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SEMAPHORE SHORT

MONDAY 14 JUNE 2021



Sun shine and great news!

We've started this week in Central Office with the fantastic news that our National Welfare Advisor, Geoff Apperley, has been included in the Queen's Birthday Honours List and will receive an Order of the British Empire (BEM) this year. Geoff has worked tirelessly throughout the Covid pandemic as the Deputy National Welfare to make sure that our members were kept up to date with the latest advice and changes, and continues to do so in his more recent role as NWA. A huge BZ to him, and a real boost for everyone in Central Office as we continue to uplift our welfare provisions!



The Naval Children's Charity are looking for families...

Social media has become a presence in all our lives. We use it to stay in touch, to keep with the news, and to share our opinions with the world. For Naval families, it has become a valuable tool for instant communication during lengthy periods of deployment.

Despite these benefits, there are pitfalls. Recent research conducted by the Veterans & Families Institute for Military Social Research has shown that misinformation spread online can trigger periods of anxieties for parents and children alike. We need to gain a better understanding of how social media is affecting the lives of Naval children.

The Naval Children's Charity has commissioned new research to explore both the benefits and drawbacks to the use of social media and instant digital communications.

They're looking to speak to recent leavers of the Naval service, the spouses of active or veteran Naval personnel, or the children of Naval service people aged between 11 - 18. In small focus groups, their researchers will ask about use of social

media during deployment, and some of the advantages and disadvantages of these platforms.

All contributions are completely anonymous and a few hours of your time could make all the difference in the lives of both the serving families of today and the future.

Please contact the Naval Children's Charity by email, at caseworkers@navalchildrenscharity.org.uk, to find out more

Matelots and mixi-blobs...

If you haven't signed up to the World Uckers Championship yet, what exactly are you waiting for?!

The 2021 World Uckers Pairs Championship will commence on 31 Jul 2021 and finish on Finals Day on Saturday 23 October 2021, which will be held in Portsmouth. The Royal Naval Association are the competition sponsors and will manage the rules and logistics elements of the competition.

Registration for the 2021 World Uckers Championship is now open, with the competition commencing on Black Tot Day 31st July 2021 and finishing with 32 pairs contesting a Grand Finals Day, in Portsmouth on Saturday 23 October 2021. To find out more, including the categories and how to register, head to the website: <https://royal-naval-association.co.uk/WorldUckersChampionship/>



What's on this week (14th June – 20th June)

- [Monday Night Fireside Chat: The Company of Makers](#)

The weekly Fireside Chat will be hosted again on Zoom **tonight**, where we will be joined by Steve Bomford, the founder of [The Company of Makers](#), who will be taking us through the purpose behind the charity and the numerous opportunities they have for veterans to learn and enjoy new skills both online and in person.

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

Join the Fireside Chat here

- [Watch anytime: The Worst Journey in the World – The story of the Russian Arctic Convoys of WWII](#)

The Russian Arctic Convoys Project (RACP) have created a feature-length video to detail and remember the World War Two convoys which left Loch Ewe and made the treacherous journeys backwards and forwards to Russia. We are keen to hear from any remaining survivors of the Arctic Convoys who have not yet been involved with the RACP and/or have not received their Arctic Star medal. Please get in touch if you, or someone you know, would like to be connected to the project.

Watch 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

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