



**ROYAL NAVAL
ASSOCIATION**

SEMAPHORE



SHORT



23 JANUARY 2023

GREETINGS SHIPMATES Welcome to this week's Semaphore Short and I hope that this finds you well. You will have immediately noticed that this Short has arrived in a different way to how it has been delivered in the past three months. Previous editions have been formatted via third party software which is now no longer available to us and we are now looking at new ways to format and distribute the Short and indeed the format of the Circular. For the next couple of issues of the Short, you will get an embedded PDF document that you can open or save. The vast majority of recipients should have a PDF reader but if you don't, Adobe PDF reader can be downloaded for free [here](#).

As usual, if anyone has anything that they would like to include in future Shorts, email me or the team at <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 Tonight's Fireside Chat will be a talk by Commander Gordon Jones and Leading Seaman David Clough who will give us an insight into the Royal Naval E-Gaming Association and how E-Gaming can be used to tackle isolation and build/maintain Service connections.



Next week's chat will be given by Professor Matt Kiernon who will be talking about the Veteran's Food Poverty Survey. Matt is a former Head of Mental Health Nursing in the Royal Navy.

To access Fireside Chats, log into zoom [here](#). The meeting ID is 288 830 5105 and the access password is Shipmate.

VETERAN'S SURVEY The Government supported Veteran's Survey run jointly by the Office for national Statistic and the Office for Veterans Affairs closes on February 2nd. Whilst the survey has been promoted in the Short before, it is important that the views of all veterans are heard so if you have not taken part yet, you can access the survey [here](#)



Office for
Veterans' Affairs

THE RNA IN THE COMMUNITY

St Neots branch recently held their annual presentation for good causes and here Peter Smith from [Grafham Water Sailability](#) is being presented with a cheque from Shipmate Tony Webley, with Shipmate Geoff Patterson is on the right applauding.



Sailability is a friendly, inclusive sailing club for adults of all ages with a range of different disabilities. Peter related just a few of the positive and inspiring outcomes of their sailing programmes on the lives of people with disabilities. They are currently lengthening their jetty, so the cheque is very welcome at this time. Peter lives locally, but unfortunately, due to inclement weather, representatives of other organisations who

lived further away and were to have donation cheques presented, were unable to join us. Their presentations will be at a later date. The branch will also be making a contribution to the Bedford Sea Cadets.

CHINA FLEET COUNTRY CLUB DISCOUNTS

The China Fleet Country Club in Saltash offers discounts for both serving and former serving members of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. Discounts can be obtained on a range of services included health club access, accommodation, golf and more. Conference rooms can also be booked free for meetings (refreshments and some equipment hire is chargeable). For further information, see [here](#).

VIRTUAL TOT TIME

Fancy a bit of dit spinning and banter and at a loose end on a Saturday evening? Then why not arm yourself with your favourite tipples and join loads of other Shipmates in a virtual tot time session. Call the Hands is given in the events section of the [RNA Facebook Community Site](#) where you will find that week's links to the Zoom session. If you are not a member of the Facebook Group, you can join at the above link by answering a couple of qualifying questions. The questions are not too taxing to take account of the Stokers amongst you.....



AND FINALLY

