



The Peregrine Phots Post



Spring
2010
Issue 21

The Royal Naval Photographer's Association

Chairman's Message

As the newly elected Chairman of the RNPA it gives me great pleasure to be able to report that the association numbers are growing once again and the future is looking encouraging. This is all thanks to the hard work of a dedicated committee and, in particular our Membership Secretary Danny du Feu, so well done to all.

It would be remiss if I failed to mention our previous Chairman John Cunningham whose leadership, commitment and determination has brought us to the point we are at today. On behalf of all Naval Photographers, past and present, I would like to say 'thank you' to John for all his hard work and perseverance and not forgetting the unstinting support from his lovely wife Moira.

As we progress through the 90th year of photographic support to the Royal Navy the branch itself continues to deliver an outstanding quality of service in all areas of Public Relations, Media Operations and Intelligence. The ability to move both stills and video imagery from anywhere in the world has given our Services Commanders a vitally important tool in their ability to plan operations and win the media battle. Our men and women are now able to capture imagery in such a way that was not possible before and are proving it every day. Long may it continue.

As we move into Spring/Summer, planning has begun in earnest for the Photographic Branch Reunion that will not only bring lots of past and present photographers together but also give us an opportunity to celebrate 90 years of continuous service. Our Social Secretary, Ray Whitehouse, has been investigating the possibility of having our weekend of celebrations in one of Bournemouth's premier hotels; similar to the weekend we had in 2004. Aply assisted by a small group of helpers from the committee Ray is working on getting the best possible deal for our weekend and will give more details in his report. Please give this reunion and party your maximum support and we look forward to seeing a bumper turn out. All that remains for me to say is that I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and I look forward to catching up with everyone again sooner rather than later.

Best wishes Stuart Antrobus

90th Anniversary Reunion & AGM

We need an **URGENT** response for this weekend's celebrations as we need to know the number of people attending so we do not lose our deposit on this great deal.

Full details on last page of this Newsletter. Please contact
Ray Whitehouse Social Secretary

Package 1

One night Bed & Breakfast
& Reunion Dinner
Cost per person - £80

Package 2

Two nights Bed & Breakfast
& Dinner including Reunion
Cost Per person sharing
£131.50

Package 3 Saturday only
no accommodation £47.50



<u>RNPA COMMITTEE</u>		<u>AREA REPRESENTATIVES</u>	
Chairman	Lt Cdr Stuart Antrobus, BEM RN. 02072187508 e-mail stuart.antrobus369@mod.uk	Serving	Amanda Reynolds e-mail aj.reynolds@ukonline.co.uk
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Membership Secretary	Danny du Feu 0116 2898725 e-mail danny@ddf-photography.co.uk	Southwest & Wales	Ian Gutteridge 01326 564514
Social Secretary	Ray Whitehouse 01903 770906 e-mail ray@chilston.com	South	John Flack 01329 235325
Newsletter	Steve and Hilary King 01926 334190 e-mail h.king2@sky.com	South East	Ray Whitehouse 01903 770906 e-mail ray@chilston.com
Webmaster	Lt Paul Cowpe RN e-mail fleet-photfrpuoic@mod.uk	Honoraray Associate	John Cunningham
Historian	Maurice (Jan) Larcombe. e-mail jandor@which.net		

Farewell to our Shipmates

Brian Antony (Ruby) Gentry



Ruby died of a heart attack on 7th February 2010 in Penticton, British Columbia. All of us who knew Ruby will have a "Ruby" story of our own and recall the ready smile, good humour and the yarns he spun. He will also be remembered as a very good phot. His death followed a good day out with Angus McNee and his wife Beryl with a visit to the Annual Home Show and a pub lunch. He had just bought a new car, was starting to get to grips with the internet on his first computer and was looking forward to the golfing season.

Brian was born in Brighton on August 19th 1935. He joined the Royal Navy in 1952 at 17 and trained as photographer at Ford. He was married in 1963 and left the RN as a Chief in the mid 1970s. He moved to Canada and worked with Angus McNee in Calgary for a while before moving on to Edmonton and working for Parker Studio and later for Colortron, a large finishing Lab. He retired in 1991/2 and moved to the Okanagan Valley in South Central British Columbia in May 1997.

He was buried at the Penticton Funeral Chapel on Friday 19th February. Angus McNee and Beryl attended his funeral and his children Amanda and Robert flew over from the UK.



Ron Alexander

Ron Alexander died 22nd February 2010 aged 78 yrs. He joined the Navy in July 1950 & left July 1957. His ships & Squadrons were, Gamecock, Vengeance, Peregrine, Gannet Eglinton, 803 Squadron, - Daedalus, Seahawk Culdrose - 891 Squadron, left Heron Yeovilton in 1957



Ron Case **The Three Queens in Mourning**

The late Ron Case a former Royal navy photographer, who took one of the iconic pictures of the 20th century, died on Friday, 19th September 2008 aged 82. Ron served with the branch during the Second World War and later joined the renowned Keystone Press Agency as a press photographer, a job that took him on assignments around the world.

It was outside St George's Chapel, Windsor on February 15th 1952 where he took the shot that earned him a place among the photographic greats. The occasion was the funeral of King George VI.

Now working for the Pinkerton Press Agency, Ron spotted Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and the soon to be Queen Elizabeth II motionless together for a brief moment as they made their way into the chapel and he pressed the shutter.

Dressed in black and wearing long veils the Three Queens in Mourning, as Ron's picture was later titled, captured perfectly the mood of the sombre state occasion on that bleak February day. The next day Ron's photograph was on the front page of every national newspaper in the country.

In 2000, the BBC selected 100 pictures to tell the history of the closing Century; Ron's shot was selected to represent 1952.

Older RNPA members may well recognise what Ron himself referred to as a 'lash-up'-job a camera created out of old RAF wartime aerial reconnaissance photo equipment bolted together.

Ron said "The lens was mounted onto a piece of wood 20 inches long with a coffin-like box taped to the camera on the other end, 20 inches away. The camera had an old Thornton Pickard roller-blind shutter with an old fashioned screen where one had to look down onto the glass to see the picture-upside down.

Soon after the precious glass plate was processed and copied back in Fleet Street it was accidentally smashed so no original negative survive.

Later in his career Ron covered the Vietnam War and worked in major cities around the world including Tokyo, Berlin and Paris. Between 1969 and the early nineties he was Chief photographer of the Echo group of newspapers where he passed on his skills to a new generation of photographers.

Ron Pogson

From the Editors:

To all RNPA and Serving Members, if any one has any outstanding photographs with stories like Ron Case's we would love to hear from you. We try to make the newsletter interesting but need your help to do this



**A taste of last years Peregrine Trophy & Awards so many fantastic Photographs
Hard to choose which to display - ENJOY.**



Crash on Deck Exercise 425 Flight and HMS Kent ships company practice a crash on deck pictured is AB(sea) 'Tug Wilson dressed to fight an exercise fire. Photo LA (phot) Owen King.



The Inter Services Ski & Snowboard championships takes place at Meribel, France. Boarders take part in Accenture Snowboard Slopestyle Final. Picture shows the army trainer getting some air during a break in the final. Photo LA(phot) Owen King



Amateur Award Winner to the person submitting the best portfolio of two prints of service related subjects who does not belong to the Royal Navy Photographic specialisation.
Awarded to AET(AV) Connell 815 NAS .
Above & below photo



Royal Navy Photographer of the year - LA(phot) Owen King
Awarded for the best set of four photographs of service related subjects submitted by an individual

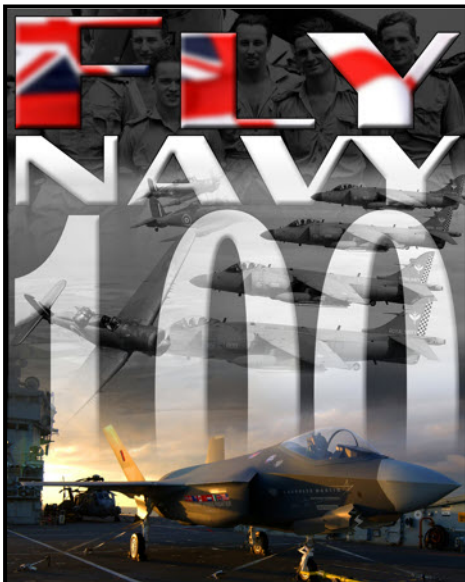


Life without Limits award - Awarded to LA(phot) Nick Tryon.

Member of YCOY 45 Commando Royal Marine during a live firing package at Dunndrennan



Peregrine Trophy Winner 2009. The Trophy is awarded to the section or unit submitting the best portfolio of six prints of service related subjects. Winner LA(phot) Faulkner 42CDO



Digital Imageing Award to the best digitally enhanced photograph. Winner LA(phot) Bunting



The final Grand Prix of 2008 Zapcat National Championship Season at Water Bay near Newquay, four Royal Marine teams took part. Phot PO(phot) Sean Cloe



HMS Endurance in Shomness Bay end of Shackleton walk. Phot: LA(phot) Kaz Williams



HMS Ark Royal taking part in Ex-joint Warrior formerly know as the joint maritime course. RN Phot Gregg Macready

Mainly a plea for help this time, I am still trying to match names to courses and having problems with the National Servicemen and the change over from Phot 3s to Phot 2 New style in 1961/2.

After the 2nd World war National Service ran from 1948 to 1960 and there were several National Service Photographers during this period. Some were trained with the Continuous Service people but I understand that there were some National Service only courses. Were these the same length and content at the Continuous Service courses?

Bob Lomax recalls that several of the people doing their National Service as photographers were a privileged bunch, and the sons of well-known people. Billy Cotton's son Bill and Henry Hall's son Michael to name but two. The only names for National Servicemen I have are:

Keith Rushby, Derek "Joe" Griffin, Sandy Hedderwicke, John Dudley, Bill Cotton (Bandleaders son), Michael Hall (Henry Halls Son), Mike Menzies, Stan Jones No 18 Phot 2s. Ron Harrold, No 25 Phot 2 Bruce Kent No 25 Phot 2, Jeffery John Bendall, The Hagger Twins (from Bournemouth)

If anyone knows where they are now or can put me in touch with any ex National Service Photos I would be most grateful.

I have already talked to several members about the Phot 3/Phot 2 course changeover but have still not got the definitive answer. The Phot 3 course started in 1957. Brian Harris and Mike Keeling + 4 were on No 1 course. The last Phot 3 course I have is pictured on Hist738 on the Historical site and is labelled as No5 and dated 2-11-1962. But I also have the No 1 Phot 2s (the first sideways entry course) dated 2-11-1961, a year before the "last" Phot 3s. This course picture is at Hist770.

Bill Stenning recalls that he and Dave Drescher left the Vic together and went to Lee but Bill ended up in Haslar, so missed the Phot 3s course which Dave Drescher was on, and ended up on the First Sideways entry Phot 2s course. Barnes, Bone, Brookes, Clarke, Davidson, Meyer, Paterson, & Wilson were all Phot 3s because we have pictures of their Phot 2s courses with Phot 3 badges. Rowe, and Ward were probably Phot 3s but we do not have the Phot 2 course pictures to prove it.

If anyone can throw any light on this please get in touch. I was a Phot 3 and my docs do not show what number course I was on and there are very few course groups from that era to confirm who was on which course. As always any information or pictures on any Phot courses is welcome so please dig out your docs and pictures to see if I have got it right.

2012 will be the 50th anniversary of the Peregrine Trophy so I am compiling history and a full list (hopefully) of all the winners. I have just over half the results listed at:

<http://www.users.waitrose.com/~jandor/Peregrine%20Trophy%20Page.htm>

Eventually we may have to get some early details from Practical Photography and go into the Navy News Offices but if anyone has any results not listed I would be grateful for a copy. No pictures at this stage please but it would be useful to know how many Trophy winning pictures are still out there. By the time you read this we hope to have the Historical site within the main RNPA website area. The URL is: <http://www.history.rnpa.info>. I will be running the new and old sites in parallel until we are sure that the new one is working properly.



1. HMS Glory Phot section c1946.



2. Taken at the Ilford Exhibition of Naval Photography on 21st December 1956

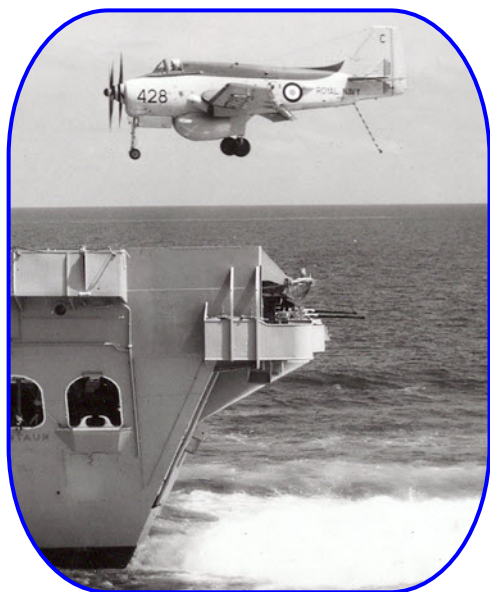
Anyone recognise anyone else? Detail please. email me for high resolution scans if required

Continued from issue 20

HMS CENTAUR by Steve King

1963 -1965 4th Commission 15.11.1963 - 27.11.65

Capt OHM St. J. STEINER RN. EX CDR D. W. Bazalgette



Singapore gateway to Asia

We docked in Sembawang not far to the main gate, throughout the day there was always the chance of a storm or heavy shower, the first things to hit you was the humidity and the heat so an air conditioned taxis were order of the day, about \$1 to go into Singapore. Into town visiting all the many places of interest and the many bars and a visit to Raffles Hotel very close to the Union Jack Club and of course Bugis Street. In those days I did not know what Kai Tai's were, but I soon learnt. There were many fights in those times but jack survived. Nee Soon was another town we shopped and on Sundays the night market at Sembawang hills. During the day we would wander around in the trishaws and take local boy pictures for stories back home, we also did a Shop Window for the Singapore Government.. Orchard road was the main shopping, Robinson Square and Change Alley for your watches.

We then carried out a RAS and made our way to Subic Bay and to the town of Olongapo. Outside the gate, over a small river bridge the young children would show off their diving and swimming skills retrieving coins we threw into the river. The main street was about a mile long full of bars and night clubs. The mass of Cheepneys with their decorative colours and design drove us around. I had a day trip to Manila, a long coach trip on very unstable roads and driving standards very low. Manila was a great city to visit with its old buildings

Next another workup off Subic bay for nine days before making our way to Hong Kong, here for 14 days and for Jenny's Sideparty to paint the ship. We were alongside at Tamar and our sister ship also called Centaur did a very close run by. Hong Kong was a wonderful place with so much to see, the peak tram took us to the top with it amazing panoramic views. I tried several places for different views of the ship, both during the day and at night, more local boy stories. There were visits to Stanley and its market, Aberdeen to see all the junks and sampans and the large Jumbo floating fish Restaurant. Our sporting team carried out races from the top of the Hilton to the top of the Manderin Hotels a contest carried by many of the ships that visited; I cannot remember the record time. It is a shopper's paradise and ideal for cameras, silk and watches and the many Chinese and Indian Emporiums, and we had to visit The China Fleet club, in those days it was on the waterfront. The night life was great many spending most of the time in the Wanchai area where we soon found the good bars and the beer was cheap about 99cents.

Sailed from Hong Kong for our O.R.I. Exercise "High up" followed by a banyans on PulaTioman and back to Singapore for two weeks but had to depart for Aden more trouble in the Radfan. Fast passage arriving on 22 May 64. Disembarked 815 leaving them to fight the war and proceeded to Mombasa for a break. Trips arranged to Tsavo National Game Park or by train to Nairobi. Mike Thorne visited Lake Naivasha to see the Flamingos and wild life.

PTO

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

Continued HMS CENTAUR

Back to Aden and retrieve 815 and then passage to India, Madras, a rough passage with some storm damage especially to the Captain's boat. Madras was a dry state but the Brits living there had rations for beer. We met many from the Standard Motor Company who invited many of the crew for drinks. The crew were told not to drink the local water or food so Chinese was our best option. Jack Straw and myself were invited by one of the manager's of The Standard Motor Company, he loaned his car with a Chauffeur who drove us out into the country to see some of the local sights.

It was then back to Singapore and out to sea for FOTEX, plenty of ships, divisions and the usual photographic test and task, back to Singapore and then out again for exercise JADDEX, back into Singapore. Patrol off the coast of Malaya and visited Pulau Tioman back into Singapore the fast passage to Indonesia to escort HMS Victorious who had broken down and travelling slowly back. President Sukarno threatened to blow her out of the water if she passed through the passage on route from Australia to Singapore. Keeping an eye out for their one and only submarine and the Battle Cruiser, the Ship was at Action Stations, aircraft on deck fully armed and ready to go at a moment's notice. The crew sat in their aircraft with umbrellas above to keep the heat of the sun off. Several sorties went but no action taken. Escorted the Vic back to Singapore and we made our way to Hong Kong, then onto Subic bay passing close to Typhoon "DOT" returning to Singapore and to carry out Anti-Invasion Patrols off the coast of Malaysia.

17th - 25th November back to Singapore for last of our rabbit runs then proceeded to Aden and the Suez Canal for home, with the ship's company concert on 12th December in Suez Bay. Next day transit the Suez Canal, again up on the bridge with the F24. Centaur arrived back in Pompey on 21st December exactly one year after sailing.

Editor Steve King

Your Membership Secretary is seen here extracting the 2010 Single Membership Fee from Caroline Coombes(nee Williams) after meeting up in a very nice bar in Truro in early December 2009. Don't panic, Danny was visiting his brother who lives locally and met up with Caroline for a social drink and chat.



Photo by Tina du Fue

Membership Secretary's Report - Danny du Feu

Greetings Everyone, I hope you have all had a good start to 2010 and are looking forward to meeting up at the various 'Do's and visits' that the Committee is lining up for you this year.. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the New Members that have

joined since the AGM in November swelling the ranks to 132 paid up Members.

They are: Audrey Bazely(nee Dickson), Caroline Coombes(Nee Williams) see insert picture, John Drew, Brian Jupp, Chris McDermott, Amanda Reynolds(Serving), John Sivitar, and Paul Wellings. I will go to great lengths to get you to join as Caroline Coombes(nee Williams) found out when we met up in Falmouth just before Xmas!

The Membership Fees increase was voted in at the AGM in November but unfortunately the message hadn't reached all of you in time for you to alter your Standing Order for 2010. Please send me a cheque for £5 to me soonest to top up your 2010 fees and if you would all make sure the Standing Order at your Bank/Building Society is altered for 2011. Thank you!

The New Rates are: Single/Associate/Serving £15; Joint £20

Please continue to pass me names & contacts of Ex-Phots who I am then sending our Joining Details.

Thanks to those that have, it has been a great help, which is evident in the rising membership.

THANKS AGAIN!

If you have any questions or comments please contact me. My contact details are:

email: danny@ddf-photography.co.uk

or write to me at: 57 Westover Road

Tel. 0116 2898725

Braunstone Town

Mob: 07891 660715

Leicester LE3 3DU



**The Editors would like to thank everyone
who contributed to this Newsletter
Please let us have your photos & Stories**

RNPA 90th Anniversary Reunion & AGM

27th to 29th August 2010

Wessex Hotel - Bournemouth

Package 1 - 28th August 2010

Costs per person

Saturday Night, Dinner & AGM

£ 80.00

Package 2 - 27th - 28th August 2010

Sharing Double/Twin Accommodation

£131.50

Single Accommodation

£131.50

Additional Night (29th) inc Dinner

£ 50.00

Package 3

Saturday only - no Accommodation

£ 47.50

5% Discount off the above for fully Paid-up Members of the RNPA

Costs include

Table d'hôte Dinner - Friday
Full English Breakfast - Saturday
Drinks Reception - Saturday
Live Entertainment - Saturday
Vat & Service charges

Accommodation - Friday
AGM Saturday incl. Coffee, Biscuits and a Tot
Special Gala Dinner - Saturday
Full English Breakfast - Sunday
Parking

Use of the Hotel's leisure Club and Indoor & Outdoor Pools

Availability and costs are guaranteed up to the 18th June after which date supplements may be applied - so please ensure you book before this date.

Single room prices are guaranteed for the first 11 bookings only after which supplements will apply.

Accommodation for the dates 27th/30th August can only be confirmed through the RNPA

A deposit of £25.00 per person required to secure your booking, balance due on 1st August 2010.

Please send your booking to: Social Secretary
Ray Whitehouse
Chilston Cottage
Ham Manor Way
Angmering
West Sussex BN16 4JQ

Tel: 01903 770906 email ray@chilston.com

Cheques payable to Royal Naval Photographic Association

Ray Whitehouse