

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION: Semaphore Short

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SEMAPHORE SHORT

MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2021



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION



Launch of the new Royal Naval Association shop

We are so excited to finally launch our new product range and partnership with the Royal Navy Shop, consisting of brand new, premium t-shirts, polo shirts, hoodies and much more!

This is your opportunity to pre-order items from the new range, for your own fashion needs and as gifts for loved ones this Christmas (delivery expected week commencing 6th December). We would also love to hear your feedback on the new designs and products, as well as suggestions for items you would love to see in the future.

For the time-being, the existing Royal Naval Association shop will remain on the main RNA website, with its existing ordering system. We will gradually be moving our stock over to the new shop though, so please do keep an eye on both.

[Visit the shop here!](#)



Special Interest Group update...

Our list of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) is growing and we would like to invite you to join get involved, as we begin to transition from purely virtual groups to in-person activities and meet ups.

We are also looking for a Group Leader volunteer to take forward our Fishing SIG, as our existing Group Leader steps back from the role to focus on family life. Are you a keen angler, coarse fisher or sea fisherman? The group is beginning to grow and we have a very exciting get together in the pipeline for 2022 already. Please get in touch with Charlie Darlington to express your interest... comms@royalnavalassoc.com

[View our SIGs here](#)



Latest *Company of Makers* podcast...

33 years of Service in the Royal Navy, 20 years at sea, 15 or so ships and several frontline deployments have produced many a dit and a Veteran who has not only made a successful transition into the civilian world, but is now CEO of the [Regular Forces Employment Association \(RFEA\)](#), helping around 20,000 Service leavers a year into the world of commercial employment. In the latest *Company of Makers* podcast, Alistair Halliday reminisces about his career and discusses the employment challenges and opportunities facing veterans today.

“HMS Manchester... I was playing on the bridge wing once and... the Club Swinger... came out and started doing The Sailor's Hornpipe... and so I was... on my accordion and she was dancing it superbly... and then... we had an idea, 'Let's get a team together'. So, we put a thing on Daily Orders for... 9, a mixture, male and female from the ship's company, and then... she drilled them and trained them and that was our party piece... So for these big receptions, I remember doing one in Quebec and one in Montreal... we'd finish it off with this display of The Sailor's Hornpipe. It was fantastic... a really good way to end at a cocktail party.”

[Listen Here](#)



What's on this week (18th October – 24th October)

- Monday Night Fireside Chat: Trafalgar Night 2021

The weekly Fireside Chat will be hosted again on Zoom **tonight**, where we will be joined by our former National President, Vice Admiral John McAnally who will take us through the history of Trafalgar Night, ahead of your own celebrations at home and with friends this coming week.

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

[Join the Fireside Chat here](#)

- Tuesday evening: **COP26: The summit to change our future?**

The UN summit, being held in Glasgow at the end of October, is gathering together leaders from around world. In the run up to COP26, the UK, as the joint host, is working with every nation to reach agreement on how to tackle climate change.

More than 190 world leaders will arrive in Scotland. Joining them will be tens of thousands of negotiators, government representatives, businesses and citizens for twelve days of talks.

Not only is it a huge task but it is also not just yet another international summit because COP26 has a unique urgency to secure our planet's health for future generations.

On Tuesday 19th October at 1830, join *The Independent's* climate correspondents Louise Boyle & Daisy Dunne as they explore what can be expected from the critical conference.

[Register here](#)

- Wednesday evening: **High Street, High Style - Vintage Fashion from the M&S Company Archive**

Marks and Spencer started as a humble Penny Bazaar in Leeds in 1884 and began selling clothing in the 1920s. This is an introduction to the wonderful vintage fashion within the M&S Company Archive, arguably the best high street fashion collection in the UK, also exploring links with the Jaeger archive held at City of Westminster Archives Centre.

The talk will take place **on Wednesday 20th October at 1830**, followed by a Q&A. Find out more about the M&S Company Archive at <https://marksintime.marksandspencer.com>

[Register here](#)

- Thursday evening: **London's Palaces - A Virtual Tour**

On Thursday 21st October at 1900 join a fascinating look at London's hidden treasures. This virtual tour will explore key sites of interest along the City of Westminster's bank of the Thames taking in a dozen sites or buildings that have - or had - notable palaces on them.

Along this route you will learn how each one tells a different story from a chapel opened by Henry VIII and now a shrine to the House of Lancaster, to the home of an exiled Queen of Scots, to where a coup d'etat was planned and then later - in the same rooms - the discovery of El Dorado was plotted. You will start, though, with a look across the Thames at the last surviving medieval domestic palace in central London still intact and in continuous use for over 800 years to act as our benchmark.

[Register 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

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