



SEMAPHORE SHORT

AHOY SHIPMATES Another of our RNA 75th anniversary flagship events was successfully staged last weekend with the Naval Associations Biennial Parade in London (see below), but there is still plenty to come. The first Saturday in October brings the RNA Uckers World Championships, and later that month sees the sold-out Charity Fundraising Concert (22 October). And don't worry – we're already hard at work to make sure the pace doesn't slacken in our 76th year!

FINISHING LINE RNRMC celebrated the successful completion of its 2025 flagship challenge, Race Across the UK, which saw 24 teams of two face a series of challenges in support of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines community. The teams raced from Edinburgh to BRNC Dartmouth using only traditional navigation methods. The final Friday saw a closing ceremony with awards presented to recognise the teams' achievements. Our very own Team RNA (Ready N Able – CEO Bill Oliphant and Welfare and Wellbeing Co-ordinator Jon Everett) are making their mark on the event by currently topping the fundraising leaderboard, having raised £11,882 to date out of an event total of more than £70,000 – you can still make a donation via [this link](#). For pictures and more details see the next edition of the Semaphore Circular, published on Friday 3 October.

FIRESIDE CHATS The Fireside Chat on Monday (22 Sept) will be delivered by Terry Barnes, who will talk about 'My Falklands War – 40 Cdo'. 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.



FINE DAY FOR A PARADE Despite dire predictions for wet and windy conditions in London, last Sunday turned out to be a fine day for the Naval Associations Biennial Parade in Whitehall, with veterans from a dozen associations joining shipmates from the RNA and colleagues from Belgium and Ireland in a ceremony at the Cenotaph. Also on parade were serving personnel from HMS Collingwood and HMS Sultan and a Royal Marines Band – in all, more than 300 on parade, with hundreds of supporters and bystanders watching from behind security barriers along Whitehall, and an impressive display of more than 40 standards. For a full report of the Parade, reaction from participants and more images, see the October edition of the Semaphore Circular.

JUST THE JOB? If you are looking for a new career, or transitioning out of the Royal Navy, you might like to check out SaluteMyJob, which last year celebrated a decade of connecting employers with veterans who possess a unique blend of skills through their military training. SMJ help employers identify roles best suited to ex-military people and collaborate with other commercial and charitable organisations to supply suitably qualified candidates. For more details, whether you are a potential employer or employee, follow [this link](#).

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

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PLAYTIME It's not every day that you get the chance to become a World Champion – but that could all change in on Saturday 4 October, when the RNA stages the World Uckers Championships at the Royal Maritime Hotel in Queen Street, Portsmouth. The competition is open to all comers, and all levels of skill and experience are welcome – one of the winning teams in the past included a complete novice (clearly with an undiscovered knack for the game). Uckers is a board game created and treasured by the Royal Navy which requires strategy, boldness, and the luck of the dice. It resembles Ludo, but takes it to a whole new level. Registration for the Championships opens at 0900 on the day, with the first roll of the dice at 1000. Players will be competing in both singles and doubles tournaments. If you think you have what it takes to be crowned Uckers Champion of the World, join us for a day of dice, drama and full-on matelot mayhem. As spaces are limited, and in order to help us plan for the day, register your interest at ceo@rnassoc.org including your name, contact details and whether you are entering solo or with a teammate.

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ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION