



New PFBC Storyboard at North Haven Shore !

Borough of Poole Councillor (as Portfolio Holder for Heritage) **Judy Butt** along with the Royal Motor Yacht Club Commodore **Sally Davis** & our Poole Flying Boats Celebration Commodore **Ken Sanson** attended the unveiling by **Colin Pomeroy** of another PFBC Storyboard on the 23rd. November by North Haven Shore.

Our Storyboard recounts the Maritime Aviation activities based in Poole Harbour which were so important to the UK War effort and the internationalisation of air travel. From this very popular foreshore footpath besides the RMYC, on the tranquil but crisp morning overlooking Poole Harbour, it was hard to imagine the past activities that took place in the vicinity of this location. For



'Set within a smart red framework courtesy of the RMYC, and placed upon their shore-side fencing of the Marina Extension'

the RMYC site was an RN base for the Fleet Air Arm Training Squadron 765 & Air Sea Rescue activities as **HMS Daedalus II**. Nearby, at Salterns, the British Overseas Airways Corporation (predecessor to British Airways) set up its Marine Terminal for Flying Boat operations. They operated Flying Boats to world-wide destinations such as Australia, America, Egypt and South Africa. This storyboard is the fourth in the series that PFBC has positioned at key points for public-access around our Harbour !



Key →

* Ensign courtesy of the Cousins Family

Top Right: Unveiling by Colin Pomeroy

Midships: Some of the 2 dozen Friends welcomed by Sally Davis (r)

Opposite: Our Commodore Ken Sanson with delighted Cllr. Judy Butt

The Photograph (left) and Media Article by David Wakeford on behalf of PFBC...

Exciting News: PFBC's Twin Storyboards for Hamworthy

This Project which had been a long time in the planning stages, has recently taken significant steps forward through a generous donation, and site allocation with various necessary permissions which are now in place, so that groundwork has got underway ! A BoP approved & experienced Contractor has been appointed, who is constructing a double plinth in local stone to match those already in position in the Whitecliff Area that take Storyboards. PFBC is grateful to **John Marter** for accessing 'Archived Plans'.

When all stonework has been completed the plinth will be ready for installation & dedication of PFBC's traditional Storyboard... and subsequently there will be the addition of our newly-created Storyboard to celebrate **RAF Hamworthy, Lower Ham' & Lake**, and **the significance of Hamworthy to the History of Aviation...** which also variously encompasses trials for 'Flight-Refuelling' and the magnificent role **Sir Alan Cobham** played within these !

This will be a fitting tribute to RAAF 461 & RAF 210 Squadrons, and their contribution to RAF Coastal Command during WW2, also to mark 'the passing' of so many young comrades-in-arms!



More than 4.7 Million People as Spectators since 2008 !!!

Those wishing to be part of PFBC's Contribution to the UK's No.1 Free Air Show, please be in contact (*asap*) with our **Harry Alexander** harry@pooleflyingboats.com

Our slot in the Veterans' Tent provides both an atmosphere of friendship and the brilliant vantage spot (well-sheltered) from which to watch the Fest !

So select your preferred day + let us know the hour or 2 when you can be on duty !

ALL CONTACTS PLEASE

Poole Flying Boats Celebration
For the attention of:-
Parkstone Library Buildings
1 Britannia Road Parkstone
Poole Dorset BH14 8AZ

For membership of Friends... and renewals contact **Bertie Bowman**.
For bookings of tickets for PFBC Celebrations contact **Ken Sanson**,
and all other general enquiries - PFBC's Office new reg'd. address.

PFBC Email: info@pooleflyingboats.com

PFBC Website: www.pooleflyingboats.com

Poole Flying Boats Celebration

* Please note: *Visitors to the Office by appointment only...*

Volunteers are most welcome

Poole Flying Boats Celebration

Charity No. 1123274

PFBC

THE

PICK

A

BACK

PAIR



PFBC Friends Newsletter: Spring 2013

www.pooleflyingboats.com (**THE PICK A BACK PAIR** in colour)

The Friends of PFBC, with the Trustees of the Charity, want to send belated New Year's Good Wishes to all involved in the range of what we do & the many ways in which we do it !

Your support is **vital** towards PFBC achieving great success, and continuing to progress our various Community Projects: Support comes in various guises, from membership of Friends for just a 'Fiver'; through donations, bequests + sponsorship; ~ to encompass books given to the Friends of PFBC Library; voluntary time & effort with the running of our PFBC Office, with the building & maintenance of the public-access Archive, and our programme of Community Projects & Celebrations !

As we enter **a new and exciting year for the Friends of PFBC**, it is also fitting that we should reflect upon the previous support + endeavours of some 2 dozen Good Friends who have gone: Most recently we have paid our last respects to Jane Attia... who was ever-present as a supporter and a tireless volunteer, ~ and Michael Bateman who was an original sponsor of PFBC. They are much-missed & will always be fondly remembered !

Such Good Friends have been like **Guardian Angels** for PFBC, in being relied upon to be there with support and inspiration ! 'In the days of yore', this term often portrayed the role of the **Stewardess** in her duty to passengers' welfare, and also to the 'Flying Nightingales' in depicting those WAAF Nurses who cared for the seriously wounded flown back to the UK in WW2. It was a term also used by the media to describe the **Seawomen** employed by BOAC at Poole in performance of their duties... sometimes in difficult, demanding, and heroic circumstances !

* *Now PFBC is delighted to announce that HLF Funding is being granted for a significant Project about such remarkable women.* *

“Aye Ma’am”

Women at War when Stepping Forward into Significant New Roles with BOAC !



Principally focussed upon: ~

Marinecraft Unit Seawomen
(BOAC's MCU based at Poole)

and . . .

1st Stewardesses with BOAC
(Flying Boats based at Poole
+ Landplanes at Hurn-B'mth)

Also featuring: ~ The other New Roles for Women within BOAC + Key Figures who made these changes possible
Finalé for UK Flying Boat Stewardesses (BOAC Southampton 1948-50 & Aquila Airways to 1958)
Progress of Stewardesses on BOAC Landplanes... and various lasting Legacies at Poole etc.

Poole Flying Boats Celebration (Charity 1123274): Library Bldgs. 1 Britannia Rd., Ashley Cross, Poole BH14 8AZ

email: info@pooleflyingboats.com

PFBC has been awarded a grant from the [Heritage Lottery Fund](#), which will exclusively support our significant Project [Aye Ma'am](#). The Trustees of PFBC are so delighted by this wonderful news ! It has encouraged us, as a culmination of five years as a Charity + seven years since our foundation, where great voluntary effort with community involvement have been key to our project work, to the way in which we function, and to our hands-on approach.

The Funding will substantially extend our range of capabilities ! It will enable the Friends of PFBC to research the subject matter whilst providing the necessary training for this & for the making of recordings (with transcriptions), specialist photographic work, graphic design + displays, as well as dedicated website sections.

As far as is feasible, we will reach out to those with a story to tell, in order to tie this into our fields of study; we will interface with other groups /associations and our local Communities in general; and produce a worthwhile body of our findings about the Project.

The **core focus** of the [Aye Ma'am Project](#), as expressed by our Honorary President [Jeremy Waters](#)... is that *'we will be tracing the emergence of women during WW2 in roles traditionally taken by men, within BOAC and the Military, particularly in Poole'*...

As detailed above the principal *twinned* channels of our research are those regarding the significance of the Seawomen of BOAC's Marinecraft Unit supporting their fleet of Flying Boats at Poole, and the Stewardesses of BOAC who featured at Poole & Hurn ! There is much which is comparatively unique about our Project, where the message was duly delivered at a recent initial Launch on 7th. February at the Haven Hotel to an audience of Volunteers.

Whilst we are actively engaging Friends & Supporters of PFBC to participate within the Project - through various methods, it is our intention to have wider involvement to benefit the community ~ from the RAeS Christchurch Branch, to local resident assoc.s., to Local History & Women's Groups, as well as Air Cadets etc.

Whether you live in Poole - or much further afield, even travel abroad for work, You can participate in + belong to our Project: All contributors will be acknowledged /included in our write-up.

Whilst the Project will benefit from your interest, skills & time, conversely PFBC can offer so much to You; supporting research from home, meeting up for group-work, in-house training etc. ... *This will be our substantial collective effort for the best results !*

So accompanying this Friends of Newsletter (as an attachment) is a Questionnaire for you to complete and send back to PFBC, ~ *but please do remember to retain a copy of this for Yourself !*

These responses will then be collated to develop the framework upon which our Programme for the next 18 months to be based, though this will be flexible to engage with Community Joinees. The Project parameters are described in our Poster (*see opposite*) and these can be extended where required, whenever appropriate, to be set in the context of a Story with a beginning & conclusion.

Our research will encompass many sources (preferably primary) + must necessarily extend from firsthand experiences as related by those who lived in the era covered, and from family members. This importantly includes oral recordings (supported by training), coupled with the making of accurate transcripts (*like Hansard*) ! Aimée our [Project Coordinator](#), is to bring everything together !

There is a [Management Team](#) - which includes PFBC Trustees, led by Harry as [Project Manager](#) + Bertie for the PFBC Friends; a [Community Officer](#) will be appointed; [Flt Lt Roger Starling](#) is [Coordinator](#) with the RAeS & ATC as [Partners](#) of PFBC's HLF.

Various [Team Leaders](#) have come forward to channel our work, organise our team efforts, also to support our [Training Sessions](#): and further offers will be most welcome as opportunities arise !

The range of these opportunities can be categorised as follows *succinctly* expressed within this set of ten bullet points:~

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| * Basic Research Work | * Digitising + DvD Work |
| * Full Literature Search | o Displays and Artwork |
| * Review Books + Mags | * Graphic Design Work |
| * Trawl Other Archives | o Cataloguing/Indexing |
| o Interview/Recordings | * Assist with our Events |
- Key: * With Guidance & Support o Some Arrangement for Training

Accompanying this Newsletter for those in receipt of email etc., is an exploratory Questionnaire (*a copy to be kept by yourself*). We will look forward to you volunteering and sending this back. Please be in contact by email... We are happy to answer any Qs.

So here is your opportunity to feature in this significant Project, to enjoy yourself and potentially make more friends & contacts, whilst doing something really worthwhile in supporting PFBC !