

From: Charlotte Darlington comms@royalnavalassoc.com
Subject: ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION: Semaphore Short
Date: 17 May 2021 at 13:14:47

SEMAPHORE SHORT

MONDAY 17 MAY 2021

A note from the General Secretary...

Members will no doubt be glad of the relaxation in Covid restrictions across the land today, however these regulations vary regionally so please be aware of what applies in your Area. As far as I can see, the regulations do not allow for meetings indoors beyond 6 people at this stage so it's not sufficient to allow full Branch and Club activity yet. That said, we would be thrilled to hear



about your socially distanced, outdoor reunions (when you can catch a break in the weather). Please ensure that the laws continue to be respected in your Branch and let's hope that we will be free to operate more normally [from 21 June](#).

On a different note, I want to highlight the graphic below which details the ships that form the Carrier Strike Group 21, which we waved off at the beginning of the month. In my final Navy job as Captain of HM Naval Base Portsmouth, I was lucky enough to be heavily involved in the preparation and welcoming of HMS Queen Elizabeth to this great city. I felt an immense sense of pride watching her depart on her first major operation this month – a feeling which I know is shared by everyone with a

connection to our Royal Navy.



Call for a Website Support Volunteer (news & events)

With restrictions continuing to ease and branches chomping at the bit to gather once more, we are keen to showcase all the great news and activities from around the RNA community, but we need your help...

Are you a keen story writer? Are you meticulous about good spelling and grammar? Are you an IT whizz? Do you have a few hours a week to spare? And are you passionate about the RNA and its delivery of camaraderie? If your answer to all these questions is 'Yes', then you could be the person we are looking for.

We need someone to work alongside our Comms Manager and webmaster to write and upload news stories, images and events from around our 250+ branches, to continue to enthuse new and existing members of the Royal Naval Association community.

To express your interest in this opportunity, please email Charlie Darlington:
comms@royalnavalassoc.com



Reunite and Stand Easy for the RNRMC

Being part of the Royal Navy or Royal Marines has many benefits, but military life can also increase feelings of loneliness and social isolation due to the unique strains of long periods away from loved ones. That's why we think it's important to talk, recognise the challenges faced and check in on one another.

It is for this reason that the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity are asking you to host your own Stand Easy coffee morning, in true Navy tradition, to help raise vital funds needed to support our sailors, marines, and their families. What better way to celebrate being reunited with your RNA oppos?

Whether it's a socially distanced get together or a virtual Zoom call, gather your oppos anytime between 21st June – 23rd July, make a wet and take some time to connect. More information on how to register to host your Stand Easy can be found below...

[Register/find out more](#)



What's on this week (17th May – 23rd May)

- [Monday Night Fireside Chat: Norway 1940](#)

The weekly Fireside Chat will be hosted again on Zoom **tonight**, where we will be joined by Ralph Dodds for a talk about War in the Norwegian Fjords in 1940.

Join us at the regular time of **1800** with a tot in hand.

[Join the Fireside Chat here](#)

- [Friday Night: Philip Pullman in conversation with Michael Rosen](#)

This is a FREE, rare opportunity (from Goldsmiths University) to listen to the acclaimed and inspiring children's authors, Philip Pullman and Michael Rosen, in conversation about children's literature. (Philip Pullman is the award-winning author of '*His Dark Materials*', a trilogy which has recently been adapted by the BBC.) Pullman will be talking about his writing and some of the stories and ideas behind his influential and much loved books.

[Register for tickets here](#)

- [Saturday Night: Virtual Tot Time](#)

Every [Saturday Night](#), for over 12 months now, members from the Wrexham Branch have been hosting a Virtual Tot, inviting members worldwide to join in with them over Zoom. It's proven a lifeline and outlet for many of the RNA community, and they don't intend to wrap it up any time soon. To be involved, click on the link below...

[Find out more](#)

Join 'The Royal Naval Association: Community Site' on

Facebook

If you haven't done so already, join the growing community group on Facebook where our members spin dits, host Zoom nights and update each other on branch activities. It's the best place to get your news hot-off-the-press...

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Bldg 1/087 Scott Road, HM Naval Base Portsmouth, PO1 3LU

Charity Reg: 266982

www.royal-naval-association.co.uk