

SEMAPHORE SHORT

AHOY SHIPMATES! Welcome to the last Semaphore Short of May, and take a deep breath – things get pretty busy for the next few weeks! D-Day 80 commemorations run through next week (see below right), followed by the RNA National Conference (see the May Semaphore Circular download page on the RNA website for Conference documents <https://royal-naval-association.co.uk/members/downloads/may-2024-and-conference-documents/> – the Circular also has the form to register as a delegate. And don't forget Armed Forces week at the end of June...

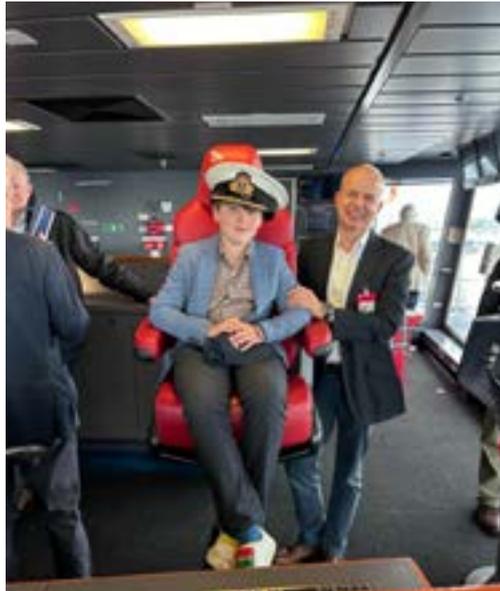
PLAY THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION WEEKLY LOTTERY AND WIN UP TO £25,000

PLAY NOW



LAST CALL FOR WALK There is still time to sign up for the women-only weekend walking on 28-30 June. The event includes a hike up Pen y Fan mountain in the Brecon Beacons, walking past waterfalls, BBQ evenings and the chance to connect/reconnect with other female shipmates. Details from RNA Sports and Comradeship Coordinator Scouse Reeves on scc@rnassoc.org

FIRESIDE CHATS Please note there will be no Fireside Chat next Monday, 3 June) Our next Fireside Chat, by Chris Taylor, will be on the following Monday, 10 June on the subject of '9 Lives, 4 collisions and a ditching – Part II'. Fireside Chats start at 1830 every Monday, and to access the chats, log into Zoom here. The meeting ID is 288 830 5105 and the access password is Shipmate.



IF THE CAP FITS... Tobias Johnson in the Captain's chair on the bridge of aircraft carrier HMS Prince of Wales in Portsmouth Naval Base. Tobias and his father, RNA member Mark (right), were hosted on board by Commanding Officer (and RNA member) Capt Will Blackett during the RNA Sponsors' visit to the Base, which took place during half-term, allowing families to join in for the first time. Mark is a London-based partner at international law firm Haynes and Boone LLP. Other valued supporters of the RNA who took part included representatives of law firm Blake Morgan, AW Shipping Management and United Services Portsmouth rugby club. As well as a look round the carrier, visitors enjoyed a light lunch, a boat tour around the harbour and a chance to take in the attractions of the Historic Dockyard. The day was arranged by the Association to thank organisations and individuals for their continued support for the Association and its activities.

D-DAY 80

D-DAY 80 Portsmouth is the focal point for the UK's D-Day 80 commemorations as the initial landings were controlled from Southwick House on Portsdown Hill, and the amphibious armada rendezvoused south of the Isle of Wight en route to France in 1944. The main commemorative events in the city on 5 June are ticketed and 'sold out' very quickly, so the general public's best view of events will be on the live TV broadcast. The traditional commemorative ceremony will be held at the D-Day Memorial by South Parade Pier on 6 June, and another commemoration will be held at the National Memorial Arboretum, while a number of major events will be held in Normandy on the same day. Details of D-Day celebrations can be found at <https://dday80.campaign.gov.uk> Portsmouth's **Armed Forces Day** celebrations follow hard on the heels of D-Day, with the city holding its event on Southsea Common on Saturday 8 June. Armed Forces Day itself is celebrated in communities across the UK and overseas on Saturday 29 June. See <https://www.armedforcesday.org.uk> for more details on events in your area.

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ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION