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# SEMAPHORE SHORT

**12 SEPTEMBER 2022**



**GREETINGS SHIPMATES** - I sit here somewhat of a state of shock and with a deep feeling of loss. As with the vast majority of you all, I spent my naval career working for and on behalf of Her Majesty and whilst I never actually spoke to her, regarded her as one of the family. Her passing has left a big hole in all of

our lives but life continues, and I'm sure that Her Majesty would be comforted to know that our support, loyalty and unswerving dedication and respect pass seamlessly to His Majesty King Charles. All of our thoughts continue to be with him and his family.

Due to Her Majesty's State Funeral next Monday, the Short will be delayed until Tuesday 20th September. As usual, if anyone has anything that they would like to include in that, email me or the team at [comms@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:comms@royalnavalassoc.com). Whilst all contributions will be considered, please note that this is a short update newsletter and we can't publish everything. Some content may be passed to Andy for inclusion in the next Circular.

**FIRST SEA LORD'S LETTER TO NAVAL PERSONNEL** The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Ben Key KCB CBE ADC, has written to all naval personnel on the passing of Her Majesty the Queen. The text is too long to include directly in this short but I have attached the PDF to the email this Short arrives with.

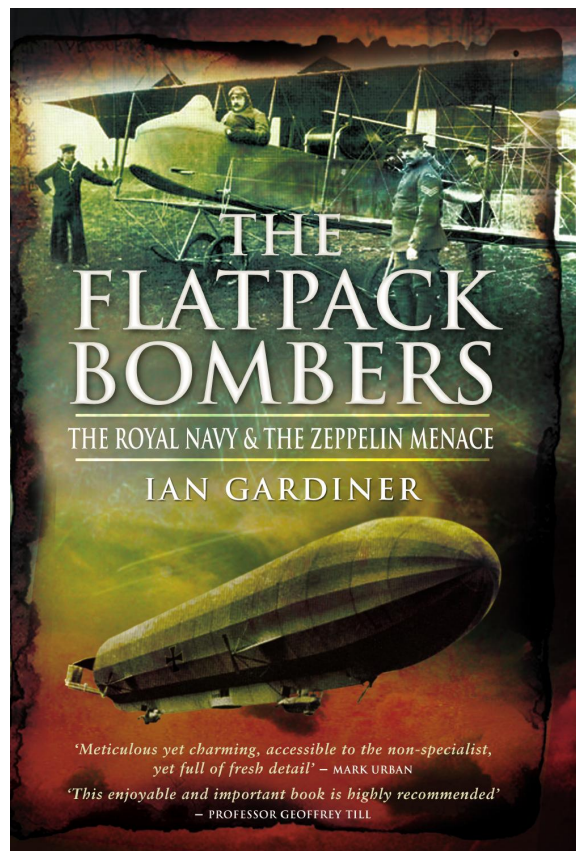
**RNRMC PICKLE NIGHT** The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity Pickle Night at the China Fleet Club on Friday 4th November was advertised in the last Short. However, the price was advertised incorrectly and is £65.00 and not the £95.00 stated. RNRMC has amended its advertising media. You can [click here](#) for further details of how to apply for tickets.

**FIRESIDE CHATS** The fireside chat for this Monday (12th) will be given by Ian Gardiner and the subject is 'Flatpack Bombers' - the story of the anti-Zeppelin campaign using ikea style flat-pack bombers during WWI. For those interested, Ian can sell you a signed copy of the book for £23.35 inc. postage - you can contact Ian [here](#)

Due to Her Majesty's funeral, next weeks chat (Mon 19th) - 'Signalling in Nelson's Navy' given by Gordon Simmonds will be rescheduled.

Fireside chats, unless promulgated otherwise start at 18:30 each Monday. To access the fireside chats, access zoom [here](#)

Meeting ID is 288 830 5105 Password is Shipmate



### **COST OF LIVING CRISIS**

The Grant Team at the Royal Naval Benevolent Tryst (RNBT) are reacting swiftly to increased demand from those of our people in need. They are already paying out more for both essential food and those with rent payment problems, and from April to the end of July they had paid out nearly £300k in individual grants and nearly £390k in regular charitable payments. RNBT will be highlighting the crisis in planned PR for this month in print media and radio as well as regular social media posts. Please encourage those in need to contact RNBT direct: [help@rmbt.org.uk](mailto:help@rmbt.org.uk) or their helpline: 02394 216294.

### **OFFICE FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS 6 MONTHLY STRATEGY UPDATE**

Following on from the last Short's link to Jonny Mercer's letter to veterans, the OVA has published a 6 month progress report on what has been achieved since March. The full progress document can be accessed [here](#).

Most will probably be aware that the post that Johnny Mercer held has been repealed as a separate entity in the recent cabinet re-shuffle. Responsibility for Veterans passes to the amalgamated post of Minister for the Armed Forces and Veterans. The post carries cabinet representation. The Rt Hon James Heappey assumes the role. He is a veteran himself, having served as a Major in the Rifles.

**In respect to Her Majesty, the 'And Finally' will not appear this week.**



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