

THE PEREGRINE PHOTOS POST

THE ROYAL NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 5

JUNE 2004

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EDITORIAL

Your regular newsletter has been going for over a year now and the feedback indicates that you approve of the content. However, to continue with this format, I need your help in the form of your captioned photographs and, or, articles of your service or even post service experiences. In the past I have received more response from uncaptioned photographs, when members recognise old oppos and write to identify them. Your photographs will be recorded and returned immediately.

Our Secretary Lt. Stuart Antrobus, has now got the new database up and running, he has instigated the implementation of the web site and is working hard toward making the October Reunion a successful event. Stuart has been inundated with work, (RN type), since his return from Basra and is finding it more and more difficult to give as much time as he would like, to RNPA activities. In view of his other, extremely important commitments, I will be working with Stuart to ease his burden for the next few months at least.

It may be that, I shall stand down as Vice-Chairman at the AGM and Stuart may stand down as Secretary. I will accept nomination as Secretary and Stuart as Vice Chairman, Perhaps all will be clarified in the Secretary's Report. You will notice that we have a new Honorary President. Lt. Cdr. Mike Mitchell left at the end of May and Lt. Cdr. Martin May-Clingo takes over as Fleet Phot/Avint Officer and Honorary President of the RNPA. Richard Moss has got to grips with the RNPA accounts and has recently moved house, note his new telephone number.

I shall be going on holiday again from 1st June and have arranged to get this newsletter out on time, thanks to Stuart and the FRPU.

Pete Newton

RNPA COMMITTEE 2004

President: Lt. Cdr. Martin May-Clingo RN

Chairman: John Cunningham 02392 780806

ViceChairman: Peter Newton. 01903 219996
email fawnewton@aol.com

Secretary: Lt. Stuart Antrobus, BEM. RN. .
O.I/C. FPU Tipner. 02392 547112

Treasurer: Lt. Richard Moss, BSc. (Hons) RN
023 8026 5212

Webmaster: W/O Paul Cowpe

Historian: Maurice (Jan) Larcombe.
jandor@which.net

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Serving:- PO(Phot.) Richard Thompson DNR

Scotland:- John Berracloth. 01382 457601

Northern:- Ray Pogson 01226 763167

Midlands:- Danny De Feu. 01162 241974

Southwest/Wales:- Ian Gutteridge 01326 564514

South:- John Flack. 01329 235325

Southeast:- Roy Penny. 01634 241071

N. Ireland :- William Porter. 01232 381251
ext.290

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

THE RNPA MOVES FORWARD. We are once again on course to become the organisation of which, our members will be proud to be a part. Stuart Antrobus has done a great job as Secretary and has produced an up to date and accurate database and is working toward making the 85th Reunion the best one to date.

Peter Newton has provided a regular newsletter, which has prompted response from members. Richard Moss has now got the accounts in hand and is doing a great job as Treasurer and Paul Cowpe has come up with an excellent RNPA Website, try logging in. You will notice we are also starting a programme of visits/outings which may be of interest to members.

I for one am pleased with the progress we have achieved over the past year and look forward to welcoming you all at the reunion in October.

John Cunningham

SECRETARY'S REPORT JUNE 2004.

It's great to be able to report that the association is going from strength to strength with lots of old members re-registering their interest once again as well as several new members joining. Last month's newsletter, which included details about the October AGM and Reunion, certainly created a great deal of interest and as of the 15th May nearly 100 tickets have been reserved for the October celebrations and AGM.

If you have decided to come along then please get your booking form off to me ASAP.

I have only just sent out the notices and details to the Associate Membership, the RN serving photographers, and with only 200 places available for the Dinner / Dance I am sure that they will soon snap up the remaining tickets!

N.B. If anyone wants a copy of the guest list please give me call on 02392 547112 or send me an email: stuart_antrobus@hotmail.com

VISIT OUR WEB SITE : WWW.RNPA.ORG.UK

SUBS.

Richard Moss is now the association treasurer and all correspondence should be addressed to him. I just wanted to mention briefly that there are still some members whose annual subs are still not up to date with several of you paying the association twice. Richard will be writing to members in the very near future to rectify this ongoing problem.

DATABASE.

The association database is finally taking shape and is now looking more accurate than it has for years. I'm grateful for the assistance of those members who have helped me track down the addresses and telephone numbers of members who had given up on the association. The effort has been well worth it because the trend is now towards an increasing membership rather than declining.

WEBSITE.

The new look website is now on line and looking really good. Paul has worked hard to be able to juggle family life, work and the responsibilities of the RNPA Webmaster. The new features, which include a members message/comment exchange site and Jan Larcombe's archive link, are an excellent addition to an already very user-friendly website. Communication between members has gone up dramatically since the site came on line last year. Well done to all concerned.

VISITS.

On Thursday 8 July 04 the Fleet Regional Photographic Unit at Portsmouth will hold an open day for all members of the RNPA. The visit will begin at 10.00 with welcoming refreshments provided on arrival followed by a presentation on the Photographic Specialisation by our Honorary President, Lt Cdr Martin May-Clingo. On completion we will tour the unit to see how things have changed over the years as well as meet those members of staff currently serving. Lunch will be prepared on our unit B-B-Q range and we will invite other photographers from around the Portsmouth area to join us. On completion of lunch we will travel by bus into the dockyard and view the warships currently

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alongside. We will then visit the offices of the Navy News to meet the editorial staff and finally, if we get approval from the First Lieutenant, we will have a private visit to HMS Victory. On completion of the tour we will retire to the 'Ship Leopard' Public House on the Hard at Portsmouth to enjoy some free beers at Foxy Glaziers pub (ex Phot). He tells me he has an excellent choice of wines for the ladies.

If you are interested in this event please call me ASAP on 02392 547112 or email.

The visit to the Imperial War Museum is planned for Thursday 9 September 04. The day will start with a visit to The Old War Office where we will meet the photographic staff at DCC(Navy), formally DPR(Navy). We will then have a private tour of the building and, if permission is granted, we will meet the 1st Sea Lord Admiral Sir Alan West. We will then take transport over to the IWM and have lunch at a pub located close to the IWM. After a couple of hours looking at the exhibits we will head for Embankment Tube Station and go onboard the 'Hispaniola' for a couple of beers prior to departing for home or an evening programme if anybody wants to stay longer. This visit will probably be limited to approximately 15 members so if you are interested please let me know ASAP.

AND FINALLY.

After the AGM in October our Vice-Chairman, Peter Newton, and I intend swapping jobs. The job of Secretary has been very time consuming and Peter has convinced me that he has more spare time on his hands than I have. With all the work that I have to do at the unit I was beginning to disregard my duties and responsibilities as your Secretary and, as you all know, that's the last thing I want to do. The change will not really be that noticeable but I am sure there will be a massive improvement in the speed of response to all your correspondence from October onwards. I still intend to carry on with organising the social events and visits etc so nothing will change there.

Report ends.....I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Stuart Antrobus

FINAL REPORT FROM OUTGOING HONORARY PRESIDENT Lt.Cdr.Mike Mitchell RN

As I am about to hand over the position of honorary president to Lt Cdr Martin May-Clingo I thought it would be timely to explain what has been going on in the Photographic Specialisation.

THE PEREGRINE TROPHY

The winner of the 2004 Peregrine Trophy was 3 Commando Brigade. A list of all winners and their photographs are on the RNPA website.

The event was hosted this year by HMS ARK ROYAL at Greenwich on a fine February morning and was very well attended by the press and local TV companies. Much of the credit for the success of the event must go to the team at the FRPU(E) not only for providing the logistical support but also printing the entire entry. This proved very successful and not only was the print standard better but we also produced a CD ROM of all the images. Given the success of the event the intention next year is to seek to hold the event onboard again, dependent upon ship's programmes etc.

DIGITAL WORKFLOW

Warrant Officer Arthur produced an excellent document on digital workflow and every individual in the branch will receive a copy. This is now the template for managing our workflow and will ensure that as photographers move from draft to draft they will encounter the same working practices in each location.

VIDEO

To support the growing demand for video footage within the RN, thirty (30) x Sony PD170 DVCAM cameras and laptops have

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been procured and will go out to all front line personnel in the near future.

All of these photographers have completed the ENG training course at DSOP (Formally JSOP) and will now have the opportunity to expand their skills in newsgathering.

PERSONNEL.

Since I arrived in this post the Photographic Specialisation has been undermanned and one of my first actions was to increase training and recruitment. Some of the deficit in manning has been due to an expansion in the Image Analyst requirement and several personnel being long term medically downgraded. Some of the shortfall has been due to natural retirement and the resulting promotion.

I was hoping to bring the branch up to full manning this year by offering the opportunity for 6 RAF Photographers to transfer across to the RN and gain a rank grade in the process. However the RAF has examined their numbers and have discovered that they are just short of the manpower ceiling. This means that a group transfer will now not take place and we will reach our manpower ceiling in early 2005 based on today's figures. However it does not stop individual RAF photographic personnel wishing to join the RN from requesting to transfer in the normal manner.

PARTY TIME

One of the complaints I sometimes hear is that we do not have enough social events. This year the AGM of the Royal Naval Photographers Association and the 85th anniversary of the Royal Navy Photographic Branch will be celebrated in style at the Savoy Hotel in Bournemouth from 22-24 October. As you are all Associate Members you will be receiving an invitation to this event over the next few weeks. This offers up the chance to meet current and past Photographers and put the world to rights over a few beers. Room rates are discounted so put the event in your diary now!

FINALLY

I leave this job at the end of May and Lt Cdr Martin May-Clingo takes over as Fleet Phot/Avint Officer and your new President. It has been a privilege to serve as your Honorary President over the last couple of years and rewarding in the knowledge that the association is now growing in strength.

I look forward to meeting many of you in October and wish you well for the future.

Mike Mitchell.



About Ray Pugh's Photograph in the March Newsletter.

Ray Pogson names most of the photos in the picture, his email reads:-

Pete

This is the caption for the photograph we discussed and I trust it is of interest to Ray Pug-H.

Back row from left: Ray Pugh, 'Geordie' Skelton (deceased), George Ash, 'Gus' Gutteridge, Julian Anderson, 'Lofty' Le Count, Brian 'Benny' Lowe, and Lt. Bill Barratt,

Centre row from left: Mick Gilbert, 'Len' Hutton, Graham Chadwick, 'Ginge' Jordan, Ian 'Pat' Paterson, 'Freddie' Freemantle, Alex Jamieson and S/Lt. Angus Smart.

Front row from left: 'Big' Bill Smith, Lt.Cdr. 'Barney' Baron OC phot section and RNSOP and finally.....never seen him in my life.

I believe this picture was taken at a section/RNSOP run ashore sometime in 1964. I left the section in June 1963 and most of the people featured were there when I was drafted to HMS Dalrymple.

Regarding the lower left photo which was obviously taken at Fraser Gunnery range about 1964...

A) Jim Hinch(ley) is HINCHEY- he'll go apeshit if he sees that mis-spelling- despite the fact that he styled himself Hinchelbaum.

B) I think the photographer named as Terry Gill (who I know) is actually Frank Calder (deceased).

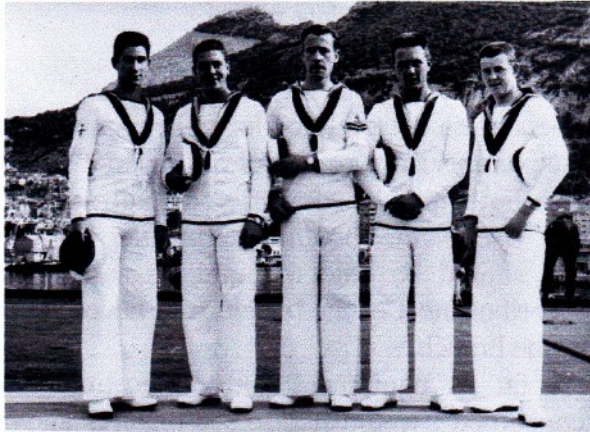
I have a few 'interesting' pix in my album which I will forward on with relevant

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captions for a future newsletter.
 Best wishes ... Ray Pogson
 Thanks Ray.
 We look forward to publishing your pix,
 perhaps in the next newsletter.

HERE'S STEVE POTTEN'S CONTRIBUTION



l to r. Brian (Fez) Parker, Steve Potten, Ted Towers, Nigel Craft and Ian (Soapy) Watson. Taken on board HMS Victorious at Gibraltar 1958/59

DAVID LIPSON'S CONTRIBUTION



back row l to r: Taffy Roberts, Spider Lipson, Bussy Musgrave, Kerr, Thompson
 Front row l to r: Henderson, George the Pole, Pete Daniels.
 Naval Airman Photographers at RNAS St. Merryn, HMS Vulture, School of Naval Air Warfare
 Taken outside Phot Section 1946/47

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Bob Lomax is still waiting for a response to his request for any information on members of No 6 Phot 2's course.

PROFILE ON MIKE ADAMS

Mike joined the RN in May 1948 and like so many of us during that period, joined *HMS Royal Arthur*, entering the gates to the tune of "you'll be sorry" and then being marched to visit Phoebe for the infamous haircuts. Having completed the induction and square bashing, he went on board *HMS Implacable* at Plymouth for a month or so to gain his sea legs. He then went on to do his Naval Airman's course at Lee and from there to the Phot section in Culdrose reporting to Jock Morrow. After a couple of months at *HMS Seahawk*, Mike went to the RNSOP at Ford, *HMS Peregrine*, to start his Phot 2s course in January 1949



Mike far right on Photos course at Ford

After completing his course with top marks, (I know as I was there) he joined the section at Yeovil and stayed there for a year which he says was his best posting during his service years. He was sent on a Multiprinter course at RAF Benson and enjoyed the doughnuts at Ewelme. Early in 1951 he was drafted to 801 Sqdn at Lee and found himself doing hangar sentry duty on his 21st Birthday. 801 with Mike as its Phot went on board *HMS Vengeance* for the summer and then on to *HMS Indomitable* for an autumn cruise, (sounds like a nice holiday) except that Tiny Little was the Phot Officer on board and Squadron Photos were not well received. Mike was recommended for a PO's course by the ops officer, which he did in 52 after which he was made an acting PO and instructor at RNSOP. His next draft was to *HMS Eagle*, (where I met Mike once again) this was in 1954.

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l-r: Mike Adams, Pete Newton, Reg Clowes ashore from HMS Eagle in Naples 1954.
Mike returned to the Trials Unit at RNSOP where he stayed till May 1955 when he was demobbed.

When Mike left the RN he worked for the Glasshouse Research Institute for four years, recording experiments, after which, he was back with the RN as a Royal Naval Lay Reader and worked for four years at Chatham with a notable chaplain Father 'Jehovah' Gover. Mike then became General Secretary to the Naval Christian Fellowship for 15 years before spending the next 15 years printing for service christian organisations under the name of Christian Graphic Arts.

THINGS HISTORICAL

By Jan Larcombe.

By the time you read this there should be Potted Histories of the Branch and the Association up on the web site. These have been compiled from various sources and from my memory. (Yes we are all part of the histories). I would welcome any corrections or additions. Examples. When did the first Phot 3,s start training - and when did they finish? When did the first sideways entry Phot 2 course take place?

Web master Paul Cowpe has included an image gallery in the new web site and this includes an historical section. I aim to make this the main vehicle for gathering pictures and information about the history of the branch. The Image Gallery is an off the shelf product and needs tweaking a bit more to fit our needs but we are all new to it and, for me, it's very steep learning curve. The album titles

are self-explanatory but it would be helpful if those able to upload pictures would include the following information about the photograph in the "Picture Description" box.

1. Ship name followed by unit or Equipment/publication name.
- 2 Description of activity or Description/use of Equipment/publication.
- 3 Date or possible date range
- 4 People involved Left to right

In that order please.

The system currently collects the name under the pictures from your user profile so it would also be helpful if you put your real name in the "User Name" box in your profile.

We should be able to build up a pictorial record of most of the people who have served in the branch.

As far as equipment and publications are concerned I would like to see pictures and/or details of where things are at present in the gallery. You don't have to own it but, for instance, "There is a GB enlarger at" would be very helpful. To keep things manageable could we restrict this section to equipment and publications either manufactured or modified for RN use.

For those unable to upload their pictures I can scan and upload for them but, to avoid long delays, (and me loosing things) please do not send them in the post before I ask. If everyone could let me know what they have I will organise an orderly queue. My address; Lotmead, Holwell, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 5LQ. Email; jandorATwhich.net

For those without internet access we aim to have hard copies of all historical pictures held by the FAA Museum at Yeovilton.

