

# SEMAPHORE SHORT

**AHOY SHIPMATES!** When I were a lad, summers seemed to last for ages (and they were always sunny!). I was wrong on both counts - particularly with regards to their duration. Which is another way of saying it won't be long until autumn, and there are loads of events, dates and activities that you might want to act on before they are on us. The RNA's Uckers World Championships, for example, is less than two months away now, and our Christmas card/calendar competition closes next week. Don't delay!

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

**PLAY NOW**

## NEW HEAD OF ROYAL MARINES CHARITY

Capt Bill Oliphant, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the RNA, has congratulated Matt Jackson DSO on his appointment as CEO of our sister charity the RMA - The Royal Marines Charity. With a distinguished career in leadership and strategic planning, and with more than two years as a Charity Trustee, Matt brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to serving the Royal Marines family. A former Royal Marine with more than 30 years of service, Matt is a highly respected leader known for his exceptional dedication to both his military and civilian careers. During his tenure in the Royal Marines, he gained invaluable experience in operations, command, and organisational leadership. Matt has also gained invaluable experience of the RMA - The Royal Marines Charity as a Trustee. See the September Semaphore Circular for more details.



**ROYAL TATTOO PIPER** This year's Lone Piper at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo was provided by the Royal Marines Band Service; complete with a unique Commando tartan kilt the musician played in front of 9,000 spectators at each performance of the Tattoo, at which the Royal Navy was lead Service. We will feature more from the Tattoo in the September Semaphore Circular, out on Friday 6 September.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:comms@rnassoc.org)

**RNA CHRISTMAS CARDS** Last call for entries to the RNA Christmas Card and Calendar competition - the deadline is next Thursday, 29 August. Judging takes place on 31 August. For further details please see the poster on page 7 of the August Semaphore Circular, available to download from [royal-naval-association.co.uk/members/downloads/august-2024/](http://royal-naval-association.co.uk/members/downloads/august-2024/)

**EMPLOYMENT** Manpower and training support company Mabway has 100 vacancies for ex-military individuals to take part in military exercises as weapon carriers, role playing as insurgents, security forces or enemy forces. They must have had military weapons training, to at least the end of Phase One training, and be capable of passing a weapon handling test, before being considered for the role. The work will require a certain robust level of fitness and endurance. Pay is £12.30 hourly basic starting rate, a shift is normally 10 hours or on occasion 12 hours (£147.60). This is a Zero Hours contract.

There is also a position for someone with a stores-based background on a full-time contract, providing logistic support before, during and after training events to ensure Mabway participants are appropriately equipped and sustained. The role will be based at Mabway's stores facility in Hayling Island, and the pay is £28,000pa. Essential requirements include: UK security vetting standard of CTC; previous experience in a logistic support role, ideally, but not necessarily in a military context; full UK driving license; be able to work on a routine basis from the Hayling (five days a week, inc weekends; live close enough to react to any alarm activation, within the hour, in the absence of the Base Stores Manager; be able to deploy for periods of up to 3 weeks. To express interest, send a CV with covering letter to: [human.resources@mabway.com](mailto:human.resources@mabway.com)

**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.

# Uckers Ya Uckers!

*Doubles and Singles  
Registration 0900-0930  
First dice 1015*



## The Royal Naval Association's Uckers World Championships Saturday 12 October 2024

**Royal Maritime Hotel Portsmouth**

You don't need to have qualified - you can still compete



**Full English  
Breakfast £9.50**

Refreshments available all day  
plus a light lunch

Further info:  
[engagement@rnassoc.org](mailto:engagement@rnassoc.org)  
07596530499

**Prizes for:**  
Best Dressed  
Snake Eyes  
First All-Out  
**Also:**  
Raffle  
Guess The Value  
Naval Blackout

**GET ON BOARD** We know plenty of branches will be well into planning their Trafalgar Night (and Pickle Night) events, but just a quick reminder that October also features the RNA Uckers World Championships - details above. And while we are on diary entries, please note that next year's National Conference will be held on 20-22 June in Portsmouth, and as well as all the usual pleasures of the annual AGM there will be special RNA75 celebration events to mark the Association's 75th anniversary. Watch this space!

**ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION SURVEY TIME!** We are inviting you to help in deciding on some events for 2025. Currently we have 14 September pencilled in for the Biennial Parade in London. We also have the Fisherman's

Friends Concert on 22 October. We need to know if you would like to add a Trafalgar ceremonial event and dinner on 21 October - or if this might be a bit too much excitement all in one go! Please fill in this online form to let us

know your thoughts. There's a £50 Marks & Spencer voucher prize for one of our lucky respondents. Click on this link to access the questionnaire: <https://tinyurl.com/ym9z7dx2>

RNA Central Office,  
Lanyard House, Scott Road, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LT  
[comms@rnassoc.org](mailto:comms@rnassoc.org)  
[www.royal-naval-association.co.uk](http://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk)



**ROYAL NAVAL  
ASSOCIATION**

The Royal Naval Association is incorporated by Royal Charter. Full recognition by the Royal Navy. Registered charity No. 266982