



# The Peregrine Phots Post



Summer  
2010  
Issue 22

## The Royal Naval Photographer's Association

### From your Editors,

At last the summer issue a bit late but better than never, with a bit of luck we can fit another one in before the Christmas issue. Hopefully we can get some interesting stories when we chat to you at the 90th Anniversary, which we are looking forward to, I've got my dancing clogs out & my posh frock ready. We have had one or two outings as you can see which were very interesting, thanks to Stuart and Ray for organizing the London trip and thanks to everyone who has contributed to this newsletter. Happy reading.



RNPA members on a visit to The Imperial War Museum for behind the scenes exchange of information.

From L - R back row: Val Robertson, Michael Lay, John Edwards, Bill Stenning, June White, Brian Jackson Duncan Read, Brian Robertson, from Singapore Dr Jonathan Robbins, Hilary & Steve King, Pat & Ray Whitehouse. Front row: Rosemary Stenning Mick Gilbert & his wife Mary.

Full story page 6&7

Don't forget  
The 90th Anniversary of  
Royal Navy Photographic Branch  
Reception & Dinner  
at Wessex Hotel Bournemouth  
on Saturday 28th August 2010  
If you have not got your ticket  
Contact Ray Whitehouse

Tel: 01903 770906

and remind your oppos !!

Have a great weekend catching  
up with your mates... see you there!

Dress ... Black tie or Mess Dress with optional  
medals, Lounge suits or Association Blazer  
acceptable

but please no jeans or open-necked shirts.



at Wessex Hotel  
Bournemouth  
27th to 29th August 2010

Editors: Steve & Hilary King tel: 01926 334190 email: h.king2@sky.com

### RNPA COMMITTEE

### AREA REPRESENTATIVES

**Chairman** Lt Cdr Stuart Antrobus, BEM RN.  
02072187508  
e-mail stuart.antrobus369@mod.uk

**Vice Chairman** Lt Paul Cowpe RN  
e-mail fleet-photfrpuoic@mod.uk

**Secretary** Ian Hooper 01283 530428  
e-mail ian@hoops48.fsnet.co.uk

**Treasurer** Lt Richard Moss. Bsc. (Hons) RN.  
023 8026 5212  
e-mail richris95@googlemail.com

**Membership Secretary** Danny du Feu 0116 2898725  
e-mail danny@ddf-photography.co.uk

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

**Newsletter** Steve and Hilary King 01926 334190  
e-mail h.king2@sky.com

**Webmaster** Lt Paul Cowpe RN  
e-mail fleet-photfrpuoic@mod.uk

**Historian** Maurice (Jan) Larcombe.  
e-mail jandor@which.net

**Serving** Amanda Reynolds  
e-mail aj.reynolds@ukonline.co.uk

**Scotland & N.Ireland** John Berrecloth 01382 457601

**Midlands** Danny du Feu 0116 2898725  
e-mail danny@ddfphotography.co.uk

**Northern** Brian (Blondie) Robertson.  
01274 530982

**Southwest & Wales** Ian Gutteridge 01326 564514

**South** John Flack 01329 235325

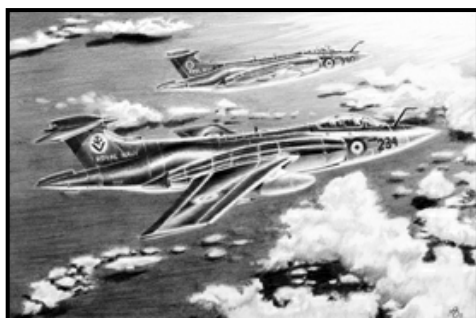
**South East** Ray Whitehouse 01903 770906  
e-mail ray@chilston.com

**Honoraray Associate** John Cunningham

## Artist Martin Buffery

We thought you might like to see the latest additions to artist Martin Buffery portfolio, he exhibited in the Guild of Aviation Artist Painting of the year in July 2010 at The Mall galleries London and he drew the drawing of our newsletter heading - peregrine , which he did free of charge. He does drawing from photographs if anyone would like snaps to be produced in this medium an excellent gift. Prints and cards are available from martins website:-

[www.studiobuffery.com](http://www.studiobuffery.com)



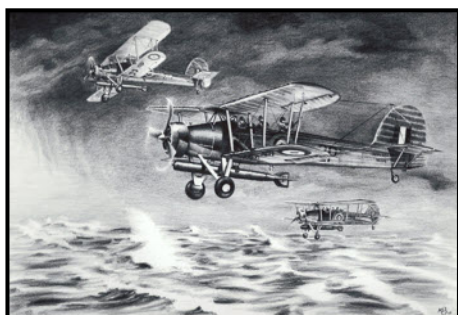
**Victorious Buccaneers**



**Wavetop Gannet**



here are two more of his collection



**Swordfish**



**Suez Sea Hawks**

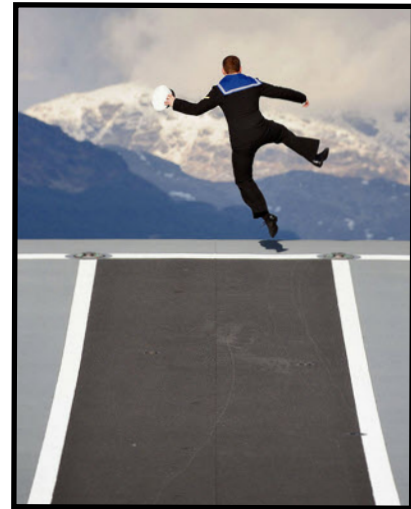


# The Peregrine Trophy



The awards for the annual Royal Navy Photographic Competition, 'The Peregrine Trophy' took place at Mercedes-Benz World, Weybridge, Surrey on Thursday 15 July 2010.

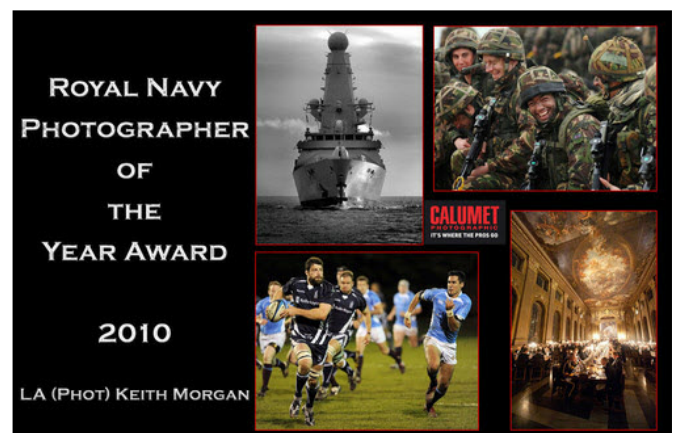
Here is a small example of the competition there will be a display at The 90th Anniversary Reunion of the Royal Navy Photographic Branch, on 28th August at the Wessex Hotel Bournemouth, also in the August Navy News which can be down loaded free from their website.



Without Limits Award LA (Phot) Greg Macready



POA (Phot) Jonathan Hamlet



PO Phot Gaz Armes

## Peregrine Trophy – again

Still working on the results of the Peregrine Trophy over the years. Paul Parrack has been beavering away at the Navy News Office and as a result I now have most of the results but am still short of a few.

I have yet to contact Practical Photography Magazine but we are missing 1963, 64 and 65 as Navy News does not appear to have published these results. Also 1974 and 1980 are missing and it may be because there was not a competition in those years. If anyone can shed light on any of the above please make contact.

## Reunion

I hope to have hard copies of all of our historical website pages, with missing information, available at the reunion and will invite all to add any details they can. As usual I am on the lookout for photographs of and information on Naval Photos so if you have anything not included on the website please bring it along to the reunion. If you don't have web access bring anything you have anyway and we can check it on the day.

No Mystery picture this time but a couple of general interest.

On page 5 you will read a report of our visit to the FAA Museum's reserve collection at Cobham Hall Yeovilton. One thing that I did not know was that the Navy were using lighters to carry seaplanes as early as 1919. They were towed behind destroyers at speed of over 20 knots. See picture of the one at the museum

Secondly on the 17<sup>th</sup> June we went to Yeovil to see HMS Heron marching through the town with band playing bayonets fixed etc. This to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the commissioning of Heron. As you can see from the picture the "Captain" is now a Royal Marine. Two serving photos were spotted festooned with DSLRs and complete with back packs – and – negative caps. Is that enlightened or what? It did not happen to me but stories abound of GI's at Whale Island picking up photos for not wearing hats - under a focusing cloth! Anybody confirm this?

Jan Larcombe



The Vulcan takes part in Yeovil Air Day part of the 70th year celebrations.



# Night at the Museum

The Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton (Cobam Hall) opened its door on Friday 14th May for a Night at the Museum. Visitors had the chance to meet the curators & find out how the museum looks after its collection & learn more about the preservation of their own records & artefacts, view items that are reserved exhibits not normally on view

It was very interesting seeing the restoration work of lighters to carry seaplanes - a floating barge that recovered aircraft from the sea after it had landed. There are over thirty historic aircraft and some five miles of shelving accommodating many of the museum's 2 million records & 30 thousand artefacts. Among these are one of the largest collection of Westland Helicopters, a Supermarine 510, the first swept wing jet to land on a aircraft carrier & the Gazelle helicopter in which HRH The Duke of York learnt to fly.

Pictured (right) is your editor Steve King viewing St Jago's Trophy for indoor games, a large wooden spoon from HMS Centaur a carrier he served on in 1963 - 5.

Below Jan Larcombe checks out some of the history & photographs during our tour of the museum.





# *RNPA visit to MOD & The Imperial War Museum*

by Hilary King

On a Sunny Thursday 8th July we stepped back in time arriving at DPRN or what was DPRN - now the guard's tearoom at the Old Admiralty, this was one of many changes to be found since I worked there some 39 years ago. We were escorted around the Admiralty rooms by Charlotte Henman who gave us a very comprehensive history of the building pointing great items of interest including paintings, sculptures and a small miniature of Admiral Nelson (below).



The Stick on the table is a verger Staff of office, used by the coxswain on the royal barge on the Thames. Behind the group on the wall - is not a clock but a weather vane which would tell the admiralty officers the wind direction whilst they planned operations, it still works today.



We then adjourned to The Henry VIII Wine Cellar MOD where a lovely buffet lunch was served and Ray Whitehouse gave us a talk on the history of the cellars-very interesting.



The afternoon was spent at the Imperial War Museum behind the scenes at the photo archives. There Hilary Roberts and her team picked our brains and we looked through the many folders that contained photographs relating to the photographic branch, we then watched stills & movies.

After a full and interesting day we retired to The Clarence a well known pub where a few jars were exchanged.

A very enjoyable day.

### **Membership Secretary's Report - Danny du Feu**

Hi Everyone - really looking forward to meeting up with you at the 90<sup>th</sup> Reunion & Party 2010 for those that can make it - and only a week away!!

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the New Members that have joined since the last Newsletter issued in April.

Welcome George (Tab) Hunter, from Essex, Tony Darbyshire from Chalfont St. Peter and very interested very prospective members, Mark Bowcutt from Coventry and Graham Meggitt from BBC Wales.

I would like to point out, as it must register with all of you, that 'You only get out what you put in', anything in life. So the best way of getting more out of the RNPA apart from paying your subs is to:

- 1) At least come to the 'Do's' arranged by the Voluntary Committee
- 2) Get more involved
- 3) Bring the your local Ex-Phot's (You must know them, if not contact me and I'll tell you who lives near by)
- 4) Bring your other Ex-Navy(Army, RAF) neighbours – there is enough of them! they will love it

That's enough from me for now, I'm just looking forward to having a good chat with all of you at the bank holiday weekend, till then.

Yours aye, Danny du Feu

**RNPA Membership Secretary**

Email: [danny@ddf-photography.co.uk](mailto:danny@ddf-photography.co.uk)

07891 660715 – 57 Westover Road, Leicester, LE3 3DU



# Malta Matters

By Ray Pogson



Some random reflection from Ray Pogson on a week spent recently in the sunshine on the George Cross Island.

Big changes - some currently taking place others in the offing - are the order of the day in Malta.

The island's recent entry into the Euro zone is putting the brakes on Malta's iconic 500 strong bus fleet which is being restructured to meet modern EU transportation regulations. Historically, many of the chrome-plated and customised buses were driver-owned. The 47 Cent fare from Sliema to Valletta is still extremely good value, but there are local concerns that fares may rise dramatically with the arrival of the new fleet.

The harbour-mouth area of Sliema Creek is witnessing a major building project with the construction of a number of Euro 1 million-plus luxury flats at Tigne Point. The Point complex also includes designer shopping outlets, hi-tech offices and a trendy cafe and sporting scene. Viewed from the Valletta-Sliema ferry the box-like block are not easy on the eye but, happily, the former Army barracks appear to be clinging on to life in the shadows of the high-rise development.

During the RNPA trip to Malta in 2007 we stumbled on a pub on the Strand in Sliema that displayed framed accounts of record feats of bottled Simonds Farsons Blue Label Consumption by two Royal Navy senior rates. This nostalgic belly-busting scene from a by-gone age seems to have succumbed to the plague of modernisation that has replaced it with wall-to-wall televised football and tuneless pop-music with your pint.

We stayed at the nearby Waterfront hotel and I would heartily recommend this recently refurbished venue for its location, delightful rooms with views over Manoel Island to Valletta and its Italian-flavoured restaurant. This would have been the ideal hotel for our RNPA trip.

The cultural part of our recent holiday included a special visit to Valletta Cathedral to view Caravaggio's painting The Beheading of John the Baptist. This is surely one of the world's great paintings, and I can't understand how did we miss it last time!

We also 'ticked off' a viewing of the George Cross medal awarded to Malta in April 1942 by HM King George VI. It was interesting to note from the original war-time footage that as Field Marshal Viscount Gort VC made the presentation to Sir George Borg, Chief Justice of Malta, six or seven Army and RAF cameramen were scrambling over walls and dancing round each other while lone Petty Officer phot was seen in the sequence. Am I right in thinking some things never change...?

I don't know why every former matelot who returns to Malta feels compelled to walk down The Gut in broad daylight decades after its hey-day in the fifties and sixties - but we do. There's no point these days unless you're looking for Marks & Spencer, who now have a retail outlets on Strait Street. Changed days indeed!

