

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION SEMAPHORE SHORT

MONDAY
AUGUST 21st
2023

GREETINGS SHIPMATES Welcome to this week's Semaphore Short and I hope that this finds you well. 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

By playing the RNA lottery you not only have the chance to win some fabulous cash prizes. You will help enable our network of Welfare Officers who offer support and guidance in times of need.

FIRESIDE CHATS Tonight's Fireside Chat will be presented by Malcolm Farrow whose subject will be Colours of the Fleet. Malcolm, a former Royal Naval Captain, is President of the Flag Institute. There will be no chat next week due to another period of summer leave so the next chat will be on Monday 4th September and will be a recount of the SS Lisbon Maru story presented by Brian Finch. 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.

BZ MR PRESIDENT To celebrate 50 years as a RNA member at the Lossiemouth branch, Shipmate Ian White, who is branch President, decided to make a special effort to raise funds for the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society (whose president is Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB DSC). Ian is pleased to report that over £1500 was collected this year from the society's collection boxes as well as the flag day and bucket collection.



RNA CRICKET SIG

The Royal Naval Cricket Club has recently been incorporated within the RNA as a Special Interest Group so any cricket enthusiasts - players, officials and keen supporters can now join the group and spin a few dits (see what I did there?) with likeminded members. As well as the main Royal Navy team, the RNCC also has the 'Legends' team which is made up of serving and veteran RN personnel over the age of 45. The Legends team recently retained their inter-Service trophy at this year's competition held at Wormsley Cricket Club. The RNCC offers social cricket to all serving and ex-serving members of the naval family and are actively recruiting new members to play, administer, and officiate. Those interested can contact Secretary, Mark Smith [here](#).

VISION IN SONG CHOIR Shipmate and former club swinger Jed Splain from the Clacton branch is a member of the Blind Veterans UK choir which as the name would suggest, is made up of former members of all three Services that have partial or no sight. As well as providing an opportunity to loosen the vocal chords, which in itself is a great well-being therapy, the choir gives members a chance to meet socially and 'pull up a bollard'. The group meets two times a month at the Colchester Army Garrison. For more information, you can contact Jed by email [here](#) or call him on 01255 830119. If you would like to see a snippet of the choir in full voice, have a look [here](#).

STANDING WITH GIANTS Members of the Isle of Wight branch recently got a bit of sea time and ventured to the mainland for a visit to the Standing With Giants and Falklands 40 exhibitions at Fort Nelson just north of Portsmouth. Shipmates enjoyed the use of the RNA minibus to convey the group from the Hard to the Fort and back via a quick visit to the RN Veterans Motorcycle Club HQ at Fort Widley. Branch Chair Ron Boynton was accompanied by Shipmates Shaun Greenwood, Dave Creese, Peter Reffold and Treasurer Faye Crawley. Entertainment was provided by Dave and Peter who managed to get themselves stuck in the museum's lift by 'confusing' the lift management system! A thorough debrief on the incident was held in the Ship Anson before sea time was completed. The exhibition runs until September 3rd and is free although tickets are required, Please see [here](#) to book.



AND FINALLY.....

*Clubz was quite chuffed with his new sport – Vault Boxing.....
.....Dinger however, was not going to be so chuffed*

