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Subject: ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION: Semaphore Short

SEMAPHORE SHORT

MONDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2021



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Winter is here!

We hope you've all made it through Storm Anwen in one piece, but we know many members will have had damage to their homes and property, especially those in Scotland and Area 11. It's a stark reminder of the importance of community and we would urge every member to reach out to Oppos who are isolated or struggling as the realities of winter set in. If you do have wellbeing concerns about an Oppo, please reach out to the team in Central Office so that we can support wherever possible.

In more positive news, we're thrilled that the products in our online shop are proving such a hit with members. Continuing through from Black Friday, you can get 15% off everything in the [Royal Navy Shop](#) until midnight tonight – perfect for your Christmas shopping needs and not too late to grab your Christmas cards!

Galley



THE ROYAL NAVY & ROYAL MARINES CHARITY COOKBOOK



The RNRMC 'Galley' Cookbook, available now

Galley is a unique new cookbook that will resonate with anyone who has a connection to the Royal Navy, as well as keen cooks who enjoy entertaining and cooking restaurant-quality food. It shines a light on the incredible skill and talent found within this demanding industry, thanks to the contributions of 20 professional chefs – all with a connection to the Royal Navy – who have shared their recipes and career journeys.

The book also features a forward by The Princess Royal, patron of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity (RNRMC), and a recipe by Michel Roux Jr. Its pages are packed with insights into Navy life and traditions, from the strictly observed toasts of Trafalgar Night, commemorating Lord Admiral Nelson's victory in battle, to the story of how a handwritten recipe book by a naval chef in World War II came to light.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of ESS Defence, all proceeds from the sale of every copy will go towards the charity's essential work in support of serving personnel, veterans and their families.

And if you **head to the Royal Navy shop to buy yours today, you'll get 15% off until midnight!** It will also be available in Waterstones, if you prefer to shop on the high street.

[Buy your copy here](#)

ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
0300 123 2040

Stay vigilant against scams this Christmas...

As the festive season is fast approaching, most people will be thinking about how they're going to spend Christmas and what they need to do to prepare for the big day and celebrations over the break. But it is important to be wary of scams.

Refund scams - You may receive an email or text pretending to be from the council or other organisation promising a credit or tax refund and a link to click to claim the money back. They'll ask for bank details – don't give them.

Look-a-like websites - This year, more than any, we are buying presents online. Criminals sometimes set up fake websites that look identical to steal personal details and money. Secure website addresses start with 'https' and display a padlock.

Phishing emails - Criminals send emails that look genuine to make you click on a link or open an attachment that infects your machine with a virus. Think before clicking.

Phone scams – Criminals ring to discuss a topic and ask you to press a number on your phone. Don't – it will generate huge charges which the criminals will profit from.

Gift card scams - Received an email from a friend asking you to buy gift cards for them? Criminals pretend to be people you know to get you to do this. They are after the code on the card to spend the money.

Fake delivery notifications - Over December you may have many packages being delivered. Criminals are sending chance phishing emails disguised as well-known couriers and hoping to get you to log in and share you details. If you are in doubt, ignore the email and get in contact via the company's official secure website.

Covid-19 scams - Received a letter from the council identifying you as a contact of a confirmed case of Covid-19? The council will provide advice about self-isolation and how to book a coronavirus test. They won't ask for personal details.

Fake charities - Watch out for criminals using legitimate charity names to appeal for a donation. Ask to see their official charity ID which they are required to carry. Trust your instinct.

E-card scams - Watch for those e-cards you receive online. It could be infected with a virus that could shut down your device and you could be held to ransom to restore files. Get anti-virus software installed to alert you.

Shopping scams - Love top brands with low prices? Stay vigilant for counterfeit goods. These range from poorly made clothes to dangerous electronics which fail to comply with safety laws. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Fraudsters use all sorts of methods to target victims – knocking on doors, by phone, sending letters or online. Always be alert and take your time when considering something. Don't allow anyone to rush you, make sure you know who you are dealing with, and don't be afraid to shut the door, hang up, bin it and delete it. Don't let criminals ruin your Christmas.

If you are the victim of a scam, report it to **Action Fraud** or for more advice about cyber security, visit the **[National Cyber Security Centre](#)**.



What's on this week (29th November – 5th December)

- **Monday Night Fireside Chat: Nigel Huxtable – RNA royalty!**

The weekly Fireside Chat will be hosted again on Zoom **tonight**, when we'll be joined by former RNA membership secretary, the legend that is Nigel Huxtable, who will be discussing his Royal Navy career highlights and adventures as a photographer. **Please note, we are trialling a slightly later start-time**, so join us at the **new time of 1830** with a tot in hand.

[Join the Fireside Chat 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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