

SEMAPHORE SHORT

AHOY SHIPMATES! 2025 may seem like a long way off, but it is going to be a busy and memorable year for the Royal Naval Association as we celebrate our 75th anniversary. As well as our annual National Conference (see below) we have some special events during the year, including an RNA75 charity concert on 22 October featuring Fisherman's Friends and the Royal Marines Band - watch the Semaphore newsletters and social media for more details.

PLAY THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION WEEKLY LOTTERY AND WIN UP TO £25,000 [PLAY NOW](#)

SAVE THE DATE The Royal Naval Association National Conference and AGM will be held in Portsmouth on the weekend of 20-22 June 2025. Further details will follow in due course - but you can put those dates in your diary now!

YOUR NEWS Has your branch been busy over the summer? Don't forget to let us know what your members have been up to - send us a brief report and pictures if you would like to feature in a Semaphore Circular. The next edition is out on 6 September. Send your report to comms@rnassoc.org, and don't forget to attach images as separate jpeg files, not embedded in a Word document or PDF.

WRENS The WRNS Burghfield - Dauntless Project 46-81 needs your help. If you or a family member joined the Women's Royal Naval Service between 1946 and 1981 and trained at Burghfield, near Reading in Berkshire, please contact the Project via email, at ddpwrens@gmail.com

TOP UCKERS Get your name down for the RNA Uckers World Championships on 12 October at the Royal Maritime Hotel, Portsmouth - prestigious titles at stake, lots of prizes and plenty of fun. More details from engagement@rnassoc.org



UP AND AWAY UK Space Command has launched its first military satellite. Under SpaceX's dedicated smallsat rideshare programme, the Tyche satellite was launched from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. Tyche, the size of washing machine, will support military operations, capturing daytime images and videos of the Earth's surface, strengthening the UK's Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities. It is the first of a constellation of satellites that will also contribute to other government tasks, including natural disaster monitoring and mapping. **Tyche is the first satellite to be fully owned by the MOD.**
Image: SPACEX © copyright 2024

Central Office visits Central Office staff would be delighted to be invited to your Area meetings. We'd love to tell you about new initiatives and to hear about the work being done in your Area and Branches. Please email Chris Trevethan, on cos@rnassoc.org to let us know when and where you are meeting and we'll do our best to attend. And keep us updated about events, presentations, and any other branch news - comms@rnassoc.org

LISBON MARU MEMORIAL SERVICE A reminder that the memorial service for victims of the Lisbon Maru will be held at midday at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) on 2 October. Please be in position at the Lisbon Maru Memorial by 11.45am. For those who have difficulty walking there will be shuttle buses available to take people to and from the Memorial, and there will be seating at the Memorial for those who have difficulty standing. The service will be led by Pastor Jean Clements, whose uncle Kenneth Hodgkinson of the Royal Scots was one of the victims of the disaster. It will be a short and simple service and will include readings of poetry by some of the survivors. Representatives of service associations are welcome to lay wreaths, as are relatives and friends of those who suffered on the Lisbon Maru. Unlike last year there will not be a reception after the service, but there are good catering facilities in the main building of the NMA, the Remembrance Centre.

FIRESIDE CHATS Our Fireside Chat programme is taking a break in August, and will return in early September - keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information on speakers and subject matter. 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.

RNA Central Office,
Lanyard House, Scott Road, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LT
comms@rnassoc.org
www.royal-naval-association.co.uk



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION