



GREETINGS SHIPMATES Welcome to this week's Semaphore Short and I hope that this finds you well. Hopefully there are not too many jaded heads from those that attended the RNA conference, AGM and Battle of the Atlantic commemorations in Liverpool over the weekend. The weekend was a great success and a full article will appear in the Semaphore Circular next week. As usual, if anyone has anything that they would like to include in future Shorts, email me or the team [here](#). 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 used for inclusion in the next Circular.



Picture credit – Stephen and Karen Elliot

FIRESIDE CHATS Due to the late May bank holiday, there will be no Fireside Chat this evening. The next chat will be on Monday 5th June and will be a talk on the US National WWII Museum in New Orleans given by Dr Mark Calhoun, a former US Army helicopter pilot who is now a military historian. Mark gained his PhD in History in 2012. Fireside chats take place every Monday at 18:30 and to access the chats, log into zoom [here](#). The meeting ID is 288 830 5105 and the access password is Shipmate.

HMS RALEIGH MENTOR MILESTONE The Royal Naval Association recently marked 15 years of its hugely successful mentoring programme at HMS Raleigh. The programme, developed in close consultation with Royal Naval staff, has supported



thousands of new recruits during their 10 week basic training period. The occasion was marked with Commander John Barry (Commander Training) and Lead Mentor, Terry Whitty cutting a cake specially decorated for the occasion. Shipmate Roger Grace, one of the first ever Raleigh Mentors was also a special guest on the day. Terry said 'I would like to thank all the veteran mentors who over the past 15 years have worked so hard with Raleigh Initial Naval Training. Because of your hard work and dedication,

the programme is still running in HMS Raleigh - thank you to you all. It is amazing to watch the journey a new recruit goes on from day one to passing out. What an absolute honour and privilege to work with the next generation of sailors, and their families. Here's to the next 15 years!' A big BZ to Terry and his team of dedicated and committed Shipmates.

HAYNES BOONE PLEDGE SUPPORT TO THE RNA Haynes Boone, LLP has pledged financial assistance to the Royal Naval Association (RNA) to support the RNA's charitable activities through the year. 'This is the beginning of a fantastic partnership with Haynes Boone' said Captain Bill Oliphant, General Secretary of the RNA. Haynes Boone has long provided legal and financial support to military veterans. The firm's Veterans Network also strives to create a sense of community among Haynes Boone lawyers who have served in the military. 'Our support of the RNA is a reflection of the firm's values and a testament to the good work and support the RNA gives to the naval community,' said Haynes Boone Partner Mark Johnson, a former Royal Navy Officer. "We know that our contribution and continued backing will help those who need it most.'

BRIDLINGTON RNA RECOGNISE REMARKABLE RESCUE – 80 YEARS ON

Two blue plaques were recently unveiled to remember the two survivors from the SS Lulworth Hill who were rescued by HMS Rapid after surviving for 50 days on a raft. Colin Armitage and Kenneth Cooke were the only two survivors from the SS Lulworth Hill. They endured some huge challenges including watching the 12 other crew-members die, facing extreme starvation and the raft being circled by sharks. The SS Lulworth Hill was presumed lost with all hands after it was torpedoed by the Italian Submarine, Leonardo da Vinci on 19th March 1943. It wasn't until the 7th May, that HMS Rapid, an R-Class Destroyer, recovered the life raft. Colin and Kenneth were both awarded the Lloyd's Medal for Bravery at Sea and the George Medal. Members of Bridlington Royal Naval Association and Bridlington Submariners Association, including Standard Bearers, were at Bridlington Harbour for Kenneth Cook's plaque unveiling. Some of Kenneth's relatives were present with one giving a short speech. The plaque was funded by Bridlington Tourism Association. In a similar ceremony in Hull, relatives of Colin Armitage were present for the unveiling.



TAX AND MARRIAGE ALLOWANCE Were you aware that the Government allows the transfer of a portion of income tax allowance to a husband, wife or civil partner? If one of you earns below the income tax threshold of £12,570 and the other above it (and under the higher rate threshold of £50,270), then a tax allowance of £1,260 can be transferred from the lower earner to the higher earner which can result in a reduction of a tax bill by up to £260 in a financial year for the higher earner. With the recent 10.1% increase in Service pensions, some will find they are now pushed into the income tax bracket so this is well worth looking at if your spouse/partner is not working or earns under the tax threshold. It's easy to apply for (I have just done it!) and all the information can be found out [here](#). (Note – this notification is for information only – the RNA is not a financial advisory organisation and cannot be held responsible for member's financial decisions)

AND FINALLY.....

**WITH YEARS TO WAIT FOR
DELIVEROO AND JUST-EAT,
NOBBY PUTS IN HIS ORDER
FOR A CHEESY-HAMMY-EGGY**



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