



# SEMAPHORE SHORT

**AHOY SHIPMATES** Hopefully you're all still smiling after yesterday (International Day of Happiness) and feeling lyrical (World Poetry Day today). It's a reminder that as well as solemnly remembering those who have fallen for our freedom and security, there are also opportunities to accentuate the positive, such as VE 80 on 8 May, a day of celebration at the end of hostilities in Europe in 1945. You can make it even more of a celebration through the RNRMC's VE80 Stand Easy – see the column on the right for details.

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

## HIDDEN TREASURER?

The Association's much-esteemed Honorary National Treasurer, S/M Ian Irvine, steps down shortly. The RNA has been particularly fortunate to have had the benefit of Ian's wisdom and experience as a Chartered Accountant during his period of office, and he has been a key Trustee during our revitalisation. The search is on for his successor, and if you are interested and hold a suitable accounting qualification we would love to hear from you. More details in the **attachment**. Please contact Bill Oliphant on 07547 904410.



**IN THE VANGUARD** Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer and Defence Secretary John Healey joined a Vanguard-class nuclear deterrent submarine on its return home to Clyde Naval Base from a patrol. The politicians met submariners to learn more about their role in Continuous At Sea Deterrent – the UK's strategic nuclear ballistic missile operation, in which at least one Vanguard-class submarine is always on patrol at sea. *Image: ©UK MOD Crown Copyright, 2025*

**VE80 Stand Easy** Celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day – and support our veterans.

On 8 May 1945, communities across the UK put on street parties and community events to honour those who fought for our freedom. Now, on VE80, the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity is asking you to come together once more – this time, to help their veterans Stand Easy.

Whether it's a street party, office bake sale or informal gathering at home, you will be making a difference.

Host your own VE Day celebration and raise funds for the RNRMC, ensuring those who served continue to receive the support they deserve.

RNA branches can sign up to receive a special fundraising pack and help the veterans Stand Easy by emailing [cml@rnassoc.org](mailto:cml@rnassoc.org)

**HOW'S THAT?** The 2025 Inter-Services T20 cricket tournament will be at Lord's in London on Thursday 22 May, with the Royal Navy playing both the Army and the RAF. Tickets are £10 for serving personnel/veterans, £5 for over 65s. Details at: <https://interservices20.co.uk>



**CROSSED THE BAR** Barbara Haveron has been in touch to report the sad news that her father, Lt Cdr William Thomas 'Tommy' Haveron, Crossed the Bar on 5 March. A dedicated Naval officer, loving dad and brother, and cherished friend, he will be dearly missed by all who knew him. He served aboard the HMS Danae and HMS Battleaxe, among others.

A funeral service to honour his life will be held at Plymouth Crematorium at The Park on Tuesday, 1 April at 2pm. Family, friends, and all who knew Tom are warmly invited to join in remembering and celebrating his life.

## CONA AND CONFERENCE

Next Friday (28 March) sees the CONA (Conference of Naval Associations) gathering in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard – a chance to get up to speed with events and opportunities, and to network with other associations and Naval charities. Contact Malcolm Little on [dcos@rnassoc.org](mailto:dcos@rnassoc.org) if you would like your association to be involved. Branches are also encouraged to send delegates to our Annual Conference on 21 June in Portsmouth (see form attached) – and don't forget Conference weekend entertainment tickets are only available until 4 May.

**FIRESIDE CHATS** The next Fireside Chat on Monday (24 March) will see David Monks talking about the RNA Sailing Sports and Comradeship Group. 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. Please note that the speaker and subject matter of these Chats may be subject to change at short notice.

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



**ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION**

# Conference of Naval Associations

## Portsmouth

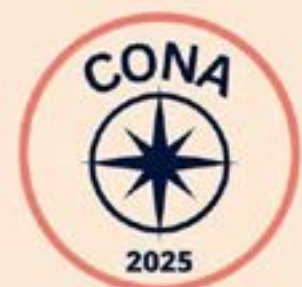
**28th March 2025**

- Speakers
- Workshops
- Practical assistance

**Join Now!**

**email: [dcos@rnassoc.org](mailto:dcos@rnassoc.org)**

all Naval associations welcome



## 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.

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

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

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

## **Honorary National Treasurer (HNT)**

### **Terms of Reference**

The principal role of the HNT is to approve, as the Finance Trustee, the Statutory Accounts for the Royal Naval Association (RNA), <https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/>. The RNA is a Charity and operates under UK statute regulated by the Charities Commission of England and Wales.

The HNT will also provide advice to the RNA Executive (Exec), and to the RNA National Council (NC), being the Board of Trustees, on all aspect of financial management and governance, and, as necessary, liaise with professional advisors to ensure that the Exec and NC are properly advised.

Liaise with the administration function of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity (RNRMC), <https://www.rnrmc.org.uk/>, who manage day to day finances of the RNA, doing so on behalf of the Exec.

Member of Finance and Admin Committee (FAC), being a sub-committee of NC.

Member of the Investment Committee (IC) of RNRMC, who manage the RNA surplus invested funds. The RNA funds held are modest relative to the funds managed by RNRMC, but RNA Shipmates take comfort by the attendance at the IC by the HNT.

Review RNA Annual Budget with Exec prior to submission to FAC and NC for approval.

Review RNA Annual Accounts with Exec prior to submission to FAC and NC for approval.

Liaise with the RNA external reporting accountant.

Present Accounts to Shipmates at the RNA National Conference.

The HNT also sits on the Governance Committee and Governance Working Group

### **Candidate Requirements**

Member of a recognised UK accounting body.

Ideally serving or former serving Royal Navy.

Ideally with knowledge of charity workings.

### **Time Commitment**

The NC meets quarterly, with occasional additional meetings. Generally, two meetings per annum are in Portsmouth, with the others being held online. The meetings are weekdays and are generally held in the forenoon.

The RNA National Conference weekend, which is held annually at different locations around the UK.

The FAC generally meets quarterly with meetings usually held online (usually 2 – 3 hours).

The IC meets quarterly in London at the offices of the RNRMC Fund Manager. Meetings are hybrid, with attendance either in person or online (usually 2 – 3 hours).

Budget planning meeting with the EX, usually in London (3 – 4 hours), ahead of presentation, by EX, to FAC and NC.

The Governance Committee and Governance Working Group meet on an 'ad hoc' basis, usually in London.

### **Future**

The RNA is currently redrafting the Royal Charter, working with the Privy Council. The plan is to establish a separate, smaller Board of Trustees and for the NC to become a Management Operations Board. The HNT would become the Finance Trustee (FT) on the restructured Board of Trustees.

### **Summary**

The HNT is a Senior Trustee within the RNA and, despite the complexities and challenges of the role, it should be, for the right candidate, great fun to be part of a well-focused and well led group of Trustees and Shipmates within the RNA.