

# ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION SEMAPHORE SHORT

MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 11th  
2023

**GREETINGS SHIPMATES** Welcome to this week's slightly out of sync' Semaphore Short and I hope that this finds you well. Due to the Biennial parade in London over the weekend and the changes that we are making to the digital schedule, the Circular has been delayed until this coming Friday (15<sup>th</sup>). There will be Shorts on the following Fridays for the remainder of this month (22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>). From October, we establish the new routine which will be; First Friday – Circular, second Friday – Branch officials update and the following Fridays the Short (2 or 3 depending on how Fridays fall within the month) As usual, if anyone has anything that they would like to include in future Shorts, email the team [here](#). Whilst all contributions will be considered, please note that this is a short update and we can't publish everything. Some content may be used for inclusion in the next Circular.

**PLAY THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION WEEKLY LOTTERY AND WIN UP TO £25,000**

[PLAY NOW](#)

**FIRESIDE CHATS** This evening's Fireside Chat will be a fascinating insight into the military/political events surrounding Russia's invasion of Ukraine from 'our man in Moscow'. Captain John Foreman CBE, who has recently left the Service, was the UK Defence Attaché in Moscow at the time of the invasion. John has also worked in Kyiv and has extensive knowledge of the region. Next chat will be next Monday (18<sup>th</sup> September) and will be a talk on the history of the Royal Navy's engineering branch, presented by Mark 'Dickie' Barton. 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.



**BIENNIAL PARADE** Over 400 members of the naval family including serving personnel and veterans, marched past the Cenotaph on Whitehall on Sunday at the Royal Naval Association's Biennial Parade. The event also included the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Navy and the Royal Naval Association. Personnel from HMS Collingwood and HMS Sultan marched past as well as representatives from the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and 12 Naval Associations including the Wrens, Royal Yachtsmen, Submariners and the Merchant Navy. We were also joined by members of the Belgian Naval Association and HMS President, the London Naval Reservist unit. The Second Sea Lord, Vice Admiral Martin Connell CBE, took the salute, with the Royal



Naval Volunteer Band Association providing the music and the Chaplain of the Fleet, the Venerable Andrew Hillier KHC, conducted the service. The Second Sea Lord said: "I am honoured to take the salute at today's parade here at the Cenotaph. The RNA is committed to supporting, implementing and promoting the ethos and values of the Royal Navy. I was delighted to sign a Memorandum of Understanding today which recognises the special relationship between the Association and the Royal Navy that significantly supports many serving and former serving sailors and their families." Captain Bill Oliphant, CEO of the Royal Naval Association said: "The parade is an important opportunity for the Royal Naval Family; serving, veterans and families from across the country and across the RN disciplines to pay their respects both to each other and those who made the ultimate sacrifice". A huge BZ to all involved. Much more in the Circular out on Friday 15<sup>th</sup>.

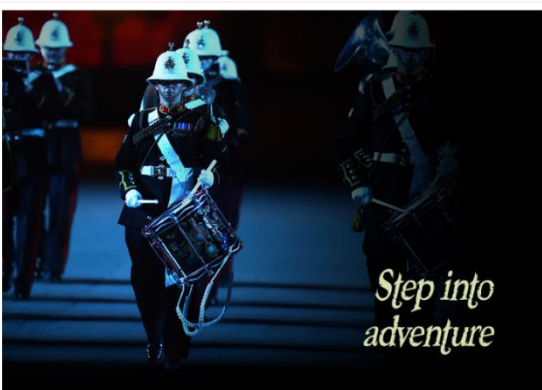


Naval Volunteer Band Association providing the music and the Chaplain of the Fleet, the Venerable Andrew Hillier KHC, conducted the service. The Second Sea Lord said: "I am honoured to take the salute at today's parade here at the Cenotaph. The RNA is committed to supporting, implementing and promoting the ethos and values of the Royal Navy. I was delighted to sign a Memorandum of Understanding today which recognises the special relationship between the Association and the Royal Navy that significantly supports many serving and former serving sailors and their families." Captain Bill Oliphant, CEO of the Royal Naval Association said: "The parade is an important opportunity for the Royal Naval Family; serving, veterans and families from across the country and across the RN disciplines to pay their respects both to each other and those who made the ultimate sacrifice". A huge BZ to all involved. Much more in the Circular out on Friday 15<sup>th</sup>.



## ROYAL EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO 2024

As one adventure closes, a new journey awaits. All aboard, it's time to join us for our 2024 Show, *Journeys* - tickets are on sale now. Plus, we're so excited to return, we're offering the first 25,000 2024 tickets for sale at 2023 prices! Celebrating the tides of change, our 2024 lead service, The Royal Navy, will play a pivotal role. From the traditional origins of the Massed Pipes and Drums to the contemporary music of our international military bands we will take you on a journey through time showcasing culture from around the globe. We'll announce more on *Journeys* early next year, so please keep an eye on the horizon. You can buy tickets [here](#).



## AND FINALLY.....

*LIEUTENANT WILLOUGHBY-SMYTHE GAVE THE BUS A STIFF IGNORING AND TRIED TO CONVINCING THE TROOPS THAT HE KNEW THE WAY BACK TO THE DOCKYARD*



©IWM A26139

IWM