

**From:** Royal Naval Association Comms <comms@royalnavalassoc.com>  
**To:** Royal Naval Association Comms <comms@royalnavalassoc.com>  
**Date:** Dec 12, 2022 10:53:26 AM  
**Subject:** Semaphore Short 12 December



# SEMAPHORE SHORT

**12 DECEMBER 2022**



**GREETINGS SHIPMATES** - Welcome to this week's Semaphore Short and I hope that this finds you well. This is the last Short this year as next week, I will be trying to fit more food in and attempting to resist the lure of the drinks cabinet. On behalf of the President, General Secretary and all of the Central Office staff, may I wish you all a happy Christmas and all the very best for 2023.

As usual, if anyone has anything that they would like to include in future Shorts, 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 Mike for inclusion in the next Circular.

**FIRESIDE CHATS** The chat for this evening will be given by Captain Gavin Pritchard OBE Royal Navy (Retd) who is the Principal Inspector with the Marine Accident Investigation Branch. This will be the last chat this year due to the Xmas and New Year bank holidays. We will recommence on Monday 9th January 2023 with a talk by Rear Admiral Steve Moorhouse who is the Director Force Generation for the Royal Navy.

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



**NUCLEAR TESTING MEDAL** In the last Short, I included a piece on the Government's decision to award a medal for those involved in the nuclear testing programme in the fifties and sixties. The end date for the medal was incorrectly reported as 1957 - Validity extends to 1967.

In addition, those that were involved in the testing and are suffering actual or potential effects can find more information [here](#)

**SHIPMATE ANDY CHRISTIE - END OF AN ERA** I couldn't let the opportunity slip to give a big mention to Andy Christie who leaves the Central Office staff in a couple of weeks. Andy has been with us for over ten years and his input, experience and most of all, his candour and sense of humour will be missed by all. Andy has been producing the monthly Semaphore Circular for more than a few years and you will, hopefully, have received his last one last week. The Circular will continue under the tenure of Mike Gray. Andy will not be leaving

the RNA though and will continue in the role of Area 3 National Council Member. All the very best Andy and thank you.



**RNA SHIPMATE PUBLISHES CHILDREN'S BOOK** Shipmate Richard Jones, already a published author of 18 historical books, has produced his first children's book called Cretil the Cat. The book has been illustrated by Ukrainian artist Julia Aliper who has worked with Richard on a previous book. Publication of the book was delayed a little due to Julia trying to work amid the onslaught of Russian forces. She has now relocated to a safer area of the country. More information on Richard and the book can be found [here](#)

**A MATELOT SONG FOR CHRISTMAS** Lt Cdr David Emery and Lt Cdr Phil Clark, both members of the south-western band Little Red Ambulance, have written and released a Christmas song whilst serving onboard HMS Queen Elizabeth as Merlin observers. It tells the story of the joy and anticipation felt on returning home to family after being apart for such a long period of time. The band teamed up with the Culdrose Military Wives Choir which added the extra magic to the track. It was extra special as many of their husbands were deployed at the same time. 100% of the income from sales and downloads will go to the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity and the Culdrose Military Wives Choir. I have to say, it really is good! Listen to the track [here](#)

**AND FINALLY.....**



*The Semaphore Short is published by the Royal Naval association*  
[www.royal-naval-association.co.uk](http://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk)

Royal Naval Association  
Building 1/87  
Scott Road  
HM Naval Base  
Portsmouth  
PO1 3LU

Telephone 02392 723747

*To unsubscribe to these emails, contact [admin@royalnavalassoc.com](mailto:admin@royalnavalassoc.com)*