



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Friday 30 May 2025

SEMAPHORE SHORT

AHOY SHIPMATES We are now just three weeks from the Conference weekend, when hundreds of shipmates will descend on Portsmouth for three days of essential business, great social occasions and comradeship by the bucketful. Please note that for most events you should bring some photo ID to Conference so you can prove your identity and gain access to the Dockyard outside public opening hours. A driving licence, Veterans ID Card, local authority bus pass or passport are all examples of acceptable forms of ID.

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

PLAY NOW



NEW FIRST Gen Sir Gwyn Jenkins RM took up the role of First Sea Lord this week at a formal supersession ceremony in the Great Cabin of HMS Victory in Portsmouth. RNA General Secretary Bill Oliphant said: "All at the Royal Naval Association are delighted to hear Gen Sir Gwyn Jenkins has been appointed First Sea Lord. We look forward to continuing our close relationship with our serving shipmates and oppos." For more on this story see next Friday's Semaphore Circular.

FIRESIDE CHATS The next Chat on Monday (2 June) features Kelly White, who will talk about the RBLI (Royal British Legion Industries) and their Lifeworks programme. 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.

ON YOUR MARKS... With the BBC's Race Across the World reaching its final stages and gaining impressive viewing figures, here's your chance to take part in a version closer to home. The RNRMC's **Race Across the UK** challenges teams of two to get from Edinburgh to Dartmouth on 2-5 September with no map apps, on a limited budget – and you cannot use cars or planes. We are looking for participants from all four nations to take part as RNA teams, and will be giving your team full support, including fundraising. Please register your interest via cml@rnassoc.org or call 07435 642883 to discuss. You do not need to be an RNA member to take part. For more details and links see the flyer at the back of this Short [here](#).

DETAILS NEEDED The RNA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is being held on Saturday 21 June in Boathouse Number 5, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, starting at 0930. If you are coming to Portsmouth for the AGM, and/or hoping to attend the Church Service on Sunday, please ensure that you have sent your Dockyard access details to us so you can gain entry. Email admin@rnassoc.org for more details if needed. If you would like to attend the AGM on the spur of the moment, please do so. The AGM is open to the public and, as long as you access the Dockyard after 1000 on Saturday you will be able to gain entry even without providing security details (we understand you'll be a bit late, but hopefully won't miss too much!). The amended agenda for the AGM, along with the minutes of the 2024 AGM and the final accounts, can be found on the RNA website at <https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/documents>. The deadline for receipt of any further Motions of Urgency is 48 hours prior to the AGM. It is not too late for a Branch to nominate a delegate – the form is attached to this Short, and applications must be with Central Office not less than one week before the date of the AGM.

PRIZE CLAIM Rob Fox – you have a prize from the RNA waiting for you but we can't contact you at present – please get in touch with engagement@rnassoc.org as soon as possible.

RNA Central Office,
Lanyard House, Scott Road, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LU
comms@rnassoc.org
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

Delegate to Annual Conference 2025 - PORTSMOUTH

Branch secretaries should note the following before submitting their application.

No Branch shall be permitted to send a delegate to the Conference unless it has observed the regulations of the Association in regard to the return of balance sheets, the Branch Annual Report and the formation of Branches. This provision has no application to the right of, and expectation for, ships and establishments to send a delegate to the Conference. Associate members are eligible to act as a Branch Delegate at Area meetings and Conferences, provided that they have completed three years continuous membership of the Association immediately prior to election as Delegate.

Each Branch which has been in commission for at least three months by the date of a Conference shall be entitled to nominate one eligible Association Member as its Delegate to attend a Conference.

Each Branch nominating a Delegate shall send details to the Council **to arrive not less than one week before the date of Conference**. A Branch may change its nominated Delegate provided the Council is notified not less than twenty four hours before the Conference.

Branch		Area	
Name of Delegate			
Delegate's e-mail			
Number of Observers if known			
Name of Branch Hon Secretary			

NB: A Delegate will not be confirmed as such unless or until the Branch Balance Sheet for 2024 and Branch Annual Report for 2024 have been received in RNA Central Office.

Should either not have been received in Central Office, the Delegate's Status will be deemed to be that of an Observer.

Branch Secretaries are to ensure that their nominated Delegate, receives the copies of the agenda and minutes of the previous years' AGM prior to representing their Branch at the AGM. Copies will be made available at the AGM, but sight of these prior to the day is considered essential. Branch Secretaries will be forwarded this paperwork from Central Office as soon as it is finalised.

Please forward the completed form to RNA Central Office, Lanyard House, Scott Road, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, PO1 3LU or email to ams@rnassoc.org

To check ahead of Conference, please call Sara on 023 92 723747

RACE ACROSS THE UK



TEAMS OF TWO | 50 TEAM SPOTS AVAILABLE!

START: EDINBURGH FINISH: DARTMOUTH

02 – 05 SEPTEMBER 2025

**NO MAP APPS.
NO PLANES.
NO CAR.**

Survive on a limited budget—plan wisely!

Tackle checkpoints & surprise challenges

Race using only public transport & foot travel

ENTRY FEE:
£300

FUNDRAISING
TARGET:
£1,500



**ROYAL NAVY &
ROYAL MARINES
CHARITY**



HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Navigate across the UK using trains, buses, ferries & your own two feet
- Manage a limited budget – plan wisely!
- Hit checkpoints & complete challenges at iconic maritime locations
- Race to the finish or enjoy the adventure!

Who would you choose as your ideal teammate?

Someone who can read a map like a pro?

Travel buddy who stays calm under pressure?

Or maybe the person who makes every moment an unforgettable laugh?

Use this once in a lifetime adventure to raise money to support Naval families facing challenges such as life changing injuries, mental health issues or financial difficulties.

**SCAN THE
QR CODE**



SIGN UP TODAY!