



# SEMAPHORE SHORT

**AHOY SHIPMATES** The next major event in our 75th anniversary year is the Annual Conference weekend on 20-22 June, and we are now getting into the fine detail. Important paperwork has been sent out (see bottom of page), and we would like to know if you are planning to attend as a standard bearer – particularly those intending to take part in the church parade on Sunday. If so, please contact RNA National Ceremonial Adviser S/M Mike Smyth on [nca@rnassoc.org](mailto:nca@rnassoc.org) so organisers have an idea of the numbers expected.



**RACE WITH US** Have you got what it takes to complete the Race Across the UK? Sign up to take part as an RNA team of two as you tackle a course of your choice from the ports to the peaks – and all in aid of RNRMC. Undertake a journey of camaraderie and challenge, starting in Edinburgh and finishing at Dartmouth. You can't take a flight, or hop in a car, or use map apps. You have four days, and a limited budget, to make the journey, in the process forming lifelong bonds with your teammate and fellow competitors. The Race is on 2-5 September, and entry is £300 per person, with a fundraising target of £1,500 per person. Email [cml@rnassoc.org](mailto:cml@rnassoc.org) for more details.

**FIRESIDE CHATS** The next Chat on Monday (19 May) is on the subject of the recovery of HMS Hood's bell, and will be presented by Rob White. The battlecruiser was sunk in a big-gun duel with Bismarck and Prinz Eugen in the Denmark Strait on 24 May 1941. 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.



**HIGH AMBITION** Rear Admiral Jude Terry, the RN Director of People and Training, will be joining WO1 Claire Robson in raising funds for RNRMC by abseiling down the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth on 5 July. Jude and Claire are staunch supporters of the RNA – Claire is a Vice President and Trustee while Jude, who is a member, spoke at the recent CONA event and is a great advocate of strong links between the RN and RNA. RNRMC provides the RNA with the funding that enables us to support shipmates without charging a subscription, as well as supporting the wider Naval family. For more details of the event, and to make a donation, see [https://www.justgiving.com/page/claire-robson-2?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL&utm\\_campaign=015](https://www.justgiving.com/page/claire-robson-2?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=015)

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

**PLAY NOW**

**CONCERT CALL** RNA Charity Fundraising Concert 22 October. The Fisherman's Friends have had to withdraw from the matinee performance for operational reasons. Their evening performance is confirmed. If you have bought a ticket for the afternoon performance you will be offered a ticket for the evening, or a full refund. Contact [cml@rnassoc.org](mailto:cml@rnassoc.org) with any queries

**MOD GRANTS AVAILABLE** Armed Forces Day (AFD) is on 28 June, and the MOD is offering grants for up to half the costs of AFD events, to a maximum of £10,000. See <https://www.armedforcesday.org.uk/get-involved/organise-your-own-event/apply-for-funding/> If you have any queries contact [cml@rnassoc.org](mailto:cml@rnassoc.org)

**CONFERENCE PAPERS** Documentation for the upcoming Annual Conference was sent out by email to Area and Branch Secretaries, and to Branch delegates, last week. If you were expecting this documentation but did not receive it please contact Sara Field on [ams@rnassoc.org](mailto:ams@rnassoc.org). These documents can be found at:

- [https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/?post\\_type=documents&p=5329&preview=true](https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/?post_type=documents&p=5329&preview=true)
- [https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/?post\\_type=documents&p=5332&preview=true](https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/?post_type=documents&p=5332&preview=true)
- [https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/?post\\_type=documents&p=5335&preview=true](https://www.royal-naval-association.co.uk/?post_type=documents&p=5335&preview=true)

It is not too late for a Branch to nominate a delegate – the form is attached to this Short; applications must be with Central Office not less than one week before the date of Conference, which is 21 June.

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**

## 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**