Casino. Here we put on our hard hats and each carried a torch. The tunnels have two main roads The great North Road and the Fosse way, we made our way stopping at various locations and Pete would relay a story one ghostly. Eventually we came to the huge generators some three quarters of a mile in, this would be our turning point. Many areas had been blasted to hold communication and billets for the soldiers, plus galleys and storage areas. The height of the ceilings and widths of the tunnels had been blasted to enable three ton trucks to travel through them.

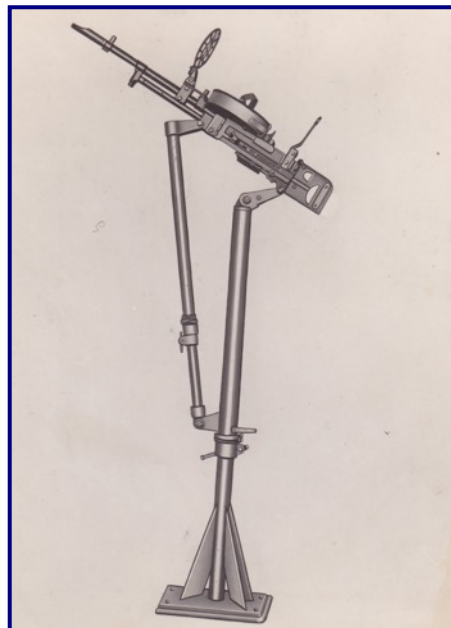
The remainder of the trip enable us to cross the border to La Lina and for some duty free shopping, a bottle of Pussers Rum £8.50. A very enjoyable visit with excellent weather and good food, especially at The Gala Casino lovely steaks where meals were two for one on all courses. Gibraltar still has its charm and has moved on from its Navy days. There are fewer bars and main Street and Casement square are pedestrianised with many cafes and restaurants, one can still barter. Buses are free and those that run to the airport & Liner berths the charged is £1.

Following up from the last newsletter.

Apart from photography Lillians job at Wright and Logan involved retouching photographs of celebrities such as Douglas Fairbanks and Gracie Fields arriving on the large liners at Southampton.

Lillian joined the WRNS on 23 June 1943 and spent nearly a month at the WRNS training depot at Pendragon, Clarence Parade, Southsea, kicking her heels, being detailed for working parties, and waiting for a draft. On the 20th July she was drafted to Excellent as a photographer. (No mention of a course). The very next day she went by bus to Excellent and then on to Tipner where she had lunch in a nearby cottage and arranged to have lunch there every day. (Seems to have been a standard routine at least for the girls) Her first full day at Tipner had her on fire watch and the dairy says, "Mum came round with me."

She obviously did all the normal photographic tasks but increasingly she used her retouching and illustrating skills from her days at Wright and Logan to produce illustrations for the Navy. Below is an example



Lillian Lobb at her retouching desk at Tipner

On Saturday the 15th April 1944 she was on duty at Tipner, mounting paper and loading slides, and says she had supper in the mens mess. (Anyone know if this was at Tipner Range or was there a mess at the photographic unit)

The photographers were obviously well into the Dig for Victory campaign as on the day before D-Day Lillian was watering and planting sweet corn in the gardens at Tipner.

A Mr Hawes is mentioned several times and this is almost certainly WO Bobby Hawes. (I only met Bobby once and can't remember his face but given this clue he is probably the thin ringer in the group in the last newsletter. If any of the more senior members can confirm this I would be most grateful).

Lillian's release order was dated 31 October 1945 and having been granted 56 days resettlement leave left the service on Boxing Day 1945

Two more pictures from Lillian's collection:

One badge Killick Phot in centre with camera badge
– others certainly photos.

As always if anyone can name names in both pictures please.

As usual I have fairly high resolution copies for anyone who would like a closer look.



Looks like the whole crew at Tipner with a Commander in charge.

Jan Larcombe

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Letter from Elizabeth Penny - Roy's wife:

Hello Steve and Hilary,

Roy receives the Peregrine Photos Post and I enjoy reading it too. I felt I must comment on the article submitted by Ray Whitehouse about HMS ILLUSTRIOUS Sailors Remembered.

Roy was on board HMS Illustrious on the 17th October 1948 the night of the Liberty boat disaster. He was 18 and only 3 months into his service doing seamanship training. It was one of those moments in time when you say "there but for the grace of God go I". The night previous to the tragedy he had gone ashore with a mate and they were planning to go ashore again on the 17th October but discovered they were part of the duty watch and therefore could not go ashore. After 62 years Roy still finds it very upsetting to talk about the tragedy.

All the best Elizabeth(Betty) Penny

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

1



1972 - HMS Seahawk

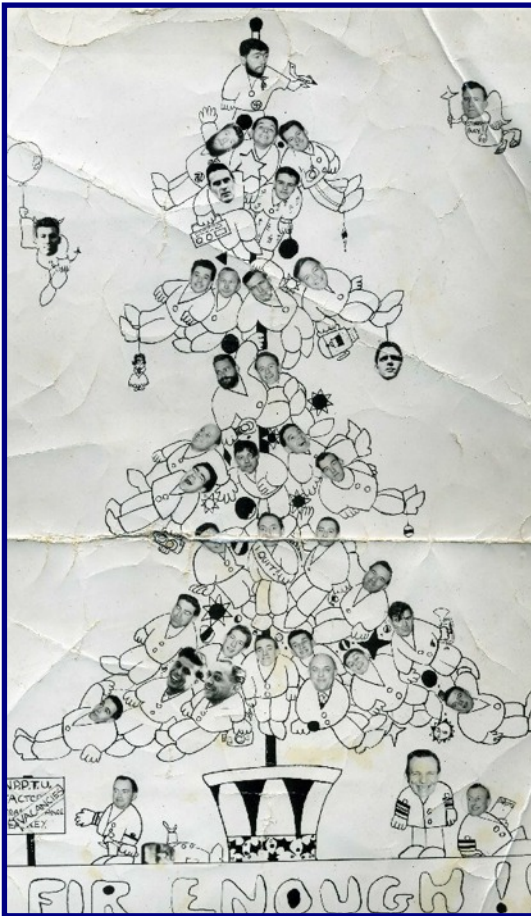


2



1965 - 66 HMS Victorious

3



1965 -Fraser Gunnery Range

**Happy
Christmas**



4



5



Early 1970's HMS Excellent and these are the young men I worked with!

Answer to xmas cards let us know any we have not named
 1 - Steve Hobden, Jules Anderson & Ian (Gus) Gutteridge
 2 - Tod Slaughter, Roy Miller, Andy Anderson, Bill Stenning, Ian Gutteridge, Bob Pearce
 3 - I have no names please let us know - you might need your glasses for this one
 4 - John Pengelly in the front, Paul Yockney & Gus Gutteridge
 5 - Tom Webster, Bungy Williams, Andy Sinclair, Andy Anderson, Jan Cottle, on floor N/K?
 6 - Tony McDevitt, CPO Lenny (low angle) Brown, Binney Handsdel, Pat Farrel, Brian Harris, Peter Thorne