



Displays Archive Desks Maps, Flags + Pics Storage Unit Resource Area Filing Cabinets Archive Storage Cupboards Library Desk Etc.

After formation of PFBC in 2006, and with Charity status 2 years later, the Trustees negotiated the setting-up our PFBC Office in a small room in 2011 above Parkstone Library.. Many of You will fondly remember the delightful but intimate 'roomscape', akin to *Doctor Who's Tardis*. Then the CEO of Borough of Poole John McBride who paid us a visit. was asked if PFBC could acquire another small room for our meetings but instead arranged for us to take over the largest of the 3 rooms !

So 4 years ago we moved into our current home which has certainly become the heart and soul of PFBC for it means so much to us all ! Without this so very well-used facility PFBC could not hope to exist: On the occasion of Ed's visit with his son John, there was a Friends' Library afternoon session with 9 members present using our room. With the subs for the Friends of PFBC held at just £5 (for *onliners*), you can see how tight margins are to cover our rent for this facility.



With Ken and Mike Phipp is our latest illustrious visitor from the USA: Left: **Edward (Ed) C. Martin** of the *American Aviation Historical Society*, who is an Associate Editor of their colour magazine *The AAHS Journal*

We also rely greatly on the generosity of donations and bequests to help PFBC attain its aims. goals & objectives ~ esp. our Projects. The proof of our success is very evident in what has been achieved this year... and this is also due to the resources within our Office... where Archives can be accessed, meetings held & work completed.

PFBC Honorary Positions & Life Members

Foundation Trustees: Ken Sanson, Harry Alexander, Bertie Bowman, + Aimée (now Coord for PFBC Projects); Archive Adviser: Mike Phipp

PFBC ACTs: Val Lewis, Terry + Stephanie Mobley & Heather Sturman

Hon. Commodore, Air: David Mauleverer

Patrons: Lady Cobham

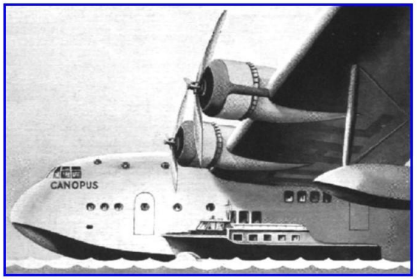
Honorary President: Jeremy Waters

Hon. Vice Pres: Leslie Dawson, Douglas Cook OBE, Robert Syms MP; Adrian Borrill, Colin Cruddas, Libbie Escolme-Schmidt, Brian Galpin, Norman Hull, Tessa McIntyre, John Parsons, Mike Phipp, Vic Pitcher, Babs Plumbridge, Colin Pomeroy, Dr. Lesley Runnalls, Sam St. Pierre, Colin van Geffen, Richard Tazewell, John Wilson & Charles Woodley also including Ian Andrews (who Represents all of our HLMs)

Senior 'Hons.' within PFBC

Poole Flying Boats Celebration

Charity No. 1123274



Trustee Newsletter: Christmas 2017

THE 'OPUS

www.pooleflyingboats.com (THE 'OPUS in colour)
 "Wishing You All a Very Happy Christmas..."

In the run-up to Christmas, it is interesting to reflect upon what has been a busy year for PFBC with a Blue Plaque + 2 Storyboards which in turn have meant that we reached a far wider audience:

The realisation is that despite our sterling efforts over the years there is still much more scope to make contacts and gather info. Also that subject matter from the era of Flying Boats & Seaplanes holds a significant fascination which is certainly not diminishing !

Whenever there is a gathering / presentation there will definitely be an enthusiastic & appreciative audience supporting the Event: eg the occasion when we combined with the Poole Radio Society; and when Jeremy Waters attracted a large audience at the RMYC (although his excellent history was no doubt the catalyst for this, along with the quality of his very 'polished' delivery of the topic); and not forgetting the positive impact that *social media* can have.

However, key to our *very being* as a Charity & the success attained are the major factors of input from *The Friends* as willing Volunteers in meeting people, manning the Office and holding Library Sessions; as well as somewhat behind the scenes *researching* and *writing-up*; also with progressing public relations, social media & our websites.

Our location of the PFBC Office above the vibrant Parkstone Library at the central venue of Ashley Cross is paramount to our objectives, so it is readily accessible to volunteers+ our visitors (*home-&-abroad*), and our *Collection and Displays* have been tailor-made around this!



The PFBC Aye Ma'am Storyboard installed at Parkstone Yacht Club

The Trustees of PFBC are delighted that we have a new Storyboard site

After much patient negotiation by Bertie on our behalf & the Friends, with the illustrious Parkstone Yacht Club - where a new Clubhouse is nearing completion, our Aye Ma'am Storyboard has a great outlook ! It is situated at a lovely viewing point at the diverted Footpath from Turks Lane which now passes around the Yacht Club's grounds to be also accessible from Pearce Ave. (so as to unite PYC's Club and Yard).



Panoramic Scene from the new Viewing Point

In this, our PFBC Trustees are grateful to *past* Commodore **Bryan Drake** (now the President of P'stone YC) & his current successor **Rob Jarratt**. *Sadly Rob is unwell and so PFBC takes this opportunity to wish him a speedy recovery, so that he can enjoy a significant & successful 2018.*

The Members of Parkstone Yacht Club, have always taken an interest in PFBC and the history of Poole's numerous Flying Boats & Seaplanes so much so that when **Leslie D.** (and others) have given Presentations there the turn-out has been extraordinarily generous and welcoming, and there was rapturous applause when **Jeremy** delivered his research for his book on *Parkstone-on-Sea: Salterns, Sandbanks and Seaplanes*. [Recently Jeremy has rolled-out his popular new Talk: *Poole Flying Boats*.]

Cats' Roll Call:

Besides 240 Sqd and RAF Hamworthy's 210, there were 19 other RAF Catalina Sqds in WW2 (inc. RNZAF), of which 7 were deployed UK (inc. 2 x RCAF), at *some point*, in the epic North Atlantic Battle; together with 119 and 330 which were based in Icelandic Waters; + there was *USN's VP 63* at PD, 17 of which put in at Poole 1943... and our harbour was also used for *diverted deliveries* from the US.

Types used by Squadron								Op HQ
Sqn and Type	I	IB	II	IIA	IIIA	IVA	IVB	
190		1943					1943	Scotland
209	1941-45							UK then East Africa
210	1941-43	1942-45		1942-43	1942-43	1944-45	1944-45	UK: RAF Hamworthy 1943-44
240	1941-3	1943-45	1941	1942-45				UK then Far East from 1942
422 RCAF		1942						UK
333		1943-45				1944-45		Scotland
422 RCAF		1942						UK

For all the RAF Catalina WW2 Sqds see... <http://www.historyofwar.org/>



Numerous yachts, sailing and motorboats + other craft moored-up safely for Wintertime's respite, within all the marina berths at Parkstone Y.C., where there is the modern clubhouse built during 2016/7

There is little record of the use of **Parkstone Yacht Club** in WW2: However **Douglas Cook** determined that some RAF workboats were maintained / had repairs there ~ but there were dangers !

"On the night of 4/5th. May 1941, some of the boats in storage had a close shave: a large number of bombs were dropped... " in the area of Elms & Pearce Avenues. A bomb went right thro' a Dolphin stored in the shed but burnt itself out without setting it alight, and 2 other bombs were dealt with by staff on watch..

Ref...Tom Hunt: *A History of Parkstone Yacht Club.*

Just 7 nights later on the 11/12 another attack saw the awful loss of *G-ADHK Maia* + damage to *G-AGBJ Guba*, close to the YC.

The Extraordinary Air Vice Marshal D.E. Hawkins (1919-2017)... A thank you to Bertie and Friends of PFBC for the following news: ~

Aged 97 years, **Ted Hawkins** had achieved so much in his lifetime that being *larger than life* would qualify as an action-packed film. One particular exploit in WW2 not only earned a DFC but ensured Ted will forever be remembered for his skills, daring & fortitude ! This remarkable flight with his RAF *PBY-Catalina* on 240 Squadron was underway on the 4th April 1942 as a diversion from his series of N. Atlantic Patrols from Castle Archdale, Lough Erne N. Ireland, which also included occasional flights to *Pembroke Dock & Poole*.

This time 2 experts (experienced Norwegian Lt Col Einar Sverdrup, and Arctic explorer Lt Cmdr *Sandy Glen*) accompanied the aircrew. This was a *clandestine mission* to push crew and Cat to their limits involving 2,000 mls in Arctic weather mostly over enemy territory to reconnoitre the distant, lonely/foreboding island of Spitzbergen. Govt. Boffins were concerned that various '*German activity*' in this most northerly region, might indicate intentions to establish a base. A successful result discounted the concerns and earned the citation: *showed great powers of endurance & their outstanding performance.*

[When on detachment at Gibraltar protecting convoys to Malta, Ted was bestowed with another DFC having sank an Italian sub.]

Ted's story also includes some similar echoes of our *Winkle Brown*, in that he rose from *relative obscurity* at a young age in employment as an *insurance clerk prewar*, to have been recruited to infiltrate the Third Reich and Hitler Youth Movement in a journey as a rambler; passing thro' Germany, Austria & Czechoslovakia entirely *on foot* staying at youth hostels *en route*- meeting folk & taking good note! Again, like *Winkle*, he also survived encounters with The Gestapo, who did not discover jottings that had been stitched in a rucksack. His extensive career in the RAF began shortly after return to the UK, + extended over 42 years of high-achievement 'till he retired to the Lymington area and its Royal LYC where he was Vice Commodore.

ALL CONTACTS PLEASE

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

and please mark clearly who you are contacting... This now includes PFBC's set of ACT's as new Advisers to the Trustees with various other assisting capacities...

For membership of Friends... and renewals contact **Bertie Bowman**.
PFBC Email: info@pooleflyingboats.com
PFBC Websites: www.pooleflyingboats.com
www.ayemaam.com