



Issue 54  
Summer 2018

## Ahoy There

At last the latest newsletter, we have been cruising the Norwegian fjords, had a message on the first day saying RNPA tot time noon in the bar and there we found Ray & Angela Pogson a lovely surprise, many social drinks were had.

This issue of the newsletter I have a request from Ray Whitehouse on page 9 and message from our Secretary Jan Larcombe below. I would like to plead for articles and photos as I have run out and found it difficult to produce this newsletters - its your newsletter so come on send some photos in. A big thanks to Brian Cartwright for his contribution page 8. Looking forward to the reunion in Plymouth October. See you there.

**Hilary & Steve King**

**By Jan Larcombe mainly wearing his secretary's hat.**

The result of the "Opt In" trawl was a bit disappointing in that our mailing list shrunk from over 320 to just over half of that number. I suspect that this is mainly due to "getting round to it" and because of the new data protection Regulations we are not allowed to remind people that they should have Opted In. This applies to emails recipients and those who get hard copies of the newsletter. Could I ask that, if you are making contact with phot friends, you check that they are getting this newsletter, and if not, they contact me either by email or telephone ( 01963 23426) if they wish to get information from the RNPA in future.

Cenotaph Parade. A few have still to reply to my email asking for their details and if I don't send them in they will not get a ticket. Also the RBL are hoping to reallocate unused tickets in October so, if have not put your name forward already, and would like to march and please let me know.

Judging of the 2018 Peregrine Trophy took place on 24 July and the results are now on the website via the link from <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~jandor/index.htm>

Back to the history. The content of the intended book is now on the Website at Hist1325 and is now in the process on being proof read. Chapter 11 "2002 to the present" is still a bit light on events so I would be grateful if you could have a read and maybe suggest any additions.

**Hot  
Press**

## Peregrine Trophy 2018 Winner

This years winner of RN Photographer of the year award is L/Phot Rosenbaum. I was unable to download his selection but here is one of his photos of HMS Queen Elizabeth as she arrived in Portsmouth. On page 9 two more entries. More next issue



## RNPA Committee Members 2018

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<b>Social Secretary</b>	Ray Whitehouse 01403 230848 email: <a href="mailto:ray@chilston.com">ray@chilston.com</a>		

## Farewell to Shipmates

### Peter Howton



Pete left the Navy as a PO(Phot) and joined a large company in Nottingham which he attained a good position in the accounts department, where he stayed till he retired.

Tina and Danny du Feu attended his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and stayed at Pete and Terry's home in a beautiful village called Shireoaks near Worksop. Since his retirement Pete and Terry his wife of 5 years, have taken the opportunity to travel the world cruising, unfortunately they were booked to go again two weeks before his passing. They had a great bunch of very close friends who have been very supportive to Terry.

Not sure where Pete went in the RN but he was at FPU HMS Excellent, Whale Island 76- 78 ish PO of the Stores



**Phot 2. Number 19. HMS Fulmar Hist 567**

#### Back Row

NAs Sandy Sanders, Biddle, Peter Howton, George Wicks, Peter (Jan)Cottle,

#### Front Row

Pte Voice, Pte Llyod, L Cpl Lomas, PO Bill Smith, Pte Johns, L Cpl Statham, Pte Ickringill



## Brian Robertson's ashes scattering in Kilchattan Bay, Isle of Bute

Brian's ashes were scattered in Kilchattan Bay on the Isle of Bute on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Family and friends were there including shipmates Mike Gilbert and Danny du Feu. This was a very special place for Brian, being the home of his grandmother and father on his mother's side. He spent most of the war here and was a frequent visitor for the school holidays afterwards. He used to fish with his grandfather and it was here that he started his love of the sea.

We had a yacht, Hebridean Flame II carrying, amongst others, Brian's sons and Danny. Handmade paper (eco friendly) boats were used from the yacht and also used by the shore party to carry some of the ashes away on the tide.

An Address was spoken by Val on shore and Stuart, Brian's eldest son, on the yacht. Brian was agnostic and didn't want a service of any religion. He wanted his ashes scattered Kilchattan Bay which was significant for him. After the event we attended a buffet in Rothesay and at 2 bells we had absent friends with Pusser's 'Gunpowder' rum. Much lead was swung and many photos on show.



Val with Mike Gilbert & Danny du Feu, family & friends behind them.



Val with family & friends at the Two Bell for absent friends

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### George Ash contacted us with this request hope you all can help:-

The other day I had a day out and we went to Aultbea on the west coast, and visited a small museum which displays what ever it can get on THE RUSSIAN CONVOYS. It was very interesting but a bit short on memorabilia, anyway the curator, grabbed me when I said I'd been in the navy, and asked if I could help in some way. Could you put a piece in the newsletter asking for anything relating to the convoys which went from Aultbea to the Russian ports. This would be most appreciated. Regards George. Steve & I will pass on any information

If you would like to view the convoys newsletter - link. [www.russianarcticconvoymuseum.org](http://www.russianarcticconvoymuseum.org)



The RNPA raffle winners Roy & Betty Penny enjoy a stroll around the National Memorial Arboretum with Steve on route to Telford.

We decided to visit the Memorial and was pleasantly surprised at the changes there, well worth a visit if you haven't been lately.

Roy and Elizabeth wrote,  
We have just enjoyed our 2 day stay at the Telford Hotel, the great raffle prize we won at the RNPA AGM 2017. We would like to say an enormous thank you to Steve and Hilary for giving us the chance to fulfil this prize. We enjoyed their company, the laughs we had together and being spoiled.

The added bonus was being chauffeured to many different places in the area. We cannot thank Hilary and Steve enough. See you at the AGM in October.

Elizabeth and Roy Penny

## Armed Forces Day - 30<sup>th</sup> June on Southsea Common.



Personnel from Her Majesty's Naval Base Portsmouth joined together with the people of Portsmouth to celebrate Armed Forces Day on 30th June, on Southsea Common.

The Armed Forces Day flag was raised to signal the start of the day's festivities with all three services and veterans represented. Regular, Reserves, Cadets and Veterans marched from the D-Day museum in Southsea to Southsea Common where personnel from HM Naval Base Portsmouth formed the guard of honour, led by the Royal Marine Band Portsmouth. The Portsmouth Naval Base Commander, Commodore Jim Higham OBE ADC RN said: "The turn out here today at Portsmouth Armed Forces Day is a true testament to how integral the Armed Forces, and in particular the Royal Navy, is to Portsmouth and the wider Hampshire area.



Commodore Jim Higham OBE ADC RN talking to local residents of Portsmouth.





## 43 Commando Royal Marine

The men charged with the 24/7/365 protection of the UK's ultimate weapon hit Gibraltar for two weeks of intensive training to ensure no one ever threatens our nuclear deterrent.

43 Commando Fleet Protection Group Royal Marines provide round-the-clock cover for the Trident missiles and the Vanguard-class submarines which carry them, ever alert to respond to potential attacks on the missile depot at Coulport or the boats at nearby Clyde Naval Base.

The unit trains daily, but also conducts extended exercises, playing out various scenarios to keep them on their toes – usually in their native Scotland.

This year, 43's O and P Squadrons chose Gibraltar, its rugged terrain, caves, tunnels and training grounds, not to mention heat and dust, to take them out of their 'comfort zone' and hone close quarter marksmanship skills in a fresh, challenging and unfamiliar environment. Gibraltar closely mirrors the complex environment which the marines work in at their Clyde base. Both are comprised of jetties set amongst a busy, industrial and maritime setting with complex infrastructure.

As well as conducting exercises around the jetties, the commandos had the opportunity to train in a mock village and in the network of underground tunnels for which the Rock is famous.



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**Laugh**

**Q** Why is flying an f-16 better than flying F-22?

**A** Its one stop faster.

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**Q** What did Cinderella say when she left the photo store?

**A** Someday my prints will come.

## PNS Aslat



The PNS Aslat, a Zulfikar-class frigate from the Pakistan Navy, and her 280-crew entered Portsmouth Harbour on Wednesday morning to visit the Royal Navy.

Over the next few days the ship's company will be conducting numerous engagement activities with Royal Navy personnel and be introduced to the Royal Navy training facilities on the base and at HMS Excellent.

Captain Bill Oliphant, the Captain of Portsmouth Naval Base said: "It's fantastic to welcome the Pakistan Navy to Portsmouth – this is the first time we have seen them in the city for 13 years so this is a great honour.

"They are here on a goodwill visit and as a training piece for the ship's company who have been very busy on deployment so it will give them a chance to enjoy the hospitality of the Royal Navy. "Naval diplomacy has always been a part of what navies are about and being able to host these kind of visits is incredibly important for our enduring relationship."

The PNS Aslat has been working off the coast of Tunisia and is shortly on her way towards Russia. She is part of the 25th Destroyer Squadron commanded by Commodore Muhammad Faisal Abbasi. Members of the ship's company will be taken on tours of HMS Victory and the Historic Dockyard while the cricket team will take on the Royal Navy at HMS Temeraire. They are due to depart HMNB Portsmouth on July 22.

## HMS Duncan to the rescue



Royal Navy sailors on board HMS Duncan have rescued two Algerian fishermen who had been stranded at sea for four days.

An eagle-eyed lookout from the Portsmouth-based Type 45 destroyer spied the men's boat by chance in the western Mediterranean - and the warship immediately offered food, fuel and life-saving assistance.

Duncan, which has spent 2018 leading a NATO task group in the Black Sea and eastern Mediterranean, was making her way to Portugal when she came across the stranded fishermen about 70 miles off the Algerian coast.

That's what I call a welcome home.  
Flt Hamlyn, Bending, Dunning & Dennis  
from HMS Duncan 815 Wildcat NAS 201







## HMS Forth Commissioned

HMS Forth, the first of the Royal Navy's next-generation of Offshore Patrol ships has been formally commissioned into the Fleet.

Held at her home base of Portsmouth, the commissioning ceremony for HMS Forth represents the second ship to join the Royal Navy in less than six months.

After the aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth in December, HMS Forth is the next generation of warships to arrive as part of the government's £178bn plan to give the Armed Forces the equipment it needs over the next decade.

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## Preiview of the HMS Prince of Wales photo by Mike Gilbert



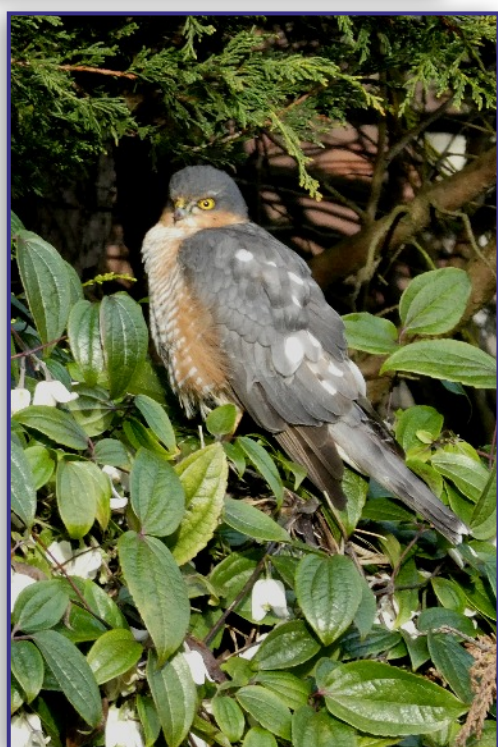
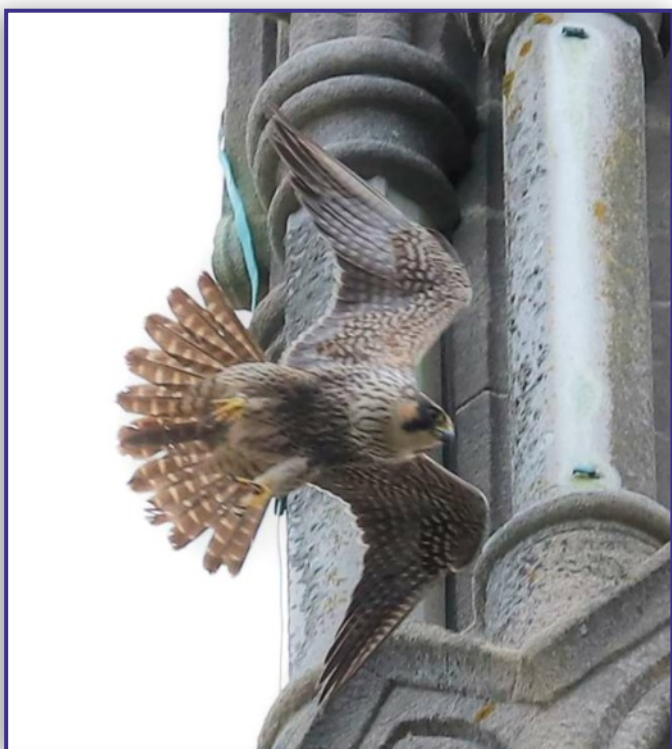
## The Fallen 9000 - Normandy



British artists [Jamie Wardley and Andy Moss](#) accompanied by numerous volunteers, took to the beaches of Normandy with rakes and stencils in hand to etch 9,000 silhouettes representing fallen people into the sand. Titled [The Fallen 9000](#), the piece is meant as a stark visual reminder of the civilians, Germans and allied forces who died during the D-Day beach landings at Arromanches on June 6th, 1944 during WWII. The original team consisted of 60 volunteers, but as word spread nearly 500 additional local residents arrived to help with the temporary installation that lasted only a few hours before being washed away by the tide.



**Photos Corner** this issue - Brian Cartwright sent in the Peregrine, Water Rat and Blue Tit and I caught the Robins and young Sparrow Hawk sitting in my winter flowering clematis in February. I could do with more photos these are the last ones I have on file. Come on you Photographers.





# Peregrine Trophy 2018

Peoples Choice Award PO Phot Ethell RM FRPU(W)



Best Martine Image Award  
L/Phot Gaunt FRPU(W)



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Ray Whitehouse request

Dear all I need your help please...

The Royal Naval Heritage in Plymouth, the people through whom we are organizing the visits to Devonport Dockyard, HMS Courageous etc. during our next Reunion have requested that the RNPA provide them with a speaker for their monthly meeting which happens on the Thursday evening prior the start of our Reunion. Their normal meeting format is for someone to give an hour-long presentation on some aspect of Naval life, modern or historical.

I have agreed to do this as they have proved to be very helpful in providing us with help and assistance to organize the above visits. The title of the presentation I intend to give will be "The Naval Photographer "at work" during the 50/60's". I will give a short history of the Branch as an introduction, followed by how we were recruited, our training, the type of ships we served in and examples of the type of work we were expected to carry out.

Writing and giving the presentation will not be a problem but, to give it "life & interest" it will ideally need to be supported with visuals and examples of the equipment we used during that era...unfortunately I have very little. I regret that during my time in the service I did not keep much and what memento's I did keep have either been lost due to several house moves and the passage of time over the last forty odd years.

I therefore would love to receive anything anyone has of the following...

- Images of photographers at work – ashore and afloat
- Examples of imagery we produced
- Any equipment (cameras, processing, ) we used during the 50's & 60's\*
- Images of the ships photographers served in i.e. Carriers, Cruisers, Survey, Depot, Britannia etc. etc.
- Special events covered by RN Photographers
- Famous people photographed by RN Photographers
- Buildings (RNSOP's, Sections etc.) used by the Branch

\*Happy to collect if possible - you will get them back!

If in any doubt either send stuff anyway or give me a call on 01403 230848 or email to [ray@chilston.com](mailto:ray@chilston.com) I will be delighted to hear from you.

Regards Ray

If you have not Book for the Reunion please contact  
Ray Whitehouse 01403 230848 Or email [ray@chilston.com](mailto:ray@chilston.com)



## Friday

- 1400 onwards      Check into hotel
- 1615      Meet in the hotel lobby & walk (5 mins) to the Barbican
- 1630      Private Visit & Tour Plymouth Gin Distillery
- 1830      Sampling & pre-dinner drinks in the Refectory Bar



## Saturday - Day



### 0900 to 1500

Own car transfers to:  
The Royal Naval Heritage Trust & Plymouth Dockyards  
Coffee on arrival  
Presentations  
Museums & Galleries  
Visit HMS Courageous (Not suitable for the disabled)  
South & North Yards (Bus transfers included between Yards)  
Oggie Buffet Lunch

## Saturday - Evening



- 1700      Meet in hotel lobby (shared taxis to venue)
- 1730      RNPA Annual Reception
- 1900      Dinner & Dance at the Dome Restaurant Hoe Park
- 2330 (onwards)      Return to hotel (shared taxis)

## Sunday

- 1000      RNPA AGM (Hotel)
- 1230      Meet in hotel lobby - walk to the Barbican
- 1245-1500      Private Boat Tour - Harbours, Sound, Dockyards
- 1830      Hotel lobby - Barbican for Dinner



## Monday

Depart after breakfast - in your own time



See You In Portsmouth 2019 - The Centenary of the Branch!