



# The Peregrine Phots Post



Spring  
2016  
Issue 45

The Royal Navy Photographers Association

Photos from last years Peregrine Trophy  
to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday

## Happy Birthday Your Majesty



Her Majesty at last years naming ceremony  
of HMS Queen Elizabeth.

Phot:CPOA(Phot) Thomas Tam McDonald



The Queen on duty inspecting the ships company of  
HMS Ocean as part of her role as the ships sponsor,  
at a redication ceremony.

Phot: L(Phot) Alex Cave

## Ahoy Shipmates

Hope you are all feeling the joys of Spring not too much Spring cleaning. In this issue of the newsletter we have the programme proposed by Ray for our coming social event in October details pages 6 & 7. Look forward to seeing you there.

Photos to be proud of on page 3 excellent keep them coming in. I would like to run a series of articles on life as a phot on ships you have been on including shore bases. This would help to get its history of the ships including photos if you have any. Page 5 - Farewell to the Sea King.

The committee gave £100 donation to The Fly Navy Federation toward further restoration at the National Memorial Arboretum.

Hilary & Steve King

Just a note of **warning** about emails we have had enquires about emails received from us or other RNPA members with just hello written in them - if we send an email out we would say more than hello. Any email received like this I would **ignore & delete**.

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## Fare well to our Shipmate

Just received information from his brother Peter that Dave Casaru passed away earlier this month. He is below on his Phot. 1 Course No. 15 in 1969 - he is 5<sup>th</sup> from the left.

At this time I have no further information



## New Members

We have 4 new members to welcome to the RNPA they are: Albert Thomas, Janet Pierpoint (neeSmith), John Foley & Chris Dalby who I remember from DPRN 1972/73 ish.

**John Foley - I'm an ex Phot, 11CS RNAS Ford 1941-1942 LSFx 856924** (Class photo attached, I'm front centre, Eddie Rooke just over my left shoulder)

John was asking about our 100 year reunion as he attended the 75<sup>th</sup> Re-union in Portsmouth, he is 83 but reasonably active. He left UK to join the New Zealand Navy in 1953 and lived there until 1988 and now lives in Australia since 1988.

The only other known member of 11cs is Eddie Rooke and he lives in Sussex, but is in ill health.





## Photos to be Proud of



**Phot: Brian Cartwright**

Sparrow Hawk on our garden fence & told to move along by the local Magpie, Blue Tit nest building & Ducklings - as you can see Ben likes his birds.



**Phot: Paul Yockney** - one of his favourite photos he said, the Buccaneer pilot had a problem flying so slow with the Swordfish that he was almost stalling.



**Phot: Hilary King** I took Durdle Dor a few years ago as we walked the cliffs around the bay and the daisy were we stunning I used my Cannon Mk 5D.

The Tulips we in Keukenhof Gardens Holland - what I really like it was probably the sharpest photo I have taken





# Things Historic. - Jan Larcombe

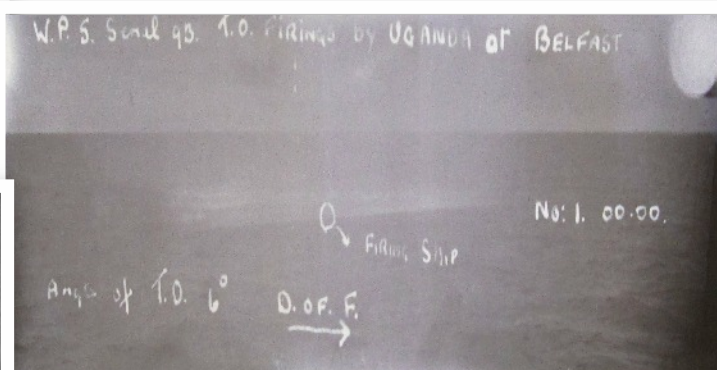
In early 1943 the Admiralty Research Laboratory developed a prism which was fitted in front of the lens on the Low angle marking camera. This produced an image of a very bright searchlight, shone from the firing ship, pointed at the target, and superimposed with the fall of shot on one negative. The shoots were thrown off at 3 or 6 degrees and ranges of 22000 yds were normal. The Low Angle Marking camera Mk 1V produced an image 7x2 inches on 70mm film.



"Double Headed Monster" rigged on the mine layer HMS Apollo during gunnery trails in spring 1957 (Photo Ian Johnson)

I know Roy Penny used this camera (Once) but would like to hear from any other users as to its effectiveness and how they plotted the results.

Following on from that in 1960 I was in Singapore on HMS Belfast rigging the Double Headed Monster (Two Cameflex cine cameras mounted so that they could record throw off shoots) when I was rushed back to the UK on compassionate leave. I never did find out if the shoot went ahead, or if it did, who took over. As with the Low Angle marking camera I would be grateful if anyone who used the Cameflex set up would let me know any details of when it was used and how effective it was.



Print from a negative from Low angle marking camera Mk 1V

When you are digging round in the Archives you learn some odd things. The Naval wing of the Royal Flying Corps became known unofficially as the Royal Naval Air Service and in July 1914. it was adopted officially. What is not generally known is that the Army in the shape of the War Office proposed the change but that the Admiralty initially resisted the change "in time of war". The War Office wrote to Winston Churchill (1st Sea Lord) and shortly afterwards the name was changed.

The Fleet Air Arm was originally the Fleet Air Arm of the RAF. It was formed on 1st April 1924 from units normally embarked on ships but the Navy retained some units attached to Battleships and Cruisers. The Navy regained full control of its air element in 1939 and it was named as the "Air Branch of the Royal Navy". The RAF name of the Fleet Air Arm remained in informal usage and was later adopted officially.

As always any photographs or stories to [jandor@which.net](mailto:jandor@which.net) please



Fare well to Junglie Sea Kings from 848 Naval Air



On a cloudless morning on the 21st March 2016, five Junglie Sea Kings from 848 Naval Air Squadron took to the skies for one final time in a poignant tour of key locations around the South West of England. With the farewell flight a resounding success, there is now the decommissioning that will take place this Wednesday at RNAS Yeovilton Air Station.



Rather sad to see the Sea Kings go I was on 706 Squadron when chief told me to go out & see the new a/c in with a smile on his face. There before my eyes a Sea King appeared & as I looked puzzled to where the wheels were they appeared - first time I'd seen a retractable undercarriage, I was only used to Wasp & Wessex Mk 1 & 3

Here I am with one of the Wessex Hilary King





## Subject: FW: RNPA Reunion & AGM 2016

Dear all,

I'm very pleased to advise that arrangements for this year's Reunion and AGM in Portsmouth are coming together well and I can now let you have the proposed programme and costs. I am attaching the outline programme and a booking form which will enable you to plan your weekend and reserve your place.

Those of you that were at last year's reunion will recall that when it was decided to return to Portsmouth we agreed that the weekend will be "non-residential" as many of our members live locally and will not require accommodation. However, for those who have to travel I have access to limited accommodation in the city, principally in the Royal Maritime Club...just let me know your requirements and I will do my best to sort it for you.

The weekend will consist of a series of social events and members can attend all, or as many as they wish, just fill in the booking form accordingly and I will do the rest.

We are planning two events for the Friday; the first a visit to the Fleet Photographic Unit (East) based in HMS Excellent where hopefully you will be able to meet some of today's Photos, see examples of their work, the equipment they use, receive to a couple of presentations explaining how the twenty-first century photographers are recruited, their selection process, their training, the type of work they do, where they serve etc. all over a cup of tea and maybe a sticky bun.

Afterwards we will adjourn to the WO's & Snr. Rates Mess for a Social evening, a few drinks and buffet meal and an opportunity to see and stroll down memory lane with an up-dated exhibition of photographs and equipment of how it was done in the "olden-days"...Danny is looking into arranging entertainment and a display or two.

Three events are being planned for Saturday...the first a specially arranged visit to the refurbished a greatly improved Mary Rose Museum. We will enjoy refreshments on arrival and this will be followed by a private presentation about the working of the museum, the latest improvements to the ship and the thousands of artifacts recovered from the wreck. We will then be free to explore the museum and I am that hopeful we will have access onto the centre's balcony (not normally available to visitors) which offers some great views of the Victory, the recently restored Monitor and visiting warships.

Late afternoon we will have the AGM in the Royal Maritime Club which will include afternoon tea and this will be followed by the RNPA Annual Reception and Dinner, Up-Spirits, entertainment and hopefully an after dinner speaker.

The Sunday programme at the moment consists of a farewell lunch which will be held in The Customs House Restaurant at Gun Wharf Quays (it used to be the Captain's Office of HMS Vernon). Pam and I will that morning will also be arranging a visit to Portsmouth Cathedral for the morning service, coffee and a tour...we will be happy to include anyone who may wish to join us.

That's about it for the moment...if you wish to be part of this year's reunion just let me have your booking form duly completed and any suggestions you may have...all on your Committee are very much looking forward to seeing you there.

Regards Social Secretary Ray Whiehouse



**The Mary Rose - & her new home**

# **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 2nd October 2016**

## **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

1530 Visit to the Fleet Photographic Unit - HMS Excellent

- Presentations
- Displays
- Demonstrations

1800 Social Evening with Drinks & Buffet Supper WO's/Snr Rates Mess

- Entertainment
- Displays & Exhibits

## **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

1015 Visit to the Mary Rose Museum\* H.M. Dockyard

- Welcome coffee on arrival
- Introduction talk about the work of the Museum

1530 Afternoon Tea Royal Maritime Club

1600 RNPA AGM

1830 RNPA Reception & Dinner Royal Maritime Club

- Guest Speaker
- Entertainment
- "Up Spirits"

## **Sunday 2nd October**

Am Proposed visit to Portsmouth Cathedral

1300 RNPA Farewell Lunch - Customs House (timings subject to change)

The above is an outline programme at the moment although the venues mentioned have been reserved; the programme is open for amendment, additional items and content suggestions. The Social Sec will be pleased to receive any ideas that you may wish to add for the enjoyment of the weekend...in-so-far as they are legal and not too painful!

\*The Mary Rose Museum is at present closed for refurbishment, up-dating of the exhibits, major re-positioning of the ship's hull, removal of protective walls and drying equipment. They are planning to open later this summer, certainly by September, so it will be something very new even to those who have visited within the last couple of years. They are very keen to host us and wish to use us as a sort of experimental tour for the future. I did discuss the possibility of having our Reception and Dinner there but unfortunately the facilities are not available until the following week and it's very, very expensive...around a £120.00 per person (not sure if the FPU's Rabbit Fund can stretch to that!).

**Social Secretary - Ray Whitehouse**

When making payments for event etc please make cheque out to **RNPA**, this make it so much easier for the treasurer.

Tickets for the Historical Dockyard, normal ticket price for Portsmouth area naval museums are shown at: <http://www.historicdockyard.co.uk/tickets-offersand-offers>



## Yeovilton Air Day 2016 - 2nd July 2016

'Naval Aviation - Past, Present & Future' will be the main theme at the RNAS Yeovilton Air Day in 2016. Illustrating these eras, the airshow will focus on three Fleet Air Arm milestones.

- **Past:** the 75th anniversary of the pursuit and sinking of the German Battleship Bismark, in which the Swordfish played a significant role.
- **Present:** the final flight of the Lynx. Lynx helicopters will leave service in March 2017 and will be making their last airshow appearance at Air Day.
- **Future:** anticipating the return of the Royal Navy's strike capability and further helicopter assault platform with the carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth and the aircraft who may operate from her.

### RNAS Yeovilton

Before WWII much of the land on which RNAS Yeovilton stands was owned by the Church of England. The admiralty Air Division commandeered it in 1939 and the first runway was operational in 1941. During the war the station was home for an increasing number of naval air squadrons and afterwards became one of the main demobilization centres for the Royal Navy.

RNAS Yeovilton, also known as HMS Heron, is now one of two principal naval air bases in the UK, the other being RNAS Culdrose. Over 100 aircraft are based here, belonging to front-line squadrons and training units including all Fleet Air Arm Lynx and the Commando Helicopter Force.

Yeovilton also houses the vintage aircraft of the RN Historic Flight and the Fleet Air Arm Museum.

There will be over 5 hours of flying displays and an extensive static display will feature historic naval aircraft and their modern day counterparts. There will be role demonstrations including Yeovilton-based Commando Helicopter Force, Lynx Wildcat Maritime Force and Aviation Reconnaissance Force demonstrating their capabilities: enjoy the famous Commando Assault demonstration with plenty of pyrotechnics.

Further UK and foreign military participants will provide fast jet displays, static aircraft, aerobatic display teams and joint flypasts.

On the ground there will be arena displays including the field gun; a funfair and the usual trade stalls & flying displays.

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### Joke corner

Through the pitch-black night, the captain sees a light dead ahead on a collision course with his ship. He sends a signal: "Change your course ten degrees east."

The light signals back: "Change yours, ten degrees west."

Angry, the captain sends: "I'm a Navy captain! Change your course, sir!"

"I'm a seaman, second class," comes the reply. "Change your course, sir."

"Now the captain is furious. "I'm a battleship! I'm not changing course!"

8 There's one last reply. "I'm a lighthouse. Your call."